Aeroelasticity Xeno Meienberg

#### **Parameters**

- Aerodynamic Force  $\overline{F_A} = \overline{L} + \overline{D}$
- Lift Force L[N]
- Drag Force D[N]
- Aerodynamic Moment  $M_A\ [Nm]$
- Dynamic Pressure  $q = 1/2\rho V^2$  (Bernoulli) [Pa]
- Chord Length c [m]
- Surface Area  $S = b \cdot c \ [m^2]$  (Rectangular)
- Wing Span b[m]
- Lift Coefficient  $C_l = L/(1/2\rho V^2 \cdot S)$
- Drag Coefficient  $C_d = D/(1/2\rho V^2 \cdot S)$
- Moment Coefficient  $C_m = M_A/(1/2\rho V^2 \cdot c \cdot S)$
- Angle of Attack  $\alpha$  [rad] (positive in clockwise direction)
- Lift curve slope  $a=C_{l/\alpha}=C_l/\alpha\approx tan(angle\,x-axis\,to\,curve)$
- Pitch angle  $\theta$  (Rotation w.r.t elastic axis)
- Lunge h (Deflection of elastic axis parallel to lift)

## **Conventions throughout Course**

- If L and D absolute → use calculations above
- If L and D per span unit  $\rightarrow$  correct via dividing by b
- Sign conventions: Lift positive, Drag positive in x and y direction
- · Moments and angles positive in clockwise direction
- Our system coordinate system is defined by the wing. The angle of attack is defined relative to it
- The variables which describe the airfoil motion are the pitch  $\theta$  and the plunge h which act at the shear centre of the wing

#### **Mathematical Basics**

• 
$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$

- Inverse of Matrix (2D):  $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{pmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix}$
- Inverse of Matrix (3D):
  - 1. det (A), then transpose A
  - 2. Find the ajunct matrix (minors) of (cover row and column of element) of  $A^T$  and multiply with +- matrix  $A^{-1} = 1/det(A) \cdot Adi(A^T)$
- The solutions of Ax = 0 for a matrix A, x cannot be just the trivial solution if A is not invertible
- $[rad] = \frac{\pi}{180} [deg]$

# Steady Aerofoil and Wing Section Aerodynamics

- Aerofoil = 2-D wing section with goal to generate lift force perpendicular to the relative airspeed
- Convention: Lift is up, Drag is in direction of windspeed and Aerodynamic moment in clockwise direction acting on the aerodynamic center. Aerodynamic center is normally at the quarter chord position  $c_{m,c/4}$  for syymetric airfoils.  $x_{ac}=-m_0/2\pi+0.25$  with  $m_0$  as a shape constant
- ullet Further assumptions: No viscosity, incompressible fluid, Ma < 0.2, 0.3, no vortices, potential flow (Navier-Stokes)
- Another centre is the shear center (elastic axis) from mechanics
- $L=1/2\rho V^2 ca\alpha$ , with a from tables (CFD and Wind Tunnel)  $\lceil N/m \rceil$
- $M_A=1/2\rho V^2c^2c_{m0}$  with  $c_{m0}$  also from tables [N]

#### Lift curve $C_l(\alpha)$ and drag curve $C_d(\alpha)$

- At small ranges of  $\alpha$ , both lift and drag increase with:  $C_l \propto \alpha$  and  $C_d \propto \alpha^2$
- In aeroelasticity and this course,  $\alpha$  will be very small, hence drag will be negligble small

#### The aerodynamic moment $M_A$

- The aerodynamic moment is much more important than drag  $\mathcal{C}_d$
- $M_A$  varies with  $\alpha$  in the small ranges of the angle of attack (very small, p. 7)
- Important to note: There exist a point at which the aerodynamic moment does not depend on α. This is the the aerodynamic centre
- The aerodynamic centre is not the same as the centre of pressure, which is defined as the point where the aerodynamic moment is zero given a certain angle of attack  $\alpha$
- Symmetric airfoils at  $\alpha=0$  have no aerodynamic moment at all times ( $M_A=0=const$ ). At the aerodynamic centre for symmetric foils results into no moment
- Asymmetric airfoils at  $\alpha=0$  have a non-zero aerodynamic moment at all times (all angles  $\alpha$ )

