

# **Planar Jet**

Aerodynamics Laboratory

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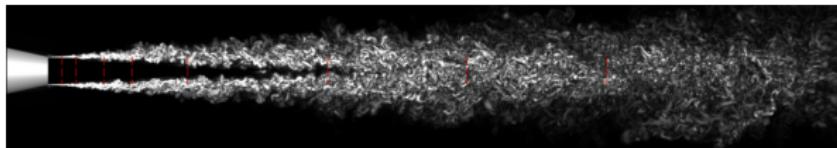
# Free shear flows

In free shear flows

- ‘Free’ – refers to the lack of constraining (solid) boundaries in the flow
  - Hence, pressure is atmospheric almost everywhere
- ‘Shear’ – indicates that the flows are dominated by velocity gradients

Prominent examples are jets and wakes

- Jet formed when new fluid is injected at high momentum into a stationary fluid
  - The two fluids may not be the same (e.g., water jet in air)
  - Two fluids may be same, but be of different densities (e.g., heated jets)



- Wake is formed behind a solid body after the flow crosses over it

# Canonical jet flows: planar and round

Both are 2-dimensional flows on an average, and have similar physics

- Planar jets emerge from long narrow slots
  - They have negligible variation of averaged flow quantities in span-wise direction, especially away from the slot ends
- Round jets are axisymmetric on an average; i.e., there is no variation of averaged flow quantities in the azimuthal direction



Planar jet<sup>a</sup>



Round jet<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup><http://research.ae.utexas.edu/FloIMLab/planar.html>

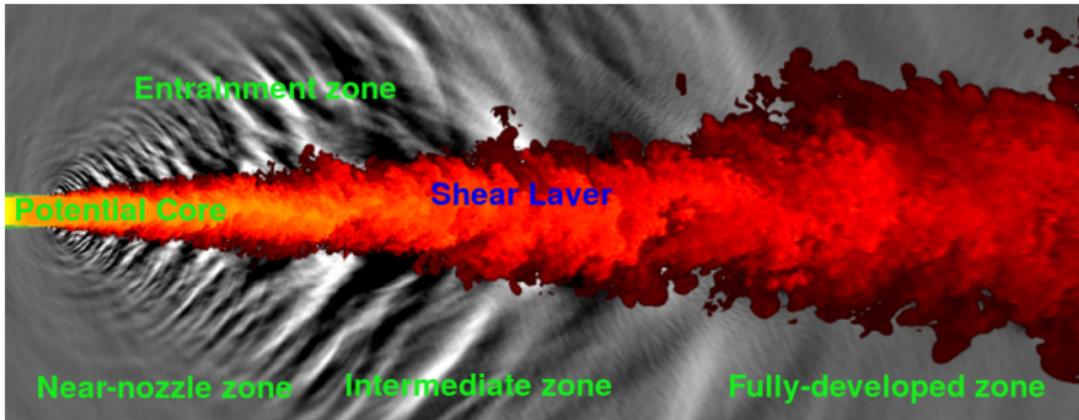
<sup>b</sup>[www.blueflametech.com](http://www.blueflametech.com)

# Parameters of Planar Jet Experiment

- Slot width,  $w = 44$  cm, slot thickness,  $d = 18$  mm
- Nozzle exit velocity,  $U_j$  is about 50 m/s (will vary among experiments)
- Assume unheated stagnation condition
- Jet exit Reynolds numbers  $0.69 \times 10^5$  to  $1.15 \times 10^5$
- Measure mean streamwise velocity field  $U$  w/ pitot tube on centerplane

