# On the nonlinear interaction of Görtler vortices and Tollmien-Schlichting waves in curved channel flows at finite Reynolds numbers 

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#### Abstract

The flow in a two-dimensional curved channel driven by an azimuthal pressure gradient can become linearly unstable owing to axisymmetric perturbations and/or non-axisymmetric perturbations depending on the curvature of the channel and the Reynolds number. For a particular small value of curvature, the critical Reynolds number for both these perturbations becomes identical. In the neighbourhood of this curvature value and critical Reynolds number, non-linear interactions occur between these perturbations. The Stuart-Watson approach is used to derive two coupled Landau equations for the amplitudes of these perturbations. The stability of the various possible states of these perturbations is shown through bifurcation diagrams. Emphasis is given to those cases that have relevance to external flows.


## 1. Introduction

Our concern is with the interaction of Tollmien-Schlichting waves induced by viscosity with Taylor-Görtler vortices driven by centrifugal effects. This interaction problem is motivated by many flows of practical importance where both modes of instability can occur. Perhaps the flow that has generated most of the interest in this topic is that associated with a laminar-flow wing, see for example Harvey \& Pride (1982). The interaction problem of these instabilities is important because, if for example finite-amplitude vortices induce the growth of Tollmien-Schlichting waves, it is possible that premature transition of the flow might occur.

There have been many experiments that have reported on the breakdown of laminar boundary layers over concave walls. Thus, for example Bippes \& Görtler (1972) and Peerhossaini \& Wesfried (1987) have shown that initially steady Görtler vortices suffer a secondary instability to a wave-like disturbance travelling in the flow direction. Dependent on the flow conditions this secondary instability could either be a wavy vortex instability of the type discussed by Hall \& Mackerrell (1988), a Rayleigh instability associated with locally inflexional profiles in the spanwise direction or a Tollmien Schlichting wave. We expect the first two situations to occur when the basic state is linearly much more unstable to centrifugal instabilities than it is to Tollmien-Schlichting waves. Here we shall concern ourselves with a flow in which the two instability mechanisms become operational at about the same Reynolds number.

Thus we investigate the flow at finite Reynolds numbers in a slightly curved
channel. We hope that results obtained for this problem will have some relevance to the external case but at any rate this is in itself a flow of some practical importance, particularly since the curvature needed to produce the interactions we consider turns out to be extremely small. The main simplification is that the basic state for channel flows is fully developed so that we do not have to overcome the technical difficulties associated with boundary-layer growth. This enables us to do a calculation at finite Reynolds numbers and therefore we can always consider the most unstable disturbances available, unlike the external case when the only self-consistent asymptotic theories require a large-Reynolds-number approximation.

In plane channel flow, instability arises owing to the amplification of TollmienSchlichting (TS) waves. As these waves grow, they modify the mean flow, produce higher harmonics, interact with other waves, and probably produce turbulence. The initial stage of development of these waves from the linear regime to the weakly nonlinear domain was analysed by Stuart (1958) who derived the Landau equation for the temporal development of the TS wave. The presence of the cubic nonlinearity in this equation modifies the otherwise exponential variation inherent in a linear theory. This theory was able to explain the existence of an equilibrium finite-amplitude perturbation in certain regions near the neutral curve. Moreover, there is a possibility of the existence of an unstable finite equilibrium amplitude and it can occur when the basic state is linearly stable. Thus a sufficiently large perturbation to the basic state is linearly stable. Thus a sufficiently large perturbation to the basic state leads to the unbounded nonlinear growth of the disturbance and the concept of a threshold amplitude response.

Taylor (1923) was the first to consider the instabilities that arise owing to the curvature of streamlines. He investigated the flow between two concentric cylinders due to the rotation of the inner cylinder with the outer cylinder stationary. He found that the flow becomes unstable when the parameter $\operatorname{Re}\left(d / R_{i}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ (now referred to as the Taylor number) exceeds a value of about 41. Here $R_{\mathrm{i}}$ is the radius of the inner cylinder, $d\left(\ll R_{\mathrm{i}}\right)$ is the gap width of the cylinders, and $R e$ is the Reynolds number based on the speed of the inner cylinder and $d$. The instability that appears as the speed of the inner cylinder exceeds the critical value is in the form of toroidal vortices. These vortices are modelled theoretically by an axisymmetric perturbation and they are stationary when they first appear.

Dean (1928) also investigated the instability in a curved channel due to the curved streamlines (see figure 1). The flow in his experiment was generated by an azimuthal pressure gradient. The channel is formed by portions of two concentric cylinders having channel width $d \ll R_{1}$. Basing the Reynolds number Re on the mean speed of the unperturbed flow, Dean (1928) and Walowit, Tsao \& DiPrima (1964) found that instability arises when $\operatorname{Re}\left(d / R_{\mathrm{i}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ exceeds a value of about 36. Here too, as in Taylor's experiment, only axisymmetric disturbances were considered.

In a detailed analysis of the linear stability of curved channel flow, Gibson \& Cook (1974) argued that in a curved channel of very small curvature non-axisymmetric disturbances can play a significant role in destabilizing the mean flow. Such perturbations are analogous to TS waves in a plane channel. Their linear stability analysis shows that for channels with very small curvature, the critical Reynolds number for the TS waves is almost independent of $\eta,\left(\eta=R_{\mathrm{i}} / R_{\mathrm{o}}, R_{\mathrm{o}}=\right.$ radius of outer wall), and it approximates very closely the corresponding value for a plane channel. The critical Reynolds number for the axisymmetric instability (Görtler vortices), on the other hand, is quite sensitive to $\eta$ for $\eta$ close to 1 (figure 2). For a particular value of $\eta=\eta_{\mathrm{c}}$, the critical Reynolds numbers for these instabilities are identical. For a


Fraure 1. Curved channel with flow in the azimuthal direction. The walls are parallel to the $z$-axis. Radius ratio $\eta=R_{\mathrm{i}} / R_{\mathrm{o}}$ and channel width $d=R_{\mathrm{o}}-R_{\mathrm{i}}$.


Frgure 2. Critical Reynolds number versus $\lambda$ for Görtler and TS perturbations. At the cross-over point of these curves, $R e_{c}=8 \times 5772.2$ and $\lambda_{c}=2.179 \times 10^{-5}$. This figure is a schematic adaptation of figure 1 in Gibson \& Cook (1974).
slightly wider channel, the critical Reynolds number for the Görtler instability is lower than the almost constant critical Reynolds number for the TS perturbation. For a narrower channel, the critical Reynolds number for the Görtler instability is higher. It is, therefore, reasonable to expect that near $\eta_{\mathrm{c}}$ both perturbations could exist simultaneously and thereby interact with each other.

The purpose of this paper is to analyse the weakly nonlinear interaction of these two instabilities (one axisymmetric and the other non-axisymmetric) which arise when the radius ratio is nearly $\eta_{\mathrm{c}}$. We use a multiple-scale version of the Stuart-Watson-method approach to derive the two coupled ordinary differential equations for the amplitudes of these perturbations. While these two equations
cannot be solved explicitly, they nevertheless yield significant information about the various possible bifurcations that can take place in the presence of these perturbations. Moreover, the stability properties of the equilibrium states can be deduced.

When considering a growing boundary layer, a self-consistent analysis of wave interactions within it requires the application of the triple-deck theory as shown by Hall \& Smith (1984). In channel flows, however, we do not need to consider the effects of boundary-layer growth, thereby greatly simplifying the analysis while still giving a qualitative picture of what might happen in an unbounded flow. It is in this context that we wish to study the Görtler/TS interaction in a curved channel. This study may be viewed as an extension of the work of Gibson \& Cook (1974) into the weakly nonlinear regime.

## 2. Mean flow and perturbation equations

Let $(r, \theta, z)$ be the cylindrical coordinates with the axis of the concentric walls along the $z$-axis, and $R_{\mathrm{i}}$ and $R_{\mathrm{o}}$ the radii of the inner and outer cylinder respectively (see figure 1).

When the flow between the concentric walls is maintained by a constant azimuthal pressure gradient $\partial P / \partial \theta(<0)$, the solution of the momentum equations yields

$$
\begin{equation*}
U(r)=W(r)=0 \tag{2.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $U(r)$ and $W(r)$ are the radial and axial mean velocities, respectively. The azimuthal velocity is give explicitly by

$$
\begin{equation*}
V(r)=\frac{R_{\mathrm{o}}}{2 \nu \rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial \theta}\left[r \log r+\frac{\eta^{2} \log \eta}{r\left(1-\eta^{2}\right)}\left(r^{2}-1\right)\right] \quad(\eta \leqslant r \leqslant 1) \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\nu$ and $\rho$ are the kinematic viscosity and density, respectively, and $\eta=R_{\mathrm{i}} / R_{0}$. Here the distance from the axis is normalized with respect to $R_{0}$, so that $r$ varies from $\eta$ at the inner radius to 1 at the outer radius.

A channel with small curvature will behave locally like a plane channel, and for it the azimuthal velocity $V(r)$ should approach the familiar parabolic shape. As $\eta$ approaches 1 , the velocity
where
and $\lambda$ and $\zeta$ are given by

$$
\begin{align*}
V(r)= & -\frac{R_{\mathrm{o}}}{2 \nu \rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial \theta}\left[\lambda^{2} \zeta(1-\zeta)\right],  \tag{2.3}\\
= & V_{\mathrm{m}} \zeta(1-\zeta) \quad(0 \leqslant \zeta \leqslant 1),  \tag{2.4}\\
& V_{\mathrm{m}}=-\frac{R_{0}}{2 \nu \rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial \theta} \lambda^{2} \tag{2.5}
\end{align*}
$$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lambda=(1-\eta), \quad r=\lambda \zeta+\eta \tag{2.6a,b}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus $\zeta$ varies from 0 to 1 as $r$ varies from $\eta$ to 1 . Note that in this limit, $V_{\mathrm{m}}$ is four times the centreline velocity.

