

# The Fluid Mechanics of Slender Wing Rock

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The limit cycle oscillation in roll of very slender delta wings the so called wing rock is caused by asymmetric vortex shedding from the wing leading edges and not by vortex burst. The breakdown or burst of the leading edge vortices of a delta wing can lead to static instability with associated roll divergence. Vortex burst however can never be the cause of wing rock because it has a dynamically stabilizing effect on the roll oscillations. Consequently slender wing rock is only realized for delta wings with more than 74 deg leading edge sweep in which case vortex asymmetry occurs before vortex breakdown. A careful analysis of available experimental data reveals the fluid mechanical process that generates slender wing rock. A simple analytic method is formulated by which the experimentally observed limit cycle amplitude in roll can be predicted provided that the static aerodynamic characteristics are known e g from static tests.

## Nomenclature

$b$	= wing span
$c_0$	= root chord
$d$	= cylinder diameter
$f$	= frequency of oscillation
$\ell$	= rolling moment coefficient $C_\ell = \ell / (\rho_\infty U_\infty^2 / 2) S b$
$M_p$	= pitching moment, coefficient $C_m = M_p / (\rho_\infty U_\infty^2 / 2) S d$
$N$	= normal force coefficient $C_N = N / (\rho_\infty U_\infty^2 / 2) S$ $C_{NOR} = C_N \cos \phi$
$S$	= reference area wing area or $(\pi d^2 / 2)$
$t$	= time
$T$	= oscillation period
$U$	= velocity
$\bar{U}$	= convection velocity
$x$	= chordwise distance from apex
$\alpha$	= angle of attack
$\beta$	= angle of side slip
$\Delta$	= increment or amplitude
$\theta$	= angular perturbation in pitch
$\theta_A$	= apex half angle
$\theta_{LE}$	= complimentary angle to the leading edge sweep $\theta_{LE} = \pi/2 - \Lambda$
$\Lambda$	= leading edge sweep angle
$\xi$	= dimensionless $x$ -coordinate, $\xi = x/c_0$
$\rho$	= air density
$\phi$	= roll angle
$\psi$	= phase angle $\psi = \omega t$
$\omega$	= angular frequency $\omega = 2\pi f$
$\bar{\omega}$	= reduced frequency $\bar{\omega} = \omega c_0 / U_\infty$

## Subscripts

$A$	= apex
$C$	= critical
eff	= effective
$F$	= flare
$H$	= hysteresis
$L$	= left wing half
LE	= leading edge
lim	= limit cycle
$R$	= right wing half
WR	= wing rock
$0$	= initial or time average value
$1, 2$	= numbering subscripts
$\infty$	= freestream conditions

## Superscripts

$i$	= separation induced e g $\Delta^i C_{N_F}$ in Fig. 3
$(\bar{\phantom{x}})$	= barred quantities denote integrated mean values e g centroid of aerodynamic loads

## Differential Symbols

$\dot{\phi}$	= $\partial \phi / \partial t$
$C_{i\beta}$	= $\partial C_i / \partial \beta$
$C_{i\dot{\phi}}$	= $\partial C_i / \partial (b \dot{\phi} / 2 U_\infty)$
$C_{m\theta}$	= $\partial C_m / \partial \theta$
$C_{m\dot{\theta}}$	= $\partial C_m / \partial (c \dot{\theta} / U_\infty)$

## Introduction

THE steadily increasing demands on performance expose present day aerospace vehicles to unsteady flowfields generating highly nonlinear aerodynamics with significant coupling between longitudinal and lateral degrees of freedom.<sup>1,3</sup> The complex vehicle dynamics are caused by separated flow effects of various types which have largely eluded theoretical description. Consequently the vehicle designer is dependent upon existing experimental capabilities for dynamic testing<sup>4</sup> where dynamic support interference<sup>5</sup> often adds to the complexity of the separated flow characteristics. Thus it can be rather difficult to obtain a true description of nonlinear pitch yaw roll coupling phenomena such as wing rock and nose slice. In the present paper existing experimental results for wing rock of slender delta wings are examined to obtain an understanding of the underlying fluid mechanics.

## Discussion

Recent systematic experiments performed by Nguyen Yip and Chambers<sup>6</sup> provide the information needed to fully describe the fluid mechanics leading to slender wing rock. The phenomenon is similar in many aspects to the limit cycle oscillation in pitch observed on blunt cylinder flare bodies.<sup>7,8</sup> Thus the roll oscillations of an 8 deg delta wing are self excited and build up to a limit cycle amplitude<sup>6</sup> (Fig. 1)—an oscillatory behavior very similar to that observed for blunt nosed cylinder flare bodies.<sup>7,8</sup> The one degree of freedom oscillation in roll  $\phi = -\Delta \phi \sin \omega t$  in Fig. 1 induces the following effective angles of attack and sideslip (on each half of the delta wing)

$$\alpha_{\text{EFF}} = \arctan(\tan \alpha_0 \cos \phi) \quad (1)$$

$$\beta_{\text{EFF}} = \arcsin(\sin \alpha_0 \sin \phi) \quad (2)$$

where  $\alpha_0 = \alpha$  at  $\phi = 0$

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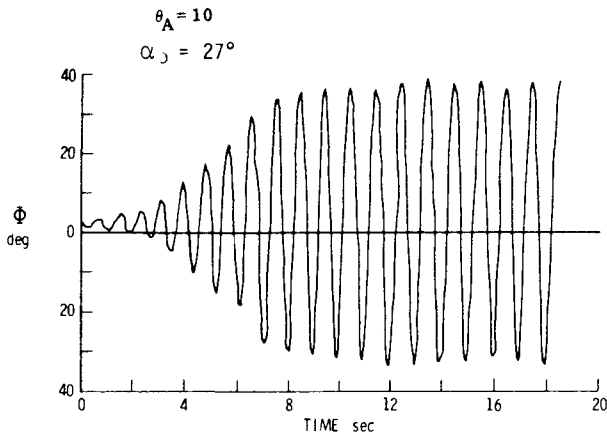


