



INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY  
UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION



# INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS

34100 TRIESTE (ITALY) - P.O.B. 500 - MIRAMARE - STRADA COSTIERA 11 - TELEPHONE: 2140-1  
CABLE: CENTRATOM - TELEX 460892-1

SMR.378/13

WORKSHOP ON THEORETICAL FLUID MECHANICS AND APPLICATIONS

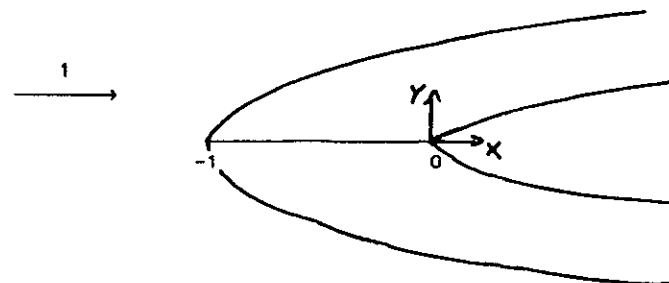
(9 - 27 January 1989)

## OTHER TRIPLE-DECK FLOWS

S.J. COWLEY  
Department of Mathematics  
Imperial College  
London, U.K.

## Other Triple-Deck Flows

Flow past an aligned flat plate of finite length



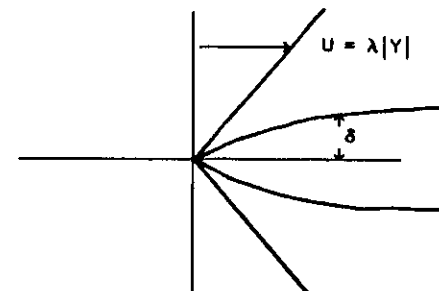
### Classical boundary-layer solution

$$UU_X + VU_Y = \nu U_{XX} + U_{YY}, \quad U_X + V_Y = 0$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} V &= 0 & \text{on } Y &= 0 \\ U &= 0 & -1 < X < 0 \\ U_Y &= 0 & 0 < X \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ on } Y = 0$$

$$U \rightarrow u = 1 \quad \text{as } Y \rightarrow \infty$$

Concentrate on wake near trailing edge  $X = 0+$



Due to discontinuity in boundary conditions seek similarity solution growing from  $X = 0$  (Goldstein, 1930). Assume sub-viscous layer has thickness  $\delta$ ,

$$U = O(\lambda \delta)$$

$$UU_X = O(U_{YY}) \quad \rightarrow \quad \lambda \delta^3 = O(X)$$

i.e.  $\delta = O\left(\frac{X}{\lambda}\right)^{1/3}, \quad U = O(X^{1/3} \lambda^{2/3}).$

Try  $U = X^{1/3} \lambda^{2/3} f'(\eta)$ ,  $\eta = \left[ \frac{\lambda}{X} \right]^{1/3} Y$

$$V = \frac{1}{3} \left[ \frac{\lambda}{X} \right]^{1/3} (\eta f' - 2f)$$

$$3ff'' + 2ff'' - f'^2 = 0$$

$$f(0) = f''(0) = 0, \quad f'(\eta) \rightarrow \eta \quad \text{as } \eta \rightarrow \infty.$$

Numerical solution yields

$$U = \lambda \left[ Y + c \left( \frac{X}{\lambda} \right)^{1/3} + \dots \right] \quad \text{for } X^{1/3} \ll Y \ll 1.$$

( $c = 1.288\dots$ )

For  $Y = O(1)$ ,

$$U = U_0(Y) + \left( \frac{X}{\lambda} \right)^{1/3} U_1(Y) + \dots$$

$$V = -\frac{1}{3} \left[ \frac{1}{\lambda X^2} \right]^{1/3} \int U_1 dY + \dots$$

From boundary-layer equation

$$U_0 U_1 - \int U_1 dY U_{0Y} = 0$$

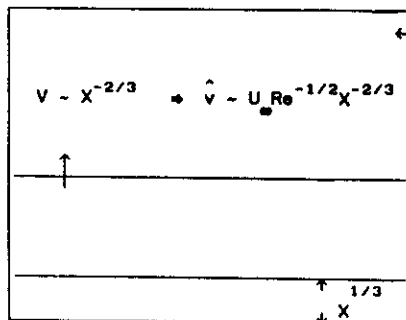
Solution which matches with the lower layer is

$$U_1 = c U_{0Y}.$$

Hence

$$V \rightarrow -\frac{c}{3(\lambda X^2)^{1/3}} \quad \text{as } Y \rightarrow \infty.$$

Singularity at  $X = 0 \rightarrow$  boundary-layer approximation breaks down.



