

### Formula sheet

# Cylindrical coordinates

$$\begin{split} \nabla \vec{u} &= \left(\frac{\partial v_{\rm r}}{\partial r}, \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial v_{\theta}}{\partial \theta}, 0\right) \\ \nabla \cdot \vec{u} &= \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial (r v_{\rm r})}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial v_{\theta}}{\partial \theta} \\ \nabla \times \vec{u} &= \left(0, 0, \frac{1}{r} \left[\frac{\partial (r v_{\theta})}{\partial r} - \frac{\partial v_{\rm r}}{\partial \theta}\right]\right) \end{split}$$

### **Potential flow**

$$v_{
m r} = rac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} = rac{1}{r} rac{\partial \psi}{\partial heta}, \quad v_{\scriptscriptstyle heta} = rac{1}{r} rac{\partial \phi}{\partial heta} = -rac{\partial \psi}{\partial r}$$

Uniform parallel flow  $w = \phi + i\psi = U_{\infty}e^{-i\alpha}z$ 

Potential vortex in  $z_{\scriptscriptstyle 0}$   $w=-rac{i\gamma}{2\pi}\ln(z-z_{\scriptscriptstyle 0})$ 

Point source or sink in  $z_0$   $w = \frac{Q}{2\pi} \ln(z - z_0)$ 

Source-sink doublet in  $z_0$   $w=\frac{\mu}{2\pi(z-z_0)}$ 

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}w}{\mathrm{d}z} = u - iv$$

Milne-Thomson circle theorem:

$$g(z) = w(z) + \overline{w\left(\frac{a^2}{\overline{z}}\right)}$$

# Thin airfoil theory

For a camber line with:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}y_{c}}{\mathrm{d}x} = A_{0} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{n} \cos n\theta$$

$$\frac{x}{c} = \frac{(1 - \cos \theta)}{2}$$

we know:

$$k = 2 \mathsf{U}_{\scriptscriptstyle{\infty}} \left[ (lpha - A_{\scriptscriptstyle{0}}) rac{\cos heta + 1}{\sin heta} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{\scriptscriptstyle{n}} \sin n heta 
ight]$$

$$A_{\scriptscriptstyle 0} = rac{1}{\pi} \int\limits_{0}^{\pi} rac{\mathrm{d} y_{\scriptscriptstyle ext{c}}}{\mathrm{d} x} \mathrm{d} heta$$

$$A_{\rm n} = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{0}^{\pi} \frac{\mathrm{d}y_{\rm c}}{\mathrm{d}x} \cos n\theta \mathrm{d}\theta$$

$$C_{\scriptscriptstyle \rm I} = 2\pi\alpha + \pi(A_{\scriptscriptstyle \rm I} - 2A_{\scriptscriptstyle \rm I})$$

$$C_{ ext{m,1/4}} = -rac{\pi}{4}(A_{ ext{1}} - A_{ ext{2}})$$

$$x_{ ext{cp}} = rac{1}{4} + rac{\pi}{4C_{ ext{l}}}(A_{ ext{l}} - A_{ ext{2}})$$

# Finite wings with $AR=b^2/S$

Sign convention:

if induced velocity points downward: w(y) > 0,  $\alpha_i(y) > 0$  if induced velocity points upward: w < 0,  $\alpha_i < 0$ 

Prandtl's lifting-line theory

$$\mathbf{U}_{\scriptscriptstyle{\infty}}lpha_{\scriptscriptstyle{\mathrm{i}}}(y_{\scriptscriptstyle{0}}) = w(y_{\scriptscriptstyle{0}}) = -rac{1}{4\pi}\int\limits_{-b/2}^{b/2}rac{(\mathrm{d}\Gamma/\mathrm{d}y)}{y-y_{\scriptscriptstyle{0}}}\mathrm{d}y$$

