

# **Design Optimization of Paper Helicopter to Increase Flight Time**

PROJECT REPORT - GROUP 26

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## **Abstract**

The aim for the experiment is to demonstrate the orthogonal array technique improving the design of paper helicopters to make it fly the longest possible. The matrix is made using the Plackett-Burman Design OA (12,2<sup>11</sup>). The half-normal plot and the Hamada Wu analysis are two methods used to determine significant factors and their level settings. We compared results of both methods and validation experiment is performed utilizing the optimum level settings of the factors identified from the analysis.

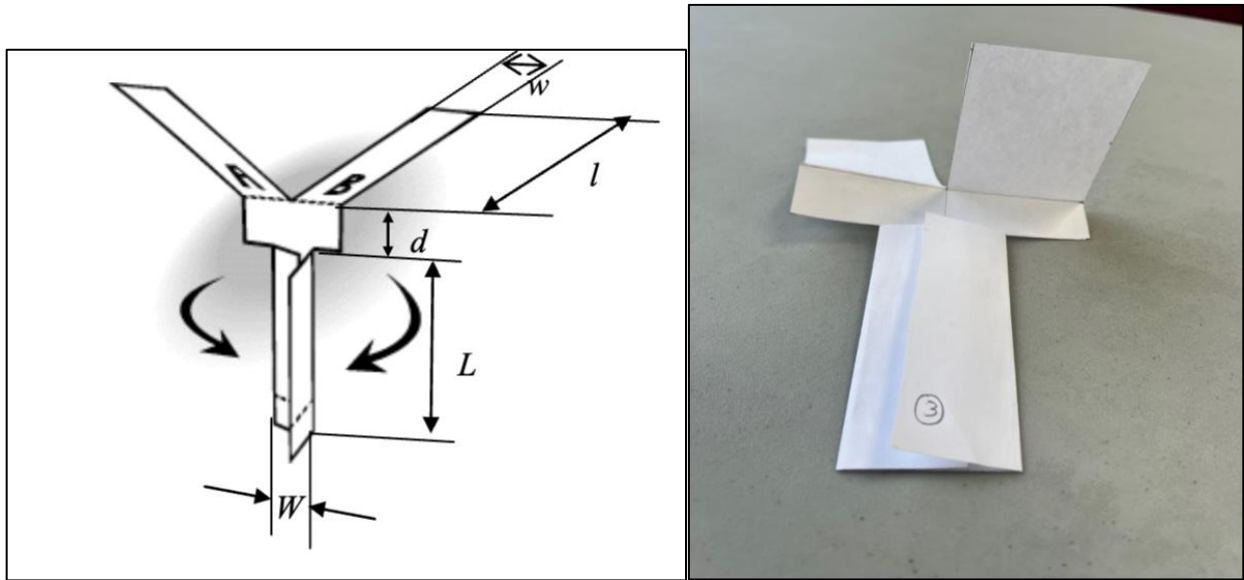


Figure 1: Construction of Paper Helicopter

## 1. Introduction

In this design, we build a matrix using Plackett-Burman Design OA (12,2<sup>11</sup>). To start the experiment, 12 paper helicopters are made by each team member with different dimensions and combinations to test for the best overall design.

| Factors            | Symbol   | Dimension   |            |
|--------------------|----------|-------------|------------|
|                    |          | - level     | + level    |
| Wing length        | <i>l</i> | 3 inches    | 4.5 inches |
| Wing width         | <i>w</i> | 1.8 inches  | 2.4 inches |
| Body length        | <i>L</i> | 3 inches    | 4.5 inches |
| Body width         | <i>W</i> | 1.25 inches | 2 inches   |
| Middle body length | <i>d</i> | 1 inch      | 1.5 inches |
| Fold at tip        | <i>F</i> | no          | yes        |

Table 1

The first step would be to use the graphical method called the half-normal plot. Using the half normal plot, we can identify the significant factors and effects.

Half normal plot consists of points:

$$(\Phi^{-1}(0.5 + 0.5 [i - 0.5]/I), |\hat{\theta}|_{(i)} \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, I.$$

$\Phi$  = cumulative distribution function.

$I$  = Effects and interaction considered.

The second approach is Hamada Wu method. Hamada Wu method focuses on two important principles: Effect sparsity principle and Effect heredity principle. According to the effect sparsity principles it states that the number of important factors in an experiment is very less. In this experiment we should figure out the factors (Wing length, Wing width etc.) for which the flight time is significant. The effects heredity principle states that for the interaction to be significant at least one of its parent main factors must be significant. In the above experiment, we will deem an interaction to be significant only if the main factors above are significant.

In often practical situations, there are many factors and many aliased effects that are difficult to interpret based on the designs with complex aliasing. Because of this difficulty these designs were used as screening factors to consider the main effects and not the interactions. Now this is possible if the interactions were negligible but that is not always the case. To overcome this, Hamada and Wu proposed a method that during a design if effect sparsity, effect heredity principles and correlation between partially aliased effects are small to moderate we can allow a certain modification that will reduce the significant effects and design will work even if the total number of effects are greater than the runs.

## 2. Methodology

To start off, each member of the group created 12 paper helicopters having distinctive designs according to the randomization shown below. We used Plackett-Burman Design OA ( $12, 2^{11}$ ) here. This design uses principles of replication and randomization having 11 factors and 12 runs.

