



ARL-TR-9334 • OCT 2021



Generalization and Expansion of Topology Optimization in MATLAB for Scalable High-Resolution Design

by Benjamin S Rathman and Andrew T Gaynor

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Generalization and Expansion of Topology Optimization in MATLAB for Scalable High-Resolution Design

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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
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1. REPORT DATE (DD-MM-YYYY) October 2021		2. REPORT TYPE Technical Report		3. DATES COVERED (From - To) January 2020–April 2021	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Generalization and Expansion of Topology Optimization in MATLAB for Scalable High-Resolution Design				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S) Benjamin S Rathman and Andrew T Gaynor				5d. PROJECT NUMBER AH80	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) DEVCOM Army Research Laboratory ATTN: FCDD-RLW-MB Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5066				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER ARL-TR-9334	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES corresponding author's email: <andrew.t.gaynor2.civ@army.mil>.					
14. ABSTRACT Generally, topology optimization codes are designed to find a solution for a single type of problem. For educational codes, this tends to be a 2-D problem solving for minimum compliance (maximum stiffness). This report presents a single algorithm that broadens the capabilities for topology optimization in MATLAB. The presented algorithm has been designed to optimize 2- and 3-D problems from a selection of objective functions. Provisions were also added to allow for the optimization of geometrically complex components using existing mesh (STL) files. The algorithm does this while maintaining a high degree of control over the optimization process and increasing efficiency (allowing for fast and high-resolution solutions).					
15. SUBJECT TERMS topology optimization, TO, additive manufacturing, AM, resolution					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT UU	18. NUMBER OF PAGES 60	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON Andrew T Gaynor
a. REPORT Unclassified	b. ABSTRACT Unclassified	c. THIS PAGE Unclassified			19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include area code) 410-306-0825

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Acknowledgments

Funding for this project was provided by the US Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Army Research Laboratory under Cooperative Agreement W911NF-20-2-0202.

Benjamin Rathman wishes to thank Dr Andrew Gaynor for his help in the development of this code. Rathman also wishes to thank Dr Andelle Kudzal for the opportunity to work on this research as well as her help and advice.

1. Introduction

Topology optimization (TO) is the process of redistributing material within a design envelope using finite element analysis (FEA) in a rigorous optimization scheme to make a component more efficient. Often, this design envelope is the outer surfaces of the component itself. Often, the driving mechanism of using TO is creating a resulting component that is lighter while maintaining the original mechanical properties. Additionally, the component can be optimized to achieve a certain goal with respect to a fixed volume fraction or minimize the volume with respect to a fixed goal. These goals, known as objective functions, include maximizing stiffness (minimum compliance),¹ minimizing stress, or changing the heat transfer properties.

The combination of additive manufacturing (AM) processes and TO design algorithms provides several opportunities for component and system modernization. One example is the Army's Next Generation Combat Vehicle cross-functional team. The lightweighting of structural components in combat vehicles facilitates greater maneuverability of the vehicle, allowing Soldiers to get out of harm's way. Conversely, the same design tools can be applied to redistribute weight from the structural system to other systems, such as those of armor or lethality.

This report presents the progress that has been made toward creating a MATLAB code for TO that can be used for a wide range of optimization problems while still allowing for a high degree of control. In addition, the code was designed to have good mesh scaling properties, allowing for high-resolution design and thus the capability to approximate the resolution of AM processes more closely.

This report is organized as follows. The 99-line code and its evolutions are reviewed in Section 2. The new algorithm is described in Section 3. Several extensions and expansions that have been added to the code are described in Section 4. Section 5 goes through the process of coding in a problem for optimization. In Section 6, the performance of this algorithm is examined in comparison with its predecessors. Conclusions are given in Section 7. The relevant code is provided in Appendixes A–G.

2. The 99-Line Code and Its Evolution

In 2001, Sigmund published a 99-line MATLAB code for solving 2-D TO problems for minimum compliance.^{2,3} This algorithm was designed as an educational tool for engineers to learn about the process of TO and aid in the development of the user's intuition regarding optimal designs. As a result of the program's simplicity, the user has complete control over the optimization process when compared to commercial solutions, with a few limitations. Problems are restricted to the use of the linear elastic material model for simplification of the FEA equations. Additionally, to simplify implementation, problems are relegated to a structured, rectangular mesh using linear rectangular and hexahedron elements for 2- and 3-D problems, respectively. While there is no inherent 3-D capability in the 99-line code, other codes using Sigmund's as the base have added this capability.

First, an FEA function is run to solve for the global displacement vector. The displacement vector is used to calculate compliance, ensuring the compliance is decreasing, using the following objective function:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min_{\phi} \quad & c(\phi) = \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{K} \mathbf{U} \\
 \text{subject to:} \quad & \mathbf{K}(\phi) \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{F} \\
 & \frac{\sum_{e \in \Omega} x(\phi)_e v_e}{V} \leq f \\
 & 0 \leq \phi^i \leq \phi^{\max} \quad \forall i \in \Omega,
 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where c is compliance, $\mathbf{x}$ is the vector of elemental densities, and ϕ is the vector of design variables. $\mathbf{U}$, $\mathbf{F}$, and $\mathbf{K}$ represent the global displacement vector, global force vector, and global stiffness matrix, respectively. v_e is the elemental volume, V is the total volume in the design domain, and f is the prescribed volume fraction. Finally, Ω is the design domain.

The 99-line code then uses a gradient-based optimization approach that assumes the material is homogeneous within each element. Each element is related to a design variable scaled by that element's density, where an element density of 0 implies no material density, or void, and an element density of 1 implies full material density. Since intermediate density materials are not achievable, binary solutions must be promoted. One prominent method to achieve this uses the solid isotropic material

with penalization (SIMP) interpolation method. The SIMP method (shown in Eq. 2) is used to promote a binary solution by penalizing intermediate densities.

$$E(\hat{x}_e) = E_{\min} + x_e^p(E_0 - E_{\min}), \quad (2)$$

where E , E_0 , and $E_{\min}$ represent the Young's moduli of the element, solid phase, and void phase, respectively; x_e represents the element density; and p represents the penalization factor. As shown in Eq. 2, the penalization process is performed by applying an exponential function on the domain such that low-density elements are forced to a zero-density condition and high-density elements are not affected as much. For example, with no penalization ($p = 1$), an element with a density of 0.5 (50%) equates to a 50% stiffness. With a penalization factor of 3, the same element would equate to a 12.5% stiffness.

After the SIMP method is applied, the gradient is filtered using one of the several available filtering methods to ensure the minimum length scale is being achieved. The minimum length scale is a prescribed parameter that describes the minimum feature size. Any feature smaller than this parameter is purged from the gradient.

Finally, the gradient is entered into the Optimality Criteria (OC) optimizer to update the design variables. The optimizer uses a bi-sectioning algorithm to find the Lagrangian multiplier that fulfills the prescribed volume fraction.

This entire process is repeated until the convergence criteria are met. The structure of Sigmund's code relies on several functions, albeit in the same script, to find an optimized solution. Sigmund's code utilizes a main function to run the optimization, with several child functions to do various calculations for each iteration.

Over the past two decades, several updates and extensions have been made to Sigmund's 99-line code. Some significant contributions are noted as follows. In 2003, Bendsøe and Sigmund published a book, which in addition to giving an introduction to the field of TO, details some extensions and alternate objective functions for the 99-line code.¹ In 2011, Andreassen et al. published an updated version of the 99-line code, the 88-line code, which utilized some of the functions MATLAB had made available in the previous decade to make the code more computationally efficient.⁴ In addition, some of the computations were made significantly more

efficient by eliminating for loops within the optimization loop. For example, Andreassen moved the calculation of indices for assembling of the global stiffness matrix outside the optimization loop. This change eliminated a double nested for loop and redundant calculations present in the 99-line code, replacing the assembly with a single efficient function call to `sparse`. In 2014, Liu and Tovar published an expanded version of Andreassen’s code that allowed for solving 3-D solutions, while keeping the same framework.⁵ In the following years, Liu and Tovar have posted several tutorials on their website (www.top3d.app) for adding functionality to the code. In 2020, Ferrari and Sigmund published an updated version of Andreassen’s 88-line code, allowing further speedups and savings in computational cost.⁶

Ferrari’s code, consisting of the files `top99neo.m` and `top3D125.m` for 2- and 3-D problems, respectively, was built to update Sigmund’s code to incorporate various speedups and reduce the computational cost. By optimizing the code layout and using recent and third-party MATLAB functions, there has been a significant increase in the performance of the algorithm. These speedups included the assembly of the global stiffness matrix, the OC update, the use of MATLAB’s `imfilter`, and the use of `fsparse`. Since the OC update was not used in this work, the details of this speedup are not reviewed.

In the assembly of the stiffness matrix, two major improvements were made. First, two vectors used in the assembly of Andreassen’s 88-line code, referred to as `iK` and `jK`, used MATLAB’s default numeric data type (double). Although this works, `iK` and `jK` can become very large and take up a substantial amount of random-access memory (RAM). To combat this issue and because the values of these vectors were integers anyway, Ferrari changed the data type of the `iK` and `jK` vectors from double to `int32`, reducing the RAM usage of each element from 8 to 4 bytes. The second major improvement was recognizing that both the elemental and global stiffness matrices are symmetrical. This means the optimization calculations can be done using a sparse triangular matrix instead of the full matrix.

The other speedups have also impacted the efficiency. One is the use of MATLAB’s `imfilter` function, which allows the filtering operations to be completed more efficiently. The other is the use of `fsparse`, a function developed by Engbolm and Lukarski.⁷ The `fsparse` function is more efficient than MATLAB’s `sparse` function and is also able to work with both the double and integer data types, al-

lowing for the new global stiffness matrix assembly to be implemented.

The Ferrari code was chosen as the base function for this work because of its efficiency and the ability to solve both 2- and 3-D problems using essentially the same code.

3. The Works Algorithm

Unfortunately, due to the requirement of this implementation of TO being simple to understand, Ferrari's code sacrifices performance for readability. In an effort to further increase the performance of the program and generalize the program to solve for objectives other than minimum compliance, `topTheWorks.m` has been developed (see Appendix B). While `topTheWorks.m` has the same general implementation as the two Ferrari scripts, the structure of the code has been modified to resemble Sigmund's code more closely, utilizing multiple child functions, to allow the algorithm to be more modular and extendable.

Starting from the published version of Ferrari's code, several major structure and implementation changes were made. These changes include the implementation of the multigrid preconditioned conjugate gradients (MGCG) solver and the method of moving asymptotes (MMA) optimizer, and restructuring the system to generalize the script.

The MGCG solver⁸ reduces the computational cost of assembling the displacement vector, $\mathbf{U}$. This is done by calculating the solution using a prescribed number of grid levels at subsequently higher resolutions. The calculation is first carried out on a low-resolution grid. As the grids become progressively higher resolution (in this implementation, for a 2-D problem, each element of a grid is split into four elements for the next grid), the solution is calculated using the coarser grid solution as a template. The relevant functions were placed in the file `multigrid.m` and modified to allow for the calculation of elements with different numbers of degrees of freedom (DoFs) (see Appendix F). Unfortunately, due to the way the MGCG solver is written, Ferrari's speedup utilizing the symmetry of the global stiffness matrix could not be used.

The MMA optimizer⁹ has replaced the OC optimizer in this code. While the OC optimizer is good as a heuristic approach for minimum compliance algorithms, it

is limited in function. The MMA optimizer is much more well known and well used for design update. Additionally, the MMA optimizer works better for objective functions other than minimum compliance. The relevant functions were placed in the file `mma.m`.