Based on (2.3)-(2.6), (2.2) can be simply expressed as

$$
\begin{equation*}
V(r)=V_{\mathrm{m}} f(r) \tag{2.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
f(r)=-\frac{1}{\lambda^{2}}\left[r \log r+\frac{\eta^{2} \log \eta}{r\left(1-\eta^{2}\right)}\left(r^{2}-1\right)\right] \tag{2.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

The fully nonlinear disturbance equations for the radial velocity $u$, azimuthal velocity $v$, axial velocity $w$, and the continuity equation are as follows:

$$
\begin{align*}
& \frac{\partial p}{\partial \zeta}=-\frac{\lambda}{R e r} \partial_{\theta}\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial \zeta}\right)-\frac{1}{R e^{2}} \partial_{2}\left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial \zeta}\right) \\
&+\left(-\frac{\lambda \partial_{t}}{R e}+\frac{\lambda^{2}}{R e^{2} r^{2}} \partial_{\theta \theta}+\frac{1}{R e^{2}} \partial_{z z}-\frac{f(r)}{r} \frac{\lambda}{R e} \partial_{\theta}\right) u \\
&+\left(-\frac{\lambda^{2}}{R e} \frac{2}{r^{2}} \partial_{\theta}+\frac{2}{r} f(r) \lambda+\frac{\lambda^{2}}{r^{2}} \frac{1}{R e} \partial_{\theta}\right) v \\
&-\lambda\left[\frac{v}{R e r} \partial_{\theta} u-\frac{v^{2}}{r}+\frac{1}{R e^{2} \lambda}\left\{u \frac{\partial u}{\partial \zeta}+w \partial_{z} u\right\}\right]  \tag{2.9}\\
&+ {\left[R e \lambda \partial_{t}-\frac{\lambda^{2}}{r^{2}} \partial_{\theta \theta}-\partial_{z z}+R e \frac{f(r)}{r} \lambda \partial_{\theta}+\frac{1}{r^{2}} \lambda^{2}\right] v } \\
&+ \lambda\left[\frac{n e}{\lambda} \frac{\partial v}{\partial \zeta}+R e \frac{v}{r} \partial_{\theta} v+\frac{u v}{r}+\frac{w}{\lambda} \partial_{z} v\right], \\
& \frac{\partial^{2}}{2} w-\frac{1}{r} \lambda \frac{\partial v}{\partial \zeta}+\left[-\frac{1}{R e} \frac{2}{r^{2}} \lambda^{2} \partial_{\theta}+\lambda \frac{\mathrm{d} f(r)}{\mathrm{d} r}+\lambda \frac{f(r)}{r}\right] u  \tag{2.10}\\
& \partial \zeta^{2}=R e^{2} \partial_{z} p-\frac{\lambda}{r} \frac{\partial w}{\partial \zeta}+\left[R e \lambda \partial_{t}-\frac{\lambda^{2}}{r^{2}} \partial_{\theta \theta}-\partial_{z z}+R e \lambda \frac{f(r)}{r} \partial_{\theta}\right] w \\
&+\lambda R e \frac{v}{r} \partial_{\theta} w+u \frac{\partial w}{\partial \zeta}+w \partial_{z} w,  \tag{2.11}\\
& \tag{2.12}
\end{align*}
$$

and
where the quantities that appear in (2.9)-(2.12) are non-dimensionalized versions of primed physical quantities shown below :
pressure

$$
p=\frac{p^{\prime}}{\rho V_{\mathrm{m}}^{2}}
$$

radial position

$$
r=r^{\prime} / R_{\mathrm{o}}=\lambda \zeta+\eta \quad(\eta \leqslant r \leqslant 1,0 \leqslant \zeta \leqslant 1)
$$

axial position

$$
z=z^{\prime} / d
$$

azimuthal position

$$
\theta=\theta^{\prime}
$$

time

$$
\begin{gathered}
t=t^{\prime} /\left(R_{\mathrm{o}} / V_{\mathrm{m}}\right) \\
u=u^{\prime} /(\nu / d) \\
w=w^{\prime} /(\nu / d) \\
v=v^{\prime} / V_{\mathrm{m}}
\end{gathered}
$$

radial velocity
axial velocity
azimuthal velocity
Note that $u^{\prime}$ and $w^{\prime}$ are scaled with respect to the diffusive velocity scale while $v^{\prime}$ is scaled with respect to the convective velocity scale. The mean flow is $\left(0, V_{\mathrm{m}} f(r), 0\right)$ and the non-dimensionalized perturbation is $(u, v, w)$ in the $(r, \theta, z)$-direction. The Reynolds number
where $d=R_{\mathrm{o}}-R_{\mathrm{i}}$.

$$
R e=V_{\mathrm{m}} d / \nu
$$

The effect of the purely azimuthal (non-axisymmetric) and the purely axial (axisymmetric) perturbation can be modelled by a general expression for the perturbation proportional to $\exp [\sigma t+\mathrm{i}(k z+m \theta)]$, where the non-dimensional axial wavenumber $k=k^{\prime} d$, the non-dimensional azimuthal wave-number $m=m^{\prime}$, and the non-dimensional complex growth rate $\sigma=\sigma^{\prime} /\left(V_{\mathrm{m}} / R_{\mathrm{o}}\right)=\sigma_{\mathrm{R}}+\mathrm{i} \sigma_{\mathrm{I}}$. The partial derivatives $\partial_{t}, \partial_{z}, \partial_{\theta}$ can now be replaced by $\sigma, \mathrm{i} k$, $\mathrm{i} m$ respectively within the linear part of the equations (2.9)-(2.12). The wavenumbers $k$ and $m$ are real.

The four equations of motion can be written as a set of six first-order ordinary differential equations, as was done by Eagles (1971). Thus we write

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(p, \frac{\partial v}{\partial \zeta^{\zeta}}, \frac{\partial w}{\partial \zeta}, u, v, w\right)^{\mathrm{T}} \equiv \boldsymbol{q} \tag{2.13}
\end{equation*}
$$

so that the equations can be written as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta} \boldsymbol{q}=\boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{q}+\boldsymbol{n} \tag{2.14}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\boldsymbol{\Phi}$ is a $6 \times 6$ matrix representing the linear contribution and $\boldsymbol{n}$ is a six-element vector containing the nonlinear terms. The last three elements of the vectors $\boldsymbol{q}$ and $n$ are zero at the two channel walls. The terms representing the linear and nonlinear contributions will be discussed in the next section after an explicit expression for $\boldsymbol{q}$ is given. It should be noted that our equation set is the same as that of Eagles (1971) except for different base flow and boundary conditions. It may be noted that the continuity equation (2.12) has been used to write the momentum equations in terms of the components of $\boldsymbol{q}$.

## 3. Perturbation expansion for nonlinear wave interaction

The perturbation to the mean flow is expressed in the form

$$
\begin{align*}
\boldsymbol{q}=\epsilon\{(\boldsymbol{a} E+\boldsymbol{b} F)+\text { c.c. }\} & +\epsilon^{2}\left\{\left(\boldsymbol{c} E^{2}+\boldsymbol{d} F^{2}+\boldsymbol{g} E F^{*}+\boldsymbol{h} E F^{\prime}\right)+\text { c.c. }\right\} \\
+\epsilon^{2}\left\{\boldsymbol{j} E^{0}\right. & \left.+\boldsymbol{k} F^{0}\right\}+\epsilon^{3}\left\{\left(\boldsymbol{l} E^{3}+\boldsymbol{m} F^{3}+\boldsymbol{n} E^{2} F^{*}+\boldsymbol{p} E^{2} F\right.\right. \\
& \left.\left.+\boldsymbol{p} \boldsymbol{p} E F^{2}+\boldsymbol{r} E^{*} F^{2}\right)+ \text { c.c. }\right\}+\epsilon^{3}\{(\boldsymbol{s} E+\boldsymbol{t} F)+\text { c.c. }\}+O\left(\epsilon^{4}\right) \tag{3.1}
\end{align*}
$$

where $q$ is the perturbation vector given by (2.13), c.c. represents the complex conjugate of the terms in the preceding parentheses, $\epsilon$ is a small expansion parameter, and * represents complex conjugation.

Here,

$$
\begin{gather*}
E=\exp (\mathrm{i} k z),  \tag{3.2}\\
F=\exp (\mathrm{i} m \theta) \exp (\sigma t), \tag{3.3}
\end{gather*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma=\sigma_{\mathrm{R}}+\mathrm{i} \sigma_{\mathrm{I}} \tag{3.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

with

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{\mathrm{R}}=0 \tag{3.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

$\boldsymbol{a} E$ and $\boldsymbol{b} F$ represent the Görtler and TS instabilities respectively. The vectors $\boldsymbol{a}$ and $\boldsymbol{b}$ give the shape and the growth rate of these instabilities. Other terms represent higher harmonics and the mean flow modification which arise owing to the quadratic nonlinearity in the equations.

The coefficients $\boldsymbol{c}, \boldsymbol{d}, \boldsymbol{g}$ and $\boldsymbol{h}$ are due to the direct interaction between the TS and
the Görtler instabilities. As self-interaction occurs for each of these instabilities, the mean flow profile itself becomes modified through the generation of effects represented by $\boldsymbol{j}$ and $\boldsymbol{k}$. The terms at order $\epsilon^{3}$ arise owing to the interactions of the terms of order $\epsilon^{2}$ and the Görtler and TS perturbations.

As will become clear later, it will not be necessary to solve for the unknown coefficients at order $\epsilon^{3}$. By using the solvability condition for the equations governing $\boldsymbol{s}$ and $\boldsymbol{t}$, the evolution equations for the amplitude of the Görtler ( $\boldsymbol{a}$ ) and of the TS (b) waves can be found. The method of multiple-scales used in this paper for obtaining these evolution equations follows closely that suggested by Matkowsky (1970).

Throughout, we shall require that the last three components of the vectors $\boldsymbol{a}-\boldsymbol{t}$ are zero at the two curved walls in order to satisfy the zero-velocity boundary conditions.

It has been shown by Stuart (1958) that the growth rate of a small-amplitude disturbance at a Reynolds number $O\left(\epsilon^{2}\right)$ away from a neutral curve is $O\left(\epsilon^{2}\right)$. This motivates the scaling for the time and Reynolds number in what follows.

For the perturbation expansion (3.1), the appropriate slower time variable is $\tau$ defined by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\tau=\epsilon^{2} t \tag{3.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\epsilon$ is the same small expansion parameter used earlier. This gives

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial t}+\epsilon^{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} \tag{3.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

The Reynolds number $R e$ is expanded about a value $R e_{0}$ on the neutral stability curve so that

$$
\begin{align*}
R e & =R e_{0}+\epsilon^{2} R e_{1}  \tag{3.8}\\
\frac{1}{R e} & \approx \frac{1}{R e_{0}}-\frac{R e_{1}}{R e_{0}^{2}} \epsilon^{2}  \tag{3.9}\\
\frac{1}{R e^{2}} & \approx \frac{1}{R e_{0}^{2}}-2 \frac{R e_{1}}{R e_{0}^{3}} \epsilon^{2} \tag{3.10}
\end{align*}
$$

Returning to (3.1), we now regard all the vectors $a$ to $t$ as functions of both $\zeta$ and $\tau$. For example:

$$
a \rightarrow A(\zeta) X(\tau), \quad b \rightarrow B(\zeta) Y(\tau)
$$

which states that in the neighbourhood of the neutral stability curves the solutions for the linear problem, $\boldsymbol{A}(\zeta)$ and $\boldsymbol{B}(\zeta)$, adequately represent the shape of the perturbations in the weakly nonlinear regime. The amplitudes of these perturbations, $X(\tau)$ and $Y(\tau)$, depend on the slowly varying time variable $\tau$. The vector
and

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \boldsymbol{A}=\left(a_{1}, a_{2}, a_{3}, a_{4}, a_{5}, a_{6}\right)^{\mathrm{T}} \\
& \boldsymbol{B}=\left(b_{1}, b_{2}, b_{3}, b_{4}, b_{5}, b_{6}\right)^{\mathrm{T}}
\end{aligned}
$$

The remaining vectors can be represented similarly, e.g.

$$
\begin{gathered}
c \rightarrow C(\zeta) X^{2}(\tau), \quad \boldsymbol{h} \rightarrow \boldsymbol{H}(\zeta) X(\tau) Y(\tau) \\
s \rightarrow S(\zeta)|X(\tau)|^{2} X(\tau), \quad t \rightarrow \boldsymbol{T}(\zeta)|Y(\tau)|^{2} Y(\tau)
\end{gathered}
$$

