

Multidisciplinary System Design Optimization applied to a Space Shuttle External Fuel Tank

Anonymous MIT students

Agenda

- Introduction
- Problem Statement
- Model Implementation and Validation
- Design of Experiment
- Single Objective Optimization
- Sensitivity Analysis
- Multi objective Optimization
- Conclusions

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Problem Statement

Maximize the **Return On Investment (ROI)** by changing the physical Space Shuttle External Fuel Tank design variables while satisfying the given mechanical requirements (Volume, Stress, Vibrations) at a fixed specific Payload.

Problem Statement (cont')

ROI =

Tank Weight



$$\frac{\text{Revenue}_{\text{(tax payers)}} - (\text{Launch Fixed Costs} + \text{Tank Cost})}{(\text{Launch Fixed Costs} + \text{Tank Cost})}$$

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Model implementation and validation



Objectives (7)

- Total surface of the tank
- Tank weight
- Total seam cost
- Delta payload
- Payload launched
- ROI

Design Variables (6)

- Nose cone height
- Radius of the hemisphere
- Length of the cylindrical body
- Nose cone thickness
- Cylinder thickness
- Hemisphere thickness
- Aspect ratio of cone

Constraint (5)

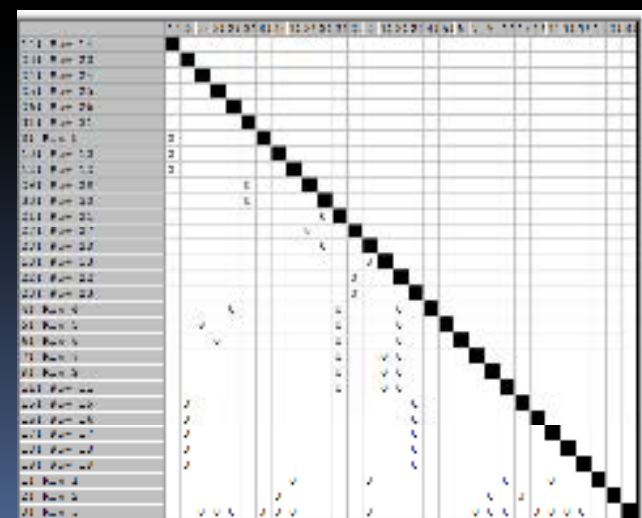
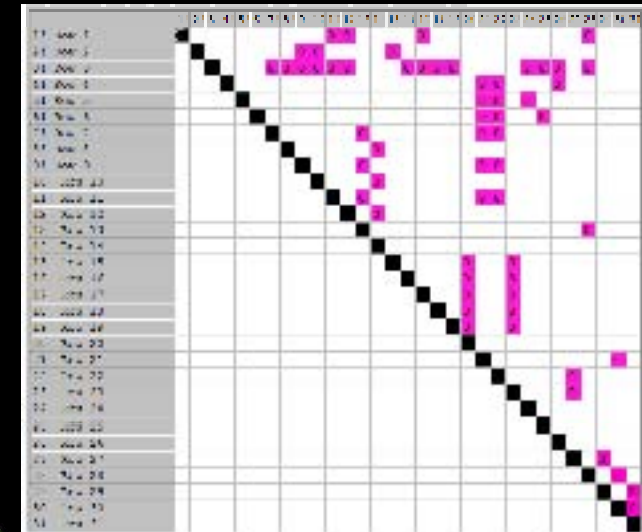
- Volume
- Stress (cylinder nose, hemisphere, nose cone)
- Vibration

Parameters (10)

- Cost of material/unit
- Cost Seam/unit
- Material weight/unit
- Liquid fuel pressure
- Payload 1
- Payload 2
- Nominal Payload
- Profit ratio
- Vibration constant
- Fixed launch cost per weight
- Charge to customer for launching payload per unit weight

Model implementation and validation (cont')

