## **Aeronautics Design Project**



## **Aircraft Performance**

T. Andrianne

APRI0004 2024-2025

# Content of the course

- Introduction to design performance
- Weight estimates
- Drag estimates
- Flight phases
  - Cruise
  - Take-off
  - Climb
  - Turning
  - Landing
- Flow diagram



# Design for performance



Main requirement for a new aircraft = fulfilment of the mission

 $\rightarrow$  Performance calculation at the design stage

#### At the design stage, we choose:

- Size of the wing
- Type and size of the engines

## Flight points

- Cruise  $\rightarrow$  first performance design for an airliner
- Take off
- Landing
- Climb



First step is the determination of the weight and drag

### Weight → Lift

### Drag $\rightarrow$ Thrust

Weight and drag must be known at several points in the flight envelope (= capabilities of an aircraft in terms of structural loads and speed)

Two methodologies:

- Carry out detailed simulations at the conceptual design stage (very costly)
- Use previous experience: **statistical** data

## **Statistics**





Source: www.jethrojeff.com



## **Statistics**



#### Enormous amount of data on very similar aircrafts



Source: www.a13x.com.au/aircraft-size-comparison/

## Weight estimates



## Take off weight, $W_{to}$ expressed as:

$$W_{\text{to}} = \frac{W_{\text{p}} + W_{\text{fix}}}{1 - \frac{W_{\text{var}}}{W_{\text{to}}} - \frac{W_{\text{f}}}{W_{\text{to}}}}$$

where,

 $W_p$  = payload weight  $W_f$  = fuel weight  $W_{fix}$  = fixed empty weight (e.g. engines) ~ 5-6% of  $W_{to}$  $W_{var}$  = variable empty weight

The **total empty weight W**<sub>e</sub>, is simply  $W_e = W_{fix} + W_{var}$ 

# Weight estimates

Statistic tools are shared between:

- Light aircraft (W<sub>to</sub><5670kg)
- Heavy aircraft (W<sub>to</sub>>5670kg)

For <u>light aircraft</u> (from 100 different types):

 $\frac{W_{\text{var}}}{W_{\text{to}}} = \begin{cases} 0.45 & -\text{ for normal category with fixed gear} \\ 0.47 & -\text{ for normal category with retractable gear} \\ 0.50 & -\text{ for utility category} \\ 0.55 & -\text{ for acrobatic category} \end{cases}$  $\frac{W_{\rm f}}{W_{\rm to}} = 0.17 \frac{R}{1000} r_{uc} A R^{-0.5} + 0.35$ with, R = aircraft's rangeAR = Aspect Ratio of the main wing  $r_{uc}$  = 1.00-1.35 is the undercarriage drag correction



#### (5670kg=12500lb)

8

## Undercarriage drag correction



This drag correction is used both in the calculation of:

- the fuel weight (W<sub>f</sub>)
- the zero-lift drag (see later)

If the landing gear is fully retractable  $\rightarrow r_{uc} = 1$ 

Otherwise:



 $r_{\rm uc} = \begin{cases} 1.35 - \text{for fixed gear without streamlined wheel fairings} \\ 1.25 - \text{for fixed gear with streamlined wheel fairings} \\ 1.08 - \text{main gear retracted in streamlined fairings on the fuselage} \\ 1.03 - \text{main gear retracted in engine nacelles} \end{cases}$ 

# Fairings



#### No wheel fairing

#### Wheel fairing





## Fairings



#### Fuselage fairings

Engine nacelles





### For <u>heavy aircraft</u> :

$$\frac{W_{\text{var}}}{W_{\text{to}}} = 0.2$$
$$W_{\text{fix}} = W_{\text{eng}} + 500 + \Delta W_{\text{e}}$$

with,  $W_{eng}$  = engine weight  $\Delta W_e$  is a correction factor from the graph (see next slide)





 $\Delta W_{e}$ 

- I<sub>f</sub> = fuselage length
- $b_f$  = fuselage width

h<sub>f</sub> = fuselage height

(use metric units)