Fig. 1 Time history of wing rock at  $\alpha=27$  deg of an 80 deg delta wing (Ref. 6)

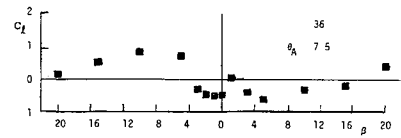
The main effect is the induced sideslip. Thus one can compare the  $C_l(\beta)$  characteristics for a slender delta wing<sup>9</sup> (Fig. 2a) with the  $C_m(\alpha)$  characteristics for a cylinder-flare body (Fig. 2b).<sup>8</sup> In both cases the characteristics change in a discontinuous fashion and are likely to be associated with hysteresis both typical behaviors for the effects of separated flow. The aerodynamic stiffness  $C_{l\beta}$  in Fig. 2a and  $C_{m\alpha}$  in Fig. 2b increases dramatically when the discontinuity is encountered ( $\Delta C_l$  and  $\Delta C_m$  respectively). Both discontinuous changes of the aerodynamic characteristics are associated with convective time lag effects.<sup>7,8,10</sup> This causes the statically stabilizing effects to become dynamically destabilizing as is illustrated in Fig. 3 for the cylinder flare body. The separated shear layer impacting on the flare at time  $t$  when  $\alpha(t)=0$  was generated by the nose at a time increment  $\Delta t$  earlier when the angle of attack was  $\alpha(t-\Delta t)>0$ . Thus a separation induced residual flare force exists at  $\alpha(t)=0$  which drives the motion and consequently is undamping.

When the discontinuity is encountered the damping effect of the separation induced flare force component ( $\Delta^i C_{NF}$  in Fig. 3) causes divergent oscillations in pitch. The amplitude grows until the attached flow damping balances the separation induced negative damping or undamping. For  $\alpha_0 + \Delta\theta < 9$  deg in Fig. 2b the flow is attached to both top and bottom sides of the cylinder flare body<sup>†</sup> whereas it is attached only on the bottom side for  $\alpha_0 + \Delta\theta > 14$  deg. Thus for the body in Fig. 2b the limit cycle amplitude—the amplitude for which the separation induced negative damping is equal in magnitude to the positive damping generated by the attached flow—will definitely be larger than 3 deg which is half the extent of the  $\alpha$  hysteresis.

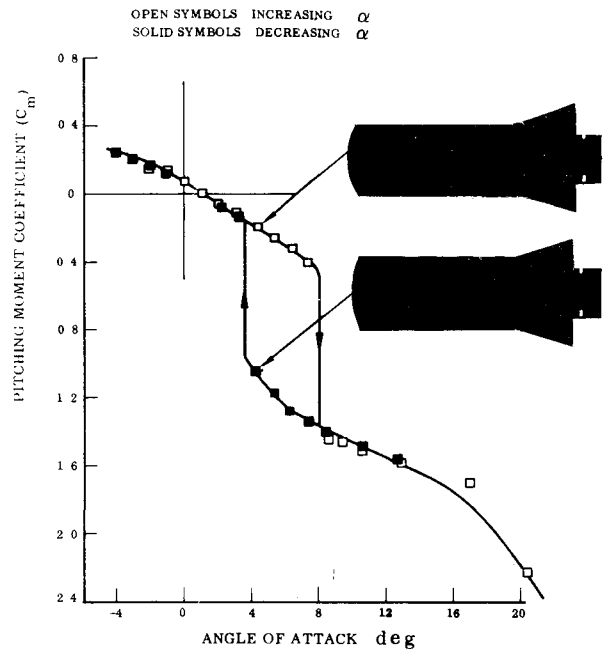
In reality the limit cycle amplitude is likely to be larger than 10 deg even in absence of any hysteresis effects.<sup>7,8</sup> The reason for this is the time lag effect illustrated in Fig. 3 and demonstrated by the results in Fig. 4. It is shown in Refs. 7 and 8 how the unsteady aerodynamics measured for oscillations of large amplitude ( $\Delta\theta$ ) around  $\alpha_0=0$  can be predicted from static aerodynamic characteristics when accounting for the convective time lag effect.

The separation induced flare force component  $\Delta^i C_{NF}$  in Fig. 3 generates a negative statically stabilizing, pitching moment discontinuity  $\Delta C_m \approx -0.8$  in Fig. 2b. Likewise the sudden liftoff of one of the leading edge vortices on the 82.5 deg delta wing in Fig. 2a generates a negative statically stabilizing rolling moment discontinuity  $\Delta C_l \approx -0.1$ . Equation (2) shows that the rolling moment discontinuity will also be encountered when the roll angle  $\phi$  is varied rather than the side slip angle  $\beta$ . The sudden change of the leading edge

<sup>†</sup>The small local flow separation in the cylinder flare juncture has negligible effect.



a)  $C_l(\beta)$  of an 82.5 deg delta wing (Ref. 4)



b)  $C_m(\alpha)$  of a blunt nosed cylinder flare body (Ref. 3)

Fig. 2 Nonlinear aerodynamic characteristics

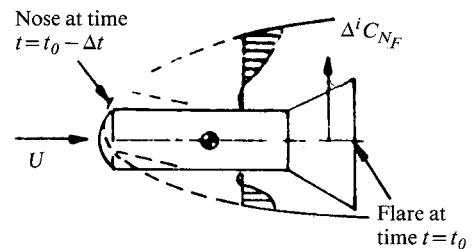


Fig. 3 Dynamic effect of time lag

vortex on a delta wing is associated with convected time lag effects as illustrated by the experimentally observed formation of the leading edge vortex (Fig. 5).<sup>10</sup> Accounting for this time lag provides good prediction of the nonlinear vortex induced unsteady aerodynamics of slender delta wings at high angles of attack<sup>11,12</sup> and should also permit the effect of the discontinuous aerodynamics associated with the vortex asymmetry to be predicted.

