



**上汽集团**  
SAIC MOTOR  
UK Technical Centre



# Adhesive Placement Optimisation in BIW Design

**Barry Curtis**

**Senior Body Structures  
Architecture Manager**

# ABOUT

SAIC MOTOR

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## ABOUT SAIC MOTOR

China's **LARGEST** automobile company, founded in 1958 and headquarters in Shanghai

SAIC Motor's business covers the research, production and vehicle sales of both passenger cars and commercial vehicles. It also covers components including engines, gearboxes, powertrains, chassis, interior and exterior and miscellaneous electronic components, and logistics, vehicle telematics, second-hand vehicle transactions and auto finance services.

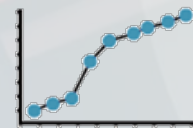
# Who are SAIC?

**5**

**MILLION +**  
units sold worldwide

**60<sup>TH</sup>**

**FORTUNE 500**  
**COMPANY**  
in the world





上汽集团  
SAIC MOTOR

上海大众汽车  
SHANGHAI VOLKSWAGEN

50%



51%

SAIC Motor  
Passenger Vehicle  
Company (SMPV)



申沃客车  
SUNWIN



SAIC Motor  
Technical Centre (SMTC)

SMPV  
Manufactur

SMTC Anting

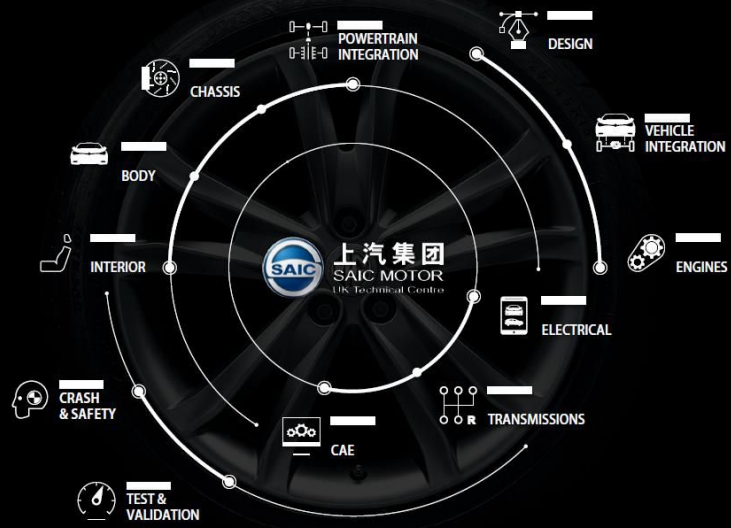
SMTC Nanjing

SMTC UK

SAIC-CP Motor  
Co LTD

Pukou  
(Nanjing

## SMTC UK CAPABILITY





**ROEWE**  
is for the domestic Chinese market only

Has traditional values of refinement, quality and space.

Combined with contemporary styling and world-class engineering.



**MG**  
is a global brand, on sale in 40 countries around the world

Provides modern and individual styling.

In 2014 MG was the fastest growing brand in the UK with an incredible 361% increase in sales.

Combined with high technology, great dynamics and global engineering quality.



**MG GS**

Developed by SAIC Motor UK and China Technical Centres

Launched in China, 2015.  
European launch in June 2016.

In May 2016, the first reveal of the car will be at the London Motor Show.



**MG 6**

Developed by SAIC Motor UK and China Technical Centres

Shared platform with Roewe 550

Launched in China, 2009  
European launch Q1 2011



**MG GT**

Developed by SAIC Motor UK and China Technical Centres

Shared platform with Roewe 350 & MG 5

Launched in China, 2014



**MG 5**

Developed by SAIC Motor UK and China Technical Centres

Shared platform with Roewe 350

Launched in China, 2012



**MG 3**

Developed by SAIC Motor UK and China Technical Centres

Launched in China, 2011

Launched in UK, 2013



# Presentation Contents

- 1** Vehicle Mass Trend
- 2** BIW Trends
- 3** High Strength Adhesive Trend
- 4** Influence of Adhesive
- 5** SMTC UK Adhesive Study
- 6** The Optimisation Model and Process
- 7** Baseline Run
- 8** Results
- 9** Summary

