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REPORT No. 803

WIND-TUNNEL INVESTIGATION OF THE EFFECTS OF PROFILE MODIFICATION AND TABS ON THE CHARACTERISTICS OF AILERONS ON A LOW-DRAG AIRFOIL

By ROBERT M. CRANE and RALPH W. HOLTZCLAIV

SUMMARY

An investigation has been made to determine the effect of control-surface profile modifications on the aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA low-drag airfoil equipped with a 0.20-chord and a 0.16-chord aileron. Tab characteristics have been obtained for 0.20-aileron chord tabs on two of the 0.20-chord ailerons.

Thickening the aileron profile or thickening and beveling the trailing edge of the aileron was found to reduce the aileron effectiveness, reduce the slope of the wing-section lift curve, and reduce the hinge-moment coefficients. Thickening the profile had the opposite effect. The effects of profile thickness on the aileron characteristics decreased with increasing angle of attack, there being practically no effect at an angle of attack of 18°. For the thickened and beveled trailing edges the effects were maximum for the bevel, the length of which was 20 percent of the aileron chord, and decreased for both increasing and decreasing bevel lengths. Thickening the profile or thickening and beveling the trailing edge caused a slight increase in minimum profiles-drag coefficient, but thinning the profile had no effect.

It is demonstrated that deviations of the order of ±0.005-aileron chord from the specified profile on the ailerons of a typical pursuit airplane can cause stick-force variations of ±80 pounds for a large rate of roll at an indicated airspeed of 300 miles per hour. It is also shown that the danger of overbalance at small deflections of closely balanced ailerons can be diminished by thickening of the aileron profile if the internal-balance chord is simultaneously reduced to maintain the same stick force for a large rate of roll.

Thickening and beveling the trailing edge on a typical aileron installation caused a reduction of 50 percent in the control force for a large rate of roll at high speed. When used in conjunction with internal balance, the thickened and beveled profile resulted in a 30-percent reduction in the nose balance required for a given control force at high speed. Under these conditions, the variation of control force with rate of roll was more nearly linear for the aileron of normal profile than for the ailerons with thickened and beveled trailing edges.

Basic data are presented from which the effect of tabs can be calculated for specific cases. The data are sufficient for the solution of problems of fixed tabs with a differential linkage, as well as simple and spring-linked balancing tabs.

INTRODUCTION

With every increase in size and speed of modern high-performance airplanes, the problem of attaining adequate lateral control without excessive control forces becomes less amenable to solution by simple aerodynamic balancing methods. Of the various methods of aerodynamic balance available, one of the most efficient is the sealed internal nose balance. However, sufficient control lightness frequently cannot be satisfactorily attained by the use of an internal nose balance alone. The necessary balance may be so large that the required control-surface deflection cannot be obtained, or structural necessities of the main surfaces may be such that adequate balance cannot be incorporated in the design. Aileron profile offers a convenient means of adjusting the aileron control characteristics. The efficacy of profile variations in modifying aerodynamic characteristics, and the consequent necessity of fabricating to close tolerances, must be appreciated when it is desired to obtain specified aileron characteristics on any one airplane or to maintain a reasonable constancy of characteristics in a number of airplanes of the same design. Previous experiments have indicated that thickening and beveling the control-surface trailing edge is a powerful means of adjusting hinge-moment characteristics. Results of tests reported in references 1, 2, and 3 have shown tabs to be an effective means of adjusting hinge-moment characteristics when used as fixed tabs in conjunction with a differential linkage, or as simple or spring-linked balancing tabs.

The purpose of the tests reported herein was to obtain quantitative data on the effects of aileron profile and trailing-edge modifications and the effects of tabs on the characteristics of ailerons on a low-drag airfoil, and to form a logical basis for the specification of aileron tolerances.

COEFFICIENTS AND CORRICATIONS

The coefficients used in the presentation of results follow:

- $c_{d_{o}}$ airfoil section profile-drag coefficient $(d_{o} / q_c)$
- $c_{h}$ aileron section hinge-moment coefficient $(h / q_c A)$
- $c_{d_{t}}$ tab section hinge-moment coefficient $(h_{t} / q_c A)$
- $c_{l}$ airfoil section lift coefficient $(L / q_c A)$
- $c_{m}$ airfoil section pitching-moment coefficient $(m / q_c A)$
c  
chord of airfoil with surfaces neutral, feet

c  
chord of aileron aft of aileron hinge line, feet

c  
chord of tab aft of tab hinge line, feet

c  
chord of aileron section drag, pounds

c  
chord of airfoil section lift, pounds

\[ \Delta c \]  
increment of \( c \) due to deflecting the aileron from neutral

\[ \Delta c' \]  
increment of \( c' \) due to deflecting the aileron from neutral

\[ \Delta c'' \]  
increment of \( c'' \) due to deflecting the aileron from neutral

\[ \Delta c_i \]  
increment of \( c_i \) due to deflecting the aileron from neutral

\[ \Delta c_i' \]  
increment of \( c_i' \) due to deflecting the aileron from neutral

\[ \Delta c_i'' \]  
increment of \( c_i'' \) due to deflecting the aileron from neutral

\[ \Delta P/q \]  
increment of pressure coefficient across aileron nose seal (pressure below seal minus pressure above seal divided by dynamic pressure)

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\[ \text{Table I—NACA 66,2–216 (}\alpha=0.6) \text{ Airfoil} \]

\[ \text{Table II—NACA 66,2–216 (}\alpha=0.6) \text{ Airfoil} \]

\[ \text{Model and Apparatus} \]

The airfoil used in these tests was constructed of laminated mahogany to the NACA 66,2–216 (\( \alpha=0.6 \)) profile of 4-foot chord and 5-foot span. The airfoil ordinates are given in Table I. The aft 0.35 chord of the airfoil was made removable to allow the testing of ailerons of various chords. A solid trailing-edge section was constructed and this section and the main airfoil were equipped with a single row of pressure orifices built into the upper and lower surfaces of the airfoil at the midspan section.

