

Part 2: Laminar Boundary Layer: $Re_{crit} = 91,000$; $Re_{trans} = 5 \times 10^5 - 3 \times 10^6$.

Similarity solutions (2D, steady, incompressible): method of reducing PDE to ODE by appropriate similarity transformation; also, because of transformation at least one coordinate lacks origin such that the solution collapses to same form at all length or time scales.

$$u_x + v_y = 0$$

$$uu_x + vv_y = UU_x + vU_{yy}$$

BCs: $u(x, 0) = v(x, 0) = 0$ no slip
 $u(x, \infty) = U(x)$ matching outer flow

For Similarity $\frac{u(x,y)}{U(x)} = f' \left(\frac{y}{g(x)} \right)$ expect $g(x)$ related to $\delta(x)$

Or in terms of stream function $\Psi : u = \psi_y \quad v = -\psi_x$

For similarity $\psi = U(x)g(x)f(\eta) \quad \eta = y/g(x)$

$$u = \psi_y = Uf' \quad v = -\psi_x = -(U_xgf + Ug_xf - Ug_x\eta f')$$

BC:

$$u(x,0) = 0 \Rightarrow U(x)f'(0) = 0 \Rightarrow f'(0) = 0$$

$$v(x,0) = 0 \Rightarrow U_x(x)g(x)f(0) + U(x)g_x(x)f(0)$$

$$-U(x)g_x(x) \times 0 \times f'(0) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (U_x(x)g(x) + U(x)g_x(x))f(0) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f(0) = 0$$

$$u(x, \infty) = U(x) \Rightarrow U(x)f'(\infty) = U(x) \Rightarrow f'(\infty) = 1$$

Write boundary layer equations in terms of ψ

$$\psi_y \psi_{yx} - \psi_x \psi_{yy} = UU_x + v\psi_{yyy}$$

Substitute

$$\psi_{yy} = Uf'' / g$$

$$\psi_{yyy} = Uf''' / g^2$$

$$\psi_{xy} = U_x f' - Uf'' \eta g_x / g$$

Assemble them together:

$$\begin{aligned} (Uf') \left(U_x f' - Uf'' \frac{g_x}{g} \right) - (U_x g f + U g_x f - U g_x \eta f') (Uf'' / g) \\ = UU_x + v(Uf''' / g^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$UU_x f'^2 - UU_x f f'' - (U^2 g_x / g) f f'' = UU_x + v \frac{U}{g^2} f'''$$

$$UU_x f'^2 - \frac{U}{g} (Ug)_x f f'' = UU_x + v \frac{U}{g^2} f'''$$

$$f''' + \underbrace{\frac{g}{v} (Ug)_x}_{C_1} f f'' + \underbrace{\frac{g^2}{v} U_x}_{C_2} (1 - f'^2) = 0$$

Where for similarity C_1 and C_2 are constant or function η only

- i.e. for a chosen pair of C_1 and $C_2 \rightarrow U(x), g(x)$ can be found, i.e., potential flow is NOT known a priori.
- Then solution of $f''' + C_1 f f'' + C_2 (1 - f'^2) = 0$ gives $f(\eta) \rightarrow u(x, y), \tau_w = \mu \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \Big|_w = \frac{\mu U f''(0)}{g}, \delta, \delta^*, \theta, H, C_f, C_D$

The Blasius Solution for Flat-Plate Flow

$$U = \text{constant} \rightarrow U_x = 0 \rightarrow C_2 = 0$$

$$\text{Then } C_1 = \frac{U}{\nu} g g_x \neq \text{function}(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(g^2) = \frac{2C_1\nu}{U} \implies g(x) = [2C_1\nu x/U]^{1/2}$$

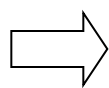
$$\text{Let } C_1 = 1, \text{ then } g(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2\nu x}{U}} \implies \eta = y \sqrt{\frac{U}{2\nu x}} = \frac{y}{\sqrt{\frac{2\nu x}{U}}} \propto \frac{y}{\delta}$$

$$\text{Note } \frac{\delta}{x} = \frac{5}{\sqrt{Re_x}}, \text{ i.e., } \delta = \frac{5x}{\sqrt{\frac{Ux}{\nu}}} = 5\sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U}}$$

$$\psi = U[2\nu x/U]^{1/2} f\left(y\sqrt{\frac{U}{2\nu x}}\right) = \sqrt{2\nu U x} f(\eta)$$

$$u = \psi_y = U f'$$

$$v = -\psi_x = U g_x (\eta f' - f) = [U\nu/2x]^{1/2} (\eta f' - f) = \frac{U(\eta f' - f)}{\sqrt{2Re_x}}$$



$$f''' + ff'' = 0$$

$$f(0) = f'(0) = 0, f'(\infty) = 1$$

Blasius Equation
for Flat Plate
Boundary Layer

Solutions by series or numerical methods

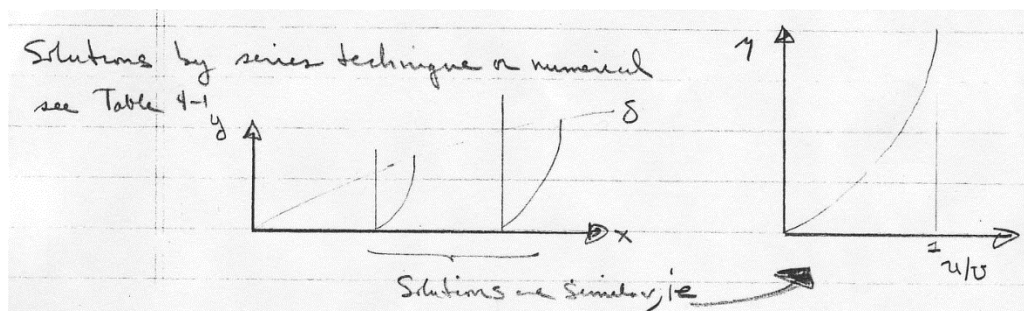


TABLE 4-3

Highly resolved numerical solution of the Blasius equation for flow over a flat plate, Eq. (4-60)

η	$\eta/\eta_{99\%}$	$f(\eta)$	$f'(\eta)$	$f''(\eta)$	$f'''(\eta)$
0.0	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.46960	0.00000
0.0	0.05761	0.00939	0.09391	0.46931	-0.00441
0.4	0.11521	0.03755	0.18761	0.46725	-0.01755
0.6	0.17282	0.08439	0.28058	0.46173	-0.03896
0.8	0.23042	0.14967	0.37196	0.45119	-0.06753
1.0	0.28803	0.23299	0.46063	0.43438	-0.10121
1.2	0.34563	0.33366	0.54525	0.41057	-0.13699
1.4	0.40324	0.45072	0.62439	0.37969	-0.17114
1.6	0.46084	0.58296	0.69670	0.34249	-0.19966
1.8	0.51845	0.72887	0.76106	0.30045	-0.21899
2.0	0.57606	0.88680	0.81669	0.25567	-0.22673
2.2	0.63366	1.05495	0.86330	0.21058	-0.22215
2.4	0.69127	1.23153	0.90107	0.16756	-0.20636
2.6	0.74887	1.41482	0.93060	0.12861	-0.18196
2.8	0.80648	1.60328	0.95288	0.09511	-0.15249
3.0	0.86408	1.79557	0.96905	0.06771	-0.12158
3.2	0.92169	1.99058	0.98036	0.04637	-0.09230
3.3	0.95049	2.08883	0.98456	0.03781	-0.07899
3.4	0.97929	2.18747	0.98797	0.03054	-0.06679
3.47 [†]	1.00000	2.25856	0.99000	0.02603	-0.05878
3.5	1.00810	2.28641	0.99071	0.02441	-0.05582
3.6	1.03690	2.38559	0.99289	0.01933	-0.04611
3.8	1.09451	2.58450	0.99594	0.01176	-0.03039
4.0	1.15211	2.78389	0.99777	0.00687	-0.01914
4.2	1.20972	2.98356	0.99882	0.00386	-0.01152
4.4	1.26732	3.18338	0.99940	0.00208	-0.00663
4.6	1.32493	3.38330	0.99970	0.00108	-0.00366
4.8	1.38253	3.58325	0.99986	0.00054	-0.00193
5.0	1.44014	3.78323	0.99994	0.00026	-0.00098
5.2	1.49774	3.98323	0.99997	0.00012	-0.00047
5.4	1.55535	4.18322	0.99999	0.00005	-0.00022
5.6	1.61296	4.38322	1.00000	0.00002	-0.00010
5.8	1.67056	4.58322	1.00000	0.00001	-0.00004
6.0	1.72817	4.78322	1.00000	0.00000	-0.00002

