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# NON-ISOTHERMAL AEROELASTIC BEHAVIOR OF A TYPICAL SECTION WITH SHAPE MEMORY ALLOY SPRINGS

Vagner Candido de Sousa  
Tarcísio Marinelli Pereira Silva  
Carlos De Marqui Junior

Department of Aeronautical Engineering, Engineering School of Sao Carlos, University of Sao Paulo, Sao Carlos, SP, 13566-590, Brazil

vagner@sc.usp.br, tarcisio.silva@usp.br, demarqui@sc.usp.br

**Abstract.** *This paper addresses the modeling and analysis of a two-degree-of-freedom typical aeroelastic section with shape memory alloy (SMA) springs introduced through the pitch degree-of-freedom with a focus on exploiting the energy dissipating and damping capabilities of SMAs exhibiting pseudoelasticity. An augmented-state approximation to the Theodorsen aerodynamics is used for the determination of the aerodynamic loads. The phase transformation kinetics related to pseudoelasticity is based on Brinson's model. A heat transfer model is included to represent thermal effects such as Joule heating, natural convection, and latent heat associated with phase transformation. The effect of latent heat on the SMA temperature, on the critical stresses for phase transformation, and therefore on the overall aeroelastic behavior of the typical section is addressed. The electrical resistance of the SMA springs is expressed as function of the martensitic fraction and hence the corresponding variations in electrical activation are accounted for. The effects of the hysteretic behavior of the SMA springs on the aeroelastic behavior of the typical section are investigated at the flutter boundary and at post-flutter regime.*

**Keywords:** *shape memory alloy, pseudoelastic hysteresis, aeroelasticity, flutter, heat transfer*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Aeroelastic phenomena such as flutter and limit-cycle oscillations (LCOs) are related to premature damage and failure of aeronautical structures. The literature on aeroelasticity includes studies on the use of smart materials in vibration control problems. Several research groups have investigated the use of piezoelectric materials in active and passive aeroelastic control cases in the last years (Giurgiutiu, 2000). Shape memory alloys (SMAs) have also been pointed out as promising materials for passive damping augmentation in mechanical and aerospace structures (Gandhi and Chapuis, 2002). The hysteretic response of shape memory alloys exhibiting pseudoelasticity provides energy dissipating and damping capabilities for these materials, and therefore, the effectiveness of the pseudoelastic behavior of shape memory alloys has been investigated for passive structural vibration control (Ibrahim, 2008). The effect of pseudoelasticity of SMA springs on the aeroelastic behavior of a typical section at the flutter speed and post flutter condition was also recently reported (Sousa and De Marqui Jr, 2014).

Sousa and De Marqui Jr (2014) present the modeling of a 2-DOF typical aeroelastic section with SMA springs introduced to the pitch degree-of-freedom (DOF). Brinson's model is employed to describe the behavior of the SMA (Brinson, 1993), and the helical spring model follows reference (Liang and Rogers, 1997). This paper extends the work of Sousa and De Marqui Jr (2014) by including a heat transfer model (Faulkner *et al.*, 2000; Hadi *et al.*, 2010) to their original model of SMA springs. The unsteady aerodynamic loads (lift force and pitch moment) are obtained by Jones' exponential approximation to Wagner's indicial function cast in state-space representation (Jones, 1938; Edwards, 1977). The effects of pseudoelastic hysteresis of SMA springs on the aeroelastic behavior of the 2-DOF typical section are discussed from the dissipative standpoint for the flutter condition and above.

