

Advanced Analysis and Optimization of Marine Structures

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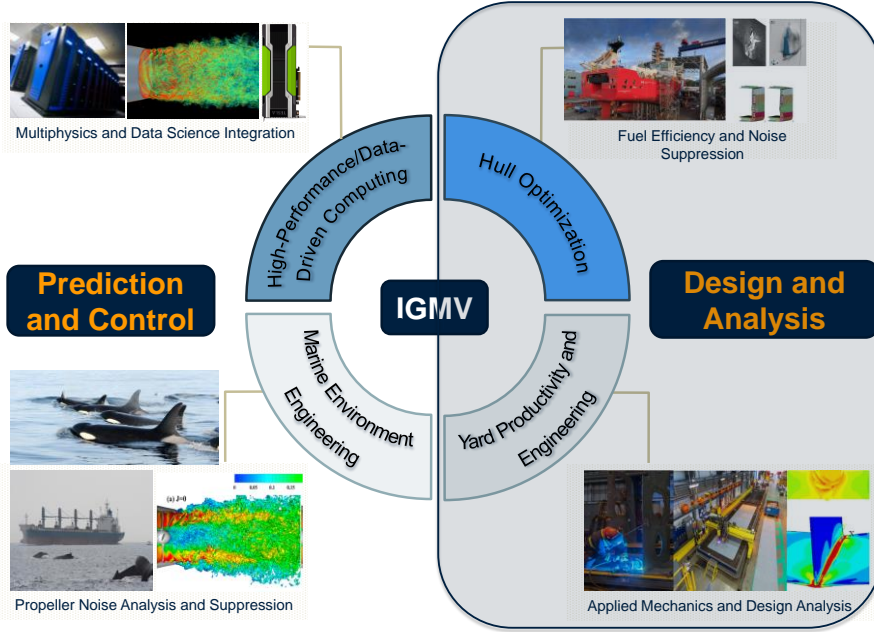
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Seaspan Vancouver Shipyard, August 20, 2024



Laboratory for structural efficiency (LASE) @ UBC



Effects of small LNG spills on ship structures

Structural model:

$$u(r, z, t) = u_0(r, t) + z\varphi(r, t)$$

$$w(r, z, t) = w_0(r, t)$$

$$\varepsilon_{rr} = u_{,r} + \frac{1}{2}w_{,r}^2; \varepsilon_{\theta\theta} = \frac{u}{r}; \gamma_{rz} = u_{,z} + w_{,r}$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \sigma_{rr} \\ \sigma_{\theta\theta} \\ \tau_{rz} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Q_{11} & Q_{12} & 0 \\ Q_{12} & Q_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Q_{55} \end{bmatrix} \left(\begin{Bmatrix} \varepsilon_{rr} \\ \varepsilon_{\theta\theta} \\ \gamma_{rz} \end{Bmatrix} - \Delta T \begin{Bmatrix} \alpha \\ \alpha \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \right)$$

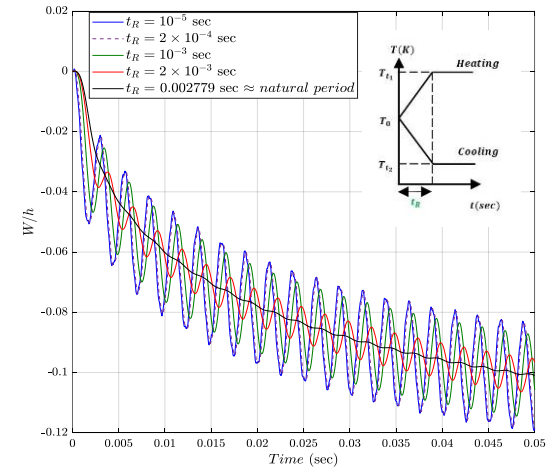
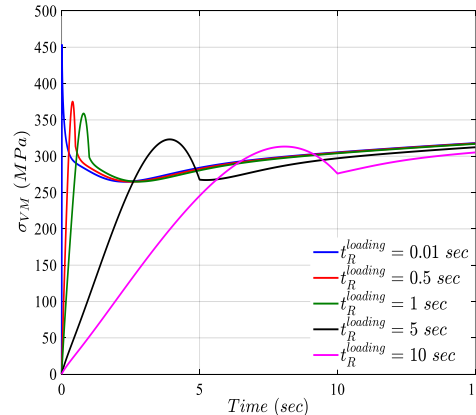


Eq. of motion solved via GDQ (time derivatives through Crank-Nicolson):

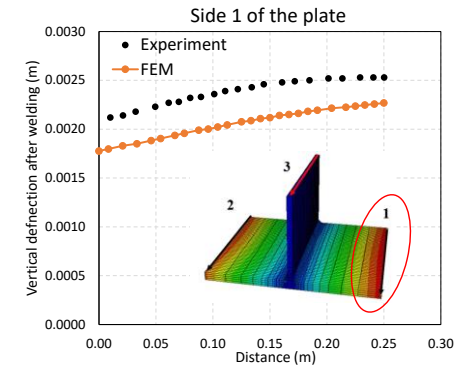
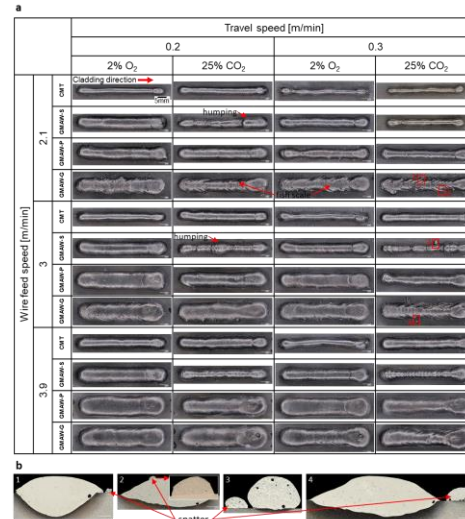
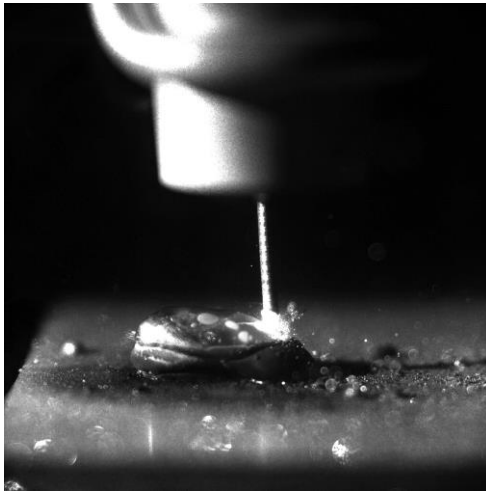
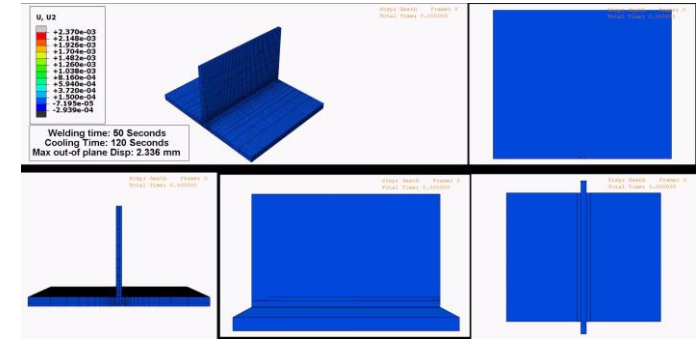
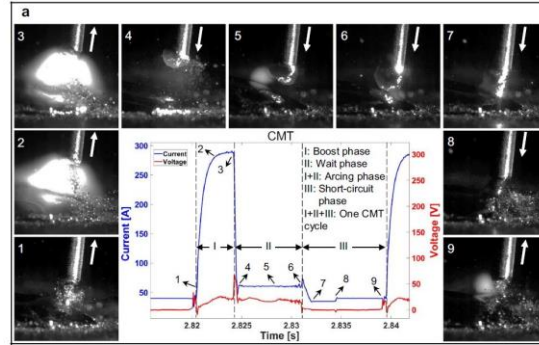
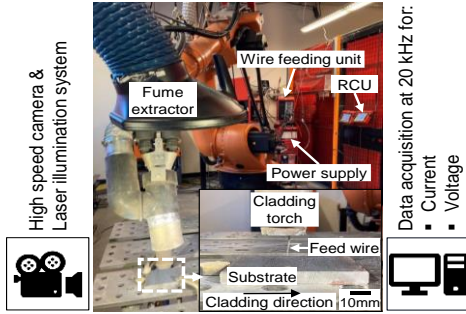
$$[M(T)] \{\ddot{\mathcal{X}}\} + [K(T, \mathcal{X})] \{\mathcal{X}\} = \{\mathcal{F}(T)\}$$

