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Citation: *Physics of Fluids (1958-1988)* **23**, 241 (1980); doi: 10.1063/1.862963

View online: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.862963>

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# Neutral stability calculations for boundary-layer flows

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(Received 6 July 1979; accepted 5 October 1979)

An analysis is presented of the parallel neutral stability of three-dimensional incompressible, isothermal boundary-layer flows. A Taylor-series expansion of the dispersion relation is used to derive the general eigenvalues. These equations are functions of the complex group velocity. These relations are verified by numerical results obtained for two- and three-dimensional disturbances in two- and three-dimensional flows.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Recent interest in laminar flow control of wings has demanded extensive analysis of the stability of boundary-layer flows. The first step in this type of analysis is to distinguish unstable from stable disturbances for a given flow. The line or surface separating the group of stable disturbances from the group of unstable disturbances is called the neutral stability curve or surface. Extensive work conducted by Kurtz,<sup>1</sup> Kaplan,<sup>2</sup> Osborne,<sup>3</sup> and Wazzan *et al.*<sup>4</sup> have resulted in the determination of the neutral stability curve for two-dimensional incompressible boundary-layer flows given by the Blasius and Falkner-Skan solutions. Mack<sup>5</sup> determined neutral stability curves for two-dimensional compressible flows. All these results agree with the experimental results of Schubauer and Skramstad,<sup>6</sup> and Ross *et al.*<sup>7</sup> to a certain degree. Except for those in Ref. 5, the calculations were always based on the tedious method of scanning the growth rate-wavenumber space. Although, this does not pose a major problem in the analysis of two-dimensional flows, the task of analyzing three-dimensional flows becomes prohibitively difficult.

In this paper, we present a formal method of obtaining neutrally stable disturbances. Equations are derived that relate the neutral disturbances to the non-neutral disturbances. These equations depend on the components of the complex group velocity calculated by using quadratures.<sup>8</sup>

## II. PROBLEM FORMULATION

We consider the stability of a three-dimensional, incompressible boundary-layer flow. We introduce dimensionless quantities using the chordwise velocity  $U^*$ , the density  $\rho^*$ , and the kinematic viscosity  $\nu^*$  at the edge of the boundary layer, and the reference length  $L^* = (\nu^* x^* / U^*)^{1/2}$ , where  $x^*$  is the distance measured from the initiation of the boundary layer. Solving dimensionless steady boundary-layer equations yields the velocity components

$$U(y) \text{ and } W(y) \tag{1}$$

in the  $x$  and  $z$  directions, respectively. Let  $P$  be the pressure. We superpose the small unsteady disturbances  $u \exp(i\theta)$ ,  $v \exp(i\theta)$ ,  $w \exp(i\theta)$ , and  $p \exp(i\theta)$  on this basic flow. Here  $\theta$  is such that

$$\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t} = -\omega, \quad \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} = \alpha, \quad \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial z} = \beta.$$

The dimensionless linearized equations satisfied by these disturbances are

$$L_1(u, v, w, p) = i\alpha u + i\beta w + Dv = 0, \tag{2}$$

$$L_2(u, v, w, p) = i(\alpha U + \beta W - \omega)u + vDU + i\alpha p - R^{-1}(D^2 - \alpha^2 - \beta^2)u = 0, \tag{3}$$

$$L_3(u, v, w, p) = i(\alpha U + \beta W - \omega)v + Dp - R^{-1}(D^2 - \alpha^2 - \beta^2)v = 0, \tag{4}$$

$$L_4(u, v, w, p) = i(\alpha U + \beta W - \omega)w + vDW + i\beta p - R^{-1}(D^2 - \alpha^2 - \beta^2)w = 0. \tag{5}$$

