



*Gregor Veble*

## Designing for extreme energy efficiency of electric aircraft

ORGANIZED BY



consensus 



IN COOPERATION WITH



 REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA  
MINISTRSTVO ZA INFRASTRUKTURO IN PROSTOR



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*Italian*  
**pipistrello** /pipis'trello/ *m.*  
[zool.] bat



Est. 1987



Manufacture and Service dept.

Prototyping & Testing

Research & Development



















Green Flight  
Challenge



2011

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Conducted by



Taurus G4



# “Form follows function”

Louis Sullivan, 1896  
(according to Wikipedia entry)



“Modernists believed, perhaps incorrectly, that airplane design did not involve any aesthetic decisions by the airplane designers.”

(Same page)

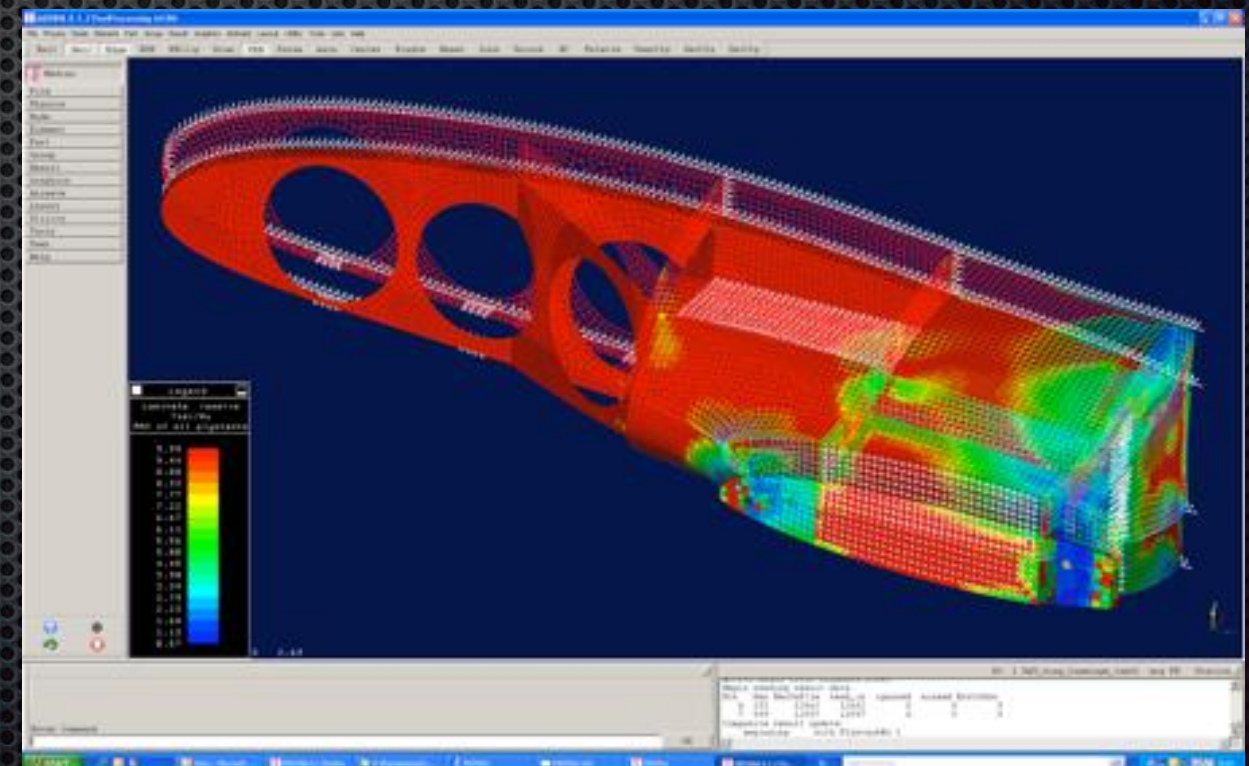
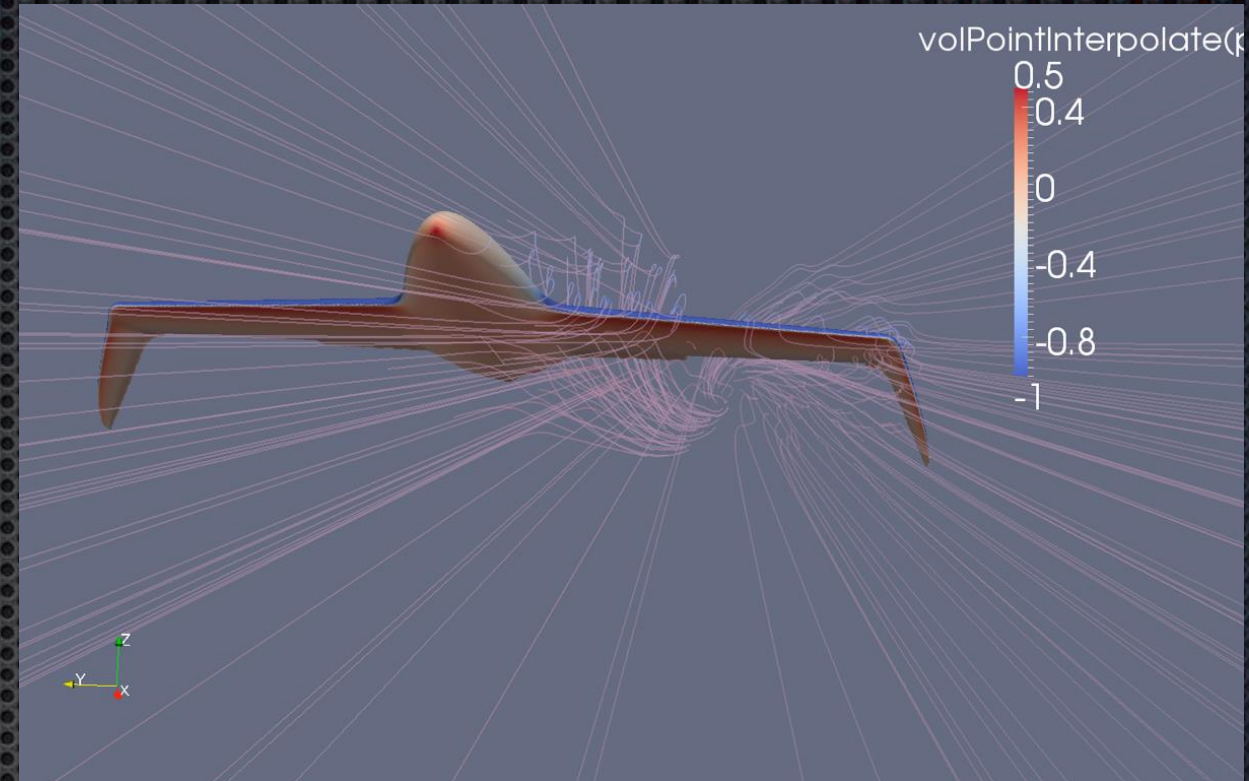


Form equals function.



# Aircraft design - horizontally

- Aerodynamics
- Structures
- Propulsion
- Controls
- Marketing
- ...

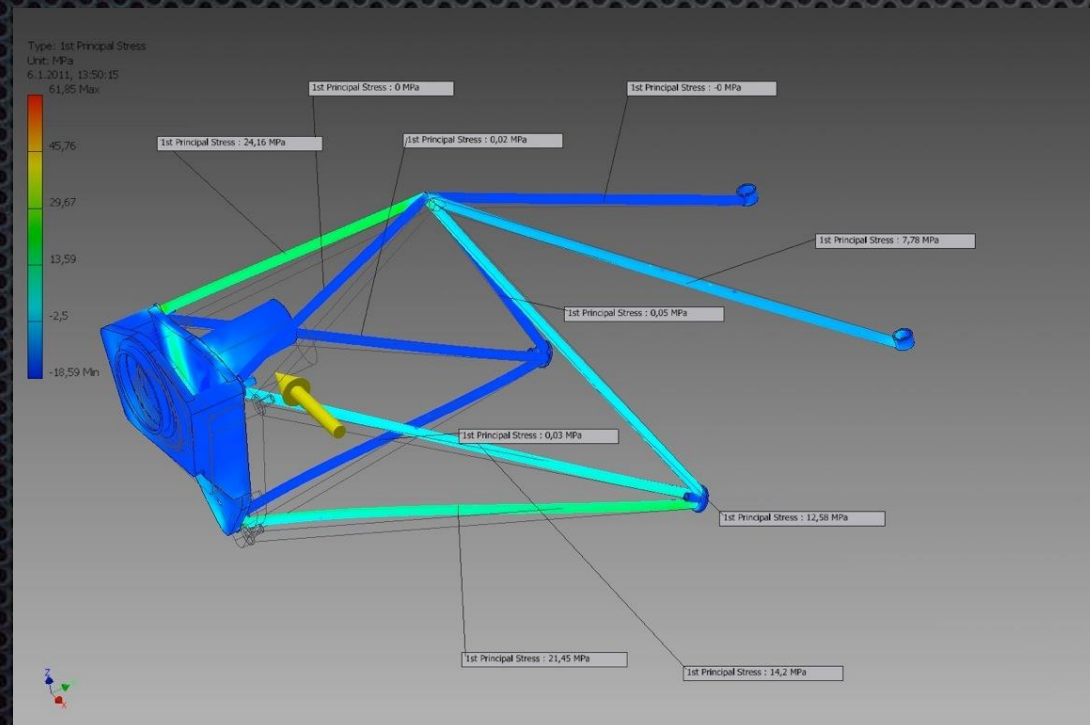
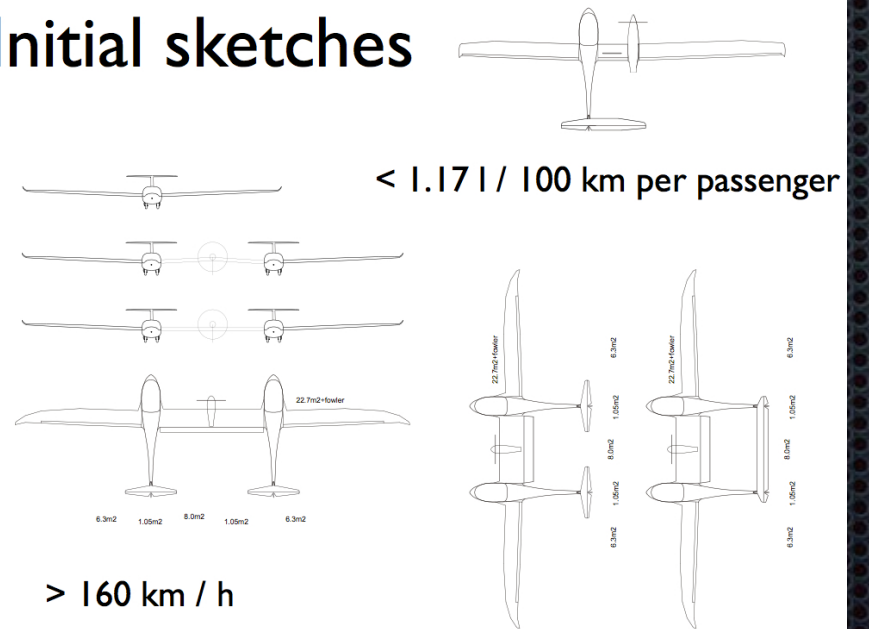




