



# **Air Vehicle Design**

**AOE 4065 – 4066**

## ***II. Air Vehicle Design Fundamentals***

### **Course Module A5**

#### **Initial Sizing: *Wing Loading and Thrust Loading Estimation***

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### Overview of AVD Courses

#### I. Foundational Elements

- F1. Design: *An Engineering Discipline*
- F2. Systems and Systems Thinking
- F3. Basics of Systems Engineering
- F4. Decision Making with Ethics and Integrity

#### II. Air Vehicle Design Fundamentals

##### A1. Purpose & Process

##### Conceptual Design

##### A2. Understand the Problem

##### A3. Solve the Problem

##### A4. Initial Sizing: *Takeoff Weight Estimation*

##### A5. Initial Sizing: *Wing Loading and Thrust Loading Estimation*

##### A6. Cost Considerations

##### A7. Concept to Configuration: *Key Considerations*

##### A7A. Configuration Layout: *Drawings & Loft*

##### Conceptual & Preliminary Design

##### A8. Trade Studies

##### A9. Use of Software Tools

##### A10. Preliminary Design: *Baseline Design Refinement & Validation*

#### III. Project Management Topics

##### P1. Basics of Project Management and Project Planning

##### P2. Project Organization

##### P3. Roles & Responsibilities of Team Members

##### P4. Project Execution: *Teamwork for Success*

##### P5. Project Risk Management

##### P6. Delivering Effective Oral Presentations

##### P7. Writing Effective Design Reports

## **Disclaimer**

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*Although a good-faith attempt is made to cite all sources of material,  
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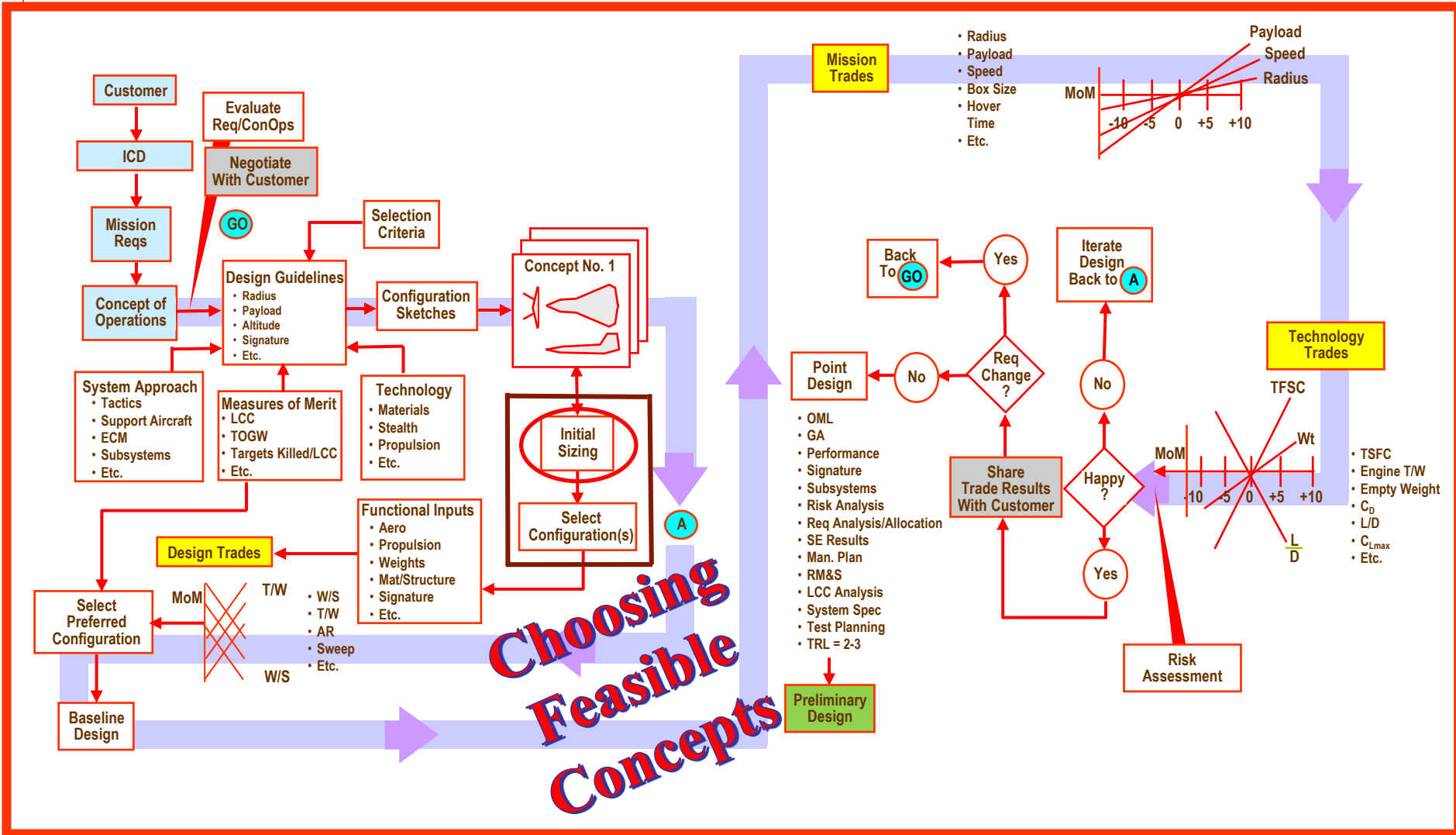
## **CRUCIALLY IMPORTANT**

***CMs only introduce key topics and highlight some important concepts and ideas...but without sufficient detail.***

***We must use lots of Reference Material\* to add the necessary details!***

***(\*see Appendix in the Overview CM)***

# Aircraft Conceptual Design (CD) Process



# Initial Sizing

**Initial Weight Sizing (CM A4) is the first step.**

**It answers the question:**

**How heavy is the airplane concept as sketched?**

***But, it doesn't tell us anything about the physical size of the airplane.***

**Recall that *Initial Take-off Weight* estimation considers:**

- Payload, and all phases of flight via a Mission Profile
- Design team makes assumptions about performance and geometric parameters, such as, cruise speed ( $V$ ), cruise altitude ( $h$ ),  $(L/D)_{max}$ ,  $C_L$ ,  $C_{D0}$ ,  $sfc$ ,  $AR$ , etc.

**The next step in *Initial Sizing* (covered in this module) is to estimate two parameters:**

- **Wing loading,  $(W/S)_{TO}$ , which gives wing area,  $S_{ref}$ , to size the wing, and**
- **Thrust loading,  $(T/W)_{TO}$ , which gives thrust,  $T_{TO}$ , to size the engine(s).**

***These two parameters,  $W/S$  and  $T/W$ , are the key design parameters as they appear in all equations that describe the vehicle performance in various mission phases!***

# Outline

## **A5. Initial Sizing: *Wing Loading* and *Thrust Loading Estimation***

**A5.1 Wing Loading Estimation**

**A5.2 Thrust Loading Estimation**

**A5.3 Constraint Plot\***

**\*Defines Feasible Design Space or Design Domain in terms of *W/S* and *T/W***

# Wing Loading: $(W/S)_{TO}$

- $(W/S)_{TO}$  is the parameter used to size the wing (estimate wing area)
- Note that  $W$  is takeoff gross weight,  $W_{TO}$ , and  $S$  is wing reference area,  $S_{ref}$
- “Wing Rules!” *Wing affects the performance, efficiency, and handling qualities more than any other single aircraft feature.*
- $(W/S)_{TO}$  is determined by considering all required flight missions to ensure that the aircraft will be able to meet all requirements and regulatory constraints.
- Example mission requirements include:
  - Range (Cruise Efficiency)
  - Endurance (Loiter Efficiency)
  - Take-off and Landing
  - Air-to-air combat (Maneuverability)
  - High altitude
  - High altitude, long endurance
  - Low-altitude ride quality
- Constraints include Government Regulations, such as Federal Air Regulations (FARs) and Military Specifications and Standard (MIL-SPEC or MIL-STD), which impose *safety requirements* that must be met.
- Different mission requirements drive  $W/S$  in opposite directions, i.e., high vs. low values! **We must strike the right balance in choosing initial  $(W/S)_{TO}$ .**



# Wing Loading, $W/S$ , Considerations

## Range

- For a jet aircraft, *Best Specific Range* (distance traveled per unit weight of fuel or miles per pound of fuel) may be expressed as:

$$\frac{1.07}{sfc} \left\{ \frac{(W/S)}{\rho} \right\}^{1/2} \frac{\{AR \cdot e\}^{1/4}}{\{C_{D_0}\}^{3/4}} \frac{1}{W}$$

**HIGH Wing Loading  
is Good!**



**(SMALL Wing Area)**

- High values of aspect ratio,  $AR$ , and wing efficiency,  $e$ , are desirable.
- Low values of specific fuel consumption,  $sfc$ , air density,  $\rho$  (higher altitude), zero-lift drag,  $C_{D_0}$ , and weight,  $W$ , are desirable.

# Wing Loading, $W/S$ , Considerations

## Take-off

- For conventional take-off and landing (CTOL) aircraft, take-off distance,\*  $s_{TO}$ , may be estimated using an approximate expression:

$$s_{TO} = \frac{1.44 (TOP)}{(g \rho_{SL}) (1 - \omega)} + 3.394 \sqrt{\frac{(TOP) (T/W)}{\rho_{SL}}}$$

**Note:**  $\rho_{SL}$  is sea level air density, and  $\omega$  is the ratio of ground-run retardation force to takeoff thrust;  $\omega$  may be assumed to be 0.1 or 0.15.