## 2. MODEL

### 2.1 Shape Memory Alloy Model

The critical stresses for phase transformation in SMAs are described in this paper by

$$\sigma_s^M = \sigma_s^{\min} + C_M (T - M_s) \quad (1)$$

$$\sigma_f^M = \sigma_f^{\min} + C_M (T - M_s) \quad (2)$$

$$\sigma_s^A = C_A (T - A_s) \quad (3)$$

$$\sigma_f^A = C_A (T - A_f) \quad (4)$$

where  $\sigma_s^M$  is the critical value of stress for the onset of stress-induced phase transformation (or forward transformation),  $\sigma_f^M$  is the critical stress for the completion of stress-induced transformation,  $\sigma_s^A$  is the stress value for the onset of the recovery of the austenitic phase (or reverse transformation) and  $\sigma_f^A$  is the stress value at which the austenitic phase is completely recovered. Additionally,  $\sigma_s^{\min}$  and  $\sigma_f^{\min}$  are minimum stresses at which stress-induced transformation begins and completes, respectively;  $C_M$  and  $C_A$  represent the influence of temperature on critical stresses for forward and reverse transformations, respectively;  $M_s$  is the martensite start temperature,  $A_s$  is the austenite start temperature and  $A_f$  is the austenite finish temperature (in the absence of stress);  $T$  is the SMA temperature (Brinson, 1993).

The martensitic fraction during forward transformation is given by

$$\xi^{A \rightarrow M} = \frac{1 - \xi_0}{2} \cos \left[ \frac{\pi}{\sigma_s^{\min} - \sigma_f^{\min}} (\sigma - \sigma_f^M) \right] + \frac{1 + \xi_0}{2} \quad (5)$$

where  $\xi_0$  is the initial martensitic fraction and when the applied stress increases from  $\sigma_s^M$  up to  $\sigma_f^M$ . On the other hand, the martensitic fraction during reverse transformation is given by

$$\xi^{M \rightarrow A} = \frac{\xi_0}{2} \left\{ \cos \left[ \frac{\pi}{A_f - A_s} (T - A_s^\sigma) \right] + 1 \right\} \quad (6)$$

when the applied stress decreases from  $\sigma_s^A$  to  $\sigma_f^A$  and where

$$A_s^\sigma = A_s + \sigma / C_A$$

is the temperature at which the austenitic phase begins to stabilize with applied stress (Brinson, 1993).

By using the principle of conservation of energy, the heat transfer model is presented as (Faulkner *et al.*, 2000; Hadi *et al.*, 2010)

$$m_s C_p \dot{T} = \frac{V^2}{R(\xi)} + m_s L_h \dot{\xi} - h_c A_c (T - T_\infty) \quad (7)$$

where  $m_s$  is the mass of the SMA spring,  $C_p$  is specific heat,  $V$  is voltage,  $R$  is electrical resistance of the SMA spring,  $h_c$  is convection coefficient,  $A_c$  is the circumferential area,  $T_\infty$  is ambient temperature, overdot denotes time derivative and  $L_h$  is the latent heat. The electrical resistance is expressed as function of the martensitic fraction by

$$R(\xi) = R_A + \xi (R_M - R_A) \quad (8)$$

where  $R_A$  and  $R_M$  are the electrical resistances of the fully austenitic and fully martensitic phases, respectively.

