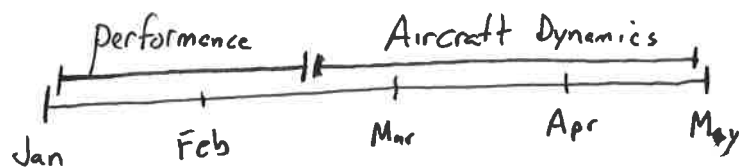


AEM 368

Stability  
And  
Control of  
Aircraft



## Lesson 14

Static Stability and Control  
(Longitudinal)

# Review of ordinary differential Equations (1 dia)

$$ay'' + by' + cy = 0$$

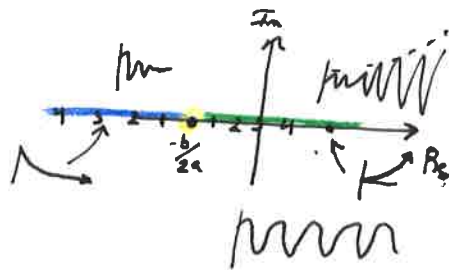
find a characteristic equation

$$ar^2 + br + c = 0$$

with solution roots  $r_1, r_2 = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

- If  $r_1 \neq r_2$  and both are real

$$y = Ae^{r_1 x} + Be^{r_2 x}$$



- If  $r_1 = r_2$  and are real

$$y = Ae^{r_1 x} + Bx e^{r_1 x}$$

- If  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are complex

$$y = Ae^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x) + Be^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x)$$

with  $r_1 = \frac{-b}{2a} + \frac{1}{2a} \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$

$$r_2 = \frac{-b}{2a} - \frac{1}{2a} \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$$

$$\Rightarrow r_1 = \bar{r}_2 = \alpha \pm i\beta$$

$$\alpha = \frac{-b}{2a} \quad \beta = \frac{\sqrt{4ac - b^2}}{2a}$$

# Longitudinal Static Stability

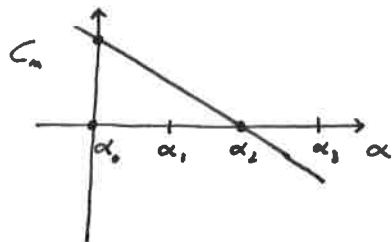


Rigid body motion is about the center of gravity (CG) ⊕

Measure moment about CG, and nondimensionalize

$$M = q S \bar{c} C_m \quad \left[ \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{ft}^2} \cdot \text{ft}^2 \cdot \text{ft} \right] = [\text{lb} \cdot \text{ft}] \quad \checkmark$$

Now sweep through a range of  $\alpha$  and  $I \ddot{\alpha} = M$

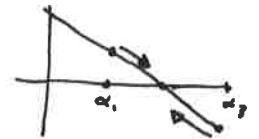


- at  $\alpha_0$ ,  $C_m > 0 \Rightarrow \alpha$  tends to increase  $\ddot{\alpha} > 0$
- at  $\alpha_1$ ,  $C_m > 0 \Rightarrow \alpha$  tends to increase  $\ddot{\alpha} > 0$
- at  $\alpha_2$ ,  $C_m = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha$  doesn't change  $\ddot{\alpha} = 0$
- at  $\alpha_3$ ,  $C_m < 0 \Rightarrow \alpha$  decreases  $\ddot{\alpha} < 0$

The equilibrium point is  $\alpha_2$  where  $C_m = 0$ .

Is the equilibrium point stable?

- 1) Reduce  $\alpha$  to  $\alpha_1$   
 $\alpha$  tends to increase
- 2) Increase  $\alpha$  to  $\alpha_3$   
 $\alpha$  tends to decrease.



this only happens when  $\frac{dC_m}{d\alpha} < 0$

Static Stability requires

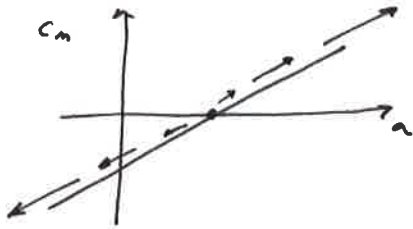
$$C_m = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dC_m}{d\alpha} < 0$$

at the given flight condition

The equilibrium point where  $C_m = 0$  is often called the "trim point"

# Ex: Aircraft lacking Static Stability

1)



$$C_{m\alpha} > 0$$

Gov Egu:

$$I \ddot{\alpha} = M \Rightarrow \ddot{\alpha} = k C_m$$

$$\text{Solution to } \ddot{\alpha} - k C_{m\alpha} \alpha \text{ is } = k C_{m\alpha} \alpha$$

$\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   
 $a=1$   $c=-kC_{m\alpha}$   $b=0!$

