

Albuquerque, NM, May 26, 2011

Dynamic and Fluid Structural Analysis Modeling of Solar One's Heliostat Field Using High Performance Computing

Anthony Menicucci

**Concentrating Solar Technologies Department
Sandia National Laboratories
Albuquerque, NM 87185**



Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.



Sandia National Laboratories



Overview

- **Introduction**
- **Dynamic Analysis**
- **Fluid Structural Interaction**
- **Why High Performance Computing?**
- **Questions**



Overview

- **Introduction**
- **Dynamic Analysis**
- **Fluid Structural Interaction**
- **Why High Performance Computing?**
- **Questions**

Introduction and Motivation

Central receiver power tower heliostat optical performance

PS10 and PS20
Solar Power
Towers in
Andalucia, Spain



Introduction, FEA Model

- The finite element model of the heliostat contains approximately 2.3 million elements.
- It is run on the cluster Glory with 192 processors.
- An Eigen analysis with 20 modes runs in approximately 120 minutes. Gravity deformations take approximately 5 minutes to run.

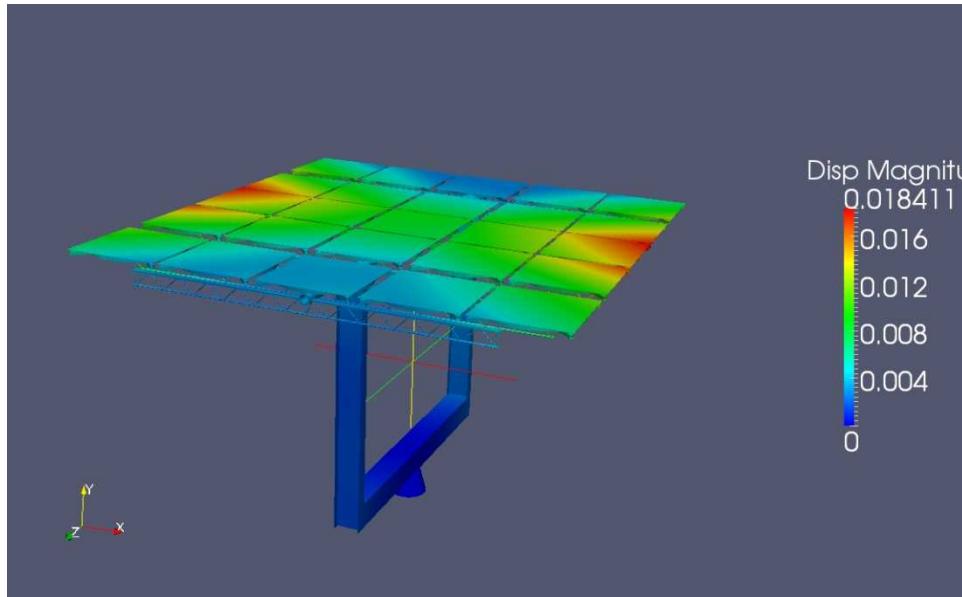


Image of the heliostat
under a gravity
deformation analysis

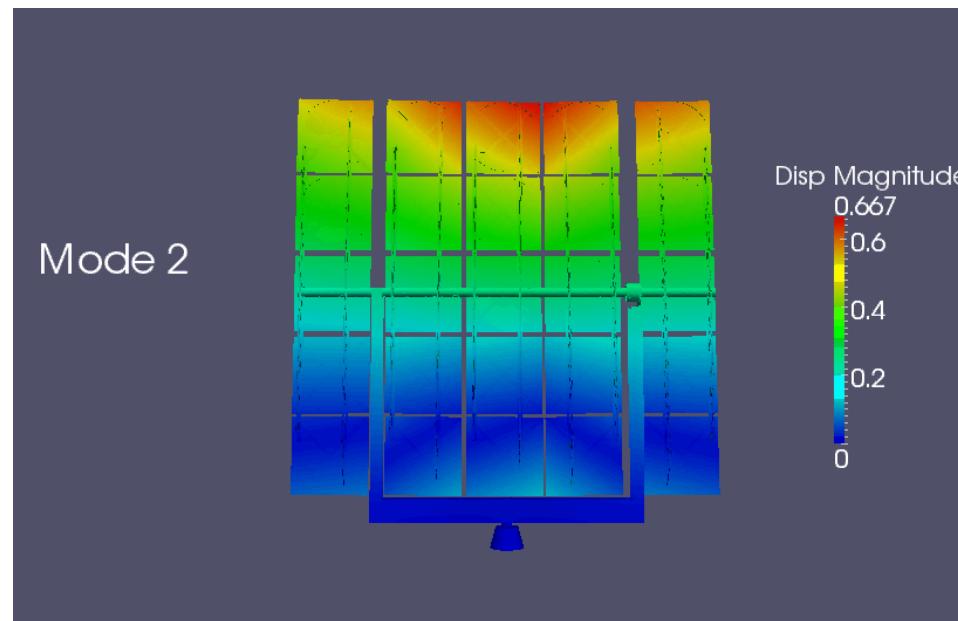


Overview

- Introduction
- Dynamic Analysis
- Fluid Structural Interaction
- Why High Performance Computing?
- Questions

Dynamic Analysis

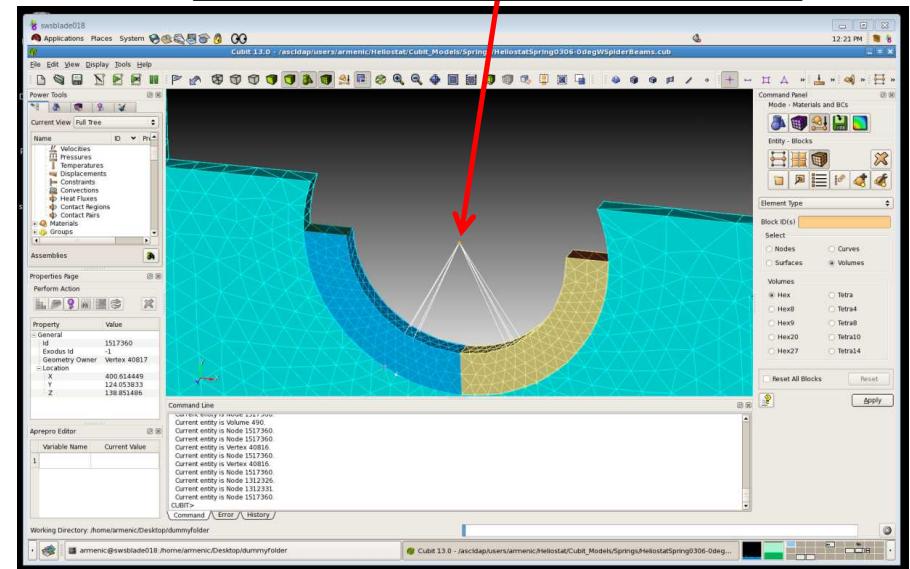
Heliosstat optical performance is coupled with the intrinsic dynamic response of the structure as well as other external loadings.



Dynamic Analysis

Improvements have been made to the heliostat model to more accurately account for the dynamic response of the structure.

Spring joints modeling the heliostat rollers





Dynamic Analysis

- **Dynamic results are improving with each iteration of the model. An acceptable target for matching the mode shapes of our Eigen Analysis to measured results is 5 – 10% error.**
- **Static deformation loadings should also meet this criteria before proceeding to the Fluid Structural (wind) interaction.**

