

Volume IV Appendix F.3 MADS Sensor Data

This Appendix presents three different Boeing analyses: MADS Instrumentation Evaluation, STS-107X1040 Spar Cap Strain Gage Assessment and Induced Thermal Strain Scenario. These presentations were identified as preliminary information at the time they were presented to the CAIB. The documents are now available to the public.



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MADS Instrumentation Evaluation

Doug White 4/24/03 This material is PRELIMINARY information only. It is for limited distribution. DO NOT FORWARD.

OEX Data CAIB 42403 r1.ppt

CTF034-0346

Instrumentation Subsystem Is Continuing to Assess the Reliability of the MADS Data



- Large Quantities of Measurements Develop Erratic Responses in the Vicinity of EI + 480 to 600 Seconds
- Equivalent GMT is 1352 to 1354 GMT (EI: 1344:09 GMT)
- The Instrumentation Team Is Responsible for Determining Data Validity Based on Assessment of the MADS Avionics Telemetry Behavior
- The goal is to establish a range or a point beyond which data validity is unreliable and convey that information to the MADS user community
- Where Possible, Failure Modes Were Developed to Explain the Invalid Data Observed
- Sensor type segregation approach was utilized, that is
- Pressures—Pulse Code Modulation (PCM) and Strain Gauge Signal Conditioner (SGSC)
- Strains
- Temperatures—Resistance Temperature Device (RTD) and **Phermocouple**
- General Statements Regarding the MADS System Performance Can Be Made Based on Assessments of the Telemetry

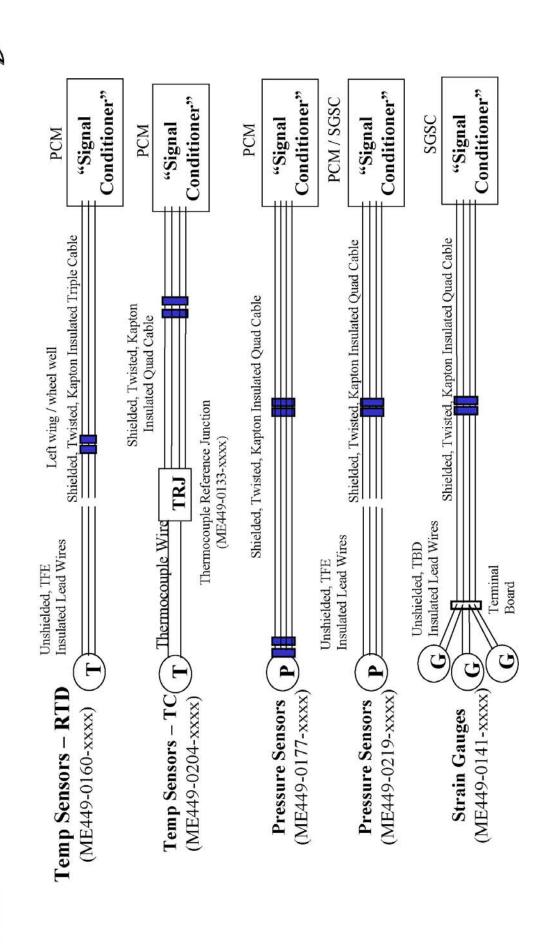
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MADS Instrumentation Types



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- Excitation Voltage Commonality Within the MADS Avionics Can Provide for Perturbations in the MADS Data From Varying and Seemingly Unrelated Sensor Locations
- For example, wiring anomalies in the left wing could result in erratic data from right wing sensors
- Specific Observations—SGSC Pressures
- 24 left and right wing pressure measurements are biased in the PCM by Strain Gauge Signal Conditioners (SGSCs)
- In the absence of the nominal excitation voltage, the PCM would detect the 500mV bias voltage (0 psi) which would be detectable in the MADS data
- − At ~1352:10 GMT, the voltage was 0 volts indicating that the excitation leads were shorted to signal minus
- This would cause left and right wing pressure sensors to read 0 psi
- The data from these sensors is invalid following ~1352:10 GMT

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- Specific Observations—Strain Gauges
- Following installation, strain gauges are biased balanced in place to achieve 0 micro strains due to variations in the gauge and the effects of gauge
- Biasing is achieved via potentiometer adjustment at the SGSC resulting in a non-zero voltage presented to the PCM
- Typical signature observed in erratic strain data was characterized by offscale excursions followed by a near zero response
- due to alterations in the resistance presented to the sensing bridge circuit Analysis of the data indicates that upper and lower range excursions are
- The subsequent non-zero response is believed to be the result of the bias voltage being reflected following gauge lead burn through
- Strain gauge responses are to be considered invalid following the initial upper or lower range excursions

- Specific Observations—Pressures
- The pressure transducers use five volt excitation from the PCMs
- Two transducer types are used—Kulite (ME449-0219-xxxx) and Statham (ME449-0177-xxxx)
- Complete loss of the five volt excitation from the MADS PCM will cause the measurement to fail off scale low
- Various shorting combinations could cause the sensors to read either offscale high or off-scale low
- Insulation degradation also provides for intermittent conductor-to-conductor shorts which could explain the upper to lower range excursions
- Ultimately, the vast majority of pressures fail off-scale low which is attributed to sensor leads burned through and shorted and / or open circuited
- Pressure measurements are considered invalid following excursions to upper or lower ranges

- Specific Observations—Temperatures RTDs
- The Resistance Temperature Device (RTD) is used to complete a wheatstone bridge internal to the MADS PCM
- The bridge output is determined by the resistance between different leads on the RTD
- Various shorting combinations could cause the sensors to read either offscale high or off-scale low
- shorts which would cause increases or decreases in the measurement value Insulation degradation also provides for intermittent conductor-to-conductor
- RTD measurements are considered invalid following excursions to upper or lower ranges

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MADS Transducer and Avionics Failure Susceptibilities

- Specific Observations—Temperatures Thermocouples
- Thermocouple measurements use compensating reference junctions which are powered by 5 volt excitation from the PCMs
- Loss of the 5 volt excitation will cause the measurement to fail off scale low
- Various shorting combinations could cause the sensors to read either offscale high or off-scale low
- shorts which would cause increases or decreases in the measurement value Insulation degradation also provides for intermittent conductor-to-conductor
- The majority of thermocouple temperatures fail off-scale low which is attributed to sensor leads burned through and shorted and / or open
- Thermocouple measurements are considered invalid following excursions to upper or lower ranges
- Temperatures preceding the inflection point toward off-scale high are considered valid up to the point of rapid slope change

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- Specific Observations—Specific Temperature Set
- A specific set of temperature measurements observed to display anomalous behavior during the STS-107 entry is similar to a previous unexplained anomaly on MADS PCM 1
- V07T9522A which use MADS PCM 1 excitation output PPS089 all show a – Measurements V07T9636A, V07T9480A, V07T9489A, V07T9492A, step in their signal level at approximately 13:52:20 GMT
- similar failure signature during STS-73, STS-75 and STS-78 on MADS PCM V07T9478A which use MADS PCM 1 excitation output PPS087 showed a – Measurements V07T9253A, V07T9270A, V07T9468A, V07T9470A,
- After STS-78, the PCM unit was removed from the vehicle and shipped to the vendor, B.F. Goodrich, for TT&E and test
- The unit was tested at ambient, hot and cold temperatures without repetition of the failure condition
- The failures repeated on STS-80, STS-94 and STS-87.
- The cause and mechanism of this failure signature is unknown, however it is independent of the MADS PCM

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STS-107 MADS Temperature Data RCC Panel 9 Ascent Data

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Ascent Response on RCC Panel 9 Spar



 Compared STS-107 Data Against Previous OV-102 Mission Data: 50, 73, 94, 87, 90, 93, and 109

- Mission: launch date, GMT time, inclination, beta angle

- STS-107: 01/16/03, 15:38: 59, 39°, -55.7°

– STS-109: 03/01/02, 11:22:01, 28.45°, -7.0°

Flight preceding STS-107

STS-93: 07/23/99, 04:30:59, 28.45°, +47.8°

- STS-90: 04/17/98, 18:18:59, 39°, -7.6°

– STS-87: 11/19/97, 19:46:00, 28.45°, -38.4°

STS-94: 07/01/97, 18:02:00, 28.45, -4.7°

STS-73: 10/20/95, 13:53:00, 39°, -49.3°

STS-50: 06/25/92, 16:12:23, 28.5°, -4.4°

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RCC Panel 9 Spar Temperature Data - Ascent

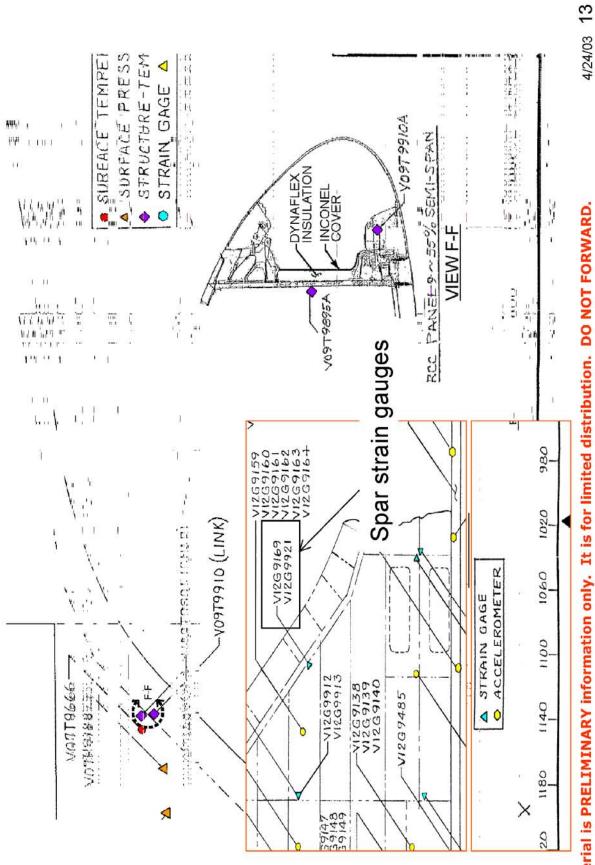


- Reviewed Previous OV-102 Ascent Data
- STS-107 has earliest warming indication at 310 seconds
- STS-107 has only occurrence of a 3 bit (7.5°F) warming during ascent, 67°F initial temp.
- STS-94, a summer launch with 82°F initial temp, had less than a 2 bit
- No spar temperature sensor on other vehicles

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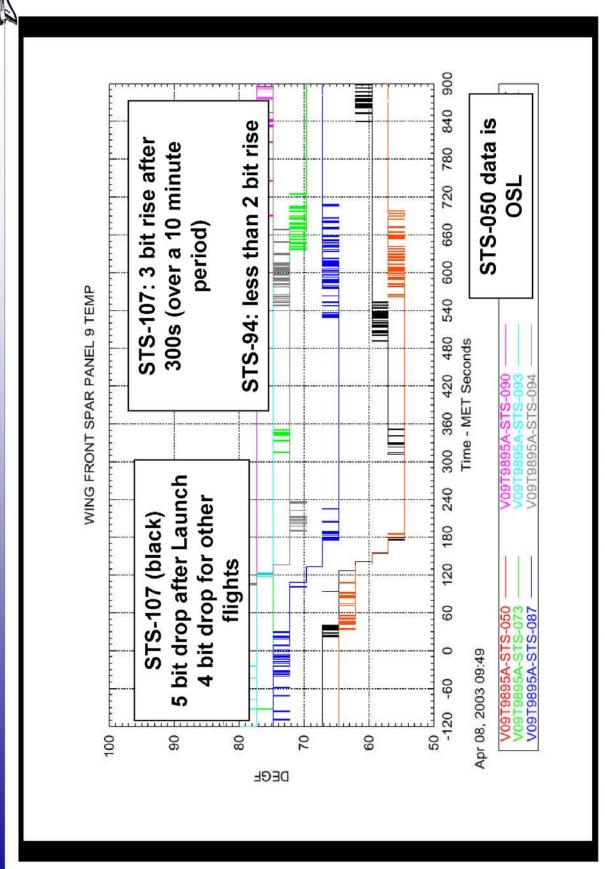
RCC Panel 9 Sensor Locations





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RCC Panel 9 Spar Response - Ascent



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RCC Panel 9 Spar Data Bit Summary



Ascent Bits Down/Up in

900 seconds

RCC Panel 9 Spar Temp

V09T9895a

OV-102 Columbia

STS-73 10/20/95

2/0 3/0 3/0 1/0 2/0

STS-75 10/20/95

STS-78 06/20/96

STS-80 11/19/96

STS-83 04/04/97 STS-94 07/01/97

5/2 (82 degF initial temp)

STS-87 11/19/97

STS-90 04/17/98 STS-93 07/22/99 STS-109 03/01/02 STS-107 01/16/03

5/3 (67 degF initial temp)

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STS-107 MADS Temperature Data

Entry

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MADS Entry Data Review Process



- Compared STS-107 Data Against Previous OV-102 Mission Data: STS-50, 73, 94, 87, 90, 93, and 109
- Mission: weight, inclination, transition from laminar to turbulent flow, altitude, center of gravity xo at El
- STS-107: ~233,995 lbs, 39°, Mach NA, 148 nm, 1078.27
- STS-109: ~222,500 lbs, 28.45°, Mach ~8.7, 290 nm, 1083.8
- Flight preceding STS-107
- STS-93: ~203,300 lbs, 28.45°, Mach ~8.1, 148 nm, 1098.9
- STS-90: ~233,500 lbs, 39°, Mach ~8.1, 142 nm, 1081.4
- STS-87: ~233,400 lbs, 28.45°; Mach ~8.9, 153 nm, 1082.2
- STS-94: ~231,750 lbs, 28.45°, Mach ~16.5, 164 nm, 1079.9
 - STS-73: ~231,300 lbs, 39°, Mach ~19.2, 142 nm, 1082.4
- STS-50: ~227,000 lbs, 28.45°, Mach ~9.4, 146 nm, 1080.7

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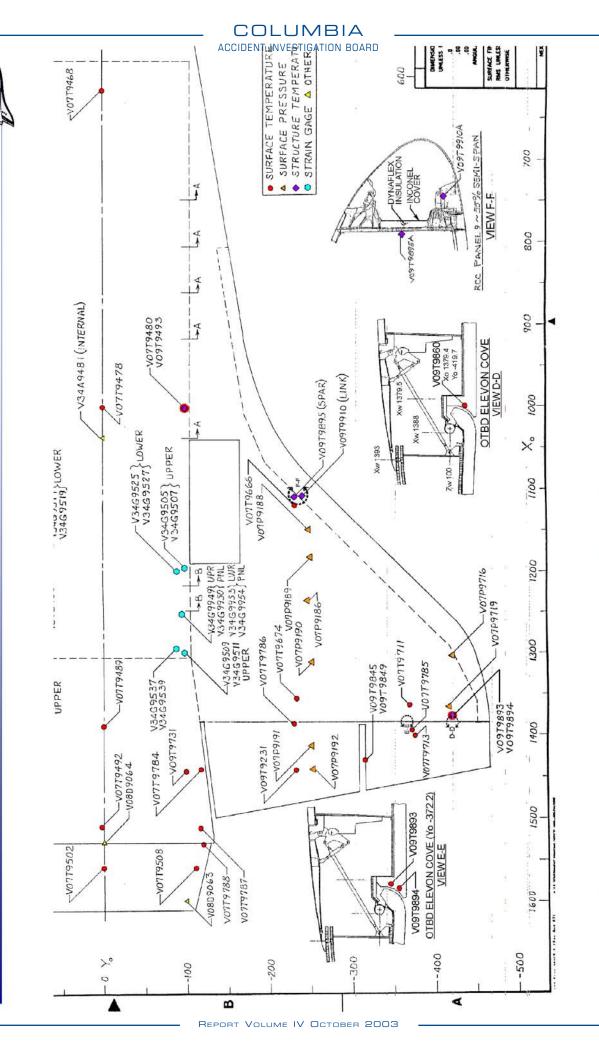
Temperature Observations



- Observations on 49 Temperature Measurements
- All nominal response to MADS data loss EI+965 (14:00:14.490 GMT) 2 sensors in RCC chin panel structure
- All bad data 2 sensors (pre-existing condition, door insulation and chin panel surface)
- Trend to off-scale low at ~EI+490 seconds (13:52:24 GMT) 15 sensors, all left wing
- Sharp 300 to 350°F temp increase at ~EI+490 3 sensors,
- LWR Xo 1004.1, Yo –99.8; Xo 1391.5, Yo 0.0; Xo 1511.1, Yo 1.3
- Off-nominal trend (cooling) at ~EI+344 (13:49:53 GMT) seconds followed by off-nominal heating at ~EI+520 seconds until erratic temp trend at ~EI+933 seconds (13:59:42.49 GMT) - 14 sensors, left side and left pod
- Off-nominal temperature increase start ∼EI+290 sec RCC Panel 9 spar and clevis

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-ower Surface Temperatures and Pressures

