

16. LS-DYNA Forum 2022, Bamberg

# Numerical Validation of a Sailplane Fuselage Crash Test



Christian Pohl<sup>1</sup>, Marvin Hofmann<sup>1</sup>, Simeon Schmauss<sup>2</sup>, Joscha Loewe<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Technical University of Munich, TUM School of Engineering and Design, Chair of Carbon Composites, Germany

<sup>2</sup> Akaflieg München e.V., Technical University of Munich, Germany

# Agenda

1. **Motivation**
2. Design and model creation
3. Material models and characterization
4. Test and measurement equipment
5. Validation
6. Conclusions and outlook



Gefördert durch:



aufgrund eines Beschlusses  
des Deutschen Bundestages

# 1 Motivation

- Sailplane and small engine plane accidents account for 5 to 10 fatalities throughout Germany every year
- Under which circumstances?

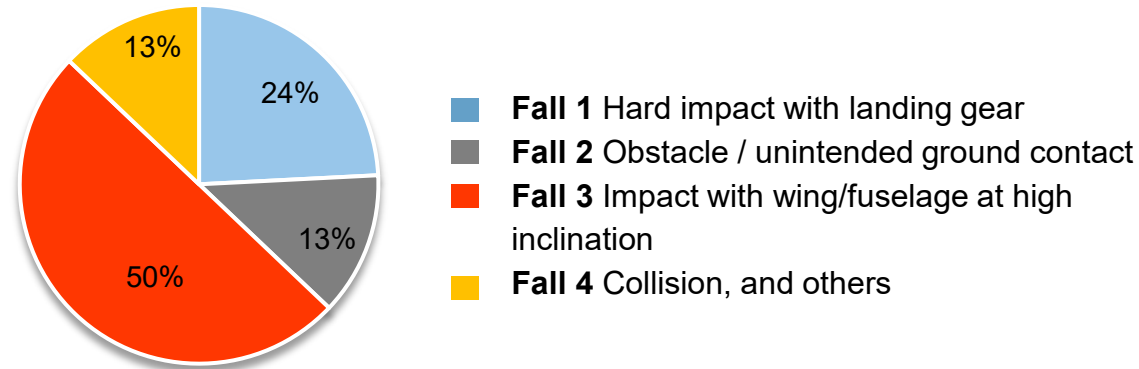


Fig. 1: Classification of crash scenarios [1]

# Agenda

1. Motivation
2. **Design and model creation**
3. Material models and characterization
4. Test and measurement equipment
5. Validation
6. Conclusions and outlook

# 2 Design and model creation

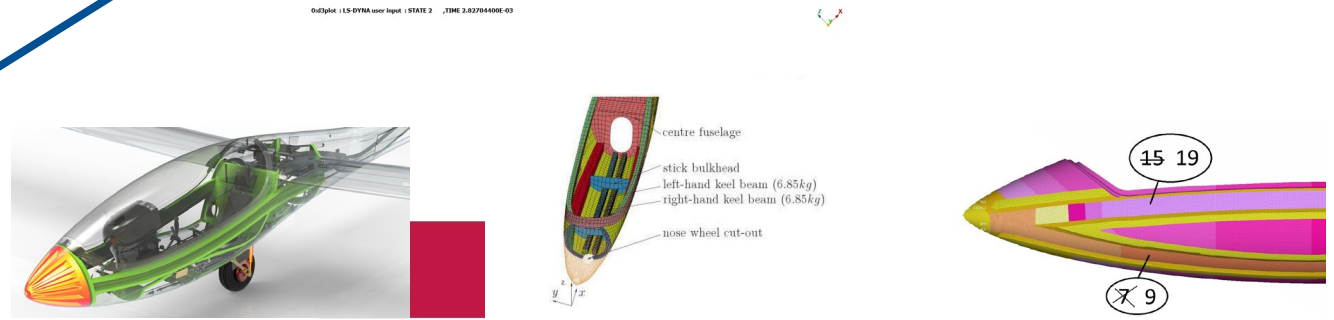
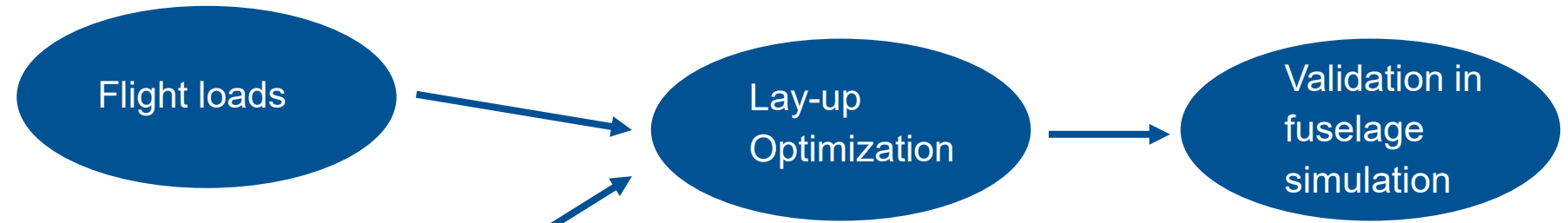


