



# Why airplanes

a history of flight through aircraft  
design

Info. and images drawn from following resources:

<http://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/K-12/aerores.htm>

<http://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/K-12/UEET/StudentSite/historyofflight.html>

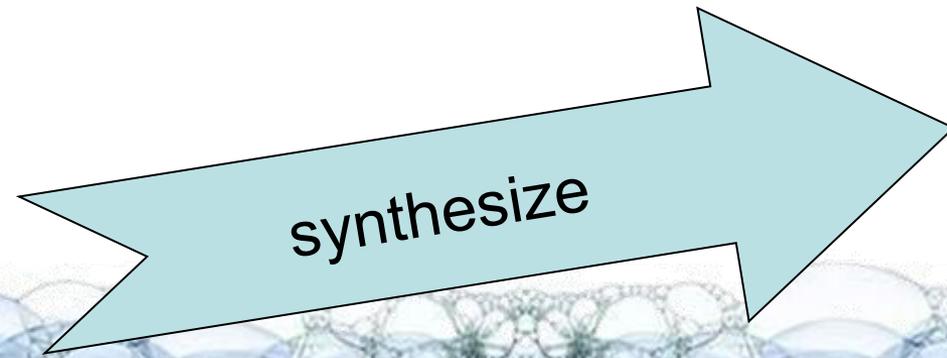


# Explorer Post 630 Airplane design

**Theory**

Ask about the “Whys?”

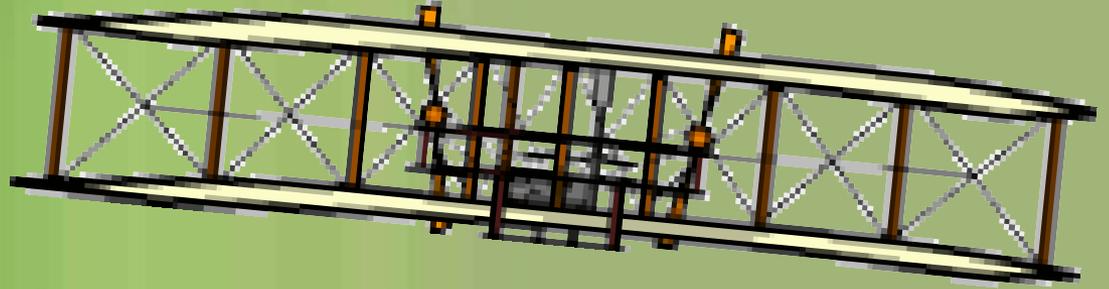
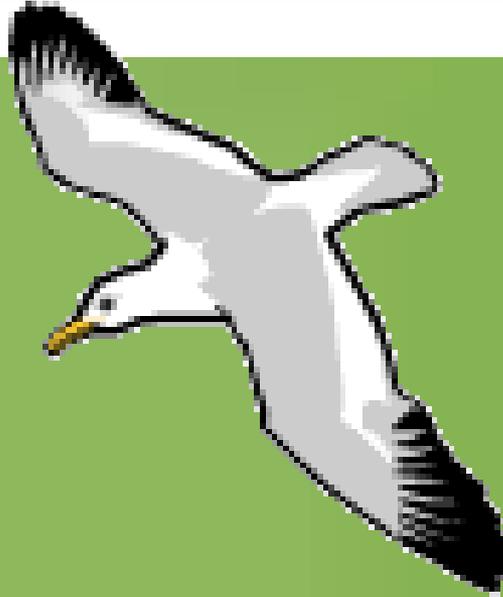
**Design/Implement**



**Test/Confirm**

**H I S T O R Y**

# – Flight – nature compared to human





# Early attempts

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Humans try to fly like birds

For many centuries, humans have tried to fly just like the birds. Wings made of feathers or light weight wood have been attached to arms to test their ability to fly. The results were often disastrous.

Why?

The muscles, joints and bones of the human arms and leg are not like a birds and can not move with the strength of a bird.

They are designed to lift, throw, walk, run, but not fly.

So . . . If we were meant to fly, we had to invent science!