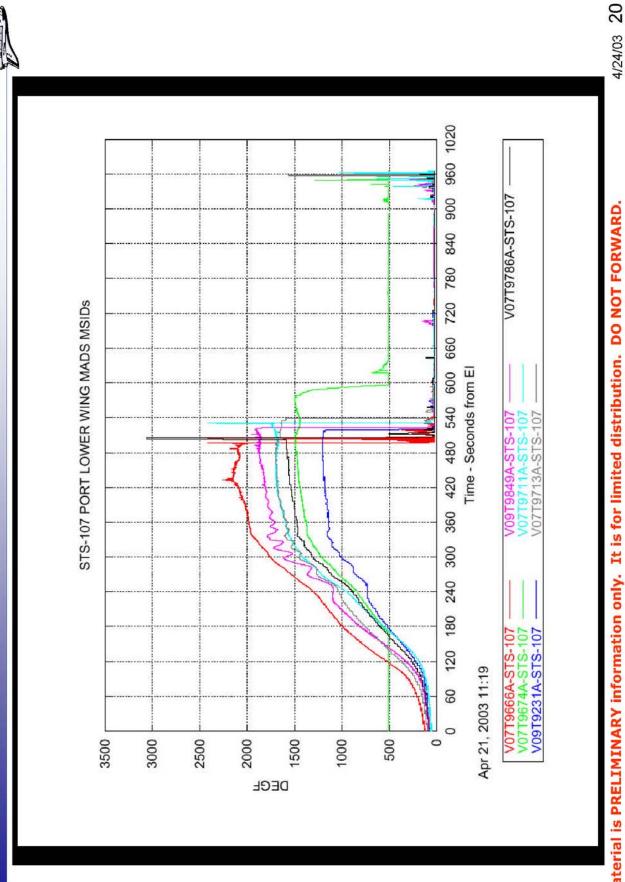


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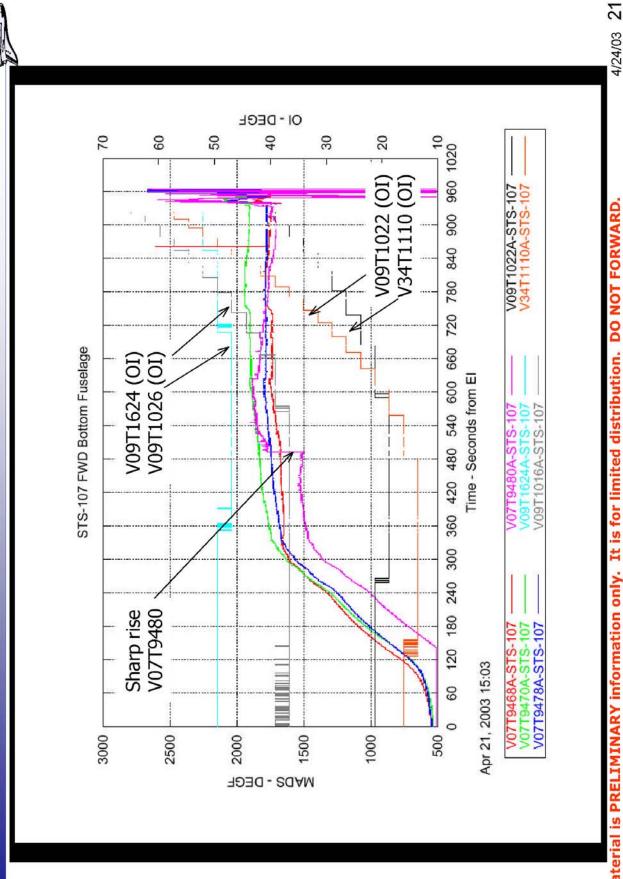
-ower Wing Surface Temperatures STS-107



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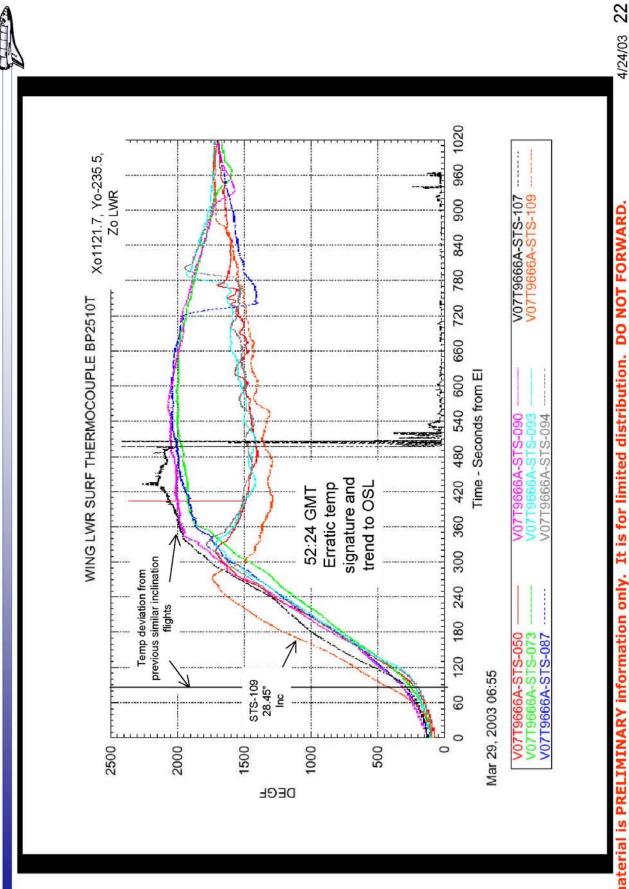
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-ower Surface Sharp Temp Rise and Bondline Ol



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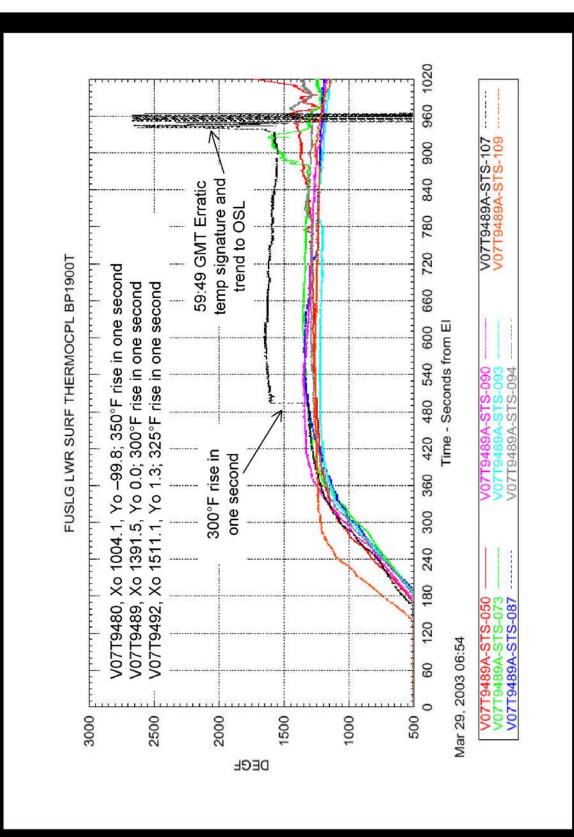
Trend to OSL & Early Warming Trend



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Sharp Temp Rise





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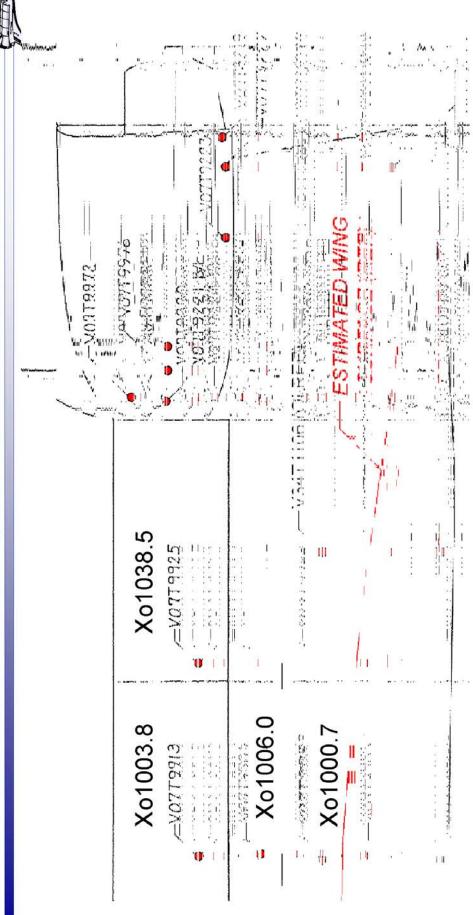
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Left Side Temperature Sensor Locations

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-eft Side Surface Temperature Locations



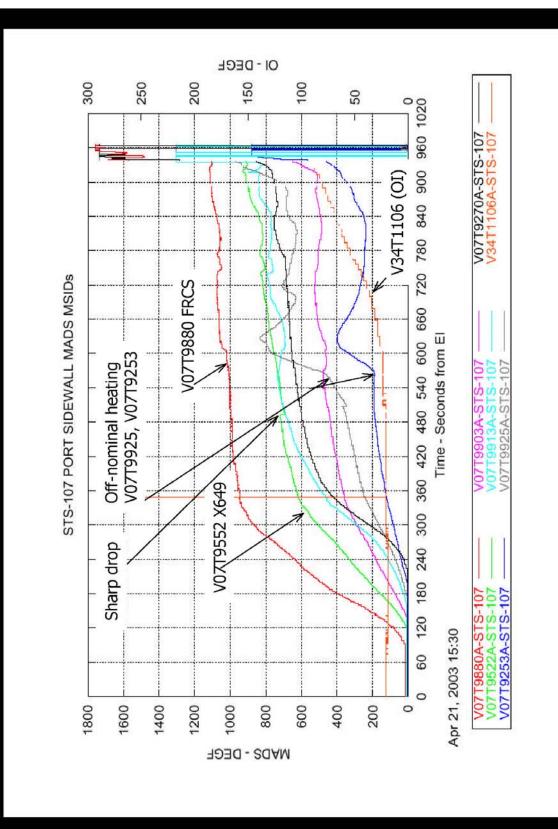
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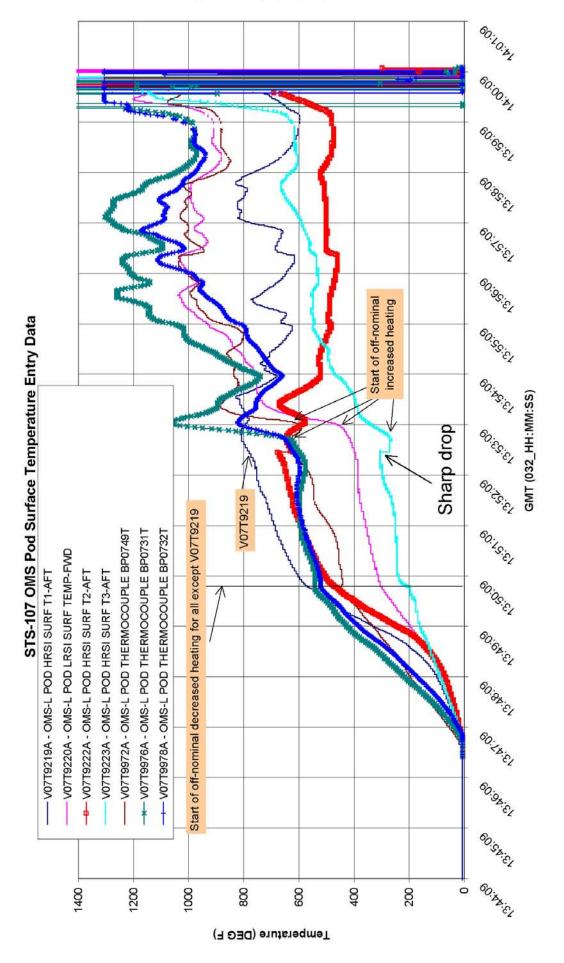
-eft Side Surface and Ol Temperatures





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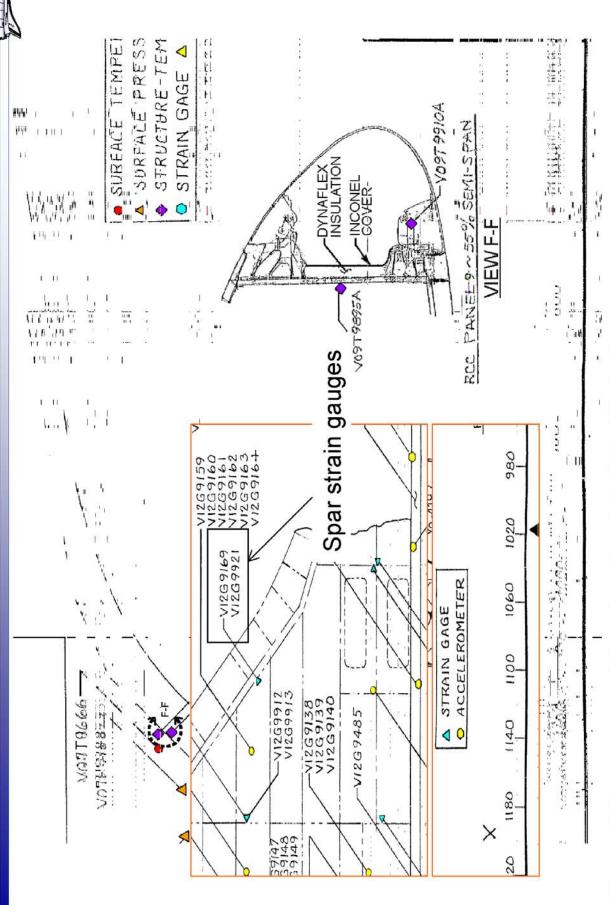


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RCC Panel 9 Sensor Locations

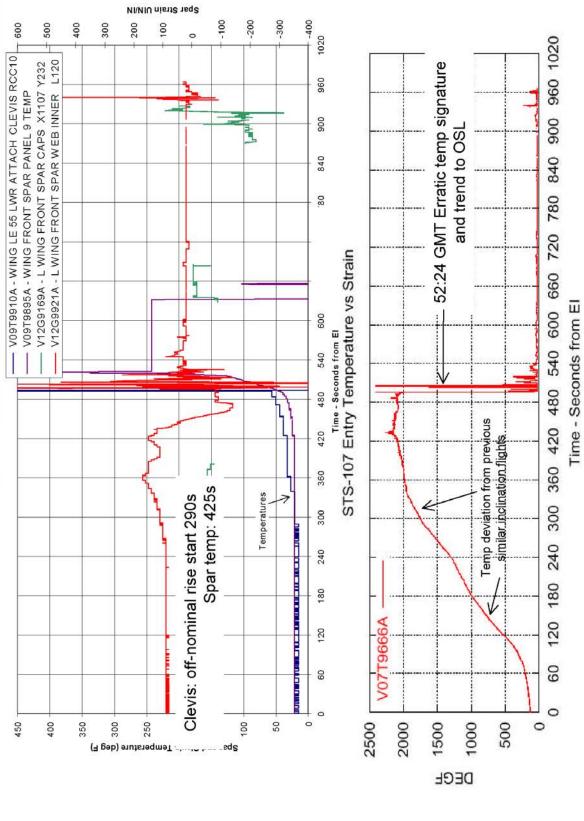


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RCC Panel 9 Area Temp & Strain





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STS-107 MADS Strain Gauge Data

Entry

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Summary



 Abnormal Gauges Were Grouped and Plotted Together According to Location on the Vehicle

An Examination Was Performed for Strain and Temperature Gauges Near Left Wing RCC Panel #9

Several Immediate Observations May Be Made from the Data

A number of other studies are currently in work

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Abnormal Gauge Groupings



Mid Fuselage Gauges

Right Wing Spar Cap Gauges

Right Wing Skin Gauges @ x1334

Right Wing Skin Gauges @ x1217.9

Right Wing Skin Gauges @ x1276

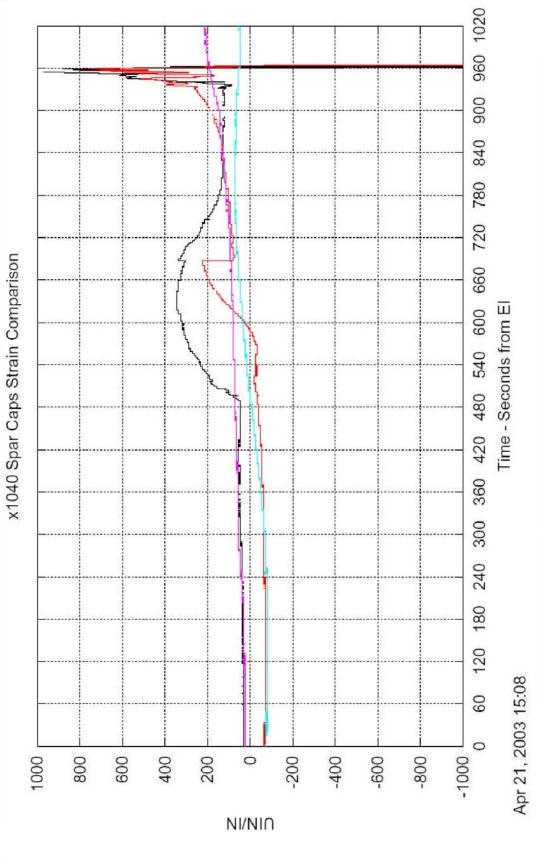




- The spar cap gauges are two of only three left wing gauges which did not fail prior to vehicle breakup
- Further analysis is in work to assess potential explanations for these anomalous signatures
- Some Mid Fuselage and Right Wing Spar Cap Gauges Show Mild Discrepancies Versus Previous Flights
- Discrepancies are more subtle
- A Number of Right Wing Skin Gauges Show off Nominal Trending Initiating Near EI +500 Seconds
- Currently under further investigation

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-eft Wing X1040 Spar Cap Gauges Show an Anomalous Frend Initiating Between EI +500 and EI +600 Seconds