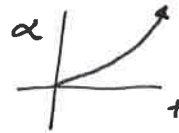
Two identical roots (real)

$$r = \sqrt{k C_{m\alpha}} = \frac{-0}{2 \cdot 1} \pm \sqrt{\frac{0 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot (-k C_{m\alpha})}{2 \cdot 1}}$$

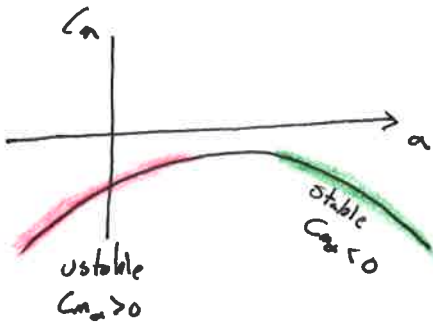
Solution

$$\alpha = A e^{\sqrt{k C_{m\alpha}} t} + B t e^{\sqrt{k C_{m\alpha}} t}$$

diverge away with time

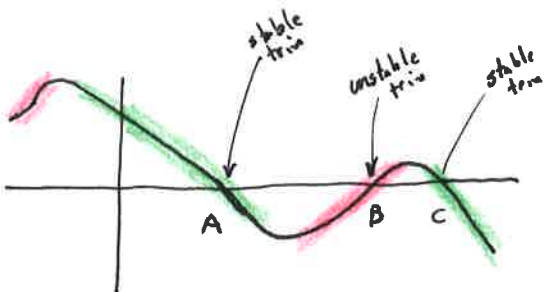


2)



$$C_m \neq 0$$

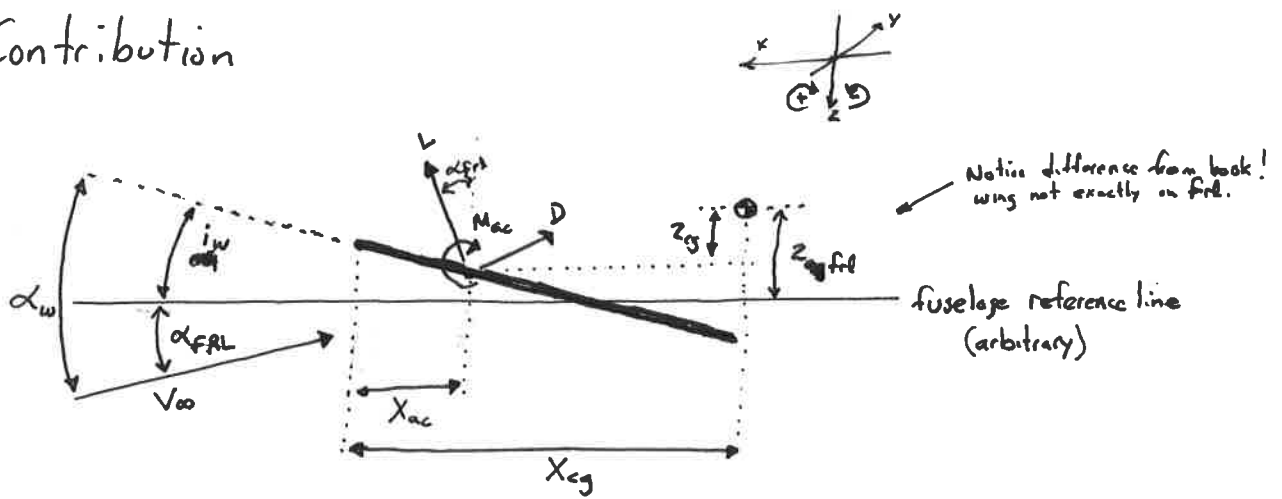
3)



Multiple trim points

A and C are stable  
B is unstable

# Wing Contribution



Moment about the CG:

$$M_{cg_{wing}} = M_{ac_w} + \underbrace{L_w \cos(\alpha_w - i_w)}_{\text{Lift component normal to f.r.l.}} \cdot \underbrace{(X_{cg} - X_{ac})}_{\text{distance from L to cg}} + \underbrace{D_w \sin(\alpha_w - i_w)}_{\text{drag } \perp \text{ f.r.l.}} \cdot \underbrace{(X_{cg} - X_{ac})}_{\text{distance from D to f.r.l.}}$$

$$+ \underbrace{L_w \sin(\alpha_w - i_w)}_{\text{Lift } \parallel \text{ f.r.l.}} \cdot \underbrace{(z_{cg})}_{\text{distance (height)}} - \underbrace{D_w \cos(\alpha_w - i_w)}_{\text{Drag } \parallel \text{ f.r.l.}} \cdot \underbrace{(z_{cg})}_{\text{distance (height)}}$$

non-Dimensionalize (divide by  $qS\bar{c}$ )

$$C_{m_{cg_w}} = C_{m_{ac_w}} + C_{L_w} \cos(\alpha_w - i_w) \cdot \left( \frac{X_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{X_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right)$$

