

TAL TECH

COMPARISON OF NEAR-BODY FLOW FIELDS OF A GUDGEON AND NACA0013 PROFILE

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RIBES



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FLOW FIELDS AROUND STREAMLINED BODIES

- Flow fields
 - velocity
 - pressure
 - acceleration
- Lateral line mechano-receptors
 - Superficial neuromasts (< 20 Hz)
 - Canal neuromasts (< 200 Hz)
- Active sensing space
 - 3D spatial distance around fish

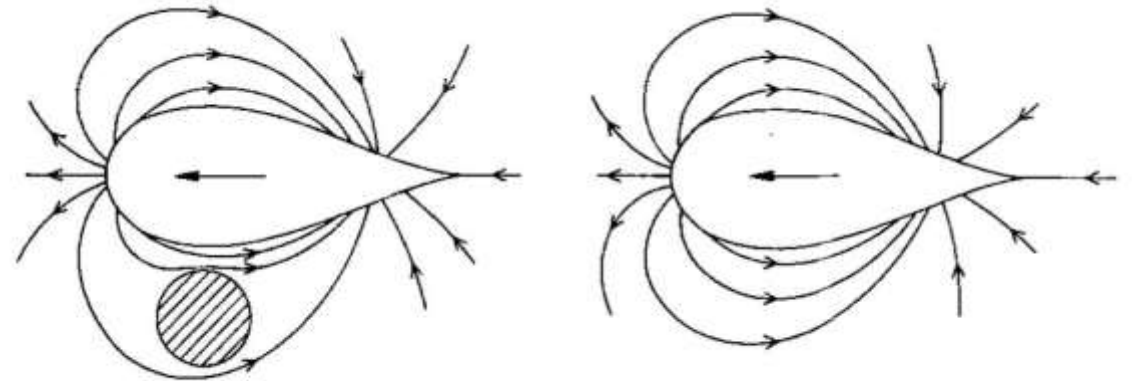


Fig 1: Schematic diagram of the current flow around a gliding fish¹

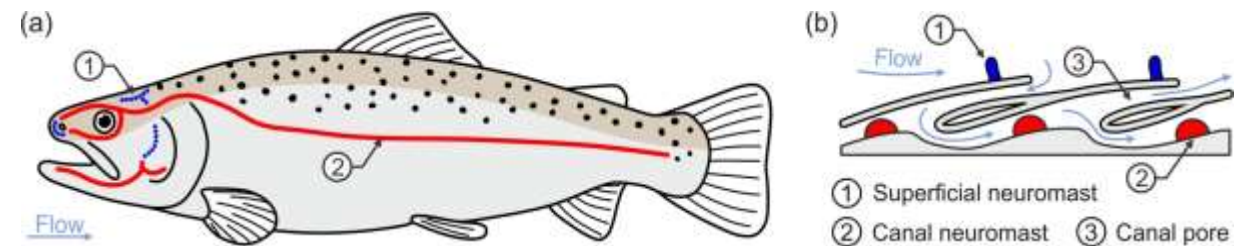


Fig 2: Representation of lateral line along the body of fish from head to tail region²

BOUNDARY LAYER AROUND STREAMLINED BODIES

Boundary layer characteristics

- Strong viscous effects at fish swimming Reynold number ($10^2 < Re < 10^5$)
- Boundary layer thickness gradually grows along the body length and changes from laminar to turbulent
- Boundary layer thickness is influenced by the Reynold number (Re). Higher Re tends to result in a thinner boundary layer
- Pressure remains constant across the boundary layer whereas the velocity alters abruptly

Why boundary layer around fish is important?

