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A BLADE-ELEMENT ANALYSIS FOR LIFTING ROTORS THAT IS APPLICABLE FOR LARGE INFLOW AND BLADE ANGLES AND ANY REASONABLE BLADE GEOMETRY

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SUMMARY

Simple approximate solutions are derived for the relationships between the rotor thrust and flight-path velocity components and the rotor blade angle, torque, and in-plane forces. These approximate solutions, based upon the assumption of a triangular distribution of blade circulation and a parabolic variation of blade-element profile drag with lift, are sufficiently accurate for preliminary calculations and the determination of the equilibrium angle of attack and lateral tilt of the tip-path plane.

A set of more exact blade-element equations is then derived giving the relations between the thrust and flight-path velocity components and the equilibrium blade angles, torque, and in-plane forces and moments. Neither the blade-element nor the approximate solutions are dependent upon the usual approximations that the inflow angle and blade angle of the blade elements are small angles. Thus the present equations should be useful for convertiplane as well as helicopter calculations.

It appears that nonlinear blade twist may be desirable for a convertiplane rotor in order to obtain useful propeller efficiencies. Therefore, the blade-element equations have been arranged so that any reasonable distribution of blade twist may be used. Also, the equations were set up in terms of an arbitrary blade-chord distribution since it was found that the use of the actual blade-chord distribution and the elimination of the usual assumption that the blade airfoil extended inboard to the axis of rotation largely eliminated the necessity for the usual reverse-flow corrections. Tables of the necessary factors are included for blades having a linear taper, linear twist, and an airfoil contour from $r = 0.15R$ to $r = R$ and for blades having a linear taper, helical twist, and airfoil contours extending from $r = 0.20R$ to $r = R$ (where $r$ is the radius of the blade element and $R$, the radius of the blade tip).
The present analysis is based upon the following assumptions:

(1) The blade-element lift coefficient may be assumed to be proportional to the sine of the blade-element angle of attack, and the blade-element profile-drag coefficient may be represented by the first three terms of a Fourier series in the blade-element angle of attack. This implies the neglect of blade stall effects in the equations for the blade angles. The effect of tip stall is taken into account in the equations for the rotor torque.

(2) The blade axes may be assumed to be, and to remain, straight lines.

(3) The lateral and longitudinal variations of the normal component of the induced velocity at the tip-path plane may be assumed to be linear.

(4) The effects of compressibility on the tip sections of the advancing blade may be neglected.

(5) All radial velocity components and the tangential components of the induced velocity may be neglected.

(6) Blade tip effects may be neglected.

A comparison of the results given by the present equations with the full-scale helicopter test data of NACA TN 1266 shows good agreement for the helicopter flight range covered in that report.

INTRODUCTION

This project, which was conducted at the Georgia Institute of Technology Engineering Experiment Station under the sponsorship and with the financial assistance of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, was undertaken in order to develop a blade-element analysis for lifting rotors that would be useful for conventeplon calculations. This necessitated the elimination of the usual approximations that the blade-element inflow angle $\phi$ and the blade angle $\theta$ are small angles and required a reasonably exact treatment of the blade geometry.

It was found that a practical approach to the problem of eliminating the small-angle approximations for the lift forces could be obtained by writing the lift coefficient of the blade element as

$$c_l = a \sin \alpha_r = a (\sin \theta_v \cos \phi_v + \cos \theta_v \sin \phi_v)$$
and, consequently, the thrust component of force \( dL \cos \phi_v \) on a blade element as

\[
dL \cos \phi_v = \frac{1}{2} \rho a (U \cos \phi_v) \left[ \sin \theta_v (U \cos \phi_v) + \cos \theta_v (U \sin \phi_v) \right] c \, dr
\]

Similarly, the tangential component of the lift on a blade element may be expressed as

\[
dL \sin \phi_v = \frac{1}{2} \rho a (U \sin \phi_v) \left[ \sin \theta_v (U \cos \phi_v) + \cos \theta_v (U \sin \phi_v) \right] c \, dr
\]

It was also found that the small-angle approximations could be largely eliminated for the profile-drag terms by expressing the blade-element profile-drag coefficient \( c_{d_{\theta}} \) as

\[
c_{d_{\theta}} = c_0 + c_1 \sin \alpha_T + c_2 \cos \alpha_T
\]

The exact blade geometry has been retained throughout by expressing the blade-chord and blade-twist distribution in the form of the following constants:

\[
s_n = \frac{1}{\pi R} \int_{x_1}^{1} c x^{n-1} \, dx
\]

\[
s_{nc} = \frac{1}{\pi R} \int_{x_1}^{1} c \cos \theta_T x^{n-1} \, dx
\]

and

\[
s_{ns} = \frac{1}{\pi R} \int_{x_1}^{1} c \sin \theta_T x^{n-1} \, dx
\]
where $\theta_t$ is the blade twist in the angle of zero lift between the reference station and nondimensional radius $x$. Values of these constants are given in tables 1 to 3 for blades having linear taper, linear twist, and $x_1 = 0.15$ and in tables 1, 4, and 5 for blades having linear taper, helical twist, and $x_1 = 0.20$.

The present system of equations has been set up with respect to tip-path-plane coordinates or coordinates based on the virtual axis of rotation (fig. 1) rather than the usual coordinate system based on the plane of zero feathering in order to obtain shorter expressions for the in-plane rotor forces and moments. The use of coordinates aligned with the virtual axis of rotation also facilitates the treatment of some accelerated flight problems.

Certain refinements in the induced-velocity theory, as given in reference 1, have been incorporated with some minor changes in the present equations along with the necessary terms for an arbitrary angular velocity of roll and pitch of the tip-path plane.

Standard NACA nomenclature has been used where possible, with the subscript $\nu$ for virtual axis of rotation appended to the usual symbols which, in this paper, have a similar meaning but different numerical values.

**NOTATION**

- $a$: slope of lift curve for blade element at $0.75R$ (per radian)
- $a_0$: rotor coning angle
- $\bar{a}_0$: coning angle for zero blade-root bending moment
- $a_1$: coefficient of sine component of blade cyclic-pitch angle measured with respect to tip-path plane where
  \[ \theta_\nu = A_0 + a_1 \sin \psi + b_1 \cos \psi \]
  also coefficient of cosine term of Fourier series for blade flapping angle $\beta$ measured with respect to plane of zero feathering where
  \[ \beta = a_0 - a_1 \cos \psi - b_1 \sin \psi - a_2 \cos 2\psi - b_2 \sin 2\psi - \ldots \]
$a_2$  coefficient of second-harmonic cosine term in Fourier series for blade flapping angle

$A_0$  mean blade pitch angle at reference station, positive above tip-path plane

$b$  number of blades in rotor

$b_1$  coefficient of cosine component of blade cyclic-pitch angle measured with respect to the tip-path plane; also coefficient of sine term of Fourier series for blade flapping angle measured with respect to plane of zero feathering

$b_2$  coefficient of second-harmonic sine term in Fourier series for blade flapping angle

$c$  blade chord at radius $r$

$c_{0}$  extended blade-root chord at $r = 0$ (for linear taper)

$c_{d0}$  section profile-drag coefficient

$c_{l}$  section lift coefficient

$C_{mx}$  rotor rolling-moment coefficient measured about $X$-axis

\[
\frac{M_x}{\frac{1}{2} \rho \Omega^2 R^5}
\]

$C_{my}$  rotor pitching-moment coefficient measured about $Y$-axis

\[
\frac{M_y}{\frac{1}{2} \rho \Omega^2 R^5}
\]

$C_{Q}$  rotor torque coefficient

\[
\frac{Q}{\rho \Omega^2 R^5}
\]

$\Delta C_{Qs}$  increment to $C_Q$ from tip stall on retreating blade

$C_{T}$  rotor thrust coefficient

\[
\frac{T}{\rho \Omega^2 R^4}
\]

$C_{X}$  rotor X-force coefficient

\[
\frac{F_X}{\frac{1}{2} \rho \Omega^2 R^4}
\]
$C_{xy}$ rotor-blade tangential-force coefficient, positive in direction of rotation
\[ \frac{F_{xy}}{\frac{1}{2} \rho \Omega^2 R^4} \]

$C_y$ rotor $Y$-force coefficient
\[ \frac{F_Y}{\frac{1}{2} \rho \Omega^2 R^4} \]

$C_z$ rotor-blade thrust-force coefficient
\[ \frac{F_z}{\frac{1}{2} \rho \Omega^2 R^4} \]

$D_F$ fuselage and wing drag

$D_0$ blade profile drag

$E_0$ mean blade drag angle, positive in direction of rotation and measured between blade axis and line through rotor axis of rotation and drag hinge (i.e., blade drag angle $\xi$ is $\xi = E_0 + E_1 \cos \psi + F_1 \sin \psi + \ldots$)

$E_1$ coefficient of cosine term in expression for blade drag angle

$F_1$ coefficient of sine term in expression for blade drag angle

$F_x$ component of rotor resultant force acting along $X$-axis

$F_{xy}$ tangential component of the resultant air force on blade, positive in direction of rotation

$F_y$ component of rotor resultant force acting along $Y$-axis

$F_z$ $Z$ component of resultant air force on blade

$g$ acceleration due to gravity

$I_1$ mass moment of inertia of blade about flapping hinge

$I_{nc} = \sigma_{nc} \sin A_0 + \sigma_{ns} \cos A_0$

$I_{ns} = \sigma_{ns} \sin A_0 - \sigma_{nc} \cos A_0$
$I_v$ mass moment of inertia of rotor about virtual axis of rotation

$I_z$ mass moment of inertia of blade about drag hinge

$k_{e0}$ blade-root spring constant (blade-root bending moment in foot-pounds divided by angular deflection in radians of three-quarter-radius point from $\bar{a}_0$)

$L_T$ fuselage and wing lift

$M_x$ rotor rolling moment

$M_y$ rotor pitching moment

$Q$ rotor torque, negative in direction of rotation

$r$ radius of blade element c dr

$r_F$ radius of blade center of gravity

$r_L$ radius of inboard blade airfoil element

$r_\beta$ radius of flapping hinge

$R$ radius of blade tip

$t = \frac{\text{Tip chord}}{c_0} - 1$ (for linearly tapered blades)

$T$ rotor thrust, component of rotor resultant force along Z-axis

$U$ component of resultant velocity at blade element that is normal to blade axis

$v$ mean normal component of induced velocity at tip-path plane (positive down and to rear)

$V$ velocity along flight path

$V_i$ $Z$ component of induced velocity at radius $r$ and azimuth angle $\Psi$ (positive in plus Z-direction)

$w$ slope of longitudinal variation of nondimensional induced velocity
\[ W \] gross weight plus down component of any acceleration force acting on aircraft

\[ x \] nondimensional blade radius \((r/R)\)

\[ x_s \] nondimensional radius outboard of which retreating blade is stalled

\[ x_l \] nondimensional radius of inboard blade airfoil element

\[ y \] slope of lateral variation of nondimensional induced velocity

\[ \alpha_f \] angle of attack of fuselage measured between flight-path velocity vector and longitudinal fuselage axis

\[ \alpha_r \] blade-element angle of attack measured from line of zero lift

\[ \alpha_v \] angle of attack of tip-path plane measured in the XZ-plane between flight-path velocity vector and tip-path plane, positive below tip-path plane

\[ \beta \] blade flapping angle at azimuth angle \(\psi\) (for tip-path plane,

\[ \beta_v = a_0 - a_2 \cos 2\psi - b_2 \sin 2\psi - \ldots; \]

for plane of zero feathering,

\[ \beta = a_0 - a_1 \cos \psi - b_1 \sin \psi - a_2 \cos 2\psi - b_2 \sin 2\psi - \ldots. \]

\[ \Gamma \] circulation of blade element at radius \(r\) and azimuth angle \(\psi\)

\[ \Gamma_0, \Gamma_1 \] constants in expression for \(\Gamma\) where \(\Gamma = (\Gamma_0 + \Gamma_1 \sin \psi)x\)

\[ \delta_0 \] value of \(c_{d_0}\) at \(c_l = 0\)

\[ \epsilon \] constant in power equation for \(c_{d_0}\)

\[ (i.e., \quad c_{d_0} = \delta_0 + \epsilon c_l^2) \]

\[ \epsilon_0, \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2 \] constants for first three terms of Fourier series expressing relation between \(c_{d_0}\) and \(\alpha_r\)

\[ (i.e., \quad c_{d_0} = \epsilon_0 + \epsilon_1 \sin \alpha_r + \epsilon_2 \cos \alpha_r \]

or \(c_{d_0} = \epsilon_1 \sin \alpha_r + \epsilon_2 \cos \alpha_r\)

\[ \zeta \] blade drag angle at azimuth angle \(\psi\), positive in direction of rotation
\( \theta_1 \) twist in zero-lift chord line between axis of rotation and blade tip for blades with linear twist, positive for increased angle at tip (i.e., \( \theta_t = \theta_1 x \))

