

## Examples

- **Flying Wing Sailplane**
- **X-31A Wing**
- **RANGER 2000 Training Aircraft**
- **EUROFIGHTER Concept Studies**
- **Stealth Demonstrator**
- **Light Weight Fighter Wing**
- **Flutter Wind Tunnel Model**
- **Topology Optimization for Machined Frame**
- **Design Element Concept for Stiffened Panel**

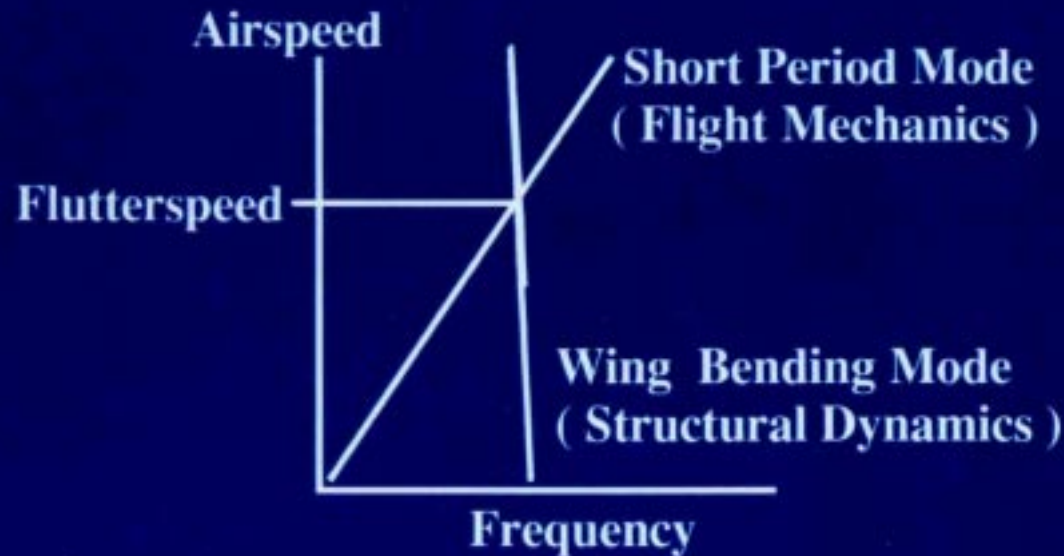
# LAGRANGE-8: Flying wing sailplane SB-13



# LAGRANGE-9 (Flying wing example)



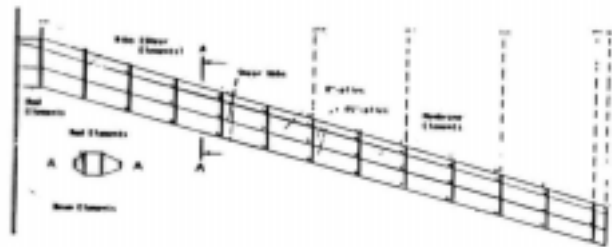
## Flying Wing Sailplane : Coupling Between Rigid Body and Flexible Aircraft Modes



**Instability would not be detected by individual disciplines**

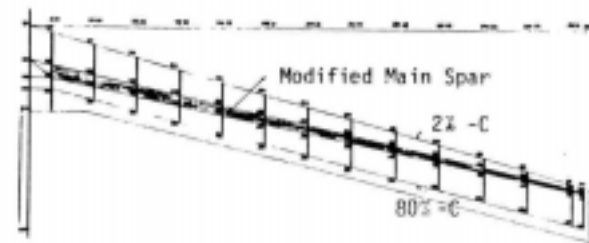
## Flying Wing Sailplane

### Initial Design

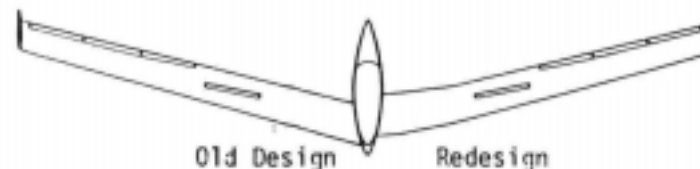


- Constant chord main spar
- Intermediate modulus fiber

### Final Design



- Swept main spar
- High modulus fiber



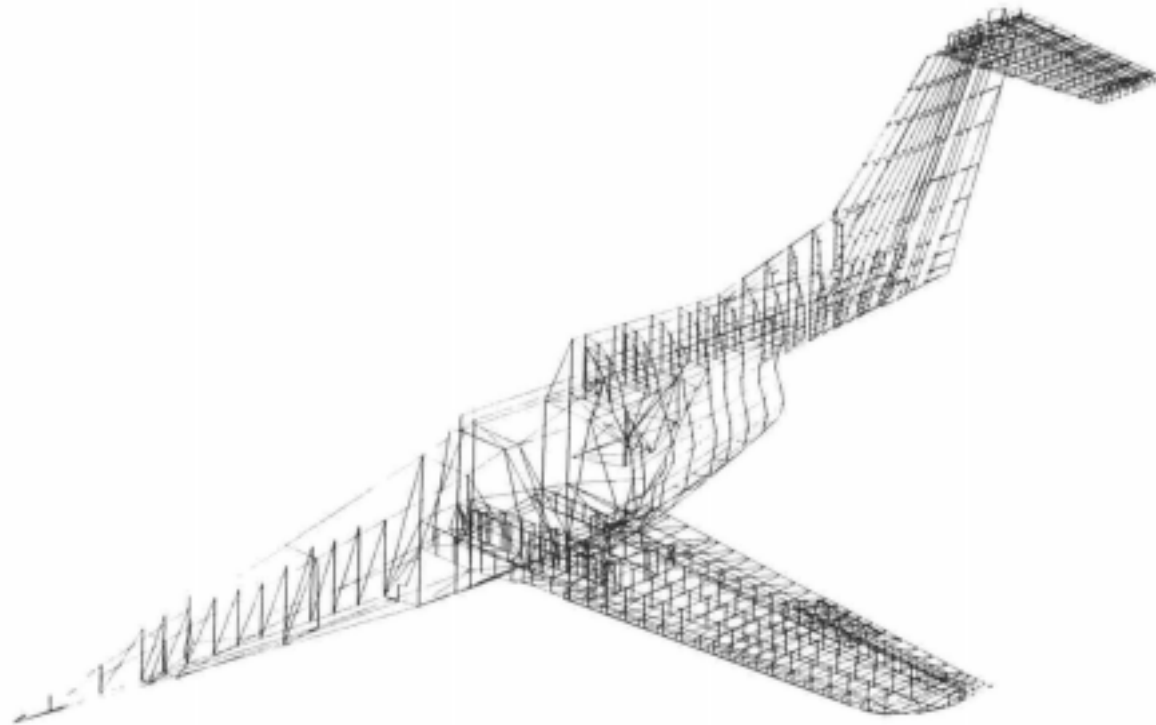
Old Design      Redesign  
WING GEOMETRY MODIFICATION

- Flutter speed : 65 kts
- Flutter speed : 155 kts
- No weight penalty

**LAGRANGE-11:**



# **RANGER 2000 Training Aircraft**

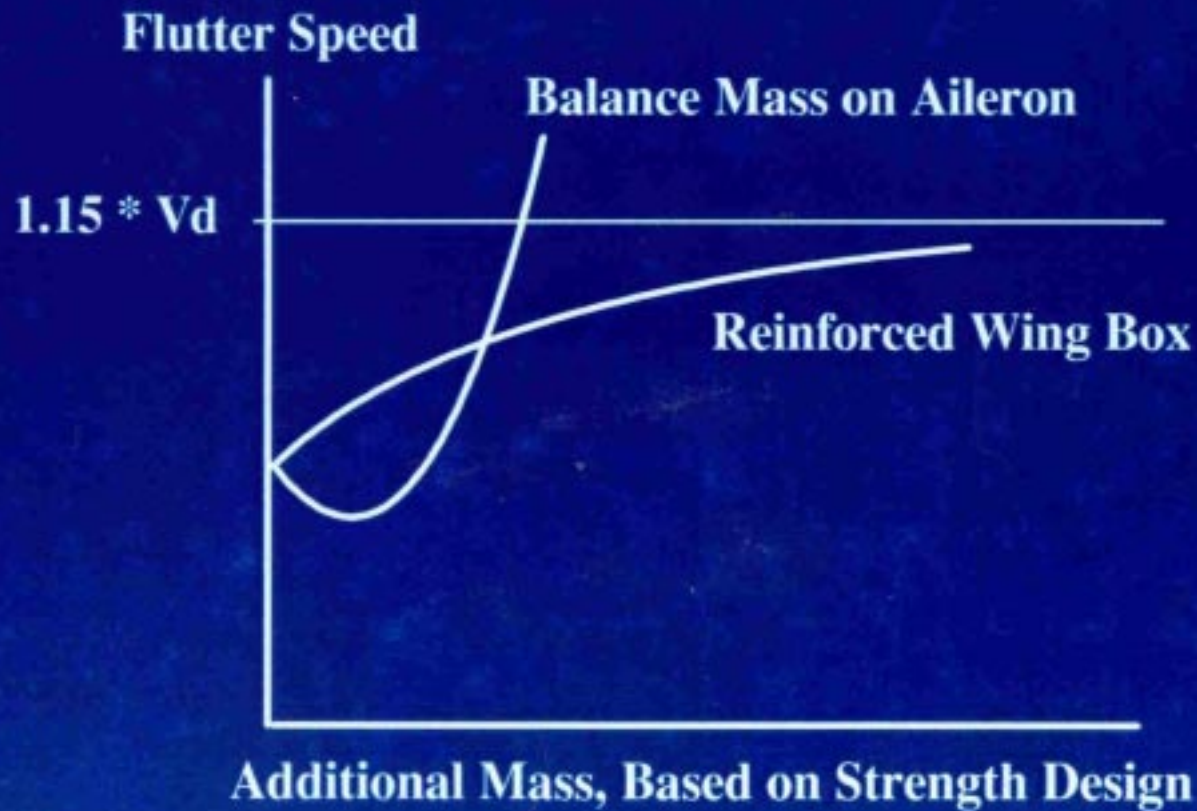


**Finite Element Model for Aeroelastic Design**

# LAGRANGE-11-2: Ranger 2000 (initial rudder mass balance shown)



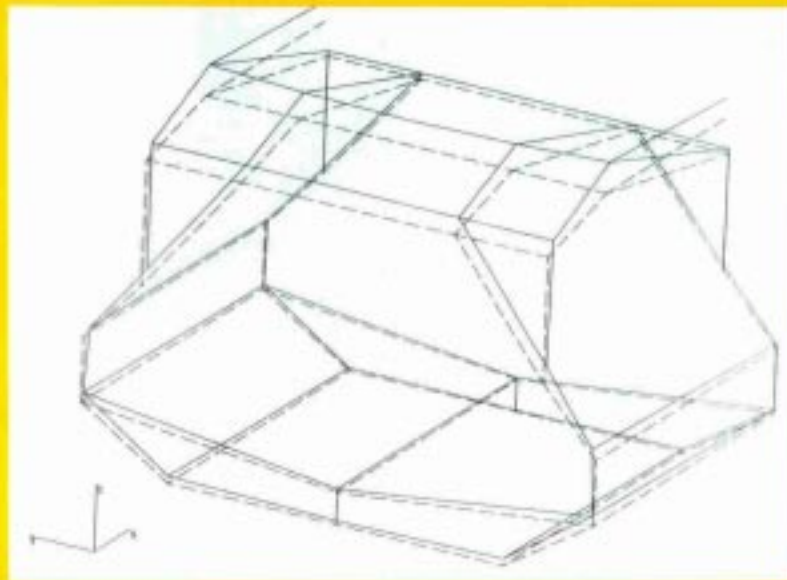
## RANGER 2000 Wing Design Trade-Off Study



