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Research and Developement PETRA IV Magnets, Girders and Vibrations.

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26.2 m-lattice as baseline

Dipole magnets on separate supports



Research project

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The project is conducted in cooperation with the research section 0 "Bionic lightweight design and functional morphology" of the Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine

- Research (AWI), which has a high expertise in bionic lightweight
- С design and structural optimization.

Project goals

- Development of different designs for the PETRA IV girders with high eigenfrequencies above 52 Hz, high static stiffness and low structural mass (< 2500 kg)
- Fabrication of girder prototypes
- Prototype measurements and validation of simulations

Design space

The girder design space (grey) was based on a PETRA III girder (4.2 x 0.65 x 0.525 m). Three magnets of 1.2, 1.8 and 1.2 t mass were included each apportioned among four points. The girder bases were neglected.



 Magnet point Fixed support

Biologically inspired lattice structures

Irregular lattice structures are widely spread in nature. The shells of marine protozoa show an enormous diversity of irregular lattice structures which are not just inspiration for lightweight designs, but also expected to positively influence the vibration characteristics.

Lattice structure inside a hollow box



Topology optimization

Topology optimizations are used to identify an optimal design of a structure within a specified design space. The resulting structure meets the defined goals at lowest possible mass.

Topology optimization result

Structural optimizations based on evolutionary strategy

Inner stiffening structures (ribs and beams) of a hollow box

Starting with the topology optimization result, further optimizations aiming at the defined goals lead to structures with improved properties. The used evolutionary strategy is based on the principles of evolution involving selection, mutation and crossover.

Comparing the different approaches

The figure stated below summarizes the 1st eigenfrequency, stiffness and mass of the three structures. The values are normalized by the reference values obtained for the PETRA III girder and displayed above each bar.

10 9.1 7.6 8

