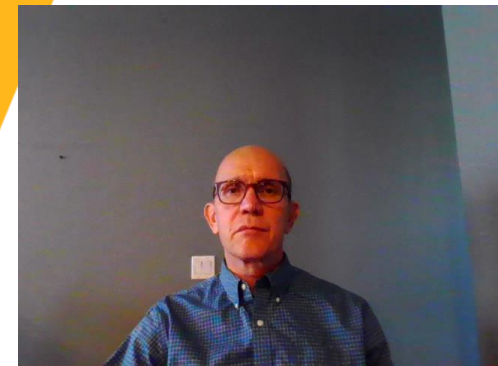


# Topology optimization of an automotive hood for multiple load cases and disciplines

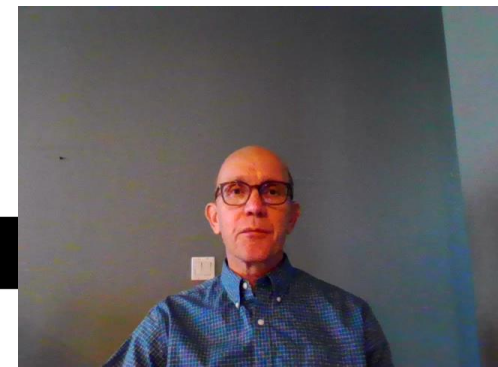
Imtiaz Gandikota, Willem Roux, Guilian Yi

Oct. 2021



# Overview

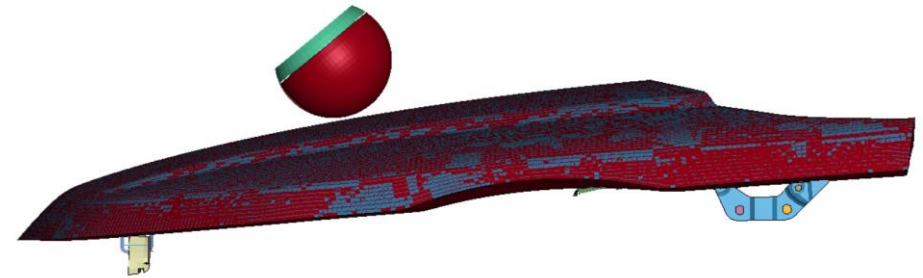
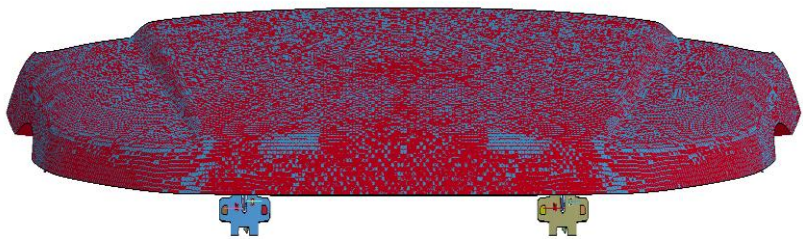
- Design Requirements
- Multidisciplinary Topology Optimization with Constraints
- Automotive Hood Topology Optimization – Design Studies
- Summary



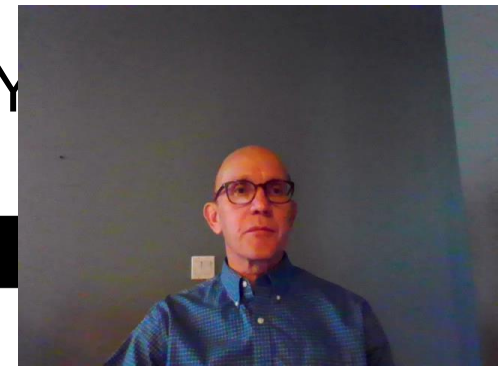
# Design Requirements

What do the customers want from the design?

- The important requirements are from the crash groups at various customers, e.g. Toyota, Mazda, Ford, GM, etc.
  - Topics such as **Head Impact Criterion** and **maximization of energy absorption**
  - This is done as part of multi-disciplinary design optimization
  - The methodology is also used by clients outside the vehicle industry



- This resulted in insights, methodology, and success unique to ANSYS



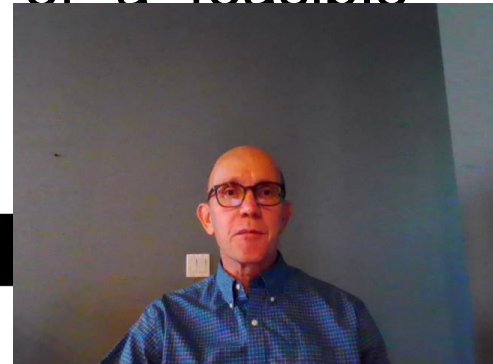
# Multidisciplinary Topology Optimization with Constraints

## Solving the saddle point problem

- Designing for impact is fundamentally different from designing for the other disciplines, in part because *the maximizing of the energy absorption requires special handling to have a stable structure.*
- Our implementation therefore solves for the saddle point problem instead of the normal energy minimization

$$\max_{\xi} \min_x E(\xi, x)$$

with  $\xi$  additional variables (typically global properties of the design) and  $x$  the standard topology design variables. The optimization scheme therefore solves a dual problem with the *higher level solving* for the properties of a feasible structure and the *lower level solving* for the topology of a stable these properties.



# Multidisciplinary Topology Optimization with Constraints

## Design sensitivity analysis (DSA)

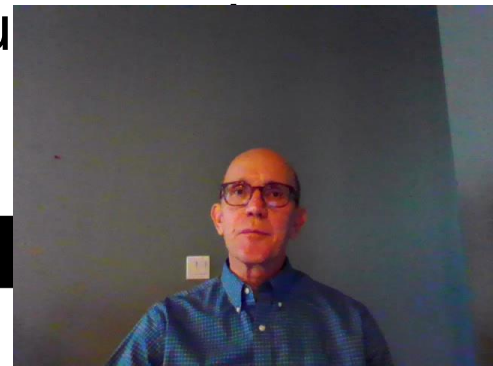
- Normally topology is based on using analytical DSA (gradients), but the implementation of analytical DSA is not feasible for the impact discipline.
- The constraints are therefore split into two sets: *analytical DSA* is used for the one set of constraints,

$$g_i^{\text{ana}}(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0 \text{ with } i = 1, \dots, n$$

while the other set uses a multi-point method to compute the DSA values *numerically*,

$$g_j^{\text{num}}(\xi) \leq 0 \text{ with } j = 1, \dots, m$$

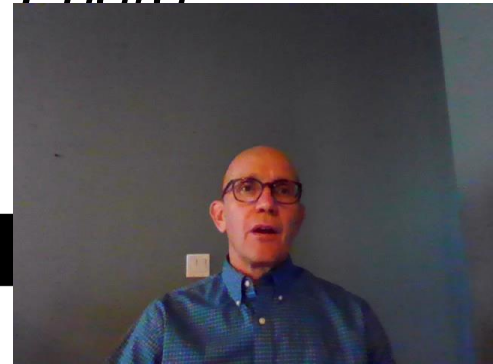
- This allows us to design for maximum energy absorption, maximum forces, and bounds on eigenvalues simultaneously.



