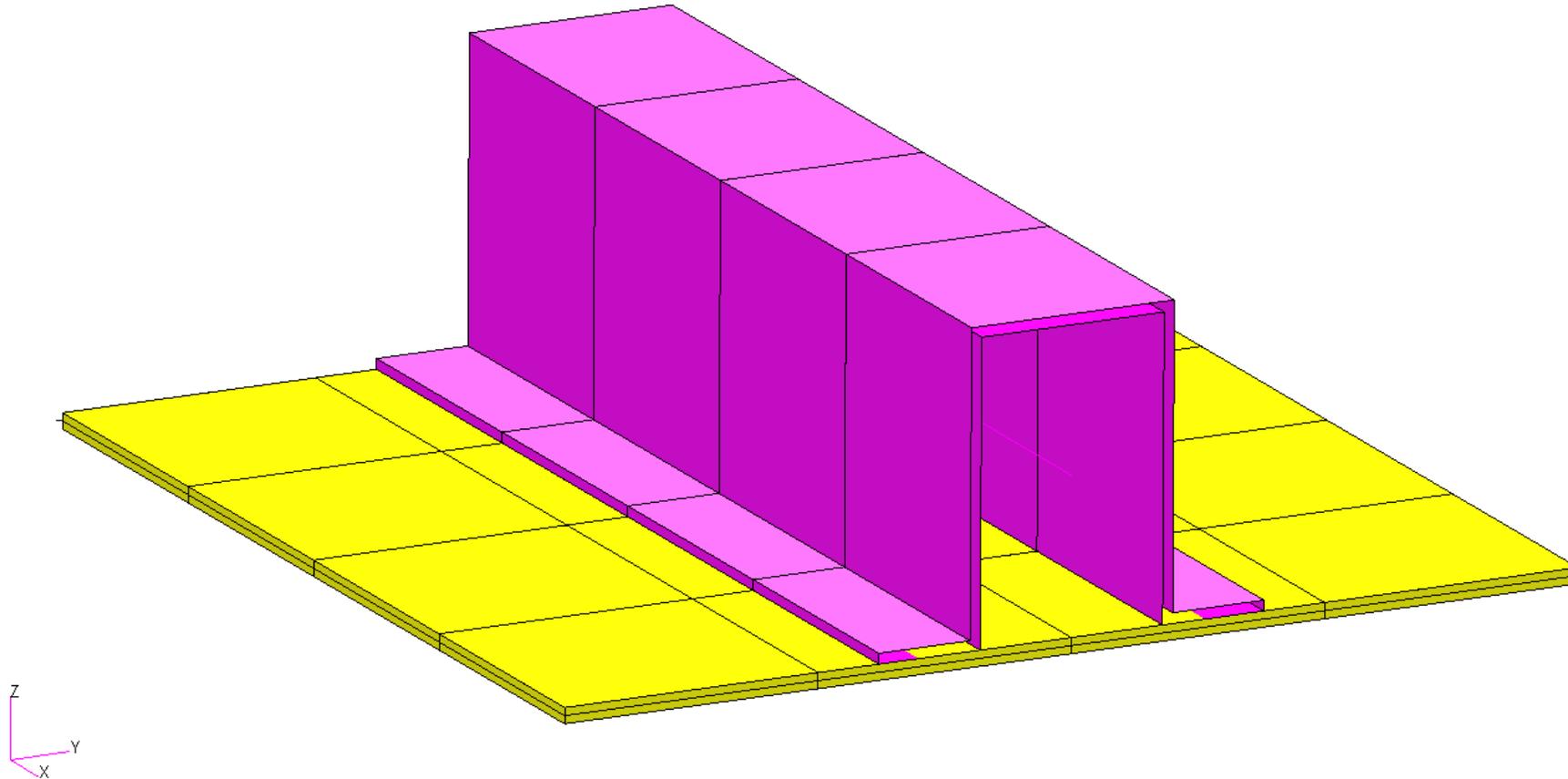


Automated Structural Optimization of a Stiffened Plate

PRESENTED BY CHRISTIAN APARICIO

Goal: Use Nastran SOL 200 Optimization

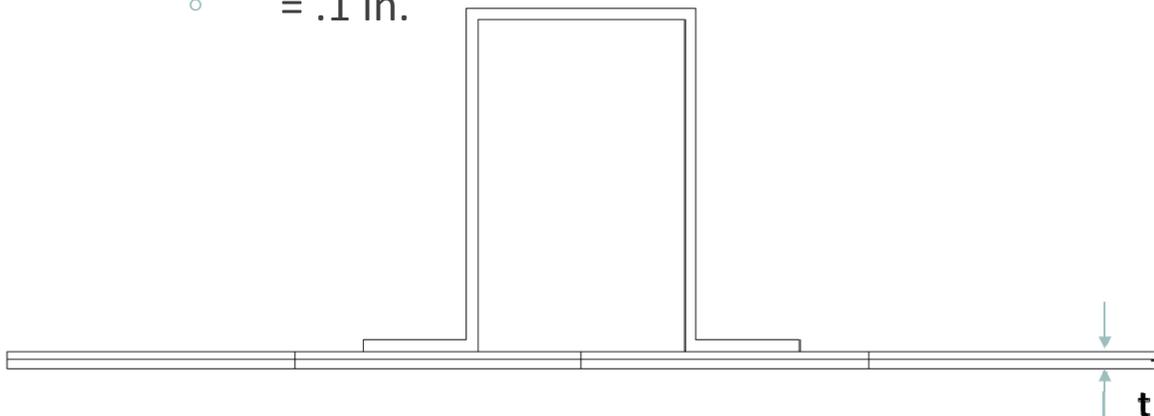


Goal: Use Nastran SOL 200 Optimization

Optimize the weight of this structure while constraining stress and displacement

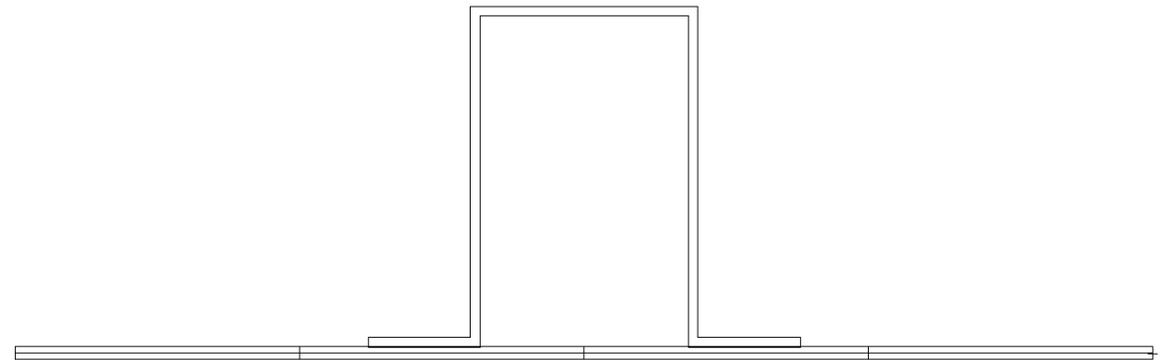
Before Optimization

- Weight: 6.962
- $x1 = T$, thickness of shell
- $T = .15$
- $x2 = DIM2$
- $DIM2 = .1$ in.



After Optimization

- Weight: 5.477
- $x1 = T = .113$ in.
- $x2 = DIM2 = .0839$ in.