# LAGRANGE-13: Model design by updating (optimization)



## Flutter Wind Tunnel Model for Transport Aircraft

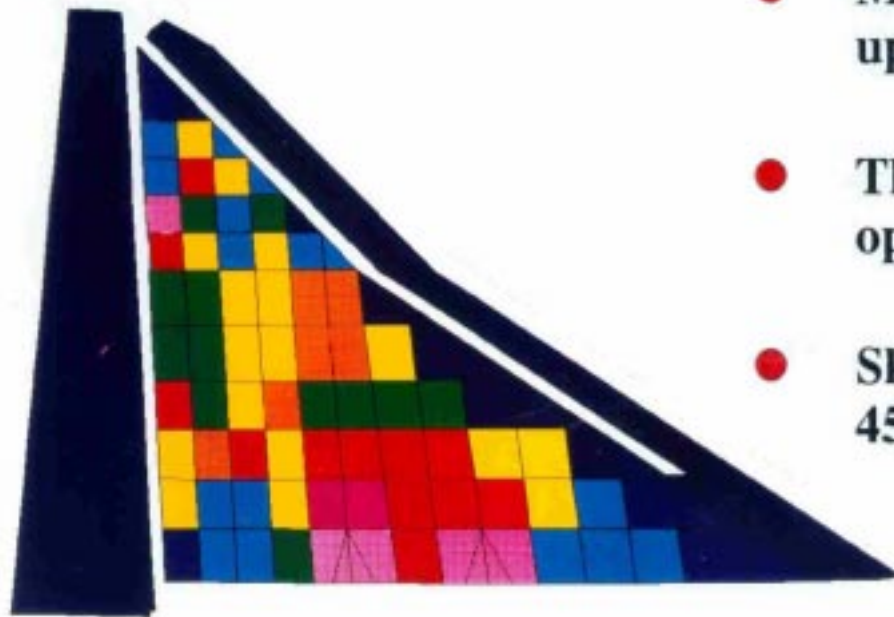


**Analysis Model for  
Equivalent Stiffness Design  
of the Wing/Fuselage Interface**



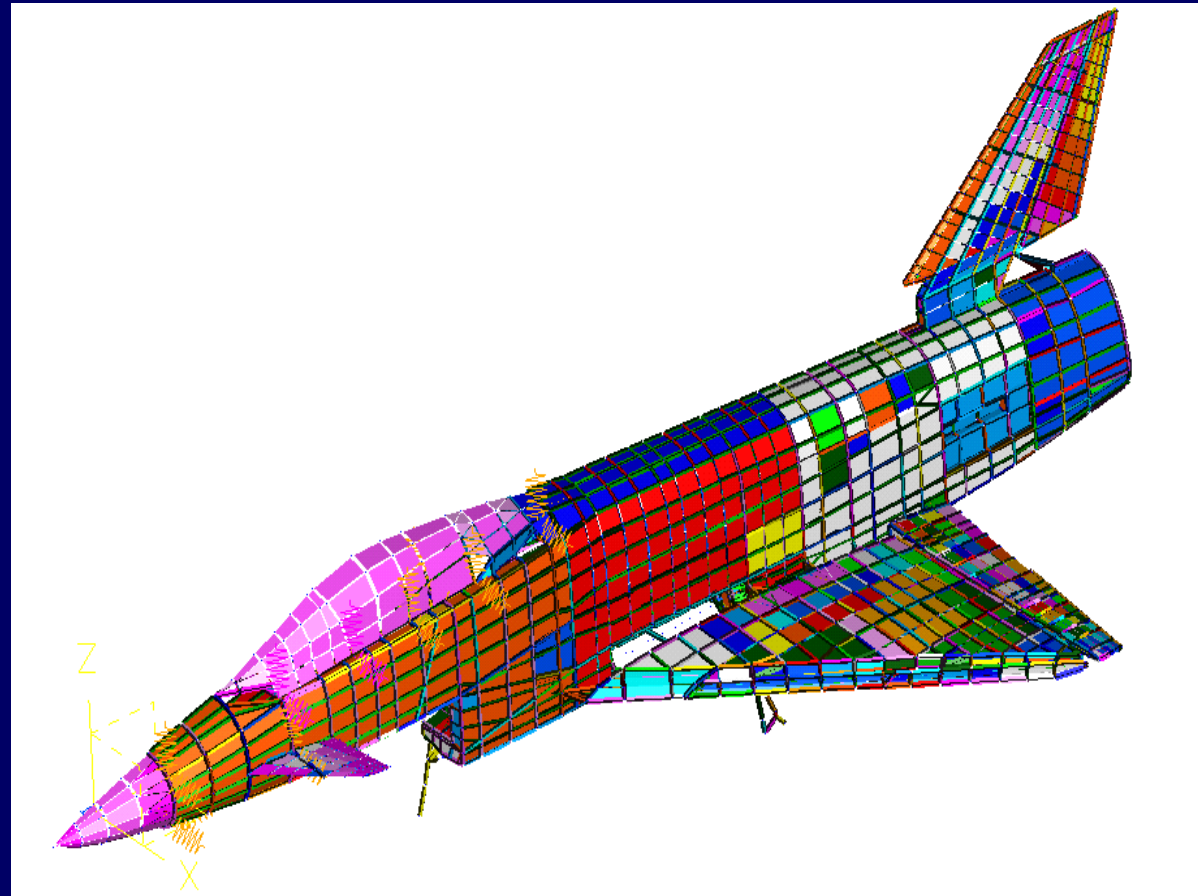
**Manufactured Component**

## X-31 A Wing: Typical Skin Thickness Distribution After Optimization

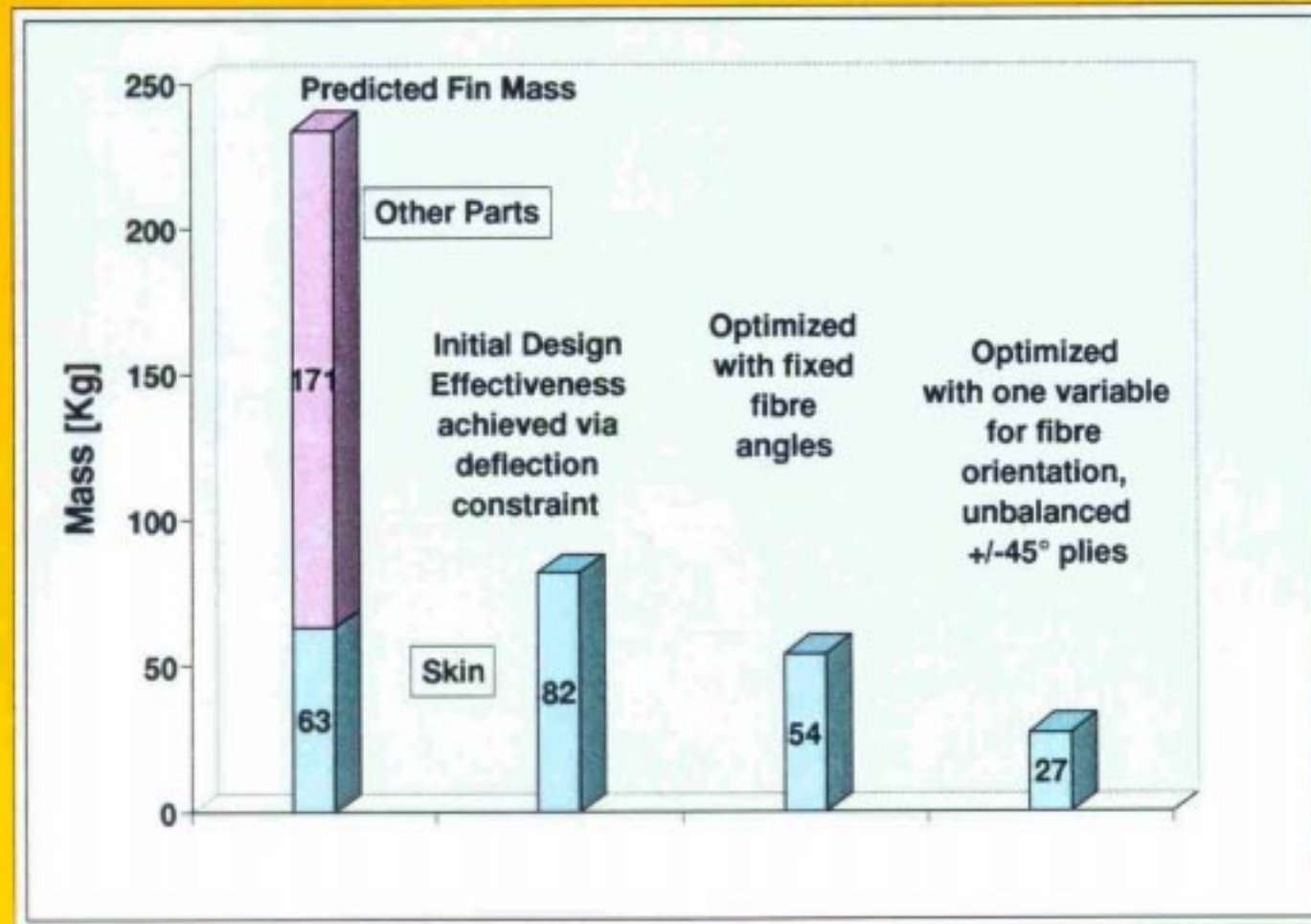


- More than 30 different lay-ups for upper and lower wing skins
- Theoretical skin weight after optimization : 44 kg
- Skin weight after manufacturing : 45 kg

# FEM of X-31A with optimized wing structure

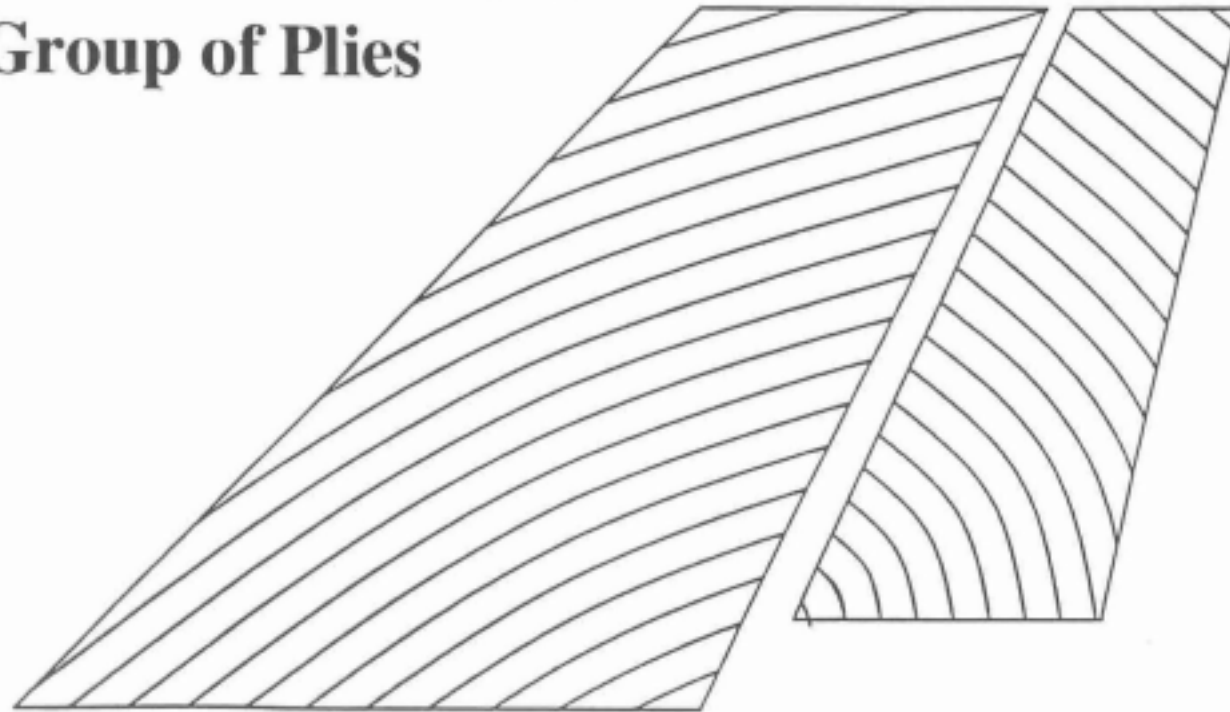


## Vertical Tail Design Study



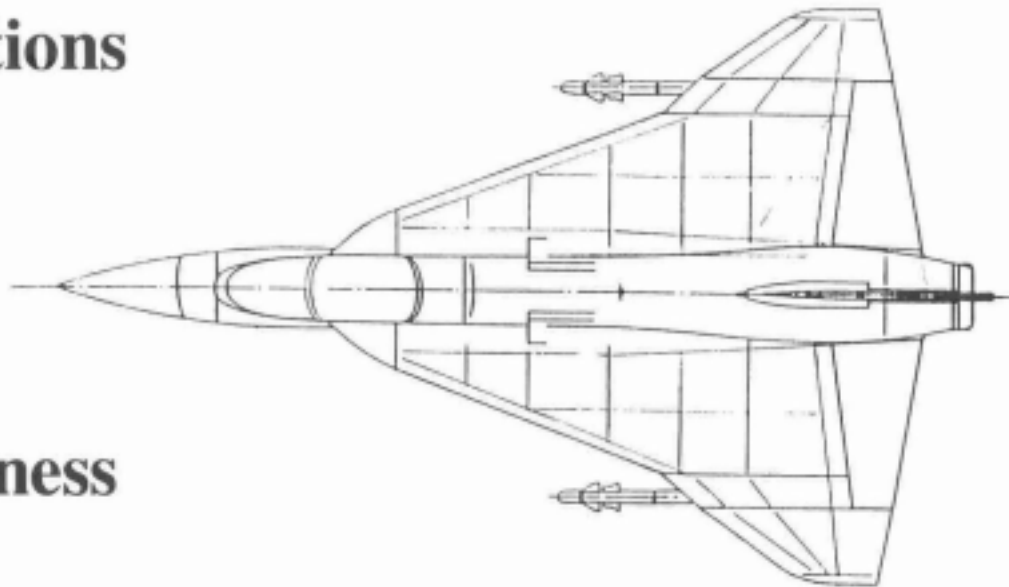
## Vertical Tail Design Study

**Optimized Fiber Orientation  
for one Group of Plies**



## Light Weight Fighter Wing Design

**Wing Skin Thickness  
and Fiber Orientations  
Optimized for**  
**-Strength,**  
**-Flutter, and**  
**-Aileron Rolling  
Moment Effectiveness**



# LAGRANGE-18: Rolling moment effectiveness and aileron hinge moment



## Light Weight Fighter Wing

### Optimization for Improved Roll Rates

Flexible A/C Roll Rate



Structural Weight

Aileron Hinge Moment



Structural Weight

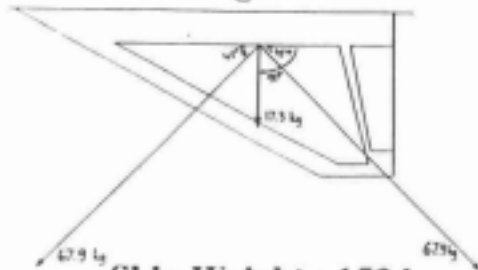
**Reduced Hinge Moment as a Fall-Out Results in Additional Weight Savings ( Hydraulics )**

# LAGRANGE-19: Effectiveness of Aeroelastic Tailoring



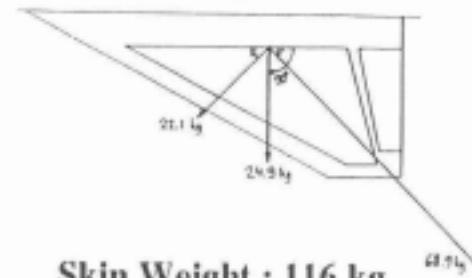
## Light Weight Fighter Wing Optimization Results with Different Design Spaces