	Description	Symbol	Unit of measurement	Inputs	Outputs
Design Vector	1 Nose cone height	H	cm		11, 12, 17, 28
	2 Length of center cylindrical body	L	cm		9, 10, 15
	3 Radius of hemisphere	R	cm		7,8,9,10,11,12,16, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 28, 32
	4 Nose cone thickness	T_{nose}	cm		21, 22, 26
	5 Cylinder thickness	$T_{cylinder}$	cm		21, 22, 24
	6 Hemisphere thickness	$T_{hemisphere}$	cm		21, 22, 25
Surfaces and Volumes	7 Hemisphere Surface	HS	cm ²	3	13, 21, 22
	8 Hemisphere Volume	HV	cm ³	3	14
	9 Cylinder Surface	CS	cm ²	2,3	13, 21, 22
	10 Cylinder Volume	CV	cm ³	2,3	14
	11 Cone Surface	CnS	cm ²	1,3	13, 21, 22
	12 Cone Volume	CnV	cm ³	1,3	14
	13 Tank surface	TS	cm ²	7, 9, 11	28
	14 Tank volume	TV	cm ³	8, 10, 12	36
Seams length	15 Seam length in Cylinder	S1	cm	2	20, 23
	16 Seam length in Hemisphere	S2	cm	3	20, 23
	17 Seam length in Cone	S3	cm	1, 3	20, 23
	18 Seam length cylinder & hemisph	S4	cm	3	20, 23
	19 Seam length cylinder & cone	S5	cm	3	20, 23
	20 Total Seam length	St	cm	15-19	
Weight and material cost	21 Tank weight	TW	kg	9,5,7,6,11,4	30, 32
	22 Tank material cost	$C_{material}$	dollar	9,5,7,6,11,4	27
Seam Cost	23 Cost of seams	C_{seam}	dollar	15-19	27
Stress	24 Cylinder Eq. stress	E	N/cm sq	3, 5	34
	25 Sphere Eq. stress	SE	N/cm sq	3, 6	35
	26 Cone Eq. stress	CE	N/cm sq	3, 4	33
Total cost	27 Total Cost	TC	dollar	22, 23	27



Model implementation and validation (cont')

