

# DESIGN AND FINITE ELEMENT ANALYSIS OF AIRCRAFT WING USING RIBS AND SPARS

Sivarama Prasad Peruru <sup>1</sup>, Suman Babu Abbiseti <sup>2</sup>

*1M.tech, student, mechanical engineering Aditya Engineering College, Surampalem*

*2Assistant professor,mechanical engineering, Aditya Engineering College, Surampalem*

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**ABSTRACT** - In this thesis, project detailed design of trainer aircraft wing structure made by using PRO-ENGINEER WILDFIRE 5.0. Then stress analysis of the wing structure is carried out to compute the stresses at wing structure. The stresses are estimated by using the finite element approach with the help of ANSYS to find out the safety factor of the structure. In a structure like airframe, a fatigue crack may appear at the location of high tensile stress. Life prediction requires a model for fatigue damage accumulation, constant amplitude S-N (stress life) data for various stress ratios and local stress history at the stress concentration. The response of the wing structure will be evaluated. In this thesis, the trainer aircraft wing structure with skin, spars and ribs is considered for the detailed analysis. The wing structure consists of 15 ribs and two spars with skin. Front spar having „I“ section and rear spar having „C“ section. Stress and fatigue analysis of the whole wing section is carried out to compute the stresses and life at spars and ribs due to the applied pressure load.

**Key words:** Finite element analysis, aircraft wing, wing with ribs and spars.

## I. INTRODUCTION

A fixed-wing aircraft is an aircraft, such as an aero plane, which is capable of flight using wings that generate lift caused by the vehicle's forward airspeed and the shape of the wings. Fixed-wing aircraft are distinct from rotary-wing aircraft [1], in which the wings form a rotor mounted on a spinning shaft, in which the wings flap in similar manner to a bird. Glider fixed-wing aircraft, including free-flying gliders of various kinds and tethered kites, can use moving air to gain height. Powered fixed-wing aircraft that gain forward thrust from an engine (aero planes) include powered par gliders, powered hang gliders and some ground effect vehicles.

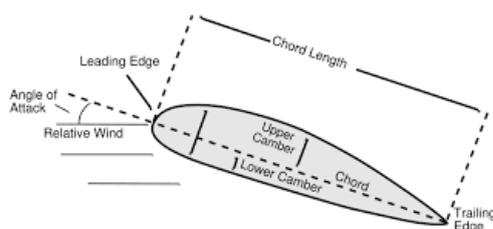


Fig1: air craft wing

The wings of a fixed-wing aircraft are not necessarily rigid; kites, hang-gliders, variable-sweep wing aircraft and aero planes using wing-warping are all fixed-wing aircraft. Most fixed-wing aircraft are flown by a pilot on board the aircraft, but some are designed to be remotely or computer-controlled.

## Wings

The wings of a fixed-wing aircraft are static planes extending either side of the aircraft. When the aircraft travels forwards [5], air flows over the wings which are shaped to create lift.

## Wing structure

Kites and some light weight gliders and aeroplanes have flexible wing surfaces which are stretched across a frame and made rigid by the lift forces exerted by the airflow over them [3]. Larger aircraft have rigid wing surfaces which provide additional strength.

Whether flexible or rigid, most wings have a strong frame to give them their shape and to transfer lift from the wing surface to the rest of the aircraft. The main structural elements are one or more spars running from root to tip, and many ribs running from the leading (front) to the trailing (rear) edge.

## Wing configuration

The number and shape of the wings varies widely on different types. A given wing plane may be full-span or divided by a central fuselage into port (left) and starboard (right) wings. Occasionally even more wings have been used, with the three-winged

triplane achieving some fame in WWI. The four-winged quadruplane and other Multiplane (aeronautics) designs have had little success.

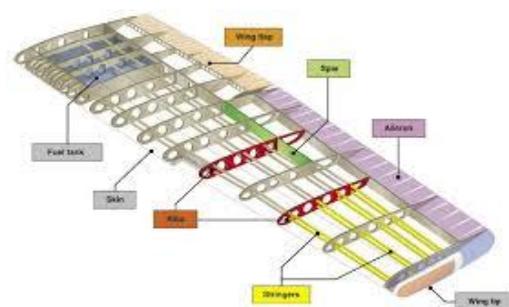


Fig2: air craft wing with ribs and spars

**Materials used in the design of aircraft**

The design of the aircraft has to meet specific requirements which influence the complexity of its structure and the materials used in its construction. A wide range of materials

may be used in the design of the aircraft to make use of properties such as strength[2], elasticity, specific weight and corrosion resistance.

