

# IDEALAB

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**Integrating Design, Engineering, and Analysis**

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# **General Observation about Robot Design**

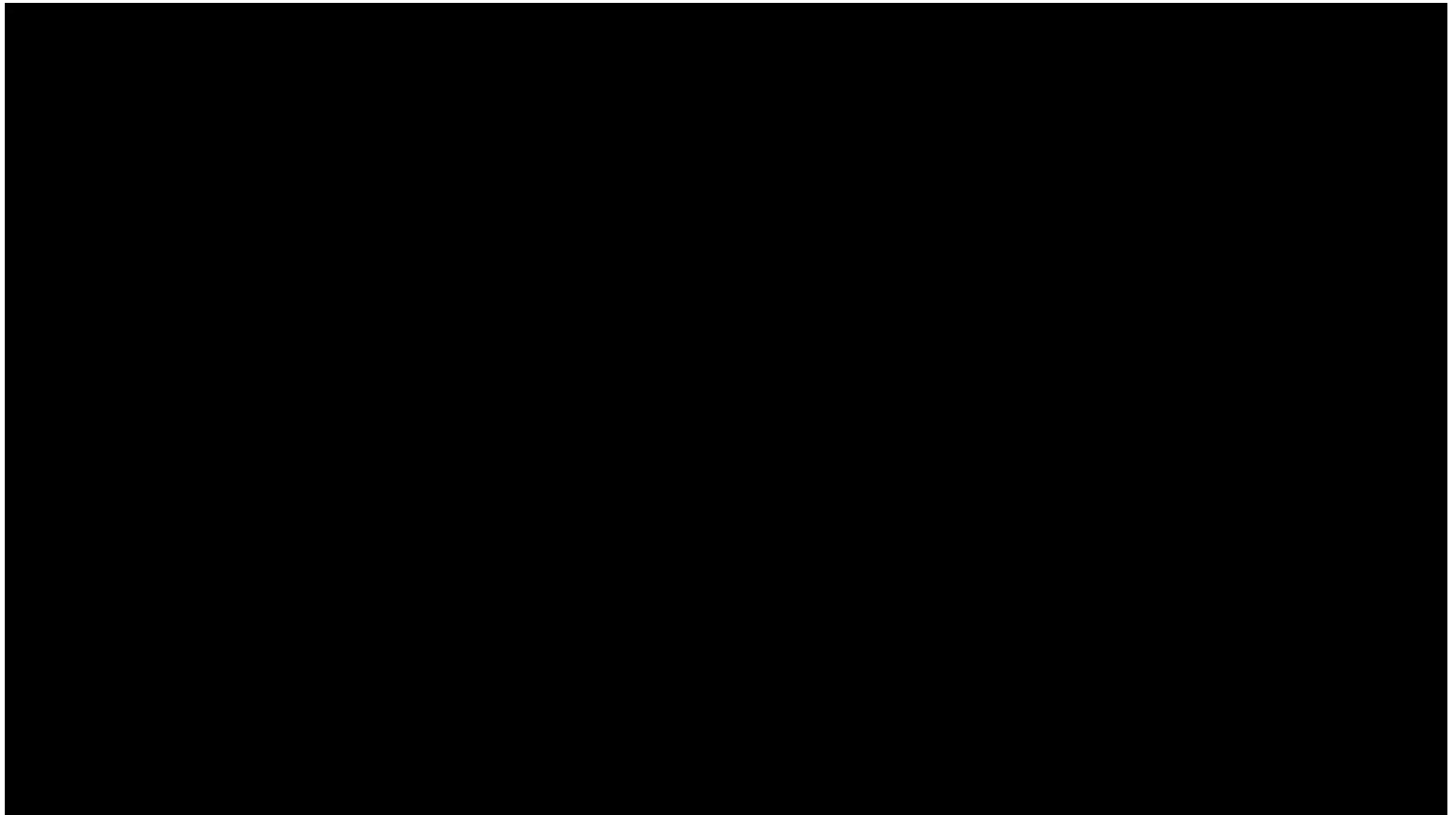
# **Incendiary Idea:**

**ANYONE**  
can design robots

(they just need the right tools)

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# What do I mean?



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# I believe in the designer

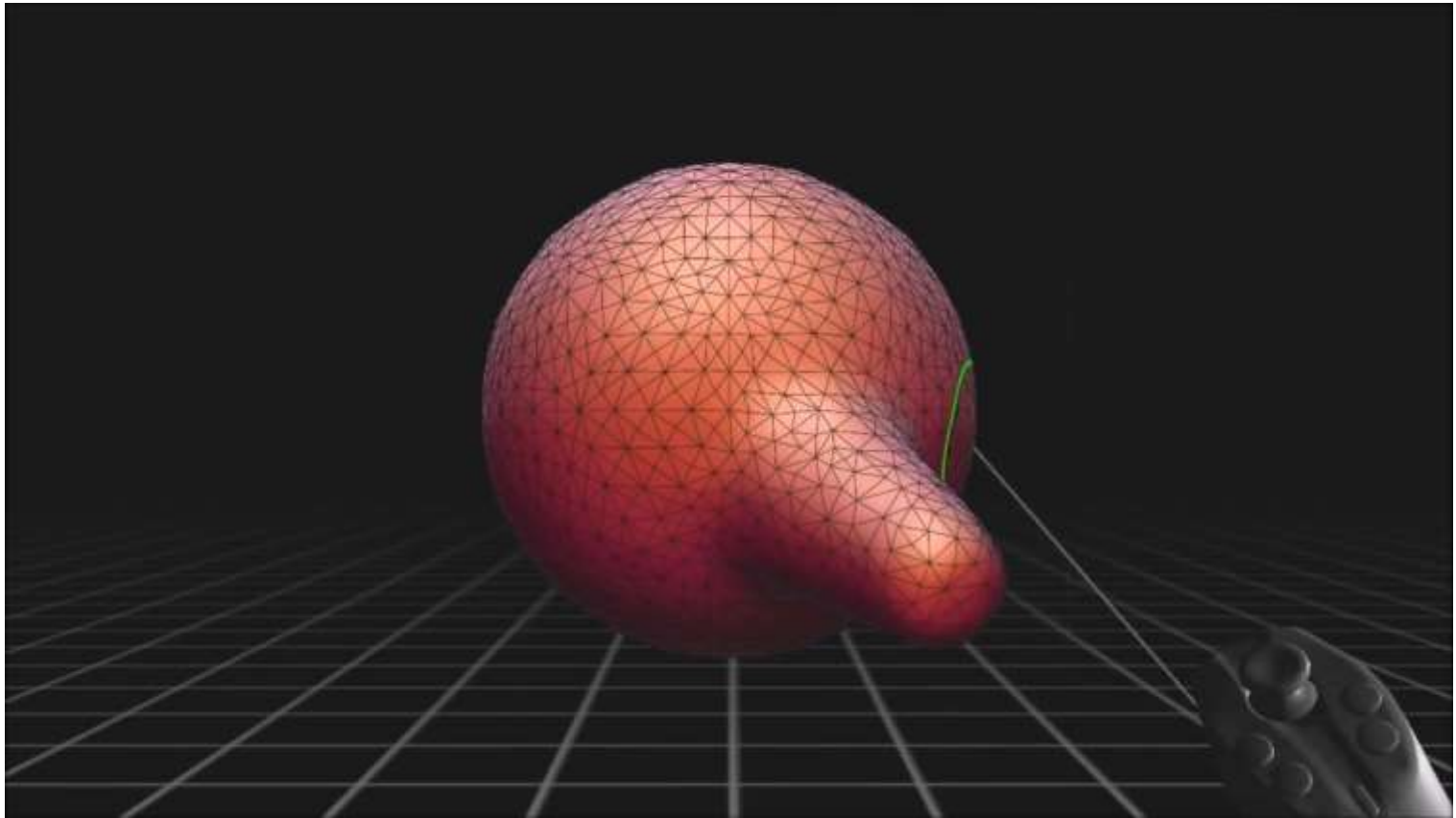
- Even if they don't know the details of what they're doing
- Novices are generally bad at saying what they want
- Human guidance, intuition helps cut through NP-complexity

