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UNIVERSIDAD POLITÉCNICA DE MADRID

**Escuela Universitaria de
Ingeniería Técnica Aeronáutica**

HELICOPTERS

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**ROTOR AERODYNAMICS
Blade Element Theory
Vertical Climb Flight**

POLITÉCNICA





Initial thoughts:

- The vertical climb flight is the easiest condition of flight.
 - The velocities on the plane of the rotor are symmetrical about the axis of rotation.
 - The aerodynamic forces on the blades are constant regardless of their angular position.
 - The plane formed by the points of the rotor is perpendicular to the drive shaft.



Initial thoughts:

- The vertical climb flight is the easiest condition of flight.
- There are different theories for studying rotor aerodynamics.
 - The momentum theory.
 - The blade element theory.
 - The vortex theory.



ROTOR AERODYNAMIC



VERTICAL CLIMB FLIGHT



MOMENTUM THEORY

- ✓ **Thrust and Power Calculations.**
- ✓ **Hover Flight.**
- ✓ **Velocity and Power Ratios**
- ✓ **Thurst and Power coefficients.**
- ✓ **Dimensionless expressions.**



MOMENTUM THEORY

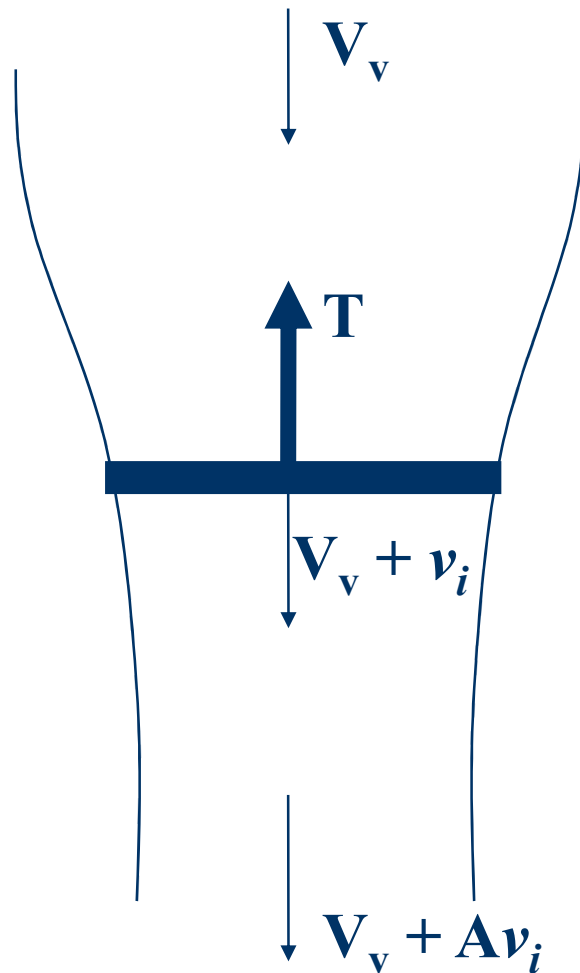
INITIAL ASSUMPTIONS

- High values of Re number flow.
- Replace the rotor with a totally porous disc of the same radius (R) as the rotor replaced.
- We assume the affected current through the disc is defined by the streamtube.
- The fluid flow in the streamtube is considered to be unidimensional, steady and incompressible.
- The effects of the rotation of the slipstream and losses in the blade tips, are neglected.



MOMENTUM THEORY

MATHEMATICAL MODEL

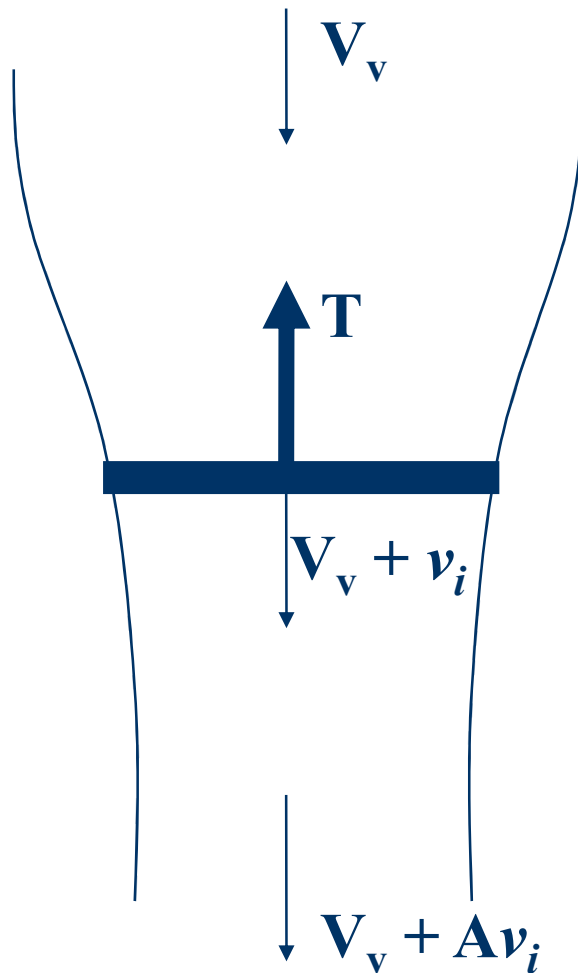


- The velocity of the upstream fluid of the rotor is the vertical velocity of the rotor. (V_v).
- The fluid velocity in this section of the disc is the vertical velocity of the rotor plus the induced velocity by the lifting disc. ($V_v + v_i$).
- The velocity of the downstream fluid of the rotor is the vertical velocity of the rotor plus the induced velocity in the disc plane affected by a factor of A . ($V_v + A v_i$).



