



# Deformed Shape and Stress Reconstruction in Plate and Shell Structures Undergoing Large Displacements: Application of Inverse Finite Element Method using Fiber-Bragg-Grating Strains

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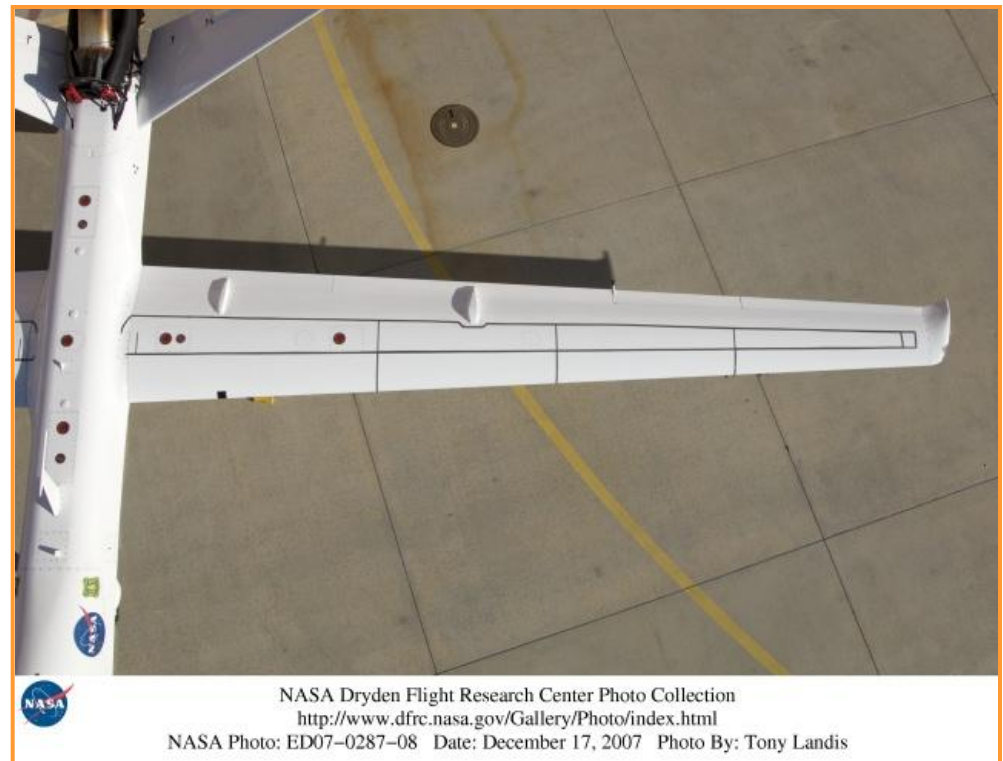
# Inverse problems of wing deflection



## Inverse FEM

- Using discrete strain measurements,  $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^\varepsilon$ , determine full-field solutions for
  - displacements  $\mathbf{u}$
  - strains  $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{u})$
  - stresses  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{u})$
- Ill-posed problem
- Uniqueness
- Stability

FBG (Fiber Bragg Grating) sensor is glued on top of wing to measure surface strain along axis (NASA Dryden)





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# Variational Formulation based on First-Order Shear Deformation Theory (Mindlin)

