2.20 - Marine Hydrodynamics, Spring 2005 Lecture 17

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4.6 Laminar Boundary Layers



4.6.1 Assumptions

- 2D flow: $w, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \equiv 0$ and u(x, y), v(x, y), p(x, y), U(x, y).
- Steady flow: $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \equiv 0.$
- For $\delta \ll L$, use local (body) coordinates x, y, with x tangential to the body and y normal to the body.
- $u \equiv$ tangential and $v \equiv$ normal to the body, viscous flow velocities (used inside the boundary layer).
- $U, V \equiv$ potential flow velocities (used outside the boundary layer).

4.6.2 Governing Equations

• Continuity

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0 \tag{1}$$

• Navier-Stokes:

$$u\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{\rho}\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \nu\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}\right)$$
(2)

$$u\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v\frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{\rho}\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \nu\left(\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2}\right)$$
(3)

4.6.3 Boundary Conditions

• *KBC*

Inside the boundary layer:

No-slip
$$u(x, y = 0) = 0$$

No-flux $v(x, y = 0) = 0$

Outside the boundary layer the velocity has to match the P-Flow solution. Let $y^* \equiv y/\delta$, $y^* \equiv y/L$, and $x^* \equiv x/L$. Outside the boundary layer $y^* \to \infty$ but $y^* \to 0$. We can write for the tangential and normal velocities $u(x^*,y^\star\to\infty)=U(x^*,y^*\to0)\Rightarrow u(x^*,y^\star\to\infty)=U(x^*,0),$ and $v(x^*, y^* \to \infty) = V(x^*, y^* \to 0) \Rightarrow v(x^*, y^* \to \infty) = V(x^*, 0) \underset{\text{P-Flow}}{=} 0$

In short:

$$u(x, y^* \to \infty) = U(x, 0)$$
$$v(x, y^* \to \infty) = 0$$

• DBC

As $y^{\star} \to \infty$, the pressure has to match the P-Flow solution. The x-momentum equation at $y^* = 0$ gives

$$U\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + \bigvee_{\downarrow} \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{dp}{dx} + \bigvee_{\downarrow} \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial y^2} \Rightarrow \frac{dp}{dx} = -\rho U \frac{\partial U}{\partial x}$$

4.6.4 Boundary Layer Approximation

Assume that $R_{e_L} >> 1$, then (u, v) is confined to a thin layer of thickness $\delta(x) << L$. For flows within this boundary layer, the appropriate order-of-magnitude scaling / normalization is:

| Variable | Scale | Normalization |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| u | U | $u = \mathcal{U} u^*$ |
| x | L | $x = Lx^*$ |
| y | δ | $y = \delta y^*$ |
| v | $\mathcal{V}=?$ | $v = \mathcal{V}v^*$ |

• Non-dimensionalize the continuity, Equation (1), to relate \mathcal{V} to \mathcal{U}

$$\frac{\mathcal{U}}{L} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^* + \frac{\mathcal{V}}{\delta} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial y}\right)^* = 0 \Longrightarrow \mathcal{V} = O\left(\frac{\delta}{L}\mathcal{U}\right)$$

• Non-dimensionalize the x-momentum, Equation (2), to compare δ with L

$$\frac{\mathcal{U}^2}{L} \left(u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)^* + \underbrace{\frac{\mathcal{U}\mathcal{V}}{\delta}}_{O(\mathcal{U}^2/L)} \left(v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right)^* = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{\nu \mathcal{U}}{\delta^2} \left[\underbrace{\frac{\delta^2}{L^2} \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \right)}_{ignore} + \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right)^* \right]$$

The inertial effects are of comparable magnitude to the viscous effects when:

$$\frac{\mathcal{U}^2}{L} \sim \frac{\nu \mathcal{U}}{\delta^2} \Longrightarrow \frac{\delta}{L} \sim \sqrt{\frac{\nu}{\mathcal{U}L}} = \frac{1}{R_{e_L}} << 1$$

The pressure gradient $\frac{\partial p}{\partial x}$ must be of comparable magnitude to the inertial effects

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} = O\left(\rho \frac{\mathcal{U}^2}{L}\right)$$

