

# Aeroelastic Design of a Highly-Flexible Wing using a Simplified Composite Optimization Approach within cpacs-MONA

**DLRK 2022** – 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> September – Dresden

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Knowledge for Tomorrow



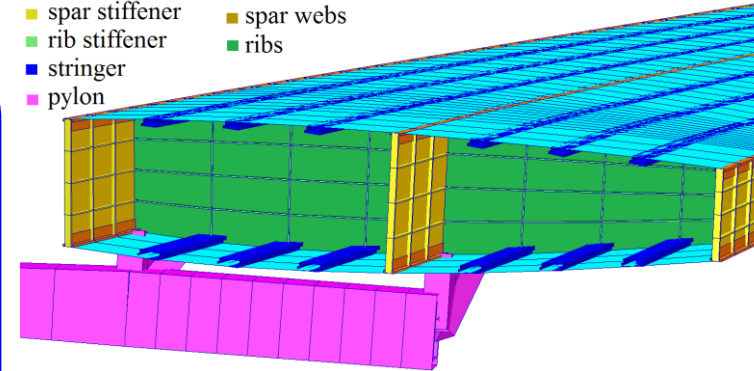
# The different Wing Models

**Model A**  
 SHELL-Elements: Aluminum  
 „aluminum“

## What is the impact on:

- Stiffness?
- Structural mass?
- Eigenfrequencies?
- Aeroelastic stability?
  - Loads?

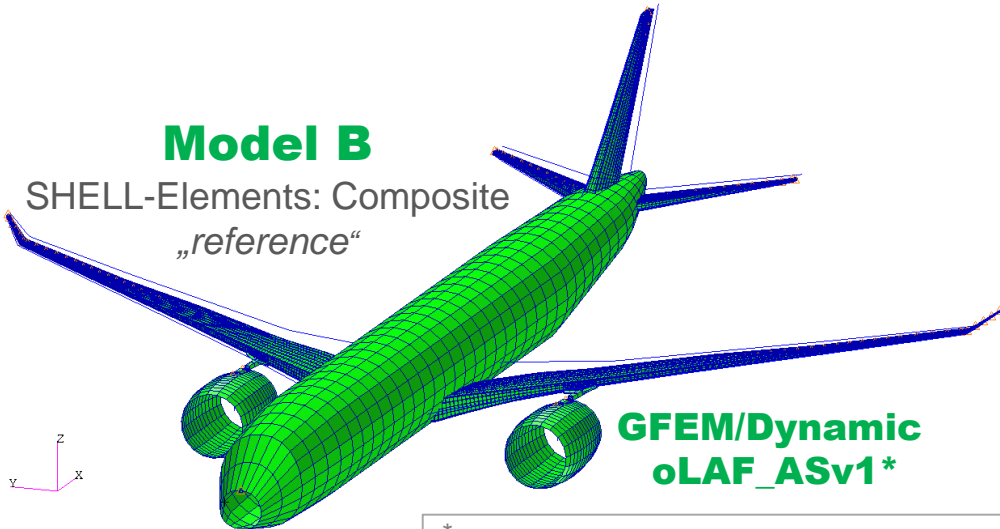
<u>BAR-Elements</u>	<u>SHELL-Elements</u>
■ spar caps	■ skin
■ spar stiffener	■ spar webs
■ rib stiffener	■ ribs
■ stringer	
■ pylon	



## Model B

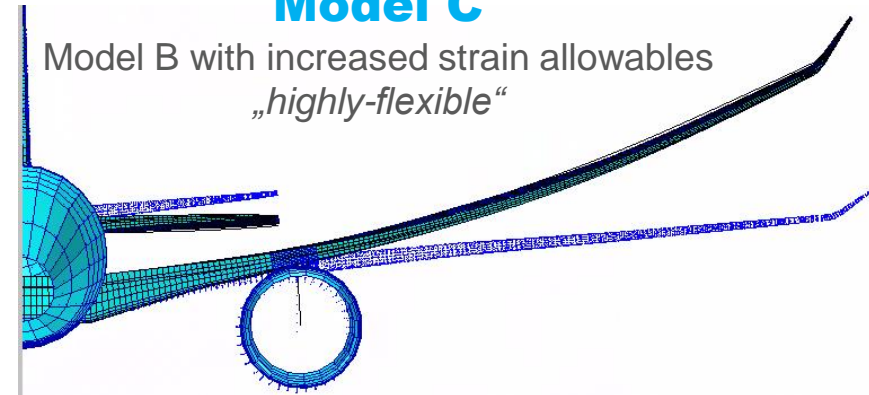
SHELL-Elements: Composite  
 „reference“

GFEM/Dynamic  
 oLAF\_ASv1\*



## Model C

Model B with increased strain allowables  
 „highly-flexible“



\* M. Schulze, T. Klimmek, F. Torrigiani, T. F. Wunderlich: „Aeroelastic Design of the oLAF Reference Aircraft Configuration“. DLRK 2021

