

# Structure

Tuesday, October 10, 2017 13:20

For the glory of God

## Introduction

- Forces cannot be seen, but the effects of forces can be seen or understood.

↳ This is of interest in structural analysis.

- No matter how good Aerodynamics and propulsion, if the vehicle doesn't structurally hold together, all is for naught.
- The structure design of an airplane is an intricate arrangement of various structural elements.

## Fundamentals of Solid mechanics

- A study of structure is built upon the science of solid mechanics.

### a) Stress

- When an external force is applied to the solid, the shape or size of the solid tends to change;

however, the molecules of the solid material (being locked together by intermolecular force) resist

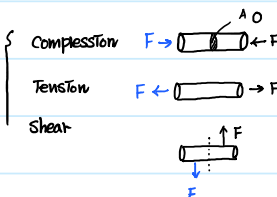
this change in the form of an internal force.

$$(b = \frac{F}{A})$$

↳ This internal force per unit area is called as Stress.

(It ends up reaching an equilibrium with the external force)

- There are three general classes of stress:



- To be more specific about compression.

- Consider a rod with an external force  $F$  imposed on one end.
- The force acts in a direction into the rod.
- For the rod to remain in equilibrium, there must be an equal and opposite force  $F$  on the other end.

This force is pressing into the segment. ↗

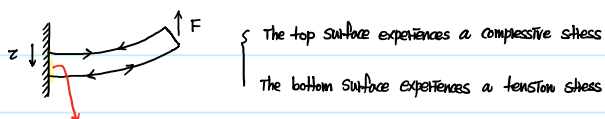
- By the definition, Compression stress =  $\frac{F}{A}$

- Note that:

- Compression and tension are acting perpendicular to the cross-sectional area ( $A$ ).
- Shear stress is acting tangentially to the cross-sectional area.

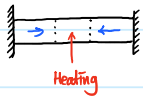
- Other cases

- When the cantilever beam is bent upwards by an applied load  $F$ ,



This junction must be able to handle these stresses as well as the shear stress at the wall.

- Thermal Stress (important to supersonic/hypersonic design)



Assume that heat is added.

When the material gets warmer, its volume expands.

However, there is no room for it to move because the beam is supported between the two walls.

As a result, a compressive stress is induced in the material to produce a strain that cancels the thermal expansion.

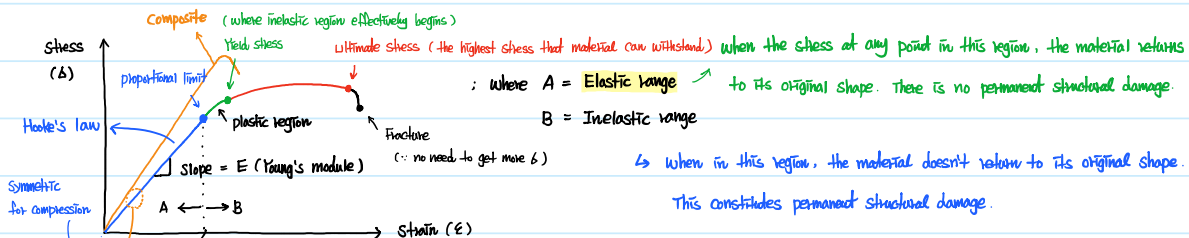
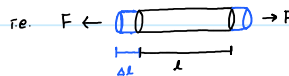
## b) Stress - Strain curve

- The curve is unique for each material and the curve reveals many of the properties of a material.

- First of all, let's define

$$\text{Stress} : \sigma \equiv \frac{F}{A}$$

$$\text{Strain} : \epsilon \equiv \frac{\Delta L}{L}$$



For most materials, up to a certain limiting value of the stress (the yield stress), of. Brittle → No plastic region

the stress is directly proportional to the strain.  $\therefore \sigma = E \epsilon$

## c) Fatigue

- Common experience shows that when you bend a piece of metal back and forth enough times, it will break.

↳ This is an example of Fatigue.