$$+ C_{D_w} \sin(\alpha_w - i_w) \cdot \left( \frac{X_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{X_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right)$$

$$+ C_{L_w} \sin(\alpha_w - i_w) \cdot \left( \frac{z_{cg}}{\bar{c}} \right)$$

$$+ -C_{D_w} \cos(\alpha_w - i_w) \cdot \left( \frac{z_{cg}}{\bar{c}} \right)$$

When the angles are small;

$$\cos(\alpha_w - i_w) \approx 1$$

$$\sin(\alpha_w - i_w) \approx \alpha_w - i_w$$

$$C_L > C_D$$

and the wing is mounted near the cg (in the vertical direction)

$$\frac{z_{cg}}{\bar{c}} \approx 0$$

The moment about the CG becomes

$$C_{m_{cg_w}} = C_{m_{ac_w}} + C_{L_w} \cos(\alpha_w - i_w) \cdot \left( \frac{x_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{x_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right) + C_{D_w} \sin(\alpha_w - i_w) \cdot \left( \frac{x_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{x_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right) + C_{L_w} \sin(\alpha_w - i_w) \cdot \frac{z_{cg}}{\bar{c}} + - C_{D_w} \cos(\alpha_w - i_w) \cdot \frac{z_{cg}}{\bar{c}}$$

$$C_{m_{cg_w}} = C_{m_{ac_w}} + C_{L_w} \left( \frac{x_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{x_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right)$$

the moment about the CG      the moment about the wing      lift coefficient      distance from a.c. to cg

Expand  $C_{L_w}$  (the wing's lift coefficient)

book type "-"

$$C_{m_{cg_w}} = C_{m_{ac_w}} + (C_{L_{0_w}} + C_{L_{\alpha_w}} \alpha) \left( \frac{x_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{x_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right)$$

Expand  $C_{m_{cg_w}} = C_{m_{0_w}} + C_{m_{\alpha_w}} \alpha$

$$C_{m_{0_w}} + C_{m_{\alpha_w}} \alpha = C_{m_{ac_w}} + C_{L_{0_w}} \left( \frac{x_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{x_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right) + C_{L_{\alpha_w}} \left( \frac{x_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{x_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right) \alpha$$

Equate the constant terms

$$C_{m_{0w}} = C_{m_{acw}} + C_{L_{0w}} \left( \frac{X_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{X_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right)$$

I personally prefer not to use this particular equation.

And the  $\alpha$  terms

$$C_{m_{\alpha w}} = C_{L_{\alpha w}} \left( \frac{X_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{X_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right)$$

Recall that Static Stability required two conditions

$$C_m = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dC_m}{d\alpha} < 0$$

1)  $C_m = 0$

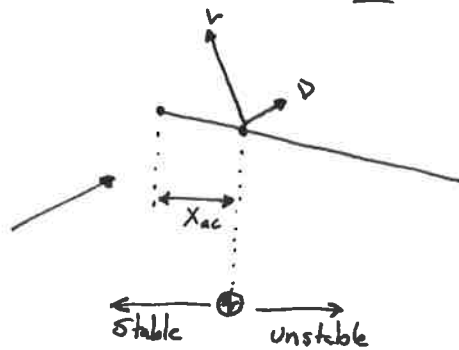
For the moment to be zero,  $C_{m_{acw}} + C_{L_{0w}} \left( \frac{X_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{X_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right) = 0$

not much to say yet....

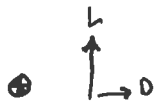
2)  $\frac{dC_m}{d\alpha} = C_{m_{\alpha}} < 0$

For stability,  $C_{m_{\alpha}} \leq 0 \Rightarrow C_{L_{\alpha}} \left( \frac{X_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{X_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right) \leq 0$

"+" thus this term must be negative  $\Rightarrow \underline{X_{ac} > X_{cg}}$



with a forward CG, { an increase in  $\alpha$  tends to create a nose down  $C_m$  moment  
 { a decrease in  $\alpha$  tends to create a nose up moment





Return to 1)

$$C_{m_{cgw}} = 0 \Rightarrow 0 = C_{mac_w} + C_{Lw} \left( \frac{x_{cg}}{c} - \frac{x_{ac}}{c} \right)$$

Must be negative for stability

$$0 = C_{mac_w} + (C_{L_0} + C_{L_\alpha} \alpha) \left( \frac{x_{cg}}{c} - \frac{x_{ac}}{c} \right)$$

Flat plate 

From thin airfoil theory,  $C_L = 2\pi\alpha$

$C_{m_{x/c}} = 0$  (symmetrical)

$$0 = C_{m_{ac_w}} + C_{L_0} + C_{L_\alpha} \alpha (-)$$

which is only zero when  $\alpha = 0$

Not useful!  $C_{L_\alpha} \cdot \alpha^0 = 0$   
No lift!