# Multidisciplinary Topology Optimization with Constraints

## Optimization Methodologies in LS-TaSC

- Minimax / saddle point problem (needed to maximize energy absorption).
  - One saddle direction uses shape/topology variables together with design sensitivity analysis. This is related to the schemes in the textbooks and others codes.
  - Other saddle direction uses parametric variables in a multi-point scheme. Related to the schemes in optiSlang™ and LS-OPT™.
  - And of course, a dual-optimization solver that can handle the above.
- The multipoint scheme is used by the crash discipline for constrained optimization – handling generic constraints is unique to ANSYS/LST.
- Details of the theory: Willem Roux, Guilian Yi, Imtiaz Gandikota. A spatial kernel approach for topology optimization. *Comput. Methods Appl. Mech. Engra* (2020)



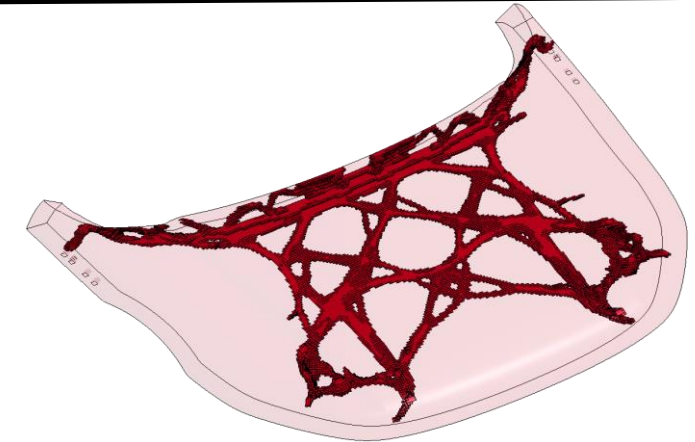


# Automotive Hood Topology Optimization

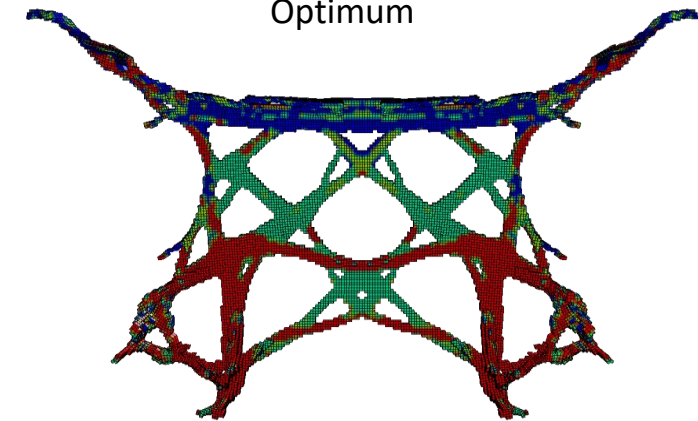
## Design study 1: design for three static load cases



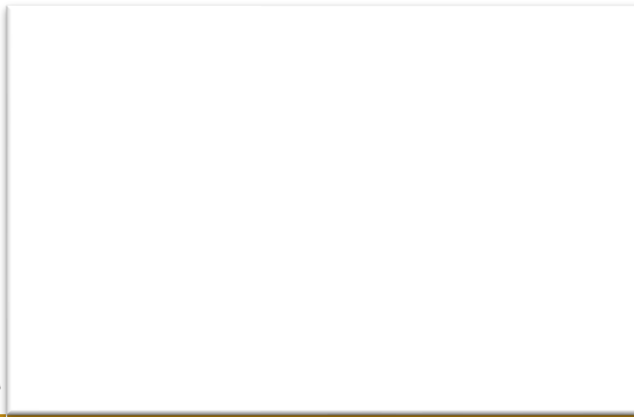
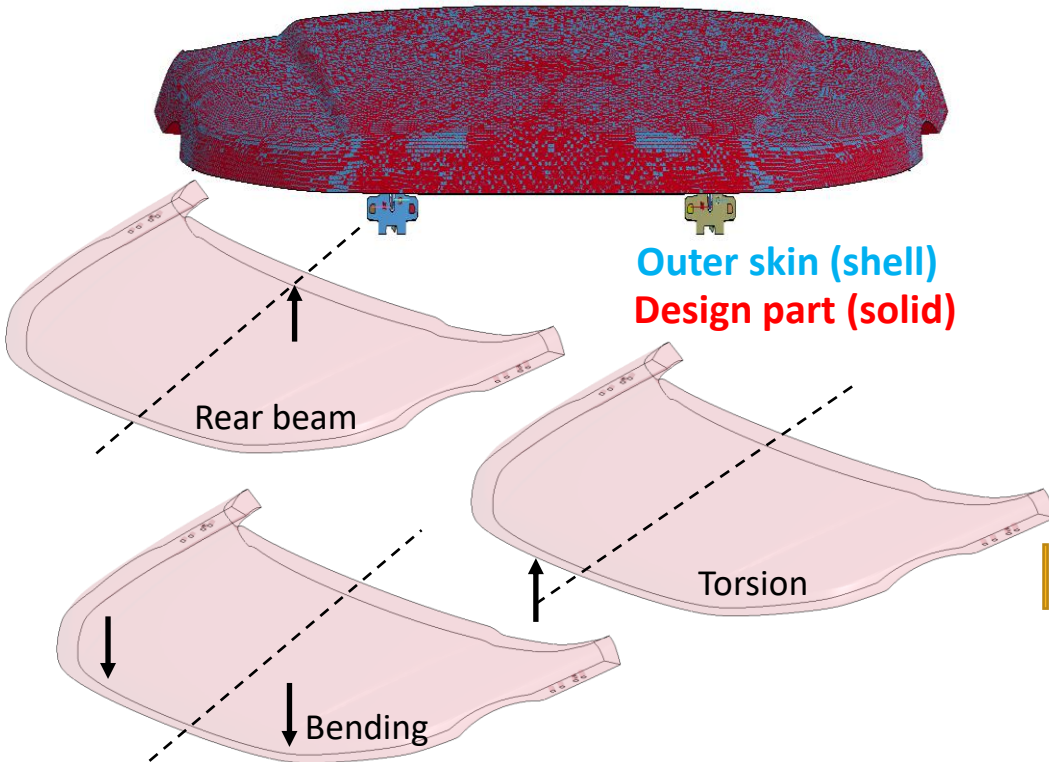
- Objective: Stiffest structure, satisfying constraints, and minimize mass
- Constraints: rear beam, bending, and torsion displacements



Optimum



Design Contribution Plot  
(Rear beam, torsion, bending)



Initial Design has very low mass fraction of 0.01.

