

SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

An Autonomous Institution Coimbatore – 35

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DEPARTMENT OF AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

19ASO301 BASICS OF AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING

UNIT 1 – HISTORY OF FLIGHT

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HISTORY OF FLIGHT

- History of Flights
- **Ornithopters**
- Hot Air Balloon
- Development of Flight 18th & 19th century
- **Development of Flight 20th century**
- Summary







TEXT BOOK

Anderson. J D, "Introduction to Flight", McGraw-Hill, 1995

Richard S. Shevel, "fundamentals of Flight", Prentice Hall, 2010

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- *Otto Lilienthal (1848-1896)*
- The Glider Man. He flew the first & successful controlled Gliders
- He was a man of Aeronautical stature and comparable to Sir George Cayley & Wright **Brothers**
- He concluded that, to learn practical aerodynamics, he had to get up in the air & experiment
- Insight into practice of flying only by actual flying experiments

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Otto Lilienthal

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Glider



- *Otto Lilienthal (1848-1896)*
- He designed a Glider in 1889 & 1890
- 1891-First successful Glider flew from a natural hill at Derwitz, Germany
- He later built an artificial hill, 50 ft in height in suburb of Berlin
- It was a conical shaped hill and glider flights made through the wind, irrespective of the wind direction.
- He made 2000 successful glider flights

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Otto Lilienthal (1848-1896)

- 09 Aug 1896, Lilienthal was gliding from Gollenberg
- 1891-First successful Glider flew from a natural hill at Derwitz, Germany
- He later built an artificial hill, 50 ft in height in the suburb of Berlin
- A temporary gust of wind brought his monoplane glider to a standstill. He stalled & crashed.
- He had broken his spine and died the very next day. He remarked "Sacrifices must be Made"

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- <u>Percy Pilcher (1867-1899)</u>
- He was a Scot, who lived in Glasgow
- He was ready to build the first Glider, under Lilienthal guidance. He made several glides from the artificial hill
- His most noted machine was Hawk, built in 1896
- Most distinguished aeronautical Engineer since George Cayley







Percy Pilcher (1867-1899)

- In 1897, he calculated that an engine with 4 hp weighing not more than 40 lb, driving a 5 feet diameter propeller
- He was killed while demonstrating the Hawk









Percy Pilcher

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Hang Glider, The Hawk, 1896



- Samuel Pierpont Langley (1834-1906)
- American aviation pioneer, Astronomer & Physicist
- He attempted to make a working piloted heavier-than-air aircraft
- His models flew, but his two attempts at piloted flight were not successful
- He began experimenting rubber-band powered models & gliders
- He built a rotating arm that functioned as wind tunnel







- Samuel Pierpont Langley (1834-1906)
- He understood that, aircraft needs **Thrust** to overcome **Drag** from forward speed
- His first success came in May 1896, when his unpiloted model no.5 (11 kg)made two flights 2300 ft (700 m) & 3300 ft (1000 m)
- It was a catapult launch from a boat on the Potomac river
- The distance was 10 times longer than any previous experiment with heavier-than-air flying machine. Model no.6 flew more than 5000 ft (1500 m)







Samuel Pierpont Langley

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Langley's Aërodrome No. 5 in Flight, May 6, 1896 From instantaneous photograph by Alexander Graham Bell

Model no 5 flight