Where  $TOP$ , *Take-off Parameter*, is:

$$TOP = \frac{(W/S)_{TO}}{\sigma (C_{Lmax})_{TO} (T/W)}$$

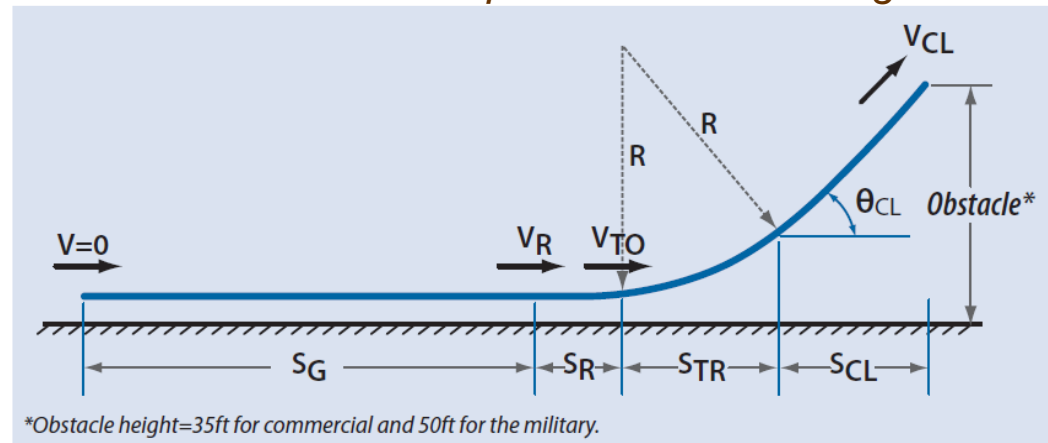
$$\sigma = \rho / \rho_{SL}$$

\*Take-off distance is the sum of ground distance, rotation distance, transition distance, and climb distance to clear specified obstacle height.

**LOW Wing Loading  
is Good!**

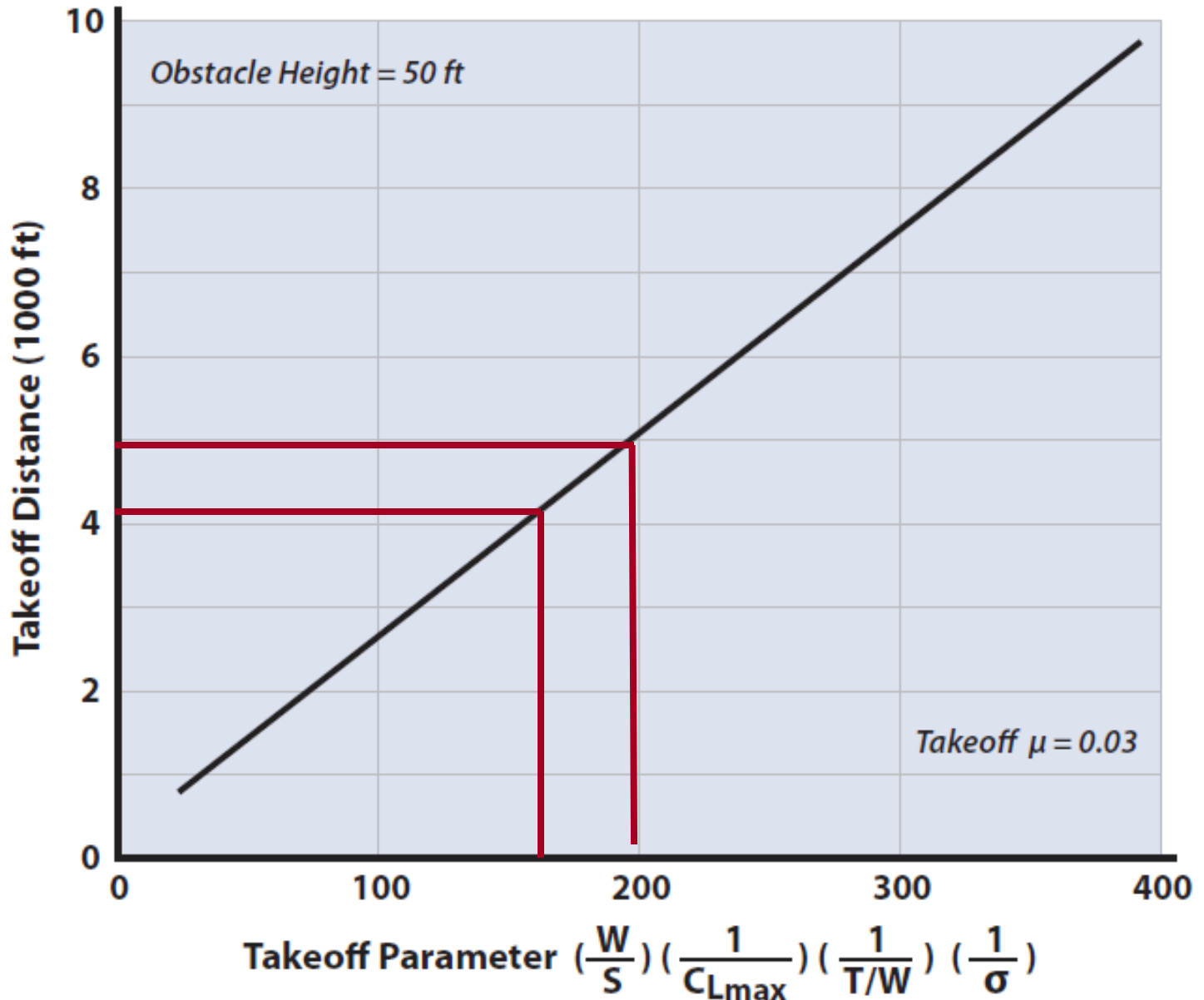
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**LARGE Wing Area**



- For low take-off distance, it's good to have HIGH values of maximum lift coefficient,  $C_{Lmax}$ ; thrust-to-weight ratio,  $T/W$ ; and air density (lower altitudes)...but beware of the downsides!

# Take-off Distance vs. TOP



## Landing

- Landing distance,  $s_L$ , for conventional takeoff and landing (CTOL) aircraft may be estimated from the approximate expression:

$$s_L = \frac{2.645 (LP)}{(\mu \rho_{SL} g)} + \frac{h_{obstacle}}{\tan \theta_{approach}}$$

Note:  $\rho_{SL}$  is sea level air density

Where  $LP$ , *Landing Parameter*, is

$$LP = \frac{(W/S)_L}{\sigma (C_{Lmax})_L}$$

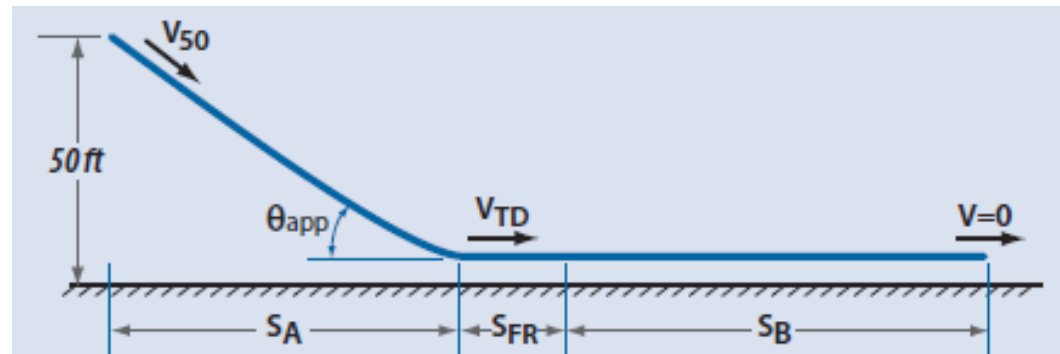
$$\sigma = \rho / \rho_{SL}$$

\*Landing distance is the air distance (horizontal distance required to clear a specified obstacle height), free roll distance, and braking distance.