Fig. 4: Antares safety concept [6] Fig. 5: Optimized nose cone in deformable bar [4] Fig. 6: Keel beam concept [4] Fig. 7: Adaption after concept validation [6]

## 2 Design and model creation

- Fuselage shell
- Keel beams and canopy frame reinforcements
- Ribs and landing gear box
- Side panels
- Seat shell
- Substitute wing mass
- Dummy and belt

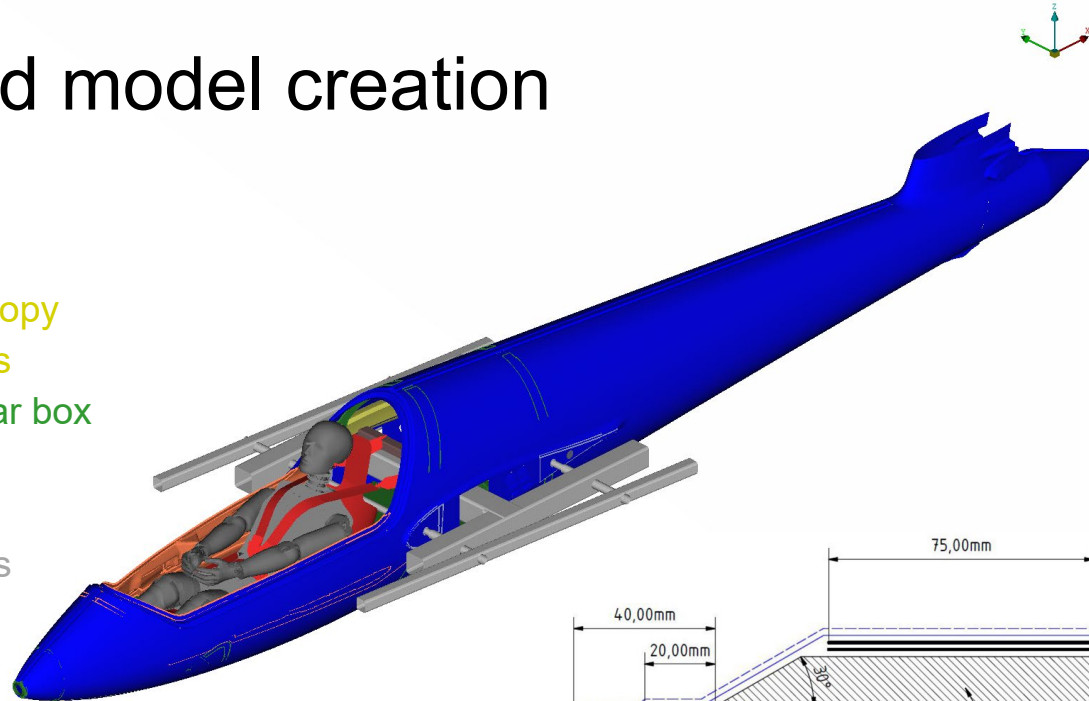


Fig. 2: Overview of the fuselage structure

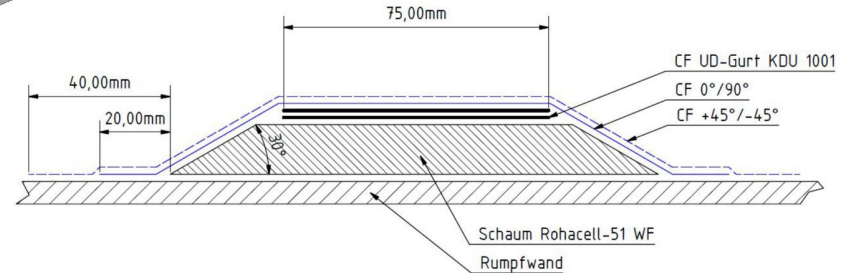


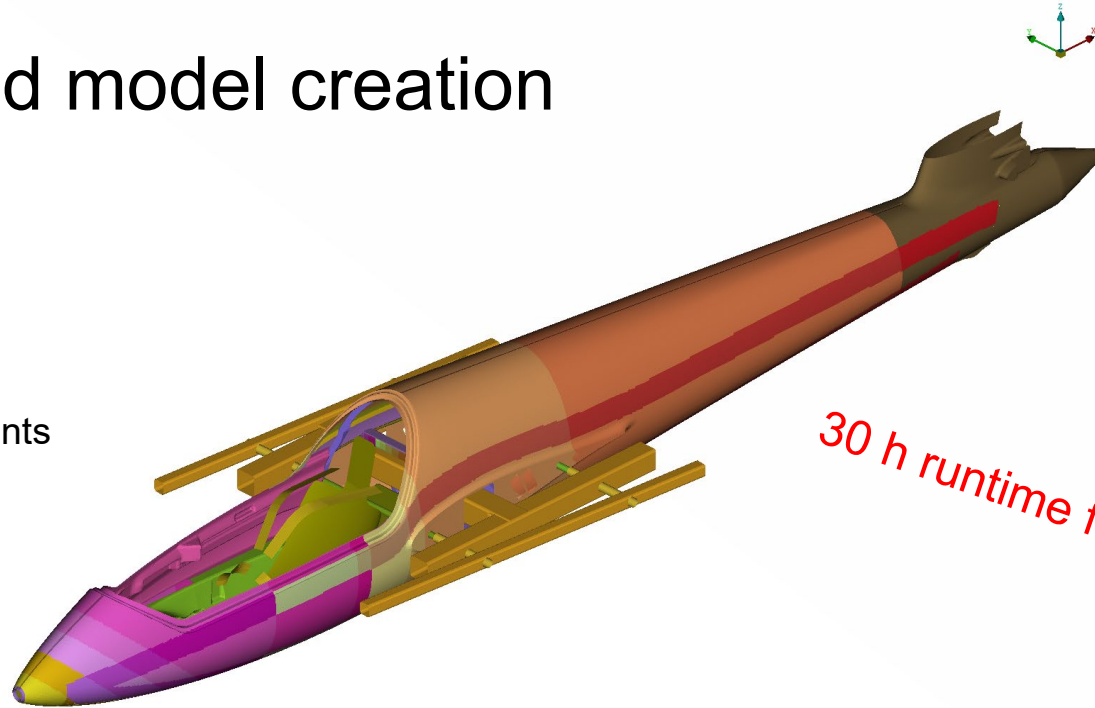
Fig. 3: Cross-section of the reinforcement structure [2]

## 2 Design and model creation

600,000 shell elements  
(850,000 with dummy)

55,000 cohesive elements

140,000 solid elements  
(370,000 with dummy)



*30 h runtime for 150 ms*

Fig. 8: Overview of the structural FE model

28 Intel Xeon E5-2690 v3  
cores (2.6 GHz)

1. Motivation
2. Design and model creation
- 3. Material models and characterization**
4. Test and measurement equipment
5. Validation
6. Conclusions and outlook



# 3 Material models and characterization

## Primary crash structure

- Composite materials (\*MAT\_058=\*MAT\_LAMINATED\_COMPOSITE\_FABRIC)
- Adhesive bonds (\*MAT\_240=\*MAT\_COHESIVE\_MIXED\_MODE\_ELASTOPLASTIC\_RATE )
- Core material (\*MAT\_154=\*MAT\_DESHPANDE\_FLECK\_FOAM)

## Secondary crash structure and occupant safety environment

- Belt material (\*MAT\_34=\*MAT\_FABRIC, \*MAT\_B01=\*MAT\_SEATBELT)
- Steel (\*MAT\_36=\*MAT\_3-PARAMETER\_BARLAT)

