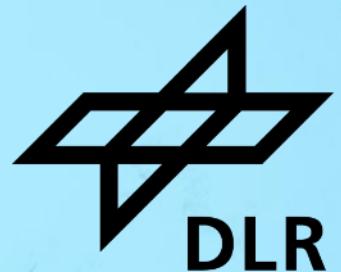


# INDRUTEC-E

Lightweight design and resource conservation potentials for die cast components



# Present throughout Germany





**Material and Process  
Applications for Road  
and Rail Vehicles**

**Vehicle Architectures  
and Lightweight  
Design Concepts**

**Vehicle Energy  
Concepts**

**Alternative  
Energy  
Converters**

**Vehicle Systems and  
Technology  
Assessment**

# INSTITUTE OF VEHICLE CONCEPTS – OUR RESEARCH FIELDS

# InDrutec- E

## The consortium



### Industry partner



**BOSCH**



**GUHRING**

### Research institutes



**Hochschule Aalen**



### Associated partners



Gefördert durch:



Bundesministerium  
für Wirtschaft  
und Energie

aufgrund eines Beschlusses  
des Deutschen Bundestages

# Objectives and Measures

## Objectives



## Measures

Reduction of the component weight

- Constructive optimization
- Alloys of higher strength
- Magnesium as a lightweight option

Cost reduction

- Reduced material usage
- Improved manufacturing processes
- High recycled material content

Reduction of the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint

- Optimized aluminum secondary alloys
- Lightweight construction

Reduction of scrap rates

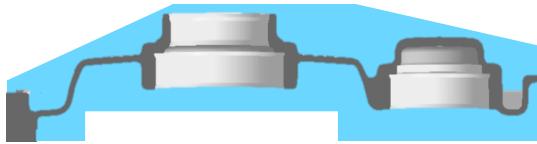
- Vacural casting for magnesium as an improved production technology
- New mech. machining solutions

# DESIGN METHODOLOGY

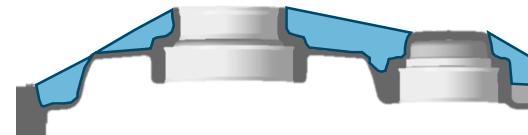
# Weaknesses of current digitized development processes for castings



