

# Robust Materials Design of Blast Resistant Panels

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# Outline

- **Motivation: Materials Design vs Material Selection**
- **Solution Finding Method: cDSP**
- **Example Problem: BRP design**
  - **Robust Design**
  - **BRP Deflection Modeling**
  - **Problem Formulation**
  - **Design Scenarios**
  - **Results and Analysis**
- **Closing**

# Motivation

## Material Selection

- Designs are limited by the finite set of available materials

## Material Design

- Tailoring the properties of materials to meet product performance goals
- Complex multiscale material models are needed, but they increase design complexity
- **Designers need a method for choosing between material design and material selection**

## Robust Design

- Improving product quality by reducing sensitivity to uncertain factors
  - Noise factors
  - Uncertain control factors
  - Model uncertainty
- **Robust design techniques can be used to find design solutions that reduce sensitivity to uncertainty in material properties, thus leaving design freedom for material design or selection**

## Our goal in this work:

- **Use robust design techniques to design a blast resistant panel that is robust to uncertainty in material properties and loading conditions**

# The Compromise Decision Support Problem

- A general framework for solving multi-objective non-linear, optimization problems
  - Given
  - Find
  - Satisfy
  - Minimize
- Hybrid formulation based on Mathematical Programming and Goal Programming

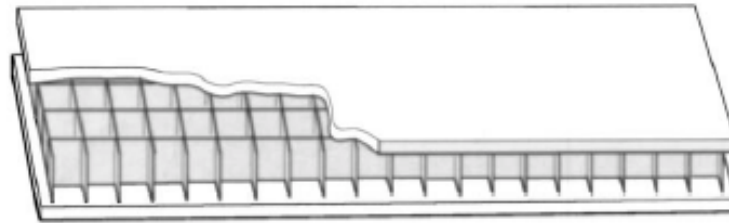
|  |   |                       |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| <b>GIVEN</b>                                       |   |                       |
| An alternative to be improved through modification |   |                       |
| Assumptions used to model the domain of interest   |   |                       |
| The system parameters:                             |   |                       |
| n  | number of system variables  |                       |
| p+q  | number of system constraints  |                       |
| p  | equality constraints  |                       |
| q  | inequality constraints  |                       |
| m  | number of system goals  |                       |
| $C_i(\mathbf{X})$                                  | Capability of the system  |                       |
| $D_i(\mathbf{X})$                                  | Demand to the system  |                       |
| $g_i(\mathbf{X})$                                  | System constraint function  |                       |
|  | $g_i(\mathbf{X}) = C_i(\mathbf{X}) - D_i(\mathbf{X})$                                     |                       |
| $f_k(d_i^+, d_i^-)$                                | Function of deviation variables to be minimized at priority level $k$ the preemptive case |                       |
| <b>FIND</b>  |   |                       |
| $X_i$  | System Variables  | $i = 1, \dots, n$     |
| $d_i^+, d_i^-$                                     | Deviation Variables   | $i = 1, \dots, m$     |
| <b>SATISFY</b>                                     |   |                       |
| System Constraints (linear, nonlinear)             |   |                       |
|  | $g_i(\mathbf{X}) = 0$   | $i = 1, \dots, p$     |
|  | $g_i(\mathbf{X}) \geq 0$  | $i = p+1, \dots, p+q$ |
| System Goals (linear, nonlinear)                   |   |                       |
|  | $A_i(X) + d_i^- - d_i^+ = G_i$  | $i = 1, \dots, m$     |
| Bounds   |   |                       |
|  | $X_{i,\min} \leq X_i \leq X_{i,\max}$   | $i = 1, \dots, n$     |
|  | $d_i^+, d_i^- \geq 0$   | $i = 1, \dots, m$     |
|  | $d_i^+ \cdot d_i^- = 0$   | $i = 1, \dots, m$     |
| <b>MINIMIZE</b>                                    |   |                       |
| Deviation function: Archimedean formulation        |   |                       |
|  | $Z = \sum_i W_i (d_i^+, d_i^-)$   | $i = 1, \dots, m$     |

Mistree, F., Smith, and Bras, B. A., "A Decision Based Approach to Concurrent Engineering," *Handbook of Concurrent Engineering*, edited by H.R. Paresai and W. Sullivan, Chapman & Hall, New York, 1993, pp. 127-158.