## Weight estimates



### For <u>heavy aircraft</u> (with turboprops):

W<sub>f</sub> (fuel weight)

with,

C<sub>p</sub> = specific fuel consumption for propeller aircraft

(use metric units)



## Weight estimates

### For heavy jet aircraft

 $W_{f}$  (fuel weight)

with,

p = atm. pressure at cruise M = Mach number at cruise  $\theta$  = T/T<sub>0</sub> cruise/stand. temp.  $C_T/\sqrt{\theta}$  = corrected specific fuel consumption at cruise  $a_0$  = speed of sound at sea level  $\overline{C_F}$  = mean skin friction coefficient based on wetted area





# Skin friction coefficient

- Gives an estimate of the drag force due to air friction over the full surface of the aircraft (= wetted area)
- Can be estimated by Prandtl-Schlichting theory as

$$C_F = \frac{0.455}{\left(\log_{10}(Re_{\rm cr})\right)^{2.58}}$$

where  $Re_{cr}$  is based on the cruise conditions and the fuselage length

## Skin friction coefficient



17

 $r_{Re} = C_F (\mathrm{Re}) / C_F (10^8)$ 











# Drag calculation

Aircraft has several sources of drag

 $C_D = C_{D_0} + \frac{C_L^2}{e\pi AR}$ 

It is usual to summarize them in the drag polar of the aircraft:

with,

 $C_{D0}$  is the parasitic drag (independent of lift)

e is the Oswald efficiency factor





## Drag polar





For high angles of attack, high lift and risk of stall

# Drag figures for different aircrafts



Aircraft Type	<i>C</i> <sub><i>D</i>0</sub>	e
High-subsonic jet	0.014-0.020	0.75-0.85
Large turboprop	0.018-0.024	0.80-0.85
Twin-engine piston aircraft	0.022-0.028	0.75-0.80
Single-engine piston aircraft with fixed gear	0.020-0.030	0.75-0.80
Single-engine piston aircraft with retractable gear	0.025-0.040	0.65-0.75
Agricultural aircraft without spray system	0.060	0.65-0.75
Agricultural aircraft with spray system	0.070-0.080	0.65-0.75

# Compressibility drag



#### Compressibility effects increase drag



At the early design stage

 $\rightarrow$  Add  $\Delta C_{D}$  to  $C_{D0}$ 

 $\Delta C_D = 0.0005$  for long range cruise conditions  $\Delta C_D = 0.002$  for high speed cruise conditions

## Different flight phases





Take off  $\rightarrow$  Climb  $\rightarrow$  Turn  $\rightarrow$  Cruise ...  $\rightarrow$  Landing

# Flight envelope

V-n diagram = load factor seen by the aircraft at a given speed

It gathers information about **manoeuvre** and **gust** It tells the pilot which flight configurations (speed/altitude) are safe



V<sub>C</sub> = Design Cruising speed (resistance to gusts)

V<sub>D</sub> = Design Diving speed (max speed the aircraft must resist)

V<sub>A</sub> = Manoeuvre speed (max speed with full deflection of control surfaces)

 $V_{S}$  = Stall speed (min speed of the aircraft



## Cruise



At cruise, flight speed is constant

## Lift (L) = Weight (W) = Vertical balance

$$\rightarrow L = W = \frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 C_L S \rightarrow C_L = \frac{W}{\frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 S}$$

where,  $\rho$  is the cruise air density V is the cruise speed S is the wing area

Also, Thrust (T) = Drag (D) = Horizontal balance

$$\Rightarrow T = D = \frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 C_D S$$

where  $C_D$  is obtained from the drag polar

## Cruise



#### Thrust to weight ratio

$$\frac{T}{W} = \frac{D}{W} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 C_D S}{W} = \frac{1}{2W}\rho V^2 S \left( C_{D0} + \frac{C_L^2}{e\pi AR} \right)$$
$$= \frac{\rho V^2 C_{D0}}{2W/S} + \frac{2W}{e\pi AR\rho V^2 S}$$

The thrust here is the installed thrust, which is 4-8% lower than the un-installed thrust.