Step 1- Functional concept  
Draft contour and design space



Step 2- Topology optimization  
Proposal rib pattern

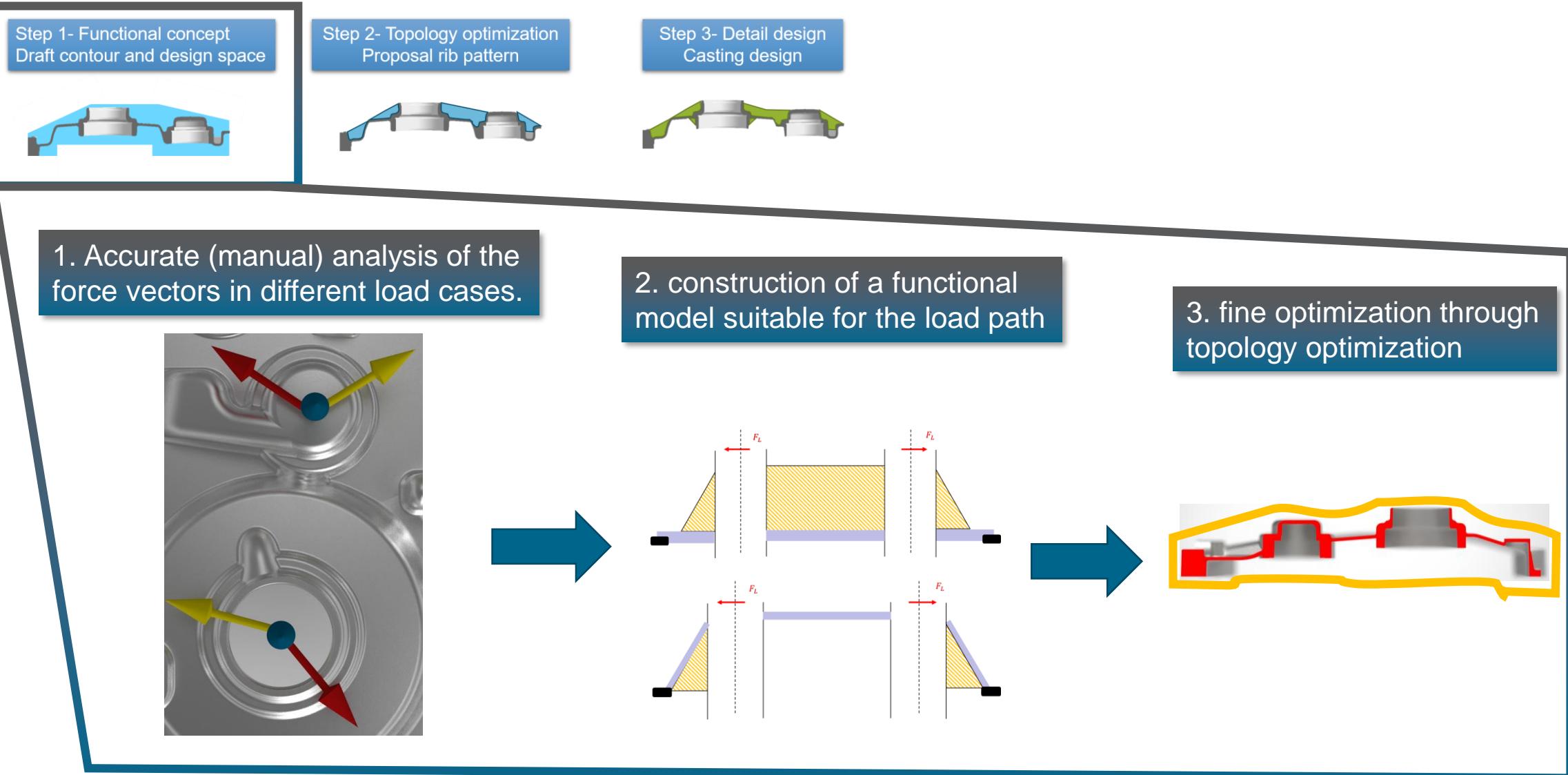


Step 3- Detail design  
Casting design



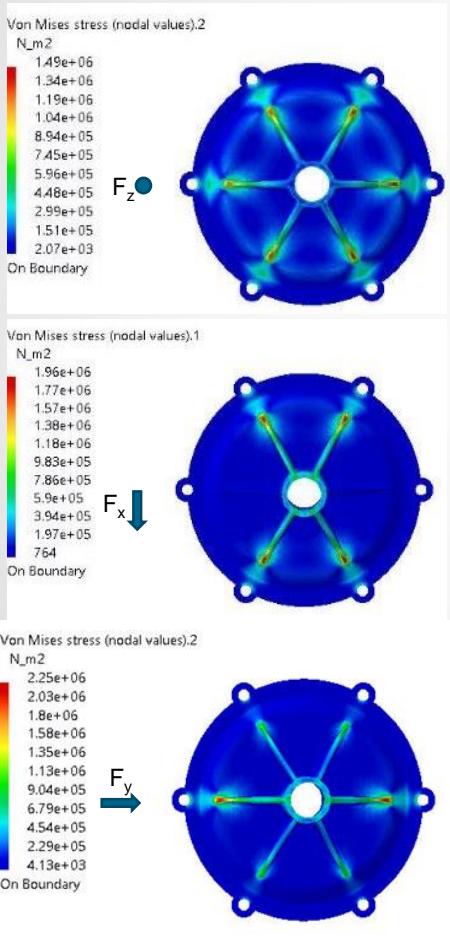
**Problem:** The effects of specifications from the first step "function concept" for the design space of the topology optimization is often strongly underestimated.

# Improved design method

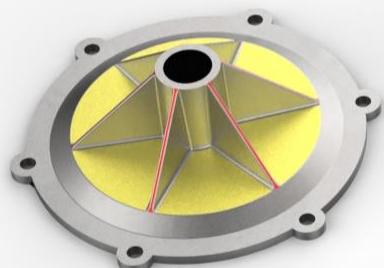


# Potentials of the design methodology for castings

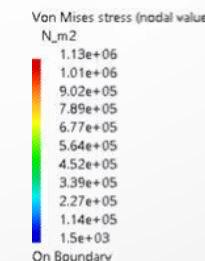
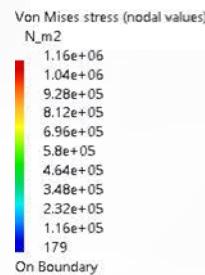
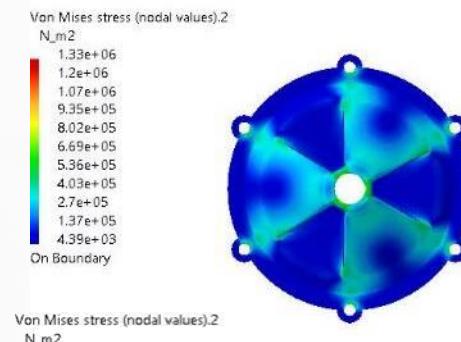
## Example: Lid with bearing under alternating load



