

**Boundary Layer Loss Mechanism and Justification  
of Wall Functions for Turbulence Modeling**

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## **Objective:**

- Study the boundary layer (BL) loss mechanism for internal flows
  
- Examine the applicability of wall functions to predict internal flow loss

## Introduction

- Loss prediction is important for internal flows, which is an integral across the boundary layer
- Surface force prediction is important for external flows, which is not an integral across the boundary layer
- Entropy increase is the measure of internal flow loss

$$\Delta S = -R \ln \frac{P_{t2}}{P_{t1}} \quad (1)$$

Compressor Efficiency

$$\eta = \frac{\text{Ideal Work}}{\text{Actual Work}} = 1 - \frac{T_{t2} \Delta S}{H_{t2} - H_{t1}} \quad (2)$$

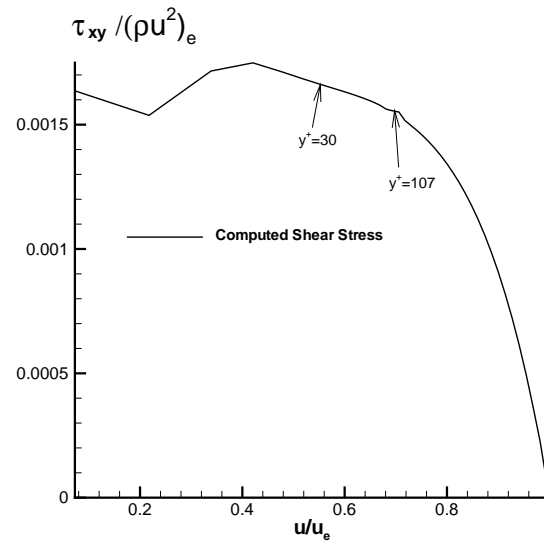


Figure 1: The distribution of entropy creation due to shear stress work across the boundary layer.

## Denton's theory on entropy creation:

- Total rate of entropy creation across the BL

$$\dot{S}_a = \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^\delta (\rho V_x (s - s_\delta)) dy = \int_0^\delta \frac{1}{T} \tau_{xy} dV_x \quad (3)$$

- Local rate of entropy creation within the BL

$$\dot{S}_v = \frac{1}{T} \tau \frac{dV}{dy} \quad (4)$$

## Question:

- For turbulent BL, can wall function boundary conditions predict the loss correctly?
- Wall functions: based on the law of the wall

$$u^+ = \frac{1}{k} \ln y^+ + B \quad (5)$$

$$y^+ \approx 30 \text{ to } 200$$

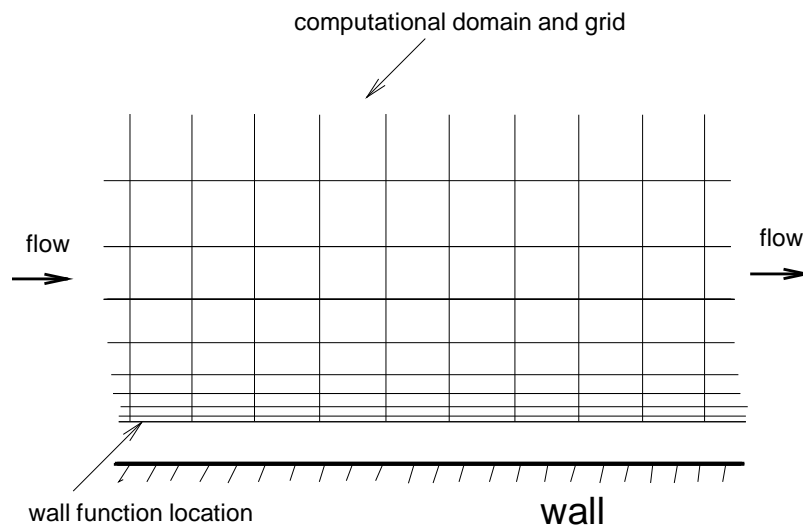


Figure 2: A sketch of the wall function location and computational domain

## With Wall Functions:

- Total rate of entropy creation:

$$\dot{S}_a = \int_0^\delta \frac{1}{T} \tau_{xy} dV_x = \int_0^{y_{wall\ function}} \frac{1}{T} \tau_{xy} dV_x + \int_{y_{wall\ function}}^\delta \frac{1}{T} \tau_{xy} dV_x \quad (6)$$

$$\dot{S}_a = \int_{y_{wall\ function}}^\delta \frac{1}{T} \tau_{xy} dV_x \quad (7)$$

- Will eq.7 miss most of the entropy creation across BL?
- Answer: Yes.
- Can wall functions be used?

## Boundary Layer Loss Mechanism

Turbulent BL eq. for flat plate:

Continuity equation:

$$\frac{\partial(\rho u)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial(\rho v)}{\partial y} = 0 \quad (8)$$

X-momentum equation:

$$\rho\left(u\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial y} \quad (9)$$

Y-momentum equation:

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \approx 0 \quad (10)$$

Energy equation:

$$\rho\left(u\frac{\partial h}{\partial x} + v\frac{\partial h}{\partial y}\right) = u\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial q}{\partial y} + \tau_{xy}\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \quad (11)$$

Thermodynamic relation:

$$dh = Tds + \frac{1}{\rho}dp \quad (12)$$

## Boundary Layer Loss Mechanism

The energy eq.(local rate of entropy creation) becomes:

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial l} d\dot{m} = \frac{1}{T} (\tau_{xy} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial q}{\partial y}) dy \quad (13)$$

or

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial l} d\dot{m} = \frac{1}{T} (\tau_{xy} du - dq) \quad (14)$$

The total rate of entropy creation

$$\dot{S}_a = \int_0^{\dot{m}_\delta} \frac{\partial s}{\partial l} d\dot{m} = \int_0^\delta \frac{1}{T} (\tau_{xy} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial q}{\partial y}) dy \quad (15)$$

or

$$\dot{S}_a = \int_0^{\dot{m}_\delta} \frac{\partial s}{\partial l} d\dot{m} = \int_0^\delta \frac{1}{T} (\tau_{xy} du - dq) \quad (16)$$



## Entropy creation

For adiabatic wall,  $q_w = q_\delta = 0$ , assume  $T \approx C$

The total rate of entropy creation

$$\dot{S}_a = \int_0^{\dot{m}_\delta} \frac{\partial s}{\partial l} d\dot{m} = \int_0^\delta \frac{1}{T} \tau_{xy} du \quad (17)$$

- This is the same as Denton's conclusion for the total rate of entropy creation.
- The local rate of entropy creation:

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial l} d\dot{m} = \frac{1}{T} (\tau_{xy} du - dq) \neq \frac{1}{T} \tau_{xy} du \quad (18)$$

- Denton's local rate of entropy creation is incorrect.

