

# Dynamics of Vapor Bubble in a Variable Pressure Field

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## Abstract

This paper presents analytical and numerical results of vapor bubble dynamics and acoustics in a variable pressure field. First, a classical model problem of bubble collapse due to sudden pressure increase is introduced. In this problem, the Rayleigh–Plesset equation is treated considering gas content, surface tension, and viscosity, displaying possible multiple expansion–compression cycles. Second, a similar investigation is conducted for the case when the bubble originates near the rounded leading edge of a thin and slightly curved foil at a small angle of attack. Mathematically the flow field around the foil is constructed using the method of matched asymptotic expansions. The outer flow past the hydrofoil is described by linear (small perturbations) theory, which furnishes closed-form solutions for any analytical foil. By stretching local coordinates inversely proportionally to the radius of curvature of the rounded leading edge, the inner flow problem is derived as that past a semi-infinite osculating parabola for any analytical foil with a rounded leading edge. Assuming that the pressure outside the bubble at any moment of time is equal to that at the corresponding point of the streamline, the dynamics problem of a vapor bubble is reduced to solving the Rayleigh–Plesset equation for the spherical bubble evolution in a time-dependent pressure field. For the case of bubble collapse in an adverse pressure field, the spectral parameters of the induced acoustic pressure impulses are determined similarly to equivalent triangular ones. The present analysis can be extended to 3D flows around wings and screw propellers. In this case, the outer expansion of the solution corresponds to a linear lifting surface theory, and the local inner flow remains quasi-2D in the planes normal to the planform contour of the leading edge of the wing (or screw propeller blade). Note that a typical bubble contraction time, ending up with its collapse, is very small compared to typical time of any variation in the flow. Therefore, the approach can also be applied to unsteady flow problems.

**Keywords** Thin foil theory; Matched expansions method; Rayleigh–Plesset equation; Bubble cavitation; Vapor bubble dynamics; Bubble collapse; Cavitation noise spectra

## 1 Introduction

The evolution problem of a cavitation bubble in a variable

pressure field is a traditional one and never loses its relevance. The phenomenon of bubble collapse due to adverse pressure gradient is known to result in a specific acoustic noise and material erosion.

A thorough analysis of cavitation inception, bubble cavitation, and its acoustic effects can be found in the literature spanning more than a century (Rayleigh 1917; Plesset 1949; Benjamin and Ellis 1966; Levkovskiy 1968, 1978; Plesset and Chapman 1971; Miniovich et al. 1972; Chahine 1976; Levkovskiy 1978; Blake and Gibson 1987; Briancon-Marjollet et al. 1988; Nigmatulin 1987; Ceccio and Brennen 1991; Rusak 1994; Brennen 1995; Lauterborn and Ohl 1997; Franc and Michel 2004; Franc 2007; Rusak et al. 2007; Chahine 2009; Hsiao et al. 2016; Egashira 2016; Prosperetti 2017; Iben et al. 2018; Fuster et al. 2009; Van Rijsbergen and Lidtke 2020; Trummler et al. 2021a; Wang et al. 2021). Different aspects of dynamics and acoustics of single bubbles and bubble clouds in the absence or pres-

### Article Highlights

- The pressure field around a thin foil with rounded leading edge is described with use of the method of matched asymptotic expansions.
- Dynamics of a vapor bubble moving along a flow streamline in immediate vicinity of the foil rounded leading edge is analyzed with use of Rayleigh–Plesset equation.
- Dynamics of a vapor bubble is analyzed in a range of variation of geometric and kinematic parameters for different foil families.

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ence of boundaries were considered in the aforementioned literature. In most cases, the mathematical treatment of the problem employed drastic scale differences between nuclei and local pressure field variations. Therefore, in the immediate vicinity, the former could be viewed as an isolated single bubble subject to a time-dependent external pressure. A brief overview of some of the above-listed publications is presented below.

Benjamin and Ellis (1966) discussed the implosion mechanism, which was first analyzed by Lord Rayleigh and currently retains its importance due to the need to study violent effects induced by the impact of liquid jets formed by collapsing cavities. This article reviews contributing factors to shape changes and eventual jet formation. The same issue was investigated by Plesset (1996), who studied shockwaves due to cavity collapse. Chahine (1976), who consistently explored the dynamic effects of a single bubble and bubble cloud cavitation through singular perturbation methods, conducted an asymptotic study of cavitation bubble behavior in a variable pressure field. His study aimed to investigate the relative importance of different phenomena involved in the dynamics of cavitation growth and its subsequent collapse or oscillation, particularly considering surface tension, viscosity, and inertia reaction of gas inside the bubble. He also established a classification of different initial dimensions. The dimensionless formulation used in this work provided the definition of three characteristic quantities involving only the fluid properties: a limit radius, a maximum pressure, and a characteristic frequency.

Briancon-Marjollet et al. (1988) worked on the prediction of cavitation as a function of water nuclei content and hydrodynamic conditions for the case of the flow around a two-dimensional hydrofoil. The authors performed numerous tests in the hydrodynamic tunnel of the Institut de mécanique de Grenoble to investigate the coupled effects of nuclei and viscosity on cavitation. Several water nuclei contents were tested via injection of air microbubbles in the variable quantity upstream of the test section. The influence of the water nuclei content was analyzed for different types of boundary layers obtained by varying the angle of attack of a two-dimensional NACA 16209 hydrofoil: laminar boundary layer with laminar separation, transition boundary layer, turbulent boundary layer, and laminar separation bubble. For each configuration, they also studied the conditions of cavitation inception and the type of cavitation, which develops traveling bubbles or attached cavities as a function of the water quality. Furthermore, they investigated the transition from an attached cavity to traveling bubble cavitation, which may occur when the nuclei concentration exceeds a critical value.

Ceccio and Brennen (1991) researched the dynamics and acoustics of traveling bubble cavitation. The individual bubbles generated on two axisymmetric headforms were

detected using a surface electrode probe. The growth and collapse of the bubbles were related to the pressure fields and viscous flow patterns associated with each headform. Measurements of the acoustic impulse generated by the bubble collapse were analyzed and found to correlate with the maximum volume of the bubble for each headform. These results were compared with the observed bubble dynamics and numerical solutions of the Rayleigh–Plesset equation. They also measured the cavitation nuclei flux, predicted cavitation event rates, and compared the bubble maximum size distributions with the measurements of these quantities. Lauterborn and Ohl (1997) discussed the unusual features of bubble dynamics, including jet formation, counter jet formation, shock wave radiation, and light emission. Some data were presented on multiple shock waves radiation from single bubble collapse time-resolved through high-speed photography with 20 million frames per second. Lindau and Lauterborn (2000) discussed some results of the investigation of the development of a counter jet in a cavitation bubble collapsing near a rigid boundary. They experimentally investigated the onset of a structure moving opposite to the jet (counter jet), the evolution of its height, and the duration of its appearance. The bubbles were induced by a strong laser pulse and observed with high-speed photography. Egashira (2016) numerically investigated the effects of the translational motion of a vapor bubble on its cavitation inception. The authors believe that the basis for this study was the bubble dynamics approach, wherein the nonequilibrium evaporation or condensation at the bubble wall is accurately accounted for on a molecular level. Therefore, the situation which a vapor bubble nucleus formed at a separation point on a circular cylinder surface expands, detaches, and then moves downstream in the high-speed water flow was considered. The locus of the moving vapor bubble after the detachment was traced. The inception condition, which is defined as the infinite growth condition of the bubble, was then comprehensively investigated. Fuster et al. (2009) reported the parametric investigation for a single collapsing bubble immersed in an ultrasonic field. They conducted a sensitivity analysis of cavitation processes comprehensively considering the influence of various model parameters in bubble collapse to understand how the bubble implosion can be treated in real systems. They also found that the most important parameters that determine cavitation occurrence are initial bubble radius, frequency, and pressure wave amplitude. Their study revealed that the initial radius characterizes the intensity of cavitation processes; they also computed a range of bubble sizes generating strong implosions for different frequencies. An interesting study was conducted by Ahn et al. (2019), who reported the influence of through-holes on the cavitation behavior near the leading edge of the model propeller, thereby reflecting efforts to minimize bubble cavitation. Trummler et al. (2021b) numerically in-

vestigated the effect of noncondensable gas inside a vapor bubble on bubble dynamics, collapse pressure, and pressure impact of spherical and aspherical bubble collapses. Afterward, they derived and validated a multicomponent model for vapor bubbles containing gas. They claimed that the effect of the noncondensable gas on rebound and damping of the emitted shock wave is well captured using their model. Publication by Rusak et al. (2007) represents interest from the viewpoint of accurately considering viscosity in determining the cavitation inception near the rounded leading edge of a foil. The authors studied the inception of leading-edge sheet cavitation on two-dimensional smooth thin hydrofoils considering viscous fluid flows under low to moderately high Reynolds number through a combination of the method of matched asymptotic expansions (MAE) and numerical simulations. The asymptotic theory is based on the previous work of Rusak (1994), which demonstrated that the flow around a thin hydrofoil can be described considering the outer (over most of the hydrofoil chord) and inner (around the nose) regions, which asymptotically match each other. The flow in the outer region is described by the traditional thin hydrofoil theory. Scaled (magnified) coordinates and a modified (smaller) Reynolds number ( $Re-M$ ) were respectively used to account accurately for the nonlinear behavior and extreme velocity changes in the inner region where near-stagnation and high suction areas occur. The local problem was reduced to a simplified problem of a uniform viscous flow past a semi-infinite smooth parabola with a far-field circulation governed by a certain parameter  $A$  that is related to the hydrofoil's angle of attack, nose radius of the curvature, and camber. This viscous flow problem was solved numerically for various  $A$  and  $Re-M$  values to determine the minimum pressure coefficient and the cavitation number, respectively, for the inception of leading-edge cavitation as a function of the hydrofoil's geometry, flow Reynolds number, and fluid thermodynamic properties. The predictions based on this method show good agreement with the results from available experimental data. This simplified approach provides a universal criterion to determine the onset of leading-edge (sheet) cavitation on hydrofoils with a parabolic nose considering the similarity parameters and the effect of hydrofoil's thickness ratio, nose radius of the curvature, camber, and flow Reynolds number. Notably, the MAE method was advocated for use in the hydrodynamics of thin, slightly curved foils and wings by Van-Dyke (1975) and Rozhdestvensky (1979), who also employed this approach in several other publications (e.g., Mishkevich and Rozhdestvensky (1978), Rozhdestvensky and Mishkevich (1983), and Rozhdestvensky (2019) on unsteady flow in the vicinity of the rounded leading edge of a hydrofoil. An interesting paper dedicated to sheet cavitation inception mechanisms on NACA0015 hydrofoil was recently authored by Van Rijsbergen et al. (2020). This

publication includes experimental data obtained in the MARIN's high-speed cavitation tunnel and computational simulations conducted using in-house viscous CFD code ReFRESCO.

