

SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM OF A FLOW OF RAREFIED GAS OF CONSTANT DENSITY AROUND A SEMI-INFINITE PLATE BY THE INTEGRAL DIFFUSION METHOD

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Several papers [1-4] have proposed approximate diffusion models which can be used to examine the transport process in a rarefied gas where the mean free path is large and transport is not determined by the local gradient of the particular quantity.

In this paper the integral diffusion model [2] is used to solve the problem of determination of the friction stress and velocity of a flow of an incompressible gas around a plane semi-infinite plate in the whole range of Knudsen numbers. The obtained solution is compared with published solutions and experimental data [9].

§1. The flow of a rarefied gas at constant density, velocity of sound, and mean free molecular path in the boundary layer at a plane semi-infinite plate is described by the system of equations [2]

$$\begin{aligned} \rho u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \rho v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} &= \mu \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial y^2}, & \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} &= 0, \\ \frac{4}{3} \Lambda \frac{\partial \tau}{\partial y} &= \rho c (u - \varphi), \\ \tau &= -\frac{\rho c \Lambda}{3} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y} = -\mu \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y} \end{aligned}$$

with boundary conditions

$$\begin{aligned} y = 0, \quad v = 0, \quad \frac{\varphi}{2} &= \frac{2-\sigma}{\sigma} \frac{\Lambda}{3} \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y}, \\ y \rightarrow \infty \quad u &= u_0 \end{aligned}$$

and initial condition  $x = 0$ ;  $u = u_0$ .

Here  $\sigma$  is the coefficient of diffuse reflection.

On introducing the dimensionless variables

$$\begin{aligned} u' &= \frac{u}{u_0}, \quad v' = \frac{v}{u_0 \beta}, \quad x' = \beta \frac{3x}{2\Lambda}, \quad y' = \frac{3y}{2\Lambda}, \\ \varphi' &= \frac{\varphi}{u_0}, \quad \beta = \frac{1}{M} \left( \frac{2}{\pi \gamma} \right)^{1/2} = \frac{3\mu}{2\Lambda \rho u_0} \end{aligned}$$

the system of equations takes the form

$$\begin{aligned} u' \frac{\partial u'}{\partial x'} + v' \frac{\partial u'}{\partial y'} &= \frac{\partial^2 \varphi'}{\partial y'^2}, \\ \frac{\partial^2 \varphi'}{\partial y'^2} &= \varphi' - u', & \frac{\partial u'}{\partial x'} + \frac{\partial v'}{\partial y'} &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (1.1)$$

with boundary conditions

$$y' = 0, \quad v' = 0, \quad \varphi' = A \frac{\partial \varphi'}{\partial y'} \quad \left( A = \frac{2-\sigma}{\sigma} \right),$$

$$y' = \infty, \quad u' = 1,$$

and initial condition

$$x' = 0, \quad u' = 1.$$

The friction stress at the wall is given by the expression

$$\tau(0, x') = -\frac{\rho c u_0}{2} \frac{\partial \varphi'}{\partial y'} = \frac{\rho c}{2A} \varphi(0, x')$$

OR

$$c_f M = \frac{2\sigma}{2-\sigma} \left( \frac{2}{\pi \gamma} \right)^{1/2} \varphi'(0, x'), \quad x' = \beta \frac{3x}{2\Lambda} = \frac{2}{\pi \gamma} \frac{R}{M^2} = z^2.$$

Here  $\gamma$  is the ratio of specific heats,  $R$  is the Reynolds number, and in this case

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2}{\pi \gamma} &= 0.383, \quad \frac{R^{1/2}}{Mz} = 1.61 \quad \text{for } \gamma = \frac{5}{3} \\ \frac{2}{\pi \gamma} &= 0.456, \quad \frac{R^{1/2}}{Mz} = 1.48 \quad \text{for } \gamma = \frac{7}{5}. \end{aligned}$$