Fixed Orientation,  
Symmetric 45-deg Plies



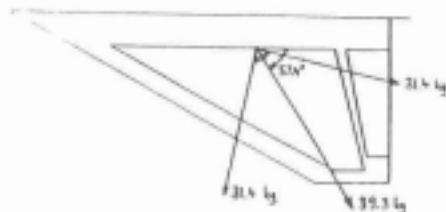
Skin Weight : 153 kg

Fixed Orientation,  
Unbalanced 45-deg Plies



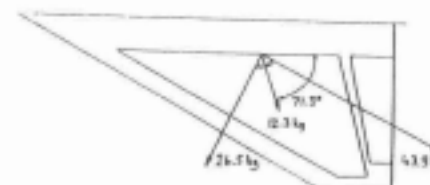
Skin Weight : 116 kg

All Plies are Free Rotate Together,  
Symmetric 45-deg Plies



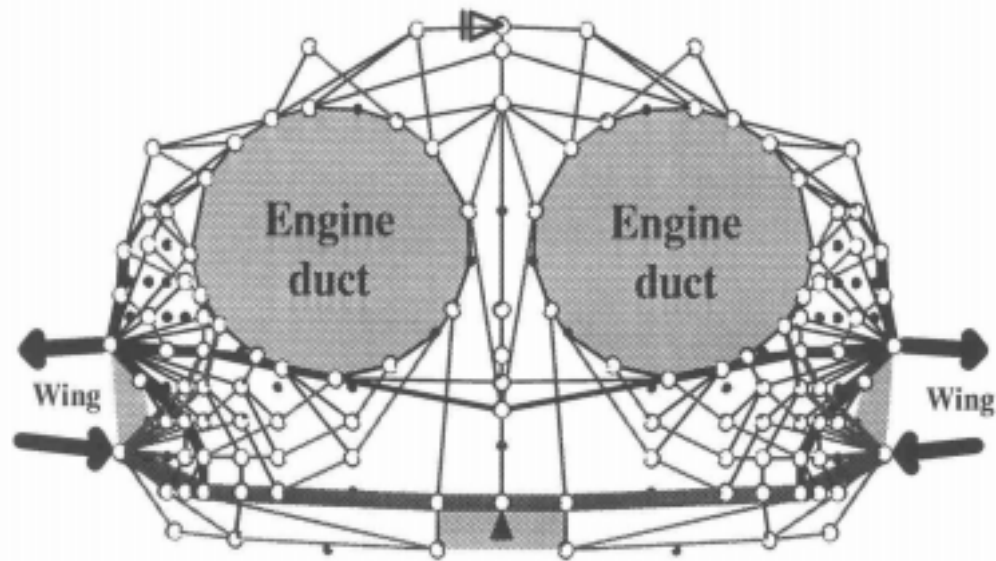
Skin Weight : 102 kg

All Plies are Free to Rotate Together,  
Unbalanced 45-deg Plies

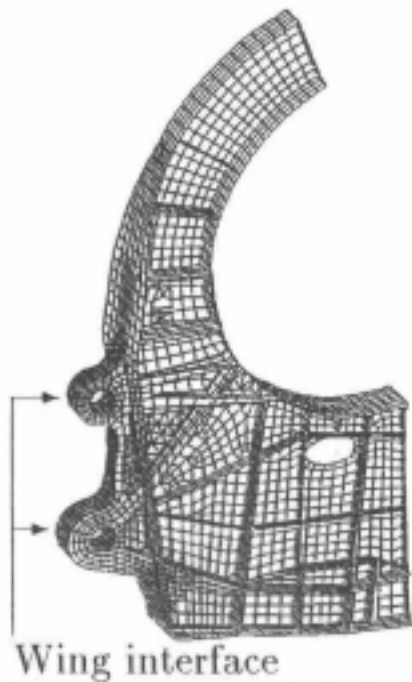


Skin Weight : 83 kg

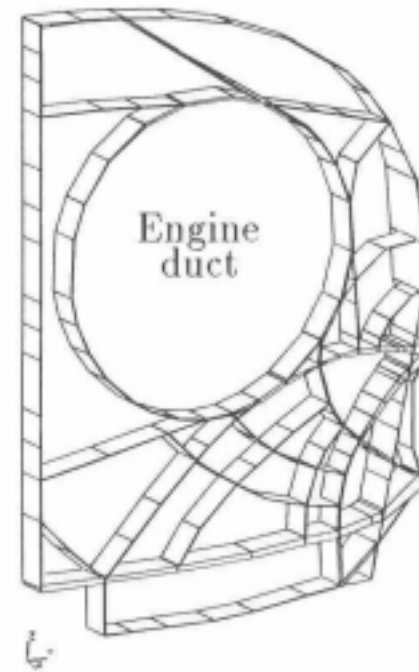
# Topology Optimization for Fuselage Frame



# Topology Optimization for Fuselage Frame



**Conventional Design**



**Result of Optimization**

## LAGRANGE: other examples

- **Hermes spaceplane**  
(flutter, dynamic response of equipment)
- **FTT Stealth Demonstrator**
- **Active Aeroelastic Wing optimization studies**
- **MDO project (A-340)**
- **UNSI project (CFD codes)**
- **C-160 Transall (flutter analysis model from GRT data)**
- **Missile fin (mass balance for flutter)**
- **Mako Trainer**
- **Active All-Movable Vertical Tail**

# Aircraft design process in the past



- Configuration
- Aerodynamic design, wind tunnel tests
- Structural concept and design
- Static sizing (for fixed loads)
- Aeroelastic analysis and tests
- Flight envelope limitations, reduced performance
- Repair, redesign

# Optimization tasks in the design process



## Preliminary design:

- external geometry
- control surfaces position and shape
- Control concepts
- Flutter and static aeroelastic sensitivities
- Structural design drivers, materials, design and manufacturing concepts.

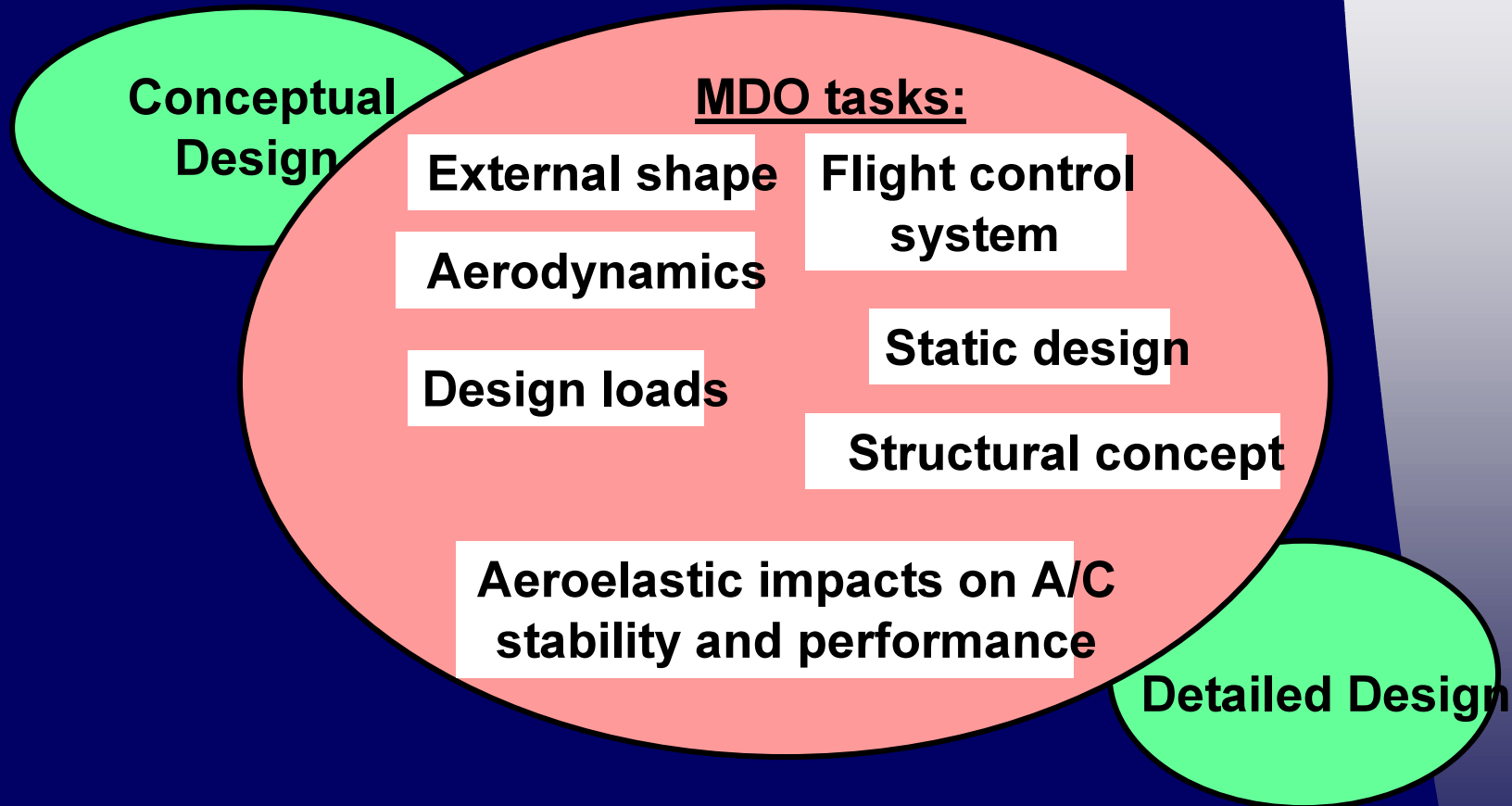
## Pre-design:

- Confirm predictions (mass, stability, performance)
- Refined models and methods

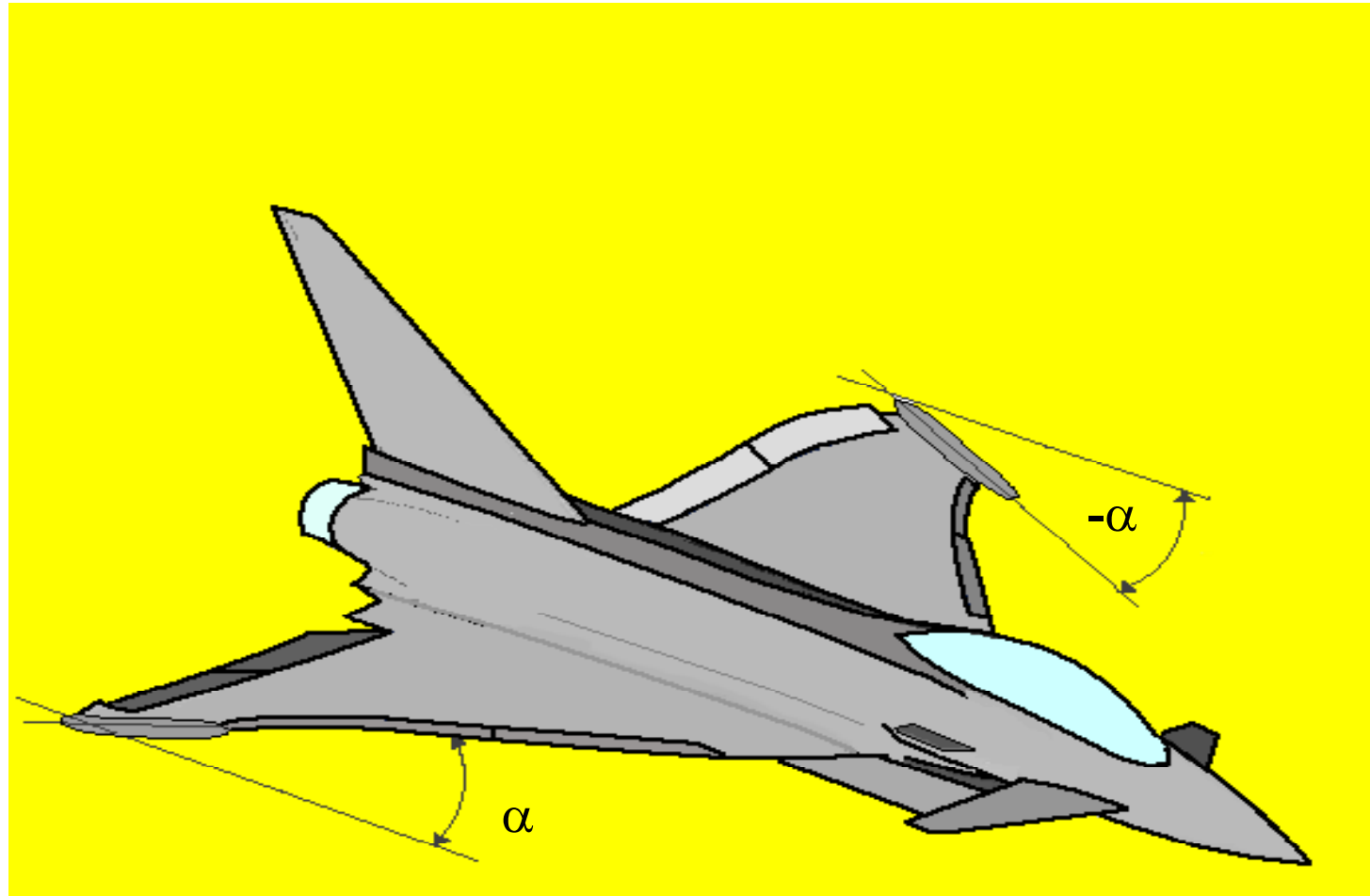
## Design:

- Individual parts optimization

# MDO in the Aircraft Design Environment



# MDO Application for Active Flexible Aircraft Design



# Intentions



## Current practice:

Use structural optimization to minimize negative aeroelastic effects.

