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TATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR ABRONALTICS

REPORT No. 903

THEOREMOAD AND EXPERIMENTAL DATA FOR A NUMBER OF NACA OF SERIES AIRROIL SECTIONS

AURENCE K. LOFTIN, Jr.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22161

AERONAUTIC SYMBOLS FUNDAMENTAL AND DERIVED UNITS

CENERAL STMBOLS

AERODYNAMIC SYMBOLS

- ١'n
	- Weight=mg
Standard acceleration of gravity=9.80005 mfs or 32.1740 ft/sec²
	- \bm{W} Maga:
		- (Indicate axis of Moment of inertia-ml radius of gyration k by proper subscript.)
	- Area
	- Area of wing
- Gap-
-

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- Aspe
- True air speed
- Dynamic pressure, 2017
- Lift, absolute coefficient $C_2 = \frac{1}{qS}$
- Drag, absolute coefficient $C_0 = \frac{1}{qS}$ \overline{D}
- Profile drag; absolute coefficient C_{α_0} $D_{\rm c}$
- Induced drag, absolute coefficient C_{D_2} \boldsymbol{D}_t
- Parasite drag, absolute coefficient Chat Ð.
	- Cross-wind force, absolute coefficient Co-
- Density (mass per unit volume)
tandard density of dry air, 0.12497 kg-m⁻⁴-2³ at 15° C
and 760 mm; or 0.002378 lb-ft⁻⁴ sec² Specific weight of "standard" air, 1.2255 kg/m³ or 0.07651 lb/cu.ft
	- Angle of setting of wings (relative to thrust line) ingle of stabilizer setting (relative to thrust
	- line) Resultant moment
- \boldsymbol{o} Resultant angular velocity $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$

Kinematic viscosity

- Reynolds number, $\rho \frac{Vl}{u}$ where *i* is a linear dimen- \boldsymbol{R}^ℓ
	- sion (e.g., for an airfoil of 1.0 ft chord, 100 mph, standard pressure at 15°C, the corresponding Reynolds number is 935,400; or for an airfoil of 1.0 m chord, 100 mps, the corresponding Reynolds number is 6,865,000)
	- Angle of attack.
	- Angle of downwash
	- Angle of attack, infinite aspect ratio
- Angle of attack, induced ãi
- Angle of attack, absolute (measured from zeroœ. \approx lift position)
	- Flight-path angle

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NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FOR AERONAUTICS

REPORT No. 903

THEORETICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL DATA FOR A NUMBER OF NACA 6A-SERIES AIRFOIL SECTIONS

By LAURENCE K. LOFTIN, Jr.

Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory Langley Field, Va.

1948

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National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics

Headquarters, 172_ F Street NW, Washington 25, D. C.

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THEORETICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL DATA FOR A **NUMBER OF NACA 6A-SERIES AIRFOII SECTIONS**

By LAURENCE K. **LOFTIN, Jr.**

SUMMARY

The NACA 6A-series airfoil sections were designed to *eliminate the trailing-edge cusp which is characteristic of the NACA 6-series sections. Theoretical data are presented* for *NACA 6A-series basic thickness* .forms *having* the *position of minimum pressure at 30,* _0, *and 50 percent chord and with thickness ratios varying* .from *6 percent to 15 percent. Also presented are data* for *a mean line designed to maintain straight sides on the cambered sections.*

The experimental results of a two-dimensional wind-tunnel *investigation of the aerodynamic characteristics of five NACA 6_A-series airfoil sections and* two *NACA 63A-series airfoil sections are presented. An analysis of these results, which were obtained at Reynolds numbers of* 3×10^6 , 6×10^6 , *and* 9×10^8 , *indicates that the section minimum-drag and maximumlift characteristics of comparable NACA 6-series and 6A-series airfoil sections are essentially the same. The quarter-chord pitching-moment coey_cients and angles of zero lift of NACA 6A-series airfoil sections are slightly more negative* than *those of corresponding NACA 6-series airfoil sections. The position of the aerodynamic center and the lift-curve slope of smooth NA CA 6A-series airfoil sections appear to be essentially independent of airfoil thickness ratio in contrast to the trends shown by NACA 6-series sections. The addition of standard leading-edge roughness causes the lift-curve slope of the newer sections to decrease with increasing airfoil* thickness *ratio.*

