

**Today, we will:**

- Do another example of superposition of irrotational flows – flow over a circular cylinder
- Start discussing the last approximation of Chapter 10: **The Boundary Layer Approx.**

**b. Example of superposition: Flow over a circular cylinder**

**Given:** Superpose a uniform stream of velocity  $V_\infty$  and a doublet of strength  $K$  at the origin.

**To do:** Plot streamlines, and discuss the flow that results from this superposition.

**Solution:**

- We simply add up the stream functions for

the two building block flows:  $\psi = \psi_{\text{freestream}} + \psi_{\text{doublet}} = V_\infty y - K \frac{\sin \theta}{r}$ .

- But we know that  $y = r \sin \theta$ , thus,  $\psi = V_\infty r \sin \theta - K \frac{\sin \theta}{r}$ .

- For “convenience”, and with hindsight, we choose to set  $\psi = 0$  at  $r = a$ .

[It turns out that radius  $a$  is a special radius that becomes the radius of the circle.]

- Set  $r = a$  in our equation for the stream function:

$$0 = V_\infty a \sin \theta - K \frac{\sin \theta}{a} \rightarrow K = V_\infty a^2$$

- Then our final expression for  $\psi$  becomes

$$\psi = V_\infty \sin \theta \left( r - \frac{a^2}{r} \right)$$

*SYMMETRIC TOP & BOTTOM AND FORE & AFT*

- Plot streamlines: [we plot nondimensionally, setting  $x^* = x/a$  and  $y^* = y/a$ ]

- From our equation for  $\psi$  above, we can calculate the velocity field from the definition

of  $\psi$ , i.e.,  $u_r = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta}$   $u_\theta = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r}$ . See text for details. **On the cylinder ( $r = a$ ),**

$$u_r = 0 \quad u_\theta = -2V_\infty \sin \theta$$

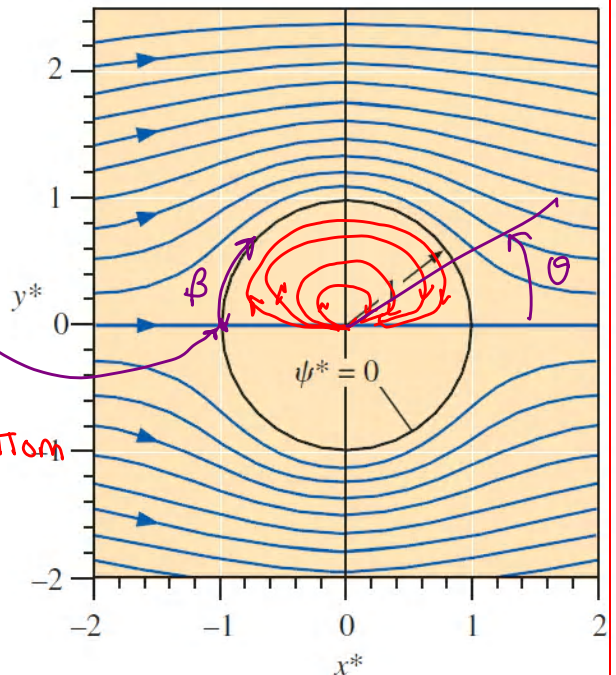
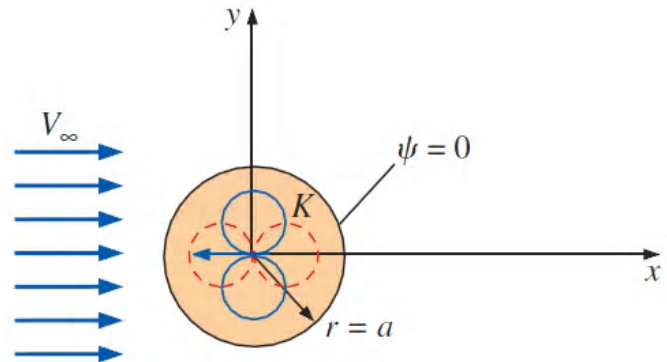
*(Use Bernoulli to calculate the pressure)*

