



DEMOBENCH

DEMISABILITY DEMONSTRATION OF CFRP OPTICAL BENCHES



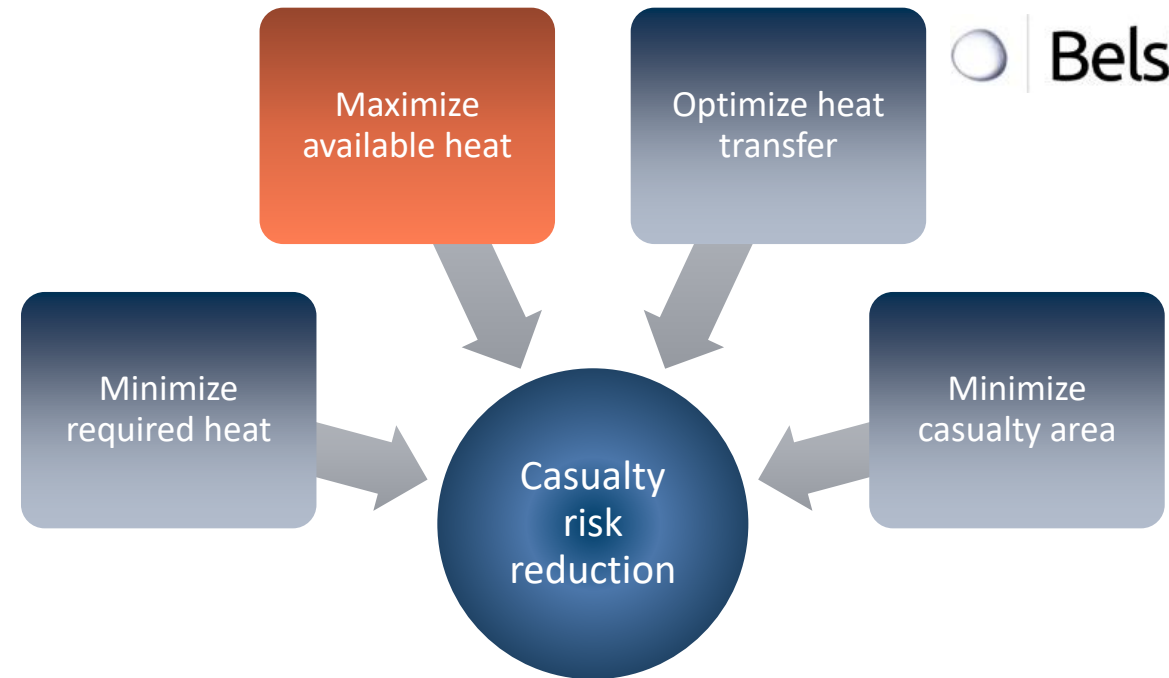
INTRODUCTION

STUDY OVERVIEW

Study Objective

Improvement of “Optical Bench design solutions for future Earth Observation optical missions to comply to demisability requirements, allowing for uncontrolled re-entry”¹

- Assess configurations of ‘demisable’ materials, surfaces, and manufacturing technologies
- Design, analyse and test breadboard of a CFRP optical bench which fulfils predefined demise- and thermomechanical requirements



