



**School of Mechanical Engineering  
Sharif University of Technology**

# **Convection Heat Transfer**

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**Lecture #4**

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# Convection Heat Transfer

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## Boundary Layer Flow

# Convection Heat Transfer

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## Summary of second session:

✓ Scale Analysis

✓ Introduction to boundary layer flow

✓ This session: Laminar Boundary Layer Flow (Velocity and Temperature fields)

# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### CONCEPT OF BOUNDARY LAYER

In the  $d \times L$  region, then, the longitudinal momentum equation (8) accounts for the competition between three types of forces:

Inertia	Pressure	Friction	
$U_\infty \frac{U_\infty}{L}, \quad v \frac{U_\infty}{\delta}$	$\frac{P}{\rho L}$	$\nu \frac{U_\infty}{L^2}, \quad \nu \frac{U_\infty}{\delta^2}$	(14)

From the mass continuity equation, we have:

$$\frac{U_\infty}{L} \sim \frac{v}{\delta} \quad (15)$$

# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### CONCEPT OF BOUNDARY LAYER

If the boundary layer region  $d \times L$  is slender (not Bluff), such that:

$$\delta \ll L \quad (16)$$

The last scale in Eq. (14) is the scale most representative of the **friction** force. Neglecting the term  $\partial^2 U / \partial x^2$  at the expense of the  $\partial^2 U / \partial y^2$  term in the x momentum Equation (8) yields:

$$u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \quad (17)$$

Similarly the y momentum equation reduces to:

$$u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} + \nu \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} \quad (18)$$

# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### CONCEPT OF BOUNDARY LAYER

Some treatment on Eqs.17 & 18:

The pressure at any point in the fluid is a function of both  $x$  and  $y$ :

$$dP = \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} dy \quad (19)$$

$$\frac{dP}{dx} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dx} \quad (20)$$

The orders of magnitude of the two pressure gradients can be deduced by recognizing a balance between pressure forces and either friction or inertia .

For instance, the pressure ~ friction balance in Eqs. (17) & (18) suggest that :

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} \sim \frac{\mu U_{\infty}}{\delta^2} \quad (21)$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \sim \frac{\mu v}{\delta^2} \quad (22)$$

# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### CONCEPT OF BOUNDARY LAYER

Some treatment on Eqs.17 & 18:

Turning our attention to the right-hand side of Eq. (20) and the ratio of two terms:

$$\frac{dP}{dx} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dx} \quad (20)$$

$$\frac{(\partial P/\partial y)(dy/dx)}{\partial P/\partial x} \sim \frac{v\delta}{U_\infty L} \sim \left(\frac{\delta}{L}\right)^2 \ll 1 \quad (23)$$

$$\frac{dP}{dx} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} \quad (24)$$

This means that in the boundary layer, *the pressure varies mainly in the longitudinal direction. Or the pressure at any point inside the boundary layer region is practically the same as the pressure immediately outside it.*

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = \frac{dP_\infty}{dx} \quad (25)$$

# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### CONCEPT OF BOUNDARY LAYER

Some treatment on Eqs.17 & 18:

Making this substitution in x momentum equation (17), we obtain:

$$u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{dP_{\infty}}{dx} + \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \quad (26)$$

it is a statement of momentum conservation in both the x and y directions.

The boundary layer equation for *energy follows* from Eq. (10), neglecting the term accounting for thermal diffusion in the x direction:

$$u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} \quad (27)$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0 \quad (7)$$

Together with mass conservation equation, we have three equations and three unknowns: {u,v,T}



# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### VELOCITY AND THERMAL BOUNDARY LAYERS

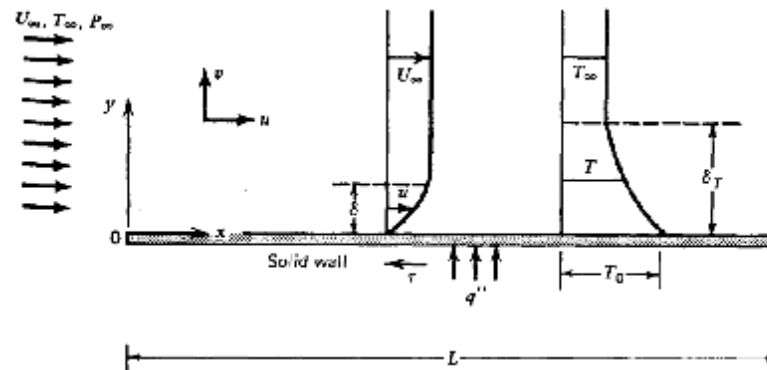
Let  $\delta$  be the **thickness of the region** in which  $u$  varies from  $0$  at the wall to  $U_\infty$  in the free stream. Let  $\delta_T$  be the thickness of another slender region in which  $T$  varies from  $T_0$  at the wall to  $T_\infty$  in the free stream.