# Automotive Hood Topology Optimization

## Design study 2: design for impact load case

- Designing the solid inner/hidden part of hood with outer shell layer
- Optimization problem description:

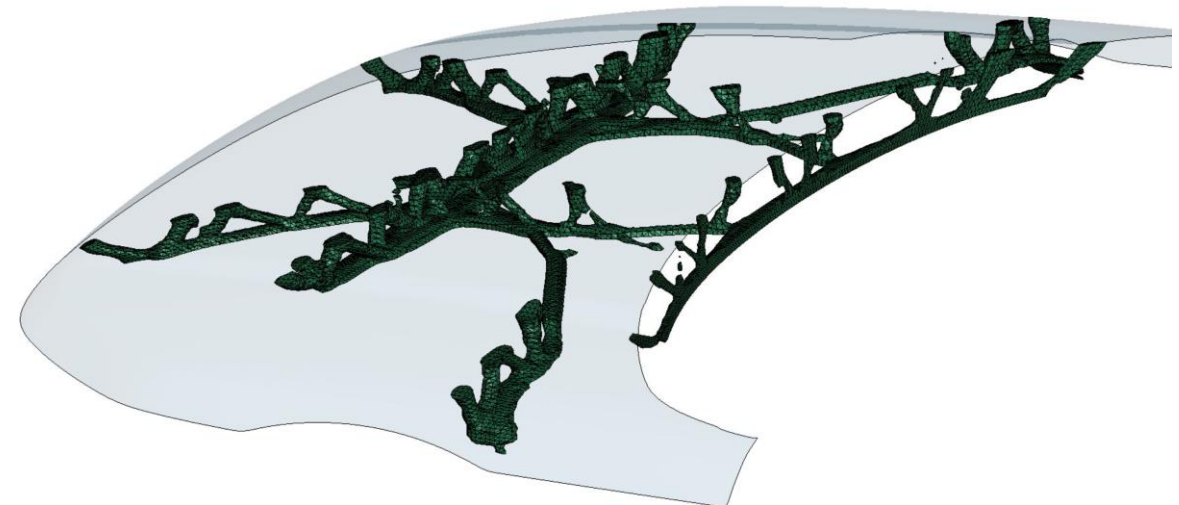
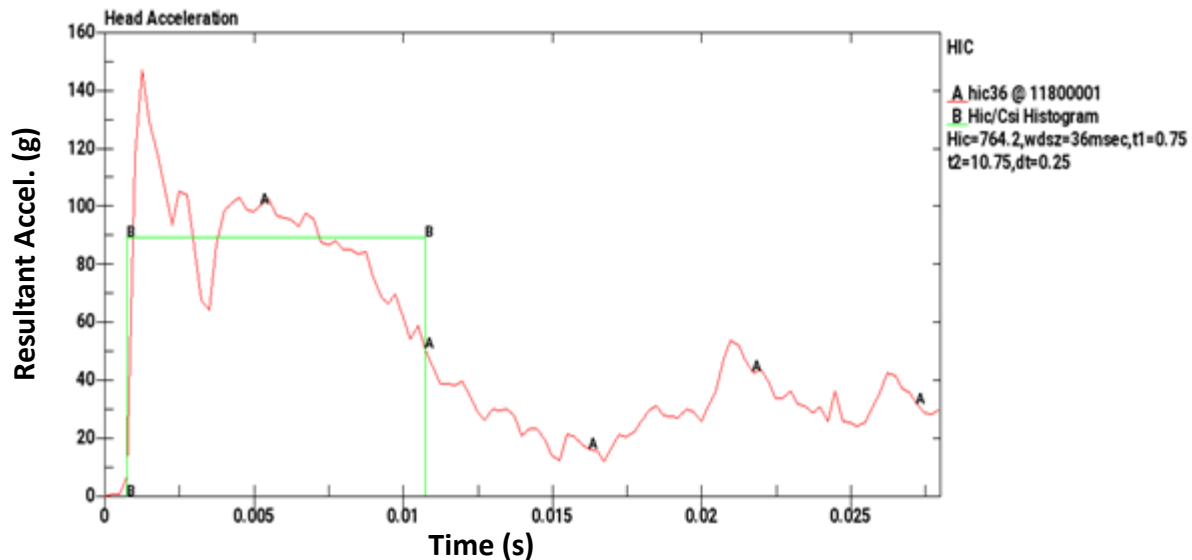
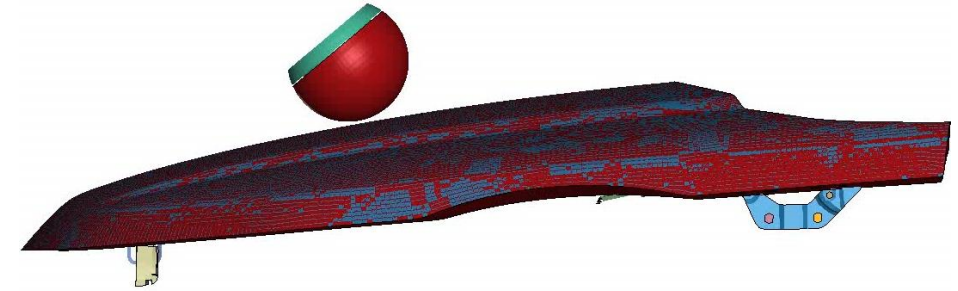
Min mass (max. stiffness)

s.t.  $HIC < 1000$ ;

$z\text{-dir disp @ impact location} \leq 70 \text{ mm}$ .

- Final mass = 0.74 kg (2.5% of original)

Model by courtesy of  
Jaguar Land Rover





# Automotive Hood Topology Optimization

## Design study 3: design for impact, NVH, and static load cases (1)

- Optimization problem description:

Min. mass (max (stiffness, fundamental freq.))