Different materials can also be used in the design of specific parts of the aircraft, as a function of the initial requirements of the strength-to-weight ratio and the preferential directions of the applied loads.

**II. LITERATURE REVIEW**

**Design and Structural Analysis of the Ribs and Spars of Swept Back Wing**

The aim of this paper work is to design and analyze the ribs and spars of a 150 seater regional aircraft for the stresses and displacements due to the applied loads. For this we did a comparative study on particular 150 seater regional aircraft [1][2][3]. The optimum design parameters are suitably selected and then the model was designed using the CATIA software. The airfoil coordinates for the model to be designed, were generated by design foil software. The major wing design parameters were explained in detail and the wing configuration has been described. Different types of loads acting on the aircraft and the wing are determined and the moments, displacements, etc., are also determined. The wing structure was also explained and functions of each component and their arrangement are also studied [7]. The methodology of finite element method and the detailed description about various FEM tools have been studied and implemented in this work.

**III. PROBLEM DESCRIPTION:**

The objective of this project is to make a 3D model of the aircraft wing with ribs and spars and study the static[6], fatigue and modal analysis behavior of the wing by performing the finite element analysis. 3D modeling software (PRO-Engineer) was used for designing and analysis software (ANSYS).

**MODELS**

Speeds	Materials
400	Aluminium alloy 6061-T8[8],
600	S2-glass & carbon epoxy
800	

**The methodology followed in the project is as follows:**

- Create a 3D model of the wing with ribs and spars assembly using parametric software pro-engineer.
- Convert the surface model into Para solid file and import the model into ANSYS to do analysis.
- Perform static analysis on the wing assembly for static loads.

**IV. INTRODUCTION TO CAD/CAE:**

**Computer-aided design (CAD)**, also known as **computer-aided design and drafting (CADD)**, is the use of computer technology for the process of design and design-documentation.

**INTRODUCTION TO PRO-ENGINEER**

Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire is the standard in 3D product design, featuring industry-leading productivity tools that promote best practices in design while ensuring compliance with your industry and company standards. Integrated Pro/ENGINEER CAD/CAM/CAE solutions allow you to design faster than ever, while maximizing innovation and quality to ultimately create exceptional products.

**Different modules in pro/engineer**

Part design, Assembly, Drawing& Sheet metal.

**INTRODUCTION TO FINITE ELEMENT METHOD:**

Finite Element Method (FEM) is also called as Finite Element Analysis (FEA). Finite Element Method is a basic analysis technique[5][6] for resolving and substituting complicated problems by simpler ones, obtaining approximate solutions. Finite element method being a flexible tool is used in various industries to solve several practical engineering problems. In finite element method it is feasible to generate the relative results.