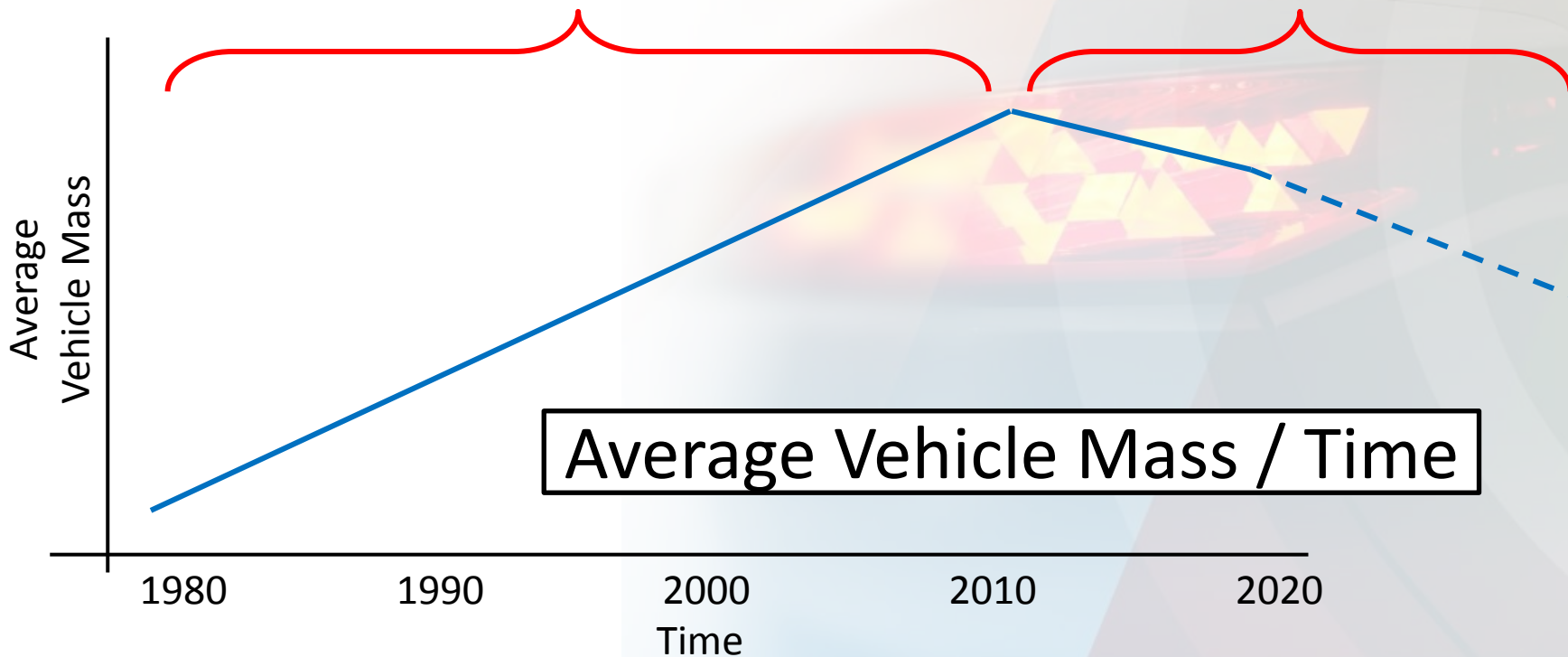


# Vehicle Mass Trend

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Increase in customer expectations (safety, comfort, feature) added to the vehicle weight in this period

The search for fuel economy improvements and CO2 output reduction has reversed the mass trend