**Replication:** This states that the experiment is repeated more than once for the same dimensions. Thus, each treatment being applied in many experimental units instead of one. This increases the statistical accuracy of an experiment. For the given experiment, 3 replicates (one each by a team member) were considered by dropping paper helicopter from a fixed height of 9 feet. The flight times were noted for each instance by a stopwatch. Thus, in total 36 readings were taken, and average time is calculated.

**Randomization:** This uses a chance mechanism assigning treatment to experimental units. The design has 11 factors, out of which the factors given in Table 1 are chosen at random.

### 2.1 Design Matrix

| Run | A | B | C | D | E | F | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| 1   | + | + | - | + | + | + | - | - | - | +  | -  |
| 2   | + | - | + | + | + | - | - | - | + | -  | +  |
| 3   | - | + | + | + | - | - | - | + | - | +  | +  |
| 4   | + | + | + | - | - | - | + | - | + | +  | -  |
| 5   | + | + | - | - | - | + | - | + | + | -  | +  |
| 6   | + | - | - | - | + | - | + | + | - | +  | +  |
| 7   | - | - | - | + | - | + | + | - | + | +  | +  |
| 8   | - | - | + | - | + | + | - | + | + | +  | -  |
| 9   | - | + | - | + | + | - | + | + | + | -  | -  |
| 10  | + | - | + | + | - | + | + | + | - | -  | -  |
| 11  | - | + | + | - | + | + | + | - | - | -  | +  |
| 12  | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | -  | -  |

Table 2

## 2.2 Paper helicopters

As shown below in figure 2, 36 paper helicopters were crafted, with dimensions in accordance with Table 1 and randomization in accordance with Design matrix in Table 2. From table 2, we get two factor levels “+” and “-”. Each run is decided by the factor levels and the values are taken from Table 1 for each level. Thus 12 different paper helicopters are crafted by each team member.

To conduct the experiment, each paper helicopter is dropped from a fixed height of 9 feet, and the flight time in which helicopter reaches the ground is noted by a stopwatch. For each run, we perform 3 readings and note down the readings to conduct further analysis.