**V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS:**

Models of aircraft wing using ribs and spars done in pro-e wildfire 5.0

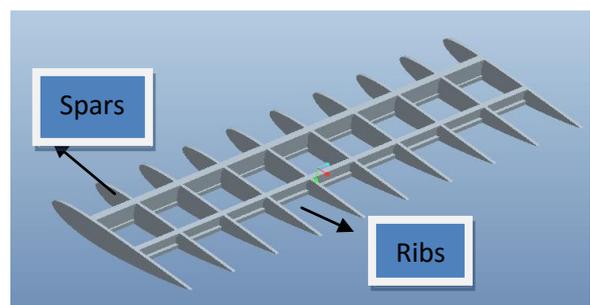


Fig4: wing ribs and spars

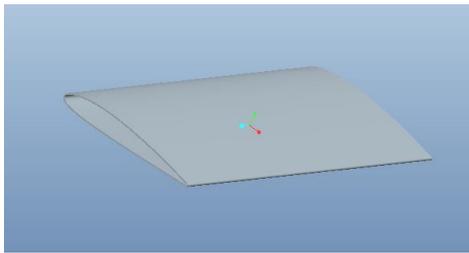


Fig5: skin

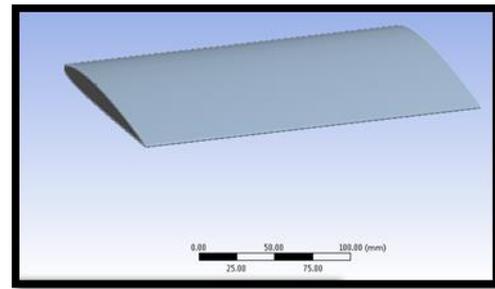


Fig6: imported model

**Assembly**

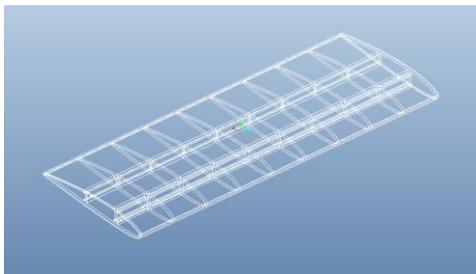


Fig3: wing with ribs and spars

**STATIC ANALYSIS OF FOUR WHEELER STEERING SYSTEM**

**USED MATERIALS**

**ALUMINUM 6061-T8, S2 GLASS AND CARBON EPOXY**

Materials	Density	Young's modulus	Poisson's ratio
Aluminium 6061-t8	2.7g/cc	69.0GPa	0.33
S2 glass	2.46g/cc	86.9GPa	0.28
Carbon epoxy	1.60g/cc	70.0GPa	0.3

Used software for this project work bench

Open work bench in Ansys 14.5

Select static structural>select geometry>import IGES model>OK

Click on model>select EDIT

Select model >apply materials to all the objects (different materials also)

Mesh> generate mesh>ok

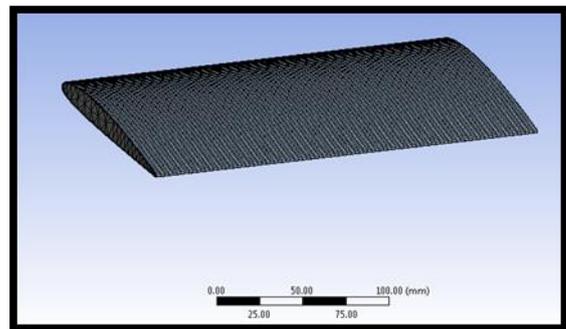


Fig7: meshed model

Static structural A5>insert>select .displacement>select fixed areas>ok

>Select pressure>select pressure areas> enter pressure value

>Select rotational velocity>select axis>enter speed value

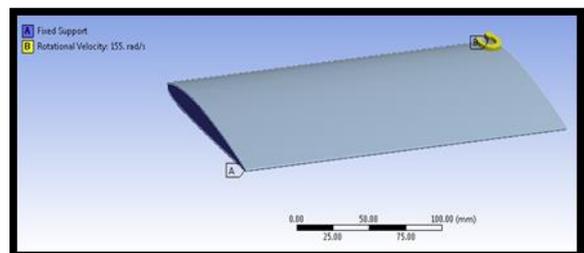


Fig10: boundary conditions

Solution A6>insert>total deformation>right click on total deformation>select evaluate all results

Insert>stress>equivalent (von misses)>right click on equivalent >select evaluate all results

Insert>strain>equivalent (von misses)>right click on equivalent >select evaluate all results

