



## NSTX-U

# Redesigned Vacuum Vessel Support Bracket

**NSTXU-CALC-12-10-01**

**Rev 1**

**February 2013**

**Prepared By:**

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Peter Rogoff, PPPL, MED Engineering

**Reviewed By:**

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**Reviewed By:**

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Peter H. Titus, PPPL, MED Branch Head

## PPPL Calculation Form

Calculation # **NSTXU-CALC-12-10-01** Revision #**01** WP # **1677**  
(ENG-032)

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*Purpose of Calculation: (Define why the calculation is being performed.)*

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The NSTX Vacuum Vessel (VV) main support structure consists of a specially designed “Chair” which is welded at four locations ninety degrees apart along the surface of the Vessel. However, the clevis assemblies are required at thirty degree intervals to provide connectivity between the lower TF coil ring/clamp assembly and the VV. This mechanism provides better structural support for total NSTX-U device. The original device (the NSTX) had a completely different support structure which permitted a symmetric “Chair” design. Because of the introduction of the heavy link member (see, NSTX-U-CALC-132-12-00), the existing structure had to be redesigned eliminating part of the assembly. This new geometry and the FEA model simulation are provided in the enclosed power point presentation. Therefore, a complete set of analyses to check the integrity of the redesign were required for various new loads and VV temperature conditions.

The original calculations (March 2012) , were done using the most ideal VV – Support Chair connectivity assumptions. The weld size of 3/8 inch was assumed and simulated only in most accessible locations. However, upon the NSTX further disassembly, it became clear and necessary to implement a more representative welding scenario and replace some chair members to assure a better total device assembly effort. To check and justify new changed parts and increase of the welds to 5/8 inch, the As-Built justification became necessary. This initiated Revision 1.

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*References (List any source of design information including computer program titles and revision levels.)*

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A complete set of FEA simulation runs were performed utilizing the “FEA 2010.1r.2, NASTRAN code”. Applied forces and boundary conditions were extracted from various ANSYS code Global Models simulations. Results are presented in the best possible graphics format clearly marking maximum stress and/or strain values and locations.

For Revision 1, an additional FEA calculation was performed (Run#5-MOD1-106NLfea) using the same code and modified weld geometry (see below, the new power point file ‘VV-Support-Chair-as-Built.ppt)

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*Assumptions (Identify all assumptions made as part of this calculation.)*

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For this analysis the following assumptions are important: The ninety degree VV sector is simulated to provide the complete symmetry representation in the vicinity of the chair/support structure. This provides sufficient simulation for the boundary conditions to permit the critical location stress/strain values predictions. NASTRAN MPC conditions are utilized to simulate the VV symmetry condition. Loads are applied as pressure on the vertical open VV surface as demonstrated in the power point slides. The vertical support beam is fully fixed at the location where angled brackets connect it to the test cell floor. This is expressed with the NASTRAN SPCs application set to zero for three principal coordinates. (Note: since the

used solid elements require only translational (X ,Y, Z) degrees of freedom). The assumption is that at this location, the complete support structure remains in a steady state condition because of the angled floor brackets.

***Calculation (Calculation is either documented here or attached)***

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All the existing calculations are provided and explained by the following Power Point file:

**Vessel-Support-Chair.ppt (original calculations – March 2012)**

This presentation describes the complete set of the NASTRAN simulation of the VV Chair- Support structure. This file presents simulations inputs as well as the outputs for the six individual runs as follows below:

RUN #1 – Static (Solution 101) with extreme boundary conditions that react the entire load through the four bolts in the vacuum vessel support - total vessel load of 160,000 lbs, but, scaled to 40,000.lbs for a ninety degree sector. This simulation was used to investigate the maximum possible stresses on the VV/Chair welded locations. This case is considered overly conservative.

RUN #2 – Static simulation with relaxed boundary condition, spreading the support loads through the pad and not just the bolts, using the same SPCs, MPCs, and loads as in the RUN #1. With this simulation additional information was demonstrated for the maximum expected calculations.

RUN #3 – Static simulation with final and complete model with RBE2(rigid link) elements instead of GAPs. SPCs are changed to the vertical beam location where angled floor brackets connect to it. MPCs and applied load pressures are as in the prior runs. This run correctly simulates the overall intended analyses approach.

RUN #4 – Non linear run (Solution 106) where RBE2s were replaced with the proper GAP elements which are aligned to Coordinate #2 with element X-direction in the negative vertical direction. Elements slide (with a coefficient of friction assumed to be 0.3) in the element Y and Z direction. The obtained results are very similar to the data from RUN #3. The reason for this is that there is not much global radial motion without the thermal effects on the Vacuum Vessel.

RUN #5 – Non linear run with the addition of the 37,000. Lbs. link/clevis load as shear parallel to the vacuum vessel surface. All other loads and boundary conditions are identical to RUN #4. Obtained results values for this case increase since an addition load was added. Locations for the maximum values are relocated but remain reasonable for the material allowable. This simulation is most representative of the standard device operating environment since it includes the ring/clamp vacuum vessel clevis forces.

RUN #6 – Non linear “BAKEOUT” simulation. This is a special run which includes the combination of the mechanical loads due to the vacuum vessel weight and the possible worst case thermal differences during the “BAKEOUT” event as the structure reaches a steady state condition after 1,200 minutes of temperature application. Same scenario was used to predict this condition for the PF 4 and 5 support brackets where temperature profile was measured and recorded during the actual “BAKEOUT” operation. For RUN #6, previous data was converted from degrees C to F and distributed accordingly on the complete simulation using element groups as described in the appropriate powerpoint slides. It is assumed that this is the best possible representation for this RUN #6 case. (please see the complete set of these attached powerpoint slides).

**VV-Support-Chair-as-Built.ppt (update February 2013)**

This presentation describes the As-Built VV Support Chair configuration. After inspecting the photos provided by the NSTXU assembly team, the actual chair assembly appeared well connected to the vacuum vessel. These photos show that, the every contact edge between the chair and the vessel is welded using 5/8 inch welds. The welds in the original simulations were modeled on the outside connecting edges only and are sized at 3/8 inch. However, the team reported, that the chair support plate may not be completely

welded to the vessel in the upper location. It is difficult to visually inspect because certain coil assemblies are obstructing the view. This initiated a modification of the Run #5 simulation by removing the upper weld elements (see the reported slides for the exact location). The results from this modified simulation show the absolute maximum stress concentration for 3/8 inch welds (appropriate slides).

Therefore, the obtained maximum Von Misses stress = 22,100 psi, (upper right corner). By converting 3/8 inch to 5/8 inch weld areas, the maximum stress for a 5/8 inch weld decreases to 7,840 psi. This clearly demonstrates the superiority of the As-Built configuration and no further FEA analyses are necessary.

***Conclusion (Specify whether or not the purpose of the calculation was accomplished.)***

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Based on the above described simulation the following final list shows important findings for the Redesigned Vessel Support Bracket assembly and the connecting structure. Also, please see the summary slide in the power point file. Conclusions are as follows:

- Calculated stresses and strains are well within the material allowable,
- Maximum stresses for the welded locations are equal to 16,200 psi
- Maximum strains for the welded locations are equal to .00047
- Maximum stresses for the VV-chair location are equal to 21,500 psi
- Maximum strains for the VV-chair location are equal .00062
- Based on the total set of simulations done earlier, the As-Built visual examination and weld size comparison, it is concluded that the present connection between the Vessel and existing supports are acceptable during maximum load application. Stresses in the chair structure, its sliding cradle surfaces and newly implemented 5/8 inch welds are well within the material allowable.

Previous calculations demonstrated the historical simulations to understand the general behavior of the entire system. The As-Built results describe the justification for the present weld size and configuration.

Note: All the maximum weld stress values are calculated by RUN #6 which includes the “BAKEOUT” temperature scenario. The results obtained in RUN #5 are slightly smaller but important peak stress locations are different.

Strong Recommendation: to carefully weld the assembly connecting corners since all maximum strains and stresses are concentrated in these locations. These additional welds should decrease the peak values making the design stronger! Please see slide #30.

Preparing Engineer's printed name, signature, and date

Peter Rogoff 2/14/2013 \_\_\_\_\_

**I have reviewed this calculation and, to my professional satisfaction, it is properly performed and correct.**

Checker's printed name, signature, and date

Irving Zatz \_\_\_\_\_

## References

*Reference for 37000 lbs: VV-Clevis applied load. (see power point slides/data) – [Added by P. Rogoff]*

- [1] Analysis of TF Outer Leg, Han Zhang, Calculation Number NSTXU-CALC-132-04,

*Reference for standard brackets/chairs and chair loads:*

- [2] NSTX-CALC-13-001-00 Rev 1 Global Model – Model Description, Mesh Generation, Results, Peter H. Titus

*Reference for PF4/5*

- [3] Analysis of Existing and Upgrade PF4/5 Coils and Supports – With Alternating Columns. NSTX-CALC-12-05-00 Rev 0 P. Titus March 2011

*Reference for Criteria:*

- [4] NSTX Structural Design Criteria Document, NSTX\_DesCrit\_IZ\_080103.doc I. Zatz

- [5] NSTX Design Point Sept 8 2009 [http://www.pppl.gov/~neumeyer/NSTX\\_CSU/Design\\_Point.html](http://www.pppl.gov/~neumeyer/NSTX_CSU/Design_Point.html)

- [6] Fusion Engineering and Design 54 (2001) 275–319, Engineering design of the National Spherical Torus, Experiment, C. Neumeyer et.al, Page 286 quotes 100,000 lbs for the total vacuum vessel weight

DCPS Input:

In deriving the net loads on the vertical columns, it is assumed that all the magnetic loads sum to zero, and that the centerstack load inventory - PF1 a,b, upper and lower, and the OH, is supported by the pedestal, and an equal and opposite load is imposed on the vessel legs. The net load from the coils is 53445 lbs [5], rounded up to 60,000 lbs. The tokamak is assumed to weigh 100,000 lbs [6]. The net dead load is 160,000 lbs or 40,000 lbs per column, or 177935 N per column. An initial setting for the DCPS would be to limit the sum of PF1a,b, U&L, and OH Upward vertical loading to 60,000 lbs. Upward vertical loading of the inner PF coils supported by the pedestal implies an additional downward loading on the vessel support columns of an equal magnitude.

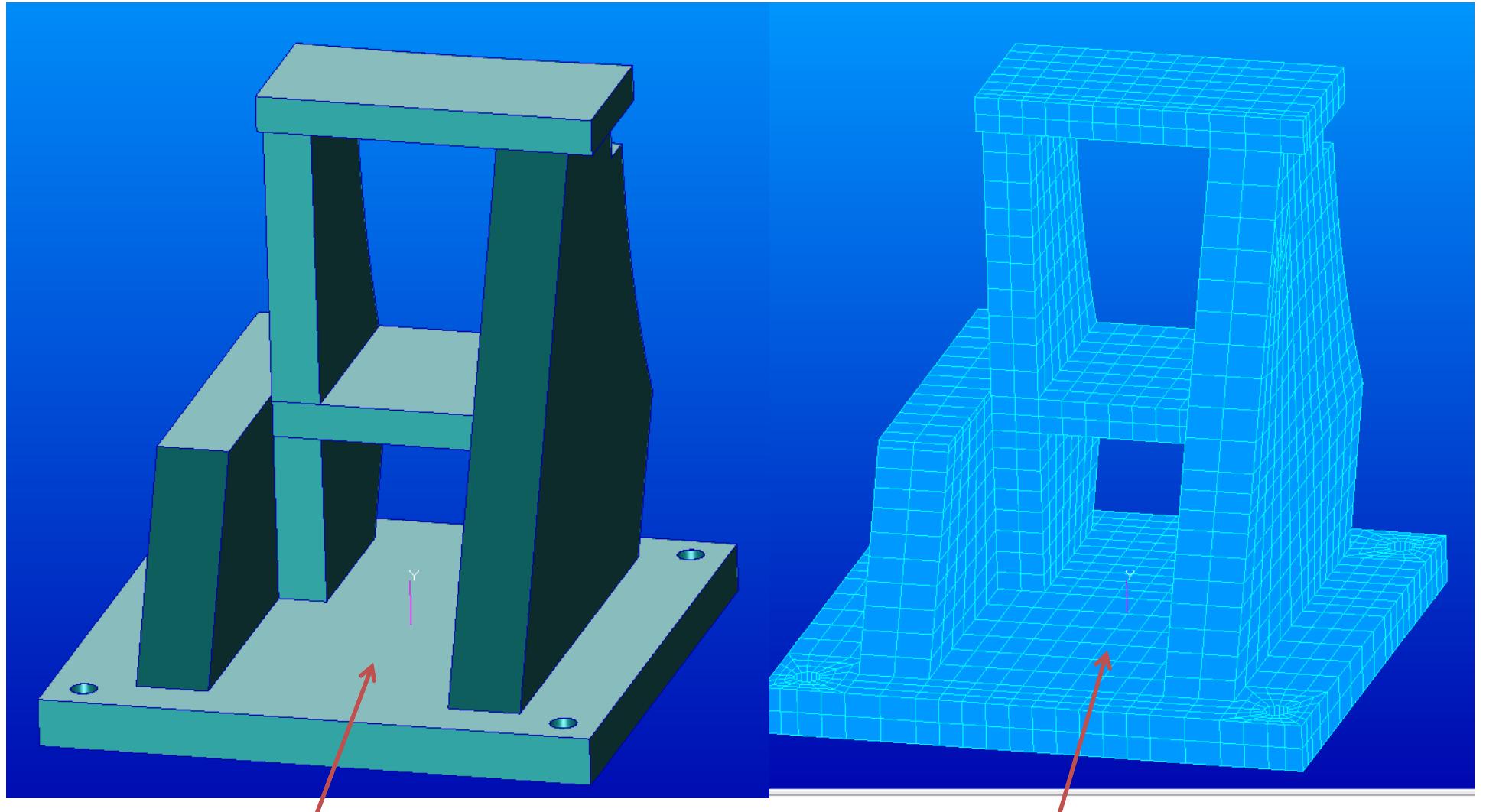
The total mechanical load applied to all simulation runs is 40,000 lbs for the 90 degree VV sector. This is based on the Ref (5) and (6) requirements. [Added by P. Rogoff]

## NSTXU PROJECT

Vessel-Support-Chair.ppt

Complete simulation justification

P.R. March 2012

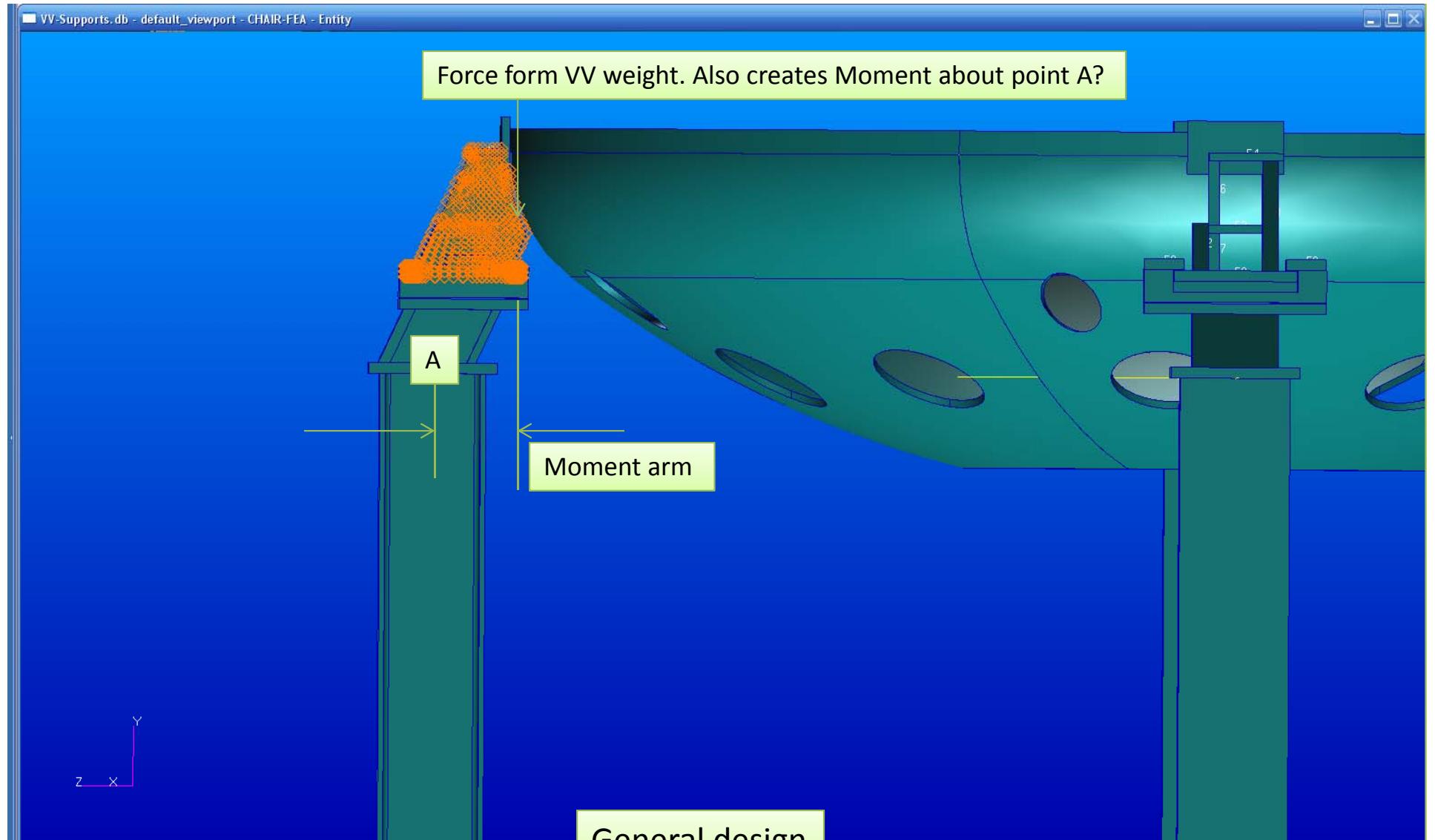


VV-support-attach-011812.igs

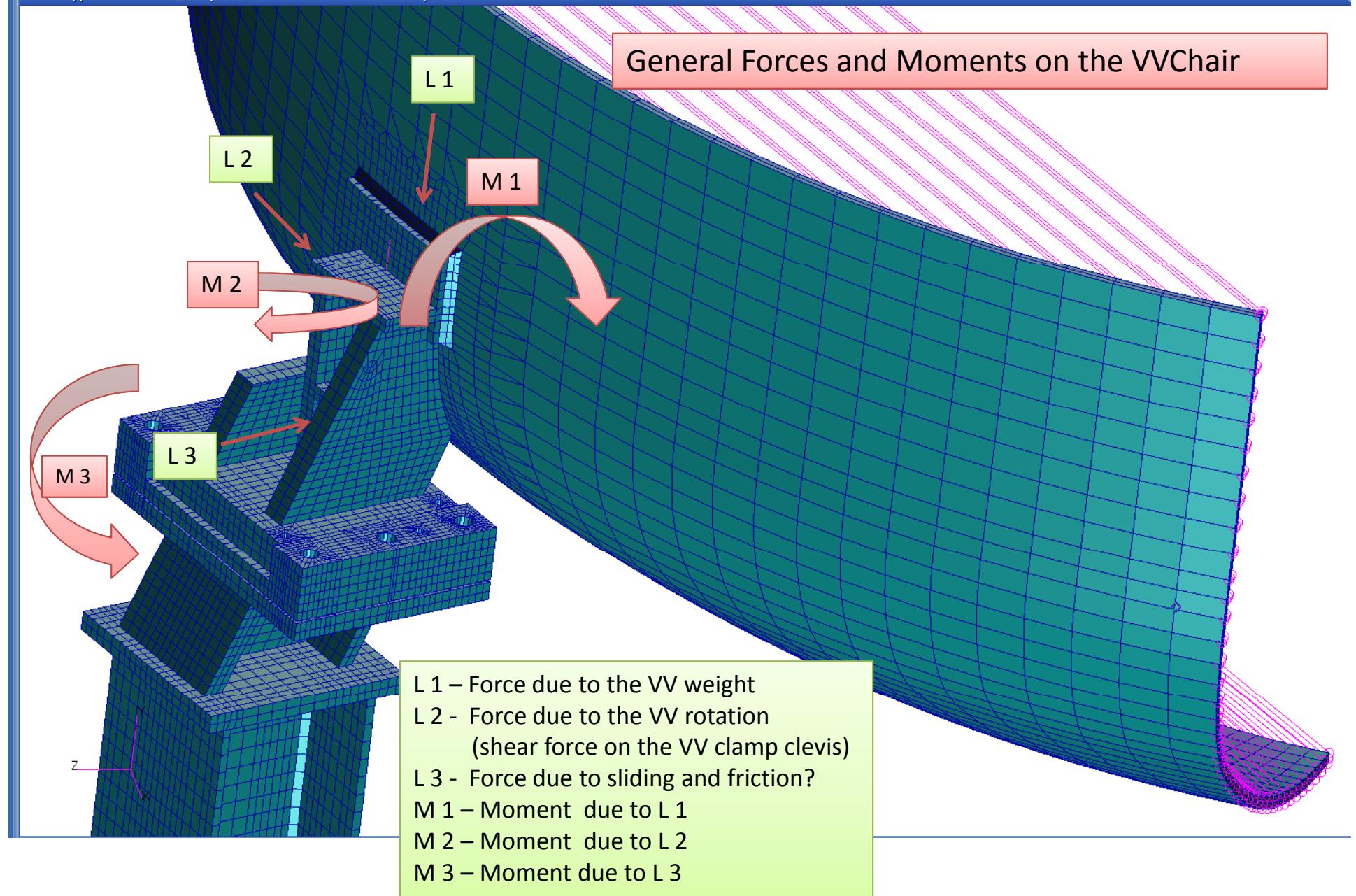
Nastran FEA all Hex8 elements

Question: How is this welded, assume weld size = 3/8 inch?

Redesigned VV support chair



VV – Chair support configuration  
[Complete geometry provided by M. Smith, 1/2012]



Note: Force L 3 is a function of "L 1" and the coefficient of friction at the slide plate/cradle interface

```

$ NASTRAN input file created by the MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit input file
$ translator on March 08, 2012 at 12:06:33.
$ Nonlinear Static Analysis, Database
SOL 106
CEND
TITLE = MSC.NASTRAN JOB CREATED ON 17-FEB-12 AT 08:48:38
ECHO = NONE
MPC = 20134
SUBCASE 1
  TITLE=Non-Linear
  SUBTITLE=RUN5-Loads
  NLPARM = 1
  SPC = 2
  LOAD = 2
  DISPLACEMENT(SORT1,REAL)=ALL
  SPCFORCES(SORT1,REAL)=ALL
  STRAIN(SORT1,REAL,VONMISES,STRCUR,BILIN)=ALL
  STRESS(SORT1,REAL,VONMISES,BILIN)=ALL
$ Direct Text Input for this Subcase
BEGIN BULK
$ Direct Text Input for Bulk Data
PARAM POST 0
PARAM AUTOSPC YES
PARAM PRTMAXIM YES
NLPARM 1 10 AUTO 5 25 P NO
      .01

```

## Complete model input file set-up

Note RUN #5 chosen for the demonstration (other runs are similar).