MOMENTUM THEORY

THRUST AND POWER CALCULATIONS



$$\vec{F}_{ex} - \int_A P \vec{n} dA = G (\vec{V}_s - \vec{V}_e)$$

$$G = \rho VA = \rho \pi R^2 (V_v + v_i)$$

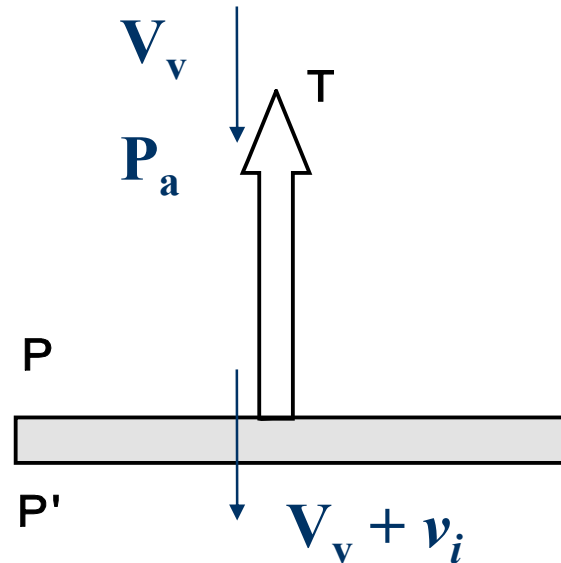
$$T = \rho (\pi R^2) (V_v + v_i) A v_i$$

A?



MOMENTUM THEORY

THRUST AND POWER CALCULATIONS

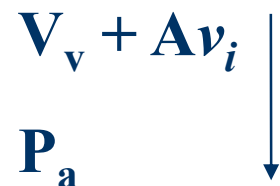


Calculation of Parameter "A"

$$T = (P' - P)\pi R^2$$

$$P_a + \frac{1}{2}\rho V_v^2 = P + \frac{1}{2}\rho(V_v + v_i)^2$$

$$P' + \frac{1}{2}\rho(V_v + v_i)^2 = P_a + \frac{1}{2}\rho(V_v + Av_i)^2$$



$$T = \frac{1}{2}\rho(\pi R^2)(2V_v + Av_i)Av_i$$

$$A = 2$$



MOMENTUM THEORY

THRUST AND POWER CALCULATION

THRUST

$$T = 2\rho(\pi R^2)v_i(V_v + v_i)$$

POWER

$$P_i = T(V_v + v_i)$$

$$P - P_a = -\rho v_i(V_v + \frac{1}{2}v_i)$$

$$P' - P_a = \rho v_i(V_v + \frac{3}{2}v_i)$$



MOMENTUM THEORY

HOVER FLIGHT (THRUST AND POWER)

Flight condition \longrightarrow $V_v=0$

$$T = 2\rho(\pi R^2)v_{io}^2$$

$$P_{io} = 2\rho(\pi R^2)v_{io}^3$$

$$v_{io} = \sqrt{\frac{T}{2\rho(\pi R^2)}} = \sqrt{\frac{W}{2\rho(\pi R^2)}}$$



MOMENTUM THEORY

VELOCITY RATIOS

$$\frac{W}{2\rho(\pi R^2)} = v_{io}^2 = v_i (V_v + v_i) \rightarrow \left(\frac{V_v + v_i}{v_{io}} \right) \left(\frac{v_i}{v_{io}} \right) = 1$$

$$\left(\frac{v_i}{v_{io}} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{v_i}{v_{io}} \right) \left(\frac{V_v}{v_{io}} \right) - 1 = 0$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \frac{v_i}{v_{io}} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\sqrt{\left(\frac{V_v}{v_{io}} \right)^2 + 4} - \left(\frac{V_v}{v_{io}} \right) \right] \\ \frac{V_v + v_i}{v_{io}} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\sqrt{\left(\frac{V_v}{v_{io}} \right)^2 + 4} + \left(\frac{V_v}{v_{io}} \right) \right] \end{array} \right)$$



MOMENTUM THEORY

POWER RATIOS

$$\frac{P_i}{P_{io}} = \frac{T(V_V + v_i)}{Tv_{io}} = \frac{V_v + v_i}{v_{io}} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\sqrt{\left(\frac{V_v}{v_{io}}\right)^2 + 4} + \left(\frac{V_v}{v_{io}}\right) \right]$$

