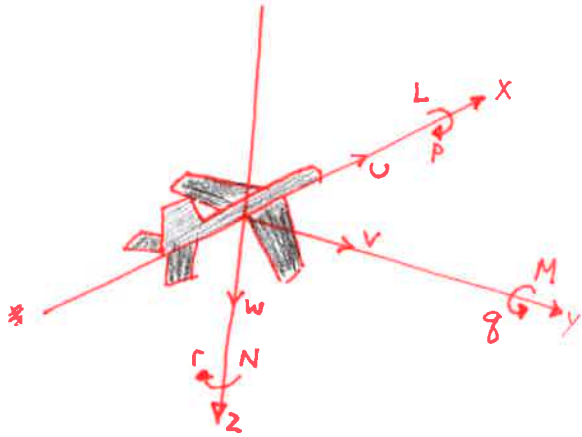


Lesson 18

Directional Stability

# Nomenclature / Coordinates

(Review)



Body fixed stability frame:

$\begin{cases} Z \text{ points down} \\ N \text{ moment in } z \text{ direction (cw +)} \\ r \text{ angular rate in } z \text{ direction} \end{cases}$

$\begin{cases} X \text{ points forward} \\ L \text{ moment in } x \text{ direction (cw +)} \\ p \text{ angular rate in } x \text{ direction} \end{cases}$

$\begin{cases} y \text{ point off right starboard wing} \\ M \text{ moment in } y \text{ direction (nose up +)} \\ q \text{ angular rate} \end{cases}$

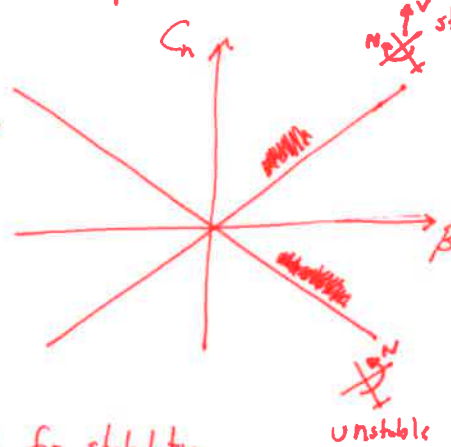
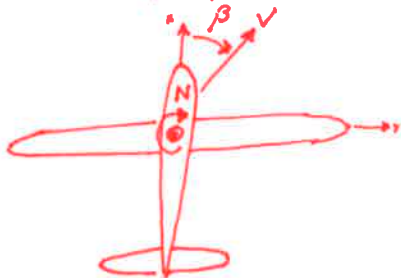
$$\beta = \arcsin\left(\frac{V}{|V|}\right)$$

$$= \arcsin\left(\frac{v}{\sqrt{u^2+v^2+w^2}}\right)$$

$$\approx \frac{v}{u} \text{ in radians if } v \ll u$$

## Static directional Stability

The ability of the aircraft to point into the relative wind.

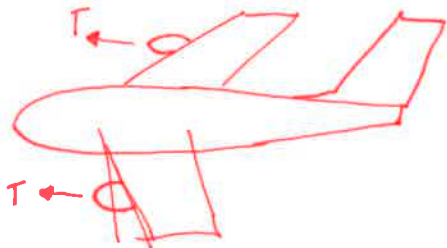


$$C_n = \frac{N}{\rho S b}$$

↑ notice wing span.

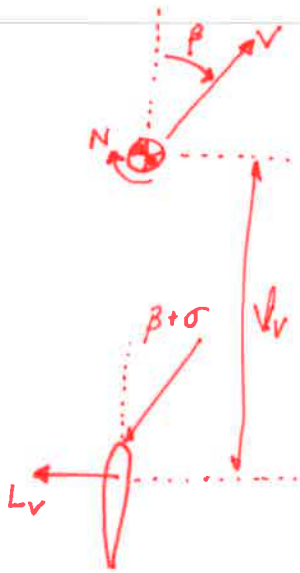
$$C_{n\beta} \equiv \frac{dC_n}{d\beta} > 0 \text{ for stability}$$

## Major Players



- Vertical Stabilizer
- Fuselage
- Offset thrust
- Wings (small to negligible at  $\alpha \ll \alpha_{stab}$ )  
exception adverse yaw

# Vertical Tail Contribution $C_{n_{tail}}$



$$N = l_v \cdot L_v = l_v \cdot \eta_v \rho C_{L_{\alpha v}} (\beta + \sigma) S_v$$

non dim

$$C_n = \frac{N}{\rho S_w b} = \eta_v \underbrace{\left( \frac{l_v S_v}{S_w b} \right)}_{\text{Vertical Tail Volume Ratio}} C_{L_{\alpha v}} (\beta + \sigma)$$

Vertical Tail  
Volume Ratio

$\sigma$  is really complicated and <sup>often</sup> ~~usually~~ somewhat small. maybe?

but approximate as  $\sigma = \sigma_0 + \frac{d\sigma}{d\beta} \beta$

↑  
this is probably small unless the aircraft is not symmetric.  
"paging Burt Rutan..."

$$C_n = \eta_v V_v C_{L_{\alpha v}} \left( 1 + \frac{d\sigma}{d\beta} \right) \beta$$

$$C_{n_{\beta}} = \eta_v V_v C_{L_{\alpha v}} \left( 1 + \frac{d\sigma}{d\beta} \right)$$

$\frac{d\sigma}{d\beta}$  is hard to estimate. Use 0 (zero) if you have no other information.  
 $\frac{d\sigma}{d\beta} \approx 0$

Estimate (from Nelson) (DATCOM)

$$\eta_v \left( 1 + \frac{d\sigma}{d\beta} \right) \approx 0.724 + 3.06 \frac{S_v/S_w}{1 + \cos \Lambda_{94_w}} + 0.4 \frac{z_w}{d} + 0.009 AR_w$$

$z_w$  is distance from fuselage centreline to wing root quarter chord  
positive for low-wing aircraft (add to book... type)

$d$  is the maximum fuselage depth

For a mid mounted <sup>unswept</sup> wing with  $S_v/S \approx 0.1$ ,  $\eta_v \left( 1 + \frac{d\sigma}{d\beta} \right) \approx 1.0$

Q: Why? Why does the wing influence the tail?

Why does the wing influence  $\sigma$  and  $\frac{d\sigma}{d\beta}$

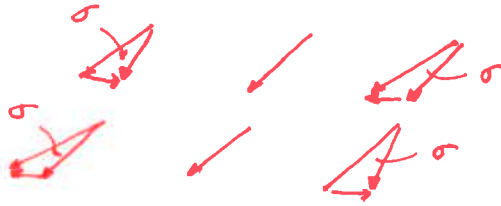
A: Aerodynamics of a wing generating lift



So the flow field (cross section) looks like



If we add the free stream to this, there is a sidewash velocity with an angle  $\sigma$



The shed vorticity is

$$\gamma(y) = -\frac{d\Gamma}{dy}$$



The wing's vertical location impacts  $\sigma$

$$0.4 \frac{z_w}{d} \text{ term}$$

- Flow directions  $\sigma$  ~~on the~~ above the wing turn the velocity vector inwards ~~thru the~~ ~~downward~~
- A sideslip angle  $\beta$  places the vertical in a different spanwise location (i.e. increasing  $\beta$  moves the tail into the right (starboard) wing's wake)
- $\sigma$  increases going outboard above the starboard wing (decreases port above)

Thus  $\frac{d\sigma}{d\beta}$  is positive for a lower wing. (the wing vertical "sees" more of the upper wing wake)

# Fuselage Contribution



Similar to the pitching Moment resulting from  $\alpha$ .  
The Multhop method would work!

