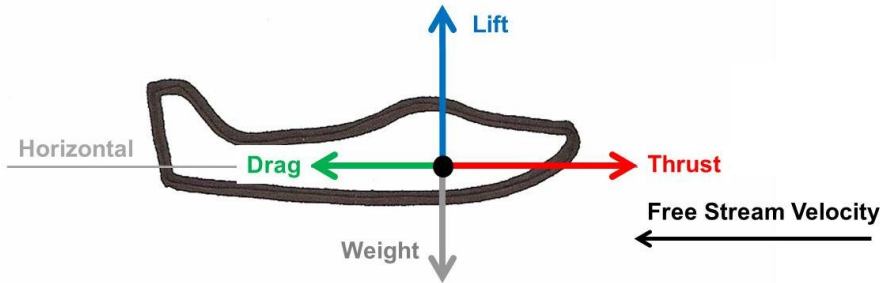


## **Aircraft Performance Equations of Motion Climb & Descent Ceilings**

# Aircraft Performance



$$T = D$$

$$L = W$$

Range = How FAR can an aircraft fly?

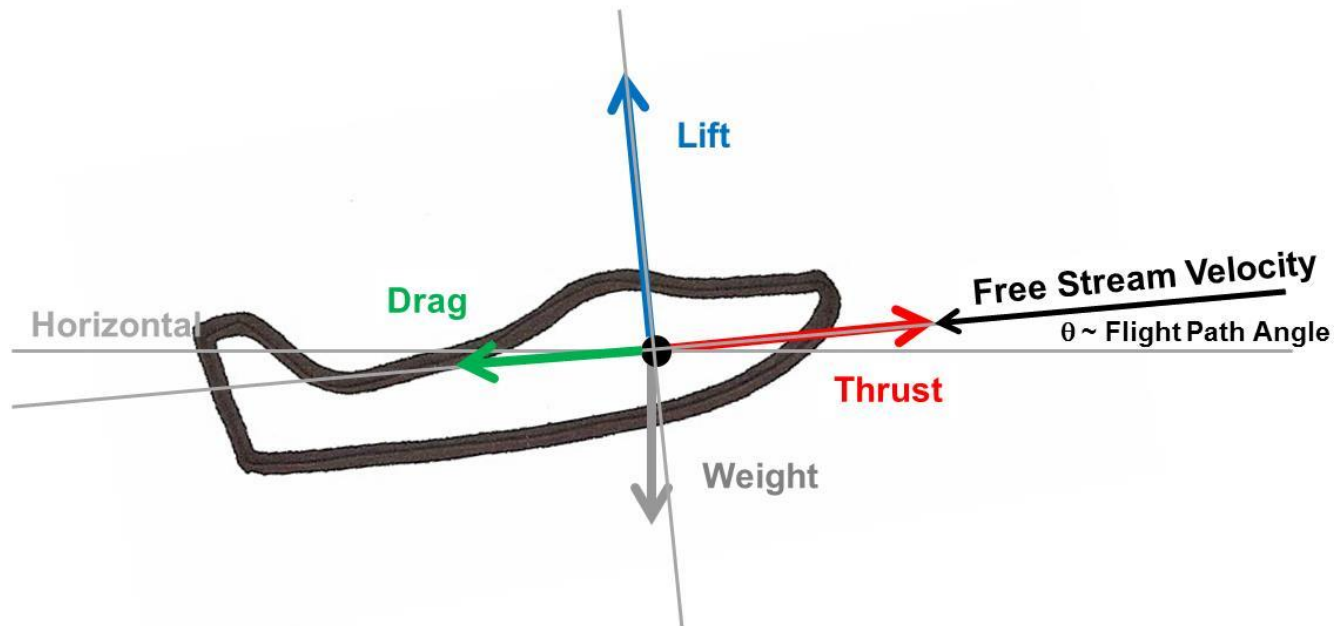
Endurance = How LONG can an aircraft fly?

$V_{\max}$  = How FAST can an airplane fly?

$V_{\min}$  = How SLOW can an airplane fly?

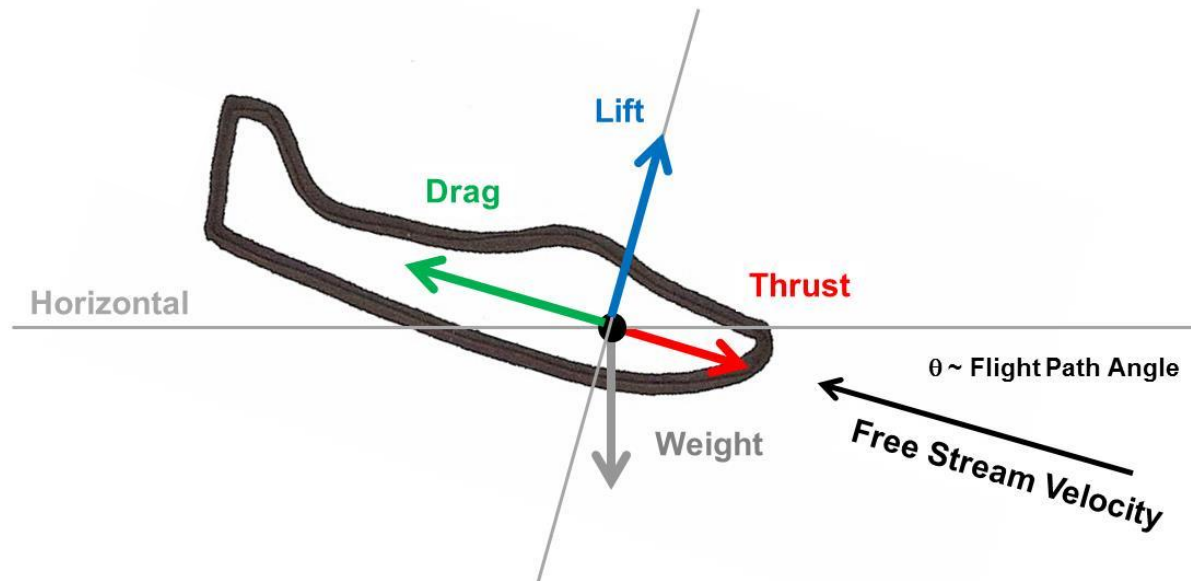
Ceiling = How HIGH can an airplane fly?

# Aircraft Performance



**Climb = How long does it take an aircraft to get to a higher altitude? How fast can it climb?**

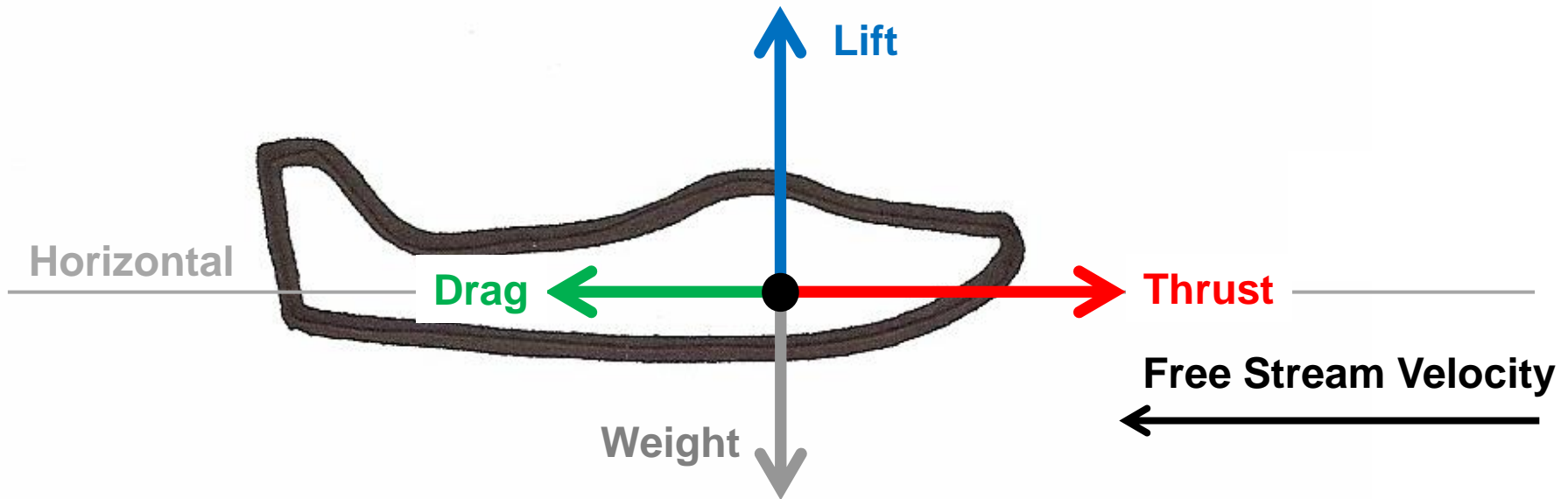
# Aircraft Performance



**Descent = How long does it take an aircraft to get to a lower altitude? How slow can it descend?**

# Simple Free Body Diagram

## Straight and Level Flight



Lift acts perpendicular to the Free Stream Velocity

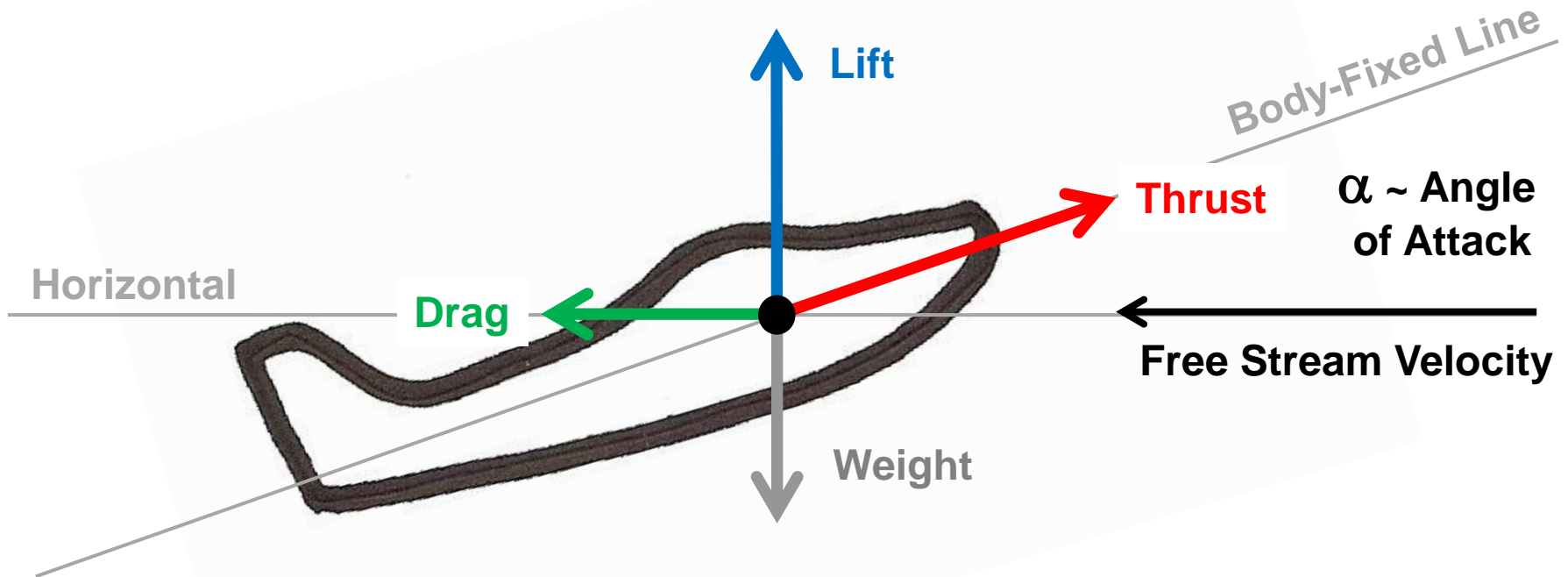
Drag acts parallel to the Free Stream Velocity

Weight acts vertically towards the ground

Thrust is fixed in the aircraft

# Stability Axis System

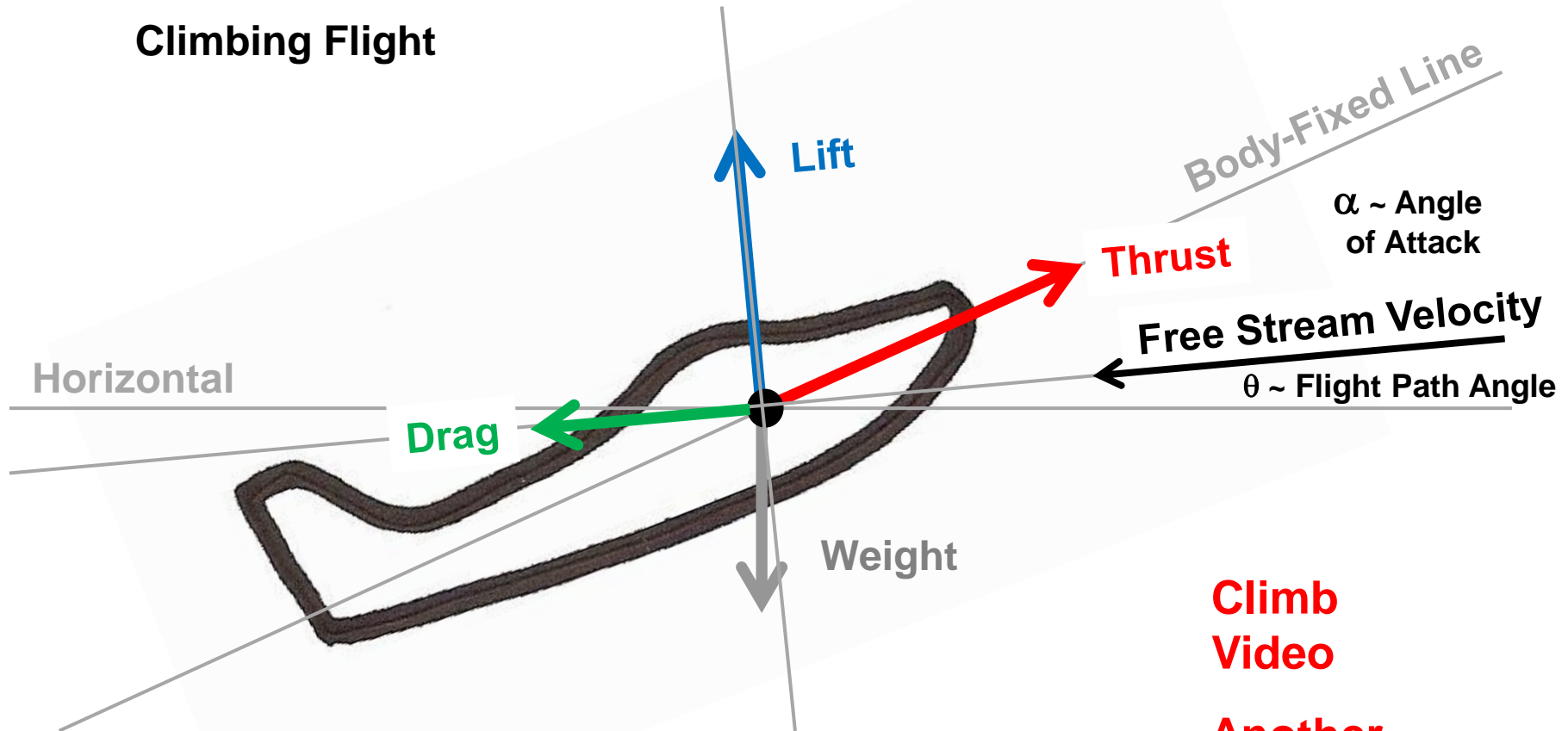
## Straight and Level Flight



Lift acts perpendicular to the Free Stream Velocity  
Drag acts parallel to the Free Stream Velocity  
Weight acts vertically towards the ground  
Thrust is fixed in the aircraft