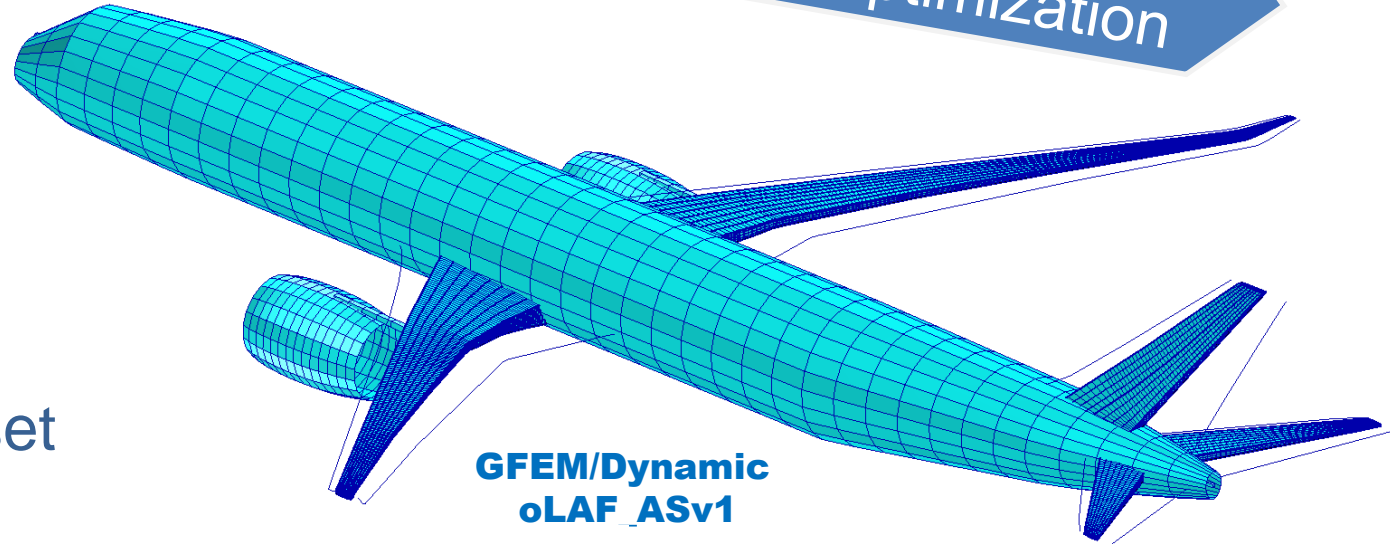
# Aeroelastic Structural Design Tool



Parametric Modelling

Loads Analysis

Structural Optimization



GFEM/Dynamic  
oLAF\_ASv1

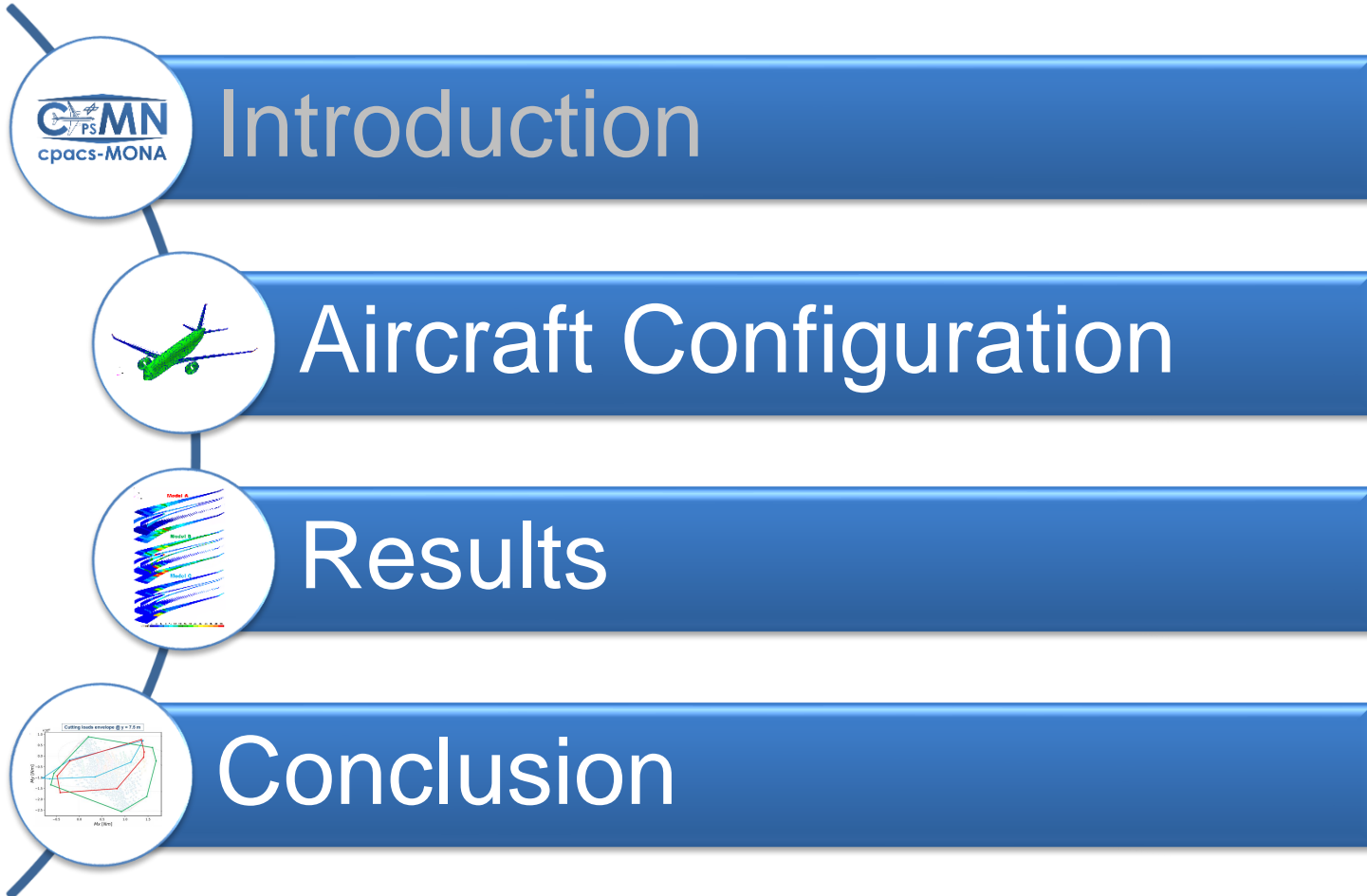


From a  
**CPACS**-dataset  
to the

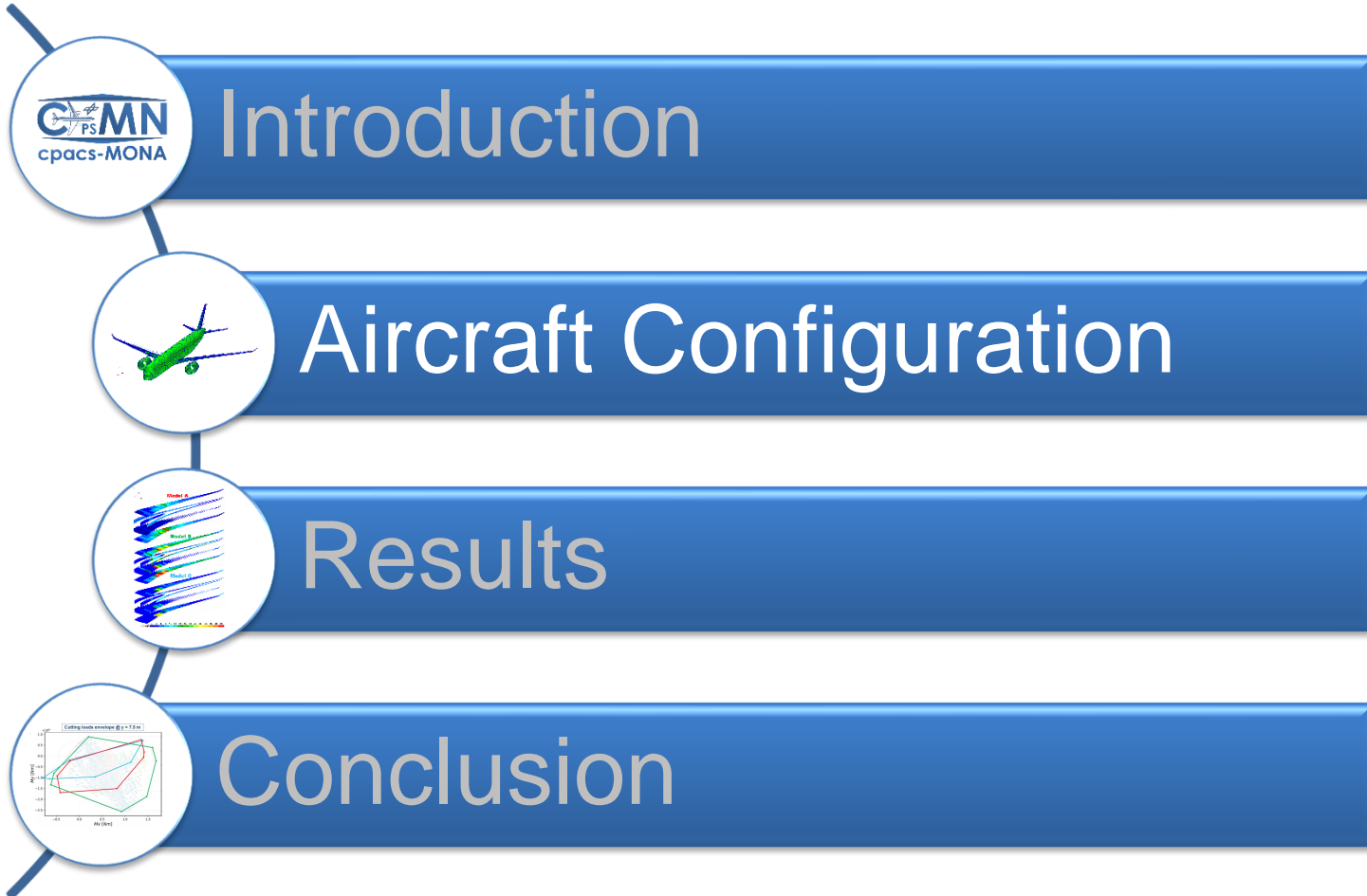
## Global Aircraft FEM (GFEM)



# Overview

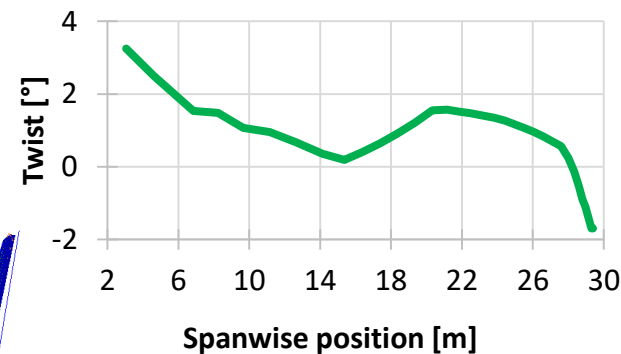
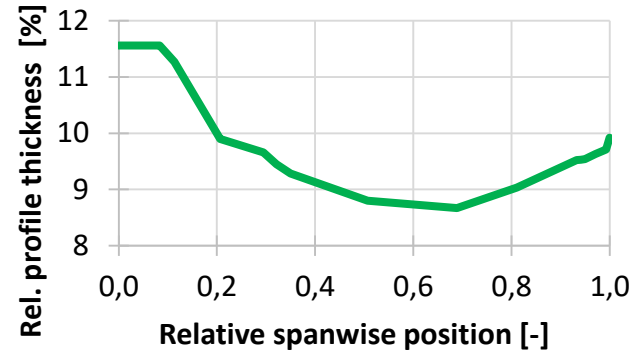


# Overview

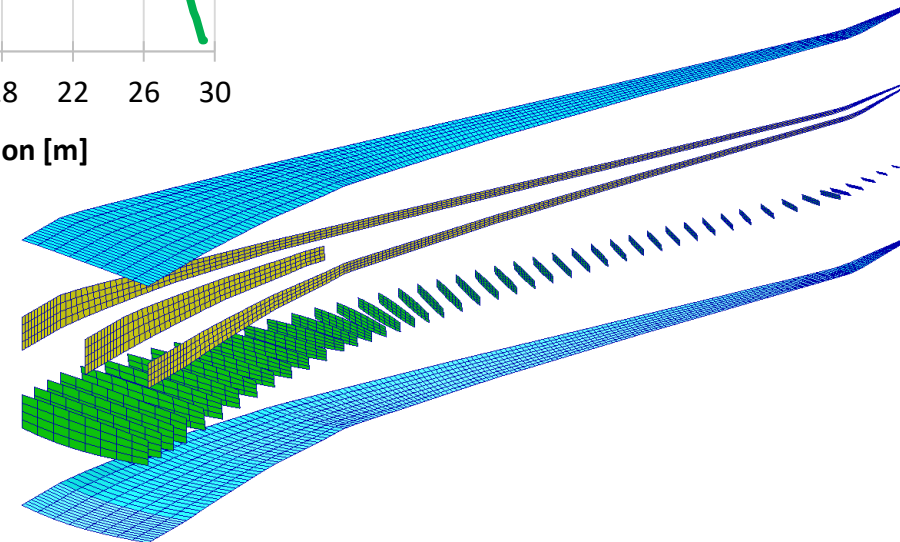
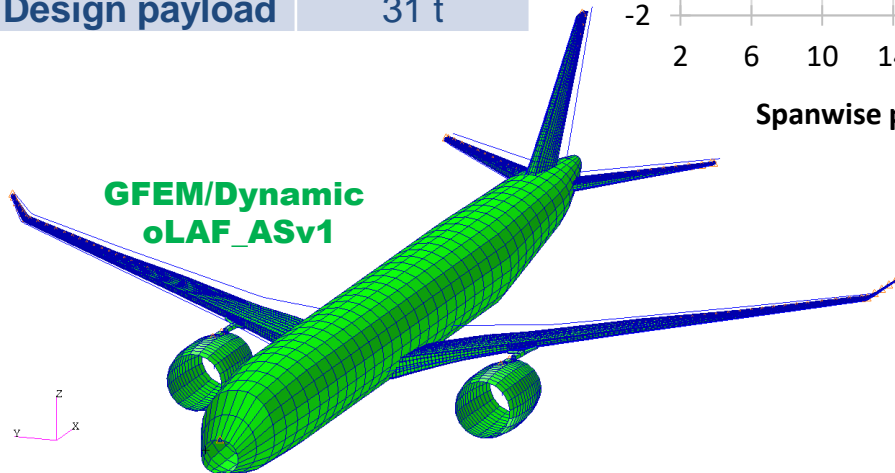


# Aircraft Configuration

A/C Parameter	oLAF_ASv1
Span	58.9 m
Wing area	338.7 m <sup>2</sup>
Aspect ratio	10.2
LE sweep	36.9 deg.
MAC	7.6 m
MTOM	220 t
OEM (OAD)	117.0 t
Design range	6000 nm
Design Mach	0.83
Design payload	31 t



Structural Parameters	oLAF_ASv1
Amount of ribs	47
Amount of spars	3
Material	Composite
Engine diameter	4.175 m
Engine mass	17.0 t



# Simplified Composite Optimization

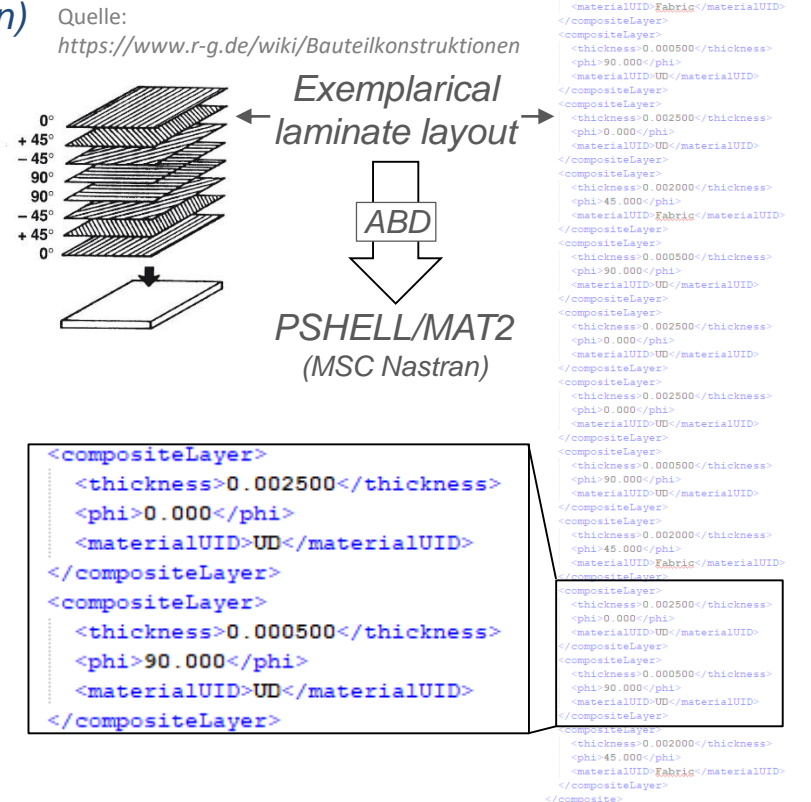
## „Black Metal Approach“

- Read out the laminate layout (*thickness, material, orientation*)
- Convert the layout into 2D-characteristics (*ABD-matrix*)
  - PSHELL/MAT2 (*linear anisotropic material*)