- Super quick visual method (qualitative only)  
Compare forward fuselage area and centroid to aft fuselage.



$\approx$   
Approx equal  $\Rightarrow C_{n\beta_f} \approx 0$

"D. The stability derivative isn't too low, its the wrong sign"  
— Mike.



$C_{n\beta_f} > 0$  stable



$C_{n\beta_f} < 0$  unstable

- Nelson's Eq 2.73 and Fig 2.29 and 2.30

$$C_{n\beta_{wf}} = -k_n K_{Rf} \frac{S_{f_s} l_f}{S_w b}$$

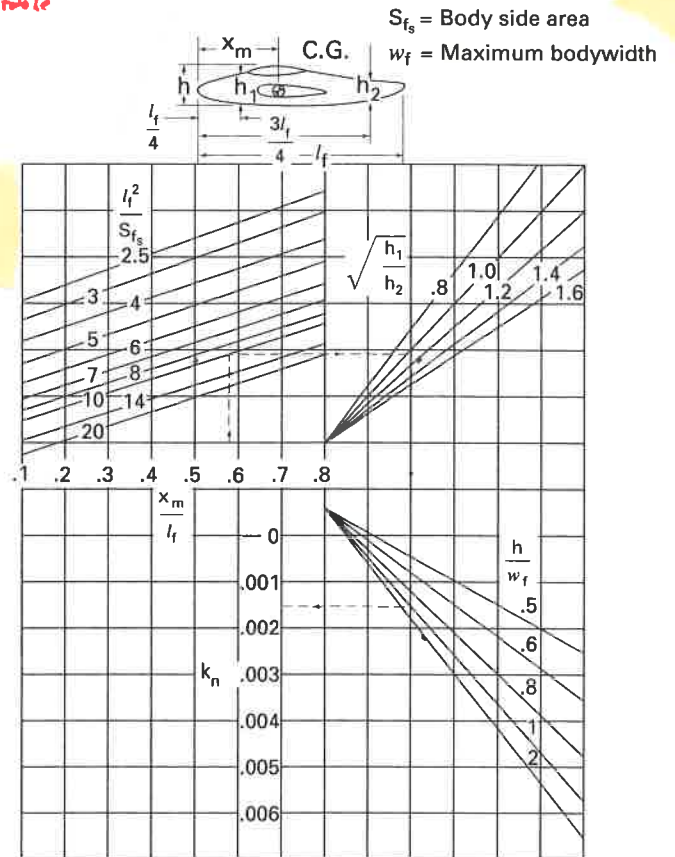
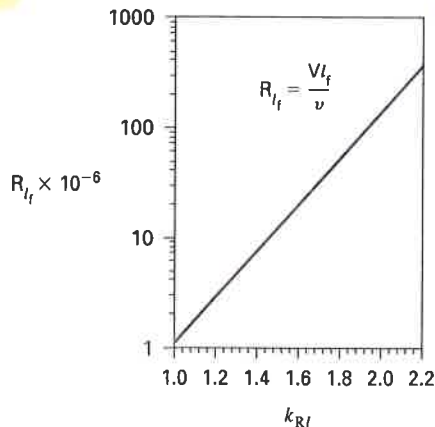
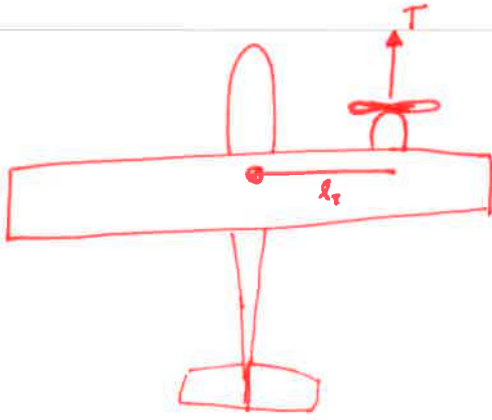


FIGURE 2.29  
Wing body interference factor.

# Thrust



$$N_T = T l_T$$

$$C_{nT} = \frac{T l_T}{q S b}$$

$$= \left( \frac{T}{q A} \right) \left( \frac{A}{S} \right) \left( \frac{l_T}{b} \right)$$

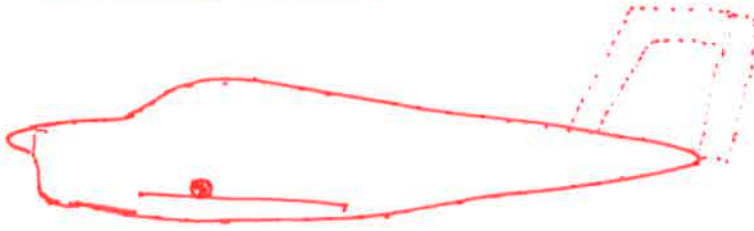
$$= \text{Thrust Coefficient} \cdot \frac{\text{Thrust Area}}{\text{wing Area}} \cdot \text{Ratio of offset to wing}$$

Disk loading as dyn. press.

Worst case (largest  $C_{nT}$ )

- High Thrust
- low speed (low dynamic pressure)
- Large offset ( $l_T$ )

Ex: What vertical stab size is necessary for  $C_{np} = 0.2 \text{ rad}$  for the following aircraft



Assume.