General Executive deck

```

$ Elements and Element Properties for region : sliding-Gaps
PGAP   2      0.          3.+7    500.    1.+7    .3      .3
      -1.
$ Pset: "Sliding-Gaps" will be imported as: "pgap.2"
CGAP   94612  2      102192   127702           2
CGAP   94613  2      102195   128013           2

```

GAPs definition

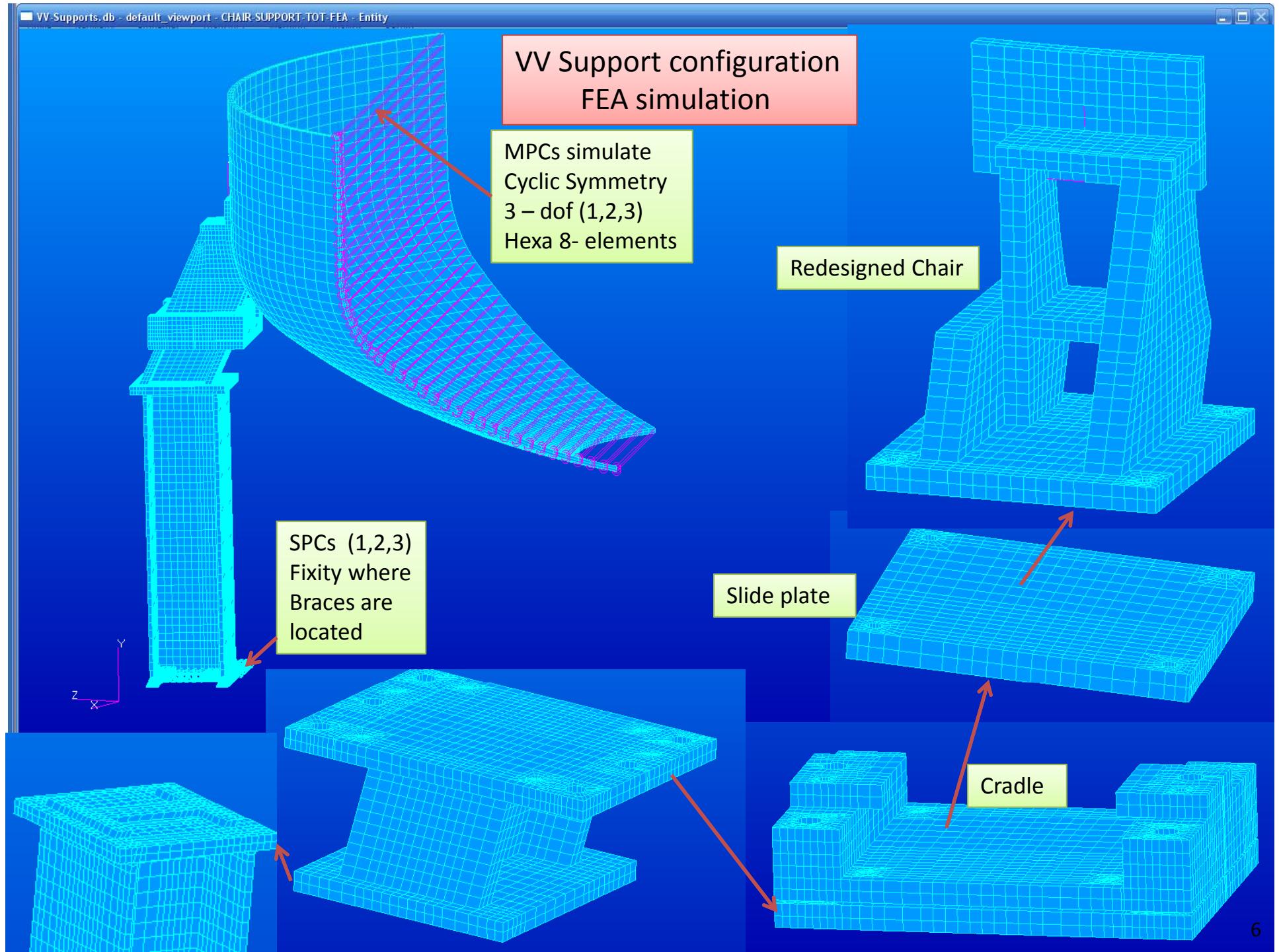
MODEL SUMMARY					
NUMBER OF GRID	POINTS	=	34815		
NUMBER OF CGAP	ELEMENTS	=	660		
NUMBER OF CHEXA	ELEMENTS	=	23184		
NUMBER OF CPENTA	ELEMENTS	=	1336		
NUMBER OF CTETRA	ELEMENTS	=	33		
NUMBER OF RBE2	ELEMENTS	=	977		
17-FEB-12 AT 08:48:38					

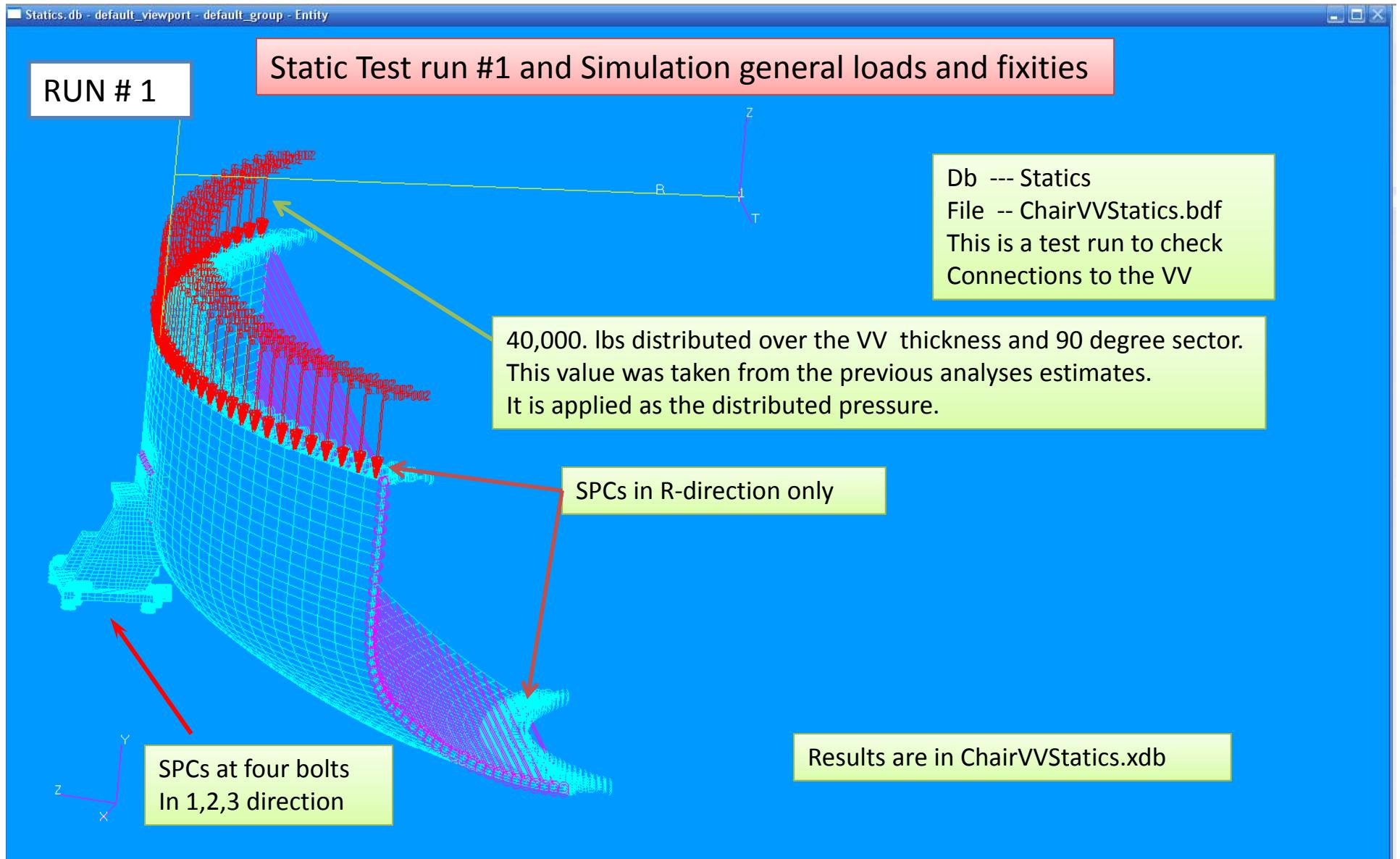
Total load due to the Pressure

Simulation grid and element statistics

RESULTANTS ABOUT ORIGIN OF SUPERELEMENT BASIC COORDINATE SYSTEM IN SUPERELEMENT BASIC SYSTEM COORDINATE									
SUBCASE/	LOAD	T1	T2	T3	R1	R2	R3		
DAREA ID	TYPE	FX	3.576299E+04	-----	-----	2.319899E+06	1.403519E+06		
0	1	FY	-----	-3.998594E+04	-----	2.221206E+06	-----	-9.220052E+05	
		FZ	-----	-----	-9.487278E+03	3.723282E+05	1.632618E+05	-----	-----
		MX	-----	-----	-----	0.000000E+00	-----	-----	-----
		MY	-----	-----	-----	0.000000E+00	-----	-----	-----
		MZ	-----	-----	-----	0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	-----	-----
1		TOTALS	3.576299E+04	-3.998594E+04	-9.487278E+03	2.593534E+06	2.483160E+06	4.815134E+05	
		MARCH 8, 2012					MSC.NASTRAN		

Resultant applied loads from the .f06 output

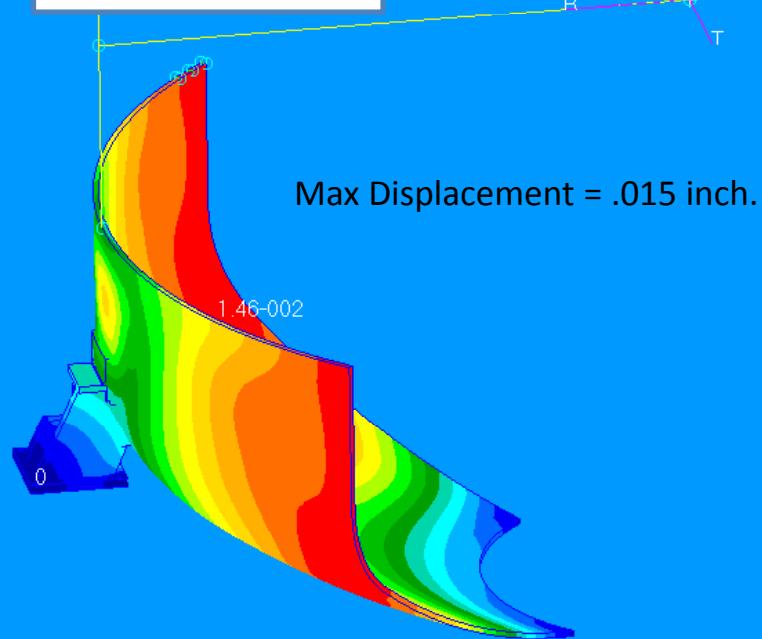




MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 24-Feb-12 11:37:20

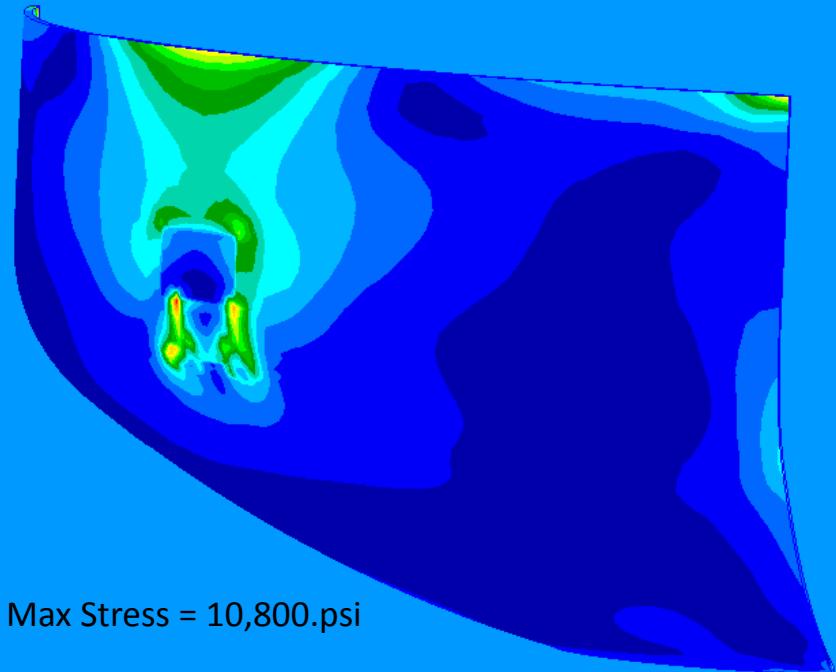
Fringe: Default, A1:Static Subcase, Displacements, Translational, Magnitude, (NON-LAYERED)

## RUN # 1 Results



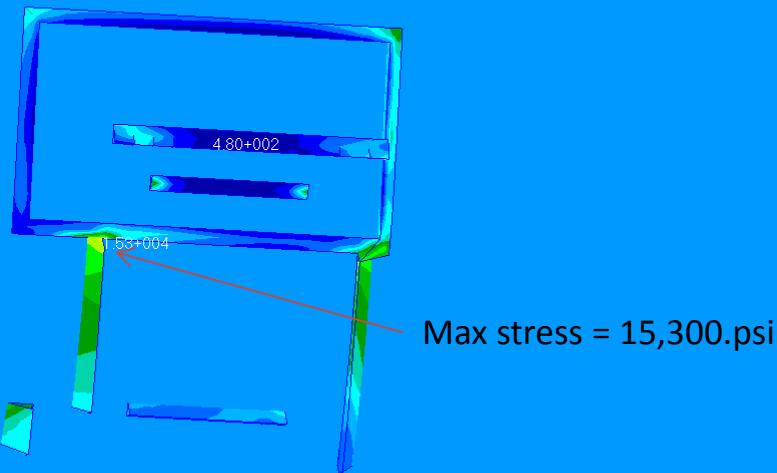
MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 24-Feb-12 11:44:14

Fringe: Default, A1 Static Subcase, Stress Tensor, , von Mises, (NON-LAYERED)



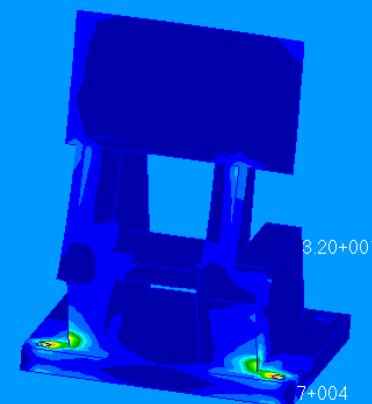
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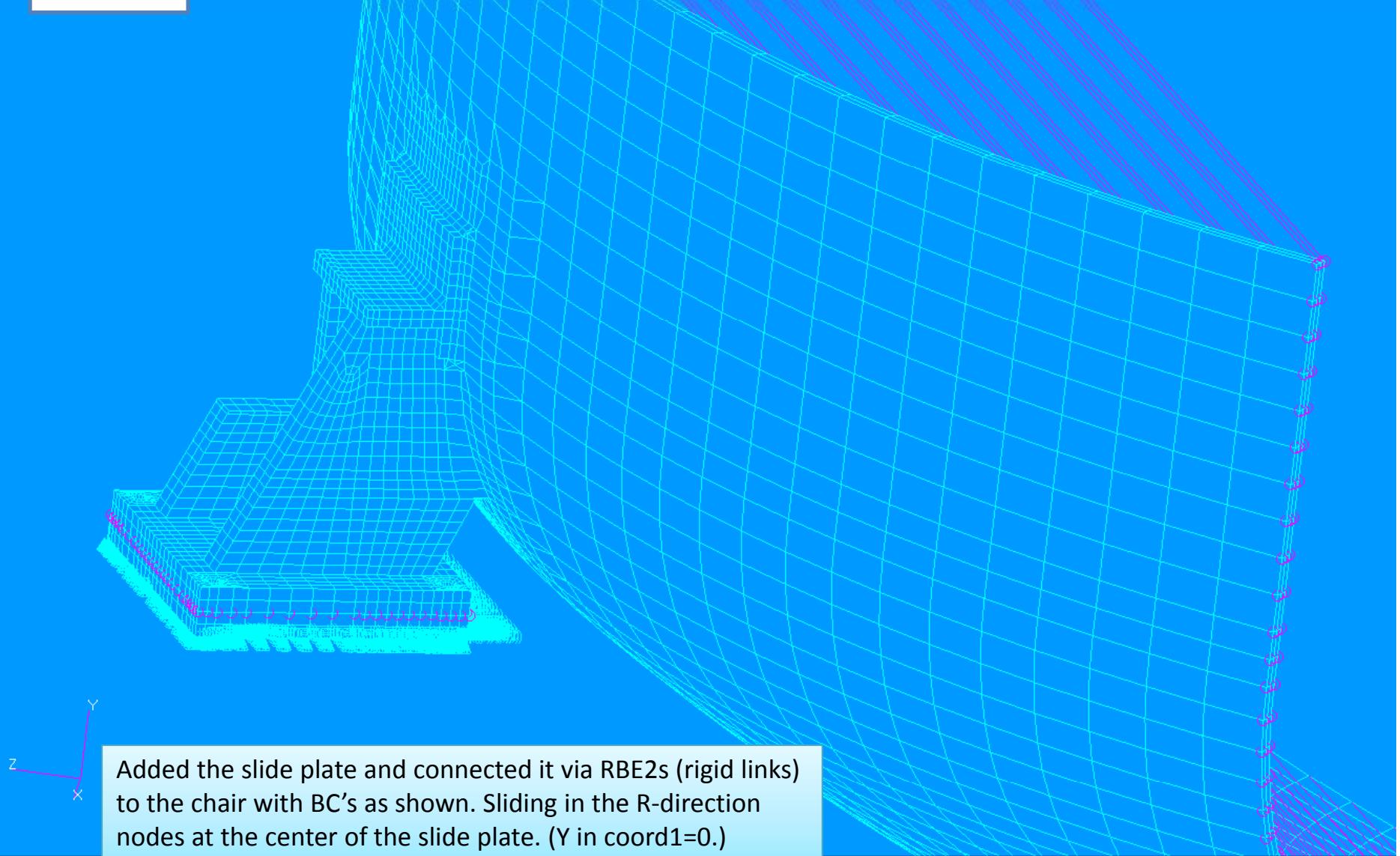
Fringe: Default, A1:Static Subcase, Stress Tensor, , von Mises, (NON-LAYERED)



MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 24-Feb-12 11:52:31

Fringe: Default, A1:Static Subcase, Stress Tensor, , von Mises, (NON-LAYERED)

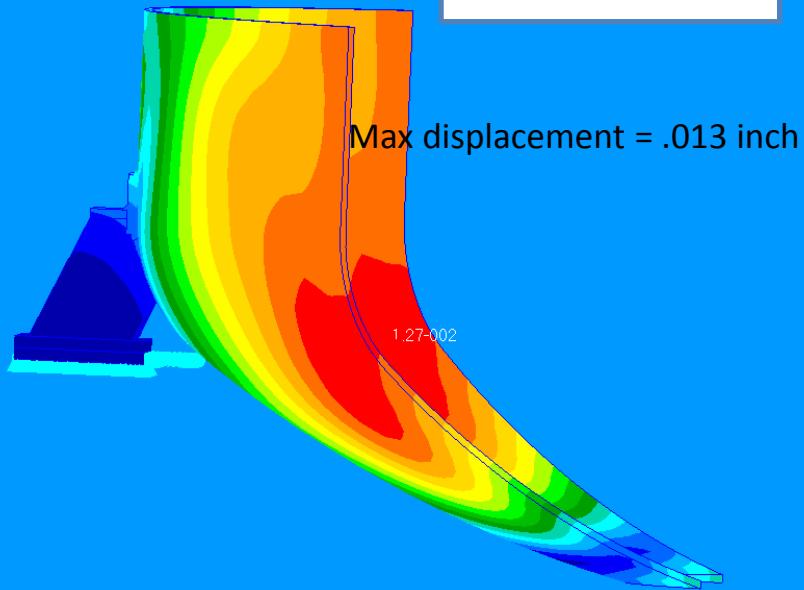


**RUN #2**

MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 28-Feb-12 13:46:02

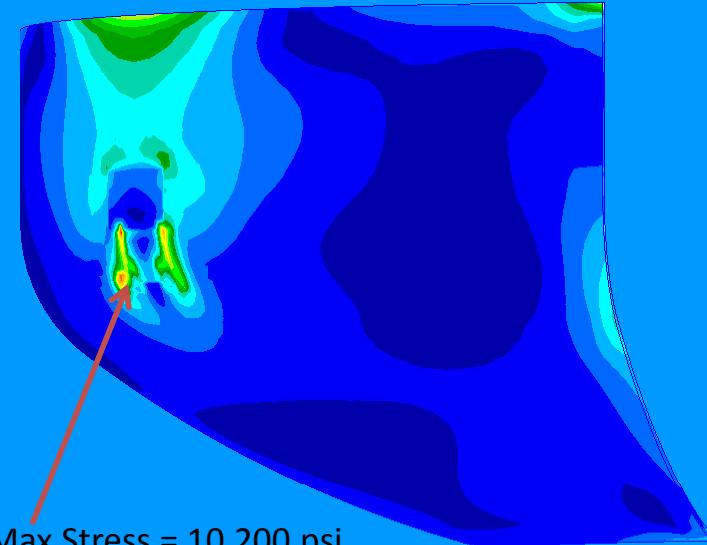
Fringe: RUN2-Loads, A2 Static Subcase, Displacements, Translational, Magnitude, (NON-LAYERED)

## RUN #2 Results



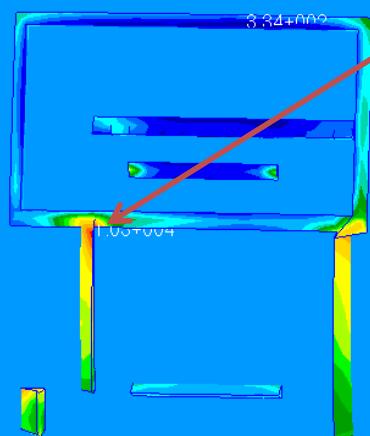
MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 28-Feb-12 14:03:29

Fringe: RUN2-Loads, A2 Static Subcase, Stress Tensor, ., von Mises, (NON-LAYERED)

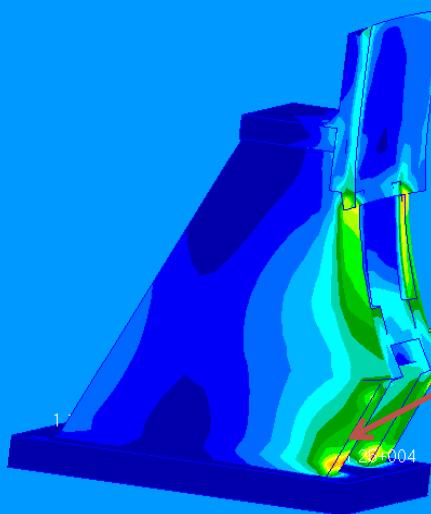


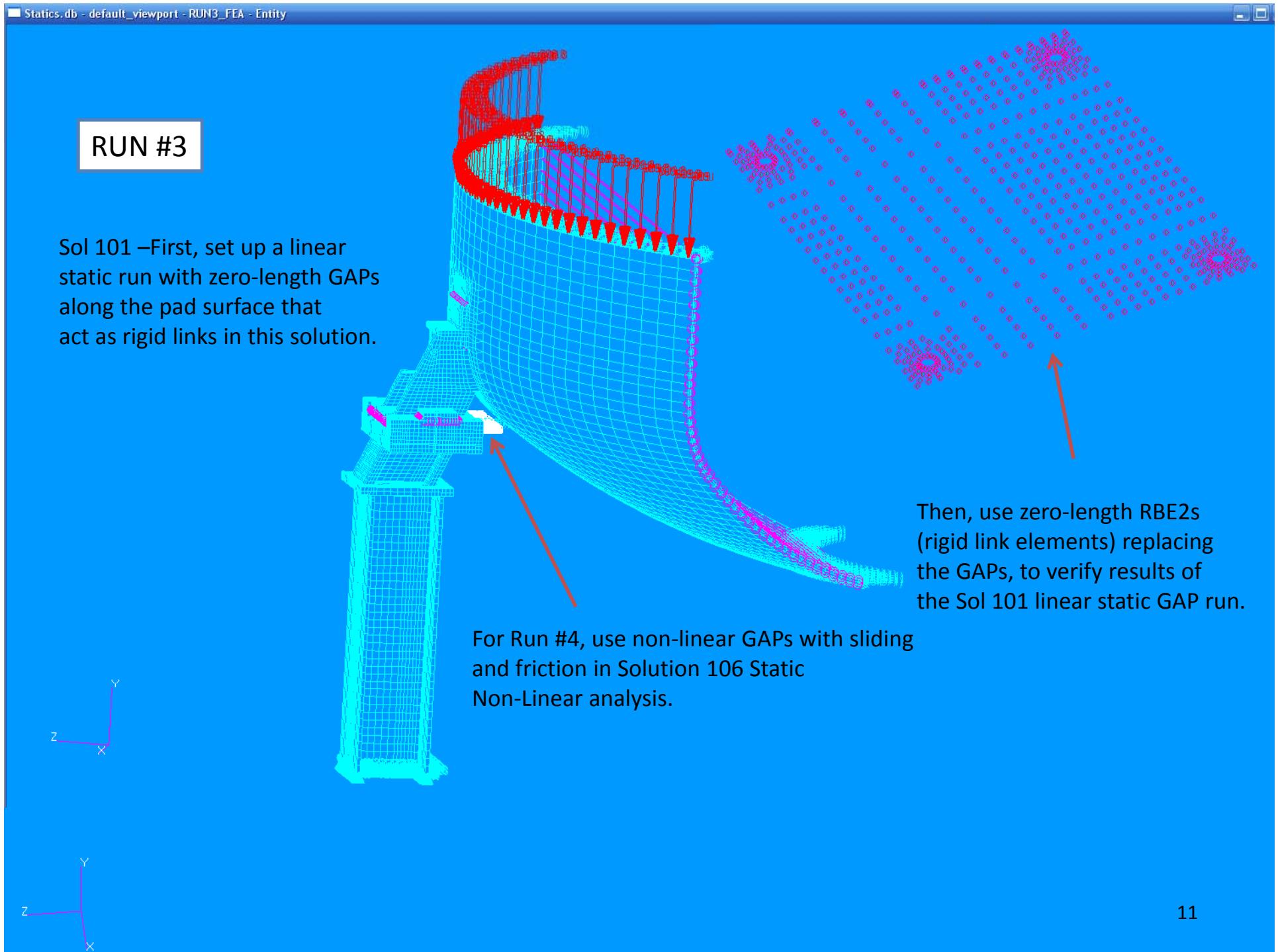
MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 28-Feb-12 14:10:36

