



# **An efficient Digital Twin demonstrator of air intake based on machine learning and mesh morphing**

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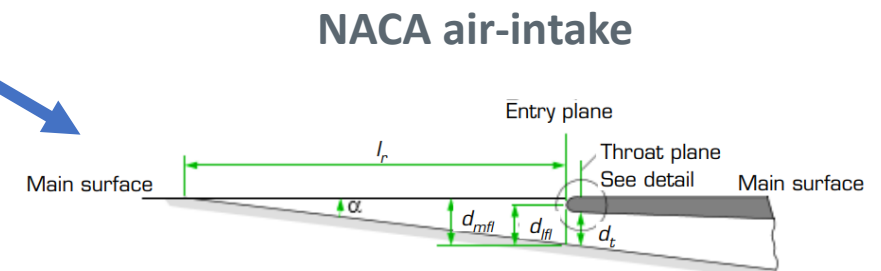
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# Summary:

- Problem definition
- Optimization workflow
- Sizing
- Geometry and mesh
- Setting on Fluent
- Shape parameters
- Static ROM
- Optimized shape
- Conclusions



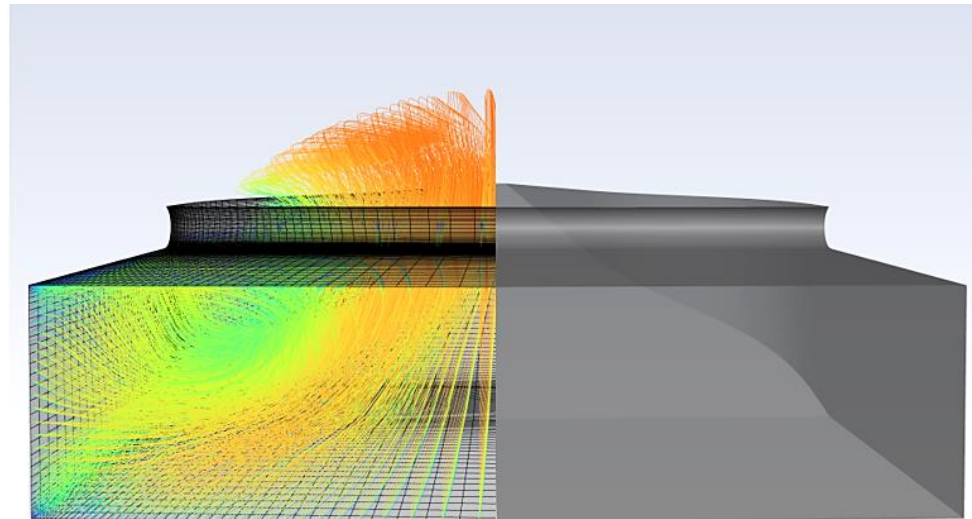
Company General Use



# Problem definition

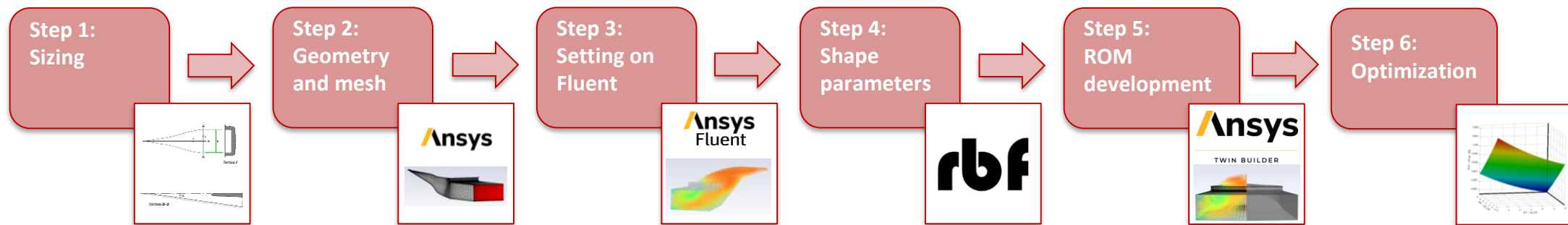
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- This activity is focused on the generation of a **digital twin** from **numerical simulations** and **high fidelity** models of a Naca air intake;
- The aim is to create an accurate and reliable model that allows to evaluate in **real time** both scalar quantities and **field quantities**, such as the distribution of speed or pressure in the domain of interest;
- The generated model can be **integrated** with the rest of the aircraft or can be linked to an **optimization** algorithm;
- In this study the focus is on the **optimization** of the air intake.