By substituting (3.1) and (3.7)-(3.10) into (2.13), we obtain an equation for $q$ of the form

$$
\begin{gather*}
\frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta} \boldsymbol{q}=\mathbf{L}_{1}\left[\partial_{z}, \partial_{\theta}\right] \boldsymbol{q}+\mathbf{T}_{1}\left[\partial_{t}\right] \boldsymbol{q}+\epsilon^{2} \mathbf{L}_{2}\left[\partial_{z}, \partial_{\theta}\right] \boldsymbol{q}+\epsilon^{2} \mathbf{T}_{21}\left[\partial_{t}\right] \boldsymbol{q}+\epsilon^{2} \mathbf{T}_{22}\left[\partial_{\tau}\right] \boldsymbol{q} \\
+\mathbf{N}_{1}\left[\partial_{z}, \partial_{\theta}\right]\{\boldsymbol{q} \times \boldsymbol{q}\}+\epsilon^{2} \mathbf{N}_{2}\left[\partial_{z}, \partial_{\theta}\right]\{\boldsymbol{q} \times \boldsymbol{q}\} . \tag{3.11}
\end{gather*}
$$

$\mathbf{L}_{1}, \mathbf{L}_{2}, \mathbf{T}_{1}, \mathbf{T}_{21}, \mathbf{T}_{22}$ are linear operators, given by $6 \times 6$ matrices. Their dependence on the differential operators $\partial_{z}, \partial_{\theta}, \partial_{t}$ and $\partial_{\tau}$ is indicated within the square brackets. Both $\mathbf{N}_{1}\left[\partial_{z}, \partial_{\theta}\right]\{\boldsymbol{q} \times \boldsymbol{q}\}$ and $\mathbf{N}_{2}\left[\partial_{z}, \partial_{\theta}\right]\{\boldsymbol{q} \times \boldsymbol{q}\}$ represent nonlinear terms containing the operators $\partial_{z}$ and $\partial_{\theta}$. $\{\boldsymbol{q} \times \boldsymbol{q}\}$ symbolizes quadratic terms comprising the components of $\boldsymbol{q}$. From here onwards we shall refer to $\mathbf{N}_{1}\left[\partial_{z}, \partial_{\theta}\right]\{\boldsymbol{q} \times \boldsymbol{q}\}$ by $\mathbf{N}_{1}$. Since in the analysis of (3.11) we shall only be concerned with terms of $O\left(\epsilon^{3}\right)$, it will not be necessary to consider the term $\epsilon^{2} \mathbf{N}_{2}\left[\partial_{z}, \partial_{\theta}\right]\{\boldsymbol{q} \times \boldsymbol{q}\}$ which is $O\left(\epsilon^{4}\right)$. The elements of the operators are given explicitly in Appendix A.

To determine the linear stability problem for the Görtler and the TS perturbations acting individually, terms of $O(\epsilon)$ need to be considered. From these terms, those with coefficient $E$ will give the linear stability perturbation equations for the Görtler disturbance. Similarly, the terms with coefficient $F$ will give the equations for the TS disturbance.

At $O(\epsilon)$
(i) The terms with coefficient $E$ give

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d} \boldsymbol{A}}{\mathrm{~d} \zeta}=\mathrm{L}_{1}[\mathrm{i} k, 0] \boldsymbol{A}+\mathrm{T}_{1}[0] A \tag{3.12}
\end{equation*}
$$

for the Görtler perturbation.
(ii) The terms with coefficient $F$ give

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d} \boldsymbol{B}}{\mathrm{~d} \zeta}=\mathbf{L}_{1}[0, \mathrm{i} m] \boldsymbol{B}+\mathbf{T}_{1}\left[\mathrm{i} \sigma_{\mathrm{I}}\right] \boldsymbol{B} \tag{3.13}
\end{equation*}
$$

for the Tollmien-Schlichting perturbation.
From these equations, vectors $\boldsymbol{A}$ and $\boldsymbol{B}$ can be determined. Note the difference in the parameters of the operators in (i) and (ii), particularly the fact that $\partial_{t}=0$ for the Görtler while for the TS, $\partial_{t}=\mathbf{i} \sigma_{\mathrm{I}}$. In both cases we are considering neutrally stable perturbations.

When collecting terms of $O\left(\epsilon^{2}\right)$ for determining vectors $C-K$, the operators $\mathbf{L}_{2}, \mathbf{T}_{21}$, $\mathbf{T}_{22}$ can be neglected because when they operate on $\boldsymbol{q}$, contributions of $O\left(\epsilon^{2}\right)$ are produced. As these operators are already pre-multiplied by $\epsilon^{2}$, the net contribution from these terms will be $O\left(\epsilon^{4}\right)$ and hence negligible. In the equations for $\boldsymbol{C}-\boldsymbol{K}$ that follow, the non-linear contributions are contained in $\mathbf{N}_{1}$. Of the six elements of the vector representing the contribution from $\mathbf{N}_{1}$, only the first three ( $n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}$ ) are nonzero, and these are listed following each equation. The discussion following (3.5) gives the physical basis for the presence of the vectors $\boldsymbol{C}-\boldsymbol{K}$.

At $O\left(\epsilon^{2}\right)$
(i) The terms with coefficient $E^{2}$ give

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d} C}{\mathrm{~d} \zeta}=\mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{1}}[2 \mathrm{i} k, 0] C+\mathbf{T}_{1}[0] C+\text { nonlinear contribution from } \mathbf{N}_{1} \tag{3.14}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& n_{1}=-\lambda\left\{-\frac{a_{4}^{2}}{R e_{0}^{2} r}-\frac{a_{5}^{2}}{r}\right\} \\
& n_{2}=a_{4} a_{2}+a_{4} a_{5} \lambda+\mathrm{i} k a_{6} a_{5} \\
& n_{3}=a_{4} a_{3}+\mathrm{i} k a_{6}^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

(ii) The terms with coefficient $F^{2}$ give

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d} \boldsymbol{D}}{\mathrm{~d} \zeta}=\mathbf{L}_{1}[0,2 \mathrm{i} m] \boldsymbol{D}+\mathbf{T}_{1}\left[2 \mathrm{i} \sigma_{\mathrm{I}}\right] \boldsymbol{D}+\text { nonlinear contribution from } \mathbf{N}_{1} \tag{3.15}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& n_{1}=\lambda\left\{\frac{b_{4}^{2}}{R e_{0}^{2} r}-\frac{b_{5}^{2}}{r}\right\}, \\
& n_{2}=\lambda\left\{\frac{b_{4} b_{2}}{\lambda}+\frac{\mathrm{i} m b_{5}^{2} R_{0}}{r}+\frac{b_{4} b_{5}}{r}\right\}, \\
& n_{3}=\lambda \frac{R e_{0}}{r} \mathrm{i} m b_{5} b_{6}+b_{3} b_{4} .
\end{aligned}
$$

(iii) The terms with coefficient $E F^{*}$ give

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d} \boldsymbol{G}}{\mathrm{~d} \zeta}=\mathbf{L}_{\mathrm{I}}[\mathrm{i} k,-\mathrm{i} m] \boldsymbol{G}+\mathbf{T}_{\mathrm{I}}\left[-\mathrm{i} \sigma_{\mathrm{I}}\right] \boldsymbol{G}+\text { nonlinear contribution from } \mathbf{N}_{1} \tag{3.16}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& n_{1}=\lambda\left\{\frac{2 a_{4} b_{4}^{*}}{R e_{0}^{2} r}-\frac{\mathrm{i} m a_{4} b_{5}}{R e_{0} r}+\frac{\mathrm{i} k b_{4}^{*} a_{6}}{R e_{0}^{2} \lambda}-\frac{\mathrm{i} k b_{6} a_{4}}{R e_{0}^{2} \lambda}+\frac{\mathrm{i} m a_{5} b_{4}}{R e_{0} r}+\frac{2 a_{5} b_{5}^{*}}{r}\right\}, \\
& n_{2}=\lambda\left\{\frac{a_{4} b_{2}^{*}+b_{4}^{*} a_{2}}{\lambda}-\frac{\mathrm{i} m R e_{0} a_{5} b_{5}^{*}}{r}+\frac{\mathrm{i} k a_{5} b_{6}^{*}}{\lambda}\right\}, \\
& n_{3}=-\mathrm{i} m \lambda R_{0} a_{5} b_{6}^{*}+a_{4} b_{3}^{*}+b_{4}^{*} a_{3}+\mathrm{i} k b_{6}^{*} a_{6} .
\end{aligned}
$$

(iv) The terms with coefficient $E F$ give

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d} \boldsymbol{H}}{\mathrm{~d} \zeta}=\mathbf{L}_{1}[\mathrm{i} k, \mathrm{i} m] \boldsymbol{H}+\mathbf{T}_{1}\left[\mathrm{i} \sigma_{\mathrm{I}}\right] \boldsymbol{H}+\text { nonlinear contribution from } \mathbf{N}_{1} \tag{3.17}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& n_{1}=-\lambda\left[-\frac{1}{R e_{0}^{2} r} 2 a_{4} b_{4}-\frac{1}{R e_{0} r} a_{4} \mathrm{i} m b_{5}-\frac{1}{R e_{0}^{2} \lambda} b_{4} \mathrm{i} k a_{6}+\frac{1}{R e_{0}^{2} \lambda} b_{6} \mathrm{i} k a_{4}+\frac{a_{5} \mathrm{i} m b_{4}}{R e_{0} r}-\frac{2 a_{5} b_{5}}{r}\right], \\
& n_{2}=R e_{0} \lambda\left\{\frac{a_{4} b_{2}+b_{4} a_{2}}{R e_{0} \lambda}+\frac{a_{5} \mathrm{i} m b_{5}}{r}+\frac{a_{4} b_{5}+b_{4} a_{5}}{R e_{0} r}+\frac{b_{6} \mathrm{i} k a_{5}}{\lambda R e_{0}}\right\}, \\
& n_{3}=\frac{R e_{0} \lambda}{r} \mathrm{i} m a_{5} b_{6}+a_{4} b_{3}+b_{4} a_{3}+\mathrm{i} k a_{6} b_{6} .
\end{aligned}
$$

(v) The terms with coefficient $E^{0}$ give

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d} J}{\mathrm{~d} \zeta}=\mathbf{L}_{1}[0,0] J+\mathbf{T}_{1}[0] J+\text { nonlinear contribution from } \mathbf{N}_{1} \tag{3.18}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& n_{1}=\frac{2 \lambda}{R e_{0} r} a_{4} a_{4}^{*}+\frac{2 \mathrm{i} k}{R e_{0}^{2}}\left\{a_{4}^{*} a_{6}-a_{4} a_{6}^{*}\right\}+\frac{2 \lambda}{r} a_{5} a_{5}^{*}, \\
& n_{2}=a_{4} a_{2}^{*}+a_{4}^{*} a_{2}+\frac{\lambda}{r}\left(a_{4} a_{5}^{*}+a_{4}^{*} a_{5}\right)+\mathrm{i} k\left(a_{5} a_{6}^{*}-a_{5}^{*} a_{6}\right), \\
& n_{3}=a_{4} a_{3}^{*}+a_{4}^{*} a_{3} .
\end{aligned}
$$

(vi) The terms with coefficient $F^{0}$ give

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d} \boldsymbol{K}}{\mathrm{~d} \zeta}=\mathbf{L}_{1}[0,0] \boldsymbol{K}+\mathbf{T}_{1}[0] \boldsymbol{K}+\text { nonlinear contribution from } \mathbf{N}_{1} \tag{3.19}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& n_{1}=2 \lambda\left\{\frac{b_{4} b_{4}^{*}}{R e_{0}^{2} r}+\frac{\mathrm{i} m}{R e_{0} r}\left(b_{4}^{*} b_{5}-b_{4} b_{5}^{*}\right)+b_{5} b_{5}^{*}\right\}, \\
& n_{2}=b_{4} b_{2}^{*}+b_{4}^{*} b_{2}+\frac{\lambda}{r}\left\{b_{4} b_{5}^{*}+b_{4}^{*} b_{5}\right\}, \\
& n_{3}=\frac{R e_{0} \lambda}{r}\left\{\mathrm{i} m b_{5}^{*} b_{6}-\mathrm{i} m b_{5} b_{6}^{*}\right\}+b_{4} b_{3}^{*}+b_{4}^{*} b_{3} .
\end{aligned}
$$

So far we have collected terms with coefficient $\epsilon$ and obtained the equations for the spatial dependence of the neutrally stable Görtler and TS perturbations, followed by collecting terms that have coefficient $\epsilon^{2}$. At $O\left(\epsilon^{3}\right)$, we shall see that only the equations for $S$ and $T$ need to be considered for obtaining the time evolution of the Görtler and TS amplitudes. $s$ and $t$ are functions of $\zeta$ and $\tau$. It will be seen from the form of the equations for $s$ and $t$ that the temporal dependence does not cancel out; indeed, it is this very property that allows us to get time-evolution equations for $X(\tau)$ and $Y(\tau)$.