The ailerons were constructed of laminated mahogany and had a radius nose with a nose-gap seal of dental rubber dam. The aileron ordinates for the thickened and thinned profiles are given in Table II. The ordinates of the normal-profile aileron are the same as the corresponding ordinates of the NACA 66,2–216 (\( \alpha=0.6 \)) airfoil. The details of the ailerons and the modifications tested are shown in figures 1, 2, and 3. The method of determining the profile of thickened and beveled trailing edges is described in the appendix. Since, as shown in figure 3, beveling the trailing edge was necessarily accompanied by a definite amount of thickening, the profiles so
EFFECTS OF PROFILE MODIFICATION AND TABS ON LOW-DRAG AIRFOIL AILERON CHARACTERISTICS

Figure 1—Profile variations on the 0.20-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron.

(a) Normal profile.
(b) Straight-sided profile.
(c) Intermediate-thickened profile.
(d) Thinned profile.

Figure 2—Profile variations on the 0.15-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron.

(a) Normal profile.
(b) Straight-sided profile.
(c) Intermediate-thickened profile.
(d) Thinned profile.
modified are for simplicity hereafter referred to as beveled trailing-edge ailerons and beveling the trailing edge is understood to mean thickening and beveling as shown by the figure.

TABLE II—ORDINATES OF THE NORMAL PROFILE AILERONS AND THE AILERONS OF THICKENED AND THINNED PROFILES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Normal profile</th>
<th>Straight-sided profile</th>
<th>Intermediate thickened profile</th>
<th>Thinned profile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Upper</td>
<td>Lower</td>
<td>Upper</td>
<td>Lower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81.25</td>
<td>4.27</td>
<td>-2.85</td>
<td>4.27</td>
<td>-2.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82.50</td>
<td>2.77</td>
<td>-2.45</td>
<td>2.77</td>
<td>-2.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83.50</td>
<td>3.21</td>
<td>-2.07</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>-2.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84.50</td>
<td>1.94</td>
<td>-1.67</td>
<td>2.06</td>
<td>-1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85.50</td>
<td>1.64</td>
<td>-1.28</td>
<td>1.70</td>
<td>-1.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86.50</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>-0.89</td>
<td>1.13</td>
<td>-0.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87.50</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>-0.53</td>
<td>0.51</td>
<td>-0.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88.50</td>
<td>0.31</td>
<td>-0.17</td>
<td>0.31</td>
<td>-0.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>90.00</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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</table>

Tabs of 0.20-aileron chord were tested on 0.20-chord normal profile and straight-sided profile ailerons. The tabs were full span constructed of steel in four sections to minimize the spanwise bending. The tabs had a radius nose and an unsealed nose gap of 0.0008 c. The ordinates of the tabs were the same as the corresponding ordinates of the ailerons. Details of the tabs are shown in figures 4 and 5.
TABLE III.—ORDINATES OF BEVELED PROFILE AILERONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Upper</th>
<th>Lower</th>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Upper</th>
<th>Lower</th>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Upper</th>
<th>Lower</th>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Upper</th>
<th>Lower</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.40c, bevel</td>
<td>81.25</td>
<td>4.27</td>
<td>85.42</td>
<td>2.21</td>
<td>87.50</td>
<td>2.71</td>
<td>91.68</td>
<td>2.99</td>
<td>95.86</td>
<td>3.29</td>
<td>99.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.30c, bevel</td>
<td>81.25</td>
<td>4.27</td>
<td>85.42</td>
<td>2.21</td>
<td>87.50</td>
<td>2.71</td>
<td>91.68</td>
<td>2.99</td>
<td>95.86</td>
<td>3.29</td>
<td>99.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.20c, bevel</td>
<td>81.25</td>
<td>4.27</td>
<td>85.42</td>
<td>2.21</td>
<td>87.50</td>
<td>2.71</td>
<td>91.68</td>
<td>2.99</td>
<td>95.86</td>
<td>3.29</td>
<td>99.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.10c, bevel</td>
<td>81.25</td>
<td>4.27</td>
<td>85.42</td>
<td>2.21</td>
<td>87.50</td>
<td>2.71</td>
<td>91.68</td>
<td>2.99</td>
<td>95.86</td>
<td>3.29</td>
<td>99.87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TEST INSTALLATION

The airfoil was mounted vertically in the test section of the NASA 7- by 10-foot wind tunnel No. 1 as shown in the photograph of figure 6. End plates were attached to the 5-foot-span section. Fairings of the same airfoil section as the wing were fastened to the tunnel floor and ceiling turntables and were used to shield the connections between the model and balance frame. These fairings were not equipped with ailerons. Provisions were made for changing the angle of attack and the aileron angle while the tunnel was in operation. Aileron and tab hinge moments were measured by means of electrical resistance-type strain gages which were mounted on members restraining the torque tubes of the surfaces from rotation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

BASIC SECTION DATA

The basic section data may be utilized to predict the section characteristics of ailerons with any amount of internal nose balance by means of the equation

\[(c_n)_b = c_n + \frac{\Delta P}{q} \left( \frac{B^2 - R^2}{2} \right)^{1/2}\]

where

- \((c_n)_b\) aileron section hinge-moment coefficient of aileron with sealed internal nose balance
- \(c_n\) aileron section hinge-moment coefficient of plain aileron
- \(B\) nose balance (expressed as fraction of \(c_n\))
- \(R\) nose radius of plain aileron (expressed as fraction of \(c_n\))

While the basic data are useful for purposes of aileron design the prediction and comparison of the effects of aileron profile modification may be more conveniently demonstrated by means of section parameters. For this purpose plots showing the relation of various coefficients and parameters to other independent variables have been prepared. These plots together with the other summary figures prepared for the purposes of discussion are presented in figures 7 to 29. The basic section data are included in figures 30 to 64. For ease of discussion the effects of aileron profile modification, thickened and beveled trailing edges, and tabs will be discussed separately.
AILERON PROFILE MODIFICATIONS

AILERON EFFECTIVENESS.—The effect of the profile variations on the aileron-effectiveness parameter $c_{l_{a}}$ is shown in figures 7 and 8. Thickening the aileron profile reduced the effectiveness, and thinning the profile increased it, the change being very nearly a linear function of $d$.