- For aircraft, various elements are repeatedly being bent back and forth by the changing loads on the structure.

e.g. The wing is bent upward by the high lift load at takeoff and is then bent downward upon landing by

the weight of the wing after the lift is reduced to essentially zero.

- The prediction of the fatigue life of various components is vital in the design of aircraft.

↳ Such information is determined empirically by fatigue testing.

## V-n diagram

- To begin with, why is V-n diagram necessary?

- To design aircraft structure, we need to know what are loads that will be imposed on the aircraft.

- The diagram defines the strength limitation of aircraft.

- Basically, the diagram is used in either conceptual or very early preliminary design process.

- Note that:

- Every aircraft has their own version of V-n diagram.

- The diagram only addresses loads in the vertical plane of symmetry of aircraft.

↳ ~~∴ zero bank angle and zero sideslip angle~~ <sup>not necessary</sup>

- Even if you have same aircraft, V-n diagram will be different if you change a geometry, i.e. flap down.

Even the diagram uses certified speed the diagram will be different if altitude is changed

- Even if you have same aircraft, v-n diagram will be different if you change a geometry, i.e. flap down.
- Since the diagram uses Equivalent airspeed, the diagram will be different if altitude is changed.

$$\hookrightarrow \rho = \rho_{\text{sea-level}}$$

In order to draw the v-n diagram, we need to define different definitions of airspeed.

## §. Structure (video lecture review in 2017)

### Difference between structure analysis and design

: In analysis, we will analyze stress and so forth; however, we don't know what's going on in design. In design, we will have to figure out those values for some objectives

### Types of airspeed (knots)

- Using pitot-tube, the difference between the dynamic and static pressure is used to determine the indicated airspeed (IAS)
- However, the indicated airspeed is not always completely accurate. Errors are often introduced by the design of the measuring instruments. Although these errors are typically small, manufacturers provide an airspeed calibration chart for each aircraft to correct these errors. The chart allows to calculate the calibrated airspeed (CAS).  
T.e. Position error
- Another source of error in airspeed comes from an aerodynamic effect, namely compressibility. Like instrumentation error, the compressibility error can also be accounted for using an airspeed correction chart. The result of this correction is the Equivalent airspeed (EAS)
- The final source of error is the decrease in air density. This density error can be corrected if the pilot knows the atmospheric density at the plane's current altitude. Once density is known, the Equivalent airspeed can be converted to true airspeed
- Finally, if we account for the wind to TAS, we will have to introduce: (TAS)

$\hookrightarrow$  It will be used for the diagram

"Ground speed"

: It can be determined by the vector sum of the aircraft's true airspeed and the current wind speed and direction.

For example, aircraft  $\rightarrow$  40 kts  $\leftarrow$  wind 10 kts  $\therefore$  Ground speed = 30 kts

(let's say ① is created by aircraft for  $V_0$ )

Let's draw the v-n diagram.

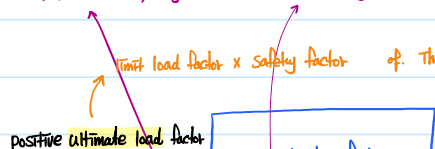
smallest turn radius / highest turn rate

According to FAR, we specify some gust limit to  $V_0$  point, which is different gust limit for  $V_0$

(Even if design choose V is good)

③ Thus, we may want to fly with this speed

positive ultimate load factor



of. The structure must be able to support ultimate loads without failure for at least three seconds

(or limit load the structure must be able to

Hence, they have different slope.

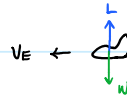
(from FAR part 23.333)



## The Impact of Gusts

- Consider an aircraft in steady and level flight:

$$L = W = \frac{1}{2} \rho V_E^2 S C_L \quad ; \quad \text{where } W = V_E \text{ for } V-n \text{ diagram}$$



- Let's say the airplane encounters a vertical gust of speed  $U$ .