Collecting terms of $O\left(\epsilon^{3}\right)$ with coefficient $E$, and with coefficient $F$, we obtain the equations for $S$ and $T$ :

$$
\begin{align*}
& \frac{\partial S}{\partial \zeta}=\mathbf{L}_{1}[i k, 0] S+\mathbf{T}_{1}[0] S+\mathbf{L}_{2}[i k, 0] \boldsymbol{A X}(\tau)+\mathbf{T}_{21}[0] \boldsymbol{A} X(\tau) \\
&+\mathbf{T}_{22}\left[\partial_{\tau}\right] \boldsymbol{A X}(\tau)+\text { contribution from } \mathbf{N}_{1} \tag{3.20}
\end{align*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{T}}{\partial \zeta}=\mathbf{L}_{1}[0, \mathrm{i} m] \boldsymbol{T}+\mathbf{T}_{1}\left[\mathrm{i} \sigma_{\mathrm{I}}\right] \boldsymbol{T}+ & \mathbf{L}_{2}[0, \mathrm{i} m] \boldsymbol{B} Y(\tau)+\mathbf{T}_{21}\left[\mathrm{i} \sigma_{\mathrm{I}}\right] \boldsymbol{B} Y(\tau) \\
& +\mathbf{T}_{22}\left[\partial_{\tau}\right] \boldsymbol{B} Y(\tau)+\text { contribution from } \mathbf{N}_{1} . \tag{3.21}
\end{align*}
$$

The contributions from $\mathbf{N}_{1}$ to both these equations involve a very large number of terms and are therefore not written explicitly at this stage. They will however appear in the final equations for $X(\tau)$ and $Y(\tau)$.

The homogeneous parts of (3.20) and (3.21) are the same as those of (3.12) and (3.13) for $\boldsymbol{A}$ and $\boldsymbol{B}$ respectively. In order that the non-homogeneous equations (3.20) and (3.21) have solutions, the non-homogeneous parts of the equations should be orthogonal to the adjoint column vectors $\tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}$ and $\tilde{\boldsymbol{B}}$ respectively. These vectors are solutions of the following equations:

$$
\begin{gather*}
\frac{\mathrm{d} \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}}{\mathrm{~d} \zeta}=-\left[\mathbf{L}_{1}[\mathrm{i} k, 0]+\mathbf{T}_{1}[0]\right]^{\mathrm{T}} \tilde{\boldsymbol{A}},  \tag{3.22}\\
\frac{d \tilde{\boldsymbol{B}}}{\mathrm{~d} \zeta}=-\left[\mathbf{L}_{1}[0, \mathrm{i} m]+\mathbf{T}_{1}\left[\mathrm{i} \sigma_{\mathrm{I}}\right]\right]^{\mathrm{T}} \tilde{\boldsymbol{B}} \tag{3.23}
\end{gather*}
$$

where $\tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}=\left(\tilde{a}_{1}, \tilde{a}_{2}, \tilde{a}_{3}, \tilde{a}_{4}, \tilde{b}_{5}, \tilde{a}_{6}\right)^{\mathrm{T}}$ and $\tilde{\boldsymbol{B}}=\left(\tilde{b}_{1}, \tilde{b}_{2}, \tilde{b}_{3}, \tilde{b}_{4}, \tilde{b}_{5}, \tilde{b}_{6}\right)^{\mathrm{T}}$. Unlike the boundary conditions for the equations for $\boldsymbol{A}$ and $\boldsymbol{B}$ where the last three of their components are zero, here the first three components of $\tilde{A}$ and $\tilde{B}$ are zero at the boundaries.

Using the orthogonality condition, we obtain the following equations for $X(\tau)$ and $Y(\tau):$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int_{0}^{1} \mathrm{~d} \xi\left[\tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{L}_{2}[\mathrm{i} k, 0] \boldsymbol{A} X(\tau)+\tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{T}_{22}\left[\partial_{\tau}\right] A X(\tau)+\tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}^{\mathrm{T}}\left(\text { contribution from } \mathbf{N}_{1}\right)\right]=0 \tag{3.24}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{align*}
& \int_{0}^{1} \mathrm{~d} \zeta\left[\tilde{\boldsymbol{B}}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{L}_{2}[0, \mathrm{i} m] B Y(\tau)+\tilde{\boldsymbol{B}}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{T}_{21}\left[\mathrm{i} \sigma_{\mathrm{I}}\right] \boldsymbol{B} Y(\tau)\right. \\
& \left.\quad+\tilde{\boldsymbol{B}}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{T}_{22}\left[\partial_{\tau}\right] \boldsymbol{B} Y(\tau)+\tilde{\boldsymbol{B}}^{\mathrm{T}}\left(\text { contribution from } \mathbf{N}_{1}\right)\right]=0 . \tag{3.25}
\end{align*}
$$

The terms representing $\tilde{\boldsymbol{A}}^{\mathrm{T}}$ (contribution from $\mathbf{N}_{1}$ ) and $\tilde{\boldsymbol{B}}^{\mathrm{T}}$ (contribution from $\mathbf{N}_{1}$ ) have been obtained but, owing to the lengthy algebra, are not listed here but given in Appendix B. After integrating over $\zeta$, these equations can be written as

$$
\begin{align*}
& \frac{\mathrm{d} X(\tau)}{\mathrm{d} \tau}=R e_{1} \beta_{1} X(\tau)+\delta_{1} X(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2}+\eta_{1} X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2}  \tag{3.26}\\
& \frac{\mathrm{~d} Y(\tau)}{\mathrm{d} \tau}=\operatorname{Re}_{1} \beta_{2} Y(\tau)+\delta_{2} Y(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2}+\eta_{2} Y(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2}, \tag{3.27}
\end{align*}
$$

where $\beta_{i}, \delta_{i}$, and $\eta_{i}(i=1,2)$, are coefficients obtained from (3.24) and (3.25). $R e_{1}$ is a measure of the deviation from the neutral stability curve as is given by (3.8). It appears in (3.26) and (3.27) because it is a common factor in matrix $\mathbf{L}_{2}$ in (3.24) and (3.25). Equations (3.26) and (3.27) are the coupled Landau equations which determine the time evolution of the amplitudes of the Görtler and TS perturbations. The analysis of these equations will be presented after the next section. The following section gives a brief description of the numerical method used for obtaining the coefficients $\boldsymbol{A}-\boldsymbol{K}$. All the terms in the perturbation expansion have been verified by using the symbolic manipulation language macsyma.

## 4. Computation of the coefficients

The equations governing the $\zeta$-dependence of the coefficients $\boldsymbol{A}-\boldsymbol{K}$ are given in the previous section. $\boldsymbol{A}$ and $\boldsymbol{B}$ are described by a set of homogeneous ordinary differential equations while the equations for the remaining amplitudes are nonhomogeneous.

A fourth-order finite-difference scheme (Malik, Chuang \& Hussaini 1982) was used to solve these equations. For details of the method, the reader may refer to Malik et al. (1982) and Hall \& Malik (1986). The calculations were performed on a nonuniform grid which clusters the points near the walls. A suitable distribution of grid points was obtained using the relation
where

$$
\begin{gather*}
\zeta_{i}=\frac{1}{2}\left(\sin \left(\frac{1}{2} \pi x_{i}\right)+1\right)  \tag{4.1}\\
x_{i}=\frac{1}{N-1}[2 i-1-N] \quad(1 \leqslant i \leqslant N) \tag{4.2}
\end{gather*}
$$

and $N$ is the total number of grid points.
In order to determine the vectors $\boldsymbol{A}-\boldsymbol{K}$ to 3 -digit accuracy, 51 grid points were sufficient for the range of Reynolds number and wavenumbers that we considered.


Figure 3. Neutral stability curve for the Görtler perturbation: Reynolds number versus axial wavenumber $k$. For notation see figure 5 .


Figure 4. Neutral stability curve for the Tollmien-Schlichting perturbation: Reynolds number versus azimuthal wavenumber $m$. For notation see figure 5 .

The familiar neutral stability curves for the linear Görtler and TS perturbations are presented in figures 3 and 4, respectively. Here, the generally accepted convention of labelling one of the arms of the stability curve as 'lower' and the other as 'upper' is used. To analyse the different kinds of possible interactions between a Görtler and a TS perturbation at an arbitrary Reynolds number $R e_{0}$ consider the schematic diagram of figure 5. (Refer to this figure and its caption for the abbreviations GL, GU, TSL, TSU used in what follows.) A Görtler perturbation GL with wavenumber $k_{1}$ and Reynolds number $R e$ slightly different from $R e_{0}$ ( $R e=$ $R e_{0}+\epsilon^{2} R e_{1}$ ) can interact with a TS wave with the same Reynolds number but with


Figure 5. The two neutral stability curves: (a) Görtler neutral stability curve; (b) TS neutral stability curve for $\lambda=\lambda_{\mathrm{e}}$. For this case, the critical Reynolds number is identical for the two perturbations. GL and GU refer to the lower and upper arms of the Görtler stability curve. TSL and TSU refer to the lower and upper arms of the Tollmien-Schlichting stability curve.
wavenumbers $m_{1}$ or $m_{2}$ corresponding to TSL and TSU respectively. Similarly, GU with wavenumber $k_{2}$ can interact with either TSL or TSU. So, in all there are four possible interactions.

It can be seen from figure 2 that for $\lambda=1-\eta=1-\eta_{c}=\lambda_{c}=2.179 \times 10^{-5}$, the critical Reynolds number for the Görtler and TS perturbations is $8 \times 5772.2 \approx 46176$, where 5772.2 is the critical Reynolds number for a plane channel flow based on halfchannel width and centreline velocity (Orszag 1971). The factor 8 is because our Reynolds number is based on full channel width and $V_{\mathrm{m}} \approx 4$ (centreline velocity). It is for this value of $\lambda$ that we compute the amplitudes $A-K$ for $46176 \leqslant R e_{0} \leqslant 120000$. This range is probably sufficient to reveal the possible interactions. Results for other values of $\lambda$ in the neighbourhood of $\lambda_{c}$ can be obtained using a simple argument that we shall present in the next section.

