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It is well know that tuning of multivariable adaptive control systems is a very time consuming task. It is often hard to decide whether the current set of control system parameters will guarantee the best performance of a newly designed system in real operational conditions. Thus, the paper presents an engineering approach to tuning of an L1 adaptive controller that is based on a highly uniform and very economical sampling of a multiple variable design space of the desired control system parameters that enables construction of the Pareto front in the multidimensional control metrics space. The approach provided significant insight in the design and flight testing of an AirStar jet airplane implementing L1 adaptive autopilot.