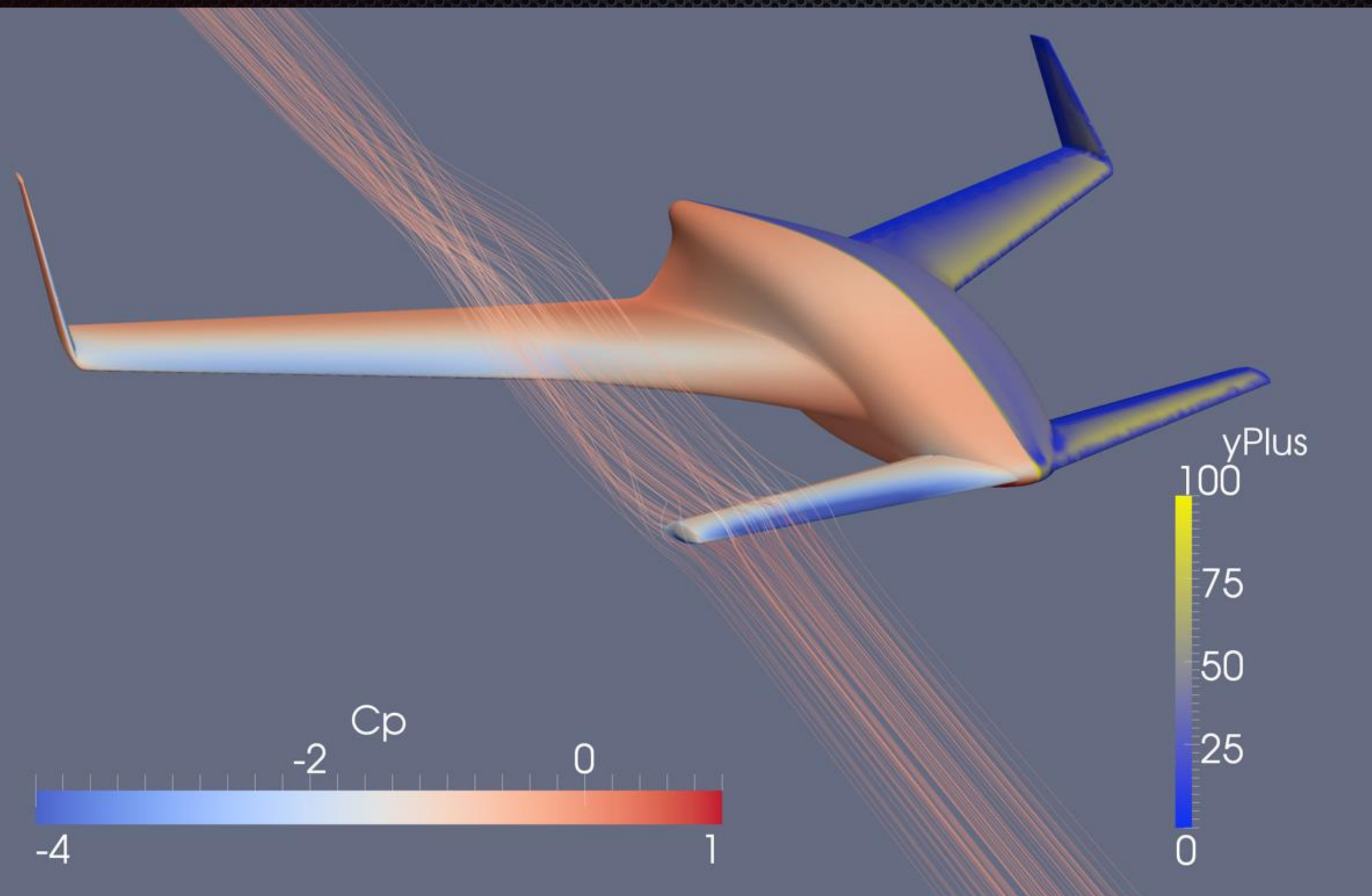
# Aircraft design - vertically

- Sizing
- Preliminary design
- Detail design

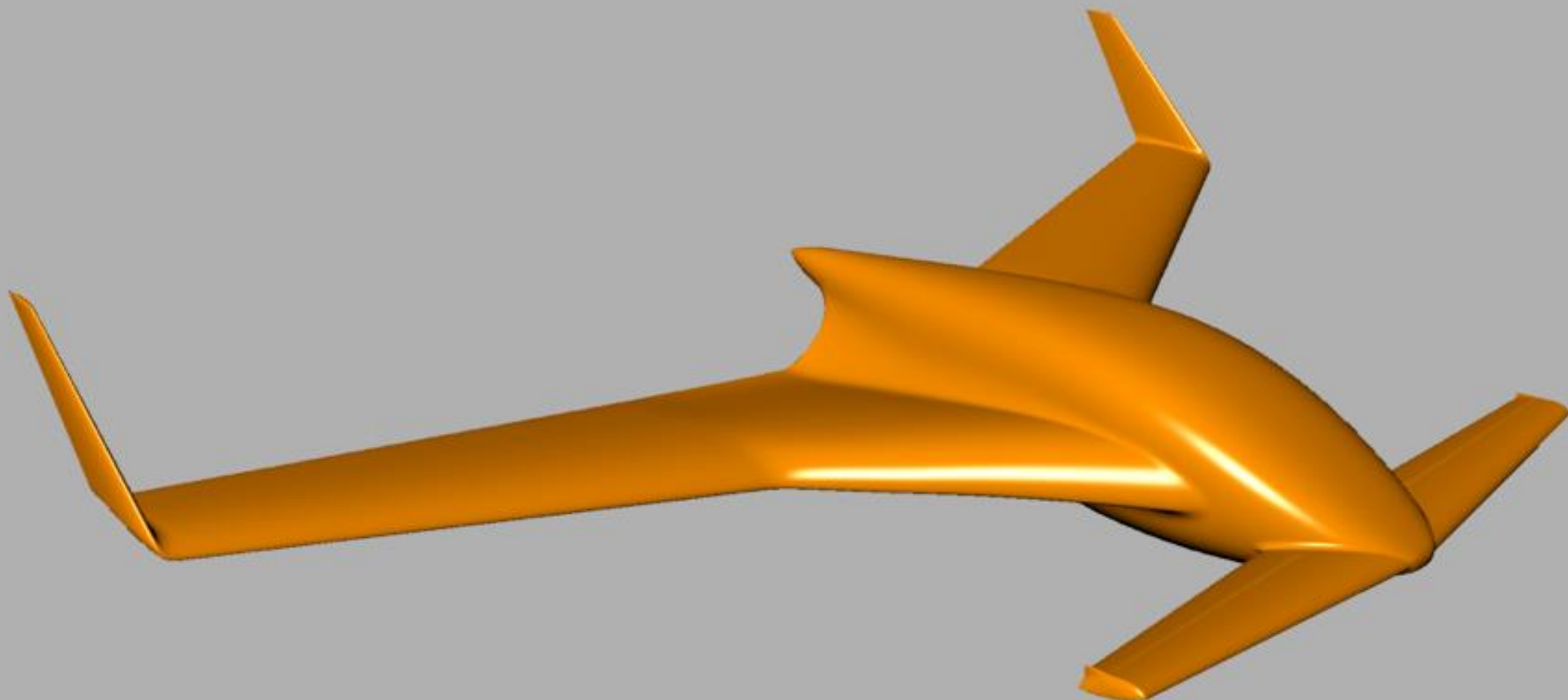
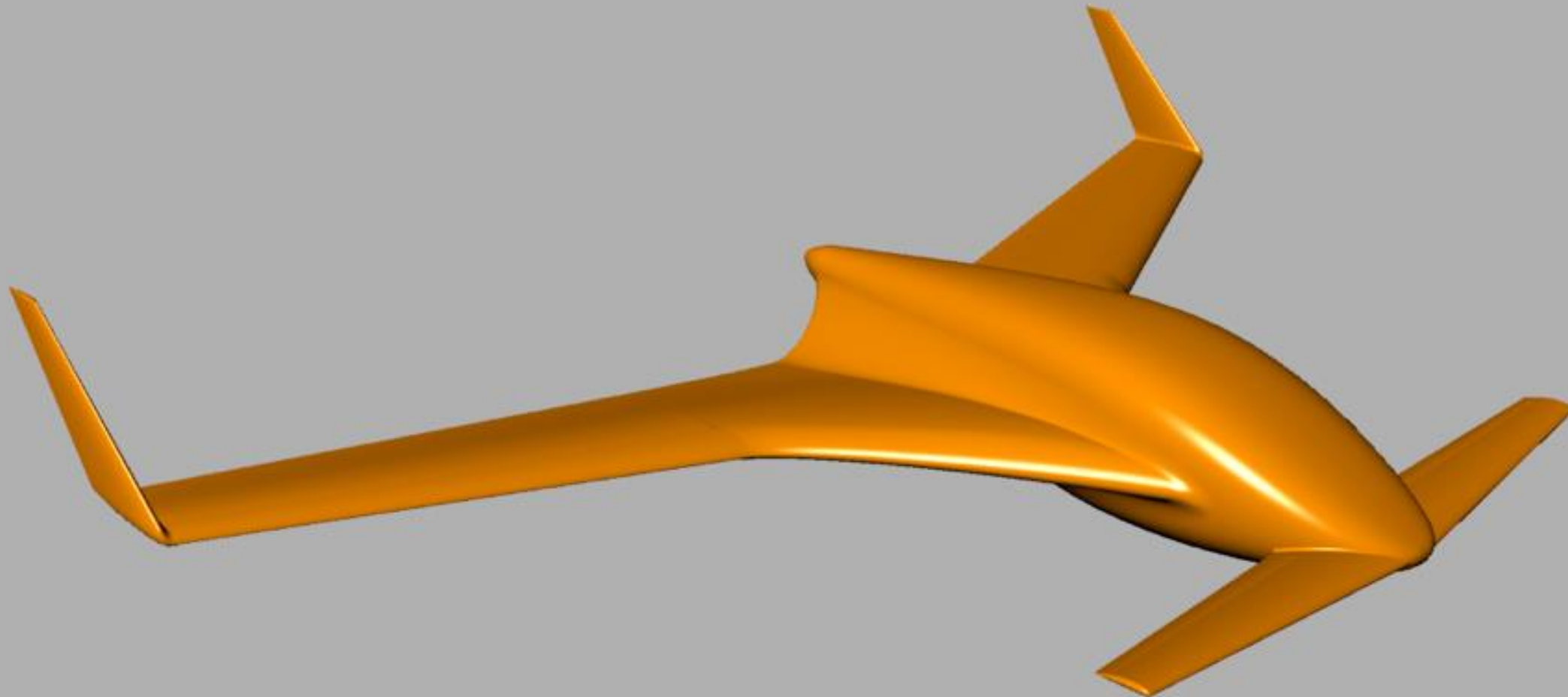
## Initial sketches













Good design achieves  
difficult, relevant goals

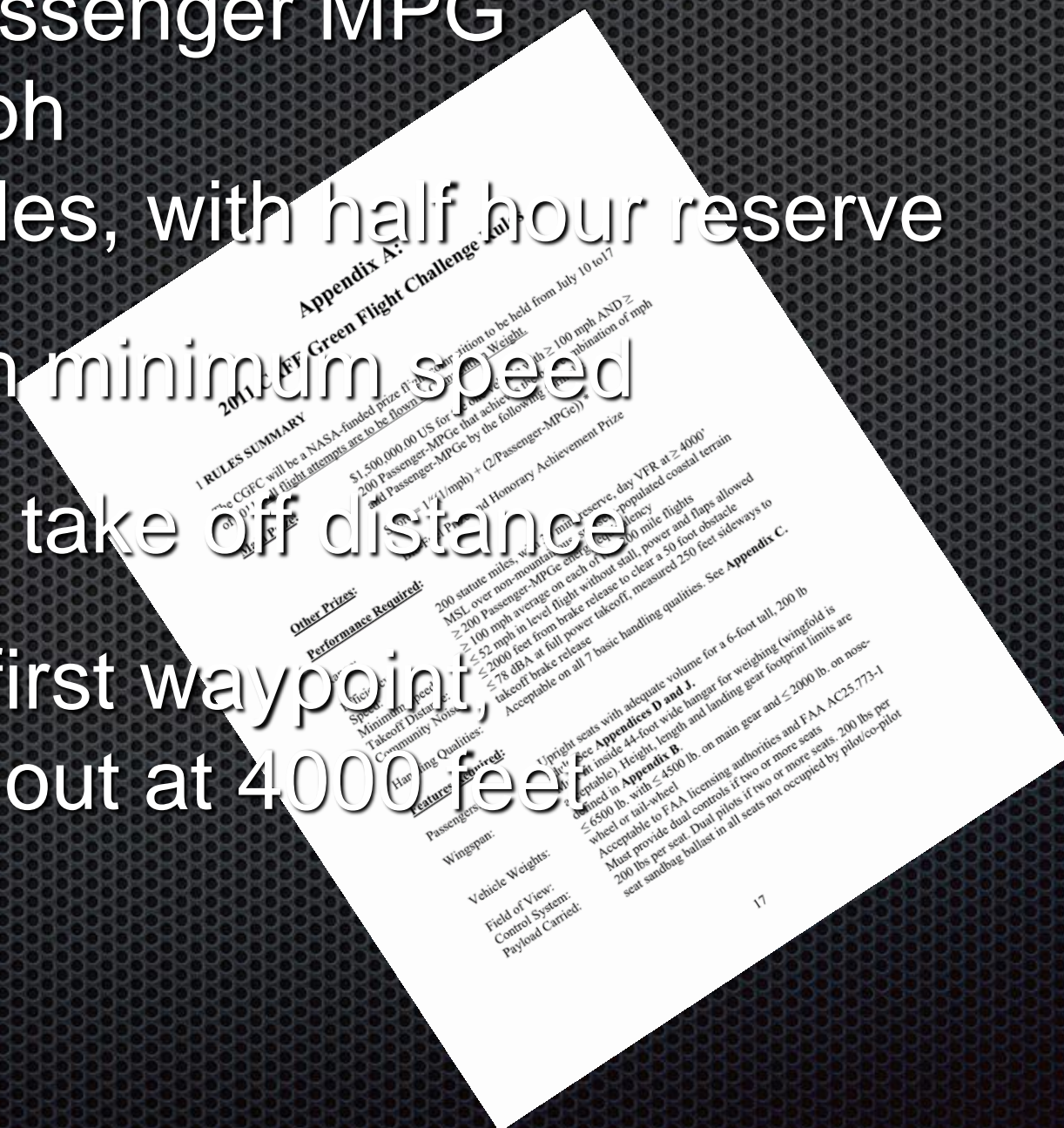






# Green Flight Challenge

- > 200 passenger MPG
- > 100 mph
- > 200 miles, with half hour reserve
- < 52 mph minimum speed
- < 2000 ft take off distance
- climb to first waypoint, 15 miles out at 4000 feet



