



17<sup>h</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>  
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PARMA  
PAGANINI CONGRESSI  
ITALY



# A CAD-MESH MIXED APPROACH TO ENHANCE SHAPE OPTIMIZATION CAPABILITIES

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# Outline

- ❖ Company profile
- ❖ Shape optimization
  - CAD-based
  - MESH-based
- ❖ Proposed CAD-MESH mixed approach
- ❖ Application
- ❖ Conclusion



# SACMI

Since 1919



Ceramics



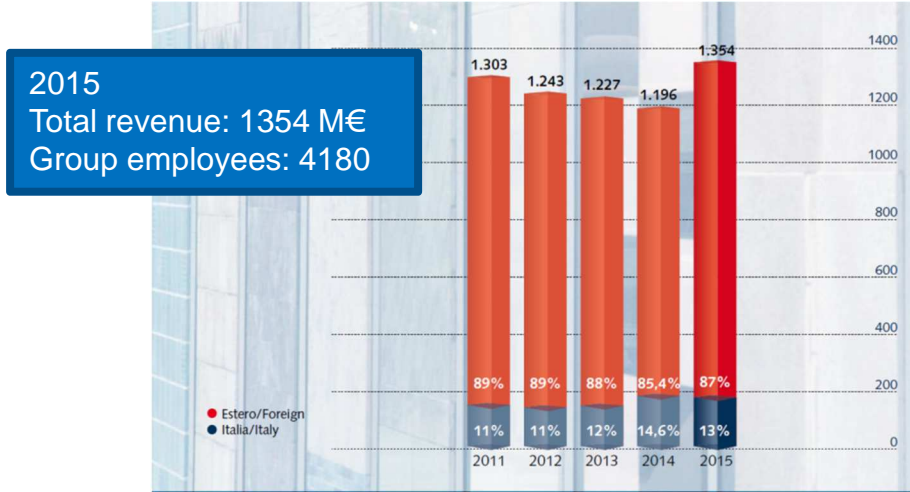
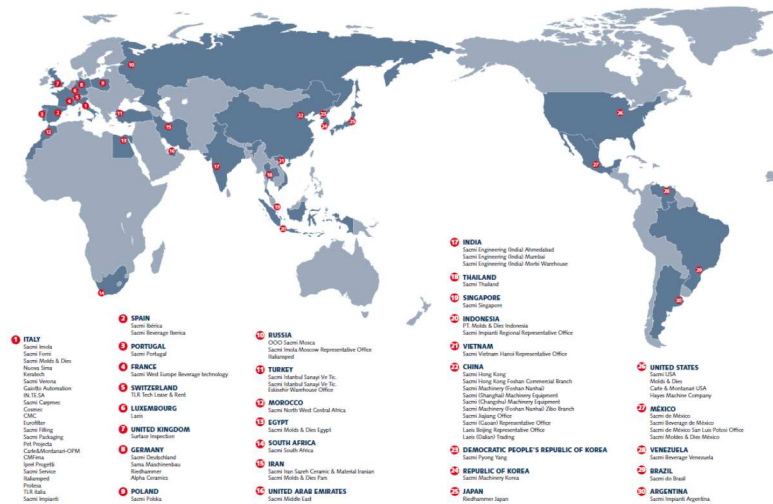
Packaging



