



A Finite Difference Code for the Navier-Stokes Equations in Vorticity/ Streamfunction Form

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Spring 2011



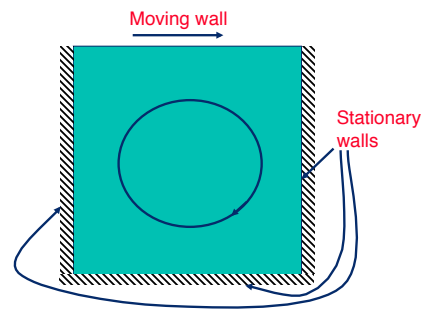
Develop an understanding of the steps involved in solving the Navier-Stokes equations using a numerical method

Write a simple code to solve the “driven cavity” problem using the Navier-Stokes equations in vorticity form

Short discussion about why looking at the vorticity is sometimes helpful



- The Driven Cavity Problem
- The Navier-Stokes Equations in Vorticity/Streamfunction form
- Boundary Conditions
- The Grid
- Finite Difference Approximation of the Vorticity/Streamfunction equations
- Finite Difference Approximation of the Boundary Conditions
- Iterative Solution of the Elliptic Equation
- The Code
- Results
- Convergence Under Grid Refinement



$$-\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right] = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right] = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \left(\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \omega}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \omega}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

$$\omega = \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$$



Solve the incompressibility conditions

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

by introducing the stream function

$$u = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y}; \quad v = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}$$

Substituting:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = 0$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics

The vorticity/streamfunction equations:

Substituting

$$u = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y}; \quad v = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}$$

into the definition of the vorticity

$$\omega = \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$$

yields

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} = -\omega$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics

The vorticity/streamfunction equations:

The Navier-Stokes equations in vorticity-stream function form are:

Advection/diffusion equation

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial y} + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \omega}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \omega}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

Elliptic equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} = -\omega$$

Recall the advection-diffusion equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = D \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \right)$$



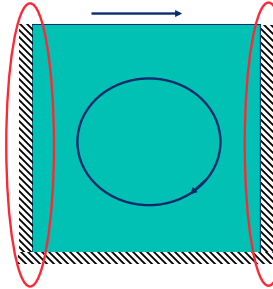
Computational Fluid Dynamics

Boundary Conditions for the Streamfunction

At the right and the left boundary:

$$u = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \psi = \text{Constant}$$



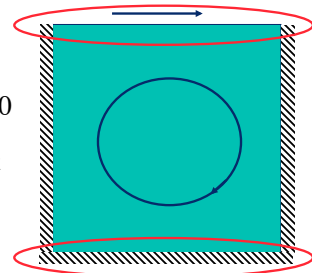
Computational Fluid Dynamics

Boundary Conditions for the Streamfunction

At the top and the bottom boundary:

$$v = 0 \Rightarrow -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \psi = \text{Constant}$$

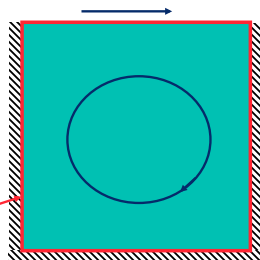


Computational Fluid Dynamics

Boundary Conditions for the Streamfunction

Since the boundaries meet, the constant must be the same on all boundaries

$$\psi = \text{Constant}$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics

Boundary Conditions for the Vorticity

The normal velocity is zero since the streamfunction is a constant on the wall, but the zero tangential velocity must be enforced:

At the right and left boundary: At the bottom boundary:

$$v = 0 \Rightarrow -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = 0 \quad u = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} = 0$$

At the top boundary:

$$u = U_{\text{wall}} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} = U_{\text{wall}}$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics Boundary Conditions for the Vorticity

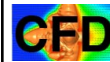
The wall vorticity must be found from the streamfunction.
The stream function is constant on the walls.

