

# SIMULATION OF WEIGHT AND PERFORMANCE OPTIMISATION OF A SINGLE SEATER HOME BASED AIRCRAFT

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**Abstract** - To simulate the gross weight of aircraft and optimise its performance by using various historical data for the specified mission profile using "C"

**Keywords** - Aircraft – Gross Weight - Simulation - Mission Profile – C - Software

## INTRODUCTION

Three major types of airplane designs are

- A. Conceptual design
- B. Preliminary design
- C. Detailed design

### A. Conceptual design:

It depends on what are the major factors for designing the aircraft.

#### Power plant Location:

The Power plant location is either padded (or) Buried type engines are more preferred. Rear location is preferred for low drag, reduced shock & to the whole thrust.

#### Selection of Engine:

The engine should be selected according to the power required.

**Wing selection:** The selection of wing depends upon the selection of

- (1) Low wing
- (2) Mid wing
- (3) High wing

### B. Preliminary design:

Preliminary is based on Loitering. 'U' is the mathematical method of skinning the aircraft, the aircraft look like a masked body.

Preliminary design is done with help of 'C' SOFTWARE.

### C. Detailed design:

In the detailed design considers each & every rivets, bolts, paints etc. In this design the connection & allocations are made.

## GROSS WEIGHT:

The gross weight of aircraft will be given by equation,

$$W_o = W_{crew} + W_{payload} + W_{fuel} + W_{empty}$$

Empty weight includes structure, landing gear, lift equipment avionic instruments.

To simplify fuel weight and empty weight calculation take fraction of them based on total weight.

$$W_o = W_{crew} + W_{payload} + \left( \frac{W_f}{W_o} + \frac{W_E}{W_o} \right) W_o$$

$$W_{crew} + W_{payload} = W_o - \left( \frac{W_f}{W_o} \right) W_o - \left( \frac{W_E}{W_o} \right) W_o$$

$$W_o = \frac{W_{crew} + W_{payload}}{1 - \frac{W_f}{W_o} - \frac{W_E}{W_o}} \rightarrow A$$

This is the equation for the gross weight of an aircraft.

**STEP 1:**

In the first step we consider the pay load and crew weight. It is given as

$$W_{payload} + W_{crew} = 80 + 30 = 110Kg$$

**STEP 2:**

In the second step we can guess the total weight of the aircraft from the various historical data as 800Kg.

$$W_{total} = 800Kg$$

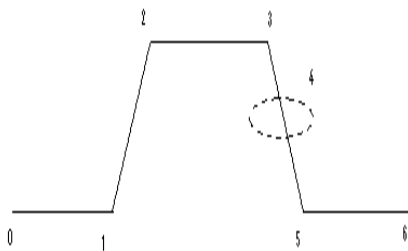
**STEP 3:**

The fuel weight includes mission fuel and fuel reserved for emergency purpose.

$$W_f = W_{fuelmission} + W_{fuelreserved}$$

Mission fuel weight can be calculated from the fuel fractions for various mission segments.

**MISSION PROFILE:**



- 0-1 WARM UP & TAKE-OFF
- 1-2 CLIMB
- 2-3 CRUISE

- 3-4 LOITER
- 4-5 DESCEND
- 5-6 LANDING

**MISSION 0-1:**

The mission 0-1 is the engine start, warm up and the take-off. From the historical data, it is found to be,

$$\frac{W_1}{W_0} = 0.995$$

**MISSION 1-2:**

The mission 1-2 is the climb. The fuel fraction from historical data was

$$\frac{W_2}{W_1} = 0.995$$

**MISSION 2-3:**

The mission 2-3 is cruise. The fuel fraction for this mission was found from the range equation (i.e.) Breguet equation,

$$R_{cr} = 375 \left( \frac{\eta_{propeller}}{C_p} \right)_{cr} \left( \frac{L}{D} \right)_{cr} \ln \left( \frac{W_2}{W_3} \right)$$

From the historical data,

$$\eta_{propeller} = 0.7$$

$$C_p = 0.7 \text{ lba / hp / hr}$$

$$\frac{L}{D} = 9$$

The range from historical data is 900Km,

$$900 = 375 \left( \frac{0.7}{0.7} \right) \times 9 \times \ln \left( \frac{W_2}{W_3} \right)$$

$$\frac{W_3}{W_2} = 0.7659$$

**MISSION 3-4:**

The mission 3-4 is the loiter. The fraction for the mission is found from the Endurance equation,

$$E_{\text{loiter}} = \left( \frac{1}{C_p} \right)_{\text{loiter}} \left( \frac{L}{D} \right)_{\text{loiter}} \ln \left( \frac{W_3}{W_4} \right)$$