Jason was wrong earlier this morning

# Design for the Novice

- What if you could “feel” how stiff your new robotic leg design is before you make it?
- What if your robot’s geometry optimized itself to walk better?
- Simulation
  - Kinematics & Dynamics
  - FEA
- Optimization
- Interaction
  - Haptics
  - Virtual Reality
  - Wearable Devices

# VRClay



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# What's Needed

- Make it intuitive to design robots
- Bring expert designs to novices
- Give early meaning to designs
  - Manufacturing
  - Analysis
- Interaction
- Prototyping
- Applications:
  - STEM Education
  - New Manufacturing
  - Rapid Prototyping



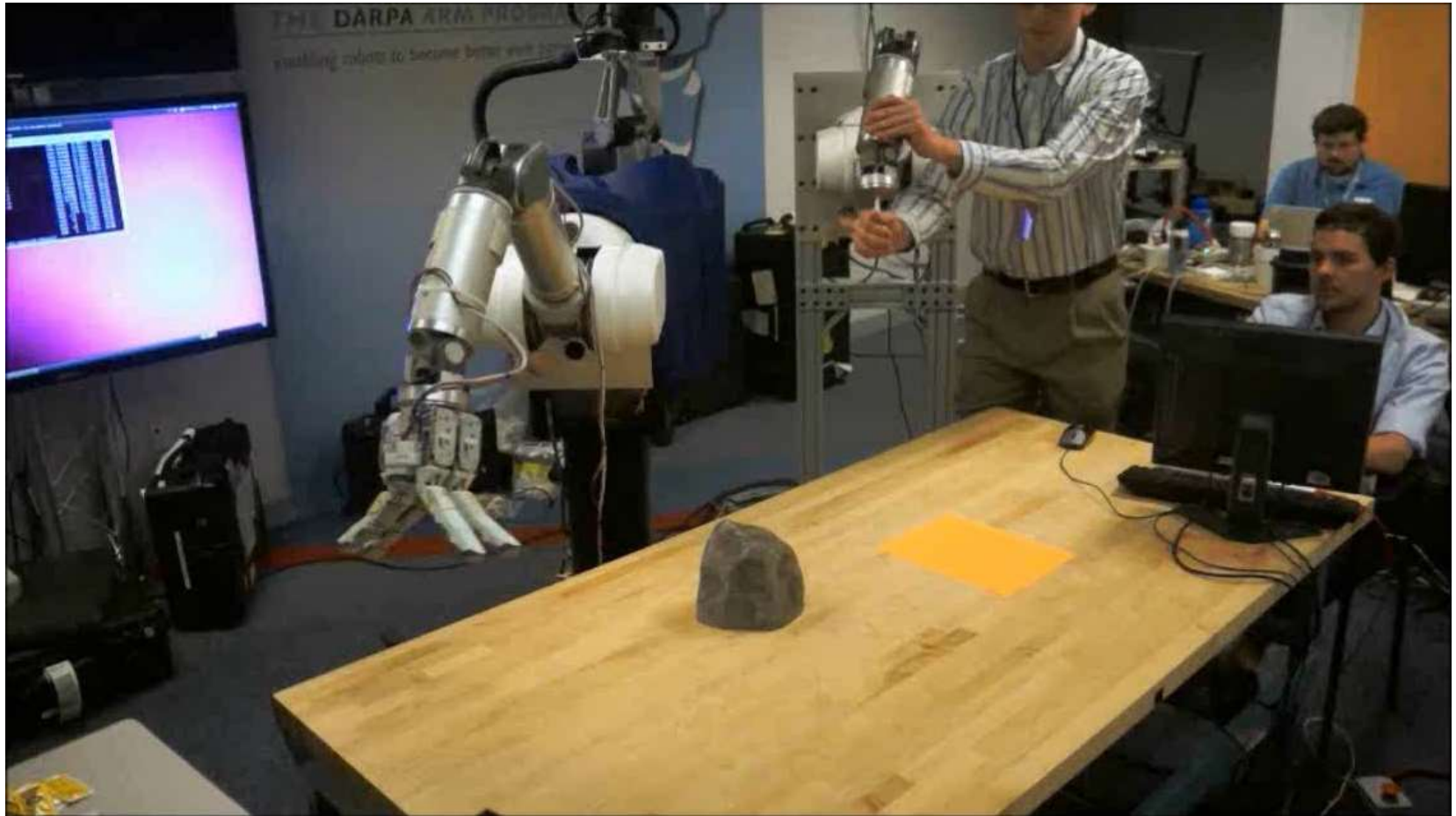
# Minimalism by modularity



- Modular building blocks
  - Joints
  - Springs, Dampers, Masses
  - Actuators
- Connections & Interfaces
  - Electrical
  - Mechanical
  - To off-the-shelf components

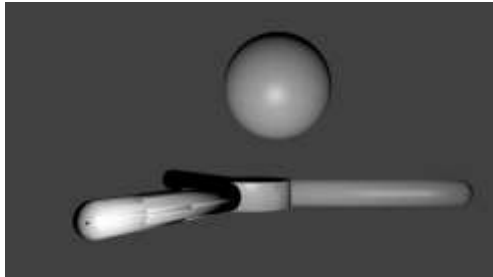
# Minimilism via Underactuation

# ARM-H Application

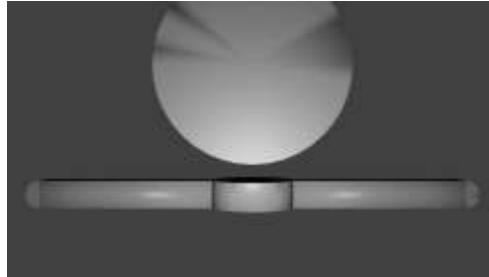


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# Dynamic Simulation in Robot Design



- Dynamic Test
  - Kinematics
  - Transmission
  - Finger Shape
  - Object Shape
  - Friction
  - Mass & Time
  - Full Workspace

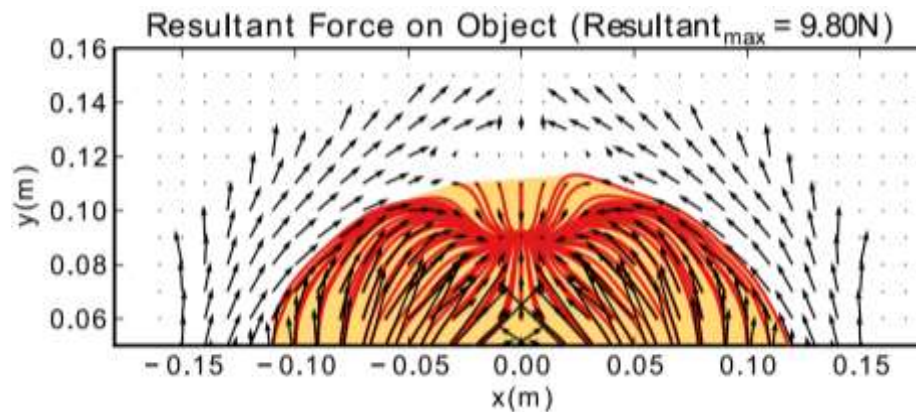
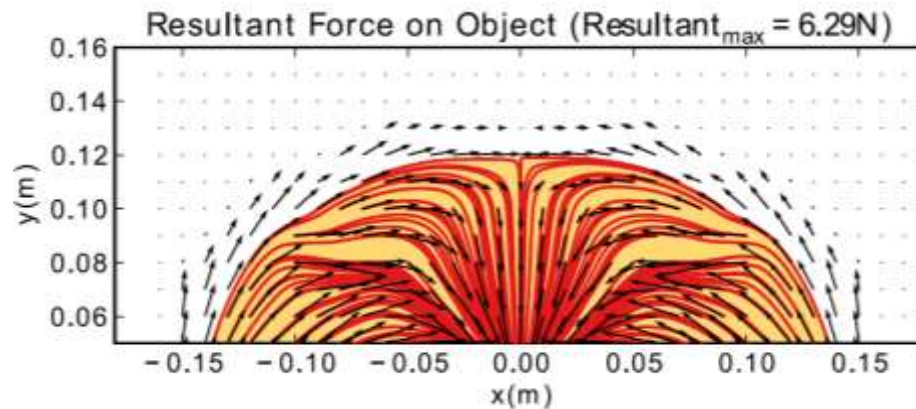


