

Presented by

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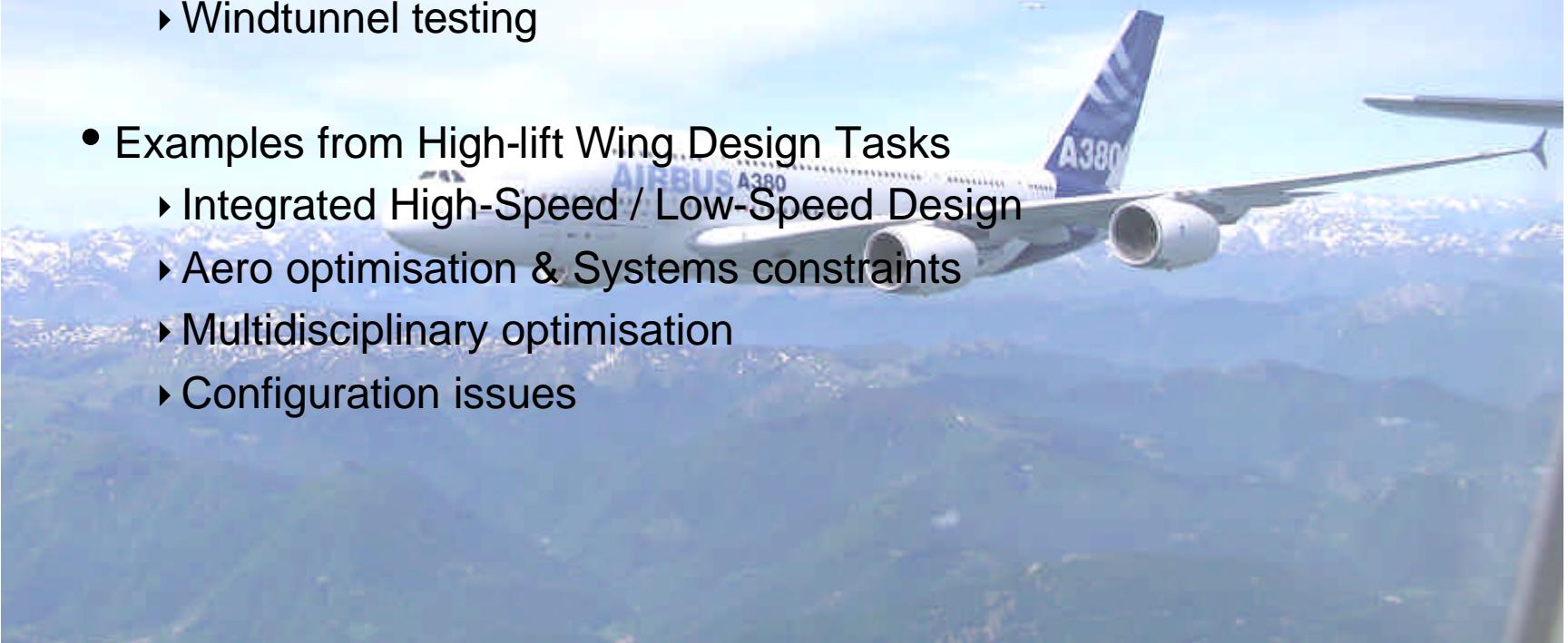


## Aerodynamic Design of Airbus High-Lift Wings



# Overview

- Zur Person
- Process & tools for high-lift design at Airbus
  - The high-lift wing design process
  - CFD
  - Windtunnel testing
- Examples from High-lift Wing Design Tasks
  - Integrated High-Speed / Low-Speed Design
  - Aero optimisation & Systems constraints
  - Multidisciplinary optimisation
  - Configuration issues



# Zur Person



**Daniel Reckzeh**

34 Jahre

## Stationen im DLR:

1998-2000 Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter im DLR Braunschweig (SM-EA) im Rahmen der DLR-DASA „Nachwuchsinitiative“, abgeordnet zu Airbus Bremen, Segment Produktaerodynamik, Fachgebiet: Aerodynamischer Entwurf von Hochauftriebssystemen

## Stationen außerhalb des DLR:

1997-98 Selbständige Tätigkeit (eigenes Ingenieurbüro) im Unterauftrag von Airbus Bremen im Tragflügelentwurf  
2000-03 Airbus Bremen - Entwurfsingenieur im aerodynamischen Entwurf in der Abteilung „High-Lift devices“

## Meine jetzige Tätigkeit:

Airbus Bremen – Engineering / Flight-Physics  
Aerodynamic Design & Data Domain (EGA)  
Seit 2003 Leitung der transnationalen Abteilung „High-lift devices“ (Bremen & Filton)  
Seit 2005 Leitung des Segments „Configuration design“ (Bremen)

## Was ich aus dem DLR mitgenommen habe:

- Einstieg in die Luftfahrtbranche
- Erfahrungen in der „akademischen“ & „industriellen“ Aerodynamik
- Netzwerkbildung im Rahmen der NWI (Nachwuchsinitiative)

# Zur Person

Welche Tätigkeitsbereiche habe ich durchlaufen ?

- Build up of a process chain for Geometry tools and CFD-Methods for high-lift wing design
- CFD-Tool development: Modelling of 3D separated flows on complete aircraft configurations
- Windtunnel model specification for high-lift wing development
- High-lift windtunnel testing and analysis for R&T and A380
- In charge of A380 high-lift wing aerodynamic design
- Coordination of A400M Airbus high-lift wing aerodynamic design
- Transnational Lead of High-Lift Devices Group, responsible for all Airbus High-Lift Wing Design activities
- Capability Manager Configuration Design