## Assessment of $C_l/\alpha$ (Correction of value through Mach Number)

- The linear part of the lift curve is characterised by the slope  $a=C_l/\alpha(M)=\frac{C_l/\alpha_{M=0}}{\sqrt{1-M^2}}$
- The Prandtl-Glauert factor is  $1/\sqrt{1-M^2}$
- The factor is depending on the Mach number. The slop increases with increasing *M* (between 0 and 1)
- The dependence on Re is more subtle (p. 8)

## Extension to wing aerodynamics (p. 8)

Aerofoil dynamics (2D) refer to the previous topics, however the 3-D case can be also modeled by through a couple examples. A finite wing is less stable and efficient than the airfoil since the tips have vortices on at the wing tips. These "induce" a velocity, which locally reduces the angle of attack. An important parameter is the so called **Aspect Ratio**  $AR = b^2/S$ . If the wing is assumed to be of surface  $S = b \cdot c$ , it follows AR = b/c.

- The lift curve can become a function of AR if due to the different tips. Approximately, the lift slope a<sub>0</sub> is adjusted via following formula:
- $a = a_0 \frac{AR}{AR+4}$
- The values a and  $c_{m0}$  will hence be corrected with a  $a^*$  and  $c_{m0}^*$

#### Strip Theory (p.9)

- If AS is very small (delta wings), the integral of multiple airfoils
- Define multiple airfoils stacked next to each other along the span  $\boldsymbol{b}$
- Example, the wing is an elliptical  $f(y) = \sqrt{1-(\frac{y}{b/2})^2} \cdot \overline{f}_\phi$
- $f(y) = a\alpha c = C_l c$  with c = chord length.

## Steady-state (static) Aeroelasticity

## Typical Section = 1DOF model

2-D problem with a rigid wing. We can have multiple typical sections stacked onto each other, which would be later adding dimensionality to the variable  $\theta$ . The idea is later on to model the torsional spring to be a torsional stiffness of a beam (since a real wing is actually a beam with a certain stiffness).

- The torsion acts in a beam section on the shear centre, however in aeroelasticity on the elastic axis
- The goal of engineering is always to move the shear center to the front (comes with risk to thin out the rear longeron and thicken the front longeron)

- In equilibrium, we know that the aerodynamic forces are equal to the spring forces
- $M_t + L \cdot e = \theta k_\theta = (qc^2 c_{m0} + qca\theta e) \cdot b$  (moment equations)
- Pitching moment  $M_t$  acting on section with  $k_{\theta}$  stiffness
- $k_{\theta}\theta = qc(C_{1/\alpha}e(\theta + \alpha_0) + cC_{m0})$  (Momentum Equation)
- $k_h h = L = qcC_{l/\alpha}(\theta + \alpha_0)$  (Lift Equation)

### Static Instability or Divergence

- If the elastic twist  $\theta$  would become infinity for a given stiffness if the denominator of equation
- $\theta = qc \frac{C_{l,a}e\alpha_0 + cC_{m,0}}{k_\theta cqC_{l,a}e}$ ,  $\theta = \infty \Leftrightarrow \text{denominator} = 0$
- If the dynamic pressure  $q=\frac{k_{\theta}}{cC_{l,a}e}=q_{div} \rightarrow \text{instable}$  (divergence)
- Divergence = Static Instability
- $M_{tot} = (k_{\theta} qSae)\theta qSa(e\alpha_0 + C_mc)$  (In equilibrium  $M_{tot} = 0$ ) ( $M_{tot} > 0$  if in anti-clockwise direction)
- Different interpretation:  $\frac{\partial M_{tot}}{\partial \theta} \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$  increasing total moment in section for increasing  $\theta \Leftrightarrow \Delta \theta > 0$
- $\frac{\partial M_{tot}}{\partial \theta} \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow$  overall moment brings blade section back to original position
- The divergent dynamic pressure can be found by differentiating w.r.t.  $\theta$

