Airbus/WSU High School Wingbox Challenge

Showcase your aviation heritage
Design and build the lightest, strongest, and stiffest Wingbox possible!

Prize money

1st Prize : $1000

2nd Prize : $500

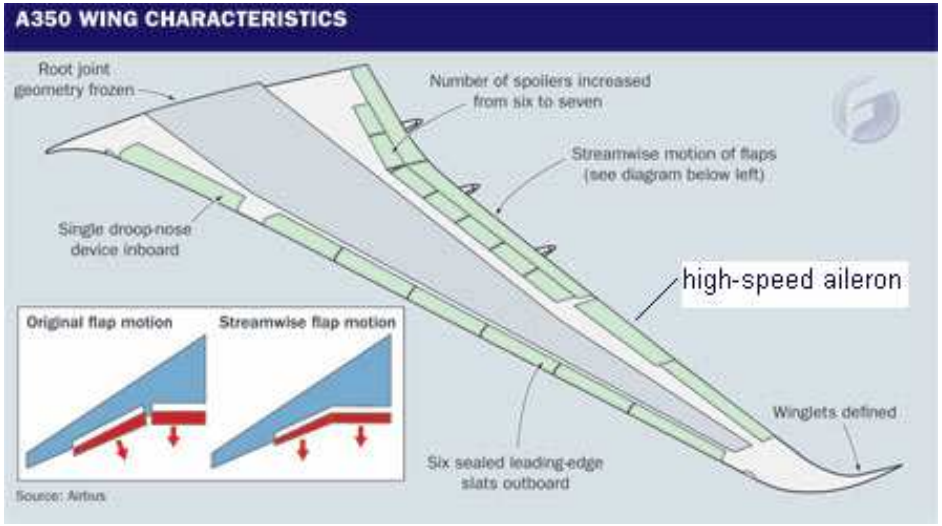
3rd prize : $250

Deadline : April 10th, 2017

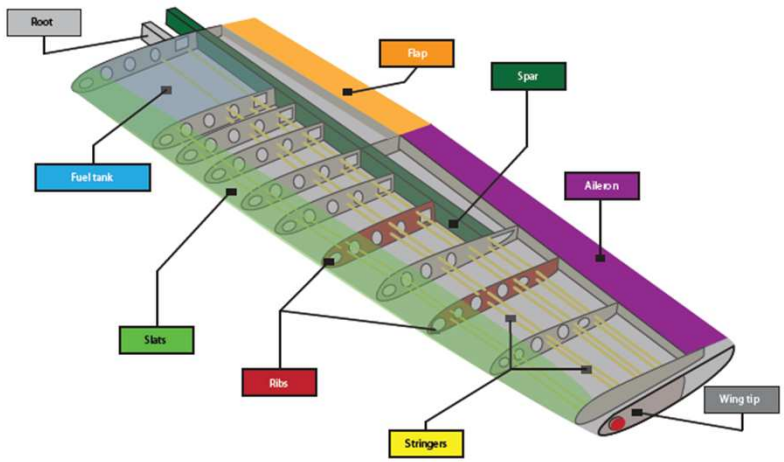
The Challenge

- Wings are a critical part of airplanes
  - They carry the weight of the plane
  - They are necessarily long and skinny
  - The wingbox is the core structure of the wing
- Engineers work very hard to make the wingbox light, strong, and stiff
- Here is a chance for you to do the same, & more!
  - Work with Airbus & WSU engineers
  - Start your future with WSU & with Airbus
  - Win prize money!