This equation can be used to choose an engine for the cruise condition



#### **Minimum Thrust**

The Thrust-to-weight ratio can be minimized as a function of W/S

 $\rightarrow$  The minimum Thrust is required when

$$\frac{W}{S} = \frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 \sqrt{d_1 e \pi A R}$$

where,  $d_1 = 0.008 - 0.010$  for an aircraft with retractable undercarriage

→ The minimum Thrust to weight ratio is:  $\left(\frac{T}{W}\right)_{min} = \frac{C_{D0} + \sqrt{d_1}}{\sqrt{d_1 e \pi A R}}$ 



### **Engine Thrust**

The thrust of an engine at cruise can be determined from:

- Manufacturer's data
- Approximate relationship to the take off thrust:

$$\frac{T}{T_{\rm to}} = 1 - \frac{0.454(1+\lambda)}{\sqrt{1+0.75\lambda}}M + \left(0.6 + \frac{0.13\lambda}{G}\right)M^2$$

where,  $\lambda$  is the bypass ratio M is the cruise Mach number G = 0.9 for low bypass engines G = 1.1 for high bypass engines

## Range



The range of an aircraft can be estimated from the Bréguet equation:

$$R = \frac{V}{C_T} \frac{L}{D} \ln \left( \frac{W_{\rm i}}{W_{\rm i} - W_{\rm f}} \right)$$

which is applicable in cruise conditions only.

with, L/D = cruise Lift-to-Drag ratio V = the cruise airspeed [*m*/*s*]  $C_T$  = specific fuel consumption [1/*s*]  $W_i$  = weight of the aircraft at the beginning of cruise [*kg*]  $W_f$  = cruise fuel weight [*kg*]

Attention to units (imperial/SI) of  $C_T$  in reference books !

# Maximizing range



The range equation can also be written as

$$\frac{R}{a_0} = \frac{ML/D}{C_T / \sqrt{\theta}} \ln \left(\frac{W_i}{W_i - W_f}\right)$$

where, *M* is the cruise Mach number  $a_0$  is the speed of sound at sea level

The range can be maximized by maximizing L/D or ML/D

To maximize *L/D*: 
$$C_L = \sqrt{C_{D_0} e \pi A R}$$

To maximize *ML/D*: 
$$C_L = \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}C_{D_0}e\pi AR}$$

# Lift-to-Drag ratio



Example of Lift-to-Drag ratio variation with Lift, Angle of attack and deployment of slats/flaps



## Compressibility effects on range





# Range design



At the early design stage, the designer must choose a **favourable combination** of:

- Speed
- Altitude
- Airplane geometry
- Engine

→ best range performance or fuel efficiency

Depending on the **objective**, most important consideration is:

Fuel efficiency  $\rightarrow$  for long-haul aircraft Engine weight  $\rightarrow$  for short-haul aircraft

#### Constraints: - Cruise fuel is only part of the fuel weight

- Engine thrust often determined by take off field
- Air traffic Controls decide the allowable cruise altitudes
- An aircraft can have more than one engine
# Reserve fuel



ATA (Air Transport Association) regulation claims that the airliner must carry enough reserve fuel to :

- Continue flight for time equal to 10% of basic flight time at normal cruise conditions
- Execute missed approach and climb at the destination airport
- Fly to alternate airport 370km distant
- Hold at alternate airport for 30 min at 457m (1500ft) above the ground
- Descend and land at alternate airport

Approximate formula:

$$W_{\rm f_{res}} / W_{\rm to} = 0.18 C_T / \sqrt{\theta A R}$$

 $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  = T/T<sub>0</sub> cruise/stand. temp.

