Structural-Thermal-Optical-Performance (STOP) Analysis

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A STOP analysis is a multidiscipline analysis, consisting of Structural, Thermal, and Optical Performance analyses, that is performed for all space flight instruments and satellites. This course will explain the different parts of performing this analysis. The student will learn how to effectively interact with each discipline in order to accurately obtain the system analysis results.
Outline of Presentation

• Purpose
• General Information
• Analysis Cycle
• Levels of Analysis Fidelity
• Data Transfer
• Model Checks
• Thermal Modeling
• Structural Modeling
• Optical Modeling
• Best Practices
• Additional Things to Consider
• Summary
Structural-Thermal-Optical-Performance (STOP) Analysis: Purpose

- STOP analysis estimates the thermally-induced performance degradation of an optical system
  - Possible objectives
    - Create or verify system engineering budget allocation for given thermal loading
    - Stress/Deflection responses to address load capability of the structure
    - Final performance estimate for programs with incomplete ground testing, such as JWST
  - Typical quantities predicted
    - Mirror surface distortion
    - Structure distortion and stress
    - System wavefront and pointing error due to optics motions (rigid-body)
  - Cyclical in nature and applied at various phases during the design cycle with various levels of model maturity

- A complete and thorough analysis requires expertise in 3 disciplines
  - Thermal design/analysis
  - Structural design/analysis
  - Optical design/analysis

- Team needs to work together!!!
STOP Analysis: General Information

• Basic Data Flow (see next chart)
  – * Thermal model creates temperature set(s)
  – * Temperatures are applied to structural model
  – Distortion or motion of key optics calculated in structural model
  – Distortions or motions applied to optical model
  – Optical figure of merit calculated

• Key kickoff STOP team meeting agenda items (generally organized by mechanical lead):
  – Determine optics sensitive to motion
  – * Thermal environments in which data may be taken
  – * A common coordinate systems, origin, and units for all 3 models
  – * Data transfer methods between disciplines (see later chart)

(* Refers to items concerning thermal team member.)
STOP Analysis Cycle (1/2)

**Orange Box—Thermal**

**Yellow Box—Mechanical**

**Blue Box—Optical**

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**Conceptual Design**

- Mech. Requirements
- Opt. Requirements

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**Therm. Requirements**

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**STOP Analysis FEM**

- Design iterations and refinement (structural, thermal)

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**Opt. Disp.**

- Does design meet optical requirements?

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**Optical Analysis w/STOP Disp.**

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**Therm. Load Predictions**

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**STOCS/Prelim STOP sensitivity Analyses**

- Basic trade studies and design iterations (materials, geometry, etc)

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**Are prelim. results reasonable wrt requirements?**

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Yes

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No

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**Preliminary Design**

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**Final, on-orbit optical distortion prediction**

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Model refinements and updates w/test results

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Final Design

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Yes

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No

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Design iterations and refinement (structural, thermal)

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STOP Analysis Cycle (2/2)

• Conceptual
  – STOCS (structural/thermal/optical shifts) analysis
    • Assumes stress free mounting of components and uniform gradients and bulk temps.
    • Used sometimes in initial evaluation of a design
    • Structural modeling may be relatively simplified at this stage

• Preliminary Design
  – Primary structure modeled with simplified secondary structure (and possibly optics)
  – Captures load paths more accurately than STOCS and used to more accurately predicts optics motion
  – Initially used with artificial load cases for sensitivity analysis, but may be refined with more detailed thermal mapping
  – Material trade studies often performed

• Design Verification
  – Detailed model with all optics and mounts modeled.
  – On-orbit temperatures (and possibly test configurations) modeled with optics motions mapped back to optical analysis for full analysis cycle.
Level of Analysis Fidelity

- **Conceptual Design**
  - PM Low-Fidelity Structural Model
  - Description: Flat plate model to represent PM and bar elements to represent mounts
  - Purpose: Simple sensitivity (bulk and gradients) and trade studies

- **Preliminary Design**
  - PM Mid-Fidelity Structural Model
  - Description: Solid model to represent PM and bar and spring elements to represent mounts
  - Purpose: Mapping with preliminary temperatures and material trade studies

- **Design Verification**
  - PM High-Fidelity Structural Model
  - Description: Detailed plate model that represents all core and mirror segment geometry and detailed bar and solid elements to represent the mounts
  - Purpose: Detailed temperatures mapped to predict final optical performance
Data transfer between disciplines is always challenging!

