

AEM 617  
Lesson 3  
Airspeed

## Instruments: Name & Function





# Airspeed

- Indicated airspeed (KIAS). What the pilot sees.
- Calibrated airspeed (KCAS). Remove indicator bias and error.
- True airspeed (KTAS). Actual velocity through air.
- Equivalent airspeed (KEAS). Constant dynamic pressure

# Aircraft Operation Speeds

- $V_s$  – Stall
- $V_{mo}$  – Maximum operating
- $V_{mc}$  – Minimum controllable airspeed on grnd.  
(Twin engine a/c -> off runway)
- $V_{mca}$  – Minimum controllable airspeed in air.
- $V_d$  – Maximum Dive speed
- $V_{ne}$  – Never exceed
- $V_x$  – Speed for best angle of climb
- .....
- $M_{mo}$  – Maximum operating Mach number
- $M_d$  – Dive Mach number
- .....

# Compressible Flow

- Speed of Sound

$$a = \sqrt{\gamma RT}$$

- Mach number

$$M = \frac{V}{a}$$

- Isentropic Ideal Gas Process (relate stagnation to static pressure)

$$p_t = p \left( 1 + \frac{\gamma - 1}{2} M^2 \right)^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1}}$$

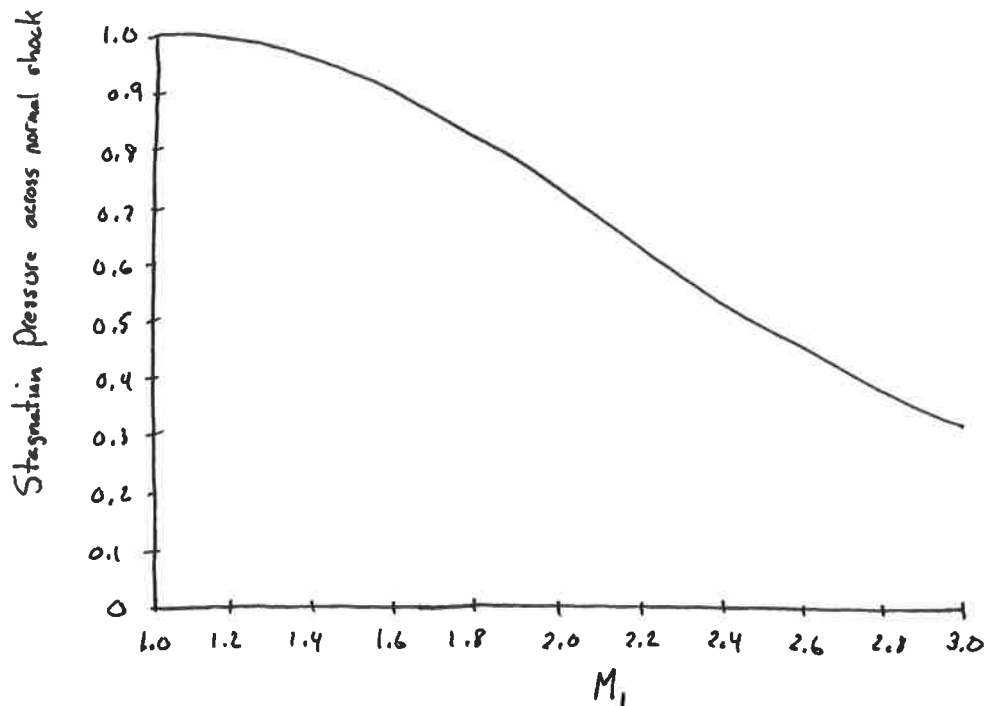
↑ pressure at  $V=0$       ↑ static pressure at  $M$

$$\gamma_{\text{air}} = 1.4$$

# Compressible Flow

- Normal Shock (Stagnation pressure ratio **drops** across shock)

$$\left( \frac{p_{t_3}}{p_{t_1}} \right) = \left( \frac{\frac{\gamma+1}{2} M_1^2}{1 + \frac{\gamma-1}{2} M_1^2} \right)^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1}} \left( \frac{2\gamma}{\gamma+1} M_1^2 - \frac{\gamma-1}{\gamma+1} \right)^{\frac{-1}{\gamma-1}}$$



# Dynamic Pressure

An aerodynamic force scaling term resulting from incompressible theory.