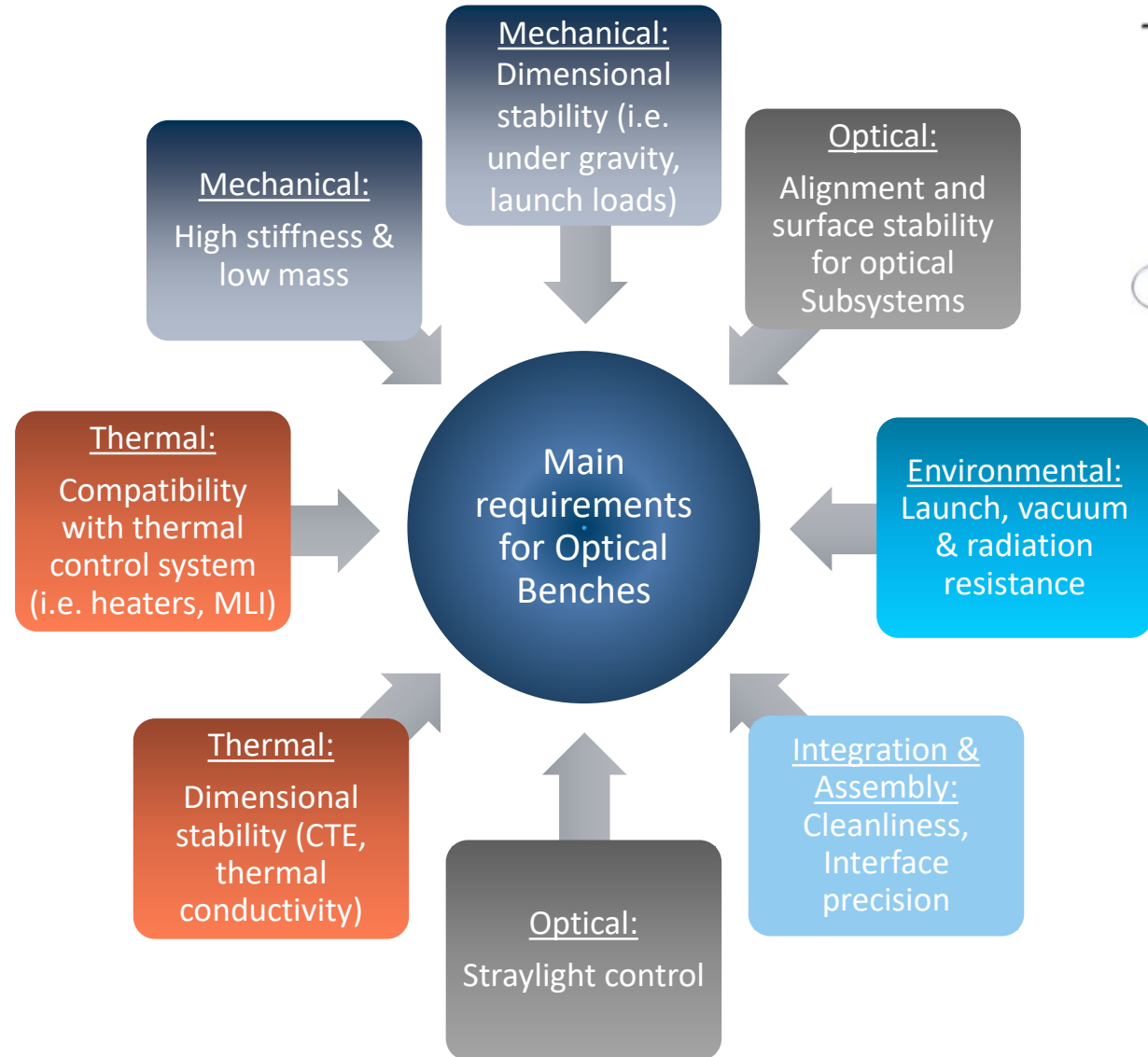
¹ SOW Demisable optical bench in carbon fiber reinforced plastic; ESA-TECMSS-SOW-2024-002988; TEC-MSS 25/10/2024