The boundary conditions satisfied by  $u$ ,  $v$ , and  $w$  are

$$u, v, \text{ and } w \rightarrow 0, \tag{6}$$

and

$$u = v = w = 0, \text{ at } y = 0. \tag{7}$$

Equations (2)–(5) along with the boundary conditions (6) and (7) constitute an eigenvalue problem. For temporal stability,  $R$ ,  $\alpha$ , and  $\beta$  are real numbers and  $\omega$  is complex; whereas for spatial stability,  $R$  and  $\omega$  are real numbers and  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are complex. In either case the dispersion relation can be written in the form

$$\omega = \Omega(\alpha, \beta, R). \tag{8}$$

For a fixed value of  $R$ , this relation reduces to

$$\omega = \Omega(\alpha, \beta). \tag{9}$$

Let  $\omega_0$ ,  $\alpha_0$ , and  $\beta_0$  be one set of eigenvalues so that  $\omega_0 = \Omega(\alpha_0, \beta_0)$ . Then using a Taylor-series expansion, we have

$$\omega = \omega_0 + \omega_\alpha(\alpha - \alpha_0) + \omega_\beta(\beta - \beta_0) + \dots, \tag{10}$$

where

$$\omega_\alpha = \omega_{\alpha r} + i\omega_{\alpha i} = \left. \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial \alpha} \right|_{(\alpha_0, \beta_0)} \tag{11}$$

and

$$\omega_\beta = \omega_{\beta r} + i\omega_{\beta i} = \left. \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial \beta} \right|_{(\alpha_0, \beta_0)} \tag{12}$$

are the components of the complex group velocity in the  $x$  and  $z$  directions, respectively.

To determine  $\omega_\alpha$ , we differentiate Eqs. (2)–(7) with

respect to  $\alpha$  and obtain

$$L_1\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial v}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial w}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial p}{\partial \alpha}\right) = -iu. \quad (13)$$

$$L_2\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial v}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial w}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial p}{\partial \alpha}\right) = -i\left(U - i\frac{2\alpha}{R}\right)u - ip + i\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial \alpha}u, \quad (14)$$

$$L_3\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial v}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial w}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial p}{\partial \alpha}\right) = -i\left(U - i\frac{2\alpha}{R}\right)v + i\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial \alpha}v, \quad (15)$$

$$L_4\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial v}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial w}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial p}{\partial \alpha}\right) = -i\left(U - i\frac{2\alpha}{R}\right)w + i\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial \alpha}w, \quad (16)$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial v}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial w}{\partial \alpha} \rightarrow 0, \text{ as } y \rightarrow \infty, \quad (17)$$

and

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \alpha} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial \alpha} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial \alpha} = 0, \text{ at } y = 0. \quad (18)$$

We note that the homogeneous parts of Eqs. (13)–(18) have a nontrivial solution. Hence, the inhomogeneous equations (13)–(18) have a solution if, and only if, a solvability condition is satisfied. This solvability condition can be written as

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial \alpha} = \frac{g_2}{g_1}, \quad (19)$$

where  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  are given in quadratures in terms of the mean-flow quantities; the eigenmodes  $u$ ,  $v$ ,  $w$ , and  $p$ ; the eigenmodes of the adjoint-problem  $u^*$ ,  $v^*$ ,  $w^*$ , and  $p^*$ ; and the streamwise wavenumber  $\alpha$  (see the Appendix).

If Eqs. (2)–(7) are differentiated with respect to  $\beta$ , we obtain an inhomogeneous problem whose solvability condition yields

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial \beta} = \frac{g_3}{g_1}. \quad (20)$$

Again,  $g_3$  is given in quadratures (see the Appendix).

### III. NEUTRAL CURVES

Equation (10) forms a three-parameter surface. For the neutral stability calculations, we are interested in locating a curve on this surface on which all the three parameters  $\omega$ ,  $\alpha$ , and  $\beta$  are real. Since Eq. (10) is a complex equation, it provides two real relations relating three quantities. Hence we need to hold one of the three parameters fixed, while interacting on the re-

maining parameters. Four such possibilities exist; they are treated next.

#### A. The case $\omega$ fixed

Since  $\omega$  is held fixed, Eq. (10) can be rewritten as

$$\omega_\alpha(\alpha - \alpha_0) + \omega_\beta(\beta - \beta_0) \simeq 0. \quad (21)$$

Since we are searching for neutral stability points, we take  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  to be real. We express  $\alpha_0$  and  $\beta_0$  as

$$\alpha_0 = \alpha_{0r} + i\alpha_{0i}, \quad \beta_0 = \beta_{0r} + i\beta_{0i},$$

separate real and imaginary parts of Eq. (21), and obtain

$$\omega_{\alpha r}(\alpha - \alpha_{0r}) + \omega_{\alpha i}\alpha_{0i} + \omega_{\beta r}(\beta - \beta_{0r}) + \omega_{\beta i}\beta_{0i} \simeq 0, \quad (22)$$

$$\omega_{\alpha i}(\alpha - \alpha_{0r}) - \omega_{\alpha r}\alpha_{0i} + \omega_{\beta i}(\beta - \beta_{0r}) - \omega_{\beta r}\beta_{0i} \simeq 0. \quad (23)$$

