

# **A Survey of Shape Parameterization Techniques**

**Jamshid Samareh**

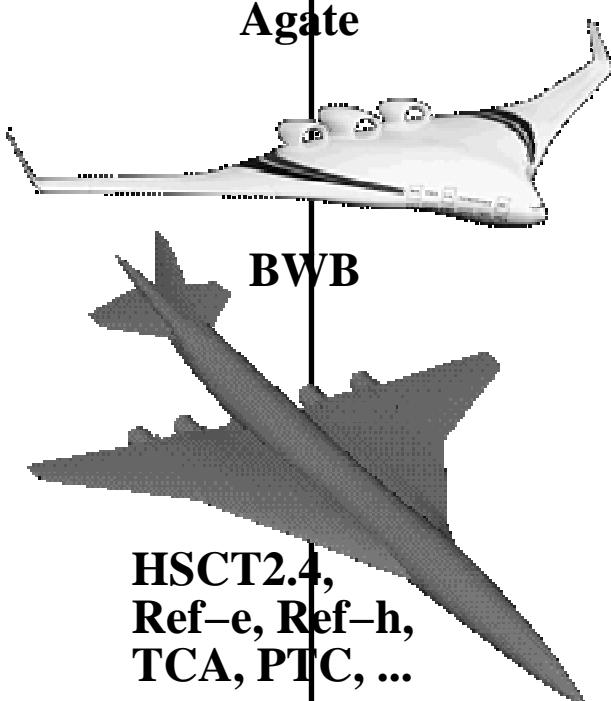
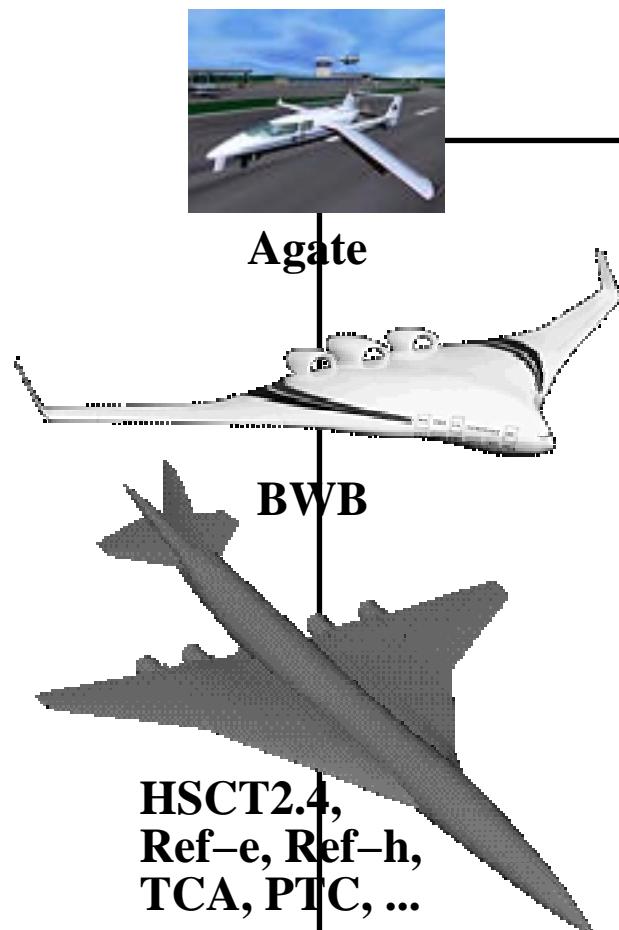
**MDO Branch  
NASA Langley Research Center**

**Slides:** <http://fmad-www.larc.nasa.gov/mDOB/MDOB>

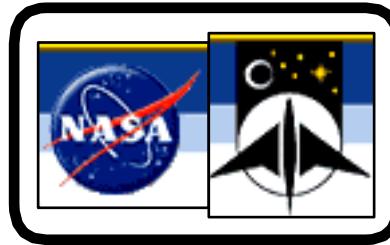
**CEAS/AIAA/ICASE/NASA Langley  
International Forum on Aeroelasticity and Structures Dynamics  
Williamsburg, Virginia  
June 22–25, 1999**

# Outline

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ Multidisciplinary Shape Parameterization
  - Basis Vector
  - ✓ Domain Element
  - Partial Differential Equation
  - ✓ Discrete
    - Polynomial and Spline
    - ✓ CAD-Based
    - Analytical
    - ✓ Free Form Deformation
    - ✓ Multidisciplinary Aero/Struc Shape Optimization Using Deformation (MASSOUD)
  - ✓ Summary
- Field Grid Movement and Sensitivity Derivatives
  - Structured Field Grid Movement
  - Unstructured Field Grid Movement



**HSCT2.4,  
Ref-e, Ref-h,  
TCA, PTC, ...**



# Introduction

- Sizing optimization (fixed shape and topology)
  - cross-sectional area
  - thickness
- ✓ Shape optimization (fixed topology)
  - model coordinates
- Topology optimization
  - material distribution
  - structural layout

# Background

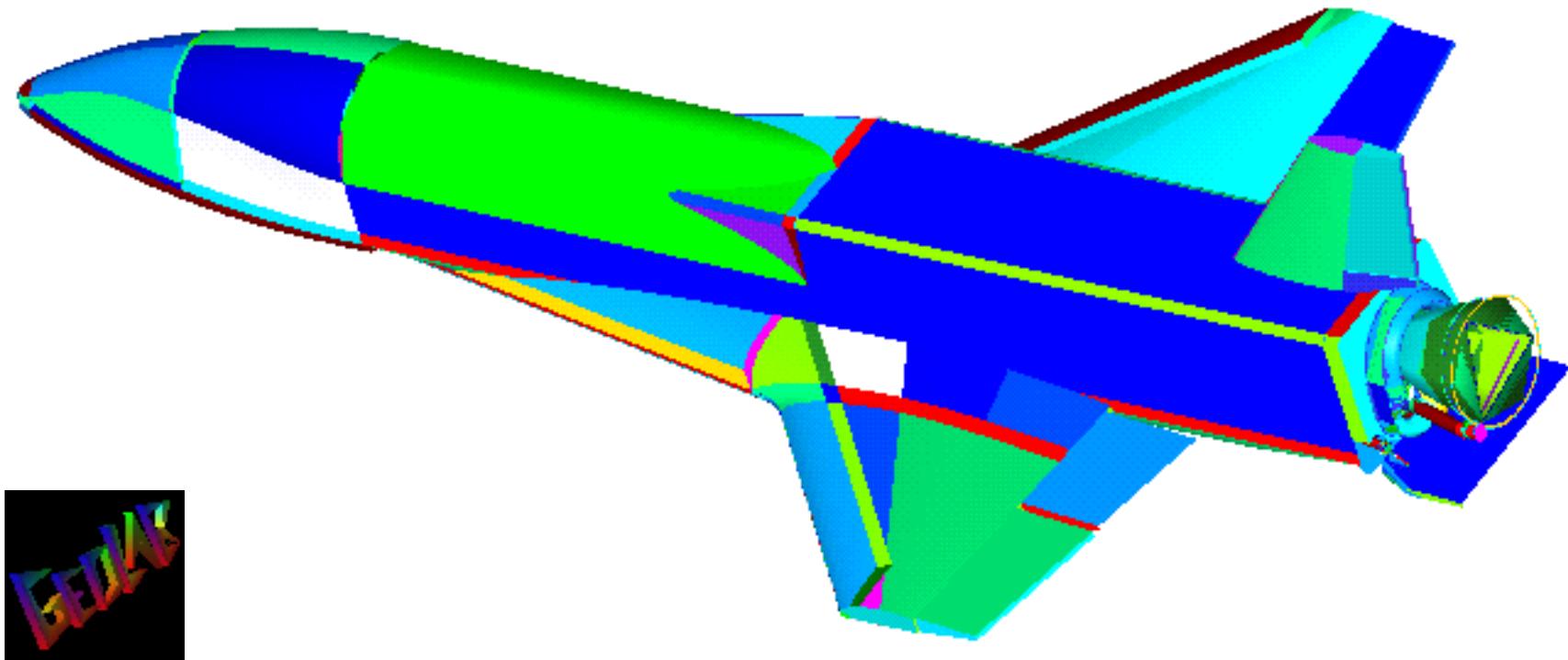
**Previous survey papers focused on:** (Haftka and Grandhi 1986, Ding 1986)