## Entropy creation in a Boundary Layer: Solution validation

A duct, Inlet  $M=0.2$ ,  $Re_h = 10^5$ ,  
 $k - \epsilon$  model integrating to wall  
 $y_1^+ = 1.8$ ,  $Re_\theta = 3584.5$ ,  $H = 1.34$

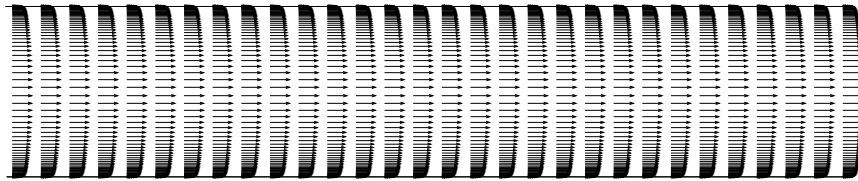


Figure 3: **Velocity vector field of the turbulent boundary layer in the duct near exit,  $M_{freestream} = 0.2$**

## Entropy creation in a Boundary Layer: Solution validation

The dissipation coefficient,  $Cd$ ,

$$Cd = \frac{T\dot{S}_d}{\rho_e u_e^3} \quad (19)$$

where

$$\dot{S}_d = \int_0^\delta \frac{1}{T} \tau_{xy} \frac{du}{dy} dy \quad (20)$$

Computed numerical value:  $Cd = 0.001463$ , agree well with empirical correlation [Schlichting,1966]:

$$Cd = 0.0056 Re_\theta^{-1/6} = 0.001432 \quad (21)$$

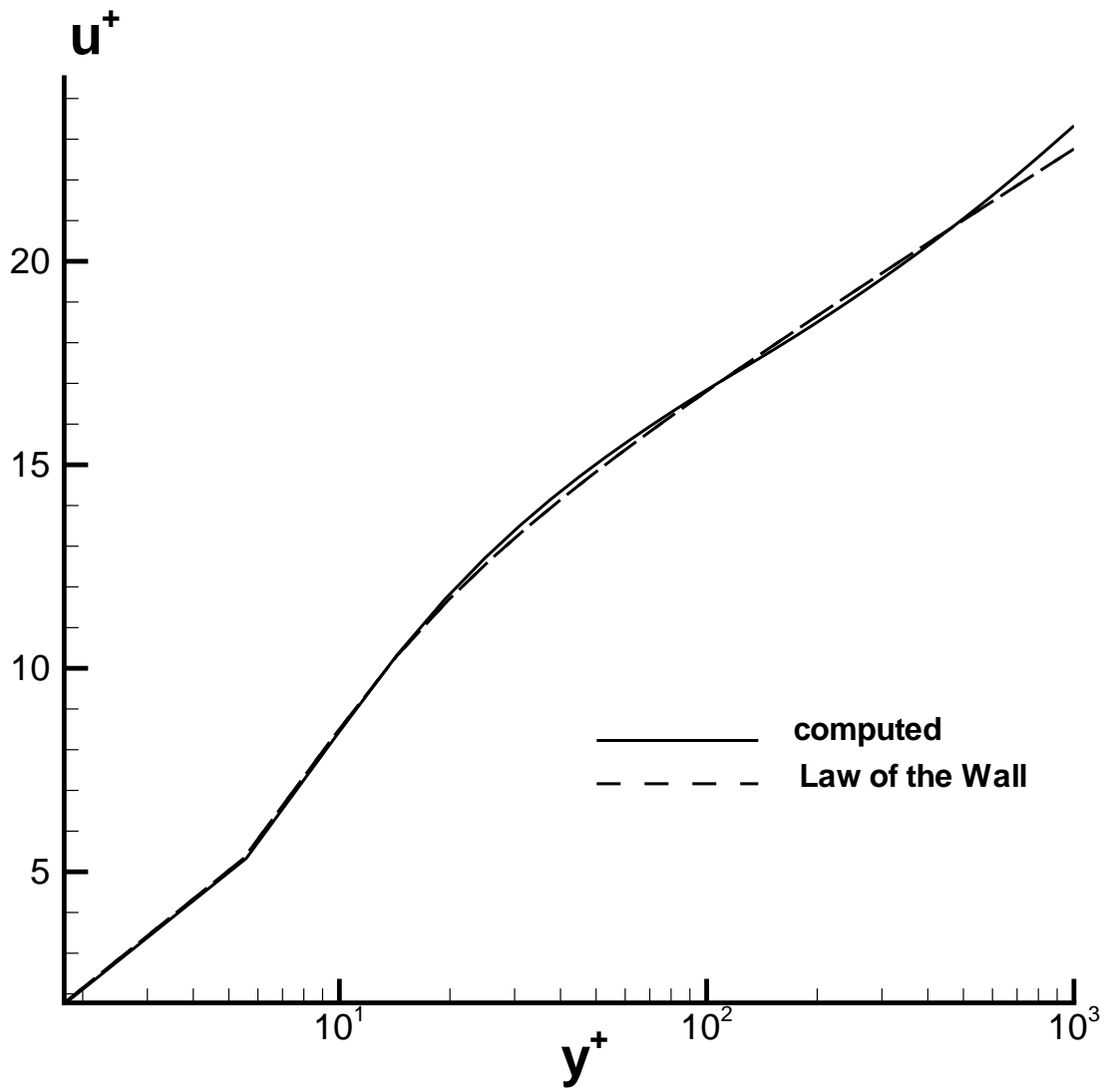


Figure 4: Computed velocity profile in the inner layer compared with the law of the wall.

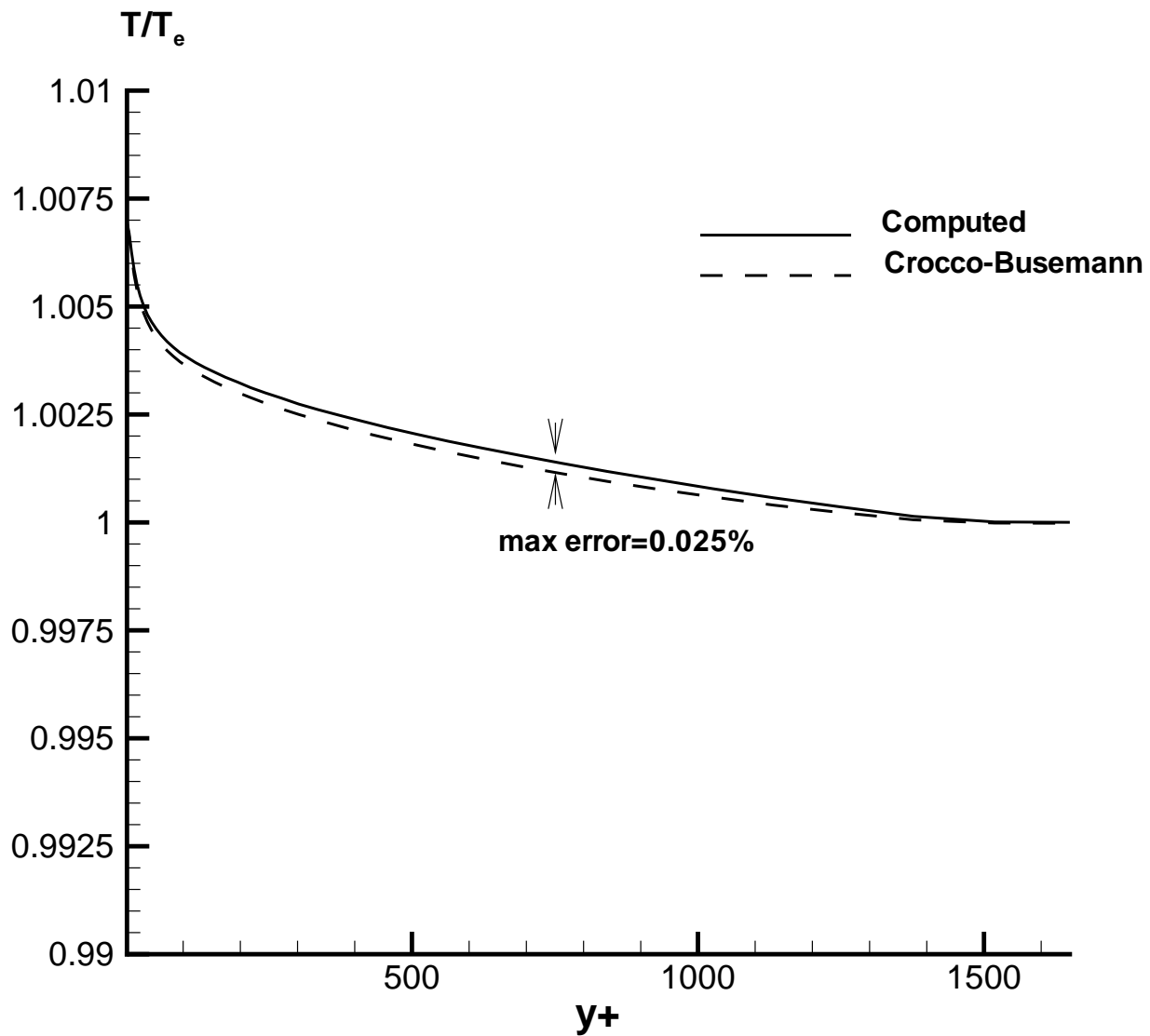


Figure 5: Computed temperature profile of the turbulent boundary layer compared with Crocco-Busemann solution.