## Buckingham $\Pi$ :

The Force depends on some function of density, Velocity, Cross sectional area, and an unknown non-dimensional parameter.

$$\left. \begin{aligned}
 \text{Force} &= \text{mass} \cdot \text{acceleration} = m \cdot l \cdot t^{-2} \\
 \text{Density} &= m \cdot l^{-3} \\
 \text{Velocity} &= l t^{-1} \\
 \text{Area} &= l^2 \\
 \Pi &= \text{unitless}
 \end{aligned} \right\} F = (\rho)^a (V)^b (A)^c \Pi$$

$$m l t^{-2} = (m l^{-3})^a (l t^{-1})^b (l^2)^c \Pi$$

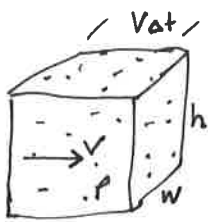
$$\begin{matrix}
 \xrightarrow{a=1} \\
 \xrightarrow{b=2}
 \end{matrix} \Rightarrow c=1$$

Thus,  $F = \rho V^2 A \cdot \text{Constant}$

$\frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 \equiv q$  Dynamic Pressure

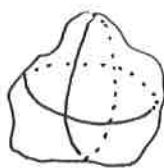
## Physics

Impulse is  $\Delta m v$ , Force is  $\frac{\text{Impulse}}{\Delta t}$



Blob of air moving at  $v$  velocity with density  $\rho$ .

Cross sectional area is  $h \cdot w = A$



Interacts with a solid surface of exactly  $h \cdot w$  cross section

$J = (\text{mass} \cdot \text{velocity})_{\text{start}} - (\text{mass} \cdot \text{velocity})_{\text{end}}$  Ignore this and just put a constant =  $C \cdot \text{mass} \cdot \text{velocity}$

$= \underbrace{\Delta t \rho V h w}_{\text{mass}} \cdot V \cdot C \Rightarrow \text{Force} = \frac{J}{\Delta t} = \rho V^2 A \cdot C$

Dynamic Pressure  $= q = \frac{1}{2} \rho V^2$

Example

Lift  $= \frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 S_{\text{wing}} \cdot C_L$



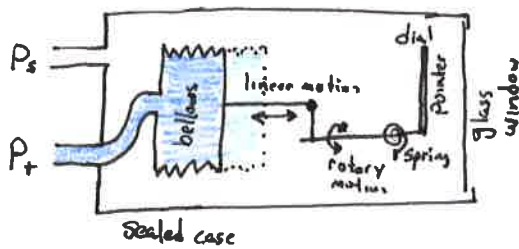
- Q: Is dynamic pressure ( $q$ ) equal to stagnation pressure minus static pressure ( $p_t - p$ )?
- A: **No**. But it is a reasonable approximation for incompressible flows.

$$p_t - p = p \left( \left( 1 + \frac{\gamma - 1}{2} M^2 \right)^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1}} - 1 \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} q &= \frac{1}{2} \rho V^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{p}{RT} M^2 a^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \gamma p M^2 \end{aligned}$$

# Airspeed Indicator

Measures the difference in total pressure and static pressure.



The airspeed indicator is calibrated for SSL.

Using isentropic compressible flow theory, the pressure difference  $P_t - P_s = \Delta P$  is calibrated to a SSL velocity.

$$\Delta P_{cal} = P_{ssl} \left[ \left( \frac{\gamma-1}{2} \left( \frac{V_{cal}}{a_{ssl}} \right)^2 + 1 \right)^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1}} - 1 \right]$$

Consider an ASI as a function that converts  $\Delta P_{cal}$  to a  $V_{cal}$  velocity reading.