- formulation of structural shape optimization
- single discipline (structures)
- simple geometry

**Current survey focuses on:**

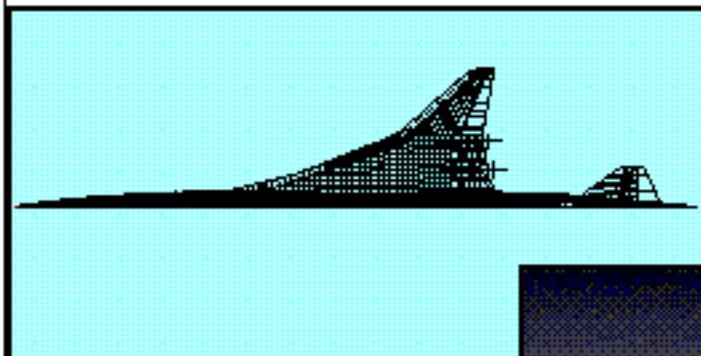
- shape parameterization
- multiple disciplines
- high fidelity
- complex shape

# Complex Geometry

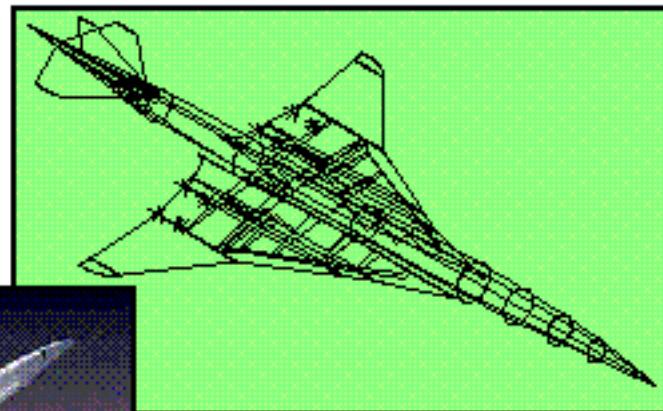


"X34" Candidate Model (23, 555 Curves & Surfaces)

# Multidisciplinary Optimization



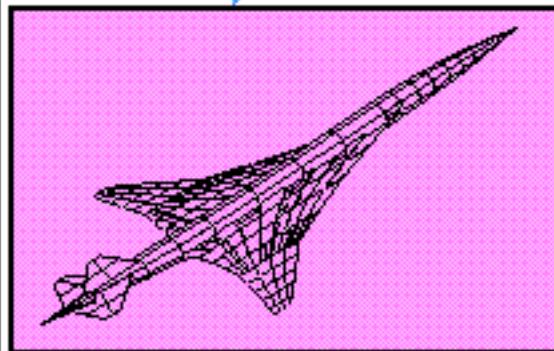
Structures



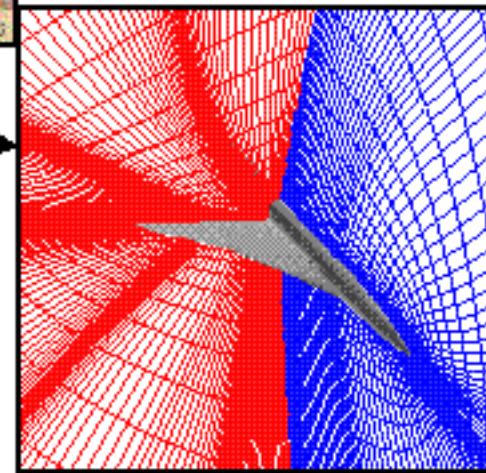
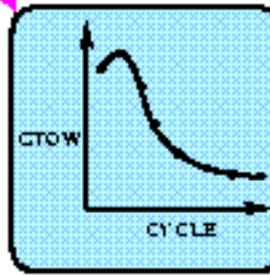
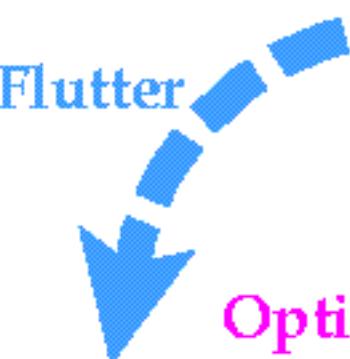
Performance