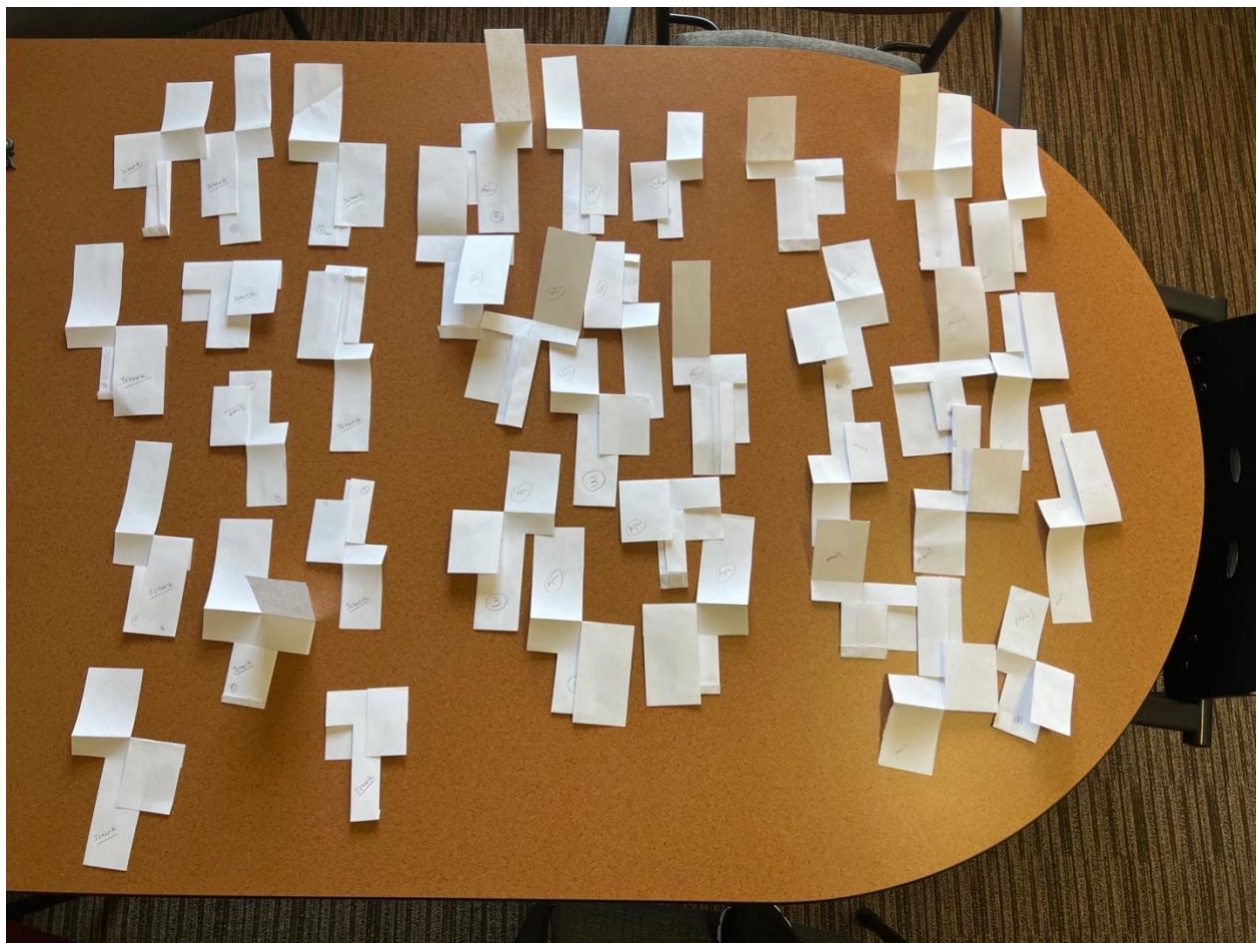


Figure 2: Paper Helicopter

## 2.3 Observations

The table below shows three different readings namely Y\_1, Y\_2, Y\_3 noted for each run. Further in the analysis part of the experiment, we calculate the average and variances for each run.

| Runs | l  | w  | L  | W  | d  | F  | f7 | f8 | f9 | f10 | f11 | Y_1  | Y_2  | Y_3  |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| 1    | 1  | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1  | 1  | -1 | -1 | -1 | 1   | -1  | 2.89 | 2.56 | 2.69 |
| 2    | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1  | 1  | -1 | -1 | -1 | 1  | -1  | 1   | 2.43 | 2.64 | 2.7  |
| 3    | -1 | 1  | 1  | 1  | -1 | -1 | -1 | 1  | -1 | 1   | 1   | 2.17 | 2.3  | 2.11 |
| 4    | 1  | 1  | 1  | -1 | -1 | -1 | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1   | -1  | 2.31 | 2.24 | 2.24 |
| 5    | 1  | 1  | -1 | -1 | -1 | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1  | -1  | 1   | 2.49 | 2.33 | 2.3  |
| 6    | 1  | -1 | -1 | -1 | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1  | -1 | 1   | 1   | 2.76 | 2.5  | 2.63 |
| 7    | -1 | -1 | -1 | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1   | 1   | 2.1  | 1.9  | 1.97 |
| 8    | -1 | -1 | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1  | 1   | -1  | 1.84 | 1.9  | 1.98 |
| 9    | -1 | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1  | 1  | -1  | -1  | 2.13 | 2.04 | 2.29 |
| 10   | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1  | 1  | -1 | -1  | -1  | 2.88 | 2.96 | 2.83 |
| 11   | -1 | 1  | 1  | -1 | 1  | 1  | 1  | -1 | -1 | -1  | 1   | 1.84 | 2.04 | 2.24 |
| 12   | -1 | -1 | -1 | -1 | -1 | -1 | -1 | -1 | -1 | -1  | -1  | 2.1  | 2.17 | 2.23 |

Table 3: Observation Table

## 2.4 Half-Normal Plot - Method

A half normal plot is a graphical method to compare relative magnitude of effects arranged in an order to identify which of the effects are significant.

Steps for half normal plot:

Step 1: Getting the main and interaction effect values

Step 2: These main and interaction effects are ordered in a pattern.

Step 3: A half normal plot is generated with half normal quantities on x-axis and effect values on y-axis.

Significant effects in Half-Normal plot are detected when they are away from the non-zero effects and their normal distribution is centered at a larger effect value. Similarly, insignificant effects have non-zero effect and their normal distribution is centered near the zero value. On plotting the graph, we need to segregate the off-line factors and declare them as significant.

## 2.5 Hamada Wu – Method

The steps to deploy the hamada Wu method is as follows:

Step 1: We use all the six factors from Table 1 and two factor interactions between them in stepwise regression to identify significant effects.

Step 2: To generate a model that has all the primary effects and interaction effects from step 1, we select all the significant factors from each model. We again apply stepwise regression to this model.

Step 3: In this step we use the effect heredity principle on significant factors in step 2 by selecting the interactions where at least one parent effect is significant.

Step 4: Iterate between step 2 and step 3, until the model stops changing.



### 3. Analysis

R- Code:

We are calculating  $\bar{y}$  and  $s^2$  using the code snippet given below

```
# Calculating Y_bar
df$y_bar <- rowMeans(df[,c(13,14,15)])
df$y_bar

#calculating ln_s^2
df$s2 <- apply(df[,c(13,14,15)],1,sd,na.rm=T)
df$s2

df$ln_s2 <- log(df$s2)
```

| Y_1  | Y_2  | Y_3  | y_bar    | s2         | ln_s2     |
|------|------|------|----------|------------|-----------|
| 2.89 | 2.56 | 2.69 | 2.713333 | 0.16623277 | -1.794366 |
| 2.43 | 2.64 | 2.70 | 2.590000 | 0.14177447 | -1.953518 |
| 2.17 | 2.30 | 2.11 | 2.193333 | 0.09712535 | -2.331753 |
| 2.31 | 2.24 | 2.24 | 2.263333 | 0.04041452 | -3.208566 |
| 2.49 | 2.33 | 2.30 | 2.373333 | 0.10214369 | -2.281375 |
| 2.76 | 2.50 | 2.63 | 2.630000 | 0.13000000 | -2.040221 |
| 2.10 | 1.90 | 1.97 | 1.990000 | 0.10148892 | -2.287806 |
| 1.84 | 1.90 | 1.98 | 1.906667 | 0.07023769 | -2.655870 |
| 2.13 | 2.04 | 2.29 | 2.153333 | 0.12662280 | -2.066543 |
| 2.88 | 2.96 | 2.83 | 2.890000 | 0.06557439 | -2.724570 |
| 1.84 | 2.04 | 2.24 | 2.040000 | 0.20000000 | -1.609438 |

Table 4: Analysis

#### 3.1 Half-Normal Plot Analysis

A half normal plot is a graphical tool used in statistical analysis to assess whether a set of data follows a normal distribution. It is a type of probability plot created by plotting the absolute values of the data against the corresponding quantiles of the standard normal distribution.