Aileron profile had a similar influence on effectiveness at the higher aileron deflections where the flow over the aileron had separated. Examination of the basic data of figures 31 to 38 indicates that the differences due to profile modification decreased at the higher angles of attack, there being only a minor variation in effectiveness at an angle of attack of $12^\circ$ for the various aileron profiles.

To determine the effect of control-surface profile on the aileron effectiveness of a typical installation, these data have been applied to the prediction of the aileron control characteristics of a typical pursuit airplane. The airplane data necessary for the calculations are presented in table IV. The calculations have been made assuming zero sideslip of the airplane and no torsional deflection of the wing. The effect of aileron profile on the wing lift-curve slope has been included in determination of $c_{l_{a}}$ the damping-moment coefficient due to rolling. The calculated variation of $pb/2V$ with total aileron deflection for the various aileron profiles is presented in figures 9 and 10 for indicated airspeeds of 300 and 120 miles per hour. Examination of these figures reveals that the total aileron deflection necessary to produce a given $pb/2V$ at low speeds is little influenced by aileron profile. Thus, the size and the total deflection for an installation of given effectiveness will be unchanged by control-surface profile modifications.

TABLE IV.—CHARACTERISTICS OF ASSUMED AIRPLANES

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pursuit</th>
<th>Medium Bomber</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wing:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area, square feet</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Span, feet</td>
<td>41.5</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspect ratio</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taper ratio</td>
<td>5:1</td>
<td>5:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section</td>
<td>60, 2-216</td>
<td>60, 2-216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a=0.6)</td>
<td>60, 2-216</td>
<td>60, 2-216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aileron:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Span</td>
<td>From 6.050/6</td>
<td>From 5.00/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chord</td>
<td>0.420</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deflection</td>
<td>$\pm 15^\circ$</td>
<td>$\pm 10^\circ$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airplane:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wing loading, pounds per square foot</td>
<td>33.7</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aileron differential</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stick travel, inches</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>$\pm 1.25^\circ$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control wheel travel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control wheel diameter, inches</td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AILERON HINGE MOMENTS.—The aileron hinge-moment parameters $c_{p_{a}}$ and $c_{h_{a}}$ are plotted in figures 7 and 8 as functions of $d$. These figures indicate that both of these parameters are inversely proportional to $d$. The value of $(\partial c_{p_{a}}/\partial d)_{a}$ varied with angle of attack and aileron deflection. At small angles of attack and zero aileron deflection, there was an approximate linear variation of $(\partial c_{p_{a}}/\partial d)_{a=0}$ with $d$. At angles of attack greater than $6^\circ$, $(\partial c_{p_{a}}/\partial d)_{a}$ has an approximately constant value of $-0.010$ irrespective of aileron profile.

The data of figures 7 and 8 have been plotted in figures 11 and 12 as hinge-moment parameters against lift parameters. These curves show the relative dependence of the
Aileron control forces.—The effect of modification of the aileron profile on aileron control characteristics may be evaluated from two considerations: the reduction in control force due to the profile modification when the aileron is designed with a given aerodynamic nose balance, and the reduction in nose balance due to the profile modification when the aileron is designed for a given control force.

Figures 13 and 14 illustrate the changes in control-force characteristics which result from small changes in aileron profile. The variation of stick force with $pb/2V$ for a typical pursuit airplane equipped with 0.20-chord ailerons with 0.53$cs$ internal nose balance is presented in these figures for indicated airspeeds of 300 and 120 miles per hour. At the higher speed, a decrease of 0.009$cs$ in the aileron ordinates at $0.5cs$ reduces the $pb/2V$ obtainable with a 30-pound stick force from 0.08 to 0.056 and more than doubles the stick force.

Aileron hinge moments on the aileron effectiveness and on the slope of the wing-section lift curve, and indicate that any reduction in hinge moments by profile alteration is accompanied by a corresponding decrease in effectiveness.

Since the effect of aileron profile on $\Delta P/q$ was small, the hinge-moment coefficients of ailerons with internal nose balance will exhibit aileron profile effects similar to those observed on the plain ailerons. As separation occurs over the aileron at large deflections, there is an abrupt loss in $P/q$ over the suction side of the control (side opposite the deflection). This loss accounts for the nonlinearity of the curves of $\Delta P/q$ against $\delta_a$ (figs. 31 to 38). It is this reduction in $\Delta P/q$ which causes the nonlinearity of hinge-moment curves of ailerons with large amounts of internal nose balance.

Sticker and profile modifications

Figures 13 and 14 illustrate the changes in control-force characteristics which result from small changes in aileron profile. The variation of stick force with $pb/2V$ for a typical pursuit airplane equipped with 0.20-chord ailerons with 0.53$cs$ internal nose balance is presented in these figures for indicated airspeeds of 300 and 120 miles per hour. At the higher speed, a decrease of 0.009$cs$ in the aileron ordinates at $0.5cs$ reduces the $pb/2V$ obtainable with a 30-pound stick force from 0.08 to 0.056 and more than doubles the stick force.
for a \( pb/2V \) of 0.08. Increasing the mid-chord ordinates of the aileron 0.009\( c_a \) changes the stick force from 8 pounds to an overbalance of 7 pounds at a \( pb/2V \) of 0.05. Since results of overbalance are likely to prove catastrophic in a high-speed dive, due to the ailerons taking control, every effort should be made to maintain manufacturing tolerances and allowable surface deformations at a value which would preclude the occurrence of this condition.