- Acts as a high pass filter attenuating low-frequency stimuli²

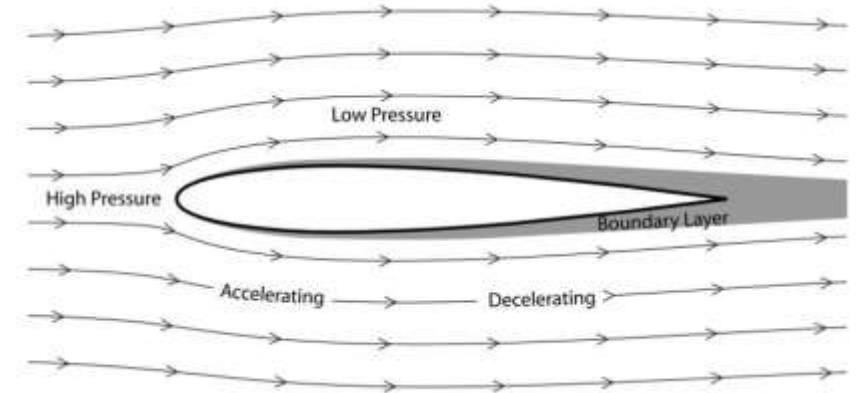


Fig 3: Flow field around a gliding fish or other streamlined bodies. On the surface of fish, a thick boundary layer forms due to viscous effects ¹.

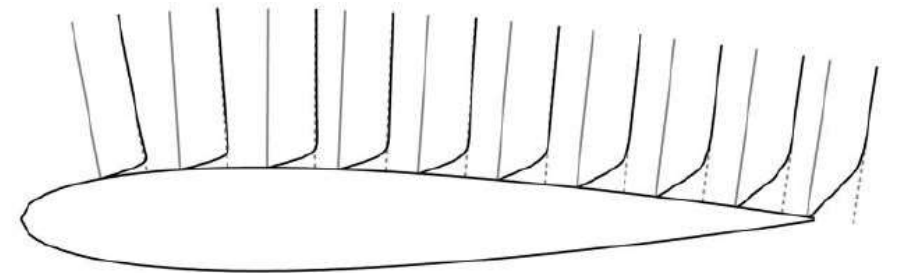


Fig 4: CFD boundary layer velocity profiles of flow around a revolved 3D body based on a NACA 0013 aerofoil at Re 6000 ¹.

¹ Windsor SP, McHenry MJ. The influence of viscous hydrodynamics on the fish lateral-line system. *Integrative and Comparative Biology*. 2009 08;49(6):691-701

² McHenry MJ, Strother JA, van Netten SM. Mechanical filtering by the boundary layer and fluid-structure interaction in the superficial neuromast of the fish lateral line system. *Journal of Comparative Physiology A*. 2008 09;194(9):795-810

NACA 0013 AEROFOIL

- Streamlined body optimized to reduce drag and efficient flow around it
- It is symmetrical, meaning its upper and lower surfaces are identical
- The axisymmetric body of revolution based on a NACA 0013 aerofoil is commonly used as fish analogy ^{1,2}.



Fig 5: 2D NACA 0013 airfoil of total length 15 cm (NASA/Langley LS(1))



Fig 6: 3D axisymmetric body of NACA 0013 aerofoil representing fish

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- Can the NACA 0013 airfoil serve as an effective approximation for the flow fields observed around realistic fish geometries?
- Does the boundary layer thickness around the NACA 0013 airfoil resemble that around a fish-shaped body?
- Can the NACA 0013 airfoil be employed as a representative model for ecological research related to fish?



METHODOLOGY

- Developing three-dimensional CAD models for a NACA 0013 airfoil and a gudgeon fish
- Conducting RANS simulations at two different velocities for both bodies
- Performing an analysis of the flow fields surrounding both bodies to identify potential divergence.

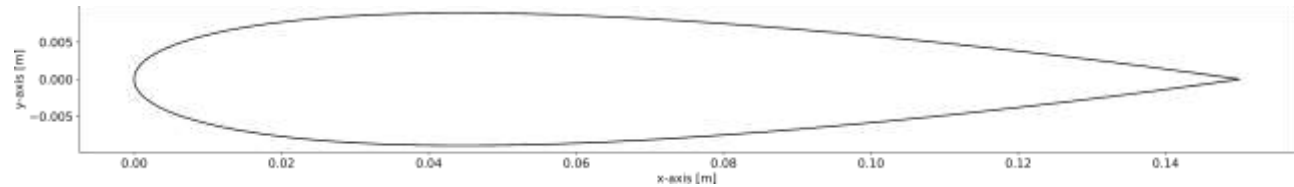


Fig 7: 2D NACA0013 airfoil of with total body length of 15 cm (NASA/Langley LS(1))