# Kinematic Assumptions of First-Order Shear Deformation Theory



- Displacement components

$$u_x(\mathbf{x}, z) \equiv u(\mathbf{x}) + z \theta_y(\mathbf{x})$$

$$u_y(\mathbf{x}, z) \equiv v(\mathbf{x}) + z \theta_x(\mathbf{x})$$

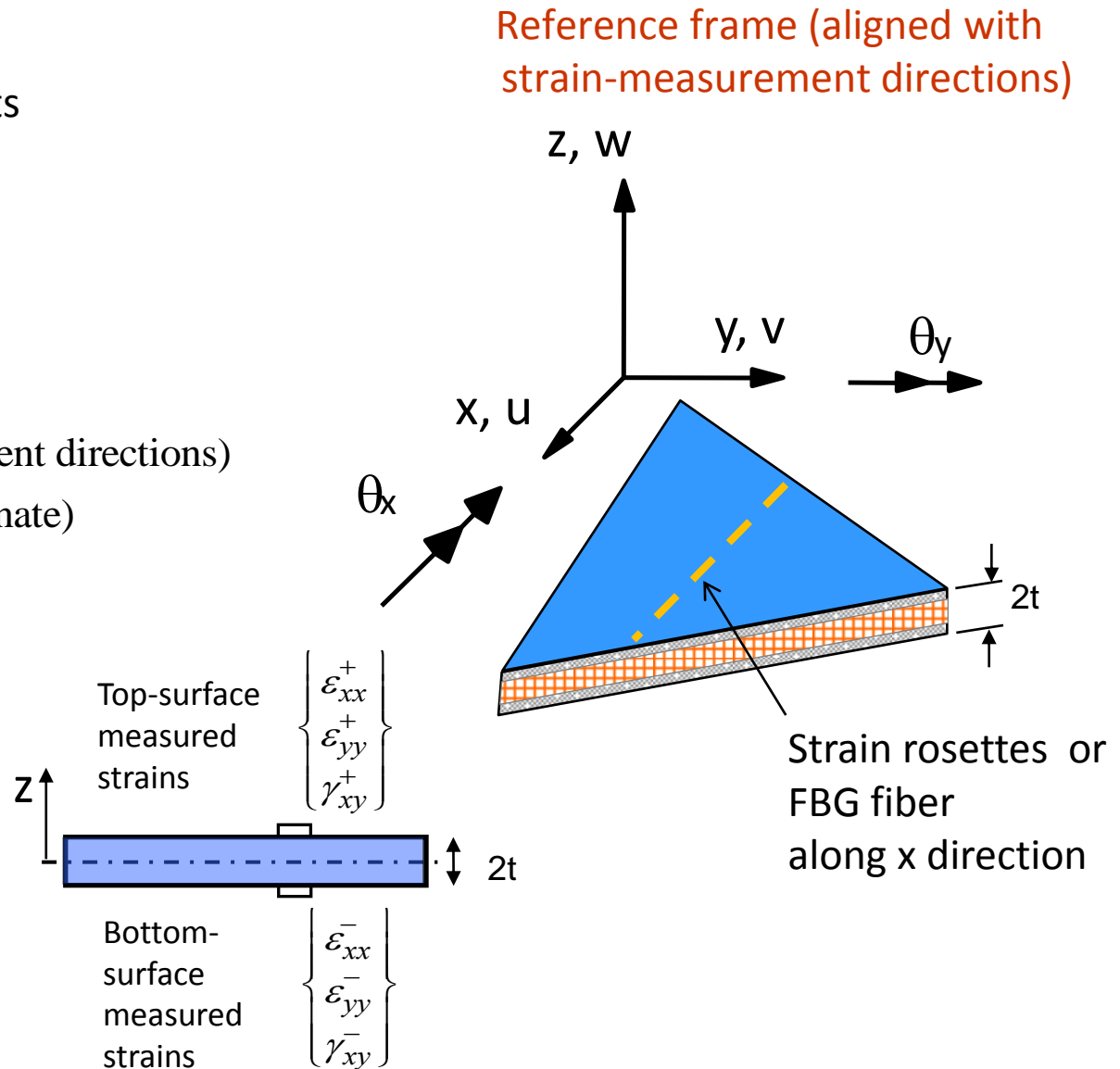
$$u_z(\mathbf{x}) \equiv w(\mathbf{x})$$

$\mathbf{x} \equiv (x, y)$  (strain-measurement directions)

$z \in [-t, t]$  (thickness coordinate)

- Deformations

- Membrane
- Bending
- Transverse shear





# Strains and Section Strains

- Inplane strains (=6)

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \varepsilon_{xx} \\ \varepsilon_{yy} \\ \gamma_{xy} \end{Bmatrix} \equiv \begin{Bmatrix} \varepsilon_1 \\ \varepsilon_2 \\ \varepsilon_3 \end{Bmatrix} + z \begin{Bmatrix} \varepsilon_4 \\ \varepsilon_5 \\ \varepsilon_6 \end{Bmatrix}$$

- Transverse-shear strains (=2)

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \varepsilon_7 \\ \varepsilon_8 \end{Bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \\ \theta_x \\ \theta_y \end{Bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{L}^s \mathbf{u}$$

- Section strains

3 membrane  
section strains

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \varepsilon_1 \\ \varepsilon_2 \\ \varepsilon_3 \end{Bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \\ \theta_x \\ \theta_y \end{Bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{e}(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{L}^m \mathbf{u}$$

3 bending  
section strains

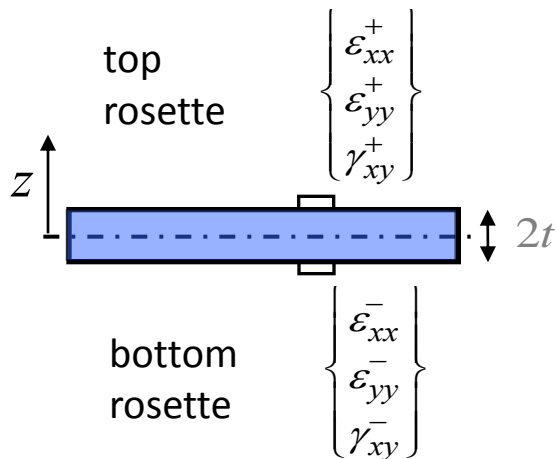
$$\begin{Bmatrix} \varepsilon_4 \\ \varepsilon_5 \\ \varepsilon_6 \end{Bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \\ \theta_x \\ \theta_y \end{Bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{k}(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{L}^b \mathbf{u}$$

# Strain measurements relate to membrane & bending section strains



Surface strains measured at location  $\mathbf{x}$

Express measured strains in terms of FSDT



$$\begin{Bmatrix} \epsilon_{xx} \\ \epsilon_{yy} \\ \gamma_{xy} \end{Bmatrix}^\epsilon \equiv \begin{Bmatrix} \epsilon_1 \\ \epsilon_2 \\ \epsilon_3 \end{Bmatrix}^\epsilon + z \begin{Bmatrix} \epsilon_4 \\ \epsilon_5 \\ \epsilon_6 \end{Bmatrix}^\epsilon$$



Evaluating at top and bottom  
( $z = \pm t$ )

$$\mathbf{e}_i^\epsilon \equiv \begin{Bmatrix} \epsilon_1 \\ \epsilon_2 \\ \epsilon_3 \end{Bmatrix}^\epsilon = \frac{1}{2} \left( \begin{Bmatrix} \epsilon_{xx}^+ \\ \epsilon_{yy}^+ \\ \gamma_{xy}^+ \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{Bmatrix} \epsilon_{xx}^- \\ \epsilon_{yy}^- \\ \gamma_{xy}^- \end{Bmatrix} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_i^\epsilon \equiv \begin{Bmatrix} \epsilon_4 \\ \epsilon_5 \\ \epsilon_6 \end{Bmatrix}^\epsilon = \frac{1}{2t} \left( \begin{Bmatrix} \epsilon_{xx}^+ \\ \epsilon_{yy}^+ \\ \gamma_{xy}^+ \end{Bmatrix} - \begin{Bmatrix} \epsilon_{xx}^- \\ \epsilon_{yy}^- \\ \gamma_{xy}^- \end{Bmatrix} \right)$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \epsilon_7 \\ \epsilon_8 \end{Bmatrix}^\epsilon$$