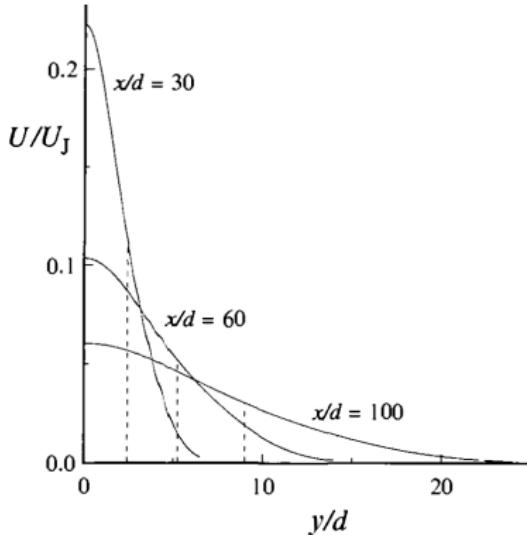


# Jet Regions



- Potential core: exit velocity prevails (negligible viscous effects)
- Entrainment zone: zone of small but predominantly inward flow
- Shear layer: mixing of two streams occurs
- Fully-developed zone: flow reaches statistical equilibrium
- Near-nozzle zone: potential core exists

# Jet characteristics in fully-developed zone



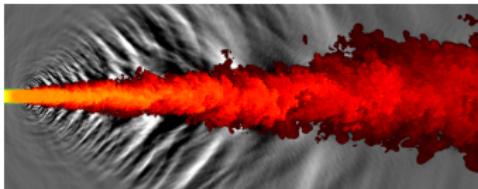
$U$ : Mean streamwise velocity (also denoted by  $U$ )

$U_j$ : Nozzle exit velocity

$d$ : Nozzle exit thickness

- Study time-averaged (mean) streamwise velocity, denoted  $U(x, y)$
- Velocity decays on centerline, but grows at outer regions
- Jet widens as it slows down
- Profiles appear to be **similar** (just scaled differently)

# Concept of self-similarity

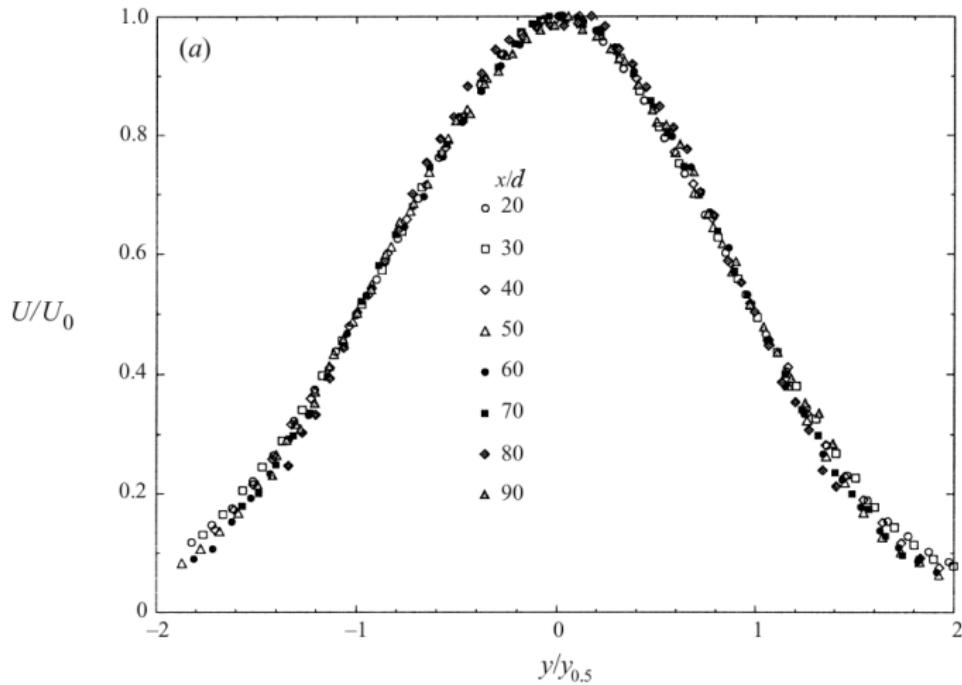


- In fully-developed region, initial (near-nozzle) condition is ‘forgotten’
- Thus, there is no **characteristic dimension** in the streamwise direction
- Another way of seeing this is that the flow is in ‘equilibrium’
- In such a situation, it is natural to expect the flow to be **self-similar**
- I.e., if the velocity and lateral coordinate are properly scaled, then the profiles should ‘collapse’ irrespective of the actual streamwise position
- A natural choice for normalizing  $y$  is the jet half-width  $y_{0.5}(x)$ ,