This paper treats two particular cases of a bubble subjected to the action of a variable pressure field. The first case corresponds to an instantaneous increase in the pressure outside the bubble. Therein, classical results are revisited and treated analytically or numerically.

The second case considers the bubble motion in a variable pressure field near a rounded leading edge of a thin hydrofoil. The flow field around the hydrofoil is described mathematically using the MAE method, wherein the outer flow expansion is constructed through a linear theory of a thin, slightly cambered foil with a small (in radians) angle of attack in a potential flow. The *inner* flow near a rounded leading edge written in stretched local coordinates is that around a semi-infinite osculating parabola for any analytical foil. Matching of the inner and outer expansions enables identification of the two unknown parameters defining the increment of the oncoming flow velocity and circulatory flow around the leading edge associated accordingly with thickness and camber (angle of attack) effects Rozhdestvensky (1979).

Both cases utilize analytical (when possible) or numerical solutions of the Rayleigh-Plesset equation with the corresponding right-hand side. Solving this equation for a bubble with a given initial radius and zero expansion speed allows the determination of variation of the bubble radius versus time as well as acoustic pressure due to its volume change.

## 2 Analytical and numerical solutions of rayleigh-plesset equation

The Rayleigh-Plesset equation, which describes the dynamics of a vapor bubble in dimensional form, is written as follows

$$R\ddot{R} + \frac{3}{2}\dot{R}^2 = -\frac{P(t)}{\rho} \quad (1)$$

$$R(0) = R_0, \quad \dot{R}(0) = 0 \quad (2)$$

where  $R = R(t)$  is the current radius of the bubble in meters (m) at the moment of time  $t$ , measured in seconds (s),  $R_0$  is the initial radius of the bubble,  $P(t)$  is the external pressure at the bubble boundary in Newton per square meter ( $N/m^2$ ) as a function of time,  $\rho$  is fluid density in  $kg/m^3$ , and dots indicate time differentiation (considering dimensional time). From the viewpoint of remarkably compact representations of the calculated data on bubble dynamics and acoustics, rendering the Rayleigh-Plesset equation to

nondimensional form is convenient, introducing characteristic length and time with the following dimensional parameters:  $R_0$  and  $R_0/\sqrt{P_0/\rho}$ . Notably,  $P_0$  is some typical pressure, which can be selected conveniently based on the similarity theory, for example,  $P_0 = p_\infty$ . Then, passing in (1)–(2) to nondimensional bubble radius  $\eta$  and nondimensional time  $\tau$

$$\eta(\tau) = \frac{R(\tau)}{R_0}, \quad \tau = \frac{t}{R_0} \sqrt{\frac{P_0}{\rho}} \quad (3)$$

the nondimensional form of Rayleigh-Plesset problem (1) and (2) is presented below.

$$\eta \ddot{\eta} + \frac{3}{2} \dot{\eta}^2 + \pi(\tau) = 0 \quad (4)$$

$$\eta(0) = 1, \quad \dot{\eta}(0) = 0 \quad (5)$$

where  $\pi(\tau) = P(\tau)/P_0$ .

In practical cases, the expansion or contraction of the cavitation bubble occurs when it moves in a time-dependent pressure field. Theoretical investigation requires solving the Rayleigh-Plesset equation for a given function  $\pi(\tau)$ . This function can be determined experimentally, or theoretically. Note that getting sufficiently detailed pressure diagram experimentally implies the installation of a sufficient number of pressure gauges over a tiny and strongly curved leading edge part of the foil contour. The simplest and most studied in the literature law of pressure variation, in which Equation (4) can be solved analytically and numerically, corresponds to an instantaneous increase or decrease in pressure outside of the bubble. Corresponding solutions will be revised and updated in the next section.

### 3 Case of a sudden pressure growth

Assuming that the external pressure instantaneously increased due to the magnitude of  $P(\tau) = P_0$ , the following equation is obtained:

$$\eta \ddot{\eta} + \frac{3}{2} \dot{\eta}^2 + 1 = 0 \quad (6)$$

Notably,

$$\begin{aligned} \eta \ddot{\eta} &= \eta \frac{d\dot{\eta}}{d\tau} = \eta \frac{d\dot{\eta}}{d\eta} \frac{d\eta}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{2} \eta \frac{d\dot{\eta}^2}{d\eta} \\ \eta \frac{d}{d\eta} \dot{\eta}^2 + 3\dot{\eta}^2 + 2 &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

The variables  $\dot{\eta}^2$  and  $\eta$  in Equation (7) can then be separated, and deriving the integral of Equation (6) in the form

shown below is easy considering the initial conditions (5).

$$\dot{\eta}^2(\eta) = \frac{2}{3\eta^3} (1 - \eta^3), \quad \dot{\eta} = \sqrt{\frac{2(1 - \eta^3)}{3\eta^3}} \quad (8)$$

where

$$\frac{d\tau}{d\eta} = \sqrt{\frac{3(1 - \eta^3)}{3\eta^3}}$$

Therefore,

$$\tau(\eta) = \int_0^\eta \sqrt{\frac{3\eta_1^3}{2(1 - \eta_1^3)}} d\eta_1 \quad (9)$$

which represents a dependence of nondimensional time on the relative radius of the bubble;  $\eta = 1$  gives the full nondimensional time of the bubble evolution up to its collapse, which is equal to

$$\tau_c \approx 0.914\,680\,9 \approx 0.915 \quad (10)$$

Thus, when nondimensional time changes from 0 to  $\tau_c$ , the nondimensional radius of the bubble varies from 1 to 0. Simultaneously, near the moment of collapse, Equation (8) reveals that the speed of bubble contraction is infinite as follows:

$$\dot{\eta} = O(\eta^{-3/2}) \quad (11)$$

The relative radius of the contracting bubble as a function of nondimensional time can be plotted by inverting relationship (9) numerically.

To eliminate infinite value of contraction speed in the vicinity of the bubble collapse (for  $\eta \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\dot{\eta} \rightarrow \infty$ ), which occurs in analytical (8) and numerical solutions of Equation (6), in addition to saturated vapor, the bubble is assumed to contain some quantity of gas at the moment of collapse. Then, assuming the adiabatic nature of the bubble compression and following (Miniovich et al., 1972), Equation (6) can be rewritten as

$$\eta \ddot{\eta} + \frac{3}{2} \dot{\eta}^2 - \delta_g \eta^{-3\gamma} + 1 = 0 \quad (12)$$

where  $\gamma$  is the adiabatic exponent,  $\delta_g = p_{g0}/P_0$ , and  $p_{g0}$  is the initial pressure of gas in the bubble of radius  $R_0$ . Using the same technique as that for the integration of Equation (6), obtaining the square of the bubble boundary velocity in the following analytic form is easy:

$$\dot{\eta}^2 = \frac{2}{3} \left[ \frac{1 - \eta^3}{\eta^3} - \frac{\delta_g}{\gamma - 1} (\eta^{-3\gamma} - 1) \right] \quad (13)$$



Assuming  $\dot{\eta}^2(\eta_{\min}) = 0$ , the minimal radius of the bubble compression can be obtained. For  $\eta_{\min} \ll 1$ , the following can be easily derived:

$$\eta_{\min} \approx \left( \frac{\delta_g}{\gamma + \delta_g - 1} \right)^{3(\gamma-1)} \quad (14)$$

When  $\gamma = 4/3$

$$\eta_{\min} \approx \frac{3\delta_g}{1 + 3\delta_g} \quad (15)$$

The time derivative of the expression (13), that is, for  $\eta = \eta_*$ , is equated to zero to determine the radius  $\eta_*$  of the bubble, in which the speed of its compression reaches its maximum

$$\frac{d}{d\tau} \dot{\eta}^2 = 2\dot{\eta}\ddot{\eta} = \frac{d\dot{\eta}^2}{d\eta} \dot{\eta} = 0 \quad (16)$$

The value of  $\eta_*$  can be obtained from the equation

$$\frac{d\dot{\eta}^2}{d\eta} = \frac{2}{\eta_*^4} \left[ 1 + \frac{\delta_g}{\gamma - 1} (1 - \gamma\eta_*^{3(1-\gamma)}) \right] = 0 \quad (17)$$

where

$$\eta_* = \left( \frac{\gamma\delta_g}{\gamma + \delta_g - 1} \right)^{\frac{1}{3(\gamma-1)}} \quad (18)$$