 $C_T$  = specific fuel consumption at cruise

# Range for propeller aircraft



For propeller aircraft, the Bréguet range equation is

$$R = \frac{\eta_p}{C_p} \frac{L}{D} \ln \left( \frac{W_i}{W_i - W_f} \right)$$

where  $\eta_{\rm P}$  is the propeller efficiency  $C_{\rm P}$  is the specific fuel consumption

Range can be maximized by:

- Minimizing the airplane drag
- Minimizing the engine power

### Payload-range diagram







40

# Take off



- Take off starts at time  $t_0$ , with airspeed  $V_0$  and the runway may have an angle to horizontal of  $\varphi$ .
- Lift off occurs at time  $t_g$ , after a distance of  $x_g$ , usually at speed  $V_{\text{LOF}}$ .
- Take off is completed when the aircraft has reached sufficient height to clear an obstacle 35ft high (50ft for military aircraft)
- Finally, the climb out phase takes the aircraft to 500ft at the climb throttle setting.

# Ground run

- Start at V<sub>0</sub> (equal to zero or not)
- Angle of attack is defined w.r.t. the thrust line



#### Tailwheel landing gear



#### Low AoA

#### High AoA

- $\rightarrow$  For sufficient speed, nose is lifted up to the optimal AoA
- → Control surfaces (when effective) are used to decrease the angle of attack
   → Decrease of drag and increase of speed

# Lift off



As seen in Lecture 1 of Aerodynamics:

Vertical balance: 
$$L = \frac{1}{2} \rho_{\infty} V_{\infty}^2 S C_L = W$$

$$V_{\rm stall} = \sqrt{\frac{2W}{\rho_{\infty}SC_{L,\rm max}}}$$

In practice (for safety reasons), Lift off speed is defined as

$$V_{LOF} = k_1 V_{stall}$$

where,

 $k_1$  varies with the type of aircraft  $k_1 = 1.1$  is an indicative value

### Rotation and transition



→ Aircraft rotation = deflection of the velocity from nearly horizontal to a few degrees upward

very short stage (few seconds)

→ Transition stage follows up to obstacle clearance

speed at clearance:  $V_2 = k_2 V_{stall}$  with k<sub>2</sub>=1.2



#### $V_1 =$ **Decision speed** (for multi-engine aircraft)

For V < V<sub>1</sub>, if one engine fails, take off is aborted  $\rightarrow$  The runway is long enough to stop the aircraft

For  $V > V_1$ , if one engine fails, take off is continued  $\rightarrow$  Decision will be taken in the air



Take off completed at ~ 500ft and once flaps are retracted



### Equations of motion

#### Force balance parallel to the runway:

$$F = T - \mu R - D = ma$$

Aircraft acceleration, 
$$a = \frac{dV}{dt}$$

Aircraft velocity, 
$$v = \frac{dx}{dt}$$

Then, 
$$\frac{V}{a} = \frac{dx}{dt}\frac{dt}{dV} = \frac{dx}{dV} \rightarrow \frac{dx}{dV} = \frac{V}{a}$$

The displacement is obtained by integration w.r.t. V:

$$x_g = \int_0^{V_{LOF}} \frac{V}{a} \, dV$$



## Friction force

Friction force is proportional to the vertical force:

Friction = 
$$\mu R$$
 with  $R = W - L = W - \frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 S C_L$ 

(assuming the runway's inclination is small)

The total horizontal balance becomes:

$$ma = T - \mu W - \frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 S(C_D - \mu C_L)$$

Runway type	μ
Concrete, asphalt	0.02
Hard turf	0.04
Field with short grass	0.05
Field with long grass	0.1
Soft field, sand	0.1-0.3

47



#### Ground run x<sub>g</sub>

$$x_g \approx \frac{V_{LOF}^2 / 2g}{\frac{\overline{T}}{W_{TO}} - \mu'}$$

where, 
$$\overline{T}$$
 = Thrust at  $\frac{V_{LOF}}{\sqrt{2}} \approx 0.75 \frac{5+\lambda}{4+\lambda} T_{TO}$   
 $C_L = \mu e \pi A R$   
 $\mu' = \mu + 0.72 \frac{C_{D0}}{C_{Lmax}}$ 