Elimination of  $\varphi'$  from the system of equations leads to an equation for the velocity  $u'$  of the gas

$$\begin{aligned} u' \frac{\partial u'}{\partial x'} - \left( \int_0^{y'} \frac{\partial u'}{\partial x'} dy' \right) \frac{\partial u'}{\partial y'} &= \frac{\partial^2 u'}{\partial y'^2} + \frac{\partial u'}{\partial x'} \frac{\partial^2 u'}{\partial y'^2} + \\ + u' \frac{\partial^3 u'}{\partial x' \partial y'^2} - \frac{\partial u'}{\partial y'} \frac{\partial^2 u'}{\partial x' \partial y'} - \left( \int_0^{y'} \frac{\partial u'}{\partial x'} dy' \right) \frac{\partial^3 u'}{\partial y'^3} \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

with boundary conditions

$$\begin{aligned} y' = 0, \quad u' + u' \frac{\partial u'}{\partial x'} &= A \left[ \frac{\partial u'}{\partial y'} + u' \frac{\partial^2 u'}{\partial x' \partial y'} \right], \\ y' = \infty, \quad u' &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

and initial condition

$$x' = 0, \quad u' = 1.$$

§ 2. The equation for  $u'$  was solved by the method of finite differences in the variables  $z$  and  $\zeta = \ln(y' + \Delta)$ . When the variable  $\zeta$  is introduced the equation takes the form

$$\begin{aligned} u' \left[ \frac{\partial u'}{\partial x} \right] - \left( \int_{\zeta_0}^{\zeta} \left| \frac{\partial u'}{\partial x'} \right| e^{\zeta} d\zeta \right) e^{-\zeta} \frac{\partial u'}{\partial \zeta} &= \\ = \left[ \frac{\partial u'}{\partial x} \right] e^{-2\zeta} \left( \frac{\partial^2 u'}{\partial \zeta^2} - \frac{\partial u'}{\partial \zeta} \right) + e^{-2\zeta} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 u'}{\partial \zeta^2} - \frac{\partial u'}{\partial \zeta} \right] + \\ + u' e^{-2\zeta} \left[ \frac{\partial^3 u'}{\partial x \partial \zeta^2} - \frac{\partial^2 u'}{\partial x \partial \zeta} \right] - e^{-2\zeta} \frac{\partial u'}{\partial \zeta} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 u'}{\partial \zeta \partial x} \right] - \\ - e^{-3\zeta} \left( \frac{\partial^3 u'}{\partial \zeta^3} - 3 \frac{\partial^2 u'}{\partial \zeta^2} + 2 \frac{\partial u'}{\partial \zeta} \right) \int_{\zeta_0}^{\zeta} \left[ \frac{\partial u'}{\partial x'} \right] e^{\zeta} d\zeta \end{aligned}$$

with boundary conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_0 = \ln \Delta, \quad u' + u' \frac{\partial u'}{\partial x} &= A e^{-\zeta} \left[ \frac{\partial u'}{\partial \zeta} + u' \frac{\partial^2 u'}{\partial x \partial \zeta} \right], \\ \zeta = \infty; \quad x' = 0, \quad u' &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

The right-hand side consists of terms, the differences for which were written with the  $(n+1)$ -th layer included ( $n$  is the number of the point along  $x'$ ). It must be taken into account that one of the characteristics of system (1.1) in the initial cross section is horizontal. The scheme of [10] is used to write the difference equation.

The friction stress is determined by the screw die method from the equation

Table

z	$\sigma = 0.1$		$\sigma = 0.8$	
	$u'(0, z)$	$\varphi'(0, z)$	$u'(0, z)$	$\varphi'(0, z)$
0	1.0	0.5	1.0	0.6
0.1	0.996	0.499		
0.2	0.983	0.496		
0.3	0.959	0.490		
0.4	0.928	0.481		
0.6	0.836	0.457		
0.8	0.719	0.424		
1.0	0.590	0.383	0.675	0.489
2.0	0.216	0.202	0.316	0.295
3	0.128	0.125	0.194	0.190
4	0.0904	0.0898	0.138	0.137
6	0.0576	0.0575	0.0872	0.0870
8	0.0424	0.0424	0.0640	0.0640
10	0.0337	0.0337	0.0507	0.0507
20	0.0166	0.0166	0.0249	0.0249
30	0.0111	0.0111	0.0166	0.0166