**LOW Wing Loading  
is Good!**

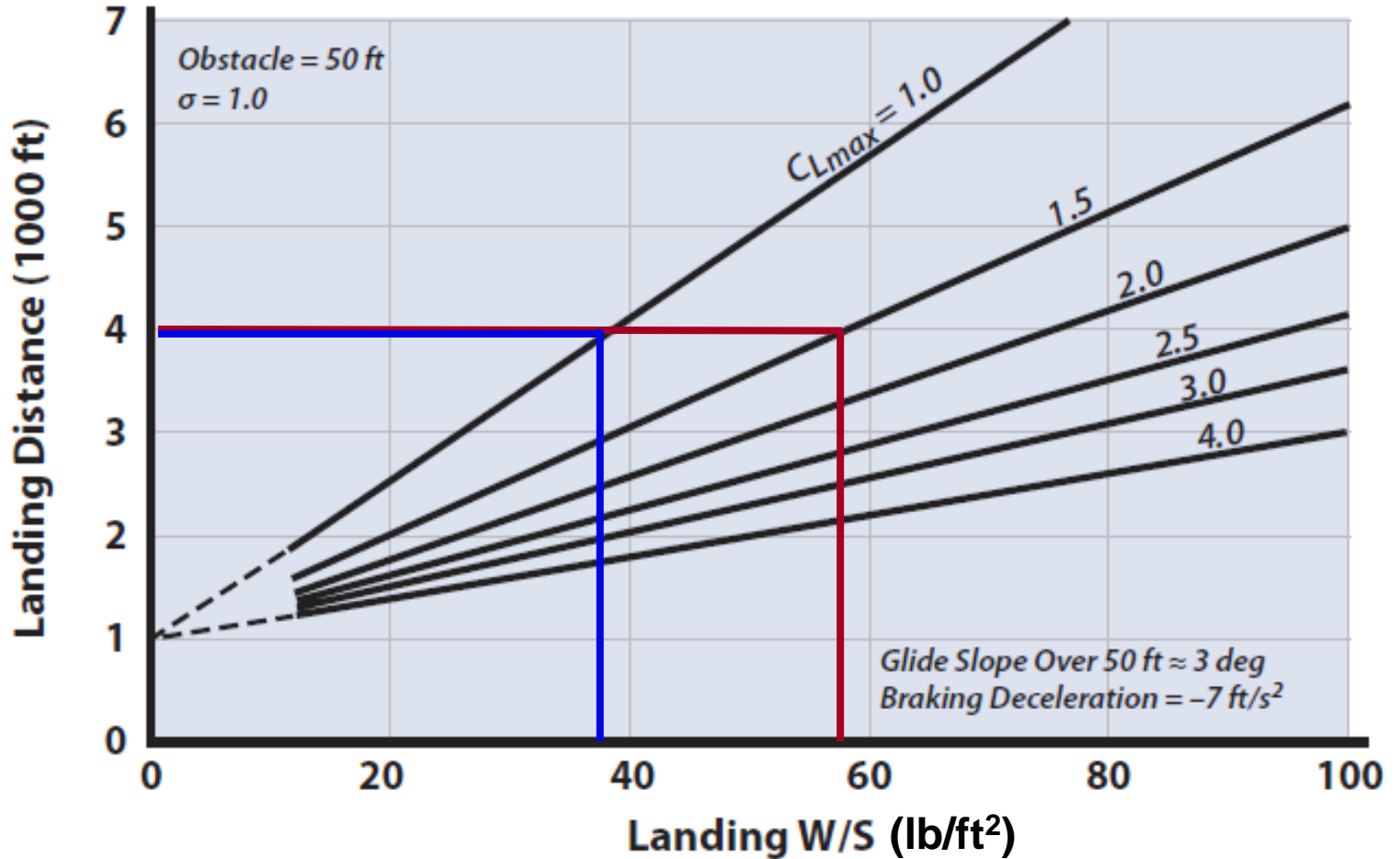
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**LARGE Wing Area**



- HIGH values of maximum lift coefficient,  $C_{Lmax}$ , and air density (lower altitudes) are desirable...but beware of the downsides.
- Note: *No impact of thrust-to-weight ratio,  $T/W$  !*

# Landing Distance for CTOL Aircraft



Large  $\longleftrightarrow$  Small  
Wing Area

**NOTE:**

$$W_{landing} = 0.85 W_{TO} \quad \text{for civil aircraft}$$

$$= W_{TO} - 0.5 W_{fuel} \quad \text{for military aircraft}$$

# Wing Loading, $W/S$ , Considerations

## Coefficient of Friction, $\mu$

**Table 10.3** Coefficients of Friction for Various Takeoff and Landing Surfaces

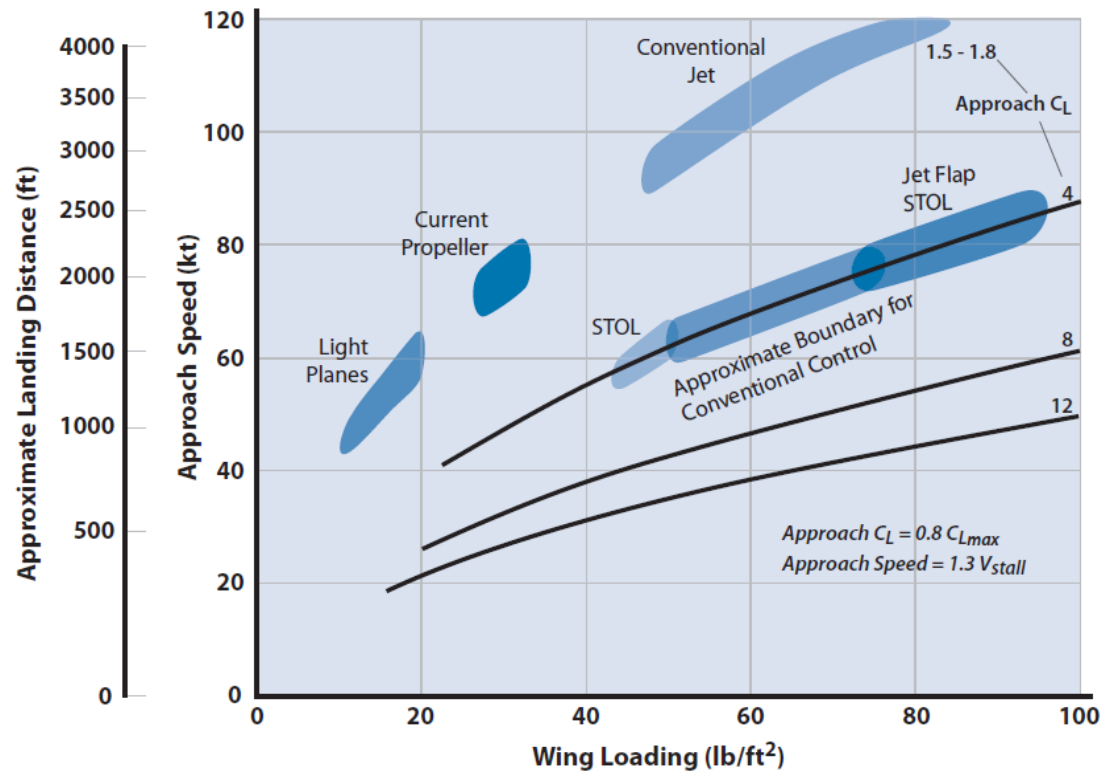
Type of Surface	Brakes Off, Average Ground Resistance Coefficient	Brakes Fully Applied, Average Wheel-Braking Coefficient
Concrete or macadam	0.015–0.04	0.3–0.6
Hard turf	0.05	0.4
Firm and dry dirt	0.04	0.30
Soft turf	0.07	0.5
Wet concrete	0.05	0.2
Wet grass	0.10	0.2
Snow- or ice-covered field	0.01	0.07–0.10

**These may be used for estimating landing distance,  $s_L$**

# Wing Loading, $W/S$ , Considerations

## Take-off and Landing

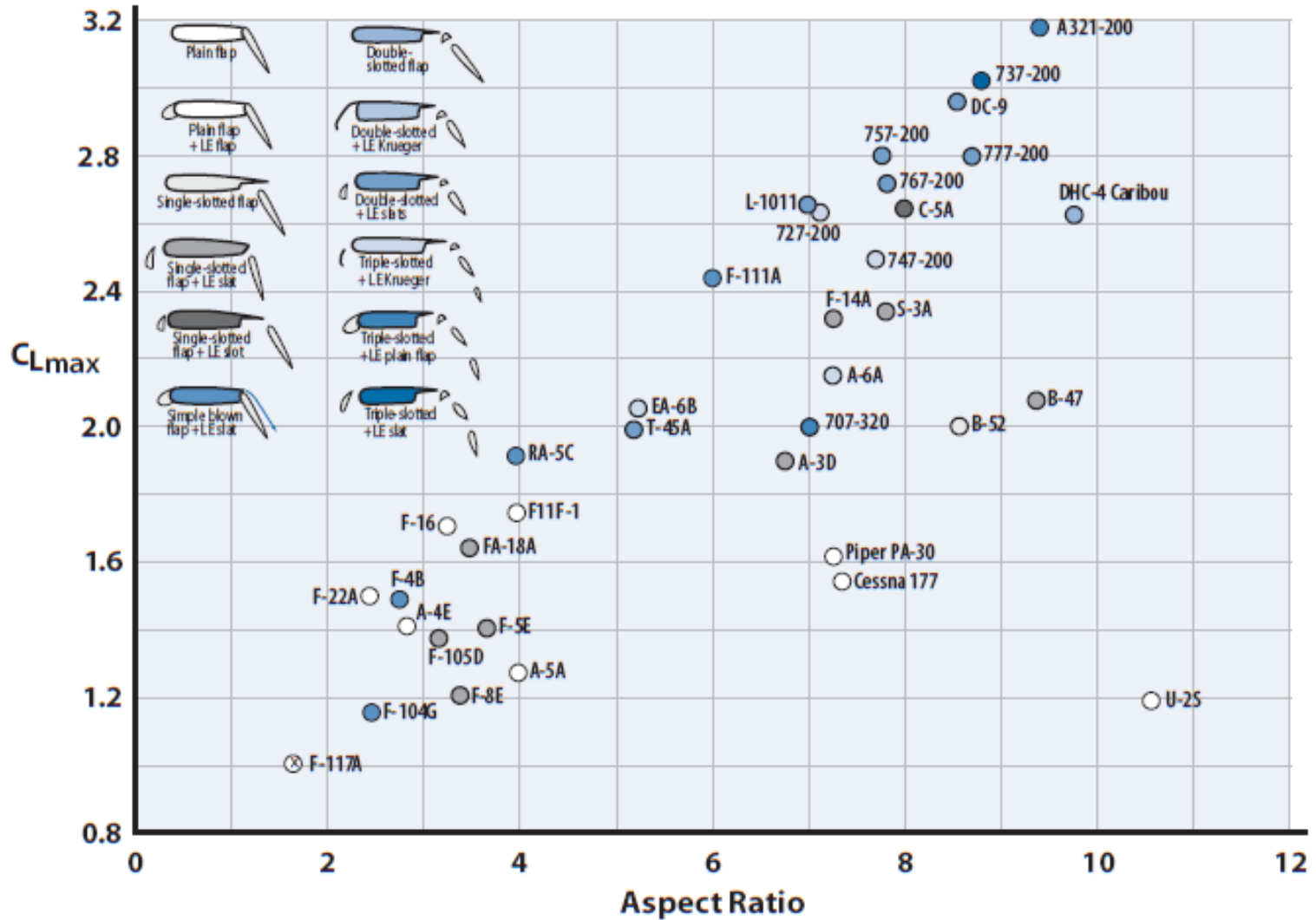
- $W/S$  and  $C_{L_{max}}$  are partners in the landing and takeoff performance
- Selecting a takeoff  $W/S$  without proper consideration of  $C_{L_{max}}$  and  $T/W$  may lead to an impossible design later—especially true for short take-off and landing (STOL) aircraft