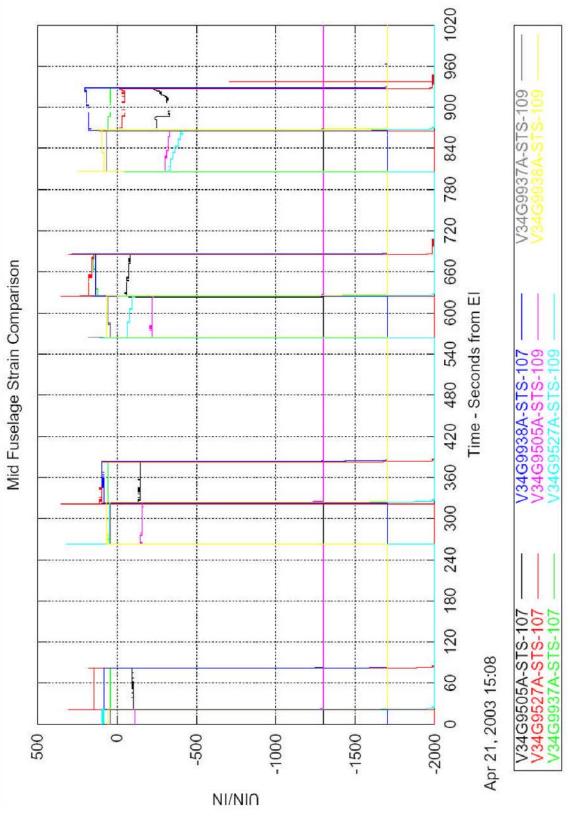


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Some Mid Fuselage Gauges Show Mild Discrepancies **Versus Previous Flights**

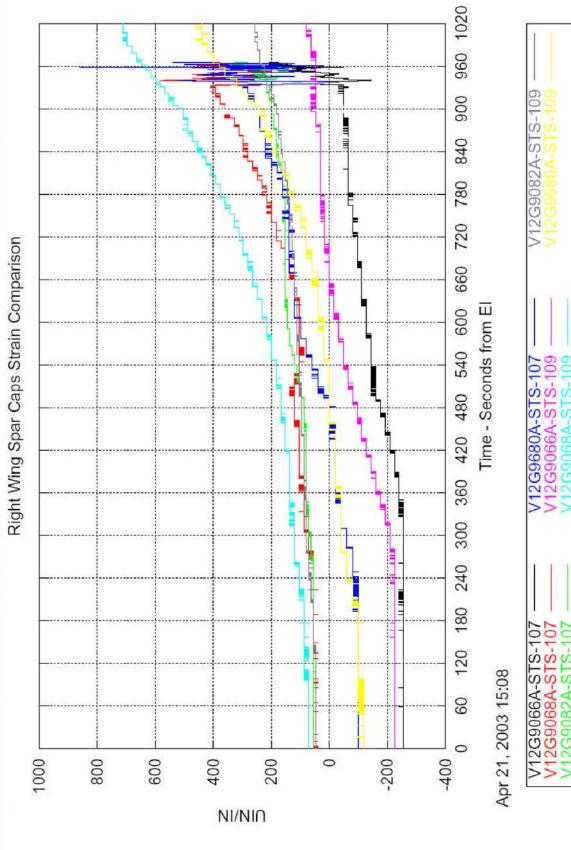




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Some Right Wing Spar Cap Gauges Show Mild **Discrepancies Versus Previous Flights**



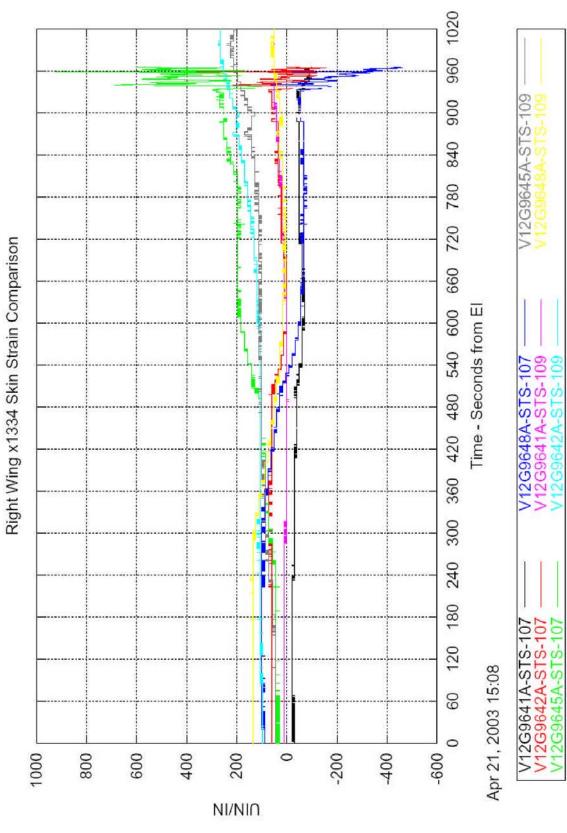


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A Number of Right Wing Skin Gauges Show Off-Nominal Frending Initiating Near El +500 Seconds



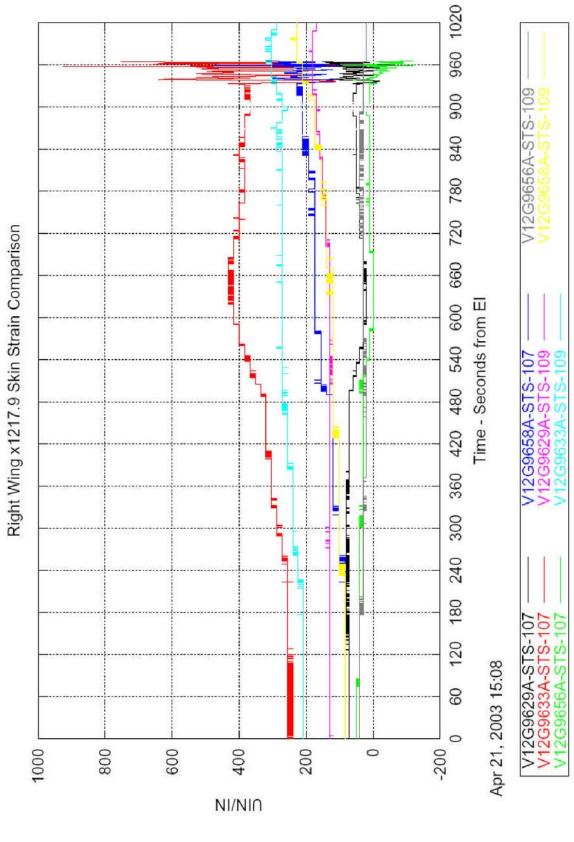


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124/03 38

A Number of Right Wing Skin Gauges Show Off-Nominal Frending Initiating Near El +500 Seconds



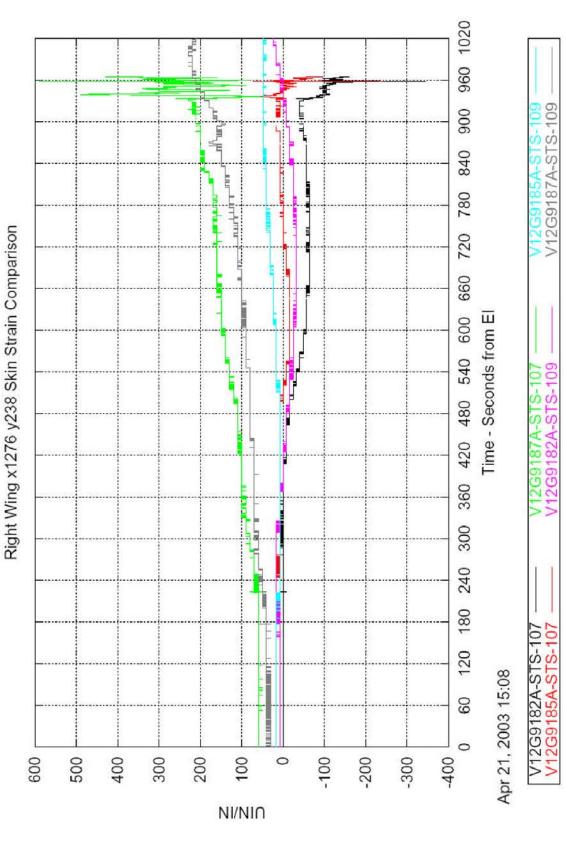


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A Number of Right Wing Skin Gauges Show Off-Nominal Trending Initiating Near El +500 Seconds



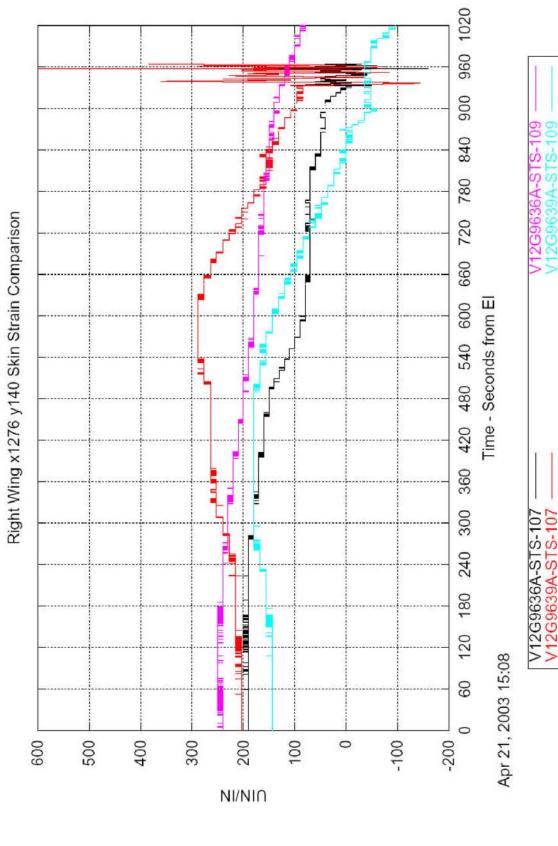


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A Number of Right Wing Skin Gauges Show Off-Nominal Trending Initiating Near El +500 Seconds





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RCC Panel 9





V12G9921A, V09T9910A, & V09T9895A

Data for these three gauges was plotted together

Indicates failure at approximately the same time for V12G9921A and V09T9910A (~EI +495sec)

Later failure for V09T9895A (~EI +515sec)

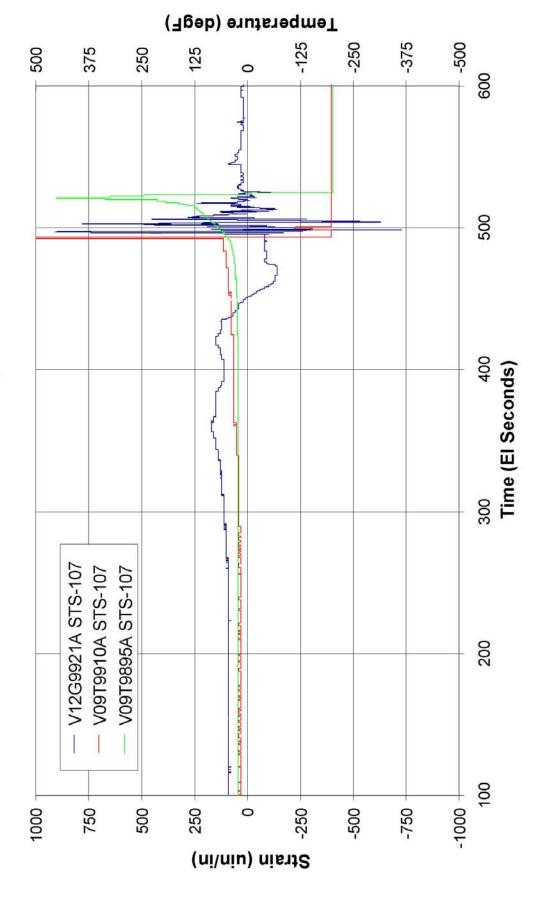
Continued analysis is underway for this data.

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RCC Panel 9 Strain and Temperature Gauges



RCC Panel 9 OEX Gages, STS-107



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STS-107 MADS Pressure Data

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Summary

Ascent

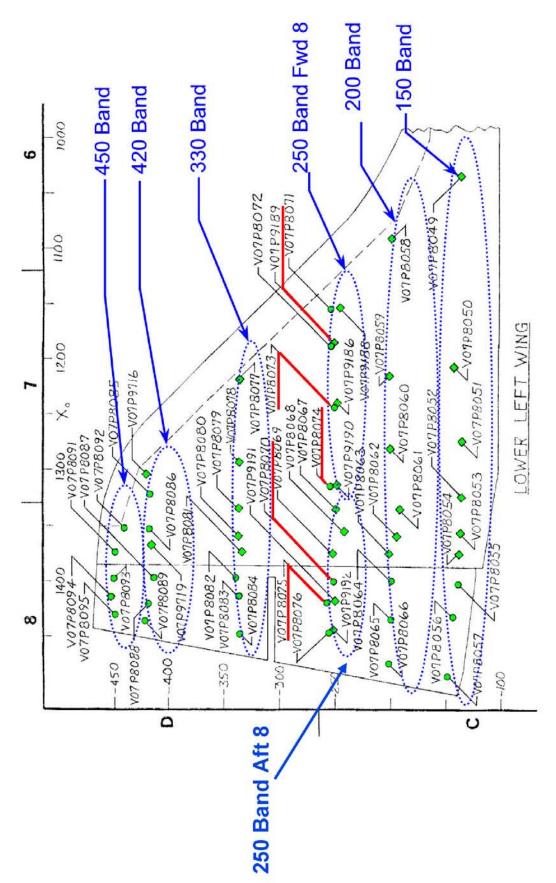
- Pressure transducers are sized for ascent load environments
- Pressures were compared within Y-station family and with past flights
- Pressure tap V07P8073 appears to have been hit at 84.4 seconds
- Pressure tap V07P8074 is "out-of-family" after 82 seconds as compared to past flights
- Pressure taps V07P8070, V07P8075 and V07P9189 have similar strange behavior around 102-104 seconds
- Remaining pressure taps show no significant events

- Pressures also compared within Y-station and past flights
- Data review typically made in the Mach 3.5 to 0.6 range for instrument functionality and "signature" comparison
- Pressures generally show intermittent data spikes/dropouts in the 480-660 sec and 930-970 sec timeframe

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-ower Left Wing Y-Station Taps



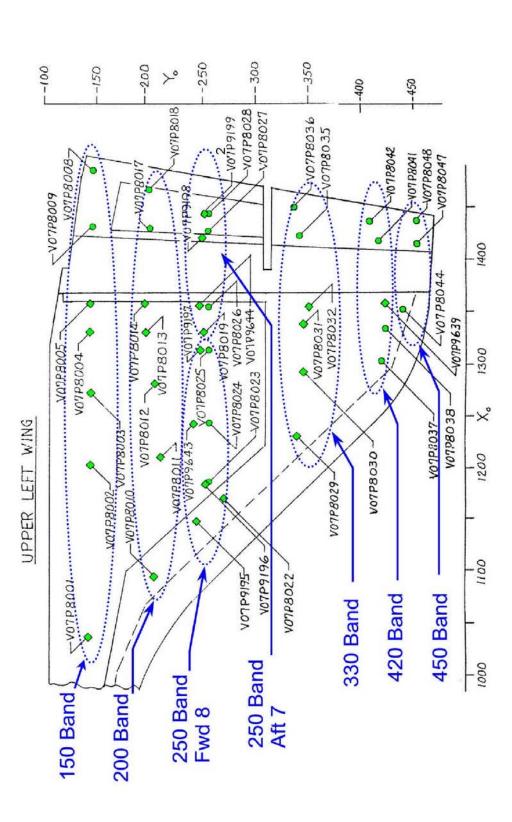


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Jpper Left Wing Y-Station Taps





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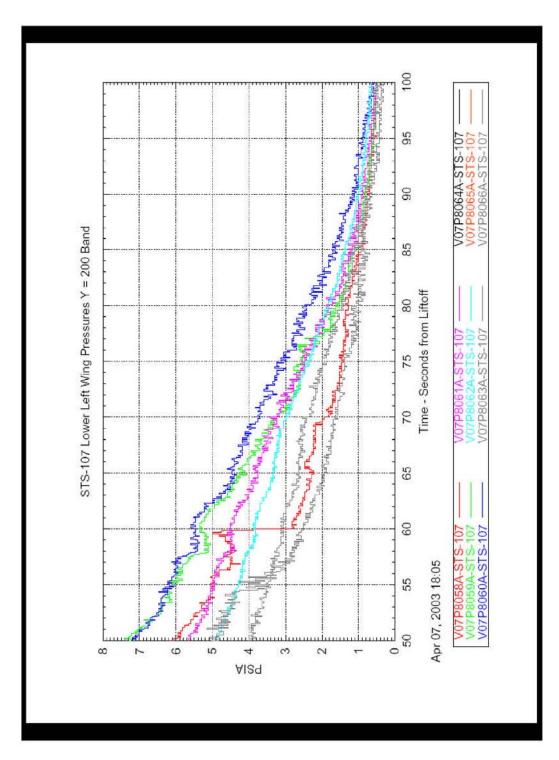
STS-107 MADS Pressure Data

