

A SPATIAL LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER ON A STREAMLINE IN CONICAL EXTERNAL FLOW OF A UNIFORM GAS IN THE ABSENCE OF SOURCES AND SINKS

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**ABSTRACT:** Theoretical study of a three-dimensional laminar boundary layer is a complex problem, but it can be substantially simplified in certain particular cases and even reduced to the solution of ordinary differential equations.

One such particular case is the flow of a compressible gas on a streamline in conical external flow. The case is of considerable practical importance because the local heat fluxes may take extremal values on such lines.

Such flow, except for the conical case, has been examined [1-4], and an approximate method has been given [1] on the basis of integral relationships and a special form for the approximating functions. A numerical solution has been given [2, 3] for such flow around an infinite cylinder. It was assumed in [1-3] that the Prandtl number and the specific heats were constant, and that the dynamic viscosity was proportional to temperature. Heat transfer has been examined [4] near a cylinder exposed to a flow of dissociated air.

Here we give results from numerical solution of a system of ordinary differential equations for the flow of a compressible gas in a laminar boundary layer on streamlines in conical external flow, with or without influx or withdrawal of a homogeneous gas. It is assumed that the gas is perfect and that the dynamic viscosity has a power-law temperature dependence.

§1. Struminskii [5] has derived the system of differential equations for a compressible gas in a three-dimensional laminar boundary layer, while Advuevskii [1] has given the system for the particular case of a boundary layer on a streamline in conical external flow.

The Lamé coefficients take the following form for a conical body in an  $(r, \theta, z)$  coordinate system (in which  $r$  is distance along the surface of the body from the center of conicity,  $\theta$  is the polar angle (triangular wing) or angle between the meridional planes (acute circular or elliptic cone), and  $z$  is perpendicular to the surface of the body:

$$h_1 = 1, \quad h_2 = \psi(\theta) r, \quad h_3 = 1, \quad (1.1)$$

in which  $\psi(\theta)$  is a function whose form is determined by the geometry of the body.

We convert to Crocco variables and introduce dimensionless quantities as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_1 &= \rho_e u_e^2 (1 + \alpha_1)^{0.5} R_r^{-0.5} Z(u_1), & v &= v_e v_1, & u &= u_e u_1, \\ H &= H_e H_1, & \rho &= \rho_e \rho_1, & \mu &= \mu_e \mu_1, & R_r &= \rho_e u_e r / \mu_e, \\ \alpha_0 &= \frac{u_e^2}{2H_e}, & \alpha_1 &= \frac{1}{u_e \psi^2} \left. \frac{\partial v_e}{\partial \theta} \right|_{\theta=0}, \\ \alpha_2 &= \frac{u_w \rho_w}{u_e \rho_e} \left( \frac{R_r}{1 + \alpha_1} \right)^{0.5}, \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

and determine the functions  $Z(u_1)$ ,  $v_1(u_1)$ ,  $H_1(u_1)$  on a streamline for conical external flow with transpiration of a homogeneous gas at the temperature of the body:

$$\begin{aligned} Z'' + \frac{1.5u_1 + \alpha_1 v_1}{1 + \alpha_1} \frac{\rho_1 \mu_1}{Z} &= 0, \\ v_1'' - \left\{ \frac{(u_1 + \alpha_1 v_1) v_1}{1 + \alpha_1} - \frac{1}{v_1} \right\} \frac{\rho_1 \mu_1}{Z^2} &= 0, \\ H_1'' + (1 - P) H_1' Z' / Z &= 2\alpha_0 (1 - P) (1 + u_1 Z' / Z), \end{aligned} \quad (1.3)$$

the boundary conditions being

$$\begin{aligned} Z'(0) &= \alpha_2, \quad v_1(0) = 0, \quad H_1(0) = H_{1w} = \text{const}, \\ Z(1) &= 0, \quad v_1(1) = H_1(1) = 1. \end{aligned} \quad (1.4)$$

