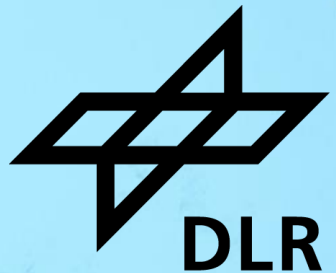


# METHOD DEVELOPMENT FOR FULL AIRCRAFT CRASH SIMULATION

**P. Schatrow, M. Petsch, M. Waimer, N. Wegener, C. Leon Muñoz, D. Kohlgrüber**

DLR Institute of Structures and Design



# Overview



- **Motivation**
- **1 Method development**
- **2 Method validation**
- **3 Method application**
- **Summary**

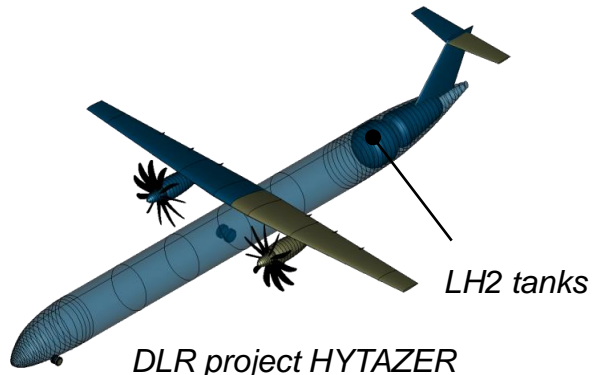
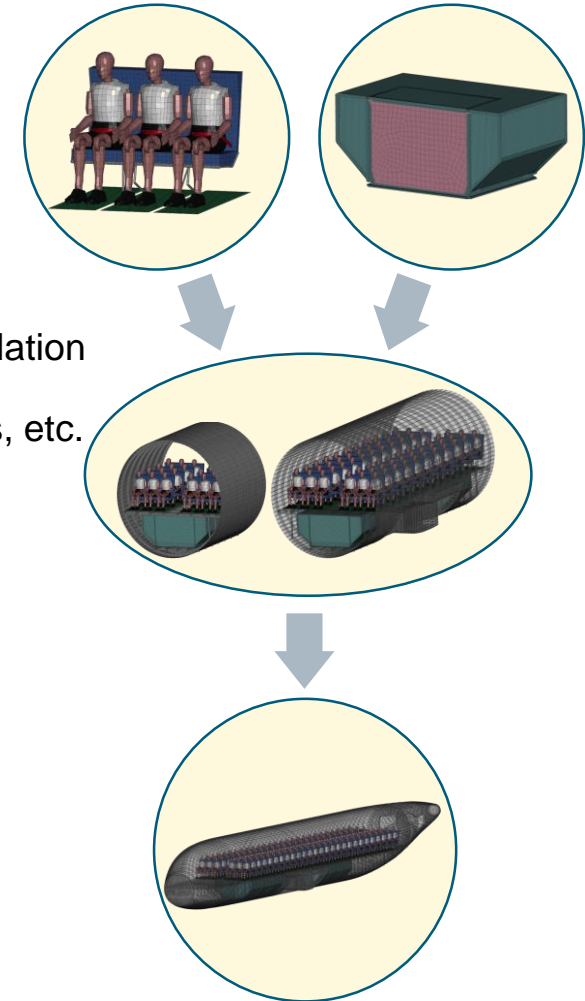
# Motivation

Full aircraft crash simulation as a research goal at DLR



## Development of numerical methods for full aircraft crash simulation

- Understanding the aircraft response and crash performance during a crash landing
  - How is the aircraft crash performance affected by
    - Impact conditions, impact surface, occupant and cargo loading
  - Derivation of local loads from full aircraft crash simulation to be applied on a fuselage section simulation
    - Including effects such as pre-loading from aircraft rotation, combined horizontal/vertical loads, etc.
- Analysis and evaluation of future aircraft configurations
  - Need to consider full aircraft to understand and assess crash effects
  - E.g. hydrogen propulsion and LH2 tank integration



# 1 Method development

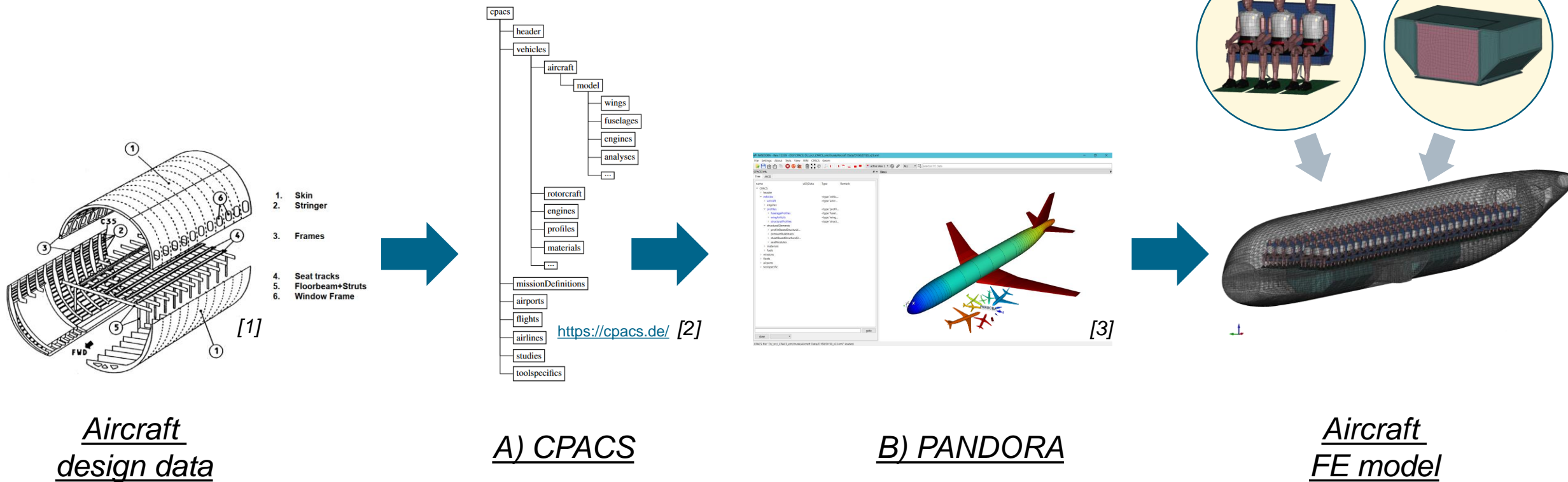
## Generic single-aisle aircraft design



# 1 Method development

## Approach

### Process chain tool for full aircraft crash simulation



[1] K. Drechsler, P. Eyerer, and H. Dörner, "Fertigungstechnik und Bauweisen für Leichtbaukonstruktionen," Lecture material WS05/06, 2005.

[2] M. Alder, E. Moerland, J. Jepsen, and B. Nagel, "Recent Advances in Establishing a Common Language for Aircraft Design with CPACS," presented at the Aerospace Europe Conference 2020, Bordeaux, Frankreich, 2020. Available: <https://elib.dlr.de/134341/>

[3] M. Petsch, D. Kohlgrüber, and J. Heubischl, "PANDORA - A python based framework for modelling and structural sizing of transport aircraft," presented at the 8th EASN-CEAS International Workshop, Glasgow, Schottland, 2018. Available: <https://elib.dlr.de/124181/>

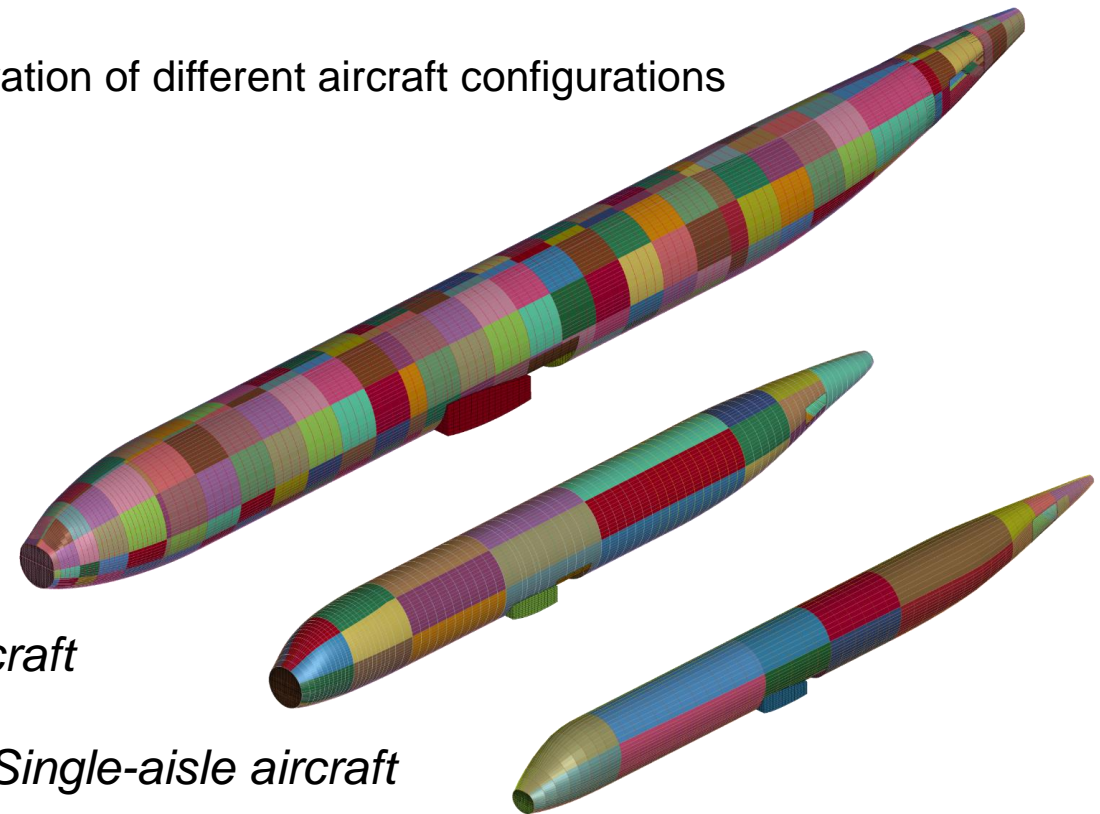
# 1 Method development

## Approach

### A) Aircraft structure description by CPACS [2]

- CPACS: Common Parametric Aircraft Configuration Schema (<https://cpacs.de/>)
- Enables parameterized and automated FE mesh generation of different aircraft configurations

```
cpacs "http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
└─ header D150
└─ vehicles
  └─ aircraft
    └─ model "D150modelID" DLR's D150 Release Bird for CPACS 2.2
      └─ name DLR's D150 Release Bird for CPACS 2.2
      └─ description Conventional medium range public jet transport
      └─ reference 122.4
      └─ fuselages
      └─ wings
      └─ engines
      └─ <!-- <systems> <cockpitControls> <stickPitch> <name>stickf
      └─ global
      └─ analyses
      └─ enginePylons
      └─ landingGear
    └─ engines
    └─ profiles
    └─ structuralElements
    └─ materials
    └─ fuels
  └─ missions
  └─ fleets
  └─ airports
```



*Wide-body aircraft*

*Single-aisle aircraft*

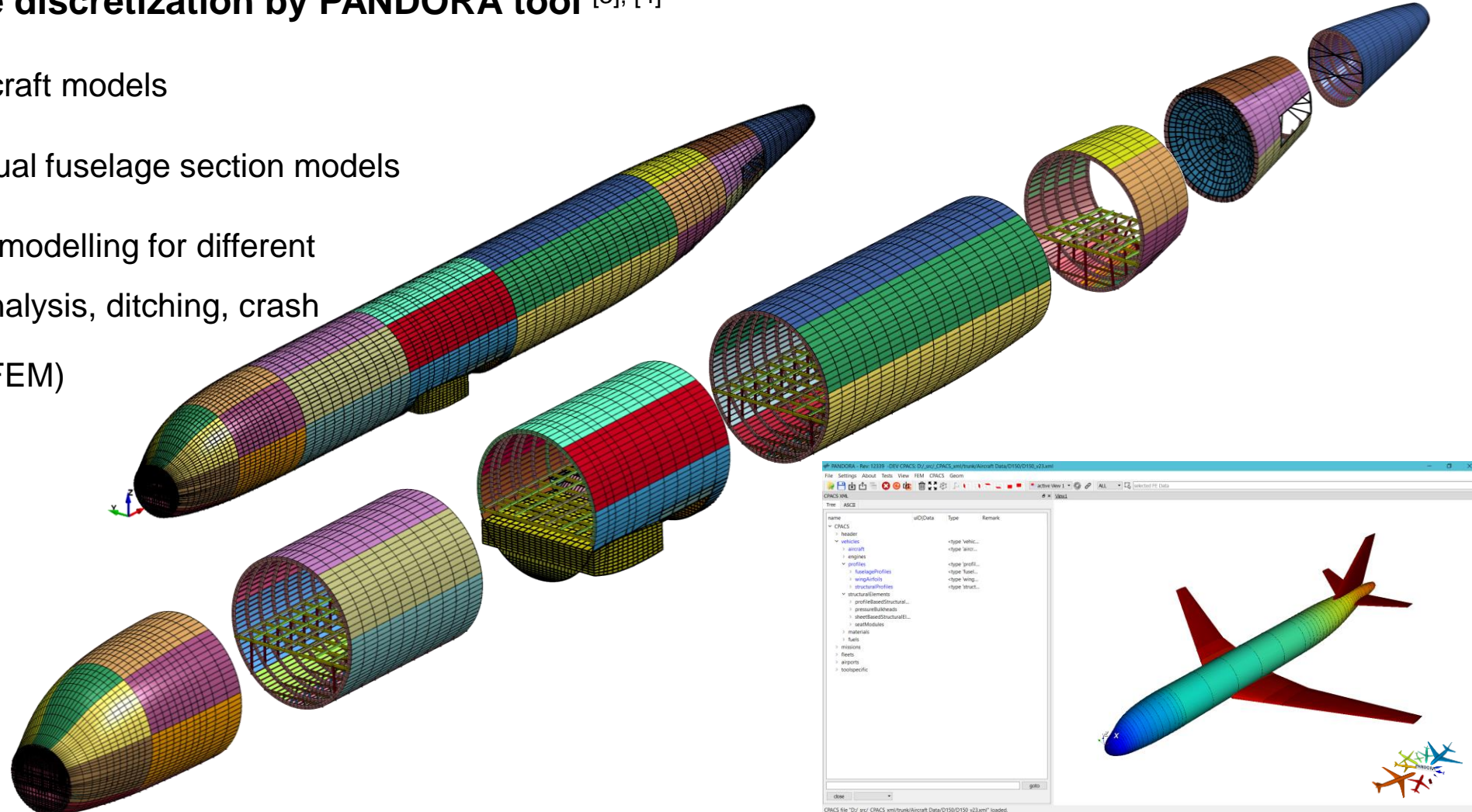
*Regional aircraft*

# 1 Method development

## Approach

### B) Aircraft structure discretization by PANDORA tool [3], [4]

- Generation of full aircraft models
- Generation of individual fuselage section models
- Low and high fidelity modelling for different applications: static analysis, ditching, crash
  - Global FEM (GFEM)
  - Detailed FEM



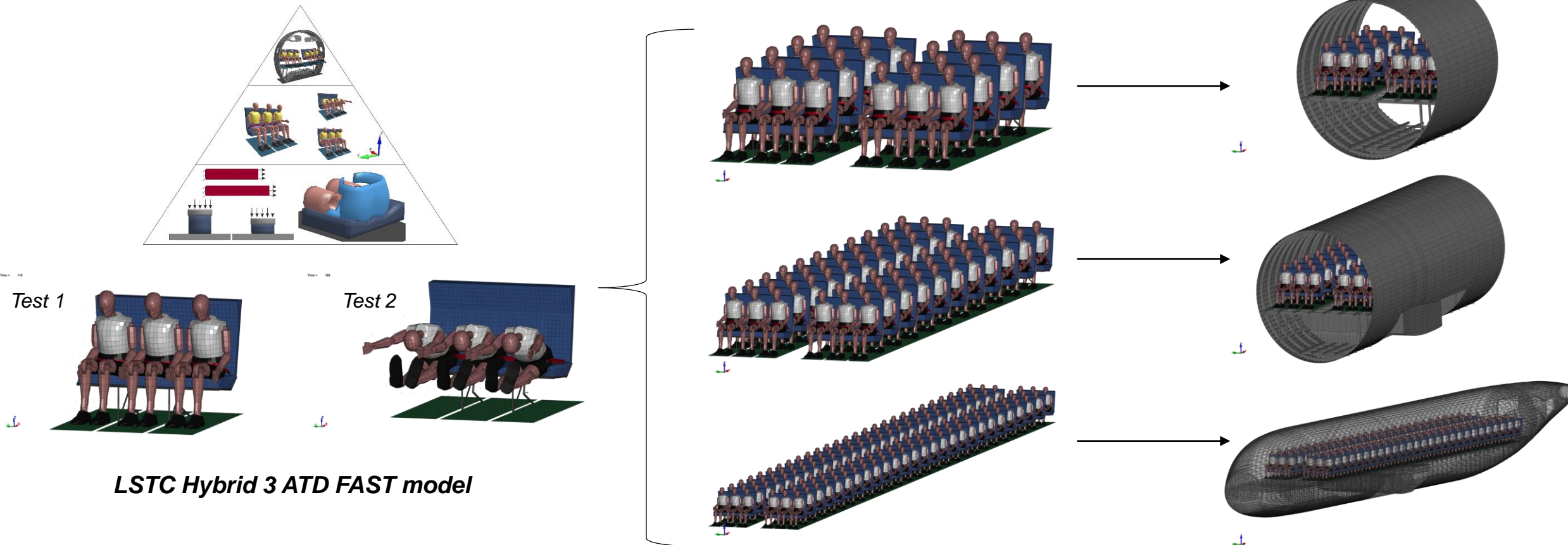


# 1 Method development

## Approach

### C) Occupant module [5], [6]

- Development according to the building block approach



[5] T. Lehmann, "Entwicklung von Passagier-Sitz-Modellen für die Simulation von Flugzeugbruchlandungen," DLR-IB-BT-ST-2018-159, 2018

[6] N. Wegener, P. Schatrow, and M. Waimer, "Development of occupant-seat models for Fokker F28 crash test simulations," DLR-IB-BT-ST-2021-176, 2021.

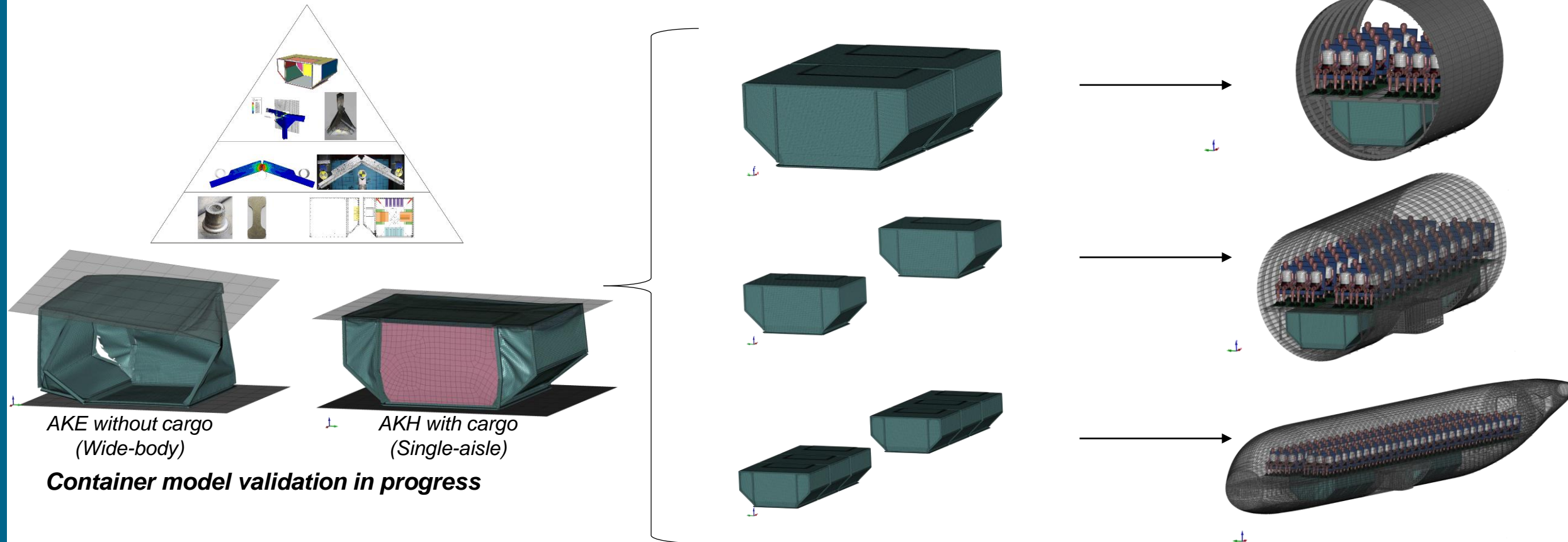


# 1 Method development

## Approach

### D) Cargo module [7], [8]

- Development according to the building block approach



[7] M. Waimer and P. Schatrow, "Cargo Container Characterization for Airplane Crash Applications – Experimental Tests and Validation of Simulation Models," in Aerospace Structural Impact Dynamics International Conference, Madrid, Spain, 2019.

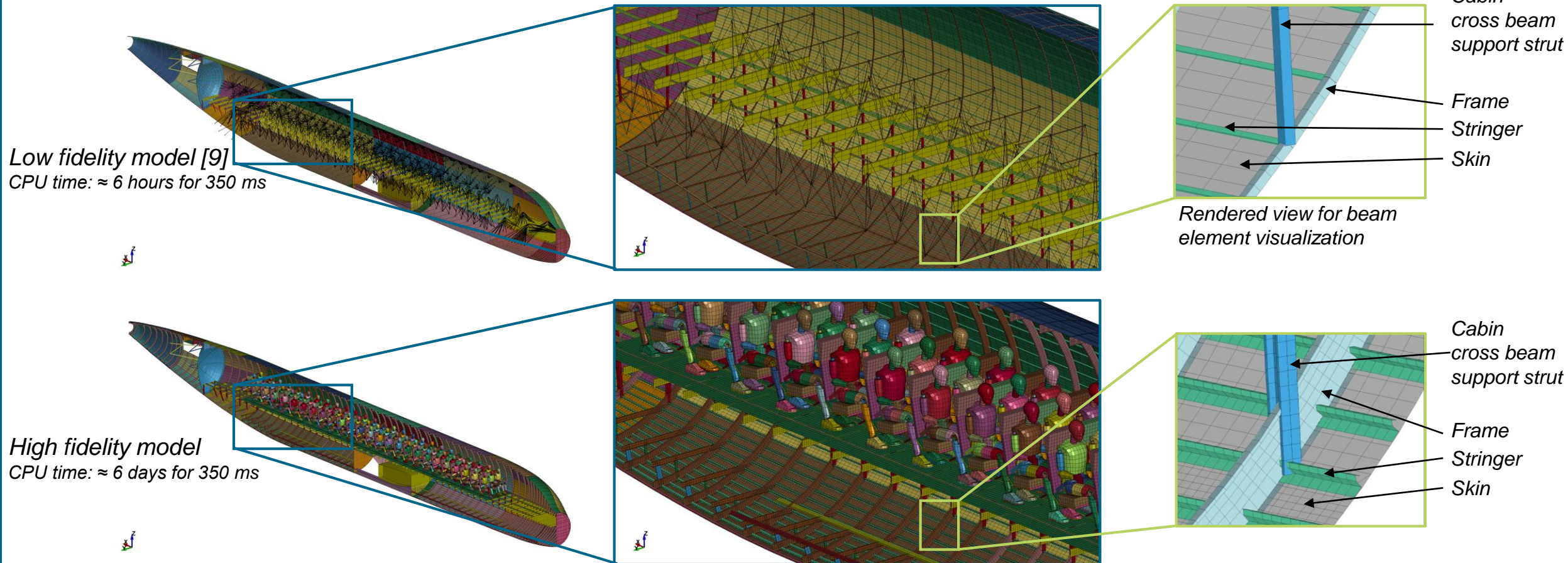
[8] M. Waimer and P. Schatrow, "Full-Scale Crash Testing of Cargo Containers - Experimental Characterization for Transport Airplane Crash Applications," in The Tenth Triennial International Fire & Cabin Safety Research Conference, Atlantic City, New Jersey, USA, 2022.

# 1 Method development

## Approach

### Process chain output

- Application-driven: suitable model fidelity for given application (global FEM, detailed FEM)



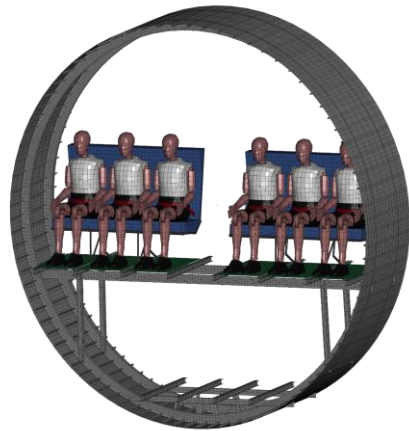


# 1 Method development

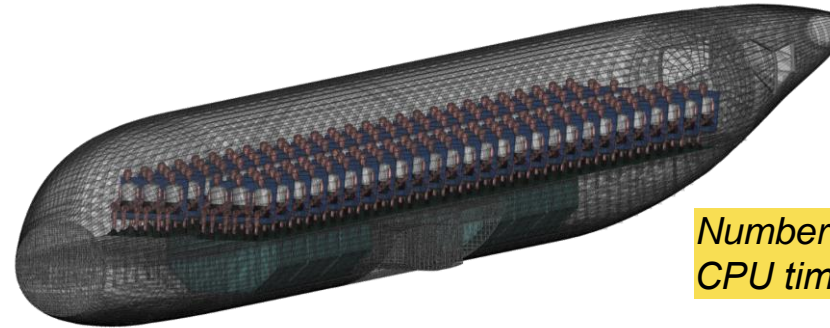
Current status of high fidelity full aircraft crash simulation

## FE model overview (exemplary)

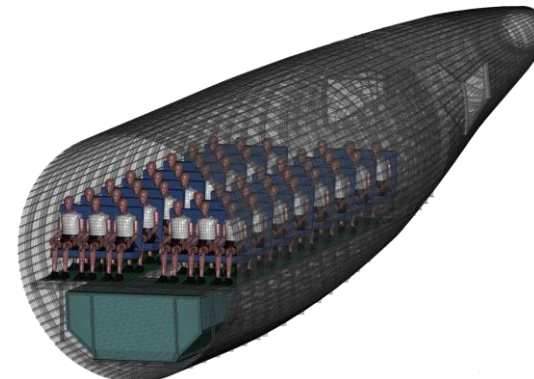
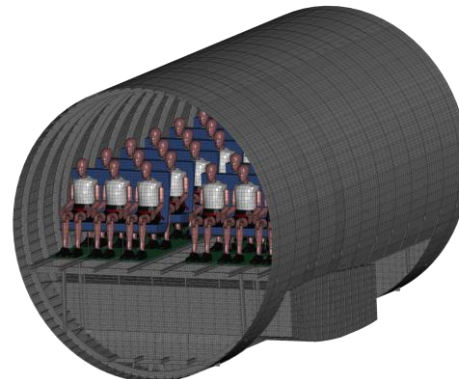
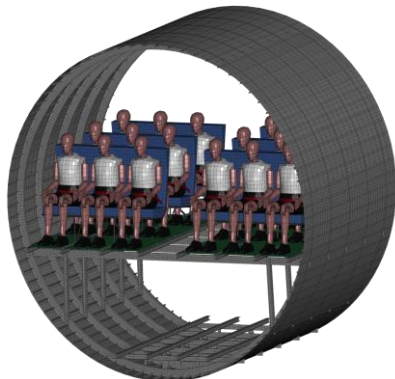
- Potential applications: configuration assessment, conceptual & preliminary design, determination of local loads, etc.