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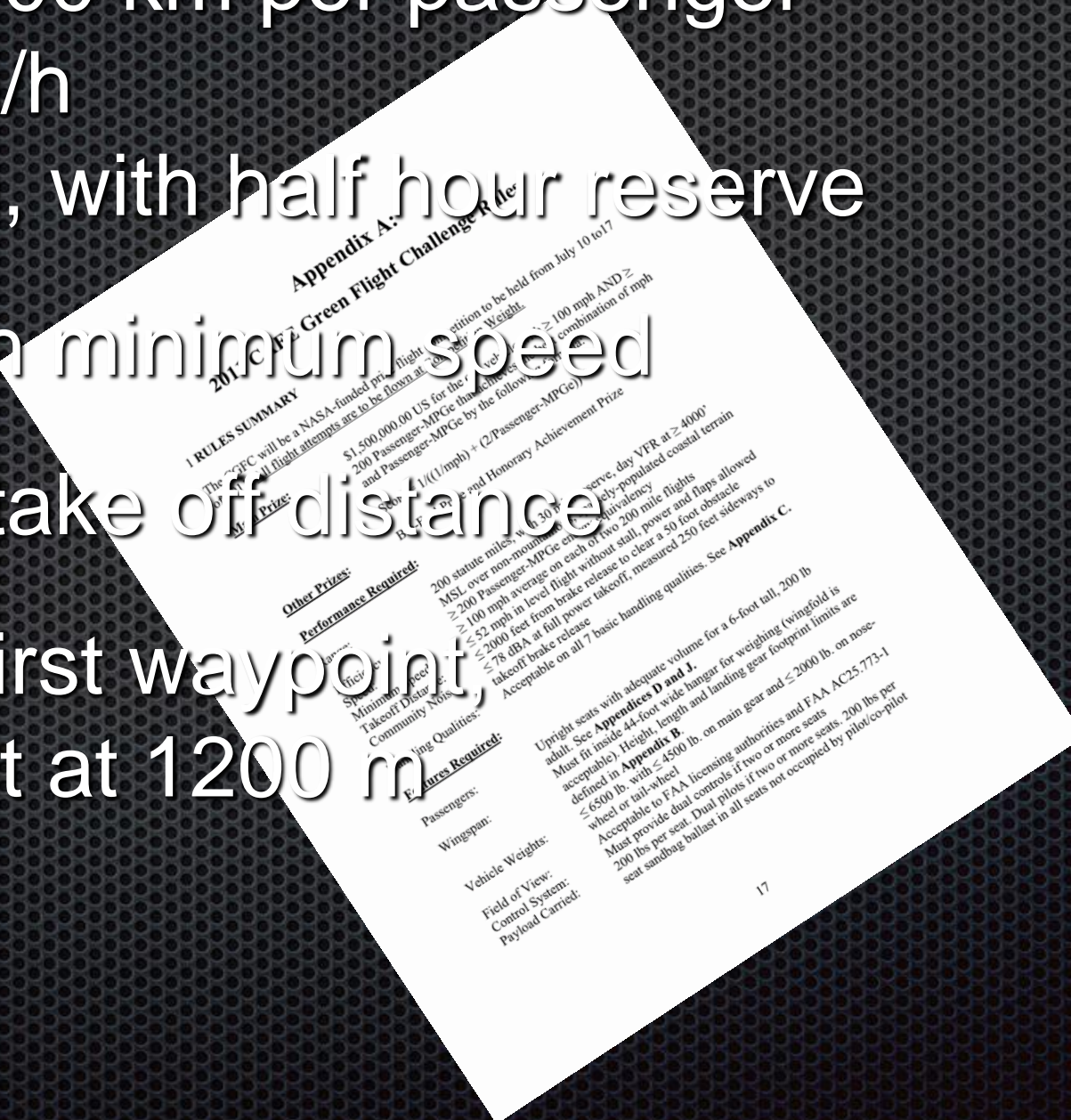
Conducted by





# Green Flight Challenge

- $< 1.17$  l/100 km per passenger
- $> 160$  km/h
- $> 322$  km, with half hour reserve
- $< 83$  km/h minimum speed
- $< 600$  m take off distance
- climb to first waypoint, 24 km out at 1200 m



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# Competition

Scheduled for July 2011

- Maximum efficiency flight
- Maximum speed flight

Both at >200pMPG, >100 mph, >200 miles

Both using the same battery configuration

$$\text{Score} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{\text{Speed}} + \frac{2}{\text{Mileage}}}$$



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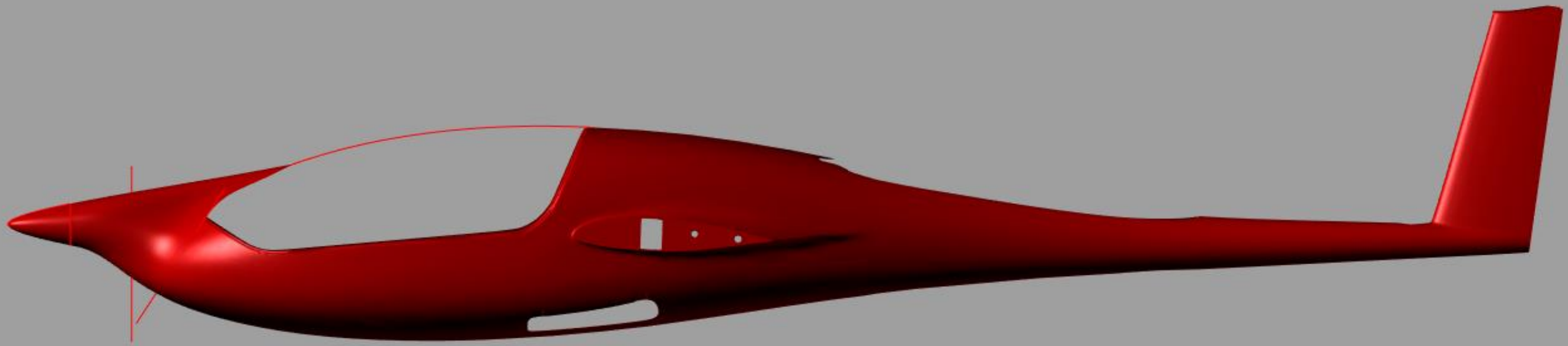




April 2010

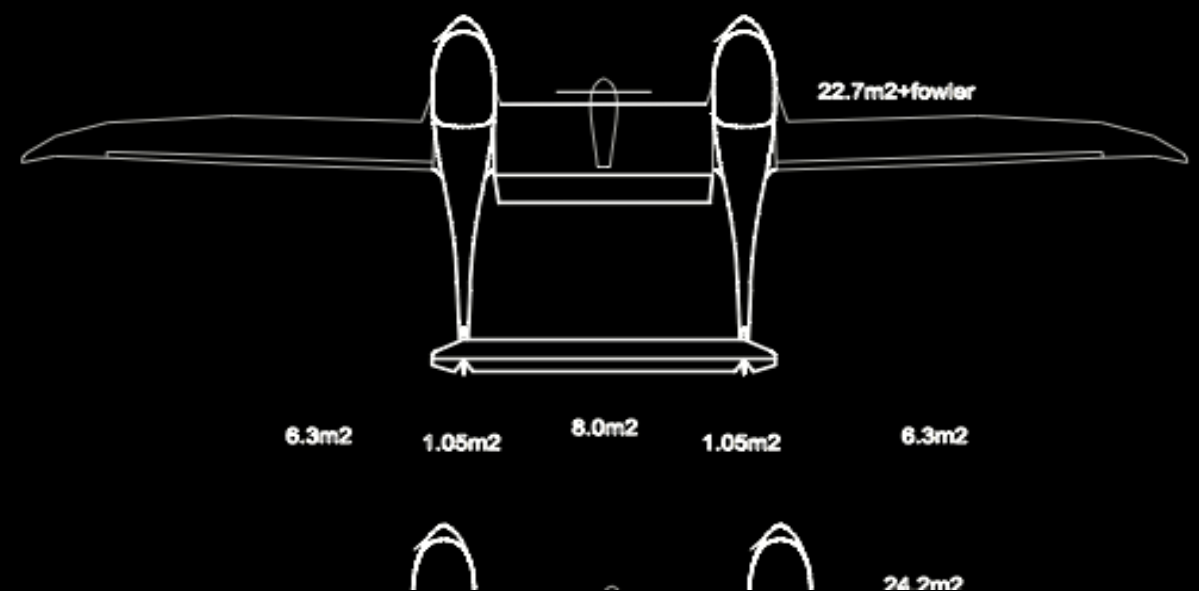
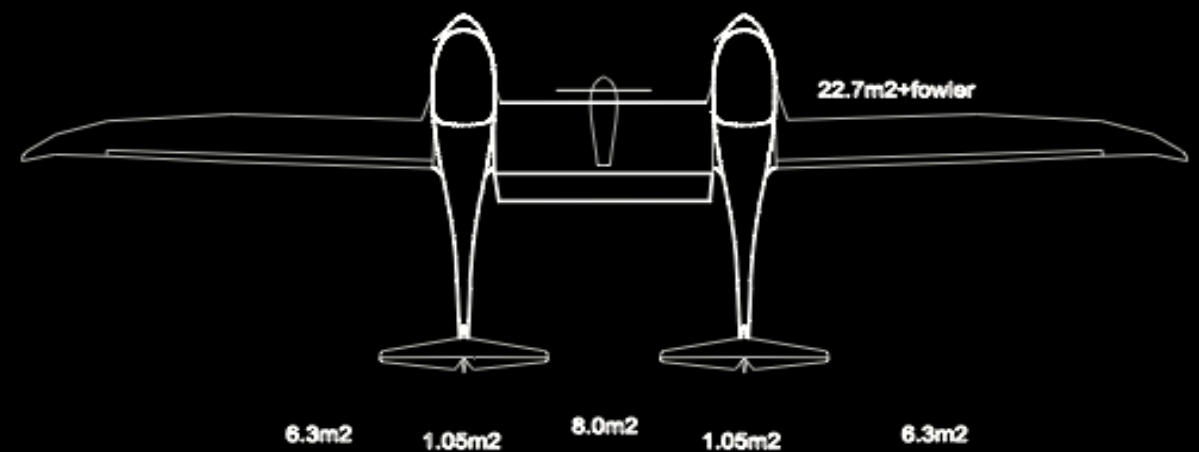
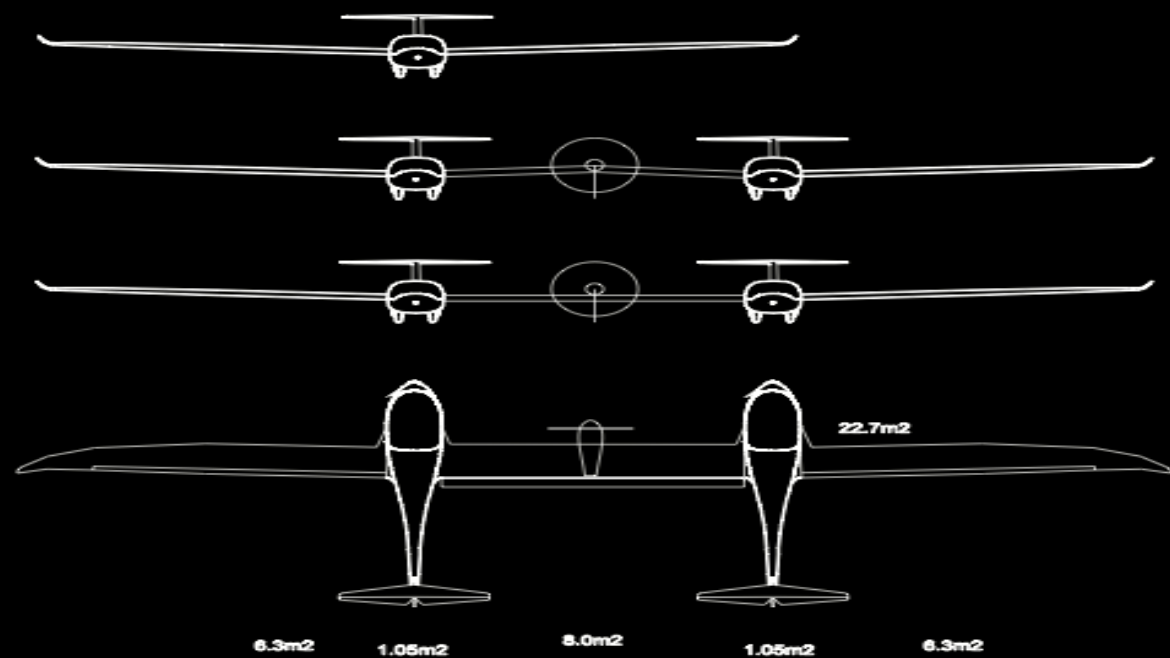