# Organisation Airbus Engineering

Airbus  
engineering

WHERE IDEAS TAKE OFF



Research / Technology

Architecture & Integration

Flight Physics

Systems and Integration Tests

Powerplant Systems

Structure

Flight Safety Enhancement

Product Integrity

Flight Operations

# Organisation Airbus Flight Physics

Resources Management

Policy and Development

Aerodyn. Design & Data

Aerodyn. Windtunnel Testing

Loads & Aeroelasticity

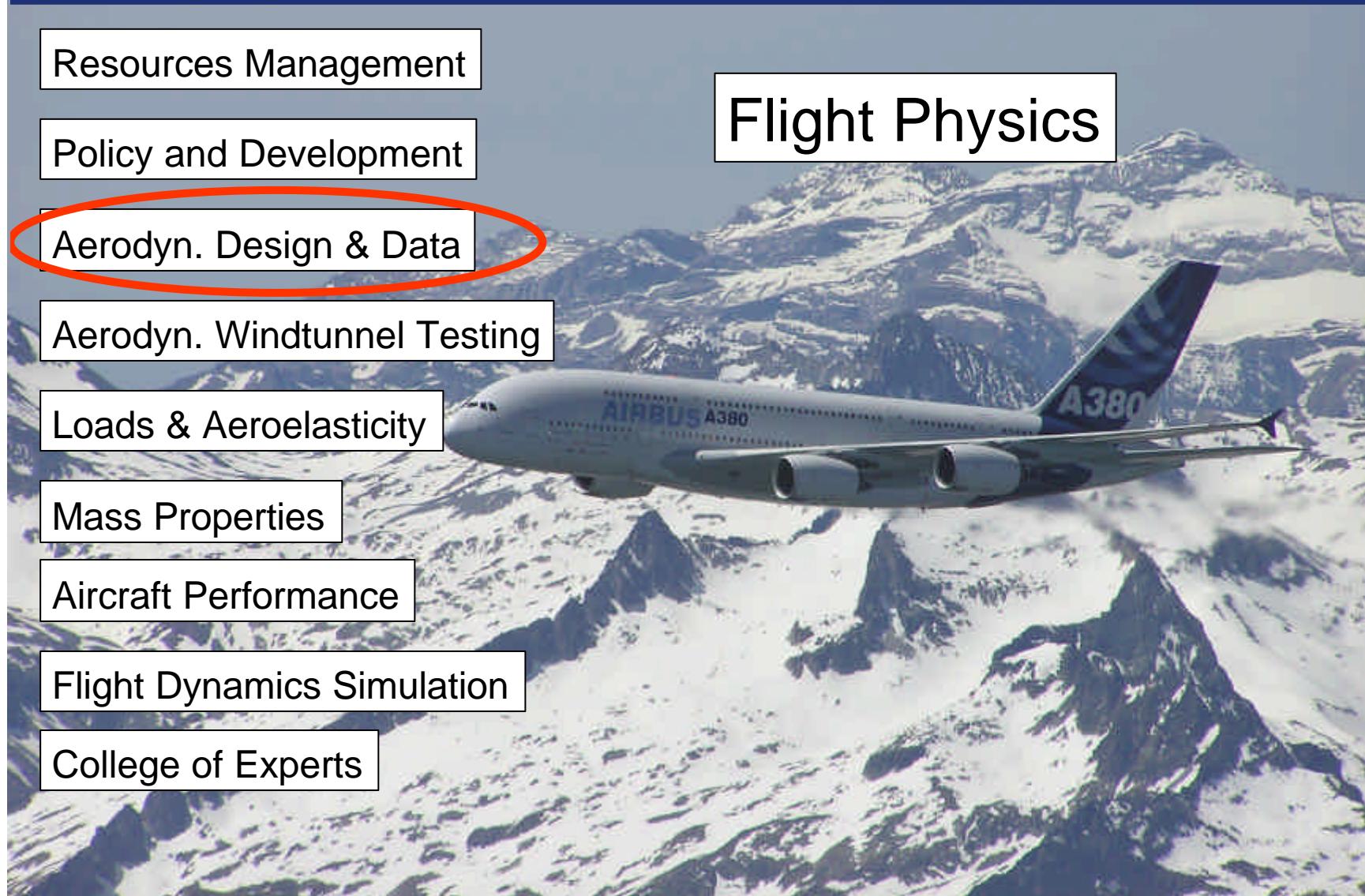
Mass Properties

Aircraft Performance

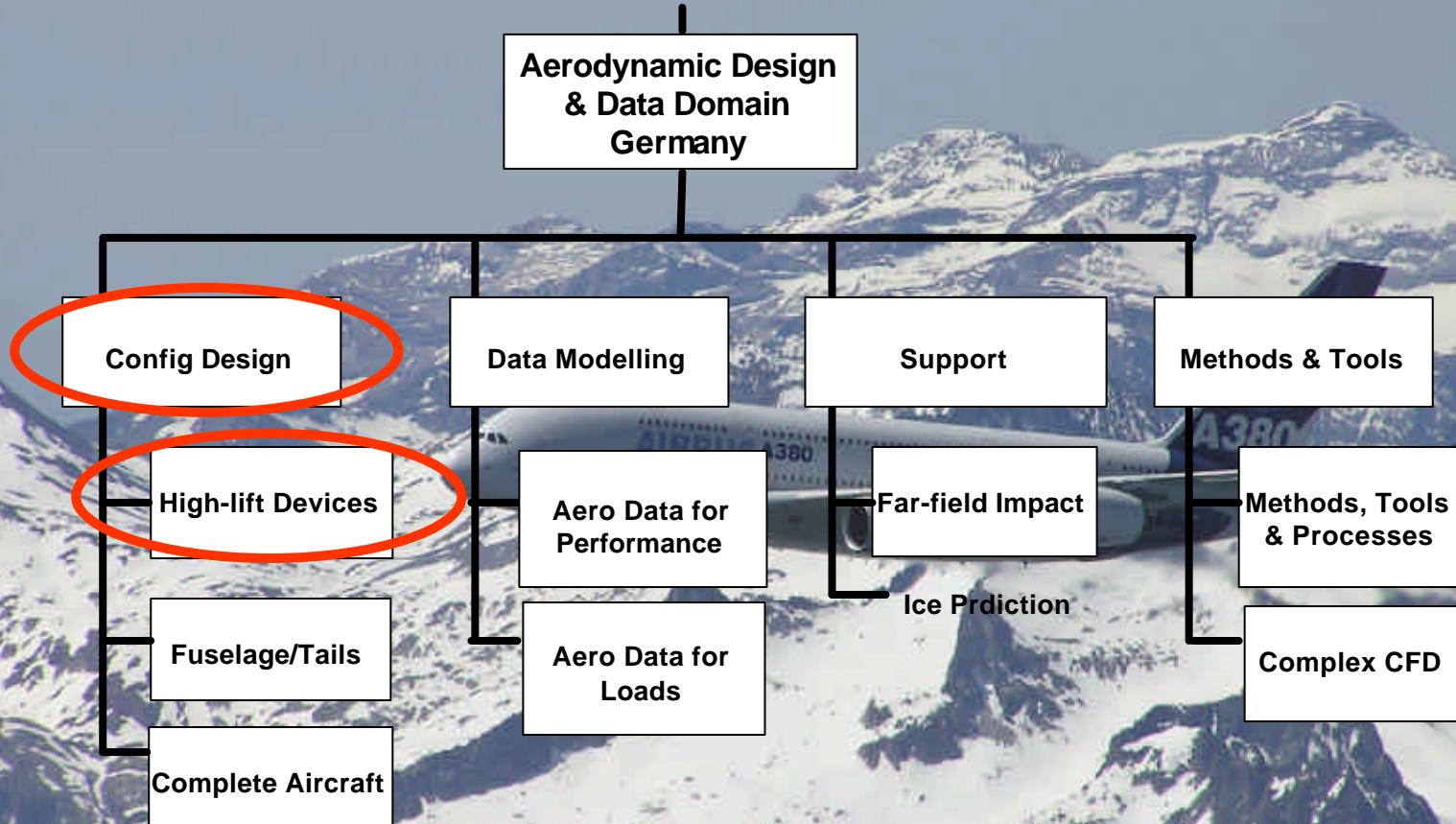
Flight Dynamics Simulation

College of Experts

Flight Physics



# Organisation Aero Design & Data Domain Germany

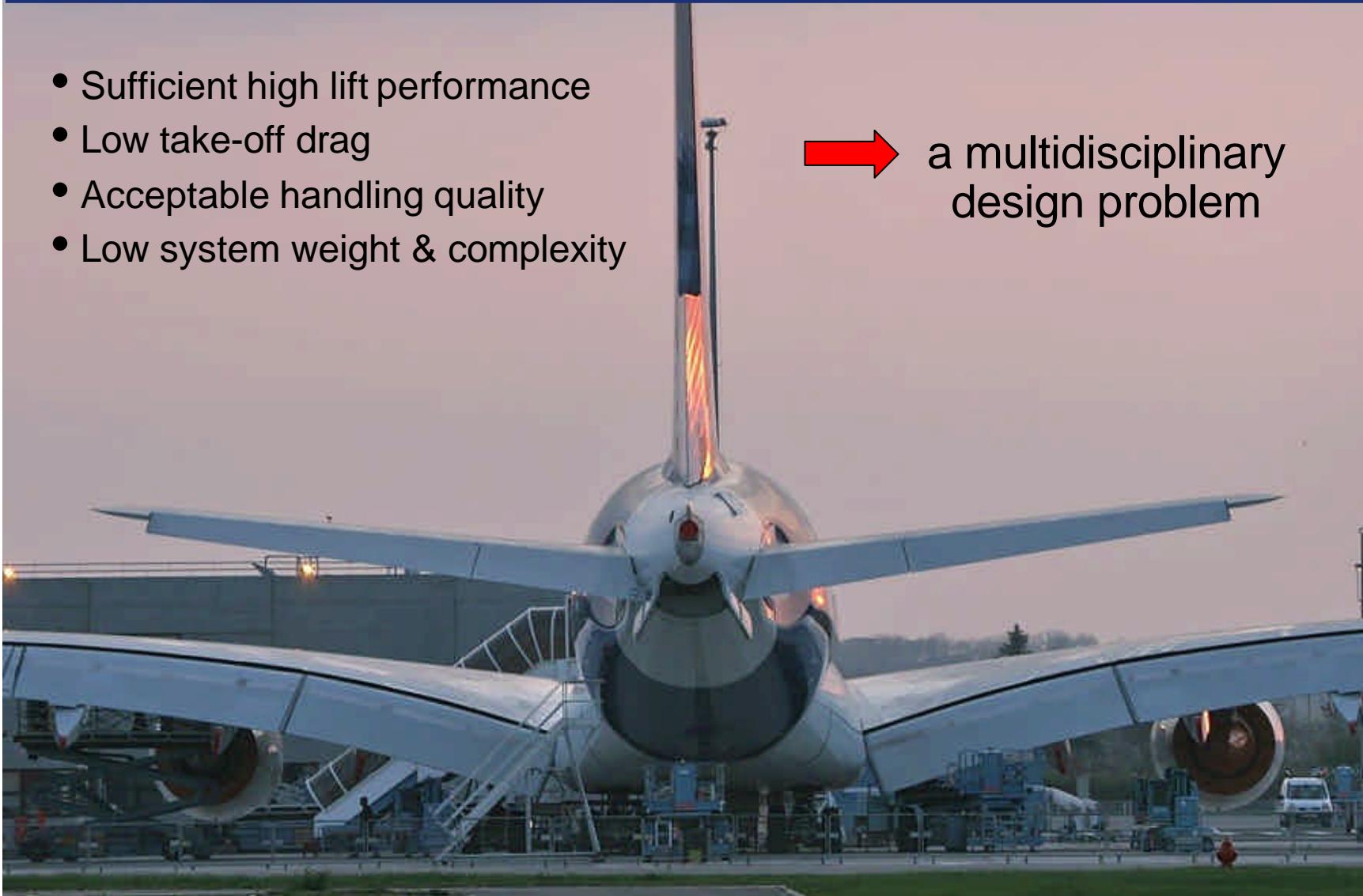


# Requirements to the High-Lift Configuration

- Sufficient high lift performance
