

Lecture F21 Mud: Airfoil Polars, Quiz Review

(34 respondents)

1. **How is % camber defined?** (2 students)

Example: 8% camber means that the maximum camber line height is $0.08c$ high, where c is the airfoil's chord.

2. **On a NACA 4-digit airfoil, what if the camber is a fraction of a percent?** (1 student)

There's no standard notation for this. One lame attempt I've seen: An airfoil with a 2.5% camber was given as a NACA (2.5)415, which is midway between a 2415 and 3415. Such fractional specs on 4-digit airfoils are rarely used.

3. **Typo in notes handed out:** $V_{\max}/V_{\min} = C_{L_{\max}}/C_{L_{\min}}$? (2 students)

Yep, it's a typo. It should be

$$\frac{V_{\max}}{V_{\min}} = \sqrt{\frac{C_{L_{\max}}}{C_{L_{\min}}}}$$

The posted notes have been fixed.

4. **How would we calculate $\partial\phi/\partial n$?** (2 students)

The relation

$$\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial n} = 0$$

or $\vec{V} \cdot \hat{n} = 0$ is a boundary condition imposed at a wall. How exactly this is done depends on the method used to solve the governing Laplace's equation $\nabla^2\phi = 0$. In a panel method, we determine both u and v at the surface as a superposition of the freestream u_∞ and v_∞ , plus the velocity contributions from all the panels with their strengths γ_j . Then we require

$$\vec{V} \cdot \hat{n} \equiv un_x + vn_y = 0$$

which becomes one of the equation rows in the big matrix system to be solved.

5. **What is the Helmholtz Equation $D\xi/Dt = 0$?** (1 student)

See F14.

6. **Still don't understand circulation.** (1 student)

Try reviewing F11, F16, F18. Also Anderson 2.13 .

7. **How did you get $\Gamma = \gamma \ell$?** (1 student)

The vortex sheet strength γ is defined as "circulation per length". See F18.

8. **What do we need to know about lifting cylinders?** (1 student)

Here's a list of relevant things which I can think of: Superposition, surface velocity and pressure, circulation, d'Alembert Paradox, Kutta-Joukowski Theorem, ideal versus real flow. There may be a few others in the notes which I missed here.

9. **Will we need to do any numerical analysis of c_ℓ , c_d graphs?** (1 student)

I expect to you be able to pick numbers off a graphs and to apply equations involving c_ℓ and c_d , such as $L' = \frac{1}{2}\rho V_\infty^2 c c_\ell$, etc.

10. **Can you give us a table for all the sources, vortices, etc.?** (1 student)
Anderson Table 3.1, page 232.
11. **What are the objectives in Unified Fluids?** (1 student)
See “Learning Objectives” link in Fluids section of UE website.
12. **How do you keep all these concepts straight? Experience?** (1 student)
Yeah, pretty much. Eventually even new and complex things become familiar and natural if you work with them long enough.
13. **Will you be around this week for questions?** (2 students)
Yep, but my schedule is flaky at this point. Try knocking on my door.
14. **No mud** (19 students)