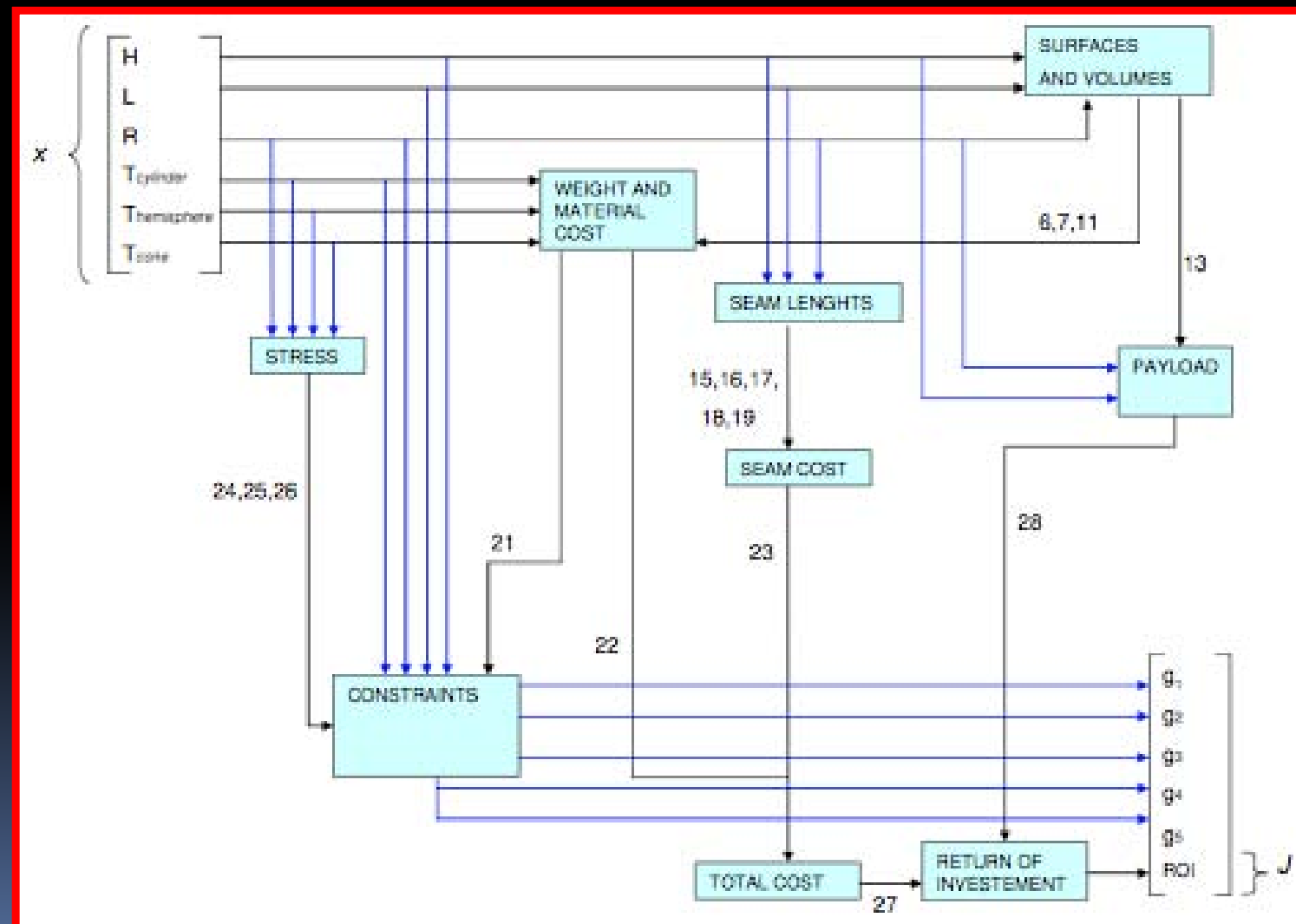


N2 Matrix

Modules									
Design Vector	Surfaces and Volumes	Seam lengths	Weight and material cost	Seam cost	Stress	Total Cost	Payload	Return of Investment	Constraints
Design Vector	1, 2, 3	1, 2, 3	4, 5, 6		7, 8, 9, 10		11		12, 13, 14
	Surfaces and Volumes		6, 7, 11				13		
		Seam lengths		15, 16, 17, 18, 19					
			Weight and material cost			Z2			Z1
				Seam cost		Z1			
					Stress				Z4, Z5, Z6
						Total Cost		Z7	
							Payload	Z8	
								Return of Investment	
									Constraints

Model implementation and validation (cont')

Block Diagram



Model implementation and validation (cont')



Model Validation

- The given nominal values of the real External Tank were used in the model formulas
- Outputs verified the model as valid, but with low fidelity

E.g.: **Nominal Tank Weight = 27,737.79 [Kg]**
Model Tank Weight = 21,254.46 [Kg]

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Design of Experiment

DOE factors and levels

Factors	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
HR2	1	2	3
L	4600	4800	5000
R	420	435	450
TCO	0.66	0.75	0.84
TCY	0.66	0.7	0.74
TH	0.76	0.86	0.96

18-Orthogonal array

Exp	HR2	L	R	TCO	TCY	TH
1	1	4600	420	0.66	0.66	0.76
2	1	4800	435	0.75	0.7	0.86
3	1	5000	450	0.84	0.74	0.96
4	2	4600	420	0.75	0.7	0.86
5	2	4800	435	0.84	0.74	0.76
6	2	5000	450	0.66	0.66	0.86
7	3	4600	435	0.66	0.74	0.86
8	3	4800	450	0.75	0.66	0.96
9	3	5000	420	0.84	0.7	0.76
10	1	4600	450	0.84	0.7	0.86
11	1	4800	420	0.84	0.74	0.96
12	1	5000	435	0.75	0.66	0.76
13	2	4600	435	0.84	0.66	0.96
14	2	4800	450	0.66	0.7	0.76
15	2	5000	420	0.75	0.74	0.86
16	3	4600	450	0.75	0.74	0.76
17	3	4800	420	0.84	0.66	0.86
18	3	5000	435	0.66	0.7	0.96

$$X_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4600 \\ 435 \\ 0.84 \\ 0.74 \\ 0.86 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$ROI_0 = 0.0903$$

