Analyzing an albatross wing

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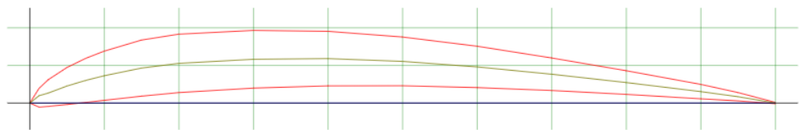


Import the mean camber line from http://airfoiltools.com/airfoil/details?airfoil=goe173-il

In [ ]:
```
import pandas as pd

# Read the CSV file
df = pd.read_csv("albatross_foil-camber_line.csv")

# Display the first 5 rows
display(df.head())

x_foil = df["X(mm)"].tolist()
y_foil = df["Y(mm)"].tolist()
```

	X(mm)	Y(mm)
0	0.000	0.000000
1	1.241	0.978000
2	2.486	1.335821
3	4.978	2.261891
4	7.473	3.007482

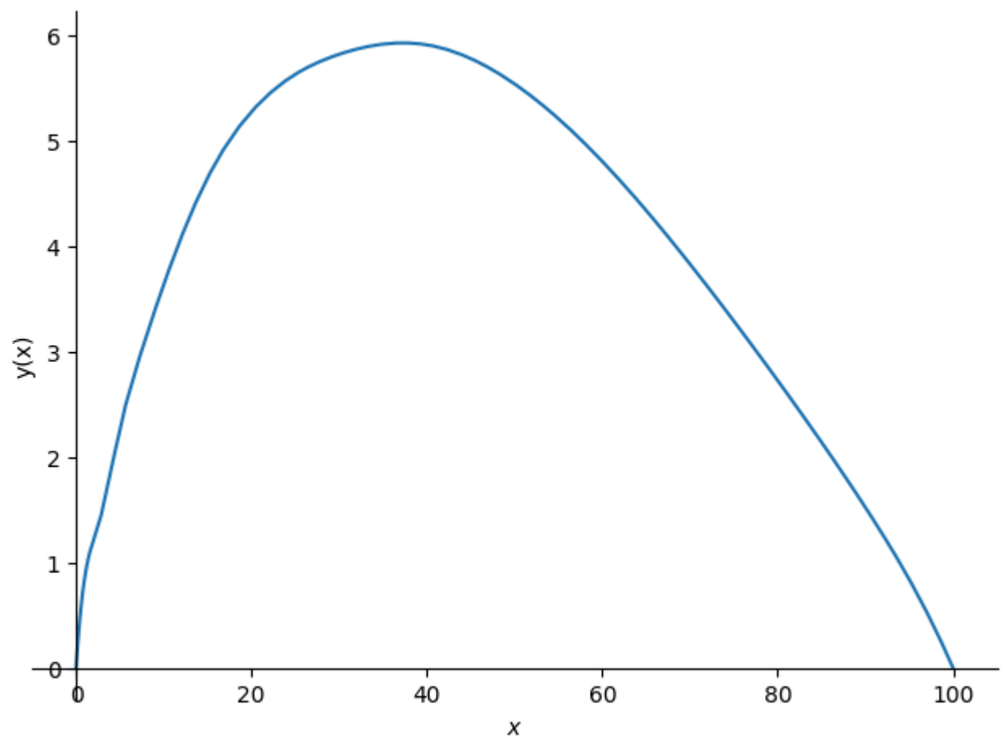
Interpolate the data into a function so that we can keep things analytical and symbolic