Linear irrotational flow.

As before:

$$\hat{p} = U_\infty^2 \hat{v} \sim U_\infty^2 Re^{-1/2} X^{-2/3}$$

$$\hat{p}_x \sim \frac{U_\infty^2}{D} Re^{-1/2} X^{-5/3}$$

where  $D$  is length of plate, and

$$Re = \frac{U_\infty D}{\nu}$$

Perturbation pressure gradient should be small compared with inertia and viscous terms in lower layer. But

$$\frac{\hat{p}_x}{U_\infty^2} = 0 \left[ \frac{U_\infty^2}{D} \frac{1}{Re^{1/2} X^{5/3}} \cdot \frac{DX}{U_\infty^2 X^{2/3}} \right] = 0 \left[ \frac{1}{Re^{1/2} X^{4/3}} \right],$$

hence require

$$X \gg Re^{-3/8} = R^{-3/4}.$$

When  $X = O(R^{-3/4})$  need to rescale.

Same triple-deck scaling as before! (Stewartson 1969, Messiter 1970)

Upper Deck As before.

Middle Deck As before.

Lower Deck  $\hat{y} = R^{-1/4} \delta y = Re^{-5/8} Dy$ ,  $\hat{x} = Re^{-5/8} DX$

$$\hat{u} \sim Re^{-1/8} U_\infty U, \quad \hat{v} \sim Re^{-3/8} U_\infty V, \quad \hat{p} = Re^{-1/4} U_\infty^2 P$$

$$U_x + V_y = -P_x + U_{yy}, \quad U_x + V_y = 0$$

$$0 = -P_y$$

$$U = V = 0 \quad \text{on } y = 0, \quad X < 0$$

$$U_y = V = 0 \quad \text{on } y = 0, \quad X > 0$$

$$U \rightarrow U_{0y}(0)(Y + A) \quad \text{as } Y \rightarrow \infty$$

$$U \rightarrow U_{0y}(0)Y \quad \text{as } X \rightarrow -\infty$$

$$P = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{A'(\xi)}{X - \xi} d\xi.$$

Same equations as before, but different boundary conditions. Numerical solution by Jobe and Burggraf (1974).

Define drag coefficient,  $C_D$ , by

$$C_D = \frac{\text{Drag}}{\frac{1}{2} \rho U_\infty^2 D}.$$

Then by integrating skin friction over surface,

$$C_D \sim \underset{\text{Blasius}}{1.328 Re^{-1/2}} + \underset{\text{Triple-deck correction}}{2.65 R^{-7/8}} + \dots$$

Other trailing edge problems have been examined, e.g.

(a) aerofoils with wedge shaped trailing edges

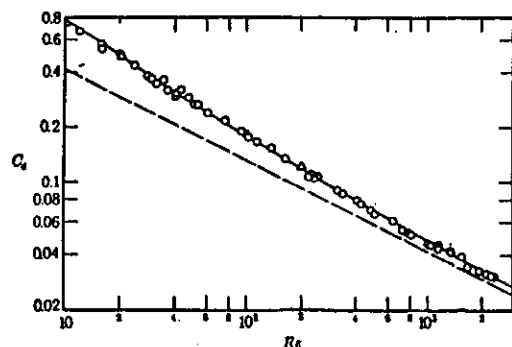


FIGURE 4. Drag against Reynolds number: a comparison of theory and experiment. —, Equation (4.1); ○, Janour (1951); ---, Blasius (1908); Δ, Dennis (1973).

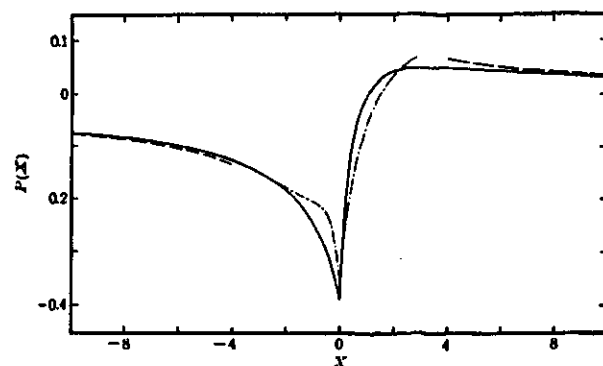


FIGURE 5. Induced pressure distribution. —, Present results; ---, Messiter (1970); -.-, leading term of equation (3.13).