The components of $\boldsymbol{A}-\boldsymbol{K}$ for each value of $R e_{0}$ are used to compute the coefficients $\beta_{1}, \delta_{1}, \eta_{1}, \beta_{2}, \delta_{2}$ and $\eta_{2}$ of the two Landau equations. For computing these coefficients, vectors $\boldsymbol{A}$ and $\boldsymbol{B}$ need to be normalized. This was done by dividing $A$ by its centreline azimuthal component (centreline value of $a_{5}$ ), and dividing $\boldsymbol{B}$ by its centreline radial velocity component (centreline value of $b_{4}$ ). Since $\beta_{1}$ and $\delta_{1}$ do not depend on the presence of a TS perturbation, each of these has a unique value for each point on the neutral stability curve. When both GL and GU are considered for a fixed Reynolds number, $\beta_{1}$ and $\delta_{1}$ will each have different values on the two arms of the neutral stability wave, corresponding to the different wavenumbers. A similar argument applies to $\beta_{2}$ and $\eta_{2}$, which are independent of the Görtler perturbation. These coefficients will be further discussed in the next section.

## 5. Solution of the Landau equations

In this section, we analyse the possible interactions by studying the properties of the coupled Landau equations. These properties are displayed in the form of bifurcation diagrams which show the amplitudes of the equilibrium states and their stability properties.


Figure 6. Reynolds number versus growth rate $\beta_{1}$ of the Görtler perturbation.


Figure 7. Reynolds number versus growth rate $\beta_{2}$ of the TS perturbation. Note the negative $\beta_{2}$ for part of TSU.

Equations (3.26) and (3.27) can be written in terms of $|X|^{2}$ and $|Y|^{2}$ :

$$
\begin{align*}
& \frac{1}{2} \frac{\mathrm{~d}|X|^{2}}{\mathrm{~d} \tau}=R e_{1} \beta_{1 \mathrm{R}}|X|^{2}+\delta_{1 \mathrm{R}}|X|^{2}|X|^{2}+\eta_{1 \mathrm{R}}|X|^{2}|Y|^{2},  \tag{5.1}\\
& \frac{1}{2} \frac{\mathrm{~d}|Y|^{2}}{\mathrm{~d} \tau}=R e_{1} \beta_{2 \mathrm{R}}|Y|^{2}+\delta_{2 \mathrm{R}}|Y|^{2}|X|^{2}+\eta_{2 \mathrm{R}}|Y|^{2}|Y|^{2}, \tag{5.2}
\end{align*}
$$

where $\beta_{1 \mathrm{R}}, \beta_{2 \mathrm{R}}, \delta_{1 \mathrm{R}}, \delta_{2 \mathrm{R}}, \eta_{1 \mathrm{R}}$ and $\eta_{2 \mathrm{R}}$ are real parts of the corresponding Landau coefficient, e.g. $\beta_{2}=\beta_{2 R}+\mathrm{i} \beta_{2 \mathrm{r}}$. It is found that $\beta_{1}$ is real and so $\beta_{1}=\beta_{1 \mathrm{R}}$. By suitably


Figure 8. Reynolds number versus $\eta_{1}$ for perturbations corresponding to the two arms GL and GU of the Görtler stability curve interacting with TSL and TSU: (a) GL interacting with TSL and TSU; (b) GU interacting with TSL and TSU.
scaling the amplitudes $X$ and $Y$ it is possible to make $\delta_{1}=-1$ and $\left|\eta_{2}\right|=1$ so as to facilitate the analysis of the equations. From here on we shall drop the subscript R because all the coefficients of the equations are real.

The growth rates with respect to $\tau$ (for $R e_{1}=1$ ) of the Görtler ( $\beta_{1}$ ) and TS ( $\beta_{2}$ ) perturbations are shown in figures 6 and 7 respectively. In figure 7 it should be noted that the negative values of $\beta_{2}$ correspond to TSU in figure 4.

There are two graphs each for $\eta_{1}$ and $\delta_{2}$ depending on the types of possible interaction between a Görtler and TS wave. Figure $8(a)$ shows $\eta_{1}$ versus Reynolds number for the interaction of GL with TSL and TSU and figure $8(b)$ displays the


Figure 9. Reynolds number versus $\delta_{2}$ for perturbations corresponding to the two arms GL and GU of the Görtler stability curve interacting with TSL and TSU: (a) GL interacting with TSL and TSU; (b) GU interacting with TSL and TSU.


Figure 10. Reynolds number versus $\eta_{2}$.
same variables for the interaction of GU with TSL and TSU. Figure $9(a$ and $b)$ gives graphs for $\delta_{2}$ for the same interactions as given in figure $8(a$ and $b)$. Figure 10 shows a graph of Reynolds number versus $\eta_{2}$.

The graphs of the coefficients of the Landau equations mentioned in the last two paragraphs have been computed for $\lambda=\lambda_{c}=2.179 \times 10^{-5}$, which corresponds to a channel with very small curvature and one for which the critical Reynolds numbers for the Görtler and TS perturbations are identical. In what follows we shall extend the analysis to channels for $\lambda$ in the neighbourhood of $\lambda_{c}$.

In (5.1) and (5.2) the coefficients of $|X|^{2}$ and $|Y|^{2}$ are $R e_{1} \beta_{1}$ and $R e_{1} \beta_{2}$ respectively, which shows that the linear growth rates of $|X|^{2}$ and $|Y|^{2}$ are proportional to the deviation $R e_{1}$ from $R e_{0}$ (Reynolds number $=R e_{0}+\epsilon^{2} R e_{1}$ ). Similarly, it is reasonable to assume a linear dependence of the growth rate on the deviation from the radius ratio $\eta_{\mathrm{c}}$. If we write

$$
\lambda=\lambda_{\mathrm{c}}+\epsilon^{2} \Lambda
$$

as a perturbation from $\lambda_{c}$ and take $\epsilon$ to be the expansion parameter given by (3.8), the growth rates of $|X|^{2}$ and $|Y|^{2}$ would also be linearly dependent on $\Lambda$. The effect of the deviation from $\lambda_{e}$ on the coefficients of the nonlinear terms of the Landau equations is of a higher order than we are concerned with and so we shall only consider its effect on the growth rate through the parameter $A$.

Equations (5.1) and (5.2) can now be written as

$$
\begin{align*}
& \frac{1}{2} \frac{\mathrm{~d}|X|^{2}}{\mathrm{~d} \tau}=\left(R e_{1} \beta_{1}+\Lambda \gamma_{1}\right)|X|^{2}+\delta_{1}|X|^{2}|X|^{2}+\eta_{1}|X|^{2}|Y|^{2}  \tag{5.3}\\
& \frac{1}{2} \frac{\mathrm{~d}|Y|^{2}}{\mathrm{~d} \tau}=\left(R e_{1} \beta_{2}+\Lambda \gamma_{2}\right)|Y|^{2}+\delta_{2}|Y|^{2}|X|^{2}+\eta_{2}|Y|^{2}|Y|^{2} \tag{5.4}
\end{align*}
$$

The zero-growth-rate curves for $|X|^{2}$ and $|Y|^{2}$ are straight lines in the ( $\Lambda, R_{1}$ )-plane, passing through the origin and having slopes of $\left(-\gamma_{1} / \beta_{1}\right)$ and $\left(-\gamma_{2} / \beta_{2}\right)$ respectively. Numerical computations show the first slope to be of order $-10^{9}$ and the second to be approximately zero; therefore in what follows, we take $\gamma_{2}=0$. The large value of the first slope is due to our different scalings for the three velocity components of the Görtler perturbation. To compute these slopes, the wavenumbers for the Görtler and TS waves were fixed at their values for $R e_{1}=0, \Lambda=0$, which is equivalent to $R e=R e_{\mathrm{c}}$ and $\lambda=\lambda_{\mathrm{c}}$. The slopes were found for this neighbourhood for these fixed wavenumbers. As can be expected, the slopes are of the same order of magnitude as those of the curves for the critical Reynolds number versus $\lambda$ given by Gibson \& Cook (see figure 2). Note that the wavenumbers change along their curves, while in our case we keep them constant. We computed the change in Reynolds number with change in $\lambda$ at the cross-over point shown in figure 2.

There are four possible steady-state solutions to (5.3) and (5.4):

$$
\begin{align*}
& |X|^{2}=0, \quad|Y|^{2}=0  \tag{i}\\
& |Y|^{2}=0, \quad|X|^{2}=-\frac{\beta_{1}}{\delta_{1}}\left(R e_{1}+\frac{A \gamma_{1}}{\beta_{1}}\right),  \tag{ii}\\
& |X|^{2}=0, \quad|Y|^{2}=-\frac{\beta_{2}}{\eta_{2}} R e_{1}  \tag{iii}\\
& |X|^{2}=\frac{-\eta_{1} \beta_{2} R e_{1}+\eta_{2} \beta_{1}\left(R e_{1}+\frac{A \gamma_{1}}{\beta_{1}}\right)}{\eta_{1} \delta_{2}-\delta_{1} \eta_{2}}  \tag{iv}\\
& |Y|^{2}=-\delta_{2} \beta_{1}\left(R e_{1}+\frac{\Lambda \gamma_{1}}{\beta_{1}}\right)+\frac{\delta_{1} \beta_{2} R e_{1}}{\eta_{1} \delta_{2}-\delta_{1} \eta_{2}}
\end{align*}
$$

To assess the stability of these states, it is necessary to linearize the equations about these states. The reader may refer to Boyce \& DiPrima (1977) for a discussion of the stability analysis of such coupled equations.

