

JX-GS3

The JX-GS airfoil family (or 'strak') is designed for *very fast* F3F style slope gliders.

The strak can be applied for wings having a wing span from 2m to 4m. Used at the right wing section a harmonious distribution of lift, drag and moment will be achieved. Because of the small camber value, flaps are mandatory to achieve full performance.

All airfoils were generated by Xoptfoil2 as the airfoil optimizer.

Characteristics

Main aerodynamic characteristics of JX-GS3 are ...

- very low minimum drag at about $cl=0.1$
- designed for no flap deflection at high speed
- good high lift capabilities with a remarkable α_{max}
- broad Reynolds range with a respectable performance at lower Reynolds numbers

Models with wings based on JX-GS show in practice ...

- very high maximum speed
- greed for acceleration
- well behaved flight properties
- quiet even when flying fast
- having flaps set, nice, not super, slow flight and thermal capabilities

Design History

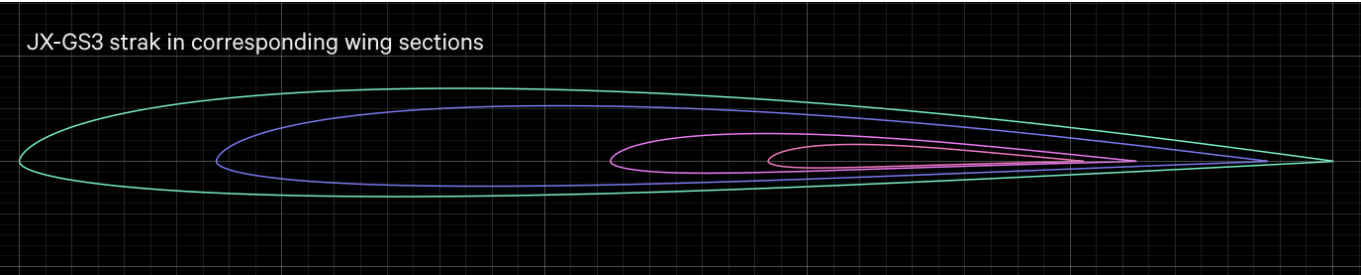
The airfoil was originally designed as part of the VJX F3F project. Its development is documented in detail on [RC-Network](#).

The first revision was made in 2023 to increase maximum lift for narrower turns and a slightly improved drag in the cl -range 0.2 – 0.4. This new JX-GS2 family is used in the F3F model VJX.race which was released in 2025..

In 2025 a fundamental revision was made now using Bézier curve based optimization to achieve best possible geometric properties. The aerodynamic objective in this revision was mainly to align both α_0 and cl_{max} along the airfoil strak. The major revision led to version 3 of the strak, which is called **JX-GS3**.

Description

The airfoil family consists of 4 airfoils each of them optimized within their individual Reynolds profile to have consistent aerodynamic properties over the wing span.



Nomenclature and Blending

The suffix number in the airfoil name indicate the suggested chord position along the wing span. If, for example, JX-GS3-100 is taken as the airfoil at root of wing having a chord of 240mm, then JS-G3-50 is placed at the wing section having a chord of 50% - that is 120mm.

The airfoils can be 'blended' - e.g. using the [AirfoilEditor](#) - to create intermediate airfoils: Blending JX-GS3-100 with 40% JX-GS3-50 will result in the new airfoil JX-GS3-80. The polar of such a blended airfoil will be exactly relative between the polars of its parent airfoils without lost of aerodynamic properties.

Airfoils of the Family

Each airfoil was optimized based on a main polar, which is defined by a 'Design Reynolds', xfoil polar Type 1 and Ncrit =7. An additional objective was to achieve good properties at half of the Design Reynolds numer.

Airfoil	Design Re	Re Range	Thickness	Camber	Remarks
JX-GS3-125	750k	400k - 1000k	8.2% at 32%	1.5% at 39%	extends to higher Reynolds
JX-GS3-100	600k	300k - 800k	7.6% at 30%	1.5% at 39%	Master
JX-GS3-50	300k	100k - 400k	7.4% at 26%	1.6% at 38%	extends to lower Reynolds
JX-GS3-30	180k	50k - 250k	7.3% at 24%	1.7% at 34%	Tip airfoil

To give an indication for air speed: Having a chord of 230mm at Reynolds number of 600.000 equals to an air speed of about 38m/s

The 3 airfoils JX-GS3-125, JX-GS3-100 and JX-GS3-50 cover the performance span range of the wing. Each of this airfoils is optimized for best performance according to the objectives.

