

## Shape Optimal Design of a Spacer Grid Spring

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ABAQUS

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### Abstract

A shape optimal design method is adopted for a spacer grid strap. It is made of punched sheet metal process, functioning as springs and dimples supporting fuel rods. For stress analysis of the assembled fuel rod support, a typical cell out of the repeated pattern in the assembly is modeled using 4-node shell elements. A commercial code, ABAQUS, is used for detailed stress analysis. For the optimization, design variables are taken from geometric parameters representing the shape of the bent leaf spring part. Objective function is considered in relation to mechanical functions. Maximum von-Mises stress is also considered.

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8-11

( )

Fig. 1

(creep-down swelling),

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[1]

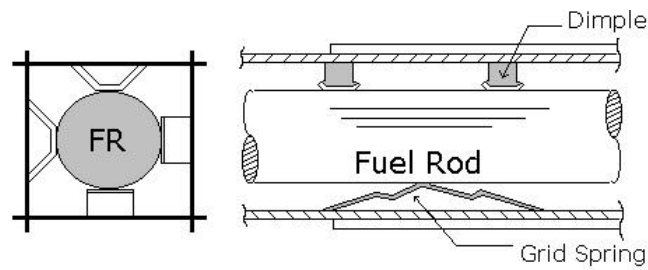


Fig. 1 Schematic diagram of spacer grid cell

2가

(H /

, Arch )

2가

2

3

4

2.

2.1

ABAQUS[2]

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Fig. 2

1

(reduced integration)

(hourglass mode)

4

S4R

(penalty formulation)

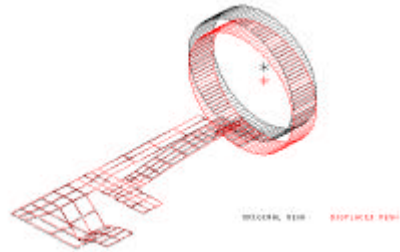
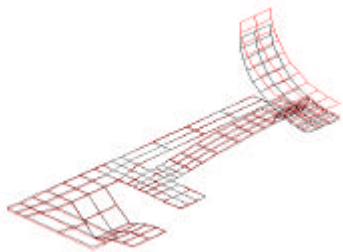


Fig. 2 Simple models of H - type spacer grid using ABAQUS

1)

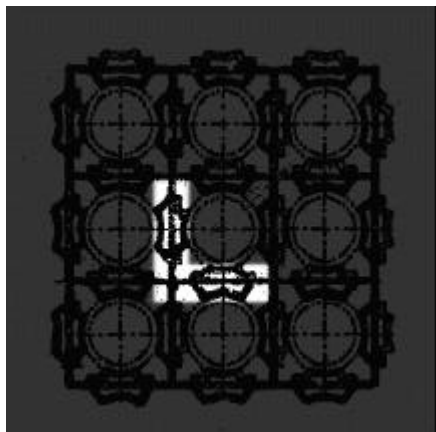
, 2)

가 , 3)  
 (interference) (H  
 :0.2mm, Arch :0.1mm )  
 , (rigid surface)

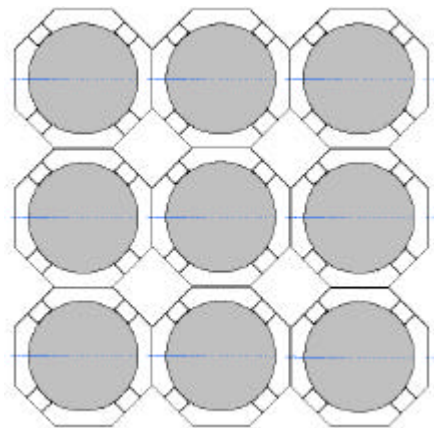
가 가  
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 [3].

2.2

Fig. 3  
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 (H :2 , Arch :1 )



