Overview of Georgia Tech ASDL Research with HyperSizer

EDS

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ntrol & Stability

Jason Corman Research Engineer II Structures Branch Head | Advanced Configurations Division

Georgia Aerospace Systems Tech Design Laboratory

BACKGROUND & MOTIVATION

Design Context

- Conceptual Design of Aerospace Vehicles
 - Design space exploration for performance trends → converge toward an optimal or robust feasible design region
 - Translate requirements into a physical description of a vehicle
 - Traditionally executed with empirical models of historical design data

Advanced Configurations in the Conceptual Design Phase



Overall Vehicle Design Without Historical Data

- Potential options for overcoming a lack of historical data in traditional conceptual design
 - Technology and configuration dials for empirical models
 - First principles
 - Physics-based computational modeling

- Important tradeoff
 - Accuracy/uncertainty vs. cost

At different stages in design, the *appropriate* point could be anywhere – along this Pareto front



Design Challenges for Advanced Configurations

- Why causes the uncertainty/cost tradeoff in design metrics for advanced configurations?
 - Undefined detailed features and characteristics
 - Geometry and feature complexity
 - Order of physics-based equations
 - Execution time of computational code
 - Pre-processing time for model generation
 - Potential number of required disciplines
 - Dimensionality of the overall design space



Multiple levels of the design space

Design Challenges for Advanced Configurations

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Multiple levels of fidelity

Design Challenges for Advanced Configurations

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Large degree of automation

STRUCTURAL TECHNOLOGY PERFORMANCE ESTIMATION

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Benchmark Technology Performance Estimation Process



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Structural Design Space



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Structural Design Space



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Technology Design Space

- Technology Level (PRSEUS)
 - 18 design variables
 - Bounds and # of permutations defined for grid search optimization in Hypersizer

General		Centerbo	dy	Wing		
Variable	Nominal	Limits	Perm	Limits	Perm	
$x_{T,st}$	0.052	[0.052, 0.408]	4	[0.052, 0.408]	4	
$x_{T,sm}$	AS-4 EL	AS-4 EL (r)	-	AS-4 EL	-	
$x_{T,rsh}$	1.25	[1.25, 3.75]	4	[0.75, 3.25]	6	
$x_{T,rsp}$	6.0	[6.0, 6.0]	1	[6.0, 6.0]	1	
$x_{T,rswt}$	0.104	[0.104, 0.208]	3	[0.104, 0.208]	3	
$x_{T,rswm}$	AS-4 EL	AS-4 EL	-	AS-4 EL	-	
$x_{T,rsft}$	0.104	[0.104, 0.208]	2	[0.104, 0.208]	2	
$x_{T,rsfw}$	3.37	[3.37, 3.37]	1	[3.37, 3.37]	1	
$x_{T,rsrd}$	0.375	[0.375, 1.0]	3	[0.375, 1.0]	3	
$x_{T,rsrm}$	AS-4 EL (0)	AS-4 EL (0)	-	AS-4 EL (0)	-	
$x_{T.fh}$	6.0	[4.0, 10.0]	4	[4.0, 8.0]	3	
$x_{T,fp}$	20.0	[24.0, 24.0]	1	[36.0, 36.0]	1	
$x_{T,fwt}$	0.104	[0.104, 0.312]	4	[0.104, 0.312]	4	
$x_{T,fwm}$	AS-4 EL	AS4 EL	-	AS-4 EL	-	
$x_{T,fft}$	0.156	[0.156, 0.312]	3	[0.156, 0.312]	3	
$x_{T.ffw}$	3.93	[3.93, 3.93]	1	[3.93, 3.93]	1	
$x_{T,ffct}$	0.5	[0.5, 0.5]	1	[0.001, 0.001]	1	
$x_{T.ffcm}$	R 110 WF	110 WF	-	R 110 WF	-	





Technology Design Space

Baseline Structure Concept (Wing)

Blade Stiffened Composites (Same material as PRSEUS - different knockdowns, etc.)