Agenda

Details of the structural model

Optimization Problem Statement

Steps to use Nastran SOL 200 (Optimization)

- Convert a .bdf file to SOL 200
- Create:
 - Design Variables
 - Design Objective
 - Design Constraints
- Perform optimization with Nastran SOL 200

View optimization results

- Online Plotter
- Structural Results

Update the original structural model with optimized parameters

Contact me

- Nastran SOL 200 training
- Nastran SOL 200 questions
- Structural or mechanical optimization questions
- Access to the SOL 200 Web App

christian@the-engineering-lab.com

Details of the structural model

Stiffened Plate

An effective way to keep the number of independent design variables to a minimum is by grouping designed elements by property type. A smaller set of independent design variables decreases the cost associated with the sensitivity analysis, allows the optimizer to perform more efficiently, and makes interpretation of the final results much easier.

A simple example is shown in Figure 8-20 and includes a plate with a hat stiffener. The design goal is to reduce the weight of the stiffened panel subject to stress and displacement constraints under two separate static load conditions. The thickness of the plate and the thickness of the hat stiffener are allowed to vary. The boundary condition creates a simply supported condition with the plate also restrained in the x direction along $x=0.0$. The first load case includes both uniaxial tension in the x-direction and a vertical pressure load in the z-direction. The second load case is a concentrated load applied in the +z direction at grid 10203, which is directly under the hat. The example illustrates how the beam library can be utilized to simplify the modeling and design tasks and how the beam offset relations can be adjusted as the structural properties change.

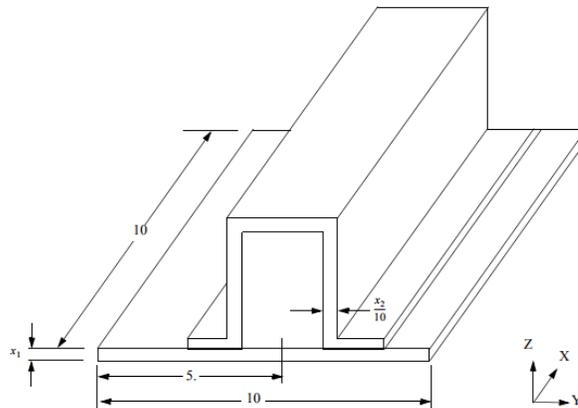
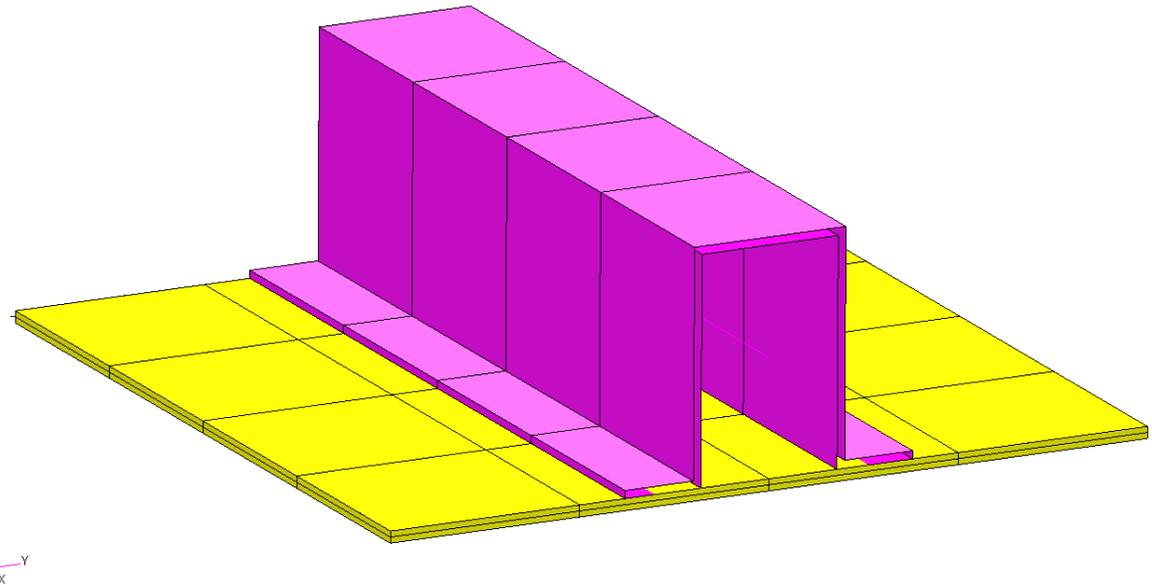
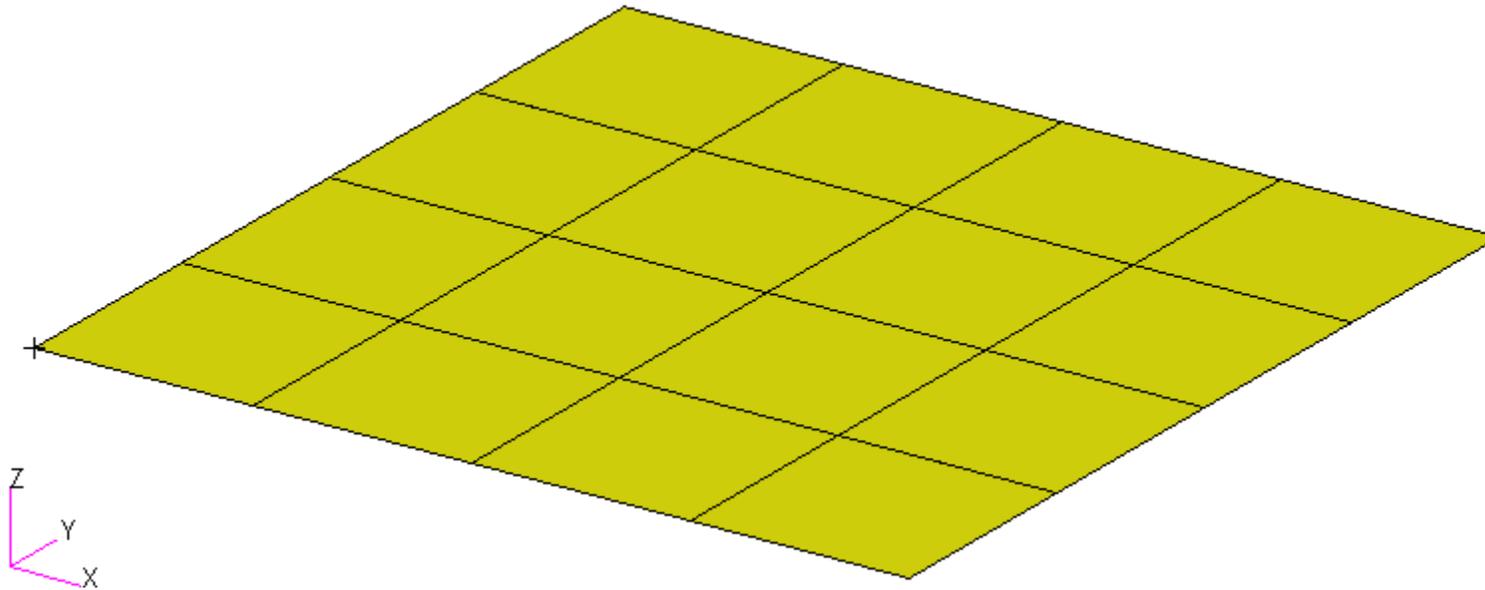