[†]Actual value to 16 significant digits: $\eta_{\delta} = 3.471886880405967$.

$$\frac{u}{U} = 0.99 \text{ when } \eta = 3.5 \rightarrow \frac{\delta}{x} = \frac{5}{\sqrt{Re_x}} \quad Re_x = \frac{Ux}{\nu}$$

$$\delta^* = \int_0^\infty \left(1 - \frac{u}{U}\right) dy = \int_0^\infty (1 - f') d\eta \sqrt{\frac{2\nu x}{U}} \rightarrow \frac{\delta^*}{x} = \frac{1.7208}{\sqrt{Re_x}}$$

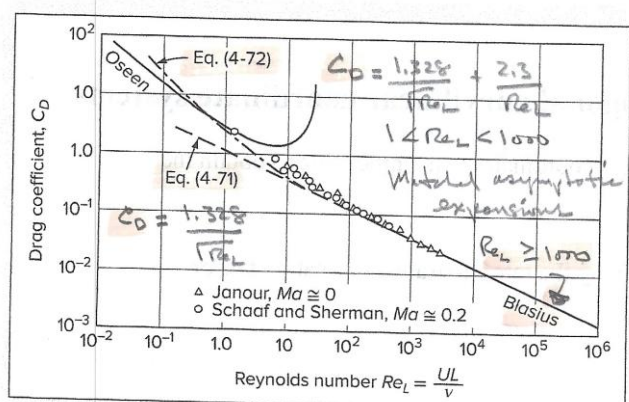
$$\theta = \int_0^\infty \left(1 - \frac{u}{U}\right) \frac{u}{U} dy = \int_0^\infty (1 - f') f' \sqrt{\frac{2\nu x}{U}} d\eta \rightarrow \frac{\theta}{x} = \frac{0.664}{\sqrt{Re_x}}$$

$$\frac{\delta^*}{\theta} = H = \text{shape parameter } 2.59$$

$$\tau_w = \mu \left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right|_w = \frac{\mu U f''(0)}{\sqrt{\frac{2\nu x}{U}}} \rightarrow C_f = \frac{\tau_w}{\frac{1}{2}\rho U^2} = \frac{0.664}{\sqrt{Re_x}} = \frac{\theta}{x}$$

$$C_D = \frac{D}{\frac{1}{2}\rho U^2 L} = \int_0^L C_f \frac{dx}{L} = 2C_f(L) = \frac{1.328}{\sqrt{Re_L}} \quad Re_L = \frac{UL}{\nu}$$

$$\frac{v}{U} = \frac{\eta f' - f}{\sqrt{2Re_x}} \ll 1 \quad \text{for } Re_x \gg 1$$



Stokes flow: Oseen
 Improvement, i.e.,
 linearized
 convection
 $C_D = \frac{4\pi}{Re_L [1 - \Gamma + \ln(16/Re_L)]}$
 $\Gamma = .577216 = \text{Euler constant}$
 $Re_L \ll 1$

FIGURE 4-11 Theoretical and experimental drag of a flat plate.

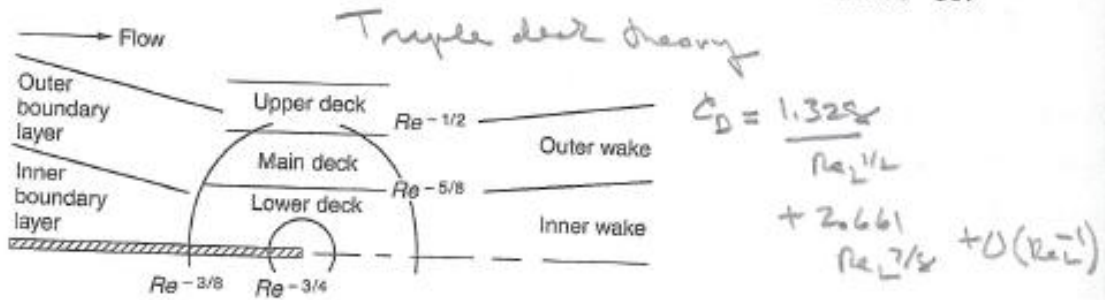
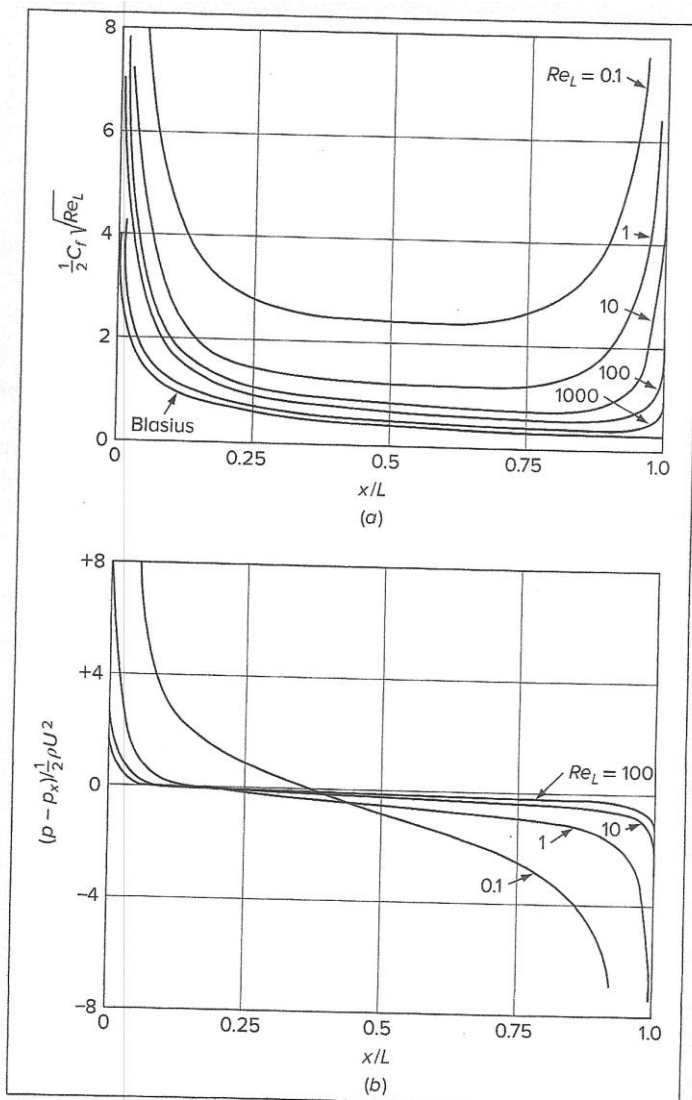


FIGURE 4-40
 Sketch of the triple-deck region at the trailing edge of a flat plate, merging into two-layer upstream and downstream regions. [After Stewartson (1969) and Messiter (1970).]



