



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## DESIGN OF A MOTORBIKE HANDLEBAR BRACKET



**Candidate**  
Alessandro Acuna



# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

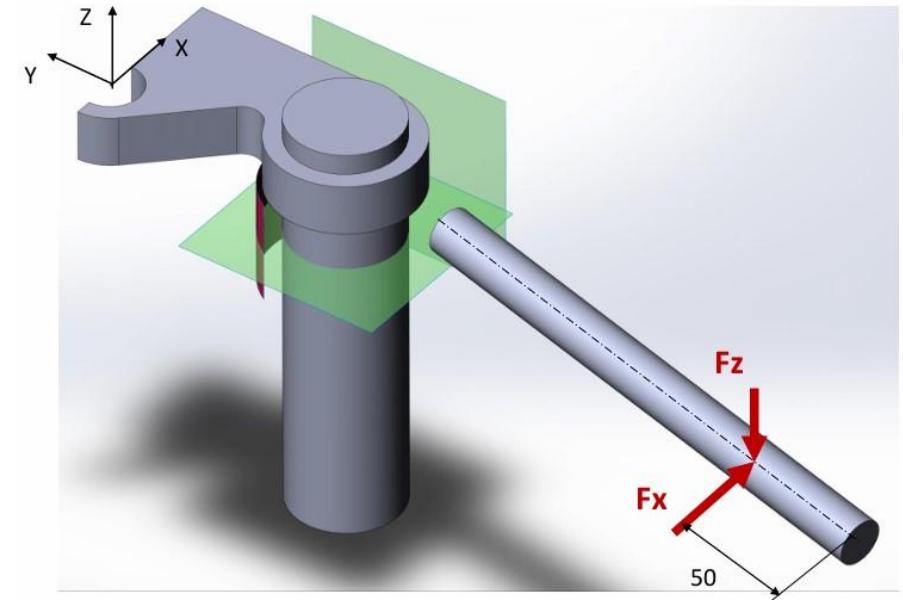
## PROJECT DETAILS

### Boundary conditions

The geometry must be contained between the green planes

Fasteners with maximum class of 12.9

$10^5$  cycles life target



The final **GOAL** is to design the lightest component possible, according to the given limitations.



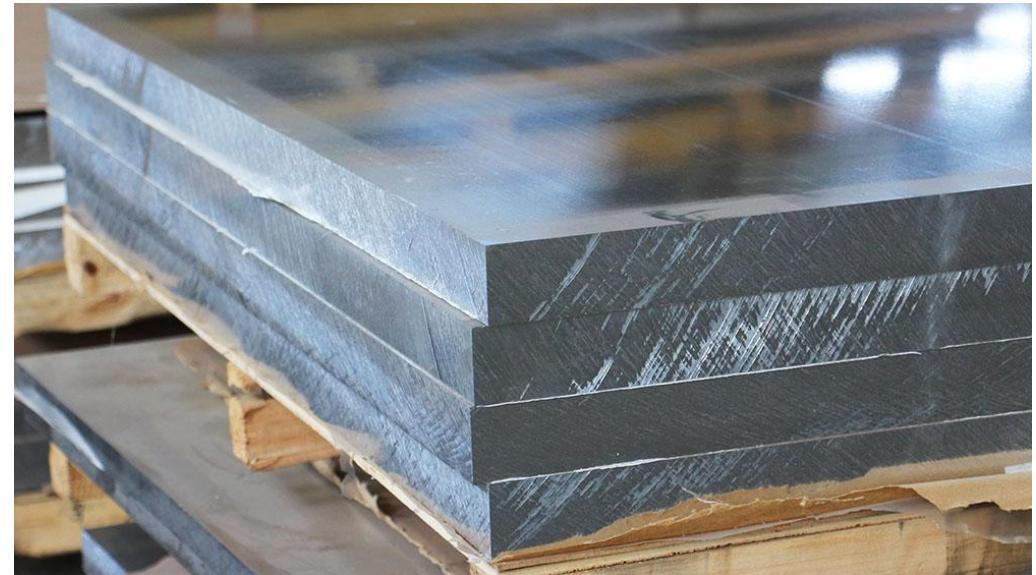
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# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## ASSIGNED MATERIAL

The material used is the alluminum alloy  
**EN AW 2024 T3**

Property	Value
Density	$2.77 \times 10^3 \text{ kg/m}^3$
Young's Modulus	73 100 MPa
Poisson's Ratio	0.33
Yield Strength	345 MPa
Ultimate Strength	483 MPa





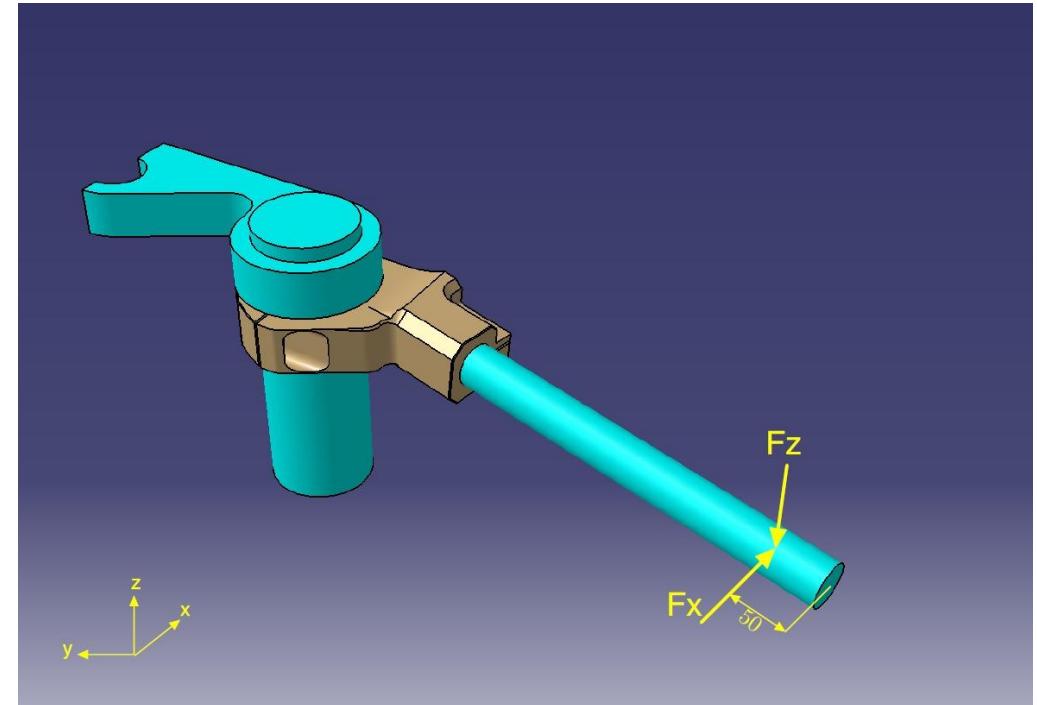
# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## LOADING CONDITIONS

The component is subjected to static and cyclic loads, situated near the extremity of the handlebar.