Two types of separation induced discontinuities occur for the slender delta wing. One is caused by the breakdown of the leading edge vortices. It is the three dimensional equivalent to airfoil stall. For very slender delta wings another discontinuous change of the aerodynamics can occur before vortex breakdown caused by asymmetric leading edge vortices. The asymmetric vortex phenomenon has been studied extensively in the case of slender bodies of revolution<sup>13,14</sup> and has been observed also on slender delta wings.<sup>15</sup> Vortex asymmetry occurs before vortex breakdown only for very slender delta

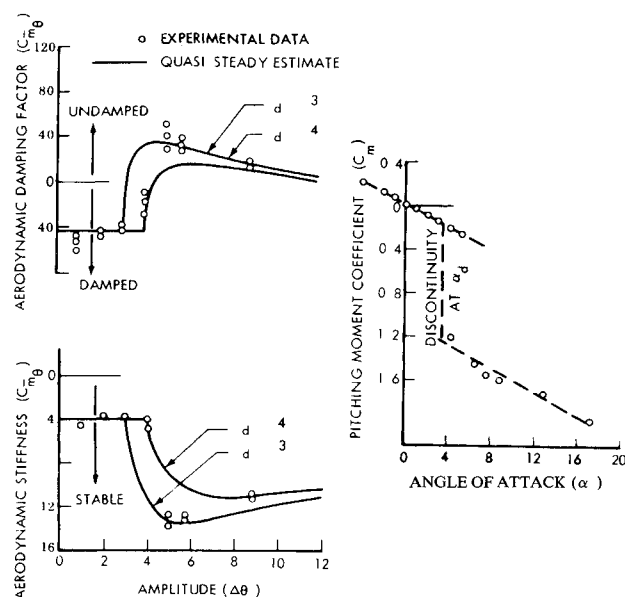


Fig 4 Nonlinear unsteady aerodynamics of a blunt cylinder flare body (Ref 8)

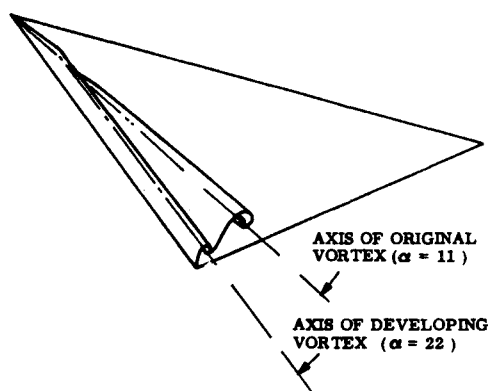


Fig 5 Leading edge vortex formation on a delta wing (Ref 10)

wings  $\theta_A < 16$  deg according to experiments (Fig 6)<sup>16,17</sup> In order to use Fig 6 to explore the effects of sideslip  $\beta$  and roll angle  $\phi$ , an effective apex half angle  $\bar{\theta}_A$  is formulated for the right† and left‡ wing halves. The following expression is obtained for small angles, ( $\theta_A \leq 15$  deg  $\beta \leq 15$  deg)

$$\bar{\theta}_A = \theta_A + \Delta\theta_A \quad (3a)$$

$$(\Delta\theta_A)_{RL} = \pm \tan\alpha_0 \sin\phi \quad (3b)$$

$$(\Delta\theta_A)_{RL} = \pm \beta / \cos\alpha_0 \quad (3c)$$

where plus and minus signs refer to right and left wing halves respectively

Experimental results demonstrate that wing rock starts before vortex breakdown and that wing rock is associated with a loss of the time average lift (Fig 7)<sup>6,18</sup> It is of course to be expected that the liftoff of one of the leading edge vortices<sup>15</sup> will cause a loss of lift. Thus wing rock is caused by the vortex asymmetry and not by the vortex breakdown. Figures 8 and 9 illustrate the fluid mechanical reasons for this. At an  $\alpha - \theta_A$  combination where vortex asymmetry occurs the wing half with the lifted off vortex loses lift and dips down rotating around the roll axis (Fig 8). As a result of the increasing roll angle  $\phi$  the effective apex angle  $\bar{\theta}_A$  is increased [Eqs (3a) and (3b)] and the vortex attaches again

†From a hypothetical pilot's point of view

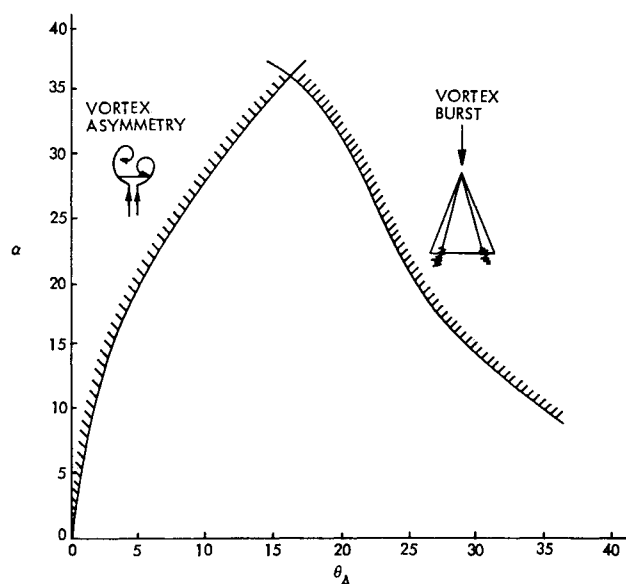


Fig 6 Boundaries for vortex asymmetry and vortex burst (Ref 16)