# Optimization workflow

- Step 1: Sizing, automatic script for preliminary design
- Step 2: Geometry and mesh for CFD analysis
- Step 3: Setting of CFD analysis used as snapshots for the ROM creation
- Step 4: Definition of shape parameters
- Step 5: ROM development
- Step 6: Optimization and validation of optimized shape



# Sizing

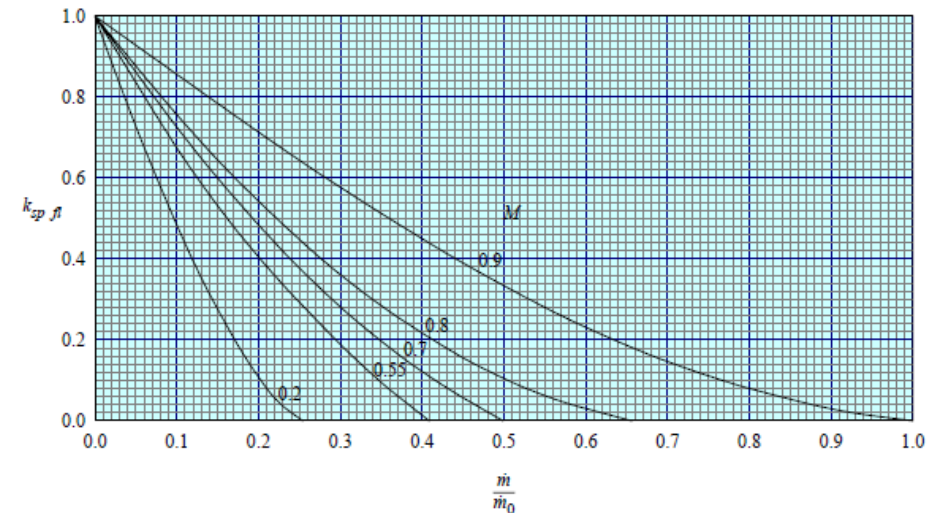
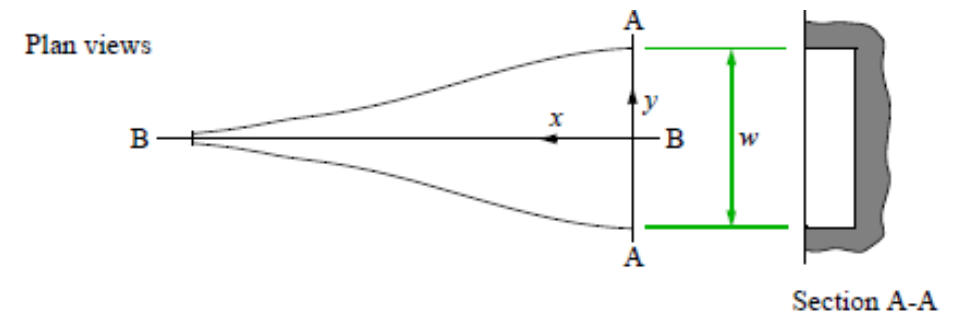
- The standard **ESDU 86002** has been used for a preliminary design
- An **automatic script** allows to size the NACA air intake:

## Input:

- Required massflow
- Momentum thickness
- Boundary layer thickness
- Mach number