Load conditions for Maximum Force Analysis	
$F_{z \max}$	100 N
$F_{x \max}$	450 N

Load conditions for Fatigue Analysis	
$F_z$	50 N
$F_x$	$\pm 350$ N



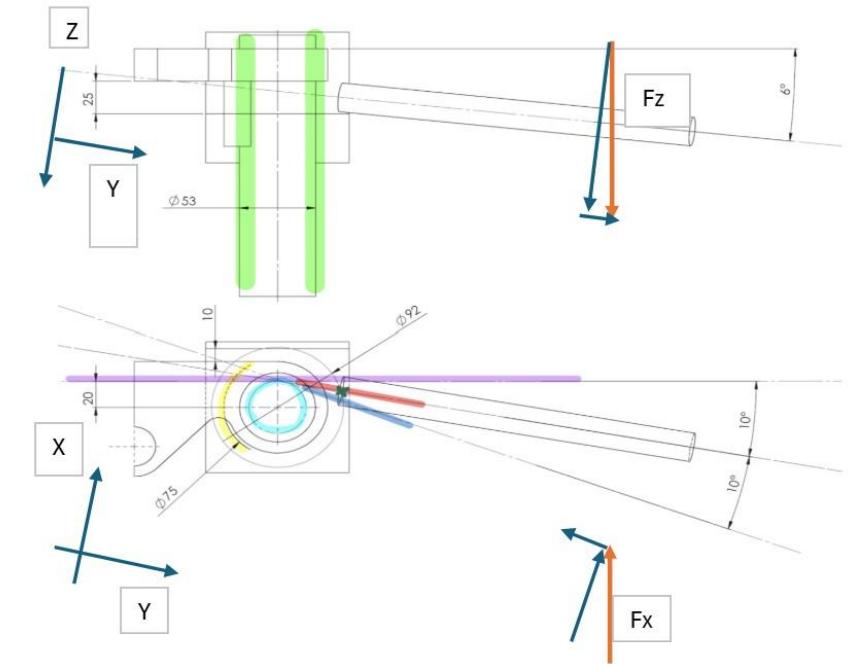


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## FORCES RESOLUTION

Tilt Angles	
6° downwards	
±10° around the vertical axis	

Constraint Reactions ZY		Constraint Reactions YX	
$Y_a$	-10.5 N	$Y_a$	78.1 N
$Z_a$	99.5 N	$X_a$	-443.2 N
$M_{a,zy}$	26 901.8 Nmm	$M_{a,yx}$	-119 875.7 Nmm





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## BOLT SIZING

- VDI 2230 standard was used to calculate the diameter of the bolt.
- Bolt 10.9 Class, following ISO 4762 was chosen.
- Tightening process done by a torque wrench.

Handlebar BOLT		
$F_A$	1375,59	N
$F_Q$	67,69	N
$F_Q/\mu$	173,56	N
$F_n$	1600,00	N
$F_{m\text{MIN}}$	4000,00	N
$F_{m\text{MAX}}$	10000,00	N
$d$	6,00	mm
aA	2,50	-

Fork BOLT		
$F_n$	2315,97	N
$F_q$	67,69	N
$F_Q/\mu$	173,56	N
$F_n$	2500,00	N
$F_{m\text{MIN}}$	6300,00	N
$F_{m\text{MAX}}$	10000,00	N
$d$	6,00	mm
aA	1,59	-

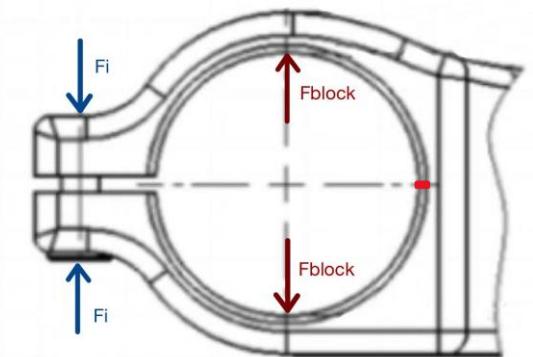


# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## COUPLING PRESSURE BETWEEN HANDLEBAR BRACKET AND BAR

The screw must not only keep the part fixed in place to prevent detachment, but it must also resist bending moments due to the forces on the handlebar.

Results		
$F_{block}$	3876.6 N	
$F_i$	1375.5 N	
Design Tightening Torque		3939.1 Nmm
$\sigma_{eq}$	144.8 MPa	$\langle S_p \rangle = 810 \text{ MPa}$
$A_{t\text{design}}$	5.16 mm <sup>2</sup>	$\langle A_{t\text{selected}} \rangle = 20.12 \text{ mm}$
$\sigma_{eq\_o}$		141.2 MPa



For a more realistic result we assumed a weight of the pilot of 70 kg and a CS of 1,5.



# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## COUPLING PRESSURE BETWEEN HANDLEBAR BRACKET AND FORK

Results		
$F_{block}$	10749.5 N	
$F_i$	2315.9 N	
Design Tightening Torque	7 395.2 Nmm	
$\sigma_{eq}$	243.7 MPa	$\langle S_p \rangle = 810 \text{ MPa}$
$A_{t\text{design}}$	8.18 mm <sup>2</sup>	$\langle A_{t\text{selected}} \rangle = 20.12 \text{ mm}$
$\sigma_{eq\_o}$	158.3 MPa	

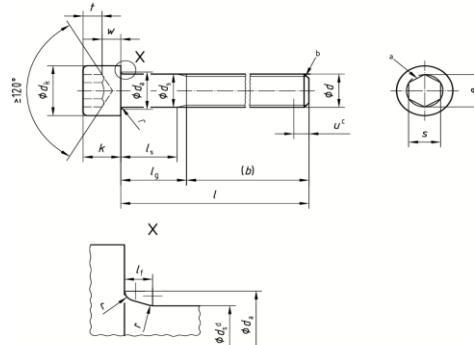
The methodology used for calculating the various parameters are the ones of the previous case.



# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

# CALCULATION

Coupling Pressure between Handlebar and Fork		
Ultimate Tensile Strength $S_u$	1000,00	MPa
Yield Strength $S_y$	900,00	MPa
<b>Resistant Area <math>A_t</math></b>	20,12	$\text{mm}^2$
Resistant Diameter $d_t$	5,06	mm
<b>Metric Nominal Diameter <math>d</math></b>	6,00	mm
Friction coefficient of thread $\mu_{th}$	0,39	-
Friction coefficient of Bolt head $\mu_b$	0,39	-
Screw head diameter $d_k$	10,00	mm
Underhead Diameter $d_w$	9,38	mm
Screw Pitch $p$	1,00	-
Pitch Diameter $d_2$ min	5,21	mm
Pitch Diameter $d_2$ max	5,32	mm
$d_2$	5,35	mm
Min Major Diameter $d_{min}$	5,97	mm
Max Major Diameter $d_{max}$	5,79	mm
Average Major Diameter $d_{mean}$	5,88	mm
Torsional Modulus $W_t$	12,73	$\text{mm}^3$
<b>Preload on each Bolt <math>F_i</math></b>	2315,97	N
$F_{block}$	10749,58	N
Number of Bolts	2,00	-
<b>Design Tightening Torque</b>	7395,16	Nmm
<b>Sigma under tightening condition <math>\sigma_{eq}</math></b>	243,75	MPa
Stress Ratio SR	2,86	Steel-All
$A_{t\_minimum}$	8,18	$\text{mm}^2$
<b>Sigma under operating condition <math>\sigma_{eq\_o}</math></b>	158,35	MPa
Underhead Loading $R_n$	100,00	N
Coefficient of Torsional Relaxation $k_r$	0,50	-
		$< S_p = v * S_y$
		$< A_t_{selected}$



$$A_{t\_design} \cong \frac{SR \cdot F_i}{S_p}$$

$$SR = \frac{\sigma_{eq}}{\sigma_{axial}} = \frac{S_p \cdot A_l}{F_i}$$

$$A_{t\_selected} \geq A_{t\_design}$$

## Design assessment under tightening condition

$$\sigma_{eq} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{F_i}{A_t}\right)^2 + 3 \cdot \left(\frac{M_{shank}}{W_t}\right)^2} = \sqrt{F_i^2 + 48 \cdot \left(F_i \cdot \frac{(0,16 \cdot p + 0,58 \cdot \mu_{th} \cdot d_2)}{d_t}\right)^2} \cdot \frac{1}{A_t} \leq \boxed{V} R_{p,0.2} = S_p$$