\( \theta_t \) twist in rotor blade angle of zero lift between reference station and radius \( r \), positive for larger angle outboard

\( \theta_T \) design helix angle at tip of blade for blades with helical twist

\( \theta_Y \) pitch angle of blade element at radius \( r \) and azimuth angle \( \psi \) measured between zero-lift chord line and tip-path plane, positive above tip-path plane

\( \lambda_Y = A_0 + \theta_t - a_1 \sin \psi + b_1 \cos \psi \)

\( \theta_X \) angular displacement of tip-path plane about \( X \)-axis from horizontal

\( \theta_Y \) angular displacement of tip-path plane about \( Y \)-axis from horizontal

\( \lambda_Y \) inflow velocity ratio at center of tip-path plane

\[ \left( \frac{V \sin \alpha_Y - y}{\Omega R} \right) \]

\( \mu_Y \) in-plane velocity ratio at tip-path plane

\[ \left( \frac{V \cos \alpha_Y}{\Omega R} \right) \]

\( \rho \) density of air

\[ \sigma_n = \frac{1}{\pi R} \int_{x_1}^{1} cx^{n-1} \, dx \] constants which express blade-chord distribution

\( \text{i.e., } \sigma_1 = \frac{1}{\pi R} \int_{x_1}^{1} c \, dx \)

\( \sigma_2 = \frac{1}{\pi R} \int_{x_1}^{1} cx \, dx \), etc.
\[
\begin{align*}
\sigma_{nc} &= \frac{1}{\pi R} \int_{x_1}^{1} c \cos \theta_t x^{n-1} \, dx \\
\sigma_{ns} &= \frac{1}{\pi R} \int_{x_1}^{1} c \sin \theta_t x^{n-1} \, dx
\end{align*}
\]

constants which express blade-chord and blade-twist distribution

\[\phi_c\] angle between flight path and horizontal, positive below horizontal

\[\phi_v\] inflow angle at blade element measured in plane perpendicular to blade axis and between tip-path plane and relative wind, positive below tip-path plane

\[\psi\] azimuth angle of blade axis measured about Z-axis from X-axis (This angle is very nearly but not identically equal to the equivalent angle in plane of zero feathering.)

\[\omega_x\] ratio of angular velocity of roll of tip-path plane about X-axis to \(\Omega\)

\[\omega_y\] ratio of angular velocity of pitch of tip-path plane about Y-axis to \(\Omega\)

\[\Omega\] mean angular velocity of rotor blade axis about Z-axis

All angles are in radian measure.

**ANALYSIS**

Value of Normal Component of Induced Velocity at Radius \(r\) and Azimuth Angle \(\psi\)

It is shown in reference 1 that for a lightly loaded single rotor composed of a large number of blades each having a circulation given by the expression

\[
\Gamma = \Gamma_0 + \Gamma_1 \sin \psi
\]  

(1)
the mean value of the normal component of the induced velocity is

\[ v = \frac{\frac{3}{2} \alpha R C_T}{\left(1 - \frac{3}{2} \mu_v\right) (1 + \frac{\lambda_v}{\mu_v})^2 + \mu_v^2} \]  

(2)

Equation (2) was derived on the assumption that the wake extended to infinity and had the form of a straight elliptic cylinder. Thus, for those flight conditions where a "vortex ring" type flow exists, equation (2) is not applicable and the value of \( v \) must, at present, be obtained from experiment. The term \( \left(1 - \frac{3}{2} \mu_v^2\right) \) in the denominator of equation (2) arises from the lateral dissymmetry in the blade circulation that is required for rolling-moment equilibrium, and this term is the only correction which the elementary theory makes in Glaeuert's original hypothesis that \( v = T/2 \rho AV' \), where \( V' \) is the resultant velocity at the center of the rotor.

If the distribution of the normal component of the induced velocity \( V_i \) over the tip-path plane is denoted by a power series in the non-dimensional radius \( x \) and a Fourier series in the azimuth angle \( \psi \) such that for the first-order terms

\[ \frac{V_i}{\alpha R} = -\frac{v}{\alpha R} + wx \cos \psi + yx \sin \psi \]  

(3)

it can be shown from the results of reference 1 that

\[ w \approx -\frac{4}{3} \left(1 - 1.8 \mu_v^2\right) \left(1 + \left(\frac{\lambda_v}{\mu_v}\right)^2\right) \frac{v}{\alpha R} \]  

(4)

and

\[ y \approx 2 \mu_v \frac{v}{\alpha R} \]  

(5)

For level flight and \( \mu_v > 0.15 \) the expression for \( y \) may be simplified to

\[ y \approx C_T \]  

(6)
It may be noted that for a pair of equally loaded, coaxial, counter-rotating rotors, the values of \( w \) and \( y \) are

\[
w \approx \frac{4}{3} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{\lambda v}{\mu v} \right)^2} - \sqrt{\frac{\lambda v^2}{\mu v^2}} \right] v \Omega R
\]  

(7)

and

\[y = 0\]  

(8)

Approximate Values of Rotor Blade Angles, Torque, and X-Force and Y-Force Coefficients

It is convenient for preliminary calculations and checking and necessary, in the general case, for the determination of the angle of attack and lateral tilt of the tip-path plane to have simple expressions of useful accuracy for the rotor torque, X force, and Y force that are independent of the rotor blade angles. One such set of equations which take into account all the principal variables including the primary effects of the reverse-flow region may be obtained from a consideration of the distribution of the blade circulation. It may be noted before proceeding that the use of any radial blade-circulation distribution other than the uniform value assumed in the derivation of the induced-velocity equations will underestimate the induced torque. Thus, it is theoretically incorrect to calculate the induced torque from blade-element equations. However, for the extreme case of a triangular distribution of circulation along the radius and \( \mu v = 0.5 \), the error in the induced torque is only \( \frac{31}{3} \) percent and thus is probably within the errors of present equations for the induced velocity.

For the present purposes a triangular distribution of blade circulation along the radius and a sinusoidal variation with azimuth angle is sufficiently accurate and will be used. Then

\[
\Gamma = (\Gamma_0 + \Gamma_1 \sin \psi)x
\]  

(9)
Writing

\[ U \cos \phi_v = \Omega R (x + \mu_v \sin \psi) \]  \hspace{1cm} (10)

and

\[ U \sin \phi_v = \Omega R \left[ \lambda_v + yx \sin \psi + (wx - \alpha_0 \mu_v) \cos \psi \right] \]  \hspace{1cm} (11)

it follows for thrust and rolling-moment equilibrium that

\[ \Gamma = \frac{3 \pi R^2 C_T}{b(1 - \mu_v^2)} \left( 1 - \frac{4}{3} \mu_v \sin \psi \right) x \]  \hspace{1cm} (12)

The reference blade angle \( \alpha_0 \) at \( r = 0.75R \) corresponding to the average value of the circulation and inflow angle at this station and a weighted chord may be obtained from the substitution

\[ 2 \pi \alpha_{0.75R} = (c_l)_{0.75R} = 2(\Gamma/cU)_{0.75R} \]

or

\[ \alpha_0 = \sin^{-1} \left[ \frac{C_T}{\pi b \sigma_3 (1 - \mu_v^2)} \left( 1 + \frac{16}{9} \mu_v^2 + \frac{64}{27} \mu_v^4 + \frac{2560}{729} \mu_v^6 \right) \right] - \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{4}{3} \lambda_v \right) \]  \hspace{1cm} (13)

where

\[ \sigma_n = \frac{1}{\pi R} \int_{x_1}^{1} c x^{n-1} \, dx \]  \hspace{1cm} (14)

For linearly tapered blades the values of \( \sigma_n \) may be obtained by interpolation from table 1.
The values of \( a_1 \) and \( b_1 \) obtained from the differences in blade circulation and inflow angle at \( r = 0.75R \) for \( \psi = \pi/2 \) and \( \psi = 3\pi/2 \) for \( a_1 \) and \( \psi = 0 \) and \( \psi = \pi \) for \( b_1 \) are

\[
a_1 = \frac{y - \frac{16}{9} \lambda v^4}{(1 - \frac{4}{3} \mu v)^2} + \frac{8C_{T}^2}{3\pi^2 \sigma^3 (1 - \frac{25}{9} \mu v^2 + \frac{16}{9} \mu v^4)} \tag{15}
\]

and

\[
b_1 = -\omega + \frac{4}{3} a_0 \mu v \tag{16}
\]

where the value of \( a_0 \) for blade root moment equilibrium on a blade with the flapping hinge at the axis of rotation is approximately

\[
a_0 = \frac{3nR^5C_T (1 - \frac{8}{9} \mu v^2)}{4bI_1 (1 - \mu v^2)} \tag{17}
\]

Similarly

\[
a_2 = \frac{8a_0 \mu v^2}{9 - 8\mu v^2} \tag{18}
\]

and

\[
b_2 = 0 \tag{19}
\]

The value of the blade-element profile-drag coefficient may be represented with sufficient accuracy for the present purposes by two terms in a power series in the blade-element lift coefficient \( c_l \) such that

\[
c_{d_0} = a_0 + \varepsilon c_l^2 \tag{20}
\]
where for conventional airfoils \( b_0 \approx 0.008 \) and \( \varepsilon \approx 0.008 \). Making the necessary substitutions and integrations the value of the rotor torque coefficient is

\[
C_Q = \frac{C_T \left( \frac{1}{2} y \mu v - \lambda y \right)}{1 - \mu v^2} + \frac{1}{2} b b_0 \left[ \sigma_1 + \frac{1}{2} (\lambda v^2 + \mu v^2)^2 \right] + \\
\frac{\epsilon}{2} \left( \frac{2C_T}{b b_0} \right)^2 \frac{\left( 1 + \frac{8}{9} \mu v^2 \right) b \sigma_4}{(1 - \mu v^2)^2} + \Delta C_{Q_S} \text{ from equation (89b) (where applicable)}
\]

(21)

Similarly, neglecting blade-shank drag which is assumed to be included in the helicopter parasite drag, the values of the X- and Y-force coefficients are

\[
C_x = \frac{F_x}{\frac{1}{2} \rho \pi \Omega^2 R^4} = \frac{C_T (2 \lambda v \mu v - y)}{1 - \mu v^2} + b b_0 \mu v \sigma_2 - \frac{\frac{1}{3} \varepsilon b \mu v \sigma_3 \left( \frac{2C_T}{b b_0} \right)^2}{(1 - \mu v^2)^2} \]

(22)

and

\[
C_y = \frac{F_y}{\frac{1}{2} \rho \pi \Omega^2 R^4} = \frac{C_T \left( \frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \alpha \mu v \right)}{1 - \mu v^2} \]

(23)

The above equations based upon a triangular distribution of blade circulation along the radius and a sinusoidal variation with azimuth
angle are sufficiently accurate for preliminary calculations, checking, and the determination of the angle of attack and lateral tilt of the tip-path plane provided there are no large areas of the rotor outside the reverse-flow region that have blade elements operating in the stalled or negative thrust range. This implies a reasonable blade twist for the flight conditions.