Fringe: RUN2-Loads, A2 Static Subcase, Stress Tensor, ., von Mises, (NON-LAYERED)

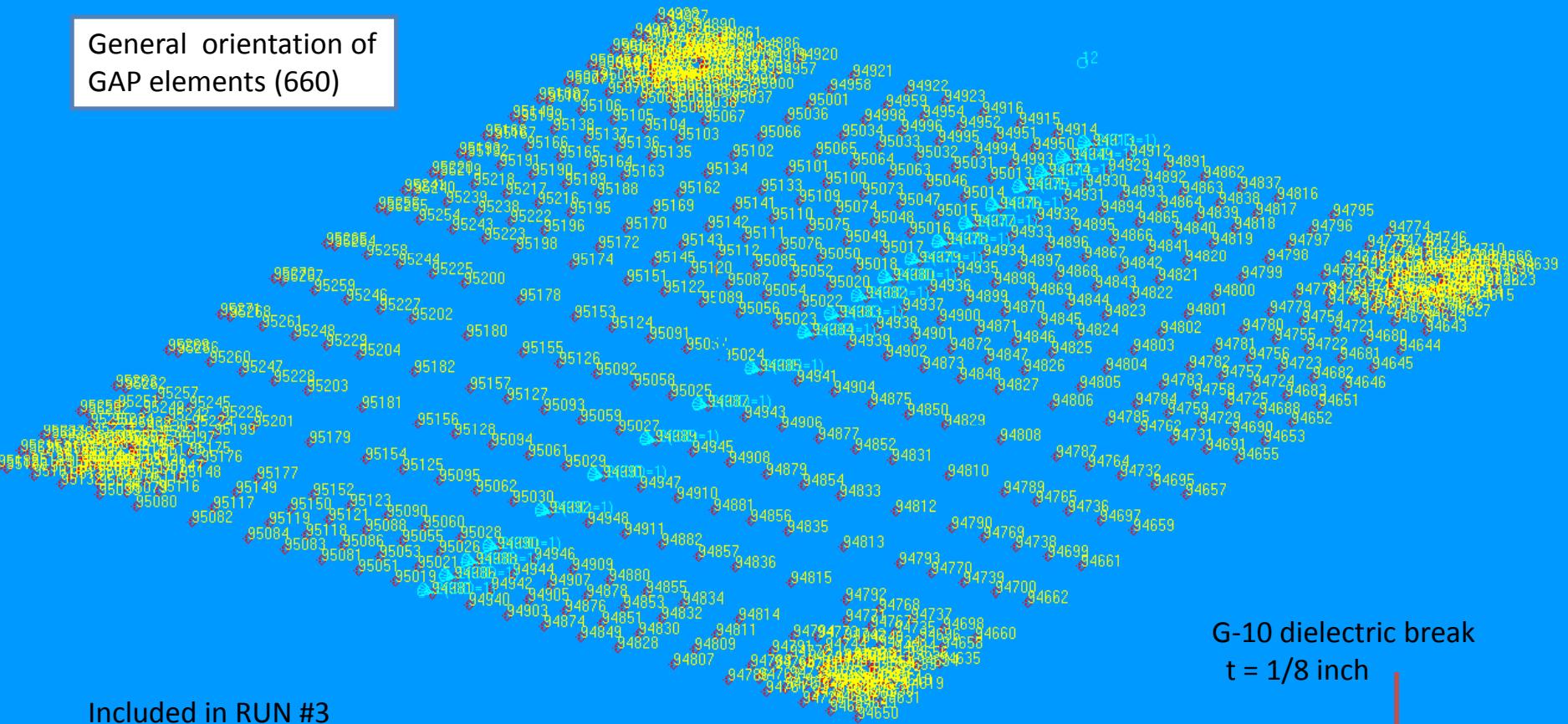


Welds between the Chair and the VV





General orientation of  
GAP elements (660)



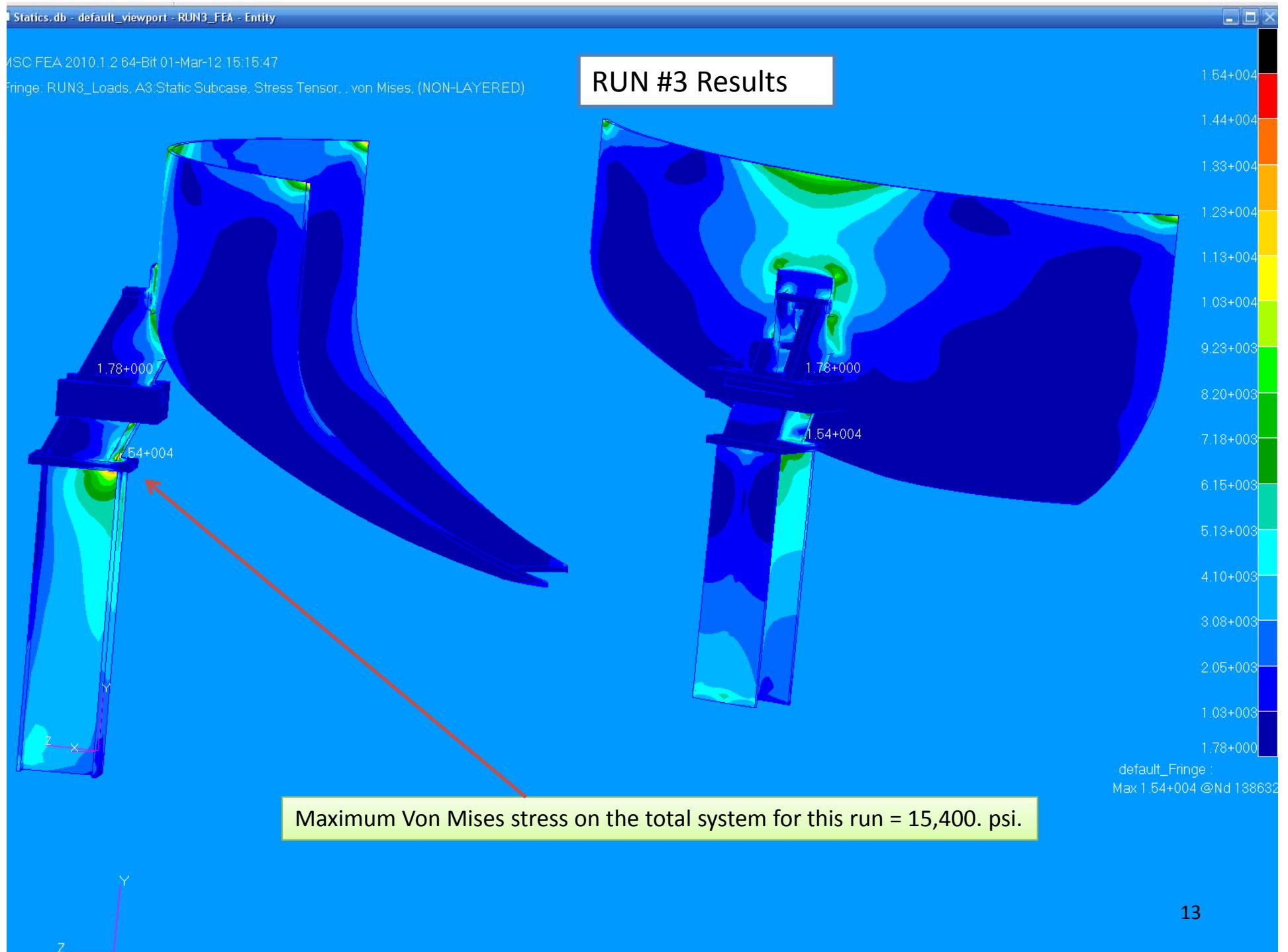
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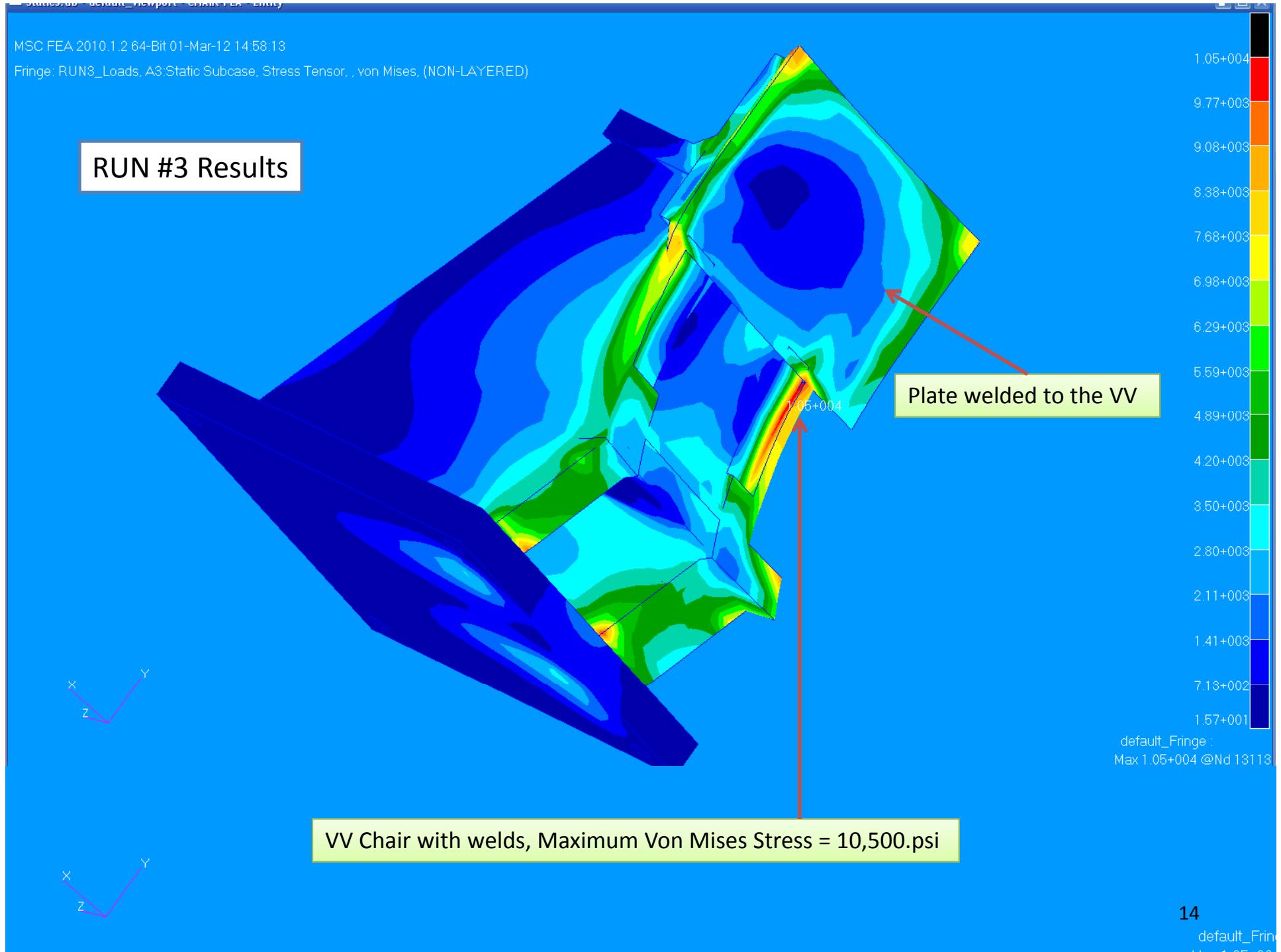
PARAM POST 0
PARAM PRTMAXIM YES
$ Elements and Element Properties for region : Sliding-Gaps
PGAP   1      0.    3.+7   500.   1.+7   .3     .3
      -1.
$ Pset: "sliding-Gaps" will be imported as: "pgap.1"
CGAP  94612  1      102192  127702  0.    -1.    0.
CGAP  94613  1      102195  128013  0.    -1.    0.
CGAP  94614  1      102199  128016  0.    -1.    0.
CGAP  94615  1      102201  128015  0.    -1.    0.
CGAP  94616  1      102204  131457  0.    -1.    0.

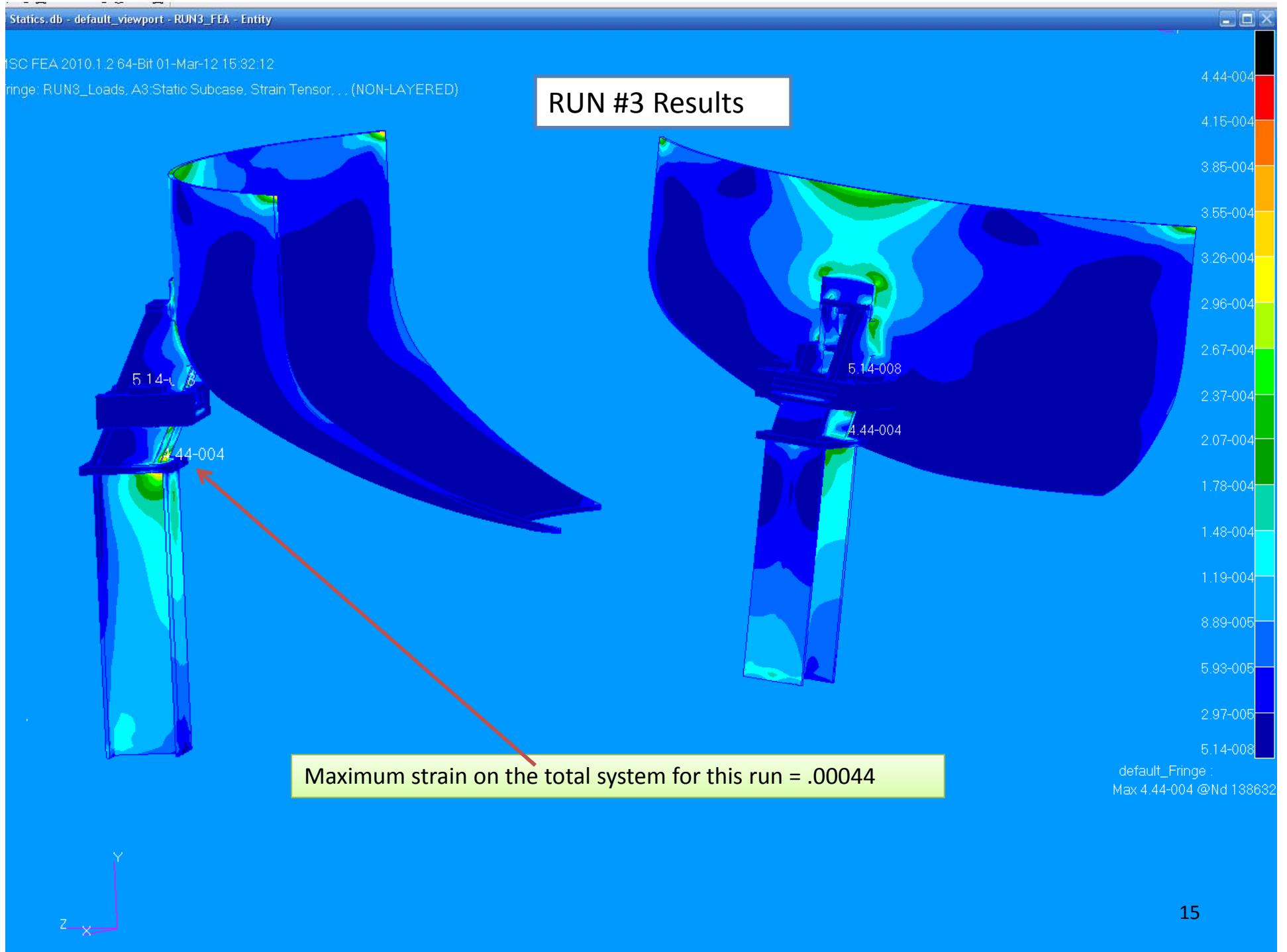
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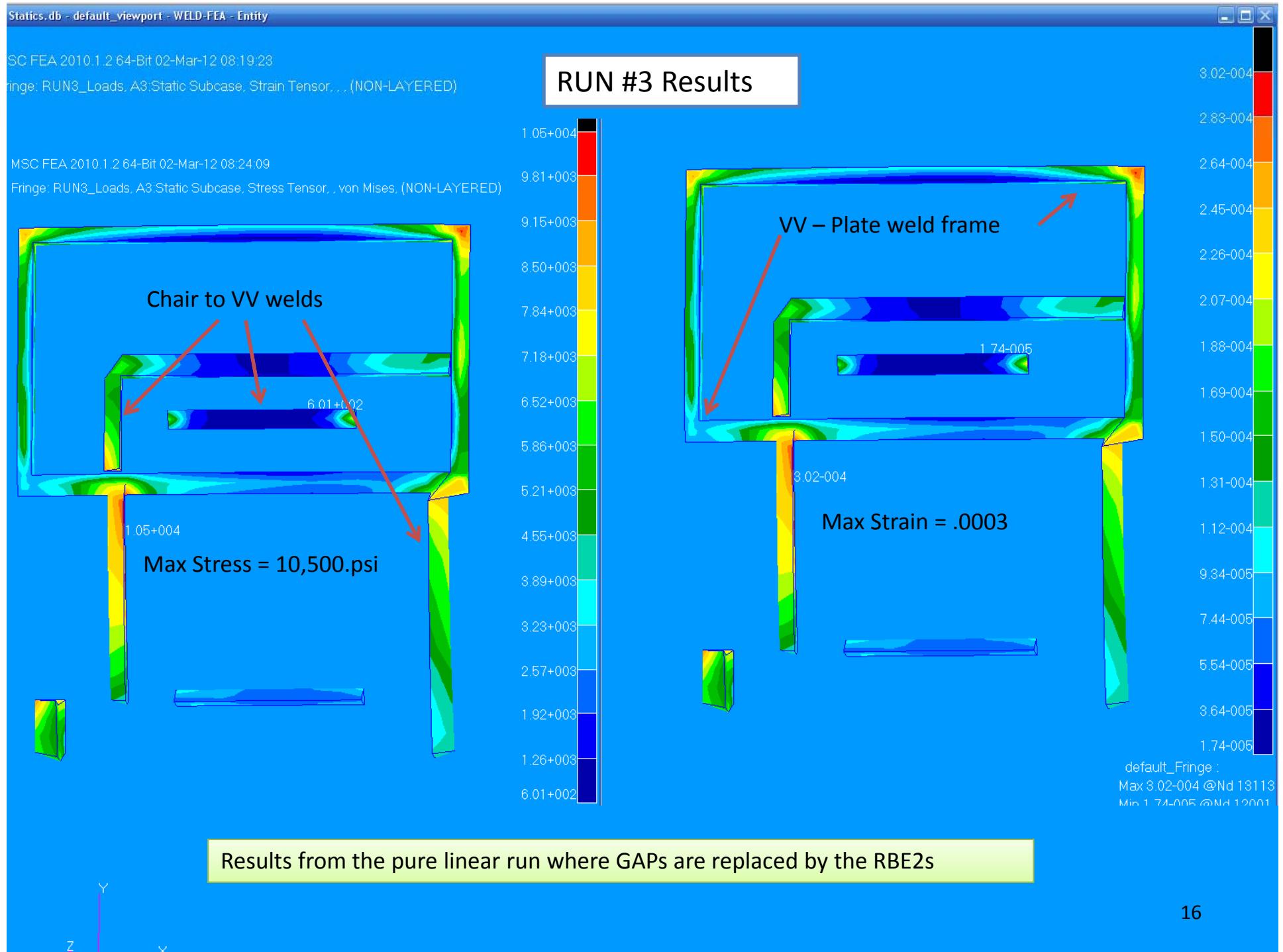