- Prescribed-Position
  - Kinematics
  - Transmission
  - Finger Shape
  - ~~Object Shape~~
  - ~~Friction~~
  - ~~Mass & Time~~
  - Full Workspace



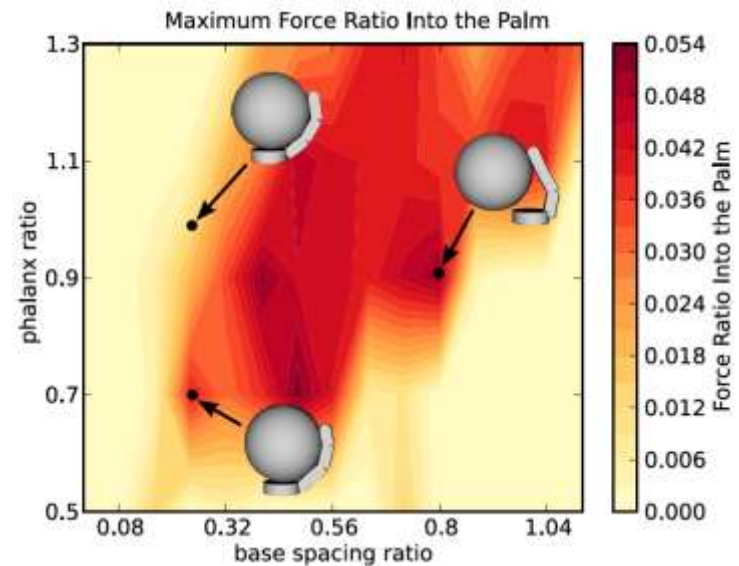
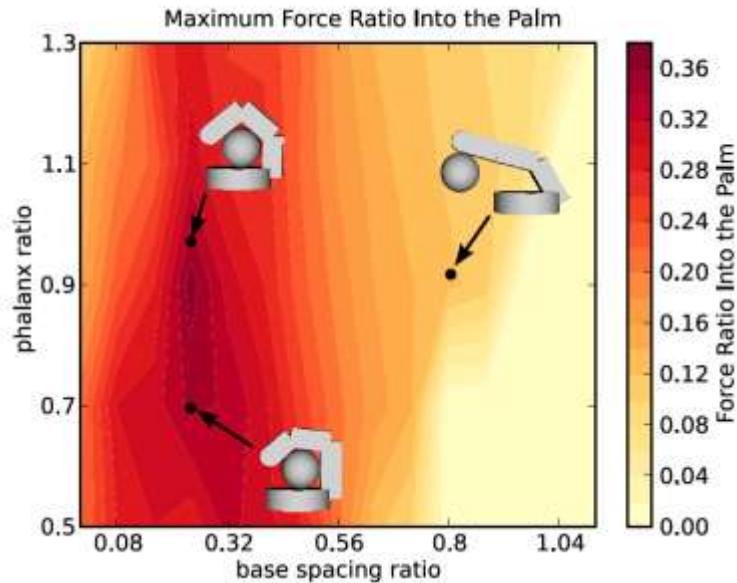
- Prescribed-Force
  - Kinematics
  - Transmission
  - Finger Shape
  - Object Shape
  - Friction
  - ~~Mass & Time~~
  - ~~Full Workspace~~

# Locked vs. Unlocked



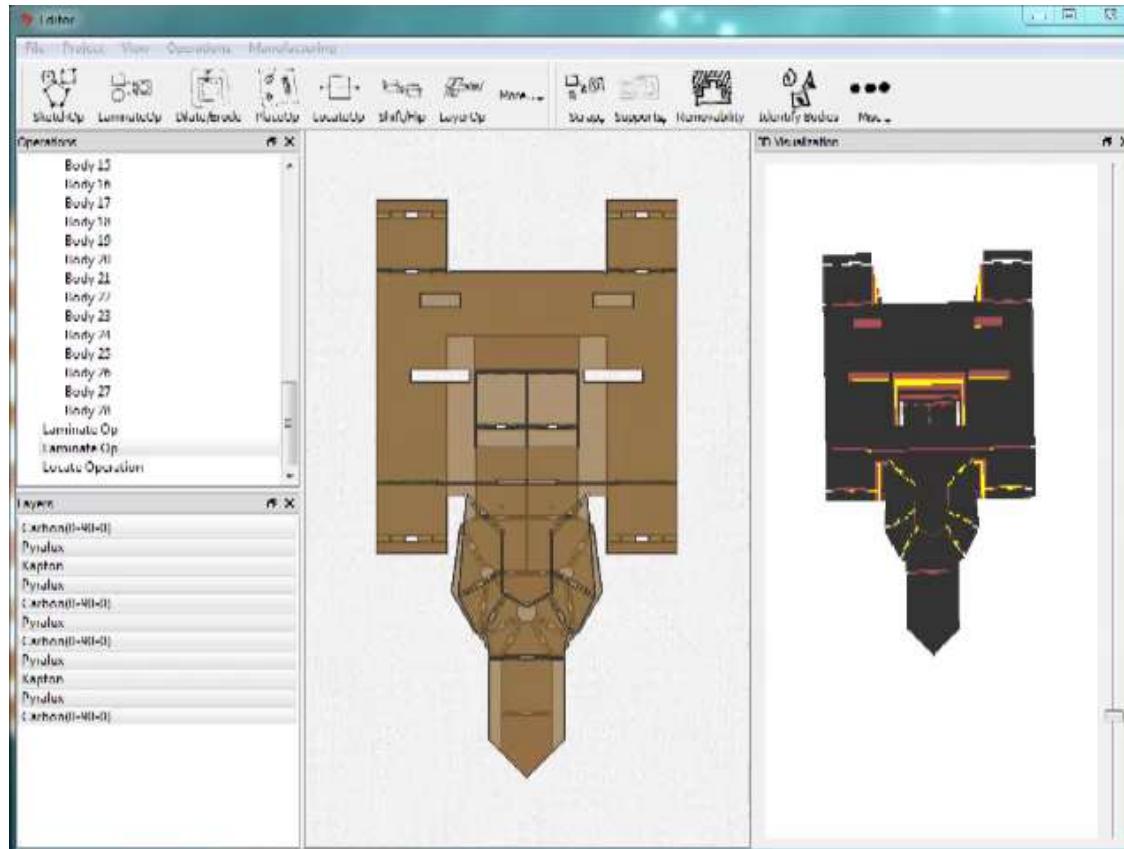
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# Design Variations & Performance