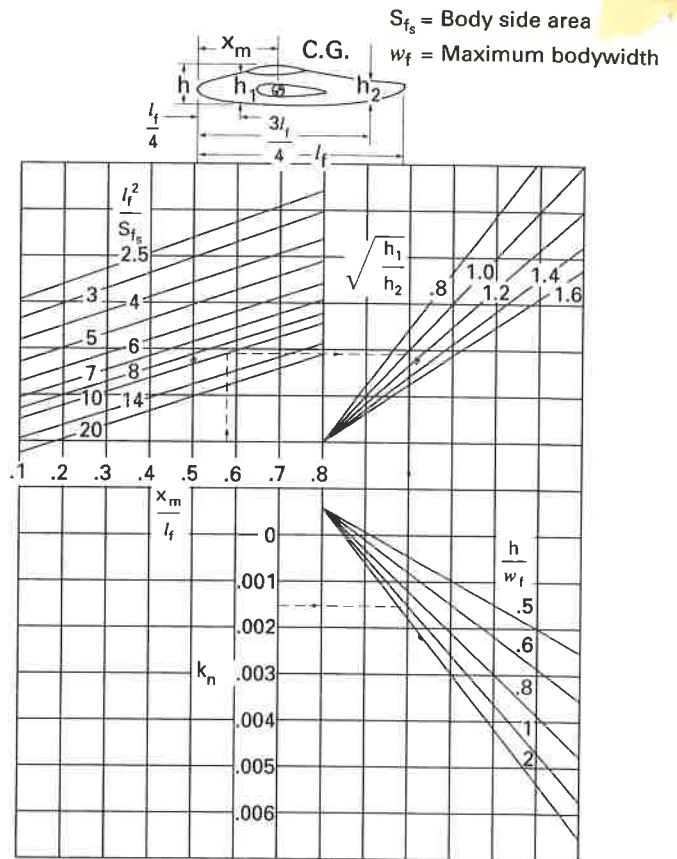
Vertical  $AR \approx 4$

$b = 33.5 \text{ ft}$

$l_f = 27.5 \text{ ft}$

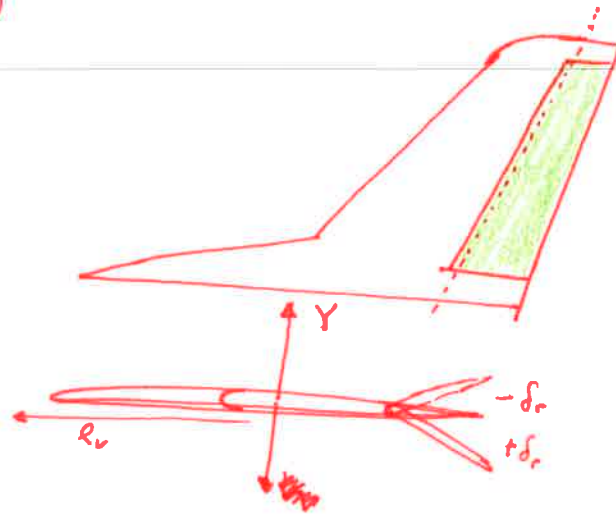
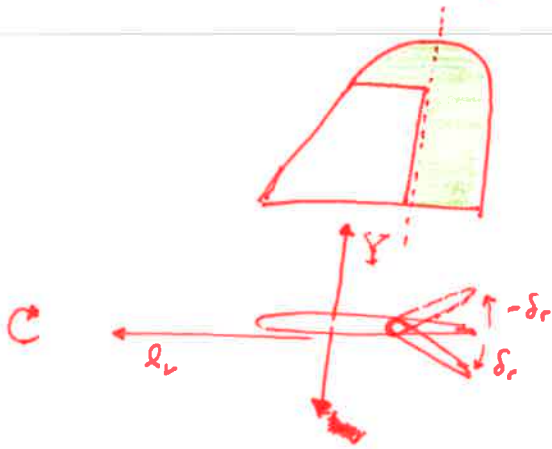
$S_w = 177 \text{ ft}^2$

$V_\infty = 300 \text{ ft/s}$



**FIGURE 2.29**  
Wing body interference factor.

# Directional Control (Rudder)



$$N = -l_v Y \quad \text{where } Y \text{ is the sideforce}$$

$$Y = g_v S_v C_{L_v}$$

$$C_n = \frac{N}{g_w S b} = - \frac{g_v}{g_w} \frac{l_v S_v}{S_w b} C_{L_v} \delta_r$$

$$= - \eta_v V_v C_{L_{v\delta_r}} \delta_r = - \eta_v V_v \frac{dC_{L_v}}{d\delta_r} \delta_r$$

$$\frac{dC_{L_v}}{d\alpha} \frac{d\alpha}{d\delta_r} = C_{L_{\alpha v}} \tau$$

$$C_{n_{\delta_r}} = - \eta_v V_v C_{L_{\alpha v}} \tau$$

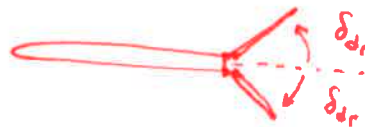
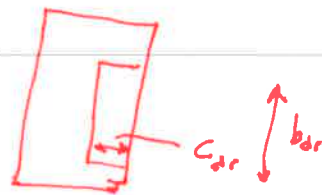
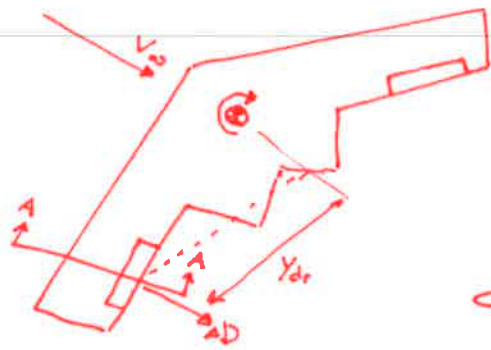
where  $\tau$  is the flap effectiveness parameter  
Fig 2.21 in Nelson

Why do we need directional control?

- Adverse Yaw
- Cross wind landing
- Asymmetrical power/Thrust
- Spin Recovery
- Aerobatics + Fun Maneuvers



## Drag Rudder



$$N_{\text{Left}} = -Y_{dr} \Delta D \quad \text{with} \quad \Delta D = \frac{dC_D}{d\delta_{dr}} \delta_{dr} q S$$

$$N_{\text{Right}} = Y_{dr} \Delta D$$

From Rostkam,

$$\frac{dC_D}{d\delta_{dr}} \approx 0.025 \frac{b_{dr} c_{dr}}{S} \left[ \frac{1}{\delta_{dr}} \right] \quad \underline{\text{Approximation only}}$$

$$C_{n_{\text{Right}}} = \frac{N_{\text{Right}}}{q S b} = \frac{Y_{dr} \delta_{dr} q S \cdot 0.025 \frac{b_{dr} c_{dr}}{S} \cdot \frac{1}{q S b} \delta_{dr}}$$

$$= \frac{0.025 b_{dr} c_{dr}}{S b} Y_{dr} \delta_{dr}$$

$$C_{n_{\text{Right}}} = \frac{0.025 b_{dr} c_{dr}}{S b} Y_{dr} \delta_{dr} \Rightarrow C_{n_{\text{Right}}} = 0.025 \left( \frac{S_{dr}}{S} \right) \left( \frac{Y_{dr}}{b} \right)$$

This control method is common on flying wings (B2, YB-19, etc)

Also remember that certain lift distributions are naturally yaw stable (proverse yaw) for aileron deflections. See: Aero-1 / AEM 614 "Bell lift dist"

# Rudder Pedal Forces



$$F_r = G_r M_r g S_r \bar{c}_r C_{hr} = G_r M_r g S_r \bar{c}_r (C_{hsr} \delta_r + C_{hsr+} \delta_{r+} + C_{h\beta} \beta)$$