#### Lagrange Equation (Energy interpretation)

- L = T U (Kinetic and potential energy)
- $\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}_i} \frac{\partial L}{\partial x_i} = 0$
- In statics:  $\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_i} = 0$  (Potential energy conservative)
- Here:  $\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_{\delta}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\delta W}{\delta x}$  (Virtual work), hence for  $\theta$
- $\frac{\partial U}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \frac{\delta W}{\delta \theta} = 0$  (Check for q)
- Resulting q provides the divergence
- $U=1/2\cdot k_{\theta}\theta^{2}=\int F(\theta)d\theta$  (For system with only one spring)

#### Section with more than 1 DOF

- 1. Number of DOF = Dimensions of Stiffness Matrix and number of equations needed (full rank) K
- 2. Define a potential energy matrix for mechanical system  $K_{i,j}=\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_i\partial x_j}=K_{j,i}$
- 3. Define aerodynamic matrix  $K_a$  based on aerodynamic forces (independent on e for example)
- 4. If a matrix is not symmetric = Non-conservative forces
- 5. Similar to before, instead of asking if the system is stable if the denominator is zero, we must know if the determinant of the transfer function is zero
- 6. Transfer Function:  $[K qK_a] = K_{ael}$  is 'Aeroelastic K'
- 7. Find a q for which the transfer function determinant becomes zero, which is divergence dynamic pressure. The solution (forces acting) is the so called divergence mode
- 8. If all eigenvalues are  $> 0 \Leftrightarrow$  stable, if one is at least  $< 0 \Leftrightarrow$  unstable (for sections)

#### System (more than 1 section) with multiple DOF

- Define a system with multiple  $\theta_i$ , whereas the calculations become similar to when when calculating one section with multiple DOF
- Make an Ansatz with the lagrange equations and define stiffness matrix K
- The aerodynamic matrix becomes the identity matrix (if we only speak about θ)
- ullet This implies that the solutions for q are the eigenvalues of K

#### Comment on eigenvalues

- The eigenvalues of the Aeorelastic K  $K_{ael}$  cannot guarantee that q are always the eigenvalues, since  $K_a$  is sometimes non-symmetric (most of the times, only if rotational degrees of freedom present)
- In general, following statement holds true:  $det(K qK_a) = 0$

- $det(K_a^{-1}K qI) = det(A \lambda I) = 0$
- If A is not symmetric, we can say: There are less eigenvectors and values than the order (n), can be complex and come in complex conjugate pairs

#### Active conrol on sections

- With active control, the behaviour of the elastic twist  $\theta$  can be controlled with for example a trailing edge flap
- As described in the script, a trailing edge flap can influence the lift and the moment as follows:
- $l = qcC_{l/\delta}\delta$ ,  $m = qcC_{m/\delta}\delta$  ( $C_{m/\delta} < 0$ )
- Both forces contribute to the overall moment, hence will be added to the calculations we did previously
- With a so called 'Gain' G, the controller controls δ proportional to θ, hence a new linear equation system is formed
- Assuming the nose-down motion of controlling the the edge flap, we have to simplify terms, the end result is
- $q_{div,flap} = \frac{k_{\theta}}{cae-Gca^*}$ , with  $a^* = -(cC_{m/\delta} + eC_{l/\delta})/(c\delta)$

#### Ritz Method

... is a energy variational method whereas an equilibrium occurs in correspondence of an extreme of potential energy. A general application is the virtual work. According to the Hamilton's principle and Lagrange equations, we can define a set of equations.

- $\frac{\partial V}{\partial x_i} = 0$  for all i ( $x_i$  degrees of freedom)
- From mechanics, we need the bending stiffness (*I*) and the torsional stiffness (*J*)
- $I = 1/12 * b * h^3$  (w.r.t x) and  $J = \frac{4A^2}{\int ds/t}$  (Integral is perimeter (Umfang) divided by thickness)
- For circular shapes:  $I=\frac{\pi}{4}r^4$  ,  $J=\frac{\pi}{2}r^4$