# Minimality in Representation

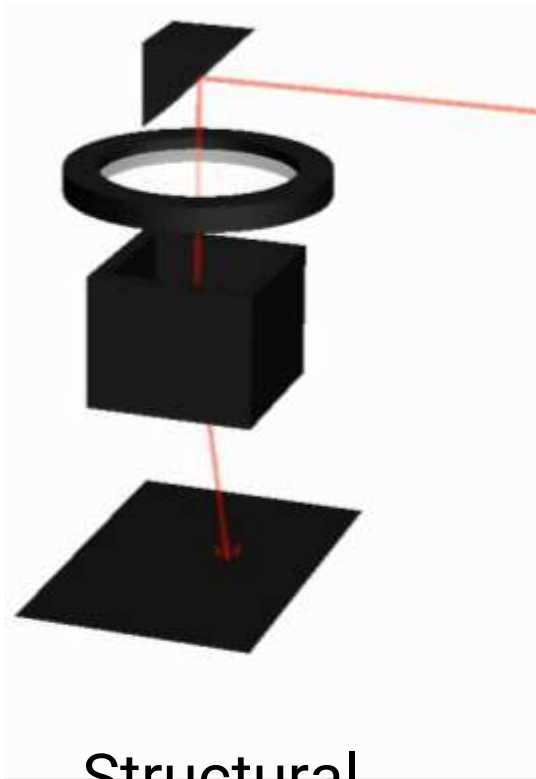
# popupCAD



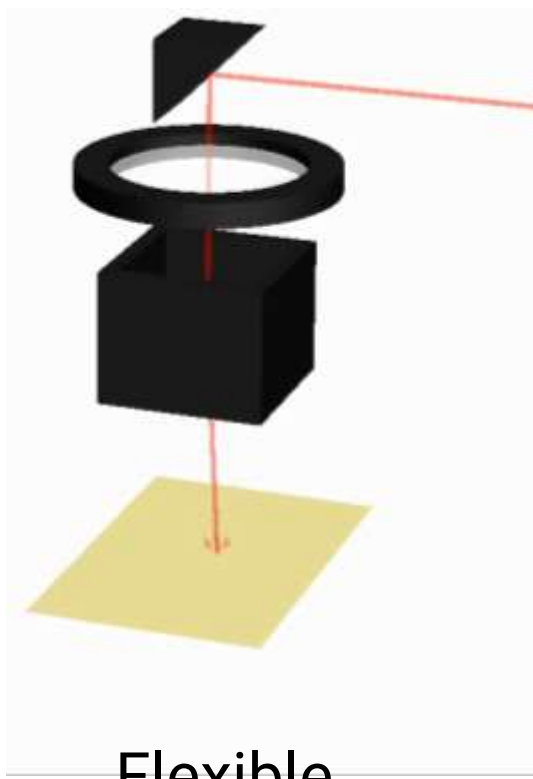
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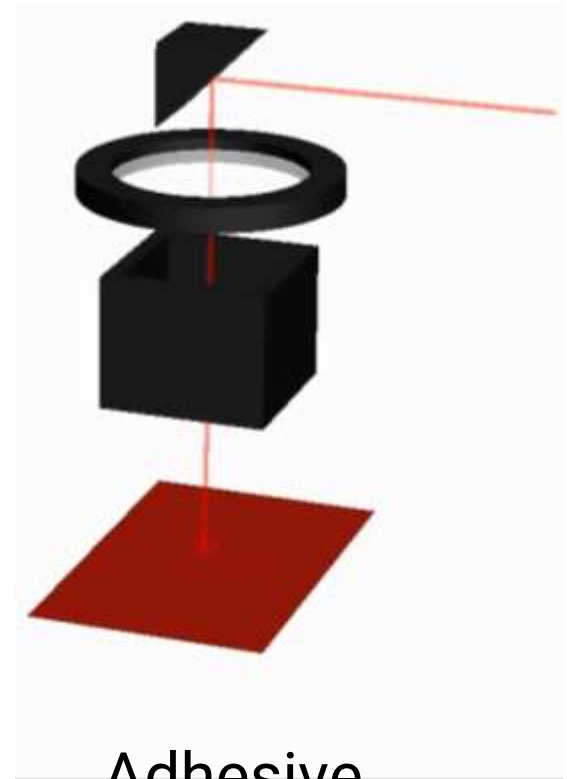
# Cutting



Structural



Flexible

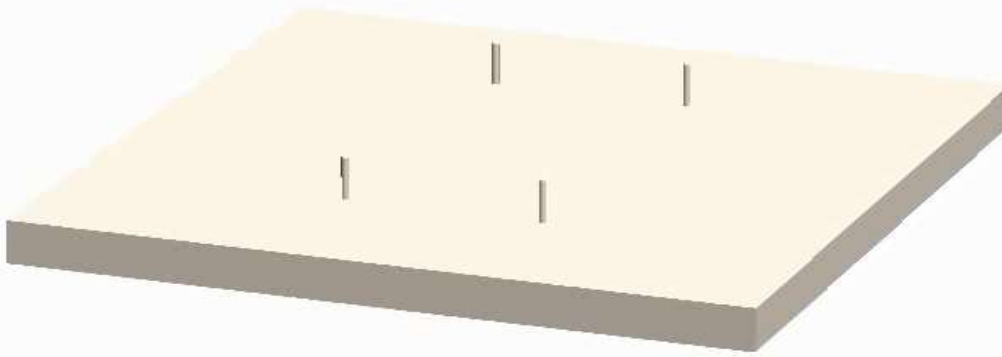


Adhesive

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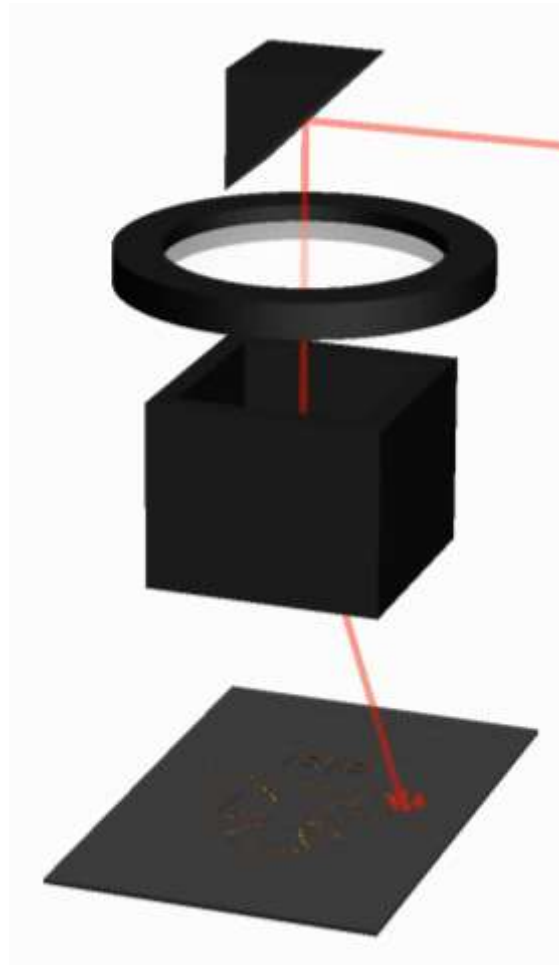
# Stacking and Curing

Temperature  
Pressure  
Time



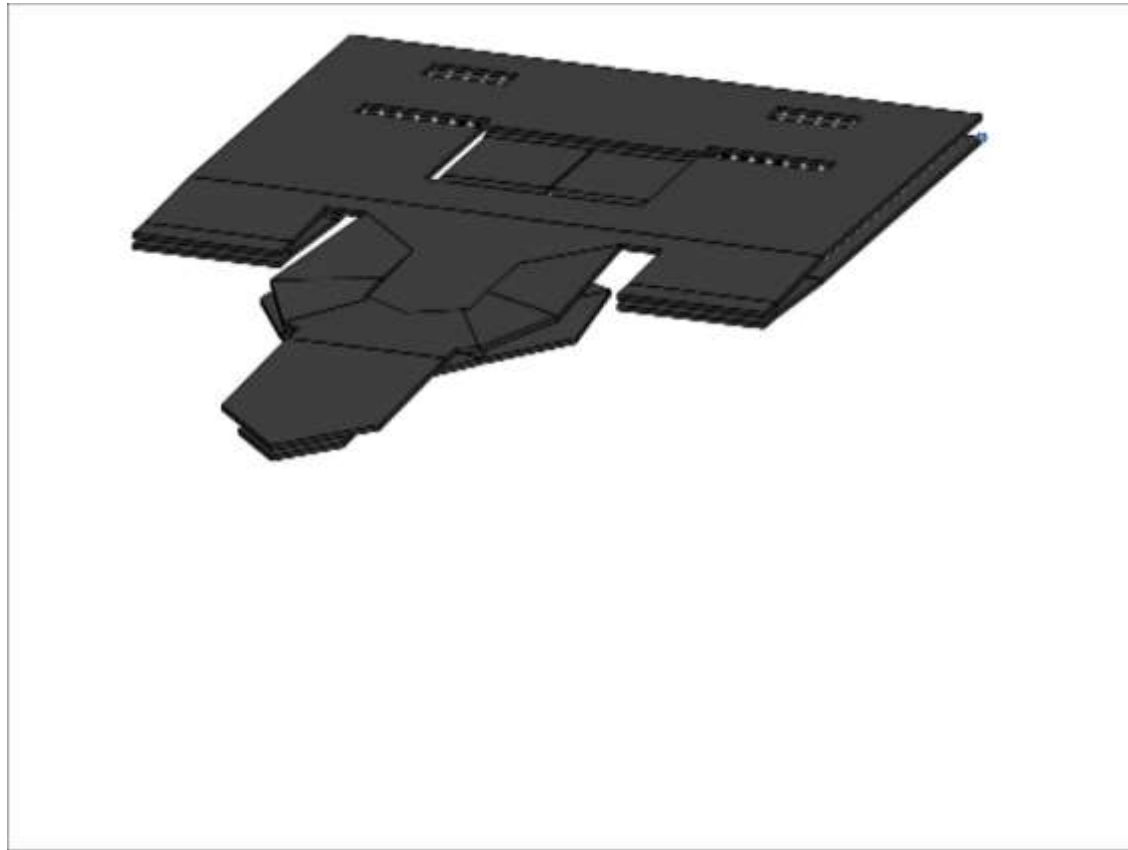
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# Release



