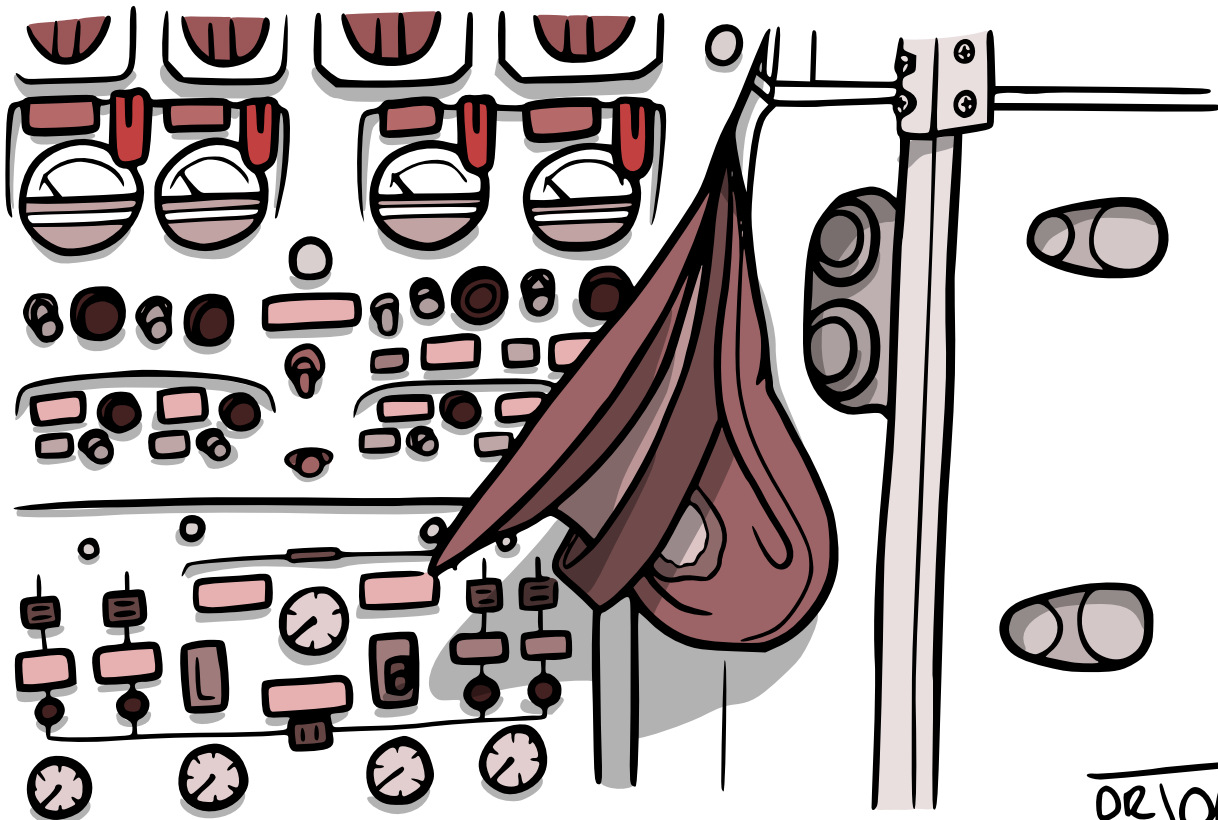


FACT OF THE DAY #12

CONCORDE GREW IN LENGTH DURING FLIGHT

Concorde, the supersonic jet, flew at such great speeds that, due to thermal expansion, it grew in length by approximately 15–25 cm (6–10 inches) during flight. This was not obvious to the passengers, but by the time the plane reached Mach 2, the pilots in the flight deck would see a gap appearing between the bulkhead and the flight engineer's console. It was not uncommon for some pilots to place their cap in this gap, but if they didn't remove it before the plane slowed and cooled, the gap would close and the cap would be trapped until the next flight.



DR JONES