# 2 seat concept study





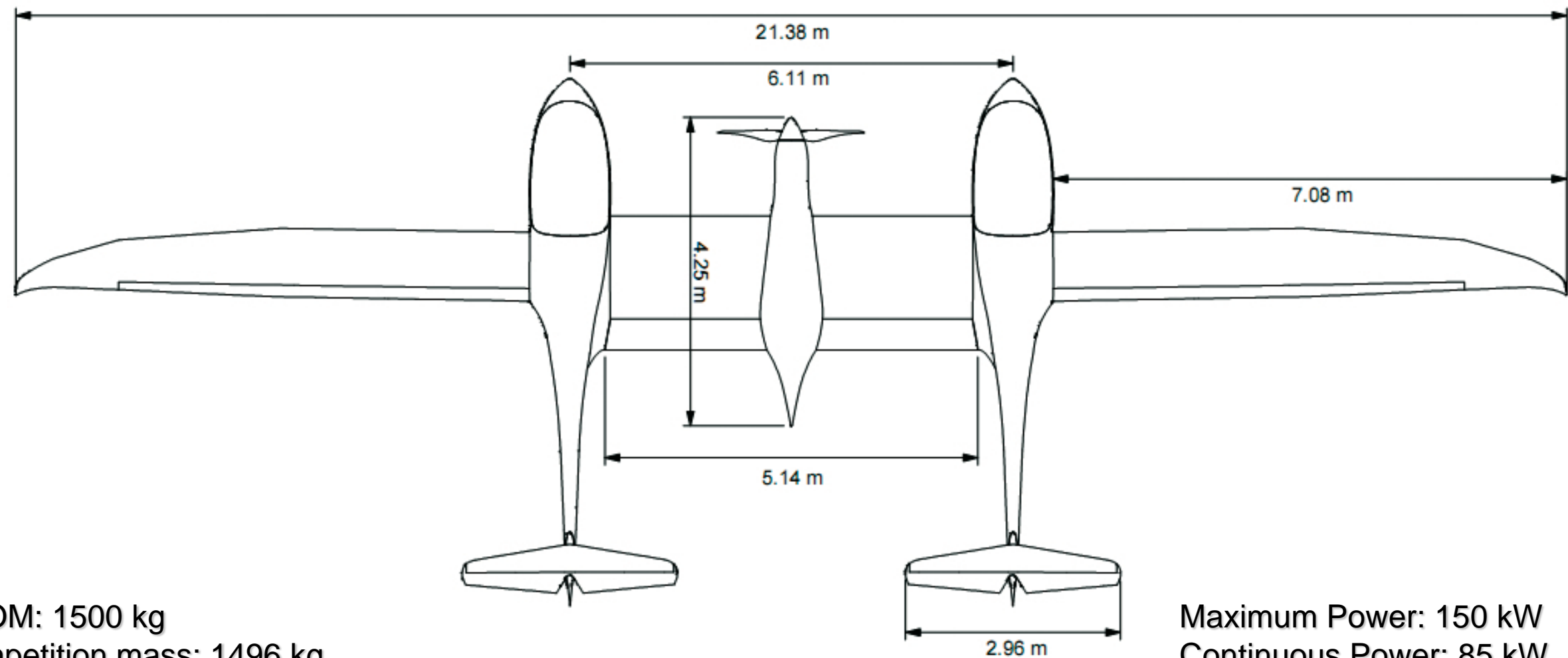
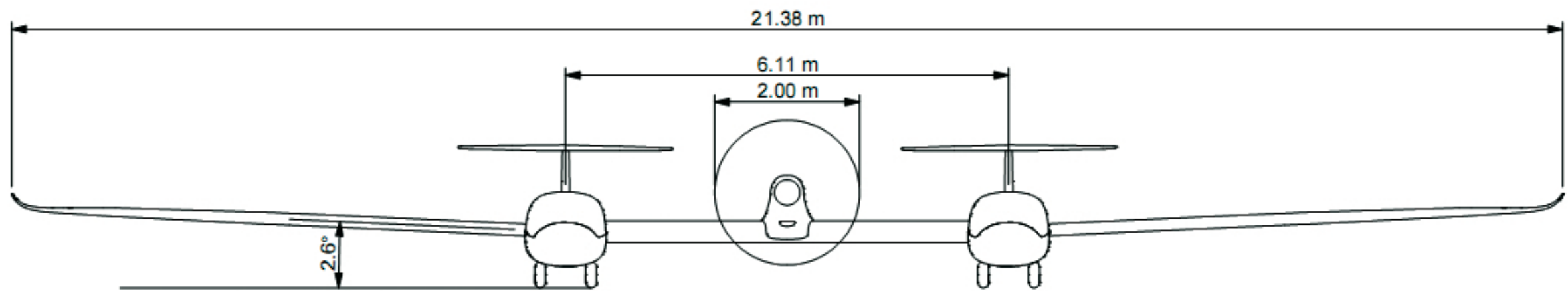
# Twin fuselage concepts





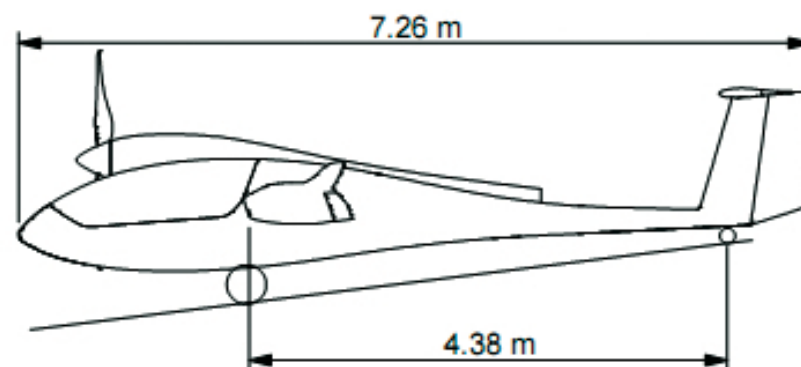
December 2010





MTOM: 1500 kg  
Competition mass: 1496 kg

empty: 632 kg (42.2%)  
batteries: 500 kg (33.5%)  
passengers (4): 364 kg (24.3%)

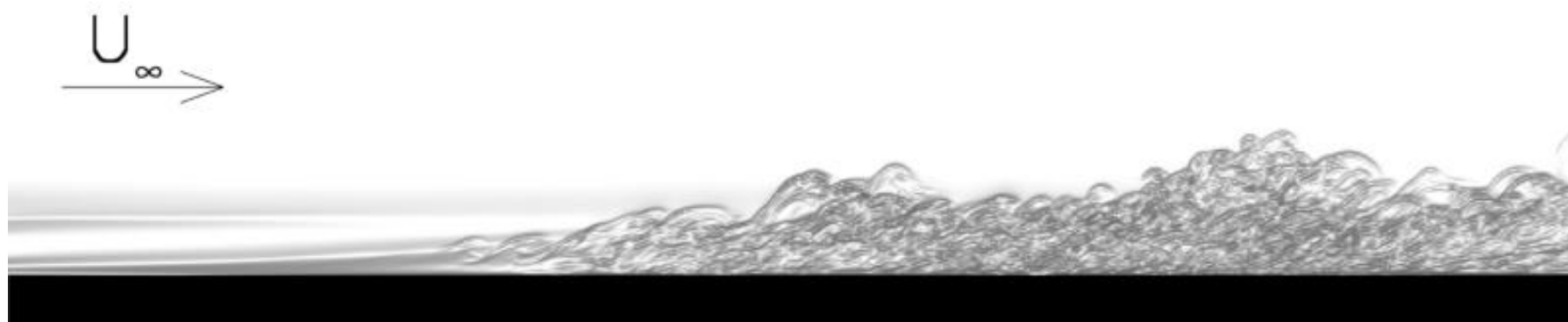
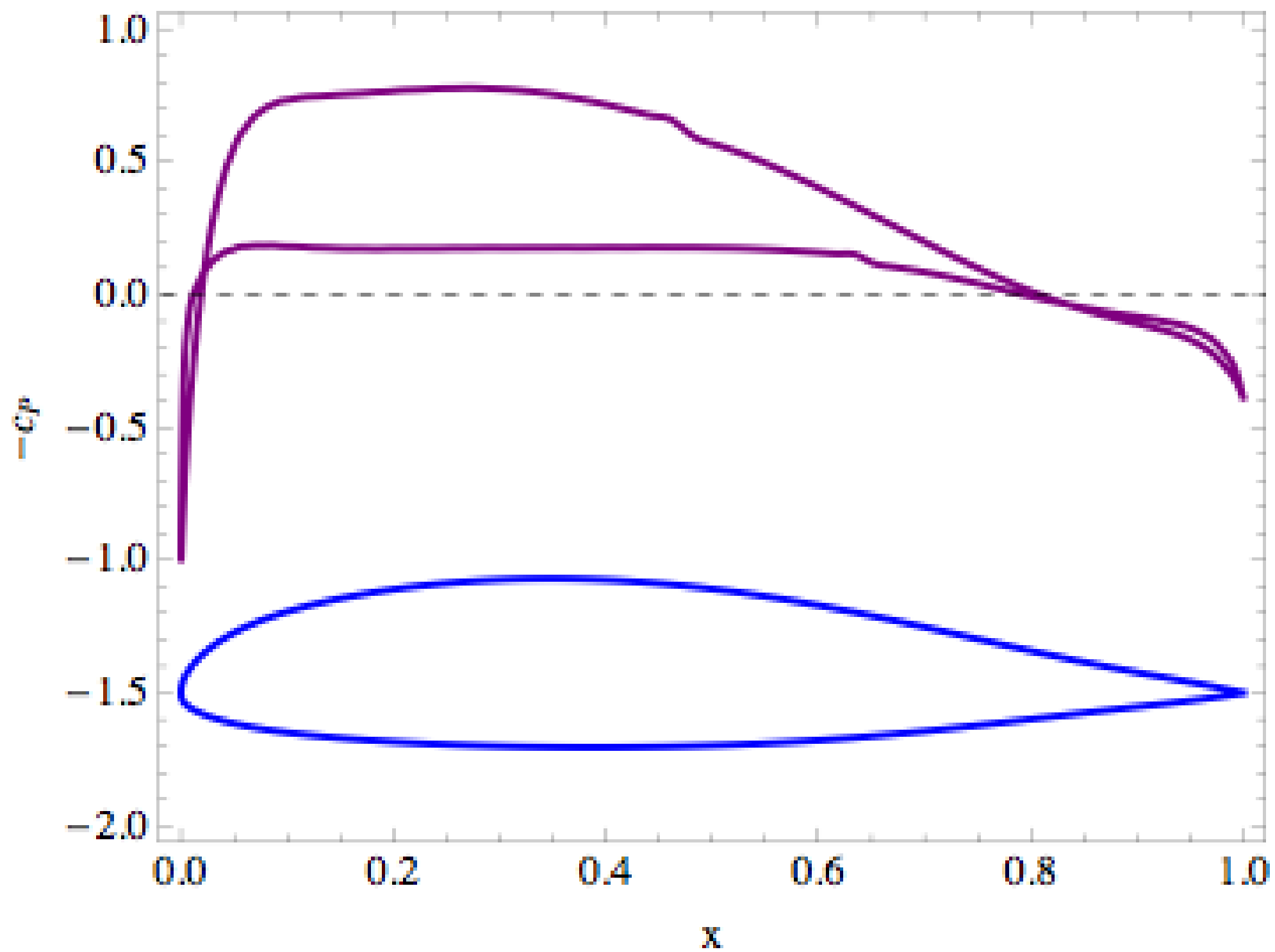


Maximum Power: 150 kW  
Continuous Power: 85 kW  
Cruise Power: 32 kW  
L/D (100 mph): ~30