# Stability Axis System

Climbing Flight

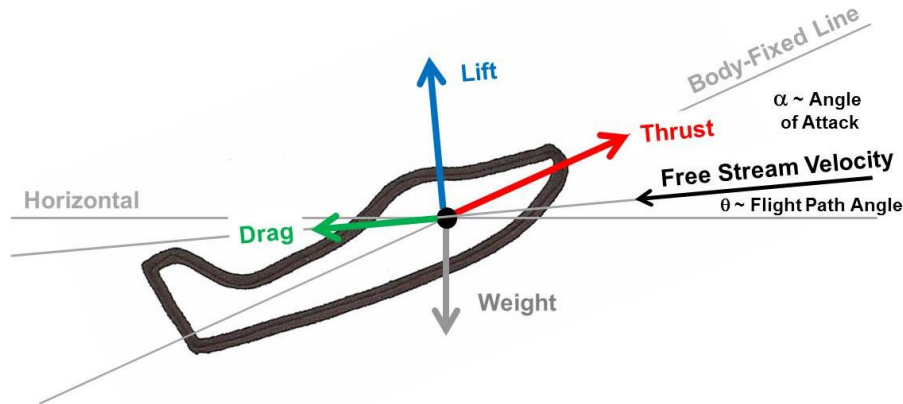


Lift acts perpendicular to the Free Stream Velocity  
Drag acts parallel to the Free Stream Velocity  
Weight acts vertically towards the ground  
Thrust is fixed in the aircraft

[Climb Video](#)

[Another Climb Video](#)

# Steady Climbing Flight



$$\Sigma F_x = T \cos \alpha - D - W \sin \theta = \frac{d(mV)}{dt} = \cancel{\dot{m} V} + \cancel{m \dot{V}} = 0$$

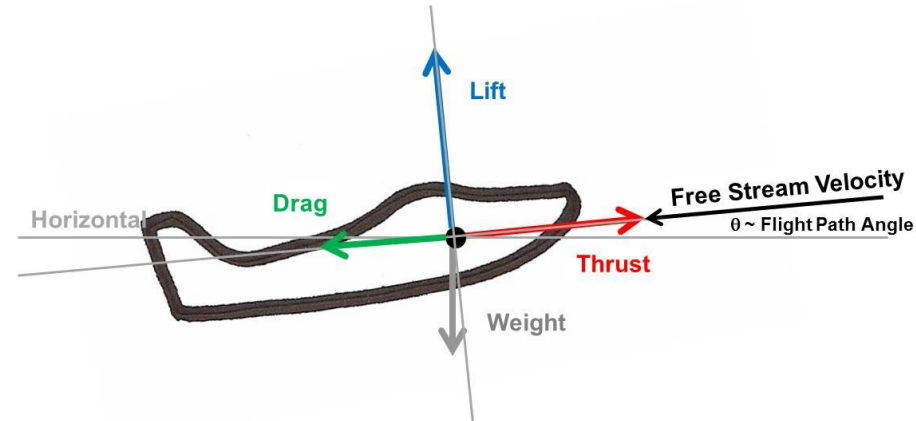
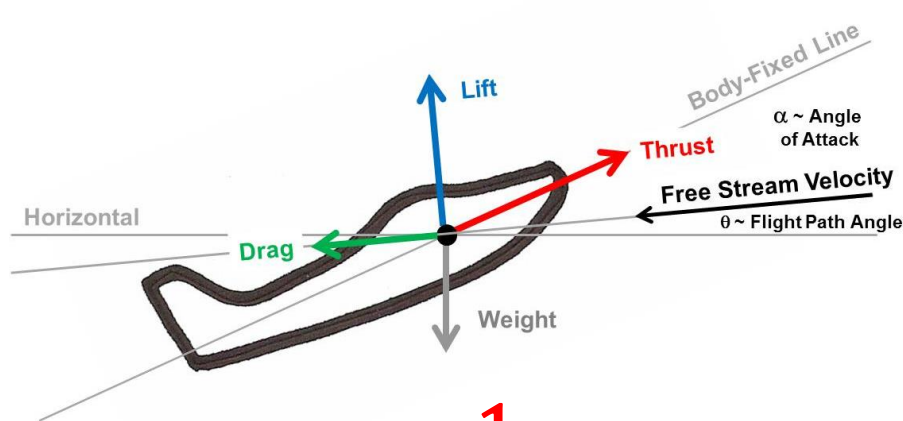
$$\Sigma F_z = L + T \sin \alpha - W \cos \theta = 0$$

**Steady Climb = Not Accelerating**

**Steady Climb = Constant Weight**



# Steady Climbing Flight

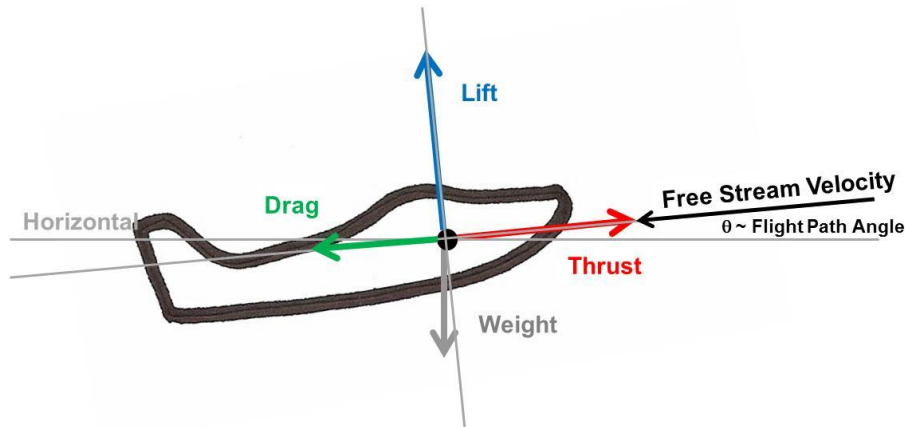


$$\Sigma F_x = T \cos \alpha - D - W \sin \theta = 0$$

$$\Sigma F_z = L + T \sin \alpha - W \cos \theta = 0$$

Small Angle Approximation Assumption for Angle of Attack ( $\alpha$ )

# Steady Climbing Flight



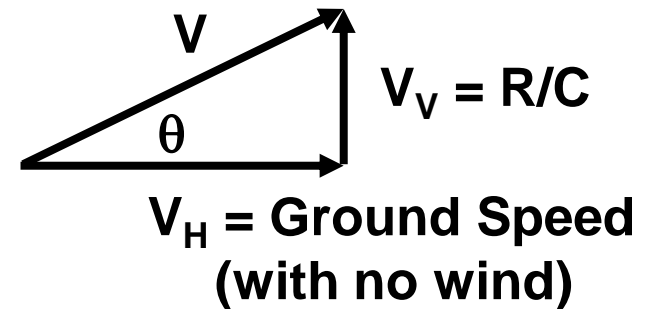
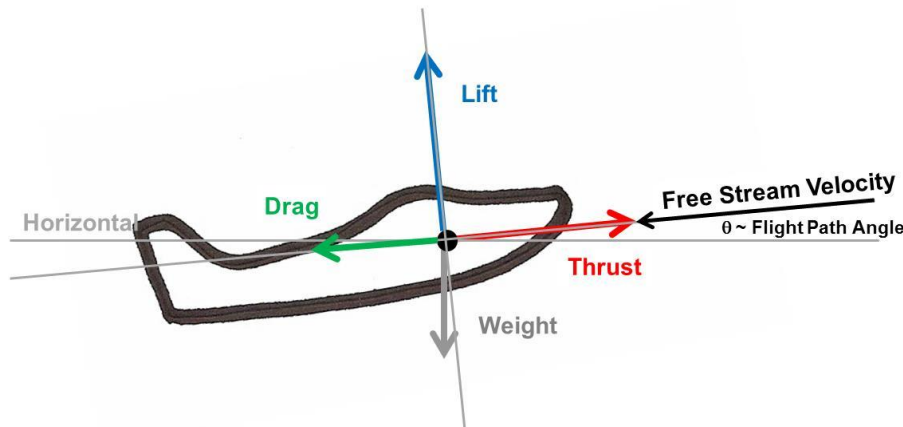
$$\Sigma F_x = T - D - W \sin \theta = 0$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{T-D}{W}$$

$$\Sigma F_z = L - W \cos \theta = 0$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{L}{W}$$

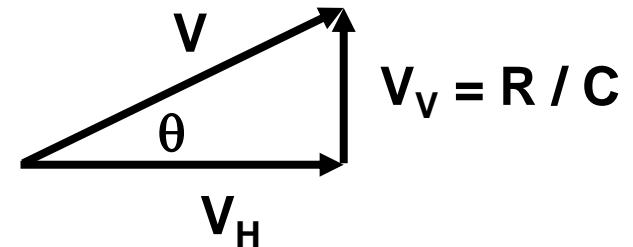
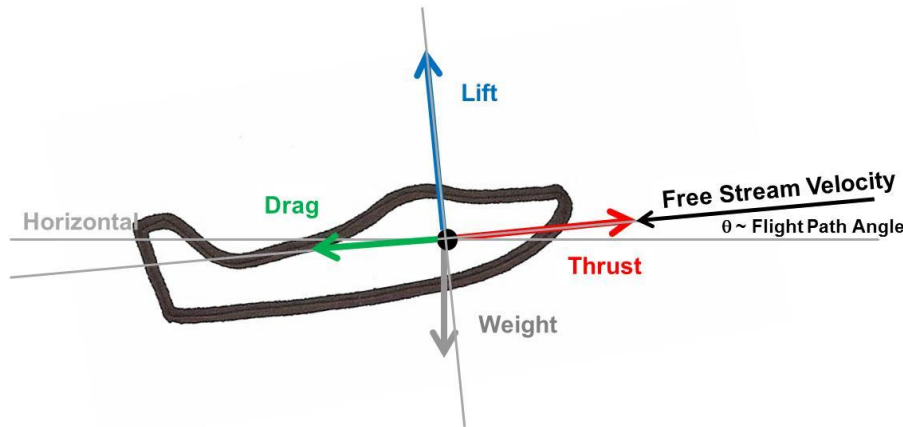
# Steady Climbing Flight



$$\sin \theta = \frac{T-D}{W} \longrightarrow V \sin \theta = \frac{(T-D) V}{W} = R/C$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{L}{W} \longrightarrow L = W \cos \theta$$

# Steady Climbing Flight

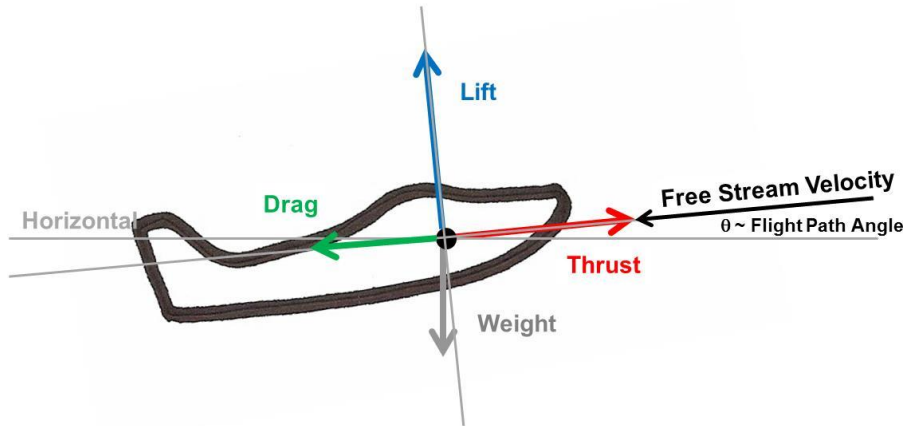


$$V \sin \theta = \frac{(T - D) V}{W} = R/C$$

$$(T - D) V = T V - D V = \text{Excess Power}$$

$$\frac{(T - D) V}{W} = \text{Specific Excess Power} = R/C$$

# Aircraft Performance

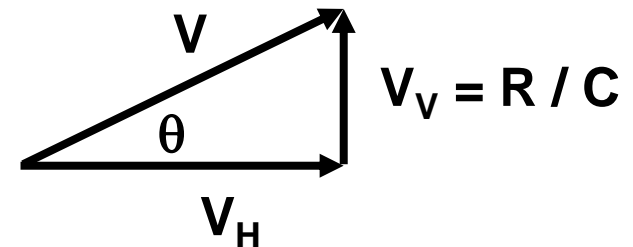
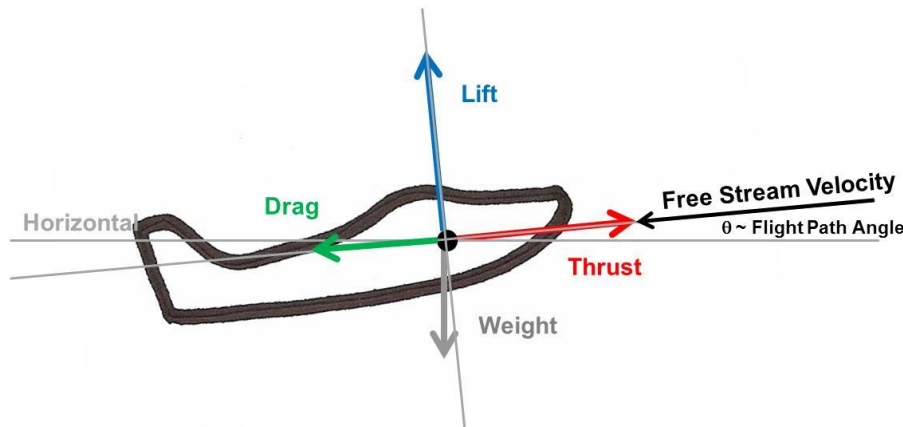