From the historical data,

$$E_{\text{loiter}} = 20 \text{ min}$$

$$C_p = 0.6$$

$$\frac{L}{D} = 11$$

$$0.33 = \left( \frac{1}{0.6} \right) \times 11 \times \ln \left( \frac{W_3}{W_4} \right)$$

$$\frac{W_4}{W_3} = 0.981$$

**MISSION 4-5:**

The mission 4-5 is the descent. The fraction of fuel for this fraction from historical data is found to be,

$$\frac{W_5}{W_4} = 0.995$$

**MISSION 5-6:**

The mission 5-6 is the landing. Taxing and shut-off. The fuel fraction of this mission was found to be,

$$\frac{W_6}{W_5} = 0.998$$

The fuel fraction is found from product of all the values,

$$m_{\text{ff}} = \frac{W_6}{W_5} \times \frac{W_5}{W_4} \times \frac{W_4}{W_3} \times \frac{W_3}{W_2} \times \frac{W_2}{W_1} \times \frac{W_1}{W_0}$$

$$m_{\text{ff}} = 0.995 \times 0.995 \times 0.7659 \times 0.981 \times 0.995 \times 0.998$$

$$m_{\text{ff}} = 0.7386$$

$$\frac{W_f}{W_o} = 1 - m_{\text{ff}}$$

$$\frac{W_f}{W_o} = 1 - 0.7386$$

$$W_f = 0.2613 \times 800$$

$$W_f = 209.077 \text{ Kg}$$

**RESERVED FUEL:**

The reserved fuel is the fuel which is used for the emergency purpose.

$$W_{\text{reservedfuel}} = 0.177 \times 0.25 \times 800$$

$$W_{\text{reservedfuel}} = 34 \text{ Kg}$$

**OPERATING EMPTY WEIGHT:**

The operating empty of aircraft is calculated from equation,

$$W_{\text{OE}} = W_{\text{total}} - W_{\text{fuel}} - W_{\text{crew}}$$

$$W_{\text{OE}} = 800 - 209.07 - 110 = 480.93 \text{ Kg}$$

**TRAPPED FUEL:**

The trapped fuel is considered to be 0.5% of the total weight,

$$W_{\text{trapped}} = 0.005 \times 800$$

$$W_{\text{trapped}} = 4 \text{ Kg}$$

**GROSS WEIGHT:**

The gross weight of aircraft can be determined by formula,

$$W_o = \frac{W_{\text{crew}} + W_{\text{payload}}}{1 - \frac{W_f}{W_o} - \frac{W_E}{W_o}}$$

$$W_o = 771.72 \text{ Kg}$$

**%ERROR:**

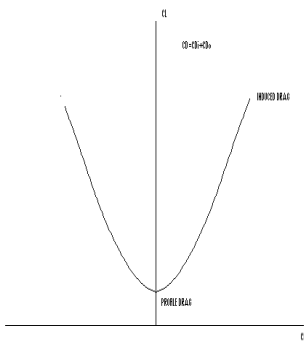
The percentage of error from the gross weight can be calculated from formula,

$$\% \text{ERROR} = \frac{W_{\text{actual}} - W_{\text{assumed}}}{W_{\text{actual}}} \times 100$$

$$\% \text{ERROR} = \frac{800 - 771.72}{771.72} \times 100$$

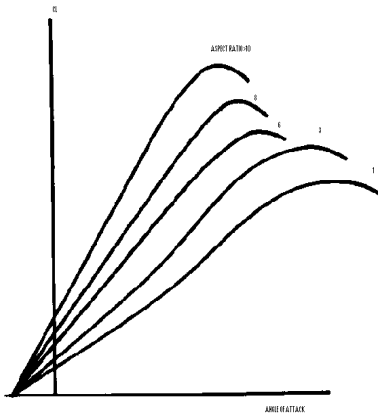
$$\% \text{ERROR} = 3.6\%$$

**C<sub>L</sub> Vs C<sub>D</sub>:**



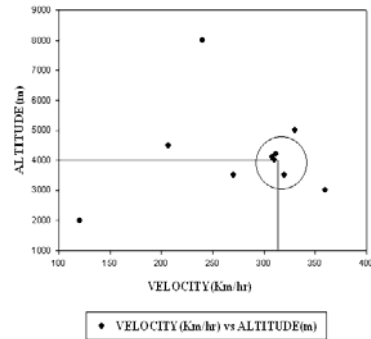
The C<sub>L</sub> Vs C<sub>D</sub> was drawn in general. It is also called as drag polar. It has the major impact on endurance of the aircraft, performance and aerodynamic properties.