WS CFD - 1 < Re_L < 1000
low Re large LE & TE effect
BL approximation Re_L > 1000

FIGURE 4-12
 Numerical solution of the full Navier-Stokes equations for flat-plate flow at moderate Reynolds numbers: (a) local friction coefficient; (b) local surface pressure. [After Dennis and Dunwoody (1966).]

Falkner-Skan Wedge Flows

$$\begin{array}{l}
 f''' + C_1 f f'' + C_2 (1 - f'^2) = 0 \quad f = f(\eta) \\
 \eta = y/g(x) \\
 f(0) = f'(0) = 0, \quad f'(\infty) = 1 \quad u/U = f'(\eta) \\
 C_1 = \frac{g}{v} (Ug)_x \quad C_2 = \frac{g^2}{v} U_x \quad (\text{Blasius Solution: } C_2=0, C_1=1)
 \end{array}
 \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} f''' + C_1 f f'' + C_2 (1 - f'^2) = 0 \\ f(0) = f'(0) = 0, \quad f'(\infty) = 1 \\ C_1 = \frac{g}{v} (Ug)_x \quad C_2 = \frac{g^2}{v} U_x \end{array}} \right\} \text{Similarity form of BL equations}$$

Consider $(Ug^2)_x = 2Ug g_x + g^2 U_x$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 2Ug g_x + 2g^2 U_x - g^2 U_x = 2g(Ug_x + gU_x) - g^2 U_x \\
 &= 2g(Ug)_x - g^2 U_x \\
 &= 2vC_1 - vC_2
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence $(Ug^2)_x = v(2C_1 - C_2)$

Choose $C_1=1$ and let $C_2 = C$

Integrate $Ug^2 = v(2 - C)x$ note $g^2 = vC/U_x$

Combine $\frac{UvC}{U_x} = v(2 - C)x$

Rearrange $\frac{dU}{U} = \frac{C}{2-C} \frac{1}{x}$

Integrate $\ln U = \frac{C}{2-C} \ln x + \ln k$ where $\ln k = \text{constant}$

$$\ln U = \ln x^{\frac{C}{2-C}} + \ln k = \ln kx^{\frac{C}{2-C}}$$

$$U(x) = kx^{C/(2-C)}$$

$$g(x) = \left[\frac{vC}{U_x} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{ note } U_x = k \frac{C}{2-C} x^{\left(\frac{C}{2-C}-1\right)} = k \frac{C}{2-C} x^{\left(\frac{-2(1-C)}{2-C}\right)}$$

$$g(x) = \left[\frac{vC}{k \frac{C}{2-C} x^{\left(\frac{-2(1-C)}{2-C}\right)}} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left[\frac{v(2-C)}{k} x^{\left(\frac{2(1-C)}{2-C}\right)} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{v(2-C)}{k}} x^{\frac{1-C}{2-C}}$$

using $a^{1/2}b^{1/2}=(ab)^{1/2}$ and $(a^m)^n=a^{mn}$

$$\text{Alternatively, } U_x = \frac{C}{2-C} kx^{(C/(2-C))} x^{-1} = \frac{C}{2-C} Ux^{-1}$$

$$\text{Such that } g(x) = \left[\frac{vC}{\frac{C}{2-C} Ux^{-1}} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left[\frac{v(2-C)x}{U} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\text{Change constant: } C = \beta = \frac{2m}{m+1} \text{ and } m = \frac{\beta}{2-\beta}$$

$$U(x) = kx^m$$

$$\eta = \frac{y}{g} = y \sqrt{\frac{m+1}{2} \frac{U}{vx}}$$

$$f''' + ff'' + \beta(1 - f'^2) = 0$$

$$f(0) = f'(0) = 0 \text{ and } f'(\infty) = 1$$

Note:

$$2m/(m+1) = \frac{2\beta}{2-\beta} / \left(\frac{\beta}{2-\beta} + 1 \right) = \frac{2\beta}{2-\beta} / \left(\frac{2}{2-\beta} \right) = \beta$$

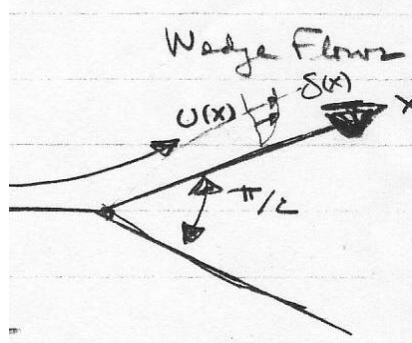
$$2-C = 2 - 2m/(m+1) = 2/(m+1)$$

$$g(x) = \left[\frac{v(2-C)x}{U} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left[\frac{v2x}{U(m+1)} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}, \text{ i.e., } g(x)^{-1} = \left[\frac{m+1}{2} \frac{U}{vx} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Numerical solutions for $-0.19884 \leq \beta \leq 1.0$.

↑
Separation ($\tau_w = 0$)

$$U(x) = kx^m \quad U_x = kx^{m-1} \quad p_x = -\frac{\rho U^2}{x} \frac{\beta}{2-\beta}$$



Solutions show many commonly observed characteristics of BL flow:

- The parameter β is a measure of the pressure gradient, dp/dx . For $\beta > 0$, $dp/dx < 0$ and the pressure gradient is favorable. For $\beta < 0$, the $dp/dx > 0$ and the pressure gradient is adverse.

$$\beta = C = C_2 = \frac{g^2}{\nu} U_x \quad \eta = y/g(x)$$

- Negative β solutions drop away from Blasius profiles as separation approached.
- Positive β solutions squeeze closer to wall due to flow acceleration.
- Accelerated flow: τ_{\max} near wall.
- Decelerated flow: τ_{\max} moves toward $\delta/2$

Inviscid flow past wedge & corner

$U(x) = Kx^m$ exact solution potential flow past wedge or corner shapes

Plane polar coordinates $\nabla^2\psi = 0$, $\nabla \times \underline{u} = 0$

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r\psi_r) + \frac{1}{r^2} \psi_{\theta\theta} = 0 \quad v_r = \frac{1}{r} \psi_\theta, \quad v_\theta = -\psi_r$$

$$\psi(r, \theta) = Cr^{m+1} \sin[(m+1)\theta] \quad \beta = \frac{2m}{m+1} \quad m = \frac{\beta}{2-\beta}$$

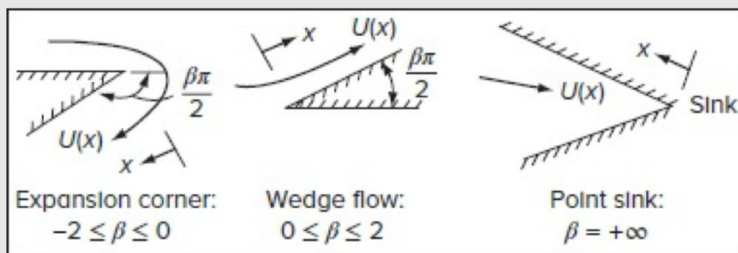


FIGURE 4-15

Some examples of Falkner–Skan potential flows.

