

The FutureWings Project - G.A. 335042



1 June 2013











A Numerical Comparison between a Morphing Wing and a Traditional Wing: Aerodynamic Effects of Controlled Piezoelectric Deflections

M. Chiarelli¹, V. Binante¹, S. Bonomo¹, S. Botturi¹, L. Giani¹, J. Kunzmann², A. Cozzolino³

¹Department of Civil and Industrial Engineering – Aerospace Unit, University of Pisa, Italy

²Smart Material GmbH, Dresden, Germany

³Piaggio Aero Industries SpA, Rome, Italy





Summary

- ☐ Introduction
 - About the FutureWings project and its objectives (3)
 - Some notes on the hybrid structures concept (4-10)
 - Preliminary Analyses of morphing wing sections (11-20)
- ☐ The piezo-controlled wing and the traditional wing
 - Model and FSI analyses of the Reference Wing (the aileron-wing) (21-32)
 - Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing) (33 46)
 - Comparison of the aerodynamic performances of the wings (47 48)
- ☐ Comparison and discussion of the static aeroelastic results
 - Results of the FSI analyses of the two wings (rolling moment contributions) (49-52)
- Conclusions and future research activities





Main objectives of the FutureWings project

The FutureWings project focused on the study of a futuristic wing having the capability of changing its aerodynamic shape ("self-shaping wing") through the use of hybrid materials, made up of piezoelectric patches co-cured with a composite substrate.

For a morphing wing, traditional control surfaces (such as ailerons, flaps, slats and so on) are no longer required; that allows us to save weight in wing structures and reduce the sources of vibrations.

The deformed shape of a wing required by a given flight maneuver will be obtained as a result of medium/high voltages applied to the active piezo-electric patches.

The final goal of the FutureWings project was to manufacture a small scale model of a Future Wing section.

This required a proper design of the hybrid active composite laminate (composite layup, ply stacking sequence, piezo electric fibers orientation and so on), supported by testing activities and finite element non-linear analyses.

Deformation tests on the Future Wing model have been carried out to verify the technical feasibilty of the FutureWings concept.





Some notes on the hybrid structures concept

FE analyses of the FutureWing UNIT





Some notes on the hybrid structures concept

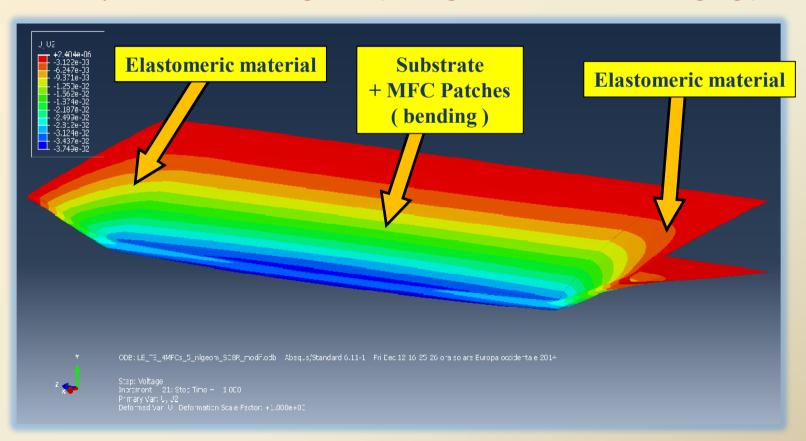
FE analyses of the FutureWing UNIT (bending deformation of the trailing edge) **Elastomeric material** ODB TB_4MFCs_4ply_SCBr_rub_cont_2.odb Abacus/Standard 6.11-1 Thu Jan 15 16 EB:27 oralsolare Europa occidentale 2015 Step: Voitage Increment 7: Step Time = 1.000 Primary Var: U, U2 Deformed Var: U Deformation Scale Factor: +1.300e+00





Some notes on the hybrid structures concept

FE analyses of the FutureWing UNIT (bending deformation of the trailing edge)

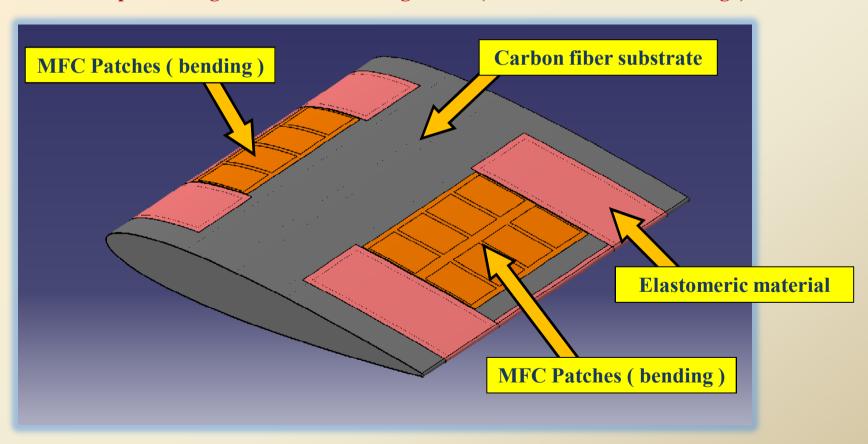






Some notes on the hybrid structures concept

Conceptual Design of the Future Wing Unit 1 (skeleton curvature's change)

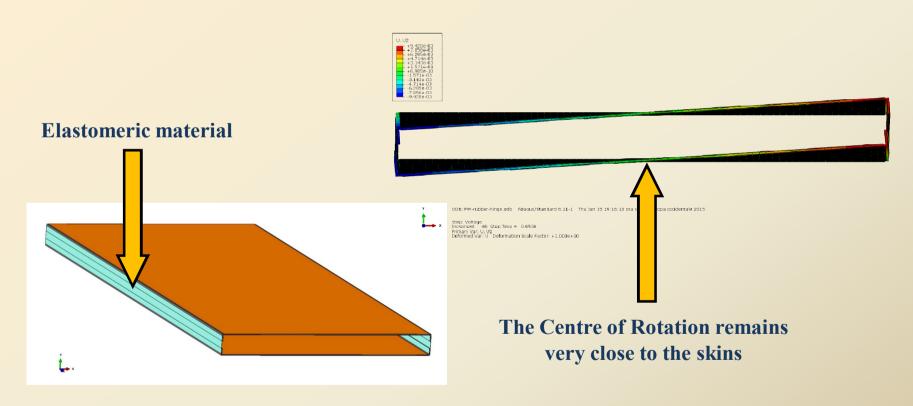






Some notes on the hybrid structures concept

Conceptual Design of the Future Wing Unit 2 (torsion control)

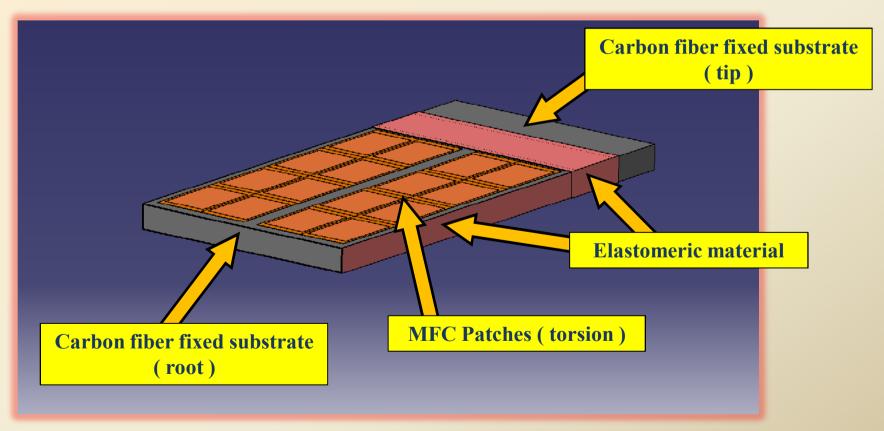






Some notes on the hybrid structures concept

Conceptual Design of the Future Wing Unit 2 (torsion control)

