



Formulas
Examples
with Units

List of 20 Important Oblique Shock and Expansion Waves Formulas

1) Expansion Waves Formulas ↻

1.1) Flow Deflection Angle due to Expansion Wave Formula ↻

Evaluate Formula ↻

Formula

$$\theta_e = \left(\sqrt{\frac{\gamma_e + 1}{\gamma_e - 1}} \cdot \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{\frac{(\gamma_e - 1) \cdot (M_{e2}^2 - 1)}{\gamma_e + 1}} \right) - \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{M_{e2}^2 - 1} \right) \right) - \left(\sqrt{\frac{\gamma_e + 1}{\gamma_e - 1}} \cdot \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{\frac{(\gamma_e - 1) \cdot (M_{e1}^2 - 1)}{\gamma_e + 1}} \right) - \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{M_{e1}^2 - 1} \right) \right)$$

Example with Units

$$7.8669^\circ = \left(\sqrt{\frac{1.41 + 1}{1.41 - 1}} \cdot \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{\frac{(1.41 - 1) \cdot (6^2 - 1)}{1.41 + 1}} \right) - \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{6^2 - 1} \right) \right) - \left(\sqrt{\frac{1.41 + 1}{1.41 - 1}} \cdot \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{\frac{(1.41 - 1) \cdot (5^2 - 1)}{1.41 + 1}} \right) - \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{5^2 - 1} \right) \right)$$

1.2) Flow Deflection Angle using Prandtl Meyer Function Formula ↻

Evaluate Formula ↻

Formula

$$\theta_e = v_{M2} - v_{M1}$$

Example with Units

$$6^\circ = 83^\circ - 77^\circ$$

1.3) Forward Mach Angle of Expansion Fan Formula ↻

Evaluate Formula ↻

Formula

$$\mu_1 = \arcsin \left(\frac{1}{M_{e1}} \right)$$

Example with Units

$$11.537^\circ = \arcsin \left(\frac{1}{5} \right)$$

1.4) Prandtl Meyer Function Formula ↻

Evaluate Formula ↻

Formula

$$v_M = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma_e + 1}{\gamma_e - 1}} \cdot \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{\frac{(\gamma_e - 1) \cdot (M^2 - 1)}{\gamma_e + 1}} \right) - \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{M^2 - 1} \right)$$

Example with Units

$$94.2021^\circ = \sqrt{\frac{1.41 + 1}{1.41 - 1}} \cdot \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{\frac{(1.41 - 1) \cdot (8^2 - 1)}{1.41 + 1}} \right) - \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{8^2 - 1} \right)$$



1.5) Prandtl Meyer Function at Upstream Mach Number Formula

Evaluate Formula 

$$v_{M1} = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma_e + 1}{\gamma_e - 1}} \cdot \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{\frac{(\gamma_e - 1) \cdot (M_{e1}^2 - 1)}{\gamma_e + 1}} \right) - \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{M_{e1}^2 - 1} \right)$$

Example with Units

$$75.9018^\circ = \sqrt{\frac{1.41 + 1}{1.41 - 1}} \cdot \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{\frac{(1.41 - 1) \cdot (5^2 - 1)}{1.41 + 1}} \right) - \operatorname{atan} \left(\sqrt{5^2 - 1} \right)$$

1.6) Pressure behind Expansion Fan Formula

Formula

$$P_2 = P_1 \cdot \left(\frac{1 + 0.5 \cdot (\gamma_e - 1) \cdot M_{e1}^2}{1 + 0.5 \cdot (\gamma_e - 1) \cdot M_{e2}^2} \right)^{\frac{\gamma_e}{\gamma_e - 1}}$$

Example with Units

$$13.6106 \text{ Pa} = 40 \text{ Pa} \cdot \left(\frac{1 + 0.5 \cdot (1.41 - 1) \cdot 5^2}{1 + 0.5 \cdot (1.41 - 1) \cdot 6^2} \right)^{\frac{1.41}{1.41 - 1}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.7) Pressure Ratio across Expansion Fan Formula

Formula

$$P_{e,r} = \left(\frac{1 + 0.5 \cdot (\gamma_e - 1) \cdot M_{e1}^2}{1 + 0.5 \cdot (\gamma_e - 1) \cdot M_{e2}^2} \right)^{\frac{\gamma_e}{\gamma_e - 1}}$$

Example

$$0.3403 = \left(\frac{1 + 0.5 \cdot (1.41 - 1) \cdot 5^2}{1 + 0.5 \cdot (1.41 - 1) \cdot 6^2} \right)^{\frac{1.41}{1.41 - 1}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.8) Rearward Mach Angle of Expansion Fan Formula

Formula

$$\mu_2 = \arcsin \left(\frac{1}{M_{e2}} \right)$$

Example with Units

$$9.5941^\circ = \arcsin \left(\frac{1}{6} \right)$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.9) Temperature behind Expansion Fan Formula

Formula

$$T_2 = T_1 \cdot \left(\frac{1 + 0.5 \cdot (\gamma_e - 1) \cdot M_{e1}^2}{1 + 0.5 \cdot (\gamma_e - 1) \cdot M_{e2}^2} \right)$$