- High-lift devices are key to balancing conflicting Cruise and Take-off & Landing wing loading,  $W/S$ , requirements by producing desired  $C_{L_{max}}$
- Mechanical high-lift devices have an upper  $C_{L_{max}}$  limit of about 4.0, with powered lift devices extending up to about 12.0

# Wing Loading, $W/S$ , Considerations

## Practical Limits of Mechanical High-Lift Devices for $C_{Lmax}$



See Tables 9.1 & 9.2 in Ref. AVD 1 (Nicolai) for additional relevant data



# Mechanical High-lift Devices for Higher $C_{Lmax}$

		$C_{L,max}$	$\Delta C_{L,max}$
Clean Airfoil		1,45	-
Plain Flap		2,25	0,80
Single-Slotted Flap		2,60	1,15
Double-Slotted Flap		2,80	1,35
Split Flap		2,40	0,95
Double-Wing (Junkers)		2,25	0,80
Fowler Flap		2,80	1,35
Slat		2,00	0,55
<b>Combinations:</b>			
Plain Flap and Slat		2,45	1,00
Single-Slotted Flap and Slat		2,70	1,25
Double-Slotted Flap and Slat		2,90	1,45
Fowler Flap and Slat		3,00	1,55

**Table 5.15** Lift coefficient increment by various types of high-lift device (when deflected 60 deg)

No.	High-lift device	$\Delta C_L$
1	Plain flap	0.7–0.9
2	Split flap	0.7–0.9
3	Fowler flap	1–1.3
4	Slotted flap	1.3 $C_l/C$
5	Double-slotted flap	1.6 $C_l/C$
6	Triple-slotted flap	1.9 $C_l/C$
7	Leading edge flap	0.2–0.3
8	Leading edge slat	0.3–0.4
9	Kruger flap	0.3–0.4

**NOTE:**  $C_{Lmax} \cong 0.9 C_{lmax}$  is typically realized for wings, i.e., max  $C_L$  for a wing is less than max  $C_l$  for an airfoil

# Wing Loading, $W/S$ , Considerations

## Acceleration and Maneuver

- Maximize excess power,  $P_S$ , for critical mission phases:
  - Acceleration for load factor  $n = 1$
  - Maneuver for  $n > 1$

$$P_S = V \left[ \frac{T}{W} - \frac{D}{W} \right]$$

- Excess power,  $P_S$ , is maximized by minimizing  $D/W$ 
  - $W/S$  for minimum  $D/W$  can be estimated using

$$\frac{W}{S} = \frac{q}{n} \sqrt{\frac{C_{D0}}{K}}$$

- Note that  $\sqrt{(C_{D0}/K)}$  is the  $C_L$  value for  $(L/D)_{max}$  (or minimum drag)

**Acceleration: HIGH Wing Loading is Good**  $\Rightarrow$  **SMALL Wing Area**  
**Maneuver: LOW Wing Loading is Good**  $\Rightarrow$  **LARGE Wing Area**

- Air combat aircraft have low wing loading for good maneuverability and high thrust loading for acceleration!

# Use $(W/S)_{TO}$ Trends for **Sanity Check** of Your Estimate Based on All Considerations

Dominant Mission Requirement	$(W/S)_{TO}$	Example
High-altitude long-endurance solar-powered ISR <sup>a</sup>	0.5-3.0	Helios
Competition sailplanes	7-12	ASW 17
Light civil aircraft with short range and field length	10-30	C-172
High-altitude long-endurance hydrocarbon-powered ISR	25-50	RQ-4A
STOL <sup>b</sup> and utility transports	40-90	C-130
Short or intermediate range with moderate field length	50-90	Learjet 35
Long-range transports and bombers (>3000 n mile)	110-150	B 747
Fighter, high-altitude	30-60	F-106
Fighter, air-to-air	50-80	F-15A
Fighter, close air support	65-90	A-10A
Fighter, strike interdiction	90-130	F-4E
Fighter, interceptor	120-150	F-104G
Low-altitude subsonic cruise missile	200-240	AGM-109

<sup>a</sup> Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance

<sup>b</sup> Short Take-Off and Landing

# Outline

## **A5. Initial Sizing: *Wing Loading* and *Thrust Loading* Estimation**

A5.1 Wing Loading Estimation

**A5.2 Thrust Loading Estimation**

A5.3 Constraint Plot\*

\*Defines Feasible Design Space or Design Domain in terms of  $W/S$  and  $T/W$

# Thrust-to-Weight Ratio, $(T/W)_{TO}$

- $(T/W)_{TO}$  is the parameter for sizing the propulsion system. Note that  $T$  is  $T_{TO}$ , takeoff thrust, and  $W$  is  $W_{TO}$ , takeoff gross weight.  $T_{TO}$  is typically the maximum available thrust at takeoff conditions
- $(T/W)_{TO}$  is determined by considering various required mission phases subject to regulatory constraints
  - Cruise/ Loiter
  - Takeoff
  - Air Combat (Energy Maneuverability)
  - Acceleration time and fuel burned during acceleration
  - Maximum speed
- $(T/W)_{TO}$  for different mission phases typically conflict with one another forcing designers to establish priorities and strike a reasonable compromise in choosing an initial  $(T/W)_{TO}$
- *Make sure to adjust estimated  $T/W$  for various mission phases back to the takeoff conditions for consistent comparison.* For example, for cruise segment,

$$(T/W)_{TO} = (T/W)_{cruise} (W_{cruise}/W_{TO}) (T_{TO}/T_{cruise})$$

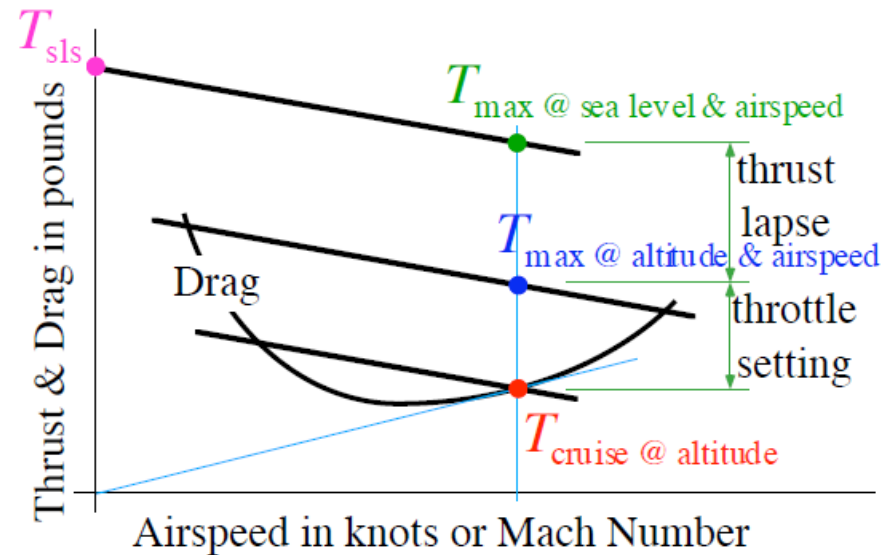
Typically,  $T_{cruise}/T_{TO}$  is  $\sim 0.2 - 0.25$  for HBPR turbofan, and  
 $\sim 0.4 - 0.7$  for LBPR turbofan or turbojet

# Cruise Thrust and Cruise Weight

- Cruise thrust is related to takeoff thrust as a function of engine cycle, cruise altitude, cruise airspeed, engine thrust lapse rate, and thrust lever setting (or throttle setting)

$$T_{\text{cruise}} = \sigma f_{\text{throttle setting}} T_{\text{sea level}}$$

- Maximum engine thrust at any altitude *is less than its sea-level value* by the ratio of air densities,  $\sigma$
- At cruise altitude, available engine thrust (*which is less than its sea-level value*) is adjusted to exactly match drag by the pilot via throttle setting



- Instead of assuming  $W_{\text{cruise}} = (W_{\text{takeoff\_end}} / W_{\text{TO}})(W_{\text{climb\_end}} / W_{\text{takeoff\_end}}) W_{\text{TO}}$  we could use a mid-cruise value,  $W_{\text{mid\_cruise}}$ , estimated as

$$W_{\text{mid\_cruise}} = 1/2 (W_{\text{takeoff\_end}} / W_{\text{TO}})(W_{\text{climb\_end}} / W_{\text{takeoff\_end}})(1 + W_{\text{cruise\_end}} / W_{\text{climb\_end}}) W_{\text{TO}}$$

# Initial Estimate of $(T/W)_{TO}$

- Use available data based on dominant mission requirement of the aircraft being designed

Dominant Mission Requirement	$(T/W)_{TO}$ (uninstalled)
Long range	0.2-0.35
Short & intermediate range with moderate field length	0.3-0.45
STOL and utility transport	0.4-0.6
Fighter—close air support	0.4-0.6
Fighter—strike interdiction	0.45-0.7
Fighter—air-to-air	0.8-1.3
Fighter—interceptor	0.55-0.8

- Note that installed thrust will be less (3-10%) due to inlet losses, and *sfc* values will be higher (~20%), than the uninstalled values.