In (1.2)-(1.4),  $\rho$  is gas density,  $H$  is total enthalpy,  $\mu$  is dynamic viscosity,  $u$  and  $v$  are the components of the velocity vector in the

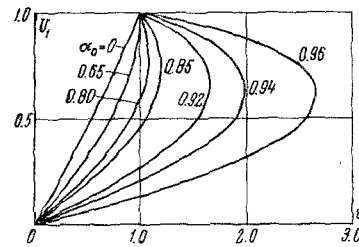


Fig. 1

longitudinal and transverse directions,  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  are the components of the frictional stress in those directions,  $P$  is the Prandtl number,  $R$  is the Reynolds number (as calculated from the flow parameters at the external edge of the boundary layer and the coordinate  $r$ ),  $w_w$  is the speed of transpiration, subscript  $e$  characterizes the flow at the external edge of the boundary layer, the subscript  $w$  relates to the wall (surface of the body), and the subscript  $1$  denotes a dimensionless quantity referred to the value at the external edge.

If the solution to (1.3) is known, the local heat flux and stress components are

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{1w} &= 0.5 \rho_e u_e^2 c_{f1} = \rho_e u_e^2 (1 + \alpha_1)^{0.5} R_r^{-0.5} Z(0), \\ \tau_{2w} &= 0.5 \rho_e u_e v_e c_{f2} = 0.5 \rho_e u_e v_e c_{f1} v_1'(0), \\ q_w &= \rho_e u_e H_e (1 + \alpha_1)^{0.5} R_r^{-0.5} Z(0) H_1'(0) P^{-1}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.5)$$

System (1.3) with (1.4) has been integrated numerically by the Runge-Kutta method by means of second-order formulas, with a constant integration step  $\Delta u_1 = 0.01$ . The solution was derived by successive approximation, the boundary conditions at  $u_1 = 1$  being obeyed to  $\epsilon = 10^{-5}$ . The iteration was monitored via  $Z(0)$ ,  $v_1'(0)$ , and  $H_1'(0)$ , the results being printed out when the difference between two successive approximations became less than  $\epsilon = 10^{-4}$ .

The calculations were performed for the following ranges in the characteristic parameters:  $0 \leq \alpha_0 \leq 0.96$  ( $0 \leq M_e \leq 11$ ),  $0 \leq \alpha_1 \leq \infty$ ,  $-1 \leq \alpha_2 \leq +1$ , and  $0.05 \leq H_{1w} \leq 1$ , with  $\alpha_1 = 10^6$  being taken instead of  $\infty$ , which allowed the case to be calculated without altering the program.

It was assumed that the gas was perfect, that the Prandtl number was constant at 0.7, and that  $\kappa = 1.4$ , with  $\mu \propto T^{0.76}$ .

§2. First we consider the case  $\alpha_2 = 0$  (no transpiration).

We reduce  $Z(u_1)$  to normal form by means of division by the value at the surface. Then  $Z(u_1)/Z(0)$ ,  $v_1(u_1)$ , and  $H_1(u_1)$  take values at the external and internal edges of the laminar boundary layer that are not dependent on the characteristic parameters.

It was found that  $\alpha_1$  had relatively little effect on  $Z(u_1)/Z(0)$  and  $H_1(u_1)$ , while the deformation of these profiles in response to  $\alpha_0$  and  $H_{1w}$  was similar to that for planar and axially symmetric boundary layers at zero pressure gradient.