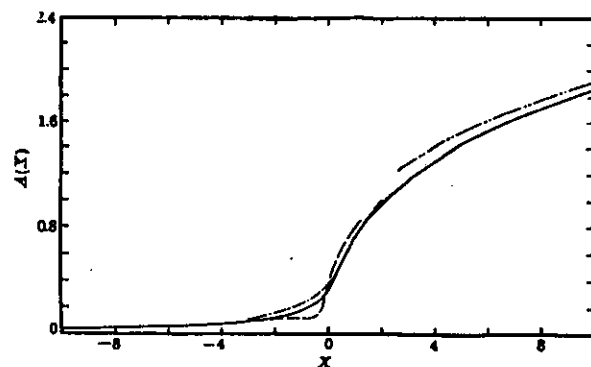
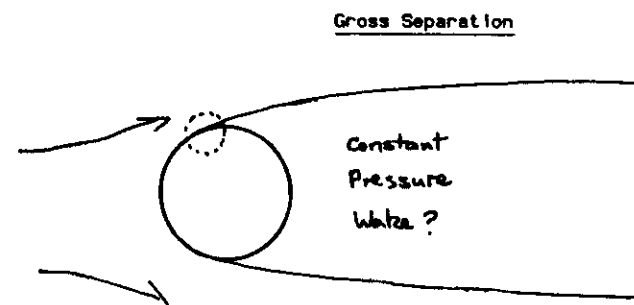


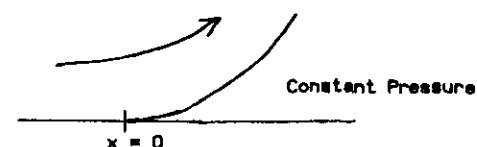
FIGURE 6. Lower deck displacement function,  $A(X)$ . —, Present results; ---, Messiter (1970) computed; -.-, Messiter (1970) assumed; -.-.-, leading term of equation (2.12).

- (b) aerofoils with cusped trailing edges at incidence  
(c) oscillating aerofoils.



Neighbourhood of separation point.

$$y = S(x) = S_0 x^{n+1} + \dots \quad n > 0$$



Free streamline must come off tangentially, otherwise deceleration associated with stagnation point will lead to separation upstream.

Assume small velocity perturbations for  $|x| \ll 1$ , and that slip velocity normalised to 1 at separation point. Then

$$u \sim 1 + \tilde{u}, \text{ etc.}$$

where

$$\tilde{u}_x = -\tilde{p}_x, \quad \tilde{v} = -\tilde{p}_y, \quad \tilde{u}_x + \tilde{v}_y = 0$$

$$\nabla^2 \tilde{p} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \tilde{p} = -n S_0 r^n \sin n\theta$$

Boundary conditions on  $y = 0$ ,  $x < 0$  and  $y = 0$ ,  $x > 0$  yield

$$\tilde{p} = -n S_0 r^n \sin n\theta \quad \text{with } n = \frac{1}{2} + m, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots \text{ and } S_0 > 0.$$

With  $n = 1/2$

$$\frac{d\tilde{p}}{dx} = \frac{S_0}{4(-x)^{1/2}} > 0 \quad \text{on } y = 0, x < 0.$$

Adverse, infinite pressure gradient at  $x = 0$ . Usual argument is that this leads to separation, hence require  $S_0 = 0$ : Brillouin-Villat condition. Sychev (1972) argues that

$$S_0 = 0(\epsilon) \quad \text{where} \quad \epsilon \propto \text{Re}^{-\alpha}$$