INTRODUCTION

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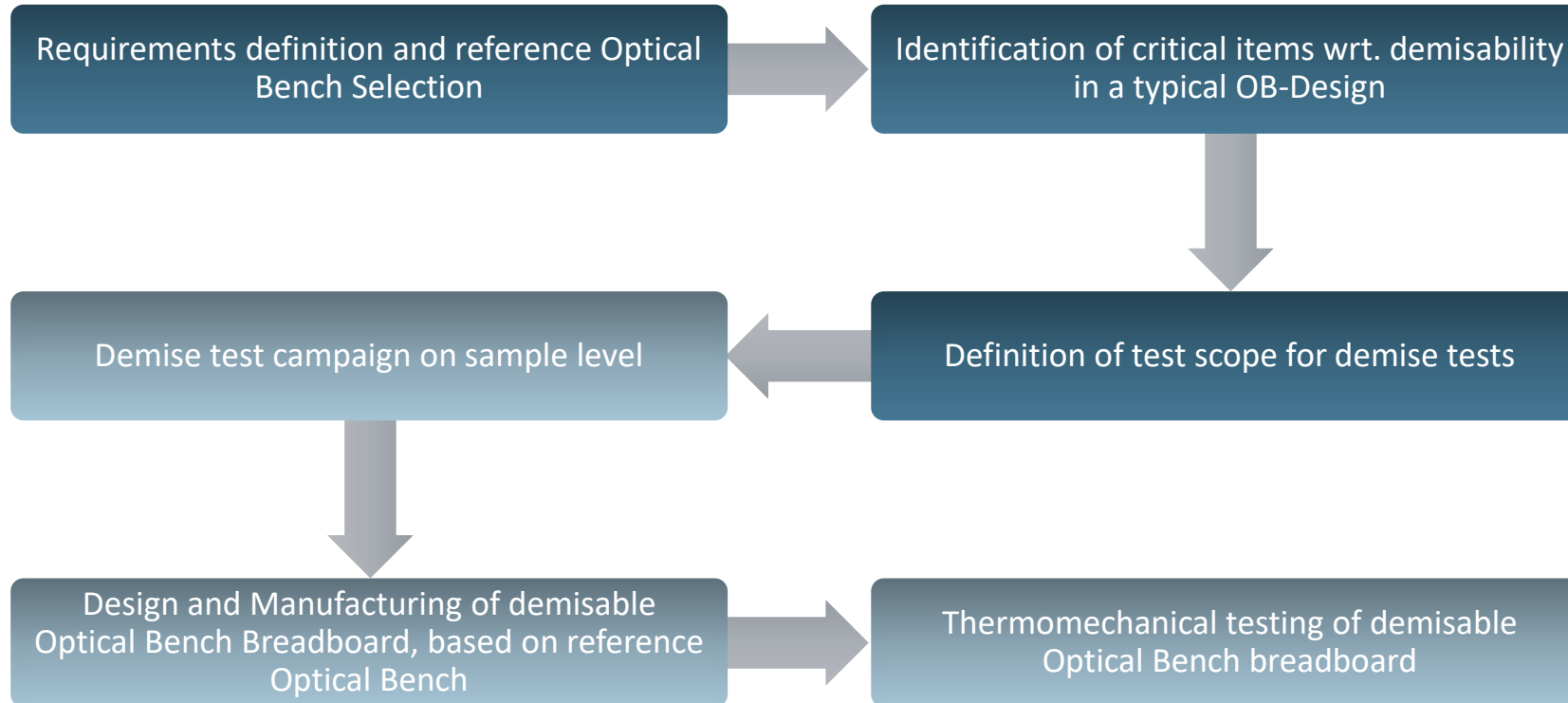
Typical design solution for optical benches

- Monolithic: machined (or 3D-printed) from Aluminium, Silicon Carbide, Zerodur
- Sandwich Panel: Aluminium honeycomb with CFRP facesheets
- Frame/Truss Structure: Sheets, Beams and Rods (mostly CFRP) and Fittings (often metallic)
- Hybrid designs
- Isostatic mounting required



PROJECT STEPS

WORKFLOW DIAGRAM



REFERENCE MISSION SELECTION

REFERENCE OPTICAL BENCH SELECTION

Identified reference missions to derive generic mission requirements

- LEO (approx. 650 – 1000 km)
- S/C Mass: 500 – 1200 kg

Relevant Optical Bench aspects for this S/C mass-class

- Weight of Optical Bench (w/o mounts, instrumentation, thermal HW, optics): 30-80kg
- Dimensions of Optical Bench (area): 0,4 -1,0m²
- Sandwich panel design as the most used design solution