- We can also define the **pressure coefficient**,

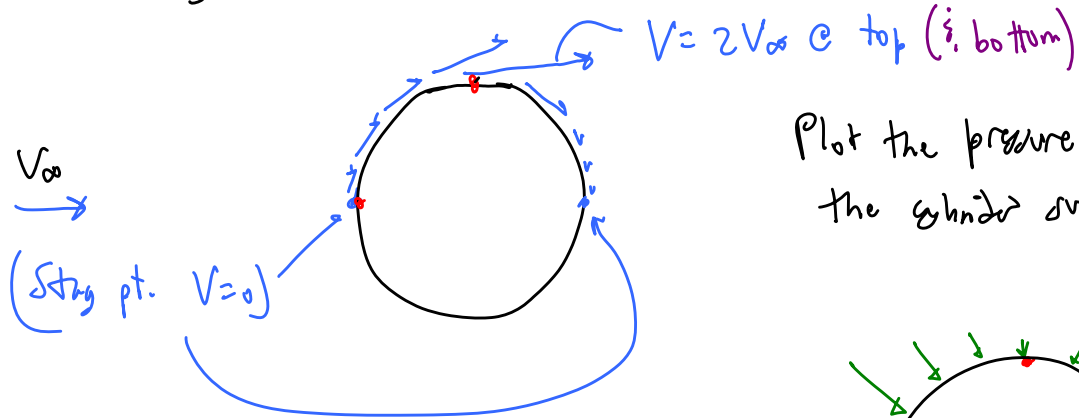
$$C_p = \frac{P - P_\infty}{\frac{1}{2} \rho V_\infty^2} = 1 - \frac{V^2}{V_\infty^2}$$

- **On the cylinder**, it turns out that  $C_p = 1 - 4 \sin^2 \beta$ , where  $\beta$  is the angle from the nose.

*A “classic”*



Plot velocity vectors along the cyl. surface:

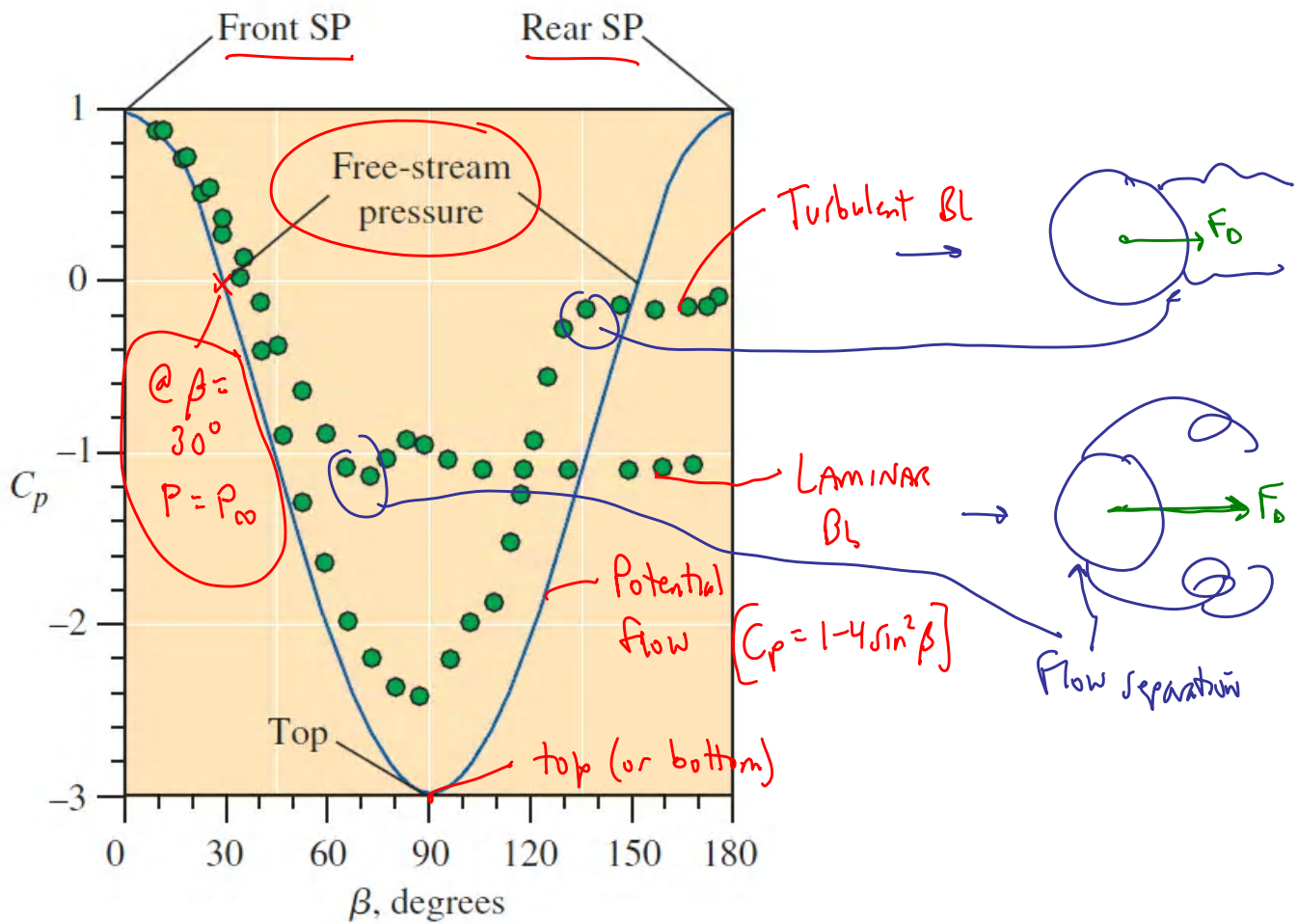


Plot the pressure field on the cylinder surface



We get  $F_D = \text{Drag force} = \underline{\underline{\text{zero}}}$

D'Alembert's paradox  
 $\text{Drag} = 0$  for any non-lifting body  
 in inviscid flow



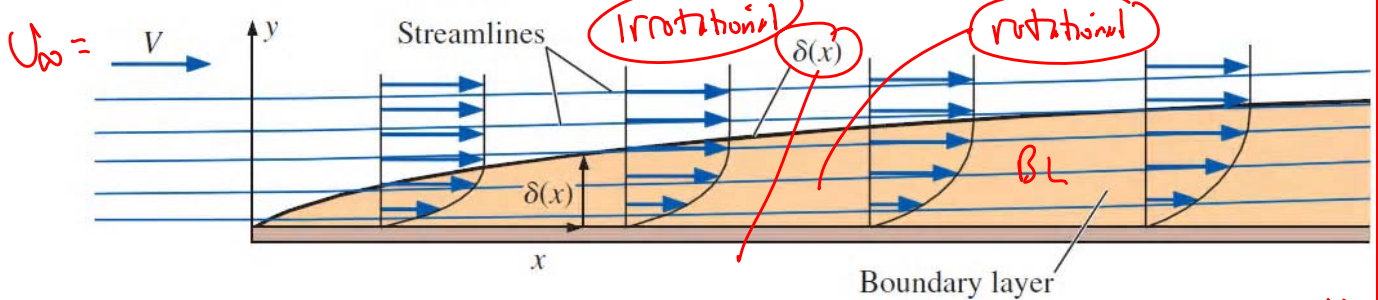
## F. The Boundary Layer Approximation

### 1. Introduction

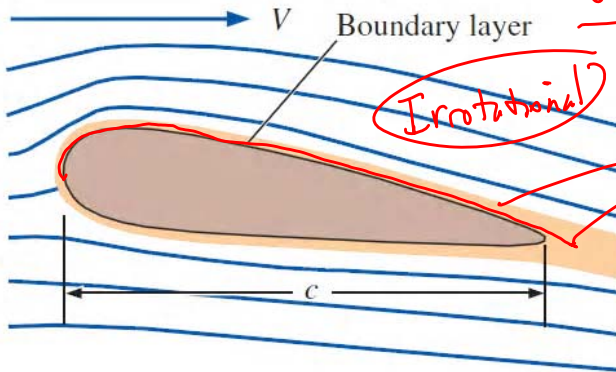
**Definition:** A **boundary layer** is a thin layer in which viscous effects and vorticity are significant, and cannot be ignored.

