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Lift Distribution Formulas

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List of 30 Lift Distribution Formulas

Lift Distribution

Elliptical Lift Distribution

1) Aspect Ratio given Induced Angle of Attack

$$\text{fx } AR_{ELD} = \frac{C_{L,ELD}}{\pi \cdot \alpha_i}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(de95854c7ee024cfadc48187bbb781b2_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 2.470395 = \frac{1.49}{\pi \cdot 11^\circ}$$

2) Aspect Ratio given Induced Drag Coefficient

$$\text{fx } AR_{ELD} = \frac{C_{L,ELD}^2}{\pi \cdot C_{D,i,ELD}}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(6a9b39b98eb945faa14c645ec99e4eaa_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 2.453749 = \frac{(1.49)^2}{\pi \cdot 0.288}$$



3) Circulation at given Distance along Wingspan 

$$\text{fx } \Gamma = \Gamma_o \cdot \sqrt{1 - \left(2 \cdot \frac{a}{b}\right)^2}$$

Open Calculator 


$$\text{ex } 13.99862\text{m}^2/\text{s} = 14\text{m}^2/\text{s} \cdot \sqrt{1 - \left(2 \cdot \frac{16.4\text{mm}}{2340\text{mm}}\right)^2}$$

4) Circulation at Origin given Downwash 

$$\text{fx } \Gamma_o = -2 \cdot w \cdot b$$

Open Calculator 

$$\text{ex } 14.04\text{m}^2/\text{s} = -2 \cdot -3\text{m}/\text{s} \cdot 2340\text{mm}$$

5) Circulation at Origin given Induced Angle of Attack 

$$\text{fx } \Gamma_o = 2 \cdot b \cdot \alpha_i \cdot V_\infty$$

Open Calculator 

$$\text{ex } 13.92668\text{m}^2/\text{s} = 2 \cdot 2340\text{mm} \cdot 11^\circ \cdot 15.5\text{m}/\text{s}$$

6) Circulation at Origin given Lift of Wing 

$$\text{fx } \Gamma_o = 4 \cdot \frac{F_L}{\rho_\infty \cdot V_\infty \cdot b \cdot \pi}$$

Open Calculator 

$$\text{ex } 14.0074\text{m}^2/\text{s} = 4 \cdot \frac{488.8\text{N}}{1.225\text{kg}/\text{m}^3 \cdot 15.5\text{m}/\text{s} \cdot 2340\text{mm} \cdot \pi}$$



7) Circulation at Origin in Elliptical Lift Distribution

$$fx \quad \Gamma_o = 2 \cdot V_\infty \cdot S_0 \cdot \frac{C_1}{\pi \cdot b}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(e78f798d4ea5c530c9db49e7d26e6b95_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 13.97911 \text{m}^2/\text{s} = 2 \cdot 15.5 \text{m/s} \cdot 2.21 \text{m}^2 \cdot \frac{1.5}{\pi \cdot 2340 \text{mm}}$$

8) Coefficient of Lift given Circulation at Origin

$$fx \quad C_{L,ELD} = \pi \cdot b \cdot \frac{\Gamma_o}{2 \cdot V_\infty \cdot S_0}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(05be7c7a8995decd503647c99211f7c2_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 1.502242 = \pi \cdot 2340 \text{mm} \cdot \frac{14 \text{m}^2/\text{s}}{2 \cdot 15.5 \text{m/s} \cdot 2.21 \text{m}^2}$$

9) Coefficient of Lift given Induced Angle of Attack

$$fx \quad C_{L,ELD} = \pi \cdot \alpha_i \cdot AR_{ELD}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(fe3aebe81acea8d45108cd2768939da7_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 1.495793 = \pi \cdot 11^\circ \cdot 2.48$$

10) Coefficient of Lift given Induced Drag Coefficient

$$fx \quad C_{L,ELD} = \sqrt{\pi \cdot AR_{ELD} \cdot C_{D,i,ELD}}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(899d8b7697d64725bf017d3296cfcf1b_img.jpg\)](#)

$$ex \quad 1.497949 = \sqrt{\pi \cdot 2.48 \cdot 0.288}$$




11) Downwash in Elliptical Lift Distribution 

$$fx \quad w = -\frac{\Gamma_o}{2 \cdot b}$$

Open Calculator 


$$ex \quad -2.991453\text{m/s} = -\frac{14\text{m}^2/\text{s}}{2 \cdot 2340\text{mm}}$$

12) Freestream Velocity given Circulation at Origin 

$$fx \quad V_\infty = \pi \cdot b \cdot \frac{\Gamma_o}{2 \cdot S_0 \cdot C_{L,ELD}}$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 15.62735\text{m/s} = \pi \cdot 2340\text{mm} \cdot \frac{14\text{m}^2/\text{s}}{2 \cdot 2.21\text{m}^2 \cdot 1.49}$$