ILLUSTRATED PARTS CATALOG

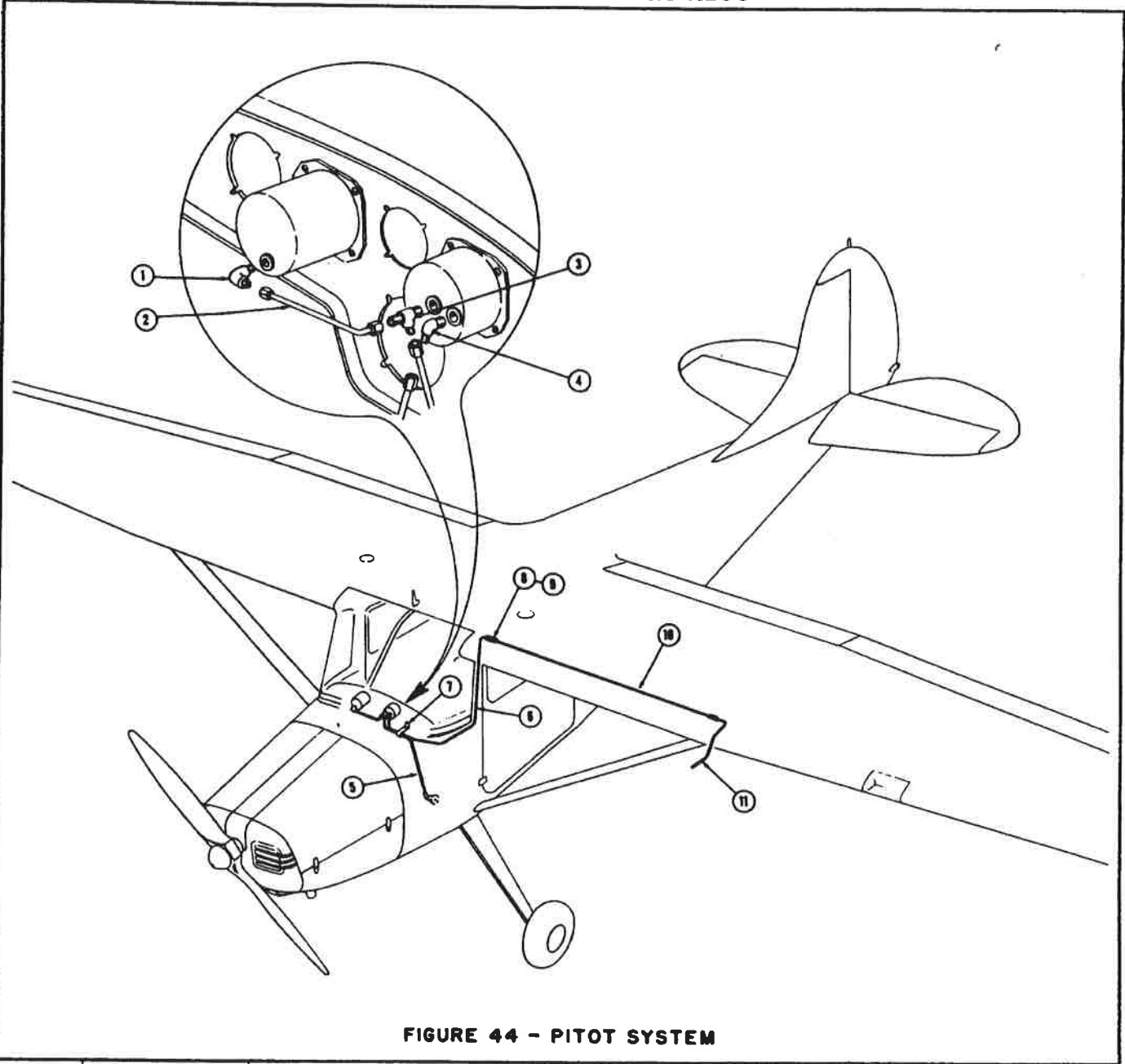


FIGURE 44 - PITOT SYSTEM

FIGURE AND REF. NO.	PART NUMBER	PART NAME						UNITS REQ'D ON MODEL
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
	0500205	Pitot System Installation (Reference Only)						1
44-1	AN822-4D							1
44-2	0400106-61							1
44-3	AN826-4D							1
44-4	AN823-4D							1
44-5	0500106-19							1
44-6	0500106-51							1
44-7	0413263							1
44-8	NAS397-10							2
44-9	AN884-4-12							1
44-10	See Figure 3							
44-11	See Figure 3							