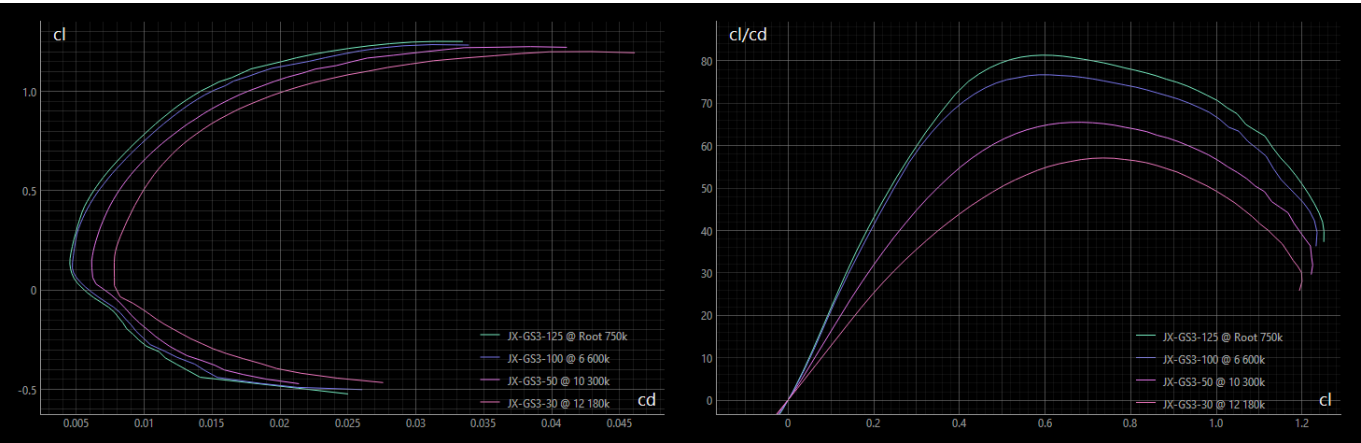
Special attention was paid to the lower Reynolds airfoil JX-GS3-50 that it keeps up regarding alpha_max (cl_max). This results in good lift reserves at the out wing an allows a planform closer to elliptical.

The main design objective of tip airfoil JX-GS3-30 is to preserve the wing tip when it comes to high alpha. As a standalone airfoil for low Reynolds numbers it is not recommended.

Polars

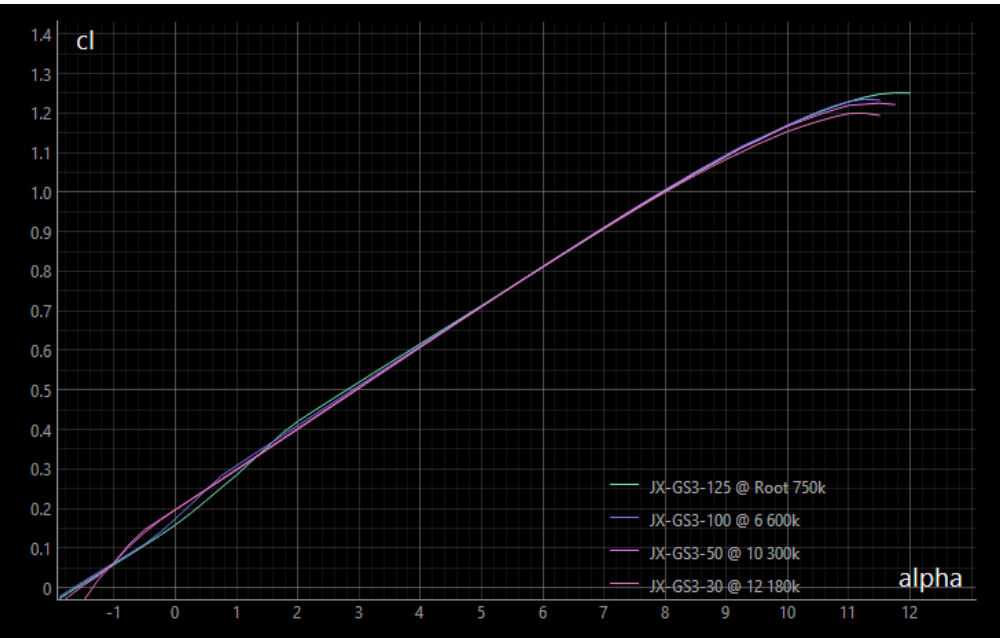
Designed for high speed flying, the airfoils have their cd_min at quite low cl=0.1. The main polar characteristics are kept along the airfoils.

The diagrams show the polars of the airfoils with their individual Design Reynolds number.



The airfoils are optimized to have a congruent $c_l(\alpha)$ polar. Because of this the camber of the airfoils is increasing a little bit towards as the Design Reynolds number is decreasing.

The tip airfoil JX-GS3-30 may have a lower α_{max} due to the higher induced angle at tip.



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