INTRODUCTION

Much interest is being shown in airfoil sections having small thickness ratios because of their high critical Mach numbers. The NACA 6-series airfoil sections of small thickness have relatively high critical Mach numbers but have the disadvantage of being very thin near the trailing edge, particularly when the sections considered have the position of minimum pressure well forward on the basic thickness form. The thin trailing-edge portions lead to difficulties in structural design and fabrication. In order to overcome these difficulties, the trailing-edge cusp has been removed from a number of NACA 6-series basic thickness forms and the sides of the airfoil sections made straight from approximately 80 percent chord to the trailing edge. These new sections are designated NACA 6A-series airfoil sections. A special mean line, designated the $a=0.8$ (modified) mean line, has also been designed to maintain straight sides on th, cambered sections.

This paper presents theoretical pressure-distribution data and ordinates for NACA 6A-series basic thickness form covering a range of thickness ratios extending from 6 to 1. percent and a range of positions of minimum pressure extend ing from 30 percent to 50 percent chord.

The aerodynamic characteristics of seven NACA 6A-serie airfoil sections as determined in the Langley two-dimensiona low-turbulence pressure tunnel are also presented. Thes data are analyzed and compared with similar data fo NACA 6-series airfoil sectiohs of comparable thickness an, design lift coefficient.

COEFFICIENTS AND **SYMBOLS**

- *cd* section drag coefficient
- $c_{d_{min}}$ minimum section drag coefficient
- *c_* section lift coefficient
- *cz_* design section lift coefficient
- $c_{i_{max}}$ maximum section lift coefficient
- $c_{m_{ac}}$ section pitching-moment coefficient about aerodynami center
- $c_{m_{c/4}}$ section pitching-moment coefficient about quarter chord point
- α_0 section angle of attack
- α_i section angle of attack corresponding to design lift coefficient
- dc_{l} $\frac{ac_1}{d\alpha_0}$ section lift-curve slope
- *V* free-stream velocity
- *v* local velocity
- Δv increment of local velocity
- Δv_a increment of local velocity caused by additional type ϵ load distribution
- *Pn* resultant pressure coefficient; difference between loc: upper-surface **and** lower-surface pressure coefficien
- *R* Reynolds number
- *c* airfoil chord length
- x distance along chord from leading edge
- *y* distance perpendicular to chord
- *y_* mean:line ordinate
- *a* mean-line designation; fraction of chord from leadir edge over which design load is uniform
- ψ airfoil design parameter (reference 1)

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THEORETICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF AIRFOILS

Designation.--The system used for designating the new airfoil sections is the same as that employed for the NACA 6-series sections (reference 1) except that the capital letter "A" is substituted for the dash which appears between the digit denoting the position of minimum pressure and that denoting the ideal lift coefficient. **For** example, the NACA $64₁-212$ becomes the NACA $64₁A212$ when the cusp is removed from the trailing edge. In the absence of any further modification of the designation, the cambered airfoils are to be considered as having the $a=0.8$ (modified) mean line.

Basic thickness forms.--The theoretical methods by which the basic thickness forms of the NACA 6-series family of airfoil sections were derived in order to have pressure distributions of **a** specified type are described in reference 1. Removing the trailing-edge cusp was accomplished by increasing the value of the airfoil design parameter ψ (reference 1) corresponding to the rear portion of the **airfoil** until the airfoil ordinates formed **a** straight line from **approximately** 80 percent chord to the trailing edge. Once the final **form** of the ψ curves was established, the new pressure distributions corresponding to the modified thickness forms were calculated by the usual methods as described in reference t.