Energy capacity: ~100 kWh



# Central wing airfoil





# Slotted flap design



$C_L \text{ max} \approx 2.6$





Lift induced drag

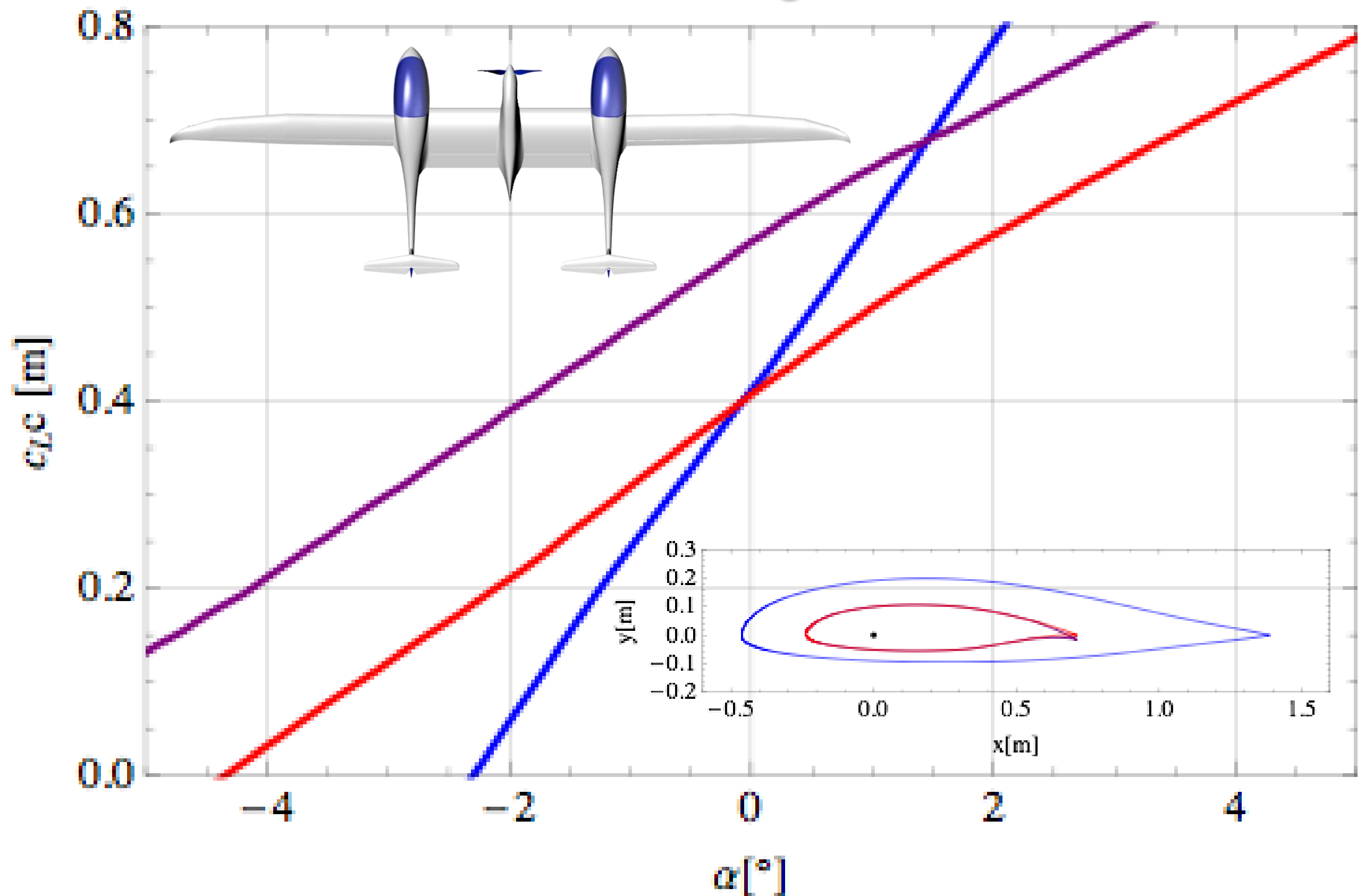


# Spanwise vorticity distribution