ORDER BY PART NUMBER AND NAME

SERIAL NUMBER AND COLOR IF APPLICABLE

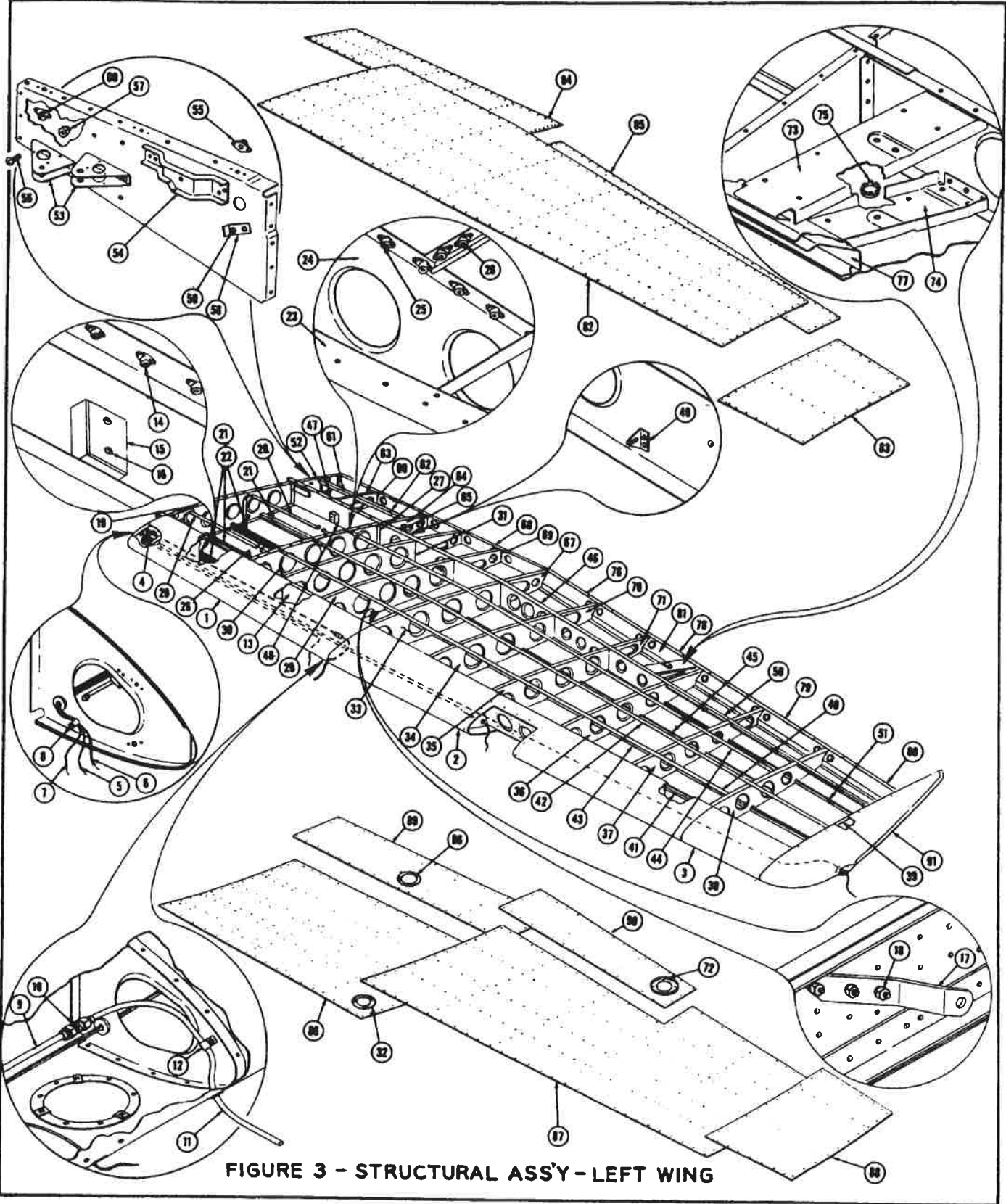