Figure 8-20 Plate with a HAT Stiffener



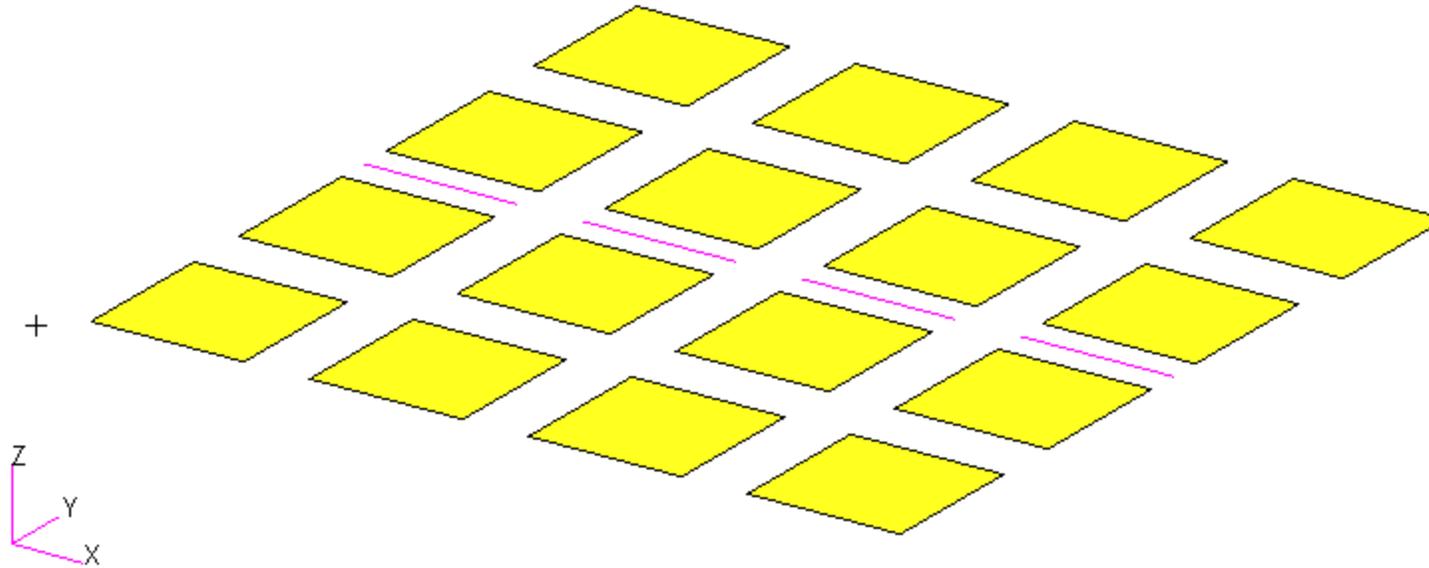
MSC Nastran Design Sensitivity and Optimization User's Guide
Chapter 8 – Example Problems – Stiffened Plate

Details of the structural model Stiffened Plate

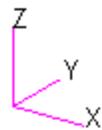
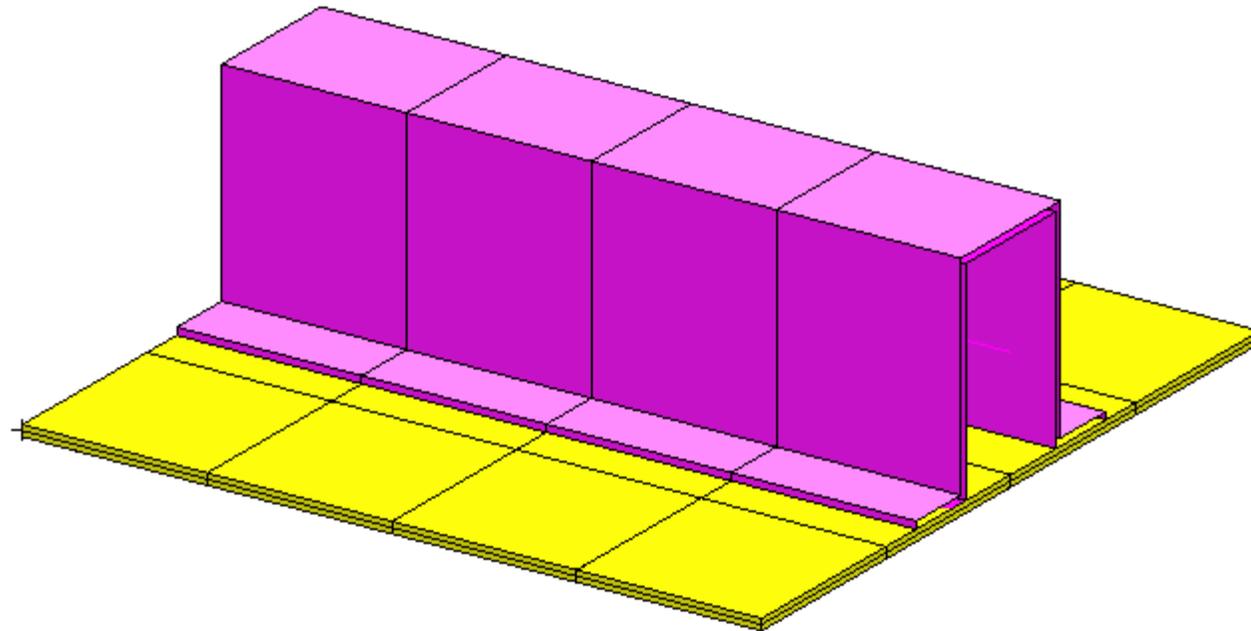


Details of the structural model

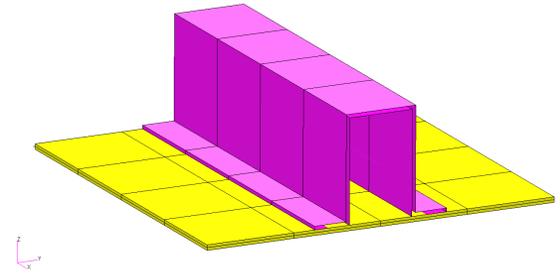
Stiffened Plate with Elements Shrunk



Details of the structural model Stiffened Plate



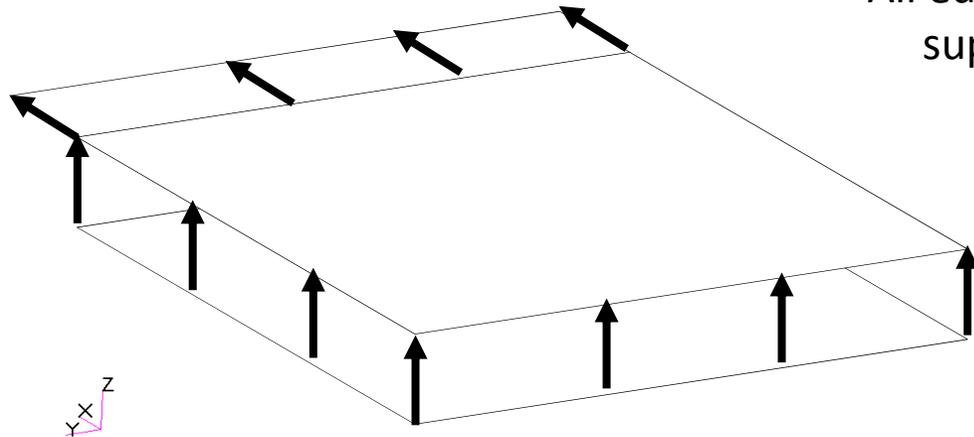
Loadcases (SUBCASEs)