# Flight Science in history

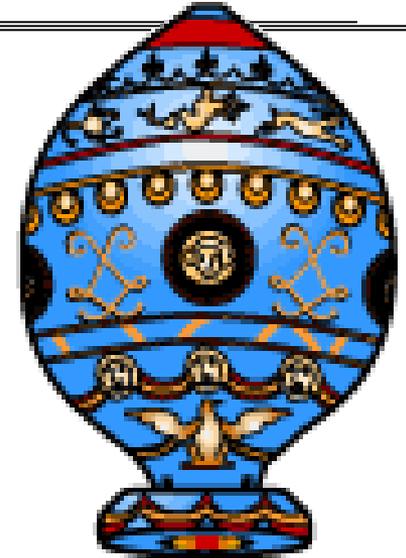


Hero of Alexandria's  
**Aeolipile**



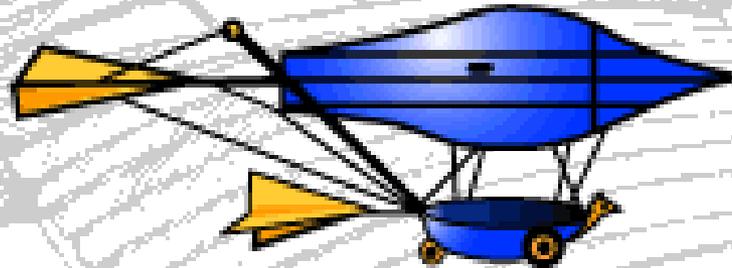
Leonardo da Vinci  
**Ornithopter**

1480's



Montgolfier  
**Balloon**

1783

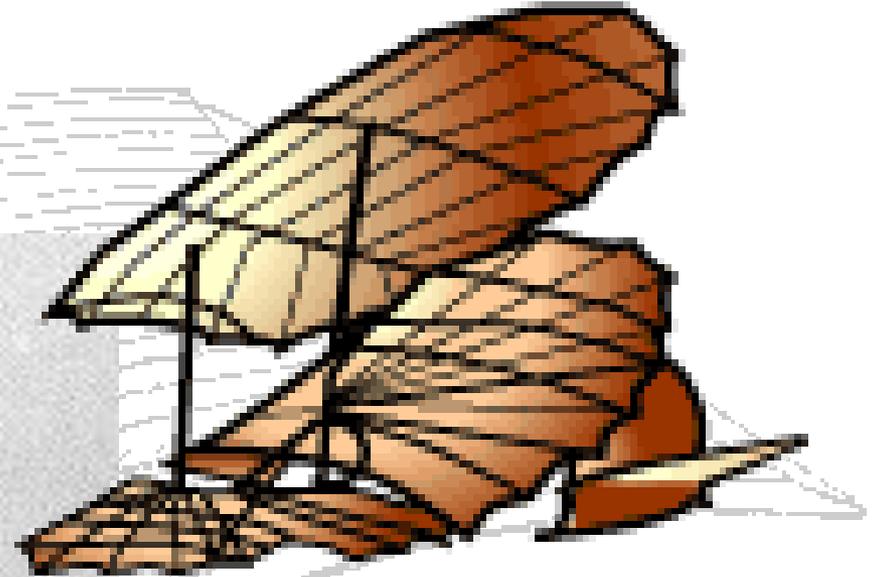


George Cayley  
**Glider with Tail**

1850's

*On Ariel Navigation*

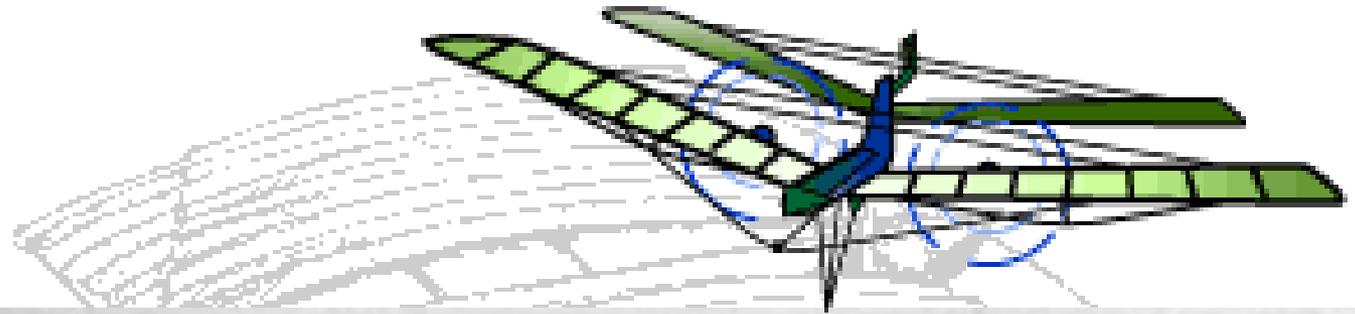
# Flight Science in history



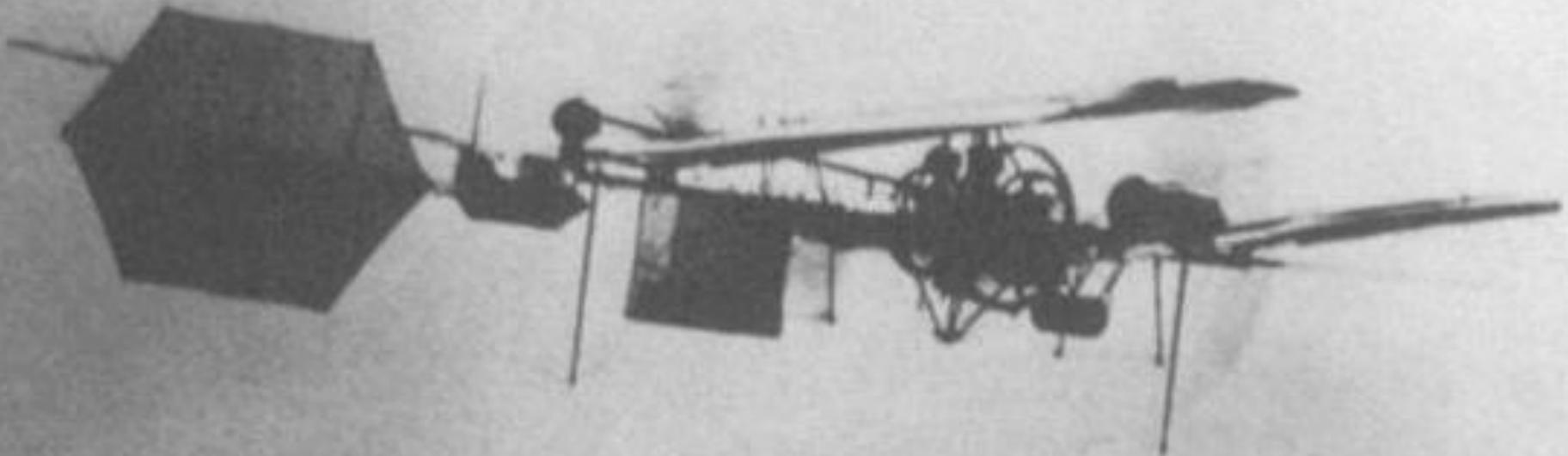
Lilienthal  
Glider

1891 Otto Lilienthal

# Flight Science in history



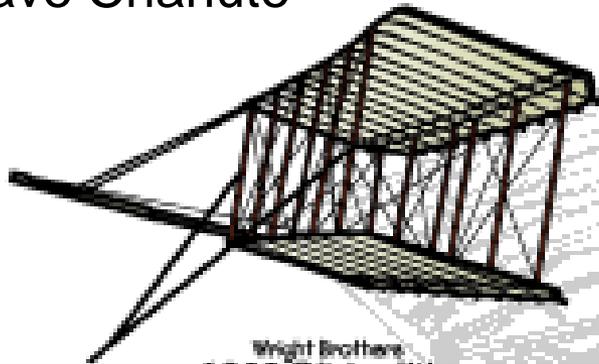
Langley  
Aerodrome



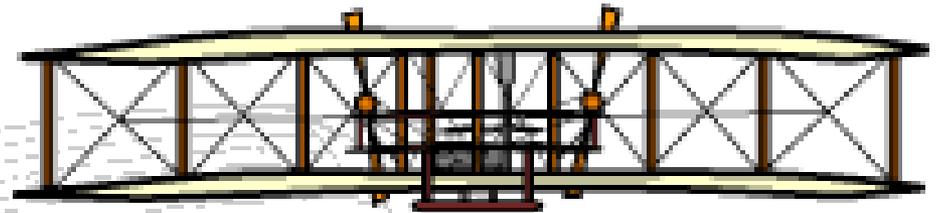
1891 Samuel P. Langley

