



**Stellenbosch**  
UNIVERSITY  
IYUNIVESITHI  
UNIVERSITEIT

# Title

Mechatronic Project 478  
Final Report

Author: Rayde Krüger  
24723061

Supervisor: Dr. A Gill

February 24, 2024

Department of Mechanical and Mechatronic Engineering  
Stellenbosch University  
Private Bag X1, Matieland 7602, South Africa.

Copyright © 2023 Stellenbosch University.  
All rights reserved.

# Plagiarism declaration

I have read and understand the Stellenbosch University Policy on Plagiarism and the definitions of plagiarism and self-plagiarism contained in the Policy [Plagiarism: The use of the ideas or material of others without acknowledgement, or the re-use of one's own previously evaluated or published material without acknowledgement or indication thereof (self-plagiarism or text-recycling)].

I also understand that direct translations are plagiarism, unless accompanied by an appropriate acknowledgement of the source. I also know that verbatim copy that has not been explicitly indicated as such, is plagiarism.

I know that plagiarism is a punishable offence and may be referred to the University's Central Disciplinary Committee (CDC) who has the authority to expel me for such an offence.

I know that plagiarism is harmful for the academic environment and that it has a negative impact on any profession.

Accordingly all quotations and contributions from any source whatsoever (including the internet) have been cited fully (acknowledged); further, all verbatim copies have been expressly indicated as such (e.g. through quotation marks) and the sources are cited fully.

I declare that, except where a source has been cited, the work contained in this assignment is my own work and that I have not previously (in its entirety or in part) submitted it for grading in this module/assignment or another module/assignment. I declare that have not allowed, and will not allow, anyone to use my work (in paper, graphics, electronic, verbal or any other format) with the intention of passing it off as his/her own work.

I know that a mark of zero may be awarded to assignments with plagiarism and also that no opportunity be given to submit an improved assignment.

Signature: .....

Name: ..... Student no: .....

Date: .....

# Executive summary

<b>Title of Project</b>
...
<b>Objectives</b>
...
<b>What is current practice and what are its limitations?</b>
...
<b>What is new in this project?</b>
...
<b>If the project is successful, how will it make a difference?</b>
...
<b>What are the risks to the project being a success? Why is it expected to be successful?</b>
...
<b>What contributions have/will other students made/make?</b>
...
<b>Which aspects of the project will carry on after completion and why?</b>
...
<b>What arrangements have been/will be made to expedite continuation?</b>
...

# Acknowledgements

# Table of contents

## List of figures

## List of tables

# List of symbols

## Constants

$$L_0 = 300 \text{ mm}$$

## Variables

$Re_D$	Reynolds number (diameter) . . . . .	[ ]
$x$	Coordinate . . . . .	[ m ]
$\ddot{x}$	Acceleration . . . . .	[ m/s <sup>2</sup> ]
$\theta$	Rotation angle . . . . .	[ rad ]
$\tau$	Moment . . . . .	[ N·m ]

## Vectors and Tensors

$\vec{v}$  Physical vector, see equation ...

## Subscripts

$a$	Adiabatic
$a$	Coordinate

## Abbreviations

DEM	Discrete Element Method
FEA	Finite Element Analysis



# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### 1.1 Background

Helicopters are said to be the only aircrafts that, since its conception, has saved more lives then they have taken. Their high level of mobility, vertical take off and landings and their ability to hover give helicopters great versatility. Helicopters are the most common example of a rotary aircraft and are used in environments ranging from rocky, mountainous to stormy seas. With such high stakes it is vital to minimise points of potential failure. One of these failure points is the helicopter's tail rotor. It is required to counter the torque produced by the engine which rotates the main rotor to produce lift. If the tail rotor were stop working, the helicopter would lose its controlability and would have to land immediately. A jet-tipped rotary aircraft places the propulsion on the tips of the aircraft's rotor and thus does not produce any torque that needs to be canceled, eliminating the need of a tail rotor. As the tail rotor uses the same engine, which turns the rotor, to rotate it's blades, high speed gearboxes, clutches and transmission shafts are required, which can all be omitted in a jet-tipped rotary aircraft, reducing both its weight and its complexity.

### 1.2 Objectives

The objectives of the project (in some cases the objectives of the report). If necessary describe limitations to the scope.

### 1.3 Motivation

Why this specific project/report is worthwhile.

# Chapter 2

## Literature Review

### 2.1 Historical development

The advantage of the [[Jet-Tipped Helicopter]] is the omission of the transmission and [[tail rotor]], thus making it more simple and cheaper to produce. The decreased weight allows it to have a larger payload. No need for a high-speed gear boxes, clutches, transmission shafts, oil system w/ tanks .

### 2.2 Rotary wing control system and stability

The objectives of the project (in some cases the objectives of the report). If necessary describe limitations to the scope.

### 2.3 Current state of the art

Why this specific project/report is worthwhile.

# Chapter 3

## Research questions

### 3.1 Can the blade pitched be controlled using propulsion and a spring?

We will see...

# Appendix A

## Mathematical proofs

### A.1 Euler's equation

Euler's equation gives the relationship between the trigonometric functions and the complex exponential function.

$$e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta \quad (\text{A.1})$$

Inserting  $\theta = \pi$  in (??) results in Euler's identity

$$e^{i\pi} + 1 = 0 \quad (\text{A.2})$$

### A.2 Navier Stokes equation

The Navier–Stokes equations mathematically express momentum balance and conservation of mass for Newtonian fluids. Navier-Stokes equations using tensor notation:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} [\rho u_j] = 0 \quad (\text{A.3a})$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\rho u_i) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} [\rho u_i u_j + p \delta_{ij} - \tau_{ji}] = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \quad (\text{A.3b})$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\rho e_0) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} [\rho u_j e_0 + u_j p + q_j - u_i \tau_{ij}] = 0 \quad (\text{A.3c})$$

## Appendix B

### Experimental results