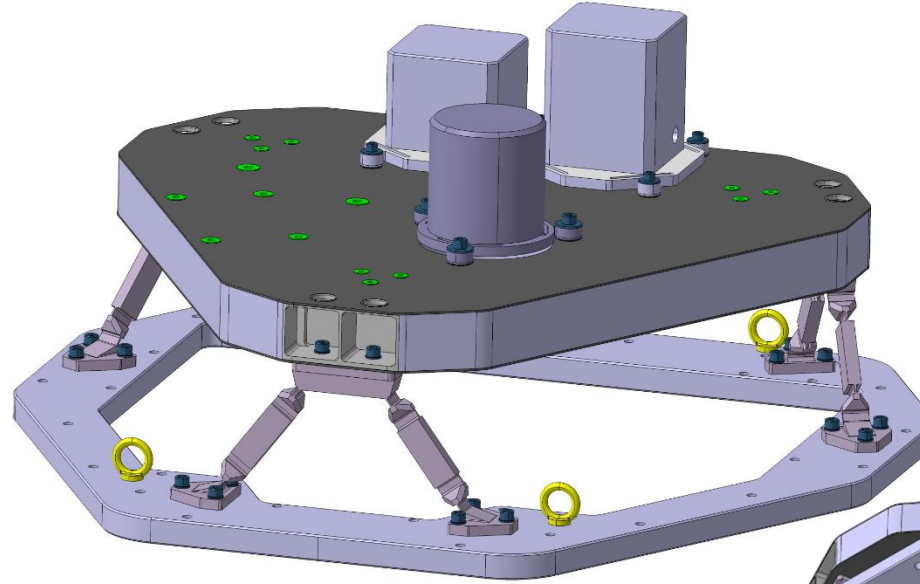


REFERENCE OPTICAL BENCH SELECTION

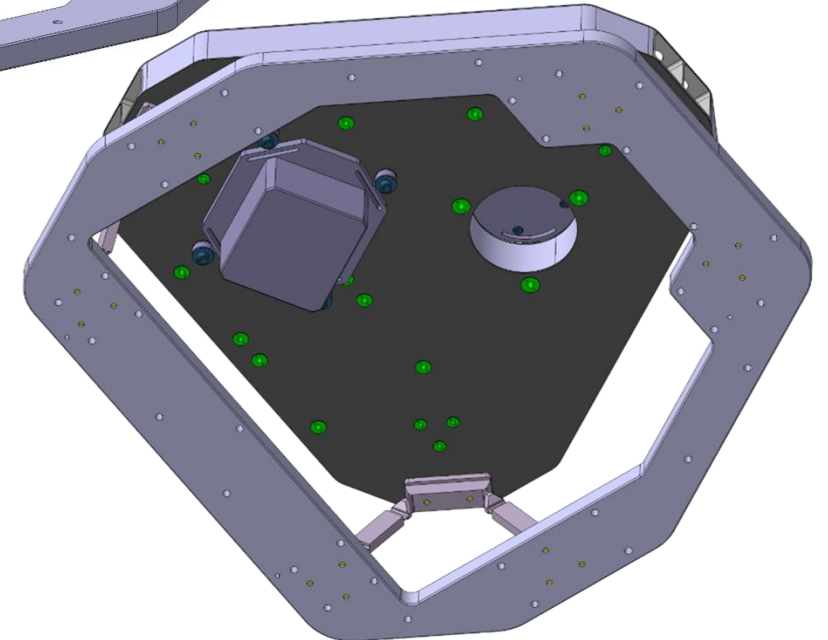
DESIGN ASPECTS AND DECISIONS

Design and materials

- CFRP-Al Honeycomb panel with 70mm overall-thickness, high-modulus fibres and cyanate ester resin
- Face-to-Face inserts: interfaces for mass dummies and measurement equipment
- Block inserts: interfaces for kinematic mounts
 - Potting adhesives for various insert types under consideration
 - 4 mass dummies masses totalling approx. 50kg +/- (tbd)