Food

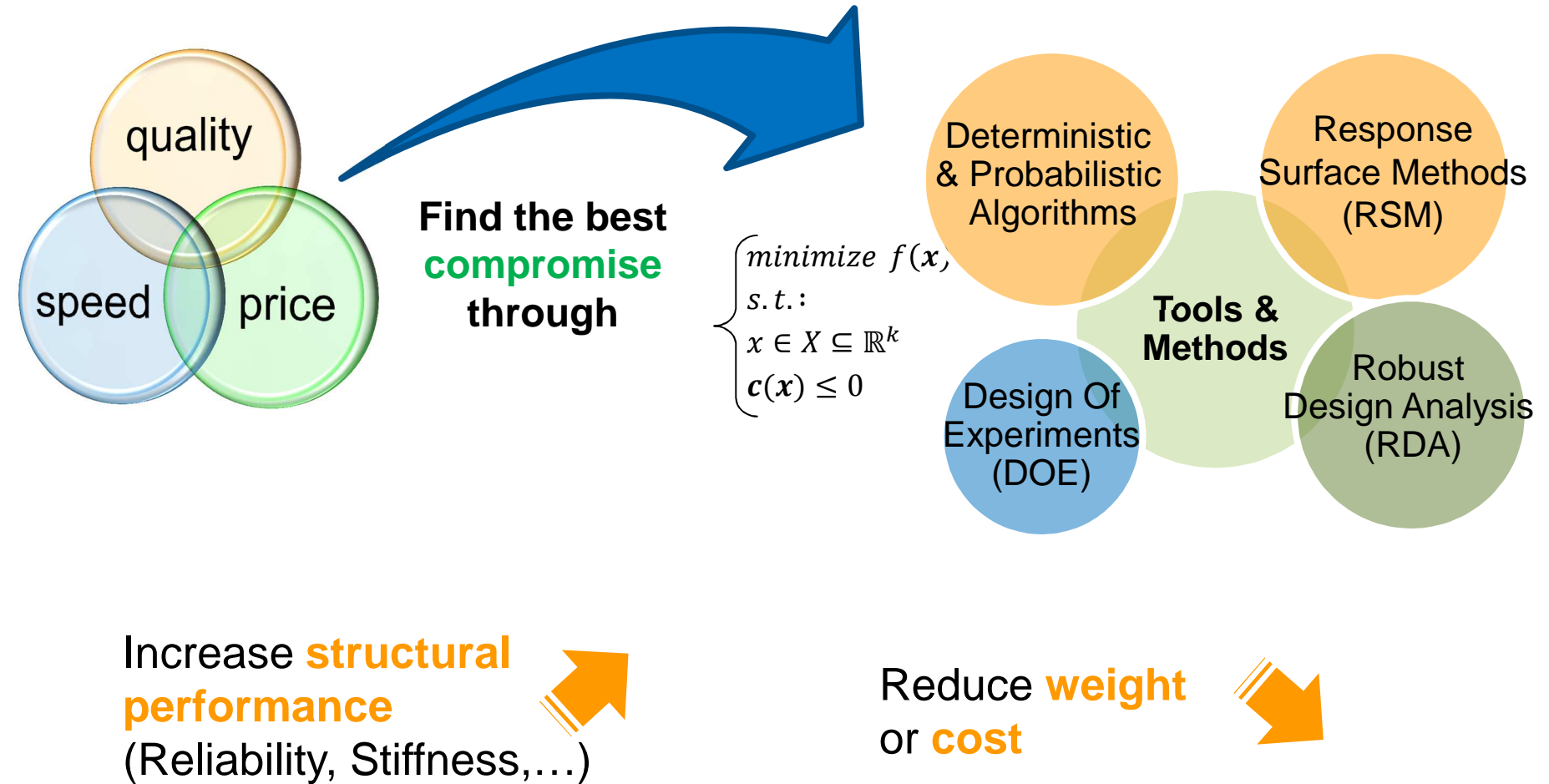


Services



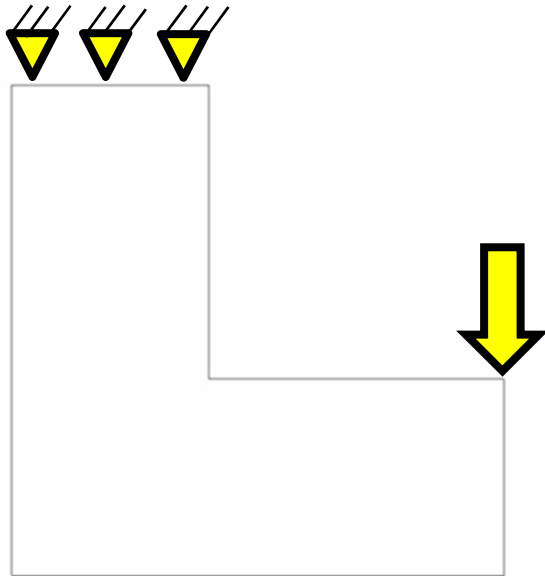
Your today's presenter:  
CAE Engineer of Ceramic Engineering  
Department

# Structural Optimization in Industrial Design Process



# Structural Optimization in Industrial Design Process

Topology Optimization

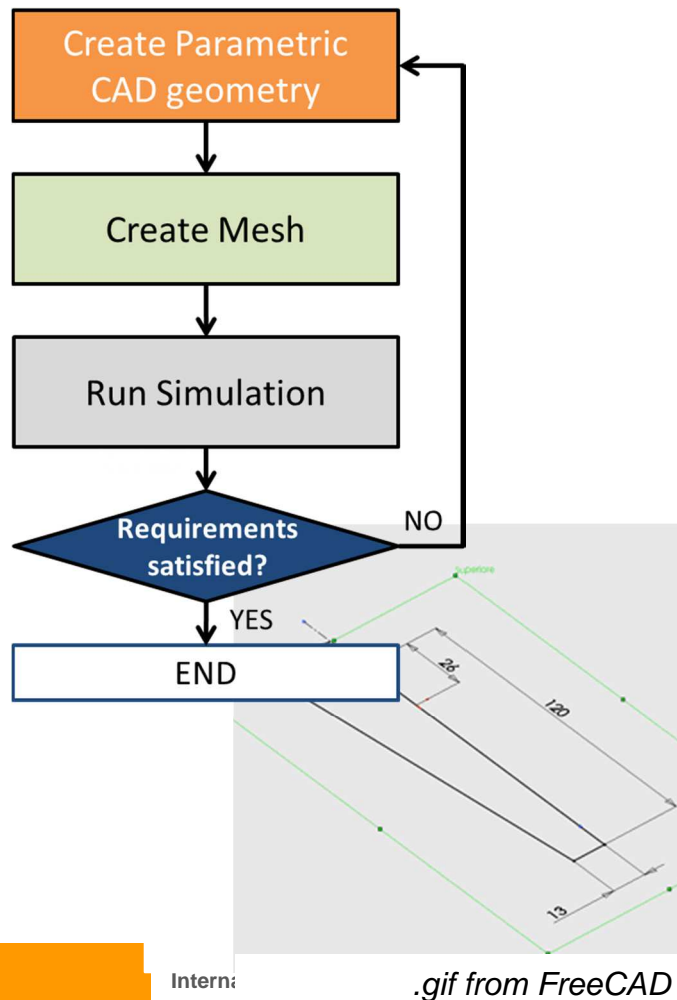


Shape Optimization

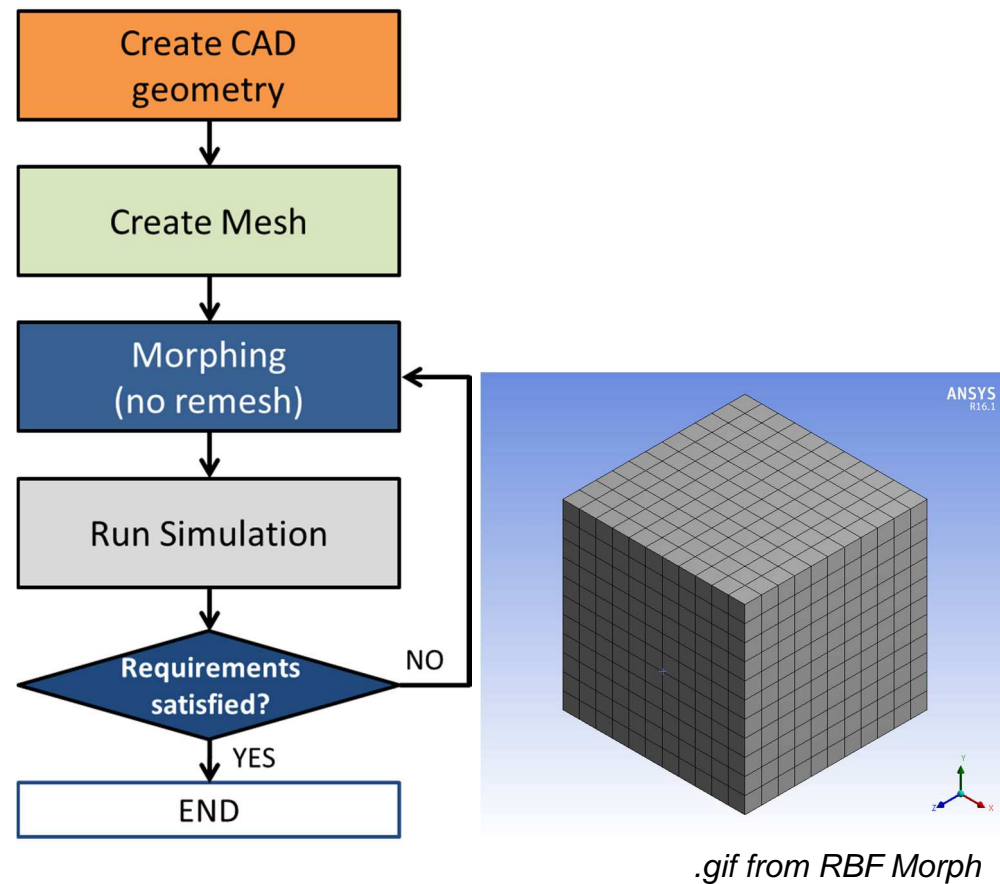


# Shape Optimization

## ❖ CAD-based



## ❖ MESH-based



.gif from RBF Morph

# Shape Optimization: CAD-based



- ↑ Designer oriented
- ↑ Strict geometric requirements
- ↑ Geometric dependent loads