a. H - type spacer grid



b. Arch - type spacer grid

Fig. 3 Shape of 3x3 spacer grids

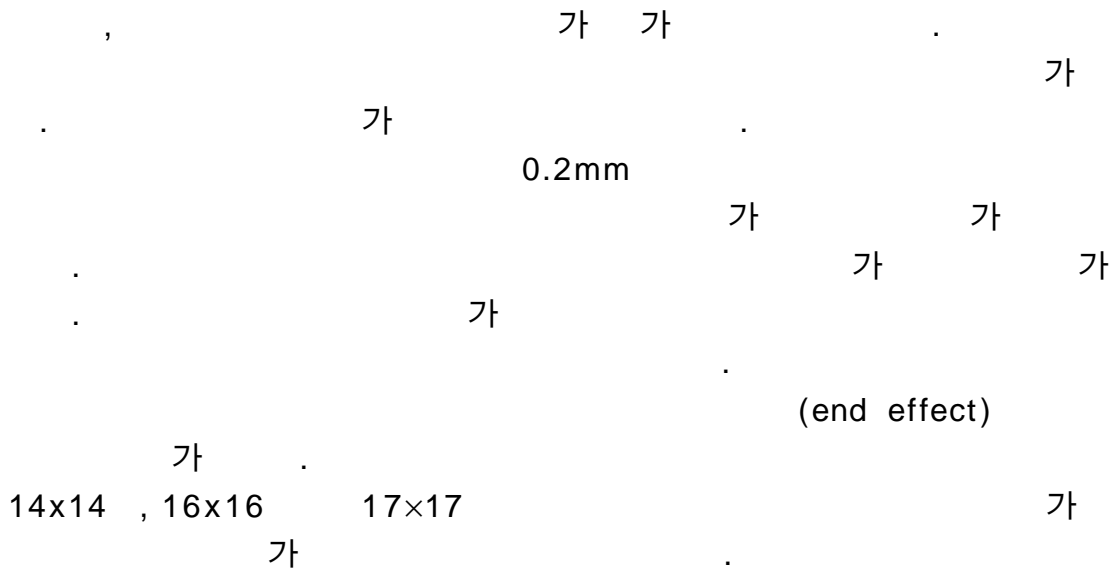


Fig. 4

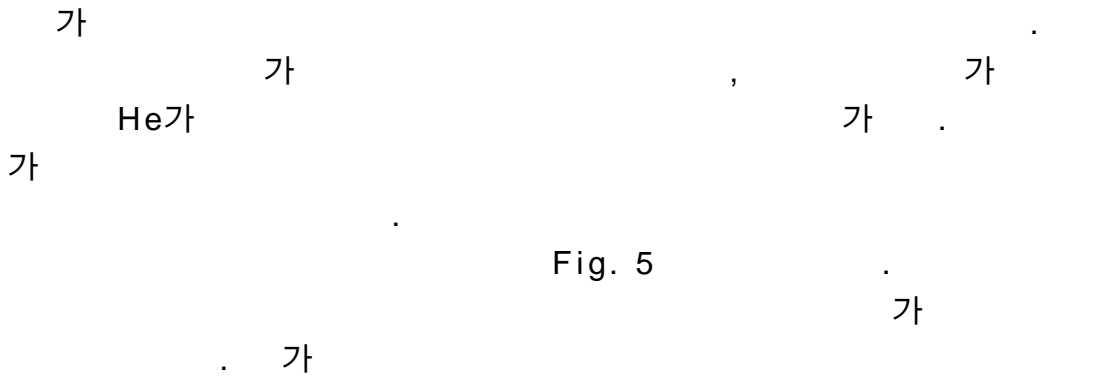
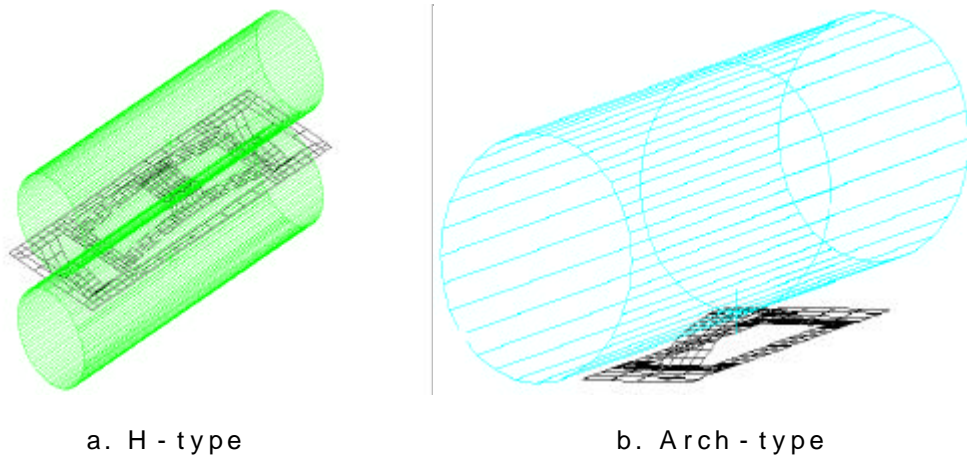


