

# Free Shear Flows

Mixing layer:  $U = U_0 \tanh y/L$

Unstable  $0 < \lambda < k_{\alpha}(Re)$

For large  $Re$   $0 < \lambda < 1/L$

ie  $\omega > \lambda > 2\pi L$

Long  $\lambda$  instability

Recrit = ?

$\lambda_{max} = 0.2$  @  $kL = 0.4$

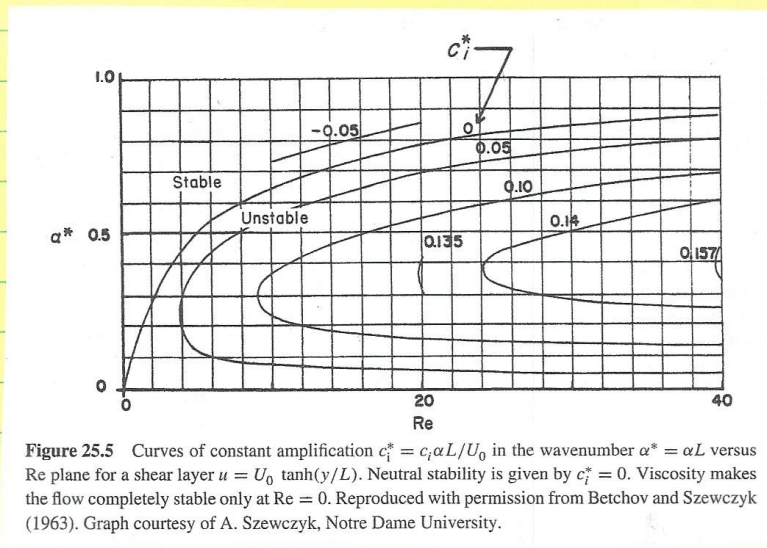
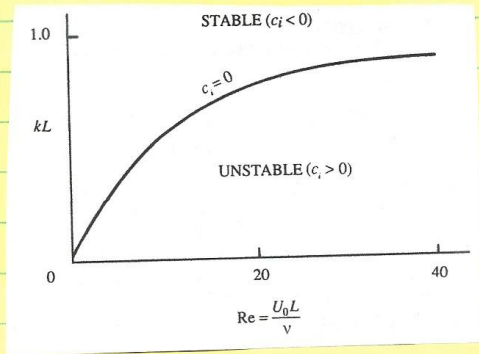
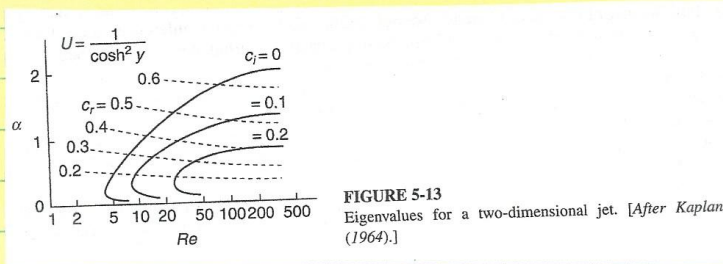


Figure 25.5 Curves of constant amplification  $c_i^* = c_i \alpha L / U_0$  in the wavenumber  $\alpha^* = \alpha L$  versus  $Re$  plane for a shear layer  $u = U_0 \tanh(y/L)$ . Neutral stability is given by  $c_i^* = 0$ . Viscosity makes the flow completely stable only at  $Re = 0$ . Reproduced with permission from Betchov and Szewczyk (1963). Graph courtesy of A. Szewczyk, Notre Dame University.

Transition  $U_1$  to  $U_2$  as seen observer moving  $(U_1 + U_2)/2$   
 Long wave instability = KH instability  
 $\lambda <$  shear layer thickness stable

2D Jet:  $U = U_0 \operatorname{sech}^2 y$

$Re_{crit} \approx 4$  @  $\alpha \approx 2$



2D wake:  $U = 1 + (U_0 - 1) \operatorname{sech}^2 y$

$Re_{crit} = 4$

Well-free free shear flows have inflection point i.e. inviscidly unstable. Smooth eigenfunctions (slowly varying). Zero order approximation viscous solution = regular perturbation expansion

in powers  $\pm 1/Re$

Instability appears as rolled up blobs of vorticity as per KH instability and easy to visualize in well bounded flows with unstable TS waves, which are difficult to observe.

Plane Poiseuille Flow:  $U = 1 - y^2$

Inviscidly Stable

Linear viscous  $Re_{crit} = 5780$

Non-linear viscous (finite amplitude perturbations)

$Re_{crit} = 2510$ , which has better agreement EFD

is de-stabilizing the flow!

