

# Section 5

VERTICAL FORCE AND FLIGHT STABILITY REQUIREMENTS  
FOR FRANGIBLE STRUCTURES

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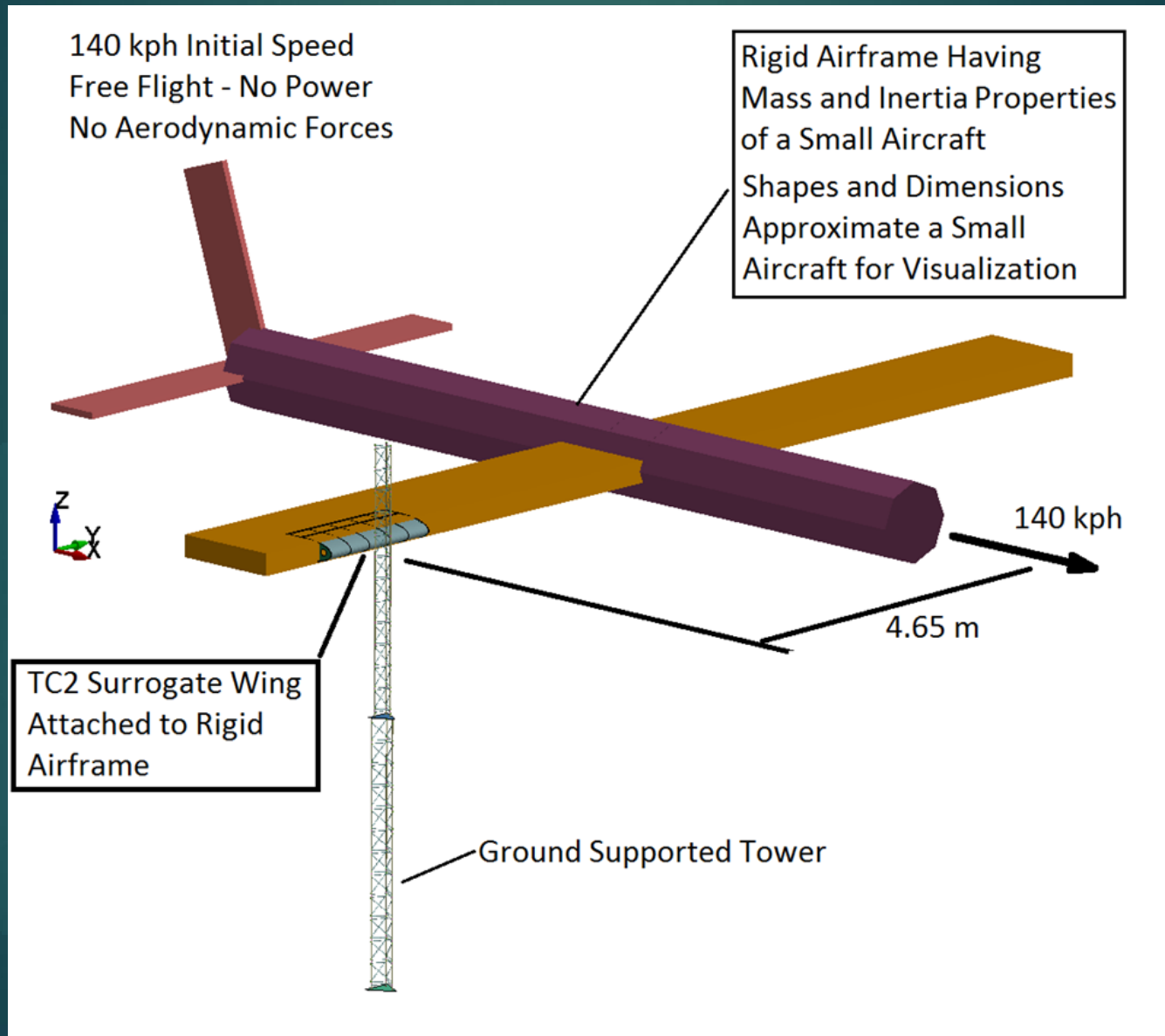
TRIDYNAMIC SOLUTIONS

# Recommendations

- ▶ Develop practical flight path disruption limits for impact by small aircraft.
  - ▶ Most importantly quantify reasonable limits for impact induced yaw or roll rotations.
  - ▶ Vertical force measurements shall be included in future testing.
- ▶ Prohibit the application of devices that do not exhibit local windowing mechanisms for frangibility.
- ▶ Navajo Wing Modeling Improvements
  - ▶ Validation testing of wing impacts
  - ▶ Uncertainty analysis on simulated wing response
- ▶ Further improvements to the soft HC impactor are needed to better represent the wing.