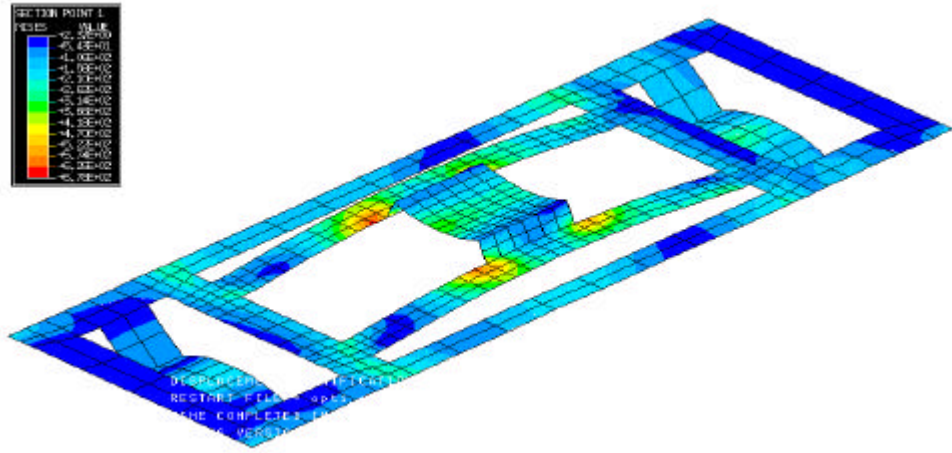
Fig. 5



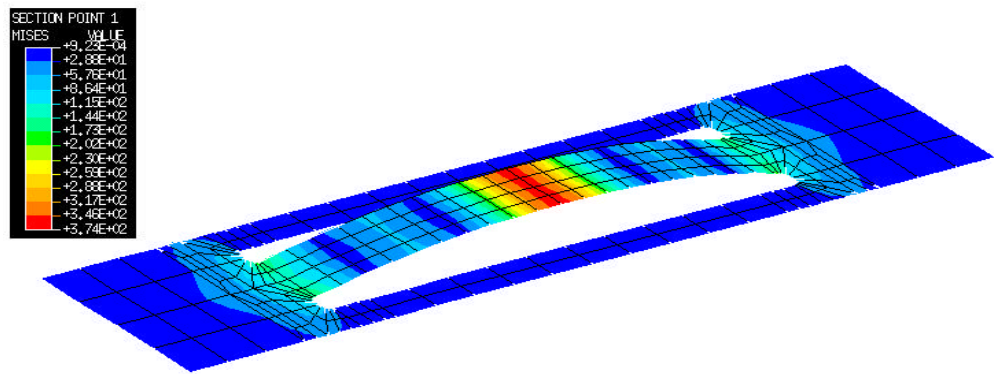
a. H - type

b. Arch - type

Fig. 4 Modeling of spacer grid



a. H type



b. Arch type

Fig. 5 von - Mises stress contour of spacer grid

3.

3.1

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가

가

Arch ( [4]. 3.2

가 Siemens/KWU FOCUS 가 가 가

가

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Minimize} && f(\mathbf{b}) \\
 & \text{subject to} && h_i(\mathbf{b}) = 0, \quad \text{for } i = 1, K, \text{ , } nhc \\
 & && g_j(\mathbf{b}) \leq 0, \quad \text{for } j = 1, K, \text{ , } ngc
 \end{aligned}$$

where *nhc*: number of equality constraints  
*ngc*: number of inequality constraints  
 $\mathbf{b}$ : *n*-dimensional vector of unknowns

ABAQUS Version 5.8 , Vanderplaats  
 DOT(design optimization tools) v4.0 Visual DOC(design  
 optimization control) v1.2[5] Fig. 6  
 Fig. 7

