

Given

 $m_{F-14} = 1.6 \times 10^4 \ kg$ $F_{F-14} = 2.7 \times 10^5 \ N$ $m_{747} = 3.6 \times 10^5 \ kg$ $F_{747} = 7.7 \times 10^5 \ N$

Solution

Can either the F-14 or the 747 jumbo jet do a vertical climb. The free-body diagram for each plane is given above. In order for the plane to make a vertical climb the acceleration must be positive. From Newton's second law we get

$$\Sigma \vec{F} = m\vec{a}$$

$$\vec{F}_{thrust} + \vec{W} = m\vec{a} > 0$$

Therefore,

$$egin{aligned} ec{F}_{thrust} &> -ec{W} \ F_{thrust} \hat{j} &> -(-mg\hat{j}) \ F_{thrust} &> mg \end{aligned}$$

For the F-14

$$F_{F-14} > (1.6 \times 10^4 \ kg)(9.8 \ m/s^2) = 1.6 \times 10^5 \ N$$

Since the thrust of the F-14 is greater than $1.6 \times 10^5 N$, the F-14 can fly vertically.

The acceleration can be found by using the free body diagram and Newton's 2nd law.

$$\vec{F}_{thrust} + \vec{W} = m\bar{a}$$

The thrust is in the positive y direction and the weight is in the negative y direction resulting in the equation

$$F_{thrust}\hat{j}-mg\hat{j}=m\vec{a}$$

Solving for acceleration gives

$$\vec{a} = \frac{F_{thrust}\hat{j} - mg\hat{j}}{m} = \frac{F_{thrust} - mg}{m}\hat{j}$$

[†]Problem from Essential University Physics, Wolfson

$$\vec{a} = \frac{2.7 \times 10^5 N - (1.6 \times 10^4 kg)(9.8 m/s^2)}{1.6 \times 10^4 kg} \hat{j}$$

$$\vec{a} = 7.1^{\circ}m/s^2$$

For the 747 jumbo jet

$$F_{747} > (3.7 \times 10^5 \text{ kg})(9.8 \text{ m/s}^2) = 3.6 \times 10^6 \text{ N}$$

Since the thrust of the 747 is less than $3.6 \times 10^6 N$, the 747 can not fly vertically.