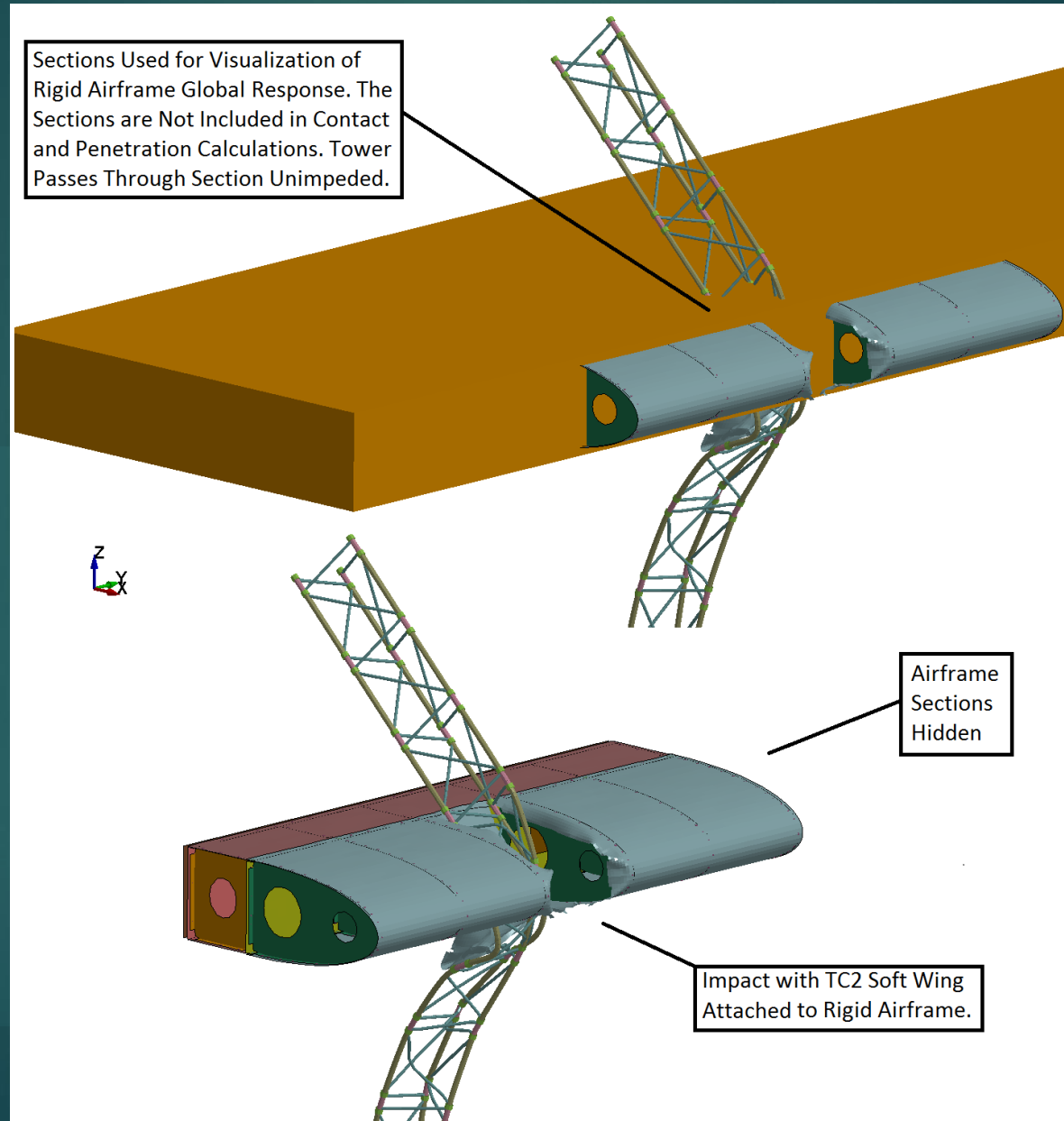
# Vertical Forces and Flight Stability

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# Vertical Forces and Flight Stability

5



# Vertical Forces and Flight Stability

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| Device Type       | Model Number | Reference Model | Height (m) | Impact Distance from Top (m) | Top Mass (kg) |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Aluminum Lattice  | RAF M02      | M02             | 6          | 1                            | 0             |
| Aluminum Pipe     | RAF M26      | M26             | 6          | 1                            | 20            |
| Composite Lattice | RAF M27      | M27             | 6          | 1                            | 20            |
| Composite Pipe    | RAF M28      | M28             | 6          | 1                            | 20            |

# Post Impact Velocities

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| Device Type       | Model Number       | Vx (m/s) | Vy (m/s) | Vz (m/s) | RotX (rad/s) | RotY (rad/s) | RotZ (rad/s) |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Aluminum Lattice  | RAF M02            | 38.89    | -0.003   | -0.148   | 0.203        | -0.008       | -0.123       |
| Aluminum Pipe     | RAF M26 (100 msec) | 38.62    | -0.007   | -0.384   | 0.535        | -0.042       | -0.442       |
| Composite Lattice | RAF M27            | 38.81    | -0.001   | 0.021    | -0.026       | 0.002        | -0.131       |
| Composite Pipe    | RAF M28            | 38.85    | 0.001    | 0.002    | -0.003       | 0.000        | -0.071       |

Apply as Initial Conditions  
for Post Impact Free Flight



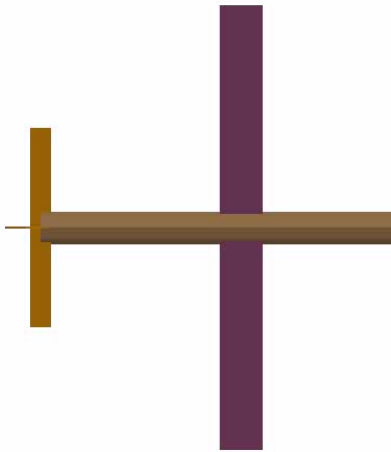
# Free Flight after Impact (1.0 sec)

*Aluminum Pipe - Top*

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Results from RAF M26-H61-140-20kg-AP-S at 0.1 s

Time = 0





# Free Flight after Impact (1.0 sec)

*Aluminum Pipe - Side*

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Results from RAF M26-H61-140-20kg-AP-S at 0.1 s

Time = 0



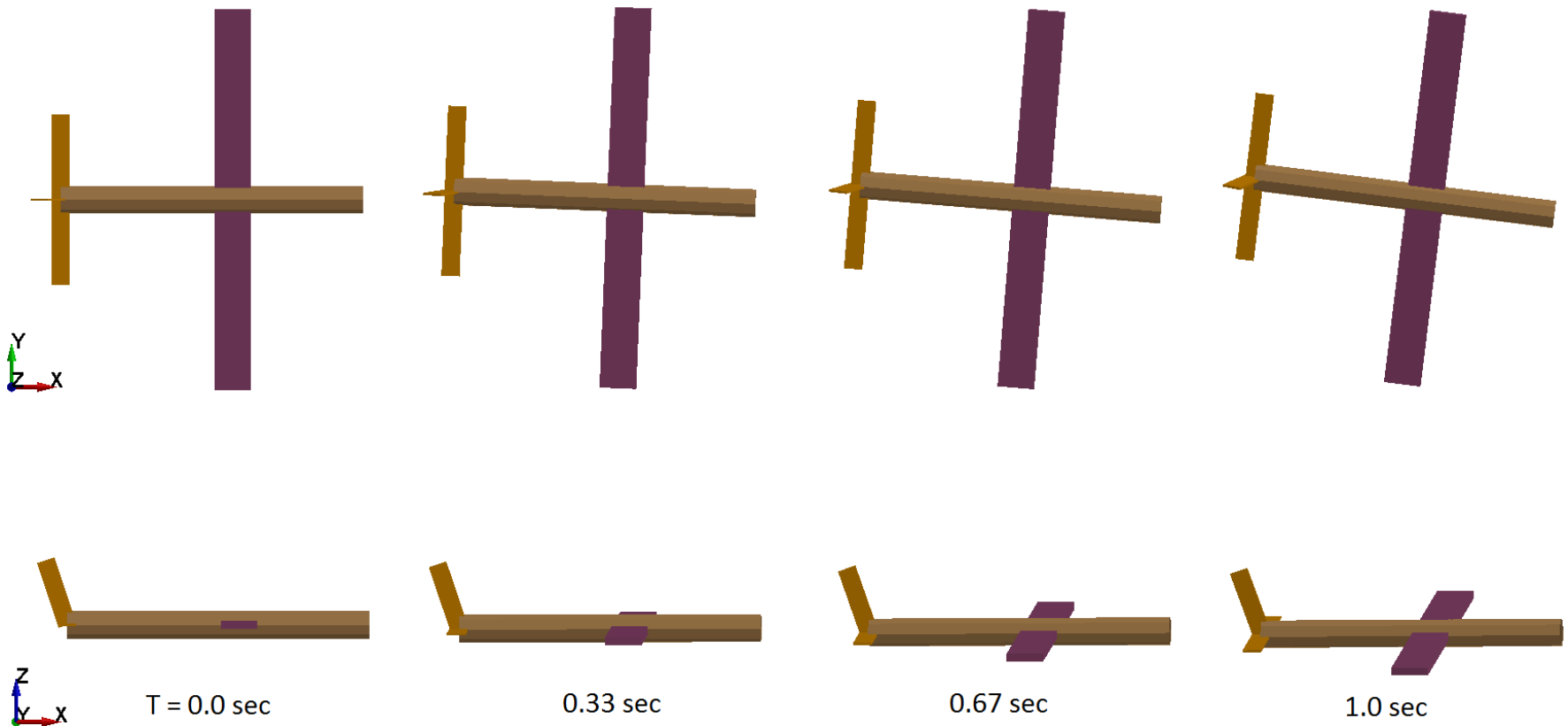
# Free Flight after Impact (1.0 sec)