Mistree, F., Hughes, O. F., and Bras, B. A., "The Compromise Decision Support Problem and the Adaptive Linear Programming Algorithm," *Structural Optimization: Status and Promise*, edited by M.P. Kamat, AIAA, Washington, D.C., 1993, pp. 247-286.



# Example Problem: Blast Resistant Panels (BRPs)



- **Designed to dissipate blast energy through allowable plastic deformation (crushing) of the core layer**
- **Three layer metal sandwich panel with a square honeycomb core**
- **Design objective: minimize deflection of the back face sheet while meeting mass and failure constraints**
- **Robustness : minimize variance of deflection of the back face sheet due to variation in noise factors**

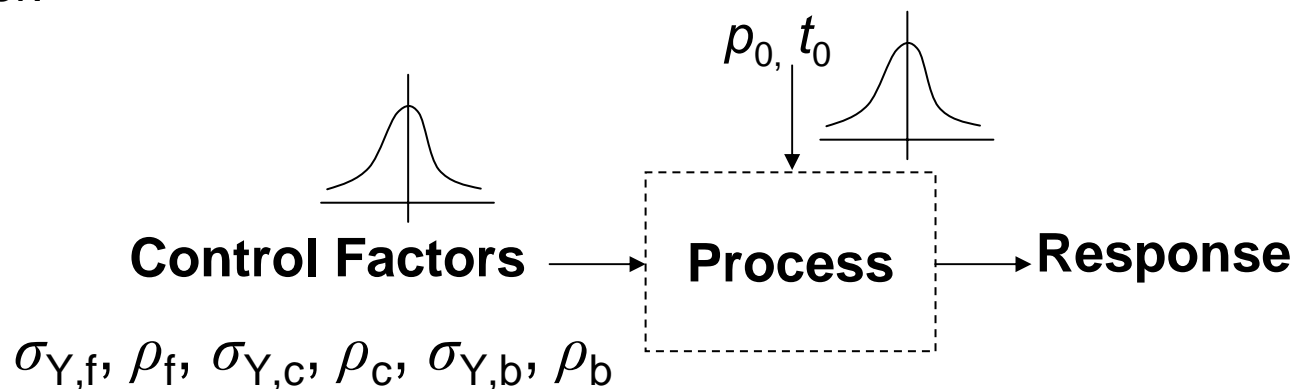
# Designing a Robust Solution

## Noise Factors

In order to design a BRP that is robust to the blast load, the BRP should be robust to uncertainty in  $t_0$  and  $\rho_0$ .

## Uncertain Control Factors

In order to maintain design freedom in the materials of the BRP, the BRP should be robust to uncertainty in yield strength and density of each layer.

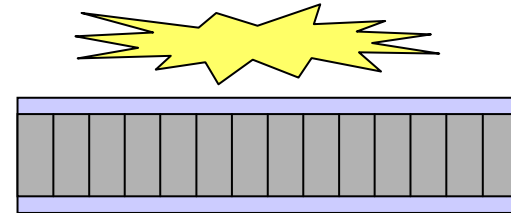


# Predicting Panel Deflection: Three-Stage Deformation

The BRP energy absorption and deformation is divided into 3 Stages:

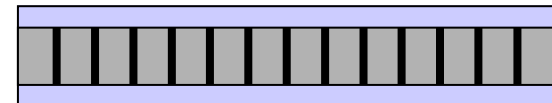
- **Stage I – Fluid-structure interaction**

- 0 ~ 0.1ms
- Impulse encounters top face sheet



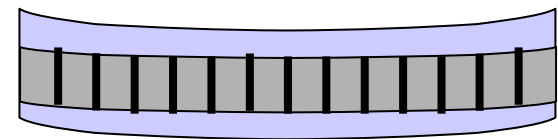
- **Stage II – Core crushing**

- 0.1 ~ 0.4 ms
- Impulse energy is dissipated as the matrix of the core crushes and deforms