In contrast flows with inflection points

Complex viscous flow analysis requires

singular perturbation expansions. Eigenfunctions

are fast varying in boundary layers near walls and critical layers near  $U = c_r$ .

Physically instability exhibited as waves called Tollmien-Schlichting waves.

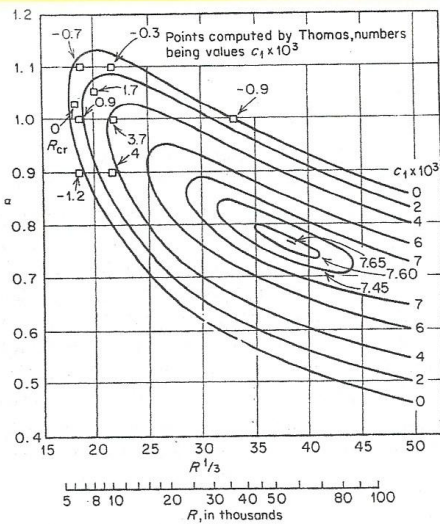


FIGURE 5. STABILITY DIAGRAM FOR PLANE POISEUILLE FLOW. [S. F. Shen, *J. Aeron. Sci.*, 21 (1954), by permission of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.]

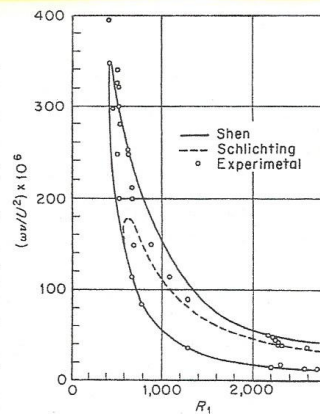


FIGURE 6. NEUTRAL-STABILITY CURVE FOR BLASIUS FLOW.  $R_1$  IS THE REYNOLDS NUMBER BASED ON THE DISPLACEMENT THICKNESS, AND  $\omega$  IS THE CIRCULAR FREQUENCY OF OSCILLATION. [S. F. Shen, *J. Aeron. Sci.*, 21 (1954), by permission of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.]

Plane Couette Flow:  $U = \gamma y$

Contrary EFD linear  $\mu$  theory shows  
Stable all Re

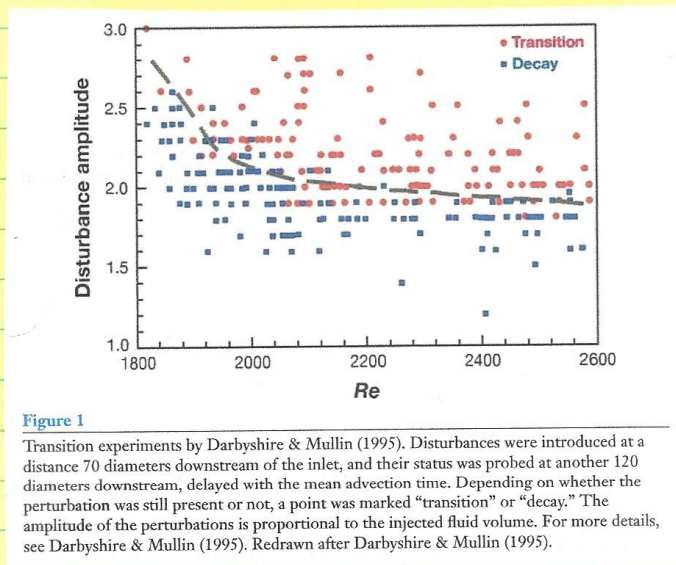
Pipe Flow:  $U = U_0(1 - r^2)$

As per plane Couette flow stable both  $\mu = 0$  &  $\neq 0$   
at contrary EFD

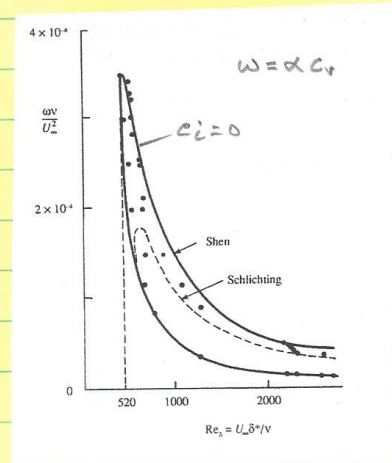
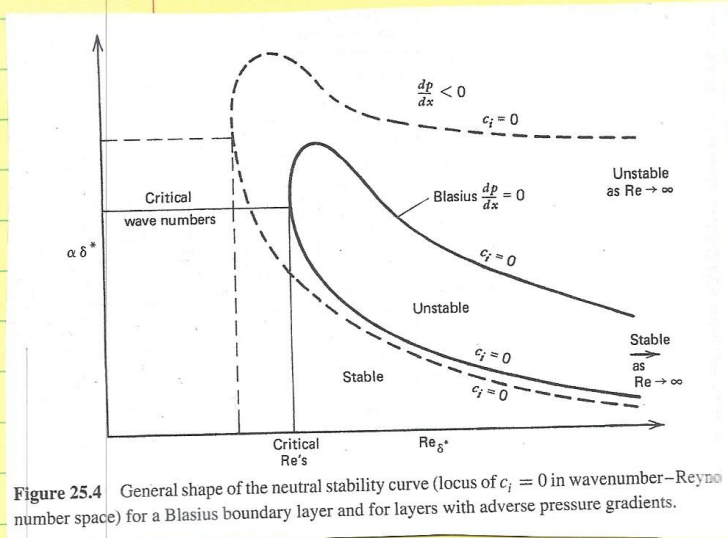
$Re_{crit} \sim 3000$