## 2.2 Aeroelastic Model with SMA Springs

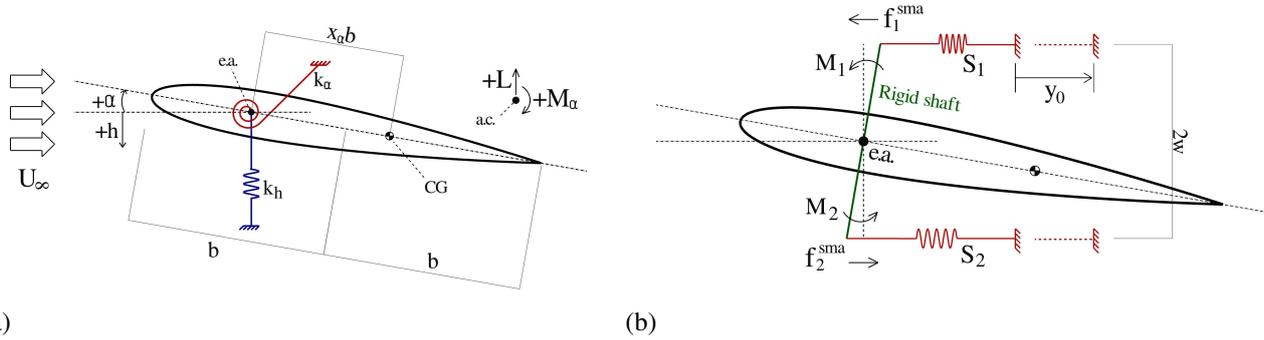
The aeroelastic model is a 2-DOF (plunge and pitch displacements) typical section (Fig. 1(a)). The SMA springs are included in the pitch DOF (replacing to torsion spring of Fig. 1(a)) at the ends of a rigid shaft passing through the elastic axis of the typical section (Fig. 1(b)). The plunge and pitch displacement variables are  $h$  and  $\alpha$ , respectively;  $b$  is the semichord length,  $x_\alpha$  is the dimensionless distance from the elastic axis to the center of gravity,  $k_h$  is the plunge stiffness per unit length (in the span direction),  $k_\alpha$  is the torsional stiffness per unit length (obtained from the SMA springs  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  in Fig. 1(b)),  $M_\alpha$  is the aerodynamic pitch moment per unit length,  $L$  is the lift force per unit length,  $U_\infty$  is the airflow speed,  $m$  is the mass per unit length and  $m_f$  is a non-ideal extra mass per unit length in the plunge DOF.

The dimensionless equations of motion for the typical section with SMA springs in the pitch DOF are

$$r_\alpha^2 \alpha'' + x_\alpha \bar{h}'' + \zeta_\alpha \alpha' + \vartheta(\alpha, \xi_1, \xi_2) = \bar{M}_\alpha \quad (9)$$

$$x_\alpha \alpha'' + \mu \bar{h}'' + \zeta_h \bar{h}' + \bar{h} = -\bar{L} \quad (10)$$

where  $\bar{h} = hb^{-1}$  is the dimensionless plunge displacement,  $\mu = (m + m_f)m^{-1}$  is the plunge-to-pitch mass ratio,  $r_\alpha = (I_\alpha m^{-1} b^{-2})^{1/2}$  is the dimensionless radius of gyration,  $I_\alpha$  is the moment of inertia per unit length,  $\bar{t} = \omega_h t$  is a dimensionless time, where  $t$  is the dimensional time,  $\omega_h = (k_h m^{-1})^{1/2}$  and  $\dot{x} = \omega_h x'$  and  $\ddot{x} = \omega_h^2 x''$  are the time



(a) (b)  
Figure 1. Typical aeroelastic section (a) representation and (b) detail of the torsional stiffness design with SMA springs.

derivatives, the overdot and the prime denote differentiation with respect to  $t$  and  $\bar{t}$ , respectively,  $\zeta_h = d_h(m\omega_h)^{-1}$  is the damping ratio of the plunge DOF and  $\zeta_\alpha = d_\alpha(mb^2\omega_h)^{-1}$  is the damping ratio of the pitch DOF,  $d_h$  and  $d_\alpha$  are the damping coefficients per unit length,  $\bar{M}_\alpha = M_\alpha(mb^2\omega_h^2)^{-1}$  is the dimensionless pitch moment and  $\bar{L} = L(mb\omega_h^2)^{-1}$  is the dimensionless lift force (Sousa and De Marqui Jr, 2014).