Load Case 1: r1, r2, r3, r4, r5

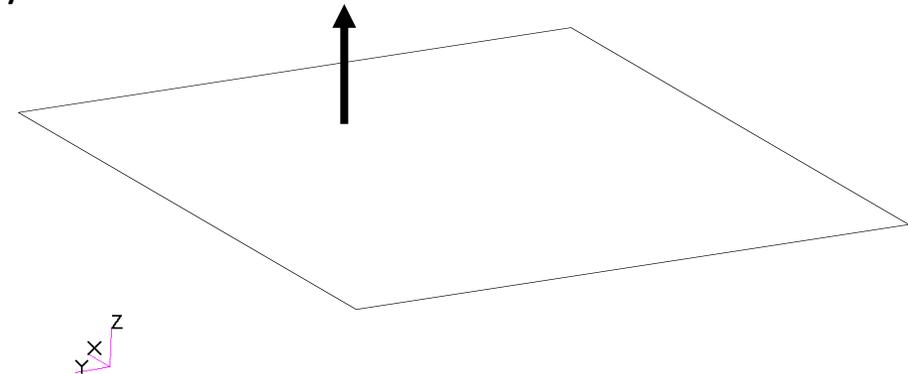
Load Case 2: r1, r2, r3, r4, r6

Loadcase 1



All edges simply supported

Loadcase 2



Optimization Problem Statement

Design Variables

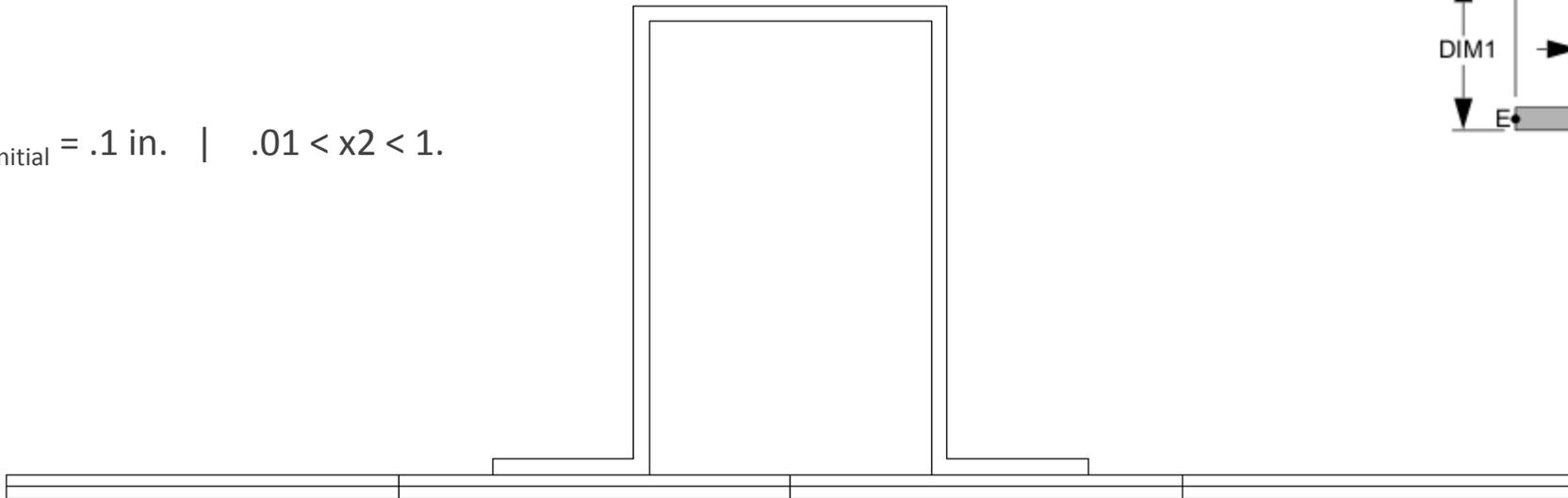
Design Variables

- $x_1 = T$, thickness of shell

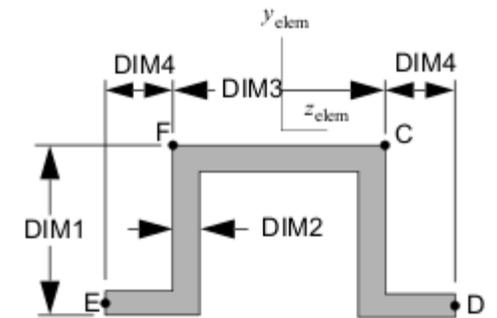
$$x_{1\text{initial}} = .15 \text{ in.} \quad | \quad .01 < x_1 < 1.$$

- $x_2 = \text{DIM2}$

$$x_{2\text{initial}} = .1 \text{ in.} \quad | \quad .01 < x_2 < 1.$$



DIM1: 3 in.
DIM2: .1 in
DIM3: 2 in.
DIM4: .9in



TYPE="HAT"

Optimization Problem Statement

Design Variables

Design Variables

- $x_1 = T$, thickness of shell

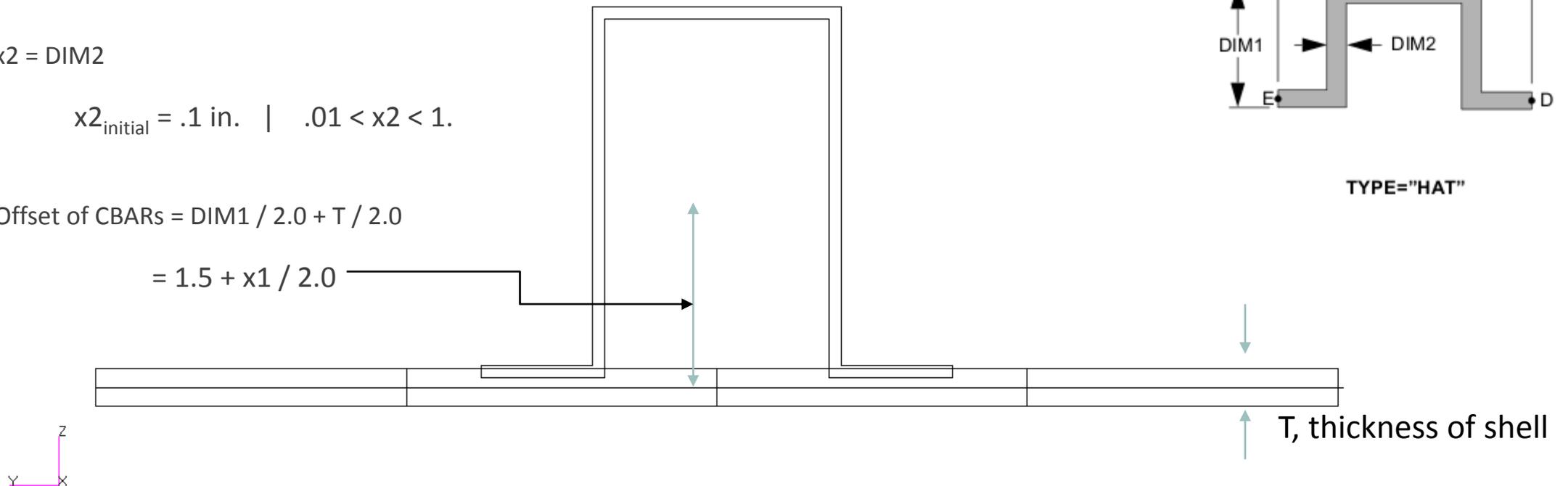
$$x_{1\text{initial}} = .15 \text{ in.} \quad | \quad .01 < x_1 < 1.$$

