

# Design for Additive Manufacturing

## Opportunities, Barriers, and Democratization

German-American Frontiers of Engineering Symposium  
National Academy of Engineering, Irvine, California  
April 26-28, 2013

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General Dynamics Faculty Fellow

Product, Process, and Materials Design Laboratory  
and Laboratory for Freeform Fabrication  
Mechanical Engineering Department  
The University of Texas at Austin







*What if you could make ANYTHING?  
...any form, any shape  
...any internal composition*

*What would you design?*



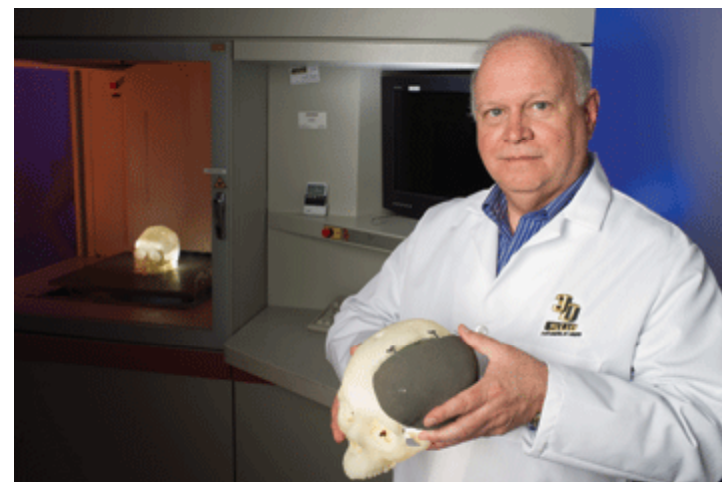
# Would you design/build form-fitting customized parts?



Crawford, Neptune, et al.



Invisalign



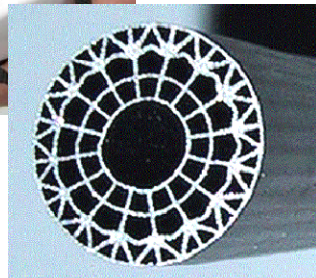
Walter Reed Army Medical Center (Designnews.com)



# Would you design/build lightweight multifunctional structures?

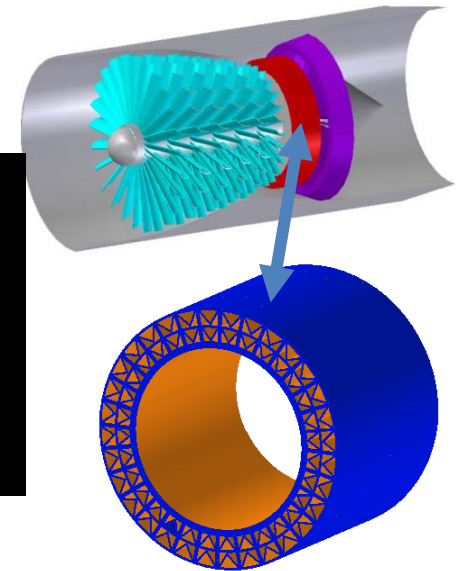
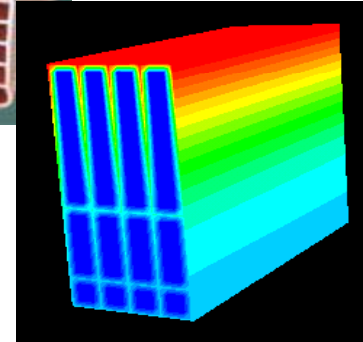
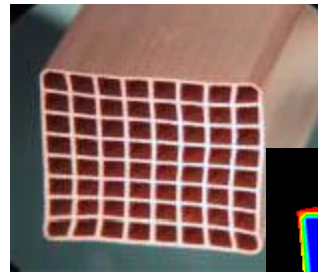


Energy Absorption  
Specific Strength &  
Stiffness



C. Williams, VT and D. McDowell, Ga Tech

Structural Heat Exchange and Active Cooling



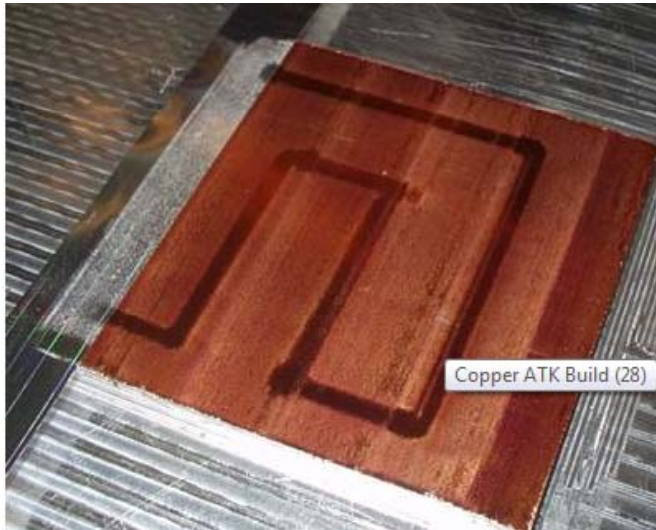
Aerospace Weight Reduction  
GE/EADS via Ponoko.com



Compliance  
R. Neptune, UT Austin



# Would you functionally grade material for multifunctionality?



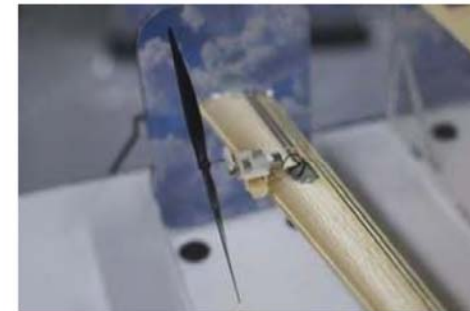
Brent Stucker, U of Louisville



Functionally graded  
baseball cleats



Objet Geometries



UAV Smart Wing

Wohlers Report 2012, Courtesy of Optomec and Aurora Flight Sciences



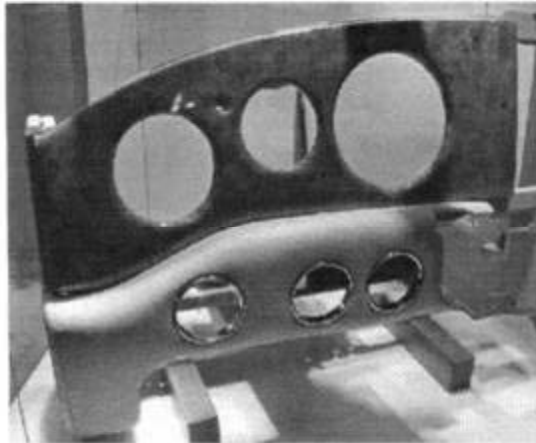
# Would you focus on small (single) lot production with no tooling costs and free complexity?