*Number of nodes: 95,000  
CPU time:  $\approx$  50 min for 250 ms*



*Number of nodes: 3.3 M  
CPU time:  $\approx$  8 days for 350 ms*



*Linux cluster  
LS-Dyna 13.1.0  
16 core processor*

## 2 Method validation

Specific aircraft design Fokker F28



# 2 Method validation

Current status

## FE model generation

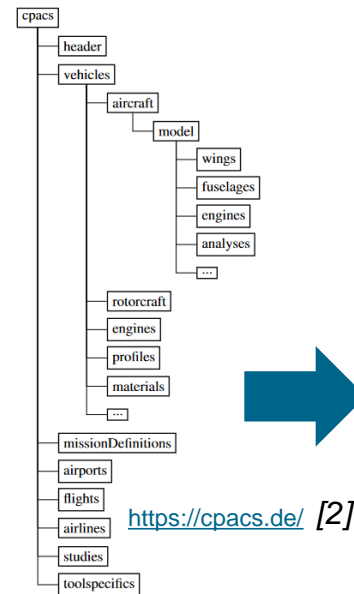


*Design data provided  
by Fokker Services*



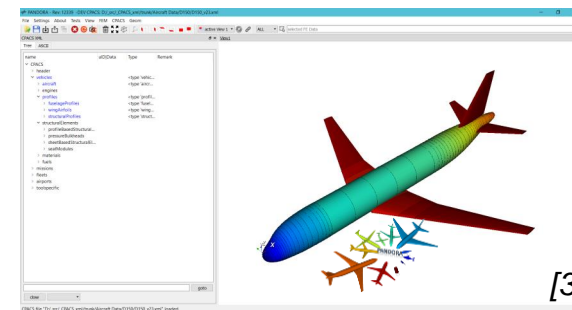
[10]

Aircraft  
design data



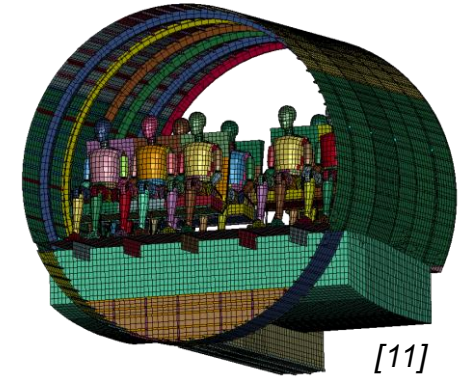
<https://cpacs.de/> [2]

CPACS



[3]

PANDORA



[11]

Aircraft  
FE model

[10] J. D. Littell, "A summary of results from two full-scale Fokker F28 fuselage section drop tests," NASA/TM-2018-219829, 2018.

[11] E. Wegener, "Numerical Simulation of a Crash Test on a Fokker F28 Center Fuselage Section with Wing Box and Oblique Impact Surface," DLR-IB-BT-ST-2021-148, 2021.

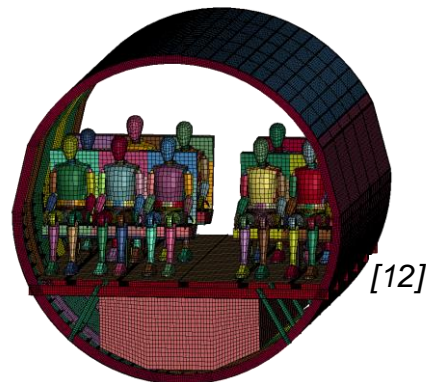
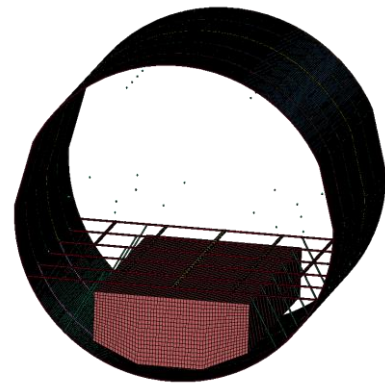
# 2 Method validation

Current status

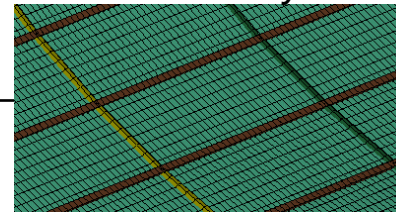
## Definition of F28 CPACS data set and generation of two fuselage section models with PANDORA

*FAA/NASA Test 1:*

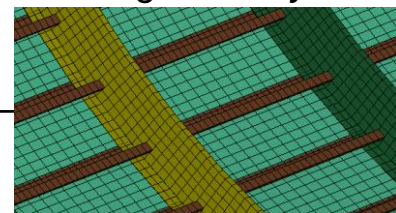
*F28 fuselage section with cargo door and luggage*



*Low-Fidelity*

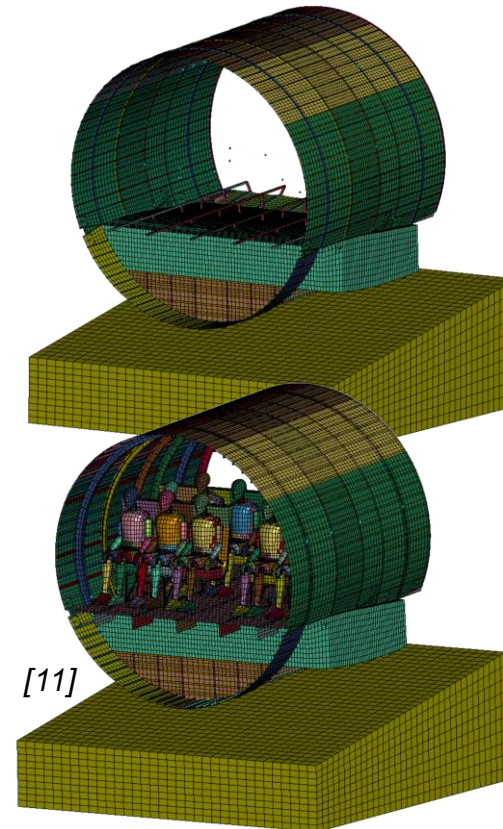


*High-Fidelity*



*FAA/NASA Test 2:*

*F28 fuselage section with wingbox*



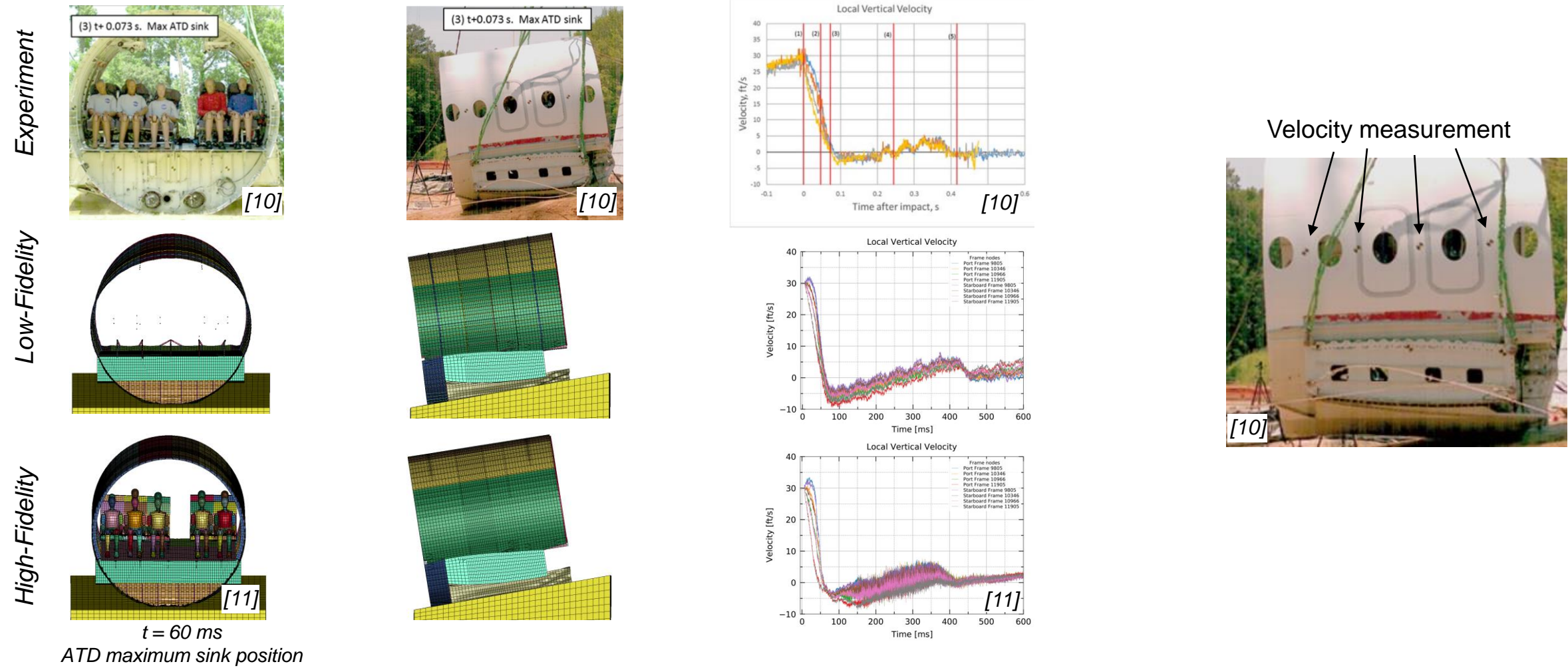


# 2 Method validation

Current status



## Partial validation of simulation methods on the basis Fokker F28 full scale crash test data



# 3 Method application

Examples (generic single-aisle aircraft)

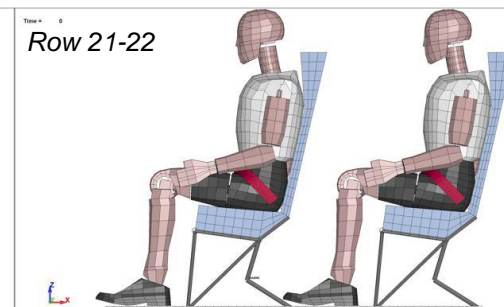
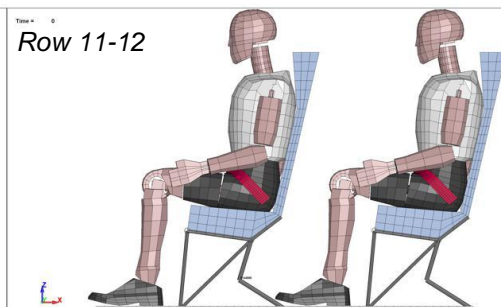
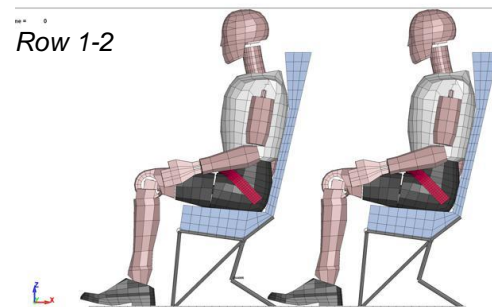
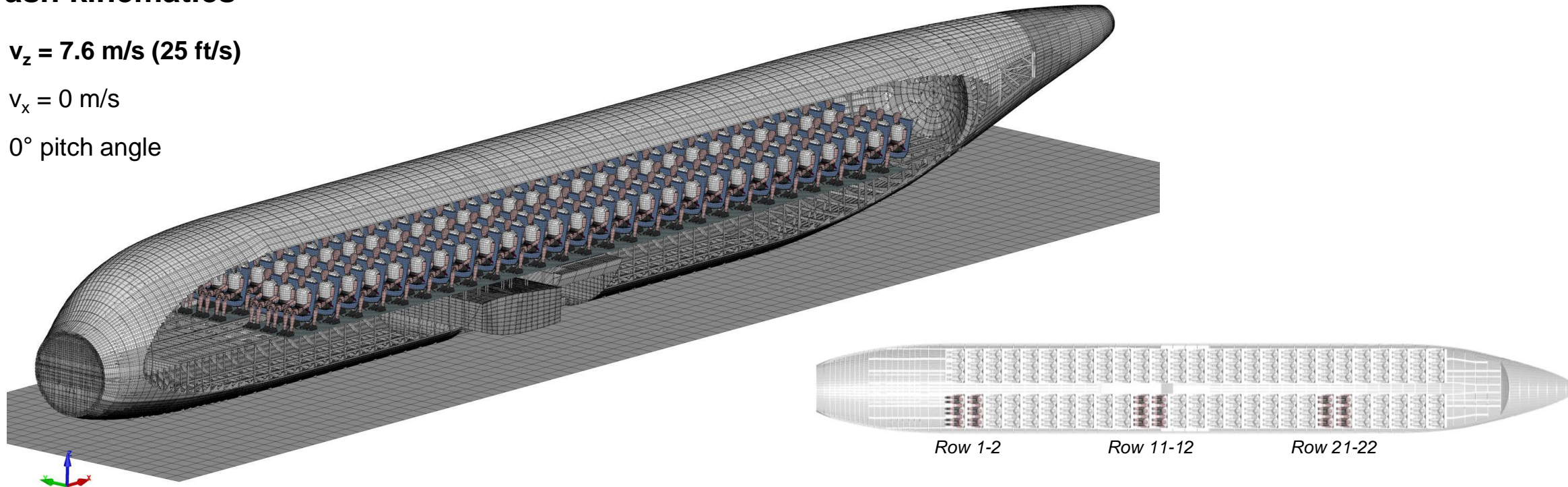


# 3 Method application (examples)

## I) Vertical drop of full aircraft model

### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s (25 ft/s)}$
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $0^\circ$  pitch angle

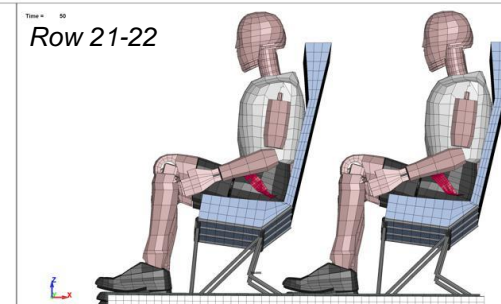
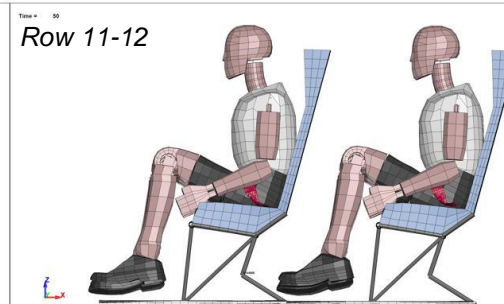
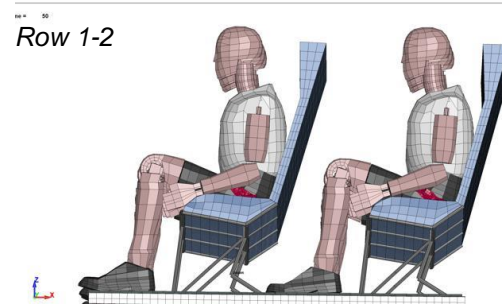
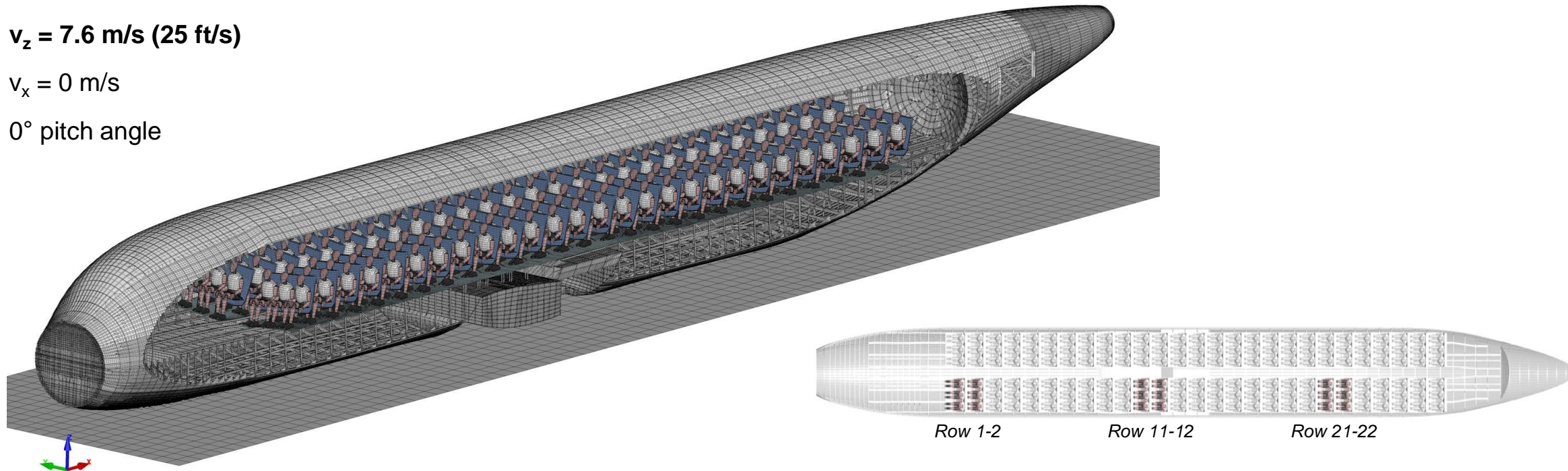


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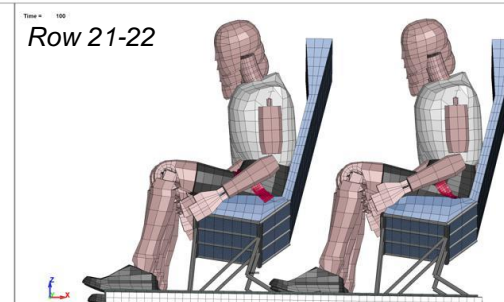
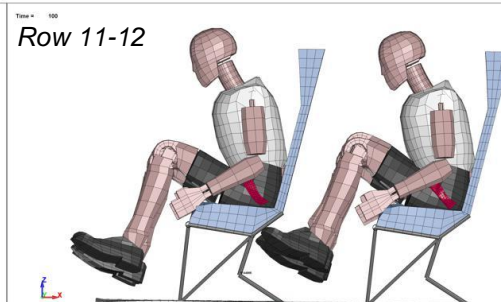
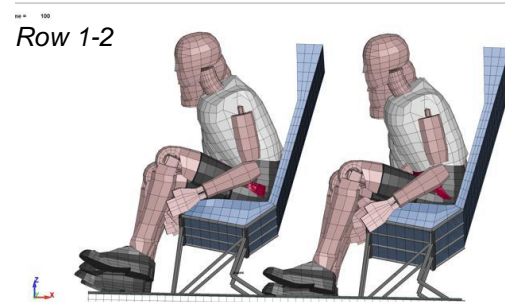
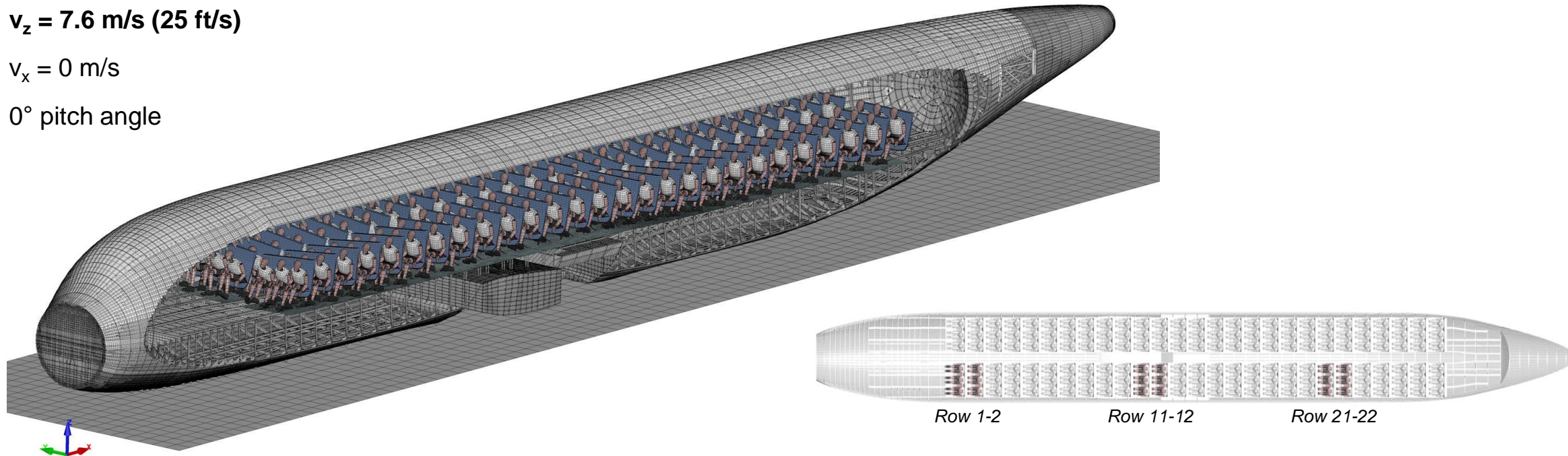


# 3 Method application (examples)

## 1) Vertical drop of full aircraft model

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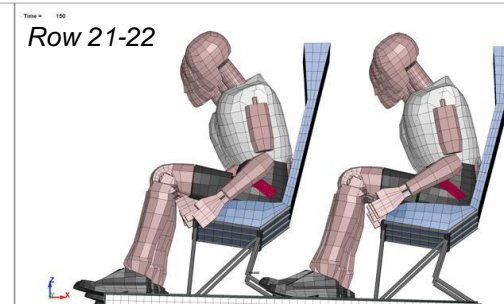
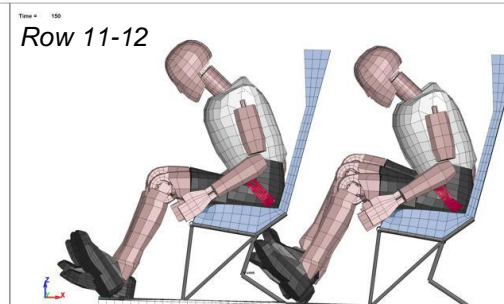
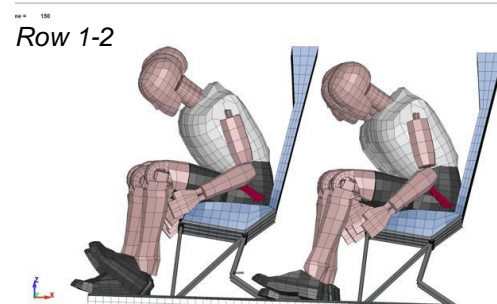
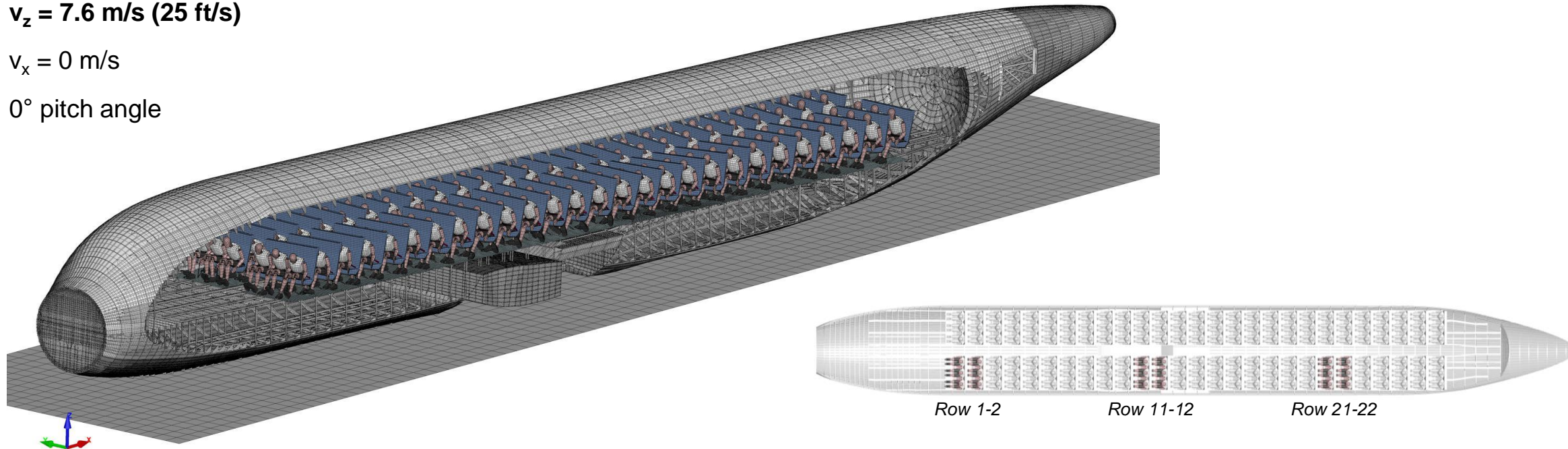


# 3 Method application (examples)

## 1) Vertical drop of full aircraft model

### Crash kinematics

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- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
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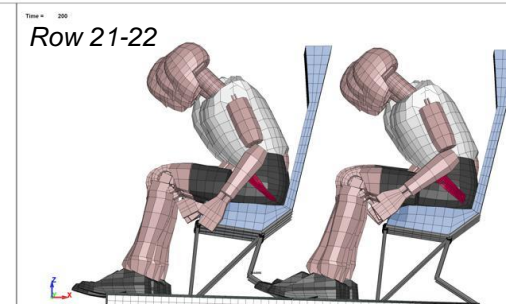
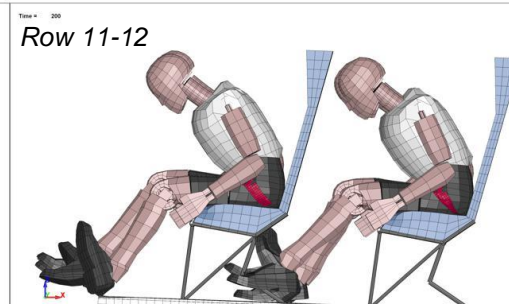
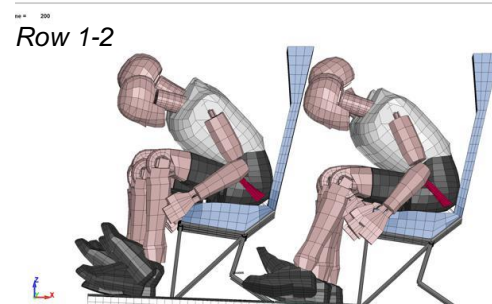
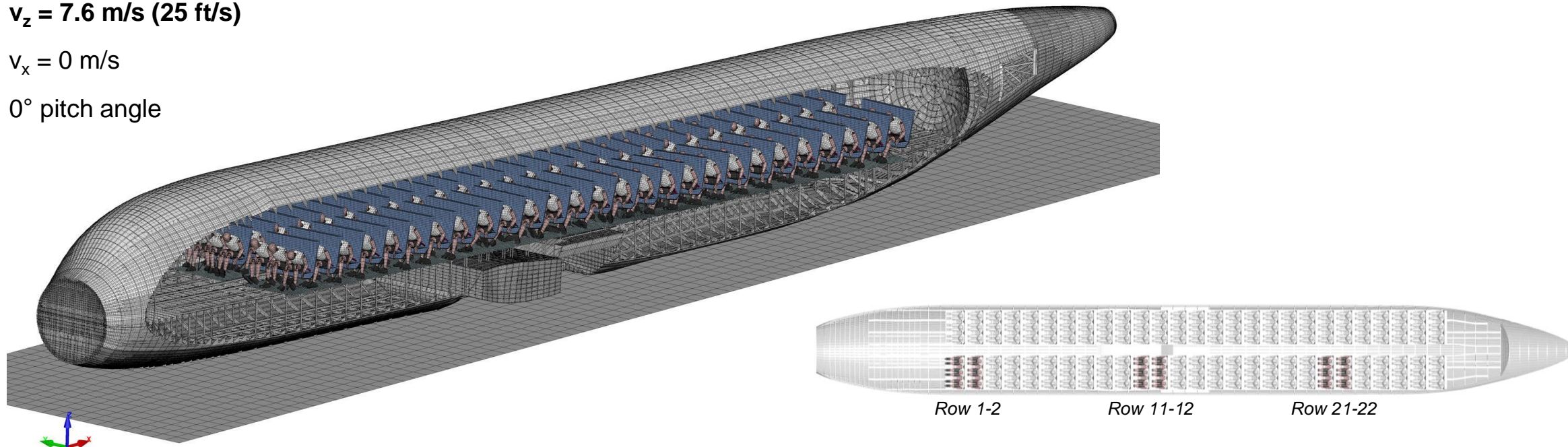