The algorithm has also been generalized in several ways. The Ferrari code (as well as its predecessors) was designed as functions, allowing the input arguments to be changed readily, but some changes, such as the load conditions, have to be made within the function. To remedy this, a template, `templateTO.m` (see Appendix A), was created as a sister program for `topTheWorks.m`, allowing multiple optimization problems to be solved without adjusting the core functions. To accomplish this, several changes needed to be made to how the optimization algorithm was called. In addition to the standard input arguments for optimization (`nelx`, `nely`, `nelz`, `volfrac`, `penal`, and `rmin`), several other parameters were pulled out of the code and converted to input arguments. First, the assembly of the force ($\mathbf{F}$) and fixed vectors and the passive matrix, representing the applied load, supports, and domain, respectively, have been made into input arguments. Additionally, the material properties have been pulled out of the code and made into the input argument `mat`, which is a vector consisting of E_0 (Young's modulus of the solid), $E_{\min}$ (Young's modulus of the void), ν (Poisson's ratio), σ_Y (yield strength), σ_{UTS} (ultimate tensile strength), K_0 (thermal conductivity of the solid), and $K_{\min}$ (thermal conductivity of the void). Additional input arguments have been introduced to add functionality: `obj`, which defines the objective function; `resol`, which denotes the resolution of the part in elements per unit length; `ft`, which defines the filtering scheme being used; `maxit`, which defines the maximum allowable number of iterations; and `nl`, which denotes the number of grid layers used in the MGCG solver.

In addition, two more fundamental generalizations were made. The first was to expand the capability of a single code to solve both 2- and 3-D optimization problems. The second was to allow multiple objective functions to be solved.

Finally, several smaller generalizations were made. First, the assembly of the elemental stiffness matrix, $\mathbf{K}^e$, has been generalized so that instead of this matrix being calculated from a series of constants, the matrix is now calculated based off the prescribed material properties and is no longer restricted to square elements.

This additional functionality, while more computationally expensive, is only done once and makes the code more robust. It is worth noting that the use of an actual instead of a unit Young's modulus causes the multigrid calculations to take significantly longer. Second, the code was expanded to solve for multiple load cases in the same solution. Lastly, the MMA variables were scaled to allow for the optimizer to properly work through the problem using actual material properties, instead of the unit material properties that were used in the 99-line and subsequent codes.

To facilitate the use of multiple objective functions and filtering schemes, several parts of the code were placed into child functions. This decision was made to increase readability and allow for later expansion of the code without compromising the working base function. The functions are structured as shown in Table 1.

Table 1 `topTheWorks.m` function structure

Function	Description
<code>templateTO.m</code>	Template for defining the optimization problem
<code>topTheWorks.m</code>	TO algorithm
<code>objective.m</code>	Calculates FEA solutions based on the defined objective function
<code>objMatrices.m</code>	Assembles elemental property matrices based on the defined material properties
<code>filtertype.m</code>	Applies a defined filter to the domain, ensuring adherence to the imposed minimum length scale
<code>multigrid.m</code>	Applies the MGCG solver to the problem
<code>mma.m</code>	Applies the MMA optimizer to the problem

The functions relating to solving the objective function, such as those used for FEA, were placed in the file `objective.m` (see Appendix C). The functions used for calculating the elemental stiffness matrix, constitutive matrix, strain displacement matrix, and elemental conduction matrix were placed in the function `objMatrices.m` (see Appendix D). The functions relating to the filtering scheme were placed in the file `filtertype.m` (see Appendix E).

In addition to the optimization functions, several third-party MATLAB functions were used in the creation of this algorithm. The `findND` function acts similarly to MATLAB's built-in `find` function, but extends the functionality to more dimensions (MATLAB's `find` is restricted to two dimensions).¹⁰ This function is used in the assembly of the load and support vectors. The `vtkwrite` function converts a matrix to the VTK file format.¹¹ This function is used to visualize the optimized solutions in ParaView.¹²

4. Extensions

A number of extensions were made to the base code including various filtering schemes, the ability to optimize over arbitrarily complex geometries, and the ability to optimize for thermal compliance (heat conduction).

4.1 Filtering Schemes

In Andreassen's 88-line code two filtering methods were provided: sensitivity filtering and density filtering. Ferrari's code added the use of a projection-based filtering method. Each of these methods focuses on controlling the minimum length scale of the solid phase. While this functionality is very useful, it is sometimes desirable to control the minimum length scale of the void phase, especially in applications where sharp internal corners are not desired.

The Heaviside projection method (HPM) was originally developed to achieve implicit control on the minimum length scale of the solid phase using Eq. 3.¹³

$$x_{e1} = 1 - e^{-\beta\mu^e(\phi)} + \mu^e(\phi)e^{-\beta}, \quad (3)$$

where x_{e1} represents the element density for the solid phase, $\mu^e(\phi)$ represents the projection intensity of an element, and β represents the curvature of regularization. To adjust this filtering method to project the void phase, a simple modification is made, resulting in Eq. 4.¹⁴

$$x_{e0} = e^{-\beta\mu^e(\phi)} - \mu^e(\phi)e^{-\beta}, \quad (4)$$

where x_{e0} represents the element density for the void phase. Controlling only the void phase can cause the resulting solution to have very thin features that are not easily manufacturable. To achieve better results while still being able to control the minimum length scale of the void phase, multiphase Heaviside projection can be used, although it is more computationally expensive. In the multiphase projection method, the minimum length scale of both the solid and void phases are controlled. Equations 3 and 4 are superposed to create the combined projection equation.

$$x_e = \frac{x_{e0} + x_{e1}}{2}. \quad (5)$$

Since the elemental projection intensities of the solid and void phases are different, the two projection equations do not cancel out. Instead, for each element, the two elemental densities are averaged. In standard Heaviside projection algorithms, beta is controlled by a continuation scheme to avoid convergence to poor local minima.^{13,14} To make the HPMs more efficient, the beta continuation was eliminated using a modified Heaviside filtering scheme.¹⁵ Examples of the sensitivity, density, and the Heaviside filtering methods are displayed in Fig. 1.

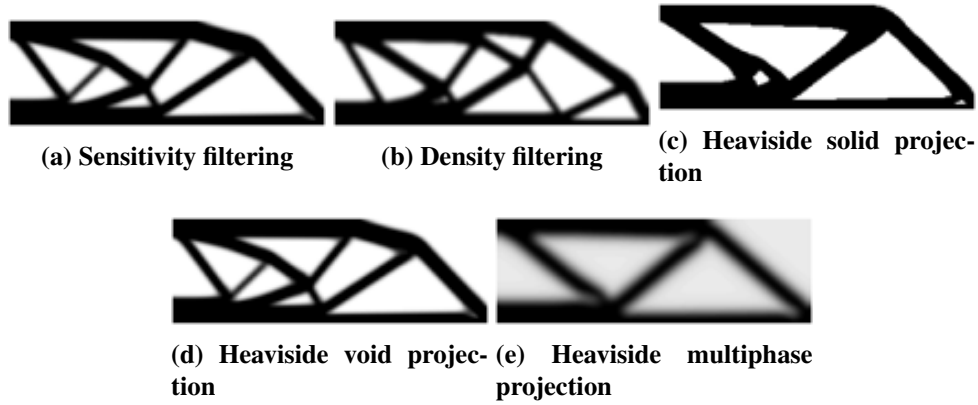


Fig. 1 Optimal topologies for the simply supported beam with load on center problem with various filtering and projection schemes applied

To accommodate use of all the mentioned filtering methods, `filtertype.m` was developed. The second argument when calling the `filtertype` function is `ft`, which defines the filtering method being used. The values of `ft` and their associated filtering methods are listed in Table 2.

Table 2 Filtering methods

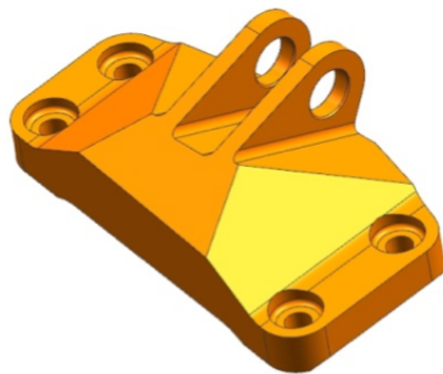
Value of <code>ft</code>	Filtering method
1	Sensitivity
2	Density
3	Heaviside projection (solid phase)
4	Heaviside projection (void phase)
5	Multiphase Heaviside projection

4.2 Complex Geometries

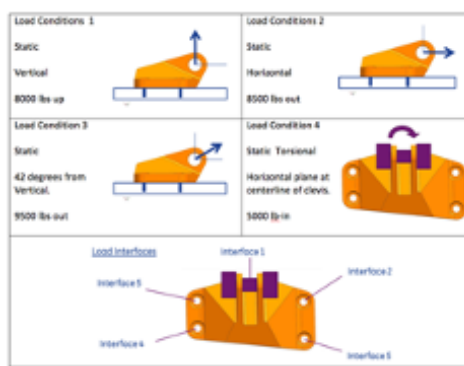
Since the Ferrari code and its predecessors are designed as learning tools, there is a simplifying assumption made regarding the geometries of the components being optimized. Generally, the geometries being solved take up the full domain of the matrix (a rectangle for 2-D and rectangular prism for 3-D problems). This problem can be fixed by defining passive elements (as opposed to active elements) in the problem. Passive elements are user-defined elements that the solver cannot change the density of. Elements can be defined as passive solid, passive void, or active (the default state of an element). Ever since Sigmund's code, the algorithm has had the capability for adding passive elements, but their use, at least in literature, has been relegated to examples such as passing a pipe through a beam.

The additional functionality of having complex geometries allows the user to solve optimization problems of more complex parts. Additionally, this functionality allows initial guesses to be imported into the optimizer, known as seeding. The seeding process is used to promote feature growth in a certain way. For example, a conventional finned heatsink can act as a possible seed for a heat transfer problem.

To find solutions for more complex geometries, a method has been developed using passive elements to define the design space. As a proof-of-concept problem, the GE bracket was used from GrabCAD's "GE jet engine bracket challenge".¹⁶ The object of the challenge was to optimize a given component subjected to provided load cases (shown in Fig. 2¹⁶), making this problem a perfect test case.



(a) Original GE bracket geometry



(b) Design load cases

Fig. 2 Problem definition for the GE bracket challenge problem

The geometry was first imported into MATLAB using the `VOXELISE` function. This function uses the `READstl` function and is designed to create a 3-D Boolean matrix of voxels from an existing triangular-polygon mesh.¹⁷ A “voxelized” version of the GE bracket displayed in ParaView is shown in Fig. 3.

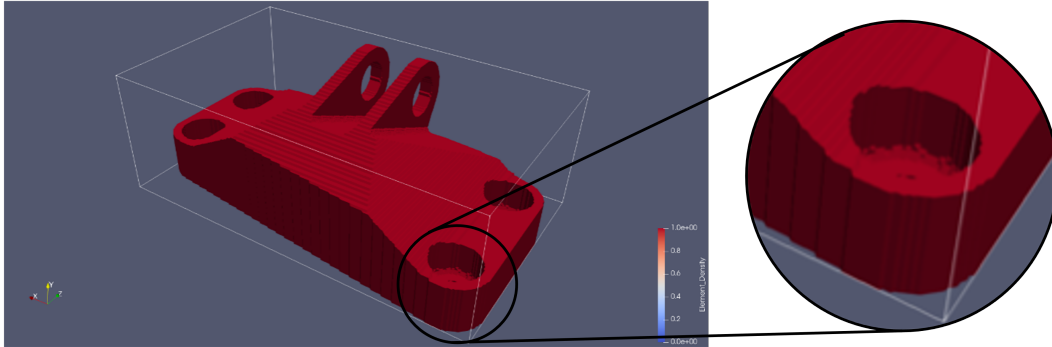


Fig. 3 “Voxelized” GE bracket ($268 \times 92 \times 160$ elements)

The geometry displayed in Fig. 3 represents the active elements for the optimization process. The “voxelized” GE bracket was then inverted to create the passive matrix. This passive matrix defined the all elements that were not in the GE bracket as passive void, allowing the complex geometry to be maintained through the optimization process.