Wohlers Report 2012, Courtesy of RAMPART CubeSat team



Wohlers Report 2012, Courtesy of Olaf Diegel



Wohlers Report 2008, Courtesy of Bentley



Mydea Technologies Corporation





*What are the challenges in designing  
for Additive Manufacturing?*



# What are the challenges in Design for Additive Manufacturing (AM)?



- Early stage, conceptual design
  - Avoid fixation on current designs
  - Avoid locking into current Design for Manufacturing (DFM) and Design for Assembly (DFA) practices
- Embodiment design
  - Model/optimize topology, material distribution, hierarchical (complex) structure with CAD/CAE tools
  - Incorporate AM-specific capabilities and constraints into part design (Design for AM practices)



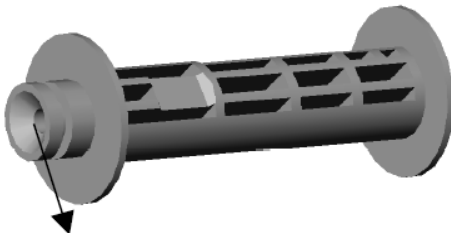
# Avoiding fixation on current designs and DFM and DFA restrictions



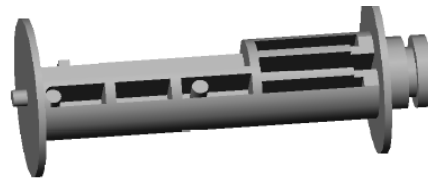
Reverse  
Engineering and  
Experience/Fixation



No DFM required



Shapeways.com  
(nervoussystem)



Rosen et al., Ga Tech

No DFA required



13 parts

Stamping +  
sheet metal  
forming +  
fasteners



rbmsolutions.com

1 part

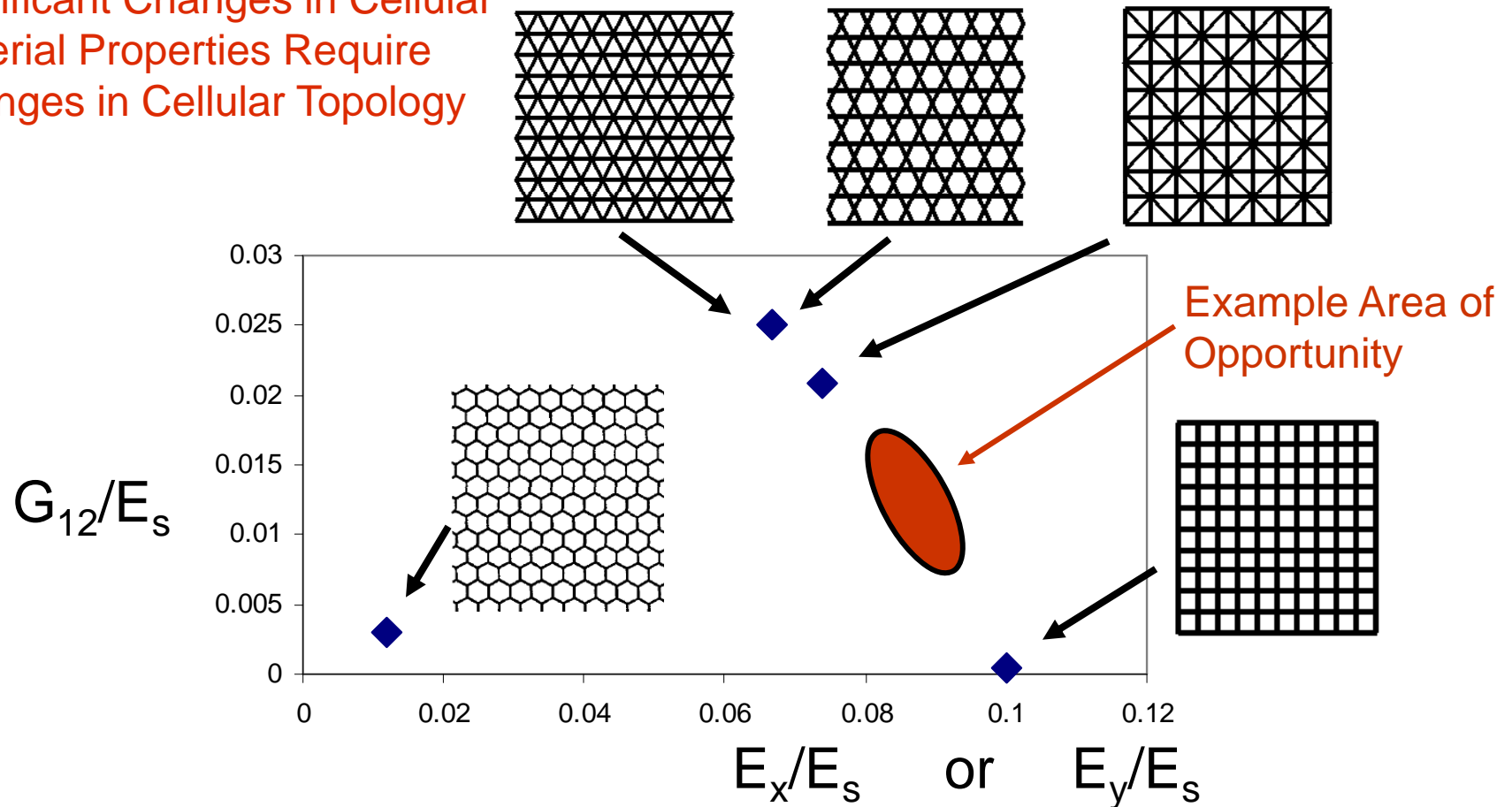
Selective laser  
sintering

Lighter weight



# Topology Design is Needed for Lightweight, Multifunctional Structures

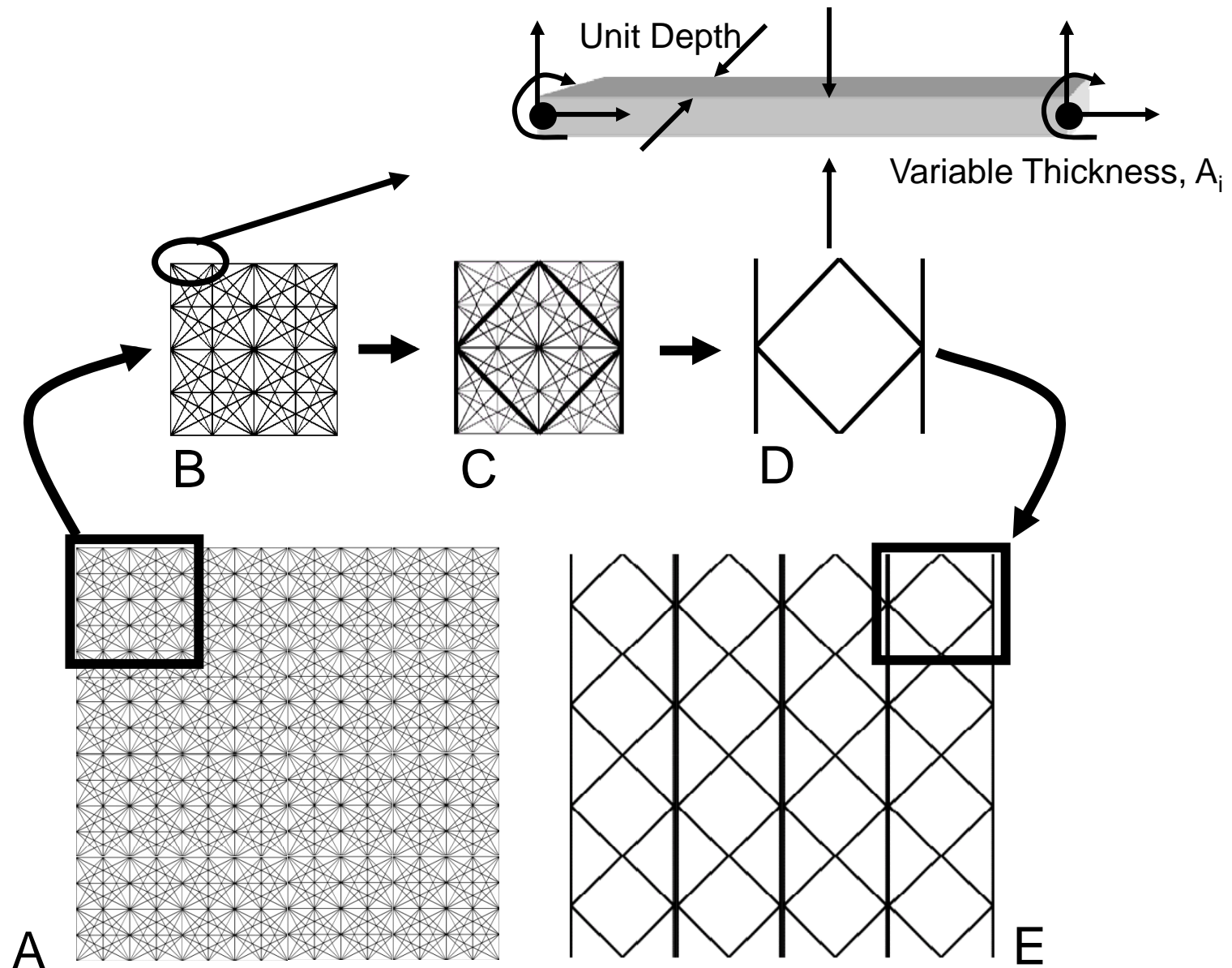
Significant Changes in Cellular Material Properties Require Changes in Cellular Topology