Cannot be obtained from surface strains

# iFEM variational formulation



Minimize an element functional  $\Phi_e(\mathbf{u}^h)$  (a *weighted least-squares smoothing functional*) with respect to the unknown displacement degrees-of-freedom

$$\Phi_e(\mathbf{u}^h) = w_e \left\| \mathbf{e}(\mathbf{u}^h) - \mathbf{e}^\varepsilon \right\|^2 + w_k \left\| \mathbf{k}(\mathbf{u}^h) - \mathbf{k}^\varepsilon \right\|^2 + w_g \left\| \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u}^h) - \mathbf{g}^\varepsilon \right\|^2$$

where the squared norms are

$$\left\| \mathbf{e}(\mathbf{u}^h) - \mathbf{e}^\varepsilon \right\|^2 \equiv \frac{1}{n} \int_{A_e} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \mathbf{e}(\mathbf{u}^h)_i - \mathbf{e}_i^\varepsilon \right]^2 dx dy,$$

$$\left\| \mathbf{k}(\mathbf{u}^h) - \mathbf{k}^\varepsilon \right\|^2 \equiv \frac{(2t)^2}{n} \int_{A_e} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \mathbf{k}(\mathbf{u}^h)_i - \mathbf{k}_i^\varepsilon \right]^2 dx dy,$$

$$\left\| \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u}^h) - \mathbf{g}^\varepsilon \right\|^2 \equiv \frac{1}{n} \int_{A_e} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u}^h)_i - \mathbf{g}_i^\varepsilon \right]^2 dx dy$$

$n$  Number of strain sensors per element

$(w_e, w_k, w_g)$  Positive valued weighting constants associated with individual section strains (=8). They place different importance on the adherence of strain components to their measured values.



# iFEM matrix equations

- Variational statement

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{u}_{\text{dof}}} \sum_{e=1}^N \Phi_e(\mathbf{u}^h) = 0$$

- Linear Eqs (displ. B.S.'s prescribed)

$$\mathbf{K} \mathbf{u}_{\text{dof}} = \mathbf{f}$$

- Displacement solution

$$\mathbf{u}_{\text{dof}} = \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{f}$$

$\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x}_i)$  Symmetric, positive definite matrix

$\mathbf{u}_{\text{dof}}$  Nodal displacement vector

$\mathbf{f}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^\varepsilon)$  RHS vector, function of measured strain values

- iFEM integrates and smoothes strain data
- Higher accuracy than forward FEM





## Important special cases

1. An element is missing measured transverse-shear section strains (standard case); Let  $\alpha = 10^{-4}$  (small positive constant)

$$\|\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u}^h)\|^2 \equiv \int_{A_e} \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u}^h)^2 dx dy \quad (w_g = \alpha; w_e = w_k = 1)$$

2. An element is missing all measured section strains (in addition to (1))

$$\|\mathbf{e}(\mathbf{u}^h)\|^2 \equiv \int_{A_e} \mathbf{e}(\mathbf{u}^h)^2 dx dy \quad (w_e = \alpha)$$

$$\|\mathbf{k}(\mathbf{u}^h)\|^2 \equiv (2t)^2 \int_{A_e} \mathbf{k}(\mathbf{u}^h)^2 dx dy \quad (w_k = \alpha)$$

3. An element is missing some measured-strain components
  - apply forms (2) to the missing components only

# Simple and efficient inverse-shell element: iMIN3



- Anisoparametric interpolations  
(Tessler-Hughes, CMAME 1985)

$(u, v, \theta_x, \theta_y)$ : linear shape functions

$w$ : quadratic

- Section-strain fields

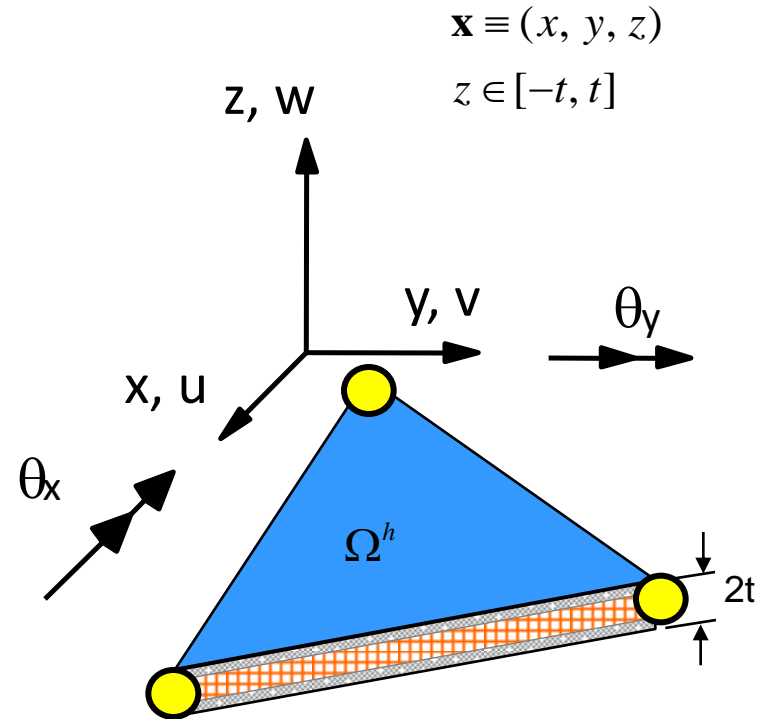
$\mathbf{e}(\mathbf{u}^h), \mathbf{k}(\mathbf{u}^h)$ : constant