# Flight Science in history

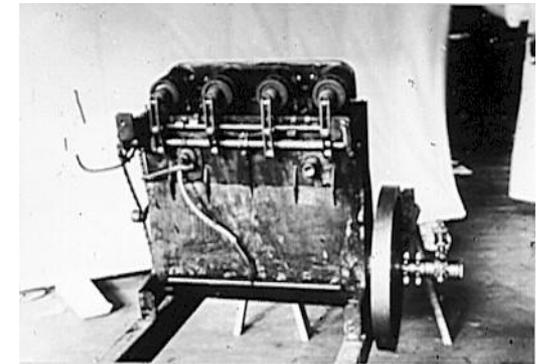
1894 Octave Chanute



Wright Brothers  
1900 Glider Kite



Wright Brothers  
Kitty Hawk Flyer

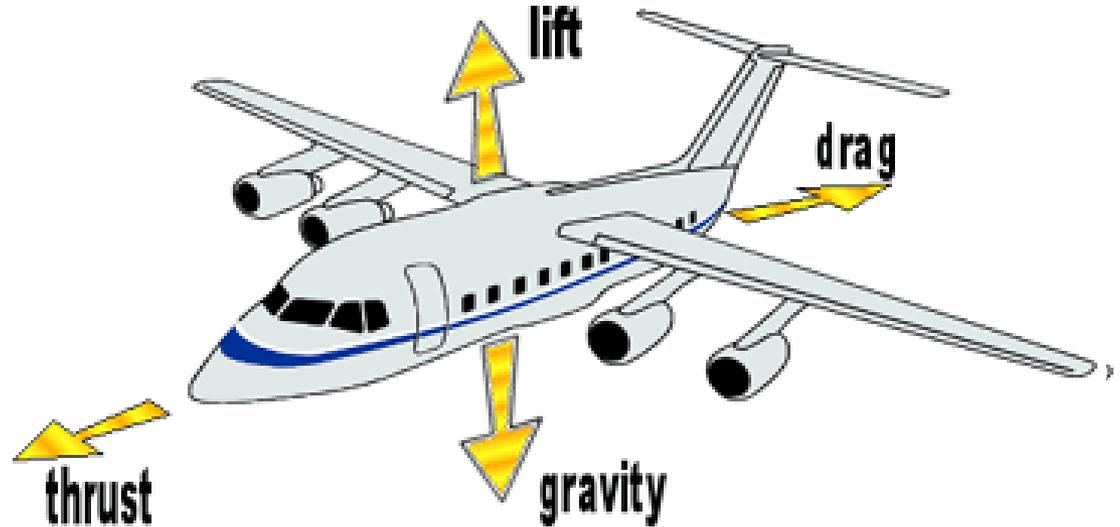


Orville and Wilbur Wright - December 17, 1903

# Forces of Flight

## Four forces of flight

- Lift** - upward
- Drag** - backward
- Weight** - downward
- Thrust** - forward

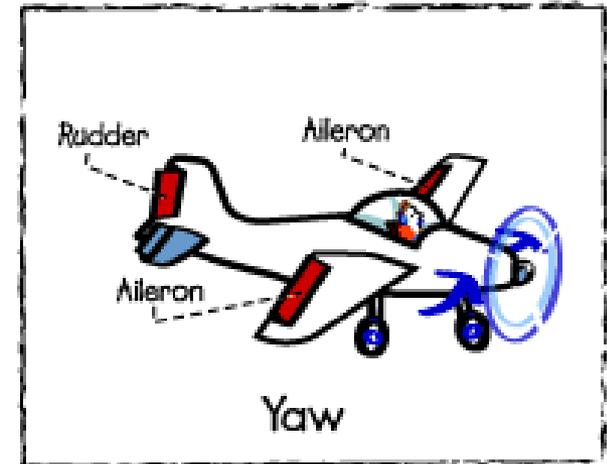
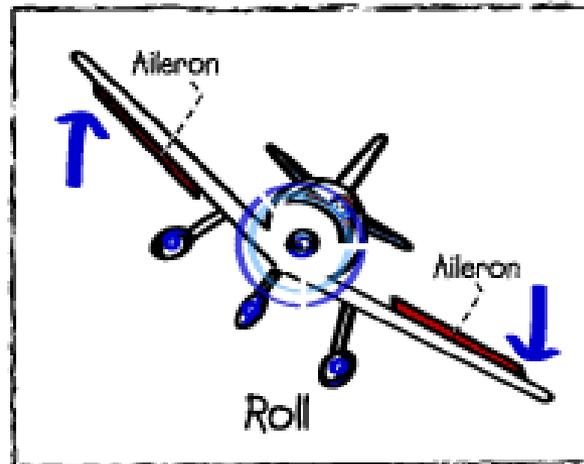
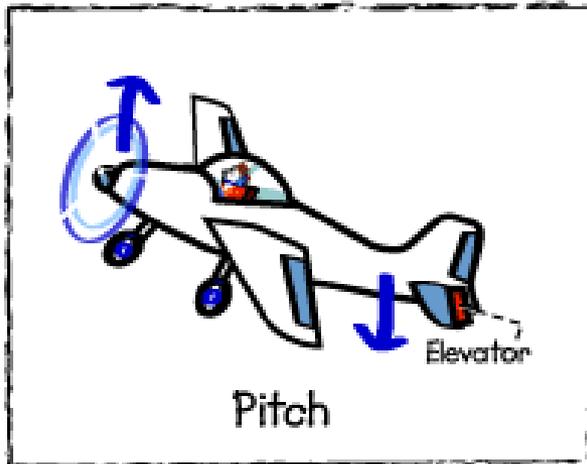


So brush up on your vectors, moments and free-body diagrams

# Moments of Flight

Harnessing Forces enable humans to get in the air.