# 3 Material models and characterization

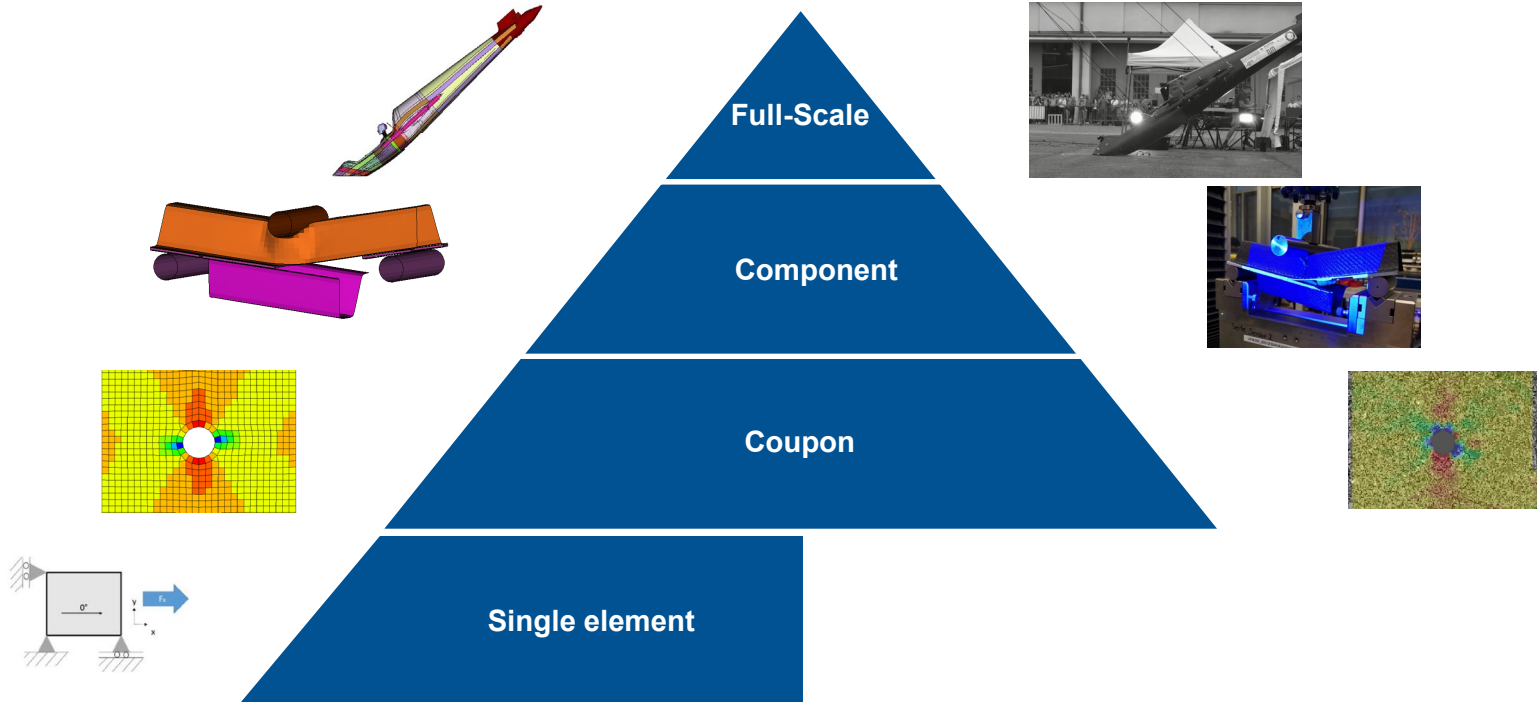


Fig. 9-15: Building block approach in experiment and simulation

1. Motivation
2. Design and model creation
3. Material models and characterization
- 4. Test and measurement equipment**
5. Validation
6. Conclusions and outlook

# 4 Test and measurement equipment

- Impact angle  $45^\circ$
- $5^\circ$  yaw angle against barrier
- Impact velocity 15 m/s