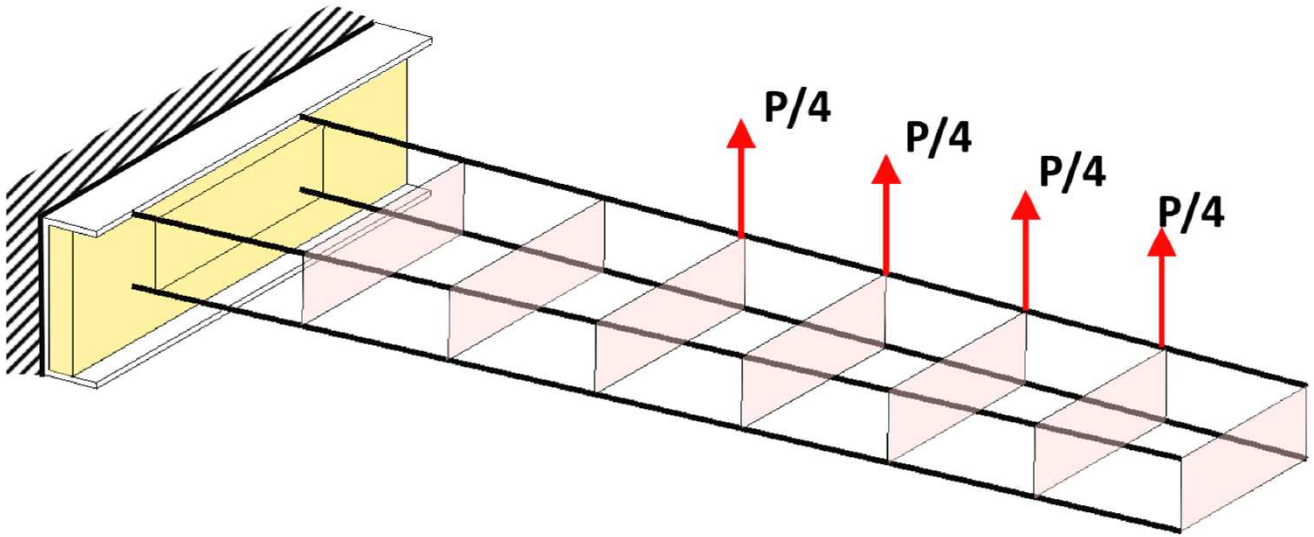
The Challenge



https://theallnewairbusa350xwb.wordpress.com/2013/02/08/the-all-new-airbus-a350xwb/

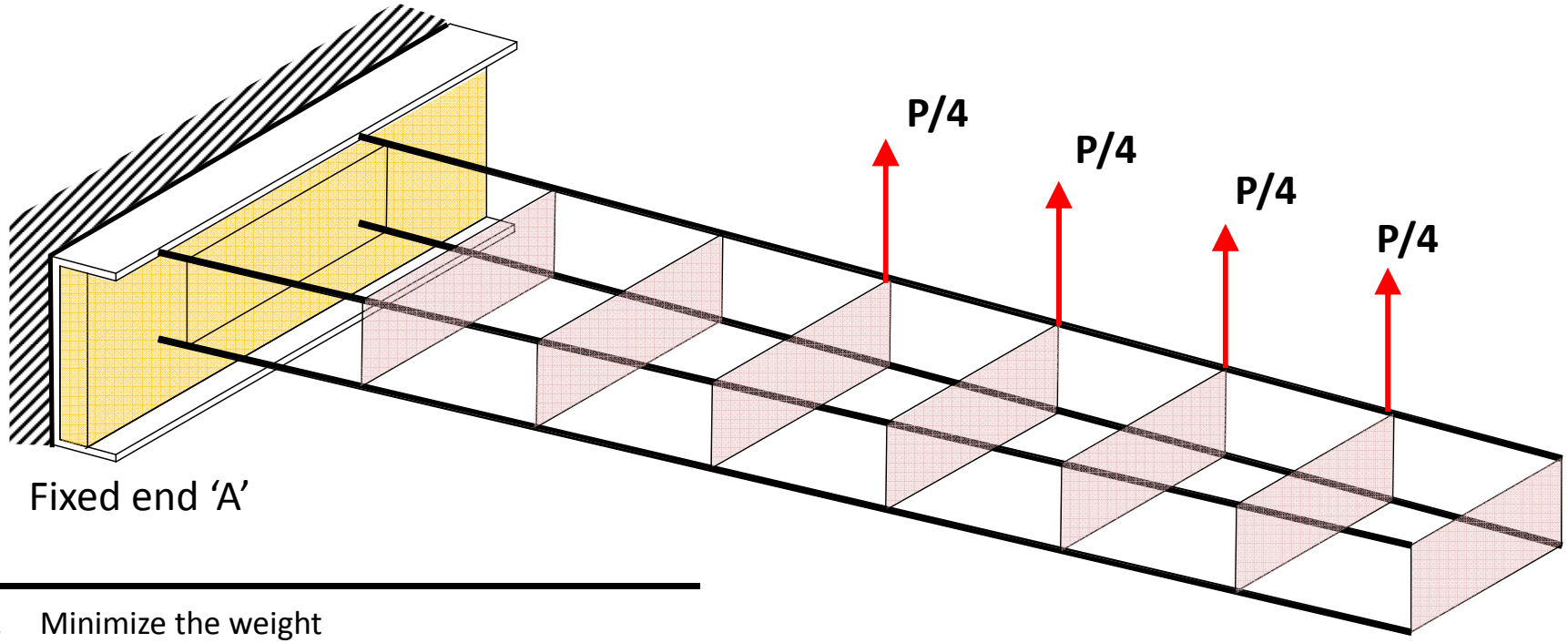


http://sahil34935.blogspot.com/2013_02_01_archive.html



The Challenge

Using balsa sticks, design and build the lightest[A], strongest[B], and stiffest[C] wingbox. The wingbox should withstand a minimum P=5 lbs. to qualify.