- ↓ Geometry coherence
- ↓ Remeshing performance and quality
- ↓ CAD-FE data transfer efficiency
- ↓ Not all CADs work on dead-geometries

# Shape Optimization: MESH-based



- ↑ No remeshing
- ↑ Generally faster
- ↑ No geometry coherence issues
- ↑ Works on dead meshes

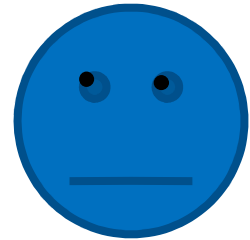


- ↓ Analyst oriented
- ↓ Strict geometric requirements



# Shape Optimization: CAD-MESH mixed approach

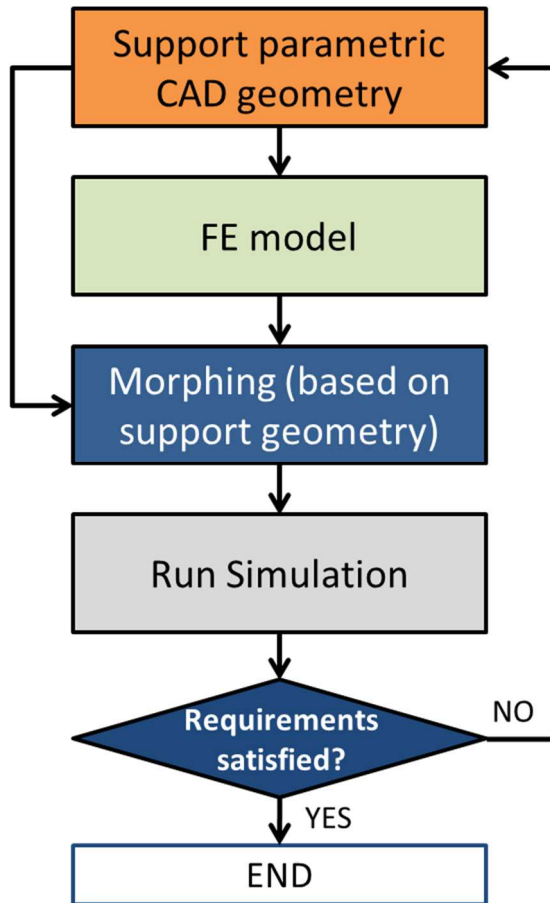
How could I mix  
the goods?



- ↑ Designer oriented
- ↑ Strict geometric requirements
- ↑ Geometric dependent loads

- ↑ No remeshing
- ↑ Generally faster
- ↑ No geometry coherence issues
- ↑ Works on dead meshes

# Shape Optimization: CAD-MESH mixed approach



I'll use a support geometry to manage mesh-morphing !!!

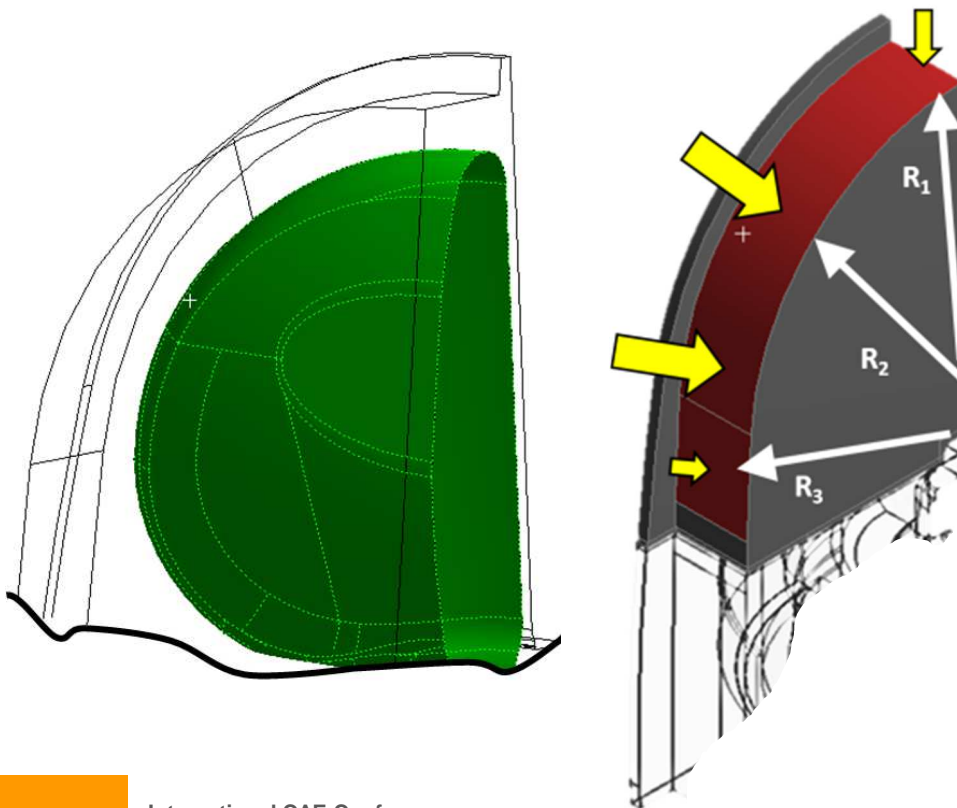


## KEY-POINTS

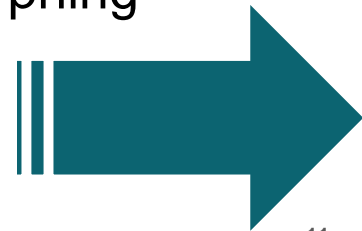
- The geometry of the FE model is not changed during the optimization.
- A “dummy” support geometry to control shape optimization is created and controlled by the optimization design variables.
- The mesh morphing is used to modify the FE model by following the support geometry.