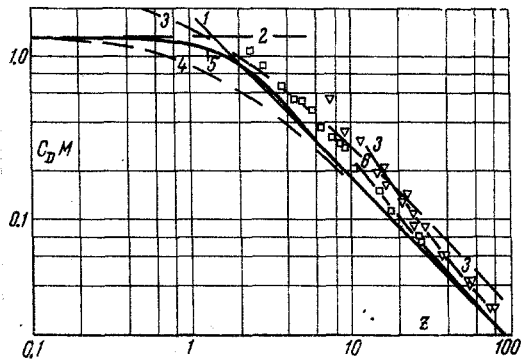


Fig. 1

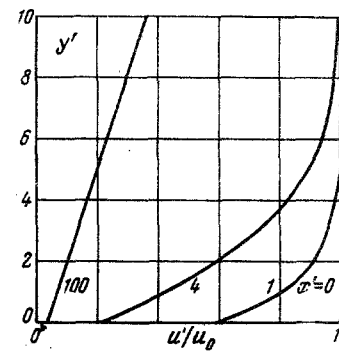


Fig. 2

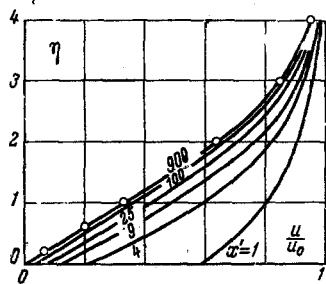


Fig. 3

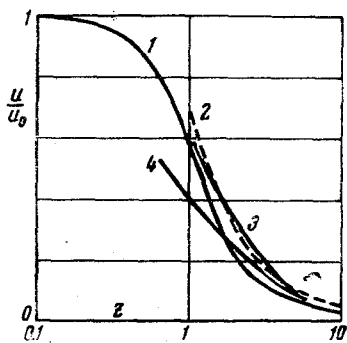


Fig. 4

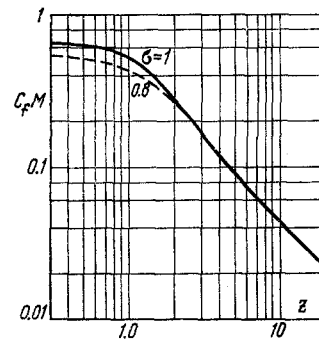


Fig. 5

$$\partial^2 \varphi' / \partial y'^2 = \varphi' - u'$$

with boundary conditions

$$y' = 0, \quad \varphi' = A \frac{\partial \varphi'}{\partial y'}; \quad y' = \infty, \quad \varphi' = 1.$$

§ 3. We consider the results of the calculations. The intervals were  $\Delta \zeta = 0.05$  and  $0.07$ ;  $\Delta z = 0.02$  and  $0.01$ . A comparison of the errors with different pitches showed that the error at  $x' = 1$  was  $\sim 0.3\%$ .

The table gives the results for  $u'(0, z)$  and  $\varphi'(0, z)$  in relation to  $z$  for  $\sigma = 1$  and  $\sigma = 0.8$ .

The results of different calculations were compared with the experimental data of [9] in [6]. This comparison is reproduced in Fig. 1, where the results of the present work are also given. The value of

$$C_{D1}M = \frac{2}{x'} \int_0^{x'} C_f M dx' = 4 \left( \frac{2}{\pi \gamma} \right)^{1/2} \frac{\sigma}{2 - \sigma} \frac{1}{x'} \int_0^{x'} \varphi'(0, x') dx'$$

for free molecular flow ( $x' = 0$ ) is

$$C_{D1}M = 2\sigma \sqrt{2/\pi \gamma},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(0, 0) = 0.5, \quad C_{D1}M = 1.35 \quad \text{for } \sigma = 1.0, \\ \varphi(0, 0) = 0.6, \quad C_{D1}M = 1.08 \quad \text{for } \sigma = 0.8. \end{aligned}$$

In Fig. 1, curve 1 is the Blasius solution for an incompressible boundary layer; curve 2 is given by the theory of free-molecular flow; curve 3 is given by slip flow theory in Rayleigh's approximation [5]; curve 4 gives the results of calculations by the approximate method of [6]; curve 5 gives the results of calculations by the integral diffusion method; curve 6 is the relationship after introduction of a connection [7] for the finite length of the plate when  $M = 0.60$  and; curve 7 is the same for  $M = 0.18$ . The experimental data of [9] are denoted by triangles for  $0.16 < M < 0.21$ , and by squares for  $0.46 < M < 0.72$ .

Figures 2 and 3 show the obtained velocity distribution in the cross section of the boundary layer at different distances from the front edge of the plate, while Fig. 4 shows the velocity distribution along the plate. In Fig. 4 curve 1 was obtained by calculation by the integral diffusion method for  $\sigma = 1$ ; curve 2 is the same for  $\sigma = 0.8$ ; curve 3 is given by the integral diffusion method in Rayleigh's approximation [2] and, curve 4 is given by slip flow theory in Rayleigh's approximation.

Figure 5 shows the distribution of  $C_f M$  along the plate for  $\sigma = 1.0$  and  $0.8$ .

The obtained results agree with those of [8], where it was found that at  $0.001 < M/R^{1/2} < 0.1$  the friction stress agreed exactly with the Blasius solution to terms of the third order of smallness.

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