Half-normal plot for location effect is calculated for all the factor as follows:

$$ME(A) = z(A+) - z(A-)$$

where  $z(A+)$  is the average of the  $Z_j$  values observed at  $A+$  and  $z(A-)$  is the average of the  $Z_j$  values observed at  $A-$

| Factors | location_values |
|---------|-----------------|
| I       | 0.501666667     |
| w       | -0.072777778    |
| L       | -0.023888889    |
| W       | 0.191666667     |
| d       | 0.026111111     |
| F       | -0.013888889    |
| f7      | 0.003888889     |
| f8      | 0.063888889     |
| f9      | -0.226111111    |
| f10     | -0.086111111    |
| f11     | -0.046111111    |

Table 5: Location Values

Location Effect (Half Normal Analysis)

R-Code:

```

library(FrF2)
library(readxl)

df <- read_excel("data.csv.xlsx")

#Need to calculate Main effects for location parameters
cols_to_sum <- c("I","w","L","W","d","F","f7","f8","f9","f10","f11")
location_val <- list()
for(col in cols_to_sum)
{
  s<- (sum(df$y_bar[df[[col]] == 1]) - sum(df$y_bar[df[[col]] == -1))/6
  location_val<-append(location_val,s)
}
factors <- list("I","w","L","W","d","F","f7","f8","f9","f10","f11")
df_loc <- data.frame(unlist(factors),unlist(location_val))
names(df_loc) <- c("Factors","location_values")

#Plot Half Normal Plot for Locations
halfnorm(df_loc$location_values, nlab = 10, labs = as.character(df_loc$Factors), ylab = "Plot Data for Location",)

```

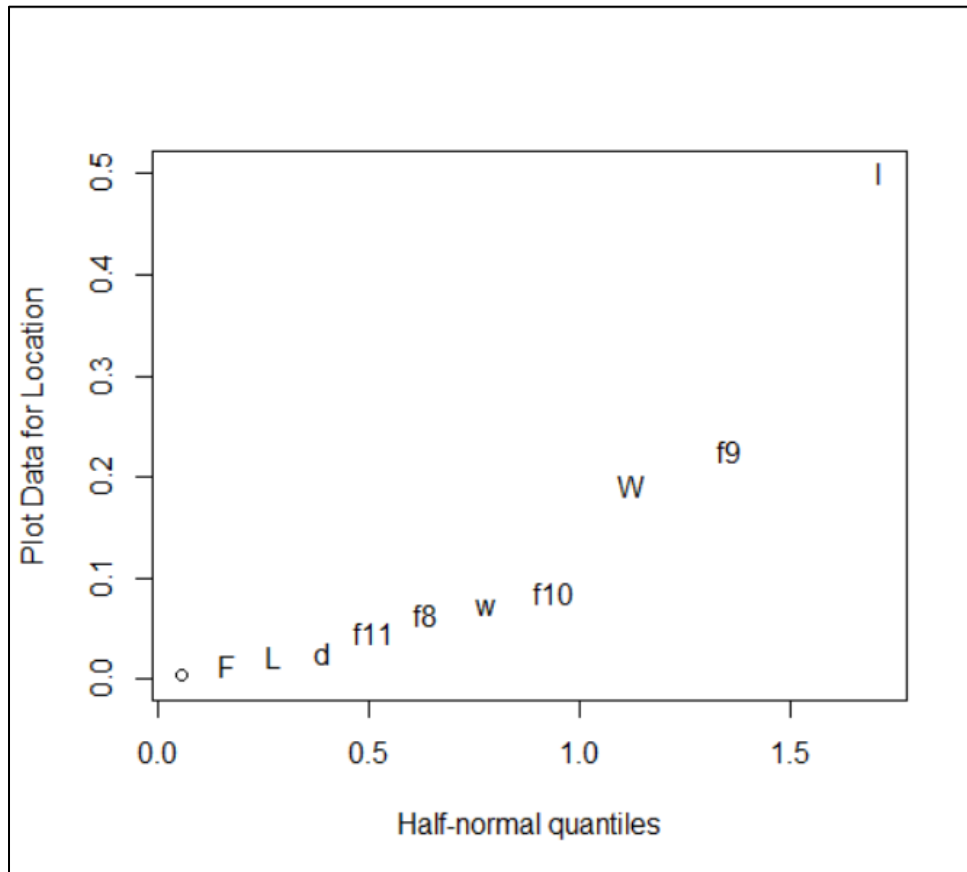


Figure 3: Half Normal Plot

The half normal plot for location is shown in the above plot. We neglect the effect of factors that fall on a line, technically we try to locate the outlier of the plot. This outlier has a significant effect. In this case,  $l$  is the outlier and has a significant effect on the location.