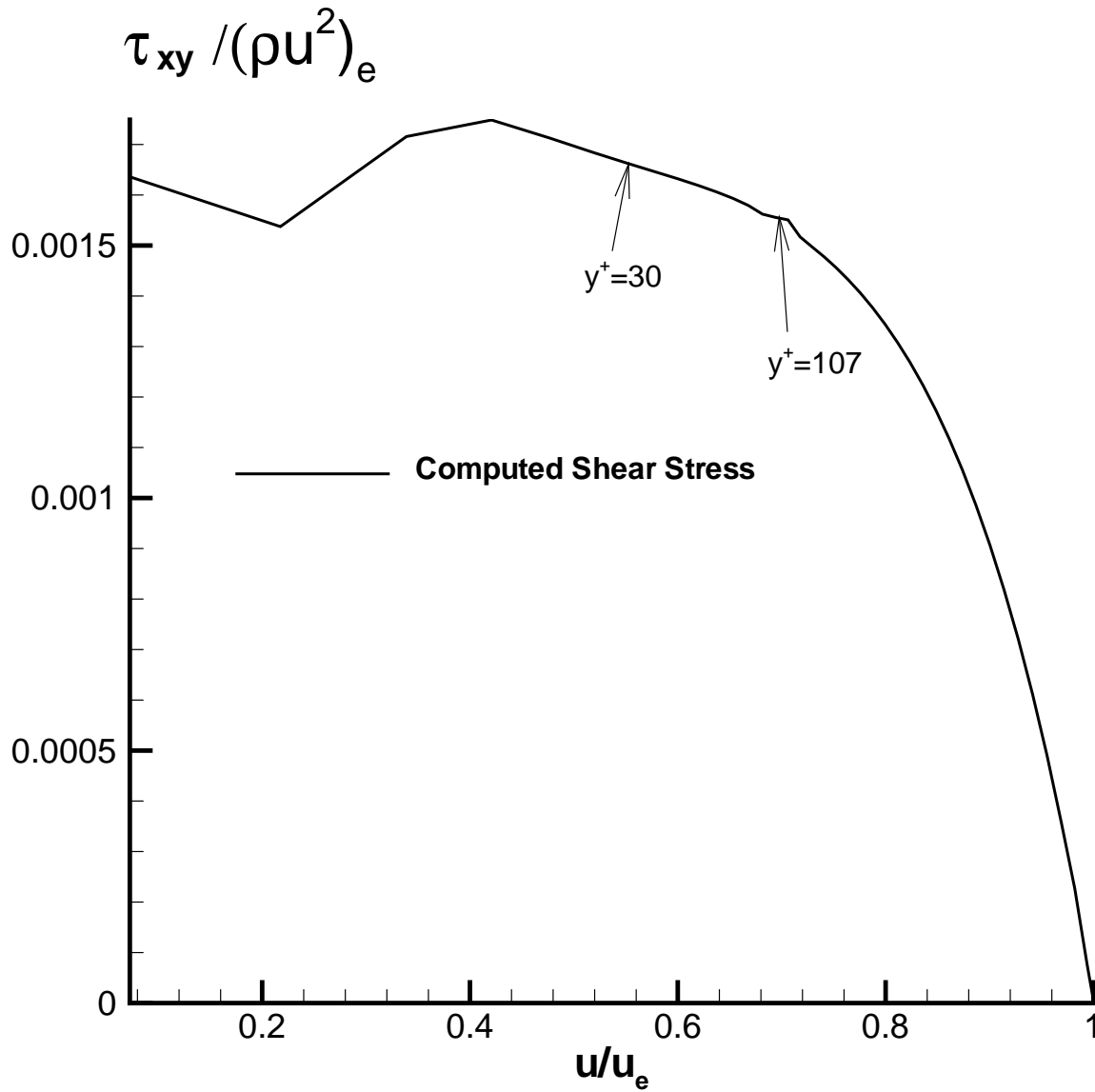


Figure 6: The distribution of entropy creation due to shear stress work across the boundary layer.