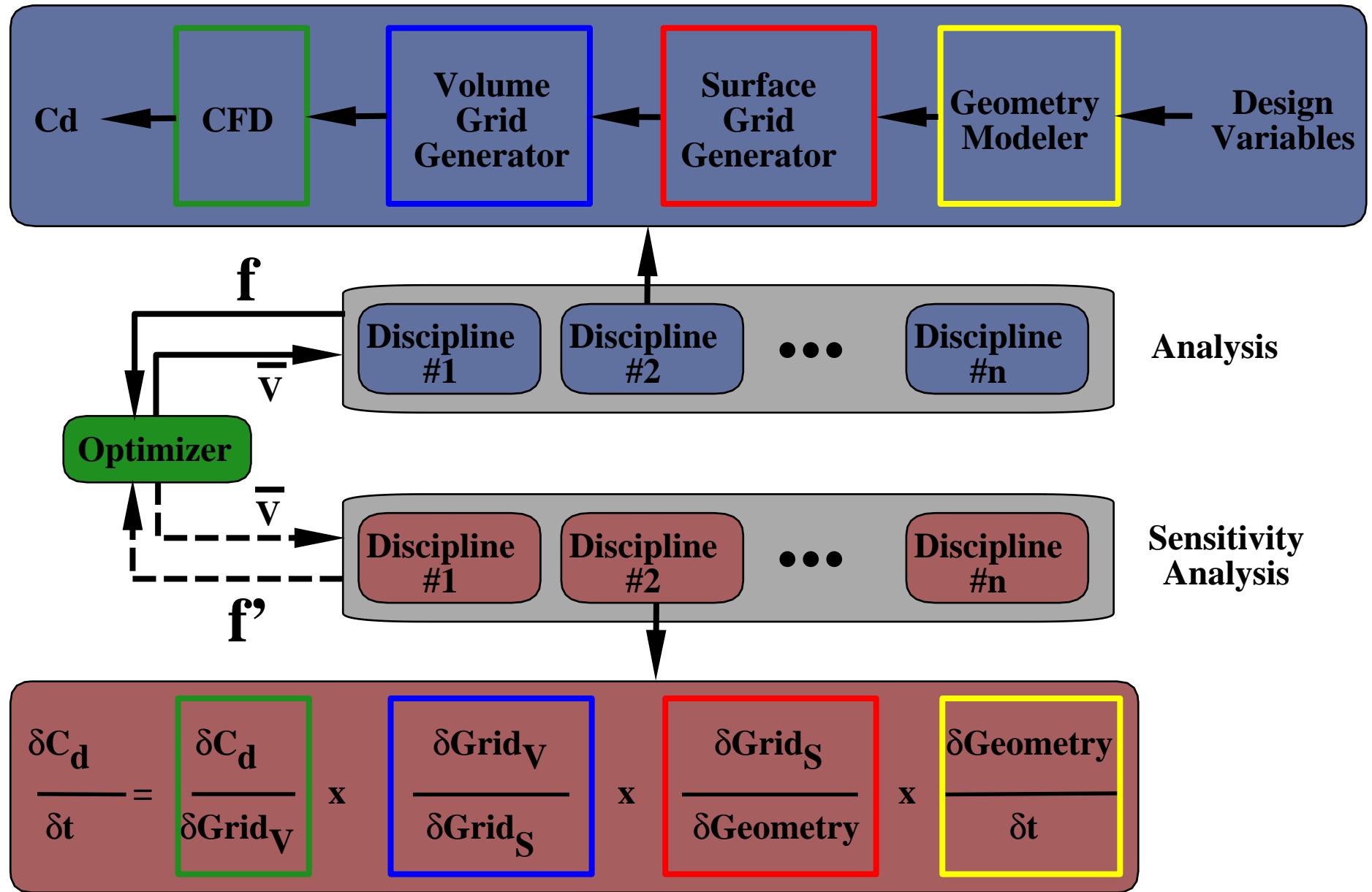
Aerodynamics



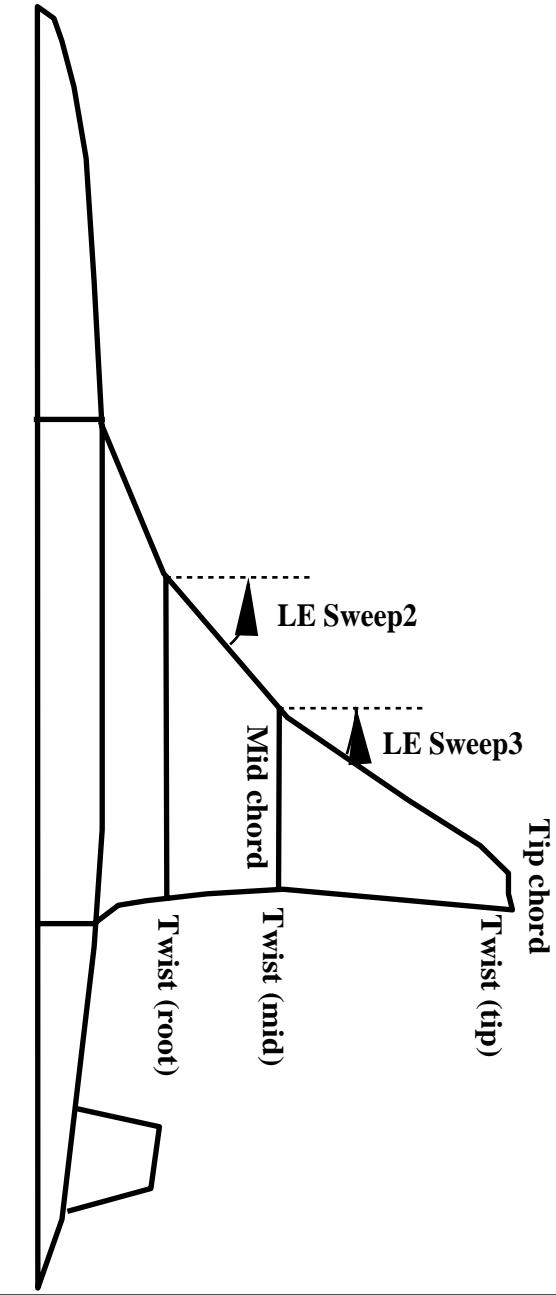
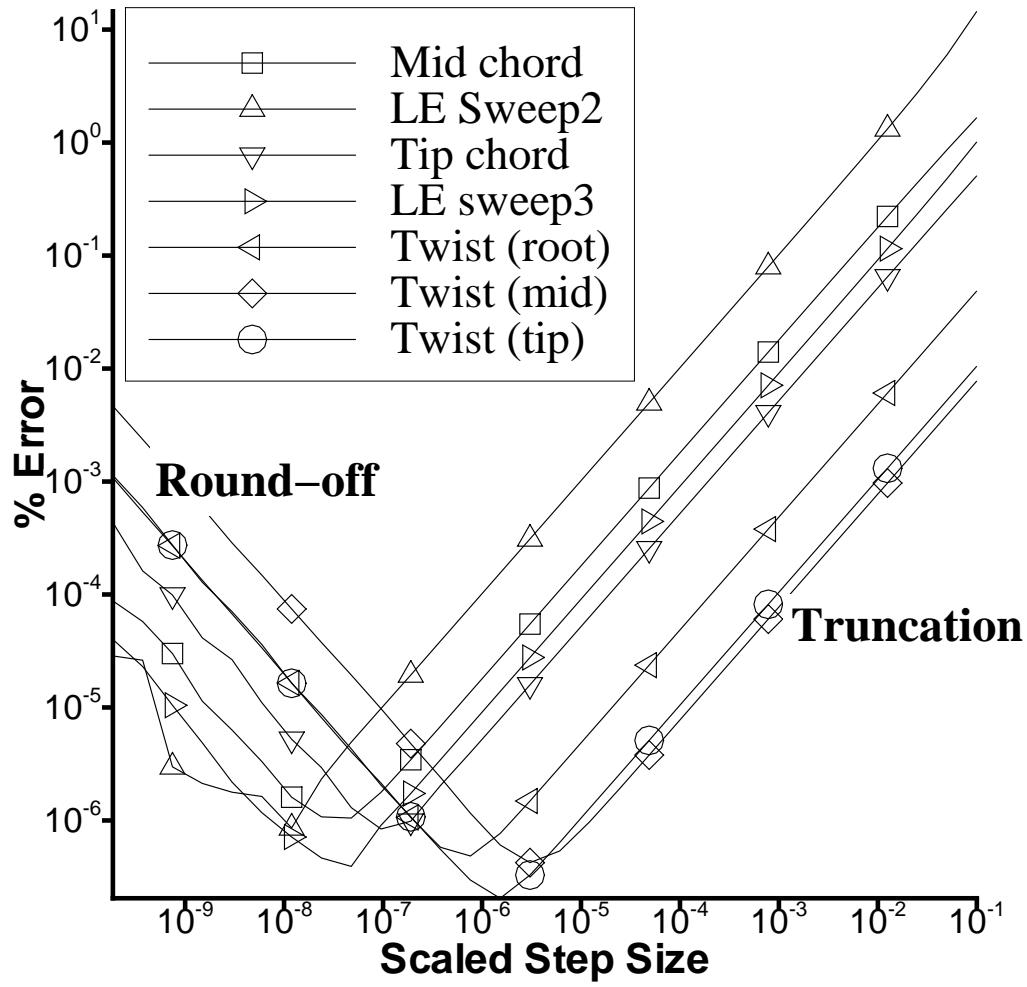
Flutter



