

# AA210A

## Fundamentals of Compressible Flow

### Chapter 14 - Thin Airfoil Theory

# Lockheed F104 Starfighter



# 14.1 Compressible potential flow

## 14.1.1 The full potential equation

Governing equations

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot (\rho \bar{U}) &= 0 \\ \nabla \left( \frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2} \right) + \frac{\nabla P}{\rho} &= 0 \\ \frac{P}{P_0} &= \left( \frac{\rho}{\rho_0} \right)^\gamma\end{aligned}$$

The gradient of the isentropic relation is

$$\nabla P = a^2 \nabla \rho.$$

Note that

$$\nabla \left( \frac{P}{\rho} \right) = \left( \frac{\gamma - 1}{\gamma} \right) \frac{\nabla P}{\rho}$$

The momentum equation becomes.

$$\nabla \left( \left( \frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1} \right) \frac{P}{\rho} + \frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2} \right) = 0$$

The continuity equation can be written in the form

$$\bar{U} \cdot \nabla a^2 + (\gamma - 1)a^2 \nabla \cdot \bar{U} = 0.$$

Equate the Bernoulli integral to free stream conditions.

$$\frac{a^2}{\gamma - 1} + \frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2} = \frac{a_\infty^2}{\gamma - 1} + \frac{U_\infty^2}{2} = \frac{a_\infty^2}{\gamma - 1} \left( 1 + \frac{\gamma - 1}{2} M_\infty^2 \right) = C_p T_t = h_t$$

Thus

$$\left( \frac{a^2}{\gamma - 1} \right) = h_t - \frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2}$$

The continuity equation becomes

$$(\gamma - 1) \left( h_t - \frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2} \right) \nabla \cdot \bar{U} - \bar{U} \cdot \nabla \left( \frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2} \right) = 0$$

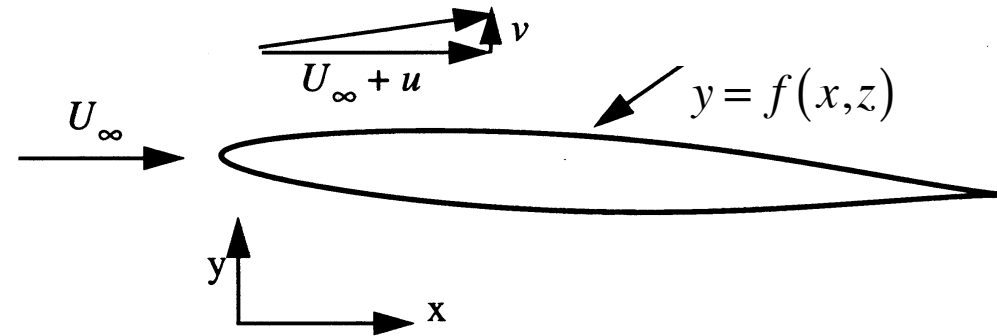
In terms of the velocity potential  $\bar{U} = \nabla \Phi$

$$(\gamma - 1) \left( h_t - \frac{\nabla \Phi \cdot \nabla \Phi}{2} \right) \nabla^2 \Phi - \nabla \Phi \cdot \nabla \left( \frac{\nabla \Phi \cdot \nabla \Phi}{2} \right) = 0.$$

Full potential  
equation

## 14.1.2 The nonlinear small disturbance approximation

Flow past a **thin** 3-D airfoil



$$U = U_{\infty} + u$$

$$V = v$$

$$W = w$$

where

$$u/U_{\infty} \ll 1, \quad v/U_{\infty} \ll 1, \quad w/U_{\infty} \ll 1.$$

Similarly the state variables deviate only slightly from freestream values

$$P = P_{\infty} + P'$$

$$T = T_{\infty} + T'$$

$$\rho = \rho_{\infty} + \rho'$$

and

$$a = a_{\infty} + a'.$$

Now substitute this decomposition of variables into

$$(\gamma - 1) \left( h_t - \frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2} \right) \nabla \cdot \bar{U} - \bar{U} \cdot \nabla \left( \frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2} \right) = 0$$

Various terms are

$$\frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2} = \frac{U_\infty^2}{2} + uU_\infty + \frac{u^2}{2} + \frac{v^2}{2} + \frac{w^2}{2}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \bar{U} = u_x + v_y + w_z$$

$$\nabla \left( \frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2} \right) = (u_x U_\infty + uu_x + vv_x + ww_x,$$

$$u_y U_\infty + uu_y + vv_y + ww_y,$$

$$u_z U_\infty + uu_z + vv_z + ww_z)$$

$$(\gamma - 1) \left( h_t - \frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2} \right) \nabla \cdot \bar{U} =$$

$$(\gamma - 1) \left( h_t - \left( \frac{U_\infty^2}{2} + uU_\infty + \frac{u^2}{2} + \frac{v^2}{2} + \frac{w^2}{2} \right) \right) u_x +$$

$$(\gamma - 1) \left( h_t - \left( \frac{U_\infty^2}{2} + uU_\infty + \frac{u^2}{2} + \frac{v^2}{2} + \frac{w^2}{2} \right) \right) v_y +$$

$$(\gamma - 1) \left( h_t - \left( \frac{U_\infty^2}{2} + uU_\infty + \frac{u^2}{2} + \frac{v^2}{2} + \frac{w^2}{2} \right) \right) w_z$$

$$\bar{U} \cdot \nabla \left( \frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2} \right) = u_x U_\infty^2 + uu_x U_\infty + vv_x U_\infty + ww_x U_\infty +$$

$$uu_x U_\infty + u^2 u_x + uvv_x + uww_x +$$

$$vu_y U_\infty + vu u_y + v^2 v_y + vww_y +$$

$$wu_z U_\infty + wu u_z + wv v_z + w^2 w_z$$

Neglect terms that are third order in the disturbance velocities and divide through by the freestream speed of sound squared.

