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Reply by Author to W. P. Rodden

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I WOULD like to acknowledge the interest that W.P. Rodden has shown in my Note.¹ The main point of Rodden's lengthy Comment is the accuracy of the aerodynamic strip theory compared to the lifting surface theory. It should be mentioned that the accuracy of the lifting surface theory is unquestionable and should be applied whenever possible. The strip theory is applied mainly for its simplicity and its ability to predict the mechanism of flutter and to get trends while conducting parametric studies. It should be noted that the strip theory is still used in research whenever aeroelastic characteristics of high-aspect-ratio wing are to be investigated. The lifting surface theory is more complicated in application and is therefore used in design and for low-aspect-ratio aerodynamic wing calculations.

It should be emphasized that the many recently published papers dealing with aeroelastic subjects apply the strip theory, proving that the situation described in Rodden's Comment is not accurate.

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Notice to Subscribers

We apologize that this issue was mailed to you late. As you may know, AIAA recently relocated its headquarters staff from New York, N.Y. to Washington, D.C., and this has caused some unavoidable disruption of staff operations. We will be able to make up some of the lost time each month and should be back to our normal schedule, with larger issues, in just a few months. In the meanwhile, we appreciate your patience.