The following can be obtained for  $\gamma = 4/3$ :

$$\eta_* = \frac{4\gamma}{1 + 3\delta_g} \quad (19)$$

The maximum speed of the bubble contraction can be calculated by substituting (19) into (13). Employing expression (13), the relationship between time  $\tau$  and the relative radius of the bubble considering gas content based on the following formula is identified.

$$\tau = \int_{\eta_{\min}}^{\eta} \sqrt{\frac{3\eta_1^3}{2 \left[ 1 - \eta_1^3 - \frac{\delta_g}{\gamma - 1} (\eta_1^{3(1-\gamma)} - 1) \right]}} d\eta_1 \quad (20)$$

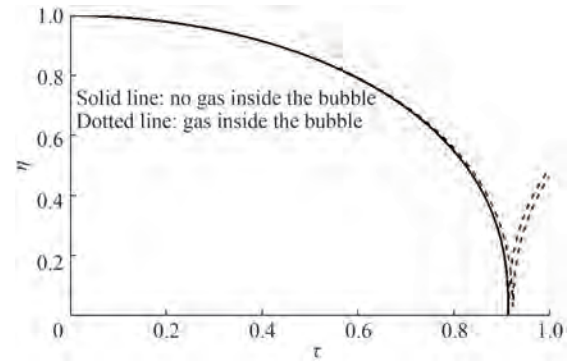
Therefore, the time of collapse process can be obtained as  $\tau_c = \tau(1, \eta_{\min})$ . Table 1 shows the dependencies of  $\eta_{\min}$  and  $\tau_c$  for varying values of the parameters  $\delta_g$  and  $\gamma = 4/3$ .

A calculation of bubble radius versus time for a given gas content can be conducted by integrating Equation (13) considering time for given gas content  $\tau$  and  $\eta \in [\eta_{\min}, 1]$  or through direct integration of Equation (12) considering  $\eta$  over the interval of time  $\tau \in [0, \tau_c]$ . Figure 1 plots some

results of such a numerical integration for three values of  $\delta_g$ : 0; 0.001; 0.01.

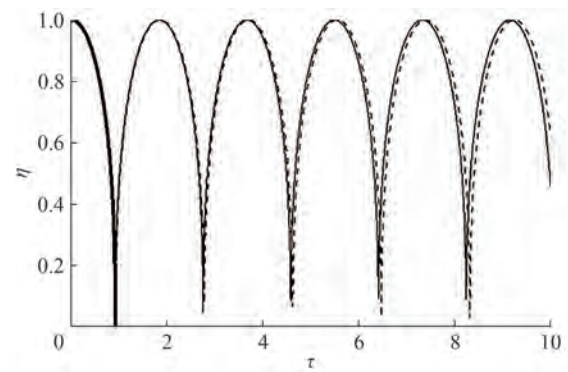
**Table 1** Quantities of  $\eta_{\min}$  and  $\tau_c$  versus  $\delta_g$

$\delta_g$	$\eta_{\min}$	$\tau_c$
0	0	0.914 680 9
0.001	0.002 991	0.915 601
0.005	0.014 78	0.919 373
0.01	0.029 12	0.924 271
0.015	0.043 06	0.929 337



**Figure 1** Dynamics of vapor bubbles in the absence (solid line) and presence of the gas (dotted line)

The results presented in Figure 1 reveal that in the absence of gas ( $\delta_g = 0$ ), the bubble eventually collapses, and further expansion does not occur. By contrast, a tendency for bubble expansion is observed in the presence of gas in the bubble ( $\delta_g \neq 0$ ), which further develops into undamped oscillations.



**Figure 2** Undamped oscillations of the bubble in the presence of gas (thick solid line:  $\delta_g = 0$  indicates the absence of gas, the solid line indicates  $\delta_g = 0.01$ , and the dotted line indicates  $\delta_g = 0.001$ )

Capillarity and viscosity are considered, which can be conducted by including two additional terms into the Rayleigh-Plesset equation (Miniovich et al. 1972):

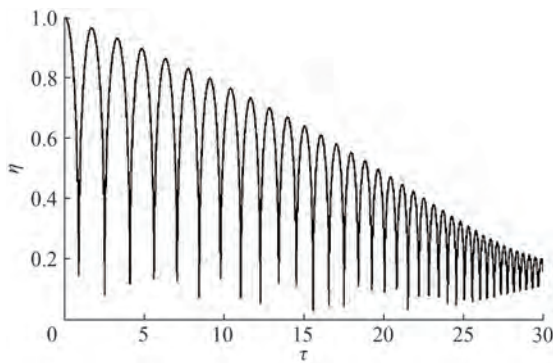
$$\eta\ddot{\eta} + \frac{3}{2}\dot{\eta}^2 - \delta_g\eta^{-3\gamma} + \frac{2D}{\eta} + \frac{C\dot{\eta}}{\eta} + 1 = 0 \quad (21)$$

where parameters  $D$  and  $C$  are respectively expressed through the coefficients of dynamic viscosity  $\mu$  and surface tension  $\sigma$  of the fluid

$$C = \frac{\mu}{R_0 \sqrt{P_0 \rho_0}}, \quad D = \frac{\sigma}{R_0 P_0} \quad (22)$$

For the first-order estimation:  $R_0 = 10^{-5}$  m,  $P_0 \approx 10^5$  N/m<sup>2</sup>, for water temperature of 10 °C,  $\mu = 133.1 \times 10^{-5}$  kgf·s·m<sup>-2</sup>; thus,  $C \approx 0.0133$  and  $D = 0.0735$  can be obtained.

Figure 3 shows the data calculation of the bubble radius versus time for gas content fraction  $\delta_g = 0.001$  and considering the viscosity and surface tension of the fluid ( $C = 0.0133$ ;  $D = 0.0735$ ).



**Figure 3** Damped oscillations of gas-containing bubbles considering the capillarity and viscosity of the fluid ( $\delta_g = 0.001$ ,  $R_0 = 10^{-5}$  m)

Notably, the bubble executes damped oscillations due to fluid viscosity. Considering Equation (21) prompts the analytical integration for  $C = 0$ . Using the previously discussed approach, the following is written:

$$\eta \frac{d\dot{\eta}^2}{d\eta} + 3\dot{\eta}^2 - 2\delta_g \eta^{-3\gamma} + \frac{4D}{\eta} + 2 = 0 \quad (23)$$

Equation (23) is linear considering the function  $\dot{\eta}^2$ ; thus, its general solution can be represented as

$$\dot{\eta}^2 = K\eta^{-3} - \frac{2}{3} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{\delta_g}{\gamma - 1} \eta^{-3\gamma} - \frac{2D}{\eta} \quad (24)$$

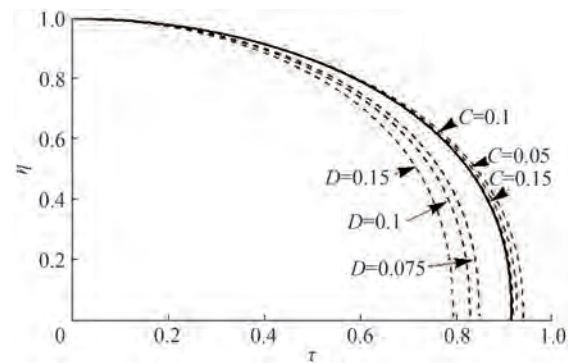
where the first term is a homogeneous solution of Equation (23) and other terms satisfy this equation, which can be verified by substitution. The constant  $K$  is determined by applying the following initial condition:  $\dot{\eta}(1) = 0$ , which gives

$$K = \frac{2}{3} \left( 1 + \frac{\delta_g}{\gamma - 1} \right) + 2D \quad (25)$$

Substituting this value of  $K$ , another value (other than one) of  $\eta = \eta_{\min}$ , which corresponds to the minimal radius of

the bubble surface tension, can be derived. Integrating (24) considering time over the interval  $\eta \in [\eta_{\min}, 1]$ , the time necessary to reach the minimum radius for a gas-containing bubble considering capillarity is identified.

Some calculation results obtained through direct numerical integration of Equation (21) without considering the gas contents ( $\delta_g = 0$ ) are given in Figure 4. In this figure, where the dotted lines above the solid line correspond to the influence of viscosity without capillarity ( $C \neq 0, D = 0$ ), while those under the solid line correspond to the influence of capillarity without viscosity ( $C = 0, D \neq 0$ ). Thus, surface tension reduces the period of bubble collapse, and viscosity increases such a period based on Figure 4.