A comparison of the theoretical pressure distributions of an NACA $64,-012$ airfoil section and an NACA 64_1A012 airfoil section (fig. 1) indicates that removing the trailing-edge cusp has little effect upon the velocities around the section. A slight reduction of the peak negative pressure and flatter pressure gradient over the forward and rearward portions of the airfoil section seem to be the principal effects. The theoretical calculations also indicate the presence ot a trailing-edge stagnation point caused by the finite trailingedge angle of the NACA 6A-series sections. This stagnation point is, of course, never realized experimentally.

Ordinates and theoretical pressure-distribution data for NACA 6A-series basic thickness **forms** having the position of minimum pressure **at** 30, 40, **and** 50 percent chord **are** presented in figure 2 for **airfoil** thickness ratios of 6, 8, 10, 12, and 15 percent. If intermediate thickness ratios involving **a** change in thickness of not more than 1 to 2 percent **are** desired, the ordinates of the basic thickness forms may be scaled linearly without seriously **altering** the gradients of the theoretical pressure distribution.

FIGURE 1.--Comparison of theoretical pressure distribution at zero lift of the NACA 64₁-012 and the NACA 641A012 airfoil sections.

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FIGURE 2-NACA 6A-series basic thickness forms.

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FIGURE 2.-Continued.

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FIGURE 2 .- Continued.

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THEORETICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL DATA FOR A NUMBER OF NACA 6A-SERIES AIRFOIL SECTIONS

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AIRFOIL SECTIONS A NUMBER OF NACA 6A-SERIES THEORETICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL DATA FOR

 $\Delta v_{\alpha}/V$

Concluded. FIGURE 2.

 $\Delta v_d /V$

843437-50

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 Δv a/ V

 -220

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Mean line.--In order that the addition of camber not change the pressure gradients over the basic thickness form, a mean line should be used which causes uniform load to be carried from the leading edge to a point at least as far back as the position of minimum pressure on the basic thickness form. The usual practice is to camber NACA 6-series **air**foil sections with the $a=1.0$ type of mean line because this mean line appears to be best for high maximum lift coefficients and, contrary to theoretical predictions, does not cause excessive quarter-chord pitching-moment coefficients.

The $a=1.0$ type mean line was not considered desirable, however, for the NACA 6A-series basic thickness forms because the surfaces of the cambered airfoil sections would be curved near the trailing edge. The type of mean line best suited for maintaining straight sides on these newer sections would he one that is straight from 80 percent chord to the trailing edge. Such a camber line could be obtained by modifying an *a=0.7* mean line. Consideration of the effect of mean-line loading upon the maximum lift coefficient indicated, however, that a mean line having a uniform load distribution as far back along the chord as possible was desirable. It was found that the $a=0.8$ type mean line could be made straight from approximately 85 percent chord to the trailing edge without causing a sharp break in the mean line and with very little curvature between the 80 percent- and 85-percent-chord stations. The aerodynamic advantages of using this mean line in preference to one having uniform load to 70 percent chord were considered to be more important than the slight curvature existing in the modified $a=0.8$ mean line. For this reason, all cambered NACA 6A-series airfoil sections have employed the $a=0.8$ (modified) mean line.

The ordinates and load-distribution data corresponding to a design lift coefficient of 1.0 are presented in figure 3 for the $a=0.8$ (modified) mean line. The ordinates of a mean line having any arbitrary design lift coefficient may be obtained simply by multiplying the ordinates presented by the desired design lift coefficient.

Cambered airfoils.--The method used **for** cambering the basic thickness distributions of figure 2 with the mean line of figure 17 is described and discussed in references 1 and 2. It consists essentially in laying out the ordinates of the basic thickness forms normal to the mean line **at** corresponding stations. A discussion of the method employed for combining the theoretical pressure-distribution data, presented in figures 2 and 3 for the mean-line and basic-thickness distributions, to give the **approximate** theoretical **pressure** distribution **about a** cambered or symmetrical airfoil section at any lift coefficient is given in reference 1.