|  | Reynolds number $R e_{0}$ | $k$ | $m$ | $\beta_{1}$ | $\delta_{1}$ | $\eta_{1}$ | $\beta_{2}$ | $\eta_{2}$ | $\delta_{2}$ | $\delta_{1} / \delta_{2}$ | $\eta_{1} / \eta_{2}$ | $\beta_{1} / \beta_{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | 0.120 (6) | 0.855 | 0.656 (5) | $0.83(-4)$ | $-1.0$ | -0.45 (4) | 0.19 (-2) | -0.16 | -0.36 (2) | $0.28(-1)$ | 0.27 (5) | 0.43 (-1) |
|  | 0.800 (5) | 1.35 | 0.732 (5) | $0.20(-3)$ | -1.0 | -0.15 (4) | $0.33(-2)$ | $-0.12$ | -0.28 (2) | $0.35(-1)$ | 0.13 (5) | $0.60(-1)$ |
|  | 0.700 (5) | 1.60 | 0.762 (5) | $0.26(-3)$ | -1.0 | -0.79 (3) | $0.39(-2)$ | -0.89(-1) | -0.25 (2) | 0.39 (-1) | 0.88 (4) | $0.68(-1)$ |
|  | 0.675 (5) | 1.67 | 0.771 (5) | $0.29(-3)$ | -1.0 | -0.59 (3) | 0.40 (-2) | -0.79(-1) | -0.25 (2) | 0.41 (-1) | 0.75 (4) | $0.71(-1)$ |
|  | 0.625 (5) | 1.86 | 0.791 (5) | $0.35(-3)$ | -1.0 | -0.17 (3) | 0.44 (-2) | -0.53 (-1) | -0.23 (2) | 0.44 (-1) | 0.31 (4) | $0.78(-1)$ |
|  | 0.600 (5) | 1.98 | 0.803 (5) | $0.38(-3)$ | -1.0 | 0.63 (2) | 0.46 (-2) | -0.37(-1) | -0.21 (2) | 0.47 (-1) | -0.17 (4) | $0.83(-1)$ |
|  | 0.575 (5) | 2.11 | 0.816 (5) | $0.43(-3)$ | $-1.0$ | 0.31 (3) | $0.48(-2)$ | -0.18(-1) | -0.20 (2) | 0.51 (-1) | -0.17 (5) | $0.88(-1)$ |
|  | 0.550 (5) | 2.27 | 0.830 (5) | $0.48(-3)$ | $-1.0$ | 0.59 (3) | $0.51(-2)$ | $0.53(-2)$ | -0.18 (2) | 0.56 (-1) | 0.11 (6) | $0.94(-1)$ |
|  | 0.480 (5) | 3.08 | 0.891 (5) | $0.73(-3)$ | $-1.0$ | 0.17 (4) | 0.54 (-2) | 0.12 | -0.43 (2) | $0.24(-1)$ | 0.14 (5) | 0.13 |
|  | 0.468 (5) | 3.44 | 0.911 (5) | $0.82(-3)$ | $-1.0$ | 0.21 (4) | $0.53(-2)$ | 0.17 | -0.25 (2) | 0.41 (-1) | 0.13 (5) | 0.15 |
| B | 0.120 (6) | 12.9 | 0.656 (5) | $0.64(-3)$ | $-1.0$ | 0.25 (4) | 0.19 (-2) | -0.16 | -0.10 (2) | $0.96(-1)$ | -0.15 (5) | 0.33 |
|  | 0.100 (5) | 11.3 | 0.688 (5) | $0.74(-3)$ | -1.0 | 0.22 (4) | $0.24(-2)$ | -0.15 | -0.11 (2) | 0.90 (-1) | -0.15 (5) | 0.30 |
|  | 0.750 (5) | 9.02 | 0.746 (5) | $0.91(-3)$ | -1.0 | 0.19 (4) | $0.36(-2)$ | $-0.11$ | -0.12 (2) | $0.82(-1)$ | -0.18 (5) | 0.26 |
|  | 0.600 (5) | 7.23 | 0.803 (5) | $0.10(-2)$ | -1.0 | 0.17 (4) | 0.46 (-2) | -0.37(-1) | -0.13 (2) | $0.77(-1)$ | -0.46 (5) | 0.22 |
|  | 0.550 (5) | 6.47 | 0.830 (5) | 0.11 (-2) | $-1.0$ | 0.18 (4) | $0.51(-2)$ | 0.53 (-2) | -0.13 (2) | 0.75 (-1) | 0.33 (6) | 0.21 |
|  | 0.500 (5) | 5.52 | 0.868 (5) | 0.11 (-2) | $-1.0$ | 0.19 (4) | $0.54(-2)$ | $0.74(-1)$ | -0.14 (2) | $0.70(-1)$ | 0.25 (5) | 0.20 |
|  | 0.470 (5) | 4.64 | 0.963 (5) | 0.10 (-2) | $-1.0$ | 0.32 (4) | 0.40 (-2) | 0.30 | -0.15 (2) | 0.66 (-1) | 0.11 (5) | 0.26 |
| C | 0.120 (6) | 0.855 | 0.983 (5) | 0.83 (-4) | $-1.0$ | 0.15 (5) | -0.11(-2) | 0.55 | -0.17 (3) | $0.58(-2)$ | 0.28 (5) | -0.76 (-1) |
|  | 0.900 (5) | 1.18 | 0.100 (6) | $0.15(-3)$ | $-1.0$ | 0.11 (5) | -0.81(-3) | 0.53 | -0.91 (2) | $0.11(-1)$ | 0.21 (5) | $-0.19$ |
|  | 0.700 (5) | 1.60 | 0.101 (6) | $0.26(-3)$ | $-1.0$ | 0.79 (4) | -0.63(-4) | 0.49 | -0.51 (2) | $0.20(-1)$ | 0.16 (5) | -0.42 (1) |
|  | 0.650 (5) | 1.76 | 0.101 (6) | $0.31(-3)$ | $-1.0$ | 0.71 (4) | $0.31(-3)$ | 0.48 | -0.43 (2) | $0.24(-1)$ | 0.15 (5) | 0.10 (1) |
|  | 0.470 (5) | 3.35 | 0.963 (5) | $0.80(-3)$ | $-1.0$ | 0.33 (4) | $0.40(-2)$ | 0.30 | -0.28(2) | 0.36 (-1) | 0.11 (5) | 0.20 |
| D | 0.120 (6) | 12.9 | 0.983 (5) | $0.64(-3)$ | $-1.0$ | 0.40 (4) | -0.11(-2) | 0.55 | 0.60 (1) | -0.17 | 0.73 (4) | $-0.58$ |
|  | 0.100 (5) | 11.3 | 0.995 (5) | 0.74 (-3) | $-1.0$ | 0.42 (4) | $-0.96(-3)$ | 0.54 | 0.35 (1) | $-0.28$ | 0.77 (4) | -0.77 |
|  | 0.800 (5) | 9.53 | 0.101 (6) | $0.87(-3)$ | $-1.0$ | 0.43 (4) | $-0.54(-3)$ | 0.51 | $0.37(-1)$ | -0.27 (2) | 0.87 (4) | -0.16 (1) |
|  | 0.500 (5) | 5.52 | 0.985 (5) | $0.11(-2)$ | $-1.0$ | 0.38 (4) | $0.28(-2)$ | 0.37 | -0.12 (2) | $0.87(-1)$ | 0.10 (5) | 0.39 |
|  | 0.470 (5) | 4.64 | 0.963 (5) | $0.10(-2)$ | $-1.0$ | 0.32 (4) | 0.40 (-2) | 0.30 | -0.15 (2) | 0.66 (-1) | 0.11 (5) | 0.26 |
| Table 1. Coefficients of the Landau equations are listed for the four possible interactions under Sections A, B, C, and D. The the Reynolds number $R_{0}$, wavenumber $k$ of the Görtler vortices and wavenumber $m$ of the TS waves respectively. These are stability curves for the Görtler and TS perturbations. The remaining columns list the coefficients of the Landau equations and Section A: Interaction of TSL with GL. Section B: Interaction of TSL with GU. Section C: Interaction of TSU with GL. Section TSU with GU. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



Figure 11. Bifurcation diagrams for the interaction of the Görtler and TS perturbations for Reynolds number at or close to $R e_{\mathrm{c}}$ where $\eta_{1} / \eta_{2}>\beta_{1} / \beta_{2}>\delta_{1} / \delta_{2}$ and $\eta_{i}>0, \beta_{i}>0, \delta_{i}<0(i=1,2)$. - , Stable equilibrium states; --..-, unstable equilibrium states. ( $\alpha$ ) $(\Lambda>0)$. The Görtler mode is the most linearly unstable mode in this case. The TS mode is subcritically unstable. (b) ( $A<0$ ). The values of $R e_{1}$ at P and Q are respectively

$$
R e_{\mathrm{P}}=\frac{-A \gamma_{1} / \beta_{1}}{1-\frac{\eta_{1}}{\eta_{2}} \frac{\beta_{2}}{\beta_{1}}}, \quad R e_{\mathrm{Q}}=\frac{-A \gamma_{1} / \beta_{1}}{1-\frac{\delta_{1}}{\delta_{2}} \frac{\beta_{2}}{\beta_{1}}} .
$$

Table 1 summarizes the values of $\beta_{i}, \eta_{i}$, and $\delta_{i}(i=1,2)$ for the four possible interactions. This tabulation is mainly to facilitate the analysis and discussion of these interactions; other values can be obtained from the graphs for these quantities. This table of results can be used to show that many possible equilibrium states exist depending on the Reynolds number. Here we shall concentrate on the three cases that we believe to be of most practical importance. Although data are obtained for TSU, we do not carry out the analysis for this case because for external flows its consideration is not relevant; here only TSL needs analysis. The bifurcation pictures for the other cases can be found in, say, Keener (1976) or Guckenheimer \& Holmes (1983).

The three cases we consider are:
(a) Interaction of Görtler and TS waves for $\lambda=\lambda_{\mathrm{c}}+\epsilon^{2} \Lambda$ and $R e=R e_{\mathrm{c}}+\epsilon^{2} R e_{1}$. Here we consider the cases when the Reynolds number is at or very close to the critical value for both perturbations, and with wavenumbers corresponding to the critical Reynolds number and its vicinity. Representative values for this case can be found near the end of Sections A-D in table 1.
(b) Interaction of TSL with GL.
(c) Interaction of TSL with GU.

Case (a) In this case, it is found that $\eta_{1} / \eta_{2}>\beta_{1} / \beta_{2}>\delta_{1} / \delta_{2}, \delta_{i}<0, \eta_{i}>0, \beta_{i}>0$ for $i=1,2$. For $\Lambda>0$, the Görtler mode is the most unstable on the basis of linear theory and for $\Lambda<0$ the TS wave is the most unstable. Refer to figure 2.
(a)

(b)


Figure 12. Bifurcations diagrams for the interaction of GL and TSL where $\eta_{1} / \eta_{2}>\beta_{1} / \beta_{2}>\delta_{1} / \delta_{2}$ and $\eta_{i}<0, \beta_{i}>0, \delta_{i}<0(i=1,2)$. - , Stable equilibrium states; ---, unstable equilibrium states. $(a)(\Lambda<0)$. The TS mode is the most linearly unstable mode in this case. The value of $R e_{1}$ at $Q$ is

$$
R e_{\mathbf{Q}}=\frac{-\Lambda \gamma_{1} / \beta_{1}}{1-\frac{\delta_{1}}{\delta_{2}} \frac{\beta_{1}}{\beta_{2}}}
$$

(b) $(\Lambda>0)$. The Görtler mode is the most linearly unstable mode in this case. The value of $R e_{1}$ at $P$ is

$$
R e_{\mathbf{P}}=\frac{-A \gamma_{1} / \beta_{1}}{1-\frac{\eta_{1} \beta_{2}}{\eta_{2} \beta_{1}}}
$$

The solution (5.5a,b) exists for all values of $R e_{1}$ whilst ( $5.6 a, b$ ) and (5.7a,b) exist for $R e_{1}>-\Lambda \gamma_{1} / \beta_{1}$ and $R e_{1}<0$ respectively. The mixed-mode solution (5.8a,b) can exist for either a finite, zero or semi-infinite range of values of $R e_{1}$ depending on $\beta_{i}$, $\eta_{i}, \delta_{i}$. In the present case, we find that if $\Lambda>0$, the mixed mode does not exist. However, for $\Lambda<0$ the mixed mode exists for a finite range of values of $R e_{1}$ including the origin. The bifurcation diagrams for this case are shown in figure ( $11 a, b$ ). In this figure, continuous and broken lines correspond to stable and unstable solutions of the Landau equations respectively. We note that the TS mode can never be in stable equilibrium without the presence of a Görtler mode. In contrast to this situation, the Görtler mode can exist alone and be stable to small perturbations. However, the finite-amplitude states in these figures are unstable to sufficiently large perturbations. The latter result is easily found by a phase-plane analysis of the amplitude equations. This unbounded growth leads to $|X|$ and $|Y|$ 'blowing up' like $\left|t_{0}-t\right|^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ for some value of $t_{0}$. Thus this instability leads to $|X|$ and $|Y|$ terminating in a finite time singularity as in the case for a TS wave in a straight channel. Thus, the threshold-amplitude phenomenon of Meksyn \& Stuart (1951) persists in the presence of Görtler vortices. It is not possible to quantify the effect of the Görtler mode on the threshold


Figure 13. Bifurcation diagrams for the interaction of GU and TSL where $-\eta_{1} / \eta_{2}>\beta_{1} / \beta_{2}>$ $\delta_{1} / \delta_{2}$ and $\eta_{1}>0, \eta_{2}<0, \beta_{i}>0, \delta_{i}<0(i=1,2)$. - Stable equilibrium states; ---, unstable equilibrium states. $(a)(\Lambda<0)$. The TS is the most linearly unstable mode in this case. The values of $R e_{1}$ at P and Q are respectively:

$$
R e_{\mathbf{P}}=\frac{-A \gamma_{1} / \beta_{1}}{1-\frac{\eta_{1}}{\eta_{2}} \frac{\beta_{2}}{\beta_{1}}}, \quad R e_{\mathbf{Q}}=\frac{-A \gamma_{1} / \beta_{1}}{1-\frac{\delta_{1}}{\delta_{2}} \frac{\beta_{2}}{\beta_{1}}}
$$

(b) ( $\Lambda>0$ ). The Görtler mode is the most linearly unstable mode in this case.
amplitude. However, a phase-plane analysis of the Landau equations shows that the Görtler mode significantly reduces the size of the finite-amplitude perturbation required to induce the finite-time breakdown of the equations. In that sense, the Görtler mode has a significant effect on the subcritical breakdown of the TS waves. However, for a sufficiently low level of background noise, we should expect that a stationary Görtler mode could be set up by slowly increasing the Reynolds number.

