

## The law of the wall

- \* It is one of the most famous empirically-determined relationship in turbulent flow near solid boundaries.
- \* From measurements, for both internal and external flows, the streamwise velocity in the flow near the wall varies logarithmically with distance from surface. law of the wall
- \* High Re turbulent boundary layers  $\xrightarrow{\text{gives}}$  approximate description of the near-surface turbulence statistics
- \* near the surface in turbulent boundary layer
  - The effect of the fluid's inertia & the pressure gradient are small.
  - statistics of the flow are established by two primary mechanisms :-
    - ① rate of transferred momentum to surface per unit area per unit time  $\xrightarrow{\text{equal to}}$  local shear stress  $\tau$
    - ② molecular diffusion of momentum  $\longrightarrow$  plays an important role very close to surface.
  - The details of the eddies farther from the surface are of little importance to the near-wall flow statistics.
  - $\frac{y}{\delta}$  decreasing  $\longrightarrow$  improve the validity of

this approximate description.

$\delta$  is the boundary layer thickness

proof:



- typical eddy size far from surface  $\uparrow$  as  $\frac{y}{\delta} \downarrow$
- eddy size close to surface
- $\delta \uparrow \quad Re \uparrow$   
at high  $Re$  a wide separation of scales appears
- $C$  varies near surface, although  $y$  is fairly slow.  
 $\rightarrow \tau_w$ : surface shear stress is used in dimensional analysis in place of local shear stress  $C$
- Turbulence behaves the same in gases and liquids  $\rightarrow$  start with  $\frac{\tau_w}{\rho} \propto \frac{U^2}{L}$
- $\frac{\tau_w}{\rho} : \frac{m^2}{s^2}$
- $\frac{U^2}{L} : \frac{m^2}{s}$
- length scale  $\frac{U}{U_C}$  as  $U_C = \sqrt{\frac{\tau_w}{\rho}}$   
as  $U_C$  = friction velocity: velocity scale represent velocities close to solid boundary

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial y} = \frac{U_C}{y} F\left(\frac{U_C y}{2}\right)$$

Kármán's constraint

$F\left(\frac{U_C y}{2}\right)$ : universal function  $\rightarrow \frac{1}{K}$  as  $\frac{U_C y}{2} \rightarrow \infty$

It approaches a constant value

means viscous effects cease to matter far from surface.