# 3 Method application (examples)

## 1) Vertical drop of full aircraft model

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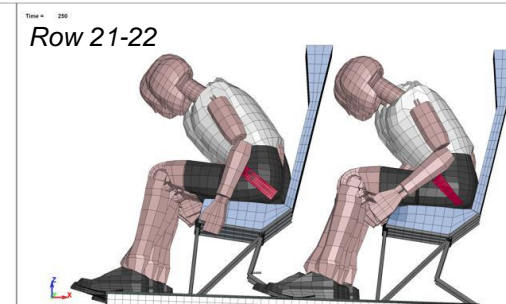
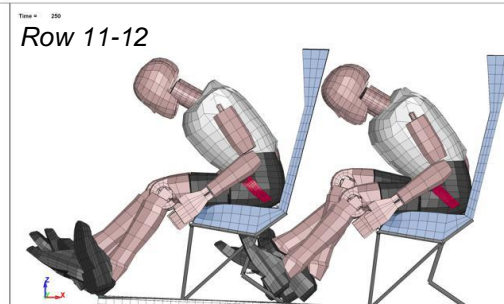
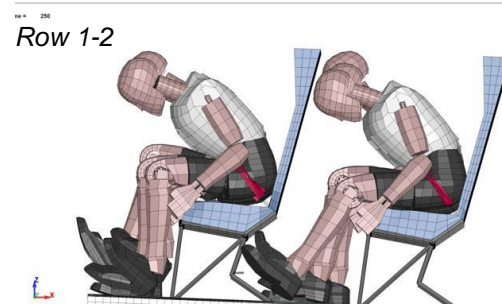
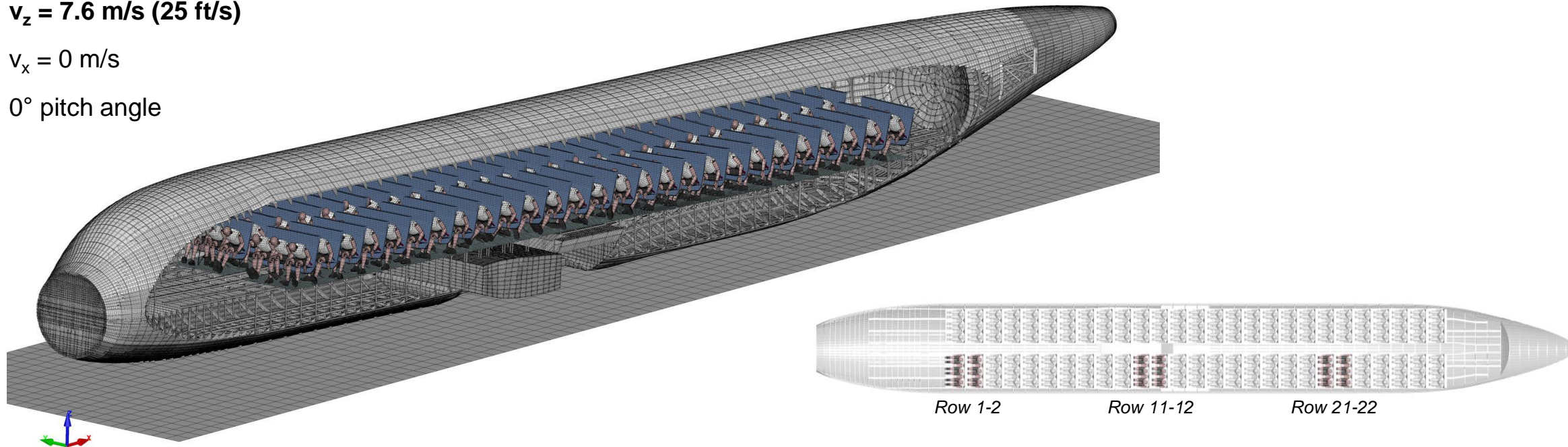


# 3 Method application (examples)

## 1) Vertical drop of full aircraft model

### Crash kinematics

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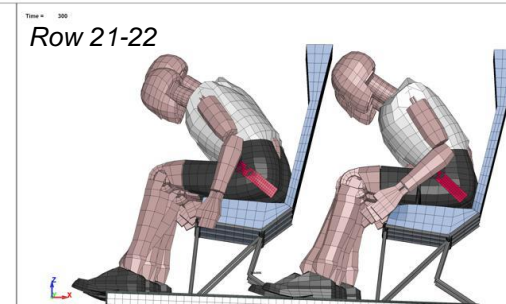
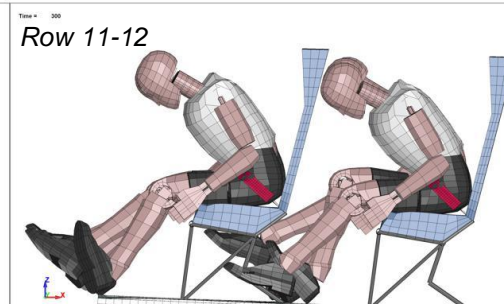
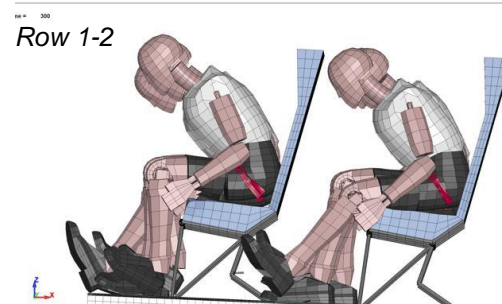
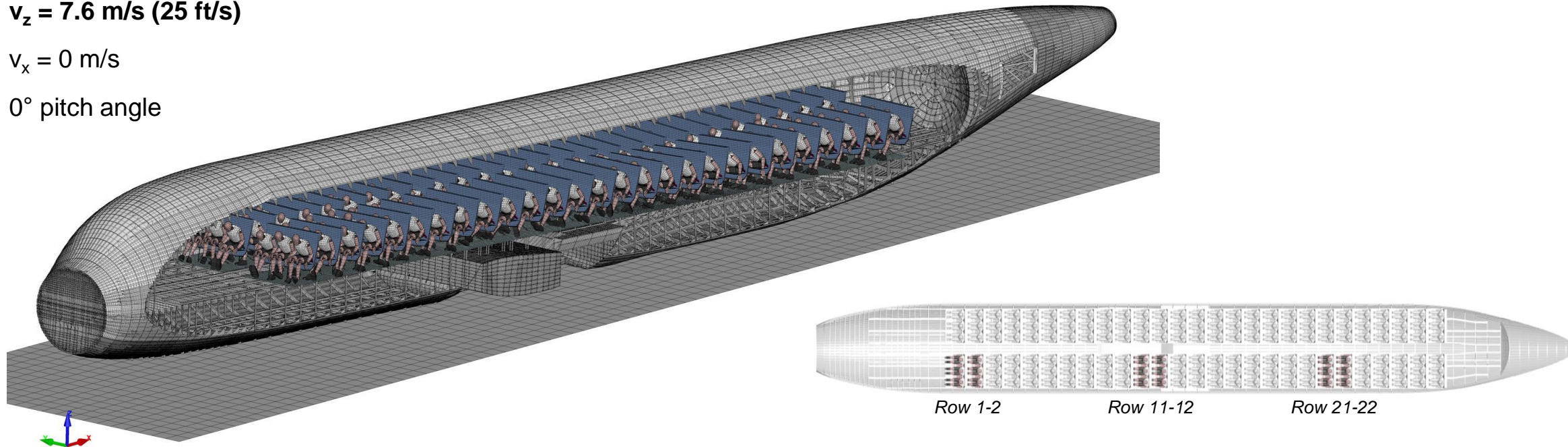


# 3 Method application (examples)

## 1) Vertical drop of full aircraft model

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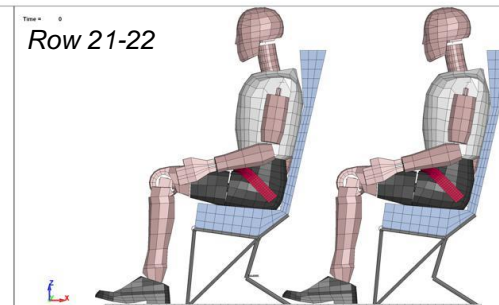
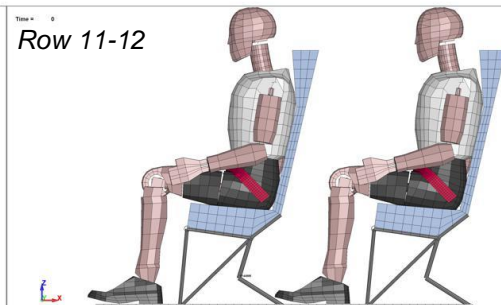
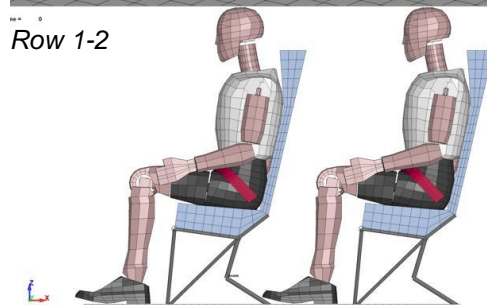
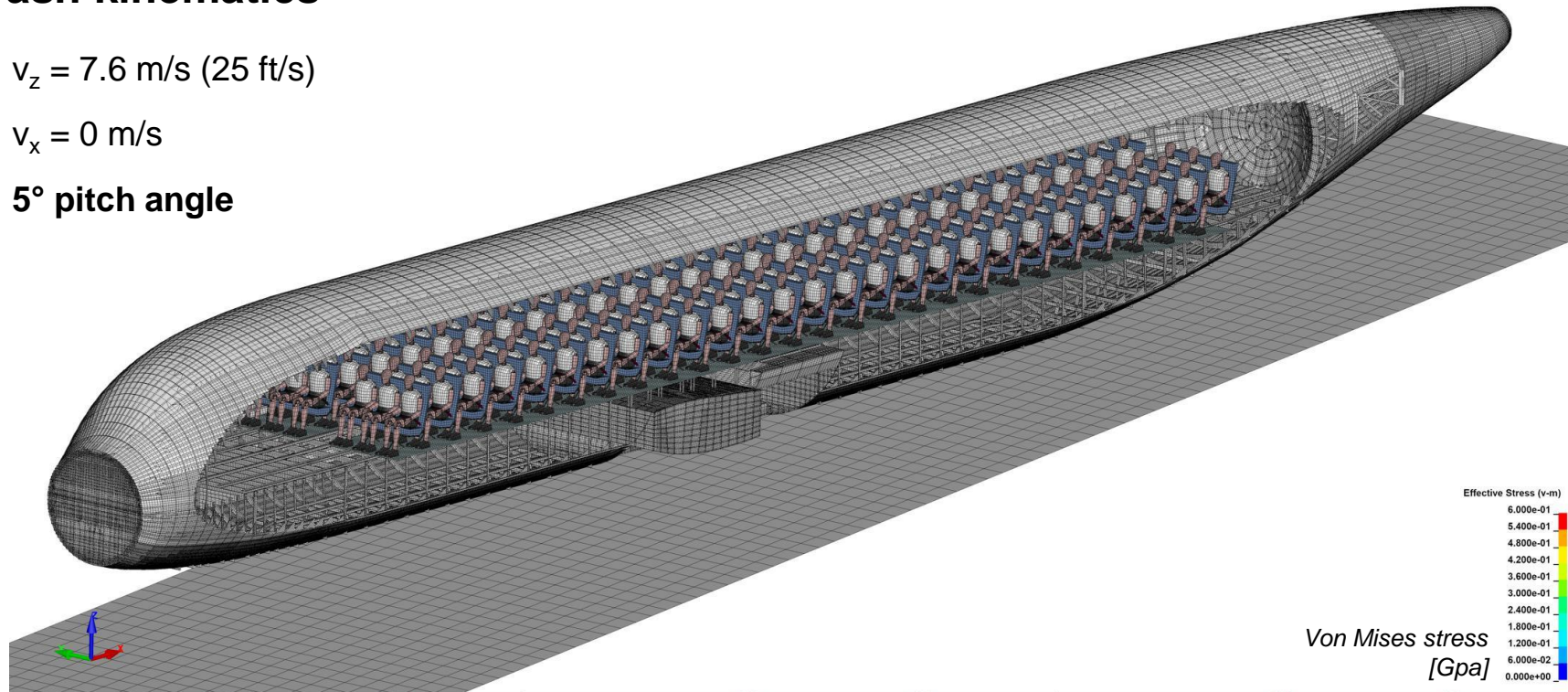


# 3 Method application (examples)

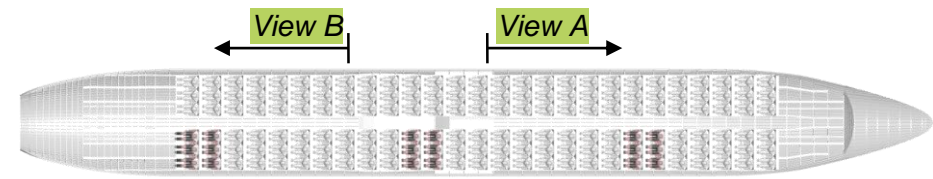
## II) Vertical drop with pitch angle

### Crash kinematics

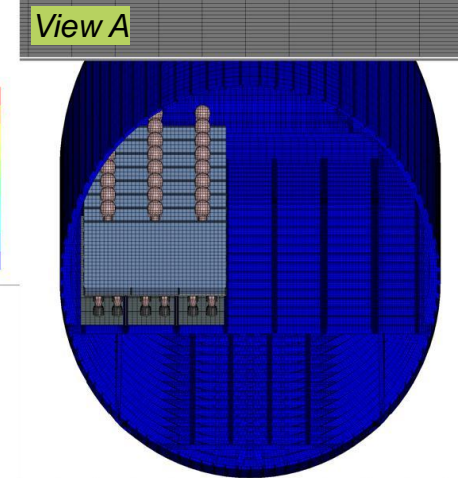
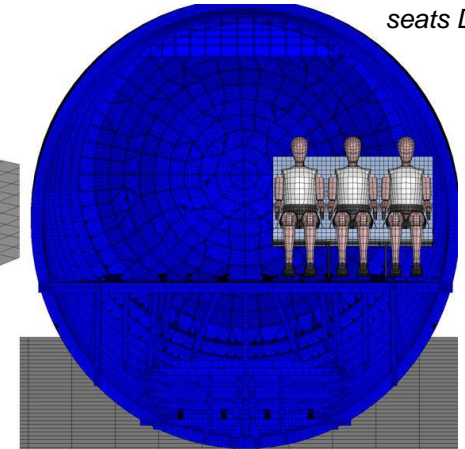
- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle



Von Mises stress  
[Gpa]



In view A and view B  
seats A-C displayed,  
seats D-F hidden



View B

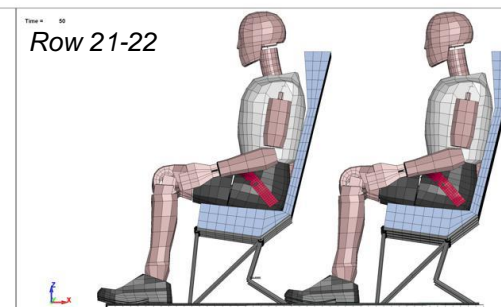
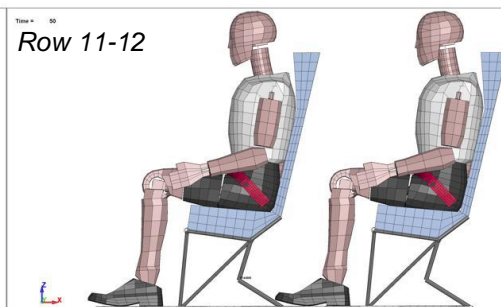
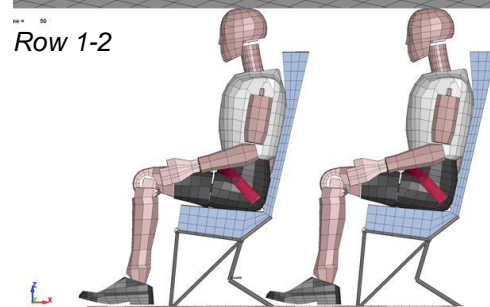
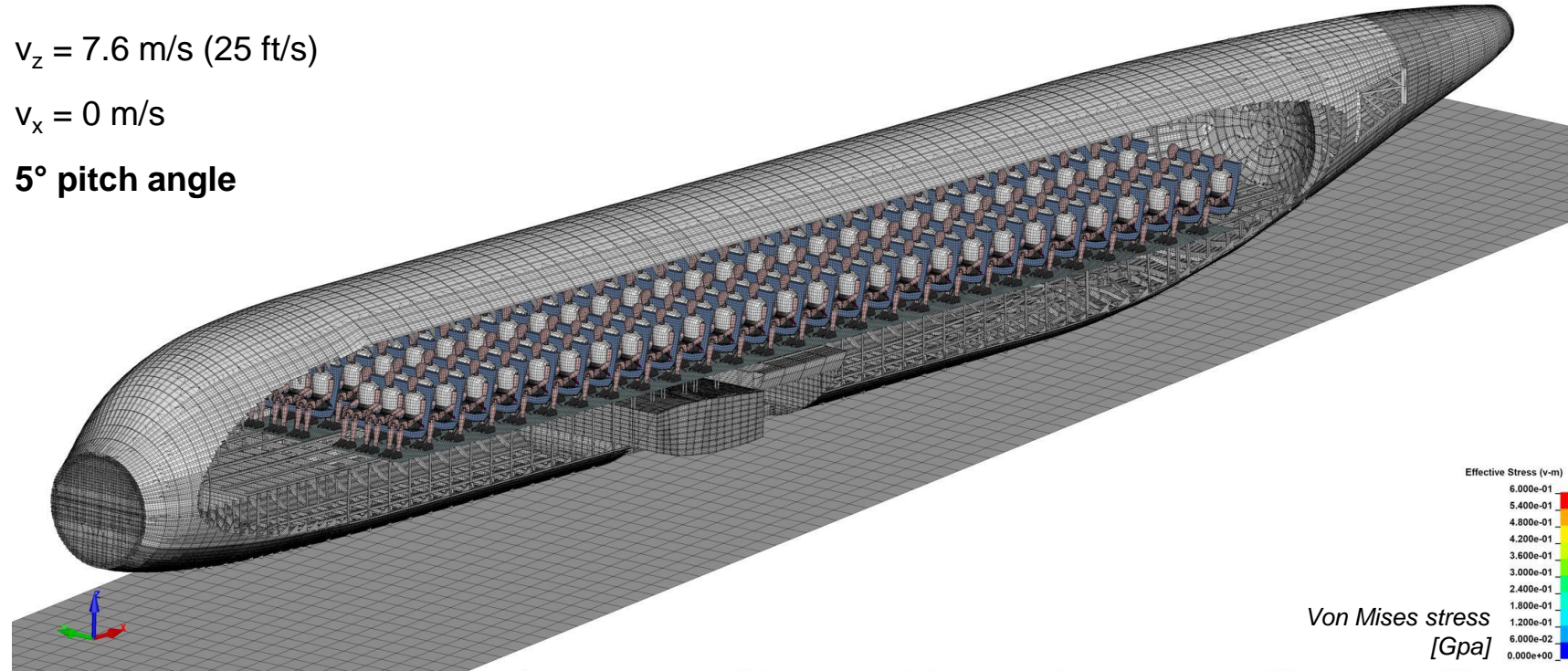


# 3 Method application (examples)

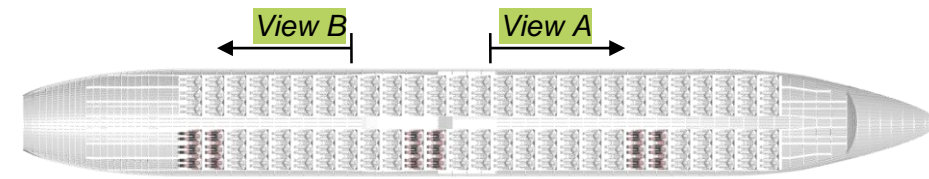
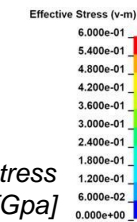
## II) Vertical drop with pitch angle

### Crash kinematics

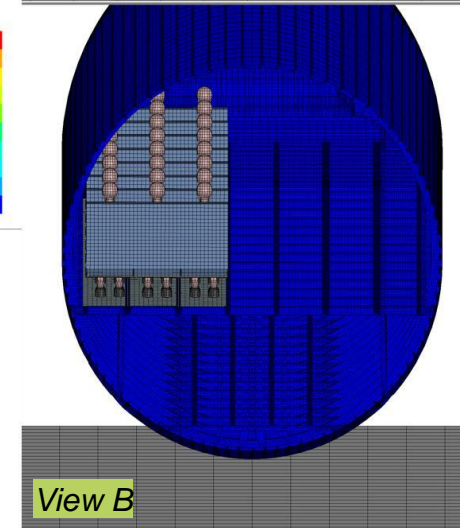
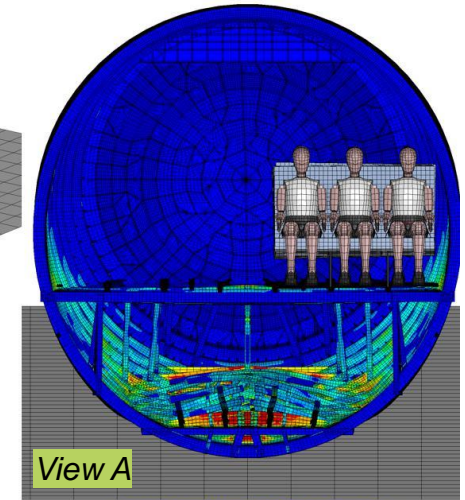
- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle



Von Mises stress  
[Gpa]



In view A and view B  
seats A-C displayed,  
seats D-F hidden



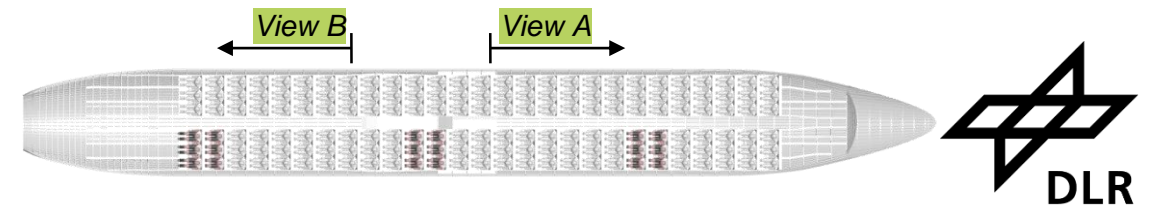


# 3 Method application (examples)

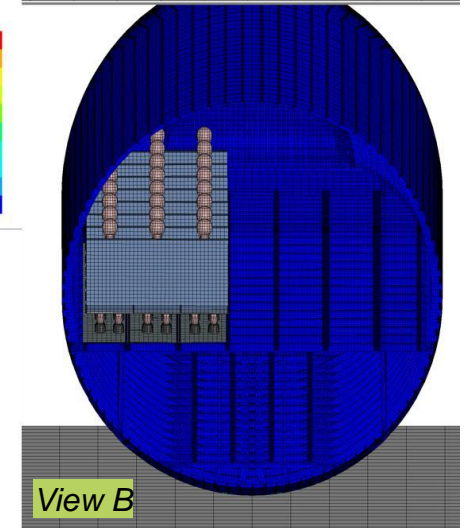
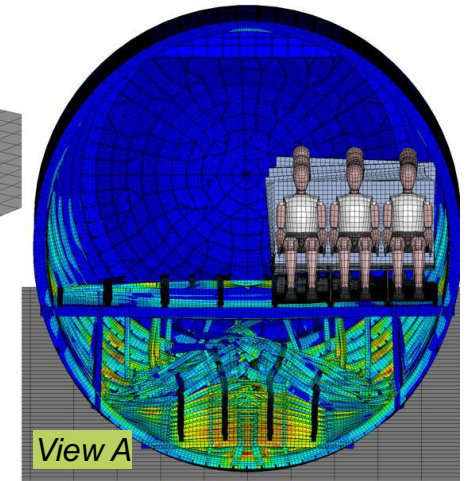
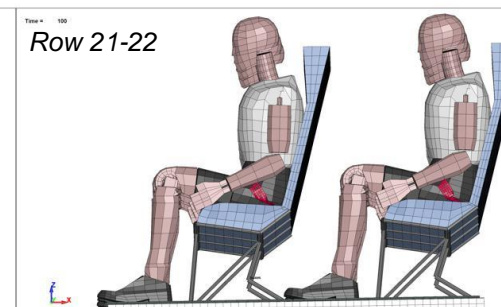
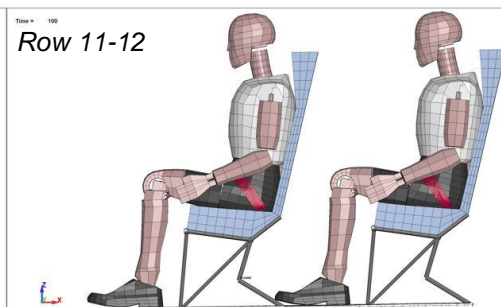
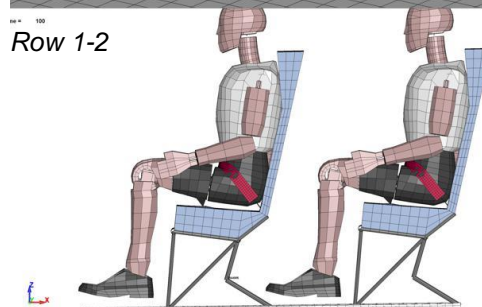
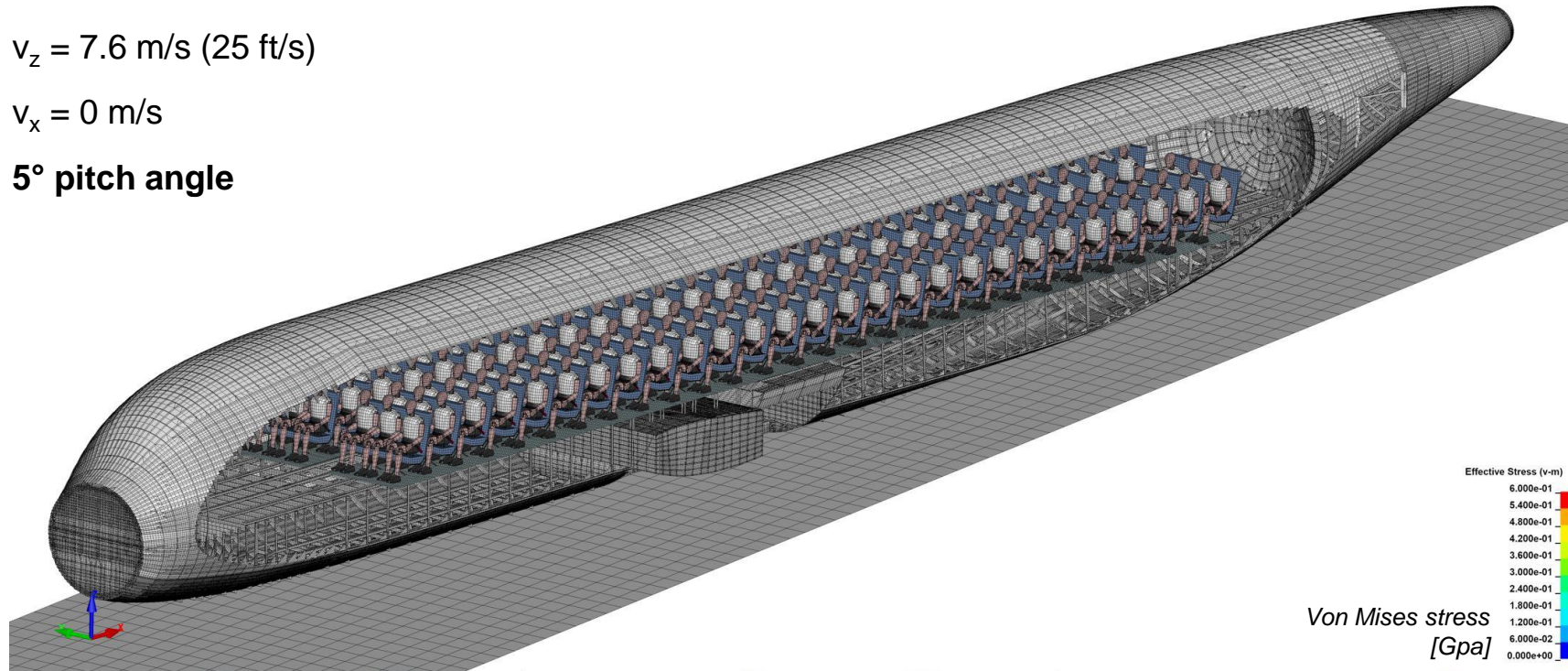
## II) Vertical drop with pitch angle

### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle



In view A and view B  
seats A-C displayed,  
seats D-F hidden





# 3 Method application (examples)

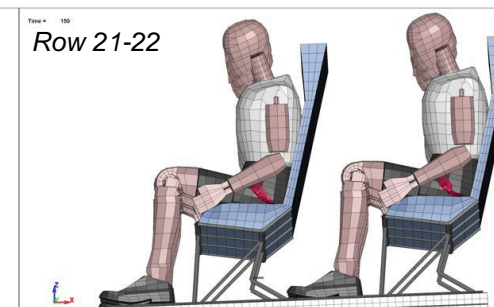
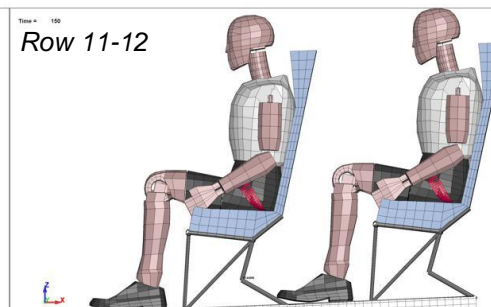
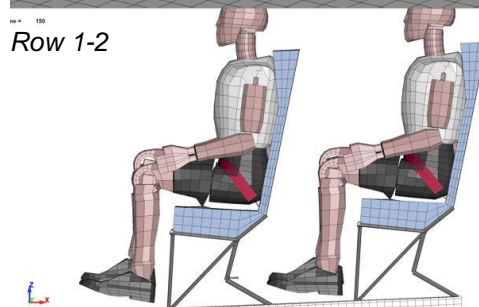
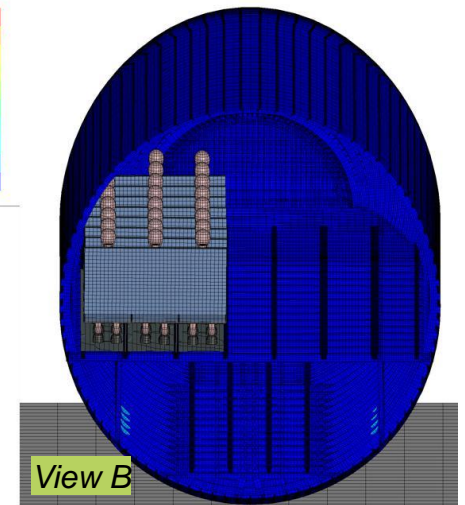
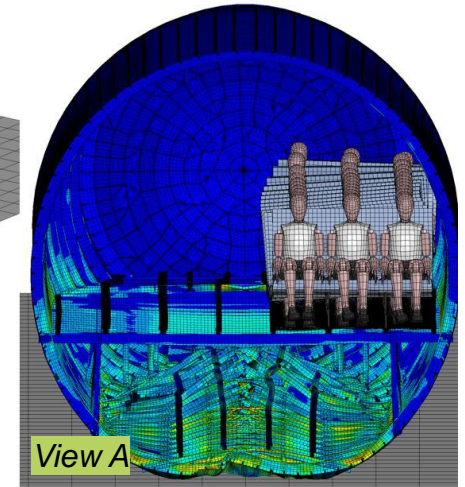
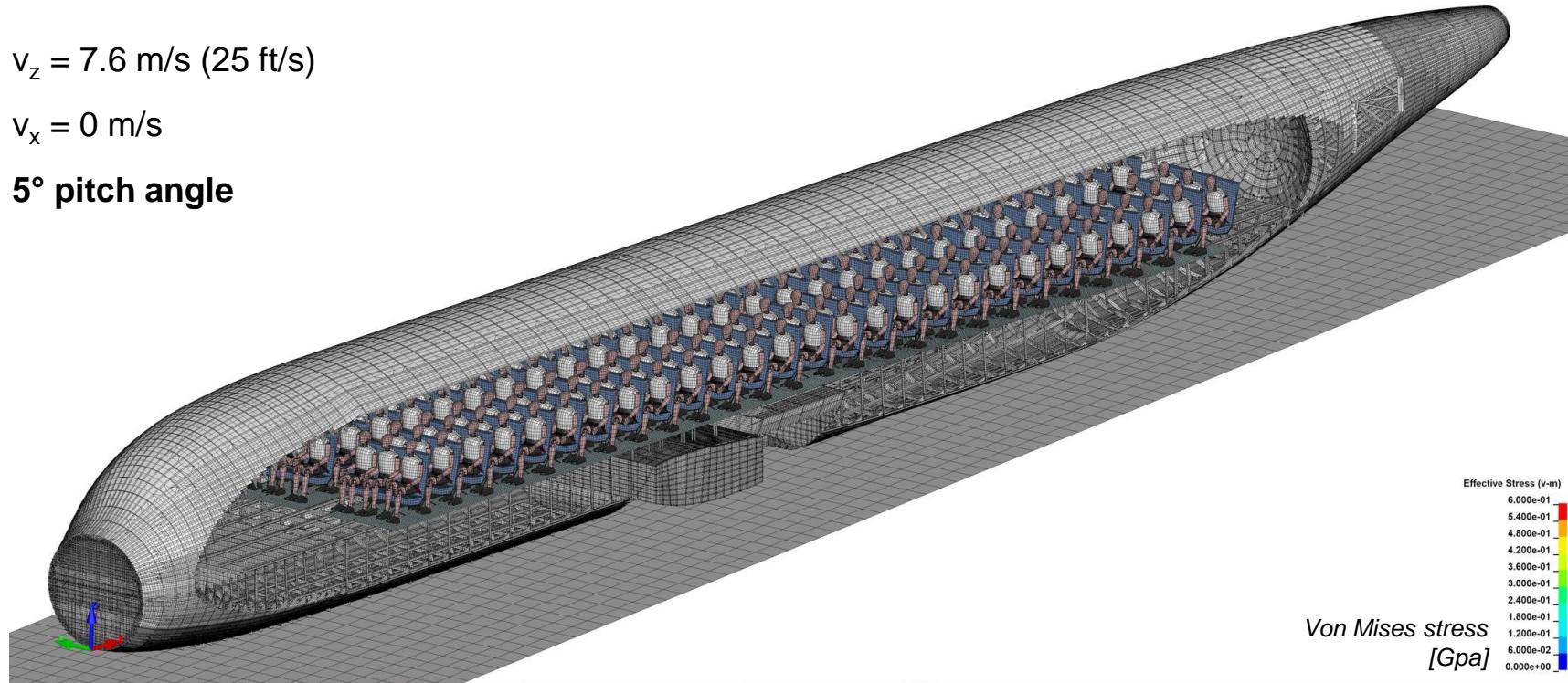
## II) Vertical drop with pitch angle

### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle



In view A and view B  
seats A-C displayed,  
seats D-F hidden



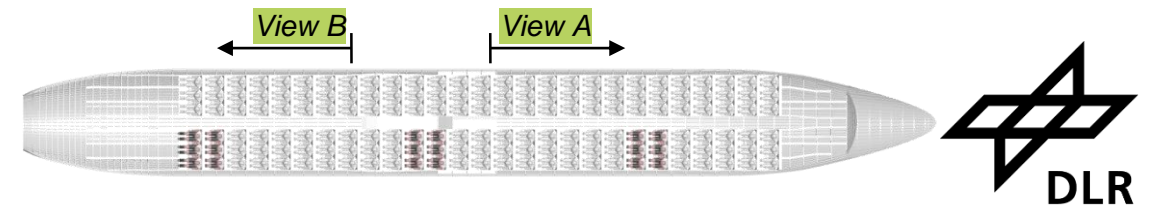


# 3 Method application (examples)

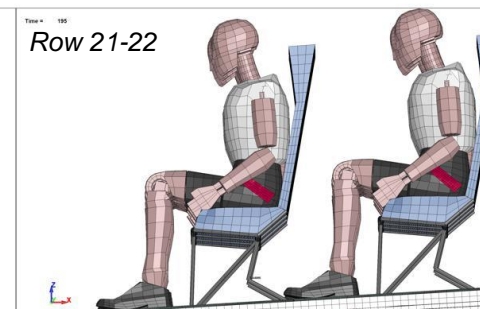
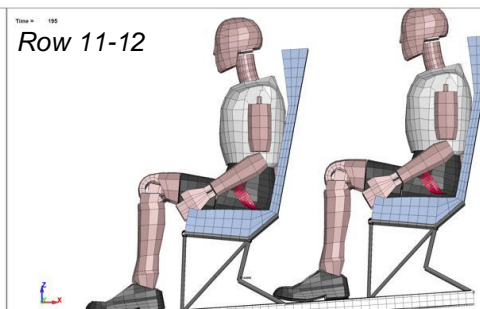
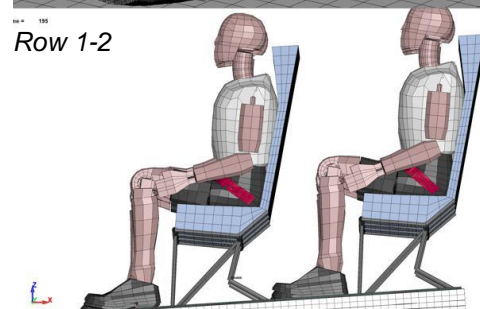
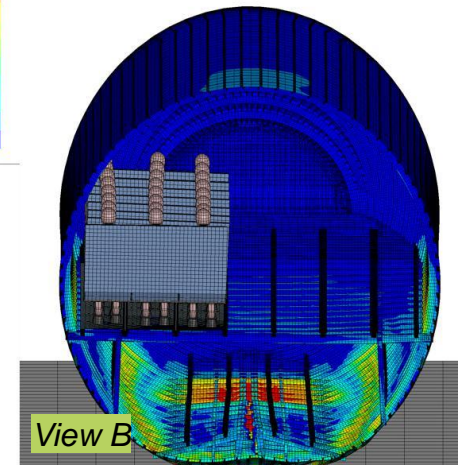
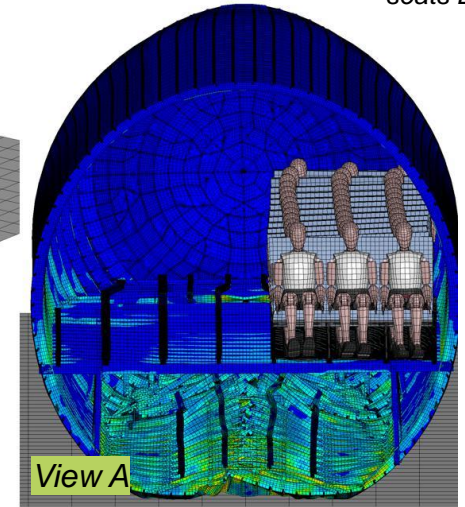
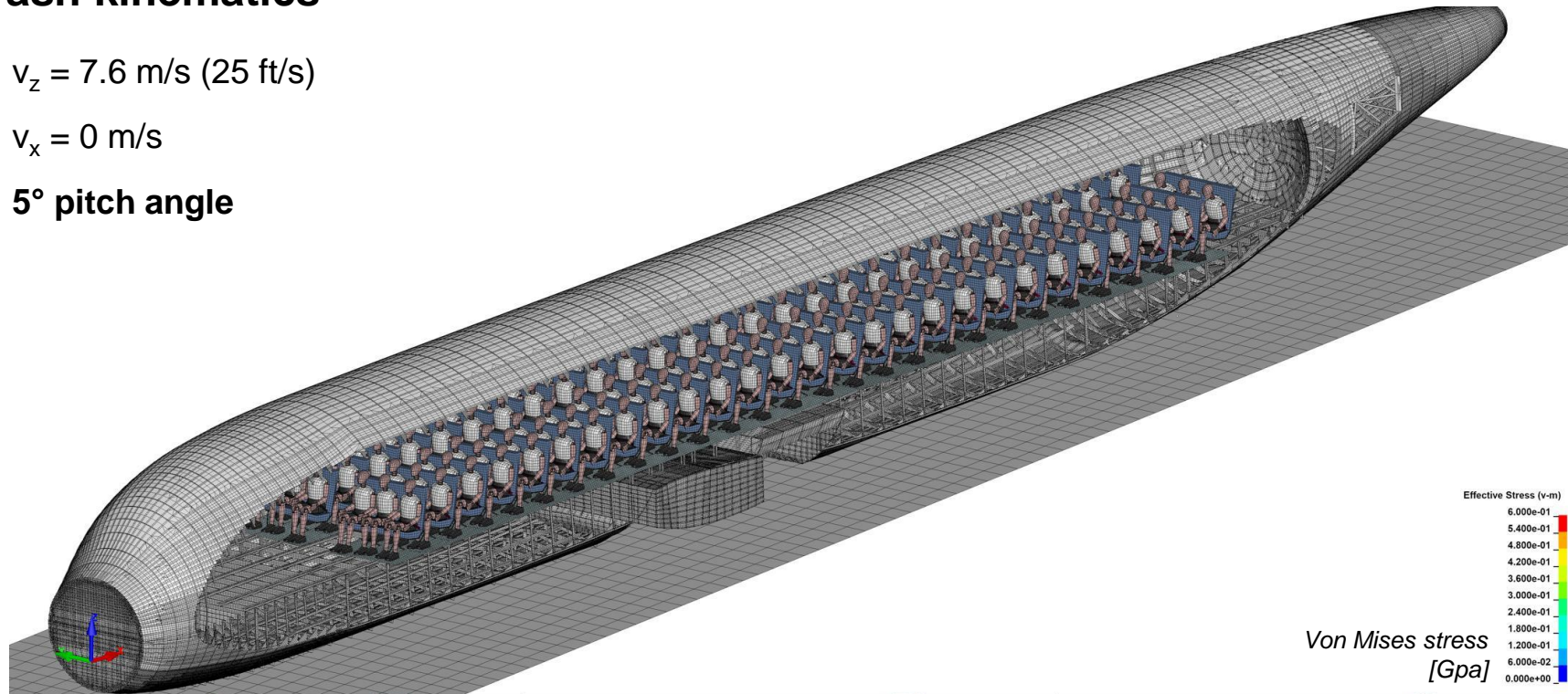
## II) Vertical drop with pitch angle

### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle



In view A and view B  
seats A-C displayed,  
seats D-F hidden



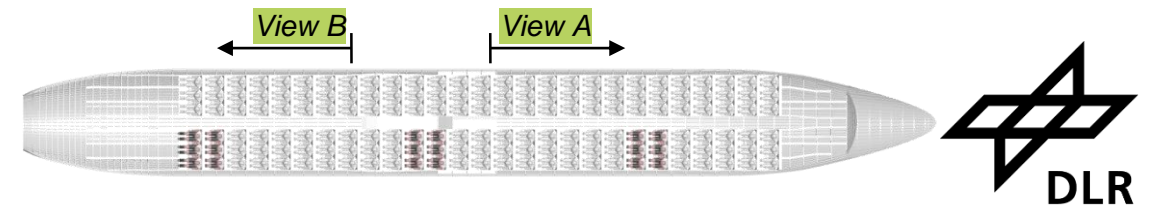


# 3 Method application (examples)

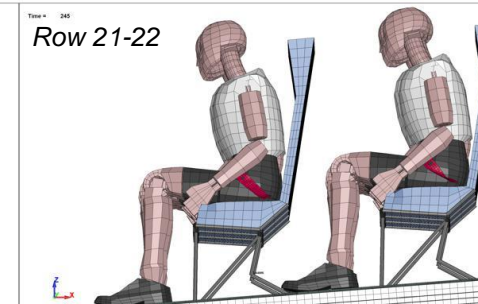
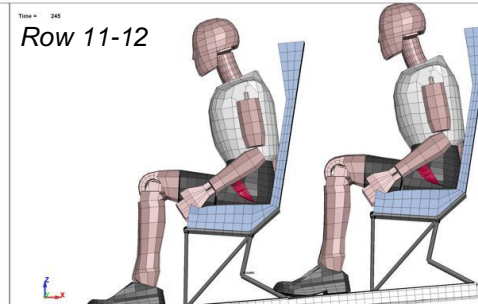
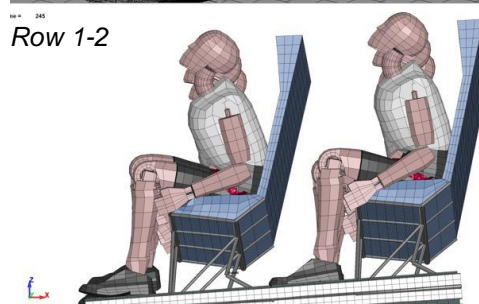
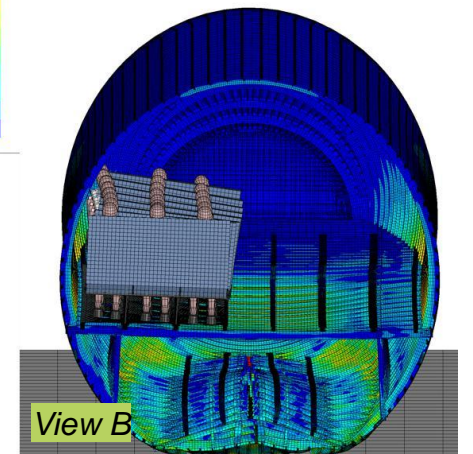
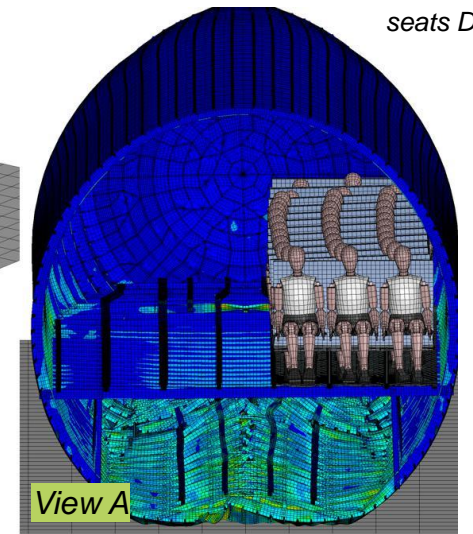
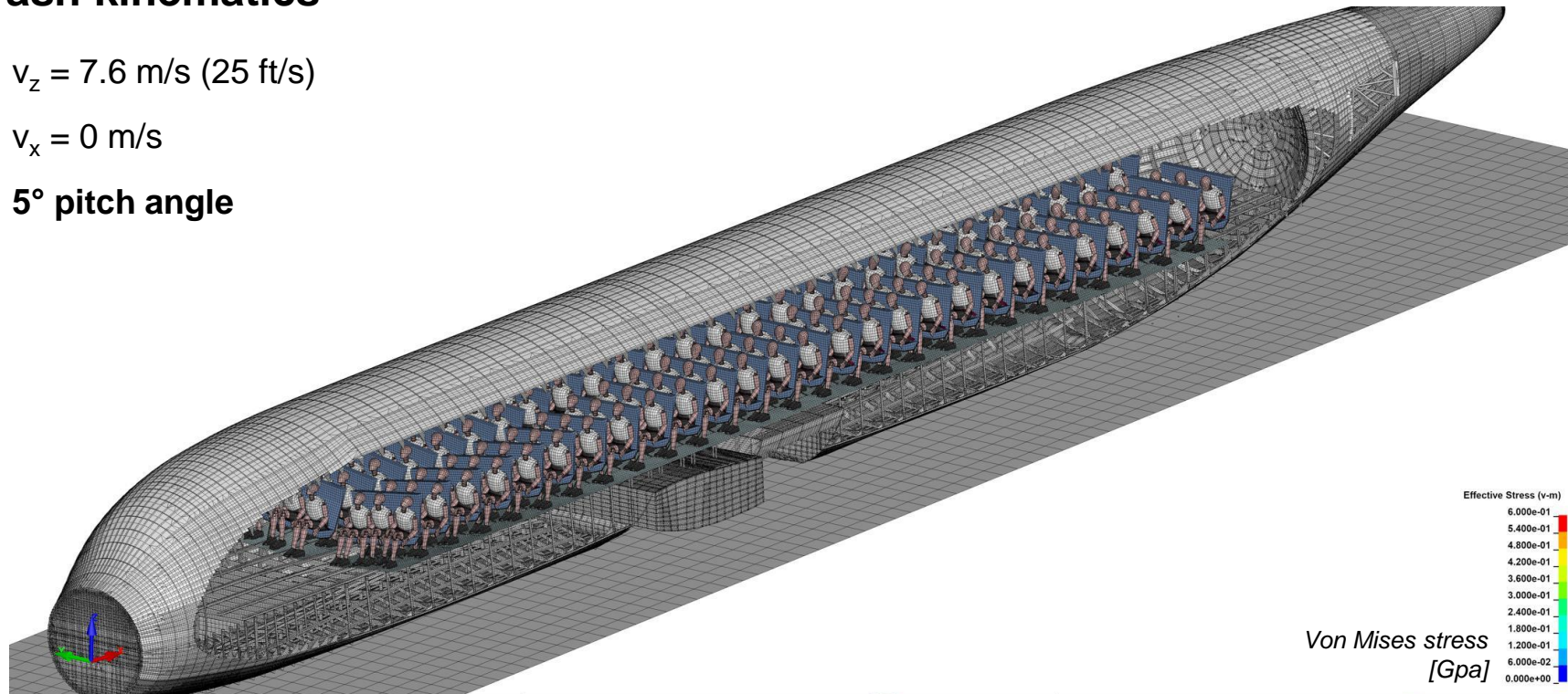
## II) Vertical drop with pitch angle

### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle



In view A and view B  
seats A-C displayed,  
seats D-F hidden





# 3 Method application (examples)

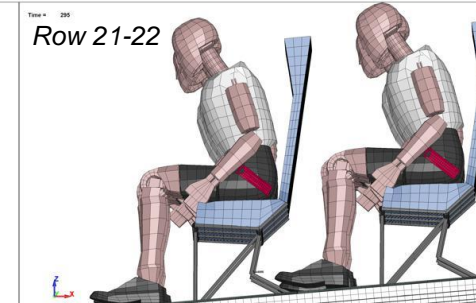
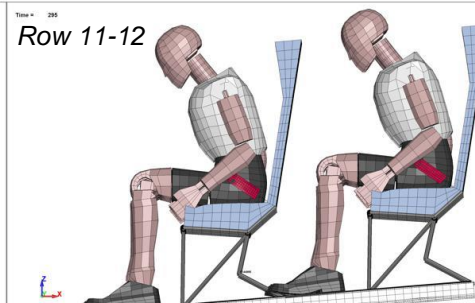
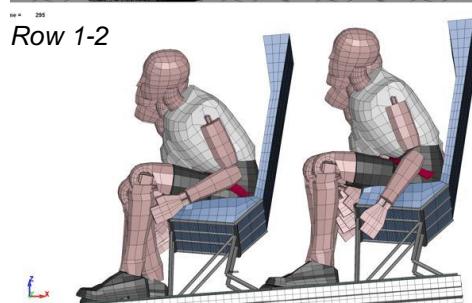
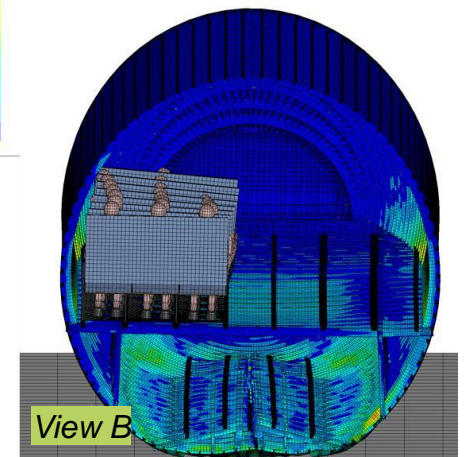
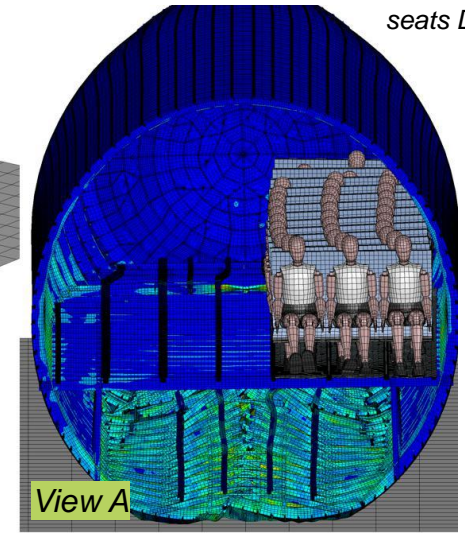
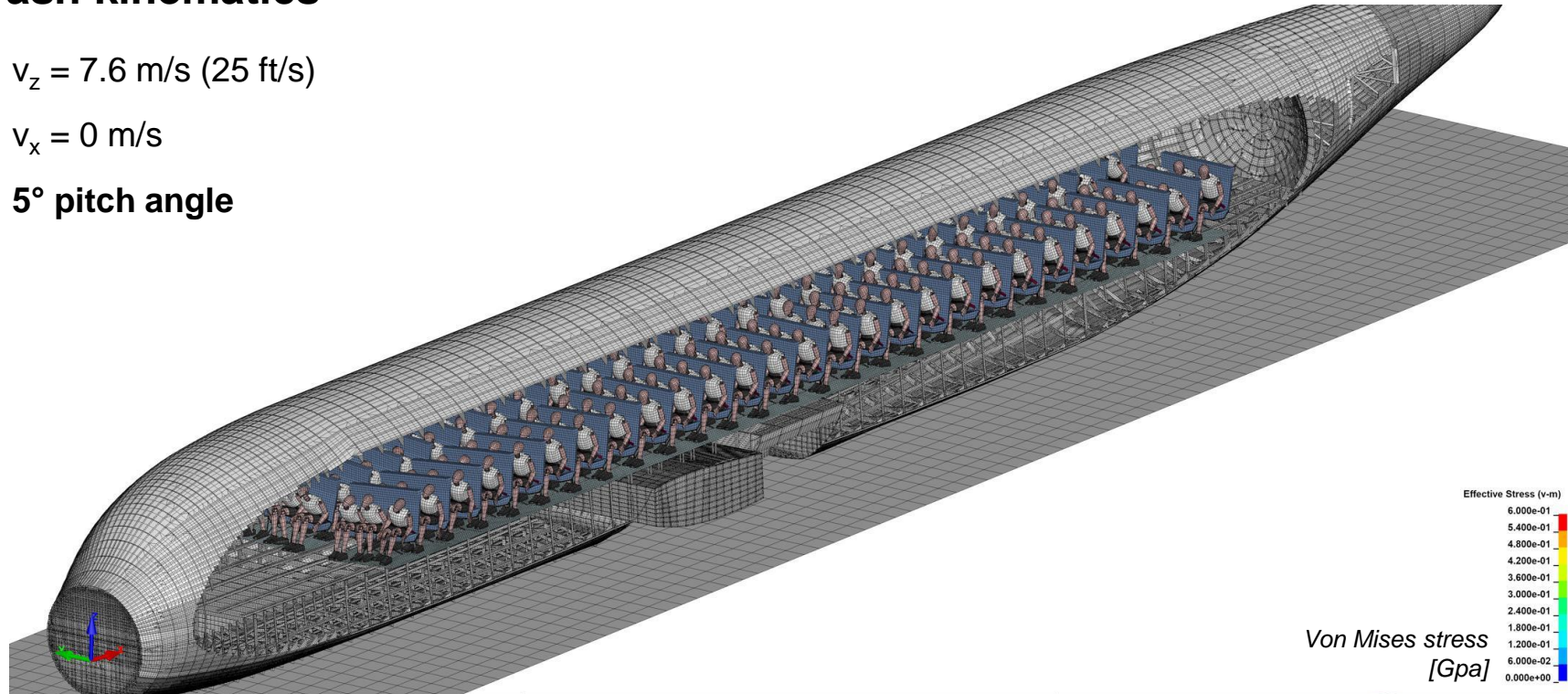
## II) Vertical drop with pitch angle

### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle



In view A and view B  
seats A-C displayed,  
seats D-F hidden



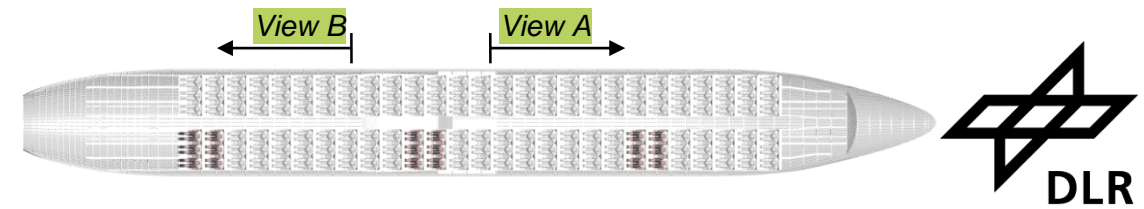


# 3 Method application (examples)

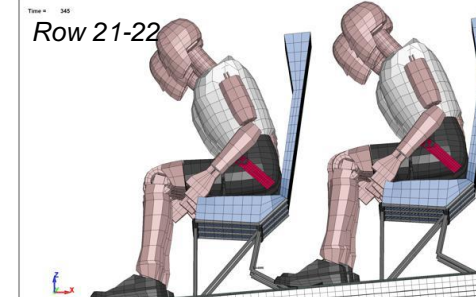
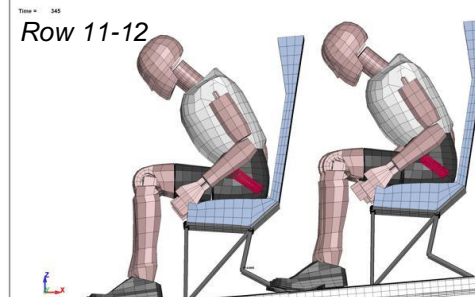
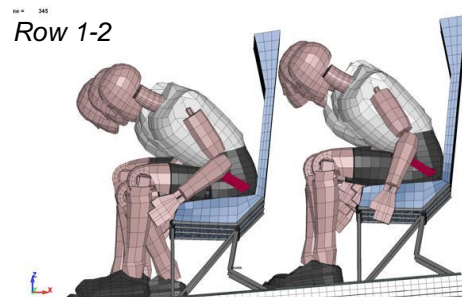
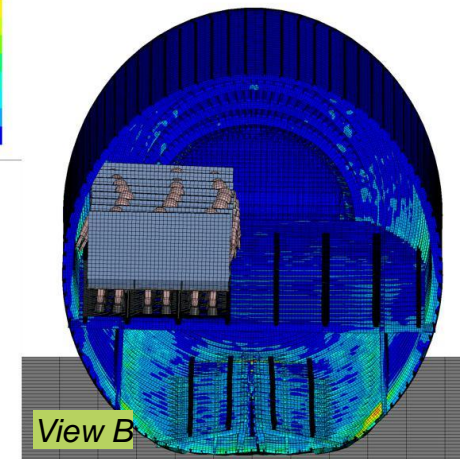
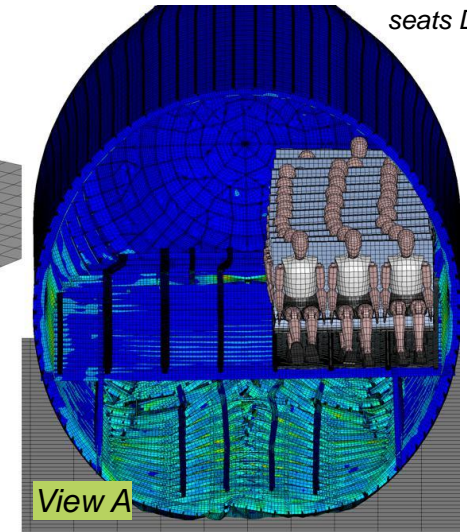
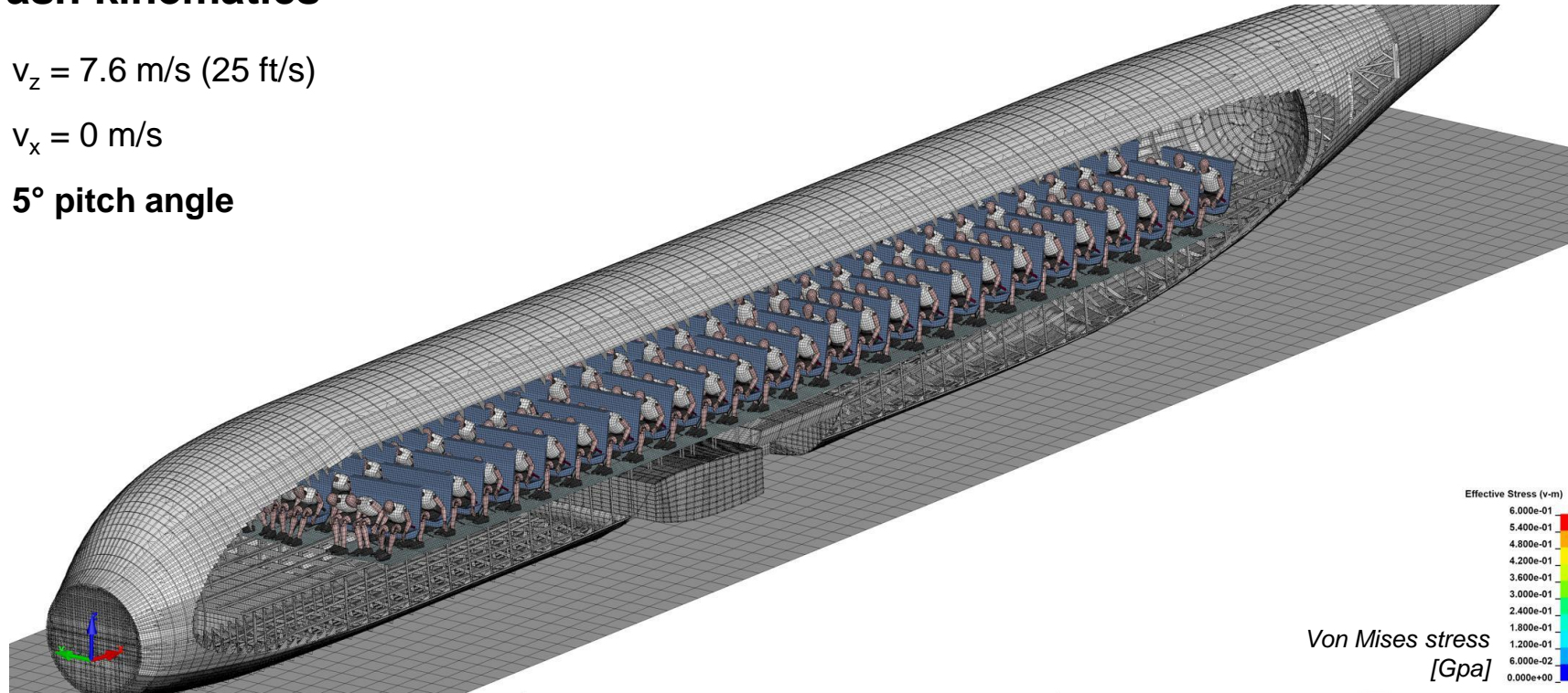
## II) Vertical drop with pitch angle

### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle



In view A and view B  
seats A-C displayed,  
seats D-F hidden



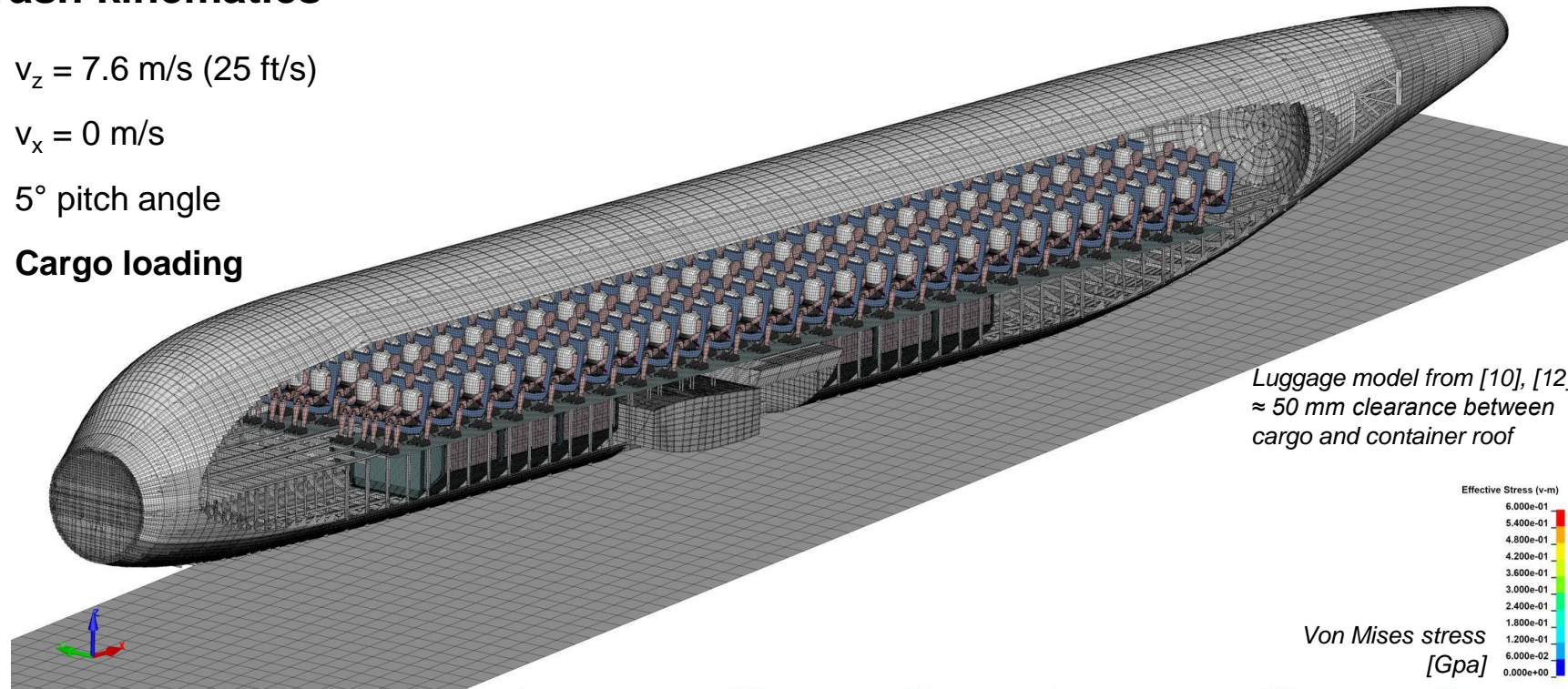
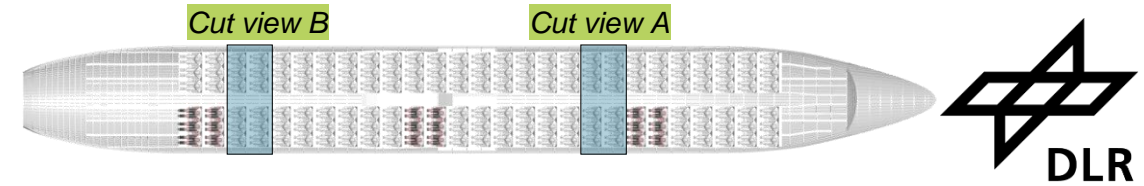


# 3 Method application (examples)

## III) Vertical drop with pitch angle and cargo loading

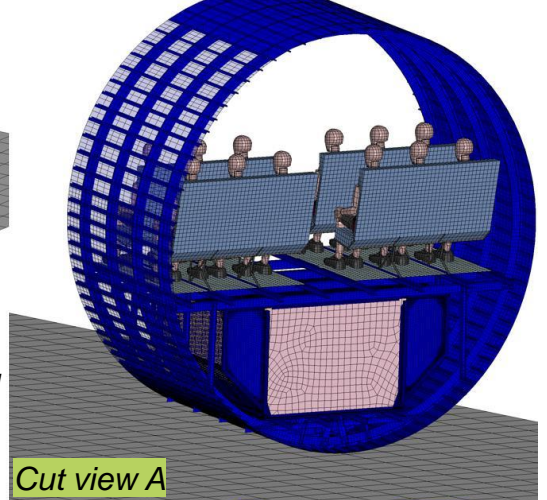
### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- **Cargo loading**

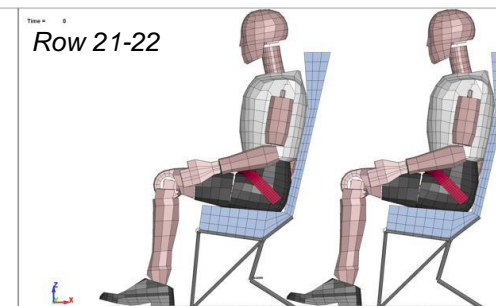
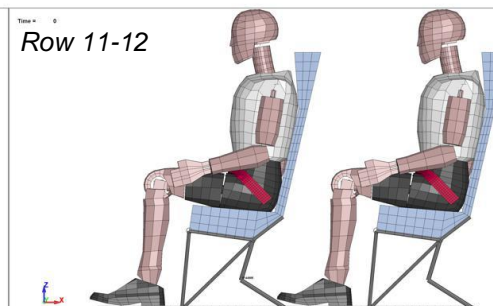
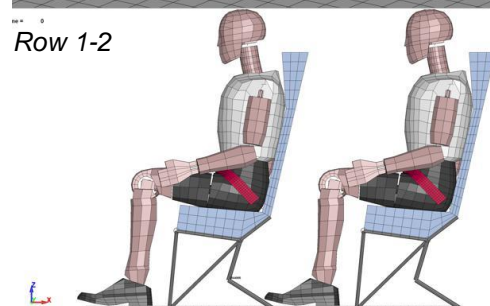
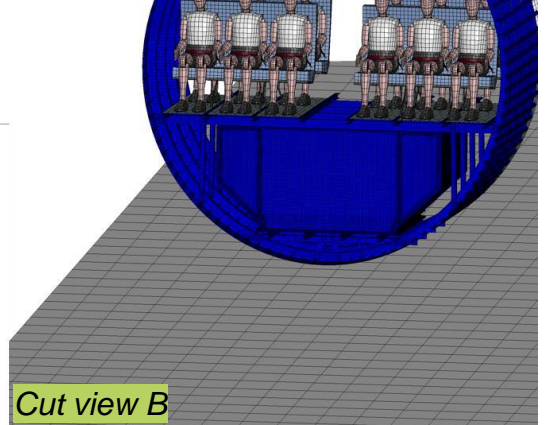


Luggage model from [10], [12]  
≈ 50 mm clearance between  
cargo and container roof

Section with the rearmost  
container in the aircraft



Section with the foremost  
container in the aircraft



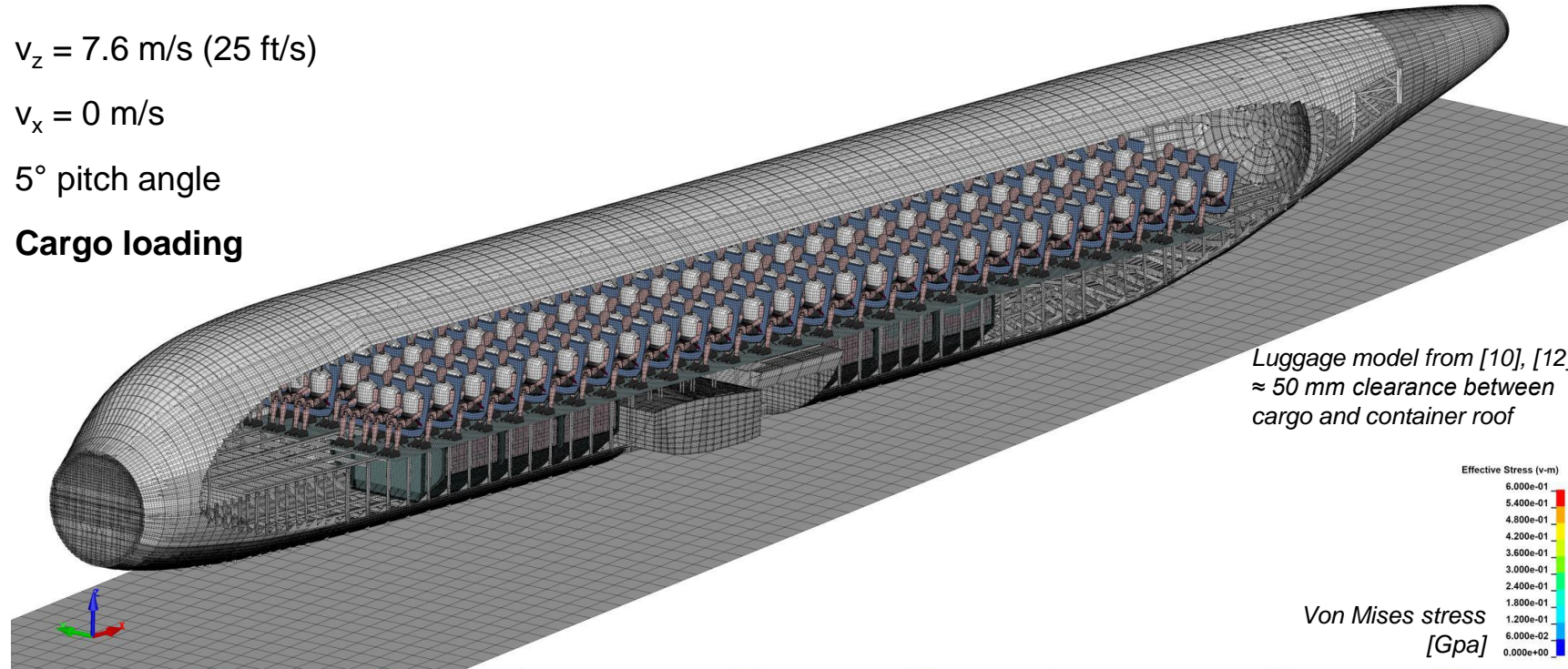
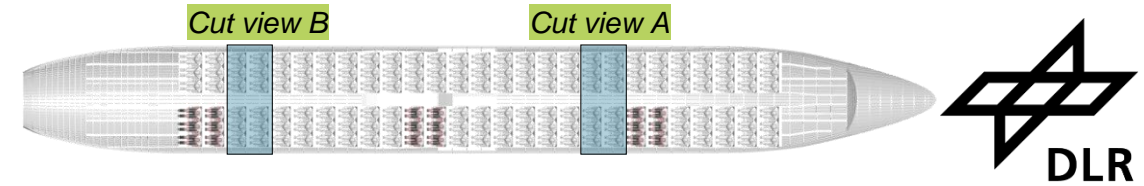


# 3 Method application (examples)

## III) Vertical drop with pitch angle and cargo loading

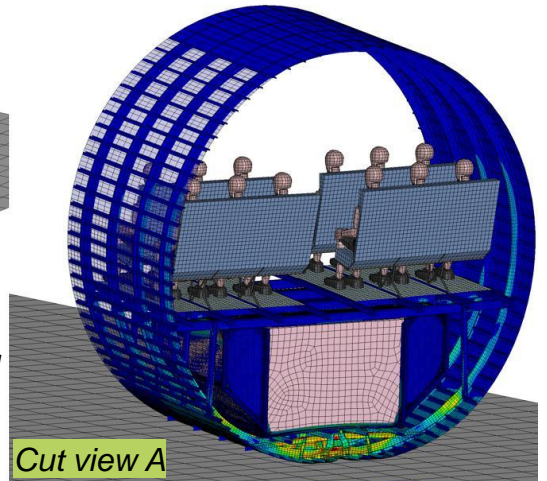
### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- **Cargo loading**

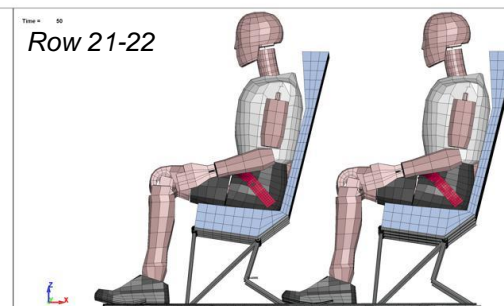
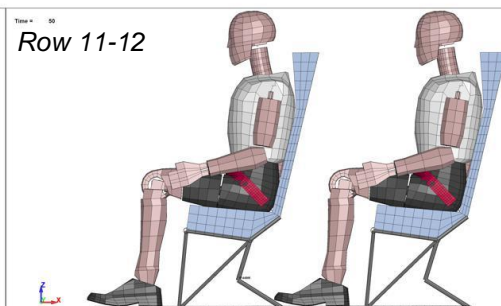
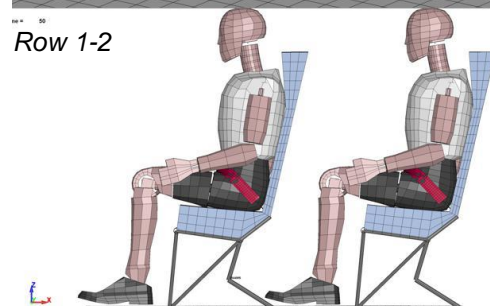
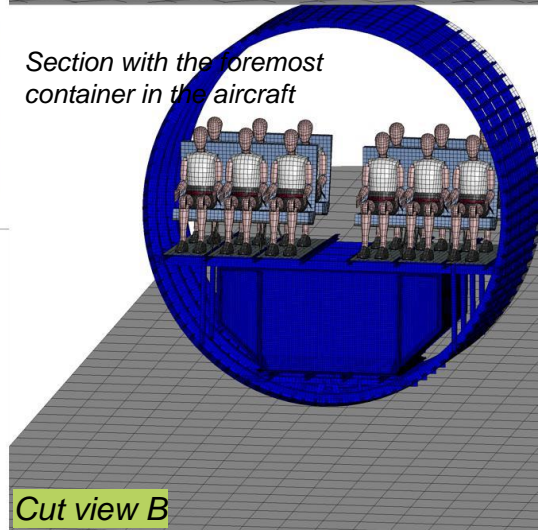


Luggage model from [10], [12]  
≈ 50 mm clearance between  
cargo and container roof

Section with the rearmost  
container in the aircraft



Section with the foremost  
container in the aircraft



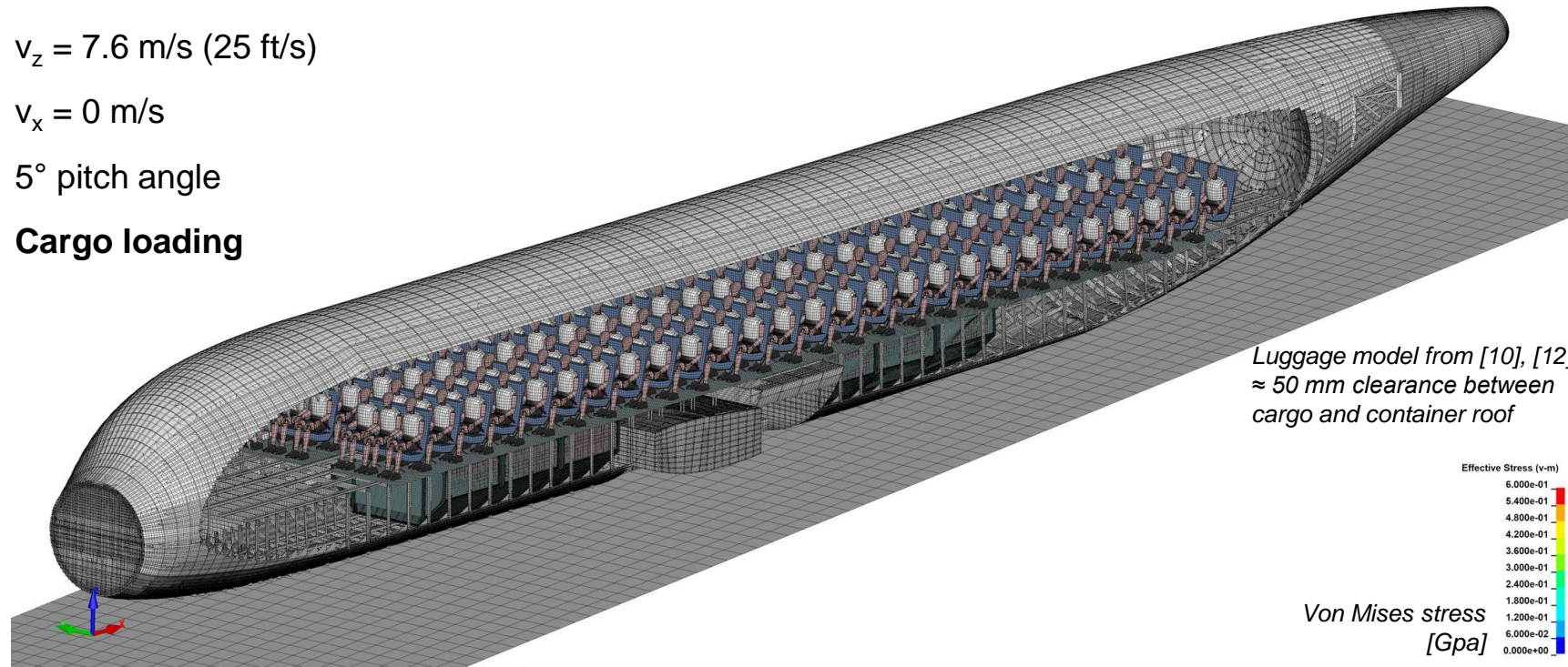
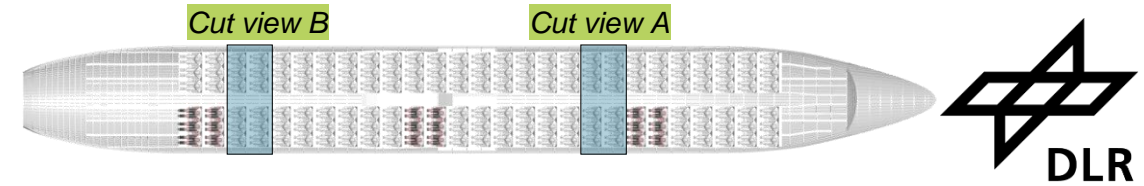