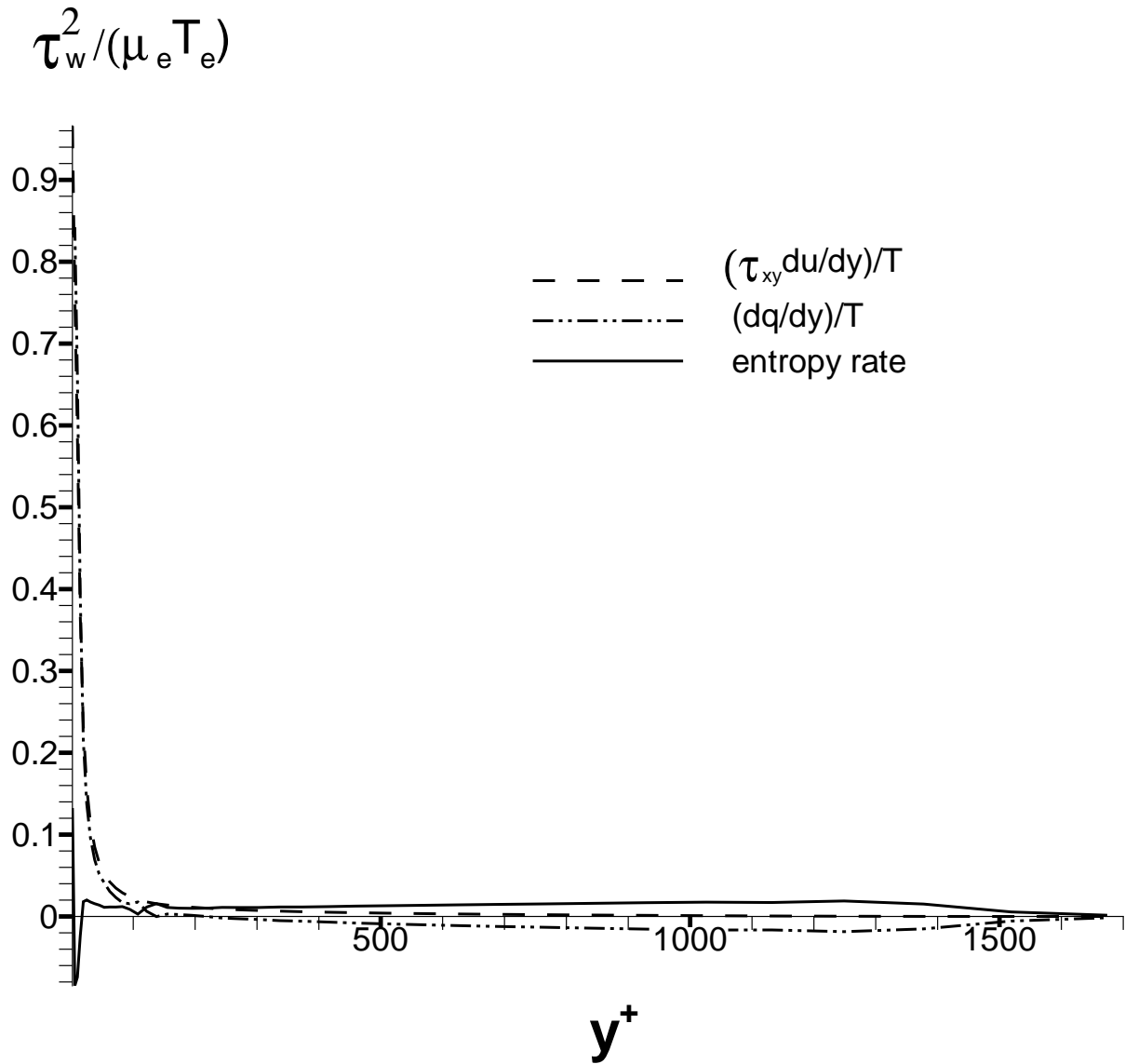


Figure 7: The distribution of entropy creation across the boundary layer for individual terms and their resultant.

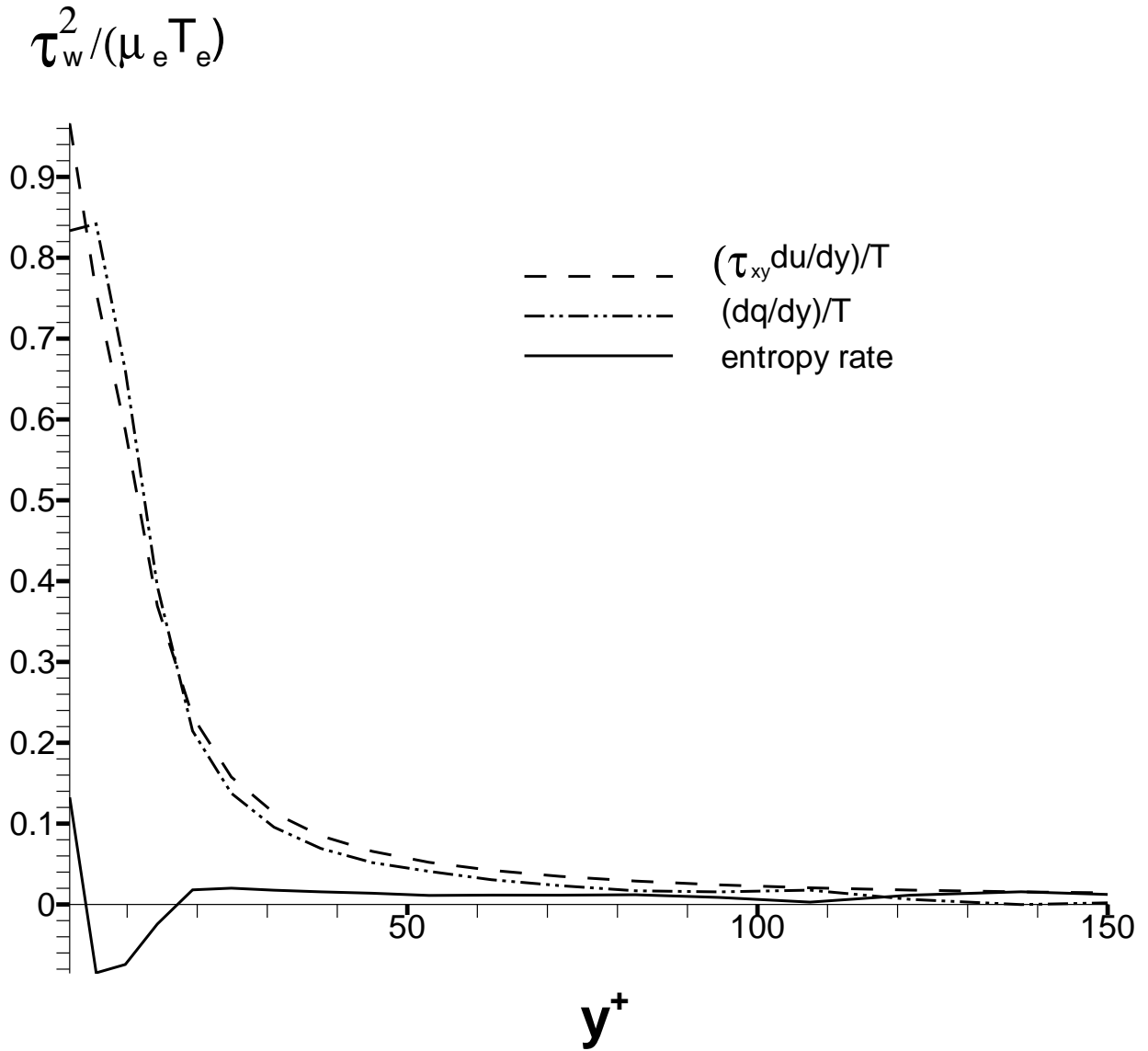


Figure 8: The distribution of entropy creation near the wall for individual terms and their resultant.