Table 6 shows a comparison of the values of the parameters calculated from the above circulation equations with the flight test results of reference 2.

Determination of Angle of Attack and Lateral Tilt of Tip-Path Plane

Given the values of the flight-path velocity $V$, climb angle $\phi_c$, gross weight and vertical component of the inertia force $W$, fuselage and wing drag, lift, moment characteristics, and position of center of gravity, the fuselage angle of attack and thus the fuselage and wing lift $L_F$ and drag $D_F$ can be obtained for the trim condition by setting the summation of moments, acting on the fuselage and wing and taken about the rotor hub, equal to zero. Since the lateral tilt of the tip-path plane has a negligible effect, it follows from the geometry of the above forces, as shown in figure 2, that

$$\tan \theta_y = \frac{D_F \cos \phi_c - L_F \sin \phi_c + F_X \cos \theta_y}{W - L_F \cos \phi_c - D_F \sin \phi_c + F_X \sin \theta_y}$$

(24)

is a good approximation for unaccelerated flight. It may be noted that $D_F$ should include an allowance for rotor-hub and blade-shank drag. In general, the terms involving $F_X$ will have only a small effect on the value of $\theta_y$ and a sufficiently exact solution can be obtained on the second iteration. Thus, as a first approximation,
\[
\tan \theta_y = \frac{D_F \cos \phi_C - L_F \sin \phi_C}{W - L_F \cos \phi_C - D_F \sin \phi_C}
\] (25)

\[
\alpha_Y = \phi_C + \theta_y
\] (26)

\[
C_T = \frac{W - L_F \cos \phi_C - D_F \sin \phi_C}{\rho \omega^2 R^2 \cos \theta_y}
\] (27)

\[
\mu_Y = \frac{V \cos \alpha_Y}{\Omega R}
\] (28)

\[
\lambda_Y = \frac{V \sin \alpha_Y}{\Omega R} - \frac{V}{\Omega R}
\] (29)

The values of \(v/\Omega R\) may be obtained from equation (2) or by double interpolation from table 7 which includes the experimental values for vertical descent from reference 3 and estimates of the values for the inclined flight "vortex ring" states. The values of \(v, y, \) and \(F_x\) can then be determined from equations (4), (5), and (22), and from these second approximations to the values of \(\theta_y, \alpha_Y, \) and \(\mu_Y\) can be made from equations (24), (26), and (28). If necessary, a new value of \(C_T\) may then be obtained from the equation

\[
C_T = \frac{W - L_F \cos \phi_C - D_F \sin \phi_C + F_X \sin \theta_y}{\rho \omega^2 R^2 \cos \theta_y}
\] (30)

and thus the more exact value of \(\lambda_Y\) from equation (29).

For helicopter calculations the first approximation for \(C_T\) is sufficiently accurate, and if \(\mu_Y\) is small (i.e., \(\mu_Y < 0.15\)) the effect of \(F_X\) on \(\alpha_Y\) may be neglected for level flight.
The tail-rotor thrust $T_T$ required for a helicopter with a single main rotor is

$$ T_T = \frac{Q}{l} \quad (31) $$

where $l$ is the perpendicular distance between axis of main and tail rotors and the value of $C_Q$ may be obtained from equation (21). The lateral tilt $\theta_x$ of the tip-path plane for a single-rotor aircraft in unaccelerated flight is thus

$$ \theta_x \approx \frac{\frac{1}{2} C_Y + C_Q \frac{R}{l}}{C_T} \quad (32) $$

where $C_Y$ is given by equation (23).

Application of Two-Dimensional Airfoil Theory and Data to Rotor-Blade-Element Calculations

Two-dimensional thin-airfoil theory demonstrates that

$$ c_l = a \sin \alpha \quad (33) $$

For a two-dimensional cascade of airfoils, equation (33) is modified by a multiplying function of the solidity, chord spacing, and blade angles that is very nearly unity for average lifting-rotor configurations as shown in reference 4. Thus, within the approximation that the radial components of flow may be neglected, equation (33) should be applicable for blade-element rotor theory over the unstalled range of blade-element angles of attack. Beyond the stall, equation (33) is somewhat less in error than the usual relation $c_l = a\alpha$ as can be seen from figure 3 which is a plot of the above expressions and the experimental values of $c_l$ against $\alpha$ for an NACA 0015 airfoil. The use of equation (33), rather than the usual approximation that $c_l = a\alpha$, allows the thrust and tangential components of lift on a blade element to be exactly expressed, within the approximations involved in neglecting radial components of the flow, in terms of the easily integrated in-plane and normal components of the velocity at the blade element $U \cos \phi_r$ and $U \sin \phi_r$. Thus the usual approximation that the inflow angle $\phi_r$ is a small angle may be eliminated. This may be demonstrated as follows:
Omitting the negligible component of the profile drag, the thrust $dT$ on a blade element $c\,dr$ is

$$dT = \frac{1}{2} \rho U^2 c_i \cos \phi_v \, dr$$  \hspace{1cm} (34)$$
or since

$$c_i = a \sin \alpha_t = a \left( \sin \theta_v \cos \phi_v + \cos \theta_v \sin \phi_v \right)$$  \hspace{1cm} (35)$$

$$dT = \frac{1}{2} \rho a c \left( U \cos \phi_v \right) \left[ \sin \theta_v \left( U \cos \phi_v \right) + \cos \theta_v \left( U \sin \phi_v \right) \right] \, dr$$  \hspace{1cm} (36)$$
The tangential component of the lift on a blade element may be similarly expressed as

$$dL \sin \phi_v = \frac{1}{2} \rho a c \left( U \sin \phi_v \right) \left[ \sin \theta_v \left( U \cos \phi_v \right) + \cos \theta_v \left( U \sin \phi_v \right) \right] \, dr$$  \hspace{1cm} (37)$$

The value of the slope of the lift curve $a$ of the blade-element airfoil in the above relations may be taken as the value corresponding to the Reynolds number, Mach number, and surface roughness existing at the three-quarter-radius point of the rotor blades under consideration. For the usual tip speeds, in the 500-foot-per-second range, the Prandtl-Glauert Mach number correction

$$a = \frac{a'}{\sqrt{1 - M^2}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (38)$$

where

$a'$: low Mach number lift-curve slope from two-dimensional wind-tunnel tests

$M$: free-stream Mach number at three-quarter blade radius

may be used to correct the lift-curve slope from low Mach number data.

The values of $c_d\alpha_0$ obtained from two-dimensional wind-tunnel tests at appropriate Reynolds numbers and model surface roughness should be
directly applicable to rotor-blade-element calculations in the un stalled range of angles of attack below the Mach numbers and angles of attack for drag divergence, since the effect of subsonic Mach number on profile drag is negligible as shown in reference 5. However, it should be noted that the profile-drag coefficient is only constant with change of subsonic Mach number if it is taken as a function of the lift coefficient. If the airfoil section data are plotted against section angle of attack and the Prandtl-Glauert correction is applied to the lift-curve slope, this is equivalent to multiplying the section-angle-of-attack scale by \((1 - M^2)^{1/2}\). Consequently, the section-angle-of-attack scale on the profile-drag curve must be multiplied by \((1 - M^2)^{1/2}\) to retain the same relation between \(c_{d0}\) and \(c_l\).

In view of the errors in the magnitude and distribution of the blade circulation that arise from the necessary neglect of blade deflections, and so forth, it is probably not justifiable to take into account secondary effects of the profile drag. Thus, expressing the relation between the profile-drag coefficient and the blade-element angle of attack by the first three terms of a Fourier series gives

\[
c_{d0} = \epsilon_0 + \epsilon_1 \sin \alpha_r + \epsilon_2 \cos \alpha_r
\]  

(39)

The constants in the above equation may be evaluated from the two-dimensional wind-tunnel data for the blade airfoil at, say, \(\alpha = 0^\circ, 5^\circ,\) and \(10^\circ\). The advantages of equation (39) over the usual expression

\[
c_{d0} = \delta_0 + \delta_1 \alpha_r + \delta_2 \alpha_r^2
\]

are: The last two terms of equation (39) can be exactly expressed in the known velocity components \(U \cos \beta_v\) and \(U \sin \beta_v\); the resulting expressions for the forces and moments on the blade are considerably simplified by the absence of the squared term in \(\alpha_r\); and it is an equally accurate approximation to the experimental values of \(c_{d0}\) as may be seen from figure 4. However, in using equation (39) it may be noted that the calculated value of \(c_{d0}\) is the small difference between large quantities and thus the values of \(\epsilon_0, \epsilon_1, \) and \(\epsilon_2\) should be determined to four places in order to obtain the value of \(c_{d0}\) to the customary accuracy. For the more severe con vertiplane flight conditions where the inflow velocity is large \((|\lambda_v| > 0.10)\) a certain error arises in the treatment of the \(\epsilon_0\) terms, and it is necessary to fall back on
the two-term approximation for \( c_{d_0} \), \( c_{d_0} = \varepsilon_1 \sin \alpha + \varepsilon_2 \cos \alpha \),
where \( \varepsilon_1 \) and \( \varepsilon_2 \) are evaluated from the experimental data at, say, \( \alpha = 2^\circ \) and \( \alpha = 7^\circ \). This additional approximation is permissible for these flight conditions, since the relative effects of the profile drag become less important as the inflow velocities and rotor blade angles increase. For example, in propeller calculations the single-point approximation \( c_{d_0} = \varepsilon c_l \) is usually used.

It follows from the geometry and equations (35) and (39) that the tangential component of the profile drag on a blade element may be expressed as

\[
dD_0 \cos \phi_v = \frac{1}{2} \rho c (U \cos \phi_v) \left\{ \varepsilon_0 U + \varepsilon_1 \left[ (U \cos \phi_v) \sin \theta_v + (U \sin \phi_v) \cos \theta_v \right] + \varepsilon_2 \left[ (U \cos \phi_v) \cos \theta_v - (U \sin \phi_v) \sin \theta_v \right] \right\} \, dr \tag{40}
\]

Thrust of a Blade at Azimuth Angle \( \psi \)

The thrust \( F_z \) of a blade at azimuth angle \( \psi \) is

\[
F_z = \frac{1}{2} \rho a \int_{r_1}^{R} c (U \cos \phi_v) \left[ (U \cos \phi_v) \sin \theta_v + (U \sin \phi_v) \cos \theta_v \right] \, dr \tag{41}
\]

where \( r_1 \) is the radius of the inboard blade airfoil element. In the general case it follows from the geometry that

\[
U \cos \phi_v = \Omega R (x + \mu_v \sin \psi) \tag{42}
\]

and

\[
U \sin \phi_v = \Omega R \left[ x + (y - \omega_v \sin \psi) \cos \psi + \left( \omega_x x - \omega_y x \sin \psi \right) \right] + 2a_{2x} \cos \psi - 2a_{2x} \sin \psi \tag{43}
\]
where

\[ \omega_x \quad \text{ratio of angular velocity of roll of tip-path plane about X-axis to } \Omega \]

\[ \omega_y \quad \text{ratio of angular velocity of pitch of tip-path plane about Y-axis to } \Omega \]

Neglecting the higher harmonics of the cyclic pitch that may arise from control-system linkages, the pitch angle \( \theta_y \) of a blade element at radius \( r \) and azimuth angle \( \psi \), measured with respect to the tip-path plane, is

\[
\theta_y = A_0 + \theta_t - a_1 \sin \psi + b_1 \cos \psi \tag{44}
\]

where

\( A_0 \quad \text{mean blade pitch angle at reference station} \)

\( \theta_t \quad \text{twist in rotor blade angle of zero lift between reference station and radius } r \)

\( a_1 \quad \text{minus the coefficient of sine component of blade cyclic-pitch angle measured with respect to tip-path plane} \)