The dimensionless elastic moment due to the SMA springs, from Fig. 1(b), is

$$\vartheta(\alpha, \xi_1, \xi_2) = \frac{w}{mlb^2\omega_h^2} [-f_1^{\text{sma}}(\alpha, \xi_1) + f_2^{\text{sma}}(\alpha, \xi_2)] \quad (11)$$

where  $\xi_i$  is the martensitic fraction of each SMA spring (subscript  $i$  assumes 1 for  $S_1$  and 2 for  $S_2$ ) and  $w$  is the distance of each SMA spring from the elastic axis (Sousa and De Marqui Jr, 2014). The forces  $f_1^{\text{sma}}$  and  $f_2^{\text{sma}}$  of each SMA spring are

$$f_i^{\text{sma}} = k(\xi_i)y_i(\alpha) + Y(\xi_i), \quad i = 1 \text{ or } 2 \quad (12)$$

where  $y_i(\alpha)$  denotes the axial deflection of each SMA spring, which are approximated by

$$y_1(\alpha) = y_0 - w\alpha; \quad y_2(\alpha) = y_0 + w\alpha \quad (13)$$

and  $y_0$  is the pre-deflection to the springs (preload) in order to bias the stresses towards the phase transformation region. The stiffness  $k(\xi_i)$  of an SMA spring can be represented by

$$k(\xi_i) = \frac{r^4}{4R^3N}G(\xi_i) \quad (14)$$

where  $r$  is the coil spring wire radius,  $R$  is the mean coil radius,  $N$  is the number of active coils and  $G(\xi)$  is the martensite-dependent shear modulus (Liang and Rogers, 1997). The shear modulus is given by

$$G(\xi_i) = G_A + \xi_i(G_M - G_A) \quad (15)$$

where  $G_M$  is the fully martensitic shear modulus and  $G_A$  is the fully austenitic shear modulus.

The inelastic term related to the hysteretic behavior in Eq. (12) is given by (Sousa and De Marqui Jr, 2014)

$$Y(\xi_i) = -\frac{\pi r^3}{2R}G(\xi_i)\xi_i\varepsilon_{\text{res}} \quad (16)$$

where  $\varepsilon_{\text{res}}$  is the maximum recoverable strain of the SMA.

The mechanical constitutive equation of Liang and Rogers (1997) for SMAs under pure torsion is used to represent the hysteretic shear stress-strain behavior. The initial state of the aeroelastic problem of this paper is known and thus the axial deflection of each SMA spring is computed at each time step as the numerical solution evolves. The corresponding shear strain of each SMA spring is estimated by

$$\gamma(y_i, \alpha) = \frac{r}{2\pi R^2N}y_i(\alpha) \quad (17)$$

which is used in  $\tau = G\gamma$  in order to verify if the shear stress is within a transformation range. If so, the actual (nonlinear) shear stress is determined iteratively. Values for the shear stress in the transformation range (denoted by  $\tau_{\text{test}}$ ) are used in

Eq. (5) or (6) by considering the von Mises criterion for pure shear,  $\sigma = \sqrt{3}\tau_{\text{test}}$  (Liang and Rogers, 1997). This yields in values for  $\xi_i$  between 0 and 1, denoted by  $\xi_{\text{test}}$ . Each pair  $(\xi_{\text{test}}, \tau_{\text{test}})$  is verified in the following equation

$$\tau_{\text{test}} - G(\xi_i) [\gamma(y_i, \alpha) - \xi_{\text{test}} \varepsilon_{\text{res}} + \theta(T - T_0)] = 0 \quad (18)$$

which also uses the shear strain obtained by Eq. (17) and where  $\theta$  is related to the SMA thermal coefficient of expansion and  $T_0$  is the SMA initial temperature (at the onset of the current phase transformation).

The state-space representation of the model is omitted here for brevity and can be found in Sousa and De Marqui Jr (2014).