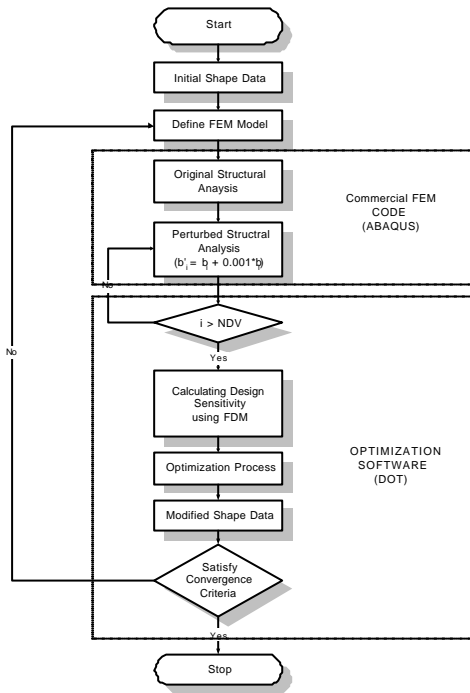


Fig. 6 Flow chart for shape optimization using ABAQUS and DOT

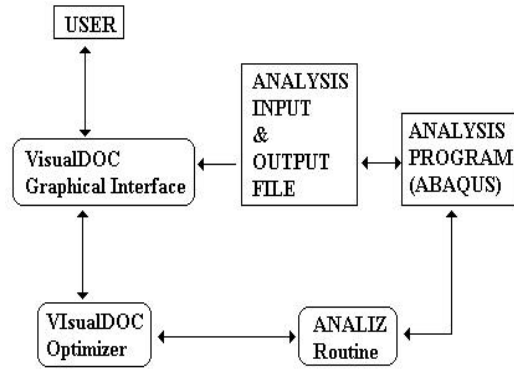


Fig. 7 How Optimizer Works with FEM program

### 3.3 가

#### 3.3.1 H

H

(conformal contact)

Fig. 8

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가 2

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가 3 ,  
가

112

108 가

,4



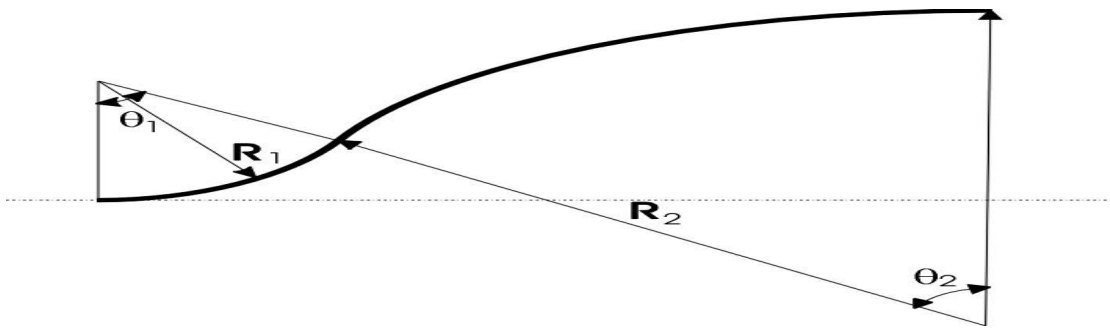


Fig. 8 Shape of spring arm

Minimize  $b_{n+1}$

subject to  $\sigma_y^i \leq b_{n+1}, \text{ for } i=1, K, NID$   
 $h_j(b) = 0, \text{ for } j=1, \dots, nhc$   
 $g_k(b) \leq 0, \text{ for } k=1, \dots, ngc$

Fig. 9

가

Fig. 9

가

544Mpa 28.0%가

가  
가

756.5MPa

가

Table 1

Table 1. Optimal solution for maximum von-Mises stress minimization problem

| Design Variable        |   | Initial Design | Lower Limit            | Optimal Design | Upper Limit |
|------------------------|---|----------------|------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Design Variable Number | 1 | 2.0000         | 0.0500                 | 67.33          | 100.0       |
|                        | 2 | 0.1993         | 0.0500                 | 0.0692         | 1.569       |
|                        | 3 | 900.0          | 0.1000                 | 552.8          | 3000.0      |
| Obj. Value(MPa)        |   | 900.0          | 552.77 (38.6% reduced) |                |             |