• Non-dimensionalize the y-momentum, Equation (3), to compare $\frac{\partial p}{\partial y}$ to $\frac{\partial p}{\partial x}$

$$\underbrace{\frac{\mathcal{U}\mathcal{V}}{L}}_{O(\frac{\mathcal{U}^2}{L}\frac{\delta}{L})} \left(u\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}\right)^* + \underbrace{\frac{\mathcal{V}^2}{\delta}}_{O(\frac{\mathcal{U}^2}{L}\frac{\delta}{L})} \left(v\frac{\partial v}{\partial y}\right)^* = -\frac{1}{\rho}\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \underbrace{\frac{\nu\mathcal{V}}{L^2}}_{O(\frac{\mathcal{U}^2}{L}\frac{\delta^3}{L^3})} \left(\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2}\right)^* + \underbrace{\frac{\nu\mathcal{V}}{\delta^2}}_{O(\frac{\mathcal{U}^2}{L}\frac{\delta}{L})} \left(\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2}\right)^*$$

The pressure gradient $\frac{\partial p}{\partial y}$ must be of comparable magnitude to the inertial effects

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} = O\left(\rho \frac{\mathcal{U}^2}{L} \frac{\delta}{L}\right)$$

Comparing the magnitude of $\frac{\partial p}{\partial x}$ to $\frac{\partial p}{\partial y}$ we observe

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} & = & O\left(\rho \frac{\mathcal{U}^2}{L} \frac{\delta}{L}\right) \text{ while } \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} = O\left(\rho \frac{\mathcal{U}^2}{L}\right) \Longrightarrow \\ \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} & << & \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} & \Longrightarrow & \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \approx 0 & \Longrightarrow \\ p & = & p(x) \end{array}$$

• Note:

- From continuity it was shown that $\mathcal{V}/\mathcal{U} \sim O(\delta/L) \Rightarrow v \ll u$, inside the boundary layer.
- It was shown that $\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} = 0$, p = p(x) inside the boundary layer. This means that the pressure across the boundary layer is constant and equal to the pressure **outside** the boundary layer imposed by the external P-Flow.

4.6.5 Summary of Dimensional BVP

Governing equations for 2D, steady, laminar boundary layer

Continuity :
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0$$

x-momentum : $u\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \underbrace{-\frac{1}{\rho}\frac{dp}{dx}}_{UdU/dx, y=0} + \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}$
y - momentum : $\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} = 0$

Boundary Conditions

KBC

At y=0 :
$$u(x,0) = 0$$

 $v(x,0) = 0$
At $y/\delta \to \infty$: $u(x, y/\delta \to \infty) = U(x,0)$
 $v(x, y/\delta \to \infty) = 0$

DBC

$$\frac{dp}{dx} = -\rho U \frac{\partial U}{\partial x}$$
 or $\underbrace{p(x)}^{\text{IN the b.l.}} = C - \frac{1}{2}\rho U^2(x,0)$

Bernoulli for the P-Flow at y =0

4.6.6 **Definitions**

Displacement thickness
$$\delta^* \equiv \int_{0}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{u}{U}\right) dy$$

Momentum thickness
$$\theta \equiv \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{u}{U} \left(1 - \frac{u}{U}\right) dy$$

Physical Meaning of δ^* and θ

Assume a 2D steady flow over a flat plate.

Recall for steady flow over flat plate $\frac{dp}{dx} = 0$ and pressure p = const.

Choose a control volume $([0, x] \times [0, y/\delta \to \infty])$ as shown in the figure below.