### 3. RESULTS

SMA phase transformation parameters as well as thermal and electrical parameters are given in Tab. 1 (Hadi *et al.*, 2010; Aguiar *et al.*, 2013). The wire radius of the SMA springs is  $r = 0.475\text{mm}$ , the coil mean radius is  $R = 4\text{mm}$  and the number of active coils is  $N = 16.5$ . The ambient temperature is assumed as  $23^\circ\text{C}$ . For the given parameters and input voltage of  $1.93\text{ V}$ , the steady-state temperature of the SMA springs is about  $T = 58^\circ\text{C}$  (equal to  $A_f$ ). From Eq. (1) to (4), the corresponding critical stresses are  $\tau_s^M = 95\text{MPa}$ ,  $\tau_f^M = 135\text{MPa}$ ,  $\tau_s^A = 52\text{MPa}$  and  $\tau_f^A = 0\text{MPa}$ . From Eq. (14), the fully austenitic stiffness of each SMA spring is  $175\text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^{-1}$ . Moreover, the SMA springs are  $36.7\text{ mm}$  long and can be compressed up to  $20\text{ mm}$ . The distance of each SMA spring from the elastic axis is  $w = 85\text{mm}$ . A fourth-order Runge-Kutta method with step size on the order of  $10^{-6}\text{ s}$  is used. The effect of thermal expansion on the overall aeroelastic response is negligible and is not discussed.

Table 1. SMA parameters (Hadi *et al.*, 2010; Aguiar *et al.*, 2013).

Parameter	Value	Unit
$M_s$	42	$^\circ\text{C}$
$A_s$	43	$^\circ\text{C}$
$A_f$	58	$^\circ\text{C}$
$C_M$	4	$\text{MPa} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$
$C_A$	6	$\text{MPa} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$
$\sigma_s^{\min}$	100	MPa
$\sigma_f^{\min}$	170	MPa
$\varepsilon_{\text{res}}$	0.067	--
$G_M$	11.5	GPa
$G_A$	14.5	GPa
$\theta$	0.55	$\text{MPa} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$
$m_s$	$1.18 \times 10^{-3}$	kg
$C_p$	350	$\text{J} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$
$L_h$	6025	$\text{J} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$
$R_A$	0.7246	$\Omega$
$R_M$	0.8197	$\Omega$
$h_c$	150	$\text{J} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
$A_c$	$9.77 \times 10^{-4}$	$\text{m}^2$

The aeroelastic parameters are given in Tab. 2 (Sousa *et al.*, 2011). An airfoil of  $0.125\text{ m}$  semichord length and  $0.5\text{ m}$  span length is assumed. An initial plunge displacement of  $10\text{ mm}$  is considered (or dimensionless plunge displacement of  $\bar{h} = 0.08$ ) in all cases.

Table 2. Dimensionless aeroelastic parameters (Sousa *et al.*, 2011).

Parameter	Value
$a$	-0.5
$c$	0.5
$\mu$	2.597
$x_\alpha$	0.260
$r_\alpha$	0.504
$\zeta_\alpha$	0.088
$\zeta_h$	0.0035

Sousa and De Marqui Jr (2014) reported the effects of preloaded SMA springs on the aeroelastic response of a typical section oscillating at the flutter boundary as in Fig. 2. The amplitudes of oscillation decrease for preload values increasing from 2 N to 4.5 N. The effect of preload on the plunge and pitch amplitude is negligible for preload values greater than 3.5 N. Therefore, the case considering an intermediate preload value (3 N) is discussed in this paper.

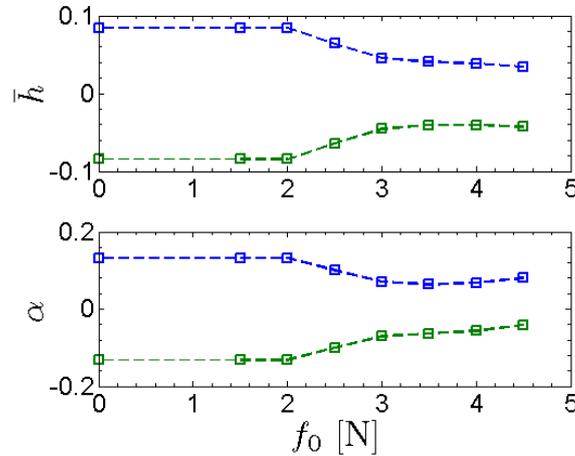


Figure 2. Aeroelastic peak displacements achieved at the flutter boundary for increasing preload values. Plunge (at the top half) and pitch (at the bottom half).