$-2 \leq \beta \leq 0$, $-\frac{1}{2} \leq m \leq 0$: flow around an expansion corner of turning angle $\beta\pi/2$

$\beta = 0$, $m = 0$: the flat plate

$0 \leq \beta \leq +2$, $0 \leq m \leq \infty$: flow against a wedge of half-angle $\beta\pi/2$

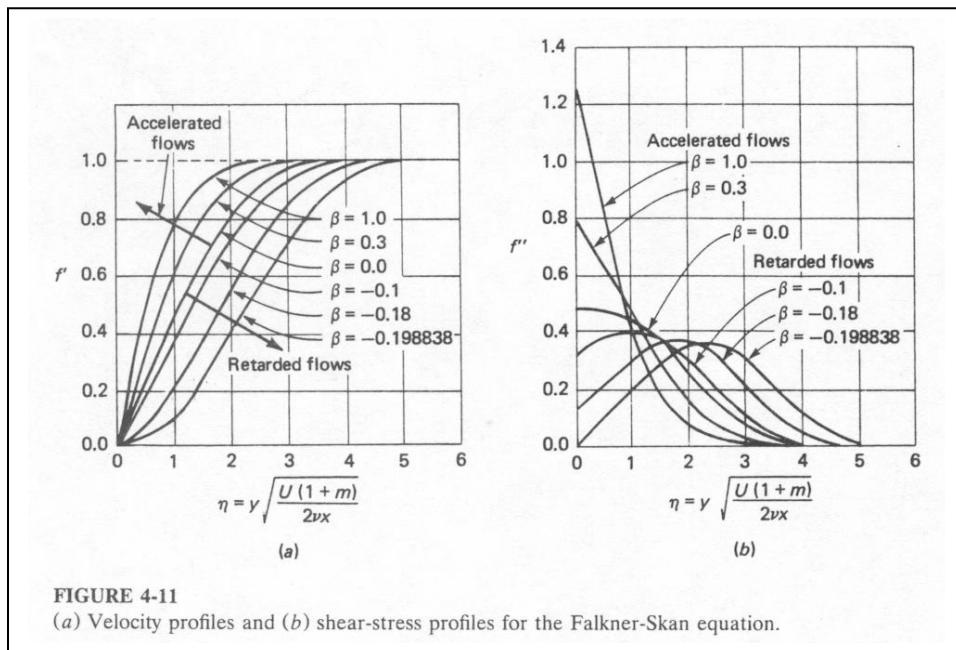
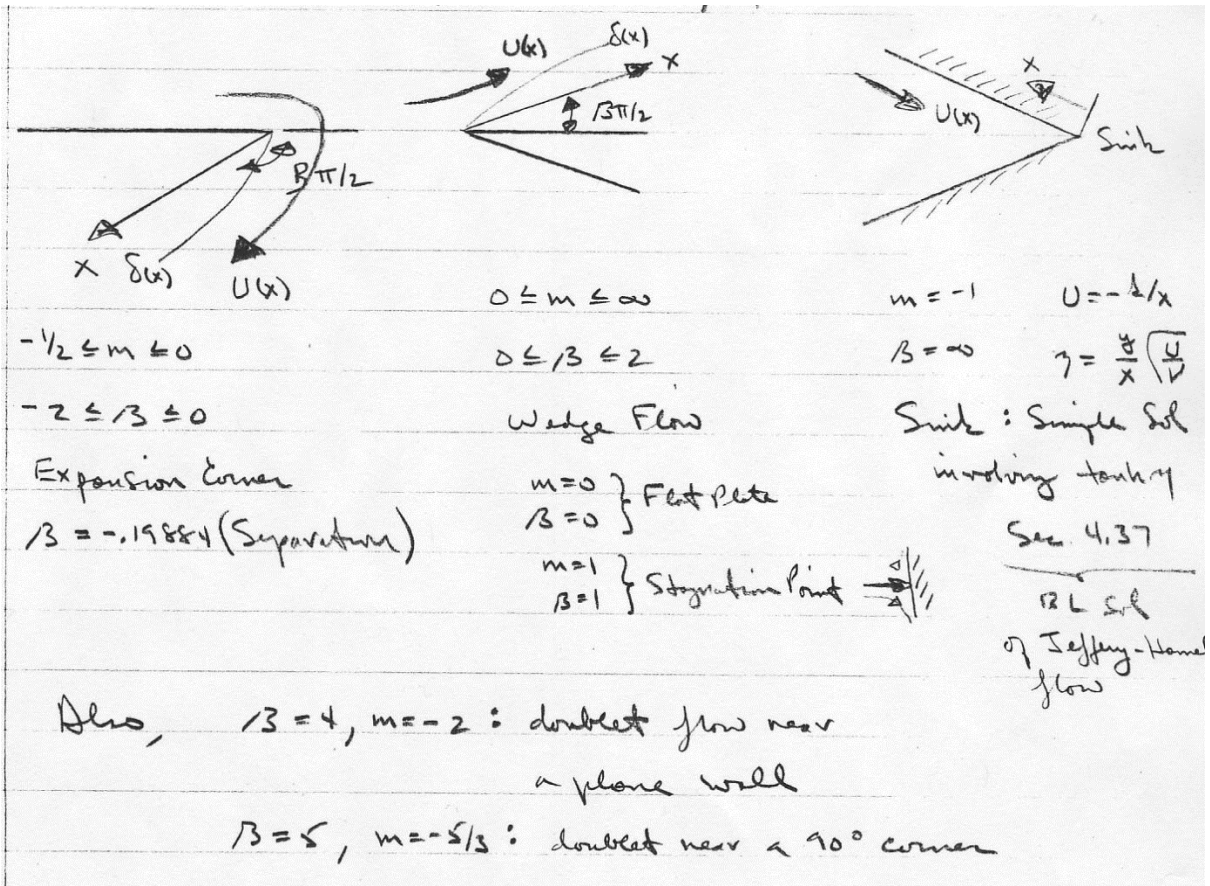
$\beta = 1$, $m = 1$: the plane stagnation point (180° wedge)

$\beta = +4$, $m = -2$: doublet flow near a plane wall

$\beta = +5$, $m = -\frac{5}{3}$: doublet flow near a 90° corner

$\beta = +\infty$, $m = -1$: flow toward a point sink [i.e., the boundary-layer version of the Jeffery–Hamel flow in convergent wedge (Sec. 3-8)].

These are *similar* flows, i.e., for a given β , the velocity profiles all look alike when scaled $U(x)$ and $\delta(x)$. They may also be used, with modest success, to predict the behavior nonsimilar flows.



$u = U(x)f'$ where $U(x) = Kx^m$
 \uparrow velocity at edge of BL

$$\beta = \frac{2m}{m+1} \quad \eta = \frac{y}{g(x)} = y \left[\frac{m+1}{2} \frac{U(x)}{vx} \right]^{1/2} = y / \left[\frac{2}{m+1} \frac{vx}{Kx^m} \right]^{1/2}$$

$$\delta(x) = \left[\frac{2\nu}{(m+1)K} \right] x^{(1-m)/2}$$

$$\delta^*(x) = \left(\frac{2}{m+1} \right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{vx}{U} \right)^{1/2} \int_0^\infty (1-f') d\eta \quad \left(\frac{2\nu}{(m+1)K} \right) x^{(1-m)/2}$$

$$\tau_w(x) = \mu \left(\frac{m+1}{2} \right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{U^3}{vx} \right)^{1/2} f''(0) \quad \mu \left(\frac{(m+1)K^3}{2\nu} \right)^{1/2} x^{(3m-1)/2}$$

$$\delta \propto x^{(1-m)/2} \quad \delta^* \propto x^{(1-m)/2} \quad \tau_w \propto x^{(3m-1)/2}$$

Special cases:

$U(x) = \text{constant}$ **1.** Blasius $m = 0, \beta = 0$: $\delta \propto x^{1/2}, \delta^* \propto x^{1/2}$,

$$\tau_w \propto x^{-1/2}$$

$U(x) = kx$ **2.** Stagnation Point $m = 1, \beta = 1$:

$$\delta, \delta^* = \text{constant}, \tau_w \propto x$$

Linearly increasing velocity U thinning of BL exactly balanced by viscous diffusion such that $\delta, \delta^* = \text{constant}$. BL solution = exact solution NS.