Keeping up with tradition, in the present treatment we refer to  $\delta$  and  $\delta_T$  as the **velocity boundary layer thickness** and the **thermal boundary layer thickness**, respectively.

In scaling terms, the flow friction term will be :

$$\tau \sim \mu \frac{U_\infty}{\delta}$$

(28)



# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### VELOCITY AND THERMAL BOUNDARY LAYERS

- ❖ Scale analysis implies that in order to estimate the wall shear stress one should evaluate the extent friction  $\delta$ .
- ❖ Considering the flow over a flat horizontal plate, in which:  $dP_{\infty}/dx = 0$
- ❖ The boundary layer momentum equation implies that:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{inertia} \sim \text{friction} \\ \frac{U_{\infty}^2}{L}, \frac{\nu U_{\infty}}{\delta} \sim \nu \frac{U_{\infty}}{\delta^2} \end{array} \quad (29)$$

- ❖ Referring to the mass continuity scaling (15):  $\frac{U_{\infty}}{L} \sim \frac{\nu}{\delta}$ , we conclude that
- ❖ *the two inertia terms are of the same order of magnitude.* As such from (29), we have:

$$\delta \sim \left( \frac{\nu L}{U_{\infty}} \right)^{1/2} \quad (30)$$

In other words:

$$\frac{\delta}{L} \sim \text{Re}_L^{-1/2} \quad (31)$$

# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### VELOCITY AND THERMAL BOUNDARY LAYERS

❖ Equation (31) states that the slenderness postulate ( $\delta \ll L$ ) is valid provided that:

$$Re_L^{1/2} \gg 1$$

❖ Which can be used to assess the limitations of the boundary layer analysis: For example, the boundary layer solution will fail in the tip region of length

❖ The wall shear stress scales as:

$$\tau \sim \mu \frac{U_\infty}{L} Re_L^{1/2} \sim \rho U_\infty^2 Re_L^{-1/2}$$

(32)

❖ The dimensionless skin friction coefficient  $C_f = \tau / (\rho v^2 / 2)$  depends on the Reynolds number,

$$C_f \sim Re_L^{-1/2}$$

(33)

# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### VELOCITY AND THERMAL BOUNDARY LAYERS

- ❖ The heat transfer engineering question [Eq. (6)] is answered by focusing
- ❖ on the thermal boundary layer of thickness  $\delta_T$ :

$$h = \frac{-k(\partial T/\partial y)_{y=0}}{T_0 - T_\infty} \longrightarrow h \sim \frac{k(\Delta T/\delta_T)}{\Delta T} \sim \frac{k}{\delta_T} \quad (34)$$

- ❖ Where:  $\Delta T = T_0 - T_\infty$

- ❖ From Eq.(27):  $u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2}$ , we can write a balance between conduction from the wall into the stream and convection (enthalpy flow) parallel to the wall:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{convection} \sim \text{conduction} \\ u \frac{\Delta T}{L}, v \frac{\Delta T}{\delta_T} \sim \alpha \frac{\Delta T}{\delta_T^2} \end{array} \quad (35)$$

The  $\delta_T$  scale needed for estimating  $h$  can be determined analytically in the two limits discussed in the next slide.