# Initial Estimate of $(T/W)_{TO}$

- Typical installed values for jet aircraft shown in the table; use installed values whenever available

Aircraft Type	$(T/W)_{TO}$ Installed
Jet Trainer	0.4
Jet fighter (dogfighter)	0.9
Jet fighter (other)	0.6
Military cargo/bomber	0.25
Jet transport (higher values for fewer engines)	0.25-0.4

- Statistical estimation based on maximum Mach number

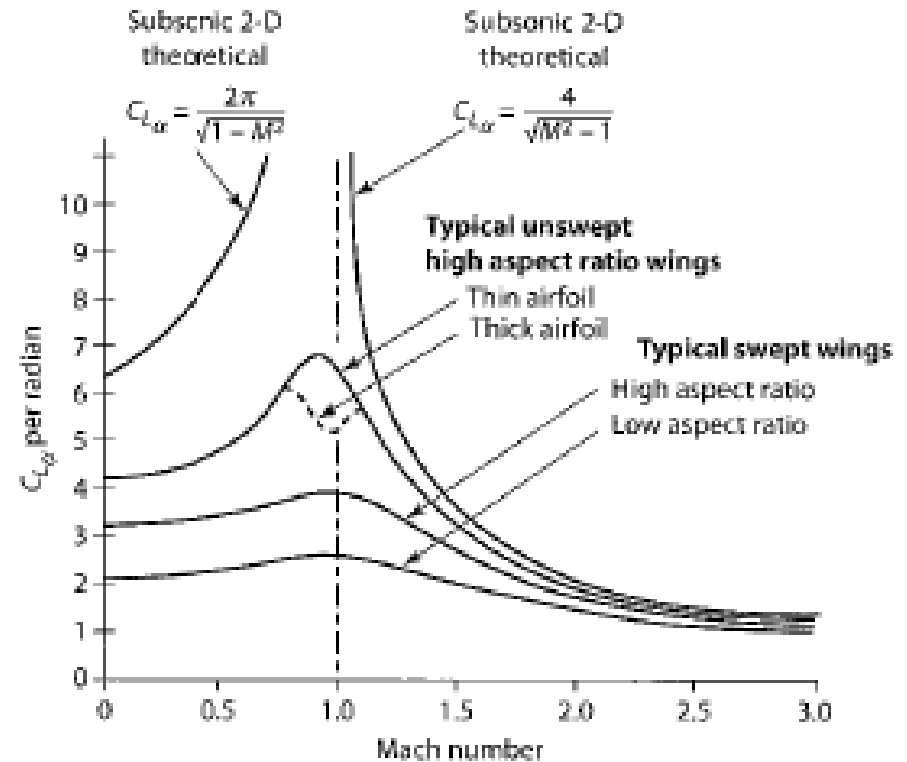
$T/W_0 = \alpha M_{max}^C$	$a$	$C$
Jet trainer	0.488	0.728
Jet fighter (dogfighter)	0.648	0.594
Jet fighter (other)	0.514	0.141
Military cargo/bomber	0.244	0.341
Jet transport	0.267	0.363



# Sanity Check of

## Estimated Wing Area and Thrust Requirements

- We know Weight, hence Lift. Use  $C_{L\alpha}$  charts or formulas to compute angle of attack,  $\alpha$
- Ensure that cruise  $\alpha$  is reasonable, between  $3^\circ$  and  $6^\circ$ . If not, consider decreasing  $W/S$  (increasing  $S$ )
- We know estimated  $L/D$  and Weight,  $W$ , hence  $L$ . We can, therefore, determine drag,  $D$ , and check if the estimated thrust,  $T$ , is adequate.
- Check to see that the estimated Thrust value makes sense



Source: Fig. 12.6, Ref. AVD 2 (Raymer)

**Wing area is the starting point for wing design, and thrust estimate is needed to select a propulsion system**

# Words of Wisdom from Experts about Initial Values of $T/W$ and $W/S$

*“A low wing loading makes a bigger wing which will always increase weight and cost. If a very low wing loading is driven by only one of the requirements, it might make sense to reconsider that requirement.”*

*“...selected values of  $W/S$  and  $T/W$  are used only for the initial design layout. Once it is completed, a detailed optimization of those parameters will be done and the design will be revised accordingly. The initial values are just to get the design started and are never used again.”*

*-- Dan Raymer*

*“...range-dominated aircraft always have high wing loadings.” [Except when they don't]*

*“There are two rules that must be learned in the design of aircraft:*

- 1. There are no right answers, only a best answer.*
- 2. There are no rules.”*

*-- Lee Nicolai*

*Source: Ch. 6, Ref. AVD 1 (Nicolai & Carichner);  
Ch. 5, Ref. AVD 2 (Raymer)*

# Outline

## **A5. Initial Sizing: *Wing Loading* and *Thrust Loading* Estimation**

A5.1 Wing Loading Estimation

A5.2 Thrust Loading Estimation

**A5.3 Constraint Plot\***

**\*Defines Feasible Design Space or Design Domain in terms of *W/S* and *T/W***

# Constraint Plot

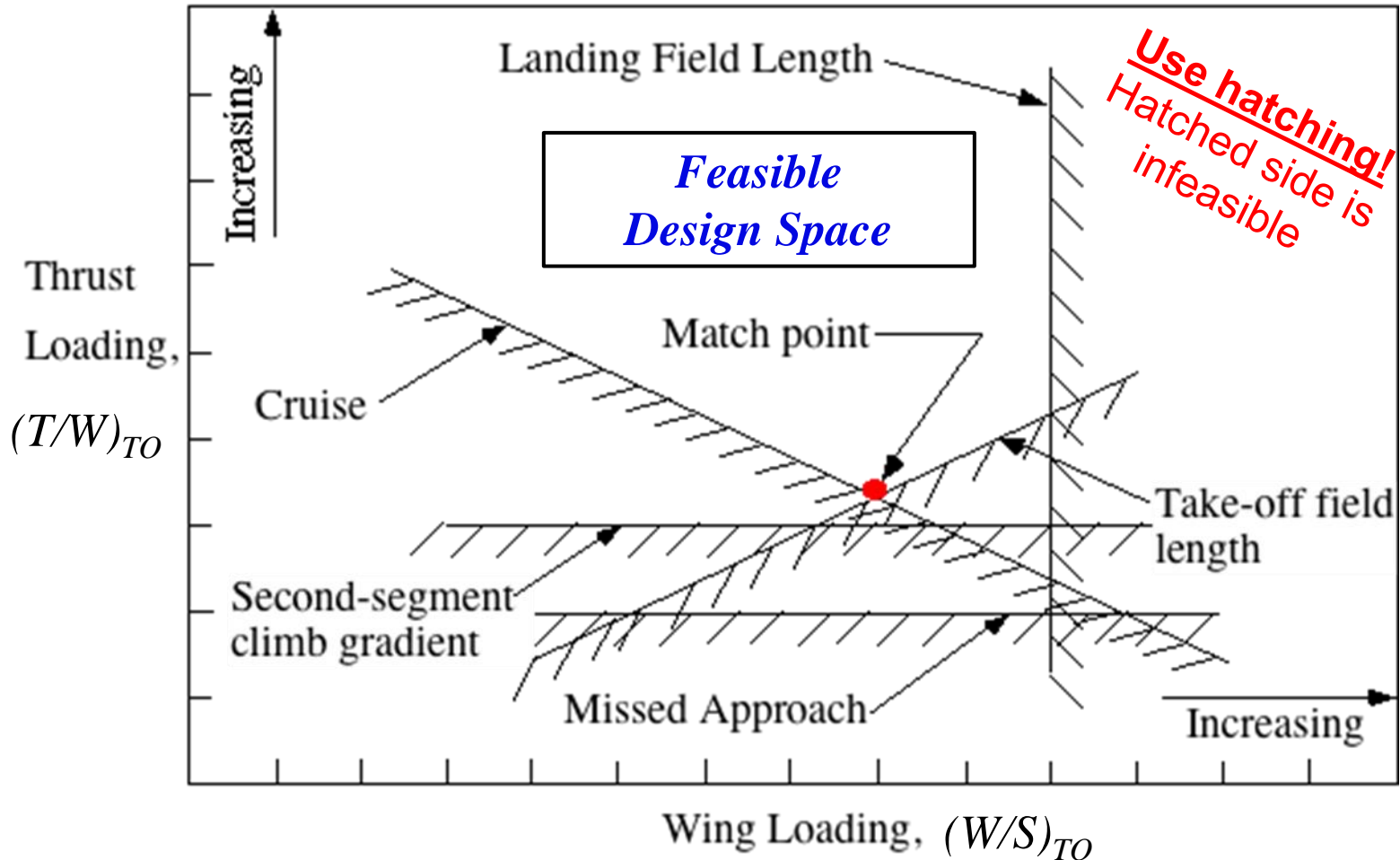
**Constraint Plot** is a technique to define a *Design Space* or *Design Domain* within which a designer can choose a combination of two universal design parameters,  $(W/S)_{TO}$  and  $(T/W)_{TO}$ , and have reasonable confidence that a design based on this combination is **feasible**.