CV for steady flow over a flat plate.

| Surface | \hat{n} | \vec{v} | $ec{v}\cdot\hat{n}$ | $ec{v}(ec{v}\cdot\hat{n})$ | $-p\hat{n}$ |
|---------|------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---|-------------|
| 1 | $-\hat{i}$ | $U_o \hat{i}$ | $-U_o$ | $-U_o^2 \hat{i}$ | $p\hat{i}$ |
| 2 | $-\hat{j}$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | $p\hat{j}$ |
| 3 | \hat{i} | $u(x,y)\hat{i} + v(x,y)\hat{j}$ | u(x,y) | $u^2(x,y)\hat{i} + u(x,y)v(x,y)\hat{j}$ | $-p\hat{i}$ |
| 4 | \hat{j} | $U_o\hat{i} + v(x,y)\hat{j}$ | v(x,y) | $v(x,y)U_o\hat{i} + v^2(x,y)\hat{j}$ | $-p\hat{j}$ |

Control Volume 'book-keeping'

 $Conservation \ of \ mass, \ for \ steady \ CV$

$$\oint_{1234} \vec{v} \cdot \hat{n} dS = 0 \Rightarrow -\int_0^\infty U_o dy' + \int_0^\infty u(x,y') dy' + \underbrace{\int_0^x v(x',y) dx'}_Q = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$Q = \int_0^\infty U_o dy' - \int_0^\infty u dy' = \int_0^\infty (U_o - u) dy' = U_o \underbrace{\int_0^\infty \left(1 - \frac{u}{U_o}\right) dy'}_{\delta^*} \Rightarrow \boxed{Q = U_0 \delta^*}_{\delta^*}$$

where ()' are the dummy variables.

Conservation of momentum in x, for steady CV

$$\begin{split} & \oint_{1234} u(\vec{v} \cdot \hat{n}) dS = \sum F_x \Rightarrow \\ & \int_0^\infty -U_o^2 dy' + \int_0^\infty u^2(x,y') dy' + \int_0^x v(x',y) U_o dx' = \int_0^\infty p dy' - \int_0^\infty p dy' + \sum F_{x,friction} \Rightarrow \\ & \int_0^\infty -U_o^2 dy' + \int_0^\infty u^2(x,y') dy' + U_o \int_0^x v(x',y) dx' = \sum F_{x,friction} \Rightarrow \\ & \int_0^\infty -U_o^2 dy' + \int_0^\infty u^2(x,y') dy' + U_o \int_0^\infty (U_o - u) dy' = \sum F_{x,friction} \Rightarrow \\ & \int_0^\infty \left(-U_o^2 + u^2 + U_o^2 - U_o u \right) dy' = \sum F_{x,friction} \Rightarrow \\ & U_o^2 \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{u^2}{U_o^2} - \frac{u}{U_o} \right) dy' = \sum F_{x,friction} \Rightarrow \\ & \sum F_{x,friction} = -U_o^2 \underbrace{\int_0^\infty \frac{u}{U_o} \left(1 - \frac{u}{U_o} \right) dy'}_{\theta} \Rightarrow \underbrace{\sum F_{x,friction} = -U_o^2 \theta}_{\theta} \end{split}$$

4.7 Steady Flow over a Flat Plate: Blasius' Laminar Boundary Layer



Steady flow over a flat plate: BLBL

4.7.1 Derivation of BLBL

- Assumptions Steady, 2D flow. Flow over flat plate $\rightarrow U = U_0, V = 0, \frac{dp}{dx} = 0$
- LBL governing equations

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0$$
$$u\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \nu\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}$$

• Boundary conditions

$$u = v = 0 \text{ on } y = 0$$

 $v \to V = 0, u \to U_o \text{ outside the BL, i.e., } \left(\frac{y}{\delta} >> 1\right)$

• Solution Mathematical solution in terms of similarity parameters.

$$\frac{u}{U} \quad \text{and} \quad \eta \equiv y \sqrt{\frac{U_o}{\nu x}} \Leftrightarrow \frac{y}{x} = \frac{\eta}{\sqrt{R_x}} \Leftrightarrow y = \eta \sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_o}}$$

Similarity solution must have the form

$$\underbrace{\frac{u\left(x,y\right)}{U_{o}}=F\left(\eta\right)}_{\text{olf similar colution}}$$

self similar solution

We can obtain a PDE for F by substituting into the governing equations. The PDE has no-known analytical solution. However, Blasius provided a numerical solution. Once again, once the velocity profile is evaluated we know everything about the flow.