# Multidisciplinary Shape Optimization (MSO)



# Errors in Finite Difference Approximations



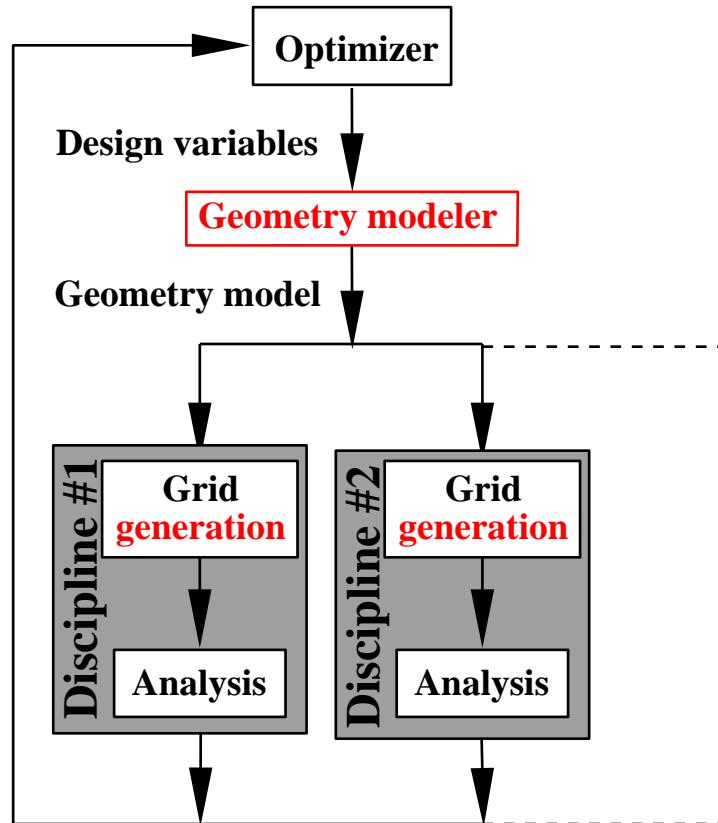
# Shape Parameterization

Parameterization tools must:

- parameterize the whole problem, not just one discipline
- parameterize all models consistently (e. g., structures, aero, ...)
- handle high-fidelity models (e. g., CFD, FEM, ...)
- be automated (affordable design cycle time)  
(grid generation is still manual and labor intensive for most disciplines)
- provide accurate sensitivity data  
(gradient-based optimization)
- suitable for shape optimization processes

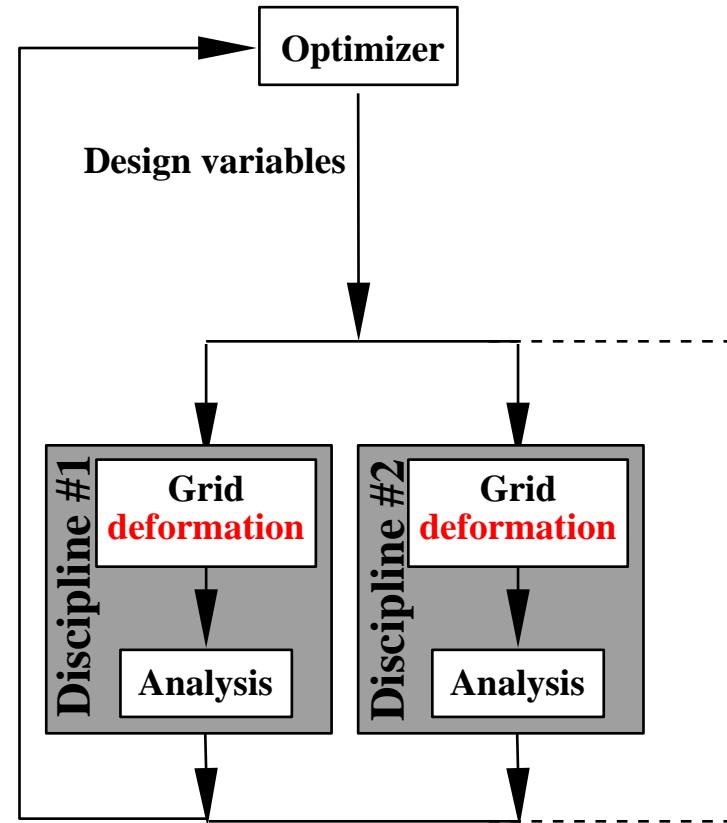
# Shape Optimization Processes

Parameterize the geometry model



Partial Differential Equation  
Polynomial and Spline  
CAD-Based  
MASSOUD

Parameterize the analysis models



Basis Vector  
Domain Element  
Discrete  
Analytical  
Free Form Deformation  
MASSOUD

# **Important criteria for MDO applications of complex, 3D models**

**Consistent:** Is the parameterization consistent across multiple disciplines?

**Airplane shape design variables:** Are the design variables directly related to the airplane shape design variables such as camber, thickness, twist, shear, and planform?

**Compact:** Does the parameterization provide a compact set of design variables?  
10s vs 1000s

**Smooth:** Does the shape perturbation maintain a smooth geometry?

**Local control:** Is there any local control on shape changes?

**Analytical sensitivity:** Is it feasible to calculate the sensitivity analytically?

**Grid deformation:** Does the parameterization allow the grid to be deformed?

**Setup time:** Can a shape optimization application be set up quickly?  
hours, days, weeks, months?

**Existing grid:** Does the parameterization allow the existing grid to be reused?  
Does it require to reverse engineer the baseline design parameters?

