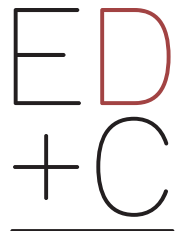


Computational Design-to-Fabrication: The Role of Simulation

Prof. Dr. Kristina Shea



ENGINEERING
DESIGN
AND
COMPUTING

Engineering Design and Computing Lab (EDAC)

Objectives

- Enable the design of more innovative and complex engineered systems and products through new computational design models, methods and tools
- Automate design and fabrication processes
- Integrate research in practice



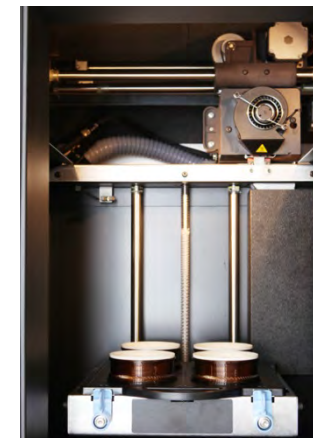
Structures



Consumer Products



Mechatronics



Additive Manufacturing

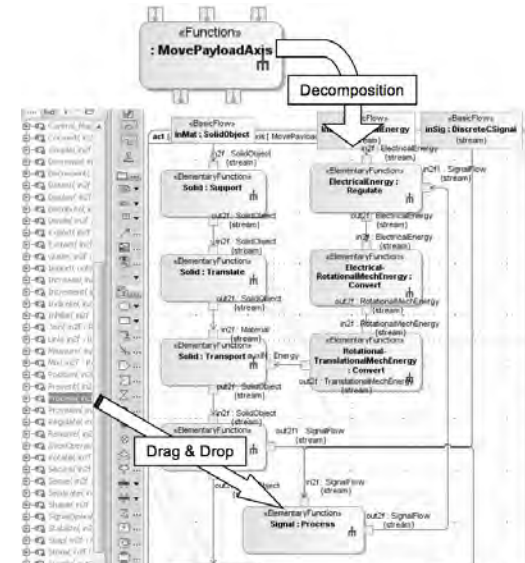
Research Areas



Computational Design
Synthesis and
Optimization



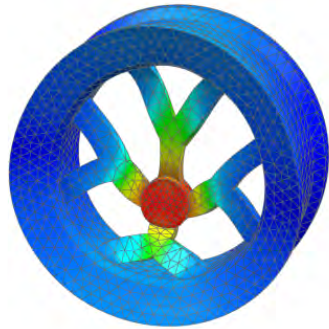
Computational
Design-to-Fabrication



Model-Based Design
and Systems
Engineering

Synthesis vs. Analysis

Analysis / Simulation:



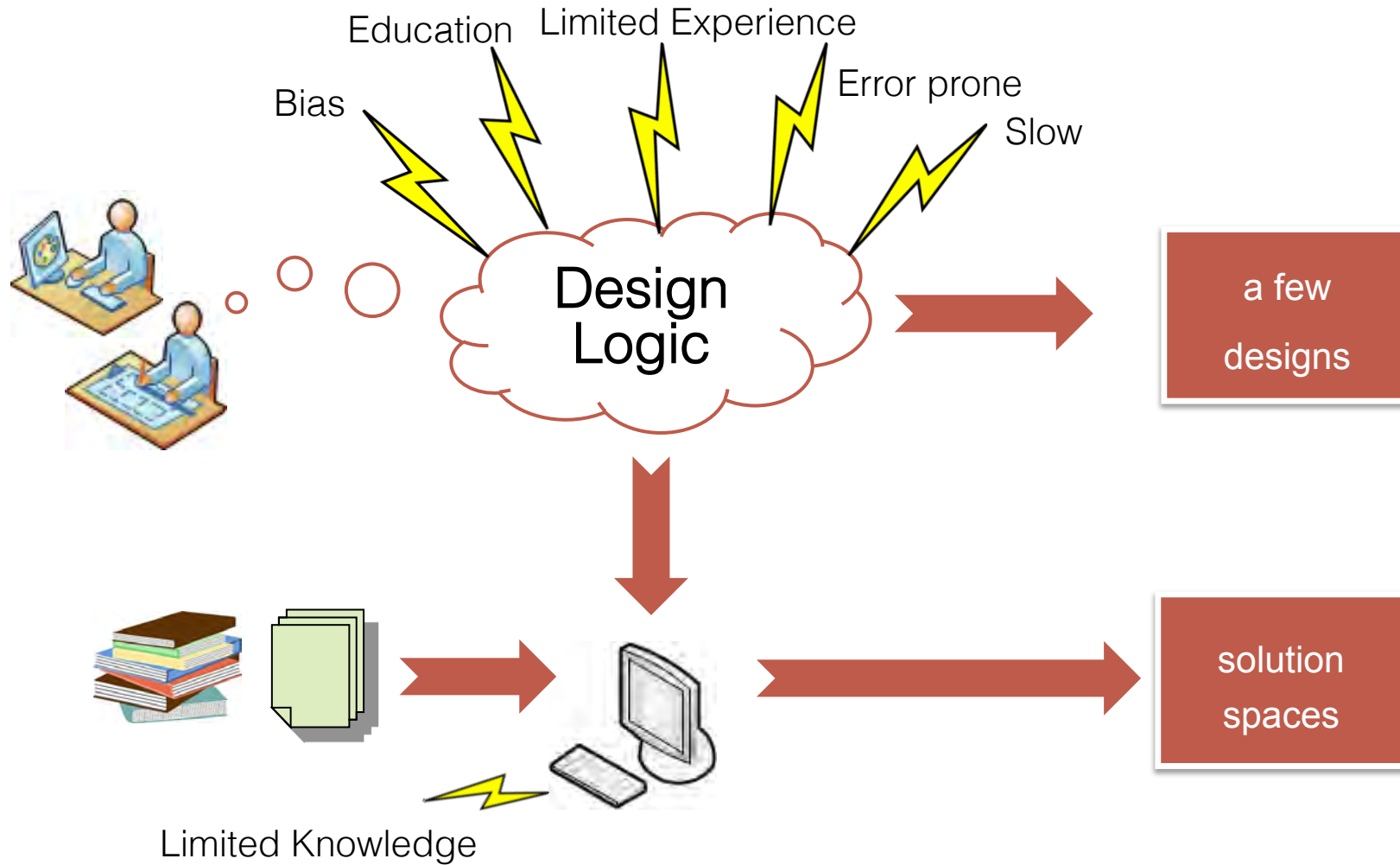
Breakdown of a system into its elements and their interrelationships. The construction of a mathematical model to reproduce the effects (behavior) of a phenomenon, system, or process.



Synthesis:

The design and combination of fundamental components, or building blocks, to produce a unified and often complex system behavior that satisfies or optimizes design requirements.

Motivation for Computational Design Synthesis



Why Automate Synthesis and Design?

