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RESEARCH MEMORANDUM

THE APPLICATION OF A SIMPLIFIED LIFTING-SURFACE THEORY

TO THE PREDICTION OF THE ROLLING EFFECTIVENESS OF

PLAIN SPOILER AILERONS AT SUBSONIC SPEEDS

By Ralph W. Franks

Ames Aeronautical Laboratory Moffett Field, Calif.

NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE **FOR AERONAUTICS**

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SUMMARY

A method is described for predicting the subsonic rolling effectiveness at zero angle of attack for plain spoiler ailerons. **The spoilers** considered were of constant-percent-chord height and mounted normal to the wing surface along the 70-percent-chord line. An extension of the method to include additional types of spoiler ailerons appears possible. **A** simplified lifting-surface theory developed for flap-type ailerons **is** used together with two-dimensional-spoiler data and an empirical correction for the effective spanwise location on swept wings. A comparison is made of the predicted rolling moments with experimentally obtained values for a series of models, and the agreement is shown to be *good.*

INTRODUCTION

As *8* result of the current interest in the application of retractable spoiler ailerons as lateral controls on high-speed aircraft, a considerable number of tests have been made using various types of spoiler configurations. The results of *some* of these tests are presented in references 1 to 10, and reference 11 contains a bibliography of spoiler information.

The great number of wing-plan-form-spoiler combinations possible, however, creates a need for a method of predicting spoiler rolling-moment effectiveness which accounts for as many of the variables involved as possible. In references 7 and *9* are presented the results of two attempts to predict spoiler effectiveness. Each of these methods is based on the application of a flap-effectiveness theory. The agreement of experimental and predicted results is good for unswept wings. For a swept wing, however, the method of reference 9 is inapplicable since the method **was** developed using the antisymmetrical span loading of unswept wings only.

Reference 7 described an empirical modification to this method to account for the effects of sweep; however, a comparison of the predicted and experimental spoiler effectiveness shows the predicted values to be too high for spoilers on swept wings.

It is the purpose of this report to describe a method of predicting spoiler rolling-moment effectiveness based on the simplified liftingsurface flap theory of reference *12.* To apply this flap theory to spoilers, it was necessary to obtain test data of spoilers on two-dimensional wings, and to employ an empirical correction when predicting the effectiveness of partial-span spoilers on swept wings. The results of applying the present method to the configurations described in references 1 to 8 (see table I and fig. 1) and the comparison with the experimental data are presented herein.

NOTATION

The coefficients and symbols used in this report are defined as follows :

 b . C_{λ} $C_{\lambda \alpha x}$ c_{ι_t} $c_{\iota_{\delta}}$ C $\mathbf H$ h M q. R wing span, measured perpendicular to plane of symmetry, ft rolling-moment coefficient, $\frac{\text{rolling moment}}{a \text{ Sh}}$ rolling moment obtained experimentally rolling moment predicted by application of theory rolling moment due to aileron deflection, $\frac{\partial C_l}{\partial s}$ (from ref. 12), qsb $\frac{1}{26}$ and $\frac{1}{26}$ are $\frac{1}{26}$ and $\frac{1}{26}$ wing chord (measured parallel to plane of symmetry), ft height of spoiler above wing section mean line, measured normal to mean line, ft height of spoiler above wing surface, measured normal to wing surface, ft Mach number free-stream dynamic pressure, lb/sq ft Reynolds number, based on the mean aerodynamic chord

A

wing aspect ratio

- S wing area, sq ft
- t maximum airfoil section thickness, ft
- $X_{\rm S}$ distance from wing leading edge to spoiler, measured parallel to plane of symmetry, ft
- y_g distance from model center line to edge of spoiler, measured perpendicular to plane of symmetry, ft
- z_{α} ordinate of airfoil section at spoiler location, ft
- *a,* angle of attack of the wing-chord plane with reference to free stream, deg
- Δ prefix denoting an increment
- $\Delta\alpha_{\rm g}$ effective change in angle of attack due to deflection of spoiler, measured at $C_T = 0$, radians
- *6* angle of deflection of full wing-chord control surface (from $ref. 12)$, radians

 η dimensionless lateral coordinate, $\frac{\text{y}_\text{S}}{\text{b}/2}$

- $\eta_{\texttt{i}}$ spanwise location of inboard end of spoiler, $\frac{\text{y}_\text{Sipboard}}{\text{y}_\text{A}}$ b/2
- n_{\odot} spanwise location of outboard end of spoiler, $\frac{y_{\text{Soutboard}}}{\sqrt{y_{\text{Sout}}}$ b/2
- **8** angle used in determining empirical correction factor, deg
- **A** angle of sweepback, deg (Subscripts denote line referred to: c/4, quarter chord; s, spoiler; t, trailing edge.)
- A wing taper ratio

DEVELOPMENT OF METHOD

The spoiler configuration chosen for analysis was a plain spoiler aileron located on the wing upper surface along the 70-percent-chord line and of constant-percent-chord height. This configuration was selected because more experimental data were available for this type than for any other single type.