**Thermal-to-structural data flows:**
- Thermal calculates $T$ using TMG, outputs text files with node ID, [$X, Y, Z,$] and $T$. Structures uses MATLAB to read and map this data to the nearest NASTRAN grids. Requires extensive manual mapping adjustment (being used for JWST)
- Same model geometry used for both the structural model and thermal model. Mapping performed internal to TMG! The difficulty is agreeing on a common model geometry, like blanketing (used for TPF).
- Thermal engineer accepts a similar (but not identical) structural model and mapped temperatures using Thermal Desktop (used for TIRS, ATLAS).

**Structural to Optical data flows:**
- Optics provides sensitivities in Matlab to structures. They are scaled by calculated optical motions to approximate performance. Checked with ray traces (being used for JWST)
- Deformations provided in an Excel spreadsheet and applied by scripting in ZEMAX optical analysis program (was used for IRMOS)
- SIGFIT transformed NASTRAN punch file data into interferograms. These were added to optical model by a MATLAB routine created by the Optics engineer. Output is optical performance. (was used for TPF)
  - Note, SIGFIT has recently been updated so it can take NASTRAN data and convert it directly to optical data without having to use a MATLAB routine!
STOP Analysis: Model Checks

- **Thermal to Structural**
  - Geometric comparison between Thermal and Structural Models
  - Temperature comparison between Thermal and Structural Models
- **Structural to Optical**
  - Optical results (WFE) comparison between Structural Model prediction and Optical Model to a known values
  - Final check with computed results between simplified optical representation and full optical analysis program
Comparison of Structural and Thermal Models of JWST BSF

Structural

Thermal
Comparison of Structural and Thermal Models for JWST BSF

Overlaid
Structural Model in Orange
Thermal Model in Yellow

The red members line up poorly or not at all with the structural model. The red members were removed from the mapping script.
Temperature Comparison for Structural and Thermal Models of JWST BSE

**Structural**

**Thermal**
**STOP Analysis: Thermal Modeling**

- **Final result:** provide thermal model nodal temperatures due to all critical events to structural engineer.
- **Thermal model**
  - Thermal engineer can use any program to develop thermal model and calculate temperatures, such as TMG, TSS and SINDA, FEMAP, PATRAN, Thermal Desktop, etc.
    - JWST using TMG but most other projects using Thermal Desktop
  - Discussion with structural engineer as to the format of the temperatures
    - Temperature mapping can be performed by Thermal Engineer or Structural Engineer
    - TMG or Thermal Desktop works well for mapping especially if corner node method is used.
    - Blanketing---how will that be handled?
  - Discussion with structural engineer as to the thermal cases to be analyzed (iterations often required after initial optical results)
    - Hot Case
    - Cold Case
    - Worst gradients
- **Data flow checks to be performed**
  - Provide temperature case used for initial mapping
  - Compare temperatures from thermal analysis with structural model temperatures
- **Meet all modeling guidelines and analysis checks**
Temperature Distribution for TPF PM Only (delta temperatures from 190-225 dither)
• Final Result: Provide deformation or motion of optical elements and other critical components to optical engineer.

• Structural Model
  – Structural engineer can use any program to perform structural analysis
    • NASTRAN dominates @ GSFC but any FEM code could be used
    • Create and manipulate models with PATRAN, FEMAP, etc.
  – Establish format of the temperatures with thermal engineer
  – Establish format of the deformation with optical engineer
  – Can also develop initial optics results utilizing a LOM or MATLAB script provided by the optical engineer (this helps with many thermal load case iterations that are often needed)

• Data flow checks to be performed
  – Compare temperatures from thermal analysis with structural model temperatures
  – Simple deformation cases used to check optical analysis and data flow

• Meet all modeling guidelines and analysis checks
177196 grids
285472 elements
PM material is ULE.