#### Derivation for a beam section (mechanical part, torsion)

- Torsional Strain Energy:  $U = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l GJ(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x})^2 dx$
- Given aerodynamic forces are non-conservative, we use the concept of virtual work
- $\delta U = \delta W$  (Virtual work due to non-conservative forces)
- $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial U}{\partial x_i} \delta x_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \delta W_i$  (reformulated for small variations of one DOF)
- $\frac{\partial U}{\partial x_i} \frac{\delta W}{\delta x_i} = 0$  (reformulated)
- The work done by the external forces (aerodynamic) can be rewritten:
- $\delta W = \int_0^l m(x) \delta \theta(x) dx$
- m(x) generated by aerodynamic forces
- Without going into further detail, there are 2 distinct cases from which one has to go on in the calculation, either the functions are given in a generalised form or in matrix form
- $\theta(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \phi_i(x) a_i = [\Phi]\{a\}$
- $[\Phi]$  is a row vector with elements  $\phi_i$ !
- $\phi_i(x)$  are shape functions and  $a_i$  are coefficients and the linear combination of those make up  $\theta(x)$
- Finally, the overall equations result in  $[K]\{a\}=\{f\}$
- $K_{i,j}=\int_0^l GJ\phi_{i_x}\phi_{j_x}dx=GJ\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial a_i\partial a_j}$  (Stiffness matrix entries, partial derivatives w.r.t. to x and a)
- $[K] = GJ \int_0^l [\Phi_x]^T [\Phi_x] dx$
- $f_i = \int_0^l m(x) [\Phi]_i(x) dx$  (index i for each element)
- $\{f\} = \int_0^l m(x) [\Phi]^T dx$  (in matrix form)

#### Derivation for a beam section (aerodynamic part, torsion)

Following assumptions are drawn:

- · Elastic axis is perfectly straight
- · Aerodynamic center of all sections on a straight line

• External moments as before by aerodynamic forces:  $m(x) = qcea(\theta(x) + \alpha_0)$ 

Replace all  $\theta(x)$  with the above solutions and insert insert m(x) into generalised forces vector

- $\{f\} = q \int_0^l cea\alpha_0 [\Phi]^T dx + q \int_0^l cea[\Phi]^T [\Phi] dx \{a\}$
- $\{f\} = \{f_0\} + q[K_A]$
- $[K_A] = \int_0^l cea[\Phi]^T [\Phi] dx$
- $\{a\} = ([K] q[K_A])^{-1}\{f_0\}$  solves for all a
- a gives us the beam gives us the response of the system (pitch θ at all points along x)
- Stability:  $det([K] q[K_A]) = 0$
- Hence the basis of the solution of the eigenvalue problem
- Eigenvalues q: Dynamic pressure where zero stability
- Eigenvectors: Corresponding divergence modes
- Attention:  $a \neq \{a\}$ ! (lift slope vs. coefficients)

#### One single shape function (1-DOF) and $[\Phi] = \phi(x)$

- $\theta(x) = a \cdot \phi(x)$  is one dimensional, we assume a=1 because we can define it within  $\phi$
- $U = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l GJ\phi_x^2 dx$
- $K = \int_0^l GJ\phi_x^2 dx = [K]_{torsion}$
- $K_a = \int_0^l ceC_{l\alpha}\phi^2 dx$  ( $C_{l\alpha} = a$  lift curve slope)
- $f_0 = q \int_0^l ceC_{l\alpha}\alpha_0\phi dx$
- $(K qK_a)a = f_0$
- $a=f_0/(K-qK_a)$  gives us the response by which  $\theta$  is multiplied
- $q_d = K/K_a$  gives us the divergence

#### One single shape function, Bending and Twisting

- For bending, the potential energy is:  $U=\frac{1}{2}\int_0^l EI\psi_{xx}^2 dx$
- $K = \int_0^l EI\psi_{xx}^2 dx = [K]_{bending}$
- If we assume bending takes place and torsion as well, we assume both to be decoupled
- · The stiffness matrix reads

• 
$$K = \begin{bmatrix} [K]_{bending} & 0 \\ 0 & [K]_{torsion} \end{bmatrix}$$

- The aerodynamic stiffness matrix is of shape (always for bending and twisting):
- $K_a = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \int_0^l cC_{l\alpha}\phi\psi dx \\ 0 & \int_0^l ecC_{l\alpha}\psi^2 dx \end{bmatrix}$
- The vector x includes the coefficients for the shape functions ψ and φ;
- $x = (K qK_a)^{-1}f$

• 
$$f = \begin{cases} q \int_0^l cC_{l\alpha}\phi\psi dx \\ q \int_0^l cC_{l\alpha}\psi^2 dx \end{cases}$$

•  $det(K - qK_a) = 0 \Leftrightarrow then \ q = q_{div}$ 

#### Shape functions

Shape functions have to be chosen. In FEA, shape functions are local for each finite element.