The aeroelastic behavior for two thermal boundary conditions (isothermal and non-isothermal assumptions) is described next. The plunge and pitch displacements are shown in Figs. 3(a) and (b) (only the positive peak values are shown for clarity). The steady-state pitch and plunge displacements for the airflow speed of 11.64 m/s and no preload are  $\bar{h} \cong 0.08$  and  $\alpha \cong 0.13$ , respectively. This is the linear aeroelastic behavior since no phase transformation is achieved. The steady-state pitch and plunge for the airflow speed of 11.64 m/s and 3 N of preload are  $\bar{h} \cong 0.04$  and  $\alpha \cong 0.07$ . The predicted attenuation is due to the pseudoelastic hysteresis of the SMAs. The steady-state pitch and plunge for the airflow speed of 14 m/s and 3 N of preload are  $\bar{h} \cong 0.14$  and  $\alpha \cong 0.17$ . The persistent oscillations under post-flutter regime (limit cycle oscillations) are also due to the hysteresis of the SMAs. The non-isothermal assumption yields slightly larger aeroelastic displacements for the airflow speed of 14 m/s ( $\alpha$  increases less than 0.01 radians) while in the other cases the effect is negligible.

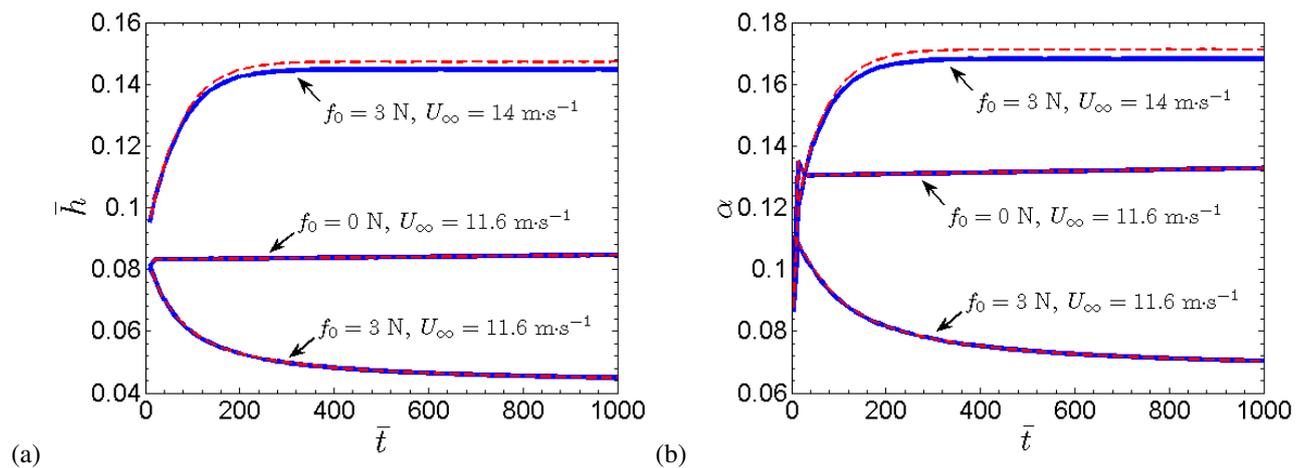


Figure 3. (a) Plunge and (b) pitch aeroelastic displacements (continuous lines: isothermal; dashed lines: non-isothermal).

The behavior of the SMA springs for the same case studies above is discussed next. For brevity, only SMA spring  $S_1$  (please check Fig. 1(b)) is addressed, but spring  $S_2$  behaves very similarly. Figure 4(a) shows the elongation of the SMA spring, which has contributions of preload (yielding in pre-deflection) and pitch displacement. Figure 4(b) shows the corresponding shear stress. Figure 4(c) shows the shear stress against elongation and Fig. 4(d) shows a detail of the martensitic plateau of the third plot of Fig. 4(c). Figure 4(e) represents the martensitic fraction. Figures 4(f) and (g) represent the stiffness and electrical resistance, respectively. Continuous lines are isothermal and dashed lines are non-isothermal cases.