## Output:

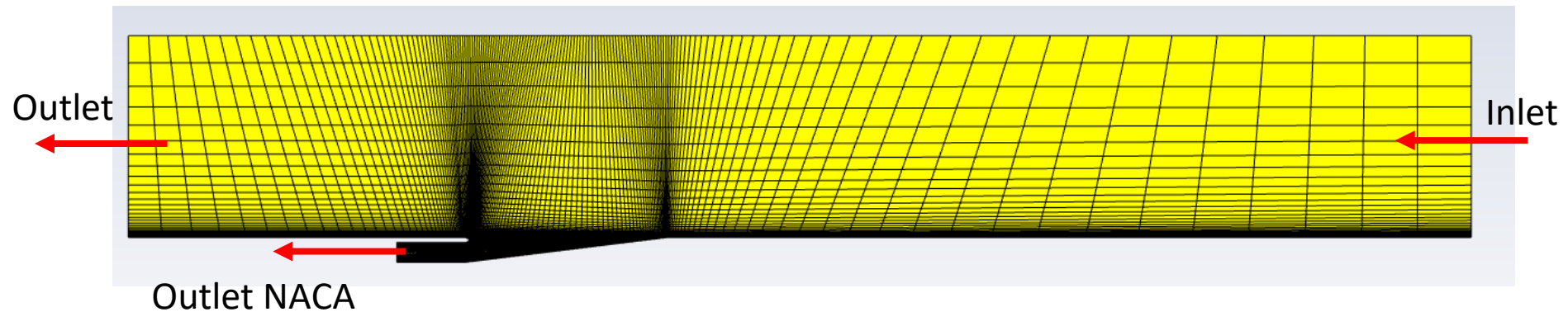
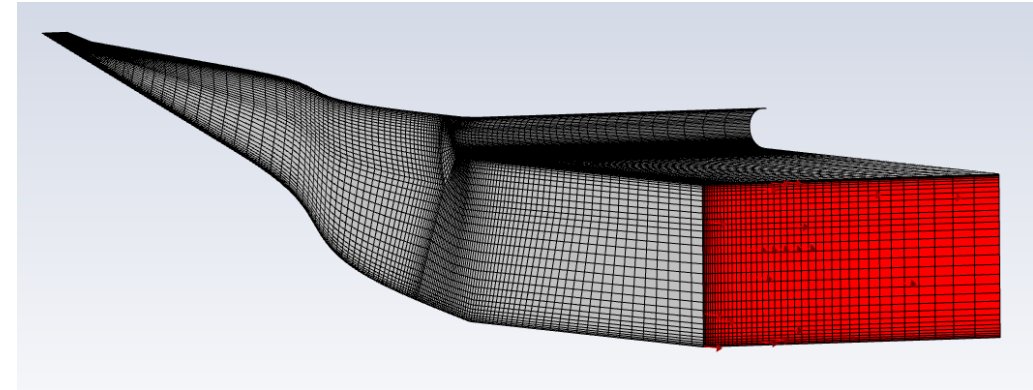
- Sizing
- Cd
- $\eta$



# Geometry and mesh

- Structured mesh is used for a more accurate result
- Mesh statistics:

<b>Facets</b>	1877680
<b>Nodes</b>	644341
<b>Cells</b>	616832

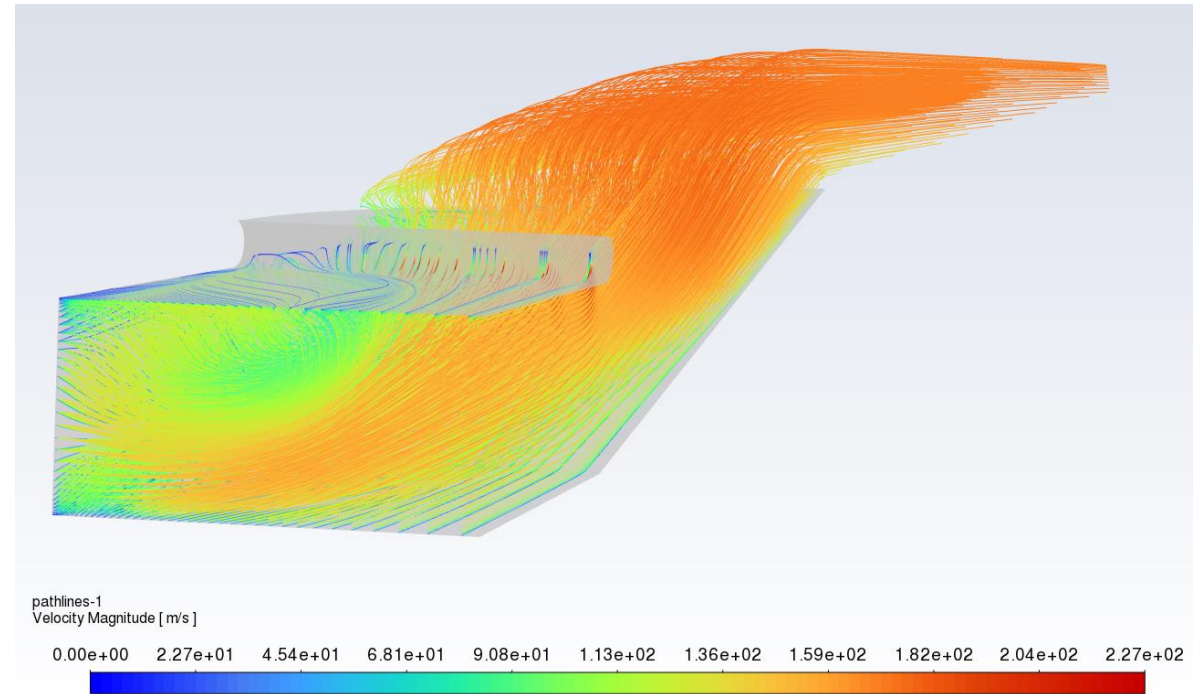


# Setting on Fluent

## Data:

- Required massflow : 0.23 kg/s
- Altitude 7620 m – delta ISA 20
- Pressure : 41770 Pa
- Density : 0.505 kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Velocity inlet: Input parameter 150÷180 m/s (baseline 167.2 m/s)
- Turbulence Model: SST

Ansyst Fluent



# Shape parameters

- **Mesh morphing** allows to define shape parameters keeping the topology unchanged
- **RBF Morph** is used as mesh morphing tool
- **8 shape parameters** are defined:



Cyl\_o1



Cyl\_o2



Cyl\_o3



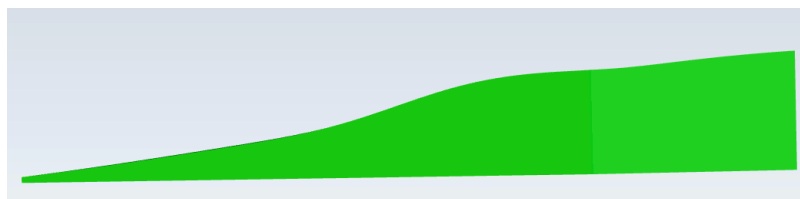
Cyl\_o4



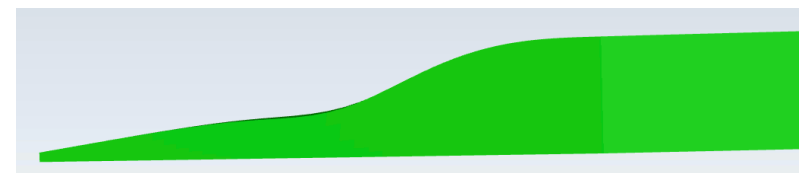
Cyl\_o5



Length



Lateral



Localy1

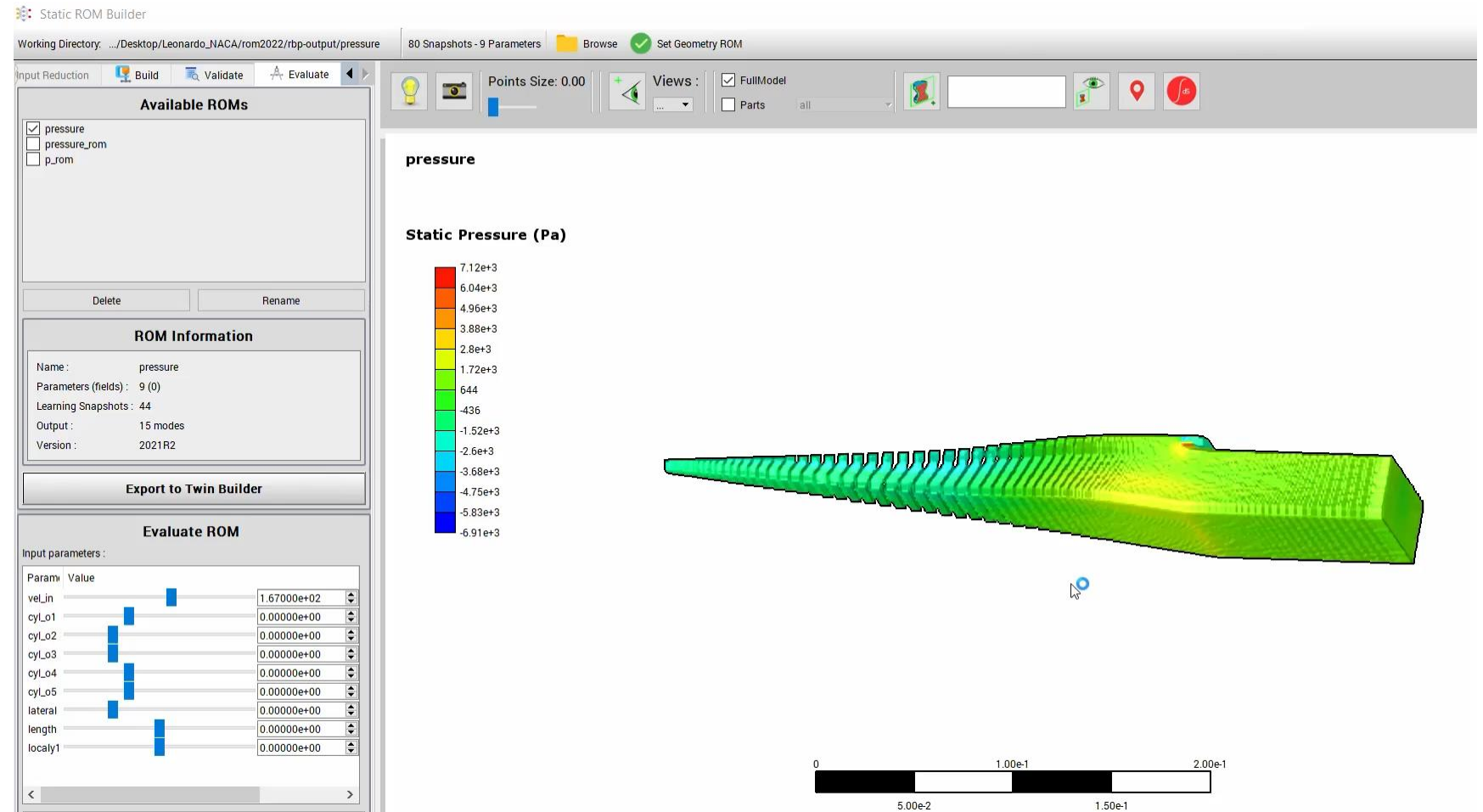


# ROM: Development



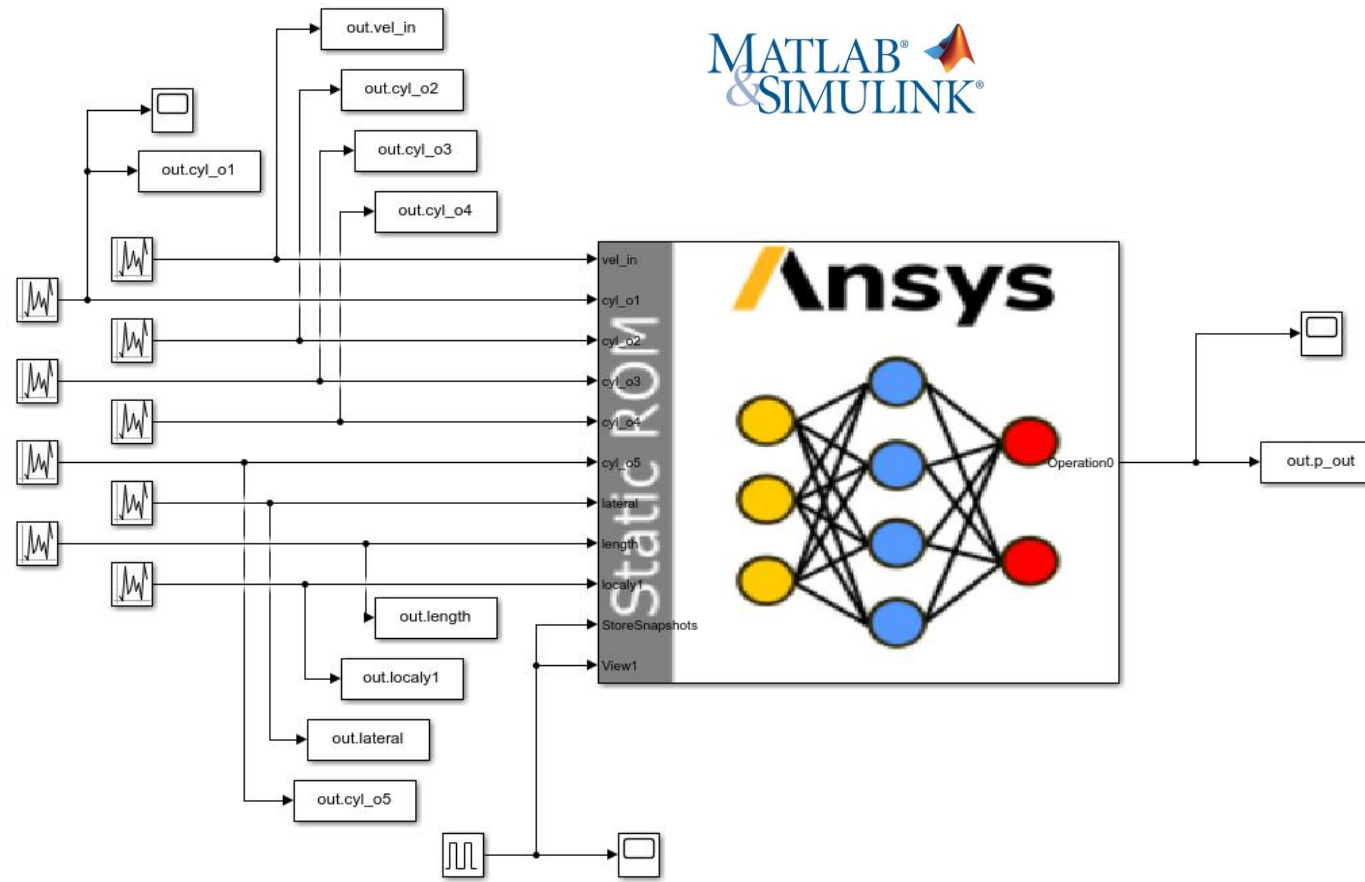
TWIN BUILDER

- **Snapshots** collection (80 DPs)
- **Static ROM** is created using Ansys Twin Builder:
  - Decomposition algorithms (**POD**) are used to reduce the number of variables
  - **Machine learning** allows to correlate each set of input parameters to the output quantities
  - It allows to evaluate in **real time** both field quantities and scalar outputs