FIGURE 3 - STRUCTURAL ASS'Y - LEFT WING

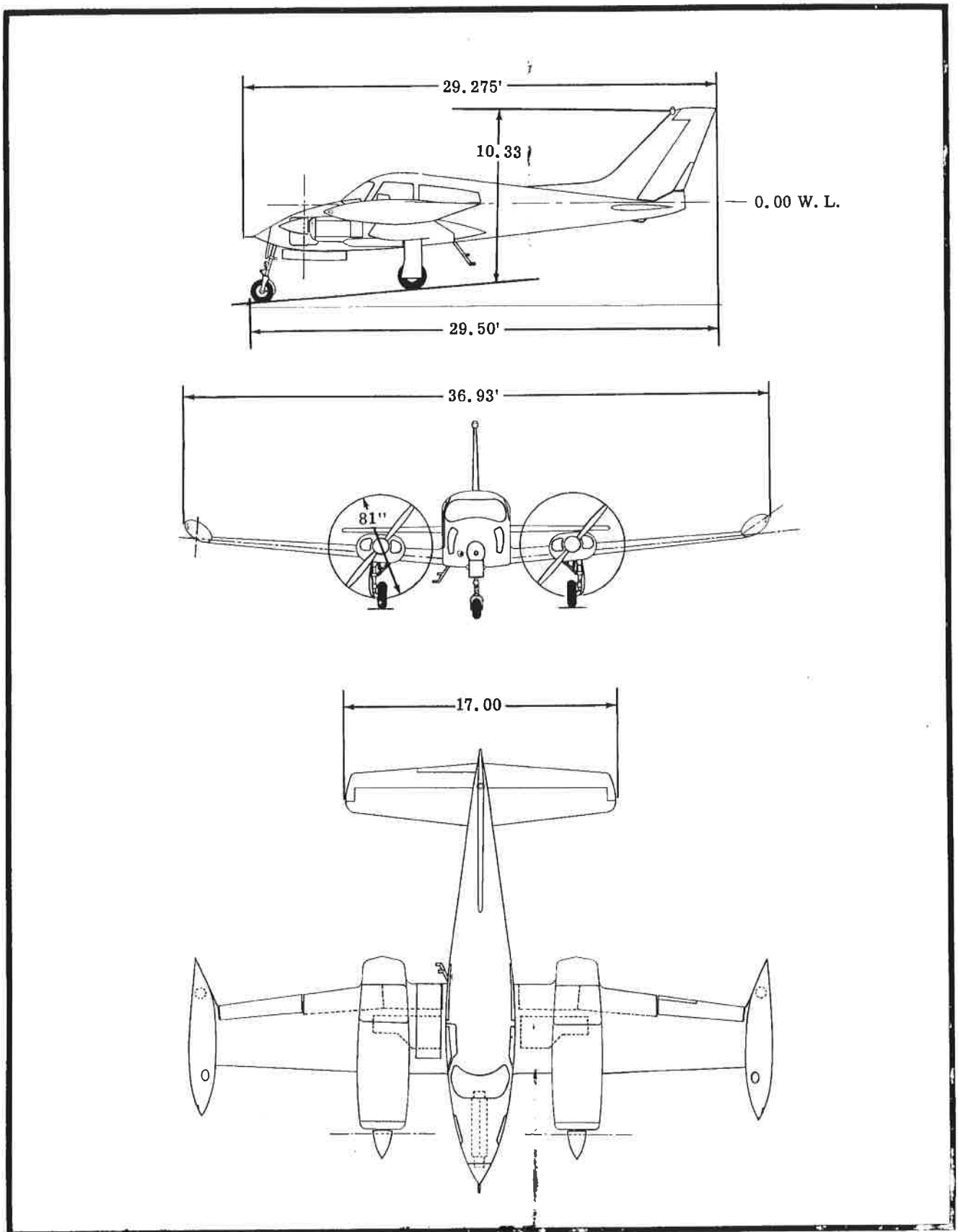
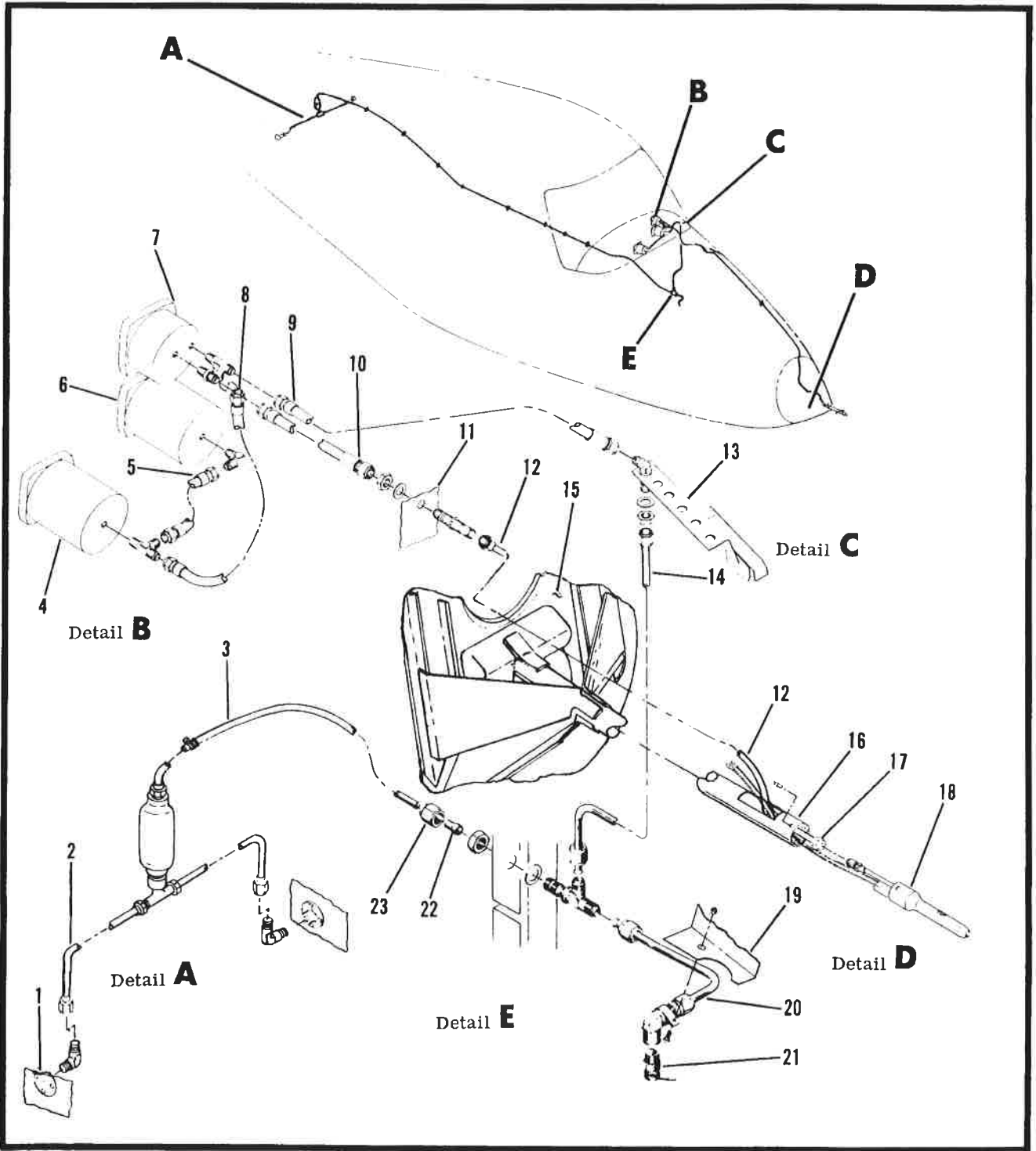


