Steel Frame with Solid Elements

www.calculixforwin.com

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Input data: Frame1.step file, material: steel, load = 25,000 lb (one side, half of span)

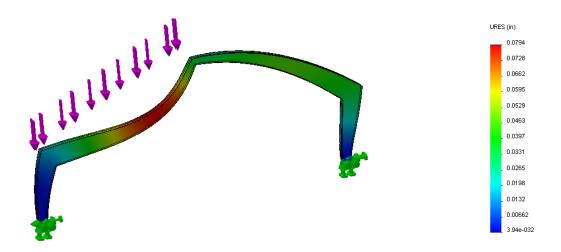


Fig. 1 - SolidWorks Simulation, Max. Displacements (0.08'')

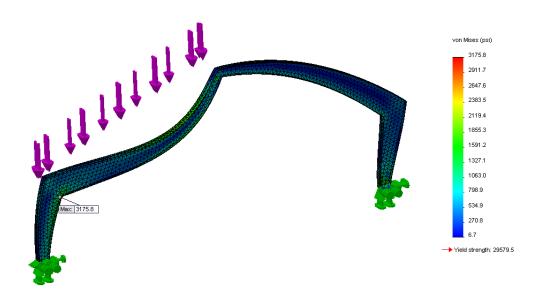


Fig. 2 - SolidWorks Simulation, Von Mises stress (3,176 psi, rough mesh)

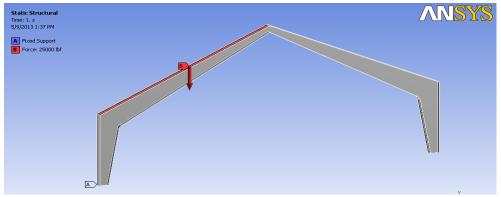


Fig. 3 ANSYS, Load applied

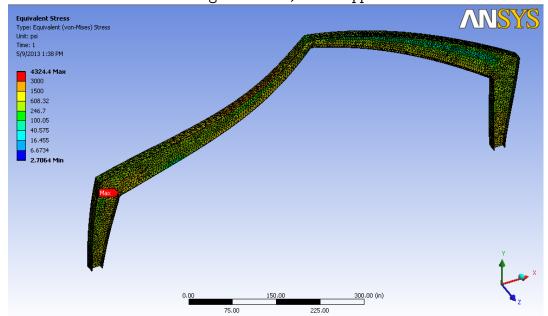


Fig. 4 ANSYS - Von Mises stress (max. 4320 psi, localized)