*Aluminum Lattice – No Top Mass*

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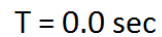
Results from RAF M02-H61-140-0kg-AL-S

To scale: Aircraft travels 3.7 plane lengths in 1.0 sec



## Aluminum Pipe

### Results from RAF M26-H61-140-20kg-AP-S at 0.1 s



0.33 sec

0.67 sec

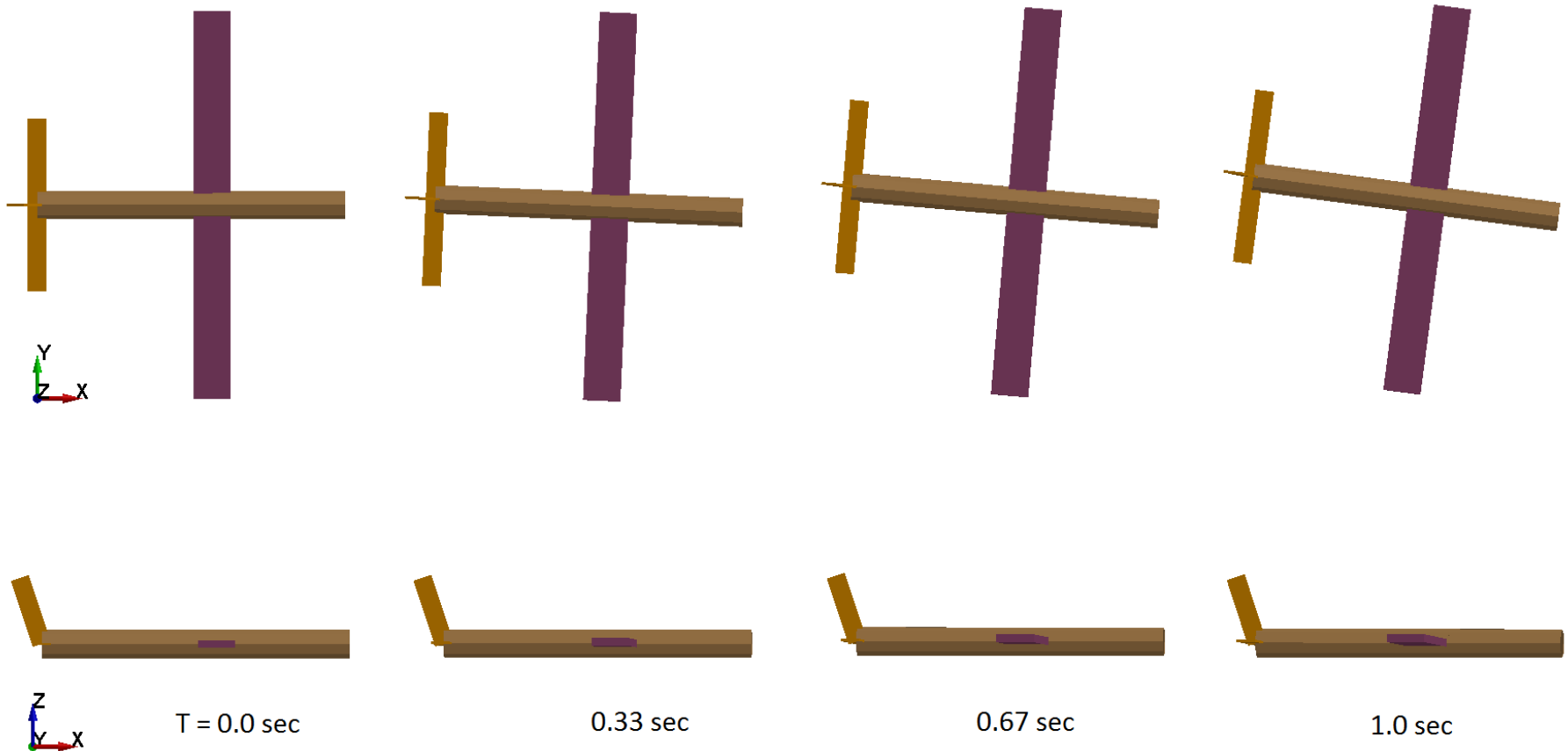
1.0 sec

# Free Flight after Impact (1.0 sec)

## *Composite Lattice*

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Results from RAF M27-H61-140-20kg-CL-S



# Free Flight after Impact (1.0 sec)

## *Composite Pipe*

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Results from RAF M28-H61-140-20kg-CP-S at 0.1 s



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5.0 kg Top Mass

No Structure Aft  
of the Aft Spar

Inboard Edge of Skins and  
Spars Rigidly Constrained  
to Rigid Airframe

TC2 Wing in Cantilever Support Configuration



# Impact Test Simulation:

*Aluminum Pipe 2 mm wall – 5.0 kg Top Mass*

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Tower Response – WT (Wrap and Tear through)