Solving Eqs. (22) and (23) for  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , we have

$$\alpha \simeq \alpha_{0r} - \alpha_{0i} \frac{\omega_{\alpha r}\omega_{\beta r} + \omega_{\alpha i}\omega_{\beta i}}{\omega_{\alpha r}\omega_{\beta i} - \omega_{\alpha i}\omega_{\beta r}} - \beta_{0i} \frac{\omega_{\beta r}^2 + \omega_{\beta i}^2}{\omega_{\alpha r}\omega_{\beta i} - \omega_{\alpha i}\omega_{\beta r}} \quad (24)$$

and

$$\beta \simeq \beta_{0r} + \alpha_{0i} \frac{\omega_{\alpha r}^2 + \omega_{\alpha i}^2}{\omega_{\alpha r}\omega_{\beta i} - \omega_{\alpha i}\omega_{\beta r}} + \beta_{0i} \frac{\omega_{\alpha r}\omega_{\beta r} + \omega_{\alpha i}\omega_{\beta i}}{\omega_{\alpha r}\omega_{\beta i} - \omega_{\alpha i}\omega_{\beta r}}. \quad (25)$$

Equations (24) and (25) can be simplified further by taking either  $\alpha_0$  or  $\beta_0$  to be real to begin with. For example if  $\beta_0$  was real, then we obtain

$$\alpha \simeq \alpha_{0r} - \alpha_{0i} \frac{\omega_{\alpha r}\omega_{\beta r} + \omega_{\alpha i}\omega_{\beta i}}{\omega_{\alpha r}\omega_{\beta i} - \omega_{\alpha i}\omega_{\beta r}} \quad (26)$$

and

$$\beta \simeq \beta_{0r} + \alpha_{0i} \frac{\omega_{\alpha r}^2 + \omega_{\alpha i}^2}{\omega_{\alpha r}\omega_{\beta i} - \omega_{\alpha i}\omega_{\beta r}}. \quad (27)$$

To verify the validity of Eqs. (26) and (27), we calculated the neutral stability curves of the Blasius profile at  $R = (U^*x^*/\nu^*)^{1/2} = 800$ . For the real values of  $\omega_0$  and  $\beta_0$  given in columns 1 and 2 of Table I, we calculated the complex  $\alpha_0$  given in column 3. Then, using Eqs. (26) and (27) repeatedly, we calculated the neutral stability results given by the real  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  given in columns 4 and 5, respectively. Column 6 lists the number of iterations needed for arriving at neutral stability.

TABLE I. Neutral stability calculations for the Blasius flow at  $R = 800$ . The calculations were made in the spatial stability mode.

$\omega_0$	$\beta_0$	$\alpha_0 = \alpha_{0r} + i\alpha_{0i}$	$\alpha = \alpha_r, \alpha_i = O(10^{-8})$	$\beta$	$N$
2.4E-2	1.8E-1	(5.821 03E-2, 7.968 48E-4)	6.211 34E-2	1.455 64E-1	4
2.4E-2	1.6E-1	(6.036 02E-2, 3.041 40E-4)	6.211 34E-2	1.455 64E-1	4
2.4E-2	1.4E-1	(6.283 76E-2, -1.021 17E-4)	6.211 34E-2	1.455 64E-1	4
2.4E-2	1.2E-1	(6.567 25E-2, -3.811 73E-4)	6.211 34E-2	1.455 64E-1	5
2.4E-2	0.8E-1	(7.227 15E-2, -4.103 49E-4)	7.745 50E-2	4.867 58E-2	5
2.4E-2	0.6E-1	(7.568 10E-2, -1.708 97E-4)	7.745 50E-2	4.867 58E-2	4
2.4E-2	0.4E-1	(7.866 62E-2, 1.299 29E-4)	7.745 51E-2	4.867 58E-2	3
2.4E-2	0.2E-1	(8.073 14E-2, 3.690 49E-4)	7.745 50E-2	4.867 58E-2	5

TABLE II. Neutral stability calculations for the Blasius flow at  $R = 800$ . The calculations were made in the temporal stability mode.