$$\alpha(y_0) = \alpha_{\text{eff}}(y_0) + \alpha_{\text{i}}(y_0)$$

Elliptical loading 
$$\Gamma(y) = \Gamma_{\scriptscriptstyle 0} \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{2y}{b}\right)^2}$$

$$w = \frac{\Gamma_0}{2b}$$

$$\alpha_i = \frac{C_L}{\pi AR}$$

$$C_{D,i} = \frac{C_L^2}{\pi AR}$$

$$w = \frac{\Gamma_0}{2b} \cos \theta$$

$$v = \frac{b}{2} \cos \theta$$

$$v = \frac{b}{2} \cos \theta$$

General loading 
$$\Gamma(\theta) = 2b \mathbf{U}_{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin n\theta$$

$$w(\theta) = \mathbf{U}_{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n A_{n} \frac{\sin n\theta}{\sin \theta}$$

$$C_{\text{\tiny I}} = \pi A_{\text{\tiny I}} A R$$

$$C_{\scriptscriptstyle{
m D,i}} = rac{C_{\scriptscriptstyle
m L}^2}{\pi {
m AR}} (1+\delta) \ {
m with} \ \ \delta = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n \left(A_{\scriptscriptstyle
m n}/A_{\scriptscriptstyle
m l}
ight)^2$$

# **Boundary Layer**

Flat plate laminar boundary layer

$$\frac{\delta}{x} = \frac{5}{\sqrt{Re_x}}$$
 boundary layer growth  $C_{\rm f} = \frac{1.328}{\sqrt{Re_x}}$  skin friction drag coefficient

Flat plate turbulent boundary layer

$$rac{\delta}{x} = rac{0.37}{Re_x^{1/5}}$$
 boundary layer growth  $C_{
m f} = rac{0.074}{Re^{1/5}}$  skin friction drag coefficient

### Miscellanous

$\theta$	0°	30°	45°	60°	90°
$\sin \theta$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	1
$\cos \theta$	1	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0

#### water

kinematic viscosity 
$$\begin{aligned} \nu &= 1 \times 10^{-6} \, \mathrm{m^2 \, s^{-1}} \\ \mathrm{density} & \rho &= 1000 \, \mathrm{kg \, m^{-3}} \\ \mathrm{air} & \\ \mathrm{kinematic \, viscosity} & \nu &= 1.5 \times 10^{-5} \, \mathrm{m^2 \, s^{-1}} \\ \mathrm{density} & \rho &= 1.2 \, \mathrm{kg \, m^{-3}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\sin(x \pm y) = \sin x \cos y \pm \cos x \sin y$$
$$\cos(x \pm y) = \cos x \cos y \mp \sin x \sin y$$
$$\cos 2\theta = 2\cos^2 \theta - 1$$
$$\sin 2\theta = 2\sin \theta \cos \theta$$
$$\sin 3\theta = 3\sin \theta - 4\sin^3 \theta$$
$$\cos 3\theta = 4\cos^3 \theta - 3\cos \theta$$

$$\int_{0}^{\pi} \cos \theta d\theta = 0$$

$$\int_{0}^{\pi} \sin \theta d\theta = 2$$

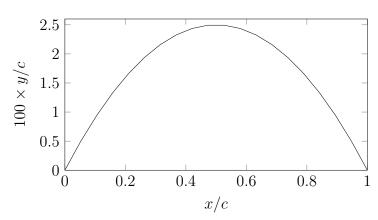
$$\int_{0}^{\pi} \cos^{2} \theta d\theta = \int_{0}^{\pi} \sin^{2} \theta d\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\int_{0}^{\pi} \frac{\cos n\theta}{\cos \theta - \cos \theta_{1}} d\theta = \pi \frac{\sin n\theta_{1}}{\sin \theta_{1}} \qquad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$\int_{0}^{\pi} \frac{\sin n\theta \sin \theta}{\cos \theta - \cos \theta_{1}} d\theta = -\pi \cos n\theta_{1} \qquad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