## Optimization Model

- Design variables: Thickness of the CQUAD4-elements
  - ribs, spar web, skin covers
- Constraints: Strain allowables
- Objective: Minimum weight of wing-box

Allowables	Model B	Model C
Max. strain	4.0e <sup>-3</sup>	6.0e <sup>-3</sup>
Min. strain	-3.5e <sup>-3</sup>	-5.0e <sup>-3</sup>
Shear strain	8.0e <sup>-3</sup>	12.0e <sup>-3</sup>



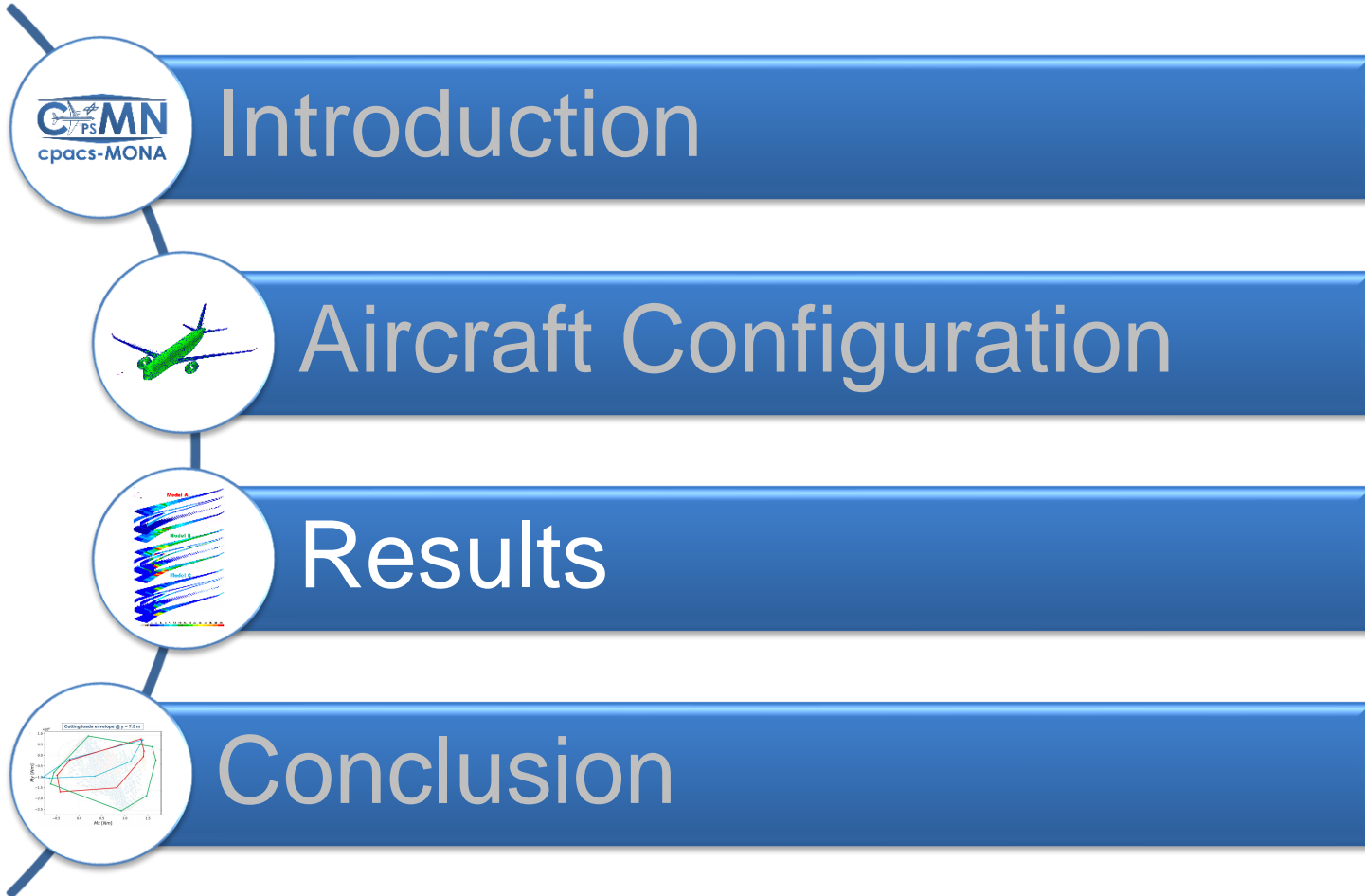
## Simplified:

- No lamination parameter optimization
- No aeroelastic tailoring

Modelling differences	Aluminum	Composite
Min. element thickness	2 mm	4 mm
Mass penalty factors	1.15	1.25



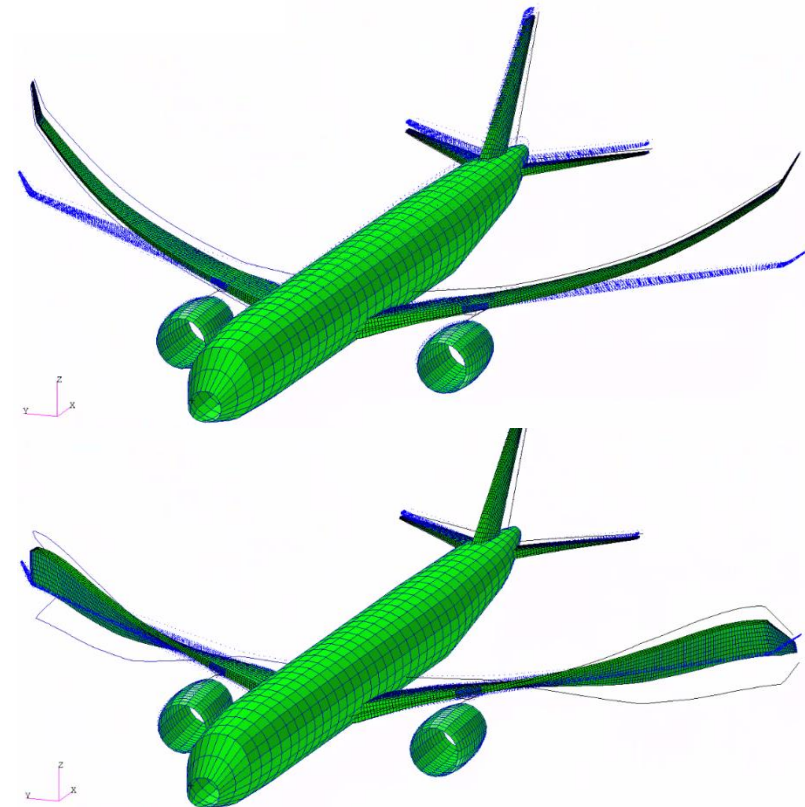
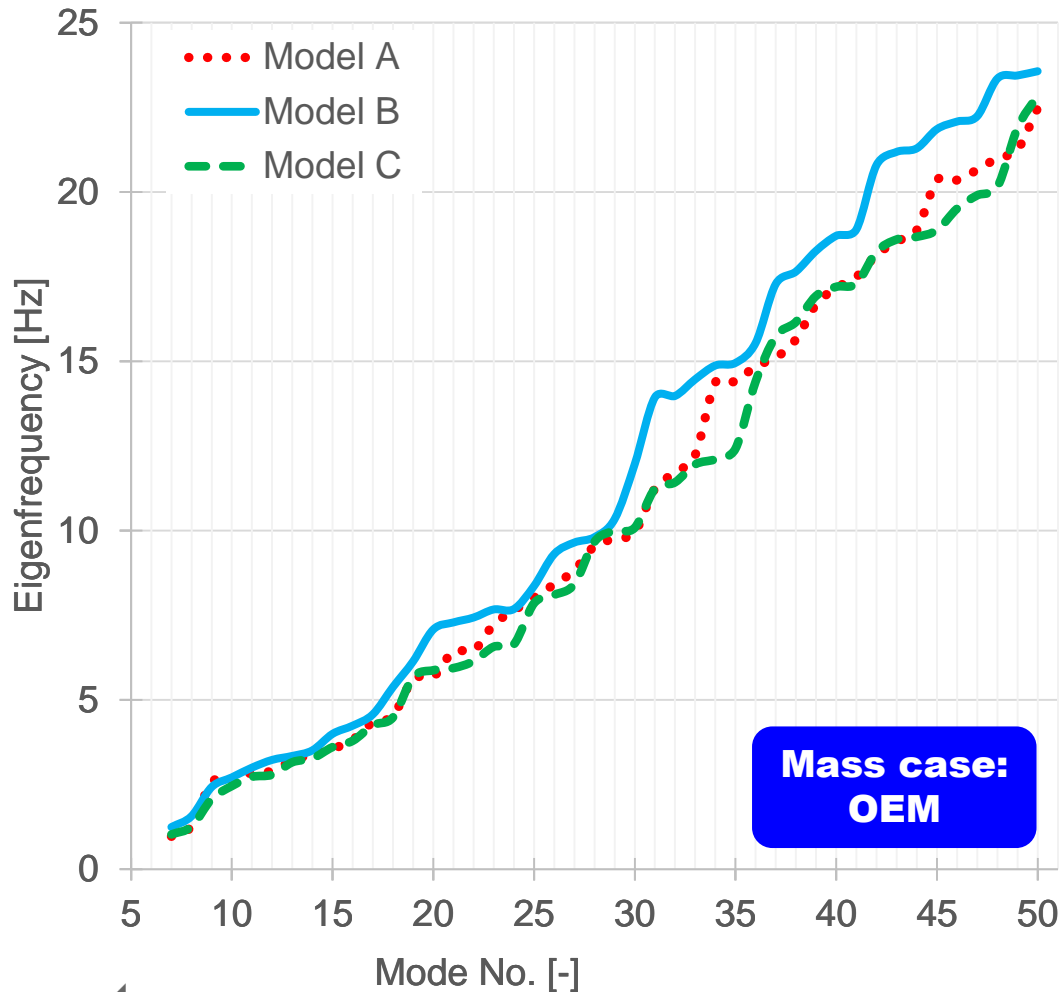
# Overview