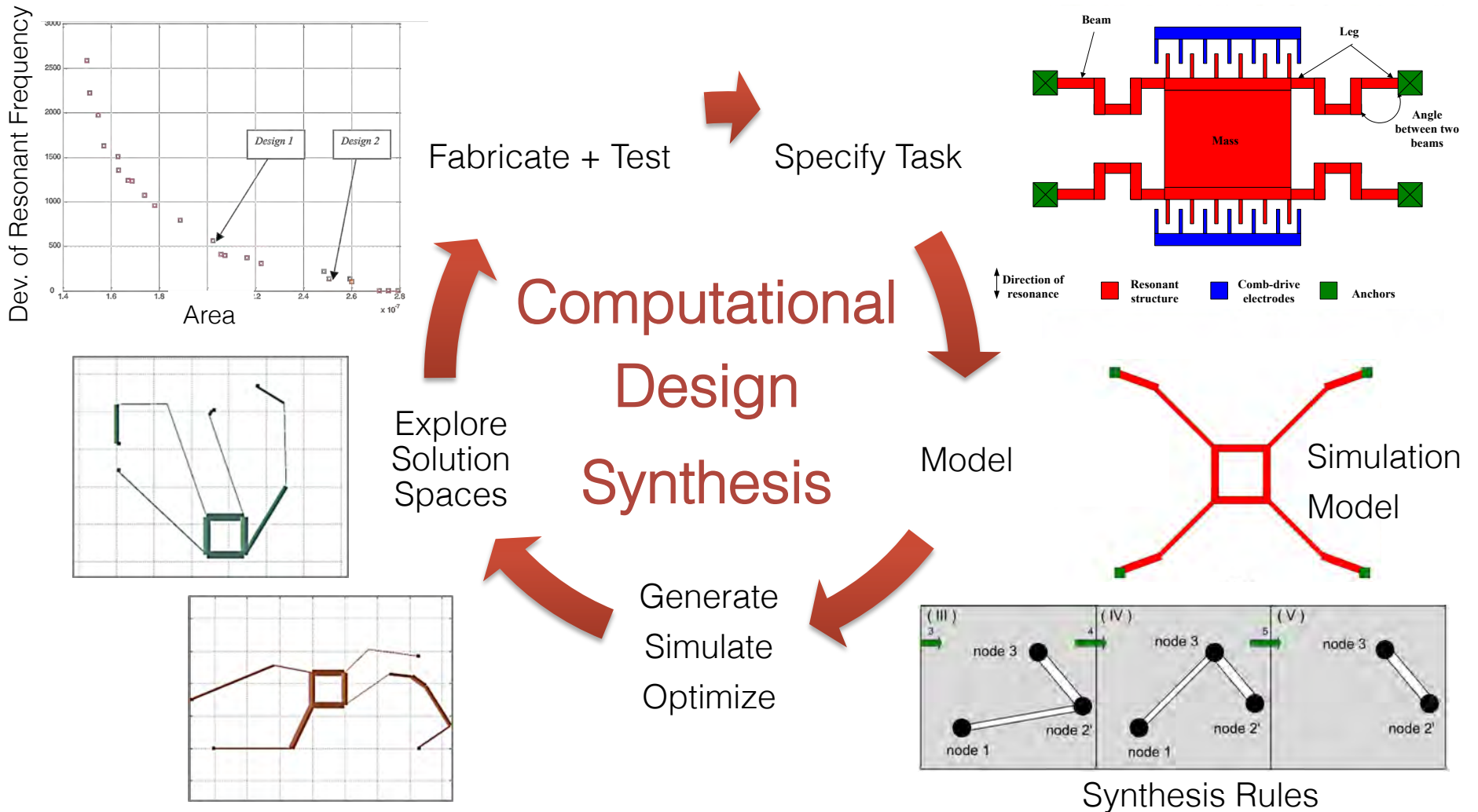
Faster. Automate

Better. Explore Solution Spaces

Cheaper. Optimize

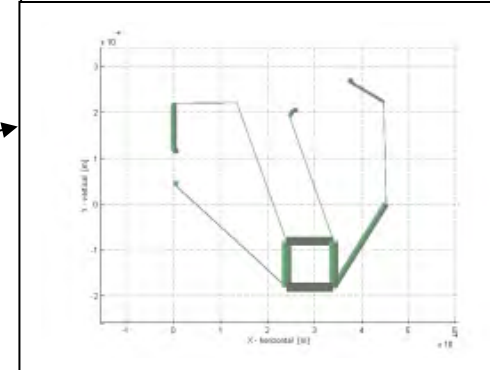
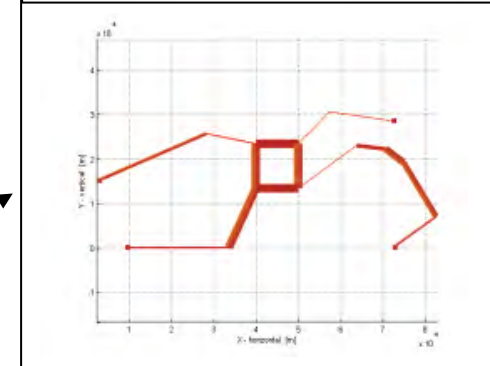
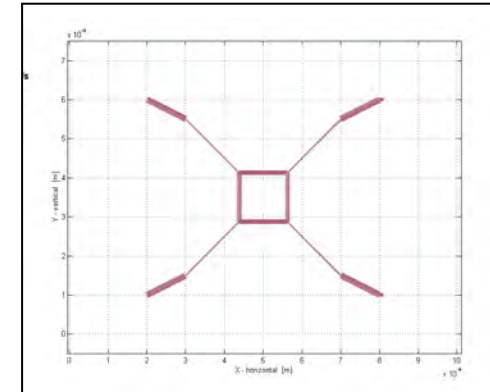
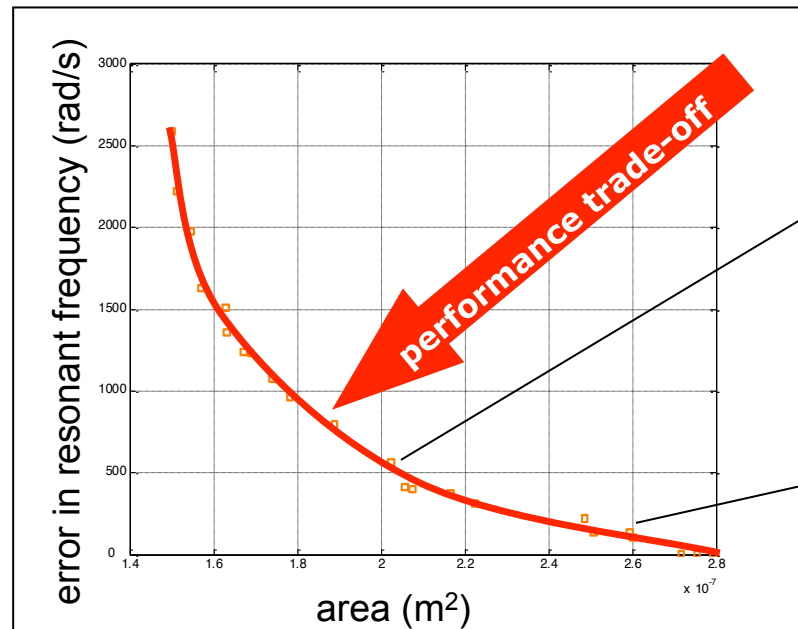
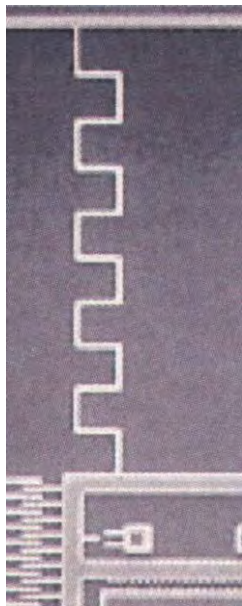
Keep design and innovation internationally
competitive!

Basic Research Approach

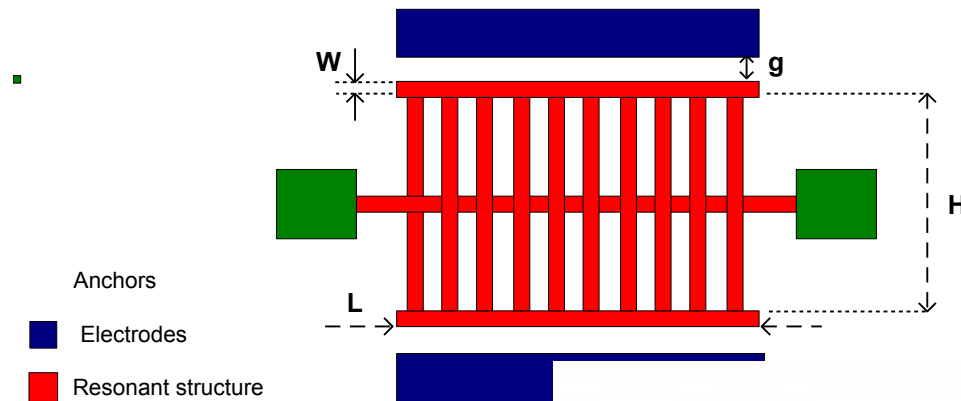


MEMS Synthesis - Meandering Resonator

- Center mass supported by four springs
- Synthesis of beam topology, geometry and dimensions of beams
- Min error in frequency and device area subject to stiffness and fabrication constraints

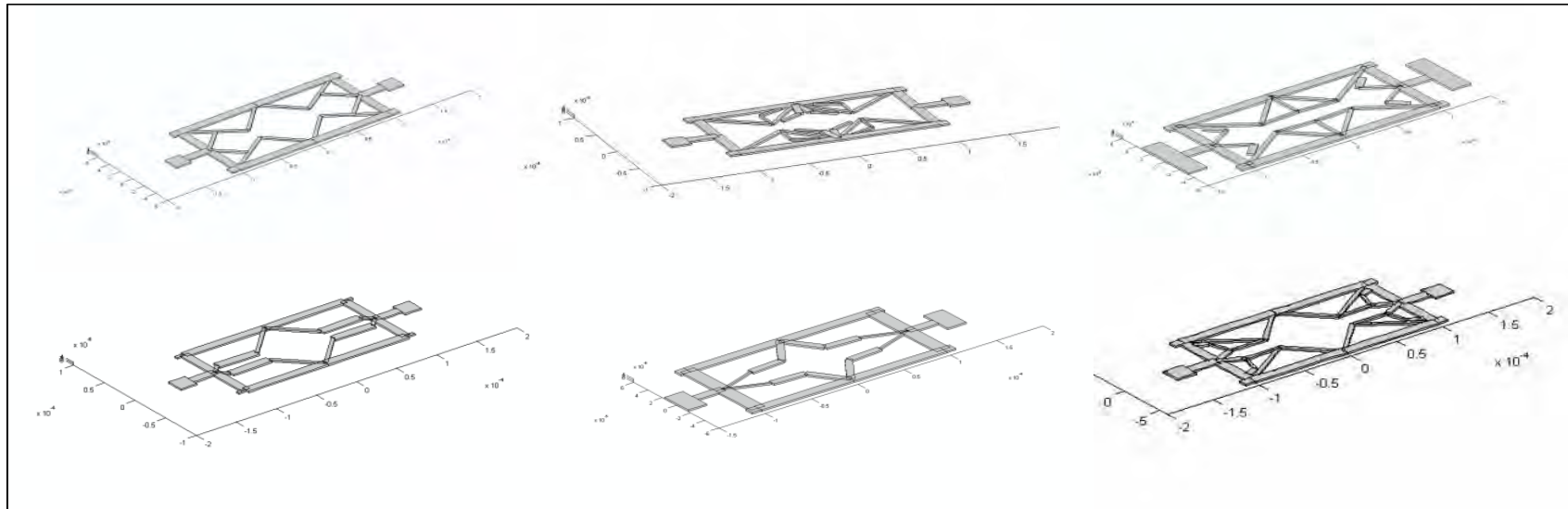


MEMS Synthesis - Sandwich Resonator

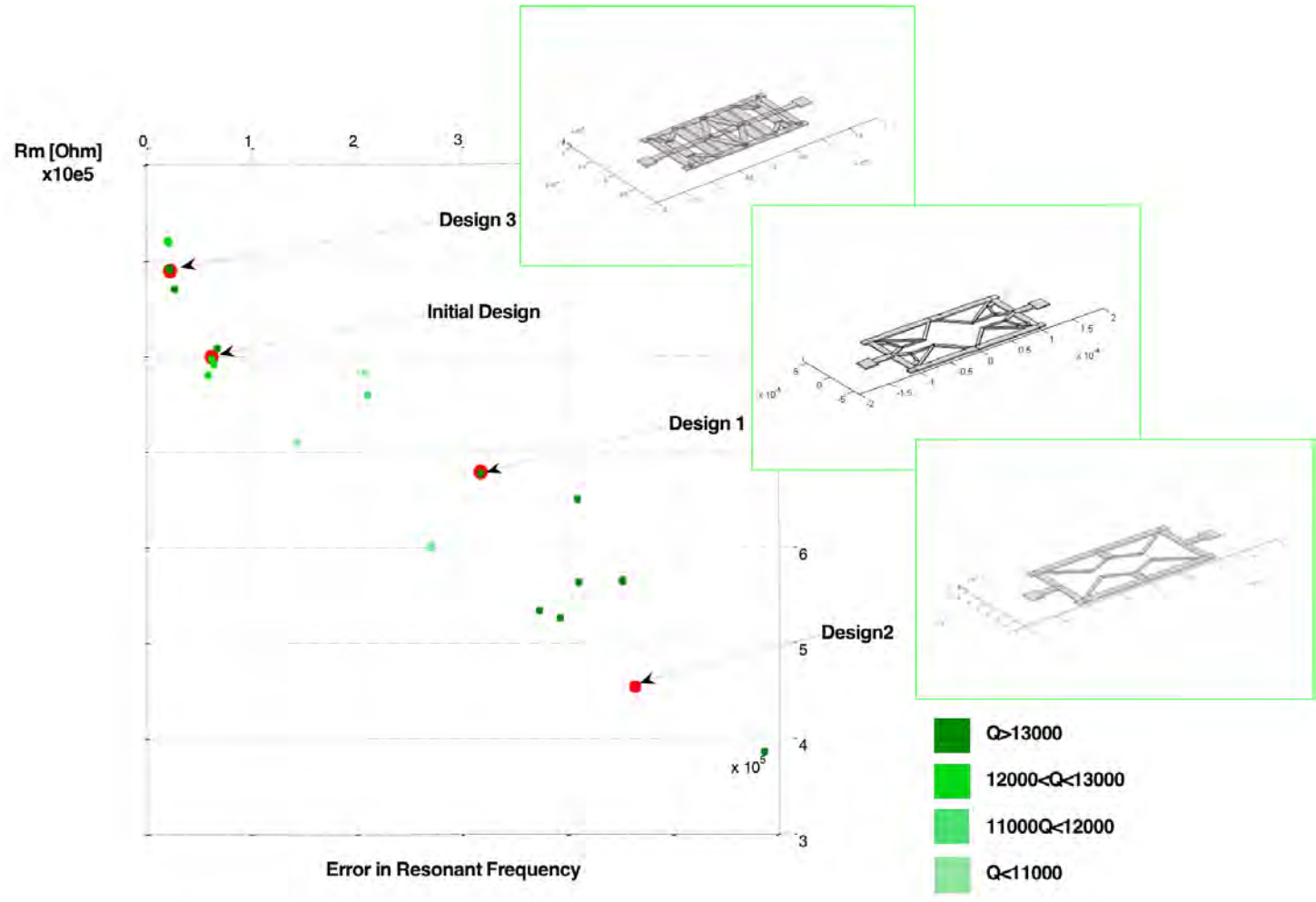


Objectives:

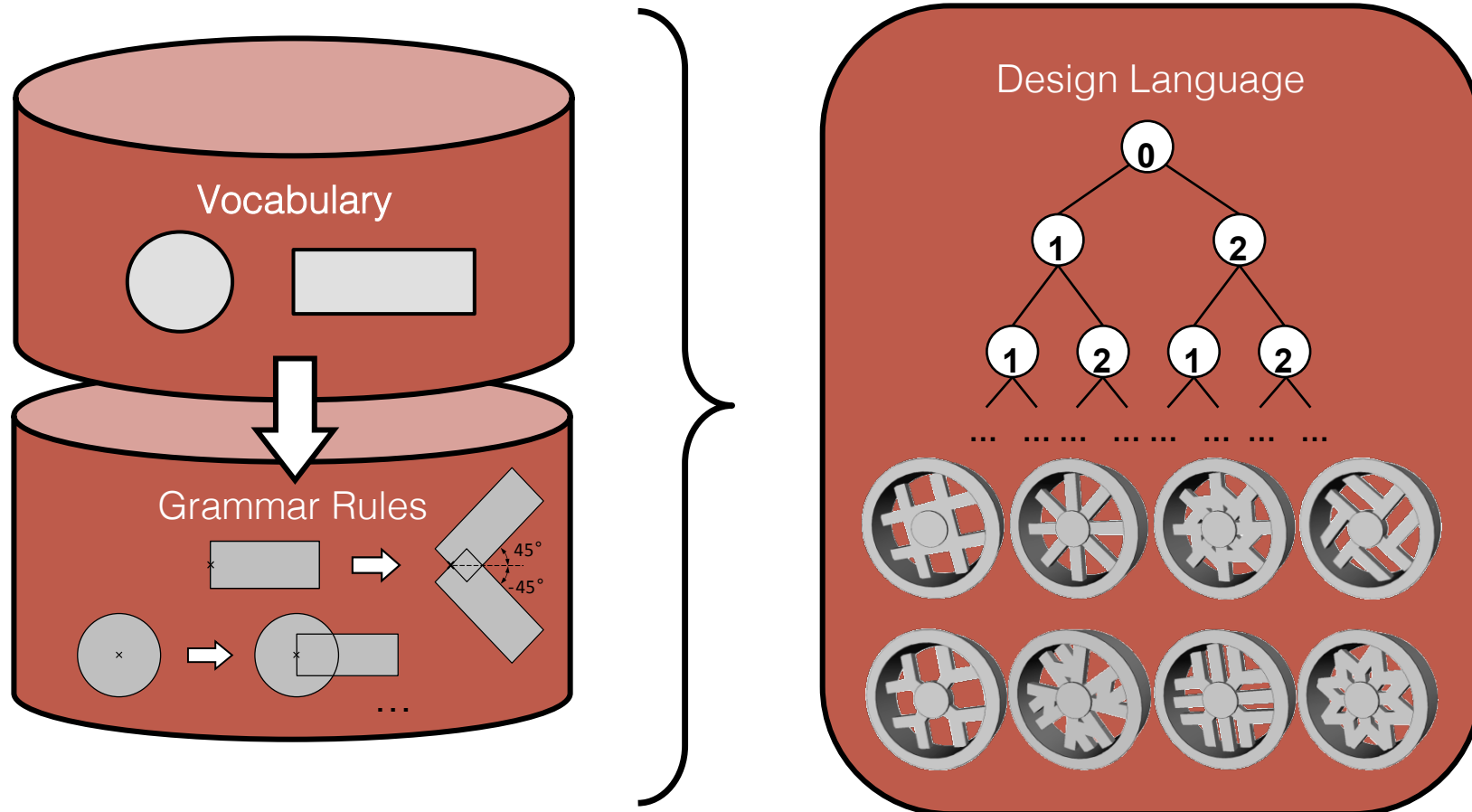
- target operational frequency, $f = 25 \text{ MHz}$
- minimize motional resistance, R_m
- maximize quality factor, Q



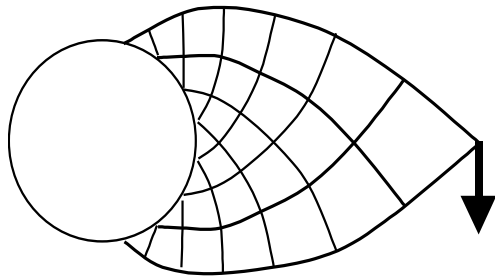
MEMS Synthesis - Sandwich Resonator



Engineering Design Grammars



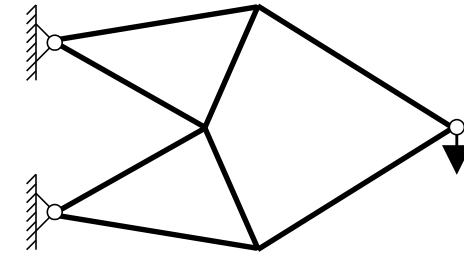
Structural Topology Optimization



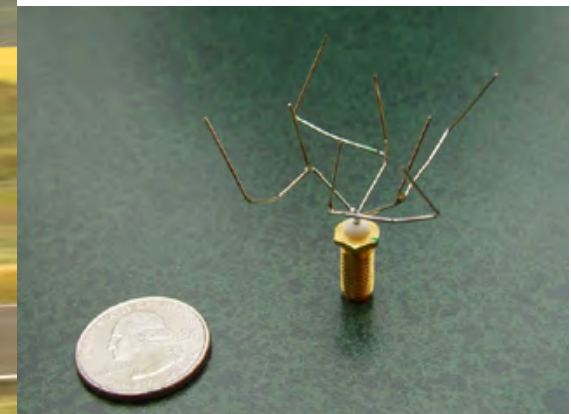
Michell truss (1904)



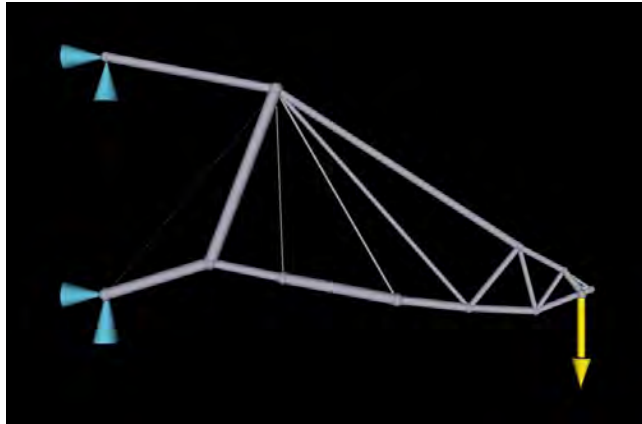
Thompson (1914)



Prager truss (1977)



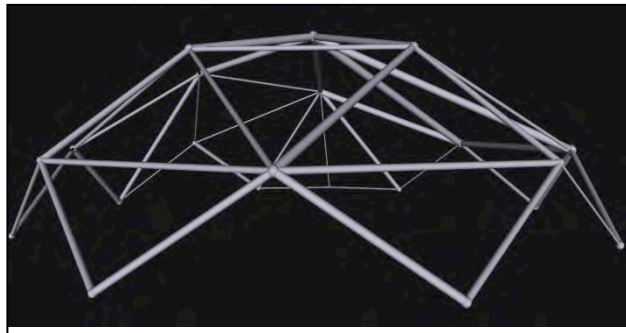
Structural Topology and Shape Annealing



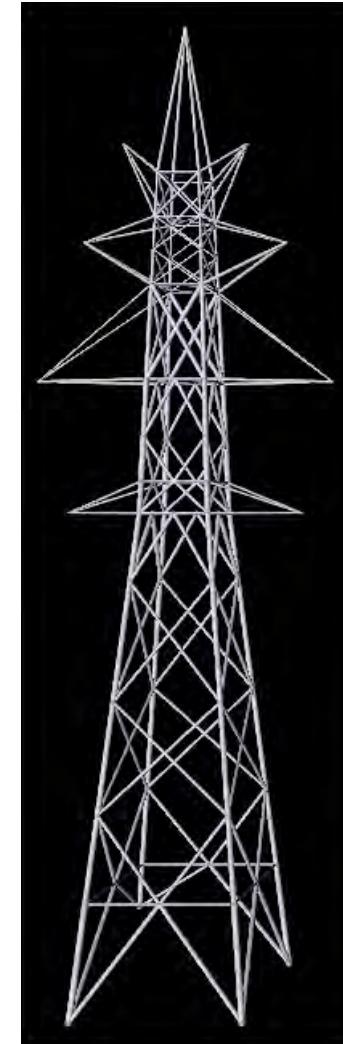
Class I (1995)



Class III (2004)



Class V (1997, 2006)

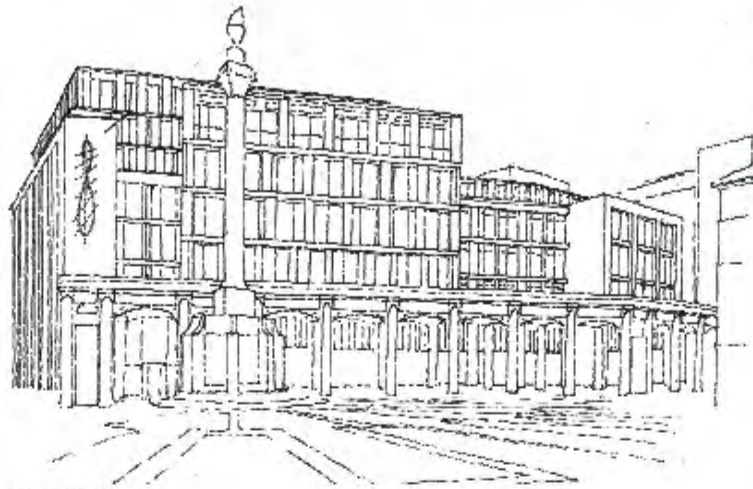


Class VI (1999)

Design Brief

Noon Mark

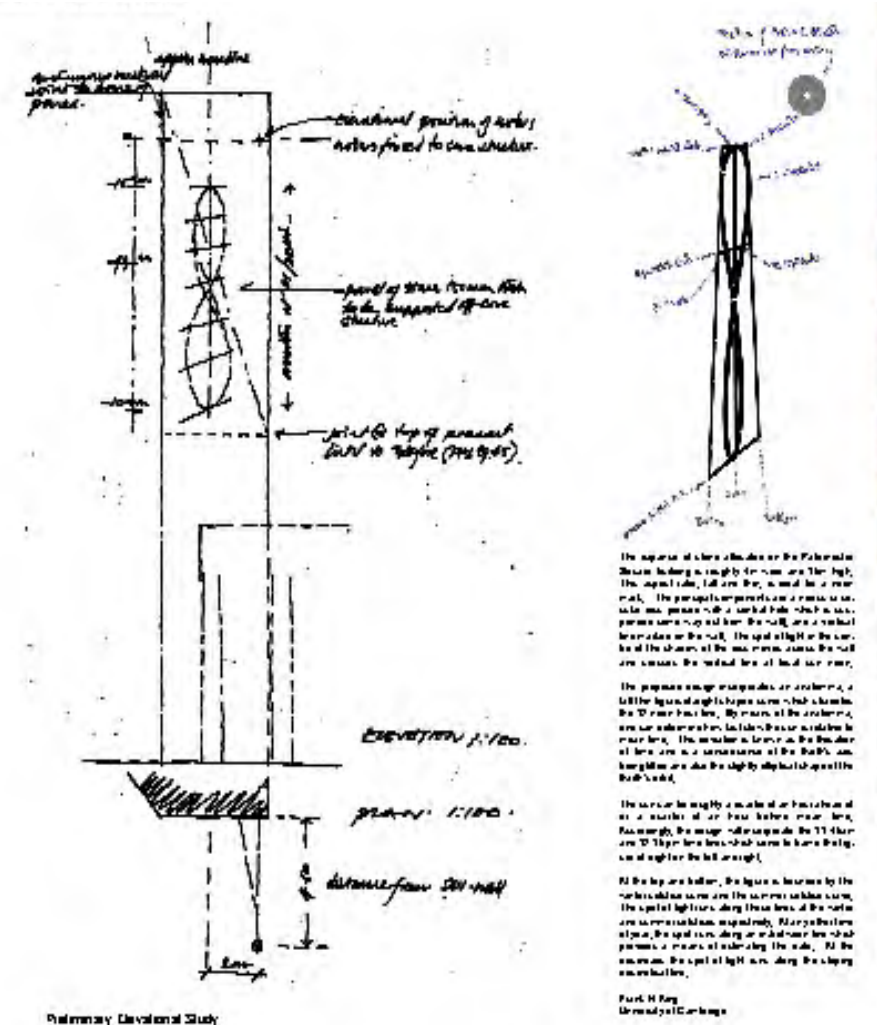
Proposal for King Edward Court, Building 2, Paternoster Square, City of London