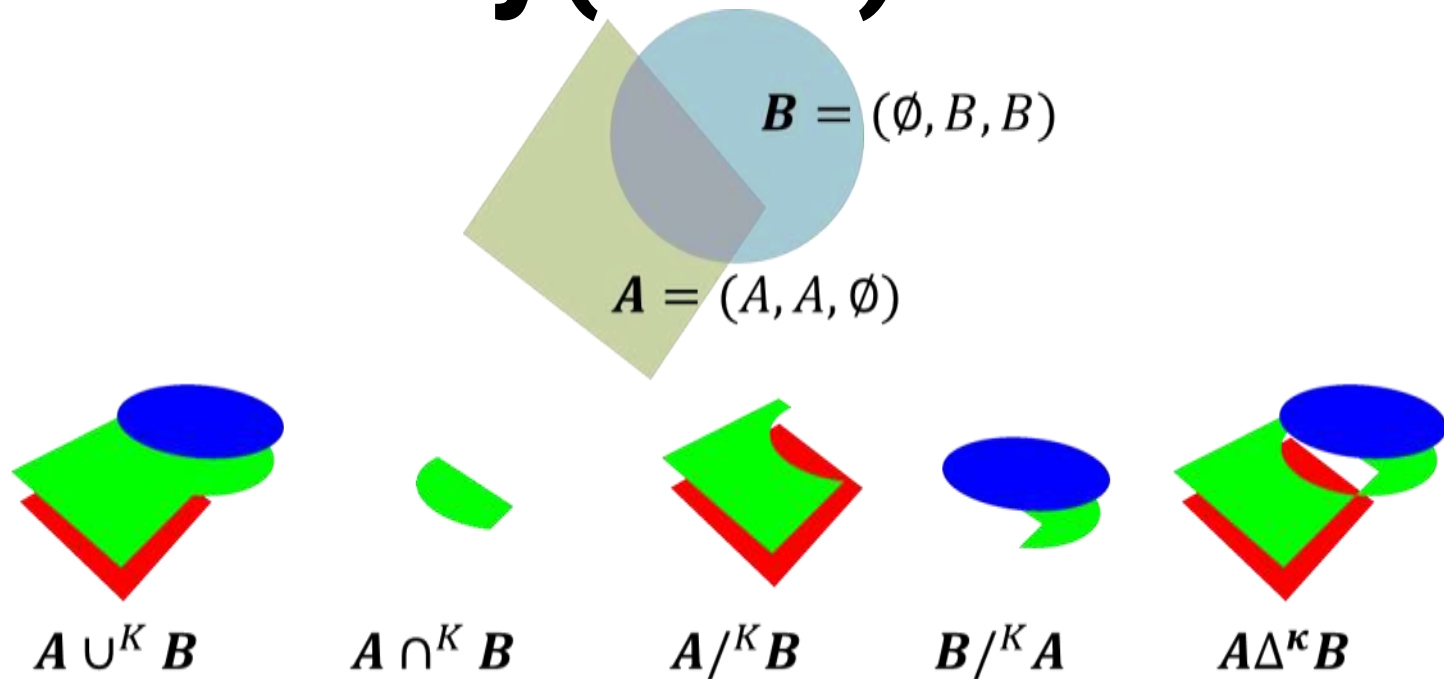
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# Unfold



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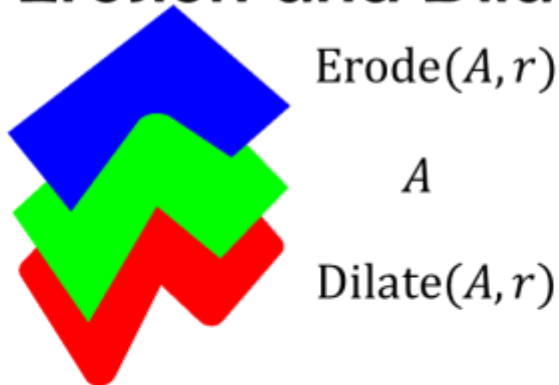
# Layered Operations using Constructive Solid Geometry (CSG)



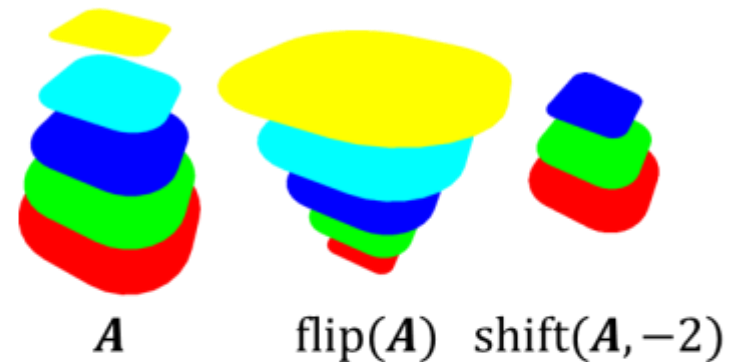
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# Other Operations

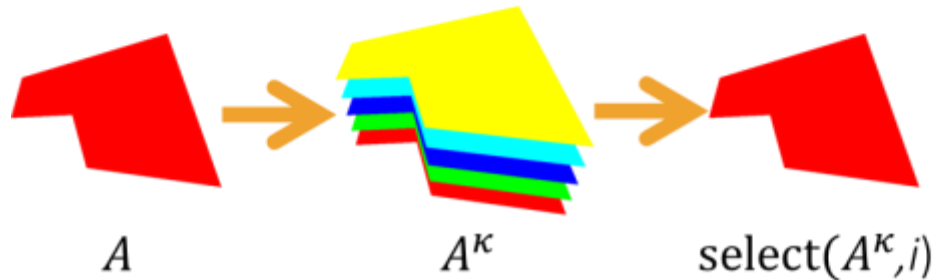
## Erosion and Dilation



## Shift and Flip



## Promotion and Selection

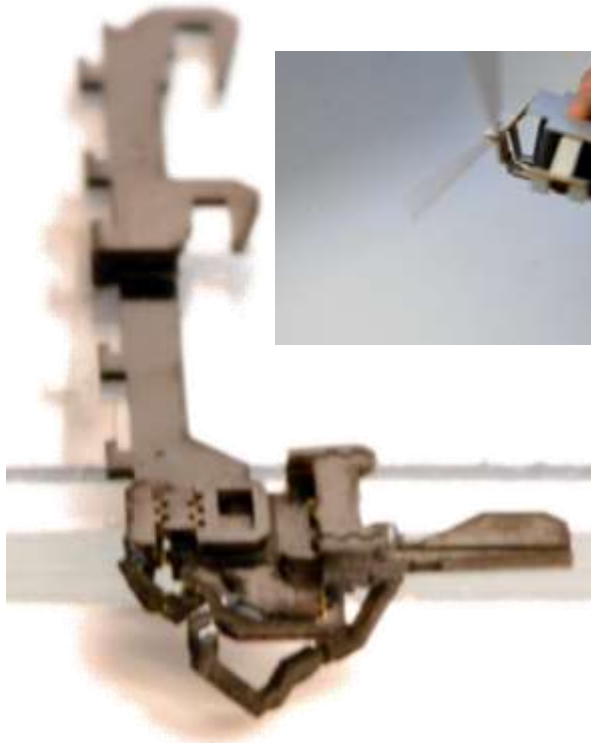
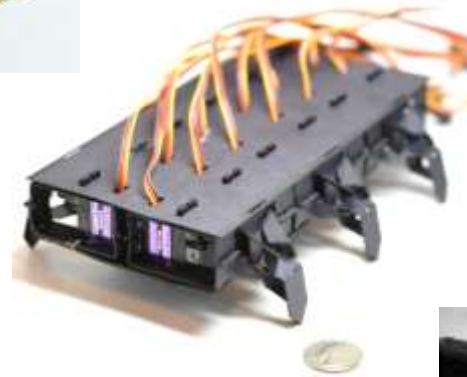
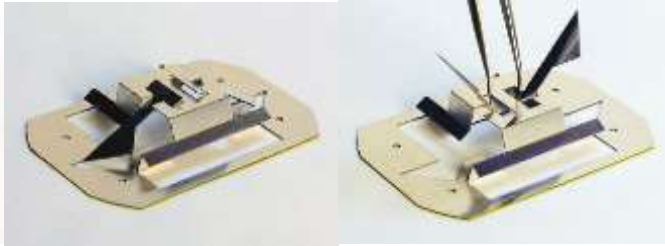