- $x_2 = \text{DIM2}$

$$x_{2\text{initial}} = .1 \text{ in.} \quad | \quad .01 < x_2 < 1.$$

- Offset of CBARs = $\text{DIM1} / 2.0 + T / 2.0$

$$= 1.5 + x_1 / 2.0$$



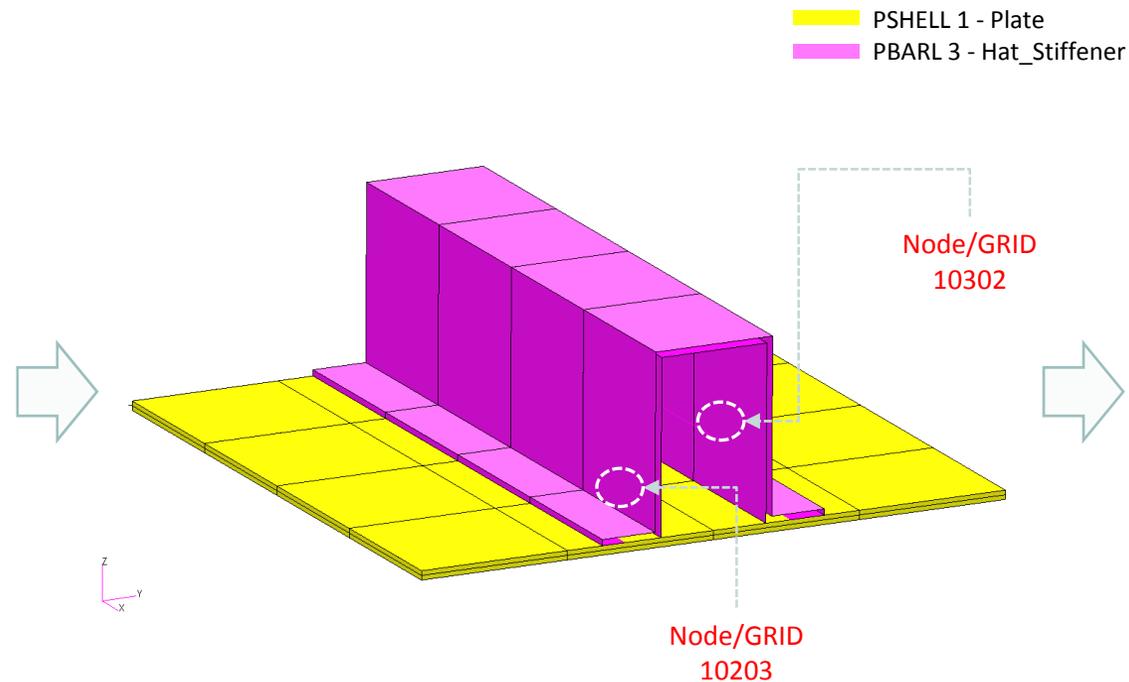
Optimization Problem Statement

Design Variables

x1: T1 of PSHELL 1 | $.01 < x1 < 1$.

x2: DIM2 of PBARL 3 | $.01 < x2 < 1$.

W3A,B for each element = $1.5 + x1 / 2.0$



Responses (Outputs)

- Weight
- Volume
- Displacements
- Strains
- Stresses
-

Optimization Problem Statement

Design Objective

Design Objective

- r0: Minimize Weight

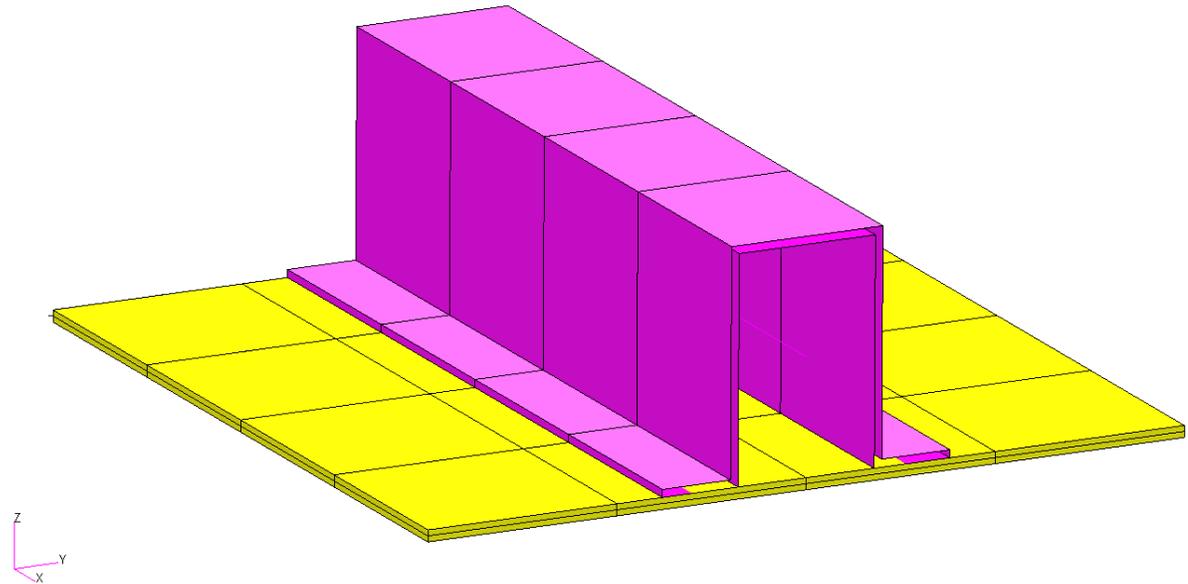
Optimization Problem Statement

Design Constraints

Loads will produce bending and axial stress in beam elements

Must make sure the combined max bending stress and axial stress is within allowable bounds

- r1: The max stress at end A for PBARL 3
- $-25000. < r1 < 25000.$
- r2: The max stress at end B for PBARL 3
- $-25000. < r2 < 25000.$



Optimization Problem Statement

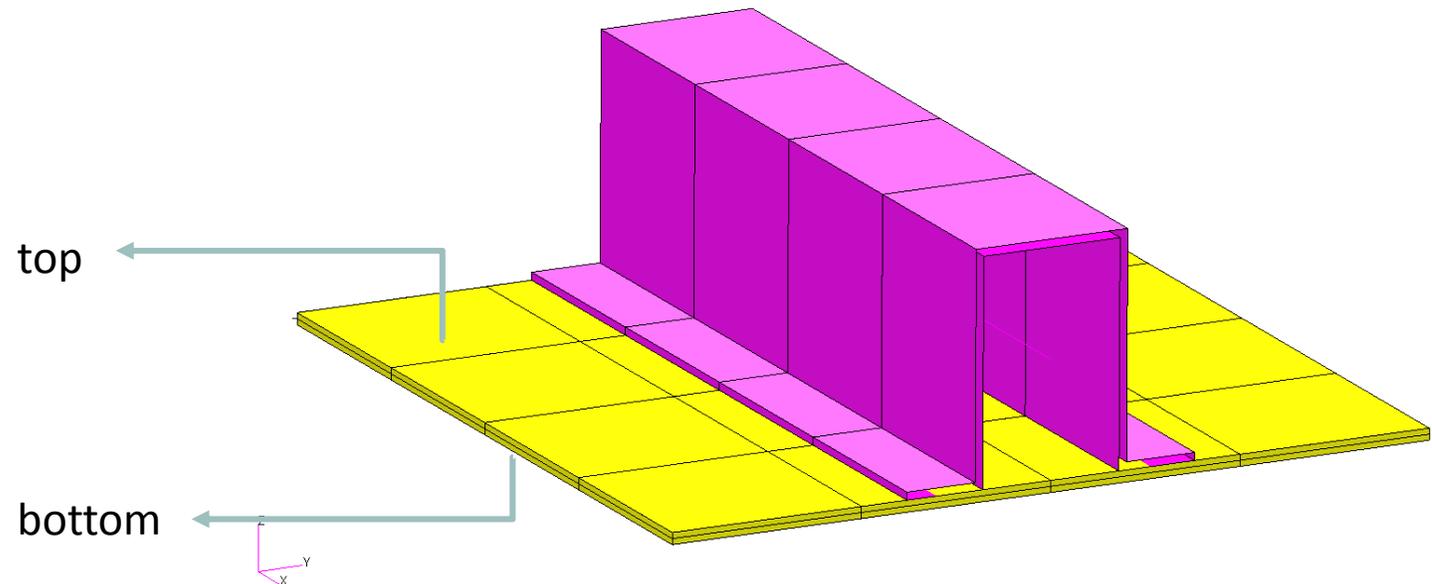
Design Constraints

r3: The von Mises Stress of the top fiber (z1)