Blowing velocity	$\rightarrow v \sim \text{Re}^{-1/2} \epsilon^{1/2} (-x)^{3/4}$
	$p \sim \text{Re}^{-1/2} \epsilon^{1/2} (-x)^{3/4}$
No slip	$\rightarrow u \sim U_0 + \epsilon^{1/2} (-x)^{1/4}$
Continuity	$\rightarrow v \sim \text{Re}^{-1/2} \epsilon^{1/2} (-x)^{-3/4}$
$p_x \sim \epsilon (-x)^{-1/2}$ , nonlinear	$\rightarrow u \sim \epsilon^{1/2} (-x)^{1/4}$
shear	$\rightarrow y \sim \epsilon^{1/2} (-x)^{-1/4} \text{Re}^{-1/2}$
$p_x \sim \frac{1}{\text{Re}} u_{yy}$	$\rightarrow (-x) \sim \epsilon^8$

Interaction when

$$\epsilon (-x)^{1/2} \sim \frac{\text{Re}^{-1/2} \epsilon^{1/2}}{(-x)^{3/4}}$$

i.e.  $\epsilon \sim \text{Re}^{-1/16}$   
 $(-x) \sim \text{Re}^{-3/8}$

Standard triple-deck scaling, but expansion now proceeds in powers of  $\text{Re}^{-1/16}$  rather than  $\text{Re}^{-1/8}$ .

Lower Deck Problem

$$\begin{aligned} U U_x + V U_y &= -P_x + U_{yy}, & U_x + V_y &= 0 \\ U = V &= 0 & \text{on } y = 0 \\ U &\rightarrow y + D_1 y^{1/2} + D_2 \ln y + A & \text{as } y \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} U &\rightarrow y, \\ P &\rightarrow -\alpha_0 |X|^{1/2} - \alpha_1 |X|^{-1/2} \\ A &\rightarrow 6^{1/3} \Gamma\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \alpha_0 |X|^{1/6} + E_1 \ln |X| + E_2 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad \text{as } X \rightarrow -\infty$$

$$A \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} \alpha_0 X^{3/2}, \quad P \rightarrow -\frac{9C_0^2}{8\alpha^2} X^{-8/3} \quad \text{as } X \rightarrow +\infty$$

$$A' = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{P(\xi)}{X - \xi} d\xi$$

where  $\alpha_1, C_0, D_1, D_2, E_1$  and  $E_2$  are known constants.

Numerical solution by Smith (1977), Korolev (1980)

$$\alpha_0 \approx 0.44.$$

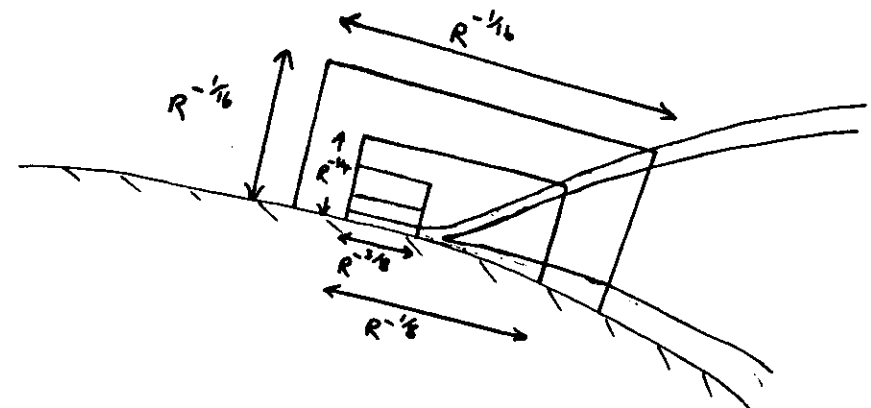
On global scale

$$\hat{y} \sim \text{Re}^{-1/16} \frac{2}{3} \alpha_0 \lambda^{9/8} x^{3/2} \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow 0.$$

where  $\lambda$  is the boundary-layer skin friction.

Gross separation past a bluff body

(Schematic)



# Free streamline

$$\hat{y} \sim \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{curvature}}}{k_0 x^2} + \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{leading order} \\ \text{inviscid solution}}}{\frac{2}{5} k_1 x^{5/2}} + R^{-1/16} \left[ \frac{2}{3} \alpha_0 \lambda^{9/8} \right] x^{3/2}$$

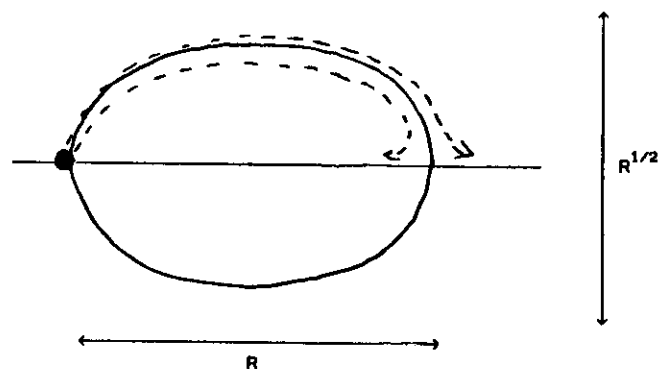
triple-deck correction

How is the position of separation fixed?