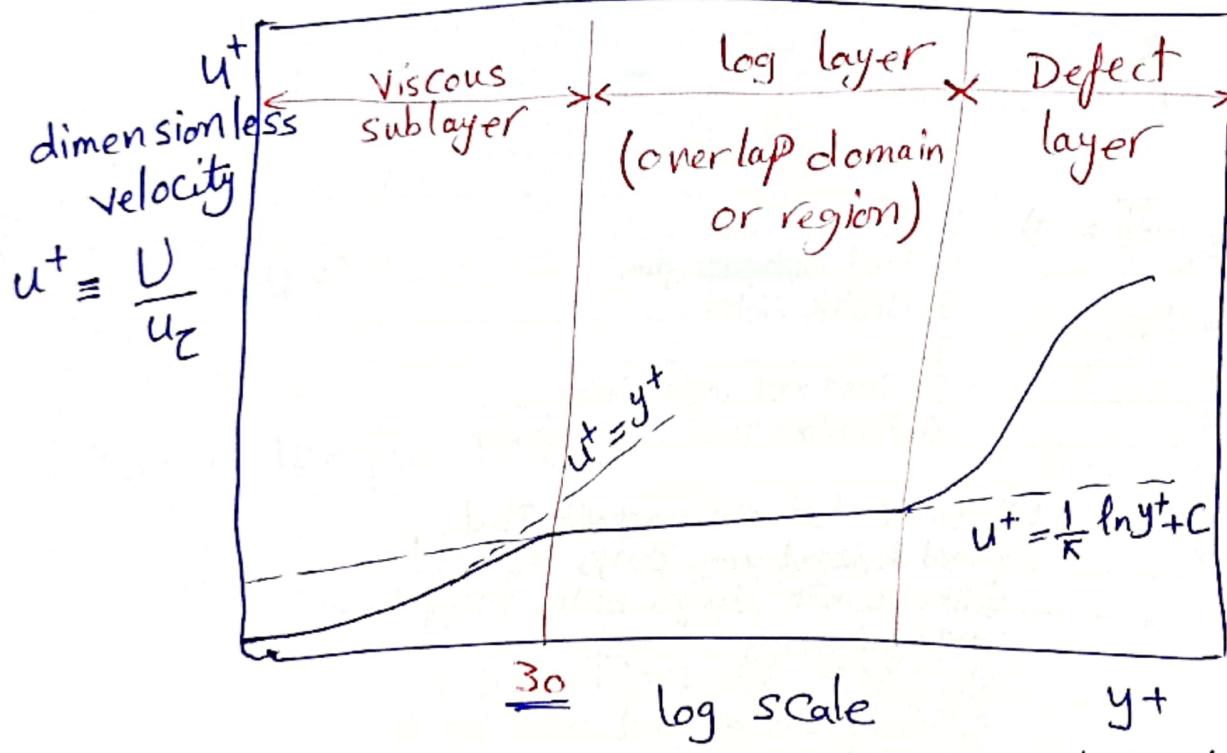
integrate over  $y$

C<sub>0.5</sub> for smooth surfaces

$$\frac{U}{U_C} = \frac{1}{K} \ln \frac{U_C y}{2} + C$$

$K \approx 0.41$  for smooth & rough surfaces

$$U^+ = \frac{1}{K} \ln y^+ + C$$



### Definition of log layer

It is the portion of the boundary layer where sub layer and defect layer merge and the law of the wall accurately represents the velocity

dimensionless distance

$$y^+ \equiv \frac{U_C y}{2}$$

- \* log layer is not a distinct layer.  
It is an overlap region between the inner and outer parts of the boundary layer.

- \* The velocity in the viscous sublayer

$$U = U_C f(y^+) \longrightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{law of the wall} \\ \text{dimensionless function} \end{array}$$

- \* In the defect layer, numerous experiments found that velocity data correlate reasonably well with the so-called velocity-defect law (Clauser defect law)

$$U = U_e - U_C g(\gamma) \quad \text{as } \gamma = \frac{y}{\Delta}$$

↓                                  ↑  
velocity at the boundary-layer edge      thickness  
dimensionless function

- \* inner length scale  $\frac{y}{U_C}$

- outer length scale  $\Delta$

- \* If a wide separation of scales exists

$$\frac{y}{U_C} \ll \Delta \quad \frac{m^2/s}{m/s} = m$$

then an overlap domain exists such that

$$U_C f(y^+) = U_e - U_C g(\gamma) \quad \text{for } y^+ \gg 1 \text{ & } \gamma \ll 1$$

differentiate with respect to  $y$

$$\frac{U_\tau^2}{\nu} f'(y^+) = - \frac{U_\tau}{\Delta} g'(\gamma)$$

$$* \frac{y}{U_\tau}$$

$$y^+ = \frac{U_\tau y}{\nu} \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma = \frac{y}{\Delta}$$

