# Weight and Balance



### Weight Control

- Any weight on board in the aircraft that increases its weight is undesirable for performance.
- An overloaded airplane may not get off the ground!
- Weight changes during the flight as fuel is burnt.

### Weight Control

### Weight will have the following effect:

- ✓ Higher takeoff speed
  ✓ Reduced maneuverability
- ✓ Longer takeoff run
- ✓ Reduced rate and angle of climb
- ✓ Lower maximum altitude
- ✓ Shorter Range
- ✓ Reduced cruising speed
- Higher stalling speed
   High approach and landing speed
   Longer landing roll
- ✓ Excessive weight on the nose wheel or tail wheel

## **Balance Control**

- Balance control refers to the location of the CG.
- It is important to the stability and safety of the flight.
- It can relate to the CG location along each of the aircraft's axes, but we will mainly focus on the longitudinal axis.
- The CG must remain within certain limits, called the "envelope".
- A forward CG leads to a nose-heavy aircraft and vice-versa.
- Properly loading the aircraft (fuel, occupants, bags) is key to proper balance.

### Terms and Definitions

- Center of Gravity (CG): the point at which, if a string was attached, the
  object would be in equilibrium. The point at which WEIGHT is applied.
- Center of Pressure (CP): the point at which LIFT is applied.
- CG Limits: the specified forward and aft CG points within which the CG must be located.
- CG Range: distance between the CG limits.

### Terms and Definitions

- Arm (A): the distance between the CG and where a force is applied.
- Datum: imaginary vertical line from which all arms are measured.
- Station: the location of an object in relationship to the datum (similar to the arm)
- Moment (M): the efficiency of a force. Calculated as:

Moment = Arm x Force



### Terms and Definitions

- Standard Empty Weight: airframe, engine, all fixed operating equipment, hydraulic fluid, unusable fuel, and full engine oil.
- Basic Empty Weight: Standard Empty Weight + Weight of optional equipment installed.
- Payload: the weight of occupants, cargo, and baggage.
- Fuel load: only includes usable fuel.
- Useful load: weight of occupants, baggage, usable fuel (payload + fuel load).
- Maximum gross weight: basic empty weight + max useful load.





## Weight and Balance Restrictions

- Each aircraft has different limits that must not be exceeded.
- They can be found in the Airplane Flying Manual (AFM) or Pilot Operating Handbook (POH).
- they affect performance.



Effect of CG location
<ul> <li>The location of the Center of Gravity (CG) in relationship to the Center of Pressure (CP) affects the aircraft's performance.</li> </ul>
• CG location affects how much tail down force is required to counteract the nose down moment.
• Moment is created when a force is applied away from the CG.









W&B	Computations
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- Computations are different based on the aircraft manufacturer.
- There are three methods to compute weight and balance:
- ✓ Computational method
- ✓ Graph method
- ✓ Table method
- The goal is the same for all methods: determine the CG positions on the ramp, before take off, and before landing.
- There are a lot of questions in the test about this!

# Computational Method

- For each of the "stations" in the plane, we are calculating the moments based on weights and arms.
- This typically includes front and rear seat, baggage compartment, and fuel.
- The goal is to make sure that:
- $\checkmark$  the weight is within limits,
- $\checkmark\,$  the CG is within the envelope.
- Remember: Moment = Weight x Arm (station)

Compu	tational N	<b>1</b> ethc	bd
	Weight	Station	Moment
Basic Empty Weight	1,467		57,300
Front Seat	340		
Rear Seat	300		
Fuel (gallons)	40 gallons 40 x 6 = 240 lb		
Baggage Area	20		
Ramp Veight, CG, Moment	2,367		





Compu	itational	Metho	bd
	Weight	Station	Moment
Basic Empty Weight	1,467		57,300
Front Seat	240	<u> </u>	= 11,560
Rear Seat	$\frac{96,080}{} =$	40.6	= 13,800
Fuel (gallons)	2,367		= 11,520
Baggage Area	20	× 95 =	= 1,900
Ramp Weight, CG, Moment	2,367	4 <u>0</u> ,6	96,080

### Not done yet...

- Does the weight exceed the maximum weight?
- ✓ Max gross weight is 3,400 pounds.
- ✓ Ramp weight is 2,367 pounds.
- Is the CG within the envelope?
- ✓ CG limits are 38 to 45.
- $\checkmark\,$  Calculated CG is 40.6, within the envelope.

## Computational Method with CX-3

- We can solve this type of exercise using the CX-3 flight computer.
- Let's take a look and see if we can get the same answers.