# CAD-MESH mixed approach: application

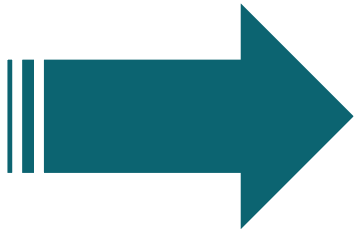
- Complex geometry: **NO** easy way to directly handle it with parametric **CAD**



- Pressure loads related to geometry: **NO** easy way to directly handle it with **MESH** morphing
- Strict geometry requirements: **NO** easy way to directly handle it with **MESH** morphing



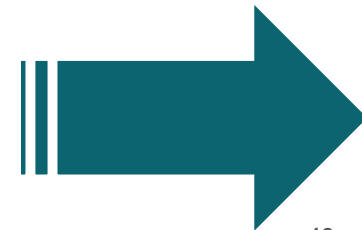
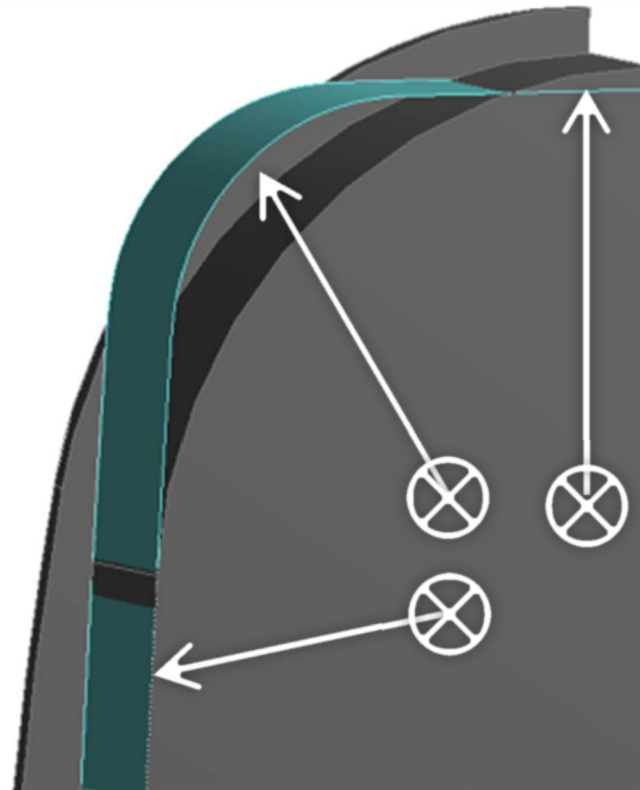
# CAD-MESH mixed approach: application