$$T > D$$

$$L < W$$

**Climb = How long does it take an aircraft to get to a higher altitude? How fast can it climb?**

# Steady Climbing Flight



$$R/C = V \sin \theta = \frac{(T - D) V}{W}$$

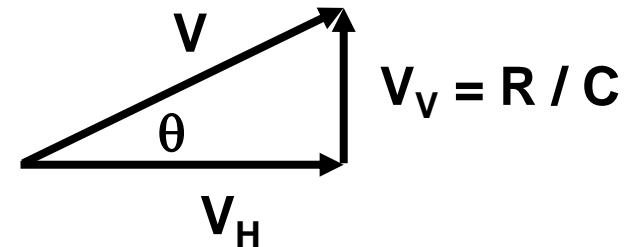
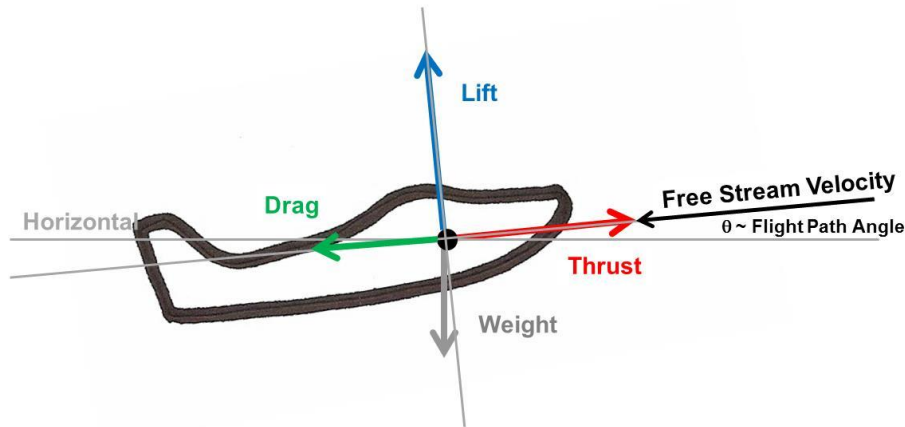
$$R/C = V \left[ \left( \frac{T}{W} \right) - \frac{q C_{D0}}{(W/S)} - \left( \frac{W}{S} \right) \frac{K}{q} \right]$$

**Fundamental Parameters**

**Speed and Altitude**

**Drag Polar Characteristics**

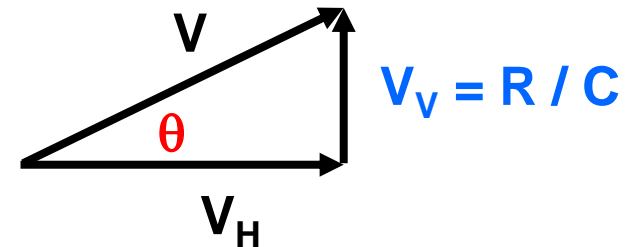
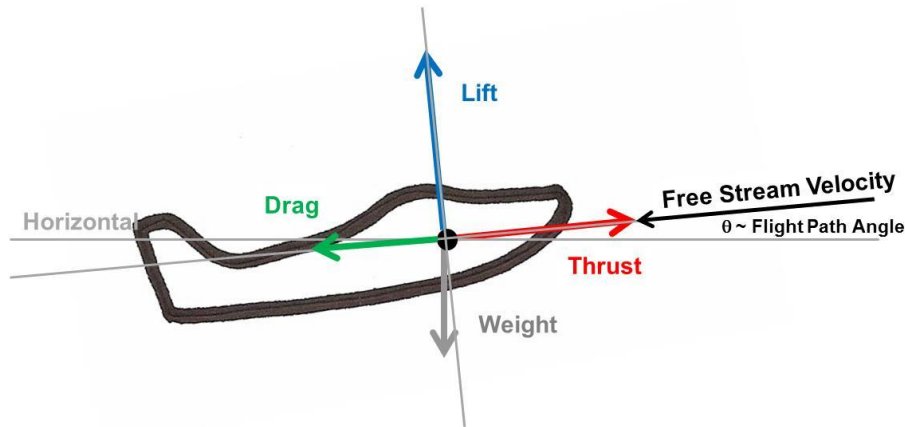
# Steady Climbing Flight



**2 cases to examine:      Maximum Climb Angle**

**Maximum Rate of Climb**

# Steady Climbing Flight

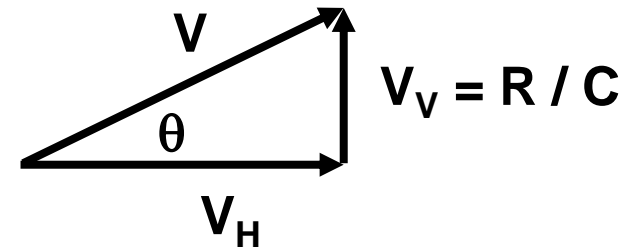
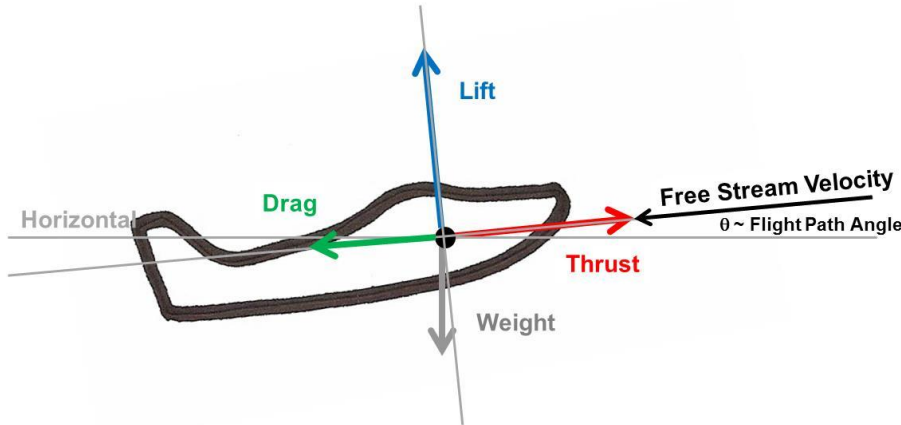


2 cases to examine: **Maximum Climb Angle**

**Maximum Rate of Climb**



# Maximum Climb Angle



## Maximum Climb Angle (jet aircraft)

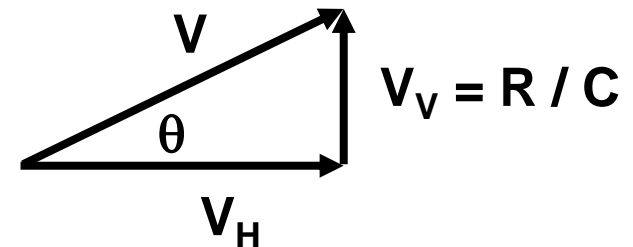
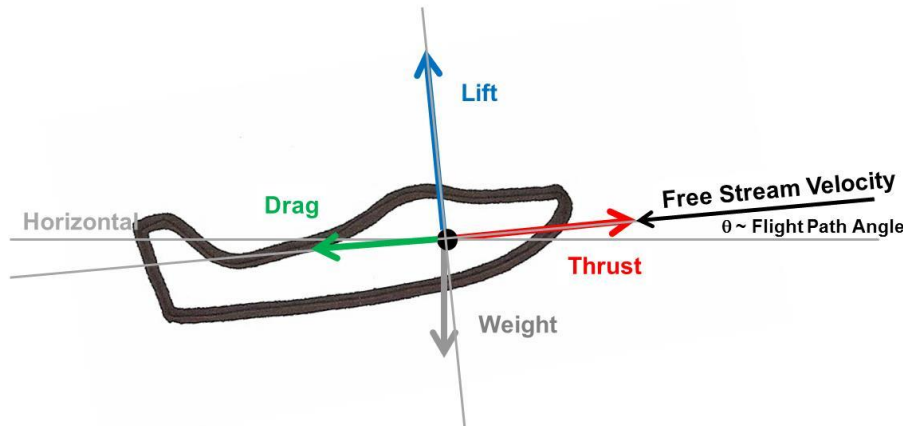
$$\sin \theta_{\max} = \left( \frac{T}{W} \right) - \frac{1}{(L/D)_{\max}} = \left( \frac{T}{W} \right) - \sqrt{4 C_{D0} K}$$

**Dominated by  
thrust term**

$$V_{\theta_{\max}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\rho} \left( \frac{K}{C_{D0}} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{W}{S} \right) \cos \theta_{\max}}$$

**Dominated by  
aero terms**

# Maximum Climb Angle



## Maximum Climb Angle (jet aircraft)

$$V_{\theta_{\max}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\rho} \left( \frac{K}{C_{D0}} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{W}{S} \right) \cos \theta_{\max}}$$

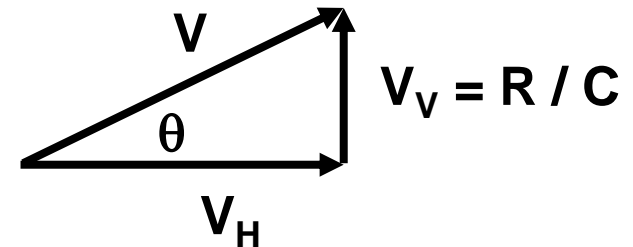
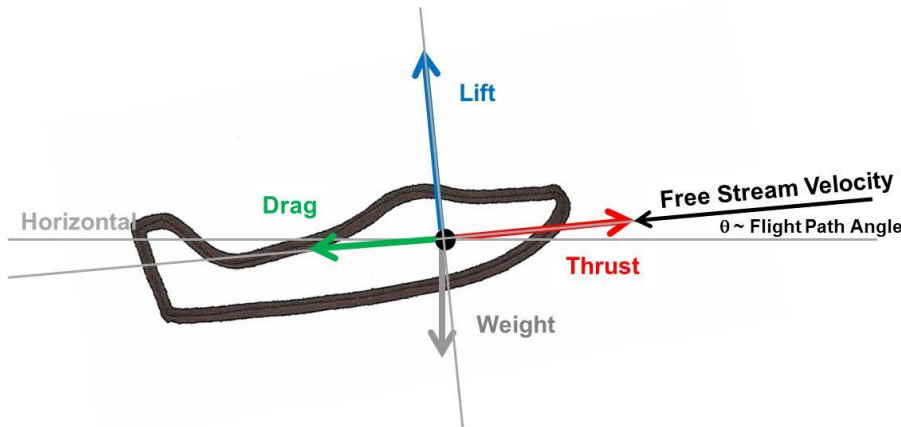
**377 ft/sec @ SL**

## Maximum Endurance (jet aircraft R=1)

$$V_{(L/D)_{\max}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\rho} \left( \frac{K}{C_{D0}} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{W}{S} \right)}$$

**386 ft/sec @ SL**

# Maximum Rate of Climb

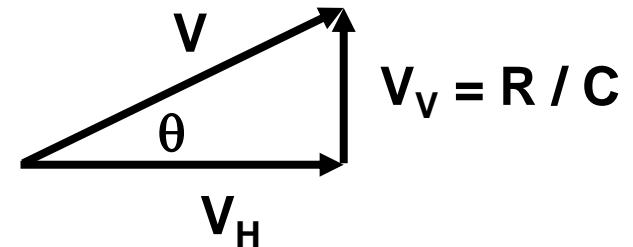
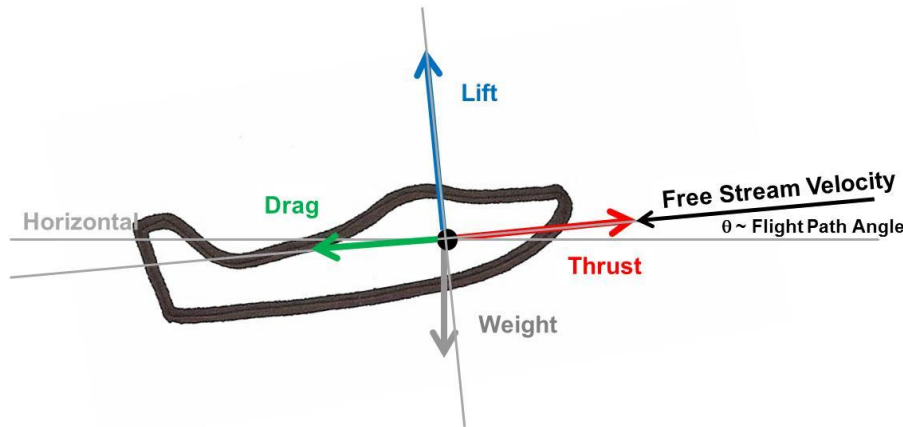


## Maximum Rate of Climb (jet aircraft)

$$(R/C)_{\max} = \left[ \left( \frac{W}{S} \right) \frac{Z}{3 \rho C_{D0}} \right]^{1/2} \left( \frac{T}{W} \right)^{3/2} \left[ 1 - \frac{Z}{6} - \frac{3}{2 Z (T/W)^2 (L/D)_{\max}^2} \right]$$

$$\text{where } Z = 1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{3}{(T/W)^2 (L/D)_{\max}^2}}$$