APPARATUS AND TESTS

Wind **tunnel.--All** the tests described herein **were** conducted in the Langley two-dimensional low-turbulence .pressure tunnel. The test section of this tunnel measures 3 feet by 7.5 feet. The models completely spanned the 3-foot dimension with the gaps between the model and tunnel

FIGURE 3.--Data **for** NACA mean line *a=0.8* (modified).

walls sealed to prevent air leakage. Lift measurements were made by taking the difference between the pressure reaction upon the floor **and** ceiling of the tunnel, drag results were obtained by the wake-survey method, and pitching moments were determined with a torque balance. A more complete description of the tunnel **and** the method of obtaining **and** reducing the data are contained in reference 1.

Models.--The seven **airfoil** sections for which the experimental aerodynamic characteristics were obtained are:

The models representing the **airfoil** sections were **of** 24-inch chord and were constructed of laminated mahogany. The models were painted with lacquer and then sanded with No. 400 carborundum paper until aerodynamically smooth surfaces were obtained. The ordinates of the models tested are presented in tables I to VII.

TABLE I.-ORDINATES OF NACA 63A010 AIRFOIL **SECTION**

[Stations and ordinates given in percent of airfoil chord]

TABLE II.-ORDINATES OF NACA 63A210 AIRFOIL **SECTION**

[Stations and ordinates given in percent of airfoil chord]

TABLE III.-- ORDINATES OF NACA 64A010 AIRFOIL ${\tt SECTION}$

[Stations and ordinates given in percent of airfoil chord]

TABLE IV. ORDINATES OF NACA 64A210 AIRFOIL **SECTION**

[Stations and ordinates given in percent of airfoil chord]

TABLE V.-ORDINATES OF NACA 64A410 AIRFOIL **SECTION**

[Stations and ordinates given in percent of airfoil chord]

TABLE VI.-ORDINATES OF NACA 641A212 AIRFOIL **SECTION**

[Stations and ordinates given in percent of airfoil **chord]**

TABLE VII.-ORDINATES OF NACA 642A215 AIRFOIL **SECTION**

[Stations and ordinates given **in** percent of airfoil chordl

Tests.-The tests of each smooth airfoil section consisted in measurements of the lift, drag, and quarter-chord pitchingmoment coefficients at Reynolds numbers of 3×10^6 , 6×10^6 , and 9×10^6 . In addition, the lift and drag characteristics of each section were determined at a Reynolds number of 6×10^6 with standard roughness applied to the leading edge of the model. The standard roughness employed on these 24-inch-chord models consisted of 0.011-inch-diameter carborundum grains spread over a surface length of 8 percent of the chord back from the leading edge on the upper and lower surfaces. The grains were thinly spread to cover from 5 to 10 percent of this area. In an effort to obtain some idea of the effectiveness of the airfoil sections when equipped with trailing-edge high-lift devices, each section was fitted with a simulated split flap deflected 60° . Lift measurements with the split flap were made at a Reynolds number of 6×10^6 with the airfoil leading edge both smooth and rough.

RESULTS

The results obtained from tests of the seven airfoil sections are presented in figures 4 to 10 in the form of standard aerodynamic coefficients representing the lift, drag, and quarterchord pitching-moment characteristics of the airfoil sections. Fretra 4.-Abordynamic characteristics of the NACA (SA00 airfoli section, 24-inch chord.

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 \textsc{Ficire} 8.—Aerodynamie characteristics of the NACA 64A410 airfoil section, 24-inch chord.

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 $\rm Ficurs$ 10.—Aerodynamic characteristics of the NACA 64:A215 air
foll section, 24-inch chord.

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The calculated position of the aerodynamic center and the variation of the pitching-moment coefficient with lift coefficient about this point are also included in these data. The influence of the tunnel boundaries has been removed from all the aerodynamic data by means of the following equations (developed in reference 1):

> $c_d = 0.990c_d'$ $c_i = 0.973c_i'$ $c_{m_{c/4}} = 0.951 c_{m_{c/4}}$ $\alpha_0 = 1.015\alpha_0'$

where the primed quantities denote the measured coefficients.