- **Stage III – Plastic bending and stretching**

- 0.4 ~ 25 ms
- All remaining impulse energy is dissipated as the back face sheet stretches and bends



# Predicting Panel Deflection

**Stage I: Momentum of blast transferred to front face sheet**

**Total kinetic energy/area at end of Stage I:**

$$KE_I = \frac{2p_0^2 t_0^2}{(\rho_f \sigma_{Y,f})}$$

**Stage II: Core crushing dissipates some energy**

**Total kinetic energy / area at end of Stage II:**

$$KE_{II} = \frac{2p_0^2 t_0^2}{(\rho_f \sigma_{Y,f} + \rho_c R_c \sigma_{Y,c} + \rho_b \sigma_{Y,b})}$$

**Crushing strain:**

$$\bar{\epsilon}_c = \frac{2p_0^2 t_0^2 (\rho_b \sigma_{Y,b} + \rho_c R_c \sigma_{Y,c})}{\lambda_c R_c \sigma_{Y,c} H \rho_f \sigma_{Y,f} (\rho_f \sigma_{Y,f} + \rho_b \sigma_{Y,b} + \rho_c R_c \sigma_{Y,c})}$$

Xue, Z. and Hutchinson, J.W., 2005, "Metal sandwich plates optimized for pressure impulses". *International Journal of Mechanical Sciences*. 47: p. 545–569.

## Nomenclature:

$\rho_f$  = density of front face sheet

$\rho_c$  = density of core

$\rho_b$  = density of back face sheet

$p_0$  = peak pressure of impulse load

$t_0$  = characteristic time of impulse load

$\delta/L$  = deflection per length of back face sheet

$\sigma_{y,f}$  = yield strength of front face sheet

$\sigma_{y,c}$  = yield strength of core material

$\sigma_{y,b}$  = yield strength of back face sheet

$h_f$  = front face sheet thickness

$h_b$  = back face sheet thickness

$H$  = core thickness

$h_c$  = core cell wall thickness

$R_c$  = relative density of core

$\lambda_s$  = core stretching strength factor

$\lambda_c$  = core crushing strength factor

# Predicting Panel Deflection

**Stage III: Remaining energy is dissipated through bending and stretching of back face sheet**

**Plastic work/area in Stage III dissipates the kinetic energy/area remaining at the end of Stage II:**

$$W_{III}^P = \frac{2}{3} \left[ \sigma_{Y,f} h_f + \sigma_{Y,c} R_c H \lambda_S + \sigma_{Y,b} h_b \right] \left( \frac{\delta}{L} \right)^2 + 4 \sigma_{Y,b} h_b \frac{\bar{H}}{L} \left( \frac{\delta}{L} \right)$$

**Equate plastic work/area dissipated in Stage III to the kinetic energy remaining after Stage II to solve for the deflection of the back face sheet**

$$W_{III}^P = KE_I - KE_{II}$$

# Predicting Panel Deflection

## Deflection Equation:

$$\delta = \frac{-3(\sigma_{Y,b}h_b\bar{H}) \pm \sqrt{9\sigma_{Y,b}^2h_b^2\bar{H}^2\left(\frac{1}{L^2}\right) + \left(\frac{3I_0^2[\sigma_{Y,f}h_f + \sigma_{Y,c}R_cH\lambda_S + \sigma_{Y,b}h_b]}{(\rho_f h_f + \rho_c R_c H + \rho_b h_b)}\right)}}{\left([\sigma_{Y,f}h_f + \sigma_{Y,c}R_cH\lambda_S + \sigma_{Y,b}h_b]\right)}$$

$$\text{where } \bar{H} = H(1 - \bar{\epsilon}_c) = \left( H - \frac{2I_0^2(\rho_b h_b + \rho_c R_c H)}{\lambda_c R_c \sigma_{Y,c} \rho_f h_f (\rho_f h_f + \rho_b h_b + \rho_c R_c H)} \right)$$