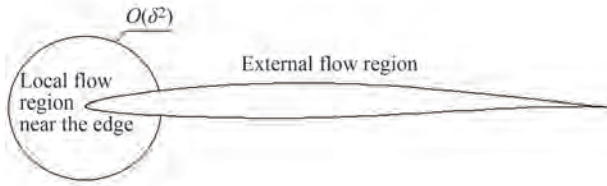


**Figure 4** Influence of viscosity and capillarity on bubble dynamics under compression with no gas inside (dotted line) (the solid line corresponds to the compression curve for the bubble with no influence of viscosity and capillarity)

#### 4 Case of a bubble motion in gradient pressure field near the rounded leading edge of a foil

Known mathematical emulators of pressure gradient for studying vapor bubble response are based on certain plausible laws of variation of the external pressure. The simplest law is the case of an instantaneous stepped growth in pressure, which has been previously referred to in this paper. The following proposed model of a flow near the rounded leading edge of a hydrofoil represents a natural mathematical testbed, which can generate growth and pressure drop. In this model, parameters characterize the geometry and kinematics of the foil. To investigate the dynamics and acoustics of the bubble, the (outer) flow description for a foil of a given configuration should first be constructed. Then, the local (inner) flow near a rounded leading edge should be comprehensively considered. Finally, the dynamics of a bubble moving along a selected streamline, thus becoming subject to the action of the pressure gradients, should be observed using the Rayleigh-Plesset equation. The leading edge flow is characterized by a large curvature of the streamlines, which depend on the relative thickness  $\delta$ , relative camber  $\delta_c$ , and angle of attack  $\alpha$  (in ra-

dians) of the foil. All these nondimensional parameters are considered in the order of  $\delta$ , whereas  $\delta \rightarrow 0$ . Note that, practically, relative thickness, camber and angle of attack (in radians) of foils and blades tend to be quite small. The division of the flow field into outer and inner regions according to characteristic scales to solve the problem of the flow past a foil using the MAE method is illustrated in Figure 5.



**Figure 5** Division of the flow field around a foil (MAE)

To obtain a solution for the flow around the foil using the MAE method, the outer flow problem, in which  $(x, y) = O(1)$ ,  $\delta \rightarrow 0$ , should first be considered.

#### 4.1 Outer flow field

In the outer limit, the foil degenerates into a slit  $x \in (-1, 1)$ ,  $y=0 \pm 0$ . The application of linear theory (Rozhdestvensky 1979) indicates that relative flow velocity on the contour of a thin and slightly curved foil in a steady incompressible ideal fluid flow can be obtained in the form

$$v^o(x) = 1 + \frac{\delta}{\pi} \text{v.p.} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{f'_t(\zeta) d\zeta}{x - \zeta} \pm \frac{\delta}{\pi} \sqrt{\frac{1-x}{1+x}} \text{v.p.} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\bar{\delta}_c f'_c(\zeta) - \bar{\alpha}}{x - \zeta} \sqrt{\frac{1+\zeta}{1-\zeta}} d\zeta \quad (26)$$

where  $v^o$  is the velocity on the upper (sign «+») and lower (sign «-») sides of the foil, which is related to the speed of flow in upstream infinity  $U_0$ ;  $\delta$  is the relative thickness of the foil,  $\delta_c$  is the relative camber of the foil, and  $\delta_\alpha$  is the angle of attack in radians.  $f_t(x)$  and  $f_c(x)$  are functions of the order of  $O(1)$ , respectively describing distributions of thickness and curvature;  $\bar{\alpha} = \alpha/\delta$ ,  $\bar{\delta}_c = \delta_c/\delta$  are parameters of the order of  $O(1)$ .

Notably, the integrals in (26) are defined on the basis of the Cauchy principal value and can be reduced to quadrature for practically any foil with an analytical description. A table of necessary integrals, which covers classical families of foils, can be found in the section “Airfoil Integrals” of Appendix B, NACA TN 3390 (Van-Dyke 1955). The solutions, which are expressed by the formula (26), lose validity at distances of the order  $O(\delta^2)$  from the rounded leading edge. In particular, the velocity and linearized pressure have a square-root singularity at the leading edge.

#### 4.2 Inner flow field

To investigate the flow pattern near the leading edge thoroughly, the inner description of the flow problem should be discussed by introducing stretched local coordinates  $X = (1 + x)/r_{le}$ ,  $Y = y/r_{le}$ ,  $Z = X + iY$ .

For any analytical foil with the rounded leading edge, the latter can be approximated by an osculating parabola with an asymptotic error of  $O(\delta^2)$ . For example, in the case of elliptical foil with a thickness function  $f_t(x) = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$  the vicinity of the leading edge ( $x_{le} = 1 + x$ ,  $X = x_{le}/\delta^2$ ) can be identified on the basis of the following approximation of the stretched foil contour

$$Y = \frac{y_{le}}{\delta^2} = \pm \frac{\delta f_t}{\delta^2} = \pm \frac{\delta \sqrt{x_{le}(2 - x_{le})}}{\delta^2} = \pm \frac{\delta \sqrt{\delta^2 X (2 - \delta^2 X)}}{\delta^2} \approx \pm \sqrt{2X} + O(\delta^2) \quad (27)$$

The following can be obtained for foils of general form with a rounded leading edge:

$$Y = \pm \sqrt{2r_{le}X} + O(\delta^2) \quad (28)$$

For example, the thickness distribution of NACA four-digit sections is given by the following equation (Abbot and Von Doenhoff 1959) and rewritten with  $x_1 = (1 + x)/2$

$$\pm f_t(x_1) = 1.4845 \sqrt{x_1} - 0.6300x_1 - 1.7580x_1^2 + 1.4215x_1^3 - 0.5075x_1^4 \quad (29)$$

The thickness functions of the modified NACA four-digit and five-digit series wing sections ahead of the maximum thickness position are defined by the following equation:

$$\pm f_t(x_1) = a_0 \sqrt{x_1} + a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_1^2 + a_3 x_1^3 \quad (30)$$

Introducing stretched  $X = x_1/\delta^2$  and comparing (28) and (30), the radius of curvature of the rounded leading edge for the NACA four-digit and five-digit series is equal to

$$r_{le} = \delta^2 a_0^2/2 \quad (31)$$

The complex potential of the flow near a leading rounded edge, which has an asymptotic error of  $O(\delta^2)$  as shown above and is approximated by an osculating semi-infinite parabola, can be easily constructed by the methods of the theory of complex variable (Rozhdestvensky 1979).

The inner flowfield can be constructed by superposition of a local symmetrical flow (a) and a local circulatory flow (b) past an osculating parabola. A symmetrical flow past osculating parabola with a unit incoming uniform flow velocity is readily constructed via conformal mapping of the do-

main external to the parabola onto the auxiliary upper plane  $w_a = Z - \bar{r}_{le} - i\sqrt{2\bar{r}_{le}Z - \bar{r}_{le}^2}$  (where  $Z = X + iY$ ). This complex function  $w_a$  represents the complex potential of the flow under study. Taking derivative considering  $Z$  yields a complex conjugate velocity

$$\frac{dw_a}{dZ} = 1 - \frac{i \cdot \bar{r}_{le}}{\sqrt{2\bar{r}_{le}Z - \bar{r}_{le}^2}} \quad (32)$$

the module of which represents full velocity on the parabola contour due to symmetrical flow through the following expression:

$$v_a(X) = \left| \frac{dw_a}{dZ} \right| = \sqrt{\frac{X}{X + \bar{r}_{le}/2}} \quad (33)$$

Therefore, the critical point associated with symmetrical flow coincides with the origin of the coordinate system.

The circulatory (asymmetrical) part of the flow is then discussed. A circulatory flow generally occurs around the parabolic leading edge, resulting in the critical point displacement. This circumstance can be accounted for by considering a component of the local flow, which is asymmetrical considering the Xaxis (circulatory flow past parabola with the unit speed at a point  $Z = 0$ ).

Notably, the function  $f_b = \sqrt{Z - \bar{r}_{le}/2}$  conformally maps the domain external to the parabola onto a semiplane  $\text{Im}f_b > \sqrt{\bar{r}_{le}/2}$ . The flow in this auxiliary plane represents a uniform flow with complex potential  $w_b = C_b \cdot f_b$ . To determine the constant  $C_b$  the magnitude of the velocity in the physical plane at  $Z = 0$  is assumed to be equal to one, resulting in the following expression for full velocity on the parabola contour due to circulatory (asymmetrical) flow.

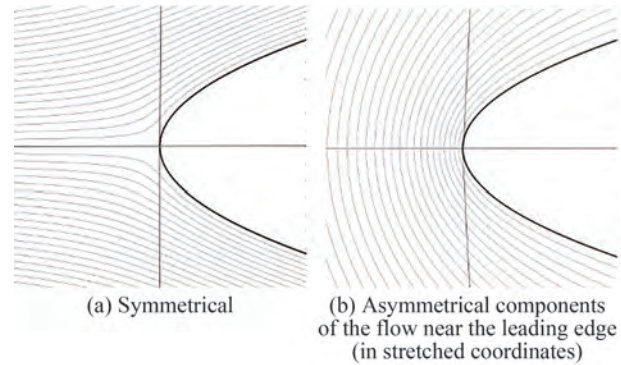
$$v_b = \left| \frac{dw_b}{dZ} \right| = \frac{\sqrt{\bar{r}_{le}}}{\sqrt{2X + \bar{r}_{le}}} \quad (34)$$

Summing up the symmetrical and circulatory flow velocities on the parabola contour, the following expression for full velocity on the contour of the parabolic leading edge (osculating parabola) is concluded as follows:

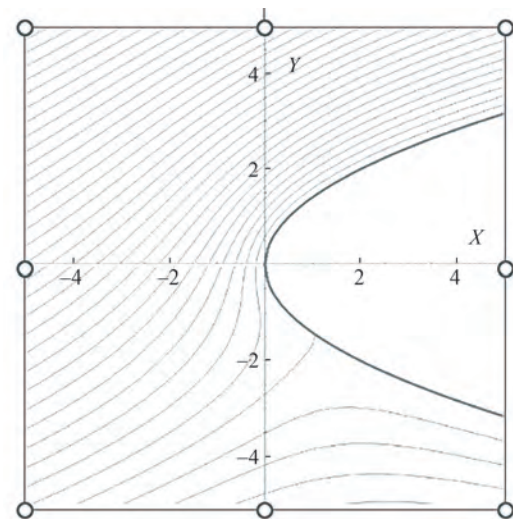
$$v^i(X) = \sqrt{\frac{X}{X + \frac{1}{2}\bar{r}_{le}}} \left( U_1 \pm \frac{U_2}{\sqrt{X}} \right) \quad (35)$$

where plus and minus respectively correspond to the upper part of the contour and the lower part of the parabola contour.