Using a technical drawing of the GE bracket drawn in `SOLIDWORKS`¹⁸ from the provided STEP file, dimensions for the load interfaces were retrieved. Through use of MATLAB’s `permute` and `ipermute` functions and several if statements and for loops, the interfaces were “extruded” in MATLAB.

The load cases were defined using the same conventions as those in the Ferrari code. The four given load cases were programmed in to make sure that the solutions were coming out as expected. Finally, the combined load case was programmed in and the program run, resulting in the optimized solution in Fig. 4.

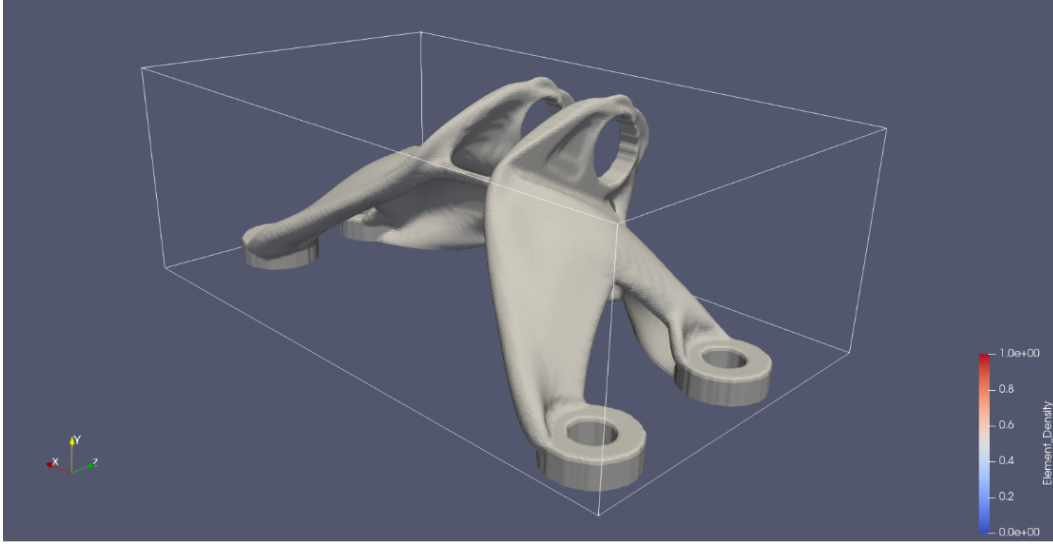


Fig. 4 Optimized GE bracket topology

4.3 Heat Transfer

As alluded to earlier, the functionality of this algorithm has been extended to multiple objective functions. In particular, the heat conduction objective function was looked at and added to the `objective` and `objMatrices` functions. The problem statement was proposed by Bejan and is as follows: “Consider a finite-size volume in which heat is being generated at every point and which is cooled through a small patch (heat sink) located on its boundary. A finite amount of high conductivity material is available. Determine the optimal distribution of material through the given volume such that the highest temperature is minimized”.¹⁹ Realistically, the solution can also be used as a heatsink from a point of high heat. This is done by using the objective function shown in Eq. 6.²⁰

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min_{\phi} \quad & c(\phi) = \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{K} \mathbf{U} \\
 \text{subject to:} \quad & \mathbf{K}(\phi) \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{F} \\
 & \frac{\sum_{e \in \Omega} x(\phi)_e v_e}{V} \leq f \\
 & 0 \leq \phi^i \leq \phi^{\max} \quad \forall i \in \Omega,
 \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

where c is now the thermal compliance. $\mathbf{U}$, $\mathbf{F}$, and $\mathbf{K}$ represent the global temperature vector, global heat load vector, and global heat conduction matrix, respectively.

As shown in Eqs. 1 and 6, the system of equations for structural and thermal compliance are the same. To apply the heat conduction problem, the fixed vector is considered the heatsink ($T = 0$ condition) and all other elements have a heat flux applied, becoming part of the F vector.

The implementation of the heat conduction objective function only required a couple of modifications. The first modification was to add the assembly of the heat conduction matrix to `objMatrices`. The heat conduction matrices were taken from the 91-line MATLAB code for heat conduction¹ and the heat conduction modification for Liu and Tovar's 3-D optimization code²¹ for the 2- and 3-D conditions, respectively. Next, the code was modified to generate one DoF for each element (instead of the two or three for 2- or 3-D minimum compliance, respectively). Finally, the appropriate FEA equations were added to `objective`.

To test the functionality, three load cases were programmed in: the sphere sink, the cylinder sink, and the plate sink. The cylinder sink is shown in Fig. 5.

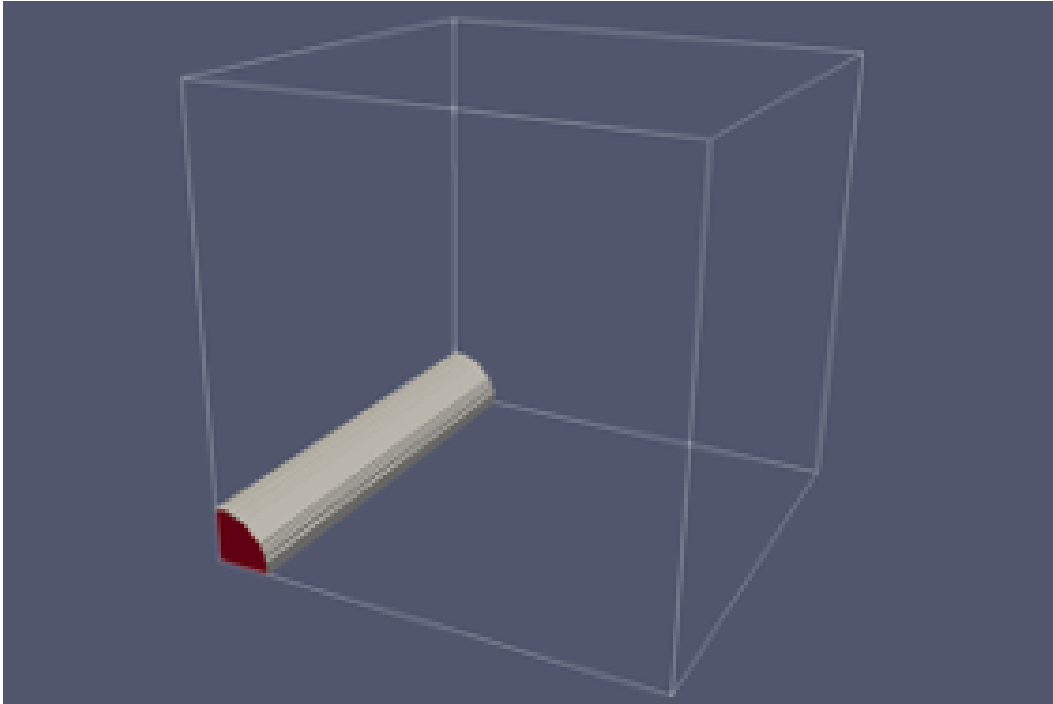


Fig. 5 Cylinder heat sink design case (1/4 domain)

Using the heat conduction objective function and a volume fraction of 0.25 (25% of the original domain), the following solution was found for the cylinder load case (Fig. 6).

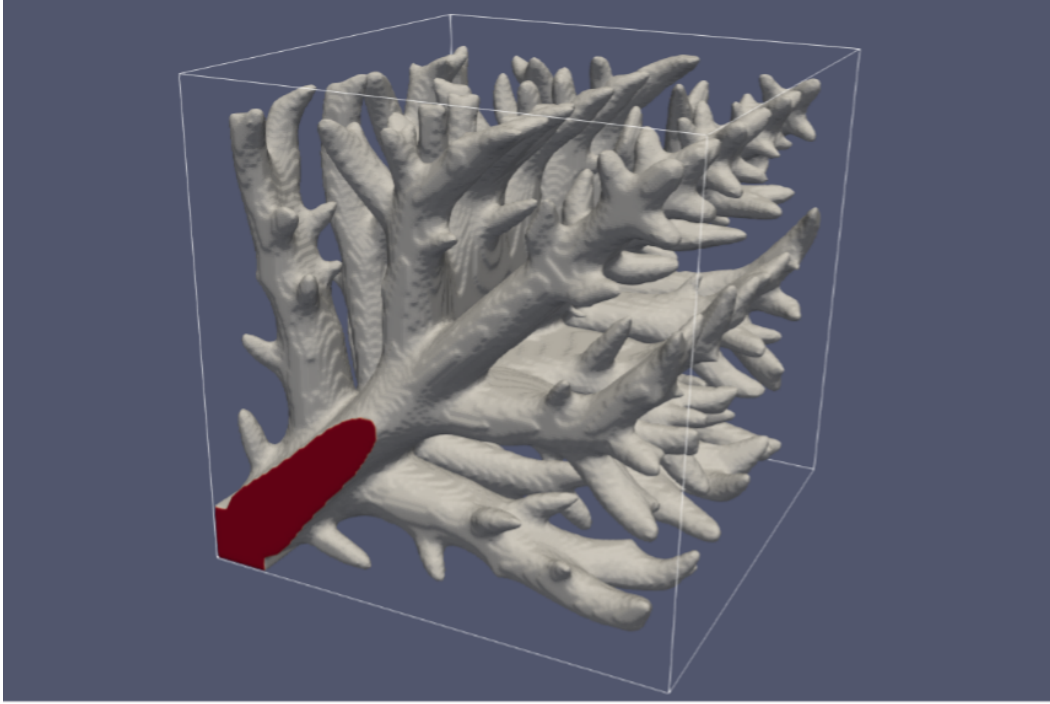


Fig. 6 Optimized solution for the cylinder heatsink

As shown in Fig. 6, the solution generated dendritic structures, which agrees with solutions in shown in literature for heat conduction optimization. There is a method of optimization that reduces the dendritic structures,²² but this method was not applied in this research.

To allow for the use of multiple objective functions in one algorithm, `objective.m` was developed. The first argument when calling the `objective` function is `obj`, which defines the objective function being used. The values of `obj` and their associated objective functions are listed in Table 3.