$$(\gamma - 1) \left( h_t - \frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2} \right) \nabla \cdot \bar{U} - \bar{U} \cdot \nabla \left( \frac{\bar{U} \cdot \bar{U}}{2} \right) \cong$$

$$(1 - M_\infty^2) u_x + v_y + w_z - \frac{(\gamma + 1) M_\infty}{a_\infty} u u_x -$$

Small near Mach one

$$\frac{M_\infty}{a_\infty} ((\gamma - 1)(u v_y + u w_z) + v u_y + w u_z + v v_x + w w_x)$$

We can neglect all of the quadratic terms except that involving the derivative of u in the x-direction. The small disturbance equation is

$$(1 - M_\infty^2) u_x + v_y + w_z - \frac{(\gamma + 1) M_\infty}{a_\infty} u u_x = 0.$$

Introduce the disturbance velocity potential  $\Phi = U_\infty x + \phi(x, y, z).$

$$(1 - M_\infty^2) \phi_{xx} + \phi_{yy} + \phi_{zz} = (\gamma + 1) \frac{M_\infty}{a_\infty} \phi_x \phi_{xx}$$

Transonic small disturbance potential equation



### 14.1.3 Linearized potential flow

For subsonic or supersonic flow **not near Mach one** the nonlinear small disturbance potential equation reduces to the linear wave equation.

$$\beta^2 \phi_{xx} - (\phi_{yy} + \phi_{zz}) = 0$$

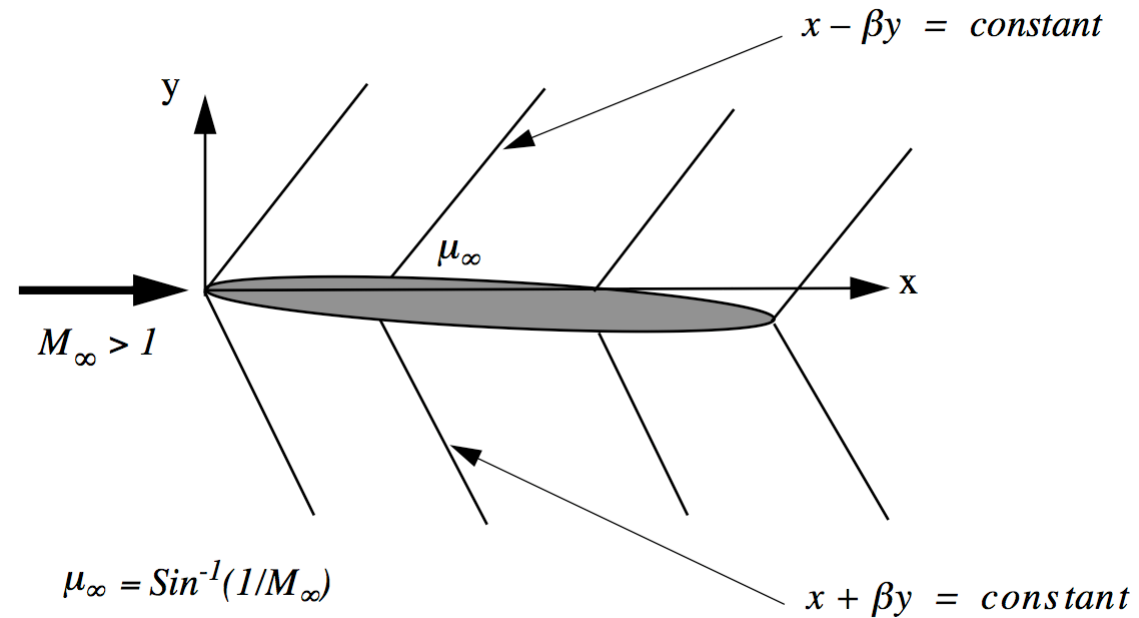
where  $\beta = \sqrt{M_\infty^2 - 1}$ .

In 2-D

$$\beta^2 \phi_{xx} - \phi_{yy} = 0.$$

General solution for supersonic flow

$$\phi(x, y) = F(x - \beta y) + G(x + \beta y).$$



Potential for the upper and lower surfaces

$$\phi(x, y) = F(x - \beta y) \quad y > 0$$

$$\phi(x, y) = G(x + \beta y) \quad y < 0$$

Let  $y = f(x)$  define the coordinates of the upper surface and  $y = g(x)$  define the coordinates of the lower surface.

Boundary condition on the upper surface

$$\left. \frac{v}{U} \right|_{y=f} = \frac{df}{dx}$$

For a thin airfoil this can be approximated by the linearized form

$$\left. \frac{v}{U_\infty} \right|_{y=0} = \frac{df}{dx}$$

This can be written as

$$\left. \frac{\partial \phi(x, y)}{\partial y} \right|_{y=0} = U_{\infty} \left( \frac{df}{dx} \right)$$

or

$$F'(x) = -\frac{U_{\infty}}{\beta} \left( \frac{df}{dx} \right).$$

On the lower surface

$$G'(x) = \frac{U_{\infty}}{\beta} \left( \frac{dg}{dx} \right).$$

The linearized boundary conditions are valid on thin 2-D wings and thin **planar** 3-D wings.