- Solve inviscid free-streamline problem to fix slip velocity
- Integrate boundary layer equations from stagnation point to separation point to find  $\lambda$ .
- Given  $\lambda$  find change in free streamline solution.

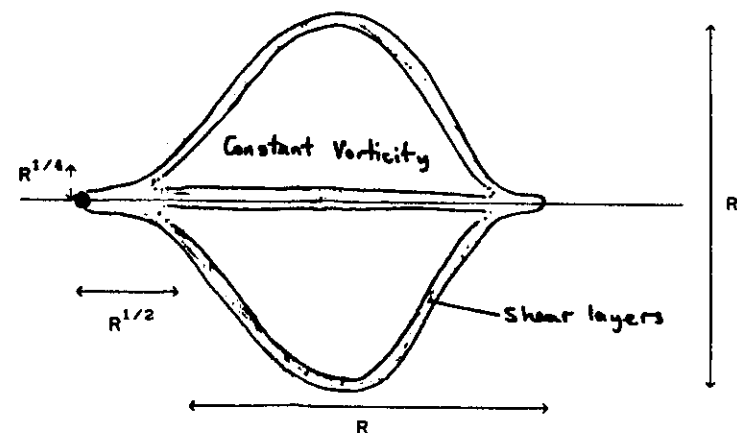
## Far downstream

Smith (1979a)



Wake has an elliptic shape. Difficulty with wake reattachment.

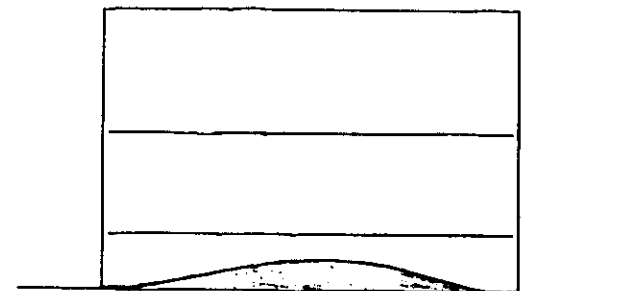
Smith (1985)



Sadovskii Vortex

## Unsteady Triple-Deck

### Example



Oscillating rivet/ribbon  
where

$$y = HF(X, T),$$

$$t = Re^{-1/4} T;$$

unsteady triple-deck scaling

$$U_T + U U_X + V U_Y = -P_X + U_{YY}, \quad U_X + V_Y = 0$$

$$U = 0, \quad V = H F_T \quad \text{on } y = H F(X, T)$$

$$u \rightarrow \lambda(y + A(X, T)) \quad \text{as } y \rightarrow \infty$$

$$P = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{A_t(\xi, T)}{X - \xi} d\xi.$$

Suppose  $F = 0$ , i.e. no forcing. Then

$$U = \lambda y$$

is a solution. What happens if seek linear solution

$$U = \lambda y + \tilde{U}, \quad \text{etc.}$$

Seek normal mode solution for  $\tilde{U}$ , with

$$\tilde{U} = \bar{U} \exp(iKX - i\Omega T), \quad \text{etc.}$$

Then

$$iK\bar{U} + \bar{V}_y = 0, \quad \bar{P}_y = 0$$

$$i(\lambda y K - \Omega)\bar{U} + \lambda \bar{V} + iK\bar{P} - \bar{U}_{yy} = 0$$

$$\bar{U} = \bar{V} = 0 \quad \text{on } y = 0,$$

$$\bar{U} \rightarrow \lambda \bar{A} \quad \text{as } y \rightarrow \infty.$$

$$\bar{P} = K \bar{A}$$

$$\text{Set } \xi = s(y - \frac{\Omega}{\lambda K}), \quad s = (i\lambda K)^{1/3}$$

$$\xi \bar{U}_\xi - \bar{U}_{\xi\xi\xi} = 0$$

$$\bar{U}_\xi = \frac{iK P_1}{s^2 A_1(\xi_0)} A_1(\xi), \quad \xi_0 = -\frac{s\Omega}{\lambda K}$$