$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{u}^h)$ : linear

- 3 nodes, 5 or 6 dof/node

●  $(u, v, w, \theta_x, \theta_y)$ : 5 dof/plate

$(u, v, w, \theta_x, \theta_y, \theta_z)$ : 6 dof/shell





# Demonstration problem

# FEM shell model:

## Aluminum stiffened flap with two rectangular cut-outs

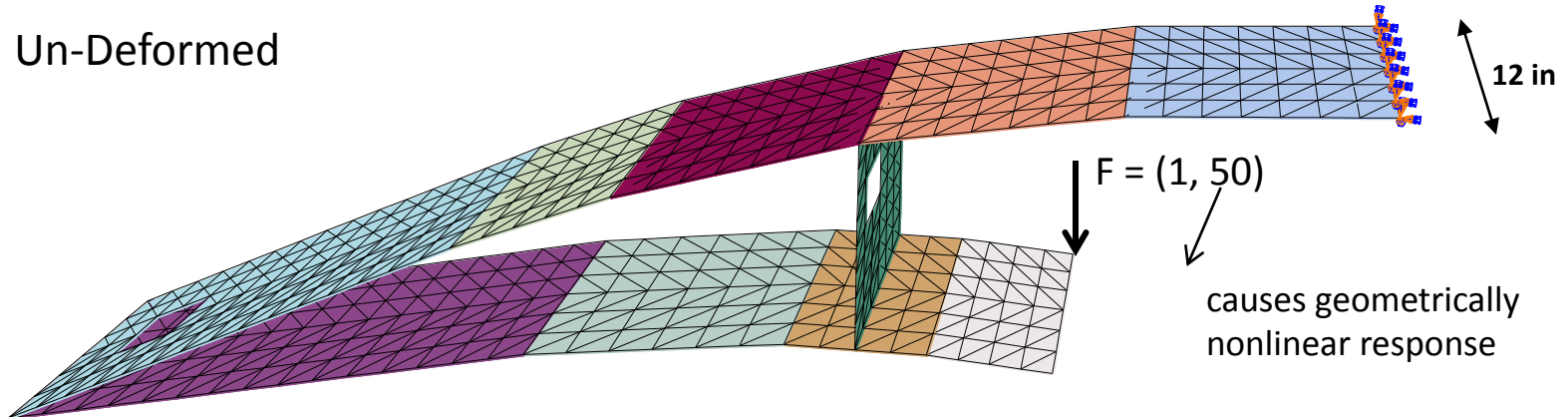


### Elastostatic deformations

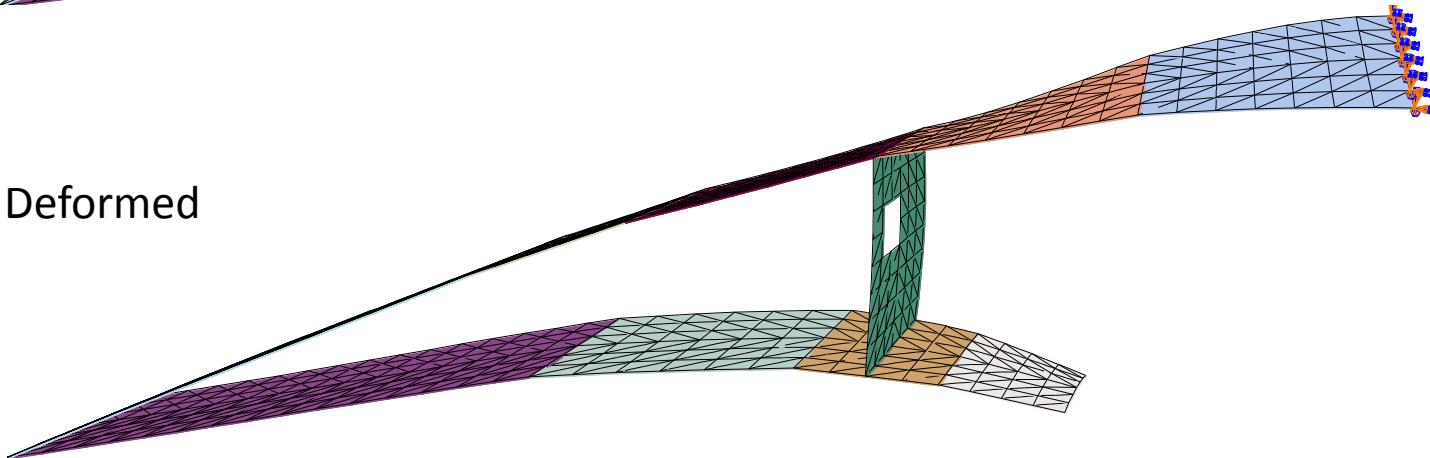
(ABAQUS/STR13 (Batoz) 3-node element, no shear deformation; 6 section strains only)

- Model has 10 planar element groups
- Each group has its own material reference frame to define strain orientations