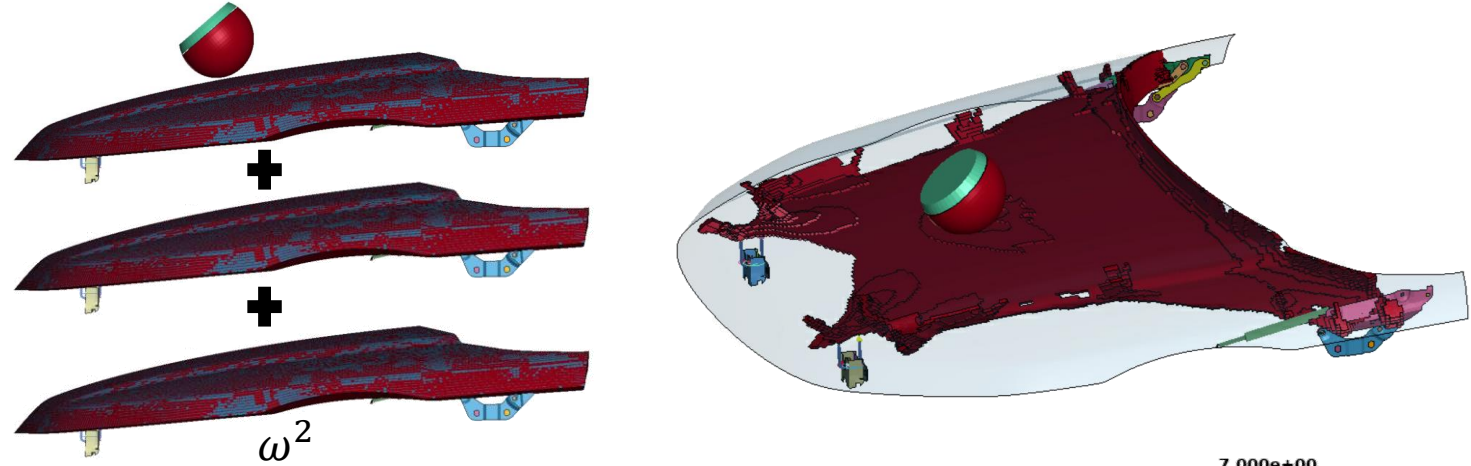
s.t.  $HIC \leq 1000$ ,

Disp  $\leq 70$  mm (LC 1)

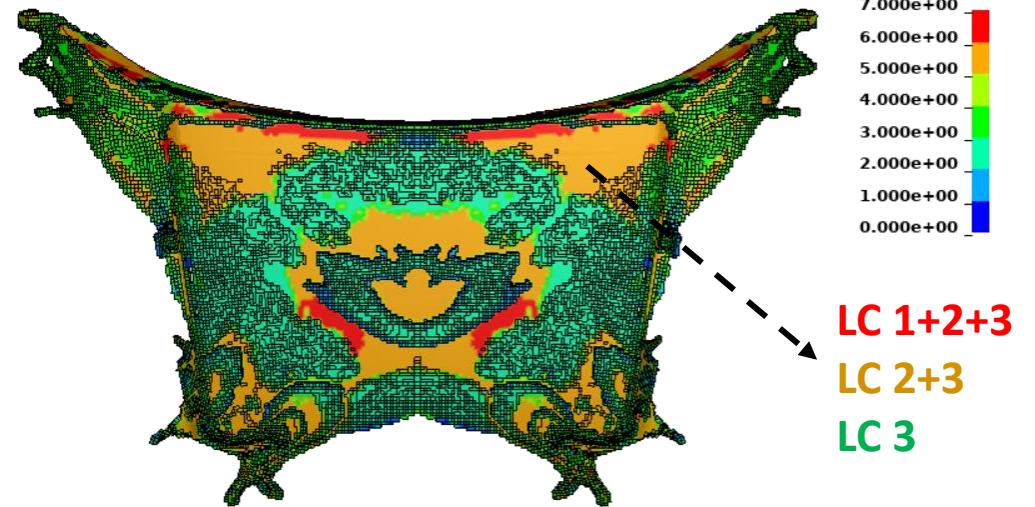
torsion disp.  $\leq 17.6$  mm (LC 2)

Bending freq.  $\geq 45$  Hz (LC 3)

- Final design mass = 3 kg (10% of original)



Iso-surface Plot



Design Contribution Plot

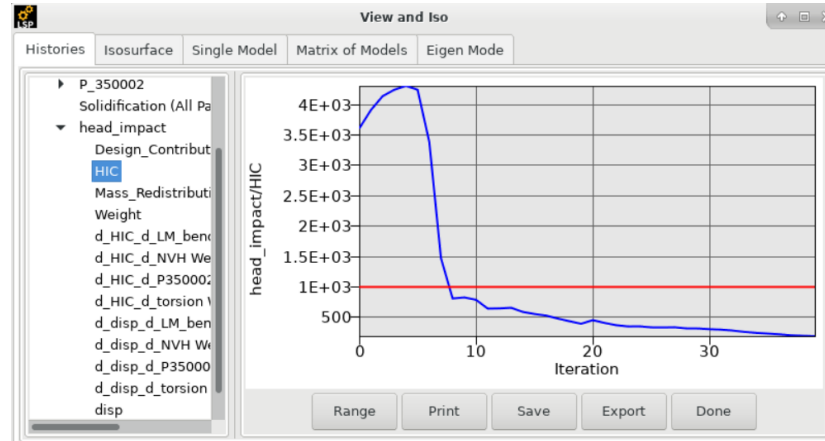
# Automotive Hood Topology Optimization

## Design study 3: design for impact, NVH, and static load cases (2)

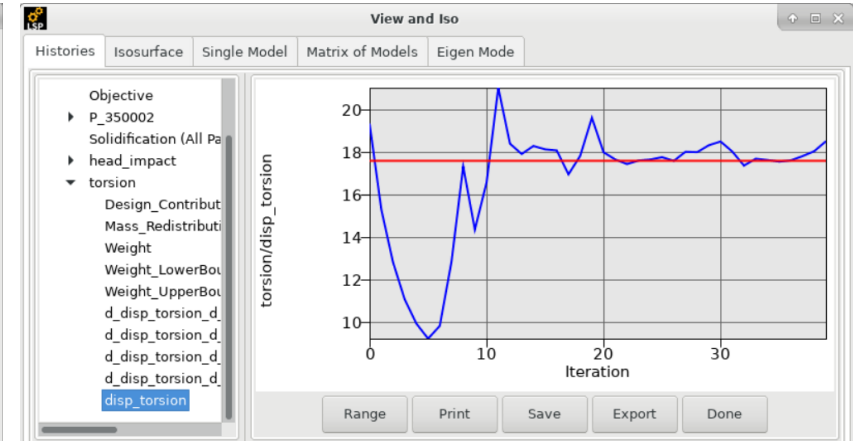
- Results



Iso-surface (movie)



