

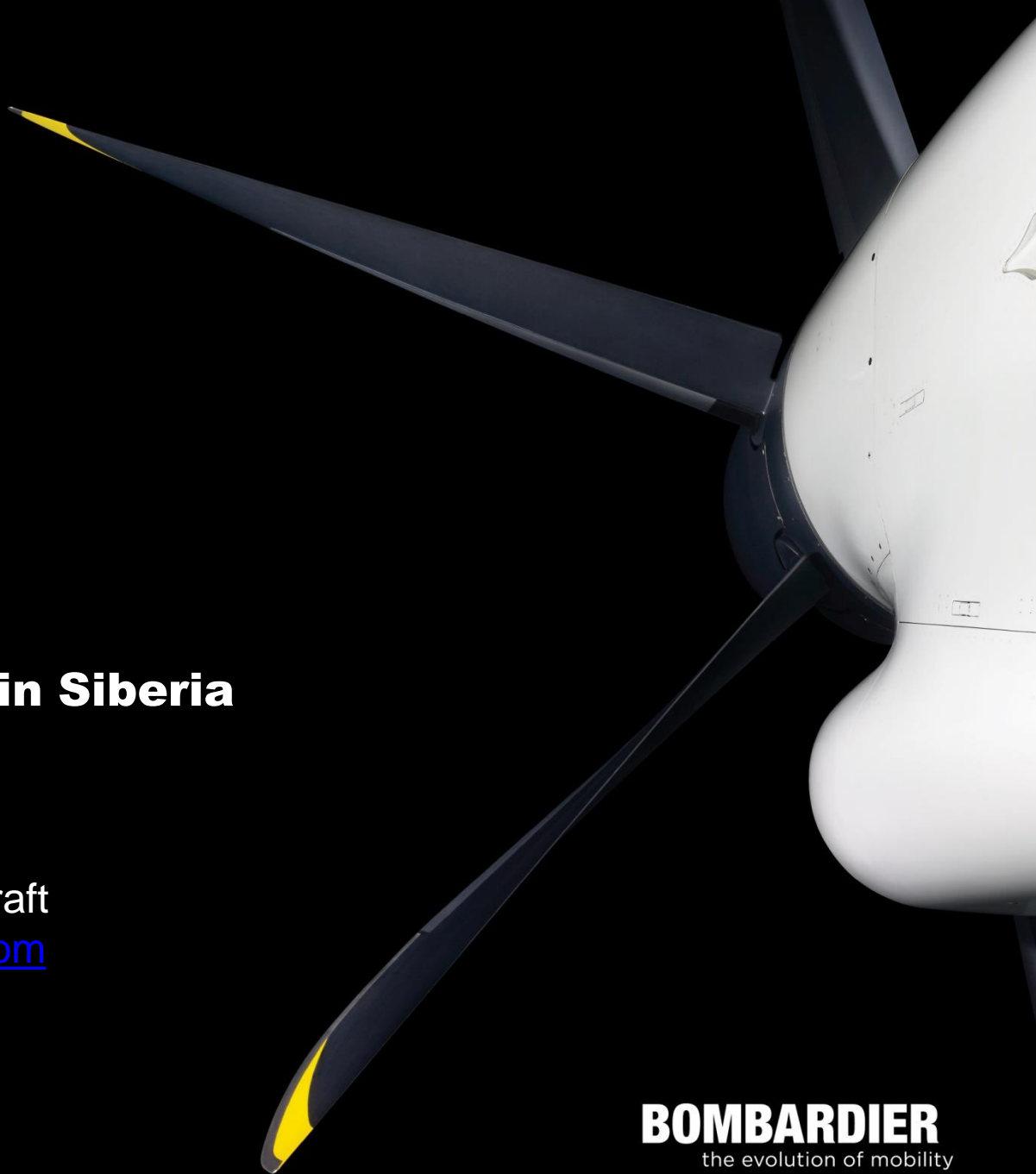
**Ingenuity  
in Flight.**

## **Q Series Operations in Siberia**

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SWIFT Conference  
Montreal 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2015

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# Q Series – Unpaved Runway Operations

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# Yakutia Airlines



- Yakutia Airlines – first Q400 operator in Russia
- Also now Q3000 operator
- Q300 and Q400 replacing AN-24 and AN-140
- Yakutia Airlines route structure – many unpaved runways over a vast inaccessible region
- Yakutia already Boeing operator but no experience of western aircraft on unpaved airfields

# An-24 Take-Off

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# Airports in Sakha Republic (Yakutia)



- Climatic conditions – very similar to Northern Canada
- Legacy from USSR – all unpaved runways were built during Soviet times
- Infrastructure for maintenance and upkeep of airport – old and need of urgent replacement
- Runways were built to Soviet standards – same as for gravel roads
- Q Series is main Part 25 aircraft that is operating in these conditions



# Airports in Sakha Republic (Yakutia)



- Infrastructure in immediate need of upgrade
- Russian Government is working to provide funds for airport upgrade in remote regions



# Runway Conditions



- Very variable runway conditions
  - Sand
  - Loam
  - Loam/sand mix
  - Loam/gravel mix
  - Gravel
  - Ungraded river gravel
- Variable strength
  - very soft (CBR < 20)
  - Very hard (CBR 50+)
- Variable smoothness
- Variable drainage



# Runway Conditions

Suntar



Batagay



Chersky





# Certification Status of Q Series

- DHC-8 Series 400 approved for operations from unpaved runways in 2002 by Transport Canada (TCCA)
- DHC-8 Series 100/200/300 approved for operations from unpaved runways in 1995 by Transport Canada (TCCA)
- Transport Canada Civil Aviation's Advisory Circular (AC) 525-006 is used to show compliance with the design standards
- Approved Flight Manual (AFM) Supplement 26 contains limitations, procedures and performance information

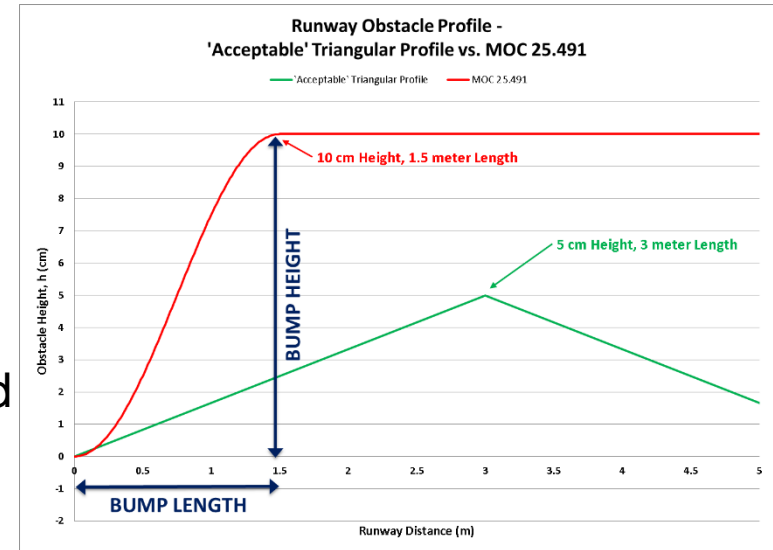


# Certification Status of Q Series -Russia

- Operations from unpaved runways in Russia were not approved by Interstate Aviation Committee (IAC ) for aircraft on Russian Aviation Registry (AR)

There is a difference between AP 25 and FAR 25/ AWM 525 requirements for the load conditions for unpaved runways, such as surface strength - CBR (American parameter) and soil strength (Russian parameter  $\sigma$  – kg/cm<sup>2</sup>), and roughness characteristics (Russian parameter)

- Q Series was unable to comply with IAC AR guidance Means Of Compliance (MOC) 25.491 on certification by analysis – too severe for existing design





Advisory  
Circular

**Subject:** TAXI, TAKEOFF AND LANDING    **Date:** 10/30/00    **AC No:** 25.491-1  
**ROLL DESIGN LOADS**                      **Initiated By:** ANM-110    **Change:**

AC 25.491-1

10/30/00

(i) Bump wavelengths equal to the mean longitudinal distance between nose and main landing gears, or between the main and tail landing gears, as appropriate; and separately.

(ii) Bump wavelengths equal to twice this distance.