# Maximum Rate of Climb



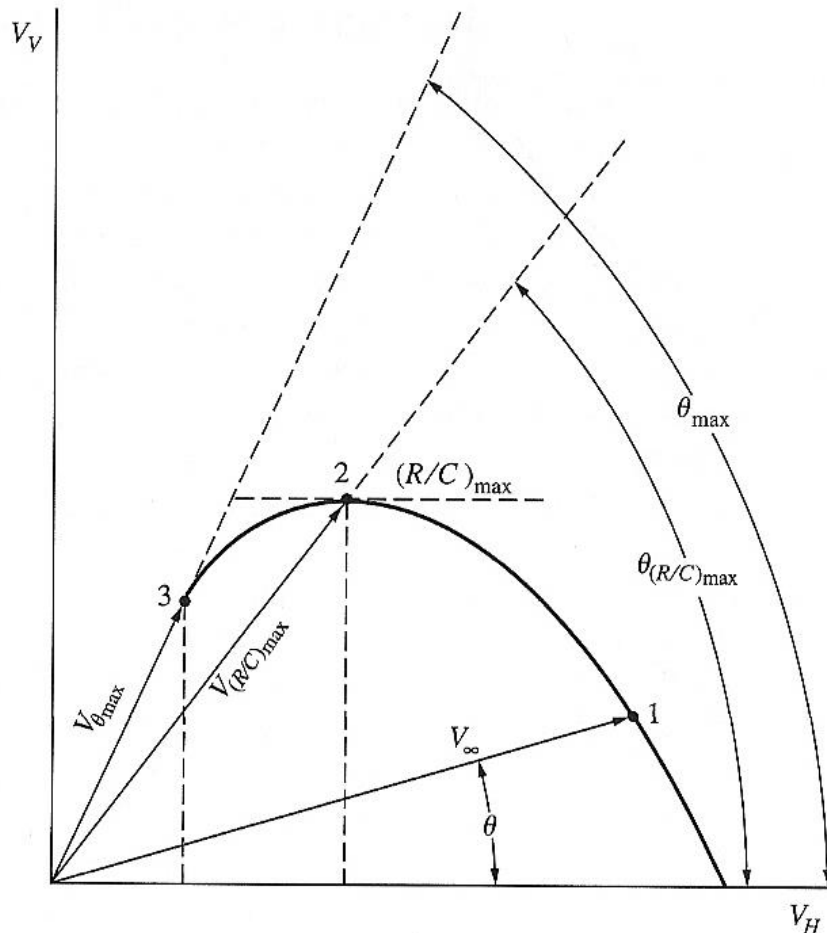
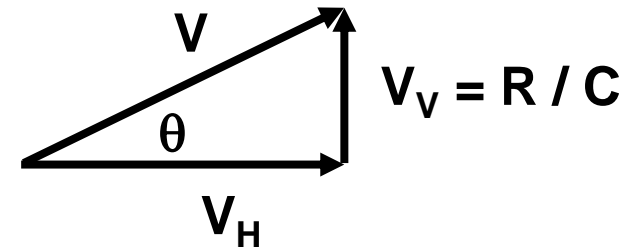
## Maximum Rate of Climb (jet aircraft)

$$V_{(R/C)\max} = \left[ \left( \frac{T}{W} \right) \left( \frac{W}{S} \right) \frac{Z}{3 \rho C_{D0}} \right]^{1/2}$$

where  $Z = 1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{3}{(T/W)^2 (L/D)_{\max}^2}}$

# Steady Climbing Flight

## Hodograph: Velocity Diagram



Vel (fps)	Theta	VH	VV
200	13.94	194.1	48.2
250	16.39	239.8	70.5
300	17.52	286.1	90.3
350	17.99	332.9	108.1
400	18.06	380.3	124.0
450	17.87	428.3	138.1
500	17.50	476.8	150.4
550	16.99	526.0	160.7
600	16.35	575.7	168.9
650	15.62	626.0	175.0
700	14.79	676.8	178.7
750	13.87	728.1	179.8
800	12.88	779.9	178.3
850	11.81	832.0	174.0
900	10.67	884.4	166.6
950	9.46	937.1	156.1
1000	8.18	989.8	142.3
1050	6.83	1042.5	124.9
1100	5.42	1095.1	103.9
1150	3.94	1147.3	79.0
1200	2.39	1199.0	50.1
1250	0.78	1249.9	17.1
1300	-0.90	1299.8	-20.4

# Maximum Rate of Climb

$$R/C = V \sin \theta = \frac{(T - D) V}{W}$$

**Gulfstream IV**

**twin-turbofan biz jet:**

$$C_{D0} = 0.0150 \quad K = 0.08$$

$$W = 73,000 \text{ lb}$$

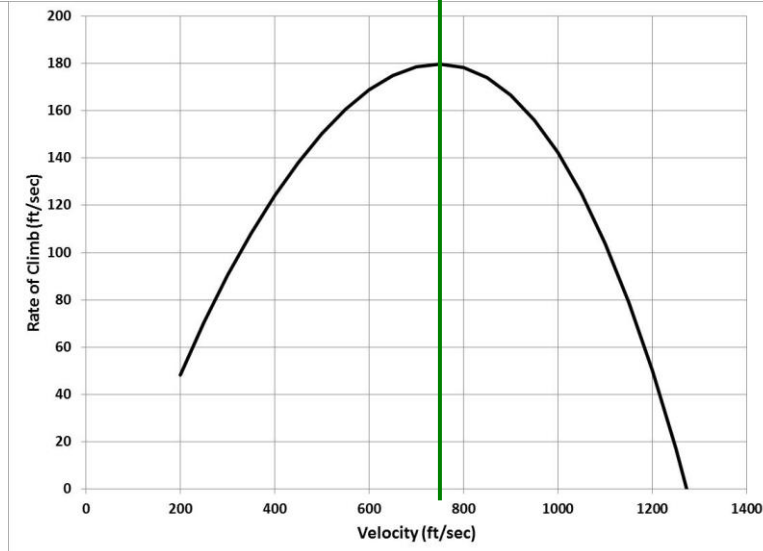
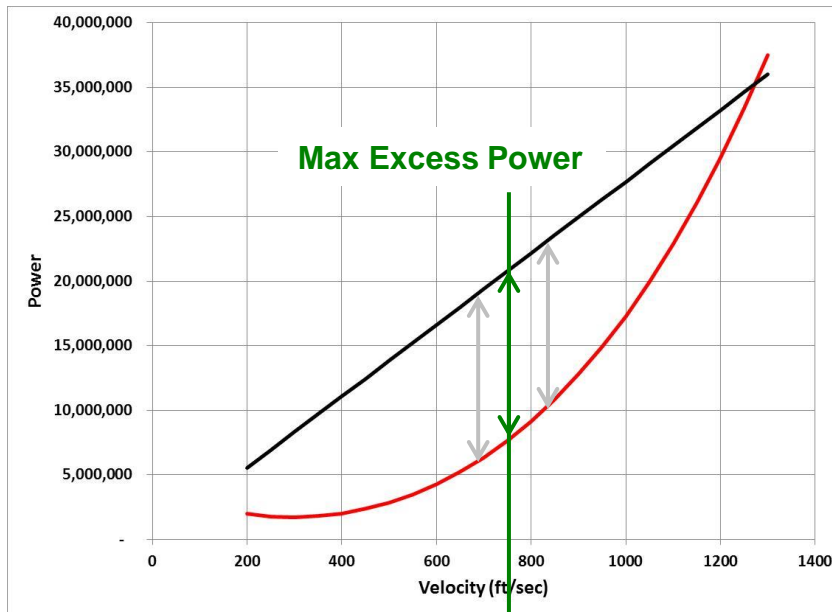
**h = sea level**



CD0	0.0150	Wt	73,000 lb				
K	0.08	Alt	0 ft				
		rho	0.00237688				
		QMS	1481.4				
		a	1116.45 ft/sec				
		S	950 sq ft				
					Power		
Vel (fps)	CL	CD	D (lb)	T (lb)	TV	DV	R/C
200	1.6164	0.2240	10117	27700	5,540,000	2,023,428	48.2
250	1.0345	0.1006	7100	27700	6,925,000	1,774,976	70.5
300	0.7184	0.0563	5720	27700	8,310,000	1,715,897	90.3
350	0.5278	0.0373	5157	27700	9,695,000	1,804,951	108.1
400	0.4041	0.0281	5070	27700	11,080,000	2,027,869	124.0
450	0.3193	0.0232	5294	27700	12,465,000	2,382,370	138.1
500	0.2586	0.0204	5744	27700	13,850,000	2,872,166	150.4
550	0.2137	0.0187	6371	27700	15,235,000	3,504,237	160.7
600	0.1796	0.0176	7146	27700	16,620,000	4,287,471	168.9
650	0.1530	0.0169	8049	27700	18,005,000	5,231,930	175.0
700	0.1319	0.0164	9069	27700	19,390,000	6,348,430	178.7
750	0.1149	0.0161	10198	27700	20,775,000	7,648,290	179.8
800	0.1010	0.0158	11429	27700	22,160,000	9,143,173	178.3
850	0.0895	0.0156	12759	27700	23,545,000	10,844,990	174.0
900	0.0798	0.0155	14184	27700	24,930,000	12,765,824	166.6
950	0.0716	0.0154	15703	27700	26,315,000	14,917,891	156.1
1000	0.0647	0.0153	17314	27700	27,700,000	17,313,502	142.3
1050	0.0586	0.0153	19014	27700	29,085,000	19,965,046	124.9
1100	0.0534	0.0152	20805	27700	30,470,000	22,884,964	103.9
1150	0.0489	0.0152	22683	27700	31,855,000	26,085,746	79.0
1200	0.0449	0.0152	24650	27700	33,240,000	29,579,917	50.1
1250	0.0414	0.0151	26704	27700	34,625,000	33,380,028	17.1
1300	0.0383	0.0151	28845	27700	36,010,000	37,498,656	(20.4)

# Maximum Rate of Climb

Example 5.13



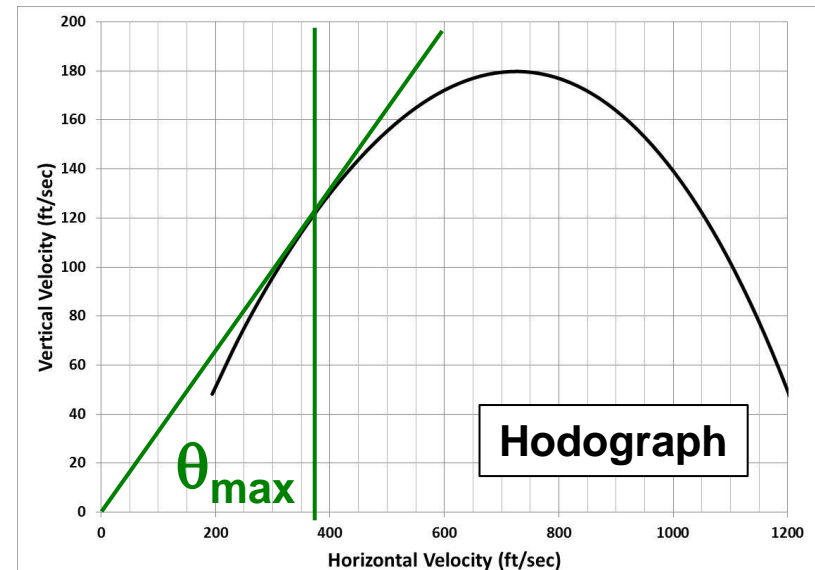
From the graphs:

$$V_{(R/C)_{\max}} = 750 \text{ ft/sec}$$

$$(R/C)_{\max} = 180 \text{ ft/sec}$$

$$V_{\theta_{\max}} = 375 \text{ ft/sec}$$

$$\theta_{\max} = \arctan(125/375) = 18.4^\circ$$



# Maximum Rate of Climb

## Maximum Climb Angle

$$\sin \theta_{\max} = \left( \frac{T}{W} \right) - \sqrt{4 C_{D_0} K}$$

$$V_{\theta_{\max}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\rho} \left( \frac{K}{C_{D_0}} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{W}{S} \right) \cos \theta_{\max}}$$

## Maximum Rate of Climb

$$V_{(R/C)_{\max}} = \left[ \left( \frac{T}{W} \right) \left( \frac{W}{S} \right) \frac{Z}{3 \rho C_{D_0}} \right]^{1/2}$$

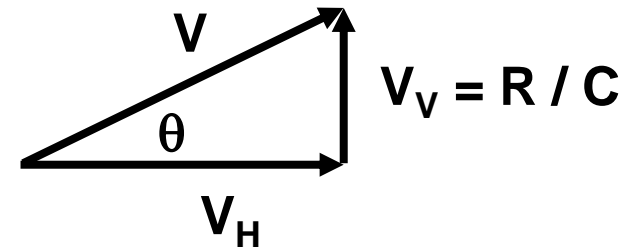
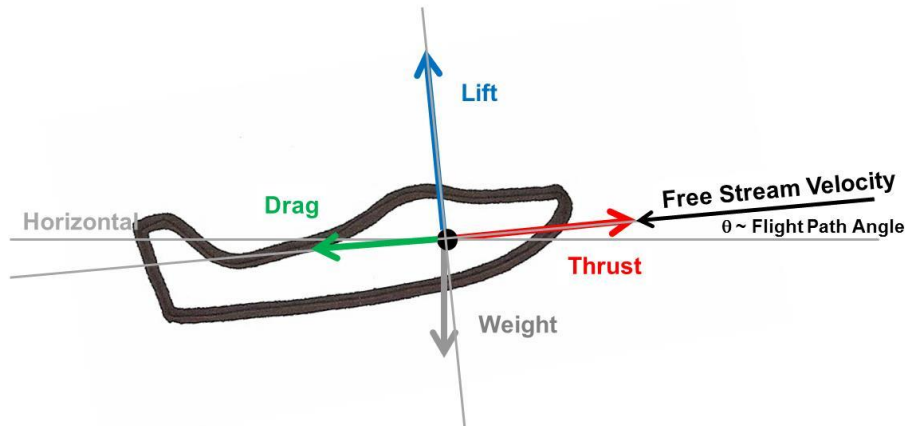
$$(R/C)_{\max} = \left[ \left( \frac{W}{S} \right) \frac{Z}{3 \rho C_{D_0}} \right]^{1/2} \left( \frac{T}{W} \right)^{3/2} \left[ 1 - \frac{Z}{6} - \frac{3}{2 Z \left( \frac{T}{W} \right)^2 \left( \frac{L}{D} \right)_{\max}^2} \right]$$

$$\text{where } Z = 1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{3}{\left( \frac{T}{W} \right)^2 \left( \frac{L}{D} \right)_{\max}^2}}$$

CD0	0.0150	Wt	73,000 lb
K	0.08	Alt	0 ft
T	27,700	rho	0.00237688
Z	2.0488	QMS	1481.4
		a	1116.45 ft/sec
		S	950 sq ft
T/W	0.3795		
W/S	76.84		
L/D max	14.43		
Max Climb Angle			
	Max Theta	18.07 degrees	<b>18.4</b>
	Velocity	376.8 ft/sec	<b>375</b>
Max Rate of Climb			
	Max R/C	179.8 ft/sec	<b>180</b>
	Velocity	747.3 ft/sec	<b>750</b>