(Seepersad, Allen, Mistree, McDowell, *Journal of Mechanical Design*, 2006)

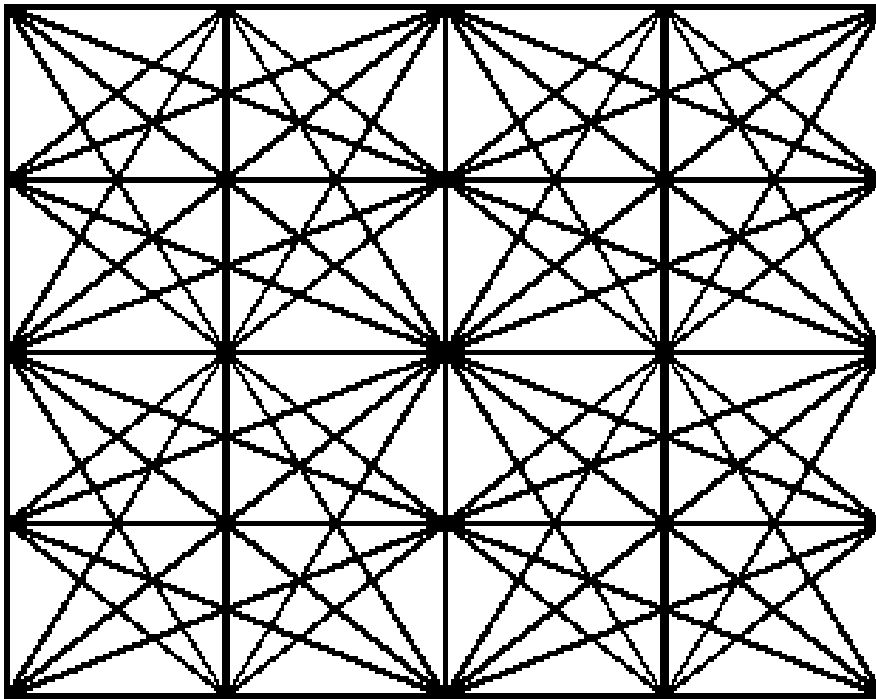


# Ground Structure Method for Topology Design



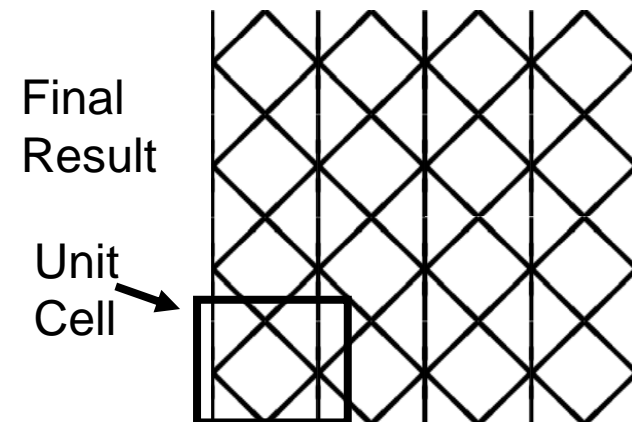


# Simple Topology Design Demo



- 5x5 node ground structure
- 2 orthogonal planes of symmetry
- Every pair of nodes connected in each quadrant
- 36 elements per quadrant; 132 total
- Thick elements 1000 x thicker than thin elements in final image

**Objective:** Automatically determine the distribution of material to meet structural performance objectives

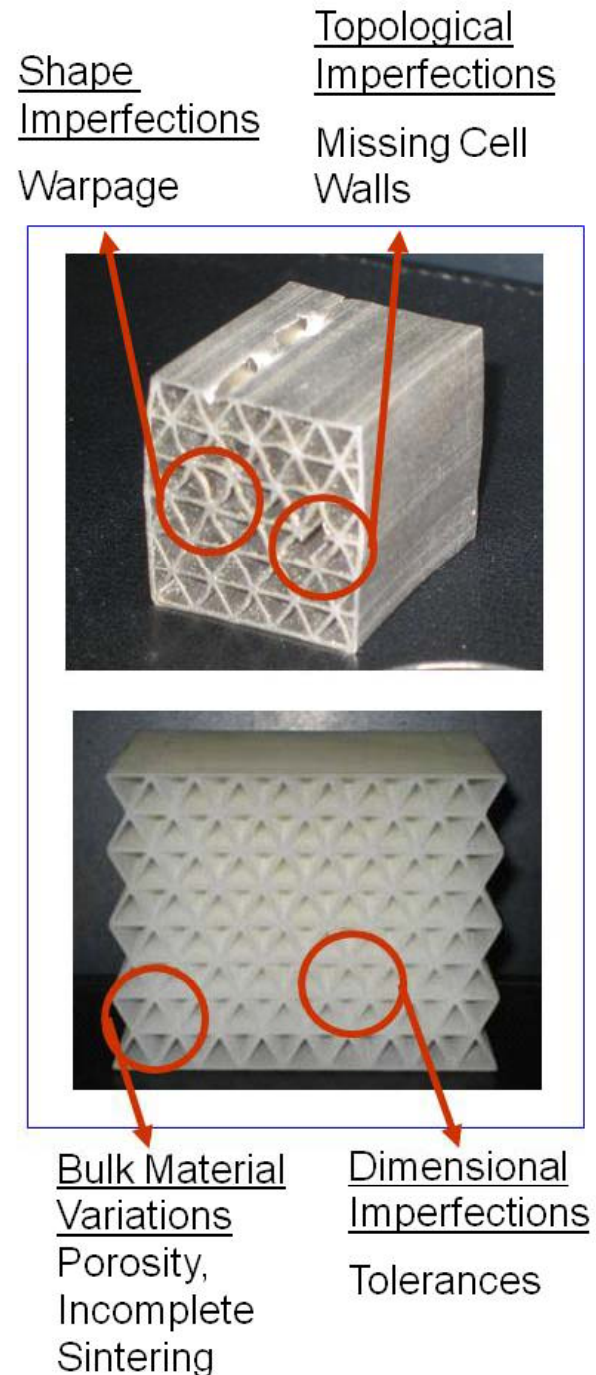




# What about imperfections?

- Missing cell walls?
  - Up to 50% reduction in modulus and yield strength with a 5% density of missing/broken cell walls;
  - Resistance to defects depends on cell shape
- Variations in cell shape?
  - Up to 25% (or more) reduction in elastic buckling and plastic yield strength for hexagonal cells
  - Why? Higher bending moments and stresses in relatively longer cell walls

(Gibson and Ashby, 1997, *Cellular Solids*; Silva et al., 1995, *IJMS*; Wang and McDowell, 2003, *IJMS*)