**CAD:** Is there a direct connection to the CAD system?

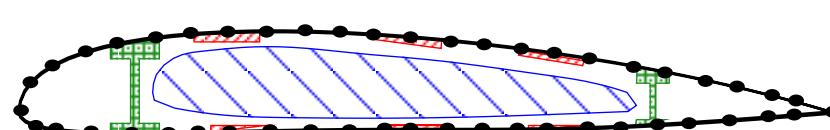
# Summary of Shape Parameterization Techniques

(important criteria for MDO applications of complex, 3D models)

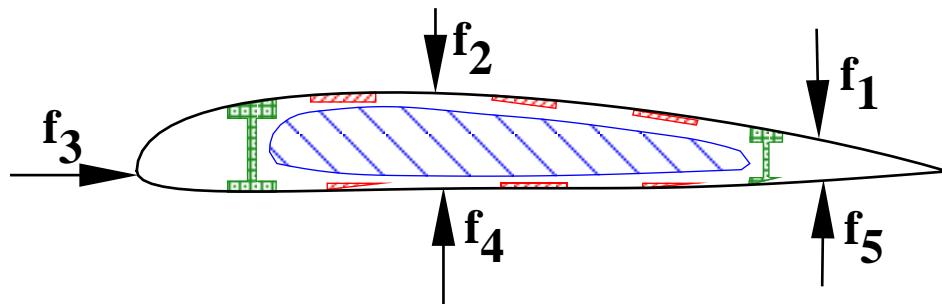
Criteria	Approaches								
	Basis vector	Domain element	PDE	Discrete	Polynomial and spline	CAD	Analytical	FFD	MASSOUD
Consistent parameterization	👎	👎	👎	👎	👎	👍	👎	👍	👍
Airplane shape DVs	👎	👎	👍	👎	👎	👍	👍	👎	👍
Compact set of DVs	👍	👎	👍	👍	👎	👍	👍	👎	👍
Smooth geometry	👍	👍	👍	👎	👍	👍	👍	👍	👍
Local control	👍	👍	👎	👍	👎	👎	👍	👍	👍
Analytical sensitivity	👍	👍	👍	👍	👍	👎	👍	👍	👍
Grid deformation	👍	👍	👎	👍	👎	👎	👍	👍	👍
Setup time	👎	👍	👎	👍	👎	👎	👍	👍	👍
Existing grids	👍	👍	👎	👍	👎	👎	👍	👍	👍
CAD connection	👎	👎	👎	👎	👎	👍	👎	👎	👍

# Discrete Approach

Consistent parameterization	
Airplane shape DVs	
Compact set of DVs	
Smooth geometry	
Local control	
Analytical sensitivity	
Grid deformation	
Setup time	
Existing grids	
CAD connection	



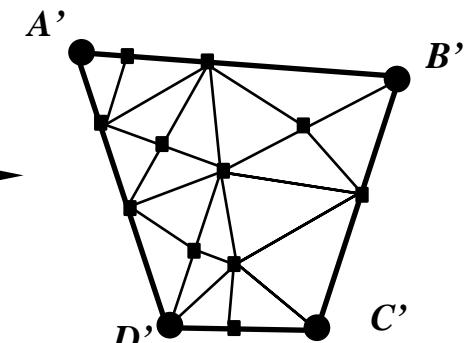
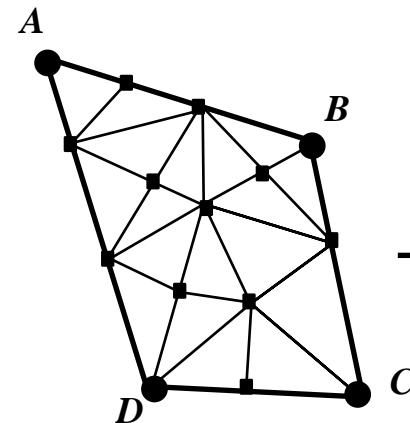
**Design variables: points on CFD surface grid**



**Design variables: fictitious loads acting on the model (natural design approach). The relationship between changes in design variables and grid-point locations is established through a finite element analysis.**

# Domain Element Approach

Consistent parameterization	
Airplane shape DVs	
Compact set of DVs	
Smooth geometry	
Local control	
Analytical sensitivity	
Grid deformation	
Setup time	
Existing grids	
CAD connection	