# Convection Heat Transfer

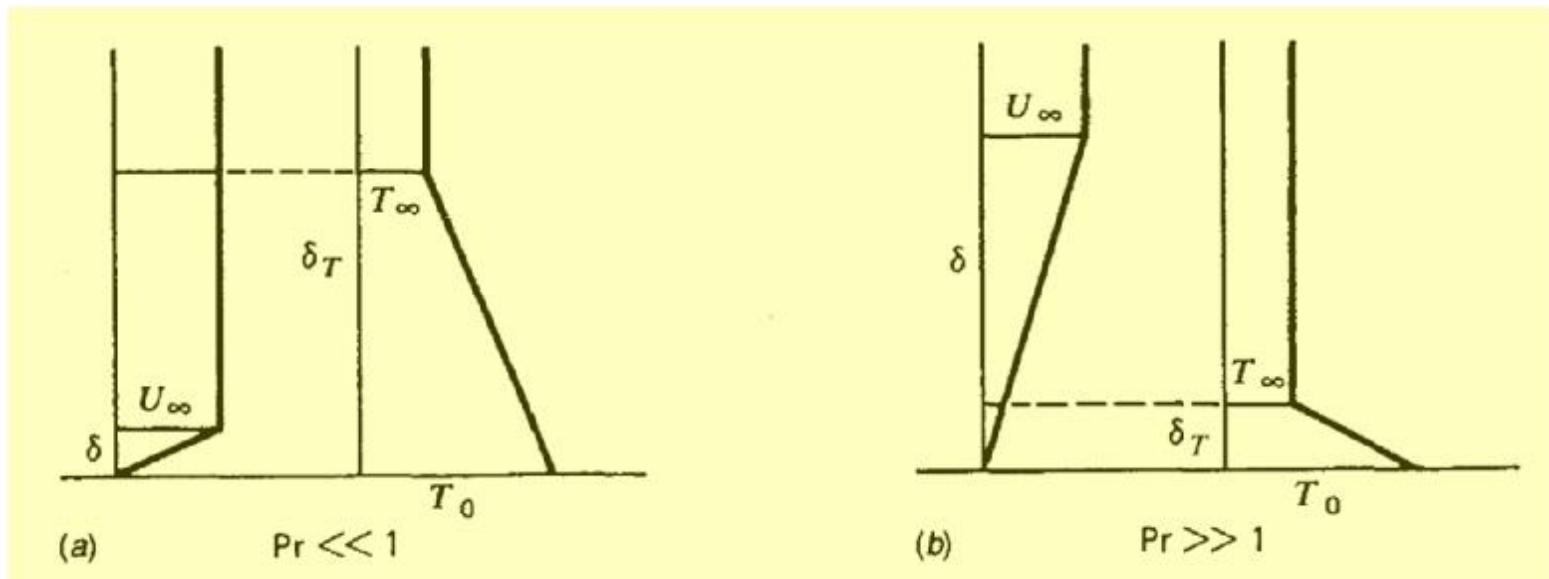


## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### VELOCITY AND THERMAL BOUNDARY LAYERS

Two limits for estimating  $\delta_T$

- 1- Thick thermal boundary layer,  $d_T \gg d$
- 2- Thin thermal boundary layer,  $d_T \ll d$



**Prandtl number effect on the relative thickness of the velocity and temperature boundary layers**

# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### VELOCITY AND THERMAL BOUNDARY LAYERS

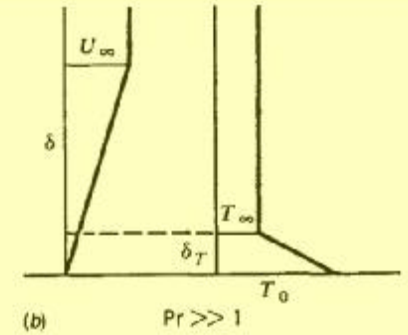
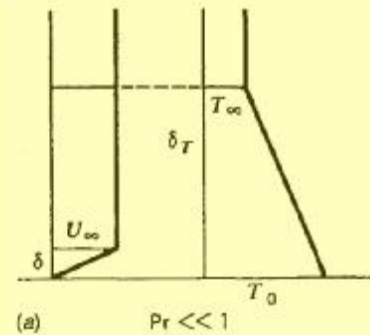
#### 1- Thick thermal boundary layer, $d_T \gg d$

The  $u$  scale outside the velocity boundary layer (and inside the thermal layer) is  $U_\infty$

According to Eq. (15):

the  $v$  scale in the same region is  $v \sim U_\infty \delta/L$

$$\frac{U_\infty}{L} \sim \frac{v}{\delta}$$



convection  $\sim$  conduction

$$u \frac{\Delta T}{L}, v \frac{\Delta T}{\delta_T} \sim \alpha \frac{\Delta T}{\delta_T^2}$$

$$v \frac{\Delta T}{\delta_T} \sim U_\infty \frac{\Delta T}{L} \frac{\delta}{\delta_T}$$

(36)

$$U_\infty \frac{\Delta T}{L}$$

$$\frac{\delta}{\delta_T} \ll 1$$

$$u \frac{\Delta T}{L} \gg v \frac{\Delta T}{\delta_T}$$

# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### VELOCITY AND THERMAL BOUNDARY LAYERS

#### 1- Thick thermal boundary layer, $d_T \gg d$

In conclusion, the convection ~ conduction balance expressed by the energy equation (35) is simply  $(U_\infty \Delta T)/L \sim (\alpha \Delta T)/\delta_T^2$  which yields:

$$\frac{\delta_T}{L} \sim Pe_L^{-1/2} \sim Pr^{-1/2} Re_L^{-1/2} \quad (37)$$

where  $Pe_L = U_\infty L/\alpha$

Comparing with (21):

$$\frac{\delta}{L} \sim Re_L^{-1/2}$$

We find that the relative size of  $d_T$  and  $d$  depends on the Prandtl number

$$Pr = \nu/\alpha$$

$$\frac{\delta_T}{\delta} \sim Pr^{-1/2} \gg 1 \quad (38)$$



# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### VELOCITY AND THERMAL BOUNDARY LAYERS

1- Thick thermal boundary layer,  $d_T \gg d$  ( $Pr = .01$  (liquid metals))

$$\frac{\delta_T}{\delta} \sim Pr^{-1/2} \gg 1$$

The first assumption,  $d_T \gg d$ , is therefore valid in the  $Pr^{1/2} \ll 1$  which represents the range occupied by liquid metals.