## Null Laminate

$$\mathbf{0} = \emptyset^k$$

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# popupCAD Designs



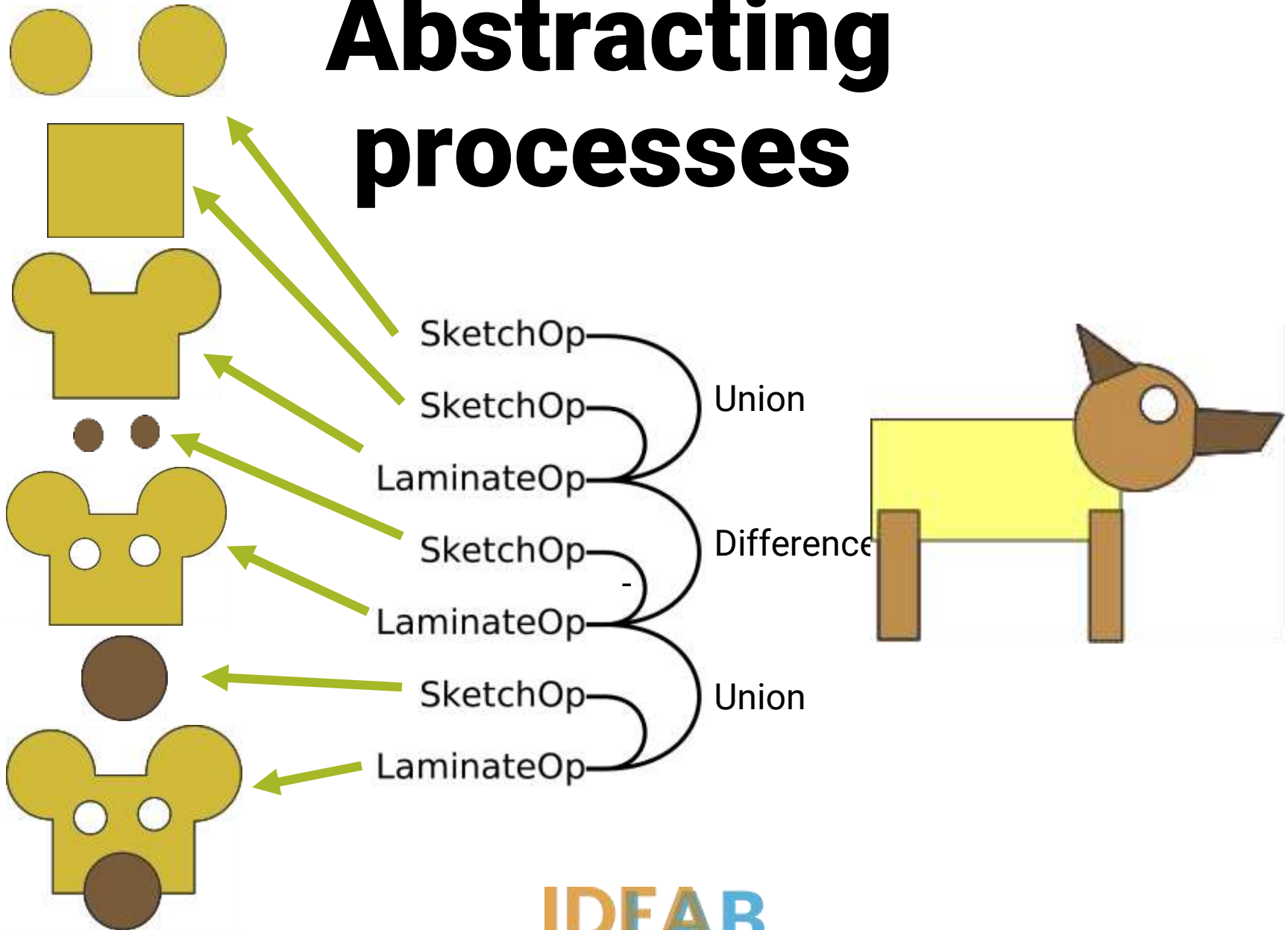
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# Several New Tools

- Abstracting the Design Process from the geometry
- Dynamic Simulation:
  - Understand ideal rigid body motion
- FEA-based stiffness analysis
  - Understand non-ideal bending of “rigid” links



# Abstracting processes



# New Dynamics System

- Written in Python
- Symbolic expressions using Sympy
- Kane's Method for generating equations of motion
  - Requires ability to perform vector operations (cross, dot, derivative, etc)
  - Reduced representation considers only named state variables

# Rotations between Reference Frames

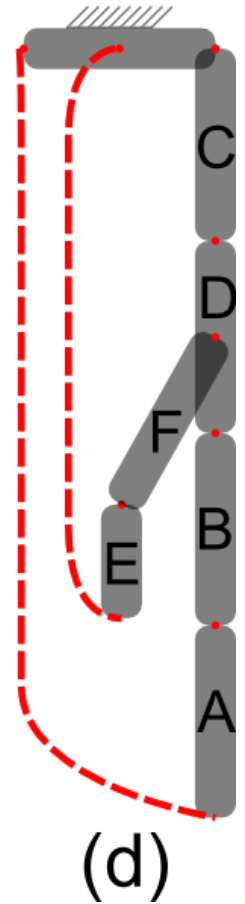
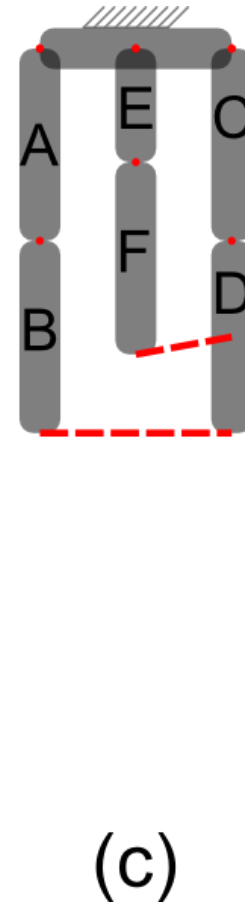
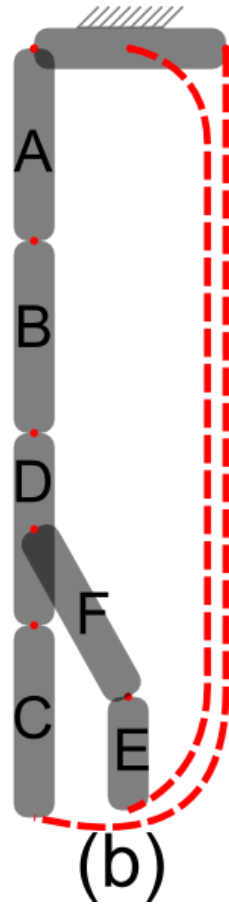
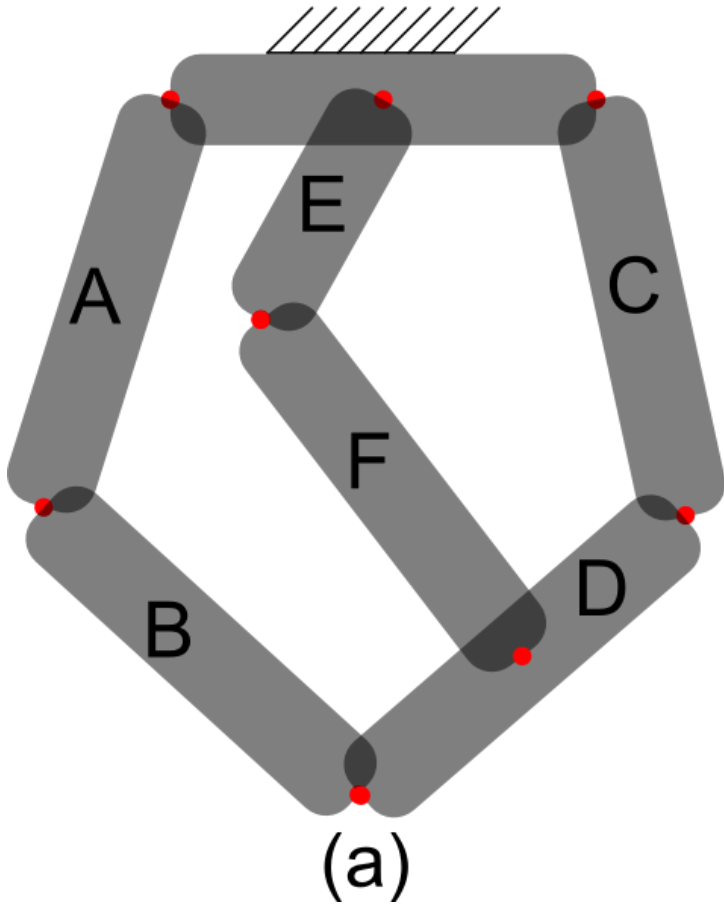
$${}^A\mathbf{R}^B = \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - \mathbf{f} * \mathbf{f}^T \right) \cos(q) + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -f_z & f_y \\ f_z & 0 & -f_x \\ -f_y & f_x & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sin(q) + \mathbf{f} * \mathbf{f}^T$$