The design domain represents a region where any design will meet all mission requirements including, but not limited to,

- *Cruise Range*
- *Takeoff and Landing Field Lengths*
- *Rate of Climb*
- *Sustained Turn Rates*
- *Service Ceiling*
- *Maximum Speed*
- *Etc.*

# Constraint Plot for Jet Aircraft

**(Notional, for illustrative purpose only)**



**Note: In an actual plot, all curves are NOT straight lines.**

**How do we generate the curves?**

# Generating Curves for Constraint Plot

- Select flight segments that together define the mission profile
- For each flight segment, choose the appropriate performance equation
- Manipulate the performance equation to express it in the form of

$$T/W = f(W/S)$$

- Choose a representative set of  $W/S$  values, and compute the corresponding  $T/W$  values
- Plot the values on a graph with  $W/S$  on the abscissa and  $T/W$  on the ordinate
- *For consistent comparison, convert all values to takeoff conditions before plotting*

**The following slides show a few examples. Readers can find others in one of the references or derive themselves.**

# Thrust Loading ( $T/W$ ) as a function of Wing Loading ( $W/S$ )

*(for turbofan or turbojet aircraft)*

## Takeoff

$$\left(\frac{T}{W}\right)_{TO} \geq \frac{1.44 (W/S)_{TO}}{(1 - \omega)(\rho_{SL} g \sigma) (C_{Lmax})_{TO} \left\{ s_{TO} - 3.394 \sqrt{\frac{(W/S)_{TO}}{\sigma \rho_{SL} (C_{Lmax})_{TO}}} \right\}}$$

Here,  $\omega$  is the ratio of the ground-run retardation force to the takeoff thrust. The retardation force, which decreases the ground run acceleration, is a function of the aircraft drag and the coefficient of friction with brakes off.

*At this stage of design, a value of  $\omega$  between 0.1 and 0.15 may be assumed.*

Note that this expression is based on an updated approximate form of the full equation for takeoff distance,  $s_{TO}$ , given by Eq. (10.4b) in *Ref. AVD 1 (Nicolai & Carichner)*.

The updated one differs from Eq. (6.3) in the same reference in one key aspect:

unlike Eq. (6.3), the *updated one is not restricted to FPS units.*

Eq. (10.4b) is the source of both Eq. (6.3) and its updated form.

See the two slides in the Appendix for the underlying assumptions used to derive the approximate form of the equations.

# Thrust Loading ( $T/W$ ) as a function of Wing Loading ( $W/S$ )

(for turbofan or turbojet aircraft)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Segment Climb: 35 ft. to 400 ft. (OEI)

$$\left(\frac{T}{W}\right)_{OEI} \geq \left(\frac{n_{engines}}{n_{engines} - 1}\right) \left[\frac{1}{(L/D)} + \sin \gamma\right]$$

$L/D$  is evaluated at  $V_2 \geq 1.2 (V_{stall})$ ;  $V_2$  is the speed at the 35 ft. height point

$$C_L = C_{L_{max}} / (1.2)^2 \quad C_D = C_{D0} + K C_L^2$$

It is assumed that landing gear is retracted and flaps are in takeoff position, therefore,

- (i) increase  $C_{D0}$  by adding incremental take-off flap drag\* estimate, and
- (ii) reduce  $e$  for estimating  $K$

Climb gradient is typically given as a percentage (*see slide 33, CM A2*) from which the climb angle,  $\gamma$ , can be calculated using

$$\gamma = \tan^{-1} \frac{\text{climb gradient}}{100}$$

\*Fig. 9.25, AVD 1, Nicolai & Carichner



# Thrust Loading ( $T/W$ ) as a function of Wing Loading ( $W/S$ )

(for turbofan or turbojet aircraft)

## Rate of Climb

$$\left(\frac{T}{W}\right)_{ROC_{max}} \geq \left[ \frac{ROC_{max}}{\sqrt{\frac{2(W/S)}{\rho C_{Lopt}}}} + 2\sqrt{K C_{Do}} \right] \quad C_{Lopt} = \sqrt{\frac{C_{Do}}{K}}$$

Note: Maximum ( $T/W$ ) and maximum ( $L/D$ ) gives maximum ROC

1. **Absolute ceiling ( $h_{ac}$ ).** The altitude at which the **ROC is zero**. It is the absolute maximum altitude that an aircraft can maintain level flight.
2. **Service ceiling ( $h_{sc}$ ).** The highest altitude at which aircraft **ROC is 100 ft/min** (i.e., 0.5 m/s).
3. **Cruise ceiling ( $h_{cc}$ ).** The cruise ceiling is defined as the altitude at which the aircraft can **climb with a rate of 300 ft/min** (i.e., 1.5 m/s).
4. **Combat ceiling ( $h_{cc}$ ).** The combat ceiling is defined as the altitude at which a fighter can climb with a rate of 500 ft/min (i.e., 5 m/s). This ceiling is defined only for fighter aircraft.

# Thrust Loading ( $T/W$ ) as a function of Wing Loading ( $W/S$ ) (contd.) (for turbofan or turbojet aircraft)

## Cruise Speed

$$\left(\frac{T}{W}\right)_{V_{cr}} \geq \left\{ \frac{\rho V_{cr}^2}{2(W/S)} C_{D0} + \frac{2(W/S)}{\rho V_{cr}^2 (\pi A R e)} \right\}$$

Note:  $V_{cr} = aM_{cr}$  where  $a$  is the speed of sound at the cruise altitude

## Max Speed

$$\left(\frac{T}{W}\right)_{V_{max}} \geq \left\{ \frac{\rho V_{max}^2}{2(W/S)} C_{D0} + \frac{2(W/S)}{\rho V_{max}^2 (\pi A R e)} \right\}$$

Note:  $V_{max} = aM_{max}$  where  $a$  is the speed of sound at the cruise altitude

# Thrust Loading ( $T/W$ ) as a function of Wing Loading ( $W/S$ ) (contd.) (for turbofan or turbojet aircraft)

## Range

$$\left(\frac{T}{W}\right)_{range} \geq \sqrt{\left(\frac{W}{S}\right)} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{2/(\rho C_{Lcr})}}{tsfc \cdot R} \ln \left\{ \frac{W_{initial}}{W_{final}} \right\} \right]$$

$tsfc$ ,  $R$ ,  $\rho$ , and  $C_{Lcr}$ : Use estimates from Initial Take-off Weight Estimation

Note that  $\frac{W_{final}}{W_{initial}} = 1 - \frac{W_{fuel}}{W_{initial}}$

- Use fuel fraction estimate from Initial Take-off Weight Estimation
- As a first approximation, fuel fraction,  $W_{fuel}/W_{initial}$ , may be considered to be independent of the aircraft weight assuming the fuel consumption to be proportional to the aircraft weight; see *Ref. AVD 2 (Raymer)*

**CAUTION:** Beware that varying ( $W/S$ ) while keeping  $C_{Lcr}$  fixed implies varying cruise velocity!

# Thrust Loading ( $T/W$ ) as a function of Wing Loading ( $W/S$ )

*(for turbofan or turbojet aircraft)*

## Landing

$$\left(\frac{W}{S}\right)_L = \frac{(\mu \rho_{SL} g) \sigma (C_{Lmax})_L}{2.645} \left[ s_L - \frac{h_{obstacle}}{\tan \theta_{approach}} \right]$$

*Civil aircraft:  $\theta_{approach} = 3^\circ$  ( $4.5^\circ$  for General Aviation aircraft)*