## Design assessment under operating conditions

screw

During operation, the screw may undergo additional axial loads due to applied external loads  $R_n$  while the shank torsion is reportedly lower than during tightening. German standard VDI 2230 and Bickford report that such a decrease in torsional stress can be as high as 50% when  $R_n$  and  $R_t$  are static, whereas a 100% reduction can take place in the case of dynamic loading. This reduction is due to mutual torsional sliding occurring between the screw head and underhead.

$$\sigma_{eq-o} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{F_b}{A_t}\right)^2 + 3 \cdot \left(\frac{M_{shank}}{W_t}\right)^2} \cong \sqrt{(F_i + R_n \cdot 0,25)^2 + 48 \cdot \left(F_i k_t \frac{(0,16 \cdot p + 0,58 \cdot \mu_{th} \cdot d_2)}{d_t}\right)^2} \cdot \frac{1}{A_t}$$

$k$ : coefficient of torsional relaxation of the screw ( $0 \leq k \leq 0.9$ )...see next slide



# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## CALCULATION

Stiffness Calculations Handlebar_Fork Bolt		
Shank length	2,10	mm
Nominal Diameter	6,00	mm
An	28,27	mm <sup>2</sup>
Engage length	5,00	mm
Not engaged length	10,00	mm
Underhead Diameter	9,38	mm
Eal2024	73100,00	MPa
Ebolt	210000,00	MPa
Head Stiff.	89064151,73	N/mm
Shank Stiff.	2827433,39	N/mm
Thread Stiff.	81409933,27	N/mm
Engaged Thread Stiff.	8140993326,60	N/mm
AI Stiff engaged	31002807,10	N/mm
Equivalent Compliance	3,97283E-07	mm/N
Equivalent Bolt Stiffness	2517094,27	N/mm
Kplate	2197372,51	N/mm
Kplate/Kbolt	0,87	-
LoadFactor	0,47	-

Minimum Engaged length Bolt Handlebar_Bar		
Rs	1,391	-
C1	1,000	-
C3	0,897	-
Tau_bm	272,600	MPa
Pitch	1,000	-
Rm	470,000	Mpa
d	6,000	mm
D1	5,5	mm
D2	5,153	mm
As	20,123	mm <sup>2</sup>
m_eff	2,875	mm

Following the VDI 2230 standard, bolt assessment was conducted.

M6 x 1 was selected.

Surface Pressure					
Handlebar_Bar			Handlebar_Fork		
Underhead Diameter dw	9,38	mm	Underhead Diameter	9,38	mm
Coupling Diameter ds	3,82	mm	Coupling Diameter	5,82	mm
Underhead Area	24,28	mm <sup>2</sup>	Underhead Area	9,95	mm <sup>2</sup>
Underhead Pressure	56,66	MPa	Underhead Pressure	232,67	MPa



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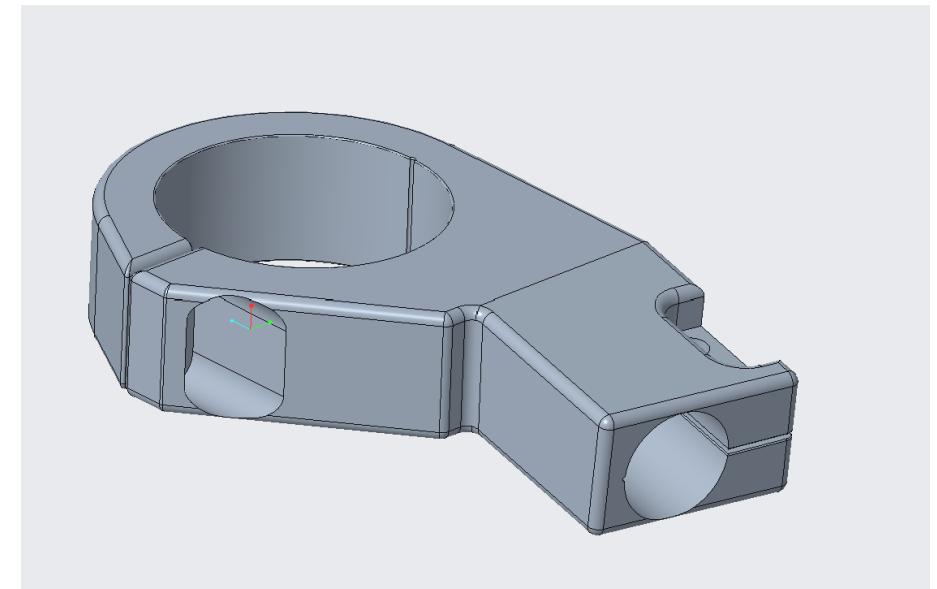
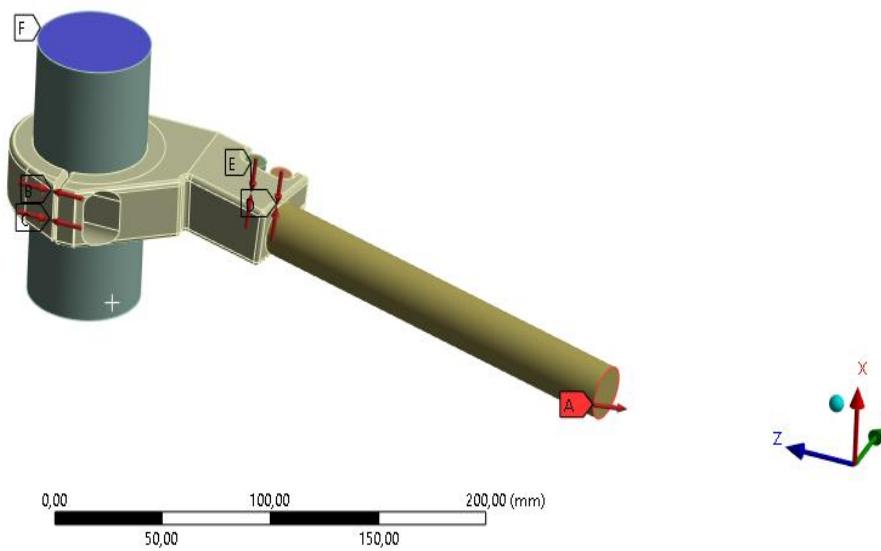
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## PRELIMINARY DESIGN ANALYSIS

### B: Static Stress with Bolt

Static Structural  
Time: 2, s

- A Force: 1192,7 N
- B Bolt Pretension: Lock
- C Bolt Pretension 2: Lock
- D Bolt Pretension 3: Lock
- E Bolt Pretension 4: Lock
- F Fixed Support