Variable	LB	UB	Perm
$x_{B,w,st}$	0.05	0.8	10
$x_{B,w,sm}$		– AS-4 EL –	
$x_{B,w,ash}$	1	6	8
$x_{B,w,asp}$	6.0	8.0	2
$x_{B,w,aswt}$	0.05	0.80	10
$x_{B,w,aswm}$		– AS-4 EL –	

Confirmed baselines with Boeing technology development team

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Baseline Structure Concept (Centerbody)

Orthogrid Stiffened Sandwich Composites (Same material as PRSEUS – different knockdowns, etc.)



Variable	\mathbf{LB}	UB	Perm
$x_{B,cb,stt}$	0.05	0.50	7
$x_{B,cb,smt}$		– AS-4 EL –	
$x_{B,cb,stb}$	0.05	0.25	7
$x_{B,cb,smb}$		– AS-4 EL –	
$x_{B,cb,ash}$	1	4	4
$x_{B,cb,asp}$	6.0	12.0	4
$x_{B,cb,aswt}$	0.10	0.50	6
LB,cb,aswm		– AS-4 EL –	
$x_{B,cb,lsa}$	30°	30°	1
$x_{B,cb,lsh}$	2	8	4
$x_{B,cb,lswt}$	0.10	0.65	6
$x_{B,cb,lswm}$		– AS-4 EL –	

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DEVELOPMENT OF RAPID AIRFRAME DESIGN ENVIRONMENT

NASA Transformational Tools & Technologies Program

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What is a "Design Environment"

- A representative description and implementation of design events
 - Results in a testbed to generate data to examine trades in design metrics, explore design spaces, optimize configurations, etc.
- Graphical vs. scripting implementation
- Enabling integration software:
 - Phoenix Integration ModelCenter
 - OpenMDAO
 - Siemens PLM/NX
 - Dassault <u>Systemes</u> 3DEXPERIENCE
 - GEMS
 - Many more...



- Project with NASA Transformational Tools & Technologies (T³)
 - Objective: Bring higher fidelity structural modeling earlier in the design process
 - Resulted in development of the Rapid Airframe Design Environment (RADE)
 - Initial development focused on enabling a monolithic workflow similar to FEM preprocessing





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AEROELASTIC DESIGN SPACE EXPLORATION

Wingtip Propulsion Configuration

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Design Space Exploration



JMP Tutorials: https://www.jmp.com/en_us/applications/design-of-experiments.html

Research Problem Definition

Overall Objective:

Explore the design space of a wing with engines located in the outboard region



- Important Considerations:
 - Time Frame 6 to 7 months for completion of work
 - Aeroelasticity considered for responses, constraints, and objectives
- Assumptions
 - Iteratively converged and developed through project timeline



Enabling Capabilities

- Rapid Airframe Design Environment (RADE)
 - Early phase multidisciplinary design toolkit
 - Developed through NASA TTT Program under contract
 - NASA Tech Lead: Erik Olson
- Environmental Design Space (EDS)
 - Vehicle level performance modeling with environmental response focus
- NASA AATT Dashboard



Creating a Environment for Wingtip Propulsion Aeroelastic Design



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Modeling in RADE

Robust Parametric Execution		Robust	Automation		Flexibility		
Bas	e (Abstract)	Layer					
	Elementary Base Classes		Feature Base Classes	Model Base Classes		Result Base Classes	
	Forces/Moments Nodes/Elements Point Mass Geometry/Shape Rigid Connections Design Variable		Load Case Flight Condition Assembly Mesh Rigid Connections Control System	2-D Aero Model Panel Aero Model Beam Model Shell Model Propulsion Model		Cp Distribution Structural Weight Drag Polar Load Distribution	
Implementation Layer API Translation Execution							
8			Third Pa Nastran lin AVL trimm	arty Software ear static analysis ned aero analysis		Raw Output Text Files	

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Modeling in RADE: Outer Mold Line

- All vehicle designs start with representation of OML
- Baseline models are created with OpenVSP with fundamental regions:
 - Wing
 - Fuselage
- Parametric changes enabled through OpenVSP python API
- OuterMoldLine object is a container of named regions with reference geometries



Modeling in RADE: Aerodynamics



Modeling in RADE: Structural Geometry & Meshing

Flexible definition of OML (OpenVSP) and Structural Geometry (AFEM)