***Controlling moments allow us to live afterwards!***





# Airplane design mission

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## SIMPLE

- Increase lift
- Decrease weight
- Decrease drag
- Increase thrust
- Stay controlled
- Do all the cool things the customer wants

# Wings and Lift

$$\text{Lift} = q \times C_{\text{Lift}} \times S_{\text{ref}}, \quad q = (\frac{1}{2} \times \text{air density} \times \text{velocity}^2)$$

WHY?

Is it because the air is lower pressure on top?

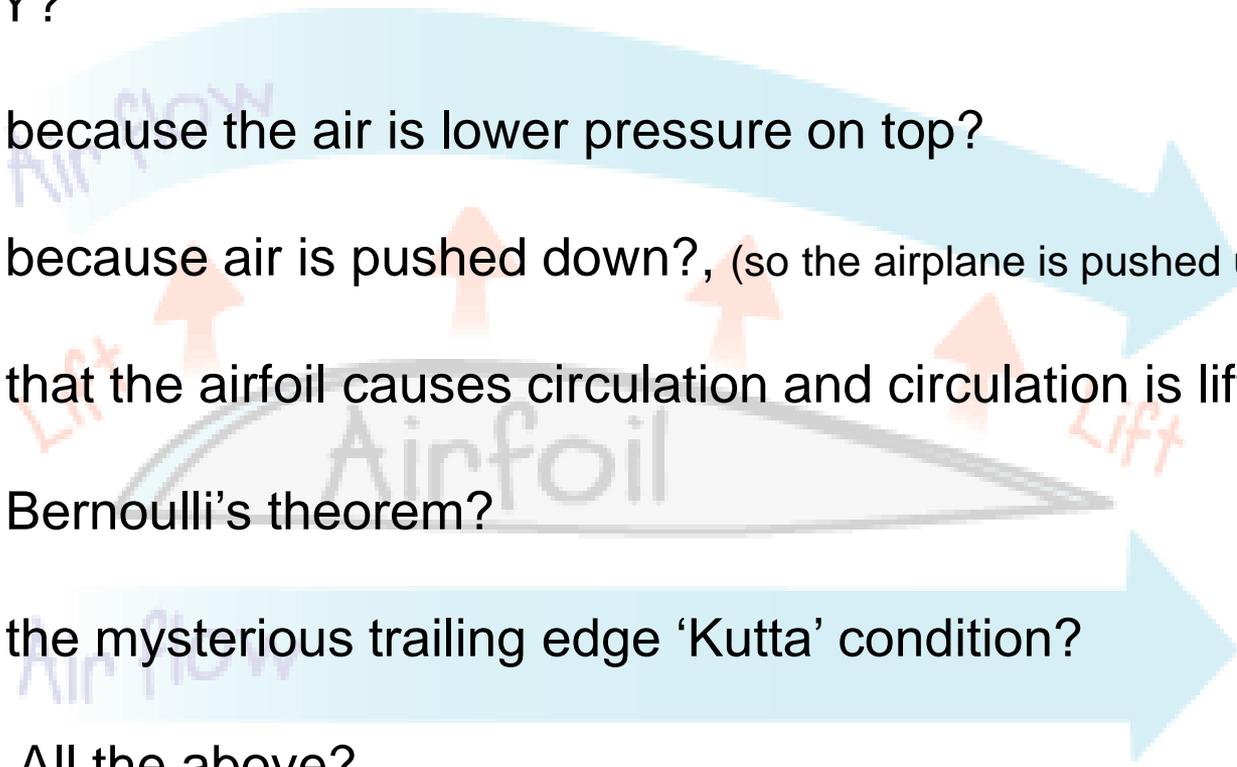
Is it because air is pushed down?, (so the airplane is pushed up)

Is it that the airfoil causes circulation and circulation is lift?

Is it Bernoulli's theorem?

Is it the mysterious trailing edge 'Kutta' condition?

Is it All the above?



# Drag and Shape

$$\text{Drag} = q \times C_{\text{Drag}} \times S_{\text{ref}}, \quad q = (\frac{1}{2} \times \text{air density} \times \text{velocity}^2)$$

WHY?

Drag is friction (air viscosity)