**Air run 
$$x_a$$**  $x_a \approx \frac{V_{LOF}^2}{g\sqrt{2}} + \frac{h}{\gamma_{LOF}}$ 

where, 
$$\gamma_{LOF} = \left(\frac{T-D}{W}\right)_{LOF} \approx 0.9 \frac{\bar{T}}{W_{TO}} - \frac{0.3}{\sqrt{AR}}$$

#### Airspeed at take off. $V_2 = V_{LOF} \sqrt{1 + \gamma_{LOF} \sqrt{2}}$

#### Increases with

- Aircraft Weight ( $W_{TO}$ )
- Altitude
- Temperature
- Rolling friction
- Positive runway slope

#### **Decreases with**

- Thrust
- High lift devices







- Immediately follows take off
- Objective: reach the cruising altitude
- Usually performed in a vertical plane  $\rightarrow$  no turning
- Short phase  $\rightarrow$  aircraft's weight is assumed constant
- Small variations of speed and flight path → constant speed climb

### Climb



#### **Climb performances:**

- Operational requirements, e.g.
  - Rate of climb at sea level
  - Service ceiling altitude for a maximum rate of climb of 0.5m/s
- Airworthiness requirements
  - Minimum climb gradient at take off, in cruise, at landing
  - Rate of climb at a specified altitude with one engine inoperative

#### Climb diagram





- Thrust line is not necessarily aligned with flight path
- Constant speed V  $\rightarrow$  the aircraft cannot accelerate
- Thrust and lift equations:  $T = \frac{1}{2}\rho SV^2 C_D + W \sin \gamma$ (assuming  $\varepsilon = 0$ )  $W \cos \gamma = \frac{1}{2}\rho SV^2 C_L$

### Thrust and Power



Thrust equation can be expressed in terms of Power

$$T = \frac{1}{2}\rho SV^2 C_D + W \sin \gamma \quad \rightarrow \quad TV = \frac{1}{2}\rho SV^3 C_D + WV \sin \gamma$$

Defining, the available power for Climb  $P_a = TV$ the power required for level flight  $P_r = \frac{1}{2}\rho SV^3 C_D$ 

the rate of climb  $V_z = V \sin \gamma$ 

Then, 
$$V_z = \frac{P_a - P_r}{W}$$
 and  $\sin \gamma = \frac{P_a - P_r}{VW}$ 

#### For a jet aircraft :

- the power available for climb varied linearly with airspeed
   the power required for level flight varies non-linearly with airspeed
- $\rightarrow$  There is an optimum airspeed to maximize the rate of climb

$$V_z = \frac{P_a - P_r}{W}$$

 $\rightarrow$  Maximize  $P_a - P_r$ 

This airspeed is not necessarily the one corresponding to the minimum value of  $P_r$ 





#### Climb of a jet aircraft





Below V<sub>2</sub> and above V<sub>1</sub>  $\rightarrow$  Aircraft cannot climb

#### Maximum climb rate

Using the drag polar and assuming a small rate of climb

 $\rightarrow$  Equation for the rate of climb can be written as

$$V_{z} = \frac{P_{a} - P_{r}}{W} = \frac{1}{W} \left( TV - \frac{1}{2}\rho SV^{3}C_{D0} - \frac{2kW^{2}}{\rho SV} \right)$$

where,  $k = \frac{1}{e\pi AR}$ 

The maximum climb rate is found for  $\frac{\partial V_z}{\partial V} = 0$ 

$$\rightarrow \frac{3\rho SC_D}{W} V^4 - 2\frac{T}{W} V^2 - \frac{4kW}{\rho S} = 0$$



Solving this quartic equation

$$\frac{3\rho SC_D}{W}V^4 - 2\frac{T}{W}V^2 - \frac{4kW}{\rho S} = 0$$

one gets,

$$\rightarrow \frac{V_{ZMAX}}{V} = \frac{1}{3E_{max}} \left( \tau + \sqrt{\tau^2 + 3} \right) - \frac{3}{E_{max} \left( \tau + \sqrt{\tau^2 + 3} \right)}$$

where, 
$$\tau = E_{max} T/W$$
 and  $E_{max} = \left(\frac{C_L}{C_D}\right)_{max}$ 