View from South East

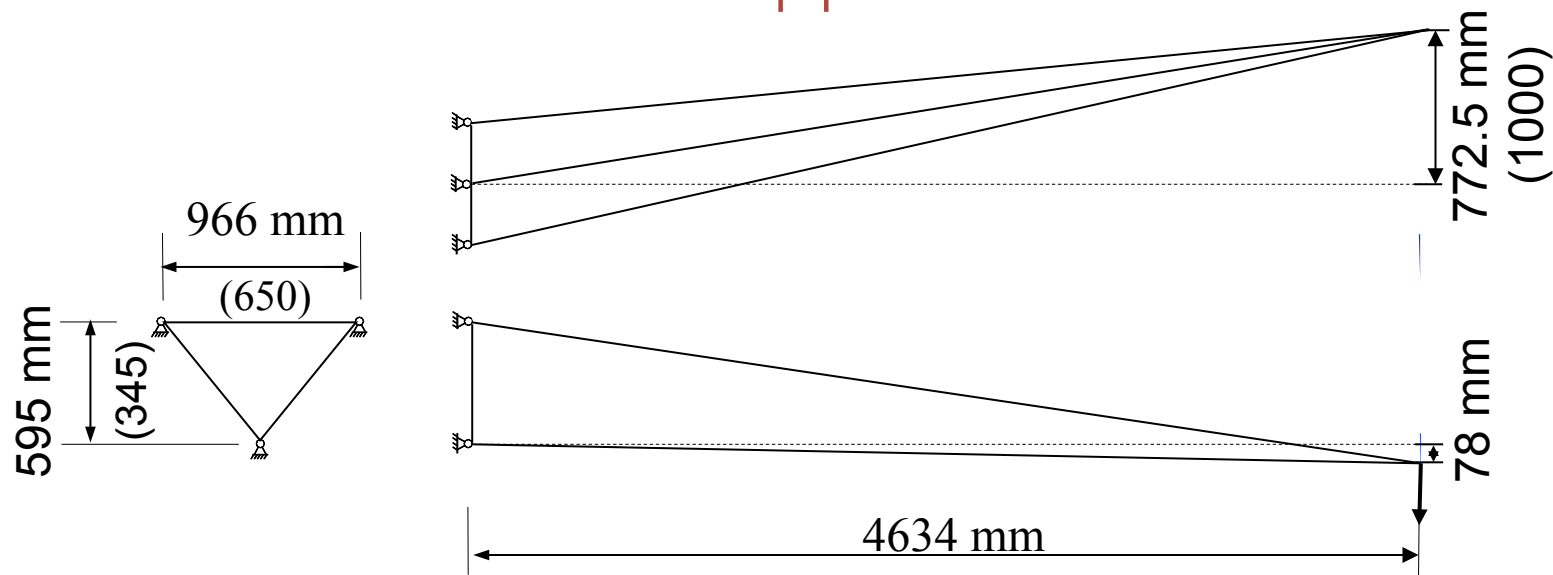


South elevation to Paternoster Square



Preliminary Elevational Study

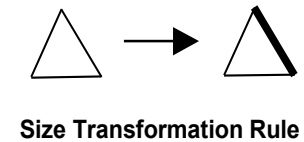
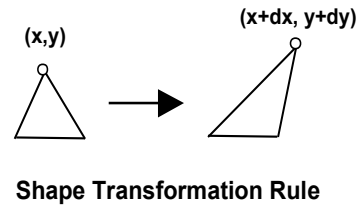
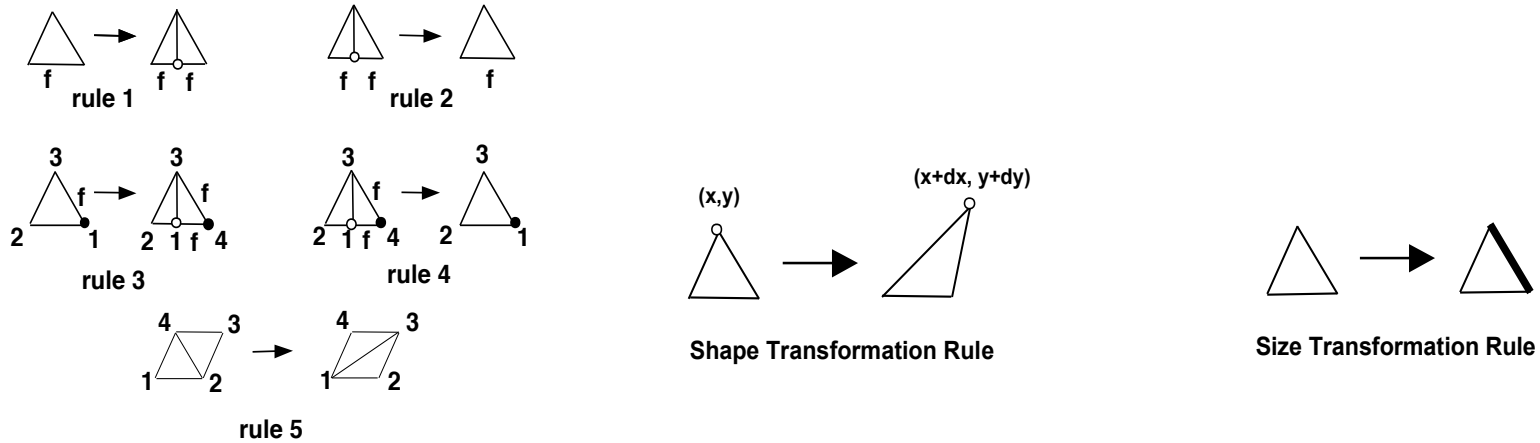
Noon Mark Cantilever Support



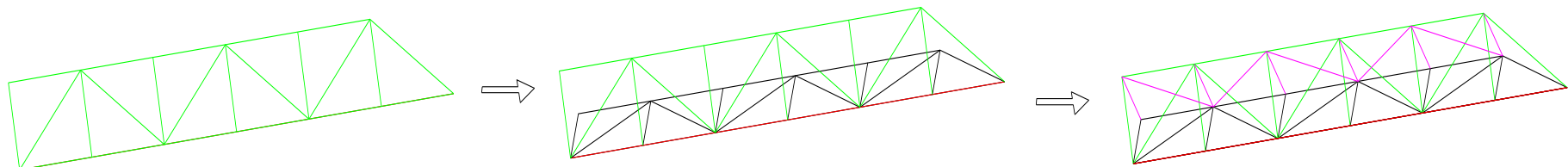
Key parameters and constraints

- max tip displacement ≤ 2 mm (1/2317 of cantilever length)
- thin, “sleek”, visually light novel design
- stainless steel circular hollow sections with OD < 90 mm
- placement in stones and capability for adjustment
- 13 load combinations (self-weight, wind, thermal, support settlement)

Structural Grammar - Class III Truss-Beams



Topology Transformation Rules



generate a planar truss
(class I)

copy + geometrically transform

brace

Optimization Model

minimize:

$$\text{mass}(i, \mathbf{l}, \mathbf{a}) = \sum_i (\rho * l_i * a_i),$$

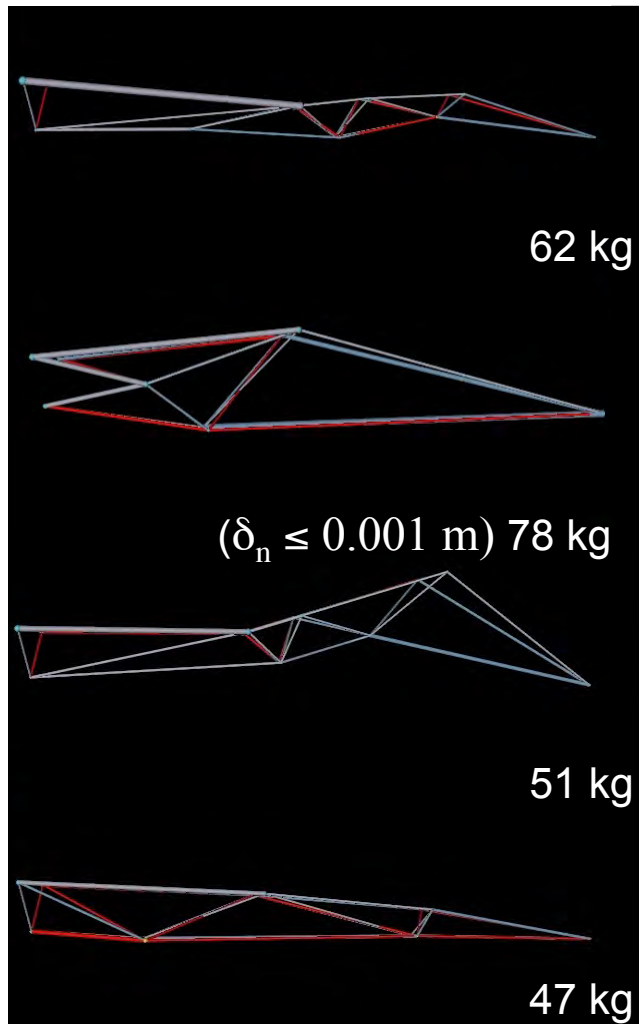
where $i = 1 \dots \text{num_members}$; \mathbf{l} = vector of member lengths;

\mathbf{a} = vector of gross area for each member, $a_i \in \{s_1 \dots s_{\text{max available sections}}\}$