Un-Deformed



Deformed



# 3 iFEM modeling and stabilization schemes

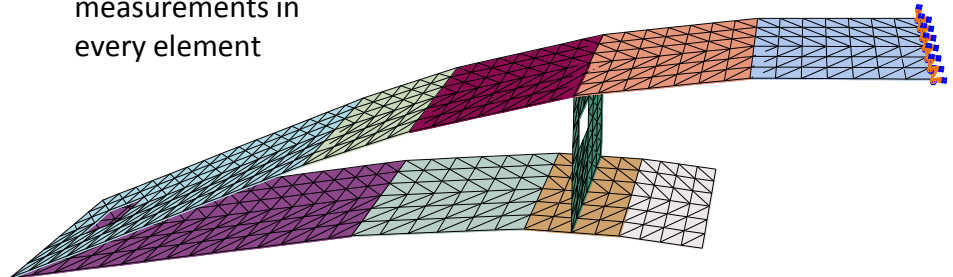


- Model A:** Six FEM section strains are mapped onto all iFEM elements
- **One-to-one (high-fidelity)**
  - **All elements have strain data but no shear strain measurements**

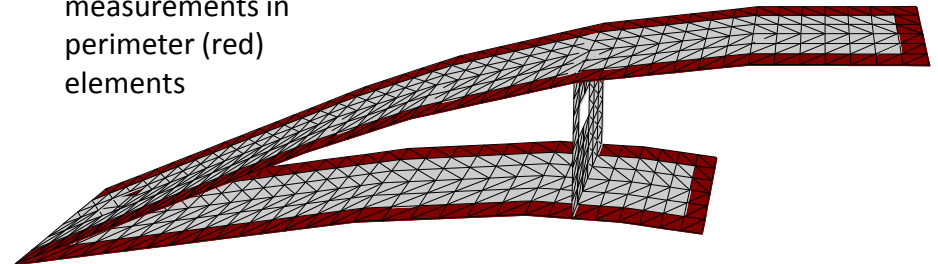
- Model B:** Six FEM section strains are mapped onto perimeter iFEM elements
- **Simulates tri-axial strain rosettes along the perimeter**
  - **Interior elements have no strain data including the stiffener (local regularization)**

- Model C:** Two FEM section strains (axial) are mapped onto perimeter iFEM elements
- **Simulates linear strain gauges or FBG strain sensors**
  - **Incomplete strain data**
  - **Interior elements have no strain data including the stiffener (local regularization)**

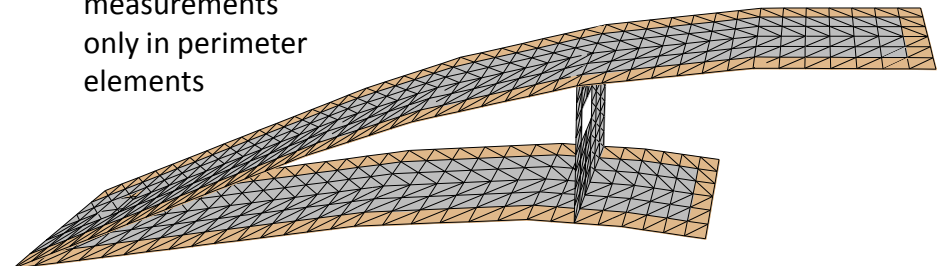
Tri-axial strain measurements in every element



Tri-axial strain measurements in perimeter (red) elements



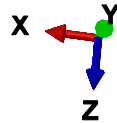
Axial strain measurements only in perimeter elements



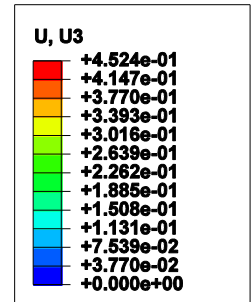
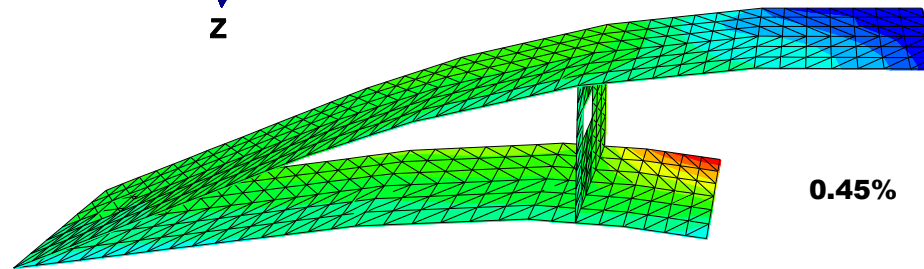
# Linear problem: % error in reconstructed displacement, $u_z$



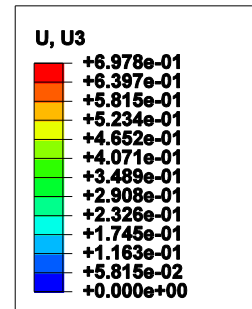
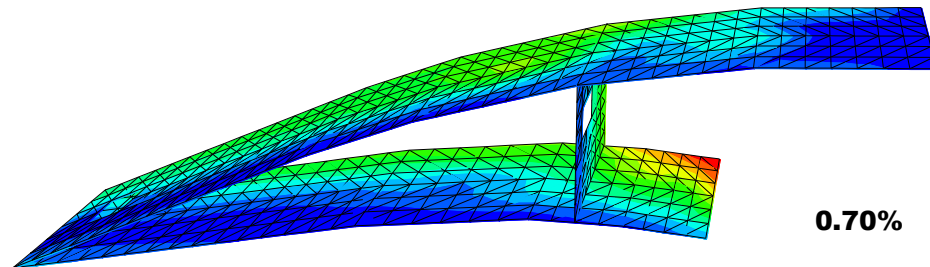
$$\% \text{ Error } (u_z) = \left| \frac{u_{z-\text{Ref } i} - u_{z-\text{Est } i}}{u_{z-\text{Ref}}^{\text{Max}}} \right| \times 100$$