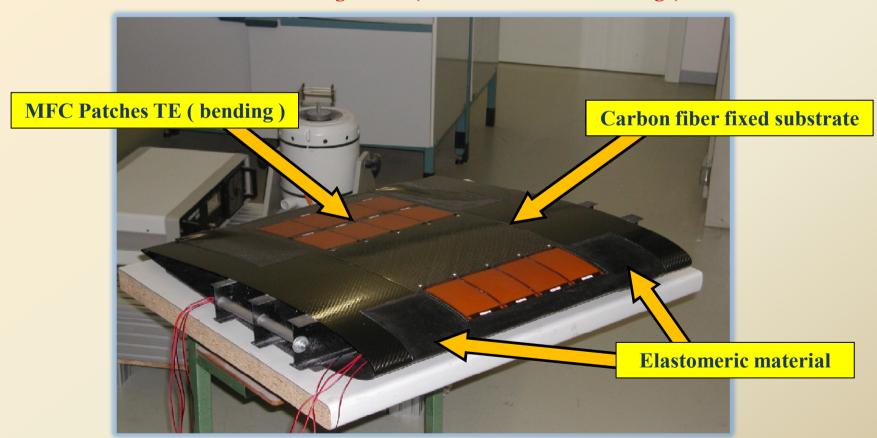






Some notes on the hybrid structures concept

The Future Wing Unit 1 (skeleton curvature's change)

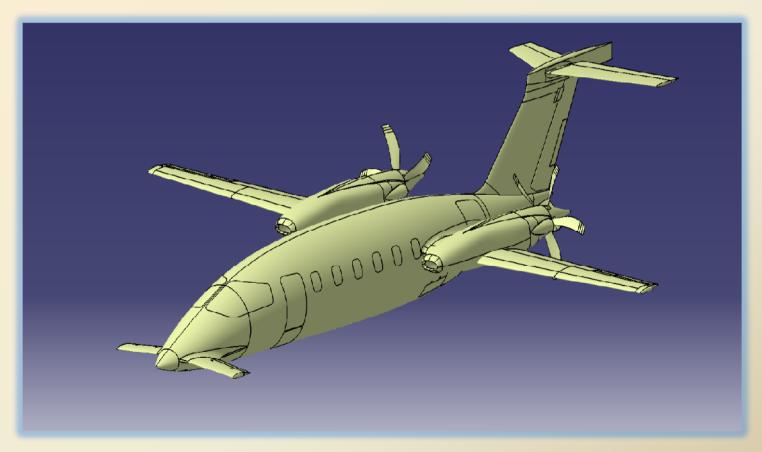






Preliminary Analyses of morphing wing sections

The reference aircraft (the P180 geometry source file)

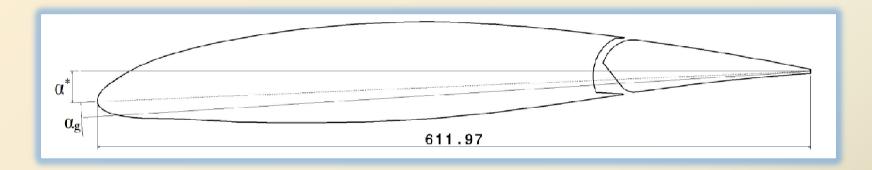


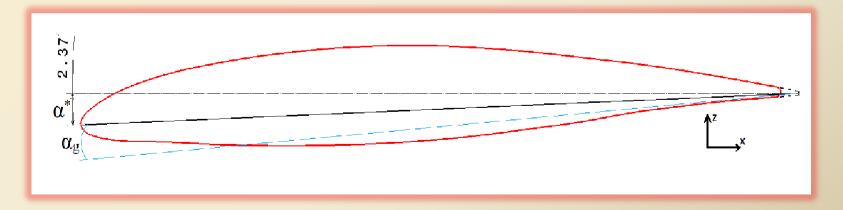




Preliminary Analyses of morphing wing sections

The reference aileron-section (from the P180 geometry source file) and the piezo-section



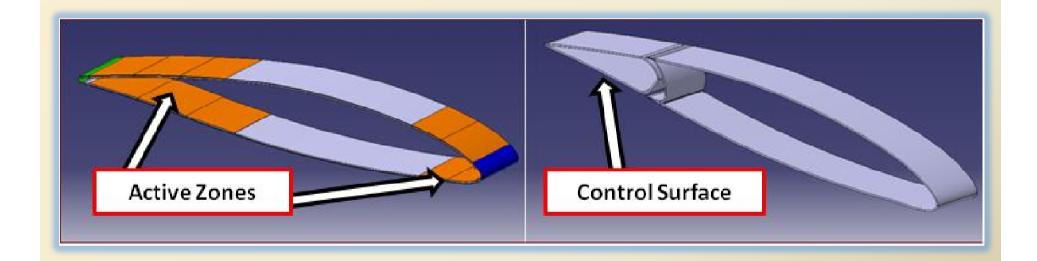






Preliminary Analyses of morphing wing sections

The reference aileron-section and the piezo-section (the basic models)

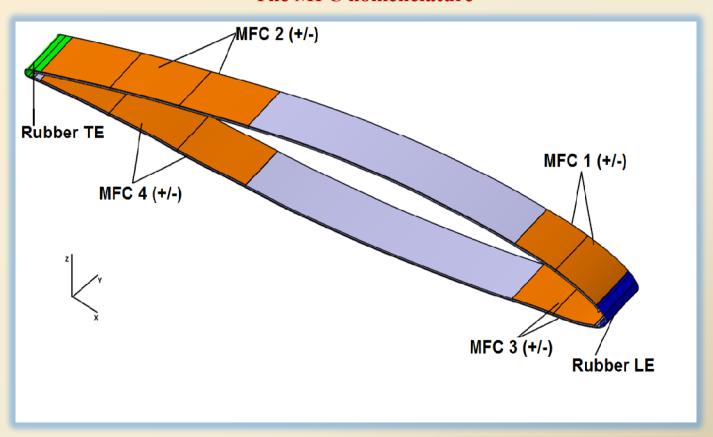






Preliminary Analyses of morphing wing sections

The MFC nomenclature







Preliminary Analyses of morphing wing sections

The voltage loading cases

Realistic Case	V/V*	Case	Patchs	Voltage [V]
	-5	-5	MFC 1/2	-7500/15000
			MFC 3/4	-3750/7500
	-2	-3	MFC 1/2	-3000/6000
			MFC 3/4	-1500/3000
	0	0	MFC 1/2	0/0
			MFC 3/4	0/0
	0.5	1	MFC 1/2	750/-375
			MFC 3/4	1500/-750
	1	2	MFC 1/2	1500/-750
			MFC 3/4	3000/-1500
	2	3	MFC 1/2	3000/-1500
			MFC 3/4	6000/-3000
	4	4	MFC 1/2	6000/-3000
			MFC 3/4	12000/-6000
	5	5	MFC 1/2	7500/-3750
			MFC 3/4	15000/-7500