Figure 6 shows the flow patterns associated with symmetrical (a) and asymmetrical (b) flows around the parabolic leading edge. Figure 7 shows the pattern of the inner (local flow) around the parabolic leading edge formed as a superposition of symmetric and asymmetric flow patterns.



**Figure 6** Typical patterns of streamlines



**Figure 7** Typical pattern of the local flow around the parabolic leading edge containing stagnation line (in stretched coordinates  $X$  and  $Y$ )

Parameters  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are unknown and should be determined through asymptotic matching with the outer description of the flow velocity. Matching the two-term outer expansion (26) of the velocity on the parabola with the two-term inner expansion (35) of the velocity on the parabola yields

$$U_1 = 1 + \frac{\delta}{\pi} \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \text{v.p.} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{f'_t(\zeta) d\zeta}{x - \zeta} = 1 + \delta \cdot u_\delta \quad (36)$$

$$U_2 = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \text{v.p.} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\bar{\delta}_c f'_c(\zeta) - \bar{\alpha}}{x - \zeta} \sqrt{\frac{1 + \zeta}{1 - \zeta}} d\zeta = \bar{\alpha} \sqrt{2} + \frac{\bar{\delta}_c \sqrt{2}}{\pi} \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \text{v.p.} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{f'_c(\zeta)}{x - \zeta} \sqrt{\frac{1 + \zeta}{1 - \zeta}} d\zeta = \bar{\alpha} \sqrt{2} + \bar{\delta}_c \cdot u_c \quad (37)$$

Complex potentials and conjugate velocities of these flows can be easily derived following Rozhdestvensky (1979).

Relative full velocity on the contour of the parabolic



leading edge (osculating parabola) can be obtained using (35): where  $v^i$  is a full velocity at a point of the parabolic contour on its upper (sign «+») and lower (sign «-») sides;  $X = x_{le}/r_{le}$  is the stretched abscissa, which is measured from the apex of the edge;  $\bar{r}_{le} = r_{le}/\delta^2$ , where  $r_{le}$  is the radius of curvature of the leading edge, which is related to half-chord of the foil;  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are parameters associated correspondingly with relative velocities of the local flow, coming upon the edge, and circulatory flow, which is tangential to the contour of the edge.

Notably, for a given family of analytical foils, the ratio of the nondimensional leading edge radius to the square of relative thickness  $\bar{r}_{le}$  is a constant.

The pressure coefficient at points of the leading edge contour considering (27) can be calculated using the following formula:

$$p^i(X) = 1 - \frac{X}{X + \frac{1}{2}\bar{r}_{le}} \left( U_1 \pm \frac{U_2}{\sqrt{X}} \right)^2 \quad (38)$$

As shown in Rozhdestvensky (1979), parameters  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  can be obtained through asymptotic matching (smooth connecting) of the outer solution (26) and inner solution describing the flow near the osculating parabola (35). Notably, using formulas (35) and (38) implies that the bubble under investigation moves along the streamline, coinciding with the contour of the leading edge. Corresponding values of the stream function must be employed to treat bubble movement along other streamlines.

### 4.3 Asymptotic matching

In particular, in the case of steady flow past an analytical foil these parameters have the following structure:

$$U_1 = 1 + \delta u_\delta \quad (39)$$

$$U_2 = \bar{\alpha} \sqrt{2} - \bar{\delta}_c u_c \quad (40)$$

where  $u_\delta$  and  $u_c$  depend entirely on the foil geometry and respectively follow (36) and (37) as

$$u_\delta = \frac{1}{\pi} \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \text{v.p.} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{f'_i(\xi) d\xi}{x - \xi} \quad (41)$$

$$u_c = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \text{v.p.} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{f'_c(\xi)}{x - \xi} \sqrt{\frac{1 + \xi}{1 - \xi}} d\xi \quad (42)$$

Table 2 presents the numerical values for  $u_\delta$ ,  $u_c$  and  $\bar{r}_{le}$  for some foil families (for example, Abbott and Von Doenhoff (1959)).

The closed form of the expressions for relative velocity and pressure coefficient on the contour of semi-infinite os-

**Table 2** Values  $u_\delta$ ,  $u_c$  and  $\bar{r}_{le}$  for different foil families

Foil type	$u_\delta$	$u_c$	$\bar{r}_{le}$
Ellipse	1	0	1
NACA 66012	0.817	0	0.874
Gö (Walchner foil)	0.919	0.246	0.964
NACA4412	2	0.296	1.026
NACA66 m ( $a = 0.8$ )	0.75	0.208	0.848
Zhukovsky foil	2.288	0	2.35

culating parabola, which coincides with the contour of the rounded leading edge, enables the acquisition of simple and universal formulas for the minimum magnitude of pressure coefficient and abscissas of critical point ( $p^i = 1$ ) and the point of minimal pressure ( $p^i = p^i_{\min}$ ).

Equating to zero the derivative of the pressure coefficient  $p^i(X)$  considering stretched abscissa  $X$ , yields the following expression for stretched abscissa of the minimum pressure point:

$$X_m = \frac{(x_{le})_m}{r_{le}} = \frac{(x_{le})_m}{\delta^2 \bar{r}_{le}} = \frac{U_1^2}{4U_2^2} \quad (43)$$

where  $(x_{le})_m$  represents the abscissa of the minimum pressure, which is related to the half-chord of the foil.

### 4.4 Minimum pressure coefficient

Substituting (43) into (38) leads to the following expression for the minimum magnitude of the pressure coefficient:

$$p^i_{\min} = 1 - U_1^2 - \frac{2U_2^2}{\bar{r}_{le}} \quad (44)$$

The expression (35) for the velocity on the contour of the leading edge reveals that this velocity is equal to zero on the lower side of the foil at a (critical) point with stretched abscissa:

$$X_s = \frac{(x_{le})_s}{\delta^2 \bar{r}_{le}} = \left( \frac{U_2}{U_1} \right)^2 \quad (45)$$

Considering expressions (41) and (43) leads to the following formulas (Rozhdestvensky 1979):

$$X_m X_s = \frac{1}{4} \bar{r}_{le}^2 \quad (46)$$

$$(x_{le})_m \cdot (x_{le})_s = \frac{1}{4} r_{le}^2 \quad (47)$$

The product of the stretched abscissas of the critical point and the point of pressure minimum for a given family

of analytical foil is a constant according to (46).

In the simplest case of elliptic foil of relative thickness  $\delta$ , streamlined at an angle  $\alpha$ , the expression for minimal pressure coefficient and stretched abscissas of the points of minimum and maximum pressure takes the form

$$p_{\min}^i(\alpha, \delta) = 1 - (1 + \delta)^2 - 4 \frac{\alpha^2}{\delta^2} \quad (48)$$

or

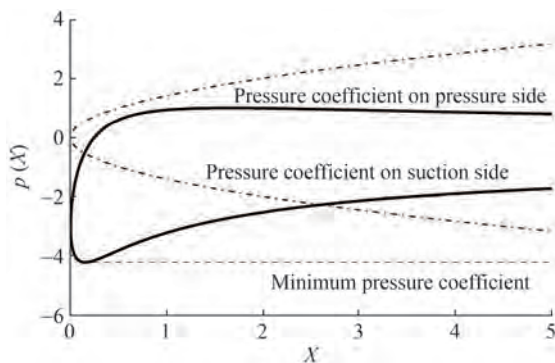
$$p_{\min}^i(\alpha, \delta) = -2\delta - \delta^2 - 4 \frac{\alpha^2}{\delta^2} \quad (49)$$

$$X_s = \frac{2\alpha^2}{\delta^2(1 + \delta)^2} \quad (50)$$

$$X_m = \frac{(1 + \delta)^2 \delta^2}{8\alpha^2} \quad (51)$$

#### 4.5 Examples of pressure distributions near the leading edge

Shown below in the Figures 8–11 are typical nondimensional pressure distributions near the rounded leading edge exemplified for different foil families. Notably, these pressure graphs are plotted as function of the stretched abscissa of the foil measured from the apex of the osculating parabola, or versus stretched arc coordinate measured from the flow stagnation point.



**Figure 8** Distribution of pressure coefficient along the leading edge of the foil versus stretched abscissa  $X$  (ellipse,  $\alpha = \delta = 0.1$ )

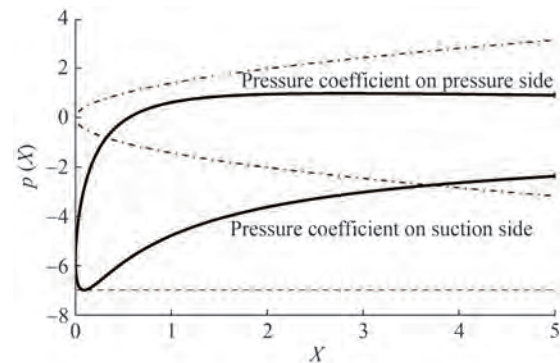
Figure 11 shows the calculated pressure distributions on the parabolic leading edge of different foils for  $\alpha = 0.13$ ;  $\delta = 0.1$ .