The possible use of aileron profile changes to obtain desired stick-force characteristics is illustrated by figures 15 and 16. Control-force characteristics are shown for a typical pursuit airplane equipped with 0.20-chord ailerons. The airplane data necessary for the calculations are presented in table IV. Each aileron was assumed to have an internal nose balance such that a \( pb/2V \) of 0.08 could be obtained with a 30-pound stick force at an indicated airspeed of 300 miles per hour. It will be observed that the thin-profile aileron which is closely enough balanced to satisfy the 30-pound stick-force limitation at high speed is overbalanced 4 pounds at a \( pb/2V \) of 0.035. As the aileron profile is thickened, the control-force gradient becomes more positive, and the linear range of the gradient is extended to larger values of \( pb/2V \).

The primary problem of aileron-balance design is to make the control light enough at very high speed, while avoiding overbalance in any part of the deflection range, and retaining sufficient “feel” at low speeds. The danger of overbalance can be minimized by the attainment of a linear variation of control force with \( pb/2V \) at high speeds. The non-linearity of the hinge-moment curves of ailerons designed with internal nose balance prevents the realization of this ideal condition, but aileron profile offers a limited means of controlling the value and the linear range of this control-force gradient. These effects of aileron profile on control-force gradients are due mainly to two causes: the reduction in the amount of nose balance required by the thickened aileron profiles, with the consequent reduction in the non-linearity of the hinge-moment curves of the balanced ailerons; and the presence of an unfavorable response characteristic (positive \( \Delta c_{1a} \) at low aileron deflections where an increase in stick force is desired), with favorable response at high aileron deflections (where a decrease in stick force is desired). This effect of response on control-force gradient is illustrated by figure 17 presenting the variation of \( \Delta b_{1a} \) and \( \Delta b_{1a} \) for the static condition and for the dynamic rolling condition of the assumed pursuit airplane.

The effect of aileron chord on the control-force characteristics can be obtained by a comparison of the 0.20-chord and 0.15-chord ailerons of normal and straight-sided profile. Figure 18 presents the variation of stick force with \( pb/2V \) when the 0.15-chord and the 0.20-chord ailerons are each designed for a 30-pound stick force for a \( pb/2V \) of 0.08 on the typical pursuit airplane at an indicated airspeed of 300 miles per hour. In all cases the 0.20-chord ailerons produce a more nearly linear variation of stick force with \( pb/2V \) than can be acquired with the 0.15-chord aileron.

Lift.—The variation of \( c_t \), with \( d \) is shown in figures 7 and 8. These curves indicate that \( c_t \) varied approximately linearly with \( d \), decreasing as \( d \) was increased.
EFFECTS OF PROFILE MODIFICATION AND TABS ON LOW-DRAG AIRFOIL ALERON CHARACTERISTICS

Figure 15. The effect of modifications of the aileron profile on the aileron-control characteristics of a typical pursuit airplane equipped with 0.20-chord, sealed gap ailerons with sufficient internal nose balance for a 50-pound high-speed stick force at a \( \alpha/2V \) of 0.06. \( V = 300 \text{ mph} \).

Figure 16. The effect of modifications of the aileron profile on the aileron-control characteristics of a typical pursuit airplane equipped with 0.20-chord, sealed gap ailerons with sufficient internal nose balance for a 50-pound high-speed stick force at a \( \alpha/2V \) of 0.06. \( V = 120 \text{ mph} \).
Figure 17—The variation of total drag increment coefficient with section lift coefficient increment for various 0°-chord aileron profiles, showing the effect of aileron profile on the response factor (variation of $\Delta C_d$ due to rolling).

Figure 18.—The effect of aileron chord on the aileron-control characteristics of a typical pursuit airplane equipped with sealed gap ailerons with internal nose balance. $V_r=300$ mph.
Pitching moment.—Thickening the aileron profile caused an increase in \( \frac{\partial c_m}{\partial \alpha} \) corresponding to a forward shift of the aerodynamic center. This is shown in figures 39 and 40.

Drag.—Figure 41 presents the variation of section profile-drag coefficient with Reynolds number at the ideal section lift coefficient \( c_l = 0.21 \). Thinning the aileron profile had no effect on the section profile-drag coefficient, but thickening the profile to straight-sided caused an increase in \( c_l \) of 0.0004 for the 0.20-chord aileron and 0.0002 for the 0.15-chord aileron.

Reynolds number.—Examination of figures 31 to 38 reveals that at small angles of attack, increasing Reynolds number resulted in a loss in \( \Delta c_l' \), \( \Delta c_o' \), and \( \Delta P/q \). The magnitude of these effects of increasing Reynolds number is a function of \( d \), increasing as \( d \) is increased. (See figs. 7 and 8.) At angles of attack beyond the low-drag range (greater than 2° and less than 1°), the effect of Reynolds number was considerably reduced. Measurements of the airfoil boundary-layer profiles indicated that these Reynolds number effects were caused by a forward movement of the transition point, with the aileron deflected, due to increasing Reynolds number. This forward movement of transition, resulting in a thickening of the boundary layer at the beginning of the pressure recovery, reduces the peak of the basic incremental lift and results in a less complete recovery, thus causing a decrease in effectiveness and \( \Delta P/q \).

THICKENED AND BEVELED TRAILING EDGES

Aileron effectiveness.—The effect of the beveled trailing edge on the aileron effectiveness was similar to the effect of thickening the aileron profile. The effect of the bevel was to reduce the aileron effectiveness parameter \( \frac{\partial c_m}{\partial \delta_a} \) by about 10 percent. Beveling the trailing edge had a similar influence on effectiveness at the higher aileron deflections, where the flow over the aileron has separated. Examination of figures 42 to 45 reveals that at an angle of attack of 12° there was only a minor variation in effectiveness due to beveling. The deleterious effects of trailing-edge bevel on aileron effectiveness were a maximum for the 0.20\( c_a \) bevel and decreased for both increasing and decreasing bevel lengths.

To determine the effect of beveled trailing edges on the aileron characteristics of typical installations, the data have been applied to the prediction of the aileron control characteristics of the pursuit airplane discussed in connection with profile modifications, and to the prediction of the control characteristics of a medium bomber. The airplane data necessary for the calculations are presented in table IV. The calculated variation of \( \frac{p b}{2 V} \) with total aileron deflection for the various bevels is presented in figures 19 and 20 for indicated airspeeds of 300 and 120 miles per hour. Examination of these figures reveals that the aileron effectiveness at low speeds was little influenced by aileron trailing-edge profile. Thus, as was the case for the profile modifications, the size and the total aileron deflection for an installation of given effectiveness would be unchanged by beveling of the aileron trailing edge.