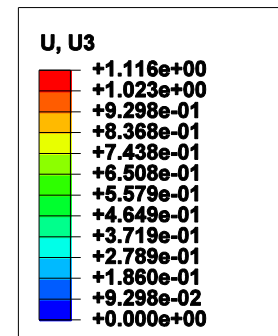
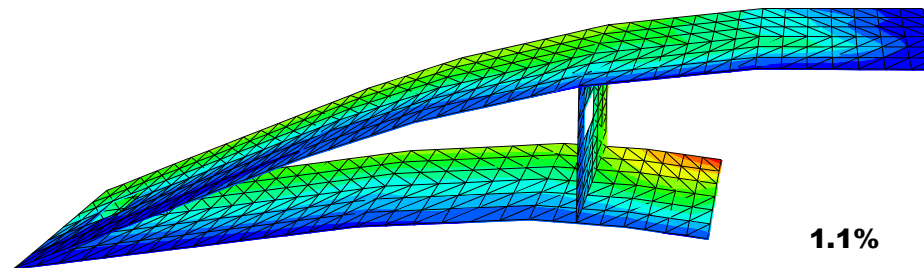
**Model A:** Six FEM section strains are mapped onto all iFEM elements



**Model B:** Six FEM section strains are mapped only onto perimeter iFEM elements



**Model C:** Two FEM section strains (axial) are mapped only onto perimeter iFEM elements



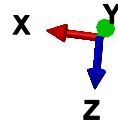


# Linear problem: Deviations in $u_z$

Pearson correlation, $r$			RMS		
iFEM model	0% noise in strains	5% noise in strains	iFEM model	0% noise in strains	5% noise in strains
A	1.00000	0.99998	A	0.00017	0.00096
B	0.99999	0.99998	B	0.00020	0.00074
C	0.99998	0.99985	C	0.00035	0.00098

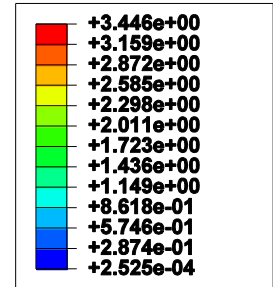
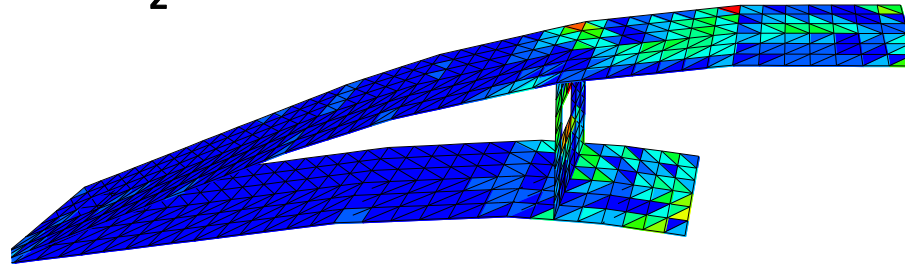
Mean % error		
iFEM model	0% noise in strains	5% noise in strains
A	0.1951	1.0505
B	0.1934	0.8353
C	0.3575	1.0769

# Linear problem: % error in reconstructed von Mises stress (bottom shell surface)

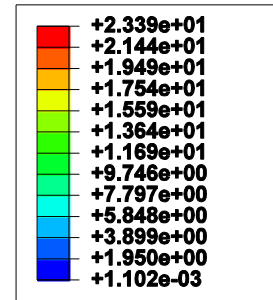
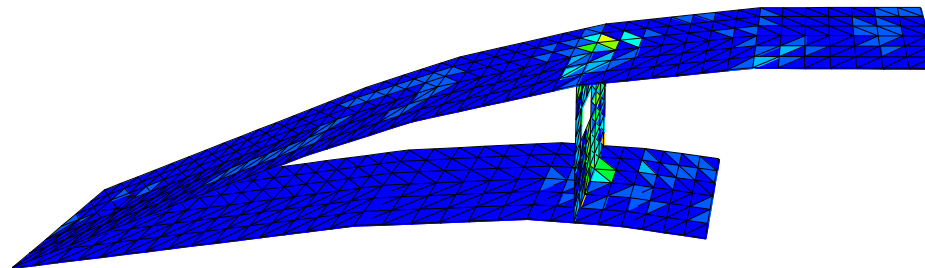


$$\% \text{ Error } (\sigma) = \left| \frac{\sigma_{\text{Ref } i} - \sigma_{\text{Est } i}}{\sigma_{\text{Ref}}^{\text{Max}}} \right| \times 100$$