In [ ]:
```
import sympy as sp
from IPython.display import Markdown

alpha, theta, x = sp.symbols("alpha, theta, x")
chord_length_data = 100 # mm

# Construct an interpolating polynomial for x_foil and y_foil
y_func_x = sp.interpolating_spline(3, x, x_foil, y_foil)
display(Markdown("$y(x) = " + sp.latex(y_func_x) + "$"))
sp.plot(y_func_x, (x, 0, chord_length_data), ylabel="y(x)")
```

$$y(x) = \begin{cases} 0.0757438198145068x^3 - 0.48369211108273x^2 + 1.27168442585302x & \text{for } x \geq 0 \wedge x \leq 2.486 \\ -0.0164005768176812x^3 + 0.203520799000128x^2 - 0.436726868612968x + 1.41570349268081 & \text{for } x \geq 2.486 \wedge x \leq 4.978 \\ 0.0051175805847793x^3 - 0.117831363648218x^2 + 1.16296419705049x - 1.23871721561009 & \text{for } x \geq 4.978 \wedge x \leq 7.473 \\ -0.000365930224799395x^3 + 0.00510346519172705x^2 + 0.244272221129586x + 1.0497444964089 & \text{for } x \geq 7.473 \wedge x \leq 9.968 \\ -0.000199278194540061x^3 + 0.000119902878852579x^2 + 0.293948370264324x + 0.884687211550524 & \text{for } x \geq 9.968 \wedge x \leq 14.962 \\ 0.000245238196808445x^3 - 0.0198326598632167x^2 + 0.592478614011156x - 0.604182624096177 & \text{for } x \geq 14.962 \wedge x \leq 19.958 \\ 0.00012274930637512x^3 - 0.0124987600374118x^2 + 0.446108641287747x + 0.369568014441756 & \text{for } x \geq 19.958 \wedge x \leq 29.956 \\ -3.90384183972492 \cdot 10^{-5}x^3 + 0.00204077921243152x^2 + 0.0105622035194419x + 4.71864437770423 & \text{for } x \geq 29.956 \wedge x \leq 39.956 \\ 2.88369943703519 \cdot 10^{-5}x^3 - 0.00609531076519523x^2 + 0.335647814665496x + 0.388937484720252 & \text{for } x \geq 39.956 \wedge x \leq 49.96 \\ 1.873961567553 \cdot 10^{-5}x^3 - 0.0045819156464153x^2 + 0.260038594531253x + 1.64808303068919 & \text{for } x \geq 49.96 \wedge x \leq 59.965 \\ 2.10662735920923 \cdot 10^{-5}x^3 - 0.00500046977231526x^2 + 0.28513719269084x + 1.14640388447584 & \text{for } x \geq 59.965 \wedge x \leq 69.972 \\ 6.97096097190038 \cdot 10^{-6}x^3 - 0.00204163812833513x^2 + 0.0781018248982628x + 5.97529680286998 & \text{for } x \geq 69.972 \wedge x \leq 79.98 \\ -1.90634019269676 \cdot 10^{-5}x^3 + 0.00420504690561922x^2 - 0.421508044117408x + 19.2948959108278 & \text{for } x \geq 79.98 \wedge x \leq 89.989 \\ -0.000149790157233174x^3 + 0.0394969568553698x^2 - 3.59739172858552x + 114.559761538028 & \text{for } x \geq 89.989 \wedge x \leq 100.0 \end{cases}$$