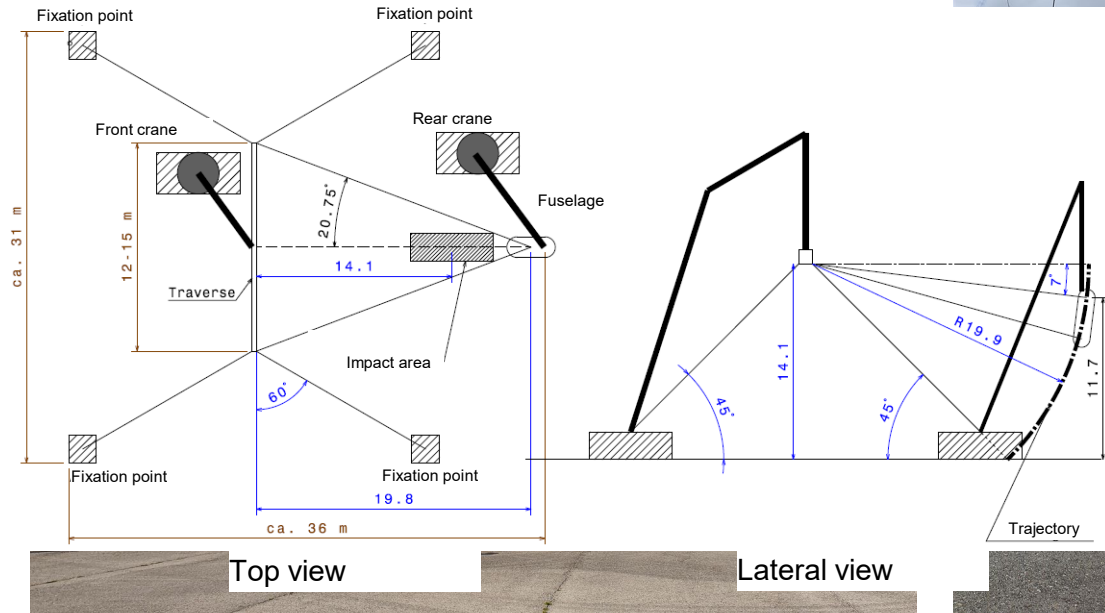


Fig. 16: Setup and positioning for the test execution of the test

## 4 Test and measurement equipment

- H3 dummy
- Inertial measurement unit
- Digital-Image-Correlation system
- 6 high-speed cameras
- Strain gauges in the cockpit area

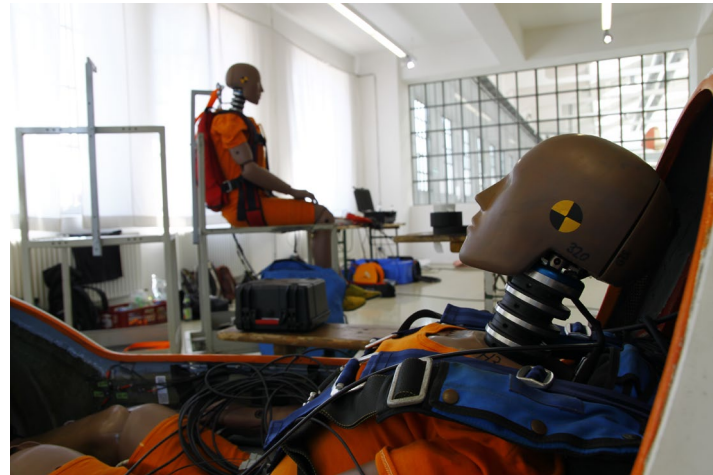


Fig. 18: H3 crash dummy before crash the test

1. Motivation
2. Design and model creation
3. Material models and characterization
4. Test and measurement equipment
- 5. Validation**
6. Conclusions and outlook