- Low take-off drag
- Acceptable handling quality
- Low system weight & complexity



a multidisciplinary  
design problem



# The High-Lift Wing Aero Design Process

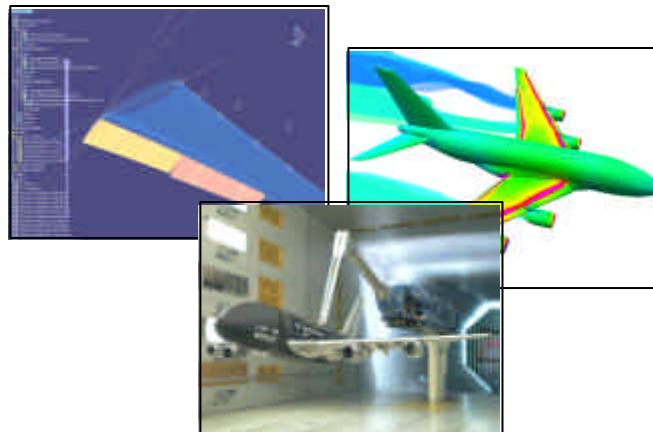
## Inputs

- TLAR (requirements, performance & noise targets)
- General A/C layout
- Wing planform
- Cruise Wing surface

## High Lift Devices Aero design & Master Geometry

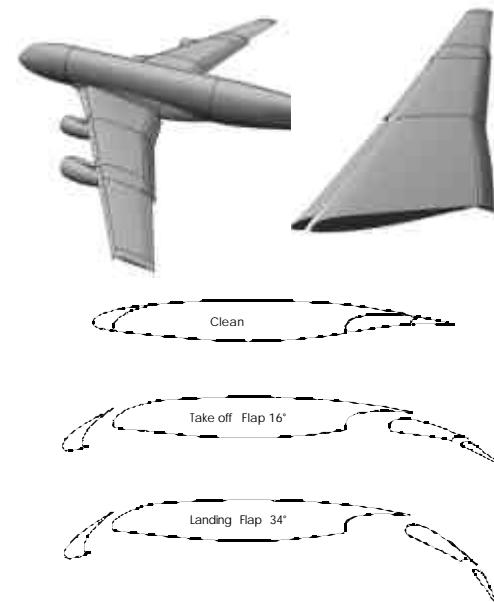
### Tools

- CAD
- KBE aero design tools
- CFD Flow Analysis
- Windtunnel testing
- Aeroacoustic analysis

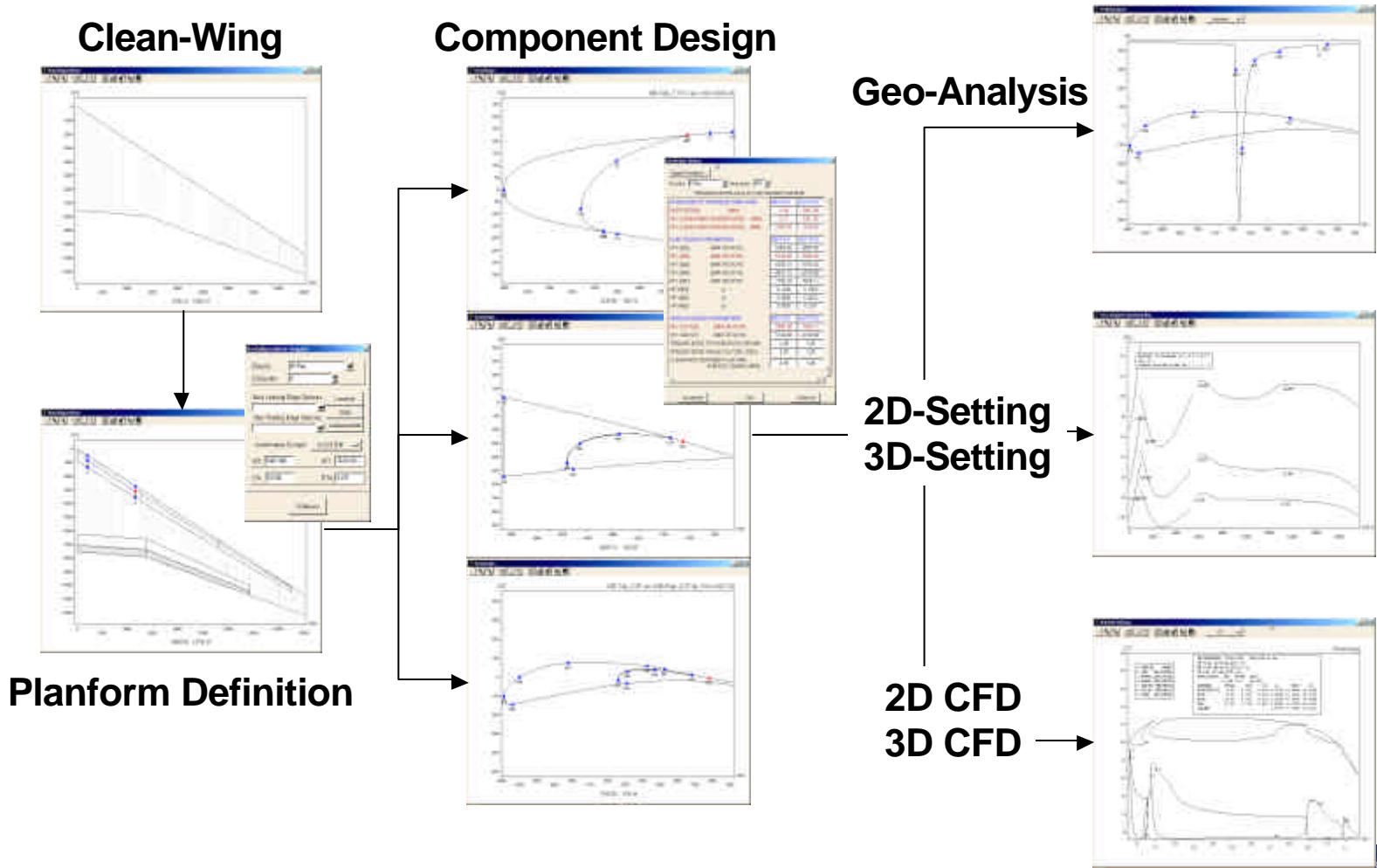


## Outputs

- High-lift configuration layout
- High-lift devices shapes
- Requirements for system design (Target kinematics, Settings, etc)