Heat equation

$$(\kappa(z, T)T_{,i})_{,i} = \rho(z, T)C_v(z, T)\dot{T}$$



Welding experiments and simulations



Structural optimization

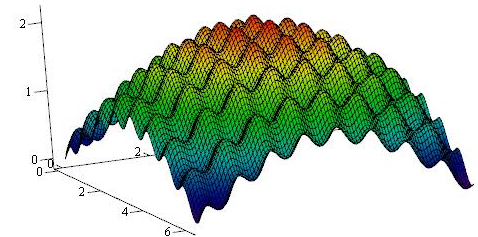
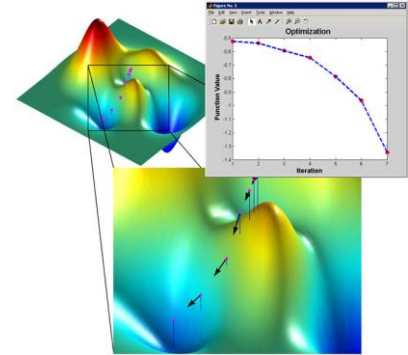
- Optimization of ship structures/production is a complex task with conflicting goals
- Commonly approached via manual iterations in the virtual space using structural simulation models → time consuming and potentially missing optimal designs
- If the structure (“system”) is modelled appropriately, computer optimization algorithms can be used to find the optimum
- Design landscape demands the use of iterative, global optimization algorithms



Sizing optimization via metaheuristic optimization algorithms



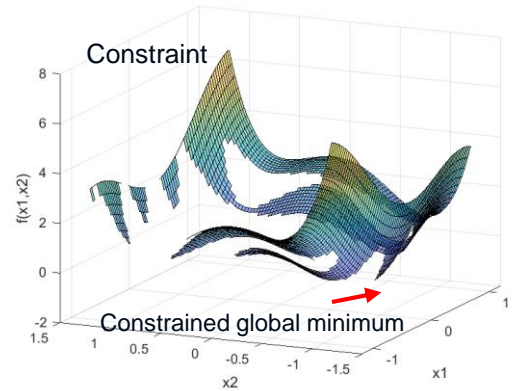
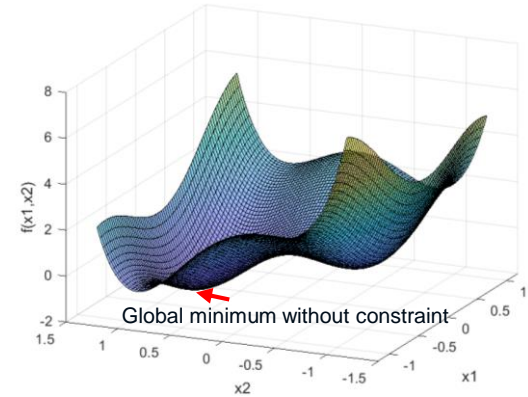
- Metaheuristics inspired by natural phenomena or biological behavior/mechanisms
- A set of designs (points) improved iteratively as a collective (knowledge shared in the process)
- **Advantages:** Robust and fairly accurate
- **Disadvantage:** Computationally inefficient
 - Gradient information replaced with large amount of data, i.e. many potential solutions
 - Large number of function evaluations necessary ($10^3 - 10^5$)
- **Remedies:**
 - Improve efficiency of optimization algorithms -> Goal 1
 - Use surrogate models of various types -> Goal 2



Constraints in optimization



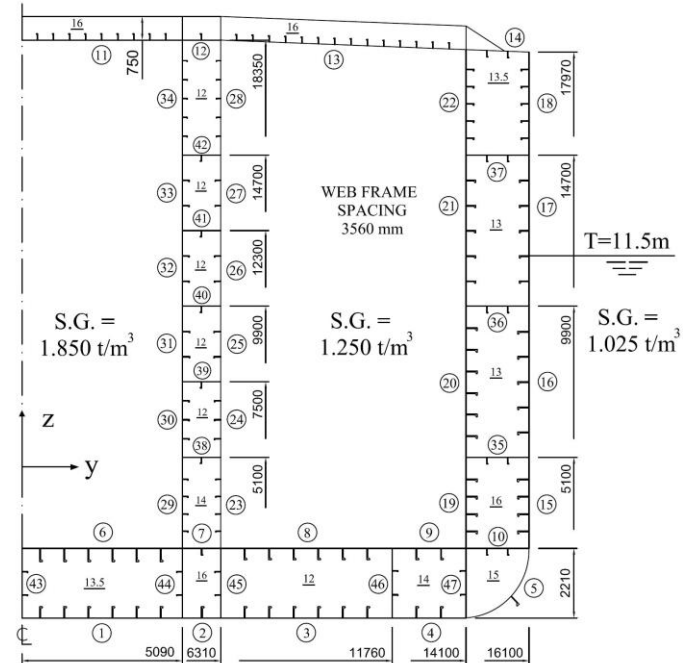
- Constraints are restricting both design space and objective space
- In structural problems, constraints could be failure criteria or manufacturing requirements
- The global optimum might differ when constraints are introduced