Robust skin panel identification





Modeling in RADE: Representation of "Fidelity"



Model Representation Options

Complexity, Order, & Dimensionality (Fidelity)

Shell of spanwise variant sectional parameters

Shell of constant spanwise variant thickness

Shell of constant component thickness

Guyan Reduced Stiffness Matrix

Beam of spanwise variant EI, GJ

Beam of constant EI, GJ

Seamless, geometry-centric integration of disciplinary toolsets



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- Some of the latest work in RADE (and most relevant to this project) is with dynamic loads and their effect on structural sizing
- A paper was published for AIAA SciTech 2020
- Goal:
 - Quantify the increment of structural mass added to the wing by considering dynamic gust cases in addition to typical early-phase static maneuver loads

Structural Sizing of Unconventional Aircraft under Static and Dynamic Aeroelastic Loading

David Solano^{*}, Darshan Sarojini[†], Jason Corman[‡], and Dimitri Mavris[§] Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, 30363 Code

A framework was created to size an airframe structure of interest with both static and dynamic loading conditions, allowing the designer to take into account dynamics early in the design process. For that, two important tools, the Rapid Airframe Design Environment (RADE), and NASRAN are used. The framework allows the sizing of conventional aircraft, like the NASA Common Research Model Aircraft, and unconventional, such as a thruss-braced wing, put forward by Boeing and NASA. In the paper, static aeroelastic loads such as 2.5 and -1 G maneuvers and dynamic aeroelastic loads, such as sharp or One-Minus cosine gust are tested and contrasted. Finally, sizing of the wing is performed using HyperSizer.

I. Introduction

A. Next generation aircraft targets

Modern and future aircraft are continuously becoming lighter and more efficient. Metrics such as decreased fuel burn, noise, NOx emissions, and takeoff field length are priority for the aircraft of the future. Thus, to push the envelope, aircraft designers are attempting new designs, such as the new N+3 concepts NASA is creating, which involve blended wing body configurations and double-bubble configurations [1]. Other designs include the Boeing's Transonic Truss-Braced Wing (TBW) [2], composite very high aspect ratio wings, box wings, and other innovative designs that will be possible thanks to advances in material technologies. On the lower speed side, designs such as the saliplane SB 13 from Akaflieg Braunshweig [3] and the AK-X prototype from Akaflieg Karlsruhe [4] are also plausible design alternatives. These new designs, however, experience dynamic loading conditions that are large enough to be relevant during sizing, and tools are needed to correctly assess such loads. These tools, however, are normally used at later stages of the design process, and by then critical decisions in terms of configuration and size may have been made, which translates in correcting efforts that are costly and time-consuming. On the other hand, through the use of the appropriate structural model, it is possible for the engineer to make detailed load and aerodynamic analysis such as the ones encountered during maneuvers, gusts, and flutter [5].

B. Structural Airworthiness

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) sets Federal Aviation Regulations (FARs) to place requirements on aircraft design, including structural design, to achieve a desired level of safety and reliability for all certified aircraft. These regulations are intended to account for the worst-case loads to occur in flight [6, 7].

Dynamic load conditions, in particular, often result in the most critical or constraining loads being developed on the structure, and may lead to catastrophic structural failures if unforeseen. A case in point is the loss of American Airlines Flight 587 (an Airbus A300B4 aircraft) due to structural failure of the vertical tail, when the first officer's rapid, and aggressive rudder inputs in response to a wake turbulence encounter resulted in dynamic loads that exceeded the ultimate loads that the tail had been designed for. Thus dynamic load conditions must be thoroughly accounted for during structural design and tested for during the certification process [8–10]. Given the monetary cost and time requirements associated with certification programs, a capability that allows dynamic loads arising from constraining maneuver scenarios to be better predicted earlier in the design process is a definite advantage for the aircraft manufacturer. Such a diseign, thus enabling better decisions in the design of safe and reliable structures in the aircraft design process.