\( b_1 \quad \text{coefficient of cosine component of cyclic-pitch angle measured with respect to tip-path plane} \)

In the general case (i.e., for the convertplane) \( A_0 \) and \( \theta_t \) may not be small angles. However, it appears that the magnitude of the cyclic-pitch angle will always be limited by tip stall on the retreating blade to the range where it is a good approximation that

\[
\sin \left( -a_1 \sin \psi + b_1 \cos \psi \right) = -a_1 \sin \psi + b_1 \cos \psi \tag{45}
\]

and

\[
\cos \left( -a_1 \sin \psi + b_1 \cos \psi \right) = 1 \tag{46}
\]
It follows from equation (44), upon expanding the functions \( \sin \theta_v \) and \( \cos \theta_v \), that

\[
\sin \theta_v = \left[ \sin A_0 + \left( \cos A_0 \right) (-a_1 \sin \psi + b_1 \cos \psi) \right] \cos \theta_t + \\
\left[ \cos A_0 - \left( \sin A_0 \right) (-a_1 \sin \psi + b_1 \cos \psi) \right] \sin \theta_t \tag{47}
\]

\[
\cos \theta_v = \left[ \cos A_0 - \left( \sin A_0 \right) (-a_1 \sin \psi + b_1 \cos \psi) \right] \cos \theta_t - \\
\left[ \sin A_0 + \left( \cos A_0 \right) (-a_1 \sin \psi + b_1 \cos \psi) \right] \sin \theta_t \tag{48}
\]

Substituting the values of \( U \cos \phi_v \), \( U \sin \phi_v \), \( \sin \theta_v \), and \( \cos \theta_v \) from equations (42), (43), (47), and (48) in equation (41), defining

\[
\sigma_{nc} = \frac{1}{\pi R} \int_{x_1}^{1} cx^{n-1} \cos \theta_t \, dx \tag{49}
\]

\[
\sigma_{ns} = \frac{1}{\pi R} \int_{x_1}^{1} cx^{n-1} \sin \theta_t \, dx \tag{50}
\]

\[
I_{nc} = \sigma_{nc} \sin A_0 + \sigma_{ns} \cos A_0 \tag{51}
\]

\[
I_{ns} = \sigma_{ns} \sin A_0 - \sigma_{nc} \cos A_0 \tag{52}
\]

multiplying out the terms, and reducing the functions of \( \psi \) to harmonic form give for the thrust coefficient \( C_z = \frac{F_z}{\frac{1}{2} \rho n^2 R^4} \) of one blade at an azimuth angle \( \psi \) the expression of equation (53):
\[ \frac{c_\phi}{\alpha} = \]  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>( I_{3c} )</th>
<th>( I_{2c} )</th>
<th>( I_{1c} )</th>
<th>( I_{3s} )</th>
<th>( I_{2s} )</th>
<th>( I_{1s} )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>( 1 + \frac{1}{2} a_1 (\nu - \alpha_\nu) - \frac{1}{6} b_1 (\nu + \alpha_\nu) )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2} (a_0 + a_2 b_1) \nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} (a_1 \nu + \alpha_\nu) \nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2} (a_1 a_2 + b_2) (\nu + \alpha_\nu) + \frac{1}{3} (a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1) (\nu - \alpha_\nu) )</td>
<td>( a \nu + \lambda_\nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} (\nu - \alpha_\nu) \nu )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \sin \psi )</td>
<td>( a_2 (b_1 + \nu + \alpha_\nu) - \frac{1}{3} b_2 (b_1 - \nu - \alpha_\nu) )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} (a_1 - \alpha_\nu) \nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} a_0 b_2 \nu^2 )</td>
<td>( a_1 - (\nu - \alpha_\nu) )</td>
<td>( (a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1) \lambda_\nu + \frac{1}{3} a \nu + \lambda_\nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} (a \nu - \lambda_\nu) \nu )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \cos \psi )</td>
<td>( -a_2 (a_1 + \nu + \alpha_\nu) - \frac{1}{3} b_2 (b_1 + \nu + \alpha_\nu) )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} a_0 b_1 \nu^2 )</td>
<td>( -b_2 (\nu + \alpha_\nu) )</td>
<td>( a_0 + a_2 \nu )</td>
<td>( (a_1 + b_2) \lambda_\nu \nu )</td>
<td>( -\frac{1}{3} b_1 \nu \nu^2 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \sin 2\gamma )</td>
<td>( -\frac{1}{3} a_1 (\nu + \alpha_\nu)+ \frac{1}{3} b_1 (\nu - \alpha_\nu) )</td>
<td>( -\frac{1}{3} a_0 b_2 \nu^2 )</td>
<td>( 2 a_2 + a_1 a_2 (\nu - \alpha_\nu) - a_0 b_1 (\nu + \alpha_\nu) )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} (a_0 a_2 - 1) b_1 \nu - (\nu + \alpha_\nu) b_1 \nu \nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} a \nu \nu^2 )</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \cos 2\gamma )</td>
<td>( -\frac{1}{3} a_1 (\nu - \alpha_\nu) - \frac{1}{3} b_1 (\nu + \alpha_\nu) )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} a_0 b_1 + a_1 b_2 \nu^2 )</td>
<td>( -2 b_2 - a_1 b_2 (\nu - \alpha_\nu) + a_2 b_2 (\nu + \alpha_\nu) )</td>
<td>( -a_1 + a_0 b_1 b_2 \nu + (\nu + \alpha_\nu) b_2 \nu \nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} (\nu - \alpha_\nu) \nu )</td>
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<tr>
<td>( \sin 3\gamma )</td>
<td>( -\frac{1}{3} a_1 (\nu - \alpha_\nu) - \frac{1}{3} b_1 (\nu + \alpha_\nu) \nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} a_0 b_2 \nu^2 )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} a_0 b_2 \nu^2 )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} a_0 \nu + \lambda_\nu )</td>
<td>( -\frac{1}{3} a_\lambda \nu \nu^2 )</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \cos 3\gamma )</td>
<td>( -\frac{1}{3} a_1 (\nu + \alpha_\nu) + \frac{1}{3} b_1 (\nu - \alpha_\nu) \nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} a_0 \nu + \lambda_\nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{3} a_0 \nu + \lambda_\nu )</td>
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<td>( \frac{1}{3} b_1 \nu \nu^2 )</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Equation (53) is written in tabular form where the coefficients in the boxes must be multiplied by row and column heads. Values of $\sigma_{nc}$ and $\sigma_{ns}$ may be obtained by interpolation from tables 2 and 3 for linearly tapered and twisted blades, where

\[ c = c_0(l + tx) \text{ from } x = 0.15 \text{ to } x = 1 \quad (54) \]

\[ \theta_t = \theta_1 x \quad (55) \]

\[ \sigma_0 = \frac{c_0}{\pi R} \quad (56) \]

and

\[ c_0 \text{ extended blade-root chord at } r = 0 \]

\[ t = \frac{\text{Tip chord}}{c_0} - 1 \]

$\theta_1$ twist in angle of blade zero lift between axis of rotation and tip

In order to use the tabulated values of $\sigma_{nc}$ and $\sigma_{ns}$ for blades with linear twist and taper, it is necessary to take the reference blade pitch angle $A_0$ at the extended blade-root chord $c_0$ at $r = x = 0$.

The use of the lower limit $x_1 = 0.15$ in the computations for the blades having linear taper and twist corresponds to present practice and largely eliminates the necessity of making any reverse-flow correction to the blade thrust. The reverse-flow effects are discussed in the following section.

Additional tables (tables 4 and 5) give the values of $\sigma_{nc}$ and $\sigma_{ns}$ for blades having linear taper from $x_1 = 0.20$ to $x = 1$ and helical twist where

\[ \theta_t = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\tan \theta_1}{x}\right) \quad (57) \]
and \( \theta_T \) is the design helix angle at \( x = 1 \). In this case, the reference station for \( A_0 \) is taken at the blade tip. The tables for helical twist are included for convertaplane usage since helical twist would appear to be desirable for a reasonable propeller efficiency. An inner limit of \( x_1 = 0.20 \) was used for the computation of the values of \( \sigma_{nc} \) and \( \sigma_{ns} \) for this case of helical twist in order to minimize the severe root stall likely to occur under some convertaplane flight conditions. It might be pointed out that helical twist would also appear to afford an increase in helicopter-rotor performance over that obtainable with linear twist.

**Reverse-Flow Considerations**

For normal helicopter and convertaplane flight conditions where there is a downflow through the rotor and \( \phi_v \) is negative over the reverse-flow region, the maximum value of \( \mu_v \) is limited for conventional rotors to relatively low values of the order of 0.30 by tip stall on the retreating blades. Under these conditions the portion of the retreating blade extending inboard from the outer edge of the reverse-flow region at \( x = -\mu_v \sin \psi \), where the in-plane component of velocity is zero, to \( x = x_1 \), where the blade airfoil section ends, has a negligible thrust loading because the in-plane components of velocity are very small. The present equations take into account the fact that the blade airfoil does not exist inboard of \( x = x_1 \), for which region the in-plane components of velocity are larger, within the reverse-flow circle, and previous equations erred in assuming the blade airfoil to exist.

For those flight conditions where there is an upflow through the rotor and the tip-stall limitations on \( \mu_v \) are relaxed, the present equations give the proper direction to the blade-element thrust for those blade elements within the reverse-flow region and inside the radius where \( \phi_v \approx 2\theta_v \).

Thus, for all practical purposes, it is not necessary to use reverse-flow corrections when applying the present equations to conventional rotors.

For unconventional rotors operating with net downflow at large values of \( \mu_v \) it would appear from strip analysis to be desirable and even necessary to minimize the forces in the reverse-flow region by using a sufficiently large design value of \( x_1 \), for example, \( x_1 > \frac{1}{2} \mu_{v_{\text{max}}} \). In this case less error is introduced by taking into account the inboard blade airfoil limit and omitting the usual reverse-flow correction than vice versa.
Mean Rotor Thrust

Omitting the coefficients of the second-harmonic flapping angle which have a negligible effect on the mean rotor thrust, the value of the mean rotor thrust coefficient obtained from the first row of equation (53) by averaging the value of $C_2/a$ over the interval from $\psi = 0$ to $\psi = 2\pi$ is given by

$$\frac{2C_T}{ab} = \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2} a_1(y - a_x) - \frac{1}{2} b_1(w + a_y) \right] I_{3c} + \frac{1}{2} a_0 b_1 \mu_v I_{2c} + \frac{1}{2}(a_1 \lambda_v + \mu_v) \mu_v I_{1c} - \left[ \lambda_v - a_1 \mu_v + \frac{1}{2}(y - a_x) \mu_v \right] I_{2s} \tag{58}$$

Mean Rotor Air Rolling Moment

The value of the mean rotor air-rolling-moment coefficient about the X-axis

$$C_{mx} = \frac{M_x}{\frac{1}{2} \rho \pi a^2 R^5}$$

is found, upon integration, to be obtained by multiplying the second row of equation (53) by $\frac{1}{2} b$ and introducing the moment arm by writing the subscripts of $I_{nc}$ and $I_{ns}$ to one higher order. Thus,

$$\frac{2C_{mx}}{ab} = \left[ 2 \mu_v + a_1 \lambda_v + \frac{3}{4} a_1(y - a_x) \mu_v - \frac{1}{4} b_1(w + a_y) \mu_v \right] I_{3c} + \frac{1}{4} a_0 b_1 \mu_v I_{2c} + (a_1 - y + a_x) I_{ks} + \left( \frac{3}{4} a_1 \mu_v - \lambda_v \right) \mu_v I_{2s} \tag{59}$$