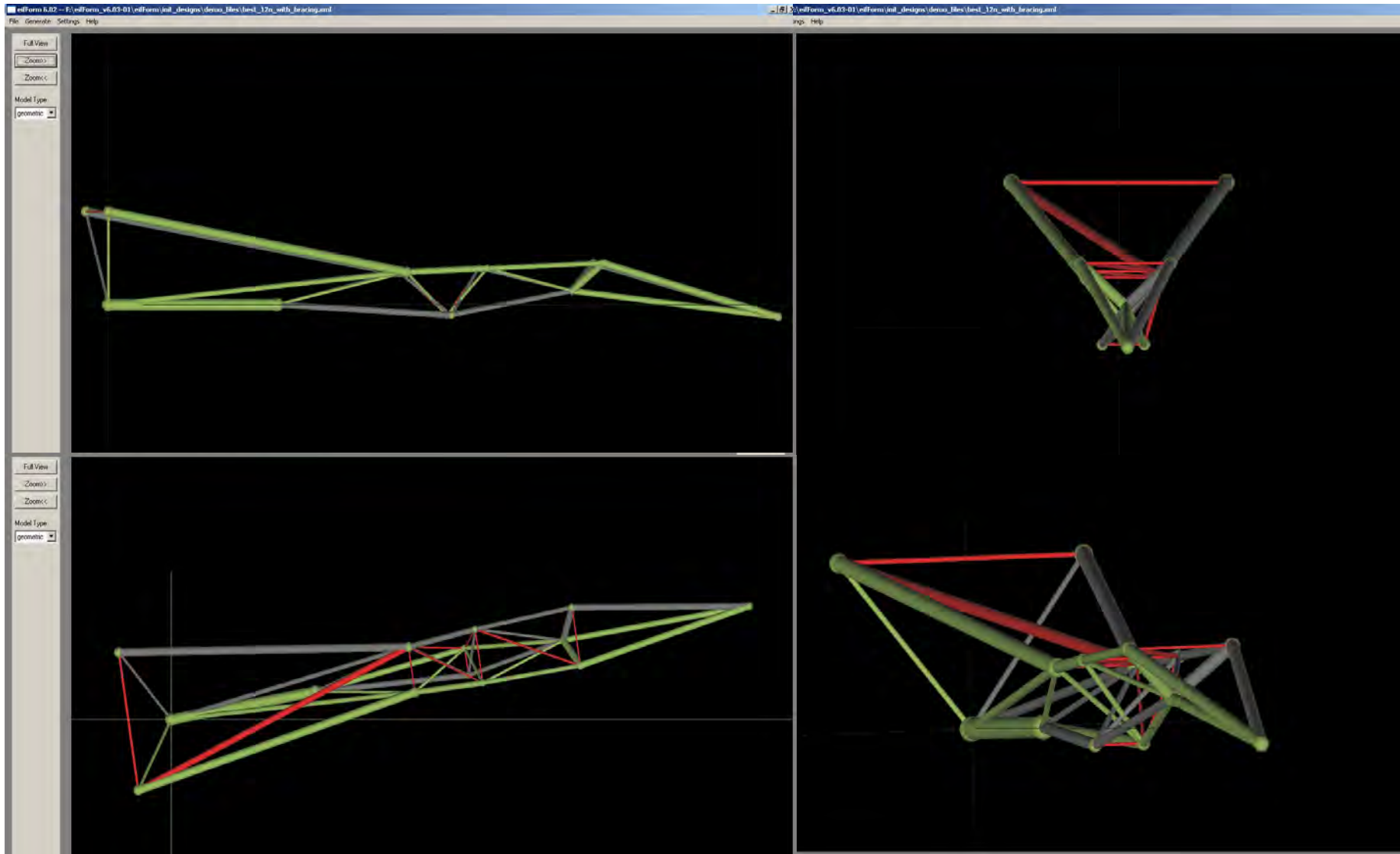
subject to:

$\delta_n \leq 0.002 \text{ m}$	(max vector displacement for joint n)
$\sigma_i \leq 123 \text{ MPa}$	(compressive/tensile allowable stress)
$F_i \leq \pi^2 EI_i / l_i^2$	(critical buckling force)
$\lambda_{\text{compression}} \leq 180$	(compressive slenderness ratio)
$\lambda_{\text{tension}} \leq 220$	(tensile slenderness ratio)
$\lambda_{\text{bracing}} \leq 200$	(bracing slenderness ratio)
$l_{\text{max}} = 5.0 \text{ m}$	(max member length)
$l_{\text{min}} = 0.03 \text{ m}$	(min member length)
$\theta_{\text{min}} = 1^\circ$	(min angle between members)

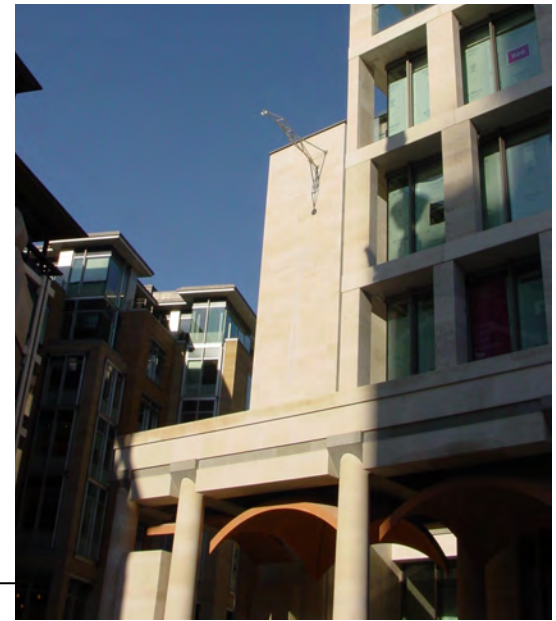
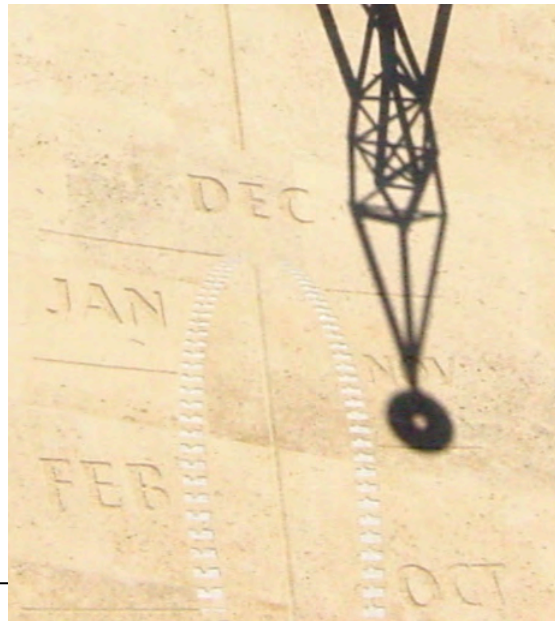
Design Generation and Development using STSA



- generate optimised design alternatives
- select 1-2 designs
- analyze full set of 13 load combinations
- re-optimize section sizes and one joint position for
 - wider and taller support; reduced skew
 - reduced section OD < 90 mm
 - vertical wind load down
- select 1-2 designs
- full check according to BS and Eurocode







Computational Design Optimization in Building Design



©KPF

The Pinnacle
London
2013

The Pinnacle - Optimization Model



©Arup

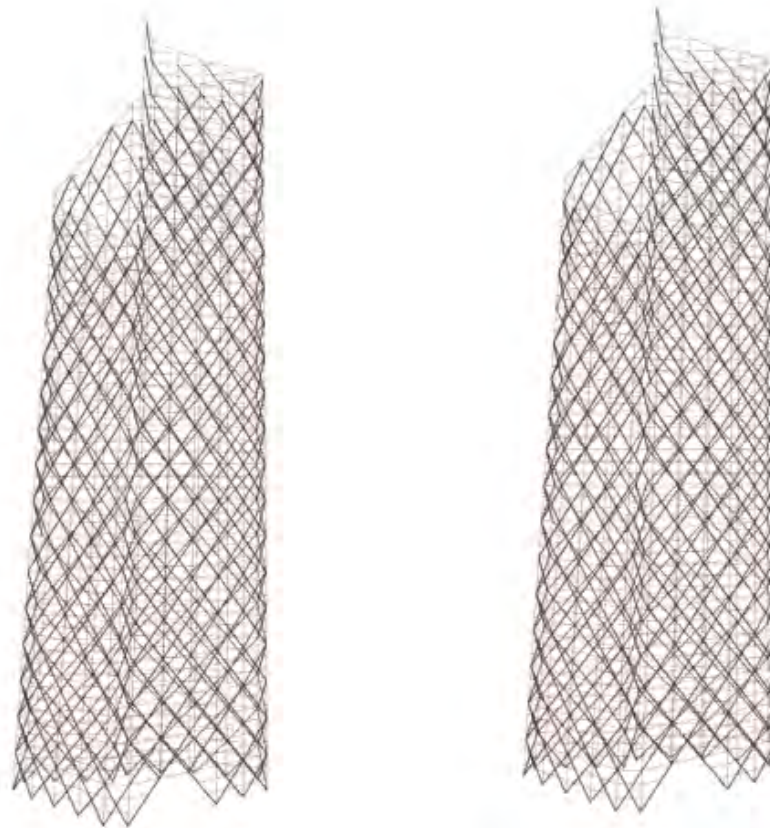
Minimize $N = \sum_{S=1}^n L_S$

Subject to $F_{bracing} \leq F(\max)_{bracing}$

$M_{beams} \leq M(\max)_{beams}$

**3×10^{48} possible
designs!!!**

Automated Structural Design Generation and Optimization



Method: stochastic pattern search with integrated structural simulation

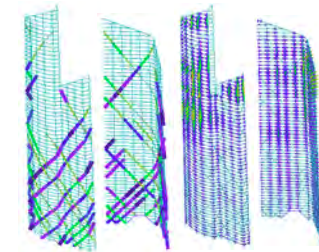
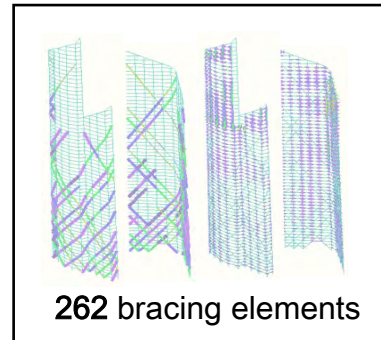
The Pinnacle - Solution Space Exploration

7,000 kN
Bracing force limit

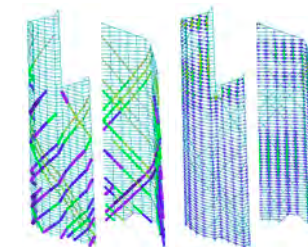
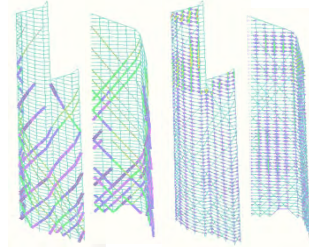
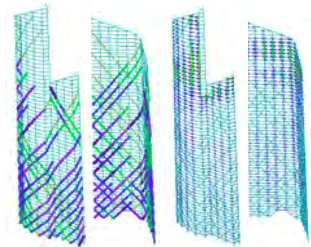
8,500 kN
Bracing force limit