- 1. We want to design a thin airfoil with a specific amount of camber. The camber line is approximated by  $\frac{y_c}{c} = a \left[ \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{x}{c} \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 \right]$ , with a a positive constant.
  - (a) Draw a sketch of this airfoil

**Solution:** 



(b) What is the value of the parameter a if we want the airfoil to have  $2.5\,\%$  camber? **Solution:** First, compute the derivative of the camber line:

$$\frac{dy_c}{dx} = -a\left(\frac{2x}{c} - 1\right)$$

Thus, the maximum camber occurs at  $\xi = 0.5$ , where  $\xi = x/c$ , and its value is given by:

$$\left. \frac{y_c}{c} \right|_{\xi = 0.5} = 0.25a$$

The maximum camber will be 2.5% for a = 0.1.

(c) Determine the coefficients  $A_0$ ,  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ .

**Solution:** From the previous question:

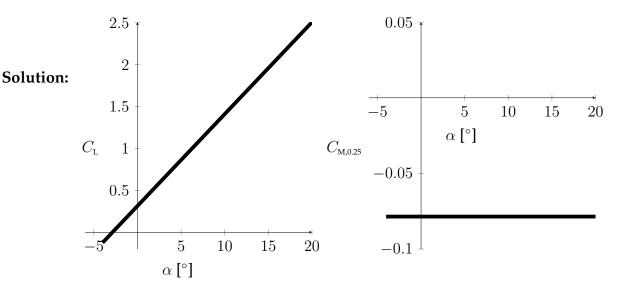
$$\frac{1}{c}\frac{dy_c}{dx} = -a\left(2\xi - 1\right) \tag{1}$$

Using the transformation  $\xi = \frac{1-\cos(\theta)}{2}$ , this expression can be written as:

$$\frac{dy_c}{dx} = a\cos(\theta)$$

Comparing this expression to that in the formula sheet, we deduce that:  $A_0 = A_2 = 0$ ,  $A_1 = a$ .

(d) Draw the lift and quarter chord moment coefficients,  $C_L$  and  $C_{M,1/4}$  in function of  $\alpha$ .



(e) What is the angle of attack for zero lift? And what are  $C_l$  and  $C_{m,1/4}$  at  $\alpha = 0$ ?

**Solution:** 
$$C_1(\alpha = -0.05 = -2.86^\circ) = 0$$
  
 $C_1(\alpha = 0) = a\pi = 0.314$   
 $C_{\text{m,1/4}}(\alpha = 0) = -0.025\pi = -0.0785$ 

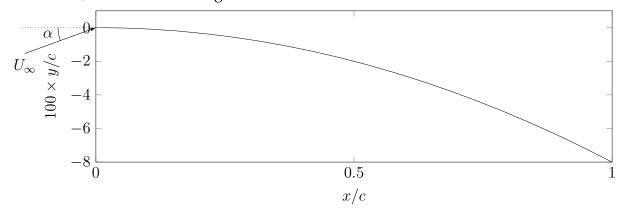
(f) Define and calculate the aerodynamic centre and the centre of pressure for this airfoil at zero angle of attack?

**Solution:** The aerodynamic center is a point on the camber line, generally near quarter chord where the pitching moment is independent of the angle of attack. The center of pressure is a point on the camber line where the pitching moment is zero; it depends on the angle of attack.  $x_{\rm cp}=1/2$   $\xi_{AC}=1/4$ 

(g) Can you think of a way to change the airfoil to reduce the moment while keeping the maximum camber the same?

**Solution:** Shift the point of maximum camber to the LE.

2. Thin airfoil theory is used to describe the two-dimensional potential flow around a parabolically curved thin plate of length L place in a uniform free stream with velocity  $U_{\infty}$  at an angle of attack  $\alpha$ , as shown in the figure below.



The plate shape is given by:

$$\frac{y_c}{c} = -0.08 \left(\frac{x}{c}\right)^2$$

(a) Calculate the Fourier coefficients  $A_0$ ,  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  for this camber line.

