



**AACHEN CENTER
FOR ADDITIVE
MANUFACTURING**



**RWTHAACHEN
UNIVERSITY**



Algorithmic Design for Additive Manufacturing

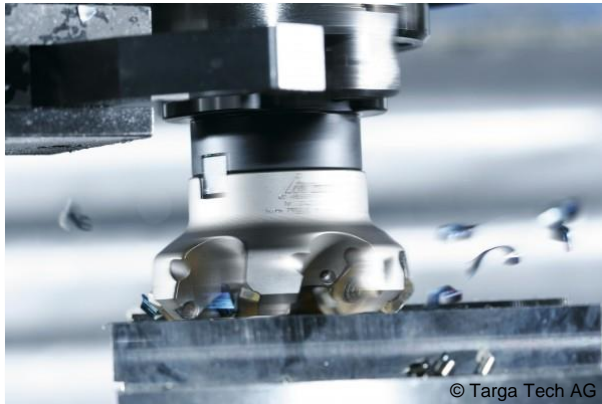
[Joana Schulte](#), Omid Zarei | 27.09.2022

Introduction

Subdivision of Manufacturing Processes



Subtractive Manufacturing



Manufacturing of geometry by removing of defined areas from wrought material

- Milling
- Lathing
- ...

Formative Manufacturing



Forming a given volume into geometry under the condition of volume constancy

- Casting
- Forging
- ...

Additive Manufacturing



Automated stacking of volume elements (layers)

- L-PBF
- LMD
- ...

Introduction to Additive Manufacturing (AM)

Definitions

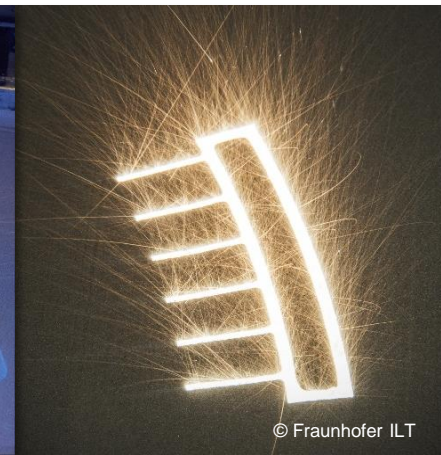
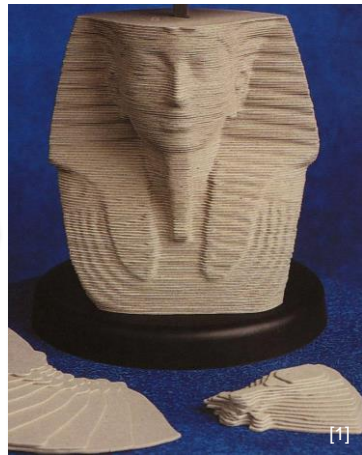


Definition (ASTM 52900)

“Additive Manufacturing (AM) is defined as the process of joining materials to make objects from 3D model data, usually layer upon layer, as opposed to subtractive manufacturing methodologies.”

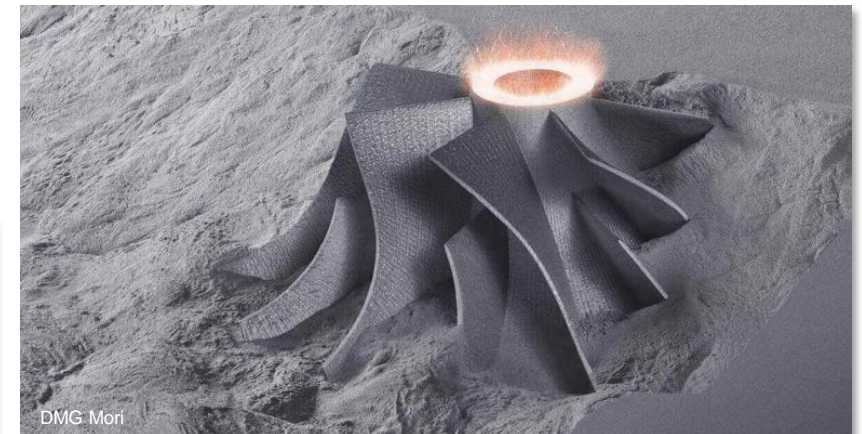
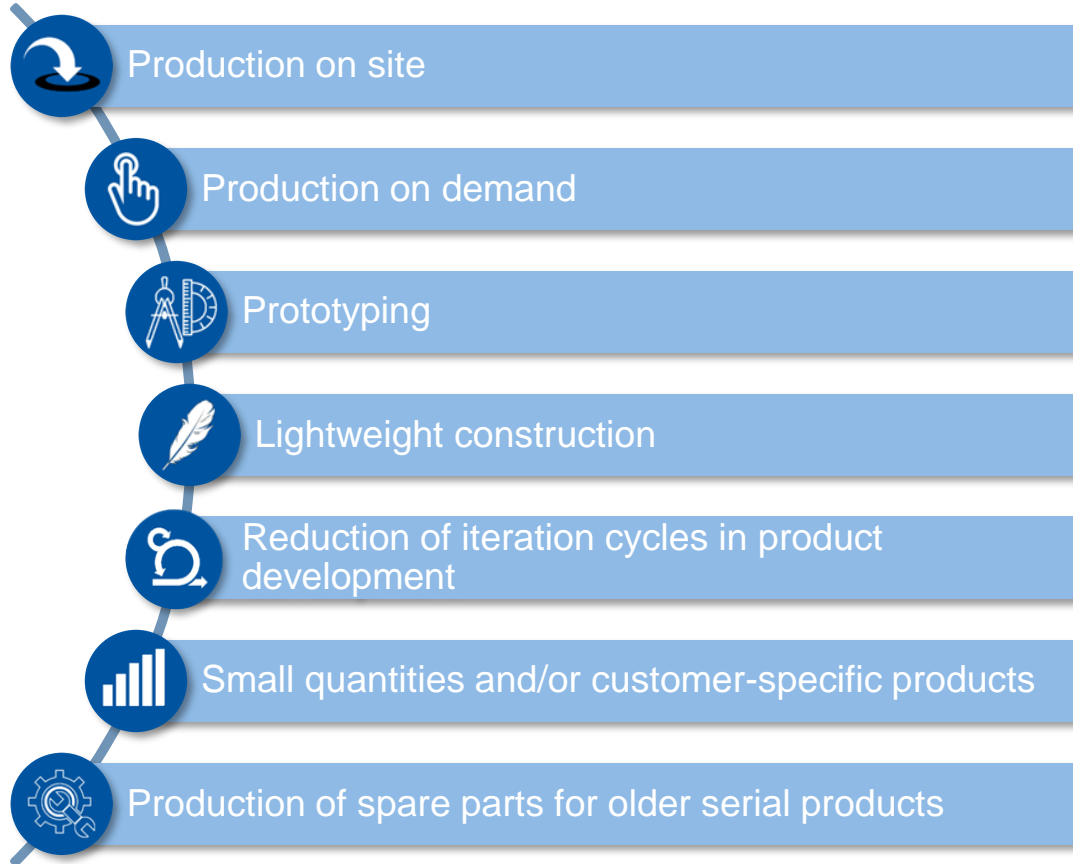
Definition (VDI 3405)

“Manufacturing process in which the workpiece is built up element by element or layer by layer.”



Introduction to AM

Typical Areas of Application



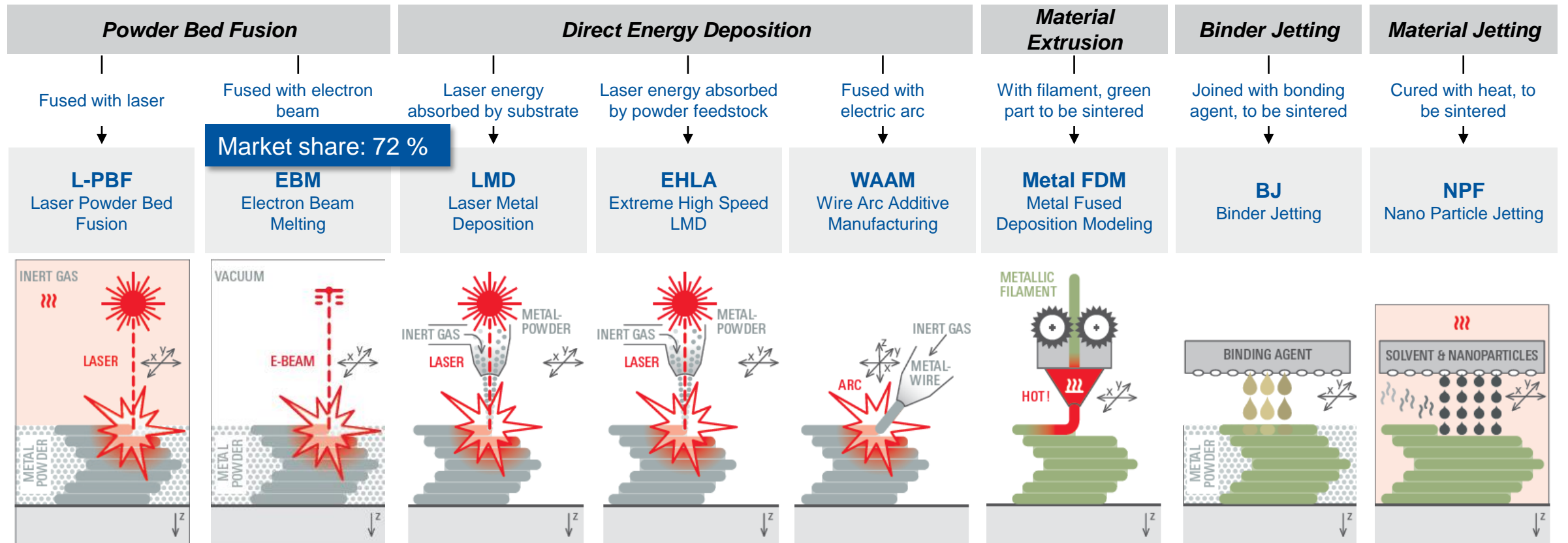
Source: Adapted from University Duisburg-Essen