Out[ ]: <sympy.plotting.plot.Plot at 0x7f35222ea110>

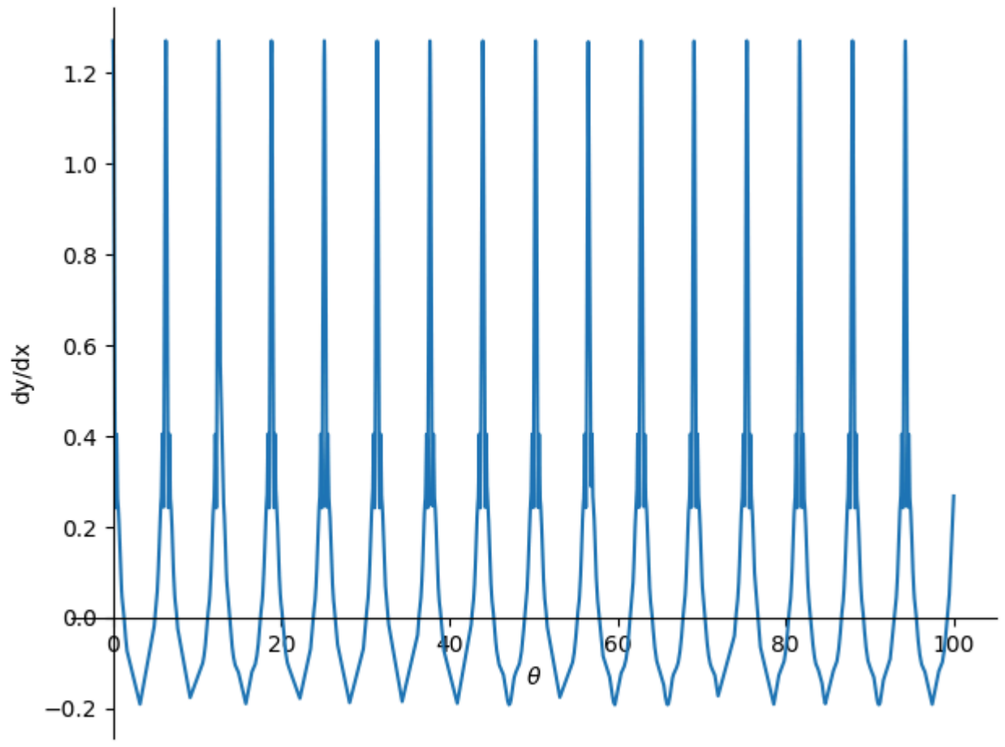
Now let's get derivatives and do a variable substitution to get the function in terms of θ instead of x

In [ ]:
```
# Differentiate y_func_x with respect to x
dydx_func_x = y_func_x.diff(x)

# Variable substitution from x to theta
```

```
dydx_func_theta = dydx_func_x.subs(x, chord_length_data / 2 * (1 - sp.cos(theta)))
display(Markdown("$\\frac{dy}{dx}(\\theta) = " + sp.latex(dydx_func_theta) + "$"))
sp.plot(dydx_func_theta, (theta, 0, chord_length_data), ylabel="dy/dx")
```

$$\frac{dy}{dx}(\theta) = \begin{cases} 568.078648608801(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 + 48.369211108273\cos(\theta) - 47.09752668242 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -2.486 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq 0 \\ -123.004326132609(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 - 20.3520799000128\cos(\theta) + 19.9153530313998 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -4.978 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq -2.486 \\ 38.3818543858447(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 + 11.7831363648218\cos(\theta) - 10.6201721677713 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -7.473 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq -4.978 \\ -2.74447668599546(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 - 0.510346519172705\cos(\theta) + 0.754618740302291 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -9.968 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq -7.473 \\ -1.49458645905046(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 - 0.0119902878852579\cos(\theta) + 0.305938658149582 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -14.962 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq -9.968 \\ 1.83928647606334(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 + 1.98326598632167\cos(\theta) - 1.39078737231051 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -19.958 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq -14.962 \\ 0.9206197978134(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 + 1.24987600374118\cos(\theta) - 0.803767362453429 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -29.956 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq -19.958 \\ -0.292788137979369(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 - 0.204077921243152\cos(\theta) + 0.214640124762594 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -39.956 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq -29.956 \\ 0.216277457777639(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 + 0.609531076519523\cos(\theta) - 0.273883261854027 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -49.96 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq -39.956 \\ 0.140547117566475(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 + 0.45819156464153\cos(\theta) - 0.198152970110277 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -59.965 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq -49.96 \\ 0.157997051940692(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 + 0.500046977231526\cos(\theta) - 0.214909784540686 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -69.972 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq -59.965 \\ 0.0522822072892529(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 + 0.204163812833513\cos(\theta) - 0.12606198793525 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -79.98 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq -69.972 \\ -0.142975514452257(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 - 0.420504690561922\cos(\theta) - 0.00100335355548548 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -89.989 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq -79.98 \\ -1.1234261792488(1 - \cos(\theta))^2 - 3.94969568553698\cos(\theta) + 0.352303956951467 & \text{for } 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \geq -100.0 \wedge 50.0\cos(\theta) - 50.0 \leq -89.989 \end{cases}$$



