Stalls and Spins Tom Johnson CFIG

Contents

- Angle of Attack
- Stall Recognition and Recovery
- Spin Entry and Recovery
- Load Limit Considerations
- Gust Induced Stall and Spin Accidents

Stalls...a stall is a loss of lift when the wing exceeds the critical Angle of Attack



Impending Stall Warnings

- 1. Excessive back stick pressure
- 2. Nose high attitude
- 3. Low airspeed
- 4. Quietness
- 5. Mushy controls
- 6. Shudder or buffetting
- Do <u>all</u> or <u>any</u> of these have to be present for a stall to occur?

Stalls and AoA

- To stall, we have to exceed the critical AoA
- How do we do this?
- Self induced
 Pull back on the stick
 Rolling the aircraft, rising wing at higher AoA
- Gust induced
 - Fly into a vertical wind shear
 - Fly through a decreasing wind shear

Gust Induced Stalls

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PpJA53LjarMa



Factors affecting Stall Recovery

- Weight
- Density Altitude
- Bank Angle
- Load Factor at Stall
- Higher of any of these means more altitude to recover
- What is your recovery technique?
- Pilot Situation Awareness-Tired? Dehydrated?
 How does this affect recovery?

Factors affecting Turn to Final



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zfFGN-3Yglo&feature=related

Factors affecting Turn to Final

- Airspeed
- Skidding Turn..Using the Rudder to Turn
- Overshooting Crosswind
- Altitude
- Too Close Abeam
- Configuration...Spoilers/Flaps

How do these factors affect the inadvertent stall recovery?

Intentional Stalls

- Training
- Straight
 - Simulate long slow deceleration
 - Steep nose high
 - Recover to straight flight
- Turning
 - Simulate thermalling
 - Simulate turn to final
 - Recover in turn or straight?

Unintentional Stalls

- When do they occur?
 - Thermal
 - Low Altitude
- Recovery Technique
 - Break AoA
 - Rudder to pick up wing
 - Ailerons neutral

Spins

Perception vs reality





Spins

- 1. During a spin the aircraft is rolling, yawing, and pitching...therefore it very disorienting.
- 2. To spin, you must have a stall condition and yaw. Eliminate either and you will not spin.
- 3. Spin Recovery=Yaw against rotation, release back pressure to break AOA, ailerons neutral.

Three elements of a spin

Pitch

• After the initial stall, glider pitches forward

► Yaw

Initial yaw can be rudder input or adverse yaw

Roll

• Glider begins to roll because one wing is more stalled than the other

• All this leads to

Auto-rotation

 Wing that is more stalled has more drag, yawing glider toward descending wing and continuing to roll toward the more stalled wing

Three elements of a spin



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ORQOsxElgnQ

What is a spin?

Stall + Yaw = Autorotation



Why Do Pilots Avoid Spin Training?

- Pilots avoid maneuvers that they understand poorly or not at all
- Few fixed-wing pilots understand what drives auto-rotation (in other words, what makes an aircraft spin)
- Some pilots often believe spins are chaotic and unpredictable, and avoid spin training as a result

FAA Guidance

- Subject: STALL AND SPIN AWARENESS TRAINING
- Date: 9/25/00
- AC No: 61-67C

Stall Spin Recognition/Recovery

- Pilot factors
 - Fatigue
 - Hunger
 - Thirst
- Aircraft Specific
 - Sudden vs Mush stall
- When do they happen?
 - Thermals, Final, Low Altitude
- Are you ready?

Scenario

- Problem
 - Low altitude thermaling
- Themes
 - Gust induced stall
 - Pilot induced by looking outside of turn
 - Distraction caused by radio chatter

Scenario

The pilot has been on a local flight and had gotten about 6 miles from the gliderport. While attempting to glide back the pilot encounters a thermal at 300 ft AGL. After completing 1 turn the pilot looks up and to the outside of the turn after noticing some motion.

Scenario Analysis

List 2 Pilot factors Desire to get home Skill level in thermalling List 2 Aircraft factors Glide ratio of glider Instrumentation List 2 enVironment factors Wind speed & direction Time of day List 2 External factors No retrieve crew or vehicle Spouse has plans for this evening

