



2021 ALTAIR STUDENT WEBINAR SERIES – SIMLAB

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Multiphysics Workflows with CAD Associativity

Altair SimLab

Home

SimLab is a process-oriented multidisciplinary simulation environment to accurately analyse the performance of complex assemblies. Multiple physics including structural, thermal, e-mag, and fluid dynamics can be easily setup using highly automated modelling tasks, helping to drastically reduce the time spent creating finite element models and interpreting results.

- Highly efficient, feature-based modelling approach
- Create templates to enable CAE automation
- Multiphysics analyses locally or in the cloud









SYSTEM IDEALIZATION



System Idealization

Workflow



Pre-Processing

Idealization of physical problem and its representation proposing a mathematical model

Processing

Solution of mathematical model

Post-Processing

Verification and interpretation of the results

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- System Idealization
 - $M\ddot{x} + C\dot{x} + Kx = f(t)$
- Linear x Nonlinear Analyses
- Static x Dynamic Analyses
- Consistent Unit System



System Idealization

• The physical problem complexity is infinite and its model must represent it just within the required precision, with the lower cost possible.



Linear vs Nonlinear Analysis

Linear

Fundamental condition: Stiffness [K] constant $\mathbf{F} = [K] \times \{U\}$

Proportionality between causes and effects

F K U

Nonlinear

Stiffness [K] varying along the analysis

3 sources of non-linearity:

- Material
- Geometric
- Contact



Static vs Dynamic Analysis

Static

Inertial effects neglected Time period does not affect the result

Kx = f

Dynamic

Inertia effects are important Time period does affect the result

 $M\ddot{x} + C\dot{x} + Kx = f(t)$







ENGINEERING APPLICATIONS



Product Engineering of Belt Sander







Single GUI Multiple Physics Belt Sander



1.2

HOT & HEAVY



1.2 Hot & Heavy

"How big is the stress in the porcelain due to the weight of the tea and to the hot temperature? Task: Solve a Linear Static Analysis with overlaid temperature results.

In this level you will learn how to:

- Use Body- and Volume Layer Mesh Controls
- Create loads and constraints
- Run a simple **linear static** structural solution
- Run a simple heat transfer solution
- **Couple** the thermal and the structural solution.





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1.2 MESH: VOLUME LAYERS





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Advanced Options

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Altair SimLab 2021.1 Beta File View Solutions Sketch Ge

vsis Results Advanced Inspect Scripting





Body Mesh Control

• *Minimum element size* = 0.6mm will suppress all geometry features <0.6mm



Body Mesh Size:	
 Average element size 	6
○ Maximum element size	8.484
Minimum element size	0.6
Geometry Approximation:	
Maximum angle per element	30
Curvature minimum element size	1.5
Surface Mesh Quality:	
Aspect ratio	10
Mesh grading	1.5

• **Geometry Approximation** =30°/ 1.5mm improves mesh resolution on curved faces









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TET10 curved edge

Average element size

Maximum element size Internal grading

Tet Mesh Element Type: O TET4 TET10 straight edge

Mesh Size

Quality:

Tet-Mesh Panel

6

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Default

Mesh Parameters

- Instead of creating a Mesh Control it is possible to enter the . same mesh parameters directly in the Tet Mesh panel, under Surface mesh parameters for CAD input.
- Anyway, parameters entered in the • mesh control have higher priority and will always be used.

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SOLUTION SETUP - STRUCTURAL

Linear Static Solution

First, we want to compute the stresses in the material due to the weight (and pressure) of the tea in it.

We will simply lock some nodes in order to simulate the hand holding the handle and apply a hydrostatic pressure on the inside faces.

Note: our Porcelain material can afford stresses of 15 MPa for tension, 30 MPa for shear and 240 MPa for compression.

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SOLUTION RESULTS - STRUCTURAL

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The highest value of stress (Von Mises) is about 1 to 1.5 MPa.

Even considering the tensile stress of Porcelain (15 MPa), we get a safety factor of about 10-15.

As expected, the pot will not break if I simply carry some tea in it...

But let's see what happens if we add some fire!

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SOLUTION – HEAT TRANSFER

Heat Transfer Solution

Everyday science: the big danger for pots, dishes and tableware is the very quick heating or cooling. It is more likely to break a pot putting it on the fire, than when carrying tea in it!

We will first compute the **temperature distribution** due to a heat source (cooktop, 300°) and to the cooling convection (air outside, water inside).

After this, we will map the computed temperature distribution on the structural solution to verify the cumulated mechanical stresses.

🙏 Altair SimLab 2021.1 Beta File View Solutions Sketch Geometry Mesh Analysis Results Advanced Inspect Scripting • Ft Al Flux Measure Move Material Property Coordinate... Temperature Convection Thermal Heat Source Radiation Contact Mapping Mode Files Replace Sets Bodies Checker Home Property Loads and Constr Tools Model Browser × Name

2.

Define **Convection**

Outside Faces (air): 20°C, coefficient=0.01

Inside faces (water): 90°C, coefficient=0.05

3. Run the solution and compute the temperature distribution.

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 3 Mesh
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Deads and Constraints

Loads and Constraints
 HydrostaticPressure3
 Node_Constraint_4

Year Type : Steady State Heat Transfer
Loads and Constraints

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Results

Mesh Write Type : Linear Static

Results
Thermal
Mesh

Results

Structural

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Thermal LBC X

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First result: the isolation given by porcelain is not so bad! The temperature of the handle remains at about 40°C so that we will not burn our hand when taking the pot from the cooktop!

But let's see now how big is the thermal stress in the material!

Note: the Thermal Solution just computes the temperature distribution, not the stresses! We must include the temperature field into a Structural Solution to get our "Von Mises" Values.

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As expected, the stresses related to the temperature are much higher than the ones related to the weight of the tea!

The maximum of >22 MPa (Von Mises Stress) is higher than the tensile strength of porcelain (15 MPa) and quite close to the allowed shear stress (30 MPa)!

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SimLab Forum

https://forum.altair.com/forum/48-altair-simlab

THANK YOU

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