DISCUSSION

Although the amount of systematic aerodynamic data presented for NACA 6A-series airfoil sections is not large, it is enough to indicate the relative merits of the NACA 6Aseries airfoil sections as compared with the NACA 6-series sections. The variation of the important aerodynamic characteristics of the five NACA 64A-series airfoils with the pertinent geometrical parameters of the airfoils is shown in figures 11 to 17, together with comparable data for NACA 64-series airfoils. The curves shown in figures 11 to 17 are for the NACA 64-series airfoil sections and are taken from the faired data of reference 1. The experimental points which appear on these figures represent the results obtained for the NACA 64A-series airfoil sections in the present investigation. Since only two NACA 63A-series sections were tested, comparative results are not presented for them. The effect of removing the cusp from the NACA 63-series

sections is about the same as that of removing the cust from the NACA 64-series sections.

The comparative data showing the effects upon the aerodynamic characteristics of removing the trailing-edge cust from NACA 6-series airfoil sections should be used with caution if the cusp removal is affected in some manner other than that indicated earlier in this paper. For example, if the cusp should be removed from a cambered airfoil by means of a straight-line fairing of the airfoil surfaces, the amount of camber would be decreased near the trailing edge. Naturally the effect upon the aerodynamic characteristics of removing the cusp in such a manner would not be the same as indicated by the comparative results presented for NACA 6-series and 6A-series airfoils.

Drag.—The variation of section minimum drag coefficient with airfoil thickness ratio at a Reynolds number of 6×10^6 is shown in figure 11 for NACA 64-series and NACA 64Aseries airfoil sections of various cambers, both smooth and with standard leading-edge roughness. As with the NACA 64-series sections (reference 1), the minimum drag coefficients of the NACA 64A-series sections show no consistent variation with camber. Comparison of the data of figure 11 indicates that removing the cusp from the trailing edge has no appreciable effect upon the minimum drag coefficients of the airfoils, either smooth or with standard leading-edge roughness.

Increasing the Reynolds number from 3×10^6 to 9×10^6 has about the same effect upon the minimum drag coefficient of NACA 64A-series airfoils (figs. 4 to 10) as that indicated in reference 1 for the NACA 64-series airfoils.

Some differences exist in the drag coefficients of NACA 64- and 64A-series airfoils outside the low-drag range of lift coefficients but these differences are small and do not show any consistent trends (figs. 4 to 10 and reference 1).

FIGURE 11. - Variation of minimum section drag coefficient with airfoil thickness for some NACA 64-series (reference 1) and NACA 64A-series airfoil sections of various cambers in the smooth condition and with standard leading-edge roughness. $R = 6 \times 10^6$; flagged symbols indicate NACA 64A-series sections with standard roughness.

Lift.—The section angle of zero lift as a function of thickncss ratio is shown in figure 12 for NACA 64- **and** 64A-series airfoil sections of various cambers. These results show that the angle of zero lift is nearly independent of thickness and is primarily dependent upon the amount of camber for **a** particular type of mean line. Theoretical calculations made by use of the mean-line data of figure 3 and reference 1 indicate that **airfoils** with the *a=0.8* (modified) mean line should have **angles** of zero lift less negative than those with the *a=* 1.0 mean line. Actually, the reverse appears to be the case, **and** this effect is due mainly to the fact that **air**foils having the *a=* 1.0 type of mean line have **angles** of zero lift which **are** only **about** 74 percent of their theoretical value (reference 1), and those having the $a=0.8$ (modified) mean lines have angles of zero lift larger than indicated by theory.