At the right and the left boundary:

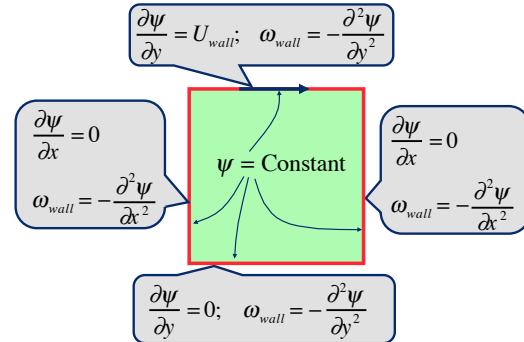
$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \cancel{\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2}} = -\omega \Rightarrow \omega_{wall} = -\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2}$$

Similarly, at the top and the bottom boundary:

$$\cancel{\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2}} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} = -\omega \Rightarrow \omega_{wall} = -\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2}$$

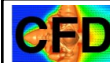
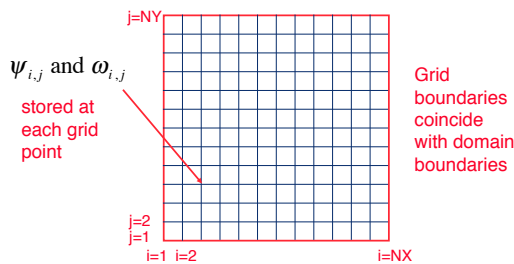


Computational Fluid Dynamics Summary of Boundary Conditions



Computational Fluid Dynamics Discretizing the Domain

To compute an approximate solution numerically,
we start by laying down a discrete grid:



Computational Fluid Dynamics Finite Difference Approximations

Then we replace the equations at each grid point
by a finite difference approximation

$$\left(\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} \right)_{i,j}^n = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x} \bigg|_{i,j}^n + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial y} \bigg|_{i,j}^n + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \omega}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \omega}{\partial y^2} \right)_{i,j}^n$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} \right)_{i,j}^n + \left(\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} \right)_{i,j}^n = -\omega_{i,j}^n$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics Finite Difference Approximations

Finite difference approximations

$$\frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x-h)}{2h} - \frac{\partial^3 f(x)}{\partial x^3} \frac{h^2}{12} + \dots$$

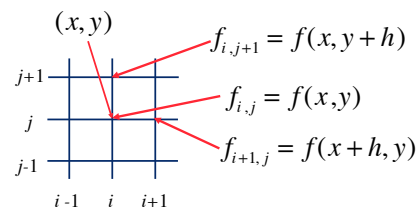
$$\frac{\partial^2 f(x)}{\partial x^2} = \frac{f(x+h) - 2f(x) + f(x-h)}{h^2} - \frac{\partial^4 f(x)}{\partial x^4} \frac{h^2}{24} + \dots$$

$$\frac{\partial f(t)}{\partial t} = \frac{f(t+\Delta t) - f(t)}{\Delta t} - \frac{\partial^2 f(t)}{\partial t^2} \frac{\Delta t}{2} + \dots$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics Finite Difference Approximations

Use the notation developed earlier:





Laplacian

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} =$$

$$\frac{f_{i+1,j}^n - 2f_{i,j}^n + f_{i-1,j}^n}{h^2} + \frac{f_{i,j+1}^n - 2f_{i,j}^n + f_{i,j-1}^n}{h^2} =$$

$$\frac{f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i-1,j}^n + f_{i,j+1}^n + f_{i,j-1}^n - 4f_{i,j}^n}{h^2}$$



$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial y} + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \omega}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \omega}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

The advection equation is:

$$\frac{\omega_{i,j}^{n+1} - \omega_{i,j}^n}{\Delta t} =$$

$$-\left(\frac{\psi_{i,j+1}^n - \psi_{i,j-1}^n}{2h} \right) \left(\frac{\omega_{i+1,j}^n - \omega_{i-1,j}^n}{2h} \right) + \left(\frac{\psi_{i+1,j}^n - \psi_{i-1,j}^n}{2h} \right) \left(\frac{\omega_{i,j+1}^n - \omega_{i,j-1}^n}{2h} \right)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \left(\frac{\omega_{i+1,j}^n + \omega_{i-1,j}^n + \omega_{i,j+1}^n + \omega_{i,j-1}^n - 4\omega_{i,j}^n}{h^2} \right)$$