The bump height in each case should be defined as:

$$H = 1.2 + 0.023 \sqrt{L}$$

Where--

H = the bump height (inches)

L = the bump wavelength (inches)

SAN FRANCISCO RUNWAY 28R

ONE TRACK  
LENGTH: 3880 FEET  
NUMBER OF POINTS: 1941  
POINT SPACING: 2 FEET  
ELEVATIONS: FEET  
REFERENCE SOURCE: REPORT TO NASA (EFFECTS OF RUNWAY UNEVENNESS ON THE DYNAMIC RESPONSE OF SUPERSONIC TRANSPORTS), JULY 1964, U. OF CALIF. BERKLEY.  
RUNWAY ELEVATION POINTS IN FEET:

Dist.	Elev.	Dist.	Elev.	Dist.	Elev.	Dist.	Elev.	Dist.	Elev.
0	10.3	776	10.99	1552	10.92	2328	11.16	3104	11.93
2	10.31	778	10.98	1554	10.92	2330	11.15	3106	11.92
4	10.3	780	10.99	1556	10.91	2332	11.14	3108	11.92



# Russian Airfield Standards

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- РЭГА РФ **94** Руководство по эксплуатации гражданских
- аэродромов Российской Федерации
- Russian REGA 94 Operating Instructions for Civil Russian airfields

Руководство по эксплуатации гражданских аэродромов  
Российской Федерации  
(РЭГА РФ-94)

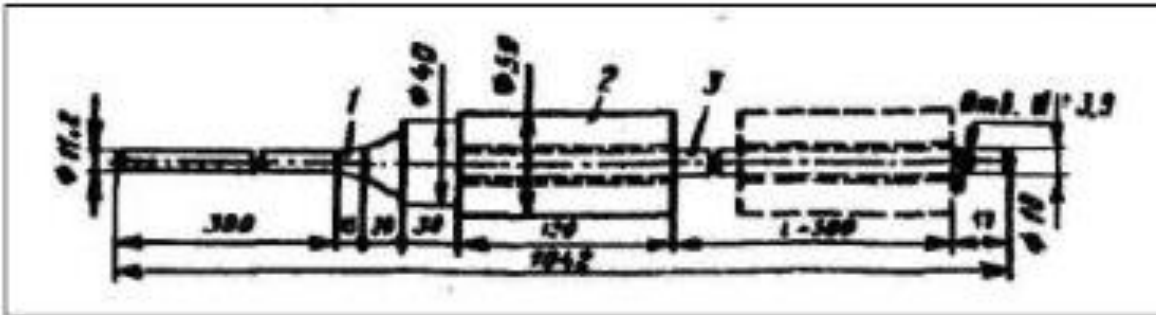


Москва "Воздушный транспорт" 1996

# Russian Airfield Standards

Приложение 12  
ОПРЕДЕЛЕНИЕ ПОКАЗАТЕЛЯ ПРОЧНОСТИ И  
ПЛОТНОСТИ ГРУНТОВ  
ЛЕТНОГО ПОЛЯ  
Appendix 12  
Airfield Soil Strength and Density Parameters

Udanrik – U1



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# Russian Airfield Standards

Таблица 1

Песчаные и мелкие		Песчаные, супесчаные		Пылеватые, супесчаные, подзолистые грунты		Пылевые, суглинистые тяжелые, суглинистые, суглинистые пылеватые и глинистые грунты						Черноземы, каштановые и бурые засоленные грунты					
$n$ 10	$\sigma$ 10	$n$ 30	$\sigma$ 30	$n$ 30	$\sigma$ 30	$n$ 10	$\sigma$ 10	$n$ 30	$\sigma$ 30	$n$ 30	$\sigma$ 30	$n$ 10	$\sigma$ 10	$n$ 30	$\sigma$ 30	$n$ 30	$\sigma$ 30
1,0	3,9	7,0	3,0	29	11,9	1,0	2,2	7	2,0	29	11,9	1,0	1,9	7	1,4	29	9,5
1,6	4,8	8	4,5	30	12,0	1,5	3,4	8	2,2	30	12,,0	1,5	2,8	8	1,5	30	9,7
2,0	6,0	9	5,3	31	12,,1	2,0	4,7	9	3,0	31	12,,1	2,0	4,0	9	1,5	31	9,8
2,5	7,3	10	6,2	32	12,2	2,5	5,8	10	3,6	32	12,2	2,5	5,0	10	1,8	32	10,0
3,0	8,2	11	6,8	33	12,3	3,0	7,0	11	4,3	33	12,3	3,0	5,7	11	1,9	33	10,3
3,5	9,0	12	7,3	34	12,4	3,5	8,0	12	5,0	34	12,4	3,5	6,3	12	2,2	34	10,6



# Russian Airfield Standards

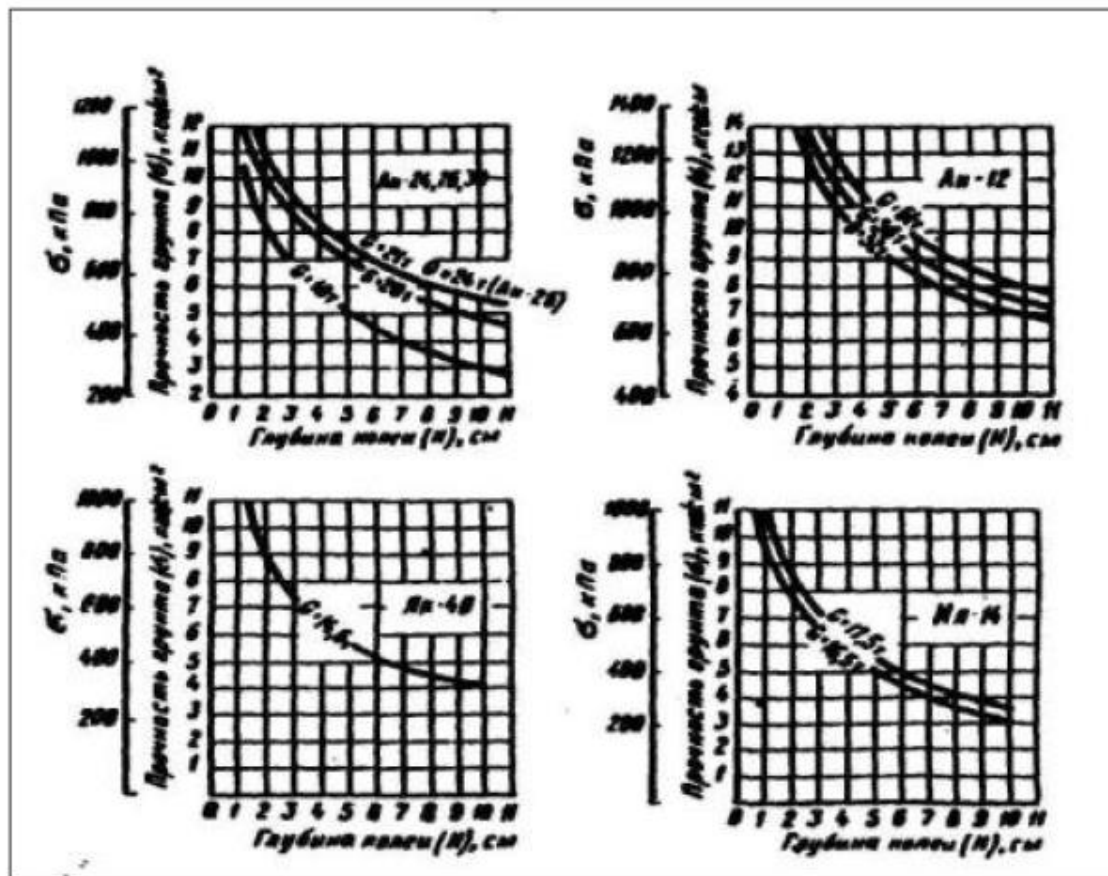


Рис. 6.б. Графики зависимости прочности грунта от глубины колеи для самолетов Ан-24, Ан-26, Ан-30, Ан-12, Як 40, Ил-14

# Strategy for Enabling Q Series to Operate in Russia

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- Agreement between Rosaviatsya (Russian Federal Aviation Authority), IAC, Yakutia Airlines and Bombardier
- Determine correlation between  $\sigma$  and CBR methodologies and include both values in AR Version of AFM
- Determine allowable smoothness characteristics for safe and continuing Q Series operation in Russia
- Runway-by-runway approval to be given by Bombardier based on measured strength and smoothness
- Runway smoothness to be assessed on the basis of technical flight to each runway and FDR acceleration analysis
- Continuing loads survey from FDR download from all scheduled flights to and from approved runways (up to 1 year)
- On-going assessment of unpaved runways loads on aircraft systems and structure to determine increased inspection intervals if necessary

# Runway Surveys in Sakha Republic (Yakutia)

- Strength and smoothness surveys were carried out in 5 priority runways in Yakutia Airlines route structure
- ProgressTech from Moscow were contracted to undertake survey and produce report on runway strengths (using Boeing Penetrometer, Udarnik & ATMS drop hammers) and smoothness

## *Why ProgressTech?*

Moscow based

Experienced in region

Familiar with western aircraft

Fast reaction time

Five regional airports of Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Russian Federation were surveyed:

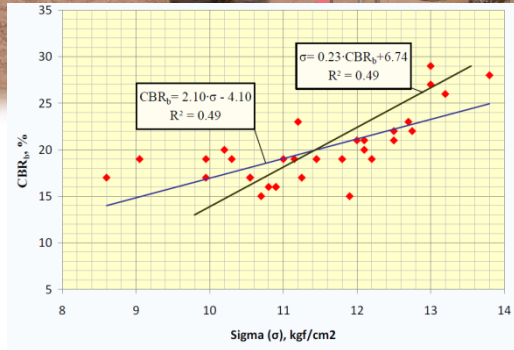
- ✓ Olekminsk
- ✓ Chersky
- ✓ Suntar
- ✓ Batagai
- ✓ Lensk