coupled EFD  $Re_{crit} \sim 50,000$

Transition attributed: (1) finite amplitude disturbance  
(2) entrance effects due  $B_1$   
(3) " " " due  $\omega$



# Boundary Layers with Pressure Gradient



EFD Schubauer and Skramsted (1947)

low Re stable all  $\alpha$  due  $\mu$   
 large Re stable all  $\alpha$  for  $p_x = 0$  due no inflection point  
 Unstable in "thumb curve" due TS waves  
 $Re_{crit} = 520$   $\alpha \delta^* = .3$   $L = 2\pi/\alpha = \frac{2\pi\delta^*}{.3}$

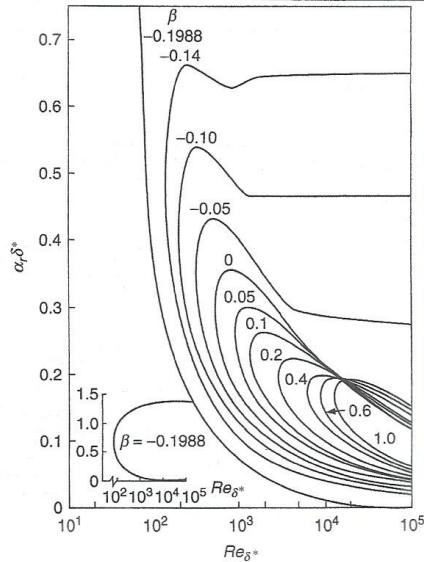
$= 18\delta^*$   
 $= 6\delta^*!$   
 BL stable short wave, but unstable long waves

BL with adverse  $p_x$  have inflection point  
 so unstable at large Re. TS waves unstable  
 smaller  $\alpha$   $\downarrow$   $Re_{crit} \downarrow$

$m=1$  stagnation  
 $m=0$  Blasius  
 $= -0.0904$   
 Separation

**Table 25.1** Critical Reynolds Number for Falkner-Skan Boundary Layers

$\beta_1 = 2m/(m+1)$	1	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2
$m$	1	0.667	0.429	0.333	0.250	0.176	0.111
$H = \delta^*/\theta$	2.216	2.24	2.274	2.297	2.325	2.362	2.411
$Re_{crit}$	12490	10920	8890	7680	6230	4550	2830
$\beta_1$	0.1	0.05	0	-0.05	-0.1	-0.14	-0.1988
$m$	0.053	0.026	0	-0.024	-0.048	-0.065	-0.0904
$H = \delta^*/\theta$	2.481	2.529	2.591	2.676	2.801	2.963	4.029
$Re_{crit}$	1380	865	520	318	199	138	67



**TABLE 5-1**  
Spatial stability parameters for Falkner-Skan profiles

$\beta$	$Re_{\delta^*, crit}$	$Re_{\theta, crit}$	$c_{i, max}$	$\left(\frac{-\alpha \delta^*}{Re_{\delta^*}}\right)_{max} \times 10^7$
+1.0	12,490	5,636	0.0065	1.14
0.8	10,920	4,874	0.0070	1.35
0.6	8,890	3,909	0.0075	1.67
0.5	7,680	3,344	0.0080	1.92
0.4	6,230	2,679	0.0085	2.42
0.3	4,550	1,927	0.0095	3.45
0.2	2,830	1,174	0.0104	6.0
0.1	1,380	556	0.0129	15.7
0.05	865	342	0.0154	32
0.0	520	201	0.0196	74
-0.05	318	119	0.0275	186
-0.1	199	71	0.0388	450
-0.14	138	47	0.0525	963
-0.1988	67	17	0.12	5,600

Source: Computations by Wazzan et al. (1968b).

