

MS Excel spreadsheet for “Wing Box sizing tool – worked example”

Also:

- ✓ Q & A running throughout the session (Join at [menti.com](https://www.menti.com) & use code **18 66 63 12**)
- ✓ Brief comments on questions asked on “*Ed Discussion*”

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Design Sessions

Introduction to Airframes

Civil Airframes

Military Airframes



Design Sessions

Workshop 1: Loads & Fatigue

Types of loading

Symmetric Manoeuvre Loads

Asymmetric Loads

Analysis of Lifting Surfaces

Analysis of Fuselages

Loading action work example

Fatigue - Introduction

Design Methodology

Designing for Fatigue

Fatigue Life

Safety Factors

Miner's Rule & Failure Curves

Examples

Workshop 2: Lifting Surface Design

Wing structural layout

General Aviation Wings

Commercial Aircraft Wings

Design Options

Design of Members

Instability of compression covers - Flat plates

Instability of compression covers - Curved plates

Skin-stringer panels - Introduction

Skin-stringer panels - Buckling & catchpole diagram

Skin-stringer panels - FARRAR efficiency

Spar Design

Rib Design

Worked Example

Design Sessions

Workshop 3: Fuselage Design

Introduction to tubular fuselage structures

Fuselage stressed-skin design

Design of light frames

Design of heavy frames

Fuselage design tool

Workshop 4: Secondary Structure & Composite Design

Secondary Structure

Cutouts

Joints & Fittings

Engine Mounts

Composite Component Design

Introduction to Composites

Composite structures

Composite Material Handbook

Composite Airframes

Composite Design - Part 1

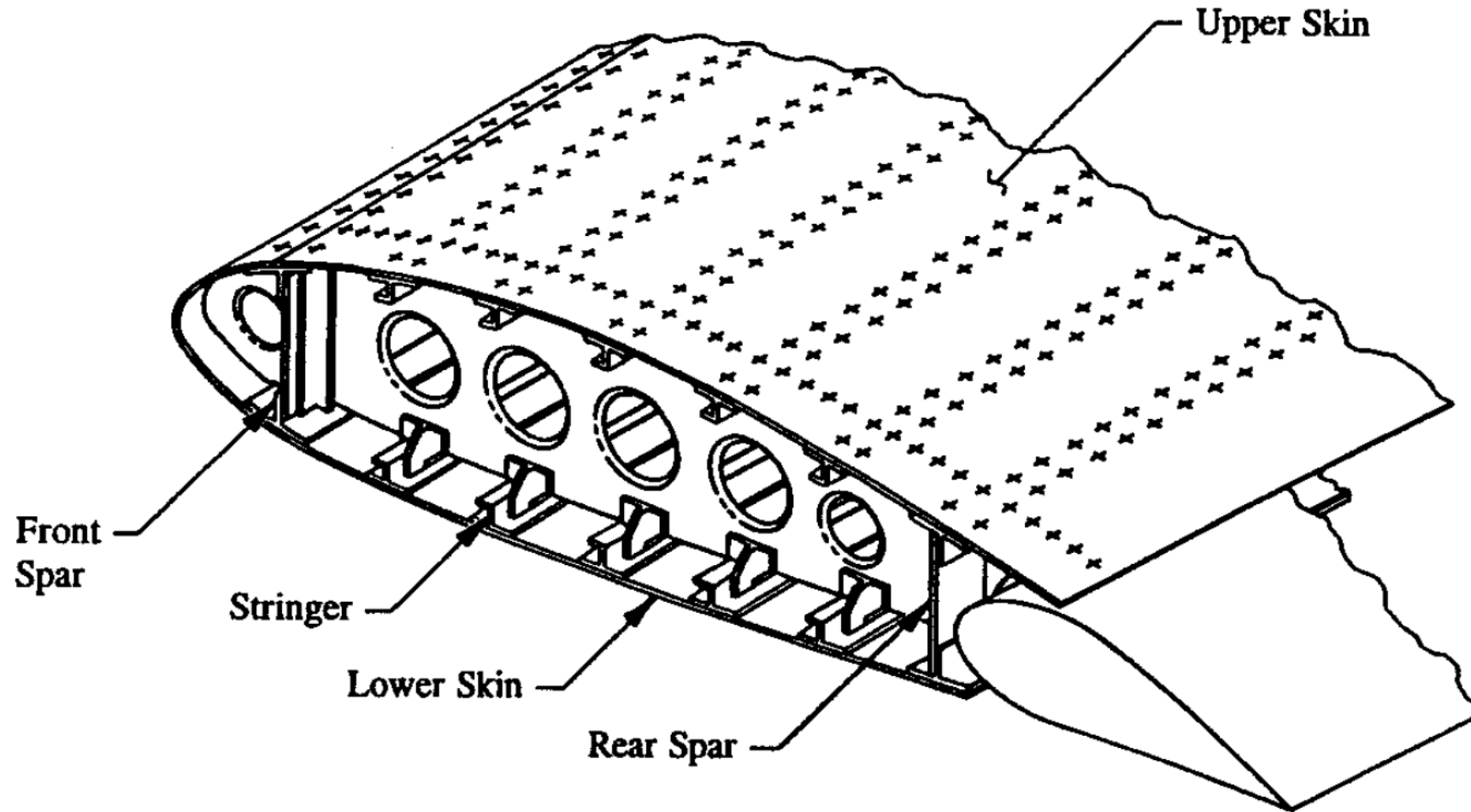
Composite Design - Part 2

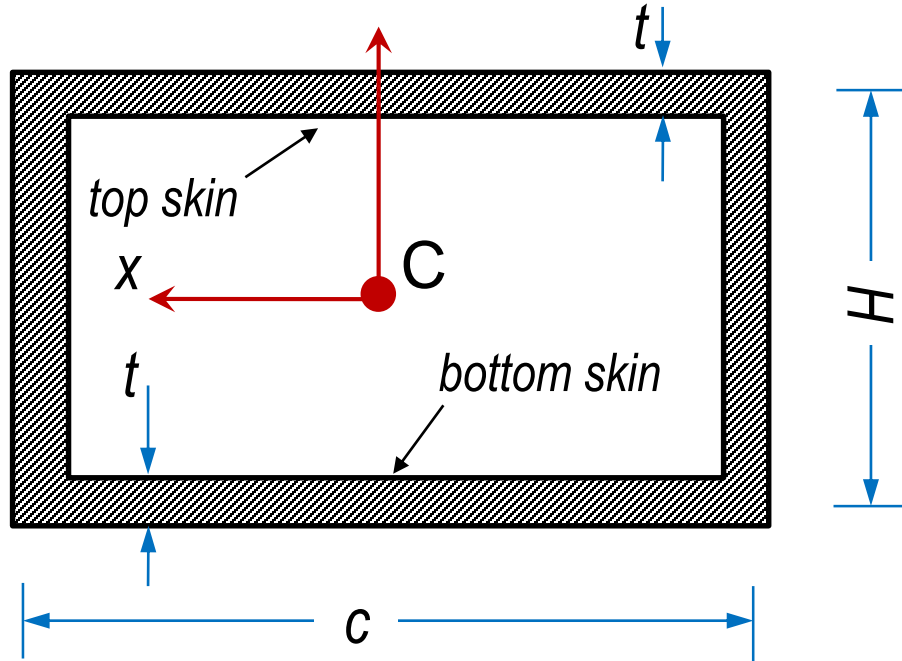
Buckling of composites

Sandwich panels

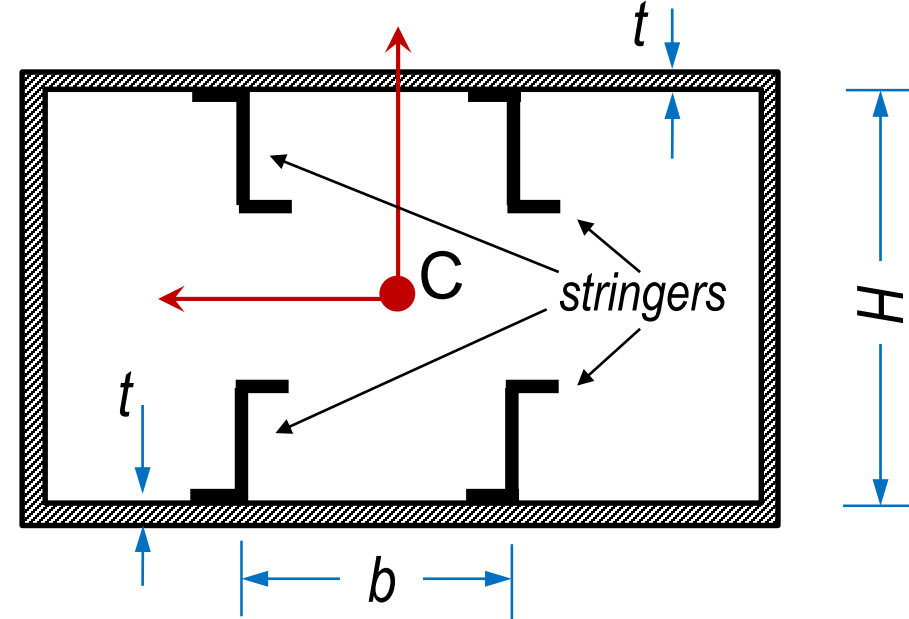
Worked example

We are HERE



**Without** stringers:

- ✓ top & bottom skin carry bending moment M_x
- ✓ top skin in tension & bottom skin in compression
- ✓ ETB applies with **skin thickness t** , **box width c** , and box height H
- ✓ Global (Euler) buckling is considered