Peak Force = 31.9 kN < 45 kN

Maximum Energy = 42.2 kN-m < 55 kN-m

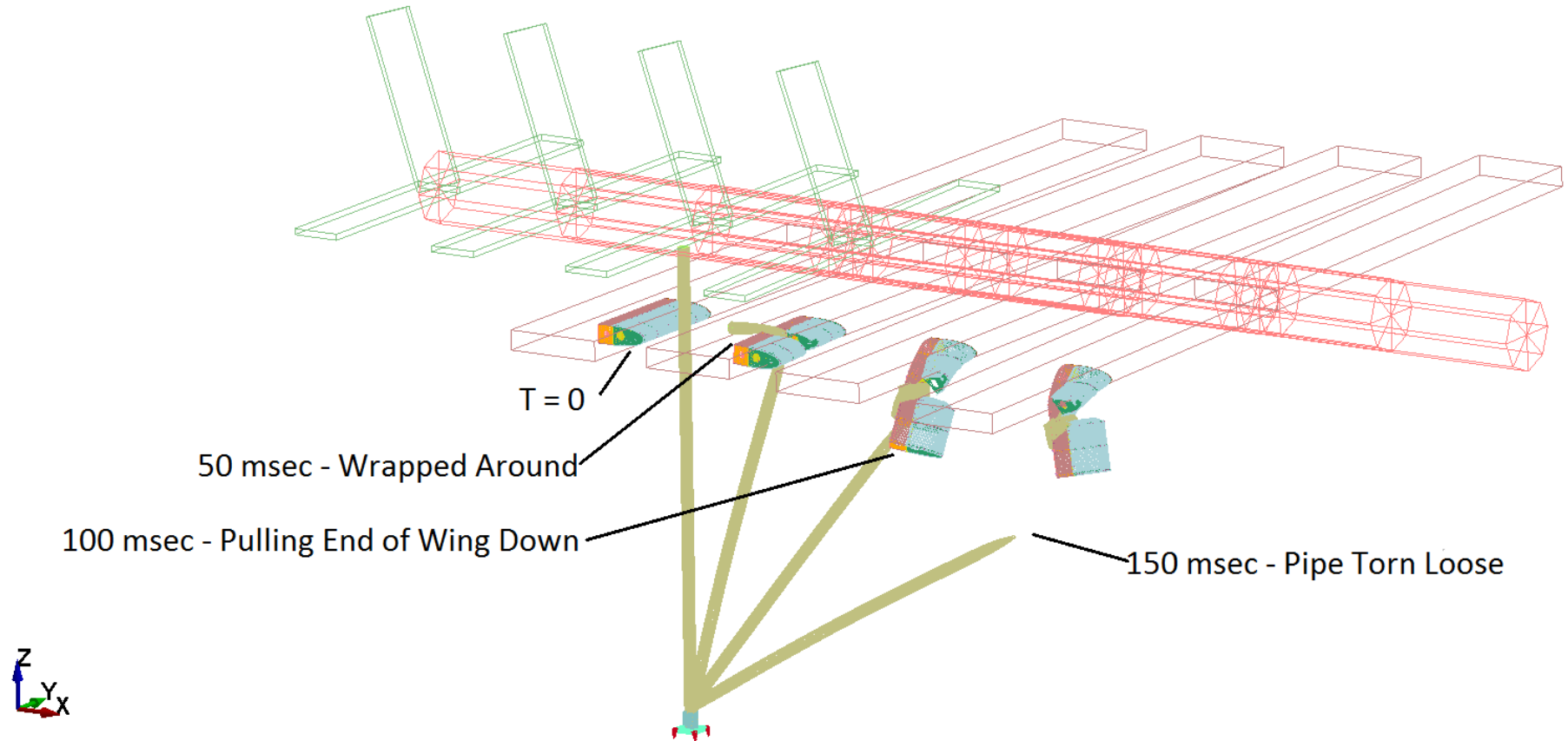
Wing Damage Category = 2

# Progression Through Impact

*Aluminum Pipe 2 mm wall – 5 kg Top Mass*

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**WE RAF M96-H61-140-5kg-AP2-S**





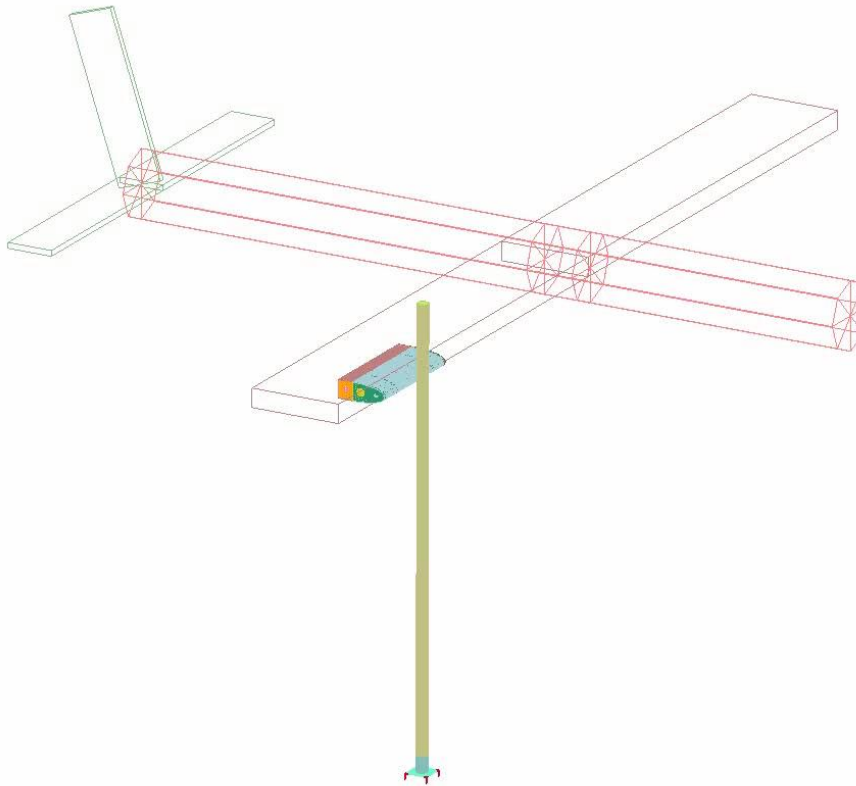
# TC2 Wing (No Structure Aft of Aft Spar)

*Aluminum Pipe 2 mm wall – 5.0 kg Top Mass*

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**WE RAF M96-H61-140-5kg-AP2-S**

Time = 0



Robert T. Bocchieri, Ph.D.

APPLIED RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

# Outline

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- ▶ Review of LS-DYNA model for the Piper Navajo
- ▶ Navajo impact simulations on FAA ALS structure
  - ▶ Structural response of FAA ALS and Navajo wing
  - ▶ Effect on flight dynamics (including Product C)
- ▶ Comparison of impactor type on FAA ALS response (Rigid, HC, Navajo Wing)
  - ▶ Reaction forces on the FAA ALS pole
  - ▶ Comparison of FAA ALS structure response.
- ▶ Conclusions on impactor type

# Representative Aircraft

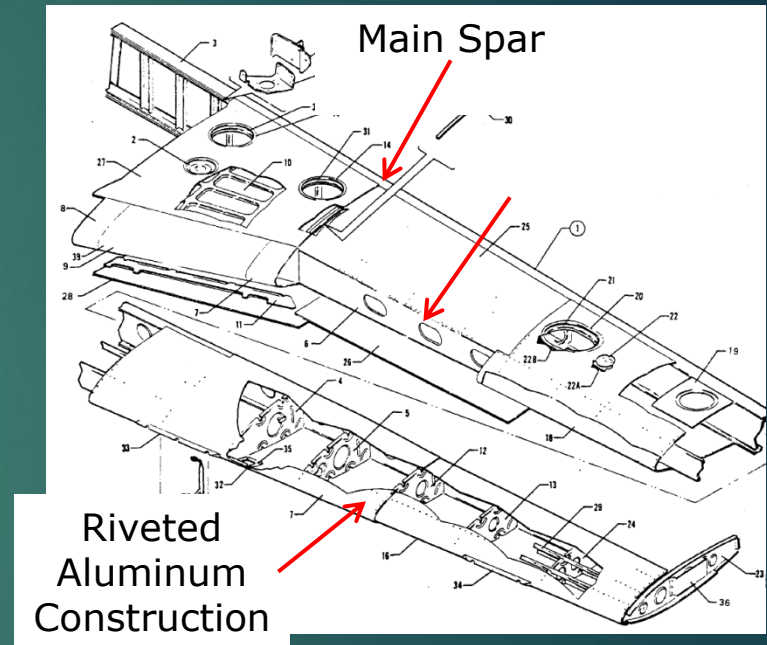
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## Piper Navajo

Max Takeoff Weight  
2948 kg. (6500 lb)