$${}^A\vec{\omega}^B = \dot{q}\hat{f}, \text{ where}$$

$$\mathbf{f} = [f_x \quad f_y \quad f_z]^T \text{ and}$$

$$\dot{q} = \frac{d(q)}{dt}.$$

# Branching Topologies



# Vectors

```
>>> e = A.x+B.y
```

```
>>> e
```

```
A.x + B.y
```

```
>>> e.express(A)
```

```
A.x*(-sin(qB) + 1) + A.y*cos(qB)
```

```
>>> e.express(B)
```

```
B.x*cos(qB) + B.y*(-sin(qB) + 1)
```

```
>>> e.time_derivative(N,system)
```

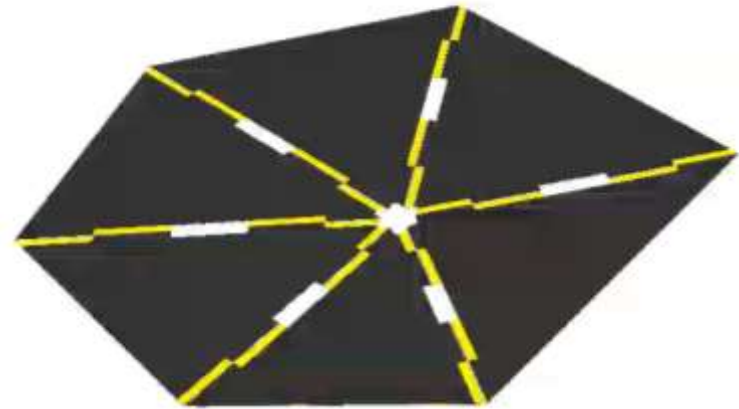
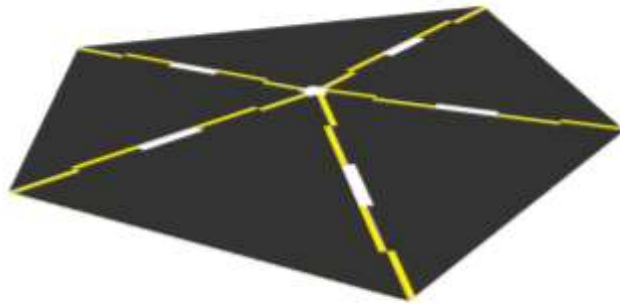
```
-qA_d*N.x*sin(qA) + qA_d*N.y*cos(qA) +
```

```
A.x*(-qA_d*cos(qB) - qB_d*cos(qB)) + A
```

```
.y*(-qA_d*sin(qB) - qB_d*sin(qB))
```

```
>>>
```

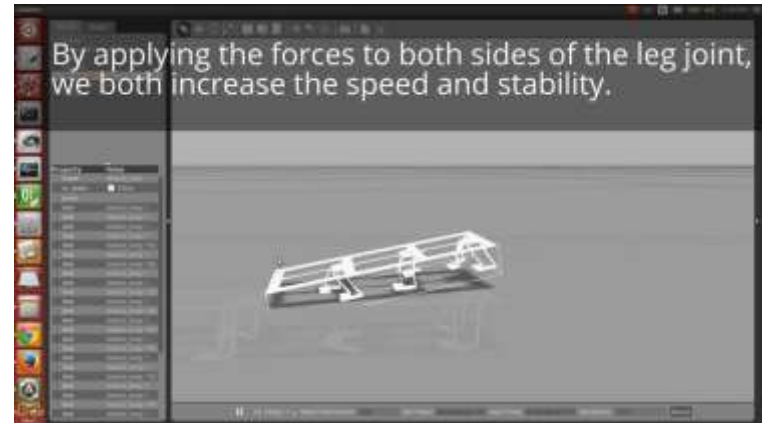
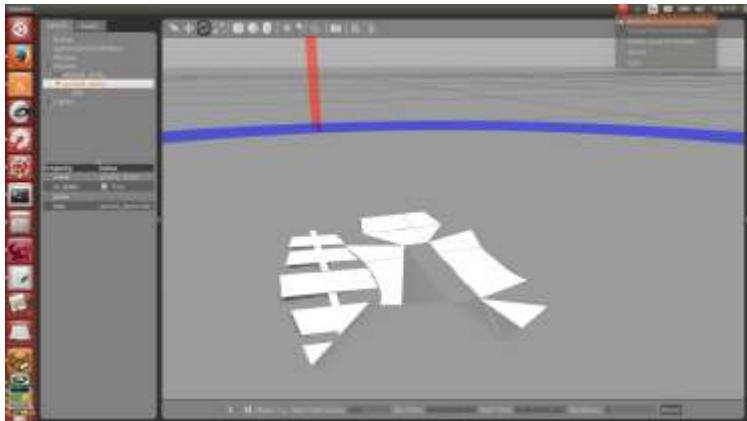
# Dynamic Simulation in Laminates