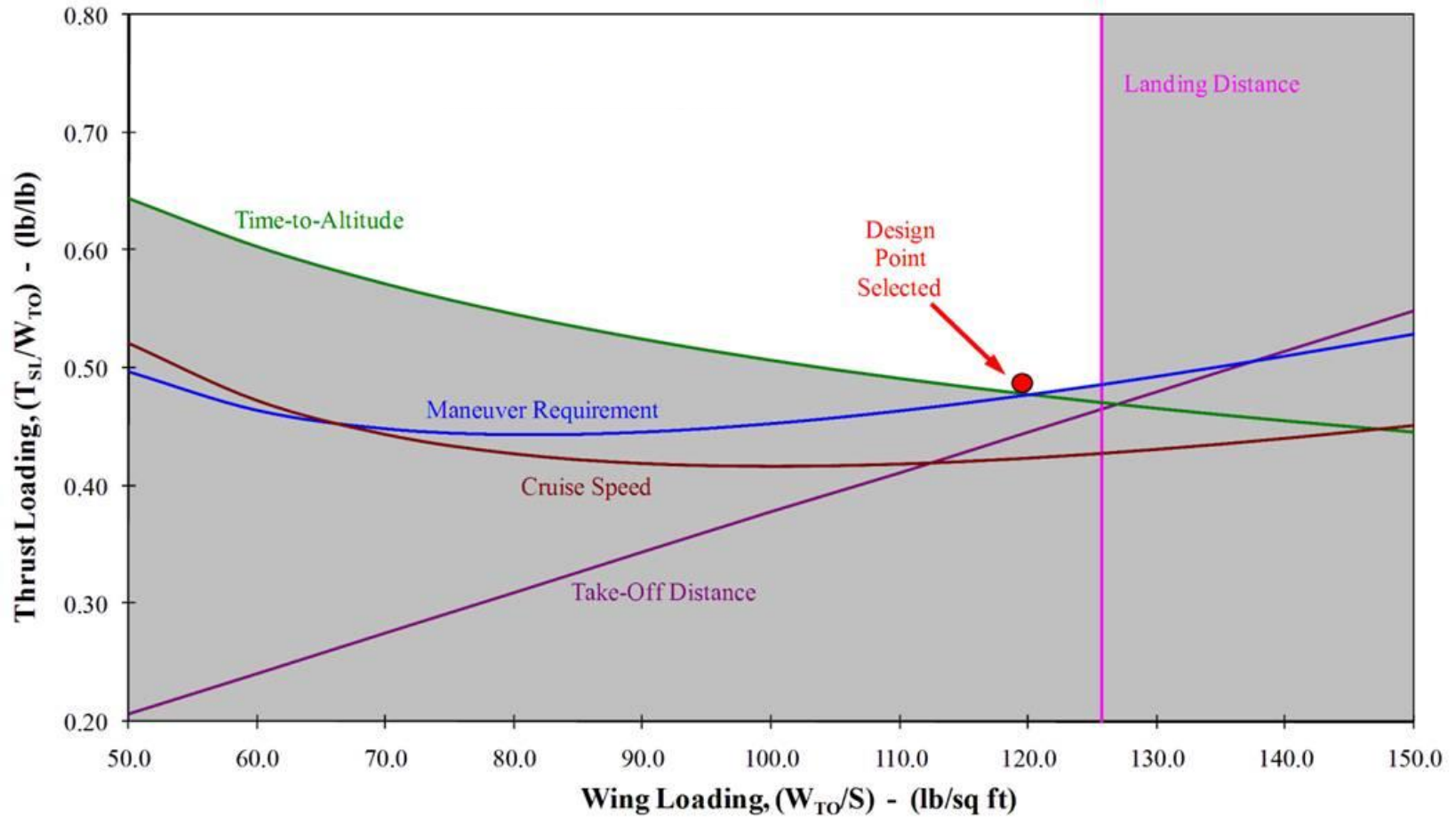
*Civil aircraft:  $W_L = 0.85 W_{TO}$*

*Military aircraft:  $W_L = W_{TO} - 0.5 W_{fuel}$*

Evaluated at  $V = 1.5 (V_{stall})_{landing}$

**Remember to convert  $(T/W)_{range}$  and  $(W/S)_L$  to  
takeoff conditions**

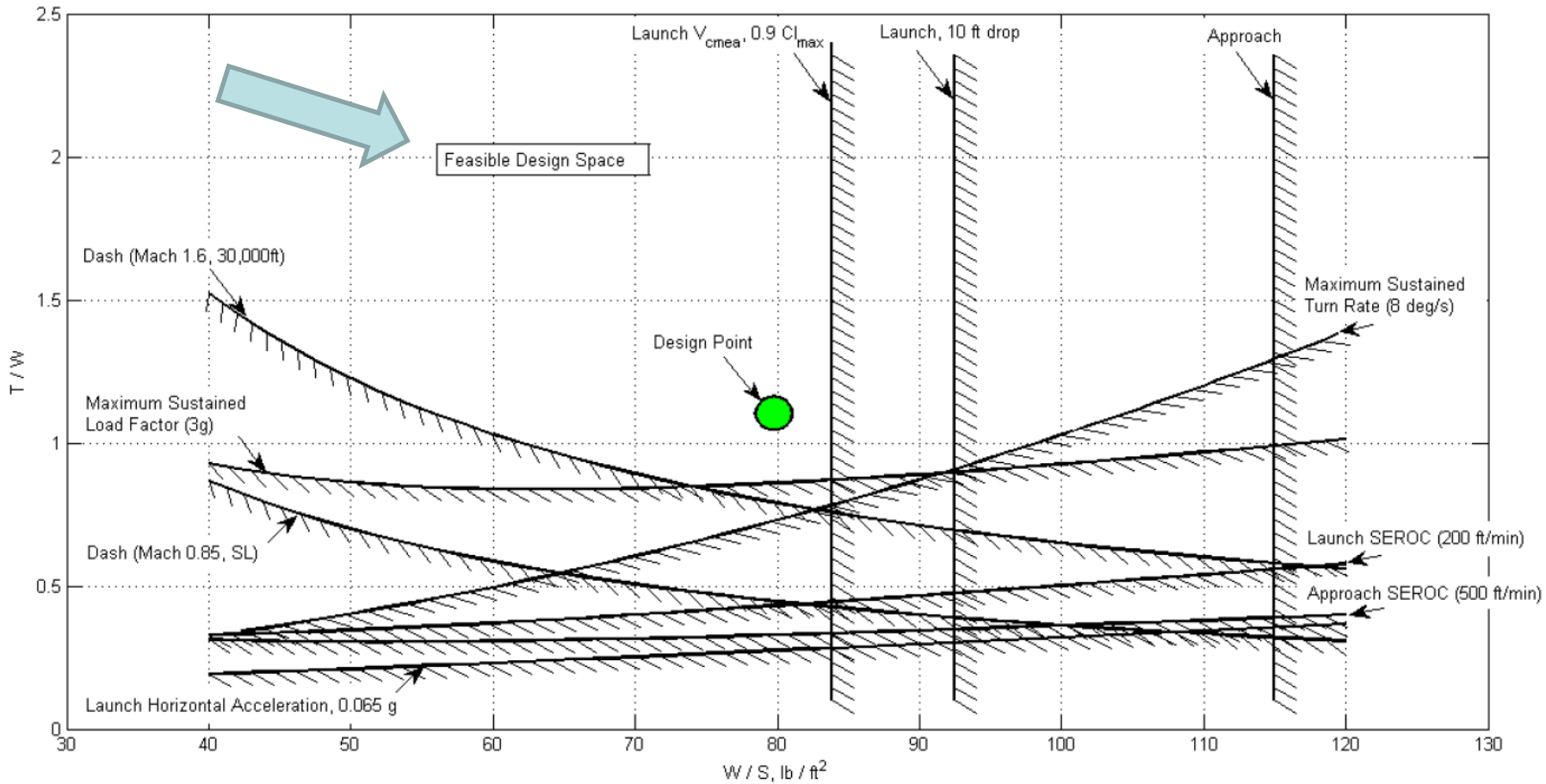
# Constraint Plot Example



Source: <http://john-golan.blogspot.com/2015/07/aircraft-performance-part-1-design.html>

# Constraint Plot: F/A-36

## Student Design Project



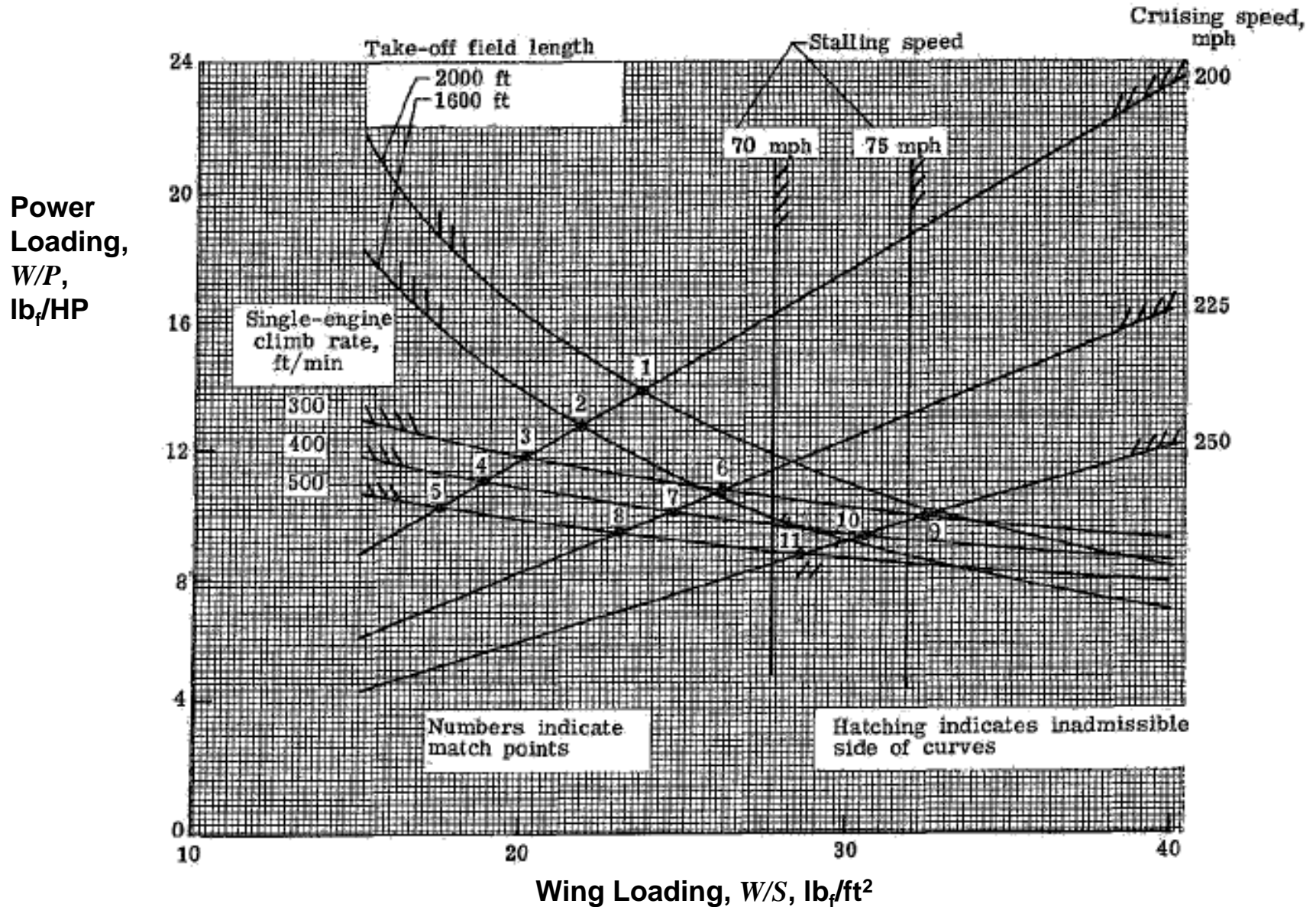
Source: 2013-14 NAVAIR Carrier-based Tactical Fighter, VT Team, Lead: Williams