Figure 1-1. Three View 310L and 310N Aircraft



- |  |                                 |                           |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Static Opening                        | 9. Hose (Airspeed to Bracket)   | 16. Mount Tube            |
| 2. Static Crossover Line                 | 10. Hose (Airspeed to Bulkhead) | 17. Pitot Extension Line  |
| 3. Static Line                           | 11. Forward Cabin Bulkhead      | 18. Pitot Tube            |
| 4. Vertical Velocity Indicator           | 12. Pitot Pressure Line         | 19. Parking Brake Bracket |
| 5. Hose (Vertical Velocity to Altimeter) | 13. Tube Support Bracket        | 20. Static Drain Line     |
| 6. Altimeter                             | 14. Forward Static Line         | 21. Drain Valve           |
| 7. Airspeed Indicator                    | 15. Nose Bulkhead               | 22. Sleeve                |
| 8. Hose (Vertical Velocity to Airspeed)  |                                 | 23. Nut                   |

Figure 12-8. Pitot-Static System Installation

# Calculation

- How much pressure differential does a calibrated airspeed reading generate? Apply isentropic compressible theory.

$$\Delta p = p_t - P_{static}$$
$$\Delta p_{cal} = P_{ssl} \left[ \left( \frac{\gamma - 1}{2} \left( \frac{V_{cal}}{a_{ssl}} \right)^2 + 1 \right)^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1}} - 1 \right]$$

- Notice that we use SSL conditions for everything other than delta p and Vcal. The ASI is **designed** with a reference at SSL.

- The objective is to find the true airspeed. You already know the pressure ratio from the calibrated airspeed.

$$\frac{\Delta p_{cal}}{P_{ssl}}$$

- Given an altitude, you can convert ssl to local pressures

$$\delta = \frac{p}{P_{ssl}}$$

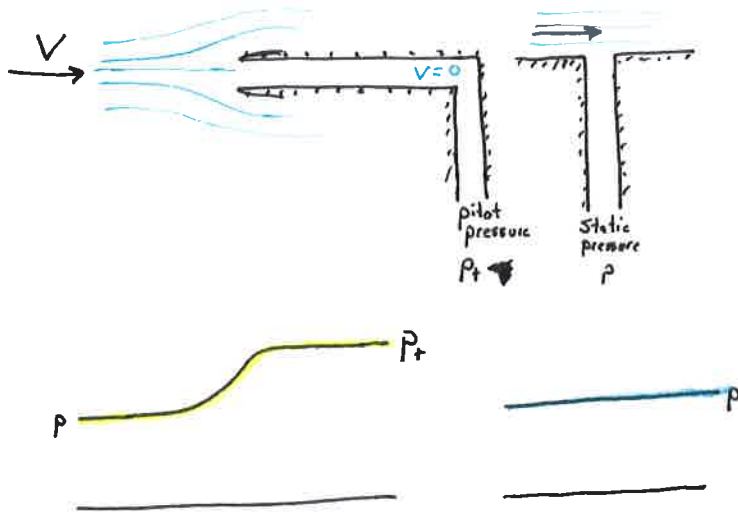
- Substitute to give the true airspeed

$$V_{true} = \sqrt{\frac{2a^2}{\gamma - 1} \left[ \left( \frac{\Delta p_{cal}}{P_{ssl}} \frac{1}{\delta} + 1 \right)^{\frac{\gamma - 1}{\gamma}} - 1 \right]}$$