This produces a restoring rolling moment the positive aerodynamic spring needed for the rigid body's oscillation in roll (Fig 1). Due to the convective time lag effect discussed earlier the wing is dynamically unstable in roll until the amplitude has reached the limit cycle magnitude. At this magnitude the damping on both sides of the discontinuity suffices to balance the undamping as was illustrated by the cylinder flare results in Fig 4. According to Fig 8 for an 80 deg delta wing ( $\theta_A = 10$  deg) wing rock should start occurring at  $\alpha \approx 27$  deg which is in excellent agreement with experimental results.<sup>6</sup>

Thus, the discontinuity introduced by the vortex asymmetry has all the characteristics needed for the limit cycle oscillation in roll. Figure 9 demonstrates that these characteristics are lacking in vortex breakdown. If for some reason (for example the presence of external disturbances) the vortex burst becomes asymmetric as is sketched in Fig 9 the resulting net loss of lift on one wing half will cause it to 'dip down'. This increases  $\phi$  and thereby  $\bar{\theta}_A$  [Eqs (3a) and (3b)], causing the wing half to penetrate further into the vortex burst region. No switch to a restoring moment occurs. The opposite wing half gets out of the vortex burst region generating increased lift which adds to the statically destabilizing rolling moment.

Thus no restoring moment and no positive aerodynamic spring is generated and no rigid body  $\phi$  oscillation is possible. If the positive spring is provided by the structure as in the case of elastic vehicle dynamics the dynamic effect of the vortex breakdown would be dynamically stabilizing and damping since the vortex burst is also associated with time lag effects. Thus vortex breakdown has aerodynamic characteristics leading to roll divergence which are completely opposite to those needed to cause slender wing rock.

Whereas Nguyen Yip and Chambers<sup>6</sup> measured no wing rock for their 80 deg delta wing below  $\alpha = 27$  deg, Levin and Katz<sup>18</sup> had already measured wing rock at  $\alpha = 20$  deg for the same leading edge sweep (Fig 10). This early wing rock occurrence is probably as the authors suggest caused by the centerbody used in their model (see inset in Fig 10). The smaller limit cycle amplitude ( $\Delta\phi \approx 12$  deg compared to  $\Delta\phi \approx 34$  deg), which was the limit cycle amplitude measured at  $\alpha = 27$  deg (Ref 6), is probably due to the lesser vortex induced loads existing at the lower angle of attack.<sup>11</sup>

§In the case of elastic vehicle dynamics the structural stiffness usually ensures a positive spring regardless of the sense of the aerodynamic moment.

Fig 7 Development of wing rock for an 80 deg delta wing at  $\alpha = 35$  deg (Ref 18)

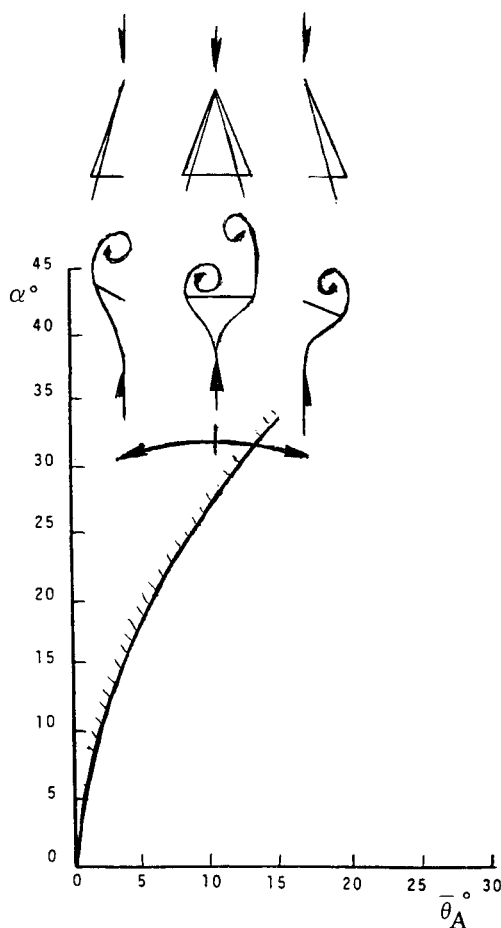
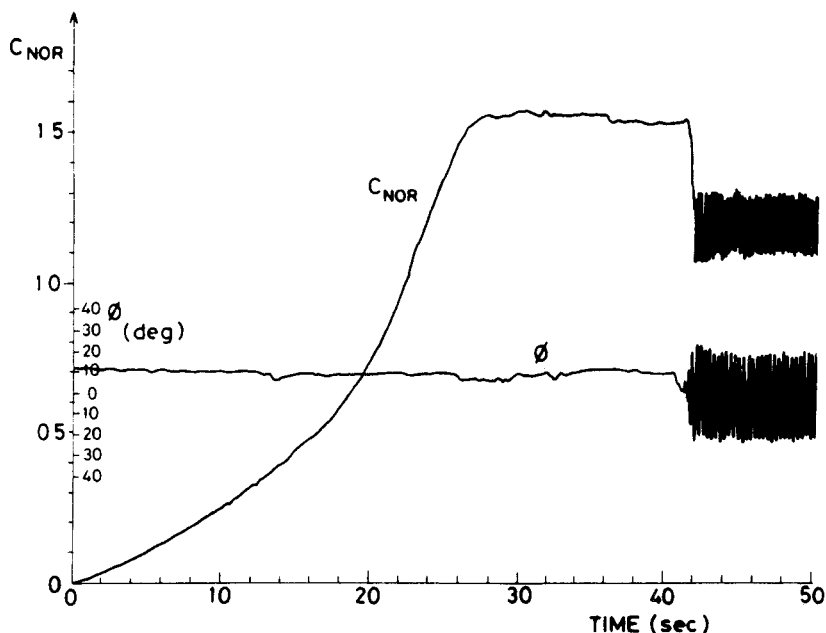