R Code:

```
intercept <- mean(df$y_bar)
coeff_l <- df_loc$location_values[df_loc$Factors=="l"]/2
print(paste0("y_ =", intercept, "+", coeff_l, "*l"))
```

We can easily get the location equation from the above table 5. The value of intercept is the avg value of the response( $y$ ). And the

$$y = 2.325 + 0.250 * x_l$$

#### Dispersion (Half Normal plot Analysis)

Half-normal plot for dispersion effect is calculated for all the factor as follows:

$$ME(A) = z(A+) - z(A-)$$

where  $z(A+)$  is the average of the  $Z_j$  values observed at  $A+$  and  $z(A-)$  is the average of the  $Z_j$  values observed at  $A-$

| Factors | dispersion_values |
|---------|-------------------|
| l       | -0.05313728       |
| w       | 0.18372112        |
| L       | -0.21350367       |
| W       | 0.22821621        |
| d       | 0.57441613        |
| F       | 0.16325970        |
| f7      | -0.03131314       |
| f8      | -0.08570915       |
| f9      | -0.20349107       |
| f10     | -0.15845934       |
| f11     | 0.44636474        |

Table 6: Dispersion Values

R- Code:

```
> #need to calculate the Main effects for the dispersion parameters
> cols_to_sum <- c("l","w","L","W","d","F","f7","f8","f9","f10","f11")
> dispersion_val <- list()
> for(col in cols_to_sum)
+ {
+   s<- (sum(df$ln_s2[df[[col]] == 1]) - sum(df$ln_s2[df[[col]] == -1))/6
+   dispersion_val<-append(dispersion_val,s)
+ }
> df_dispersion <- data.frame(unlist(factors),unlist(dispersion_val))
> names(df_dispersion) <- c("Factors","dispersion_values")
> df_dispersion
  Factors dispersion_values
1      l      -0.05313728
2      w       0.18372112
3      L      -0.21350367
4      W       0.22821621
5      d       0.57441613
6      F       0.16325970
7     f7      -0.03131314
8     f8      -0.08570915
9     f9      -0.20349107
10    f10      -0.15845934
11    f11       0.44636474
```

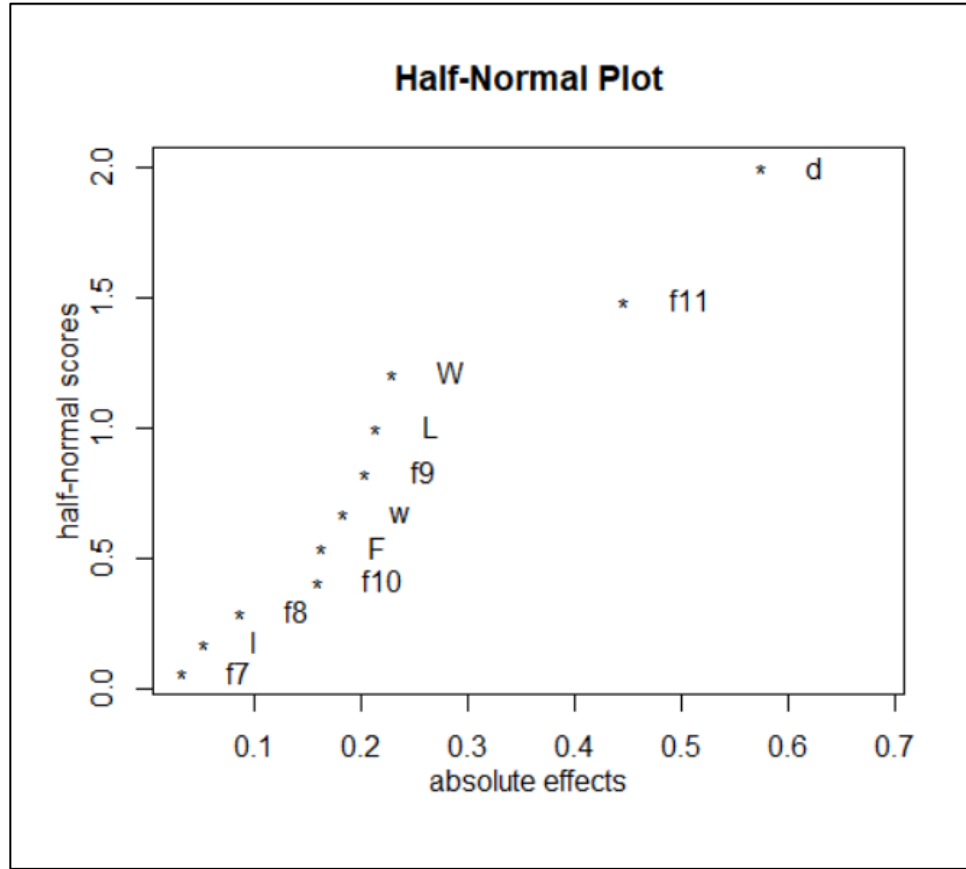


Figure 4: Half Normal Plot

From the above half normal plot for dispersion, we can say that only  $f_{11}$  and  $x_d$  are significant factors. We neglect the effect of factors that fall on a line, technically we try to locate the outlier of the plot.