Mean Rotor Air Pitching Moment

Similarly, the mean rotor air-pitching-moment coefficient

$$C_{my} = \frac{M_y}{\frac{1}{2} \rho \pi a^2 R^5}$$
obtained from the third row of equation (53) is

\[
\frac{2C_{my}}{ab} = \left[ b_1 \lambda_v - \frac{1}{4} a_1 (w + a_y) \mu_v + \frac{1}{4} b_1 (y - a_x) \mu_v \right] I_{3c} +
\]

\[
\frac{1}{4} a_0 b_1 \mu_v^2 I_{2c} + \left( b_1 + w + a_y \right) I_{4s} - a_0 \mu_v I_{3s} + \frac{1}{4} b_1 \mu_v^2 I_{2s}
\]

(60)

Mean Blade-Root Air Moment

The coefficient \( C_{mo} \) of the blade-root air moment \( M_o \) is merely the first row of equation (53) with the \( I \) factors to one higher subscript. Thus, for

\[ C_{mo} = \frac{M_o}{\frac{1}{2} \rho n^2 R^5} \]

\[
C_{mo} = \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2} a_1 (y - a_x) - \frac{1}{2} b_1 (v + a_y) \right] I_{4c} + \frac{1}{2} a_0 b_1 \mu_v I_{3c} +
\]

\[ \frac{1}{2} (a_1 \lambda_v + \mu_v) I_{2c} - \left[ \lambda_v - a_1 \mu_v + \frac{1}{2} (y - a_x) \mu_v \right] I_{3s} \]

(61)

Equilibrium Values of Mean Rotor Pitching Moment

and Rolling Moment

If an external moment \( M_1 \) is applied to a single rotor with three or more blades about a diameter, axis 1, the differential equations of motion about axis 1 at \( \psi = \psi_1 \) and axis 2 at \( \psi = \psi_1 + 90^\circ \) can be shown by the use of Euler's equations to be

\[
\frac{1}{2} \frac{d\omega_1}{dt} + \omega_2 \frac{k_1 \omega_1}{I_v} = \frac{M_1}{I_v}
\]

(62)
and

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d\omega_2}{dt} - \Omega \omega_1 + \frac{k_2 \omega_2}{I_v} = 0 \quad (63)$$

where $\omega_1$ and $\omega_2$ are the angular velocities of the tip-path plane about axes 1 and 2, respectively, $k_1 \omega_1$ and $k_2 \omega_2$ are the damping moments, and $I_v$ is the mass moment of inertia of the rotor about the virtual axis of rotation. The general solution of equations (62) and (63) is a pair of equations of the form

$$\omega_1 \text{ or } 2 = \left[ A \sin \left[ 4 \Omega^2 - \left( \frac{k_1 - k_2}{I_v} \right)^2 \right] t + B \cos \left[ 4 \Omega^2 - \left( \frac{k_1 - k_2}{I_v} \right)^2 \right] t \right] e^{-\frac{k_1 + k_2}{I_v} t} \quad (64)$$

In the actual case, damping of the nutation appears to be very rapid for an articulated rotor. Also, for pilot-controlled motion, $k_2 \approx 0$. For example, for a constant control moment $M_1$, $k_2 = 0$, and $k_1 = 2 \Omega I_v$, which is then the value of $k_1$ for critical damping, it follows that

$$\omega_1 = \frac{2M_1 t}{I_v} e^{-2\Omega t} \quad (65)$$

or

$$\omega_2 = \frac{M_1}{I_v \Omega} \left( 1 - e^{-2\Omega t} \right) \quad (66)$$

It can be seen from equations (65) and (66) that the transients decay very rapidly and their effects can be neglected in most problems. Therefore, to a good approximation for a single rotor

$$M_x = I_v \Omega^2 \omega_y + M_x \quad (67)$$

$$M_y = -I_v \Omega^2 \omega_x + M_y \quad (68)$$
where \( M_{xT} \) and \( M_{yT} \) are any moments transmitted about the X- and Y-axes from the fuselage to the rotor. For steady straight and level flight

\[
\alpha_x = \alpha_y = 0
\]  

(69)

For steady banked turns the value of \( C_T \) can be taken proportional to \( \sec \theta_x \). Also

\[
\alpha_x \approx -\frac{g \sin \theta_y \tan \theta_x}{\nu \Omega}
\]

(70)

and

\[
\alpha_y \approx \frac{g \sin \theta_x \tan \theta_x}{\nu \Omega}
\]

(71)

where \( \theta_x \) is the equilibrium lateral-tilt angle of the tip-path plane (approximately equal to equilibrium angle of bank, positive for turns in direction of rotor rotation).

For any curvature of the flight path, the nondimensional components \( \alpha_x \) and \( \alpha_y \) of the spatial angular velocity of the aircraft may be calculated and, consequently, the approximate equilibrium values of \( M_x \) and \( M_y \) can be obtained from equations (67) and (68).

Approximate Solution for Equilibrium Values of Mean Reference

Blade Angle \( A_0 \), Lateral and Longitudinal Components of Cyclic Pitch \( a_1 \) and \( b_1 \), and Coning Angle \( a_0 \)

An approximate solution of the set of four nonlinear, transcendental equations (58), (59), (60), and (61) for the four unknowns \( A_0 \), \( a_1 \), \( a_0 \), and \( b_1 \) that is sufficiently accurate for most steady-flight helicopter work and useful as a first trial for steady-flight convertiplane calculations may be obtained as follows: Setting the small terms and \( \alpha_x \), \( \alpha_y \), and \( C_{mx} \) equal to zero and \( \cos A_0 = 1 \) in equations (58) and (59) and eliminating \( a_1 \) gives

\[
\sin A_0 = \frac{\left( \frac{2C_T}{ab} - \sigma_{3s} - \lambda_\nu \sigma_{2c} \right) \left( \sigma_{hc} + \frac{3}{4} \mu_\nu \sigma_{2c} - \lambda_\nu \sigma_{3s} \right) + \mu_\nu \sigma_{2c} \left( 2\sigma_{3s} + \lambda_\nu \sigma_{2c} \right)}{\left( \sigma_{3c} + \frac{1}{2} \mu_\nu \sigma_{1c} - \lambda_\nu \sigma_{2c} \right) \left( \sigma_{hc} + \frac{3}{4} \mu_\nu \sigma_{2c} - \lambda_\nu \sigma_{3s} \right) - 2\mu_\nu \sigma_{2c} \sigma_{3c}}
\]

(72)
Then, from equation (59) for $\omega_x = \omega_y = C_{my} = 0$

$$a_1 = -\frac{2\nu I_{3c} - \nu I_{hs} - \lambda \nu I_{2s}}{(\lambda + \frac{3}{4} \nu \lambda) I_{3c} + I_{hs} + \frac{3}{4} \nu^2 I_{2s}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (73)

Let $\bar{a}_0$ be the design coning angle for the general case of semirigid blades (i.e., coning angle for zero blade-root bending moment). Let $k_{a0}$ be the spring constant of the blade for angular deflections of the three-quarter-radius point from $\bar{a}_0$. Then setting the summation of moments about the blade root equal to zero and solving for $a_0$, the coning angle at the three-quarter-radius point,

$$a_0 \approx \frac{\frac{1}{2} \rho \pi a^2 R^5 \left[I_{hc} + \frac{1}{2} (a_1 \lambda + \nu \lambda) \mu \nu I_{2c} - (\lambda - a_1 \mu \nu) I_{3c} \right] + \bar{a}_0 k_{a0} - M_B \bar{a}}{I_1 a^2 + k_{a0}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (74)

where

- $M_B$ mass of blade
- $\bar{F}$ radius of blade center of gravity
- $I_1$ mass moment of inertia of blade about flapping hinge (or root)

(If the blades have a flapping hinge at the axis of rotation $\bar{a}_0 = k_{a0} = 0$.

If the flapping hinge is located at radius $r_\beta$ from the axis of rotation, $\bar{a}_0 = 0$ and $k_{a0} \approx \frac{r_\beta M_B a^2}{1 - (r_\beta/0.75R)}$. Then, knowing $a_0$, it follows from equation (60) that for

$$\omega_x = \omega_y = C_{my} = 0$$

$$b_1 \approx \frac{a_0 \hat{\mu}_\nu I_{3s} - \hat{W} I_{hs}}{\lambda \nu I_{3c} + I_{hs} + \frac{1}{4} \mu \nu^2 I_{2s}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (75)
For those steady, unaccelerated flight conditions where \( \cos \alpha_0 \approx 1 \), the above solutions are sufficiently accurate and may be used to calculate the blade loadings and rotor torque, \( X \) force, and \( Y \) force.

"Exact" Solution for \( \alpha_0 \), \( a_1 \), and \( b_1 \) for Accelerated Flight

Conditions and Those Flight Conditions where \( \cos \alpha_0 \neq 1 \)

A reasonably rapid and sufficiently accurate solution of the "exact" equilibrium equations given by the first three rows of equation (53) can be obtained by using an approximate value for the coning angle \( \alpha_0 \) such as that given by equation (17) or (74).

Then for the approximate value of \( \alpha_0 \) given by equation (72) and, for example, two other values several degrees successively smaller, the "exact" corresponding values of \( a_1 \) and \( b_1 \) can be determined by rewriting the equilibrium equations for the rotor pitching and rolling moments in the form

\[
\begin{align*}
Aa_1 + Bb_1 &= P - \frac{2c_{uv}}{ab} \\
Ca_1 + Db_1 &= R + \frac{2c_{uv}}{ab}
\end{align*}
\]

(76)

where

\[
A = \frac{1}{4}(v + a_y)\mu_v I_{3c} - \frac{1}{4} a_0 \mu_v^2 I_{2c} \tag{77}
\]

\[
B = -\lambda_v I_{3c} - \frac{1}{4}(y - a_x)\mu_v I_{3c} - I_{4s} - \frac{1}{4} \mu_v^2 I_{2s} \tag{78}
\]

\[
C = \lambda_v I_{3c} + \frac{3}{4}(y - a_x)\mu_v I_{3c} + I_{4s} + \frac{3}{4} \mu_v^2 I_{2s} \tag{79}
\]

\[
D = -\frac{1}{4}(v + a_y)\mu_v I_{3c} + \frac{1}{4} a_0 \mu_v^2 I_{2c} \tag{80}
\]

\[
P = (v + a_y)I_{4s} - a_0 \mu_v I_{3s} \tag{81}
\]

\[
R = -2\mu_v I_{3c} + (y - a_x)I_{4s} + \lambda_v \mu_v I_{2s} \tag{82}
\]
Then
\[ a_1 = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} P - \frac{2C_{my}}{ab} & B \\ R + \frac{2C_{mx}}{ab} & D \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{vmatrix}} \] (83)

and
\[ b_1 = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} A & \left( P - \frac{2C_{my}}{ab} \right) \\ C & \left( R + \frac{2C_{mx}}{ab} \right) \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{vmatrix}} \] (84)

Having computed the values of \( a_1 \) and \( b_1 \) for each of the assumed values of \( A_0 \), the corresponding values of \( C_T \) may be found from the equation for the thrust equilibrium where

\[ \frac{2C_T}{ab} = I_{3c} + \frac{1}{2} \mu_v I_{1c} - \lambda_v I_{2s} - \frac{1}{2} (y - \alpha_x) \mu_v I_{2s} + \]

\[ \left[ \frac{1}{2} (y - \alpha_x) I_{3c} + \frac{1}{2} \lambda_v \mu_v I_{1c} + \mu_v I_{2s} \right] a_1 + \]

\[ \left[ \frac{1}{2} s_0 \mu_v I_{2c} - \frac{1}{2} (y + \alpha_y) I_{3c} \right] b_1 \] (85)

Then plotting the values of \( 2C_T/ab \), \( a_1 \), and \( b_1 \) against the trial values of \( A_0 \), the "exact" value of \( A_0 \), and thus \( a_1 \) and \( b_1 \), may be obtained from the plot at the design or desired value of \( C_T \).
In-Plane Component of Force $F_{xy}$ on a Blade at Azimuth Angle $\psi$