**With** stringers (A_s : cross-sectional area of each stringer):

- ✓ top & bottom skin **AND stringers** carry bending moment M_x
- ✓ top skin/stringers in tension & bottom skin/stringers in compression
- ✓ panel of width w defined as part of skin between stringers
- ✓ stringers smeared onto skin \rightarrow skin effective thickness t_{eff} : $t_{eff} = t + \left(\frac{A_s}{b}\right)$
- ✓ ETB applies with **effective thickness t_{eff}** , **panel width c** , box height H
- ✓ Global (Euler) buckling is considered
- ✓ Local buckling modes are considered

At wing station examined:

(pitch-up M positive: top skin in compression & bottom skin in tension)

M : bending moment

b_2 : wing box height

c : wing box width

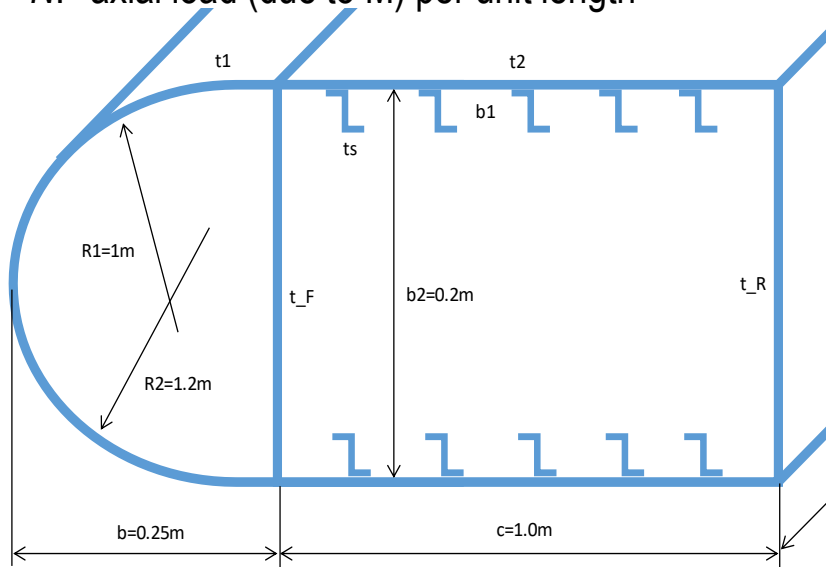
t : skin thickness (can be different for top & bottom skin)

n : number of panels (skin strips between stringers)

b_1 : panel width

F : axial load due to bending moment M

N : axial load (due to M) per unit length



Optimum design: buckling and yielding occur simultaneously

Width considered: wing box width c

Axial Load due to M : $F = \left(\frac{M}{b_2} \right)$

Axial Load (due to M) per unit length: $N = \left(\frac{F}{c} \right) = \left(\frac{M}{c b_2} \right)$

Axial stress (due to M): $\sigma = \left(\frac{F}{A} \right) = \left(\frac{M}{b_2 c t} \right) = \left(\frac{N}{t} \right)$

Critical global buckling stress: $\sigma_{crit,gb} = 3.62 E \left(\frac{t}{c} \right)^2$

Best material efficiency: $\sigma_{crit,gb} = \sigma$

Skin thickness required (no stringers):

$$3.62 E \left(\frac{t}{c} \right)^2 = \left(\frac{N}{t} \right) \rightarrow t = \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{N c}{3.62 E} \right)} = \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{M \epsilon}{\epsilon b_2 3.62 E} \right)} = \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{M}{3.62 E b_2} \right)}$$

At wing station examined:

M : bending moment

b_2 : wing box height

c : *wing box width*

t : skin thickness (can be different for top & bottom skin)