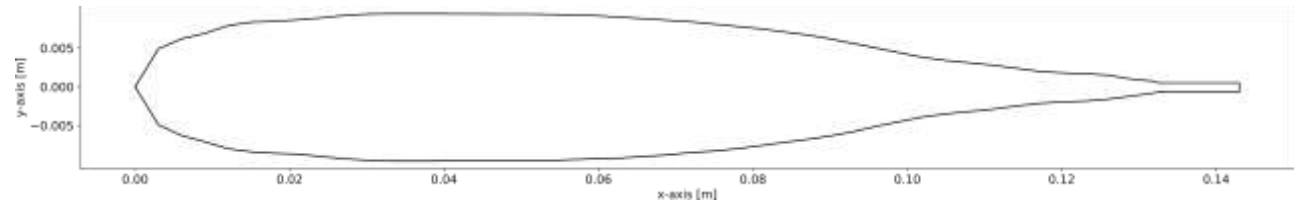


Fig 8: 2D Gudgeon body profile in xy-plane preserving the same body length of 15 cm

Tab 1: Channel specifications and inlet flow velocities

Channel dimensions	Mean flow velocity \bar{U} [ms ⁻¹]	Flow rate Q [ms ⁻³]	Reynold Number Re	Froude Number Fr
LxWxH	0.25	1.41x10 ⁻³	3.74x10 ⁴	0.21
28x7.5x7.5 cm	0.55	3.09x10 ⁻³	8.24x10 ⁴	0.45

NUMERICAL MODEL

Computational fluid dynamics (CFD) Model

- **OpenFOAM-v2112** framework
- Rectangular domain
- RANS models implementation
 - *Spalart Allmaras*
 - *Near wall modelling*
 - *Fully resolved $y^+ < 1$*
- Unstructured mesh with *cfMesh*
 - *Hexahedral*
 - *Polyhedral*
- *Mesh and time sensitivity analysis*

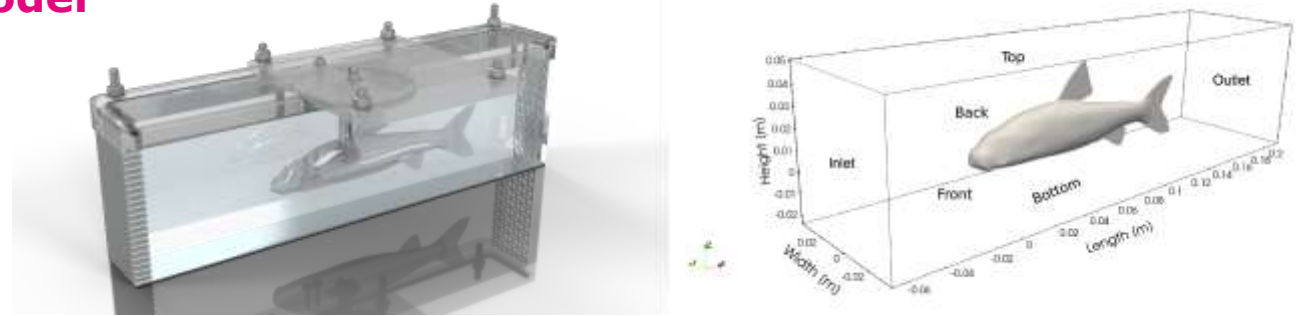


Fig 9: Generation of a three-dimensional model of the domain containing the fish, while explicitly defining the boundaries.