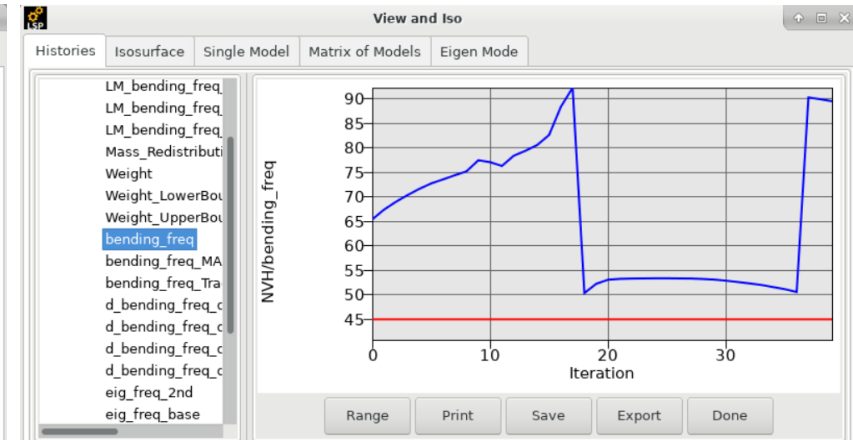
History plot of HIC



History plot of z-dir displacement



History plot of torsion displacement

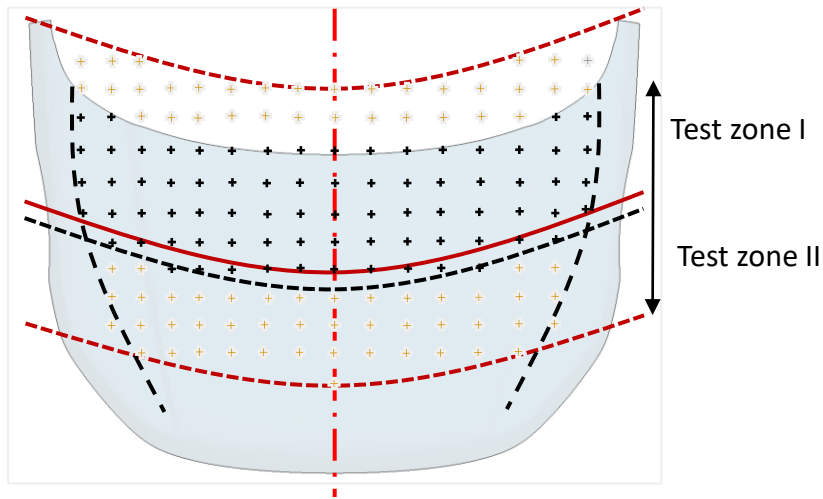


History plot of bending frequency

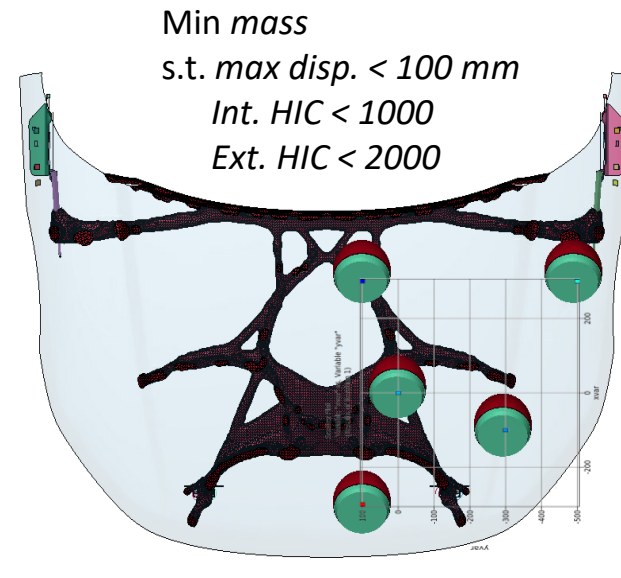
# Automotive Hood Topology Optimization

## Design study 4: design for multiple impacts (1)

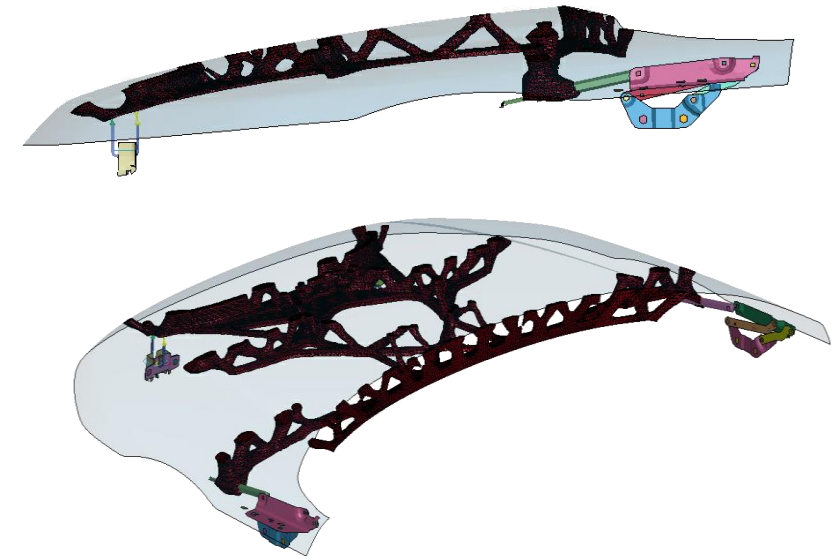
- Hood must be evaluated at multiple impact locations according to *Euro NCAP Pedestrian testing protocol*.
- Ideally, all impact locations should be solved as a multi-load case optimization problem.
- Very expensive!