13) Freestream Velocity given Induced Angle of Attack 

$$fx \quad V_\infty = \frac{\Gamma_o}{2 \cdot b \cdot \alpha_i}$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 15.5816\text{m/s} = \frac{14\text{m}^2/\text{s}}{2 \cdot 2340\text{mm} \cdot 11^\circ}$$


14) Induced Angle of Attack given Aspect Ratio 

$$fx \quad \alpha_i = \frac{C_l}{\pi \cdot AR_{ELD}}$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 11.03094^\circ = \frac{1.5}{\pi \cdot 2.48}$$




15) Induced Angle of Attack given Circulation at Origin 

$$fx \quad \alpha_i = \frac{\Gamma_o}{2 \cdot b \cdot V_\infty}$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 11.05791^\circ = \frac{14m^2/s}{2 \cdot 2340mm \cdot 15.5m/s}$$

16) Induced Angle of Attack given Coefficient of Lift 

$$fx \quad \alpha_i = S_0 \cdot \frac{C_l}{\pi \cdot b^2}$$

Open Calculator 


$$ex \quad 11.04141^\circ = 2.21m^2 \cdot \frac{1.5}{\pi \cdot (2340mm)^2}$$

17) Induced Angle of Attack given Downwash 

$$fx \quad \alpha_i = - \left(\frac{w}{V_\infty} \right)$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 11.08951^\circ = - \left(\frac{-3m/s}{15.5m/s} \right)$$


18) Induced Drag Coefficient given Aspect Ratio 

$$fx \quad C_{D,i,ELD} = \frac{C_{L,ELD}^2}{\pi \cdot AR_{ELD}}$$

Open Calculator 

$$ex \quad 0.284952 = \frac{(1.49)^2}{\pi \cdot 2.48}$$




19) Lift at given Distance along Wingspan 

$$\text{fx } L = \rho_{\infty} \cdot V_{\infty} \cdot \Gamma_o \cdot \sqrt{1 - \left(2 \cdot \frac{a}{b}\right)^2}$$

Open Calculator 

ex

$$265.7989\text{N} = 1.225\text{kg/m}^3 \cdot 15.5\text{m/s} \cdot 14\text{m}^2/\text{s} \cdot \sqrt{1 - \left(2 \cdot \frac{16.4\text{mm}}{2340\text{mm}}\right)^2}$$

20) Lift of Wing given Circulation at Origin 

$$\text{fx } F_L = \frac{\pi \cdot \rho_{\infty} \cdot V_{\infty} \cdot b \cdot \Gamma_o}{4}$$

Open Calculator 

ex

$$488.5416\text{N} = \frac{\pi \cdot 1.225\text{kg/m}^3 \cdot 15.5\text{m/s} \cdot 2340\text{mm} \cdot 14\text{m}^2/\text{s}}{4}$$

General Lift Distribution 21) Aspect Ratio given Induced Drag Factor 


$$\text{fx } AR_{GLD} = \frac{(1 + \delta) \cdot C_{L,GLD}^2}{\pi \cdot C_{D,i,GLD}}$$

Open Calculator 

ex

$$15.04641 = \frac{(1 + 0.05) \cdot (1.47)^2}{\pi \cdot 0.048}$$




22) Induced Drag Coefficient given Induced Drag Factor 

$$\text{fx } C_{D,i,GLD} = \frac{(1 + \delta) \cdot C_{L,GLD}^2}{\pi \cdot AR_{GLD}}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(6605b201d6f14d9b3bcb8ab5f274d107_img.jpg\)](#)


$$\text{ex } 0.048149 = \frac{(1 + 0.05) \cdot (1.47)^2}{\pi \cdot 15}$$

23) Induced Drag Coefficient given Span Efficiency Factor 

$$\text{fx } C_{D,i,GLD} = \frac{C_{L,GLD}^2}{\pi \cdot e_{\text{span}} \cdot AR_{GLD}}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(e8fb589d58dad1692debababa5e928b6_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 0.048269 = \frac{(1.47)^2}{\pi \cdot 0.95 \cdot 15}$$

24) Induced Drag Factor given Induced Drag Coefficient 

$$\text{fx } \delta = \frac{\pi \cdot AR_{GLD} \cdot C_{D,i,GLD}}{C_{L,GLD}^2} - 1$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(4688aadfd656ded00cd6bdfae55089a9_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 0.046761 = \frac{\pi \cdot 15 \cdot 0.048}{(1.47)^2} - 1$$