Hull girder test case



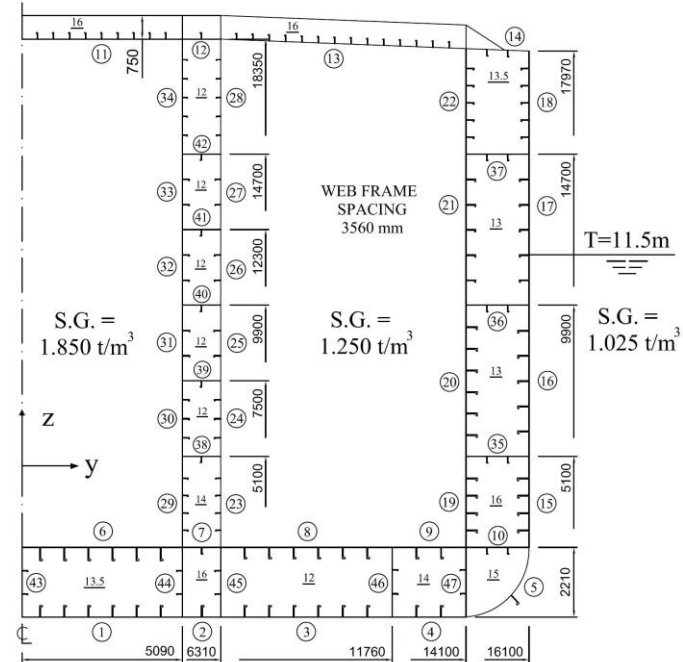
- $L = 180$ m, $B = 32$ m
- Midship section in focus
- Loading condition:
 - Full cargo tanks, empty ballast tanks
 - Hydrostatic sea pressure
 - Considered under maximum bending moment and maximum shear force ($L/4$ and $L/2$)
- Global response using **coupled-beam method**
- Local response using Euler-Bernoulli beam theory, Kirchhoff plate theory
- DNV class rules and failure criteria



Hull girder test case



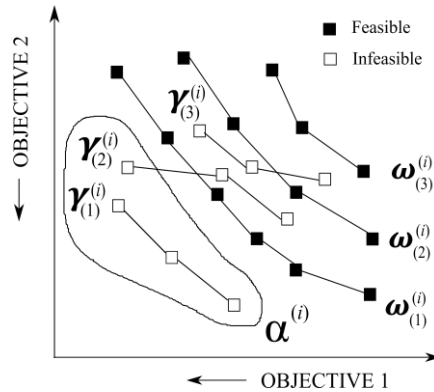
- Design variables:
 - Plate thicknesses and stiffener sizes
 - 47 strakes = 94 variables
- Constraints:
 - Plate yield and buckling
 - Stiffener yield, lateral and torsional buckling,
 - Stiffener's web and flange buckling
 - Crossover
 - 8 constraints per strake = 376 constraints
- Objectives:
 - Structural mass (prismatic ship)
 - Maximization of deck adequacy (Stress minimization in the deck)



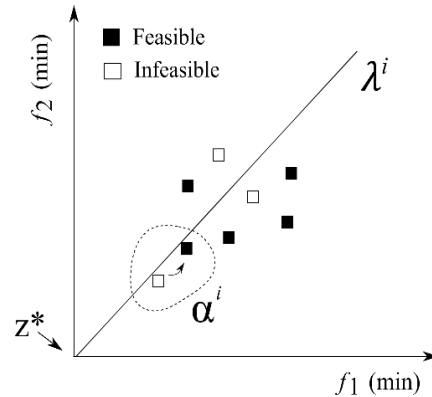
Adaptive repair technique

- **Adaptive repair constraint handling approach:**

- High performance *infeasible* solutions are repaired based on other members of the population
- Repair is performed by replacing variables that cause infeasibility
- Based on variable-constraint mapping, constraint violations can be traced *back to variables*



Repairing in NSGA-II-R ¹

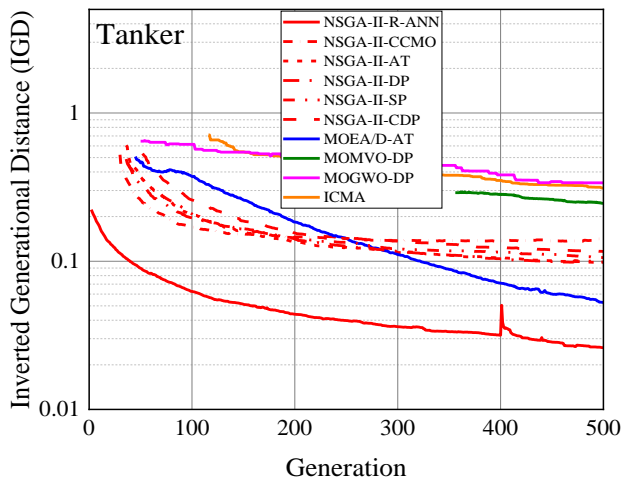


Repairing in MOEA/D-R ²

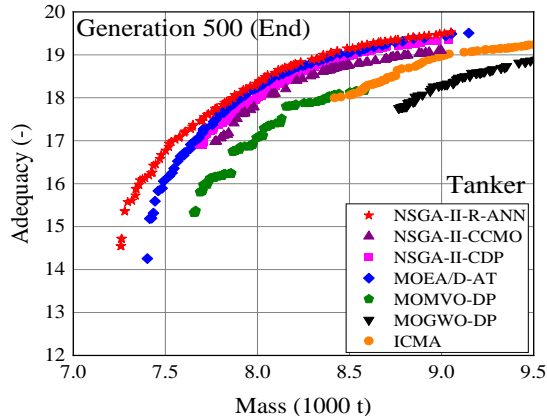
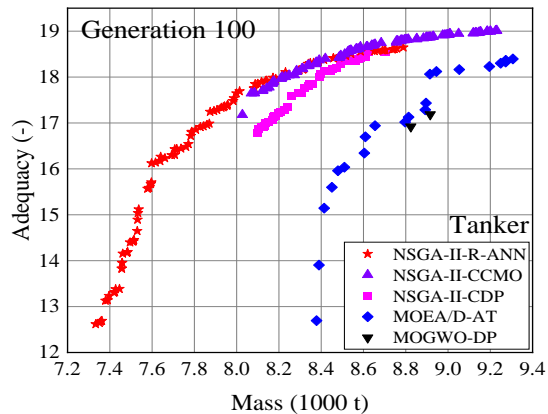
¹ Samanipour and Jelovica, *Appl Soft Computing*, 2020