Introduction to AM

Established Metal AM Technologies



Metal Additive Manufacturing



Market share: 72 %

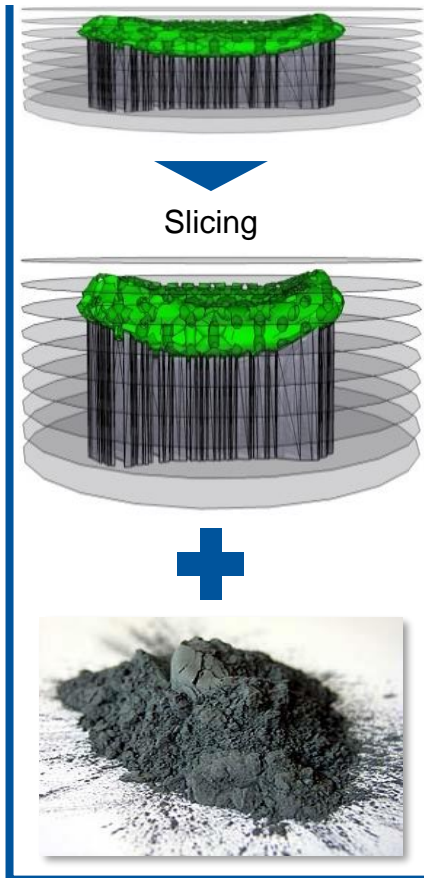
Source: Derived from Formnext AM Field Guide Compact and DIN EN ISO/ASTM Terminology

Introduction to AM

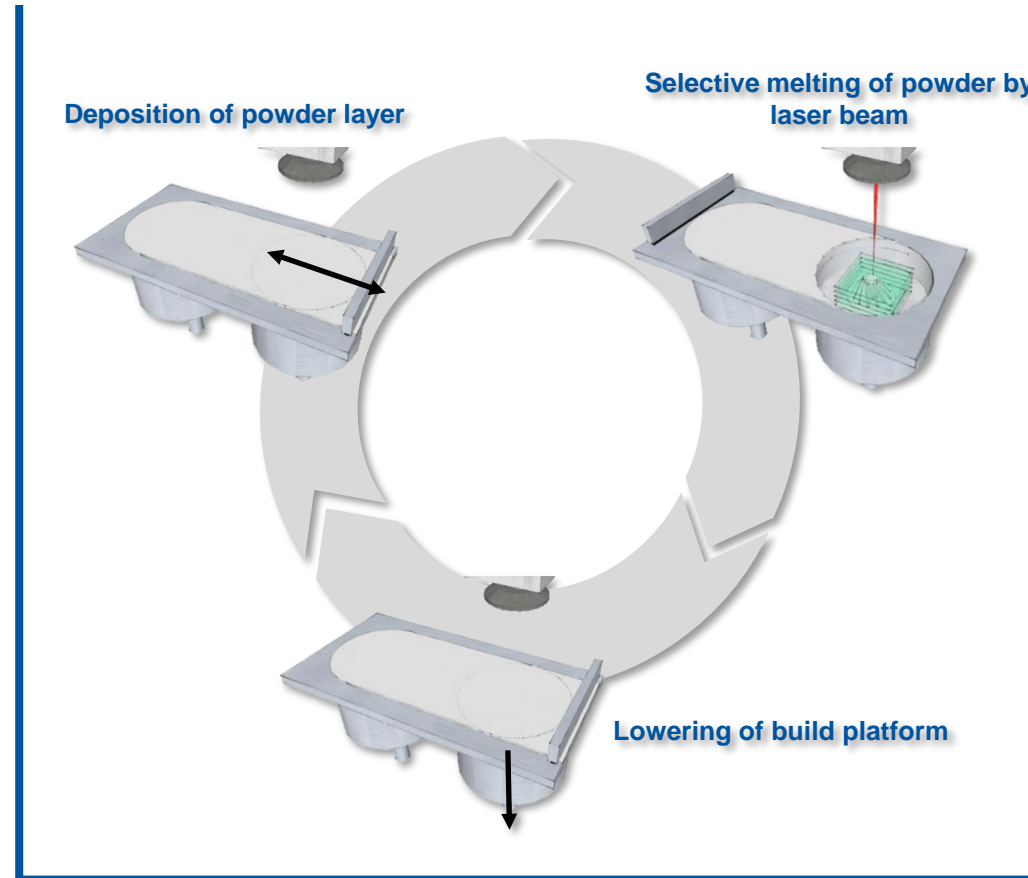
Laser Powder Bed Fusion



Pre-Process



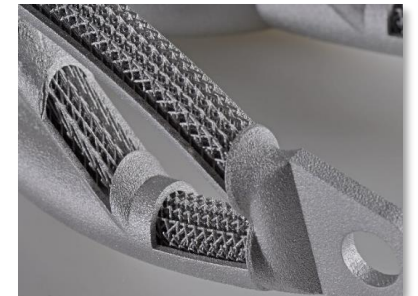
In-Process



Post-Process



Depowdering & removal from substrate



Final part with ultra-complex geometrical features

Introduction to AM

Key Characteristics



Additive



Geometry is generated by adding material instead of removing or forming

Toolless



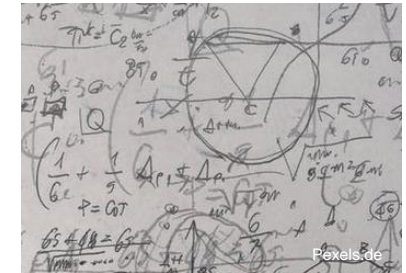
Component geometry is independent from tools during building process

Digital



Direct manufacturing based on 3D models

Complex



Different technologies require specific expert knowledge



Introduction to AM

Benefits and Barriers



AM Benefits

- **Design freedom:** Complex features, lightweight, monolithic
- **Flexible design** iterations and engineering changes
- **Integration of functions**
- **Tool-less** production
- Economic **small quantities** and **individualization**
- **Short time** and efficiency **idea to product**
- **Short supply chain**
- **Sustainability** by material reduction or efficiency in performance

AM Barriers

- **Long printing times**
- **Almost no economies of scale**
- **Low surface quality** as-built
- **Large geometrical tolerances** as-built
- **Limited component size**



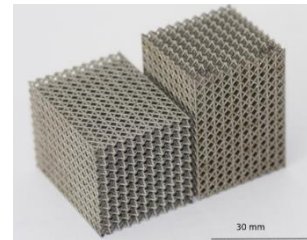
Design for LPBF

Design Restrictions

Potential

Downskin-Winkel		Stützstrukturen sind oberhalb des kritischen Downskin-Winkels notwendig. Je kleiner die Schichtdicke, desto kleinere Downskin-Winkel sind abbildbar. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • $\alpha_{crit} = 45^\circ$ • $\alpha_{crit} = 40^\circ$ • $\alpha_{crit} = 30^\circ$ • $\alpha_{crit} = 30^\circ$ [Cruc15, Thonn09]
Stützstrukturen		Vermeidung von Stützstrukturen durch Einhalten der selbsttragenden Überhangweite. Oder durch Einhalten des kritischen Tangentenwinkels, z. B. durch gezieltes Gestalten von Übergängen.
Zugänglichkeit		Zugänglichkeit zum Entfernen von Stützstrukturen vorsehen. Das Stützmaterial kann im Bauteil verbleiben, wenn die Bauteilfunktion nicht eingeschränkt wird.
Löcher		Überschreiten des kritischen Downskin-Winkels an der Bohrungsdecke führt zu Verzug dieser in Baureichung. Ausformen des Bohrungslaches oder Aufmaß in mechanischen Nachbearbeitung. [2]