# ***Power Loading ( $W/P$ or $P/W$ ) as a function of Wing Loading ( $W/S$ ) (for propeller-driven aircraft)***

- **Use of Power Loading,  $W/P$  or  $P/W$ , instead of  $T/W$ , is preferred for propeller aircraft because piston or turboprop engines are rated in terms of shaft horsepower ( $SHP$ ) or brake horsepower ( $BHP$ ).**
- **Note that thrust,  $T$ , in  $lb_f$  and power,  $P$ , in  $BHP$  are related as**
$$P = T \times V / (\eta_p \times 550)$$
**where speed,  $V$ , is in  $ft/s$  and  $\eta_p$  is propeller efficiency.**
- **This relationship can be used to convert  $T/W$  to  $P/W$**
- **More details can be found in**
  - **Section 3.2, Ref. AVD 4 (Gudmundsson)**
  - **Section 4.3, Ref. AVD 5 (Sadraey)**

# Constraint Plot for Propeller Aircraft

## An Example

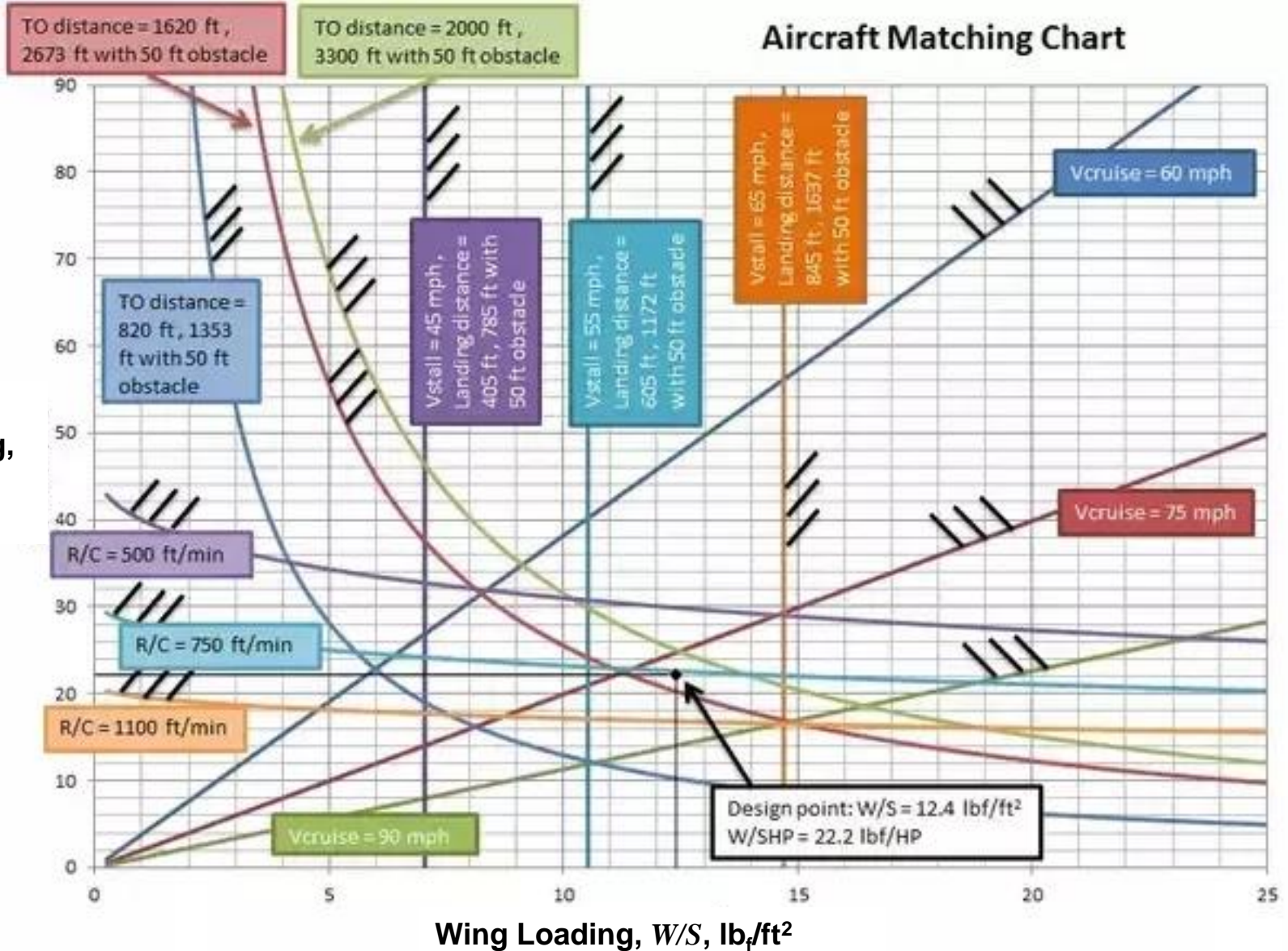




# Constraint Plot: Propeller-Driven Aircraft Example

Aircraft Matching Chart

Power Loading,  $W/P$ ,  $lb_f/HP$





# Epilogue

# Where we are, and where we go next

- **Having completed *Initial Sizing*, we now know**
  - What the payload or fixed weight is (from customer requirements)
  - How heavy the airplane is (*TOGW* as the sum of empty weight, fuel weight, and fixed weight)
  - How big the wing is (wing reference area, *S*)
  - How many, and how big, the engines are (based on thrust or power value)
  - How many phases the mission has (and the corresponding assumed values of *L/D*, speeds, *sfc*, etc.)

## ***Each Team's Challenge***

***“INTEGRATE all...geometrical and dimensional requirements, equipment, structural components...into a vehicle that is BALANCED with respect to flight in all phases of its flight envelope and ground operations...Satisfy the DESIRED requirements with the lightest weight (or least cost) vehicle.”***

***-- Nathan Kirschbaum***

# Recommended Readings

Ref. No.	Chapter	Author(s)	Title
AVD 1	Chapters 6, 10, 18	Nicolai, L.M. and Carichner, G.E.	<i>Fundamentals of Aircraft and Airship Design , Volume I—Aircraft Design ,</i> AIAA Education Series, AIAA, Reston, VA, 2010.
AVD 2	Chapter 5	Raymer, D.P.	<i>Aircraft Design : A Conceptual Approach ,</i> AIAA Education Series, AIAA, Reston, VA, 2012.
AVD 4	Chapter 3.2	Gudmundsson, S.	<i>General Aviation Aircraft Design: Applied Methods and Procedures ,</i> 1 <sup>st</sup> Ed., Butterworth-Heinemann, September 2013.
AVD 5	Chapter 4.3	Sadrey, M.H.	<i>Aircraft Design: A Systems Engineering Approach ,</i> John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2013.

NOTE: See Appendix in the Overview CM



# Appendix

# Approximate Equation of Takeoff Distance

## *My Correspondence with Lee Nicolai*

**Nov 29, 2020 (PR: I have a problem)**

*“In attempting to reconcile the first term of Eq. (6.3) on page 158 with Eq. (10.4b) on page 265, I seem to get the multiplier to be 18.8 instead of 20.9. So my multiplier is off by about 10%. I wonder what I am missing--probably making an incorrect assumption somewhere? Any insight you can provide will be much appreciated.”*

An approximate expression of *takeoff distance* (valid only for FPS system)

$$S_{TO} = 20.9 \frac{W/S}{\sigma C_{L_{max}} (T/W)} + 69.6 \sqrt{\frac{W/S}{\sigma C_{L_{max}}}} \quad (6.3)$$

A more accurate, detailed and general expression for *ground distance*

$$S_G = \frac{1.44 (W/S_{ref})_{TO}}{g \rho C_{L_{max}} \left[ (T/W) - (D/W) - \mu (1 - L/W) \right]} \quad (10.4b)$$

**Nov 30, 2020 (LMN: You're kidding me; you want me to remember details?)**

*“Where did the factor 20.9 come from? You are asking me to remember back 50 years when I wrote the first design text in 1970. The equation with the 20.9 was developed along with class notes for the design class at the USAF Academy and I do not remember the details. The 20.9 has served me well as you are the first to ask where did it come from. I suspect it came from some assumption that I made about the transition distance since it is neither ground distance or air/climb out distance. Sorry that I can't be of more help.”*

**Me: Hmm...I am the first one to ask. Everyone else must have figured it out!**

# Approximate Equation of Takeoff Distance

## *My Correspondence with Lee Nicolai (contd.)*

**Dec 4, 2020 (PR: Bingo!)**

*“I think I got it! Will you mind taking a quick look at the equations and approximations in the one-page attachment, and let me know what you think?”*

If we assume the retarding force term  $\{(D/W) + \mu(1 - L/W)\}$  to be  $0.1 (T/W)$ , then Eq. (10.4b) can be reduced to the 1<sup>st</sup> term of Eq. (6.3)

$$S_G = \frac{1.44 (W/S_{\text{ref}})_{\text{TO}}}{g \rho C_{L_{\text{max}}} [(T/W) - (D/W) - \mu(1 - L/W)]} \quad (10.4b)$$



$$S_{\text{TO}} = 20.9 \frac{W/S}{\sigma C_{L_{\text{max}}} (T/W)} + 69.6 \sqrt{\frac{W/S}{\sigma C_{L_{\text{max}}}}} \quad (6.3)$$



$$S_R = 2V_{\text{TO}} \quad (10.5)$$

If we assume that  $V_{\text{TO}} = 1.2 V_S$ , then Eq. (10.5) can be reduced to the 2<sup>nd</sup> term of Eq. (6.3)

*We can now derive an updated expression that is not restricted to FPS units!*

**Dec 6, 2020 (LMN: humorous, kind and generous response)**

*“I had it all the time. Just seeing if you could solve the mystery .....not really, you are the better man. See if your students could get it.”*

*PR: You’ve got to be kidding me!*