Aileron hinge moments.—As shown by figures 42 to 45, beveling the aileron trailing edge resulted in an algebraic increase in \( c_{A\delta} \). However, at large angles of attack, the effects of the bevel tend to disappear. Comparative curves of \( \Delta c_{\delta} \) against \( \delta_a \) for the various bevel lengths are shown in figure 21. The balancing effect of the bevel increased with reduction in bevel length to an optimum value with the 0.20\( c_a \) bevel. For the shorter bevel, the balancing effect was lessened. Unlike the thickened and thinned aileron profiles, the presence of the beveled trailing edge had a large effect on the angular range of linear hinge-moment characteristics. At \( \alpha = 0 \), this range was reduced from 16° of total aileron deflection for the normal-profile aileron to 8° of total aileron...
creased effectiveness, the unseilded beveled aileron is inferior of linear-hinge-moment characteristics. Because of the de-
aileron deflections and further decreased the angular range
gap. The data obtained are shown in figure 46. In addi-
tion, the nose gap decreased the hinge momenta at low
condition, the nose gap decreased the hinge momenta at low
mal-profile aileron to 0.010 for the 0.20c bevel). A positive
value of \( \frac{\partial c_{x}}{\partial \alpha} \) became negative (i.e., the response became favorable) for the beveled profiles at the alileron deflections at which separation occurred over the alilerons. At angles of attack greater than 6°, \( \frac{\partial c_{x}}{\partial \alpha} \) had a constant value of –0.010 irrespective of profile.

To determine the effect of nose seal on the beveled trailing-edge profiles, tests at five angles of attack were made on the 0.20c beveled profile with a 0.25-inch (0.0052c) nose gap. The data obtained are shown in figure 46. In addition to the loss in effectiveness usually associated with this condition, the nose gap decreased the hinge moments at low alileron deflections and further decreased the angular range of linear-hinge-moment characteristics. Because of the decreased effectiveness, the unsealed beveled aileron is inferior
to the sealed beveled aileron as a means of reducing con-
trol forces.

The data for the beveled trailing-edge alilerons have been plotted in figure 11, together with the data for the thickened and thinned profiles, as hinge-moment parameters against lift parameters to show the relative dependence of the alileron hinge moments on the alileron effectiveness and on the slope of the wing section lift curve. The small deviation of the experimental points from the mean curves indicates that the relationships indicated are not influenced by the chordwise distribution of thickness of the control-surface profile. An experimental point is also presented from data obtained on an NACA 0009 airfoil (reference 4) which indicates that for the same effectiveness, similar hinge moments may be anticipated for alilerons on an NACA 66.2-216 (\( \alpha = 0.6 \)) airfoil as are experienced on alilerons on an NACA 0009 air-
foil. A similar agreement between the subject data and the NACA 0009 data did not exist for \( \alpha_{x} \) against \( \alpha_{r} \).

The effect of the beveled trailing edge on \( \Delta P/q \) was small and similar to the effect of thickening the alileron profile.

Aileron control forces.—Figures 22 to 25 illustrate the changes in control-force characteristics which result from a beveled trailing edge. The airplane data necessary for these calculations are presented in table IV. For the pursuit airplane, the alilerons were selected with 0.40c aerodynamic nose balance, and for the medium bomber no nose balance was used. At a \( pb/2V \) of 0.08 at high speed, the 0.30c bevel caused a 70-pound reduction in stick force for the pursuit airplane and an 80-pound reduction in wheel force for the medium bomber. At low speeds the percent reduction in control force due to the bevel was less. This was caused by the previously mentioned reduction in bevel effect on hinge moments at large angles of attack. The effect of the trailing-edge bevel on the angular range of linear control characteristics is further emphasized by figures 22 and 24. While the variation of control force with \( pb/2V \) was linear for the airplane equipped with normal-
profile alilerons to a \( pb/2V \) of 0.07, the linear range with the alileron with a 0.20c bevel (sealed) extended only to a \( pb/2V \) of 0.035. The removal of the nose seal on the 0.20c bevel alileron further reduced this range to a \( pb/2V \) of 0.02.

Figures 26 to 29 present the variation of control force with \( pb/2V \) when each alileron had an assumed nose balance such that a \( pb/2V \) of 0.08 could be attained with a stick force of 30 pounds at 300 miles per hour on the pursuit airplane and a wheel force of 80 pounds at 250 miles per hour on the medium bomber.

For the pursuit airplane under consideration, the 0.40c, 0.20c, and 0.10c beveled trailing-edge alilerons were over-balanced for moderate values of \( pb/2V \) at \( V_{t} = 300 \) miles per hour. This overbalance is a result of the reduced linear range of hinge-moment coefficient against alileron deflection due to the beveled trailing edge and the reduced effective-
ness of the beveled profiles. Another contributing factor to the overbalance is the fact that the addition of the bevel caused a larger reduction in \( \Delta P/q \) at large alileron deflection than it did at small alileron deflection. This difference increases the effectiveness of the internal balance at the alileron deflections corresponding to lower rates of roll and thus
EFFECTS OF PROFILE MODIFICATION AND TABS ON LOW-DRAG AIRFOIL AILERON CHARACTERISTICS

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Jo Norma

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A 0.40G bevel

o .08 .10 pb/2V, radians

x .02 .04 .06 .08 .10

contributes to the overbalance. These deleterious effects are partially compensated for by the reduced balance required with the beveled profiles and the presence of an unfavorable response at low aileron deflections and a favorable response at high aileron deflections, both factors tending to increase the linearity of stick force against pb/2V. While the ailerons with 0.30c bevel were not overbalanced, the variation of stick force with pb/2V was not as nearly linear as was the gradient attainable with the normal-profile aileron.