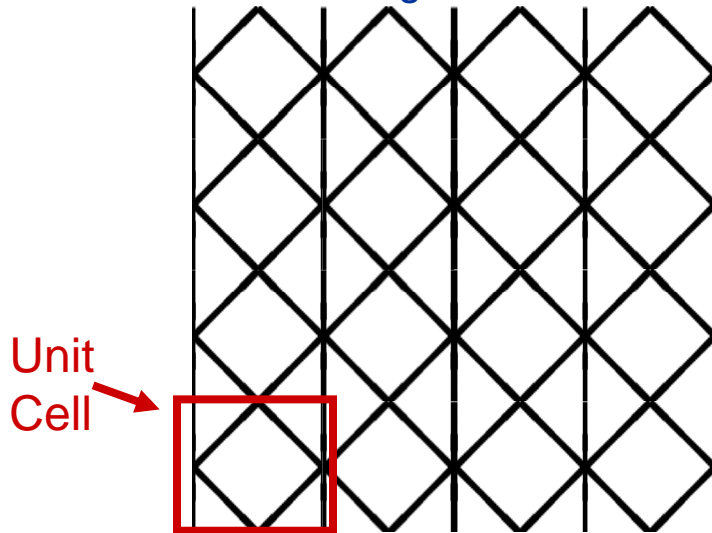




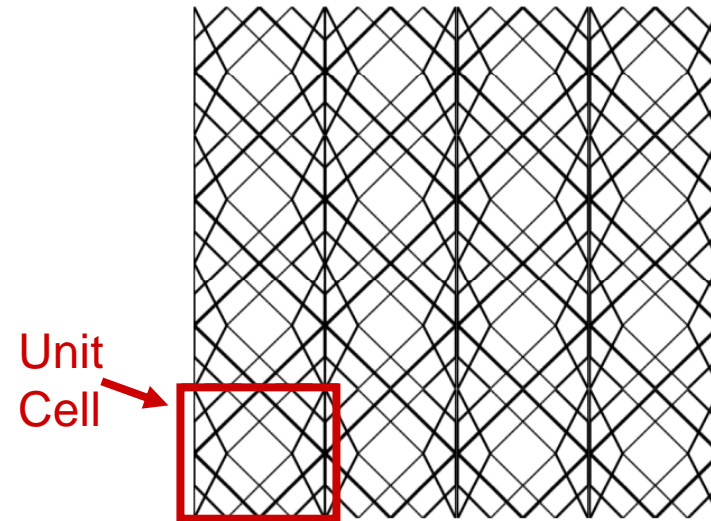
# Tailored Lightweight Structures w/ and w/o robustness to imperfections

(Seepersad, Allen, McDowell, Mistree, 2008, *Journal of Mechanical Design*)

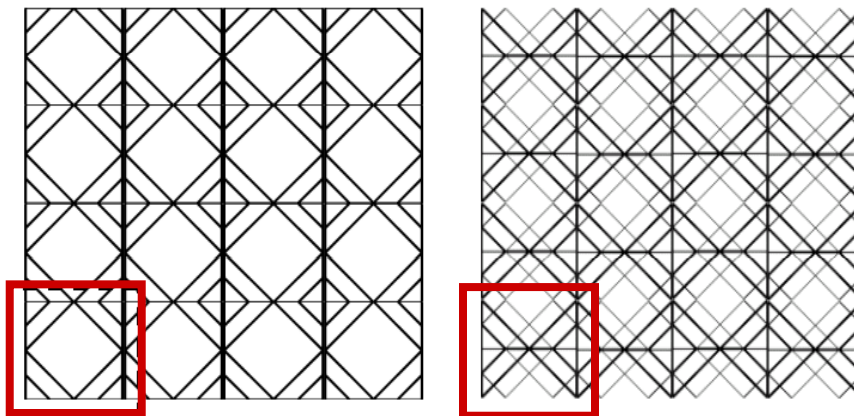
Robust Design for Tolerances



Non-Robust Design for Tolerances



Topologically Robust Designs

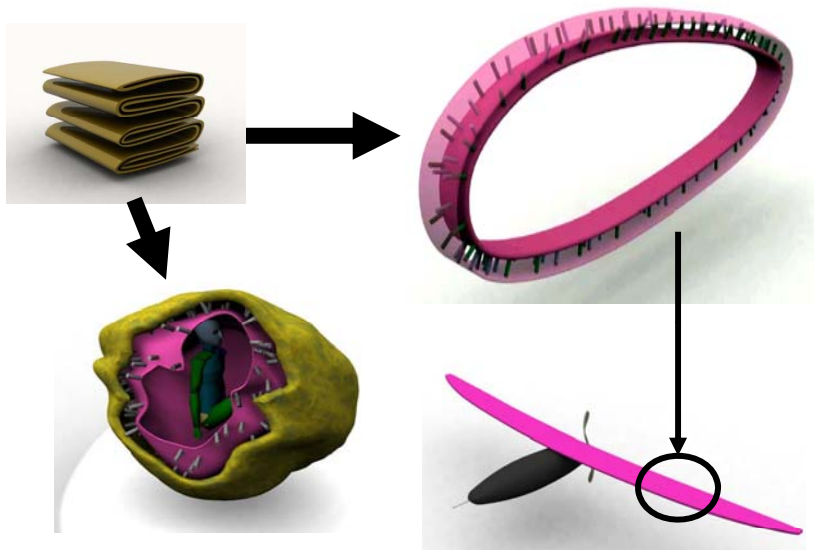


## Lower Standard Deviation of Elastic Properties, $\sigma_{Cij}$

- due to topological noise
- calculated via experiments with initial gnd structure
- lower by as much as 50% vs. above designs
- balanced by higher dimensional variation



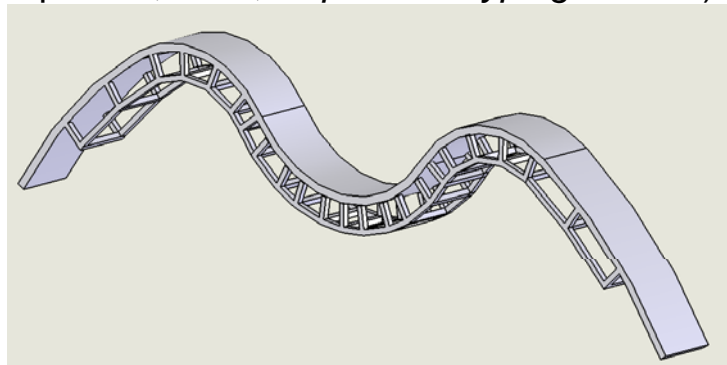
# What about non-uniform topologies? Customized Mesostructure for Freeform Deployable Structures



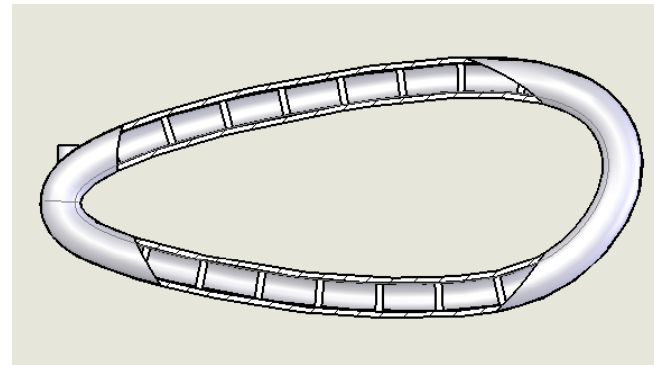
- Freeform deployment by adding lattice to skin of part:
  - **open lattice** for direct reinforcement of surface
  - **closed lattice** arrangement for pneumatic inflation
- SLS with Duraform® FLEX
- Freeform geometry, Multifunctionality, Portability

(Maheshwaraa, Seepersad, Bourell, 2007, *Rapid Prototyping Journal*)