## New approach:

Use MDO concepts to allow positive aeroelastic effects

for better designs with respect to:

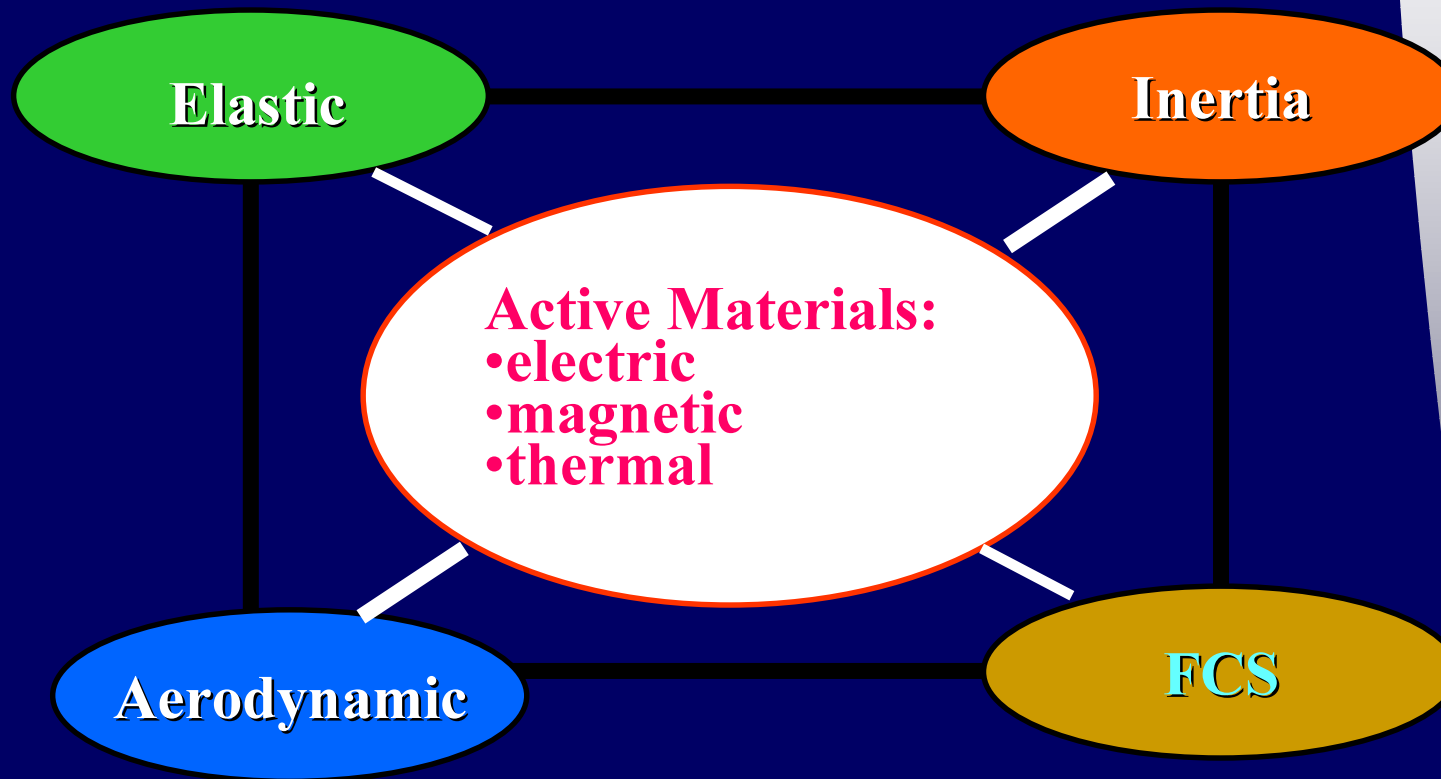
- weight and cost of the structure
- reduced demands on the actuation system
- improved aerodynamic performance
- increased maneuverability
- reduced loads

# Active Flexible Aircraft Concepts



- **Multiple control surfaces, acting as tabs**
- **Unconventional, new control surfaces**
- **Hingeless control surfaces**
- **Direct deformation of the main structure by active structures and materials elements**

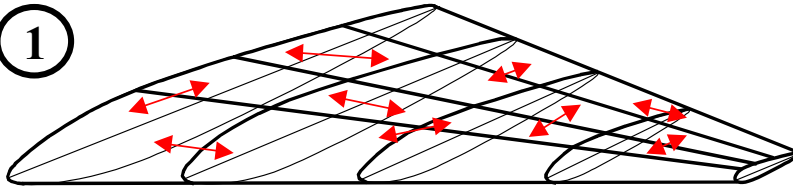
# Active Materials in the Modified Aeroelastic "Triangle"



# Required Steps to Design for Active Structures Concepts

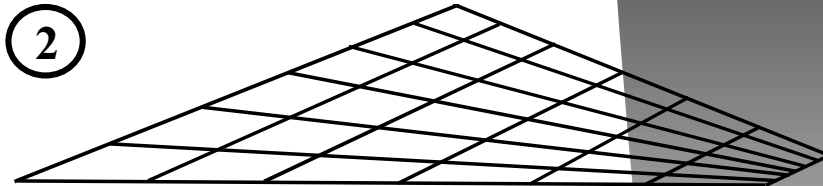


①



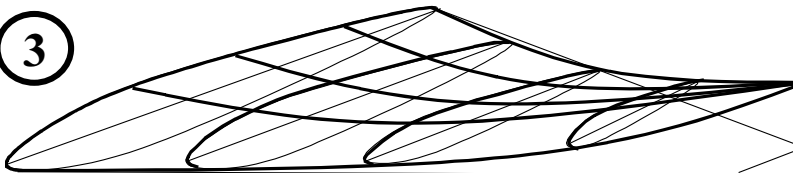
Apply internal forces to generate deformations in structural model

②



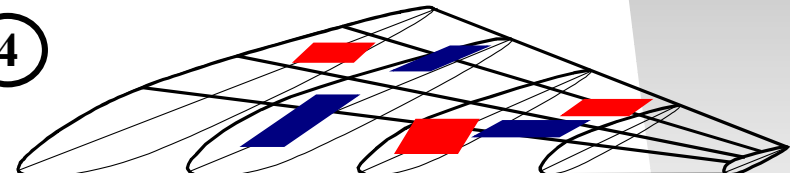
Calculate aerodynamic angle of attack distribution from initial deformations

③



Calculate aeroelastic equilibrium from initial deformations

④

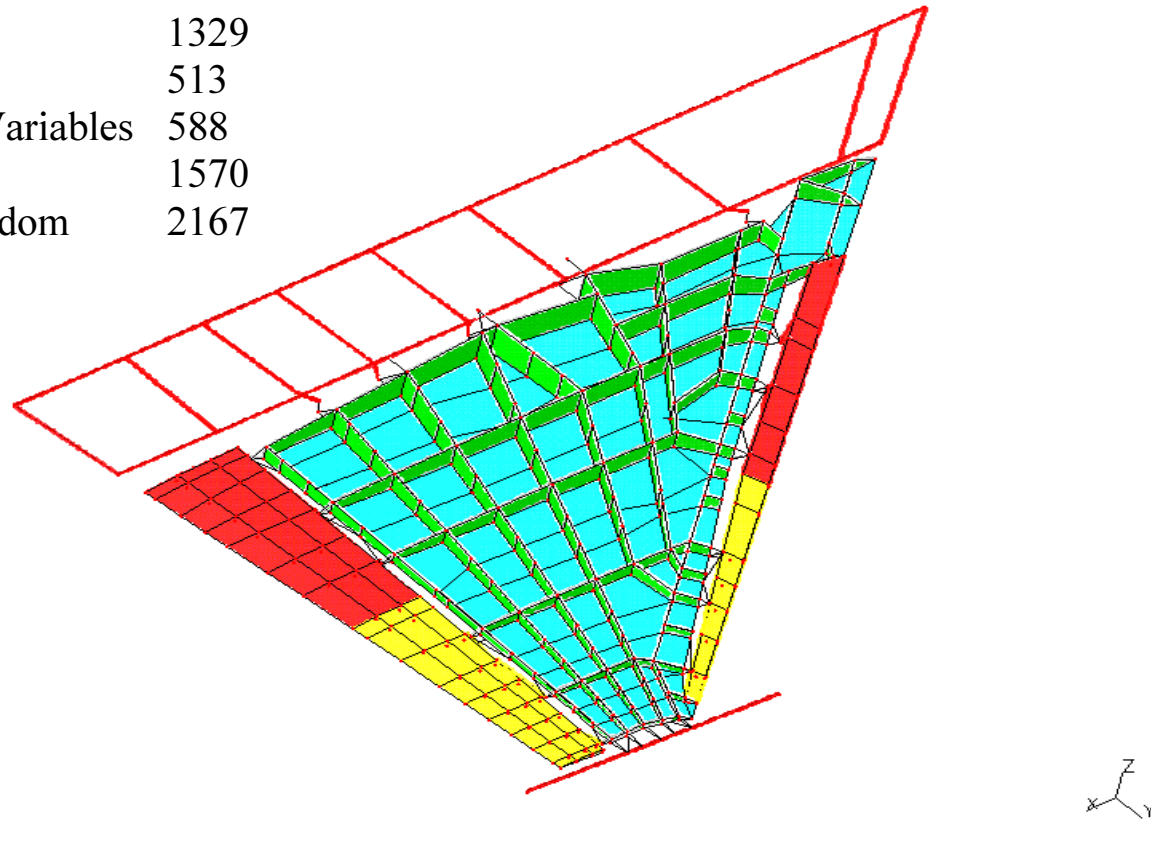


Optimize location and direction of active components

# Finite Element Model of Wing



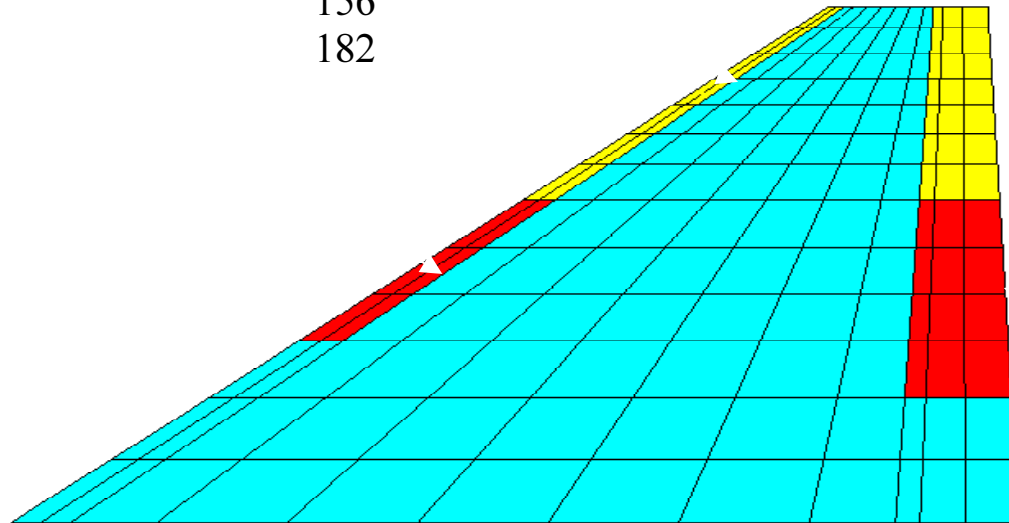
Elements	1329
Nodes	513
Sizing Design Variables	588
Constraints	1570
Degrees of Freedom	2167



# Aerodynamic Model of Wing



Total Planform Area	50 m <sup>2</sup>
Total Span	10.5 m
AR	2.205
Panels	156
Nodes	182

