

Transition from Laminar to Turbulent Flow

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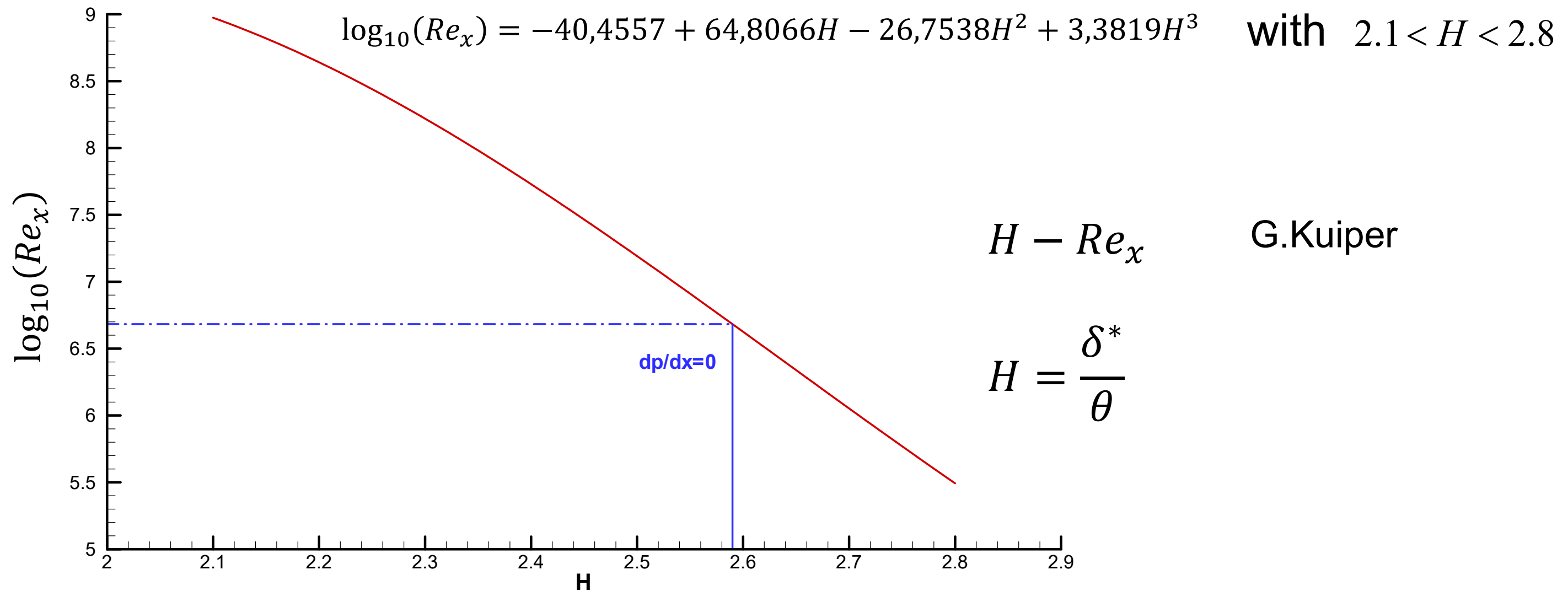
Basic transition onset mechanisms

- Tollmien-Schlichting (TS) waves (natural transition). Inflection points of velocity profiles cause instability:
 - Pressure gradient in boundary-layers;
 - Free-shear layers;
 - Wakes;
- Separation-induced transition;
- Bypass transition;
- Crossflow (CF) transition (3-D boundary-layers);
- Roughness induced transition;
- ...

Transition from Laminar to Turbulent Flow

Modeling transition from laminar to turbulent flow

- Empirical correlations are available to estimate the onset of transition.



Modeling transition from laminar to turbulent flow

- Low Reynolds numbers turbulence models:
 - Developed for the (time-averaged) Reynolds-Averaged Navier-Stokes equations (RANS);
 - Two main families of 2-equation models ($k - \varepsilon$ and $k - \omega$) have several alternative models available;
 - Most $k - \varepsilon$ models have problems (see [C. L. Rumsey, B. A. Petterson Reif, T.B.Gatski](#));
 - $k - \omega$ models basically calibrated for natural transition on a flat plate.

Modeling transition from laminar to turbulent flow

- Transport equation(s) transition models:
 - Several methods available in the open literature;
 - Extra transport equations solved to handle transition;
 - Underlying RANS turbulence model required;
 - Three different models are presented next:
 1. $\gamma - Re_\theta$ model of [R.B. Langtry and F.R.Menter](#);
 2. γ model of [F.R.Menter, P.E.Smirnov, T.Liu and R. Avancha](#);
 3. AFT model of [J.G.Coder](#);
- Underlying RANS turbulence model is the $k - \omega$ SST