Surface area is sometimes called 'wetted' area

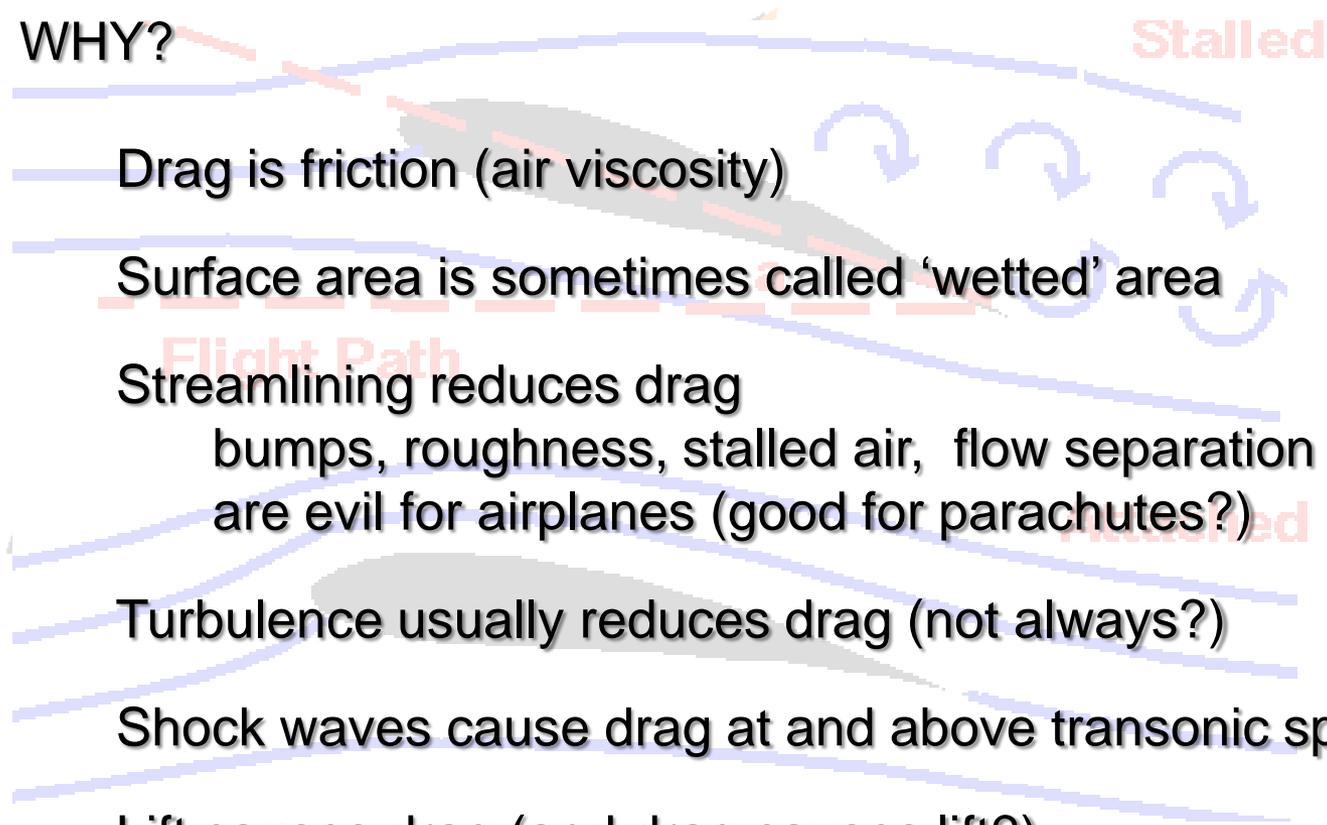
Streamlining reduces drag

bumps, roughness, stalled air, flow separation  
are evil for airplanes (good for parachutes?)

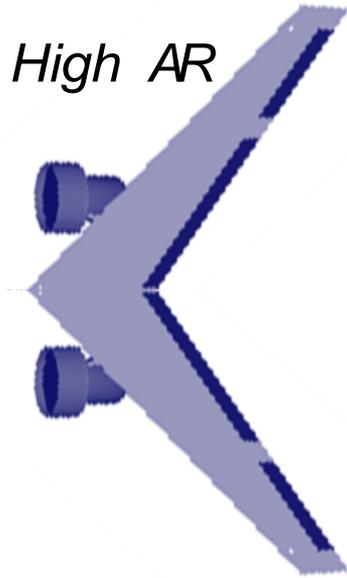
Turbulence usually reduces drag (not always?)

Shock waves cause drag at and above transonic speeds

Lift causes drag (and drag causes lift?)



# Drag ↔ Lift and aspect ratio, AR



Low AR



$$C_d = \frac{D}{\rho A V^2 / 2}$$

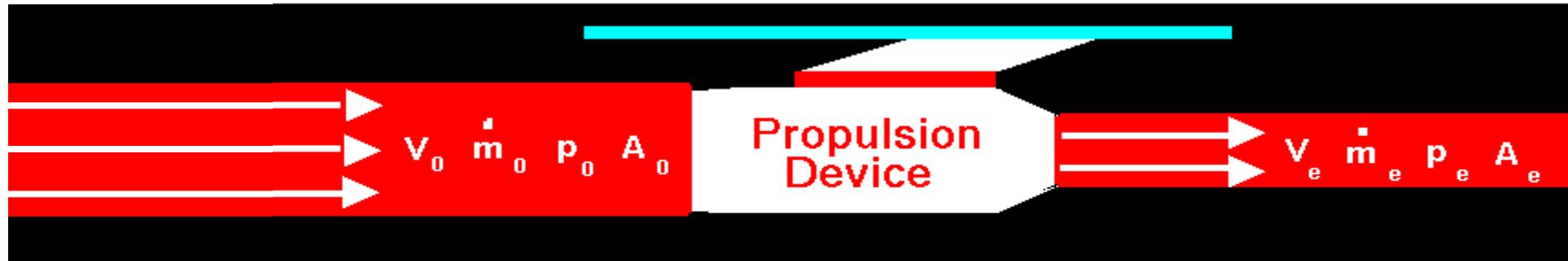
Coefficient **C<sub>d</sub>** contains all the complex dependencies and is usually determined experimentally.

Choice of reference area **A** affects the value of **C<sub>d</sub>**.

For an aircraft:  $C_d = C_{d_0} + \frac{C_l^2}{\pi AR e}$

(aircraft) = (skin friction + form) + (induced)

# Thrust



WHY?, what's best Thrust is a force.  $F = m \times a$  ?

Force = change in momentum with time  $F = (\dot{m}V)_2 - (\dot{m}V)_1$   
 Increased velocity, Delta V. (all aeropropulsion must have)