 $\rightarrow$  The maximum climb rate depends on:

- Thrust available
- Weight
- Altitude
- Wing surface







#### Climb gradient vs. altitude





#### Climb rate requirements



PHASE OF FLIGHT		AIRPLANE CONFIGURATION					MINIMUM CLIMB GRADIEN				
		flap setting	u.c.	er thrus	ngine st (power	speed	altitude	N <sub>e</sub> ≖2	N <sub>e</sub> =3	N <sub>e</sub> =4	
TAKEOFF CLIMB POTENTIAL ("first segment")		t.o.	+		t.o.	V <sub>LOF</sub>	0+h_1)	0	. 3	.5	
TAKEOFF FLIGHT PATH	"second segment"	t.o.	+	engine out	t.o.	v <sub>2</sub> <sup>2)</sup>	h +400 ft uu	2.4	2.7	3.0	
	final takeoff ("third segment")	en route	t		max, cont.	V≥1.25V <sub>S</sub>	400+1,500ft	1,2	1.5	1.7	
APPROACH CLIMB POTENTIAL ap		approach <sup>3</sup>	i) +	one	t.o.	v≤1.5v <sub>s</sub>	01)	2.1	2.4	2.7	
LANDING CLIMB POTENTIAL land		landing	÷	al] tak	engines ceoff <sup>4)</sup>	V≼1.3V <sub>S</sub>	01)	3.2	3.2	3.2	
Nomencla	ture:		1		of group	d affort		L			
LOF LOF			21	def	defined in Section 2 of Annandia 4						
$v_2$ - takeoff safety speed			3)	fla	flan setting such that $V \leq 1.10$ V for landing						
R - rotation speed			4)	mor	more precisely: the engine power (thrust) available						
S - stalling speed				8 s	8 seconds after throttle opening to take off ration						
u.c undercarriage position			5)	tak	takeoff requirements are at actual unight other						
uu neight at which u.c.			- /	rea	requirements at landing (touchdown) weight						
retraction is completed				4			B (couchdown)	, weign			
e - number of engines per a/c											





In a general turn :

- all angles (pitch, roll and yaw) are involved
- change of height

In the following, let's assume turns in a horizontal plane  $\rightarrow$  no change of height



- Horizontal turn  $\rightarrow \gamma = 0$
- Constant speed  $\rightarrow dV/dt = 0$

Assuming the thrust is aligned with the flight path

 $\rightarrow$  Equilibrium equations are simply:

$$L\cos\phi = W$$
$$L\sin\phi = \frac{mV^2}{R}$$
$$T = D$$

 $L\sin\phi \qquad \phi \qquad \psi = mg \qquad nW$ 

 $L\cos\phi$ 

where, R is the radius of the circular turn



Load factor *n* is defined as the ratio, 
$$n = \frac{L}{W}$$

During a turn, the load factor can be so high to :

- harm the pilot
- damage the aircraft's structure

From the balance equation in the vertical direction:

$$n = \frac{1}{\cos \phi}$$

During a turn, the lift must balance:

- the weight
- the centrifugal force

#### 63

#### **Turning radius**

For a given load factor, the turning radius is expressed as

$$L\cos\phi = W \longrightarrow R = \frac{V^2}{g\tan\Phi} = \frac{V^2}{g\sqrt{n^2 - 1}}$$

Expressing the airspeed V in terms of the load factor and lift coefficient

$$nW = \frac{1}{2}\rho SV^2 C_L \longrightarrow V^2 = \frac{2nW}{\rho SC_L}$$
$$\longrightarrow R = \frac{2W}{\rho g SC_L} \frac{n}{\sqrt{n^2 - 1}}$$

Low turn radius R if : large  $C_L$ , low altitude, high load factor, low wing loading (W/S)



# Maximum turning rate

The turning rate can be expressed as

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} = g_{\sqrt{\frac{\rho S C_L}{2W} \left(\frac{n^2 - 1}{n}\right)}}$$

