

# Optimization of thermal structures: linear and nonlinear

Hayoung Chung, Carolina Jauregui, Hyunsun Alicia Kim

Structural Engineering Department

## THERMOELASTIC STRUCTURES



Fig 1 Azhai suspension bridge in Jishou, Hunan, China. <http://rarelights.com/top-25-longest-suspension-bridges-world/aizhai-bridge/>



Fig 2 NASA artwork of space shuttle re-entry. <https://www.nasa.gov/centers/ames/multimedia/images/2006/shuttlehistory.html>

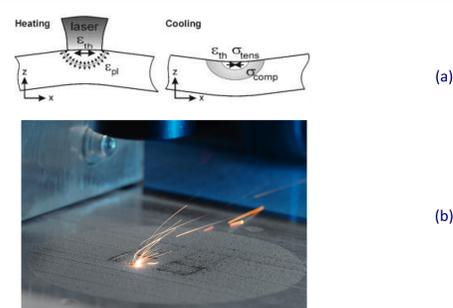


Fig 3 (a) Diagram of a laser forming forming mechanism which has a large temperature gradient (JP Kruth 2014). (b) Selective laser melting [https://www.ilt.fraunhofer.de/en/press/press-releases/press-release-2016/press\\_release\\_20161107.html](https://www.ilt.fraunhofer.de/en/press/press-releases/press-release-2016/press_release_20161107.html)

## CHALLENGES IN DESIGN

- Considering thermal effects in structures can be challenging when there are other physics that are in conflict with each other
- For thermal protection systems on space shuttles, designs that reduce thermal expansion also make them more susceptible to acoustic excitation
- Additively manufactured structures suffer from residual thermal stresses, which are difficult to intuitively design for
- Topology optimization is a design tool well suited to handling conflicting criteria and creating non-intuitive designs

# TOPOLOGY OPTIMIZATION: INNOVATIVE DESIGNS

## RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

### LINEAR

Understand the implications of using the objective functions:

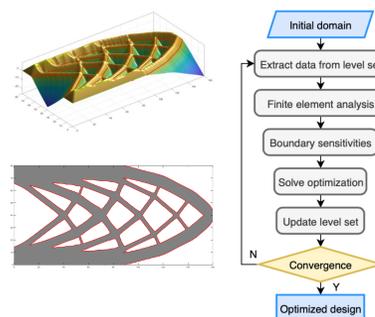
1. Minimize mean compliance, i.e. maximize stiffness
2. Minimize p-norm stress, an aggregation of all the stresses in the structure

### NON-LINEAR

For structures that experience large mechanical loads with high temperature:

1. Investigate the effects of nonlinearity on the optimal designs
2. Provide a reasoning for such changes

### LEVEL SET TOPOLOGY OPTIMIZATION



## COMPLIANCE VS STRESS

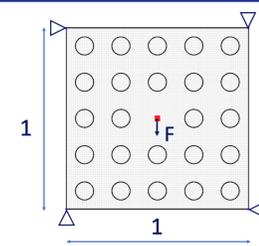


Fig 4 Plate with pinned corners. A load is applied in the center.

$E = 1$   $F = 1$   
 $\nu = 0.3$   $\text{Mesh} = 100 \times 100$   
 $\alpha = 0.01 \%$   $\Delta T = ?^\circ$

### COMPLIANCE

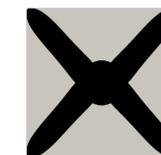


Fig 5 Final solution for minimizing compliance at  $\Delta T = 0^\circ$ . Final values:  $C = 2.995$ ,  $\sigma_{PN} = 4.650$ .

Fig 6 Final solution for minimizing compliance at  $\Delta T = ?^\circ$ . Final values:  $C =$ ,  $\sigma_{PN} =$

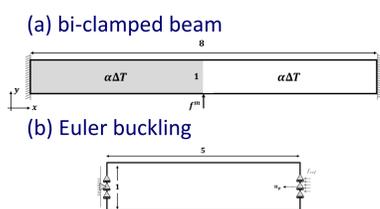
### STRESS



Fig 7 Final solution for minimizing p-norm stress at  $\Delta T = 0^\circ$ . Final values:  $C = 3.653$ ,  $\sigma_{PN} = 4.335$ .

Fig 8 Final solution for minimizing p-norm stress at  $\Delta T = ?^\circ$ . Final values:  $C =$ ,  $\sigma_{PN} =$

## APPLYING HIGH LOADS AND TEMPERATURE EFFECTS

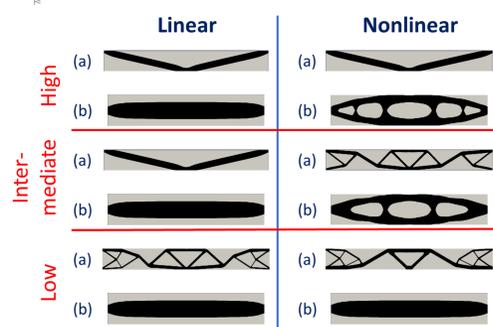


**Material nonlinearity**  
Hyperelastic (neo-Hookean) material  
 $E = 1.0, \nu = 0.3$

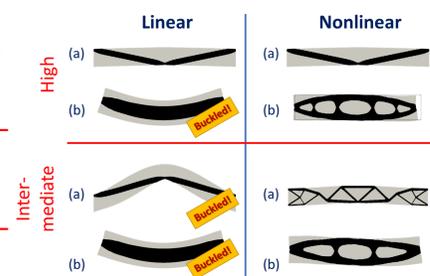
**Geometric nonlinearity**  
High-order strain is used

**Problem definition**  
 $\min(u^T f^m)$   
subject to  $\text{Vol} \leq \text{Vol}^*$

### Optimal layouts for given degree of thermoelastic loads



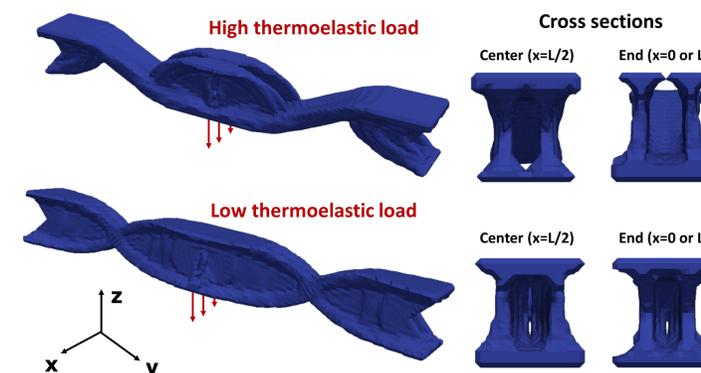
### Structural responses upon the thermoelastic loads



**Conclusion:**  
Upon combined load, it is recommended to employ nonlinear TopOpt, even with the computational burden.

## APPLICATIONS: ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING

### 3D solution (Directly printable to 3D structure)



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors would like to acknowledge support from DARPA and NASA Transformation Tools and Technology Project