Fig 8 Wing rock caused by asymmetric vortices

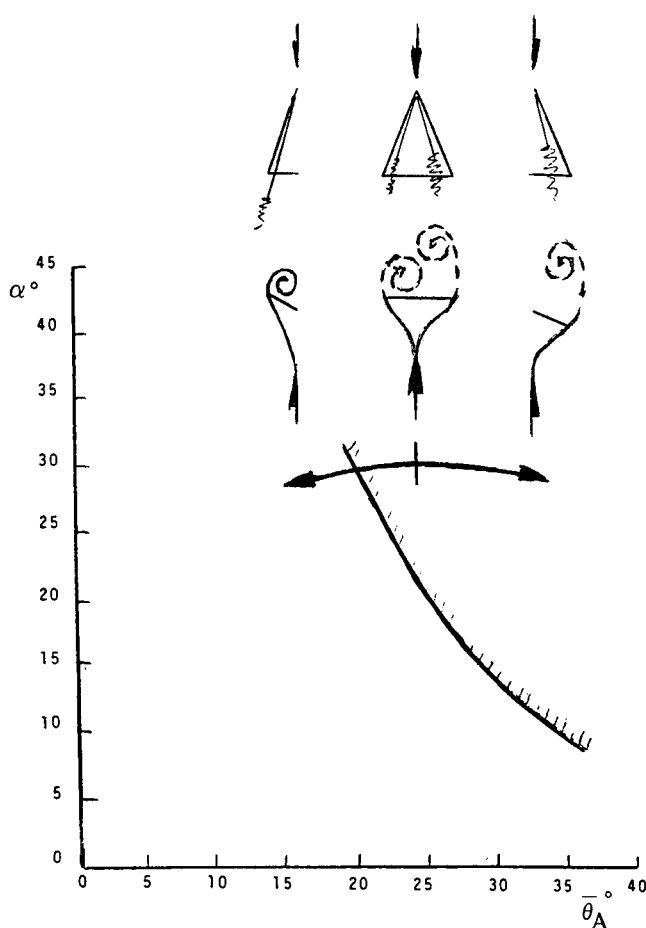


Fig 9 Effect of vortex burst on lateral stability

The oscillations in roll damped down to zero amplitude if the 80 deg delta wing ( $\theta_A = 10$  deg) was yawed to  $\beta = 10$  deg at  $\alpha = 27$  deg (Ref 6). This is, of course, to be expected as the windward wing half has  $\theta_A > 15$  deg [Eqs (2) (3a) and (3c)] leaving it outside of the boundary for asymmetric vortex shedding (Fig 8) whereas the leeward wing half with  $\theta_A < 5$  deg remains inside the region for vortex asymmetry. Thus neither wing half crosses the boundary and the wing rock inducing discontinuity is never encountered.

According to Fig 6, no wing rock should occur at  $\alpha = 35$  deg if  $\theta_A > 16$  deg. That is, for the 80 deg delta wing in Fig 11, damping should be measured at a  $|\beta|$  which gives  $\Delta\theta_A > 6$  deg in Eq (3c) i.e. for  $|\beta| > 5$  deg. This is in good agreement with the damping characteristics deduced in Ref 6 from the experimental results. However, Fig 6 also shows that no wing rock should occur at  $\alpha = 25$  deg, which seems to contradict the results<sup>6</sup> in Fig 11 showing negative damping for  $\alpha = 25$  deg at  $\beta = 0$ . It is true that self-excited spontaneous wing rock at

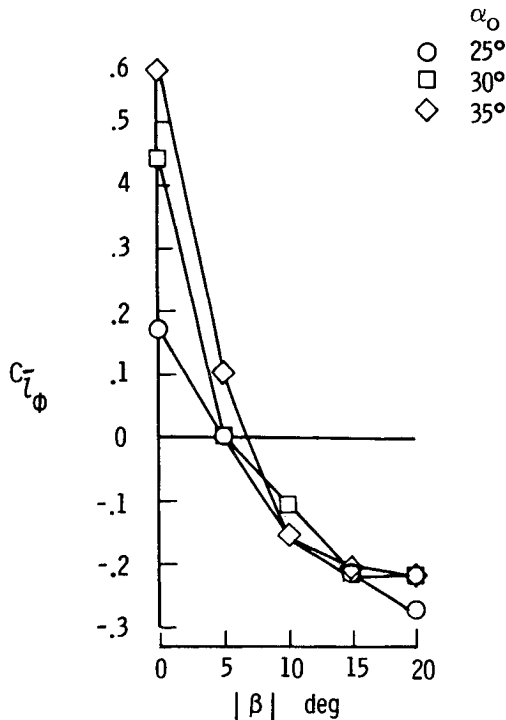


Fig. 10 Effect of side slip of roll damping on an 80-deg delta wing (Ref. 6).

$\beta=0$  was not observed below  $\alpha=27$  deg (see Table 1 of Ref. 6). However, the negative damping in Fig. 11 for  $\beta=0$  was measured in forced oscillations,  $\phi=\Delta\phi\sin\omega t$ , where  $\Delta\phi=5$  deg. This corresponds to  $\Delta\theta_A=2.35$  deg at  $\alpha=25$  deg, according to Eq. (3b). Thus, the forced oscillations did catch the discontinuity  $\Delta C_l$  in the rolling moment characteristics, caused by asymmetric vortex liftoff, explaining the measured negative damping.