4.7.2 Summary of BLBL Properties: $\delta, \delta_{0.99}, \delta^*, \theta, \tau_o, D, C_f$

$$\frac{u\left(x,y\right)}{U_{o}} = \underset{\text{evaluated}}{F} (\eta); \quad \eta = y\sqrt{\frac{U_{o}}{\nu x}}; \quad y \equiv \eta\sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_{o}}}; \quad \frac{y}{x} = \frac{\eta}{\sqrt{\frac{R_{x}}{\sqrt{\log R_{x}}}}}$$

$$\delta \equiv \sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_{o}}}$$

$$\delta_{.99} \cong 4.9\sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_{o}}}, \text{ i.e., } \eta_{.99} = 4.9$$

$$\delta^{*} \cong 1.72\sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_{o}}}, \text{ i.e., } \eta^{*} = 1.72$$

$$\theta \cong 0.664\sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_{o}}}$$

Total drag on plate L x B

$$D = \underbrace{B}_{\text{width}} \int_{0}^{L} \tau_{o} dx \cong 0.664 \left(\rho U_{o}^{2}\right) \left(BL\right) \underbrace{\left(\frac{U_{o}L}{\nu}\right)^{-1/2}}_{R_{eL}^{-1/2}} \Rightarrow D \propto \sqrt{L}, \quad D \propto U^{3/2}$$

Friction (drag) coefficient:

$$C_f = \frac{D}{\frac{1}{2} \left(\rho U_o^2\right) \left(BL\right)} \cong \frac{1.328}{\sqrt{R_{e_L}}} \implies C_f \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}}, \quad C_f \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{U}}$$



Skin friction coefficient as a function of R_e .

A look ahead: Turbulent Boundary Layers

Observe form the previous figure that the function $C_{f, laminar}(R_e)$ for a laminar boundary layer is different from the function $C_{f, turbulent}(R_e)$ for a turbulent boundary layer for flow over a flat plate.

Turbulent boundary layers will be discussed in proceeding Lecture.

4.8 Laminar Boundary Layers for Flow Over a Body of General Geometry

The velocity profile given in BLBL is the **exact** velocity profile for a steady, laminar flow over a flat plate. What is the velocity profile for a flow over any arbitrary body? In general it is $dp/dx \neq 0$ and the boundary layer governing equations cannot be easily solved as was the case for the BLBL. In this paragraph we will describe a typical *approximative* procedure used to solve the problem of flow over a body of general geometry.

- 1. Solve P-Flow outside $B \equiv B_0$ 2. Solve boundary layer equations (with ∇P term) \rightarrow get $\delta^*(x)$ 3. From $B_0 + \delta^* \rightarrow B$ 4. Repeat steps (1) to (3) until no change $U \neq \text{const.}$
 - von Karman's zeroth moment integral equation

$$\frac{\tau_0}{\rho} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(U^2(x)\theta(x) \right) + \delta^*(x)U(x)\frac{dU}{dx}$$
(4)

• Approximate solution method due to Polthausen for general geometry $(dp/dx \neq 0)$ using von Karman's momentum integrals.

The basic idea is the following: we assume an approximate velocity profile (e.g. linear, 4^{th} order polynomial, ...) in terms of an unknown parameter $\delta(x)$. From the velocity profile we can immediately calculate δ^* , θ and τ_o as functions of $\delta(x)$ and the P-Flow velocity U(x).

Independently from the boundary layer approximation, we obtain the P-Flow solution outside the boundary layer $U(x), \frac{dU}{dx}$.

Upon substitution of $\delta^*, \theta, \tau_o, U(x), \frac{dU}{dx}$ in von Karman's moment integral equation(s) we form an ODE for δ in terms of x.

• Example for a 4th order polynomial Polthausen velocity profile

Polthausen profiles - a family of profiles as a function of a single parameter $\Lambda(x)$ (shape function factor).

 \Box Assume an approximate velocity profile, say a 4th order polynomial:

$$\frac{u(x,y)}{U(x,0)} = a(x)\frac{y}{\delta} + b(x)\left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^2 + c(x)\left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^3 + d(x)\left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^4 \tag{5}$$

There can be no constant term in (5) for the no-slip BC to be satisfied y = 0, i.e., u(x, 0) = 0.