# 5 Validation



Fig. 19: Side view of crash test vs simulation

# 5 Validation

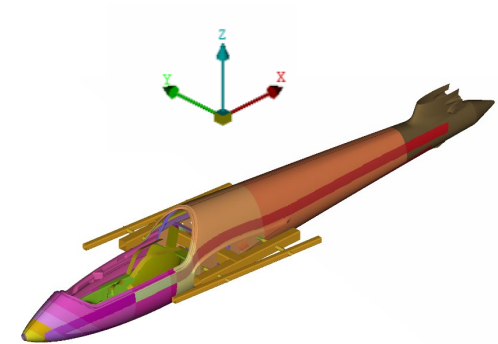
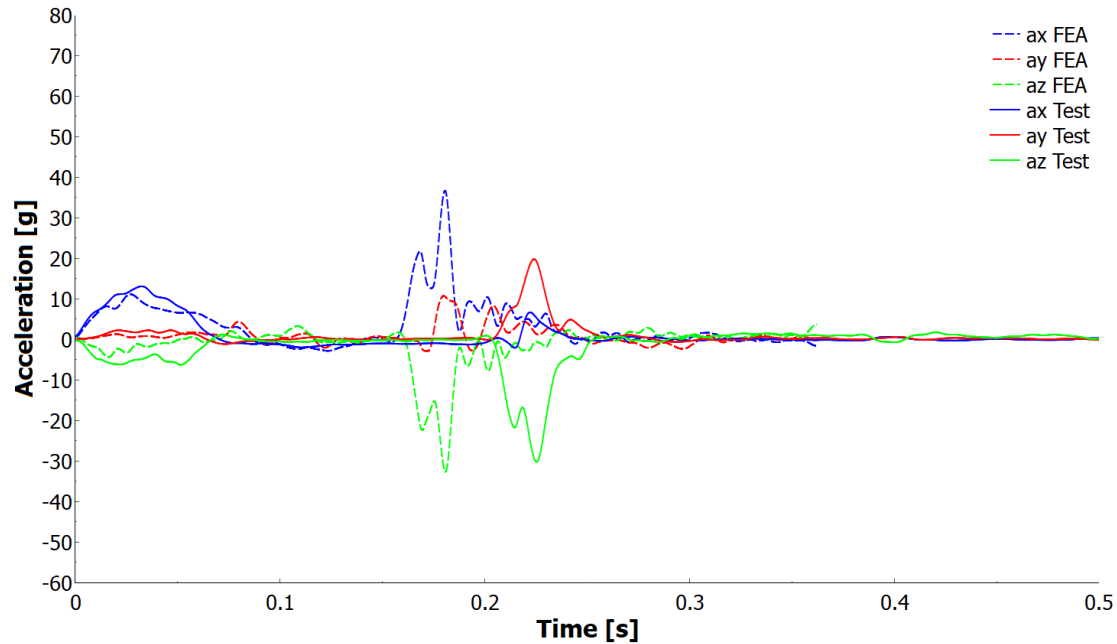


Fig. 21: IMU acceleration, BW50



# 5 Validation

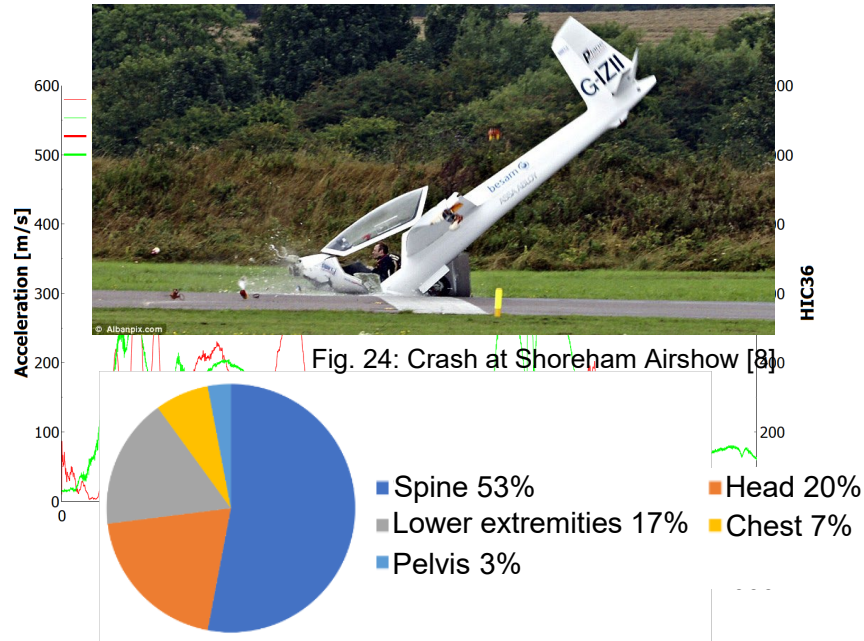


Fig. 25: Injury classification of sailplane accidents [9]