(Maheshwaraa, Seepersad, 2011, *Rapid Prototyping Journal*)



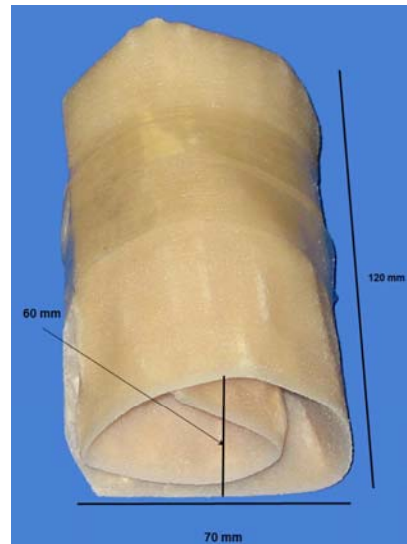
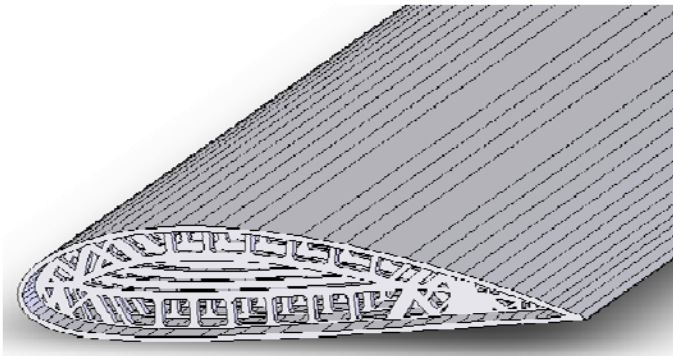
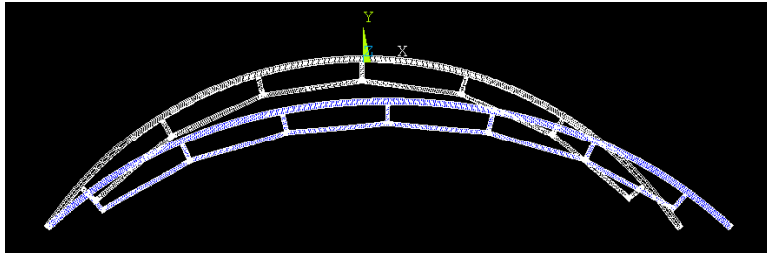
Open lattice Structure



Closed lattice Structure



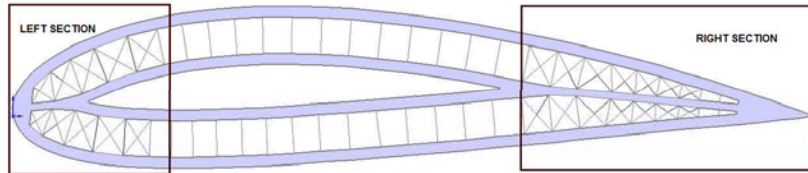
# Physical Prototypes—Open and Closed Lattice Skins