The procedure used in obtaining theoretical values of the spoiler obtained from a flap theory were multiplied by a value rolling effectiveness was similar to that used in references 7 and 9, Values of $c_{\iota_{\delta}}$ of $\Delta a_{\rm s}$, representing the effective change in section angle of attack due to spoiler deflection, to give the predicted rolling-moment coefficient. For the present investigation, however, reference *12* was used to obtain values of $C_{\lambda_{\beta}}$ because this theory was developed for use with antisymmetrical control deflections on wings of arbitrary plan forms, and it has given good results with flap-type controls. *¹*

The values of $\Delta x_{\rm s}$ used were obtained by testing a series of symmetrical airfoil sections ranging in thickness from 6.0- to 16.3-percent chord and measuring the change in angle of attack for zero lift caused by spoilers of various heights and chordwise locations on the airfoil. The tests were made in a 2- by 5-foot two-dimensional wind tunnel at a Reynolds number of 2 million. Plotting of these values of $\Delta a_{\rm c}$ against H/c resulted in a single curve for each chordwise location of the spoilers. The curves are reproduced in figure 2. Some data for trailingedge spoilers are given in reference 10.

A comparison of the rolling-moment coefficient predicted as described above with experimentally obtained values showed that while the characteristics with full semispan spoilers on swept wings and both fulland partial-semispan spoilers on straight wings could be predicted with good accuracy, the predictions with partial-semispan spoilers on swept wings were not acceptably accurate, *It* was suspected that the inaccuracies in the prediction for partial-semispan spoilers on swept wings were caused by the spanwise flow of the spoiler wake in an outboard direction as described in reference 8.

In order *to* account for the effect of this spanwise flow of the wake on the effectiveness of spoilers on swept wings, an empirical correction was developed. The experimental values of C_1 for models 1, 2, 3, and 12 (described in table I and fig., **1)** having spoilers of 10-percent-chord height, mounted along the 70-percent-chord line, and extending inboard from the wing tip to various values of η_i were compared with the theoretical values of C_{ℓ} obtained by application of the flap theory of reference 12 as described above. The values of η_i effective, which would yield a theoretical C_2 equivalent to the experimental were then determined and laid off on the wing trailing edge as shown in figure 3. The average angle, *8,* obtained for each wing studied was then determined, and its variation with sweep of the spoiler is shown in figure 4. Limited data indicated that these values of *8* could be used for spoilers extending outboard from the wing center line. The correction was applied **as** shown in figure 5 to the remainder of the spoiler configurations tested on models 1, 2, 3, and 12, and also to the spoiler configurations tested on the remainder of the models listed in table **I.**

For models 9 and 12, the calculations of $C_{l,s}$ included the compressibility corrections of the theory of reference *12,*

APPLICATION OF METHOD

The procedure in obtaining a value of C_7 for a particular wingspoiler configuration consists of first determining a value for the effective location of the inboard end of the spoiler, $\eta_{\text{leftective}}$, and for the effective location of the outboard end of the spoiler, $\eta_{\text{oeffective}}$. Using these values to locate the effective spoiler location, the $C_{l_{\mathcal{S}}}$ is obtained from reference 12 .

In determining qeffective, **Aq,** which is the difference between the actual end of the spoiler and the effective location, is computed as shown in figure 5 . Adding $\Delta \eta$ to η gives $\eta_{\text{effective}}$; however, if almost to the wing tip on a highly swept wing, the C_{l} corresponding to $r = 1$ should be used $\eta_{\Omega} = 1$ should be used. $n_{\text{Deffective}}$ exceeds 1.0, as would be the case for the spoiler extending

The values of C_{l_0} for full chord flaps obtained from reference 12 can be used in conjunction with $\Delta\alpha_{s}$ to obtain C_l since $\Delta\alpha_{s}$ is equivalent to δ . In the present report, it is considered that a spoiler is deflected on one wing panel only, and therefore one half the value of for two controls antisymmetrically deflected. C_l₈ given in reference 12 should be used since the values therein are

To illustrate the application *of* the method, a sample calculation is outlined below.

