

# Strength Improvement of Aircraft Radome by using Ni-Ti Alloy

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**Abstract**— Radome is a nose section of an aircraft. A radome (a portmanteau of radar and dome) is a structural, weatherproof enclosure that protects a radar antenna. The communication devices placed in the radome. Bird hitting on the radome causes the structural deformation and, in several times, leads to crash due to failure of communication device. Now, we worked on this project to reduce the structural deformation in nose section and to avoid the aircraft crashes. We planned to design a radome section by using the shape memory alloys. Shape memory alloys are a smart alloy, which can be able to attain their shape after any hidings or deformation.

**Index Terms:** Structure; SMA; Designing; Nose section; Radome.

## 1.INTRODUCTION

A nose cone (radome) is the conically shaped forward most section of an aircraft, designed to moderate approaching airflow behaviors and minimize aerodynamic drag. The nose of an airplane is extremely essential to flight. Such as the tip of an arrow, it determines where the plane is going to go. The entire component of flight believes in keeping the nose pointed in the proper direction. It also pays a key character in regulating drag around the aircraft. It travels through the air recognize it to flow around the aircraft in a gentle way that will not slow it down. In that way, it is extremely essential in keeping the plane well organized. The damage of the nose area (radome) by bird hit is a ordinary event on civil aeronautical operations. Soft materials (composite) fabricate the radome area of a plane.

In this paper, in synthesis to introducing some new features and phenomena developed in shape memory alloy in recent years, we introduce a number of

interesting requests of shape memory alloy, in unique in these emerging technologies. This shows the potential of shape memory materials to use in new applications desire rolling car, energy conversion using SMA springs, SMA radome and also in the vibration controlling and in earthquake resisting devices by using the super elasticity assets of the SMA

Any damage to the radome makes it inclined to moisture ingress into layers of fiberglass, which can obstruct the specific frequency(s) from meeting the weather radar. A transmission adaptability test measures how well the weather radar transmits and receives the electromagnetic activity.

As per our knowledge, we planned to design a radome section with shape memory alloys. Shape memory alloys are a exceptional class of alloys that have capability to 'remember' their shape and are able to reappear to that shape even after being bent.

## Problem

Bird Strike is common and may be a major threat to aircraft safety. For smaller craft, vital harm could cause to the craft structure and every one craft, particularly jet- engine ones, square measure susceptible to the loss of thrust, which may follow the consumption of birds into engine air intakes. Bird strikes conjointly happen to alternative synthetic objects ashore, like cars, power lines and wind turbines that typically result in death for the birds. It conjointly resistance to the communication of aircraft housing section.

## Purpose

The purpose of this study was to rescue the bird strikes from the aircraft radome section. It avoids the satellite communication problems, structural deformation and reduces the cost of the aircraft radome. However, it saves airlines from amount loss, improve the strength of the aircraft radome.

#### Research Questions

- 1) What is the purpose of aircraft radome section?
- 2) How to avoid the structural deformation of radome?
- 3) What is the procedure to improve the strength of an aircraft nose section?
- 4) How to avoid the bird strikes in radome section?
- 5) Which type of strength improved in aircraft radome?

### 2.LITERATURE REVIEW

Long-Long ZHANG, Ji-Hua ZHANG,<sup>3</sup> Xiao-Lang Chen, Hong-Wei Chen and Chuan-Ren rule concerning the strength improvement of craft housing below “Modified silicon dioxide ceramic for frequency selective surface radome”. Frequency selective surface (FSS) supported ceramic materials is extremely promising thanks to its warm temperature bearing capability alongside concealing properties for high-speed craft. During this paper, changed silicon dioxide ceramic, that is compatible for top Temperature Co-fired Ceramic (HTCC) technology, investigated. The flexural strength of the Li<sub>2</sub>O-K<sub>2</sub>O-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> doped silicon dioxide ceramic reaches 163.65 MPa at a sintering temperature of 1325°C that greatly surpasses that of typical united silicon dioxide. The utmost density of the ceramic is two.113 g/cm<sup>3</sup>. The material constant is four.37 and therefore the dissipation issue is zero.0038 at fourteen gigahertz. Supported the changed silicon dioxide ceramic, a Jerusalem part FSS was designed and optimized. Results show that the Jerusalem part FSS owes its benefits to high transmission economical, acceptable information measure, flat pass band and stability with completely different polarizations.