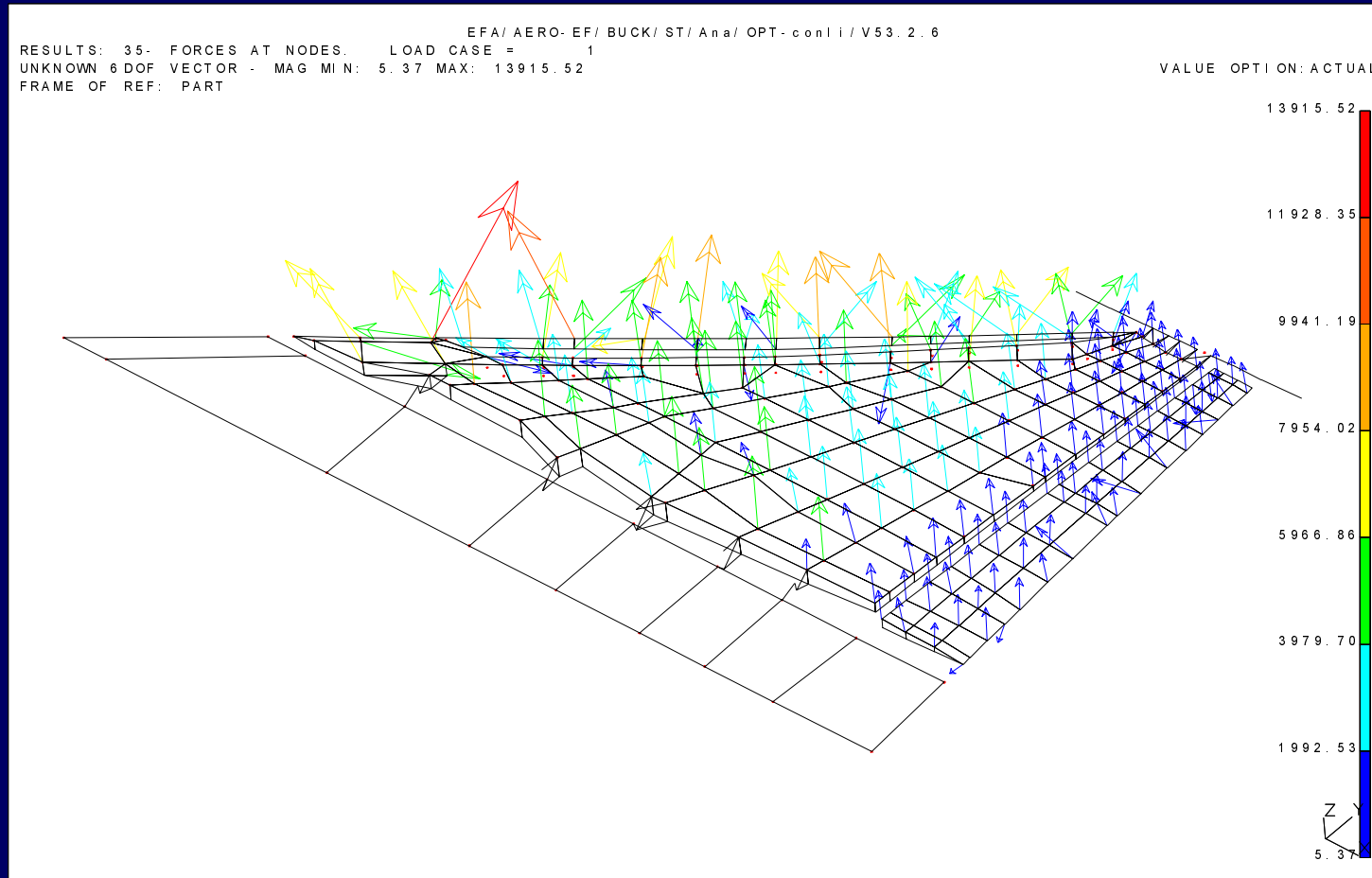


# Design Conditions and Constraints

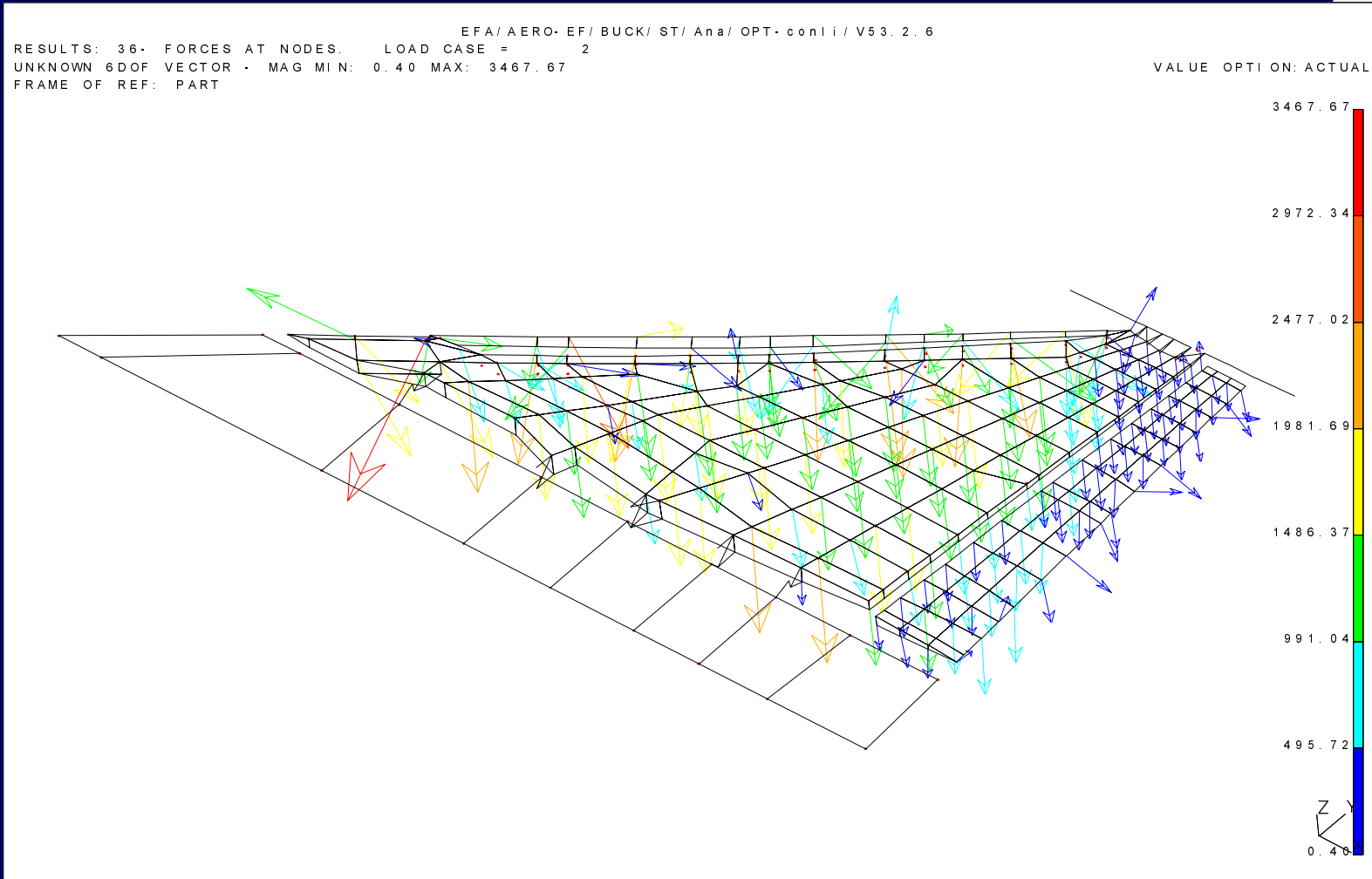


- **Static:** strength and buckling stability  
for two load cases (+9g, -4g)
- **Flutter:**  $V_F > 1000$  kts
- **Static Aeroelasticity:**
  - minimum roll rate:  $120^\circ/\text{s}$  @ Ma 1.2, S/L
  - max. hinge moment: 15 kNm
  - max. control surface deflection:  $15^\circ$

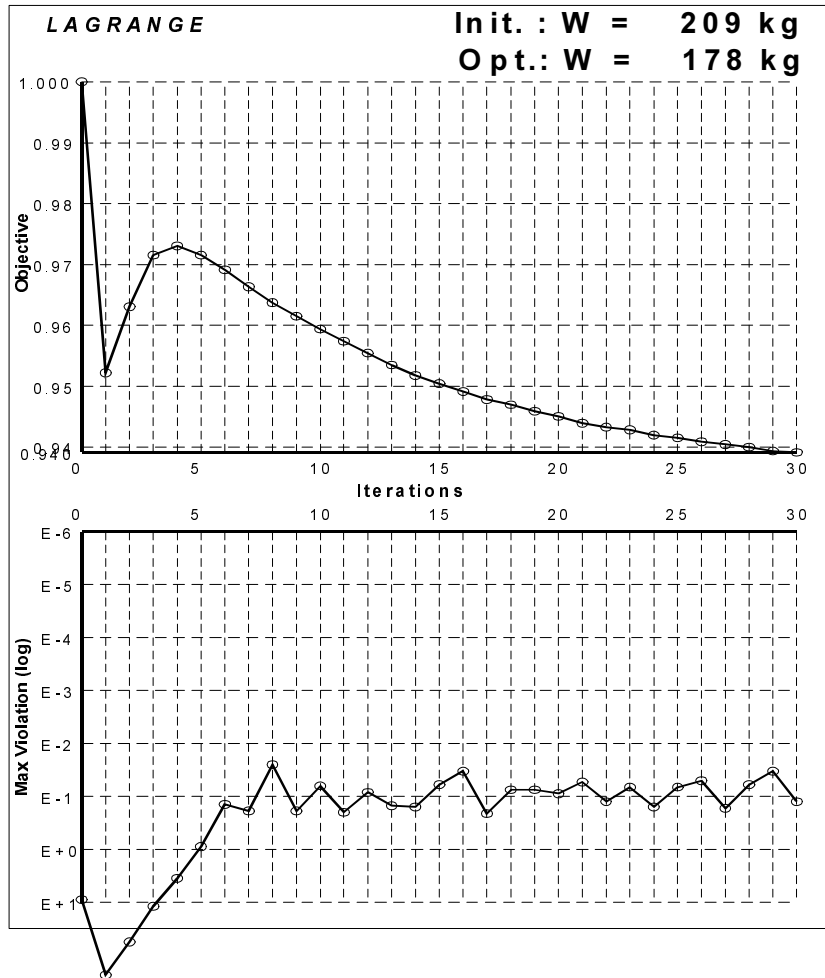
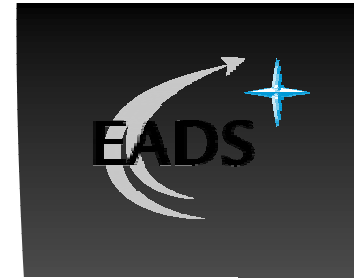
# Forces for Static Load Case 1: 9g at Ma 0.9, Sea Level



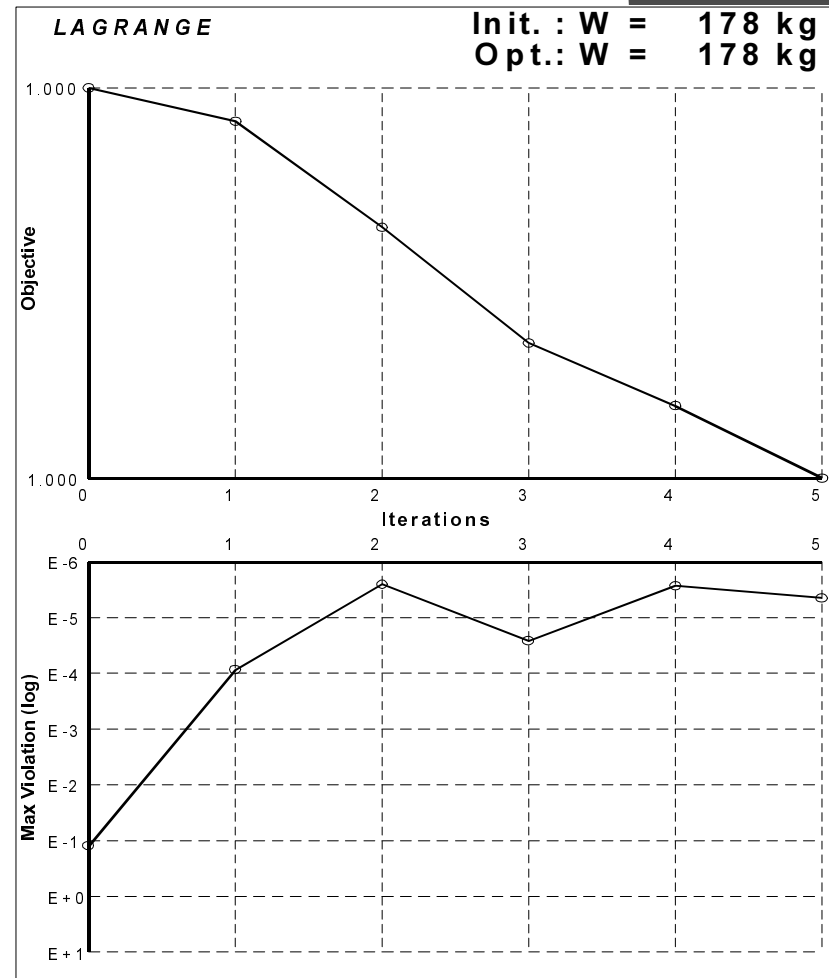
# Static Load Case 2: -3g at Ma 1.2, Sea Level