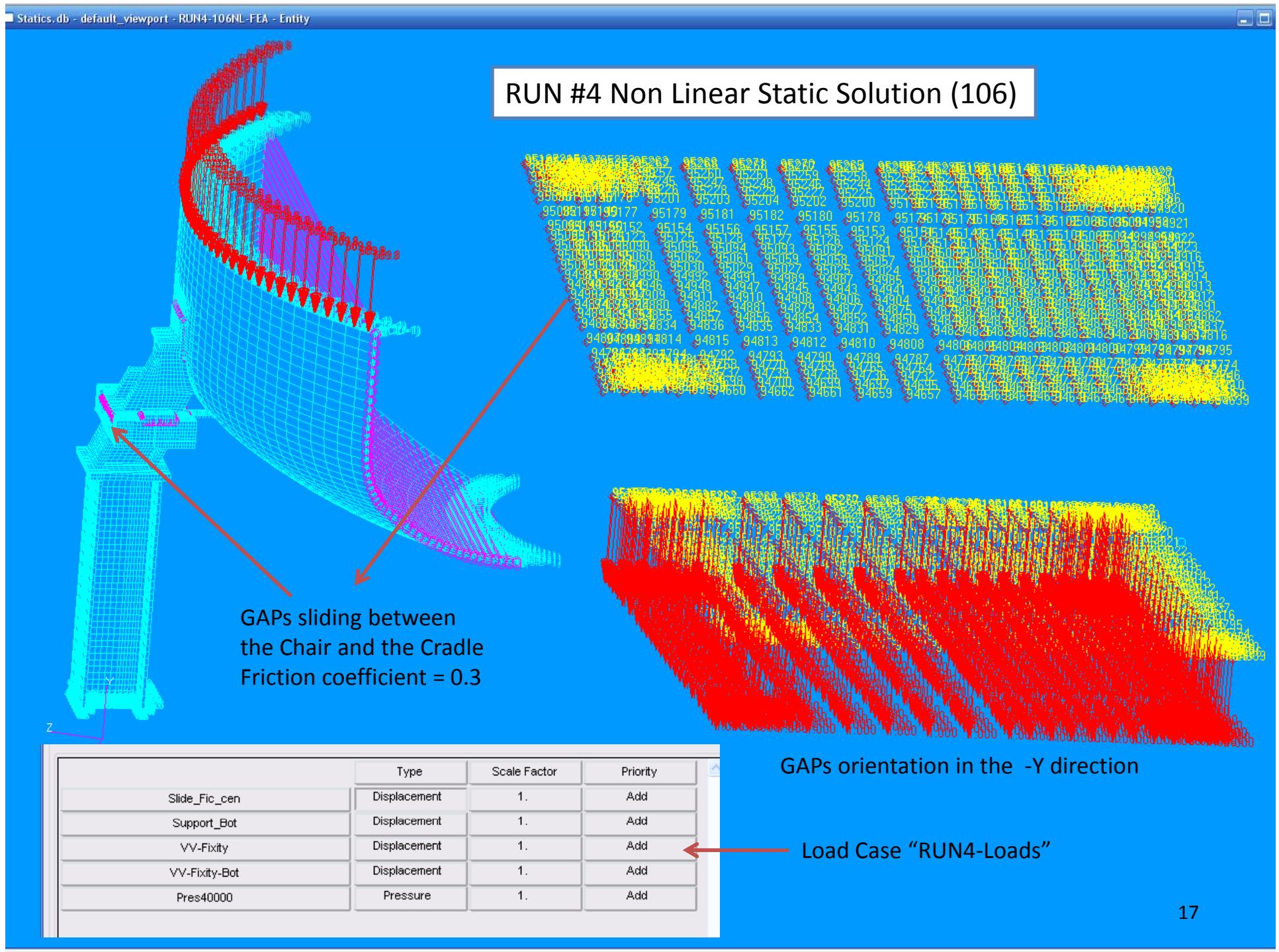
Between the cradle and Vertical support

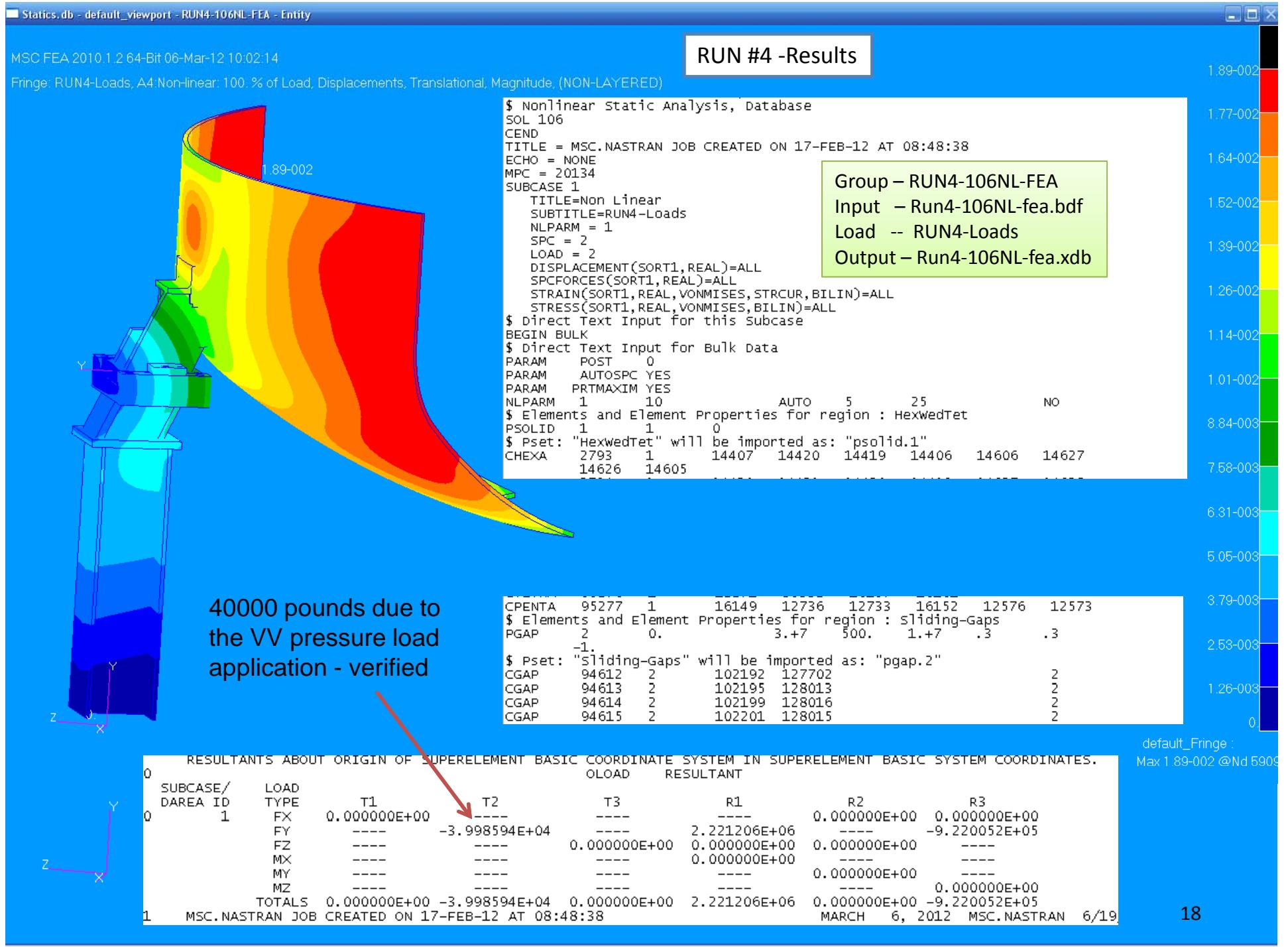


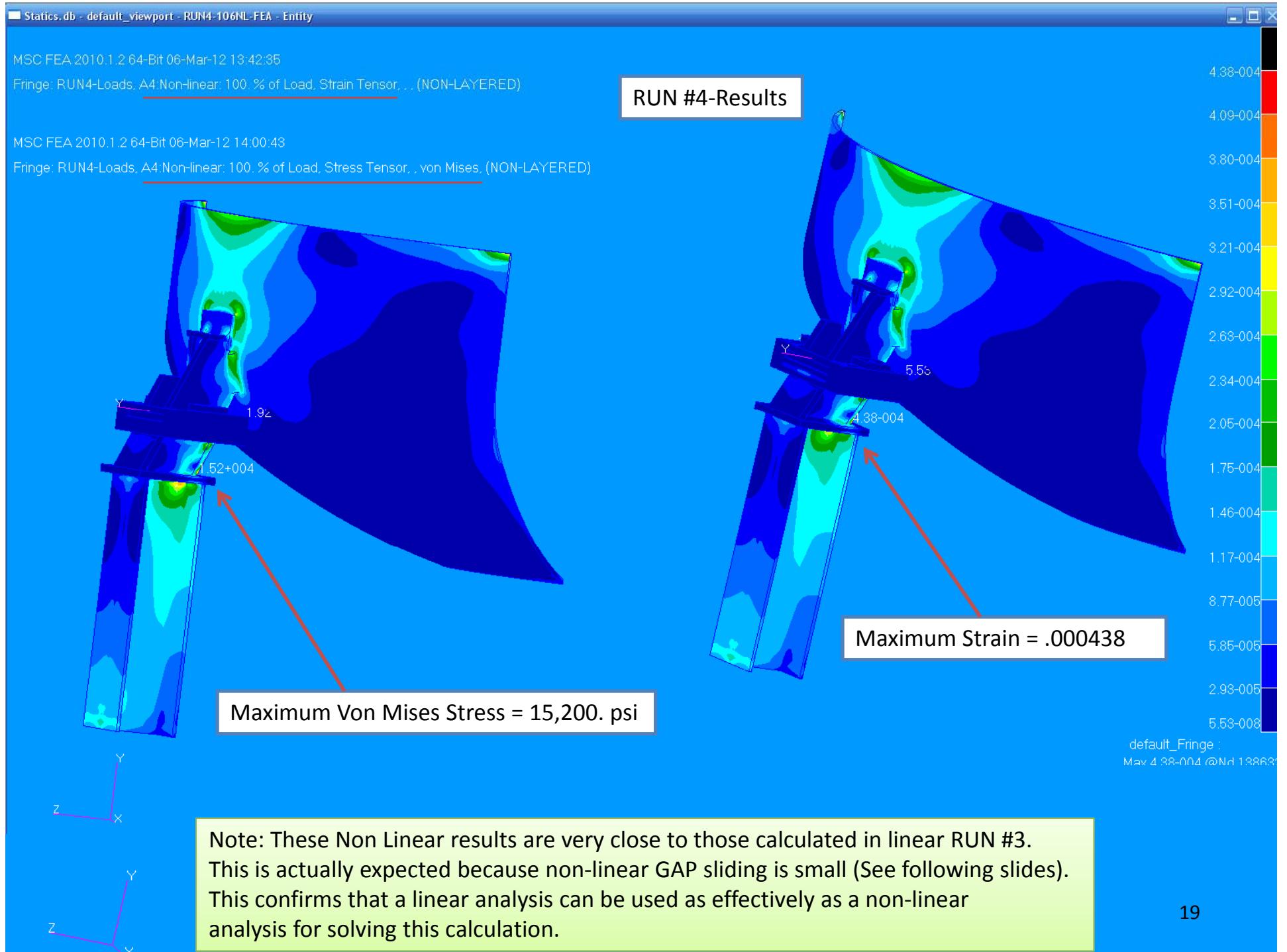


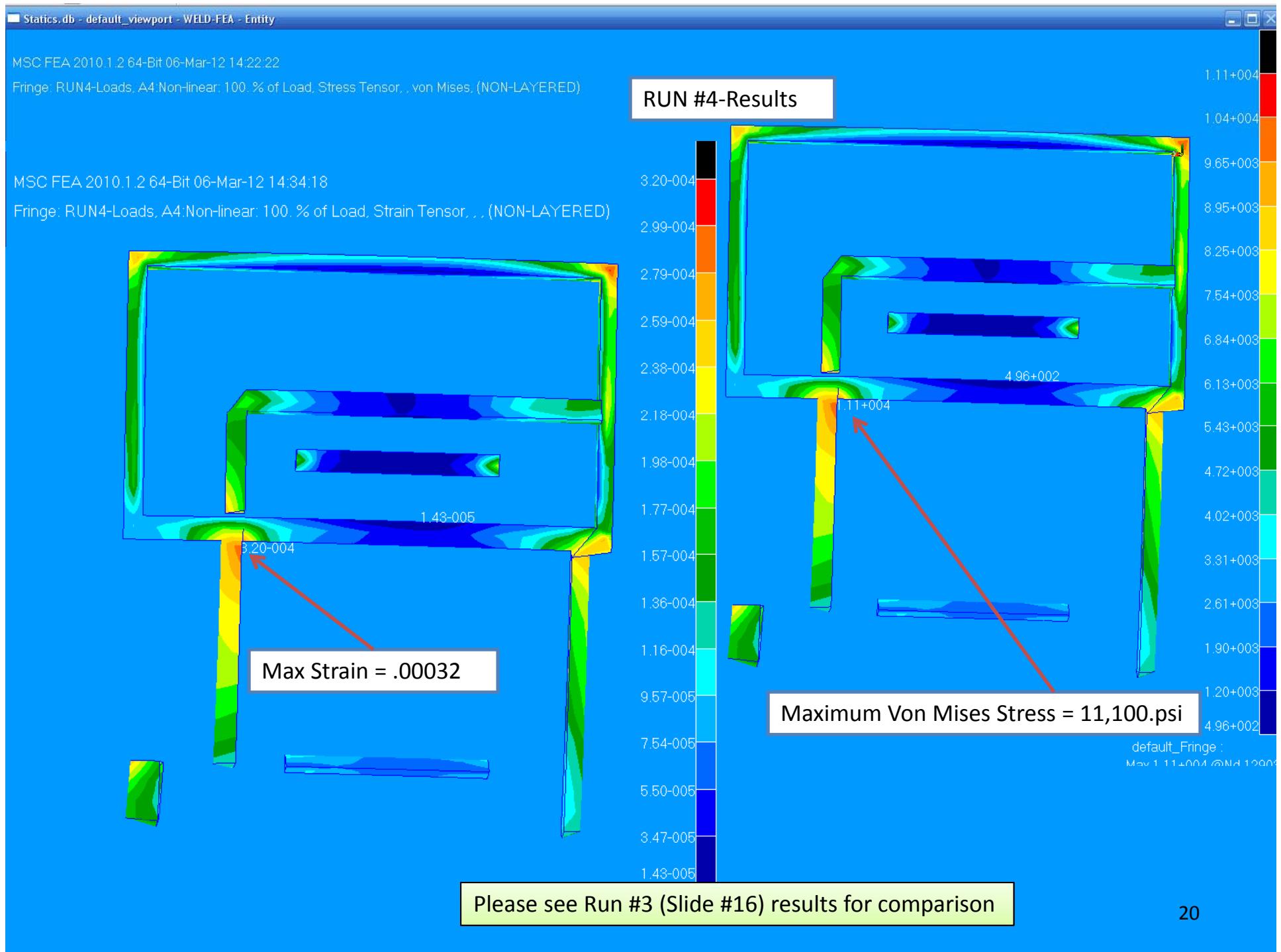








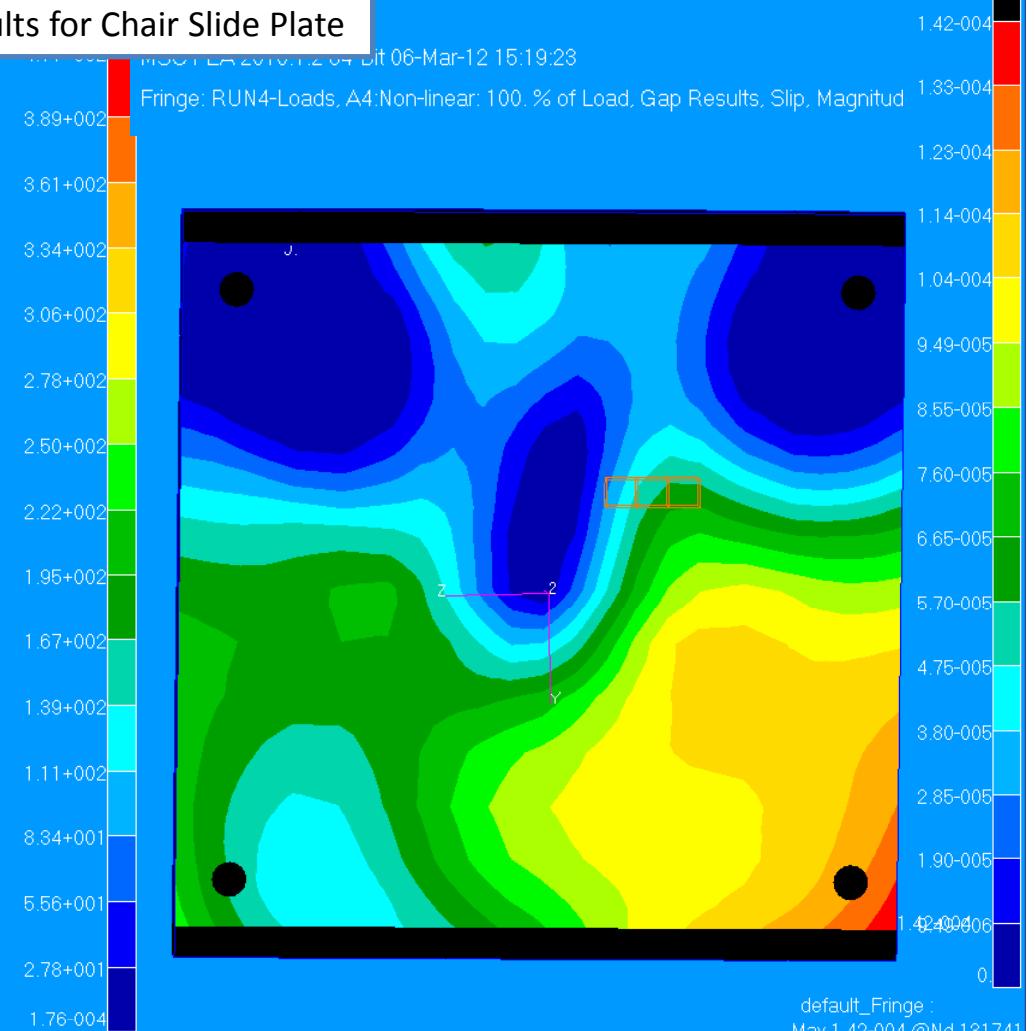
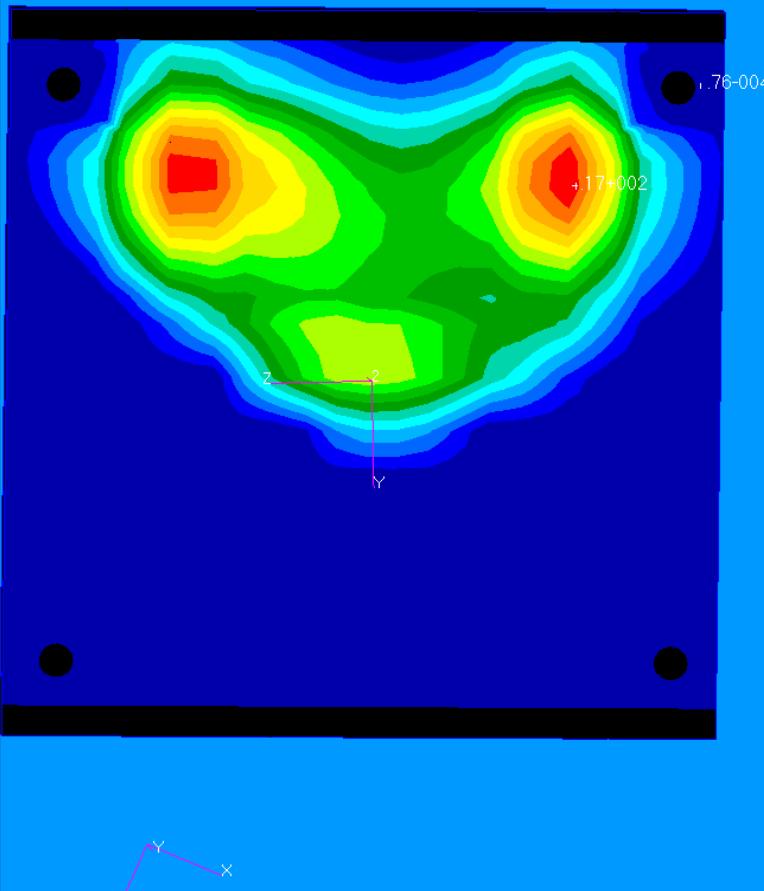




MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 06-Mar-12 15:09:52

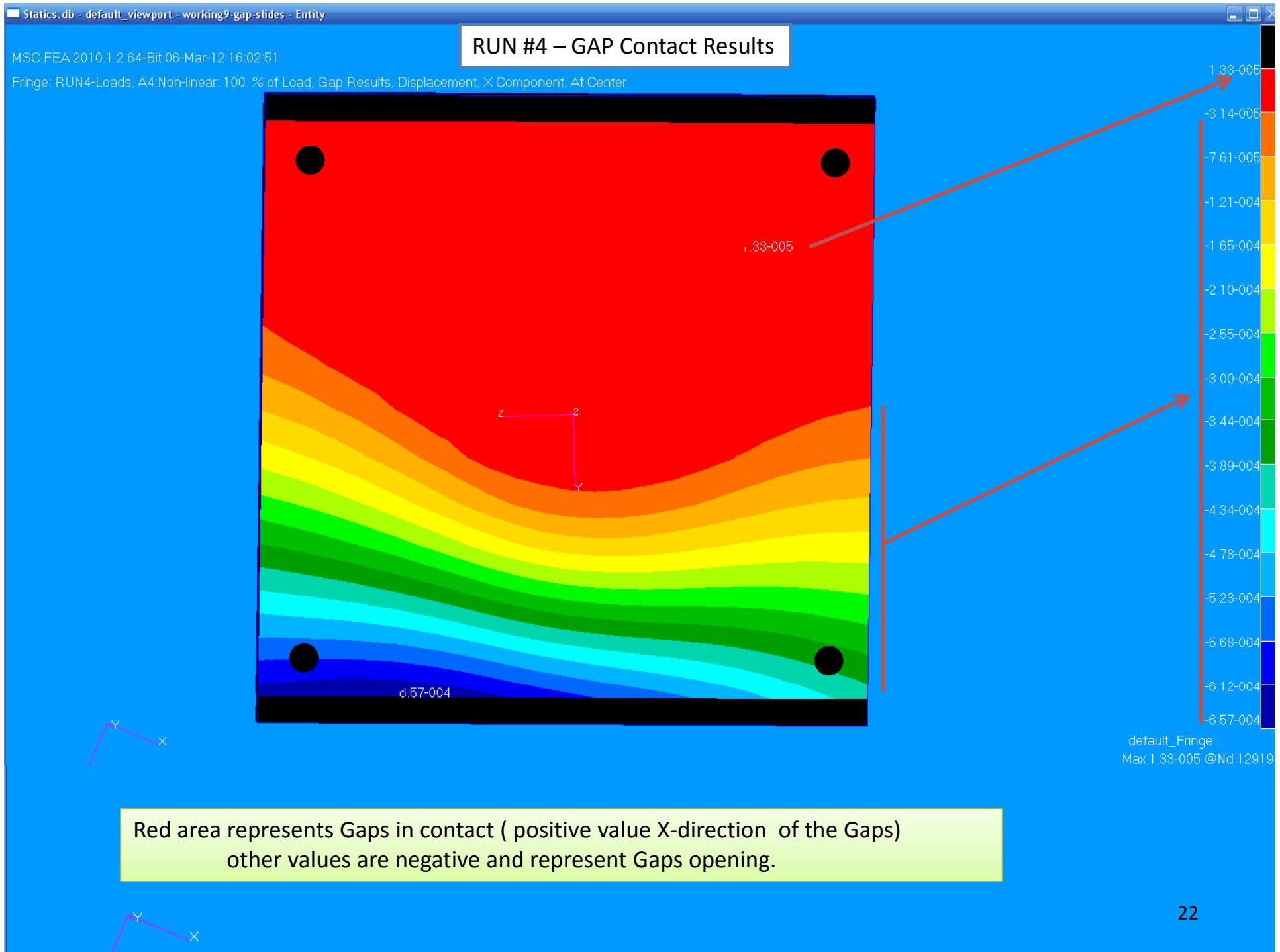
## RUN #4 – Load & Slip Results for Chair Slide Plate

Fringe: RUN4-Loads, A4 Non-linear: 100. % of Load, Gap Results, Force, Magnitude, At Center

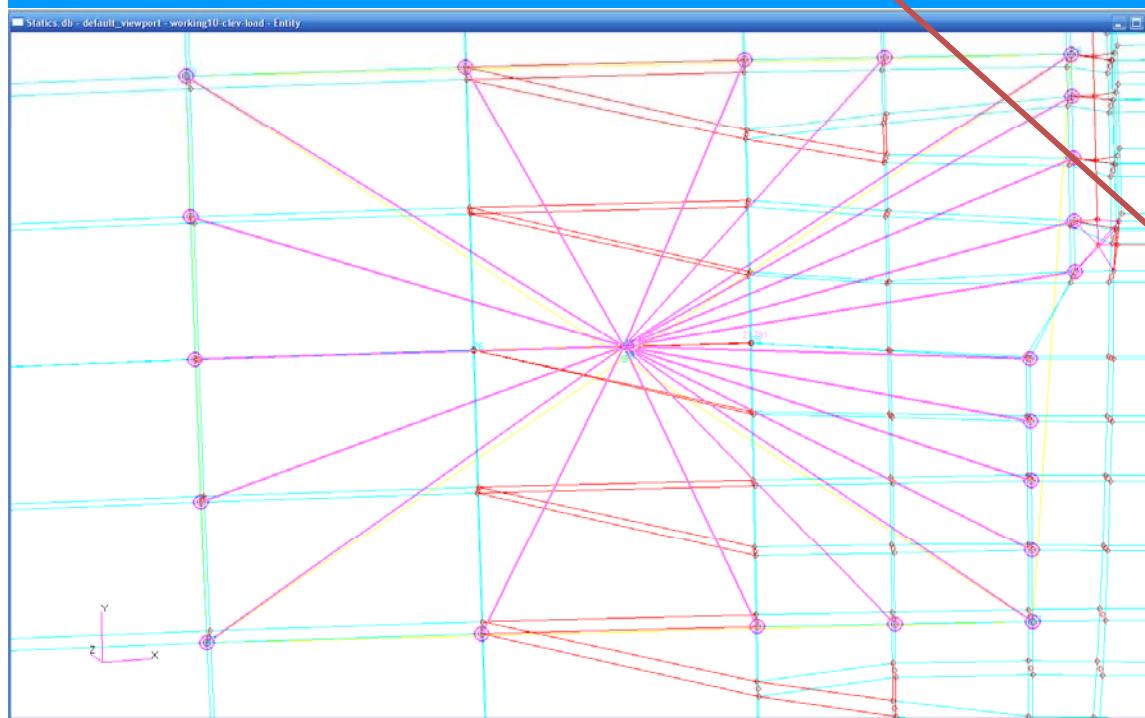


Note : These results are based on the coefficient of friction = 0.3 for GAP "Y" and "Z" transverse directions