Figure 1 shows the profile of the secondary flow for various  $\alpha_0$  with  $\alpha_1 = 0$  and  $H_{1w} = 0.05$ . For  $\alpha_0$  small ( $M$  for the flow small), the pro-

file is monotonic, but changes occur as  $\alpha_0$  increases, and the speed of the secondary flow within the boundary layer exceeds that at the ex-

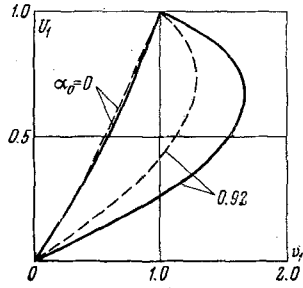


Fig. 2

ternal edge for  $\alpha_0 \geq 0.7$ . Increasing  $H_{1W}$  tends to accentuate the secondary flow, and this effect increases with  $\alpha_0$ . These effects are physically expected, since the secondary flow in the boundary layer is due to unbalance between the pressure and the centrifugal forces in the external flow, and this unbalance increases with the speed of the external flow. Figure 2 shows the effects of  $\alpha_1$  on the profile of the secondary flow for  $H_{1W} = 0.05$  and  $\alpha_0$  of 0 and 0.92 (the solid lines correspond to  $\alpha_1 = 0$ , while the dashed lines correspond to  $\alpha_1 = \infty$ ).

Parameter  $\alpha_1$  scarcely influences the profile of the secondary flow for  $\alpha_0$  small, but the effects steadily increase with  $\alpha_0$ . The secondary flow for a given  $\alpha_0$  is most prominent for  $\alpha_1 = 0$ . The reason for this response to  $\alpha_1$  is as follows. If  $\alpha_1 = 0$ , the spatial nature of the flow makes itself felt fully in the boundary layer, and the secondary flow is maximized for the given  $\alpha_0$ . The flow in the boundary layer is degenerate for  $\alpha_1 = \infty$ , and so the secondary flow is less than for  $\alpha_1 = 0$ .

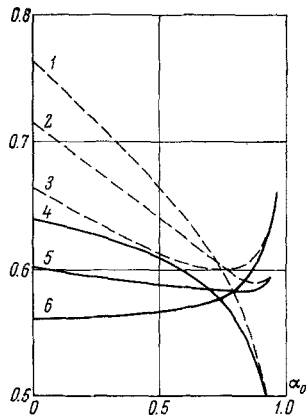


Fig. 3

This picture of the flow profile agrees well with results from numerical integration for an infinite yawed cylinder [2, 3].

We need to know  $Z(0)$ ,  $H_{1W}$ , and  $v_1'(0)$  as functions of  $\alpha_0$ ,  $\alpha_1$ , and  $H_{1W}$  in order to calculate the frictional resistance and heat-transfer coefficients.

Figure 3 shows  $Z(0)$  as a function of  $\alpha_0$  for given  $\alpha_1$  and for  $H_{1W} = 0.05$  (the solid lines are for  $\alpha_1$  as follows: 4) 0, 5) 1, 6)  $\infty$ ). The  $Z(0)$  for  $\alpha_0 = 0$  decreases as  $\alpha_1$  increases in the presence of strong heat transfer, while  $Z(0)$  and  $\alpha_1$  increase together for  $\alpha_0 = 0.96$ .

This behavior of  $Z(0)$  arises because  $\alpha_1 = 0$  corresponds to an acute circular cone at zero angle of attack, while  $\alpha_1 = \infty$  corresponds to an infinite cylinder. Increase in  $\alpha_0$  in the first case (increase in the local  $M$ ) causes reduction in the frictional resistance coefficient, and so an increase in  $\alpha_0$  causes a decrease in  $Z(0)$  for  $\alpha_1 = 0$ . The value of  $Z(0)$  near the planar critical point ( $\alpha_0 = 0$ ) in the presence of strong heat transfer is close to the value for a planar plate and is less than that for a cone, where the flow is spatial. Then increase in  $\alpha_1$  for  $\alpha_0 \approx 0$  causes a reduction in  $Z(0)$ , while increase in  $\alpha_0$  for  $\alpha_1 > 0$  accentuates the secondary flow, which increases  $Z(0)$  at first.