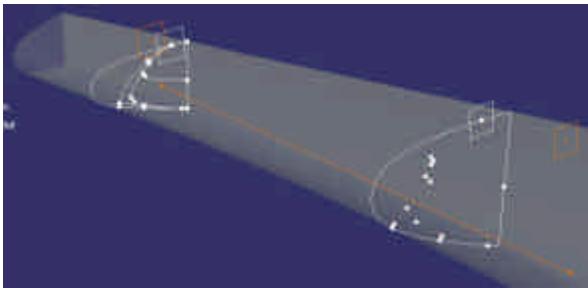
# Parametric Shape Design & Analysis Tools



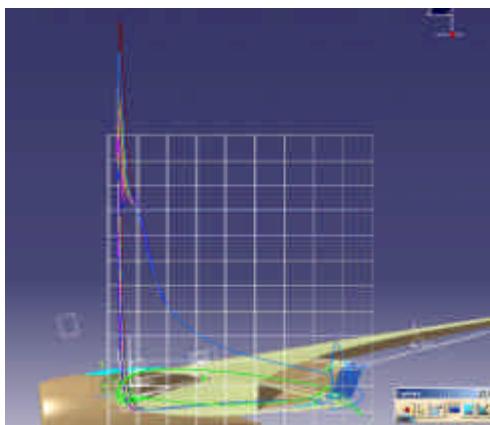
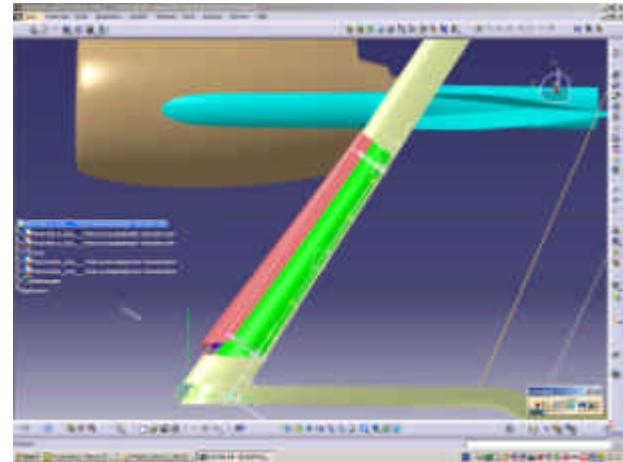
# Parametric Shape Design & Analysis Tools



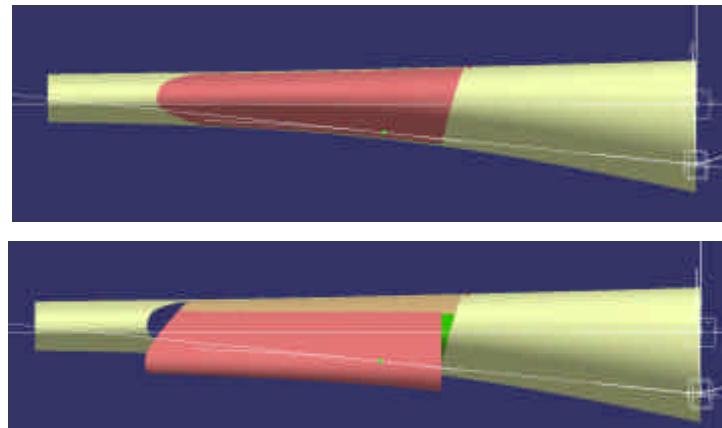
- Examples from Droop Nose Device Design



Shape design incl kinematic constraints

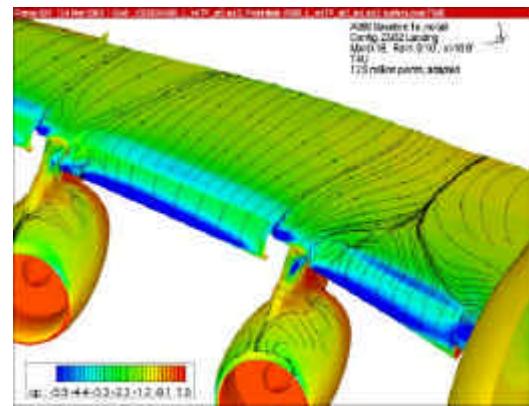
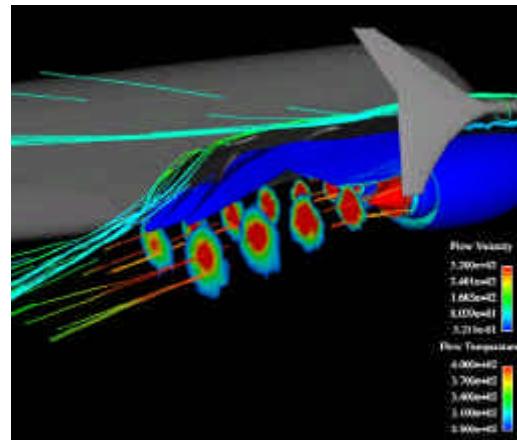
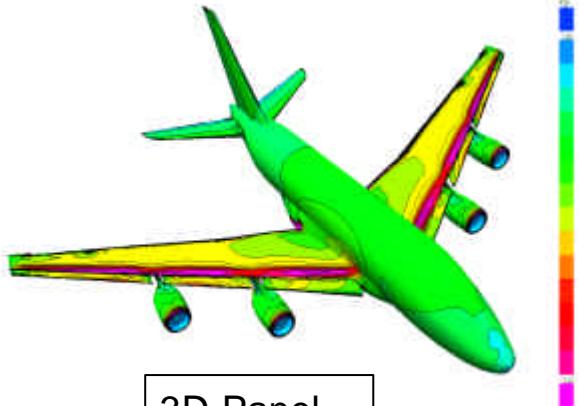
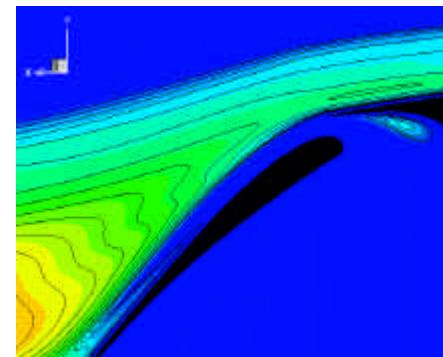
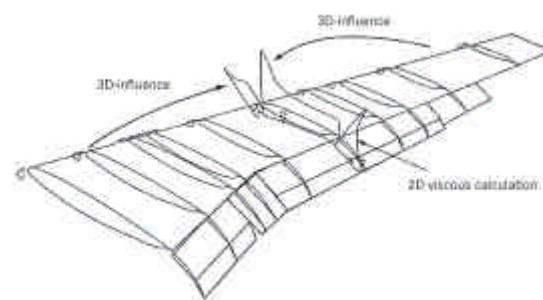
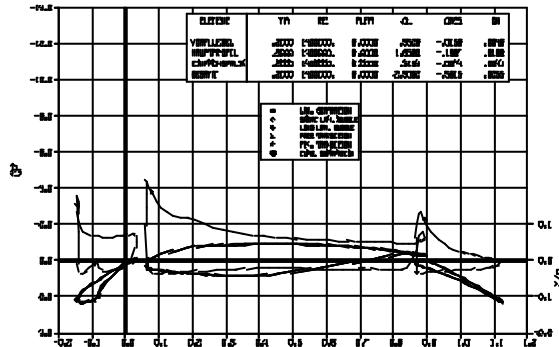