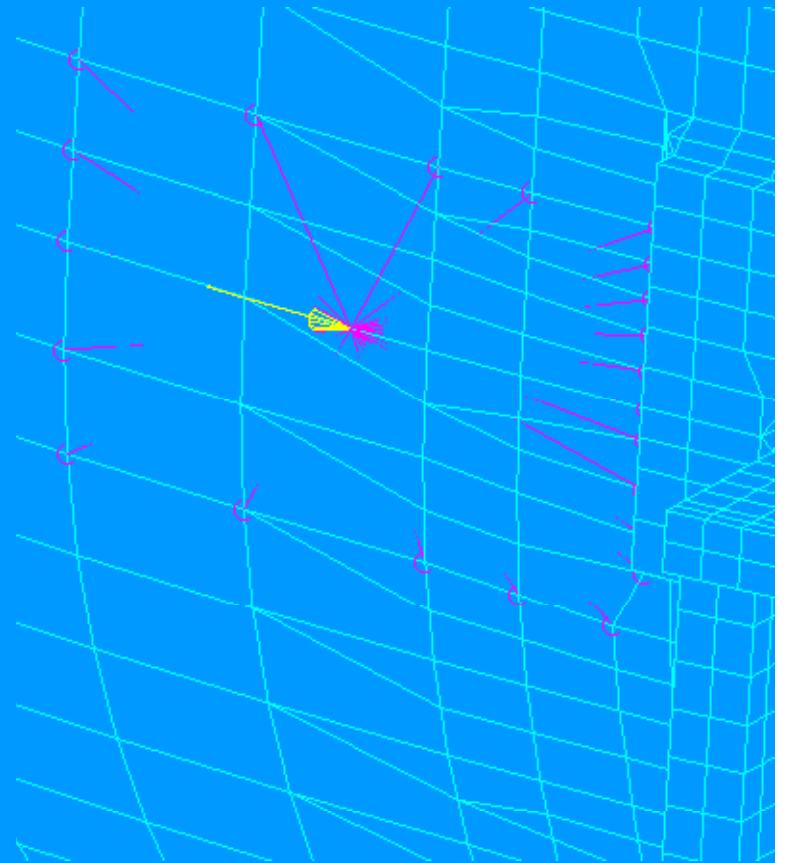
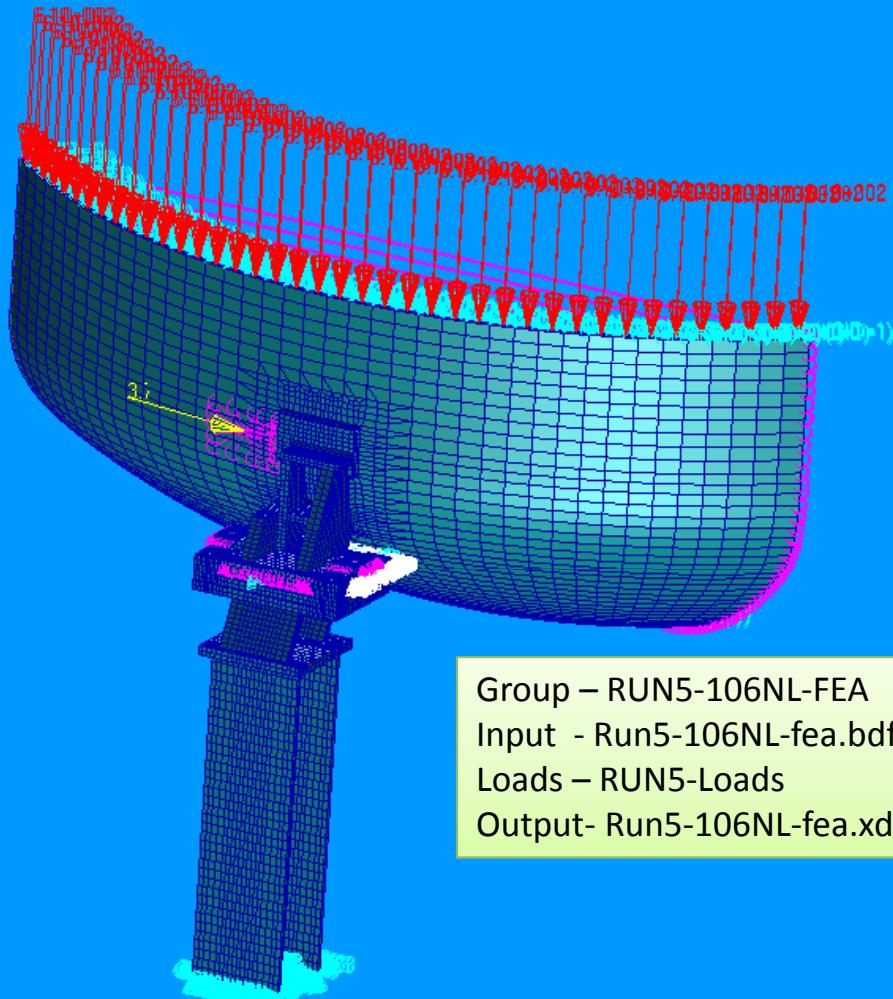
## Changes for RUN #5



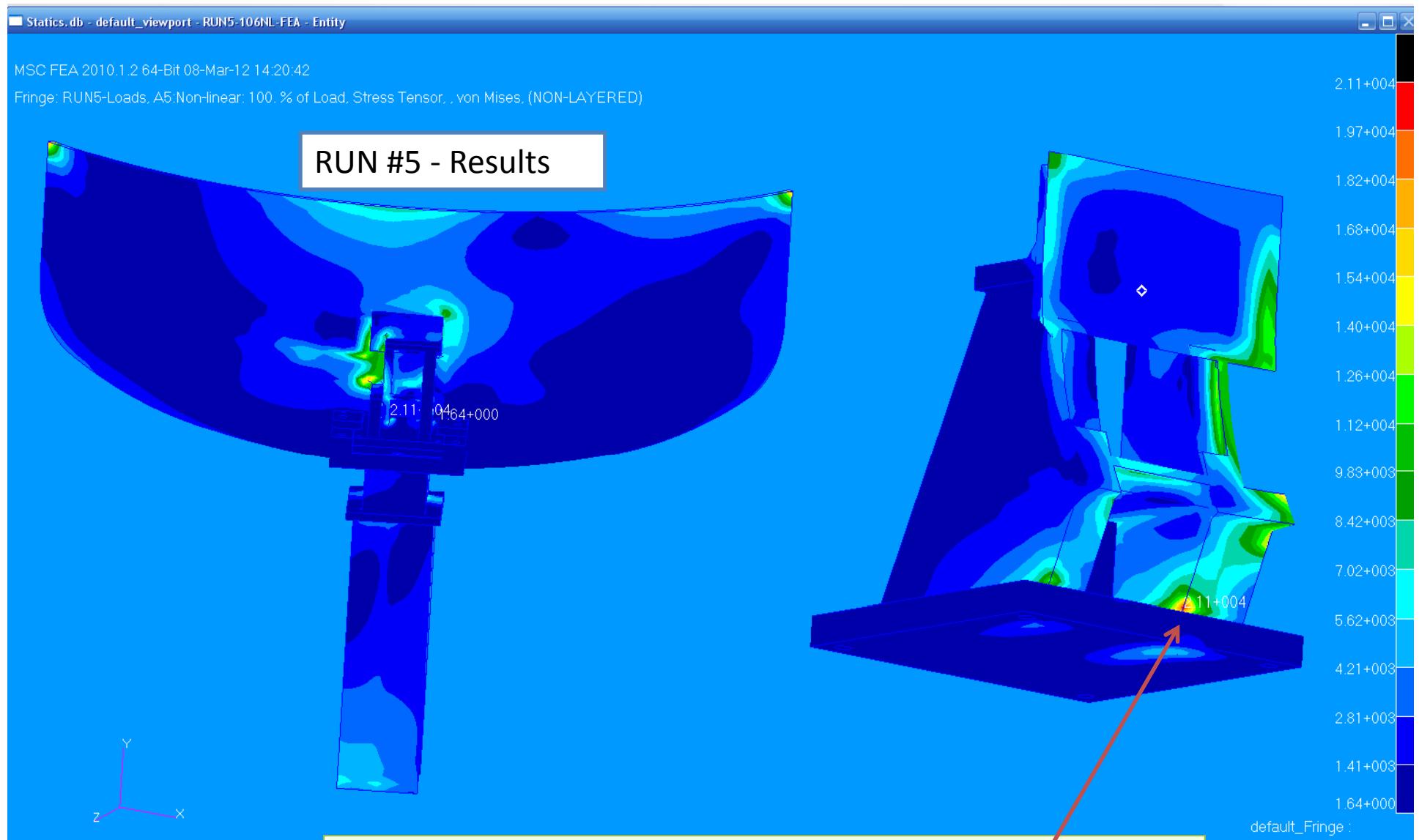
Introduction of the near-by Clevis force and its application is added to the Run #4 simulation. The VV-chair was redesigned because of the interference created by the new TF coil link connections to the VV. Therefore, the clevis is placed very close to the VV-chair structure. The slides on the left show this closeness and the RIGID BODY formation to simulate this condition. This body consists of the central node to which outside nodes are connected rigidly. Therefore, load applied at the central node distributes the force to the dependent nodes on the outside nodes which describe the maximum dimensions of the welded clevis. A force equal to 37,000. lbs is applied at the central node using cylindrical Coordinate System #1 in the Theta – direction.

Central node is independent.

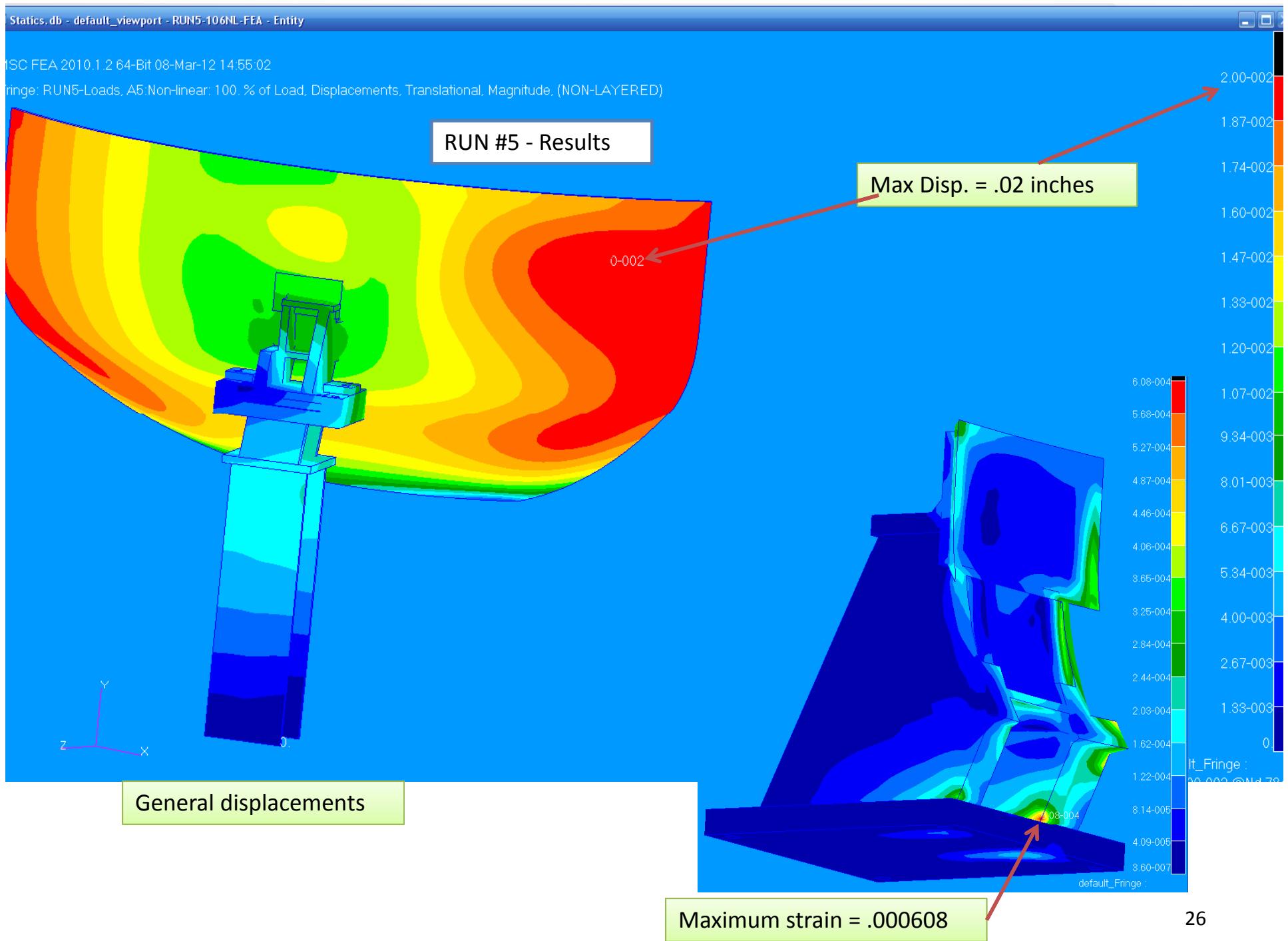
## RUN #5 - Configuration

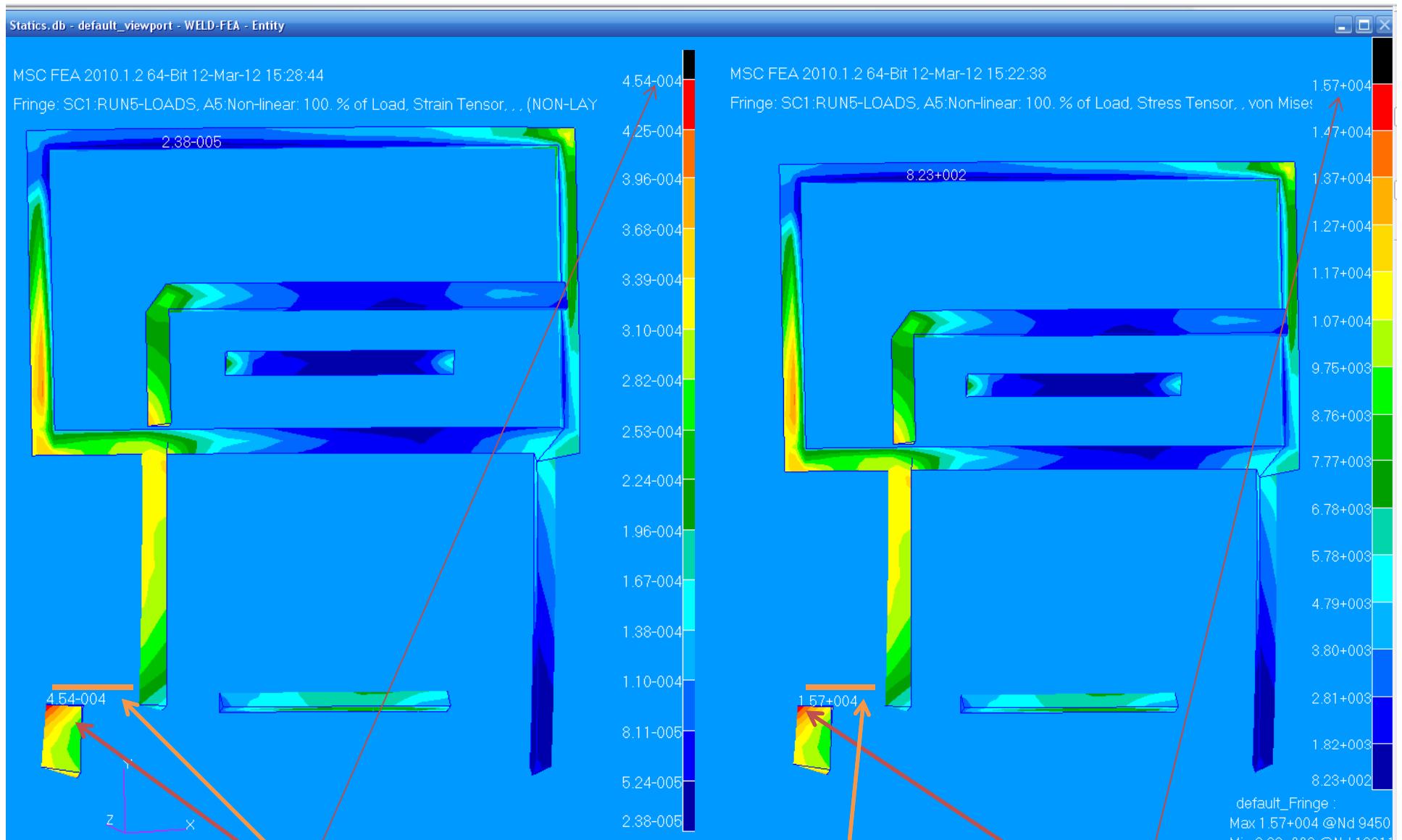


RUN #5 is a Sol 106 (Non-Linear) run with B.C. and Load from Run #4 and additional rigid body simulation for the Clevis pad which resists the 37,000. lbs shear load parallel to the VV surface. (Yellow arrow)

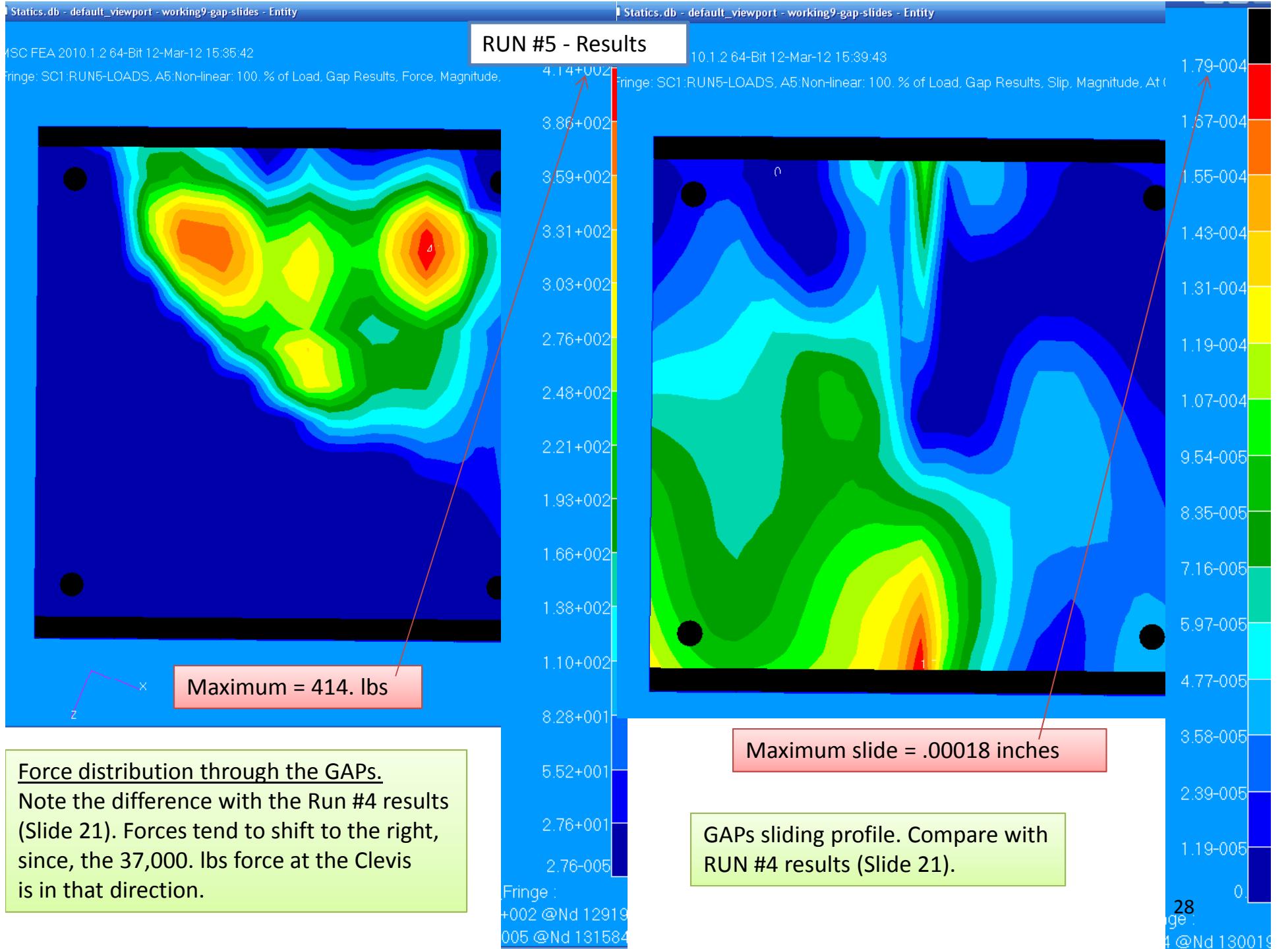


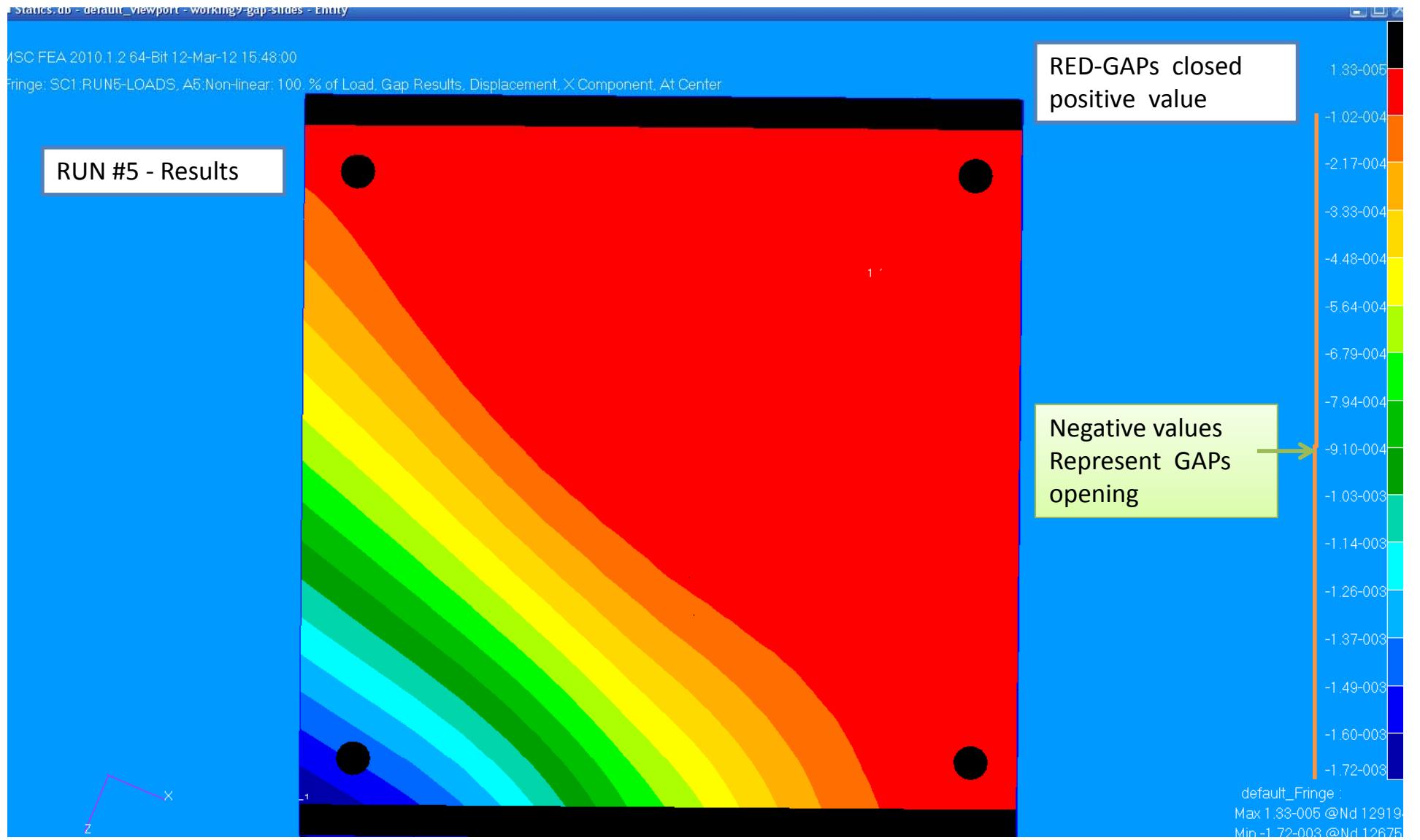
Maximum Von Mises Stresses around the VV-Chair connections = 21,100. psi  
at the Chair support. Welds seem to be O.K.