Conventional design



Alternative designs



Effects

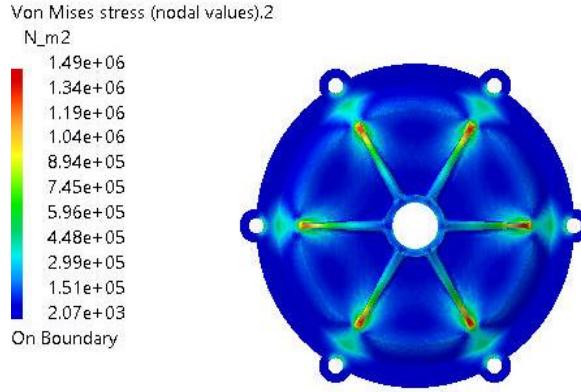
$\sigma_{\max}$ : -11%  
 $\Delta s$  : -34%

$\sigma_{\max}$ : -41%  
 $\Delta s$  : -59%

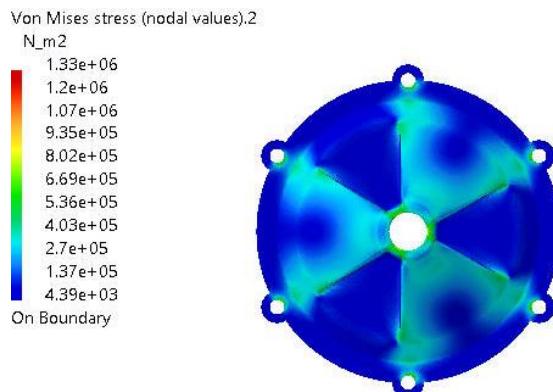
$\sigma_{\max}$ : -50%  
 $\Delta s$  : -54%

# Potentials of the design methodology for castings

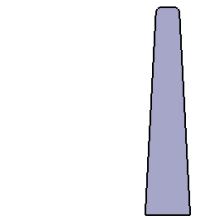
## Example: Lid with bearing under alternating load



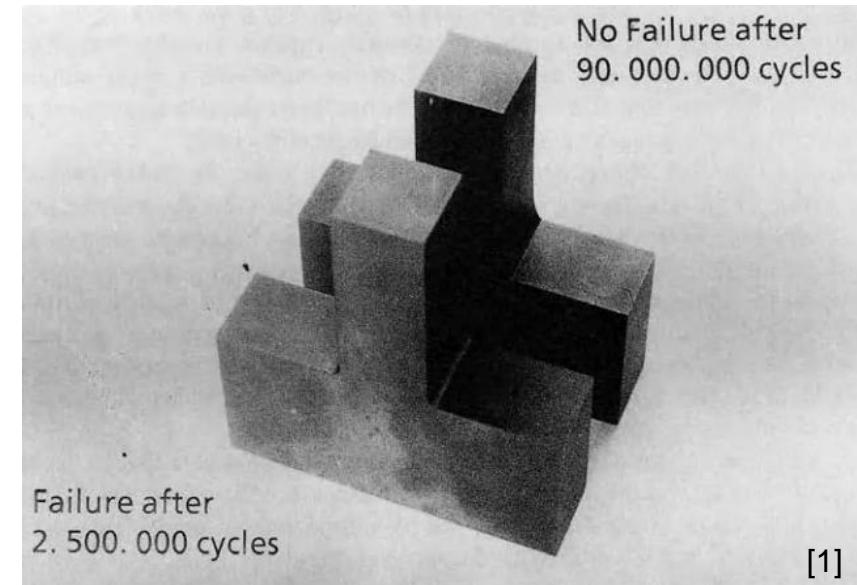
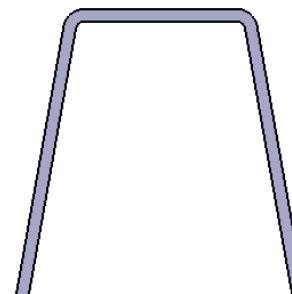
$$K_{t1} = \frac{\sigma_{max}}{\sigma_n} = 719$$