Lattice Structures



Topology Optimization



Monolithic Design



Function Integration

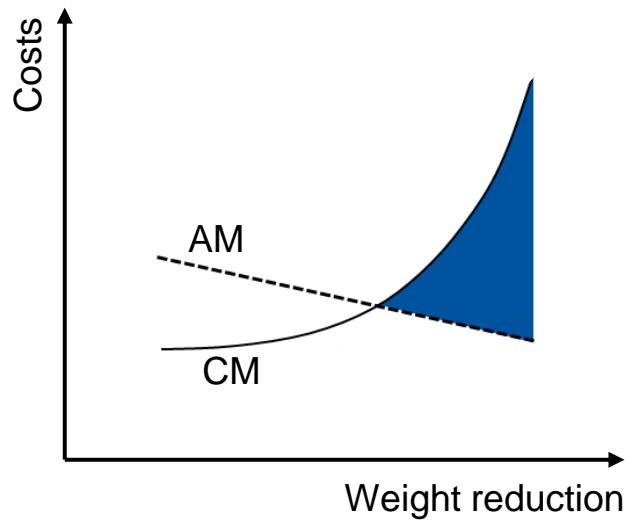


Design for AM

Different Cost Structure of Conventional Manufacturing (CM) and AM

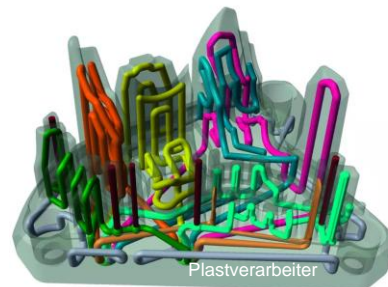
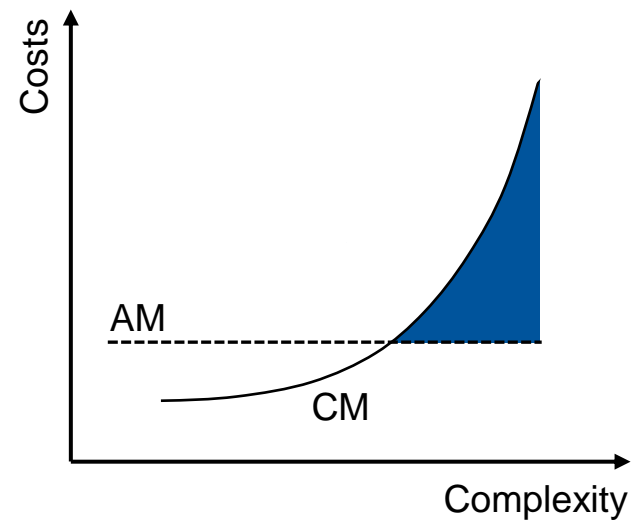


Weight reduction means cost reduction



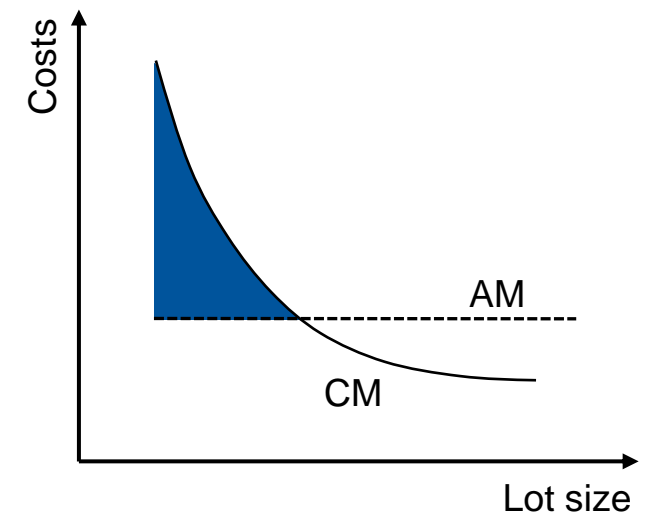
BMW Group

Complexity for free



Plastverarbeiter

Individualization for free



EOS

Design for AM

Potentials – Lattice Structures



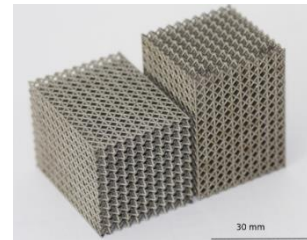
Design for LPBF

Design Restrictions

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Lattice Structures



Topology Optimization



Monolithic Design



Function Integration



Design for AM

Potentials – Lattice Structures



Lightweight Structures

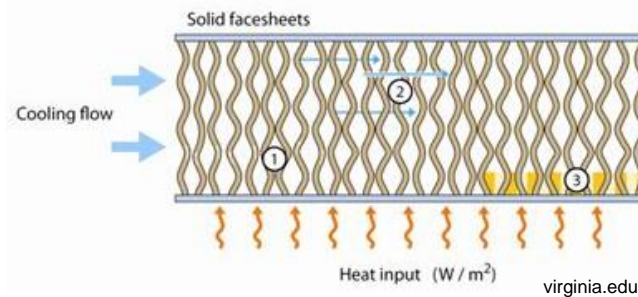
- Material reduction
- Increasing the strength to weight ratio



e.GO

Heat conduction mechanisms in lattices

- Convection between struts and fluid
- Heat conduction through lattice structures



Thermal Insulation

- Filigree lattice structures can restrict convection
- Gas can get trapped in lattice cells
- Low gas velocity



Design for AM

Potentials – Topology Optimization



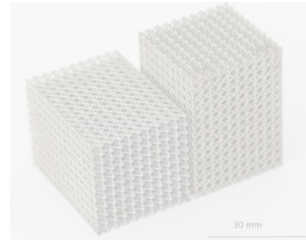
Design for LPBF

Design Restrictions

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Lattice Structures



Topology Optimization



Monolithic Design



Function Integration

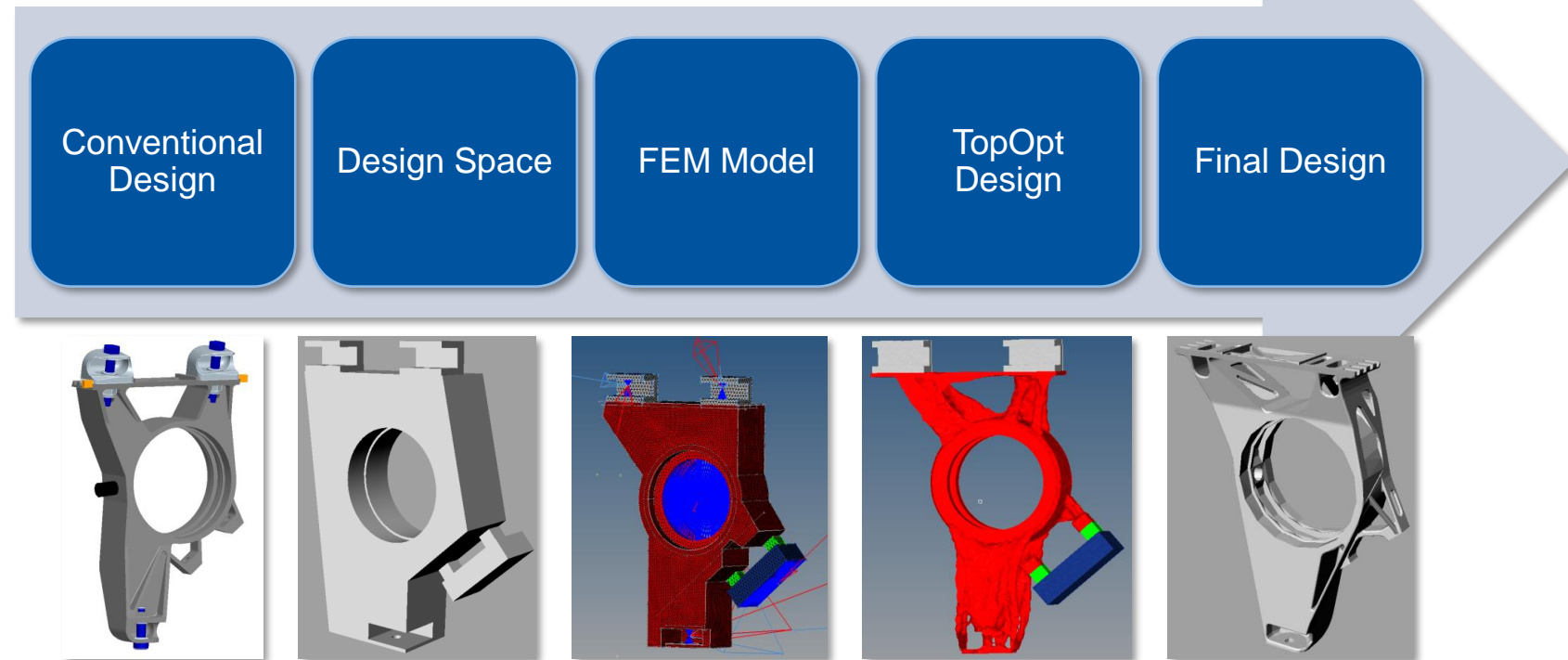


Design for AM

Potentials – Topology Optimization



- Material and weight efficiency by finding the optimal material distribution within a part
 - Optimization criteria, e.g.
 - Maximizing stiffness
 - Objective, e.g.
 - Defined volume / mass reduction