Main effects

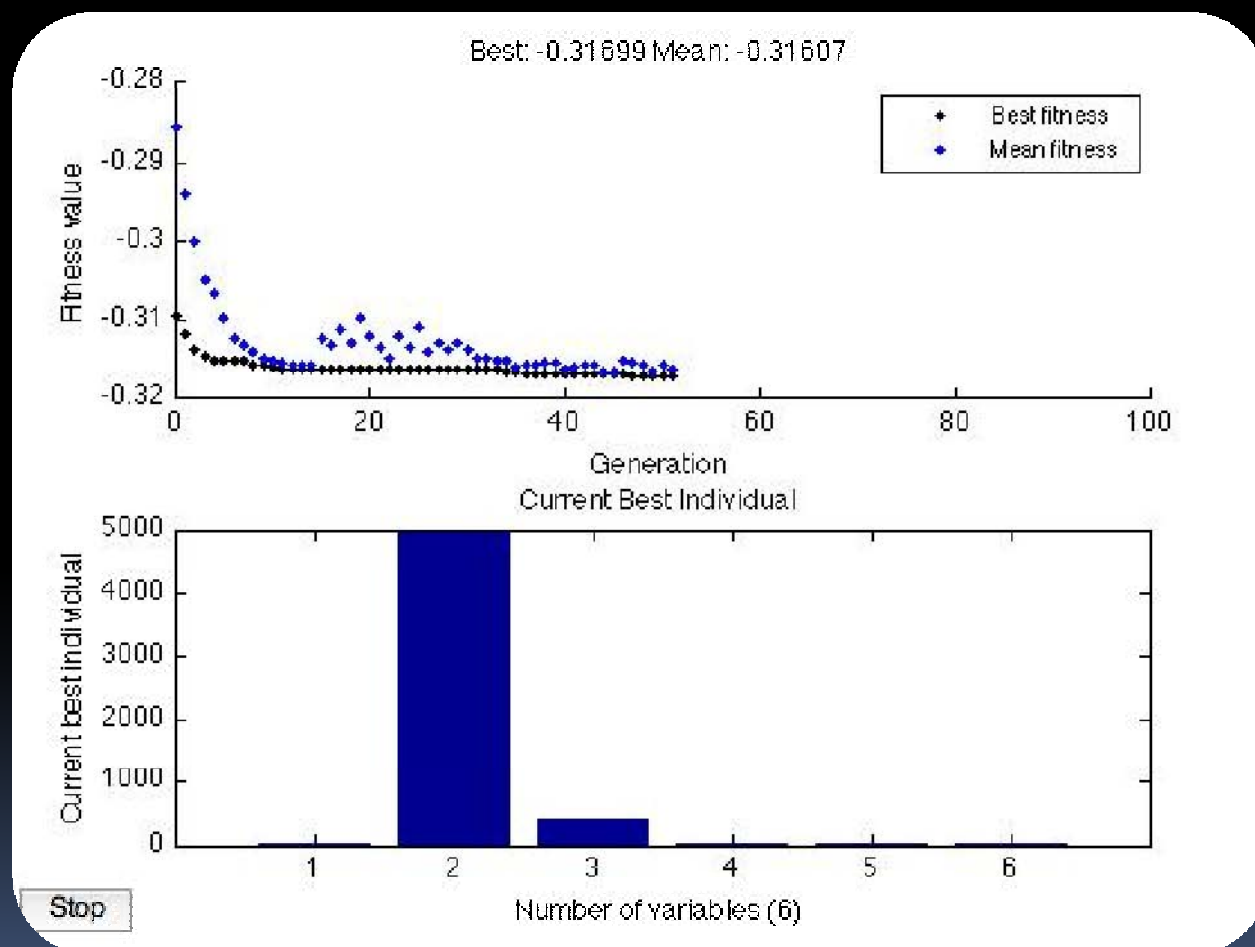
Variable	Level	Factor	Mean	Main Effect
HR2	1	1	-0.2455	0.2555
	2	2	-0.4377	0.0633
	3	3	-0.8197	-0.3187
L	1	4600	-0.3959	0.1050
	2	4800	-0.6122	-0.1112
	3	5000	-0.4948	0.0062
R	1	420	-0.6945	-0.1936
	2	435	-0.1060	0.3950
	3	450	-0.7024	-0.2014
TCO	1	0.66	-0.7426	-0.2416
	2	0.75	-0.4401	0.0609
	3	0.84	-0.3806	0.1204
TCY	1	0.66	-0.5596	-0.0586
	2	0.7	-0.6043	-0.1034
	3	0.74	-0.3390	0.1620
TH	1	0.76	-0.5986	-0.0976
	2	0.86	-0.3494	0.1515
	3	0.96	-0.5959	-0.0950