$$K_{t2} = \frac{\sigma_{max}}{\sigma_n} = 302$$



$$\frac{K_{t1}}{K_{t2}} = 2.38$$

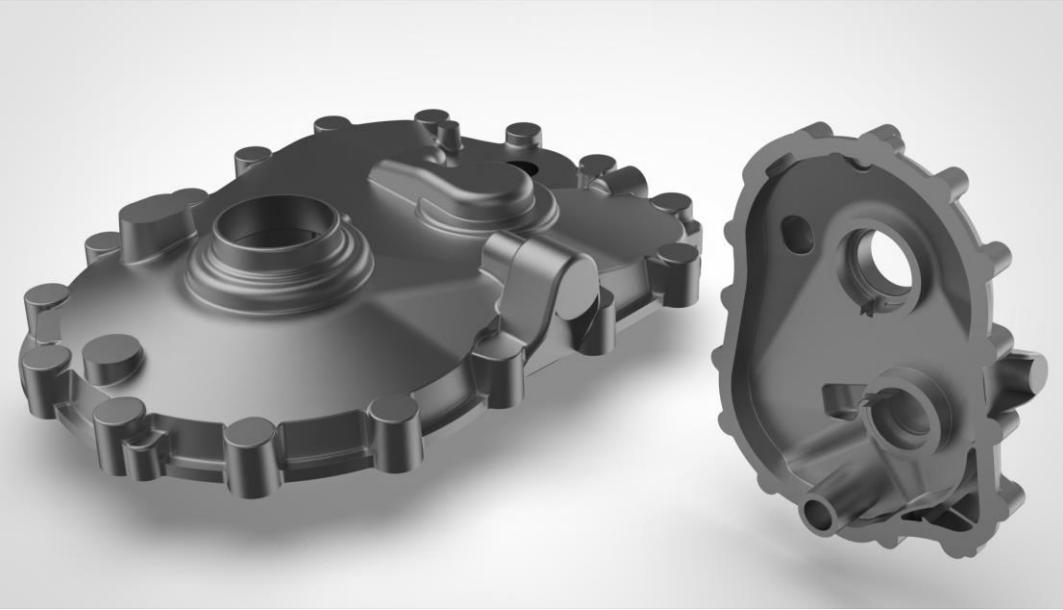


[1]

*Increased cycles by 36 times  
for a ratio of stress factors = 1.72*

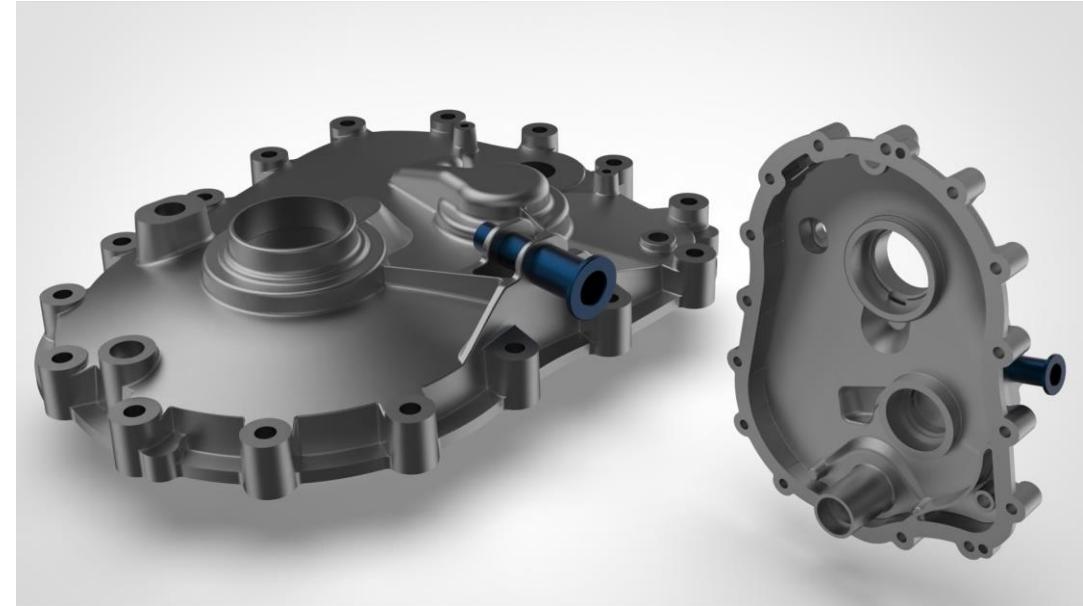
# Component evolution gearbox cover

## Stepwise optimization of the reference



Basic concept using the described design method

- Bearing rings closed
- Variable sleeve as mounting point
- Air outlet rotated 90°