Example with Units

$$288.065 \text{ K} = 394.12 \text{ K} \cdot \left(\frac{1 + 0.5 \cdot (1.41 - 1) \cdot 5^2}{1 + 0.5 \cdot (1.41 - 1) \cdot 6^2} \right)$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.10) Temperature Ratio across Expansion Fan Formula

Formula

$$T_{e,r} = \frac{1 + 0.5 \cdot (\gamma_e - 1) \cdot M_{e1}^2}{1 + 0.5 \cdot (\gamma_e - 1) \cdot M_{e2}^2}$$

Example

$$0.7309 = \frac{1 + 0.5 \cdot (1.41 - 1) \cdot 5^2}{1 + 0.5 \cdot (1.41 - 1) \cdot 6^2}$$

Evaluate Formula 

2) Oblique Shock Formulas

2.1) Component of Downstream Mach Normal to Oblique Shock Formula

Formula

$$M_{n2} = M_2 \cdot \sin(\beta - \theta)$$

Example with Units

$$0.6661 = 1.21 \cdot \sin(53.4^\circ - 20^\circ)$$

Evaluate Formula 



2.2) Component of Downstream Mach Number Normal to Oblique Shock for given Normal Upstream Mach Number Formula



Formula

$$M_{n2} = \sqrt{\frac{1 + 0.5 \cdot (\gamma_0 - 1) \cdot M_{n1}^2}{\gamma_0 \cdot M_{n1}^2 - 0.5 \cdot (\gamma_0 - 1)}}$$

Example

$$0.6666 = \sqrt{\frac{1 + 0.5 \cdot (1.4 - 1) \cdot 1.606^2}{1.4 \cdot 1.606^2 - 0.5 \cdot (1.4 - 1)}}$$

Evaluate Formula

2.3) Component of Upstream Mach Number Normal to Oblique Shock Formula



Formula

$$M_{n1} = M_1 \cdot \sin(\beta)$$

Example with Units

$$1.6056 = 2 \cdot \sin(53.4^\circ)$$

Evaluate Formula

2.4) Density behind Oblique Shock for given Upstream Density and Normal Upstream Mach Number Formula



Formula

$$\rho_2 = \rho_1 \cdot \left((\gamma_0 + 1) \cdot \frac{M_{n1}^2}{2 + (\gamma_0 - 1) \cdot M_{n1}^2} \right)$$

Example with Units

$$2.5012 \text{ kg/m}^3 = 1.225 \text{ kg/m}^3 \cdot \left((1.4 + 1) \cdot \frac{1.606^2}{2 + (1.4 - 1) \cdot 1.606^2} \right)$$

Evaluate Formula

2.5) Density Ratio across Oblique Shock Formula



Formula

$$\rho_r = (\gamma_0 + 1) \cdot \frac{M_{n1}^2}{2 + (\gamma_0 - 1) \cdot M_{n1}^2}$$

Example

$$2.0418 = (1.4 + 1) \cdot \frac{1.606^2}{2 + (1.4 - 1) \cdot 1.606^2}$$

Evaluate Formula

2.6) Flow Deflection Angle due to Oblique Shock Formula



Formula

$$\theta = \operatorname{atan}\left(\frac{2 \cdot \cot(\beta) \cdot \left((M_1 \cdot \sin(\beta))^2 - 1 \right)}{M_1^2 \cdot (\gamma_0 + \cos(2 \cdot \beta)) + 2}\right)$$

Example with Units

$$19.9888^\circ = \operatorname{atan}\left(\frac{2 \cdot \cot(53.4^\circ) \cdot \left((2 \cdot \sin(53.4^\circ))^2 - 1 \right)}{2^2 \cdot (1.4 + \cos(2 \cdot 53.4^\circ)) + 2}\right)$$

Evaluate Formula

2.7) Pressure behind Oblique Shock for given Upstream Pressure and Normal Upstream Mach Number Formula



Formula

$$P_b = P_a \cdot \left(1 + \left(\frac{2 \cdot \gamma_0}{\gamma_0 + 1} \right) \cdot (M_{n1}^2 - 1) \right)$$

Example with Units

$$166.2829 \text{ Pa} = 58.5 \text{ Pa} \cdot \left(1 + \left(\frac{2 \cdot 1.4}{1.4 + 1} \right) \cdot (1.606^2 - 1) \right)$$

Evaluate Formula

2.8) Pressure Ratio across Oblique Shock Formula



Formula

$$P_r = 1 + \left(\frac{2 \cdot \gamma_0}{\gamma_0 + 1} \right) \cdot (M_{n1}^2 - 1)$$

Example

$$2.8424 = 1 + \left(\frac{2 \cdot 1.4}{1.4 + 1} \right) \cdot (1.606^2 - 1)$$

Evaluate Formula

2.9) Temperature behind Oblique Shock for given Upstream Temperature and Normal Upstream Mach Number Formula