10,000 kN
Bracing force limit

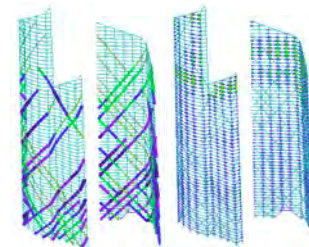
750 kNm
Bending limit



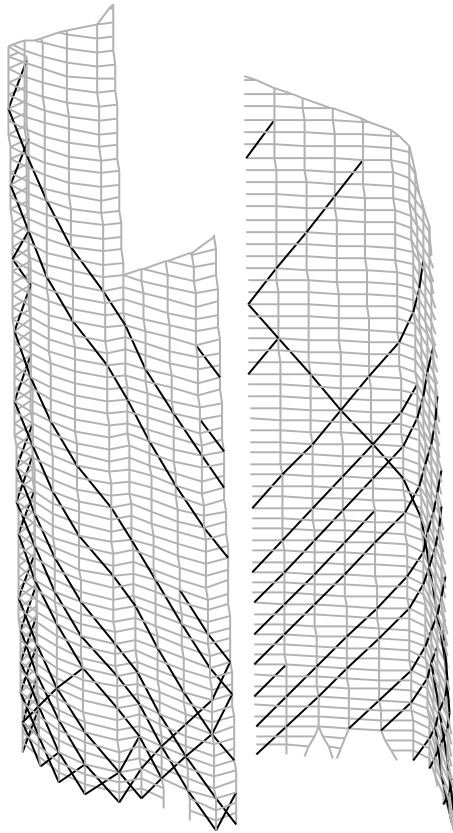
500 kNm
Bending limit



400 kNm
Bending limit

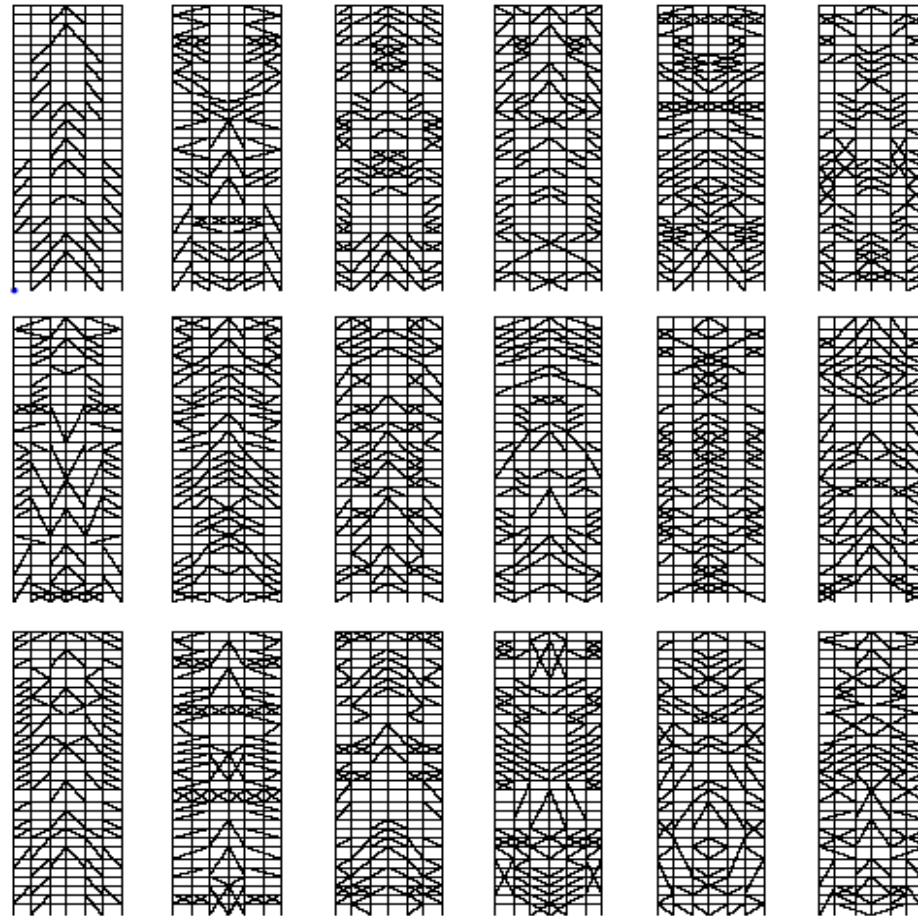


Further Method Development



213 elements

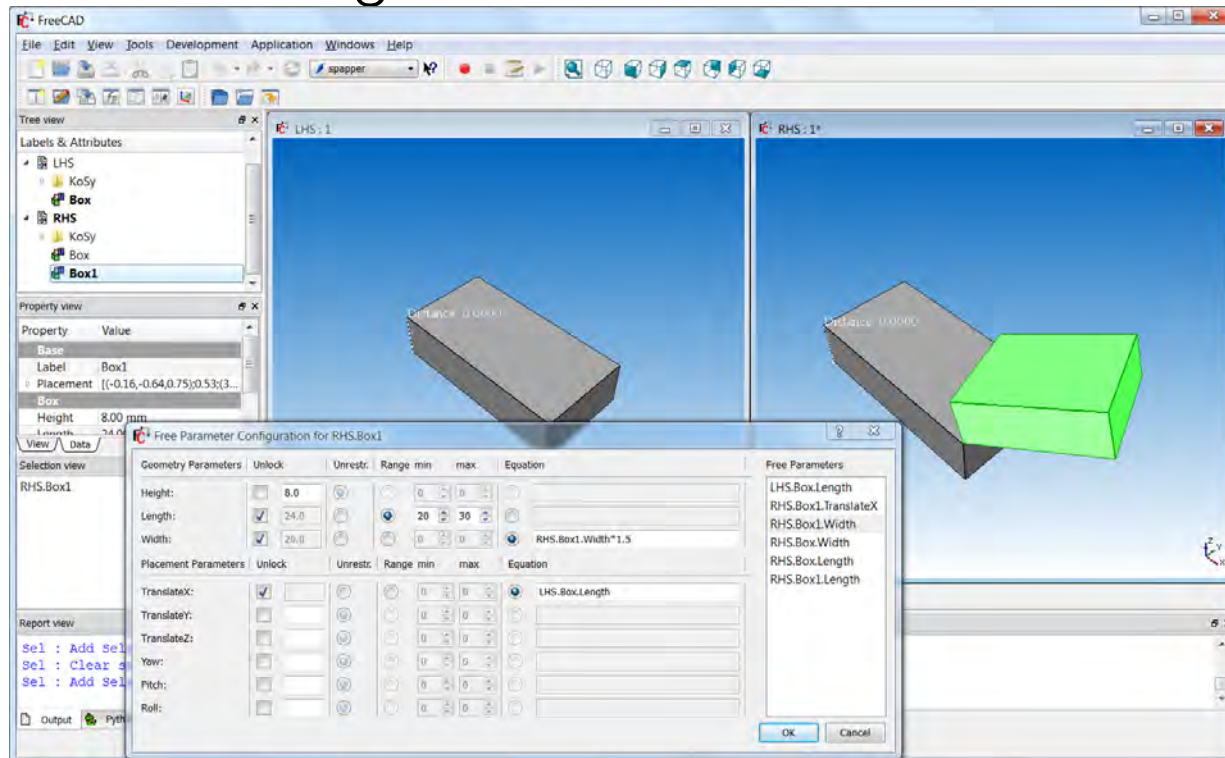
bi-directional method



genetic programming

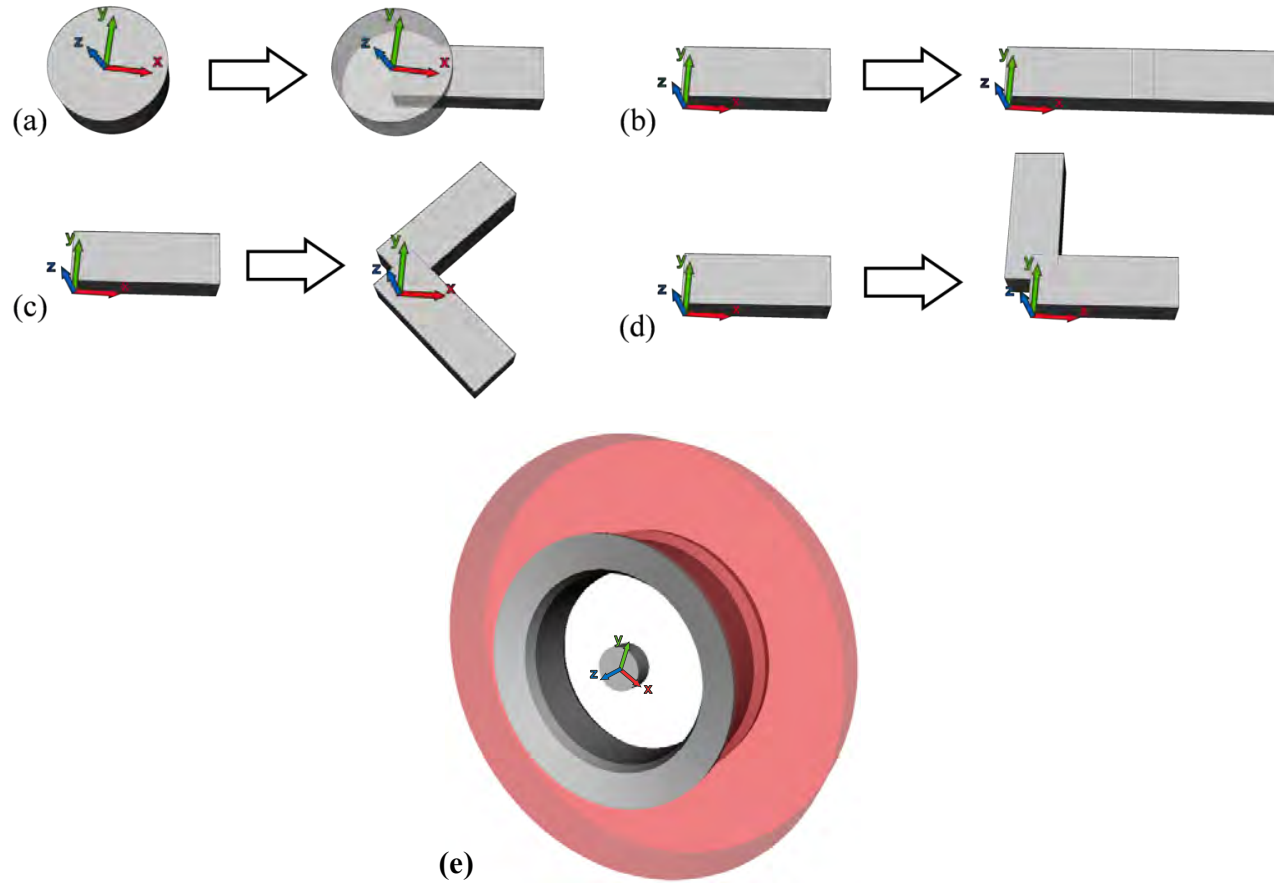
CAD-Based Shape Grammar Interpreter

An interactive environment for parametric shape rule definition and generative design.

