

The velocity profile in a laminar boundary layer flow at zero pressure gradient is to be approximated by the linear expression, $u/U = a + b\eta$, where $\eta = y/\delta$. Use the momentum integral equation with this profile to obtain an expression for the ratio, δ/x and the skin friction coefficient, C_f , in terms of the Reynold's number.

$$\tau_w = \rho U^2 \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^\delta \frac{v_x}{U} \left(1 - \frac{v_x}{U}\right) dy$$

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Given $\frac{u}{U} = a + b\eta$. $\eta = y/\delta$.

at $\eta = 0$ ($y = 0$) $u = 0 \Rightarrow a = 0$.

at $\eta = 1$ ($y = \delta$) $u = U \Rightarrow b = 1$.

If this step is not done
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$$\therefore \boxed{\frac{u}{U} = \frac{y}{\delta} = \eta} \quad (1)$$

The M. eqⁿ for flat plate, incompressible flow, zero pres. grad.

$$\tau_w = \rho U^2 \frac{d\delta}{dx} \int_0^1 \frac{u}{U} \left(1 - \frac{u}{U}\right) d(y/\delta)$$

$$\boxed{\tau_w = \rho U^2 \beta \frac{d\delta}{dx}} \quad (2)$$

β is the value of the definite integral.

$$\int_0^1 \frac{u}{U} \left(1 - \frac{u}{U}\right) d\eta = \int_0^1 \eta(1 - \eta) d\eta = \left[\frac{1}{2}\eta^2 - \frac{1}{3}\eta^3\right]_0^1 = \frac{1}{6} = \beta. \quad (1)$$

$$\tau_w = \mu \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \Big|_{y=0} = \frac{\mu U}{\delta} \frac{\partial (u/U)}{\partial (y/\delta)} \Big|_{y/\delta=0} = \frac{\mu U}{\delta} \frac{d(u/U)}{d\eta} \Big|_{\eta=0} = \frac{\mu U}{\delta}. \quad (2)$$

From (2)

$$\frac{\mu U}{\delta} = \rho U^2 \frac{d\delta}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{6}\right).$$

$$\frac{\delta^2}{2} = \frac{6\mu}{\rho U} x + c. \quad (2)$$

B.C. $\delta = 0$ at $x = 0 \Rightarrow c = 0. \Rightarrow \frac{\delta}{x} = \sqrt{\frac{12\mu}{\rho U x}}.$

$$\boxed{\frac{\delta}{x} = \frac{3.46}{\sqrt{Re_x}}} \quad \leftarrow$$

(2)

$$C_f = \tau_w / \frac{1}{2} \rho U^2 = \frac{\mu U / \delta}{\frac{1}{2} \rho U^2} = \frac{2\mu}{\rho U \delta} = \frac{2\mu}{\rho U x} \cdot \frac{x}{\delta} \Rightarrow \boxed{C_f = \frac{0.577}{\sqrt{Re_x}}}$$