$U(x) = kx^3$ **3.** $m = 3, \beta = 1.5$: $\delta \propto x^{-1}, \delta^* \propto x^{-1}, \tau_w \propto x^4$

The acceleration sets the high value of τ_w , and the viscous diffusion sets the rate at which that stress drops off as you move away from the surface.

Alternative derivation Falkner–Skan equation #1

$$u_x + v_y = 0 \text{ i.e. } v_y = -u_x$$

Leibniz rule $\int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, y) \right] dy = \frac{d}{dx} \int_a^b u \, dy + u(x, a) \frac{da}{dx} - u(x, b) \frac{db}{dx}$

$$\int_0^v dv = - \int_0^y \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dy = - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_0^y u \, dy - u(x, y) \frac{dy}{dx} + \cancel{u(x, 0) \frac{d0}{dx}}$$

= 0 since integration
across BL for $x =$

$$v = - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_0^\delta u \, dy$$

x BL equation: $uu_x + vu_y = UU_x + vu_{yy}$

$$uu_x - \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_0^y u \, dy \right) u_y = \text{RHS} \quad \text{integro-differential equation in } u \text{ only}$$

Combine x and y single variable $\eta(x, y)$ to transform PDE to ODE as $f(\eta)$ only to achieve similarity.

Assume: $u(x, y) = U(x)f'(\eta)$ where η dimensionless and $U(x)$ not arbitrary but part of solution.

Let $\eta = yh(x) \quad \eta_x = yh_x = \frac{\eta h_x}{h(x)} \quad \eta_y = h(x) \quad \eta_{yy} = 0$

$$u_x = U_x f' + U f'' \eta_x$$

$$u_y = U f'' \eta_y = U f'' h$$

$$u_{yy} = U f'''' \eta_y^2 + U f'' \eta_{yy} = U f'''' h^2$$

$$U f' \left(U_x f' + U f'' \frac{\eta h_x}{h} \right) - \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_0^y U f' \, dy \right) U f'' h = UU_x + v U f'''' h^2$$

$$\int_0^y f' \, dy = h^{-1} \int_0^{\eta/h} \frac{df}{d\eta} d\eta = \frac{f}{h}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{Uf}{h} \right) = \frac{U_x f}{h} - \frac{U h_x f}{h^2} + \frac{U}{h} f' \frac{\eta h_x}{h}$$

Since $U(x)$ and $h(x) \neq f(\eta)$ for fixed x

$$\begin{aligned}
& Uf' \left(U_x f' + Uf'' \frac{\eta h_x}{h} \right) + \left(-\frac{U_x f}{h} + \frac{Uf h_x}{h^2} - \frac{U}{h^2} f' \eta h_x \right) Uf'' h \\
& \quad = UU_x + \nu Uf''' h^2 \\
& UU_x f'^2 + \frac{U^2 \eta h_x}{h} f' f'' - UU_x f f'' + \frac{U^2 h_x}{h} f f'' - \frac{U^2 \eta h_x}{h} f' f'' \\
& = UU_x + \nu U h^2 f''' \\
& UU_x (f'^2 - f f'' - 1) + \frac{U^2 h_x}{h} f f'' = \nu U h^2 f'''
\end{aligned}$$

$$f''' = \underbrace{\frac{U_x}{\nu h^2}}_{\neq f(x)} (f'^2 - f f'' - 1) + \underbrace{\frac{U h_x}{\nu h^3}}_{\neq f(x)} f f'' \text{ for similarity only } f(\eta)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \text{Assume } \eta = C y x^a \quad U = kx^m \quad m = 2a + 1 \\
& h = Cx^a \quad U_x = kmx^{m-1} \quad a = \frac{m-1}{2} \quad a-1 = \frac{m-1}{2} - 1 = \frac{m-3}{2} \\
& h_x = aCx^{a-1}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{U_x}{\nu h^2} = \frac{kmx^{m-1}}{\nu c^2 x^{m-1}} = \frac{km}{\nu c^2}$$

$$\frac{U h_x}{\nu h^3} = \frac{kx^m \left(\frac{m-1}{2} \right) c x^{\frac{m-3}{2}}}{\nu c^3 x^{\frac{3(m-1)}{2}}} = \frac{k \left(\frac{m-1}{2} \right) c x^{\frac{3(m-1)}{2}}}{\nu c^3 x^{\frac{3(m-1)}{2}}} = \frac{k \frac{m-1}{2}}{\nu c^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& f''' + \frac{U_x}{\nu h^2} (1 - f'^2) + \underbrace{\left(\frac{U_x}{\nu h^2} - \frac{U h_x}{\nu h^3} \right)}_1 f f'' = 0 \quad \frac{k \left(m - \frac{m-1}{2} \right)}{\nu c^2} \\
& \beta = \frac{km}{\nu c^2} = \frac{km}{\frac{\nu k(m+1)}{2\nu}} = \frac{2m}{m+1} \quad = \frac{k \left(\frac{m+1}{2} \right)}{\nu c^2} \\
& \therefore f''' + \beta (1 - f'^2) + f f'' = 0 \quad = 1 \text{ if } c^2 = \frac{k(m+1)}{2\nu}
\end{aligned}$$

$$h(x) = \left[k \frac{m+1}{2\nu} \right]^{1/2} x^{\frac{m-1}{2}} = \left[k \frac{m+1}{2\nu} x^m x^{m-1} \right]^{1/2} = \left[\frac{m+1}{2} \frac{U}{x\nu} \right]^{1/2} = g(x)^{-1}$$

Alternative derivation Falkner – Skan equation #2: what types of external flows allow similarity solutions BL equations.