Ascent

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Lower Left Wing Y=200 Taps

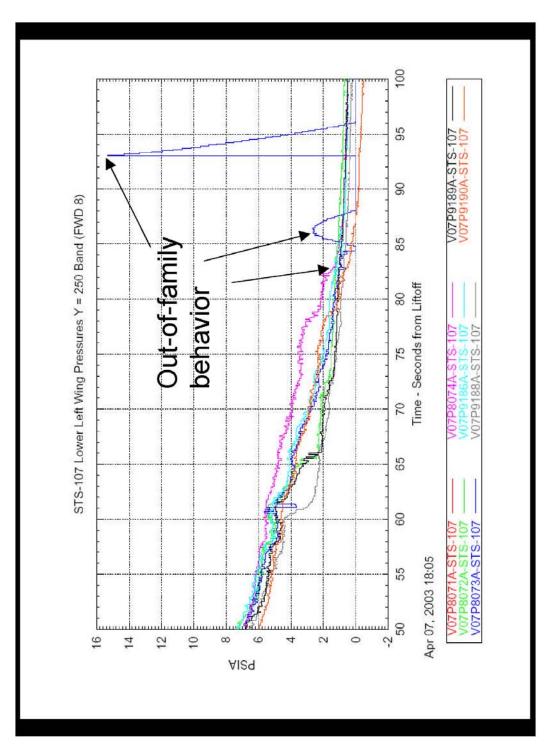




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_ower Left Wing Y=250 Taps (Fwd 8)



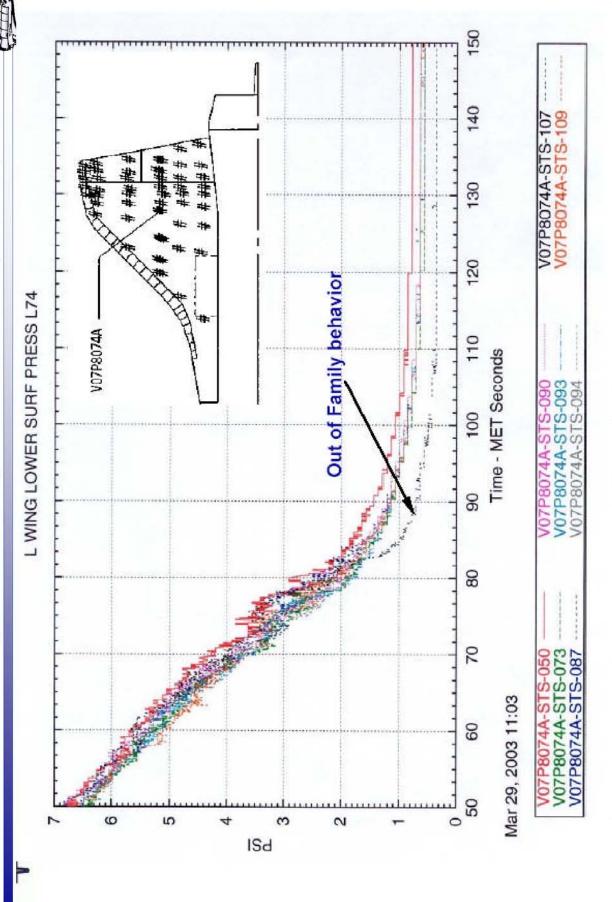


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Lower Left Wing Y=250 Tap V07P8074A (Fwd 8)

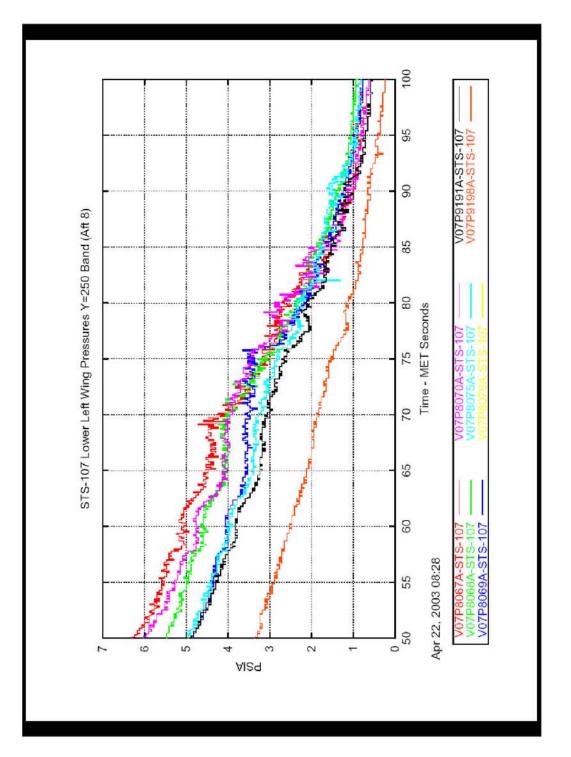


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_ower Left Wing Y=250 Taps (Aft 8)





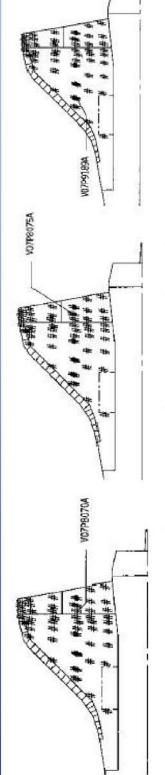
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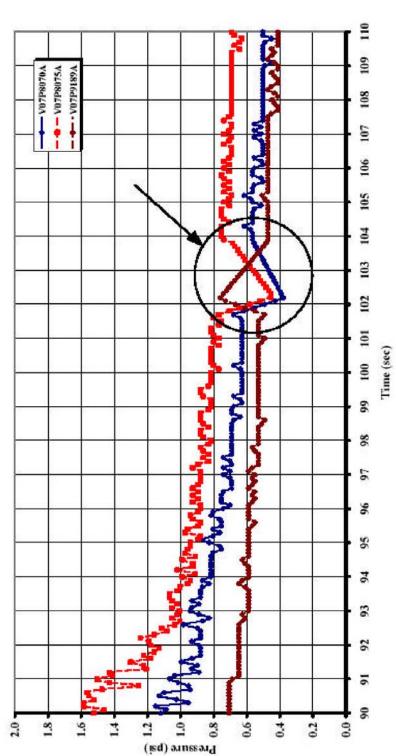
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Three Lower Left Wing Y=250 Taps Have Similar Behavior at 102 Seconds





STS-107 Lower Wing Pressure Comparison, Y= 250



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Back-up Data

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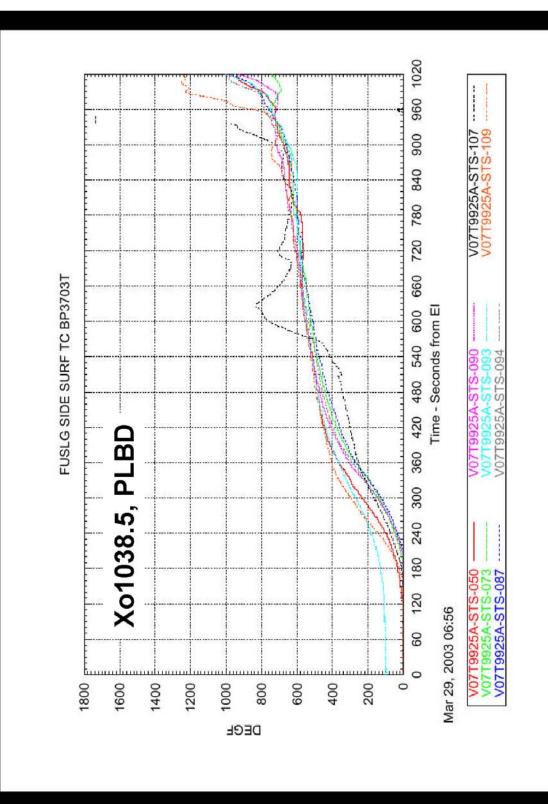


Back-up Data, Temperature

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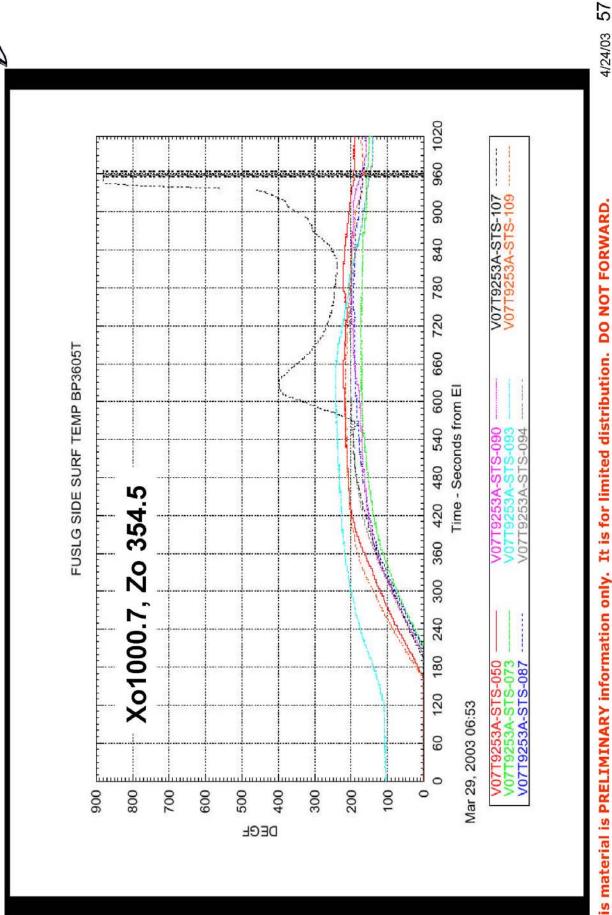
Comparison Left Side Surface - Entry





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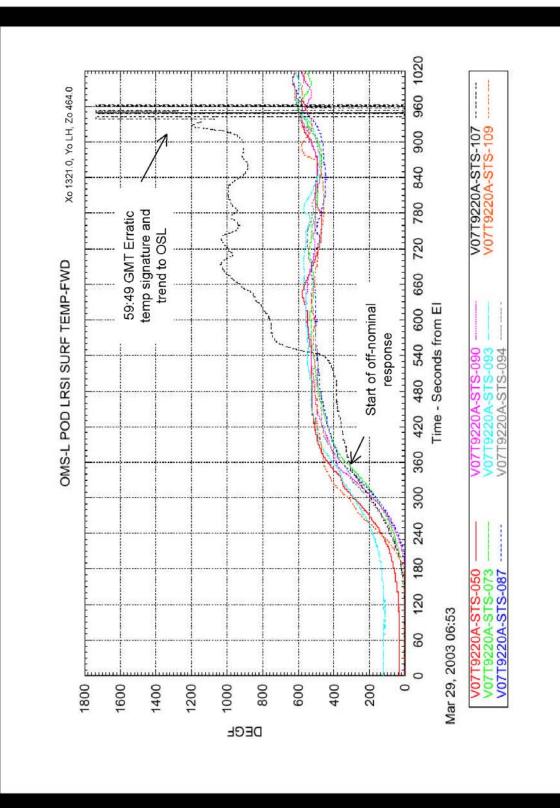
Comparison Left Side Surface - Entry



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Comparison Left Pod Surface Temp Response





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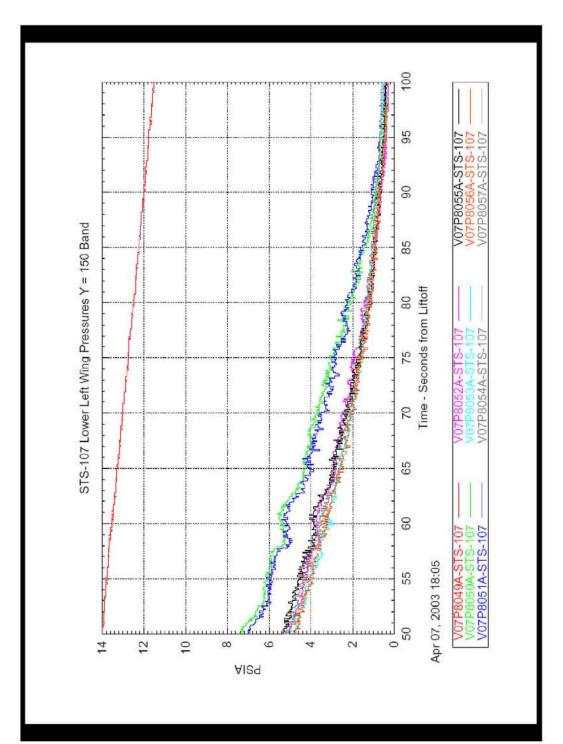


Back-up Data, Pressure

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ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION BOARD





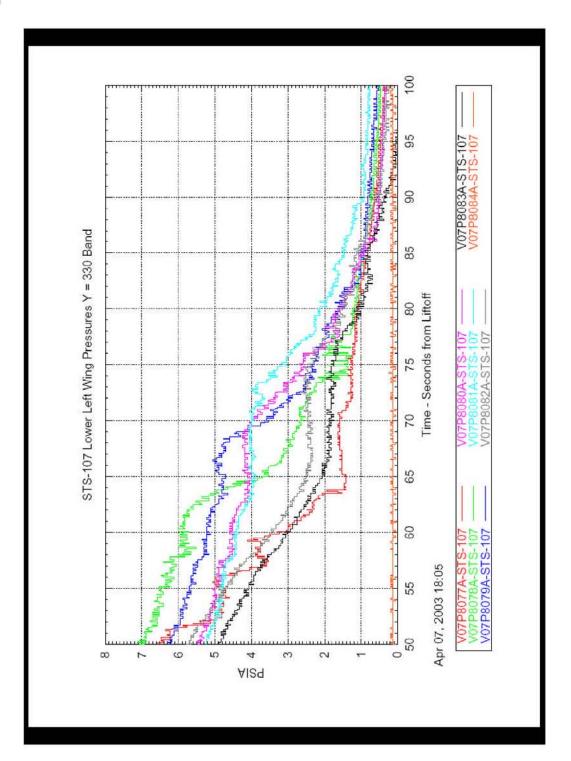
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_ower Left Wing Y=150 Taps

_ower Left Wing Y=330 Taps



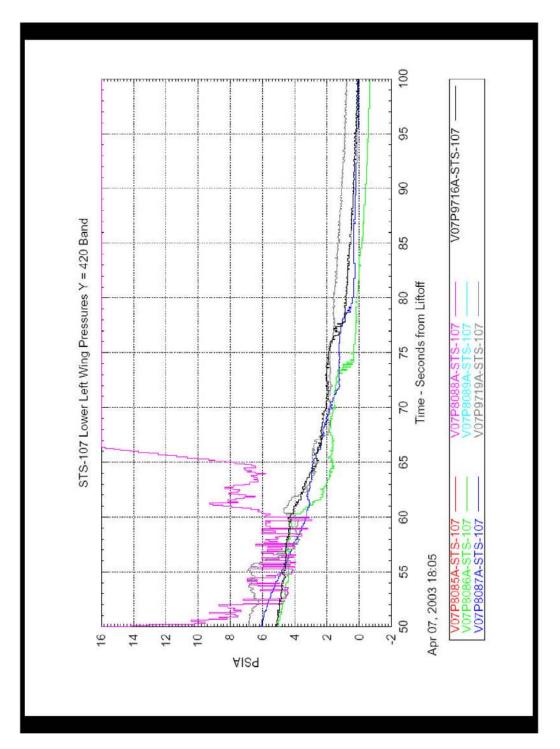
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CAIB-NAIT Pres

_ower Left Wing Y=420 Taps

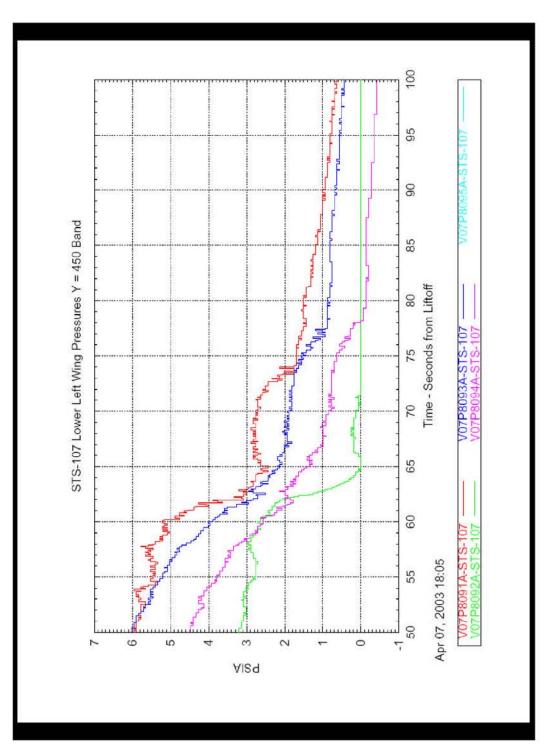




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Lower Left Wing Y=450 Taps

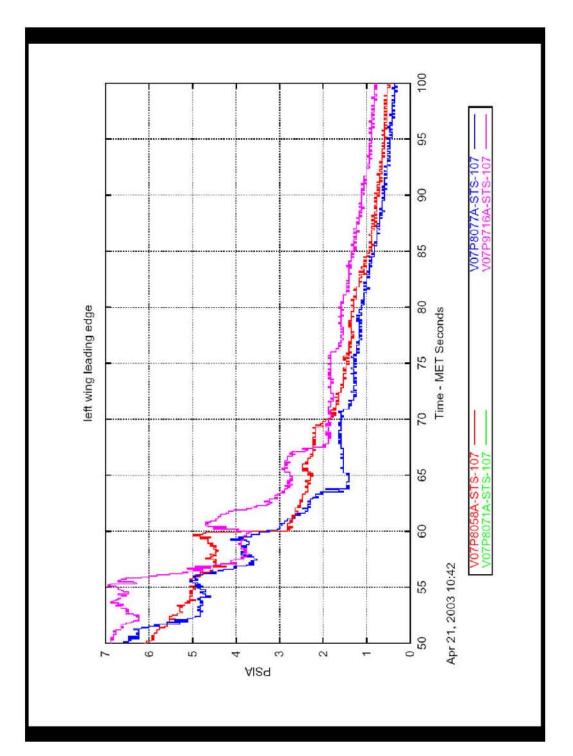




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Left Wing Leading Edge (Lower) Taps