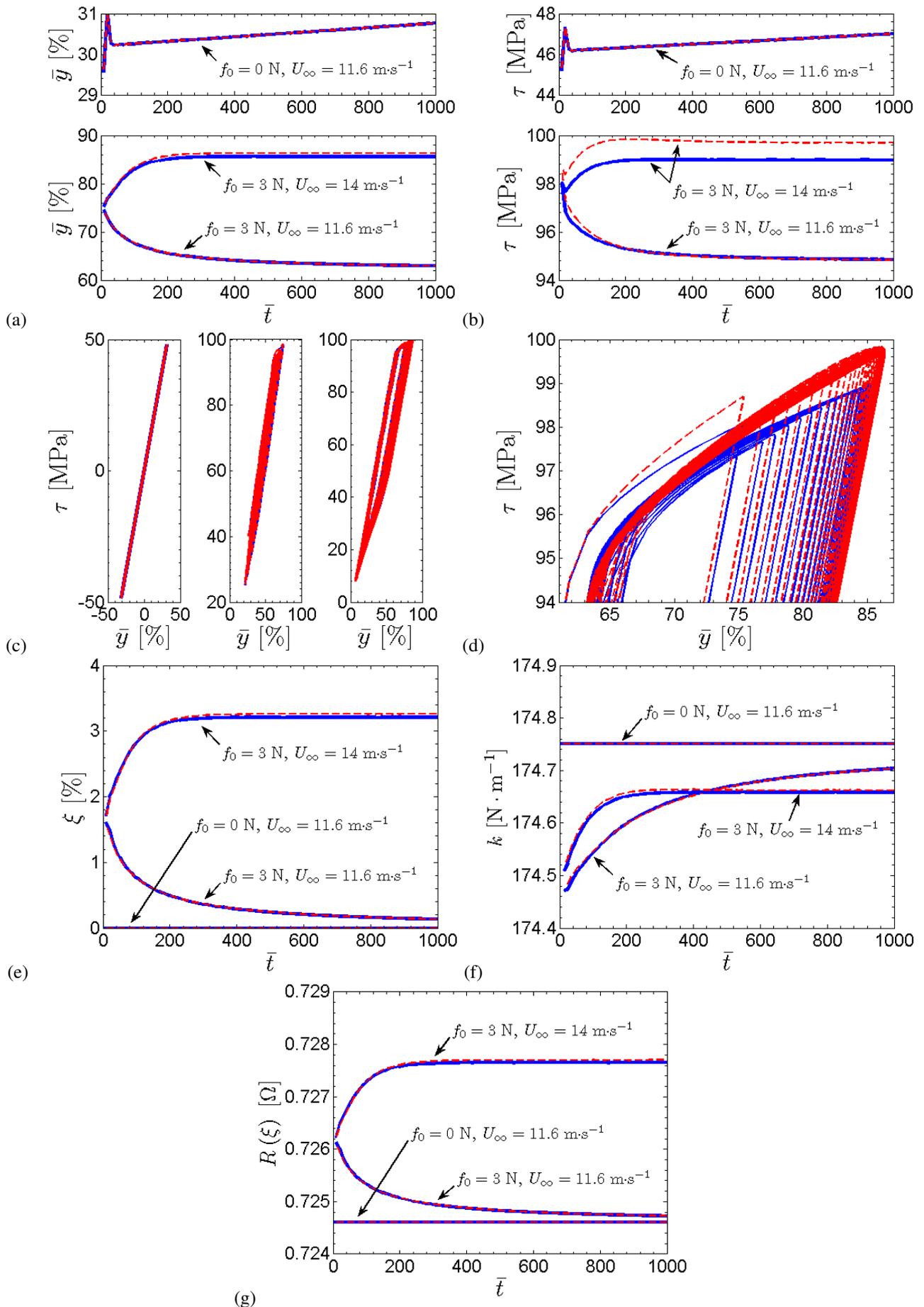


Figure 4. Behavior of the SMA springs: (a) elongation, (b) shear stress, (c) shear stress-elongation diagrams, (d) detail of the diagram for  $14 \text{ m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ , (e) martensite volumetric fraction, (f) stiffness, (g) electrical resistance and (h) temperature. Continuous lines are isothermal and dashed lines are non-isothermal.