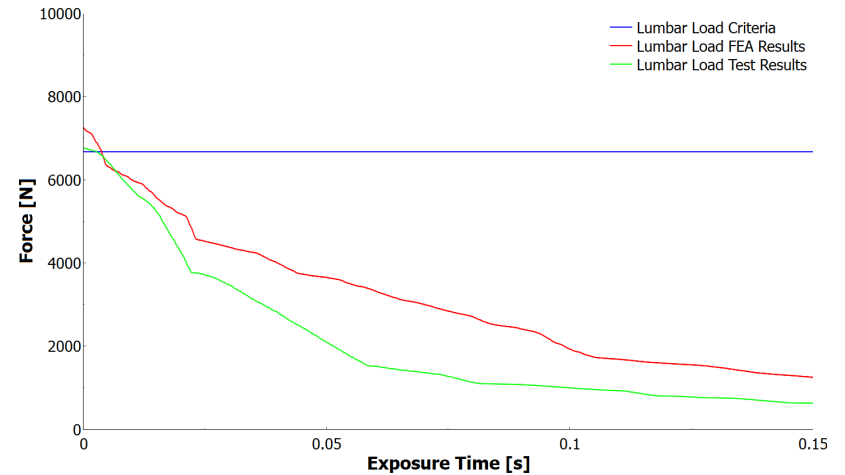


Fig. 23: Lumbar Load Criterion, CFC1000

1. Motivation
2. Design and model creation
3. Material models and characterization
4. Test and measurement equipment
5. Validation
- 6. Conclusions and outlook**

# 6 Conclusions and outlook

- First step towards virtual certification in aerospace sector
- Analysis of sudden deceleration at the second impact
- Numerical studies of the crash test and dummy
- Optimization of crashworthiness

# 6 Conclusions and Outlook – Simulation with 20 m/s

0:cpr\_d3plot : LS-DYNA user input : STATE 1 ,TIME 0.00000000E+00

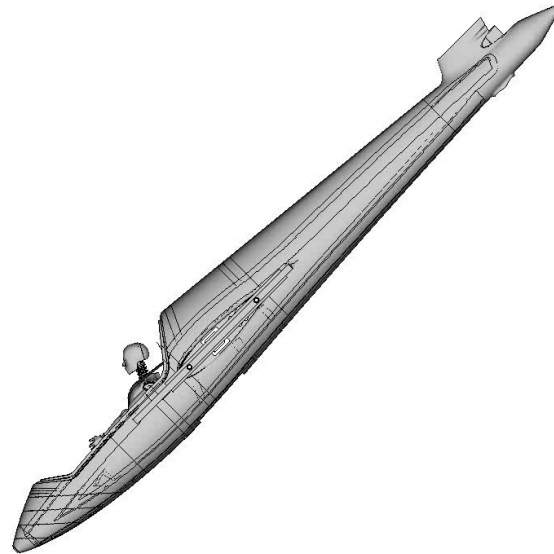


Fig. 27: Simulation with 20 m/s

Thank you for your  
attention!

**Questions?**



# References

- [1] Lindner T.K.: Ermittlung eines Anforderungsprofils für den Entwurf von Sicherheitscockpits in Kleinflugzeugen und Bewertung möglicher konstruktiver Lösungen, TU Braunschweig, 2019.
- [2] Kudla C.: Auslegung und Detailkonstruktion des Rumpfes des Hochleistungs-Segelkunstflugzeugs Mü32. Bachelor's Thesis, TUM-LCC, 2019.
- [3] Lange Aviation GmbH: Crash-Konzept Antares 21E, 01. September 2022, <https://www.lange-aviation.com/de/produkte/antares-21e/sicherheit/>.
- [4] Schuster U., Wolf K.: "Improvement of Sailplane Crashworthiness through Keel Beams with Silicone Cores." *Technical Soaring* 38.2 (2014): 16-26.
- [5] Jeberien K.: Entwicklung und FEM-gestützte Optimierung eines Energieabsorberkonzepts für Segelflugzeuge zur Steigerung der Unfalltauglichkeit, Master's Thesis, TUM-LCC, 2021.
- [6] Hofmann M.: Modellierung und FEM-Simulation des Crashes einer Segelflugzeug-Rumpfstruktur in LS-Dyna, Term Paper, TUM-LCC, 2021.
- [7] Löwe J.: Konzeptionierung eines Crashtests an einer Segelflugzeugrumpfstruktur, Bachelor's Thesis, TUM-LCC, 2021.
- [8] Daily Mail UK. Air show crash drama: Pilot's amazing escape as stunt glider smashes into runway as 15,000 fans look on. 2010. url: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1311828/Shoreham-air-crash-pilotes-escapes-stunt-glider-smashes-runway.html>.
- [9] Sperber M., Untersuchung des Insassenschutzes bei Unfällen mit Segelflugzeugen und Motorseglern, TÜV Rheinland Krafftahrt GmbH, 1998.