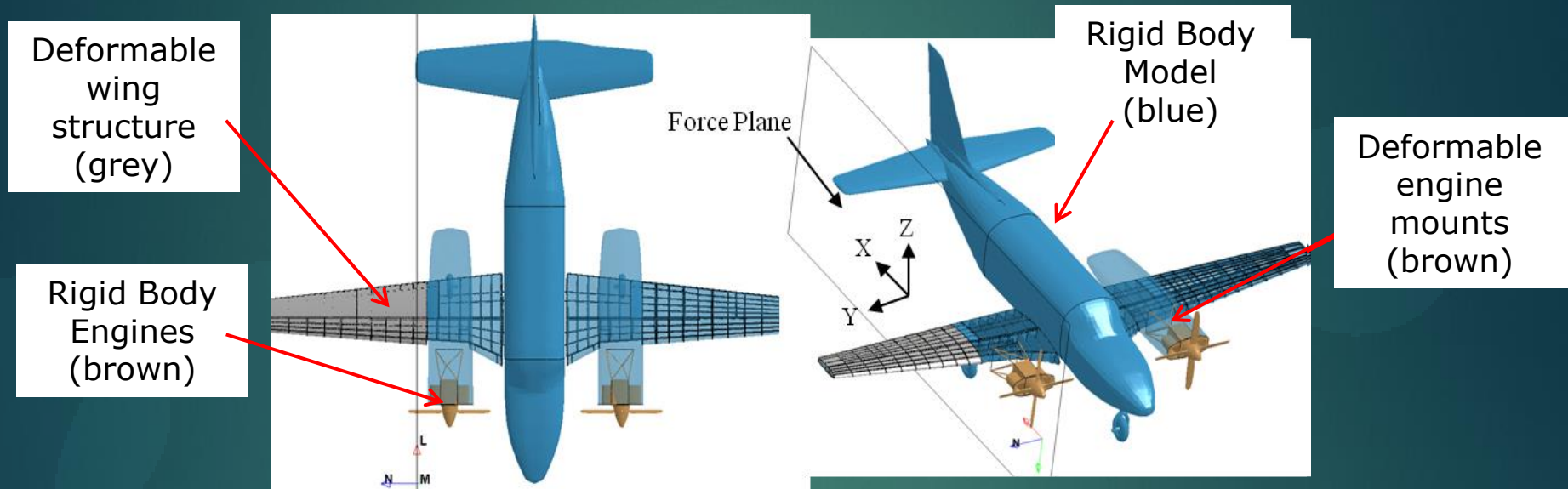
## Leading Edge Assembly



- ▶ Detailed structural and mass information from Piper Aircraft Service Manual, Parts Catalog and Engineering Drawings.
- ▶ Nonlinear material behavior and fastener strength information from MIL-HDBK-5J and other open literature sources.

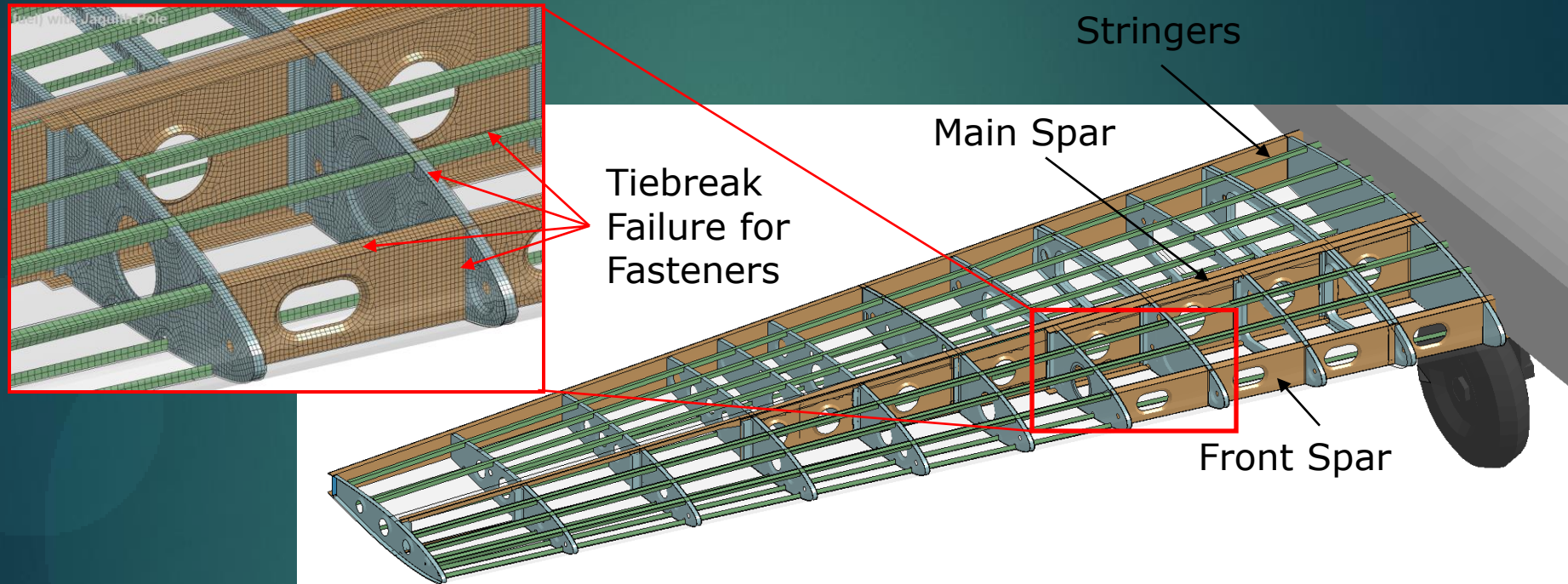
# Navajo LS-DYNA Model

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- ▶ Model constructed to predict damage to wing from impacts at various locations from varied frangible structures.
- ▶ Remainder of aircraft modeled with rigid bodies to get correct C.G. and Moments of Inertia for predicting vehicle dynamics.

## Deformable Wing Model (Skin Semi-Transparent)



- ▶ High-fidelity model of the main airframe was developed.
- ▶ Includes nonlinear aluminum material behavior and embrittlement in regions with holes from fasteners.
- ▶ Connection failure included based on fastener design values.