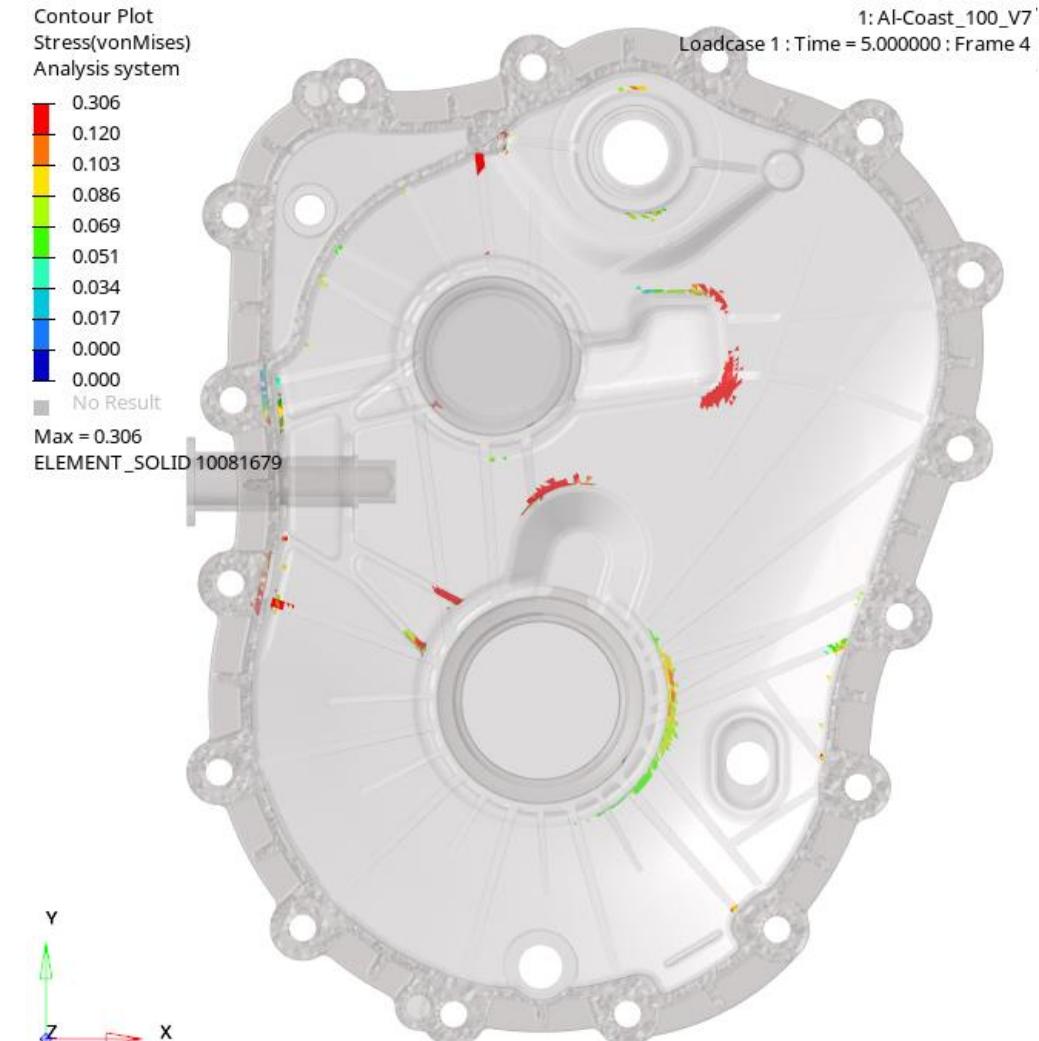


# Further iterative optimization through topology optimization and simulation



## Design for static strength

- Investigation of overload cases as well as tightness at the flange
- Automated analysis according to FKM guideline



## Design for operational strength

- Investigation of the loads occurring during operation
- Automated fatigue analysis according to FKM guideline