Table 3 Objective functions

Value of <code>obj</code>	Objective function
1	Structural compliance
2	Stress (WIP)
3	Thermal compliance (heat conduction)

5. The Works Problem Setup: GE Bracket Problem Example

As an example of the process used to set up an optimization problem, the GE bracket problem is set up using `templateTO.m` (see Appendix G). First, the geometry must be imported into MATLAB. Before calling the `VOXELISE` function, the following arguments need to be defined: `x` (the number of elements in the `x`-direction), `y`, `z`, and the filename. For this process to be mesh independent, `x`, `y`, and `z` are defined by the following lines of code:

```
24 stl = 'original';    % Filename of the geometry being imported
25 xd = 7.029;          % x-dimension
26 yd = 2.461;          % y-dimension
27 zd = 4.262;          % z-dimension
28 resol = 15;          % Part resolution (ele./unit)
29 nl = 3;              % Number of grid levels used in TO (MGCG)
30 loadCase = 0;        % Load condition
31 radj = 2^(nl-1)*round(resol*[xd,yd,zd]/2^(nl-1)); %
    ↪ Convert dimensions to elements
32 [x,y,z] = deal(radj(1),radj(2),radj(3));
```

The variables `xd`, `yd`, and `zd` represent the actual dimensions of the GE bracket in inches. The variables `resol` and `nl` (used in the calculation of `radj`) are used to adjust the number of elements in each direction. Since the coarsest layer using the MGCG solver is made up of elements from the prescribed mesh, the number of elements in each direction must be divisible by two to the power of the number of layers used in the solver minus one. Next, the filename of the geometry to be imported is defined as a string in the variable `stl` without the file extension. `VOXELISE` is called using the lines:

```
34 stldomain = VOXELISE(x,y,z,[stl,'.stl']);
35 domain = double(~stldomain);
```

A few attempts will likely be required to make sure that the coordinate system being used by the `VOXEISE` function is the same as is used by `x`, `y`, and `z`. If the coordinate systems are not the same, the aspect ratios on the part will not be correct. This error can be corrected by finding the correct permutation of `x`, `y`, and `z`. The domain is then defined by inverting the Boolean matrix that is output by `VOXEISE` because the optimization function regards values of 0 in the passive matrix as active elements, values of 1 as passive void, and values of 2 as passive solid. Finally, since the entirety of the matrix is not being used, `domainVol` is calculated as a correction factor for the prescribed volume fraction using the following statement:

```
36 domainVol = 1-mean(domain(:));
```

The next step in the formulation of the GE bracket problem is to define the loaded and supported nodes. The load and support elements were then found and defined as passive solid elements, as shown in Fig. 7.

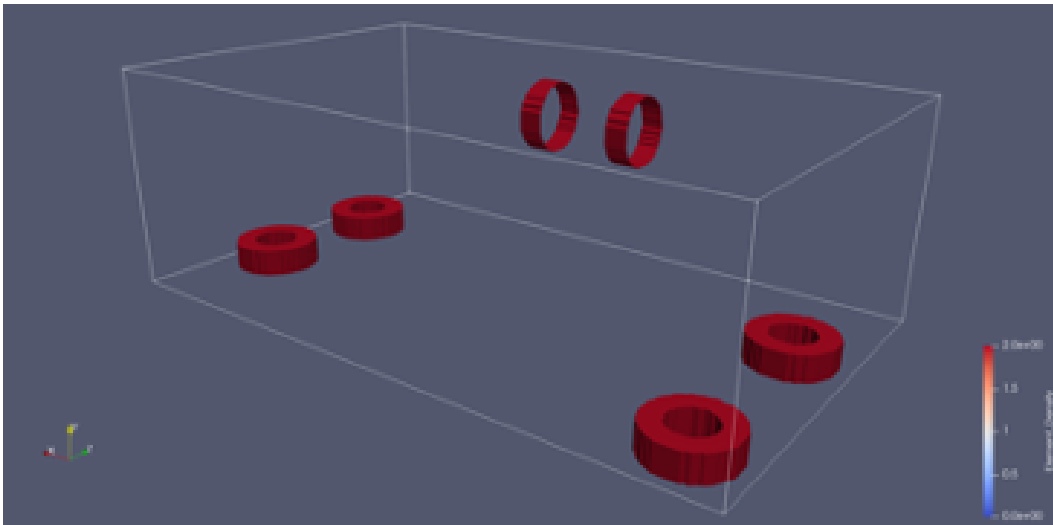


Fig. 7 Defined support and load elements

Interface 1 in Fig. 2b was only defined as the inside ring of elements while interfaces 2–5 were defined to include the points where the bolt heads would interact with the bracket. This is done by first defining the loaded and supported elements. The support elements were found using the technical drawing of the GE bracket, where the origin of the dimensions is the element with coordinates (1,1,1) in MATLAB. To make the feature positions mesh independent, the lengths were divided by the

component length. The radii of the support holes and the counterbores were also defined using this method. Lines 56–62 define these interfaces.

To define the elements that act as support elements, a cylindrical tube of support elements with an inner diameter of the hole diameter and an outer diameter of the counterbore diameter was “extruded” through the geometry. First, the domain was reoriented using MATLAB’s `permute` function. The support elements were extruded using lines 63–85.

For each layer, an element is checked to make sure that the bracket is still being looked at. For each element in the layer, that element is checked to see if the element lies within any of the defined cylindrical tubes. If it does, then the element is defined as a support element, which is later redefined as passive solid. Any elements within the holes are redefined as passive void. Finally, the domain is put back into its initial orientation. After the supported elements are defined, the DoFs at those elements must be fixed and the support vector assembled using lines 87–92. Since each node has three DoFs (one for each direction), all three DoFs must be fixed for each node, achieved in line 92.

To define the loaded elements, the same process is used as was used to define the supported elements, using lines 95–130. The main difference is that the “extrusion” process is done twice. This was done so that the two sides of interface 1 can be loaded in different directions for the torque load case (load condition 4 in Fig. 2b). A simplifying assumption was made for load condition 4, allowing the torque to be applied as two linear forces (one on each half of interface 1) in opposite directions. The next step is to define the load DoFs from the loaded elements. This process is completed in three steps: the definition of the loaded DoFs for the linear forces (load conditions 1–3 in Fig. 2b), the definition of the loaded DoFs for the torque in one direction, and the definition of the loaded DoFs for torque in the other direction. This was done in lines 132–154. Then, the load vectors, $\mathbf{F}$, were assembled using lines 156–174.

In the first argument of `fsparse`, the DoFs are plugged in, but the direction is also defined. The convention is to add -1 for a force parallel to the direction along which `nelx` is defined, add 0 for `nely`, and add 1 for `nelz`. The values of `loadcase` are equivalent to the load condition numbers from the GE bracket problem definition. The `loadcase = 0` condition accounts for all of the load conditions in the

same solution. Finally, the optimization function is called using the line:

```

178 xPhys = topTheWorks(obj,mat,x,y,z,resol,volfrac*domainVol,penal,rmin,ft,...
179                    maxit,nl,passive,F,fixed); % Run
                    ↪ topology optimization

```

6. Performance

Since the `topTheWorks` function is based off of Ferrari's code, the performance increases inherent in the Ferrari's published code is present in this code. With the addition of the MGCG solver and the MMA optimizer, the code is even more computationally efficient. Figure 8 shows an informal comparison of the published 3-D optimization algorithms from Liu and Tovar, Ferrari, and this code using the minimum compliance objective function and a unit Young's modulus. For this testing, a desktop with an AMD Ryzen 2600, 32 GB of RAM, running Windows 10 and MATLAB R2018b was used.

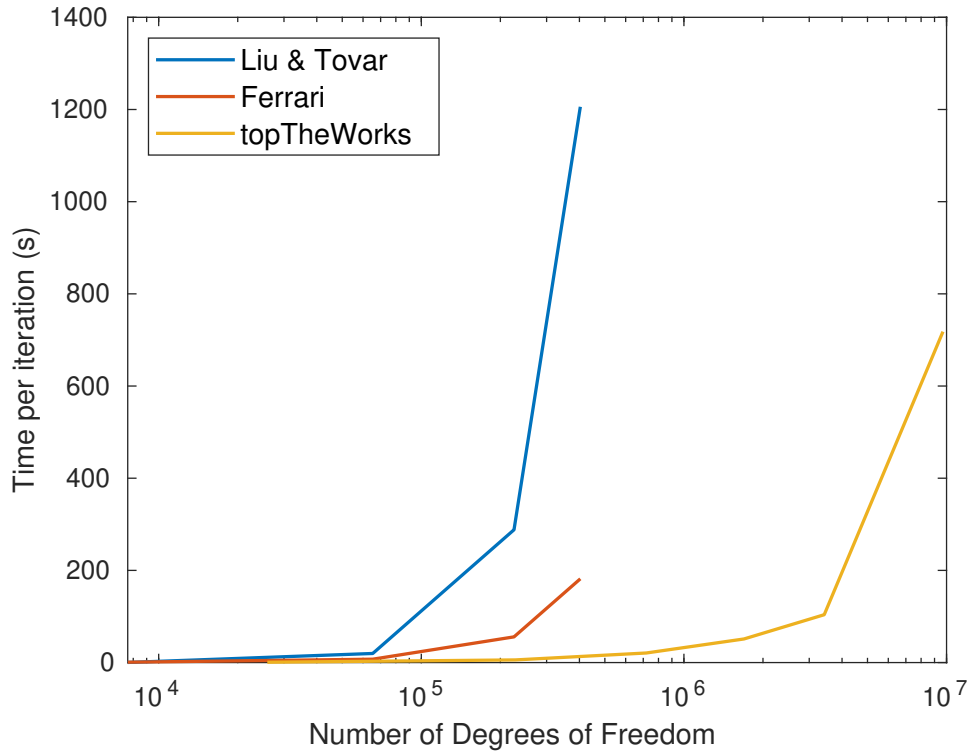


Fig. 8 Comparison of 3-D TO algorithms

The number of DoFs was increased until the algorithm became impractical to run or the algorithm failed due to memory limitations. As shown, the Liu and Tovar code became impractical to run at just over 400,000 DoFs due to the amount of time per iteration the program was taking to run. At this same point, the Ferrari code failed in the assembly of the $\mathbf{L}$ matrix. This code was able to get up to about 10 million DoFs before running into memory issues.

7. Conclusion

This report presents a MATLAB code for TO that was developed to be used on a wide array of optimization problems. Several design objectives for this code have been achieved:

1. A high degree of control over the optimization process can still be used.
2. High-resolution solutions of approximately 10 million DoFs can be found.
3. The code has been restructured and a method developed to allow for optimization problems with complex geometries to be solved.
4. The code is structured in a way allowing for modules such as different objective functions and filters to be used without modifying the optimization framework.

This code allows for fast, high-resolution solutions to be found, providing smoother solutions that can be easily manufactured using AM processes. With the readability of MATLAB, and the ability of the code to run in both local computation and high-performance computation environments, the barrier to entry for highly scalable, fast, generalized TO is reduced. Additionally, the code's ability to use different objective functions and filtering methods make it very flexible. Using this code, optimized solutions can be found and used in compliance with projects such as the lightweighting of structural components in combat vehicles, allowing for the modernization of systems.

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Appendix A. templateTO.m

```

1 %% TOPOLOGY OPTIMIZATION TEMPLATE -----%
2 % Created By: Benjamin S. Rathman, Montana Technological University
3 % Program Name: templateTO.m
4 %% Program Description -----%
5 % This program is designed to be utilized as a template for running a
6 % topology optimization problem using topTheWorks.m
7 %% Initialize Program -----%
8 clear; clc;
9 fprintf('Program_Running\n');
10 %% MATERIAL PROPERTIES -----%
11 scale = 1e-6; % Material scaling factor;
12 E0 = 1.0; % Young's modulus
13 Emin = E0*scale; % Young's modulus of void
14 nu = 0.3; % Poisson's ratio
15 sigmaY = 1.0; % Yield strength
16 sigmaUTS = 1.0; % Ultimate tensile strength
17 k0 = 1.0; % Thermal conductivity
18 kmin = k0*scale; % Thermal conductivity of void
19 mat = [E0,Emin,nu,sigmaY,sigmaUTS,k0,kmin];
20 %% PART GEOMETRY
21 stl = 0; % Filename of the geometry being imported (if applicable)
22 xd = 100; % x-dimension % NOTE
23 % : If this program is going to be used
24 yd = 100; % y-dimension %
25 % to find a 2D solution, populate yd
26 zd = 100; % z-dimension %
27 % and zd, leaving xd at 0.
28 resol = 1; % Part resolution (ele./unit)
29 nl = 3; % Number of grid levels used in TO (MGCG)
30 loadCase = 0; % Load condition
31 radj = 2^(nl-1)*round(resol*[xd,yd,zd]/2^(nl-1)); %
32 % Convert dimensions to elements
33 [x,y,z] = deal(radj(1),radj(2),radj(3));
34 if xd == 0, x = 1; end
35 %% TOPOLOGY OPTIMIZATION
36 obj = 3; % Objective function 1: Compliance
37 % 2: Stress (unfinished)
38 % 3: Heat Transfer
39 volfrac = 0.5; % Prescribed volume fraction
40 penal = 3; % Penalization factor
41 rmin0 = 3; % Minimum length scale of void
42 rmin1 = 1.5; % Minimum length scale of solid
43 ft = 2; % Filtering scheme 1: Sensitivity filter
44 % 2: Density filter
45 % 3: Heaviside filter
46 % 4: Heaviside void filter
47 % 5: Multiphase Heaviside filter
48 maxit = 5e3; % Maximum number of iterations
49 vtk = 0; % Filename to export the solution geometry to
50 rmin = [rmin0*(ft == 4 || ft == 5) rmin1*~(ft == 4 && ft == 5)];
51 rmin(rmin == 0) = [];
52 %% PART LOADS & SUPPORTS
53 P = 1.0; % Applied load