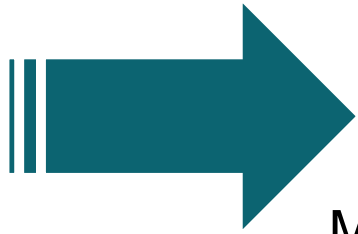
Parametric support geometry

## Parameters:

- Radii →
- Global coordinates of fillet centers ⊗



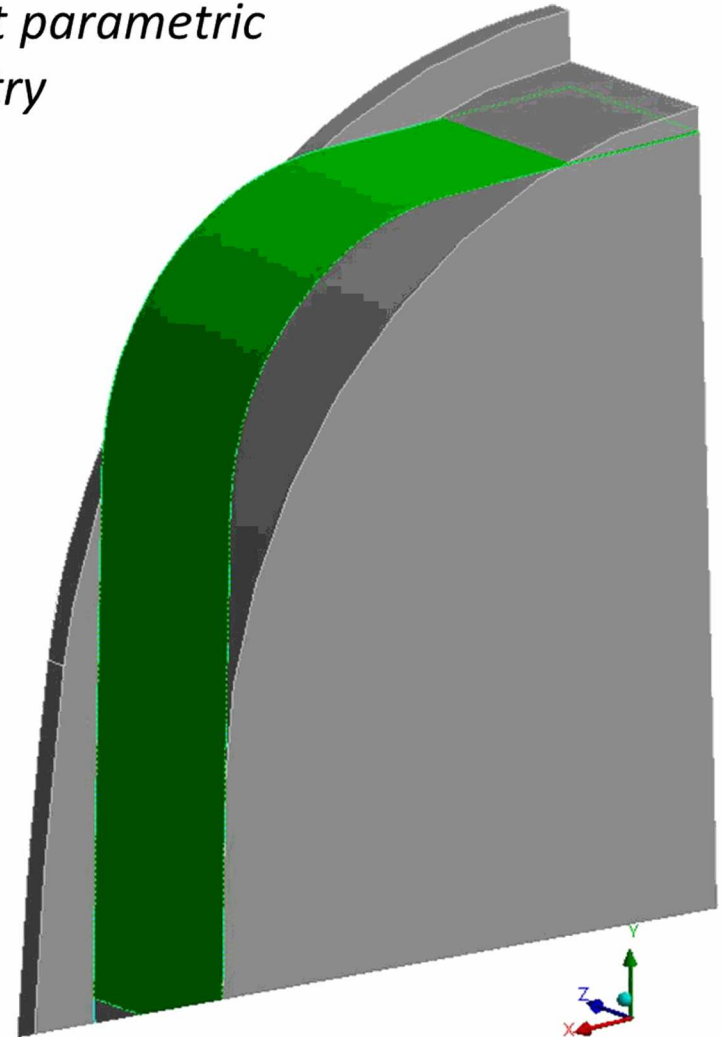
# CAD-MESH mixed approach: application



MESH morphing managed  
by support geometry

**(rbf-morph)**<sup>TM</sup>  
ACT Extension  
for ANSYS  
Mechanical

*Support parametric  
geometry*



# CAD-MESH mixed approach: application

modeFrontier workflow

Design  
Variables

EXTERNAL  
PYTHON  
SCRIPT

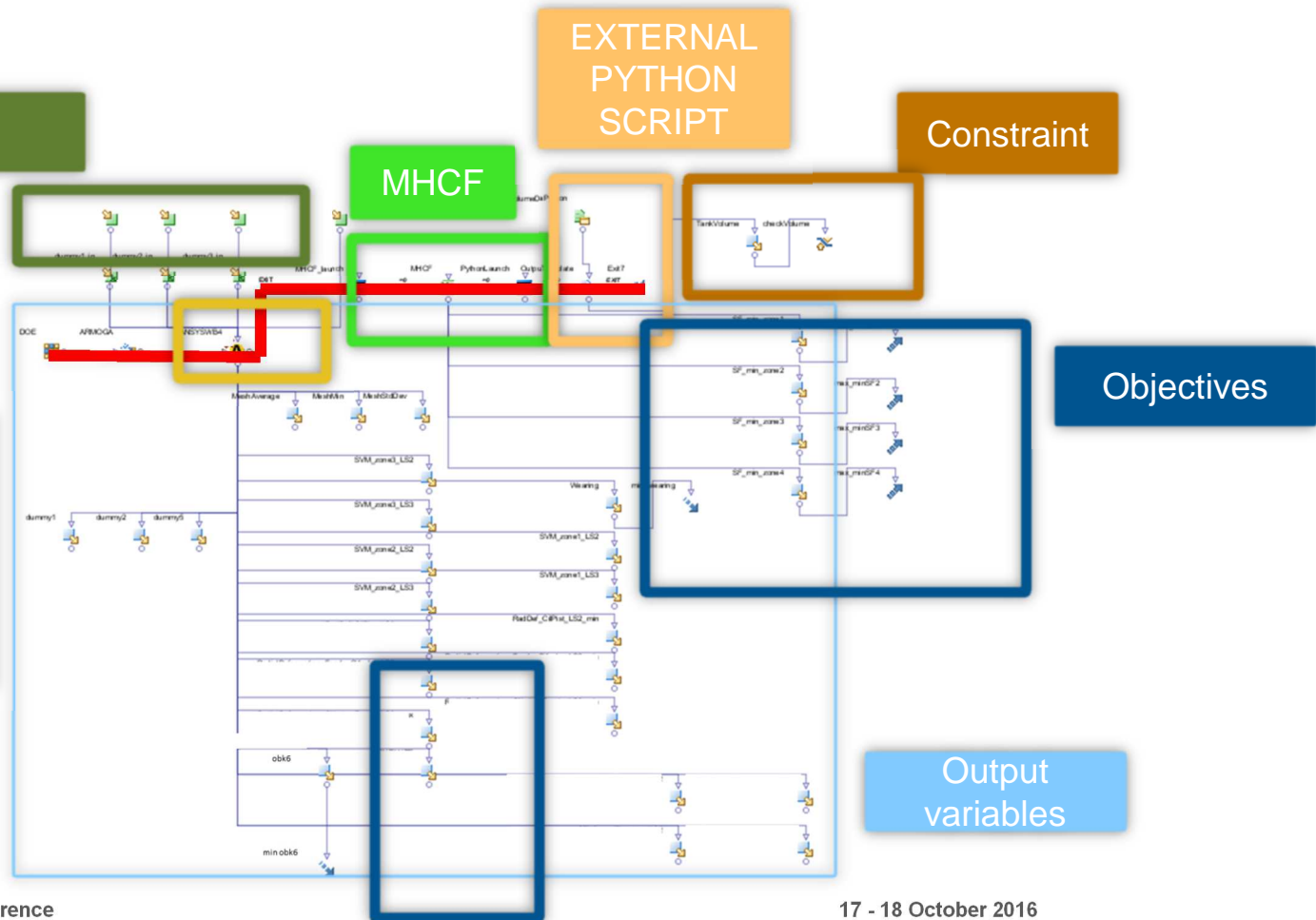
Constraint

MHCF

Objectives

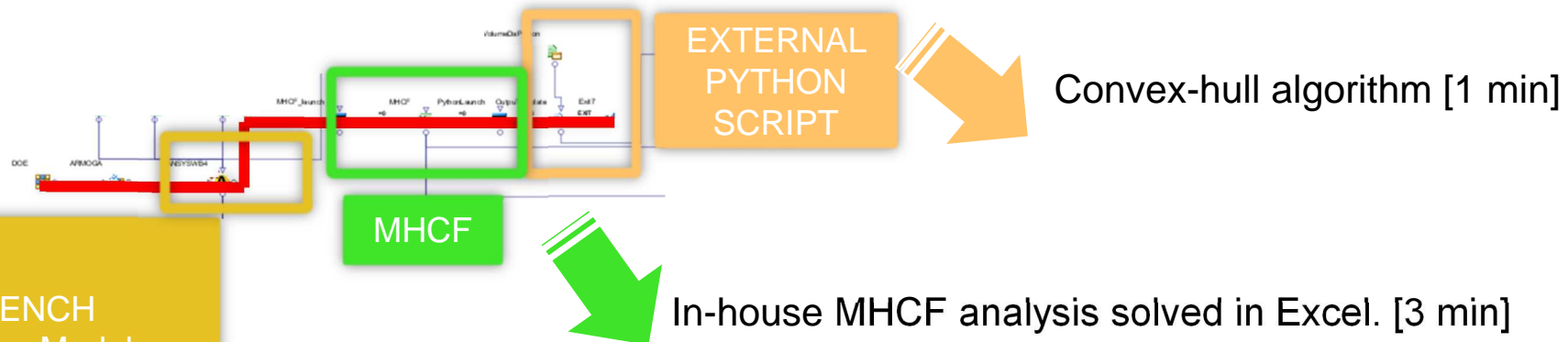
ANSYS  
WORKBENCH

- Design Modeler
- Ansys Mechanical
- RBF Morph