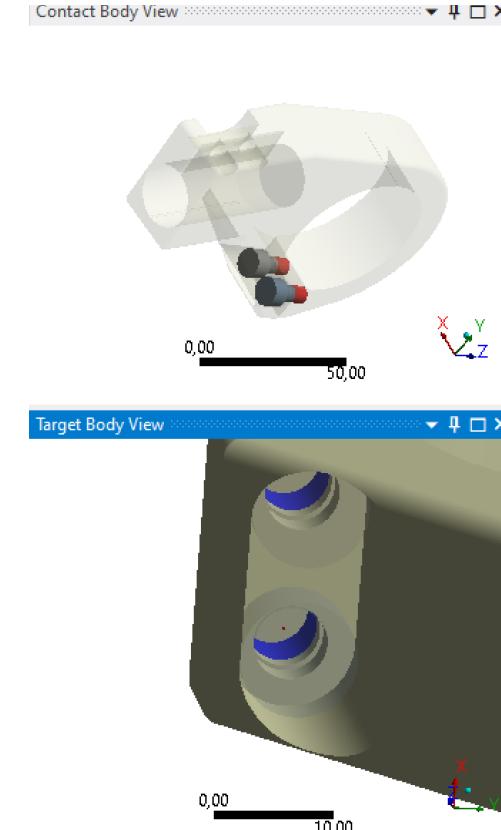
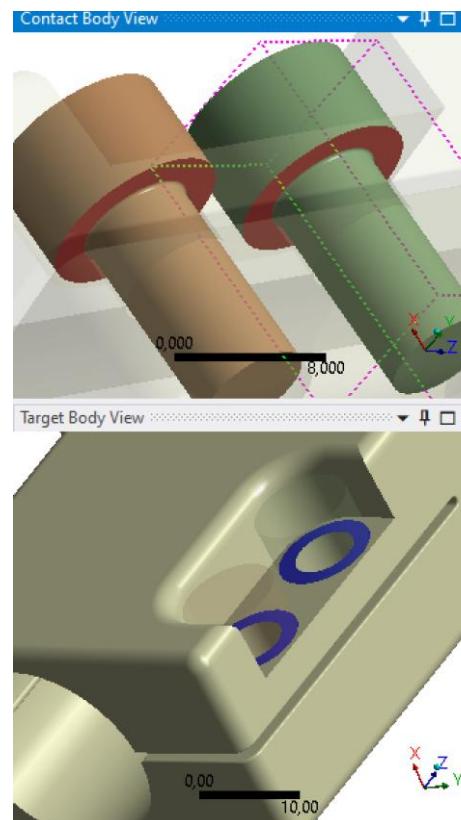
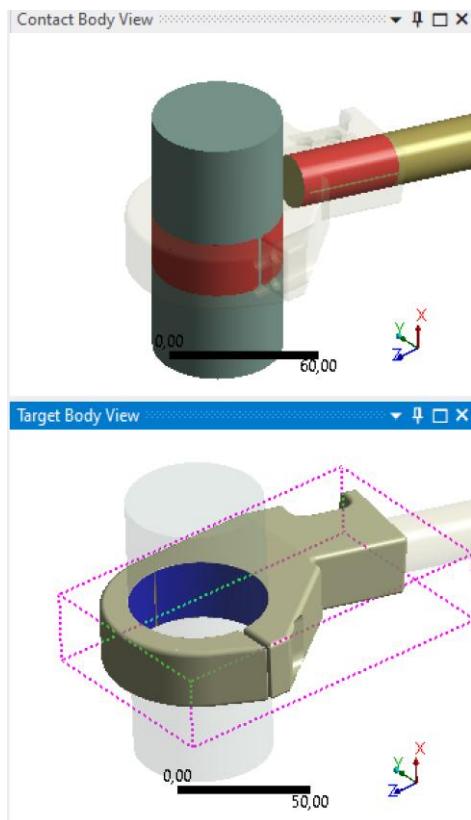
0,278 Kg



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## FEM - CONTACT



Friction coefficients	
Thread	0.39
Bolt underhead and handlebar bracket	0.39
Fork and handlebar	0.2

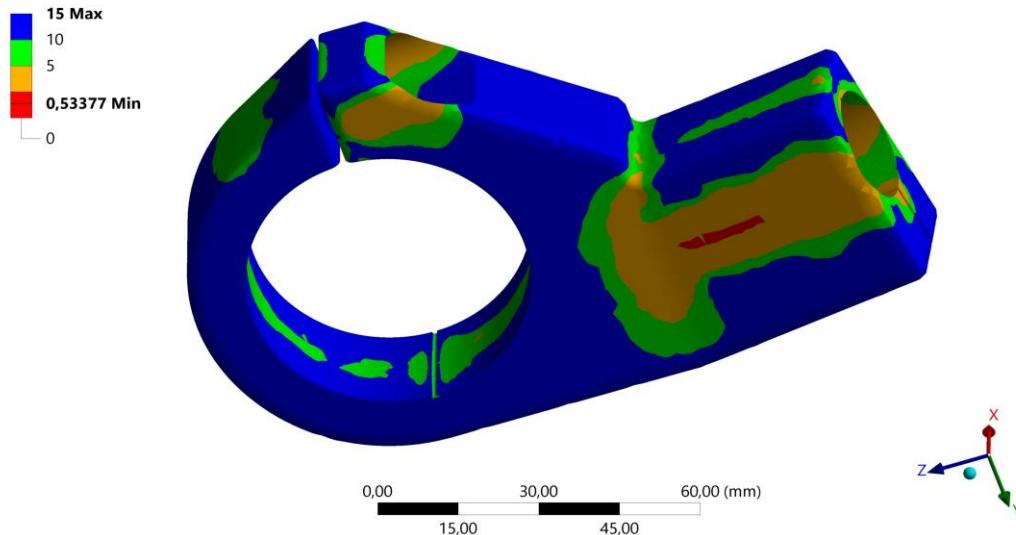


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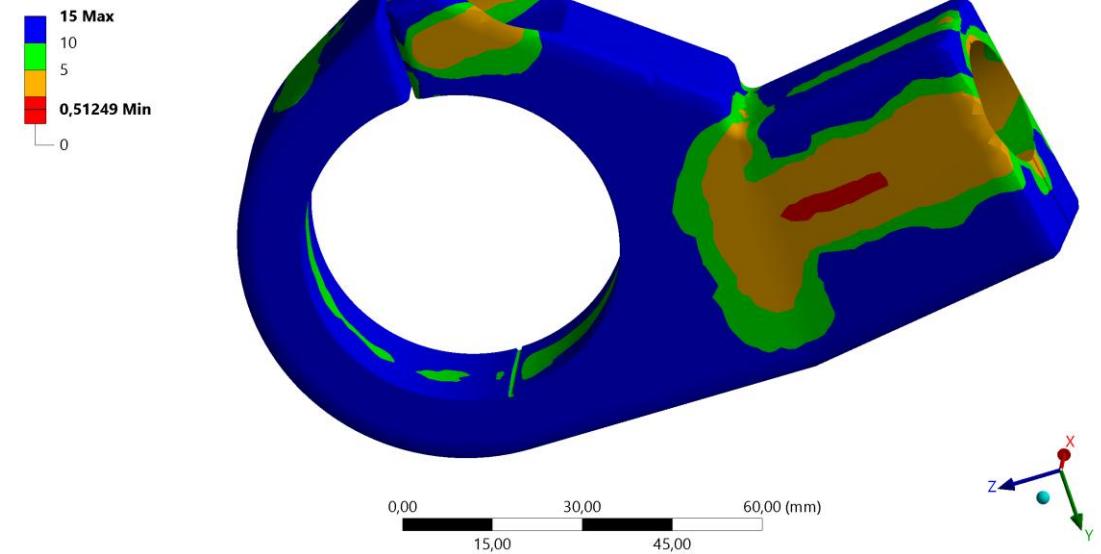
# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## PRELIMINARY DESIGN RESULT

B: Static Stress with Bolt  
Safety Factor 2  
Type: Safety Factor  
Maximum Over Time  
13/12/2024 18:21



C: Alternate Stress with Bolt (+)  
Safety Factor  
Type: Safety Factor  
13/12/2024 22:55