```

```

50 orient = [2,3,1];
51 nD = 2+double(x*y*z ~= y*z); %
    ↪ Number of dimensions
52 nodeNrs = int32(reshape(1:(x+1*(nD == 3))*(y+1)*(z+1),y+1,z+1,x+1*(nD == 3))); %
    ↪ Nodes numbering
53 nDof = (y+1)*(z+1)*(x+1*(nD == 3))*(nD*(obj ~= 3)+1*(obj == 3)); %
    ↪ Total number of DOFs
54 % Supports Defined
55 fixed = []; %
    ↪ Define support DOFs
56 % Loads Defined
57 lcDof = []; %
    ↪ Define force DOFs
58 F = fsparse(lcDof ',1,-P,[nDof,1]); %
    ↪ Define force vector
59 % Assemble Passive Matrix
60 passive = []; %
    ↪ Define passive matrix
61 %% RUN TOPOLOGY OPTIMIZATION
62 xPhys = topTheWorks(obj,mat,x,y,z,resol,volfrac,penal,rmin,ft,maxit,nl,...
63                     passive,F,fixed); % Run
    ↪ topology optimization
64 xPhys = ipermute(xPhys,orient);
65 %% VTK FILE EXPORT -----%
66 if vtk ~= 0
67     vtkwrite([vtk '.vtk'], 'structured_points', 'TopOpt', xPhys); %
    ↪ Export solution geometry
68 end
69 %% Closing Program -----%
70 fprintf( 'Program_Finished\n' );

```

Appendix B. topTheWorks .m

```

1 % TOPOLOGY OPTIMIZATION FOR COMPLEX DOMAINS -----%
2 function xPhysF = topTheWorks(obj,mat,nelx,nely,nelz,resol,volfrac,...
3                               penal,rmin,ft,maxit,nl,passive,F,fixed)
4 % -----%
5 % Created By: Benjamin S. Rathman, Montana Technological University
6 % Program Name: topTheWorks.m
7 % -----%
8 % Program Description
9 % This function applies topology optimization to a part with a non-
10 % standard design envelope.
11 % Variable Description
12 % Return:
13 %     xPhysF      Final density distribution
14 % Given:
15 %     obj         Objective function
16 %     mat         Material properties
17 %     nelx        Number of elements in the x-direction
18 %     nely        Number of elements in the y-direction
19 %     nelz        Number of elements in the z-direction
20 %     resol       Mesh density (ele./mm)
21 %     volfrac     Volume fraction within the design envelope
22 %     penal       Penalization factor
23 %     rmin        Minimum length scale (for 2-phase, rmin = [void solid])
24 %     ft          Filtering scheme
25 %     maxit       Maximum number of iterations
26 %     nl          Number of grid levels in MGCG
27 %     passive     Array defining the passive elements
28 %     F           Force vector
29 %     fixed       Support vector
30 %
31 % *Disclaimer*
32 % The author reserves all rights but does not guarantee that the code is
33 % free from errors. Furthermore, he shall not be liable in any event
34 % caused by the use of the program.
35 % -----%
36
37 % PRE.1) DISCRETIZATION FEATURES
38 nEl = nelx*nely*nelz; %
39     ↪ Number of elements
39 nD = 2+double(nelx*nely*nelz ~= nely*nelz); %
40     ↪ Number of dimensions
40 type = 1+double(nelx >= nelz); % 2D
41     ↪ stress assumption
41 nodeNrs = int32(reshape(1:(nely+1)*(nelz+1)*(nelx+1*(nD == 3)),...
42                    nely+1,nelz+1,nelx+1*(nD == 3))); %
43     ↪ Nodes numbering
43 [cMat,nDof,iK,jK] = objective.discrete(obj,nD,nodeNrs,nelx,nely,nelz);
44 [E0,nu,k0] = deal(mat(1),mat(3),mat(6)); %
45     ↪ Material properties
45 matrices = objMatrices(nD,resol,E0,nu,type,k0); %
46     ↪ Assemble elemental matrices
46 % PRE.2) PREPARE FILTER
47 filtertype.error(ft,rmin); % rmin

```

```

    ↪ configuration error
48 [h,Hs] = deal(cell(length(rmin),1));
49 for ff = 1:length(rmin)
50     di = -ceil(rmin(ff))+1:ceil(rmin(ff))-1;
51     if nD == 2
52         [dy,dz] = meshgrid(di,di); dx = 0;
53     elseif nD == 3
54         [dy,dz,dx] = meshgrid(di,di,di);
55     end
56     hF = max(0,rmin(ff)-sqrt(dx.^2+dy.^2+dz.^2));
57     HsF = imfilter(ones(nely,nelz,nelx),hF,'symmetric'); %
    ↪ Matrix of weights (filter)
58     h{ff} = hF; Hs{ff} = HsF;
59 end
60 % PRE.3) INITIALIZE ITERATION
61 x = zeros(nEl*length(rmin),1);
62 act = setdiff((1:nEl)',~logical(passive)); lact = 1:length(act); %
    ↪ Define active elements
63 if ft == 5, act = [act;act+nEl]; end
64 x(act) = volfrac;
65 x(passive == 1) = 0; x(passive == 2) = 1; %
    ↪ Apply passive elements
66 xPhys = x(1:nEl);
67 [cK,dcK,dv0] = deal(zeros(nEl,1)); %
    ↪ Initialize vectors
68 U = zeros(nDof,size(F,2)); %
    ↪ Initialize displacement vector
69 dv0(act(lact)) = 1/nEl/volfrac; %
    ↪ Derivative of volume
70 [loop,beta,mu_max,change] = deal(0,0,1,1);
71 if ft ~= 1 && ft ~= 2, beta = 10; mu_max = 1; end %
    ↪ Initialize Heaviside parameters
72 % PRE.4) INITIALIZE MMA OPTIMIZER
73 m = 1; % The number of general constraints
74 n = length(act); % The number of design variables x_j
75 xmin = zeros(n,1); % Column vector with the lower bounds for the
    ↪ variables x_j
76 xmax = mu_max*ones(n,1); % Column vector with the upper bounds for the
    ↪ variables x_j
77 xold1 = x(act); % xval, one iteration ago (provided that iter>1)
78 xold2 = x(act); % xval, two iterations ago (provided that iter>2)
79 low = ones(n,1); % Column vector with the lower asymptotes from the
    ↪ previous iteration (provided that iter>1)
80 upp = ones(n,1); % Column vector with the upper asymptotes from the
    ↪ previous iteration (provided that iter>1)
81 a0 = 1; % The constants a_0 in the term a_0*z
82 a = zeros(m,1); % Column vector with the constants a_i in the terms
    ↪ a_i*z
83 c_MMA = 10000*ones(m,1); % Column vector with the constants c_i in the terms
    ↪ c_i*y_i
84 d = zeros(m,1); % Column vector with the constants d_i in the terms
    ↪ 0.5*d_i*(y_i)^2
85 % PRE.5) INITIALIZE MGCG SOLVER
86 Pu = cell(nl-1,1);

```

```

87 for mm = 1:nl-1
88     Pu{mm,1} = multigrid.prepcoarse(obj,nD,nelz/2^(mm-1),nely/2^(mm-1),...
89                                     nelx/2^(mm-1)); %
90                                     ↪ Initialize multigrid cg
91 end
92 N = ones(nDof,1); N(fixed) = 0; Null = spdiags(N,0,nDof,nDof); % Null
93                                     ↪ space elimination of supports
94 maxiter = 100; miniter = max(ceil(abs(2^(nl-2)-0.5-rmin/sqrt(2)))); %
95                                     ↪ Maximum & minimum MGCG iterations
96 %% START ITERATION
97 while change > 1e-2 && loop < maxit
98     loop = loop+1;
99     % RL.1) SETUP AND SOLVE EQUILIBRIUM EQUATIONS
100    K = cell(nl,1);
101    sK = objective.prepfea(obj,nD,mat,matrices,xPhys,penal); %
102    ↪ Prepare nodal stiffness matrix
103    K{1,1} = fsparse(iK,jK,sK,[nDof,nDof]);
104    K{1,1} = Null'*K{1,1}*Null-(Null-speye(nDof,nDof));
105    for mm = 1:nl-1
106        K{mm+1,1} = Pu{mm,1}'*(K{mm,1}*Pu{mm,1}); %
107        ↪ Assemble nodal stiffness matrix
108    end
109    [Lfac,~] = chol(K{nl,1},'lower'); Ufac = Lfac';
110    for kk = 1:size(U,2)
111        [cgiters,~,U(:,kk)] = multigrid.mgcg(K,F(:,kk),U(:,kk),Lfac,Ufac,Pu,... %
112        ↪ Assemble displacement vector
113        nl,1,1e-6,maxiter,miniter); % for
114        ↪ each load case
115    end
116    % RL.2) OBJECTIVE FUNCTION AND SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS
117    [c,dc] = objective.objfunc(obj,mat,matrices,xPhys,act,lact,cK,dcK,...
118    penal,U,cMat); %
119    ↪ Solve for the objective
120    [dc,dv] = filtertype.scheme('modsens',ft,x,nelx,nely,nelz,beta,h,Hs,...
121    dc,dv0,mu_max); %
122    ↪ Modify sensitivities
123    % RL.3) METHOD OF MOVING ASYMPTOTES
124    scale = 10^-floor(log(abs(c)))/log(10); %
125    ↪ Scale objective for MMA
126    xval = x(act);
127    f0val = scale*c;
128    df0dx = scale*dc(act);
129    df0dx2 = 0*df0dx;
130    fval = sum(xPhys(act(lact)))/(volfrac*n)-1-((1-volfrac)*(ft == 5));
131    dfdx = dv(act)';
132    dfdx2 = 0*dfdx;
133    [xmma,~,~,~,~,~,~,~,low,upp] = mma.mmasub(m,n,loop,xval,xmin,xmax,...
134    xold1,xold2,f0val,df0dx,df0dx2,fval,dfdx,dfdx2,low,upp,a0,a,c_MMA,d,beta); % Run
135    ↪ MMA
136    % Update MMA Variables
137    [xnew,xPhys] = filtertype.scheme('updMMA',ft,xmma,nelx,nely,nelz,...
138    beta,h,Hs,xPhys,act,mu_max); %
139    ↪ Update solution
140    xPhys(passive == 1) = 0; xPhys(passive == 2) = 1; %

```

```

129         ↪ Apply passive elements
130     xPhys = xPhys(:);
131     xold2 = xold1(:); xold1 = x(act);
132     change = max(abs(xnew(:)-x(:)));
133     x = xnew(:);
134     % RL.4) DISPLAY RESULTS
135     fprintf('It.:%4i_Obj.:%6.3e_Vol.:%6.3f_ch.:%4.2e_cgIt.:%3i\n', ...
136             loop,c,mean(xPhys(:)),change,cgitters); %
137             ↪ Print iteration results
138     if nD == 2
139         imagesc(1-reshape(xPhys,nely,nelz)); colormap(gray); caxis([0 1]);
140         axis equal off; drawnow; %
141         ↪ Display iteration solution (2D)
142     end
143 end
144 xPhysF = reshape(xPhys,nely,nelz,nelx);

