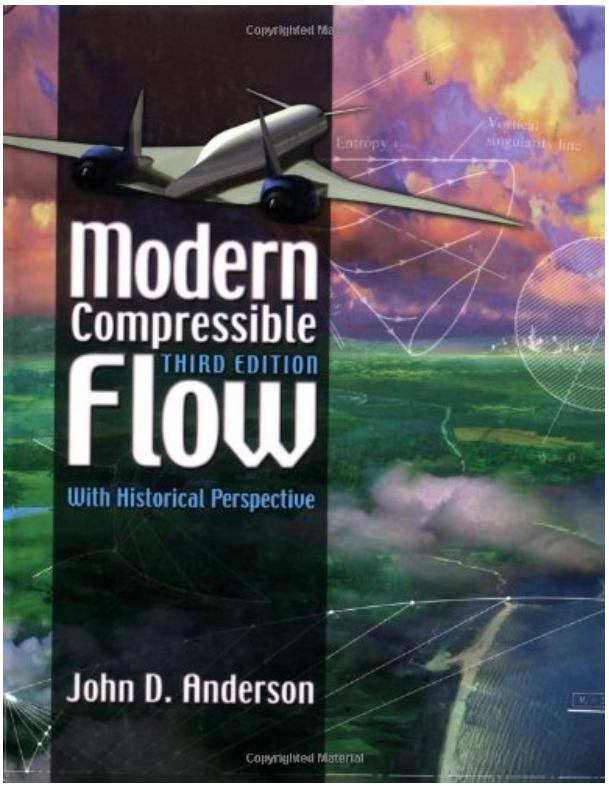
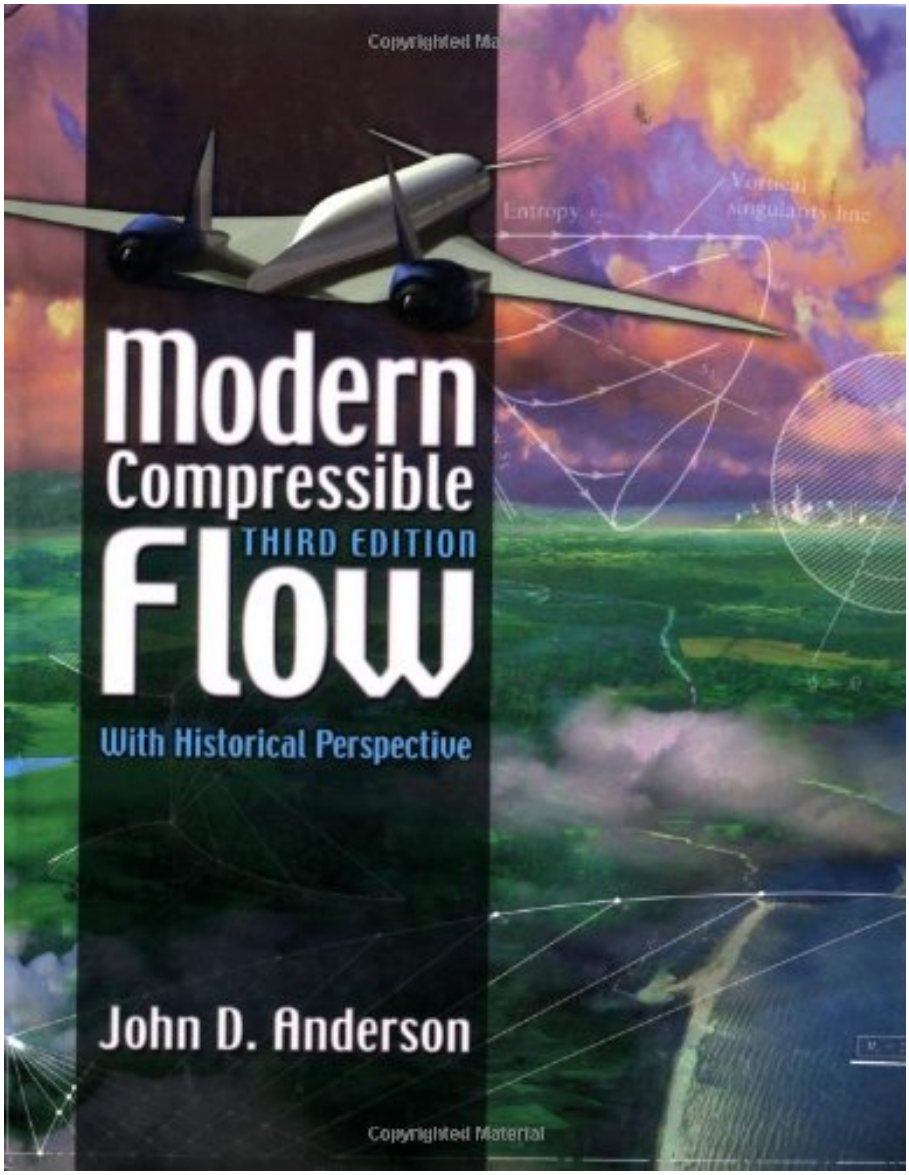
MODERN COMPRESSIBLE FLOW: WITH HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE BY JOHN ANDERSON