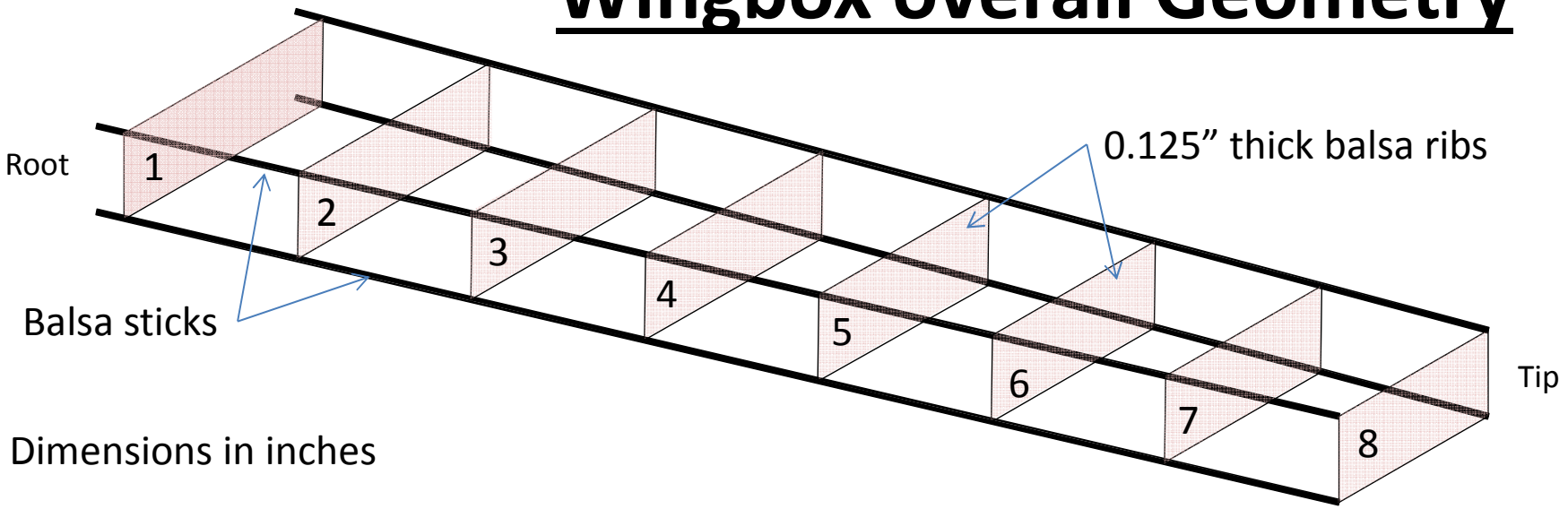


A. Minimize the weight
B. How much force it can withstand
C. Higher stiffness implies smaller deflections

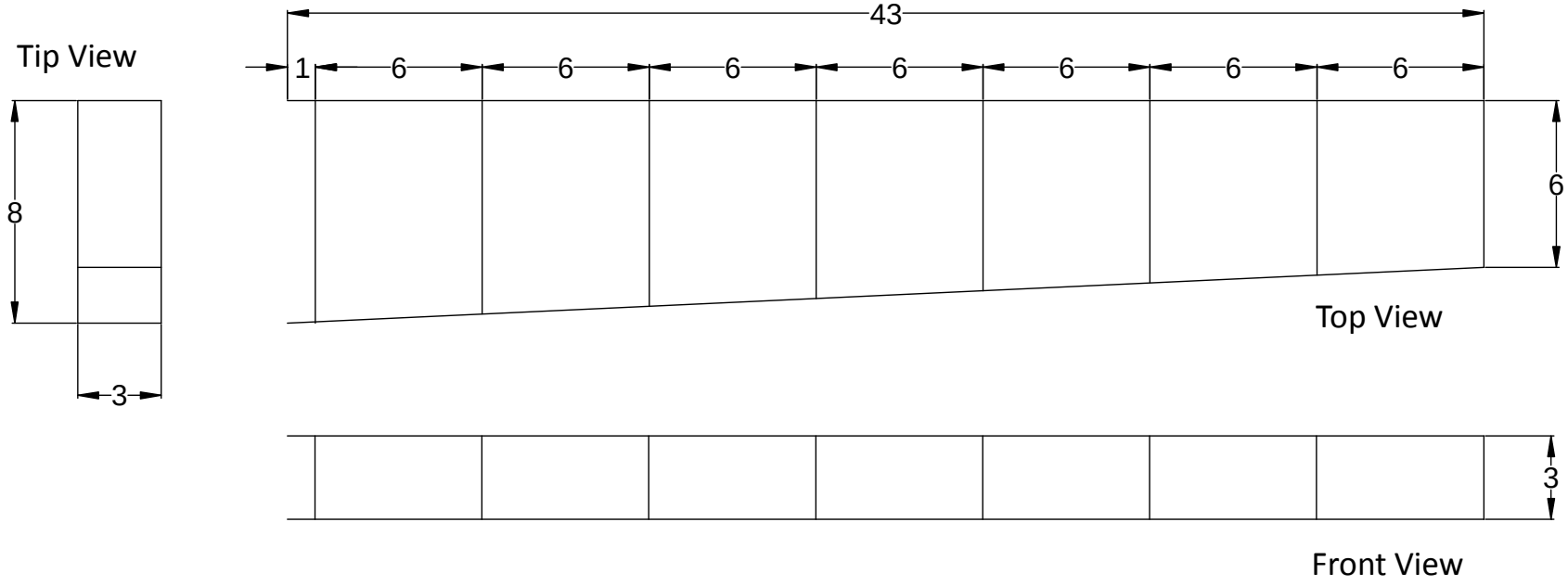
Deliverables

- Deadline : 5 p.m., April 10th, 2017
- A summary report (not exceeding 3 pages in Word format, 12pt font, single spacing, 1” margins) outlining the following:
  - Team name, affiliation, list of Team members, & mentors
  - Summary of your design (why you decided to build the wingbox a certain way) and a simple drawing identifying the various parts
  - Summary of activities (materials used, time spent in design, constructing, testing, etc.). Photographs of activities are also welcome.
  - Estimate how much load (P) your wingbox will withstand and how much the tip will deflect at failure.
- Deliver your fully constructed Wingbox to WSU