```

Appendix C. objective.m

```

1 classdef objective
2     methods( Static )
3         % -----%
4         % Created By: Benjamin S. Rathman, Montana Technological University
5         % Program Name: objective.m
6         % -----%
7         % Program Description
8         % This function applies the chosen objective function equations to
9         % the optimization process.
10        % -----%
11
12        % DISCRETIZATION FEATURES
13        function [cMat,nDof,iK,jK] = discrete(obj,nD,nodeNrs,nelx,nely,nelz)
14            nEl = nelx*nely*nelz;
15            if obj == 1 || obj == 2 % Structural compliance or Stress
16                cVec = reshape(nD*nodeNrs(1:nely,1:nelz,1:nelx)+1,nEl,1);
17                if nD == 2
18                    cMat = cVec+int32([0,1,2*nely+[2,3,0,1],-2,-1]);
19                elseif nD == 3
20                    cMat = cVec+int32([0,1,2,3*(nely+1)*(nelz+1)
21                        ↪ +[0,1,2,-3,-2,-1],-3,-2,-1,...
22                        3*(nely+1)+[0,1,2],3*(nely+1)*(nelz+2)+[0,1,2,-3,-2,-1],...
23                        3*(nely+1)+[-3,-2,-1]]);
24                end
25                nDof = (nely+1)*(nelz+1)*(nelx+1*(nD == 3))*nD; %
26                ↪ Total number of DOFs
27                iK = reshape(kron(cMat(1:nEl,1:(16*nD-24)),ones((16*nD-24),1,'int32'))
28                    ↪ ',(16*nD-24)^2*nEl,1);
29                jK = reshape(kron(cMat(1:nEl,1:(16*nD-24)),ones(1,(16*nD-24),'int32'))
30                    ↪ ',(16*nD-24)^2*nEl,1);
31            elseif obj == 3 % Thermal compliance
32                cVec = reshape(nodeNrs(1:nely,1:nelz,1:nelx)+1,nEl,1);
33                if nD == 2
34                    cMat = cVec+int32([0,nely+[1,0],-1]);
35                elseif nD == 3
36                    cMat = cVec+int32([0,nely+[1,0],-1,(nely+1)*(nelx+1)+[0,nely+[1,0],-1]]
37                        ↪ ;
38                end
39                nDof = (nely+1)*(nelz+1)*(nelx+1*(nD == 3));
40                iK = reshape(kron(cMat(1:nEl,1:(2^nD)),ones((2^nD),1,'int32'))',(2^nD)^2*
41                    ↪ nEl,1);
42                jK = reshape(kron(cMat(1:nEl,1:(2^nD)),ones(1,(2^nD),'int32'))',(2^nD)^2*
43                    ↪ nEl,1);
44            end
45        end
46
47        % SETUP FINITE ELEMENT ANALYSIS EQUATION
48        function sK = prepfea(obj,nD,mat,matrices,xPhys,penal)
49            nEl = length(xPhys(:));
50            if obj == 1 % Structural compliance
51                [E0,Emin] = deal(mat(1),mat(2));
52                Ke = matrices{1};
53                sK = reshape(Ke(:)*(Emin/E0+xPhys(:)'.^penal*(1-Emin/E0))',(16*nD-24)^2*nEl

```

```

47         ↪ ,1);
48     elseif obj == 2    % Stress
49
50     elseif obj == 3    % Thermal compliance
51         [k0,kmin] = deal(mat(6),mat(7));
52         K = matrices{4};
53         sK = reshape(K(:)*(kmin/k0+xPhys(:)'.^penal*(1-kmin/k0)),(2^nD)^2*nEl,1);
54     end
55 end
56 % OBJECTIVE FUNCTION
57 function [c,dc] = objfunc(obj,mat,matrices,xPhys,act,lact,cK,dcK,penal,U,cMat)
58     nEl = length(xPhys(:));
59     if obj == 1    % Structural compliance
60         [E0,Emin] = deal(mat(1),mat(2));
61         Ke = matrices{1};
62         c = 0; dc = zeros(nEl,1);
63         cK(act(lact)) = Emin/E0+xPhys(act(lact)).^penal*(1-Emin/E0);
64         dcK(act(lact)) = -penal*(1-Emin/E0)*xPhys(act(lact)).^(penal-1);
65         for ii = 1:size(U,2)
66             Ui = U(:,ii);
67             c = c+sum(sum(cK.*sum(Ui(cMat)*Ke.*Ui(cMat),2)));
68             dc = dc+dcK.*sum(Ui(cMat)*Ke.*Ui(cMat),2);
69         end
70     elseif obj == 2    % Stress
71
72     elseif obj == 3    % Thermal Compliance
73         [k0,kmin] = deal(mat(6),mat(7));
74         K = matrices{4};
75         cK(act(lact)) = kmin/k0+xPhys(:)'.^penal*(1-kmin/k0);
76         dcK(act(lact)) = -penal*(1-kmin/k0)*xPhys(act(lact)).^(penal-1);
77         c = sum(sum(cK.*sum(U(cMat)*K.*U(cMat),2)));
78         dc = dcK.*sum(U(cMat)*K.*U(cMat),2);
79     end
80 end
81
82 end
83 end

```

Appendix D. objMatrices.m

```

1 function matrices = objMatrices(nD,resol,E,nu,type,k)
2 % -----%
3 % Created By: Benjamin S. Rathman, Montana Technological University
4 % Program Name: objMatrices.m
5 % -----%
6 % Program Description
7 % This function outputs property matrices given material properties.
8 % Variable Description
9 % Return:
10 %     matrices    material matrices
11 %     | - Ke      Stiffness matrix
12 %     | - C       Constitutive matrix
13 %     | - B       Strain-displacement matrix
14 %     | - K       Heat Conduction matrix
15 % Given:
16 %     nD          Number of dimensions
17 %     resol       Mesh density (ele./mm)
18 %     E           Young's Modulus
19 %     nu          Poisson's Ratio
20 %     type        2D assumption (plane stress = 1, plane strain = 2)
21 %     k           Thermal Conductivity
22 % -----%
23
24 if nD == 2      % For 2D FEA
25 % Constitutive Matrix
26 if type == 1    % Plane Stress
27     C = E/(1-nu^2)*[ 1 nu 0;
28                     nu 1 0;
29                     0 0 (1-nu)/2];
30 elseif type == 2 % Plane Strain
31     C = E/(1-2*nu)*[ 1 nu/(1-nu) 0;
32                     nu/(1-nu) 1 0;
33                     0 0 (1-2*nu)/(2*(1-nu))];
34 end
35 % Strain-displacement Matrix
36 [a,b] = deal(1/(2*resol)); h = 1;
37 syms Ba(xi,eta)
38 dNdx = (1/a)*[(eta-1),(1-eta),(1+eta),-(1+eta)];
39 dNdy = (1/b)*[(xi-1),-(1+xi),(1+xi),(1-xi)];
40 for ii = 1:4
41     Bsym(:, :, ii) = [dNdx(ii) 0 ;
42                       0 dNdy(ii);
43                       dNdy(ii) dNdx(ii)];
44 end
45 Ba(xi,eta) = (1/4)*reshape(Bsym,3,8);
46 B = double(Ba(0,0));
47 % Stiffness Matrix
48 Ke = double(a*b*h*int(int(Ba'*C*B,a,xi,-1,1),eta,-1,1));
49 % Heat Conduction Matrix
50 K = 1/6*k*[ 4 -1 -2 -1;
51            -1 4 -1 -2;
52            -2 -1 4 -1;
53            -1 -2 -1 4];

```

```

54
55 elseif nD == 3 % For 3D FEA
56 % Constitutive Matrix
57 C = E/((1+nu)*(1-2*nu))*[1-nu nu nu 0 0 0;
58 nu 1-nu nu 0 0 0;
59 nu nu 1-nu 0 0 0;
60 0 0 0 (1-2*nu)/2 0 0;
61 0 0 0 0 (1-2*nu)/2 0;
62 0 0 0 0 0 (1-2*nu)/2];
63 % Strain-displacement Matrix
64 [a,b,c] = deal(1/(2*resol));
65 syms Ba(xi,eta,zeta)
66 dNdx = (1/a)*[-(eta-1)*(zeta-1),(eta-1)*(zeta-1),-(1+eta)*(zeta-1),(1+eta)*(zeta
    ↪ -1),(eta-1)*(1+zeta),-(eta-1)*(1+zeta),(1+eta)*(1+zeta),-(1+eta)*(1+zeta)
    ↪ ];
67 dNdy = (1/b)*[-(xi-1)*(zeta-1),(1+xi)*(zeta-1),-(1+xi)*(zeta-1),(xi-1)*(zeta-1)
    ↪ ,(xi-1)*(1+zeta),-(1+xi)*(1+zeta),(1+xi)*(1+zeta),-(xi-1)*(1+zeta)];
68 dNdz = (1/c)*[-(xi-1)*(eta-1),(1+xi)*(eta-1),-(1+xi)*(1+eta),(xi-1)*(1+eta),(xi
    ↪ -1)*(eta-1),-(1+xi)*(eta-1),(1+xi)*(1+eta),-(xi-1)*(1+eta)];
69 for ii = 1:8
70 Bsym(:, :, ii) = [dNdx(ii) 0 0 ;
71 0 dNdy(ii) 0 ;
72 0 0 dNdz(ii);
73 0 dNdz(ii) dNdy(ii);
74 dNdz(ii) 0 dNdx(ii);
75 dNdy(ii) dNdx(ii) 0 ];
76 end
77 Ba(xi,eta,zeta) = (1/8)*reshape(Bsym,6,24);
78 B = double(Ba(0,0,0));
79 % Stiffness Matrix
80 Ke = double(a*b*c*int(int(int(Ba'*C*Ba,xi,-1,1),eta,-1,1),zeta,-1,1));
81 % Heat Conduction Matrix
82 A1 = 4*eye(2); A2 = -eye(2);
83 A3 = flip1r(A2); A4 = -ones(2);
84 Ke1 = [A1 A2; A2 A1];
85 Ke2 = [A3 A4; A4 A3];
86 K = 1/12*k*[Ke1 Ke2; Ke2 Ke1];
87 end
88 matrices = {Ke,C,B,K};