Circular Arc Airfoil



$$C_L = 2\pi \left( \alpha + \frac{2f}{c} \right)$$

$$C_{m_{x/c}} = -\pi \frac{f}{c}$$

plug into  $C_m = 0$  eqn

$$0 = C_{m_{ac_w}} + (C_{L_0} + C_{L_\alpha} \alpha) (-)$$

$\begin{matrix} -\pi f/c & +\pi f/c & 2\pi \\ \underbrace{\quad} & \underbrace{\quad} & \underbrace{\quad} \\ - & + & - \end{matrix}$

For  $C_L > 0$ ,  $\alpha > -\frac{2f}{c}$

and thus  $0 = "-" + "-"$

Not possible!

Not trimmable!

Inverted Circular Arc



$$C_L = 2\pi \left( \alpha - \frac{2f}{c} \right)$$

$$C_{m_{x/c}} = \pi \frac{f}{c}$$

$C_L > 0$  when  $\alpha > \frac{2f}{c}$

$$0 = C_{m_{ac_w}} + (C_{L_0} + C_{L_\alpha} \alpha) (-)$$

$\begin{matrix} \pi f/c & -\pi f/c & 2\pi \\ \underbrace{\quad} & \underbrace{\quad} & \underbrace{\quad} \\ + & + & - \end{matrix}$

Trimable! Stable!



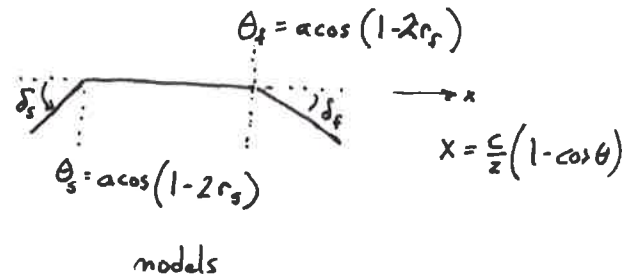
The inverted camber airfoil is not an efficient choice from aerodynamics ...  
Why?



Separation and Boundary layer growth

We need an airfoil with a "nicer" leading edge,  $C_{L_0} > 0$ , and trimmable

Recall an airfoil with a slot and flap



From Aerodynamics

$$C_L \approx 2\pi A_0 + \pi A_1$$

$$C_{m_{1/4}} = -\frac{\pi}{4}(A_1 - A_2)$$

$$A_0 = \alpha - \frac{1}{\pi}(\delta_s \theta_s + \delta_f \theta_f) + \delta_f$$

$$A_1 = \frac{2}{\pi}(\delta_s \sin \theta_s + \delta_f \sin \theta_f)$$

$$A_1 = \frac{2}{\pi}(\delta_s \sqrt{4r_s^2 + 4r_s^2} + \delta_f \sqrt{4r_f^2 + 4r_f^2}) = \frac{2}{\pi} \delta_s \sin \theta_s + \frac{2}{\pi} \delta_f \sin \theta_f$$

$$C_e = 2\pi \alpha + 2\pi \delta_f \left(1 - \frac{\theta_f}{\pi} + \frac{\sin \theta_f}{\pi}\right) + 2\pi \delta_s \left(-\frac{\theta_s}{\pi} + \frac{\sin \theta_s}{\pi}\right)$$

$$A_2 = \frac{1}{\pi} \delta_s \sin 2\theta_s + \frac{1}{\pi} \delta_f \sin(2\theta_f)$$

$$C_{m_{1/4}} = -\frac{\pi}{4} \left( \frac{2}{\pi} \delta_s \sin \theta_s + \frac{2}{\pi} \delta_f \sin \theta_f - \frac{\delta_s \sin 2\theta_s}{\pi} - \frac{\delta_f \sin 2\theta_f}{\pi} \right)$$

After trials, you can find a stable and trimmed flying wing

$$r_s = 0.2 \quad \theta_s = 5^\circ$$

$$r_f = 0.8$$

$$\frac{x_{cg}}{c} - \frac{x_{ac}}{c} = -0.1$$



⇒



↖ reflexed trailing edge

$\delta_f$	$C_L$	$\alpha$
-1	0	0°
-2	0.07	2°
-5	0.4	7°
-8	0.75	12° stall!

Very poor choice for high  $C_L$  since  $C_L$  decreases with the trailing edge deflection necessary to trim to a high  $C_L$ .