## Variance of Deflection:

$$\Delta\delta = \left| \frac{\partial\delta}{\partial\sigma_{Y,b}} \right| \Delta\sigma_{Y,b} + \left| \frac{\partial\delta}{\partial\sigma_{Y,c}} \right| \Delta\sigma_{Y,c} + \left| \frac{\partial\delta}{\partial\sigma_{Y,f}} \right| \Delta\sigma_{Y,f} + \left| \frac{\partial\delta}{\partial\rho_b} \right| \Delta\rho_b + \left| \frac{\partial\delta}{\partial\rho_c} \right| \Delta\rho_c + \left| \frac{\partial\delta}{\partial\rho_f} \right| \Delta\rho_f + \left| \frac{\partial\delta}{\partial p_0} \right| \Delta p_0 + \left| \frac{\partial\delta}{\partial t_0} \right| \Delta t_0$$

# Compromise DSP (cDSP)

## Given

**A feasible alternative:** 3 layer sandwich core panel with square honeycomb core

### Assumptions:

- air blast impulse pressure of exponential form
- blast occurs on the order of  $10^{-4}$  seconds
- no strain hardening

**Parameters:** area of panel, geometric constants for analysis, mean and variance of noise factors

## Find

### Design variables:

- material density
- yield strength
- layer thicknesses
- cell wall thickness
- cell spacing

**Deviation variables:** underachievement of goals

## Satisfy

### Constraints:

- mass/area less than  $100 \text{ kg/m}^2$
- deflection less than 10% of span, relative density greater than 0.07 to avoid buckling
- constraints for front face sheet shear-off

**Bounds:** bounds on design variables and deviation variables

### Goals:

- minimize deflection of back face sheet
- minimize variance of deflection of back face sheet

## Minimize

**Weighted sum of the deviation variables**

- **Scenario 1:** Minimize deflection only
- **Scenario 2:** Minimize variance of deflection only
- **Scenario 3:** Equal priority on both goals

# Design Variables and Bounds

## Certain Design Variables

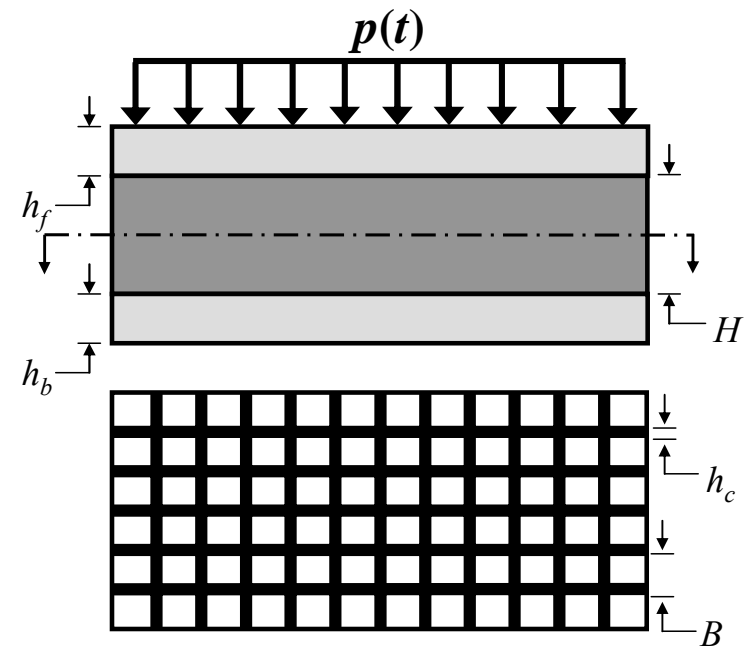
|       | Lower Bound | Upper Bound | Units |
|-------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| $h_f$ | 0.001       | 0.025       | m     |
| $h_b$ | 0.001       | 0.025       | m     |
| $H$   | 0.001       | 0.02        | m     |
| $h_c$ | 0.0001      | 0.01        | m     |
| $B$   | 0.005       | 0.05        | m     |