# On Github

- <https://github.com/idealabasu/pynamics>

# In Gazebo

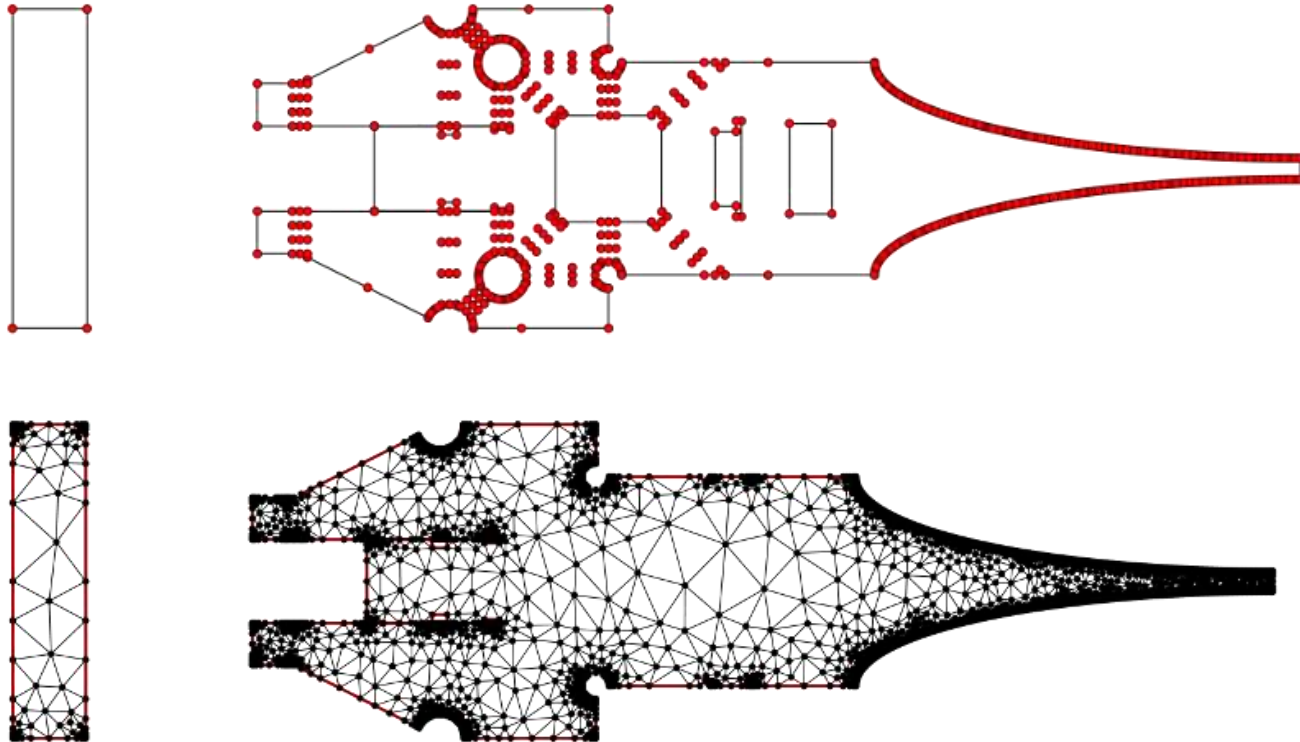




# Finite Element Analysis

- Triangular elements: easy to generate from laminate shapes
- FEA package for Python
- New elements can be derived dynamically given new shape functions
  - Incorporates several interpolation methods: linear, quadratic, cubic, BCIZ
  - Works with classical laminate theory.
- On Github soon...

# Laminate Geometry



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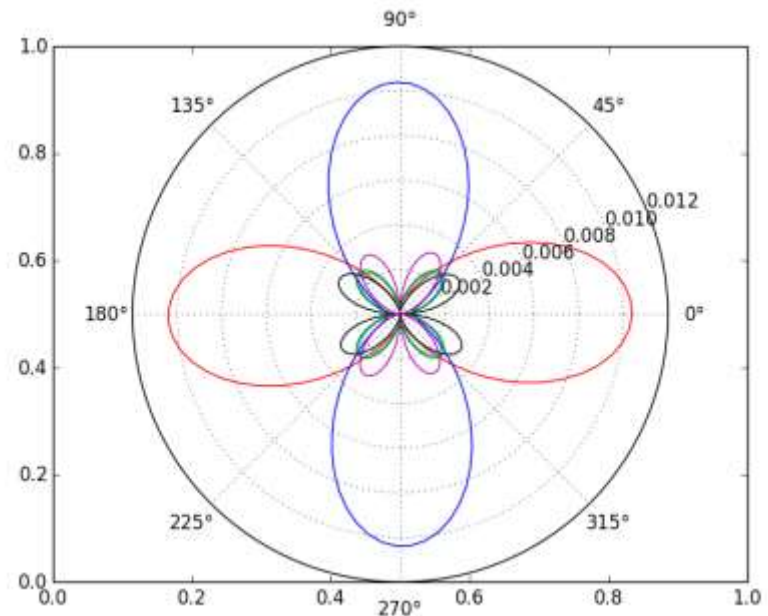
# Laminate Stiffness

$$\begin{Bmatrix} N \\ M \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ B & D \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \varepsilon^0 \\ \kappa \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$A_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n (\bar{Q}_{ij})_k (h_k - h_{k-1})$$

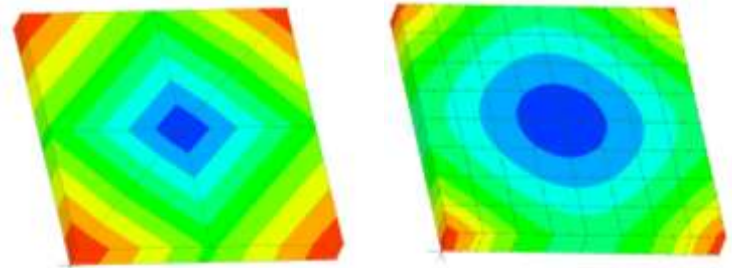
$$B_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n (\bar{Q}_{ij})_k (h_k^2 - h_{k-1}^2)$$

$$D_{ij} = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{k=1}^n (\bar{Q}_{ij})_k (h_k^3 - h_{k-1}^3)$$

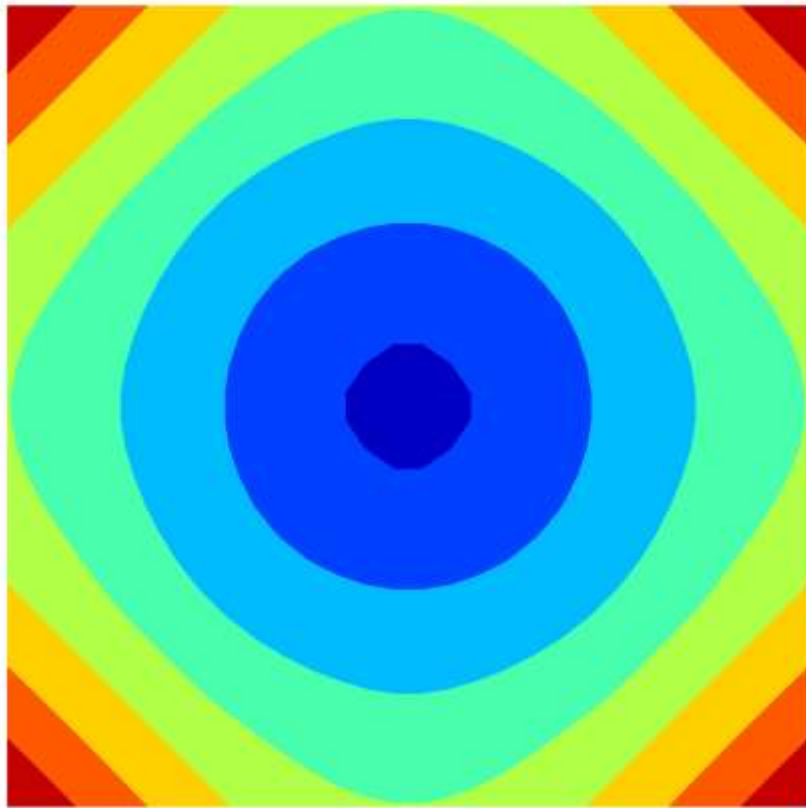
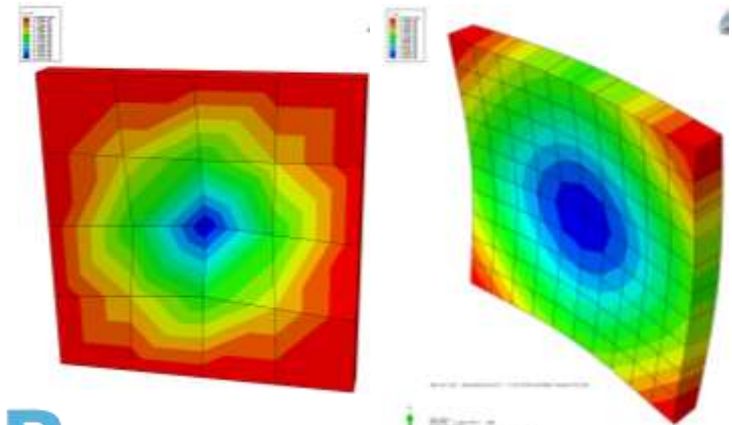


# Laminate FEA

LISA



Abaqus



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