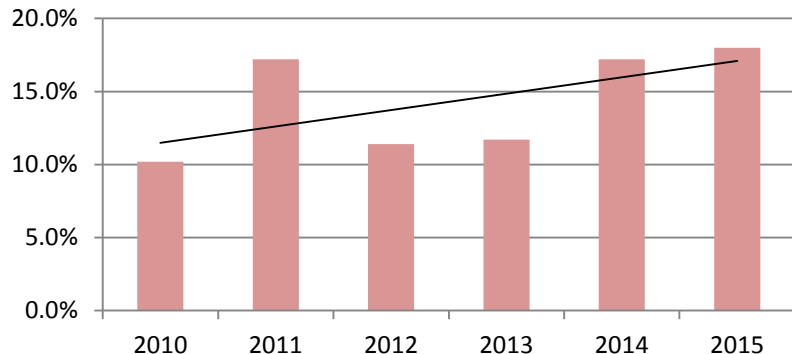
Average Vehicle Mass / Time



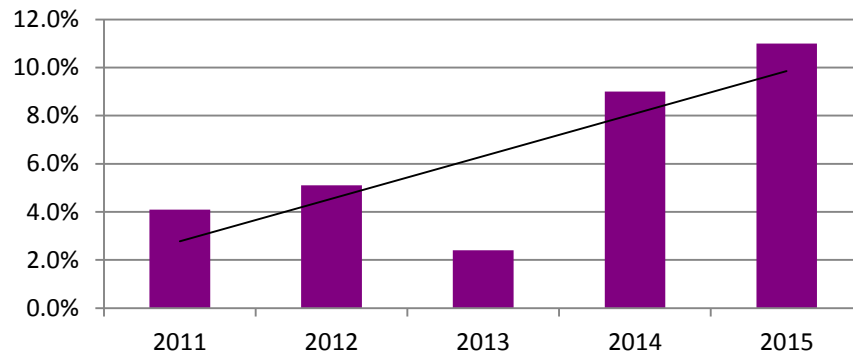
# Sub £30k vehicle BIW Trends

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### Advanced and Ultra High Strength Steel Use / Year



### Press Hardened Steel Use / Year



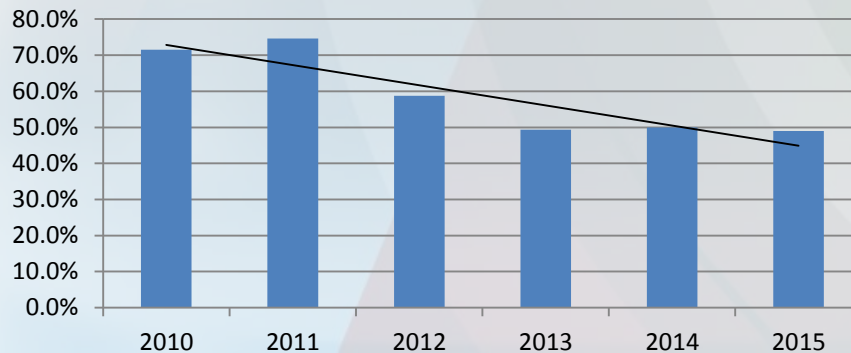
Very High Strength Steels materials are being used in higher percentages