## Uncertain Design Variables

|                | Lower Bound | Upper Bound | Units             |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| $\rho_f$       | 2000        | 10000       | kg/m <sup>3</sup> |
| $\rho_b$       | 2000        | 10000       | kg/m <sup>3</sup> |
| $\rho_c$       | 2000        | 10000       | kg/m <sup>3</sup> |
| $\sigma_{Y,f}$ | 100         | 1100        | MPa               |
| $\sigma_{Y,b}$ | 100         | 1100        | MPa               |
| $\sigma_{Y,c}$ | 100         | 1100        | MPa               |

## Noise Factors

|       | Mean   | Variance | Units   |
|-------|--------|----------|---------|
| $p_0$ | 25     | 3.75     | MPa     |
| $t_0$ | 0.0001 | 0.000015 | seconds |



# Design Constraints

## Designer / Customer Requirements:

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- **Mass per Area – Less than 100 kg/m<sup>2</sup>**
- **Back Face Sheet Deflection – Less than 10% of Length (10cm)**

## Constraints to Prohibit Failure:

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- **Relative Density of Honeycomb Core – Greater than 0.07 to avoid buckling**
- **Front Face Sheet Shearing – Must not fail in shear**
  - At clamped ends
  - At the core webs

## Constraints on Uncertain Design Variables

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- **Uncertain Material Properties – Must remain in bounds**

**Robust Constraints:** All constraints that are a function of uncertain factors are imposed as “robust” constraints; i.e. the worst case value including the variation due to uncertain factors is used to evaluate the constraint

# Goals and Scenarios

## Deviation Variables: $d_i^-$ , $d_i^+$

- Measure the deviation from the goal
- As we minimize the deviation variables, we approach the targets

## Goal 1: Minimize Deflection

$$T_\delta / \delta + d_1^- - d_1^+ = 1$$
$$T_\delta = 0.05 \text{ m}$$

## Goal 2: Minimize Variance of Deflection

$$T_{\Delta\delta} / \Delta\delta + d_2^- - d_2^+ = 1$$
$$T_{\Delta\delta} = 0.005 \text{ m}$$