Assumed wing characteristics:

$$
A = 4
$$

$$
\lambda = 0.62
$$

$$
\Lambda_{c/4} = 40.18^{\circ}
$$

Airfoil section, NACA 64A010 (streamwise)

Assumed spoiler characteristics:

$$
\eta_1 = 0.15 \frac{b}{2}
$$

$$
\eta_0 = 0.60 \frac{b}{2}
$$

 γ

$$
h/c = 0.08
$$

$$
xS/c = 0.70
$$

Calculations :

The airfoil section ordinate at 70-percent chord is 3.l27-percent chord; therefore, $H/c = h/c + 0.0313 = 0.1113$. $\Delta \alpha_{\rm s} = 0.128$. **From** figure 2, Applying equation (26) *of reference* 12,

$$
\tan \Lambda_{\rm g} = \tan \Lambda_{\rm C/4} - \frac{\frac{1}{4} [0.75 - (1 - \frac{x_{\rm S}}{c})]}{A} \left(\frac{1 - \lambda}{1 + \lambda}\right)
$$

= 0.75064

$$
\Lambda_{\rm g} = 36.89^{\circ}
$$

$$
\tan \Lambda_{\rm t} = \tan \Lambda_{\rm C/4} - \frac{\frac{1}{4} (0.75)}{A} \left(\frac{1 - \lambda}{1 + \lambda}\right) = 0.66854
$$

$$
\Lambda_{\rm t} = 33.76^{\circ}
$$

From figure *5:*

$$
\Delta \eta_{\text{i}} = \frac{\mu(1 - 0.70)}{\mu(1.62)} \left[1 - (0.38)(0.15) \right] \xrightarrow{\cos 33.8^{\circ} \sin 30.5^{\circ}} \cos 64.3^{\circ}
$$

$$
\Delta \eta_{\rm i} = 0.170
$$
\n
$$
\Delta \eta_{\rm o} = \frac{\mu (1 - 0.70)}{\mu (1.62)} [1 - (0.38)(0.60)] \frac{\cos 33.8^{\circ} \sin 30.5^{\circ}}{\cos 64.3^{\circ}}
$$

 $\Delta \eta_{\rm o} = 0.139$

 $n_{\text{effective}} = n_1 + \Delta n_1 = 0.15 + 0.170 = 0.320$ $\eta_{\text{oeffective}} = \eta_0 + \Delta \eta_0 = 0.60 + 0.139 = 0.739$ Assuming C_{ℓ} is desired at a low enough Mach number so that at $\eta_{\text{inference}}$ $C_{l_{\delta}} = 0.080$ and at $\eta_{\text{inference}}$ $C_{l_{\delta}} = 0.369$ 1.0, the following value of $C_{l_{\delta}}$ is obtained from reference 12:

$$
C_{\ell_{\mathcal{B}}} = 0.289
$$

Since this example involves a spoiler deflected on one wing panel only, this value is halved

$$
c_{l_{\delta}} = 0.289/2 = 0.145
$$

Using the value of Δx_S obtained above:

 $C_1 = (0.145)(0.128) = 0.019$

DISCUSSION

In order to evaluate the results obtained by the application of the method described above, the predicted rolling-moment coefficients at zero angle of attack for a number of models having various wing-spoiler configurations were plotted against the rolling-moment coefficients obtained experimentally from references **1** through 8. These plots are presented in figures 6 to *19.* In most cases the agreement is good, and no systematic variation has been found for differences between predicted and experimental values; however, in many cases the increment of C_{lex} obtained by the addition of a spoiler segment from $\eta = 0.80$ to $\eta = 1.00$ to a spoiler extending outboard from the fuselage **(or** wing center line) was greater than would be predicted.

In computing the values of $\mathbb{C}_{l_{\tilde{0}}}$ used to obtain the theoretical rolling-moment coefficients the effects of compressibility were taken into account according to the method discussed in reference *12.* The effect of applying this procedure is shown in figure 15 where rollingmoment data taken at three Mach numbers are presented. While the predicted values of C_{l} are about 10 percent lower than the experimental values reported in reference 6, the effects of compressibility seem *to* be adequately accounted for by the method.

Although the bulk of the available data are for spoilers mounted along the 70 -percent-chord line, figure 8 shows the results of applying the method to spoilers along the 60- and 80-percent-chord lines on model 2. The effective spoiler spanwise location was aetermined using **8** obtained from figure 4 and calculated according to the equations shown in figure 5. The agreement of predicted and experimental results was essentially the **same for** this range of spoiler chordwise locations.

In the development of the method, as described above, it was found necessary to correct for the spanwise flow of the wake behind the spoiler on sweptback wings by an empirical correction. It is of interest that the data of reference 8 indicate that the computed effective spanwise location of the inboard end of the spoiler on this model coincided with the point at which the separated area behind the spoiler on the upper surface reached the trailing edge of the wing at zero angle of attack. At this point the spanwise loading indicated a decrement of lift due to spoiler action. At the outboard end of the spoiler the flow behind the spoiler was separated to the wing tip as would also be predicted by the computed spanwise correction.