**C<sub>L</sub> Vs α :**



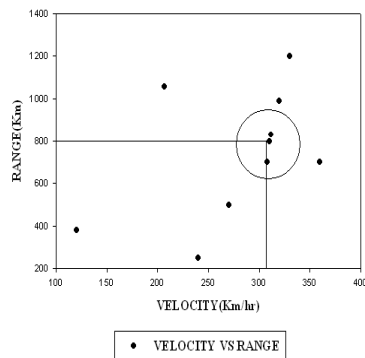
The general curve was drawn in C<sub>L</sub> Vs α. It gives the information of variation of lift with angle of attack and the stalling region. Reduce the curve slope without any change of lift angle of incidence is seen in C<sub>L</sub> Vs α characteristics. Increase of stalling angle without appreciable change in maximum lift coefficient is also seen in C<sub>L</sub> Vs α graph.

**VELOCITY Vs ALTITUDE:**



The values from the comparative study done were used to draw graphs. The velocity Vs altitude graph was drawn and approximate or optimized values of maximum altitude at velocity 300Km/hr was found to be 4000m.

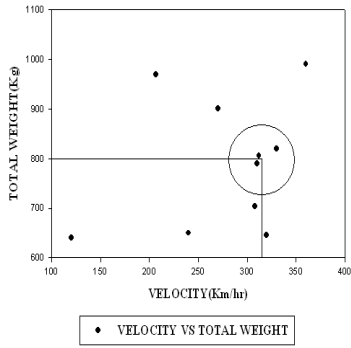
**VELOCITY Vs RANGE:**



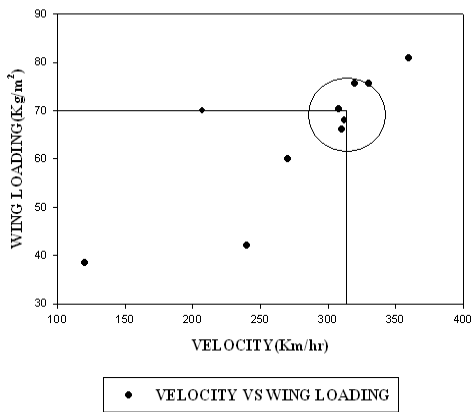
The values from the comparative study were used to plot the points in the graph, velocity Vs range. The approximate values of range of the aircraft at max speed 300Km/hr was 900Km.

**VELOCITY Vs GROSS WEIGHT:**

The values of velocity and gross weight (W<sub>0</sub>) from the comparative study were used to draw from the graph, velocity Vs gross weight. From the graph, the optimum value of (W<sub>0</sub>) was found to be 675Kg at max speed of 350Km/hr.



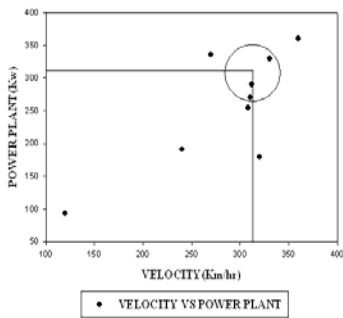
**VELOCITY Vs WING LOADING:**



The plot velocity Vs wing loading (W/S) was drawn from the values obtained from the comparative study of the aircraft. The main parameters (W/S) was optimized using the graph by drawing a circle of constant radius. The value of wing loading is optimally 70Kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

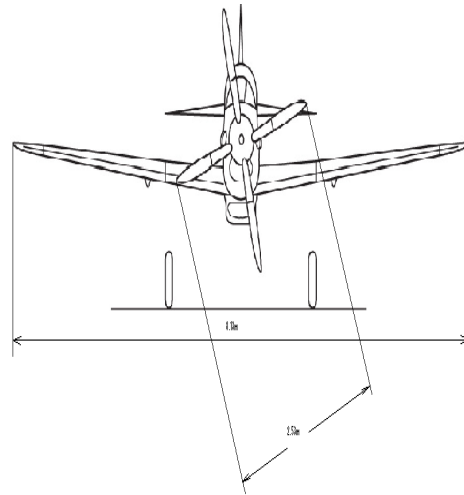
**VELOCITY Vs POWER PLANT:**

The below graph was drawn between velocity and power plant from the historical data. From the above graph for velocity 300Km/hr was optimized to 275Kw