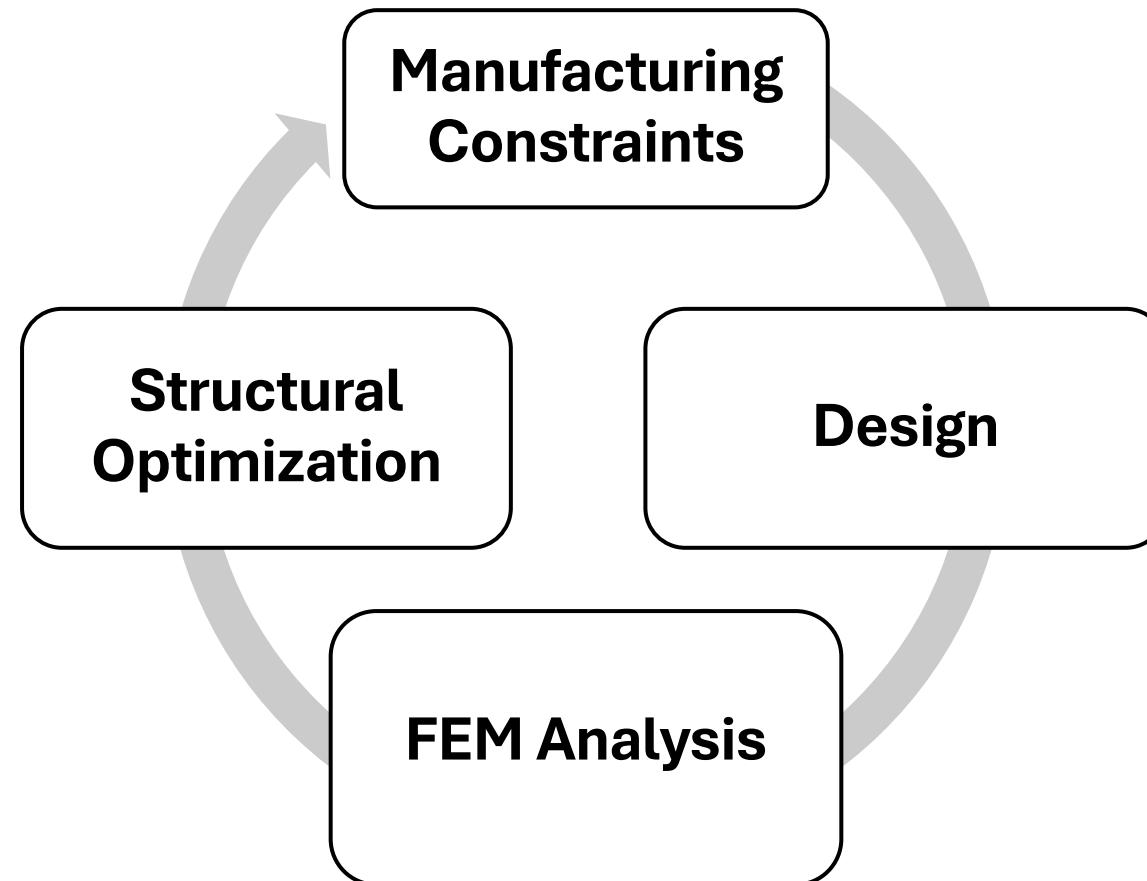




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# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## WORKFLOW





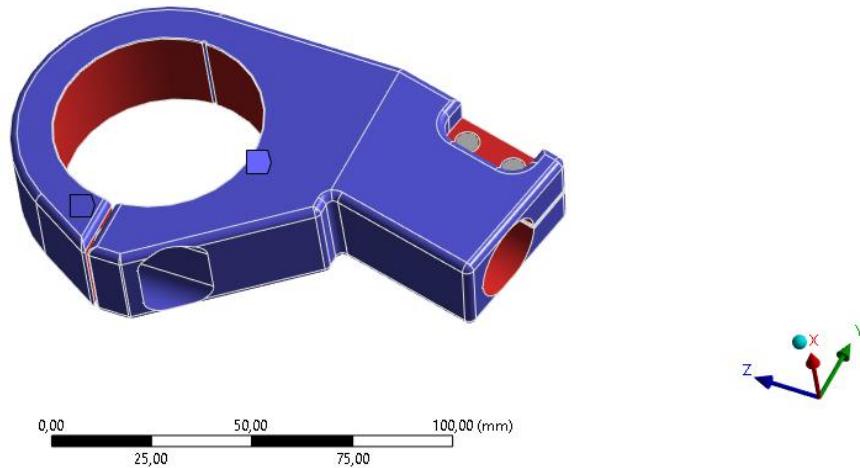
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# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## OPTIMIZATION

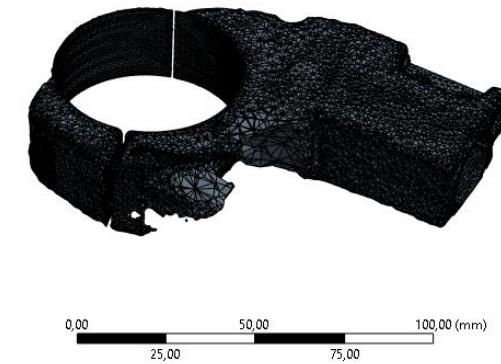
C: Structural Optimization  
Optimization Region  
Iteration Number N/A

- Design Region: Topology
- Exclusion Region



C: Structural Optimization  
Topology Density  
Type: Topology Density  
Iteration Number: 8

- Remove (0,0 to 0,4)
- Marginal (0,4 to 0,6)
- Keep (0,6 to 1,0)



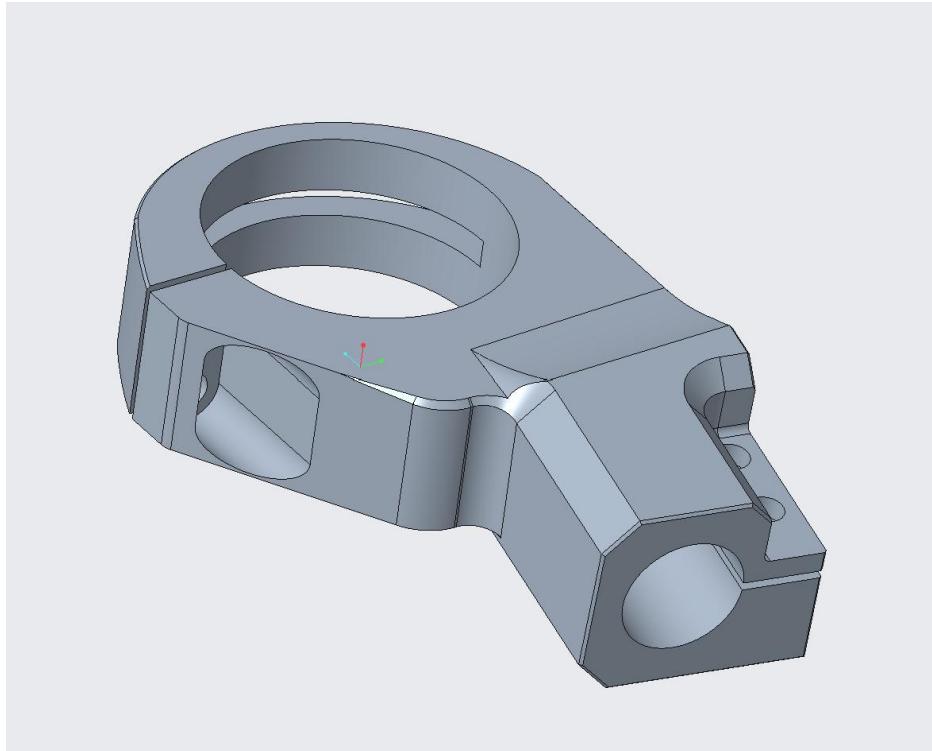
Structural Optimization Tool removed the less stressed material, leaving mass in the most stressed areas.