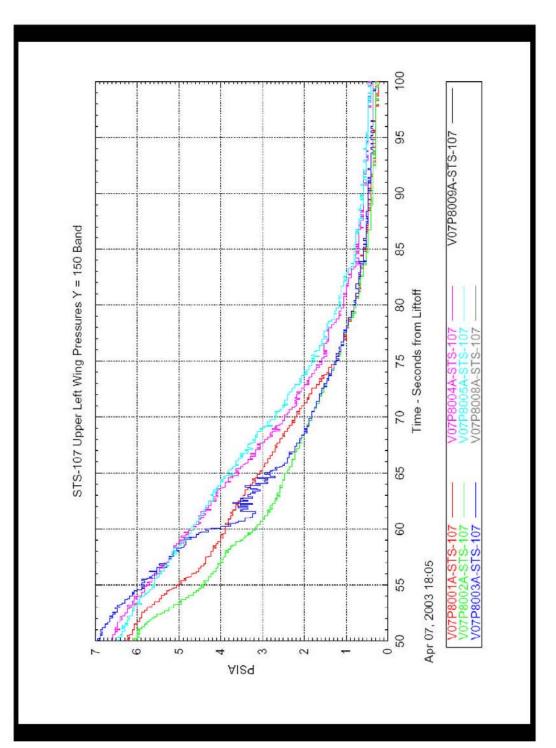




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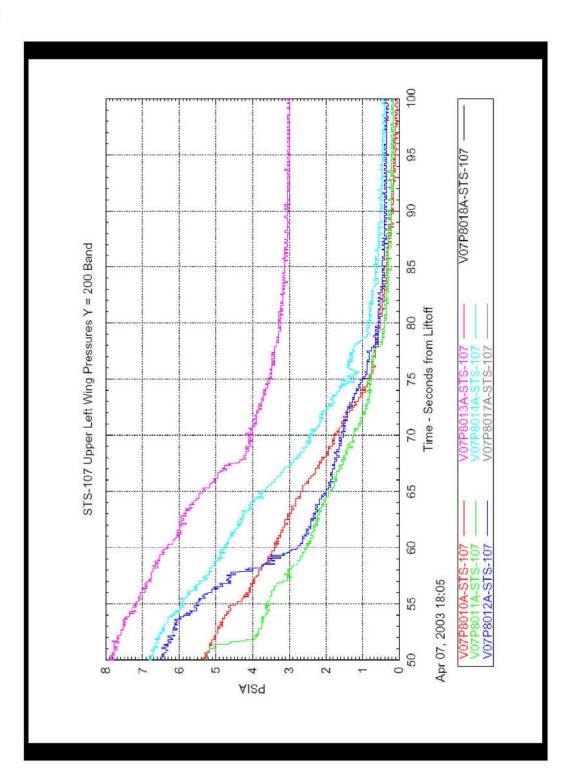
Jpper Left Wing Y=150 Taps





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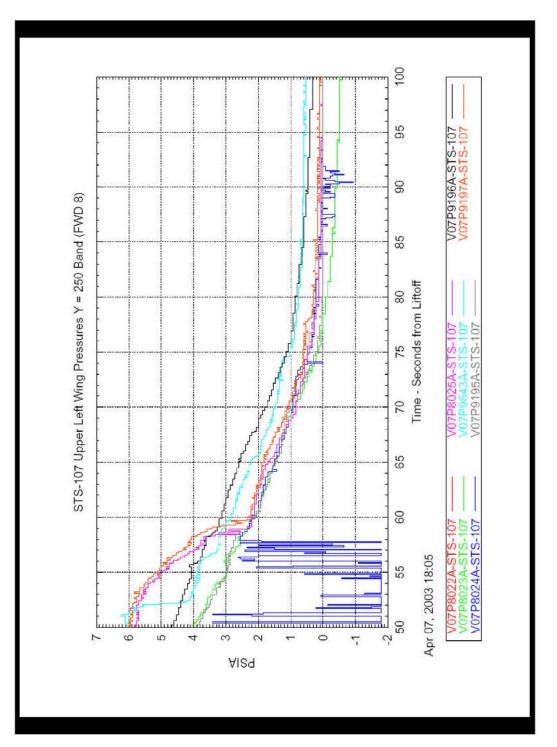
Upper Left Wing Y=200 Taps



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Jpper Left Wing Y=250 Taps (Fwd 8)



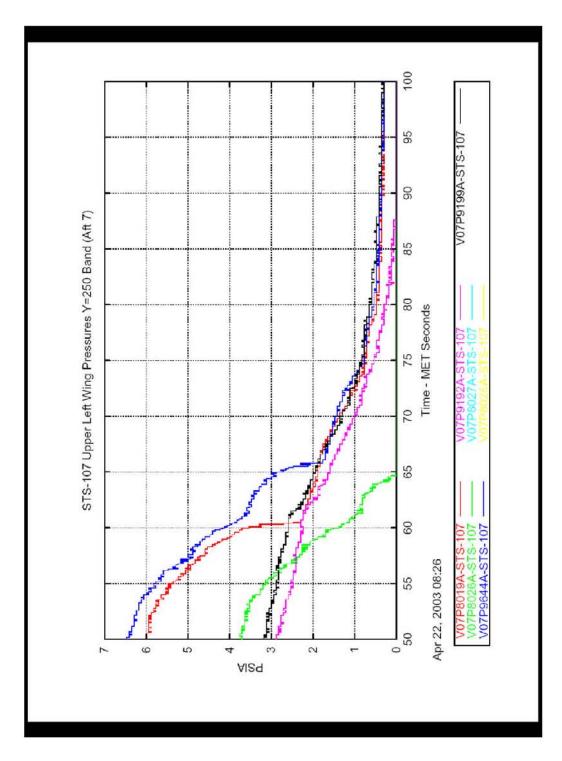


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Upper Left Wing Y=250 Taps (Aft 7)





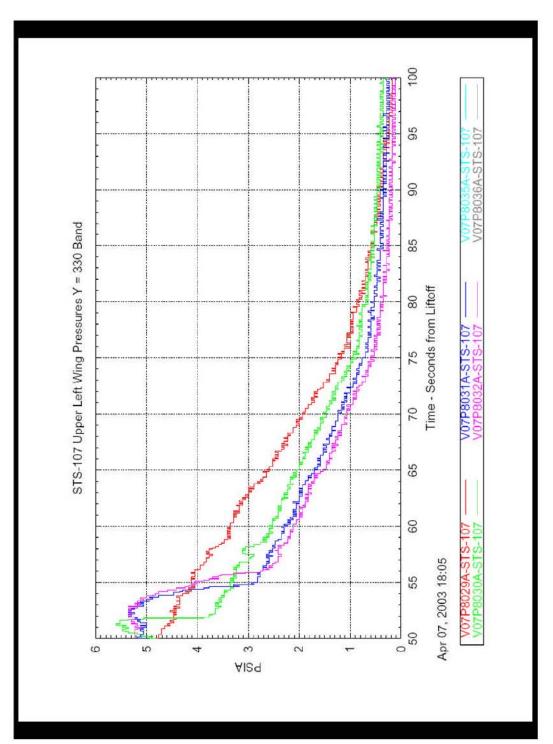
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CAIB-NAIT Pres

Upper Left Wing Y=330 Taps

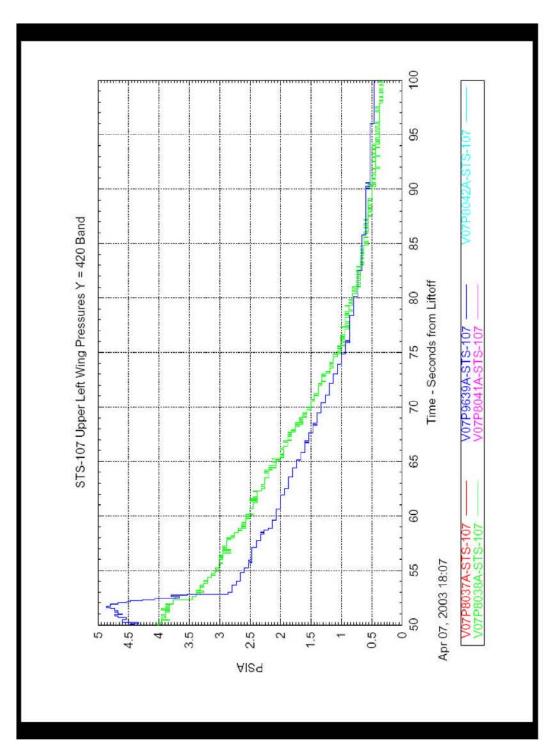




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Upper Left Wing Y=420 Taps



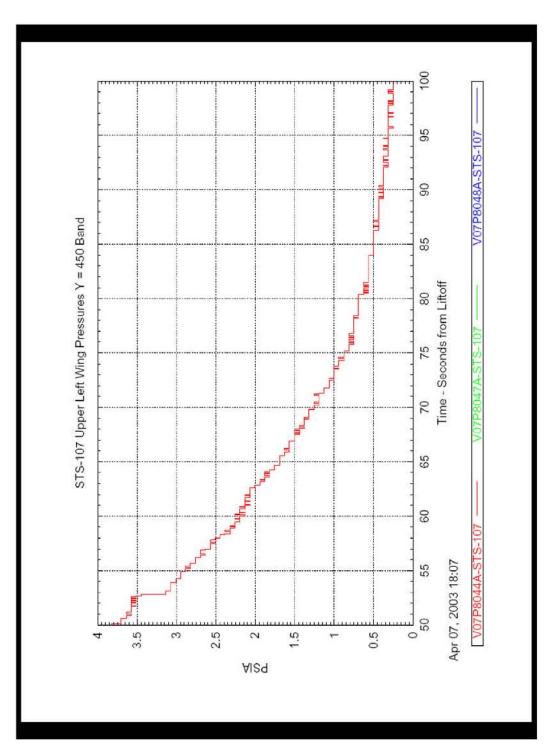


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Upper Left Wing Y=450 Taps

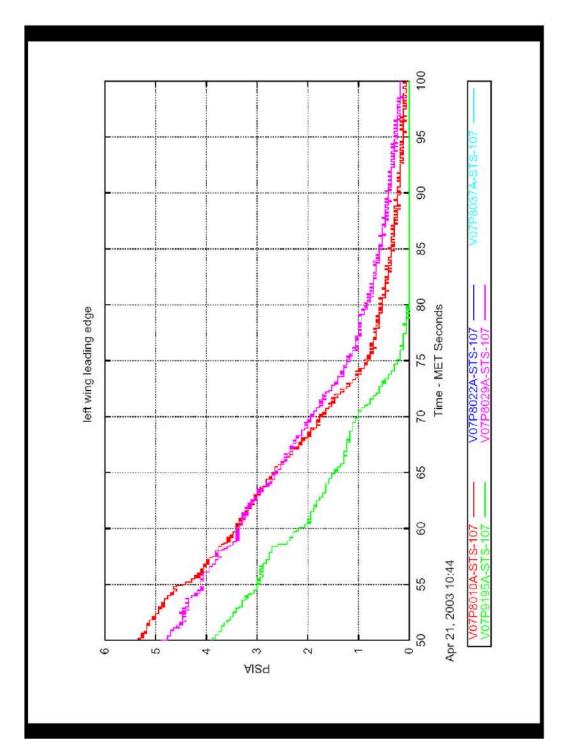




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Left Wing Leading Edge (Upper) Taps





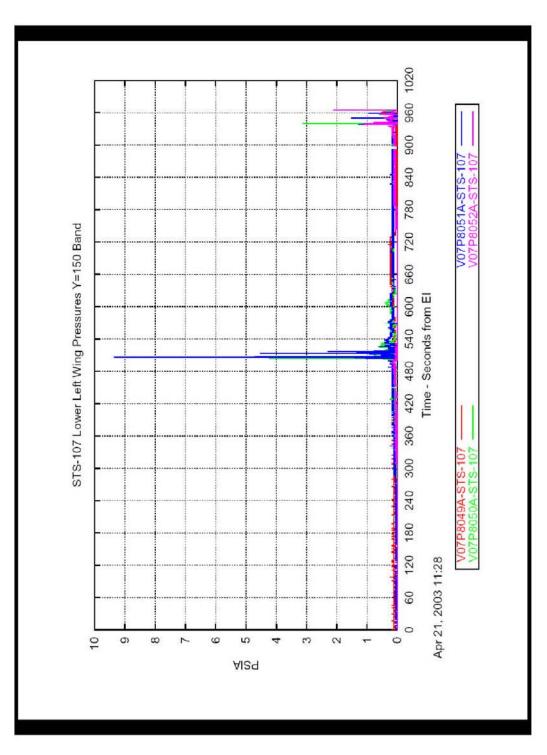
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Lower Left Wing Y=150 Taps (Fwd 4)

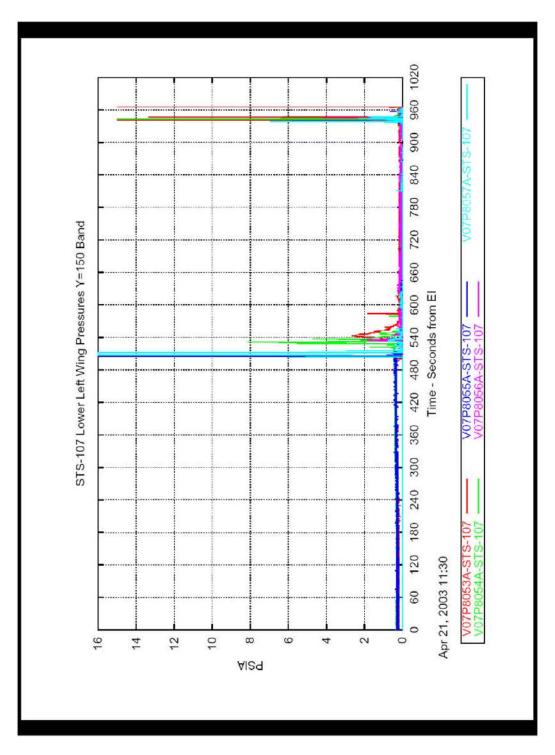




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_ower Left Wing Y=150 Taps (Aft 5)



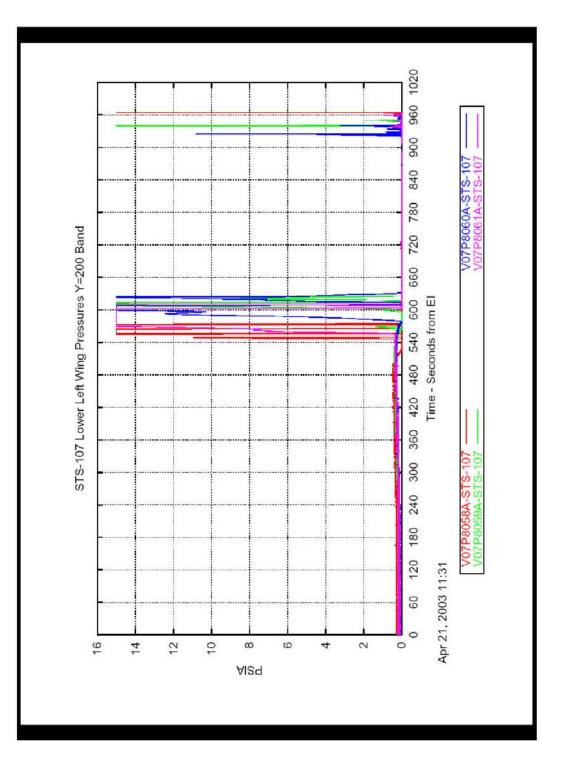


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Lower Left Wing Y=200 Taps (Fwd 4)



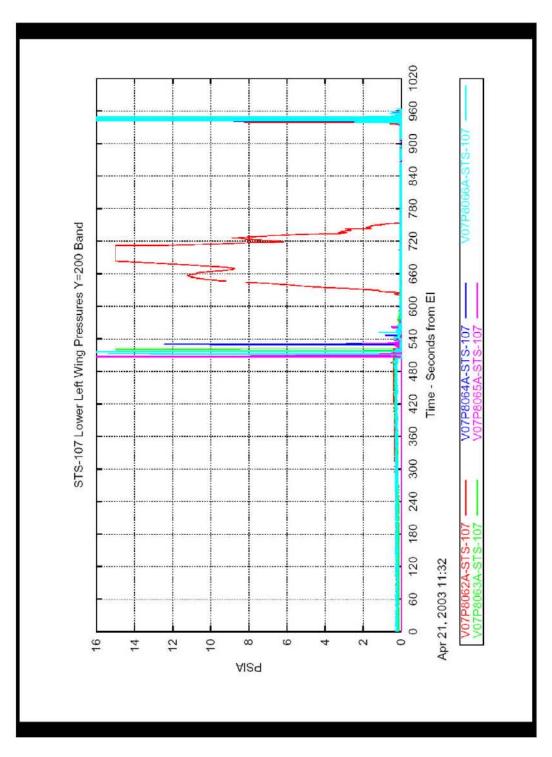


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Lower Left Wing Y=200 Taps (Aft 5)