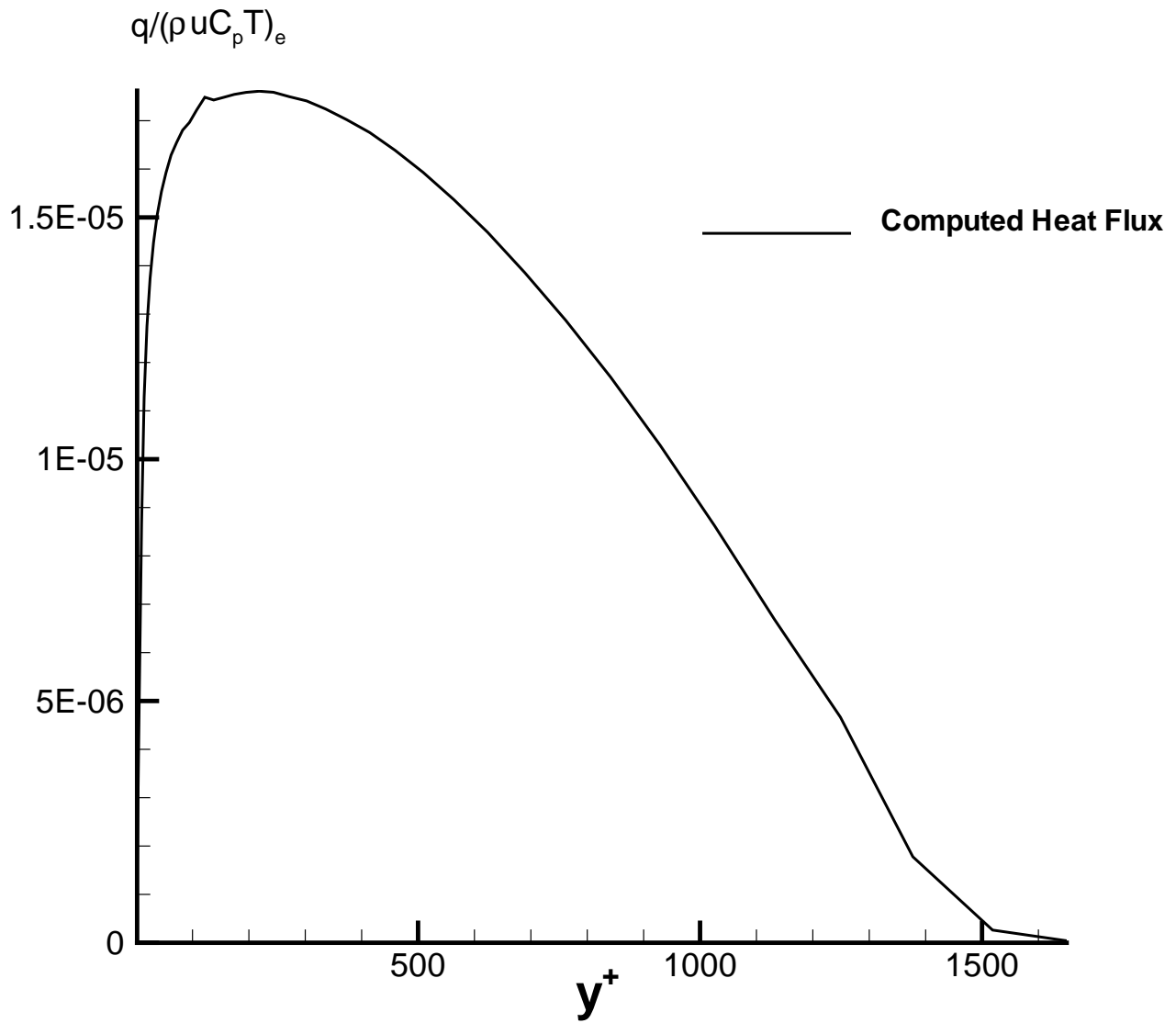


Figure 9: Heat flux distribution for the duct adiabatic boundary layer.

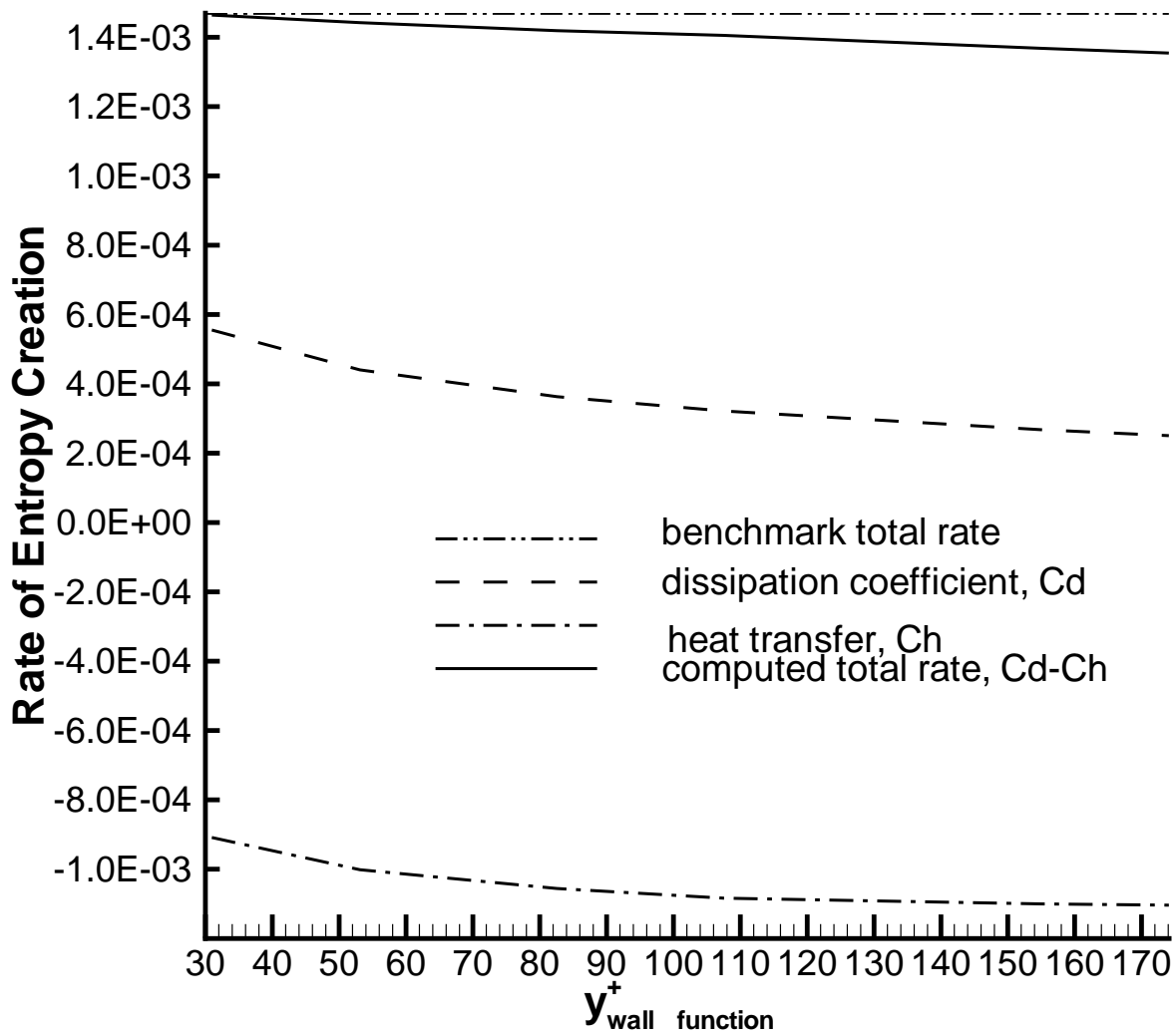


Figure 10: Entropy creation rate computed at different wall function location.