Source: Fraunhofer ILT

Design for AM

Potentials – Monolithic and Function Integration



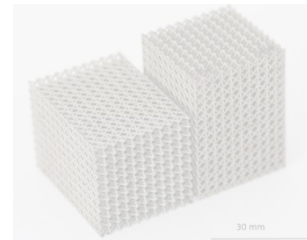
Design for LPBF

Design Restrictions

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Lattice Structures



Topology Optimization



Monolithic Design



Function Integration



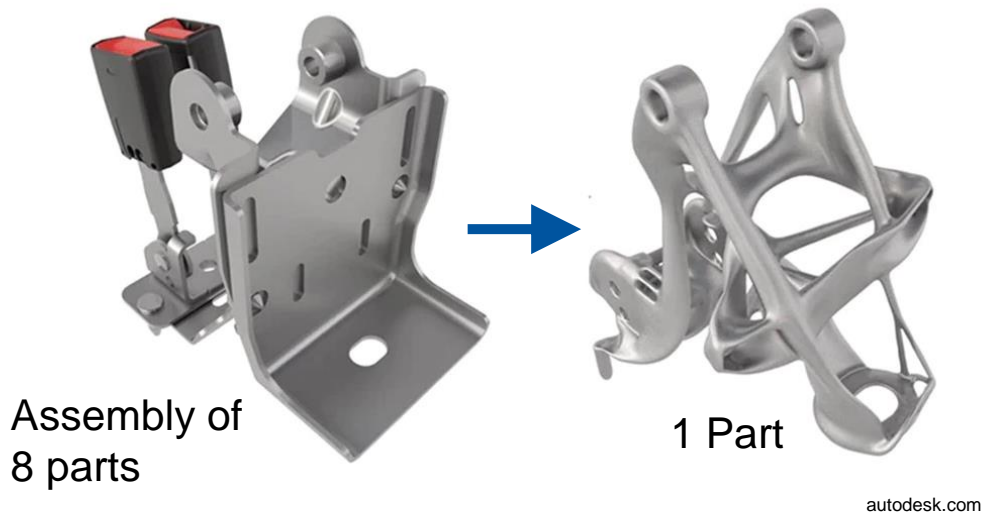
Design for AM

Potentials – Monolithic Design and Function Integration



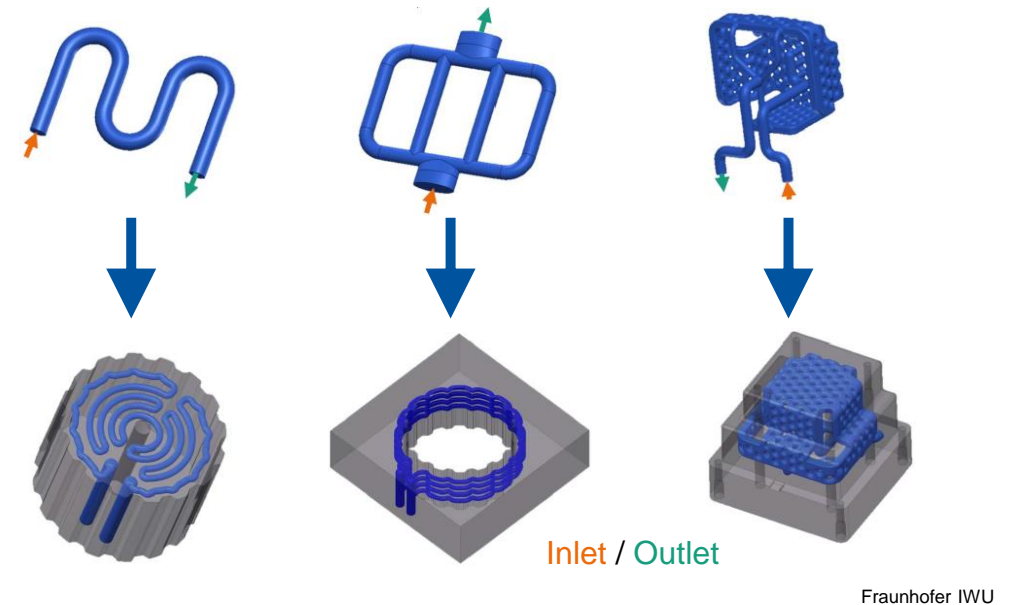
GM Seat Bracket

- Lightweight engineering for the automotive industry
- Part number reduction: 8 parts → 1 part
- 40% weight reduction



Integrated Cooling

- Internal cooling channels for improved cooling efficiency
- Conformal cooling channels can be arranged in series, in parallel and net shape configuration





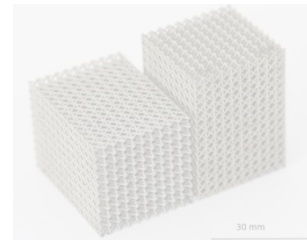
Design for LPBF

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Lattice Structures



Topology Optimization



Monolithic Design



Function Integration



Design for AM

Challenges



Myth

...gestalten, die man weder gießen noch schmieden
 ...ansonsten bestenfalls aufwändig aus einem vollen Materialblock gefräst werden
 müssten. Vorteile des 3D-Verfahrens sind neben den **uneingeschränkten Gestaltungsmöglichkeiten** („Geometriefreiheit“) die extreme Leichtigkeit bei gleichzeitig enormer Stabilität.

Source: waz.de

...great time to get into 3D printing because this time, I think, ...

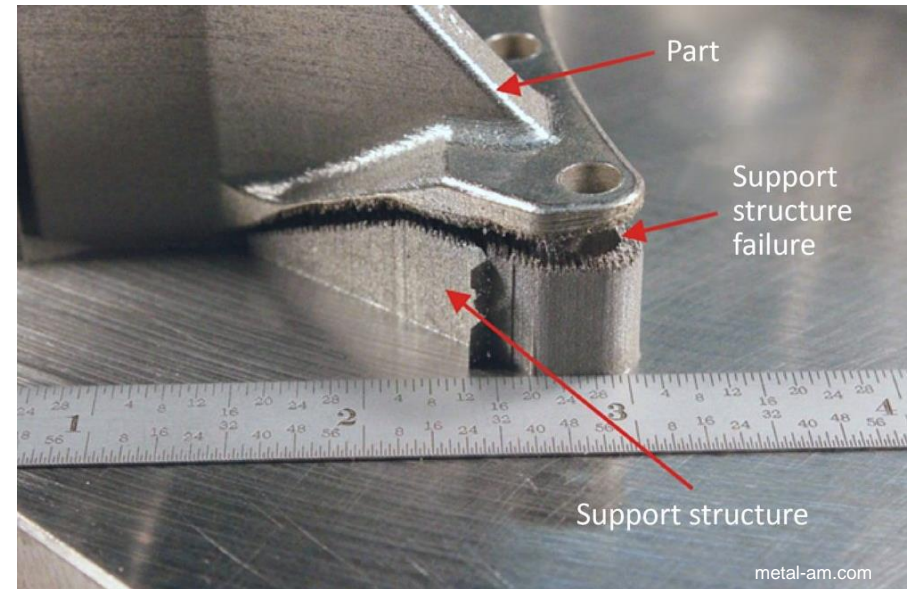
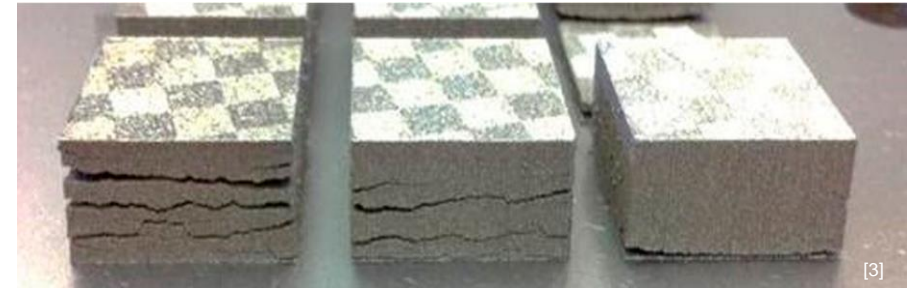
With 3D printing, you have **unlimited design freedom** and can make features impossible because you can change the physical part as quickly as you can

...sneaking, we can now design for freedom ...
 Source: mddionline.com

...12, 2015 - 3D Systems (NYSE:DDD) announced today its latest ...
 ...ity is Free," an in-depth look at how 3DS' advanced metal 3D
 ...turers to leverage the **unlimited complexity** afforded by 3D printing to
 ...ction of structural components. Through a series of real-world
 ...
 ...defines the limit"
 Source: 3dsystems.com

...in a CNC mill, or poured into a mold. But because 3D
 printing allows for virtually **unlimited complexity** it is
 ...actually quite cost effective to use additive
 Source: 3dprint.com

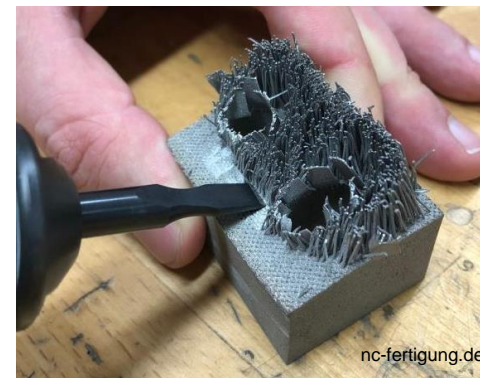
Reality



Design for AM

Design Rules and Restrictions for AM

- Design restrictions exist for all **conventional** processes to enable engineers to design parts that can be manufactured
- Design rules need to be implemented to enable manufacturing suitable designs
 - Accessibility for tools used for post-processing
 - Depowdering
 - Overhang angle
 - Gap sizes
 - Wall thickness
 - Geometry deviation
 - ...
- **The part design is always a trade-off between the functionality of the part and the possibility for (economic) manufacturing**