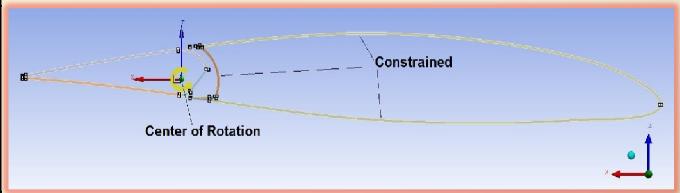




Preliminary Analyses of morphing wing sections

The aileron positions analyzed

Case Number	Aileron Deflection [deg]		
0	-15°		
1	-10°		
2	-5°		
3	0 °		
4	5°		
5	10°		
6	15°		
7	18°		

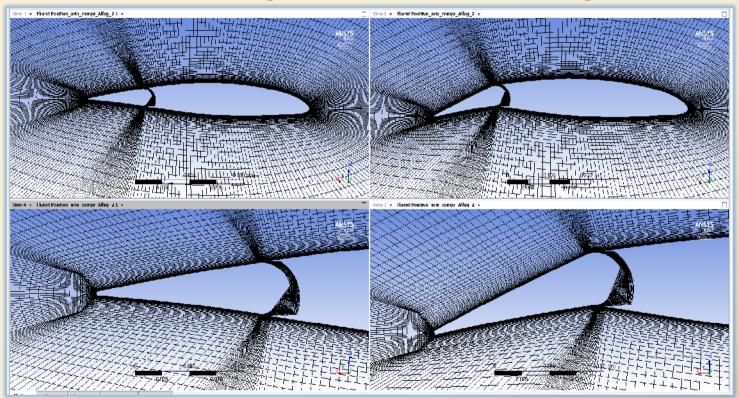






Preliminary Analyses of morphing wing sections

The aileron-wing section: sketch of deformed aero-grid



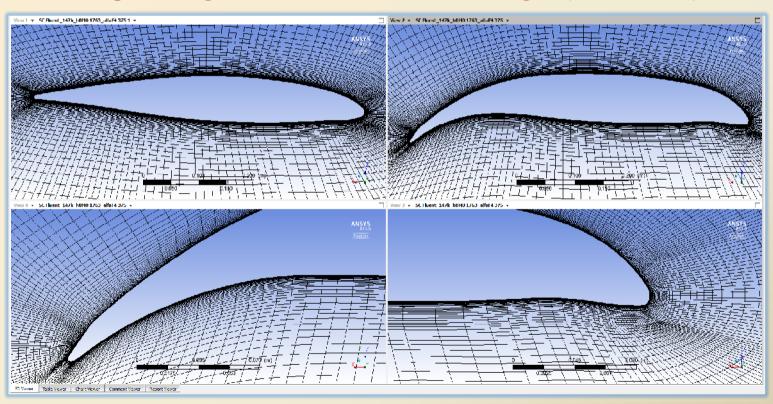
 $(\delta a = 15 \deg, h = 0 m, \alpha g = 2 \deg, M = 0.17)$





Preliminary Analyses of morphing wing sections

The piezo-wing section: sketch of deformed aero-grid ($V^* = 1500 V$)



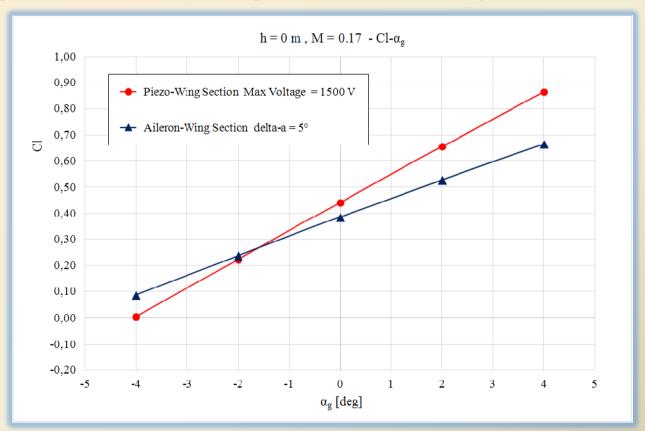
 $(\underline{V/V^* = 5} - \underline{hypothetical \ case}, h = 0 \ m, \alpha g = 2 \ deg, M = 0.17)$





Preliminary Analyses of morphing wing sections

Comparison of the aerodynamic performances of the wing sections ($V/V^* = 0.5$)

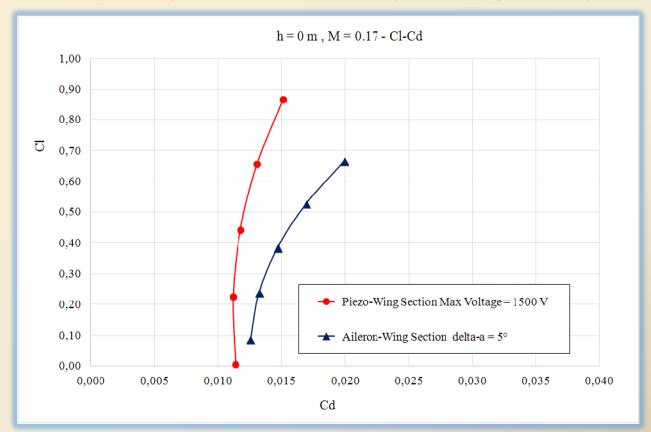






Preliminary Analyses of morphing wing sections

Comparison of the aerodynamic performances of the wing sections (polar drag curves - $V/V^* = 0.5$)

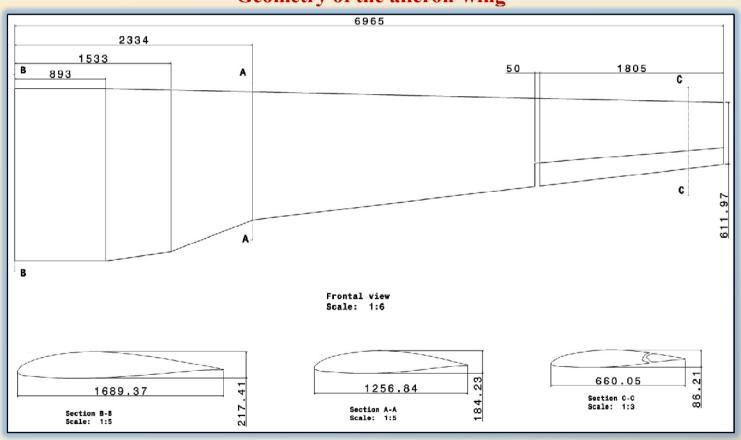






Model and FSI analyses of the Reference Wing (the aileron-wing)

Geometry of the aileron-wing

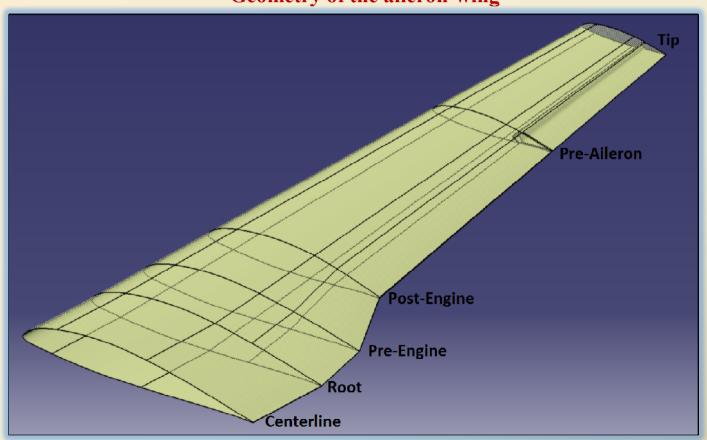






Model and FSI analyses of the Reference Wing (the aileron-wing)