Formula

$$T_{s2} = T_{s1} \cdot \left(\frac{1 + \left(\frac{2 \cdot \gamma_0}{\gamma_0 + 1} \right) \cdot (M_{n1}^2 - 1)}{\left(\gamma_0 + 1 \right) \cdot \frac{M_{n1}^2}{2 + (\gamma_0 - 1) \cdot M_{n1}^2}} \right)$$

Example with Units

$$400.9287 \text{ K} = 288 \text{ K} \cdot \left(\frac{1 + \left(\frac{2 \cdot 1.4}{1.4 + 1} \right) \cdot (1.606^2 - 1)}{(1.4 + 1) \cdot \frac{1.606^2}{2 + (1.4 - 1) \cdot 1.606^2}} \right)$$

Evaluate Formula



Formula

$$T_r = \frac{1 + \left(\frac{\gamma_0}{\gamma_0 + 1} \right) \cdot \left(M_{n1}^2 - 1 \right)}{\left(\gamma_0 + 1 \right) \cdot \frac{M_{n1}^2}{2 + \left(\gamma_0 - 1 \right) \cdot M_{n1}^2}}$$

Example

$$1.3921 = \frac{1 + \left(\frac{2 \cdot 1.4}{1.4 + 1} \right) \cdot \left(1.606^2 - 1 \right)}{\left(1.4 + 1 \right) \cdot \frac{1.606^2}{2 + \left(1.4 - 1 \right) \cdot 1.606^2}}$$



Variables used in list of Oblique Shock and Expansion Waves Formulas above

- **M** Mach Number
- **M₁** Mach Number Ahead of Oblique Shock
- **M₂** Mach Number Behind Oblique Shock
- **M_{e1}** Mach Number Ahead of Expansion Fan
- **M_{e2}** Mach Number Behind Expansion Fan
- **M_{n1}** Upstream Mach Normal to Oblique Shock
- **M_{n2}** Downstream Mach Normal to Oblique Shock
- **P₁** Pressure Ahead of Expansion Fan (Pascal)
- **P₂** Pressure Behind Expansion Fan (Pascal)
- **P_a** Static Pressure Ahead of Oblique Shock (Pascal)
- **P_b** Static Pressure Behind Oblique Shock (Pascal)
- **P_{e,r}** Pressure Ratio Across Expansion Fan
- **P_r** Pressure Ratio Across Oblique Shock
- **T₁** Temperature Ahead of Expansion Fan (Kelvin)
- **T₂** Temperature Behind Expansion Fan (Kelvin)
- **T_{e,r}** Temperature Ratio Across Expansion Fan
- **T_r** Temperature Ratio Across Oblique Shock
- **T_{s1}** Temperature Ahead of Oblique Shock (Kelvin)
- **T_{s2}** Temperature Behind Oblique Shock (Kelvin)
- **v_{M1}** Prandtl Meyer Function at Upstream Mach no. (Degree)
- **v_{M2}** Prandtl Meyer Function at Downstream Mach no. (Degree)
- **β** Oblique Shock Angle (Degree)
- **γ_e** Specific Heat Ratio Expansion Wave
- **γ_o** Specific Heat Ratio Oblique Shock
- **θ** Flow Deflection Angle Oblique Shock (Degree)
- **θ_e** Flow Deflection Angle (Degree)
- **μ₁** Forward Mach Angle (Degree)
- **μ₂** Rearward Mach Angle (Degree)
- **v_M** Prandtl Meyer Function (Degree)
- **ρ₁** Density Ahead of Oblique Shock (Kilogram per Cubic Meter)
- **ρ₂** Density Behind Oblique Shock (Kilogram per Cubic Meter)
- **ρ_r** Density Ratio Across Oblique Shock

Constants, Functions, Measurements used in list of Oblique Shock and Expansion Waves Formulas above

- **Functions:** **arsin**, arsin(Number)
Arcsine function, is a trigonometric function that takes a ratio of two sides of a right triangle and outputs the angle opposite the side with the given ratio.
- **Functions:** **atan**, atan(Number)
Inverse tan is used to calculate the angle by applying the tangent ratio of the angle, which is the opposite side divided by the adjacent side of the right triangle.
- **Functions:** **cos**, cos(Angle)
Cosine of an angle is the ratio of the side adjacent to the angle to the hypotenuse of the triangle.
- **Functions:** **cot**, cot(Angle)
Cotangent is a trigonometric function that is defined as the ratio of the adjacent side to the opposite side in a right triangle.
- **Functions:** **sin**, sin(Angle)
Sine is a trigonometric function that describes the ratio of the length of the opposite side of a right triangle to the length of the hypotenuse.
- **Functions:** **sqr**, sqrt(Number)
A square root function is a function that takes a non-negative number as an input and returns the square root of the given input number.
- **Functions:** **tan**, tan(Angle)
The tangent of an angle is a trigonometric ratio of the length of the side opposite an angle to the length of the side adjacent to an angle in a right triangle.
- **Measurement:** **Temperature** in Kelvin (K)
Temperature Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Pressure** in Pascal (Pa)
Pressure Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Angle** in Degree (°)
Angle Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement:** **Density** in Kilogram per Cubic Meter (kg/m³)
Density Unit Conversion 



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