The vorticity at the new time is given by:

$$\omega_{i,j}^{n+1} = \omega_{i,j}^n + \Delta t \left[-\left(\frac{\psi_{i,j+1}^n - \psi_{i,j-1}^n}{2h} \right) \left(\frac{\omega_{i+1,j}^n - \omega_{i-1,j}^n}{2h} \right) \right.$$

$$+ \left. \left(\frac{\psi_{i+1,j}^n - \psi_{i-1,j}^n}{2h} \right) \left(\frac{\omega_{i,j+1}^n - \omega_{i,j-1}^n}{2h} \right) \right.$$

$$+ \left. \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \left(\frac{\omega_{i+1,j}^n + \omega_{i-1,j}^n + \omega_{i,j+1}^n + \omega_{i,j-1}^n - 4\omega_{i,j}^n}{h^2} \right) \right]$$



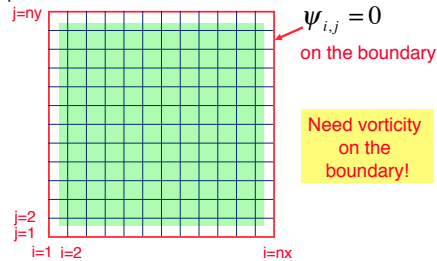
The elliptic equation is:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} = -\omega$$

$$\frac{\psi_{i+1,j}^n + \psi_{i-1,j}^n + \psi_{i,j+1}^n + \psi_{i,j-1}^n - 4\psi_{i,j}^n}{h^2} = -\omega_{i,j}^n$$

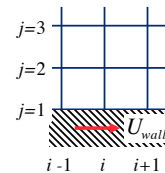


These equations allow us to obtain the solution at interior points



Consider the bottom wall ($j=1$):


Need to find $\omega_{wall} = \omega_{i,j=1}$



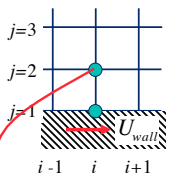
given:

$\psi = \text{Constant}$

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} = U_{wall}; \quad \omega_{wall} = -\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2}$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics
Discrete Boundary Condition




given:

$$\psi = \text{Constant}$$

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} = U_{\text{wall}}; \quad \omega_{\text{wall}} = -\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2}$$

Expand the streamfunction

$$\psi_{i,j=2} = \psi_{i,j=1} + \frac{\partial \psi_{i,j=1}}{\partial y} h + \frac{\partial^2 \psi_{i,j=1}}{\partial y^2} \frac{h^2}{2} + O(h^3)$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics
Discrete Boundary Condition

$$\psi_{i,j=2} = \psi_{i,j=1} + \frac{\partial \psi_{i,j=1}}{\partial y} h + \frac{\partial^2 \psi_{i,j=1}}{\partial y^2} \frac{h^2}{2} + O(h^3)$$

Using:


$$\omega_{\text{wall}} = -\frac{\partial^2 \psi_{i,j=1}}{\partial y^2}; \quad U_{\text{wall}} = \frac{\partial \psi_{i,j=1}}{\partial y}$$

this becomes:

$$\psi_{i,j=2} = \psi_{i,j=1} + U_{\text{wall}} h - \omega_{\text{wall}} \frac{h^2}{2} + O(h^3)$$

Solving for the wall vorticity:

$$\omega_{\text{wall}} = \left(\psi_{i,j=1} - \psi_{i,j=2} \right) \frac{2}{h^2} + U_{\text{wall}} \frac{2}{h} + O(h)$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics
Solving the elliptic equation

The elliptic equation:


$$\frac{\psi_{i+1,j}^n + \psi_{i-1,j}^n + \psi_{i,j+1}^n + \psi_{i,j-1}^n - 4\psi_{i,j}^n}{h^2} = -\omega_{i,j}^n$$

Rewrite as

$$\psi_{i,j}^{n+1} = 0.25 (\psi_{i+1,j}^n + \psi_{i-1,j}^n + \psi_{i,j+1}^n + \psi_{i,j-1}^n + h^2 \omega_{i,j}^n)$$