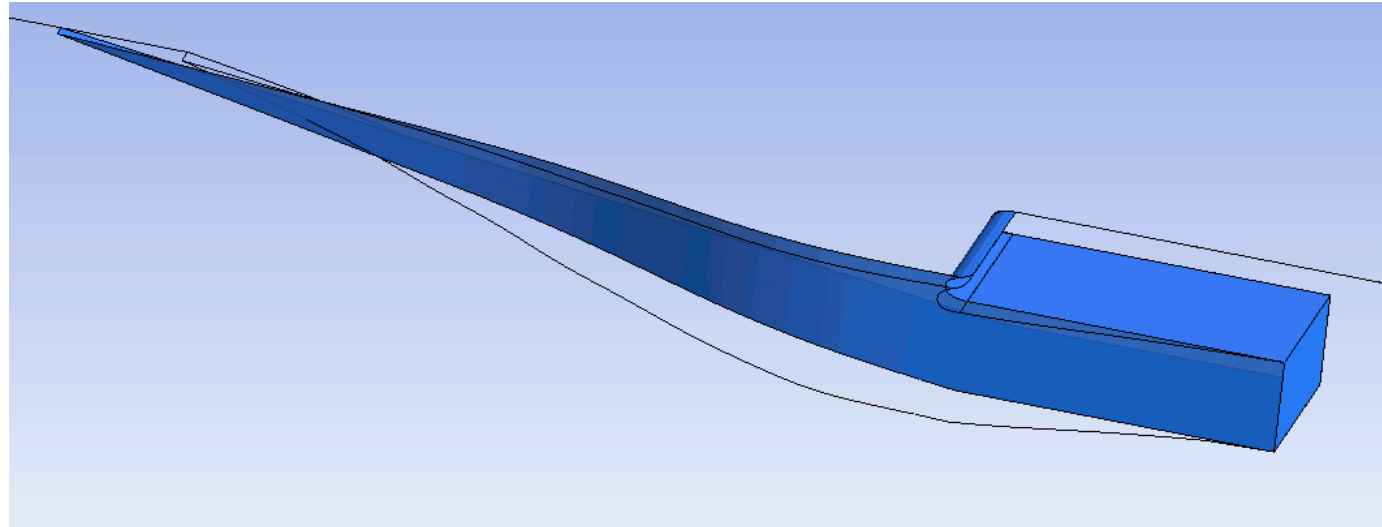
# ROM: Optimization

- The tool allows to **export** the model as **FMU**
- The FMU model can be **integrated** with other Simulink models
- In this application the FMU model is linked to an **optimization algorithms** in Matlab -Simulink environment



# Optimized Shape (1/2)

- Final shape and input parameter values:



Cyl_o1	Cyl_o2	Cyl_o3	Cyl_o4	Cyl_o5	Length	Lateral	Localy1	Vel_in
4	6	6	6	4	10	6	5	180 m/s

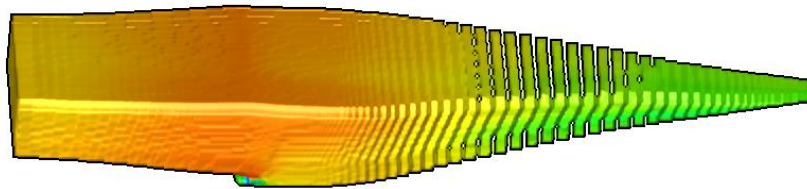
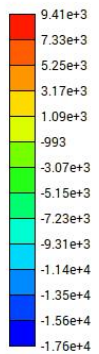
- Comparison of output parameter on baseline and optimized shape:

	Baseline	Optimized
Out Pressure	664.5 Pa	1812.1 Pa

# Optimized Shape (2/2)

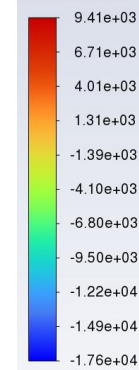
- Comparison static pressure on static ROM and CFD model

Static Pressure (Pa)

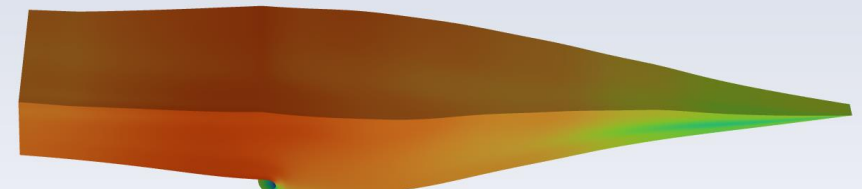


Static ROM

contour-1  
Static Pressure



[ Pa ]



CFD

- Error on pressure output evaluation:

Error on optimized shape	Average Error on all DPs
3,1%	1,9%

# Conclusions

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- The proposed workflow allows to obtain a very accurate ROM
- The ROM can be used for the design and optimization of the NACA air intake
- The ROM can be integrated with the model of the entire airplane
- Mesh morphing technique and RBF Morph tool is critical to maintain the mesh topology unchanged and preserve the mesh quality



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**

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