# Topology Optimization of Closed Lattice Structure

Ground Structure with 76 Lattice Elements

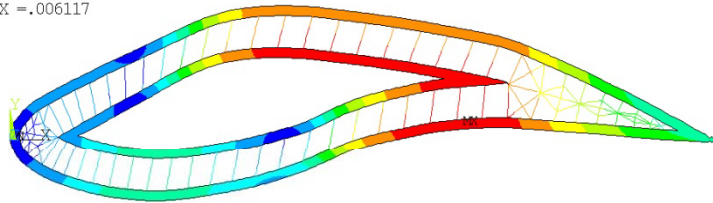


30

46

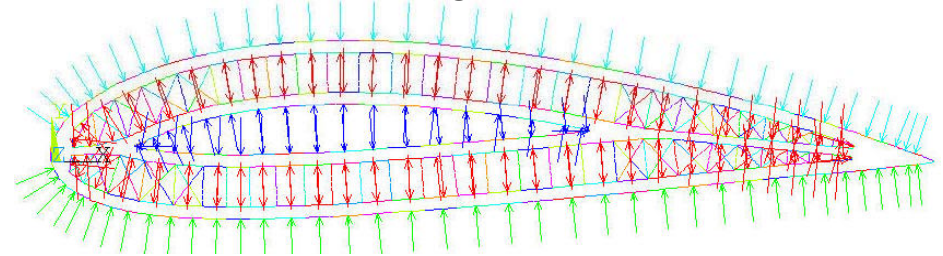
Before Topology Optimization

SMX = .006117

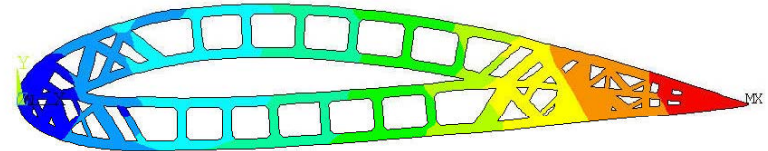


2% deflection

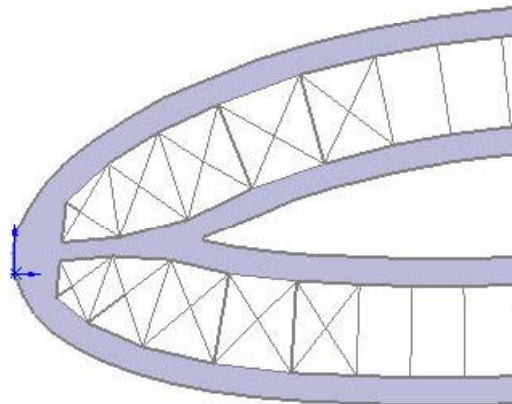
Loading



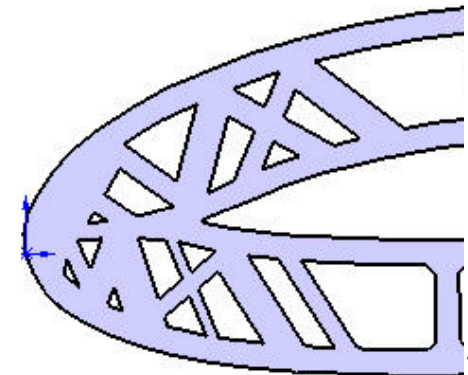
After Topology Optimization



<0.5% deflection

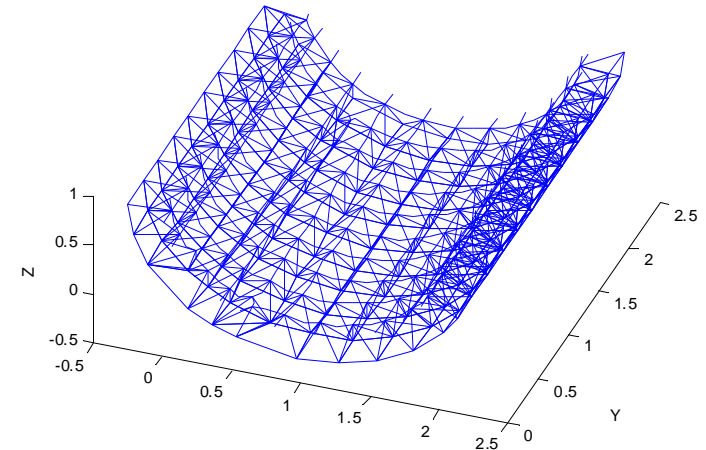
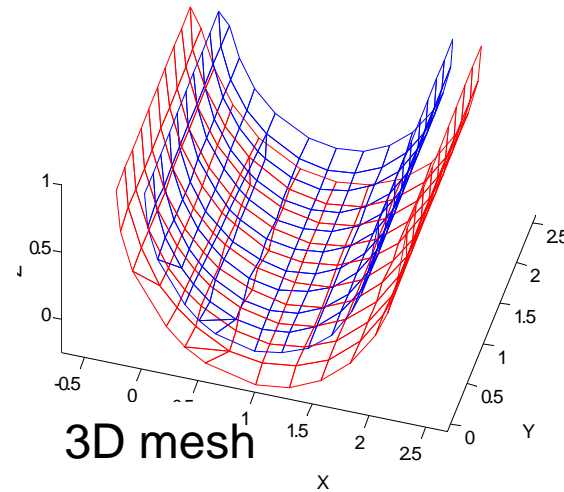
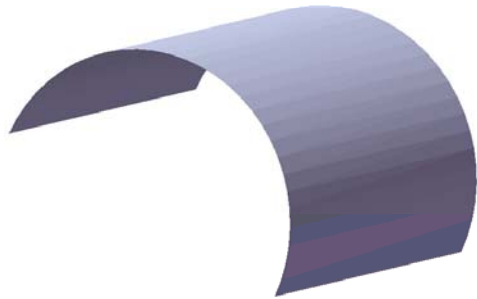
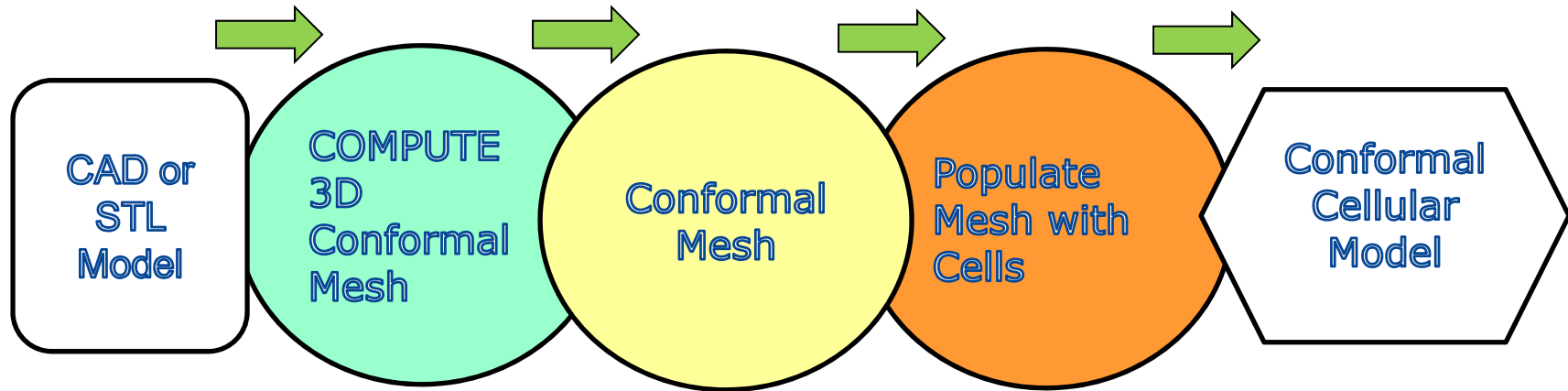


Process  
iSIGHT design  
integration software  
running ANSYS via  
APDL file





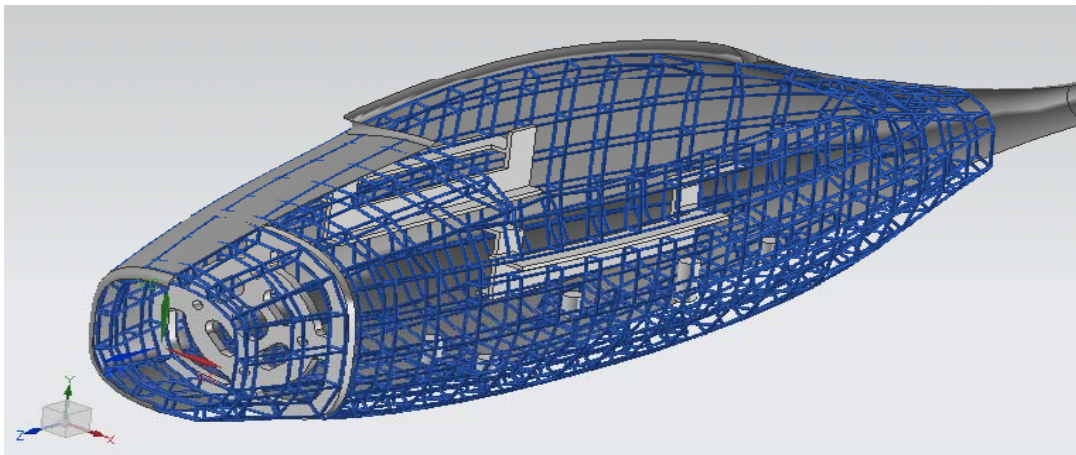
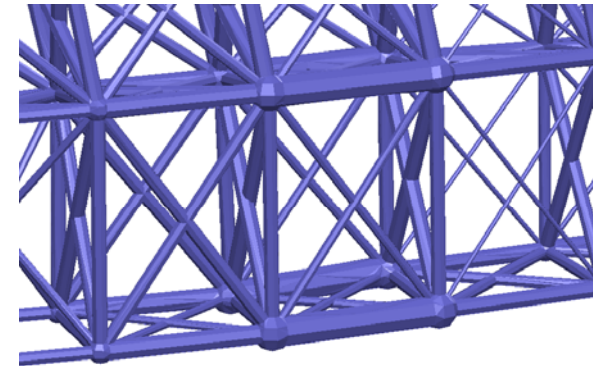
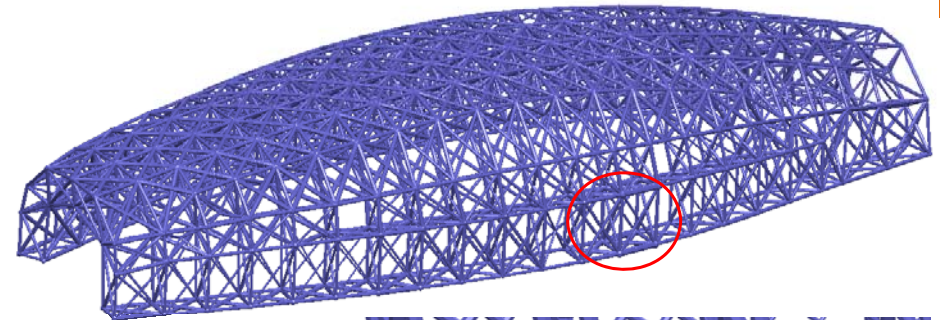
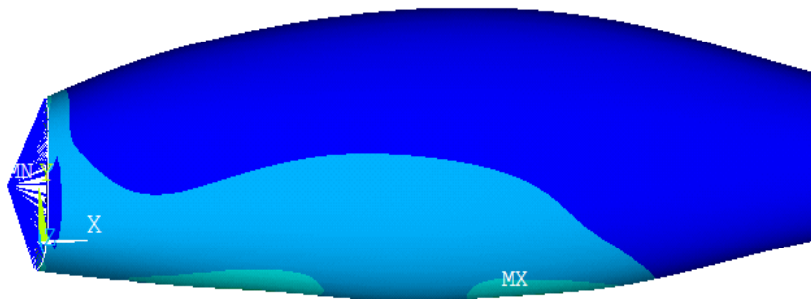
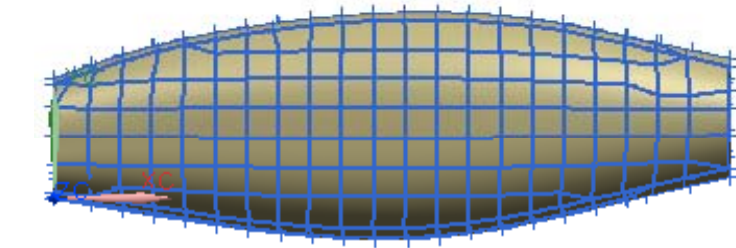
# What about 3D customization? Conformal Lattice Structures