$$r3 < 25000.$$

r4: The von Mises Stress of the bottom fiber (z2)

$$r4 < 25000.$$



Optimization Problem Statement

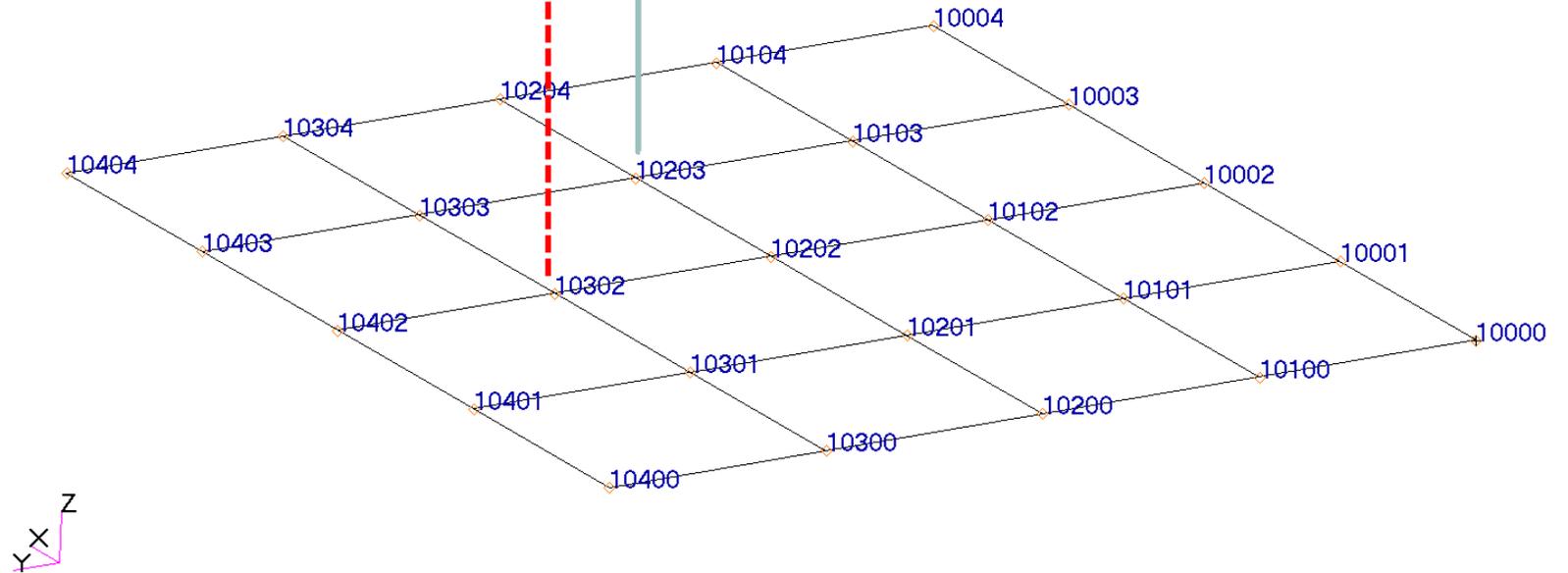
Design Constraints

r5: The z displacement of node 10302

$$-.1 < r5 < .1$$

r6: The z displacement of node 10203

$$-.03 < r6 < .03$$



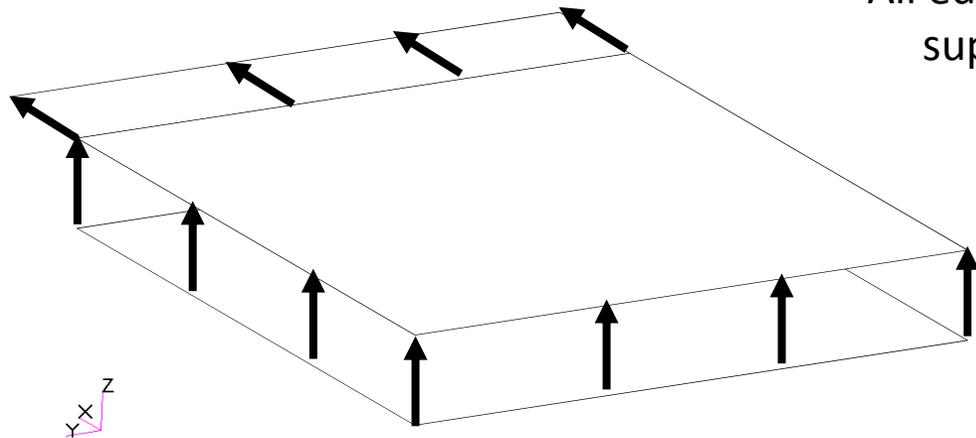
Optimization Problem Statement

Design Constraint Groups

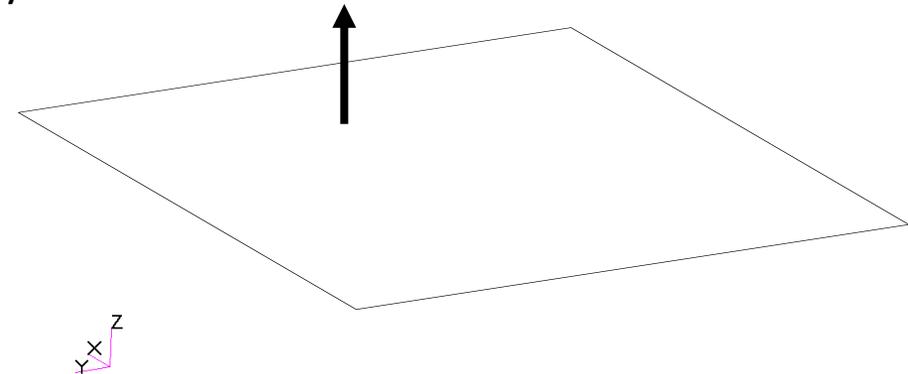
Load Case 1: r1, r2, r3, r4, r5

Load Case 2: r1, r2, r3, r4, r6

Loadcase 1



Loadcase 2



All edges simply supported

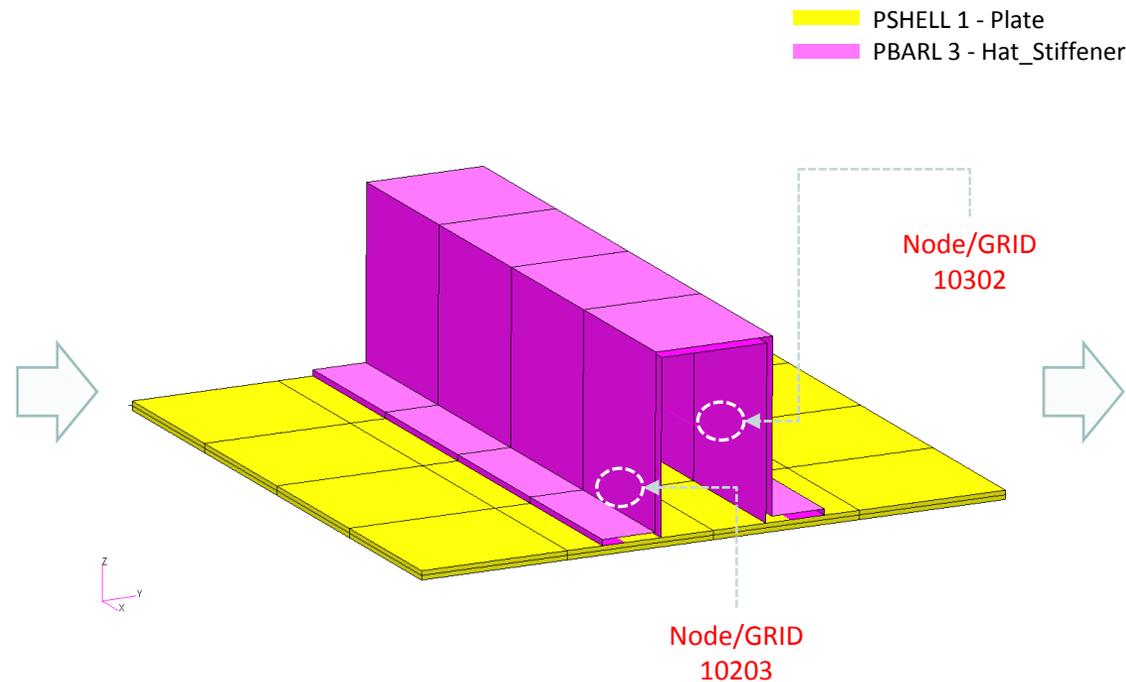
Optimization Problem Statement

Design Variables

x1: T1 of PSHELL 1 | $.01 < x1 < 1$.

x2: DIM2 of PBARL 3 | $.01 < x2 < 1$.

W3A,B for each element = $1.5 + x1 / 2.0$



Design Objective

r0: Minimize weight

Design Constraints

r1: The max stress at end A of elements related to PBARL 3

r2: The max stress at end B of elements related to PBARL 3

$$-25000 < r1, r2 < 25000$$

r3: The von Mises stress of elements related to PSHELL 1

r4: The von Mises stress of elements related to PSHELL 1

$$r3, r4 < 25000$$

r5: The z component of displacement for node 10302

$$-.1 < r5 < .1$$

r6: The z component of displacement for node 10203

$$-.03 < r6 < .03$$

Steps to use Nastran SOL 200 (Optimization)

1. Start with a .bdf or .dat file
2. Use the SOL 200 Web App to:
 - Convert the .bdf file to SOL 200
 - Design Variables
 - Design Objective
 - Design Constraints
 - Perform optimization with Nastran SOL 200
3. Review optimization results
 - Online Plotter