## 14.1.4 The pressure coefficient

Work out the linearized pressure coefficient

$$C_p = \frac{P - P_\infty}{\frac{1}{2}\rho_\infty U_\infty^2} = \frac{2}{\gamma M_\infty^2} \left( \frac{P}{P_\infty} - 1 \right).$$

The stagnation temperature is constant throughout the flow.  
The **static temperatures** at any two points are related by

$$\frac{T}{T_\infty} = 1 + \frac{1}{2C_p T_\infty} (U_\infty^2 - (U^2 + v^2 + w^2)).$$

Since the flow is isentropic

$$\frac{P}{P_\infty} = \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2C_p T_\infty} (U_\infty^2 - (U^2 + v^2 + w^2)) \right)^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1}}$$

The pressure coefficient is

$$C_p = \frac{2}{\gamma M_\infty^2} \left\{ \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2C_p T_\infty} (U_\infty^2 - (U^2 + v^2 + w^2)) \right)^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1}} - 1 \right\}.$$

The velocity term in this equation is small

$$U_\infty^2 - (U^2 + v^2 + w^2) = -(2uU_\infty + u^2 + v^2 + w^2).$$

The pressure coefficient is approximately

$$C_p \cong - \left( \frac{2u}{U_\infty} + (1 - M_\infty^2) \frac{u^2}{U_\infty^2} + \frac{v^2 + w^2}{U_\infty^2} \right).$$

Note that the binomial expansion has to be carried out to second order.

For 2-D flows over planar bodies

$$C_p \cong -2 \frac{u}{U_\infty}$$

Recall for weak oblique shocks

$$\frac{dU}{U} = -\frac{1}{(M^2 - 1)^{1/2}} d\theta \quad \frac{dP}{P} = \frac{\gamma M^2}{(M^2 - 1)^{1/2}} d\theta \quad \longrightarrow \quad \frac{dP}{P} = -\gamma M^2 \frac{dU}{U}$$

$$C_p = \frac{P - P_\infty}{\frac{1}{2} \rho_\infty U_\infty^2} = \frac{P - P_\infty}{\frac{\gamma}{2} P_\infty M_\infty^2} \cong \frac{dP}{\frac{\gamma}{2} M_\infty^2 P} \cong -2 \frac{dU}{U}$$

For 3-D flows over slender, approximately axisymmetric bodies

$$C_p \cong -\left( \frac{2u}{U_\infty} + \frac{v^2 + w^2}{U_\infty^2} \right)$$

If the airfoil is a 2-D shape defined by the function  $y=f(x)$  the boundary condition at the surface is

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{v}{U_{\infty} + u} = \tan \theta$$

For a thin airfoil

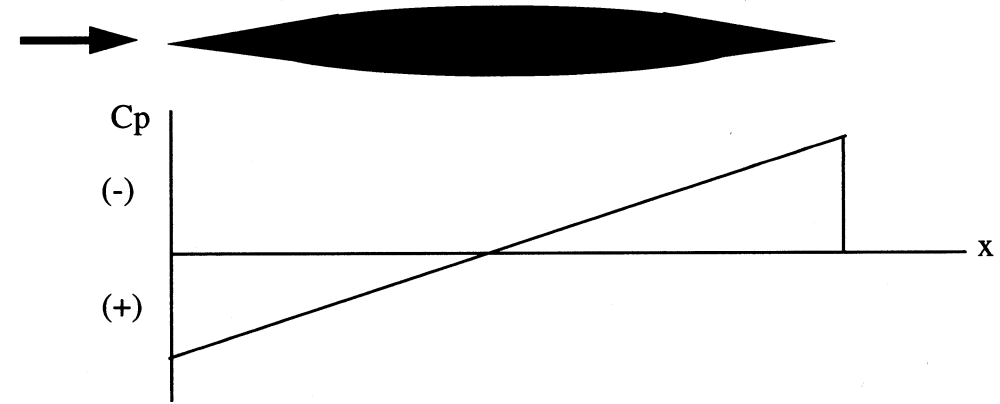
$$\frac{df}{dx} \cong \frac{\phi_y}{U_{\infty}} \cong \theta.$$

For a thin airfoil in supersonic flow

$$C_{pwall} = \frac{2}{(M_{\infty}^2 - 1)^{1/2}} \left( \frac{df}{dx} \right).$$



### 14.1.5 Drag coefficient of a thin symmetric airfoil



Let the y-coordinate of the upper surface of the airfoil be

$$y(x) = A \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{C}\right)$$

Where  $C$  is the airfoil chord and the thickness to chord ratio is small,  $2A/C \ll 1$ . The drag integral is

$$D = 2 \int_0^C (P - P_\infty) \sin(\alpha) dx$$

Where alpha is the local angle formed by the upper surface tangent to the airfoil and the x-axis.

Since the airfoil is thin the drag coefficient can be written as

$$C_D = \frac{D}{\frac{1}{2}\rho_\infty U_\infty^2 C} = 2 \int_0^1 \left( \frac{P - P_\infty}{\frac{1}{2}\rho_\infty U_\infty^2} \right) \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right) d\left(\frac{x}{C}\right)$$