Speed – 400km/hr

Material- carbon epoxy

Deformation

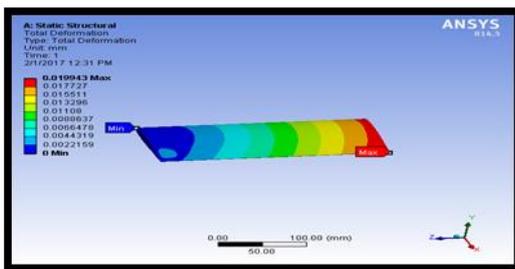


Fig8: deformation

Stress

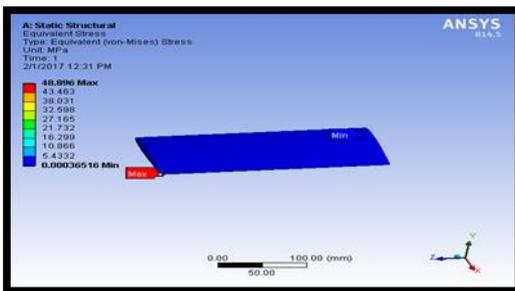


Fig9: stress

Strain

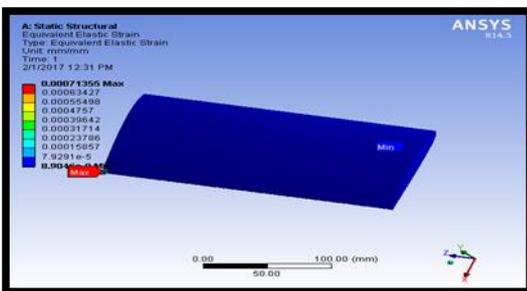


Fig11: strain

FATIGUE ANALYSIS OF AIRCRAFT WING

Speed – 400km/hr

Material- carbon epoxy

Life

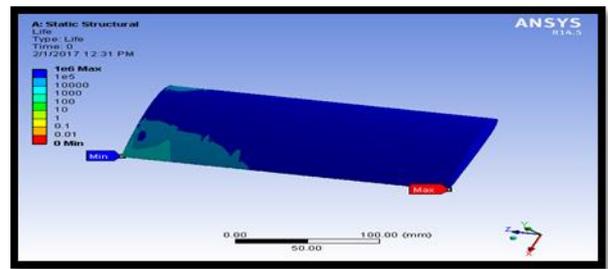


Fig12: life

Damage

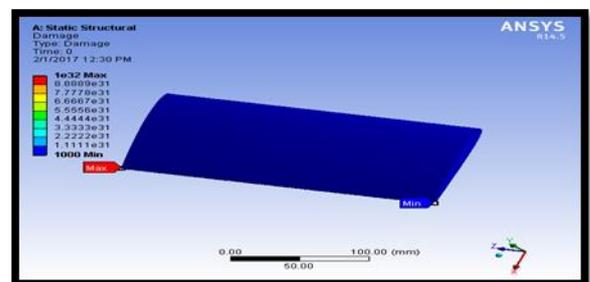


Fig13: damage

Safety factor

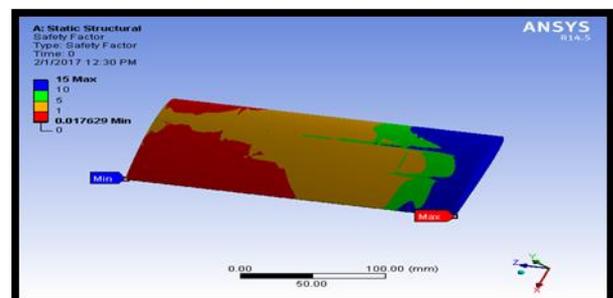


Fig14: safety factor

MODAL ANALYSIS OF AIRCRAFT WING

Material- carbon epoxy

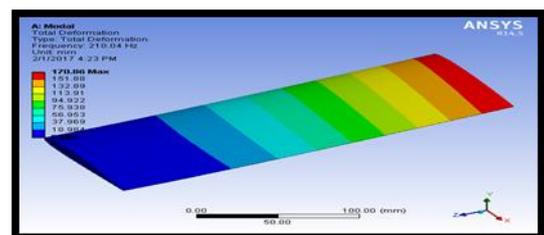


Fig 15<sup>st</sup> mode shape deformation

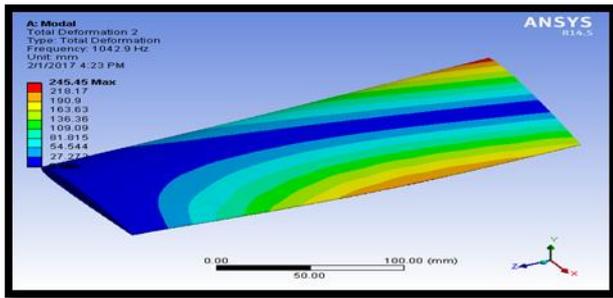


Fig16: mode shape deformation

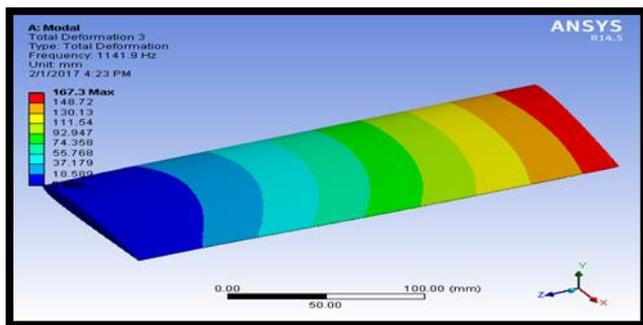


Fig17: mode shape deformation

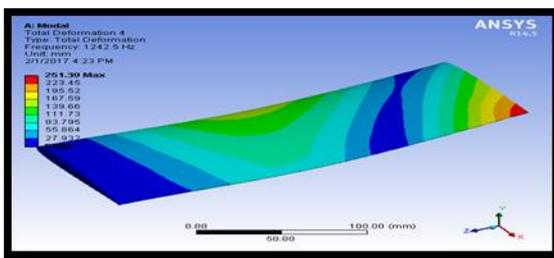


Fig18: mode shape deformation