**Important Parameters in Model**
- Outer dimensions
- Facesheet thickness
- Backsheet thickness
- Top of core thickness
- Core thickness
- Top of segment struts thickness
- Segment struts thickness
- Perimeter thickness
- Model Weight
Thermal Distortion for TPF PM Only (delta temperatures from 190-225 dither)

Max deflection = 1.09E-11 m
Component Level Modeling

• STOP analysis models often are very detailed and time consuming to solve
• So, many instances, the assembly will be broken up into components to perform structural/thermal mapping of that component
• The mapped components are then combined to run the assembly model.
• See the following example performed for the JWST ISIM Beam Image Analyzer.
Component-Translation Stages of JWST ISIM BIA (2/3)

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29.87 K

24.64 K

34.85 K

21.27 K
Assembly of JWST ISIM BIA

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39.97 K

22.55 K
STOP Analysis: Optical Modeling

• Final result: Key figure of merit compared with optical requirements. Will the system work?

• Optical Model
  – Optical engineer can use any program to model optical performance, such as Code V, ZEMAX, etc.
  – Discussions with structural engineer as to the format of the deformation for optical analysis

• Data flow checks to be performed
  – Simple deformation cases used to check optical analysis and data flow

• Meet all modeling guidelines and analysis checks
Optical Performance for TPF PM Only (delta temperatures from 190-225 dither)

Interferogram

Zemike Processing

RMS Surface Error: 2.74e-012m
P-V Surface Error: 1.14e-011m

Zemikes, 15 terms

RMS Surface Error: 2.74e-012m
P-V Surface Error: 1.15e-011m

Zemike Residual

Zemike Coefficients and Influence By Term

RMS Surface Error: 5.29e-014m
P-V Surface Error: 3.60e-012m

Net Performance: 5.747e-012
Comparison of TPF PM Thermal Distortion for High & Mid-Fidelity Models: Optical Performance for TPF PM Only
(delta temperatures from 190-225 dither)

Results Using Hi-Fidelity PM Model

Interferogram

Factor of 
~2x Difference

RMS OPD: 2.74e-012m
P-V OPD: 1.14e-011m
Zernike Residual

Results Using Mid-Fidelity PM Model

Residual OPD Map: Subtracting 15 Zernikes

RMS OPD: 5.29e-014m
P-V OPD: 3.60e-012m
ATLAS STOP FEM and Temperature Mapping

Undeformed Structure

Temperature (C)
ATLAS STOP FEM Displacements

Deformed Structure

Deflection (in)

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Best Practices

• Early coordination among thermal, structural and optical engineers BEFORE modeling begins will streamline the process.

• Test and validate data transfer methods between engineering disciplines
  – How will temps be mapped to structural model?
  – Verify that structural displacements of optics are in the correct format for optical analysis (coord system, units, etc).
  – Perform sample “dry runs” of data transfer before tackling actual model results

• Don’t wait until the full-up, detailed model is complete before test verifying model results
  – Component level testing can be very useful, since much of the optical error can occur at that level rather than at the full, optical bench level

• It’s important to make sure all three disciplines (structural, thermal, and optical) are involved in the STOP analysis
  – Shortcuts in any one disciplines can reduce confidence in results and make identifying sources of results error that much harder
Additional Things to Consider

• When used most effectively, STOP analysis is an iterative process performed at multiple stages of the design process.
  – Initially should be considered part of the design process

• The greater the number of interfaces in the structure, the greater the possibility of introducing error.
  – Can become increasing complicated if components and substructures are coming in from different sources to be integrated with the full-up system model

• This is truly multi-disciplinary analysis process and needs the contributions of all three disciplines
Summary

• STOP analysis is an integrated, multidiscipline system analysis which predicts performance of an optical system due to variations in temperature

• STOP analysis requires involvement from thermal, structural and optical engineering design and analysis

• Communication between team members throughout the entire process is key in completing an accurate, comprehensive STOP analysis!