**Solution:** First, compute the camber line derivative and use the transformation  $\frac{x}{c} = \frac{1-\cos(\theta)}{2}$ :

$$\frac{dy_c}{dx} = -0.08 \times 2\frac{x}{c} = 0.08(\cos(\theta) - 1)$$

Comparing this expression to the one in the formula sheet, we have  $A_0 = -0.08$  and  $A_1 = 0.08$ . The following Fourier coefficients are null.

(b) Determine the lift coefficient and position of the center of pressure for  $\alpha=0$ .

**Solution:** From the Fourier coefficients, we can calculate the lift coefficient and position of the center of pressure as follows:

$$C_{1} = 2\pi\alpha + \pi(A_{1} - 2A_{0})$$
  $x_{cp} = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{\pi}{4C_{1}}(A_{1} - A_{2})$ 

for  $\alpha = 0$  that yields:

$$C_{\rm l} = 0.24\pi$$

$$x_{\rm cp} = \frac{1}{3}$$

(c) Determine the value of  $\alpha$  for which the pressure difference between the upper and lower surface of the plate is zero at the leading edge (no suction at the leading edge).

**Solution:** A zero pressure difference implies that the velocity above and below the airfoil must be the same. In thin-airfoil theory, the airfoil is replace by a vortex sheet. In this case, the strength of the vortex sheet must be zero at the leading edge. The chordwise circulation distribution is given by:

$$k = 2\mathbf{U}_{\scriptscriptstyle{\infty}}\left[(lpha - A_{\scriptscriptstyle{0}})rac{\cos heta + 1}{\sin heta} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}A_{\scriptscriptstyle{n}}\sin n heta
ight]$$

For the airfoil in this problem, that reduces to:

$$k = 2\mathbf{U}_{\infty} \left[ (\alpha - A_0) \frac{\cos \theta + 1}{\sin \theta} + A_1 \sin(\theta) \right]$$

Applying the boundary condition  $k(\theta=0)=0$ , we deduce that  $A_0=\alpha=-4.6^\circ$ . This only works if you ignore the indeterminacy that occurs by plugging in  $(\theta=0)$  since that causes you to divide by 0.

- 3. In this problem, we will investigate the aerodynamic performance of a thin airfoil that has a camber line defined by a third order polynomial  $y_c = bc(\xi a_1)(\xi a_2)(\xi a_3)$ , where  $\xi$  is the dimensionless chord position.
  - (a) Determine the values of  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  so that the polynomial function describes a real camberline ( $y_c = 0$  at x = 0 and x = c) and thus show that it can be described by the following equation:  $y_c = bc\xi(\xi 1)(\xi a)$ . What do the remaining parameters b and a represent in terms of airfoil geometry?

**Solution:** Given that  $y_c = 0$  at x = 0 and x = c, thus  $\xi = 0$  and  $\xi = 1$ , we know the roots of the polynomial defining  $y_c$  are  $a_1 = 0$  and  $a_2 = 1$ . Therefore:

$$y_c = bc\xi(\xi - 1)(\xi - a)$$

From this expression, we can deduce b defines maximum camber and a sets the position of the airfoil inflection point.

(b) Making use of the change in variable  $\xi = \frac{x}{c} = \frac{1 - \cos \theta}{2}$ , show that the camberline derivative can be written as:

$$\frac{dy_c}{dx} = b \left[ \frac{1}{8} + \left( a - \frac{1}{2} \right) \cos \theta + \frac{3}{8} \cos 2\theta \right]$$

**Solution:** We will use the following transformations to change the camber-line variable from cartesian to azimuthal. This will allow us to determine the Fourier series coefficients.