```

Appendix E. `filtertype.m`

```

1 classdef filtertype
2     methods( Static )
3         % -----%
4         % Created By: Benjamin S. Rathman, Montana Technological University
5         % Program Name: filtertype.m
6         % -----%
7         % Program Description
8         % This function applies the chosen filtering scheme to the
9         % optimization process.
10        % -----%
11
12        % FILTER VS RMIN MISMATCH ERROR
13        function error(ft,rmin)
14            if (ft == 1 || ft == 2 || ft == 3 || ft == 4) && length(rmin) ~= 1
15                error('Variable_rmin_must_be_a_scalar_for_this_filter_type. ');
16            elseif ft == 5 && length(rmin) ~= 2
17                error(['Variable_rmin_must_be_a_vector_of_the_form_',...
18                    ' [rmin_void_rmin_solid]_for_this_filter_type. ']);
19            end
20        end
21
22        % FILTERING METHOD
23        function varargout = scheme(type,ft,x,nelx,nely,nelz,beta,h,Hs,varargin)
24            nEl = nelx*nely*nelz;
25            % Define Filter
26            if ft == 1 || ft == 2 || ft == 3 || ft == 4
27                h = h{1}; Hs = Hs{1};
28            elseif ft == 5
29                [h0,h1] = deal(h{1},h{2}); [Hs0,Hs1] = deal(Hs{1},Hs{2});
30            end
31            % Extract Variables from 'varargin'
32            switch type
33                case 'modsens' % define derivatives
34                    [dc,dv,mu_max] = deal(varargin{1},varargin{2},varargin{3});
35                case 'updtMMA' % define active elements
36                    [xPhysOld,act,mu_max] = deal(varargin{1},varargin{2},varargin{3});
37                    if ft == 5
38                        xPhysOld = repmat(xPhysOld,2,1);
39                    end
40                    xPhysOld(act) = x;
41            end
42            % Apply Filter
43            if ft == 1 % sensitivity filter
44                switch type
45                    case 'modsens'
46                        dc = imfilter(reshape(x.*dc,nely,nelz,nelx),h,'symmetric')./. ...
47                            Hs./reshape(max(1e-3,x),nely,nelz,nelx);
48                    case 'updtMMA'
49                        xnew = reshape(xPhysOld,nely,nelz,nelx);
50                        xPhys = xnew;
51                end
52            elseif ft == 2 % density filter
53                switch type

```

```

54     case 'modsens'
55         dc = imfilter(reshape(dc,nely,nelz,nelx),h,'symmetric')./Hs;
56         dv = imfilter(reshape(dv,nely,nelz,nelx),h,'symmetric')./Hs;
57     case 'updtMMA'
58         xnew = reshape(xPhysOld,nely,nelz,nelx);
59         xPhys = imfilter(xnew./Hs,h,'symmetric');
60     end
61 elseif ft == 3 % heaviside solid projection
62     switch type
63     case 'modsens'
64         mu = imfilter(reshape(x,nely,nelz,nelx)./Hs,h,'symmetric');
65         dx = reshape(beta*exp(-beta*mu)+exp(-beta*mu_max)/mu_max,nEl,1);
66         dc = imfilter(reshape(dc.*dx,nely,nelz,nelx),h,'symmetric')./Hs;
67         dv = imfilter(reshape(dv.*dx,nely,nelz,nelx),h,'symmetric')./Hs;
68     case 'updtMMA'
69         xnew = reshape(xPhysOld,nely,nelz,nelx);
70         mu = imfilter(xnew./Hs,h,'symmetric');
71         xPhys = 1-exp(-beta*mu)+(mu/mu_max)*exp(-beta*mu_max);
72     end
73 elseif ft == 4 % heaviside void projection
74     switch type
75     case 'modsens'
76         mu = imfilter(reshape(x,nely,nelz,nelx)./Hs,h,'symmetric');
77         dx = reshape(-beta*exp(-beta*mu)-exp(-beta*mu_max)/mu_max,nEl,1);
78         dc = imfilter(reshape(dc.*dx,nely,nelz,nelx),h,'symmetric')./Hs;
79         dv = imfilter(reshape(dv.*dx,nely,nelz,nelx),h,'symmetric')./Hs;
80     case 'updtMMA'
81         xnew = reshape(xPhysOld,nely,nelz,nelx);
82         mu = imfilter(xnew./Hs,h,'symmetric');
83         xPhys = exp(-beta*mu)-(mu/mu_max)*exp(-beta*mu_max);
84     end
85 elseif ft == 5 % heaviside multi-phase projection
86     switch type
87     case 'modsens'
88         mu0 = imfilter(reshape(x(1:nEl),nely,nelz,nelx)./Hs0,h0,'symmetric');
89         dx0 = reshape((-beta*exp(-beta*mu0)-exp(-beta*mu_max)/mu_max)/2,nEl,1)
90             ↪ ;
91         dc0 = imfilter(reshape(dc.*dx0,nely,nelz,nelx),h0,'symmetric')./Hs0;
92         dv0 = imfilter(reshape(dv.*dx0,nely,nelz,nelx),h0,'symmetric')./Hs0;
93         mu1 = imfilter(reshape(x(nEl+1:end),nely,nelz,nelx)./Hs1,h1,'symmetric
94             ↪ ');
95         dx1 = reshape((beta*exp(-beta*mu1)+exp(-beta*mu_max)/mu_max)/2,nEl,1);
96         dc1 = imfilter(reshape(dc.*dx1,nely,nelz,nelx),h1,'symmetric')./Hs1;
97         dv1 = imfilter(reshape(dv.*dx1,nely,nelz,nelx),h1,'symmetric')./Hs1;
98         dc = [dc0 dc1]; dv = [dv0 dv1];
99     case 'updtMMA'
100         xnew0 = reshape(xPhysOld(1:nEl),nely,nelz,nelx);
101         mu0 = imfilter(xnew0./Hs0,h0,'symmetric');
102         xPhys0 = exp(-beta*mu0)-(mu0/mu_max)*exp(-beta*mu_max);
103         xnew1 = reshape(xPhysOld(nEl+1:end),nely,nelz,nelx);
104         mu1 = imfilter(xnew1./Hs1,h1,'symmetric');
105         xPhys1 = 1-exp(-beta*mu1)+(mu1/mu_max)*exp(-beta*mu_max);
106         xnew = [xnew0 xnew1];
107         xPhys = (xPhys0+xPhys1)/2;

```

```

106         end
107     end
108     % Insert Variables into 'varargout'
109     switch type
110     case 'modsens'
111         [varargout{1},varargout{2}] = deal(dc,dv);
112     case 'updtMMA'
113         [varargout{1},varargout{2}] = deal(xnew,xPhys);
114     end
115 end
116
117 end
118 end

```

Appendix F. multigrid.m

```

1 classdef multigrid
2     methods( Static )
3
4     % PREPARE MG PROLONGATION OPERATOR
5     function [Pu] = prepcoarse(obj,nD,nex,ney,nez)
6         % Assemble state variable prolongation
7         maxnum = nex*ney*nez*20;
8         iP = zeros(maxnum,1); jP = zeros(maxnum,1); sP = zeros(maxnum,1);
9         nexc = nex/2; neyc = ney/2; nez = nez/2;
10        % Weights for fixed distances to neighbors on a structured grid
11        if nD == 2
12            vals = [1,0.5,0.25];
13        elseif nD == 3
14            vals = [1,0.5,0.25,0.125];
15        end
16        cc = 0;
17        for nx = 1:nexc+1
18            for ny = 1:neyc+1
19                for nz = 1:nez+1
20                    if nD == 2
21                        col = (nx-1)*(neyc+1)+ny;
22                    elseif nD == 3
23                        col = (nz-1)*((nexc+1)*(neyc+1))+(nx-1)*(neyc+1)+ny;
24                    end
25                    % Coordinate on fine grid
26                    nx1 = nx*2-1; ny1 = ny*2-1; nz1 = nz*2-1;
27                    % Loop over fine nodes within the rectangular domain
28                    for ii = max(nx1-1,1):min(nx1+1,nex+1)
29                        for jj = max(ny1-1,1):min(ny1+1,ney+1)
30                            for kk = max(nz1-1,1):min(nz1+1,nez+1)
31                                if nD == 2
32                                    row = (ii-1)*(ney+1)+jj;
33                                    % Based on squared dist assign weights: 1.0 0.5 0.25
34                                    ind = 1+((nx1-ii)^2+(ny1-jj)^2);
35                                    if obj == 1 || obj == 2
36                                        cc = cc+1; iP(cc) = 2*row-1; jP(cc) = 2*col-1; sP(cc) = vals
37                                            ↪ (ind);
38                                        cc = cc+1; iP(cc) = 2*row; jP(cc) = 2*col; sP(cc) = vals
39                                            ↪ (ind);
40                                    elseif obj == 3
41                                        cc = cc+1; iP(cc) = row; jP(cc) = col; sP(cc) = vals(ind);
42                                    end
43                                elseif nD == 3
44                                    row = (kk-1)*((nexc+1)*(ney+1))+(ii-1)*(ney+1)+jj;
45                                    % Based on squared dist assign weights: 1.0 0.5 0.25 0.125
46                                    ind = 1+((nx1-ii)^2+(ny1-jj)^2+(nz1-kk)^2);
47                                    if obj == 1 || obj == 2
48                                        cc = cc+1; iP(cc) = 3*row-2; jP(cc) = 3*col-2; sP(cc) = vals
49                                            ↪ (ind);
50                                        cc = cc+1; iP(cc) = 3*row-1; jP(cc) = 3*col-1; sP(cc) = vals
51                                            ↪ (ind);
52                                        cc = cc+1; iP(cc) = 3*row; jP(cc) = 3*col; sP(cc) = vals
53                                            ↪ (ind);
54                                    end
55                                end
56                            end
57                        end
58                    end
59                end
60            end
61        end
62    end
63 end

```

```

49         elseif obj == 3
50             cc = cc+1; iP(cc) = row;    jP(cc) = col;    sP(cc) = vals(ind
               ↪ );
51         end
52     end
53 end
54 end
55 end
56 end
57 end
58 end
59 % Assemble matrices
60 Pu = fsparse(iP(1:cc),jP(1:cc),sP(1:cc));
61 end
62
63 % MULTIGRID PRECONDITIONED CONJUGATE GRADIENTS
64 function [i, relres, u] = mgcg(A, b, u, Lfac, Ufac, Pu, nl, nswp, tol, maxiter, miniter)
65     r = b-A{1,1}*u;
66     res0 = norm(b);
67     % Jacobi smoother
68     omega = 0.6;
69     invD = cell(nl-1,1);
70     for l = 1:nl-1
71         invD{l,1} = 1./spdiags(A{1,1},0);
72     end
73     for i = 1:maxiter
74         z = multigrid.VCycle(A, r, Lfac, Ufac, Pu, l, nl, invD, omega, nswp);
75         rho = r'*z;
76         if i == 1
77             p = z;
78         else
79             beta = rho/rho_p;
80             p = beta*p + z;
81         end
82         q = A{1,1}*p;
83         dpr = p'*q;
84         alpha = rho/dpr;
85         u = u+alpha*p;
86         r = r-alpha*q;
87         rho_p = rho;
88         relres = norm(r)/res0;
89         if relres < tol && i >= miniter
90             break
91         end
92     end
93 end
94 % COARSE GRID CORRECTION
95 function [z] = VCycle(A, r, Lfac, Ufac, Pu, l, nl, invD, omega, nswp)
96     z = 0*r;
97     z = multigrid.smthdmpjac(z, A{1,1}, r, invD{1,1}, omega, nswp);
98     Az = A{1,1}*z;
99     d = r - Az;
100     dh2 = Pu{1,1}'*d;
101     if (nl == 1+1)

```

```

102         vh2 = Ufac \ (Lfac \ dh2);
103     else
104         vh2 = multigrid.VCycle(A, dh2, Lfac, Ufac, Pu, l+1, nl, invD, omega, nswp);
105     end
106     v = Pu{1,1} * vh2;
107     z = z+v;
108     z = multigrid.smthdmpjac(z, A{1,1}, r, invD{1,1}, omega, nswp);
109 end
110 % DAMPED JACOBI SMOOTHER
111 function [u] = smthdmpjac(u, A, b, invD, omega, nswp)
112     for i = 1:nswp
113         u = u - omega * invD .* (A*u) + omega * invD .* b;
114     end
115 end
116
117 end
118 end