## Deviation Function:

$$Z = W_1 \cdot d_1^- + W_2 \cdot d_2^-$$

## Scenario 1: Optimizing

- $W_1 = 1$
- $W_2 = 0$

All priority on deflection goal; none on robust goal

## Scenario 2: Stabilizing

- $W_1 = 0$
- $W_2 = 1$

All priority on robust goal; none on deflection goal

## Scenario 3: Robust

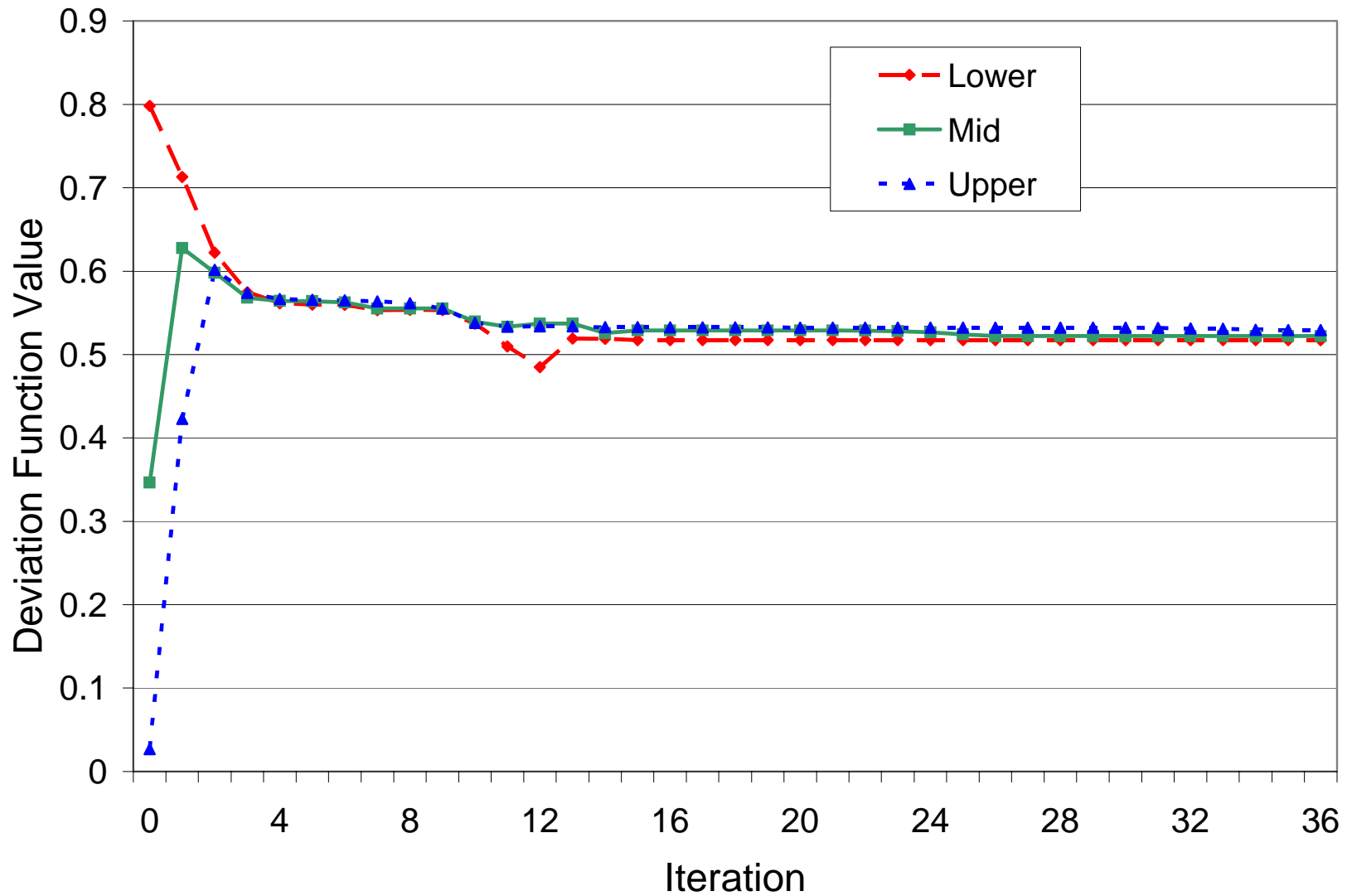
- $W_1 = 0.5$
- $W_2 = 0.5$

Equal priority on both goals

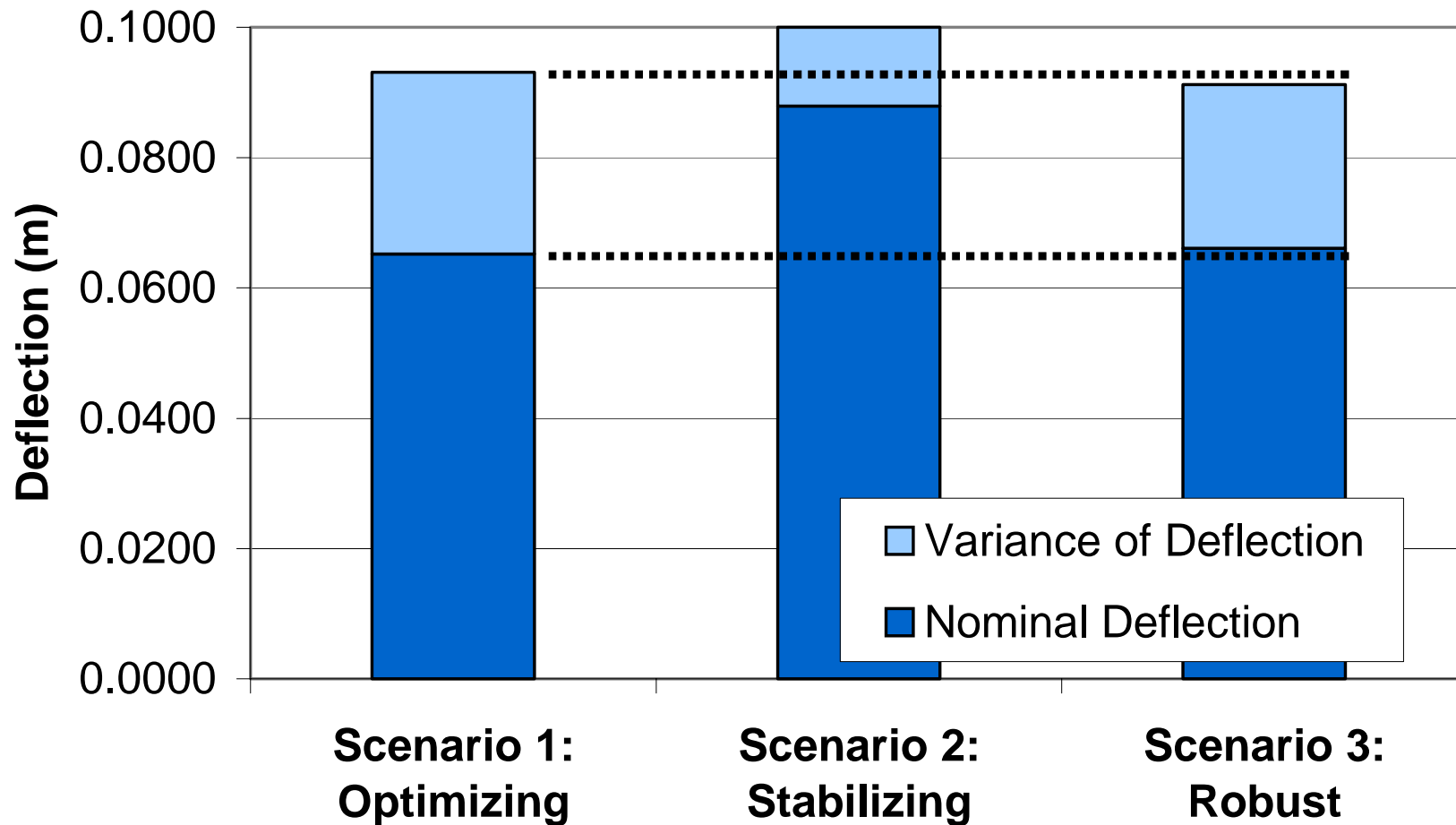
# Verifying the cDSP Results

|                                       | Units             | Constraint Type | Bounds |       | Starting Point |         |        |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------|-------|----------------|---------|--------|
|                                       |                   |                 | Lower  | Upper | Lower          | Mid     | Upper  |
| <b>BRP Dimensions</b>                 |                   |                 |        |       |                |         |        |
| Cell Spacing, $B$                     | mm                | between         | 1      | 20    | 20             | 20      | 20     |
| Core Height, $H$                      | mm                | between         | 5      | 50    | 15.767         | 14.4633 | 13.035 |
| Cell Wall Thickness, $h_c$            | mm                | between         | 0.1    | 10    | 2.2925         | 3.9364  | 6.2386 |
| Front Face Sheet Thickness, $h_f$     | mm                | between         | 1      | 25    | 13.443         | 8.3285  | 6.5977 |
| Back Face Sheet Thickness, $h_b$      | mm                | between         | 1      | 25    | 21.611         | 25      | 25     |