This increase ceases at a certain  $\alpha_0$ , and for  $\alpha_0$  large enough  $Z(0)$  begins to increase with  $\alpha_1$ . As the heat transfer is reduced ( $H_{1W}$  increased), the point of change in the dependence moves to the left, and  $Z(0)$  always increases with  $\alpha_1$  above a certain  $H_{1W}$ .

It is found that  $H_{1W}'$  is only very slightly dependent on  $\alpha_1$  (the deviation from the mean does not exceed  $\pm 0.5\%$ ), while the dependence on  $\alpha_0$  is very nearly linear.

Figure 4 shows that, for  $\alpha_0$  small,  $\alpha_1$  has very little effect on  $v_1'(0)$ , the effect becoming appreciable only for  $\alpha_0 > 0.6$ . The behavior for  $\alpha_0 > 0.4$  has been described above in relation to the velocity profile. The deviation from the above relation for small  $\alpha_0$  arises because  $v_1'(u_1) > 0$  near the external edge of the boundary layer, whereas this derivative is always negative for  $\alpha_0 > 0.4$ . This deviation arises from the effect of the Prandtl number  $P$ ; the  $v_1'(0)$  for  $\alpha_0 = 0$  coincide for  $P = 1$  and are not dependent on  $\alpha_1$ , while  $v_1'(0)$  always decreases as  $\alpha_1$  increases for  $P > 1$ .

We calculated  $q$  and the components of  $\tau$ . Figure 3 shows  $q_1 = q_w(\rho_e u_e H_e)^{-1} R_T^{0.5} (1 + \alpha_1)^{-0.5}$  as a function of  $\alpha_0$  for given  $\alpha_1$

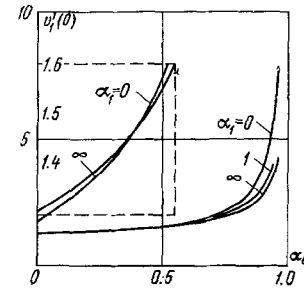


Fig. 4

with  $H_{1W} = 0.05$  (the dashed lines are for  $\alpha_1$  as follows: 1) 0, 2) 1, 3)  $\infty$ ). The behavior can be explained by reference to the limiting cases ( $\alpha_1$  equal to 0 and  $\infty$ ).

§3. Transpiration in either sense has similar effects on the boundary layer, as Fig. 5 shows by reference to the secondary-flow profile as a function of  $\alpha_2$  for  $H_{1W} = 0.05$ ,  $\alpha_0 = 0.94$ , and  $\alpha_1 = 0$ .

The effects on  $q$  and  $\tau$  are similar; Fig. 6 shows  $q_1$  as a function of  $\alpha_0$  for fixed values of  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  with  $H_{1W} = 0.05$  (the solid line corresponds to  $\alpha_1 = 0$ , the dashed line to  $\alpha_1 = 1$ , and the dot-dash line to  $\alpha_1 = \infty$ ). This shows that transpiration has effects analogous to those of a pressure gradient. These effects arise because the transpiration alters the thickness of the boundary layer and hence the velocity and temperature gradients, which affect  $\tau$  and  $q$ .

Inward gas flow greatly reduces the local convective heat transfer, and so this provides an efficient method of protection for aircraft. The discussion of this topic falls into two parts. In the first stage, there is absorption of heat by the inward-flowing gas (rise from  $T_0$  to  $T_w$ ); in the second, the gas enters the boundary layer and reduces the local convective transfer.