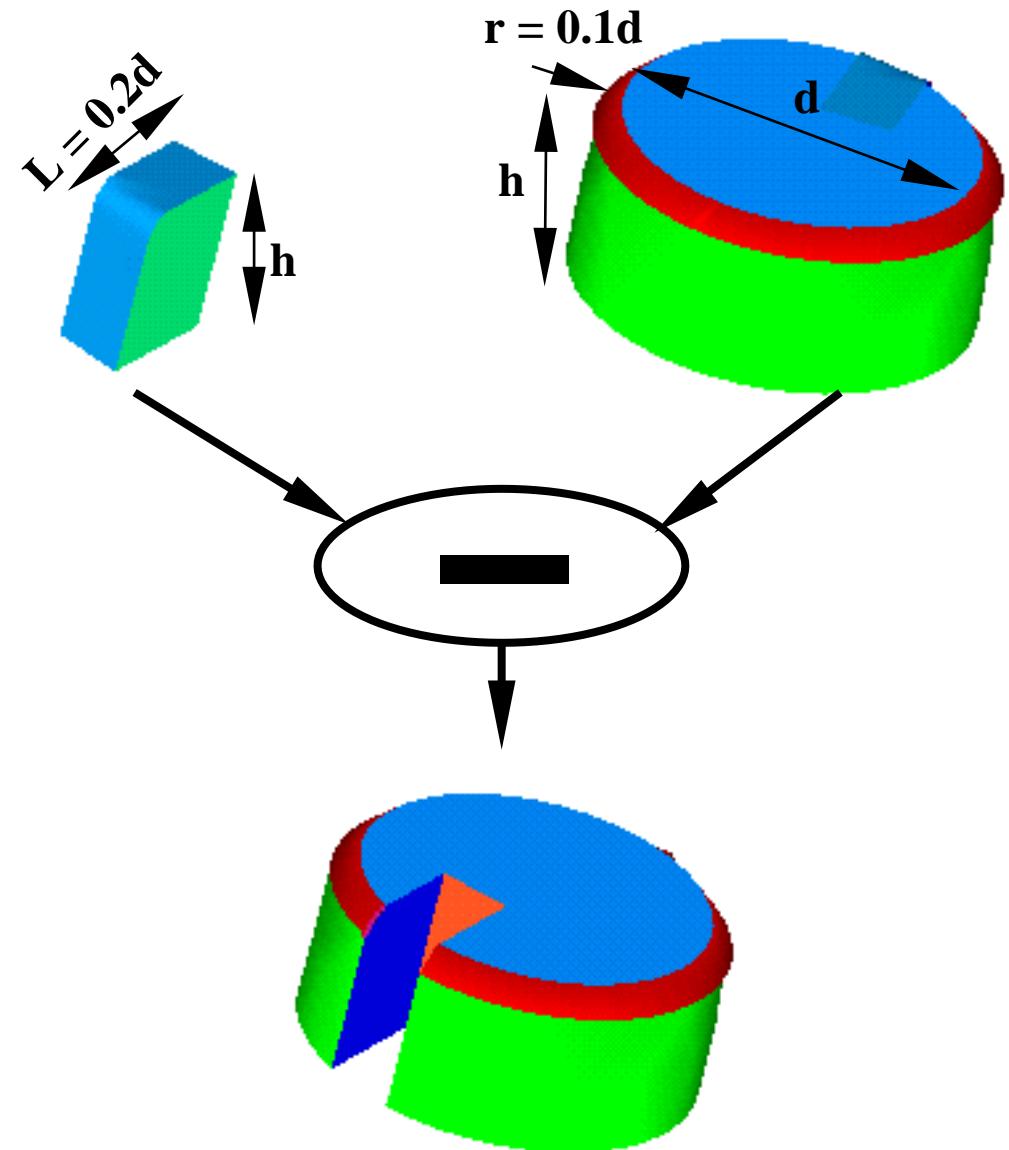


**Design Variables:  $(X, Y)_{A, B, C, D}$**

# CAD Approach

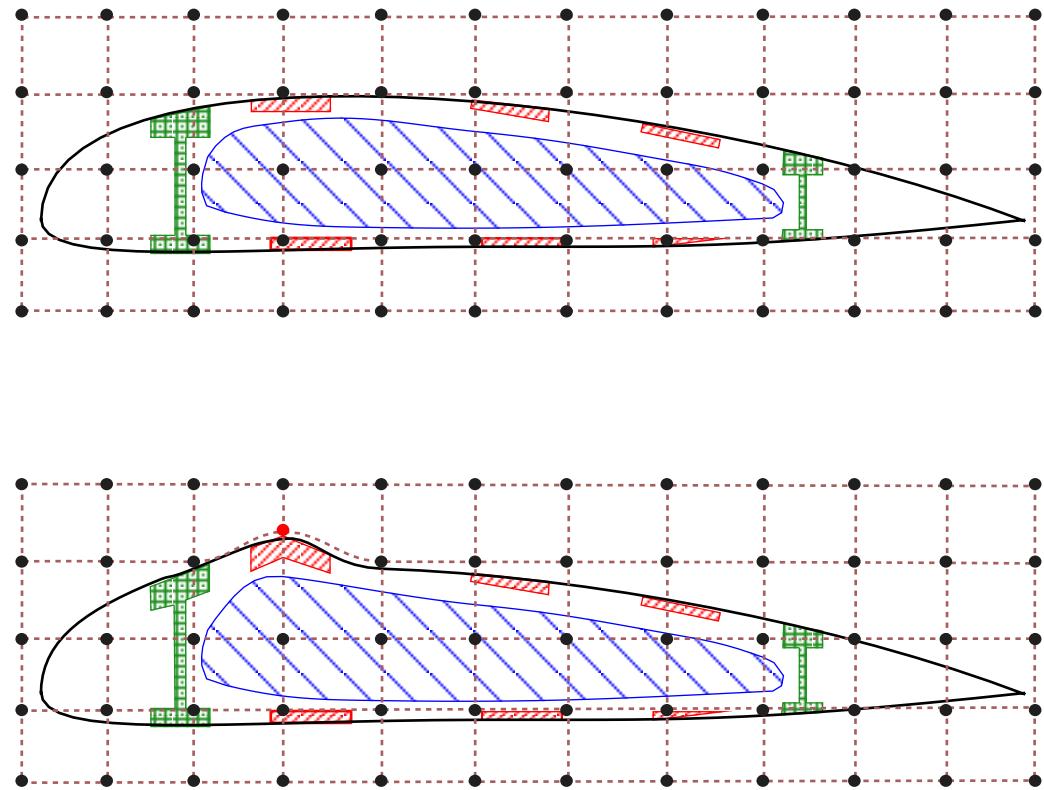
## Feature-Based CAD

Consistent parameterization	
Airplane shape DVs	
Compact set of DVs	
Smooth geometry	
Local control	
Analytical sensitivity	
Grid deformation	
Setup time	
Existing grids	
CAD connection	



# Free–Form Deformation

Consistent parameterization	
Airplane shape DVs	
Compact set of DVs	
Smooth geometry	
Local control	
Analytical sensitivity	
Grid deformation	
Setup time	
Existing grids	
CAD connection	

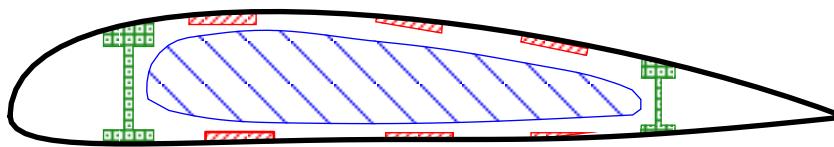


# MASSOUD

## Multidisciplinary Aero/Struc Shape Optimization Using Deformation

Samareh, J. A.: A Novel Shape Parameterization Approach, NASA-TM-1999-209116, May 1999.

- o Parameterize the discipline grids  
**(Avoids manual regeneration of grids)**



Components: Aero (skin), Structures (skin, spars, ..), Weight(fuel tank), Control(.....)

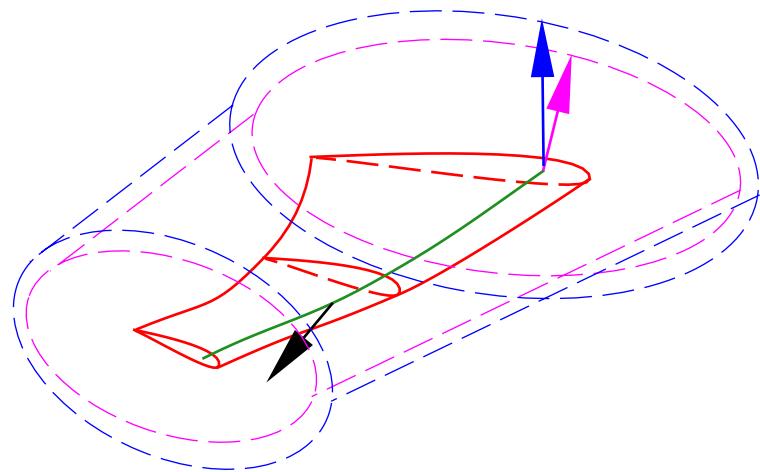
- o Parameterize the changes in shape, not the shape itself  
**(Provides a compact set of design variables)**

$$G(\bar{V}) = G_{\text{initial}} + \Delta G(\bar{V})$$

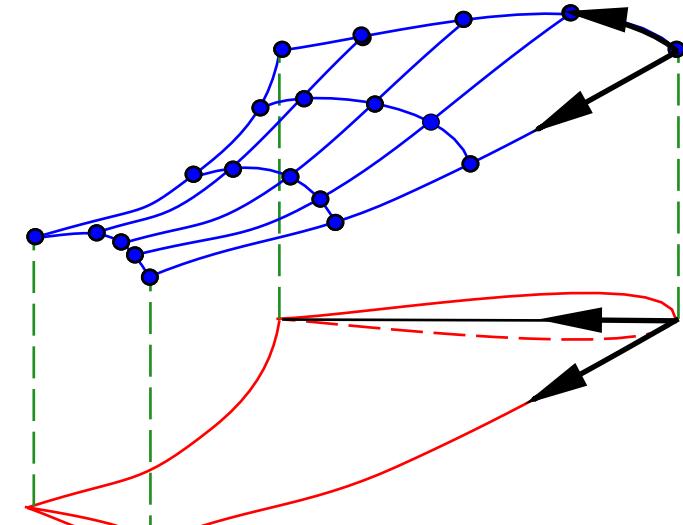
- o Use soft object animation for deforming grids  
Computer-Animated Features: Toy Story, Bug's Life  
**(Allows fast grid regeneration)**