² Cai and Jelovica, *Engineering Optimization*, 2022

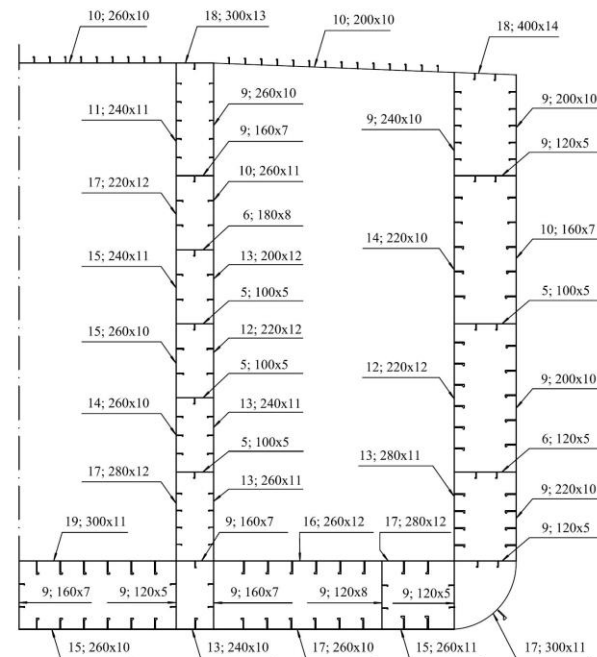
Results



Median values based on 30 runs for each algorithm/CHT

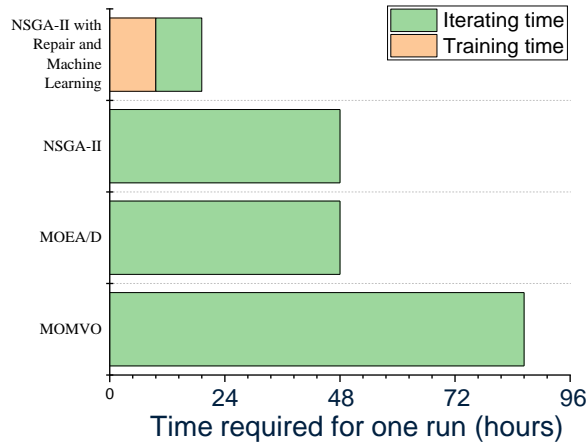


Pareto front at intermediate and final optimization step



Minimum mass design

Computational requirements



Benchmark algorithm with our modifications

Benchmark algorithm

Improved benchmark algorithm

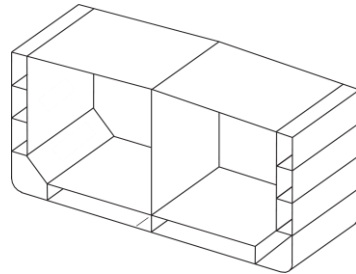
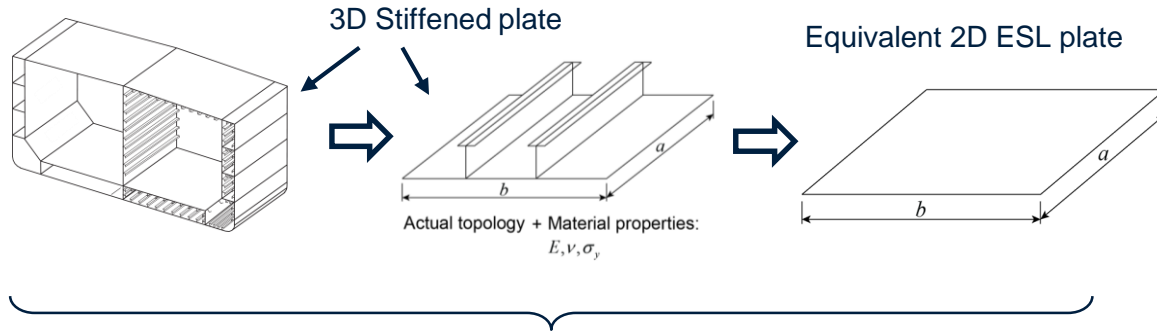
State-of-art algorithm

- Each hull girder analysis took 3 seconds; to achieve this, prismatic ship was assumed, which is inappropriate for detailed design or production support stages
- Accurate and fast surrogate models are needed for analysis of complicated geometries, trained on FEA, that are generalizable and scalable

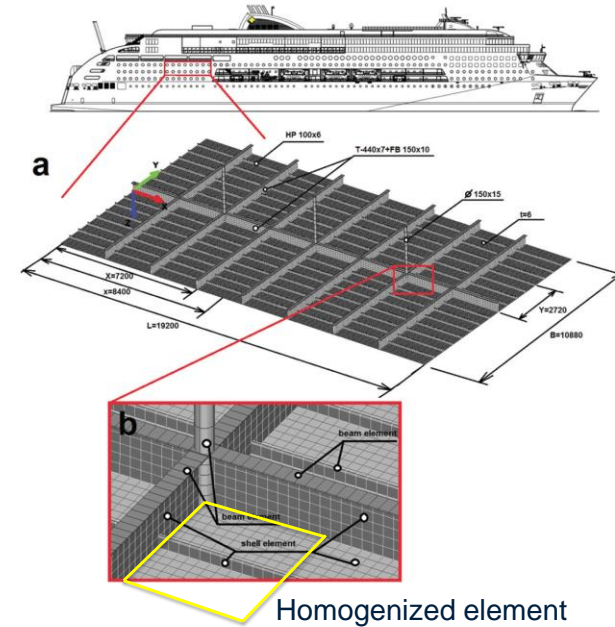
Homogenization and Equivalent Single-Layer (ESL)

Pre-processing:

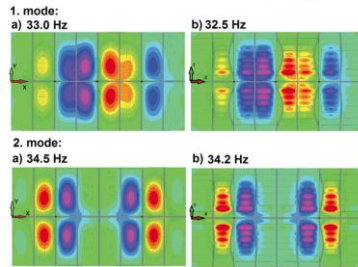
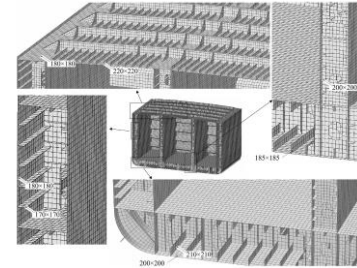
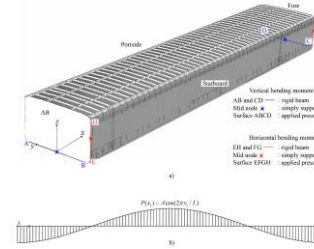
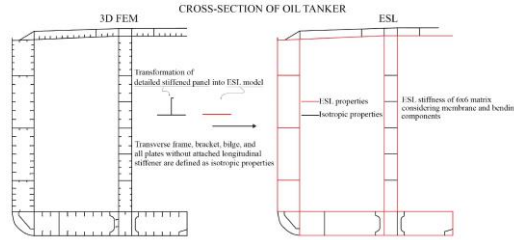
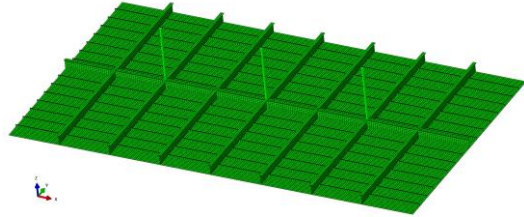
- Less details to model, fewer nodes and elements



- Computationally efficient simulations



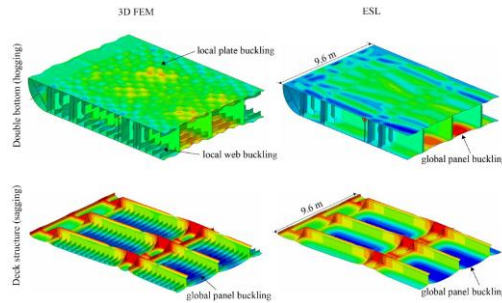
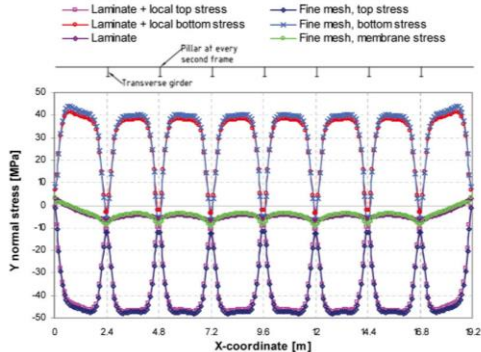
Examples of ESL simulations