In the present method, the rolling-moment coefficient is predicted only for zero angle of attack. While two-dimensional spoiler data gave no indication that spoiler effectiveness would vary with angle of attack for angles less than those at which separation begins ahead of the spoiler, the three-dimensional wings generally exhibited an increase of rolling moment with angle of attack at **low** angles. Figure 20 shows typical variations for four of the models considered in this report. The large effect of a change of airfoil section on **model** 2 should be noted. (The airfoil sections used are described in detail in reference 1, and consisted of a thin symmetrical section which was modified by the addition of **a** drooped leading edge of increased radius. Both sections were identical aft of 40-percent chord.) This large variation is in contrast with the negligible differences in rolling moments produced at zero angle of attack for a given spoiler configuration on each of the two wings. Because of the many variables involved, generalized curves of the variation of C_7 with angle of attack for various wing-spoiler combinations have not **been** developed, and the curves of figure 20 should not be used as such. Since this increase of C_l with angle of attack occurs for almost all configurations studied, the predicted value of C_{ℓ} at zero angle of attack can be considered to be conservative up to the angle of attack at which separation begins on the wing without a deflected spoiler.

The range of plan forms considered by the theory of reference *12* included any arbitrary plan form having a straight quarter-chord line across the semispan. While both straight and sweptback wings having a variety of taper ratios were studied in the present report, no data exist for spoilers on sweptforward wings.

The method as described above was developed for a particular type of spoiler aileron; however, it is believed that the method can be extended to other types of spoilers if values of $\Delta a_{\rm s}$ and $\Delta \eta$ can be determined. While only spoilers of constant-percent-chord height were studied in this report, it **is** believed that spoilers of constant height could be dealt with as is done with constant-chord flap-type controls in reference *12.*

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The low-speed rolling-moment coefficient produced at zero angle of attack by plain spoilers of constant-percent-chord height and located on the wing upper surface along the 70-percent-chord line can be predicted by a method based on the simplified lifting-surface theory of reference 12.

Agreement between experimentally obtained values of the rollingmoment coefficient and those predicted by this method is shewn to be good.

Although the type of spoiler investigated was that for which the most data are presently available, it is believed thht the method can be extended to apply to other types of spoiler ailerons.

Ames Aeronautical Laboratory National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics Noffett Field, Calif., Aug. 26, 1954

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²This model was also tested with a section modified by the addition of a drooped leading edge of increased
radius.
³It should be noted that the spoiler reported on in reference 8 was curved and, therefore, not entirely LAND

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Figure 3.- Determination of *8* **for** a **spoiler extending inboard from the tip.**

 θ with angle of sweepback of spoiler at $\frac{xs}{c} = 0.70$. Figure 4.- Variation of

Figure 5.- Method of determining effective spanwise extent of an arbitrarily located spoiler aileron.

Figure 6.- Experimental and predicted rolling-moment coefficients for
model 1; $\frac{x_S}{C}$ = 0.70.

 C_{\bullet}

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Figure 10.- Experimental and predicted rolling-moment coefficients for model 4; $\frac{x_S}{c}$ = 0.70.

Figure 11.- Experimental and predicted rolling-moment coefficients for model 5; $\frac{x_8}{c}$ = 0.70.

Figure 12.- Experimental and predicted rolling-moment coefficients for
model 6; $\frac{x_s}{c}$ = 0.70; $\frac{h}{c}$ = 0.06.

Figure 13.- Experimental and predicted rolling-moment coefficients for
model 7; $\frac{x_S}{c} = 0.70$; $\frac{h}{c} = 0.05$.

Figure 14.- Experimental and predicted rolling-moment coefficients for model 8; $\frac{x_8}{c}$ = 0.70.

Figure 16.- Experimental and predicted rolling-moment coefficients for model 10; $\frac{x_{\rm S}}{c}$ = **0.70;** $\eta_{\rm i}$ = **0.34;** $\eta_{\rm O}$ = **0.94.**

Figure 17.- Experimental and predicted rolling-moment coefficients for model 11; $\frac{x_{\text{S}}}{c} = 0.70$ **;** $\eta_{1} = 0.31$ **;** $\eta_{0} = 0.91$ **.**

Figure 18.- Experimental and predicted rolling-moment coefficients for
model 12; $\frac{x_g}{c} = 0.70$; $\frac{h}{c} = 0.08$.

Figure 19.- Experimental and predicted rolling-moment coefficients for
model 13; $\frac{x_B}{c} = 0.70$; $\frac{h}{c} = 0.04$; $\eta_1 = 0.14$; $\eta_0 = 0.87$.

Figure 20.- The ratio of rolling-moment coefficient at various angles of attack to the rolling-moment coefficient at zero angle of attack;
 $\frac{h}{c}$ = 0.10; $\frac{x_S}{c}$ = 0.70.

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