$\dot{m}$  = mass flow rate = mass / time

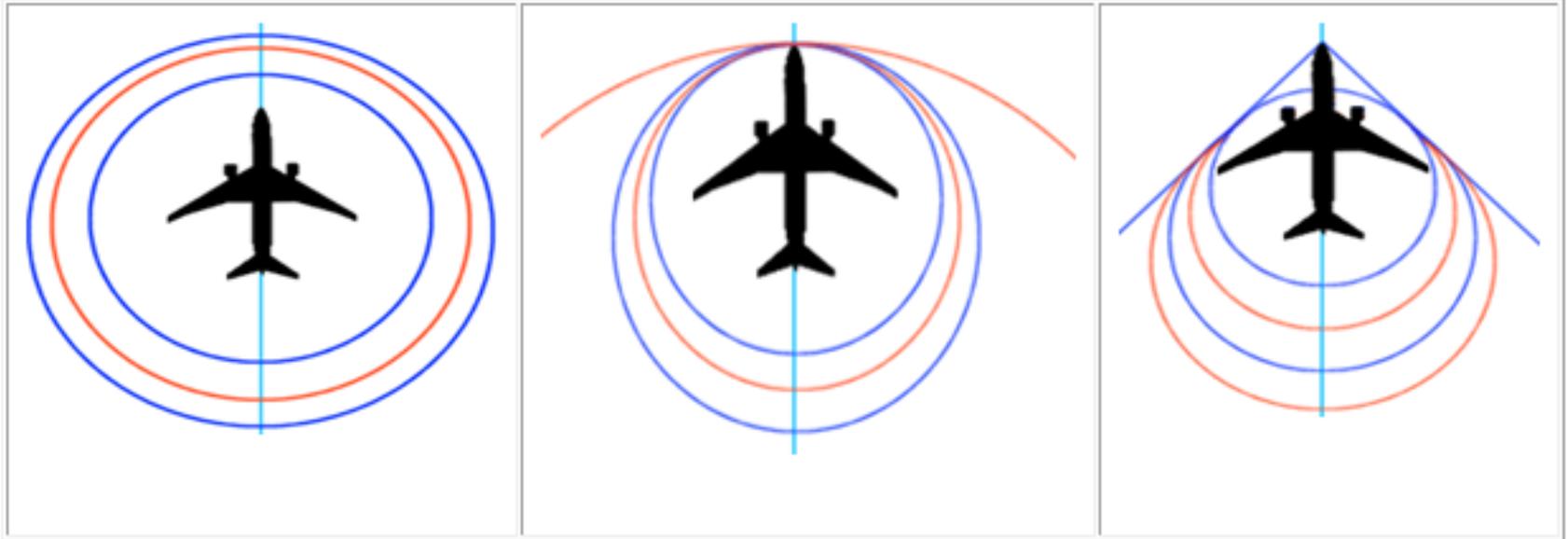
Increase mass flow,  $\dot{m}$  (like turbofans, propellers)

Increase mass flow, Delta  $\dot{m}$  (like rockets)

Adding energy (fuel source, what about remote energy)

All the above

# Sound Barrier



Causes:

- wave drag
- wicked controls
- crazy mathematics (non-linear)
- sonic boom



# Airplane design mission

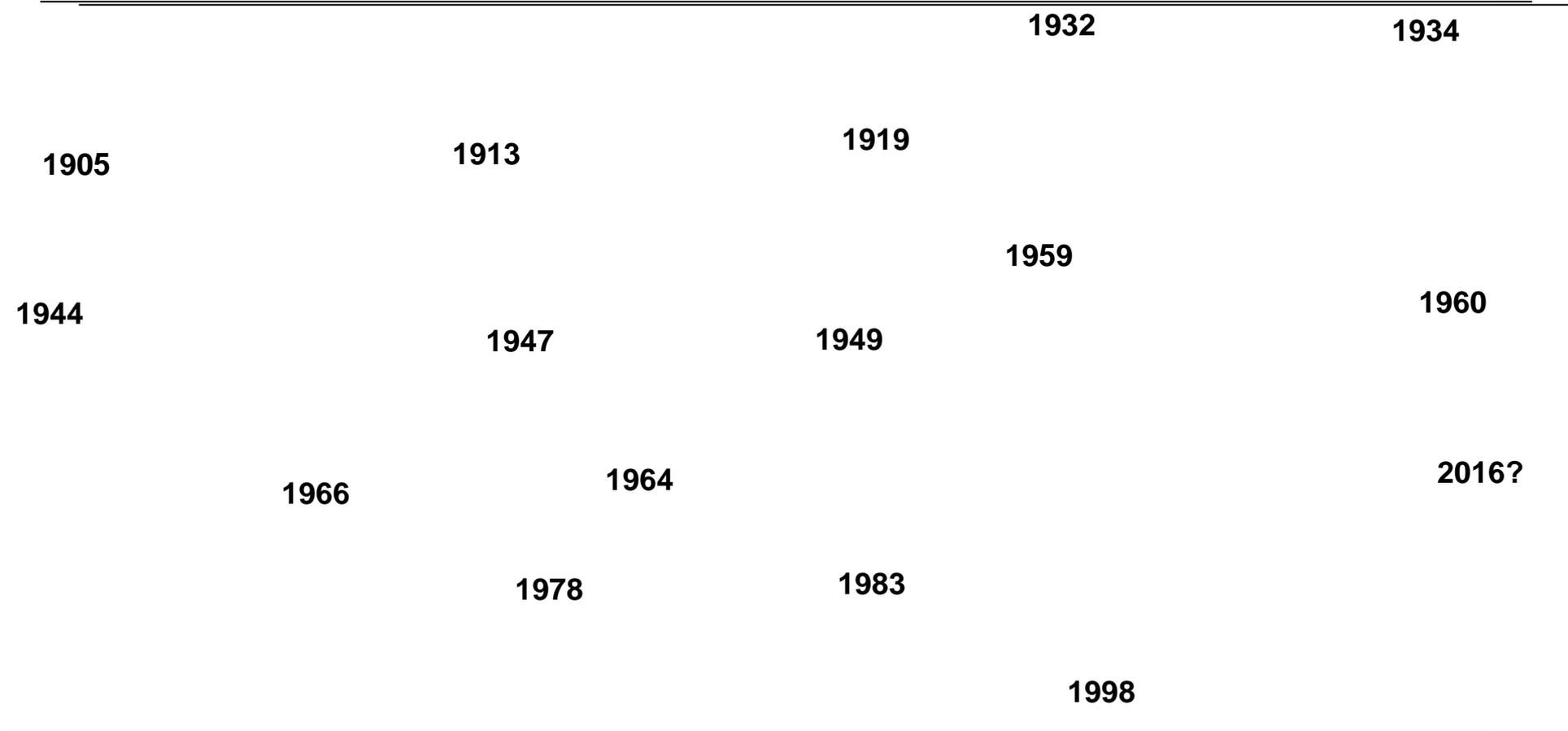
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## NOT SO SIMPLE

- high temperature
- designer materials
- range of conditions
  - takeoff, cruise, turn, high altitude, high speed
- non-linearities, scaling difficulties
- controls, stability versus responsiveness
- payloads with special needs
  - *Integrate all the cool things the customer wants*



# Airplane design history





# Hypersonic Airplane

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For 60 years humans have aspired to build faster supersonic airplanes. Jinho and I have been working on some aspects of the engines for these airplanes.