Aerodynamic analysis



Target kinematics

# CFD-based High-Lift Wing Design



# Windtunnels for Airbus High-Lift Development

## A380 „Model chain“ (1) Small Halfmodel X03 (Scale 1:32)

- LSWT Bremen (Re=1.5 Mio)
- KKK Cologne (Re=7 Mio)
- ETW Cologne (Re=25 Mio)



## A380 „Model chain“ (2) Large complete model X08 (Scale 1:17)

- DNW Emmeloord (Re=3.5 Mio)

## Large halfmodel X08H

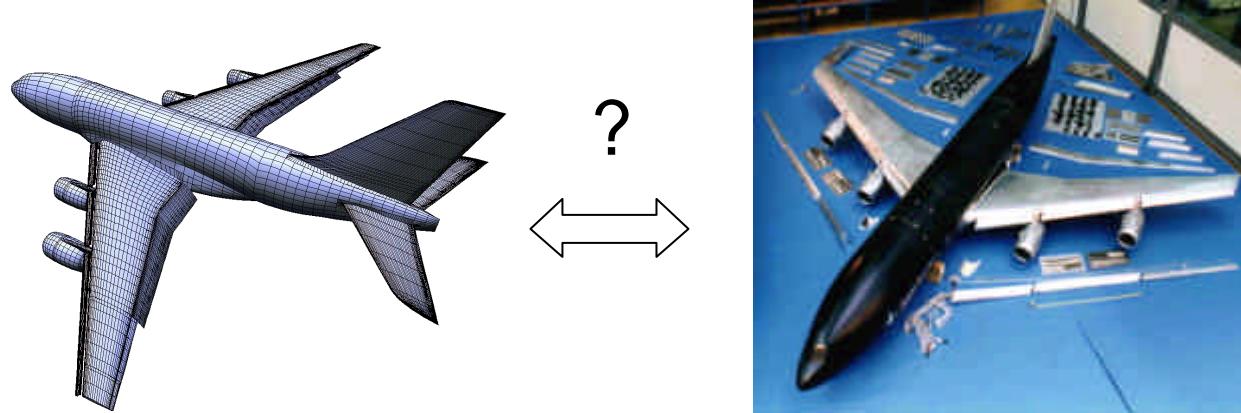
- LSWT Filton (Re=3.5 Mio)
- F1 Toulouse (Re=12 Mio)
- Q5m Farnborough (Re=10 Mio)

## A380 „Model chain“ (3) Complete model X06

- LSWT Filton (Re=1.5 Mio)
- F1 Toulouse (Re=8 Mio)
- Q5m Farnborough (Re=6 Mio)



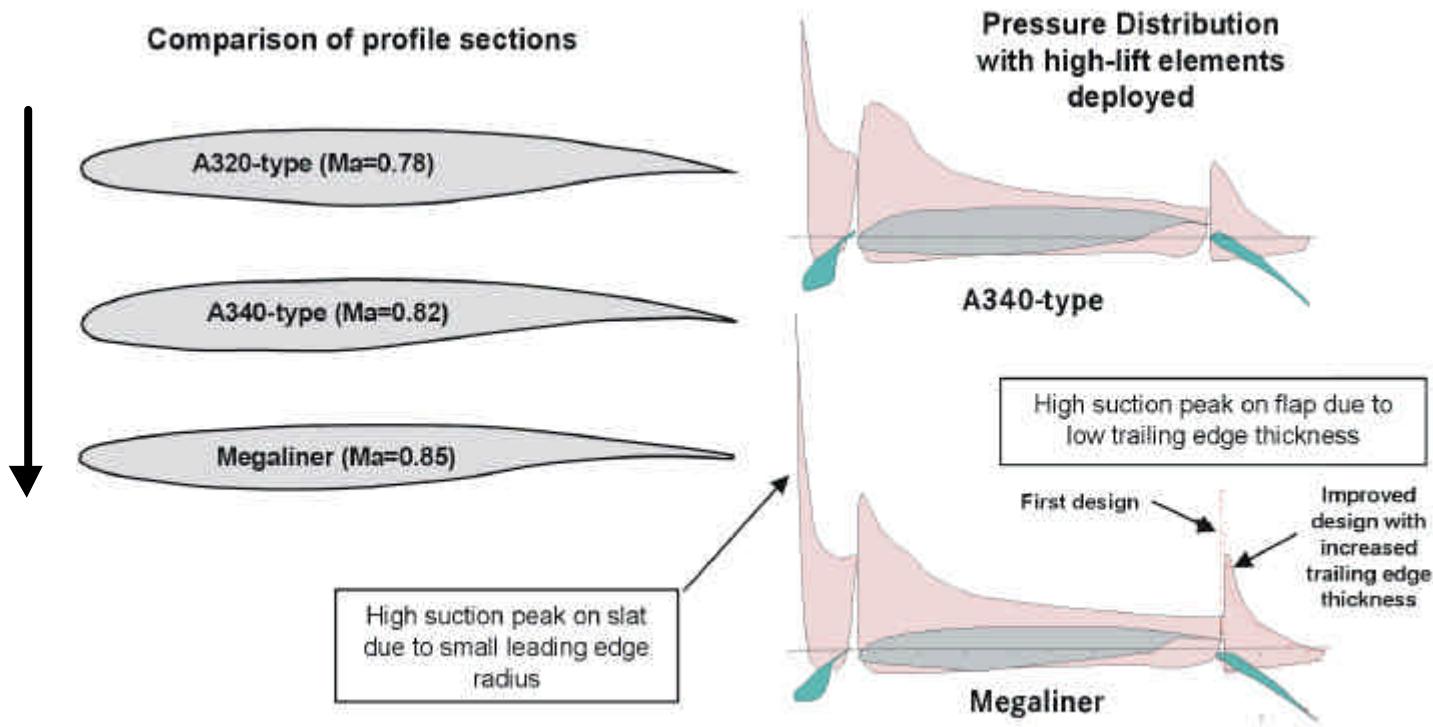
# Tools for design verification: CFD vs Windtunnel ?