# CAD-MESH mixed approach: application

## Simulation details



### ANSYS WORKBENCH

- Design Modeler
- Ansys Mechanical
- RBF Morph

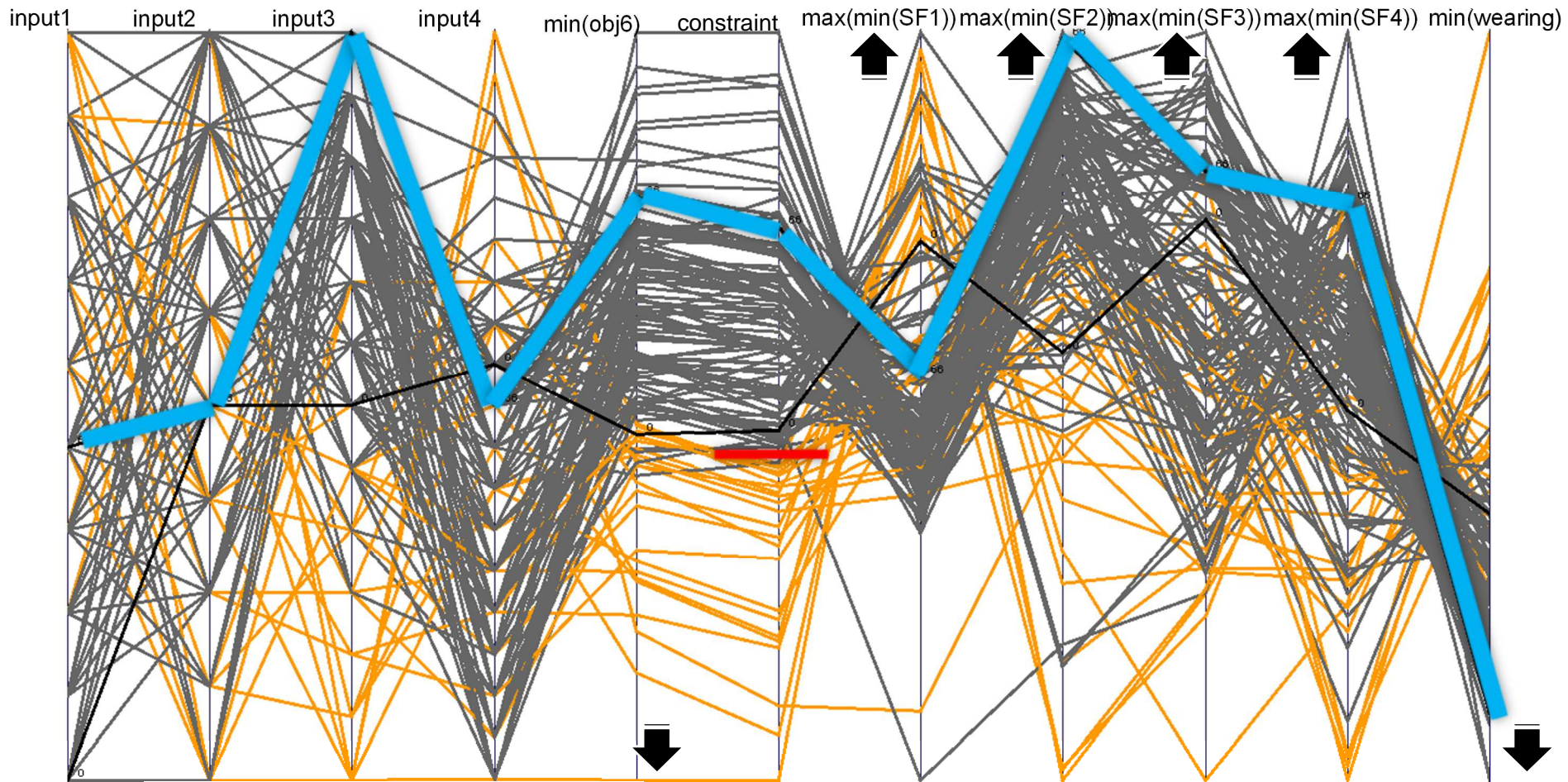
- Support geometry reconstruction
- Morphing of the model [1 min]
- Structural analysis: [19 min: optimized]
  - Total nodes ~ 150.000
  - Morphed nodes ~ 70.000
  - 3 Load Steps
  - Non-linear contacts

Classificazione: **7.4** Indice prestazioni Windows  
 Processore: Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2620 0 @ 2.00GHz 2.00 GHz (2 processori)  
 Memoria installata (RAM): 32.0 GB  
 Tipo sistema: Sistema operativo a 64 bit

Total time for 1 Design Point ~ 30 min  
 (comprising copy&paste operation)