# Time to Climb



$$\frac{dh}{dt} = R/C \quad \longrightarrow \quad dt = \frac{dh}{R/C} \quad \longrightarrow \quad t = \int_{h_1}^{h_2} \frac{dh}{R/C}$$

$$t_{\min} = \int_{h_1}^{h_2} \frac{dh}{(R/C)_{\max}}$$

## Time to Climb

### Example 5.17

## Calculate the maximum Rate of Climb at many altitudes

**Divide  $\Delta h$  by  $(R/C)_{\max}$  at each altitude**

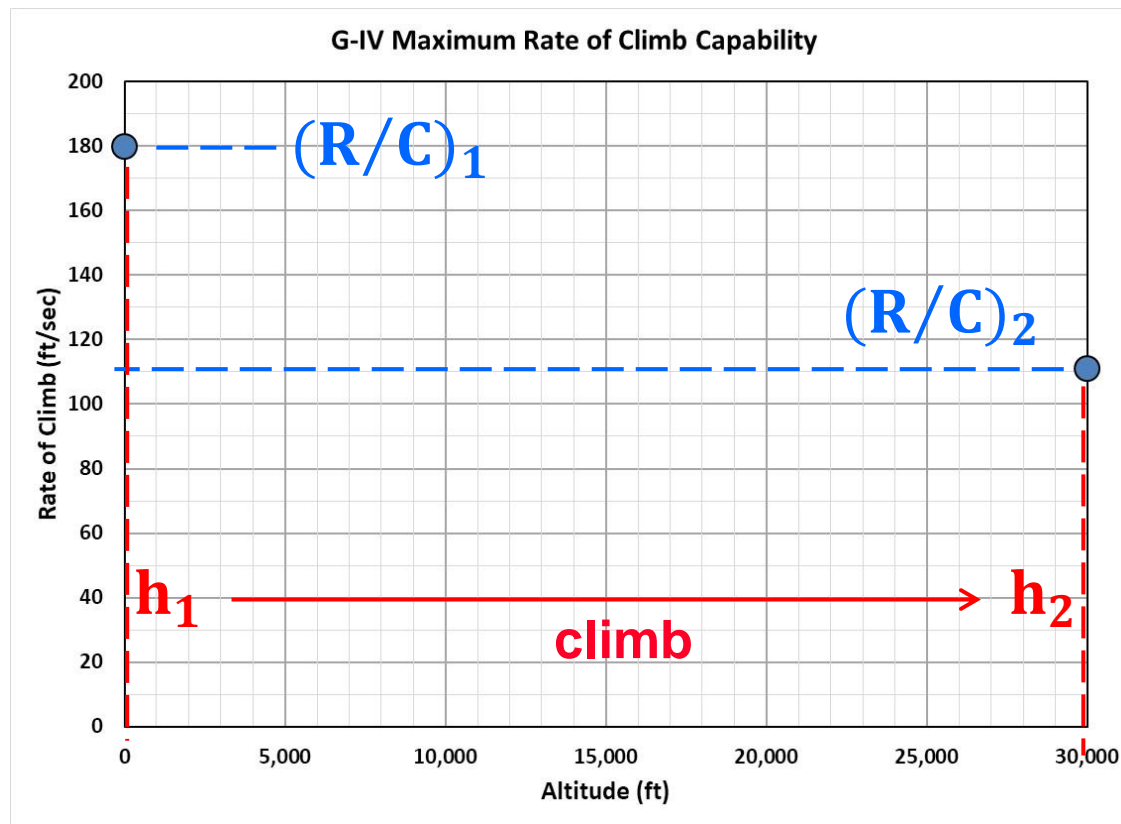
## Sum up all of the increments to get Time to Climb

[illegible]

# Time to Climb

Alternative Method in Textbook – assume linear  $R/C_{\max}$  vs Altitude

$$t_{\min} = \int_{h_1}^{h_2} \frac{dh}{(R/C)_{\max}}$$



# Time to Climb

Alternative Method in Textbook – assume linear  $R/C_{\max}$  vs Altitude

Calculate the maximum Rate of Climb at Sea Level

Calculate the maximum Rate of Climb at 30,000 ft

Derive the linear relationship  $R/C_{\max} = a + b \Delta h$

$$t_{\min} = \int_{h_1}^{h_2} \frac{dh}{(R/C)_{\max}} = \int_{h_1}^{h_2} \frac{dh}{a + b \Delta h}$$

$$t_{\min} = \frac{1}{b} [\ln(a + b \Delta h) - \ln a]$$

# Time to Climb

Alternative Method in Textbook – assume linear  $R/C_{\max}$  vs Altitude

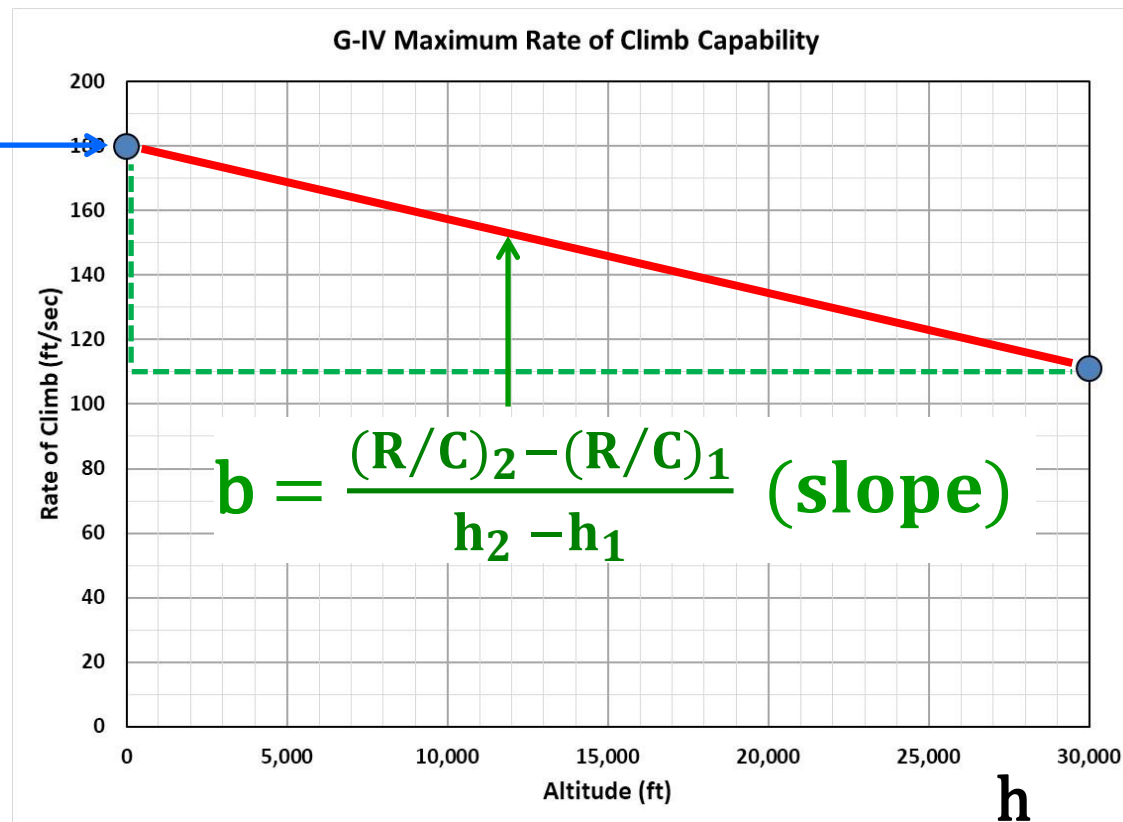
Calculate the maximum Rate of Climb at Sea Level

Calculate the maximum Rate of Climb at 30,000 ft

Derive the linear relationship  $R/C_{\max} = a + b \Delta h$

$$a = (R/C)_1$$

$R/C$



# Time to Climb

## Alternative Method in Textbook

$$t_{\min} = \frac{1}{b} [\ln(a + b \Delta h) - \ln a]$$

$$\text{since } (R/C)_{\max} = a + b \Delta h = a + b (h_2 - h_1)$$

$$t_{\min} = \frac{1}{b} [\ln(R/C)_2 - \ln(R/C)_1]$$

# Time to Climb

## Alternative Method in Textbook

$$t_{\min} = \frac{1}{b} [\ln(R/C)_2 - \ln(R/C)_1]$$

**Solve for b**

**At Sea Level:  $(R/C)_{\max} = 179.8 \text{ ft/sec}$**

**At 30,000 ft:  $(R/C)_{\max} = 111.0 \text{ sec}$**

$$a = 179.8 \quad b = (111.0 - 179.8) / (30,000 - 0) = -0.0022933$$

$$(R/C)_{\max} = 179.8 - 0.0022933 \Delta h$$

$$t_{\min} = \frac{1}{-0.0022933} [\ln(111.0) - \ln(179.8)]$$

$$t_{\min} = 210.3 \text{ sec} = 3.51 \text{ min}$$

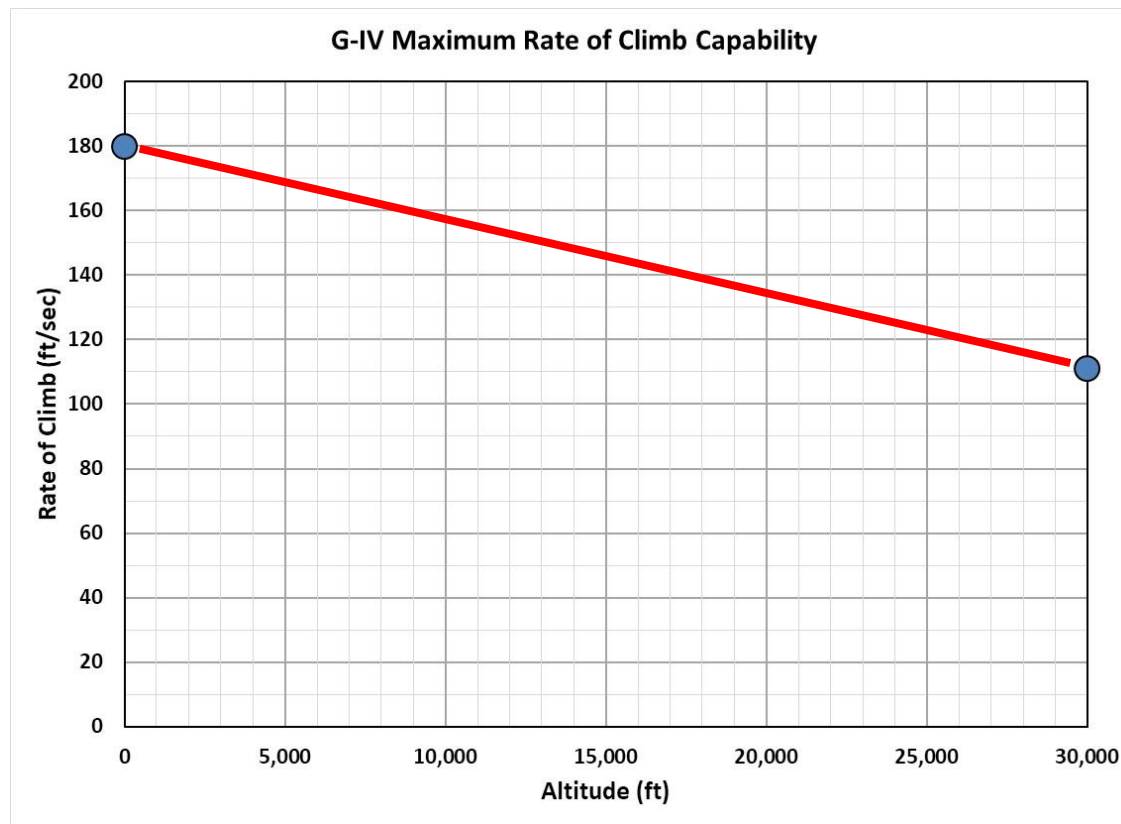
# Time to Climb

Easier Method – assume linear  $R/C_{\max}$  vs Altitude

Calculate the maximum Rate of Climb at Sea Level

Calculate the maximum Rate of Climb at 30,000 ft

Calculate the average Rate of Climb





# Time to Climb

## Easier Method

$$t_{\min} = \frac{\Delta h}{(R/C)_{\text{avg}}}$$

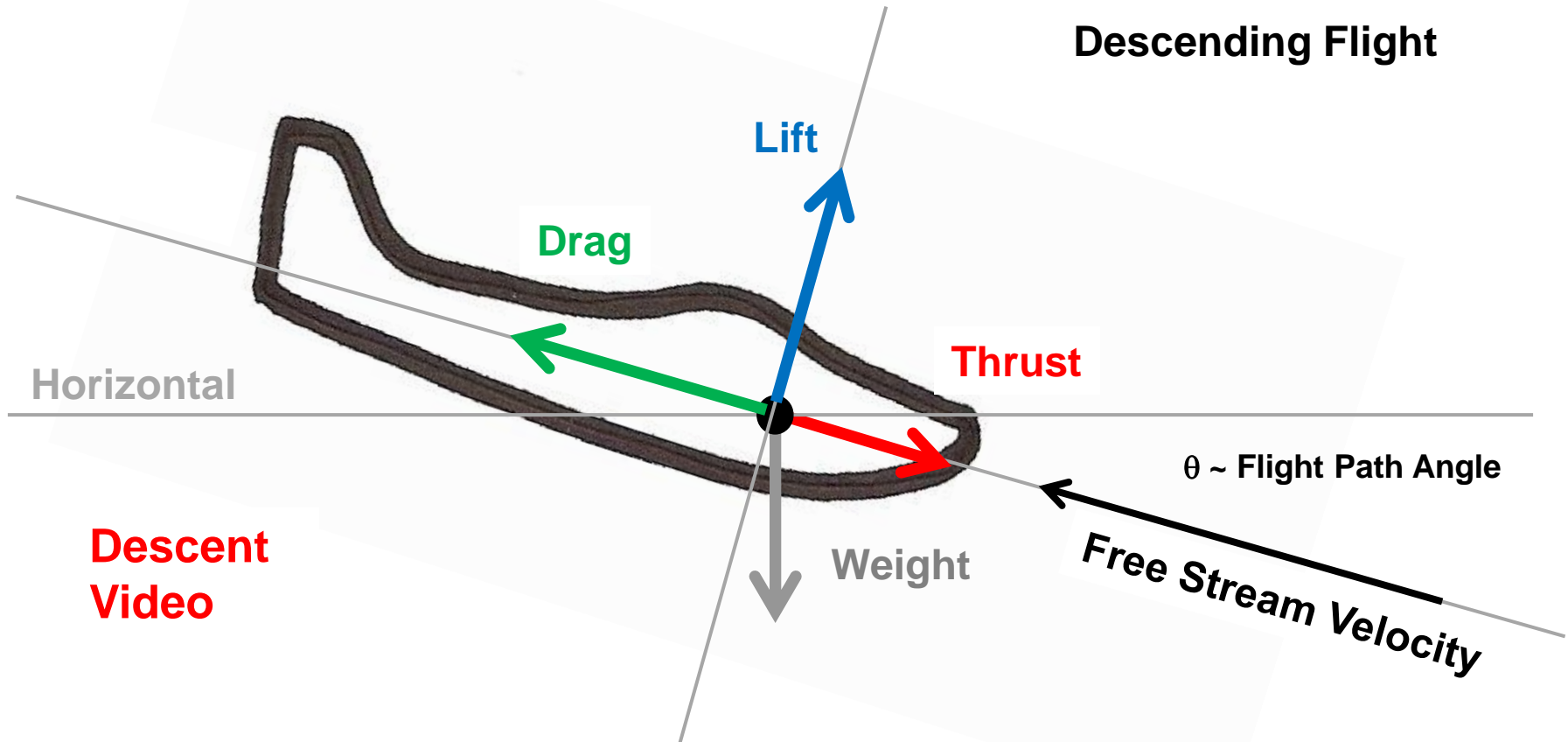
At Sea Level:  $(R/C)_{\max} = 179.8 \text{ ft/sec}$