Area to meet low speed requirements by Euro NCAP protocol



Results of MLC optimization with five load cases (overall 540 LS-DYNA runs for 27 LS-TaSC iterations)





# Automotive Hood Topology Optimization

## Design study 4: design for multiple impacts (2)

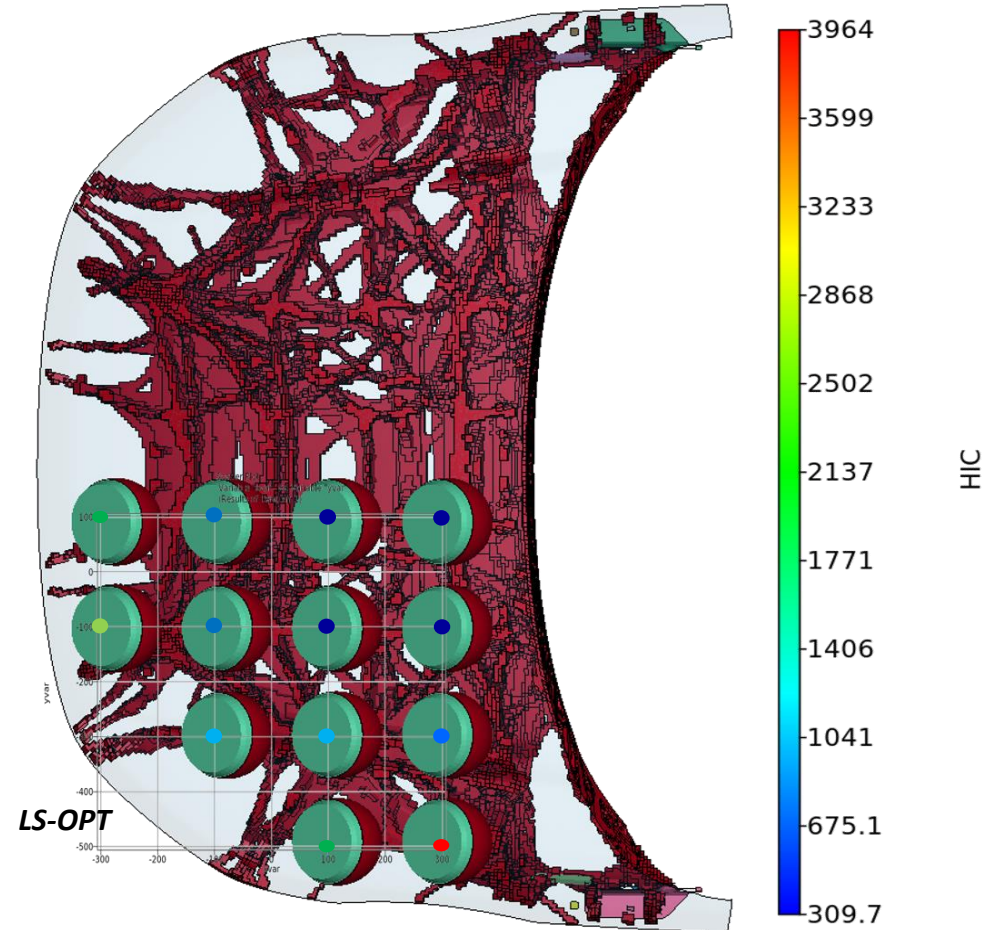
- Initial study to check potential load path from multiple impact locations.
- Single load case: one LS-Opt sampling point requires a full topology optimization design through LS-TaSC.

Optimization problem:

Min *mass*

s.t. *max disp.* < 100 mm

- The worst impact location is selected.

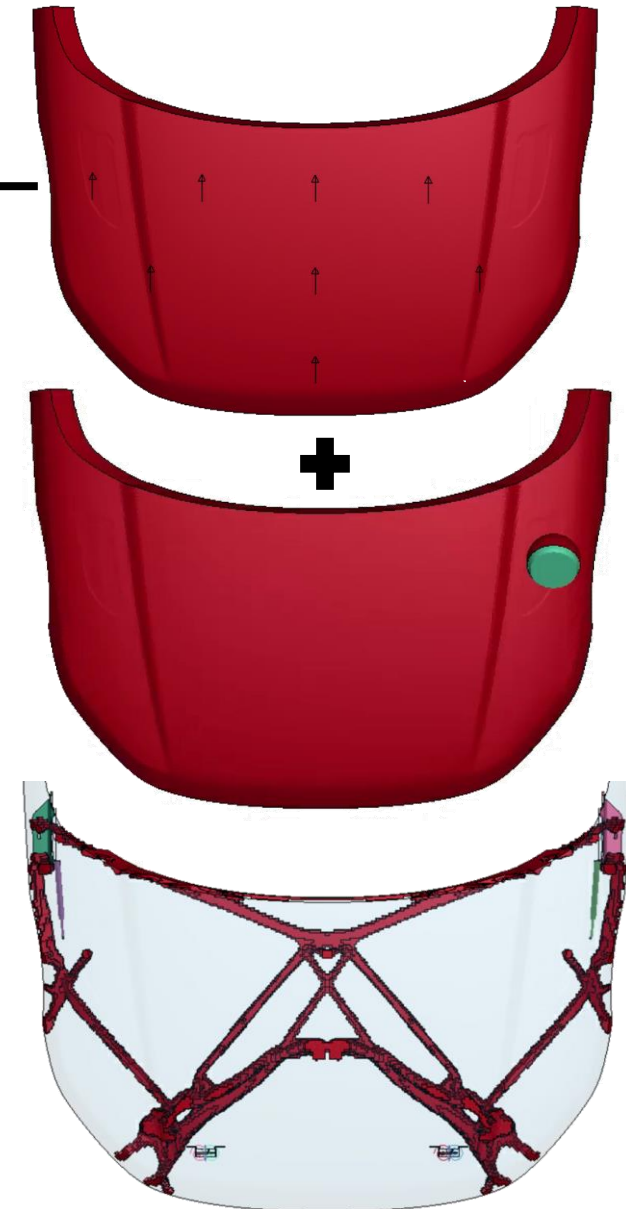
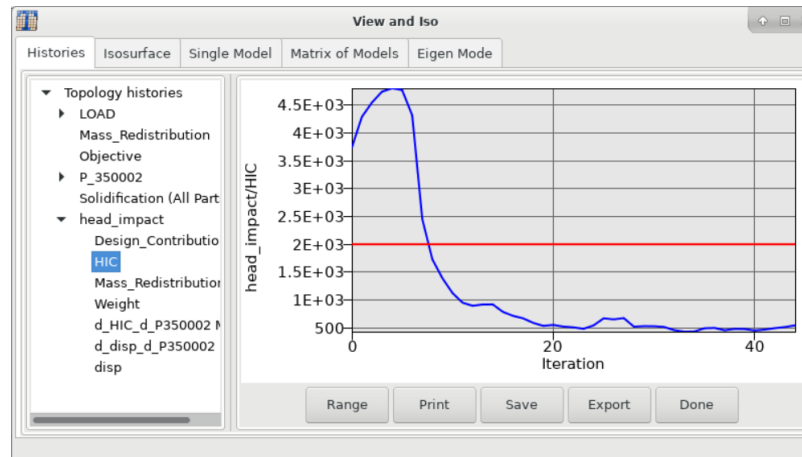
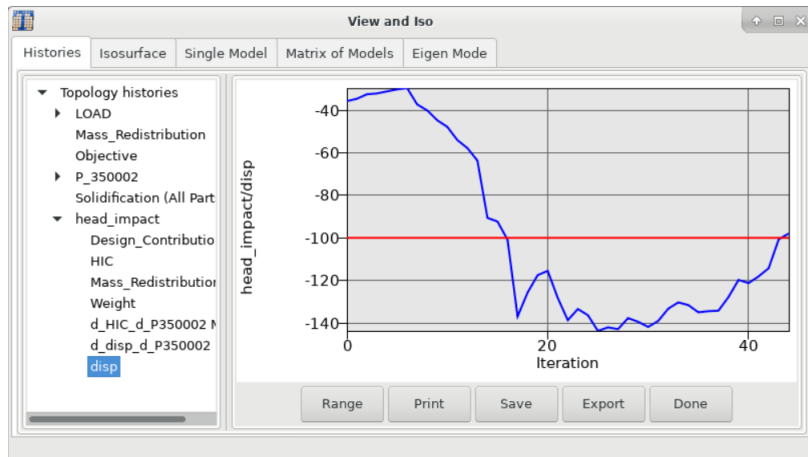