*Designers' view (provocative) :*

- CFD and Windtunnel are tools for design analysis.
  - *"CFD delivers fast pretty pictures but with partly questionable results"*
  - *"Windtunnel testing is extremely expensive and requires too much time"*
- Way out ?
  - *"Despite their discrepancies we can not live without the one or the other, the combination of both advantages makes it."*
  - CFD to be used in far more intensive combination with Windtunnel testing
  - The major step ahead for design will be the close-coupled use of reliable (i.e. validated) complex CFD

# Integrated High-Speed / Low-Speed Design

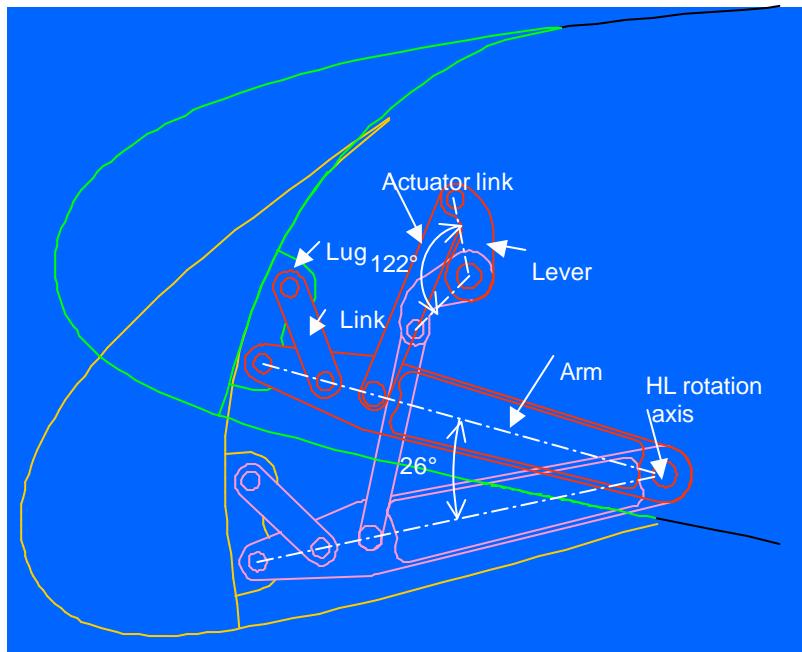


- *Thin outer wing profiles with small leading edge radius:* high Slat-angle necessary, therefore long Slat-tracks with high weight and integration problems
- *Thin rear profile thickness (high rear-loading in cruise):* low flap-thickness with high boundary layer loading, high flap structure weight, flexible structure gives difficulties in maintaining target flap gap

# The droop-nose device

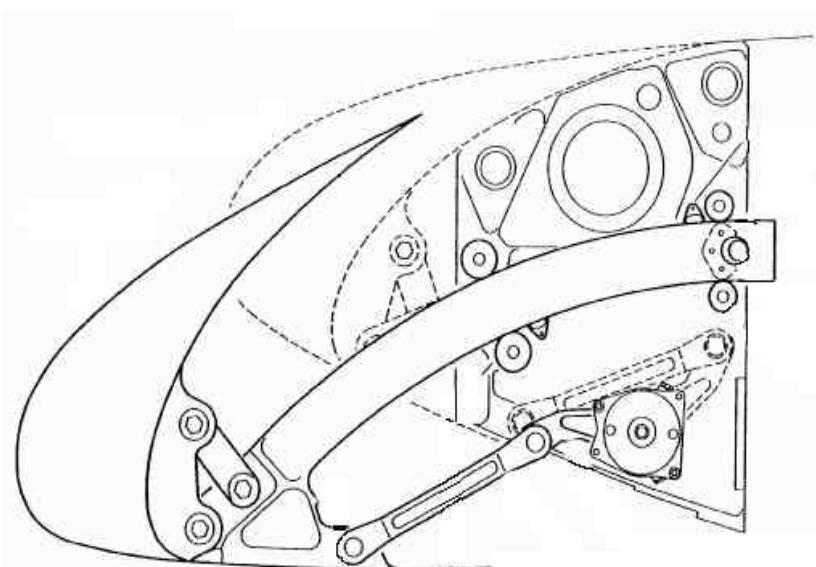
## Droop Nose Device

**lower drag  
reduced maximum lift**



## Slat

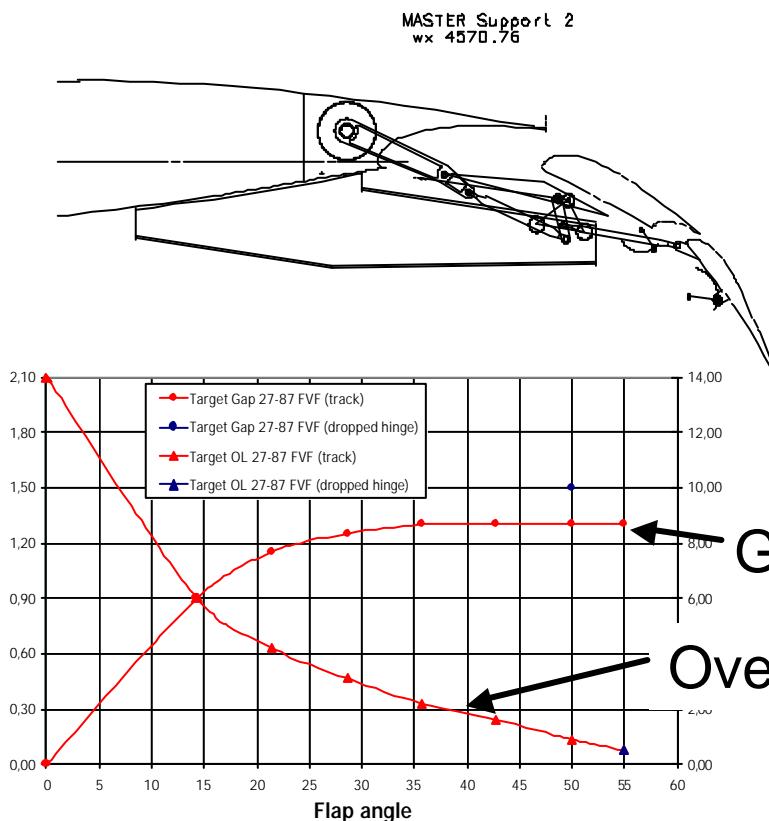
**higher maximum lift  
increased drag**



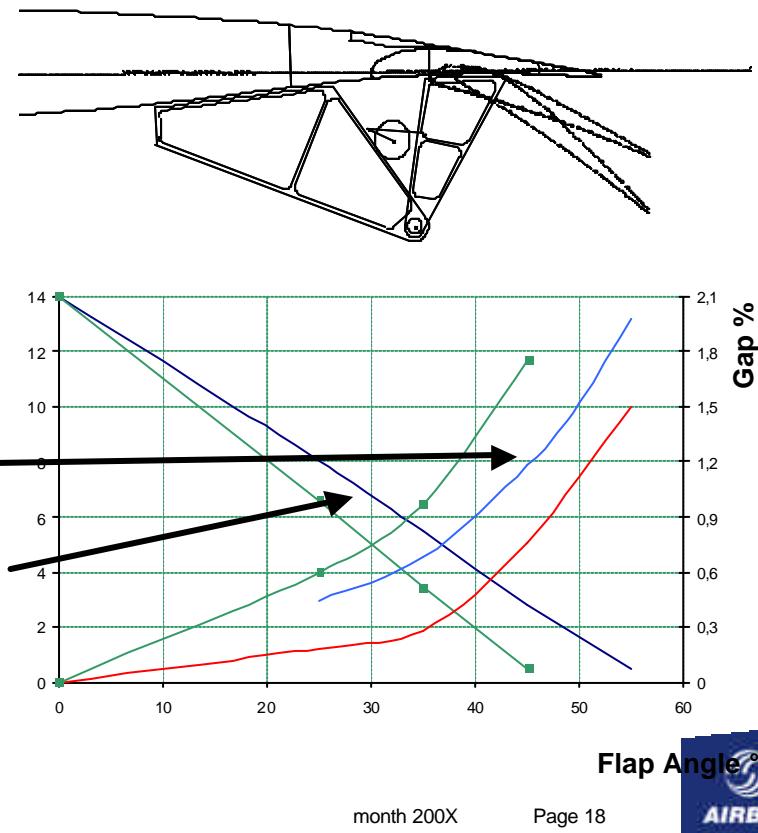
**Selected for inboard wing of A380**

# Kinematics system versus Aero target

Track mechanism fulfills Aero Target,  
but complex and heavy

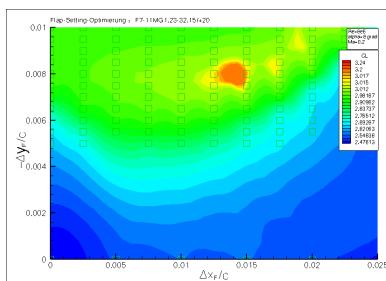
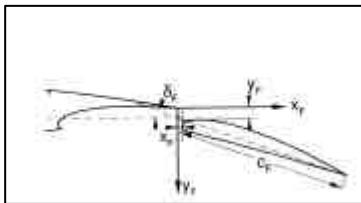