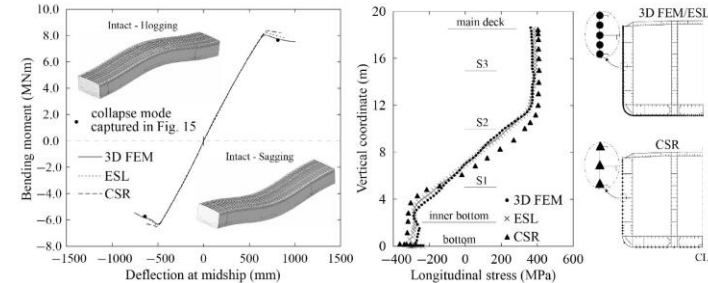
Modeling approach

Entire 3D model

3D mesh



Collapse mode in double bottom and main deck structures



Moment-deflection curves and post-collapse longitudinal stress distribution

98% reduction of analysis time

Introduction to graphs

- A graph can be represented as: $g = (v_g, \varepsilon_g, \chi_g, E_g)$

v_g : A set of vertexes

χ_g : Domain of vertexes

ε_g : A set of edges

E_g : Domain of edges

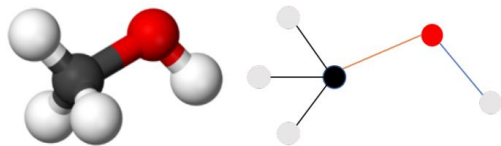


Image from internet

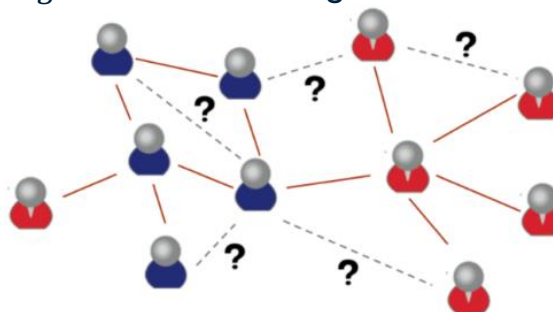
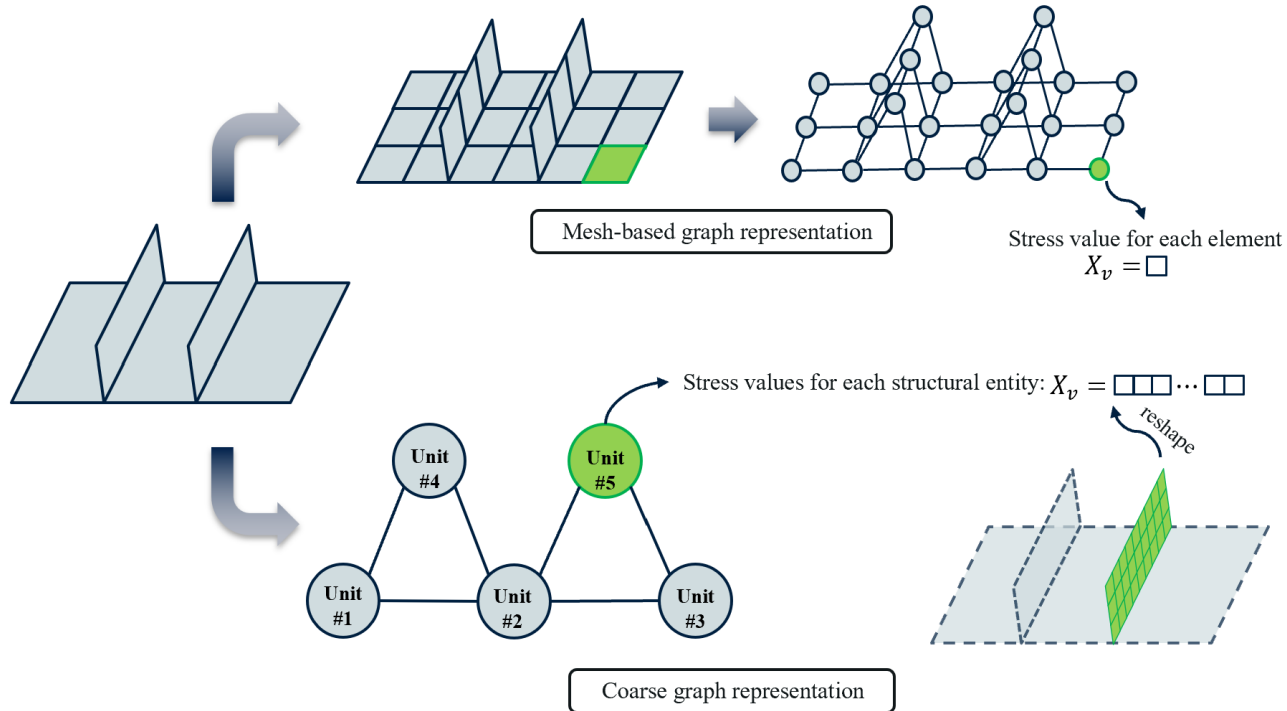


Image from internet

- Graph Neural Network (GNN)
 1. Capable of handling graphs with different structures (mechanical structures with different geometries)
 2. Ability to capture complex relationships;
 3. Interpretable and explainable representations

Graph representation of stiffened panel

- Proposed graph embedding for stiffened panels



Dataset preparation

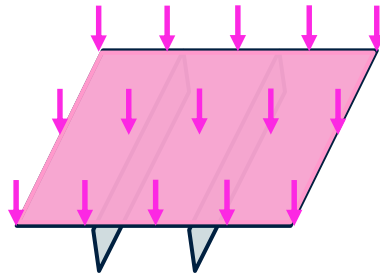
- Stiffened panel dimension:

- Width: 3m
- Height: 3m

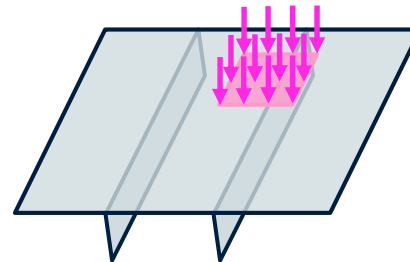
- Parameter space:

Category	Lower limit	Upper limit	Unit
Plate thickness	10	20	mm
Stiffener web thickness	5	20	mm
Stiffener web height	100	400	mm
Flange thickness	5	20	mm
Flange width	50	150	mm
Number of longitudinal stiffeners	2	8	-
Number of transverse stiffeners	0	3	-
Plate curvature for curved panels	0	0.015	1/m ²

- Uniform loading (0.05~0.2 MPa)