 - Optimized structural results
4. Update the original model with optimized parameters

SOL 200 Web App Capabilities

The Post-processor Web App and HDF5 Explorer are free to MSC Nastran users.

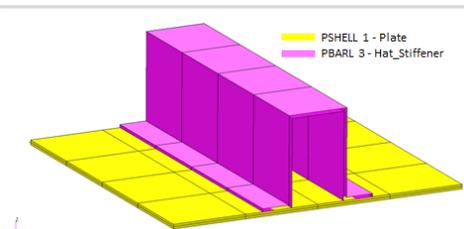
Compatibility

- Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox or Microsoft Edge
- Windows and Red Hat Linux
- Installable on a company laptop, workstation or server. All data remains within your company.

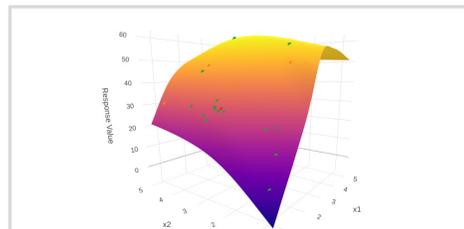
Benefits

- REAL TIME error detection. 200+ error validations.
- REAL TIME creation of bulk data entries.
- Web browser accessible
- Free Post-processor web apps
- +80 tutorials

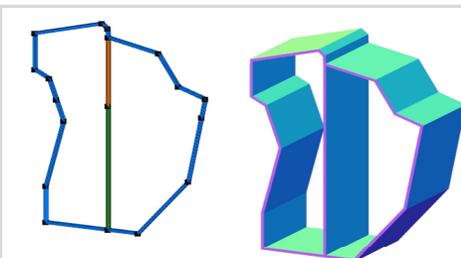
Web Apps



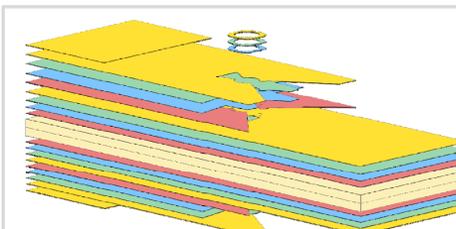
Web Apps for MSC Nastran SOL 200
Pre/post for MSC Nastran SOL 200.
Support for size, topology, topometry, topography, multi-model optimization.



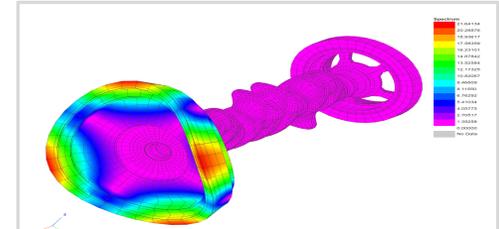
Machine Learning Web App
Bayesian Optimization for nonlinear response optimization (SOL 400)



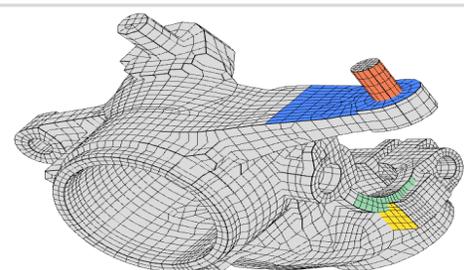
PBMSECT Web App
Generate PBMSECT and PBRSECT entries graphically



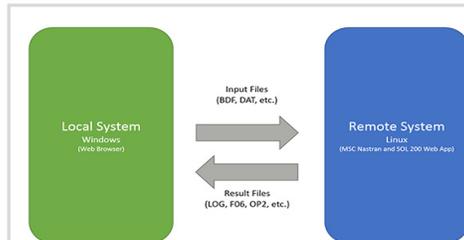
Ply Shape Optimization Web App
Optimize composite ply drop-off locations, and generate new PCOMPG entries



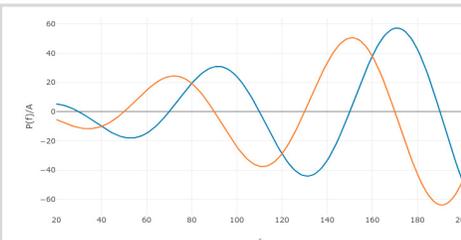
Post-processor Web App
View MSC Nastran results in a web browser on Windows and Linux



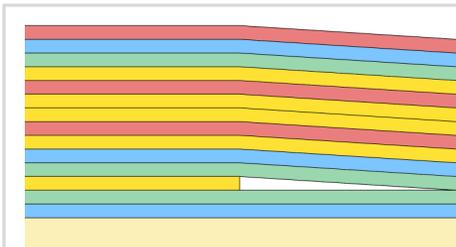
Shape Optimization Web App
Use a web application to configure and perform shape optimization.