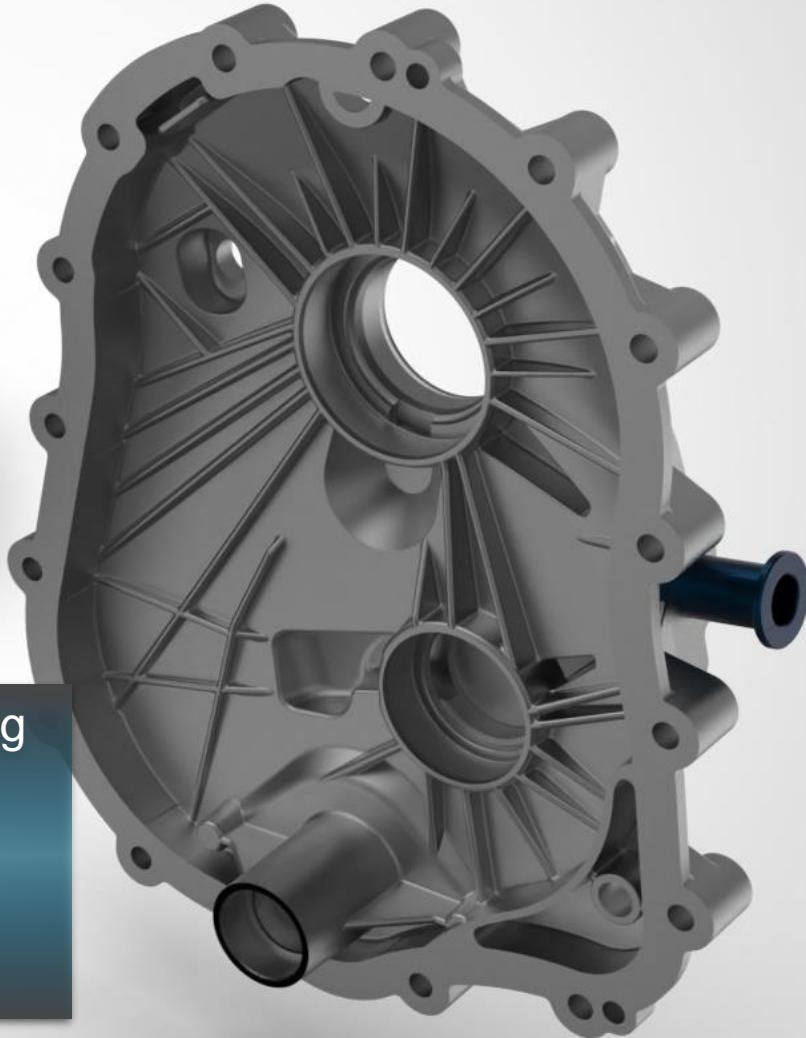
## → Optimization of the geometry

# Component evolution gearbox cover

## Third optimization of the reference (aluminum)

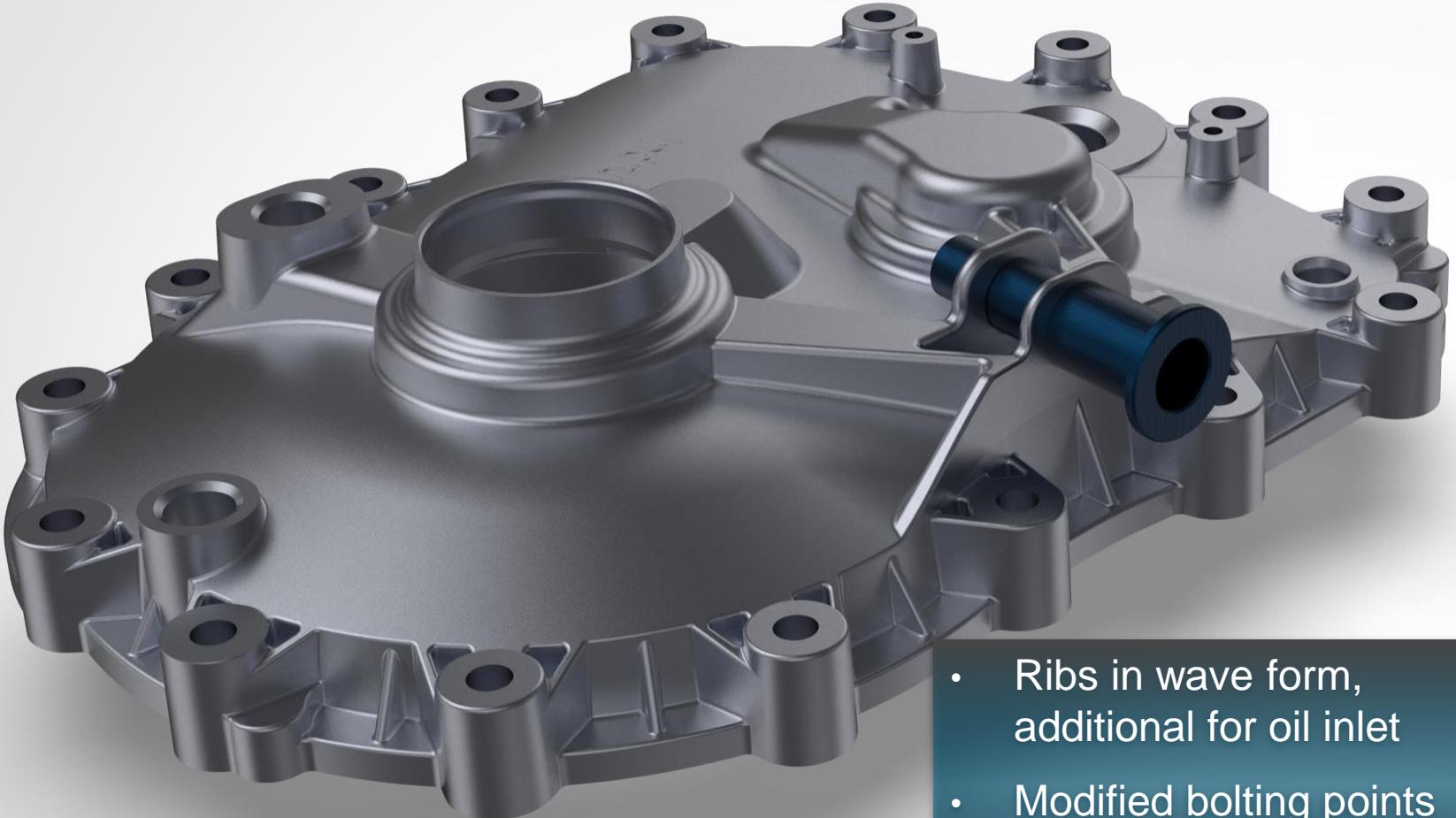


- Local surface thickening
- Ribs in wave form
- Modified bolting points
- Stiffening of the flange