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John D. Anderson, Jr., was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, on October 1, 1937. He attended the University of Florida, graduating in 1959 with high honors and a Bachelor of Aeronautical Engineering Degree. From 1959 to 1962, he was a Lieutenant and Task Scientist at the Aerospace Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. From 1962 to 1966, he attended the Ohio State University under the National Science Foundation and NASA Fellowships, graduating with a PhD in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering. In 1966, he joined the U.S. Naval Ordnance Laboratory as Chief of the Hypersonics Group. In 1973, he became Chairman of the Department of Aerospace Engineering at the University of Maryland, and since 1980 has been Professor of Aerospace Engineering at the University of Maryland. In 1982, he was designated a Distinguished Scholar/Teacher by the University. During 1986–1987, while on sabbatical from the University, Dr. Anderson occupied the Charles Lindbergh Chair at the National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institution. He continued with the Air and Space Museum one day each week as their Special Assistant for Aerodynamics, doing research and writing on the History of Aerodynamics. In addition to his position as Professor of Aerospace Engineering, in 1993, he was made a full faculty member of the Committee for the History and Philosophy of Science and in 1996 an affiliate member of the History Department at the University of Maryland. In 1996, he became the Glenn L. Martin Distinguished Professor for Education in Aerospace Engineering. In 1999, he retired from the University of Maryland and was appointed Professor Emeritus. He is currently the Curator for Aerodynamics at the National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

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Anderson's book provides the most accessible approach to compressible flow for Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering students and professionals. In keeping with previous versions, the 3rd edition uses numerous historical vignettes that show the evolution of the field. New pedagogical features--"Roadmaps" showing the development of a given topic, and "Design Boxes" giving examples of design decisions--will make the 3rd edition even more practical and user-friendly than before. The 3rd edition strikes a careful balance between classical methods of determining compressible flow, and modern numerical and computer techniques (such as CFD) now used widely in industry & research. A new Book Website will contain all problem solutions for instructors.

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Most helpful customer reviews

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.
Five Stars
By Phoenix78
Good book

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful.
An absolutely brilliant textbook
By lj
Modern Compressible Flow by Anderson is simply one of the best textbooks I have read during my engineering studies. It was the assigned book for my course in compressible flow and I think the highest praise I am able to give is that the book is the reason that I am now fascinated by the subject as a whole and have taken every opportunity to continue with the subject.

I suspect that compressible flow could easily come across as very abstract and as merely an exercise in calculations, but Anderson manages to present the subject in a down to earth manner. He explains every concept such as total quantities (pressure, temperature etc.), shock waves, oblique shock waves, expansion waves and nozzle flow, in plain English and in a gradual manner while relating them to the real world with analogies. He does this each time before any new relations for a topic are developed. The historical note sections are one example of how the material is put in context with real world phenomenon and applications.

Anderson does not make any leaps when deriving the relations in the book, which I personally appreciate because I feel more comfortable with the final result when the steps involved are clear. Any calculation steps which are not explicitly written are easily performed on your own from the clear progression Anderson presents and even without them everything is extremely clear. The numerous examples further show how flow quantities are related and how the relations developed are used under a number of different scenarios. The examples also discuss interesting phenomenon but are never relied on to explain a concept. This is always done before the examples.

The book progresses from the basic concepts in the first 5 chapters to comprehensively cover many more advanced topics such as irrotational flow, linearized flow, conical flows, three dimensional flows, numerical methods for compressible flows and finally high temperature and hypersonic flows. Each of the later topics build on fundamentals developed earlier in the book and the reader is never left stranded when a new topic is introduced.

To summarize, if you have a course in compressible flow then this is the book to use, and if you do not then this an excellent introduction to a very interesting subject. Incidentally, if you are looking for an introduction to aerodynamics, then Anderson's book Fundamentals of Aerodynamics (Mcgraw Hill Series in Aeronautical and Aerospace Engineering) is equally as excellent as Modern Compressible Flow.

15 of 19 people found the following review helpful.
a little disappointing
By Mauro Darida
Well written classic supersonic theory, but "flavor" of numerical methods is given only : I think a college textbook of that price should give more than just flavor. Classic supersonic theory is not complete and needs to be integrated with other prior classic books (i.e. Ferri, Aerodynamics of supersonic flows). Overally, a little disappointing about the quantity of information given.

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