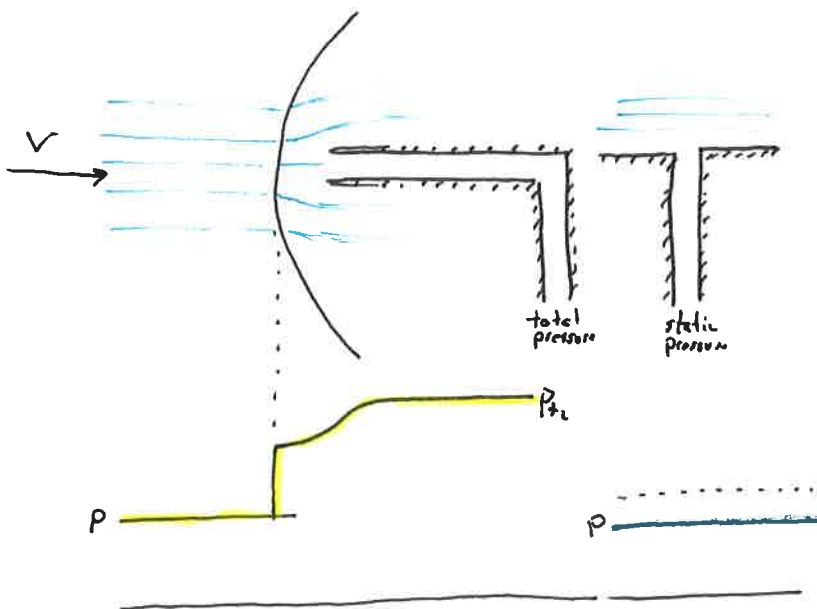
# Subsonic

- Region from  $M=0$  to  $M=1$
- This is NOT the same as incompressible
- You can not expect to use incompressible formulas beyond  $M=0.3$ .



# Supersonic

- $M > 1$
- Now have a normal shock in front of pitot tube
- Assume a weak oblique shock and fan for static port gives almost isentropic flow. Thus the static pressure is almost equal to the freestream static pressure.



Notice for a strong shock, the static pressure port will begin to read slightly higher. This analysis ignores this issue!!

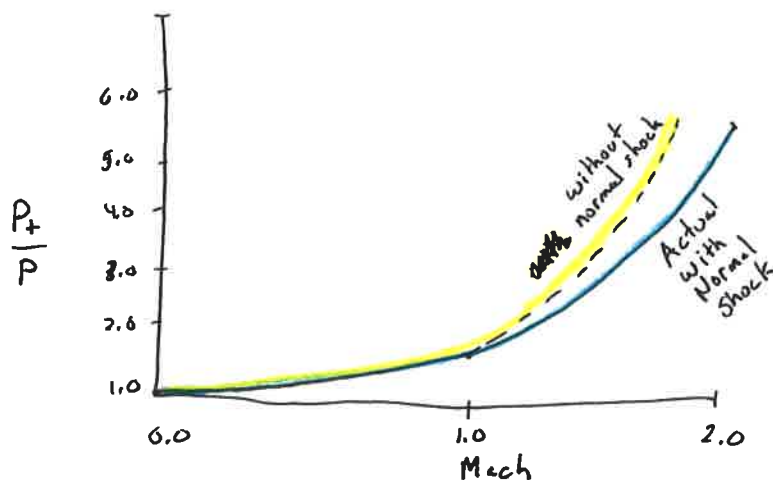
- Pitot pressure ratio given known pressure ratio ( $P_{t2}/p_1$ ) and shock

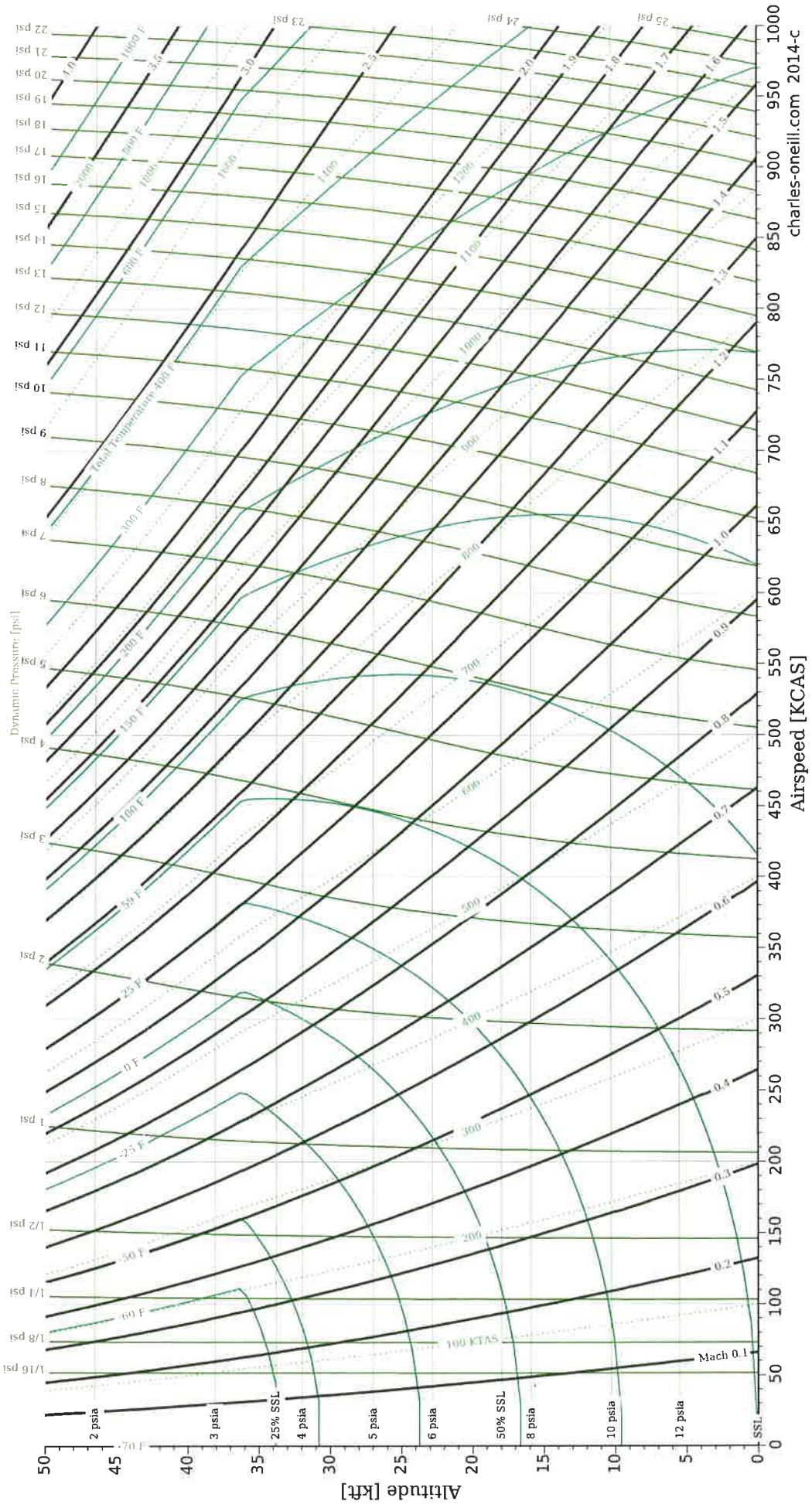
$$\frac{P_{t_1}}{p_1} = \left( \frac{P_{t_2}}{p_1} \right) \left( \frac{P_{t_1}}{P_{t_2}} \right)$$