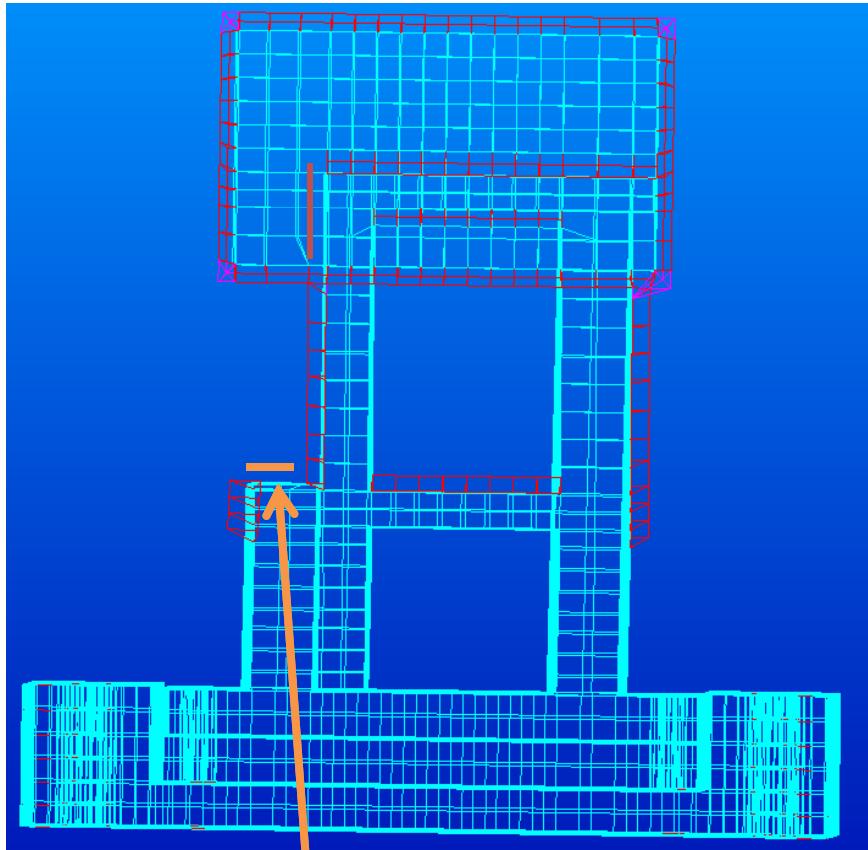


Note: If this location is possible to weld, it should decrease the maximum stress and/or strain levels.  
Also see the welding slide below.





Coordinate 2 controls (defines) the used GAPs. The X-direction (normal to page) is the principal gap direction which defines if the gap is open or closed. Please see the ".bdf" input file for details.  
(Compare with Run #4 results shown on Slide 22.)



Area that would be extremely desirable to weld,  
but, may not be readily accessible

Red elements represent the actual welds

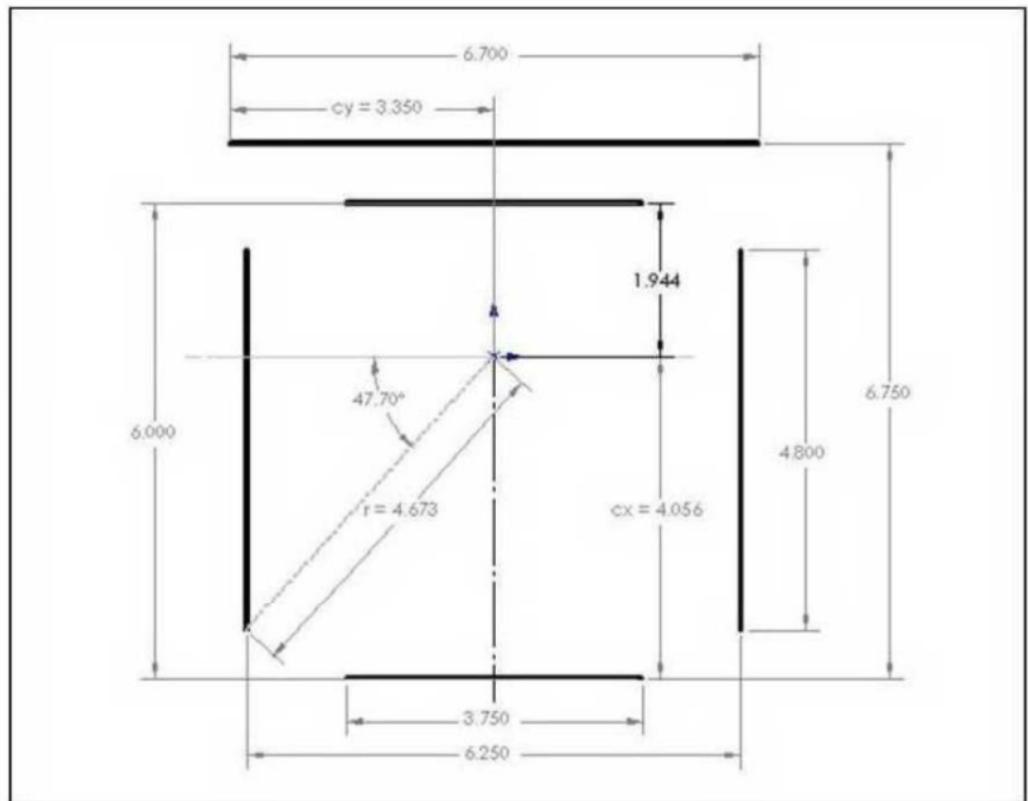
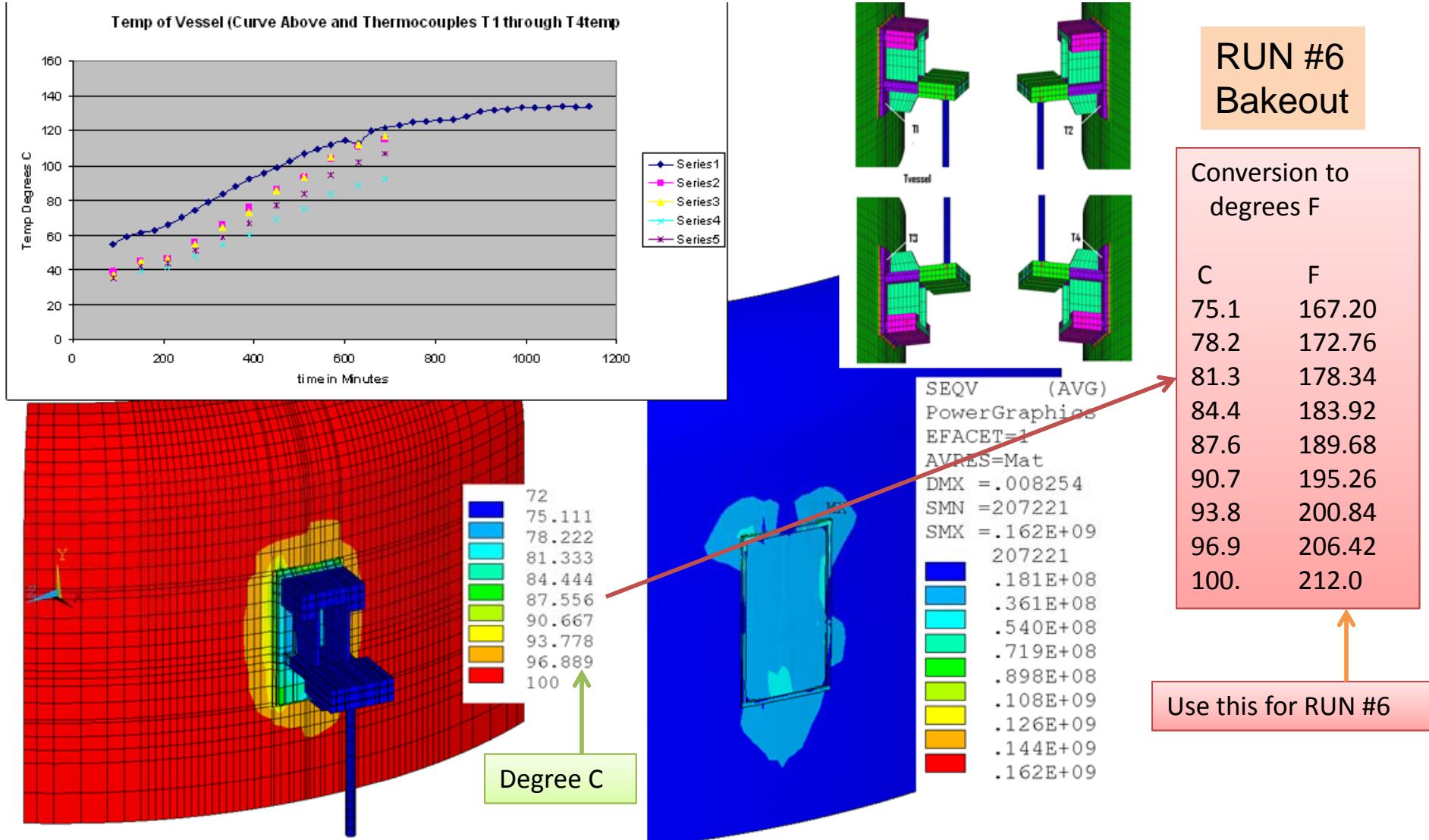


Figure 2 - Support Leg-to-Vessel Weld Dimensions

Original weld configuration – standard chair  
Note: received from M. Smith (E-mail)

Welding scenario for the redesigned VV-Chair support



This data is taken from the previous PF 4 and 5 support hardware simulation. Similar temperature scenario exists in the area of contact between the VV and the main support Chair structure.  
 This temperature data has to be converted to degrees F in order to be used in the present RUN #6 simulation.

## RUN #6 Bakeout

Conversion to degrees F

C                    F

75.1            167.20

78.2            172.76

81.3            178.34

84.4            183.92

87.6            189.68

90.7            195.26

93.8            200.84

96.9            206.42

100.            212.0



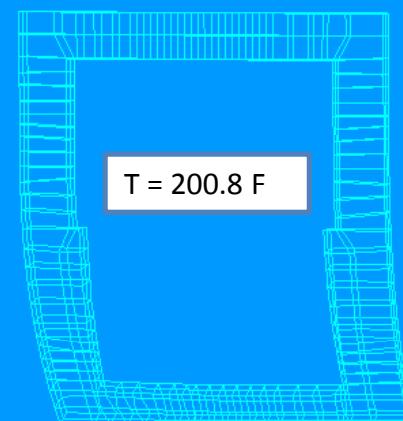
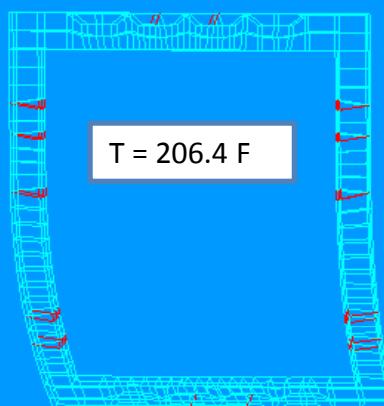
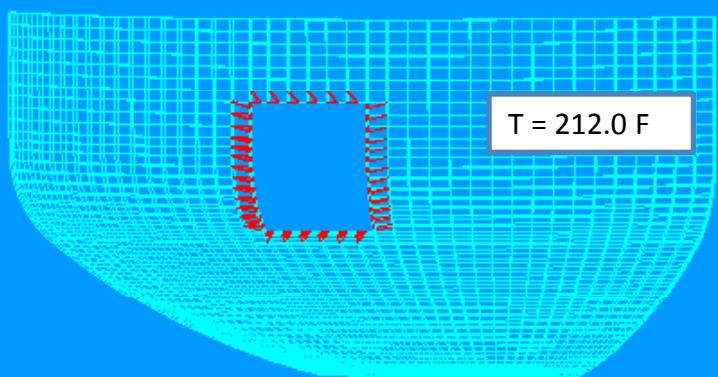
Use this for RUN #6

■ Statics.db - default\_viewport - THERMO-212.0 - Entity

■ Statics.db - default\_viewport - THERMO-206.4 - Entity

■ Statics.db - default\_viewport - THERMO-200.8 - Entity

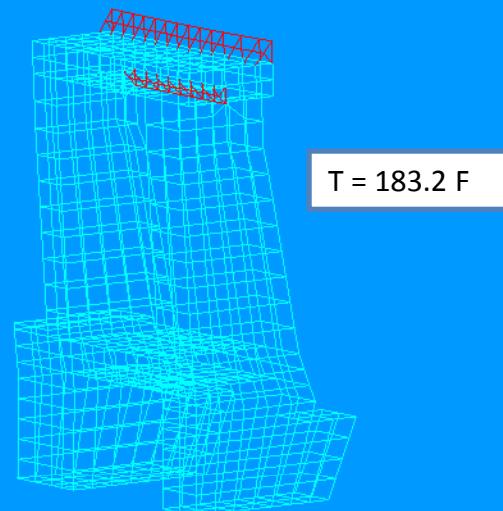
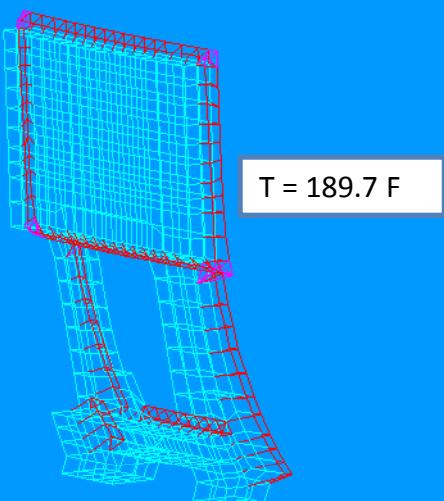
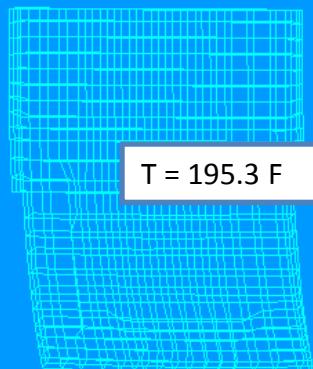
## RUN #6



■ Statics.db - default\_viewport - THERMO-195.3 - Entity

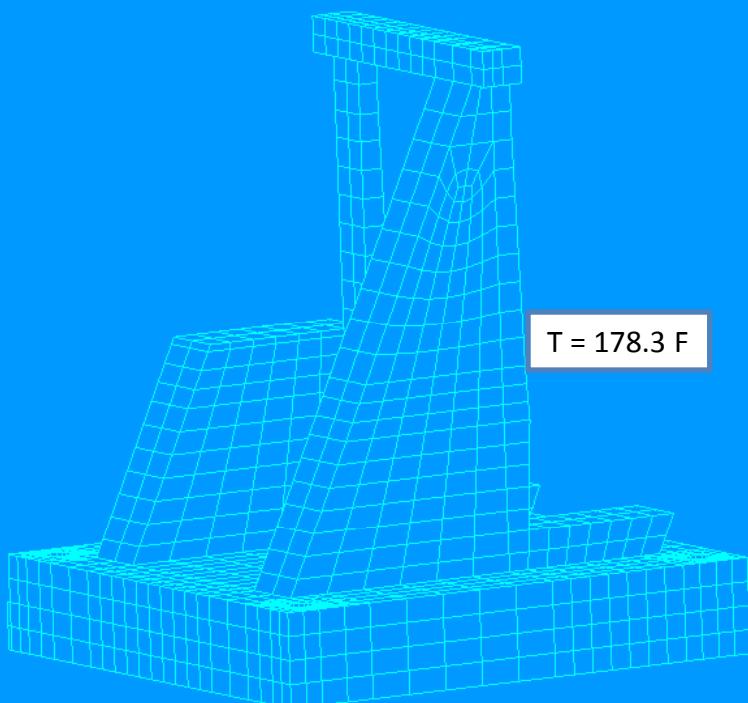
■ Statics.db - default\_viewport - THERMO-189.7 - Entity

■ Statics.db - default\_viewport - THERMO-183.9 - Entity



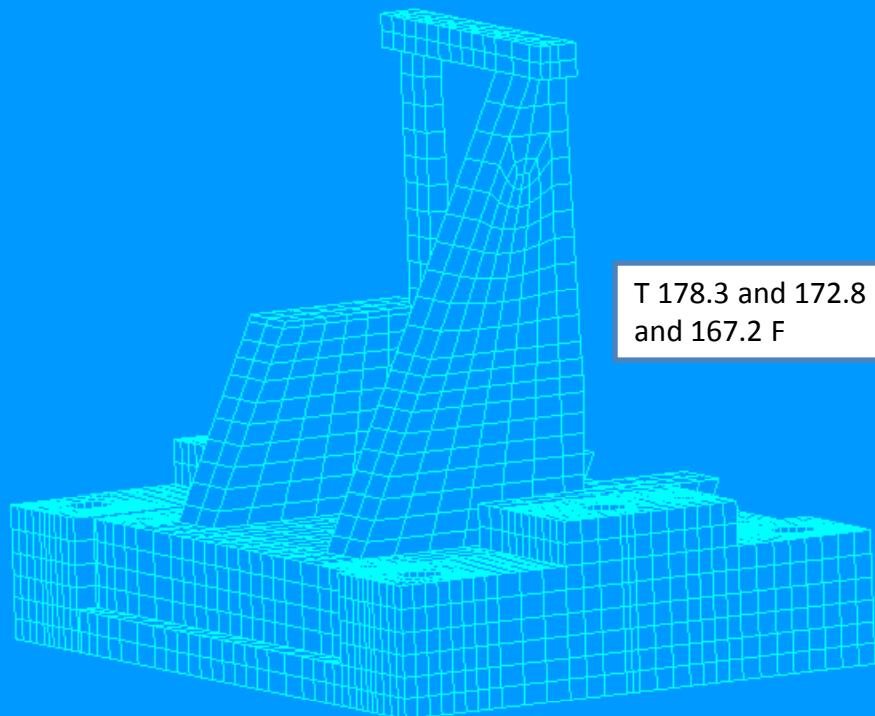
Applied temperature distribution according to the converted table from the previous slide. These groups are most critical in order to determine the VV bake out effects. This is a highly approximated temperature profile. The VV support structure is a very effective heat sink. Because of its total mass, the gradients are probably reasonable. If better simulation is necessary, then, a complete thermal analysis would be required to determine temperature at each nodal point (time consuming procedure).

■ Statics.db - default\_viewport - THERMO-172.8 - Entity

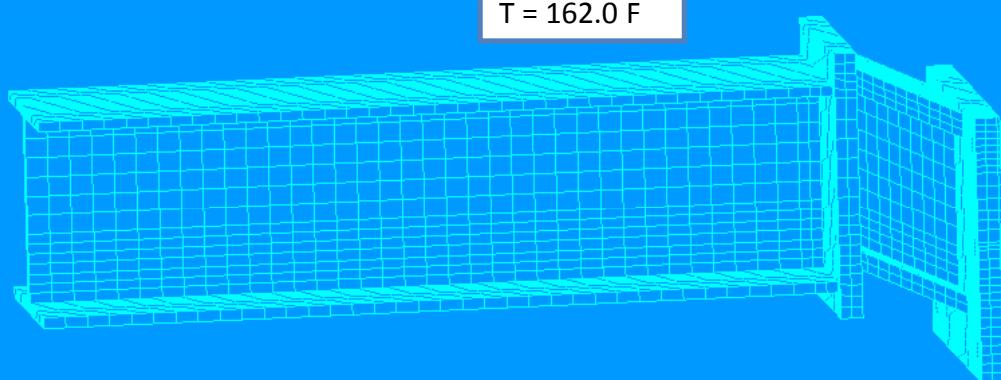


■ Statics.db - default\_viewport - THERMO-172.8 - Entity

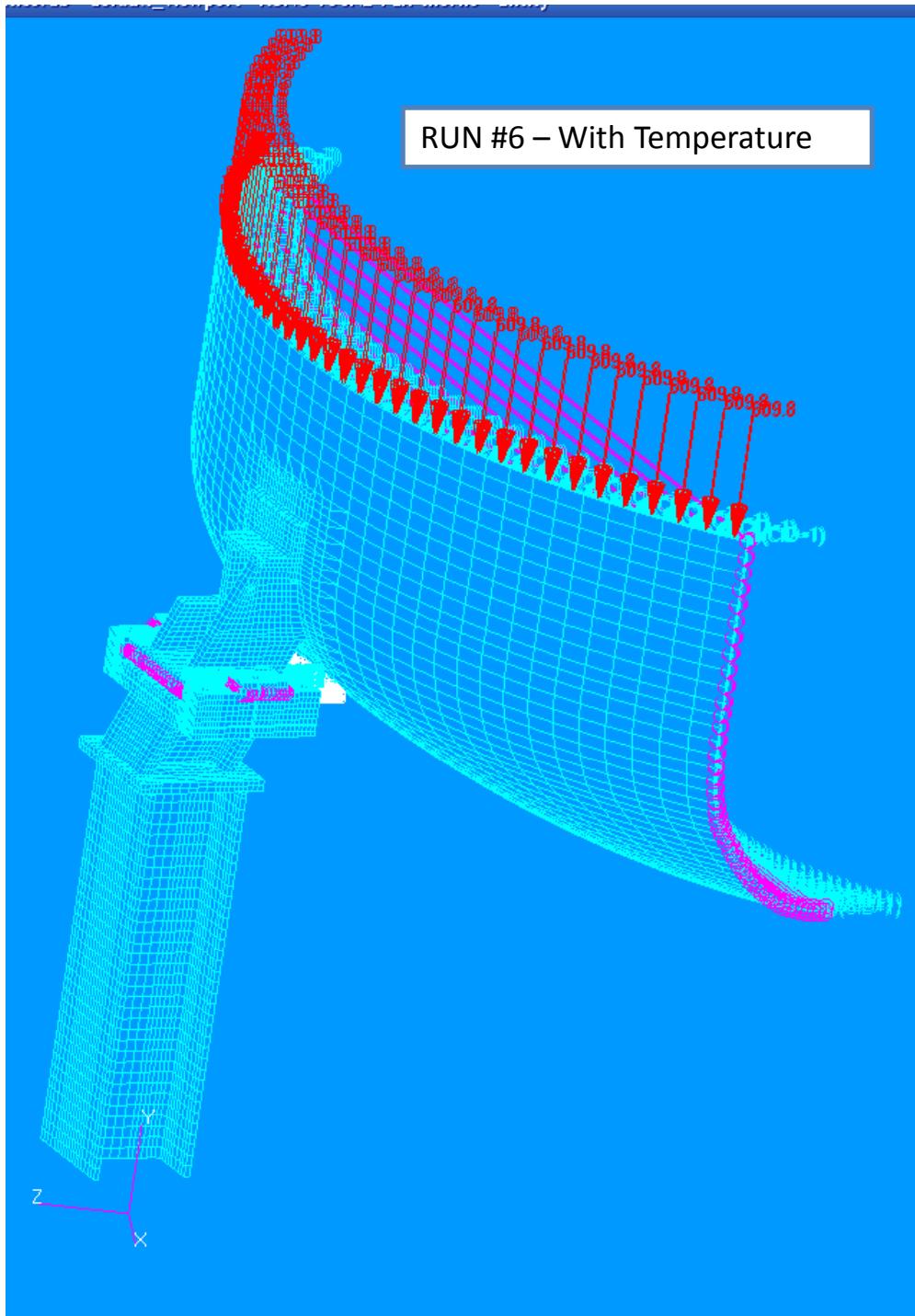
RUN #6



■ Statics.db - default\_viewport - THERMO-162.0 - Entity



Please Note: The described temperature distribution is the result of the author's assumed interpolation.



```
$ Nonlinear Static Analysis, Database
SOL 106
CEND
TITLE = MSC.NASTRAN JOB CREATED ON 17-FEB-12 AT 08:48:38
ECHO = NONE
MPC = 20134
TEMPERATURE(INITIAL) = 10
SUBCASE 1
  TITLE=106 with THERMO
  SUBTITLE=RUN6-Loads
  NLPARM = 1
  SPC = 2
  LOAD = 12
  TEMPERATURE(LOAD) = 2
  DISPLACEMENT(SORT1,REAL)=ALL
  SPCFORCES(SORT1,REAL)=ALL
  STRAIN(SORT1,REAL,VONMISES,STRCUR,BILIN)=ALL
  STRESS(SORT1,REAL,VONMISES,BILIN)=ALL
$ Direct Text Input for this Subcase
BEGIN BULK
$ Direct Text Input for Bulk Data
PARAM    POST      0
PARAM    AUTOSPC  YES
PARAM    PRTMAXIM YES
NLPARM   1       10      AUTO      5      25
$ Elements and Element Properties for region : HexwedgeTet
NO
```

From the “RUN6.bdf” file

Group – RUN6-106HL-FEA-thermo  
Input -- RUN6-NL-THLoads.bdf  
Loads -- RUN6-Loads  
Output – RUN6-NL-THLoads.xdb

RUN #6 Loads formulation is as follows:

Mechanical loads and B.C. are identical to those applied in RUN #4, plus the described temperature distribution scenarios on the previous slides.