**FIGURE 5-7'**  
Neutral stability curves for Falkner-Skan boundary-layer profiles. [After Wazzan et al. (1968b).]

**Table 25.2** Stability Characteristics

Flow	$U(y)/U_0$	$U_0 L/v = Re_c$	$\alpha_c L = \alpha^*$	$0 - \alpha_\infty^*$ Inviscid	Remarks
Shear layer	$\tanh(y/L)$	0	0	0-1.0	Kelvin-Helmholtz, $Re \rightarrow \infty$
Jet	$\text{sech}^2(y/L)$	4	0.2	0-2.0	Even mode
Falkner-Skan separating profile	$\beta = -0.199$	64	1.24	0-0.8	$L = \delta^*$
Blasius	$\beta = 0$	520	0.30	0	$L = \delta^*$
Stagnation	$\beta = 1$	14,000		0	$L = 8^*$
Flow into a sink	$\beta \rightarrow \infty$	21,700	0.17	0	$L = \delta^*$
Poiseuille (plane)	$1 - (y/L)^2$	5,780	1.02	0	$L = \text{half-width}$
Poiseuille (cylindrical)	$1 - (r/R)^2$	$\infty$		0	Stable
Couette (plane)	$y/L$	$\infty$		0	Stable

**TABLE 12.1** Linear Stability Results of Common Viscous Parallel Flows

Flow	$U(y)/U_0$	$Re_{cr}$	Remarks
Jet	$\text{sech}^2(y/L)$	4	
Shear layer	$\tanh(y/L)$	0	Always unstable
Blasius		520	Re based on $\delta^*$
Plane Poiseuille	$1 - (y/L)^2$	5780	$L = \text{half-width}$
Pipe flow	$1 - (r/R)^2$	$\infty$	Always stable
Plane Couette	$y/L$	$\infty$	Always stable

# EFD Validation Boundary Layer Instability

Usually EFD followed by AFD & CFD = numerical  
 but in this case AFD & numerical; Since,  
 EFD difficult due to need low levels free  
 stream turbulence and mechanism to  
 generate normal mode wave disturbance  
 is vibratory ribbon such that natural transition  
 occurs due to TS waves. Otherwise  
 large disturbances cause bypass or  
 forced transition.

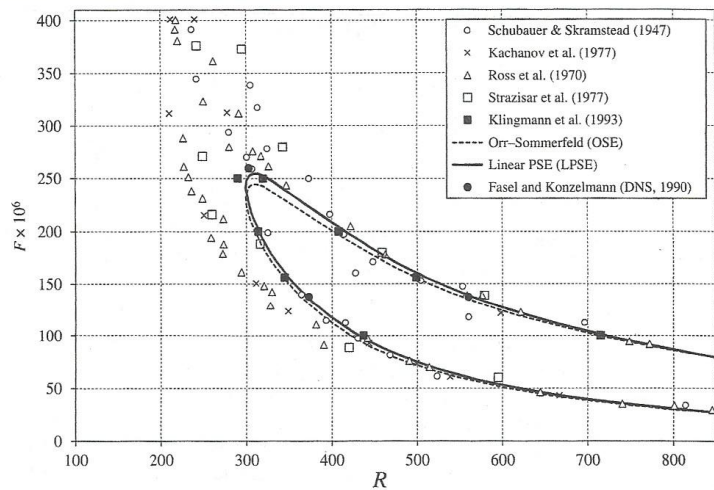
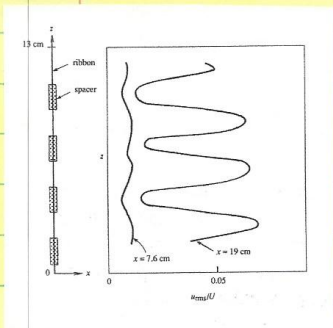


Figure 25.7 Modern Blasius boundary layer results from Saric (2013);  $F = 2\pi f\nu/U_0^2 \times 10^6$  and  $R = \sqrt{U_0 x}/\nu = \sqrt{Re_x}$ . Solid line is parabolized stability equations (PSE) calculations from Bertolotti et al. (1992) Dashed line is solution of the Orr-Sommerfeld equation (OSE) from Wazzan et al. (1968). The [•] symbols are direct numerical simulation (DNS) calculations of Fasel and Konzelmann (1990). Experimental results are Schubauer and Skramstead (1947) [○], Ross, Barnes, Burns, and Ross (1971) [△] Kachanov et al. (1977) [×], Strazisar et al. (1977) [□] and Klingmann et al. (1993) [■]

EFD  $Re_{crit} \sim 3000$   
 theory  $Re_{crit} = 520 \ll Re_{trans}$   
 EFD  $Re_{crit} = 450$  due to slow growth  
 Modern results  $Re_{crit} = 20 \sim 30$  at nonlinear etc.  
 try explain this difference  
 due to BL growth, weak adverse P<sub>x</sub>.