Cheng-Ho Tho and Michael R. Smith has researched underneath a subject of “Accurate Bird Strike Simulation Methodology for BA609 Tilt rotor”. Bird strike incidents cause vital flight safety threats to aircraft safety, leading to certification needs of “continued safe flight and landing” following such

varieties of high-energy bird impact. the upper impact velocities for bird strikes that tilt rotor craft should survive underscores the necessity to develop a lot of capable, valid analysis techniques. A paper presents the progressive bird Strike simulation methodology developed at Bell heavier-than-air craft, supported the multi material whimsical Lagrangian–Eulerian and sleek particle hydraulics techniques. The organic parameters of the bird’s model area unit graduated to correlate the fluid mechanics pressure with accessible take a look at information. The valid bird models area unit later on applied to simulate bird impacts with the BA609 tilt rotor structures for the foremost load-critical take a look at conditions. The analytical models area unit valid for multiple looks at cases with completely different style architectures. The developed analytical tool is capable of accurately predicting structural failure modes and deformation for craft subjected to high-energy bird strike impacts. Sebastian Heimbs, Tim Wagner , industrialist Meister, humorist whole , and Mircea Calomfirescu area unit discovered regarding “Bird strike on craft radome: Dynamic characterization of quartz fiber composite sandwich for correct, prognostic impact simulations”. This study assesses the bird strike resistance of the satellite communication (SatCom) housing of a medium altitude, long endurance (MALE) remotely piloted craft system (RPAS), which intended as a lightweight sandwich structure with skinny quartz fiber composite skins and a cellular honeycomb core. so as to perform correct, prognostic numerical bird strike simulations, the building block approach was applied, involving intensive experimental characterization and model validation of the materials and structures from easy coupon level up to all-out housing level. Coupon tests of the quartz fiber composite skin material beneath high-rate dynamic loading disclosed important strain rate effects that required to taken into consideration within the simulation model to predict the structural response beneath fast bird strike loading. In summary, this work presents a scientific and careful approach for getting valid modeling ways for fast impact analyses that may use with efficiency for numerous style and parameter studies throughout the event of the SatCom housing.

### 3.METHODOLOGY

Manufactured the composite aircraft radome by using the Ni-Ti alloy and for additional strength of Ni-Ti wire added in inner side of aircraft radome to make a skeleton of radome. If any deformation caused by bird strike or any other incident radome, restore their structure by heating and cooling process. This process helps to avoid the aircraft accidents and reduce the cost of radome expansion.

#### 4.CASE STUDIES

##### Aircraft radar dome

A housing (a portmanteau of microwave radar and dome) could also be a structural, weatherproof enclosure that protects a microwave radar antenna. The housing constructed of material that minimally attenuates the magnetism signal transmitted or received by the antenna, effectively clear to radio waves. Radomes defend the antenna from weather and conceal antenna instrumentality from scan. They jointly defend shut personnel from being accidentally enthusiastic about quickly rotating antennas.

Materials used on Aircraft Radome:

Airbus:

- CFRP-Carbon Fibre strengthened Plastic
- Fibre glass
- Aluminium / Al-Li
- Polytetra flouro alkene (PTFE) coated material et al

Boeing

- Al
- Titanium
- Composite material
- Steal
- Miscellaneous

Properties of materials:

- Aluminum - Lightweight weight and robust.
- Composite material - Nose to tail used this material. One specific standout materialis carbon fiber strengthened plastic or CFRP.
- Titanium - High strength, weight agnitude relation, corrosion resistance and temperature capabilities. it's used refrigerant applied furthermore as for appraise

temperature applied up to 600°c.

- Steel - High strength alloy steels used undercarriage flap track, flap support carriage and flap activating parts. smart sturdiness, smart tensile, smart thermal conduction.
- Miscellaneous - High density, strength and hardness, ductility, high hardness.
- CERP - Light weight weight, high fatigue strength, smart corrosion resistance, low impact resistance,terribly high modulus snap.