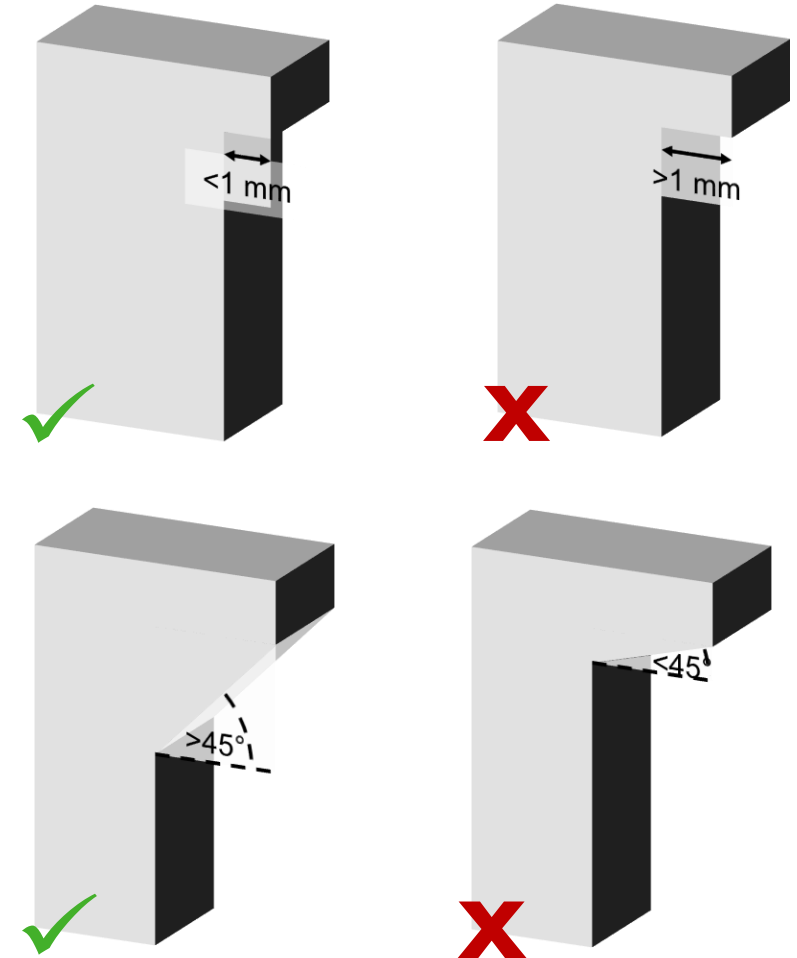
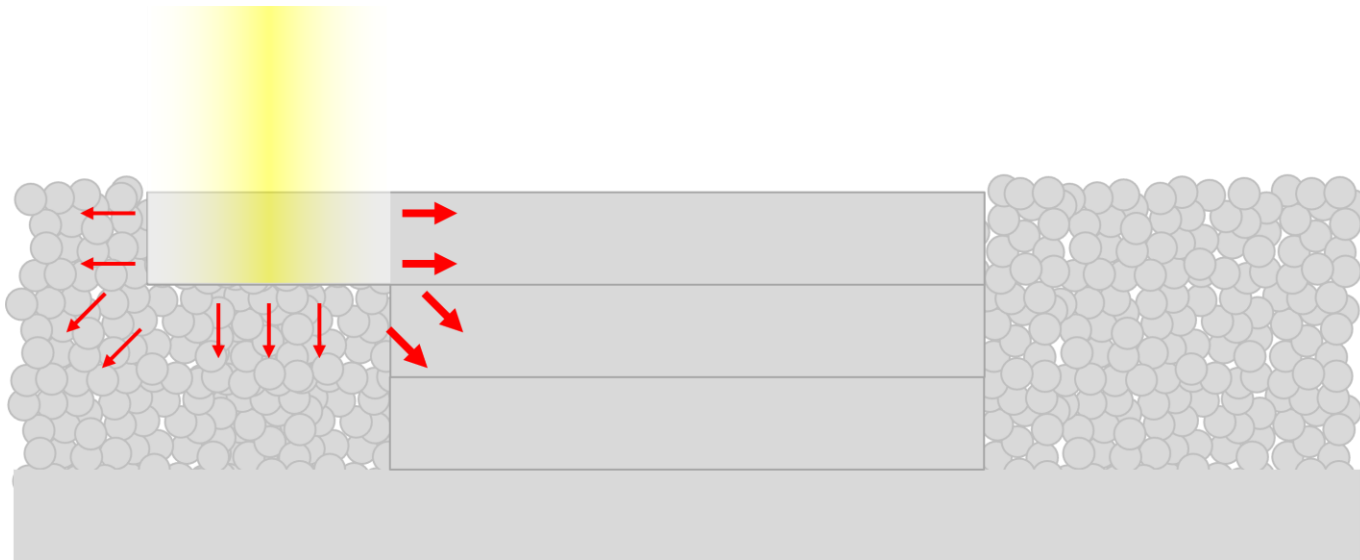


Design for AM

Design Restrictions – Overhanging Surfaces



- Limited structural support of underlying powder
- Limited heat conductivity of surrounding powder to dissipate process heat



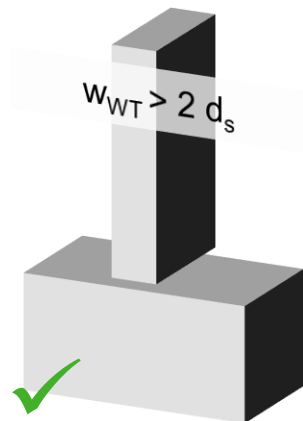
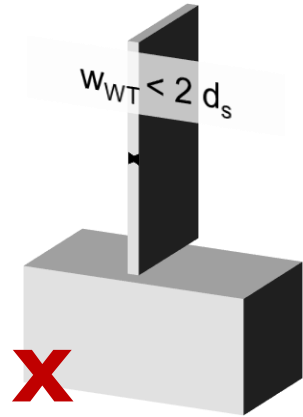
Overhanging surfaces can only be manufactured to a limited extent / limited surface inclination angle

Design for AM

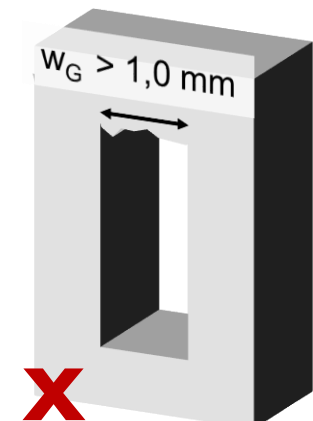
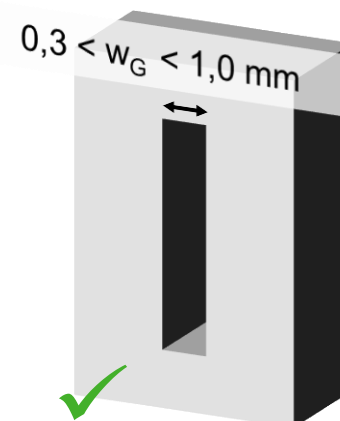
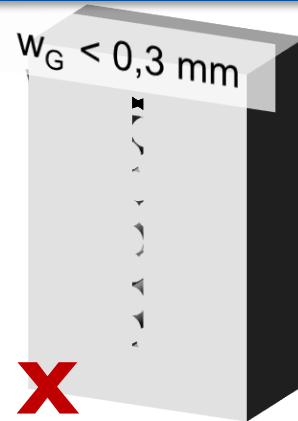
Design Restrictions – Feature Sizes



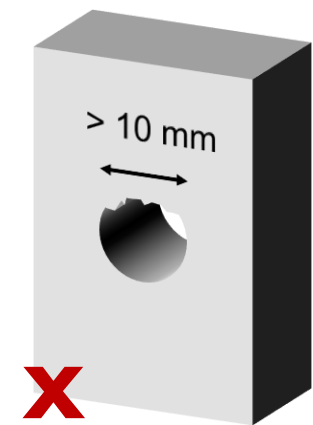
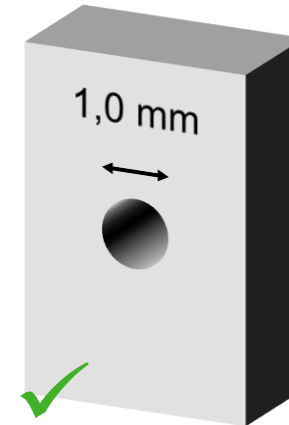
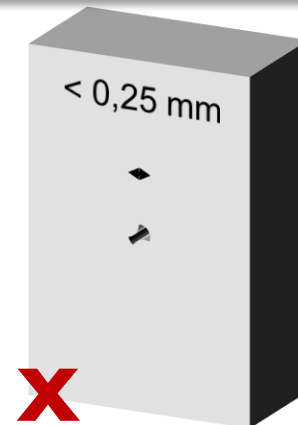
Minimum wall thickness



Gap size

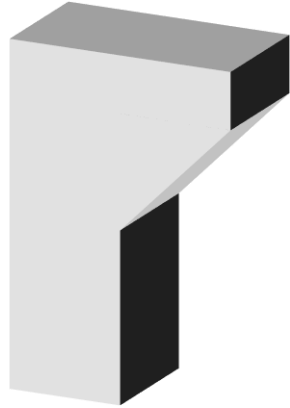
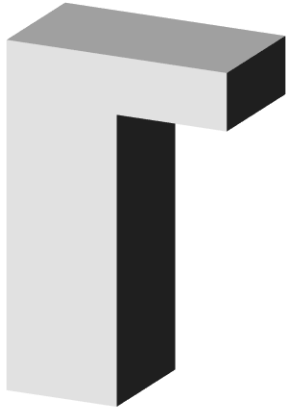


