Turbulent Flows

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Solution to Exercise 6.10

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We begin by using the Kárman-Howarth equation for the final period as,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(u'^{2} f \right) = \frac{2\nu u'^{2}}{r^{4}} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^{4} \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad f \frac{\mathrm{d}u'^{2}}{\mathrm{d}t} + u'^{2} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \frac{2\nu u'^{2}}{r^{4}} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^{4} \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \left(\frac{\mathrm{d}u'^{2}}{\mathrm{d}t} \frac{1}{u'^{2}} \right) f + \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \frac{2\nu}{r^{4}} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^{4} \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \frac{\mathrm{d}u'^{2}}{\mathrm{d}t} \frac{1}{u'^{2}} = \frac{\frac{2\nu}{r^{4}} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^{4} \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \right) - \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}}{f}$$
(1)

It is obvious that **LHS** of Eq.1 is only a function of t. Thus Eq. (6.93) can only satisfy Kárman-Howarth equation in the case **RHS** is also only a function of t. Inserting Eq. (6.93) into the **RHS** of Eq.1 yields,

$$\mathbf{RHS} = \frac{\frac{2\nu}{r^4} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^4 \left(\frac{-2r}{8\nu t} \right) f \right) - \frac{r^2}{8\nu t^2} f}{f}$$
$$= -\frac{\frac{1}{r^4} \left(\frac{5r^4}{2t} f - \frac{r^5}{2t} \frac{2r}{8\nu t} f \right) + \frac{r^2}{8\nu t} f}{f}$$
$$= \frac{-5}{2} t \tag{2}$$

Thus Eq. (6.93) satisfies the Kárman-Howarth equation. We also note that,

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}u'^2}{\mathrm{d}t}\frac{1}{u'^2} = \frac{-5}{2}t$$
$$\Rightarrow \quad \frac{\mathrm{d}u'^2}{u'^2} = \frac{-5}{2}\frac{\mathrm{d}t}{t}$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad u'^2(t) = C t^{-5/2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad k(t) = C' t^{-5/2}$$
(3)

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