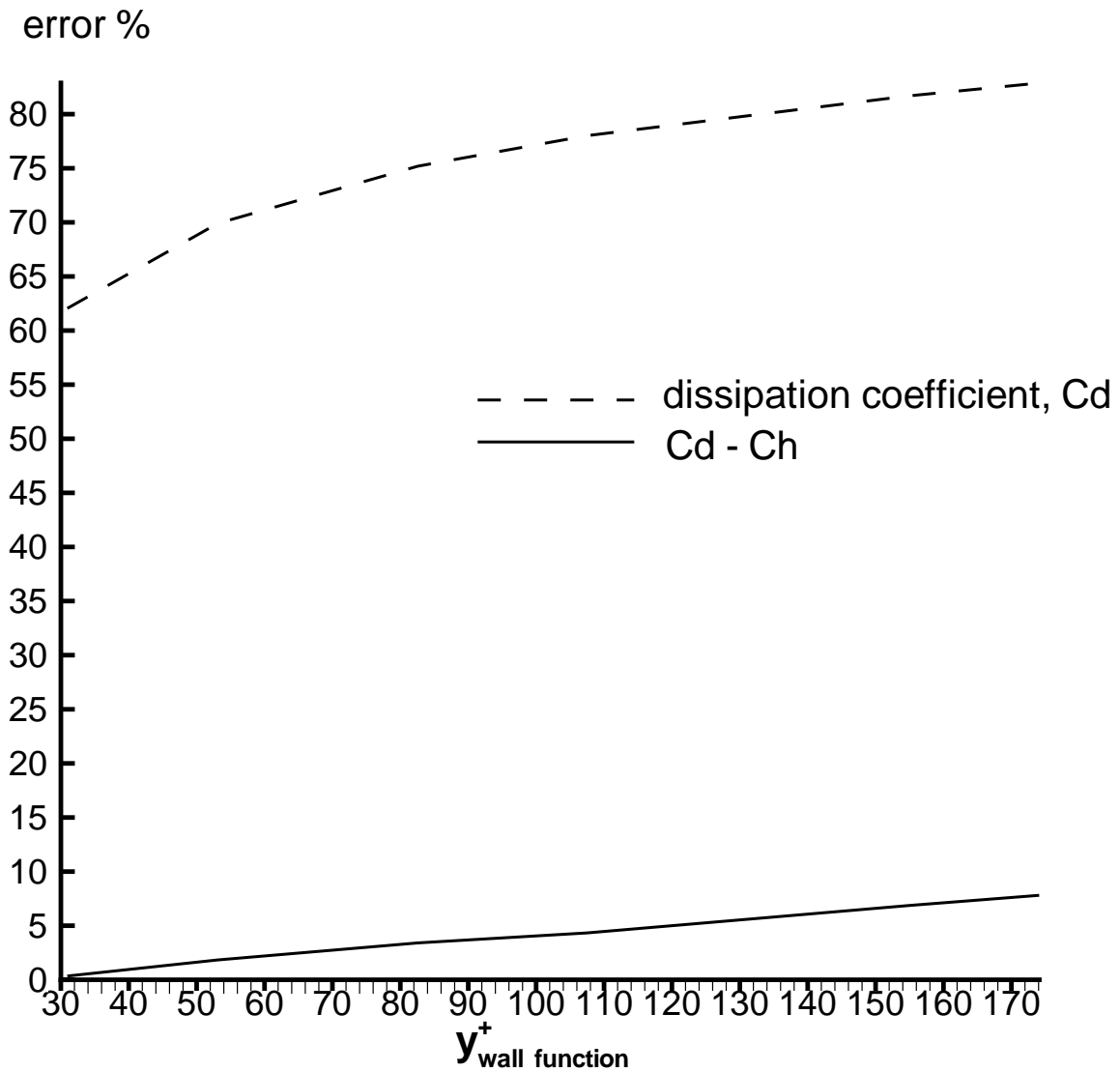


Figure 11: **Error of the total entropy creation rate computed at different wall function location.**

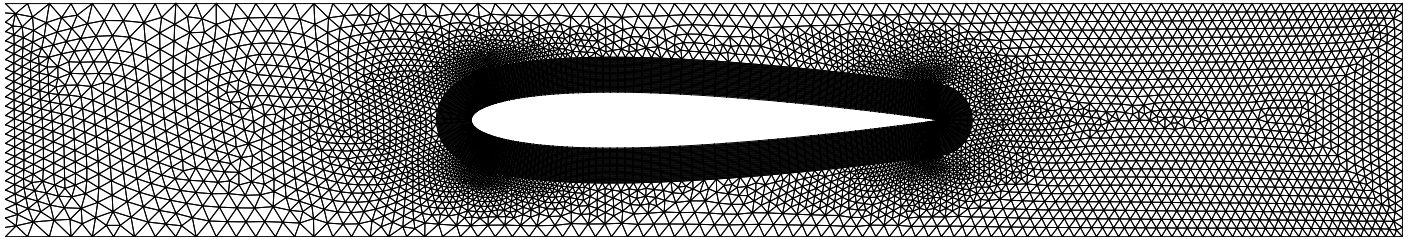


Figure 12: Mesh for the NACA0012 cascade solution integrating to the wall.

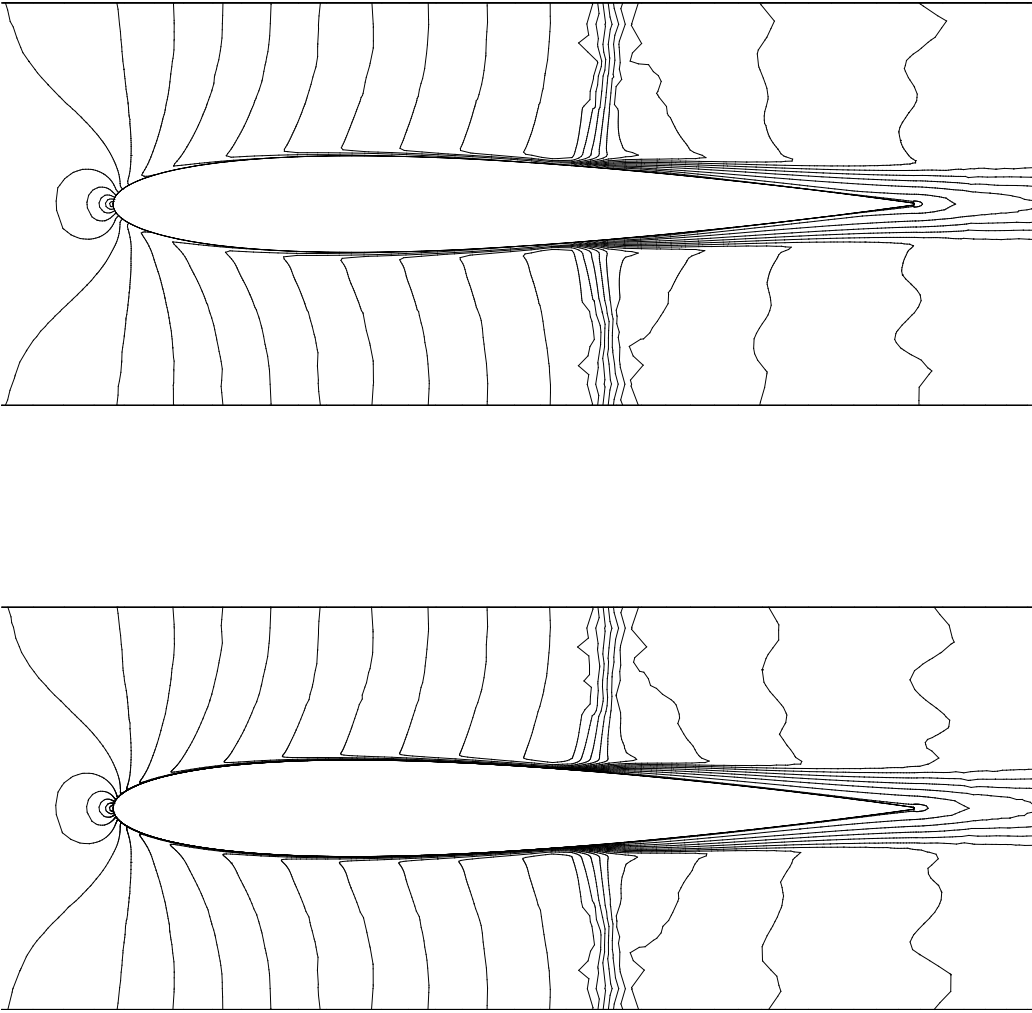


Figure 13: Mach number contours of the cascade, top: using wall functions; bottom: integrating to the wall.