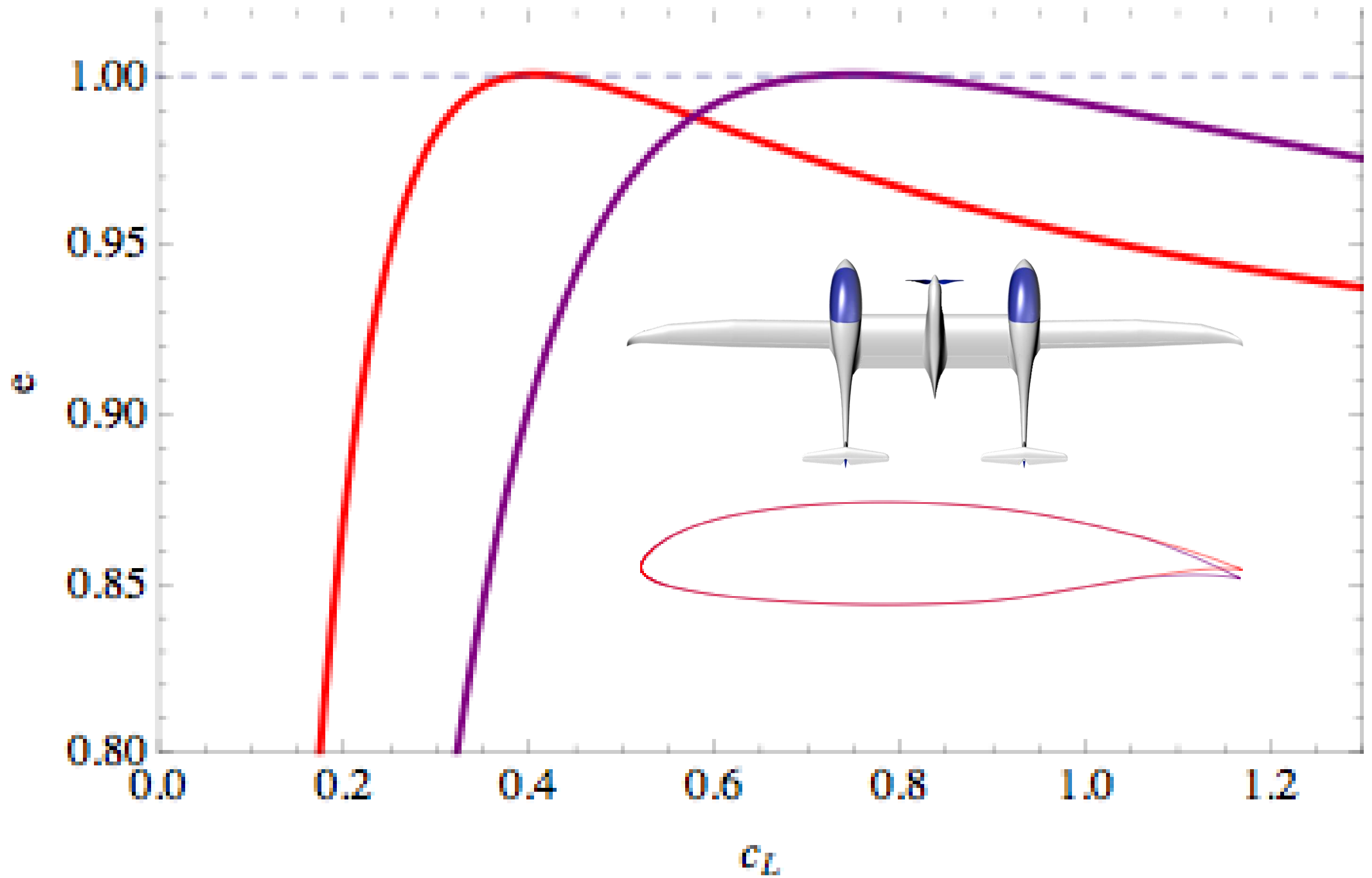


# Lift distribution matching



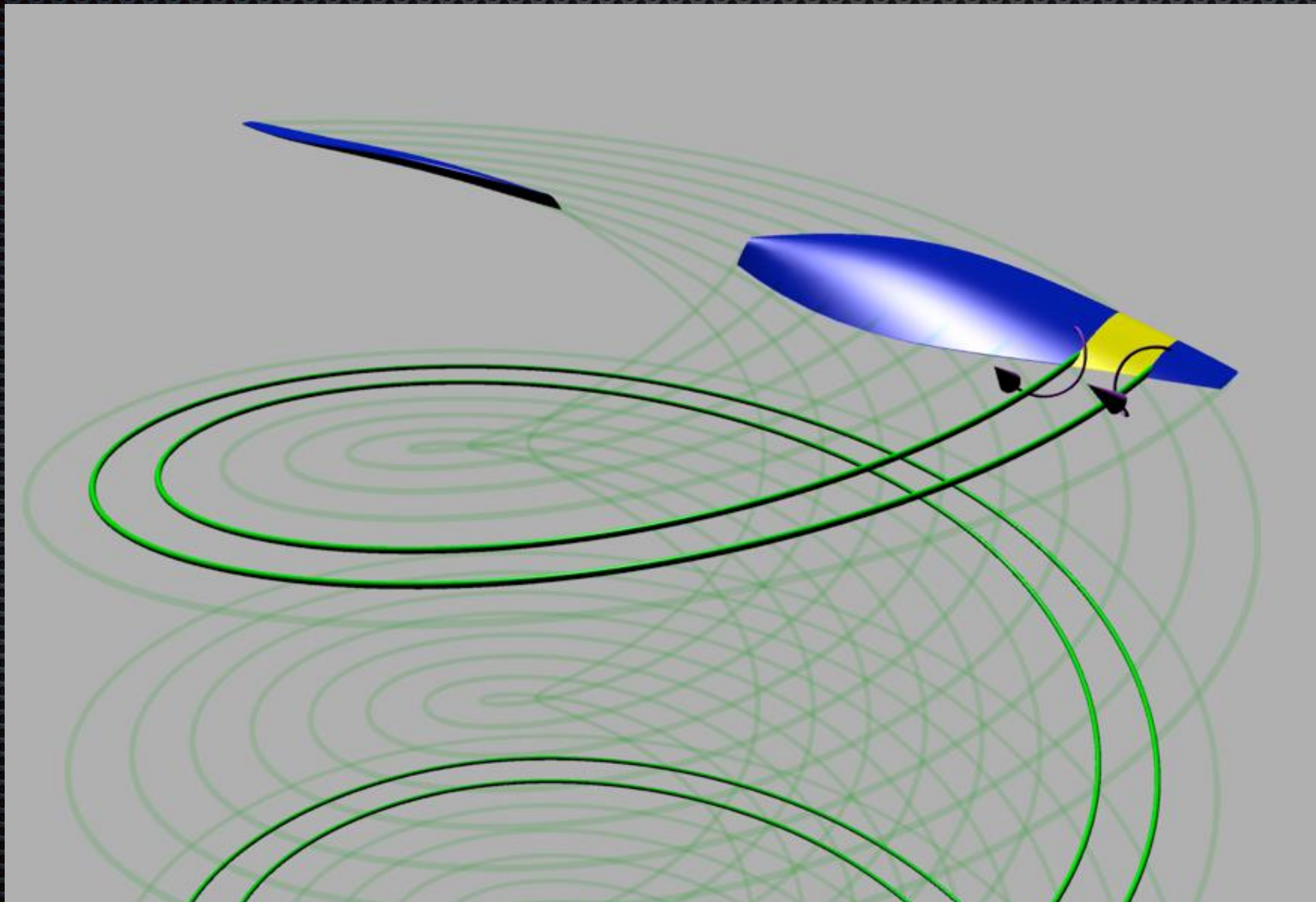


# Span efficiency



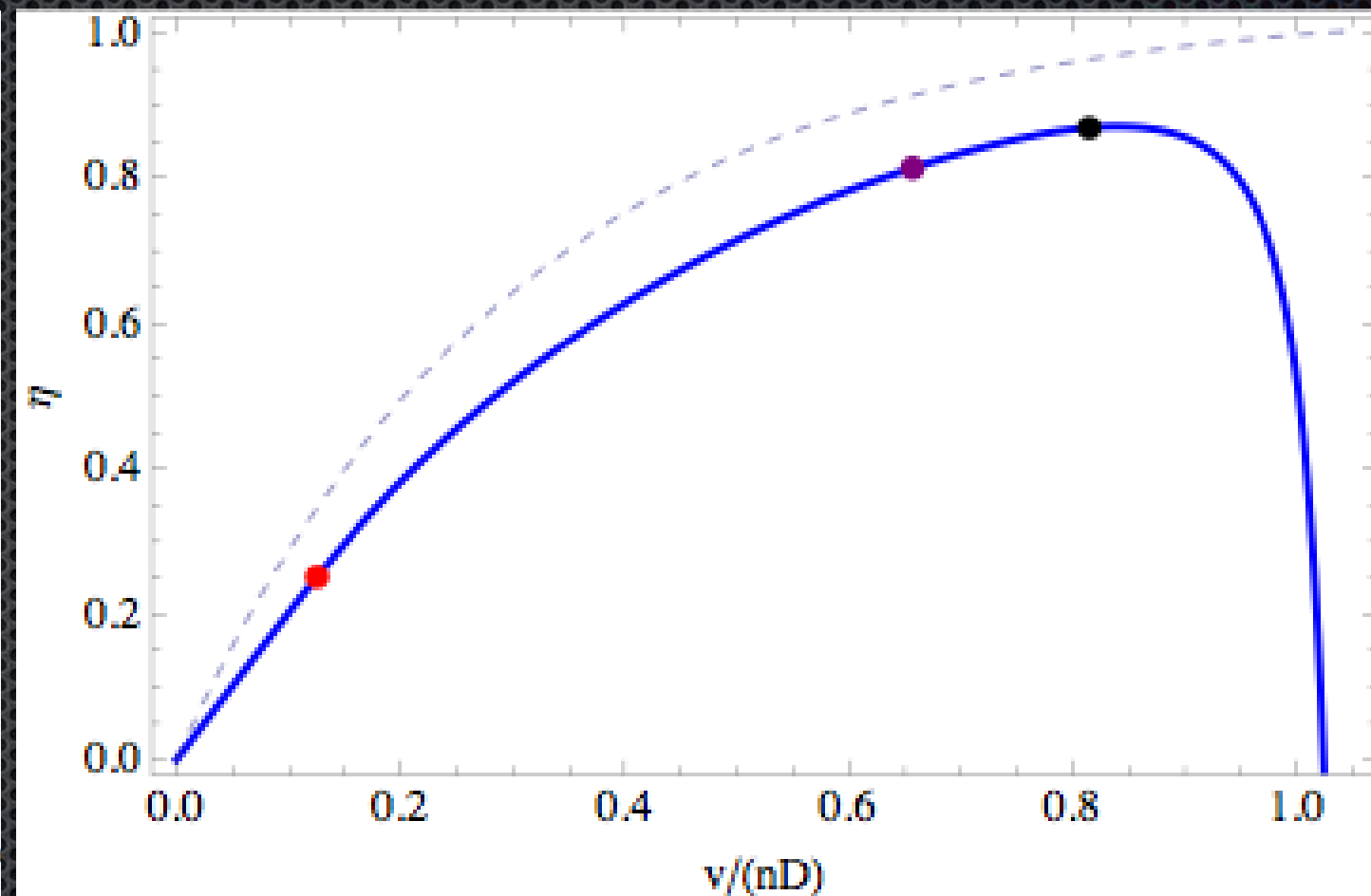
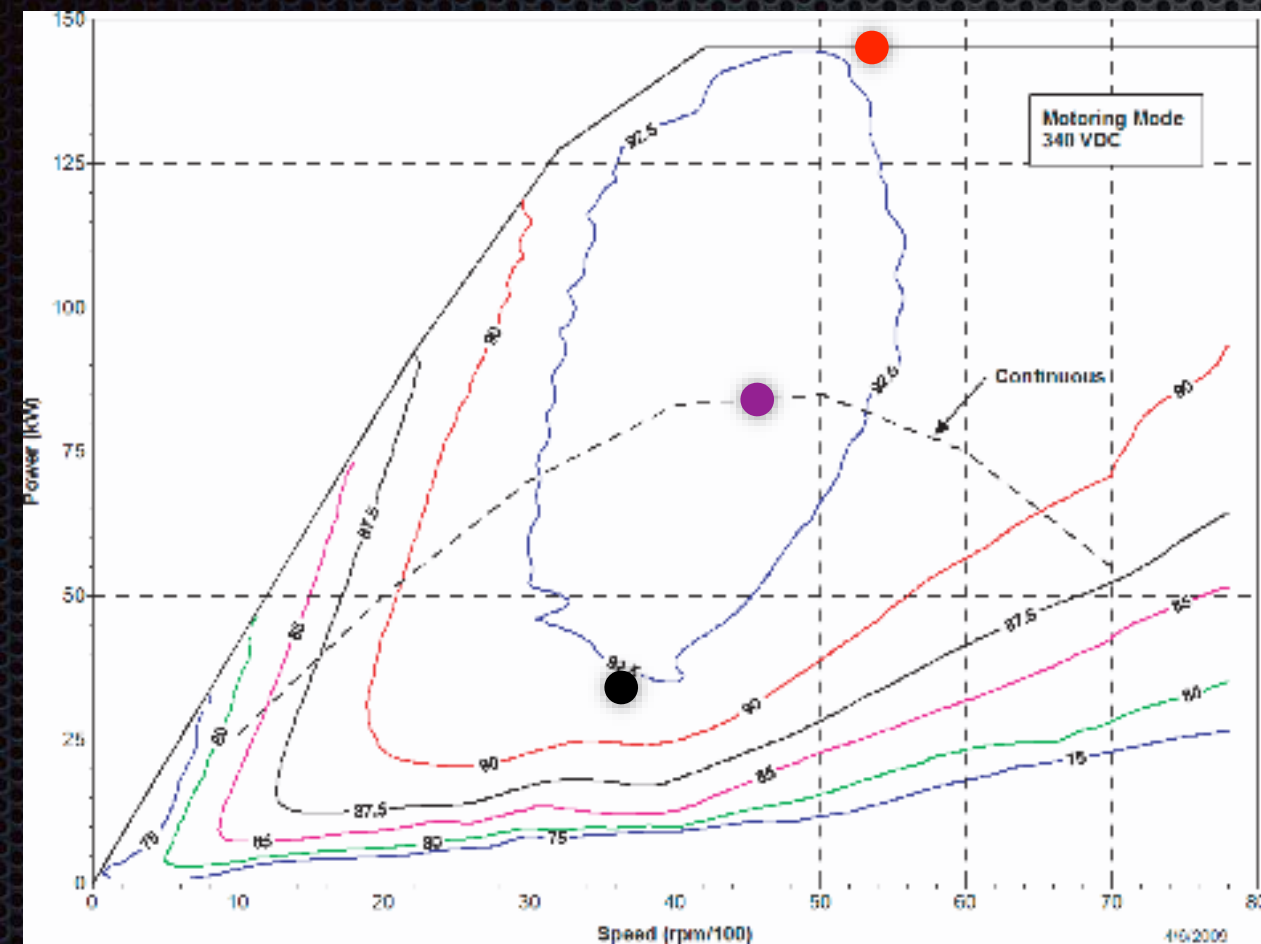