But the near future looks indefinite.

Perhaps the next generation?

That is YOU ALL !!!



# Not simple – Wright Bros.

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What does an 'airplane' look like? (configuration)

How do you build it? (lightweight structure)

Propulsion? (lightweight – high power engines)

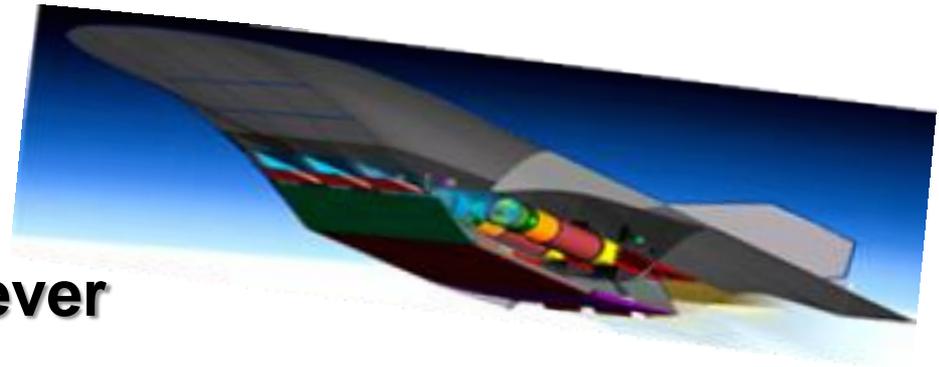
Unknowns? Test before you fly (or die)

# Not simple – the process

**Requirements + science + test = successful airplane**

**Requirements:**

- payload**
- how far**
- how fast**
- mission / maneuver**



**Flight sciences: aerodynamics, propulsion,  
materials & structures, controls,**

**Testing: small labs, wind tunnel, flight testing**



# Questions ?

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What do you think the Wright Bros. wanted to do with their invention ?

What challenges did they face building the first airplane?

What do we face building (or designing) a hypersonic airplane?

# Questions ?

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Why are airplanes shaped the way they are?

- wing shape, thickness, sweep, winglets, biplanes
- controls: tail, canards, fluidics
- structures: how much are the forces, how to balance light weight trussing with aerodynamics

What about engine types?

- engines: propellers, turbojet, turbofan, ramjet, scramjet, beamed propulsion

What are the future air vehicle missions?

- on planet
  - UAVs, high-speed, surveillance, communication . . .
- off planet . . . ???



# Flight sciences – it's not just aircraft design

1911 1958



## The Collier Trophy

Aircraft design

Safety

Space

"for the greatest achievement in aeronautics or astronautics in America, with respect to improving the performance, efficiency, and safety of air or space vehicles, the value of which has been thoroughly demonstrated by actual use during the preceding year."

1911 - [Glenn H Curtiss](#),  
develop. of the hydro- aeroplane.

1912 - [Glenn H Curtiss](#),  
invention of a single-pontoon  
seaplane & develop. of the flying boat.

1913 - [Orville Wright](#),  
develop. of his automatic stabilizer.

1914 - [Elmer & Lawrence Sperry](#),  
develop. of the gyroscopic control.

1915 - [W Starling Burgess](#),  
Burgess-Dunne hydro-aeroplanes.

1916 - [Elmer A Sperry](#),  
develop. of the Sperry drift indicator.

1917-1920 - No award presented.

1921 - [Grover C Loening](#),  
develop. of the Aerial Yacht.

1922 - [US Air Mail Service](#),  
a year without a fatal accident.

1923 - [US Air Mail Service](#),  
night flight.

1924 - [Army Air Service](#),  
the first global flight.

1925 - [Dr Sylvanus A Reed](#),  
develop. of the metal propeller.

1926 - [Maj E L Hoffman](#),  
develop. of a practical parachute.

1927 - [Charles L Lawrence](#),  
develop. of radial aircraft engines.

1928 - [Aeronautics at Commerce](#),  
develop. of airways navigation .

1929 - [NACA](#),  
develop. of cowling for radial engines.

1930 - [Harold F Pitcairn](#),  
develop. of the safe autogyro.

1931 - [Packard Motor Car Co](#),  
develop. of the aircraft Diesel engine.

1932 - [Glenn L Martin](#),  
develop. of a multi-engined, high-  
speed, bomber (B-10).

1933 - [Hamilton Std. Propeller Co](#),  
develop. of a controllable-pitch prop.

1934 - [Capt Albert F Hegenberger](#),  
develop. of a blind landing system.

1935 - [Donald W Douglas Aircraft Co](#),  
develop. of the commercial DC-2.

1936 - [Pan American Airways](#),  
est'd. of a transpacific airline with navigation.

1937 - [Army Air Corps](#),  
design of a stratosphere airplane.

1938 - [Howard Hughes & Associates](#),  
for a successful global flight.

1939 - [The U S airlines](#),  
record of safety in air travel.

1940 - [Dr Sanford A Moss](#),  
develop. of the supercharger.

1941 - [Air Forces and U S airlines](#),  
world op's. of the Air Transport Command.

1942 - [Gen Henry H Arnold](#),  
organization and leadership of the USAAF.

1943 - [Capt Luis De Florez](#),  
develop. of synthetic training devices.

1944 - [Gen Carl Spaatz](#),  
demonstrating the air power concept  
in the war against Germany.

1945 - [Dr Luis W Alvarez](#),  
develop. of Ground Control Approach system

1946 - [Luis A Rodert](#),  
develop. of a thermal ice-prevention system .

1947 - [John Stack](#), [Lawrence D Bell](#),  
& [Capt Charles E Yeager](#),  
successful supersonic flight.

1948 - [Radio Tech. Comm. - Aeronautics](#),  
develop. of a safe Air Traffic Control.

1949 - [William P Lear](#),  
dev. Auto. Pilot & Approach Controls.

1950 - [The Heli. Industry, Mil., & USCG](#),  
develop. of Air Rescue helicopters.