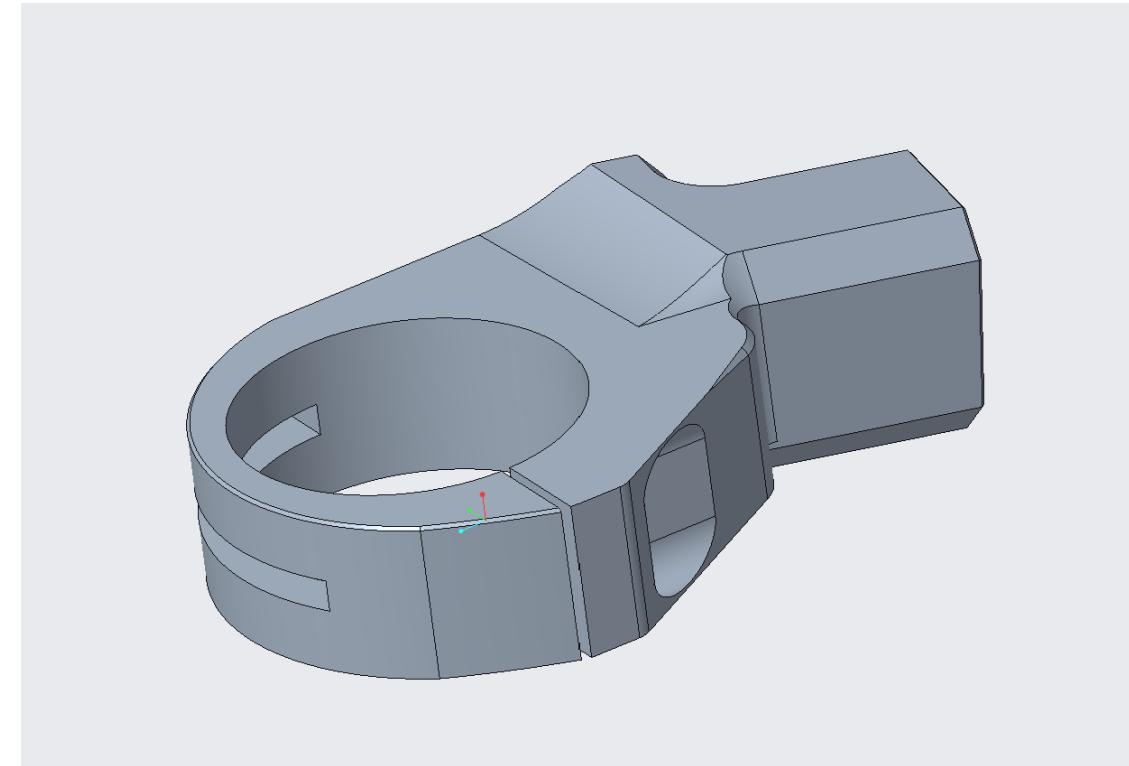
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## FINAL DESIGN



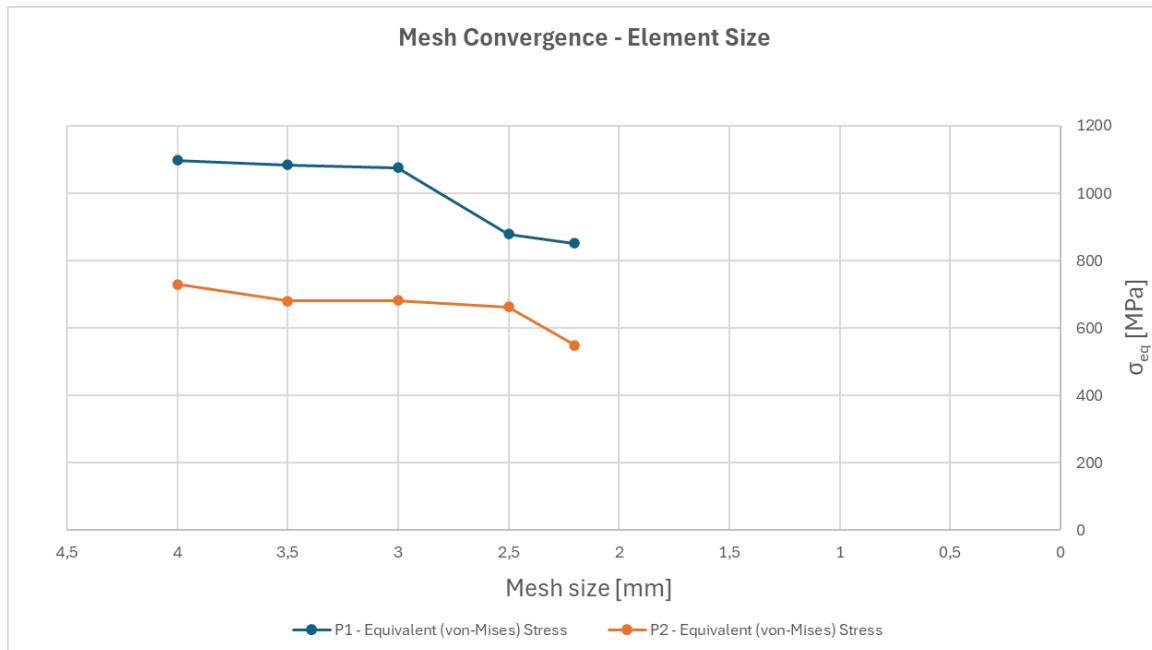
0,271 Kg





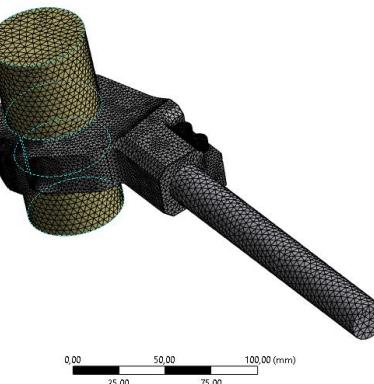
# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## MESH CONVERGENCE



After some mesh refinements iterations, general 2,5mm mesh size was the best choice for validation FEM.

The most relevant, including the bolts', were meshed with 1 mm mesh size, plus others refinements.

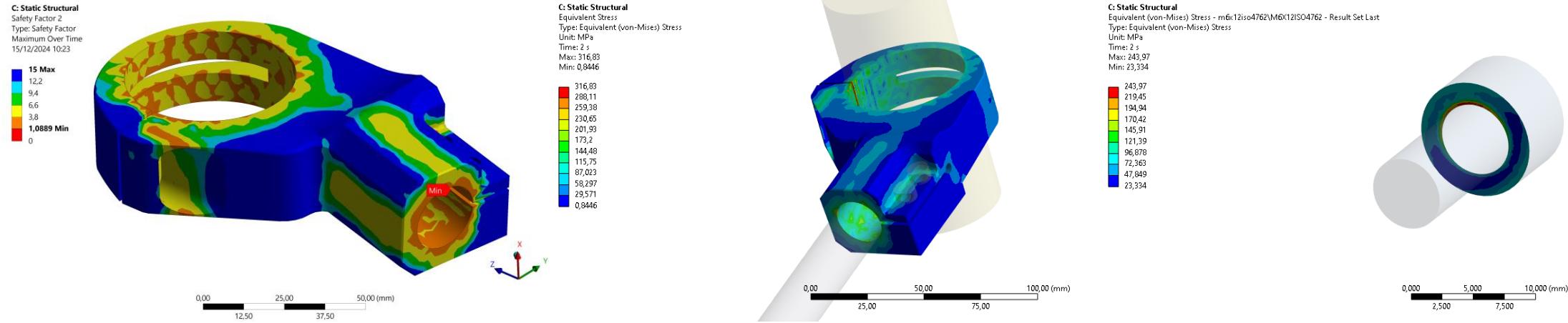




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# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## FEM RESULTS