$\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   $\underbrace{\hspace{2em}}$   $\underbrace{\hspace{2em}}$   $\underbrace{\hspace{2em}}$   
 Gearing [rad/ft]  $\frac{\delta_r}{g_0}$   $\delta_r$  rudder geometry rudder hinge moment rudder deflection moment rudder-tab deflection moment side slip moment

## Free Floating Rudder

$$F_r = 0 \Rightarrow C_{hsr} \delta_r + C_{hsr+} \delta_{r+} + C_{h\beta} \beta = 0$$

solve for  $\delta_r$

$$\delta_r = \frac{-C_{h\beta} \beta - C_{hsr+} \delta_{r+}}{C_{hsr}}$$

$\delta_r$  can be trimmed with  $\delta_{r+}$  (or even given an aero boost)

$$\delta_r = -\frac{C_{h\beta} \beta}{C_{hsr}} = -\frac{C_{h\beta}}{C_{hsr}} \beta = -\frac{(+)}{(+)} = +$$



Remember that the yaw moment about the CG was (from rudder)

$$C_{Ns} = -\eta_v V_v C_{L_{\alpha_v}} T \leftarrow \text{'flap off' parameter}$$

So the total  $C_n$  is

$$C_n = C_{n_0} + C_{n\beta} \beta + C_{Ns} \delta_r$$

but  $\delta_{r_{float}} = \text{function of } \beta$

$$C_n = \underbrace{\eta V_v C_{L_{\alpha v}} \left(1 + \frac{d\sigma}{d\beta}\right)}_{C_{n\beta}} \beta + \underbrace{-\eta_v V_v C_{L_{\alpha v}} \tau}_{C_{n\delta r}} \delta_r$$

$\delta_r = -\frac{C_{n\beta}}{C_{n\delta r}} \beta$

$$= \eta V_v C_{L_{\alpha v}} \left( \left(1 + \frac{d\sigma}{d\beta}\right) \beta + \tau \left(-\frac{C_{n\beta}}{C_{n\delta r}}\right) \beta \right)$$

$$C_n = \eta V_v C_{L_{\alpha v}} \left( 1 + \frac{d\sigma}{d\beta} + \tau \frac{C_{n\beta}}{C_{n\delta r}} \right) \beta$$

Thus the free floating rudder directional stability (from the vert + rudder) is.

$$C_{n\beta} = \underbrace{\eta V_v C_{L_{\alpha v}}}_{+} \left( \underbrace{1}_{+} + \underbrace{\frac{d\sigma}{d\beta}}_{\text{small}} + \underbrace{\tau \frac{C_{n\beta}}{C_{n\delta r}}}_{\substack{+ \frac{(+)}{(-)} \\ -}} \right)$$

The free floating rudder is destabilizing.

## Generate Sideslip

$$C_n = 0 \text{ at } \beta \neq 0 \Rightarrow C_{n\beta} \beta + C_{n\delta_r} \delta_r = 0$$

↓

$$\delta_r = - \frac{C_{n\beta}}{C_{n\delta_r}} \beta$$

$$F = G_r \eta_r g S_P \bar{c}_r (C_{n\delta_r} \delta_r + C_{n\beta} \beta)$$

Pedal Gradients

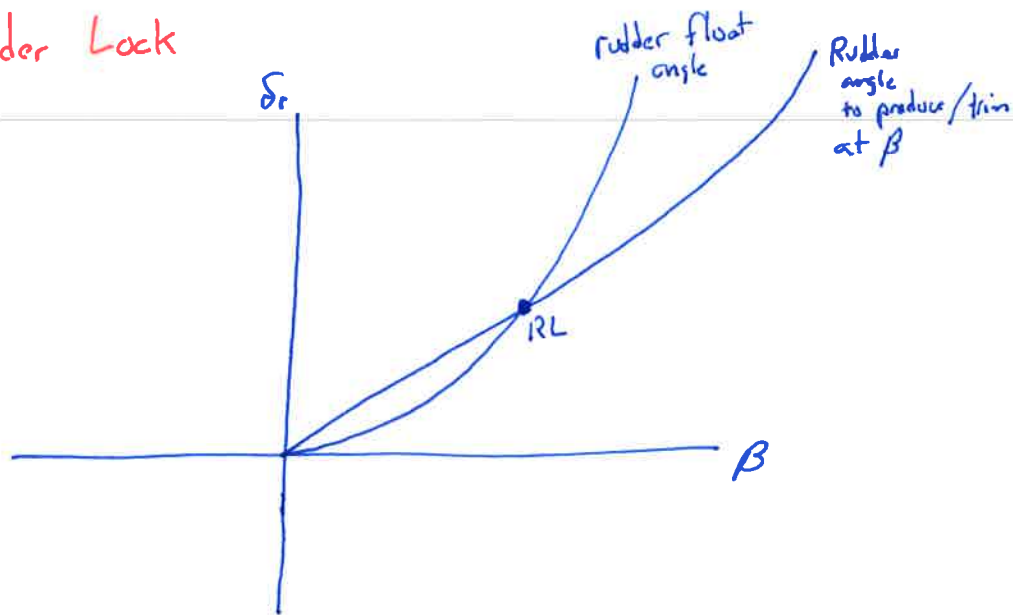
$$\frac{dF}{d\beta} = \underbrace{G_r \eta_r g S_P \bar{c}_r}_{+} \left( \underbrace{\frac{-C_{n\delta_r} C_{n\beta}}{C_{n\delta_r}}}_{- \frac{(-)(+)}{(-)}} + \underbrace{C_{n\beta}}_{+} \right)$$

-

This can be + or -

Unfortunately, the hinge moments are usually not linear except in a very small range.

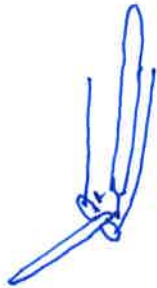
# Rudder Lock



Beyond the point RL, the rudder float angle is more than the rudder angle to trim at that  $\beta$ .