When applied to the medium bomber, the bevel had an equally large effect on the wheel-force gradient and the nose balance required for a high-speed wheel force of 80 pounds for a pb/2V of 0.08. When designed for this condition, the required nose balance varied from 0.455c for the normal-profile aileron to 0.296c for the aileron with 0.30c bevel. The effect on high-speed wheel-force gradient was such that the control force necessary to attain a pb/2V of 0.06 varied

Figure 22.—Effect of beveled trailing edges on the aileron-control characteristics of a typical

Figure 23.—Effect of beveled trailing edges on the aileron-control characteristics of a medium

Figure 24.—Effect of beveled trailing edges on the aileron-control characteristics of a medium

Figure 25.—Effect of beveled trailing edges on the aileron-control characteristics of a medium

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Figure 23.—Effect of beveled trailing edges on the aileron-control characteristics of a medium

Figure 24.—Effect of beveled trailing edges on the aileron-control characteristics of a medium

Figure 25.—Effect of beveled trailing edges on the aileron-control characteristics of a medium

contributes to the overbalance. These deleterious effects are partially compensated for by the reduced balance required with the beveled profiles and the presence of an unfavorable response at low aileron deflections and a favorable response at high aileron deflections, both factors tending to increase the linearity of stick force against pb/2V. While the ailerons with 0.30c bevel were not overbalanced, the variation of stick force with pb/2V was not as nearly linear as was the gradient attainable with the normal-profile aileron.

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Lift.—Thickening and beveling the aileron trailing-edge profile caused a decrease in $c_L$. This is shown in figure 47. The effect was maximum for the 0.20 $c_a$ bevel and decreased for both increasing and decreasing bevel lengths.

Pitching-moment.—Beveling the aileron trailing edge caused an increase in $\frac{\partial c_m}{\partial \delta}$ corresponding to a forward shift of the aerodynamic center. This is shown in figure 47.

Drag.—Figure 48 presents the variation of section profile drag coefficient with Reynolds number at the ideal lift coefficient ($c_L=0.21$). The presence of the aileron bevel caused an increase in $c_D$ by 0.0001.

Reynolds number.—Examination of figures 42 to 45 and measurement of the airfoil boundary-layer profiles indicated that Reynolds number had an effect on the beveled aileron profiles similar to the effect noted for the thickened profiles. The result was a loss in $\Delta c_l^f$, $\Delta c_m^f$, and $\Delta P/q$. The magnitude of these effects was a maximum for the 0.20 $c_a$ bevel and decreased for both increasing and decreasing bevel lengths.

Basic section data for 0.20-aileron-chord tabs on 0.20-chord ailerons are presented in figures 49 to 56 for the normal profile aileron and in figures 57 to 64 for the straight-sided profile aileron. While the basic data are useful for purposes of design, the comparison of the effects of tabs may be more conveniently demonstrated by means of the section parameters. These parameters as obtained from the basic data are summarized in table V.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Reynolds number</th>
<th>Normal profile</th>
<th>Straight-sided profile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\frac{\partial c_D^a}{\partial \delta}$</td>
<td>8,000,000</td>
<td>$-0.0085$</td>
<td>$-0.0075$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\frac{\partial c_m^a}{\partial \delta}$</td>
<td>9,000,000</td>
<td>$-0.0091$</td>
<td>$-0.0085$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\frac{\partial c_l^a}{\partial \delta}$</td>
<td>9,000,000</td>
<td>$-0.0071$</td>
<td>$-0.0070$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\frac{\partial c_m^a}{\partial \delta}$</td>
<td>9,000,000</td>
<td>$-0.0002$</td>
<td>$-0.0001$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\frac{\partial c_l^a}{\partial \delta}$</td>
<td>9,000,000</td>
<td>$-0.0014$</td>
<td>$-0.0004$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\frac{\partial c_m^a}{\partial \delta}$</td>
<td>9,000,000</td>
<td>$-0.0074$</td>
<td>$-0.0039$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tab effectiveness.—The effectiveness of a tab as a means of reducing aileron hinge moments is measured by the parameter $\frac{\partial c_m}{\partial \delta}$ and by the ratio of this parameter to the parameter $\frac{\partial c_m}{\partial \delta}$. As shown by table V the value of $\frac{\partial c_m}{\partial \delta}$ is $-0.0085$ for the normal-profile aileron and $-0.0075$ for the straight-sided aileron. These values are comparable to values obtained for similar control surfaces on an NACA 0009 airfoil (reference 4). The value of the ratio $\frac{\partial c_m}{\partial \delta}$ is 0.89 for the normal-profile aileron as compared to 1.5 for the straight-sided aileron. This indicates that the tab on the straight-sided plain aileron is approximately 68 percent more effective than the tab on the normal-profile plain aileron. As might be expected, the tab on the normal-profile aileron remained effective to larger deflections than did the tab on the straight-sided aileron. It should be noted that previous results (reference 5) have indicated tabs to be more efficient with the tab gaps sealed; however, the effect of seals was not included in the present investigation.

Tab hinge moments.—The value of the tab hinge-moment parameter $\frac{\partial c_m}{\partial \delta}$, as shown in table V is $-0.0074$ for the tab on the normal-profile aileron as compared to $-0.0039$ for the tab on the straight-sided aileron. These values are of approximately the same ratio as the ratio of the aileron hinge-moment parameters $\frac{\partial c_m}{\partial \delta}$.

Applications of tabs.—It has been shown in reference 1 that fixed tabs in conjunction with a differential linkage offer a means for reducing aileron-operating forces. Such tabs do not appreciably influence the aileron effectiveness.

The results of reference 2 have indicated that the use of ailerons with simple or spring-linked balancing tabs would
Figure 26.—Effect of beveled trailing edges on the aileron-control characteristics of a typical pursuit airplane equipped with 0.20-chord, sealed gap ailerons with sufficient internal nose balance for a 30-pound high-speed stick force at a \( \phi/2V \) of 0.08. \( V = 120 \text{ mph} \).