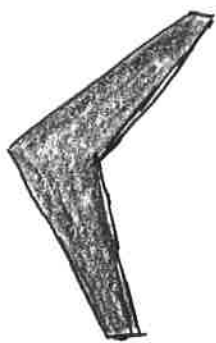
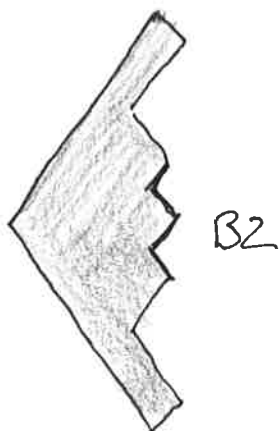
$C_{L_0}$  is still rather low compared to non-reflexed airfoil

# Flying Wings

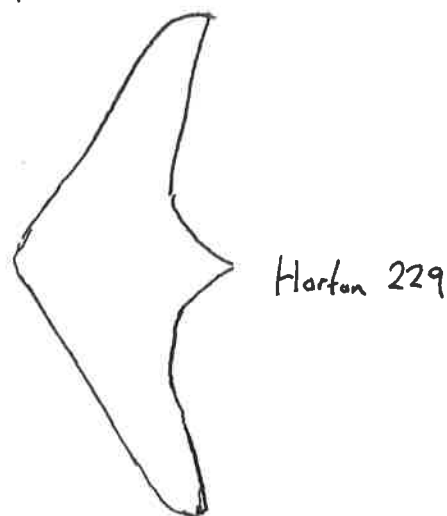
Un swept flying wings are not common.

- poor  $C_{Lmax}$
- poor pitch damping (see later in class)
- Often sensitive to  $\delta_s$  without very forward cg, in which case, the  $\delta_s$  must be large
- Aero is still poor wrt BL growth and stall.  
purposeful decambering?!

Most flying wings are the swept concept



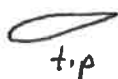
Not to scale



These achieve stability and trim through wing twist. This twist profile also allows the vertical stab to be removed (i.e. natural yaw stability ... like a bird)