# Optimization Histories for Objective function and constraints

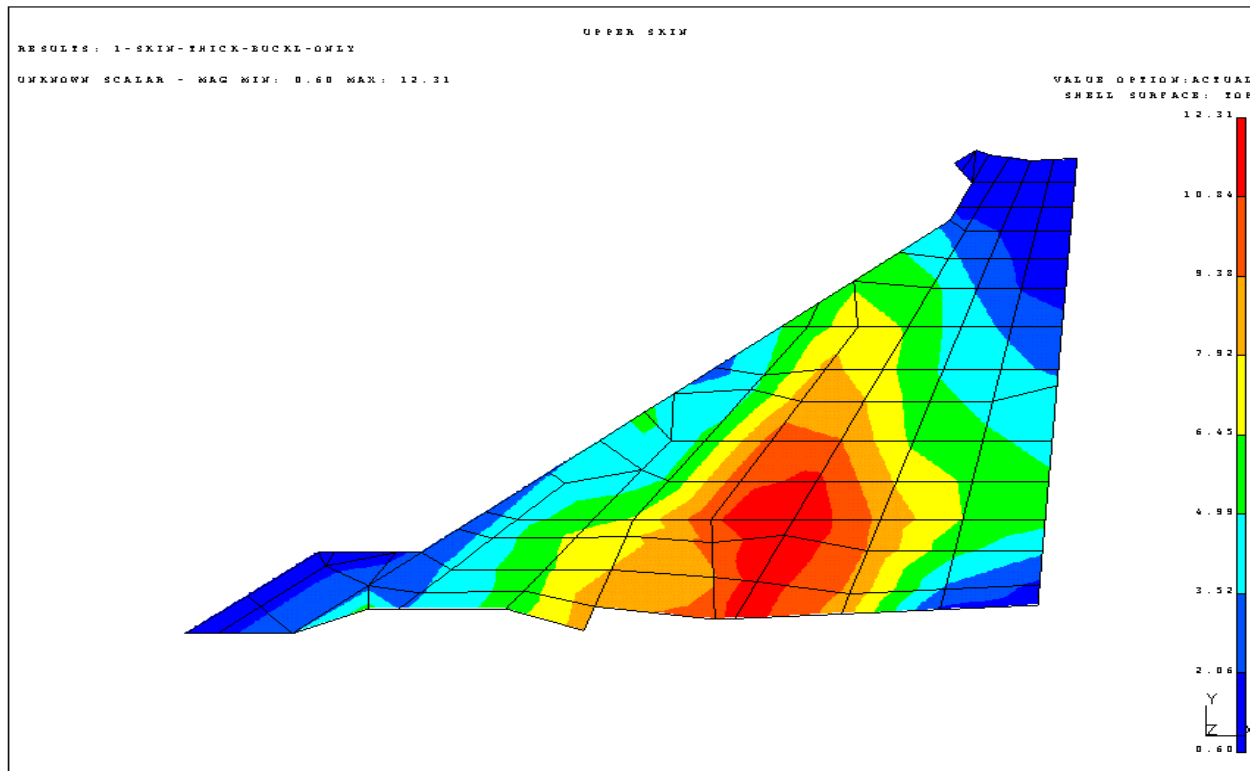


CONLIN

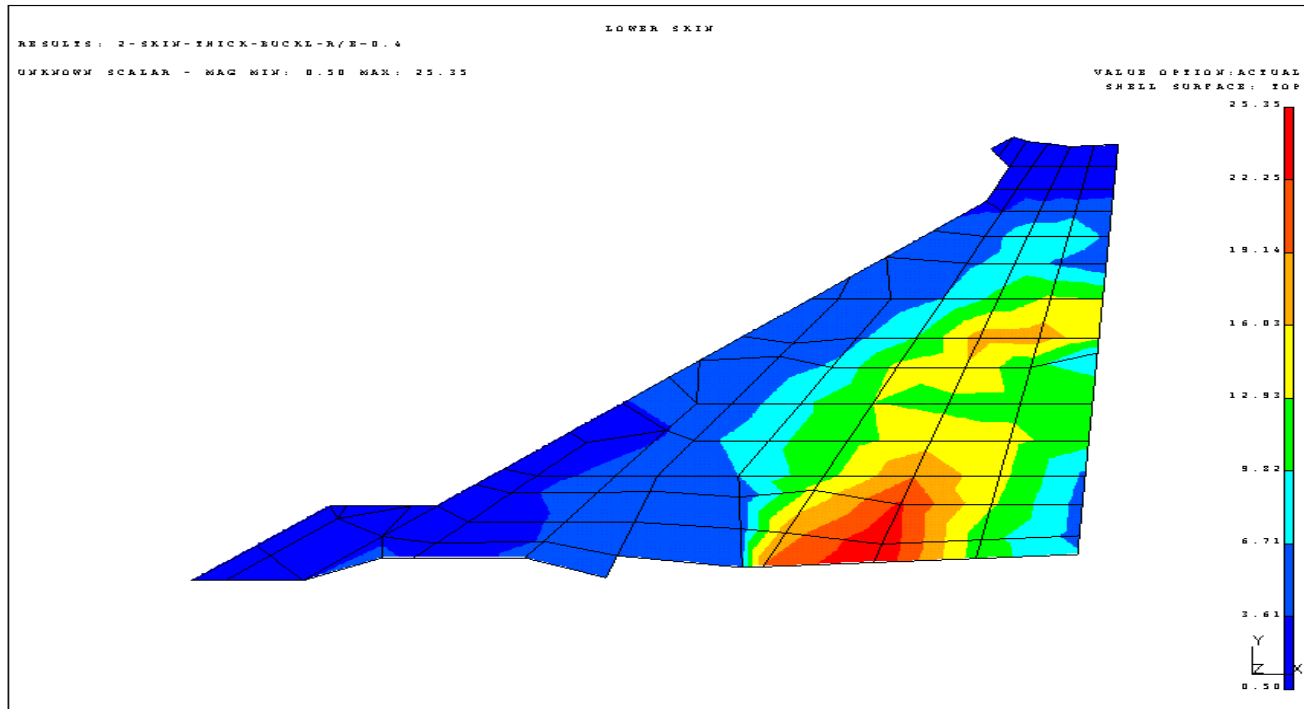


RQP1

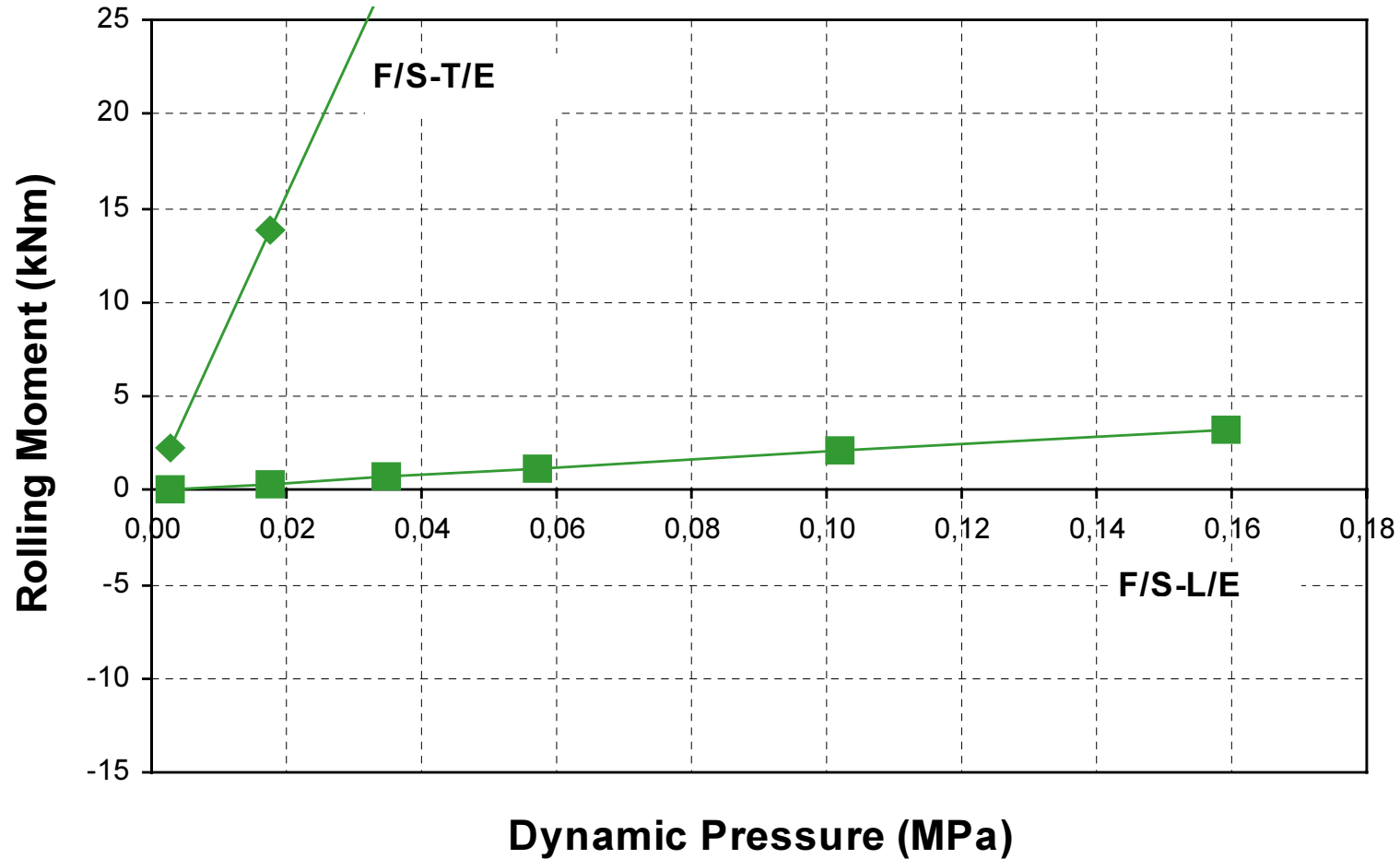
# Upper Skin Thickness Distribution with additional rolling moment effectiveness constraint



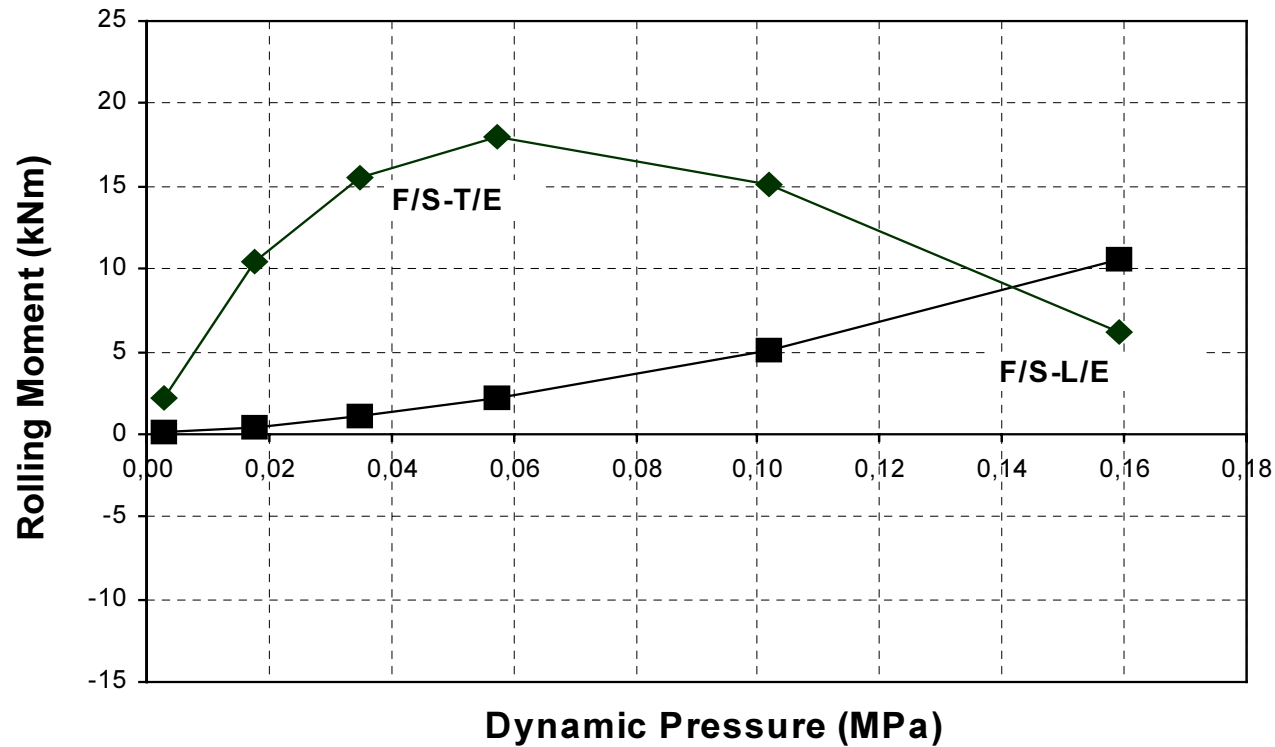
# Skin Thickness for Lower Skin



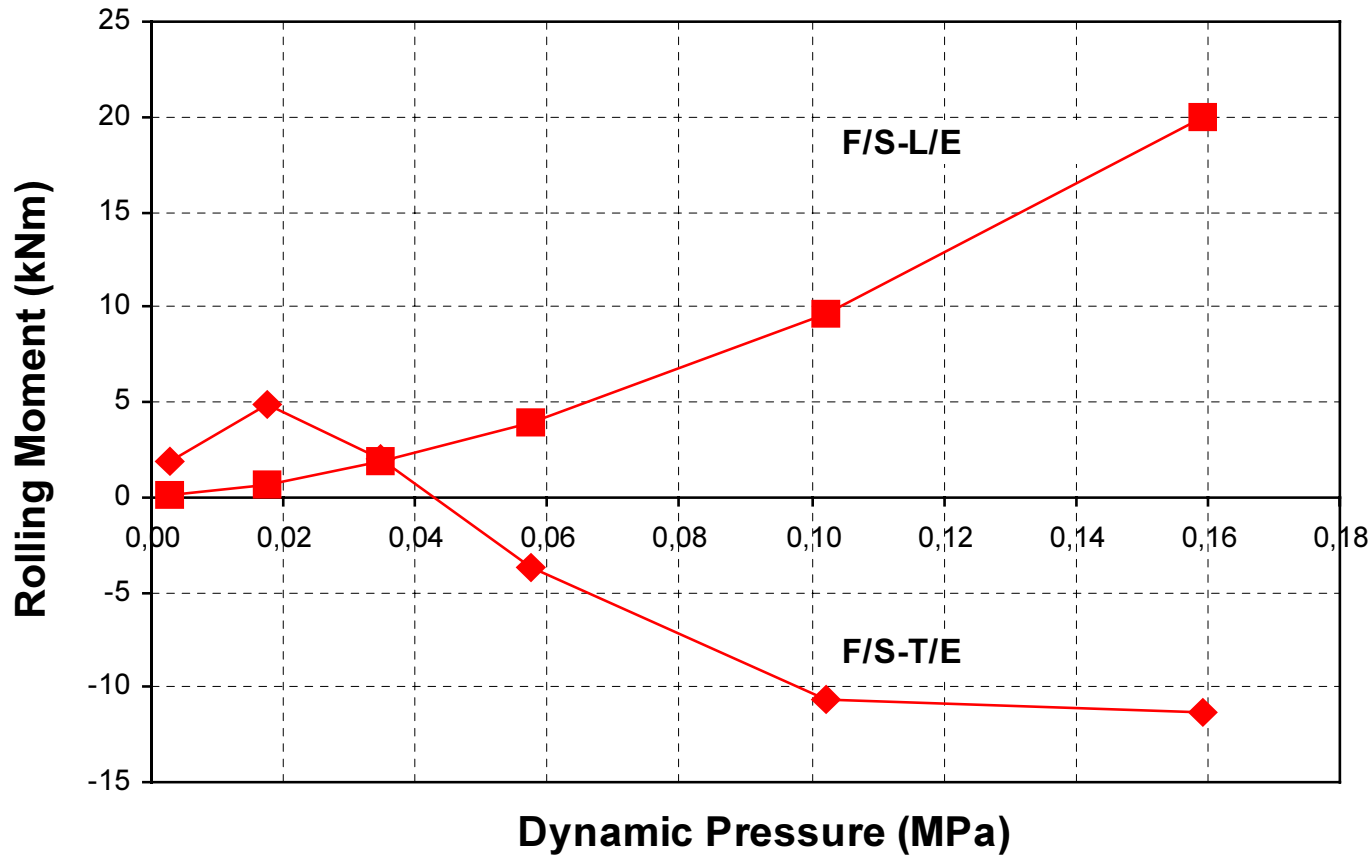
# Rigid Rolling Moment for 1° Deflections (Original Design)



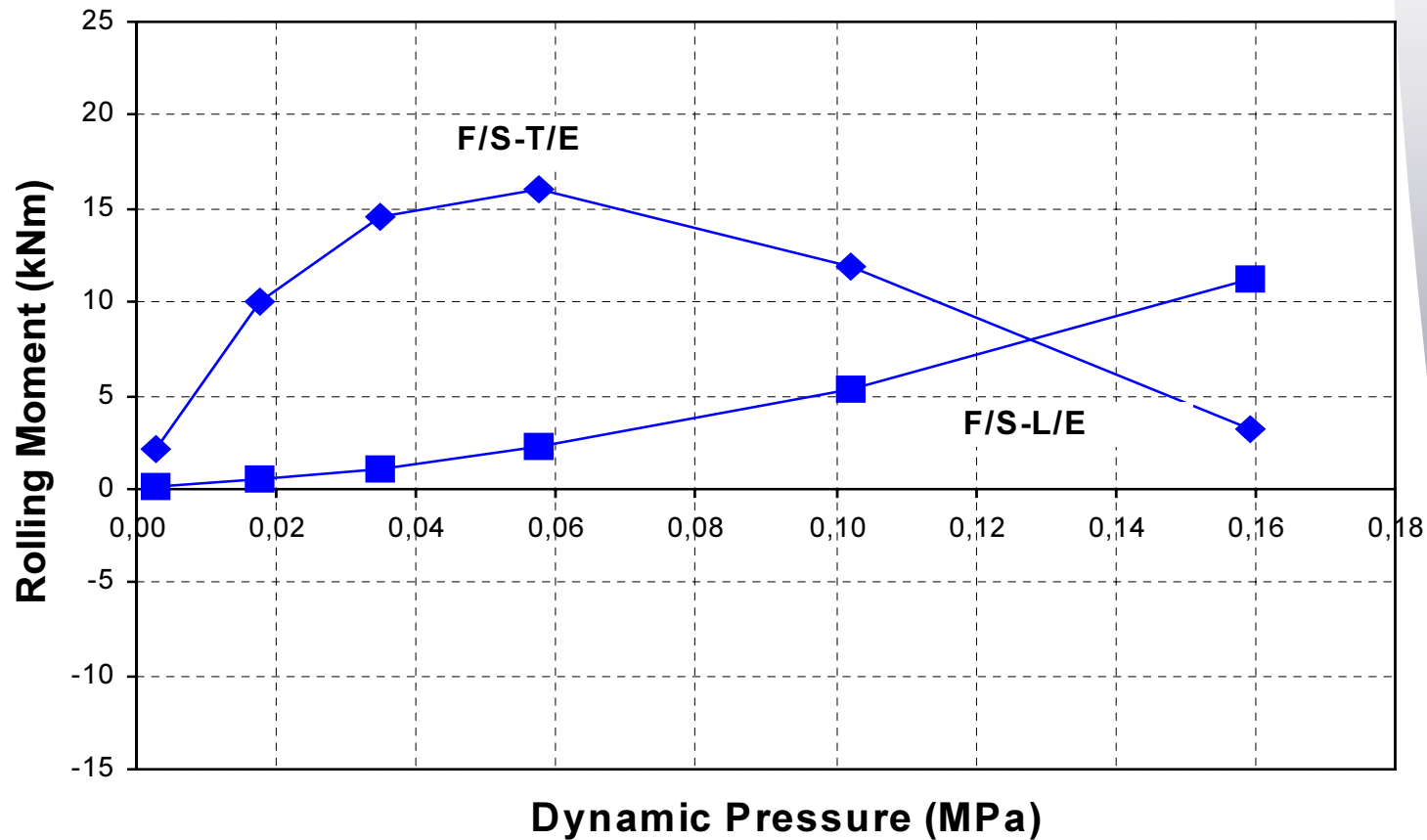
# Total Rolling Moment for 1° Deflections (Original Design)