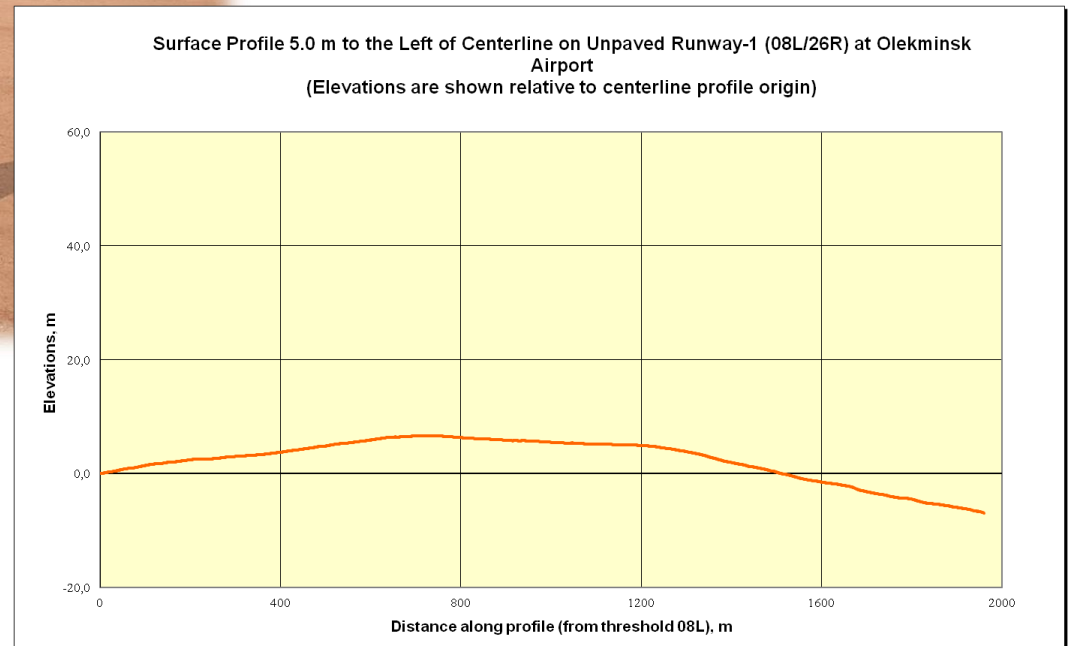
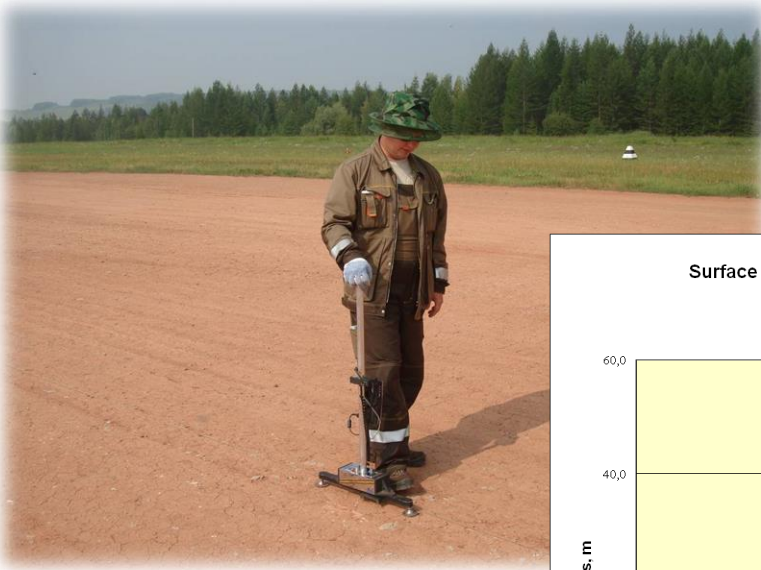
# Runway Surveys in Sakha Republic (Yakutia)

## CBR- $\sigma$ correlation



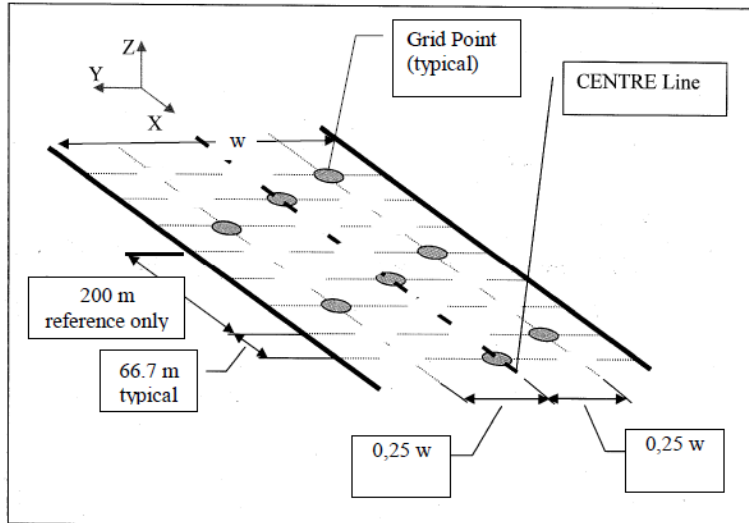
# Runway Surveys in Sakha Republic (Yakutia)