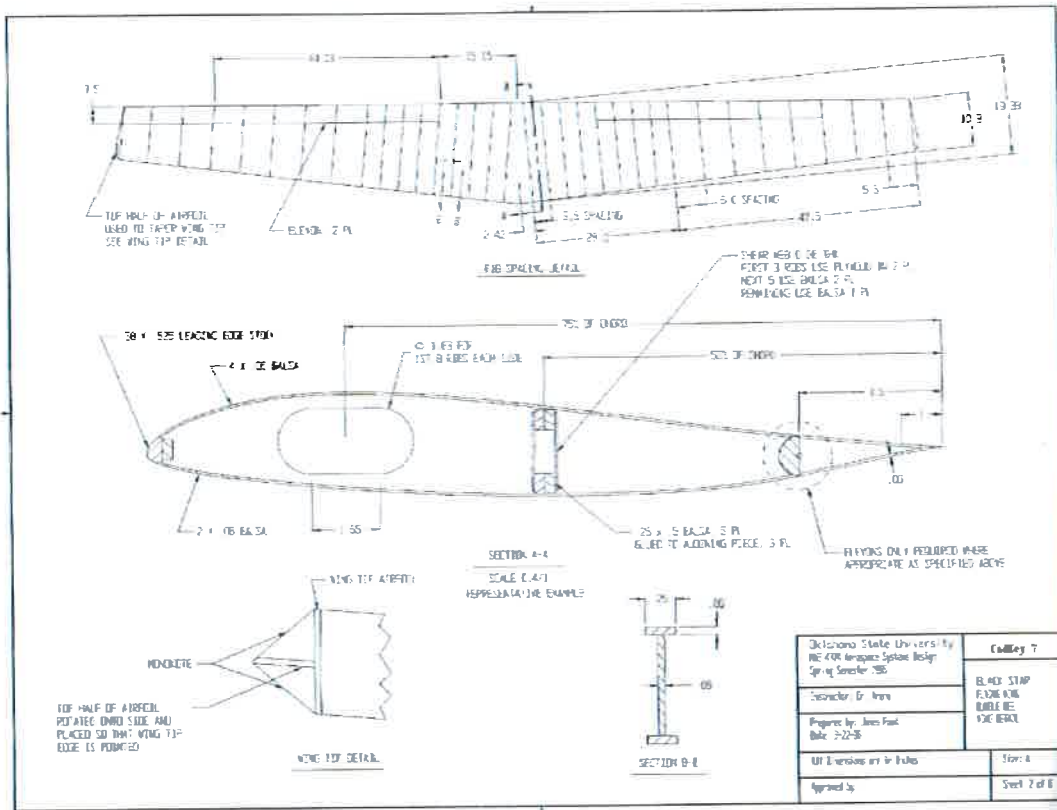
root



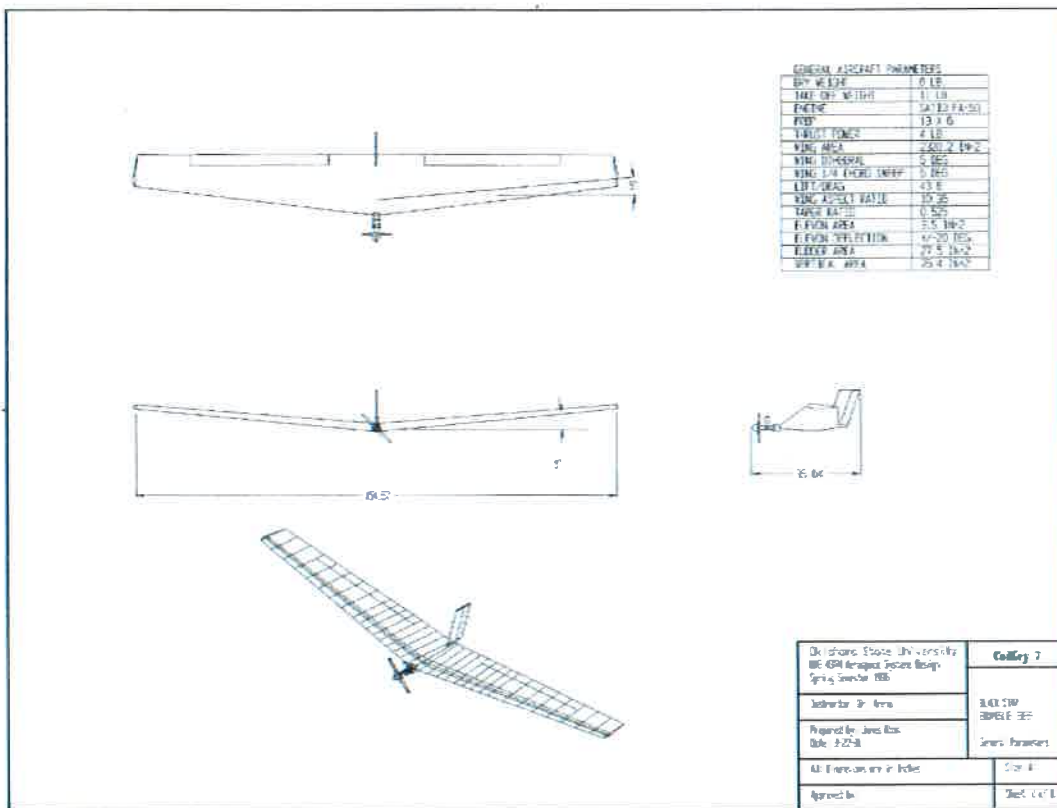
tip

There are some persistent myths of aerodynamic efficiency associated with flying wings. For the most part, these are wishful thoughts.

Stealth is not a myth, but is also not completely "invisible".



Oklahoma State University ME 4394 Aerospace Systems Design Spring Semester 1985	Collery 7
Instructor: Dr. Irene	BLK-431W F320-431W DUBLE RE 1/8" Balsa
Prepared by: James Faust Date: 3-22-85	
All Dimensions are in Inches	Sheet 4
Approved by:	Sheet 7 of 8





YB-49 (Source: DFRC)

*dream-flight*



**alula**<sup>TRK</sup>  
Go anywhere RC glider

Wingspan: 950 mm (31.9 ft)  
Wing Area: 18.7 dm<sup>2</sup> (228 in<sup>2</sup>)  
Weight: 32.70 g (1.16 oz)  
Wing Loading: 1.75 g/dm<sup>2</sup> (1.1 lb/ft<sup>2</sup>)  
Controls: Electric 2 Channels



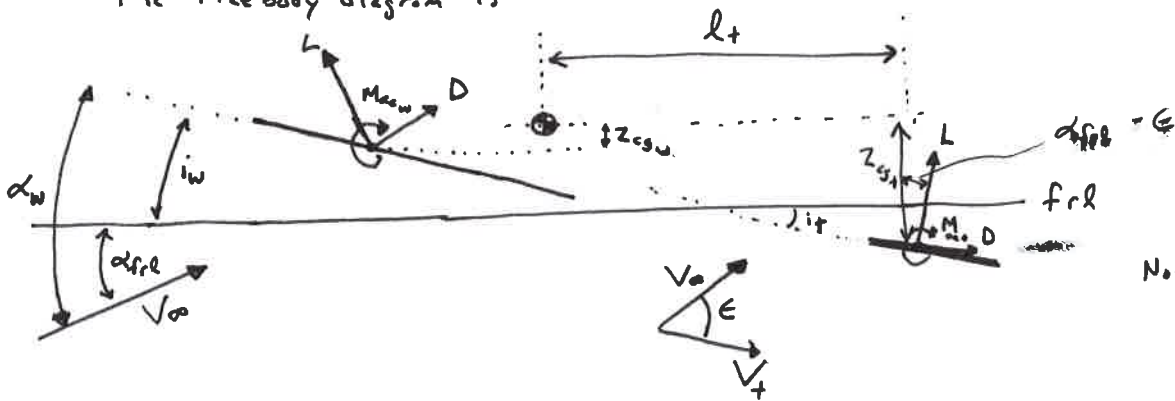
*McRider*  
Signature Design

# Tail Contribution to Static Stability (Aft tail)

An aft tail operates in the downwash and wake of the wing, this complicates the aerodynamics associated with static stability.