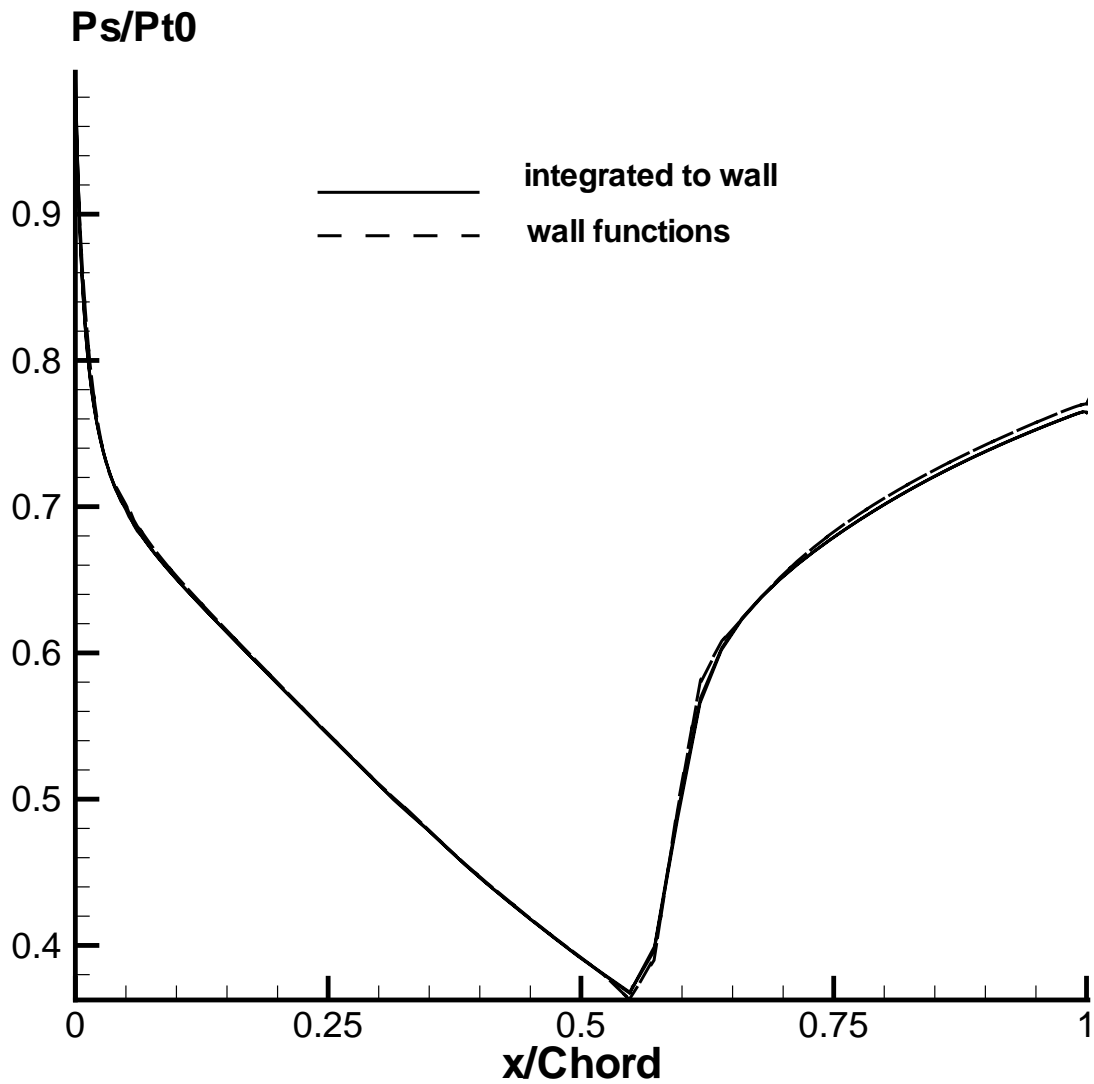


Figure 14: **Static pressure distributions of the cascade flow solutions using wall functions and integrating to the wall.**

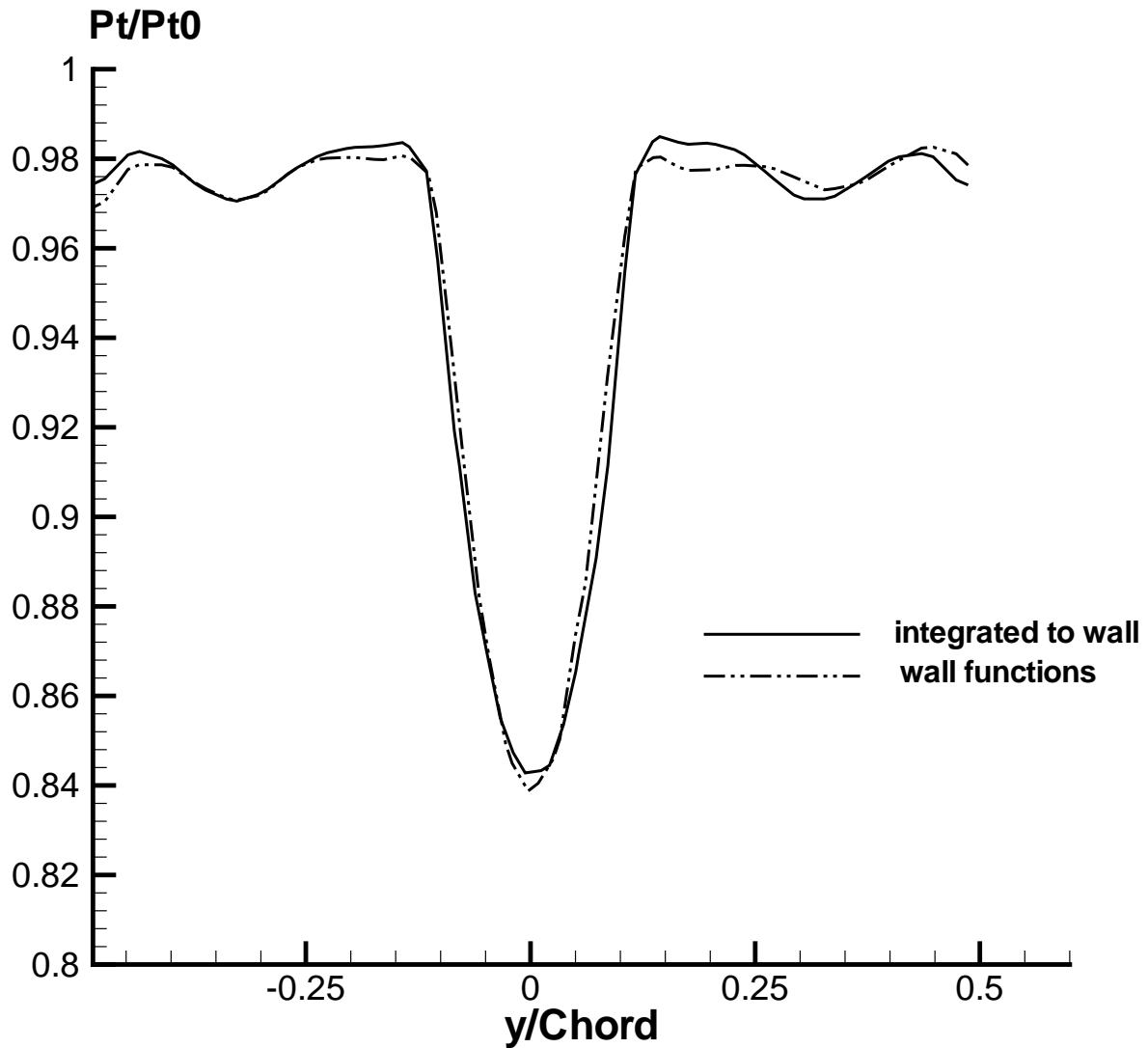


Figure 15: Total pressure distributions in the wake region for the cascade flow solutions using wall functions and integrating to the wall.