The measured lift-curve slopes corresponding to the NACA 64-series and NACA 64A-series airfoils of various cambers are presented in figure 13 as a function of airfoil thickness ratio. No consistent variation of lift-curve slope with camber or Reynolds number is shown by either type of airfoil. The increase in trailing-edge angle which accompanies removal of the cusp would be expected to reduce the liftcurve slope by an amount which increases with airfoil thickness ratio (references 3 and 4). Because the present data for the NACA 6A-series sections show essentially no variation in lift-curve slope with thickness ratio, it appears that the effect of increasing the trailing-edge angle is about

F[nURE 12.--Variation **of** section angle **of** zero lift **with** airfoil thickn_s ratio and camber for some NACA 64-series (reference 1) and NACA 64A-series airfoil sections. $R=6\times10^6$.

FIGURE 13. Variation of lift-curve slope with airfoil thickness ratio for some NACA 64-scries (reference I) and N A ('A **64A-sl!rics** airfoil sections of w_rious camhcrs hoth in the smooth condition and with standard leading-edge roughness. $R=6\times10^6$; flagged symbols indicate NACA 64A-series sections with standard roughness.

balanced by the increase in lift-curve slope with thickness ratio shown by NACA 6-series sections. The value of the lift-curve slope for smooth NACA 64A-series airfoil sections is very close to that predicted from thin airfoil theory (2π) per radian or 0.110 per degree). Removing the trailingedge cusp from **an** airfoil section with standard leading-edge roughness causes the lift-curve slope to decrease quite rapidly with increasing airfoil thickness ratio.

The variation of the maximum section lift coefficient with airfoil thickness ratio and camber at **a** Reynolds number of 6×10^6 is shown in figure 14 for NACA 64-series and NACA 64A-series airfoil sections with **and** without standard leading-edge roughness and simulated split flaps deflected 60 °. A comparison of these data indicates that the character of the variation of maximum lift coefficient with **airfoil** thickness ratio and camber is nearly the same for the NACA 64-series and NACA 64A-series airfoil sections. The magnitude of the maximum lift coefficient appears to be slightly less for the plain NACA 64A-series airfoils and slightly higher for the NACA 64A-series airfoils with split flaps than corresponding values for the NACA 64-series airfoils. These differences are small, however, and for engineering applications the maximum-lift characteristics of NACA 64-series and 64A-series airfoil sections of comparable thickness and design lift coefficient may be considered practically the same.

(a) Airfoil with simulated split flap deflected 60".

(b) Plain airfoil.

FIGURE 14. -- Variation of maximum section lift coefficient with airfoil thickness ratio and camber for some NACA 64-series (reference 1) and NACA 64A-series airfoil sections with and without simulated split flaps and standard roughness. $R=6\times10^6$; flagged symbols indicate NACA fi4A-serics airfoils with standard roughness.

A comparison of the maximum-lift data for NACA 64Aseries airfoil sections, presented in figures 4 to 10, with similar data for NACA 64-series airfoil sections indicates that the scale-effect characteristics of the two types of section are essentially the same for the range of Reynolds number from 3×10^6 to 9×10^6 .

Pitching moment.-Thin-airfoil theory provides a means for calculating the theoretical quarter-chord pitching-moment coefficients of airfoil sections having various amounts and

(a) Plain airfoil.

(b) Airfoil with simulated split flap deflected 60°.

FIGURE 15.—Variation of section quarter-chord pitching-moment coefficient at zero angle of attack with airfoil thickness ratio and camber for some NACA 64-series (reference 1) and NACA 64A-series airfoil sections with and without split flaps. $R=6\times 10^6$; flagged symbols indicate NACA 64A-series airfoils with 60° simulated split flap.