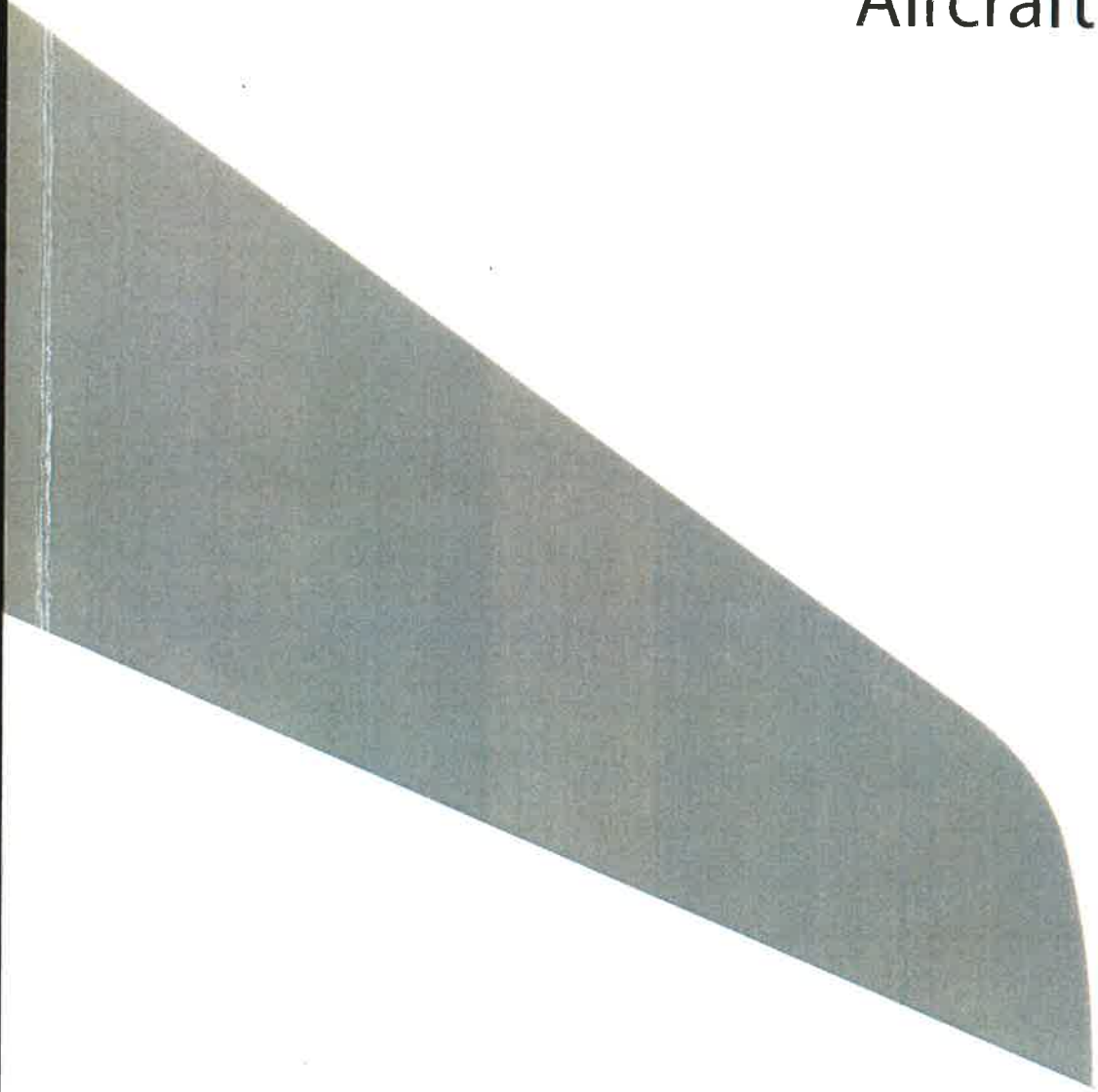


The rudder wants to move all the way to the stops



Dangerous.

Aerodynamic  
Design of  
Transport  
Aircraft



Ed Obert

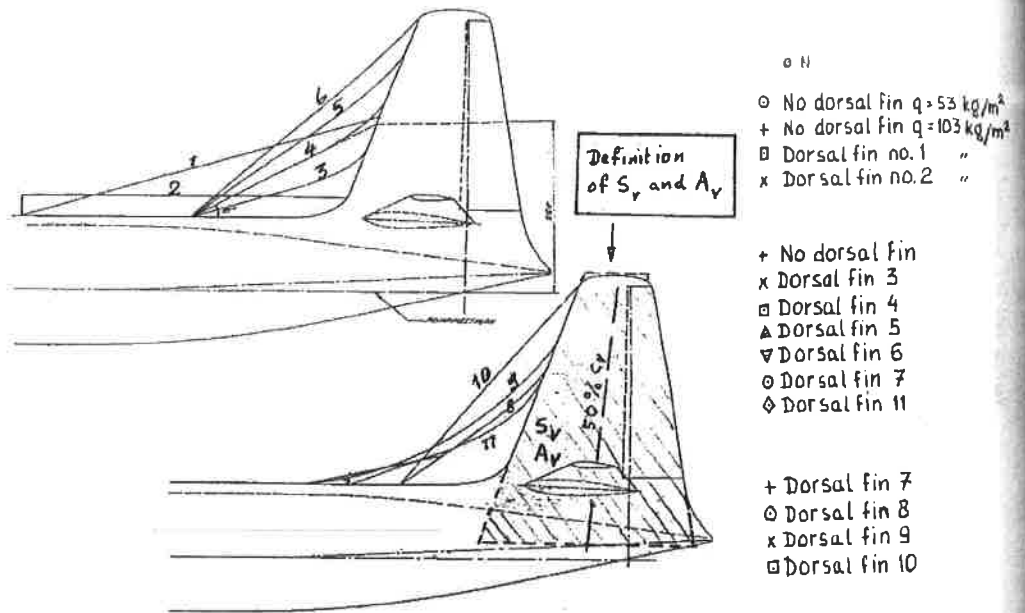


Figure 32.6 - Different dorsal fins. Source: NLL Report A-1374

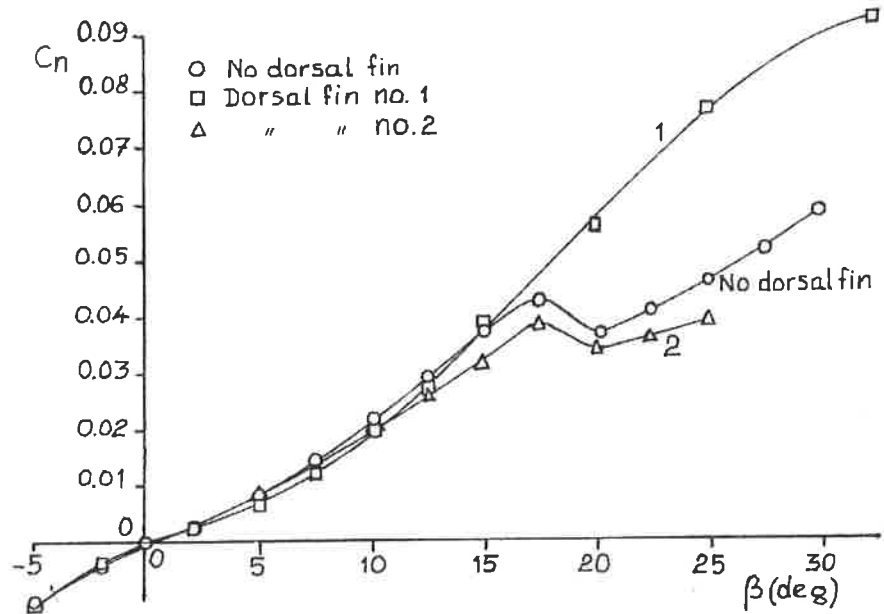


Figure 32.7 - Effect of a dorsal fin on the yawing moment coefficient (1). Source: NLL Report A-1374

$\rho = 53 \text{ kg/m}^3$   
 $\rho = 103 \text{ kg/m}^3$   
 ! "