Remote Execution Web App
Run MSC Nastran jobs on remote Linux or Windows systems available on the local network



Dynamic Loads Web App
Generate RLOAD1, RLOAD2 and DLOAD entries graphically



Stacking Sequence Web App
Optimize the stacking sequence of composite laminate plies



HDF5 Explorer Web App
Create graphs (XY plots) using data from the H5 file

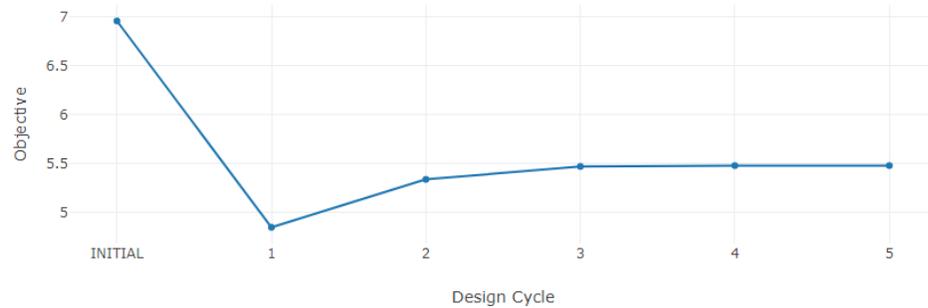
View Optimization Results

Online Plotter

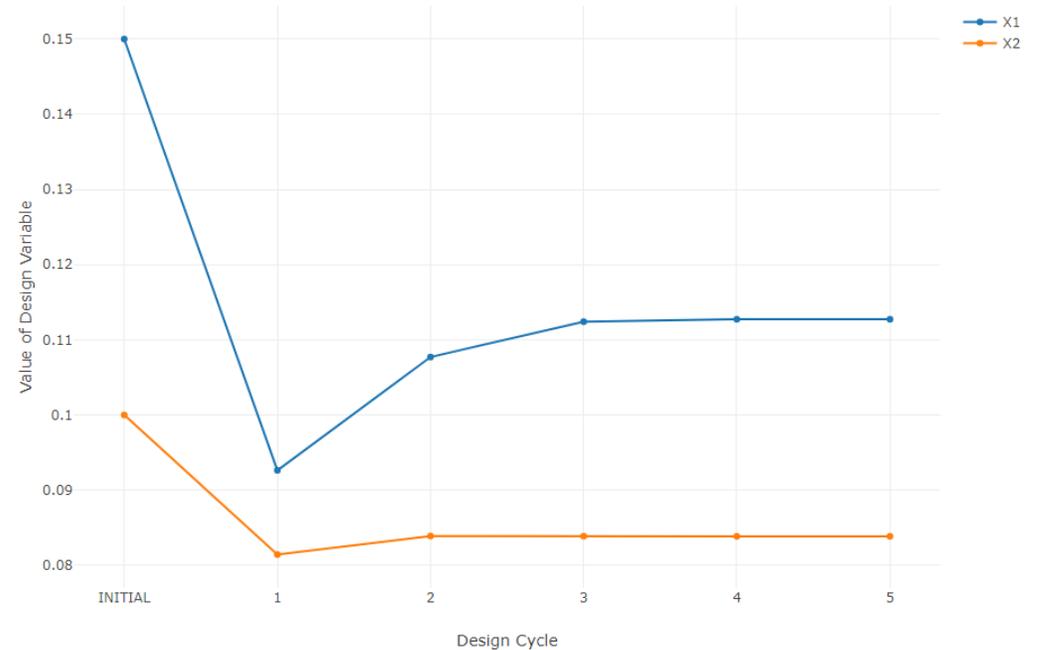
Final Message in .f06

✓ RUN TERMINATED DUE TO HARD CONVERGENCE TO AN OPTIMUM AT CYCLE NUMBER = 5.

Objective



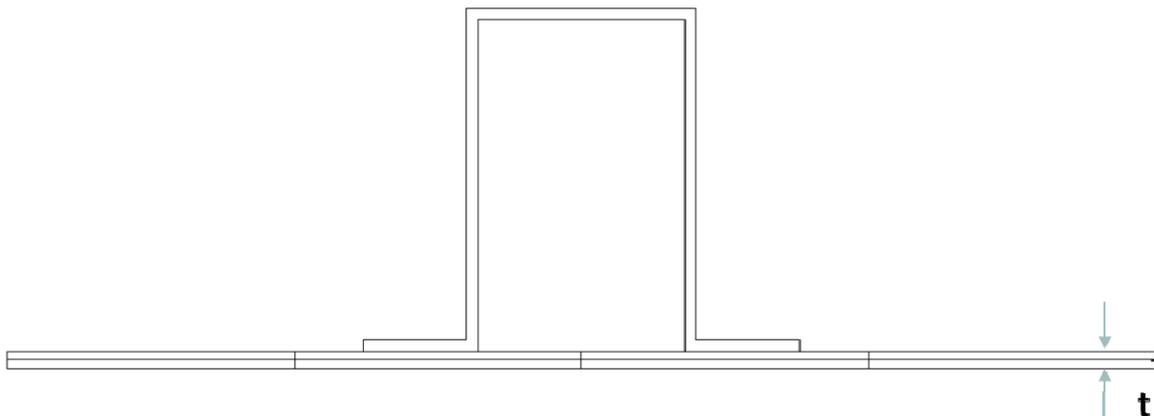
Design Variables



Goal: Use Nastran SOL 200 Optimization

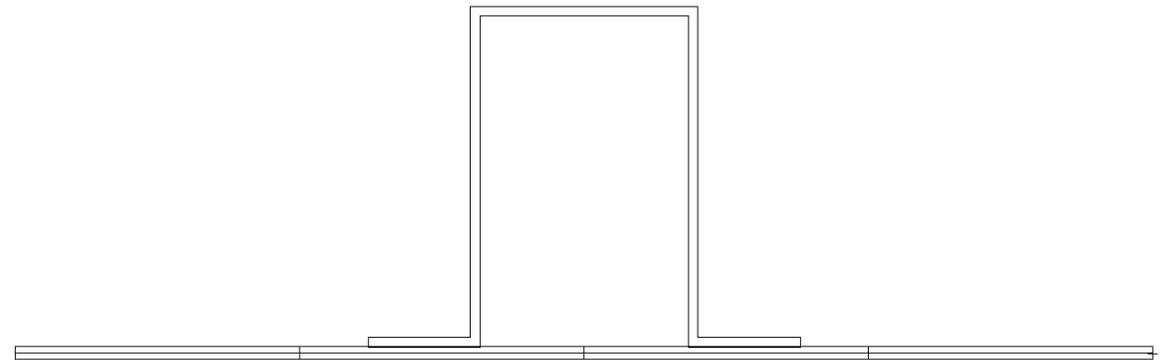
Initial Design

- Weight: 6.962
- $x_1 = T$, thickness of shell
- $T = .15$
- $x_2 = \text{DIM2}$
- $\text{DIM2} = .1 \text{ in.}$



Optimized Design

- Weight: 5.477
- $x_1 = T = .113 \text{ in.}$
- $x_2 = \text{DIM2} = .0839 \text{ in.}$



Update the original structural model with optimized parameters

Use the .pch file

Contact me

- Nastran SOL 200 training
- Nastran SOL 200 questions
- Structural or mechanical optimization questions
- Access to the SOL 200 Web App

[christian@ the-engineering-lab.com](mailto:christian@the-engineering-lab.com)