##### Mechanical properties of Aluminum

Mechanical Properties	Metric	English
Ultimate Tensile Strength	310 MPa	45000 psi
Tensile Yield Strength	276 MPa	40000 psi
Shear Strength	207 MPa	30000 psi
Fatigue Strength	96.5 MPa	14000 psi
Modulus of Elasticity	68.9 GPa	10000 ksi
Shear Modulus	26 GPa	3770 ksi

##### Mechanical properties of Steel

Mechanical Properties ties	Metric	English
Hardness, Brinell	121	121
Hardness, Knoop	140	140
Hardness, Vickers	126	126
Tensile Strength, Ultimate	420 MPa	60900 psi
Tensile Strength, Yield	350 MPa	50800 psi
Elongation at Break	15 %	15 %
Modulus of Elasticity	200 GPa	29000 ksi
Bulk Modulus	140 GPa	20300 ksi
Poisson's Ratio	0.25	0.25
Machinability	65 %	65 %
Shear Modulus	80.0 GPa	11600 ksi

##### Bird Strike

The event of an airborne animal (usually a bird or a bat) hitting an airplane on the wing is noted as a bird strike. it's known by some other names similarly, sort of a bird hit, bird ingestion or BASH (for Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard). Bird strikes also happen to other man-made objects toward land, like cars, power lines and wind turbines, which usually lead to death for the birds. The first ever case of a bird strike was reported by Wright (one of the Wright brothers who

are credited with inventing and flying the world's first successful airplane) in 1905- that's 114 years ago (from the present year – 2019). But interestingly, the strike wasn't totally accidental. The dead bird lay on the wing of his airplane until he made a pointy intercommunicate dump it off. Although bird strikes pose a large threat to flight safety, the quantity of major accidents caused thanks to bird strikes are quite low. the bulk of bird strikes do little damage to the affected airplane, but these collisions are nearly always fatal to the birds involved within the accident.



Fig.1. Bird struck and staked on the aircraft radome Incidents:

In last twenty years 5, 00,000 strikes form bird hits in radar dome section.



Fig.2. Result of bird strike on Radome

List out that strikes and years:

Date and year	Aircrafts and Boeing
4 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2020	Sacramento (CA), FedEx MD10
16 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2020	Rome (Fiumicino), Alitalia A320
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2020	Islamabad, Serene Air B737
30 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2020	Lagos, British Ai ways B77

5 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2020	Knoxville (TN), Commutair ERJ145
9 <sup>th</sup> OCT 2020	Washington (Dulles), Republic ERJ175
26 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2020	Salt Lake City (UT), Skywest CRJ200
1 <sup>st</sup> Sep 2020	Red Wings A320
27 <sup>th</sup> Sep 2020	Indigo A320
29 <sup>th</sup> Sep 2020	Aeroflot A321
3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan 2020	Linea Aerea Nacional de Honduras S.A. Bea Jetstream 3100
9 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2020	Ethiopian Airlines B737
14 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2020	West jet B737

**SMA –Shape Memory Alloy:**

- SMA is associate alloy.
- It is unshapely once cold however returns to its pre- unshapely (“Remembered”) form once heated.
- It is named Memory alloy, Memory metal, sensible metal, sensible alloy (or) Muscle wire.

**SMA used:**

- Nickel metal (NiTi) SMA employed in the Manufacture of dental medicine wires.
- Shape Memory properties:
  - \*Super physical property
  - \*High plasticity
  - \*Resistance to corrosion.
- SMA has bigger strength and lower modulus of physical property when put next with untarnished of steal alloy.

**Benefits of SMA:**

- One of the benefits of to mistreatment SMA IS High level of recoverable plastic strain that may be elicited. the utmost recoverable strain these materials will hold while not permanent harm is up to eight for a few alloys.
- This compares with a most strain 0.5% for convectional Steels. SMA Applications: Industrial

**Material Selected for project is Ni-Ti Alloy**

Nitinol, also known as nickel-titanium or Ni-Ti alloy (49% - 51%) generally used in orthodontics thanks to its shape memory and super elastic nature. We use arch wires made from this clever essence

amalgamation to move your teeth efficiently and reduce the frequency of adaptations.

Nickel titanium have received considerable scientific attention due to their two distinctive useful properties: form memory result and super snap. SME is that the ability of the fabric to be malformed at constrictive then reverts to its original form upon heating on top of a vital temperature. SE is that the ability of the fabric to expertise giant retrievable strains once malformed inside a temperature varies. These, combined with the superior mechanical properties and corrosion resistance build SMAs as promising category of fabric for a spread of engineering and medicine applications.