Dropped Hinge mechanism  
insufficient to Aero Target, but  
less complex and lighter

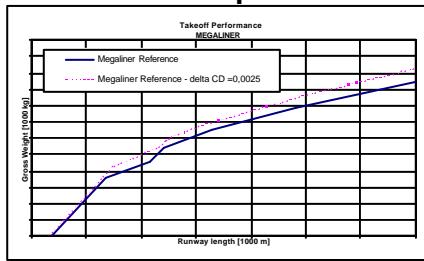


# Multidisciplinary design optimisation

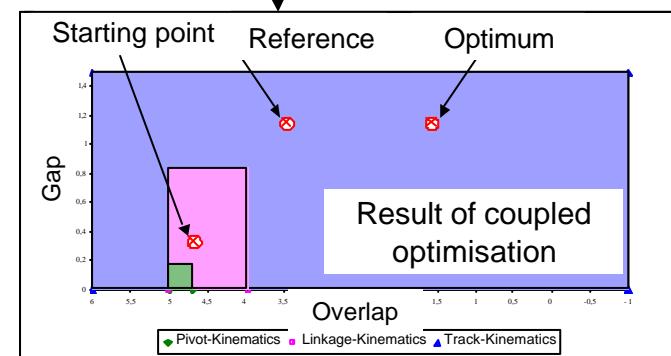
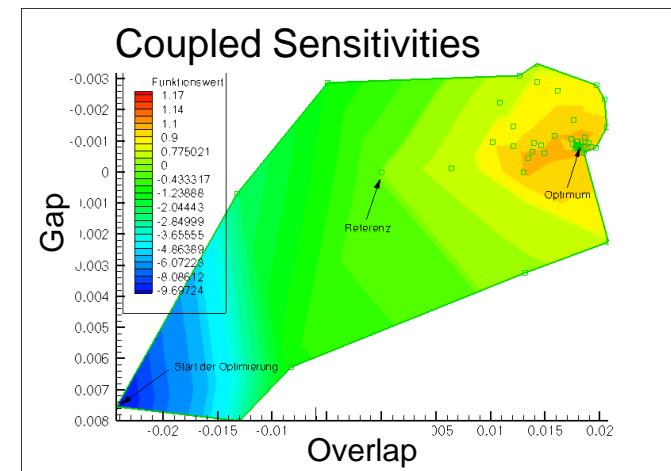
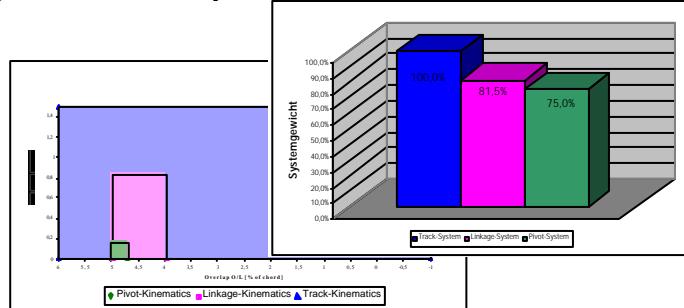
- Aero dependancies