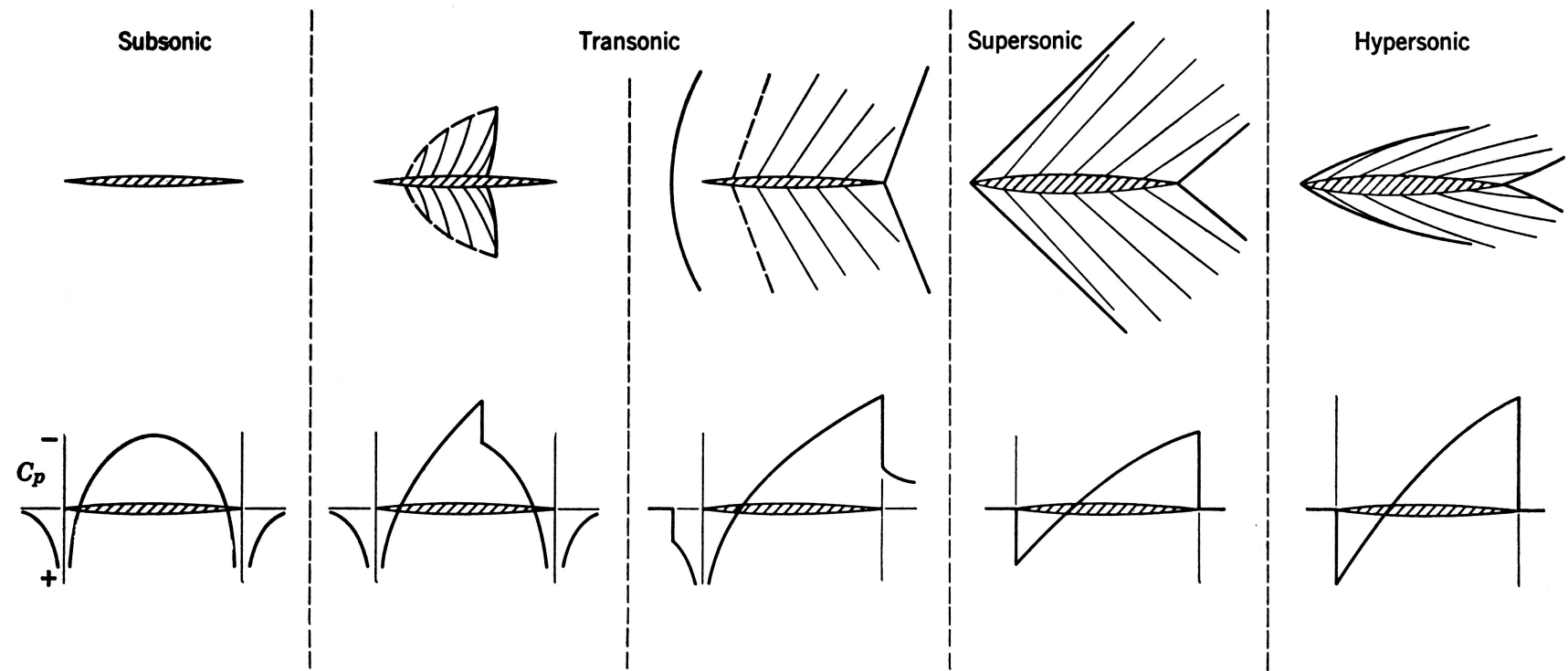
The pressure coefficient is

$$C_P = \frac{P - P_\infty}{\frac{1}{2}\rho_\infty U_\infty^2} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{M_\infty^2 - 1}} \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)$$

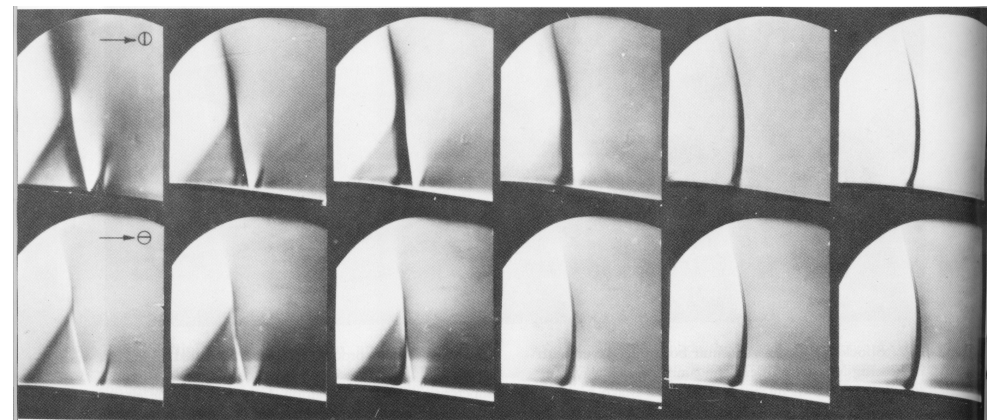
The drag coefficient becomes

$$C_D = \frac{4}{\sqrt{M_\infty^2 - 1}} \int_0^1 \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 d\left(\frac{x}{C}\right) = \frac{4A^2\pi}{C^2 \sqrt{M_\infty^2 - 1}} \int_0^\pi \cos^2\left(\frac{\pi x}{C}\right) d\left(\frac{\pi x}{C}\right) = \frac{2A^2\pi^2}{C^2 \sqrt{M_\infty^2 - 1}}$$

Potential flow pressure distribution on a symmetric thin airfoil in several flow regimes - subsonic to hypersonic Mach numbers

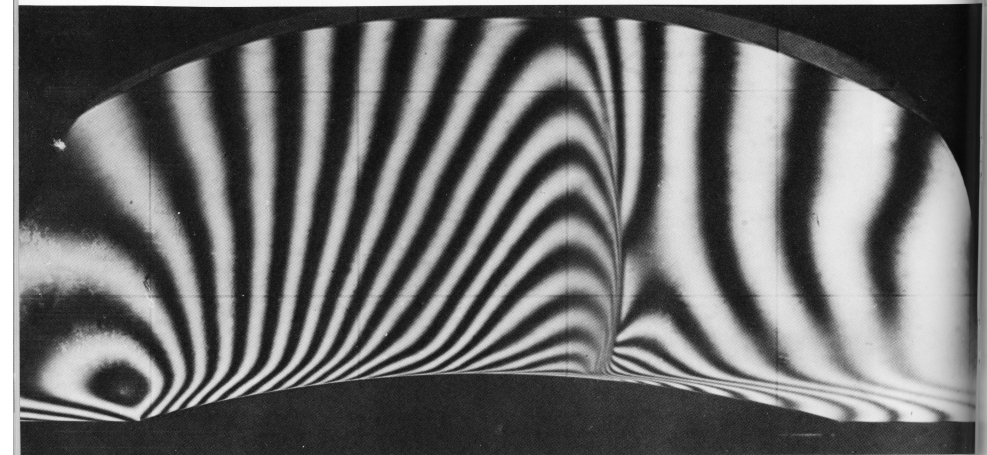


# Shock boundary layer interaction from Van Dyke



249. Shock waves on a laminar boundary layer becoming turbulent. The local Mach number on a curved plate remains almost fixed at 1.2 or 1.3 as the Reynolds number is doubled, progressing from 1,320,000 at the left