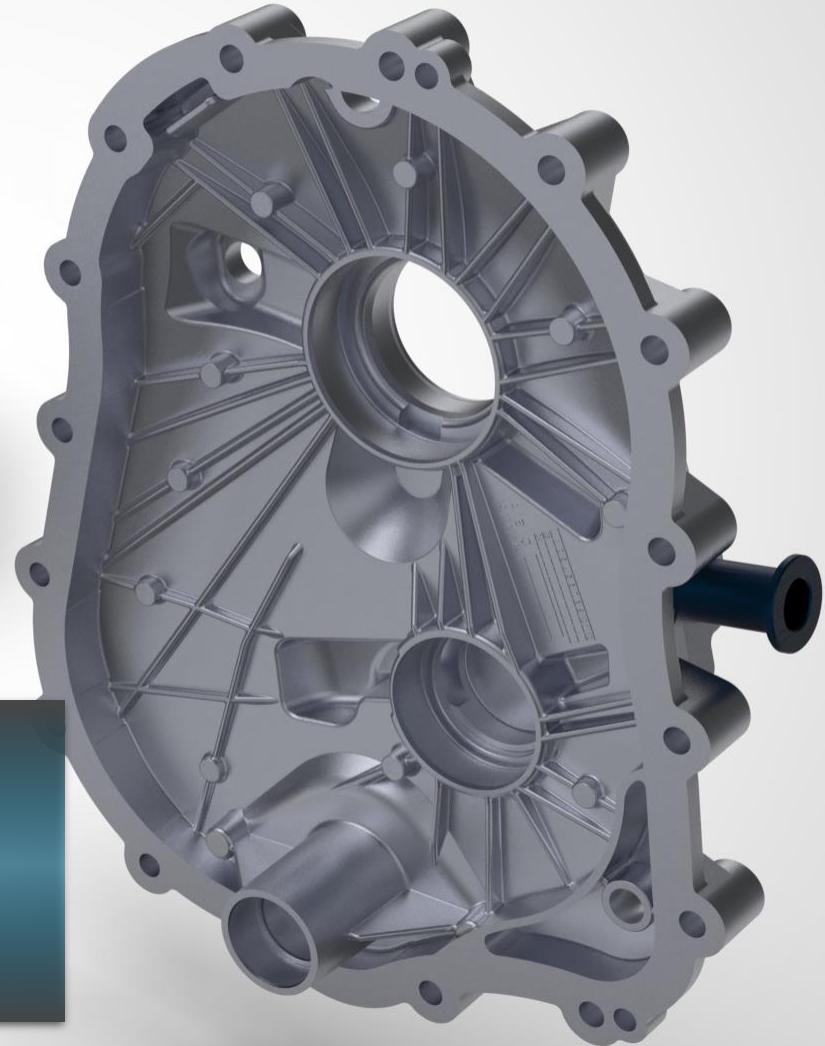


# Component evolution gearbox cover

## Third optimization of the reference (magnesium)

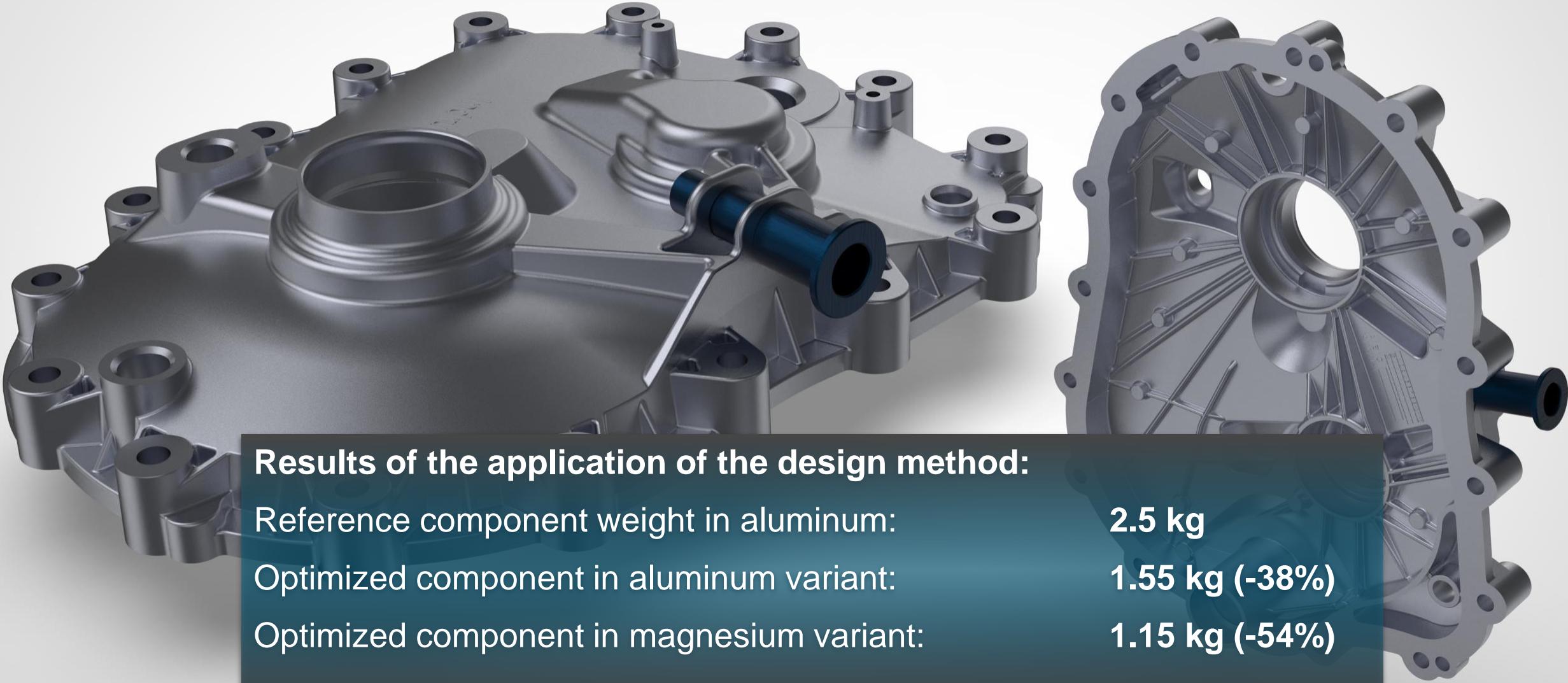


- Ribs in wave form,  
additional for oil inlet
- Modified bolting points
- Stiffening of the flange



# Component evolution gearbox cover

## Result overview



### Results of the application of the design method:

Reference component weight in aluminum:

**2.5 kg**

Optimized component in aluminum variant:

**1.55 kg (-38%)**

Optimized component in magnesium variant:

**1.15 kg (-54%)**

# Achievement of project objectives to date InDruTec- E



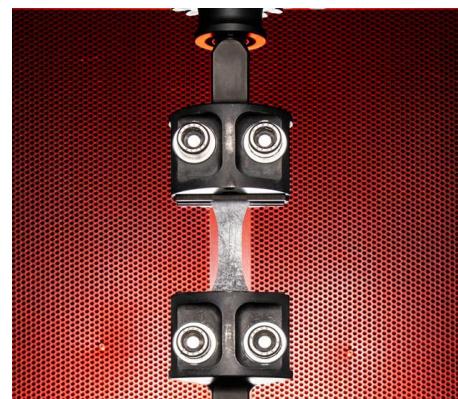
## Objectives



## Results



Reduction of  
component weight



Cost reduction



Reduction of the  
CO<sub>2</sub> footprint



Reduction of scrap  
rates

-38%/-54%

> -40%

> -60%

T.b.d.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

**QUESTIONS, PROJECT IDEAS OR INTEREST AS A PROJECT  
PARTNER?**

**PLEASE CONTACT US! CONTACT PERSONS ARE:**



**Dr.-Ing. Elmar Beeh**  
**+49 711 6862 - 8311**  
**Elmar.Beeh@dlr.de**



**Marc Rohrer**  
**+49 711 6862 - 8122**  
**Marc.Rohrer@dlr.de**



**Janis Ganzenmüller**  
**+49 711 6862 - 8617**  
**Janis.Ganzenmueller@dlr.de**



**Giovanni Piazza**  
**+49 711 6862 - 8154**  
**Giovanni.Piazza@dlr.de**