Overlay of topologies of single load case designs

# Automotive Hood Topology Optimization

## Design study 4: design for multiple impacts (3)

- For this we are doing a worst-case study using the LS-OPT / LS-TaSC link.
- Worst case impact load + distributed load (1:99 weighting)
  - Combination of one impact location and distributed loads
  - Constraint active only for impact load case
  - High load case weight for distributed load (99%) and small weight for impact (1%)
- Final mass = 1.7 kg (5.7% of original)



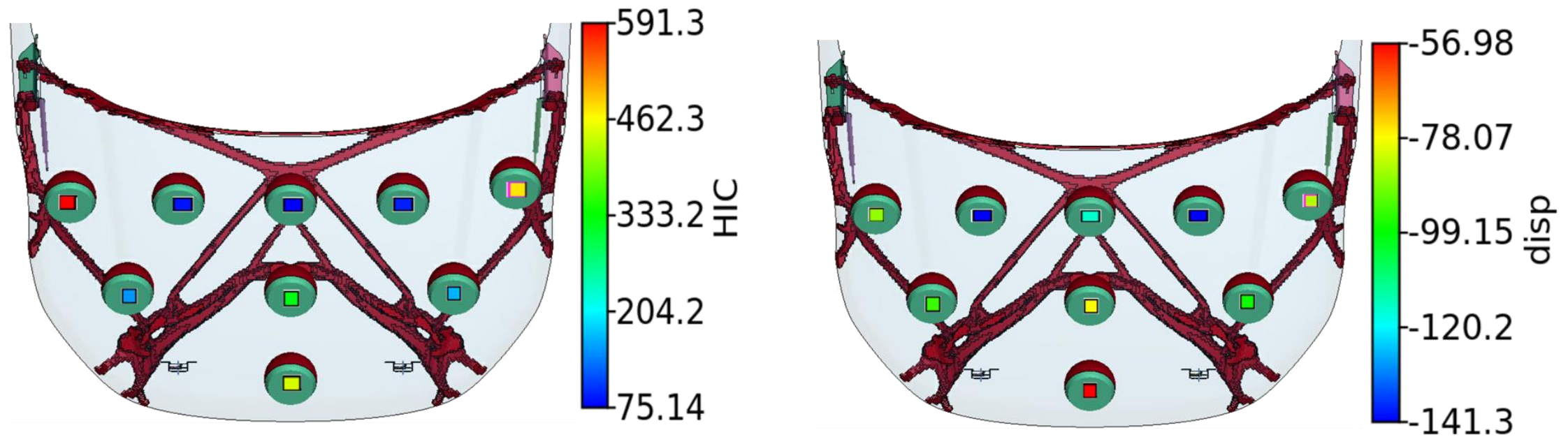
The investigation is being continued by both us and industry.



# Automotive Hood Topology Optimization

## Design study 4: design for multiple impacts (4)

- Verification of optimum design
  - Point loads replaced with head form model for impact analysis using optimum topology;
  - HIC requirement satisfied at all locations, and higher displacement at some locations;
  - Worst case design of highly nonlinear problems seems to require an iterative selection of the worst case(s).