Drill hole diameter

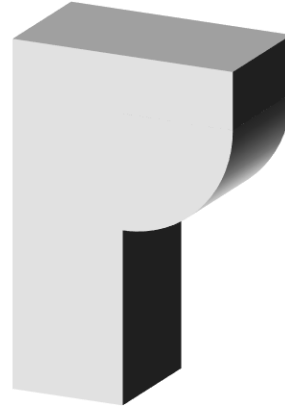


Design for AM

Overcoming Processability Restrictions – Overhanging Surfaces and Drill Holes



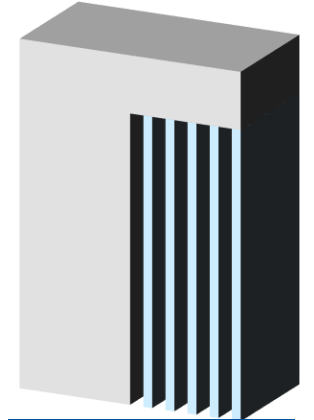
Chamfer



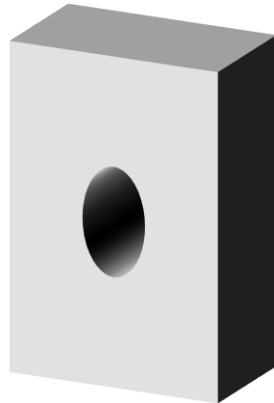
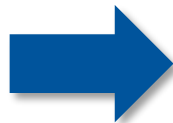
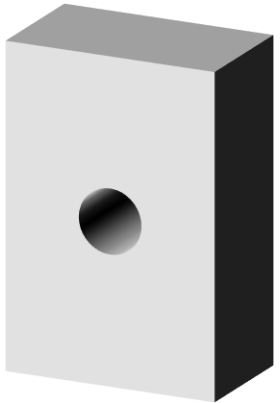
Fillet



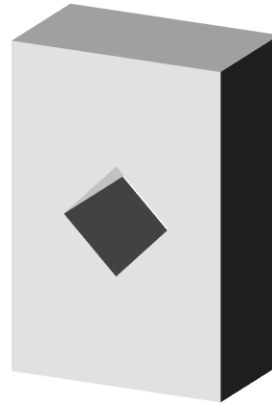
Curvature



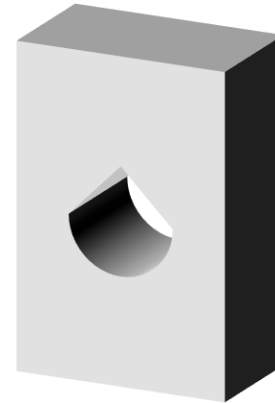
Support Structures



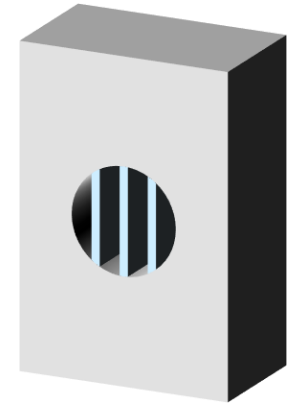
Ellipsis



Diamond



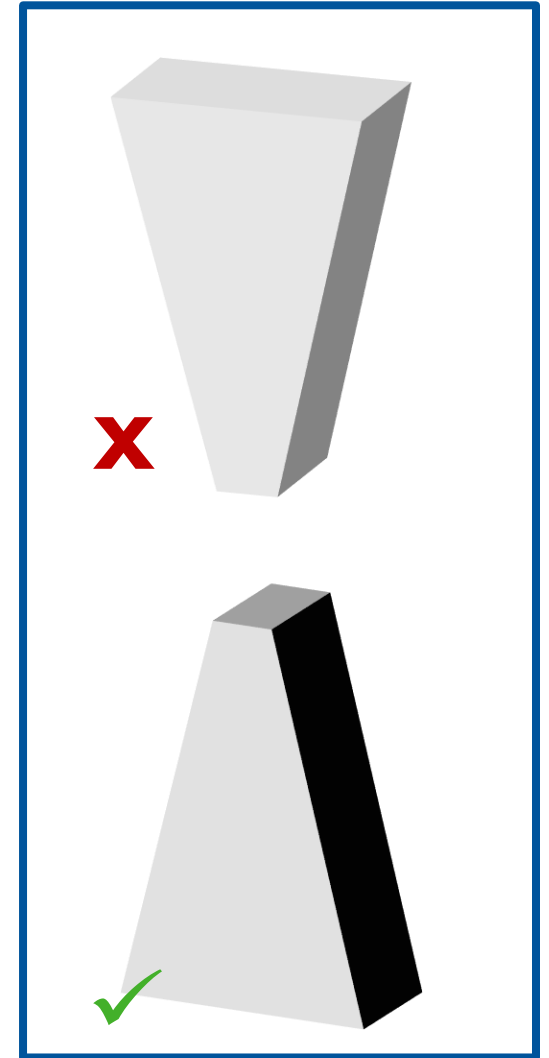
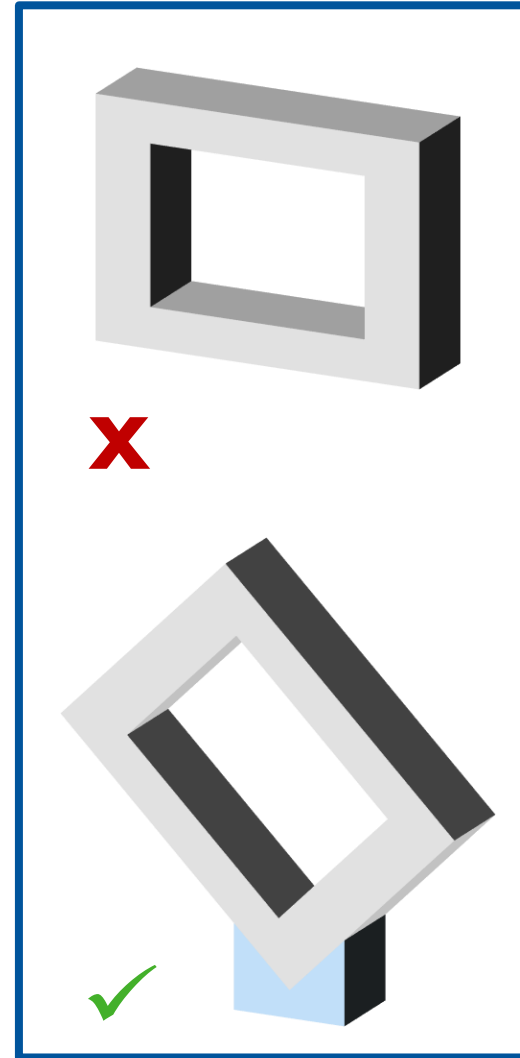
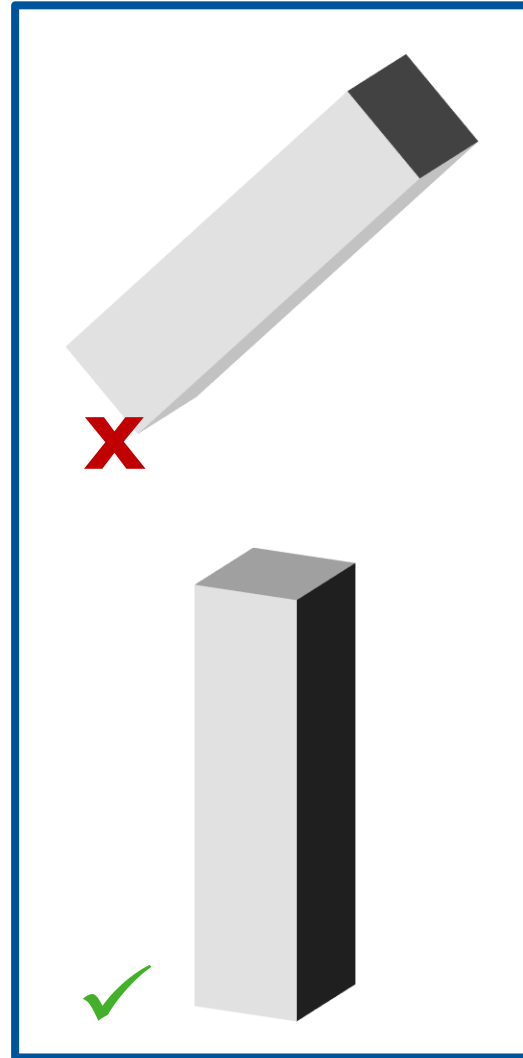
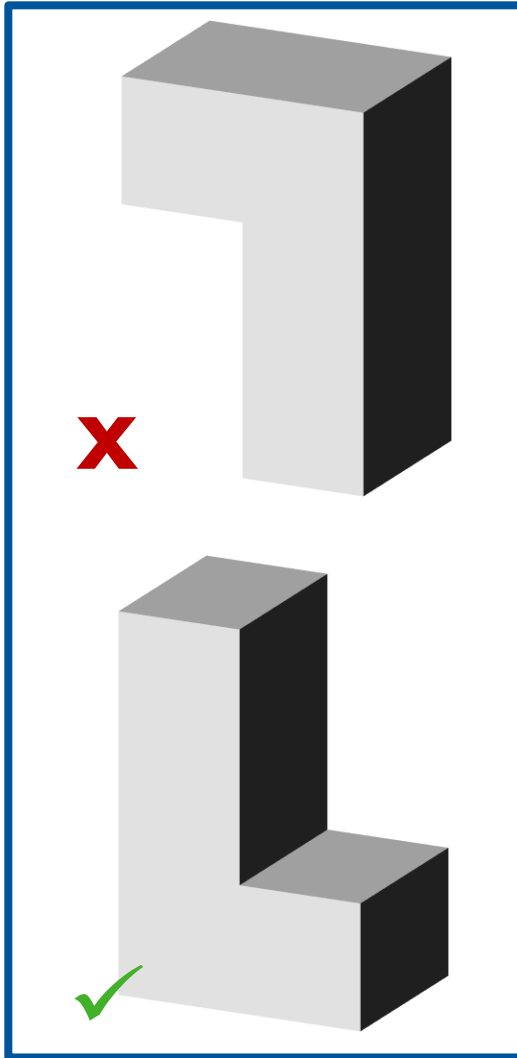
Drop