The value of intercept for the dispersion is equal to the avg value of response. The coefficient value of each factor variable is half of that factor variable's as seen in Table 6.

We get the following equation for dispersion:

$$\ln s^2 = -2.307 + 0.287 x_d + 0.22318 f_{11}$$

Evaluation of the equations:

To increase the flight time of the airplanes, we need to follow the two-step approach. And we should ensure that both the objectives should be met simultaneously.

- (1) Minimize the variance ( $\ln s^2$ )
- (2) Maximize the flight time ( $y$ )

So, according to the two-step procedure we will minimize the variance first. We have the variance equation as follows

$$\ln s^2 = -2.307 + 0.287 x_d + 0.22318 f_{11}$$

To minimize the variance, we need  $x_d$  to be negative factor and  $f_{11}$  to be also a negative factor. Substituting  $x_d = -1$  and  $f_{11} = -1$  we get,

$$\ln s^2 = -4.712$$

Now, going forward to step (2) to maximize the flight time (response variable). We have the equation of flight time as follows:

$$y = 2.325 + 0.250 * x_l$$

To maximize the above equation, we need  $x_l$  to be a positive factor. Substituting  $x_l = +1$  we get,

$$y = 2.575$$

Thus, maximum flight time as per theoretical half normal plot approach is 2.575 sec. We can see from the above two equations that our adjustment factor is  $x_l$  as it affects the location value but does not account for changes in the dispersion equation.

## 3.2 Hamada Wu Approach

### Location Effect Analysis

#### Step 1:

For each factor X, consider X and all 2fi's XY involving X. Use stepwise regression to identify significant effects. Repeat this for each X and keep the best model.

For factor  $l$

```
> m11=lm(y_bar~l+l:w+l:L+l:W+l:d+l:F, data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(m11)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |         |          |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|---------|----------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)    | AIC      | RMSE   |
| 1                          | $l$      | addition          | 0.699    | 0.669            | 23.7500 | -3.2616  | 0.1802 |
| 2                          | $l:w$    | addition          | 0.790    | 0.743            | 16.1880 | -5.5619  | 0.1588 |
| 3                          | $l:F$    | addition          | 0.878    | 0.833            | 8.8590  | -10.1076 | 0.1282 |

Significant factors identified:  $l, l: w, l: F$

For factor  $w$

```
> m12=lm(y_bar~w+w:l+w:L+w:W+w:d+w:F, data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(m12)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |         |        |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|---------|--------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)    | AIC    | RMSE   |
| 1                          | $w:L$    | addition          | 0.139    | 0.053            | -1.3570 | 9.3565 | 0.3049 |

Significant factors:  $w: L$

For factor  $L$

```
> m13=lm(y_bar~L+L:l+L:w+L:W+L:d+L:F, data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(m13)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |        |        |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)   | AIC    | RMSE   |
| 1                          | L:d      | addition          | 0.244    | 0.168            | 2.5000 | 7.8057 | 0.2858 |
| 2                          | L:W      | addition          | 0.487    | 0.373            | 1.1180 | 5.1409 | 0.2480 |
| 3                          | L        | addition          | 0.489    | 0.297            | 3.0960 | 7.1037 | 0.2627 |
| 4                          | L:d      | removal           | 0.245    | 0.077            | 4.4780 | 9.7805 | 0.3009 |

Significant factors:  $L: d, L: w, L$

For factor  $W$

```
> m14=lm(y_bar~W+W:l+W:w+W:L+W:d+W:F, data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(m14)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |        |        |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)   | AIC    | RMSE   |
| 1                          | W:L      | addition          | 0.244    | 0.168            | 0.8880 | 7.8057 | 0.2858 |

Significant factors:  $W: L$

For factor  $d$

```
> m15=lm(y_bar~d+d:l+d:w+d:L+d:W+d:F, data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(m15)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |         |        |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|---------|--------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)    | AIC    | RMSE   |
| 1                          | d:L      | addition          | 0.244    | 0.168            | -1.1640 | 7.8057 | 0.2858 |

Significant factors :  $d: L$

For factor  $F$

```
> m16=lm(y_bar~F+F:l+F:w+F:L+F:W+F:d, data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(m16)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |        |        |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)   | AIC    | RMSE   |
| 1                          | F:W      | addition          | 0.151    | 0.066            | 0.2260 | 9.1982 | 0.3028 |

Significant factors :  $F: W$

## **Step 2:**

We consider all the significant effects coming from step (1) which are  $lw$ ,  $lF$ ,  $wL$ ,  $LW$ ,  $dL$ ,  $FW$  along with all the main effects

```
> m21 <- lm(y_bar~l+w+L+W+d+F+l:w+l:F+w:L+L:W+d:L+F:W,df)
> ols_step_both_p(m21)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |      |         |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|------|---------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p) | AIC     | RMSE   |
| 1                          | l        | addition          | 0.699    | 0.669            | NaN  | -3.2616 | 0.1802 |
| 2                          | w        | addition          | 0.801    | 0.757            | NaN  | -6.2366 | 0.1544 |

Significant factors:  $l$ ,  $w$

### Step 3:

For this step we consider all the main effects and interaction effects whose at least 1 factor is significant as obtained from step (2). Using effect heredity, consider (1) effects identified in 2 and (2) 2fi's with at

least one parent factor appearing in the main effects in (1). Use stepwise regression to identify significant effects.