#### 4.6 Prediction of bubble dynamics near the rounded leading edge using the Raileigh-Plesset equation

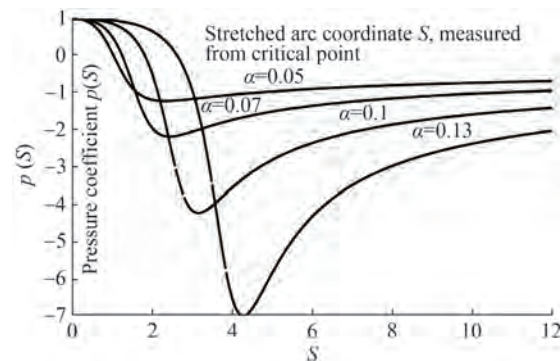
A simplified (without account of surface tension, viscosity, and gas content) form of the Rayleigh-Plesset equation is used to model the dynamics of the (vapor) cavitation

bubble near the rounded leading edge of the foil (Rayleigh 1917; Brennen 1995)

$$R\ddot{R} + \frac{3}{2}\dot{R}^2 = -\frac{P(t)}{\rho} \quad (52)$$



**Figure 9** Distribution of pressure coefficient along the leading edge of the foil versus stretched abscissa  $X$  (ellipse  $\alpha = 0.13$ ,  $\delta = 0.1$ )



**Figure 10** Dependence of pressure coefficient on the stretched arc coordinate, measured from the critical point (ellipse,  $\delta = 0.1$ )

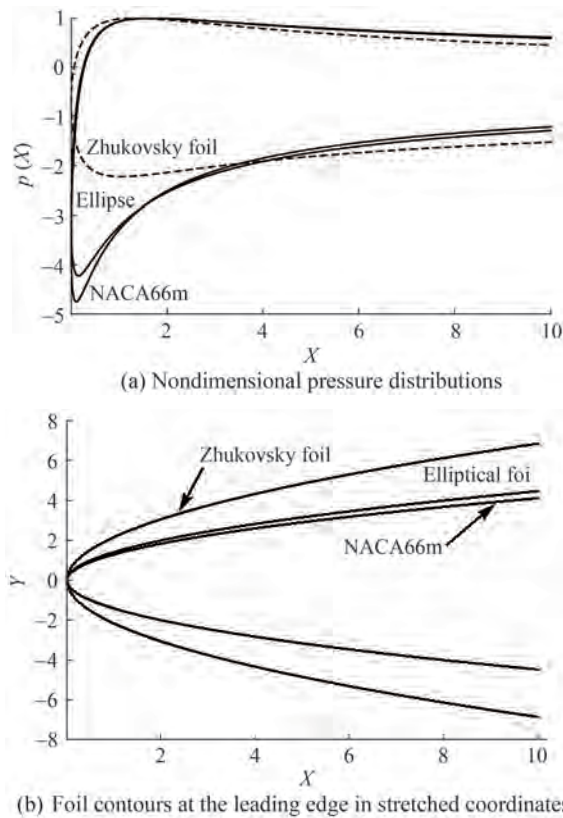
where  $R = R(t)$  is the bubble radius in m,  $t$  is the time in s,  $P(t)$  is the pressure outside of the bubble in  $\text{N/m}^2$  as a function of time,  $\rho$  is the density of the fluid in  $\text{kg/m}^3$ , and dots denote differentiation in time. To solve this equation, the following initial conditions will be considered:

$$R(0) = R_0, \dot{R}(0) = 0 \quad (53)$$

The vapor bubble, which appeared at a certain point of the flow, is assumed to continue its movement along a streamline passing through this point to obtain the dependence of pressure  $P(t)$  on time. The current work is limited by the case when the bubble is moving along the streamline adjacent to the foil contour.

Dimensional pressure  $P$  is expressed through pressure coefficient  $p$  by using the formula

$$P = p \frac{\rho U_0^2}{2} + P_0 \quad (54)$$



**Figure 11** Distribution of pressure coefficient along the leading edge of the elliptical; NACA66 m and Zhukovsky foil versus stretched abscissa  $X$  ( $\delta = 0.1$ ,  $\alpha = 0.13$ )

where  $P_0$  is pressure at infinity,  $U_0$  is the velocity of the oncoming flow, and  $p$  is the pressure coefficient. Notably, the flow velocity, in which a vapor bubble occurs at a certain point of the foil contour, is equal to the speed of cavitation inception  $U_0^{ci}$ , which, in turn, is determined using the following formula:

$$U_0^{ci} = \sqrt{\frac{2(P_0 - P_{sv})}{\rho\kappa}} \quad (55)$$

where  $P_{sv}$  is the pressure of saturated vapor and  $\kappa$  is the cavitation number.

From the viewpoint of calculated data representation on bubble dynamics, rendering the Rayleigh-Plesset Equation (52) to nondimensional form is convenient.

Nondimensional time is introduced as follows:

$$\tau = \frac{t}{R_0} \sqrt{\frac{P_0}{\rho}} \quad (56)$$

Using the formulas presented earlier, determining the parametric dependences of nondimensional time  $\tau$  and pressure coefficient  $p$  on stretched abscissa  $X$  is easy. As previously mentioned, the vapor bubble is assumed to

move along the streamline coinciding with the foil contour streamline. Considering the differential equation of bubble motion along the streamline as a material point, the following can be written:

$$v^i(S) = \frac{c}{U_0^{ci}} \frac{ds}{dt} = \frac{\delta^2 \bar{r}_{le}}{U_0^{ci} R_0} \sqrt{\frac{P_0}{\rho}} \frac{dS}{d\tau} = \quad (57)$$

$$\frac{r_{le}}{U_0^{ci} R_0} \sqrt{\frac{P_0}{\rho}} \frac{dS}{d\tau} = \frac{r_{le}}{R_0} \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{2} \left(1 - \frac{P_{sv}}{P_0}\right)} \frac{dS}{d\tau}$$

where  $S = s/r_{le}$ ,  $s$  and  $S$  are the arc coordinates of the bubble center, which is measured from the critical point. Notably, the pressure of saturated vapor  $P_{sv}$  is substantially less than  $P_0$ . Therefore, (20) can be rewritten in compact form as follows:

$$v^i(S) = \frac{r_{le}}{R_0} \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{2}} \frac{dS}{d\tau} \quad (58)$$

Notably, the equations of the suction (+) and pressure (-) sides for a parabolic leading edge are

$$Y(X) = \pm \sqrt{2X} \quad (59)$$

The relationship of the arc coordinate  $S$  and abscissa  $X$  for the elliptical foil is defined by the expression

$$\frac{dS}{dX} = \pm \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dY}{dX}\right)^2} = \pm \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2X}}\right)^2} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{X + \frac{1}{2}}{X}} \quad (60)$$

Integrating the point of inception of vapor bubble (with stretched abscissa  $X_{ci}$ ) helps obtain the relationship of the stretched arc coordinate and abscissa in the following form:

$$S = \pm \int_{X_{ci}}^X \sqrt{\frac{X + \frac{1}{2}}{X}} dX = \quad (61)$$

$$\pm \left( \sqrt{X} \sqrt{X + \frac{1}{2}} - \sqrt{X_{ci}} \sqrt{X_{ci} + \frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{\sqrt{X} + \sqrt{X + 1}}{\sqrt{X_{ci}} + \sqrt{X_{ci} + 1}} \right)$$

Therefore, the stretched abscissa  $X_{ci}$  of the foil contour point where the bubble originated can be determined using the Eq. (38) from the equation below:

$$p(X_{ci}) = -\kappa \quad (62)$$

In particular, if the bubble emerged at the point of mini-

mal pressure, then

$$X_{ci} = X_m, p(X_{ci}) = p(X_m) = p_{\min} = -\kappa \quad (63)$$

The dependence of nondimensional time  $\tau$  on  $X$  can be found after the integration of Equation (20) in the form

$$\begin{aligned} \tau &= \frac{r_{le}}{R_0} \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{2}} \int_0^S \frac{dS}{v^i(S)} = \frac{r_{le}}{R_0} \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{2}} \int_{X_{ci}}^X \frac{dX}{v^i(X)} = \\ &\pm \frac{r_{le}}{R_0} \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{2}} \int_{X_{ci}}^X \frac{\left(X + \frac{1}{2}\right) dX}{\sqrt{X} (U_1 \sqrt{X} \pm U_2)} = \\ &\pm \frac{r_{le}}{R_0} \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{2}} \left\{ \frac{1}{U_1^2} \left[ 2U_1 (\sqrt{X_{ci}} - \sqrt{X}) + U_1 (X - X_{ci}) \right] \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{U_1} \left( 1 + 2 \frac{U_2^2}{U_1^2} \right) \ln \frac{U_1 \sqrt{X} \pm U_2}{U_1 \sqrt{X_{ci}} \pm U_2} \right\} \quad (64) \end{aligned}$$

Eqs. (38) and (64) provide parametric dependence  $p[X(\tau)]$ . Finally, the dependence of dimensional pressure on the nondimensional time takes the form