Geometry of the aileron-wing

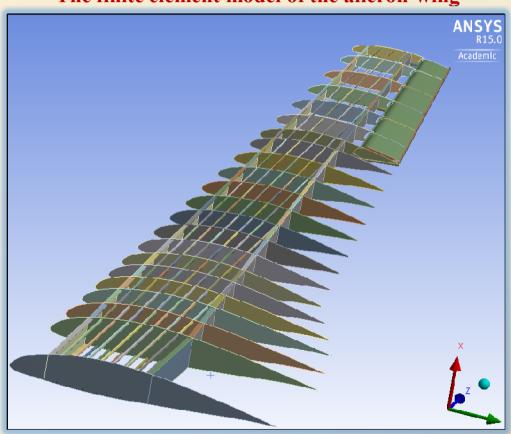






Model and FSI analyses of the Reference Wing (the aileron-wing)

The finite element model of the aileron-wing

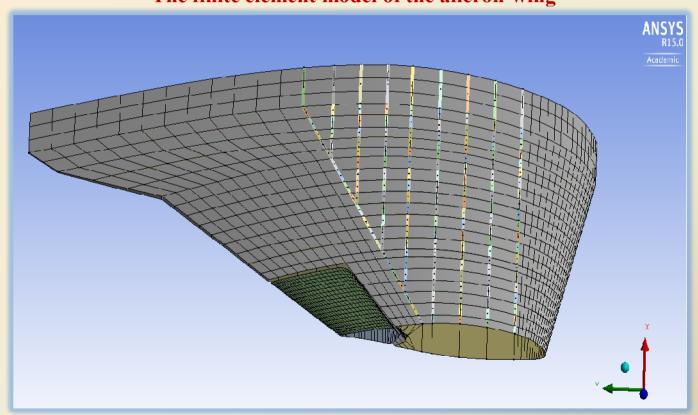






Model and FSI analyses of the Reference Wing (the aileron-wing)

The finite element model of the aileron-wing

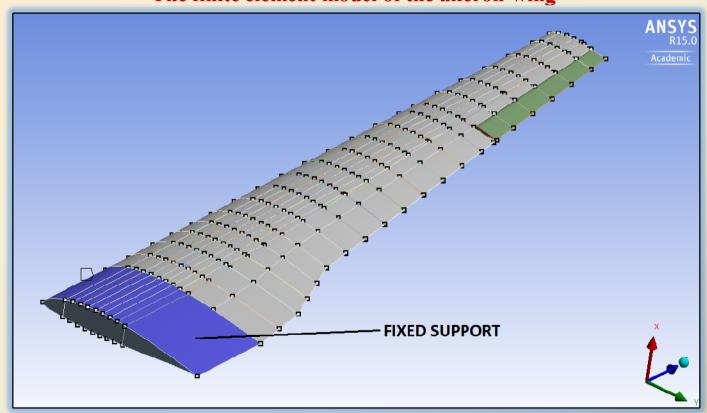






Model and FSI analyses of the Reference Wing (the aileron-wing)

The finite element model of the aileron-wing

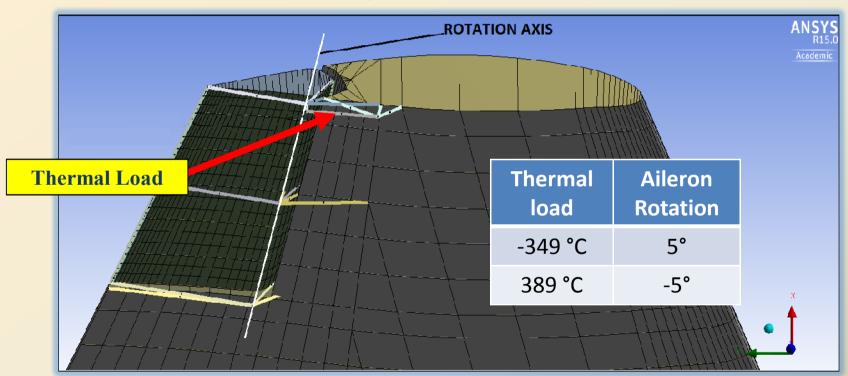






Model and FSI analyses of the Reference Wing (the aileron-wing)

Fictitious actuation system to simulate the aileron movement

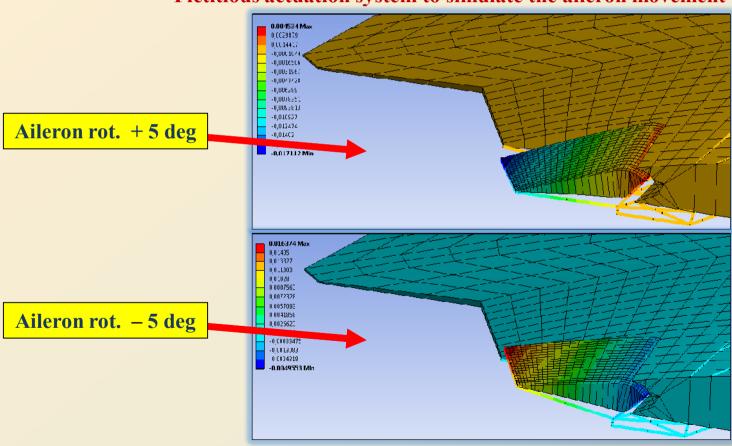






Model and FSI analyses of the Reference Wing (the aileron-wing)

Fictitious actuation system to simulate the aileron movement

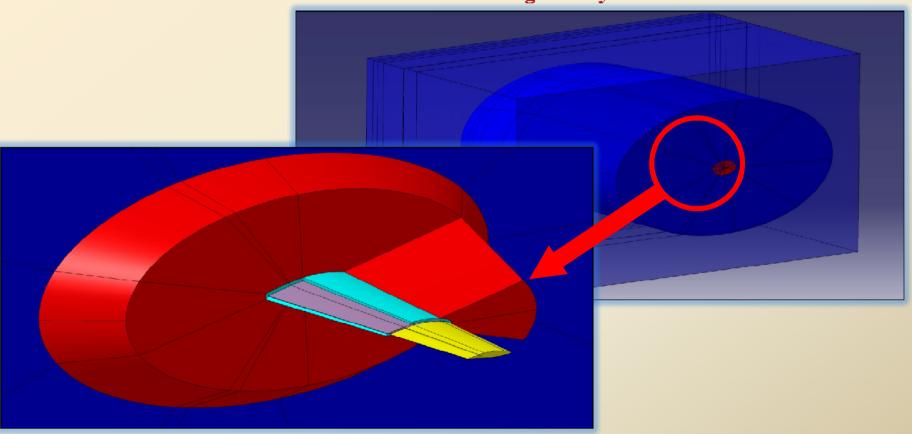






Model and FSI analyses of the Reference Wing (the aileron-wing)