# Lifting line theory for propeller design



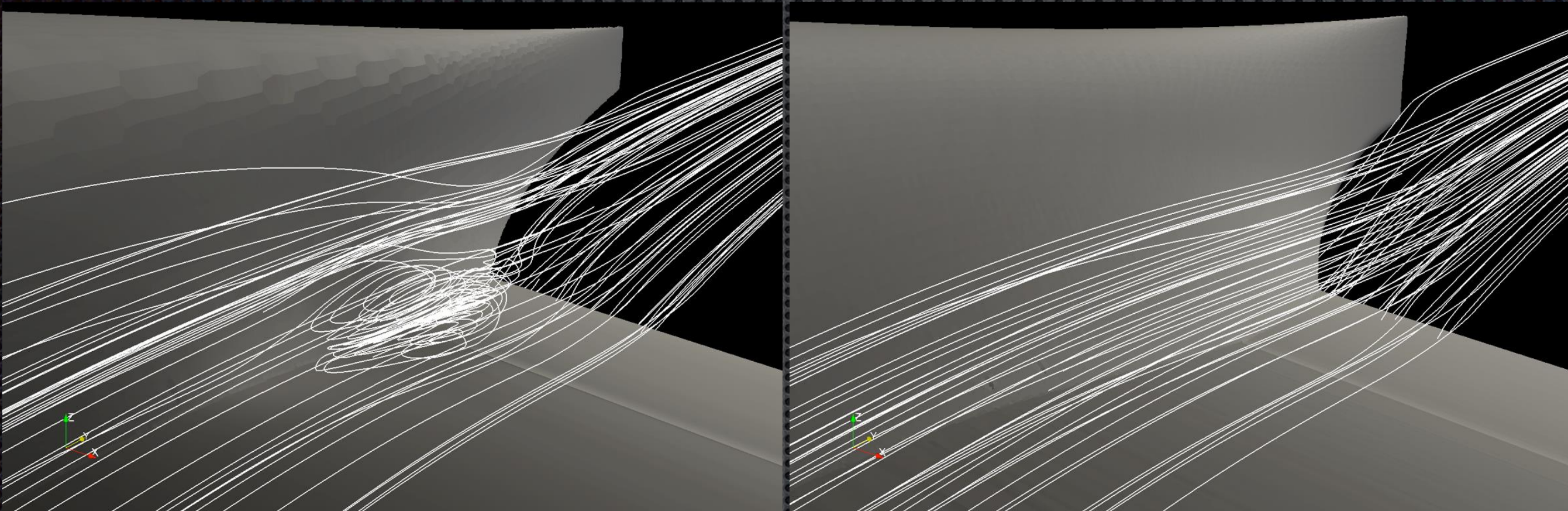


# Propeller design





# CFD analysis and modifications





22 January 2011





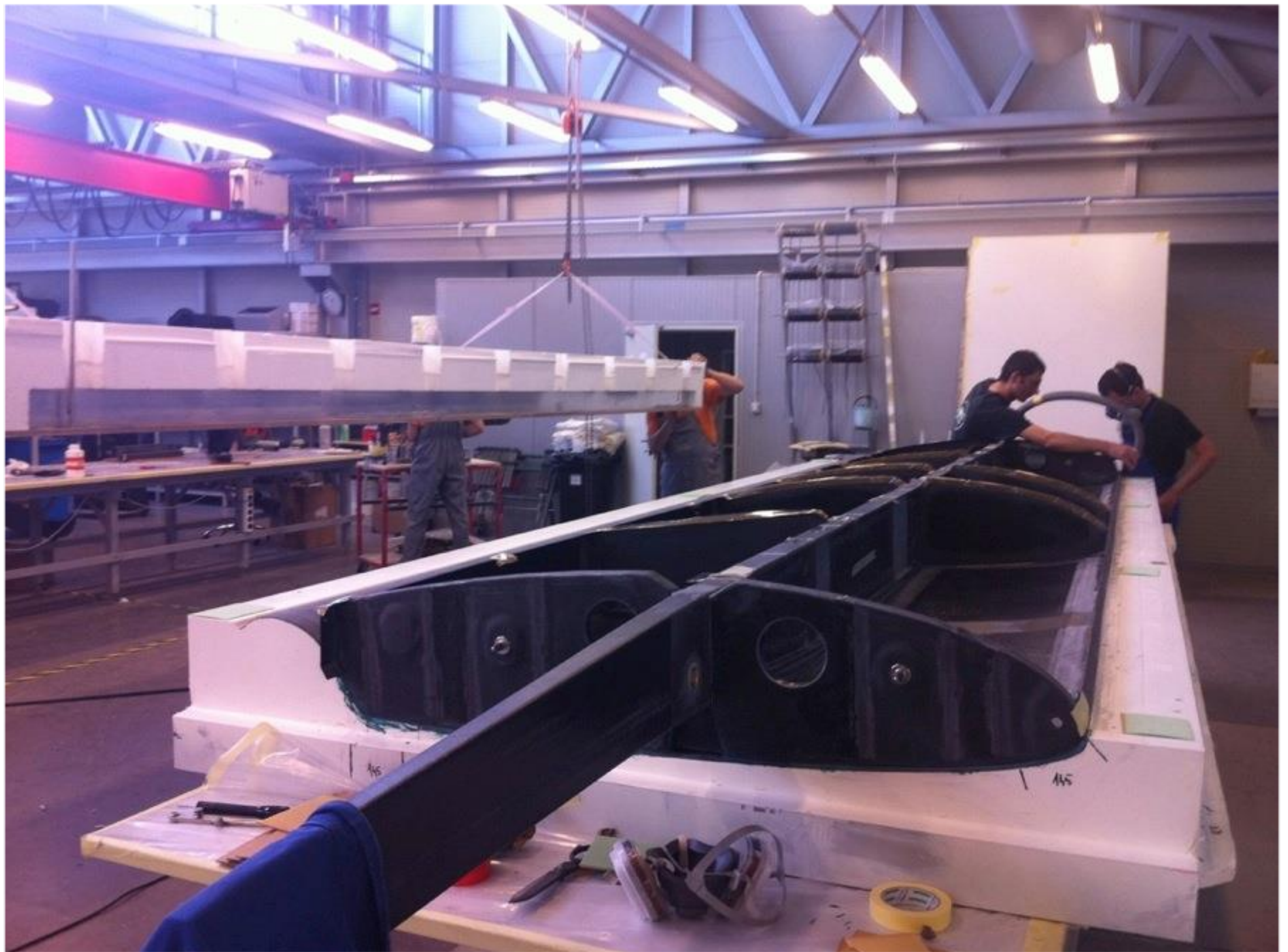


















2 March 2011





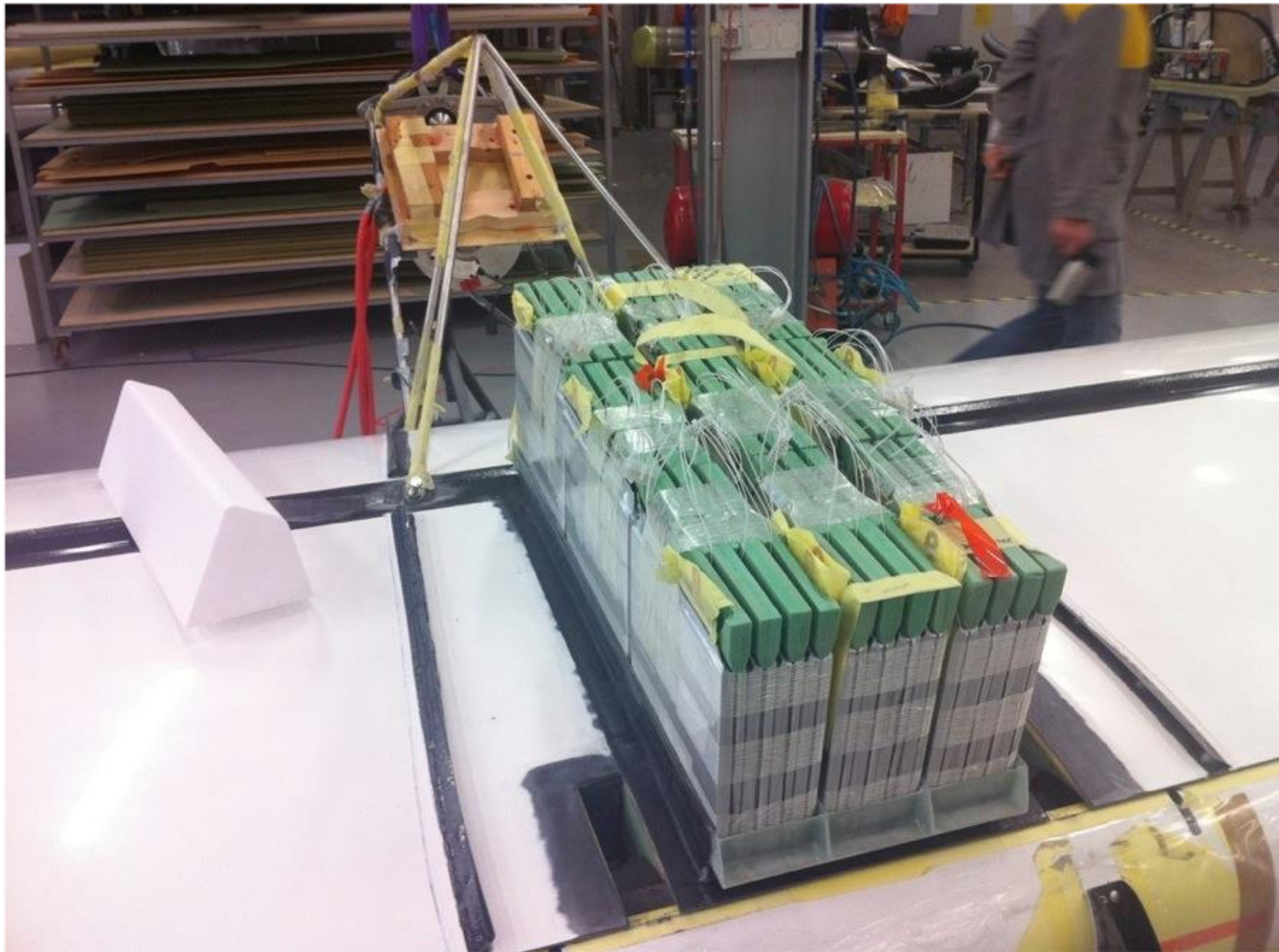


26 March, 2011











30 March 2011











28 April 2011











4 May 2011















4 August 2011









Oshkosh, 12 August 2011













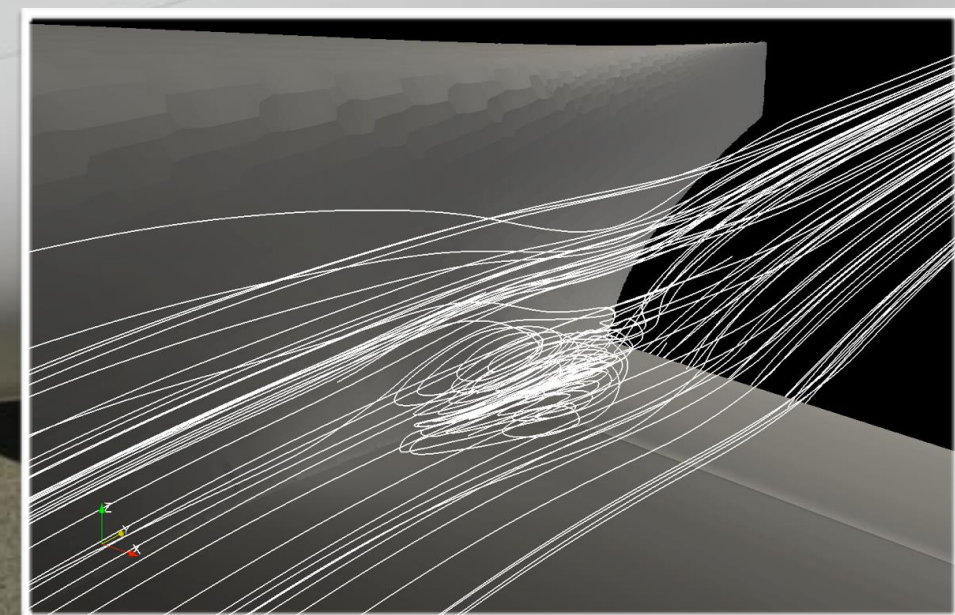








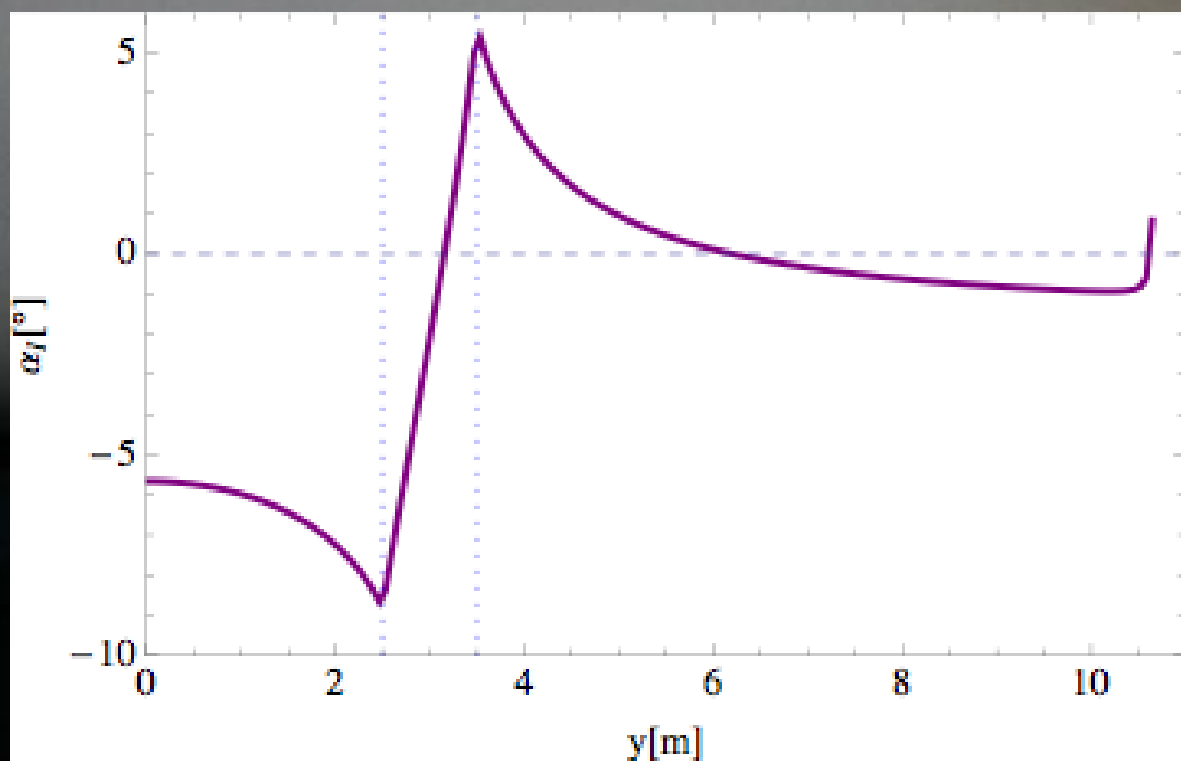
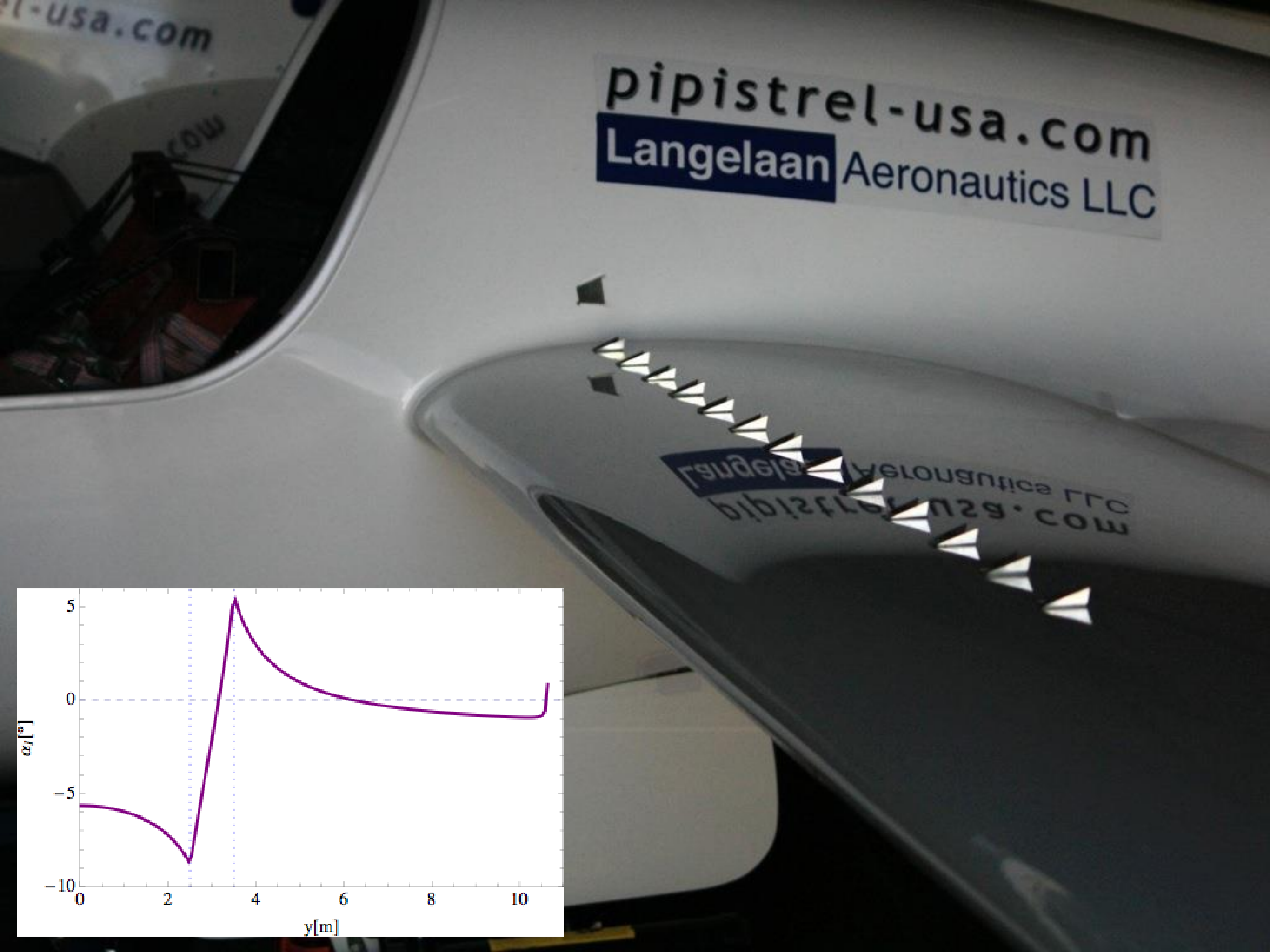
















Outboard flaps  $-5^{\circ}$ , inboard flaps  $40^{\circ}$   
thrust reverser on touchdown