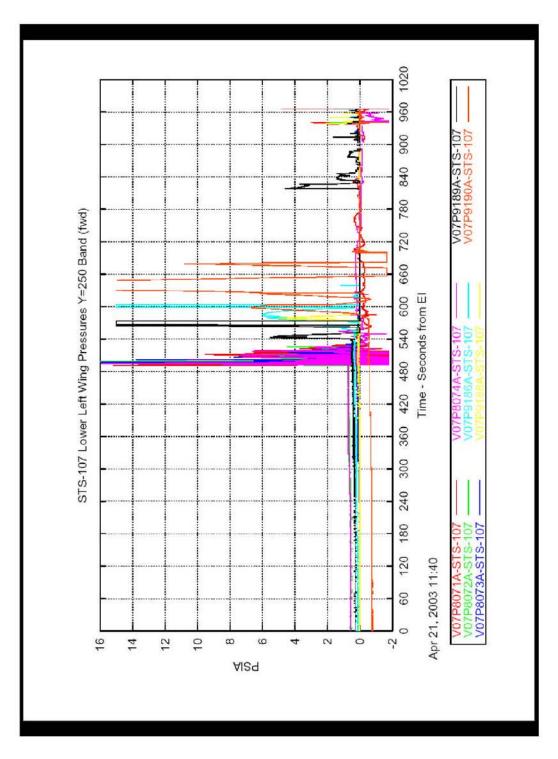




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Lower Left Wing Y=250 Taps (Fwd 8)

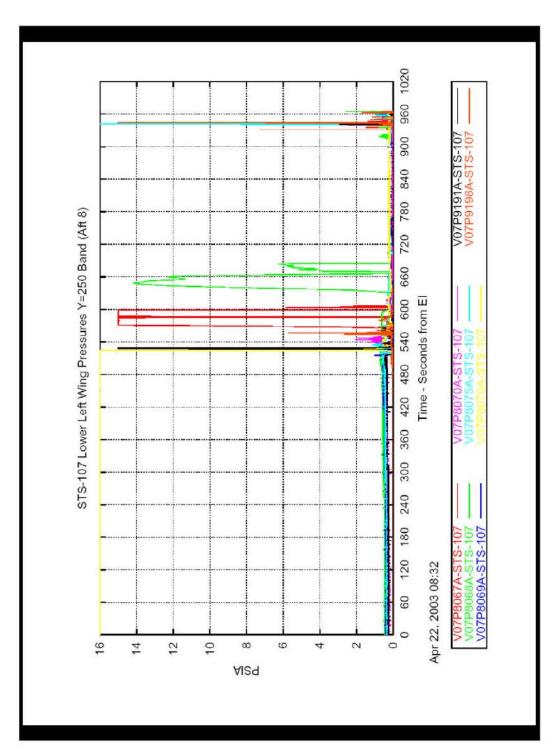




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_ower Left Wing Y=250 Taps (Aft 8)





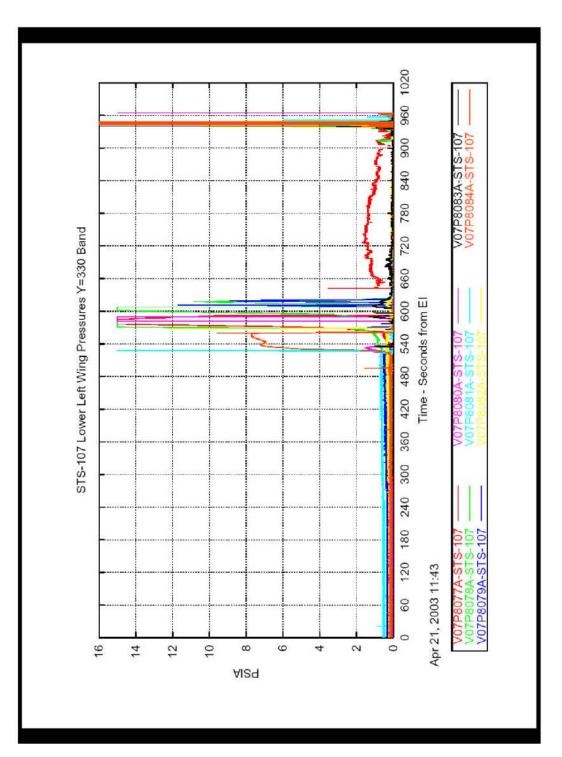
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Lower Left Wing Y=330 Taps

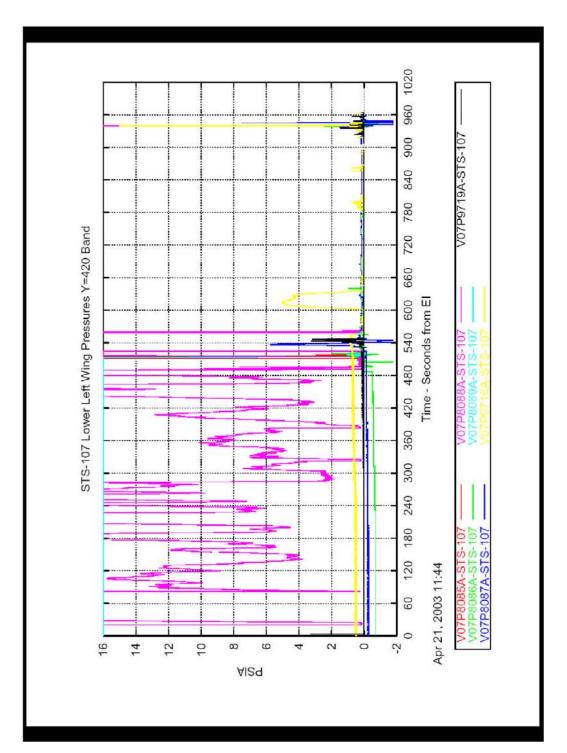




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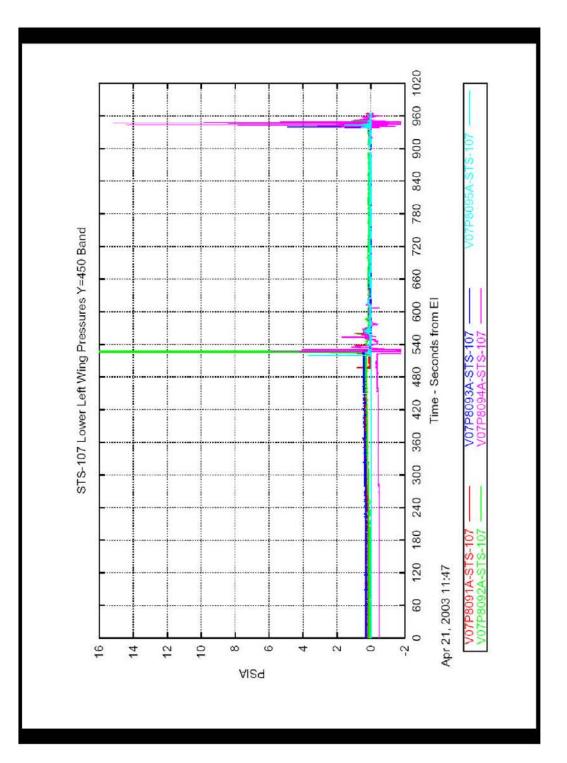
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CAIB-NAIT Pres

Lower Left Wing Y=420 Taps

Lower Left Wing Y=450 Taps

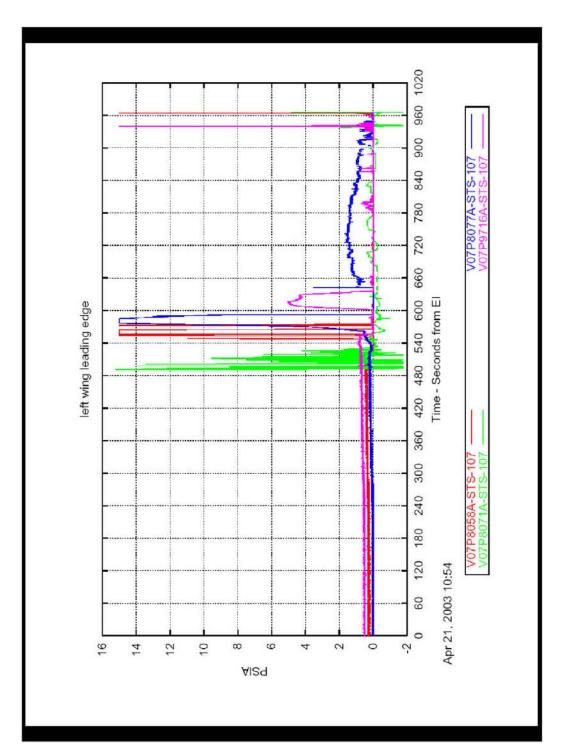




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Left Wing Leading Edge (Lower) Taps

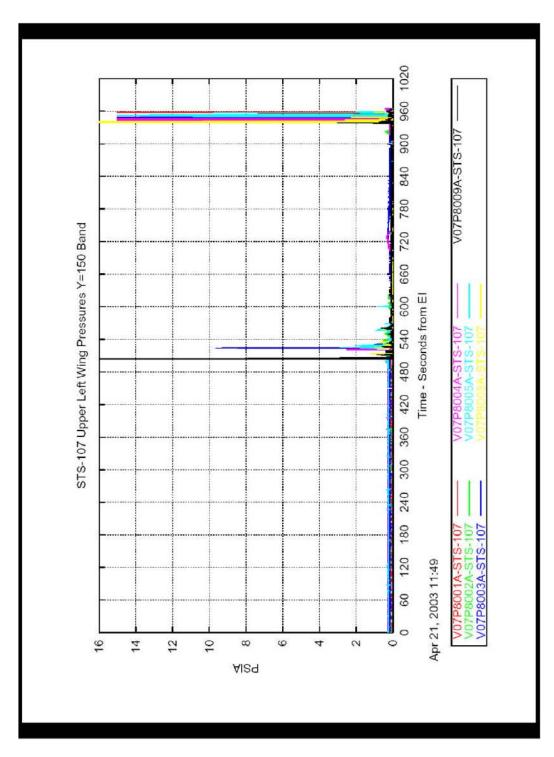




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Jpper Left Wing Y=150 Taps

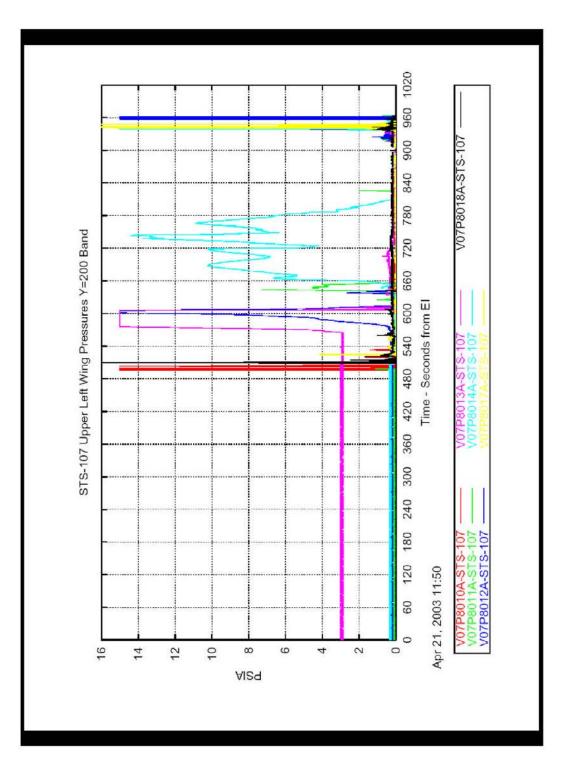




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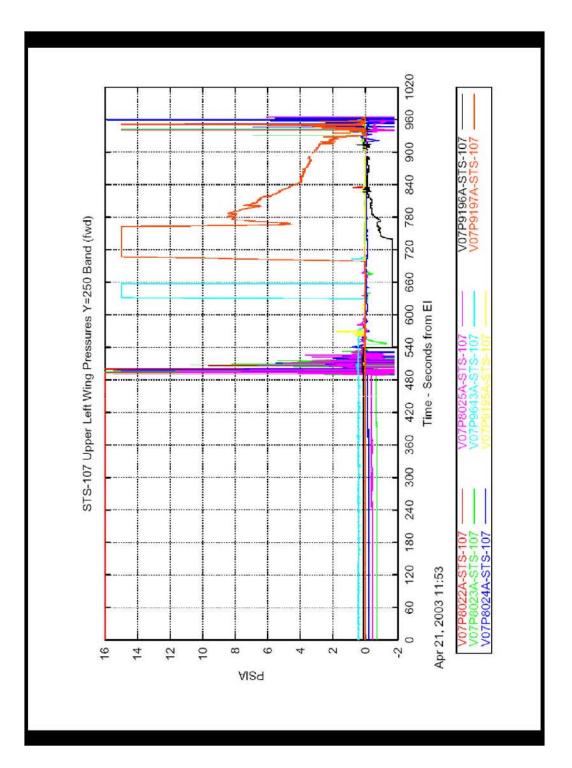
Jpper Left Wing Y=200 Taps





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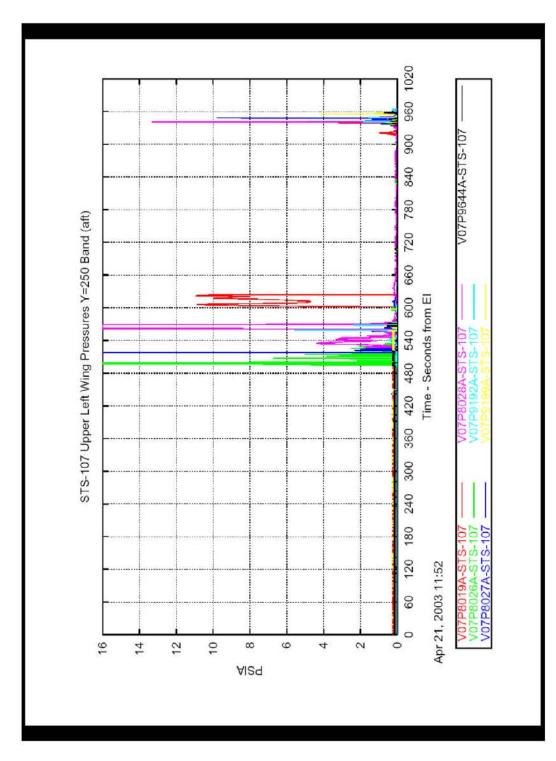
Upper Left Wing Y=250 (Fwd 8)



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Upper Left Wing Y=250 (Aft 7)

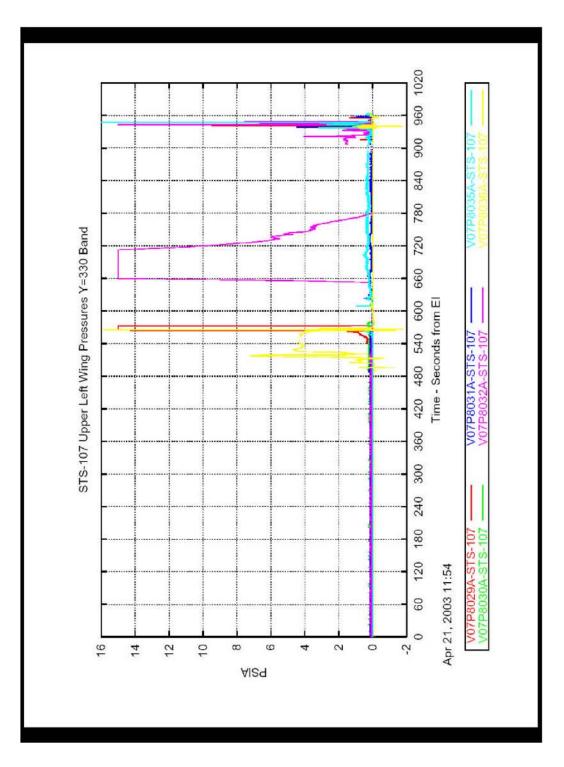




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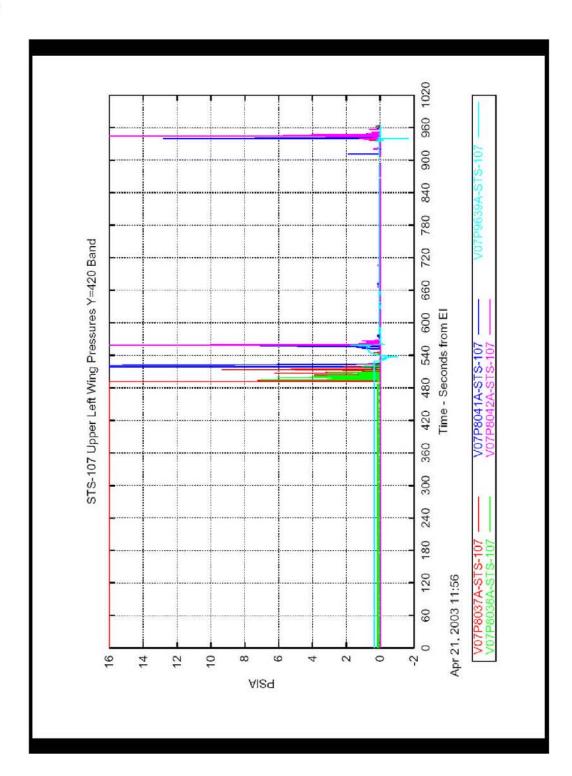
Upper Left Wing Y=330