$\alpha_0$	$\omega_0 = \omega_{0r} + i\omega_{0i}$	$\alpha$	$\omega = \omega_r, \omega_i = O(10^{-8})$	$N$
0.25	(8.817 58E - 2, -8.082 21E - 3)	0.195 906	6.930 58E - 2	5
0.20	(7.096 73E - 2, -4.076 60E - 4)	0.195 906	6.930 58E - 2	3
0.18	(6.280 63E - 2, 1.230 44E - 3)	0.195 906	6.930 58E - 2	4
0.16	(5.462 06E - 2, 2.066 60E - 3)	0.195 906	6.930 58E - 2	5
0.12	(3.859 43E - 2, 1.803 91E - 3)	0.084 133	2.500 01E - 2	4
0.10	(3.090 21E - 2, 9.255 49E - 4)	0.084 133	2.500 01E - 2	3
0.08	(2.349 44E - 2, -2.597 83E - 4)	0.084 133	2.500 01E - 2	2
0.06	(1.640 79E - 2, -1.485 58E - 3)	0.084 133	2.500 01E - 2	3

**B. The case  $\beta$  fixed**

In this case, Eq. (10) can be rewritten as

$$(\omega - \omega_0) \simeq \omega_\alpha (\alpha - \alpha_0). \tag{28}$$

If we let  $\omega_0 = \omega_{0r} + i\omega_{0i}$  and  $\alpha_0 = \alpha_{0r} + i\alpha_{0i}$ , then separating Eq. (28) into its real and imaginary parts yields

$$(\omega - \omega_{0r}) \simeq \omega_{\alpha r} (\alpha - \alpha_{0r}) + \omega_{\alpha i} \alpha_{0i}, \tag{29}$$

$$-\omega_{0i} \simeq \omega_{\alpha i} (\alpha - \alpha_{0r}) - \omega_{\alpha r} \alpha_{0i}. \tag{30}$$

Equations (29) and (30) can be solved simultaneously to give

$$\omega \simeq \omega_{0r} - \omega_{\alpha r} \omega_{0i} / \omega_{\alpha i} + (\omega_{\alpha r}^2 + \omega_{\alpha i}^2) \alpha_{0i} / \omega_{\alpha i}, \tag{31}$$

$$\alpha = \alpha_{0r} + \omega_{\alpha r} \alpha_{0i} / \omega_{\alpha i} - \omega_{0i} / \omega_{\alpha i}. \tag{32}$$

If we start with a real  $\alpha_0$ , Eqs. (31) and (32) can be simplified to

$$\omega \simeq \omega_{0r} - \omega_{\alpha r} \omega_{0i} / \omega_{\alpha i}, \tag{33}$$

$$\alpha \simeq \alpha_{0r} - \omega_{0i} / \omega_{\alpha i}. \tag{34}$$

To show the validity of Eqs. (33) and (34), we calculated the temporal stability of the Blasius flow at  $R = 800$ . The results of these calculations are presented in Table II. For  $\beta_0 = 0$  and the real values of  $\alpha_0$  listed in column 1, we calculated the temporal stability defined by the complex  $\omega_0$  listed in column 2. Then, using Eqs. (33) and (34) repeatedly, we calculated the neutral stability results defined by the real  $\alpha$  and  $\omega$  listed in columns 3 and 4, respectively. Column 5 lists the number of iterations needed to reach neutral stability.

It is also possible to start with real  $\omega_0$ . Then Eqs. (31) and (32) reduce to

$$\omega \simeq \omega_{0r} + (\omega_{\alpha r}^2 + \omega_{\alpha i}^2) \alpha_{0i} / \omega_{\alpha i}, \tag{35}$$

$$\alpha \simeq \alpha_{0r} + \omega_{\alpha r} \alpha_{0i} / \omega_{\alpha i}. \tag{36}$$

To show the validity of Eqs. (35) and (36), calculations were made for the Blasius flow at  $R = 800$ . The results are presented in Table III. For  $\beta_0 = 0$  and the real value of  $\omega_0$  listed in column 1, we computed the spatial stability results defined by the complex  $\alpha_0$  listed in column 2. Then, using Eqs. (35) and (36), we calculated the neutral stability results defined by the real  $\omega$  and  $\alpha$  listed in columns 3 and 4. Column 5 lists the number of iterations required to reach neutral stability.