The in-plane component of force in the direction of rotation $F_{xy}$ on a blade at azimuth angle $\psi$ is from equations (37) and (40)

$$F_{xy} = \frac{1}{2} \rho a \int_{r_1}^{R} c(U \sin \phi) \left[ \sin \theta(U \cos \phi) + \cos \theta(U \sin \phi) \right] dr - \frac{1}{2} \rho \int_{r_1}^{R} c(U \cos \phi) \left[ \epsilon_0 U + \epsilon_1 \left[ \sin \theta(U \cos \phi) + \cos \theta(U \sin \phi) \right] + \epsilon_2 \left[ \cos \theta(U \cos \phi) - \sin \theta(U \sin \phi) \right] \right] dr$$

where

$$c_d = \epsilon_0 + \epsilon_1 \sin \alpha + \epsilon_2 \cos \alpha$$

Then, by (1) substituting the previously evaluated expressions for $U \cos \phi$, $U \sin \phi$, $\sin \theta$, and $\cos \theta$ given by equations (42), (43), (47), and (48); (2) neglecting the effects of second-harmonic flapping; and (3) writing $(\epsilon_0 U)(U \cos \phi)$ as $\epsilon_0(U \cos \phi)^2(U/U \cos \phi)$ and expanding

$$\frac{U}{U \cos \phi} = \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{U \sin \phi}{U \cos \phi}\right)^2}$$

by the binomial theorem and dropping third and higher terms, the expression for the constant and first-harmonic terms becomes

$$c_{xy} = \frac{F_{xy}}{\frac{1}{2} \rho u \delta \eta^2 R^4} = (\Delta c_{xy})_0 - (\Delta c_{xy})_1 \epsilon_0 - (\Delta c_{xy})_2 \epsilon_1 - (\Delta c_{xy})_3 \epsilon_2$$ (87)
where

\[
\frac{\langle A_{xy} \rangle_x}{\sigma_0} =
\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>( I_{3c} )</th>
<th>( I_{2c} )</th>
<th>( I_{1c} )</th>
<th>( I_{3a} )</th>
<th>( I_{2a} )</th>
<th>( I_{1a} )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>( \lambda_\nu + \frac{1}{2}(\nu - \alpha_\nu)\mu_\nu + \frac{1}{2}a_1(\nu - \alpha_\nu)\lambda_\nu - b_1(\nu + \alpha_\nu)\lambda_\nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}a_1(\nu - \alpha_\nu) - \frac{1}{2}b_1(\nu + \alpha_\nu) - \frac{1}{2}(\nu - \alpha_\nu)^2 - \frac{1}{2}(\nu + \alpha_\nu)^2 )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}a_0b_1\lambda_\nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}a_0b_1\mu_\nu + \frac{1}{2}a_0(\nu + \alpha_\nu)\mu_\nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}a_1\nu^2 - \frac{1}{2}a_0^2\nu^2 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \sin \psi )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}b_1(\nu - \alpha_\nu)(\nu + \alpha_\nu) + \frac{1}{2}a_0b_1(\nu - \alpha_\nu)(\nu + \alpha_\nu) - \frac{1}{2}a_0^2\mu_\nu^2 )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}a_0b_1(\nu - \alpha_\nu)\mu_\nu - \frac{1}{2}a_0^2\mu_\nu^2 )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}a_1(\nu - \alpha_\nu)\lambda_\nu + \frac{1}{2}b_1(\nu + \alpha_\nu)\lambda_\nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{3}{2}a_1(\nu - \alpha_\nu)\mu_\nu - \frac{1}{2}b_1(\nu + \alpha_\nu)\mu_\nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}a_0^2\mu_\nu^2 )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \cos \psi )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}b_1(\nu - \alpha_\nu)(\nu + \alpha_\nu) - \frac{1}{2}a_0b_1(\nu - \alpha_\nu)(\nu + \alpha_\nu) - \frac{1}{2}a_0^2\mu_\nu^2 )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}a_0b_1(\nu - \alpha_\nu)\mu_\nu + \frac{1}{2}a_0^2\mu_\nu^2 )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}b_1(\nu - \alpha_\nu)\mu_\nu - \frac{1}{2}b_1(\nu + \alpha_\nu)\mu_\nu - \frac{1}{2}a_0^2\mu_\nu^2 )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}(\nu + \alpha_\nu)\lambda_\nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}a_0\nu^2 + \frac{1}{2}a_0^2\mu_\nu^2 )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[
\frac{\langle A_{xy} \rangle_x}{\sigma_0} =
\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>( \alpha_3 )</th>
<th>( \alpha_2 )</th>
<th>( \alpha_1 )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>( 1 + \frac{1}{4}(\nu + \alpha_\nu)^2 + \frac{1}{4}(\nu - \alpha_\nu)^2 )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}a_0(\nu + \alpha_\nu)\mu_\nu )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \sin \psi )</td>
<td>( (\nu - \alpha_\nu)\lambda_\nu + 2\alpha_\nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}(\nu + \alpha_\nu)\lambda_\nu )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \cos \psi )</td>
<td>( (\nu + \alpha_\nu)\lambda_\nu )</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2}(\nu + \alpha_\nu)\lambda_\nu )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
\[
(\Delta \vec{r})_{s_1} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_1}
\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(i_{3c} )</th>
<th>(i_{2c} )</th>
<th>(i_{1c} )</th>
<th>(i_{3s} )</th>
<th>(i_{2s} )</th>
<th>(i_{1s} )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>(1 + \frac{3}{2} a_1(y - a_2) - \frac{1}{2} b_2(v + a_2))</td>
<td>(\frac{1}{2} s_0^2 \mu^2)</td>
<td>(\frac{1}{2}(b_2^1 \lambda + \mu) \mu \nu)</td>
<td>(s_0 \mu - \lambda \nu - \frac{1}{2}(y - a_2) \mu \nu)</td>
<td>(\frac{3}{4} s_3 \mu - \lambda \nu - \frac{1}{2}(y - a_2) \mu \nu)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(\sin \theta)</td>
<td>(s_0 \lambda + a_1 \lambda \nu + \frac{3}{4} s_1(y - a_2) \mu \nu - \frac{1}{4} b_2^1(v + a_2) \mu \nu)</td>
<td>(\frac{1}{2} s_0^2 \mu^2)</td>
<td>(s_1 - (v - a_2))</td>
<td>(\frac{3}{4} s_3 \mu - \lambda \nu - \frac{1}{2}(y - a_2) \mu \nu)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(\cos \theta)</td>
<td>(\frac{3}{4} s_1(v + a_2) \mu \nu - \frac{1}{4} b_2^1(v + a_2) \mu \nu)</td>
<td>(-\frac{1}{2} s_0^2 \mu^2)</td>
<td>(-b_2 - (v + a_2))</td>
<td>(s_0 \mu )</td>
<td>(-\frac{3}{4} b_2 \mu \nu^2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and

\[
(\Delta \vec{r})_{s_2} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_2}
\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(i_{3c} )</th>
<th>(i_{2c} )</th>
<th>(i_{1c} )</th>
<th>(i_{3s} )</th>
<th>(i_{2s} )</th>
<th>(i_{1s} )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>(s_0 \mu - \lambda \nu - \frac{1}{2} b_2(v + a_2) \mu \nu)</td>
<td>(-\frac{1}{2} s_1(y - a_2) + \frac{1}{2} b_2^1(v + a_2) \mu \nu)</td>
<td>(-\frac{1}{2} s_0^2 \mu^2)</td>
<td>(-\frac{1}{2}(s_1 \lambda + \mu) \mu \nu)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(\sin \theta)</td>
<td>(s_1 - (y - a_2))</td>
<td>(\frac{3}{4} s_1 \mu - \lambda \nu)</td>
<td>(\frac{3}{4} s_1(y - a_2) \mu \nu + \frac{1}{4} b_2^1(v + a_2) \mu \nu)</td>
<td>(-\frac{1}{2} s_0^2 \mu^2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(\cos \theta)</td>
<td>(-b_2 - (v + a_2))</td>
<td>(s_0 \mu \nu)</td>
<td>(\frac{3}{4} s_1(v + a_2) \mu \nu + \frac{1}{4} b_2^1(v + a_2) \mu \nu)</td>
<td>(\frac{1}{4} s_0^2 \mu^2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rotor Torque

The effects of tip stall at the higher values of $\mu_V$ and $C_T/\sigma_3$ on $C_Q$ are large and may be approximately evaluated for high-speed flight where $\lambda_V$ is negative, as follows: The retreating blade will be stalled outboard of the nondimensional radius (for $\lambda_V$ negative)

$$x_S = \frac{\lambda_V + \mu_V \tan \left( \frac{C_{l,\text{max}}}{a} - A_0 - a_1 - \Delta\theta_t \right)}{y + \tan \left( \frac{C_{l,\text{max}}}{a} - A_0 - a_1 - \Delta\theta_t \right)}$$  (89a)

where $\Delta\theta_t$ is the aerodynamic blade twist between the reference station and the tip. Assuming a jump of 0.08 in the value of $c_d_0$ at the stall and that the rotor area within which blade stall exists is a segment of minimum radius $x_S$ and symmetric about $\psi = 3\pi/2$, the increment $\Delta C_{Q_S}$ to $C_Q$ due to tip stall is approximately

$$\Delta C_{Q_S} \approx \frac{b_{\text{in}}(1 - \mu_V)^2(1 - x_S) \sqrt{1 - x_S^2}}{6\pi}$$  (89b)

(If $x_S < \mu_V$ or $x_S > 1$ equation (89b) is not applicable and $\Delta C_{Q_S} = 0$.) Then

$$\frac{2C_Q}{b} = -(\text{Constant terms of } C_{xy} \text{ with subscripts } n \text{ on } \sigma_n, I_{nc}, \text{ and } I_{ns} \text{ increased to } n + 1) + \frac{2\Delta C_{Q_S}}{b}$$  (90a)

For steady-state calculations equation (90a) may be reduced to
\[
\frac{2C_Q}{b} = \frac{2C_T}{b(1 - \mu_v^2)} + \frac{2\Delta C_Q}{b} + \\
\epsilon_0 \left[ \frac{1}{4} \lambda_v \sigma_4 - \frac{1}{2} a_0 \mu_v \sigma_3 + \frac{1}{2} (\lambda_v^2 + \mu_v^2) \sigma_2 \right] + \\
\epsilon_1 \left[ I_{hc} + \frac{1}{2} a_0 b_{1 \mu_v} I_{sc} + \frac{1}{2} (\lambda_v + a_1 \lambda_v) \mu_v I_{2c} + (a_1 \mu_v - \lambda_v) I_{3c} \right] + \\
\epsilon_2 \left[ (a_1 \mu_v - \lambda_v) I_{3c} - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2} b_{1 \mu_v} \right) I_{4s} - \frac{1}{2} a_0 b_{1 \mu_v} I_{3s} - \frac{1}{2} (a_1 \lambda_v + \mu_v) \mu_v I_{2s} \right]
\] (90b)

**Rotor X Force**

The value of the rotor X-force coefficient \( C_X \) is

\[
\frac{2C_X}{b} = - \left( \text{Sine terms of } C_{xy} \right) \] (91)

However, the greater part of \( C_X \) arising from the lateral variation in blade circulation is a small difference between large quantities which are principally functions of \( a_1 \) and \( A_0 \). It follows that this part of \( C_X \) is more accurately obtained from the circulation equations than from the blade-element equations. Thus for steady-state solutions

\[
\frac{2C_X}{b} \approx \frac{2C_T}{b(1 - \mu_v^2)} + \epsilon_0 (2 \mu_v + \lambda_v) \sigma_2 + \\
\epsilon_1 \left[ (a_1 \lambda_v + 2 \mu_v) I_{2c} + (a_1 - \lambda_v) I_{3s} + \left( \frac{3}{4} a_1 \mu_v - \lambda_v \right) \mu_v I_{1s} \right] + \\
\epsilon_2 \left[ (a_1 - \lambda_v) I_{3c} + \left( \frac{3}{4} a_1 \mu_v - \lambda_v \right) \mu_v I_{1c} - (2 \mu_v + a_1 \lambda_v) I_{2s} \right]
\] (92)