Static Max Loads **SF**

Equivalent Von Mises Stress  $\sigma_{eq}$

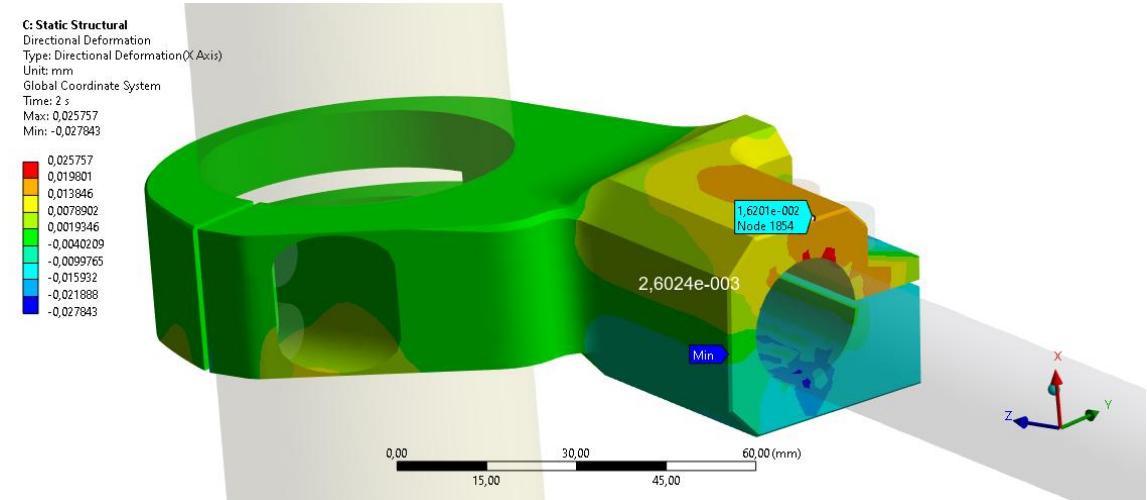
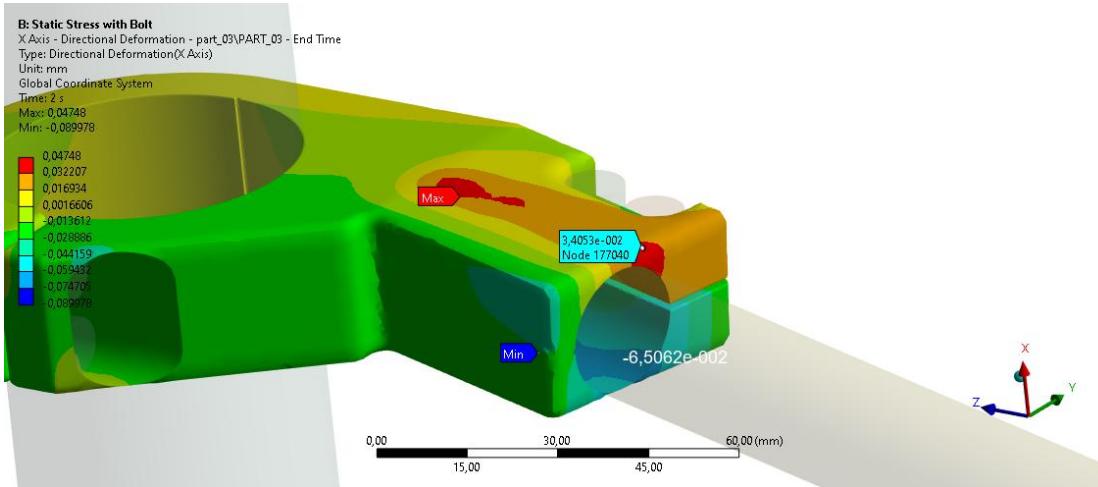
Underhead Pressure



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# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## OLD VS NEW DESIGN COMPARISON



<b>Weight</b>	0,278 Kg	0,271 Kg	-3%
<b>Compliance</b>	0,034 mm	0,016 mm	- 47%



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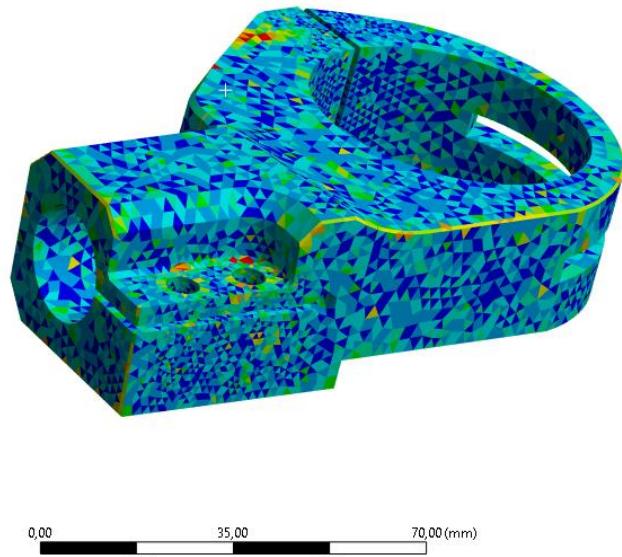
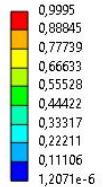
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## FEM RESULTS ACCURACY

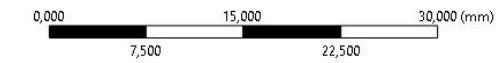
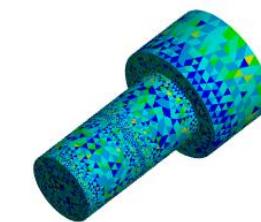
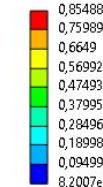
Mesh skewness leads to stress singularities in some areas.

This problem must have to be taken into account in the post-processing phase.

Mesh  
Skewness  
Max: 0,9995  
Min: 1,2071e-6



Mesh  
Skewness  
Max: 0,85488  
Min: 8,2007e-6





# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## FATIGUE ANALYSIS - BOLT

Fork_Handlebar Bolt					
Load introduction factor			Alternate stresses		
$\Phi_k$	0,42		$\Phi_n$	0,03	
Joint type	SV 6		d	6	mm
h	20	mm			
$a_k$	5	mm			
$l_A$	5	mm			
$l_A/h$	0,25				
$a_k/h$	0,25		$\sigma_{asv}$	59,5	MPa
n	0,06				

Bar_Handlebar Bolt	$\sigma_a$	
Front Bolt	0,12	Mpa
Rear Bolt	0,07	Mpa
$\sigma_{amax} < \sigma_{asv}$		

Fatigue calculations for Fork\_Handlebar connection.