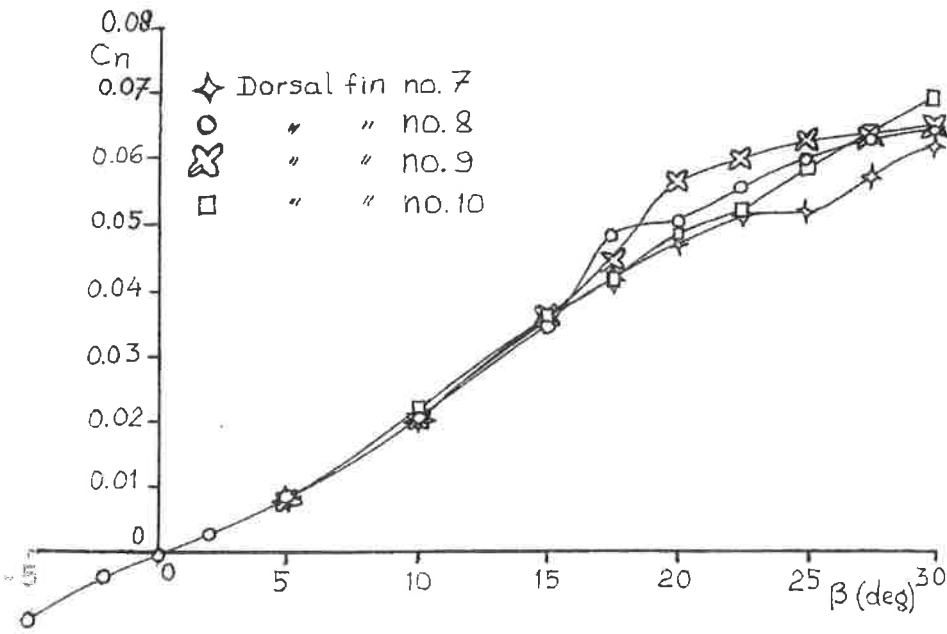
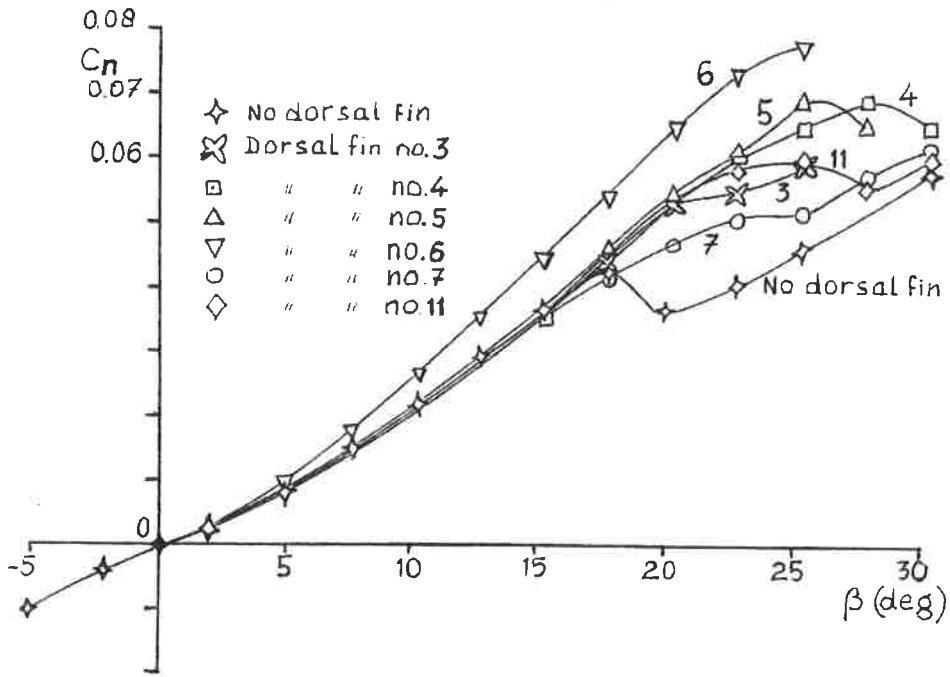
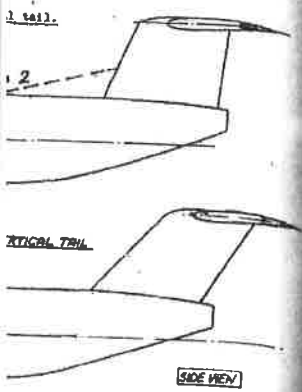


Figure 32.8 - Effect of a dorsal fin on the yawing moment coefficient (2). Source: NLL Report A-1374





... fin investigated during  
 ... with a dorsal fin also a  
 ... may produce favourable  
 ... ed by fin no.6 in figure  
 ... hich show test results of  
 ... e differences in leading-  
 ... f the Fokker F-28.

... angle is presented for  
 ... ns tested. For the linear  
 ... r side-slip angles above  
 ... ng fin sweep or adding a  
 ... yawing moment curve.

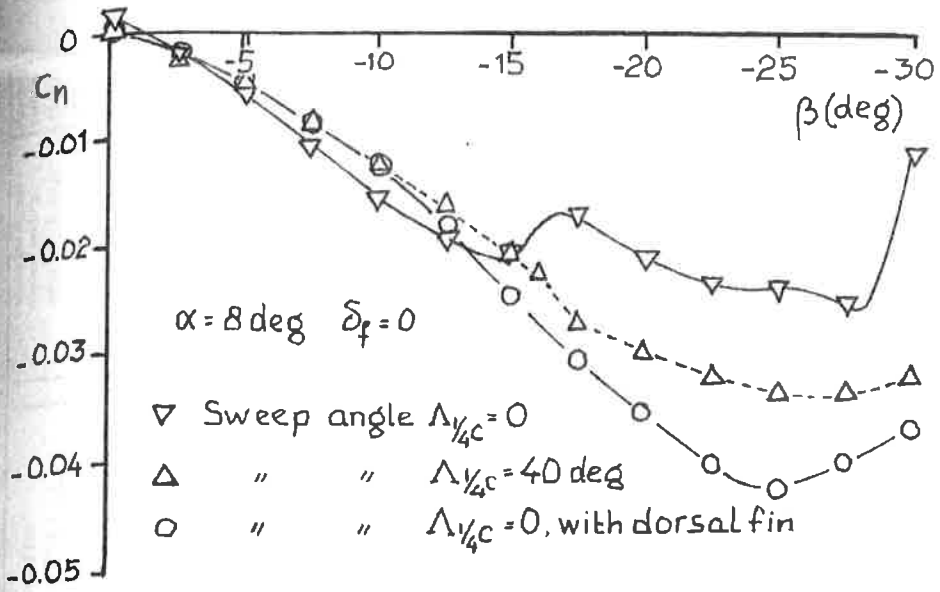
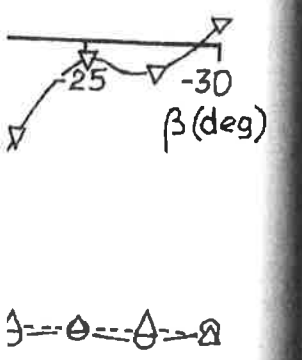