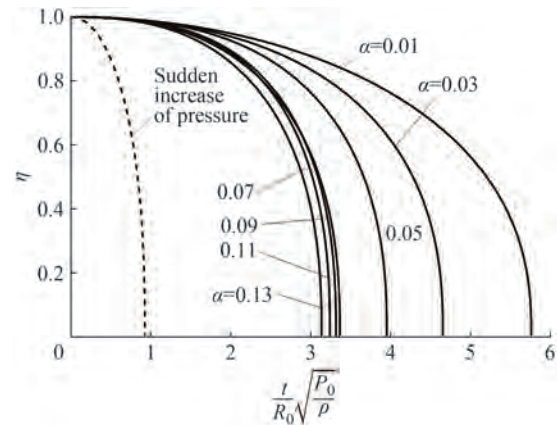
$$\begin{aligned} P(\tau) &= \frac{P(\tau)}{\kappa} (P_0 - P_{sv}) + P_0 \\ &= P_0 \left[ 1 + \frac{P(\tau)}{\kappa} \left( 1 - \frac{P_{sv}}{P_0} \right) \right] \quad (65) \end{aligned}$$

After normalization of the bubble radius  $R$  by its magnitude at the moment of inception  $R_0$ , the Rayleigh-Plesset equation can be written in the following (nondimensional) form:

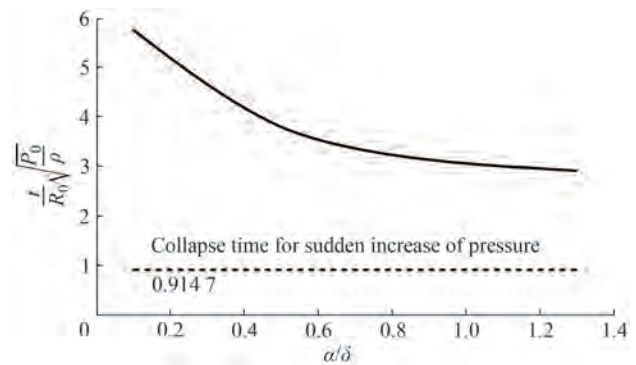
$$\eta \frac{d^2 \eta}{d\tau^2} + \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{d\eta}{d\tau} \right)^2 = -1 - \frac{p(\tau)}{\kappa} \left( 1 - \frac{P_{sv}}{P_0} \right) \quad (66)$$

where  $\eta = \bar{R}(\tau) = R(\tau)/R_0$ . Such a form of the Rayleigh-Plesset equation allows the compact presentation of calculated data. Some calculated results are shown below. In particular, Figure 12 shows that when cavitation occurs on the foil suction side at the minimum pressure point, a dependence of normalized bubble radius  $\eta = \bar{R}$  on nondimensional time  $\tau$  is observed for an elliptical foil with relative thickness  $\delta = 0.1$  for different values of angle of attack (in radians) and the ratio of the initial radius of the bubble to the radius of curvature of the leading edge  $R_0/r_{le} = 0.2$ .

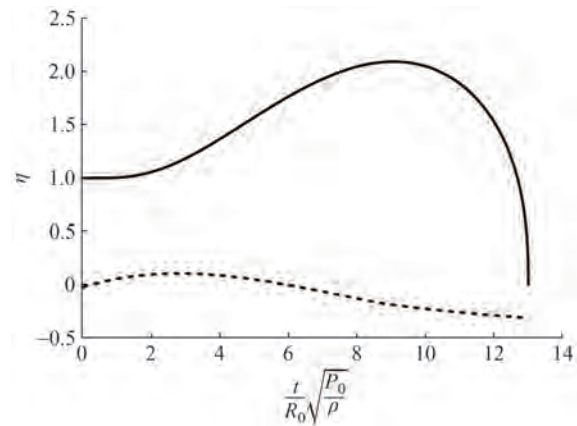
Figures 14 and 15 show the typical calculated data on vapor bubble dynamics for values of cavitation number  $\kappa < -p_{\min}$ . In this case, after its origination, the bubble first gets into a low-pressure zone and inflates. Then, is compressed until its collapse after entering into an increased pressure zone. The right-hand side of Equation (66) is denoted on the same graphs by dashed lines.



**Figure 12** Typical dependences of normalized radii of vapor bubbles on the nondimensional time for different magnitudes of the angle of attack and elliptical foil,  $\delta = 0.1$ ,  $R_0/r_{le} = 0.2$



**Figure 13** Dependences of nondimensional time at which the bubble collapses on the ratio of the angle of attack (in radians) to the relative thickness of the foil for  $(\kappa = -p_{\min}; \delta = 0.1; R_0/r_{le} = 0.2)$



**Figure 14** Bubble dynamics at  $\kappa < -p_{\min}$ ,  $\kappa = 3$ ,  $\delta = 0.1$ ,  $\alpha = 0.1$ ,  $p_{\min} = -4.21$ ,  $R_0/r_{le} = 0.2$

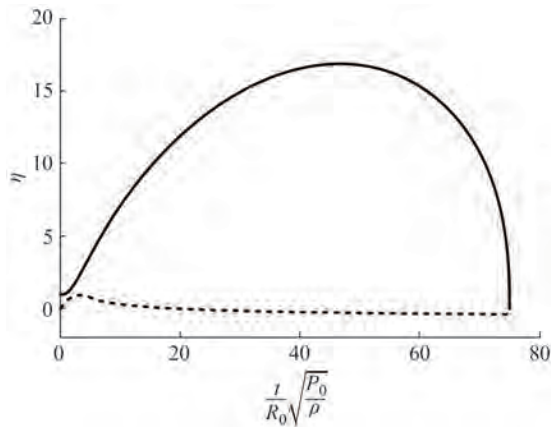
## 5 Calculation of acoustic pressure and spectral characteristics of contraction/collapse of a vapor bubble

The most intense and occasionally catastrophic conse-

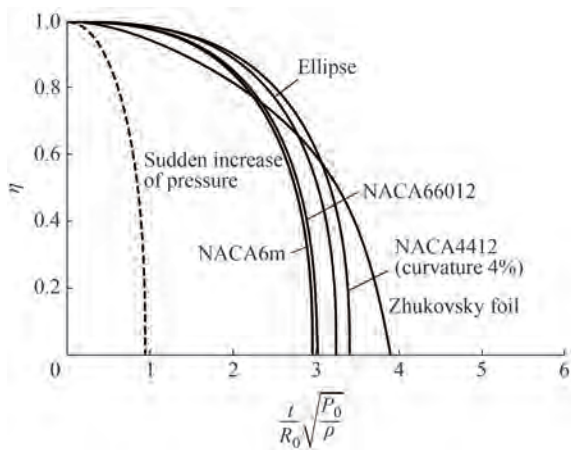


quences of the collapse of the bubbles are the noise produced by the impulse pressures accompanying its compression and the erosion of the body surface material. To the leading approximation, the acoustic pressure is represented by the term accounting for the bubble volume variation. The variable acoustic (dimensional) pressure in the far field is given by the following formula:

$$p_a = \frac{\rho}{4\pi r} \cdot \frac{d^2 V(t)}{dt^2} = \frac{\rho}{3r} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} R^3(t) = \frac{\rho}{r} (2R\dot{R}^2 + 3R^2\ddot{R}) \quad (67)$$



**Figure 15** Bubble dynamics at  $\kappa < -p_{\min}$ ,  $\kappa = 0.96$ ,  $\delta = 0.1$ ,  $\alpha = 0.07$ ,  $p_{\min} = -2.17$ ,  $R_0/r_{le} = 0.2$



**Figure 16** Dependences of normalized radii of vapor bubbles on nondimensional time for different foils,  $\alpha = 0.13$ ,  $\delta = 0.1$ ,  $R_0/r_{le} = 0.2$

where  $r$  is the distance between the center of the bubble and the point of measurement, and the “dots” denote differentiation considering dimensional time  $t$ . Regarding nondimensional values, considering the notations introduced earlier, (55) can be written as

$$p_a = \frac{R_0 P_0}{r} (2\eta\dot{\eta}^2 + \eta^2\ddot{\eta}) \quad (68)$$

where the “dots” denote differentiation considering nondimensional time  $\tau$ . The nondimensional acoustic pressure is introduced as follows:

$$\bar{p}_a = \frac{R_0}{r} (2\eta\dot{\eta}^2 + \eta^2\ddot{\eta}) = \frac{R_0}{r} \tilde{p}_a(\tau) \quad (69)$$

where  $\tilde{p}_a(\tau)$  is a nondimensional function, which characterizes the dependence of the acoustic pressure on nondimensional time. The calculation of spectral characteristics of the acoustic signal accompanying the collapse of the bubble generally requires applying the integral Fourier transform to the pressure as a function of time. In particular, this procedure allows for determining the frequency ranges where the acoustic signal energy is concentrated. The calculated data presented below show that the prevailing intensity of the acoustic signal at the stage of bubble compression is observed near the moment of its collapse. Herein, to the leading approximation, the acoustic pressure impulse can be treated as a triangular one to simplify the spectrum analysis. The signal spectrum in dimensional terms can be written down as follows:

$$|S(i\omega)| = \frac{p_a^{\max} \Delta t_s}{2} \left[ \frac{\sin(\omega \Delta t_s / 4)}{\omega \Delta t_s / 4} \right]^2 \quad (70)$$

where  $S(i\omega)$  is the complex spectrum of the triangular signal,  $\omega$  is the circular frequency of a concrete harmonic in  $s^{-1}$ ,  $\Delta t_s$  is the interval of action of the triangular impulse, and  $p_a^{\max}$  is the peak value of the triangular impulse. Furthermore, for convenience of recalculation of characteristics and in accordance with similarity theory, nondimensional magnitudes are presented as follows:

$$|\bar{S}(i\bar{\omega})| = \frac{r}{R_0^2 \sqrt{P_0 \rho}} |S(i\omega)| = \frac{\tilde{p}_a^{\max} \Delta \tau_s}{2} \left[ \frac{\sin(\bar{\omega} \Delta \tau_s / 4)}{\bar{\omega} \Delta \tau_s / 4} \right]^2 \quad (71)$$