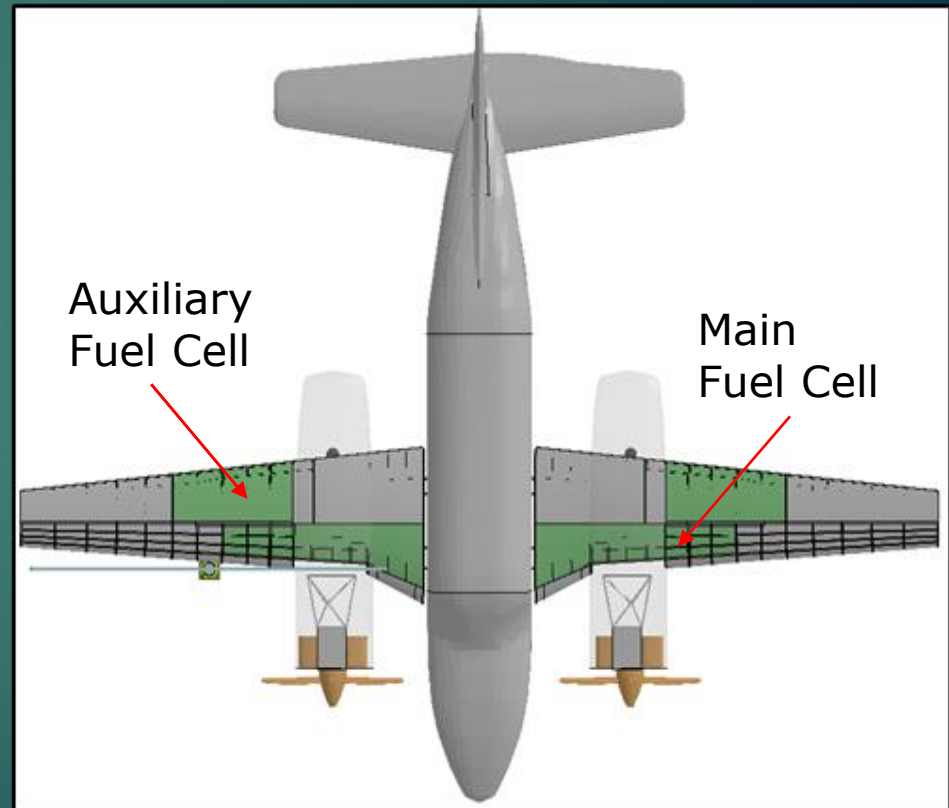


# Navajo LS-DYNA Model

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## Aircraft Mass Distribution

- ▶ Mass distribution estimated based on similar aircraft component weights.
- ▶ The modeled structure was mass scaled to include non-structural mass not explicitly in the model.
  - ▶ E.g., insulation, hydraulics, control lines, fuel, etc.
- ▶ Fuel weight was distributed in the position of the fuel tanks.
- ▶ Weight distribution based on maximum fuel capacity and max takeoff weight.

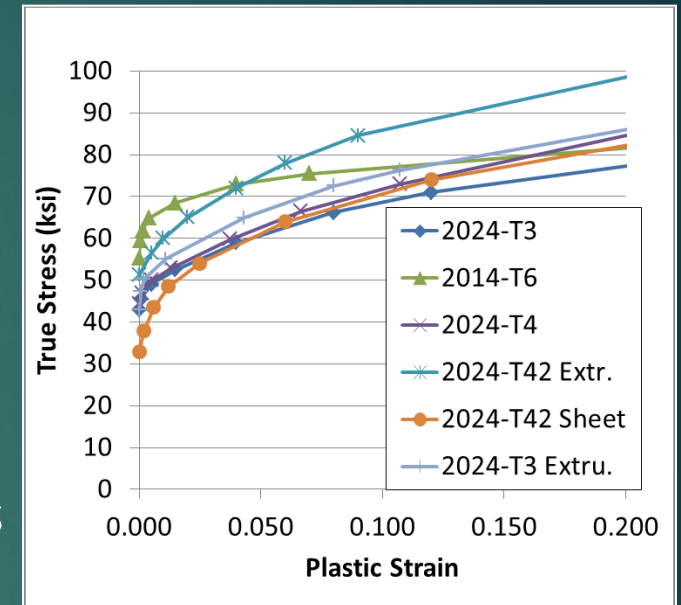


# Navajo Material Modeling

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## ▶ Navajo Al Alloys

- ▶ Piecewise linear plasticity constitutive model.
- ▶ Fracture at engineering design failure strain.
- ▶ Regions with holes from fasteners embrittled using Net Ligament Loss methodology.



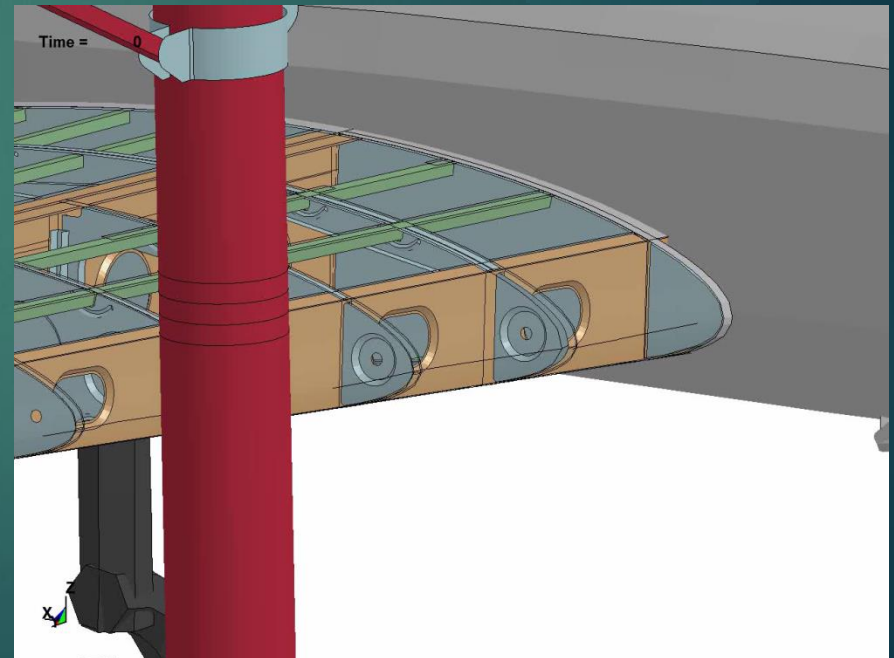
- ▶ Uncertainty in degree of embrittlement and actual fracture strains affect the crushing and damage to the wing model
  - ▶ Recommend (1) validation testing of wing impacts and (2) uncertainty analysis on simulated wing response



# FAA ALS Structure Impact Simulation – Navajo Wing Bay 4

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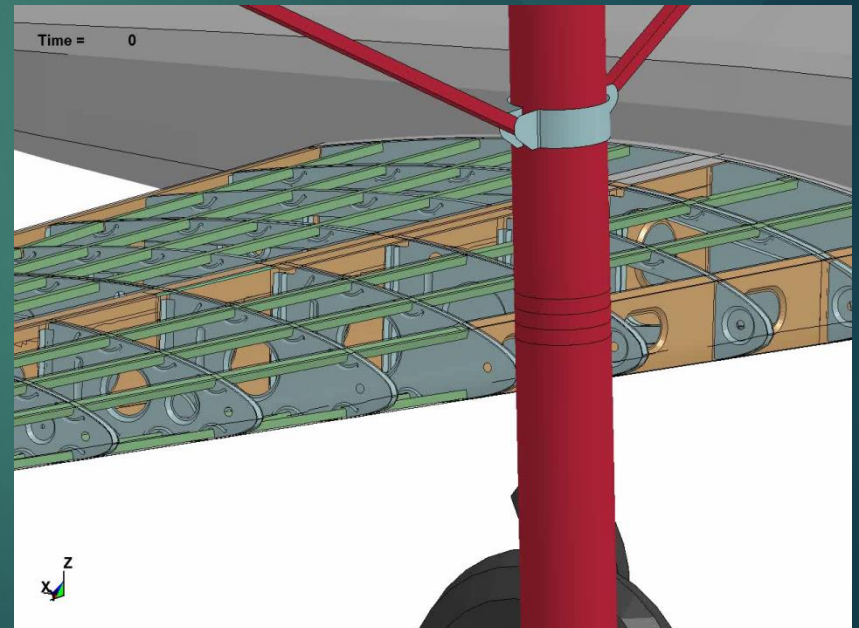
- ▶ Impact positioned between leading edge ribs at bay 4.
- ▶ Joint fails during impact with leading edge, but pole does impact main spar with some damage to spar.