- Patch loading (0.05~0.2 MPa)



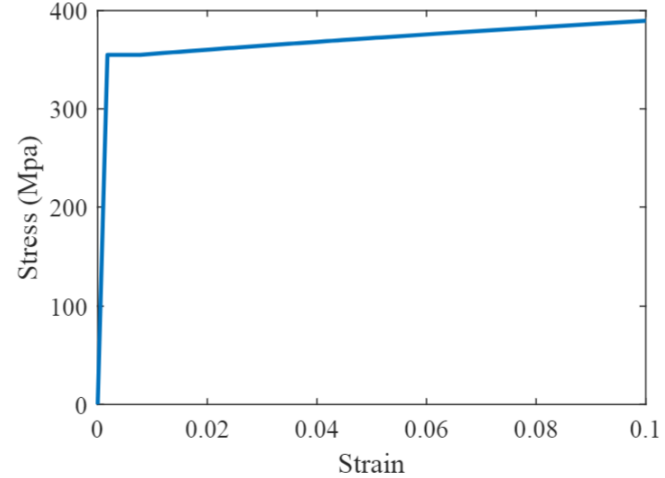
Dataset preparation

- **Material nonlinearity**

$$\sigma_f(\bar{\epsilon}) = \begin{cases} \sigma_0 & \text{if } \bar{\epsilon} \leq \epsilon_L \\ K(\bar{\epsilon}_0 + \bar{\epsilon})^n & \text{if } \bar{\epsilon} > \epsilon_L \end{cases}$$

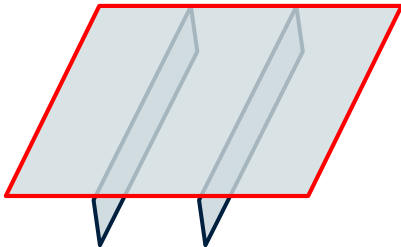
$$\bar{\epsilon}_0 = (\sigma_0/K)^{1/n} - \epsilon_L$$

- Plateau strain $\epsilon_L = 0.006$; work hardening parameters $K = 530$ Mpa, and $n = 0.26$

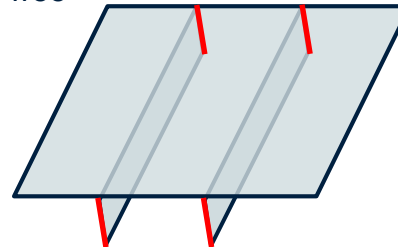


- **Boundary conditions**

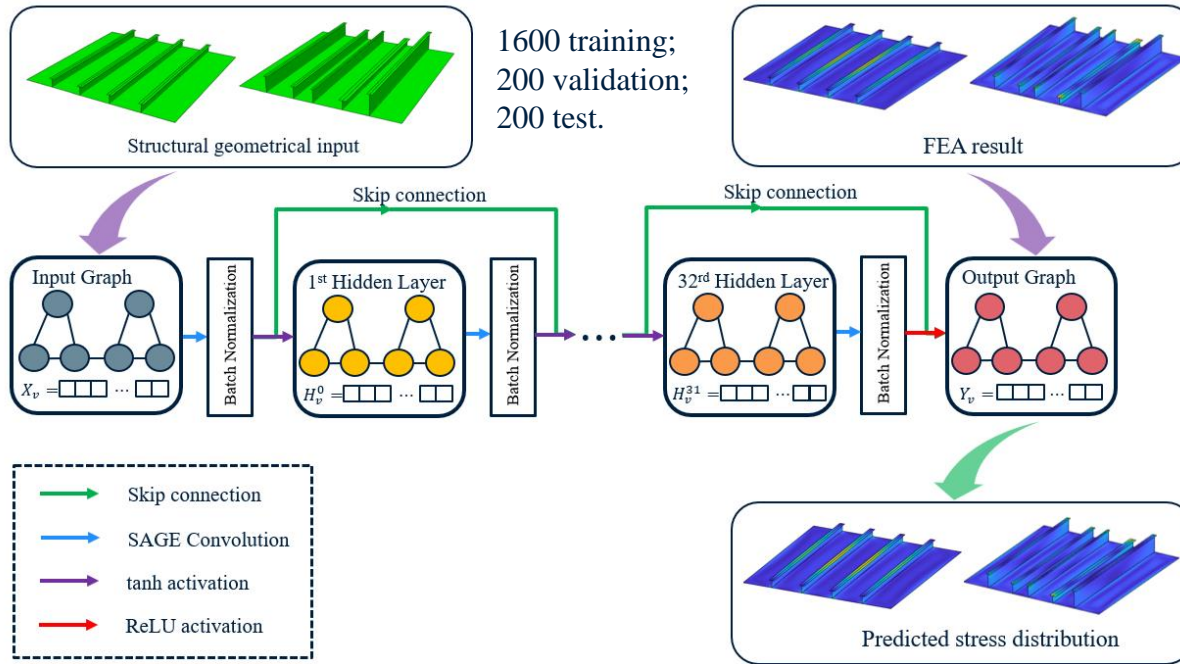
- Plate edges: fixed or simply supported



- Stiffener web and flange edges: fixed or simply supported or free



Employed graph neural network model



ENVIRONMENT

- Dataset is obtained using MATLAB & Abaqus
- GNN training is performed based on Python - PyTorch Geometric

