

Aerodynamics Puzzler Index

The Aerodynamics Puzzler is a recurring article series in the SSA's Soaring Magazine by Steve Platt. I highly recommend it. Each article starts out with a quiz based on the aerodynamic principle at hand. Then a full detailed answer for each question and some additional insight is provided.

All SSA members have access to the entire Soaring Magazine archive and can view each of these articles at <http://magazine.ssa.org> (click on "Start Exploring").

Note that many topics are addressed several times with a slightly different twist each time. Be sure to reference all of the articles on the subject of your choice.

Turning Flight July 2017

Weight and Balance Effect on Performance
October 2017

Thermalling December 2017

Race (weight effect on speed) February 2018

Winds (glide ratio effect) April 2018

McCready Flight 101 (How to optimize speed (time)) June 2018

McCready July 2018

Energy Optimization (applying wind and sink to a polar) September 2018

Radius of Turn October 2018

Turning Performance January 2019

Rope Break March 2019

Minimum Sink Speed (& effect of turns) May 2019

Thermalling (optimum bank angle) August 2019

Energy Management October 2019

Speed to Fly December 2019

McCready Theory February 2020

Turning Flight Performance April 2020

Winds June 2020

Stall Speed December 2020

Ballast February 2021

Energy Strategy April 2021

Turning Efficiency September 2021

Flight Polars October 2021

Weather December 2021

Speed to Fly March 2022

Crosswinds May 2022

Calculating Still Air Best Cruise Speed June 2022

Climb Rate July 2022

Winds September 2022

Landing November 2022

Minimum Sink January 2023

Speed to Fly Turning March 2023