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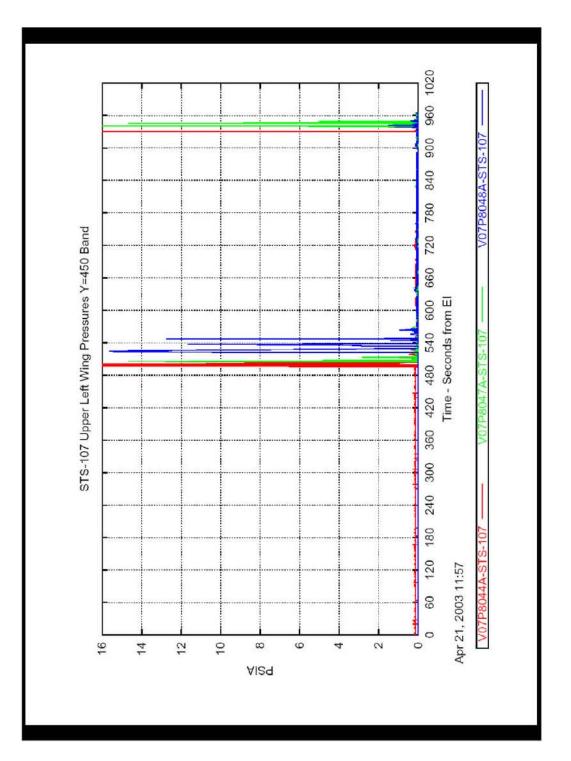
Upper Left Wing Y=420



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Upper Left Wing Y=450

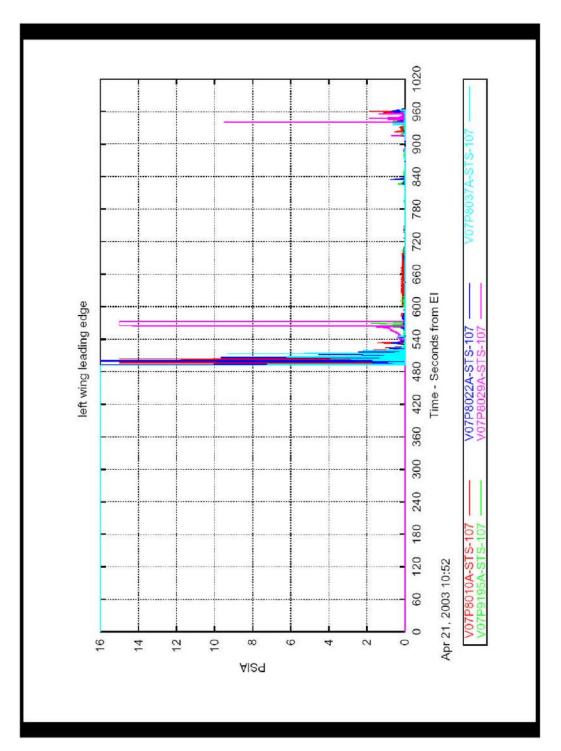




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Left Wing Leading Edge (Upper) Taps





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Strain Gage Assessment STS-107 x1040 Spar Cap

Boeing Houston Orbiter Stress Analysis S.C. Sorenson 13 June 2003



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Background



- Thermal effects are a more reasonable explanation than load redistribution scenarios.
- Lower spar cap shows a slope sign reversal.
- No slope changes before or after sharp data changes.
- The current analysis uses FEM methods to assess the feasibility of thermally induced strain as a mechanism to produce the observed signatures.
- Analysis does not attempt to model actual structural temperatures.
- Objective is to determine the structural response to local temperature differentials.



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STS-107 Data Examination





- Sharp data drop near EI+690 seconds is questionable data.
- Drop occurs in one time step
- No preceding slope change.
- Current opinion of instrumentation is that the data is good up to the terminal phase (~EI+930 sec)
- Also extremely unlikely as a real strain event
- Data beyond EI+690 seconds will not be analyzed
- Nominal trend lines, based on STS-109 entry data, were superimposed for comparison

Key data event times were annotated.



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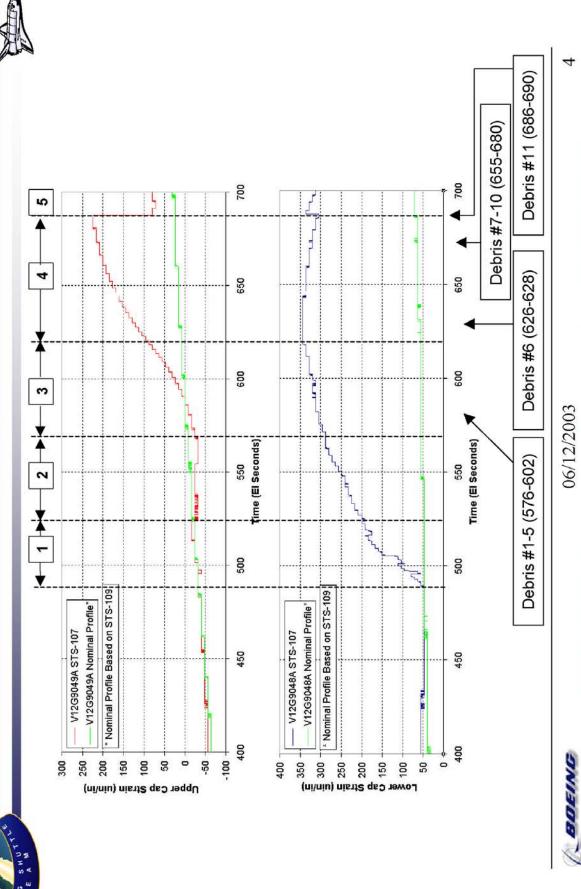
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STS-107 Reconstructed Data



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FEM Results Summary

Qualitative summary of analyzed FEM cases & results:

Case	Description	Upper Cap Reaction	Lower Cap Reaction
4A	Calibration (all nodes @ 70°F)	None	None
4B	Equal heating of spar web,	Significant tension (20%	Significant tension
	forward upper and lower skins	higher than lower cap)	
4C	Heating of outboard, aft, upper skin only	Significant tension	Very low tension
4D	Combined 4B and 4C	Significant tension	Significant tension
		(effects additive)	(effects additive)
4F	Heating forward lower skin only	Very low compression	Significant tension
46	Heating of W/LE nodes	Very low compression	Low compression
	100 miles 100 mi	A STATE OF THE STA	(zx upper cap)
4H	Heating of outboard, aft, lower skin only	Very low compression	Very low tension
4	Heating of spar web nodes only	Very low tension	Low tension (2x upper cap)
4.1	Heating of Yo167 rib sections	Very low tension	Very low tension
4L	Heating of upper spar cap only	Significant compression	Very low compression
4 M	Heating of aft upper skin only	Significant tension	Very low compression

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FEM Results Analysis





define the most likely profile that could have produced screened versus corroborating scenario evidence to Several profile sequences were developed, and the observed strains.

The most rational temperature profile was selected.

and lower forward skins, and upper spar cap, with less Combined heating of aft upper skin, spar web, upper heating to lower spar cap.



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FEM Scenario Temperature Profile



Case	Description	Upper Cap Reaction	Lower Cap Reaction	Scenario
A1	+40°F applied to spar web, forward upper & lower skins, and upper spar cap	13 µin/in (8 µin/in) (Recorded strain)	146 µin/în (152)	Heating in front of spar and aft upper skin.
	+/5"F applied to outboard, aft, upper skin		Marian de un	The second second
A2	+75°F applied to spar web,	-11 µin/in	225 µin/in	Continued heating
	upper spar cap	(-16)	(232)	aft upper skin.
	+120°F applied to aft, upper skin along y167 rib			Some heating in lower spar cap.
	+5°F applied to lower spar cap			
A3	+105°F applied to spar web,	73 µin/in	291 µin/in	Continued heating
	torward upper & lower skins, and	(72)	(288)	In front of spar and
	220 220 1000	7	1	Continued heating
	+145°F applied to aft, upper skin above MLG wheel well			in lower spar cap.
	+10°F applied to lower spar cap			
A4	+105°F applied to spar web,	200 µin/in	237 Jin/in	Thermal EQ in spar
	forward upper & lower skins, and			web, forward skins,
	upper spar cap	(200)	(232)	and upper cap.
	+190°F applied to aft, upper skin above MI G wheel well			Continued neating in lower cap.
	+20°F applied to lower spar cap			Continued heating of aft unner skin

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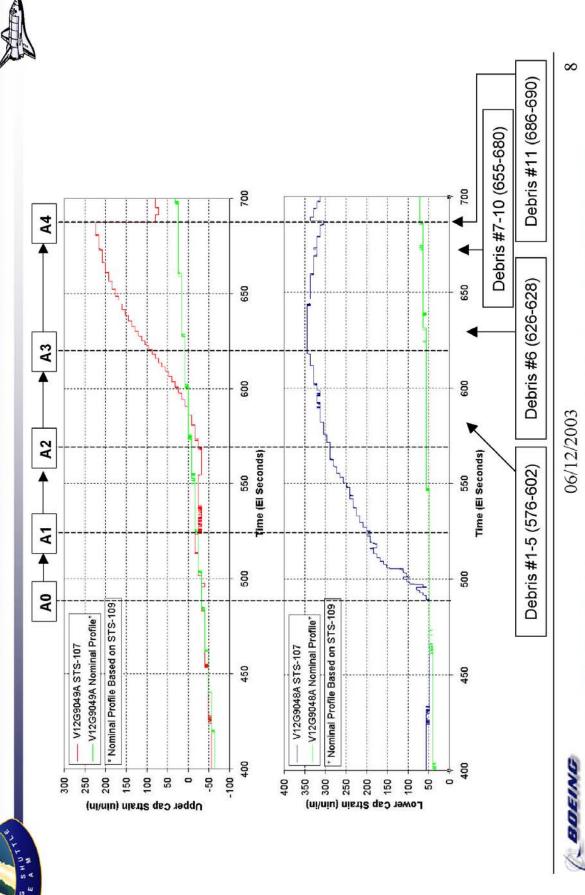
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FEM Scenario Timeline Plot



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Conclusions



- the observed Xo1040 upper and lower spar cap strains. Local temperature gradients could potentially explain
- Strain gage evidence offers some support for failure cavity into the glove area and/or the MLG wheel well scenarios involving hot gas intrusion from the wing
- Timing of strain gage events has reasonable correlation with breach times of WLE and MLG well.
- Strain gage data does not, however, conclusively indicate this scenario.
- Results require the critical assumption that the lower spar cap is initially exposed to less heating than the upper cap, spar web, and nearby skins.



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- Wing Illustration
- Nominal entry strain plots
- STS-107 Full Data Reconstruction
- **FEM Illustrations**
- **FEM Case Results Summary**

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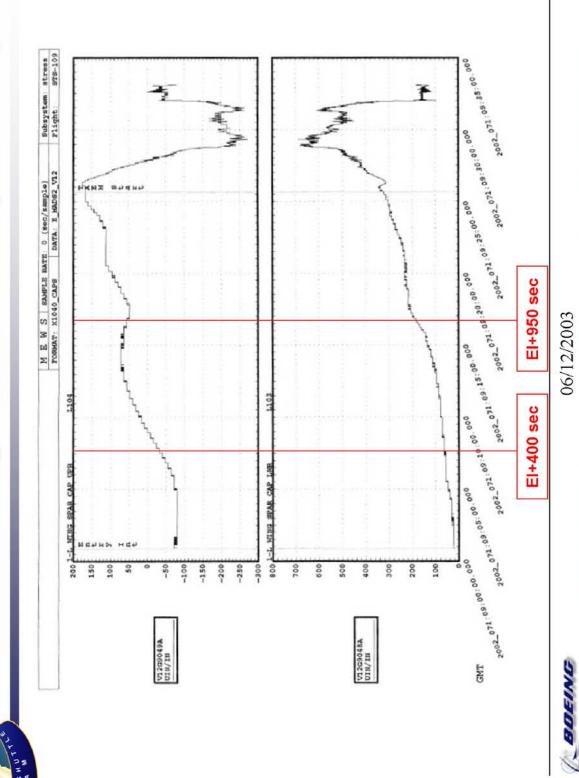
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Nominal Entry Strain Plots (STS-109)



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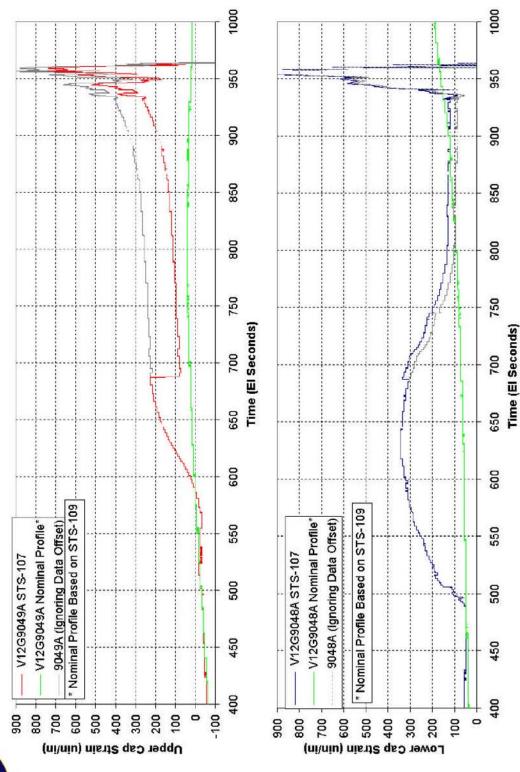
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STS-107 Full Data Reconstruction





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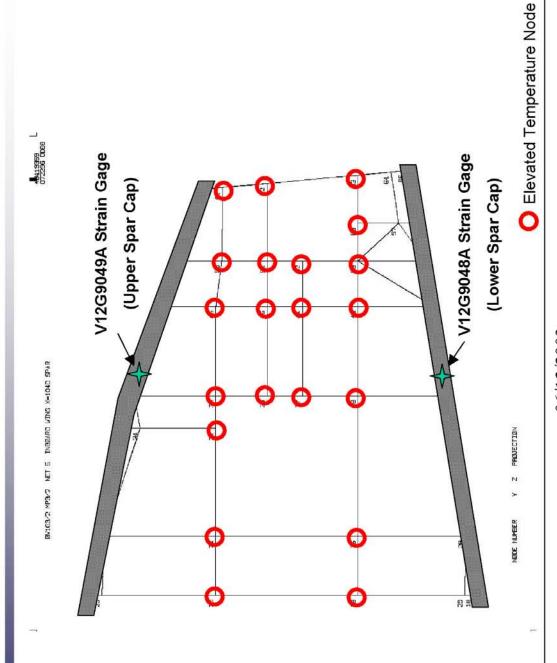
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FEM Illustration - x1040 Spar Nodes





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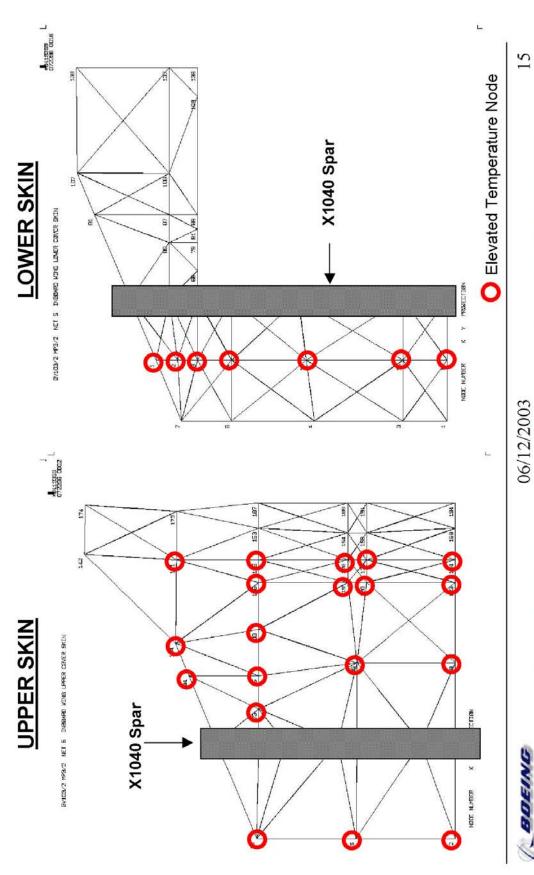
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FEM Illustration - Nearby Skin Nodes





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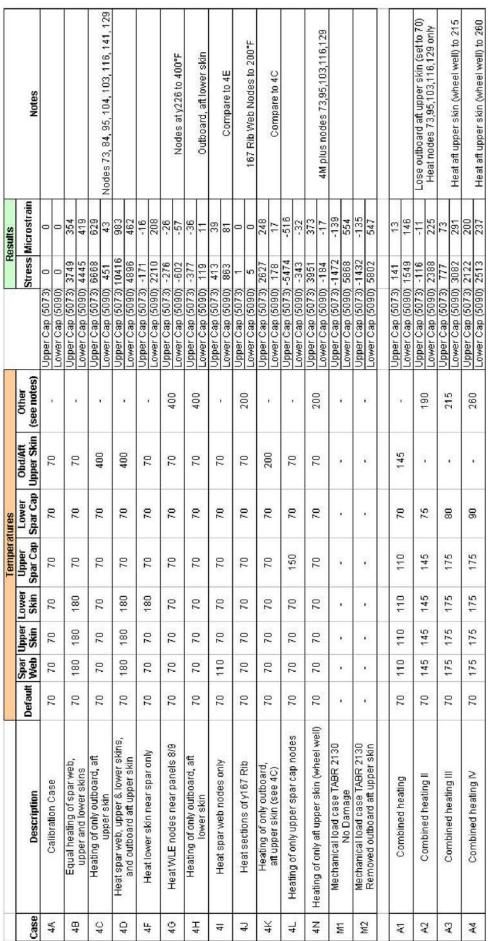
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FEM Case Results Summary



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Induced Thermal Strain Scenario

Presented by: Paul Parker



What is strain reaction both near and far from thermal event?