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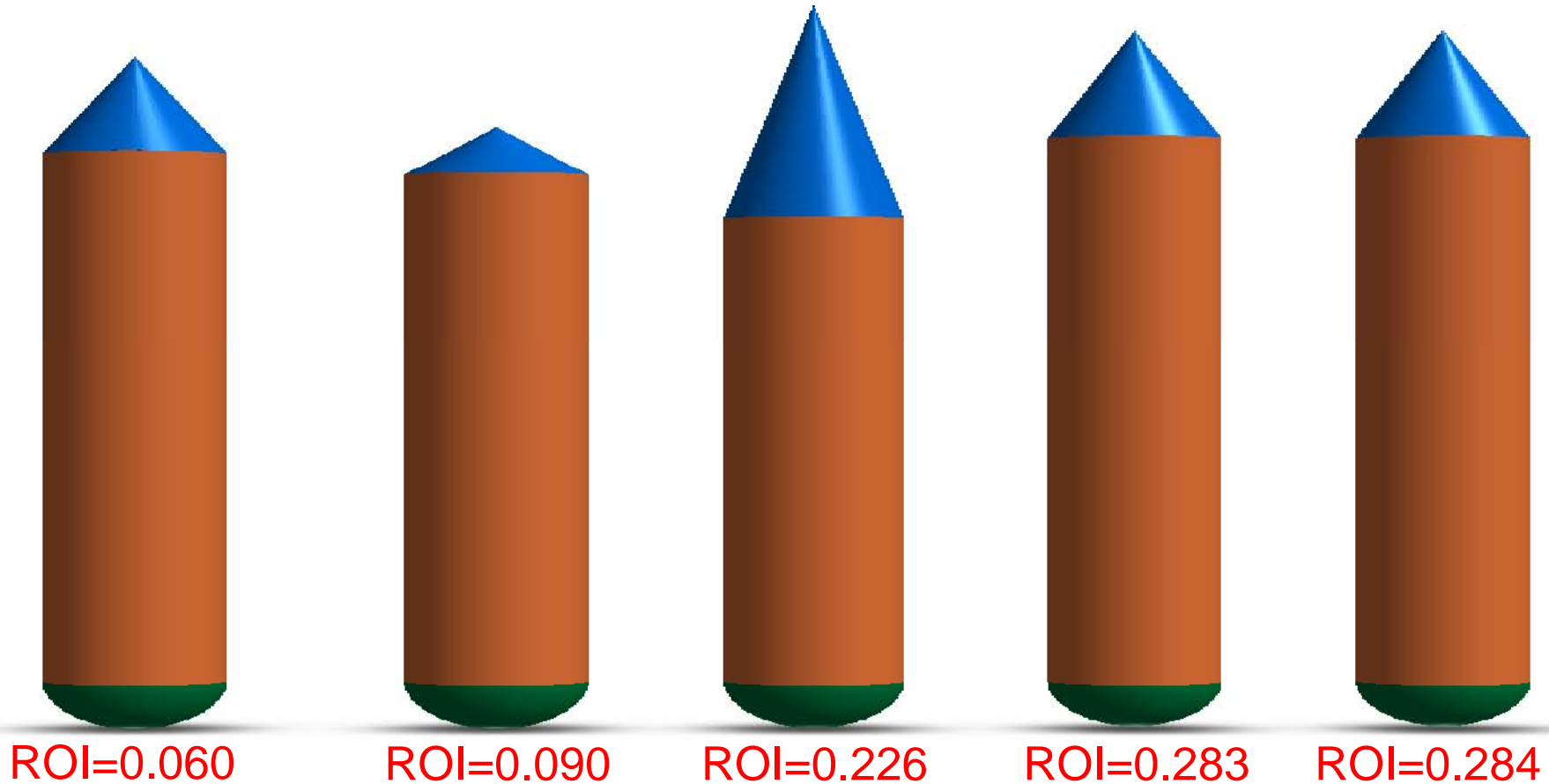
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Single Objective Optimization