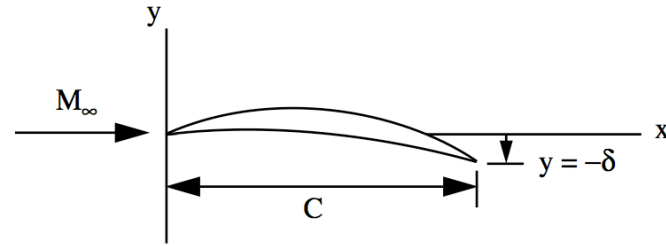
to 2,680,000 at the right. As the boundary layer changes from laminar to turbulent ahead of the shock wave, the oblique leg of the lambda shock wave gradually disappears. Ackeret, Feldmann & Rott 1946



250. Shock wave in transonic flow over a bump. An infinite-fringe interferogram shows transonic flow over a 7-per-cent-thick circular-arc bump on a channel wall. The local region of supersonic flow terminates in a shock wave

that interacts with the turbulent boundary layer on the wall, as in the preceding two photographs. Delery, Chattot & Le Balleur 1975

### 14.1.6 Thin airfoil with lift and camber at a small angle of attack



Upper surface

$$f\left(\frac{x}{C}\right) = A\tau\left(\frac{x}{C}\right) + B\sigma\left(\frac{x}{C}\right) - \frac{\delta x}{C}$$

Lower surface

$$g\left(\frac{x}{C}\right) = -A\tau\left(\frac{x}{C}\right) + B\sigma\left(\frac{x}{C}\right) - \frac{\delta x}{C}$$

where

$$\tau\left(\frac{x}{C}\right) ; \quad \tau(0) = \tau(1) = 0 \quad ; \quad \sigma\left(\frac{x}{C}\right) ; \quad \sigma(0) = \sigma(1) = 0$$

$$\text{Tan}(\alpha) = -\frac{\delta}{C}$$

## Lift

$$L = \int_0^C (P_{lower} - P_{\infty}) \cos(\alpha_{lower}) dx - \int_0^C (P_{upper} - P_{\infty}) \cos(\alpha_{upper}) dx$$

$$\cos(\alpha_{lower}) \cong 1$$

$$\cos(\alpha_{upper}) \cong 1$$

$$C_L = \frac{\cancel{D} L}{\frac{1}{2} \rho_{\infty} U_{\infty}^2 C} = \int_0^l C_{P_{lower}} d\xi - \int_0^l C_{P_{upper}} d\xi \quad \xi = \frac{x}{C}$$

$$C_{P_{upper}} = \frac{2}{C \sqrt{M_{\infty}^2 - 1}} \left( \frac{df}{d\xi} \right) = \frac{2}{C \sqrt{M_{\infty}^2 - 1}} \left( A \frac{d\tau}{d\xi} + B \frac{d\sigma}{d\xi} - \delta \right)$$

$$C_{P_{lower}} = -\frac{2}{C \sqrt{M_{\infty}^2 - 1}} \left( \frac{dg}{d\xi} \right) = -\frac{2}{C \sqrt{M_{\infty}^2 - 1}} \left( -A \frac{d\tau}{d\xi} + B \frac{d\sigma}{d\xi} - \delta \right)$$

$$C_L = \frac{-2}{C \sqrt{M_{\infty}^2 - 1}} \left( \int_0^l \frac{df}{d\xi} d\xi + \int_0^l \frac{dg}{d\xi} d\xi \right) = \frac{-2}{C \sqrt{M_{\infty}^2 - 1}} \left( \int_0^{\delta} df + \int_0^{\delta} dg \right)$$

$$C_L = \frac{4}{\sqrt{M_{\infty}^2 - 1}} \left( \frac{\delta}{C} \right)$$

## Drag

$$D = \int_0^C (P_{upper} - P_\infty) \sin(\alpha_{upper}) dx + \int_0^C (P_{lower} - P_\infty) \sin(-\alpha_{lower}) dx$$

$$C_D = \frac{D}{\frac{1}{2} \rho_\infty U_\infty^2 C} = \int_0^1 \left( \frac{P_{upper} - P_\infty}{\frac{1}{2} \rho_\infty U_\infty^2} \right) (\alpha_{upper}) d\xi + \int_0^1 \left( \frac{P_{lower} - P_\infty}{\frac{1}{2} \rho_\infty U_\infty^2} \right) (-\alpha_{lower}) d\xi$$

$$\sin(\alpha_{upper}) \cong \alpha_{upper} \cong \frac{dy_{upper}}{dx} \qquad \sin(-\alpha_{lower}) \cong -\alpha_{lower} \cong -\frac{dy_{lower}}{dx}$$

$$C_D = \frac{D}{\frac{1}{2} \rho_\infty U_\infty^2 C} = \frac{1}{C} \int_0^1 C_{P_{upper}} \left( \frac{dy_{upper}}{d\xi} \right) d\xi + \frac{1}{C} \int_0^1 C_{P_{lower}} \left( -\frac{dy_{lower}}{d\xi} \right) d\xi$$