David Rosen, Georgia Tech  
(Nguyen, *et al.*, 2012, SFF Symposium)



# Optimization of Conformal Lattice Structures



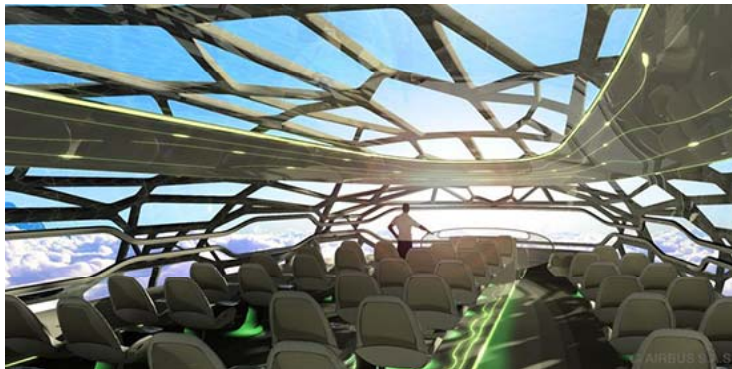
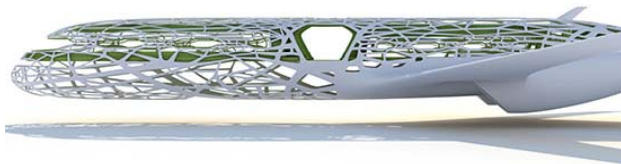
David Rosen, Georgia Tech  
(Nguyen, *et al.*, 2012, SFF  
Symposium)



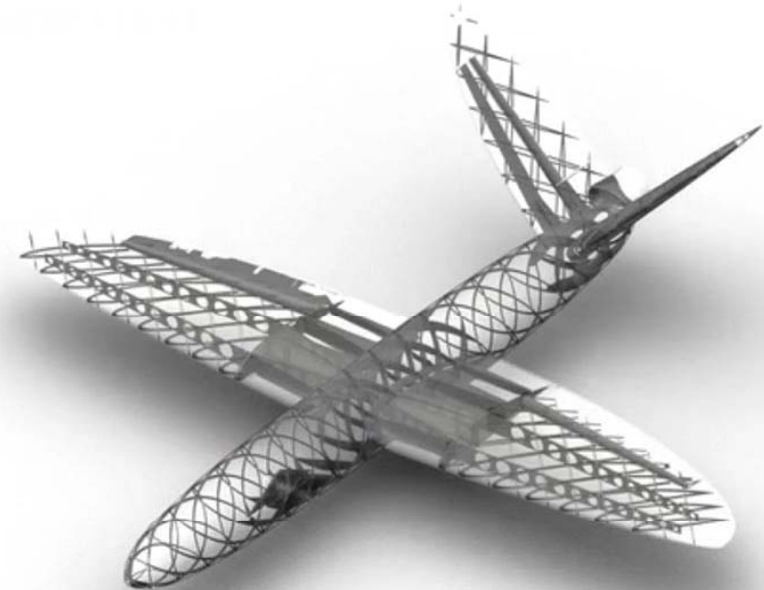
# Industrial Examples of Topology Design for AM



Aerospace Weight Reduction  
GE/EADS via Ponoko.com



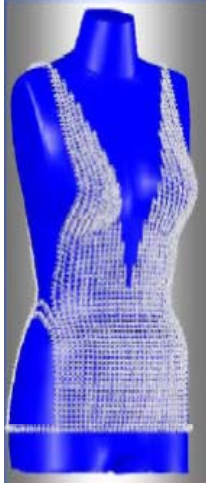
Airbus and smithsonianmag.com



U of Southampton; Newscientist.com; ponoko.com

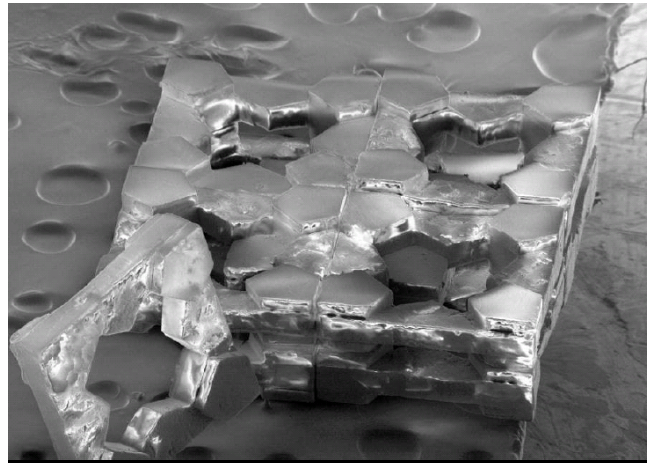


# Additional AM drivers for new CAD/CAE tools



[www.lboro.ac.uk](http://www.lboro.ac.uk)

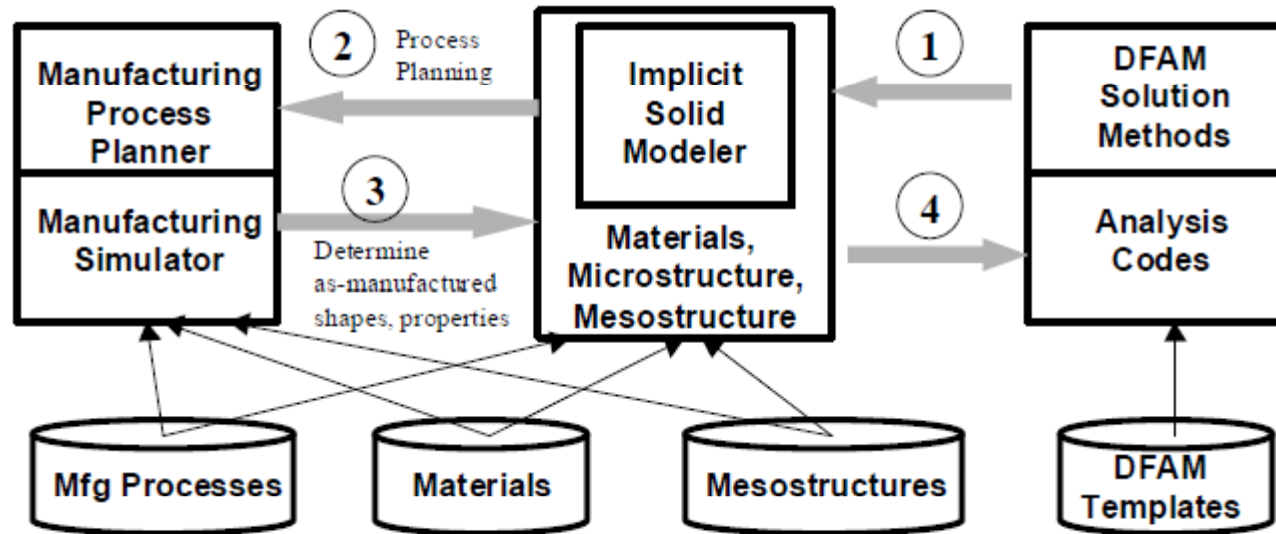
- CAD/CAE systems are limited
  - Numbers of features
  - Representations of graded materials in one feature
  - Co-simulation of AM process and structure





# Broader Design for AM systems and tools

THE GOAL ...



David Rosen, Ga Tech



# Broader Design for AM systems and tools

A Step in the Right Direction ...