24 September 2011





Hollister, CA, United States



Santa Rosa, CA

Hollister, CA

















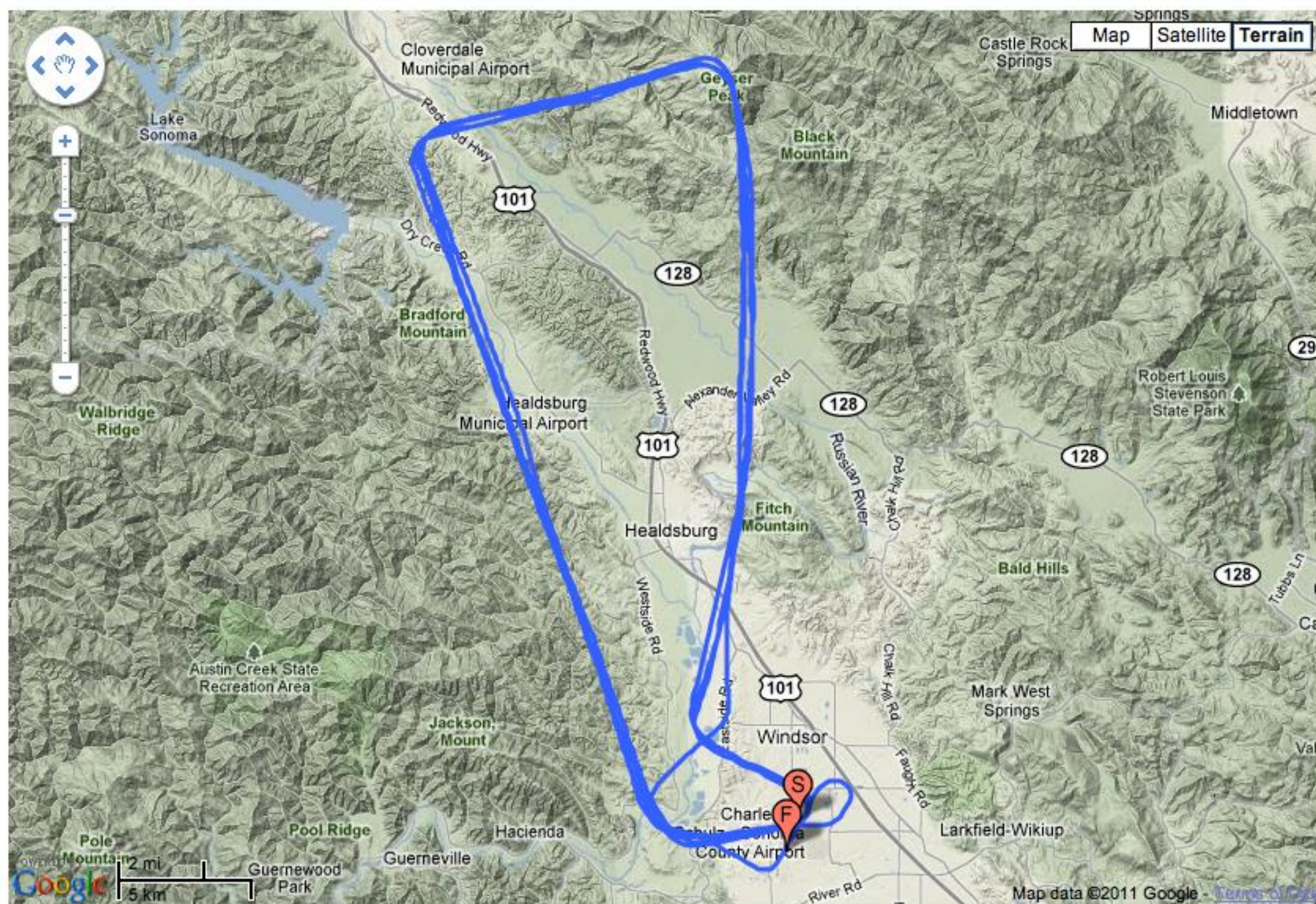












PIPISTREL, N448EC























## Green Flight Challenge Sponsored by Google - Final Results

### Efficiency Competition

Team	Pipistrel	e-Genius	Phoenix	Embry-Riddle	Metric
Fuel used			3.82	3.82	Gallons 100LL
Energy used	65.4	34.7		3.8	kWh
Equivalent fuel used	1.94	1.03	3.98	4.10	Gallons (auto fuel)
Flight time (for speed)	1:47:16	1:48:27	2:25:01	2:00:48	Time
Flight time (for mileage)	1:49:37	1:50:23	2:25:43	2:04:07	Time
Distance (for speed)	192.0	191.0	186.7	142.5	Miles
Distance (for mileage)	195.9	193.7	187.8	148.1	Miles
Mileage	403.5	375.7	94.3	72.2	ePMPG
Speed	107.4	105.7	77.3	70.7	MPH

### Speed Competition

Team	Pipistrel	e-Genius	Phoenix	Embry-Riddle	Metric
Fuel used			6.61	4.19	gallons 100LL
Energy used	68.3	37.5		3.0	kWh
Equivalent fuel used	2.03	1.11	6.90	4.47	gallons (auto fuel)
Flight time (for speed)	1:41:55	1:47:45	1:22:11	1:43:21	Time
Flight time (for mileage)	1:44:10	1:50:24	1:22:57	1:44:53	Time
Distance (for speed)	193.0	192.7	188.4	143.9	Miles
Distance (for mileage)	196.8	196.2	189.5	146.2	Miles
Mileage	388.4	352.4	55.0	65.5	ePMPG
Speed	113.6	107.3	137.5	83.5	MPH
Score	72.7	68.3	35.1	25.2	GFC Score

Score = 1/( 1/Speed + 2/Mileage )



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### NASA Awards Historic Green Aviation Prize

NASA has awarded the largest prize in aviation history, created to spark the start of a new electric airplane industry. First prize of \$1.35 million in the CAFE Green Flight Challenge, sponsored by Google, was awarded to team Pipistrel-USA.com.

[Learn More](#) | [Green Flight Challenge](#) | [Flickr Gallery](#)→

01 02 03 04 05 06 07 ▶



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#### 2011 COLLIER TROPHY NOMINEES AND SELECTION COMMITTEE ANNOUNCED

Arlington, Virginia, February 2, 2012 – The National Aeronautic Association (NAA) announced that former Collier Trophy recipients Dick Rutan, Joe Lombardo, Bobby Sturges, and Jeff Pino will be among the aviation leaders who will participate in the Selection Committee for the 2011 Robert J. Collier Trophy. In addition, NAA released the list of nominees as well as the entire Selection Committee.

The nominees are:

- Boeing 787 Dreamliner
- C-5M Super Galaxy
- The Gamera Human-Powered Helicopter
- Taurus G-4 Electric-Powered Aircraft

The Collier Trophy, the "Greatest Award in Aviation," has been the benchmark of aviation and aerospace achievement for over 100 years. Awarded annually "...for the greatest achievement in aeronautics or astronautics in America," it has been bestowed upon some of the most important projects, programs, individuals, and accomplishments in our nation's history.

Past winners include the crews of Apollo 11 and Apollo 8, the Mercury 7, Scott Crossfield, Elmer Sperry and Howard Hughes. Projects and programs which have been the recipient of the Collier include the B-52, the Polaris Missile, the Surveyor Moon Landing Program, the Boeing 747, the Cessna Citation, the Gulfstream V, the F-22, and the International Space Station. The 2010 Collier was awarded to the Sikorsky X2 Technology™

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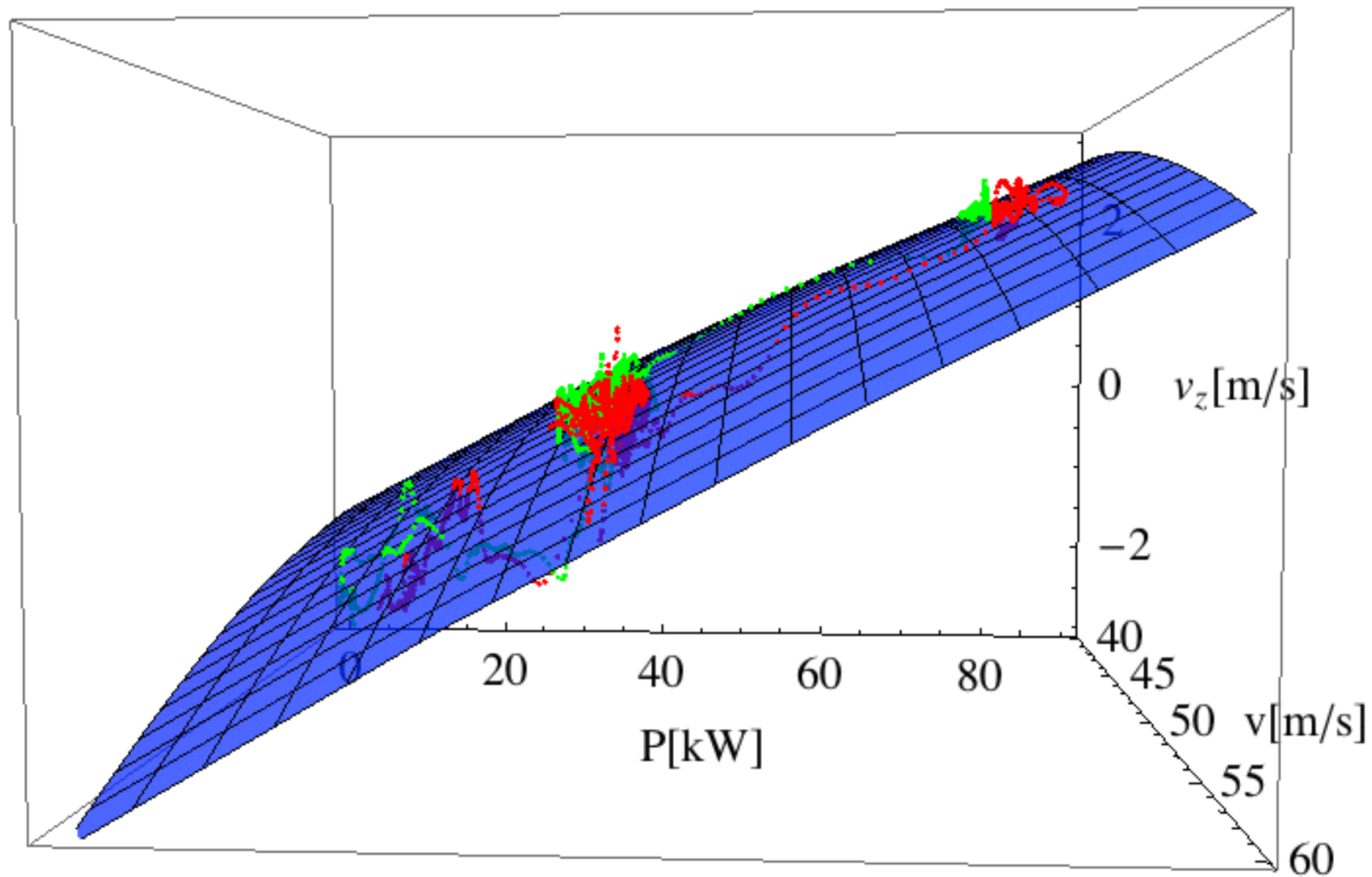
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### NAA THANKS:

- Aurora Flight Sciences

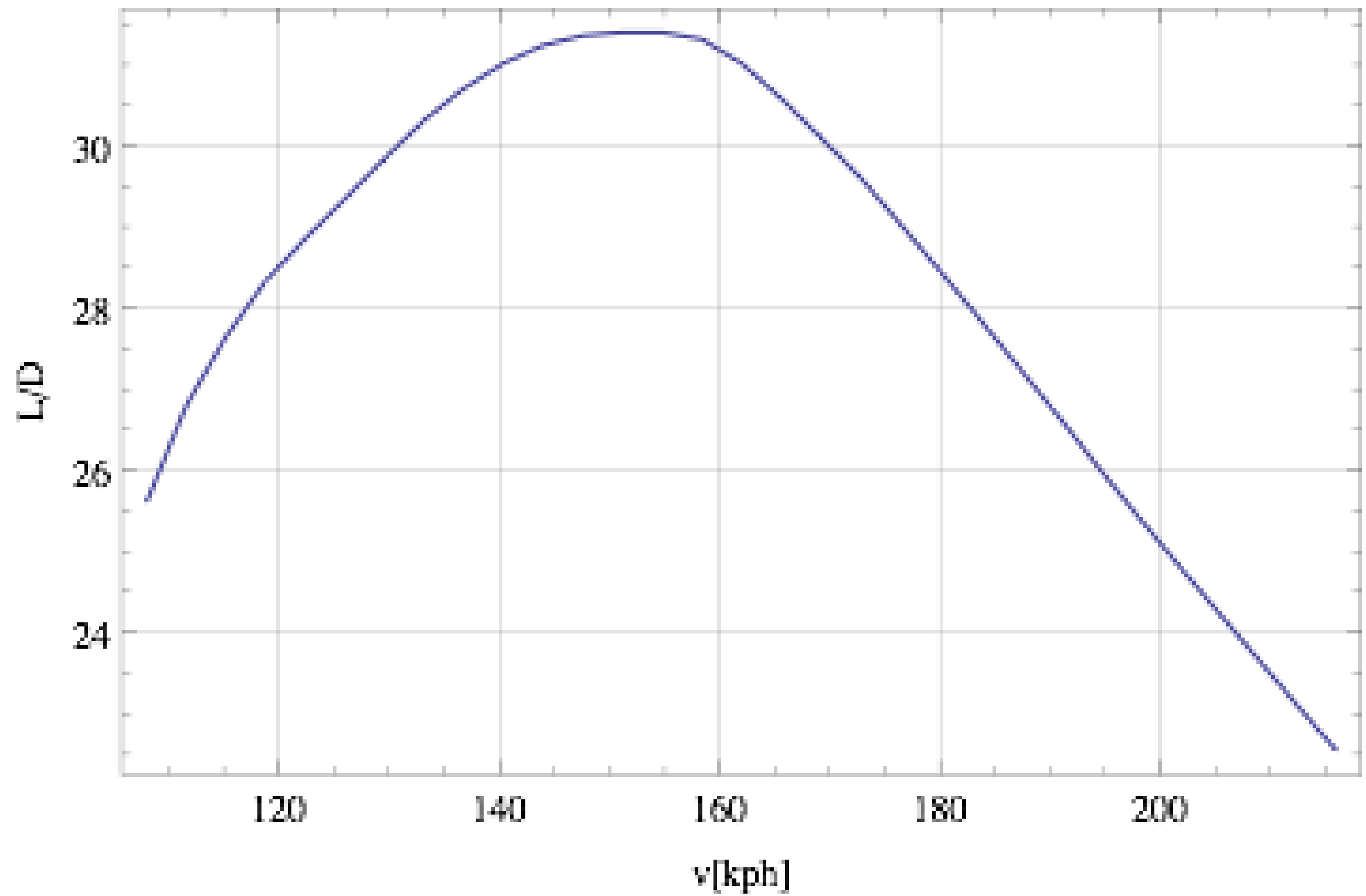


# Competition performance and calibrated aircraft model





# Calibrated lift to drag ratio





# Competition result vs. battery mass