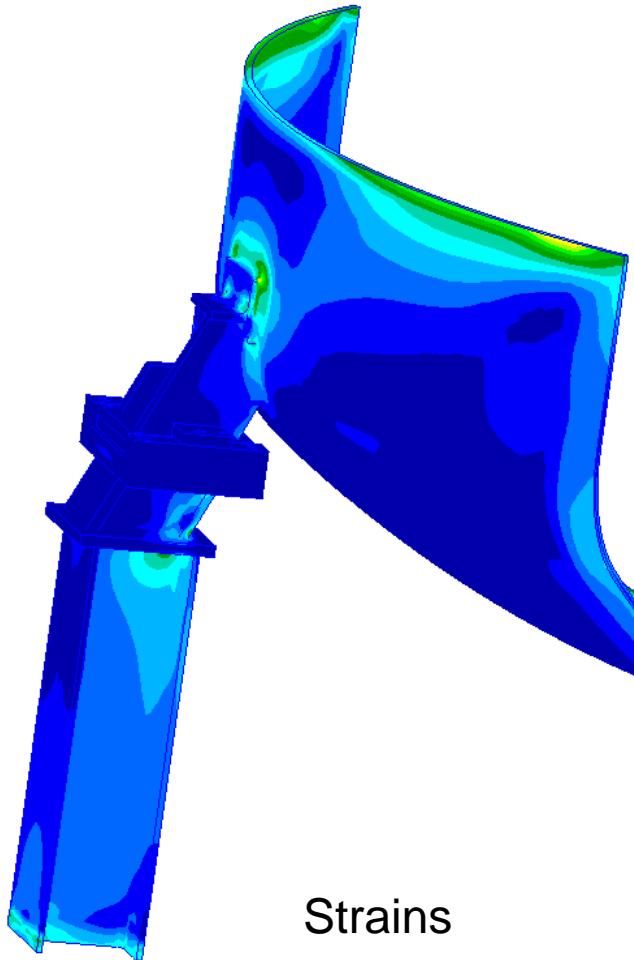
MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 16-Mar-12 14:47:52

Fringe: RUN6-Loads, A7:Non-linear: 100. % of Load, Strain Tensor, . . .

MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 16-Mar-12 14:44:43

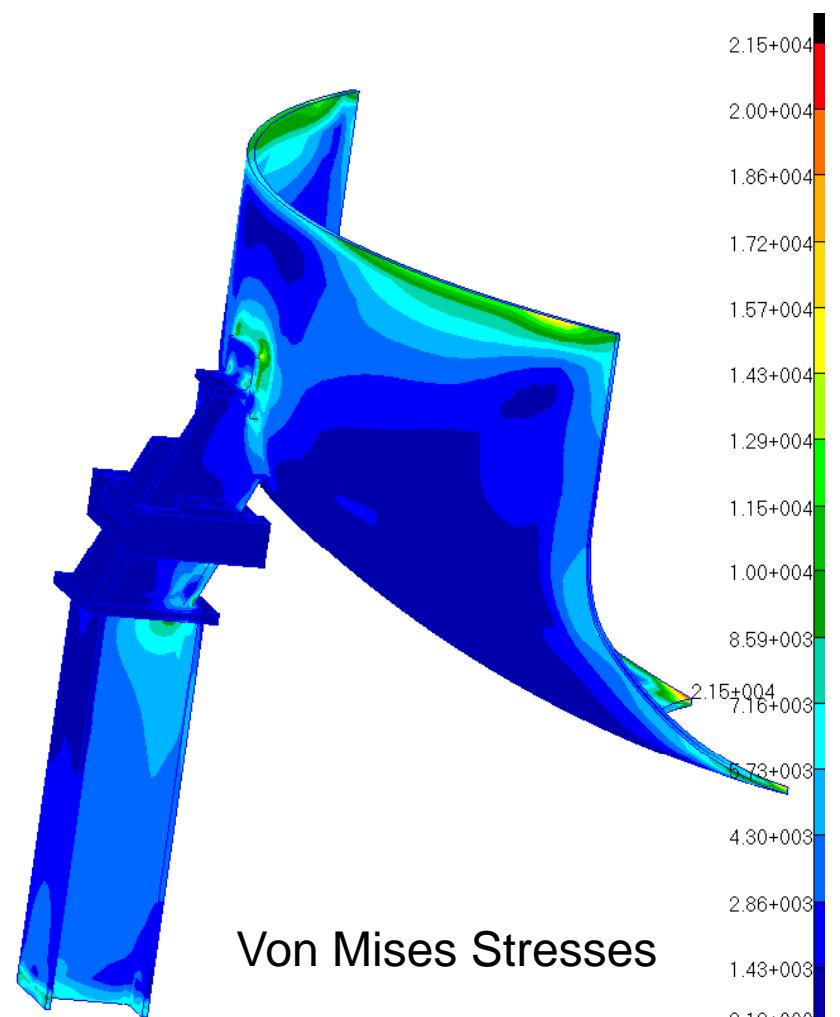
Fringe: RUN6-Loads, A7:Non-linear: 100. % of Load, Stress Tensor, , von Mises, (NON-LAYERED)

### RUN #6 - Results



Strains

default\_Fringe :  
Max 6.20e-04 @Nd 4357  
Min 6.14e-08 @Nd 12497



Von Mises Stresses

default\_Fringe :  
Max 2.15e+004 @Nd 4357  
Min 2.12e+000 @Nd 1249

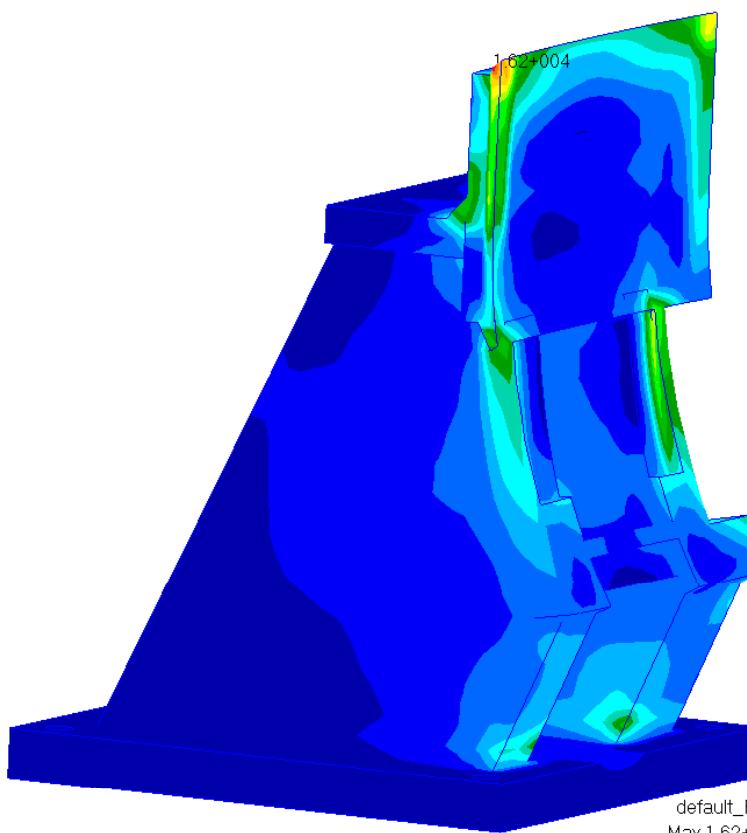
MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 16-Mar-12 15:09:15

Fringe: RUN6-Loads, A7:Non-linear: 100. % of Load, Stress Tensor, , von Mises

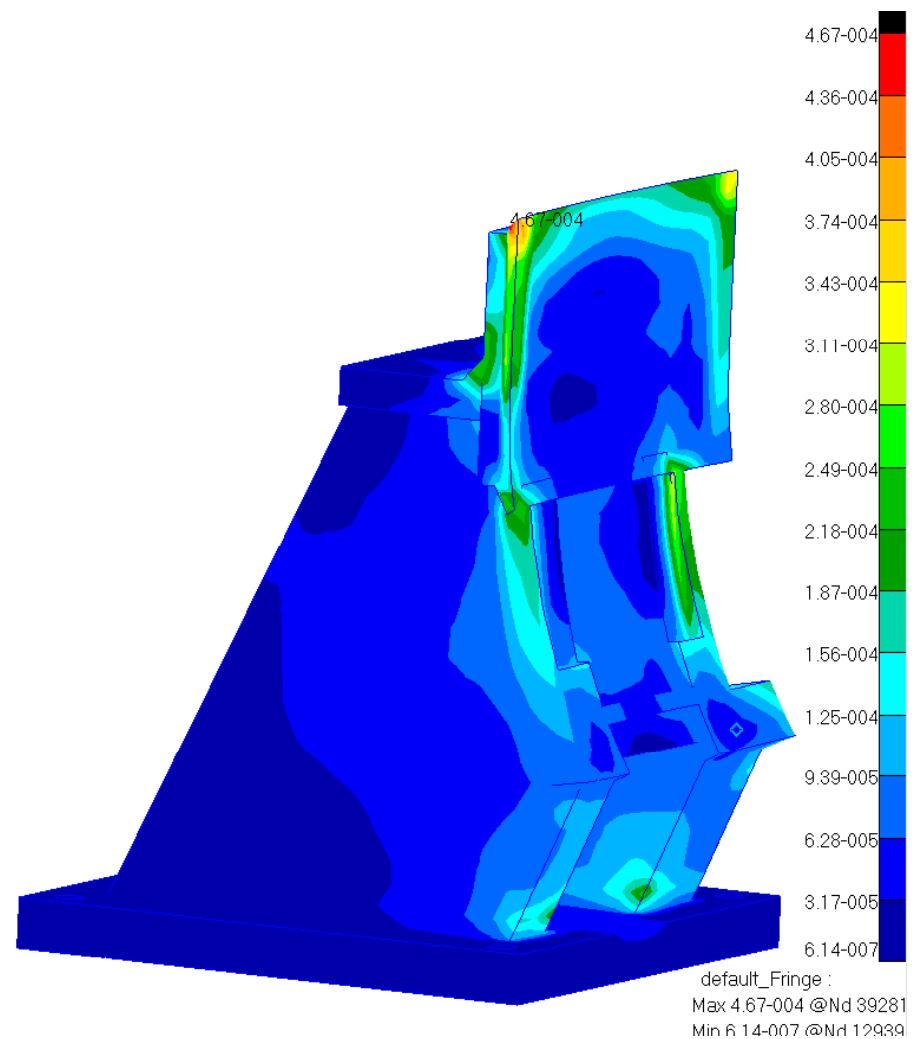
MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 16-Mar-12 15:05:31

Fringe: RUN6-Loads, A7:Non-linear: 100. % of Load, Strain Tensor,

### RUN #6 - Results



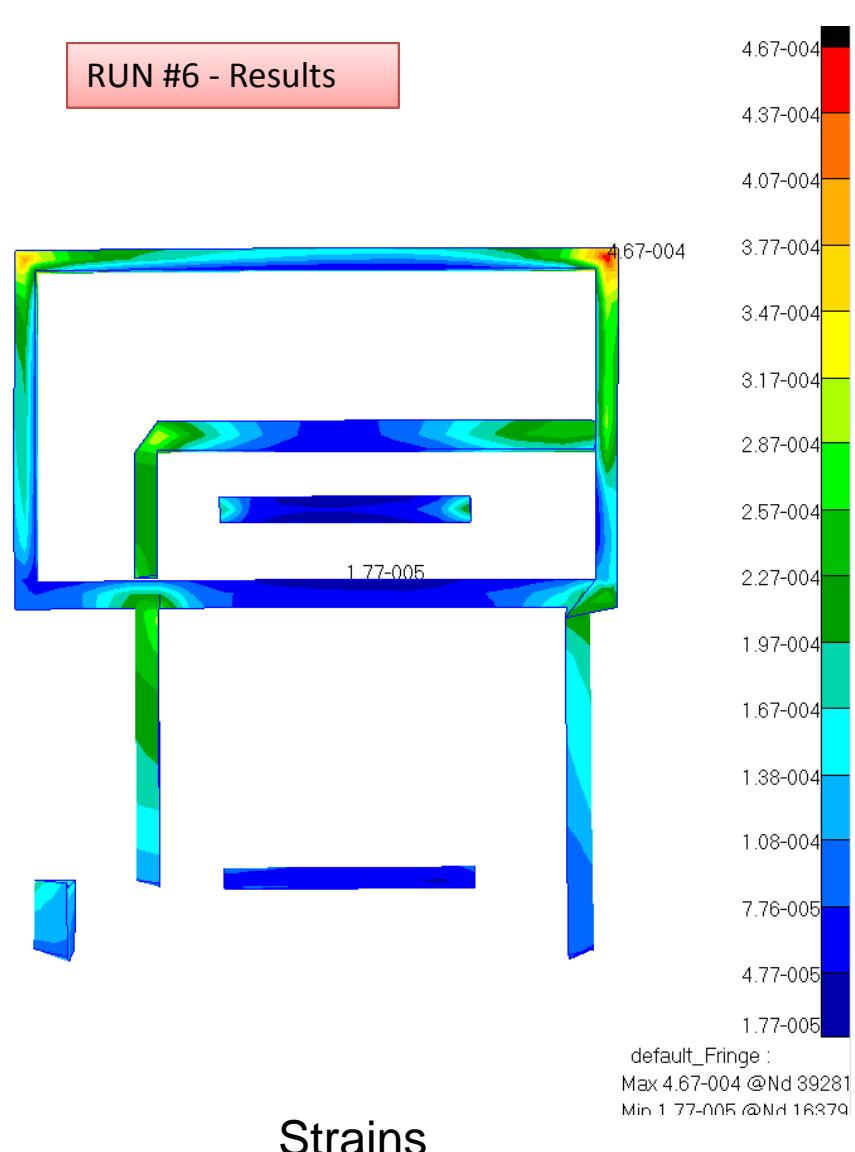
Von Mises Stresses



Strains

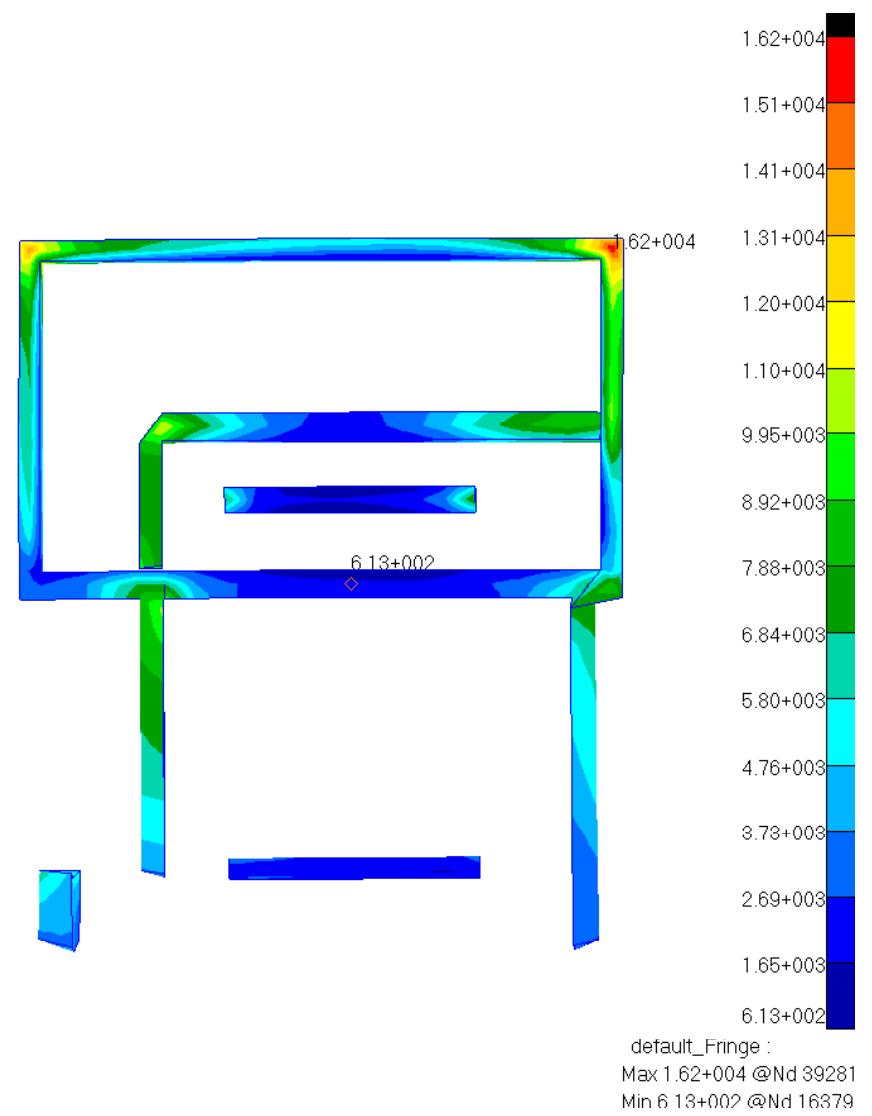
MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 16-Mar-12 15:22:36

Fringe: RUN6-Loads, A7:Non-linear: 100. % of Load, Strain Tensor, . . .



MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 16-Mar-12 15:17:01

Fringe: RUN6-Loads, A7:Non-linear: 100. % of Load, Stress Tensor, , von Mises

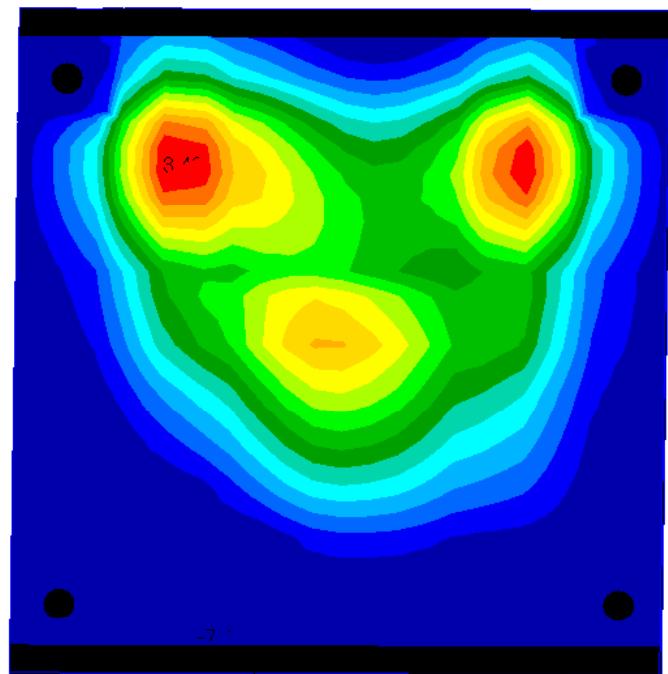


## RUN #6 - Results

MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 16-Mar-12 15:37:23

Fringe: RUN6-Loads, A7:Non-linear: 100. % of Load, Gap Results, f

; Force, X Component, At Center



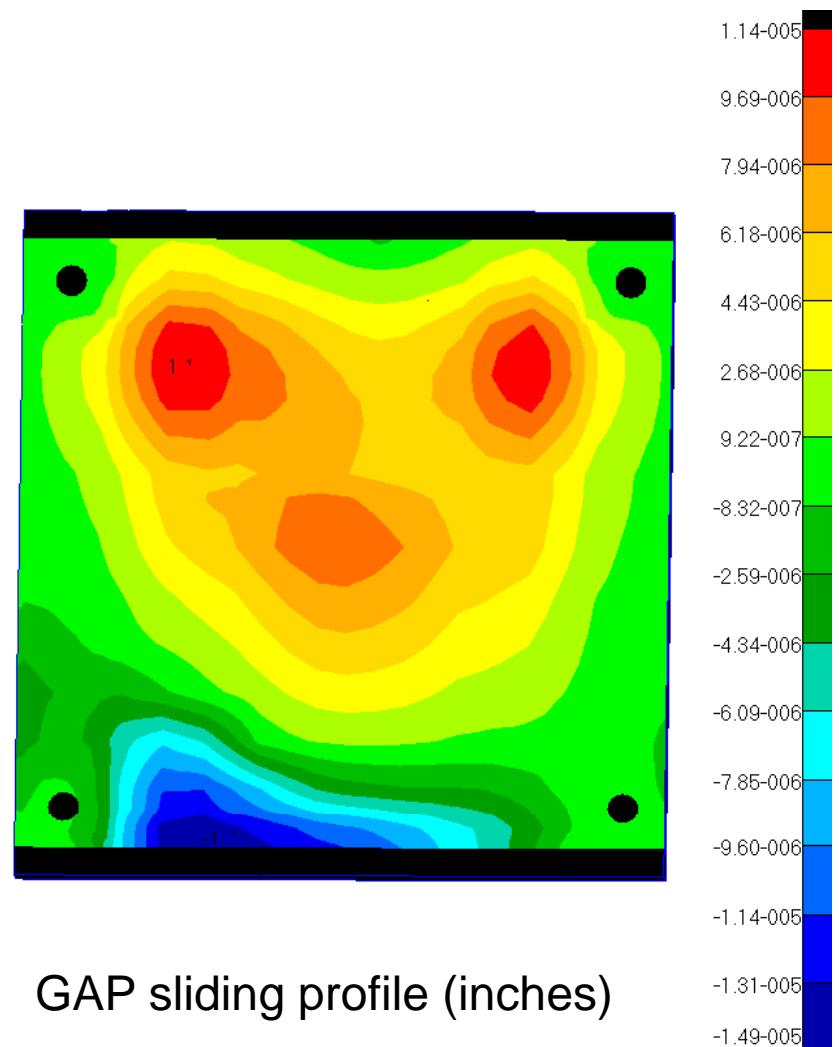
Force distribution  
Through GAPs (lbs)

default\_Fringe :  
Max 3.43e+02 @Nd 128121  
Min -7.43e-03 @Nd 128752

MSC FEA 2010.1.2 64-Bit 16-Mar-12 15:28:41

Fringe: RUN6-Loads, A7:Non-linear: 100. % of Load, Gap Results,

; Displacement, X Component, At Center



GAP sliding profile (inches)

default\_Fringe :  
Max 1.14e-05 @Nd 128121  
Min -1.49e-05 @Nd 128752

## Complete Summary explanation for all Runs

From the examinations of the six different FEA simulations presented by the above slides, the following evaluation can be stated:

- Basic FEA geometry simulations (nodal points, elements), for all runs, are the identical.
- The differences are in the applications of the model support/boundary conditions ( SPCs) and their locations for each specific run. This was implemented in order to fully investigate the worst possible magnitude and locations of stresses and strains in the critical areas (especially the welded locations between the VV and the support structure).
- Runs #1, #2 and #3 are fully linear (the sliding effects were not considered). GAPs were replaced with RBE2 rigid elements. Runs #4, #5, #6 are non linear (NASTRAN Solution 106) where GAPs were fully utilized to evaluate the contributions due to the VV-Chair sliding effects. For these runs, GAP element contours are included to evaluate the correctness of the load transmission at the sliding surface (see the appropriate slides).
- Runs #1 and #2 were included here only for model verification and to demonstrate the effects of some extreme boundary support conditions which are used to improve the total model simulations.

In general, the following can be concluded and recommended for minimizing stresses and strains:  
For Run #1 under the most severe boundary conditions, the maximum stresses in the weld locations are equal to 15,300. psi. For Run #2 (less severe boundary condition) maximum weld stress decrease to 10,200. psi. From these two runs, the maximum possible stresses are established for total VV dead weight effects. Inclusion of the additional static loads may change the locations as well as the stress/strain values.

### Complete Summary explanation for all Runs (cont.)

	Welds Maximum		Chair Body Maximum	
Run #	VM Stress	Strain	VM Stress	Strain
#1	15,300. psi	.0004	56,700.*	.0002
#2	10,200.	.0005	12,500.	.0005
#3	10,500.	.0003	15,500.	.000444
#4	11,100.	.00032	15,200.	.000438
#5	15,700.	.00045	21,100.	.00061
#6	16,200.	.00047	21,500.	.00062

\* This stress is high because of the conservative boundary conditions used and should be disregarded.  
(see RUN #1 results slides)

### Final conclusion - Recommendations

Stainless steel with a yield stress of 42,000 psi was used for these analyses. Comparing to the above table, all the stress and strains are well within allowable limits (with the exception of Run #1 as noted above) and provides an adequate static margin for welds and the support structure alike.

Strong recommendation is to weld corner locations carefully in order to minimize the stress concentrations there (see Slide 30). It is advised that regular inspections of these locations should be performed.

## Appendix A

All the data is saved in the following locations and it includes: the write up, analyses data base which includes all the analyses groups, input files for all completed runs (.bdf files), and the output results (.xdb files).