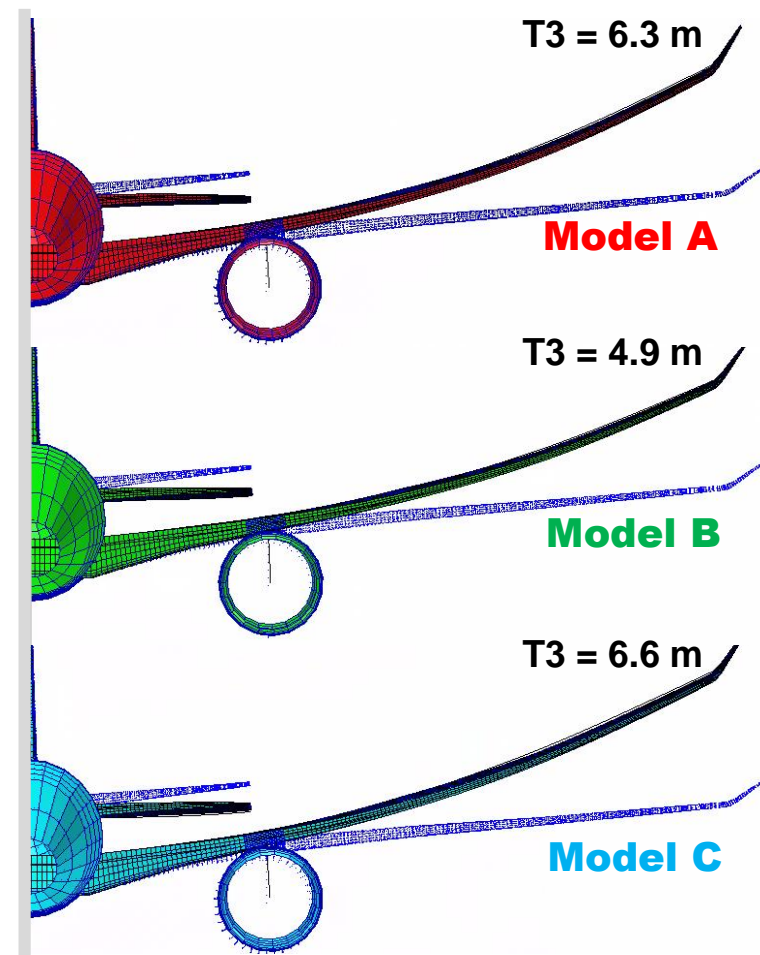
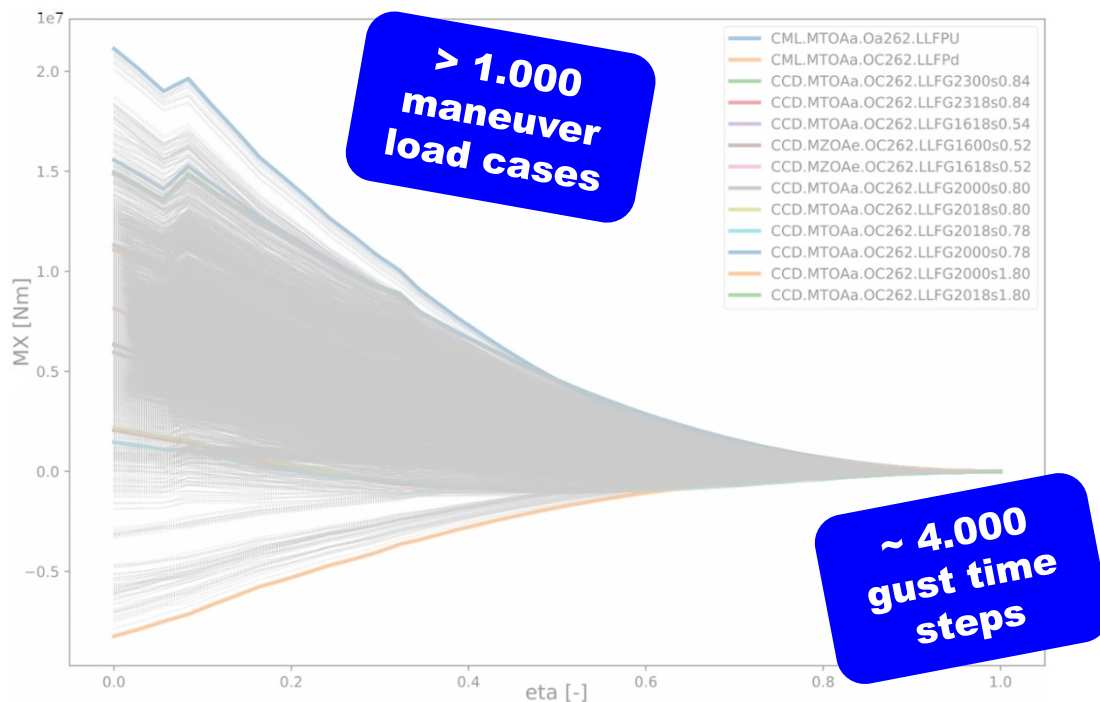


# Modal Analysis

Eigenmode	Model A	Model B	Model C
1 <sup>st</sup> sym. wing bending	-22%	<b>1.25 Hz</b>	-17%
1 <sup>st</sup> sym. wing torsion	+10%	<b>7.68 Hz</b>	-24%



# Displacements / Stiffness

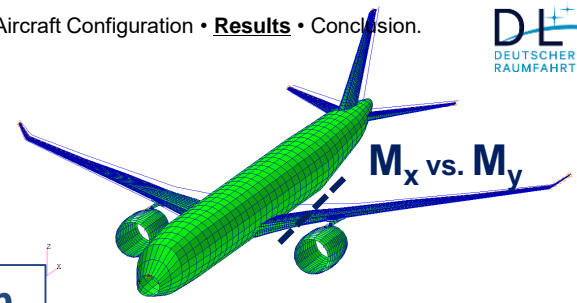


## 2.5g pull-up maneuver:

- MassCase: MTOW (100% payload)
- $X_{CG}$ : 15 %MAC
- Mach number: 0.51
- Altitude: 8000 m