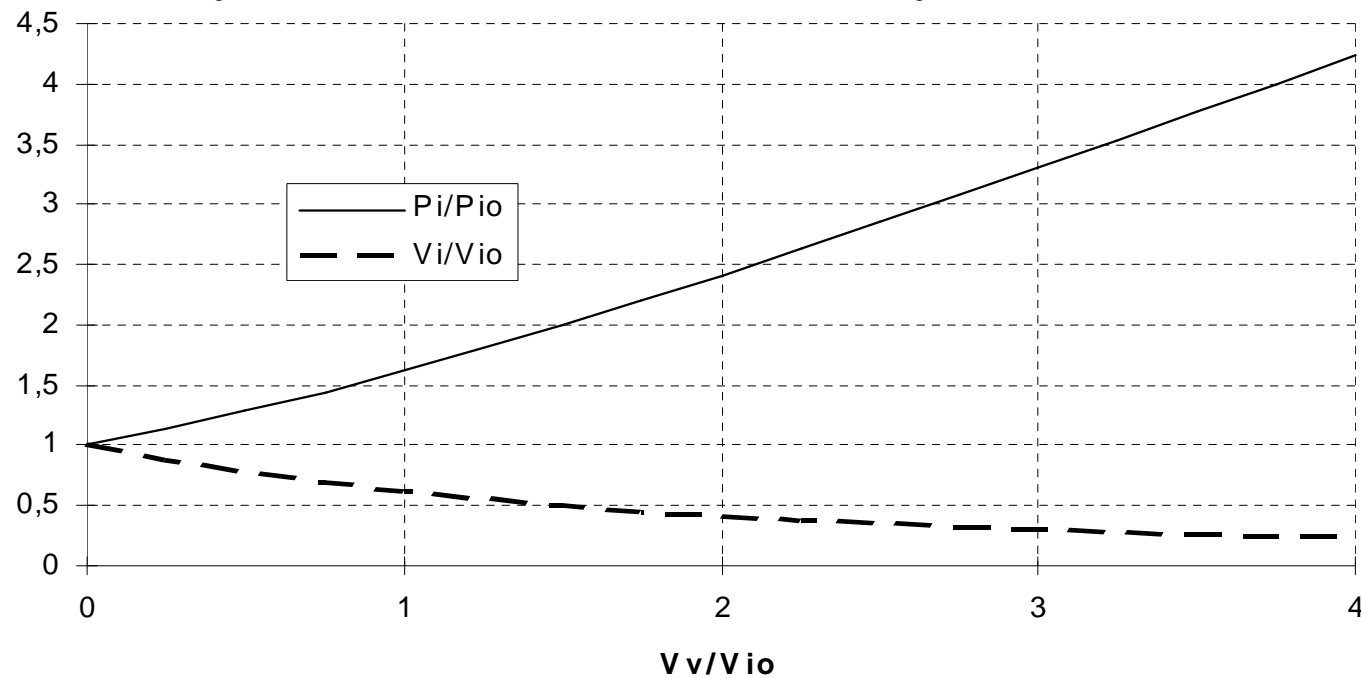
$$\frac{P_i}{P_{io}} = \frac{V_V + v_i}{v_{io}} = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{v_i}{v_{io}}\right)}$$



MOMENTUM THEORY

Power Ratio vs Vertical Velocity Ratio

Induced Velocity Ratio vs Vertical Velocity Ratio





MOMENTUM THEORY

DIMENSIONLESS COEFFICIENTS

Thrust Coefficient (Dimensionless)

$$C_N = \frac{F}{\rho S V^2}$$

$$C_T = \frac{T}{\rho(\pi R^2)(\Omega R)^2}$$

Power Coefficient (Dimensionless)

$$C_W = \frac{W}{\rho S V^3}$$

$$C_{P_i} = \frac{P_i}{\rho(\pi R^2)(\Omega R)^3}$$

$$C_T = \frac{2\rho(\pi R^2)v_{io}^2}{\rho(\pi R^2)(\Omega R)^2} = 2\left(\frac{v_{io}}{\Omega R}\right)^2$$

$$C_{P_i} = 2\frac{v_i}{\Omega R}\left(\frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega R}\right)^2$$



MOMENTUM THEORY

DIMENSIONLESS EXPRESSIONS

$$\frac{v_i}{v_{io}} = \frac{v_i}{\Omega R} \cdot \frac{\Omega R}{v_{io}} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\sqrt{\left(\frac{V_v \Omega R}{\Omega R v_{io}} \right)^2 + 4} - \left(\frac{V_v \Omega R}{\Omega R v_{io}} \right) \right] \rightarrow \frac{v_i}{\Omega R} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\sqrt{2 C_T + \left(\frac{V_v}{\Omega R} \right)^2} - \left(\frac{V_v}{\Omega R} \right) \right]$$

$$\frac{P_i}{P_{io}} = \frac{C_{P_i}}{C_{P_{io}}} = \frac{V_v + v_{io}}{v_{io}} \longrightarrow \frac{C_{P_i}}{C_{P_{io}}} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{C_T}{2}}} \left[\sqrt{2 C_T + \left(\frac{V_v}{\Omega R} \right)^2} + \left(\frac{V_v}{\Omega R} \right) \right]$$

$$\frac{C_{P_i}}{C_T} = \frac{C_{P_i}}{C_{P_{io}}} \frac{C_{P_{io}}}{C_T} \longrightarrow \frac{C_{P_i}}{C_T} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\sqrt{2 C_T + \left(\frac{V_v}{\Omega R} \right)^2} + \left(\frac{V_v}{\Omega R} \right) \right]$$



Initial thoughts:

- The Momentum Theory has excessive limitations, including:
 - It doesn't take into account the parasite drag.
 - It doesn't consider the geometry of the rotor.
 - It doesn't take into account the three dimensional effects.



Initial thoughts:

- The Momentum Theory has excessive limitations.
- The lifting disc is a rotor with b blades rotating with an angular velocity Ω , with the following considerations:
 - The blades are high aspect ratio wings, and
 - The application of aerodynamics knowledge is possible.



ROTOR AERODYNAMICS



VERTICAL CLIMBING FLIGHT



BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

- ✓ Hypothesis, Mathematical Model and Aerodynamic Forces.
- ✓ Thrust and Torque Calculations.
- ✓ Dimensionless expressions.
- ✓ Induced velocity distribution.
- ✓ Constant induced velocity rotors.



BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

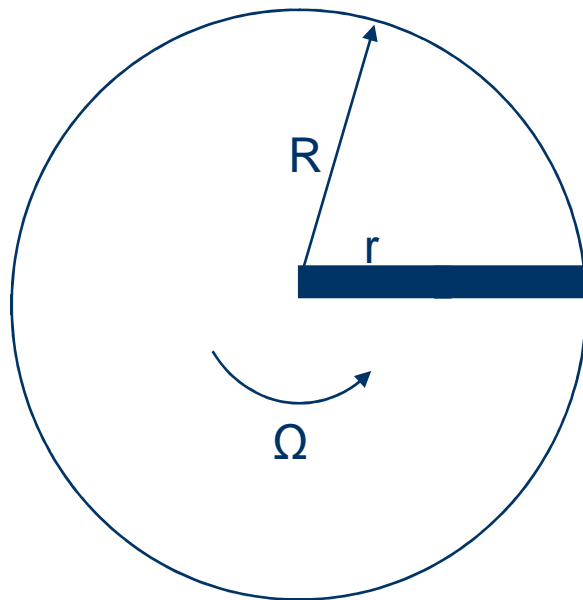
ASSUMPTIONS

- High values of Re number flow.
- The fluid flow is considered steady and incompressible.
- The aerodynamic forces will be obtained from the lift curve and the airfoil polars, which are two-dimensional curves.
- The three-dimensional effects are calculated using semiempirical methods.
- It does not take into account the effects of wake rotation.