Folder name is “Vessel-Support-Chair-Data”

P:\public\Snap-srv\progoff

G:\Nastran P.R. - (external drive on ASALEHZ-64PC)

## NSTX-U PROJECT

Vessel-Support-Chair As-Built evaluation and comparison to the original prediction as reported in the NSTXU-CALC-12-10-00 document

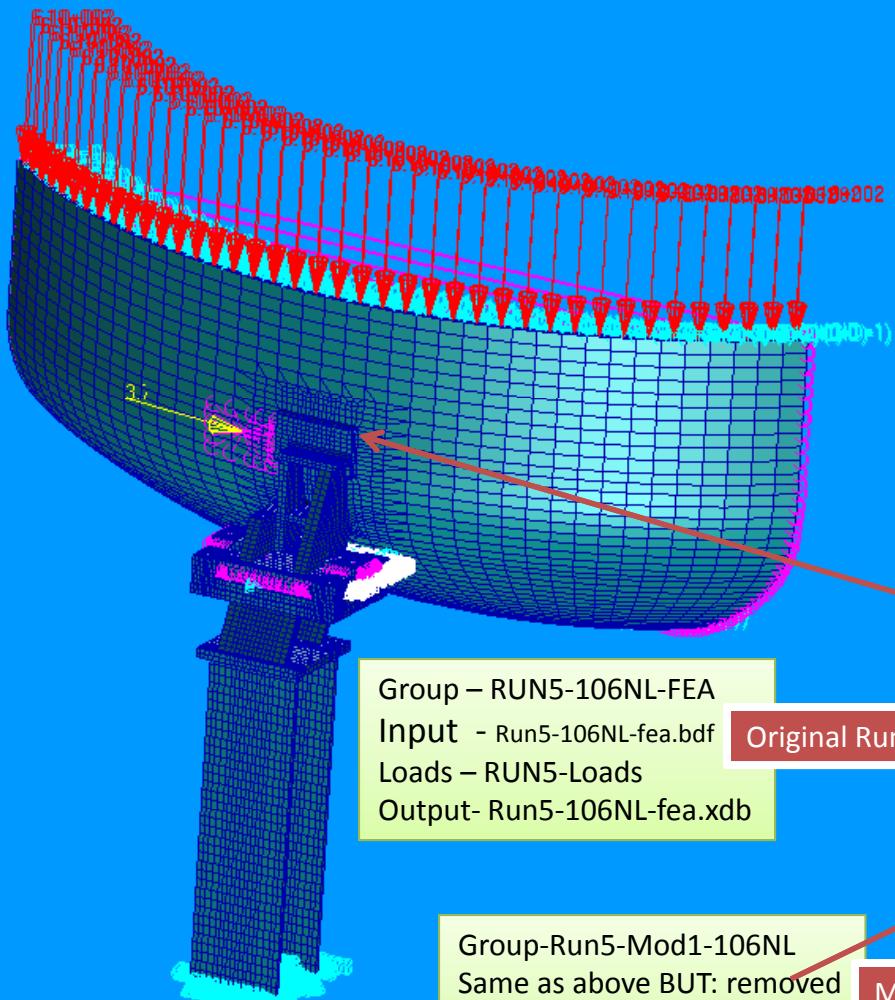
Methods of comparison:

- 1) Examination of the welds locations for the as-built configuration
- 2) Weld size increase from 3/8-inch (original) to 5/8-inch (as-built)
- 3) Removing weld elements from the upper location of the Chair-VV support plate, (see slide #6). Additional Run#5 configuration “Run5-Mod1\_106NL” ( Data stored in “Vessel-Support-Chair-Data” folder).
- 4) Examination of the as-built final pictures provided by the NSTX-U team.

Complete simulation justification

Peter Rogoff February 2013

## RUN #5 - Configurations



Group – RUN5-106NL-FEA  
Input - Run5-106NLfea.bdf      Original Run  
Loads – RUN5-Loads  
Output- Run5-106NLfea.xdb

Group-Run5-Mod1-106NL  
Same as above BUT: removed  
weld elements as illustrated      Modified Feb2013



RUN #5 is a Sol 106 (Non-Linear) run with B.C. and Load from Run #4 and additional "DUMMY" rigid body simulation for the Clevis pad which resists the 37,000. lbs shear load parallel to the VV surface. (Yellow arrow)

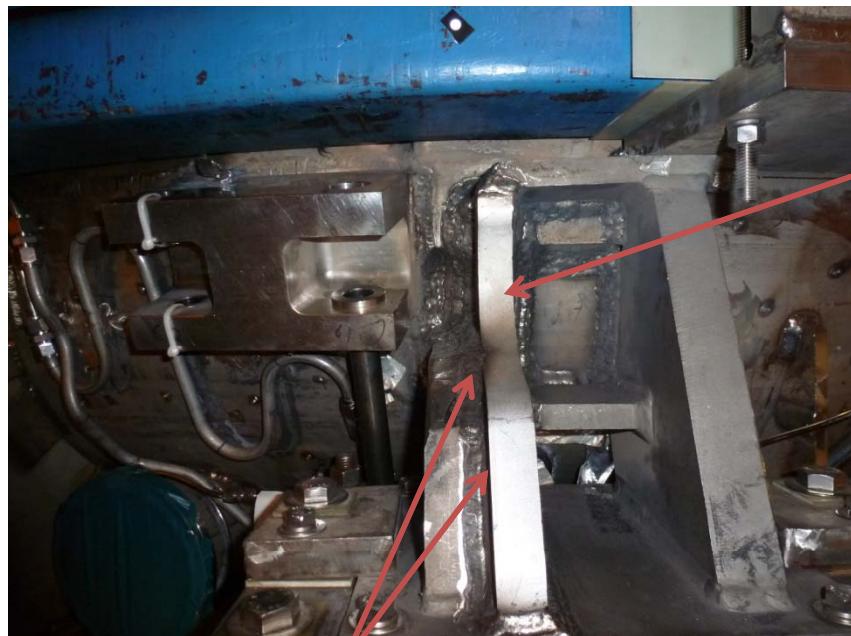
## Original simulation configuration:

Slide#4 presents the original geometry as reported in the existing document ([NSTXU-CALC-12-10-00](#)), March 2012. The weld are 3/8 inch simulation applied only at the outside of Chair-VV contact points ( original assumption - see the slide ).

## As – Built configuration:

Much stronger then the original welding FEA assumptions

Weld increased to 5/8 inch minimum and totally applied at all contacts between the chair and the VV

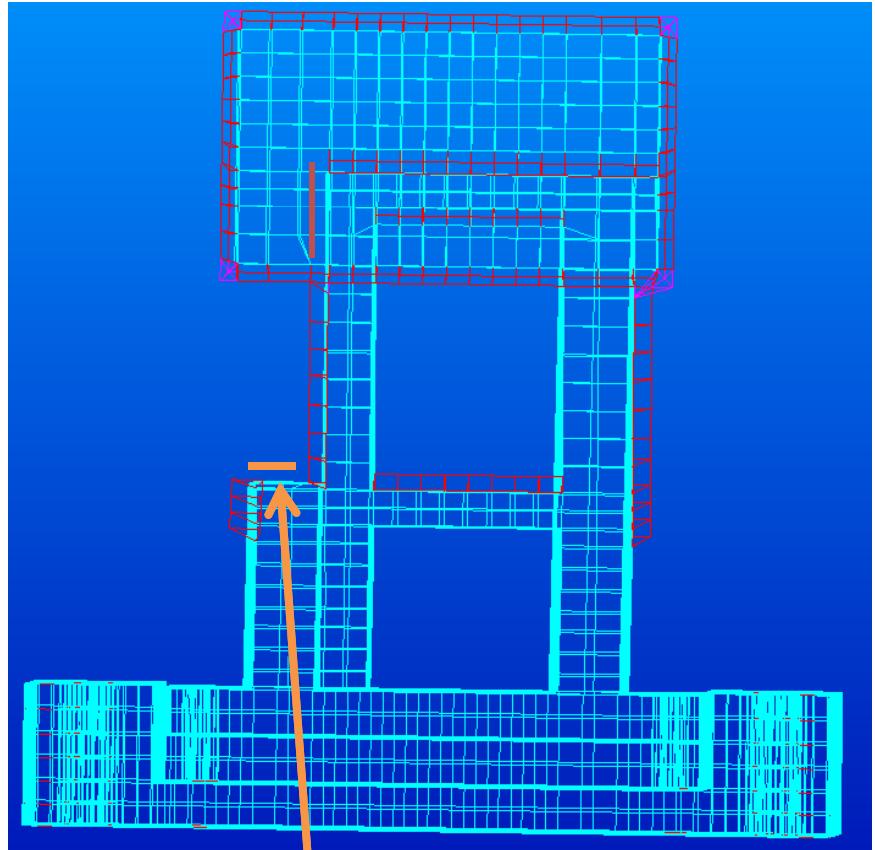


Weld between partially cut out old vertical to the new insert member

New vertical member of the redesigned VV chair

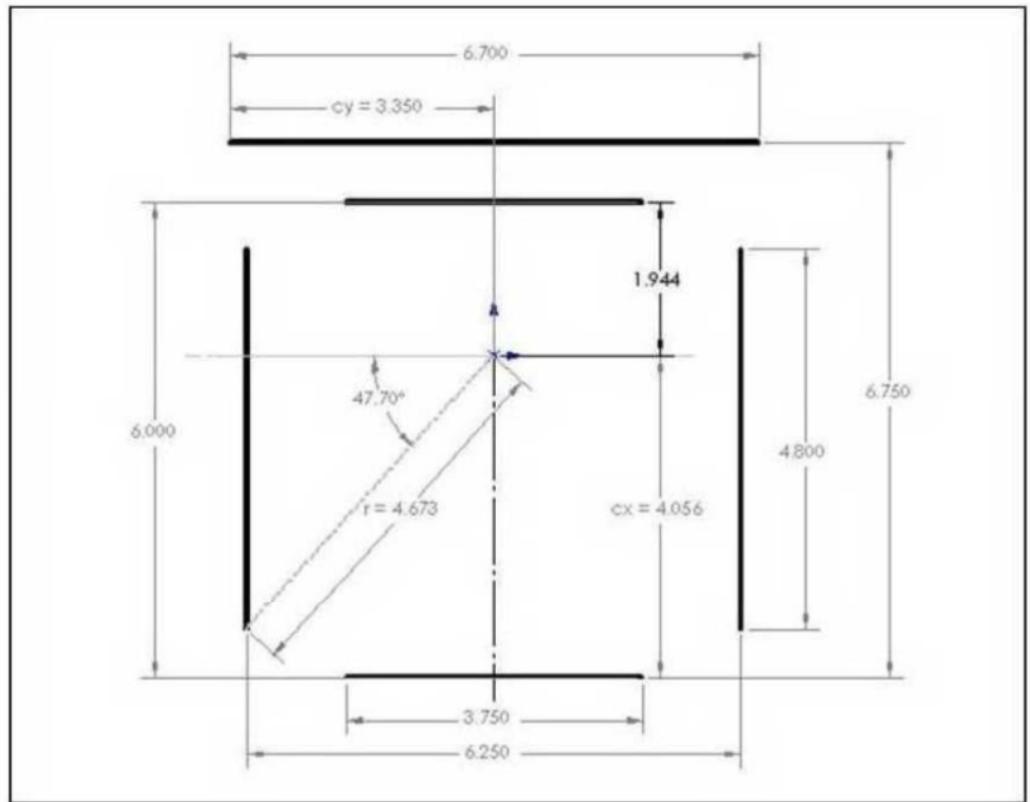


Welded inside contact areas



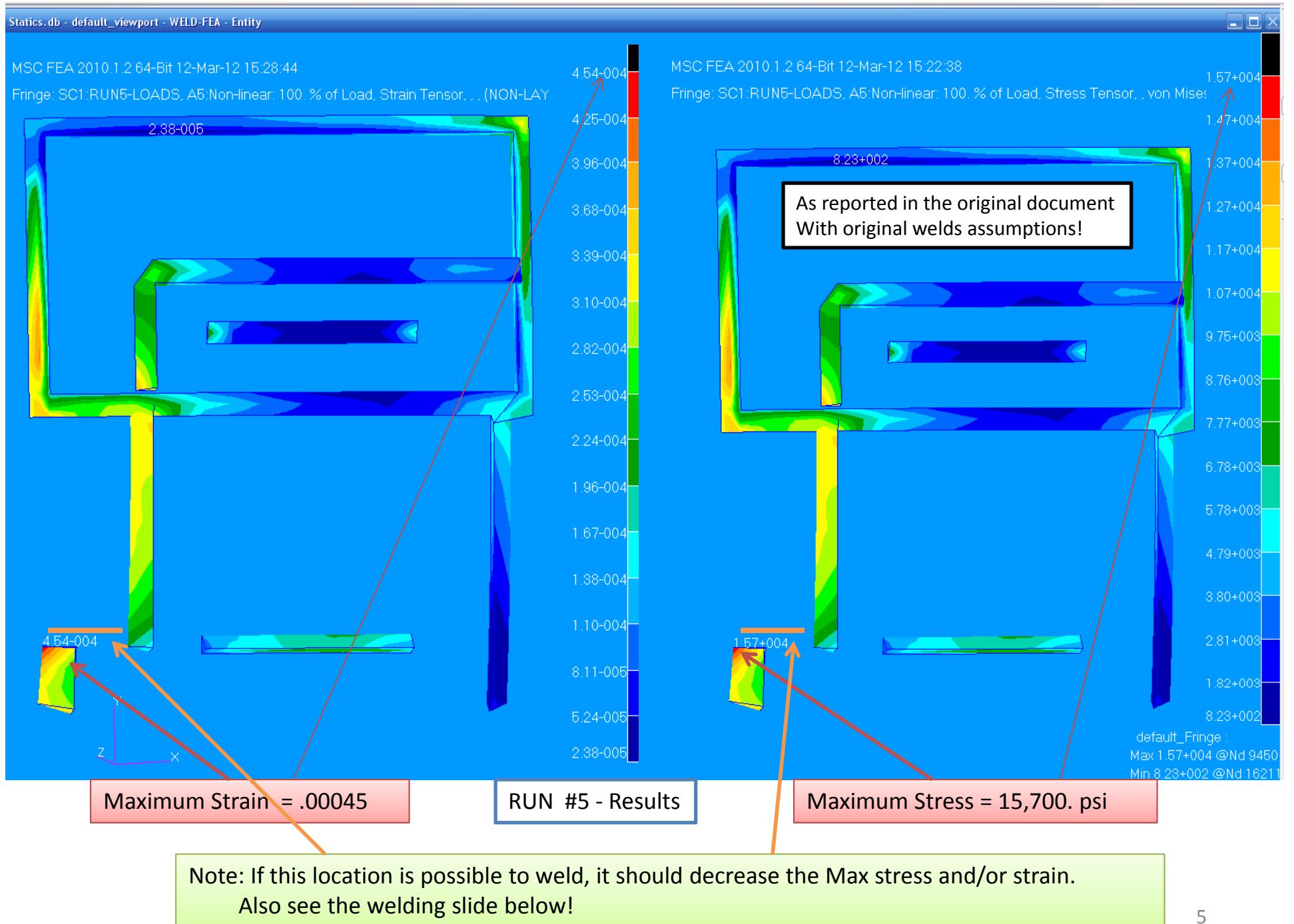
Area, Extremely desirable to weld,  
but, may not be readily accessible

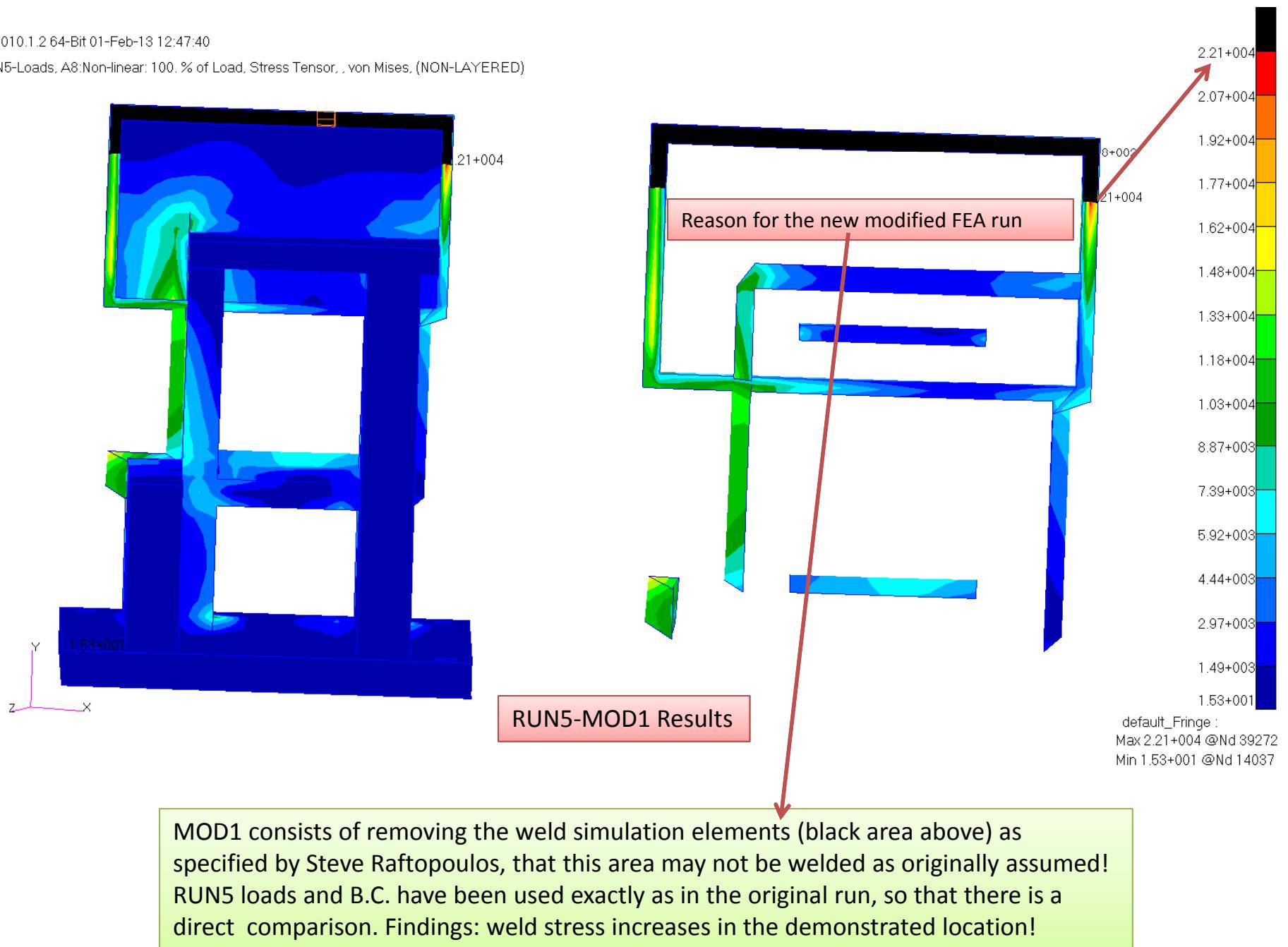
Red elements represent the actual welds



Original weld configuration – standard chair  
Note: received from M. Smith (E-mail)

Welding scenario for the redesigned VV-Chair support



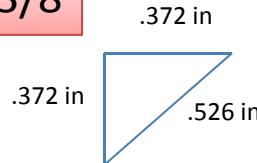


## Welds comparative calculations

Comment from M. Smith: Existing welds are 5/8 inch minimum

Original simulation weld = .526 inch (FEA diagonal)

3/8

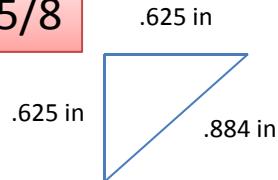


$$A1 = (.372 \times .372)/2 = .0692 \text{ in}^2$$

Calculated stress in Run5-Mod1  
is = 22,100 psi

Actual weld dimensions = .884 inch ( Increasing diagonal)

5/8



$$A2 = (.625 \times .625)/2 = .195 \text{ in}^2$$

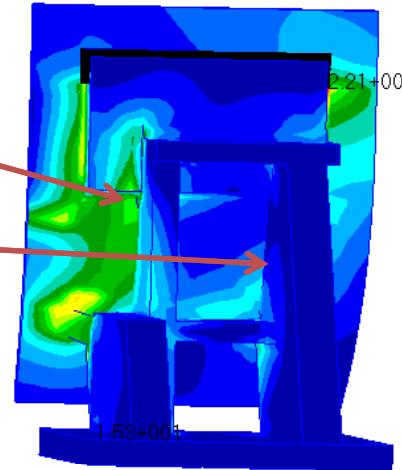
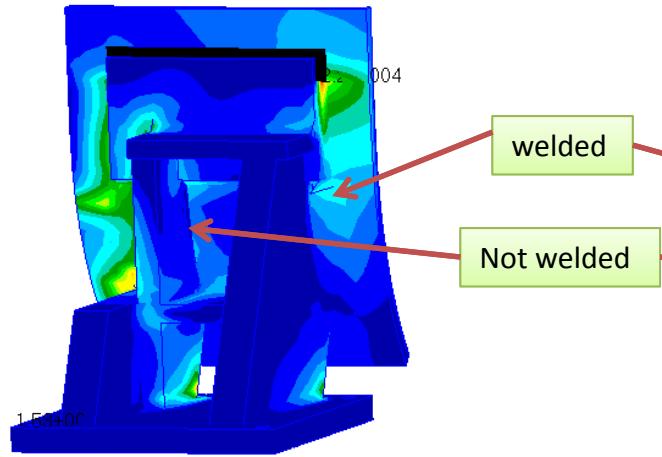
Equivalent stress based on the increase  
of the weld area, decreases accordingly

Therefore, equivalent stress =  $22,100 \text{ psi} \times (.0692 / .195) = 7,842.7 \text{ psi}$

Note: Based on the stainless steel yield (28,000 psi) and 2/3 allowable, this is okay, if there are no other changes of the VV chair structure.

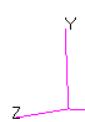
This is an ideal weld simulation as calculated by the FEA technique. The real world may be completely different. Examining some of the actual photos received from Steve Raftopoulos, some of these welds are extremely porous and full of potential stress concentration points which are impossible to simulate in FEA. It is recommended to examine these new welds and smooth them out as much as possible to eliminate the stress concentration points which may exist.

## Results from Run#5-Mod1

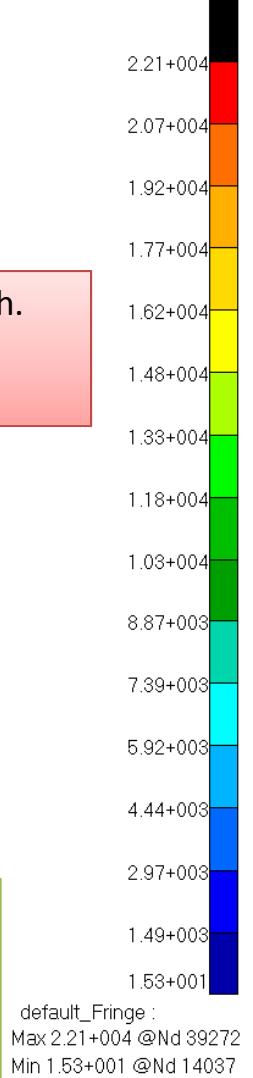


Simulation welds are = 3/8 inch.  
As-built welds are = 5/8 inch.

Welds connectivity in the original “Run#5” and “Run5- Mod1” non-linear FEA simulation, (Contour visual check).



Based on the two Run#5 FEA simulations, Run#5-Mod1 predicts the highest welds stresses as indicated above. This clearly changes and increases the weld stress profile when compared to the completely welded VV-plate-chair support as was simulated in the “original” calculation. However, since the “as-built” welds are increased to 5/8 inch and included at all VV Chair contact edges, the as-built stresses decrease even more.



## Conclusions

Based on the discussed two Nastran FEA simulations and the visual inspection of the as-built pictures, the general conclusion of the investigation, is that this modification is completely adequate to effectively support the total VV through the 5/8 inch welds as presented in the enclosed pictures and slides.

This investigation demonstrates that creating (changing) new FEA weld geometry was completely unnecessary and probably would have demonstrated the same conclusion. However, if it becomes necessary, the Run#5-Mod1 simulation can be adjusted accordingly.

## Appendix

Simulation data for the additional Run#5-Mod1 is stored at the following locations and folder: “Vessel-Support\_Chair-Data”

This includes the additional (.bdf and .xdb files). Simply added to the original calculations as reported by the “XSTXU-CALC-12-10-00”.

See: P:\public\Snap-svr\progoff

G:\Nastran P.R. – on ASALEHZ-64PC