It was noted by the authors in Ref. 18 that the normal force measured during wing rock was below that measured in static tests. Thus, at  $\alpha=20$  deg the mean- or time-average normal force is  $C_{NOR}\approx 0.64$  for  $\Delta\phi_{lim}\approx 14$  deg (Fig. 10), whereas the static data showed  $C_{NOR}$  to vary from  $C_{NOR}\approx 0.80$  to  $C_{NOR}\approx 0.65$  when  $\phi$  increased from 0 to 15 deg. Since the static data show no rolling moment at  $\beta=\phi=0$  for  $\alpha<32$  deg, it is obvious that the vortices stayed symmetric in the static case, whereas in the dynamic test vortex asymmetry must have been present to cause the wing rock. The likely reason for this anomaly is the large centerbody. Whereas a thin splitter plate of similar height has been found to trigger early vortex asymmetry also in static tests<sup>19</sup> by forcing asymmetric stagnation flow conditions on the topside,<sup>20</sup> the lateral extent of the center body in Ref. 18 apparently allowed symmetric vortex formation in the static test. As a matter of fact, the wing rock motion was not self-induced at  $\alpha=20$  deg. Even at  $\alpha=35$  deg the vortices remained symmetric for 15 s (Fig. 7). Vortex asymmetry cannot, however, explain the big difference observed at  $\alpha=30$  deg, where in the dynamic test, with  $\Delta\phi_{lim}\approx 30$  deg,  $C_{NOR}$  varied between  $C_{NOR}\approx 0.86$  and  $C_{NOR}\approx 0.5$ , whereas the static test gave  $C_{NOR}=1.28$  and  $C_{NOR}=0.8$  for  $\phi=0$  and  $\phi=30$  deg, respectively. In other words, the time-average normal force measured in the dynamic test never reached the minimum value  $C_{NOR}=0.8$ , indicated by the static test. The likely reason for the additional lift loss is the early vortex burst observed in the dynamic test.<sup>18</sup>

In regard to the use of results in Fig. 6 obtained for symmetric flow conditions,  $\beta=\phi=0$ , for the asymmetric flow conditions discussed in Figs. 8 and 9 the following needs to be said. Whereas vortex burst is relatively unaffected by the presence or absence of the vortex on the opposite wing half,

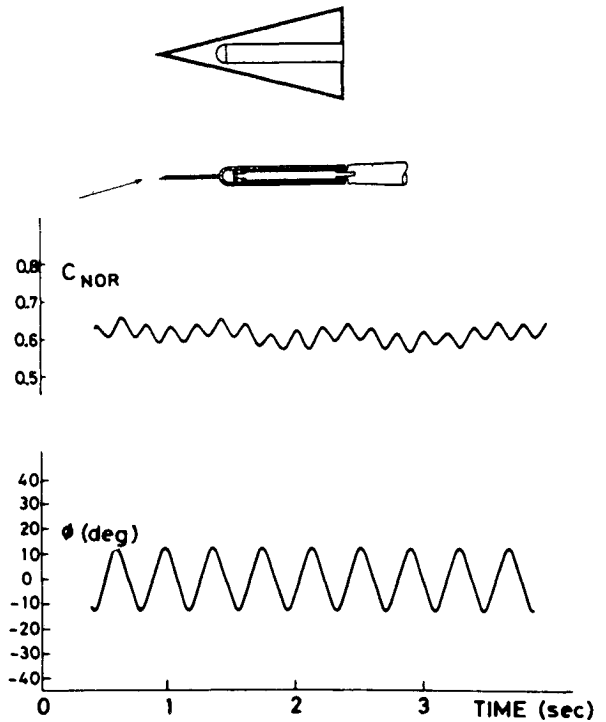


Fig. 11 Time history for wing rock,  $\Lambda=80$  deg,  $\beta=0$ , and  $\alpha=20$  deg, (Ref. 18).

the asymmetric vortex shedding is very dependent upon the crowding of the companion vortex. It is the strength of the vortex, represented by  $\alpha$  in Fig. 6, and the closeness of the opposite vortex, represented by  $\theta_A$  in Fig. 6, which together determine whether or not liftoff of the vortex will occur. In a first approximation the effect of side slip on the closeness parameter can be neglected. That is

$$(\theta_A)_{eff} = [(\theta_A)_L + (\theta_A)_R]/2 \quad (4)$$

It is shown in Ref. 21 that the vortex strength and associated aerodynamic loads are determined by the parameter  $\alpha/\theta_A$  rather than by  $\alpha$  alone. Consequently the indicated changes of  $\theta_A$  in Fig. 8 should be substituted by changes of  $(\alpha/\theta_A)_{eff}$ . That is, the changes would occur in the vertical rather than in the horizontal plane. The conclusion would, however, be the same in regard to the effects of roll angle  $\phi$ .

### Analysis

At high angles of attack, where asymmetric vortex liftoff occurs, the rolling moment changes discontinuously at a critical roll angle  $\phi_C$

$$C_l = \begin{cases} C_{l_1}(\phi) & |\phi| \leq \phi_C \\ C_{l_2}(\phi) & |\phi| > \phi_C + \Delta\phi_H \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

$\Delta\phi_H$  represents any occurring hysteresis. For simplicity it will be assumed that  $\Delta\phi_H=0$  in the analysis to follow

The rolling moments  $C_{l_1}(\phi)$  and  $C_{l_2}(\phi)$  can be expressed in the following form

$$\begin{aligned} C_{l_1}(\phi) &= C_l(\alpha) + C_{l_{\phi_1}}\phi + C_{l_{\dot{\phi}_1}}\frac{b\phi}{2U_\infty} \\ C_{l_2}(\phi) &= C_l(\alpha) + (C_{l_{\phi_1}} - C_{l_{\phi_2}})\phi_C \\ &\quad + C_{l_{\phi_2}}\phi + \Delta C_l \frac{\phi}{|\phi|} + C_{l_{\dot{\phi}_2}}\frac{b\phi}{2U_\infty} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