## Runway profile measurement

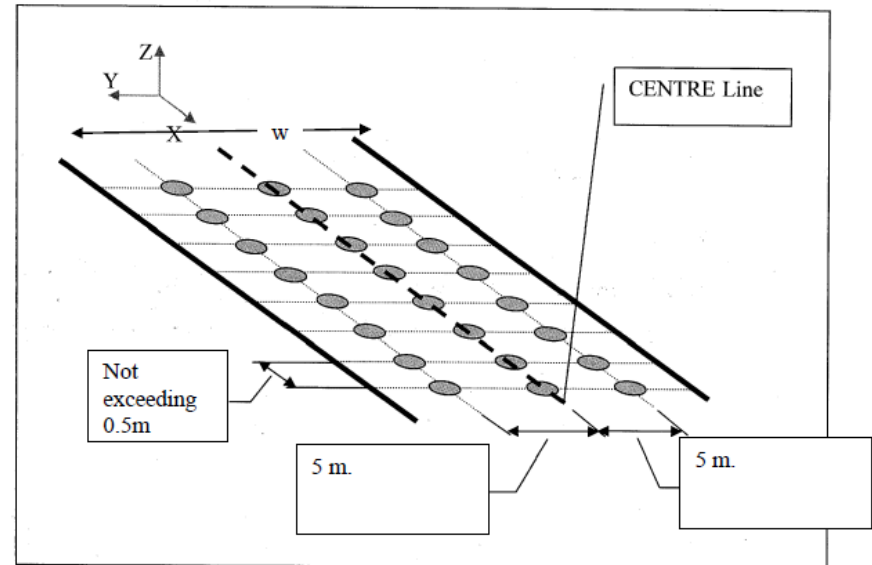


# Progress Tech Surveys of Sakha Airfields

## Runway strength Measurement



## Runway Profile Measurement



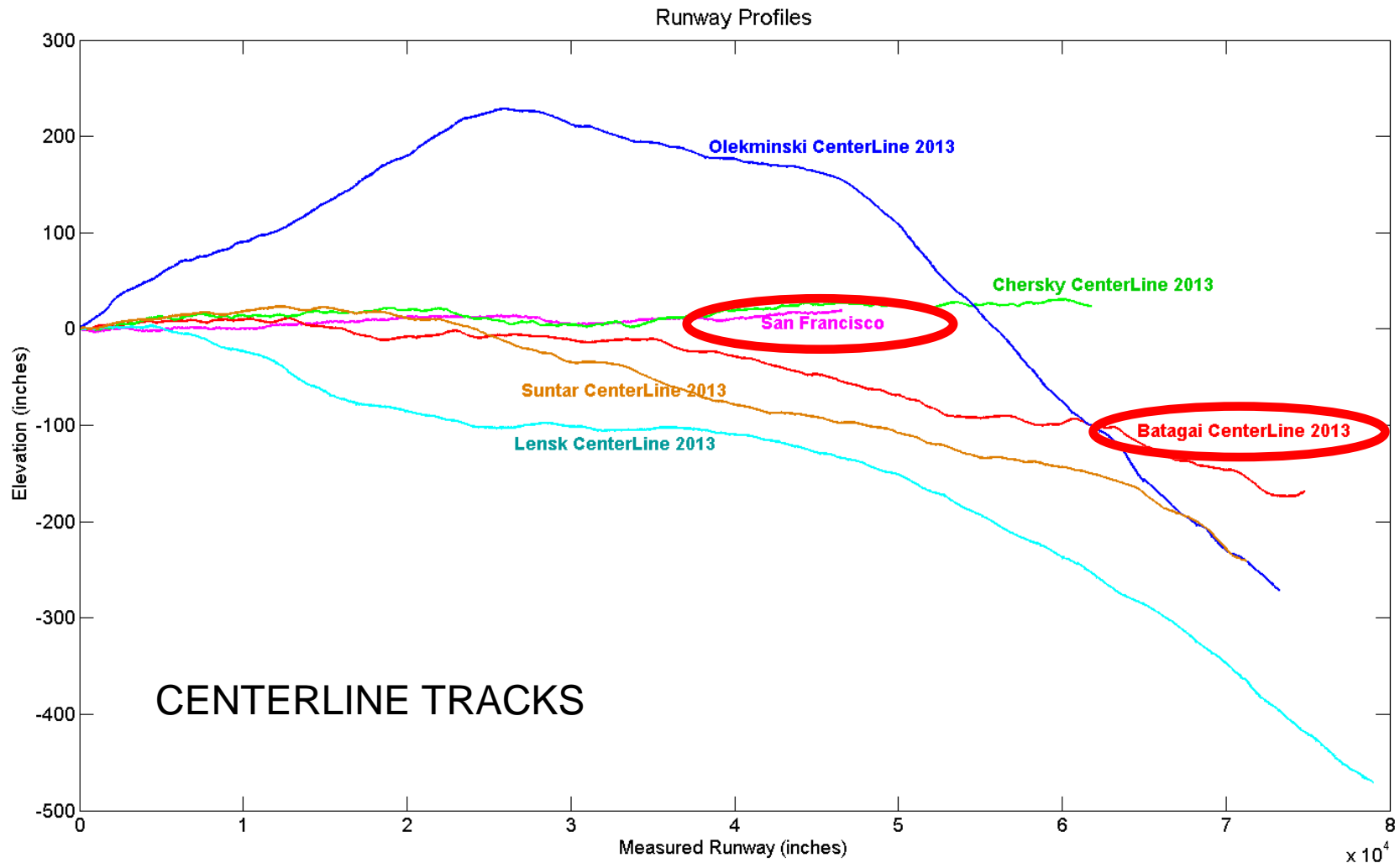


# Runway Strengths

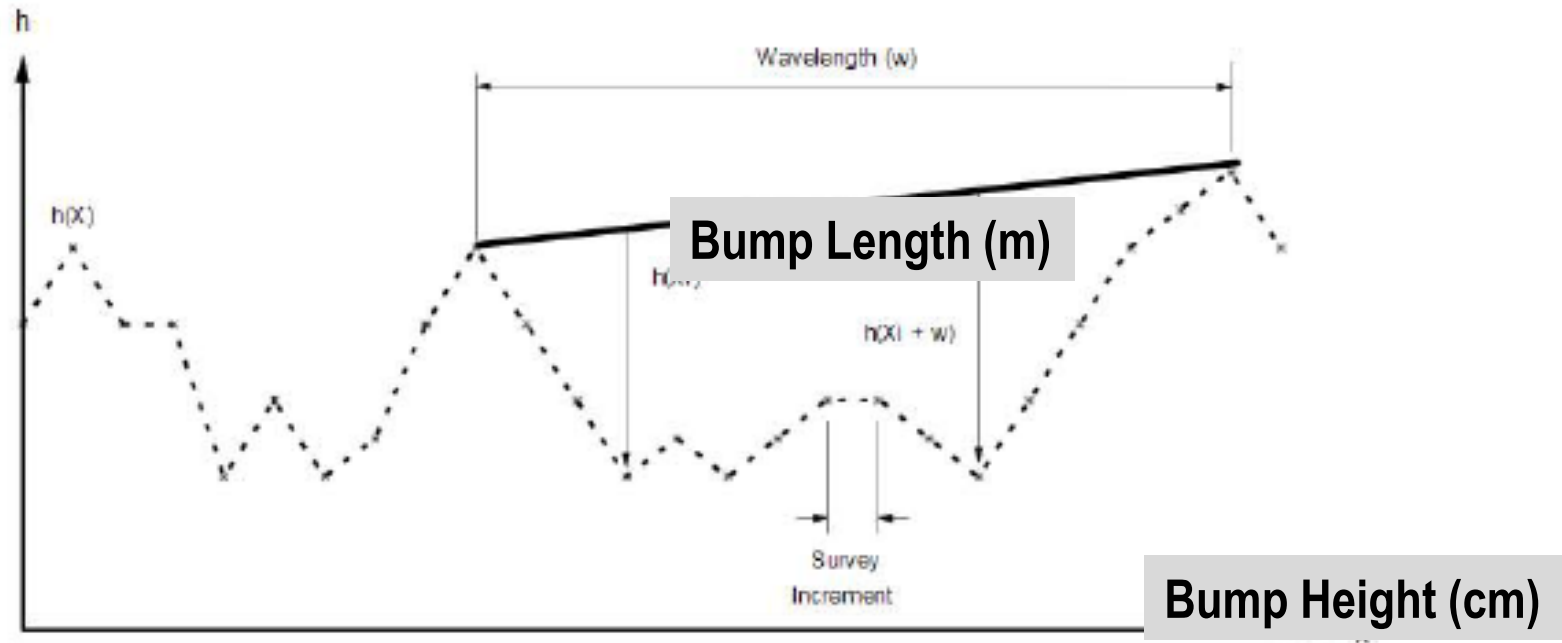
	Chersky	Lensk	Batagai	Olikminsk	Suntar
<b>Boeing CBR</b>					
<b>Average</b>	<b>44+</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>44+</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>20.7</b>
<b>Minimum</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15.0</b>
<b>Udarnik <math>\sigma</math></b>					
<b>Average</b>	<b>15+</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15+</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>11.6</b>
<b>Minimum</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>8.6</b>

- Good correlation between Boeing CBR and Udarnik  $\sigma$
- Strength of four of five runways was acceptable (met requirements of Q Series AFM Supplement of CBR =30)
- One problematic runway (Suntar)