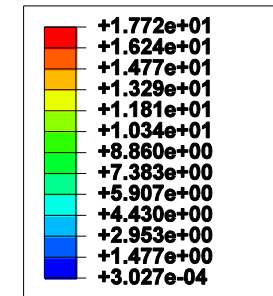
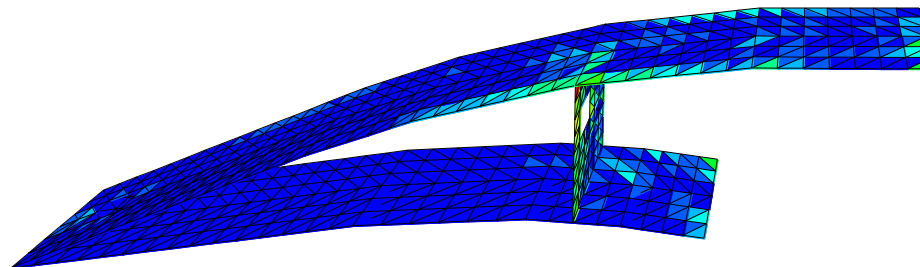
**Model A:** Six FEM section strains are mapped onto all iFEM elements



**Model B:** Six FEM section strains are mapped only onto perimeter iFEM elements



**Model C:** Two FEM section strains (axial) are mapped only onto perimeter iFEM elements







# Linear problem: Deviations in von Mises stress

- Pearson correlation,  $r$

$$r = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (\sigma_{\text{Ref } i} - \bar{\sigma}_{\text{Ref}})(\sigma_{\text{EST } i} - \bar{\sigma}_{\text{Est}})}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N (\sigma_{\text{Ref } i} - \bar{\sigma}_{\text{Ref}})^2} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N (\sigma_{\text{EST } i} - \bar{\sigma}_{\text{Est}})^2}}$$

- Root-Mean-Square error

$$RMS = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (\sigma_{\text{REF } i} - \sigma_{\text{EST } i})^2}{N}}$$

- Mean % error

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left| \frac{\sigma_{\text{Ref } i} - \sigma_{\text{Est } i}}{\sigma_{\text{Ref}}^{\text{Max}}} \right| \times 100$$

## Pearson correlation, $r$

iFEM model	0% noise in strains	5% noise in strains
A	0.9994	0.9993
B	0.9842	0.9844
C	0.9903	0.9896

## RMS

iFEM model	0% noise in strains	5% noise in strains
A	4.0149	5.72724
B	21.9314	23.4736
C	15.7996	16.9735

## Mean % error

iFEM model	0% noise in strains	5% noise in strains
A	0.3786	0.5553
B	1.6796	1.8404
C	1.3501	1.5133

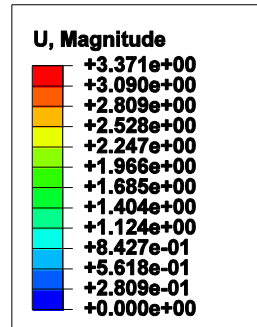


- Use Nonlinear FEM as a virtual experiment (Lagrangian reference frame)
  - At each load increment of NL-FEM, compute the incremental section strains (6 components) that represent measured strain increments
  - Perform iFEM analysis using the strain increments to obtain the displacements and rotations
  - Update the geometry of iFEM mesh due to deformation using iFEM determined displacements, i.e.,  $\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{u}_1$
  - Perform iFEM using the strain increments of the next load increment, and update the geometry for the next step  $\mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{u}_2$

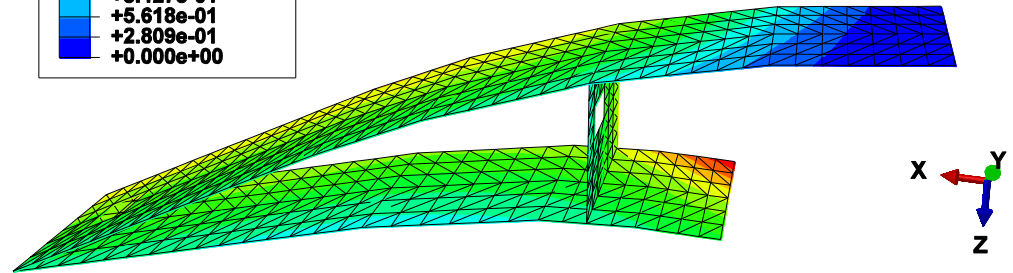
# Nonlinear problem, F=50: Displacement magnitude (full load)



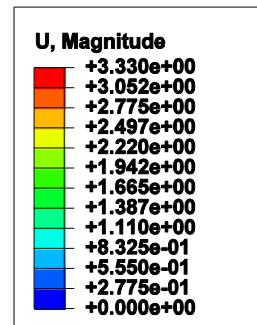
**Reference:** Nonlinear FEM/ABAQUS (STR13)



FEM

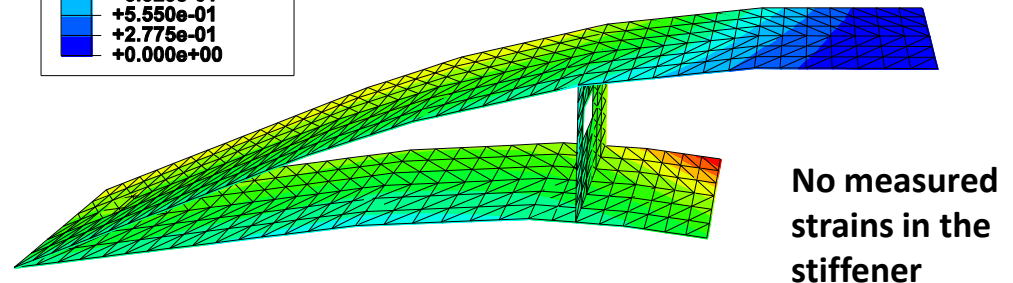


**Model C:** Two FEM section strains (axial) are mapped only onto perimeter iFEM elements (simulating FBG strains)



iFEM (Model C)