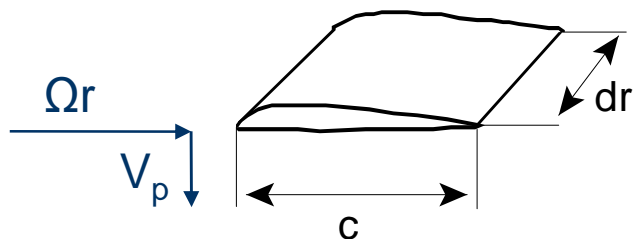


BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

MATHEMATICAL MODEL



- We consider the rotor with a radius “ R ” formed by “ b ” blades that rotate with a constant angular velocity Ω , in ascending constant vertical flight.
- The blade element has a chord “ c ”, a span “ dr ” and is situated a distance “ r ” from the rotor centre.
- The undisturbed incident velocity is a sum of the tangential velocity and the normal velocity.

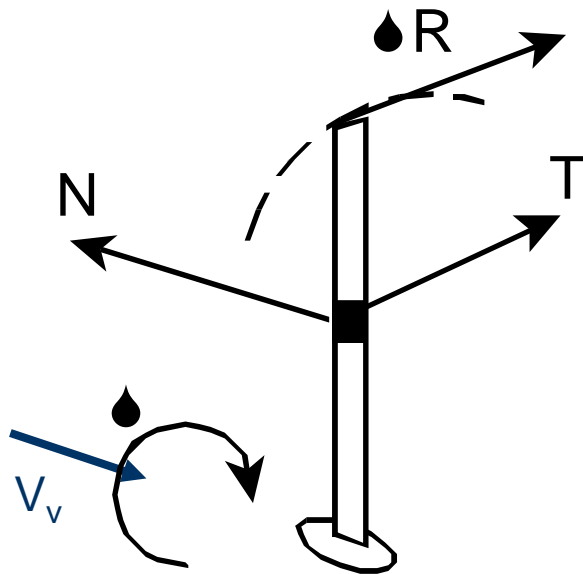




BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

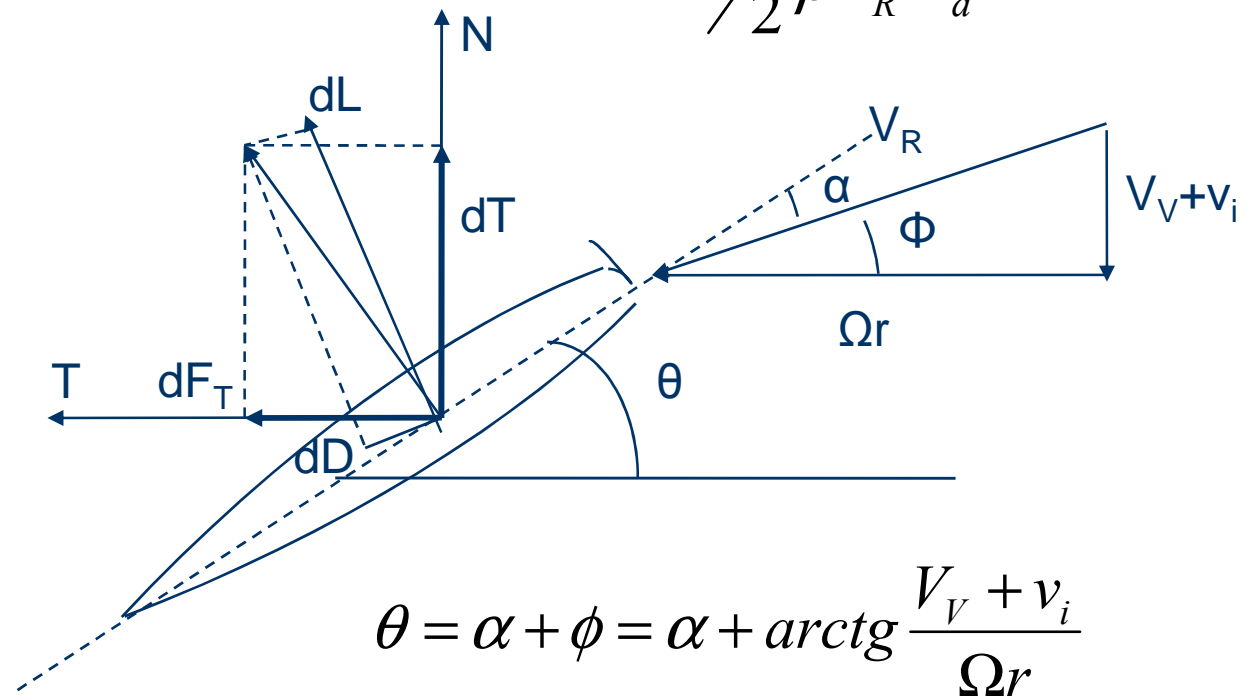
AERODYNAMIC FORCES

Euler axes.