# Measured Runway Profiles

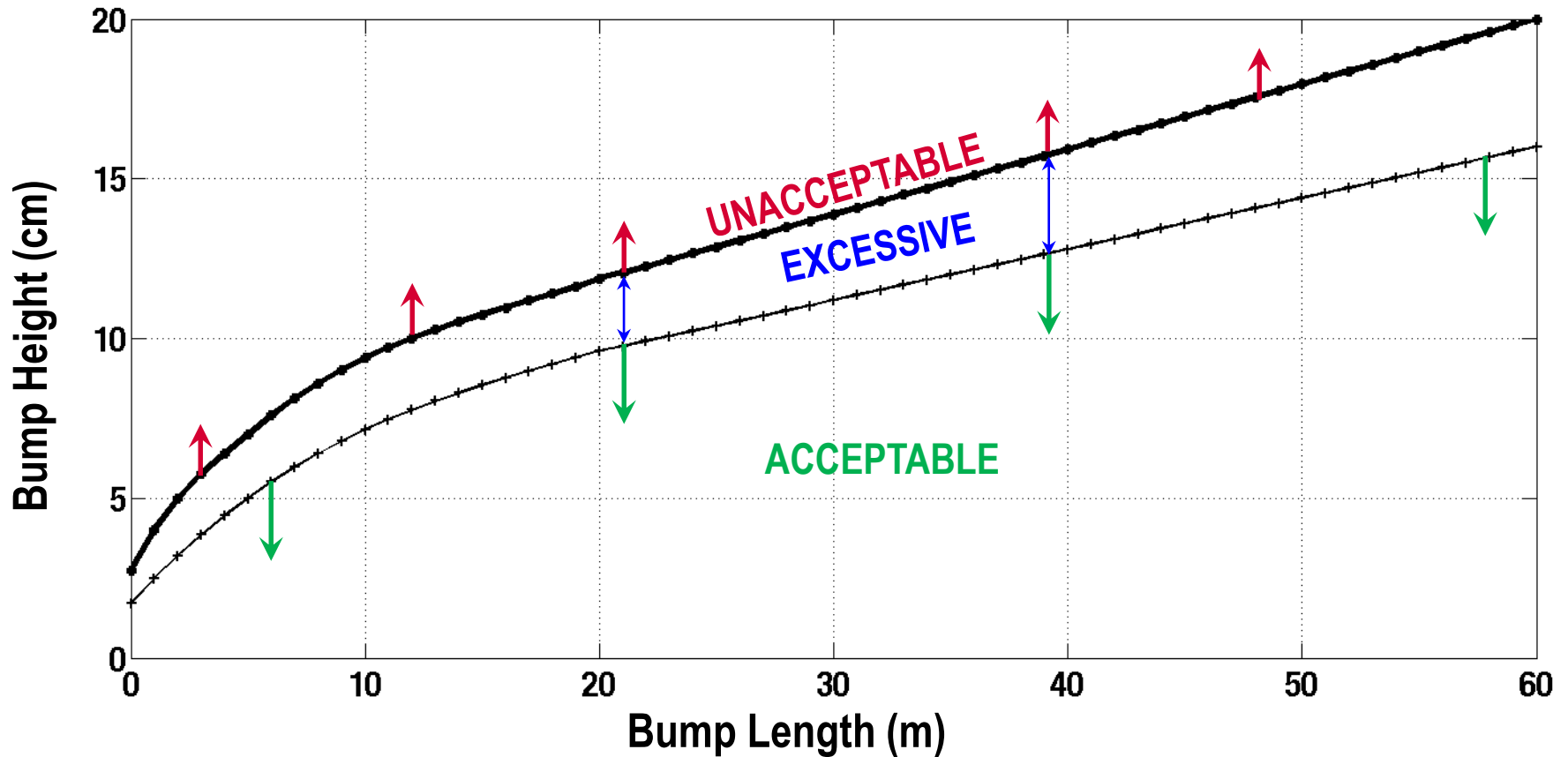


# Boeing – Runway Bump Definition



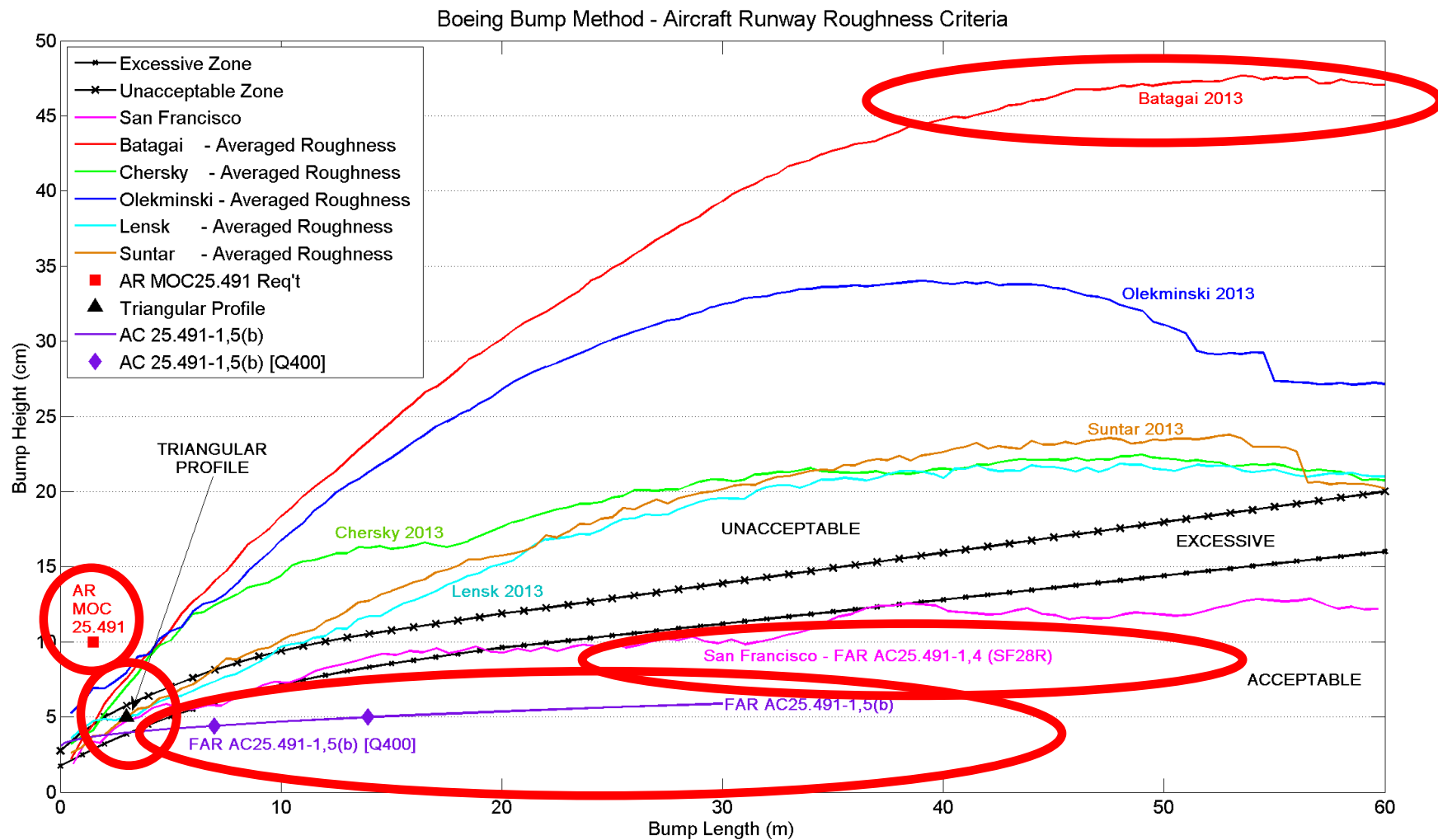
- The Max bump height – max +ve or –ve deviation from a straightedge whose end points lie on the profile
- Deviation is calculated as perpendicular distance from straightedge to profile surface

# Boeing – Runway Bump Categorization





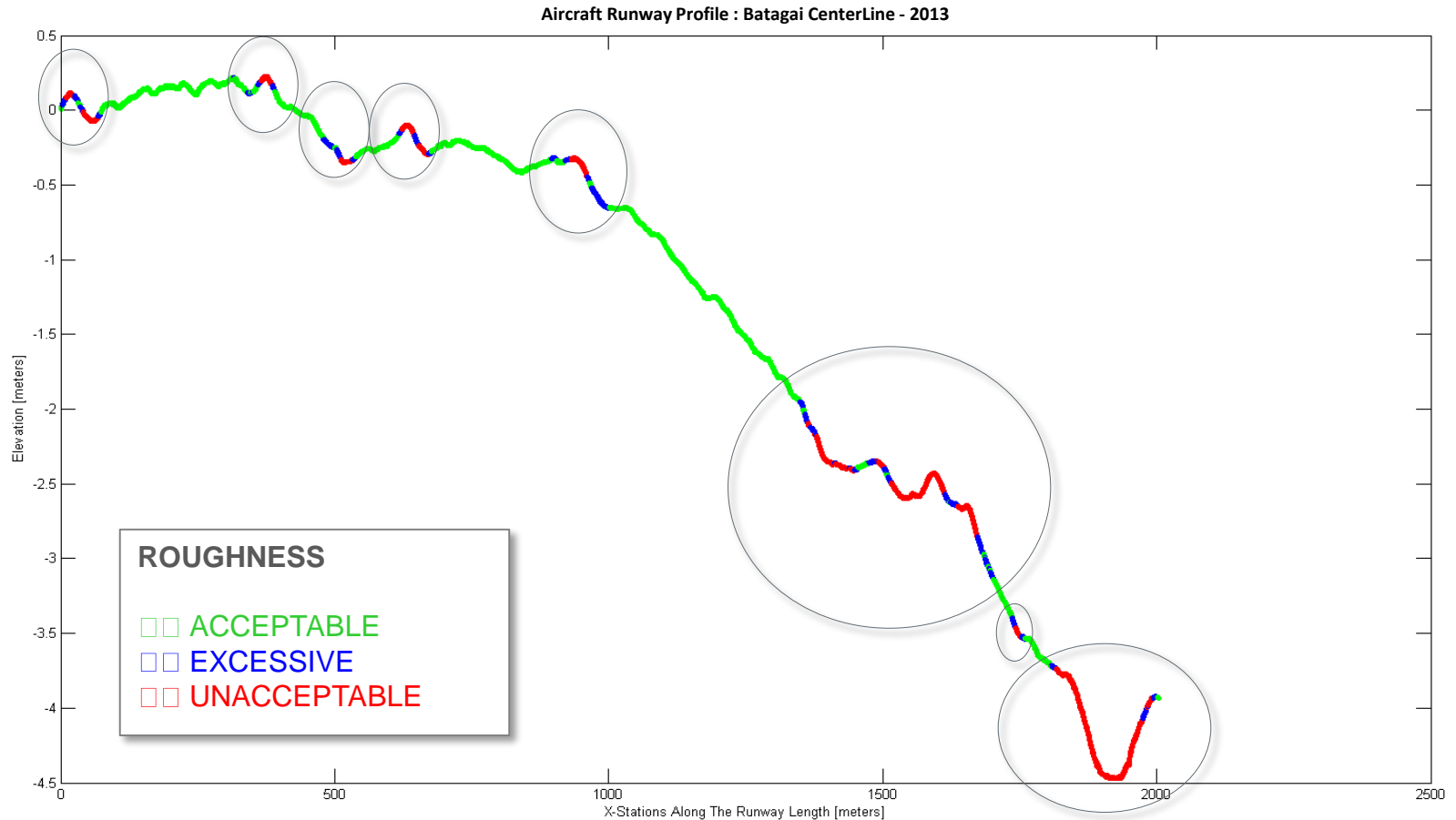
# Runway Roughness Comparisons



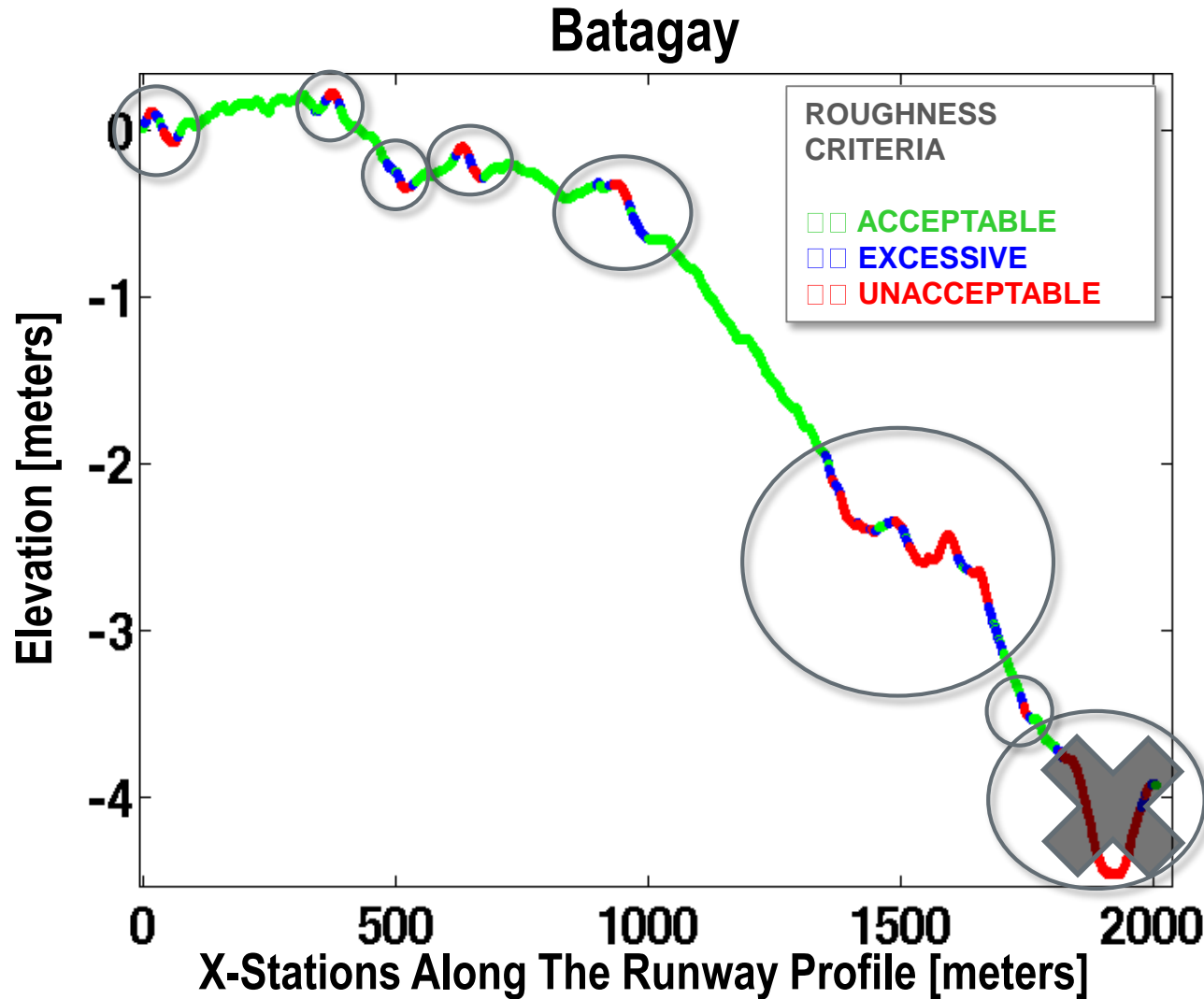
# Batagay, Sakha Republic – Runway Condition