At 30,000 ft:  $(R/C)_{\max} = 111.0 \text{ ft/sec}$

$$t_{\min} = \frac{(30,000 - 0)}{(179.8 + 111.0)/2}$$

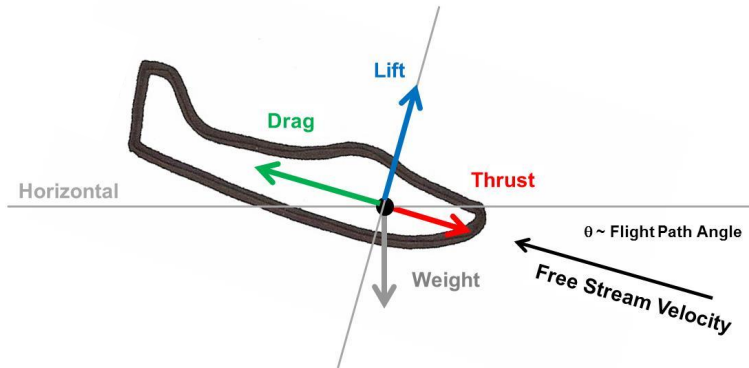
$$t_{\min} = 206.3 \text{ sec} = 3.44 \text{ min}$$

# Stability Axis System



Lift acts perpendicular to the Free Stream Velocity  
Drag acts parallel to the Free Stream Velocity  
Weight acts vertically towards the ground  
Thrust is fixed in the aircraft

# Steady Descending Flight



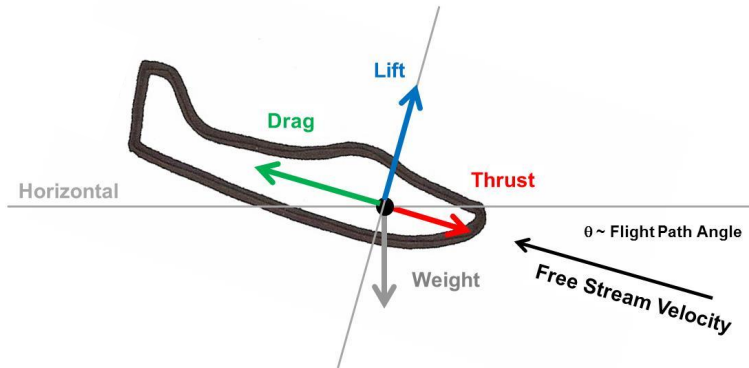
$$\Sigma F_x = T - D + W \sin \theta = \frac{d(mV)}{dt} = \cancel{\dot{m} V}^0 + \cancel{m \dot{V}}^0$$

$$\Sigma F_z = L - W \cos \theta = 0$$

Steady Descent = Not Accelerating

Steady Descent = Constant Weight

# Steady Descending Flight



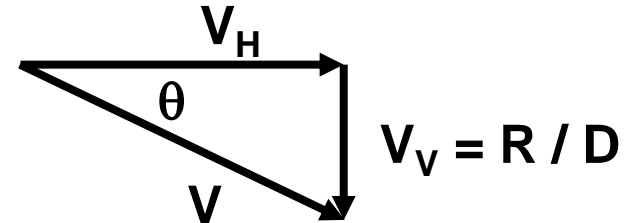
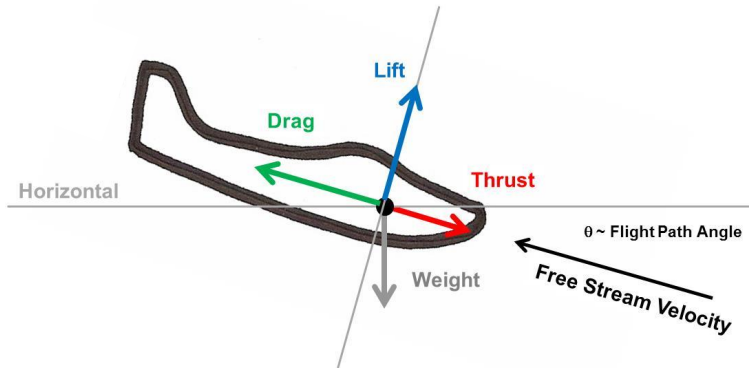
$$\Sigma F_x = T - D + W \sin \theta = 0$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{D - T}{W}$$

$$\Sigma F_z = L - W \cos \theta = 0$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{L}{W}$$

# Steady Descending Flight

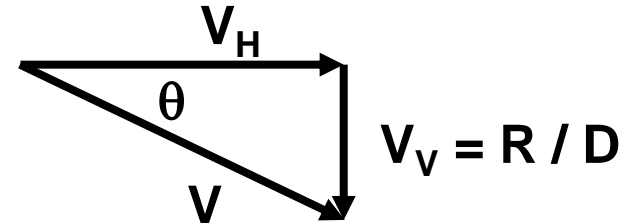
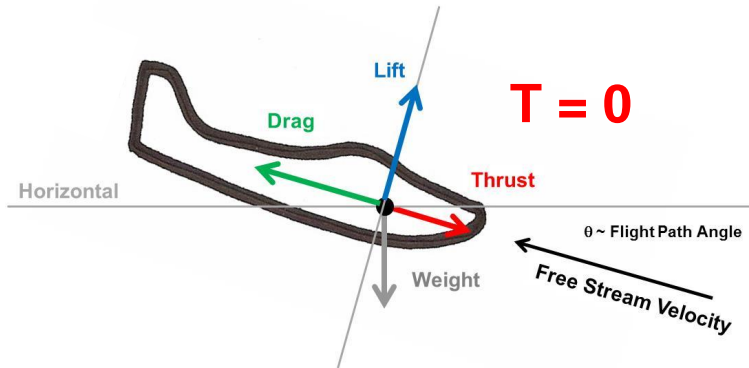


$$\sin \theta = \frac{D - T}{W} \longrightarrow V \sin \theta = \frac{(D - T) V}{W} = R/D$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{L}{W} \longrightarrow L = W \cos \theta$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{D - T}{L} = \frac{1 - (T/D)}{(L/D)}$$

# Steady Gliding Flight

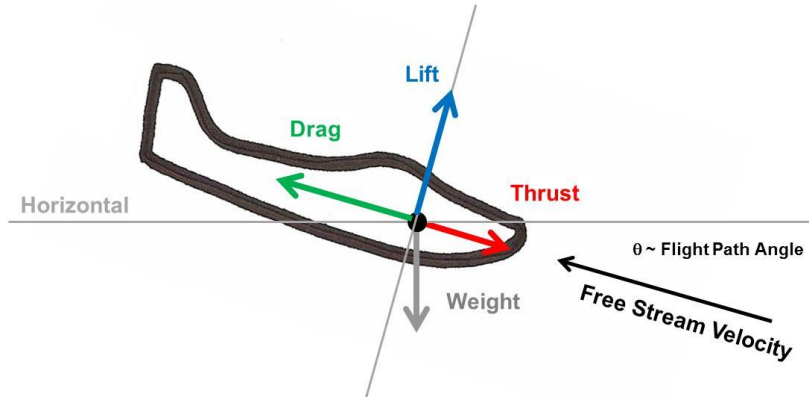


$$\sin \theta = \frac{D - \overset{0}{T}}{W} \longrightarrow V \sin \theta = \frac{D V}{W} = R/D$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{L}{W} \longrightarrow L = W \cos \theta$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{D - \overset{0}{T}}{L} = \frac{1 - (\overset{0}{T/D})}{(L/D)} = \frac{1}{(L/D)}$$

# Aircraft Performance

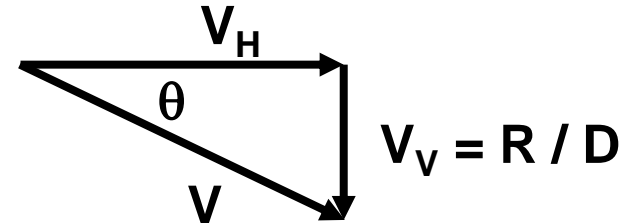
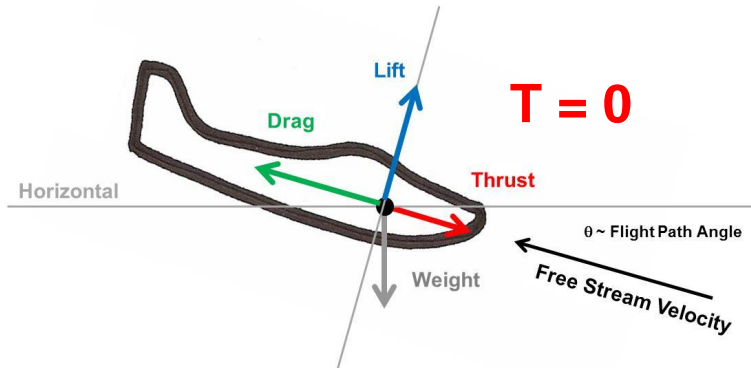


$$T < D$$

$$L < W$$

**Descent = How long does it take an aircraft to get to a lower altitude? How slow can it descend?**

# Minimum Glide Angle



$$\tan \theta_{\min} = \frac{1}{(L/D)_{\max}}$$

$$V_{\theta_{\min}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\rho} \left( \frac{K}{C_{D0}} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{W}{S} \right) \cos \theta}$$

$$V_{(L/D)_{\max}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\rho} \left( \frac{K}{C_{D0}} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{W}{S} \right)}$$

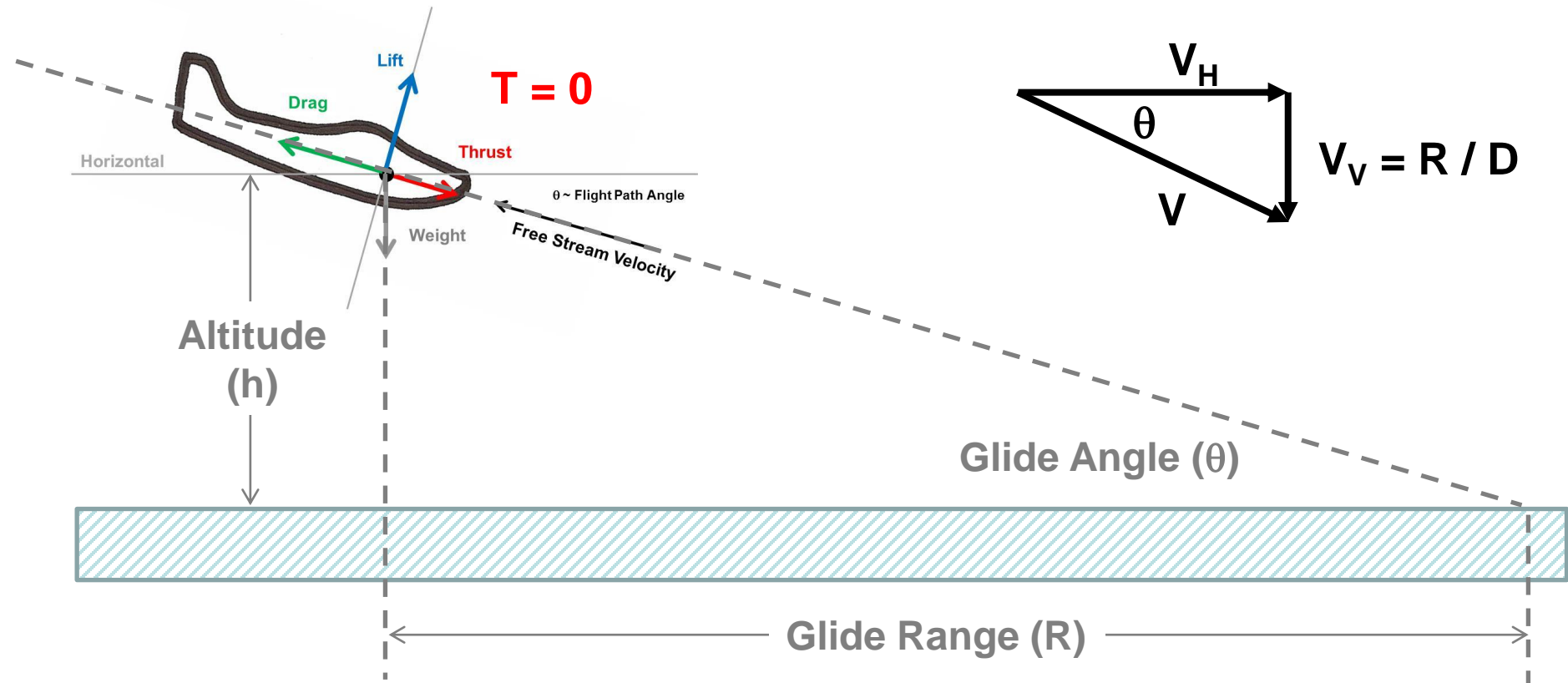
**Minimum descent angle  
= Maximum glide range**

$$V_{\theta_{\min}} \approx V_{(L/D)_{\max}}$$

**Maximum endurance for jet aircraft R=1**

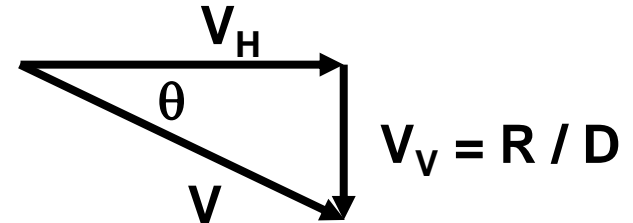
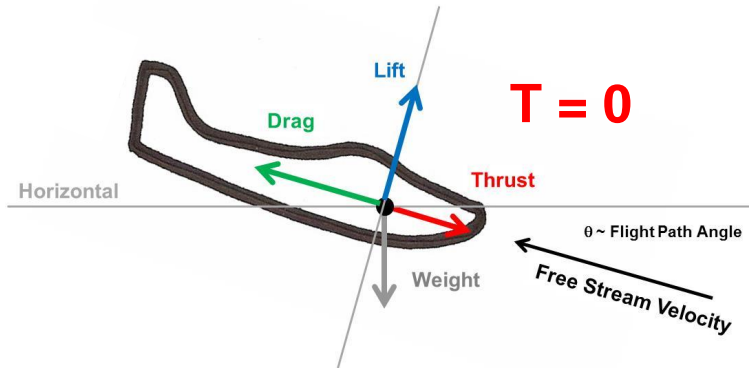