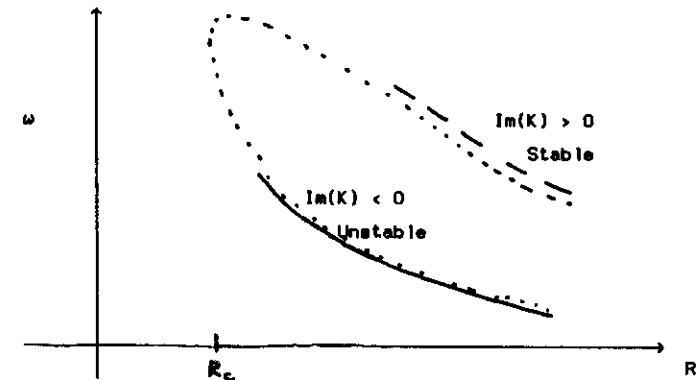
$$iK^2 \int_{\xi_0}^{\infty} A_1(q) dq = \lambda s^{2/3} A_1'(\xi_0) \quad : \quad \text{Eigenrelation.}$$

Hence given frequency,  $\Omega$ , and wall shear  $\lambda$ , can solve for (complex) wavenumber  $K$ . For  $\Omega \geq \Omega_c$  unstable waves can be found.  $\Omega = \Omega_c$  specifies frequency of neutral curve in terms of  $T$  variable. Conventionally stability analysis performed in terms of scaled variable

$$\hat{t} = \frac{\delta}{U} \tau \quad \rightarrow \quad \tau = Re^{1/2} \hat{t} = Re^{1/4} T.$$

In terms of  $\tau$  variable neutral frequency,  $\omega_c$ , given by

$$\omega_c = Re^{-1/4} \Omega_c = R^{-1/2} \Omega_c.$$



- : Triple-deck lower branch asymptote
- - - : Multiple-deck upper branch asymptote
- ..... : Orr-Sommerfeld approximation

Orr-Sommerfeld theory yields an accurate dispersion relation between frequency, wavenumber and Reynolds number for parallel flows:

$$\underline{u} = (u_0(y), 0),$$

where  $u_0$  satisfies Navier-Stokes equations. Write

$$\psi = \psi_0(y) + \tilde{\psi} \exp(iKX - i\Omega t), \quad \text{etc.}$$

Substitute into Navier-Stokes equation, then

$$(i\Omega R)^{-1} (D^2 - k^2)^2 \tilde{\psi} = (u_0 - c)(D^2 - k^2) \tilde{\psi} - u_0'' \tilde{\psi}$$

where

$$D = \frac{d}{dy}.$$

Solution to this equation with no slip boundary conditions yields eigenrelation

$$F(\alpha, c, R) = 0.$$

This theory is often applied to quasi-parallel flows where the velocity profile  $u_0(y)$  actually varies slowly with  $x$ , e.g. the Blasius boundary layer. If the slow dependence in  $x$  is neglected then the frozen velocity profile  $u_0(y)$  does not satisfy the Navier-Stokes equation - as a result the Orr-Sommerfeld equation is a heuristic approximation. Note that  $R$  is assumed both order one in deriving the Orr-Sommerfeld equation, and asymptotically

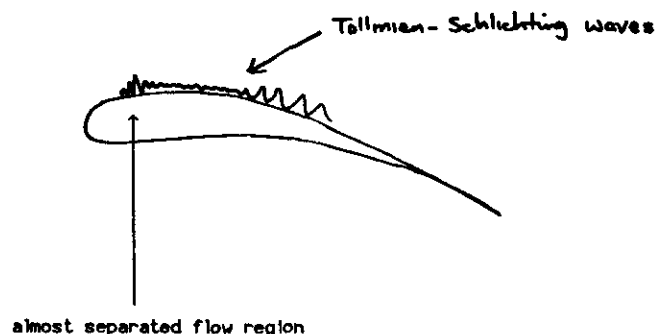
large so that the basic flow can be assumed to be quasi-parallel - this is inconsistent. However, Orr-Sommerfeld theory does yield a critical Reynolds number for instability.