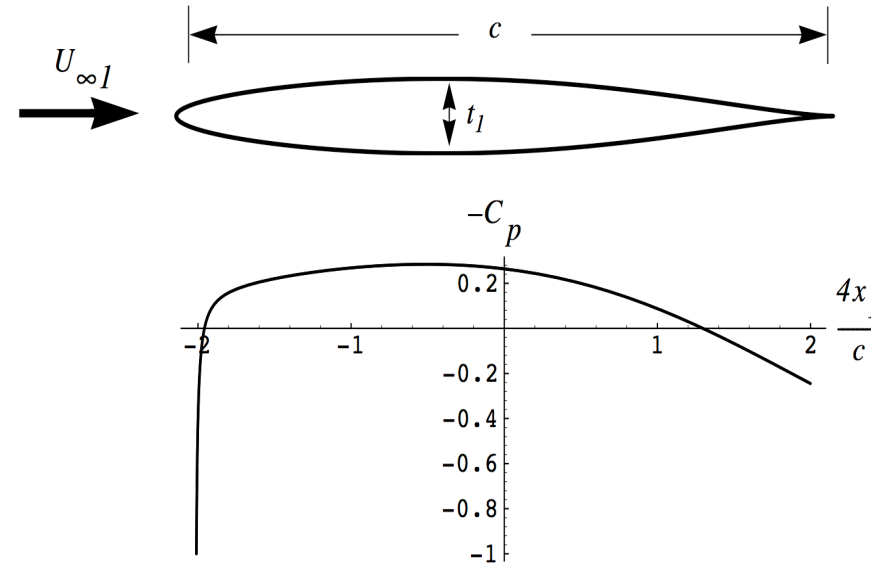
$$C_D = \frac{2}{C^2 \sqrt{M_\infty^2 - 1}} \left( \int_0^1 \left( A \frac{d\tau}{d\xi} + B \frac{d\sigma}{d\xi} - \delta \right)^2 d\xi + \int_0^1 \left( -A \frac{d\tau}{d\xi} + B \frac{d\sigma}{d\xi} - \delta \right)^2 d\xi \right)$$

$$C_D = \frac{4}{\sqrt{M_\infty^2 - 1}} \left( \left( \frac{A}{C} \right)^2 \int_0^1 \left( \frac{d\tau}{d\xi} \right)^2 d\xi + \left( \frac{B}{C} \right)^2 \int_0^1 \left( \frac{d\sigma}{d\xi} \right)^2 d\xi - \frac{2B\delta}{C} \int_0^1 \left( \frac{d\sigma}{d\xi} \right) d\xi + \left( \frac{\delta}{C} \right)^2 \int_0^1 d\xi \right)$$

$$C_D = \frac{4}{\sqrt{M_\infty^2 - 1}} \left( \left( \frac{A}{C} \right)^2 \int_0^1 \left( \frac{d\tau}{d\xi} \right)^2 d\xi + \left( \frac{B}{C} \right)^2 \int_0^1 \left( \frac{d\sigma}{d\xi} \right)^2 d\xi + \left( \frac{\delta}{C} \right)^2 \right)$$

## 14.2 Similarity rules for high speed flight

Inviscid, incompressible flow



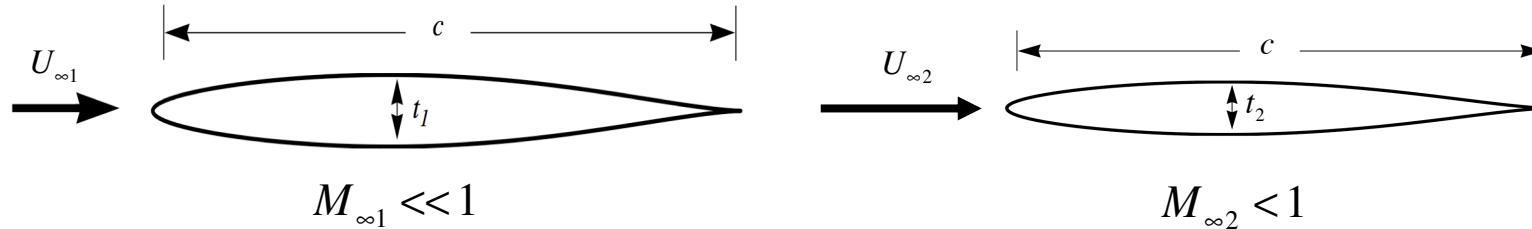
Governing equation 
$$\frac{\partial^2 \phi_1}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi_1}{\partial y_1^2} = 0$$

Pressure 
$$P_{\infty} + \frac{1}{2} \rho_{\infty} U_{\infty 1}^2 = P_{s1} + \frac{1}{2} \rho_{\infty} U_{s1}^2$$

Pressure coefficient 
$$C_{p1} = \frac{P_{s1} - P_{\infty}}{\frac{1}{2} \rho_{\infty} U_{\infty 1}^2}$$



# How can we map an incompressible flow to a compressible flow?



Equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 \phi_1}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi_1}{\partial y_1^2} = 0$$

$$(1 - M_{\infty 2}^2) \frac{\partial^2 \phi_2}{\partial x_2^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi_2}{\partial y_2^2} = 0$$

Airfoil shape

$$\frac{y_1}{c} = \tau_1 g[x_1/c] \quad \tau_1 = t_1/c$$

$$\frac{y_2}{c} = \tau_2 g(x_2/c) \quad \tau_2 = t_2/c$$

Boundary condition

$$\left( \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial y_1} \right)_{y_1=0} = U_{\infty 1} \left( \frac{dy_1}{dx_1} \right)_{body} = U_{\infty 1} \tau_1 \frac{dg[x_1/c]}{d(x_1/c)}$$

$$\phi_1_{x_1 \rightarrow \infty} = 0$$

$$\left( \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y_2} \right)_{y_2=0} = U_{\infty 2} \left( \frac{dy_2}{dx_2} \right)_{body} = U_{\infty 2} \tau_2 \frac{dg[x_2/c]}{d(x_2/c)}$$

$$\phi_2_{x_2 \rightarrow \infty} = 0$$

Surface pressure

$$C_{P1} = -\frac{2}{U_{\infty 1}} \left( \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial x_1} \right)_{y_1=0}$$

$$C_{P2} = -\frac{2}{U_{\infty 2}} \left( \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial x_2} \right)_{y_2=0}$$