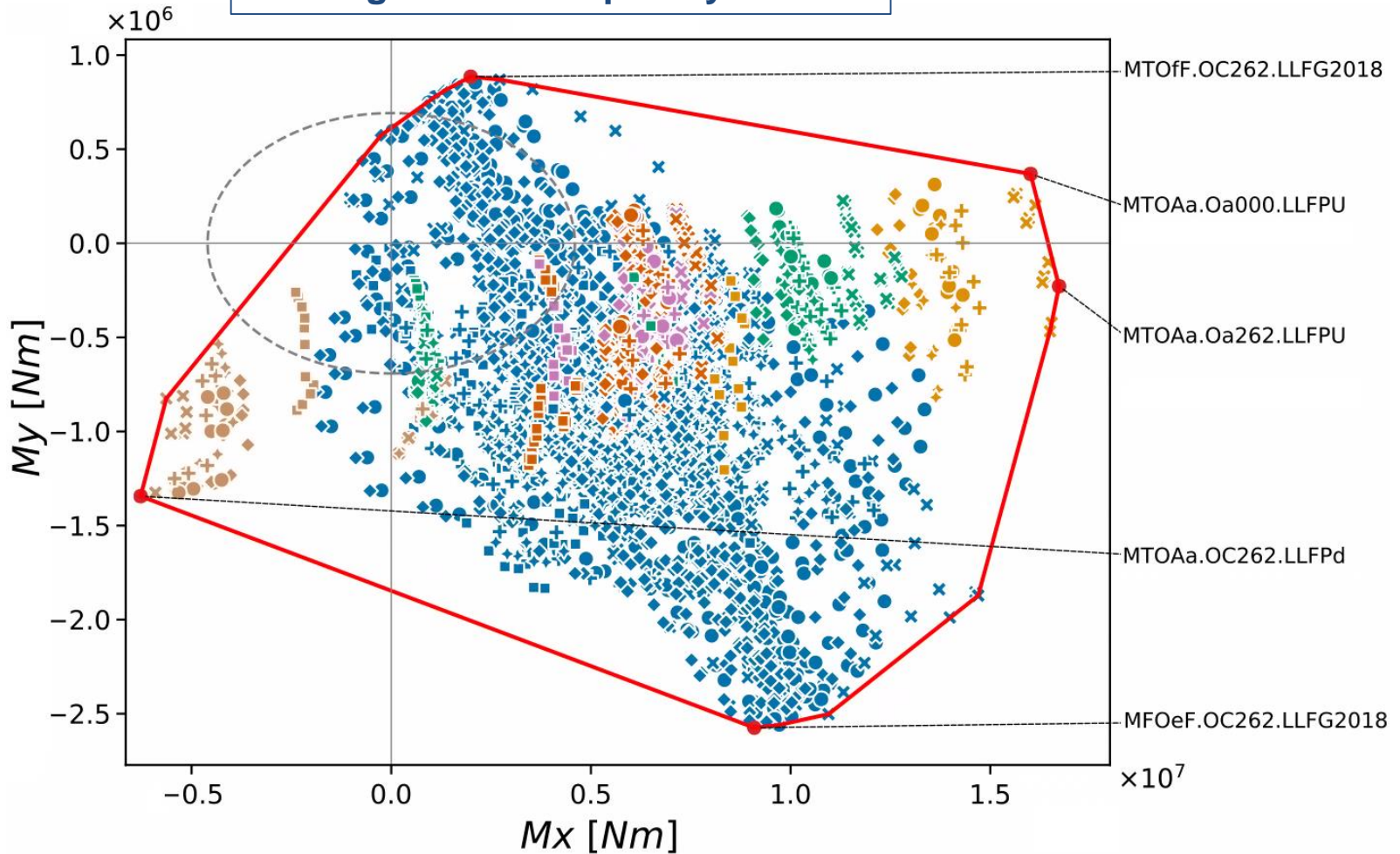


# Cutting Load Envelope – *reference*

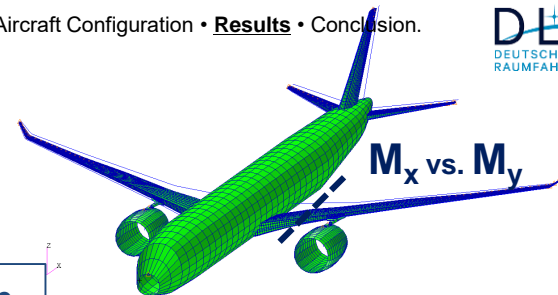


Cutting load envelope @  $y = 7.5 \text{ m}$

**Model B**

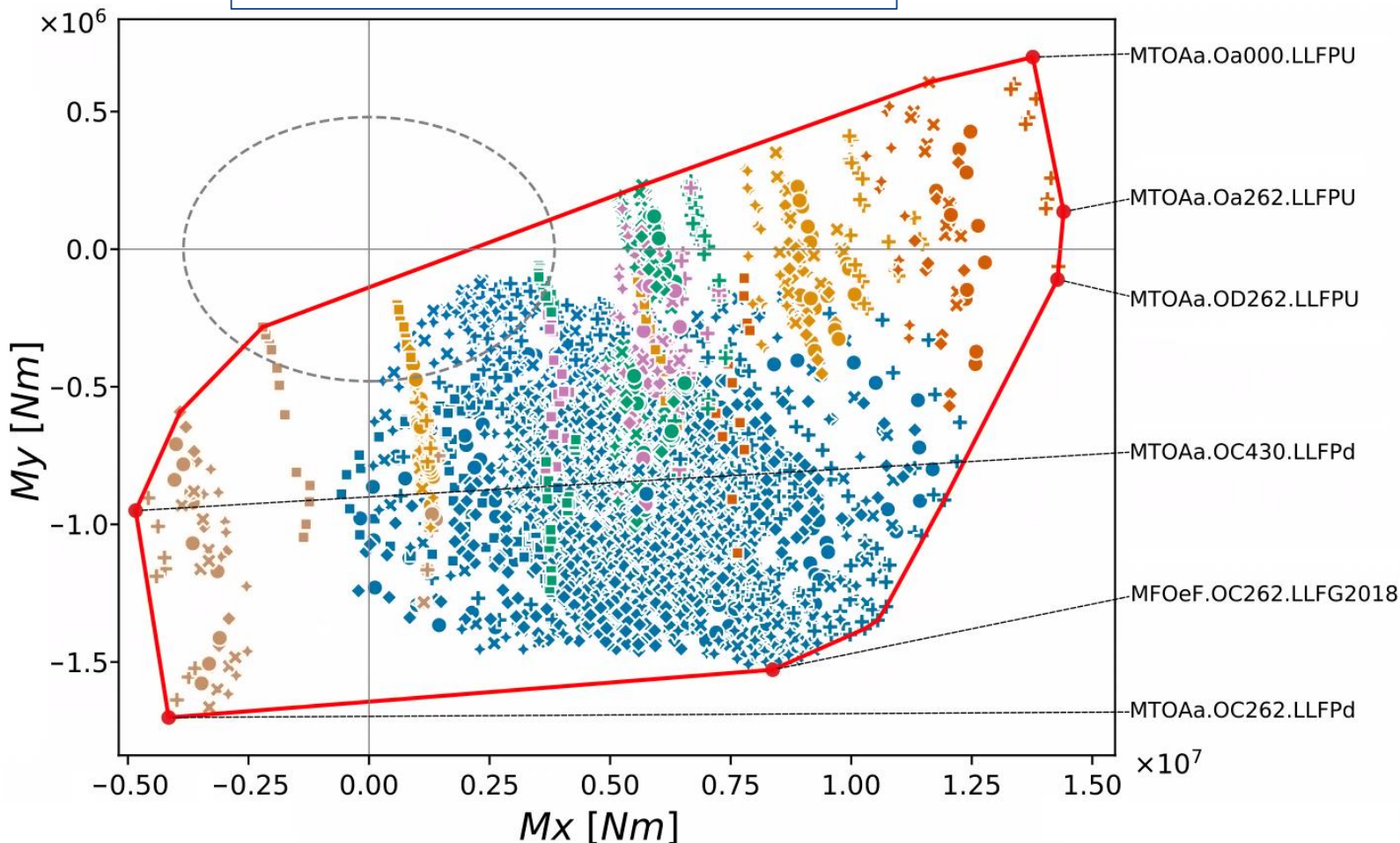


# Cutting Load Envelope – *aluminum*

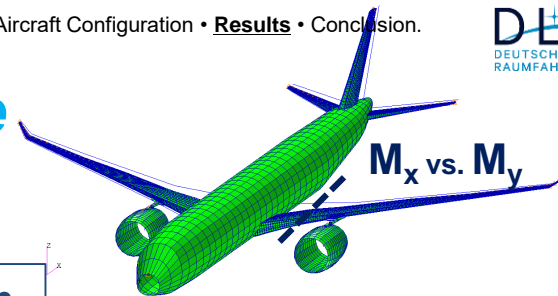


Cutting load envelope @  $y = 7.5 \text{ m}$

**Model A**

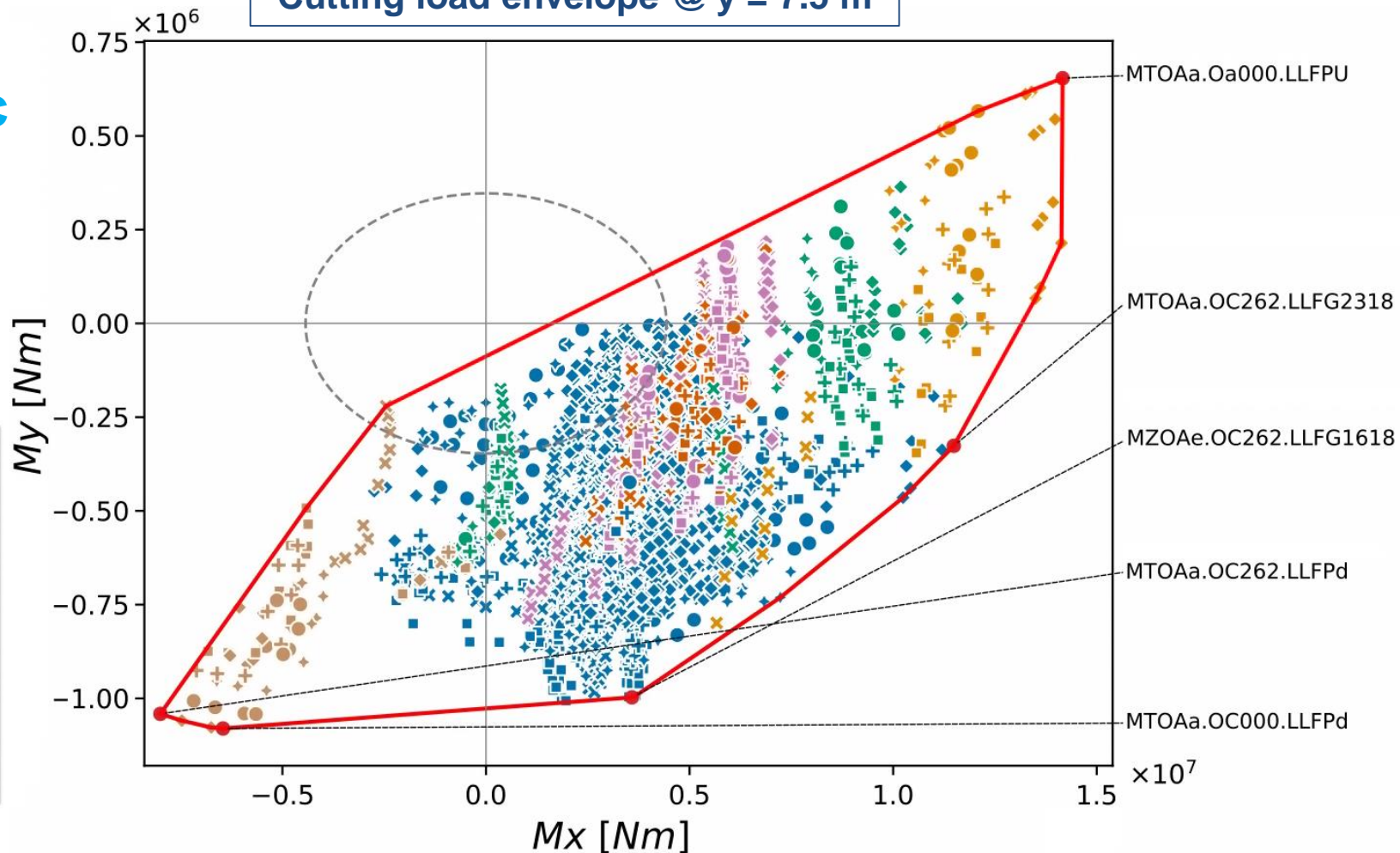


# Cutting Load Envelope – *highly-flexible*

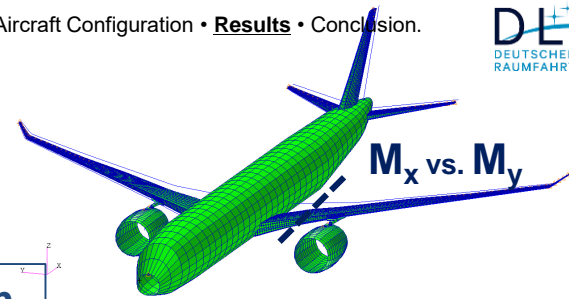


Cutting load envelope @ y = 7.5 m

Model C



# Cutting Load Envelope – Comparison

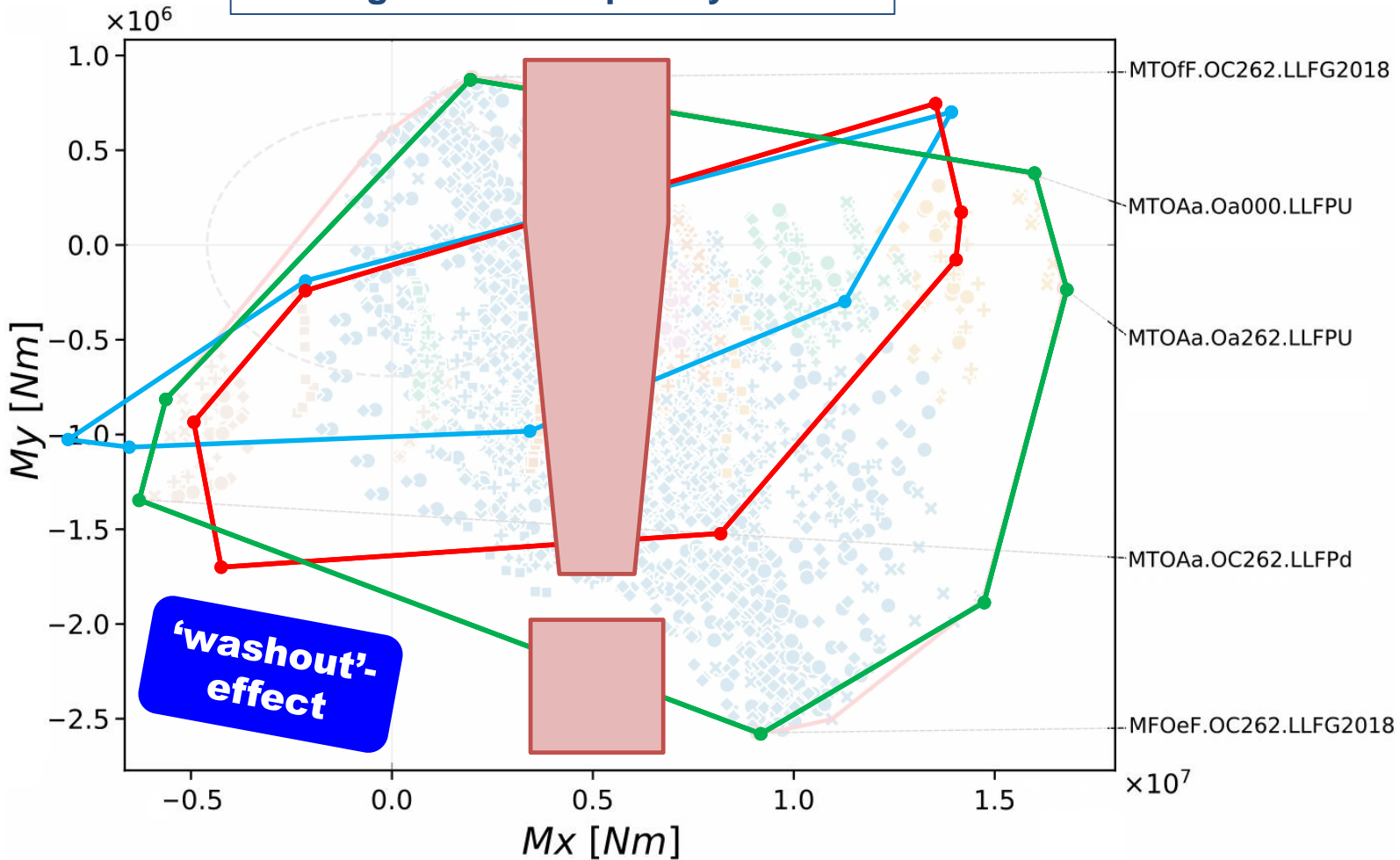