| <b>Worst Case Material Properties</b> |                   |                 |        |       |                |         |        |
| Yield Strength, Back                  | MPa               | between         | 100    | 1100  | 1100           | 1100    | 1100   |
| Yield Strength, Core                  | MPa               | between         | 100    | 1100  | 1100           | 1100    | 1100   |
| Yield Strength, Front                 | MPa               | between         | 100    | 1100  | 1100           | 1100    | 1100   |
| Density, Back                         | kg/m <sup>3</sup> | between         | 2000   | 10000 | 2000           | 2000    | 2000   |
| Density, Core                         | kg/m <sup>3</sup> | between         | 2000   | 10000 | 2000           | 2000    | 2000   |
| Density, Front                        | kg/m <sup>3</sup> | between         | 2000   | 10000 | 2000           | 2000    | 2000   |
| <b>Worst Case Constraint Analysis</b> |                   |                 |        |       |                |         |        |
| Mass                                  | kg/m <sup>2</sup> | at most         |        | 100   | 100            | 100     | 100    |
| Deflection                            | m                 | at most         |        | 0.100 | 0.0905         | 0.0912  | 0.0929 |
| Relative Density of the Core          | no unit           | at least        | 0.070  |       | 0.2161         | 0.3549  | 0.5266 |
| Mu                                    | no unit           | at most         |        | 2.309 | 0.2535         | 0.6163  | 1.0403 |
| Gamma                                 | no unit           | at most         |        | 0.600 | 0.1969         | 0.3178  | 0.4012 |