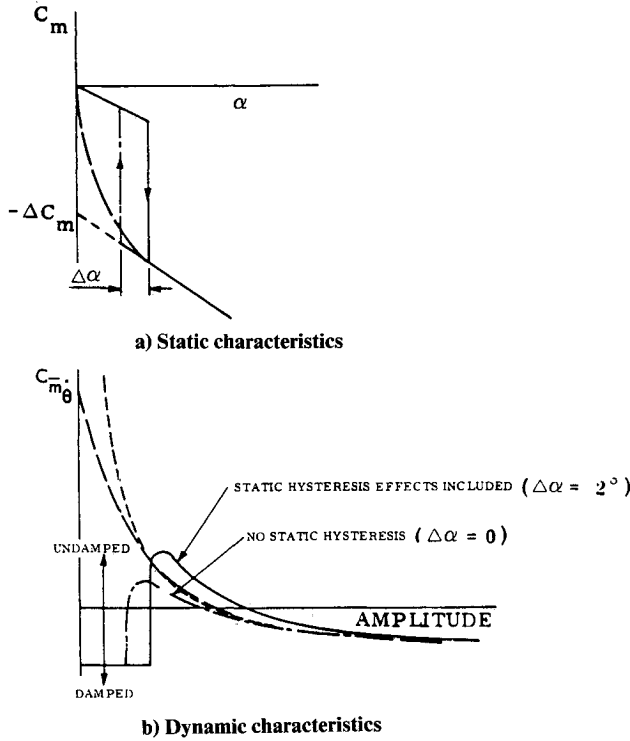


Fig 12 Nonlinear aerodynamic characteristics of blunt cylinder flare bodies (Ref 7)

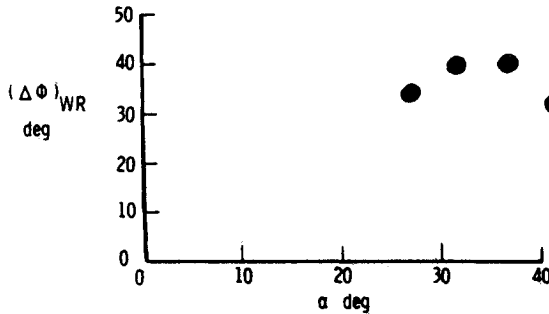


Fig 13 Limit cycle amplitude for roll oscillations of an 80 deg delta wing at  $\beta = 0$  (Ref 6)

The vortex induced rolling moment acting at the load center  $\bar{x} = c_0 \bar{\xi}$  is determined by the roll angle at apex at a time increment  $\Delta t$  earlier where  $\Delta t$  is the time required to convect the vortex change from apex to  $\bar{x}$  (Fig 5) That is for sinusoidal oscillations  $\phi = \Delta\phi \sin\omega t$

$$\phi_A = \Delta\phi \sin(\omega t - \omega\Delta t) = \Delta\phi \sin(\psi - \Delta\psi) \quad (7)$$

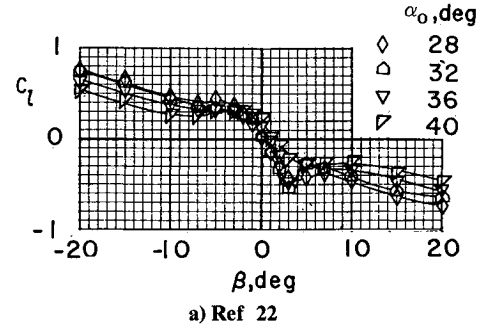
$$\Delta\psi = \omega\Delta t = \omega c_0 \bar{\xi} / \bar{U} = \frac{U_\infty}{\bar{U}} \bar{\xi} \bar{\omega}$$

For roll oscillations through the discontinuity  $\phi_C$  an effective damping derivative  $C_{i\phi}$  can be determined by considering the energy dissipation through one cycle of oscillation<sup>7,8</sup>

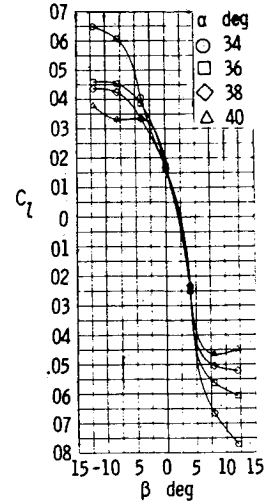
$$\int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} C_i(t) d\phi = \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} C_i(t) \dot{\phi} dt = \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} C_{i\phi} \frac{b\dot{\phi}}{2U_\infty} \dot{\phi} dt \quad (8)$$

That is

$$C_{i\phi} = \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} C_i(t) \dot{\phi} dt / \frac{b}{2U_\infty} \int_{t_0}^{t_0+T} \dot{\phi}^2 dt \quad (9)$$



a) Ref 22



b) Ref 6

Fig 14 Nonlinear rolling moment characteristics of an 80 deg delta wing

Or with  $\phi = \Delta\phi \sin\psi$ , where  $\psi = \omega t$

$$C_{i\phi} = \frac{I}{\pi\Delta\phi} \frac{I}{b\omega/2U_\infty} \int_{\psi_0}^{\psi_0+2\pi} C_l(\psi) d\psi \quad (10)$$