Comparison between different graph representations

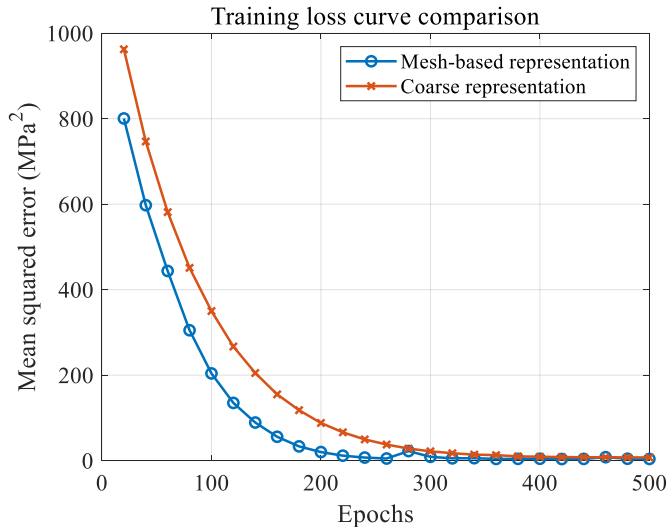
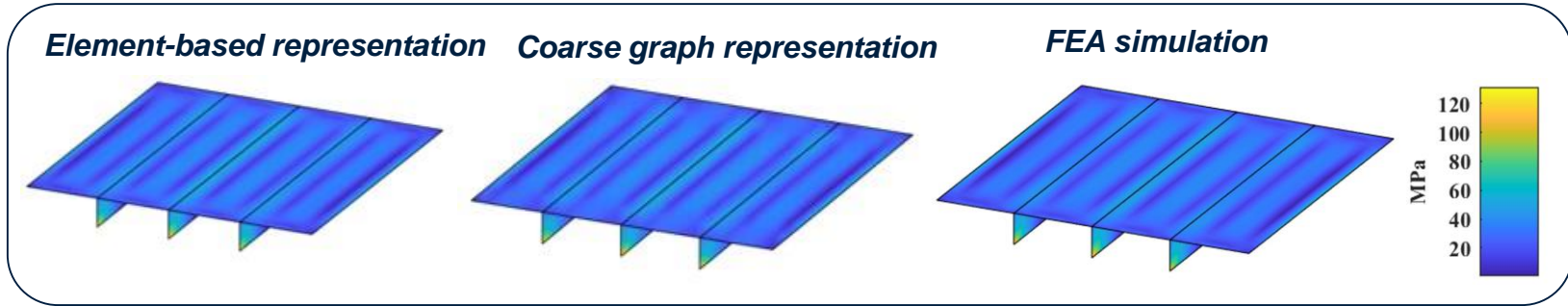
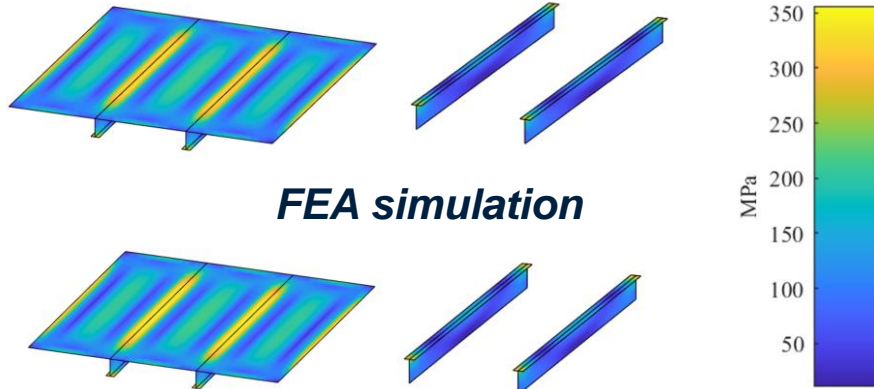


Table. Computation resources comparison for the two graph representations

Category	Element-based representation	Coarse graph representation
Time per epoch	6.94 seconds	0.25 seconds
GPU memory	23.4 GB	0.5 GB

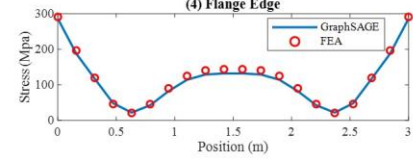
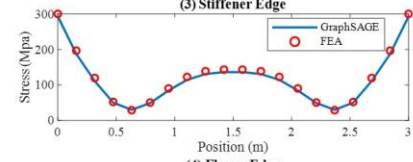
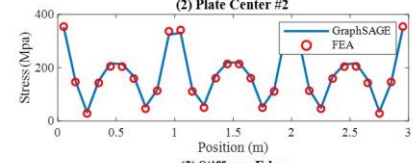
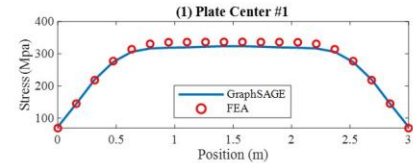
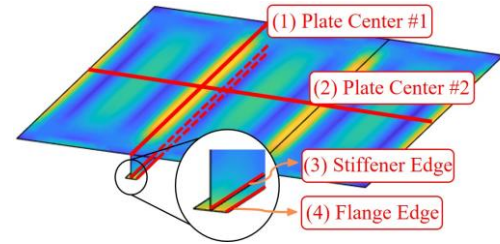
GNN results for pressure loading on straight panels

GNN prediction



FEA simulation

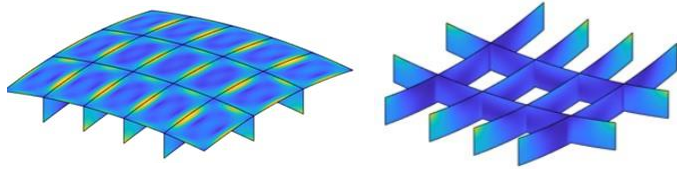
Error: 4.3 MPa



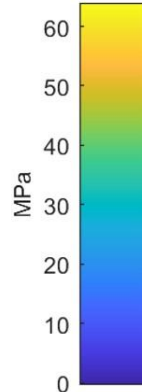
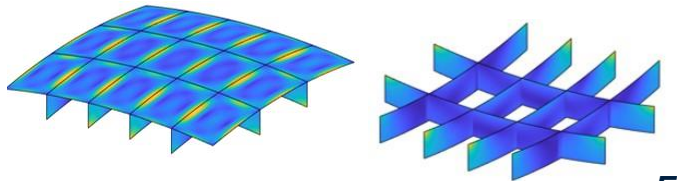
- Plate thickness (mm): 13.03
- Stiffener web thickness (mm): 19.0
- Stiffener web height (mm): 218
- Flange thickness (mm): 6.51
- Flange width (mm): 92.7
- Loading amplitude (MPa): 0.174 Mpa
- BC @ Plate edges: Fixed
- BC @ Stiffener & flange edges: Fixed

GNN results for pressure loading on curved panels

GNN prediction

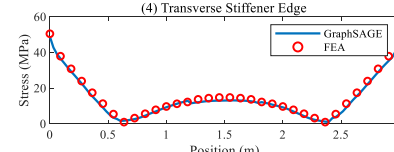
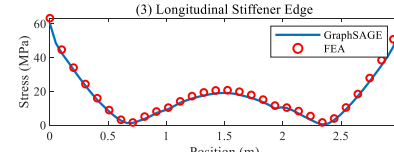
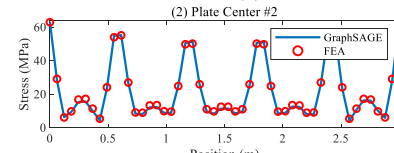
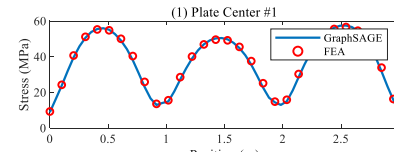
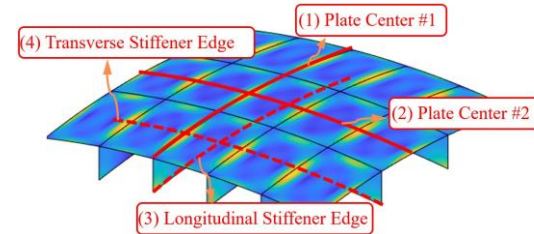


FEA simulation



Error: 1.9 MPa

- Plate thickness (mm): 12.378
- Longitudinal stiffener web thickness (mm): 7.82
- Longitudinal stiffener web thickness (mm): 14.6
- Stiffener web height (mm): 362
- Panel curvature (1/m²): 0.013
- Loading amplitude (MPa): 0.096 Mpa
- BC @ Plate edges: Simply supported
- BC @ Stiffener & flange edges: Simply supported