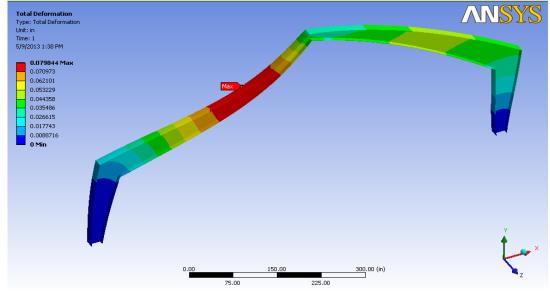


Fig. 5 ANSYS - Max. Displacement 0.08 in

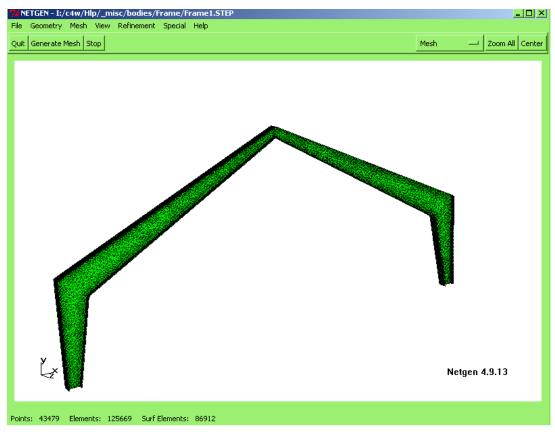


Fig. 6 - Load STEP file into NETGEN and mesh with default options

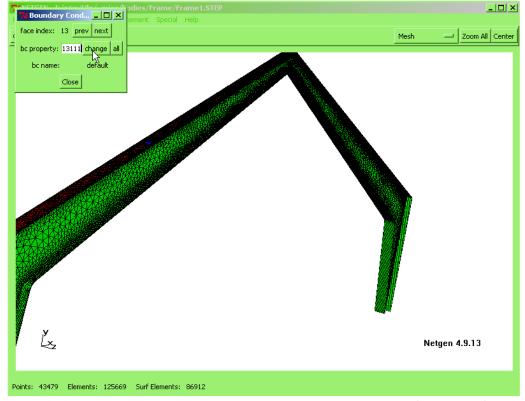
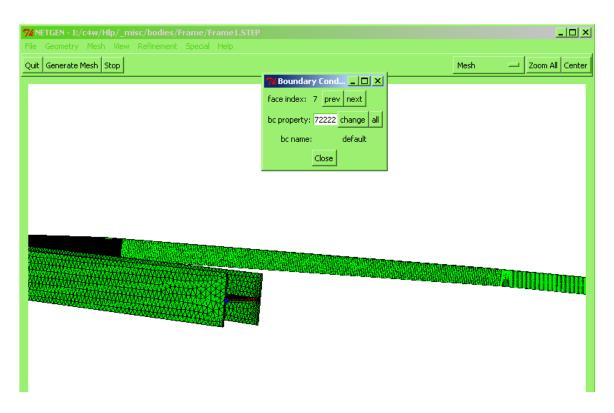


Fig. 7 - Mark faces with changing index number (for load)



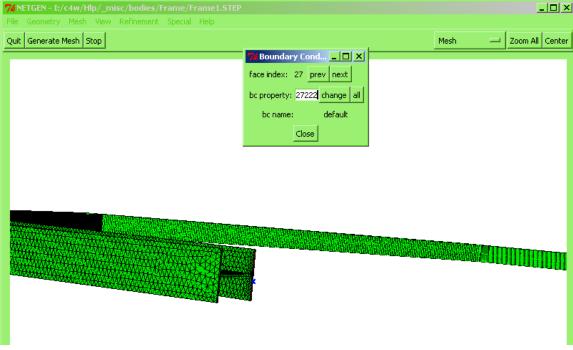
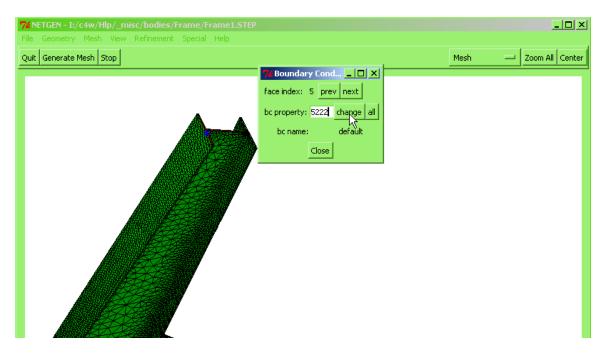


Fig. 8 - Mark faces with changing index number (supports)



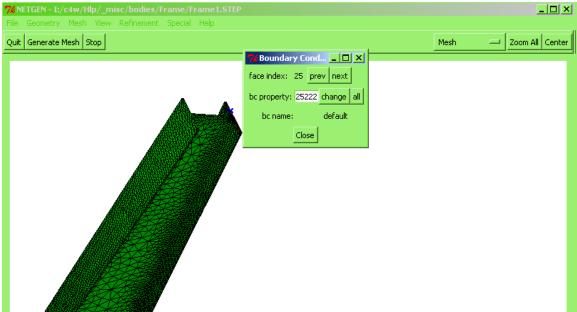


Fig. 9 - Mark faces with changing index number (supports)

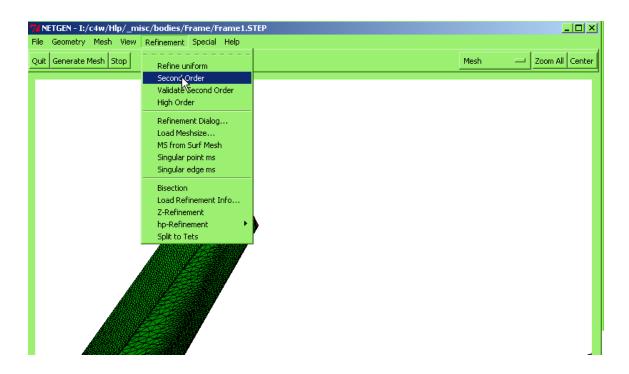


Fig. 9 Make elements as second order (add mid-nodes)