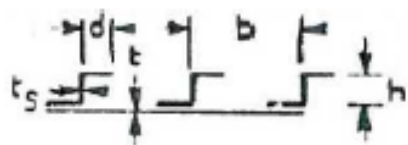
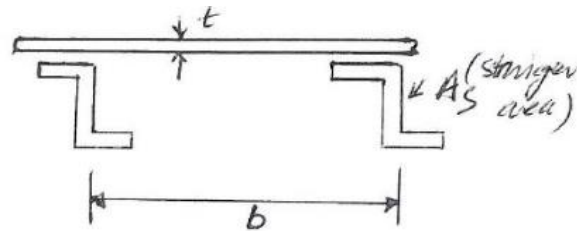
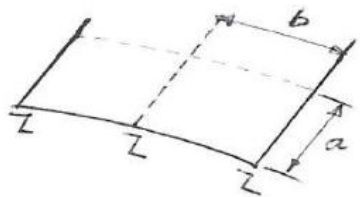
n : number of panels (skin strips between stringers)

b_1 : *panel width*

F_{ax} : axial load due to bending moment M

N : axial load (due to M) per unit length

pitch-up M positive: top skin in compression & bottom skin in tension



First estimation of skin
thickness (with stringers):

$$3.62 E \left(\frac{t_{eff}}{b} \right)^2 = \left(\frac{N}{t_{eff}} \right) \rightarrow t_{eff} = \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{N b}{3.62 E} \right)} = \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{M b_1}{c b_2 3.62 E} \right)}$$

!! Apply Farrar approach !!

Panel width: $b_1 = \left(\frac{c}{n} \right)$

Panel Effective Thickness $t_{eff} = t + \left(\frac{A_s}{b} \right)$

Axial Load due to M : $F = \left(\frac{M}{b_2} \right)$

Axial Load (due to M) per unit length: $N = \left(\frac{F}{c} \right) = \left(\frac{M}{c b_2} \right)$

Axial stress (due to M): $\sigma = \left(\frac{F}{A} \right) = \left(\frac{M}{b_2 c t_{eff}} \right) = \left(\frac{N}{t_{eff}} \right)$

Critical global buckling stress: $\sigma_{crit,gb} = 3.62 E \left(\frac{t_{eff}}{c} \right)^2$

Best material efficiency: $\sigma_{crit,gb} = \sigma = \sigma_{localbuckl}$

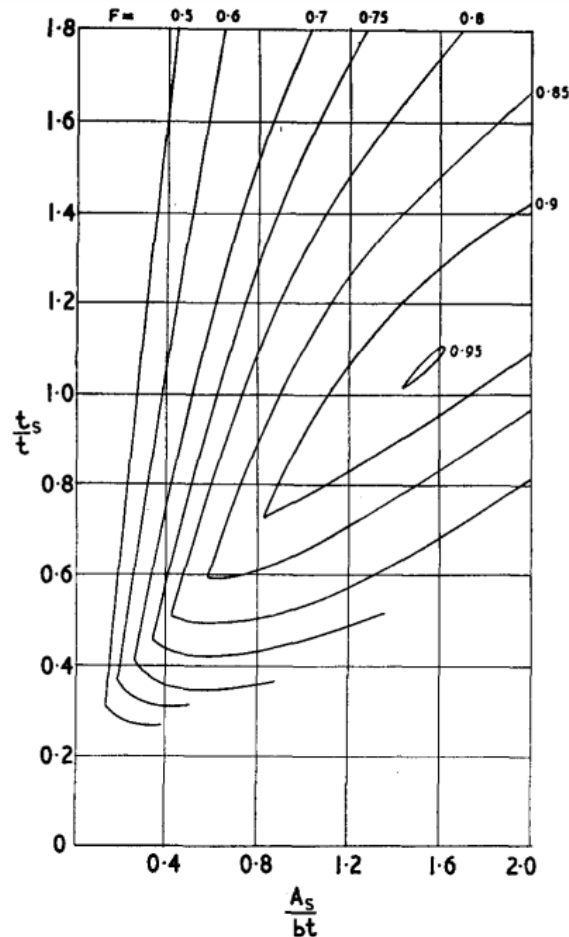


Fig.2.

Contours of $f \sqrt{\frac{L}{PE_T}}$ for Z-section stringers where initial buckling coincides with failure.

- P compressive end load carried per inch width of skin-stringer combination
- L rib or frame spacing.
- T thickness of skin with same cross sectional area as skin- stringer combination
- E compression Young's modulus of skin-stringer material.
- E_T ... tangent modulus of skin-stringer material.
- f mean stress realised by skin and stringers at failure (Note: $f=P/T$)
- F.... Farrar coefficient

- ✓ For a given geometry, calculate the ratios A_s/bt and t_s/t
- ✓ From the graph, read the associated value F for the Farrar coefficient
- ✓ Use Eq.(1) to estimate the mean stress by skin and stringer at failure

$$f = F \sqrt{P \frac{E_T}{L}}$$

THE DESIGN OF COMPRESSION STRUCTURES FOR MINIMUM WEIGHT

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Paper received March 1949.

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