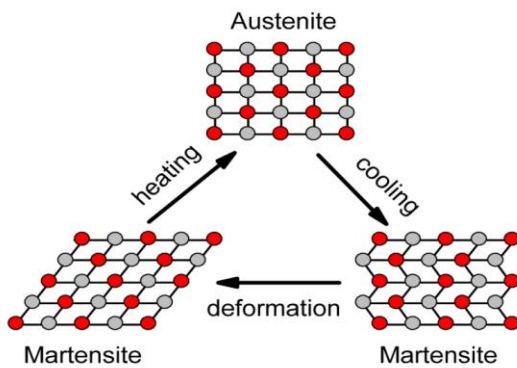


Fig.3 2D view of nitinol's crystalline structure during cooling/heating cycle

Advantages of Ni-Ti:

- ❖ High mechanical performance
- ❖ High power to weight ratio
- ❖ Large deformation
- ❖ High damping capacity
- ❖ High frequency response
- ❖ High wear resistance's
- ❖ High corrosion and chemical resistance
- ❖ Low operation voltage
- ❖ High specific strength

Mechanical Properties of Ni- Ti

Property	Ni-Ti Alloy
Elastic modulus (GPa)	83 (austenitic phase) 28-41 (martensitic phase)
Yield strength (MPa)	195-690 (austenitic phase) 70-140 (martensitic phase)
Tensile strength (MPa)	895
Fracture toughness (MPam)	895

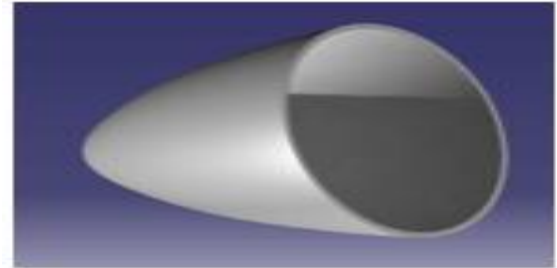


Fig.1. 3D Model of Normal Aircraft Radome

### 5.CAD DESIGN

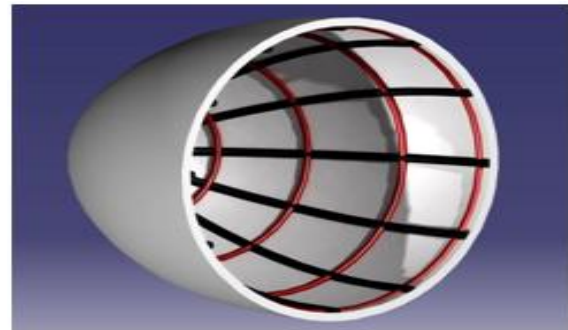


Fig.2. 3D Model of Aircraft Radome with SMA

### 6. ANSYS ANALYSIS

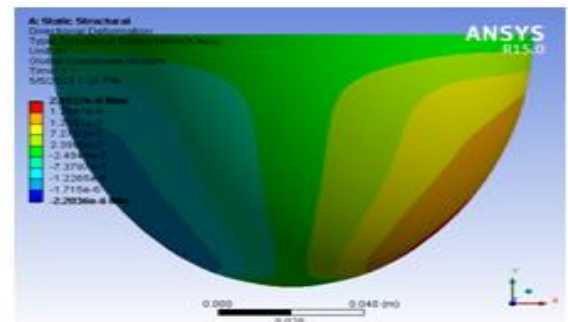


Fig.3. Directional Deformation of Aircraft Radome with SMA

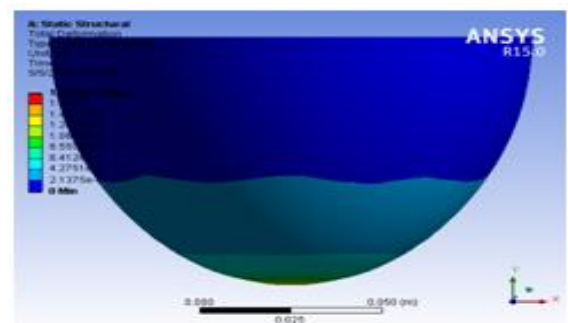


Fig.4. Total Deformation of Aircraft Radome with SMA

7. DIFFERENCE

Normal Radome	Radome with Ni-Ti alloy
High maintenance cost	Low maintenance cost
Can't able to restore	Able to restore by heating & cooling process
It can damage communication signals	It can't damage communication signals
It manufactured by Normal metals and composites	It manufactured by SMA alloys
Properties of metals can't able to change	Properties of metals can able to change

8.CONCLUSION

In this project, we designed an aircraft radome by using the “shape memory alloy”. As per our idea, aircraft radome with SMA properties does their work better than the normal aircraft radome. An analysis report of radome with SMA properties gives positive performance than normal radome. While comparing normal radome with another radome with SMA properties gives better results than normal radome. Radomes with SMA properties reduce the structural damage and their repair cost, it reduces the accidents and communication problems. Result of radome with SMA properties in showed in fig 2.

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