Figure 27.—Effect of beveled trailing edges on the aileron-control characteristics of a typical pursuit airplane equipped with 0.20-chord, sealed gap ailerons with sufficient internal nose balance for a 30-pound high-speed stick force at a \( \phi/2V \) of 0.08. \( V = 120 \text{ mph} \).
Figure 28.—Effect of beveled trailing edges on the aileron-control characteristics of a typical medium bomber equipped with 0.20-chord, sealed gap ailerons with sufficient internal nose balance for an 80-pound high-speed wheel force at a $pb/2V$ of 0.08. $V=120$ mph.

Figure 29.—Effect of beveled trailing edges on the aileron-control characteristics of a typical medium bomber equipped with 0.20-chord, sealed gap ailerons with sufficient internal nose balance for an 80-pound high-speed wheel force at a $pb/2V$ of 0.08. $V=100$ mph.
reduce the high-speed control forces to considerably less than those experienced in the use of plain-sealed ailerons if the systems were designed for low maximum deflections. However, because the overall effectiveness is less for an aileron and simple balancing-tab combination than for a plain aileron, the chord, the span, or the maximum deflection must be greater for the aileron-tab combination than for the plain aileron to produce a given maximum rate of roll.

The use of spring-linked tabs designed to give desirable force characteristics at large rates of roll at high speed would reduce the variation of control force with speed and would also cause an increase in rolling effectiveness for a given control deflection as the speed was reduced, relative to plain ailerons or ailerons with simple balancing tabs.

The basic tab data contained in figures 49 to 64 are sufficient for the application of tabs on a low-drag airfoil to any of the foregoing types of installations.

CONCLUSIONS

Results of tests of various aileron profile modifications and tabs on the characteristics of ailerons on the NACA 66, 2–216 ($\alpha=0.6$) airfoil indicate the following conclusions:

1. Aileron profile offers a convenient means of adjusting the high-speed control force and the control-force gradients for conventional ailerons on a low-drag wing. Thickening the profile, which decreases the aileron hinge moments, also decreases the aileron effectiveness. Thinning the profile has the opposite effect. These effects of profile diminish as the angle of attack is increased, there being practically no effect at an angle of attack of $12^\circ$.

2. The necessity of fabricating aileron profiles to close tolerances is illustrated in that deviations of the order of $\pm 0.005$ aileron chord from the specified profile on the ailerons of a typical pursuit airplane can cause stick-force variations of $\pm 20$ pounds for a large rate of roll at an indicated airspeed of 300 miles per hour.

3. Of the aileron profile modifications included in this investigation, the aileron with the straight-sided profile displayed the most desirable force characteristics. The variation of high-speed control force with rate of roll was most nearly linear for this profile, thus minimizing the danger of aileron overbalance in high-speed flight. The ease of fabrication of a straight-sided profile is especially desirable when application is to be made to a low-drag airfoil with its characteristic cusped profile. The application of tabs to the straight-sided aileron offers no difficulties, the tab effectiveness being of the same order of magnitude as for the normal-profile installation. The increase in minimum section profile-drag coefficient caused by departure from the optimum cusped profile is only of the order of 10 percent.

No consideration has been given in this report to the effects of compressibility. Tests have indicated that Mach number effects can be minimized by maintaining the trailing-edge angle of the control surface at as small an angle as possible. It is thus possible that at very high Mach numbers the normal-profile aileron may be superior to the aileron of straight-sided profile.

AMES AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY,
NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AERONAUTICS,
Moffett Field, Calif.
APPENDIX

The method of determining the thickened and beveled profiles is outlined below:

1. At the chordwise station defining the bevel, a perpendicular was erected.
2. With the intersection of the mean line of the normal profile and the perpendicular as a center, a circle was constructed.
3. The radius of the circle was such that the intersection of lines drawn from the hinge center of the aileron and the trailing edge of the aileron intersected on the perpendicular at 10° at a distance from the mean line.
4. With these intersections defining their centers two circles of radius were constructed and tangent lines drawn from these circles to the trailing-edge radius.
5. The forward profile was a free fairing for 0.40c at which point normal profile was regained.
6. The intersection of this fairing and the bevel was slightly rounded but no attempt was made to fix this radius of curvature.

This method of construction was favored because it was assumed that the action of the bevel was similar to that of a balancing tab and it was desired to maintain every variable constant except the length of the bevel. The aileron profile forward of the bevel was fairied into the normal profile to eliminate the abrupt change in profile at the hinge line which would result if straight-sided surfaces were used.

REFERENCES

EFFECTS OF PROFILE MODIFICATION AND TABS ON LOW-DRAG AIRFOIL AILERON CHARACTERISTICS

Figure 31.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 66, 2-216 (α=0.6) airfoil equipped with a 0.30-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron of normal profile.
Figure 32.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 0012-210 (a=0.8) airfoil equipped with a 0.30-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron of thinned profile. $d_{a} = -0.003 c$. 

(a) $R=9,000,000$

(b) $R=9,500,000$. 

- Increment of pressure coefficient across aileron nose, $\Delta p/q$
- Aileron deflection, $\delta_a$, deg
- Section lift coefficient increment, $\Delta c_l$
- Section moment coefficient increment, $\Delta C_m$
Figure 33.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 64-219 (a=0.6) airfoil equipped with a 0.20-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron of intermediate-thickness profile, \( d = 0.003c \).
Figure 34.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 66-216 (\(c=0.5\)) airfoil equipped with a 0.20-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron of straight-sided profile. \(d=0.018c\).
Figure 35.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 66, 2-216 (c=0.6) airfoil equipped with a 0.16-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron of normal profile.
Figure 38.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 65, 2-216 (c=0.9) airfoil equipped with a 0.15-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron of thinned profile. \( d = 0.01c \).
FIGURE 57.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 66, 2-216 (c=0.6) airfoil equipped with a 0.1c-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron of intermediate-thickened profile. d=0.01c.
FIGURE 38.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 55, 2-215 (c=0.8) airfoil equipped with a 0.15-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron of straight-sided profile. \(d=0.01c\).
EFFECTS OF PROFILE MODIFICATION AND TABS ON LOW-DRAG AIRFOIL AILERON CHARACTERISTICS

Figure 30.—The effect of modifications of the aileron profile on the section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 0012, 2-216 (a = 0.6) airfoil equipped with a 0.20-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron. Aileron undeflected, $R=8,000,000$. 