Best solution by
Genetic Algorithm



Single Objective Optimization



Pre-DOE

DOE

SQP

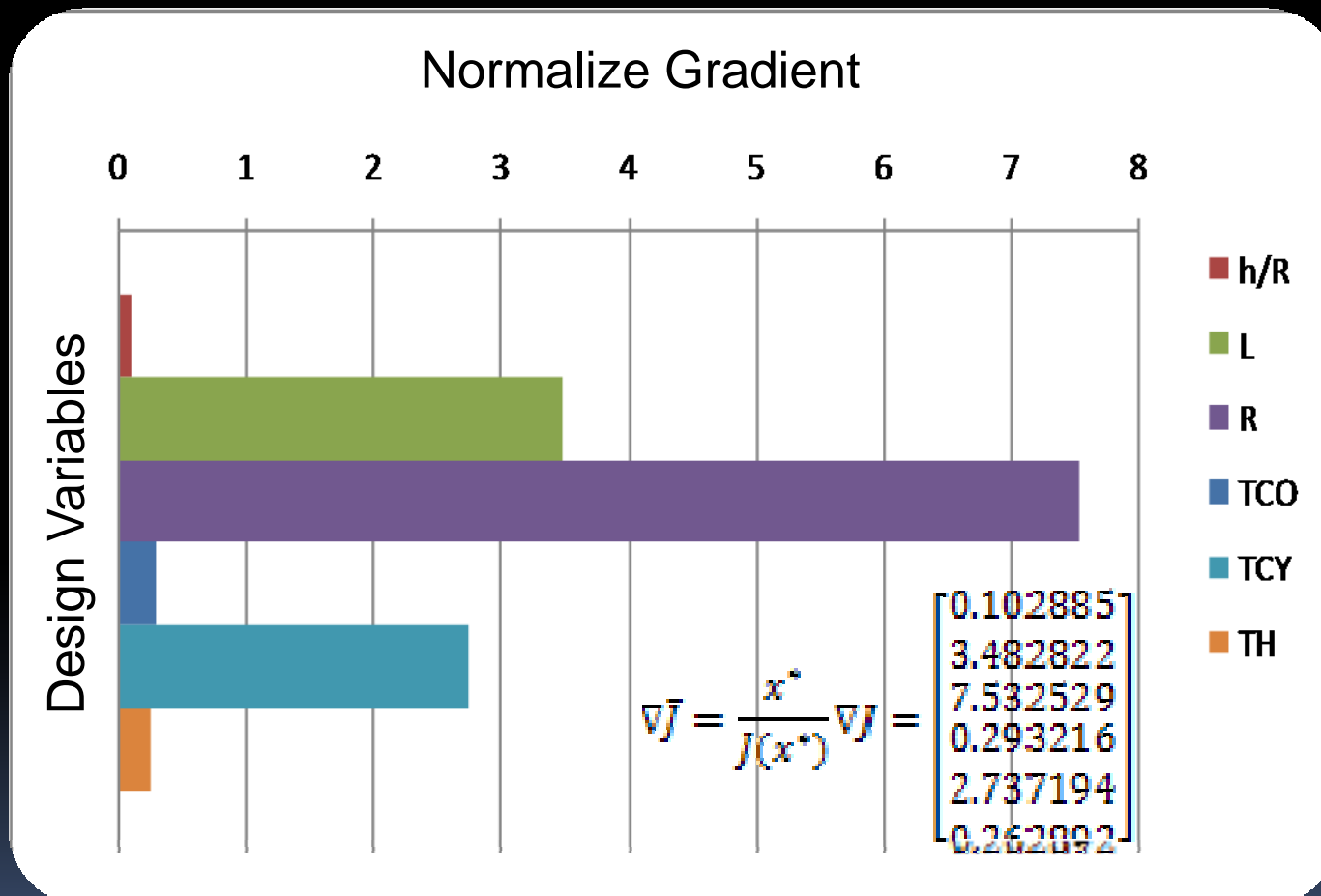
SQP
Scaling

GA

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Sensitivity Analysis



Sensitivity Analysis

$$\frac{d(x)}{d(C)} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dHR2}{dC} \\ \frac{dC}{dL} \\ \frac{dC}{dR} \\ \frac{dC}{dTCO} \\ \frac{dC}{dTCY} \\ \frac{dC}{dTH} \\ \frac{dC}{dC} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.02576 \\ \sim 0 \\ \sim 0 \\ -0.00413 \\ \sim 0 \\ \sim 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