We use three BC's at $y = \delta$

$$\frac{u}{U} = 1, \ \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0, \ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \ \text{ at } y = \delta$$
 (6)

From (6) in (5), we re-write the coefficients a(x), b(x), c(x) and d(x) in terms of $\Lambda(x)$

 $a = 2 + \Lambda/6, \ b = -\Lambda/2, \ c = -2 + \Lambda/2, \ d = 1 - \Lambda/6$

 \Box To specify the *approximate* velocity profile $\frac{u(x,y)}{U(x,0)}$ in terms of a single unknown parameter δ we use the x-momentum equation at y = 0, where u = v = 0

$$\underbrace{u}_{0}\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \underbrace{v}_{0}\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \underbrace{U\frac{\partial U}{\partial x}}_{-\frac{1}{\rho}\frac{dp}{dx}} + \underbrace{\nu\frac{\partial^{2}u}{\partial y^{2}}\Big|_{y=0}}_{\nu\frac{2bU}{\delta^{2}}} \Rightarrow b = -\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{dU}{dx}\frac{\delta^{2}}{\nu}\right) \Rightarrow \boxed{\Lambda(x) = \frac{dU}{dx}\frac{\delta^{2}(x)}{\nu}}$$

Observe: $\Lambda \propto \frac{dU}{dx} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \Lambda > 0 : \text{ favorable pressure gradient} \\ \Lambda < 0 : \text{ adverse pressure gradient} \end{cases}$

Putting everything together:

$$\frac{u(x,y)}{U(x,0)} = 2\left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right) - 2\left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^3 + \left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^4 + \frac{dU}{dx}\frac{\delta^2}{\nu}\left[\frac{1}{6}\left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right) - \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^3 - \frac{1}{6}\left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^4\right]$$

 \Box Once the *approximate* velocity profile $\frac{u(x,y)}{U(x,0)}$ is given in terms of a single unknown parameter $\delta(x)$, then δ^* , θ and τ_o are evaluated

$$\delta^* = \int_0^\infty \left(1 - \frac{u}{U}\right) dy = \delta \left(\frac{3}{10} - \frac{1}{120} \left(\frac{dU}{dx}\frac{\delta^2}{\nu}\right)\right)$$
$$\theta = \int_0^\delta \frac{u}{U} \left(1 - \frac{u}{U}\right) dy = \delta \left(\frac{37}{315} - \frac{1}{945} \left(\frac{dU}{dx}\frac{\delta^2}{\nu}\right) - \frac{1}{9072} \left(\frac{dU}{dx}\frac{\delta^2}{\nu}\right)^2\right)$$
$$\tau_o = \mu \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right|_{y=0} = \frac{\mu U}{\delta} \left(2 + \frac{1}{6} \left(\frac{dU}{dx}\frac{\delta^2}{\nu}\right)\right)$$

Notes:

- Incipient flow ($\tau_o = 0$) for $\Lambda = -12$. However, recall that once the flow is separated the boundary layer theory is no longer valid.
- For $\frac{dU}{dx} = 0 \rightarrow \Lambda = 0$ Pohlhausen profile differs from Blasius LBL only by a few percent.
- \Box After we solve the P-Flow and determine U(x), $\frac{dU}{dx}$ we substitute everything into von Karman's momentum integral equation (4) to obtain

$$\frac{d\delta}{dx} = \frac{1}{U}\frac{dU}{dx}g(\delta) + \frac{d^2U/dx^2}{dU/dx}h(\delta)$$

where g, h are **known** rational polynomial functions of δ .

This is an ODE for $\delta = \delta(x)$ where $U, \frac{dU}{dx}, \frac{d^2U}{dx^2}$ are specified from the P-Flow solution.

General procedure:

- 1. Make a reasonable approximation in the form of (5),
- 2. Apply sufficient BC's at $y = \delta$, and the x-momentum at y = 0 to reduce (5) as a function a **single** unknown δ ,
- 3. Determine U(x) from P-Flow, and
- 4. Finally substitute into Von Karman's equation to form an ODE for $\delta(x)$. Solve either analytically or numerically to determine the boundary layer growth as a function of x.