CNN results for pressure loaded panel

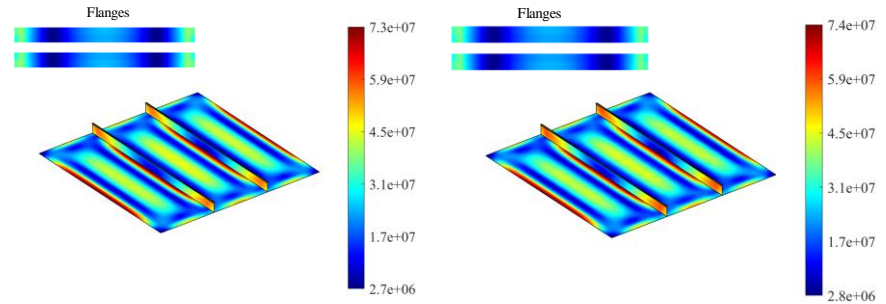


Parameters	TC1
Material	Linear elastic
B.C	Fixed (Clamped)
Loading	Uniform pressure
Geometrical Parameters	Vary

3D Von Mises Stress Distribution

Ground Truth

Asymmetric Encoder-Decoder



TC1-EX1

Symmetric Encoder-Decoder

MLP

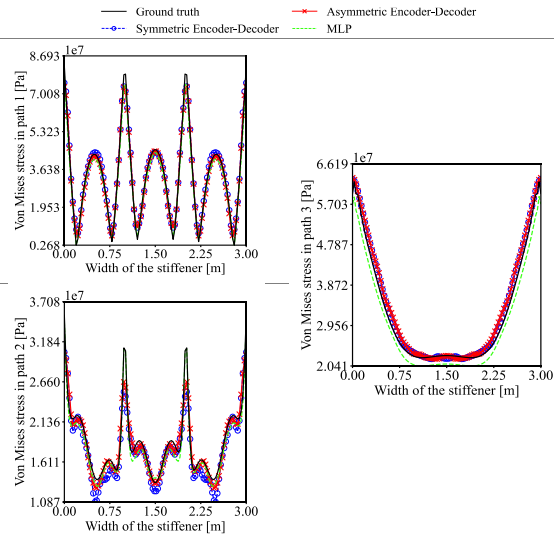
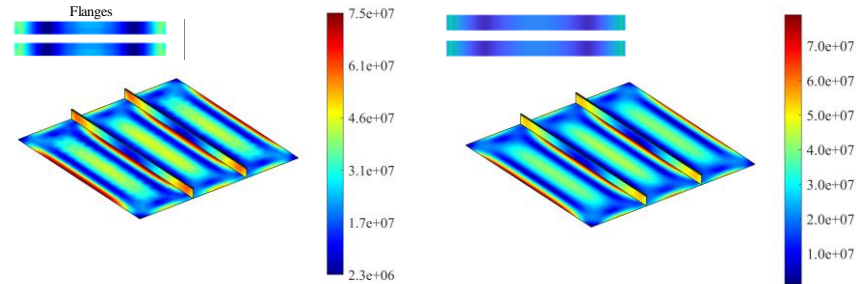


Plate thickness (mm): 17.5, Web thickness (mm): 7.0, Web height (mm): 343.0, Flange width (mm): 99.9, Flange thickness (mm): 18.8, Loading amplitude (MPa): 0.059

CNN results for patch loaded panel



Parameters	TC1
Material	Elastic-plastic
B.C	Fixed (Clamped)
Loading	Patch
Location of the patch	Varies
Geometrical Parameters	Vary

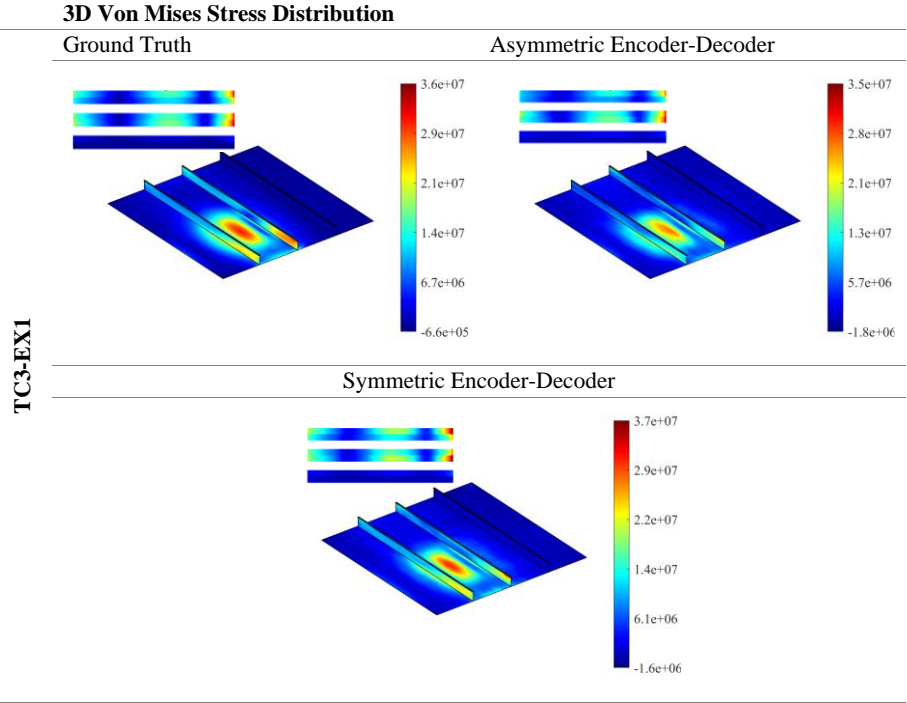
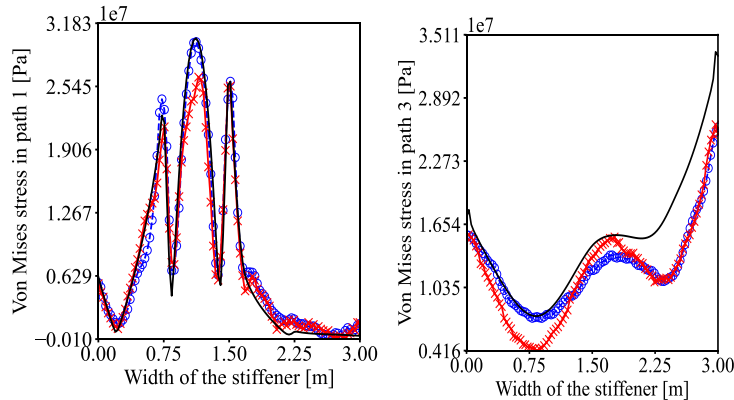


Plate thickness (mm): 18.3, Web thickness (mm): 9.6, Web height (mm): 253.8, Flange width (mm): 128.7, Flange thickness (mm): 6.6, Loading amplitude (MPa): 0.096

Conclusion



- Global multi-objective optimization can be accelerated through the ‘repair’ constraint-handling technique
- Further improvements can be achieved by employing advanced surrogate models in the framework
- Once trained, GNN and CNN models can make predictions in a fraction of a second
- Large dataset is needed for purely data-driven approach
- More effective approaches will be sought in future
- Generalizable and scalable capabilities need to be developed, utilizing principles of structural mechanics