The heat transfer coefficient corresponding to the low-Prandtl number limit is:

$$h \sim \frac{k}{L} Pr^{1/2} Re_L^{1/2} \quad (Pr \ll 1) \quad (39)$$

or, expressed as a Nusselt number  $Nu = hL/k$ .

$$Nu \sim Pr^{1/2} Re_L^{1/2} \quad (40)$$



# Convection Heat Transfer

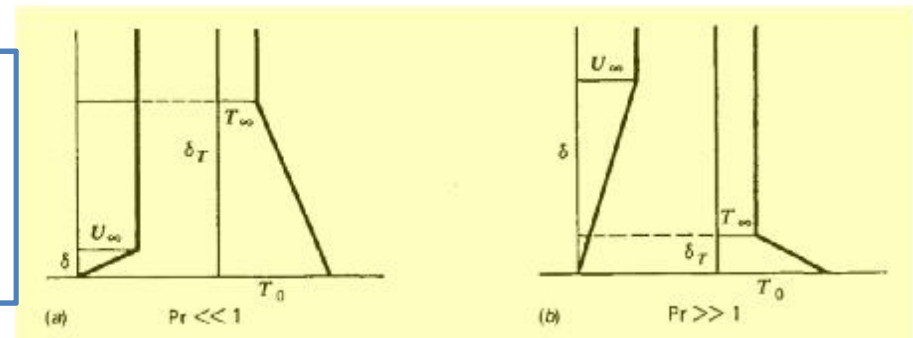


## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### VELOCITY AND THERMAL BOUNDARY LAYERS

#### 2- Thin thermal boundary layer, $\delta_T \ll \delta$ (Pr = 100, Oils)

considerable interest is the class of fluids with Prandtl numbers of order unity (e.g., air) or greater than unity (e.g., water or oils).



convection  $\sim$  conduction

$$u \frac{\Delta T}{L}, v \frac{\Delta T}{\delta_T} \sim \alpha \frac{\Delta T}{\delta_T^2}$$

$$u \sim U_\infty \frac{\delta_T}{\delta} \quad (41)$$

$$\frac{\delta_T}{L} \sim Pr^{-1/3} Re_L^{-1/2} \quad (42)$$

which means that :

$$\frac{\delta_T}{\delta} \sim Pr^{-1/3} \ll 1 \quad (43)$$

# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### VELOCITY AND THERMAL BOUNDARY LAYERS

2- Thin thermal boundary layer,  $d_T \ll d$

$$\frac{\delta_T}{\delta} \sim Pr^{-1/3} \ll 1$$

The first assumption,  $d_T \ll d$ , is therefore valid in the  $Pr^{1/3} \gg 1$  fluids. Which represents the range occupied by oils.

The heat transfer coefficient corresponding to the high-Prandtl number limit is:

$$h \sim \frac{k}{L} Pr^{1/3} Re_L^{1/2} \quad (Pr \gg 1) \quad (44)$$

or, expressed as a Nusselt number

$$Nu \sim Pr^{1/3} Re_L^{1/2} \quad (Pr \gg 1) \quad (45)$$

# Convection Heat Transfer



## LAMINAR BOUNDARY LAYER FLOW

### Concept of Reynolds number

Referring to Eq.(31):  $\frac{\delta}{L} \sim Re_L^{-1/2}$  which is the first place we encounter

the Reynolds number in external flow,  $Re_L = U_\infty L / \nu$ .

Basically, the Reynolds number is described as the order of magnitude of the inertia/friction ratio in a particular flow. This interpretation is not always correct because at least in the boundary layer region examined above, there is always a balance between inertia and friction, whereas  $Re$  can reach as high as  $10^5$  before the transition to turbulent flow.

The only physical interpretation of the Reynolds number in boundary layer flow appears to be:

$$Re_L^{1/2} = \frac{\text{wall length}}{\text{boundary layer thickness}}$$

# Convection Heat Transfer

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**Next session:**

✓ Laminar Boundary Layer Flow:  
Integral Solution