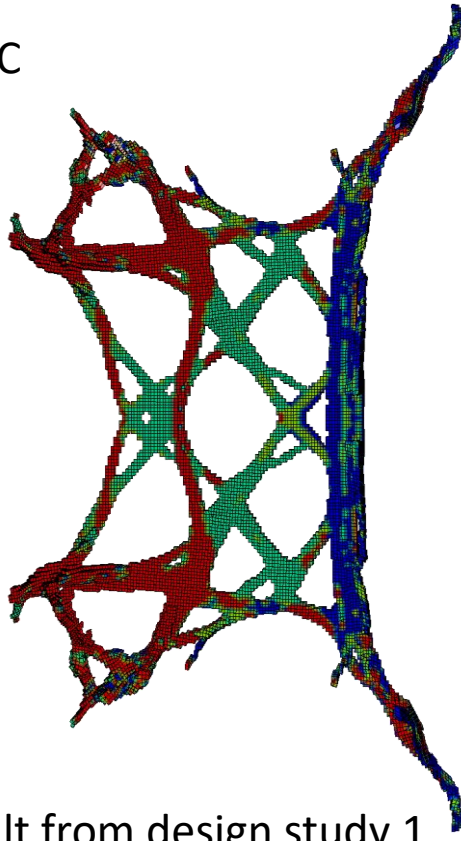


# Automotive Hood Topology Optimization

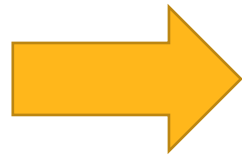
## Rendering topology geometry

- STL to CAD using **SpaceClaim** or **ANSA**

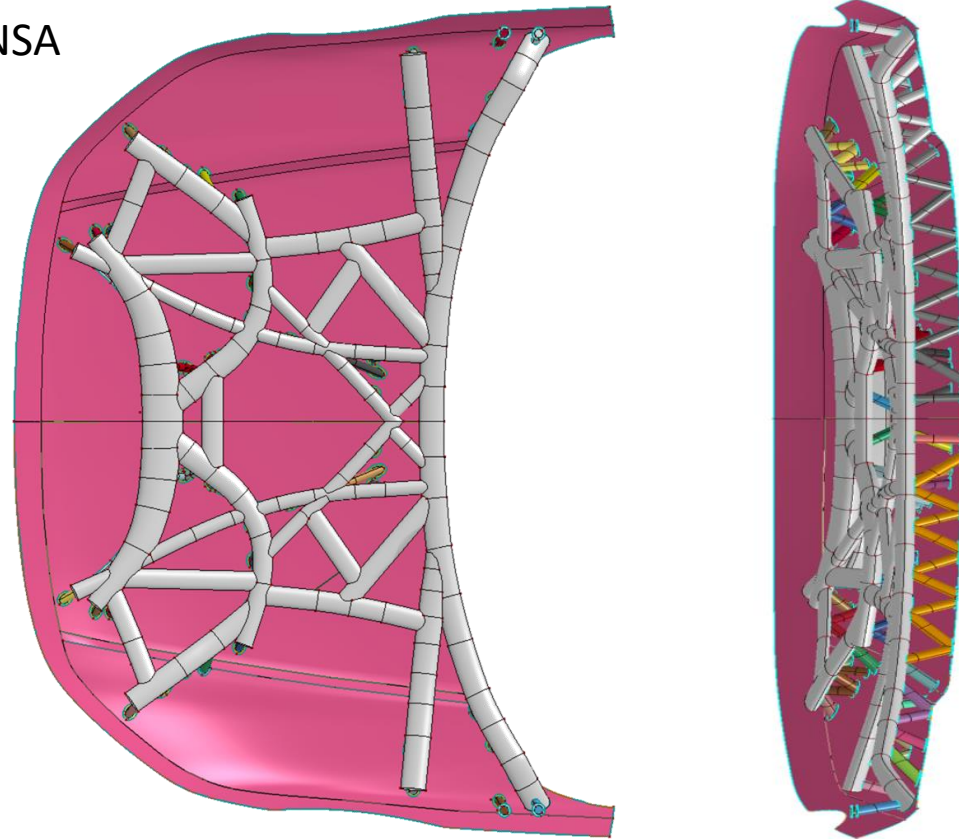
LS-TaSC



result from design study 1

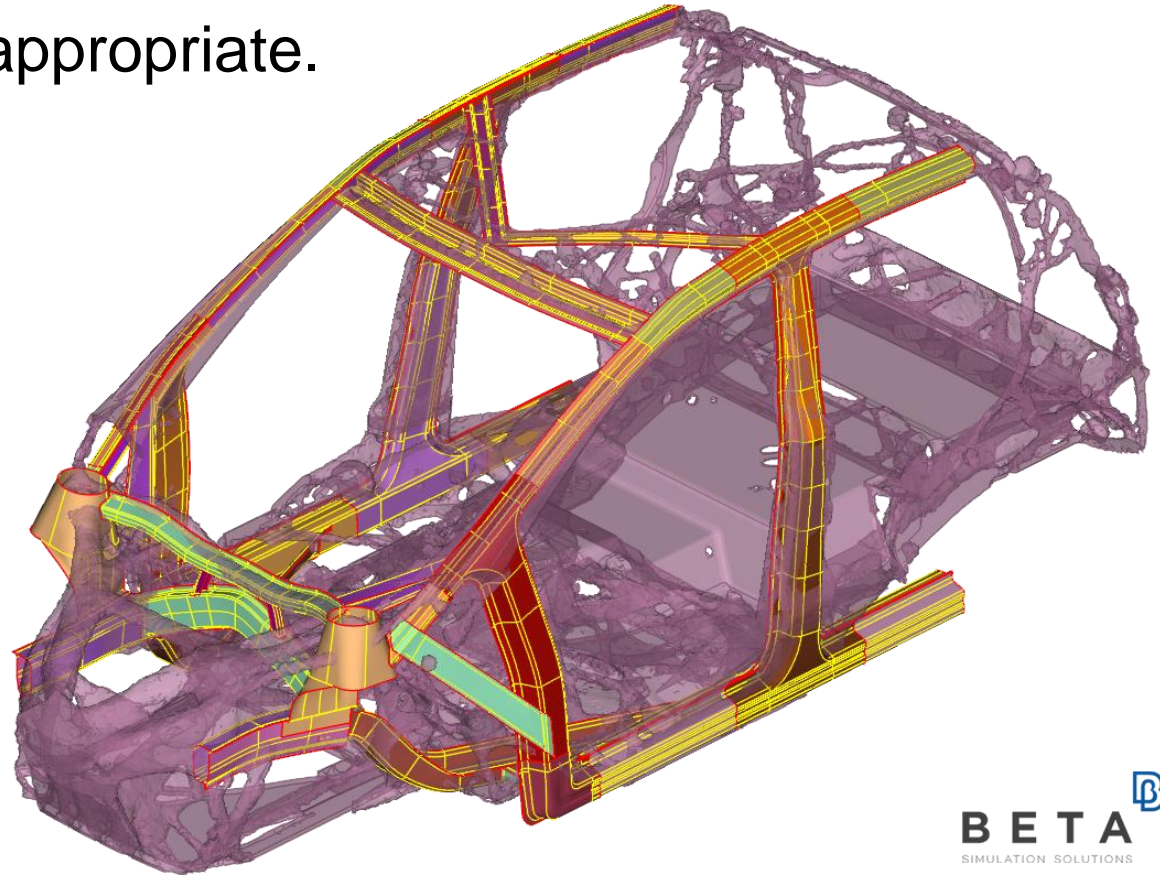


ANSA



# / More CAD geometry

- A shell structure may be more appropriate.



BETA  
SIMULATION SOLUTIONS

- Several innovative design studies on the topology optimization design of an automotive hood are discussed.
  - Bonnet pedestrian Head Impact Criterion, structural stiffness, and modal frequency are considered together to result in design compromises with the lightest structure.
  - A worst-case design scheme is proposed for the hood design with a number of impact locations.
- LS-TaSC has been expanded to handle constrained, multidisciplinary topology optimization problems.
  - Multiple cases and disciplines, e.g., a combination of impact, NVH, and statics load cases.
  - The method can use both *analytical DSA* and *numerical DSA*, e.g. design energy absorption while placing bounds on the reaction forces and eigenv





# Thanks!

Q&A

Ansys