One can combine Eqs (6) (7) and (10) to obtain the following definition of  $C_{i\phi}$

$$\begin{aligned} C_{i\phi} &= \frac{2}{\pi\Delta\phi} \frac{I}{b\omega/2U_\infty} \left\{ \int_{\Delta\psi}^{\Delta\psi+\psi_I} C_{l1} \cos\psi d\psi + \int_{\Delta\psi+\psi_I}^{\pi+\Delta\psi-\psi_I} \right. \\ &\quad \times C_{l2} \cos\psi d\psi + \left. \int_{\pi+\Delta\psi-\psi_I}^{\pi+\Delta\psi} C_{l1} \cos\psi d\psi \right\} \\ &= C_{i\phi_2} - \frac{4}{\pi} \frac{\Delta C_l}{\Delta\phi} \frac{\sin(\bar{\omega}\bar{\xi}U_\infty/\bar{U})}{b\bar{\omega}/2c_0} + \frac{2}{\pi} (C_{i\phi_1} - C_{i\phi_2}) \\ &\quad \times \left[ \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{\phi_C}{\Delta\phi}\right) - \left(\frac{\phi_C}{\Delta\phi}\right) \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{\phi_C}{\Delta\phi}\right)^2} \cos(2\Delta\psi) \right] \quad (11) \end{aligned}$$

A slightly conservative value of the limit cycle amplitude defined by  $C_l = 0$ , is obtained if the third term is neglected (it would be exactly zero if  $C_{i\phi_1} = C_{i\phi_2}$ )

$$\Delta\phi_{lim} = \frac{4}{\pi} \frac{\Delta C_l}{C_{i\phi_2}} \frac{\sin(\bar{\omega}\bar{\xi}U_\infty/\bar{U})}{b\bar{\omega}/2c_0} \quad (12)$$

$C_{i\phi_2}$  is the roll damping derivative obtained with symmetric vortices

When approximating Eq (11) by Eq (12), the parameter  $\phi_C$  is eliminated. That is it is assumed that it does not matter where the discontinuity occurs in agreement with the results obtained for blunt cylinder flare bodies (Fig 12)<sup>7</sup> The results

in Fig 13 are also in agreement with this conclusion as  $\Delta\phi_{\text{lim}}$  varies little when  $\phi_C$  varies from  $\phi_C \approx 0$  at  $\alpha = 27$  deg to 10 deg or more at  $\alpha \leq 37$  deg. The variation with  $\alpha$  in Fig 13 is accounted for by the  $\alpha$  effect on the vortex strength<sup>21</sup> and thereby on  $\Delta C_l$ . Thus although the values of  $\phi_C$  and  $\Delta\phi_H$  are important for computation of the damping characteristics at  $\Delta\phi < \Delta\phi_{\text{lim}}$  they can be neglected in a first approximation when determining the limit cycle amplitude as was done in obtaining Eq (12).

For the 80 deg delta wing the roll damping measured at  $|\beta| \leq 15$  with only one wing half having the full vortex induced lift was  $C_{l\dot{\phi}_2} \approx -0.2$  (Ref 6 and Fig 11). As at these high angles of attack the attached flow lift remains practically constant<sup>11</sup> one would expect  $C_{l\dot{\phi}_2}$  to approach the value  $C_{l\dot{\phi}_2} = -0.4$ .

In addition to  $C_{l\dot{\phi}_2}$  one needs to know the value of  $\Delta C_l$  before Eq (12) can provide an estimate of the limit cycle amplitude. For an 82.5 deg delta wing the experimental results<sup>4</sup> in Fig 2a gave  $\Delta C_l \approx -0.1$ . For an 80 deg delta wing the  $C_l(\beta)$  characteristics shown in Fig 14 have been obtained<sup>6,22</sup>. According to Eq (2) one can expect the  $C_l(\phi)$  characteristics to have a similar shape. Figures 14a and 14b show a steep  $C_l$  variation with  $\beta$  through  $\beta = 0$  rather than an outright discontinuity. Based upon the discussion earlier  $\Delta C_l$  will be determined the same way  $\Delta C_m$  was (Fig. 12a). Thus Fig 14 gives  $\Delta C_l \approx -0.08$  for  $\Lambda = 80$  deg the delta wing for which the results in Fig 13 were obtained.

For the rolling wing the effective  $\alpha/\theta_{\text{LE}}$  variation with  $\xi$  is similar to that for a cambered delta wing<sup>23</sup> where local angle of attack is increasing with  $\xi$  or a Gothic wing,<sup>24</sup> where  $\theta_{\text{LE}}$  is decreasing with increasing  $\xi$ . In both cases the vortex induced loads are increasing linearly with increasing  $\xi$ . Thus the center of the vortex induced loads is located at  $\xi = 2/3$  rather than at  $\xi = 0.52$  the  $\xi$  value for a delta wing at a constant angle of attack<sup>11,25</sup>. Thus  $\xi = 2/3$  in Eq (12). Experimental results<sup>10,11</sup> indicate that  $U_\infty/\bar{U} = 0.75$ . The results in Ref 6 were obtained for  $\bar{\omega} = 1.12$ . With these values Eq (12) gives  $\Delta\phi_{\text{lim}} = 0.63 = 36$  deg which is in excellent agreement with experimental results (Ref 6 and Fig 13).

## Conclusions

An analysis of the slender wing rock phenomenon has shown the following: 1) slender wing rock is caused by asymmetric leading edge vortices 2) vortex breakdown has a damping effect on the roll oscillations and cannot cause wing rock 3) wing rock will only occur for delta wings with more than 74 deg leading edge sweep for which asymmetric vortex formation occurs before vortex burst when the angle of attack is increased and 4) preliminary results indicate that the slender wing rock characteristics can be predicted in an unsteady analysis in which the time history effect is represented by a lumped time lag and the static load discontinuity caused by asymmetric vortex liftoff is defined by static experiments.

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