Transform variables as follows

$$x_2 = x_1 ; \quad y_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - M_{\infty 2}^2}} y_1 ; \quad \phi_2 = \frac{1}{A} \left( \frac{U_{\infty 2}}{U_{\infty 1}} \right) \phi_1$$

where A is an arbitrary constant

$$(1 - M_{\infty 2}^2) \frac{\partial^2 \phi_2}{\partial x_2^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi_2}{\partial y_2^2} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial^2 \phi_1}{\partial^2 x_1} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi_1}{\partial^2 y_1} = 0$$

$$\left( \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial y_2} \right)_{y_2=0} = U_{\infty 2} \left( \frac{dy_2}{dx_2} \right)_{body} = U_{\infty 2} \tau_2 \frac{dg[x_2/c]}{d(x_2/c)} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \left( \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial y_1} \right)_{y_1=0} = U_{\infty 1} \left( \frac{A \tau_2}{\sqrt{1 - M_{\infty 2}^2}} \right) \frac{dg[x_1/c]}{d(x_1/c)}$$

$$\phi_{2, x_2 \rightarrow \infty} = 0 \quad \phi_{1, x_1 \rightarrow \infty} = \phi_{2, x_2 \rightarrow \infty} = 0$$

The transformation is completed by choosing

$$\frac{t_2}{c} = \frac{\sqrt{1 - M_{\infty 2}^2}}{A} \left( \frac{t_1}{c} \right)$$

Pressure coefficient

$$C_{P2} = -\frac{2}{U_{\infty 2}} \left( \frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial x_2} \right)_{y_2=0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad C_{P2} = \frac{1}{A} C_{P1}$$

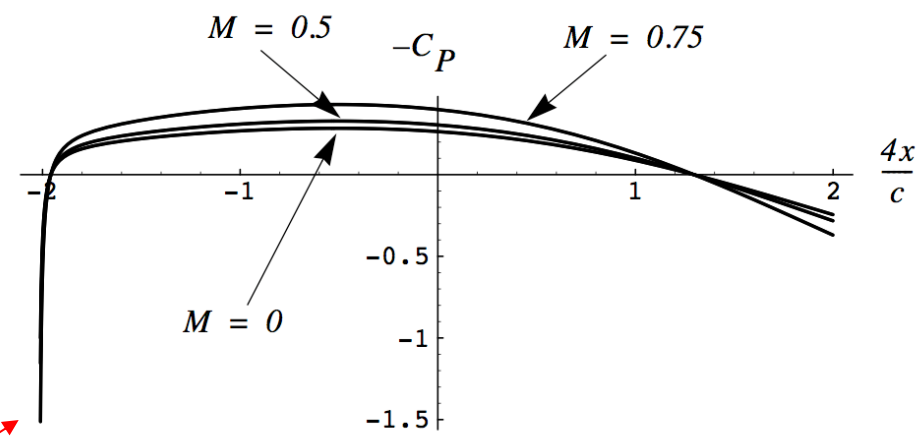
## Prandtl-Glauert rule

Choose  $A = \sqrt{1 - M_{\infty 2}^2} \implies \frac{t_2}{c} = \frac{t_1}{c}$

In this case the airfoils have the same shape and thickness ratio.