Figure 40.—The effect of modifications of the aileron profile on the section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 0012, 2-216 (a = 0.6) airfoil equipped with a 0.15-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron. Aileron undeflected. $R=8,000,000$. 

\( \alpha \text{, deg} \)
\( c_{\alpha, s} \text{, deg} \)
Figure 41.—The effect of modification of the aileron profile on the variation of section profile-drag coefficient with Reynolds number for an NACA 66, 2-216 (α=0°) airfoil. Aileron undeflected. α=0.5°.
FIGURE 42.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 0012-210 \(c=0.8\) airfoil equipped with a 0.20-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron with a 0.06-c beveled trailing edge.
Figure 43.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 66, 2-215 (α=0.8) airfoil equipped with a 0.20 chord, sealed gap, plain aileron with a 0.30c boved trailing edge.
Figure 44.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 66, 2-216 ($c=0.6$) airfoil equipped with a 0.20-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron with a 0.20c beveled trailing edge.
Figure 45.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 66, 3-216 (a=0.6) airfoil equipped with a 0.20-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron with a 0.10c, beveled trailing edge.
EFFECTS OF PROFILE MODIFICATION AND TABS ON LOW-DRAG AIRFOIL AILERON CHARACTERISTICS

Figure 46.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 66, 2-216 (a=0.6) airfoil equipped with a 0.20-chord, plain aileron with a 0.20c beveled trailing edge and 0.008c nose gap. \( R=5,000,000 \).

Figure 47.—Effect of beveled trailing edge on section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 66, 2-216 (a=0.6) airfoil equipped with a 0.20-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron. Aileron undisturbed. \( R=5,000,000 \).
Figure 48—Effect of beveled trailing edges on variation of section profile-drag coefficient with Reynolds number for an NACA 66, 2-216 (α=0.6) airfoil equipped with a 0.20-chord, sealed gap plain aileron. Aileron unaffected. αo=0.21°.
Effects of profile modification and tabs on low-drag airfoil aileron characteristics.
Figure 51.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 66, 2-216 (α = 0.0) airfoil equipped with a 0.20-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron of normal profile with a 0.20c, plain inset tab.  $R=9,000,000$, $\alpha=0.01^\circ$. 

Effects of profile modification and tabs on low-drag airfoil aileron characteristics.
Figure 20—Aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 66-216 (c=0.2) airfoil equipped with a 0.05-inch sealed gap, plain slotted normal profile with a 0.05-inch plain base tab. R=500,000,000, e=0.607.
EFFECTS OF PROFILE MODIFICATION AND TABS ON LOW-DRAK AIRFOIL AILERON CHARACTERISTICS

Figure 6—Sectional aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 0012-200 (0.00) airfoil equipped with a 0.2-chord, sealed gap, plain ailerons of normal profile with a 0.08 plain inset tab. 2w=0.000,000,000,000,000.

Increment of pressure coefficient across aileron nose seal.
Figures 6a—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an F4U-4, 6-29-44 airfoil equipped with a 0.393-in-diam, spaced gap, planar surface of normal pressure with a 0.393-in-gap, planar insert this 74.500, aw, x = 0.375.
Figure 66.—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 66, 2-216 (α=0.0) airfoil equipped with a 0.30-chord, sealed gap, plain aileron of normal profile with a 0.30cₚ, plain inset tab. Aileron undeflected. $R=8,300,000$. 
Effects of Profile Modification and Tabs on Low-Drag Airfoil Aileron Characteristics

Figure 67: Aerodynamic characteristics of an N.A.O.A. 04-210 (a = 0) airfoil equipped with 0.25-per-cent, 0.50-per-cent, and 0.75-per-cent slots.
Figure 68—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 60-210 (e=0.8) airfoil equipped with a 0.25-inch, sealed gap, planar trim of straight-sided profile with a 0.25-inch, planar inset tab. R=10,000 ft, $a_{\infty}=-30^\circ$. 

Inertial of pressure coefficient across chimney nose seat, $\Delta p/\rho A/4$.
Effects of Profile Modification and Tabs on Low-Drag Airfoil Aileron Characteristics

Figure 90 - Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 66-2410 (α=0°) airfoil equipped with a 0.05-diameter, sealed gap, plain aileron of straight-edged profile with a 0.20°, plain tab. P = 0.000001, α = 0.01°.
Figure 65—Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 59-1216 (0.61 chord) equipped with a 0.25-inch sealed gap, small aileron of straight-edged profile with a 0.05-inch radius, small aileron of straight-edged profile with a 0.05-inch radius.
Figure 5: Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 63-415 (c=0.5) airfoil equipped with a 0.50-camber, blended nose, plain aileron at a chordwise position with a 0.25", plain flaps tab. 2.5=0.00,000, 0.375=0.50.
Figure 44. Section aerodynamic characteristics of an NACA 0.04-240 (a = 0) section equipped with a 0.05-inch, solid, gray, plain strake of straight-sided profile with a 0.0625-inch, plain, flat tab. Aileron unfeathered. R = 6350,000.
ABSTRACT

Tests were made to determine the effect of control-surface profile modifications on the aerodynamic characteristics of a NACA 66-series airfoil. Thickening aileron profile or thickening and beveling trailing edge of aileron reduced aileron effectiveness, slope of section lift curve, and hinge-moment coefficients. Thinning profile had opposite effect. Effects of profile thickness on aileron characteristics decreased with increasing angle of attack. Basic data are presented from which effect of tabs can be calculated for specific cases.

NOTE: Requests for copies of this report should be directed to the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, Washington, D.C.
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Ailerons

Loo Drag Airfoils