```
> m41 <- lm(y_bar~l+w+L+F+d+W+l:w+l:F+w:d,df)
> ols_step_both_p(m41)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |         |         |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)    | AIC     | RMSE   |
| 1                          | l        | addition          | 0.699    | 0.669            | 12.9990 | -3.2616 | 0.1802 |
| 2                          | w        | addition          | 0.801    | 0.757            | 7.8720  | -6.2366 | 0.1544 |

Significant factors:  $l$ ,  $w$

### Step 4:

Iterate between 2 and 3 until model stops changing.

```
> m41 <- lm(y_bar~l+w+L+F+d+W+l:w+l:F+w:d,df)
> ols_step_both_p(m41)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |         |         |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)    | AIC     | RMSE   |
| 1                          | l        | addition          | 0.699    | 0.669            | 12.9990 | -3.2616 | 0.1802 |
| 2                          | w        | addition          | 0.801    | 0.757            | 7.8720  | -6.2366 | 0.1544 |



```
> m42<-lm(y_bar~l+w+l:w+l:L+l:w:l:d+l:F+w:L+w:W+w:d+w:F,df)
> ols_step_both_p(m42)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |      |          |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|------|----------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p) | AIC      | RMSE   |
| 1                          | l        | addition          | 0.699    | 0.669            | NaN  | -3.2616  | 0.1802 |
| 2                          | l:w      | addition          | 0.790    | 0.743            | NaN  | -5.5619  | 0.1588 |
| 3                          | l:F      | addition          | 0.878    | 0.833            | NaN  | -10.1076 | 0.1282 |
| 4                          | w        | addition          | 0.933    | 0.894            | NaN  | -15.2520 | 0.1018 |
| 5                          | w:d      | addition          | 0.963    | 0.932            | NaN  | -20.3278 | 0.0819 |

We can stop the iteration here as the model does not change anymore compared to step (3). The *Adjusted R<sup>2</sup>* value of the final model is 0.932.

Final Model:

```
> ols_step_both_p(m42)$model
```

Call:

```
lm(formula = paste(response, "~", paste(preds, collapse = " + ")),
    data = l)
```

Coefficients:

```
(Intercept)          l              w          l:w          l:F          w:d
  2.32583      0.27062    -0.06695    -0.09028     0.09170     0.05936
```

From the above model built we can get the location equation as follows:

$$y = 2.3258 + 0.2706 x_l - 0.0669 x_w - 0.0902 x_{l:w} + 0.0917 x_{l:F} + 0.0593 x_{w:d}$$

### **Dispersion Effect Analysis:**

#### **Step 1:**

```
> md11=lm(ln_s2~l+l:w+l:L+l:w:l:d+l:F,data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(md11)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |         |         |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)    | AIC     | RMSE   |
| 1                          | l:L      | addition          | 0.186    | 0.104            | -0.4070 | 17.7408 | 0.4323 |

Significant factors : l: L

```
> md12=lm(ln_s2~w+w:l+w:L+w:W+w:d+w:F,data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(md12)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |        |         |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|--------|---------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)   | AIC     | RMSE   |
| 1                          | w:F      | addition          | 0.298    | 0.228            | 0.9400 | 15.9606 | 0.4014 |
| 2                          | w        | addition          | 0.342    | 0.196            | 2.3780 | 17.1818 | 0.4096 |
| 3                          | w:F      | removal           | 0.044    | -0.051           | 4.1690 | 19.6619 | 0.4684 |

Significant factors : w: F, w

```
> md13=lm(ln_s2~L+L:l+L:w+L:W+L:d+L:F,data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(md13)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |         |         |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)    | AIC     | RMSE   |
| 1                          | L:l      | addition          | 0.186    | 0.104            | -2.2890 | 17.7408 | 0.4323 |

Significant factors : L: l

```
> md14=lm(ln_s2~w+w:l+w:w+L+W:d+W:F,data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(md14)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |         |         |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)    | AIC     | RMSE   |
| 1                          | w:F      | addition          | 0.130    | 0.043            | -2.2920 | 18.5373 | 0.4469 |

Significant factors: w: F

```
> md15=lm(ln_s2~d+d:l+d:w+d:L+d:W+d:F,data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(md15)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |         |         |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)    | AIC     | RMSE   |
| 1                          | d        | addition          | 0.431    | 0.374            | -0.5990 | 13.4296 | 0.3612 |

Significant factors: d

```
> md16=lm(ln_s2~F+F:l+F:w+F:L+F:W+F:d,data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(md16)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |         |         |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)    | AIC     | RMSE   |
| 1                          | F:w      | addition          | 0.298    | 0.228            | -1.0030 | 15.9606 | 0.4014 |
| 2                          | F        | addition          | 0.333    | 0.184            | 0.6500  | 17.3498 | 0.4125 |
| 3                          | F:w      | removal           | 0.035    | -0.062           | 1.6170  | 19.7779 | 0.4706 |

Significant factors: *F*

### Step 2:

We consider all the significant effects coming from step (1) which are *lL*, *WF* along with all the main effects

```
> md21=lm(ln_s2~l+w+L+W+d+F+l:L+W:F,data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(md21)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |         |         |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)    | AIC     | RMSE   |
| 1                          | d        | addition          | 0.431    | 0.374            | -2.1180 | 13.4296 | 0.3612 |

### Step 3:

For this step we consider all the main effects and interaction effects whose at least 1 factor is significant as obtained from step (2). Using effect heredity, consider (1) effects identified in 2 and (2) 2fi's with at

least one parent factor appearing in the main effects in (1). Use stepwise regression to identify significant effects.