$\Rightarrow$  This changes the angle of attack with an amount  $\Delta\alpha$  and the lift coefficient by  $\Delta C_L$ .

$$V_E \rightarrow \text{aircraft} \quad ; \quad \text{Here, } \Delta\alpha = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{U}{V_E}\right) \approx \frac{U}{V_E} \text{ only if small } \Delta\alpha$$

we are assuming  $U \ll V_E$

- Then, the net lift generated during the gust encounter,

$$\begin{aligned} L_{net} &= \frac{1}{2} \rho V_E^2 S (C_L + \Delta C_L) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \rho V_E^2 S C_L + \frac{1}{2} \rho V_E^2 S \Delta C_L \\ &= W + \frac{1}{2} \rho V_E^2 S \Delta C_L \end{aligned}$$

$\hookrightarrow$  If we assume the operation is in the linear region of the lift-curve.

At this point

(Don't think about the gust)

:  $L = W$  for steady-level flight



$$\therefore \frac{dC_L}{d\alpha} = \frac{\Delta C_L}{\Delta\alpha} \Leftrightarrow \Delta C_L = \frac{dC_L}{d\alpha} \Delta\alpha$$

$$= \frac{dC_L}{d\alpha} \frac{U}{V_E} \text{ for small } \Delta\alpha$$

- Substitute  $\Delta C_L$  into  $L_{net}$  equation,

$$L_{net} = W + \frac{1}{2} \rho a V_E^2 S \left( \frac{dC_L}{d\alpha} \right) \frac{1}{V_E} ; \text{ where } L_{net} = n_{net} W$$

Dividing by  $W$ , we have :

$$n_{net} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} \rho a \frac{1}{W/S} \left( \frac{dC_L}{d\alpha} \right) \frac{1}{V_E} ; \text{ we can say } n_{net} = \text{the gust load factor}$$

↪ This is a sort of  $y = ax + 1$  (as  $a$  increases,  $y$  increases)

In conclusion,

-  $n$  (gust) is linearly proportional to  $V_E$  ( $\because$  that is why we drew the line)

⇒ Large load factors may occur if flying fast in gust condition.

- The incremental load factor due to gusts decreases with increase in wing loading.

⇒ All else being equal (e.g.  $\rho a$ ) but airplanes with higher wing loading are less sensitive to gust.

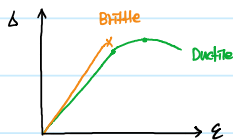
↪ Better ride quality

Mock graph with Grada

Draw stress-strain curve for both Brittle and Ductile

↪ It is something related to plastic deformation

It is something like breaking immediately without deformation.

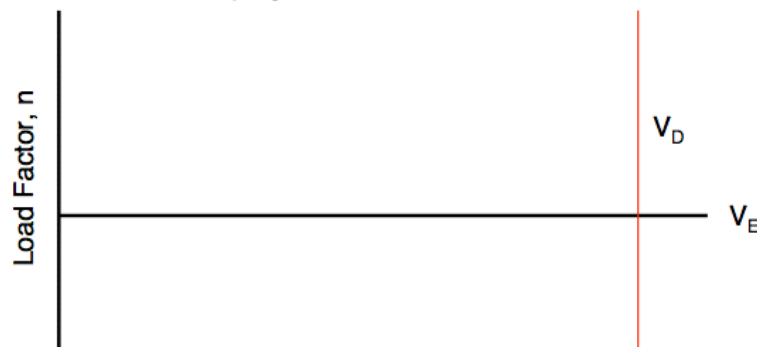


V-n diagram drawing step by step (Prof. German)

## V-n Diagram

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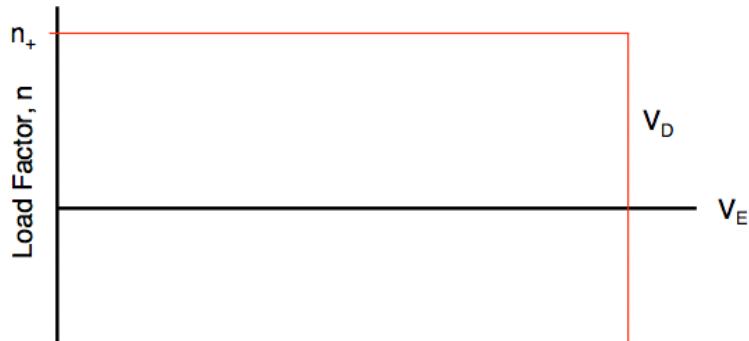
- $V_D$  - Design Dive Speed
- Upper boundary of V-n diagram speeds
- Airplane must be free of flutter, control reversal, and divergence at speeds up to  $1.2 V_D$
- Value defined by regulation