# Minimum Glide Angle



$$\tan \theta_{\min} = \frac{1}{(L/D)_{\max}} = \frac{h}{R}$$

# Minimum Sink Rate



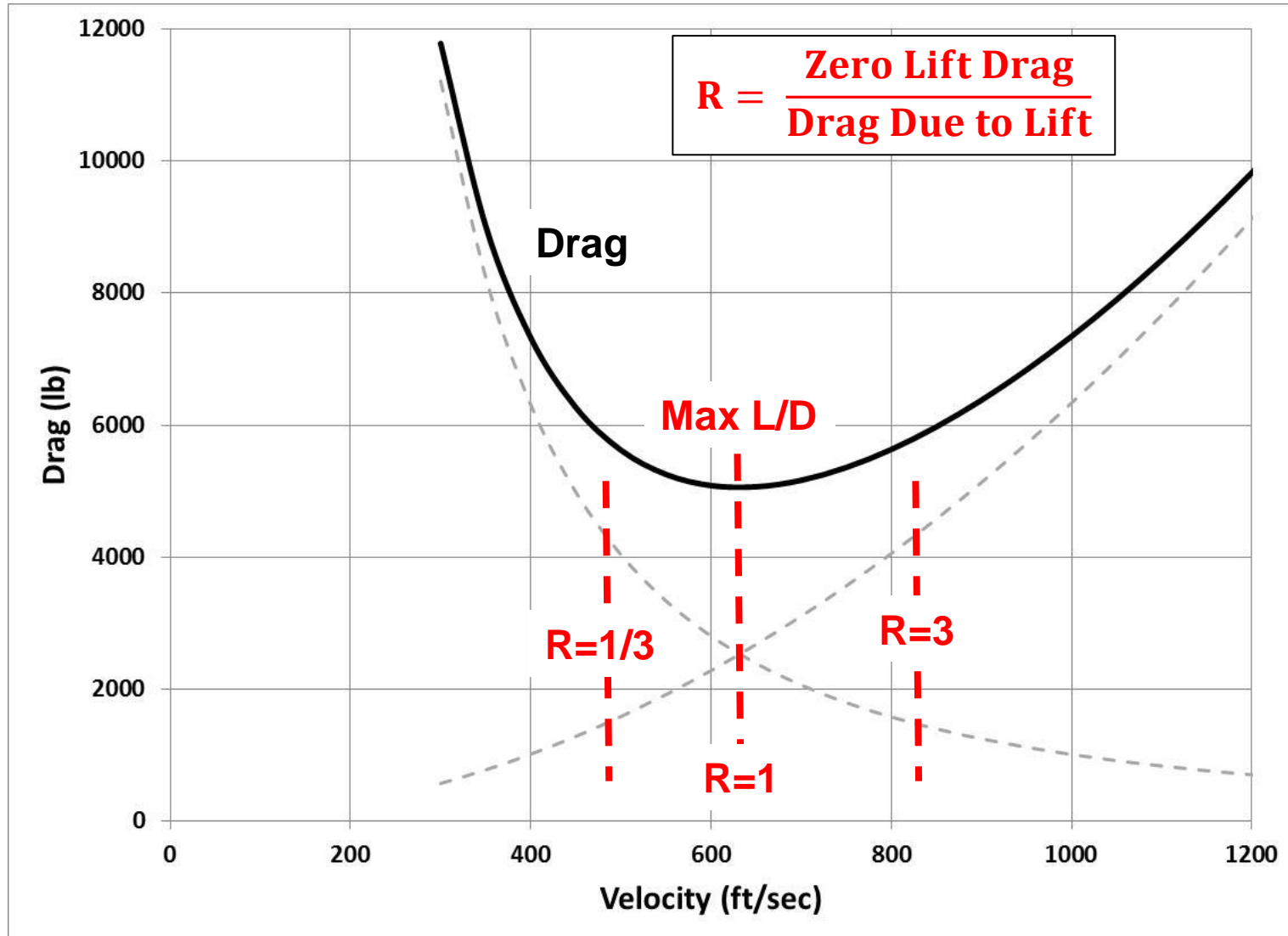
**Rate of Descent (R/D) = Sink Rate ( $V_V$ )**

$$V_{V_{\min}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\rho (C_L^{3/2}/C_D)^2} \left(\frac{W}{S}\right)}$$

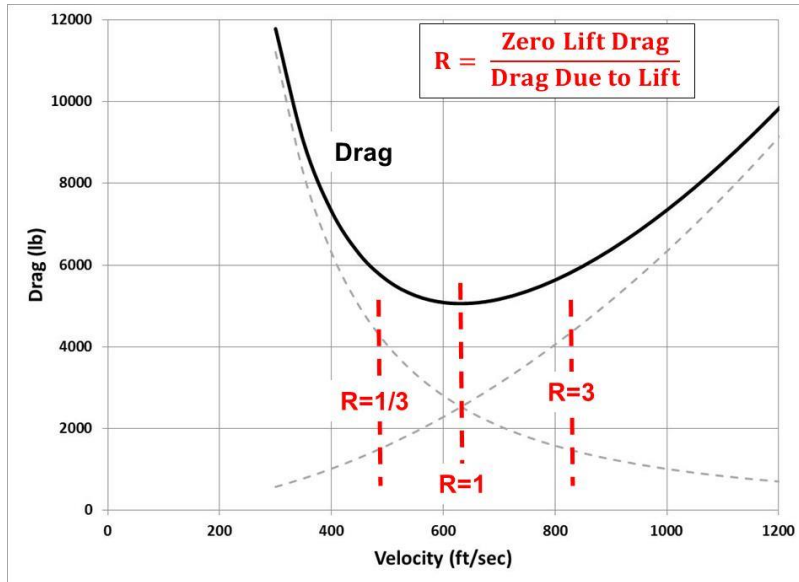
**Minimum Sink Rate occurs when  $C_L^{3/2} / C_D$  is a maximum**

$$V_{(VV)_{\min}} = \left( \frac{2}{\rho} \sqrt{\frac{K}{3 C_{D0}}} \frac{W}{S} \right)^{1/2} = 0.7598 V_{L/D_{\max}}$$

# Steady Flight



# Steady Flight



$$R = \frac{\text{Zero Lift Drag}}{\text{Drag Due to Lift}}$$

$$R = 1$$

$$C_{D0} = C_{DL} = K C_L^2$$

$$\text{Max } \frac{C_L}{C_D}$$

Max Endurance

Max Glide Range

$$R = 3 \quad C_{D0} = 3 C_{DL} = 3 K C_L^2$$

$$\text{Max } \frac{C_L^{1/2}}{C_D}$$

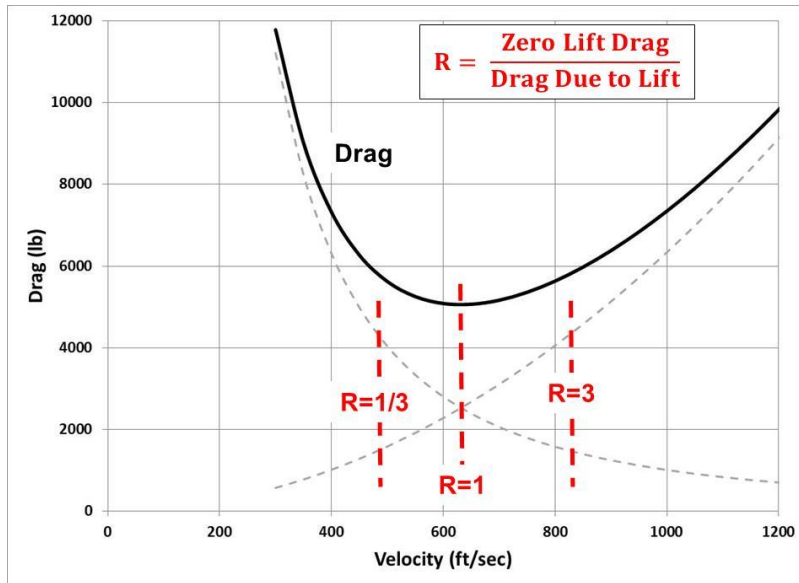
Max Range

$$R = \frac{1}{3} \quad C_{D0} = \frac{1}{3} C_{DL} = \frac{1}{3} K C_L^2$$

$$\text{Max } \frac{C_L^{3/2}}{C_D}$$

Min Sink Rate

# Steady Flight



$$R = \frac{\text{Zero Lift Drag}}{\text{Drag Due to Lift}}$$

$$R = 1 \quad C_{D0} = C_{DL} = K C_L^2$$

$$\text{Max } \frac{C_L}{C_D} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4 C_{D0} K}}$$

$$R = 3 \quad C_{D0} = 3 C_{DL} = 3 K C_L^2$$

$$\text{Max } \frac{C_L^{1/2}}{C_D} = \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{1}{3 K C_{D0}^3} \right)^{1/4}$$

$$R = \frac{1}{3} \quad C_{D0} = \frac{1}{3} C_{DL} = \frac{1}{3} K C_L^2$$

$$\text{Max } \frac{C_L^{3/2}}{C_D} = \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{3}{K C_{D0}^{1/3}} \right)^{3/4}$$

# Steady Flight

$$R = \frac{\text{Zero Lift Drag}}{\text{Drag Due to Lift}}$$

Max Endurance    Max Glide Range

$$R = 1 \quad C_{D0} = C_{DL} = K C_L^2 \quad \text{Max} \frac{C_L}{C_D}$$

$$V_{L/D_{\max}} = \left( \frac{2}{\rho} \sqrt{\frac{K}{C_{D0}}} \frac{W}{S} \right)^{1/2}$$

Max Range

$$R = 3 \quad C_{D0} = 3 C_{DL} = 3 K C_L^2 \quad \text{Max} \frac{C_L^{1/2}}{C_D}$$

$$V = 1.3161 V_{L/D_{\max}}$$

Min Sink Rate

$$R = \frac{1}{3} \quad C_{D0} = \frac{1}{3} C_{DL} = \frac{1}{3} K C_L^2 \quad \text{Max} \frac{C_L^{3/2}}{C_D}$$

$$V = 0.7598 V_{L/D_{\max}}$$

# G-IV Descent

$$R/D = V \sin \theta = \frac{(D - T) V}{W}$$

**Gulfstream IV**

**twin-turbofan biz jet:**

$$C_{D0} = 0.0150 \quad K = 0.08$$

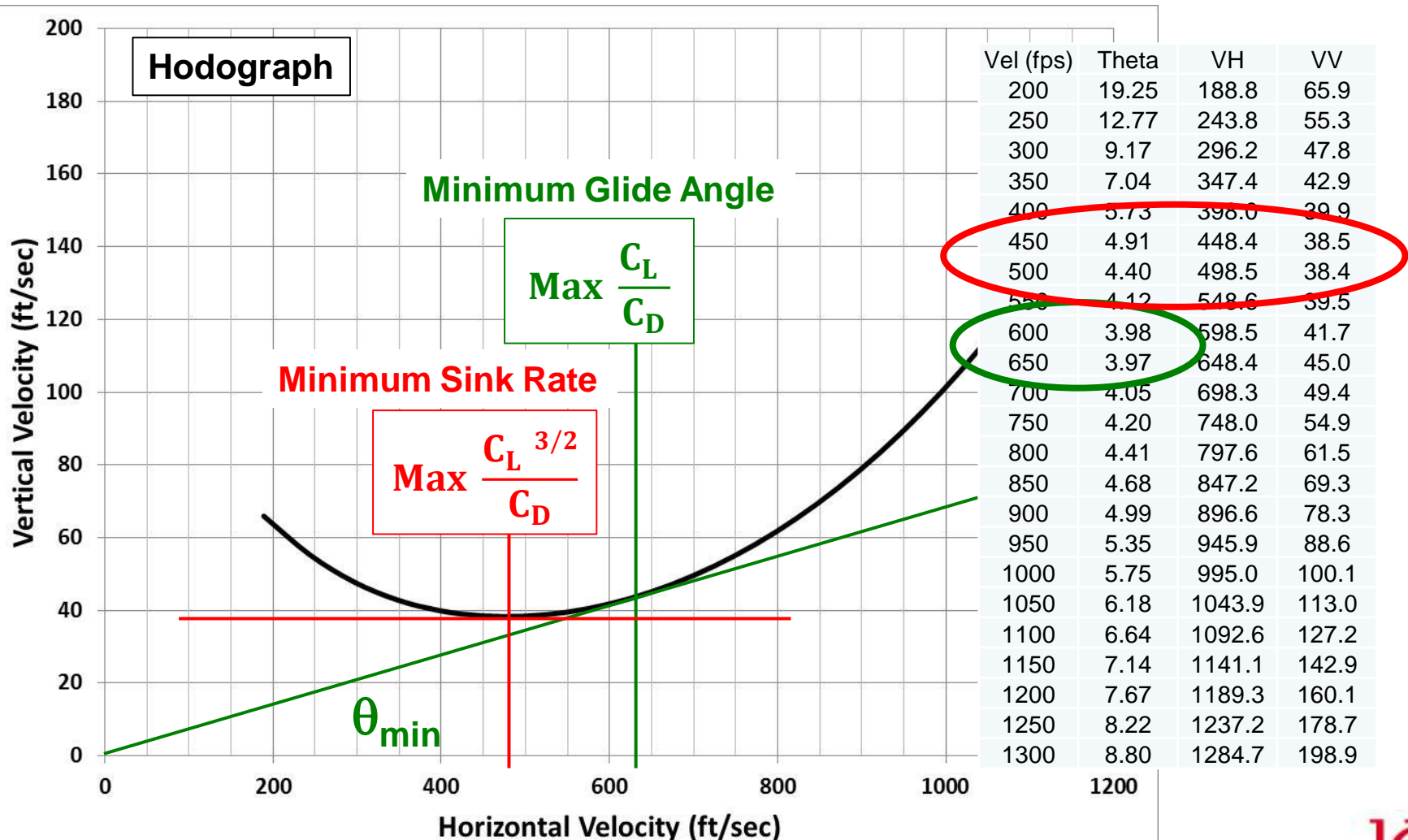
$$W = 73,000 \text{ lb}$$

$$h = 30,000 \text{ ft}$$



CD0	0.0150	Wt	73,000	lb
K	0.08	Alt	30,000	ft
T	0	rho	0.00088926	
		QMS	439.9	
		a	994.67	ft/sec
		S	950	sq ft
T/W	0.0000			
W/S	76.84			
L/D max	14.43			
CL^3/2/CD	10.83			
<b>Min Glide Angle = Max Glide Range</b>				
Min Theta	3.96	degrees		
Velocity	631.0	ft/sec		
Distance	433,013	ft		
	71.3	NM		
Sink Rate	43.6	ft/sec		
<b>Min Sink Rate</b>				
Min sink rate	38.4	ft/sec		
Velocity	479.4	ft/sec		
L/D	12.5			
Theta	4.57	degrees		
Distance	375,000	ft		
	61.7	NM		