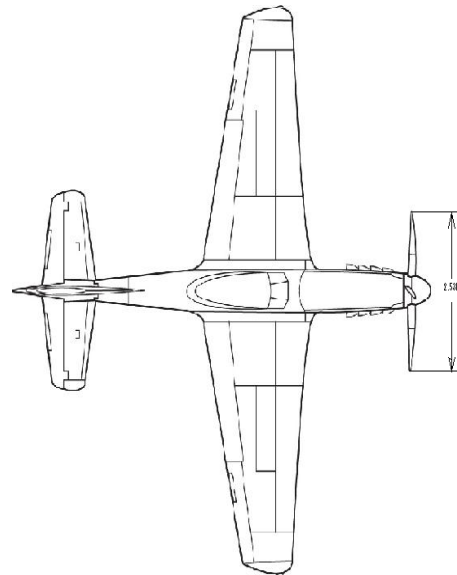


**THREE VIEWS OF SINGLE SEATER HOME BUILT AIRCRAFT**

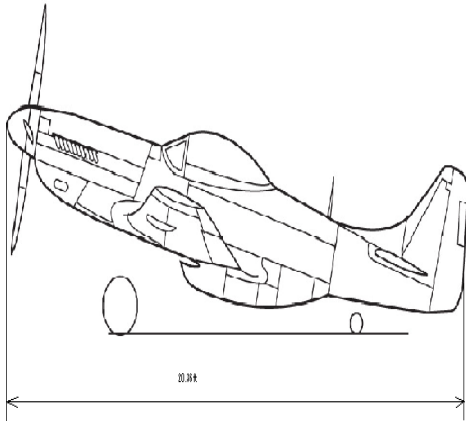
**FRONT VIEW**



**TOP VIEW**



**SIDE VIEW**



**SYMBOLS USED**

- W-Weight of aircraft
- W<sub>o</sub>-Overall weight
- W<sub>f</sub>-weight of fuel
- W<sub>e</sub>-Empty weight
- L<sub>f</sub> – fuselage length
- D<sub>f</sub> – diameter of fuselage
- S<sub>w</sub> - wing area
- T<sub>w</sub> - wing thickness
- b<sub>w</sub>,b – wing span
- S<sub>ht</sub> – horizontal tail area
- t<sub>ht</sub> – horizontal tail thickness
- b<sub>ht</sub> - horizontal tail span
- AR – aspect ratio
- t<sub>vt</sub> - vertical tail thickness
- b<sub>vt</sub> – vertical tail span
- Cd<sub>o</sub> – drag polar
- Cd – coefficient of drag
- C<sub>L</sub> - coefficient of lift
- F, T – thrust
- T/W-Thrust loading
- W/S-Wing loading
- A.R-Aspect ratio
- C<sub>r</sub>,C<sub>t</sub>-Chord length of root,tip
- T<sub>r</sub>,T<sub>t</sub>-Thickness of root,tip
- C<sub>Dp</sub>-Coefficient of drag of wetted surface area
- C.G-Center of gravity
- β -Dihedral angle
- R-Range
- E-Endurance
- μ -Ground friction
- V<sub>∞</sub> -Free stream velocity
- C-Chord
- L<sub>f</sub>-Length of fuselage
- VT-Vertical tail
- HT-Horizontal tail
- ℓ -Density(kg/m<sup>3</sup>)
- g-Gravity
- s-Distance
- H-Height
- h-altitude
- ROC – rate of climb
- V, u – velocity
- D – Drag
- L – Lift
- H – Altitude
- g – Acceleration of gravity
- W<sub>o</sub> – optimum weight
- Λ - sweep angle

**PERFORMANCE DETAILS OF VARIOUS AIRCRAFT:**

SL. NO	AIRCRAFT NAME	MAX. SPEED (Km/Hr)	CRUISE SPEED (Km/Hr)	RATE OF CLIMB (m/s)	SERVICE CEILING (m)	WING LOADING (Kg/m <sup>2</sup> )
1	Su-26	450	310	18	4000	66.058
2	Su-31	450	312	18	4200	68.058
3	ZIVKO EDGE 540	426	308	19.81	4100	70.3
4	YAK 50	480	270	20.12	3500	60.00
5	CAP 232	350	330	18	5000	75.57
6	YAK 54	460	360	15	3000	80.94
7	ALBATROS L79	165	120	3.2	2000	38.55
8	Z 242	250	207	5.5	4500	70
9	AEROCAM SLICK	400	320	15	3500	75.52
10	ZUIN Z-50	293	240	15	8000	42

**CONCLUSION:**

The weight of the aircraft was determined as 771.72Kg

$$W_{\text{payload}} = 110\text{Kg}$$

$$W_f = 209.07\text{Kg}$$

$$W_{\text{OE}} = 476.93\text{Kg}$$

and the main parameters for the design of aircraft was plotted graphically to achieve a conclusion on optimum values. So that aircrafts performance can be theoretically performed.

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