Support Structures

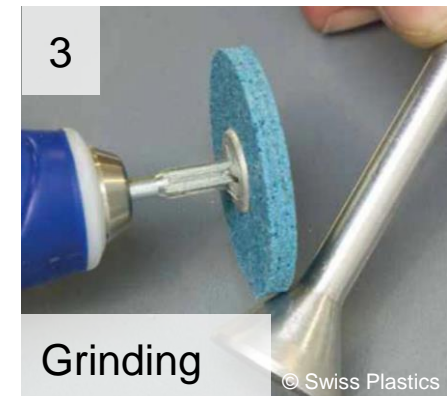
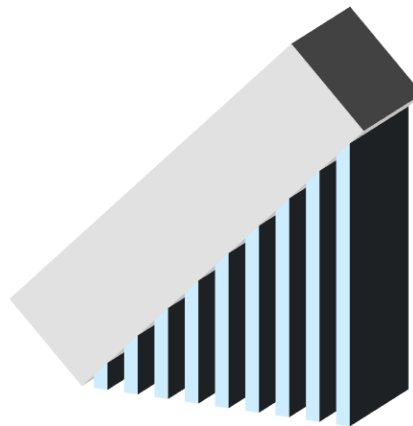
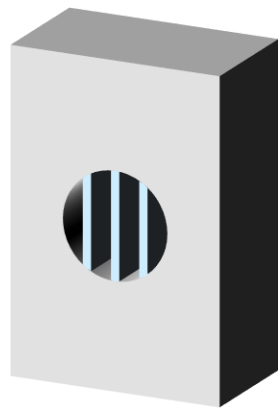
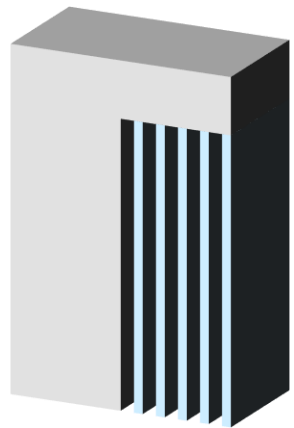
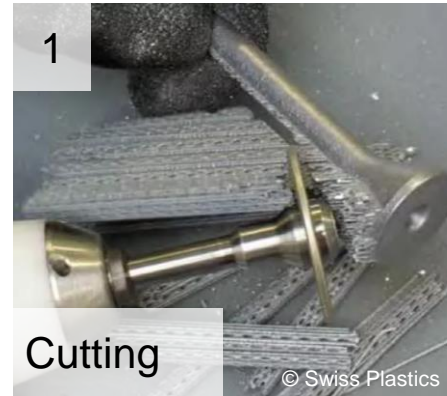
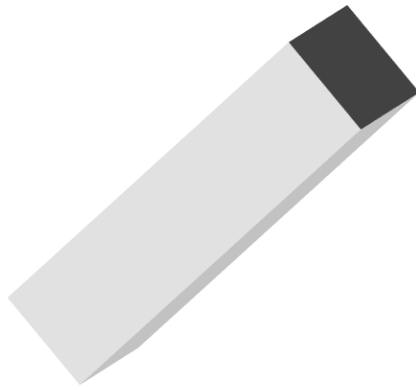
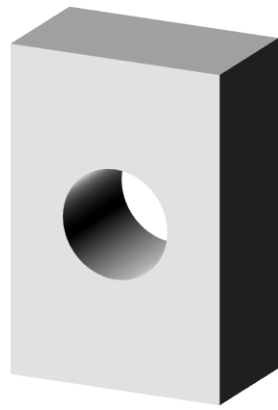
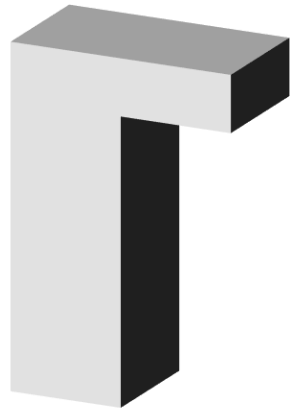
Design for AM

Overcoming Processability Restrictions – Part Orientation



Design for AM

Handling Overhanging Surfaces using Support Structures



Algorithmic Design for Additive Manufacturing

Generative Design



How?



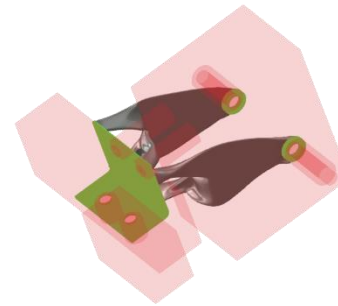
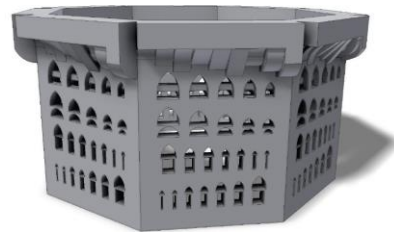
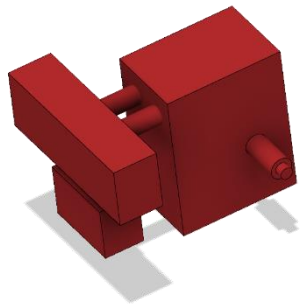
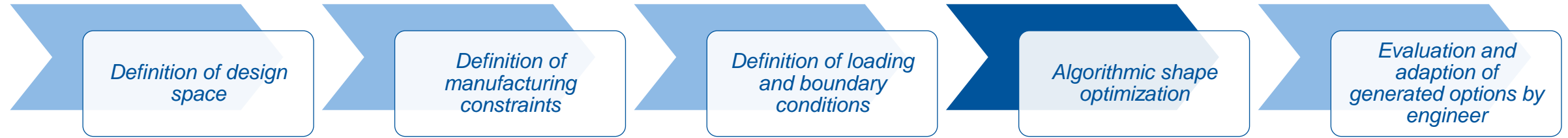
Conventional design