$$dL = \frac{1}{2} \rho V_R^2 C_l c dr$$

$$dD = \frac{1}{2} \rho V_R^2 C_d c dr$$





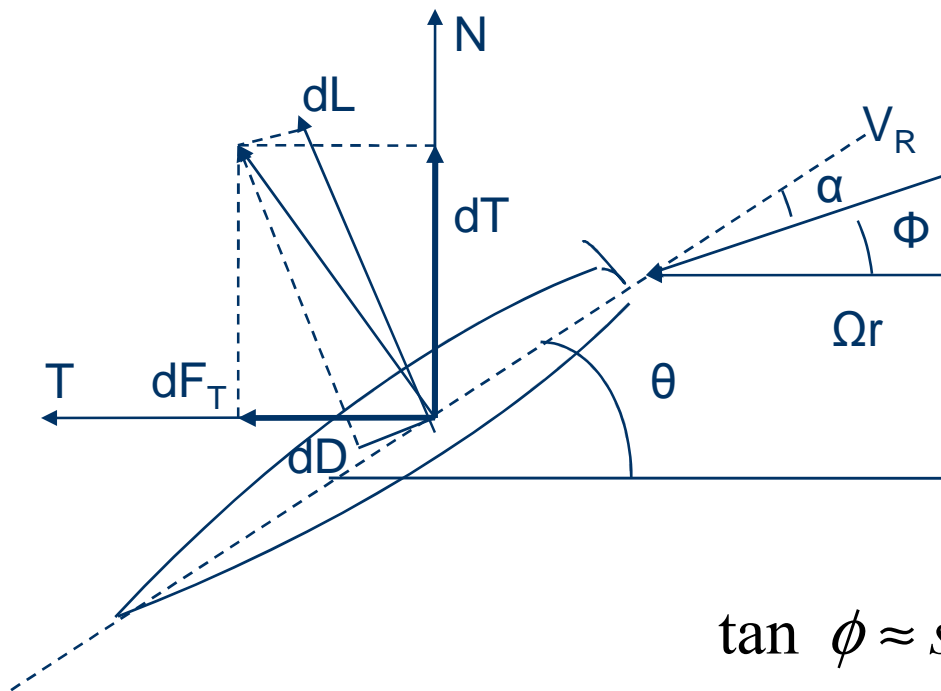
BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

THRUST AND TORQUE CALCULATIONS

Equations of to start with

$$dT = \cos \phi \cdot dL - \text{sen} \phi \cdot dD$$

$$dF_T = \text{sen} \phi \cdot dL + \cos \phi \cdot dD$$



$$dD \ll dL \quad y \quad \frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega r} \ll 1$$

$$\tan \phi \approx \text{sen} \phi \approx \phi \approx \frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega r} \quad y \quad \cos \phi \approx 1$$



BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

THRUST AND TORQUE CALCULATIONS

Simplified Equations

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} dD \ll dL \\ \phi \approx \text{sen } \phi \approx \text{tag } \phi = \frac{V_V + v_i}{\Omega r} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} dT \approx dL \\ dF_{T_i} \approx \text{sen } \phi dL + dD \end{array}$$

$$dT = \frac{1}{2} \rho (\Omega r)^2 c C_l dr$$

$$dF_{T_i} = \frac{1}{2} \rho (\Omega r)^2 \phi c C_l dr = \phi dT$$

$$dF_{T_o} = \frac{1}{2} \rho (\Omega r)^2 c C_d dr = \frac{C_d}{C_l} dT$$



BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

THRUST AND TORQUE CALCULATIONS

Differential equations

Differential of thrust

$$dT = \frac{1}{2} \rho (\Omega r)^2 c C_l dr$$

Differential of induced torque

$$dQ_i = \phi r dT = \frac{1}{2} \rho (\Omega r)^2 \phi c C_l r dr$$

Differential of parasite torque

$$dQ_o = \frac{C_d}{C_l} r dT = \frac{1}{2} \rho (\Omega r)^2 c C_d r dr$$



BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

THRUST AND TORQUE CALCULATIONS

Dimensionless equations $C_T = \frac{T}{\rho(\pi R^2)(\Omega R)^2}$ y $C_Q = \frac{Q}{\rho(\pi R^2)R(\Omega R)^2}$

Local solidity $\sigma = \frac{bc}{\pi R}$ Dimensionless radius $x = \frac{r}{R}$

$$dC_T = \frac{bdT}{\rho(\pi R^2)(\Omega R)^2} = \frac{\sigma}{2} x^2 C_l dx$$

$$dC_{Q_i} = \frac{bQ_i}{\rho(\pi R^2)R(\Omega R)^2} = \frac{\sigma}{2} \phi x^3 C_l dx = \phi x dC_T$$

$$dC_{Q_0} = \frac{bQ_0}{\rho(\pi R^2)R(\Omega R)^2} = \frac{\sigma}{2} x^3 C_d dx$$



BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

THRUST AND TORQUE CALCULATIONS

Set of simultaneous equations

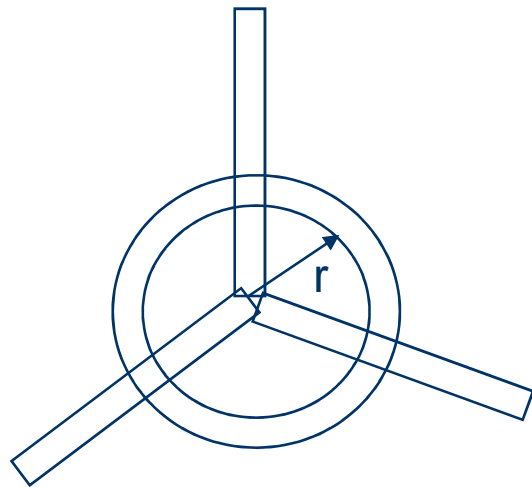
$$\left. \begin{aligned} C_T &= \int_0^1 \frac{\sigma}{2} x^2 C_l dx \\ C_{Q_i} &= \int_0^1 \frac{\sigma}{2} \phi x^3 C_l dx \\ C_{Q_0} &= \int_0^1 \frac{\sigma}{2} x^3 C_d dx \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} &\dot{\iota} \theta(x)? \\ &\dot{\iota} v_i(x)? \\ &\dot{\iota} \sigma(x)? \end{aligned}$$



BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

DISTRIBUTION OF INDUCED VELOCITIES

Combination of TCM and TEP



$$dT = \frac{b}{2} \rho (\Omega r)^2 c a \alpha dr$$

$$dT = 4 \rho v_i (V_v + v_i) \pi r dr$$

$$\frac{v_i}{\Omega R} \frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega R} = \frac{\sigma a}{8} \left(\theta_x - \frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega R} \right)$$



BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

DISTRIBUTION OF INDUCED VELOCITIES

$$\frac{v_i}{\Omega R} \frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega R} = \frac{\sigma a}{8} \left(\theta x - \frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega R} \right)$$

$$\frac{v_i}{\Omega R} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\sqrt{\left(\frac{V_v}{\Omega R} - \frac{a\sigma}{8} \right)^2 + \frac{a\sigma}{2} \theta x} - \left(\frac{V_v}{\Omega R} + \frac{a\sigma}{8} \right) \right]$$

Hover flight

$$\frac{v_{io}}{\Omega R} = \frac{a\sigma}{16} \left(\sqrt{1 + \frac{32}{a\sigma} \theta x} - 1 \right)$$



BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

CONSTANT INDUCED VELOCITY ROTORS

Ideally twisted rotor

$$\frac{v_i}{\Omega R} \frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega R} = \frac{\sigma a}{8} \left(\theta_x - \frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega R} \right)$$

Constant local solidity, $\sigma = \text{cte}$

Hyperbolic twisted rotor, $x\theta = \text{cte}$

$$\frac{v_i}{\Omega R} \frac{V_V + v_i}{\Omega R} = \frac{\sigma a}{8} \left(\theta_t - \frac{V_V + v_i}{\Omega R} \right)$$



BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

CONSTANT INDUCED VELOCITY ROTORS

Optimum Rotor

$$\frac{v_i}{\Omega R} \frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega R} = \frac{\sigma a}{\delta} \left(\theta_x - \frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega R} \right)$$

Hyperbolic local solidity, $\sigma x = \text{cte}$

Constant angle of attack, $\alpha = \text{cte}$

$$\frac{v_i}{\Omega R} \frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega R} = \frac{a \sigma_t}{\delta} \alpha_o$$



AERODYNAMIC ROTOR



VERTICAL CLIMBING FLIGHT



BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

- ✓ **Constant induced velocity rotors.**
- ✓ **Rotors with an Ideal twist distribution.**
- ✓ **Optimum rotor.**
- ✓ **Figure of Merit.**
- ✓ **Blade tip losses.**
- ✓ **Ground effect.**



BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

CALCULATION OF THRUST AND REQUIRED TORQUE

$$\sigma = \frac{bc}{\pi R} \quad x = \frac{r}{R}$$

$$dC_T = \frac{bdT}{\rho(\pi R^2)(\Omega R)^2} = \frac{\sigma}{2} x^2 C_l dx$$

$$dC_{Q_i} = \frac{bQ_i}{\rho(\pi R^2)R(\Omega R)^2} = \frac{\sigma}{2} \phi x^3 C_l dx = \phi x dC_T$$

$$dC_{Q_0} = \frac{bQ_0}{\rho(\pi R^2)R(\Omega R)^2} = \frac{\sigma}{2} x^3 C_d dx$$

$$\frac{v_i}{\Omega R} \frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega R} = \frac{\sigma a}{8} \left(\theta x - \frac{V_v + v_i}{\Omega R} \right)$$



BLADE ELEMENT THEORY

CONSTANT INDUCED VELOCITY ROTORS

Ideally twisted rotor

$$\frac{v_i}{\Omega R} \frac{V_V + v_i}{\Omega R} = \frac{\sigma a}{8} \left(\theta_t - \frac{V_V + v_i}{\Omega R} \right)$$

Constant local solidity, $\sigma = \text{cte}$

Hyperbolic twisted rotor, $x\theta = \text{cte}$

Optimum rotor

$$\frac{v_i}{\Omega R} \frac{V_V + v_i}{\Omega R} = \frac{a}{8} \frac{\sigma_t}{\alpha_o}$$

Hyperbolic local solidity, $\sigma x = \text{cte}$

Constant angle of attack, $\alpha = \text{cte}$



IDEALLY TWISTED ROTOR

Thrust Coefficient

$$\theta = \theta_t \frac{1}{x} \quad y \quad \phi = \phi_t \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\alpha = \theta - \phi = \left(\theta_t - \phi_t \right) \frac{1}{x} = \alpha_t \frac{1}{x}$$

$$dC_T = \frac{a\sigma}{2} \alpha x^2 dx$$

$$C_T = \frac{a\sigma}{2} \int_0^1 \alpha x^2 dx = \frac{a\sigma}{2} \alpha_t \int_0^1 x dx$$

$$C_T = \frac{a\sigma}{4} \alpha_t$$



IDEALLY TWISTED ROTOR

Induced Torque Coefficient

$$\theta = \theta_t \frac{1}{x} \quad y \quad \phi = \phi_t \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\alpha = \theta - \phi = \left(\theta_t - \phi_t \right) \frac{1}{x} = \alpha_t \frac{1}{x}$$

$$dC_{Q_i} = \frac{a\sigma}{2} \phi \alpha x^3 dx$$

$$C_{Q_i} = \int_0^1 \frac{a\sigma}{2} \phi \alpha x^3 dx = \frac{a\sigma}{2} \phi_t \alpha_t \int_0^1 x dx$$

$$C_{Q_i} = \frac{a\sigma}{4} \phi_t \alpha_t = \phi_t C_T$$



IDEALLY TWISTED ROTOR

Parasite Torque Coefficient

$$\theta = \theta_t \frac{1}{x} \quad y \quad \phi = \phi_t \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\alpha = \theta - \phi = \left(\theta_t - \phi_t \right) \frac{1}{x} = \alpha_t \frac{1}{x}$$

$$dC_{Q_0} = \frac{\sigma}{2} C_d x^3 dx$$

$$C_{Q_0} = \frac{\sigma}{2} \int_0^1 C_d x^3 dx$$

It is necessary to know the mathematical relationship between the C_d and the position of the blade element.