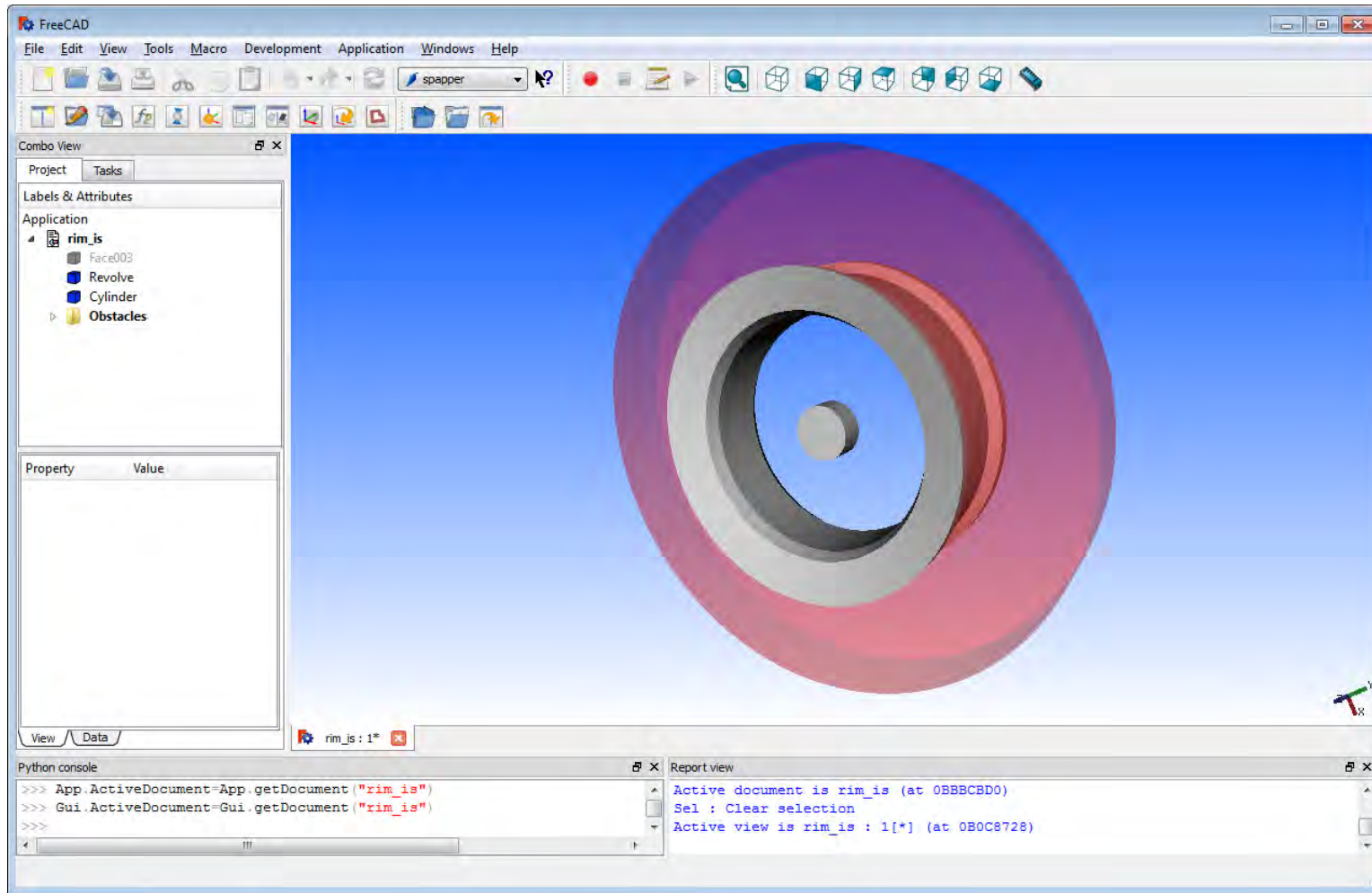


<http://sourceforge.net/projects/spapper/>

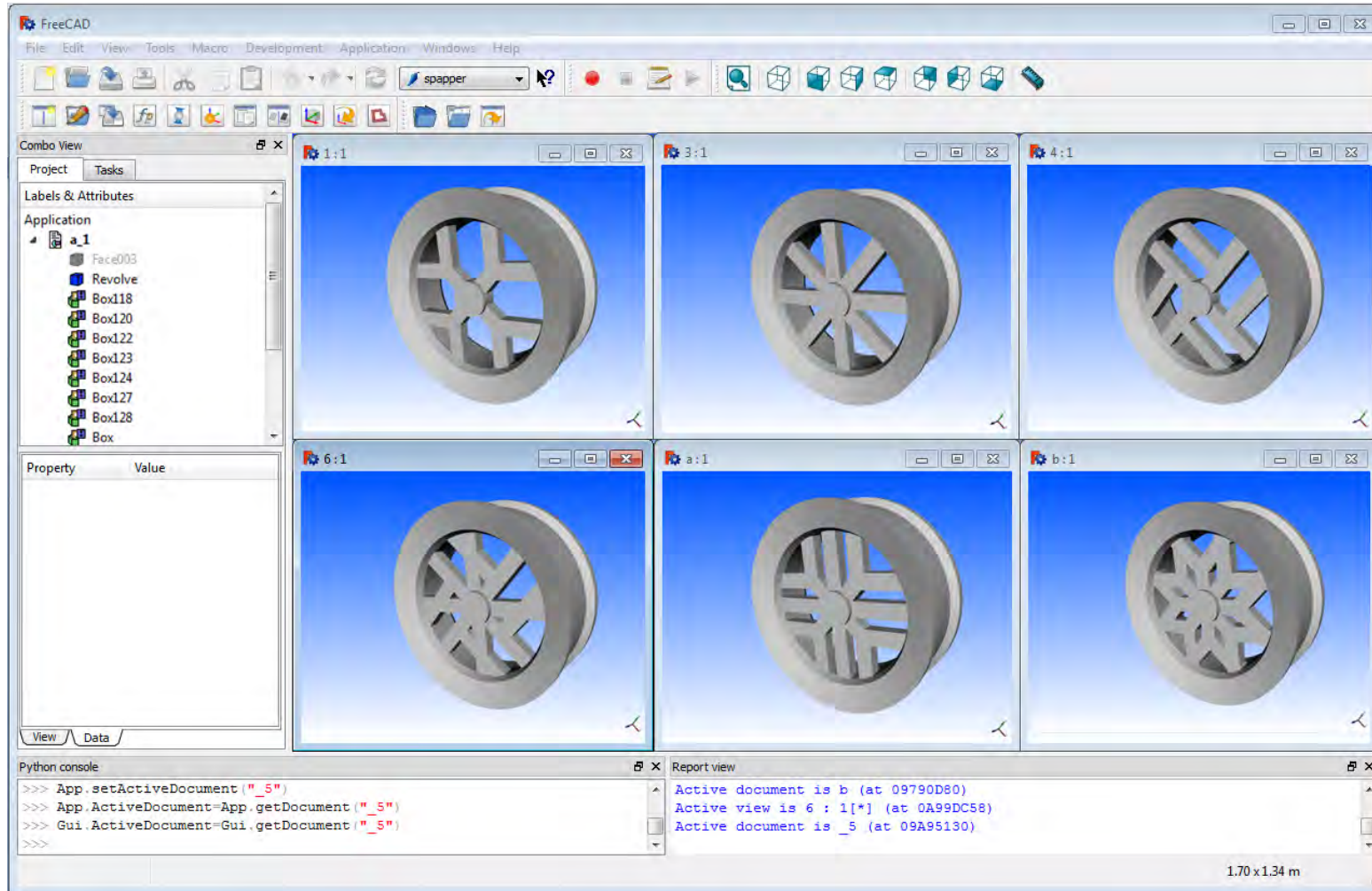
Example: Vehicle Wheel Rim Grammar



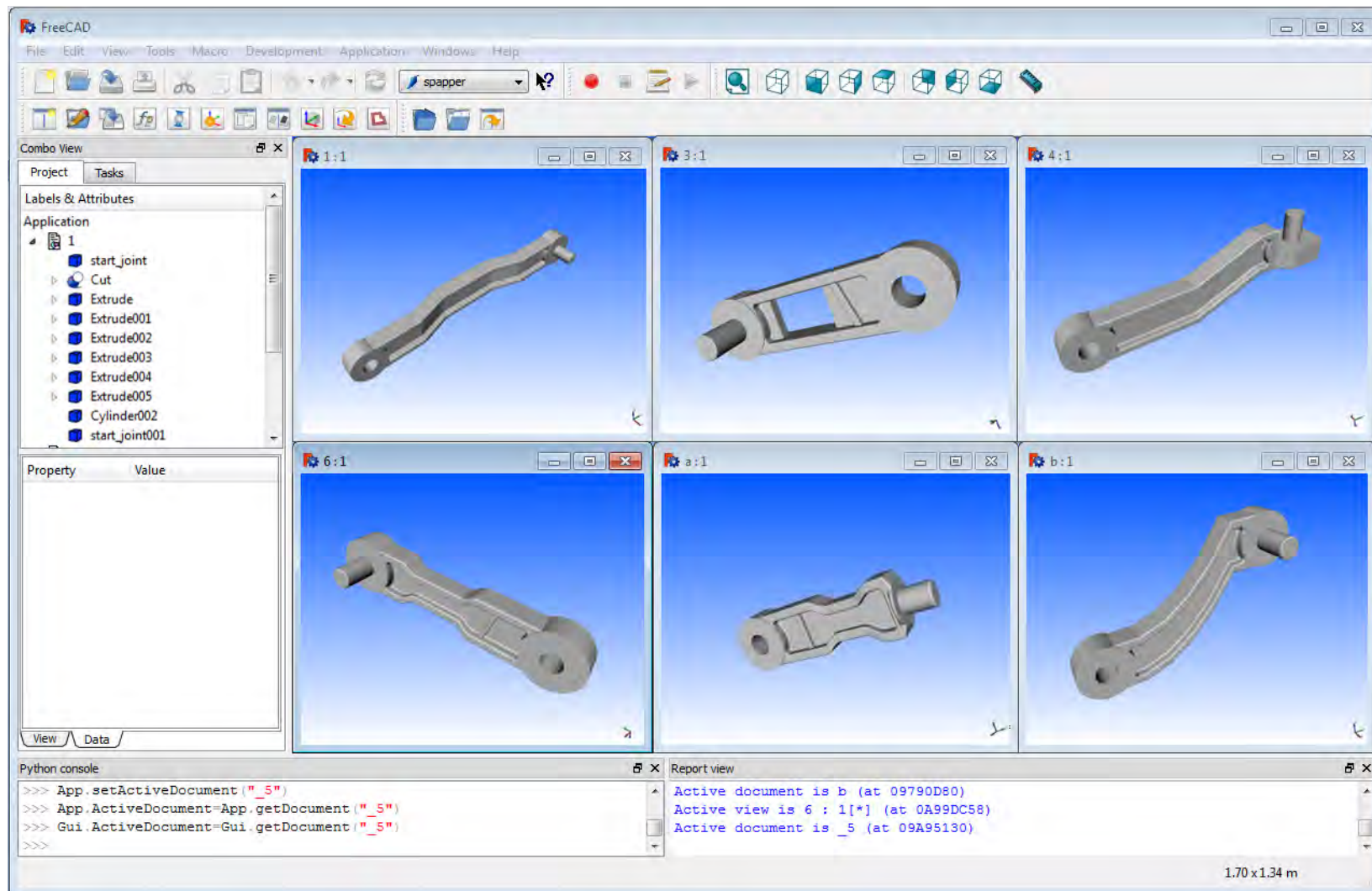
Vehicle Wheel Rims – Initial Shape



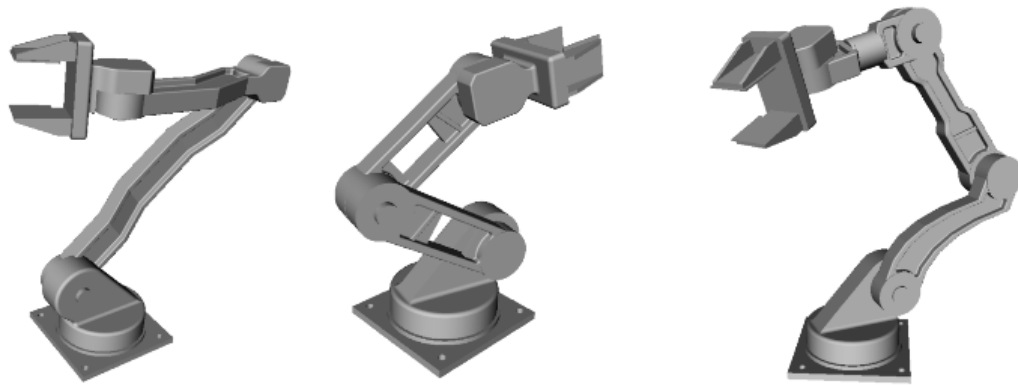
Vehicle Wheel Rims – Example Generated Solutions