- Nonlinear global deformation (Twist and Dihedral)
- Deformation of parametric NURBS surfaces (Camber and Thickness)
- Free-form deformation (Planform)

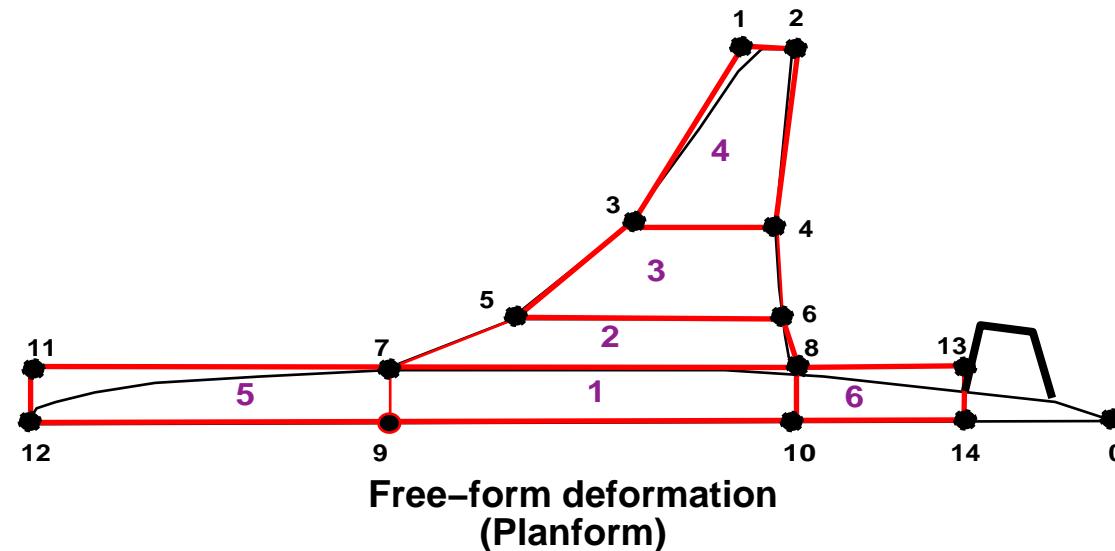
# Multidisciplinary Aero/Struc Shape Optimization Using Deformation (MASSOUD)



Nonlinear global deformation  
(Twist and Dihedral)

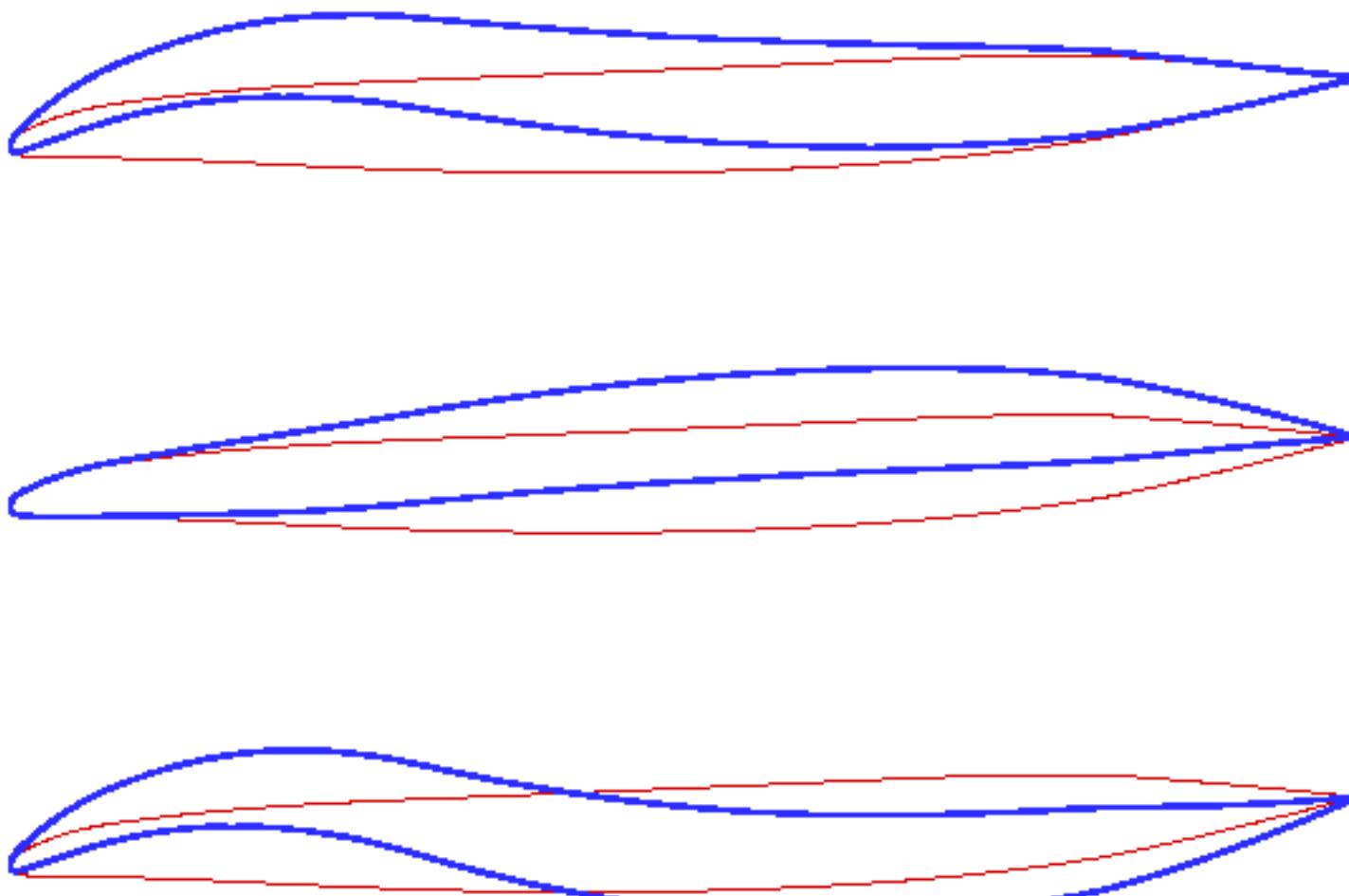


Deformation of parametric NURBS surfaces  
(Camber and Thickness)