Co	mputat	tional I	Metho	bd
	,	Weight	Station	Moment
Basic Empty We	ght	1,467		57,300
Front Seat		340	34	
Rear Seat		300	46	
Fuel (gallons	4	10 gallons	48	
Baggage Are	1	20	95	
Ramp Weight, CG, Mo	ment	2,367	40.6	96,080







Graph Method			
Determine the moment	with the following d	ata:	
Empty unight	WEIGHT (LB)	MOM/1000	
Pilot and front passenge	r 340	51.5	
Fuel (std tanks)	_		
Oil, 8 qt.	—	—	

	Weight	Station	Moment (/1000
Basic Empty Weight	1,350		51.5
Pilot and front passenger	340		??
Fuel (std tanks)			
Oil, 8 qt.			
Ramp			



	Weight	Station	Moment (/1000
Basic Empty Weight	1,350		51.5
Pilot and front passenger	340		1.3
Fuel (std tanks)	??		??
Oil, 8 qt.			
Ramp			



	Weight	Station	Moment (/1000)
Basic Empty Weight	1,350		51.5
Pilot and front passenger	340		13
Fuel (std tanks)	38 x 6 = 228		??
Oil, 8 qt.	??		??
Ramp			



	Weight	Station	Moment (/1000
Basic Empty Weight	1,350		51.5
Pilot and front passenger	340		13
Fuel (std tanks)	38×6= <i>228</i>		11
Oil, 8 qt.	1 <u>15</u>		-0,2
Ramp	1,933		75.3



### Table Method

- A table contains a list of moments based on weight for each station.
- Another table shows moment limits based on aircraft weight.
- Weight are usually in increments of 10 pounds.
- Easy to use if the weight are rounded, otherwise requires interpolation.

	Useful I	oad we	eights a	nd mor	nents	
Baggag	e or 5th			Occu	pants	
ocur occupant		From	It seats AH	IM 85	Hear se	ats AHM 12
ARM	1140	Wei	ght 💾	100	Weight	Momer
Weight	Moment	12	0	102	120	145
10	14	13	0	110	130	157
20	28	14	0	119	140	169
30	42	15	0	128	150	182
40	56	16	0	136	160	194
50	70	17	0	144	170	206
60	84	18	0	153	180	218
70	98	19	0	162	190	230
80	112	20	0	170	200	242
90	198					
100	140			Usable	e fuel	
110	154		Mai	n wing tar	ks ARM 7	5
120	169		Collines	Mus	aht N	Aoment
120	102		GUIDTIS	ne		100
140	196		5	34		22
150	210		10	6	0	45
160	210		15	94	)	68
170	000		20	12	10	90
180	238		25	15	0	112
100	202		30	18	0	135
100	200		35	21	0	158
200	200		40	24	0	180

1	

### Table Method

Determine if the airplan

- Front seat occupant
- Rear seat occupants
- Fuel (main wing tank
- Baggage 56 lb

Table Method	
ne weight and balance is within limits:	
ts 340 lb	
s 295 lb	
ks) 44 gal	

	Weight	Station	Moment (/1000
Basic Empty Weight	??		??
Front Seat Occupants	340		
Rear Seat Occupants	295		
Fuel (main wing banks)	44 gal		
Baggage	56		
Ramp			





	Weight	Station	Moment (/100)
Basic Empty Weight	2, <mark>01</mark> 5		1, <mark>5</mark> 54
Front Seat Occupants	340		??
Rear Seat Occupants	295		
Fuel (main wing banks)	44 gal		
Baggage	56		
Ramp			

	Useful lo	oad weigh	ts and mo	ments				
Baggag	ge or 5th		Occupants					
seat occupant		Front sea	ts ARM 85	Rear seats	s ARM 121			
ARM	A 140	Weight	Moment 100	Weight	Moment 100			
Weight	Moment 100	120	102	120	145			
10	14	130	110	130	157			
20	28	140	119 ┥	140	169			
30	42	150	128	150	182			
40	56	160	136	160	194			
50	70	170	144	170	206			
60	84	180	153	180	218			
70	98	190	162	190	230			
80	112	200	170 ┥	200	242			
90	126		Usahl	e fuel				
100	140		Usabi	e luel				

	Weight	Station	Moment (/100)
Basic Empty Weight	2,015		1,554
Front Seat Occupants	340		170+119 = 289
Rear Seat Occupants	295		??
Fuel (main wing banks)	44 gal		
Baggage	56		
Ramp			