IDEALLY TWISTED ROTOR

Parasite Torque Coefficient

$$C_{Q_0} = \frac{\sigma}{2} \int_0^1 C_d x^3 dx$$

For blade airfoils which have a parabolic polar curve, the results are:

$$C_d = \delta_0 + \delta_1 \alpha + \delta_2 \alpha^2 \quad \text{para r.t.i} \quad C_d = \delta_0 + \delta_1 \alpha_t \frac{1}{x} + \delta_2 \alpha_t^2 \frac{1}{x^2}$$

$$C_{Q_0} = \frac{\sigma}{8} \left(\delta_0 + \frac{4}{3} \delta_1 \alpha_t + 2 \delta_2 \alpha_t^2 \right)$$



OPTIMUM ROTORS

Thrust Coefficient

$$\sigma = \frac{\sigma_t}{x}$$

$$\alpha = \alpha_0$$

$$\theta = \alpha_0 + \frac{(V_V + v_i)}{\Omega R} \frac{1}{x}$$

$$dC_T = \frac{a\sigma}{2} \alpha x^2 dx$$

$$C_T = \int_0^1 \frac{a\sigma}{2} \alpha x^2 dx = \frac{a\sigma_t}{2} \alpha_0 \int_0^1 x dx$$

$$C_T = \frac{a\sigma_t}{4} \alpha_0 = \frac{\sigma_t}{4} C_l$$



OPTIMUM ROTORS

Induced Torque Coefficient

$$\sigma = \frac{\sigma_t}{x}$$

$$\alpha = \alpha_0$$

$$\theta = \alpha_0 + \frac{(V_V + v_i)}{\Omega R} \frac{1}{x}$$

$$dC_{Q_i} = \frac{a\sigma}{2} \phi \alpha x^3 dx$$

$$C_{Q_i} = \int_0^1 \frac{a\sigma}{2} \phi \alpha x^3 dx = \frac{a\sigma_t}{2} \phi_t \alpha_0 \int_0^1 x dx$$

$$C_{Q_i} = \frac{a\sigma_t}{4} \phi_t \alpha_0 = \phi_t C_T$$



OPTIMUM ROTORS

Parasite Torque Coefficient

$$\sigma = \frac{\sigma_t}{x}$$

$$\alpha = \alpha_0$$

$$\theta = \alpha_0 + \frac{(V_V + v_i)}{\Omega R} \frac{1}{x}$$

$$dC_{Q_0} = \frac{\sigma}{2} C_d x^3 dx$$

$$C_{Q_0} = \frac{\sigma_t}{2} C_d \int_0^1 x^2 dx$$

$$C_{Q_0} = \frac{\sigma_t}{6} C_d$$



Figure of Merit

Is defined as the ratio between the minimum possible power required to hover an ideal rotor and the actual power required to hover. Is denoted by the letter “M”.

$$M = \frac{T v_{io}}{P} = \frac{C_T \frac{V_{io}}{\Omega R}}{C_{Q_{io}} + C_{Q_{0o}}}$$

$$M = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{C_{Q_{0o}}}{C_{Q_{io}}}}$$



LOSSES IN THE BLADE TIPS

General Thoughts

- ✚ Until now the “three-dimensional effects” have not been taken into account.
- ✚ There is a circulation around the marginal tips of the blades caused by the pressure difference between the upper and lower surfaces of the airfoil.
- ✚ **“the lift force of the blade element on the marginal tips is null”**

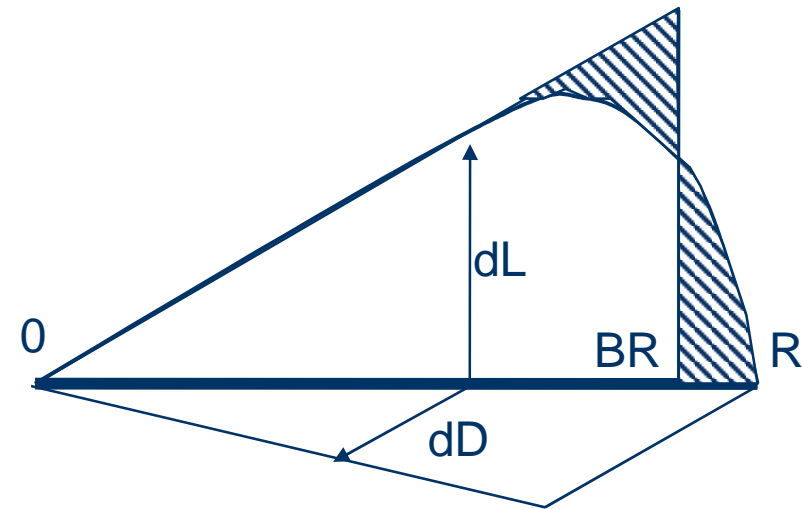


LOSSES IN THE BLADE TIP

Tip Loss Correction

Prandtl and Wald. They created a dimensionless coefficient “B”.

From a blade section located a distance “BR” from the centre, all the airfoils do not generate lift but have drag. With this tip losses correction, the overall value of the thrust is valid, even though the thrust distribution along the blade span is not correct.