**C. The case  $\alpha$  fixed**

Following steps similar to those in the preceding section, we obtain

$$\omega \simeq \omega_{0r} - \omega_{\beta r} \omega_{0i} / \omega_{\beta i} + (\omega_{\beta r}^2 + \omega_{\beta i}^2) \beta_{0i} / \omega_{\beta i} \tag{37}$$

and

$$\beta \simeq \beta_{0r} + \omega_{\beta r} \beta_{0i} / \omega_{\beta i} - \omega_{0i} / \omega_{\beta i}. \tag{38}$$

**D. The case of fixed wave angle  $\psi$**

Here we define the wave angle  $\psi$  as

$$\tan \psi = \beta / \alpha, \quad \tan \psi = \beta_{0r} / \alpha_{0r} \tag{39a}$$

or

$$(\alpha - \alpha_{0r}) \tan \psi = (\beta - \beta_{0r}). \tag{39b}$$

If  $\omega_0$ ,  $\alpha_0$ , and  $\beta_0$  are complex, then we rewrite Eq. (10) in the following form:

$$\omega - \omega_{0r} \simeq \omega_{\alpha r} (\alpha - \alpha_{0r}) + \omega_{\alpha i} \alpha_{0i} + \omega_{\beta r} (\beta - \beta_{0r}) + \omega_{\beta i} \beta_{0i}, \tag{40}$$

$$-\omega_{0i} \simeq \omega_{\alpha i} (\alpha - \alpha_{0r}) - \omega_{\alpha r} \alpha_{0i} + \omega_{\beta i} (\beta - \beta_{0r}) - \omega_{\beta r} \beta_{0i}. \tag{41}$$

Equations (39)–(41) provide three real equations, which

TABLE III. Neutral stability calculations for the Blasius flow at  $R = 800$ . The calculations were made in the spatial stability mode.

$\omega_0$	$\alpha_0 = \alpha_{0r} + i\alpha_{0i}$	$\omega$	$\alpha = \alpha_r, \alpha_i = O(10^{-8})$	$N$
8.817 58E - 2	(0.235 582, 1.513 24E - 2)	6.930 58E - 2	0.195 906	4
7.096 70E - 2	(0.199 758, 9.417 74E - 4)	6.930 58E - 2	0.195 906	3
6.280 63E - 2	(0.180 444, -2.957 75E - 3)	6.930 58E - 2	0.195 906	4
5.462 06E - 2	(0.160 311, -5.101 11E - 3)	6.930 58E - 2	0.195 906	5
3.859 43E - 2	(0.116 150, -4.614 31E - 3)	2.500 01E - 2	0.084 133	4
2.349 44E - 2	(0.080 122, 6.947 14E - 4)	2.500 01E - 2	0.084 133	2
1.640 79E - 2	(0.060 709, 4.209 47E - 3)	2.500 01E - 2	0.084 133	3

can be solved simultaneously to yield

$$\omega \approx \omega_{0r} - \frac{\omega_{\alpha r} + \omega_{\beta r} \tan \psi}{\omega_{\alpha i} + \omega_{\beta i} \tan \psi} \omega_{0i} + \left( \omega_{\alpha i} + \omega_{\alpha r} \frac{\omega_{\alpha r} + \omega_{\beta r} \tan \psi}{\omega_{\alpha i} + \omega_{\beta i} \tan \psi} \right) \alpha_{0i} + \left( \omega_{\beta i} + \omega_{\beta r} \frac{\omega_{\alpha r} + \omega_{\beta r} \tan \psi}{\omega_{\alpha i} + \omega_{\beta i} \tan \psi} \right) \beta_{0i}, \quad (42)$$

$$\alpha \approx \alpha_{0r} - \frac{\omega_{0i}}{\omega_{\alpha i} + \omega_{\beta i} \tan \psi} + \frac{\omega_{\alpha r} \alpha_{0i}}{\omega_{\alpha i} + \omega_{\beta i} \tan \psi} + \frac{\omega_{\beta r} \beta_{0i}}{\omega_{\alpha i} + \omega_{\beta i} \tan \psi}, \quad (43)$$

and

$$\beta \approx \beta_{0r} - \frac{\omega_{0i} \tan \psi}{\omega_{\alpha i} + \omega_{\beta i} \tan \psi} + \frac{\omega_{\alpha r} \alpha_{0i} \tan \psi}{\omega_{\alpha i} + \omega_{\beta i} \tan \psi} + \frac{\omega_{\beta r} \beta_{0i} \tan \psi}{\omega_{\alpha i} + \omega_{\beta i} \tan \psi}. \quad (44)$$