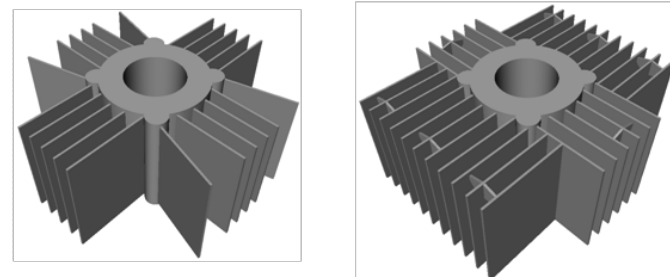
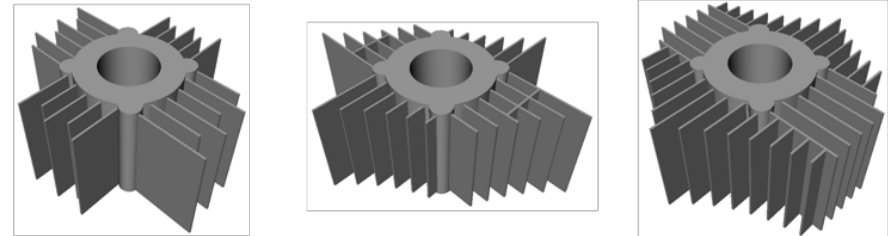
Robot Arm Concept Generation – Parts



CAD-Based Generative Shape Design - Examples



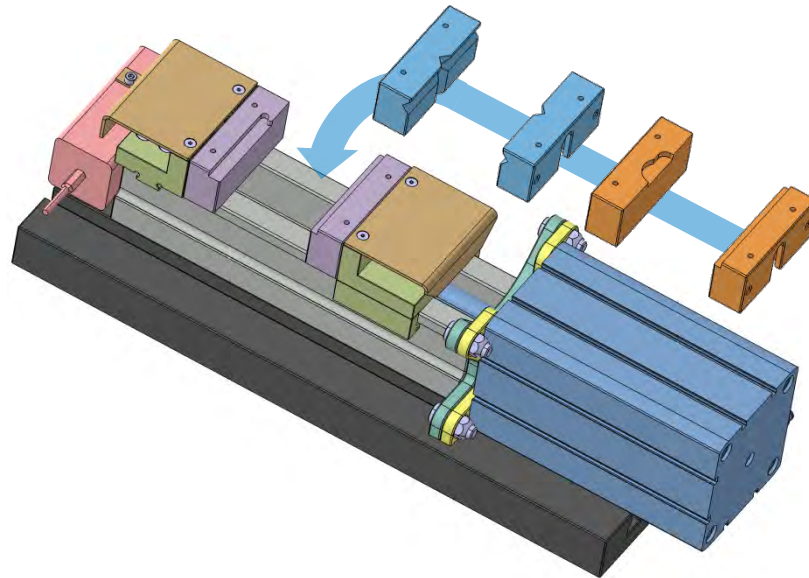
Customized
Robot Arm Concepts



Cooling Fins

Flexible, Autonomous Fixture Device

- Autonomous and flexible workholding for low volume production
- Flexible pneumatic vise with exchangeable and adaptable jaws
- Autonomous generation of new jaw designs by:
 - Computational design synthesis (using spatial grammars)
 - Verification of design candidates (using FEA, ...)

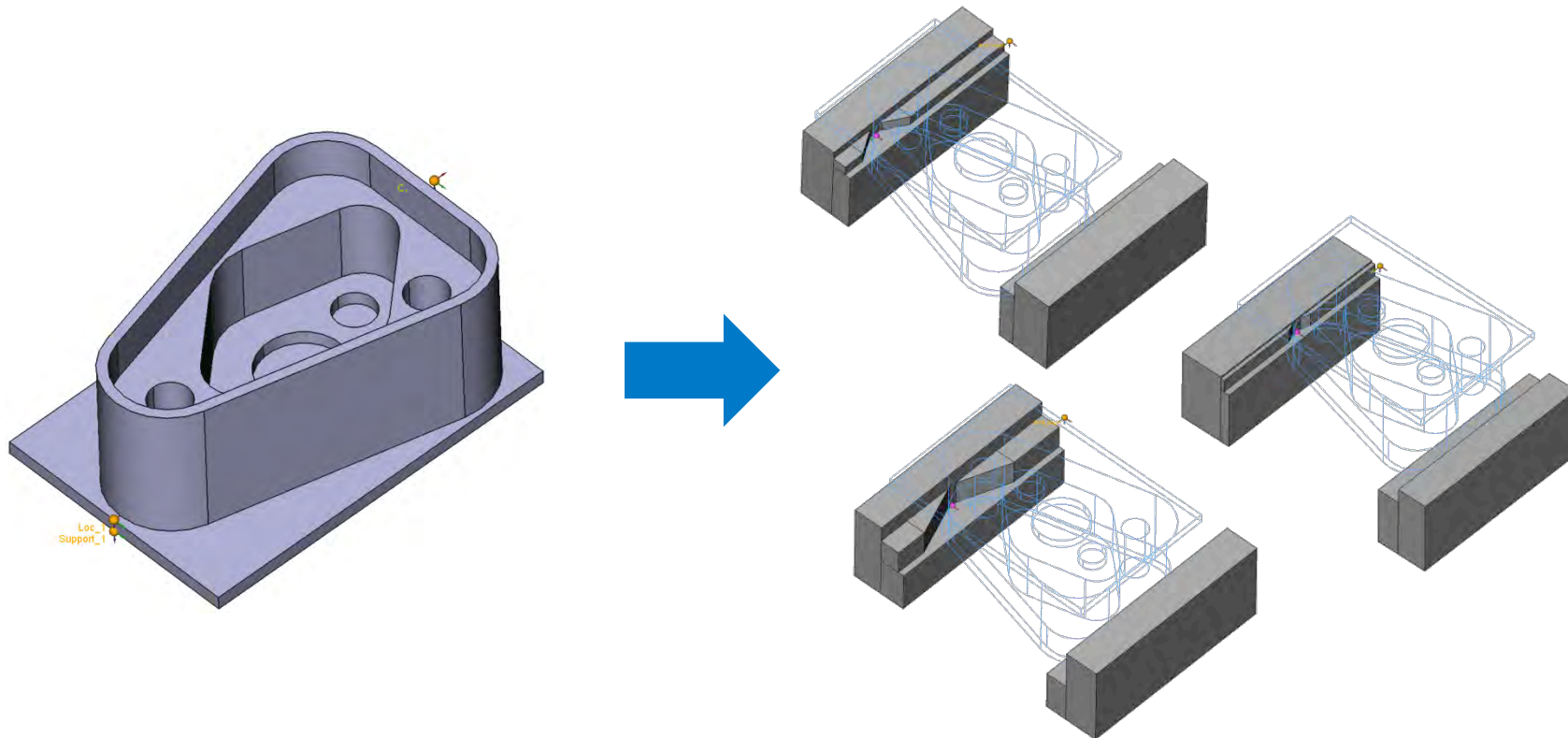


CAD Model of Flexible Vise



Prototype of Flexible Vise

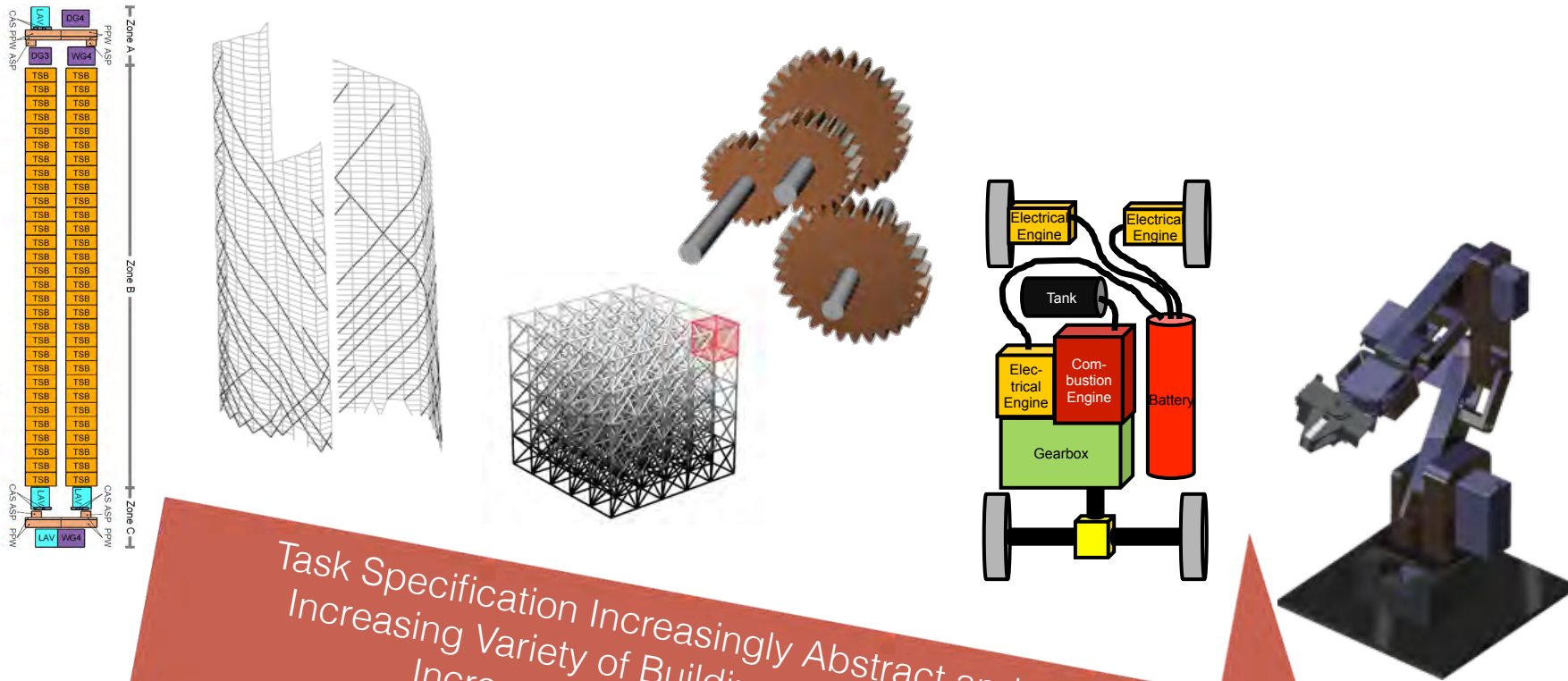
Automated Fixture Design



Workpiece (annotated model)

Alternative Generated Jaw Sets

From Static Structures to Mechatronic Machines



Task Specification Increasingly Abstract and Complex
 Increasing Variety of Building Blocks and Behaviors
 Increasing Complexity of Simulation
 Increasing Complexity of Search Space

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