## Batagay Runway

- Areas of roughness are easy to see

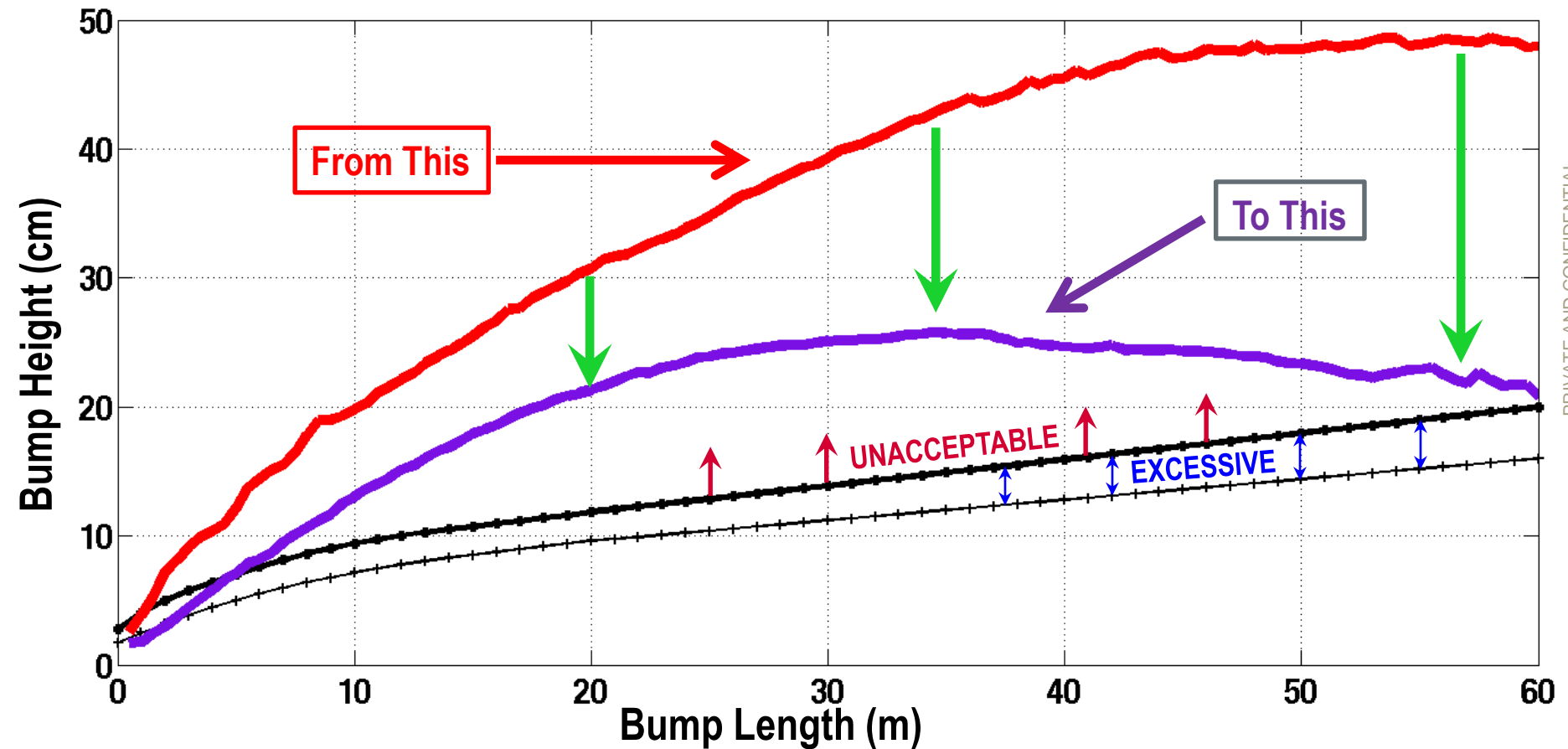


# Batagay – Runway Condition



# Batagay – Runway Roughness Envelope Improvement

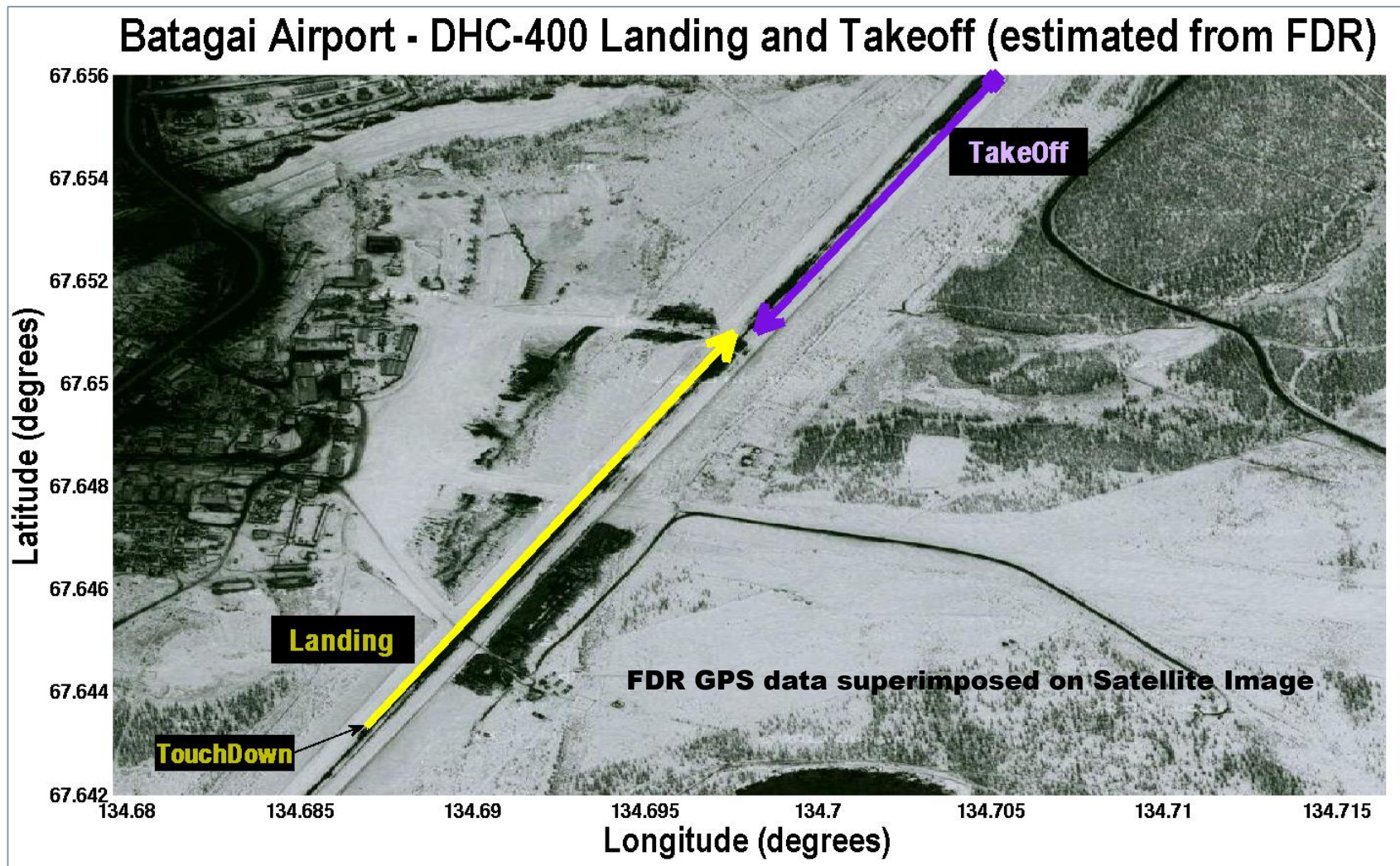
- Batagay with last 250m removed from runway
- Improved dramatically!