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Mesh Generation



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- Total Simulation Time: 5s
- Method for Modal Analysis: Modified Givens
- Gust delay: 1s
- Modes: 10

Name			
5s			
Modified Givens			
1s			
10			

136 ft peak distance, peak speed 27.7 ft/s



278 ft peak distance, peak speed 31.2 ft/s

Modeling in RADE: Properties & Structural Sizing

- Materials: Isotropic, Orthotropic, Anisotropic, Composite
- Properties: Beam, Shell, Smeared Stiffness, Guyan Reduction
- Structural Sizing:
 - Nastran
 - $\circ~\mbox{Gradient-based}$ optimization of isotropic materials
 - $\circ\,$ "Fully stressed" sizing
 - o Limited number of built-in failure modes
 - Offline gradient-based optimization currently under development

- HyperSizer

- Grid search approach with custom bounding convergence
- Optimization for all material types and granularity for skin & stiffener dimensions/materials
- 30+ failure modes can be used for every type of beam and panel concept

Modeling in RADE: Structural Sizing with Dynamic Loads



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Modeling in RADE: Structural Sizing with Dynamic Loads



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GT-ASDL PEGASUS Model in RADE: Structural Geometry



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GT-ASDL PEGASUS Model in RADE: Structural Mesh



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GT-ASDL PEGASUS Model in RADE: AVL



Wing Elements: Main Wing Horizontal Tail

Control Surfaces: Elevator $\eta = [0: 1]$ c = [0.6: 1]

Load Cases (Default): Mach = 0.5 Altitude = 20,000 ft *Constraints*: Load Factors = [-1.0, 2.5] Pitch Moment = 0

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GT-ASDL PEGASUS Model in RADE: Nastran



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GT-ASDL PEGASUS Model in RADE: HyperSizer Setup

	Cr	omponent Result				
nbly 1 Vpper Skin	w	/eight (lbm) 79.445				
oonent 57 VWingWingSkinUpper00	U	nit Wt. (lb / ft²) 6.9838				
Concept Integral Blade (Optimum) V	м	Available Failure Analyses				
		Location	Analysis Decription	Lim./Ult.	MS	Load Case
Dimensions 🎽 Failure 🎽 Free Body 🎽 FEA Loads 🎽 Stresses 🎽 Buckling 🎽 Prop	erties Opt	Component Crippling - Buck	ling Interaction, Johnson-Euler	Ultimate 🔻	0.009934	1
Req. Designs 1 # Candidates 81 All Design	15	Web, unsup Isotropic Streng	th, Yield, Von Mises-Hill Criterion	Limit 🔻	0.08258	1
		Web, unsup Isotropic Streng	th, Yield, Longitudinal Direction	Limit 🔻	0.0844	1
Dimension Min Max Steps Step Result	Material	Component Crippling, Isotr	ppic, Niu, Formed and Extruded Sections	Ultimate 🔻	0.1162	1
			ic, LTV, Formed and Extruded Sections	Ultimate 🔻	0.1162	1
Setup Load Sets Load Cases Units Not	es Su	Immary CAD Interface	, Ultimate, Von Mises-Hill Criterion	Ultimate 🔻	0.1839	1
Banel Run Time Weight Total Summary Information is for the most recent s	plies to that compo	onent only. The summary tree	, Ultimate, Longitudinal Direction	Ultimate 🔻	0.1864	1
00:00:17 1360.489 contains weight information for the entire m	odel.		, Ultimate, Longitudinal Direction	Ultimate 🔻	0.2404	1
H _{web}	Beam Weigh	ts Panel Weights	, Ultimate, Von Mises-Hill Criterion	Ultimate 🔻	0.2924	1
Assembly #1 (678.6573 lbm) "Upper Skin"	Unit Weight	Unit Weight	xial w/ Shear Interaction	Limit 🔻	0.5808	1
Assembly #2 (509 4594 lbm) "Lower Skin"	0	3.740101	xial	Limit 🔻	0.5809	1
Assembly #3 (87.13067 lbm) "Spars"	Total Length	Total Area	, Yield, Longitudinal Direction	Limit 🔻	0.6698	1
Assembly #4 (85 2412 lbm) "Ribs"	0	363.7572	, Yield, Von Mises-Hill Criterion	Limit 🔻	0.7402	1
	Total Weight	Total Weight	lumn, with Transverse Shear Flexibility	Ultimate 🔻	1.932	1
Components	0	1360.489	xial	Limit 🔻	1.962	1
			xial w/ Shear Interaction	Limit 🔻	1.962	1
	Failure Mode	e Weights	ergy Solution, All BC	Ultimate 🔻	2.037	1
	Strength	Min Opt Bound	, Ultimate, Shear Direction	Ultimate 🔻	4.919	1
	59.99481	20.32681	, Yield, Shear Direction	Limit 🔻	6.956	1
	Buckling	Max Opt Bound	, Ultimate, Transverse Direction	Ultimate 🔻	12.33	1
	373.1807	0	, Ultimate, Shear Direction	Ultimate 🔻	15.01	1
	Local Bucklin		, Yield, Shear Direction	Limit 🔻	15.36	1
	906,9863		, Yield, Transverse Direction	Limit 🔻	17.42	1
			ear	Limit 🔻	20.3	1
	-		ear	Limit 🔻	514.8	1
		Component Panel Buckling	Analytical Simple BC Uniavial or Biavial	Illtimate 💌	N/A	
		Show Advanced Hide In	active			Data