Useful load weights and moments								
Baggag	ge or 5th	1		Occu	upants			
seat or	ccupant		Front sea	ts ARM 85	Rear seats	s ARM 121		
ARM 140			Weight	Moment 100	Weight	Moment 100		
Weight	100	11	120	102	120	145		
10	14	11	130	110	130	157		
20	28	П	140	119	140	169		
30	42	П	150	128	130	182 <		
40	56	П	160	136	160	194		
50	70	П	170	144	170	206		
60	84		180	153	180	218		
70	98	П	190	162	190	230		
80	112	П	200	170	200	242		
90	126	1		Usabl	e fuel			
100	140			05001				



Baggage or 5th seat occupant ARM 140	Baggag seat oc	
Seat occupant	seat oc	
ARM 140		
	ARM 140	
Neight Moment 100	Veight	
10 14	10	
20 28	20	
30 42	30	
40 56	40	
50 70	50	
60 84	60	
70 98	70	
80 112	80	
40         56           50         70           60         84           70         98           80         112           90         126	40 50 60 70 80 90	

	Weight	Station	Moment (/100)
Basic Empty Weight	2,015		1,554
Front Seat Occupants	340		170+119 = 289
Rear Seat Occupants	295		182+170 = 358
Fuel (main wing banks)	44 gal		??
Baggage	56		
Ramp			

10	50				50 E	00
80	112	20	00 17	70 2	00 2	42
90	126		-	lashla fua		
100	140		, c	Jsable lue	91	
110	154		Main	wing tanks Al	RM 75	
120	168		Gallons	Weight	Moment 100	
130	182		5	30	22	1
140	196		10	60	45	1
150	210		15	90	68	
160	224		20	120	90	1
170	238		25	150	112	
180	252		30	180	135	1
190	266		35	210	158	
200	280		40	240	180	1
210	294	_	44	264	198	
220	308					
230	322		Auxiliary	wing tanks	ARM 94	
240	336		Gallons	Weight	Moment	
250	350		5	30	28	

	Weight	Station	Moment (/100)
Basic Empty Weight	2,015		1,554
Front Seat Occupants	340		170+119 = 289
Rear Seat Occupants	295		182+176 = 358
Fuel (main wing banks)	44 gal = 264 lbs		1 <mark>19</mark> 8
Baggage	56		??
Ramp			

Useful I		load weigh	ts and mo	ments																	
Baggag	Baggage or 5th seat occupant		Осси	upants																	
seat occupant		Front sea	ts ARM 85	Rear seat	s ARM 121																
ARM	ARM 140		Weight Moment		Weight Moment		Weight Moment		Weight Moment		Weight Moment		Weight Moment		Weight Moment		Weight Moment		Weight Moment		Moment 100
Weight	Moment 100	120	102	120	145																
10	14	130	110	130	157																
20	28	140	119	140	169																
30	42	150	128	150	182																
40	56	160	136	160	194																
50	70	170	144	170	206																
56	84	180	153	180	218																
70	98	190	162	190	230																
80	112	200	170	200	242																
90	126																				
100	140		Usabl	le fuel																	
110	154		Main wing ta	inks ARM 75																	
100	104			Mo	ment																



	Weight	Station	Moment (/100
Basic Empty Weight	2,015		1,554
Front Seat Occupants	340		170+119 = 2
Rear Seat Occupants	295		182+176 = 3
Fuel (main wing banks)	44 gal = 264 lbs		198
Baggage	56		? <b>?</b>
Ramp	2,970		2,477

						_
	Momer	nt limits vs	w	eight (cor	ntinue d)	
Weight	Minimum Moment 100	Maximum Moment 100		Weight	Minimum Moment 100	Maximum Moment 100
2,100	1,617	1,800		2,500	1,932	2,143
2,110	1,625	1,808		2,510	1,942	2,151
2,120	1,632	1,817		2,520	1,953	2,160
2,130	1,640	1,825		2,530	1,963	2,168
2,140	1,648	1,834		2,540	1,974	2,176
2,150	1,656	1,843		2,550	1,984	2,184
2,160	1,663	1,851		2,560	1,995	2,192
2,170	1,671	1,860		2,570	2,005	2,200
2,180	1,679	1,000		2970	OVER MAX	X WEIGHT
2,190	1,686	1,877		2,590	2,026	2,216
2,200	1,694	1,885		2,600	2,037	2,224



Shifting, Adding, Removing Weight
• Several scenarios call for shifting, adding, removing weight.
✓ Shifting weight in the event you are out of balance and need to move things around.
✓ Adding weight if you are carrying a new passenger during a stop,
✓ Removing weight if you are dropping off a passenger or baggage.
• Let's look at a scenario.