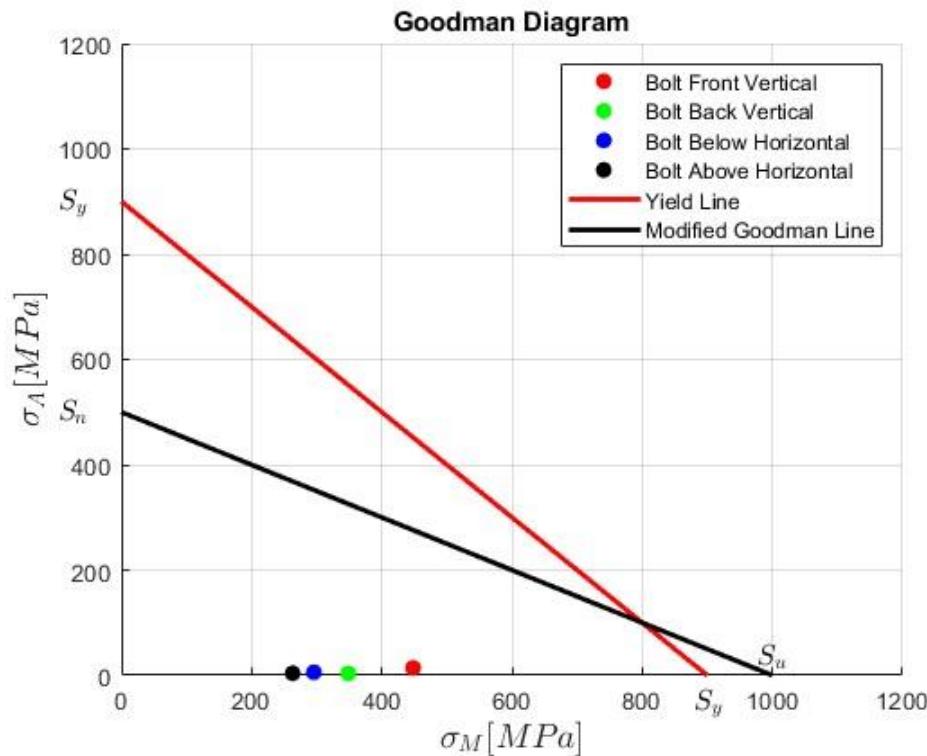
Fatigue analysis was done on each bolt following VDI 2230.

Since  $\sigma_{asv} >> \sigma_a$  the bolt meets the requirements.



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## FATIGUE ANALYSIS - BOLT GOODMAN DIAGRAM



Extracting Equivalent Sigma from FEM results, on thread bolt surfaces, Goodman diagram was applied.

Results were plotted using Matlab script.

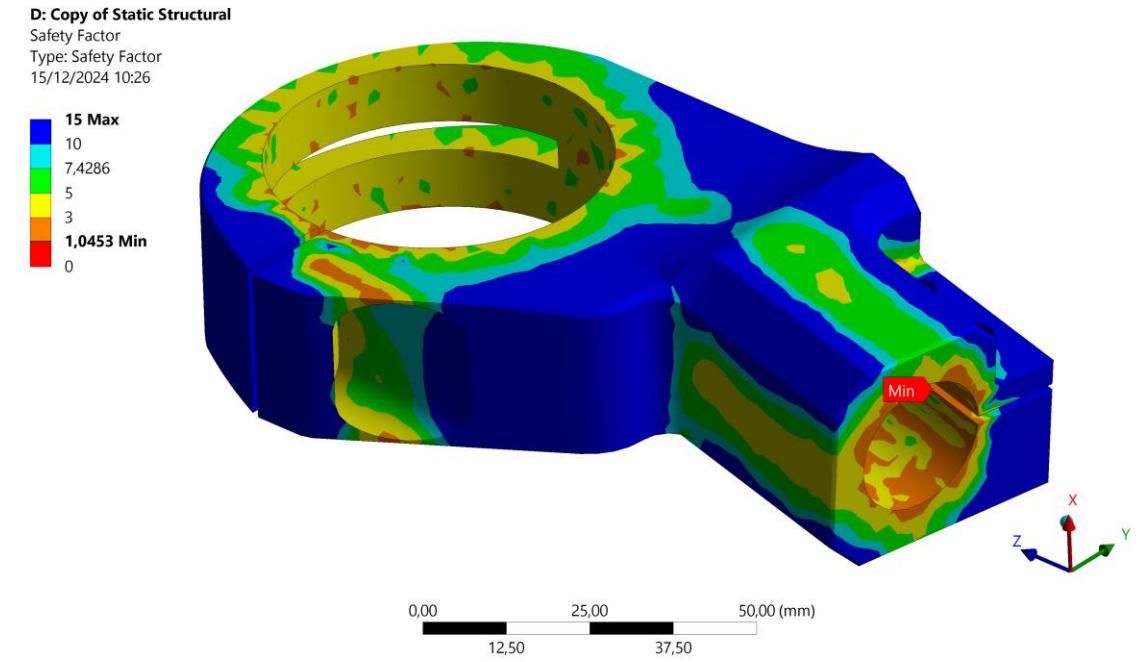
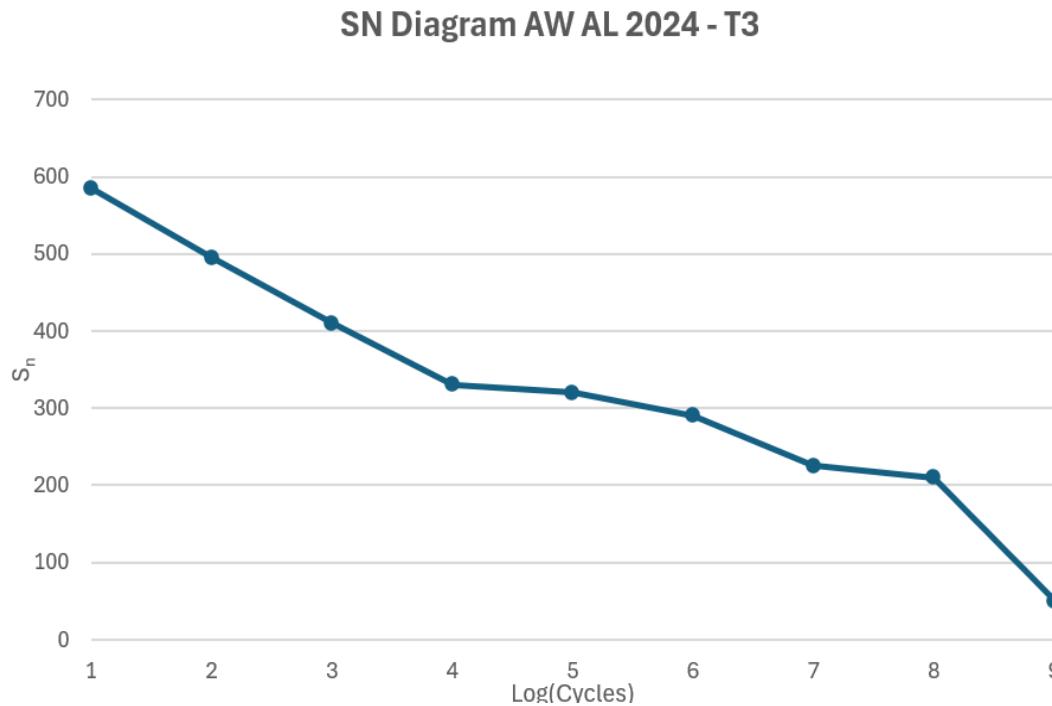
Validation Fatigue - Goodman Diagram				
	$\sigma_-$	$\sigma_+$	$\sigma_A$	$\sigma_M$
Front Vertical Bolt	434,05	462,3	14,125	448,175
Back Vertical Bolt	352,15	344,73	3,71	348,44
Lower Horizontal Bolt	289,8	301,44	5,82	295,62
Upper Horizontal Bolt	267,26	259,03	4,115	263,145



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## FATIGUE ANALYSIS – HANDLEBAR BRACKET SN DIAGRAM





# CHASSIS AND BODY DESIGN MANUFACTURING

## CONSIDERATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS



Data from FEM analysis were carefully reviewed to understand singularities and mesh errors.



A more resistant material, could be an excellent improvement for saving more weight.



CNC manufacturing is a significant manufacturing constraint, that limits the Topological Optimization capabilities.



From another perspective, CNC manufacturing is a more proven and well-tested production method.



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**THANKS FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**