# 3 Method application (examples)

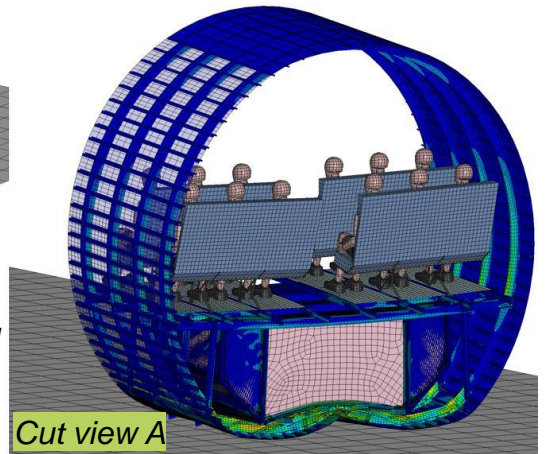
## III) Vertical drop with pitch angle and cargo loading

### Crash kinematics

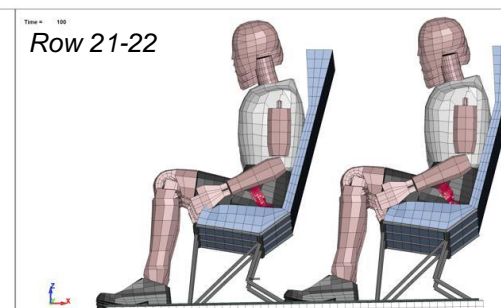
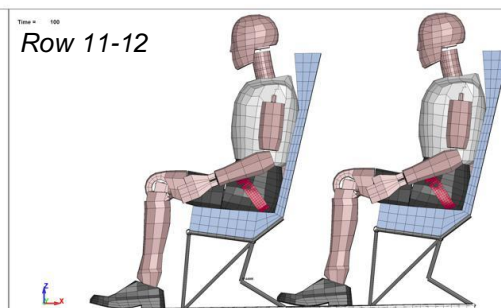
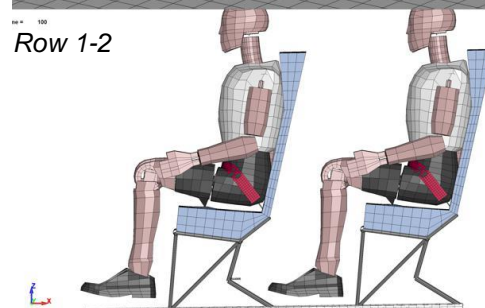
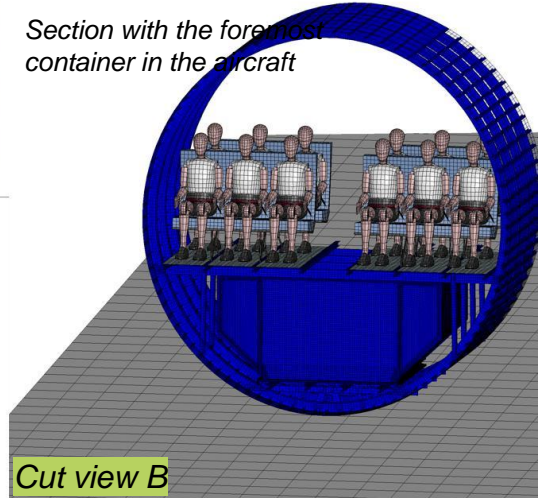
- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- **Cargo loading**



Section with the rearmost container in the aircraft



Section with the foremost container in the aircraft



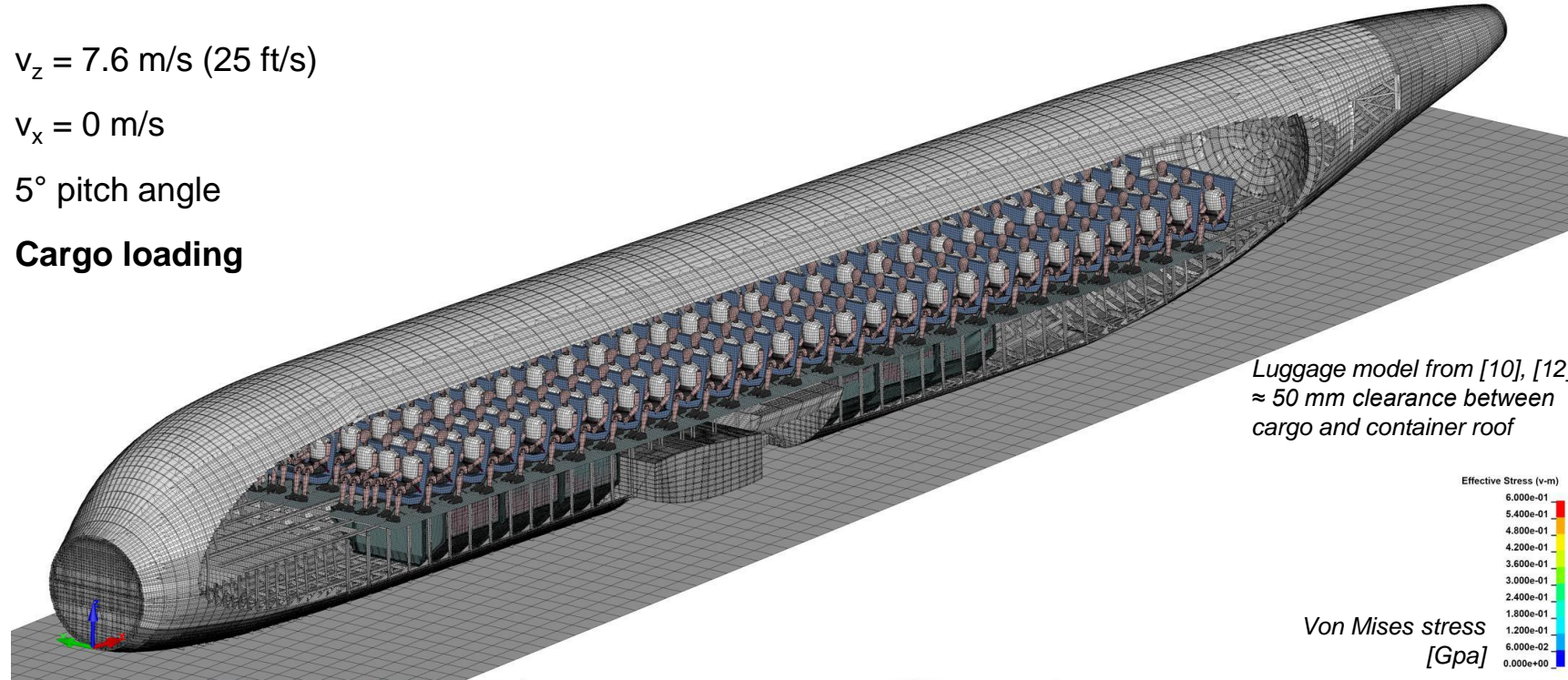
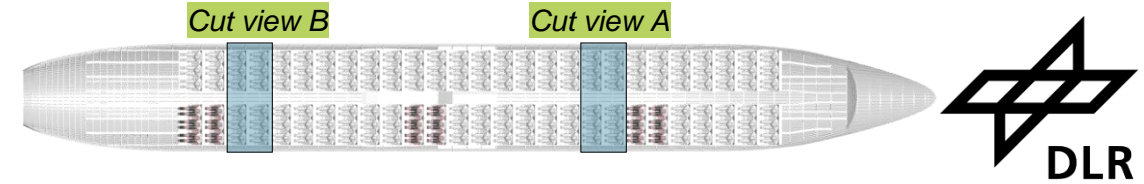


# 3 Method application (examples)

## III) Vertical drop with pitch angle and cargo loading

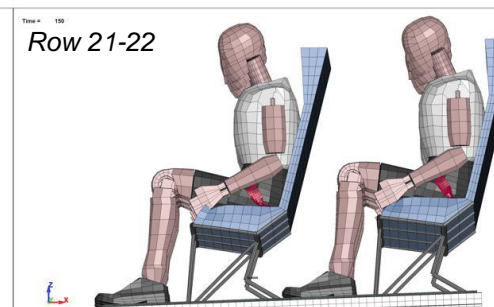
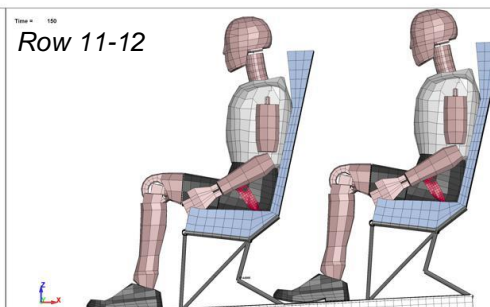
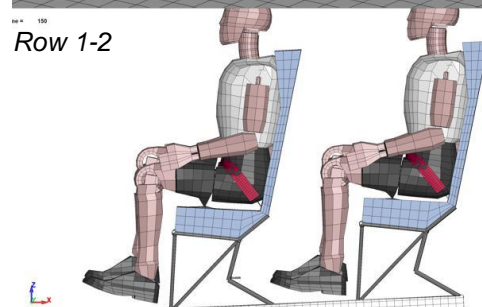
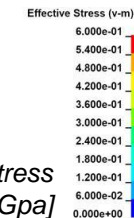
### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- **Cargo loading**

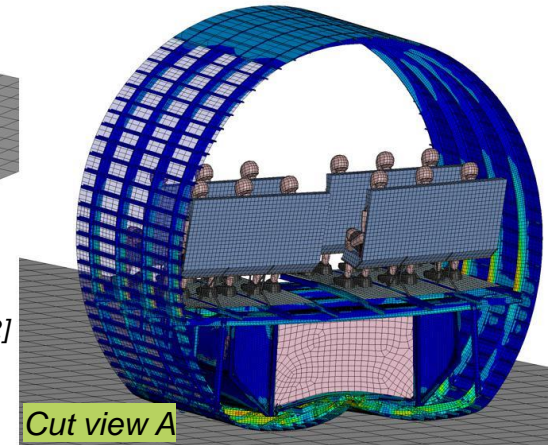


Luggage model from [10], [12]  
≈ 50 mm clearance between  
cargo and container roof

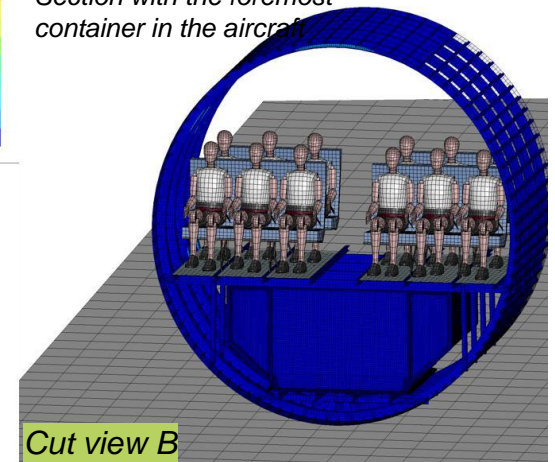
Von Mises stress  
[Gpa]



Section with the rearmost  
container in the aircraft



Section with the foremost  
container in the aircraft



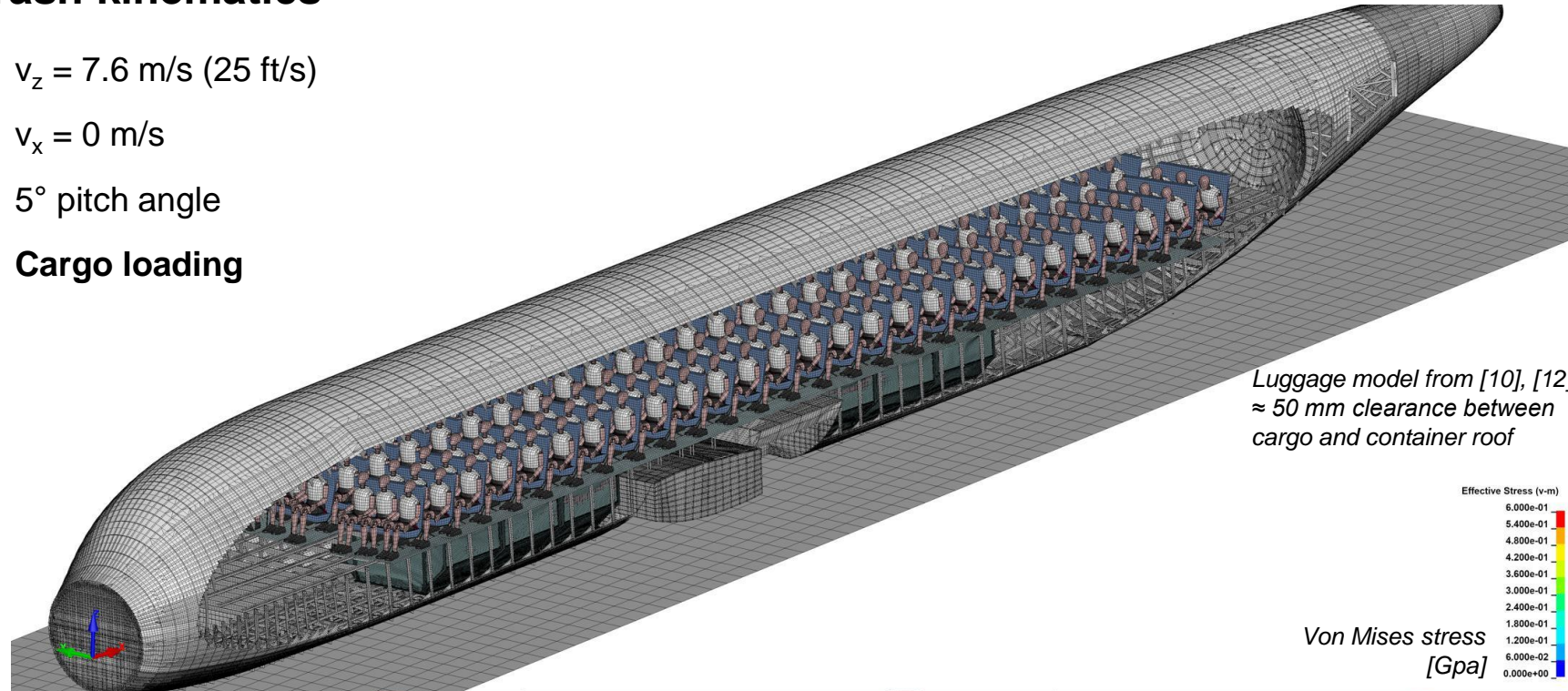
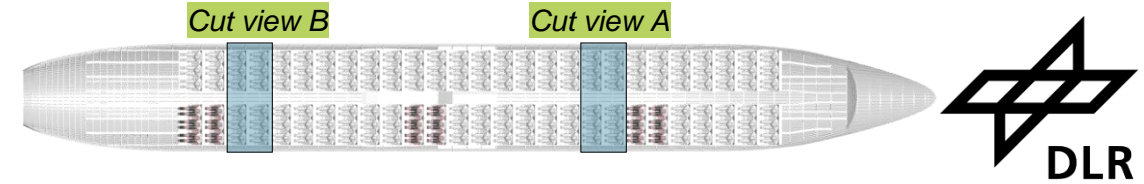


# 3 Method application (examples)

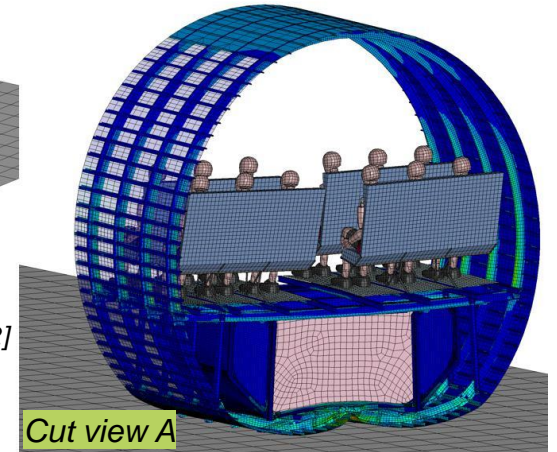
## III) Vertical drop with pitch angle and cargo loading

### Crash kinematics

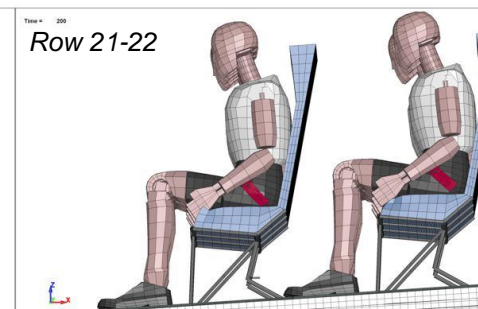
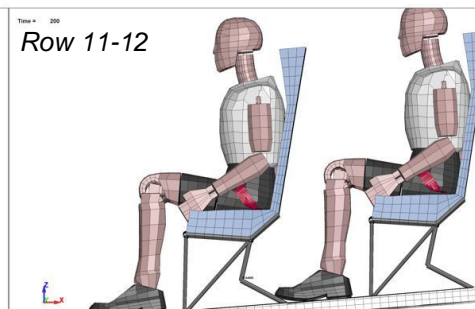
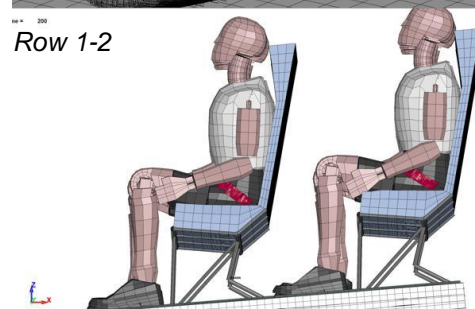
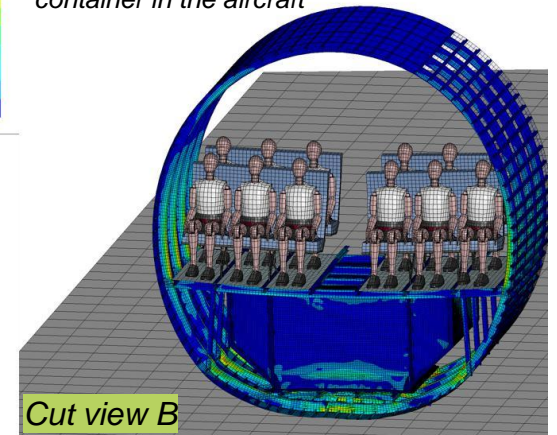
- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- **Cargo loading**



Section with the rearmost container in the aircraft



Section with the foremost container in the aircraft



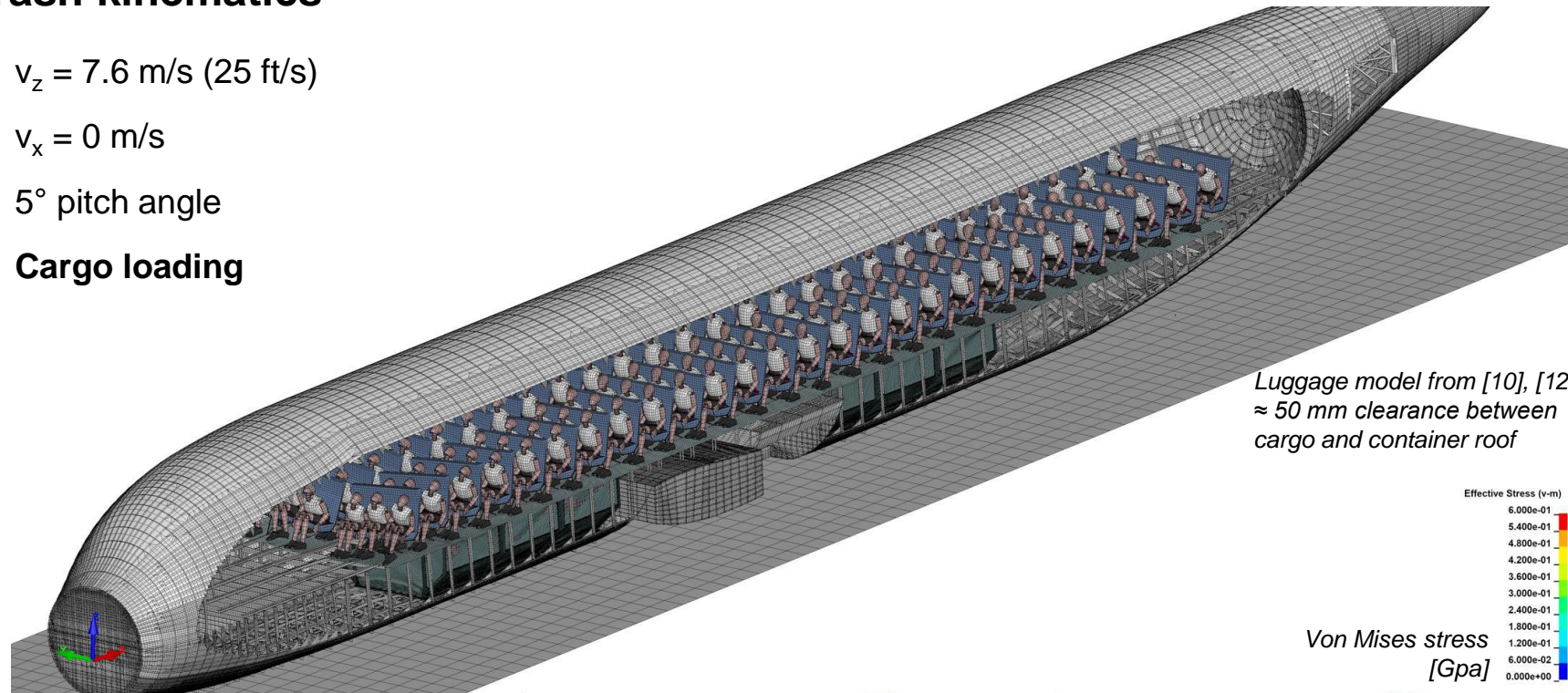
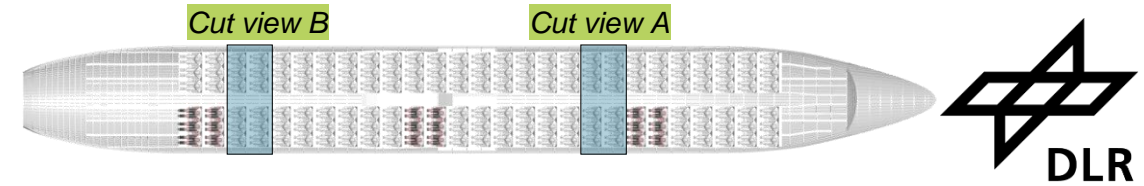


# 3 Method application (examples)

## III) Vertical drop with pitch angle and cargo loading

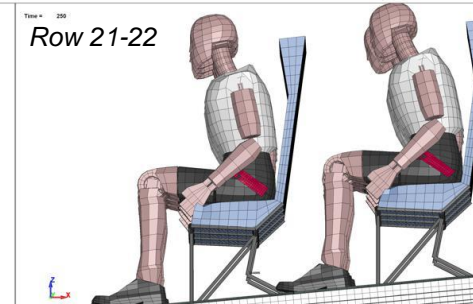
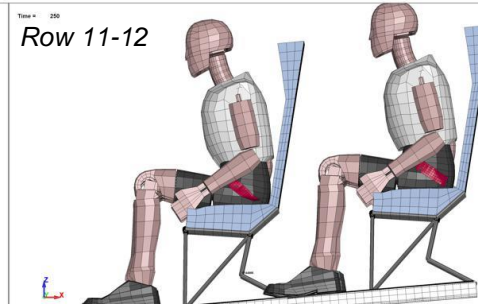
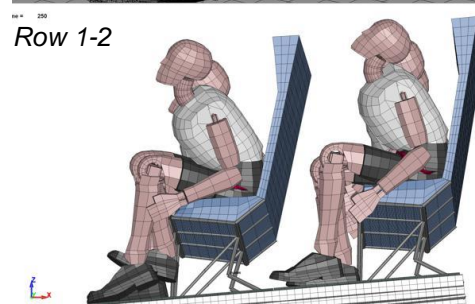
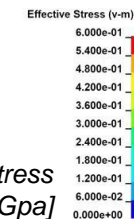
### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- **Cargo loading**

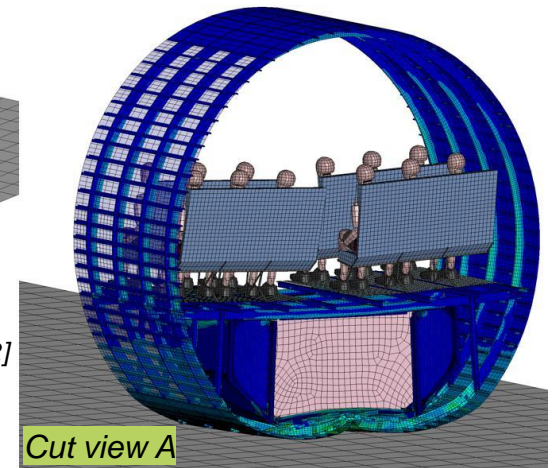


Luggage model from [10], [12]  
≈ 50 mm clearance between  
cargo and container roof

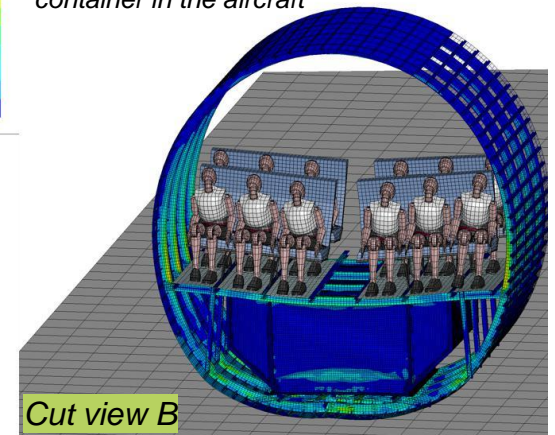
Von Mises stress  
[Gpa]