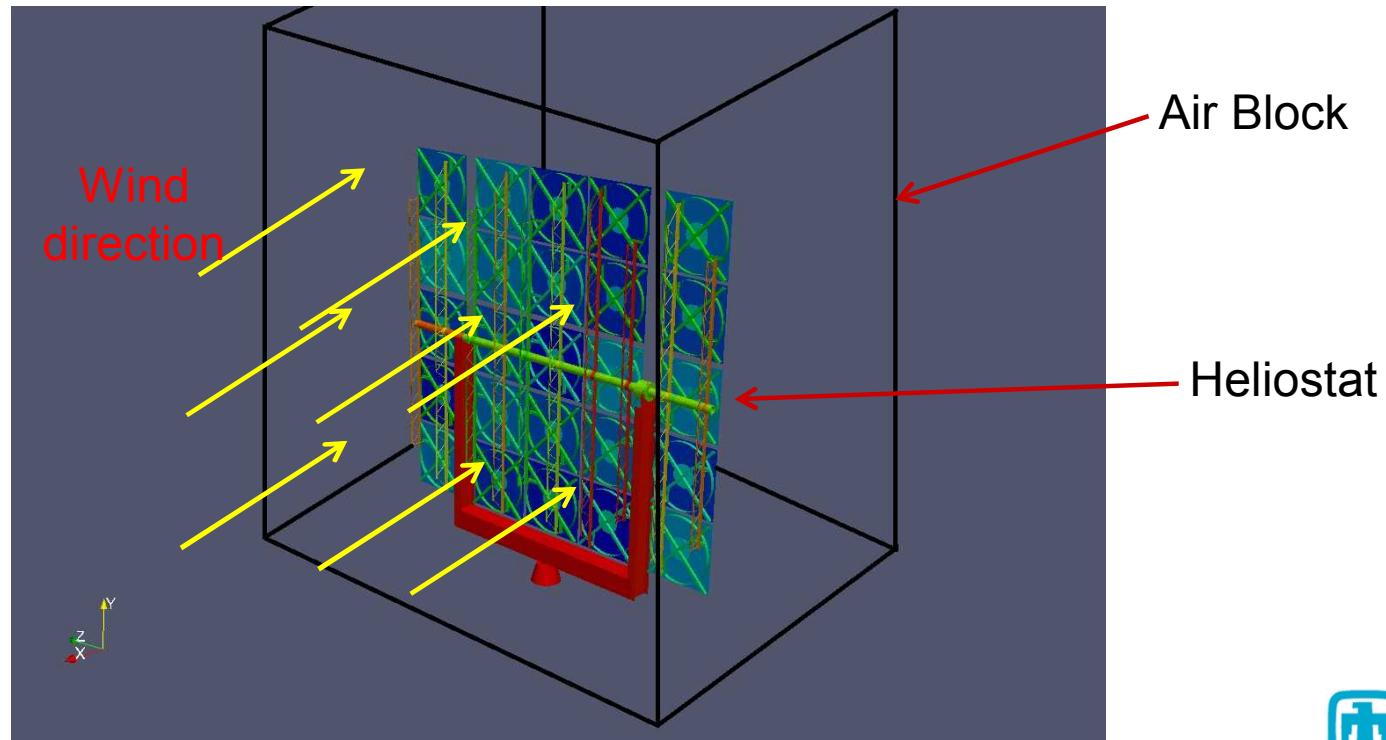


Overview

- Introduction
- Dynamic Analysis
- Fluid Structural Interaction
- Why High Performance Computing?
- Questions

Fluid Structural (Wind) Analysis

The path forward on this project is to mesh the air around the outside of the heliostat and perform a wind loading analysis at various velocities and heliostat orientations.



Fluid Structural (Wind) Analysis

- **This wind analysis will be done in Aria and coupled to the structural program Adagio.**
- **The results of the deformation of the heliostat will be output to a ray tracing program. This will allow for an optical reflectance analysis of the error that the wind imparts on the Power Tower system.**



Overview

- Introduction
- Dynamic Analysis
- Fluid Structural Interaction

- Why High Performance Computing?

- Questions

Why High Performance Computing?

- Many processors (on the order of hundreds) allow for scaling to extreme fidelity in the modeling process.
- Simulation work thus far typically has models that are simplified to under 1,000,000 elements.

Figure of simplified heliostat taken from “Wind Pressure and Wind-Induced Vibration of Heliostat” by Wang, Li, Gong and Li 2008