CFD model: fluid domain geometry

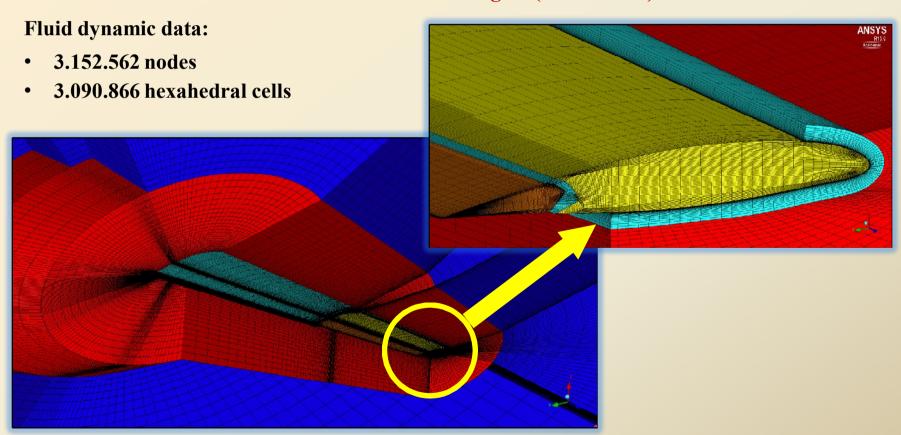






Model and FSI analyses of the Reference Wing (the aileron-wing)

CFD model: fluid domain grid (structured)

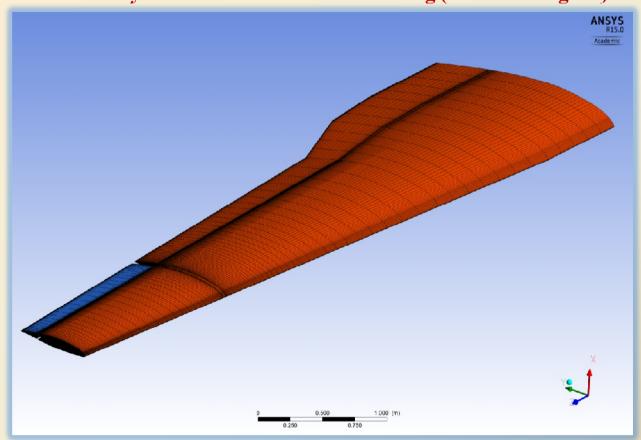






Model and FSI analyses of the Reference Wing (the aileron-wing)

The aerodynamic model of the aileron-wing (the surface grid)



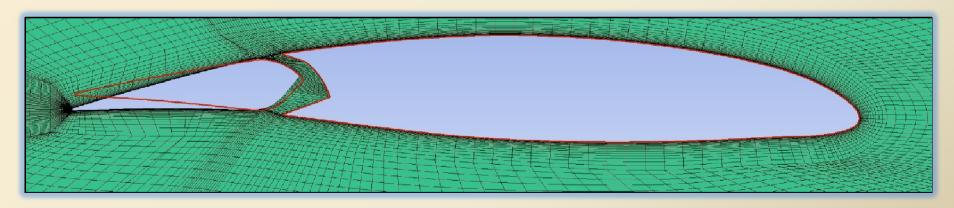




Model and FSI analyses of the Reference Wing (the aileron-wing)

FSI 2-ways results

- Cross section plane @ 6 m
- $\delta a = 5$
- h = 0 m
- M = 0.17
- $\alpha_g = 0$



Deformed fluid dynamic mesh in true scale.

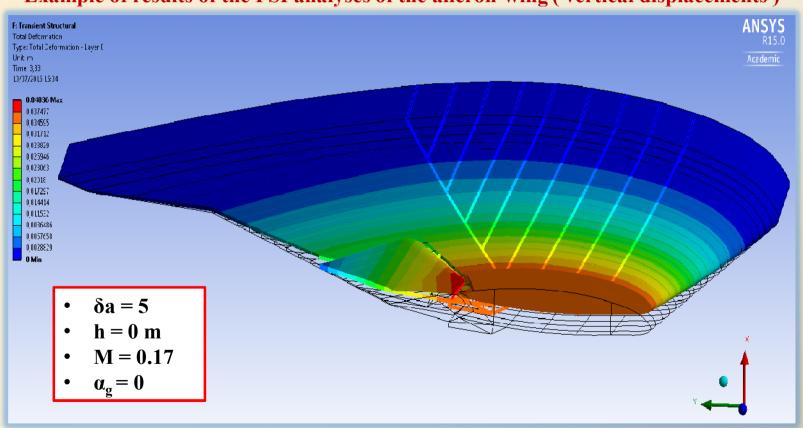
The red line represents the undeformed profile.





Model and FSI analyses of the Reference Wing (the aileron-wing)

Example of results of the FSI analyses of the aileron-wing (vertical displacements)

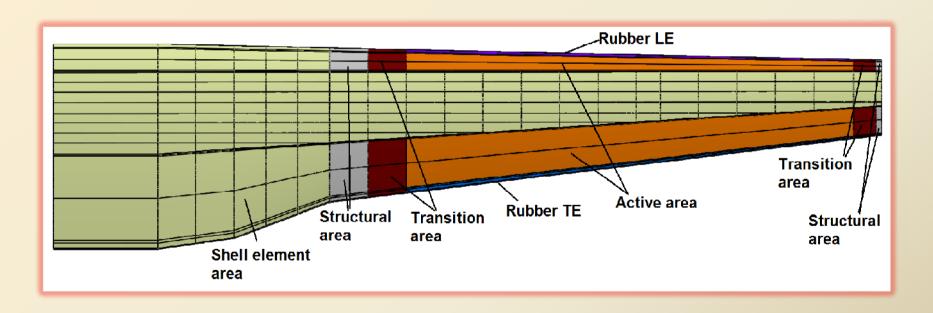






Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

The finite element model of the piezo-wing

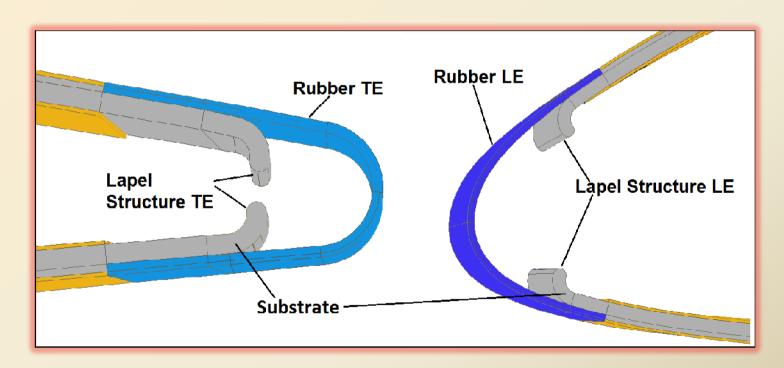






Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

The finite element model of the piezo-wing (details of LE and TE)







Academic

Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

The finite element model of the piezo-wing

103160 nodes

Mesh characteristics:

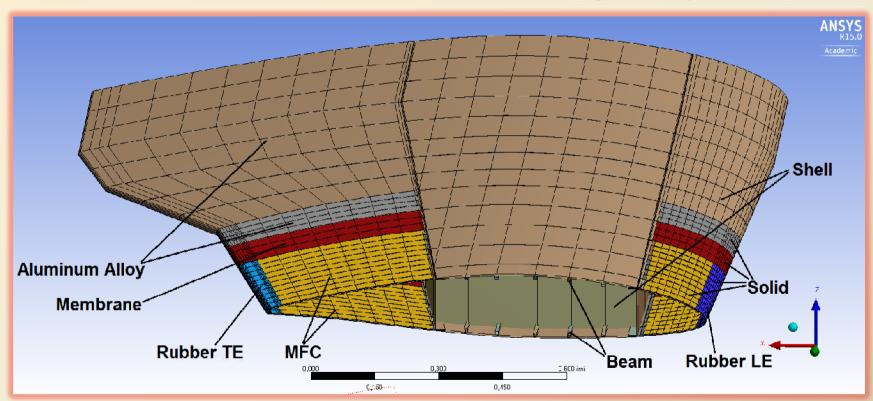
19459 elements





Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

Partial sketch of the mechanical model of the piezo-wing

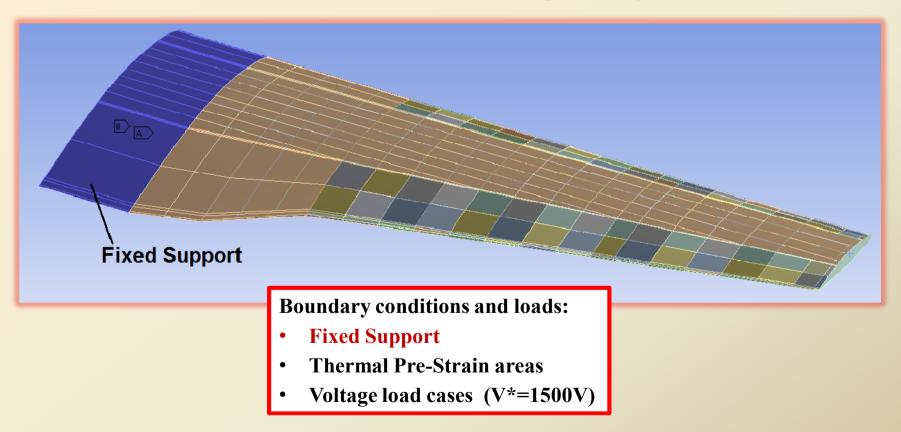






Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

The finite element model of the piezo-wing

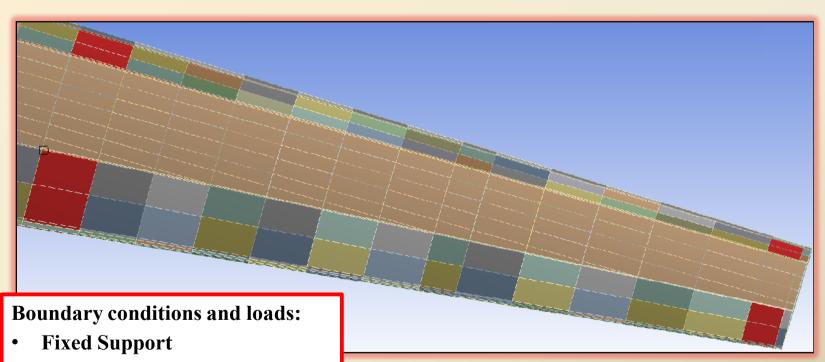






Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

The finite element model of the piezo-wing



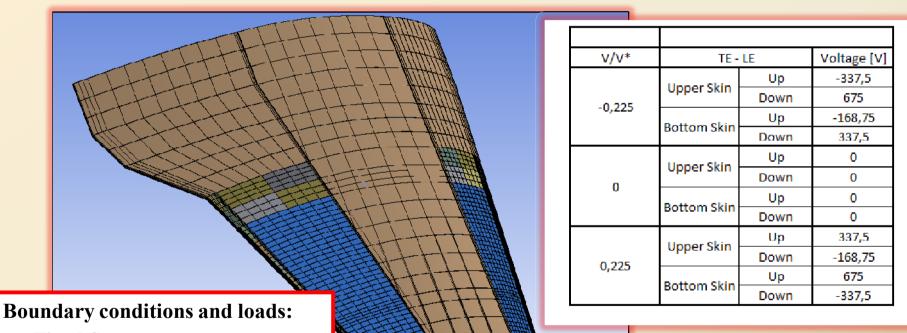
- Thermal Pre-Strain areas
- Voltage load cases (V*=1500V)





Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

The finite element model of the piezo-wing



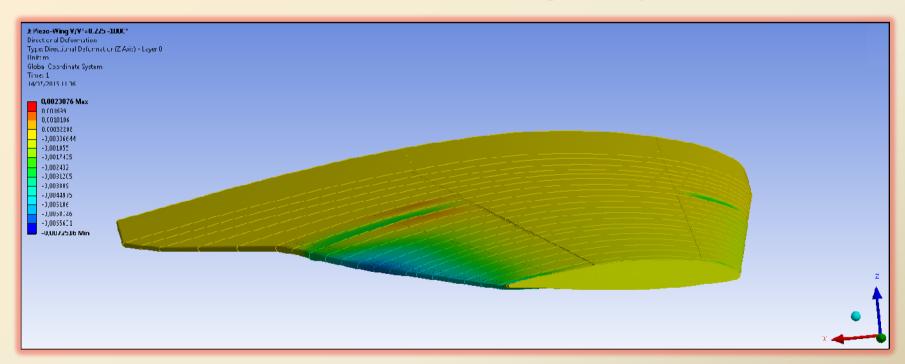
- **Fixed Support**
- **Thermal Pre-Strain areas**
- Voltage load cases (V*=1500V)





Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

The finite element model of the piezo-wing



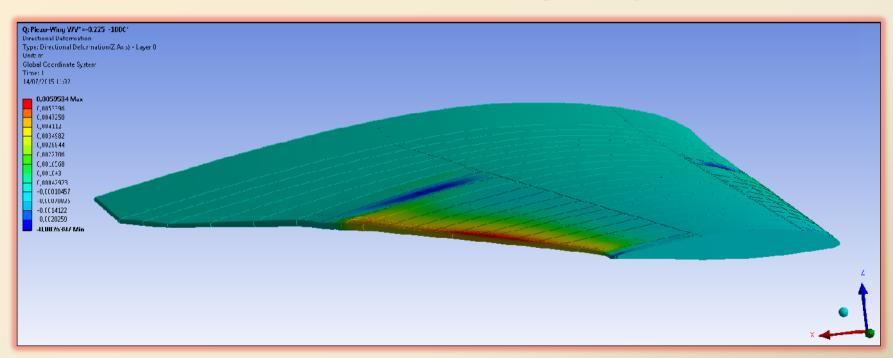
Results due to voltage effects: $V/V^* = 0.225$





Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

The finite element model of the piezo-wing



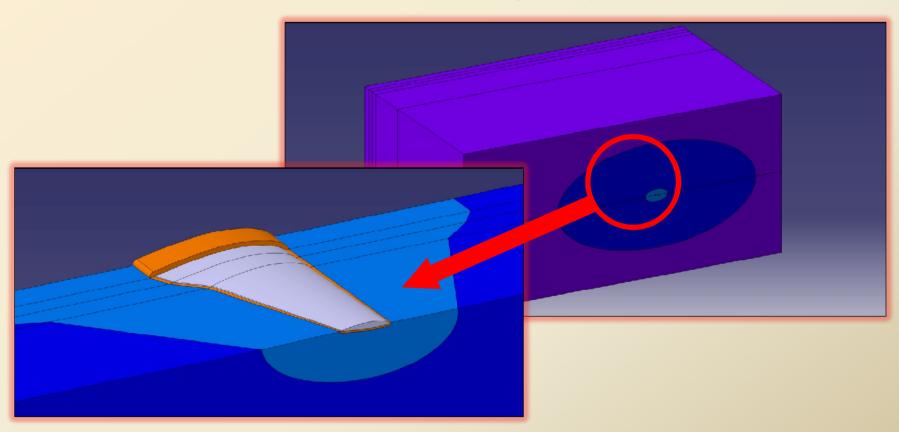
Results due to voltage effects: $V/V^* = -0.225$





Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

CFD model: fluid domain geometry

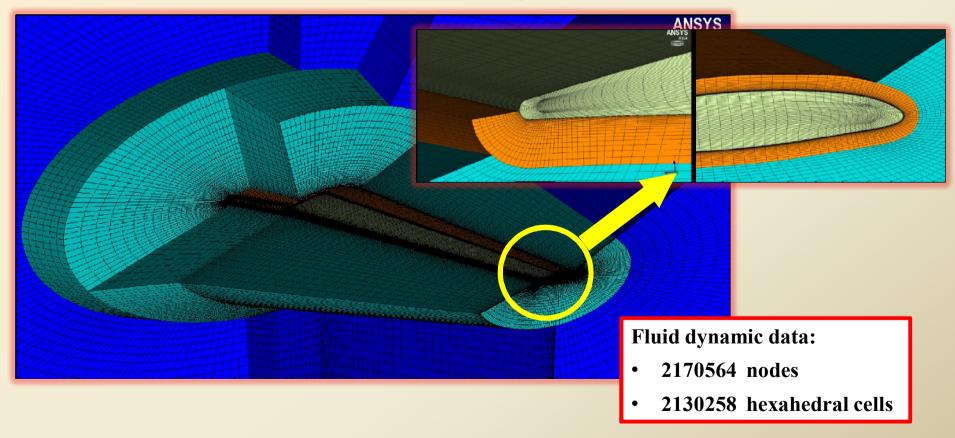






Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

CFD model: fluid domain grid (structured)

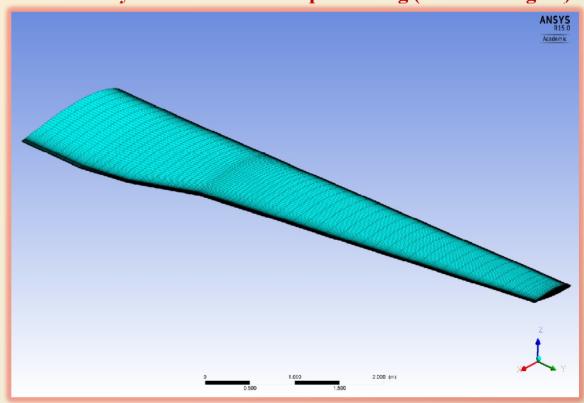






Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

The aerodynamic model of the piezo-wing (the surface grid)

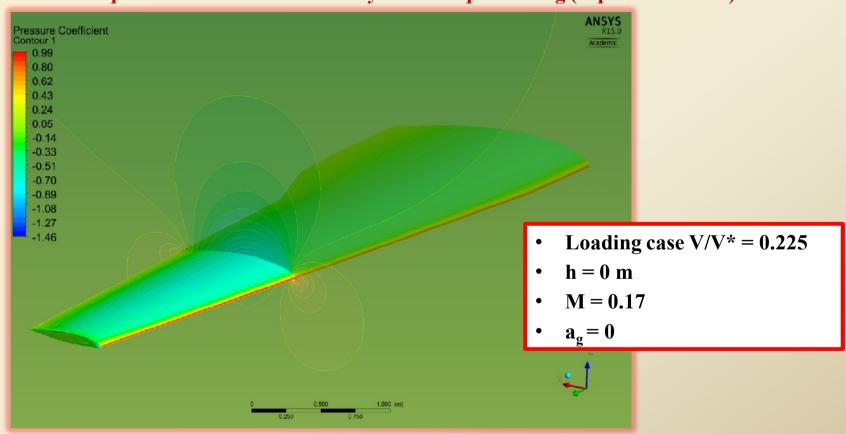






Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

Example of results of the FSI analyses of the piezo-wing (Cp distribution)

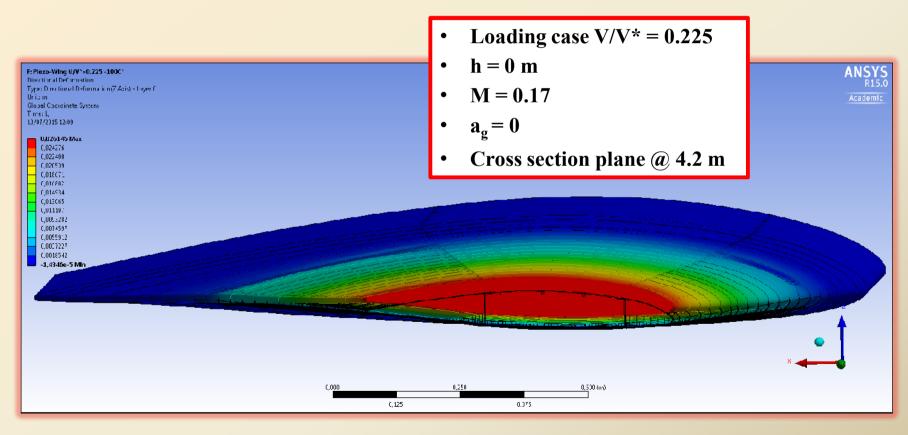






Model and FSI analyses of the Morphing Wing (the piezo-wing)

Example of results of the FSI analyses of the piezo-wing (vertical displacements)

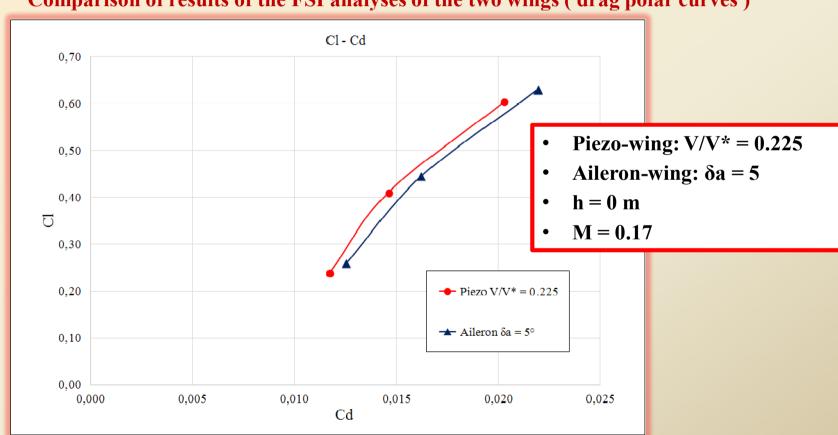






Comparison of the aerodynamic performances of the wings

Comparison of results of the FSI analyses of the two wings (drag polar curves)