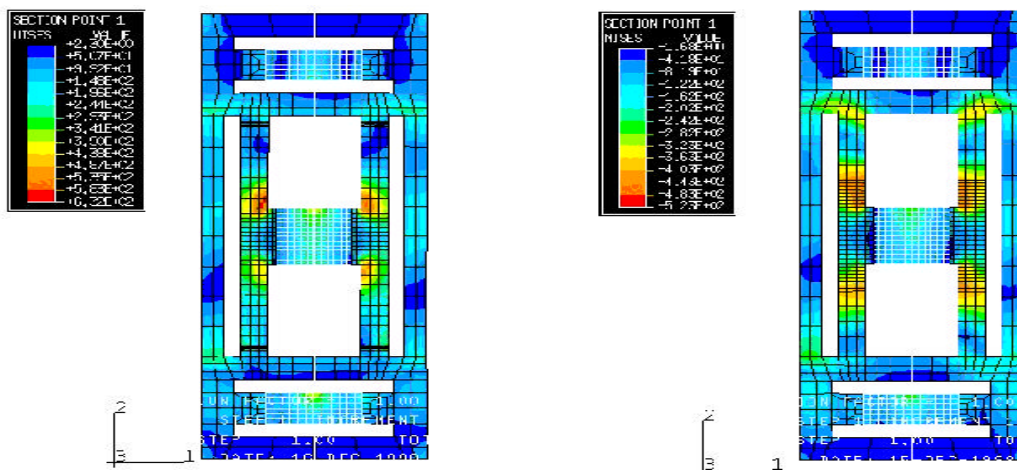
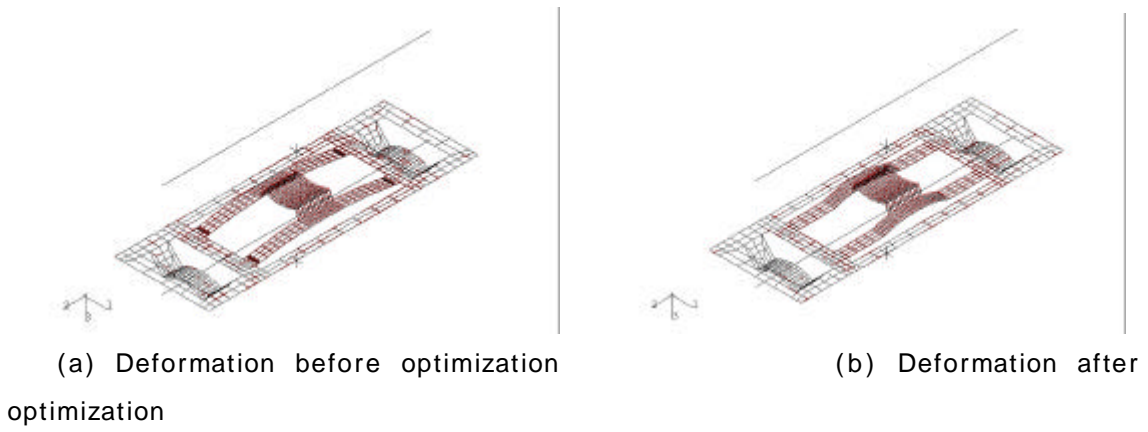


Fig. 9 Optimum result for maximum von-Mises stress minimization problem

### 3.3.2 Arch Arch

(parametric study)

(boundary)

가 (synthetic)

가

(Fig. 10 )

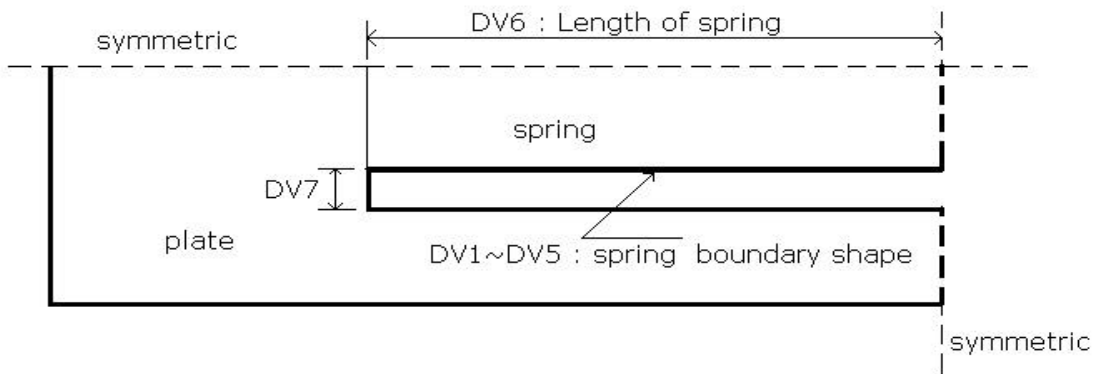
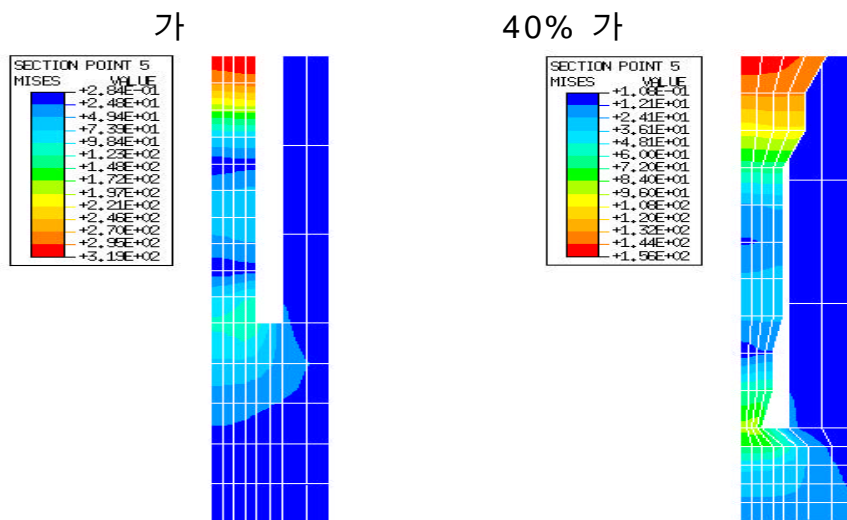


