

For Blasius flow, it is possible to identify  $f(x)$  with the boundary layer thickness  $\delta$ , we know

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\delta}{L} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{Re_L}}$$

in terms of  $x$ , we get

$$\frac{\delta}{x} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{U_\infty x}{\nu}}}$$

$$\delta \sim \sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_\infty}}$$

i.e. 
$$\frac{u}{U_\infty} = F\left(\frac{y}{\sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_\infty}}}\right) = F(\eta) \rightarrow (4)$$

where,

$$\eta \sim \frac{y}{\delta}$$

$$\text{and } (\delta \sim \sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_\infty}} = \frac{\nu \delta}{U_\infty \delta})$$

or, more precisely,

$$\eta = \frac{y}{\sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_\infty}}} \rightarrow (5)$$

$$y = \eta \sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_\infty}}$$

$$dy = \sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_\infty}} d\eta$$

The stream function can now be obtained in terms of the velocity components as

$$\psi = \int u dy = \int U_\infty F(\eta) \sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_\infty}} d\eta = \sqrt{U_\infty \nu x} \int F(\eta) d\eta$$

$$\Rightarrow \psi = \sqrt{U_\infty \nu x} f(\eta) + D \rightarrow (6)$$

where,  $D$  is a constant also  $\int F(\eta) d\eta = f(\eta)$  and the constant of integration is zero if the stream function at solid surface is set equal to zero.

Now, the velocity components and their derivatives are

$$u = \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} = U_{\infty} f'(\eta) \rightarrow 7(a)$$

$$v = -\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} = -\sqrt{U_{\infty} \nu} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{y}{\sqrt{\nu x}} f(\eta) + \sqrt{x} f'(\eta) \right] \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{y}{\sqrt{\nu x} U_{\infty}} - \frac{1}{2} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow v = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\nu U_{\infty}}{x}} [\eta f'(\eta) - f(\eta)] \rightarrow 7(b)$$

Now,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = U_{\infty} f''(\eta) \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x}$$

$$= U_{\infty} f''(\eta) \left[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{y}{\sqrt{\nu x} U_{\infty}} - \frac{1}{2} \right]$$

$$= -\frac{U_{\infty}}{2} \frac{\eta}{x} f''(\eta) \rightarrow 7(c)$$

and

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = U_{\infty} f''(\eta) \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y}$$

$$= U_{\infty} f''(\eta) \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\nu x} U_{\infty}} \right]$$

$$= U_{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{U_{\infty}}{\nu x}} f''(\eta) \rightarrow 7(d)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = U_{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{U_{\infty}}{\nu x}} f''(\eta) \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\nu x} U_{\infty}} \right\}$$

$$= \frac{U_{\infty}^2}{\nu x} f'''(\eta) \rightarrow 7(e)$$

Substituting these values in equations (1)

$$-\frac{U_{\infty}^2}{2} \frac{\eta}{x} f'(\eta) f''(\eta) + \frac{U_{\infty}^2}{2x} [\eta f'(\eta) - f(\eta)] f''(\eta) = \frac{U_{\infty}^2}{x} f'''(\eta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{U_{\infty}^2}{x} f(\eta) f''(\eta) = \frac{U_{\infty}^2}{x} f'''(\eta) \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{2f'''(\eta) + f(\eta) \cdot f''(\eta) = 0}$$

where  $f(\eta) = \int F(\eta) d\eta + C$  and  $\eta = \frac{y}{\sqrt{\frac{\nu x}{U_{\infty}}}}$

This is known as Blasius Equation  $= \int \frac{U}{U_{\infty}} d\eta + C$