Assume self-similar velocity profiles: $u(x, y) = u_e(x)f'(\eta)$ $\eta = \frac{y}{\delta(x)}$

$$\eta = y\delta^{-1} \quad \eta_x = -y\delta^{-2}\delta_x = -\eta\delta^{-1}\delta_x \quad \eta_y = \frac{1}{\delta(x)}$$

u_e, δ determined as part of solution.

$$\underbrace{u = \psi_y \quad v = -\psi_x}_{\text{continuity automatically satisfied}}$$

$$d\psi = \psi_x dx + \psi_y dy$$

$$\text{for } x = \text{constant } \psi(x, y) - \psi(x, 0) = \int_0^y \psi_y dy = \delta u_e \int_0^\eta \frac{u}{u_e} d\left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right) = \delta u_e \int_0^\eta f' d\eta = \delta u_e f(\eta)$$

$$\psi = 0 \text{ at } y = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\psi}{\delta u_e} = f(\eta), \text{ i.e., } \psi = \delta u_e f(\eta) \text{ and } \Rightarrow f(0) = 0$$

$$u = u_e(x)f'(\eta) = \psi_y = u_e f' \quad u_x = u_{e_x}f' - u_e f'' \eta \delta^{-1} \delta_x$$

$$u_y = u_e f'' \delta^{-1} \quad u_{yy} = u_e f''' \delta^{-2}$$

$$v = -\psi_x = -f(\delta u_e)_x - (\delta u_e)f' \eta_x = -f(\delta_x u_e + \delta u_{e_x}) + (\delta u_e)f' \eta \delta^{-1} \delta_x = -f(\delta_x u_e + \delta u_{e_x}) + \eta u_e f' \delta_x$$

$$uu_x + vu_y = u_e u_{e_x} + v u_{yy}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & u_e f' (u_{e_x} f' - u_e f'' \eta \delta^{-1} \delta_x) \\ & + [-f(\delta_x u_e + \delta u_{e_x}) + \eta u_e f' \delta_x] u_e f'' \delta^{-1} \\ & = u_e u_{e_x} + v u_e f''' \delta^{-2} \end{aligned}$$

$$u_e u_{e_x} f'^2 - u_e^2 \eta \frac{\delta_x}{\delta} f'' f' - (\delta_x u_e^2 + \delta u_{e_x} u_{e_x}) \frac{f f''}{\delta} + u_e^2 \eta \frac{\delta_x}{\delta} f' f'' = \text{RHS}$$

$$u_e u_{e_x} f'^2 - (\delta_x u_e^2 + \delta u_e u_{e_x}) \frac{f f''}{\delta} - u_e u_{e_x} = \frac{v u_e}{\delta^2} f'''$$

$$f''' + \frac{u_e u_{e_x} \delta^2}{v u_e} (1 - f'^2) + \frac{\delta}{v u_e} (\delta_x u_e^2 + \delta u_e u_{e_x}) f f'' = 0$$

$$f''' + \frac{u_{e_x} \delta^2}{v} (1 - f'^2) + \frac{\delta}{v} \left(\frac{\delta_x u_e + \delta u_{e_x}}{\frac{d}{dx}(\delta u_e)} \right) f f'' = 0$$

$$f''' + \alpha f f'' + \beta (1 - f'^2) = 0 \quad \beta = \frac{u_{e_x} \delta^2}{v} \quad \alpha = \frac{\delta}{v} (\delta u_e)_x$$

ODE for f assuming $\alpha, \beta \neq f(x) = \text{constant}$

$$\text{note: } 2\alpha - \beta = \frac{1}{v} \frac{d}{dx} (\delta^2 u_e) \quad (2\alpha - \beta)(x - x_0) = \frac{1}{v} \delta^2 u_e$$

$$\text{Assume } x_0 = 0 \text{ and } \delta(0) = 0: \quad \delta = \left[\frac{v(2\alpha - \beta)x}{u_e} \right]^{1/2}$$

Usually, $\underbrace{u_e, x > 0}_{2\alpha - \beta = 1}$; however, may have apposite sign $\underbrace{2\alpha - \beta = -1}$

$2\alpha - \beta$ any value acceptable. Also, since y/δ similarity variable $y/c\delta$ also OK and $c = \text{constant}$. Thus,

$$\delta = \left[\pm \frac{vx}{u_e} \right]^{1/2}$$

Original derivation, whereas sometimes $\alpha = 1$ used such that

$$\delta = \left[\frac{v(2-\beta)x}{u_e} \right]^{1/2}.$$

$$u_e(x) \text{ from } \beta = \frac{u_{ex}\delta^2}{\nu} = \pm \frac{u_{ex}vx}{u_e} / \nu = \pm \frac{x}{u_e} u_{ex} = \mp \frac{x}{\rho u_e^2} p_x$$

$$\beta = \pm \frac{x}{u_e} \frac{du_e}{dx} \quad \beta \frac{dx}{x} = \pm \frac{du_e}{u_e}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \ln L^{-1} + \beta \ln x &= \pm \ln u_e + \ln u_0^{-1} && L, u_0 \text{ same sign } u_e, x \\ \ln \left(\frac{x}{L}\right)^\beta &= \pm \ln \left(\frac{u_e}{u_0}\right) && m = \beta \quad u_e, x \text{ same sign} \\ &&& m = -\beta \quad u_e, x \text{ opposite sign} \end{aligned}$$

$$u_e = u_0 \left(\frac{x}{L}\right)^m \quad \text{For self-similar BL, } u_e \text{ assumes power law}$$

$$\eta = y/\delta = y/\left[\pm \frac{\nu x}{u_e}\right]^{1/2} = y/L / \sqrt{Re} \left(\frac{x}{L}\right)^{\frac{1-m}{2}} \quad Re = \frac{u_e L}{\nu}$$

$$\text{For } u_e, x \text{ same sign } m = \beta \quad 2\alpha - m = 1 \quad \alpha = \frac{m+1}{2}$$

$$f''' + \frac{m+1}{2} f f'' + m(1 - f'^2) = 0$$

$$\text{where for BL flow } u = v = 0 \quad y = 0 \quad u = u_e \quad y \rightarrow \infty$$

$$u(x, y) = u_e(x) f'(\eta) \quad \eta = \frac{y}{\delta}$$

$$v(x, y) = -f(u_e \delta)_x + \eta u_e f' \delta_x$$

$$\therefore f(0) = 0 \quad f'(0) = 0 \text{ and } f'(\infty) = 1$$

IC not needed; however, $x_1 = 0$ η singular

FS equation nonlinear ODE \therefore a priori not known which m provides solutions and whether or not unique.

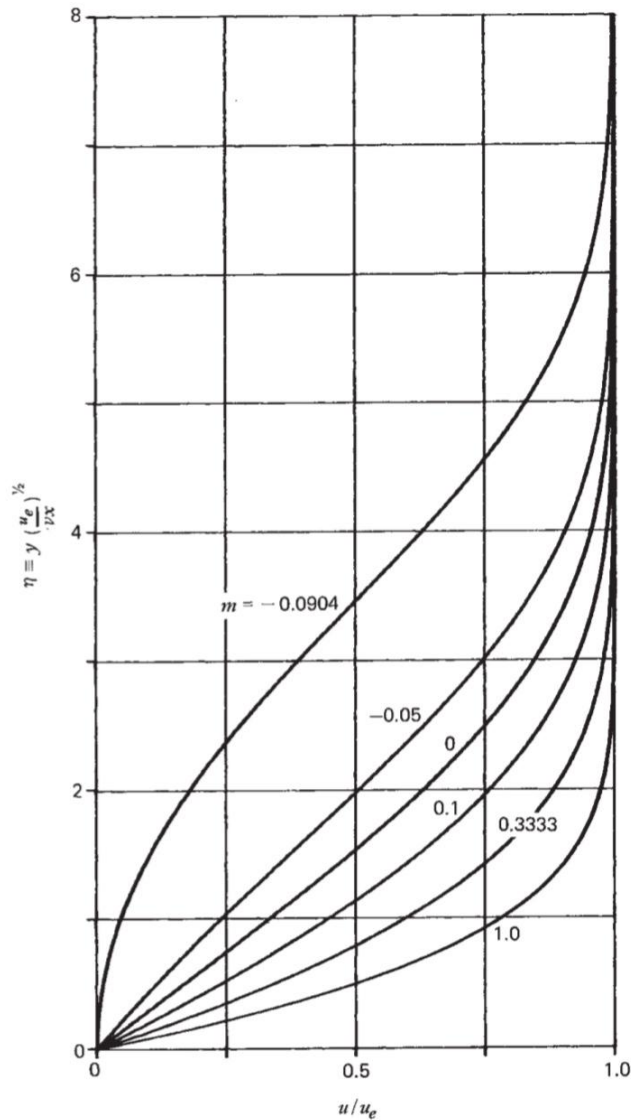


Figure 20.4 Falkner-Skan profiles. The parameter m indicates the external velocity variation through $u_e = u_0 x^m$.