Equations (42)–(44) are the most general form of the present theory. These equations can be simplified for a particular case of interest as desired. For example, if we start with real  $\alpha_0$  and  $\beta_0$ , then Eqs. (42)–(44) can be rewritten as

$$\omega \approx \omega_{0r} - \frac{\omega_{\alpha r} + \omega_{\beta r} \tan \psi}{\omega_{\alpha i} + \omega_{\beta i} \tan \psi} \omega_{0i}. \quad (45)$$

$$\alpha \approx \alpha_{0r} - \frac{\omega_{0i}}{\omega_{\alpha i} + \omega_{\beta i} \tan \psi}, \quad (46)$$

$$\beta \approx \beta_{0r} - \frac{\omega_{0i} \tan \psi}{\omega_{\alpha i} + \omega_{\beta i} \tan \psi}. \quad (47)$$

To show the validity of Eqs. (45)–(47), we calculated the temporal stability of the three-dimensional velocity profile of Fig. 1. This velocity was obtained for a sweptback wing having a leading edge sweepback angle of  $33^\circ$  and a trailing edge sweepback angle of  $19^\circ$ . The calculations were performed at the 14% chord location at  $R = 1034.8$  for  $\psi = 36.5^\circ$ . For the several real values of  $\alpha_0$  and  $\beta_0$  listed in columns 1 and 2 of Table IV, we calculated the complex  $\omega$  shown in column 3 of Table IV. Then, using Eqs. (45)–(47) repeatedly, we calculated the neutral stability results defined by the real  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\omega$  listed in columns 4, 5, and 6, respectively. Column 7 lists the number of iterations required to reach neutral stability for each case.

#### IV. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Equations relating neutral disturbances to non-neutral disturbances were derived. These equations are based

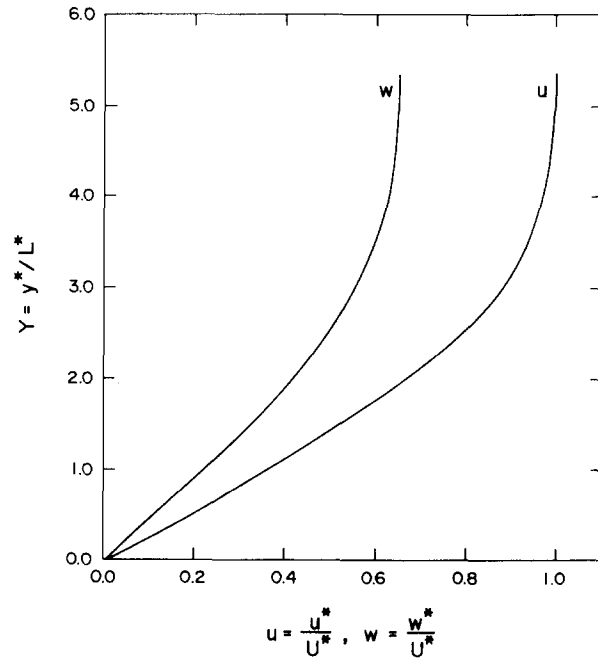


FIG. 1. Three-dimensional boundary-layer profile for swept-back wing. Leading edge sweep:  $33^\circ$ ; Trailing edge sweep:  $19^\circ$ ;  $U_\infty = 290.43$  fps; Chord  $c = 14.66'$ ;  $x/\bar{c} = 0.14$ ;  $R = 1034.8$ .

on the components of the complex group velocity. The validity of these equations was demonstrated with several examples.