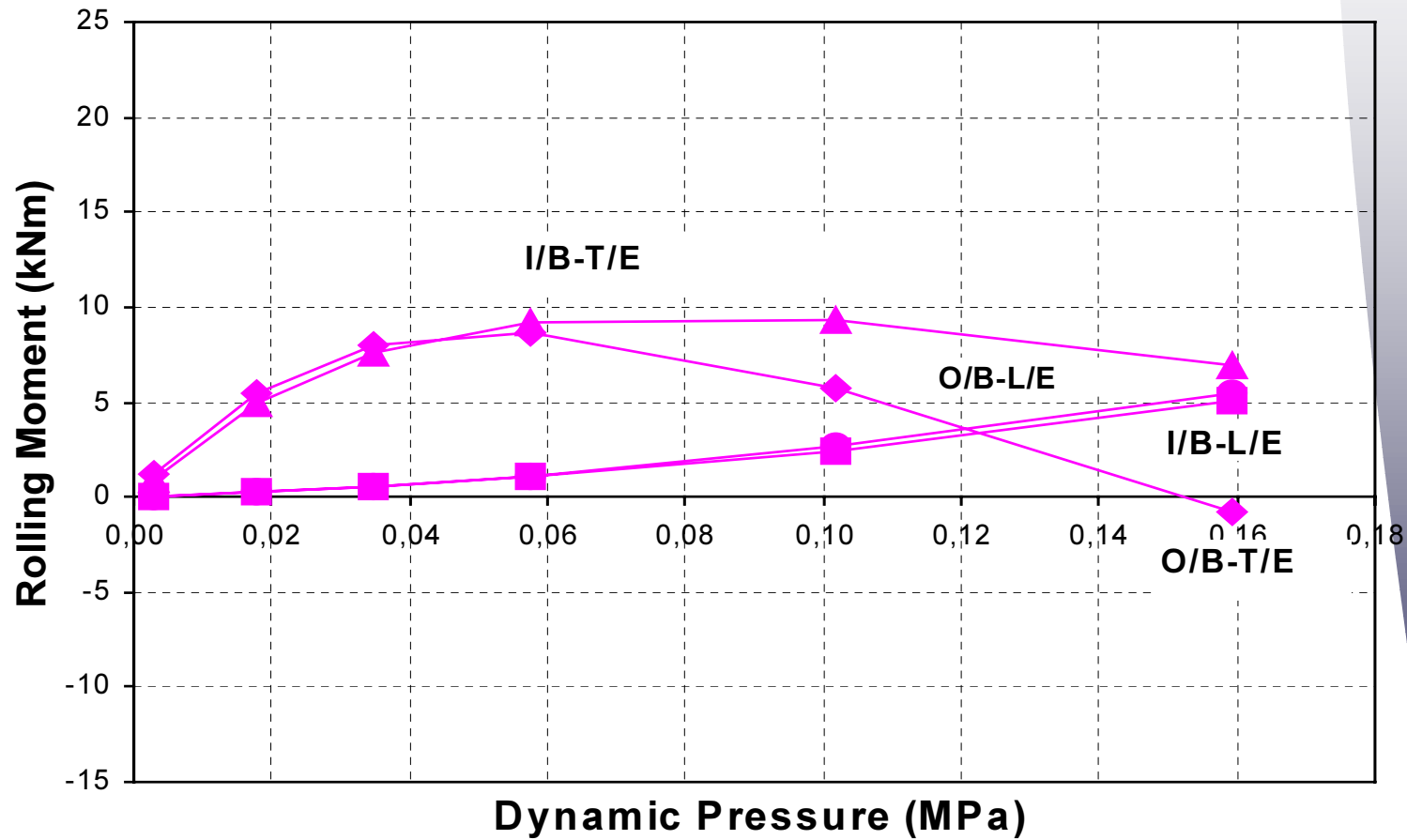
# Total Rolling Moment for 1° Deflections (Static strength only)



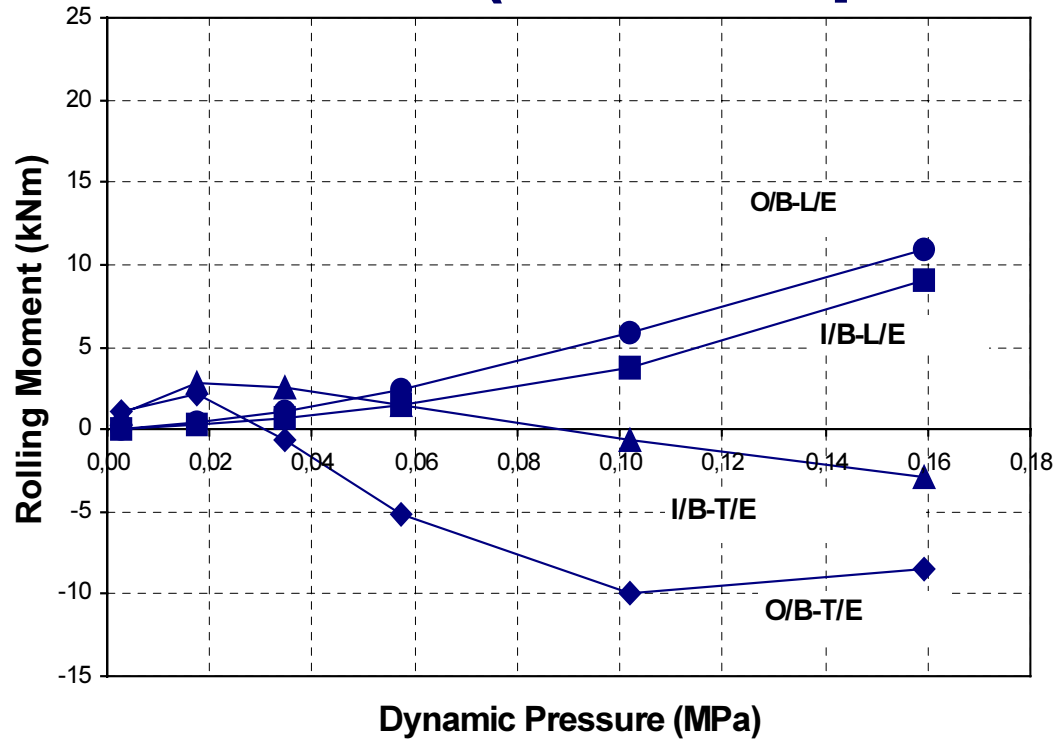
# Total Rolling Moment for 1° Deflections, (including buckling) Optimization



# Total Rolling Moment for 1° Deflections (Original Design)

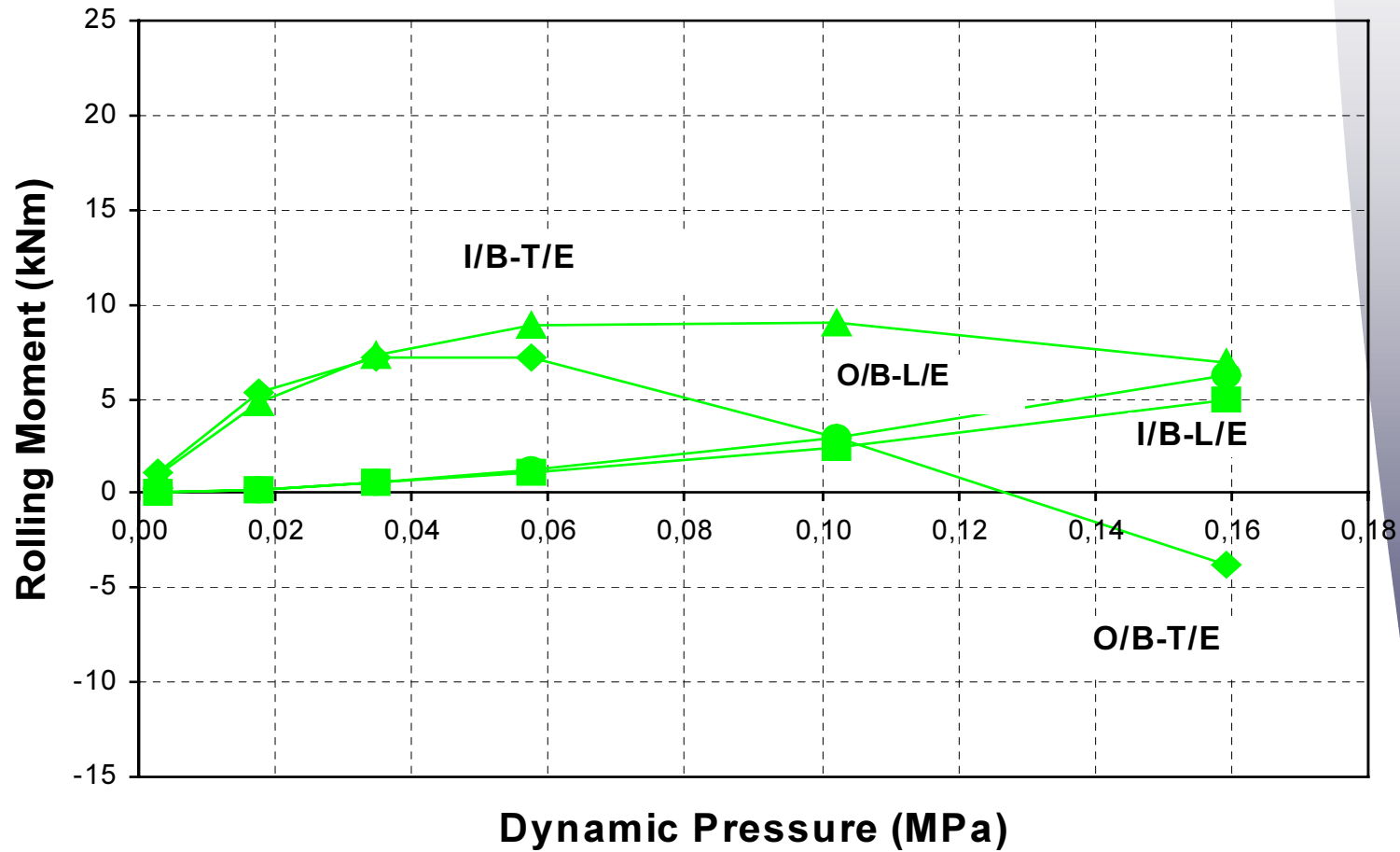


# Total Rolling Moment for 1° Deflections (Static Optimization)

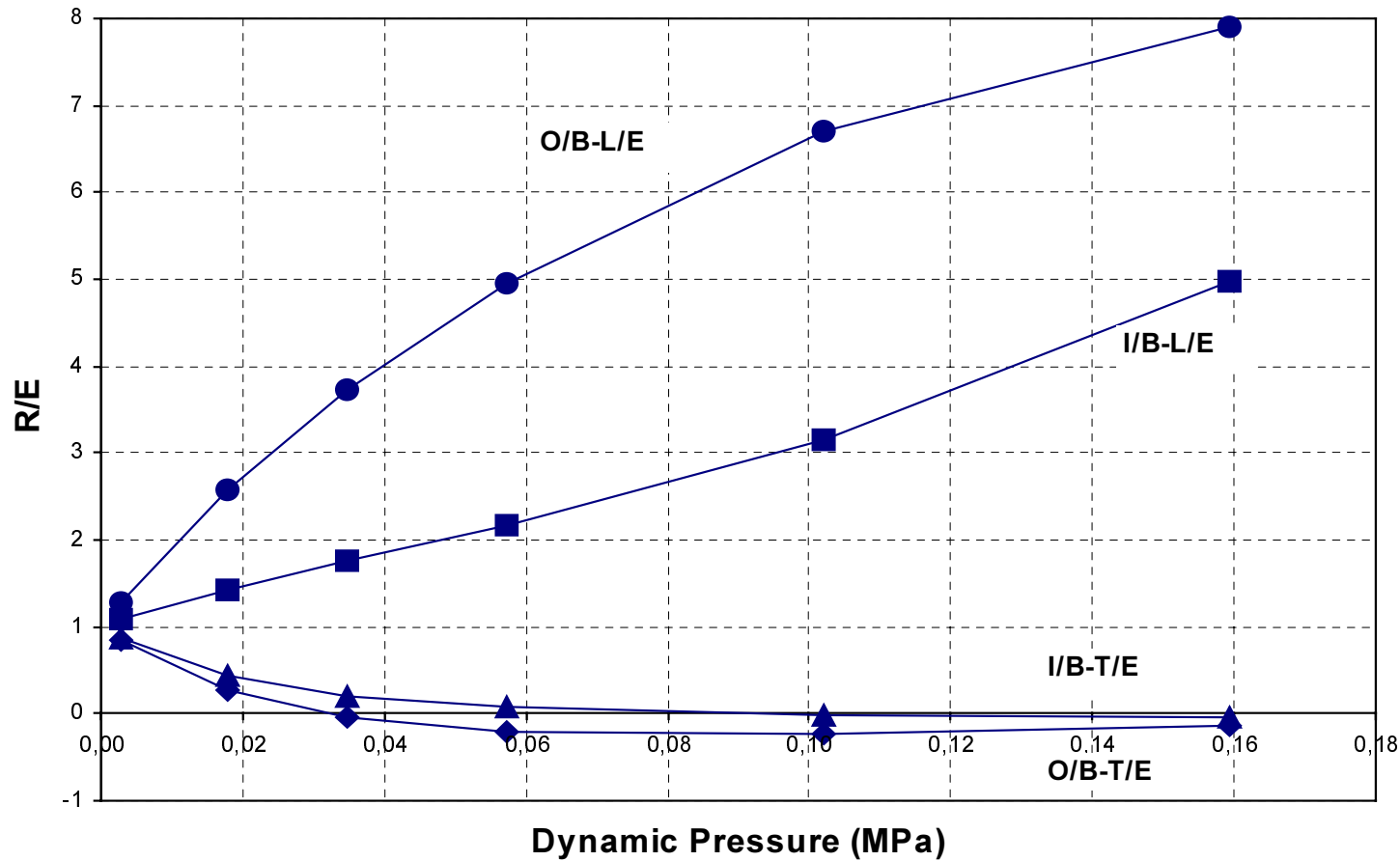


	Hinge Moments (kNm)	Deflection Angle (Degrees)
I/B-L/E	2.89	8.69
O/B-L/E	1.58	
I/B-T/E	-22.79	
O/B-T/E	11.61	