$m \geq 0$ unique solutions for:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| $m = 0:$ | Blasius flow over a flat plate with a sharp leading edge; also the local flow at any cusp leading edge |
| $0 < m < 1:$ | Flow over a wedge with half-angle $\theta_{1/2} = m/(m + 1)$ with $0 < \theta_{1/2} < \pi/2$ |
| $m = 1:$ | Hiemenz flow toward a plane stagnation point: Section 11.9 |
| $1 < m < 2:$ | Flow into a corner with $\theta_{1/2} > \pi/2$; a flow of this type may be difficult to produce experimentally |
| $m > 2:$ | No corresponding simple ideal flow |

Many people have contributed to the classification and computation of Falkner–Skan flows. Rosenhead (1963) contains a good summary by C. W. Jones and E. J. Watson. From these works some of the complicated behavior at negative values of m can be pieced together. When $-0.0904 < m < 0.0$, there are an infinite number of solutions for each value of m (Fig. 20.4). However, not all of these solutions are physically acceptable. One of the main arguments in establishing boundary layer theory is that the viscous effects are confined to a thin region near the wall. In light of this fact, people have proposed that a boundary layer should approach the free stream exponentially:

$$1 - u^* = 1 - f' \sim Ae^{-B\eta} \quad \text{as } \eta \rightarrow \infty$$

If this condition is applied, there are only two known acceptable solutions for each m in the range $-0.0904 < m < 0$. One of the solutions has $u > 0$ for all η , while the other has the interesting characteristic that there is backflow for a small region near the wall [Stewartson's (1954) reverse-flow profiles]. When m is exactly equal to -0.0904 , only one solution exists. This profile has zero shear stress at the wall and therefore is on the verge of separating for all x .

For $-1 < m < -0.0904$, all solutions for a given m tend to oscillate about $f' = 1$ as η becomes infinite. At each value of m , one of these solutions has just one region where the velocity $f' > 1$, and then $f \rightarrow 1$ exponentially. Because a laminar boundary layer with these super velocities may be difficult to produce experimentally, some workers reject these solutions as physically impossible.

The case $m = -1$ with u_e and x having opposite signs, $u = -a_0/x$ ($u_0 = -a_0$), represents a solid wall in the flow field of an ideal line sink. When two walls are present, the problem represents the flow into a wedge. The differential equation in this case has an exact closed-form solution (Problem 20.9). On the other hand, the equivalent problem with the sign changed so the flow comes from a source ($m = -1$ and $u = +u_0/x$) has no solution. This means that boundary layer theory does not produce a similarity solution for flows in a flat-wall diffuser. These flows require a nonsimilar solution.

Most of the complicated behavior in Falkner–Skan solutions happens when m is between -1 and 0 . When $m < -1$ we again find a unique solution. All solutions in the range $m < -1$ have the flow going from large x toward $x = 0$. Hence, the flows are strongly accelerated with $u = -a_0(x/L)^m$, $m < -1$.

Vertical velocity

From outside BL, as $Re \uparrow \infty$ $v/u_0 \rightarrow 0$ since $\delta \rightarrow 0$

From inside BL, vu_y same order remaining terms x-momentum equation since $u_y \rightarrow \infty$ and $v \rightarrow 0$ as $Re \rightarrow \infty$, i. e., $0 \times \infty$ finite.

$$v^* = \frac{v}{u_0} \left(\frac{L}{\delta} \right) = \frac{v}{u_0} \sqrt{Re}$$

$$\uparrow \quad \delta \quad \frac{1}{L} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{Re_L}}$$

$$u u_x \sim \frac{U^2}{L} \propto v u_{yy} \sim \frac{vU}{\delta^2}$$

$$\delta^2 \sim \frac{vL}{U}, \text{ i. e., } \frac{\delta}{L} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{Re}}$$

(1) Inviscid flow near wall continuity equation

$$\frac{du_e}{dx} + \frac{dv}{dy} = 0 \Rightarrow v|_{inviscid} = \int_0^y \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} dy = -\frac{du_e}{dx} \int_0^y dy$$

Assuming $\frac{du_e}{dx}$ constant $v|_{inviscid} \sim -\frac{du_e}{dx} y$ as $y \rightarrow 0$ and $\delta = 0$.

Inviscid flow near wall

1. $u_e = u_e(x)$
2. $v(x, 0) = 0$ and $\frac{\partial v}{\partial n} = 0$
3. $v \sim Ay$, i.e., grows linearly

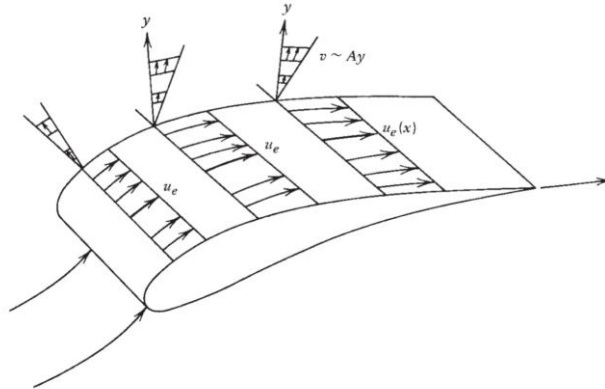


Figure 20.7 View from outside the boundary layer looking at the behavior of u and v in the inviscid flow at the top of the boundary layer.

(2) Viscous BL flow near wall continuity equation

$$v = \int_0^y \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} dy = - \int_0^y \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dy = \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^y (u_e - u) dy - \frac{du_e}{dx} y$$

$$v(y \rightarrow \infty) = - \underbrace{\frac{du_e}{dx} y}_{\text{inviscid } v} + \underbrace{\frac{d}{dx} (u_e \delta^*)}_{\text{influence BL profile on } v, \text{ i.e., } v_{BL} \text{ correction inviscid flow}} \text{ where } \delta^* = \int_0^\infty \left(1 - \frac{u}{u_e}\right) dy$$

influence BL profile on v ,
i.e., v_{BL} correction inviscid
flow

2nd order solution inviscid solution instead of $v(\text{wall}) = 0$ use
 $v(\text{wall}) = \frac{d}{dx} (u_e \delta^*)$