Examples

- BL on a flat plate aligned with the freestream flow (we show top side only):



- BL on an airfoil:



$\delta(x) = \text{BL thickness, typically where } u = 0.99 U_{\infty}$

These BLs are exaggerated.

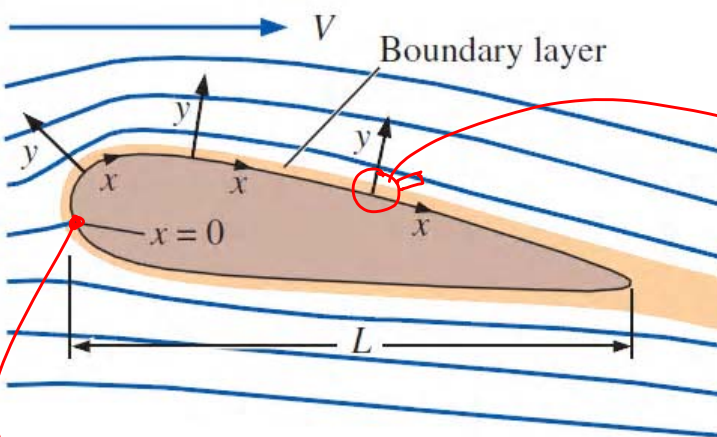
They are in real life much

Comment:

- N-S eq is valid everywhere, but too hard to solve. <sup>thinner</sup>
- Euler eq or irrotational approx is easy, but does not apply near walls.
- The BL approx "bridges the gap" between N-S & Euler eqs. (useful near walls & in water)

### 2. The Boundary Layer Coordinate System

In a 2-D flow, we let  $x = \text{distance along the wall}$ , and  $y = \text{distance normal to the wall}$ .



$x$  starts @ the stg. pt. @ front of body

local coord. system

Magnify:

$u = U_{\infty}$  @ edge

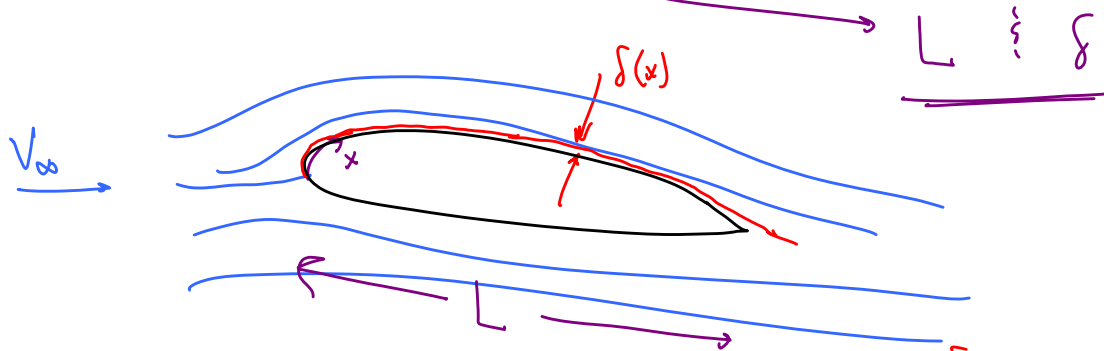
$\delta(x)$

$u = v = 0$

no-slip condition  
 \*  $(u = v = 0 \text{ @ wall})$

### 3. The BL Eqs

- Nondimensionalize the continuity & N-S eqs as previously
- Here we have 2 length scales instead of just 1 (previously)