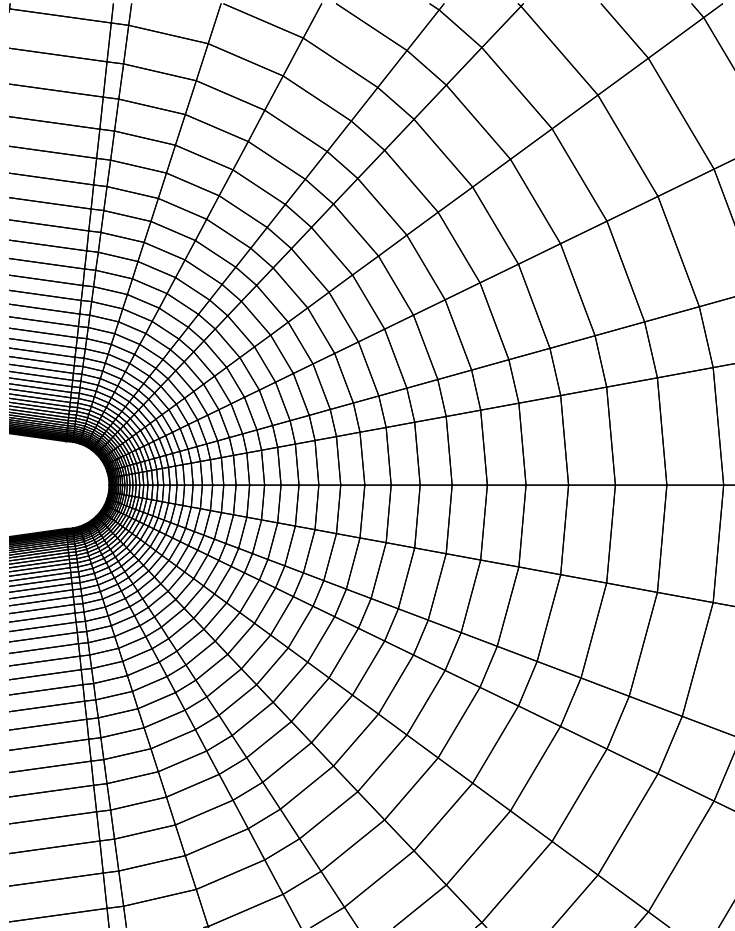


Figure 16: **esh** in the trailing edge region for the solution integrating to the wall.



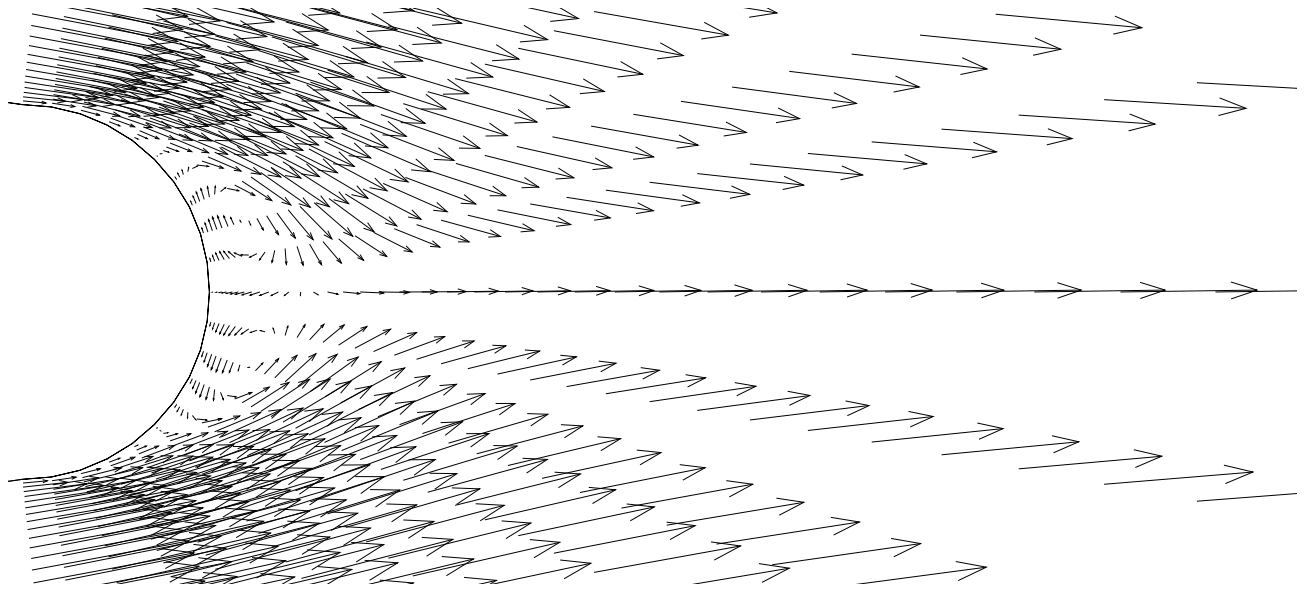


Figure 17: **Velocity vector field in the trailing edge region for the solution integrating to the wall.**

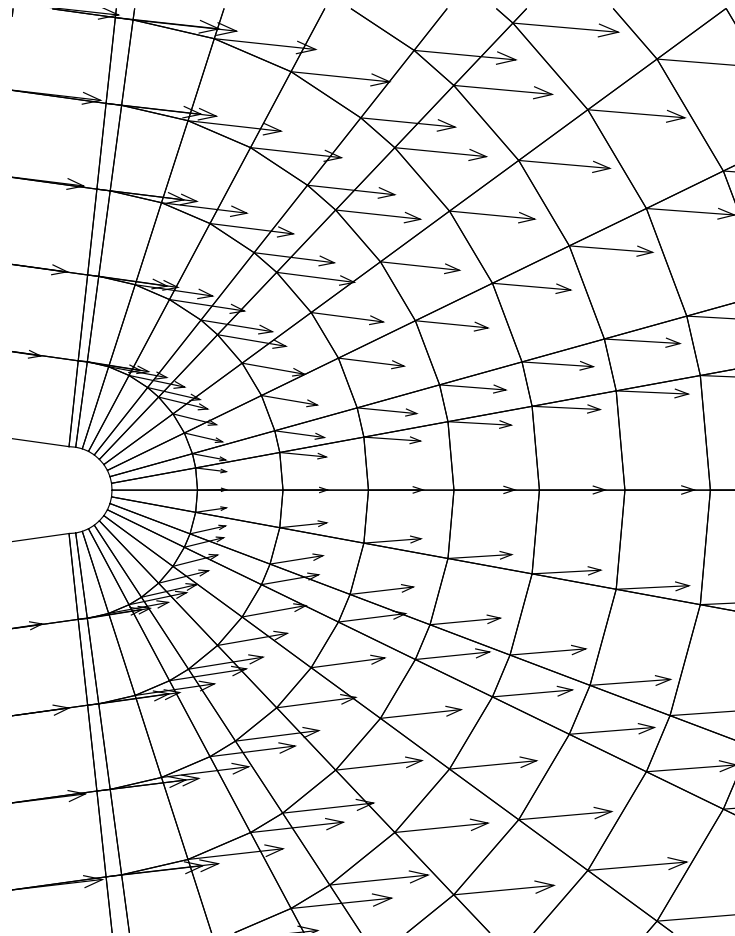


Figure 18: Mesh and velocity vector field in the trailing edge region for the solution using wall functions.

## Conclusions:

- For an adiabatic turbulent boundary layer, the entropy creation within the boundary layer has two sources:

- 1) Shear stress work
- 2) Heat Flux gradient

- The entropy creation is fairly uniform across the boundary layer

- The previous theory that the entropy is mostly created in the inner layer is incorrect.

- The error to predict entropy creation using wall functions for turbulent boundary layer is small.

- There is a balance point between the shear stress work and heat flux gradient located at about  $y^+ = 25 - 30$ , where the wall functions will give correct entropy creation results.