These two processes may be considered via the equilibrium surface temperature of an acute circular cone of length  $l = 1$  m (along the

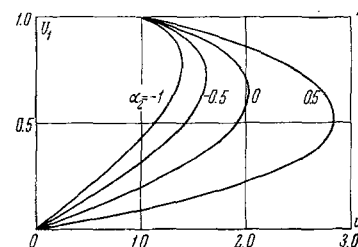


Fig. 5

surface) and semivertex angle  $\vartheta = 30^\circ$  moving supersonically ( $M_\infty = 11$ ) at a height  $H = 25$  km at zero angle of attack. We assume that the surface of the body is a perfect thermal conductor, the emissivity

coefficient being  $\epsilon = 0.8$  and the initial gas temperature being  $T_0 = 300^\circ \text{K}$ . In the absence of inward transpiration, the surface temperature is governed by equality of the heat fluxes and is  $T_{wp} = 2214^\circ \text{K}$ . If we neglect heat absorption due to the heat capacity of the gas and take  $\alpha_2 = 0.5$ , outward transpiration of gas at the surface temperature reduces the latter to  $1882^\circ \text{K}$ . If we incorporate heating of the gas from  $T_0 = 300^\circ \text{K}$  to  $T_w$ , we get  $T_{wp} = 1500^\circ \text{K}$ . This requires a gas flow rate of only  $0.68 \text{ kg/sec}$ . This shows that transpiration provides efficient protection. However, a detailed study of this topic falls outside the scope of this paper.

These results apply only for a particular case, but they do provide some qualitative general conclusions as follows.

At a constant surface temperature and  $\alpha_1 < \infty$ , the gas flow rate varies as  $\rho_w w_w = \alpha_2 u_e \rho_e (1 + \alpha_1)^{0.5} R_1^{-0.5}$ , so most of the coolant enters the boundary layer on some initial section and takes up much of the heat flux, while the transpiration behind this plays a relatively minor part. In this case the surface temperature is constant throughout the transpiration region, while elsewhere it increases somewhat, though this rise is much less than in the absence of transpiration in the leading section.

For a given gas flow rate and given flow parameters at the external edge, this aftereffect of transpiration will be maximum for  $\alpha_1 = 0$  and zero for  $\alpha_1 = \infty$ , since in the latter case the gas flow rate is everywhere the same, and all sections play the same part in the general balance. Physically, this is explained by the increase in removal of gas from the surface by the secondary flow as  $\alpha_1$  increases.

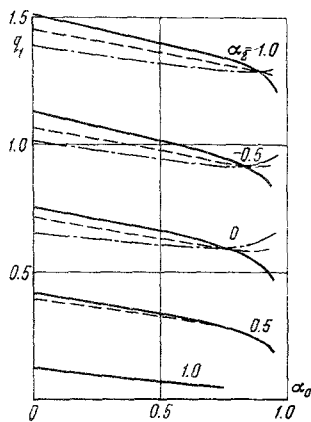


Fig. 6

Also, the aftereffect extends laterally for  $\alpha_1 > 0$ ; if  $\alpha_1 = \infty$ , the aftereffect appears only in the direction of the secondary flow.

§4. We have seen that  $\alpha_1 = 0$  corresponds to an acute circular cone at zero angle of attack, while  $\alpha_1 = \infty$  corresponds to an infinitely long cylinder. These cases are of practical interest and will be examined in more detail, with particular attention to the heat transfer.

Figure 7 shows the local heat flux at the surface of a cone as the dependence of  $c_{H\infty} R_{I\infty}^{0.5} = q_w R_{\infty}^{0.5} [\rho_{\infty} u_{\infty} H_{\infty} (1 - H_{1w})]^{-1}$  on the angle  $\vartheta$  for various  $M$  for rapid heat transfer ( $H_{1w} = 0.05$ , solid lines) and moderate heat transfer ( $H_{1w} = 0.5$ , dashed lines). The local transfer increases with  $\vartheta$ , and the flux is maximum for the limiting  $\vartheta$  at which the gas flow remains conical.