The pressure coefficient scales as

$$C_{P2} = \frac{C_{P1}}{\sqrt{1 - M_{\infty 2}^2}}$$



inaccurate at the leading edge

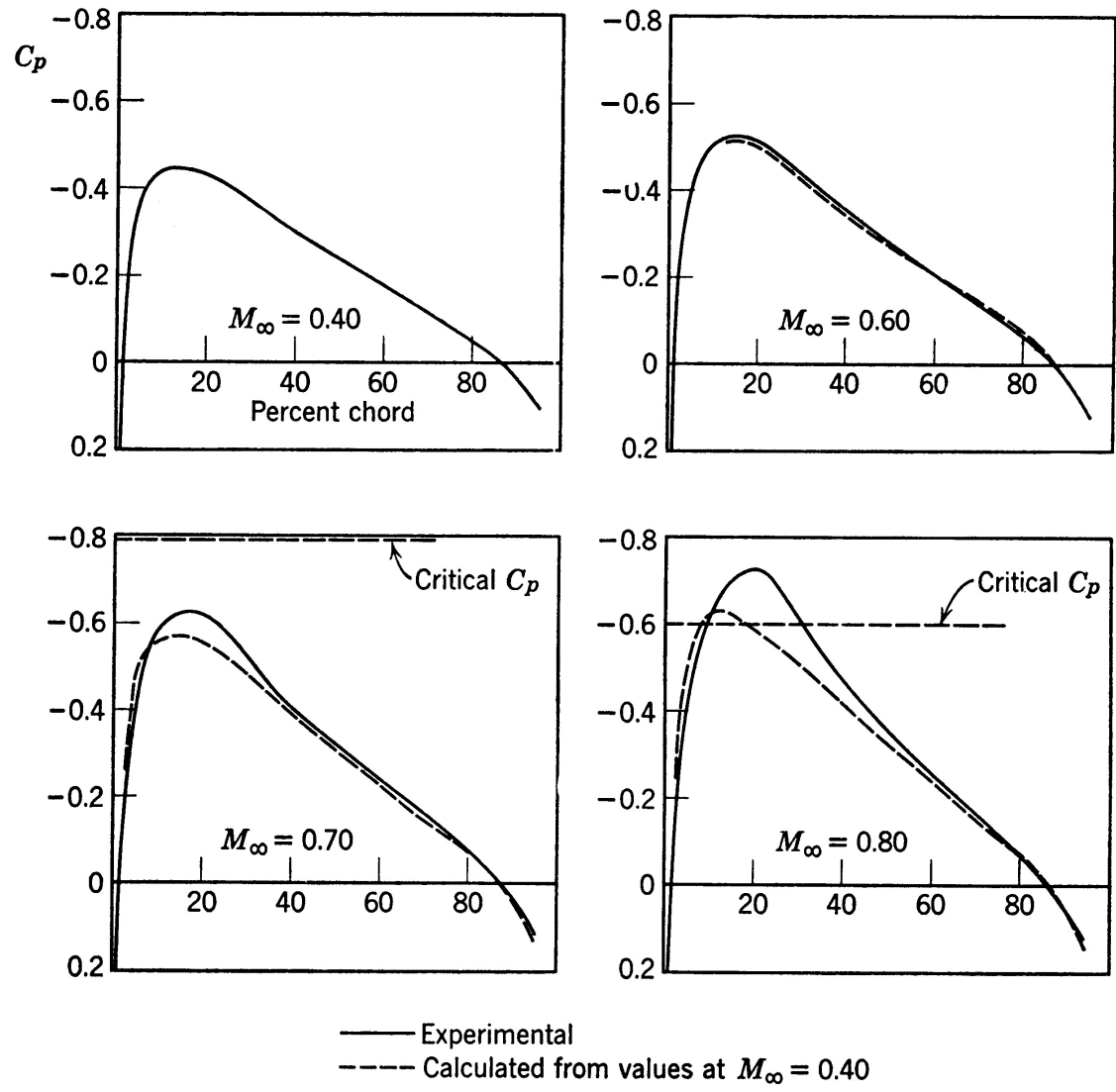


FIG. 10-1 Comparison of Prandtl-Glauert similarity rule with experiment. (Experimental data for NACA 0012 airfoil, taken from *NACA Tech. Note 2174* by J. L. Amick.)

Supersonic case - everything is the same with

$$1 - M_\infty^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad M_\infty^2 - 1$$

Mapping

$$(M_{\infty 2}^2 - 1) \frac{\partial^2 \phi_2}{\partial x_2^2} - \frac{\partial^2 \phi_2}{\partial y_2^2} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial^2 \phi_1}{\partial x_1^2} - \frac{\partial^2 \phi_1}{\partial y_1^2} = 0 \quad M_{\infty 1} = \sqrt{2}$$

Pressure coefficient

$$C_p = \frac{2}{\sqrt{M^2 - 1}} \left( \frac{t}{c} \right) \frac{d(y/t)}{d(x/c)}$$

For airfoils with the same dimensionless shape, ie, the same  $y/t = f(x/c)$

$$C_p \sim \frac{2}{\sqrt{M^2 - 1}} \left( \frac{t}{c} \right)$$

This is limited to thin airfoils with no shocks.

## Transonic case

$$(1 - M_{\infty 1}^2) \frac{\partial^2 \phi_1}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi_1}{\partial y_1^2} - \frac{(\gamma_1 + 1) M_{\infty 1}^2}{U_{\infty 1}} \frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial^2 \phi_1}{\partial x_1^2} = 0$$

## Transform variables

$$x_2 = x_1 ; \quad y_2 = \frac{\sqrt{1 - M_{\infty 1}^2}}{\sqrt{1 - M_{\infty 2}^2}} y_1 ; \quad \phi_2 = \frac{1}{A} \left( \frac{U_{\infty 2}}{U_{\infty 1}} \right) \phi_1$$

The transonic equation is invariant only if

$$A = \left( \frac{1 + \gamma_2}{1 + \gamma_1} \right) \left( \frac{1 - M_{\infty 1}^2}{1 - M_{\infty 2}^2} \right) \left( \frac{M_{\infty 2}^2}{M_{\infty 1}^2} \right)$$

Pressure coefficient

$$C_{P1} = \left( \frac{1 + \gamma_2}{1 + \gamma_1} \right) \left( \frac{1 - M_{\infty 1}^2}{1 - M_{\infty 2}^2} \right) \left( \frac{M_{\infty 2}^2}{M_{\infty 1}^2} \right) C_{P2}$$

Thickness-to-chord ratio

$$\frac{t_2}{c} = \left( \frac{1 + \gamma_1}{1 + \gamma_2} \right) \left( \frac{1 - M_{\infty 2}^2}{1 - M_{\infty 1}^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \left( \frac{M_{\infty 1}^2}{M_{\infty 2}^2} \right) \frac{t_1}{c}$$

## Other choices of A

$$A = 1$$

$$C_{P2} = C_{P1}$$

$$\frac{t_2}{c} = \sqrt{1 - M_{\infty 2}^2} \frac{t_1}{c}$$

Cp is constant if thickness is reduced as Mach number is increased

$$A = (t_1 / t_2)$$

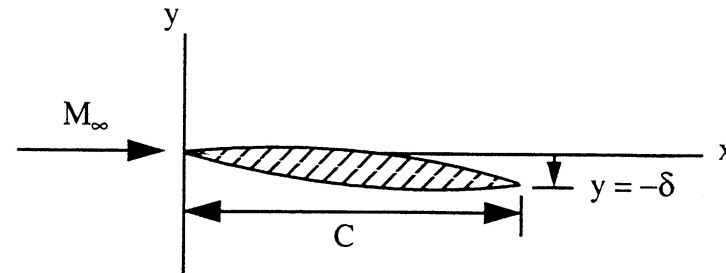
$$C_{P2} = \left( \frac{t_2}{t_1} \right) C_{P1}$$

$$M_{\infty 2} = \text{const}$$

Cp is proportional to thickness/chord for fixed Mach number

## 14.3 Problems

**Problem 12** - A thin, 2-D, airfoil is situated in a supersonic stream at Mach number  $M$  and a small angle of attack as shown below.



The  $y$ -coordinate of the upper surface of the airfoil is given by the function .

$$f(x) = A \frac{x}{C} \left( 1 - \frac{x}{C} \right) - \frac{\delta}{C} x$$

and the  $y$ -coordinate of the lower surface is

$$g(x) = -A \frac{x}{C} \left( 1 - \frac{x}{C} \right) - \frac{\delta}{C} x$$

where  $2A/C \ll 1$  and  $\delta/C \ll 1$ . Determine the lift and drag coefficients of the airfoil.