**Model A**

**Model B**

**Model C**

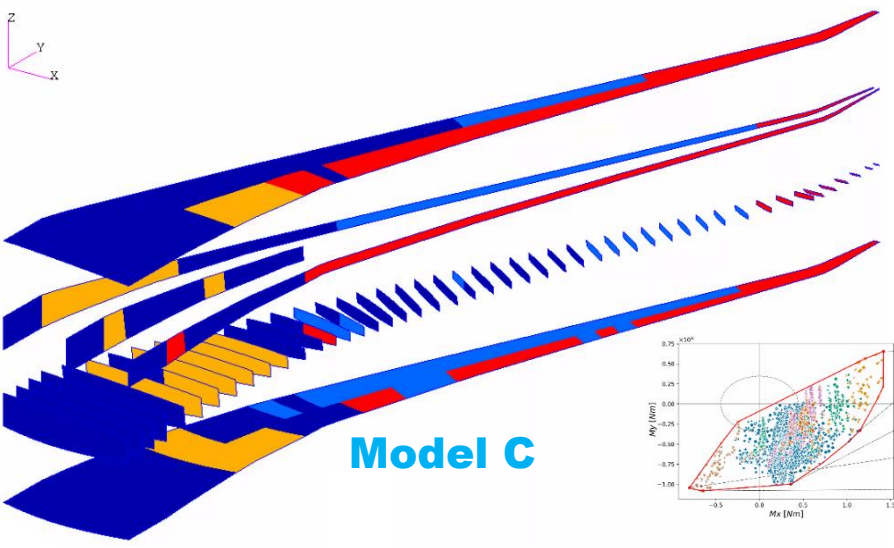
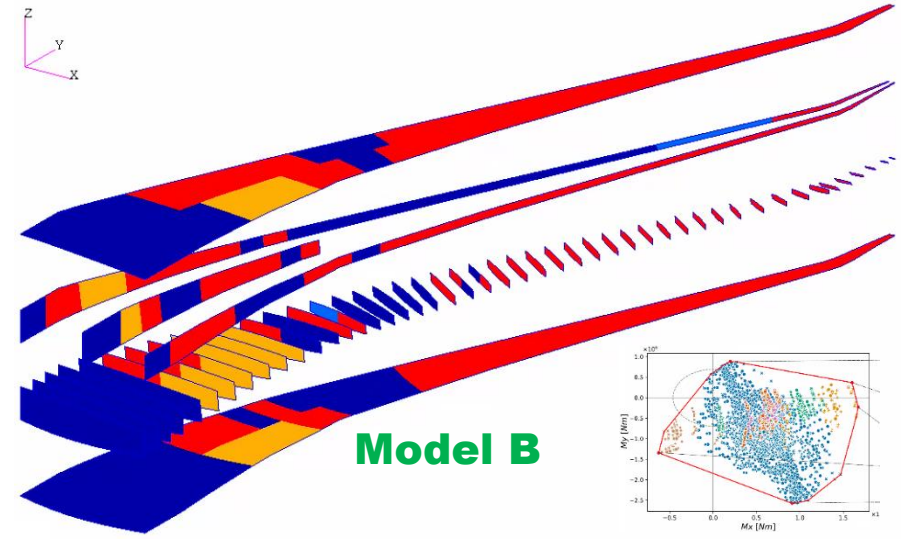
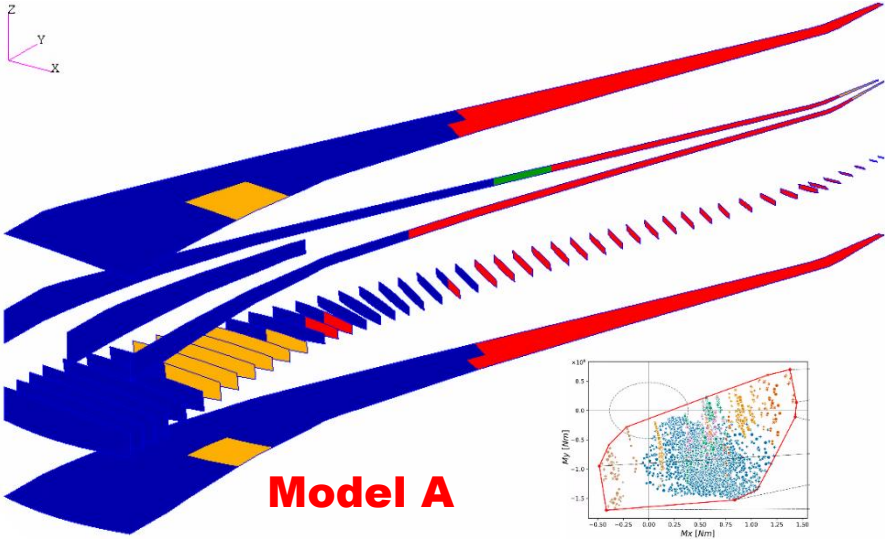
Cutting load envelope @ y = 7.5 m



- Gust
- PullUp
- Roll
- Yaw
- 1g
- PushDown
- MTOFF
- ✱ MTOAa
- MOOee
- ✱ MCRUI
- ◆ MFOeF
- ✱ MZO Ae



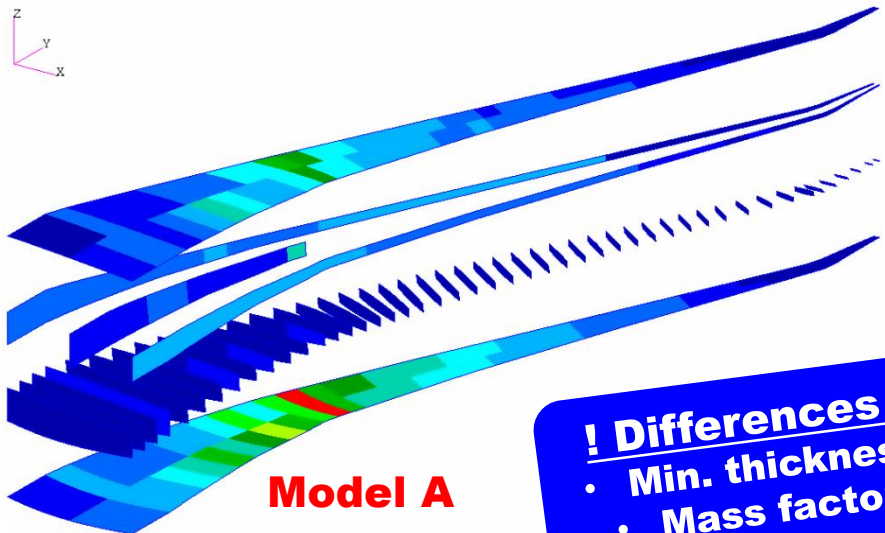
# Dimensioning Load Cases



- Pull-Up**
- Push-Down**
- Roll**
- Landing**
- Gust**



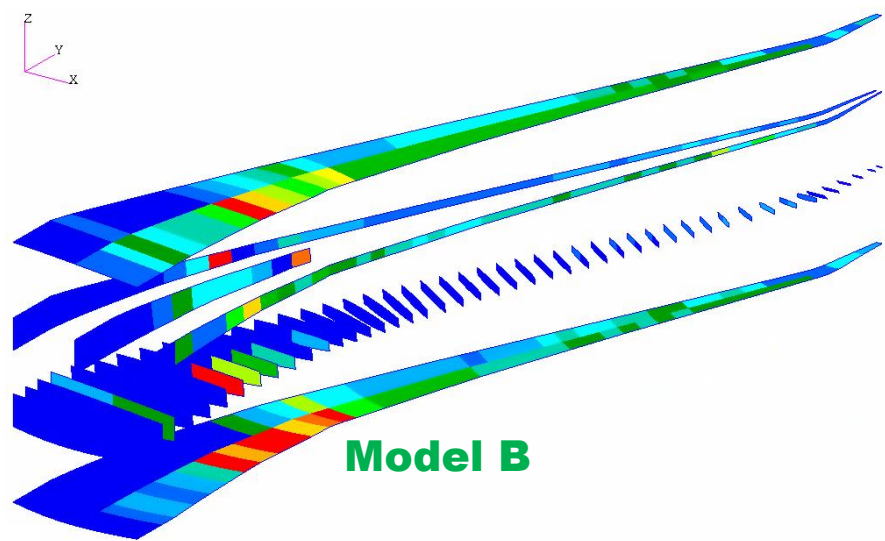
# Thickness Distribution and Masses



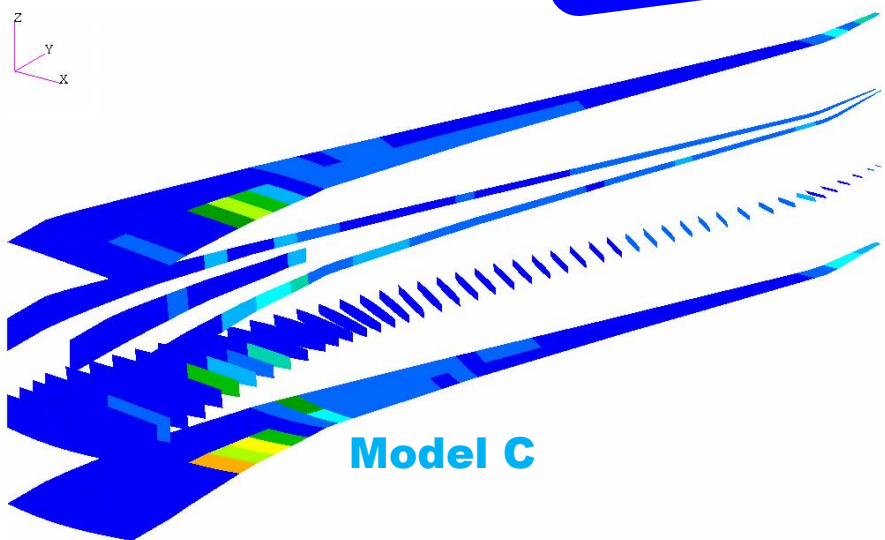
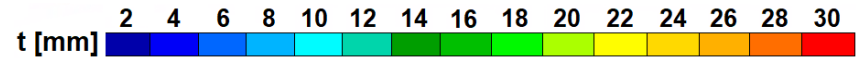
**Model A**