Section with the rearmost  
container in the aircraft



Section with the foremost  
container in the aircraft



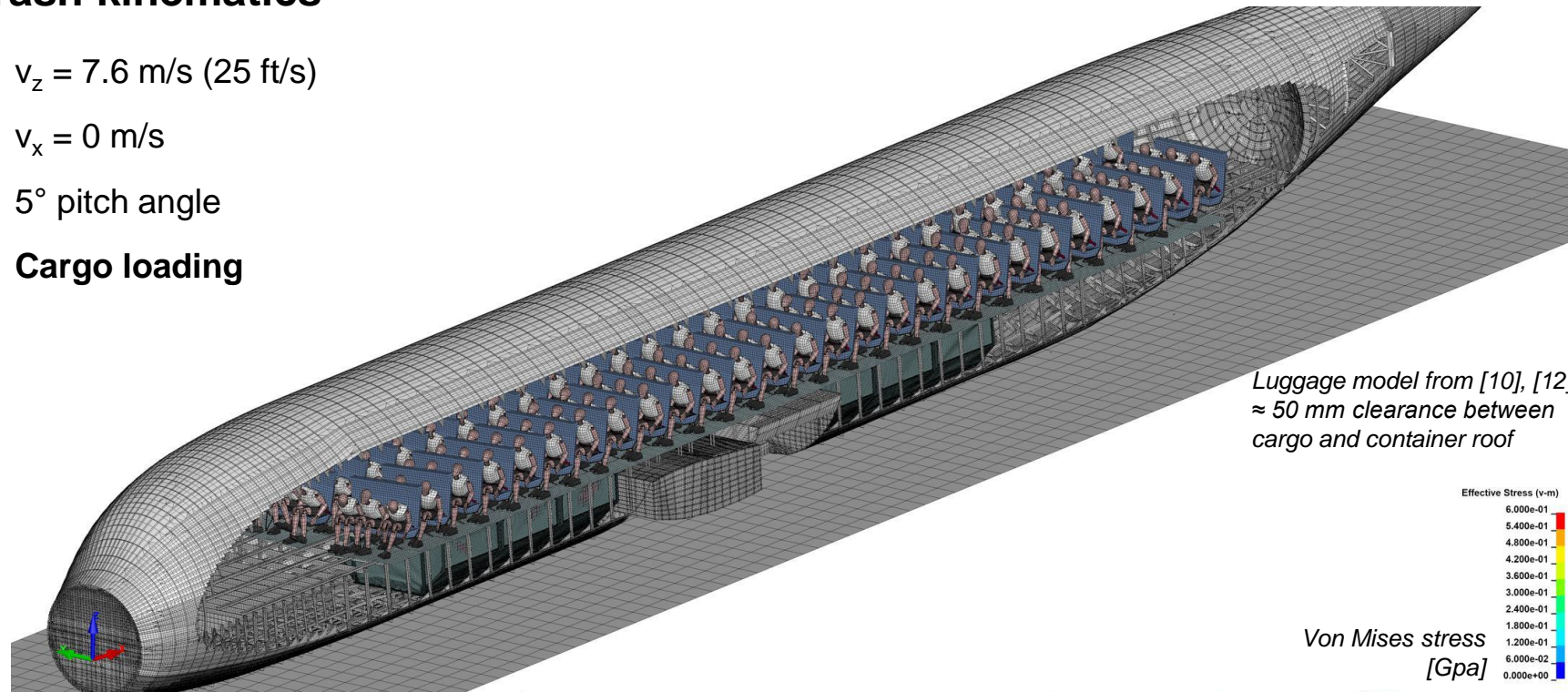
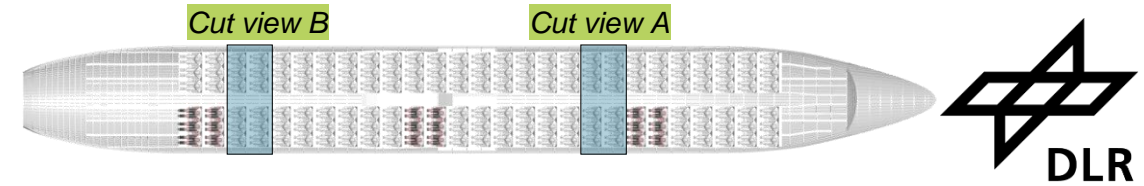


# 3 Method application (examples)

## III) Vertical drop with pitch angle and cargo loading

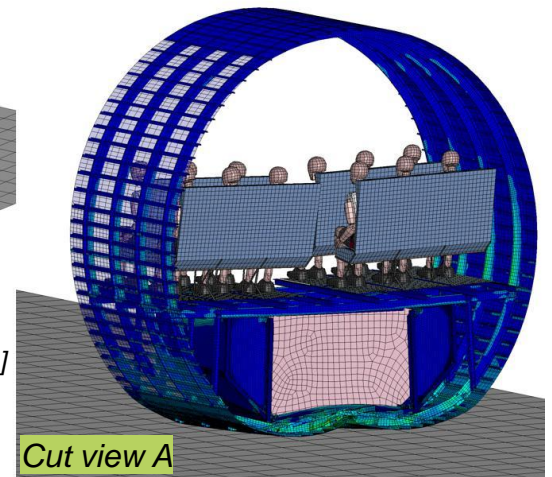
### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 0 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- **Cargo loading**

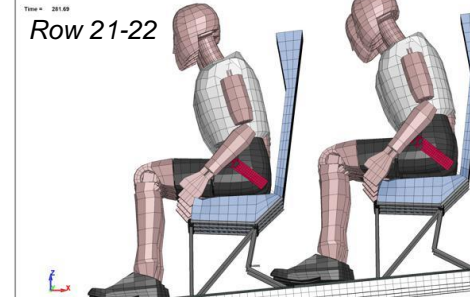
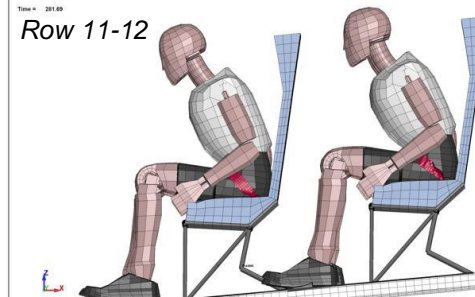
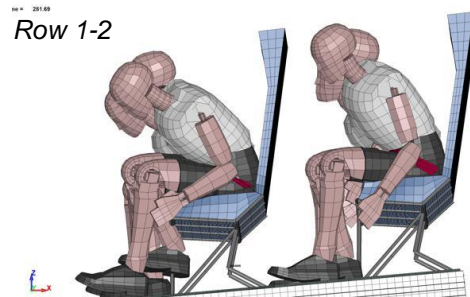
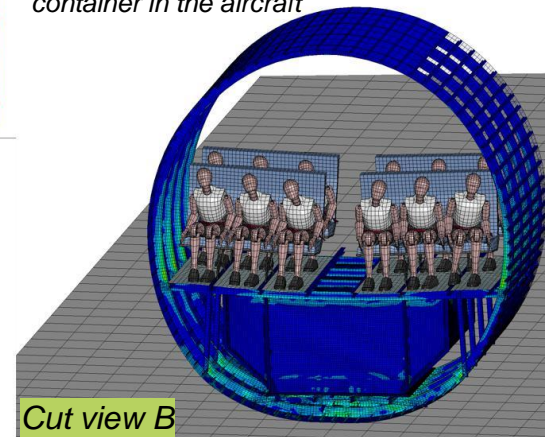


Luggage model from [10], [12]  
≈ 50 mm clearance between  
cargo and container roof

Section with the rearmost  
container in the aircraft



Section with the foremost  
container in the aircraft





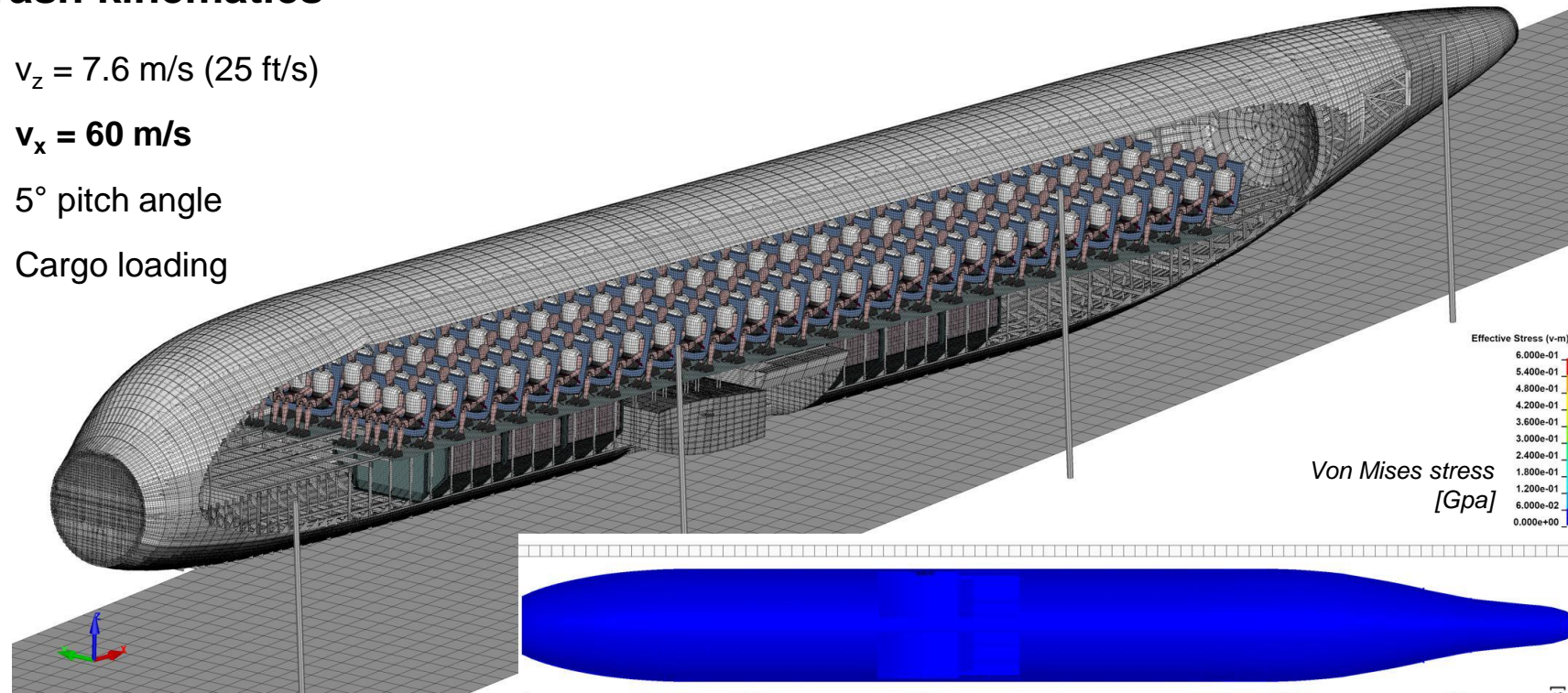
# 3 Method application (examples)

## IV) Full aircraft xz-crash

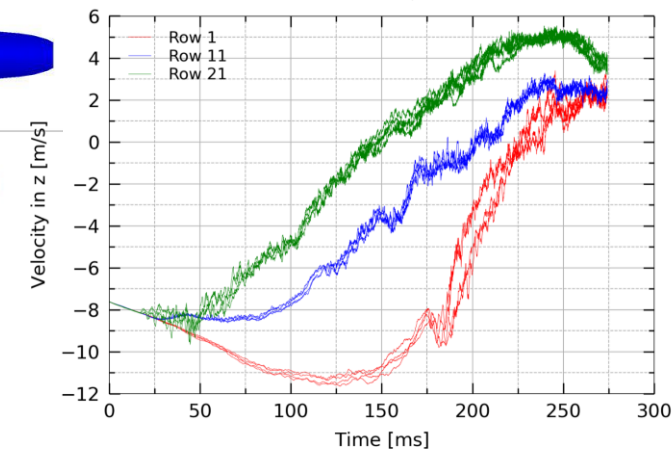
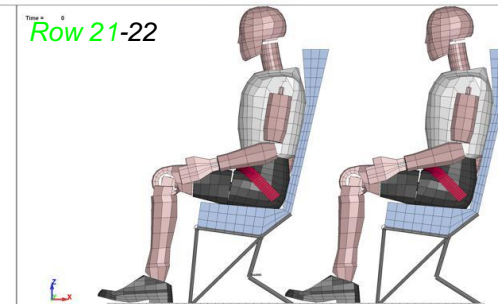
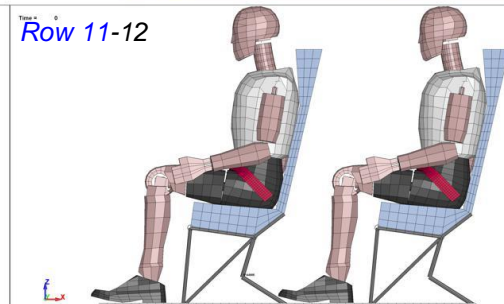
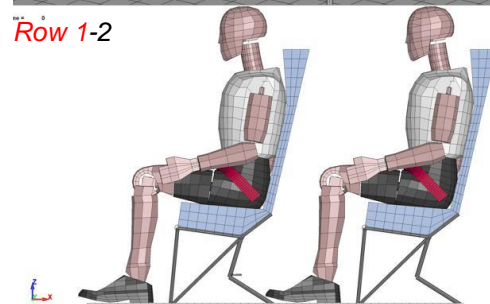


### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 60 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- Cargo loading



Seat foot local velocity  
Row 1, Row 11, Row 21  
Left side in flight direction





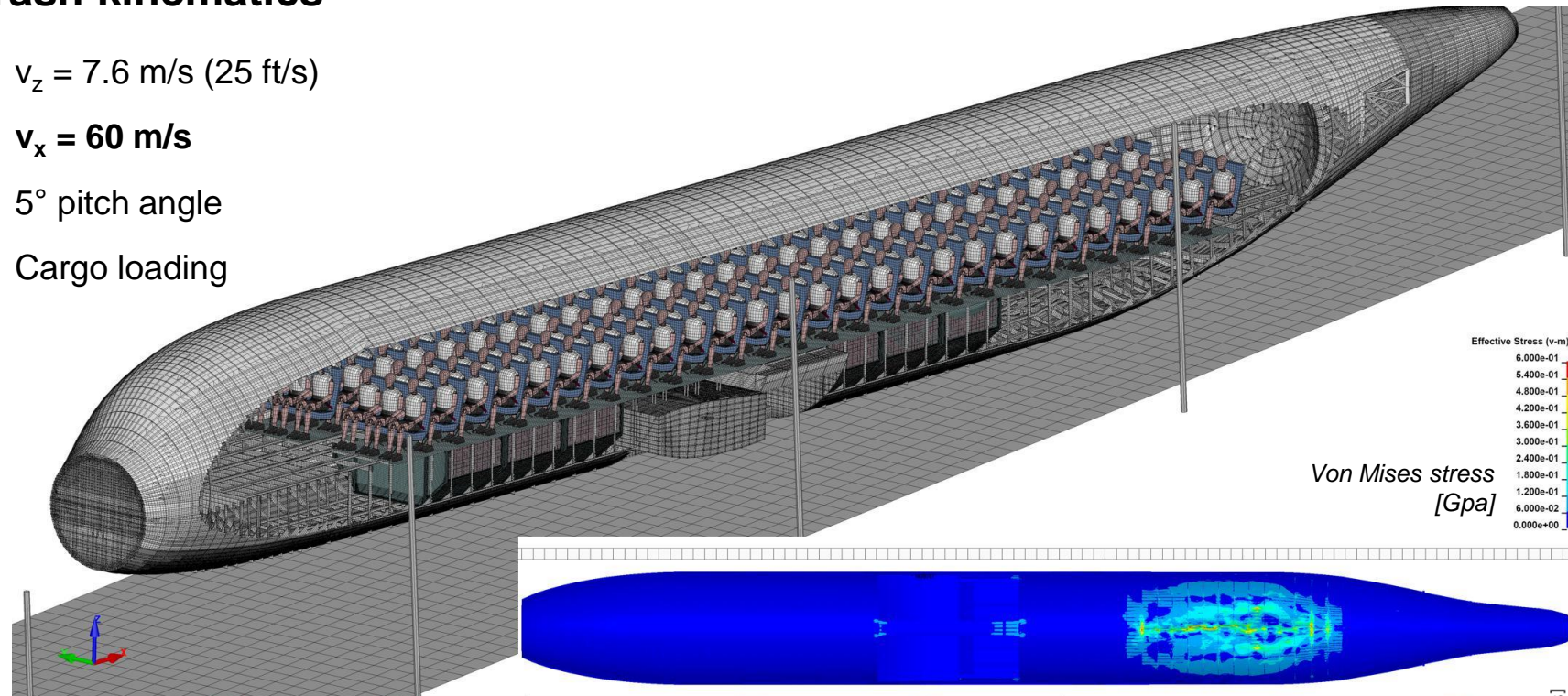
# 3 Method application (examples)

## IV) Full aircraft xz-crash

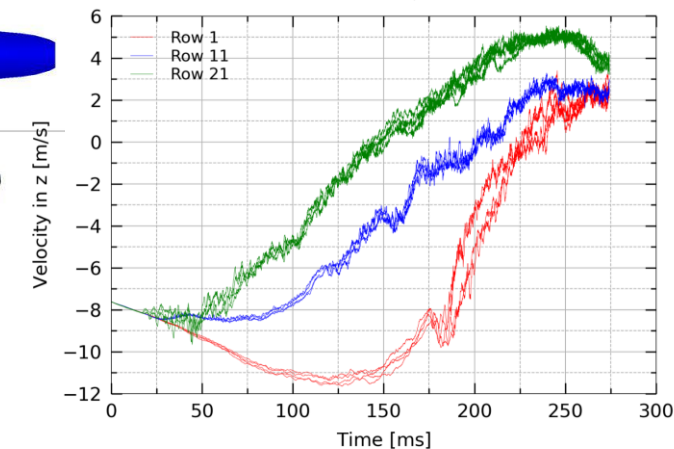
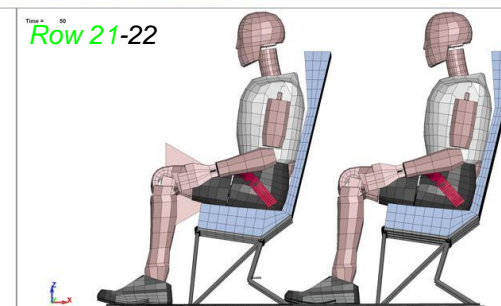
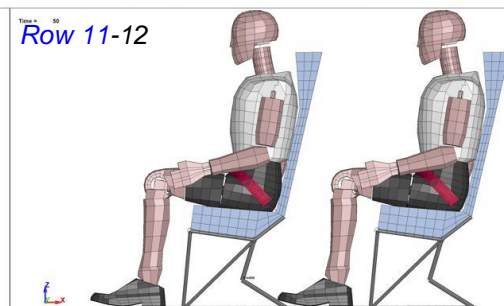
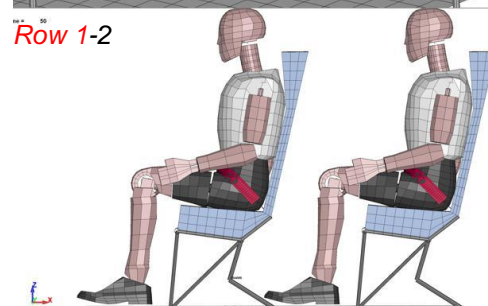


### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 60 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- Cargo loading



Seat foot local velocity  
Row 1, Row 11, Row 21  
Left side in flight direction





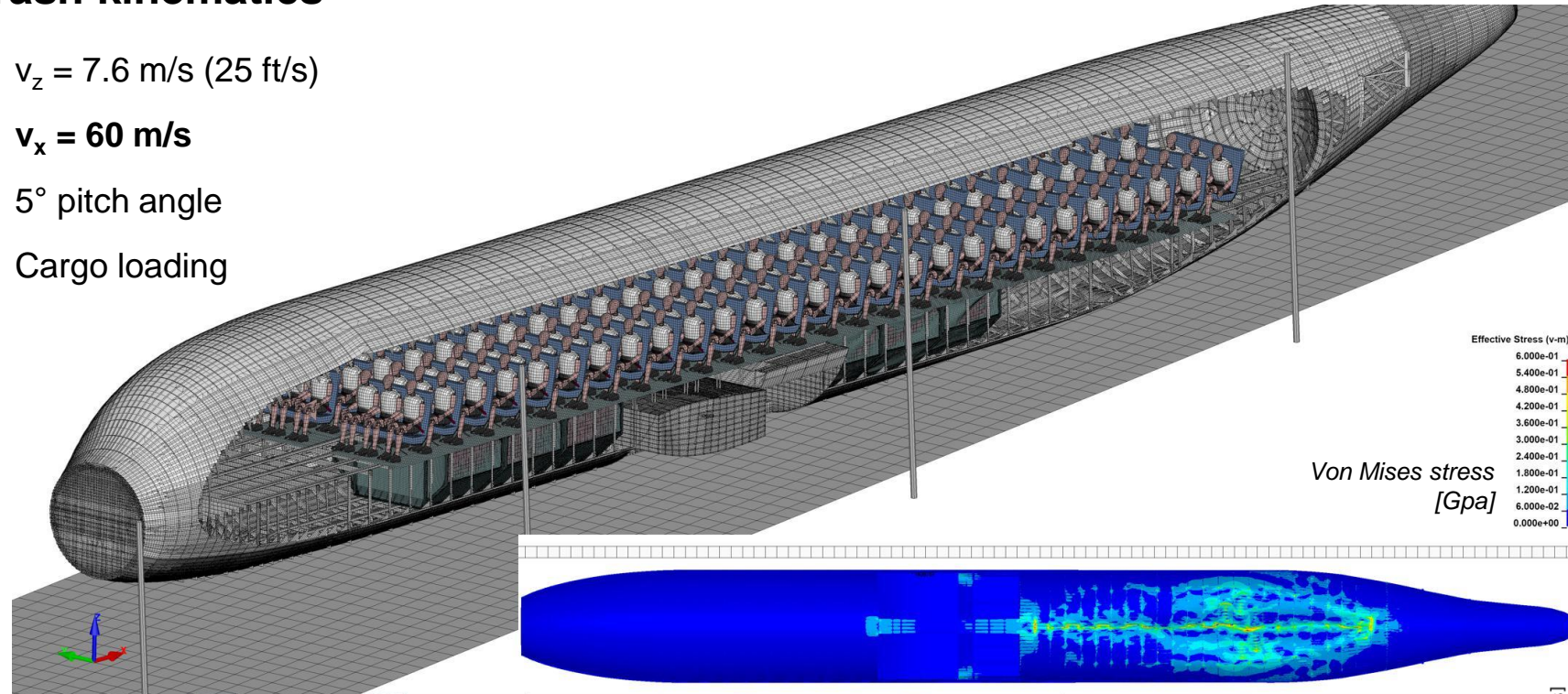
# 3 Method application (examples)

## IV) Full aircraft xz-crash

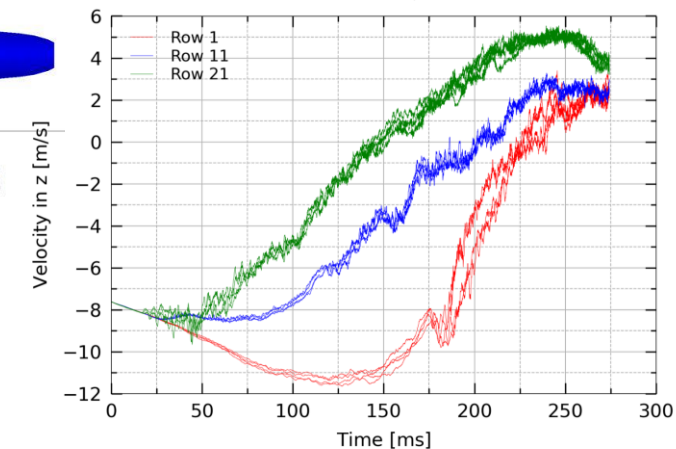
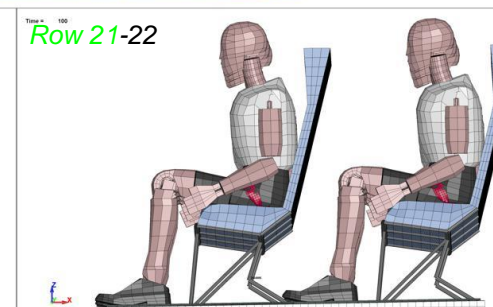
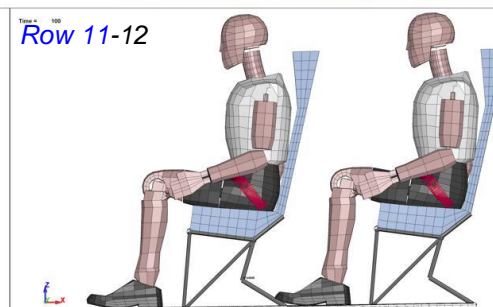
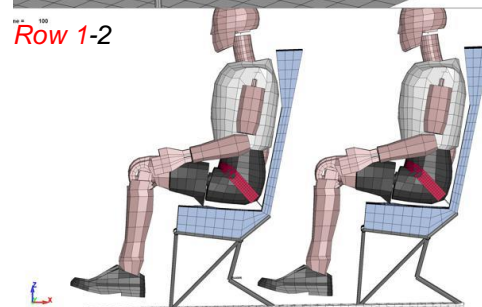


### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 60 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- Cargo loading



Seat foot local velocity  
Row 1, Row 11, Row 21  
Left side in flight direction





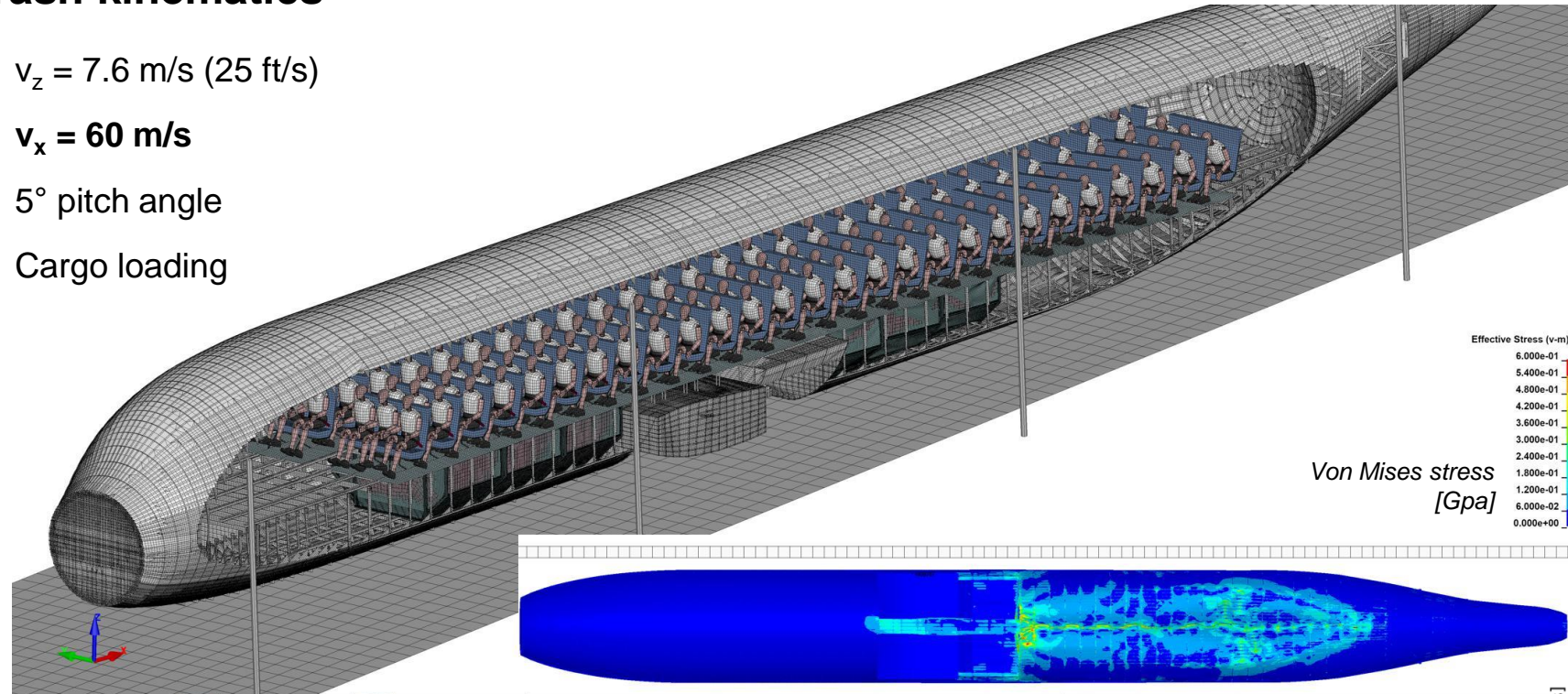
# 3 Method application (examples)