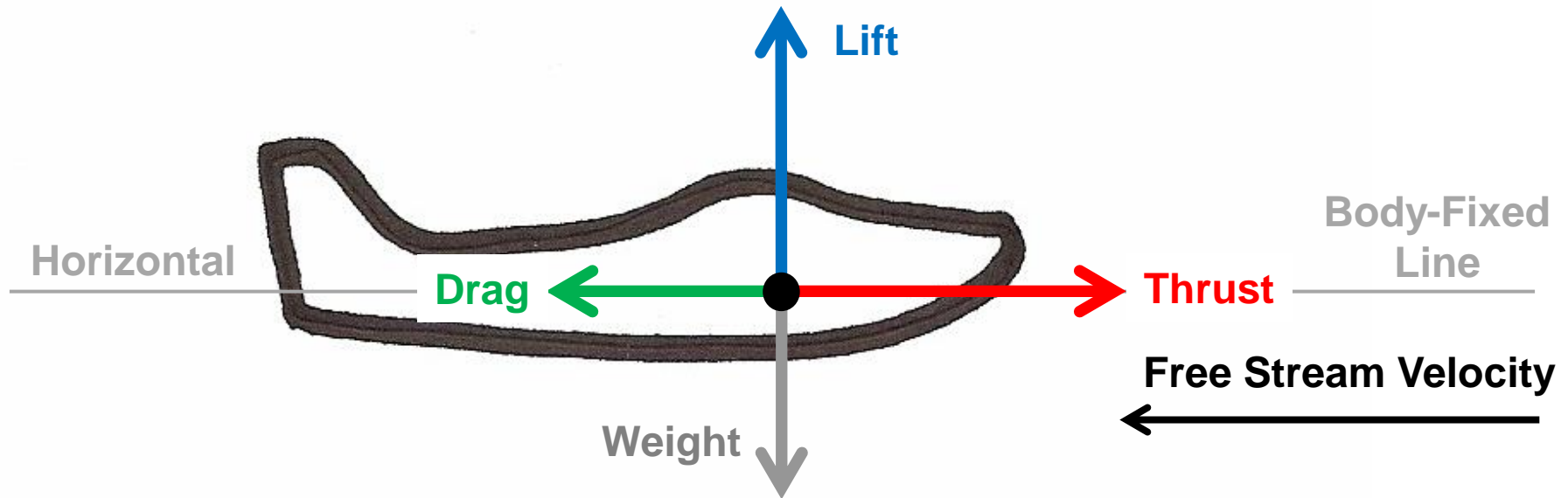
# G-IV Descent





# Simple Free Body Diagram

## Straight and Level Flight



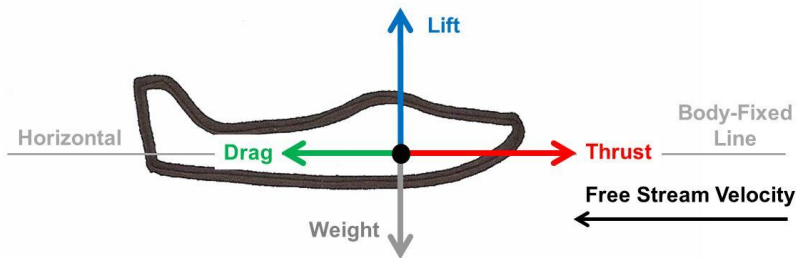
Lift acts perpendicular to the Free Stream Velocity

Drag acts parallel to the Free Stream Velocity

Weight acts vertically towards the ground

Thrust is fixed in the aircraft

# Aircraft Flight Ceiling



**How HIGH can an airplane fly in steady, level flight?**  
**Upper altitude limit = ceiling**

Ceiling	R / C Capability	P <sub>s</sub> Capability
Absolute	0 ft / min	0 ft / sec
Service	100 ft / min	1.67 ft / sec
Cruise	300 ft / min	5.00 ft / sec
Combat	500 ft / min	8.33 ft / sec

# Estimating Absolute Ceiling

Calculate the maximum Rate of Climb at Sea Level

Calculate the maximum Rate of Climb at another altitude

Derive the linear relationship  $R/C_{\max} = a + b h$   
and solve for  $h$  where  $R/C_{\max} = 0$

At Sea Level:  $(R/C)_{\max} = 4,600 \text{ ft/min}$

At 30,000 ft:  $(R/C)_{\max} = 1,600 \text{ ft/min}$

$a = 4,600$        $b = - 0.1$

$(R/C)_{\max} = 4,600 - 0.1 h$        $h = [4,600 - (R/C)_{\max}] / 0.1$

When  $(R/C)_{\max} = 0$ , then  $h = 46,000 \text{ ft}$

# Estimating Service Ceiling

Calculate the maximum Rate of Climb at Sea Level

Calculate the maximum Rate of Climb at another altitude

Derive the linear relationship  $R/C_{\max} = a + b h$   
and solve for  $h$  where  $R/C_{\max} = 100 \text{ ft/min}$

At Sea Level:  $(R/C)_{\max} = 4,600 \text{ ft/min}$

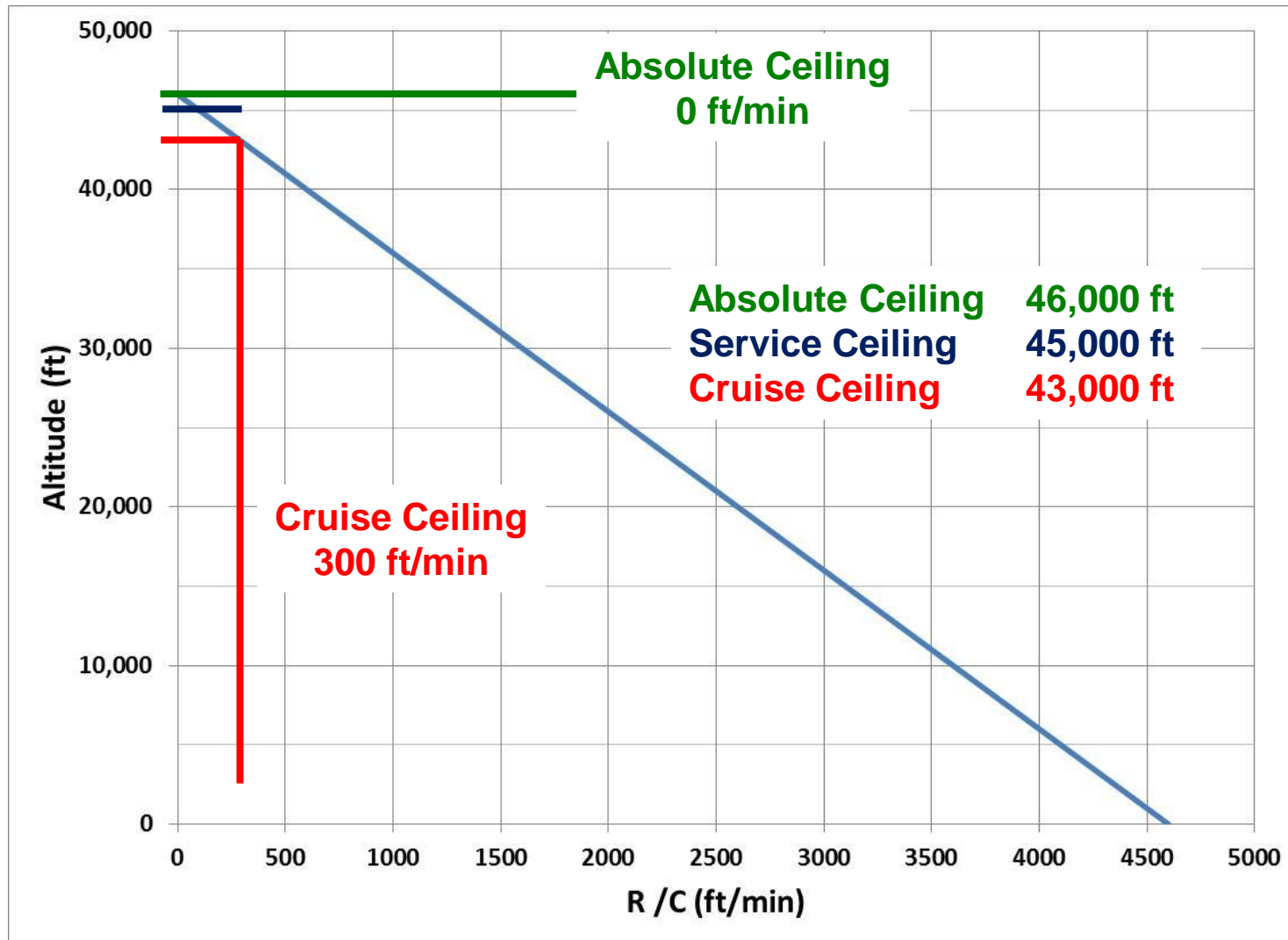
At 30,000 ft:  $(R/C)_{\max} = 1,600 \text{ ft/min}$

$a = 4,600$        $b = - 0.1$

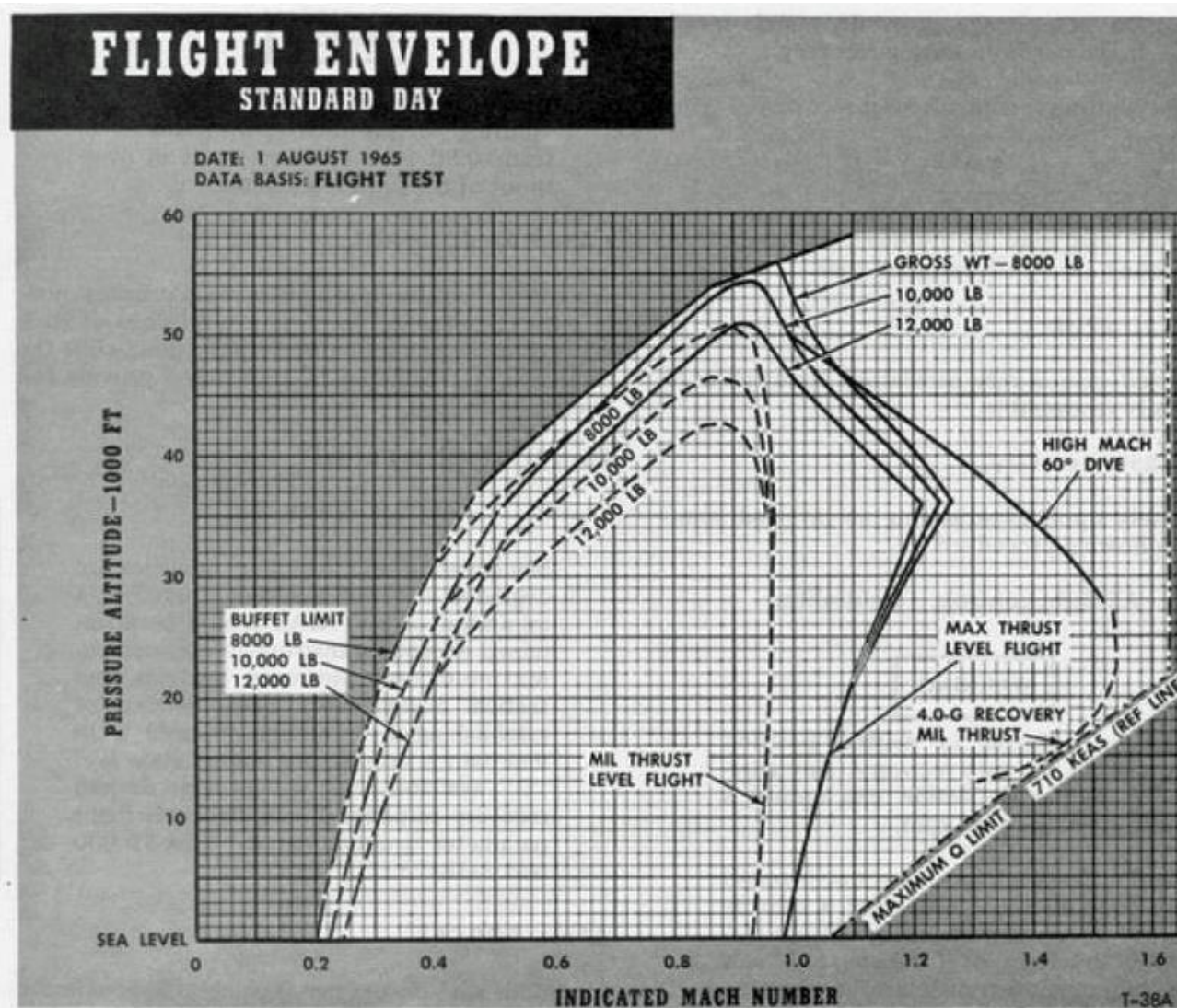
$(R/C)_{\max} = 4,600 - 0.1 h$        $h = [4,600 - (R/C)_{\max}] / 0.1$

When  $(R/C)_{\max} = 100 \text{ ft/min}$ , then  $h = 45,000 \text{ ft}$

# Aircraft Flight Ceiling



# T-38 Flight Envelope



# ***Homework Assignment***

**HW #11 – Rate of Climb; Rate of Descent; Ceilings  
(due by 11:59 pm ET on Monday)**

**Reading – Chapters 5.10 - 5.12**

**HW Help Session**

**Monday 1:00 – 2:00 pm ET**

**Posted on Canvas**

**HW #11 Assignment with instructions, tips, and  
checklist**

**HW #11 Template for data table in Excel**

# Homework

## Plotting Charts

Weight	900	lb		QMS	1481.4	lb/ft^2			
Altitude	0	ft		a	1116.45	ft/sec			
				rho	0.00237688	slugs/ft^3			
				DR	1.0000				
Mach	Vel (ft/sec)	CL	CD0	CDL	CD	D (lb)	Thrust (lb)	R/C (ft/min)	Climb Angle (deg)
0.05	55.82	6.4291	0.0200	2.5627	2.5827	362	202.0	-593.75	-10.21
0.06	66.99	4.4647	0.0200	1.2359	1.2559	253	202.0	-228.47	-3.26
0.07	78.15	3.2802	0.0200	0.6671	0.6871	189	202.0	70.23	0.86

x axis

y axis



# Questions?