**! Differences !**

- Min. thickness
- Mass factor



**Model B**



**Model C**

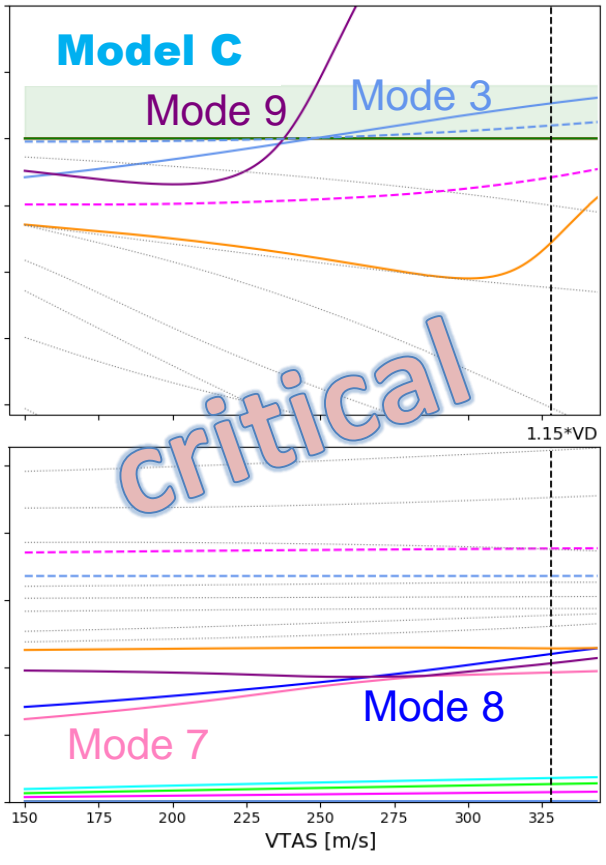
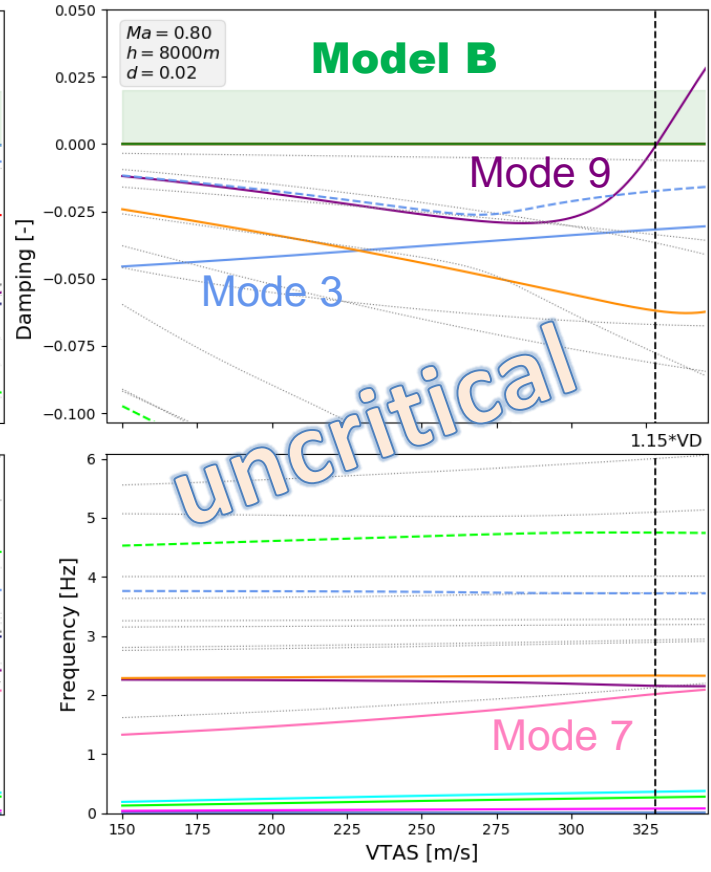
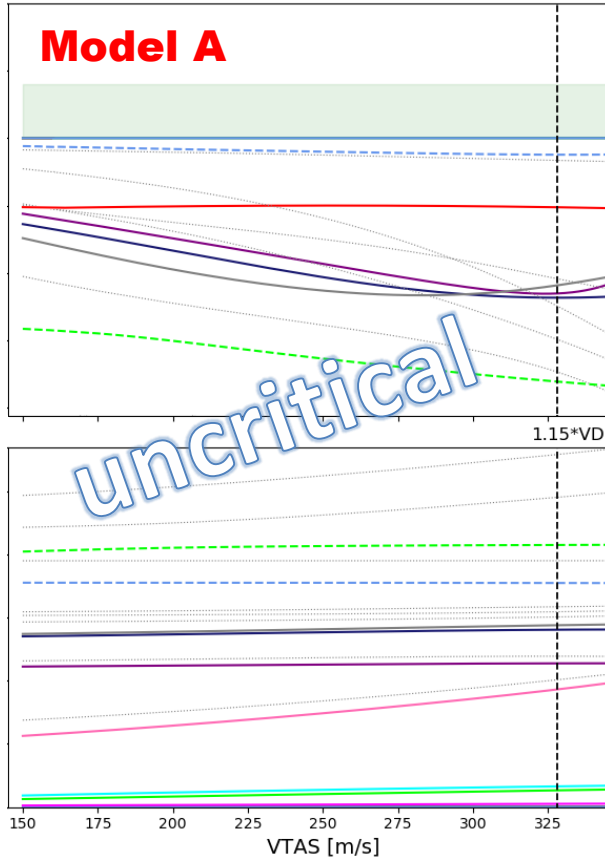
Mass Item	Model A	Model B	Model C
OEM	-1 %	119.2 t	-4 %
Main wing primary	-2 %	20.0 t	-22 %





# Flutter Check – Stability Curves

**Mass case: MCRUI**  
 Payload: 100%, Fuel: 25%

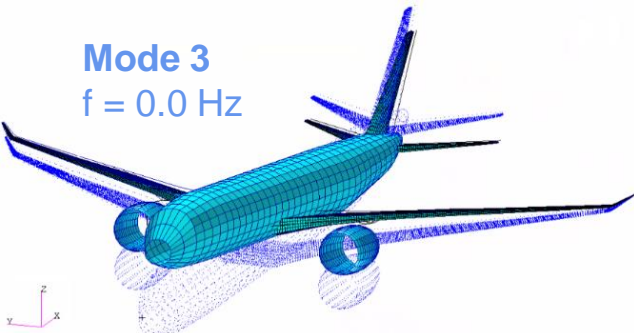


# Flutter Modes – *highly-flexible*

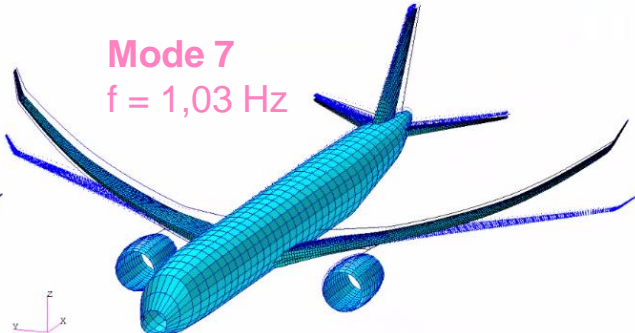
**Mass case: MCRUI**  
 Payload: 100%, Fuel: 25%

„vacuum modes“

**Mode 3**  
 $f = 0.0 \text{ Hz}$



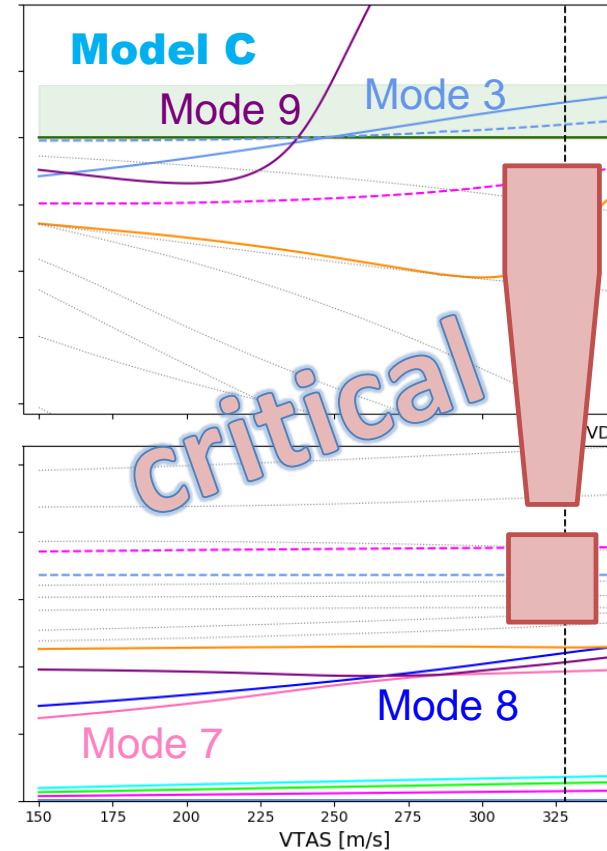
**Mode 7**  
 $f = 1,03 \text{ Hz}$



**Mode 8**  
 $f = 1,27 \text{ Hz}$



**Mode 9**  
 $f = 2,08 \text{ Hz}$



**Instabilities**  
 within the flight envelope ( $v_{flutter} < v_D$ )  
 influence the gust analysis



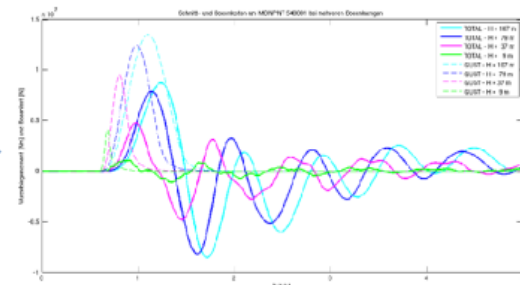
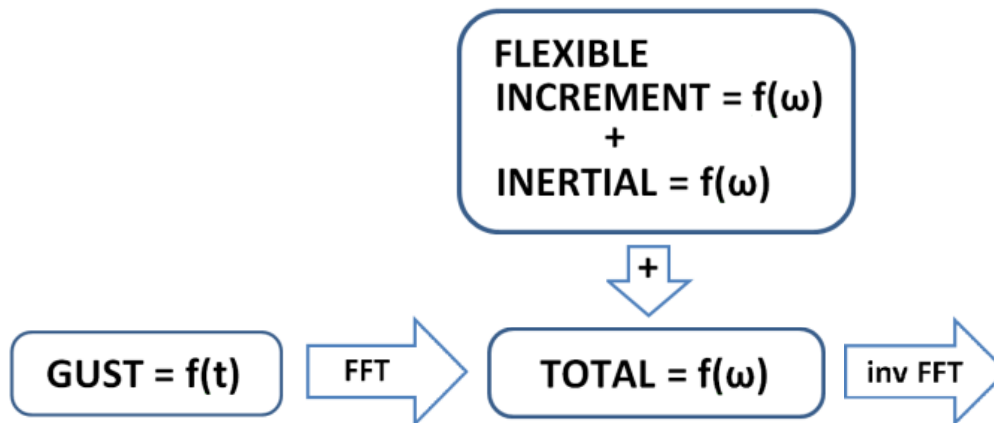
# MSC Nastran gust analysis – *false friend?*