Optical Bench reference top view



Optical Bench reference bottom view

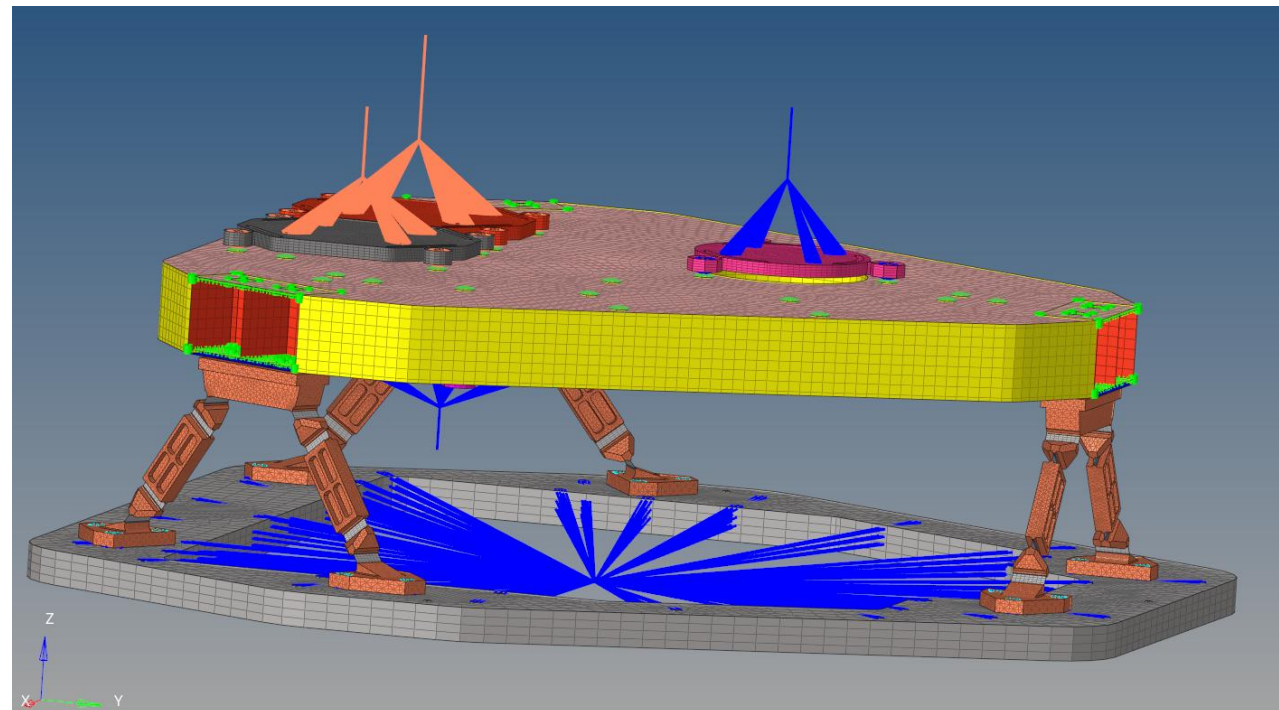


REFERENCE OPTICAL BENCH SELECTION

STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS

Structural (Performance) analysis

- FE-model of reference OBA established
- Analyses were performed with MSC-NASTRAN
- Performed analyses and results:
 - Modal analysis – 1st Eigenfrequency sufficient
 - Quasi-static-loads (QSL) – positive MoS
 - Performance analysis – evaluation of relative motion (6DOF):
 - Gravity release: 1g in each direction
 - Delta-temperature=1K