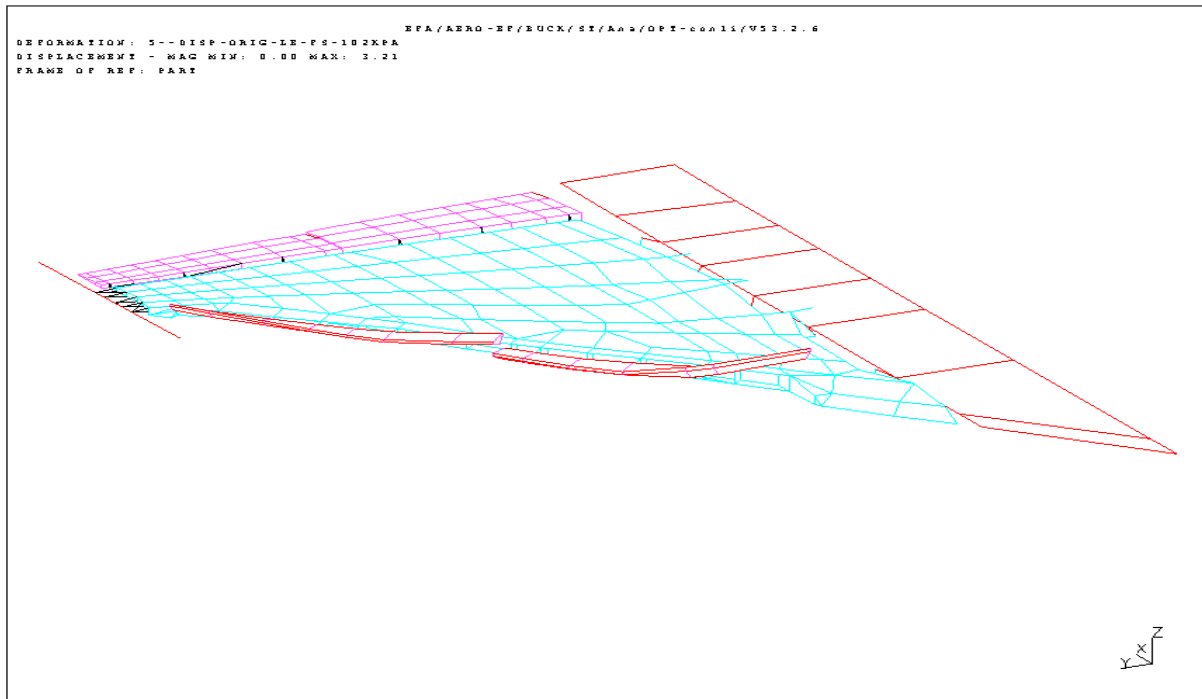
# Total Rolling Moment for 1° Deflections (buckling included)



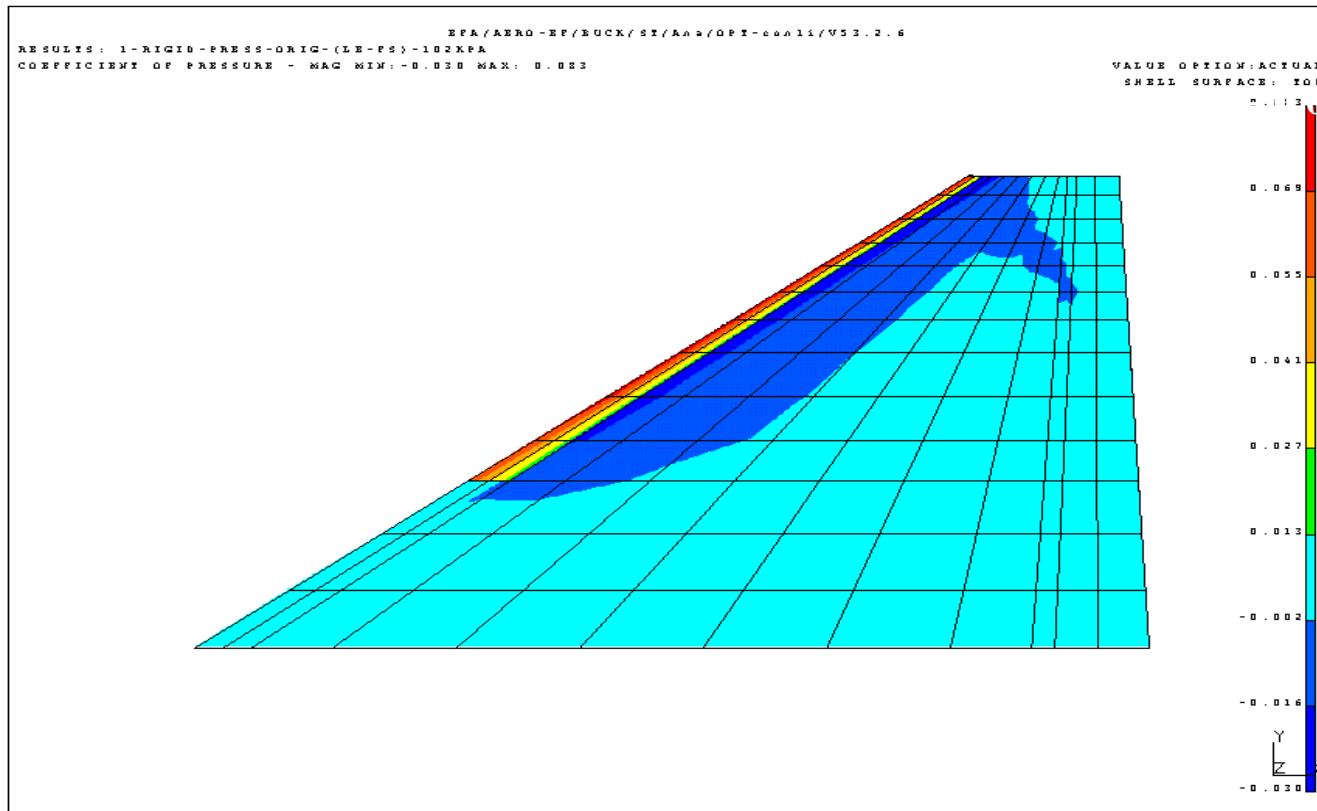
# Rolling Moment Effectiveness vs. Dynamic Pressure for 1° Deflections (Statically Optimized)



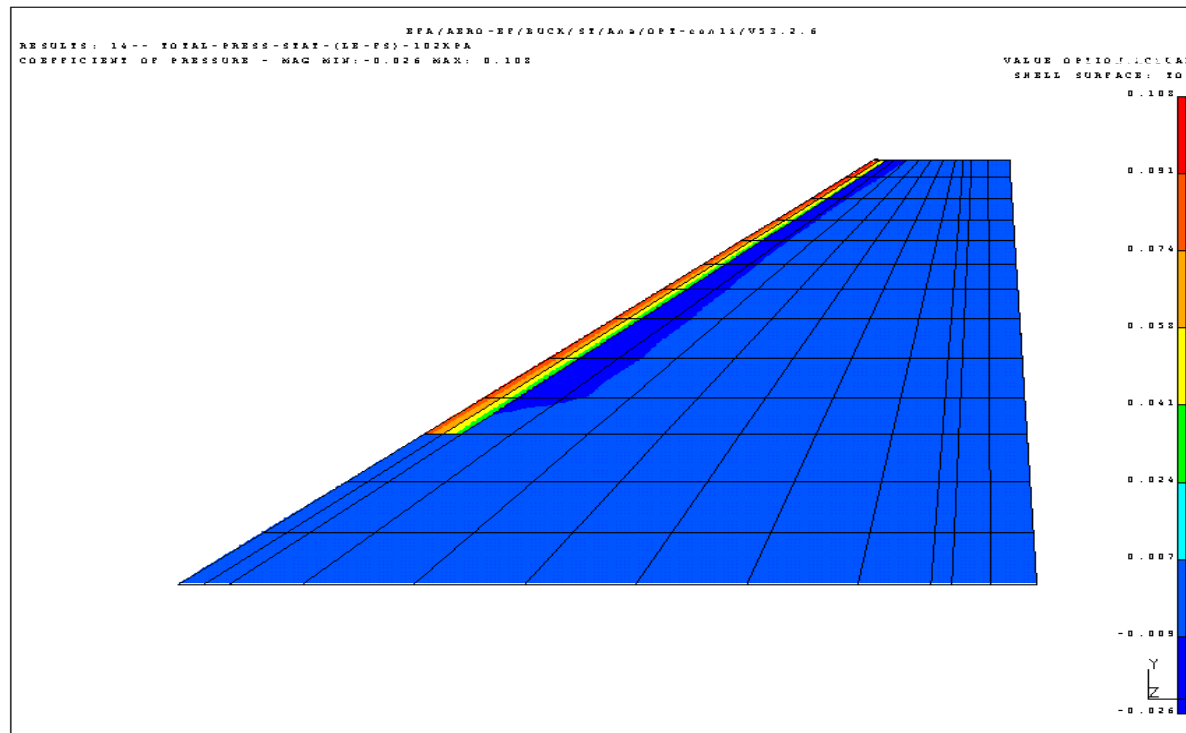
# Leading Edge Control Surface Deflections for Original Design (L/E-F/S at (1° defl, M1.2, 102kPa))



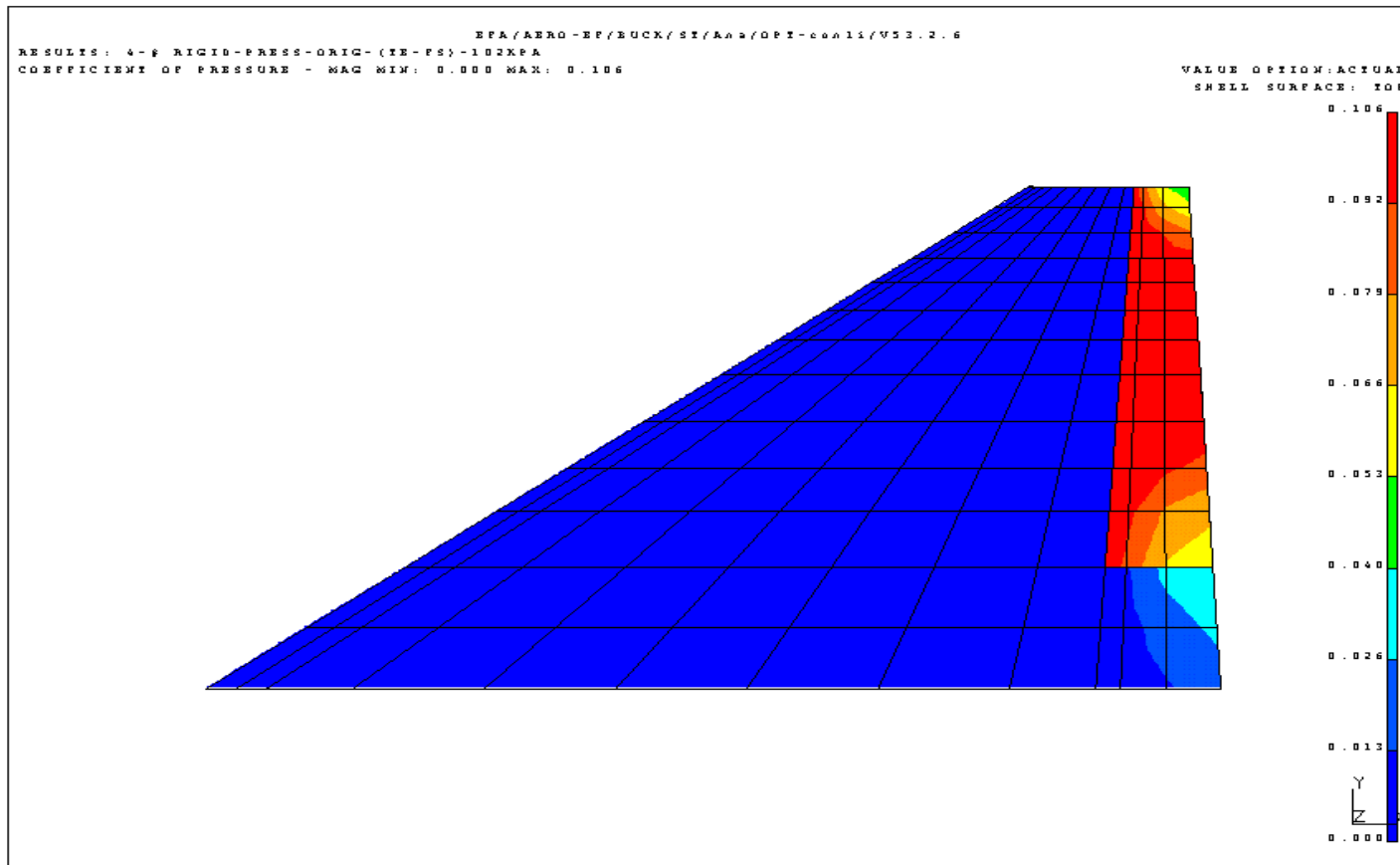
# Rigid Pressure Distribution for L/E-F/S (1° defl, M1.2, 102kPa)



# Total (flexible) pressure distribution for L/E-F/S, statically optimized (1° defl, M1.2, 102kPa)



# Rigid Pressure Distribution for T/E-F/S (1° defl, M1.2, 102kPa)



# Total Pressure Distribution for T/E-F/S, statically optimized (1° defl, M1.2, 102kPa)