25) Induced Drag Factor given Span Efficiency Factor 

$$\text{fx } \delta = e_{\text{span}}^{-1} - 1$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(4146d17f71dced09c6ad789cacceaa6d_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 0.052632 = (0.95)^{-1} - 1$$




26) Induced Lift Slope Factor given Lift Curve Slope of Finite Wing 

$$\text{fx } \tau_{\text{FW}} = \frac{\pi \cdot \text{AR}_{\text{GLD}} \cdot \left(\frac{a_0}{a_{C,l}} - 1 \right)}{a_0} - 1$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(c3d993ca47bfe2a953c700506ce31fa0_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 0.002313 = \frac{\pi \cdot 15 \cdot \left(\frac{6.28\text{rad}^{-1}}{5.54\text{rad}^{-1}} - 1 \right)}{6.28\text{rad}^{-1}} - 1$$

27) Lift Coefficient given Induced Drag Factor 

$$\text{fx } C_{L,\text{GLD}} = \sqrt{\frac{\pi \cdot \text{AR}_{\text{GLD}} \cdot C_{D,i,\text{GLD}}}{1 + \delta}}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(17413706fd4997a1a4bdf85c6864eee1_img.jpg\)](#)


$$\text{ex } 1.467731 = \sqrt{\frac{\pi \cdot 15 \cdot 0.048}{1 + 0.05}}$$

28) Lift Coefficient given Span Efficiency Factor 

$$\text{fx } C_{L,\text{GLD}} = \sqrt{\pi \cdot e_{\text{span}} \cdot \text{AR}_{\text{GLD}} \cdot C_{D,i,\text{GLD}}}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(4b7a79268f6ba26c1471d4232fffa85a_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 1.465895 = \sqrt{\pi \cdot 0.95 \cdot 15 \cdot 0.048}$$

29) Span Efficiency Factor 

$$\text{fx } e_{\text{span}} = (1 + \delta)^{-1}$$

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(3342c215b2a8b663596a81468d5dc314_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{ex } 0.952381 = (1 + 0.05)^{-1}$$



30) Span Efficiency Factor given Induced Drag Coefficient

[Open Calculator !\[\]\(99f58673407353e96a019fbca558fd72_img.jpg\)](#)

$$\text{fx } e_{\text{span}} = \frac{C_{L,\text{GLD}}^2}{\pi \cdot AR_{\text{GLD}} \cdot C_{D,i,\text{GLD}}}$$

$$\text{ex } 0.955328 = \frac{(1.47)^2}{\pi \cdot 15 \cdot 0.048}$$



Variables Used









- **a** Distance from Center to Point (*Millimeter*)
- **a₀** 2D Lift Curve Slope (*1 per Radian*)
- **a_{C,I}** Lift Curve Slope (*1 per Radian*)
- **AR_{ELD}** Wing Aspect Ratio ELD
- **AR_{GLD}** Wing Aspect Ratio GLD
- **b** Wingspan (*Millimeter*)
- **C_{D,i,ELD}** Induced Drag Coefficient ELD
- **C_{D,i,GLD}** Induced Drag Coefficient GLD
- **C_l** Lift Coefficient Origin
- **C_{L,ELD}** Lift Coefficient ELD
- **C_{L,GLD}** Lift Coefficient GLD
- **e_{span}** Span Efficiency Factor
- **F_L** Lift Force (*Newton*)
- **L** Lift at Distance (*Newton*)
- **S₀** Reference Area Origin (*Square Meter*)
- **V_∞** Freestream Velocity (*Meter per Second*)
- **w** Downwash (*Meter per Second*)
- **α_i** Induced Angle of Attack (*Degree*)
- **Γ** Circulation (*Square Meter per Second*)
- **Γ₀** Circulation at Origin (*Square Meter per Second*)
- **δ** Induced Drag Factor



- ρ_{∞} Freestream Density (Kilogram per Cubic Meter)
- T_{FW} Induced Lift Slope Factor of Finite Wing



Constants, Functions, Measurements used

- **Constant:** **pi**, 3.14159265358979323846264338327950288
Archimedes' constant
- **Function:** **sqrt**, sqrt(Number)
Square root function
- **Measurement:** **Length** in Millimeter (mm)
Length Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Area** in Square Meter (m²)
Area Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Speed** in Meter per Second (m/s)
Speed Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Force** in Newton (N)
Force Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Angle** in Degree (°)
Angle Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Density** in Kilogram per Cubic Meter (kg/m³)
Density Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Momentum Diffusivity** in Square Meter per Second (m²/s)
Momentum Diffusivity Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Reciprocal Angle** in 1 per Radian (rad⁻¹)
Reciprocal Angle Unit Conversion 



Check other formula lists

- [Flow and Lift Distribution Formulas](#) 
- [Lift Distribution Formulas](#) 

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