Figure 32.11 - Effect of sweep angle on vertical tailplane lift curve. Source: NLR Report A-1582

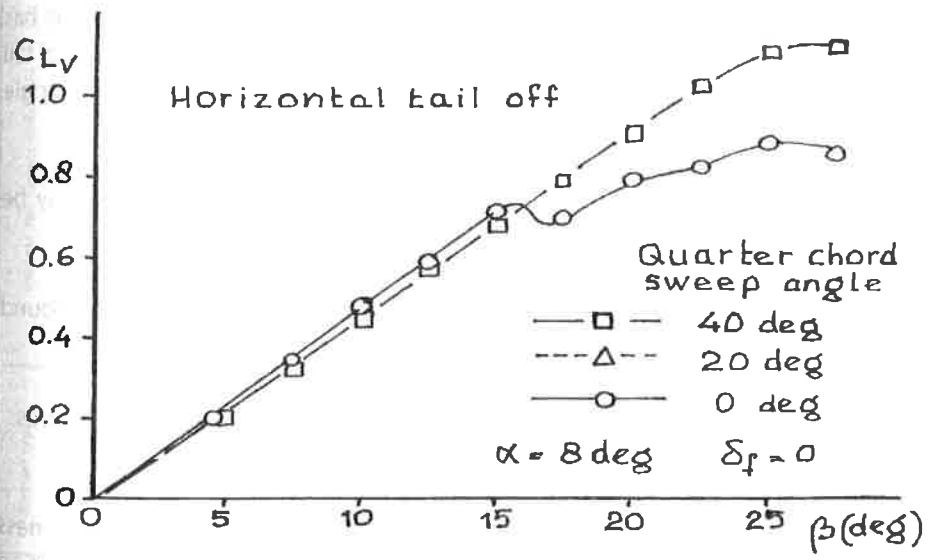


Figure 32.12 - Effect of the sweep angle and of the horizontal tail plane on the lift (side force) of the vertical tailplane in sideslip. Source: NLR Report A-1582

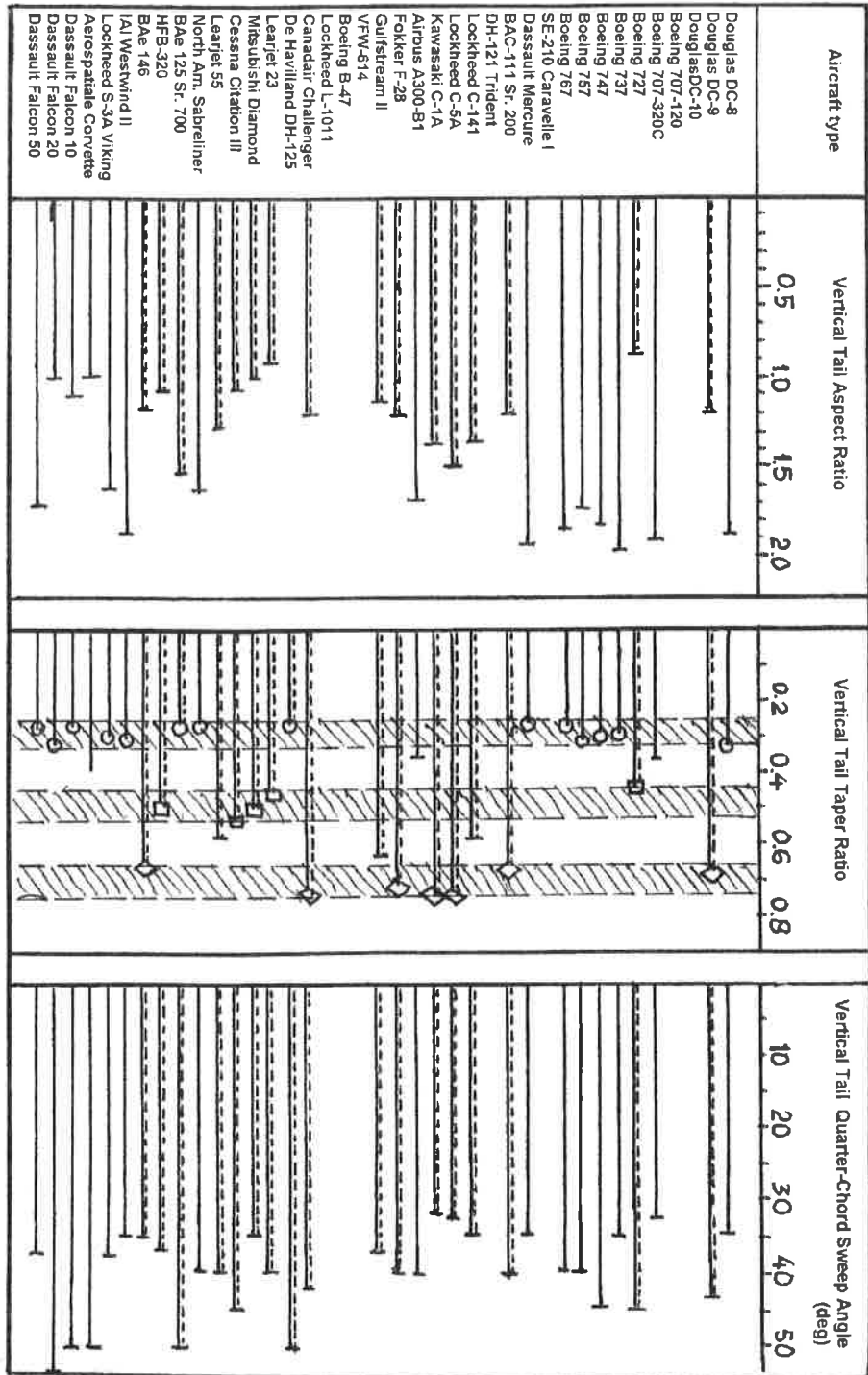
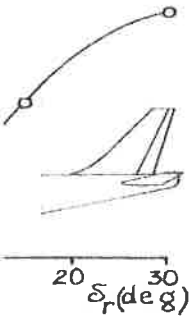


Figure 32.15 - Vertical tailplane data of jet aircraft

9 Model 2-5  
down tail



rudder deflection - (II)

ed structural element. To  
e. The resulting increase  
odynamic effectiveness  
e has to be made here.  
ve at  $Re = 10^6$  than at  
n of the rudder brackets  
re necessary to achieve

s obtaining satisfactory  
ontrols has been a serious  
d flight speed keeping  
element in aerodynamic

hinge line and different  
mic balances. Two types  
e oldest type) and the

ity from geared tabs to

The newest generation of large transport aircraft has irreversible control systems and no aerodynamic balance on the control surfaces (except the Boeing 737 family) to minimise drag. However for small propeller aircraft, business jets and the new class of Very Light Jets (VLJ's) manual control systems with aerodynamic balance on the control surfaces will still remain attractive.