- The BL Approximation is that  $\delta \ll L$   $\star \star \star$   
 $\star$  i.e. the BL is very THIN

Nondimensionalization  $\rightarrow$  previously  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \sim \frac{1}{L}$   $\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \sim \frac{1}{L}$

Here for a BL,  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \sim \frac{1}{L}$  but  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \sim \frac{1}{\delta}$   $\star$

more appropriate since BL is so thin

- Continuity (2-D, steady, incomp., ignore gravity)

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

$u \gg v$   $\star$   
 but  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \gg \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$  } Both terms remain

• x-mom (N-S)  $u \frac{du}{dx} + v \frac{du}{dy} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \nu \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} + \nu \frac{d^2 u}{dy^2}$

but  $\delta \ll L$ , the last term is way bigger than the 2<sup>nd</sup>-to-last term

$\sim \nu \frac{u}{L^2}$   $\sim \nu \frac{u}{\delta^2}$

BL approx. → x-mom eq.  
(Valid inside the BL)

$$u \frac{du}{dx} + v \frac{dv}{dy} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \nu \frac{d^2 u}{dy^2}$$

• y-mom (N-S eq)

$$u \frac{dv}{dx} + v \frac{dv}{dy} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} + \nu \frac{d^2 v}{dx^2} + \nu \frac{d^2 v}{dy^2}$$

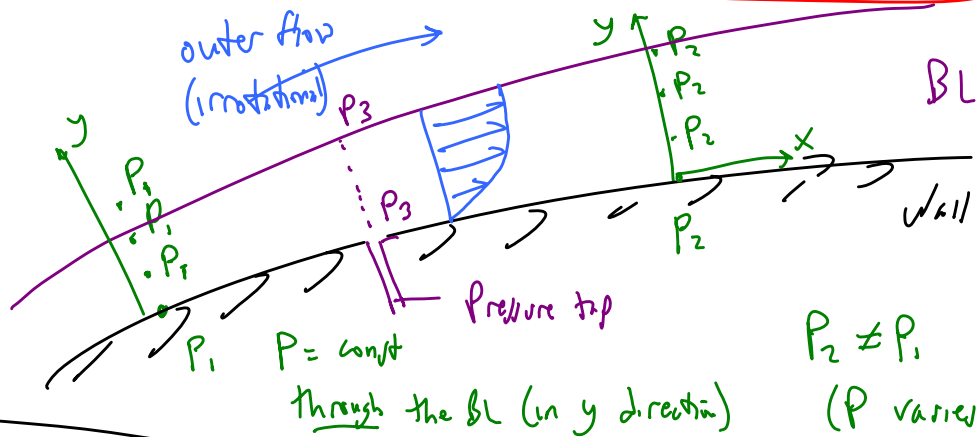
negligible

See text for details → all terms are small compared to pressure term

y-mom eq. w/ BL approx reduces to  $\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \approx 0$  ★ in a BL

Interpretation of  $\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = 0$  in a BL:

P does not vary across a BL, only along the BL. ★



$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \approx 0, \text{ but } \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} \neq 0 \text{ in a BL in general } ★$$

$P_2 \neq P_1$   
(P varies along the BL (x-dir))

Pressure can be measured at the wall & it is the same pressure at the outer edge of the BL

Significant in the design of airfoils → can use potential flow to predict the lift on an airfoil & test in a wind tunnel - measure P

#### 4. The BL Procedure (5 steps)

• Step 1 Solve for the outer flow (irrotational)  $U(x)$   
 $P(x)$

• Step 2 Assume a thin BL (so thin that  $U(x)$  is not affected)

• Step 3 Solve the BL eqs

• Step 4 Calculate quantities of interest (drag, etc.)

• Step 5 Verify the BL is indeed thin  
(compare  $\delta$  to  $L$ )

↓  
verify that  $\delta \ll L$  ☆☆☆

We will do some examples next time, using this  
BL procedure