Solve by SOR


$$\psi_{i,j}^{\alpha+1} = \beta 0.25 (\psi_{i+1,j}^{\alpha} + \psi_{i-1,j}^{\alpha+1} + \psi_{i,j+1}^{\alpha} + \psi_{i,j-1}^{\alpha+1} + h^2 \omega_{i,j}^n) + (1-\beta) \psi_{i,j}^{\alpha}$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics
Time Step

Limitations on the time step


$$\frac{v \Delta t}{h^2} \leq \frac{1}{4} \quad \frac{(lu + |v|) \Delta t}{v} \leq 2$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics
Solution Strategy

```

graph TD
    A[Initial vorticity given] --> B[Solve for the stream function]
    B --> C[Find vorticity on boundary]
    C --> D[Find RHS of vorticity equation]
    D --> E[Update vorticity in interior]
    E --> F["t=t+[Δt]"]
    F --> A
    
```



Computational Fluid Dynamics
Solution Strategy

```

graph TD
    A[Initial vorticity given] --> B[Solve for the stream function]
    B --> C[Find vorticity on boundary]
    C --> D[Find RHS of vorticity equation]
    D --> E[Update vorticity in interior]
    E --> F["t=t+[Δt]"]
    F --> A
    
```

for i=1:MaxIterations
for i=2:nx-1; for j=2:ny-1
s(i,j)=SOR for the stream function
end; end

v(i,j)=...

for i=2:nx-1; for j=2:ny-1
rhs(i,j)=Advection+diffusion
end; end

v(i,j)=v(i,j)+dt*rhs(i,j)



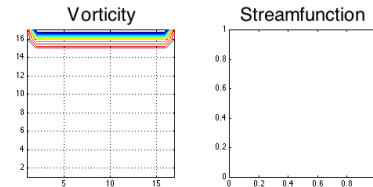
Computational Fluid Dynamics The Code

```
1 clf; nx=9; ny=9; MaxStep=60; Visc=0.1; dt=0.02; % resolution & governing parameters
2 MaxIt=100; Beta=1.5; MaxErr=0.001; % parameters for SOR iteration
3 sf=zeros(nx,ny); vt=zeros(nx,ny); w=zeros(nx,ny); h=1.0/(nx-1); t=0.0; % initialize
4 for istep=1:MaxStep, % start the time integration
5     for iter=1:MaxIt, % solve for the streamfunction
6         msf; % by SOR iteration
7         for i=2:nx-1; for j=2:ny-1
8             sf(i,j)=0.25*Beta*(sf(i+1,j)+sf(i-1,j)...
9             +sf(i,j+1)+sf(i,j-1)+h*h*vt(i,j))+(1.0-Beta)*sf(i,j);
10        end; end;
11        Err=0; for i=1:nx; for j=1:ny, Err=Err+abs(w(i,j)-sf(i,j)); end; end;
12        if Err <= MaxErr, break, end % stop if iteration has converged
13    end;
14    vt(2:nx-1,1)=-2.0*sf(2:nx-1,2)/(h*h); % vorticity on bottom wall
15    vt(2:nx-1,ny)=-2.0*sf(2:nx-1,ny-1)/(h*h)-2.0/h; % vorticity on top wall
16    vt(1,2:ny-1)=-2.0*sf(2,2:ny-1)/(h*h); % vorticity on right wall
17    vt(nx,2:ny-1)=-2.0*sf(nx-1,2:ny-1)/(h*h); % vorticity on left wall
18    for i=2:nx-1; for j=2:ny-1 % compute
19        w(i,j)=0.25*((sf(i,j+1)-sf(i,j-1))*(vt(i+1,j)-vt(i-1,j))... % the RHS
20        -(sf(i+1,j)-sf(i-1,j))*(vt(i,j+1)-vt(i,j-1)))/(h*h)... % of the
21        +Visc*(vt(i+1,j)+vt(i-1,j)+vt(i,j+1)+vt(i,j-1)-4.0*vt(i,j))/(h*h); % vorticity
22    end; end; % equation
23    vt(2:nx-1,2:ny-1)=vt(2:nx-1,2:ny-1)+dt*w(2:nx-1,2:ny-1); % update vorticity
24    t=t+dt; % print out t
25    subplot(121), contour(rot90(fliplr(vt))), axis('square'); % plot vorticity
26    subplot(122), contour(rot90(fliplr(sf))), axis('square'); pause(0.01) % streamfunction
27 end;
```