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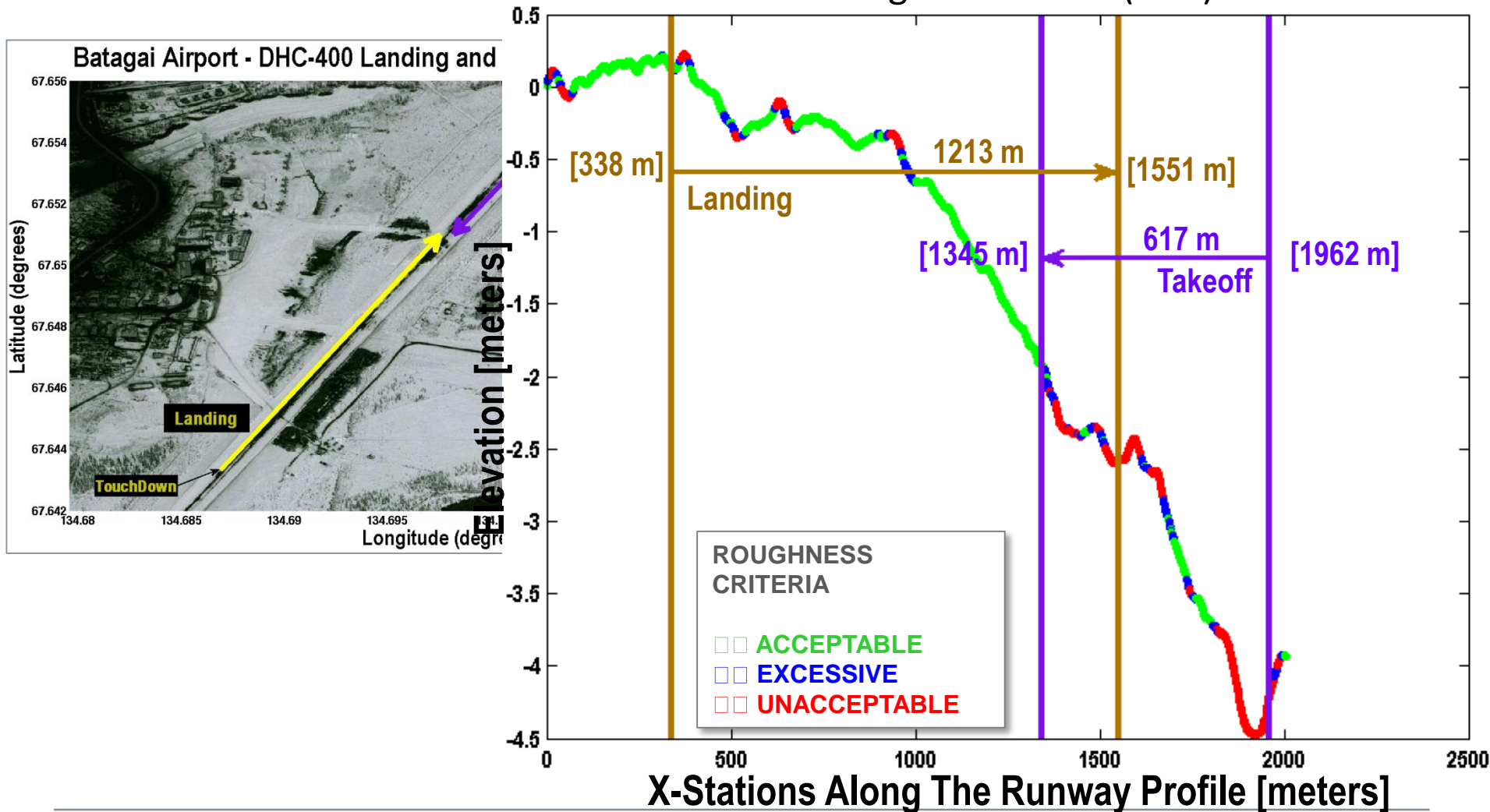


# Batagay – Flight Test

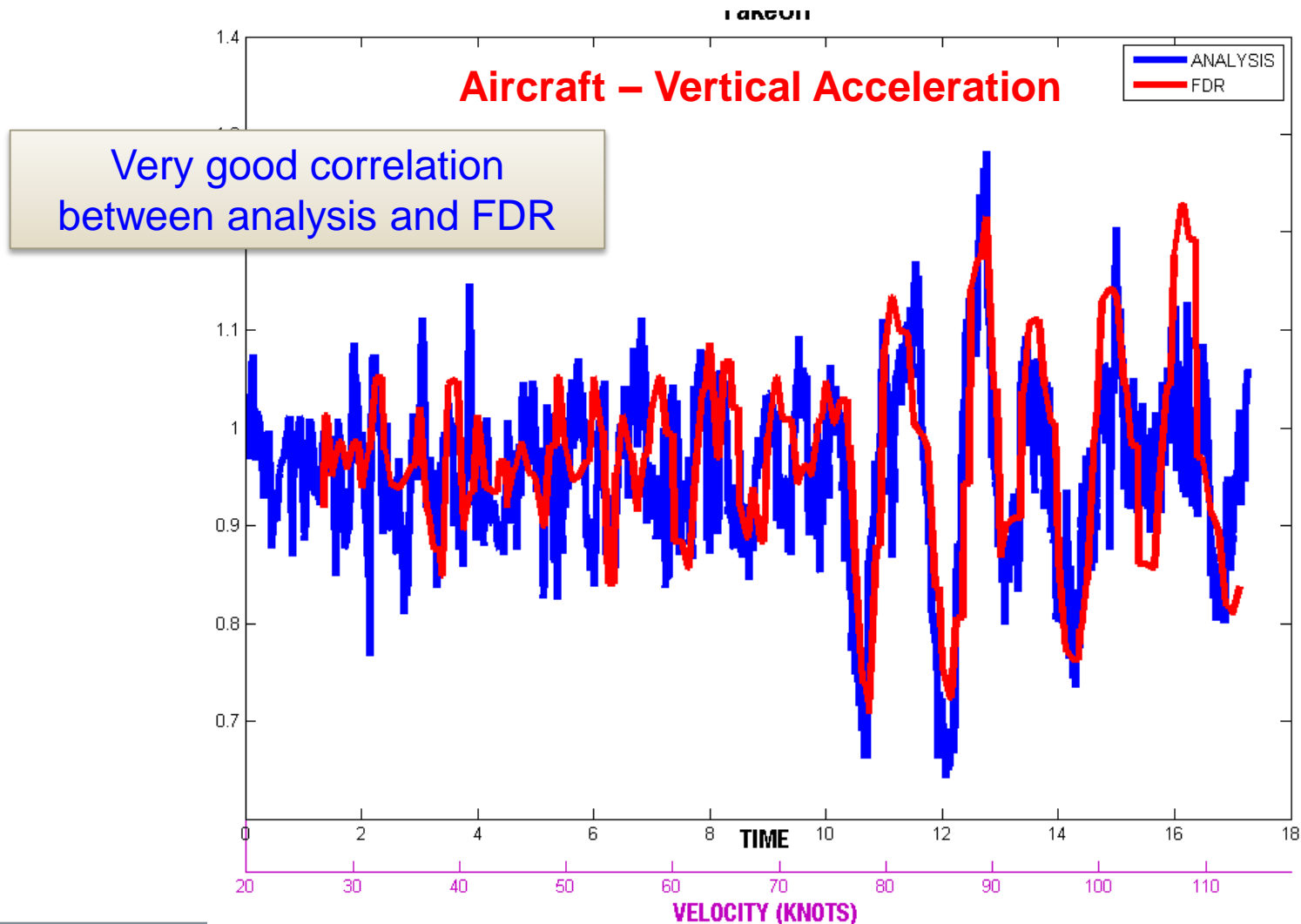


# Batagay – Flight Test

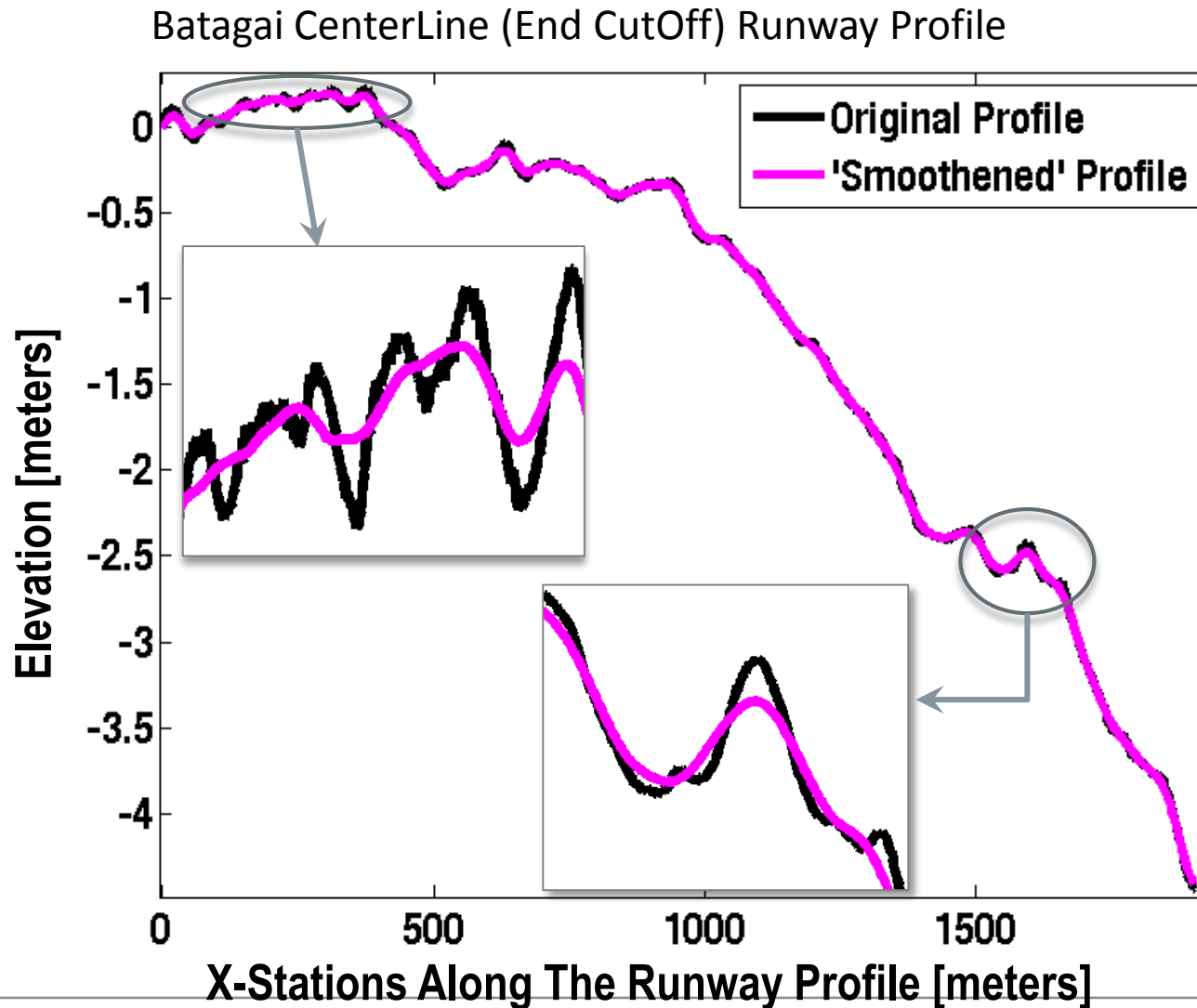
## Landing and Takeoff (FDR)