## V-n Diagram

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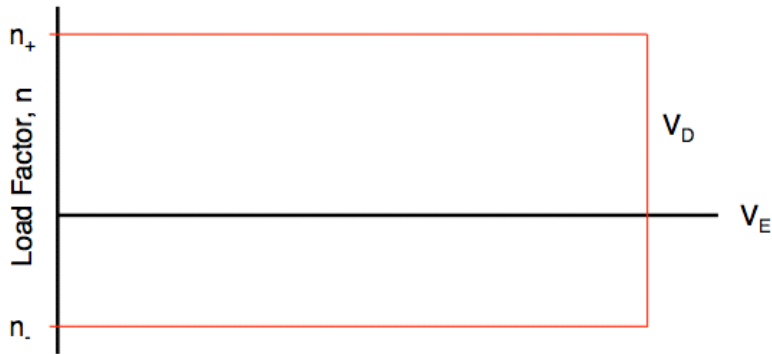
- $n_+$  - Positive Limit Maneuvering Load Factor
- Defined by regulation
- Typically 3.8 for a normal category airplane under FAR Part 23



## V-n Diagram

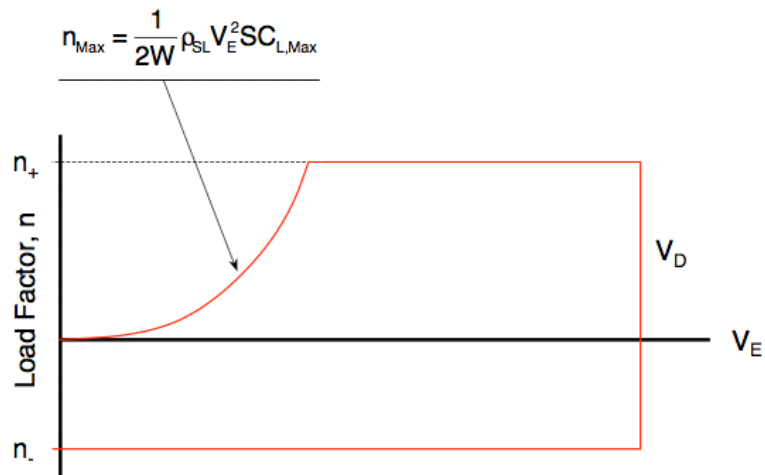
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- $n_-$  - Negative Limit Maneuvering Load Factor
- Defined by regulation as a fraction of  $+n$
- For a normal category airplane under FAR Part 23,  $n_- = -0.4 n_+$ ; for our example case,  $n_- = -1.52$