# Weight Removal and Shifting

Upon landing, the front passenger (180 pounds) departs the airplane. A rear passenger (204 pounds) moves to the front passenger position. What effect does this have on the CG if the airplane weighed 2,690 pounds and the MOM/100 was 2,260 just prior to the passenger transfer?

	Useful lo	oad weight	s and mo	ments			Momer	nt limits vs v	veight (con	itinued)	
Baggag	e or 5th	E	Occupants				Minimum Moment 100	Maximum Moment 100	Weight	Minimum Moment 100	Maximum Moment 100
ARM 140		Front seal	S AHM 85	Hear seat	S ARM 121	2,100	1,617	1,800	2,500	1,932	2,143
Ann	Moment	Weight	100	Weight	100	2,110	1,625	1,808	2,510	1,942	2,151
/eight	100	120	102	120	145	2,120	1,632	1,817	2,520	1,953	2,160
10	14	130	110	130	157	2,130	1,640	1,825	2,530	1,963	2,168
20	28	140	119	140	169	2,140	1,648	1,834	2,540	1,974	2,176
30	42	150	128	150	182	2,150	1,656	1,843	2,550	1,984	2,184
40	56	160	136	160	194	2,160	1,663	1,851	2,560	1,995	2,192
50	70	170	144	170	206	2,170	1,671	1,860	2,570	2,005	2,200
0	84	180	153	180	218	2,180	1,679	1,868	2,580	2,016	2,208
	00	100	100	100	220						

oı on we	unds) o t passe eighed enger	depar enger 2,69 trans	ts the positi 0 pour fer?	airpla on.W nds an	ne.A hat ef d the	rear fect
1		Momen	t limits vs v	veiaht (cor	ntinued)	
		. Calman	Manimum		Adiation	Manianan
	Weight	Moment	Moment	Weight	Moment	Moment
	2,100	1,617	1,800	2,500	1,932	2,143
	2,110	1,625	1,808	2,510	1,942	2,151
	2,120	1,632	1,817	2,520	1,953	2,160
	2,130	1,640	1,825	2,530	1,963	2,168
	2,140	1,648	1,834	2,540	1,974	2,176
	2,150	1,656	1,843	2,550	1,984	2,184
	2,160	1,663	1,851	2,560	1,995	2,192
	2,170	1,671	1,860	2,570	2,005	2,200
	2,180	1,679	1,868	2,580	2,016	2,208
	2 100	4 000	4 0 7 7	0.000	0.000	0.010

	Weight	Station	Moment
Ramp Info	2,690	84.0	226,000
Front Passenger Leaves	-180		
Rear Passenger leaves rear	-204		
Rear Passenger moves front	+204		
New Ramp Info			

5th		Occi	Occupants		
nt	Front seat	its ARM 85 Rear seat		s ARM 121	
nent	Weight	Moment 100	Weight	Moment 100	
	120	102	120	145	
	130	110	130	157	
	140	119	140	169	
	150	128	150	182	
	160	136	160	194	
L	170	144	170	206	
Т	180	153	180	218	
1	190	162	190	230	
1	200	170	200	242	
6		Lleab	lo fuol		
)		USabi	ie iuel	_	
		Main wing ta	inks ARM 75	1.0	

	Weight	Station	Moment
Ramp Info	2,690	84.0	226,000
Front Passenger Leaves	-180	× 85 =	-15,300
Rear Passenger leaves rear	-204	x 121 =	-24,684
ear Passenger moves front	+204	x 85 =	17,340
New Ramp Info	2,510	81.0	203,356





Typical FA	A Question
(Refer to Figure 60.) How should the 5 the plank on the fulcrum?	500-pound weight be shifted to balance
<ul> <li>B. I inch to the right.</li> <li>C. 4.5 inches to the right.</li> </ul>	69 500 LB 250 L
	15"
	45"





Typical FAA	Question
(Refer to Figure 60.) How should the 50 the plank on the fulcrum?	00-pound weight be shifted to balance
B. I inch to the right.	© 500 LB
C. 4.5 inches to the right.	15"



	Weight	Station	Moment (/1000
Basic Empty Weight	1,350		51.5
Pilot and front passenger	250		
Rear passengers	400		
Fuel (30 gallons)	30×6= <i>180</i>		
Oil, 8 qt.			
Baggage	??		
Ramp			



and the second s		
center of gravity the Loading range.		
to the oil. Iurable Fuel Iard tanks ago		