Case (b) Here we consider the interaction of TSL with GL. In this case, other modes of instability can occur at lower Reynolds number but since this situation is relevant to the corresponding external-boundary-layer problem we believe it to be of some importance. This is because here, as in Case (c), the TS wave now bifurcates supercritically and the possibility of stable mixed-mode solutions must now be investigated. Here we concentrate on the interaction of such a mode with a GL vortex. Case (c) will be concerned with the interaction with a GU vortex.

The parameters $\delta_{1}, \delta_{2}, \eta_{1}$, and $\eta_{2}$ are all negative and satisfy

$$
\frac{\delta_{1}}{\delta_{2}}<\frac{\beta_{1}}{\beta_{2}}<\frac{\eta_{1}}{\eta_{2}} \quad\left(\beta_{i}>0, i=1,2\right) .
$$

For this case the bifurcation pictures are shown in figure $12(a, b)$. We see that the mixed mode always bifurcates from the 'pure mode' which is the least unstable on the basis of linear theory. This bifurcation leaves the pure mode stable so that at sufficiently large $R e_{1}$, both pure modes are possible stable equilibrium states.

However, in the absence of any finite-amplitude background noise we expect that the pure mode that is the most unstable on the basis of linear theory would be set up when the Reynolds number is gradually increased.

Case (c) Here we consider the interaction of TSL and GU. For this case $\delta_{1}, \delta_{2}, \eta_{2}$ are negative whilst $\eta_{1}$ is positive. The relationship between the ratios of the coefficients is :

$$
\frac{\delta_{1}}{\delta_{2}}<\frac{\beta_{1}}{\beta_{2}}<\frac{-\eta_{1}}{\eta_{2}} \quad\left(\beta_{i}>0, i=1,2\right)
$$

The bifurcation pictures are shown in figure $13(a, b)$. If the Görtler mode is the most unstable on the basis of linear theory, then there is no secondary bifurcation and the TS mode is never stable. When the TS wave bifurcates first, then it is initially stable before it suffers a secondary bifurcation to a stable mixed mode. The mixed mode then meets the 'pure' Görtler mode which changes from being unstable to stable. Thus, for both $\Lambda>0$ and $\Lambda<0$ at sufficiently large values of $R e_{1}$ the only stable state possible is that corresponding to a finite-amplitude Görtler vortex. Hence, the Görtler mode effectively prevents the finite-amplitude growth of the TS wave.

## 6. Conclusions

In this paper we have considered the interaction of two types of perturbations in a curved channel flow : these are the travelling non-axisymmetric wave (TS) and the axisymmetric vortical perturbation referred to as the Görtler vortices.

By using the Stuart-Watson approach, two coupled equations for the amplitudes of TS and the Görtler perturbations were obtained. Coefficients of these equations have been calculated for their interaction, from Reynolds numbers starting at the common critical value $R e_{\mathrm{c}}$ for both the perturbations up to a value large enough, we think, to cover all the possible interactions. We have, however, concentrated our attention on those interactions that we think are significant in external flows.

We have seen in the previous section that for $R e$ close to $R e_{\mathrm{c}}$ the only possible stable 'pure state' is Görtler vortices. For a finite range of Reynolds numbers, a mixed mode is possible, but in any experimental investigation of this problem, we expect this range to be too small to be detected. However, the threshold-amplitude effect associated with a finite-amplitude TS wave remains intact and indeed is augmented by the curvature. In external flows such as a Blasius boundary layer or an attachment-line boundary layer, this effect, if repeated, would make these flows more sensitive to background noise.

Consideration of the interaction between a TS perturbation corresponding to the lower branch of its neutral curve with a Görtler perturbation belonging to the lower branch of its neutral curve, shows that a stable finite-amplitude perturbation of either type can be set up depending on which one is most linearly unstable. The value of the radius ratios $\eta$ determines which of the perturbations is most unstable.

For the interaction of the TS perturbation corresponding to the lower arm of its neutral stability curve with the Görtler perturbation corresponding to the upper arm of its neutral stability curve, we find that the Görtler vortex prevents the occurrence of a finite-amplitude TS wave far from the neutral curve. When a TS wave is the most linearly unstable of the two perturbations, a finite-amplitude TS wave develops, the amplitude of which increases as the Reynolds number increases further from its value on the neutral curve until a 'mixed' mode appears. Here both the TS and Görtler vortices have finite amplitudes. As Reynolds number increases further,
the mixed mode bifurcates into a stable Görtler mode. In the case when the Görtler mode is the most linearly unstable, only a finite-amplitude Görtler state is possible as the Reynolds number increases from a value on the neutral curve.

For external flows, an asymptotically self-consistent description of non-linear TS waves has been given by Smith (1979). Here the disturbance was described by 'tripledeck' theory and the streamwise scaling for the TS wave corresponds to lowerbranch TS waves in our problem. Further it was shown that lower-branch TS waves bifurcate supercritically, so we can expect that our results for the interaction of TSL waves and Görtler vortices in channel might have implications to the external flow problem. Of course, the effect of boundary-layer growth might negate the validity of us drawing these conclusions; however, we believe that our calculations show what is the likely effect of the possible interactions involving TS waves and Görtler vortices.

In a later publication, we shall report the numerical simulations of the interaction between such perturbations in curved channel flow.
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## Appendix A

Here the non zero components of the operators of (3.11) are given explicitly in terms of their row-column location, i.e. (1,2) will refer to element in first row and second column.
$\mathrm{L}_{1}\left[\partial_{z}, \partial_{\theta}\right]$ is a $6 \times 6$ matrix :
$(1,2)=-\frac{\lambda}{R e_{0} r} \partial_{\theta}, \quad(1,3)=-\frac{\partial_{z}}{R e_{0}^{2}}, \quad(1,4)=\frac{\lambda^{2}}{R e_{0}^{2} r^{2}} \mathrm{c}_{\theta \theta}+\frac{\partial_{z z}}{R e_{0}^{2}}-\frac{f(r)}{r} \frac{\lambda}{R e_{0}} \mathrm{a}_{\theta}$,
$(1,5)=-\frac{2 \lambda^{2}}{R e_{0} r^{2}} \partial_{\theta}+\frac{2}{r} f(r) \lambda+\frac{\lambda^{2}}{r^{2} R e_{0}} \partial_{\theta}$,
$(2,1)=\frac{R e_{0} \lambda}{r} \partial_{\theta}, \quad(2,2)=-\frac{\lambda}{r}$,
$(2,4)=-\frac{2 \lambda^{2}}{R e_{0} r^{2}} \partial_{\theta}+\frac{\mathrm{d} f(r)}{\mathrm{d} r} \lambda+\frac{f(r)}{r} \lambda$,
$(2,5)=\frac{\lambda^{2}}{r^{2}}-\frac{\lambda^{2}}{r^{2}} \partial_{\theta \theta}-\partial_{z z}+R e_{0} \frac{f(r)}{r} \lambda \partial_{\theta}$,
$(3,1)=R e_{0}^{2} \partial_{2}$,
$(3,3)=-\frac{\lambda}{r}$,
$(3,6)=-\frac{\lambda^{2}}{r^{2}} \partial_{\theta \theta}-\partial_{z z}+R e_{0} \lambda \frac{f(r)}{r} \partial_{\theta}$,
$(4,4)=-\frac{\lambda}{r}$,
$(4,5)=-\frac{R e_{0} \lambda}{r} \partial_{\theta}, \quad(4,6)=-\partial_{z}, \quad(5,2)=(6,3)=1$.
$T_{1}\left[\partial_{t}\right]$ is a $6 \times 6$ matrix:

$$
(1,4)=-\frac{\lambda}{R e_{0}} \partial_{t}, \quad(2,5)=(3,6)=R e_{0} \lambda \partial_{t} .
$$

$\mathbf{L}_{2}\left[\partial_{z}, \partial_{\theta}\right]$ is a $6 \times 6$ matrix :
$(1,2)=\lambda \frac{R e_{1}}{R e_{0}^{2} r} \partial_{\theta}$,
$(1,3)=\frac{2 R e_{1}}{R e_{0}^{3}} \partial_{z}$,
$(1,4)=-\frac{2}{R e_{0}^{3}} R e_{1} \frac{\lambda^{2}}{r^{2}} \partial_{\theta \theta}-2 \frac{R e_{1}}{R e_{0}^{3}} \partial_{z z}+\frac{f(r)}{r} \lambda \frac{R e_{1}}{R e_{0}^{2}} \partial_{\theta}$,
$(1,5)=\lambda^{2} \frac{R e_{1}}{R e_{0}^{2}} \frac{2}{r^{2}} \partial_{\theta}-\frac{\lambda^{2}}{r^{2}} \frac{R e_{1}}{R e_{0}^{2}} \partial_{\theta}$,
$(2,1)=\frac{R e_{1}}{r} \lambda \partial_{\theta}$,
$(2,4)=\frac{R e}{R e} \frac{2}{2} \frac{2}{r^{2}} \lambda^{2} \partial_{\theta}$,
$(2,5)=R e_{1} \frac{f(r)}{r} \lambda \partial_{\theta}$,
$(3,1)=\dot{2} R e_{0} R e_{1} \partial_{z}$,
$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{6})=R e_{1} \lambda \frac{f(r)}{r} \partial_{\theta}$,
$(4,5)=-\frac{R e_{1}}{r} \lambda \partial_{\theta}$.
$\mathrm{T}_{21}\left[\partial_{t}\right]$ is a $6 \times 6$ matrix :
$(1,4)=\frac{R e_{1}}{R e_{0}^{2}} \lambda \partial_{t}, \quad(2,5)=R e_{1} \lambda \partial_{t}, \quad(3,6)=R e_{1} \lambda \partial_{t}$.
$\mathbf{T}_{22}\left[\partial_{\tau}\right]$ is a $6 \times 6$ matrix :
$(1,4)=-\frac{\lambda}{R e_{0}} \partial_{T}, \quad(2,5)=(3,6)=R e_{0} \lambda \partial_{\tau}$.
$\mathbf{N}_{1}\left[\partial_{2}, \partial_{\theta}\right]\{\boldsymbol{q} \times \boldsymbol{q}\}$ is a $\mathbf{6}$-component column vector:
$(1,1)=-\lambda\left[\frac{v}{R e_{0} r} \partial_{\theta} u-\frac{v^{2}}{r}+\frac{1}{R e_{0}^{2} \lambda}\left\{\omega \partial_{z} u-u \partial_{z} w\right\}-\frac{1}{R e_{0}^{2} r}\left\{u^{2}+u \partial_{\theta} v\right\}\right]$,
$(2,1)=\lambda\left[\frac{u}{\lambda} \frac{\partial v}{\partial \zeta}+R e_{0} \frac{v}{r} \partial_{\theta} v+\frac{u v}{r}+\frac{w}{\lambda} \partial_{z} v\right], \quad(3,1)=R e_{0} \lambda \frac{v}{r} \partial_{\theta} w+u \frac{\partial w}{\partial \zeta}+w \partial_{z} w$.