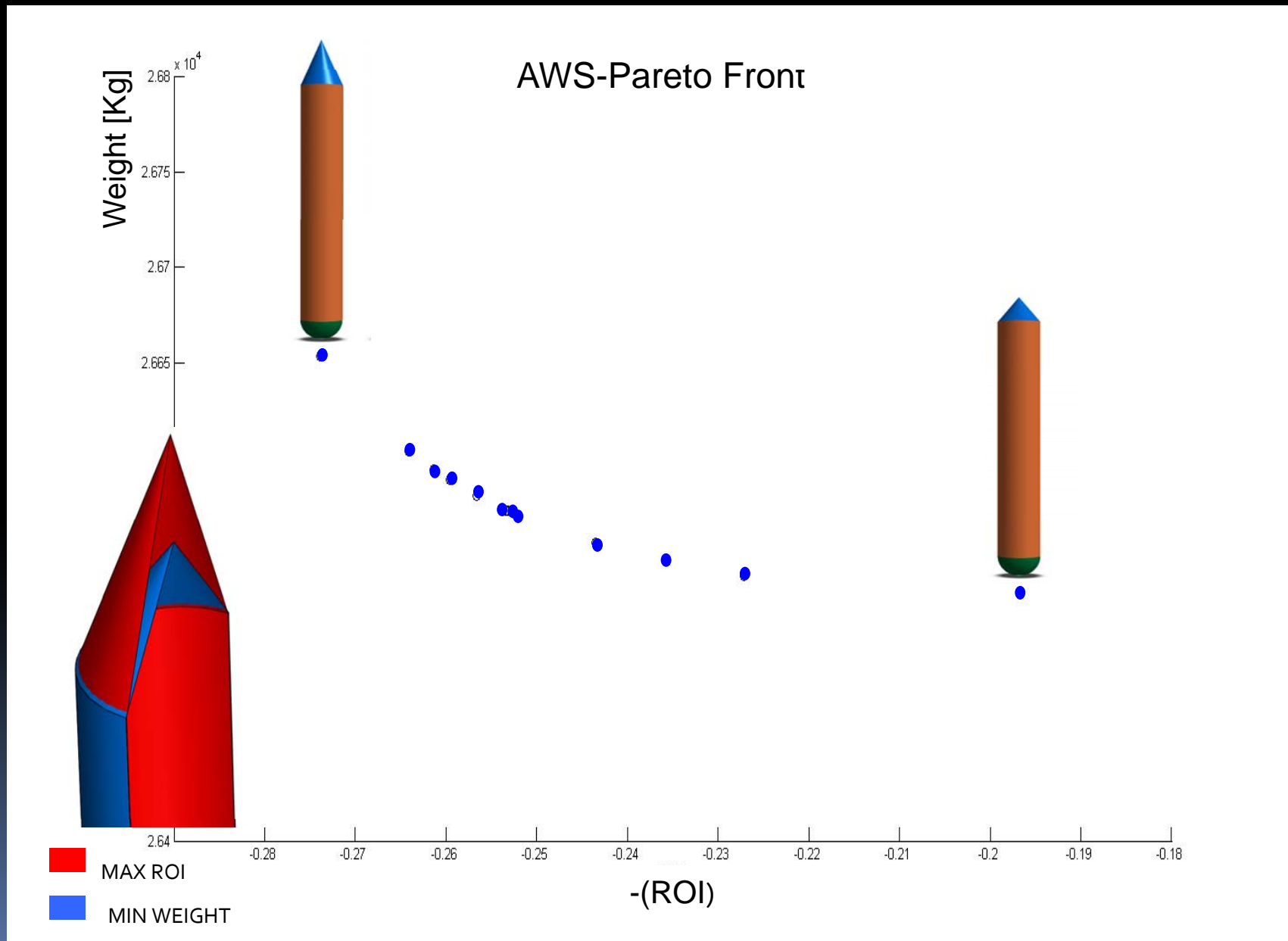
$$\frac{d(x)}{d(FL)} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dHR2}{dFL} \\ \frac{dFL}{dL} \\ \frac{dFL}{dR} \\ \frac{dFL}{dTCO} \\ \frac{dFL}{dTCY} \\ \frac{dFL}{dTH} \\ \frac{dFL}{dFL} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1.993 \times 10^{-5} \\ \sim 0 \\ 3.164 \times 10^{-6} \\ -5.155 \times 10^{-6} \\ -2.206 \times 10^{-8} \\ -9.482 \times 10^{-8} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Constraint	Form	Value at x*	Active?
Vibration constraint	1-VF/VFallowed ≤ 0	~ 0	Yes
Volume constraint	1-Vtank/Vnominal ≤ 0	~ 0	Yes
Eq. Cylinder stress constraint	Scyl/Sallowed-1 ≤ 0	~ 0	Yes
Eq. Hemisphere stress constraint	Shem/Sallowed-1 ≤ 0	~ 0	Yes
Eq. Cone stress constraint	Scon/Sallowed-1 ≤ 0	~ 0	Yes

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Multi Objective Optimization



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Conclusions

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http://www.nasa.gov/topics/shuttle_station/index.html

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