Computational Fluid Dynamics Results:

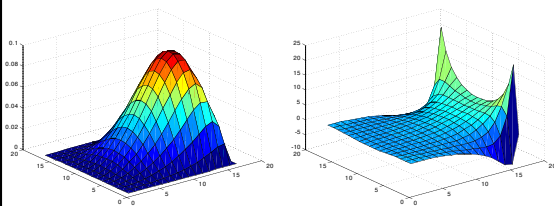
17 by 17
Dt=0.01
D=0.1



Computational Fluid Dynamics Results:

Streamfunction

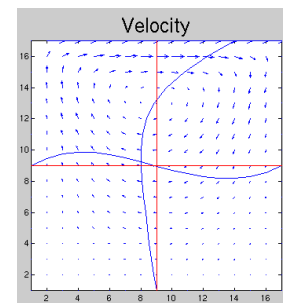
Vorticity



Computational Fluid Dynamics Results:

17 by 17
Dt=0.01
D=0.1

$$u_{i,j} = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \approx \frac{\psi_{i,j+1} - \psi_{i,j-1}}{2h}$$
$$v_{i,j} = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \approx -\frac{\psi_{i+1,j} - \psi_{i-1,j}}{2h}$$



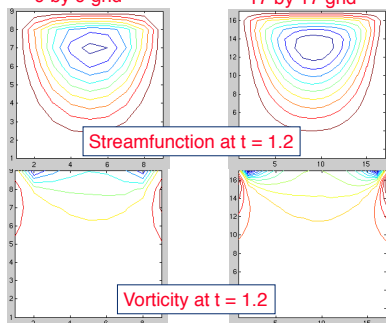
Computational Fluid Dynamics Results:

9 by 9 grid

17 by 17 grid

Streamfunction at t = 1.2

Vorticity at t = 1.2



Computational Fluid Dynamics

Why is vorticity
important?



Helmholtz decomposition:

Any vector field can be written as a sum of

$$\mathbf{u} = \nabla \phi + \nabla \times \Psi$$

Take divergence

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = \nabla \cdot \nabla \phi = \nabla^2 \phi = 0$$

Take the curl

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{u} = \nabla \times (\nabla \times \Psi) = \omega$$

By a Gauge transform this can be written as

$$\nabla^2 \Psi = -\omega$$



For incompressible flow with constant density and viscosity, taking the curl of the momentum equation yields:

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \omega = (\omega \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \nu \nabla^2 \omega$$

or:

$$\frac{D\omega}{Dt} = (\omega \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \nu \nabla^2 \omega$$

Helmholtz's theorem:

Inviscid Irrotational flow remains irrotational



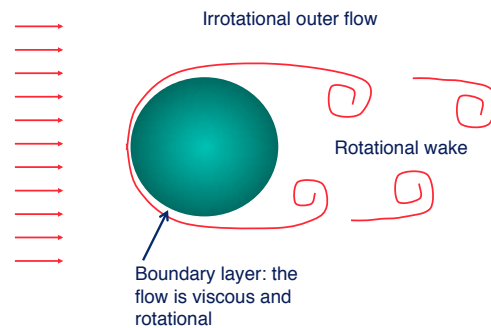
In two-dimensions: $\Psi = (0, 0, \psi)$ $\omega = (0, 0, \omega)$

$$\omega = \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$$

or:

$$\frac{D\omega}{Dt} = \nu \nabla^2 \omega \quad \nabla^2 \psi = -\omega$$

Zero viscosity: $\frac{D\omega}{Dt} = 0$ The vorticity of a fluid particle does not change!