- Substitute compressible flow equations and solve

$$\left( \frac{P_{t_2}}{p_1} \right) = \left( \frac{\gamma + 1}{2} M_1^2 \right)^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1}} \left( \frac{2\gamma}{\gamma + 1} M_1^2 - \frac{\gamma - 1}{\gamma + 1} \right)^{\frac{-1}{\gamma - 1}}$$

- Now, given the upstream Mach number, you can find the pitot pressure ratio. Typically you will need to iterate to solve for M given a known pitot pressure ratio (see subsonic for finding pressure ratio).





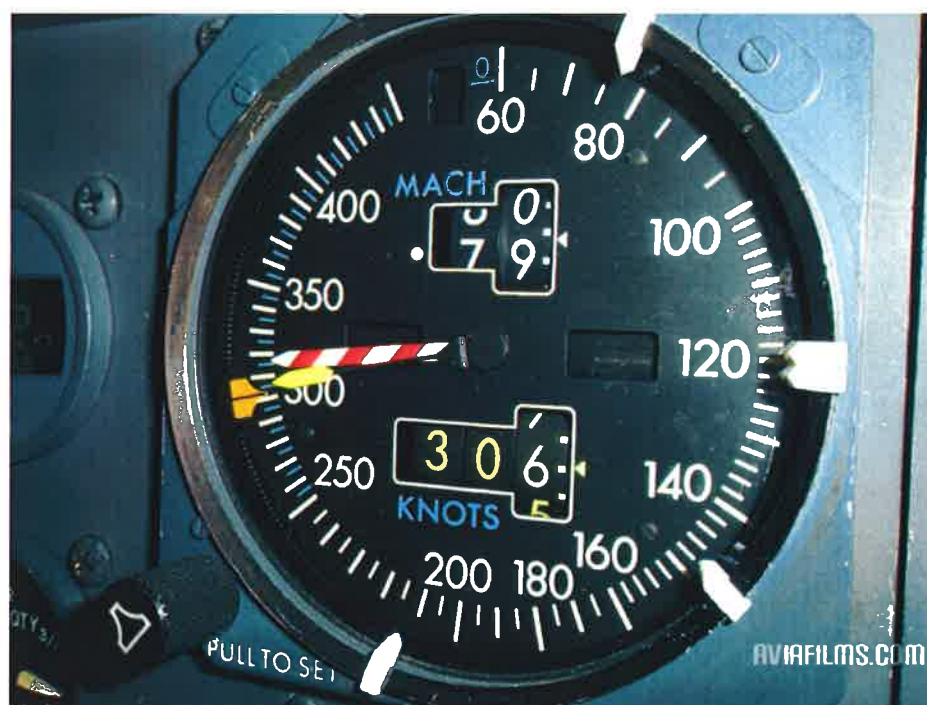
## Quiz #1:

- What altitude?
- What KTAS?



## Quiz #2:

- What altitude?
- What KTAS?



## Quiz #3:

- What altitude?
- What KTAS?



# Quiz #4: Piper PA-34



Lucky for us, set at pressure altitude (29.92 inHg). SSL!