## IV) Full aircraft xz-crash



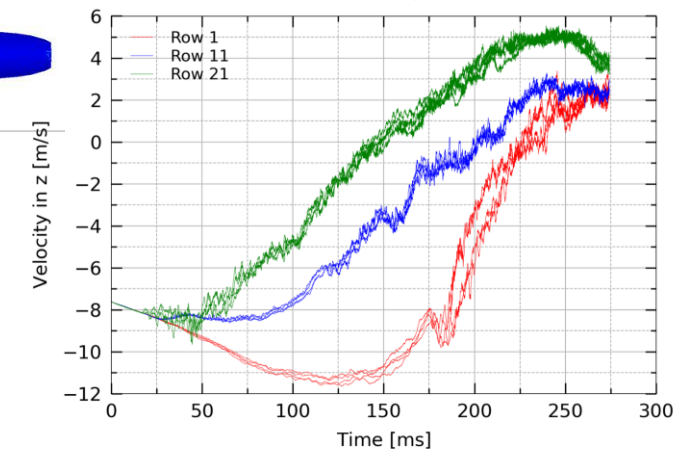
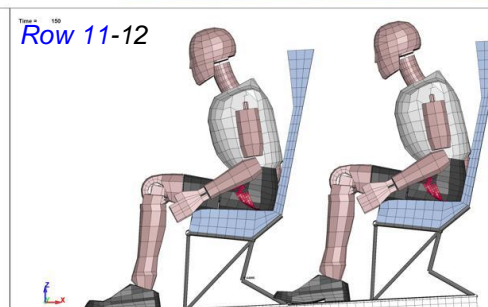
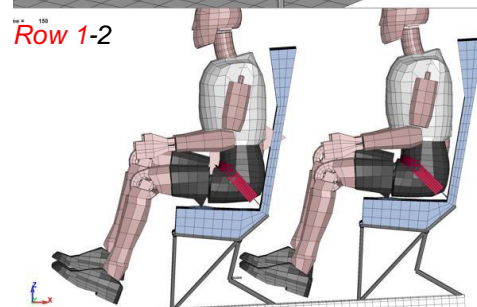
### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 60 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- Cargo loading



Von Mises stress  
[Gpa]

Seat foot local velocity  
Row 1, Row 11, Row 21  
Left side in flight direction





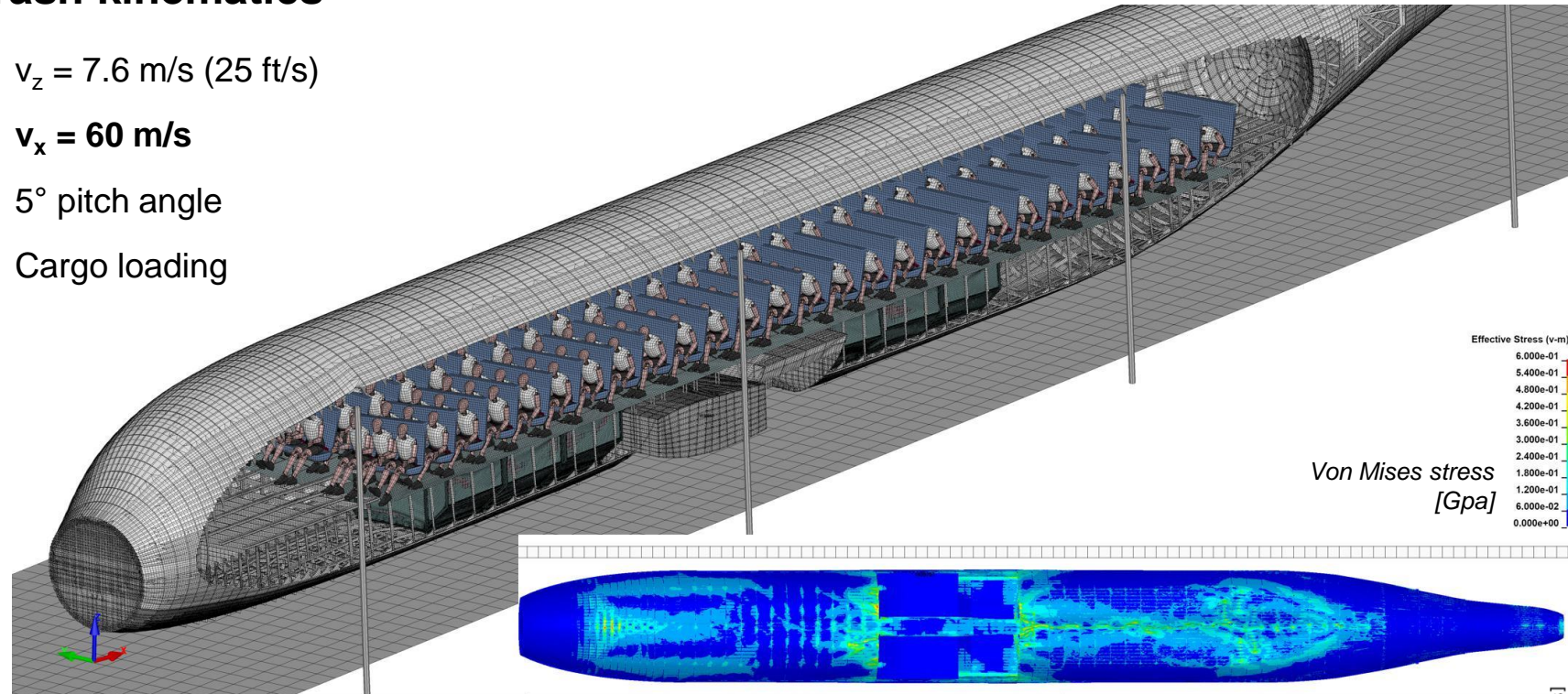
# 3 Method application (examples)

## IV) Full aircraft xz-crash

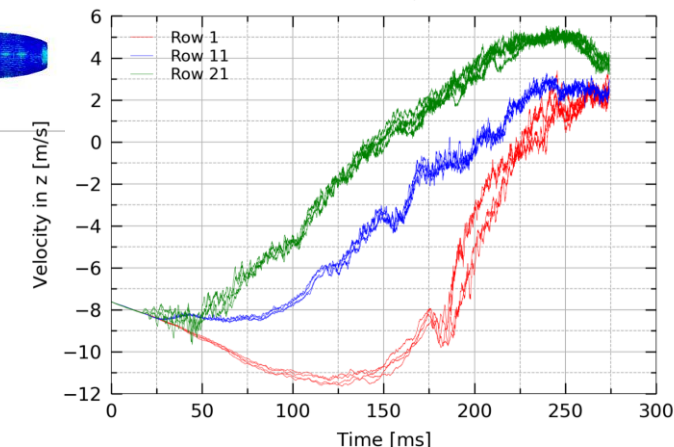
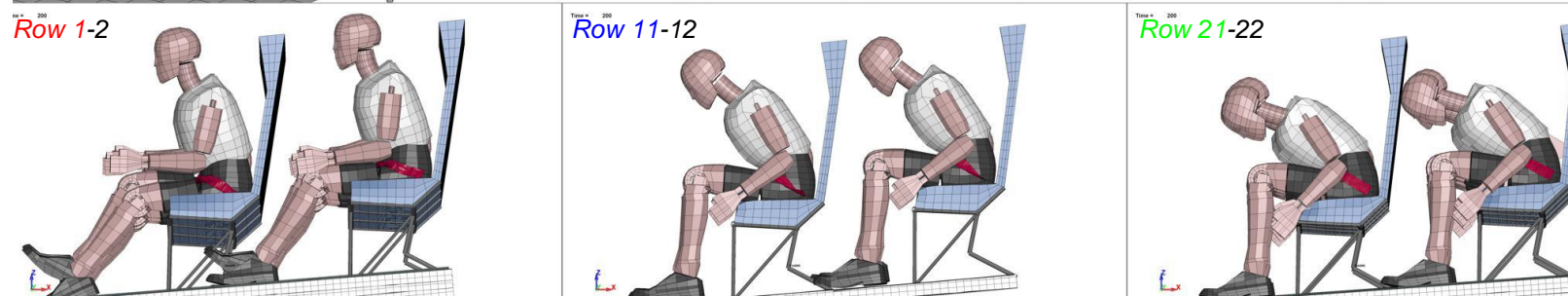


### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 60 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- Cargo loading



Seat foot local velocity  
Row 1, Row 11, Row 21  
Left side in flight direction





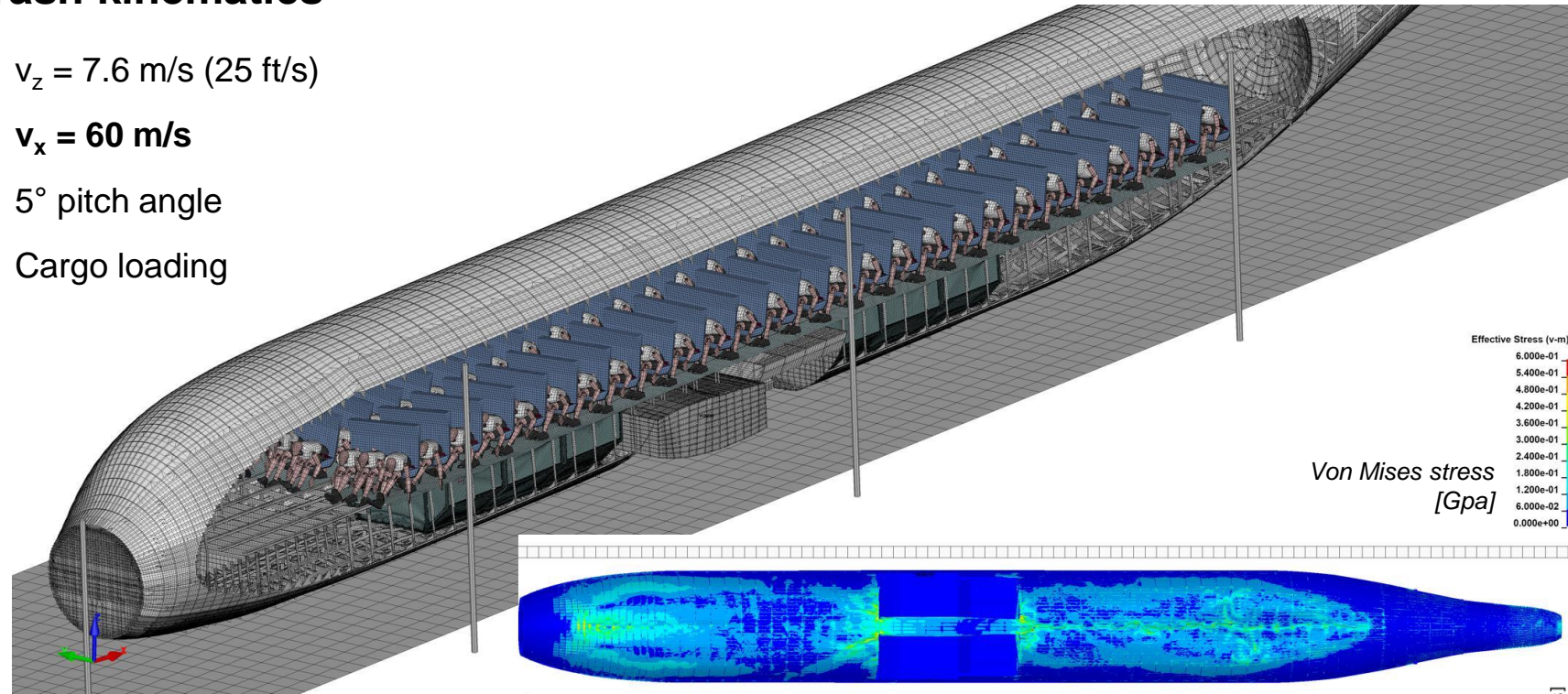
# 3 Method application (examples)

## IV) Full aircraft xz-crash

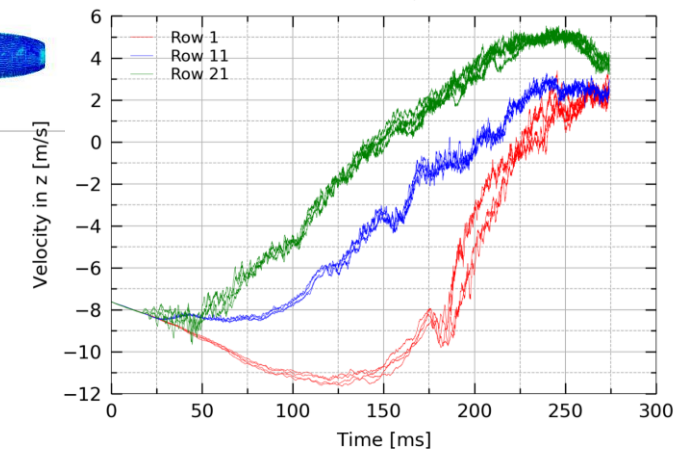
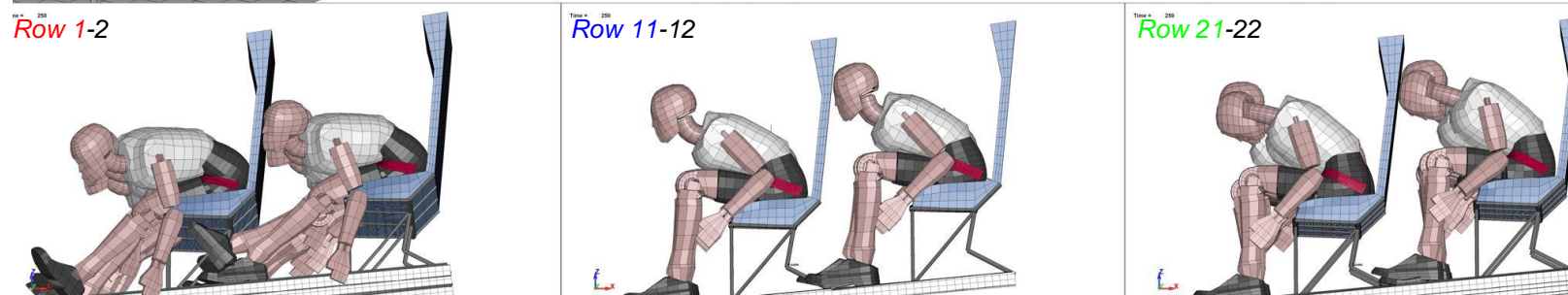


### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 60 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- Cargo loading



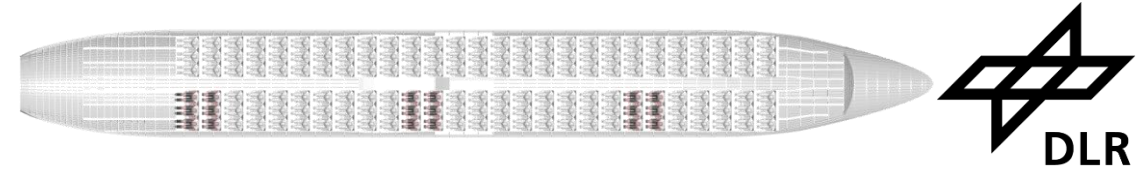
Seat foot local velocity  
Row 1, Row 11, Row 21  
Left side in flight direction





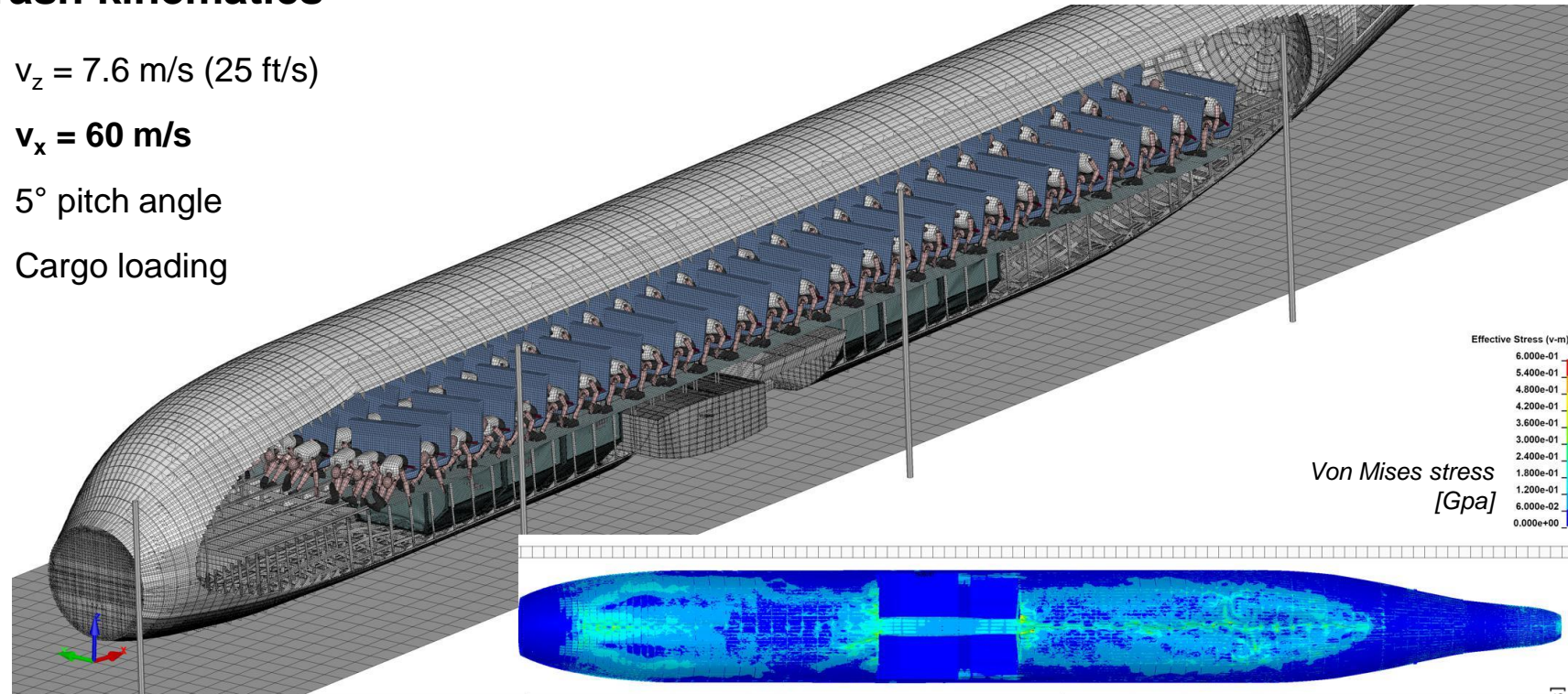
# 3 Method application (examples)

## IV) Full aircraft xz-crash

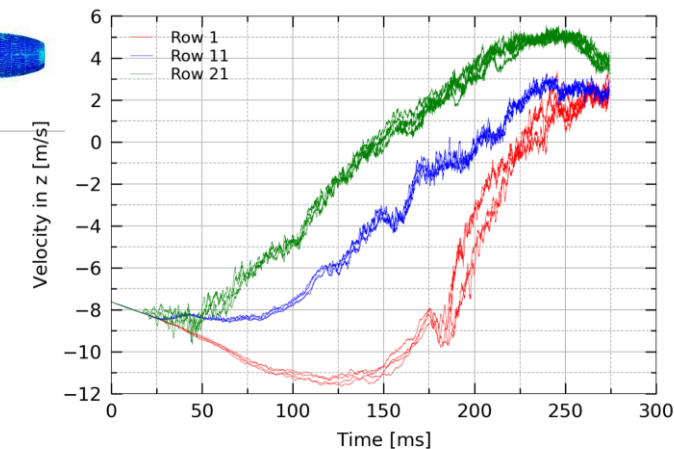
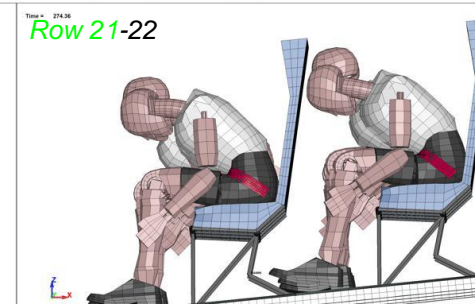
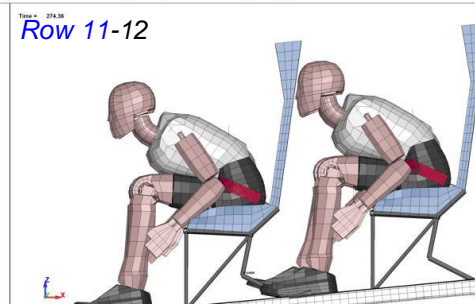
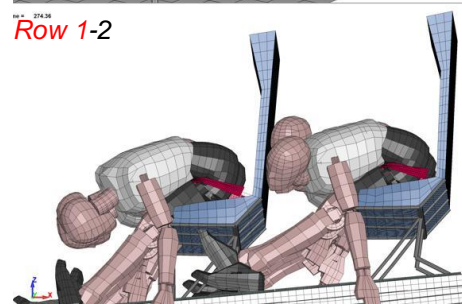


### Crash kinematics

- $v_z = 7.6 \text{ m/s}$  (25 ft/s)
- $v_x = 60 \text{ m/s}$
- $5^\circ$  pitch angle
- Cargo loading



Seat foot local velocity  
Row 1, Row 11, Row 21  
Left side in flight direction

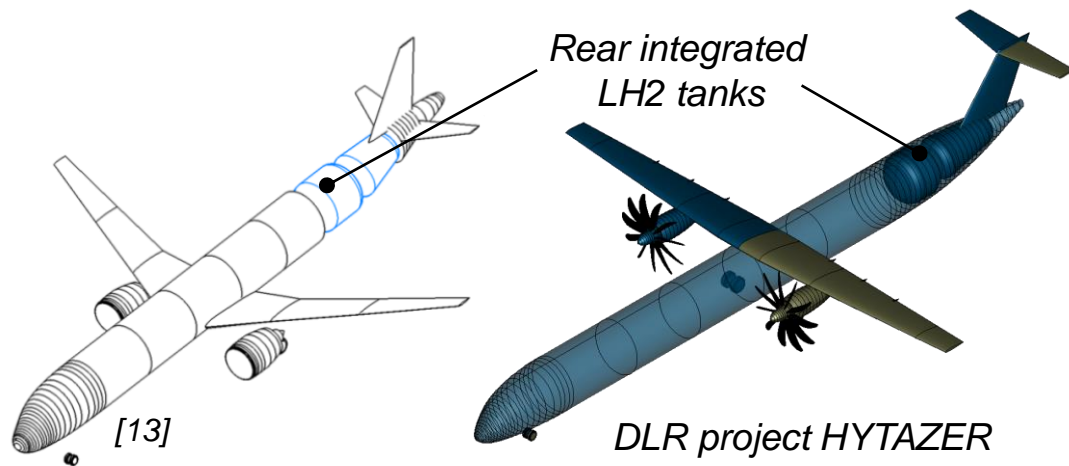


# 3 Method application (examples)

## V) Crashworthiness assessment of novel aircraft configurations

### Crashworthy LH2 tank integration

- Assessment of LH2 tank installation locations with respect to real-world crash loads and effects
  - Fuselage break
  - Retention of tank mass
- Assessment of LH2 tank integration with respect to real-world crash loads and effects
  - Crashworthy tank mounts
- Determination of local crash loads from full aircraft crash simulation
  - Detailed development of crashworthy LH2 tank integration
  - Iteration of full aircraft crash simulation and more detailed local analysis (e.g. fuselage section or structural detail)



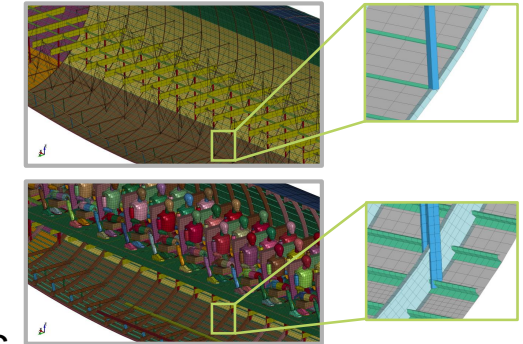


# Summary

## Motivation: Full aircraft crash simulation as a research goal at DLR

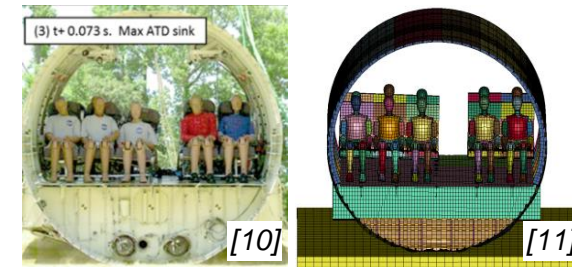
### 1 Method development

- Aircraft structure description by CPACS file format (<https://cpacs.de/>) [2]
- Aircraft structure generation at different levels of model fidelity by PANDORA tool [3]
- Development of individual modules for occupants [5], [6], cargo [7], [8], masses, impact terrains, etc.



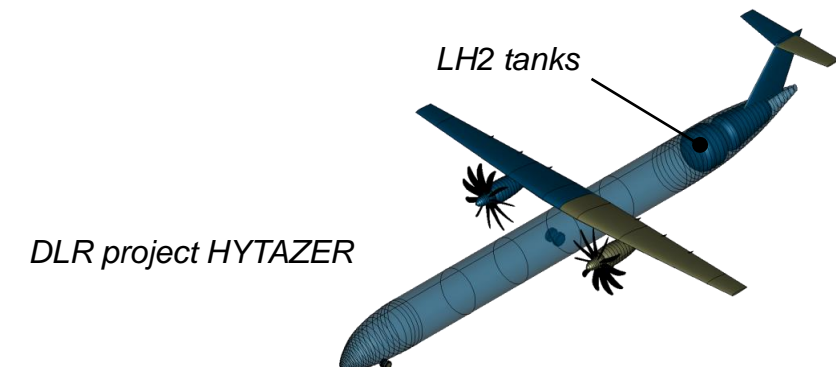
### 2 Method validation

- Ongoing method validation based on available experimental data [11], [12]



### 3 Method application

- Crash simulation of a generic single-aisle aircraft at different levels of model fidelity: low fidelity modeling [9] and high fidelity modeling
- Future work: Assessment of new aircraft configurations such as aircraft with rear integrated LH2 tanks



# Thank you for your attention!

## Acknowledgements

The authors wish to thank Eric van Teeseling (ETaerostruct) and Daniël den Bleker (GKN Aerospace, GKN Fokker Services) for great support in providing the Fokker F28 design data.





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- [8] M. Waimer and P. Schatrow, "Full-Scale Crash Testing of Cargo Containers - Experimental Characterization for Transport Airplane Crash Applications," in The Tenth Triennial International Fire & Cabin Safety Research Conference, Atlantic City, New Jersey, USA, 2022.
- [9] P. Schatrow, M. Waimer, M. Petsch, C. Leon Muñoz, and D. Kohlgrüber, "Method development for full aircraft crash simulation at different levels of modeling detail," presented at the The Ninth Triennial International Fire & Cabin Safety Research Conference, Atlantic City, New Jersey, USA, 2019. Available: <https://elib.dlr.de/130176/>
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- [11] E. Wegener, "Numerical Simulation of a Crash Test on a Fokker F28 Center Fuselage Section with Wing Box and Oblique Impact Surface," DLR-IB-BT-ST-2021-148, 2021.
- [12] J. Birk, "Numerical Simulation of a Crash Test on a Fokker F28 Typical Fuselage Section with Cargo Door and Bulk Loading," DLR-IB-BT-ST-2021-147, 2021.
- [13] D. Silberhorn, G. Atanasov, J.-N. Walther, and T. Zill, "Assessment of Hydrogen Fuel Tank Integration at Aircraft Level," presented at the Deutscher Luft- und Raumfahrtkongress 2019, Darmstadt, Deutschland, 2019. Available: <https://elib.dlr.de/129643/>