$$U(x, y = y_{0.5}) = \frac{1}{2} U(x, y = 0)$$

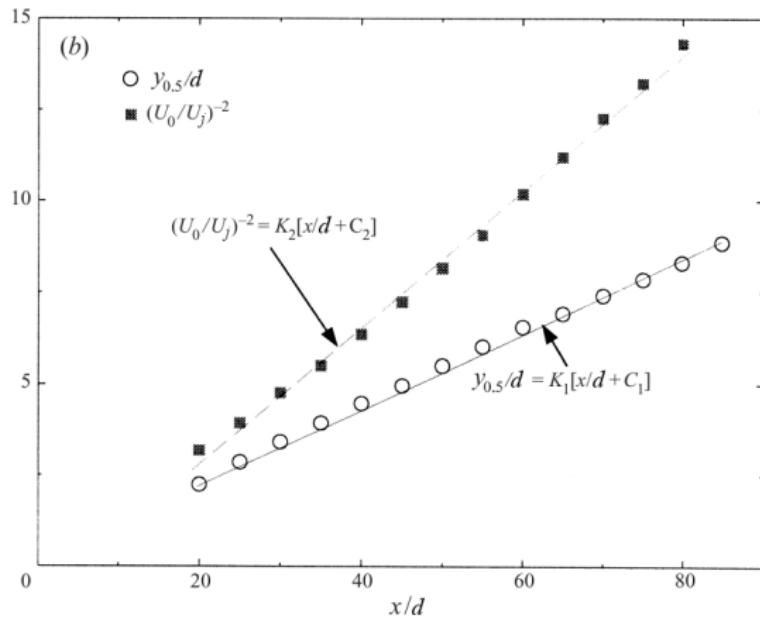
- Velocity is to be normalized by centerline velocity  $U_0(x) := U(x, y = 0)$

# Similarity of fully-developed zone



Self-similarity for data in  $x/d = 20$  to 90

# Axial variation of scales: $U_0(x)$ and $y_{0.5}$



$$\frac{dy_{0.5}}{dx} = S,$$
$$\frac{U_0(x)}{U_j} = \frac{B}{\sqrt{(x - x_0)/d}}.$$

$S$ : Spread rate,

$x_0$ : Virtual origin,

$B$ : Empirical constant

Empirical parameters  $S$  and  $B$  are more or less independent of Reynolds no.

N.B.: For large  $x$ , we have  $U_0^2(x)y_{0.5}(x) \approx \text{constant}$

## Momentum conservation

Mean momentum flux per unit slot width is defined as

$$\dot{P}(x) := \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \rho U^2 dy$$

Show that the experimental observations on the streamwise variation of  $U_0(x)$  and  $y_{0.5}$  are consistent with the conclusion that the momentum flux is conserved in the streamwise direction

$$\frac{d\dot{P}}{dx} = 0$$

# Mass and energy flux

Show using the similarity function  $f$  introduced earlier that

$$\text{Mass flux: } \dot{m}(x) := \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \rho U dy \sim x^{0.5},$$

$$\text{Energy flux: } \dot{E}(x) := \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \rho U^3 dy \sim x^{-0.5}.$$

$\sim$  denotes 'varies as'

# Experimental Objectives

- To understand the characteristics of the planar jet
- To analyze its mean streamwise velocity
- To characterize the streamwise variation of centerline velocity and jet half width
- To verify self-similarity
- To verify conservation of streamwise momentum flux
- To verify proposed variation of streamwise mass and energy flux