Note that:

- The lift coefficient cannot exceed C<sub>Lmax</sub>
- The maximum load factor is  $n_{max}$

Then, the maximum turning rate is

$$\left(\frac{d\psi}{dt}\right)_{max} = g \sqrt{\frac{\rho S C_{Lmax}}{2W} \left(\frac{n_{max}^2 - 1}{n_{max}}\right)}$$

High turn rate if large  $C_L$ , low altitude, high load factor, low wing loading (W/S), i.e. same than low turn radius



Rear View of Turn





#### Lift required for turning

From the turn diagram:

$$nW = \sqrt{(mg)^2 + \left(\frac{mV^2}{R}\right)^2}$$

Furthermore, L = nW

Hence the required lift is simply:

$$nW = \frac{1}{2}\rho SV^2 C_L$$





#### Thrust required for turning

From the drag polar:

$$C_D = C_{D0} + \frac{C_L^2}{e\pi AR} = C_{D0} + \frac{1}{e\pi AR} \left(\frac{2nW}{\rho SV^2}\right)^2$$

The require thrust is then given by

$$T = \frac{1}{2}\rho SV^{2}C_{D} = \frac{1}{2}\rho SV^{2}\left(C_{D0} + \frac{1}{e\pi AR}\left(\frac{2nW}{\rho SV^{2}}\right)^{2}\right)$$

Alternatively,  $T = D = \frac{LD}{L} = nW\frac{C_D}{C_L}$ 

Assuming constant Lift/Drag ratio → Thrust proportional to load factor Load factor cannot exceed:

- The aircraft structural limits
- The user (pilot, passenger) limits

It must be verified that the turn radius R corresponds to a load factor lower than  $n_{max}$ 

$$nW = \sqrt{(mg)^2 + \left(\frac{mV^2}{R}\right)^2} \quad \rightarrow \quad n_{max} = \frac{\sqrt{(mg)^2 + \left(\frac{mV^2}{R}\right)^2}}{W}$$

where,  $n_{max}$  is usually 2.5 for commercial transports  $n_{max}$  can be 6 or higher for aerobatic aircraft



## Turn diagram







Landing consists in **two phases**:

- Approach above a hypothetical obstacle to touch-down





#### Approach

- Aircraft makes an approach along the axis of the runway
- A glide angle  $\gamma$  ranges between -2.5  $^\circ$  and -3.5  $^\circ$
- The speed is  $V_2 = 1.2 V_{stall}$
- The height of the hypothetical object is  $h_{obj}$
- The rotation height is  $h_r$

• The approach distance is 
$$x_3 = \frac{h_{obj} - h_r}{\tan \gamma}$$

• The approach time is  $t_3 = \frac{x_3}{V_2 \cos \gamma}$ 





#### Rotation



• Similarly to take off, 
$$R = \frac{V_2^2}{g(n-1)}$$

• The rotation distance is  $x_2 = R \sin \gamma$ 

• The rotation time is 
$$t_2 = \frac{\gamma V_2}{g(n-1)}$$



#### **Ground run**



- After touch-down, aircraft speed must drop from  $V_{TD}$  to 0
- Distance of ground run can be approximated by

$$x_g = \frac{V_{TD}^2}{2\bar{a}}$$

where  $\bar{a}$  is the mean deceleration

 $\overline{a} = \begin{cases} 0.30 - 0.35 \text{ for light aircraft with simple brakes} \\ 0.35 - 0.45 \text{ for turboprop aircraft without reverse propeller thrust} \\ 0.40 - 0.50 \text{ for jets with spoilers, anti-skid devices, speed brakes} \\ 0.50 - 0.60 \text{ as above, with nosewheel breaks} \end{cases}$


Design for performance is an **optimization process** 

Objective: satisfy or exceed all performance requirements

How: by finding the optimal combination of **parameters**:

## Powerplant

- Take off thrust
- number of engines
- engine type
- engine configuration

## Wing

- Wing area
- Aspect ration
- High lift devices

## Flow diagram