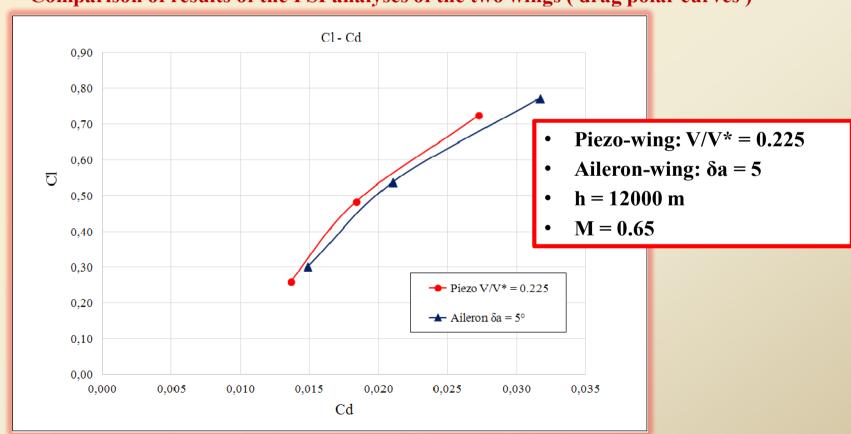






Comparison of the aerodynamic performances of the wings

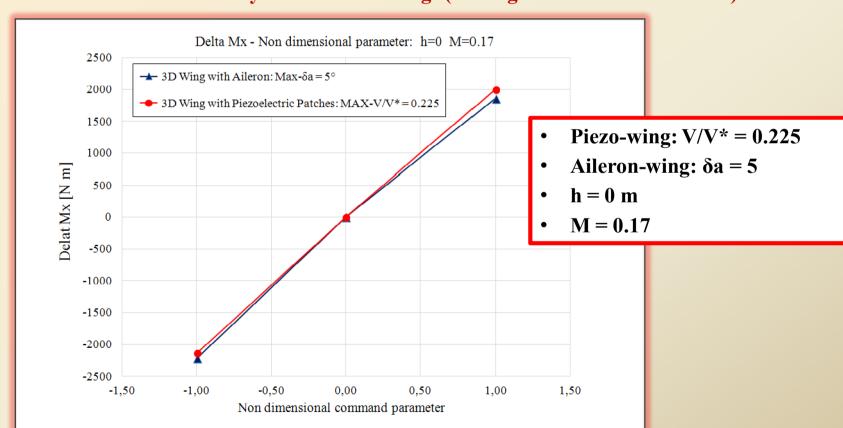
Comparison of results of the FSI analyses of the two wings (drag polar curves)







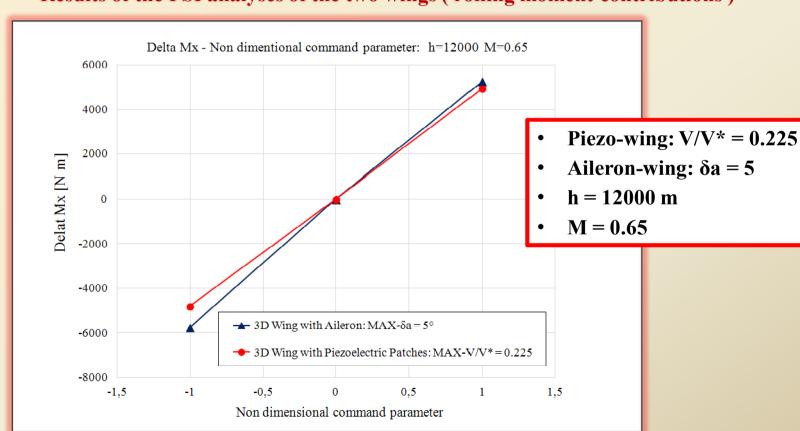
Comparison and discussion of the static aeroelastic results







Comparison and discussion of the static aeroelastic results







Comparison and discussion of the static aeroelastic results

Piezo-Wing $h = 0$ $M = 0.17$ $\alpha g = 0^{\circ}$				
V/V* (slide 39)	Non dimensional parameter	Mx [Nm]	Delta-Mx [Nm]	Delta-Mx Tot [Nm]
-0.225	-1	16,077	-2,138	
0	0	18,214	0	4,135
0.225	1	20,212	1,998	

Aileron-Wing $h = 0$ $M = 0.17$ $\alpha g = 0^{\circ}$				
δa (aileron angle)	Non dimensional parameter	Mx [Nm]	Delta-Mx [Nm]	Delta-Mx Tot [Nm]
-4°	-1	17,690	-2,218	
0°	0	19,908	0	4,078
5°	1	21,768	1,860	





Comparison and discussion of the static aeroelastic results

Piezo-Wing $h = 12000 \text{ M} = 0.65 \alpha g = 0^{\circ}$				
V/V* (slide 39)	Non dimensional parameter	Mx [Nm]	Delta-Mx [Nm]	Delta-Mx Tot [Nm]
-0.225	-1	47,826	-4,801	
0	0	52,627	0	9,728
0.225	1	57,554	4,927	

Aileron-Wing $h = 12000$ $M = 0.65$ $\alpha g = 0^{\circ}$				
δa (aileron angle)	Non dimensional parameter	Mx [Nm]	Delta-Mx [Nm]	Delta-Mx Tot [Nm]
-4°	-1	56,628	-5,748	
0°	0	62,376	0	10,998
5°	1	67,627	5,250	





Conclusions and future research activities (1 of 3)

- The 3D piezo-wing model under the effect of the control parameter V/V* = 0.225, that is, under the application of voltage loads that are fully compatible with the MFC patches available at present, provides an aerodynamic behavior similar to an aileron-wing. In fact the drag polar curves of the two wings are very similar (for h=0 m and M=0.17 and for h= 12000 m and M=0.65).
- Under the conditions examined the piezo-wing seems to be slightly more efficient with respect to the traditional aileron wing.
- At low speed and at low altitude flight condition (h=0 and M=0.17 with $\alpha g = 0^{\circ}$) the total roll moment of the piezo-wing is equal to 4,135 Nm, while the total roll moment of the aileron-wing corresponding to a deflection of $\delta a = -4^{\circ}$ and $\delta a = +5^{\circ}$ of the right and left aileron surfaces respectively is equal to 4,078 Nm. The piezo-wing provide an aeromechanical performance similar to the traditional aileron-wing (for a little deflection of the aileron surface).
- At a cruise flight condition (that is h=12000 and M=0.65 with $\alpha g = 0^{\circ}$) the total roll moment of the piezo-wing is equal to 9,728 Nm while the total roll moment of the aileron-wing corresponding to a deflection of $\delta a = -4^{\circ}$ and $\delta a = +5^{\circ}$ of the right and left aileron surfaces respectively is equal to 10,998 Nm. In this case the piezo-wing, for the control voltages applied, provides a lower value of the roll moment but very close to the traditional aileron-wing data.





Conclusions and future research activities (2 of 3)

- The result obtained, on the basis of fluid structure interaction analyses under static loading conditions, show that at present the use of piezoelectric patches as actuators to control the shape of a realistic wing gives aeromechanical effects similar to the aileron control surfaces for low values of angle of deflection (a roll manoeuvre with ailerons deflection of 5° 8° can be performed).
- From a mechanical point of view the structure of the piezo-wing provides a very good behaviour, in fact the deformation levels are similar to the reference wing also for high Mach numbers. Moreover the thicknesses of the morphing substrate can be reduced allowing a higher deformation of the cross section and then a higher increase of the airfoils' curvature that may provide better aerodynamic performances of the morphing wing.





Conclusions and future research activities (3 of 3)

- From a practical point of view further analyses carried out within the FutureWings project, that can't be presented in the present work for the sake of simplicity, have shown that with an hypothetical increase of the MFC performances of about 4 times, a Future–Wing Aircraft (that is an aircraft with morphing piezoelectric wings) could be able to execute the take off manoeuvre of the reference aircraft. In this sense further research on the development of high performances piezoelectric materials are strongly desirable.
- Another result regards the <u>behaviour of a morphing wing at high angles of attack</u>: preliminary analyses show that the stall of a clean piezo-wing happens in a smoother manner and for higher values of the angle of attack with respect to a wing equipped with high lift systems; anyway, detailed and more complex analyses need to be executed on this topic.



The FutureWings Project - G.A. 335042



A Numerical Comparison between a Morphing Wing and a Traditional Wing: Aerodynamic Effects of Controlled Piezoelectric Deflections



iChrome







Thank You Very Much for Your Attention