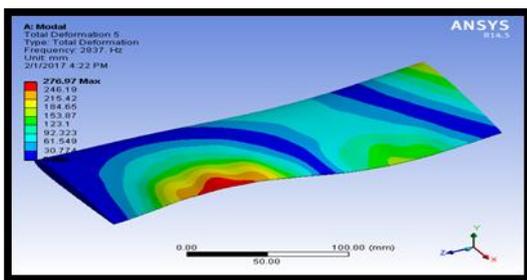


Fig19: mode shape deformation

**RESULTS TABLE**

**Static analysis result table**

material	Speed km/hr	Deformation(mm)	Stress(MPa)	strain
aluminum 6061-T8	400	0.034562	83.399	0.0012383
	600	0.045865	110.68	0.0016433
	800	0.081535	196.75	0.0029214
s2 glass	400	0.027463	83.545	0.00098035
	600	0.036445	110.87	0.001301
	800	0.064789	197.09	0.0023128
carbon epoxy	400	1.9943e-5	48.896	0.00071355
	600	0.026808	65.726	0.00095914
	800	0.04706	116.85	0.0017052

**Fatigue analysis results**

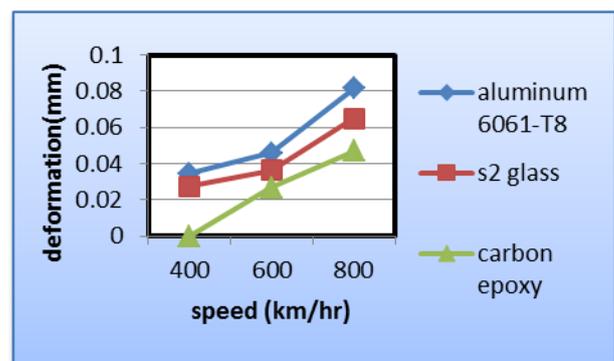
material	Speed km/hr	life	damage	Safety factor
aluminum 6061-T8	400	1×e6	1×e32	0.010336
	600	1×e6	1×e32	0.0077885
	800	1×e6	1×e32	0.0043812
s2 glass	400	1×e6	1×e32	0.010318
	600	1×e6	1×e32	0.007775
	800	1×e6	1×e32	0.0043736
carbon epoxy	400	1×e6	1×e32	0.017629
	600	1×e6	1×e32	0.013115
	800	1×e6	1×e32	0.0073769