The Freebody diagram is



Notice in this figure  
 $\alpha_{fre} - \epsilon < 0 !!$

At the tail

$$\alpha_t = \underbrace{\alpha_w - i_w}_{\alpha_{frel}} - \underbrace{\epsilon}_{\text{downwash}} + \underbrace{i_t}_{\text{tail incidence angle}}$$

The dynamic pressure ratio at the tail

$$\eta = \frac{q_t}{q_w} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \rho V_t^2}{\frac{1}{2} \rho V_w^2}$$

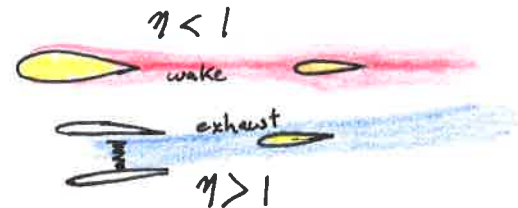
Assuming small angles again gives

$$L_{aircraft} = L_w + L_t$$

nondim' by  $q S_w \Rightarrow \frac{L}{q S_w} = \frac{L_w}{q S_w} + \frac{L_t}{q S_w}$

$$C_L = C_{L_w} + C_{L_t} \frac{S_t}{S_w} \eta$$

$$\frac{L_t}{q S_w} \frac{S_t}{S_t} \cdot \frac{q_t}{q_t} = C_{L_t} \frac{S_t}{S_w} \eta$$



Sum of moments about CG (from tail)

$$M_t = -l_t L_t \cos(\alpha_{fre} - \epsilon) - l_t D_t \sin(\alpha_{fre} - \epsilon) - z_{cg_t} D_t \cos(\alpha_{fre} - \epsilon) + z_{cg_t} L_t \sin(\alpha_{fre} - \epsilon) + M_{ac_t}$$

Be careful with sign of sine terms.  $\alpha_{fre} - \epsilon < 0 !$

Reduce terms

$$M_t = -l_t L_t \cos(\dots) - l_t D_t \sin(\dots) - z_{cg} D_t \cos(\dots) + z_{cg_t} L_t \sin(\dots)$$

$$= -l_t L_t$$

Non-dim by wing  $\rho_w S_w \bar{c}_w$

$$\frac{M_t}{\rho_w S_w \bar{c}_w} = \frac{-l_t L_t}{\rho_w S_w \bar{c}_w} = \frac{-l_t}{\rho_w S_w \bar{c}_w} \cdot \rho_t S_t C_{L_t} = \underbrace{\frac{-l_t S_t}{\bar{c}_w S_w}}_{\text{Tail volume ratio } \equiv V_H} M C_{L_t}$$

$$C_{m_t} = -V_H M C_{L_t} = -\frac{l_t}{\bar{c}_w} \frac{S_t}{S_w} M C_{L_t}$$

Tail volume ratio  $\equiv V_H$

Angle of attack at tail

$$\alpha_t = \alpha_{rel} - \epsilon + i_t = \alpha_w - i_w - \epsilon + i_t$$

$\swarrow$   $\alpha_w - i_w$   $\swarrow$  tail incidence angle  
 $\nwarrow$   $\epsilon$   $\nwarrow$  downwash  
 $\nearrow$   $i_t$

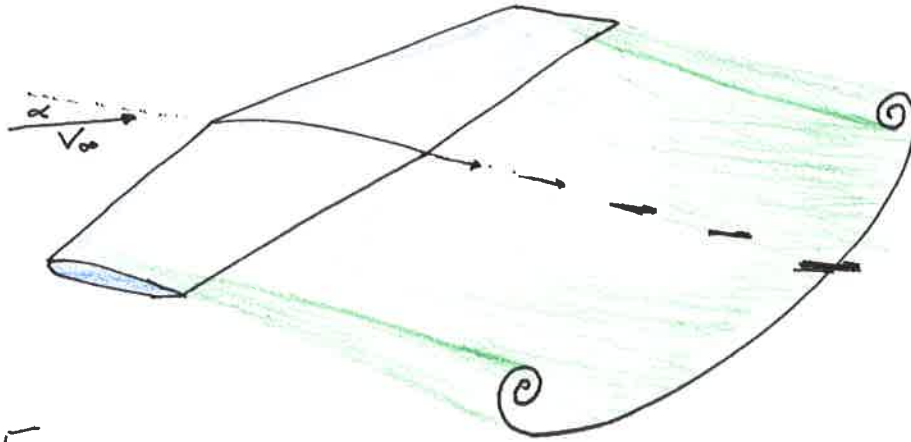
Tail lift coeff.

$$C_{L_t} = C_{L_{\alpha_t}} \alpha_t = C_{L_{\alpha_t}} (\alpha_w - i_w - \epsilon + i_t)$$

$\swarrow$  flight condition  $\swarrow$  geometry (easy)  $\swarrow$  aero (hard)  $\swarrow$  geometry (easy)

Horizontal  $\alpha_{zL}$  is lumped into here.