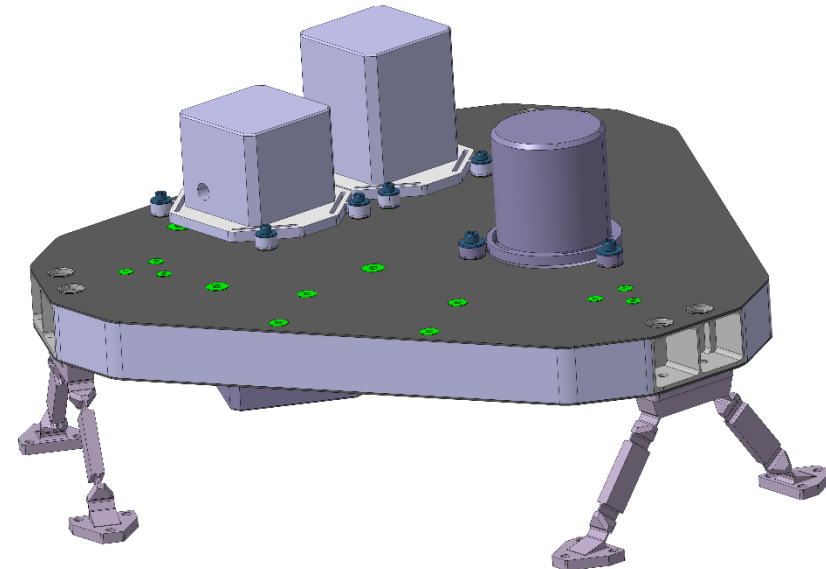
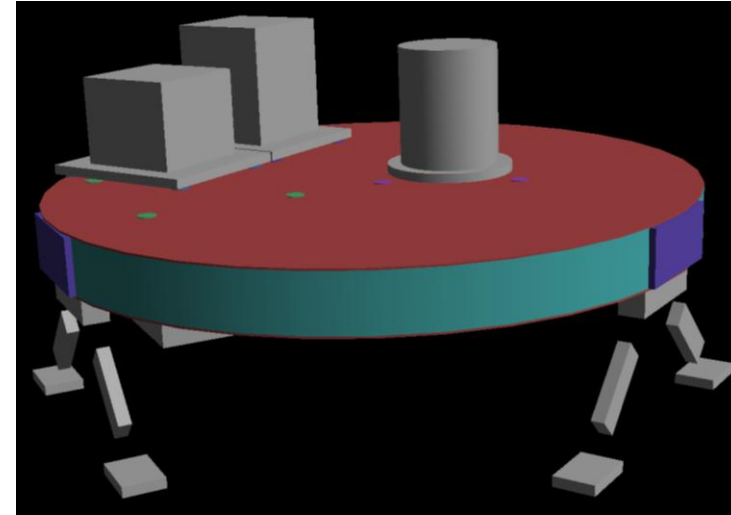
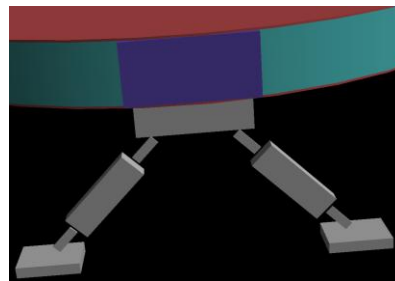
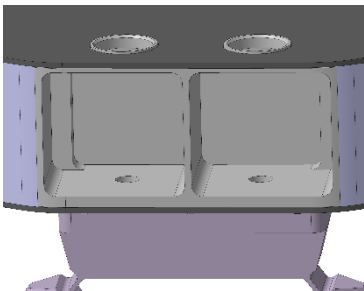


Optical Bench reference structural analysis

REFERENCE OPTICAL BENCH SELECTION

RE-ENTRY SIMULATION – DEMISE ANALYSIS

- SAMj Model of Reference Optical Bench
 - All key parts modelled
 - Facesheets, honeycomb, block inserts, standard inserts
 - Basic model of instruments, simplified bipods
 - Minor shifting of instruments so not to overlap edge
- Adaptations
 - Major approximation is shape of bench
 - Matched projected area of facesheet
- Hard Point / Bipods
 - Thin sections included for fragmentation
 - Titanium and steel bipods modelled
 - Block insert modelled as cuboid
 - Heating factor for shape



THANK YOU!

OHB System AG
Universitätsallee 27-29
28359 Bremen
Germany

Phone: +49 421 2020 9362
Email: bradley.lockett@ohb.de
Web: www.ohb.de

OHB System AG
Manfred-Fuchs-Straße 1
82234 Weßling
Germany

Phone: +49 8153 4002 645
Email: ludwig.eberl@ohb.de
Web: www.ohb.de