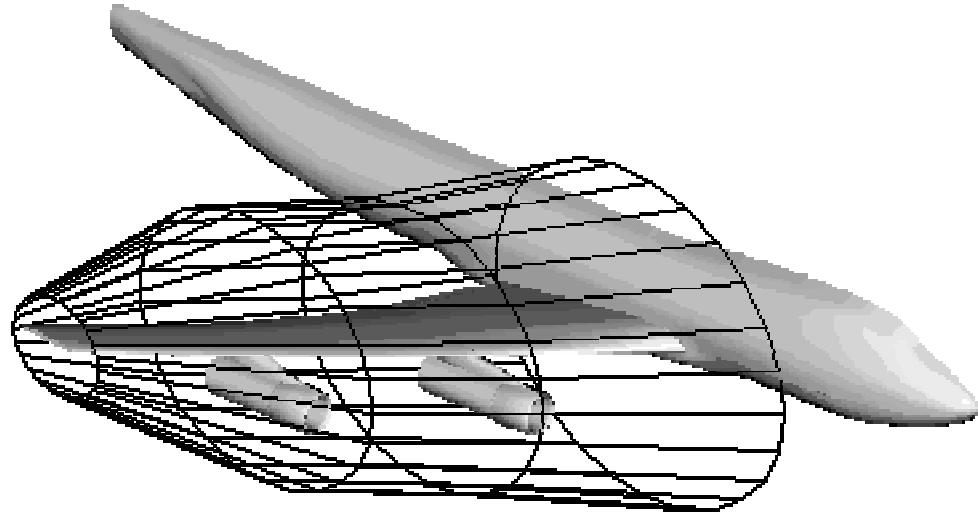
Free-form deformation  
(Planform)

# Deformation of Parametric NURBS Surfaces

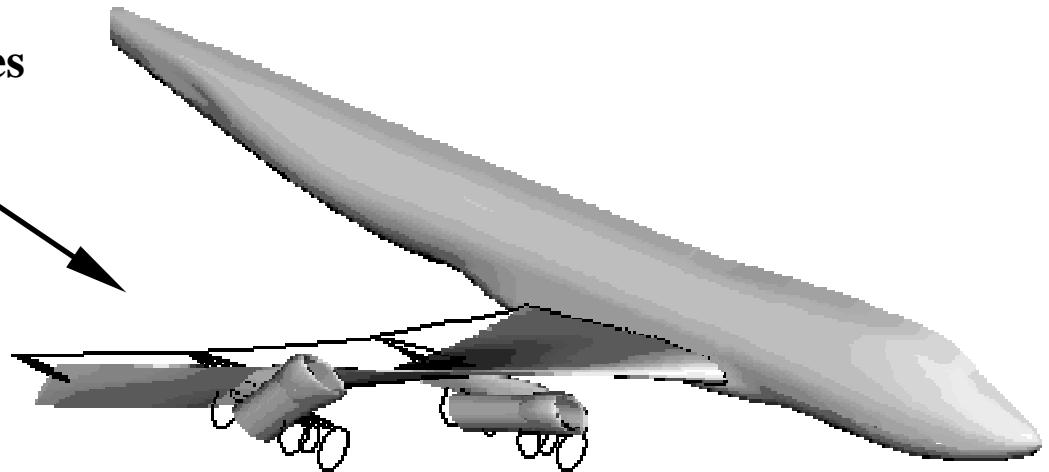


Camber: two design variables

# Nonlinear Global Deformation (Twist and Dihedral)



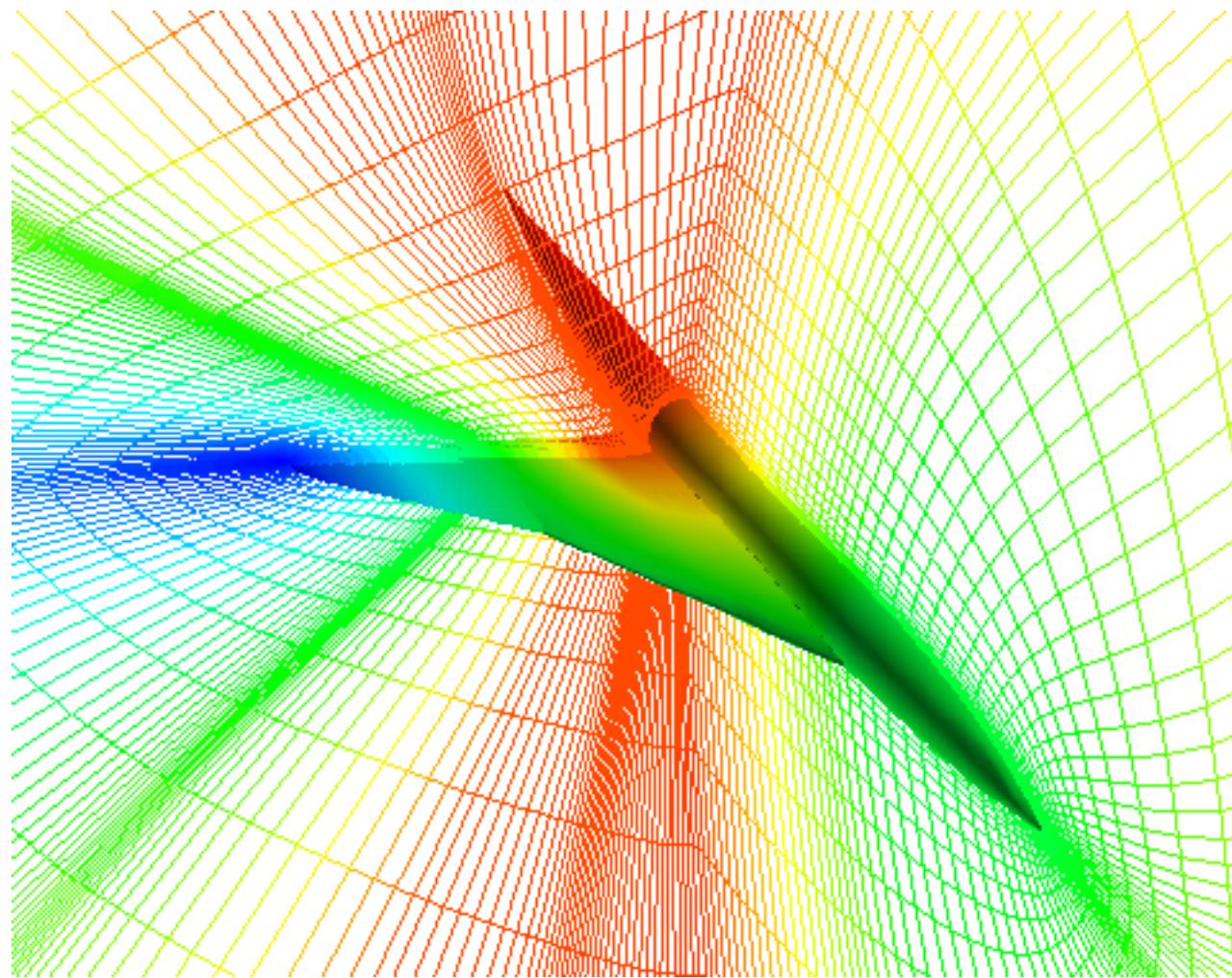
Twist: 3 Design Variables



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# MASSOUD

## Sensitivity of CFD volume grid with respect to root chord (CSCMDO: <http://geolab.larc.nasa.gov/CSCMDO/>)



# MASSOUD

Consistent parameterization	
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Smooth geometry	
Local control	
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Grid deformation	
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CAD connection	👎	👎	👎	👎	👎	👍	👎	👎	👍