Tim Miller provided further comments in response to an email.

The email (feb. 2, 2004):

Hello, I'd recently downloaded the XFOIL instructions
written by sir, dated 2nd April 2003 to Dr. William
Mason and AOE4124. I followed it and reached up to the
results. But I faced one problem which is that the plot seems
to be much bigger than the graph. Hence, everything is
hard to anaylse. I hope that sir can help me out. Thank you.

Tim's response:

Interesting you should ask, since I just happened to stumble
across the answer last week.

When you're in the "OPER" menu with a polar loaded or computed, type in the
command:

ppax

then simply follow the directions:

```
.OPERi   c>  ppax
 Enter new axis annotations, or <return> to leave unchanged...

   Alpha  min, max, delta:   -4.00000    10.00000     2.00000
-5.0, 20.0, 4.0
     CL   min, max, delta:    0.00000     1.50000     0.50000
-.2 2.2 .2
     CD   min, max, delta:    0.00000     0.04000     0.01000
0.0 .08 .02
    -CM   min, max, delta:   -0.25000     0.00000     0.05000
-0.25 0.0 0.05
```

<or (since the CM hasn't changed)

```
.OPERi   c>  ppax
 Enter new axis annotations, or <return> to leave unchanged...

   Alpha  min, max, delta:   -4.00000    10.00000     2.00000
-5.0, 20.0, 4.0
     CL   min, max, delta:    0.00000     1.50000     0.50000
-.2 2.2 .2
     CD   min, max, delta:    0.00000     0.04000     0.01000
0.0 .08 .02
    -CM   min, max, delta:   -0.25000     0.00000     0.05000
```

make sure to enter all 3 numbers if you're going to change any of them.
I.e. if you wanted to change your alpha range from -4.0 to 10.0 in 2.0 deg
increments
to -4.0 to 20.0 in 2.0 deg increments, you'd want to do:

```
   Alpha  min, max, delta:   -4.00000    10.00000     2.00000
-4.0, 20.0, 4.0
```

NOT<<
  Alpha   min, max, delta: -4.00000   10.00000   2.00000 <<
20.0 <<
VERY BAD<<

Unfortunately, as Cl goes up, the drag increases dramatically; and the way
XFOIL reads data files you have to have a Cd to go with that Cl in order
for it to read the data file correctly. So, in some instances its better
to insert the data into another analysis program such as Microsoft Excel,
MathWorks Matlab, or Wolfram's Mathmatica (to name a few).

A final note: By typing "?" in any menu (such as XFOIL, OPER, GDES, MDES,
QDES...)
it will print out every command in that menu with a short description.

I hope this has answered your question, let me know if you have more questions
and/or need more help.
Good luck w/ your continued XFOIL use!

-Tim

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/xfoil/