## MSC NASTRAN Solution 146

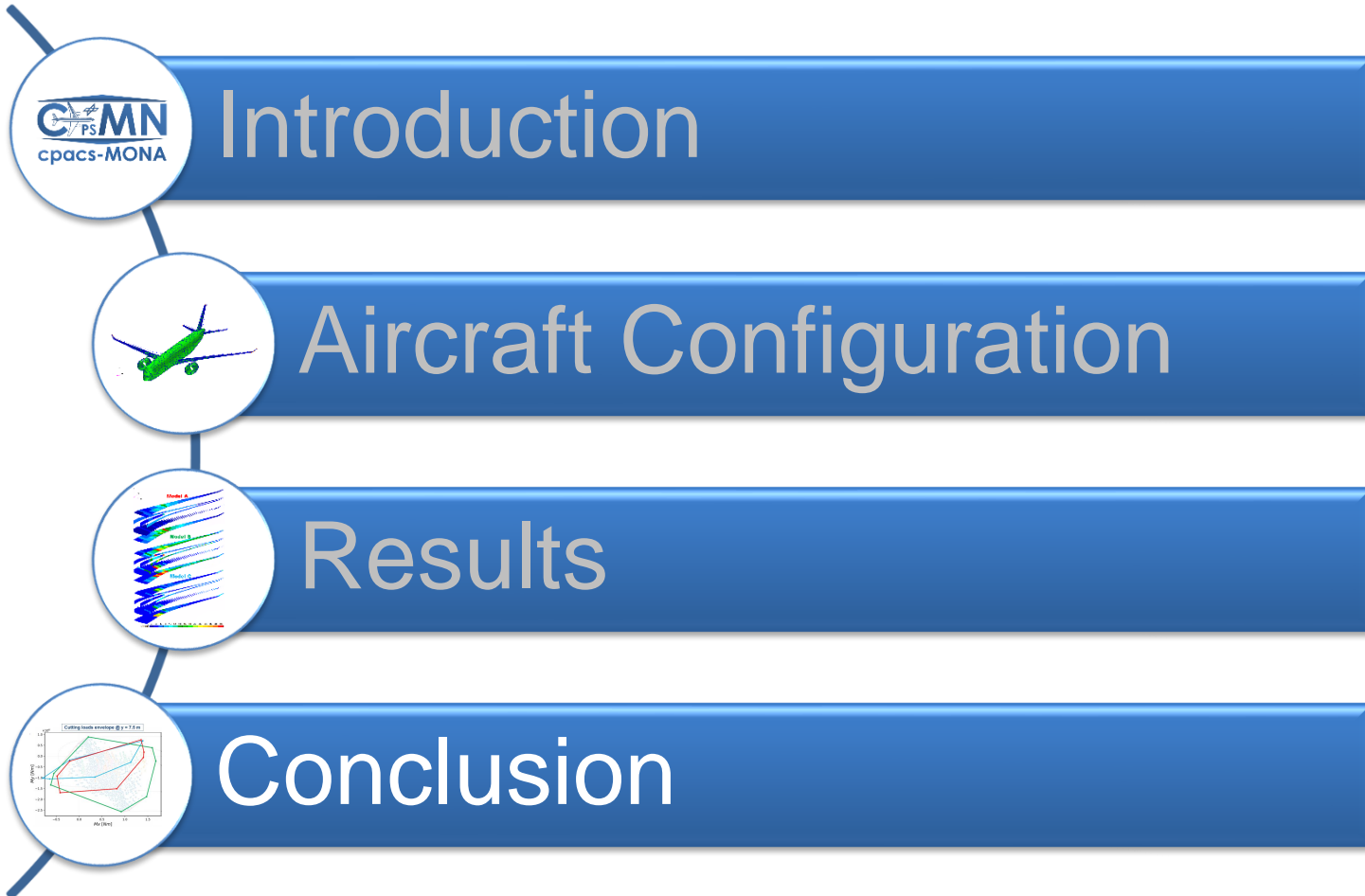
1. Define gust load in **time domain** (1-cos)
2. Transform gust load into **frequency domain** (FFT)
3. Solve the equation of motion in **modal coordinates** (frequency domain)
4. Transform the responses into the **time domain** (iFFT)

**Smoothing  
instabilities**

**Without  
warning  
messages**



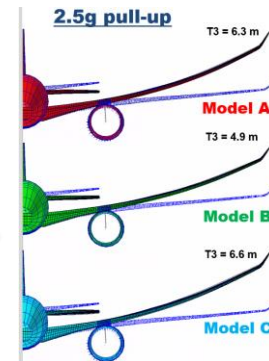
# Overview



# Conclusion

**Aeroelastic structural design** of an aircraft configuration with **three different wing characteristics** due to a **change in material properties** has been presented.

**Snapshot**



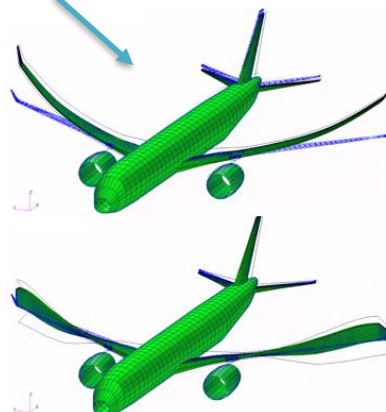
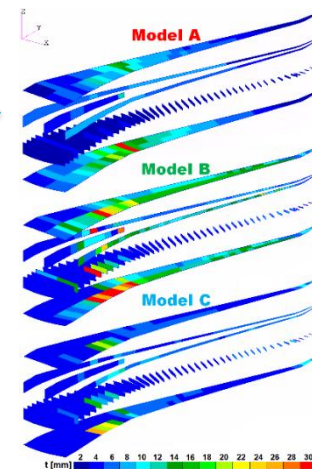
- What is the impact on:**
- Stiffness?
  - Structural mass?
  - Eigenfrequencies?
  - Aeroelastic stability?
  - Loads?

Composite wings are not always **'more flexible'**.

Mass of composite wings depend on **strain allowables.**

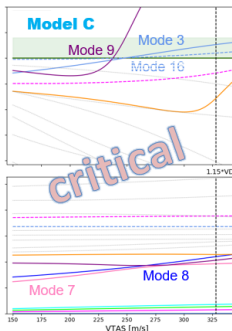
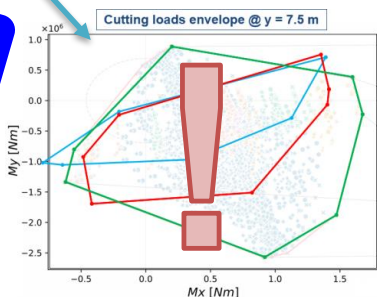
Modal parameters depend on **allowable stains.**

Highly-flexible wings are **prone to flutter.**



Gust loads **not yet reliable** for the highly-flexible wing...

**tbc**



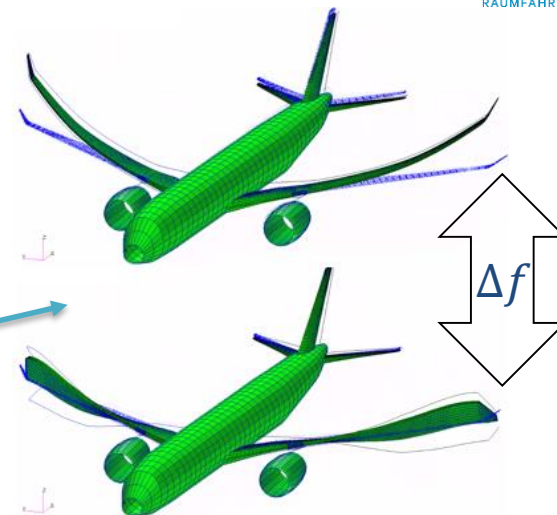
# Outlook

Question for the further development of a highly-flexible wing:

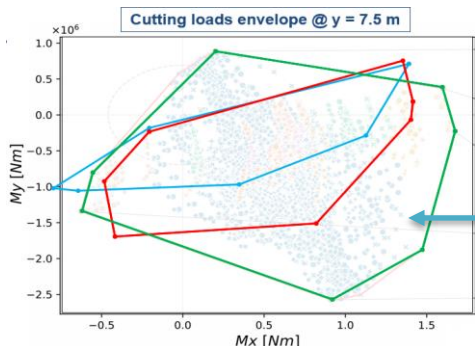
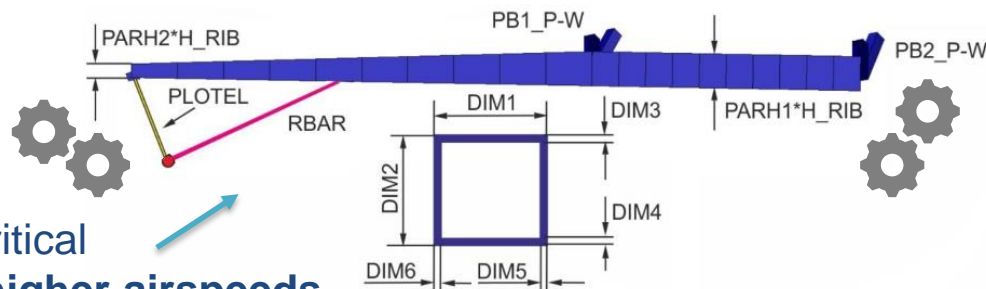
How can we influence the flutter behavior?

- Aeroelastic tailoring
- Tuning of pylon stiffness

Increase the frequency distance of critical modes



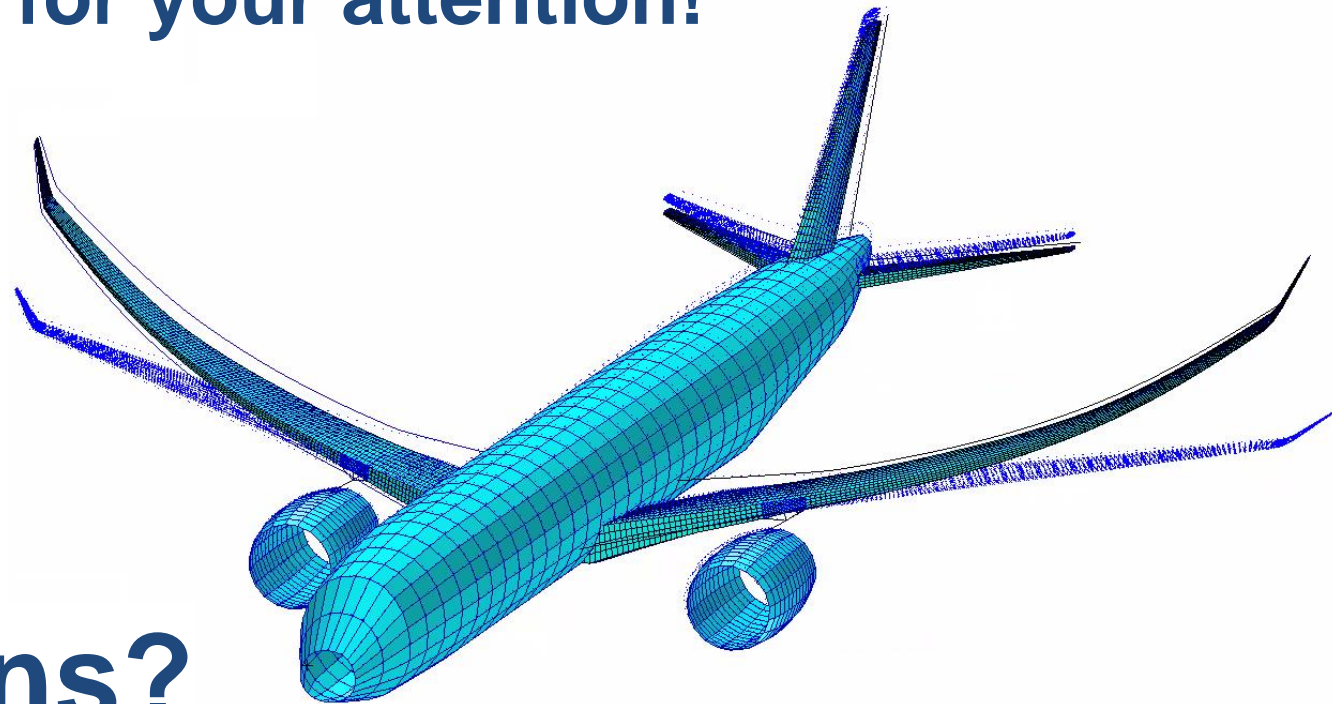
Move the critical Mode 9 to higher airspeeds



? Do highly-flexible wings strongly alleviate gust loads ?



# Thank you for your attention!



# Questions?

[AE @ YouTube](#)

Aeroelastik:  
Warum  
Flugzeuge  
elastisch  
sind



DLR



SCAN ME

## cpacs-MONA @



DGLR

## DLRK 2022

DEUTSCHER LUFT- UND  
RAUMFAHRTKONGRESS

27. - 29. SEPTEMBER 2022 - DRESDEN

„Luft- und Raumfahrt - gemeinsam forschen und nachhaltig gestalten“