Fig. 10 Set design variables for 1/4 arch - type spring

가 / 가 Fig. 11  
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 가  
 Table 2  
 가  
 가

(fillet)

Fig. 12



(c) von-Mises stress contour before opt. (d) von-Mises stress contour after opt.

Fig. 11 Optimum result for maximum von-Mises stress minimization problem

Table 2. Optimal solution for maximum von-Mises stress minimization problem

| Design Variable        |   | Initial Design | Lower Limit           | Optimal Design | Upper Limit |
|------------------------|---|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Design Variable Number | 1 | 1.0            | 0.5                   | 2.0            | 2.0         |
|                        | 2 | 1.0            | 0.5                   | 1.0            | 2.0         |
|                        | 3 | 1.0            | 0.5                   | 1.0            | 2.0         |
|                        | 4 | 1.0            | 0.5                   | 1.0            | 2.0         |
|                        | 5 | 1.0            | 0.5                   | 0.5            | 2.0         |
|                        | 6 | 10.0           | 6.0                   | 14.0           | 14.0        |
|                        | 7 | 0.6            | 0.3                   | 0.6            | 0.9         |
| Obj. Value(MPa)        |   | 319.3          | 155.9 (51.2% reduced) |                |             |

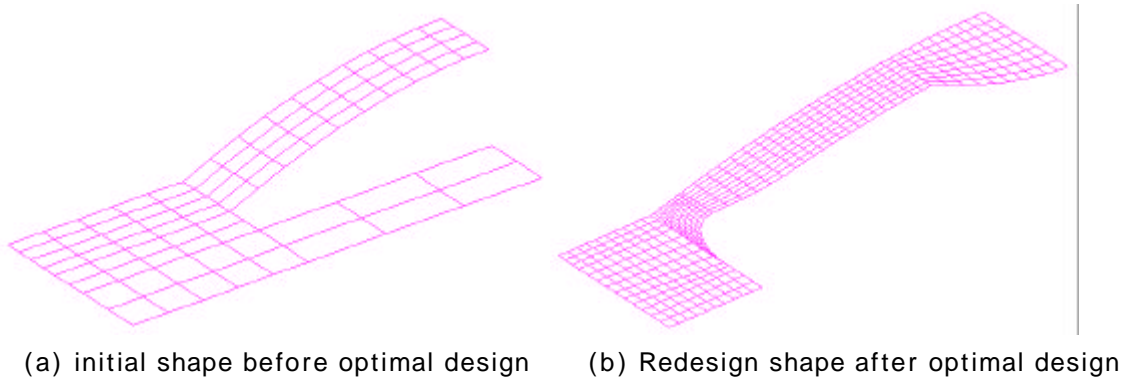


Fig. 12 shape change of 1/4 arch - type spring

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1. ”, ,  
KAERI/TR-865/97.
2. ABAQUS Theory Manual, Version 5.8, 1999.
3. B. M. Kwak et al., Shape optimization of support grids/ Development of a FE model for their buckling analysis, KAERI/CM-329/99.
4. R. Holzer et al., “Fuel Design Advancements by Application of Siemens FOCUS Technology,” Proc. Of the 7<sup>th</sup> KAIF/KNS Annual Conference, 1992.
5. VisualDOC reference manual, Vanderplaats Research & Development, 1998.