## Report and final presentation must include

Apart from the things required to be proven that are mentioned in the previous slides, your report and final presentation must include the following:

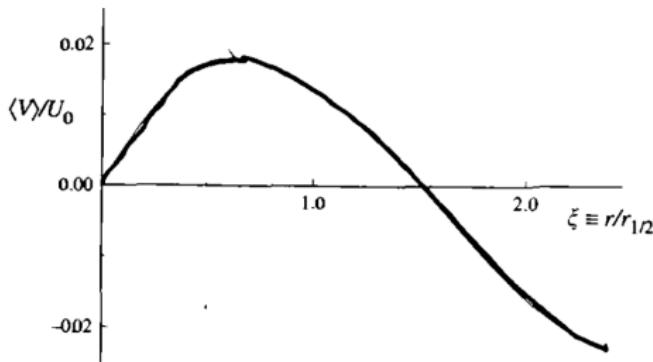
- Detailed documentation of experimental conditions (including ambient)
- Estimate of the potential core length of the jet (from plots of centerline velocity vs.  $x$ )
- Comparison with literature, with proper bibliography

### Caution:

- Never show length dimensions in absolute units – always non-dimensionalize with slot thickness,  $d$ , or similarity variable
- Never show velocities in absolute units – always non-dimensionalize with exit velocity,  $U_j$ , or similarity velocity

## Additional learning

## Mean lateral velocity, $V$ , in self-similar region



Once the mean streamwise velocity is known in the self-similar region (i.e., the function  $f$ ), the mean lateral velocity may be found by integrating the mean mass conservation equation

We note that

- $V \ll U$
- There is inward flow (-ve  $V$ ) in the outer entrainment zone

# Momentum conservation: Boundary layer approximation

Following is a sketch of the proof for streamwise momentum conservation;  
you must be familiar with the derivation for the final exam

- Jet spreads slowly, and mean streamwise velocity dominates (true for boundary layers and most shear flows)
- Reynolds number is high
- It can be shown that the (boundary layer) equations are

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = 0,$$

$$U \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + V \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} = \nu \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial y^2} - \frac{\partial \bar{uv}}{\partial y},$$

$$\frac{P}{\rho} = \frac{P_0}{\rho} - \frac{\bar{v^2}}{\rho}.$$

$\bar{uv}$  is lateral Reynolds shear stress,  $\nu$  is kinematic viscosity,  $P_0$  is ambient pressure,  $\rho$  is mean density

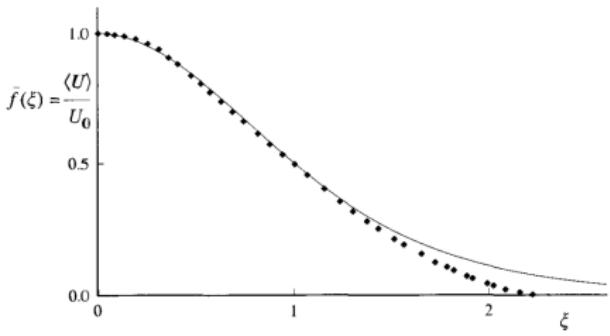
# Self-similar profile

Let us denote the lateral similarity parameter as

$$\xi := y/y_{0.5}$$

We define the similarity function

$$f(\xi) := \frac{U(x, y)}{U_0(x)}$$



## Theoretical variation of similarity parameters (Self learning)

From similarity arguments (borne out by experiments), lateral Reynolds shear stress is

$$\overline{uv} = U_0^2 g(\xi).$$

Then, show that the momentum and mass conservation equations together give the following

$$\frac{y_{0.5}}{2(x - x_0)} \left\{ f^2 + f' \int_0^\xi f(\eta) d\eta \right\} = g'.$$

Hence, conclude that  $y_{0.5} \sim x$ .