# Verifying the cDSP Results



# Comparing the Scenarios: What is a Robust Solution?



# Investigating the Need for New Materials

All the solutions tend towards higher yield strengths and lower densities

|                         | Yield Strength (MPa) |         |         | Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> ) |         |         |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|------------------------------|---------|---------|
|                         | Back                 | Core    | Front   | Back                         | Core    | Front   |
| Scenario 1: Optimizing  | 1075.00              | 1075.00 | 1075.00 | 2200.00                      | 2200.00 | 2200.00 |
| Scenario 2: Stabilizing | 1075.00              | 1062.02 | 823.53  | 2434.23                      | 3142.39 | 2200.00 |
| Scenario 3: Robust      | 1075.00              | 1075.00 | 1075.00 | 2200.00                      | 2200.00 | 2200.00 |

Since there are no materials that have properties that satisfy these ranges of material properties, a material must be designed or problem formulation must be reevaluated

|        | Yield Strength (MPa) |       | Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> ) |       |
|--------|----------------------|-------|------------------------------|-------|
|        | Lower                | Upper | Lower                        | Upper |
| Back   | 1050                 | 1100  | 2000                         | 2400  |
| Core   | 1050                 | 1100  | 2000                         | 2400  |
| Front  | 1050                 | 1100  | 2000                         | 2400  |
| Common | 1050                 | 1100  | 2000                         | 2400  |

# Investigating the Impact of the Mass Constraint

Robust solutions were found for three values of the mass constraint

| Mass per Area Constraint | Yield Strength (MPa) |         |         | Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> ) |         |         |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|------------------------------|---------|---------|
|                          | Back                 | Core    | Front   | Back                         | Core    | Front   |
| 85                       | 1073.29              | 676.56  | 1074.80 | 2226.94                      | 2586.78 | 2211.02 |
| 100                      | 1075.00              | 1075.00 | 1075.00 | 2200.00                      | 2200.00 | 2200.00 |
| 115                      | 1075.00              | 1075.00 | 1075.00 | 2200.00                      | 2200.00 | 2200.00 |

| Mass per Area Constraint | Layer Height (mm) |        |        | Core Topology (mm) |       |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------|--------|--------------------|-------|
|                          | Back              | Core   | Front  | $B$                | $h_c$ |
| 85                       | 24.427            | 44.594 | 4.406  | 14.898             | 0.531 |
| 100                      | 25.000            | 14.463 | 8.329  | 20.000             | 3.936 |
| 115                      | 25.000            | 13.406 | 14.318 | 20.000             | 4.081 |

| Mass per Area Constraint | Deflection (m) | Variance of Deflection (m) | Total (m) |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| 85                       | 0.0856         | 0.0139                     | 0.0995    |
| 100                      | 0.0661         | 0.0251                     | 0.0912    |
| 115                      | 0.0570         | 0.0221                     | 0.0791    |

# Closure

- We have presented a methodology for the design of a blast resistant panel that is robust to uncertainty in loading conditions and material properties.
- A cDSP was formulated to balance the goals of minimizing deflection and minimizing the variance of deflection.
- Three design scenarios were presented to compare optimizing, stabilizing, and robust solutions.
- The impact of the mass constraint was examined for three values of the constraint.

# Acknowledgments

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