```
> md31=lm(ln_s2~d+d:l+d:w+d:L+d:W+d:F,data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(md31)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |         |         |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)    | AIC     | RMSE   |
| 1                          | d        | addition          | 0.431    | 0.374            | -0.5990 | 13.4296 | 0.3612 |

### Step 4:

```
> md41=lm(ln_s2~l+w+L+W+d+F,data=df)
> ols_step_both_p(md41)
```

| Stepwise Selection Summary |          |                   |          |                  |         |         |        |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Step                       | Variable | Added/<br>Removed | R-Square | Adj.<br>R-Square | C(p)    | AIC     | RMSE   |
| 1                          | d        | addition          | 0.431    | 0.374            | -0.0650 | 13.4296 | 0.3612 |

We can stop the iteration here as the model does not change anymore compared to step (3). The *Adjusted R<sup>2</sup>* value of the final model is 0.431.

### 3.3 Final Model

```
> ols_step_both_p(md41)$model
```

Call:

```
lm(formula = paste(response, "~", paste(preds, collapse = " + ")),
    data = 1)
```

Coefficients:

```
(Intercept)          d
   -2.3072         0.2872
```

$$\ln s^2 = -2.307 + 0.2872 x_d$$

To increase the flight time of the airplanes, we need to follow the two-step approach. And we should ensure that both the objectives should be met simultaneously.

- (1) Minimize the variance ( $\ln s^2$ )
- (2) Maximize the flight time ( $y$ )

So, according to the two-step procedure we will minimize the variance first. We have the variance equation as follows

$$\ln s^2 = -2.307 + 0.2872 x_d$$

From the above equation, we can clearly say that  $x_d$  should be a negative factor to reduce the variance.

We have the location equation as follows,

$$y = 2.3258 + 0.2706 x_l - 0.0669 x_w - 0.0902 x_{l:w} + 0.0917 x_{l:F} + 0.0593 x_{w:d}$$

To maximize the flight time, we must maximize the above equation,

We set the factor  $x_l = +1$ ,  $x_w = -1$ ,  $x_F = +1$

By substituting the value in the above equation, we get,

$$y = 2.9045 \text{ sec}$$

## 4. Validation

As concluded from the Hamada Wu experiment, we designed a paper helicopter, using the optimal levels of factors determined from the analysis. In our case for 2 factors L, W we were not able to determine the optimal levels from analysis, thus keeping the other factors level fixed (as achieved from the analysis), we designed 4 more helicopters with values of factors as : (L+, W+), (L-, W+), (L-, W-), (L+,W-).

After conducting the experiments, we identified the parameters values will result in maximizing the flight time as given in table below:

| Factor             | Symbol | Levels | Dimension   |
|--------------------|--------|--------|-------------|
| Wing Length        | $l$    | +      | 4.5 inches  |
| Wing width         | $w$    | -      | 1.8 inches  |
| Body Length        | $L$    | +      | 4.5 inches  |
| Body width         | $W$    | -      | 1.25 inches |
| Middle body length | $d$    | -      | 1 inch      |
| Fold at tip        | $F$    | +      | Yes         |

Table 7

Using the above dimensions, we get an average flight time of 2.95 which is close to our theoretical calculation obtained 2.9045. Thus, this setting can be deemed as ideal for getting the maximum flight time.



Figure 5: Final Model

## **5. Conclusion**

The Plackett-Burman design OA ( $12, 2^{11}$ ) was utilized in the Paper Helicopter Experiment to prolong the flight duration of a paper helicopter. We followed the procedure mentioned in the document to create several paper planes to test on. The data was collected for each paper plane. We tried our best to remove the influence of external factors like wind, scale error, temperature, paper thickness etc.

We used two methods to evaluate the flight times

- (1) Half Normal Plots
- (2) Hamada Wu Approach

In half normal plot, significant factors were identified using the plots and two equations were created each for location and dispersion. By solving for the two equations, we got the maximum flight time to be 2.575 seconds.

From this, we identified the significant factor which affected the flight time as  $l$  (wing length). The experiments suggest us to keep wing length as + factor which means that wing length ( $l$ ) should be equal to 4.5 inch

In Hamada Wu approach, significant factors were identified using the step wise regression approach and we got a maximum flight time of 2.9045 seconds. The flight time depends on  $x_l, x_w, x_d, x_F$  which translates to wing length, wing width, middle body length and fold at tip. Optimal levels of these factors are identified as follows:  $x_l = +1, x_w = -1, x_F = +1, x_d = -1$ .

Wing length: 4.5 inch

Wing width: 1.8 inch

Middle body length: 1 inch

Fold at tip: yes

Based on this we can observe that there is almost 12.79% increase in the flight time in the case of design from Hamada Wu compared to design achieved from Half-normal plot method. Also, a validation experiment was conducted using the optimal levels identified from Hamada Wu approach and we got flight time of 2.95 which is almost same as the flight time of 2.9045 as calculated from the theoretical analysis.