GT-ASDL PEGASUS Model in RADE: HyperSizer Results

Skin Thickness

Stringer Web Height



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GT-ASDL PEGASUS Model in RADE: HyperSizer Results



TOW-STEERED COMPOSITES

Overview

Structural Weight Estimation

TSC Performance Estimation

Value Assessment

Objectives for TSC Technology Performance Estimation

- Obtain TSC weight reduction performance as a function of Area (Wing Loading), Aspect Ratio design space to perform systems level trades: 150PAX TBW & 300PAX T&W
 - Structural Weight Estimation
 - Baseline & Technology Vehicles
 - Optimization of Tow-Steering w/in Area/AR Design Space
- Formulate breakdown of sources of uncertainty associated with implementation of TSC on production-phase aircraft
 - Enumeration of Sources of Uncertainty
 - Mapping to Technology Performance Estimation Process

Approach for Performance Estimation in Planform Design Space



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TOW-STEERED COMPOSITES

Overview

Structural Weight Estimation

TSC Performance Estimation

Value Assessment

Structural Weight Estimation: OML Parameterization



Structural Weight Estimation: Structural Configuration



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Structural Weight Estimation: Aeroelastic Loads

Static Loads (Vortex Lattice)

- Standalone aerodynamics analysis for low order C_L , C_M distributions and loads generation
- Used as a camber correction for Nastran doublet lattice model





Structural Sizing in HyperSizer

- Currently updating a transonic truss-braced wing (TTBW) wingbox structural sizing program to have parametric laminate orientations
 - Aeroelastic load analysis with Athena Vortex Lattice and Nastran
 - Solid mechanic analysis with Nastran
 - Structural property and failure analysis with HyperSizer
- Original program used effective laminates, but in HyperSizer these laminates are restricted to only use the ply angles 0°, ±45°, and 90°
 - Skin panels now use discrete laminates that add an offset to these ply angles
- Original program had weight convergence issues due to bad iteration logic between material properties and aeroelastic loads
 - Alternate iteration strategy has been implemented and resolves problem



TTBW OML and structure



Structural Sizing in HyperSizer



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Structural Sizing in HyperSizer



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TOW-STEERED COMPOSITES

Overview

Structural Weight Estimation

TSC Performance Estimation

Value Assessment

TSC Performance Estimation: Tow-Steering Optimization



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TSC Performance Estimation: Tow-Steering Optimization



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Preliminary Testing for Shape Function Implementation



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Preliminary Testing for Shape Function Implementation



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Optimized TSC for Truss Braced Wing



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TBW Model Building DoE for FLOPS Implementation



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Visualization of Surrogate Model Fit: TBW



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TTBW Structural Weight



TTBW TSC-to-Baseline Ratio

FRWI1_TSC (EDS Tuning Parameter)



FRWI2_TSC (EDS Tuning Parameter)



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CRM Model Building DoE for FLOPS Implementation

Total Structural Weight



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CRM Model Building DoE for FLOPS Implementation



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Visualization of Surrogate Model Fit: CRM



CRM Optimal Tow-Steering

0°

45°

90°

-45°





Weight Reduction Compared to Baseline: CRM