```

Appendix G. GE Bracket Problem Setup

```

1 %% TOPOLOGY OPTIMIZATION TEMPLATE -----%
2 % Created By: Benjamin S. Rathman, Montana Technological University
3 % Program Name: GEbracket.m
4 % Created On: 03/23/2021
5 % Rev:--Modified By:-----Modified Date:---Notes:-----%
6 % r00 Benjamin S. Rathman 03/23/2021 Created template
7 % r01 Benjamin S. Rathman 04/02/2021 GE bracket problem
8 %% Program Description -----%
9 % This program is designed for GE bracket TO
10 %% Initialize Program -----%
11 clear; clc;
12 fprintf('Program_Running\n');
13 %% MATERIAL PROPERTIES -----%
14 scale = 1e-6; % Material scaling factor;
15 E0 = 16.51e6; % Young's modulus
16 Emin = E0*scale; % Young's modulus of void
17 nu = 0.34; % Poisson's ratio
18 sigmaY = 128e3; % Yield strength
19 sigmaUTS = 138e3; % Ultimate tensile strength
20 k0 = 46.5; % Thermal conductivity
21 kmin = k0*scale; % Thermal conductivity of void
22 mat = [E0,Emin,nu,sigmaY,sigmaUTS,k0,kmin];
23 %% PART GEOMETRY
24 stl = 'original'; % Filename of the geometry being imported
25 xd = 7.029; % x-dimension
26 yd = 2.461; % y-dimension
27 zd = 4.262; % z-dimension
28 resol = 15; % Part resolution (ele./unit)
29 nl = 3; % Number of grid levels used in TO (MGCG)
30 loadCase = 0; % Load condition
31 radj = 2^(nl-1)*round(resol*[xd,yd,zd]/2^(nl-1)); %
    ↪ Convert dimensions to elements
32 [x,y,z] = deal(radj(1),radj(2),radj(3));
33 if xd == 0, x = 1; end
34 stldomain = VOXELISE(x,y,z,[stl,'.stl']);
35 domain = double(~stldomain);
36 domainVol = 1-mean(domain(:));
37 %% TOPOLOGY OPTIMIZATION
38 obj = 1; % Objective function
39 volfrac = 0.25; % Prescribed volume fraction
40 penal = 3; % Penalization factor
41 rmin0 = 3; % Minimum length scale of void
42 rmin1 = 1.5; % Minimum length scale of solid
43 ft = 2; % Filtering scheme
44 maxit = 50; % Maximum number of iterations
45 vtk = 'GEbracket'; % Filename to export the solution geometry to
46 rmin = [rmin0*(ft == 4 || ft == 5) rmin1*~(ft == 4 && ft == 5)];
47 rmin(rmin == 0) = [];
48 %% PART LOADS & SUPPORTS
49 P = 1.0; % Applied load
50 orient = [2,3,1];
51 nD = 2+double(x*y*z ~= y*z); %
    ↪ Number of dimensions

```

```

52 nodeNrs = int32(reshape(1:(x+1*(nD == 3))*(y+1)*(z+1),y+1,z+1,x+1*(nD == 3))); %
    ↪ Nodes numbering
53 nDof = (y+1)*(z+1)*(x+1*(nD == 3))*(nD*(obj ~= 3)+1*(obj == 3)); %
    ↪ Total number of DOFs
54 % Supports Defined
55 % Support Elements Defined
56 s1x = 0.600/xd;      s1z = 0.602/zd; %
    ↪ Position of support hole 1
57 s2x = s1x;          s2z = 2.652/zd; %
    ↪ Position of support hole 2
58 s3x = 6.429/xd;      s3z = 1.329/zd; %
    ↪ Position of support hole 3
59 s4x = s3x;          s4z = 2.829/zd; %
    ↪ Position of support hole 4
60 sh = [s1x,s2x,s3x,s4x,s1z,s2z,s3z,s4z];
61 sRad = (0.406/xd)/2; %
    ↪ Radius of support holes
62 cRad = (0.830/xd)/2; %
    ↪ Radius of counterbores
63 domainS = permute(domain,[3,1,2]);
64 for layerS = 1:y(end)
65     domainLayer = domainS(:, :, layerS);
66     if domainLayer(round(z/10),round(x/10)) == 0 %
        ↪ Define edge of hole as active elements
67         for elzS = 1:z
68             for elxS = 1:x
69                 for ii = 1:4 % For
                    ↪ each support hole position
70                     sx = sh(ii); sz = sh(ii+4);
71                     if (round(sqrt((elxS-x*sx)^2+(elzS-z*sz)^2)) >= round(x*sRad+1) &&...
72                         round(sqrt((elxS-x*sx)^2+(elzS-z*sz)^2)) <= round(x*cRad+1))
73                         domainLayer(elzS,elxS) = 3; %
                            ↪ Support ele. denoted as "3"
74                     elseif round(sqrt((elxS-x*sx)^2+(elzS-z*sz)^2)) < round(x*sRad+1)
75                         domainLayer(elzS,elxS) = 1; %
                            ↪ Clear support holes of stray elements
76                 end
77             end
78         end
79     end
80     domainS(:, :, layerS) = domainLayer;
81 end
82 domainS = ipermute(domainS,[3,1,2]);
83 domain(domainS == 3) = 2; %
    ↪ Assign passive solid to support elements
84
85 domainS = permute(domainS,orient);
86 % Assemble Support Vector
87 [iif,jf,kf] = findND(domainS == 3); %
    ↪ Coordinates
88 fixed = zeros(length(iif),1,'int32');
89 for ii = 1:length(iif)
90     fixed(ii) = 3*nodeNrs(iif(ii),jf(ii),kf(ii));
91 end

```

```

92     fixed = [fixed(:); fixed(:)-1; fixed(:)-2]; %
           ↪ Support(Fixed) DOFs
93 % Assemble Load Vector
94 % Load Elements Defined
95     ly = 1.761/xd;     lz = 3.560/zd; %
           ↪ Position of load hole
96     lRad = (0.753/xd)/2; %
           ↪ Radius of load hole
97     domainL = permute(domain,[2,3,1]);
98     for layerL = 1:x/2
99         domainLayer = domainL(:,:,layerL);
100        if domainLayer(end,round(z*5/6)) == 0 %
           ↪ Define edge of hole as active elements
101            for elzL = 1:z
102                for elyL = 1:y
103                    if round(sqrt((elyL-y*ly)^2+(elzL-z*lz)^2)) == round(x*lRad+1)
104                        domainLayer(elyL,elzL) = -4; % Load
105                        ↪ ele. denoted as "-4"
106                    elseif round(sqrt((elyL-y*ly)^2+(elzL-z*lz)^2)) < round(x*lRad+1) %
107                        domainLayer(elyL,elzL) = 1;
108                        ↪ Clear load holes of stray elements
109                    end
110                end
111            end
112        end
113        domainL(:,:,layerL) = domainLayer;
114    end
115    for layerL = x/2:x
116        domainLayer = domainL(:,:,layerL);
117        if domainLayer(end,round(z*5/6)) == 0 %
           ↪ Define edge of hole as active elements
118            for elzL = 1:z
119                for elyL = 1:y
120                    if round(sqrt((elyL-y*ly)^2+(elzL-z*lz)^2)) == round(x*lRad+1) % Load
121                        domainLayer(elyL,elzL) = 4;
122                        ↪ ele. denoted as "4"
123                    elseif round(sqrt((elyL-y*ly)^2+(elzL-z*lz)^2)) < round(x*lRad+1) %
124                        domainLayer(elyL,elzL) = 1;
125                        ↪ Clear load holes of stray elements
126                    end
127                end
128            end
129        end
130        domainL(:,:,layerL) = domainLayer;
131    end
132    domainL = ipermute(domainL,[2,3,1]); %
           ↪ Array defining loads and supports
133    domain(domainL == -4 | domainL == 4) = 2; %
           ↪ Assign passive solid to support elements
134    domainL = permute(domainL,orient);
135 % Define Loads
136 if loadCase == 1 || loadCase == 2 || loadCase == 3 || loadCase == 0
137     domainL(domainL == -4) = 4;
138     [il_L,jl,kl] = findND(domainL == 4); %

```

```

135         ↪ Coordinates
136         lcDof = zeros(length(il_L),1,'int32');
137         for ii = 1:length(il_L)
138             lcDof(ii) = 3*nodeNrs(il_L(ii),jl(ii),kl(ii));
139         end
140         lcDof_L = lcDof(:)-1; % Load
141         ↪ DOFs
142     end
143     if loadCase == 4 || loadCase == 0
144         [il_Tn,jl,kl] = findND(domainL == -4); %
145         ↪ Coordinates
146         lcDof = zeros(length(il_Tn),1,'int32');
147         for ii = 1:length(il_Tn)
148             lcDof(ii) = 3*nodeNrs(il_Tn(ii),jl(ii),kl(ii));
149         end
150         lcDof_Tn = lcDof(:)-1; % Load
151         ↪ DOFs
152         [il_Tp,jl,kl] = findND(domainL == 4); %
153         ↪ Coordinates
154         lcDof = zeros(length(il_Tp),1,'int32');
155         for ii = 1:length(il_Tp)
156             lcDof(ii) = 3*nodeNrs(il_Tp(ii),jl(ii),kl(ii));
157         end
158         lcDof_Tp = lcDof(:)-1; % Load
159         ↪ DOFs
160     end
161     % Assemble Load Vector % x =
162     ↪ -I, y = 0, z = +I
163     if loadCase == 1
164         F = fsparse(lcDof_L,1,8000/length(il_L),[nDof,1]);
165     elseif loadCase == 2
166         F = fsparse(lcDof_L+1,1,8500/length(il_L),[nDof,1]);
167     elseif loadCase == 3
168         F = fsparse(lcDof_L,1,9500*cosd(42)/length(il_L),[nDof,1]) + ...
169             fsparse(lcDof_L+1,1,9500*sind(42)/length(il_L),[nDof,1]);
170     elseif loadCase == 4
171         F = fsparse(lcDof_Tn+1,1,(-5000/0.563)/length(il_Tn),[nDof,1]) + ...
172             fsparse(lcDof_Tp+1,1,(5000/0.563)/length(il_Tp),[nDof,1]);
173     elseif loadCase == 0
174         F1 = fsparse(lcDof_L,1,8000/length(il_L),[nDof,1]);
175         F2 = fsparse(lcDof_L+1,1,8500/length(il_L),[nDof,1]);
176         F3 = fsparse(lcDof_L,1,9500*cosd(42)/length(il_L),[nDof,1]) + ...
177             fsparse(lcDof_L+1,1,9500*sind(42)/length(il_L),[nDof,1]);
178         F4 = fsparse(lcDof_Tn+1,1,(-5000/0.563)/length(il_Tn),[nDof,1]) + ...
179             fsparse(lcDof_Tp+1,1,(5000/0.563)/length(il_Tp),[nDof,1]);
180         F = cat(2,F1,F2,F3,F4);
181     end
182     % Assemble Passive Matrix
183     passive = permute(domain,orient); %
184     ↪ Define passive matrix
185 %% RUN TOPOLOGY OPTIMIZATION
186 xPhys = topTheWorks(obj,mat,x,y,z,resol,volfrac*domainVol,penal,rmin,ft,...
187                     maxit,nl,passive,F,fixed); % Run
188     ↪ topology optimization

```

```

180 xPhys = ipermute(xPhys, orient);
181 %% VTK FILE EXPORT -----%
182 if vtk ~= 0
183     vtkwrite([vtk, '.vtk'], 'structured_points', 'TopOpt', xPhys);           %
184     ↪ Export solution geometry
185 end
186 %% Closing Program -----%
187 fprintf('Program_Finished\n');

```

List of Symbols, Abbreviations, and Acronyms

2-D	two-dimensional
3-D	three-dimensional
AM	additive manufacturing
DoF	degree of freedom
FEA	finite element analysis
MGCG	multigrid preconditioned conjugate gradients
MMA	method of moving asymptotes
OC	Optimality Criteria
RAM	random access memory
SIMP	solid isotropic material with penalization
TO	topology optimization

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