1951 - [John Stack](#),  
develop. of transonic wind tunnel.

1952 - [Leonard S Hobbs](#),  
designing of the P&W J57 turbojet.

1953 - [James H Kindleberger](#),  
develop. of supersonic F-100 fighter.  
[Ed Heinemann](#),  
develop. of the F4D Skyray.

1954 - [Richard T Whitcomb](#),  
discovered of comp. area rule.

1955 - [William Allen & Gen N. Twining](#),  
develop. and operation of the B-52.

1956 - [Chas. McCarthy & V. Adm J. Russell](#),  
develop. Of F8U Crusader.

1957 - [Edward P Curtis](#),  
his report, *Aviation Facilities Planning*.

1958 - [USAF & industry team](#), develop.  
F-104 -- [Kelly Johnson](#) for airframe;  
[N.Burgess & G.Neumann](#) for engine;  
[Maj H.Johnson](#), for landplane altitude  
& [Capt W.Irwin](#), for speed record.



# Flight sciences – it's not just aircraft design

1959 1999



## The Collier Trophy

Aircraft design

Safety

Space

"for the greatest achievement in aeronautics or astronautics in America, with respect to improving the performance, efficiency, and safety of air or space vehicles, the value of which has been thoroughly demonstrated by actual use during the preceding year."

**1959 - USAF, Convair – Gen.Dyn. Corp, &Space Technology Labs Inc,** developing the Atlas ICBM.

**1960 - Vice Adm William F Raborn,** direction of Polaris fleet ballistic missiles.

**1961 - Maj Robert White, Joseph Walker, Scott Crossfield, & Cdr Forrest Peterson,** - tech. advancement of flight, & for skill as test pilots for X-15.

**1962 – LtCdr Scott Carpenter, Maj Gordon Cooper, LtCol John Glenn, Maj Virgil I Grissom, Cdr Walter Schirra, Cdr Alan Shepard, & Maj Donald Slayton,** pioneering manned spaceflight in the USA.

**1963 - Clarence L "Kelly" Johnson,** develop. of A-11 (SR-71) Mach-3 aircraft.

**1964 - Gen Curtis E LeMay,** achievement w.r.t. air vehicles & defense.

**1965 - James E Webb & Hugh L Dryden,** rep. Gemini teams that advanced human experience in spaceflight.

**1966 - James S McDonnell,** leadership of aeronautics and astronautics, as exemplified by the F-4 Phantom and Gemini space vehicles.

**1967 - Lawrence A Hyland,** rep. Surveyor Program team for putting the hands and eyes of the USA on the moon.

**1968 - Col Frank Borman, Capt James A Lovell, and LtCol William A Anders,** crew of Apollo 8, for the first lunar orbit.

**1969 – Neil Armstrong, Col Edwin Aldrin, & Col Michael Collins,** epic flight of Apollo 11 & first moon landing.

**1970 – Boeing Co,** with rec. Pratt & Whitney & Pan Am. Airways, introducing the 747 into commercial service.

**1971 - Col David Scott, Col Jams Irwin, & LtCol Alfred Worden,** superb skill & courage as Apollo 15 crew, & Dr Robert T Gilruth, rep. eng. genius of the manned spaceflight.

**1972 - Adm Thomas H Moorer,** rep. the 7th and 8th Air Forces & Task Force 77 in Operation Linebacker II.

**1973 - Skylab Program,** rep. by William Schneider & astronaut crews.

**1974 - Dr John Clark, NASA, & Dr Daniel Fink,** proving the value of LANDSAT space tech. for Earth resources & environment mgmt.

**1975 - David S Lewis & USAF F-16 team,** advancing fighter aircraft effectiveness.

**1976 - USAF, B-1 Industry Team, & Rockwell Int'l.,** develop. of B-1 bomber.

**1977 - Gen Robert J Dixon, & TAC** developing Red Flag sim. flight-training.

**1978 - Sam B Williams,** develop. smallest high-efficiency turbofan, for use in powering cruise missiles.

**1979 - Dr Paul MacCready, & Bryan Allen,** human-powered Gossamer Condor.

**1980 - NASA Voyager team,** rep. by Dr Edward C Stone, Saturn fly-by & return.

**1981 - NASA, Rockwell Int'l., Martin Marietta, Thiokol, & the crew of Columbia — Capt Robert Crippen, Col Joe Engle, Capt Richard Truly, & John Young —** for proving the concept of manned reusable spacecraft.

**1982 - T A Wilson and Boeing Co,** develop. of the 757 and 767 airliners.

**1983 - US Army and Hughes Helicopters Inc,** develop. of the AH-64A Apache helicopter.

**1984 - NASA and Martin Marietta,** with rec.to astronaut Capt Bruce McCandless, Charles Whitsett, & Walter Bollendonk of Martin Marietta Co, - develop. of the manned maneuvering units that rescued three satellites.

**1985 - Russell W Meyer & Cessna Aircraft** safety record of the Citation aircraft fleet.

**1986 – Jeana Yeager, Richard Rutan, Burt Rutan, Bruce Evans, & associates,** develop. of Voyager aircraft and first nonstop, unrefueled global flight.

**1987 - NASA Lewis Research & turboprop team,** - develop. adv. turboprop concepts.

**1988 - Rear Adm Richard Truly,** led recovery of manned space program.

**1989 - Ben R Rich & Lockheed-USAf team,** production of F-117A Stealth aircraft.

**1990 - Bell-Boeing team** develop. of V-22 Osprey tilt- rotor aircraft.

**1991 - Northrop, Industry Team & USAF,** develop. of B-2 stealth aircraft.

**1992 - Global Positioning System Team.** develop. of GPS navigation & surveillance of air and spacecraft.

**1993 – Hubble Telescope Repair Team.** renewal of the Hubble Space Telescope.

**1994 – McDonnell Douglas C-17 Globemaster, USAF & Industry Team**

**1995 – Boeing Co & the 777 Team.**

**1996 - Cessna Aircraft Co & the Citation X.**

**1997 - Gulfstream Aerospace & the G-V.**

**1998 - U-2S/ER-2 aircraft team.**