Designer's Guides for AM

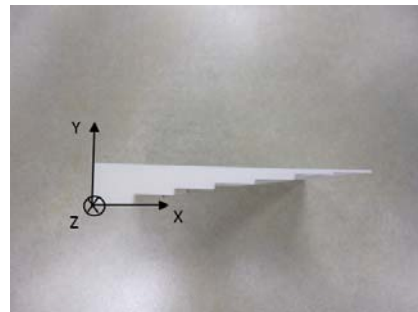
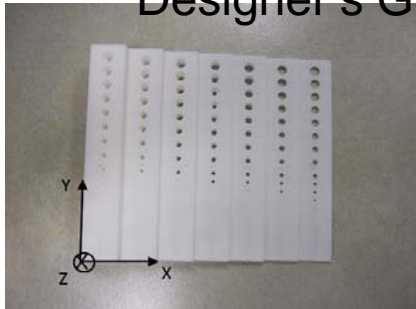


			Plate Thickness [mm]							
			V1	12.7	9.327	7.152	5.253	3.755	1.877	0.939
Diameter [mm]	1	4								
	2	3.75								
	3	3.5								
	4	3.25								
	5	3								
	6	2.75								
	7	2.5								
	8	2.25								
	9	2								
	10	1.75								
	11	1.5								
	12	1.3								
	13	1.1								
	14	1								
	15	0.8								
	16	0.6								
	17	0.5								
	18	0.4								
	19	0.3								
	20	0.25								
	21	0.125								

(Seepersad, *et al.*, SFF Symposium, 2012)





*Despite the engineering challenges  
...AM is already beginning to  
democratize design and  
manufacturing.*



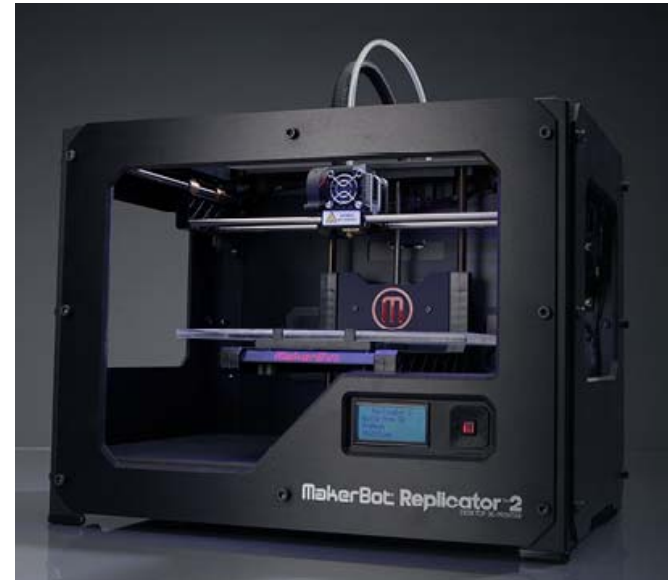
# AM enables democratization of design

From Industrial Class Machines .... To Personalized Printers



3D Systems

Makerbot



3D Systems



3D Systems





# AM enables democratization of design

DreamVendor – An AM Vending Machine at Virginia Tech

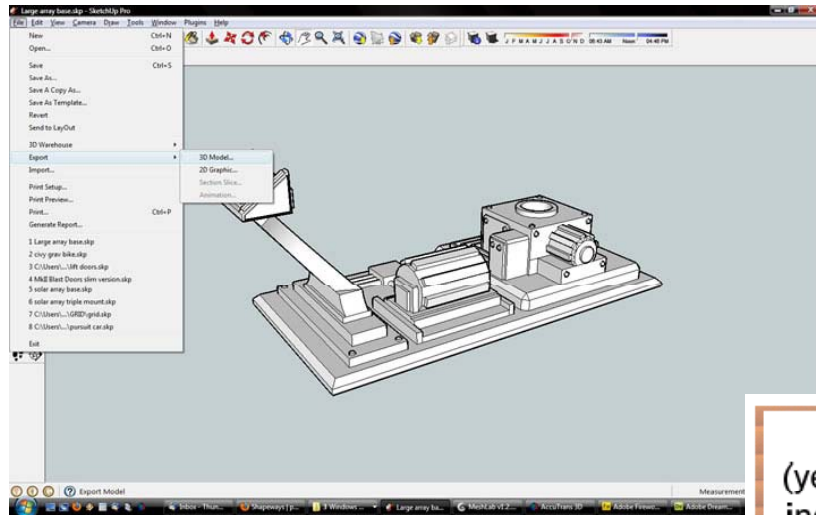
Christopher Williams, Va Tech





# AM enables democratization of design

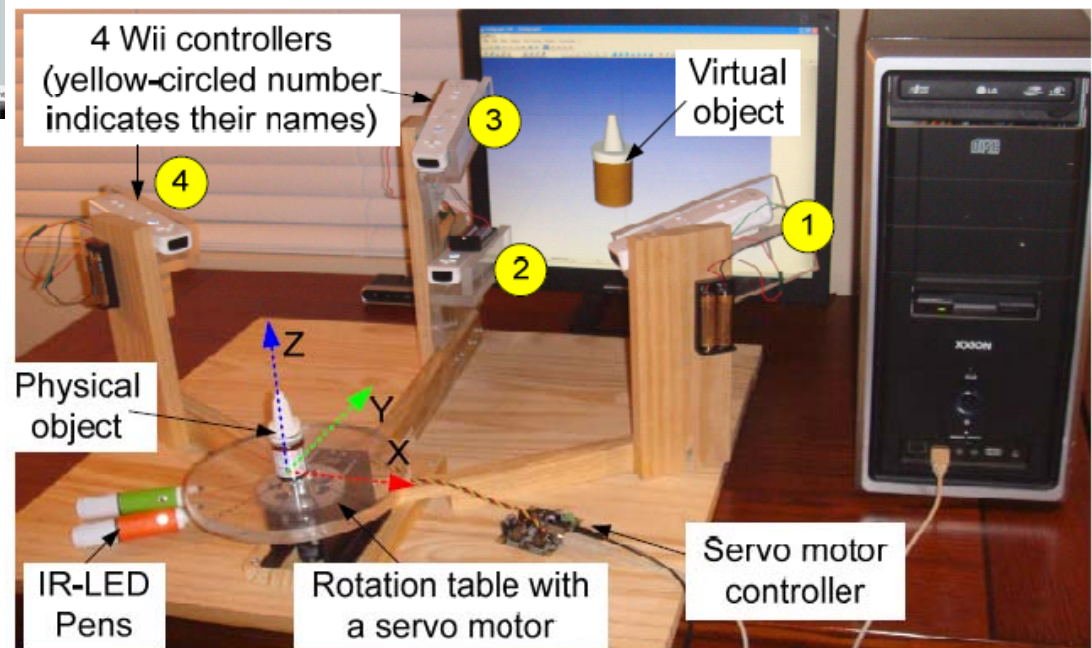
Simple designer tools to support AM



Google Sketchup  
via Shapeways



Touch Reverse  
Engineering  
Yong Chen, USC





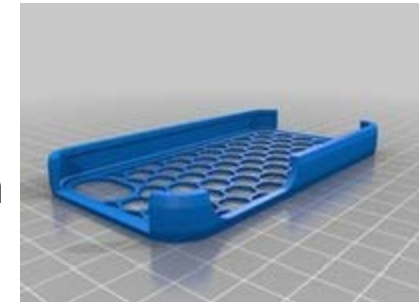
# AM enables democratization of design

3D Printing Marketplaces and On-line Communities



Shapeways.com

Thingiverse.com





# Meet the Makers



Harvest Technologies (David Leigh)



UT Austin AM course (UT Austin ME)



Detroit Builder's Co-op (NY Times)



Fab-at-Home (Hod Lipson and Evan Malone)