**Modal analysis result table**

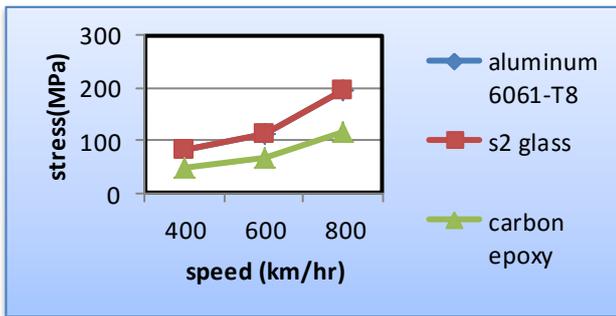
aluminum 6061-T8		s2 glass		carbon epoxy	
Deformation (mm)	Frequency (Hz)	Deformation (mm)	Frequency (Hz)	Deformation (mm)	Frequency (Hz)
131.63	160.91	137.73	188.47	170.36	210.04
188.48	789.44	198.26	943.16	245.45	1042.9
128.33	872.4	135.32	1026.5	167.3	1141.9
191.77	949.2	204.08	1116.9	251.39	1242.5
215.58	2156.3	221.6	2558.8	276.97	2837

**Graphs**

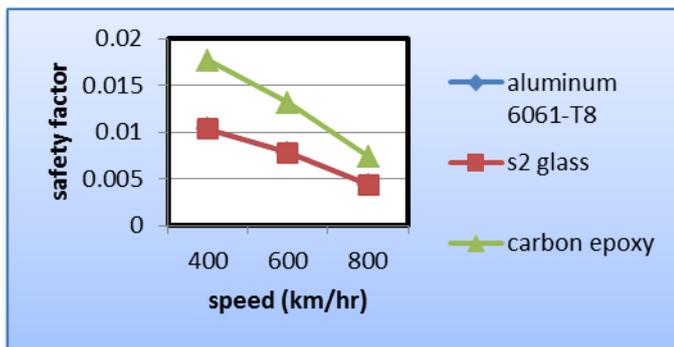
**Static analysis graphs**



**Plot1: Deformation**

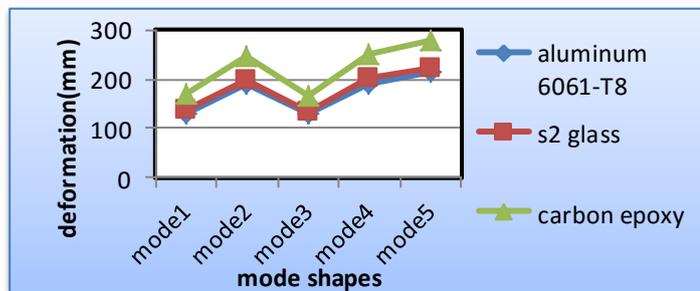


Plot2: Stress

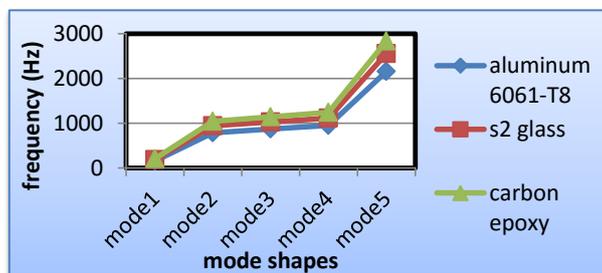


Plot3: Safety factor

Modal analysis graphs



Plot4: Deformation



Plot5: Frequency

CONCLUSION

In this thesis, the trainer aircraft wing structure with skin, spars and ribs is considered for the detailed analysis. The wing structure consists of 15 ribs and two spars with skin. Front spar having „I“ section and rear spar having „C“ section. Stress and fatigue analysis of the whole wing section is carried out to compute the stresses and life at spars and ribs due to the applied pressure load.

By observing the static analysis of aircraft wing, the stress values are increases by increasing the speed (400,600 & 800 km/hr) of the air craft wing, the less stress value for carbon epoxy than s2-glass and aluminum alloy 6061-T8. Carbon epoxy material has more strength because it is a composite material.

By observing the modal analysis of aircraft wing, the deformation and frequency values are more for carbon epoxy material. By observing the fatigue analysis of aircraft wing, the safety factor value is more for carbon epoxy material.

So it can be conclude, the carbon epoxy material is better material for aircraft wing.

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## BIOGRAPHIES



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Sivarama Prasad Peruru 1 Suman Babu  
Abbisetti 2 1M.tech, student,  
mechanical enginnering Aditya  
Engineering College, Surampalem



2 .Assistant professor,mechanical  
enginnering, Aditya Engineering College,  
Surampalem