$$(1 - u^{\text{Max}} / u_{\text{Ref}}^{\text{Max}}) \times 100\% = 1.2\%$$

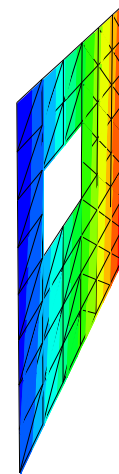
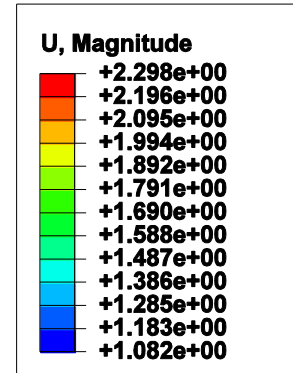


No measured strains in the stiffener

# Nonlinear problem: Displacement magnitude (full load) of the stiffener



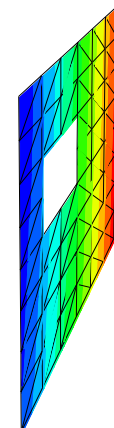
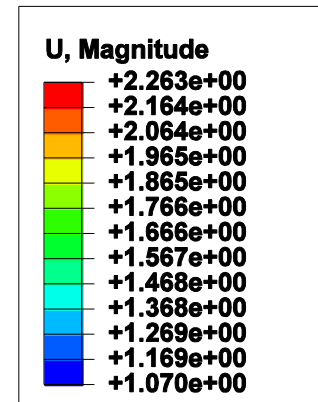
FEM



**Reference:** Nonlinear FEM/ABAQUS (STR13)

iFEM (Model C)

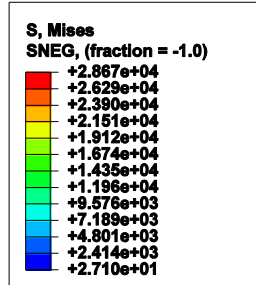
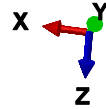
$$(1 - u^{\text{Max}} / u_{\text{Ref}}^{\text{Max}}) \times 100\% = 1.5\%$$



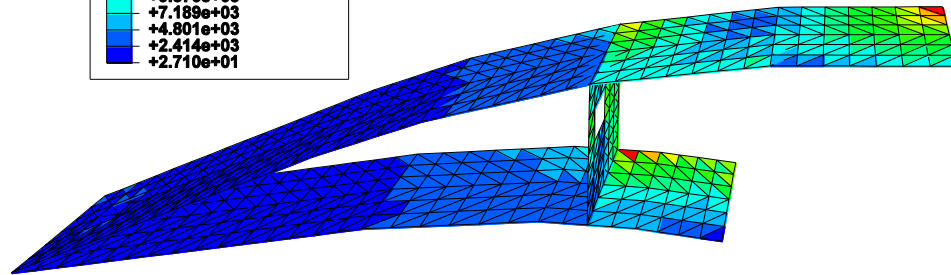
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# Nonlinear problem: Von Mises stress (full load)

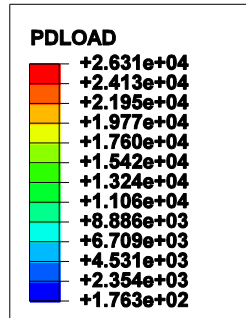
**Reference:** Nonlinear FEM/ABAQUS (STR13)



FEM

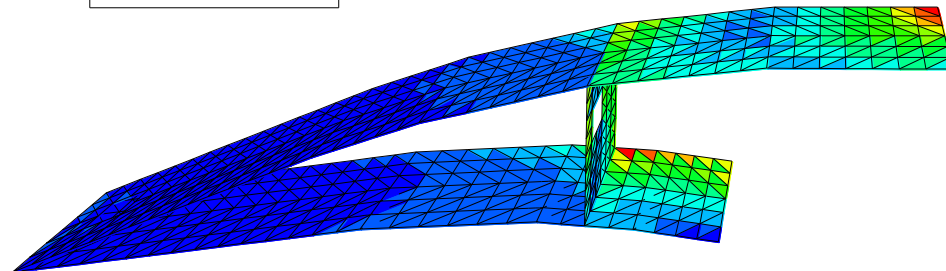


**Model C:** Two FEM section strains (axial) are mapped only onto perimeter iFEM elements (simulating FBG strains)



iFEM (Model C)

$$(1 - \sigma_{\text{Max}} / \sigma_{\text{Ref}}^{\text{Max}}) \times 100\% = 8.2\%$$





# Summary

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- On-board SHM of nextgen aircraft, spacecraft, large space structures, and habitation structures
  - Safe, reliable, and affordable technologies
- Inverse FEM algorithms for FBG strain measurements
  - Real-time efficiency, robustness, superior accuracy
  - Stable full-field solutions
- Inverse FEM theory
  - Strain-displacement relations & integrability conditions fulfilled
  - Independent of material properties
  - Solutions stable under small changes in input data
  - Linear and nonlinear response



# Summary (cont'd)

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- Inverse FEM's architecture/modeling
  - Architecture as in standard FEM (user routine in ABAQUS)
  - Superior accuracy on coarse meshes
  - Frames, plates/shell and built-up structures
  - Thin and moderately thick regime
  - Low and higher-order elements
- Inverse FEM applications
  - Computational studies: plate and built-up shell structures
  - Experimental studies with plates: FBG strains and strain rosettes



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