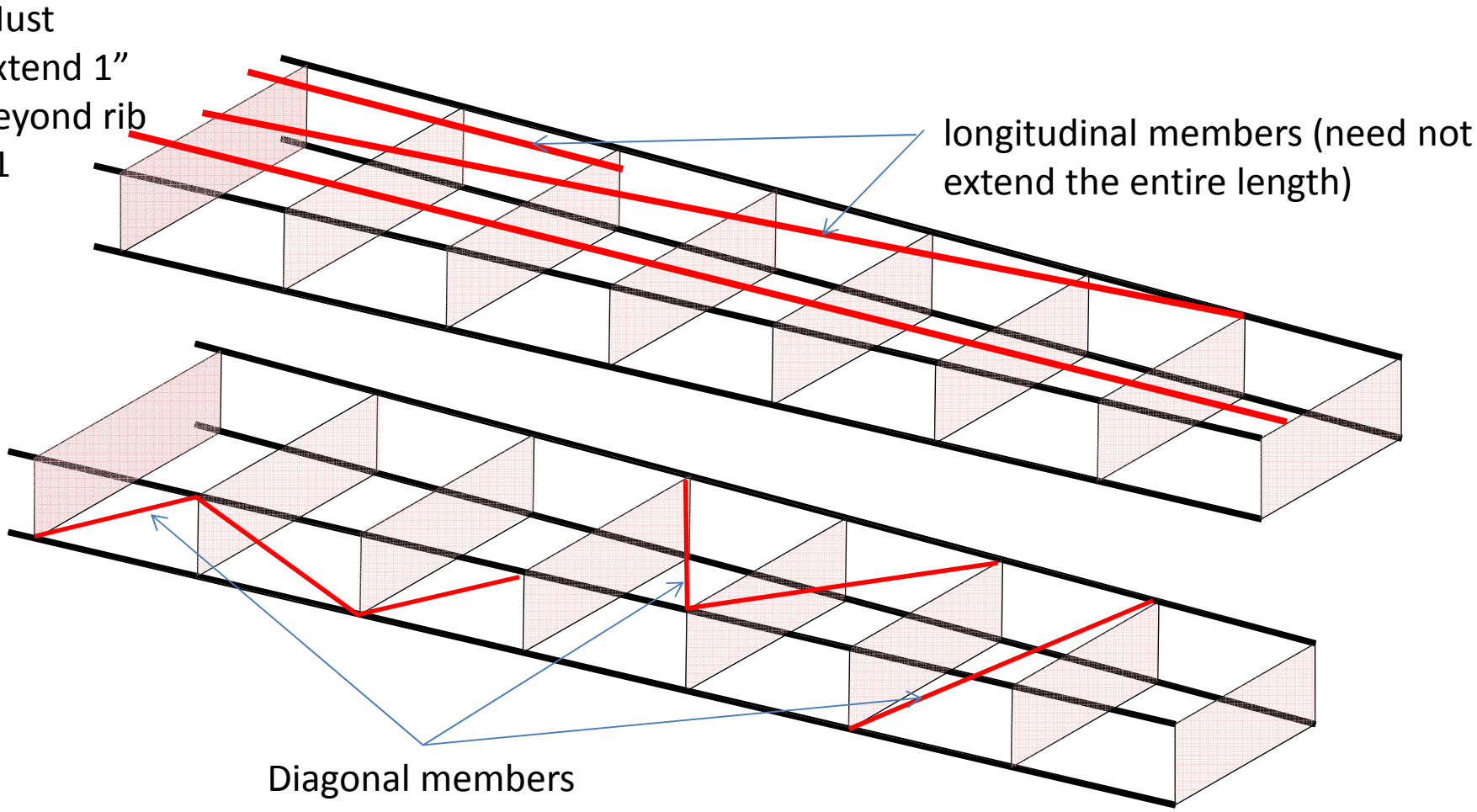
Wingbox overall Geometry



Dimensions in inches

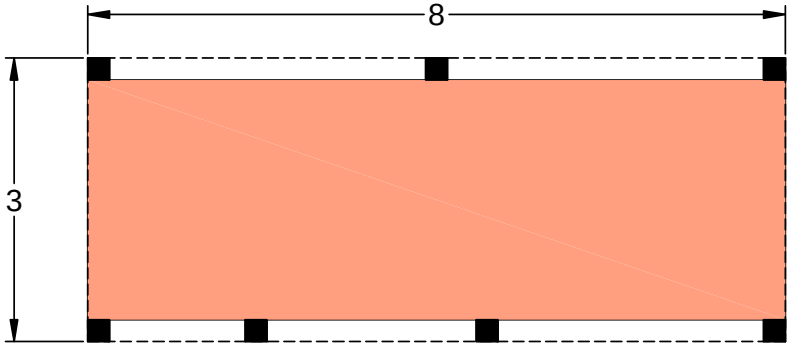


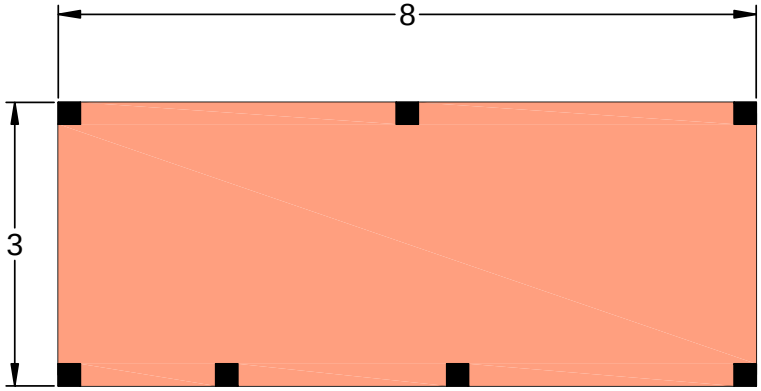
NOTE (1): Acceptable configuration examples….



Use any combination of longitudinal and diagonal members as long as

- They do not cut through the ribs (except along the rib edges)