Triple-Deck theory is only valid at large Reynolds numbers - hence it does not yield a critical Reynolds number. However it provides a consistent way of obtaining higher order corrections, in particular the effects of non-parallelism can be included (Smith, 1979b).

Above approach can be extended in many ways.

#### I. Receptivity problems:

$$u = U_\infty (1 + \epsilon e^{i\omega t})$$



Interaction of modulated freestream in region of almost separated flow can lead to the generation of Tollmien-Schlichting waves (Goldstein, Leib & Cowley, 1987).

#### II. Nonlinear Effects can be examined:

- (a) in the neighbourhood of the neutral curve (analytical) - Smith (1979c).
- (b) for order one triple-deck frequencies (numerical) - Tutty & Cowley (1986). Tollmien-Schlichting waves are found to grow until a singularity forms with an associated rapid shortening of scales (cf. transition and unsteady classical boundary-layer separation).
- (c) for high frequency T-S waves (analytical) - Smith (1986).

In addition, the analysis can be extended to three dimensions, and a systematic description of effects important in transition to turbulence can be identified, e.g.

(a) resonant triad interactions - Smith & Stewart (1987).

(b) Tollmien-Schlichting/Görtler wave interactions - Hall & Smith (1988).

III. Similarly asymptotic analysis can be performed to look at linear and nonlinear instability in the neighbourhood of the upper neutral curve. For example Smith & Bodonyi (1982) have shown that Hagen-Poiseuille pipe flow is unstable to nonlinear disturbances.

IV. The stability of Görtler vortices has been examined by Hall & Lakin (1988) using a high Re asymptotic approach. Goldstein & Leib (1988) have examined the stability of shear layers using the idea of non equilibrium critical layers.

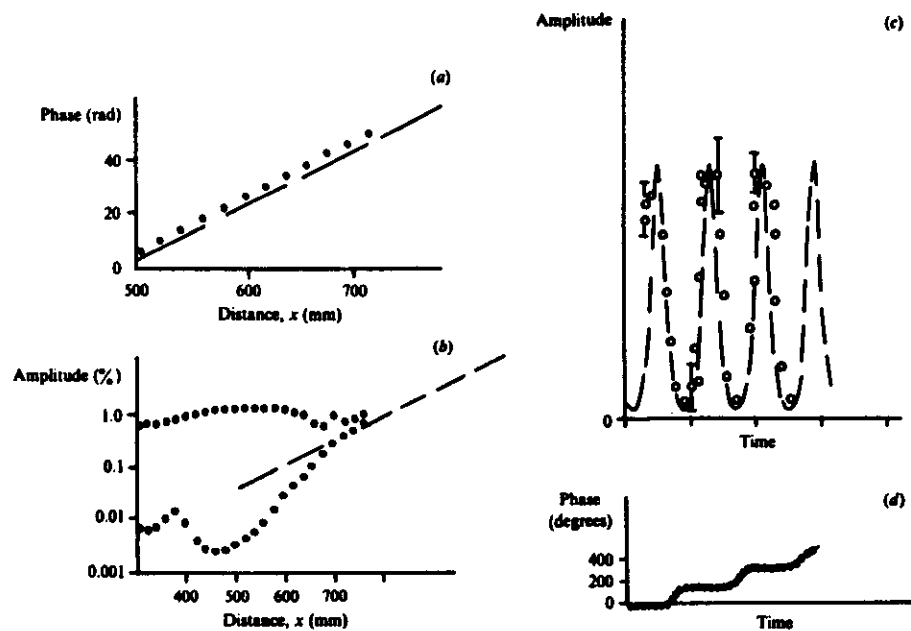


FIGURE 7. Comparison with the (nonlinear) experiments of Kachanov & Levchenko (1984). (a), (b) The growths [versus distance  $x$ ] of phase and amplitude for the fundamental and subharmonic components:  $\circ\circ\circ\circ$  (fundamental),  $\bullet\bullet\bullet\bullet$  (subharmonic) experiments; ---, theory, from (4.14) combined with the triple-deck scalings. (c), (d) compare representative experimental values ( $\circ\circ\circ\circ$ , with typical scatter/reading error shown  $\bar{\phantom{x}}$ ) of the subharmonic amplitude and phase with the theory (---), versus normalized/slow time, using figure 17(b) of Kachanov & Levchenko (1984) and figures 4(c), 4(f), 5 of the present paper.