# Batagay – Flight Test Data v Aircraft Loads Analysis

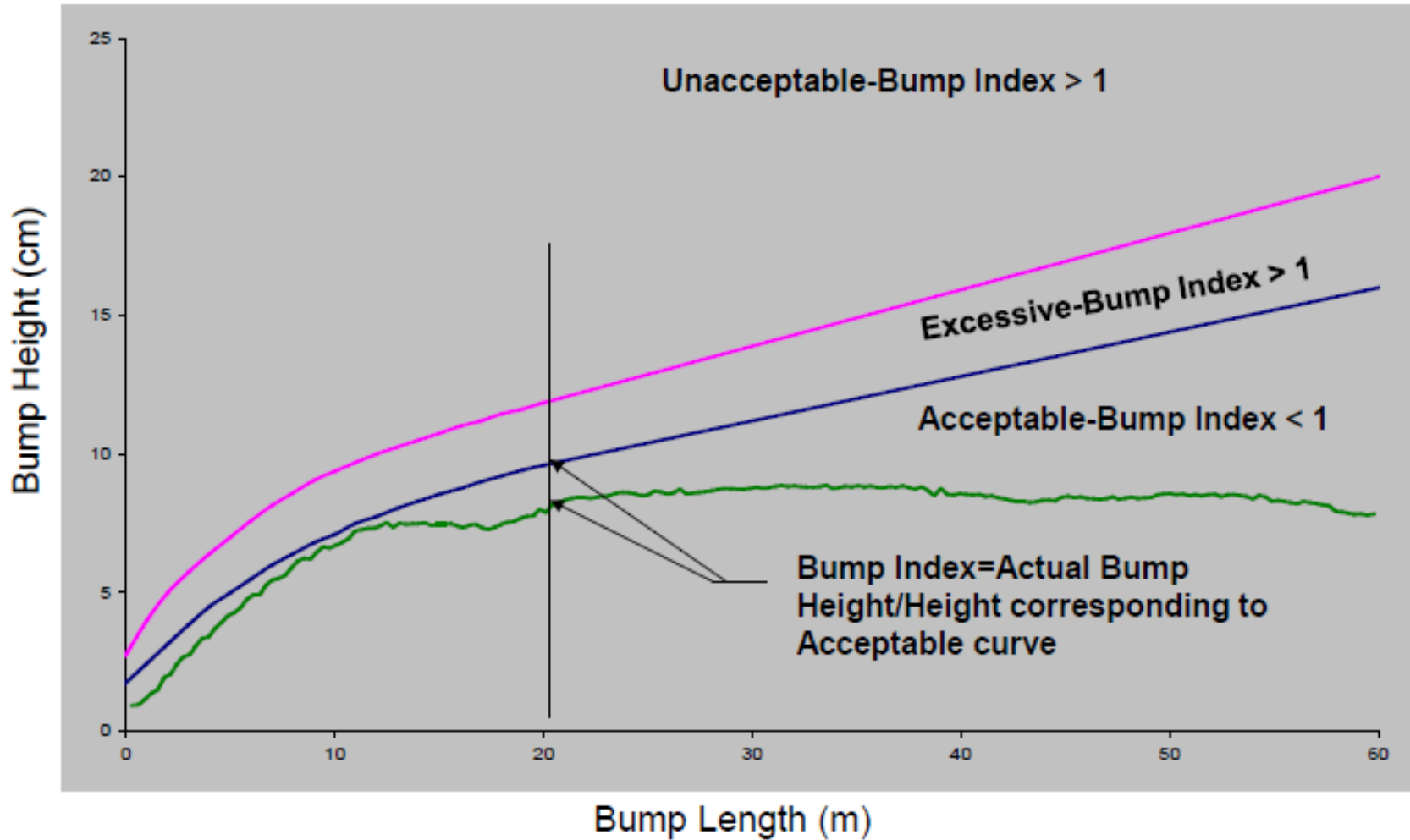


## Batagai – Potential Improvements





## Batagay – Potential Improvements



# Batagay – Potential Improvements

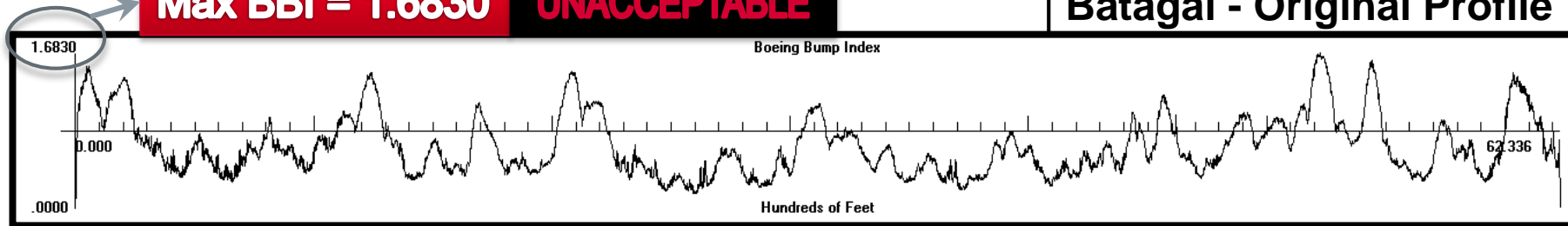
Significant improvement of the Boeing Bump Index (BBI) evaluated by the ProFAA Software, developed by FAA for runway roughness evaluation

- $BBI > 1 \rightarrow$  **Excessive/Unacceptable**
- $BB < 1 \rightarrow$  **Acceptable**

**Max BBI = 1.6830**

**UNACCEPTABLE**

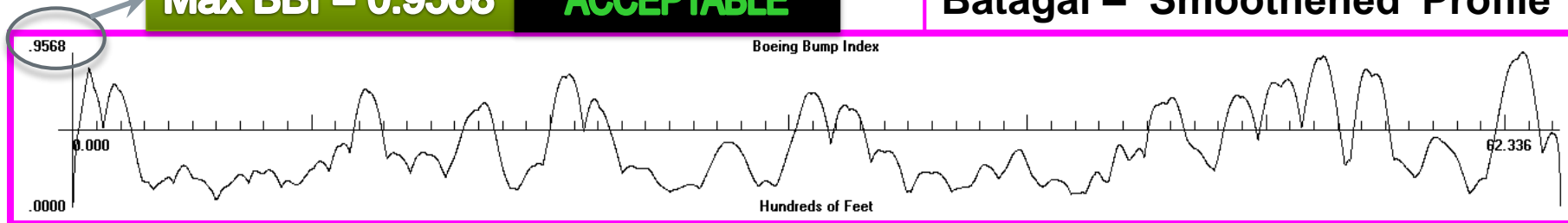
**Batagai - Original Profile**



**Max BBI = 0.9568**

**ACCEPTABLE**

**Batagai – 'Smoothened' Profile**



# AFM Development for AR



D.O.T. Approved

**AIRPLANE FLIGHT MANUAL**

PSM 1-84-1A

**TEMPORARY AMENDMENT NO. 33**

**FOR AIRCRAFT CERTIFIED BY INTERSTATE AVIATION COMMITTEE –  
AVIATION REGISTER (IAC AR) OR OPERATING IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
INDEPENDENT STATES (CIS)  
OPERATION FROM UNPAVED/GRAVEL RUNWAYS (CR853SO90252, CR811CH00688)**

- b. Surface bearing material must not be less than 12 inches in depth and well compacted. The surface bearing material must demonstrate a minimum average California Bearing Ratio (CBR) of 30 with the lowest measured CBR points of not less than 20, as determined by a Boeing High Load Penetrometer.

## **NOTE**

For sandy/sandy-loam soil types, measured  $\sigma$  values of  $14 \text{ kg/cm}^2$  correlate with a CBR of 30, and measured  $\sigma$  values of  $12 \text{ kg/cm}^2$  correlate with a CBR of 20, where  $\sigma$  is measured using a Udamnik strike penetrometer per REGA RF-94, Appendix 12.

# AFM Development for AR

- f. The runway shall be maintained with a roughness not exceeding 4.5 cm (H) over a 3 m length (L).
- g. The assessed and accepted runway is:
  - Batagai Rwy 05/23, runway roughness characteristics specified in Figure 6–26–1.

## WARNING

Operation on the first 200 m of Batagai Runway 23 is prohibited.

- h. Runway smoothness must conform to the above, respective profiles in item 1. g., in addition to the roughness criteria stated in item 1. f.
- i. For fatigue and load evaluation, the Flight Data Recorder data must be retrieved and forwarded to Bombardier Aerospace for all taxi, landings, landing roll-outs and take-offs from unpaved runways.







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