# CAD-MESH mixed approach: application

**Results after 156 (real)  
design points: ~ 3 days**

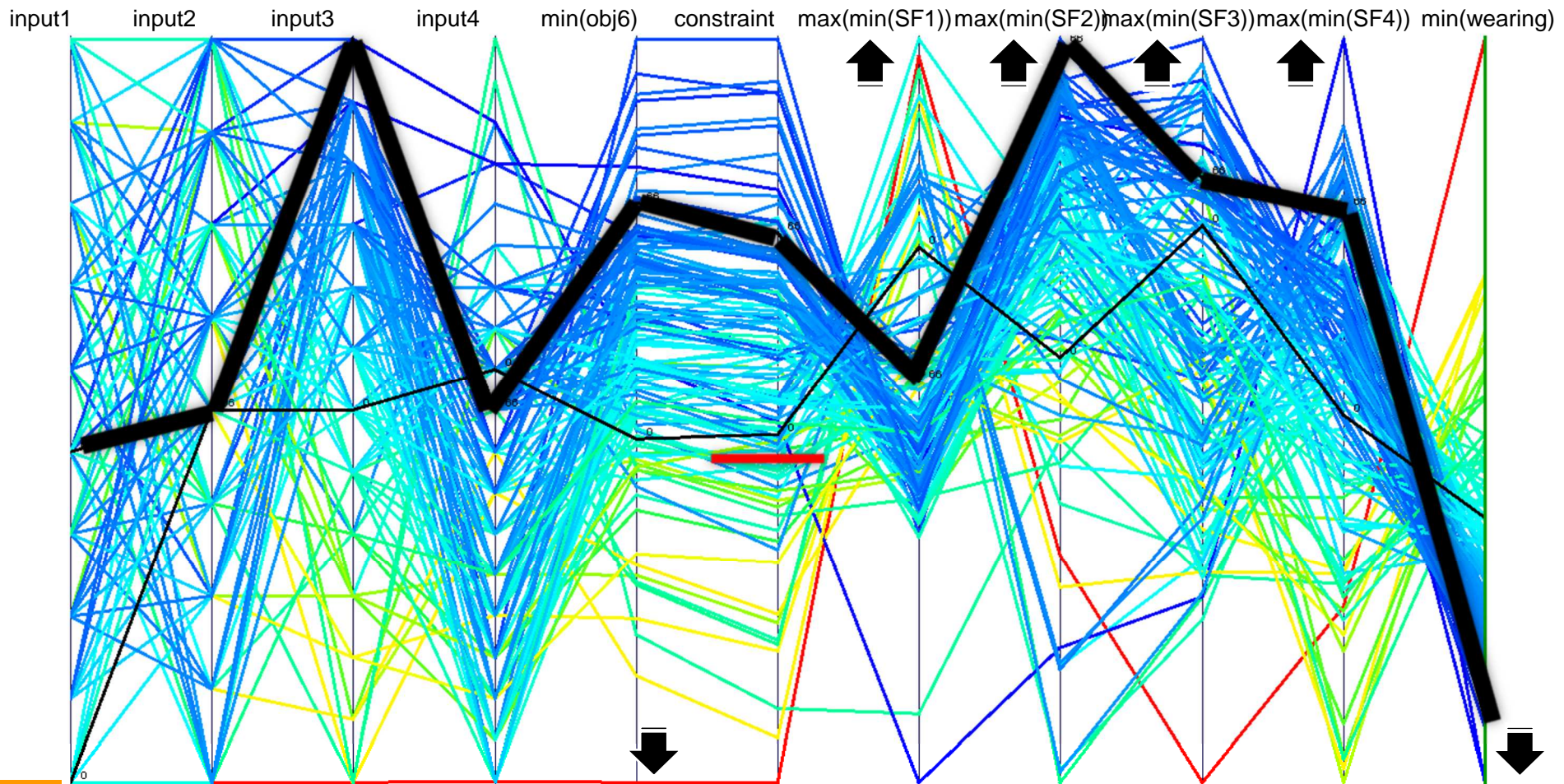


Feasible & Unfeasible

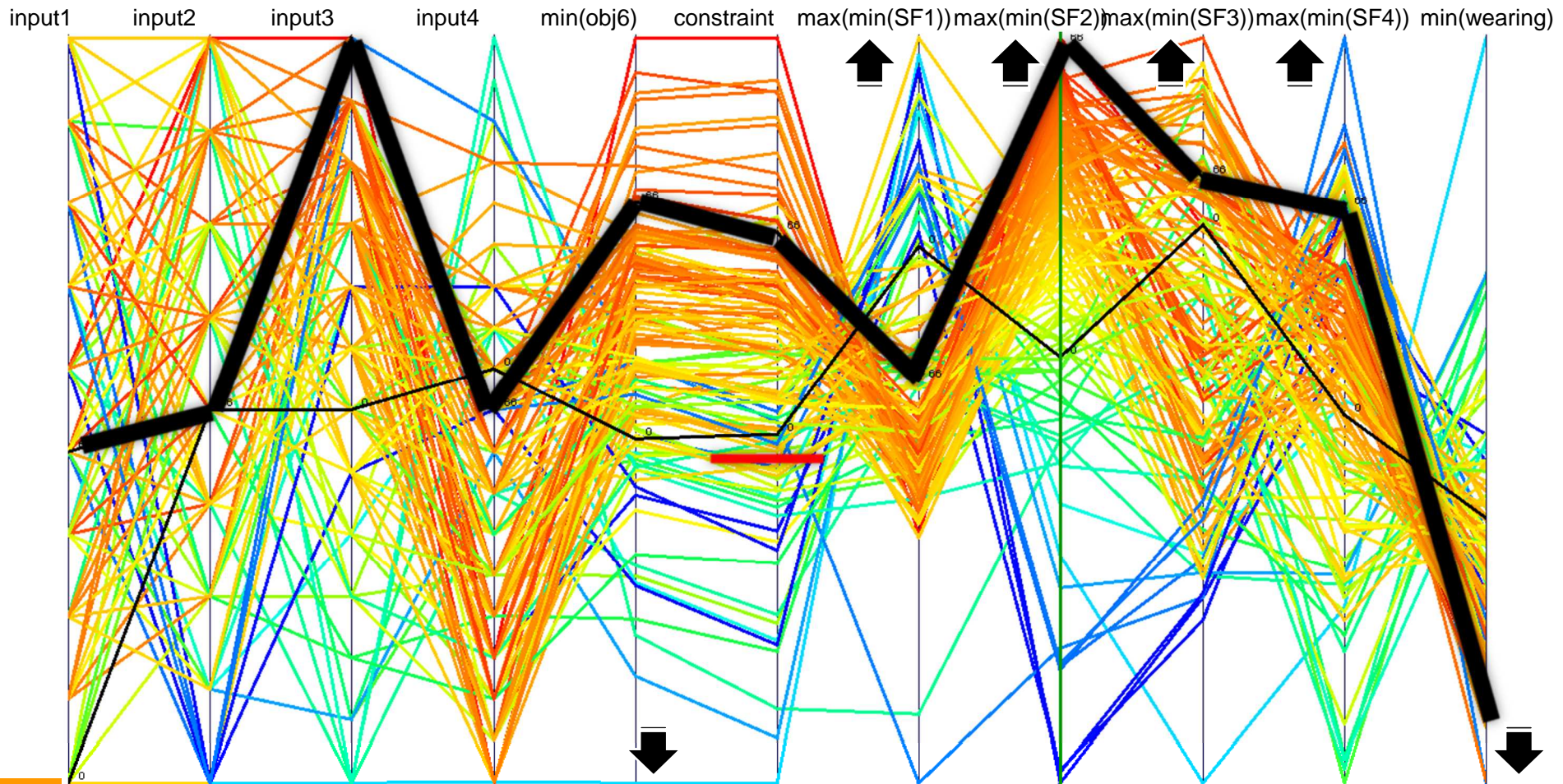
**SOBOL + ARMOGA** (multi-objective optimization with high calculation time)