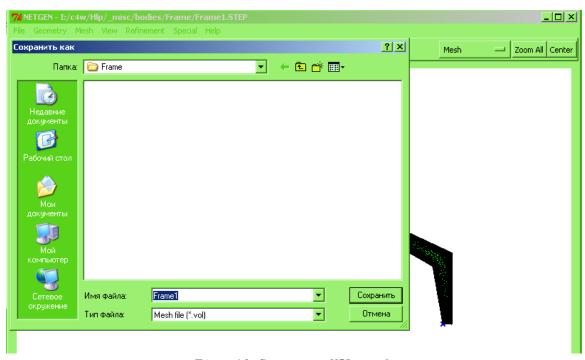
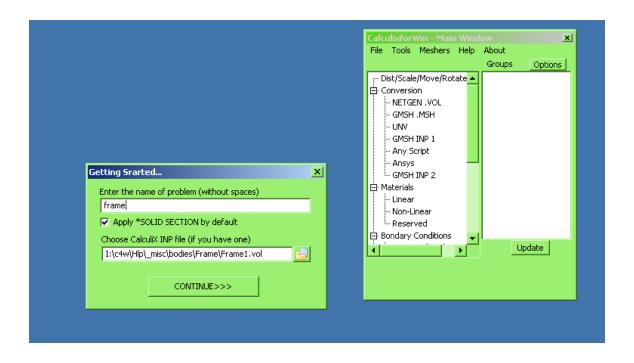


Fig. 10 Save as .VOL mesh



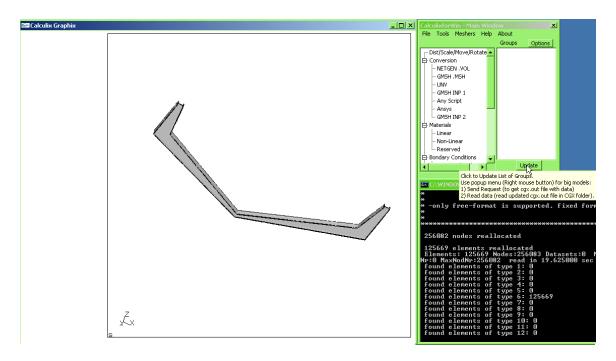
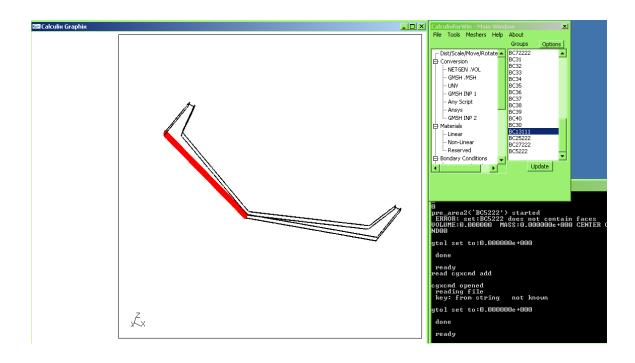


Fig. 11 Run CalculiXForWin and update groups



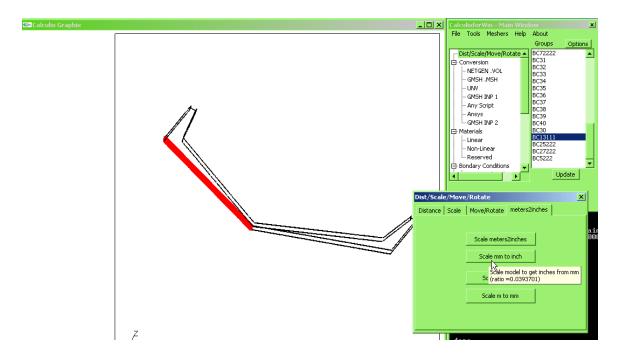


Fig. 12 Scale the model (needed with using STEP geometry with inches)
Don't forget to update groups in CalculiXForWin after scaling

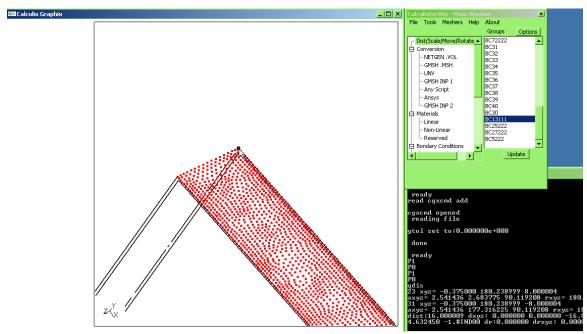


Fig. 13 Check the distance between two nodes ("qdis" card) to be sure that the model was scaled properly and not it is compatible with units you use.