The following correlation formula applies for the local flux for cones with  $\vartheta > 10^\circ$  at hypersonic speeds with  $H_{1w}$  small:

$$\frac{q_w R_{\infty}^{0.5}}{\rho_{\infty} u_{\infty} H_{\infty}} = 0.642 (1 - H_{1w}) M_{\infty} \sin \vartheta \sqrt{\cos \vartheta} \times \left[ H_{1w} \left( 1 + \frac{\kappa - 1}{2} M_{\infty}^2 \right) \right]^{-0.12} \quad (4.1)$$

This formula is correct to  $\pm 8\%$ . The following table gives the relative heat flux  $k = q_w \chi / q_w \chi=0$  near the critical line on an infinite cylinder for  $H_{1w} = 0.05$  and various  $M$  and  $\chi$ .

$\chi^\circ$	0	20	40	60	80	$M_{\infty}$
$k$	1.0	0.919	0.705	0.0425	0.0166	3
$k$	1.0	0.913	0.686	0.0401	0.0130	5
$k$	1.0	0.908	0.672	0.0381	0.0115	15
$k$	1.0	0.908	0.671	0.0379	0.0114	25
$(\cos \chi)^{1.25}$	1.0	0.925	0.716	0.0420	0.0112	—

These values agree quite well with the results from  $k = (\cos \chi)^{1.25}$ , a formula that can be used near the critical line of a yawed cylinder.

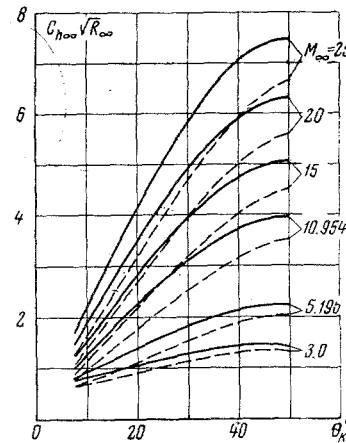


Fig. 7

(It has been suggested [2] that  $k = \cos \chi$  should be used for this purpose.) It is clear that increase in  $\chi$  greatly reduces the local heat flux, so the local heat flux at the leading rounded edge of a triangular wing may be reduced by increasing  $\chi$ . However, it has been shown [6] by experiment for  $M$  of 4 to 10 for the critical line on a yawed cylinder that the laminar boundary layer becomes turbulent at a Reynolds number  $R^* = \rho_e u_e \theta^* / \mu_e$  calculated from the flow parameters at the external edge and for a characteristic thickness

$$\theta^* = \int_0^{\theta} \rho_1 v_1 (1 - v_1) dz.$$

This transition begins at  $R^* = 130$ , and the flow is completely turbulent for  $R^* \geq 450$ , at which point the heat flux has increased by a factor of 4-5. For this reason, increase in  $\chi$  reduces the heat flux only within certain limits under given conditions, and  $\chi$  greater than a certain limit in fact increases the heat flux on account of turbulence in the boundary layer.

If we take the critical  $R^*$  as 130, we can determine the limiting  $\chi$  as a function of the flight conditions. Figure 8 shows  $R_{\infty D} = \rho_{\infty} u_{\infty} D / \mu_{\infty}$ , in which  $D$  is the diameter of the cylinder, as a function of the limiting  $\chi$  for various  $M$  with  $H_{1w} = 0.05$  and  $\alpha_2 = 0$ .

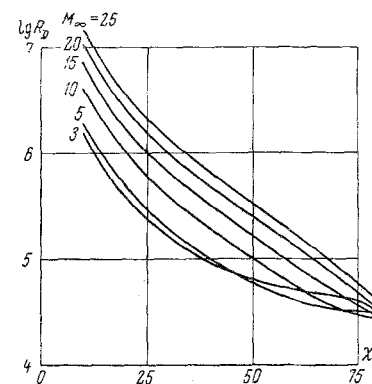


Fig. 8

If  $\chi$  is near the limiting value, inward transpiration may actually increase the local heat flux on account of production of turbulence in

the boundary layer. In that case, suctioning the gas may be advantageous, since it reduces  $\theta^*$  and retards the onset of turbulence, which allows the limiting  $\chi$  to be increased.

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