Out[ ]: <sympy.plotting.plot.Plot at 0x7f35222dbe50>

Now we can get the lift coefficient!

```
# Calculate the lift coefficient
coeff_lift_albatross = (
    2
    * sp.pi
    * (
        alpha
        + (1 / sp.pi)
        * sp.integrate(dydx_func_theta * (sp.cos(theta) - 1), (theta, 0, sp.pi))
    )
).evalf()

# Display the equation
display(Markdown("$C_l = " + sp.latex(coeff_lift_albatross) + "$"))
```

$C_l = 6.28318530717959\alpha + 0.63959809779726$

Calculate lift for a speed v, with a span of b, chord_length of c, through air with density ρ

```
cruising_velocity, span_length, density, chord_length, coeff_lift = sp.symbols("u_{\\infty}, b, rho, c, C_l")

# Calculate the lift
lift = sp.Rational(1, 2) * density * cruising_velocity ** 2 * span_length * chord_length * coeff_lift
display(Markdown("$L = " + sp.latex(lift) + "$"))
```

$L = \frac{C_l b c \rho u_{\infty}^2}{2}$

Find the angle of attack at steady altitude (α_0)

```
albatross_weight = sp.symbols("W")

# Find the angle of attack at steady altitude
alpha_0 = sp.solve((lift - albatross_weight).subs(coeff_lift, coeff_lift_albatross), alpha, dict=True)[0][alpha]
display(Markdown("$\\alpha_0 = " + sp.latex(alpha_0) + "$"))
```

$\alpha_0 = \frac{0.31830988618379W}{b c \rho u_{\infty}^2} - 0.101795198856607$

Evaluating for properties of an Albatross moving at cruising speed

```
albatross_data = {
    "W": 8*9.81,  # N
    "u_{\\infty}": 20,  # m/s
    "b": 3,  # m
    "rho": 1.225,  # kg/m^3
    "c": 0.3,  # m
    "C_l": coeff_lift_albatross,
}


def radians_to_degrees(radians):
    return 180 / sp.pi * radians


def degrees_to_radians(degrees):
    return sp.pi / 180 * degrees


# Compute the angle of attack at steady altitude in degrees
alpha_0_albatross = radians_to_degrees(alpha_0).evalf(subs=albatross_data)
display(Markdown("$\\alpha_0 = " + sp.latex(round(alpha_0_albatross, 2)) + "^\\circ $"))
```

$\alpha_0 = -2.59^\circ$

Lets compare the lift to a small aircraft with a 50 mph cruise speed, 6 ft span, and 1 ft chord length, using the NACA 4412 airfoil at 2 degrees angle of attack

In [ ]:
```
aircraft_data = {
    "u_{\\infty}": 22.352,  # m/s
    "b": 1.8288,  # m
    "rho": 1.225,  # kg/m^3
    "c": 0.3048,  # m
    "C_l": 6.28 * degrees_to_radians(2) + 25.18,
}

# Compute the lift at a 2 degree angle of attack for the albatross
lift_albatross = lift.subs(albatross_data).subs(alpha, degrees_to_radians(2)).evalf()
display(Markdown("Albatross: $L = " + sp.latex(round(lift_albatross, 2)) + " N$"))

# Compute the lift at a 2 degree angle of attack for the aircraft
lift_aircraft = lift.subs(aircraft_data).subs(alpha, degrees_to_radians(2)).evalf()
display(Markdown("Aircraft: $L = " + sp.latex(round(lift_aircraft, 2)) + " N$"))
```

Albatross: $L = 189.39N$

Aircraft: $L = 4332.52N$