- How does strain react to distant thermal event?
- Thermal event occurs locally in structure
- Maximum strain at thermal event boundary
- Far field strains induced by thermal event
- How far away, L, from thermal event does thermally induced strain field extend?
- Strains reduce away from thermal event boundary
 - Specifically focused on gage V12G9921A near panel 9 in middle of spar



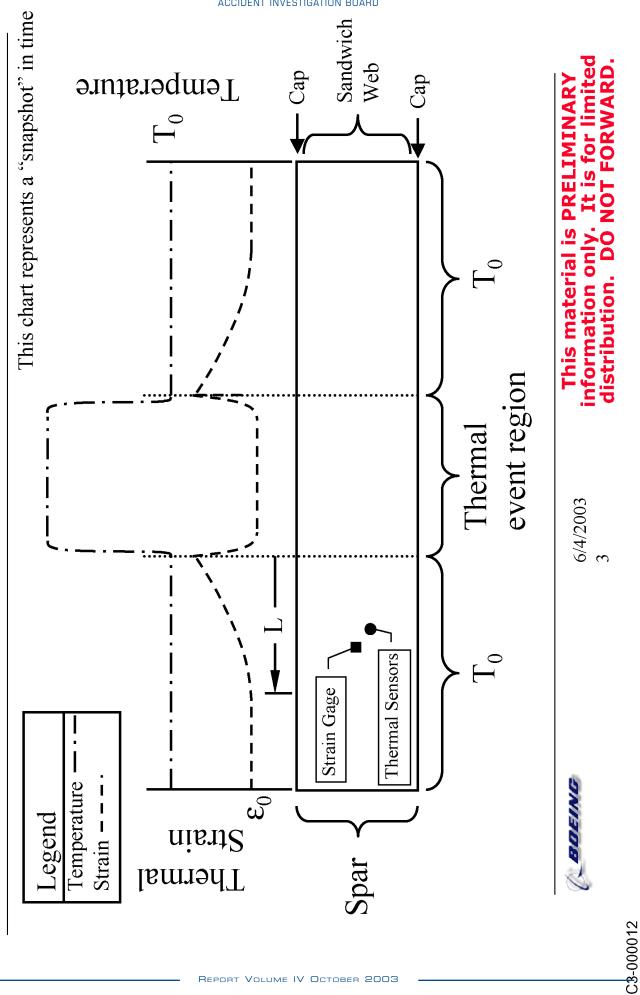
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Temperature Readings Lag Strain Measurements

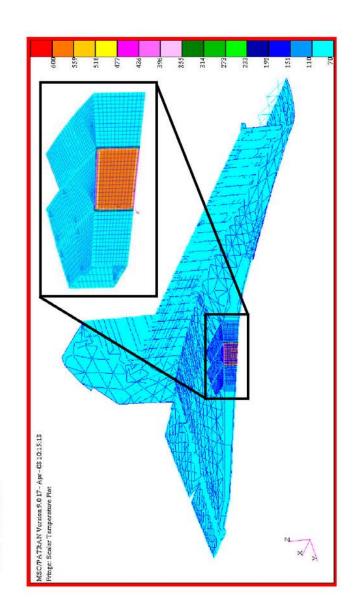
This chart represents a "snapshot" in time



Existing Model Refined for Local Region of Interest

Model Description

- Spar model developed from existing loads model
- Refined mesh on loads model in local region of interest
- Incorporated temperature dependent CTE and Young's Modulus



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Multiple Thermal Events Analyzed

Five thermal events analyzed

- Assumed 600°F on WLE web, 400°F on spar caps, 70°F on rest of structure
- Assume upper half WLE sees primary heating N
- Assumed initial heating of 300°F on upper half of WLE spar web and cap
- Assumed linear temperature distribution of 300°F to 70°F from middle of WLE web to bottom WLE cap
- 70°F on rest of structure
- Continue heating upper half WLE sees primary heating ო
- Assumed 600°F on upper half of WLE spar web and
- Assumed linear temperature distribution of 600°F to 70°F from middle of WLE web to bottom WLE cap
- 70°F on rest of structure



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Thermal Events Analyzed Continued...

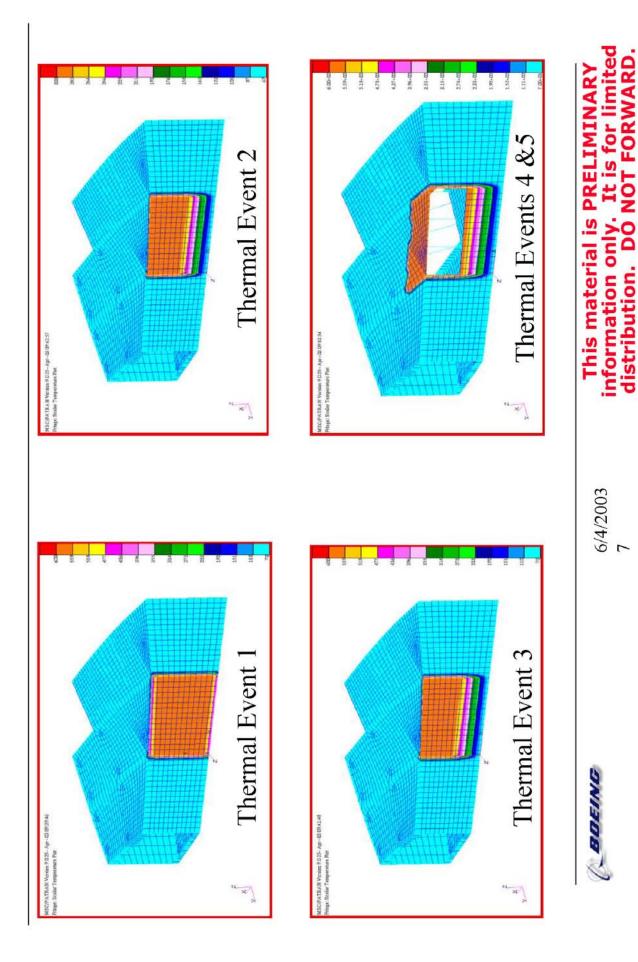
- Thermal events analyzed continued...
- Assume burn through on upper half WLE spar web
- Assumed 600°F on upper WLE cap, wing skin, and wing ribs up to 16 inches from WLE
- from edge of burn through (middle of WLE web) to bottom Assumed linear temperature distribution of 600°F to 70°F WLE cap
- 70°F on rest of structure
- Assume burn through on upper half WLE spar web and spar cap 5
- Assumed 600°F on upper wing skin and wing ribs up to 16 inches from WLE
- from edge of burn through (middle of WLE web) to bottom Assumed linear temperature distribution of 600°F to 70°F WLE cap
- 70°F on rest of structure



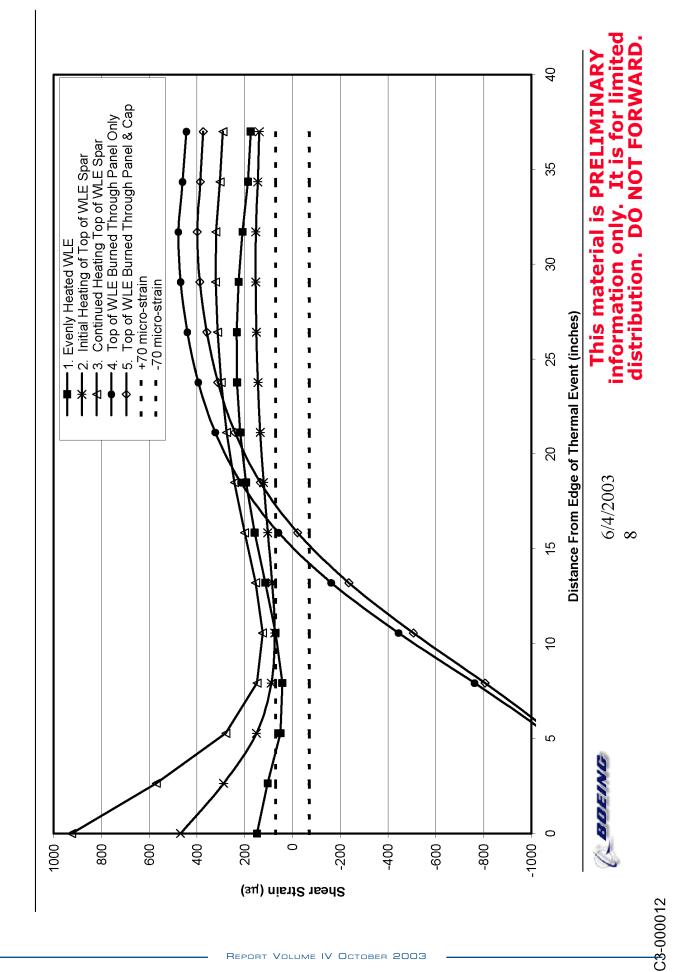
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Thermal Event Temperature Distributions



Shear Strain Results Along Midspan of WLE Spar



Mike Dunham 4-30-03 Thermal_strain_scenario_presentation.ppt

Increase in Shear Strain Magnitude Thermal Event Can Cause

Results

- Thermal event #1
- Increase in shear strain magnitude along middle of WLE from edge of thermal event outward
- Little change in strain magnitude in region outside of thermal event
- No change in sign

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Unsymmetric Thermal Event Creates Significant Shear Strain Magnitude Increase

Results Continued...

Thermal event #2

- Significant Rise in shear strain magnitude near thermal event boundary
- Reduction in shear strain magnitude with increased distance from thermal event boundary
- ≥ 18 inches Shear strain magnitude changes little at distances from thermal event boundary
- No change in sign

Thermal event #3

- Significant rise in shear strain magnitude near thermal event boundary
- Reduction in shear strain magnitude with increased distance from thermal event boundary
- ≥ 18 inches Shear strain magnitude changes little at distances from thermal event boundary
- Similar trend to initial heating, magnitude of strain increases



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WLE Burn Through Can Cause Shear Strain Sign Reversal

Results Continued...

- Thermal event #4
- Reversal in sign of shear strain
- For distances < 15 inches from thermal event boundary strain sign is negative
- Shear strain from 15 to 19 inches is less than undamaged structure
- Significant rise in shear strain magnitude near thermal event boundary
- Decrease in shear strain magnitude with increased distance from thermal event boundary
- Shear strain magnitude changes little at distances > 26 inches from thermal event boundary



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Thermal Event #5 Results

Results Continued...

- Thermal event #5
- Further reduction of shear strain from thermal event #4
- Reversal in sign of shear strain
- For distances < 16 inches from thermal event boundary strain sign is negative
- Shear strain from 16 to 23 inches is less than undamaged structure
- Significant rise in shear strain magnitude near thermal event boundary
- Decrease in shear strain magnitude with increased distance from thermal event boundary
- Shear strain magnitude seems to be constant at distances 2 26 inches from thermal event boundary



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Burn Through Needed for Strain Sign Reversal

Possible scenario

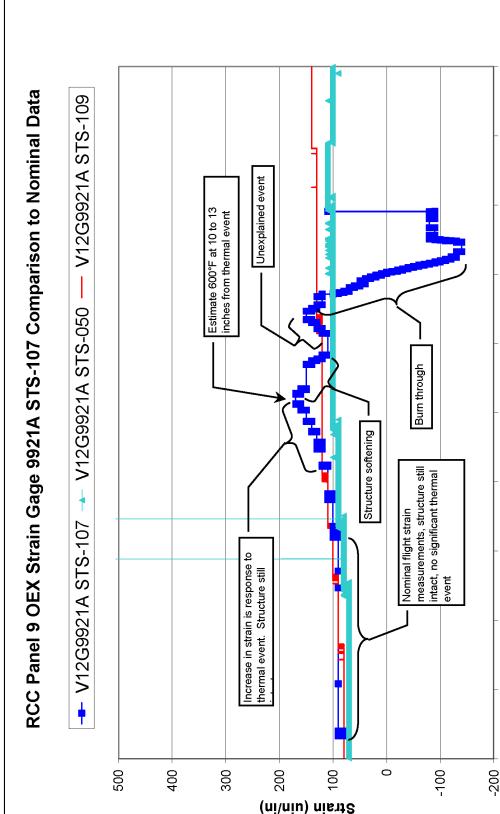
- Partial breech in WLE TPS allows plasma impingement on WLE spar
- Causes general temperature increase on WLE panel and
- Shear strain readings begin to increase
- Upper WLE panel and spar subjected to primary heating
- Creates temperature gradient on WLE spar from top to bottom
- WLE shear strain gage readings continue to increase
- Upper WLE spar panel burn through
- Shear strains are reduced in region around thermal event causing a strain sign reversal
- Panel burn through relieves thermal stresses



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With Nominal Strain Gage Data Scenario Description Overlay



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550

500

450

400

350

300

250

200

150

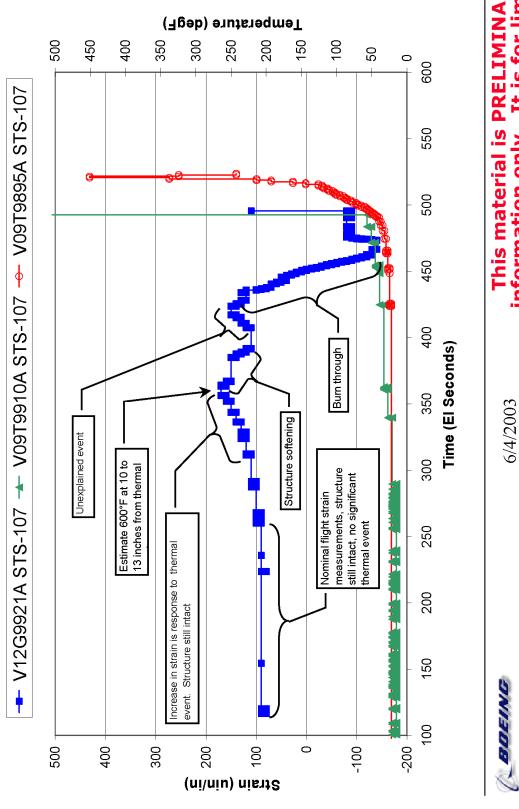
100

Time (El Seconds)

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Scenario Description Overlay With Thermal Flight Data

RCC Panel 9 OEX Gages, STS-107



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Backup

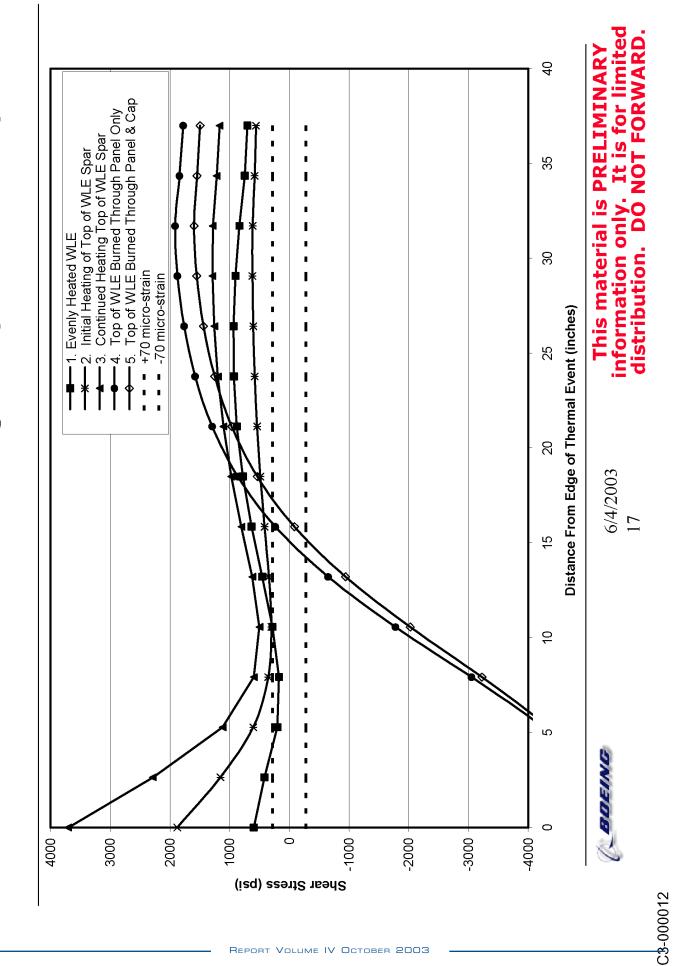
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Shear Stress Results Along Midspan of WLE Spar





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