The variation of temperature for each case study of Figs. 3 is shown in Fig. 5(a). For 3 N of preload (either at 11.64 m/s or 14 m/s) the average temperature slightly drops below the initial temperature (despite the isothermal assumption) because of the increase in the electrical resistivity related to the martensitic phase. At 14 m/s (for the non-isothermal assumption) the average temperature is above the initial temperature due to the latent heat. The change in temperature affects the critical stresses, resulting in the higher position of the hysteresis loop shown in Fig. 4(d). The critical stress for the onset of forward phase transformation ( $\tau_s^M$ ) is shown in Fig. 5(b). The variations in temperature and critical stresses are small since the phase transformations take place for short periods, yielding low martensite fraction (as shown in Fig. 4(e)).

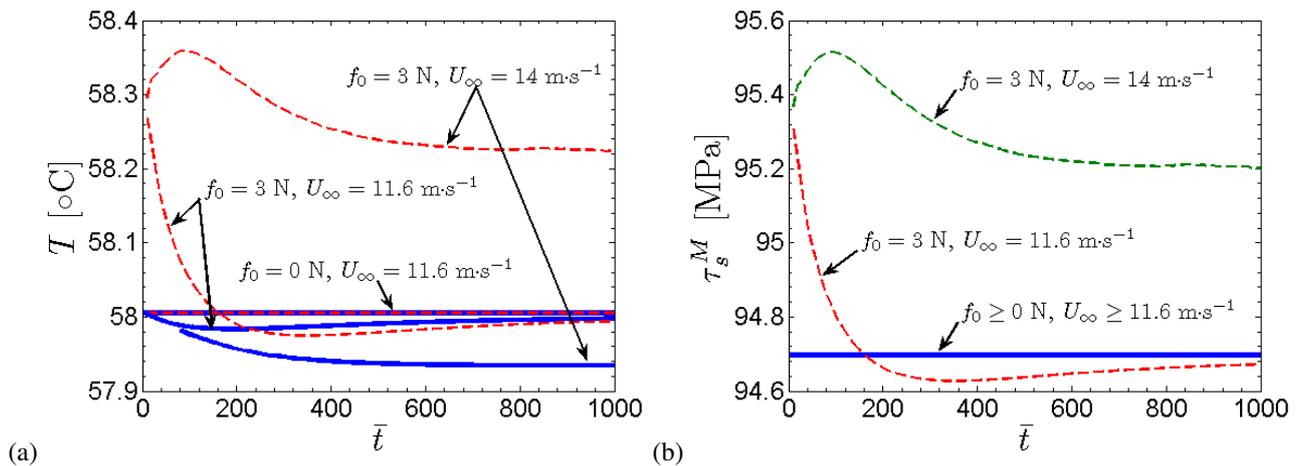


Figure 5. Temperature variations (a) and the corresponding critical stress  $\tau_s^M$  (b). Continuous line is isothermal and dashed lines are non-isothermal.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

The aeroelastic behavior of a 2-DOF typical airfoil section with SMA springs is discussed. The SMA springs are modeled in the pitch DOF and the most influential thermal effects are of concern. The unsteady aerodynamic loads are represented by an augmented-state model. The nonlinear model is cast in state-space representation and solved in time domain. The effect of preloading the SMA springs on the aeroelastic behavior at the flutter boundary and above is investigated. The results show that the isothermal assumption could be an acceptable hypothesis for the cases presented here. However, temperature effects could be much more influential for different models or case studies and hence should be accounted for in proper SMA modeling.

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