# FAA ALS Structure Impact Simulation – Navajo Wing WS 147

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- ▶ Impact positioned at rib outboard of Bay 4.
- ▶ Joint fails during impact with leading edge, but NO damage to main spar.

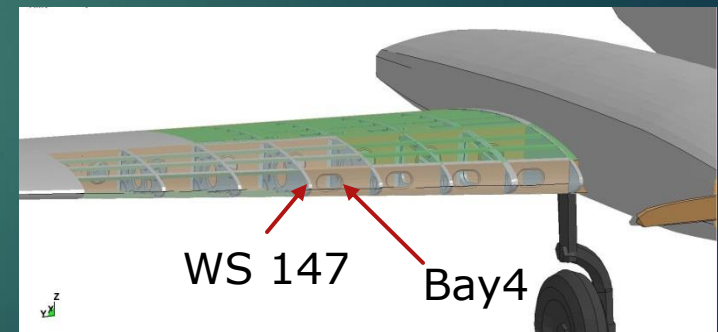


# LIR Structure Impact Simulation with Navajo: Flight Dynamics

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- ▶ Peak yaw rate from impact can be significant.
- ▶ Rate not affected much by impact location (on rib vs between).
- ▶ Other considerations: Control surfaces on trailing edge (not modeled) could be damaged if product wraps around wing.

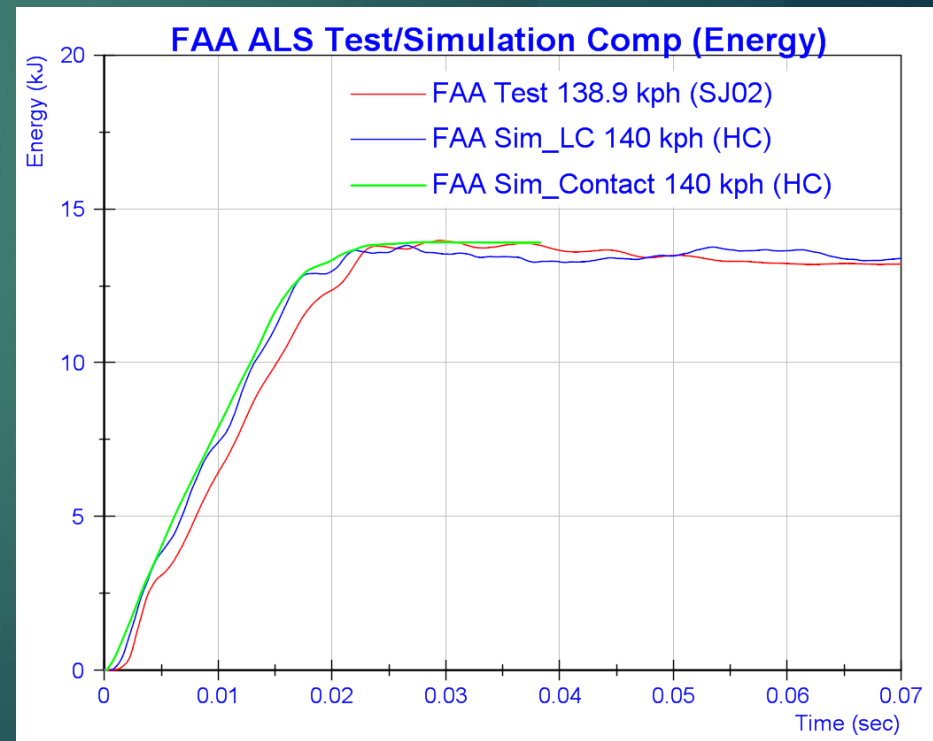
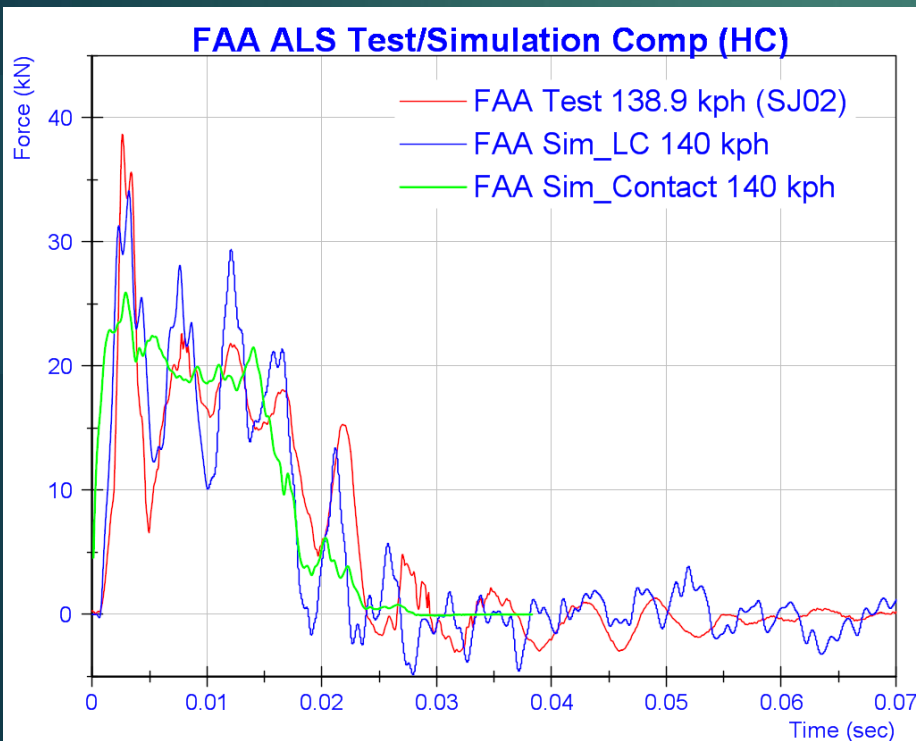
| FAA Approved Products | Impact Point | Yaw Rate (deg/s) | Roll Rate (deg/s) |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1                     | Bay 4        | 3.06             | 0.6               |
|                       | WS 147 (rib) | 3.01             | 0.23              |
| 2                     | Bay 4        | 10.27            | 1.98              |



