# **Preliminary FEA Results**

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# **Contents**

- Maximum Beam Stresses
- FEA of Moment Connection



# **Maximum Beam Stresses**



# **Maximum Beam Stresses: FEA Model Details**

- Half Frame Unit (2.4m in length)
  - Beam elements (with offsets) to simulate the main frame and the grid
  - Shells to represent the warm vessel (6mm thick)
  - Joint (MPC184) at the bottom and top connections of the main frame to study the effect of torsional stiffness (i.e. K<sub>bot</sub> and K<sub>top</sub> respectively)
  - BCs
    - Symmetry BCs + Periodic BCs (via CPs) to simulate unit cell behaviour
    - Nominal pressure loads acting on the shells ( $P_0$ =350mbar and  $\rho_{LAr}$ =1400kg/m<sup>3</sup>) taking into account the presence of the insulation ~ 600mm thick)
    - Vertical constraint in the vertex at the base for x∈[-8.15,-3.4]m and x=0



# **Baseline Configuration**

Main frame composed by three large beams with the same cross section



	<b>Section Grid</b>	Section Vertical	<b>Section Floor</b>	<b>Section Roof</b>
W1 (m)	0.15	0.55	0.55	0.55
W2 (m)	0.15	0.55	0.55	0.55
W3 (m)	0.3	1.2	1.2	1.2
t1 (m)	0.015	0.075	0.075	0.075
t2 (m)	0.015	0.075	0.075	0.075
t3 (m)	0.01	0.04	0.04	0.04
Mass/m (kg/m)	56.52	977.325	977.325	977.325

• Steel S355 (EC properties for t>40mm)

- $\sigma_v$ =335 MPa  $\rightarrow \sigma_v$ /1.5=223 MPa
  - UTS=470 MPa  $\rightarrow$  UTS/3.5=134 MPa
- K=1700 MNm/rad → Stiffness estimated via FEA for a bolted joint between two of the large beams used in the main frame



# **Baseline Configuration: Effect of Joint Stiffness**

 Effect of the Joint Stiffness on the maximum combined stress for the main vertical, floor and roof beams



190

140

90

40

-10

0.0

2.0

Max Combined Stress (MPa)

----σy/1.5 - - - UTS/3.5

4.0

Length (m)

Kbot=∞, Ktop=∞

-Kbot=∞, Ktop=0 -Kbot=0, Ktop=0

Kbot=1700 MNm/rad, Ktop=1700 MNm/rad

6.0

8.0

Page 6

Kbot=1700 MNm/rad, Ktop=0

- Only two configurations seems to be acceptable:
- $K_{bot} = K_{top} = 1700 \text{MNm/rad}$
- $K_{bot}=1700$  MNm/rad,  $K_{top}=0$

(Although the second one would be at the very limit in the vertical and floor beams).



### **Baseline Configuration: Imperfect Joint**





# **Smaller Roof Beam: Parametric Study**

- Parametric study varying the cross section of the large beam used at the roof (floor and vertical beams remain unchanged):
  - Dimitar's original roof beam taken as the starting point
  - Progressive increase of the web length (i.e. W3)
  - Effect of the joint stiffness on the maximum values of the maximum combined stress for the different cross sections

Characteristics of the I-beam sections considered for the large roof beam							
	Case 1	Case 2	Case 3	Case 4	Baseline		
W1 (m)	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.55		
W2 (m)	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.55		
W3 (m)	0.7	0.8	0.9	1	1.2		
t1 (m)	0.035	0.035	0.035	0.035	0.075		
t2 (m)	0.035	0.035	0.035	0.035	0.075		
t3 (m)	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.04		
l (m4)	0.003128	0.004235	0.005538	0.007047	0.030001		
Mass/m (kg/m)	291.235	306.935	322.635	338.335	977.325		





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#### **Small Roof Beam: Perfect Moment Connections**

Kbot=∞, Ktop=∞





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### **Small Roof Beam: Pinned Connections**

Kbot=0, Ktop=0





### Small Roof Beam: K<sub>bot</sub>=∞, K<sub>top</sub>=0

Kbot=∞, Ktop=0





# Small Roof Beam: K<sub>bot</sub>=1700 MNm/rad, K<sub>top</sub>=0





# **Change is Steel Grade?**

Small Improvements by moving to S450 (EC properties for t>40mm):