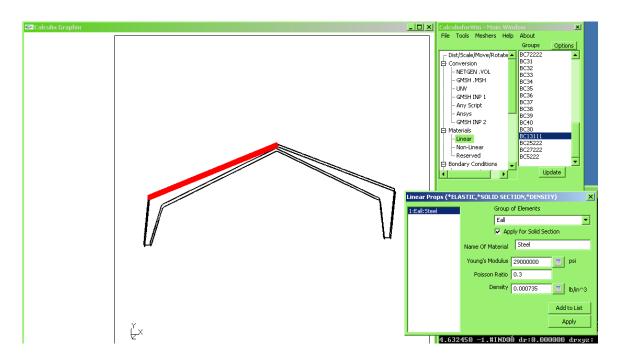


Fig. 14 Check material data applied

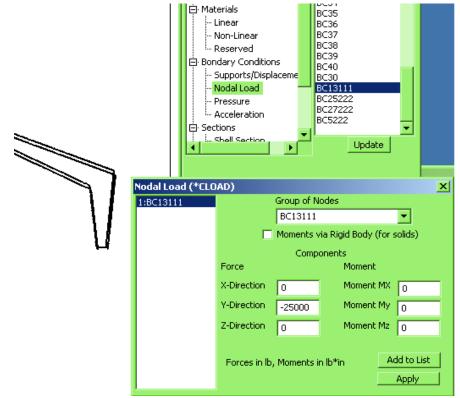


Fig. 15 Apply the load = 25,000 #

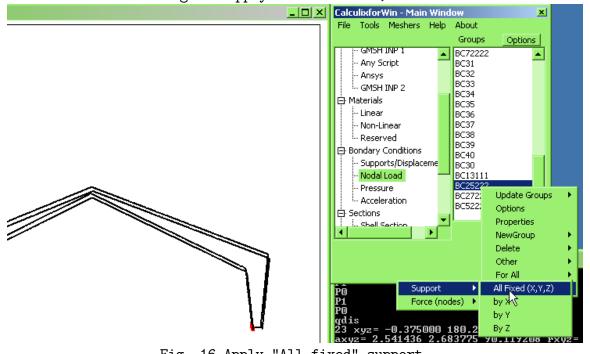


Fig. 16 Apply "All fixed" support

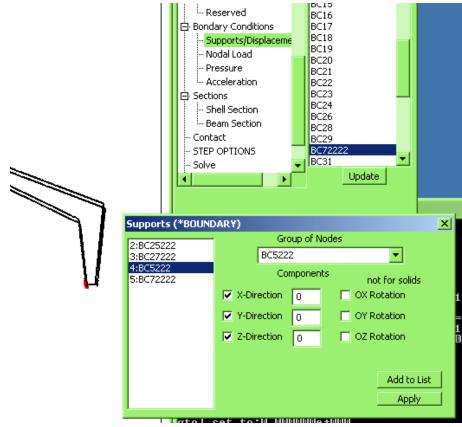


Fig. 17 "All fixed" support applied

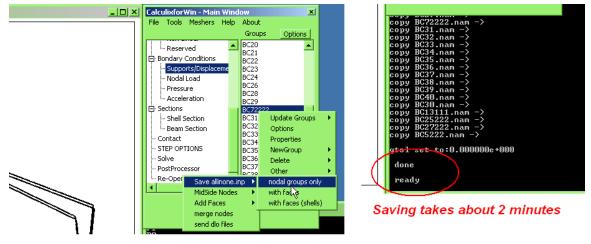


Fig. 18 Save "allinone.inp" file with groups. It may take some time.

Run the solution after saving .INP file. This is big model with accurate meshing. It could not be solved with 32-bit CCX version and 1.86 GB RAM. The model requires 64 - bit CCX (bconverged.com) and 8 GB RAM.