## Appendix B

Here we give the nonlinear terms of $O\left(\epsilon^{3}\right)$ which form part of the coupled Landau equations. Note the presence of cubic terms such as $|X(\tau)|^{2} X(\tau)$, etc. The lower-case letters are elements of the vectors given in capitals, e.g. $G=\left(g_{1}, g_{2}, g_{3}, g_{4}, g_{5}, g_{6}\right)^{\mathrm{T}}$. Each of these elements is a function of $\zeta$.
(i) $\tilde{A}$ (contribution from $\mathbf{N}_{1}$ )

$$
\begin{aligned}
= & \frac{\lambda}{r}\left[2 j_{5} a_{5}+2 c_{5} a_{5}^{*}\right] X(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{1} \\
& +\frac{\lambda}{r}\left[c_{4} a_{4}^{*}+c_{5} a_{4}^{*}+j_{4} a_{5}+j_{5} a_{4}\right] X(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{2} \\
& +\left[-\mathrm{i} k c_{6} a_{5}^{*}+2 \mathrm{i} k a_{6}^{*} c_{5}+j_{6} \mathrm{i} k a_{5}\right] X(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{2} \\
& +\left[c_{4} a_{2}^{*}+a_{4}^{*} c_{2}+j_{4} a_{2}+a_{4} j_{2}\right] X(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{2} \\
& +\frac{1}{R e_{0}^{2}}\left[-\mathrm{i} k c_{4} a_{6}^{*}+2 \mathrm{i} k a_{4}^{*} c_{6}+j_{4} \mathrm{i} k a_{6}\right] X(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{1} \\
& +\frac{2 \lambda}{R e_{0}^{2} r}\left[c_{4} a_{4}^{*}+j_{4} a_{4}\right] X(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{1} \\
& -\frac{1}{R e_{0}^{2}}\left[-\mathrm{i} k c_{6} a_{4}^{*}+2 \mathrm{i} k a_{6}^{*} c_{4}+j_{6} \mathrm{i} k a_{4}\right] X(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{1}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& +\left[\left(c_{4} a_{3}^{*}+a_{4}^{*} c_{3}\right)+\left(j_{4} a_{3}+a_{4} j_{3}\right)\right] X(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{3} \\
& +\left[-\mathrm{i} k c_{6} a_{6}^{*}+2 \mathrm{i} k a_{6}^{*} c_{6}+j_{6} \mathrm{i} k a_{6}\right] X(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}^{3} \\
& -\frac{\lambda}{R e_{0} r}\left[-\mathrm{i} m h_{4} b_{4}^{*}+b_{5}^{*} \mathrm{i} m h_{4}+g_{5} \mathrm{i} m b_{4}-\mathrm{i} m b_{5} g_{4}\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{1} \\
& +\left[b_{6}^{*} \mathrm{i} k h_{5}+b_{6} \mathrm{i} k g_{5}+\mathrm{i} k a_{5} k_{6}\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{2} \\
& +R e_{0} \frac{\lambda}{r}\left[-\mathrm{i} m h_{5} b_{5}^{*}+b_{5}^{*} \mathrm{i} m h_{5}+g_{5} \mathrm{i} m b_{5}-\mathrm{i} m b_{5} g_{5}\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{2} \\
& +\frac{\lambda}{r}\left[h_{4} b_{5}^{*}+b_{4}^{*} h_{5}+g_{4} b_{5}+b_{4} g_{5}+a_{4} k_{5}+a_{5} k_{4}\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{2} \\
& +\left[h_{4} b_{2}^{*}+b_{4}^{*} h_{2}+g_{4} b_{2}+b_{4} g_{2}+a_{2} k_{4}+a_{4} k_{2}\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{2} \\
& +\frac{R e_{0} \lambda}{r}\left[-\mathrm{i} m h_{5} b_{6}^{*}+b_{5}^{*} \mathrm{i} m h_{6}+g_{5} \mathrm{i} m b_{6}-\mathrm{i} m b_{5} g_{6}\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{3} \\
& +\frac{\lambda}{r}\left[2\left(h_{5} b_{5}^{*}+g_{5} b_{5}+a_{5} k_{5}\right)\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{1} \\
& +\left[b_{6}^{*} \mathrm{i} k h_{6}+b_{6} \mathrm{i} k g_{6}+k_{6} \mathrm{i} k a_{6}\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{3} \\
& +\left[h_{4} b_{3}^{*}+b_{4}^{*} h_{3}+g_{4} b_{3}+b_{4} g_{3}+a_{3} k_{4}+a_{4} k_{3}\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{3} \\
& +\frac{\lambda}{R e_{0} r}\left[-\mathrm{i} m h_{4} b_{5}^{*}+b_{4}^{*} \mathrm{i} m h_{5}\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{1} \\
& -\frac{1}{R e_{0}^{2}}\left[b_{6}^{*} \mathrm{i} k h_{4}+b_{6} \mathrm{i} k g_{4}+\mathrm{i} k a_{4} k_{6}\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{1} \\
& +\frac{2 \lambda}{R e_{0}^{2} r}\left[h_{4} b_{4}^{*}+g_{4} b_{4}+a_{4} k_{4}\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{1} \\
& +\frac{1}{R e_{0}^{2}}\left[b_{4}^{*} \mathrm{i} k h_{6}+b_{4} \mathrm{i} k g_{6}+\mathrm{i} k a_{6} k_{4}\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{1} \\
& +\frac{\lambda}{R e_{0} r}\left[\mathrm{i} m g_{4} b_{5}-\mathrm{i} m b_{4} g_{5}\right] X(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{a}_{1} .
\end{aligned}
$$

(ii) $\tilde{\boldsymbol{B}}^{\mathrm{T}}$ (contribution from $\mathbf{N}_{1}$ )

$$
\begin{aligned}
= & \left.+\frac{\lambda}{r}\left[2 d_{5} b_{5}^{*}+2 k_{5} b_{5}\right] Y(\tau) \right\rvert\, Y(\tau)^{2} \tilde{b}_{1} \\
& -\frac{\lambda}{R e_{0} r}\left[-\mathrm{i} m d_{5} b_{4}^{*}+2 \mathrm{i} m b_{5}^{*} d_{4}+k_{5} \mathrm{i} m b_{4}\right] Y(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{1} \\
& +\left[d_{4} b_{2}^{*}+b_{4}^{*} d_{2}+k_{4} b_{2}+b_{4} k_{2}\right] Y(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{2} \\
& +\frac{R e_{0} \lambda}{r}\left[-\mathrm{i} m d_{5} b_{5}^{*}+2 \mathrm{i} m b_{5}^{*} d_{5}+k_{5} \mathrm{i} m b_{5}\right] Y(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{2} \\
& +\frac{\lambda}{r}\left[d_{4} b_{5}^{*}+d_{5} b_{4}^{*}+k_{4} b_{5}+b_{4} k_{5}\right] Y(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left.+\frac{\lambda R e_{0}}{r}\left[-\mathrm{i} m d_{5} b_{6}^{*}+2 \mathrm{i} m b_{5}^{*} d_{6}+k_{5} \mathrm{i} m b_{6}\right] Y(\tau) \right\rvert\, Y(\tau)^{2} \tilde{b}_{3} \\
& +\left[d_{4} b_{3}^{*}+b_{4}^{*} d_{3}+k_{4} b_{3}+b_{4} k_{3}\right] Y(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{3} \\
& +\frac{\lambda}{R e_{0} r}\left[-\mathrm{i} m d_{4} b_{5}^{*}+2 \mathrm{i} m b_{4}^{*} d_{5}+k_{5} \mathrm{i} m b_{5}\right] Y(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{1} \\
& +\frac{2 \lambda}{R e^{2} r}\left[d_{4} b_{4}^{*}+k_{4} b_{4}\right] Y(\tau)|Y(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{1} \\
& +\frac{2 \lambda}{r}\left[h_{5} a_{5}^{*}+g_{5}^{*} a_{5}+b_{5} j_{5}\right] Y(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{1} \\
& -\frac{\lambda}{R e_{0} r}\left[a_{5}^{*} \mathrm{i} m h_{4}+a_{5} \mathrm{i} m g_{4}^{*}+b_{4} \mathrm{i} m j_{5}\right] Y(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{1} \\
& +\left[h_{4} a_{2}^{*}+a_{4}^{*} h_{2}+g_{4}^{*} a_{2}+a_{4} g_{2}^{*}+b_{2} j_{4}+b_{4} j_{2}\right] Y(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{2} \\
& +\frac{\lambda}{r} R e_{0}\left[a_{5}^{*} \mathrm{i} m h_{5}+a_{5} \mathrm{i} m g_{5}+\mathrm{i} m b_{5} j_{5}\right] Y(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{2} \\
& +\frac{\lambda}{r}\left[h_{4} a_{5}^{*}+a_{4}^{*} h_{5}+g_{4}^{*} a_{5}+a_{4} g_{5}^{*}+b_{4} j_{5}+b_{5} j_{4}\right] Y(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{2} \\
& +\left[-\mathrm{i} k h_{6} a_{5}^{*}+a_{6}^{*} \mathrm{i} k h_{5}+g_{6}^{*} \mathrm{i} k a_{5}-\mathrm{i} k a_{6} g_{5}^{*}\right] Y(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{2} \\
& +\frac{\lambda R e_{0}}{r}\left[a_{5}^{*} \mathrm{i} m h_{6}+a_{5} \mathrm{i} m g_{6}^{*}+\mathrm{i} m j_{5} b_{6}\right] Y(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{3} \\
& +\frac{2 \lambda}{R e_{0}^{2} r}\left[h_{4} a_{4}^{*}+g_{4}^{*} a_{4}+b_{4} j_{4}\right] Y(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{1} \\
& +\frac{\lambda}{R e_{0} r}\left[a_{4}^{*} \mathrm{i} m h_{5}+a_{4} \mathrm{i} m g_{5}^{*}+\mathrm{i} m b_{5} j_{4}\right] Y(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{1} \\
& +\frac{1}{R e_{0}^{2}}\left[-\mathrm{i} k h_{4} a_{6}^{*}+a_{4}^{*} \mathrm{i} k h_{6}+g_{4}^{*} \mathrm{i} k a_{6}-\mathrm{i} k a_{4} g_{6}^{*}\right] Y(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{1} \\
& -\frac{1}{R e_{0}^{2}}\left[-\mathrm{i} k h_{6} a_{4}^{*}+a_{6}^{*} \mathrm{i} k h_{4}+g_{6}^{*} \mathrm{i} k a_{4}-\mathrm{i} k a_{6} g_{4}^{*}\right] Y(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{1} \\
& +\left[h_{4} a_{3}^{*}+a_{4}^{*} h_{3}+g_{4}^{*} a_{3}+a_{4} g_{3}^{*}+b_{3} j_{4}+b_{4} j_{3}\right] Y(\tau)|X(\tau)|^{2} \tilde{b}_{3} .
\end{aligned}
$$

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