- Orthonormal modes:  $\int \psi_i \psi_j dx = 0$  for different shape functions in i and j
- Simple polynomials are great shape functions x/l,  $(x/l)^n$
- Natural vibration modes or normal modes (eigenvectors of the problem): K – λM with K the stiffness and M the mass matrix (Important for dynamic systems later)

#### Bending / twisting coupling

In class multiple examples have been shown whereas following are the key takeaways:

- Out of plane bending can exist if for example the shear centre and the principle axes (centre of gravity) are apart from each other significantly
- The conventions for positive and negative e eccentricities: positive if aerodynamic centre in front of shear centre and hence negative if the other way around
- Positive e is detrimental for aeroelastic stability, negative is beneficial
- Helicopter blades have D-spars to shift the elastic axis forward
- Gurney flaps at the end of the wing with length 1% of c make the wing virtually longer

#### Control effectiveness, typical section

Control effectiveness is described by following term:

• 
$$\frac{L_{elastic}}{L_{rigid}} = \frac{1 - \frac{q}{q_r}}{1 - \frac{q}{q_{div}}} = \text{Control Effectiveness}$$

• 
$$q_r = -q_{div} \frac{e}{c} \frac{C_{l\delta}}{C_{m\delta}}$$
 ( $C_{m\delta}$  is negative!)

- If the control effectiveness is zero, the aileron deflection does not contribute to more lift
- If the control effectiveness is is negative, this means that  $0 \le q_r < q < q_{div}$
- Possible goal: As close to  $q_{div}$  and below  $q_r$
- Another solution: Outboard ailerons (less stiff due to smaller torsional stiffness) and inboard ailerons (GJ/l)
- The overall equations for future equations will be for equilibria:
- $[K]\{\phi\} = q[K_a]\{\phi\} + \{m_0\} + q\{f_c\}\delta$  (Aileron Equation)
- For mulitple segments:  $q[f_c]\delta$

#### Effects of Sweep Angle on Divergence

- In this course, a 2-DOF model is used (pitching and flapping)
- Spring stiffness for moments on a beam:  $k_{\theta}$  and  $k_{\phi}$
- $k_{\theta} = \frac{GJ}{l}$  (1 = length of lever/beam b, torsion)
- $k_{\phi} = \frac{EI}{l}$  (flapping / bending)
- $G/E = \frac{1}{2(1+\nu)}$  (Poisson ratio)
- The angle of attack will be reintroduced:

• 
$$\tan(\alpha) = \frac{V \perp}{V \parallel} = \frac{-V \sin(\Lambda) \sin(\phi)}{V \cos(\Lambda)} = -\tan(\Lambda) \sin(\phi)$$

- $\alpha = -\tan(\Lambda)\phi$  (small angle approx)
- In the script the approach given results are as follows:

• 
$$[K] = \begin{bmatrix} k_{\phi} & 0 \\ 0 & k_{\theta} \end{bmatrix}$$

• Simplifications:  $Q=q_ncbC_{l\alpha}$  and  $t=\tan(\Lambda)$  (Q is q redefined)

• 
$$[K_a] = \begin{bmatrix} -tb/2 & b/2 \\ -te & e \end{bmatrix}$$

• 
$$\{f\} = \frac{Q\alpha_0}{\cos(\Lambda)} \begin{Bmatrix} b/2 \\ e \end{Bmatrix}$$

- $[K]_{ael} = [K] Q[K_a]$
- · Condigtion for divergence:

• 
$$det(K_{ael}) = \Delta = 0 \Leftrightarrow Q_D = \frac{k_{\phi}k_{\theta}}{k_{\phi}e - k\theta bt/2}$$

$$\bullet \; \Leftrightarrow q_D = \frac{k_\theta/(SeC_{l/\alpha})}{\cos^2(\Lambda)[1-(b/e)(k_\theta/k_\phi)(\tan(\Lambda)/2)]}$$

- This gives us a uniqe solution for two degrees of freedom. If we try to push  $q_D \to \infty$ , we can do so by setting the denominator of  $q_D = 0$
- This allows us to model our wing with geometrical and material parameters such that the system never becomes unstable

- Divergence can already be avoided with small  $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}$  sweep angles
- Because the angle creates a coupling between wing bending and torsion (deformation), and the angle of attack
- $\alpha_{new} = \alpha_0/\cos(\Lambda) + \theta \phi \tan(\Lambda)$
- Assuming small angles:  $\alpha_{new} \approx \alpha_0 + \theta \phi \Lambda$  whereas the negative part is larger
- Other approaches: Build wing with unbalanced comosite laminates such that bending/twisting coupling is generated by material
- Adding aerodynamic control surfaces (see flaps) with active control
- · Negative sweep angles reduce divergence speed

#### Sweep Angles and Ritz Method (Class Notes)

- Shape functions are chosen such that one has dependencies along the section
- For twisting:  $\theta(y) = f_{\theta}(y)\Theta$  ( $\Theta$  constant)
- For bending:  $w(y) = f_w(y)B$
- $\phi = \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} = B \cdot \frac{\partial f_w}{\partial y}$
- This will make the angle of attack  $\alpha$  dependent on y
- $\alpha(y) = -\tan(\Lambda) \frac{\partial f_w(y)}{\partial y} B + f_{\theta}(y) \Theta$
- Hence lift and moment become also dependent on y (we also assume  $C_{m,0}=0$  or const):
- $l(y) = qcC_{l,\alpha}(\alpha(y)), m(y) = l(y) \cdot e$
- Principle of virtual work:
- $\delta W = \int (l(y)\delta w + m(y)\delta\theta)dy$
- Expanding  $\delta w$  with  $f_w \delta B$  and  $\delta \theta$  with  $\delta \theta$  with  $f_\theta \delta \Theta$  will yield an integral whereas
- The aerodynamic stiffness  $K_a$  will be of following shape and hence non-symmetric:

• 
$$[K_a] = \begin{bmatrix} \int \dots \Theta \delta \Theta & \int \dots B \delta \Theta \\ \int \dots \Theta \delta B & \int \dots B \delta B \end{bmatrix}, x = \begin{Bmatrix} \Theta \\ B \end{Bmatrix}$$

## **Unsteady Aeroelasticity**

#### Dynamic Systems (Repetition from Bachelor Level)

- $\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$
- y = Cx + Du
- x are state variables, u are input variables and y are output
- Aeroelastic System:
- $m\ddot{z} + k_z z =$  some aerodynamic forces
- $I\ddot{\theta} + k\theta$  = some aerodynamic forces
- In compact form:
- $M\ddot{x} + C\dot{x} + Kx = \text{Forces/Moments}$
- Canonical Form:
- $\dot{r} = Ar + Bu$  with  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I \\ -M^{-1}K & -M^{-1}C \end{bmatrix}$
- y = Cr + Du
- $r = \begin{cases} x \\ \dot{x} \end{cases}$
- r is of dimension 2n (twice the No. of DOF) and ordered such that the definition of A is valid
- ullet The roots of the characteristic polynomial of A tell us if the system is stable
- The eigenvectors are the modes of the system and the response of the system is a linear combination of these nodes
- The topic will be looked at again later on, however one can say in general for the mass, damping and stiffness:

• 
$$M = \begin{bmatrix} m & mx_{cg} \\ mx_{cg} & I + mx_{xg}^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- $C = \begin{bmatrix} c_z & 0 \\ 0 & c_\theta \end{bmatrix}$
- $K = \begin{bmatrix} k_z & 0 \\ 0 & k_\theta \neg \dagger \end{bmatrix}$

#### Quasi steady approach