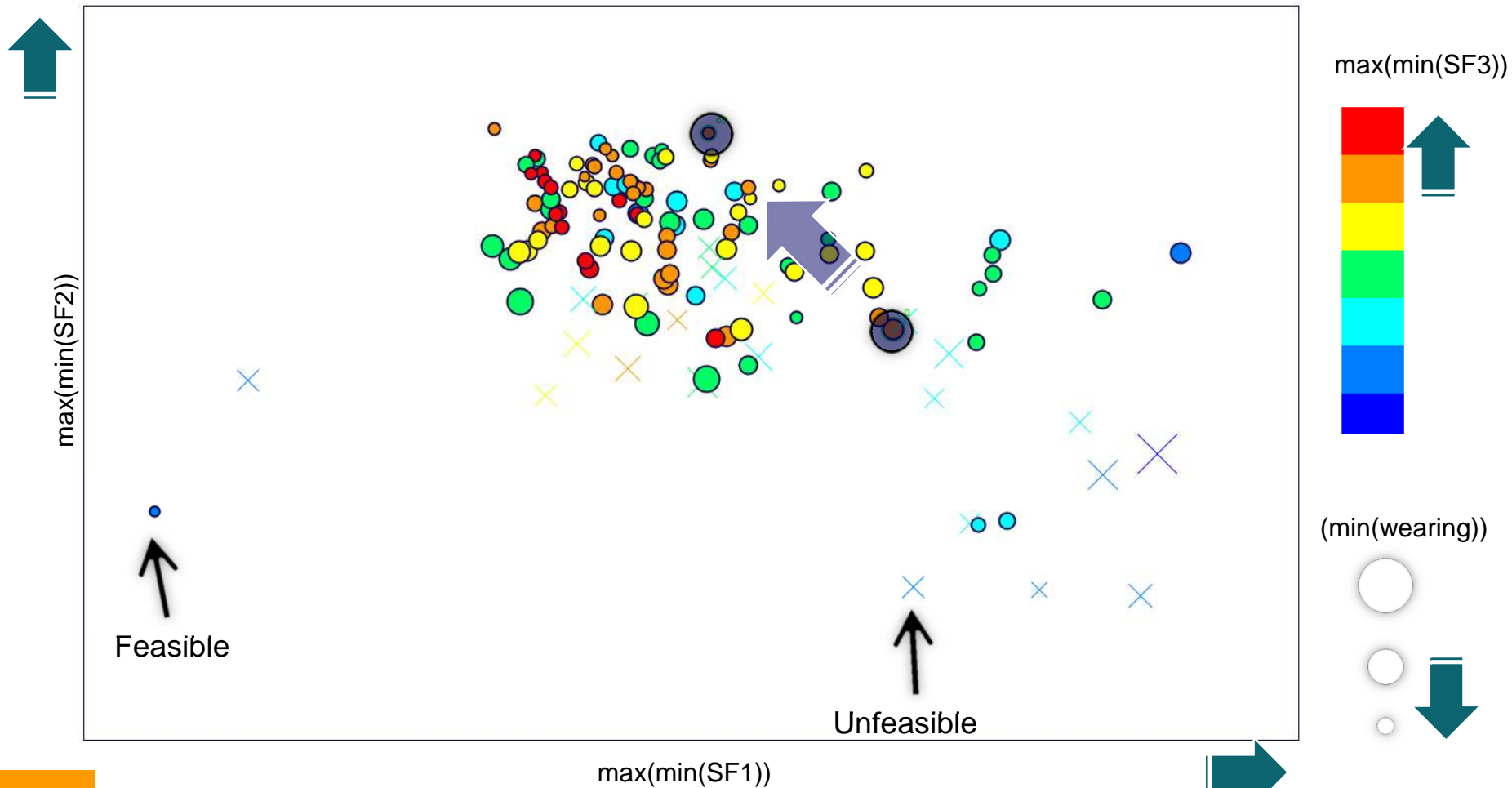
# CAD-MESH mixed approach: application



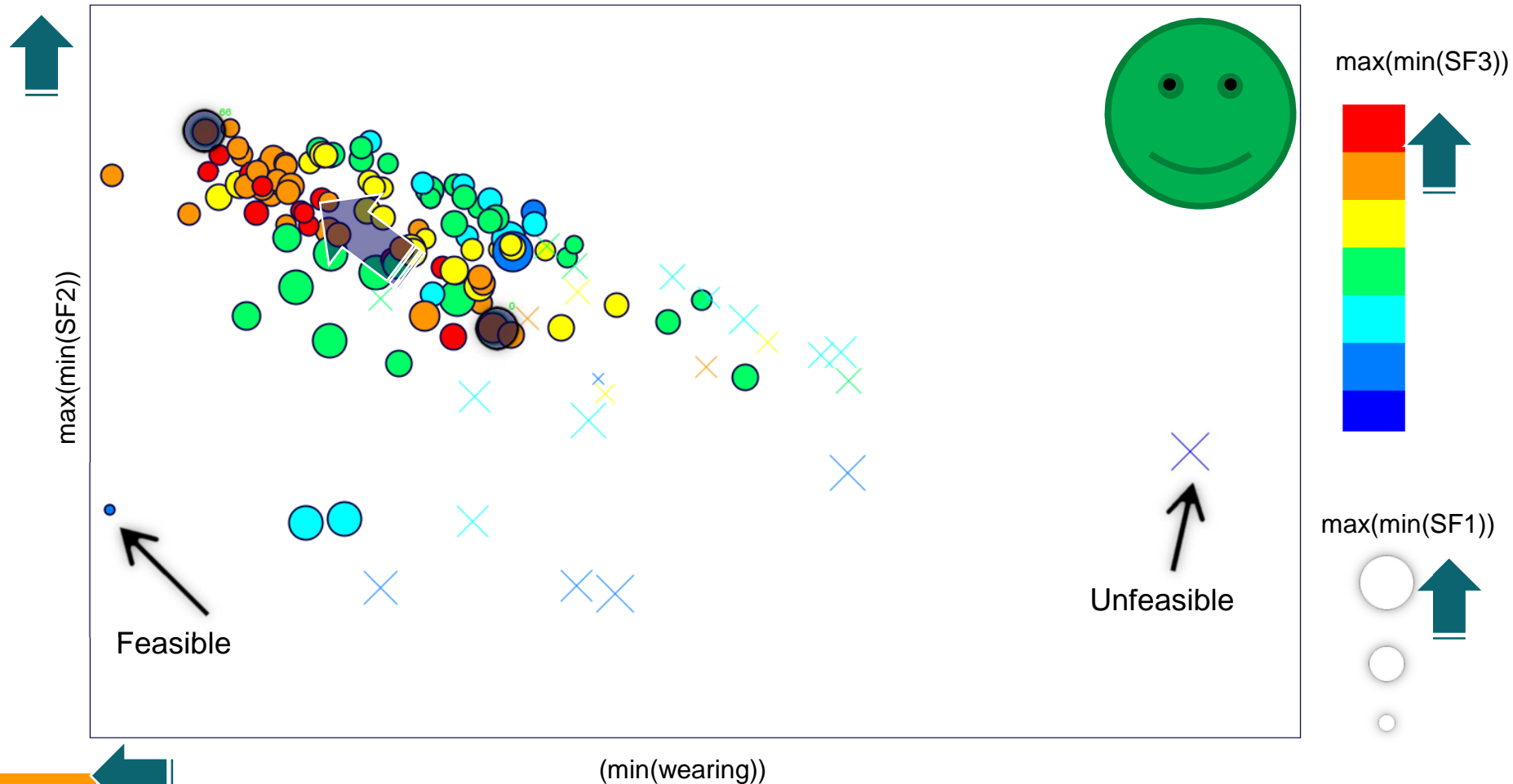
# CAD-MESH mixed approach: application



# CAD-MESH mixed approach: application



# CAD-MESH mixed approach: application



# Conclusions

- A methodology to overtake the limits in CAD and MESH based shape optimization has been developed and applied on an industrial component.
- The proposed setup can be easily extended to **different kind of simulation problems** (e.g. FEA, CFD, Multiphysics...)
- Shape optimization is a recognized tool to **speed up** the design of Mechanical components. The proposed methodology allows to integrate the advantages of MESH morphing techniques with the flexibility of parametric CAD
- modeFrontier works fine in managing complex workflow with multiple analysis solved with different software.

# THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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