LOSSES IN THE BLADE TIPS

Tip Loss Correction, expressions

$$B = 1 - \frac{\sqrt{2C_T}}{b}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_e > 0,5 \rightarrow B = 1 - \sqrt{2C_T} \left(\frac{1}{b} - 0,6x_e \right) \\ x_e > 0,5 \rightarrow B = 1 - \sqrt{2C_T} \left(\frac{1}{b} - 0,3 \right) \end{array} \right.$$



LOSSES IN THE BLADE TIPS

Ideally Twisted Rotor

$$C_T = \frac{a\sigma}{2} \alpha_t \int_0^B x dx \longrightarrow C_T = B^2 \frac{a\sigma}{4} \alpha_t$$

$$C_{Q_i} = \frac{a\sigma}{2} \phi_t \alpha_t \int_0^B x dx \longrightarrow C_{Q_i} = B^2 \frac{a\sigma}{4} \phi_t \alpha_t = \phi_t C_T$$

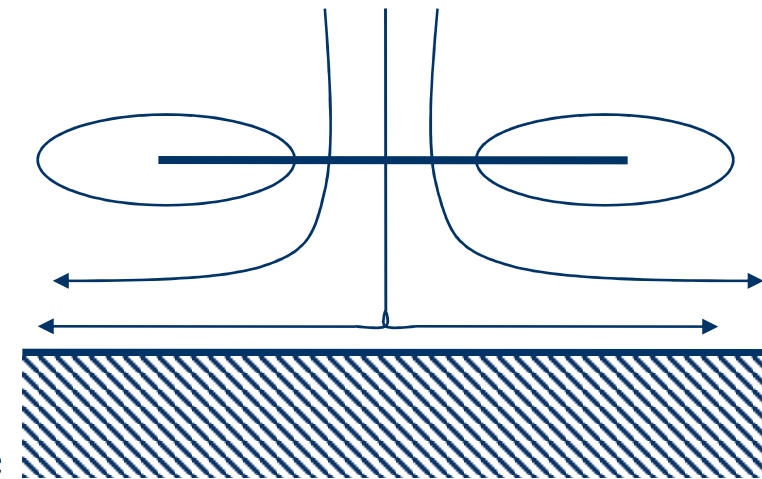
$$C_{Q_0} = \frac{\sigma}{2} \int_0^1 C_d x^3 dx \longrightarrow C_{Q_0} = \frac{\sigma}{8} \left(\delta_0 + \frac{4}{3} \delta_1 \alpha_t + 2\delta_2 \alpha_t^2 \right)$$



GROUND EFFECT (IGE)

A helicopter in close proximity to the ground ($z \sim R$):

- Less power is needed for a given thrust.
- Or
- It lifts more weight while using the same power.



The configuration of the streamlines in close proximity to the ground changes and the induced velocity is less than out of ground effect.



GROUND EFFECT

Tip Loss Correction

$$\Lambda = \frac{1}{0.9926 + 0.03794 \left(\frac{2R}{z}\right)^2} < 1$$

Correction factor is applied to the terms that contain the variable v_i



GROUND EFFECT

Tip Loss Correction, expression

IDEALLY TWISTED ROTOR (Torque
Coefficient)

$$C_Q = C_{Q_i} + C_{Q_o} = \phi_t C_T + \frac{\sigma}{8} \left(\delta_o + \frac{4}{3} \delta_1 \alpha_t + 2 \delta_2 \alpha_t^2 \right)$$

$$C_{Q_{c.e.s.}} = \Lambda \left(C_{Q_i} + C_{Q_o} \right)_{s.e.s.} + (1 + \Lambda) \frac{\sigma}{8} \delta_o$$



GENERAL CALCULATION FOR ANY ROTOR

Some General Thoughts

Gessow (he called “quick estimation of power”) proposed to carry out calculations on any rotor that:

- 1st step: Calculate the Equivalent ideally twisted rotor.
- 2nd step: Correct these calculations taking into account the actual taper ratio and the actual twist of the blade.



GENERAL CALCULATIONS FOR ROTORS

Expressions of the I.T.R. equivalent

I.T.R. equivalent $\sigma_e = 3 \int_0^1 \sigma x^2 dx$; $\theta = \frac{1}{x} \theta_t$

$$\phi_t = \frac{1}{2} \left[\sqrt{\frac{2C_T}{B^2} + \left(\frac{V_v}{\Omega R}\right)^2} + \left(\frac{V_v}{\Omega R}\right) \right]$$

$$C_{T_{RTIe}} = B^2 \frac{a \sigma_e}{4} \alpha_t$$

$$C_{Q_{RTIe}} = C_{Q_i} + C_{Q_o} = \phi_t C_T + \frac{\sigma}{8} \left(\delta_o + \frac{4}{3} \delta_1 \alpha_t + 2 \delta_2 \alpha_t^2 \right)$$



GENERAL CALCULATIONS FOR ROTORS

Expressions of the actual Rotor $C_Q = (1 + F) C_{Q_{RTIe}}$

F	$\lambda = 1:1$			$\lambda = 3:1$		
torsión	0	- 8	- 12	0	- 8	- 12
$C_T/\sigma=0.067$	+ 5.5	+ 3.0	+ 1.5	+ 3.5	0	0
$C_T/\sigma=0.100$	+ 7.5	+ 3.5	+ 1.5	+ 3.0	-0.5	- 0.5



GENERAL CALCULATIONS FOR ROTORS

Expressions of the actual Rotor $C_Q = (1 + F) C_{Q_{RTIe}}$

$$c_l = \frac{6 C_T}{\sigma_e} = \frac{6 C_T}{B_2 \sigma}$$

$$G = 0.015 \lambda + 0.0625 (2.6 - \lambda) c_l$$

$$H = 0.0017708 (1.3543 - \lambda) - 0.0046875 (3 - \lambda) c_l$$

$$F = G - H \theta_t$$