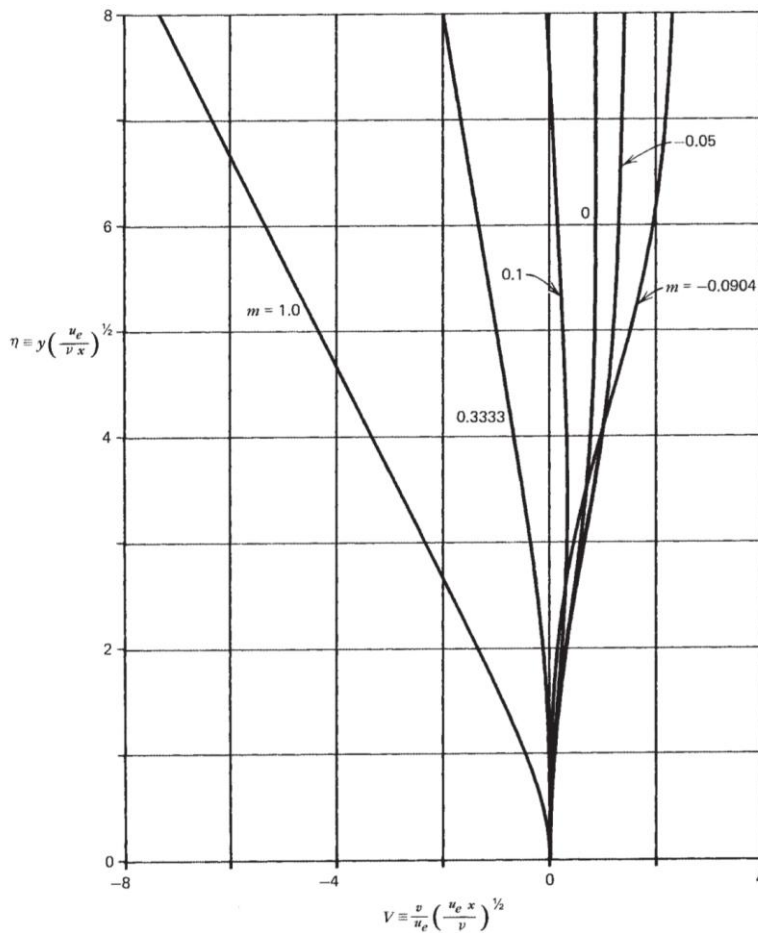
$v(\eta)$ for Falkner–Skan BL solutions various m

$$v = -\psi_x = -f \frac{d}{dx} (u_e \delta) + \eta u_e f' \frac{d\delta}{dx}$$

$$= - \sqrt{\frac{(m+1)vU(x)}{2x}} \left[f(\eta) + \frac{m-1}{m+1} \eta f'(\eta) \right]$$

$$\beta = \frac{2m}{m+1}$$

For $m > 0$ favorable pressure gradient and $v < 0$, i.e., entrainment, whereas $m < 0$ adverse pressure gradient and $v > 0$, i.e., expulsion.



m	β
-0.0904	-0.199
-0.05	-0.105
0	0
0.1	0.182
0.3333	0.5
1	1

Figure 20.8 Vertical-velocity profiles for Falkner-Skan boundary layers.

For $\eta \rightarrow \infty$ approaches nondimensional form previous equation:

$$V(\infty) = \frac{v}{u_e} \left(\frac{u_e x}{\nu} \right)^{1/2} = -\underbrace{\beta}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \beta \neq 0 \\ V(\infty) \rightarrow \infty}} \eta + \underbrace{\frac{x}{u_e \delta} \frac{d}{dx} (u_e \delta^*)}_{v \text{ intercept}} \quad \delta = \left(\pm \frac{\nu x}{u_e} \right)^{1/2}$$

Linear $f(\eta)$ for large η with slope $-\beta$ and intercept $\frac{x}{u_e \delta} \frac{d}{dx} (u_e \delta^*)$. Intercept is the value where the asymptotic linear portion of $V(\eta)$ crosses the $\eta = 0$ axis. Physically it represents the effect of δ^* on the outer inviscid flow.

Flat Plate with Wall Suction or Blowing

Blowing solution with $v_w \ll U \neq 0$ and $u_w = 0$. Similarity requires

$$v_w = -\psi_x = \sqrt{\frac{\nu U}{2x}} (\eta f' - f)|_{\eta=0}, \quad \eta = y \sqrt{\frac{U}{2\nu x}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{\nu U}{2x}} (-f(0)) \quad \therefore f(0) \neq 0 \text{ sets } v_w \propto x^{-1/2}$$

Same Blasius equation with: $f'(0) = 0$, $f'(\infty) = 1$ and $f(0) \neq 0$

$$\text{Suction–blowing parameter } v_w^* = \frac{v_w}{U} \sqrt{Re_x} = -\frac{f(0)}{\sqrt{2}}$$

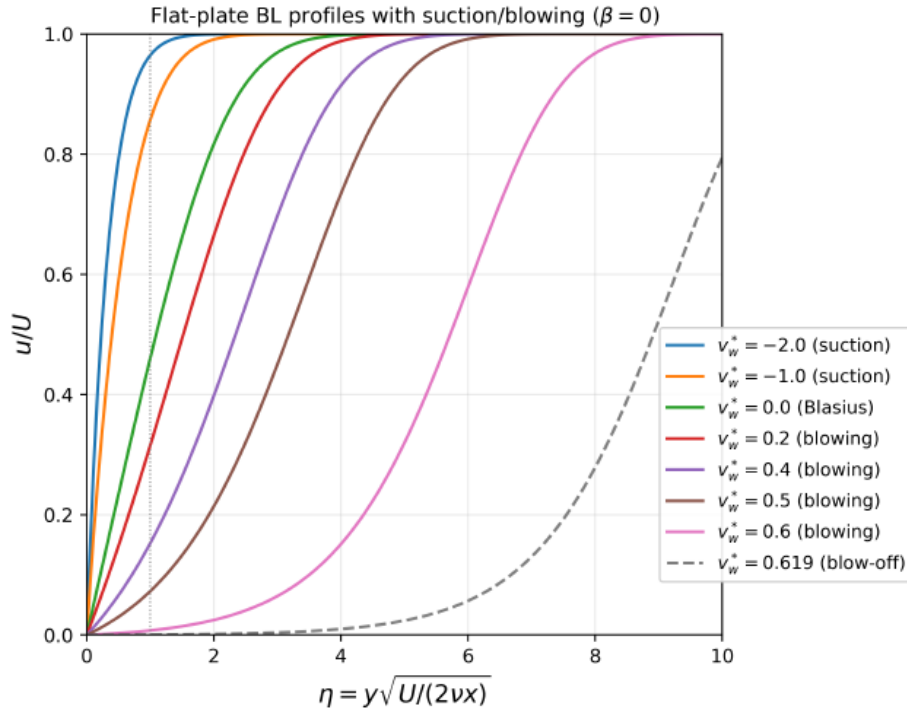


Figure 1: Flat-plate BL velocity profiles $u/U = f'(\eta)$ for suction ($v_w^* < 0$), impermeable Blasius ($v_w^* = 0$), and blowing ($v_w^* > 0$). Dashed curve: blow-off limit $v_w^* = 0.619$ at which $f''(0) = 0$.

$v_w \leq 0$ suction thins BL, increases τ_w similar favorable p_x and stable transition

$v_w > 0$ blowing thickens BL, reduces τ_w similar adverse p_x S-shaped with inflection point, i.e., unstable to turbulent transition

$$v_w^* = 0.619 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0 \text{ at } y = 0 \text{ and } u = 0 \quad y \geq 0$$

BL blown off, i.e., $\tau_w = 0$ and BL approximation not valid!

Unlike the exact (uniform- v) solution, the similarity solution is well-posed for blowing because:

- The wall-normal velocity is *non-uniform*: $v_w \propto x^{-1/2}$ decays downstream, so there is no global incompatibility between the no-slip condition and the far-field velocity.
- Both u and v vary with x and y through η , eliminating the constraint $u = u(y)$ that caused the breakdown in Section 2.
- The BL approximation requires $v_w \ll U$, i.e. blowing is treated as a perturbation, not as an $O(U)$ forcing.

The blow-off limit ($v_w^* = 0.619$) is nonetheless the BL's analogue of the exact solution's "no solution": beyond it, steady laminar flow cannot be maintained.

See Appendices A and B