	Weight	Station	Moment (/1000
Basic Empty Weight	1,350		51.5
Pilot and front passenger	250		
Rear passengers	400		
Fuel (30 gallons)	30×6= <i>180</i>		
Oil, 8 qt.	15		
Baggage	??		
Ramp			





		Weight	Station	Moment (/1000)
Basic Empty Weight		1,350		51.5
Pilot and front passenger		250		
Rear passengers		400		
Fuel (30 gallons)		30x6= <i>180</i>		
Oil, 8 qt.		15		
Baggage		1025		
Ramp	2.	195 without bags	Max w	eight is 2,300

Moment (/1000)				
51.5				
nt is 2,300				
	·			

	Туріса	al FAA Ques	stion
(Refer to Figure 34.) What aboard the airplane for the	is the maximum amoun CG to remain within the	nt of baggage that may be loaded he moment envelope	
Empty weight	1,350	51.5	
Pilot and front passenger	250		entropy of the second s
Rear passengers Baggage	400		Note: 1. Lines supposed to polyabile seem price the pilot or passing encoded by the pilot polyability and pilot polyability for an example moment of the fill to be a same pilot polyability for the set of an example encoded by the formation of a the of a same of the set of th
Fuel, 30 gal.			
Oil, 8 qt. A. 105 pounds.		-0.2	L 100 L 100 L 100
B. 110 pounds.			
C. 120 pounds.			1.000 

Typical FAA Question
Refer to Figure 32, Figure 33.) With the airplane loaded as follows, what action an be taken to balance the airplane?
Front seat occupants 411 lb
Rear seat occupants 100 lb
<ul> <li>Main wing tanks 44 gal</li> </ul>
A. Fill the auxiliary wing tanks.
3. Add a 100-pound weight to the baggage compartment.
C. Transfer 10 gallons of fuel from the main tanks to the auxiliary tanks.

	Weight	Station	Moment
Basic Empty Weight	2,015		155,400
Pilot and front passenger	411		
Rear seat occupants	100		
Main Wing Fuel (44 gal)			
Aux fuel tank			
Baggage			
Ramp			



	Weight	Station	Moment
Basic Empty Weight	2,015		155,400
Pilot and front passenger	411		??
Rear seat occupants	100		??
Main Wing Fuel (44 gal)	44x0.‡264		??
Aux fuel tank			
Baggage			
Ramp	2, <b>7</b> 90		??

5th		Occu	upants	
nt	Front seat	s ARM 85	Rear seats	s ARM 121
nent	Weight	Moment 100	Weight	Moment 100
00	120	102	120	145
4	130	110	130	157
8	140	119	140	169
2	150	128	150	182
6	160	136	160	194
0	170	144	170	206
4	180	153	180	218
8	190	162	190	230
12	200	170	200	242
26		Lisabi	e fuel	
10		USabi	e luei	

	Weight	Station	Moment
Basic Empty Weight	2,015		155,400
Pilot and front passenger	411	85	34 <u>]</u> 935
Rear seat occupants	100	121	12]100
Main Wing Fuel (44 gal)	264	75	197800
Aux fuel tank			
Baggage			
Ramp	2,790		222,235

# Steps to solve

- I. Calculate the CG location to figure out what is going on.
- 2. Determine what needs to happen to CG or Moment.
- 3. Determine which of the options will have the desired effect...

	2,900 2,365 2,460	
	2,890 2,354 2,452	
	2,880 2,343 2,444	
	2,870 2,332 2,436	
	2,860 2,320 2,428	
	2,850 2,309 2,421	
	2,840 2,298 2,413	
	2,830 2,287 2,405	
	2,820 2,276 2,397	
	2,810 2,265 2,389	
	2,800 2,254 2,381	
2,790	2,790 2,243 2,374	2,222
	2,780 2,232 2,366	
	2,770 2,221 2,358	
	2,760 2,210 2,350	
	2,750 2,199 2,342	
	2,740 2,188 2,334	
	2,730 2,177 2,326	



	Weight	Station	Moment
Basic Empty Weight	2,015		155,400
Pilot and front passenger	411	85	34,935
Rear seat occupants	100	121	12,100
Main Wing Fuel (44 gal)	264	75	19,800
Aux fuel tank	114		10,700
Baggage			
Ramp	2.904		232.935





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Performance and Limitations	