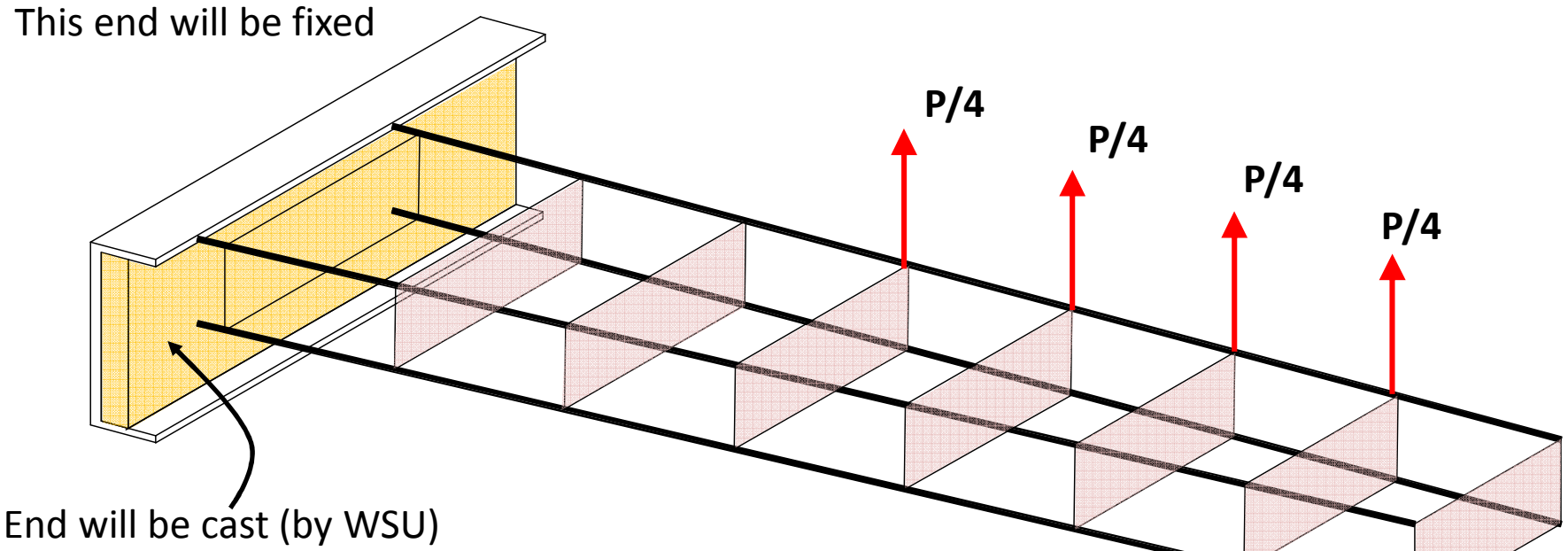
NOTE (2):

- The balsa sticks (extending the length of the wingbox) may pass through recesses cut in the ribs or may be placed along the edges of the ribs. In the latter case, the dimension of the ribs must be altered such that the overall dimension remains the same. For illustration purposes, rib #1 has been shown. The overall dimensions of the other ribs may be determined using the geometry of the wingbox
- Once you have decided on the locations and dimensions of the recesses in the ribs, you may utilize the **laser cutter** at WSU to have your ribs cut precisely.

Design Constraints

- Materials
  - Balsa sticks with only 1/8-inch or 1/16-inch square cross-section dimensions are allowed
  - Any combination of balsa sticks may be used
  - The balsa sticks running along the length must be 43-inches long. They must extend by 1-inch beyond the first rib (on the root end) as illustrated in the figure.
  - The balsa ribs must be placed at 6-inch intervals, as called out in the figure. These ribs must be no greater than 1/8-inch thick.
    - Recesses may be cut along the edges of the ribs if necessary
  - You may place additional ribs in between as required by your design. Note that adding material increases weight.
  - Use hobby store adhesives for bonding (Superglue, epoxy, etc.)

Wingbox Loading



The Wingbox will be loaded using forces as illustrated in the figure.

Wingbox Challenge Rubric

- Wingbox designs are scored based using the following:

  Score $S = S_1 + S_2 + S_3 - S_4 + S_5$

  - S_1 (Maximum of 20 points). A deduction of 1 point for exceeding 0.1" in the overall dimensions
  - $S_2 = (P_f/W) \times 10$
    - P_f is the load at failure and W is the weight of the wingbox (as submitted)
  - $S_3 = (3/\Delta_f)x100$
    - Δ_f is the tip or free end (end B) deflection at failure
  - $S_4 = W_{glue}/W_{total}x100$
    - W_{glue} is the weight of the glue(adhesive) used. You may weigh each of the balsa parts used before assembling them and their sum gives you the total weight of balsa wood. This should be documented in your report. Weigh the completed WingBox and use it to estimate W_{glue}.
  - S_5 (Maximum of 25 points for the report)
    - Drawing with dimensions and list of parts (10 points)
    - Weight of Balsa and glue (5 points)
    - Summary of activities (5 points)
    - Design philosophy (5 points)