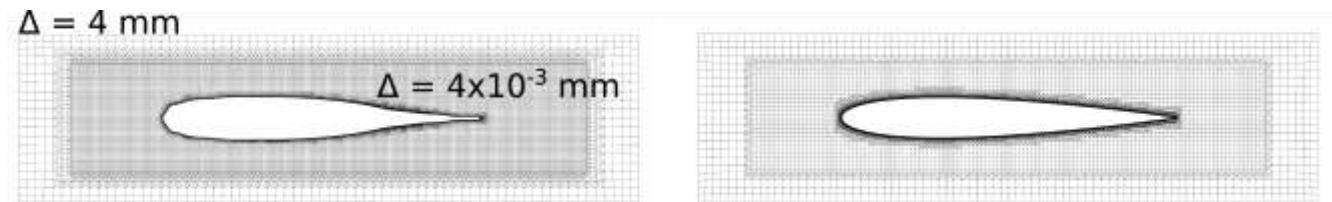


Fig 10: 2D planar view of domain discretized around the Gudgeon and NACA 0013 aerofoil into an unstructured mesh

BOUNDARY LAYER THICKNESS

Boundary layer thickness comparison b/w Gudgeon and NACA0013

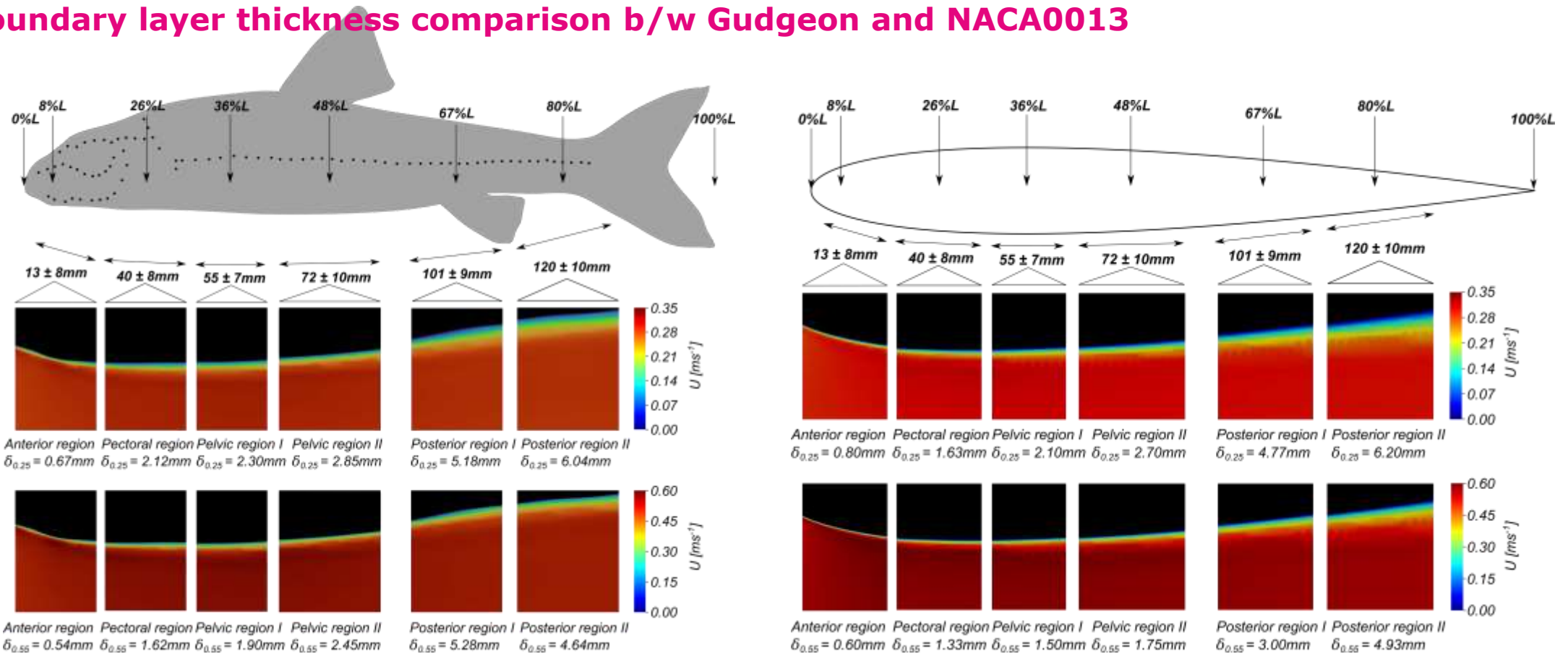


Fig 11: The layout of canal neuromasts along the body of a gudgeon fish¹. The fish body is classified into multiple regions i.e., anterior, pectoral, pelvic and posterior. Bottom: 2D planar view ($z=0$) of velocity fields around the gudgeon fish model at both free stream velocities representing the boundary layer thickness² in respective regions.