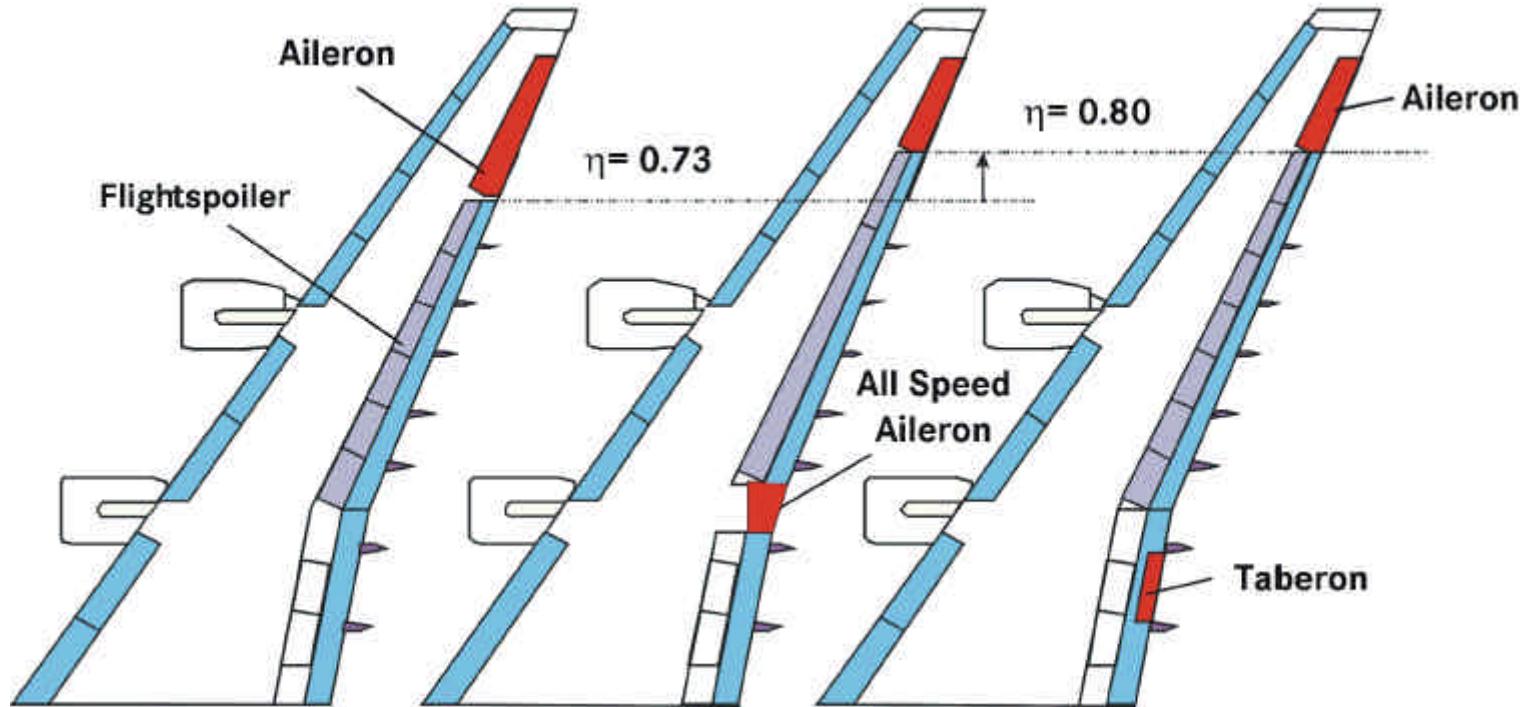
- Performance dependancies



- Systems dependancies

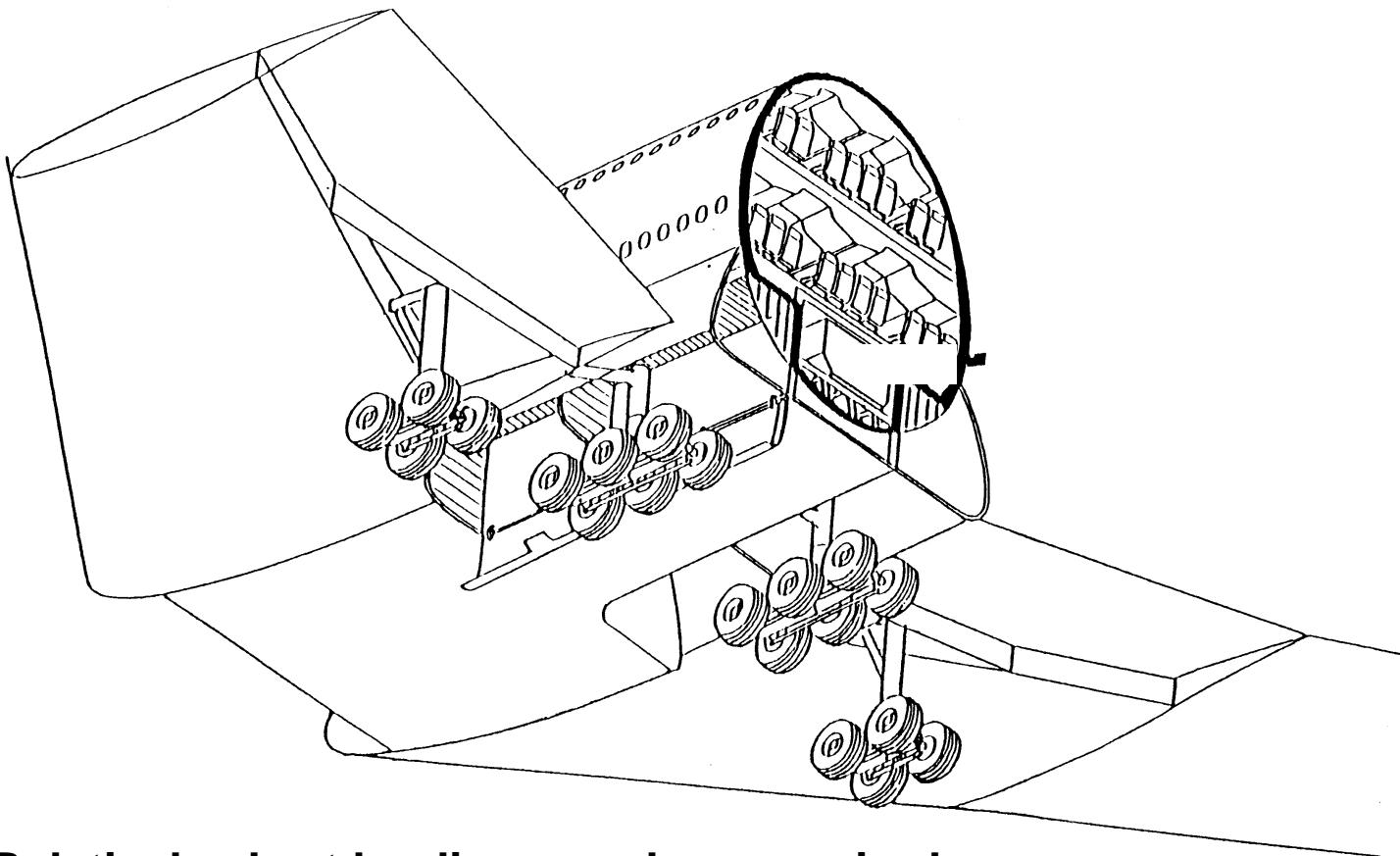


# Wing Layout Studies



- *Flexible wing structure with aileron reversal tendency:*  
Application of an inboard „All-Speed-Aileron“ with increased outer flap span, resp. application of an inboard „Taberon“

# Impact of the landing gear height

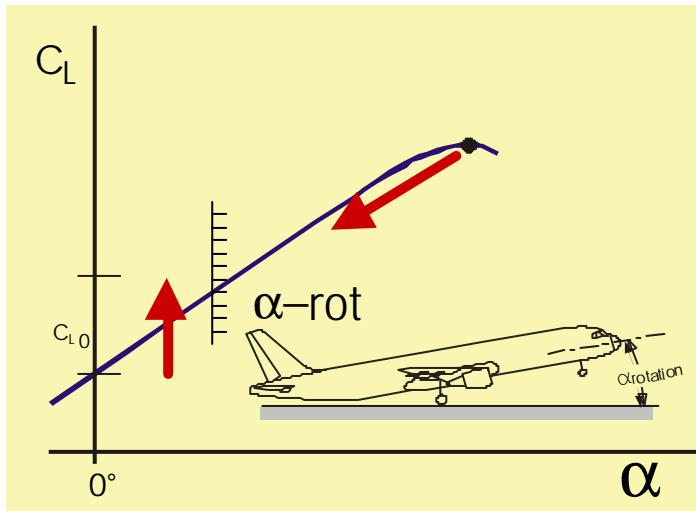


**Relatively short landing gear legs required**

- **to control aircraft weight**
- **to improve space allocation for I/B flap**

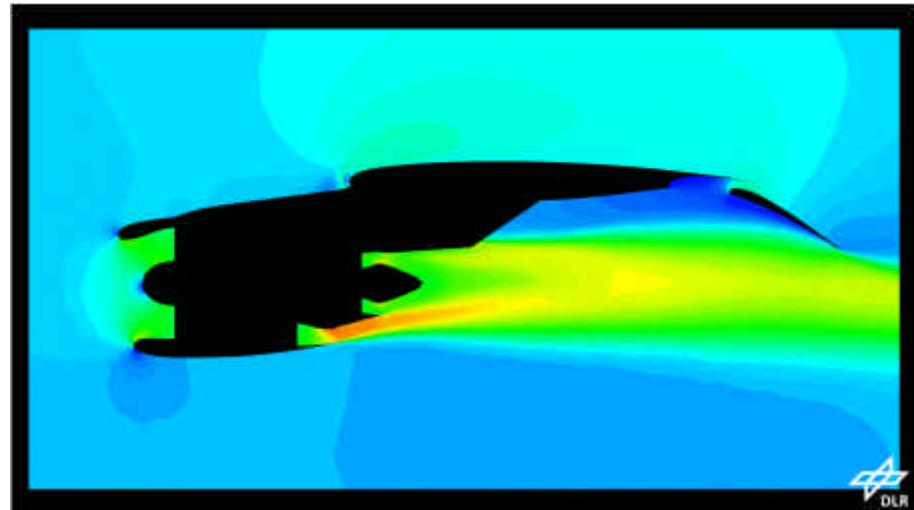
# Impact of the landing gear height

fuselage close to ground  
→ rotation limit



**challenge :**  
sufficient lift at  $\alpha = 8^\circ \dots 10^\circ$   
but maximum lift can be somewhat  
compromised (without negative  
effect on T/O performance)

engine close to wing  
→ engine exhaust jet blowing on flaps



**challenges :**

- prediction of aerodynamic interference
- vibrations by turbulent engine exhaust
- temperatures on high lift elements – material ?

# Conclusions

- High-Lift Design is a major driver for overall wing design
- Continuing adaptation of the high-lift wing layout to the current aircraft requirements:  
*aerodynamic design not better than necessary*
- Optimisation under multidisciplinary constraints:  
*small penalty for aerodynamics can cause large benefit for other disciplines*
- Consequent design verification with high Reynolds-number testing and CFD predictions is necessary to reduce (unwanted) margins for the aircraft as far as possible
- Design decisions more and more based on CFD alone
- A closed multidisciplinary design loop is not possible due to the complexity of the task

Vielen Dank für die Aufmerksamkeit !

Fragen ?

Jetzt, gleich, oder: [Daniel.Reckzeh@airbus.com](mailto:Daniel.Reckzeh@airbus.com)



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