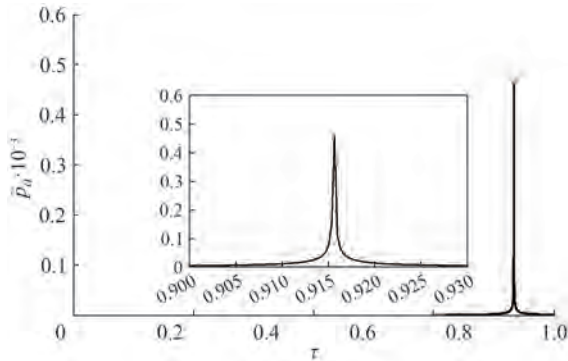
The following denotations in Eq. (71) represent the signal spectrum in a nondimensional form:  $\bar{p}_a^{\max}$  is the nondimensional peak value of the triangular impulse,  $\bar{\omega}$  is the nondimensional circular frequency of a concrete harmonic,  $\Delta \tau_s$  is the nondimensional time interval of action of the triangular impulse. The factor in front of the expression (71) represents a nondimensional area of the triangular impulse equal to

$$\sigma_\Delta = \frac{\tilde{p}_a^{\max} \Delta \tau_s}{2} \quad (72)$$

The characteristics of acoustic impulse accompanying the collapse of gas-containing bubbles in concrete cases of external pressure growth are considered.

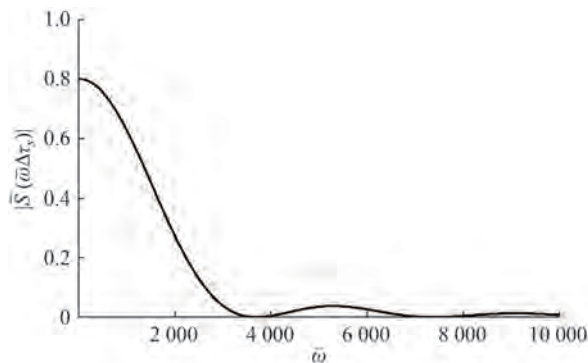
## 5.1 Sudden increase in pressure

Figure 17 reflects the dependence of nondimensional acoustic pressure versus nondimensional time for gas content fraction  $\delta = 0.001$ . In this case, the maximum value of nondimensional acoustic pressure is equal to  $\tilde{p}_a^{\max} = 462.5$ , and the nondimensional impulse area is obtained by integrating the function  $\tilde{p}_a(\tau)$  across the interval  $\tau \in [0.90, 0.93]$  and is equal to  $\sigma_\Delta = 0.8$ . Therefore, the nondimensional time interval of action of the area-equivalent triangular impulse is  $\Delta\tau_s = 2\sigma_\Delta/\tilde{p}_a^{\max} = 0.00346$ .



**Figure 17** Nondimensional acoustic pressure versus nondimensional time (during the period of compression and near the moment of the bubble collapse)

The nondimensional spectrum of this signal is shown below.



**Figure 18** Spectrum of acoustic pressure impulse during the collapse of gas-containing bubbles for the case of instantaneous pressure increase

## 5.2 Compression of a bubble moving along the contour of the rounded leading edge of a thin, slightly curved hydrofoil at a small angle of attack

Time functions of the radius of the contracting vapor bubble at various angles of attack  $\alpha$  (in radians) were obtained for the case of a thin elliptic hydrofoil with relative thickness  $\delta$ . The presence of some quantity of gas, which

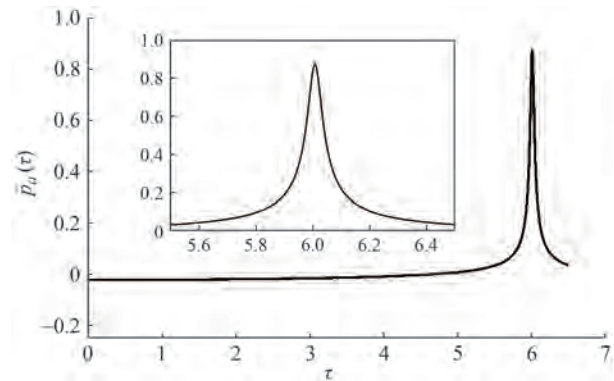
is represented by gas fraction  $\delta_g$  should be considered to evaluate the acoustic characteristics of the bubble collapse in this case. Therefore, Eq. (66) is rewritten as follows:

$$\eta\ddot{\eta} + \frac{3}{2}\dot{\eta}^2 - \delta_g\eta^{-3\gamma} + 1 + \frac{p(\tau)}{\kappa}\left(1 - \frac{P_{sv}}{P_0}\right) = 0 \quad (73)$$

Nondimensional acoustic pressure  $\tilde{p}_a(\tau)$  as a function of nondimensional time for different angles of attack and relative thicknesses of the hydrofoil can be calculated using (73). The gas content parameter was taken  $\delta_g = 0.001$  for representative calculations. As an example for elliptical foil with relative thickness  $\delta = 0.1$ , the time of the collapse, peak of the impulse  $\tilde{p}_a^{\max}$ , and acoustic impulse area  $\sigma_\Delta$  (through integrating  $\tilde{p}_a(\tau)$  into the vicinity of the peak were determined during the calculation. The time of the equivalent triangular impulse  $\Delta\tau_s$  is defined as

$$\Delta\tau_s = \frac{2\sigma_\Delta}{\tilde{p}_a^{\max}} \quad (74)$$

A typical behavior of  $\tilde{p}_a(\tau)$  for  $\alpha/\delta = 0.1$  is presented in Figure 19.

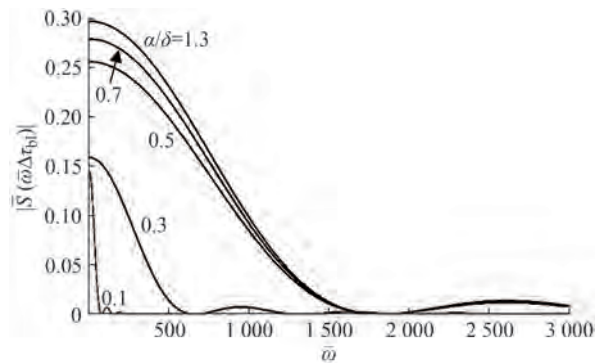


**Figure 19** Dependence of nondimensional acoustic pressure on time during the collapse of gas-containing vapor bubbles moving along the contour of the rounded leading edge of elliptic hydrofoil at  $\alpha/\delta = 0.1$

Table 3 presents the calculated data for the elliptical foil of relative thickness  $\delta = 0.1$ .

**Table 3** Spectral characteristics of impulses occurring at the collapse of gas-containing vapor bubbles on elliptic foil at an angle of attack

$\alpha/\delta$	$\tau_c$	$\tilde{p}_a^{\max}$	$\sigma_\Delta$	$\Delta\tau_s$
0.1	5.754	0.872	0.145	0.165
0.3	4.649	8.479	0.159	0.019
0.5	3.790	36.9	0.256	0.0069
0.7	3.361	52.4	0.279	0.0053
1.3	2.911	85.14	0.297	0.00035
Sudden pressure increase	0.9146	462.5	0.8	0.00346



**Figure 20** Acoustic impulse spectra at the collapse of gas-containing bubbles near the rounded leading edge of the elliptic foil for different angles of attack and relative thicknesses  $\delta = 0.1$

## 6 Conclusions

Some issues of dynamics and acoustics of a gas-containing vapor bubble moving in a variable pressure field are considered in this study. The analysis is by using analytical and numerical methods.

First, this paper reviews some classical results, which are most relevant to the compression process of a bubble suddenly entering an increased pressure zone. The dynamics of a bubble moving along the contour of the rounded leading edge of a thin and slightly curved hydrofoil at an angle of attack is then investigated. In the latter case, the local flow field is analytically described through the application of the MAE method. Therefore, the local distribution of pressure coefficient, its minimum magnitude, abscissas of critical points, and the point of minimal pressure have been obtained in closed form. The bubble originating at some point of the flow is viewed as a material point moving along a selected streamline in a corresponding variable pressure field, and its dynamics are examined using the Rayleigh-Plesset equation up to the moment of collapse. The MAE approach provides a direct way to investigate the influence of the foil angle of attack, thickness, and camber on bubble dynamics.

The results also include time dependencies of acoustic pressure induced by the contracting bubble up to its collapse, as well as some spectral characteristics. Most of the data are given in nondimensional format considering the similarity theory, easily enabling derivation of dimensional results for practical cases.

The present analysis has been performed for a 2D steady-state flow but can also be extended to 3D flows around wings and screw propellers. In the latter case, the outer expansion of the solution corresponds to a linear lifting surface theory. The local inner flow remains quasi-2D in the planes normal to the platform contour of the leading edge of the wing (or screw propeller blade). Typical contraction periods of the bubble, ending up with its collapse, are remarkably smaller compared with typical periods of almost

any variation in the flow. Thus, the approach advocated in this paper can be applied to unsteady motions of the foil.

As noted by reviewers, an important role in the final stage of the bubble collapse can be played by thermal effects as the pressures and temperatures become remarkably high. Heat transfer can have notable influences on the bubble boundary motion. Nonequilibrium condensation effects can result in additional cushioning of the collapse. The Rayleigh-Plesset equation is coupled with the nonlinear energy equation to model these challenging phenomena.

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