¹ Schmitz A, Bleckmann H, Mogdans J. The lateral line receptor array of cyprinids from different habitats. *Journal of Morphology*. 2014 04;275(4):357-70.

² Schlichting H, Gersten K. *Boundary-Layer Theory*. Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg; 2000

VELOCITY PROFILES

Normal velocity distribution at the surface

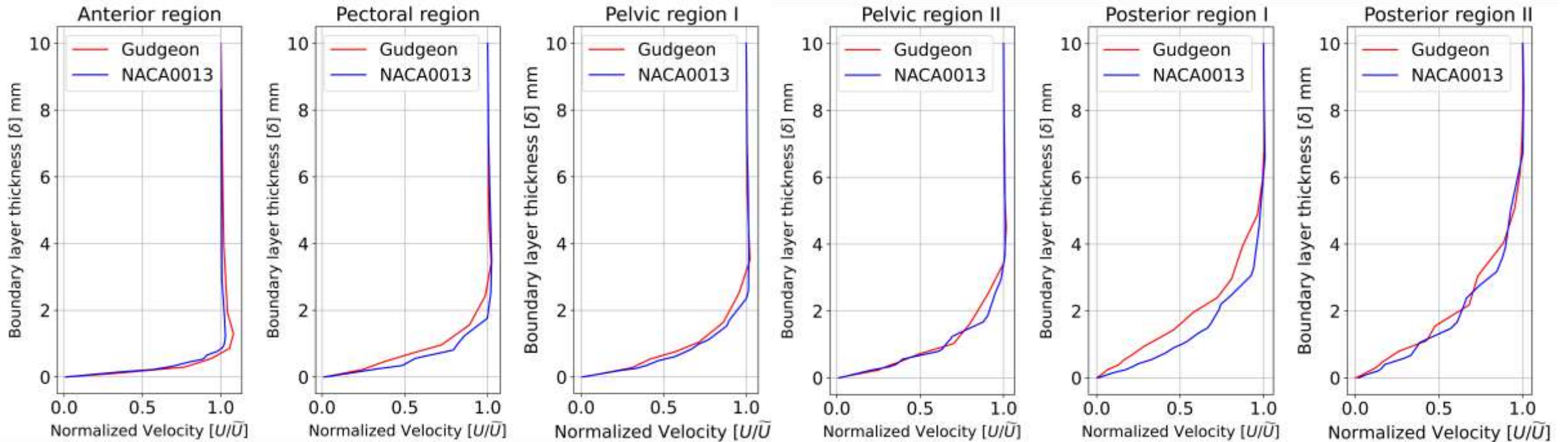


Fig 12: Boundary layer velocity profiles in respective regions around the gudgeon and NACA0013 at $U_{inlet}=0.25 \text{ ms}^{-1}$

CONCLUSION

- *The boundary layer thickness of a gudgeon body marginally differentiates from that of the NACA0013 model*
- *Both models exhibited thinner boundary layers in the anterior region*
- *The mean flow velocity around head region of gudgeon body is slightly higher than the NACA0013 model due to the protuberant organs*
- *The minor differences in the flow field around both geometries indicate that using simplified fish-like bodies would be a suitable approximation of the fish for boundary layer studies*
- *It reveals that the thickness of the boundary layer is reduced in the region characterized by a high concentration of neuromasts i.e., the initial 20% of the body length.*



RECOMMENDED READINGS

- El-S.Hassan. Mathematical analysis of the stimulus for the lateral line organ. *Biological Cybernetics* 1985; 52: 23-36
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- Schmitz A, Bleckmann H, Mogdans J. The lateral line receptor array of cyprinids from different habitats. *Journal of Morphology*. 2014 04;275(4):357-70.
- Schlichting H, Gersten K. *Boundary-Layer Theory*. Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg; 2000