Although the equations presented here can be used under wide conditions, they break down if the group velocity is purely real. Hence, these equations cannot be used for relating neutral disturbances to a maximum amplified disturbance. To obtain a neutral disturbance from a non-neutral disturbance, repeated application of the equations is needed. The convergence of such an iterative process is guaranteed if the non-neutral disturbances are stable. Also, the iterative process converges faster for stable non-neutral disturbances than for unstable non-neutral disturbances.

It should be noted that the technique presented here is not restricted to incompressible flows. It can be used to determine the neutral stability conditions for compressible flows; this is not done in this paper.

TABLE IV. Neutral stability calculations for a three dimensional boundary-layer flow at  $R = 1034.8$ . The calculations were made in the temporal stability mode.

$\alpha_0$	$\beta_0$	$\omega_0 = \omega_{0r} + i\omega_{0i}$	$\alpha$	$\beta$	$\omega = \omega_r; \omega_i = O(10^{-8})$	$N$
0.04	0.029 598	(1.4765E-2, -2.060 64E-3)	0.064 965	0.048 071	2.6957E-2	4
0.06	0.044 398	(2.4459E-2, -4.441 49E-4)	0.064 965	0.048 071	2.6958E-2	3
0.08	0.059 197	(3.4727E-2, 1.222 77E-3)	0.064 965	0.048 071	2.6958E-2	4
0.10	0.073 996	(4.5497E-2, 2.291 80E-3)	0.064 965	0.048 071	2.6958E-2	6
0.12	0.088 795	(5.6648E-2, 2.428 77E-3)	0.064 965	0.048 071	2.6958E-2	5
0.14	0.103 595	(6.7990E-2, 1.366 22E-3)	0.152 243	0.112 654	7.4910E-2	5
0.16	0.118 394	(7.9230E-2, -1.191 95E-3)	0.152 243	0.112 654	7.4910E-2	5
0.17	0.125 793	(8.4645E-2, -3.147 60E-3)	0.152 243	0.112 654	7.4910E-2	5

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This work was supported by the NASA Langley Research Center under Grant No. NSG 1255.

## APPENDIX

$$g_1 = \int_0^\infty (\zeta_1 \zeta_1^* + \zeta_2 \zeta_2^* + \zeta_3 \zeta_3^*) dy, \quad (\text{A1})$$

$$g_2 = \int_0^\infty \left[ \left( \zeta_1 \zeta_4^* + \zeta_1^* \zeta_4 + U - \frac{2i\alpha}{R} \right) \times (\zeta_1 \zeta_1^* + \zeta_2 \zeta_2^* + \zeta_3 \zeta_3^*) \right] dy, \quad (\text{A2})$$

$$g_3 = \int_0^\infty \left[ (\zeta_3 \zeta_4^* + \zeta_3^* \zeta_4) + \left( W - \frac{2i\beta}{R} \right) \times (\zeta_1 \zeta_1^* + \zeta_2 \zeta_2^* + \zeta_3 \zeta_3^*) \right] dy, \quad (\text{A3})$$

where  $\zeta_1 = u$ ,  $\zeta_2 = v$ ,  $\zeta_3 = w$ , and  $\zeta_4 = p$ . and the  $\zeta_n^*$  are the solutions of the adjoint problem.

$$i\alpha \zeta_1^* + i\beta \zeta_3^* - D\zeta_2^* = 0, \quad (\text{A4})$$

$$i(\alpha U + \beta W - \omega) \zeta_1^* + i\alpha \zeta_4^* - R^{-1}[D^2 - (\alpha^2 + \beta^2)]\zeta_1^* = 0, \quad (\text{A5})$$

$$i(\alpha U + \beta W - \omega) \zeta_2^* - D\zeta_4^* + DU\zeta_1^* + DW\zeta_3^* - R^{-1}[D^2 - (\alpha^2 + \beta^2)]\zeta_2^* = 0, \quad (\text{A6})$$

$$i(\zeta U + \beta W - \omega) \zeta_3^* + i\beta \zeta_4^* - R^{-1}[D^2 - (\alpha^2 + \beta^2)]\zeta_3^* = 0, \quad (\text{A7})$$

$$\zeta_1^* = \zeta_2^* = \zeta_3^* = 0, \quad \text{at } y = 0, \quad (\text{A8})$$

$$\zeta_1^*, \zeta_2^*, \zeta_3^* \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } y \rightarrow \infty. \quad (\text{A9})$$

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