# Downwash



Taylor Series ...  
 $\epsilon = \epsilon_0 + \frac{d\epsilon}{d\alpha} \alpha_w$   
↑ book typo Eq 2.20

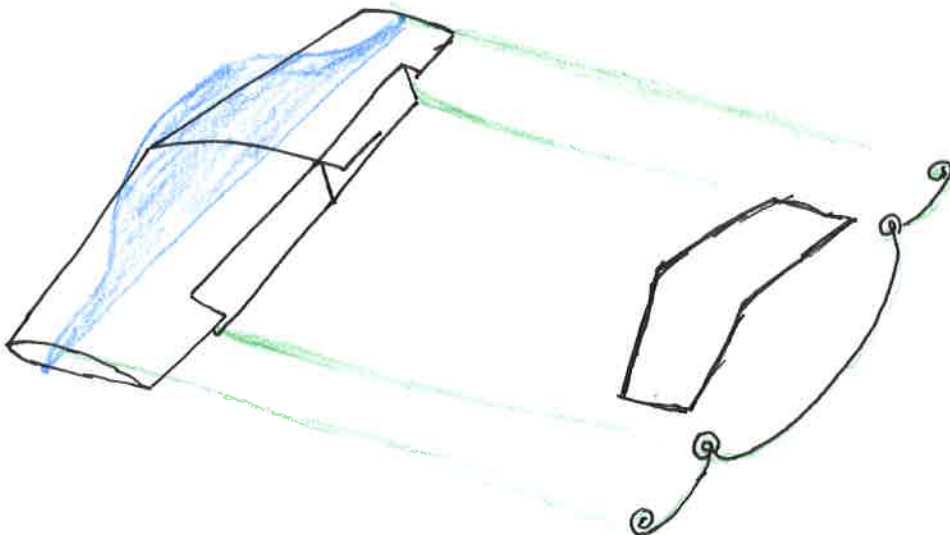
For an elliptical ~~diag~~ lift distribution

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon &= \frac{2C_{Lw}}{\pi AR_w} = \epsilon_0 + \frac{d\epsilon}{d\alpha} \alpha_w \\ &= \frac{2C_{Lw_{\alpha=0}}}{\pi AR_w} + \frac{2C_{L_{\alpha}}}{\pi AR_w} \alpha_w\end{aligned}$$

Non-elliptical

downwash varies along span

Average value is a reasonable estimate





## Moment Coeff about CG (total)

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_{m_t} &= -V_H \eta C_{L_{\alpha_t}} = -V_H \eta C_{L_{\alpha_w}} (\alpha_w - i_w - \epsilon + i_t) \\
 &= \underbrace{\eta V_H C_{L_{\alpha_t}} (\epsilon_0 + i_w - i_t)}_{\text{wing geometry}} - \underbrace{\eta V_H C_{L_{\alpha_t}} (\alpha_w - \frac{d\epsilon}{d\alpha} \alpha_w)}_{\text{Aero}} \\
 &= C_{m_{0_t}} + C_{m_{\alpha}} \alpha
 \end{aligned}$$

$\uparrow$   
 $\epsilon_0 + \frac{d\epsilon}{d\alpha} \alpha$   
 $\uparrow$   
 this is now the wing  $\alpha$  not  $\alpha_t$

with  $C_{m_{0_t}} = \eta V_H C_{L_{\alpha_t}} (\epsilon_0 + i_w - i_t)$

$$C_{m_{\alpha_t}} = -\eta V_H C_{L_{\alpha_t}} (1 - \frac{d\epsilon}{d\alpha})$$

## Conventional Aircraft



$$C_{m_0} = C_{m_{0_w}} + C_{m_{0_t}} = C_{m_{ac_w}} + C_{L_{\alpha_w}} \left( \frac{x_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{x_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right) + \eta V_H C_{L_{\alpha_t}} (\epsilon_0 + i_w - i_t)$$

$\uparrow$   
 easy to trim etc

$$C_{m_{\alpha}} = C_{m_{\alpha_w}} + C_{m_{\alpha_t}} = C_{L_{\alpha_w}} \left( \frac{x_{cg}}{\bar{c}} - \frac{x_{ac}}{\bar{c}} \right) - \underbrace{\eta V_H C_{L_{\alpha_t}} \left( 1 - \frac{d\epsilon}{d\alpha} \right)}_{\text{Horizontal provides a strong stabilizing effect.}}$$

- Unlike the flying wing, the CG can be aft of the quarter chord provided a large enough tail.
- Tail incidence  $i_t$  is an effective trim mechanism.