$$\begin{cases} \frac{x}{c} = \xi = \frac{1 - \cos \theta}{2} \\ \xi^2 = \frac{1 - 2\cos \theta + \cos^2 \theta}{4} \end{cases}$$

$$y_c = bc(\xi^3 - (a+1)\xi^2 + a)$$

$$\frac{dy_c}{dx} = \frac{dy_c}{d\xi \cdot c} = \frac{1}{c}bc(3\xi^2 - 2(a+1)\xi + a)$$

$$= b\left[3\left(\frac{1 - 2\cos\theta + \cos^2\theta}{4}\right) - 2(a+1)\left(\frac{1 - \cos\theta}{2}\right) + a\right]$$

$$= b\left[\frac{3}{4} - (a+1) + a - \frac{3}{2}\cos\theta + (a+1)\cos\theta + \frac{3}{4}\cos^2\theta\right]$$

Using  $2\cos^2\theta = 1 + \cos 2\theta$ 

$$= b \left[ \frac{3}{4} - 1 + \frac{3}{8} + \left( a - \frac{1}{2} \right) \cos \theta + \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{1 + \cos 2\theta}{2} \right) \right]$$
$$= b \left[ \frac{1}{8} + \left( a - \frac{1}{2} \right) \cos \theta + \frac{3}{8} \cos 2\theta \right]$$

(c) Show that the Fourier coefficients for a third order polynomial camberline are given by:

$$\begin{cases} A_0 = \frac{b}{8} \\ A_1 = \left(a - \frac{1}{2}\right)b \\ A_2 = \frac{3b}{8} \end{cases}$$

#### **Solution:**

Fourier series are given by  $\frac{dy_c}{dx} = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cos n\theta$ , thus by comparing this expression to that found in the previous part:

$$\begin{cases} A_0 = \frac{b}{8} \\ A_1 = \left(a - \frac{1}{2}\right)b \\ A_2 = \frac{3b}{8} \end{cases}$$

(d) Show that the coefficients of lift and pitching moment ( $C_l$  and  $C_m|_{AC}$ ) for an airfoil whose camber line is defined by a third order polynomial at an angle of attack  $\alpha$  are given by:

$$\begin{cases} C_l = 2\pi\alpha + \pi b \left( a - \frac{3}{4} \right) \\ C_m|_{1/4} = -\frac{\pi}{4} b \left( a - \frac{7}{8} \right) \end{cases}$$

#### **Solution:**

For a general thin airfoil:

$$\begin{cases} C_l = 2\pi\alpha + \pi(A_1 - 2A_0) = 2\pi\alpha + \pi b\left(a - \frac{3}{4}\right) \\ C_m|_{LE} = -\frac{C_l}{4}\left(1 + \frac{A_1 - A_2}{C_l/\pi}\right) \\ C_m|_{AC} = C_m|_{LE} + C_l\left(\frac{1}{4} - 0\right) = -\frac{\pi}{4}(A_1 - A_2) = -\frac{\pi}{4}b\left(a - \frac{7}{8}\right) \end{cases}$$

(e) For an airfoil with a=2 and a maximum camber of 2%, show that b=0.052 and determine the coefficients of lift and pitching moment ( $C_l$  and  $C_{m,1/4}$ ) at a three degree angle of attack.

### **Solution:**

Maximum camber occurs at

$$\frac{dy_c}{d\xi} = 0$$
$$3\xi^2 - 6\xi + 2 = 0$$
$$\xi_{max} = 0.42$$

We know that the maximum camber is  $\frac{y_{c_{max}}}{c}=2\%$ 

$$\frac{y_c(\xi = \xi_{max})}{c} = 0.38 \ b = 0.02$$

$$b = 0.052$$

Taking a=2, b=0.052 and  $\alpha=\frac{3\pi}{180}$  we find:

$$\begin{cases} C_l = 2\pi\alpha + \pi b \left( a - \frac{3}{4} \right) = 0.533 \\ C_m|_{1/4} = -\frac{\pi}{4} b \left( a - \frac{7}{8} \right) = -0.046 \end{cases}$$