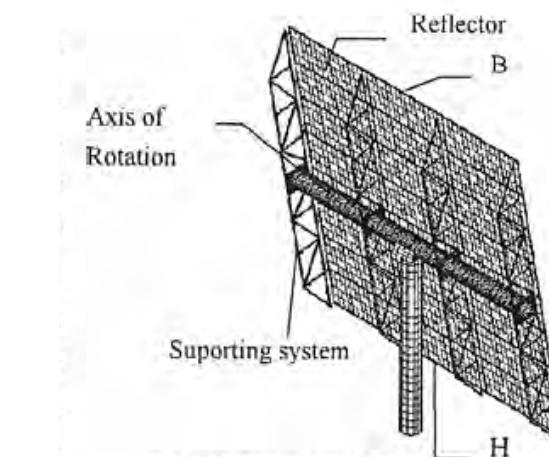
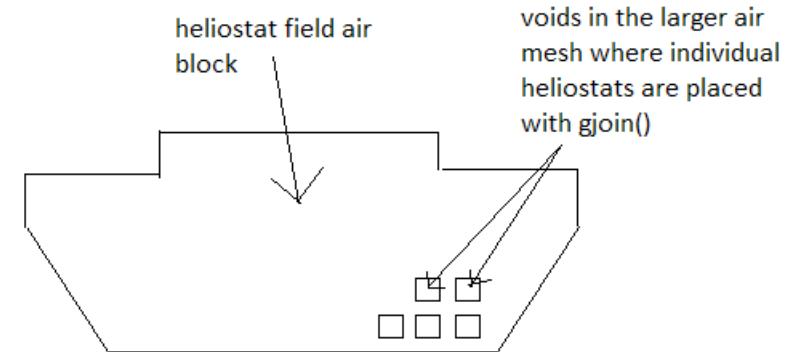
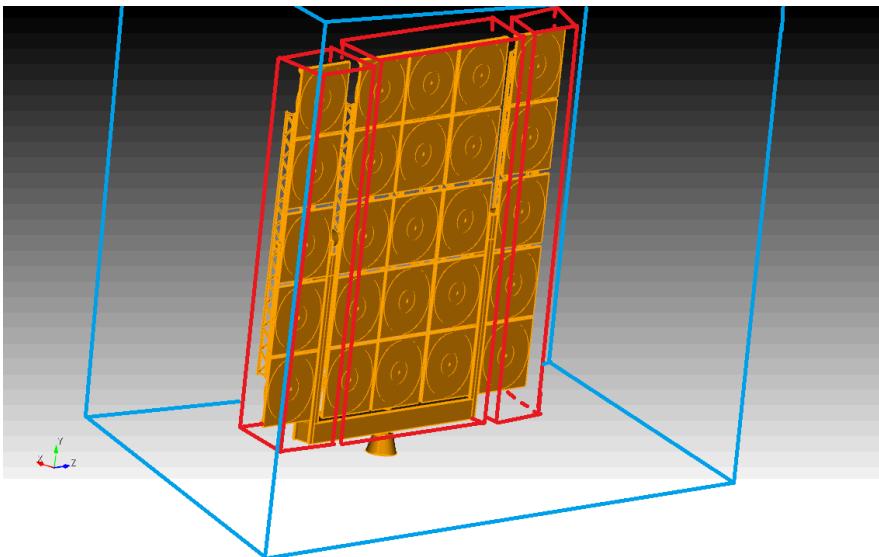


Fig.6 The Finite Element Model of Heliostat

Why High Performance Computing?

Many processors (on the order of hundreds of thousands) allow for scaling to extreme fidelity in the modeling process of the heliostat as well as heliostat field.



Why High Performance Computing?

How many processors is it going to take?

Assume since one Eigen analysis requires ~200 processors (in 2 hrs) to run, with the air block, I will need ~500 processors/heliostat.

~ 500 proc/heliostat *
~ 200 heliostat-blocks =
~ 60,000 processors

Cielo By Numbers

| | Phase 1 | Phase 2 | Cielito |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| # of Cabinets | 72 | 96 | 1 |
| # of Service Nodes | 208 | 272 | 14 |
| # of Compute Nodes | 6,704* | 8,944* | 68 |
| # of Visualization Nodes | (376) | (376) | (4) |
| # of Compute Cores | 107,264 | 143,104 | 1,088 |
| Peak Memory BW | 572 TB/s | 763 TB/s | 5.8 TB/s |
| Memory Capacity per Core | 2 GB (4 GB) | 2 GB (4 GB) | 2 GB (4 GB) |
| Compute Memory Capacity | 226.6 TB | 298.2 TB | 2.3 TB |
| Peak Compute FLOPS | 1.03 PF | 1.37 PF | 10.4 TF |
| Sustained PFS BW | > 160 GB/s | | TBD |
| System Power | < 3.9 MW | < 4.4 MW | |
| Full System Job MTBI | > 25 hours | | |
| System MTBI | > 200 hours | | |

* Total compute nodes including Viz nodes and nodes allocated for other services



Overview

- **Introduction**
- **Dynamic Analysis**
- **Fluid Structural Interaction**
- **Why High Performance Computing?**
- **Questions**