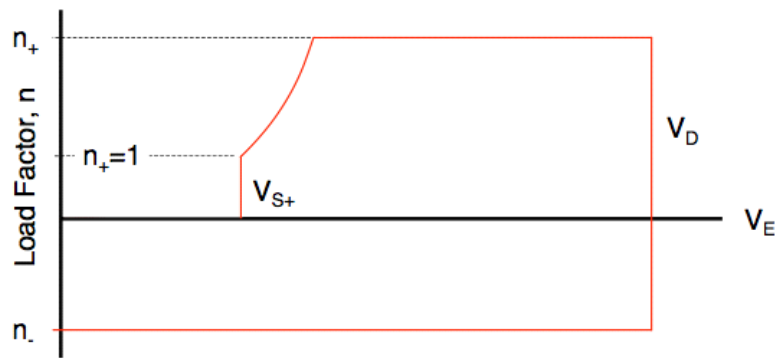
## V-n Diagram

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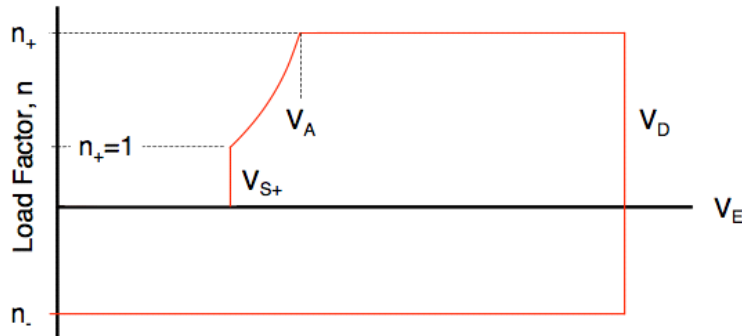
## V-n Diagram

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## V-n Diagram

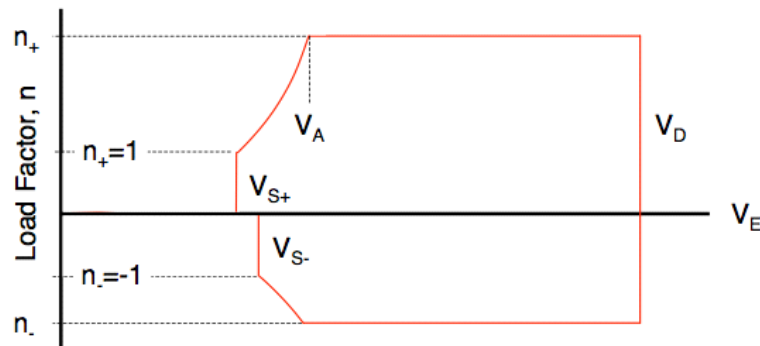
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## V-n Diagram

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A similar set of curves can be generated for the negative values of the load factor. Since the minimum value of  $C_L$ ,  $C_{L,Min}$ , is negative and usually smaller in absolute magnitude than  $C_{L,Max}$ . The later observation then leads to the conclusion that  $V_{S+} < V_{S-}$ .

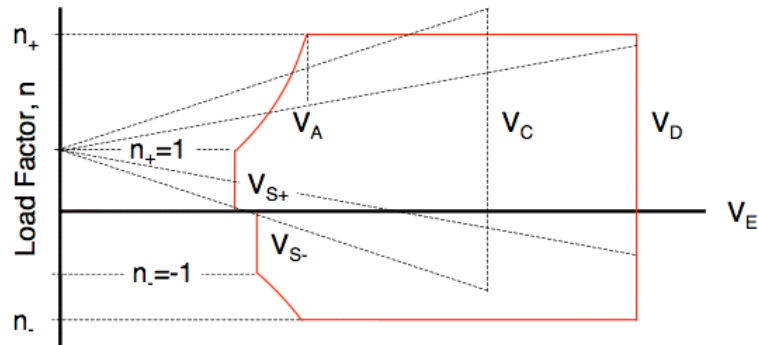




## V-n Diagram

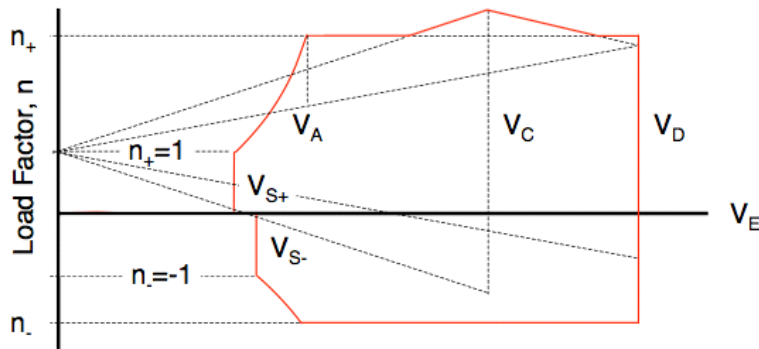
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Additional gust velocities,  $\pm U$ , are defined that must be sustained at speeds up to  $V_D$ :



## V-n Diagram

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*Every airplane will have its own V-n diagram; they are not generic!*