Additive design

Algorithmic Design for Additive Manufacturing

Generative Design



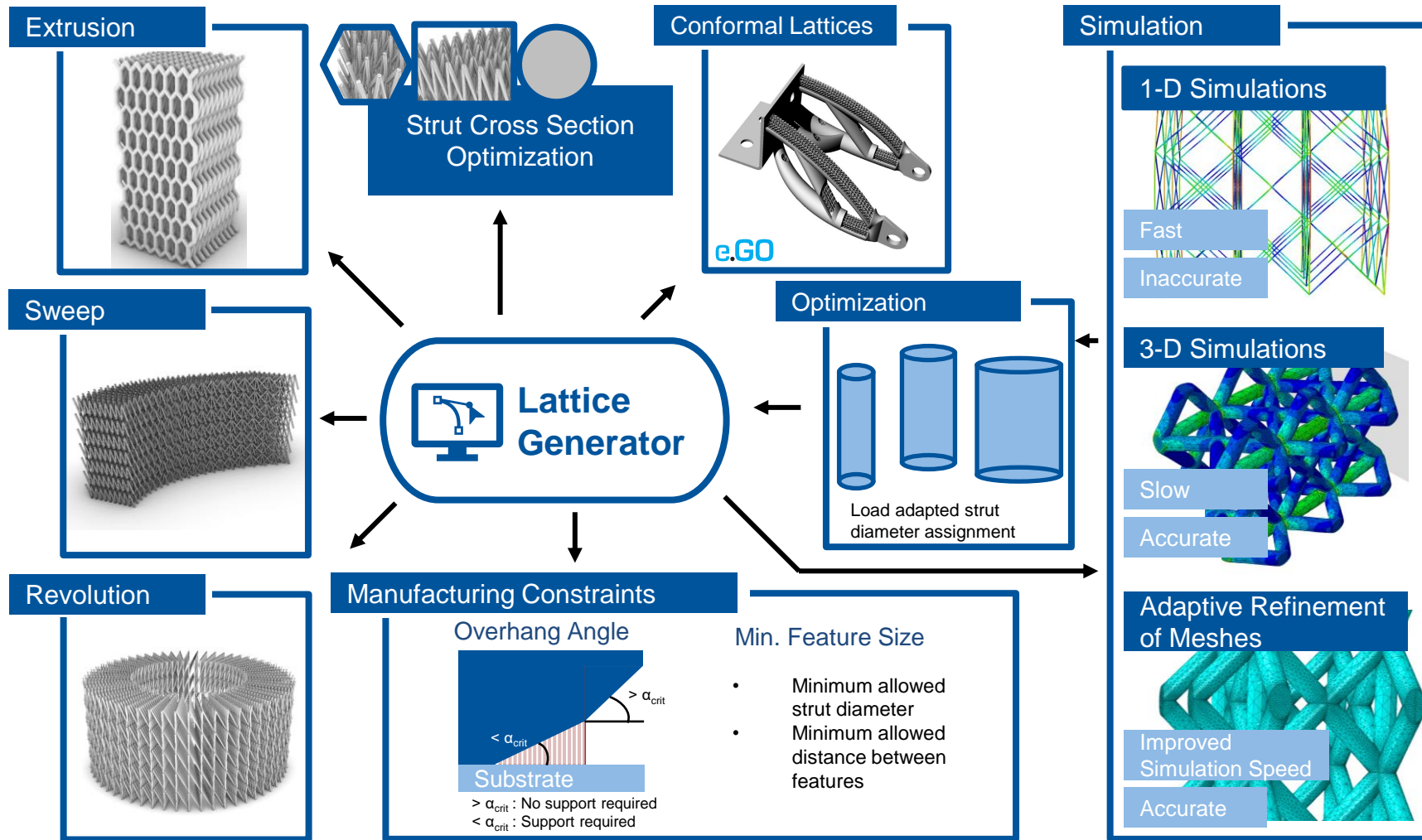
Design and process know how engineer

Algorithmic optimization

Decision by engineer

Algorithmic Design for Additive Manufacturing

Algorithmic Lattice Generation



- Lattices are lightweight constructions with an excellent strength to weight ratio
- The generation of CAD-data for AM compliant lattices can be challenging
- The lattice generator enables quick adaptations in the design and respects manufacturing constraints by providing relevant algorithms

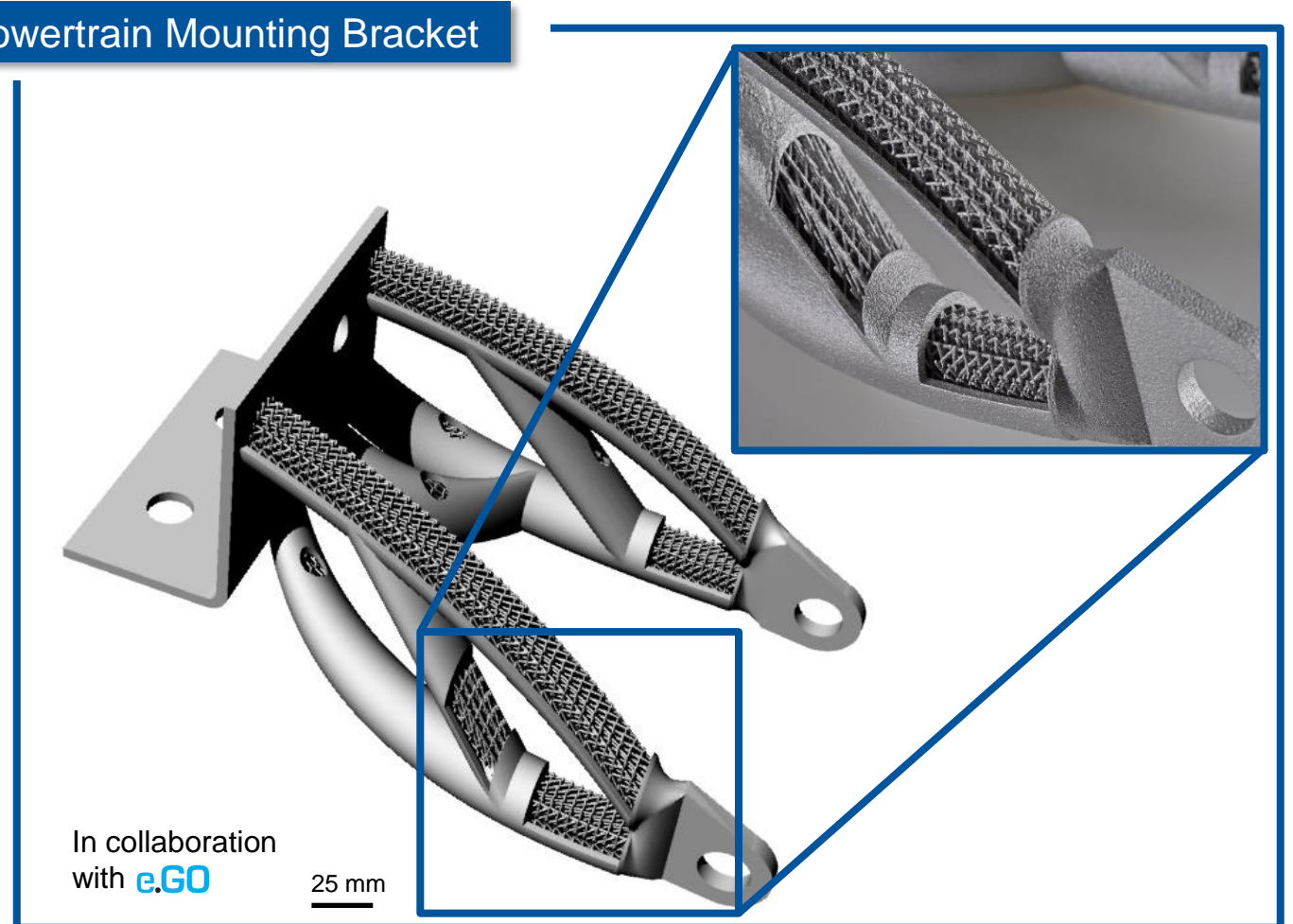
Algorithmic Design for Additive Manufacturing

Algorithmic Generation of Conformal Lattices



- Generation of conformal lattices for specific geometries
- Internal lattice structures enable efficient weight reduction by replacing solid material while maintaining sufficient strength
- Input for conformal lattice generation:
 - Definition of design space
 - Lattice type
 - Load and boundary conditions
 - Manufacturing constraints

Powertrain Mounting Bracket

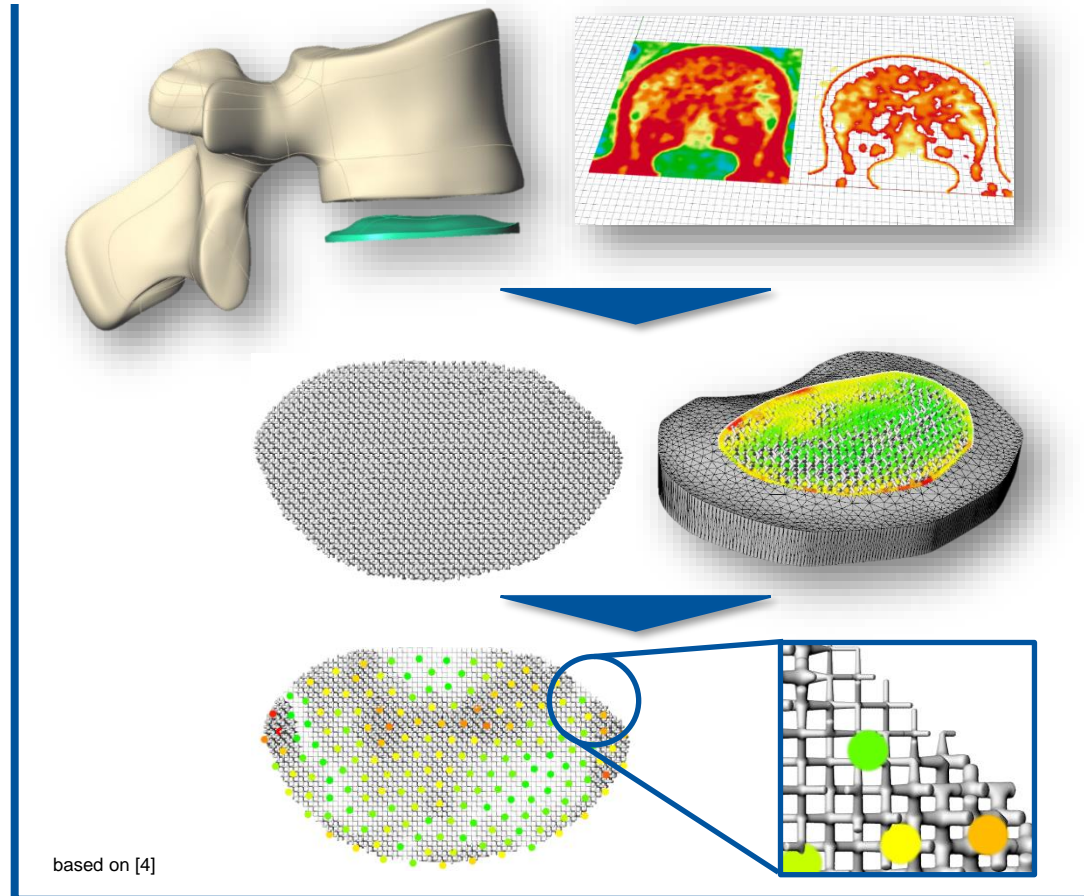


Algorithmic Design for Additive Manufacturing

Algorithmic Generation of Load Adapted Lattices



Vertebral Body Implant



- Bones have locally load adapted stiffnesses to enable homogeneous stress distributions
- Using load adaptive lattice structures, implants can be adjusted to the patient's bone density
- Method:
 - Extraction of the patient's bone density using CT scans
 - Determination of strut diameters from the local stress values around each strut
 - Mapping of strut diameters to implant lattice structure

Acknowledgments



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