FIGURE 16.-Comparison of theoretical and measured pitching-moment coefficients for some NACA 64-series and 64A-series airfoil sections. $R=6\times10^6$.

types of camber. Calculations were made according to thes methods for airfoils having the $a=1.0$ and $a=0.8$ (modified mean lines by using the theoretical mean-line data presented in figure 3 and in reference 1. The results of these calcula tions indicate that the quarter-chord pitching-moment coeffi cients of the NACA 64A-series airfoil sections having the $a=0.8$ (modified) mean line should be only about 87 percen of those for the NACA 64-series airfoil sections with th $a=1.0$ mean line. The experimental relationship betwee: the quarter-chord pitching-moment coefficient and airfoi thickness ratio and camber, shown in figure 15, discloses that the plain NACA 64A-series airfoils have pitching-momen coefficients which are slightly more negative than those fo the plain NACA 64-series airfoils. The increase in th magnitude of the pitching-moment coefficient of NACA 64A series airfoils as compared with NACA 64-series airfoil becomes greater when the airfoils are equipped with simulated split flaps deflected 60°. A comparison of the theoretica and measured pitching-moment coefficients is shown in figur 16 for NACA 64-series and 64A-series airfoil sections. Thes comparative data indicate that the NACA 64A-series section much more nearly realize their theoretical moment coefficient than do the 64-series airfoil sections. Similar trends hav been shown to result when mean lines such as the $a=0$. type are employed with NACA 6-series airfoils (reference 1)

Aerodynamic center.-The position of the aerodynami center and the variation of the moment coefficient with lif coefficient about this point were calculated from the quarter chord pitching-moment data for each of the seven airfoil tested. The variation of the chordwise position of the aero dynamic center with airfoil thickness ratio is shown in figur 17 for the NACA 64-series and 64A-series airfoil sections Since the data for the NACA 64-series airfoils showed no consistent variation with camber, the results are represented by a single faired curve for all cambers. Following this sam trend, the position of the aerodynamic center for the NAC 64A-series airfoils shows no consistent variation with camber The data of figures 4 to 10 show that the variations in the Revnolds number have no consistent effect upon the chord wise position of the aerodynamic center.

Perfect fluid theory indicates that the position of the aerodynamic center should move rearward with increasin airfoil thickness and the experimental results for the NAC. 64-series airfoil sections follow this trend. The data o

FIGURE 17.—Variation of chordwise position of aerodynamic center with airfoil thickne ratio for some NACA 64-series (reference 1) and 64A-series airfoil sections of different cambers. $R=6\times10^6$.

reference 5 show important forward movements of the aerodynamic center with increasing trailing-edge angle for a given airfoil thickness ratio. The results obtained for the NACA 24-, 44-, and 230-series airfoil sections (reference 1) reveal that the effect of increasing trailing-edge angle predominates over the effect of increasing thickness because the position of the aerodynamic center moves forward with increasing thickness ratio for these airfoil sections. For the NACA 64A-series airfoils (fig. 17) the aerodynamic center is slightly behind the quarter-chord point and does not appear to vary with increasing thickness. These results suggest that the effect of increasing thickness is counterbalanced by increasing trailing-edge angle for these airfoil sections.

CONCLUSIONS

From a two dimensional wind-tunnel investigation of the aerodynamic characteristics of five NACA 64A-series and two NACA 63A-series airfoil sections the following conclusions based upon data obtained at Reynolds numbers of 3×10^6 , 6×10^6 , and 9×10^6 may be drawn:

1. The section minimum drag and maximum lift coefficients of corresponding NACA 6-series and 6A-series airfoil sections are essentially the same.

2. The lift-curve slopes of smooth NACA 6A-series airfoil sections appear to be essentially independent of airfoil thickness ratio, in contrast to the trends shown by NACA 6-series airfoil sections. The addition of standard leadingedge roughness causes the lift-curve slope to decrease with increasing airfoil thickness ratio for NACA 6A-series airfoil sections.

3. The section angles of zero lift of NACA 6A-seric airfoil sections are slightly more negative than those (comparable NACA 6-series airfoil sections.

4. The section quarter-chord pitching-moment coefficient of NACA 6A-series airfoil sections are slightly more negativ than those of comparable NACA 6-series airfoil sectiom The position of the aerodynamic center is essentially ind¢ pendent of airfoil thickness ratio for NACA 6A-series airfo sections.

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