

# CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR 2018 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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**Project Number** 

J0113

# **Project Title**

# The Effect of Wing Configuration on Pressure

#### **Abstract**

# **Objectives/Goals**

This project was an investigation of how different wing configurations affect the pressure measured on aircraft.

#### Methods/Materials

Using an engineering application called SimScale that performs computational fluid dynamics (CFD), I set up wind tunnel simulations for three wing configurations; straight, swept, and forward swept. I kept the same fuselage with the different wings attached. Each configuration was subjected to 80 m/s winds.

#### Results

The swept wing, as predicted, did have the least pressure, but unexpectedly the forward swept wing had the most. The average pressures on the combined wing and fuselage were: 134 psi for the straight wing, -69 psi for the swept wing, and 494 psi for the forward swept wing.

## **Conclusions/Discussion**

This investigation contributes to science it because provides measurements of different wing configurations. Knowing exactly how much a wing changes flight characteristics can be important for aerospace engineering and maximizing the efficiency of an aircraft, and my project makes contributions towards this.

## **Summary Statement**

I found that forward swept wings experience the most pressure and swept wings experience the least.

## Help Received

The model and simulation were designed without external help and Dr. Warrick of the USGS assisted me in extracting the data.