Advection and diffusion— Boundary layers



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

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = D \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics Boundary Layers

Consider the steady state balance of advection and diffusion

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f=0 & \xrightarrow{U} & f=1 \\ x=0 & & x=L \end{array}$$

Governed by: $U \frac{df}{dx} = D \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2}$

Solve this equation analytically

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{D}{U} \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} \rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} \left(f - \frac{D}{U} \frac{df}{dx} \right) = 0$$

Integrate: $f - \frac{D}{U} \frac{df}{dx} = C_1$



Computational Fluid Dynamics Boundary Layers

Rearrange

$$f - C_1 = \frac{D}{U} \frac{df}{dx} \rightarrow \frac{1}{(f - C_1)} \frac{df}{dx} = \frac{U}{D}$$

or

$$\frac{df}{(f - C_1)} = \frac{U}{D} dx$$

Integrate

$$\int \frac{df}{(f - C_1)} = \int \frac{U}{D} dx \rightarrow \ln(f - C_1) = \frac{U}{D} x + C_2$$

$$\rightarrow f = \exp(Ux/D) \times \exp(C_2) + C_1$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics Boundary Layers

$$f = \exp(Ux/D) \times \exp(C_2) + C_1$$

Boundary conditions

At $x = 0$: $f = 0 \rightarrow 0 = \exp(C_2) + C_1 \Rightarrow C_1 = -\exp(C_2)$

At $x = L$: $f = 1 \rightarrow 1 = \exp(UL/D) \times \exp(C_2) + C_1$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = \exp(UL/D) \times \exp(C_2) - \exp(C_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = \exp(C_2) [\exp(UL/D) - 1]$$

$$\Rightarrow \exp(C_2) = \frac{1}{\exp(UL/D) - 1}$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics Boundary Layers

$$f = \exp(Ux/D) \times \exp(C_2) + C_1$$

$$C_1 = -\exp(C_2) \quad \exp(C_2) = \frac{1}{\exp(UL/D) - 1}$$

$$f = \frac{\exp(Ux/D) - 1}{\exp(UL/D) - 1}$$

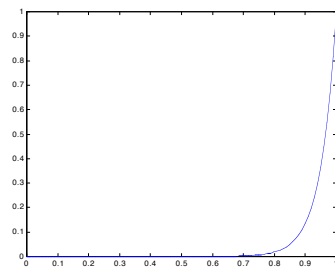
$$\rightarrow f = \frac{\exp(Rx/L) - 1}{\exp(R) - 1} \quad R = \frac{UL}{D}$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics Boundary Layers

```
r=20; for i=1:100, x(i)=(i-1)/99; end;
for i=1:100, f(i)=(exp(r*x(i))-1)/(exp(r)-1); end;
plot(x,f)
```

R=1
R=5
R=10
R=20



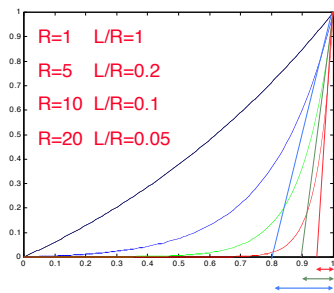
Computational Fluid Dynamics Boundary Layers

Scaling:

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{D}{U} \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2}$$

Estimate the thickness of the "boundary Layer"

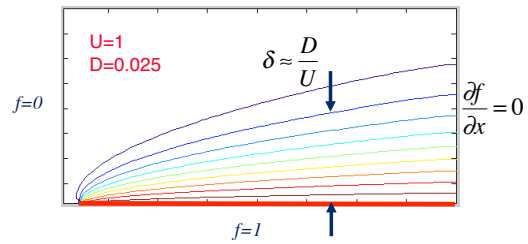
$$\frac{1}{\delta} = \frac{D}{U} \frac{1}{\delta^2} \Rightarrow \delta \approx \frac{DL}{UL} = \frac{L}{R}$$





2D

Solution of: $U \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = D \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \right)$



Develop an understanding of the steps involved in solving the Navier-Stokes equations using a numerical method

Write a simple code to solve the “driven cavity” problem using the Navier-Stokes equations in vorticity form

Short discussion about why looking at the vorticity is sometimes helpful