# **Smaller Floor Beam: Parametric Study**

- Parametric study varying the cross section of the large beam used at the floor (roof and vertical beams remain unchanged):
  - Dimitar's original roof beam taken as the starting point
  - Progressive increase of the web length (i.e. W3)
  - Effect of the joint stiffness on the maximum values of the maximum combined stress for the different cross sections

Characteristics of the I-beam sections considered for the large roof beam								
	Case 1	Case 2	Case 3	Case 4	Baseline			
W1 (m)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.55			
W2 (m)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.55			
W3 (m)	0.8	0.9	1	1.1	1.2			
t1 (m)	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.075			
t2 (m)	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.075			
t3 (m)	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.04			
l (m4)	0.007756	0.010108	0.01281	0.015875	0.030001			
Mass/m (kg/m)	529.875	549.5	569.125	588.75	977.325			

• Initially S355 is considered



#### **Small Floor Beam: Perfect Moment Connections**





24/04/2015

### **Small Floor Beam: Pinned Connections**

Kbot=0, Ktop=0





### Small Floor Beam: K<sub>bot</sub>=0, K<sub>top</sub>=∞

Kbot=0, Ktop=∞ 3.5E-02 300 ---Vertical → Floor ----Roof -----σy/1.5 ---UTS/3.5 ·······I Roof Beam Maximum Combined Stress Maximum(MPa) 3.0E-02 250 2.5E-02 200 Roof Beam (m<sup>4</sup>) 2.0E-02 150 1.5E-02 100 1.0E-02 50 5.0E-03 0 0.0E+00 0.65 0.75 0.85 0.95 1.05 1.15 1.25 W3 Floor Beam (m)



24/04/2015

# Small Roof Beam: K<sub>bot</sub>=0, K<sub>top</sub>=1700 MNm/rad





# **Change is Steel Grade?**

- Small Improvements by moving to S450 (EC properties for t>40mm):
  - $\sigma_v$ =410 MPa  $\rightarrow \sigma_v$ /1.5=273.3 MPa
  - − UTS=550 MPa  $\rightarrow$  UTS/3.5=157 MPa



Page 19

# Summary

- Initial FEA results suggest that the stresses in the main frame would make it difficult to reduce the size of the roof beam substantially.
  - This is even worse taking into account that the nominal loads were considered for the previous analysis
  - Moving to higher grade steels (e.g. S450 instead S355) should make things a bit easier
- Moving to a hinged connection at the top also seems difficult (even for the baseline configuration).
- Reducing the dimensions of the floor beam also seems very problematic (with the vertical beam becoming the critical element).
- From a mass standpoint, a truss structure would appear a much more suitable solution for the main frame.



# **Note: Access Holes in the Vertical Beams**

 The holes to be included in the web of the vertical beams for access purposes were neglected in the previous analysis.

> B: Shell Frame Directional Deformation



# **FEA of Moment Connection**



# Moment Connection: FEA Model Details

Static Structural Time: 1. s

Items: 10 of 14 indicated 27/04/2015 16:50 A Acceleration: 0. m/s<sup>2</sup> **B** Displacement Symmetry C Fixed Support Moment 2: 0. N·m Bolt Pretension: 6.25e+005 N Bolt Pretension 2: 6.25e+005 N Bolt Pretension 3: 6.25e+005 N Bolt Pretension 4: 6.25e+005 N Bolt Pretension 5: 6.25e+005 N Bolt Pretension 6: 6.25e+005 N

- Half Joint (each beam extending 0.6m from intersection)
  - M48 x 10 bolts with pre-tension (625kN) \_
  - Frictional contacts (µ=0.25)
  - Welds (40mm)
  - Non-linear materials (S355 for beams, 10.9 for bolts)









# **Moment Connection: FEA Model Results**

L: Half JointCalibration + Welds + Pre-Tension + No Uy=0 Constraint

Equivalent (von-Mises) Stress - Bolt.10

#### • For applied moment M=8MNm



K=1600-2100 MNm/rad (depending on corner support