The type of aerodynamic balance on control surfaces has a large effect on the linearity of the hinge moment coefficient vs. angle-of-attack and vs. control surface deflection.

$$C_h = C_{h_0} + \frac{\partial C_h}{\partial \alpha} \alpha + \frac{\partial C_h}{\partial \delta} \delta \quad (\text{seldom applies at large angles})$$

Linearity of the hinge-moment relations is particularly important for rudders because the rudder may be deflected to its maximum angle both to the weather side (during flight with a failed engine) and to the lee side (during side slips and cross-wing take-offs and landings). Non-linearities in hinge moment coefficients may cause large variations in control forces.

Large overhang balances also limit the maximum control surface deflections. If the leading edge of the balance nose protrudes outside the section contour overbalance and control lock may occur.

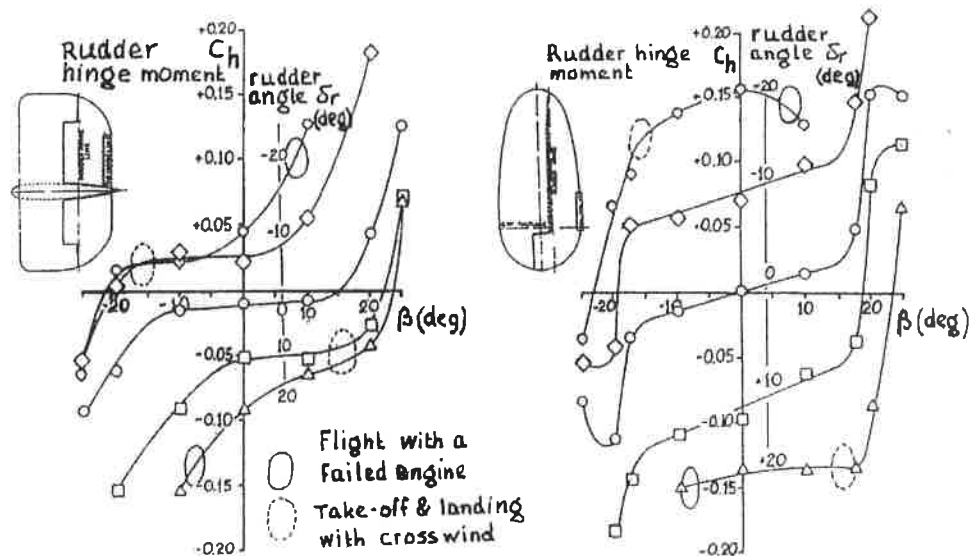


Figure 33.3 - The effect of two types of rudder balancing over the range of rudder hinge moments. Left: Handley-Page Halifax, Right: Avro Lancaster. Source: ARC R&M 2479

nt coefficients are  
the Handley Page  
flight with a failed  
anding (the dotted



Source: Ian Nightingale

r leading to rudder  
wever the chance  
alifax than on the

ch can be reached  
thickening of the  
the sideslip angle  
tually rudder lock

is shown in figure  
the development

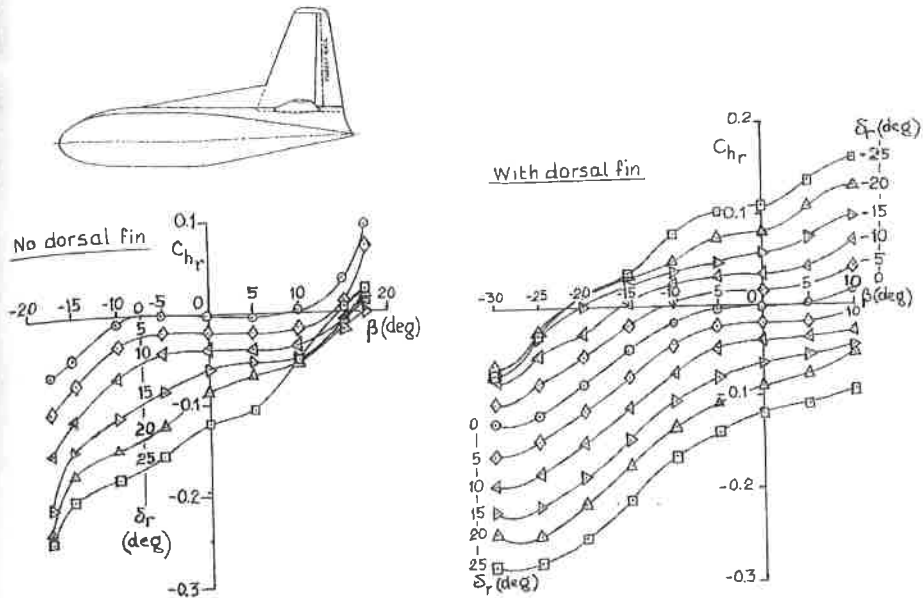


Figure 33.5 - Effect of a dorsal fin on the rudder hinge moment - Fokker F-27. Source: NLL Report A - 1394

Some significant characteristics of elevators were already discussed in chapter 31. Also on horizontal tail surfaces large variations occur in angle-of-attack and control deflection. In particular when some ice accretion is taken into consideration this may heavily influence the choice of primary design parameters for the horizontal tailplane and may also effect the elevator control force characteristics.

Contrary to elevator and rudder, which are attitude controls, ailerons are primarily rate controls. Therefore their effect increases linearly with speed unless compressibility effects or aeroelastic deformation causes a decrease in achievable roll rates. This is illustrated in figures 33.6 and 33.7 where peak roll rates for aileron-alone roll manoeuvres are presented for the Fokker F-28 Mk 1000.

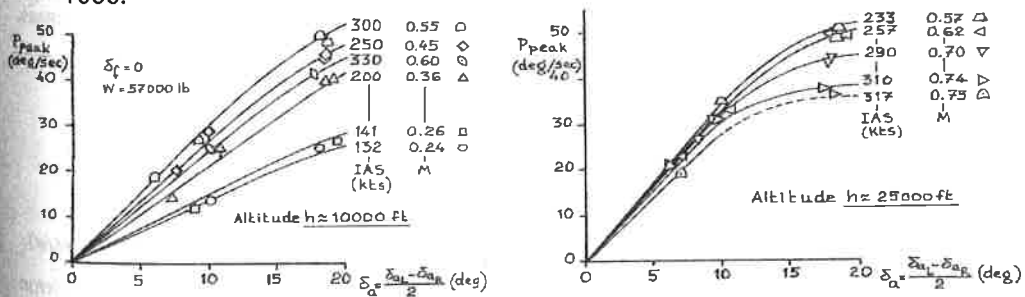


Figure 33.6 - Peak roll rates in aileron-alone roll manoeuvres vs. aileron angle - Fokker F-28. Source: Fokker Report V - 28 - 75.