# HC Impactor Force on Lighting Structure: FAA ALS

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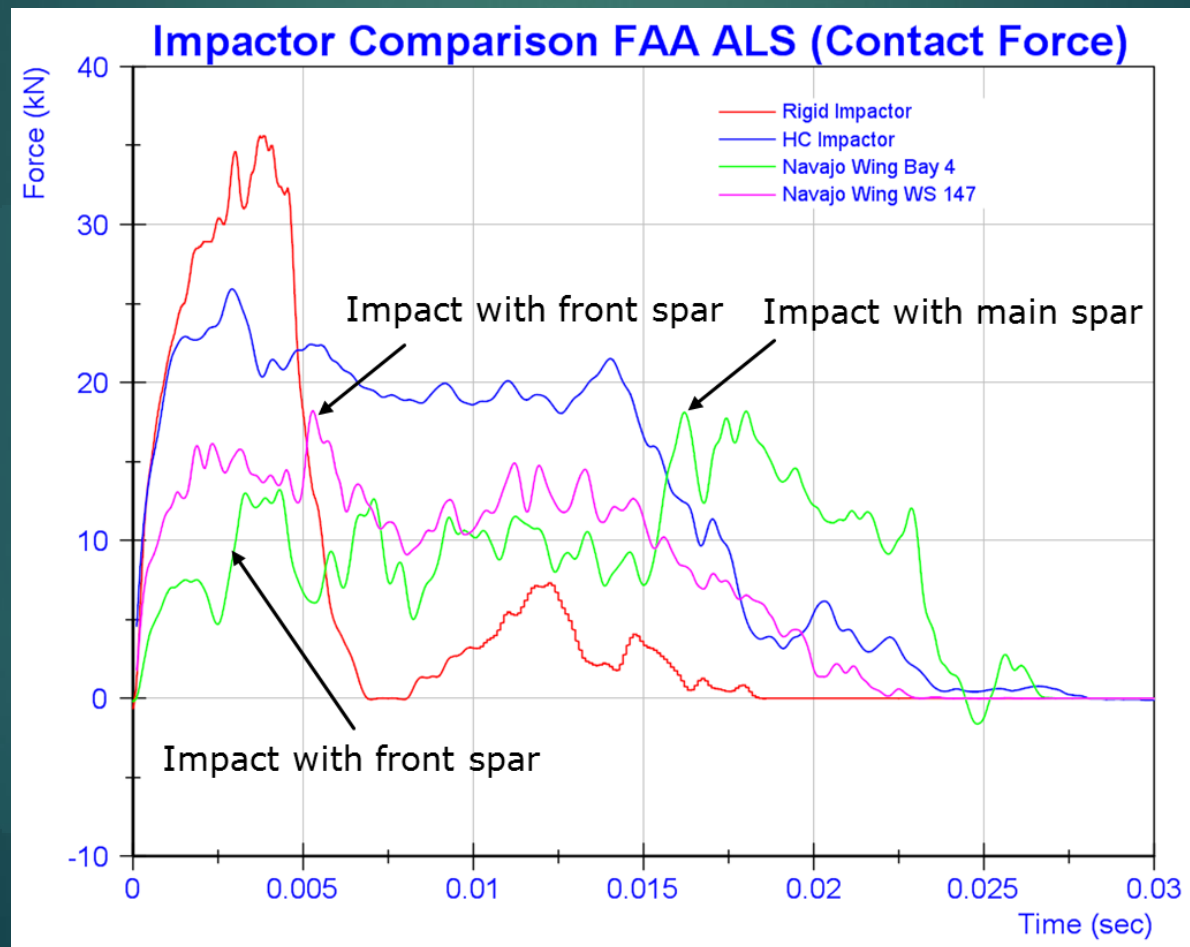
- ▶ Net contact forces between an impactor and a structure can be extracted from simulations.
- ▶ These forces show similar histories to the load cell data, but without the higher frequency response coming from the test frame.



# Impactor Force on FAA ALS Lighting Structure: Various Impactors

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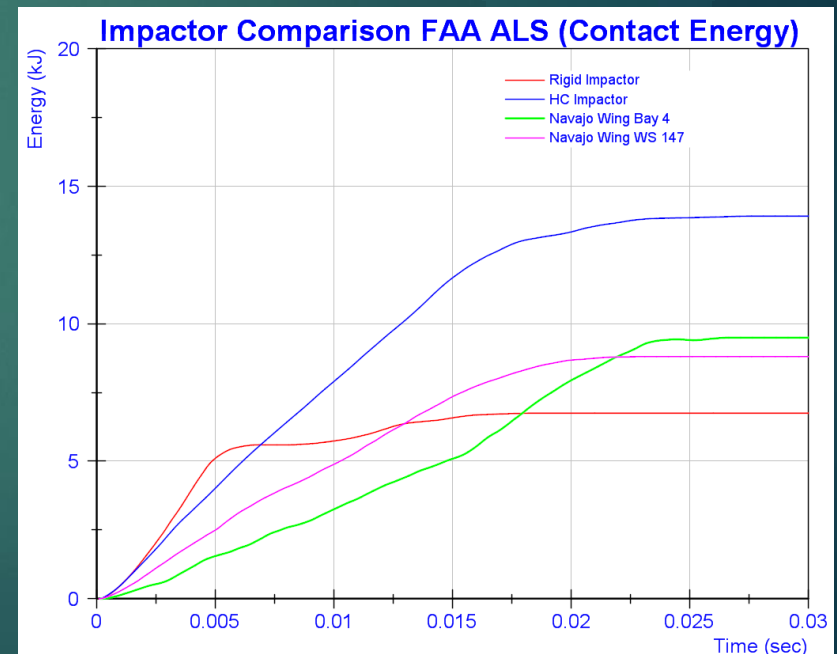
- Simulation contact forces allow us to compare the reaction load of the LIR structure on the wing compared with the two impactor types.



# Impactor Force on FAA ALS Lighting Structure: Various Impactors

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- ▶ The reaction load on the rigid impactor has a very different force history on the structure than from the soft HC and wing.
  - ▶ Structure response leads to least energy absorbed.
- ▶ The HC impactor has similar force duration, but greater magnitude
- ▶ Total energy not significantly different for two wing impact locations.
- ▶ HC impact still too high and rigid too low compared to wing at these locations.



# FAA ALS Lighting Structure Response: Wing vs Rigid Impactor

5 ms



10 ms



15 ms



20 ms



Navajo Wing  
At Rib (WS147)



Rigid  
Impactor

Note: impactor removed from view

# FAA ALS Lighting Structure Response: Wing vs HC Impactor

5 ms

10 ms

15 ms

20 ms



Navajo Wing  
At Rib (WS147)



HC  
Impactor

Note: impactor removed from view



# Effect of Impactor on FAA ALS Structure Response

- ▶ Structural response of the FAA ALS is significantly different for a rigid and soft impactor.
  - ▶ More localized damage to pole with rigid impactor
  - ▶ Joints fail more quickly with rigid and at different locations.
- ▶ Response with the honeycomb impactor more closely resembles the Navajo wing response.
  - ▶ Significant improvement over a rigid impactor.
  - ▶ Damage to the FAA ALS pole is still larger and more localized with the HC impactor.
  - ▶ Further improvements to the soft HC impactor are needed to better represent the wing.

# Summary

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- ▶ Vertical forces are significant factors in both aircraft flight stability and wing damage
- ▶ Local windowing failure reduces vertical forces

# Recommendations

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- ▶ Develop practical flight path disruption limits for impact by small aircraft.
  - ▶ Most importantly quantify reasonable limits for impact induced yaw or roll rotations.
  - ▶ Vertical force measurements shall be included in future testing.
- ▶ Prohibit the application of devices that do not exhibit local windowing mechanisms for frangibility.
- ▶ Navajo Wing Modeling Improvements
  - ▶ Validation testing of wing impacts
  - ▶ Uncertainty analysis on simulated wing response
- ▶ Further improvements to the soft HC impactor are needed to better represent the wing.