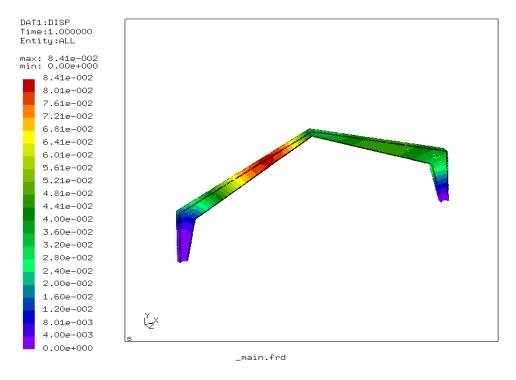


Fig. 19 CalculiX in Post-processing mode.

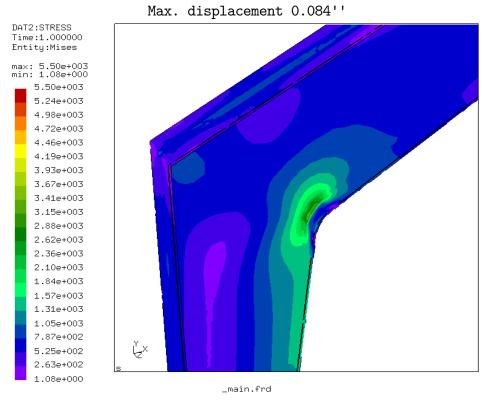
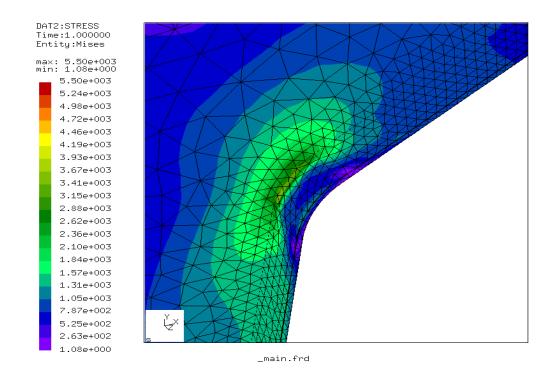


Fig. 20 Localized Von-Mises stress (highly sensitive to mesh quality)



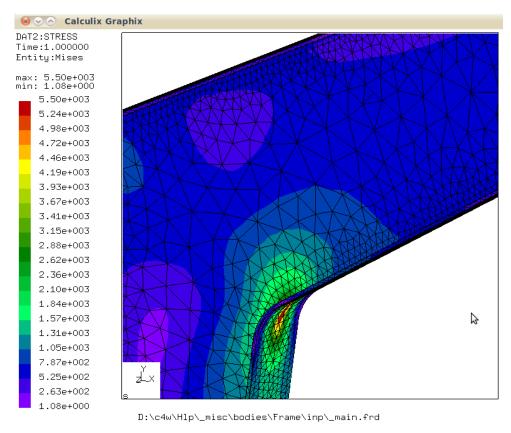


Fig. 21 Max. Von-Mises stress 5,500 psi is localized

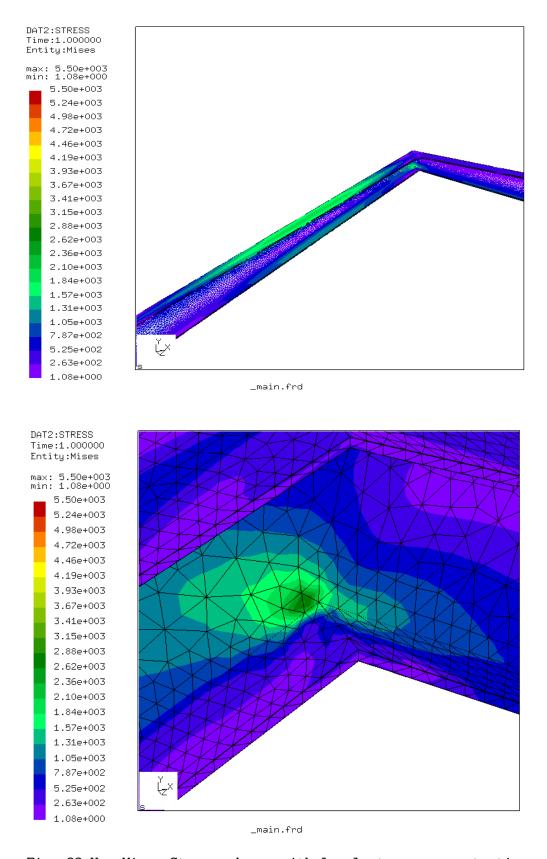


Fig. 22 Von-Mises Stress. Areas with local stress concentration