

Consider an ideal poweroff glide with a finite wind speed, and the following assumptions:

- The algebraic sum of external forces and torques are 0.
- The wind speed is parallel to the horizontal rule.
- The weight W , the lift coefficient C_L , the zero-lift drag coefficient C_{D_0} , and the drag-due-to-lift factor k , are all constants (which implies the drag coefficient C_D is a constant as well).

And the free body diagram is shown as Figure 1.

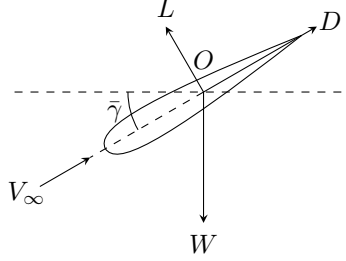


Figure 1: The free body diagram of a poweroff glide

Also, the relations between speeds are given in Figure 2, note that a positive V_{wind} represents a tailwind.

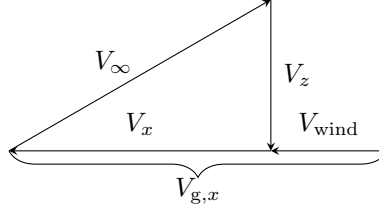


Figure 2: The relations between speeds

Then we have

$$V_x = V_\infty \cos \bar{\gamma} = V_\infty \frac{L}{W},$$

$$V_z = V_\infty \sin \bar{\gamma} = V_\infty \frac{D}{W}.$$

And by definition, the endurance E is

$$E = \frac{H}{V_z} = \frac{H}{V_\infty \frac{D}{W}} = \frac{HW}{V_\infty D},$$

and the range R is

$$\begin{aligned} R &= EV_{g,x} = \frac{HW}{V_\infty D} V_{g,x} \\ &= \frac{HW}{D} \frac{V_{g,x}}{(V_{g,x} - V_{\text{wind}}) \frac{W}{L}} \\ &= H \frac{L}{D} \frac{V_{g,x}}{V_{g,x} - V_{\text{wind}}} \\ &= H \frac{C_L}{C_D} \frac{V_{g,x}}{V_{g,x} - V_{\text{wind}}}, \end{aligned}$$

which implies a positive V_{wind} , or a tailwind increases the range, if $V_{g,x}$ is a constant.