$$y^+ f'(y^+) = - \gamma g'(\gamma)$$

a wide separation of scales means

$y^+$  and  $\gamma$  are independent variables

$$y^+ f'(y^+) = \text{const} = \frac{1}{K}$$

$$f(y^+) = \frac{1}{K} \ln y^+ + C$$

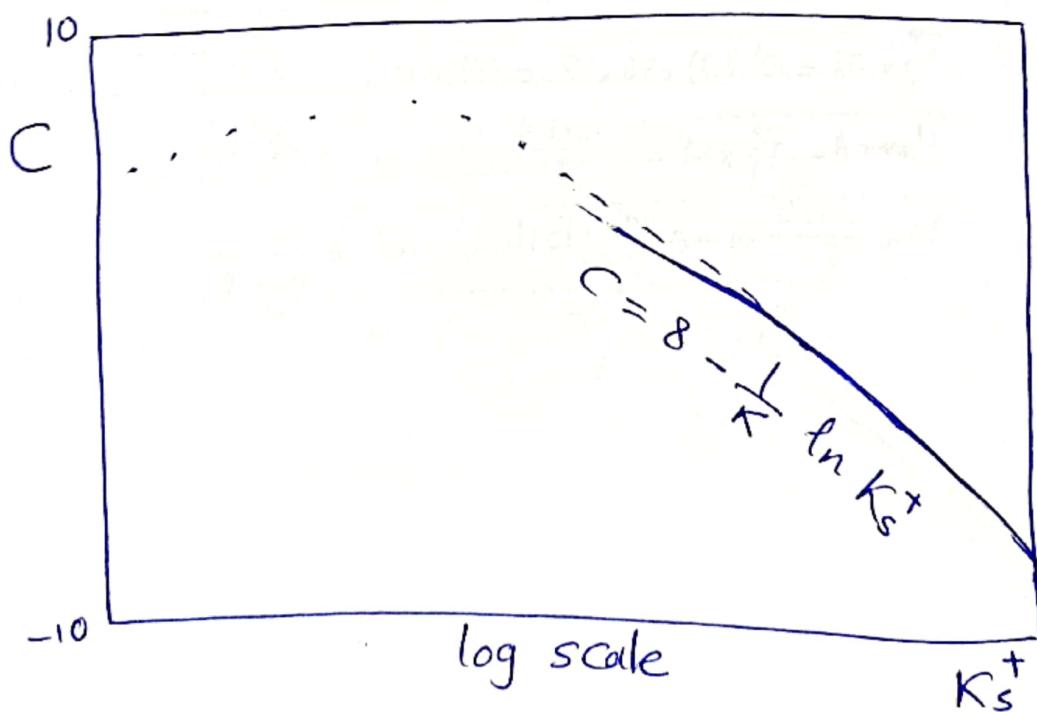
$C \approx 5$  for  
perfectly-smooth  
surfaces

\* For surfaces with roughness elements

of average height  $K_s$

dimensionless roughness  $K_s^+ \equiv \frac{U_\tau K_s}{\nu}$  for a large roughness height

$$C \rightarrow 8 - \frac{1}{K} \ln K_s^+ \quad \underline{K_s^+ \gg 1}$$



as  $K_s \uparrow \quad C \downarrow$

$$\frac{U}{U_\infty} = \frac{1}{K} \ln \frac{U_\infty y}{2} + C$$

sub. with C

$$\boxed{\frac{U}{U_\infty} = \frac{1}{K} \ln \left( \frac{y}{K_s} \right) + 8}$$

for completely-rough wall

- \* The absence of viscosity in this equation because the surface "shear stress" is due to pressure drag on the roughness elements.

- \* Defect layer lies between log layer and the edge of the boundary layer.

the velocity follows the law of the wall

$$\text{as } \frac{y}{\delta} \rightarrow 0$$

Coles' wake strength  
Parameter  $\approx 0.6$  from measurements

$$U^+ = \frac{1}{K} \ln y^+ + C + \frac{2 \Pi}{K} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{y}{\delta} \right)$$

Composite law of the wall  
and law of the wake profile

boundary layer thickness

- \* The velocity in the defect layer varies like the equilibrium parameter  $\beta_T = \frac{\delta^*}{C_w} \frac{dP}{dx}$

mean pressure  
displacement thickness

- \* equilibrium turbulent boundary layer at which  $\beta_T$  is constant

$$\Pi = 0.6 + 0.51 \beta_T - 0.01 \beta_T^2$$