**Rotor Y Force**

The value of the rotor Y-force coefficient is

\[
\frac{2C_Y}{b} = \text{Cosine terms of } C_{xy}
\] (93)
As in the expression for $C_x$ the above value of $C_y$ given by the blade-element equation is a small difference between large quantities and the result for steady-state flight is more accurately obtained from the circulation expression

$$C_y \approx \frac{C_t \left( \frac{1}{2} a_0 \mu \right)}{1 - \mu^2}$$  \hspace{1cm} (94)

Second-Harmonic Flapping

Again letting $k_{\phi 0}$ be the spring constant relating the blade-root bending moment in foot-pounds to the angular deflection in radians of the three-quarter-radius point of the blades from the unstressed position, it follows that the magnitude of the cosine component of the second harmonic of the blade flapping angle is

$$a_2 \approx J + KL \frac{J + KL}{1 - KM}$$  \hspace{1cm} (95)

Similarly the magnitude of the sine component is

$$b_2 \approx \frac{L + JM}{1 - KM}$$  \hspace{1cm} (96)

where

$J$ \hspace{1cm} (terms not involving $b_2$ in the cos $2\phi$ row of thrust equation (53) with the I factors changed to one higher subscript) $\times \left( \frac{\frac{1}{2} \rho \Omega^2 R^{5a}}{3I_1 R^2 - k_{\phi 0}} \right)$

$K$ \hspace{1cm} (coefficients of $b_2$ in the cos $2\phi$ row of thrust equation (53) with the I factors changed to one higher subscript) $\times \left( \frac{\frac{1}{2} \rho \Omega^2 R^{5a}}{3I_1 R^2 - k_{\phi 0}} \right)$

$L$ \hspace{1cm} (terms not involving $a_2$ in the sin $2\phi$ row of thrust equation (53) with the I factors changed to one higher subscript) $\times \left( \frac{\frac{1}{2} \rho \Omega^2 R^{5a}}{3I_1 R^2 - k_{\phi 0}} \right)$
M \left( \text{coefficients of } a_2 \text{ in the } \sin 2\psi \text{ row of thrust equation (53) with the } I \text{ factors changed to one higher subscript} \right) \times \left( \frac{\frac{1}{2} \rho \omega^2 R^5}{3I_1 \Omega^2 - k_{a_0}} \right)

For steady-state flight conditions where \( a_x = a_y = 0 \) the expressions for the factors \( J, K, L, \) and \( M \) may be simplified to

\[
J \approx \frac{1}{2} \frac{\rho \pi \omega^2 R^5}{3I_1 \Omega^2 - k_{a_0}} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (a_1 \lambda + \mu) \mu \nu I_{2c} - \left( a_1 - \frac{1}{2} \nu \right) \mu \nu I_{3s} \right] \quad (97)
\]

\[
K \approx \frac{1}{2} \frac{\rho \pi \omega^2 R^5}{3I_1 \Omega^2 - k_{a_0}} (-2I_{4s}) \quad (98)
\]

\[
L \approx \frac{1}{2} \frac{\rho \pi \omega^2 R^5}{3I_1 \Omega^2 - k_{a_0}} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} b_1 \lambda \mu \nu I_{2c} - \left( b_1 + \frac{1}{2} \nu \right) \mu \nu I_{3s} + \frac{1}{2} a_0 \mu \nu I_{2s} \right] \quad (99)
\]

\[
M \approx \frac{1}{2} \frac{\rho \pi \omega^2 R^5}{3I_1 \Omega^2 - k_{a_0}} (2I_{4s}) \quad (100)
\]

and \( I_1 \) is the mass moment of inertia of the blade about the flapping hinge.

It may be noted that \( k_{a_0} = 0 \) for blades having a flapping hinge at the axis of rotation. If the flapping hinge is located at radius \( r_\beta \), then

\[
k_{a_0} \approx \frac{r_\beta M_B \Omega^2}{1 - \frac{r_\beta}{0.75R}}
\]
Amplitude of Constant and First-Harmonic Components of Lag Angles in Unaccelerated Flight

For an articulated rotor having lag hinges normal to the plane of rotation and located at a small radius \(e\) the equilibrium blade lag angle \(E_0\) is

\[
E_0 \approx \frac{\frac{1}{2} \rho \pi R^5}{M_s e (1 - \frac{e}{0.7R})} \left[ - \frac{2C_0}{b} \right] \text{ from equation (90)}
\]

(101)

where \(M_s\) is the mass moment of the blade about the lag hinge.

Similarly the coefficients of the cosine and sine components of the lag angle are

\[
F_1 \approx \frac{\frac{1}{2} \rho \pi R^5 E_0^s - 2a_0 b_{ls} I_0^s}{M_s e - I_0^s}
\]

(102)

and

\[
F_1 \approx \frac{\frac{1}{2} \rho \pi R^5 E_0^s + 2a_0 a_{ls} I_0^s}{M_s e - I_0^s}
\]

(103)

where \(a_{ls}\) and \(b_{ls}\) are the \(\cos \psi\) and \(\sin \psi\) components of the angle between the tip-path plane and the hub plane. For unaccelerated flight the values of \(a_{ls}\) and \(b_{ls}\) are approximately

\[
a_{ls} \approx \alpha_v - \alpha_f
\]

(104)

\[
b_{ls} \approx \theta_{xf} - \theta_x
\]

(105)

where \(\theta_{xf}\) is the equilibrium lateral tilt of the fuselage.
Also

\[ I_\xi = \text{mass moment of inertia of a blade about lag hinge} \]

\[ E_\xi = \text{coefficient of } \cos \psi \text{ in equation (88) for } C_{XY} \text{ with subscripts of } I \text{ factors changed from } n \text{ to } n+1; \text{ approximate value from circulation equations is} \]

\[ E_\xi = \frac{2CT\left(\frac{3}{4}v - a_0\mu_N\right)}{b(1 - \mu_N^2)} \]

(106)

\[ F_\xi = \text{coefficient of } \sin \psi \text{ in equation (88) for } C_{XY} \text{ with subscripts of } I \text{ factors changed from } n \text{ to } n+1; \text{ approximate value from circulation equations is} \]

\[ F_\xi = \frac{2CT\left(\frac{3}{4}y - \frac{4}{3}\lambda N^2\right)}{b(1 - \mu_N^2) - 0.008(2\mu_N + y\lambda_N)\sigma_3 + \frac{0.0850T^2\mu_N^4}{b^2\sigma_3^2(1 - \mu_N^2)^2}} \]

(107)

**Thrust Unbalance**

**Two-bladed rotor.** - The second-harmonic variation in \( C_T \) for a two-bladed rotor is

\[ \frac{\Delta C_T}{a} = \text{Fourth + fifth rows of equation (53)} \]

(108)

For \( \omega_x = \omega_y = 0 \) and steady-state conditions, the equation for the amplitude may be simplified to

\[ \frac{\Delta C_T}{a} \approx \left\{ \left(2a_2I_3s - \left(b_1 + \frac{1}{2}v\right)\mu_NI_2s + \frac{1}{2}a_0\mu_N^2I_1s \right)^2 + \left(2b_2I_3s + a_1\mu_NI_2s \right)^2 \right\}^{1/2} \]

(109)
Three-bladed rotor. - The third-harmonic variation in $C_T$ for a three-bladed rotor is approximately

$$\frac{2\Delta C_T}{3a} \approx \text{Sixth + seventh rows of equation (53)} \quad (110)$$

or for $\omega_x = \omega_y = 0$ the amplitude is approximately

$$\frac{2\Delta C_T}{3a} \approx -\frac{1}{4} (a_1^2 + b_1^2)^{1/2} \mu^2 I_{1s} \quad (111)$$

An Independence-of-Blade-Element Analysis for Hovering,
Vertical Ascent, and Convertiplane Propeller Condition

The use of the relation $c_l = a \sin \alpha$ permits a considerable simplification of the equations resulting from the assumption of the independence of blade elements. As the exact propeller solutions of Betz, Goldstein, and Theodorsen are not applicable to a lifting rotor at zero or small advance ratios, a simple analysis of the independence of blade elements may be useful.

From momentum considerations the thrust $dT$ on an annulus of the rotor disk $2\pi r \, dr$ is related to the induced velocity $V_1$ at the rotor element by the expression

$$\frac{dT}{4\pi r \, dr} = V_1 (V_1 + V \sin \alpha_v) \quad (112)$$

But

$$V_1 + V \sin \alpha_v = U \sin \phi_v \quad (113)$$

Thus

$$\frac{dT}{4\pi r \, dr} = (U \sin \phi_v) (U \sin \phi_v - V \sin \alpha_v) \quad (114)$$
The thrust of the annulus is also equal to the thrust acting on the portions of the blades within the annulus which is

\[ dT = \frac{1}{2} \rho b U^2 c_{t} \cos \phi_v \, dr \]  

(115)

where

\[ c_{t} = a \sin \alpha_T = a \left( \sin \theta_v \cos \phi_v + \cos \theta_v \sin \phi_v \right) \]  

(116)

Thus

\[ dT = \frac{1}{2} \rho ab \left( U \cos \phi_v \right) \left[ \sin \theta_v \left( U \cos \phi_v \right) + \cos \theta_v \left( U \sin \phi_v \right) \right] c \, dr \]  

(117)

Substituting the above values of \( dT \) in equation (114) and solving for \( U \sin \phi_v \)

\[ \frac{U \sin \phi_v}{\Omega R} = \left( \frac{V_0}{2} + \frac{ab \sigma_r}{16} \cos \theta_v \right) - \left( \frac{V_0}{2} + \frac{ab \sigma_r}{16} \cos \theta_v \right)^2 + \frac{ab \sigma_r}{8} x \sin \theta_v \]  

(118)

where

\[ V_a = \frac{V \sin \alpha_v}{\Omega R} \]  

(119)

\[ \sigma_r = \frac{c}{\pi R} \]  

(120)

Then from equation (117)

\[ \frac{2C_T}{ab} = \int x \left[ \sin \theta_v + \left( \frac{U \sin \phi_v}{\Omega R} \right) \cos \theta_v \right] \sigma_r x \, dx \]  

(121)
where the value of \( \frac{U \sin \phi_y}{\omega R} \) at \( x \) is given by equation (118).
Similarly, from blade-element considerations

\[
\frac{2C_Q}{b} = -a \int_{x_1}^{1} \left( \frac{U \sin \phi_y}{\omega R} \right) \left[ x \sin \theta_y + \left( \frac{U \sin \phi_y}{\omega R} \right) \cos \theta_y \right] \sigma_T x \, dx + \\
\int_{x_1}^{1} \frac{c_{d_0}}{\sin \alpha_T} \left[ x \sin \theta_y + \left( \frac{U \sin \phi_y}{\omega R} \right) \cos \theta_y \right] \sigma_T x^2 \, dx
\]

(122)

where the values of \( \frac{c_{d_0}}{\sin \alpha_T} \) are obtained from a plot of \( \frac{c_{d_0}}{\sin \alpha_T} \) against \( \alpha_T \) for the blade airfoil at values of \( \alpha_T \) given by the relation

\[
\alpha_T = \theta_y + \tan^{-1} \left[ \frac{1}{x} \left( \frac{U \sin \phi_y}{\omega R} \right) \right]
\]

(123)

If it is necessary to take into account the rotation of the slipstream for large rates of vertical ascent or the propeller condition, this may be accomplished to a first approximation by using an effective \( \Omega, \Omega_e \), in every case where

\[
\Omega_e = \Omega \left( 1 - \frac{1}{k} \right)
\]

(124)

The geometry of the above equations is exact and they are convenient for graphical or numerical integration on account of the repetition of factors.

Neglecting the induced radial and tangential velocity components, the optimum blade-angle distribution for minimum induced power and a given blade-chord distribution and nondimensional axial flight-path velocity \( v_a \) may be obtained by setting \( \frac{U \sin \phi_y}{\omega R} \) equal to the constant value \( \lambda_y \) giving
\[
\sin \theta_v = \frac{\lambda_v (\lambda_v - v_a) x}{k (\lambda_v^2 + x^2)} \left\{ 1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{(\lambda_v^2 + x^2) \left[ k^2 - (\lambda_v - v_a)^2 \right]}{(\lambda_v - v_a)^2 x^2}} \right\}
\]

(125)

where

\[
k = \frac{\sigma_T}{8}.
\]

(126)

and

\[
\lambda_v = \frac{v_a}{2} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{v_a}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} c_T}
\]

(127)

The optimum chord distribution for a given desired constant value of \( c_l \) along the blade and the same restrictions is

\[
\sigma_T = \frac{8 \lambda_v (\lambda_v - v_a)}{bc_l \sqrt{\lambda_v^2 + x^2}}
\]

(128)

For this optimum chord distribution, the optimum distribution of \( \theta_v \) reduces to

\[
\sin \theta_v = \frac{x c_l}{\sqrt{\lambda_v^2 + x^2}} \left\{ 1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{a^2 \lambda_v^2 - c_l^2 (\lambda_v^2 + x^2)}{c_l^2 x^2}} \right\}
\]

(129)

For calculations where the flight-path velocity and equilibrium value of \( C_T \) are known or can be estimated, the following procedure may be followed:

1. Calculate and plot the radial distribution of \( \sigma_T \).
2. Calculate the effective value of \( C_T \) and \( v_a \) where

\[
C_{T_e} = C_T \frac{\Omega}{\Omega_e}
\]

\[
v_{a_e} = v_a \frac{\Omega}{\Omega_e}
\]
(3) Calculate the approximate value of $A_0$ from equation (72) which for these flight conditions reduces to

$$\sin A_0 \approx \frac{(2C_{Te} - \sigma_{3s} - \lambda_v \sigma_{2c})}{(\sigma_{3c} - \lambda_v \sigma_{2s})}$$

(4) Calculate and plot the radial distribution of $\theta_v = A_0 + \theta_t$ for the value of $A_0$ obtained under item (3) and two lower values at increments of several degrees.

(5) Calculate and plot the radial distribution of $U \sin \phi_v / \Omega_e R$ for the above distribution of $\theta_v$ from equation (118) using $\Omega = \Omega_e$ throughout.

(6) Calculate and plot the radial distribution of the integrand of equation (121) for the three values of $A_0$ and graphically or numerically integrate for the values of $2C_{Te}/ab$ corresponding to the three values of $A_0$.

(7) Obtain the correct value of $A_0$ from a plot of $C_{Te}$ against $A_0$.

(8) Calculate and plot the radial distribution of the integrand of equation (122) for the three values of $A_0$ and graphically or numerically integrate for the values of $2C_{Qe}/b$ corresponding to the three values of $A_0$.

(9) Obtain the equilibrium value of $C_{Qe}$ at the equilibrium value of $A_0$ from a plot of $C_{Qe}$ against $A_0$.

(10) Calculate the equilibrium value of $C_Q = C_{Qe} (\Omega_e / \Omega)^2$.

Comparison of Experimental and Calculated Values of Parameters

Table 6 shows a comparison of the experimental data of reference 2 for those runs where $C_T \approx 0.00545$ with the values calculated by the approximate blade-element equations of this report. The blade-element lift-curve slope was assumed by the authors to have been $a = 6.5$ from the experimental results of reference 6. The values of $\epsilon_0$, $\epsilon_1$, 

and $e_2$ were evaluated for the points $c_{d_0} = 0.0090$, 0.0105, and 0.0170 at $c_l = 0$, 0.5, and 1.0, respectively, from figure 19 of reference 6.

The exact solutions for the various parameters differ from the tabulated approximate solutions by a negligible amount for these helicopter flight conditions.

A consideration of the results presented in table 6 would indicate that much of the remaining discrepancy between experimental and calculated blade angles and torque coefficients may be due to the neglect, in the present calculations, of the effects of the rotor induced velocity on the lift and drag of the fuselage.

It may be noted that the longitudinal component of the angle $\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{C_X}{2C_T}\right)$ between the rotor resultant force and the thrust component normal to the tip-path plane is very small for all these helicopter flight conditions and that the direction of the resultant is inclined forward for those flight conditions where there is a net downflow through the rotor. The inclinations of the tip-path plane to the horizontal $\theta_X$ and $\theta_Y$ are also small angles and, consequently, for many unaccelerated-flight helicopter calculations the rotor resultant force can be assumed to be perpendicular to the tip-path plane and the thrust equal to the gross weight without introducing serious errors.

CONCLUDING DISCUSSION

Simple relations for the rotor blade angles and the values of $C_Q$, $C_X$, and $C_Y$, derived upon the assumption of a triangular distribution of blade-element circulation along the radius and a sinusoidal variation with azimuth angle in conjunction with a linear variation of profile drag with lift, would appear to be useful for helicopter and convertiplane performance estimation and the determination of the equilibrium angle of attack and lateral tilt of the tip-path plane.

The blade-element equations, based upon the relation that $c_{\dot{l}} = a \sin \alpha_T = a (\sin \theta_Y \cos \phi_Y + \cos \theta_Y \sin \phi_Y)$, and the $\sigma_{nc}$ and $\sigma_{ns}$ functions of the blade-chord and blade-twist distribution afford a reasonably exact and concise treatment of the geometry and should be useful for convertiplane as well as helicopter calculations.
The use of the empirical relation \( c_{d_0} = \varepsilon_0 + \varepsilon_1 \sin \alpha_T + \varepsilon_2 \cos \alpha_T \), rather than the usual expression that \( c_{d_0} = \delta_0 + \delta_1 \alpha_T + \delta_2 \alpha_T^2 \), considerably simplifies the equations for the in-plane forces and moments and presents a sufficiently exact solution of the geometry for helicopter calculations.

For convertaplane calculations, the approximation that \( c_{d_0} = \varepsilon_1 \sin \alpha_T + \varepsilon_2 \cos \alpha_T \) allows an exact treatment of the geometry and should be a sufficiently accurate expression for \( c_{d_0} \) at the larger advance ratios where the effects of the profile drag become of less relative importance.

The larger sources of the remaining errors in the blade-element analysis probably have the following order of importance for contemporary helicopters:

1. The neglect of the effects of blade-element stall implied in the relation that \( c_l = \alpha \sin \alpha_T \)

2. The neglect of the effects of blade flexibility

3. The neglect of the radial variation in the normal component of the induced velocity

4. The neglect of the effects of compressibility on the tip sections of the advancing blade.

Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, Ga., May 15, 1951
REFERENCES


TABLE 1

VALUES OF $\sigma_n$ FOR BLADES WITH LINEAR TAPER

\[
\text{Interpolate for values for given } t; \quad \sigma_0 = \frac{c_0}{\pi R};
\]
\[
t = \frac{c_{\text{tip}}}{c_0} - 1; \quad c = c_0(1 + tx)
\]

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\[\text{NACA}\]
TABLE 2

VALUES OF \( \sigma_{nc} \) FOR BLADES WITH LINEAR TAPER, LINEAR TWIST, AND \( x_1 = 0.15 \)

Interpolate for values for given \( t \), first and then for values for given \( \theta_1 \); reference station for \( A_0 \) at \( x = 0 \); \( \sigma_0 = \frac{c_0}{nR} \);

\[
t = \frac{c_{tip}}{c_0} - 1; \quad c = c_0(1 + tx); \quad \theta_t = \theta_1 x
\]

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TABLE 3

VALUES OF $\sigma_{ns}$ FOR BLADES WITH LINEAR TAPER, LINEAR TWIST, AND $x_1 = 0.15$

Interpolate for values for given $t$ first and then for values for given $\theta_1$; reference station for $A_0$ at $x = 0$; $\sigma_0 = \frac{c_0}{\pi R}$; $t = \frac{c_{tip}}{c_0} - 1$; $c = c_0(1 + tx)$; $\theta_t = \theta_1 x$.

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TABLE 4

VALUES OF $\sigma_{nc}$ FOR BLADES WITH LINEAR TAPER, HELICAL TWIST, AND $x_1 = 0.20$

Interpolate for values for given $t$ first and then for values of given $\theta_T$; reference station for $A_0$ at blade tip; $\sigma_0 = \frac{c_0}{\pi R}$;

$$t = \frac{c_{tip}}{c} - 1; \quad c = c_0(1 + tx) ; \quad \theta_t = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x} \tan \theta_T\right)$$

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TABLE 5
VALUES OF $\sigma_{ns}$ FOR BLADES WITH LINEAR TAPER, HELICAL TWIST, AND $x_1 = 0.20$

Interpolate for values for given $t$ first and then for values for given $\theta_T$; reference station for $A_0$ at blade tip; $\sigma_0 = \frac{c_0}{\pi R}$;

$$t = \frac{c_{tip}}{c_0} - 1; \quad c = c_0(1 + tx); \quad \theta_t = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x} \tan \theta_T \right)$$

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<td>Calculated (b)</td>
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*Calculated from circulation equations.
*Calculated from blade-element equations.
*Includes corrections for tip stall.
*Mechanical input subtracted.
### TABLE 6 - Concluded

**Comparison of Experimental and Calculated Values of Parameters for**

**Those Runs of Reference 1 for Which \( \zeta_0 = 0.00545 \)** - Concluded

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
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<th>Run 19</th>
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</thead>
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<td>( \zeta_0 = 0.00545 ); ( DR = 413 ) ft/sec</td>
<td>520 ft/min climb at 51.8 mph</td>
<td>( \zeta_0 = 0.00545 ); ( DR = 413 ) ft/sec</td>
<td>1200 ft/min autorotative descent at 37.7 mph</td>
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<td>( \theta )</td>
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<td>8.50</td>
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<td>4.32</td>
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<td>9.15</td>
<td>8.36</td>
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<td>0.24</td>
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*Calculated from circulation equations.*

*Calculated from blade-element equations.*

\( \zeta_3 \) sq ft added to fuselage drag area \( f^3 \) from Reference 7 to allow for rotor-hub, blade-shank, counter-torque-rotor, and engine-cooling drag.

*Mechanical input subtracted.*
TABLE 7

VALUES OF $\lambda_z = \frac{\sqrt{2 - 3\mu^2}}{\Omega R}$ FOR GIVEN VALUES OF $\lambda_x = \mu \sqrt{2 - 3\mu^2}$

AND $\lambda_x = \frac{V \sin \alpha_v}{\Omega R} \sqrt{2 - 3\mu^2}$

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<th>1.40</th>
<th>1.60</th>
<th>1.80</th>
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<td>0.450</td>
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*Experimental.*

*Estimated.*
TABLE 7 - Concluded

VALUES OF $\lambda_1 = \frac{V}{\Omega R} \sqrt{\frac{2 - 3\mu v^2}{C_T}}$ FOR GIVEN VALUES OF $\lambda_\chi = \frac{V}{\Omega R} \sqrt{\frac{2 - 3\mu v^2}{C_T}}$

AND $\lambda_2 = \frac{V \sin \alpha_v}{\Omega R} \sqrt{\frac{2 - 3\mu v^2}{C_T}}$

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Figure 1.- Tip-path plane or axes of virtual rotation.
Figure 2. Forces on rotor hub.
Figure 3. - Comparison of expressions for $c_l$. 

- $c_l = 6.5\alpha$
- $c_l = 6.5 \sin \alpha$
- $c_l$ from test data for NACA 0015; effective Reynolds number, 1,230,000
Figure 4. - Comparison of expressions for $c_{d_0}$.

- $c_{d_0} = 0.8439 - 0.0126 \sin \alpha - 0.8349 \cos \alpha$
- $c_{d_0} = 0.0090 - 0.0061x + 0.3752x^2$
- $\triangle c_{d_0}$ From test data for NACA 0015; effective Reynolds number, $1,230,000$