Obviously the percentage of lower strength Steel is in decline



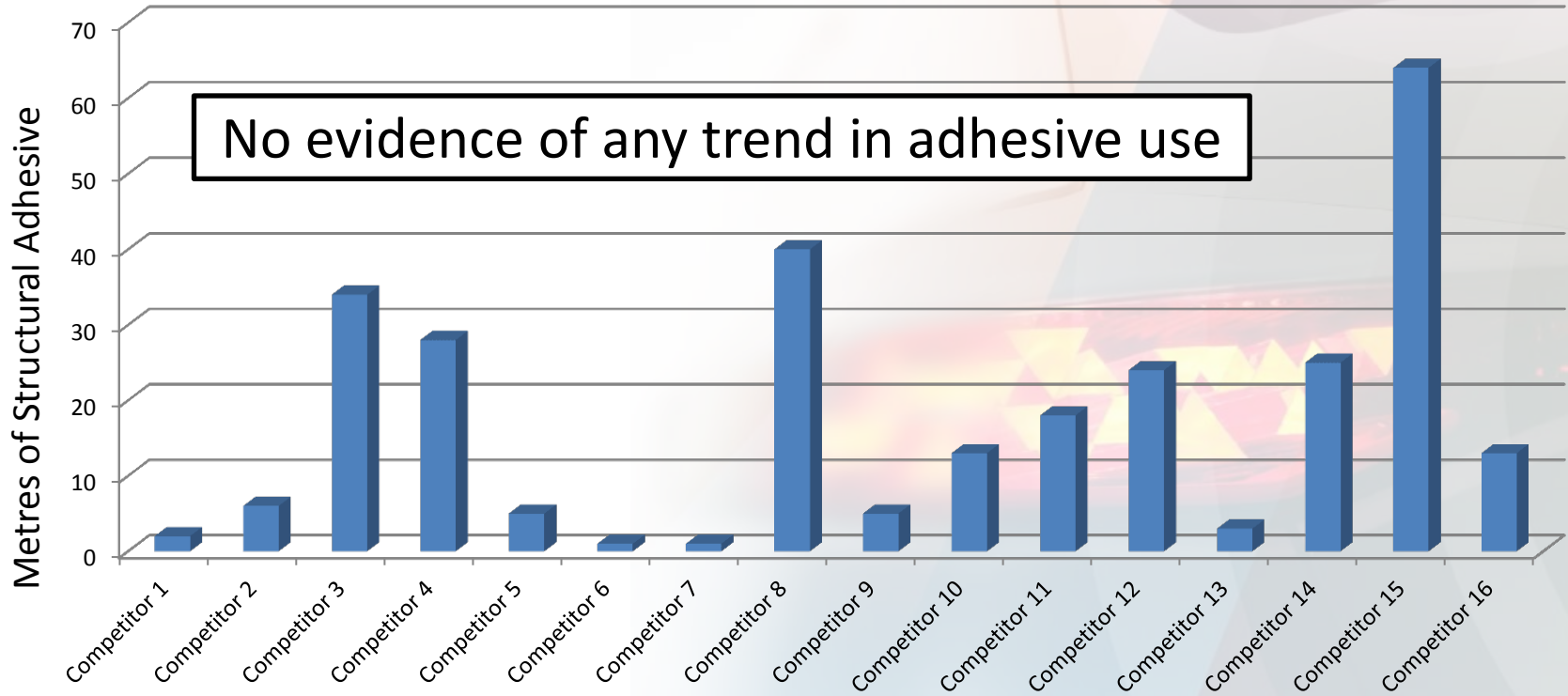
### Mild and High Strength Steel Use / Year





# High Strength Adhesive

- 1 Vehicle Mass Trend
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No evidence of any trend in adhesive use



Vehicles Arranged by Estimated Retail Price



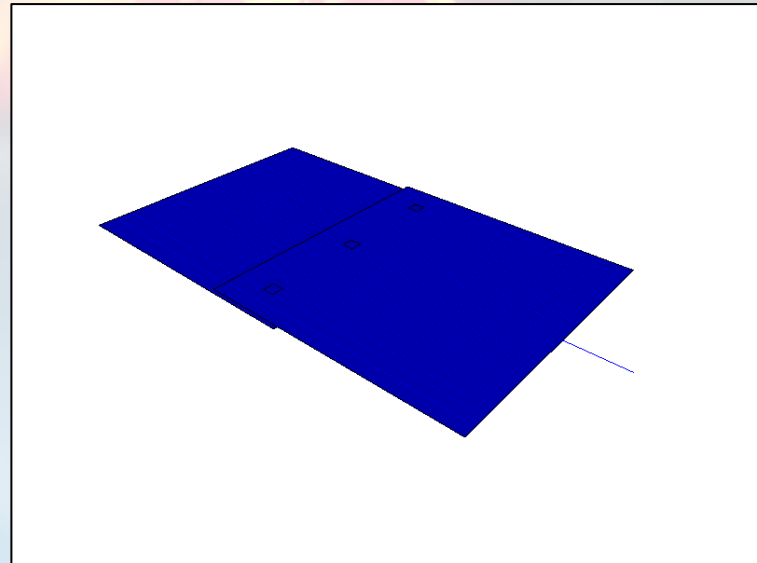
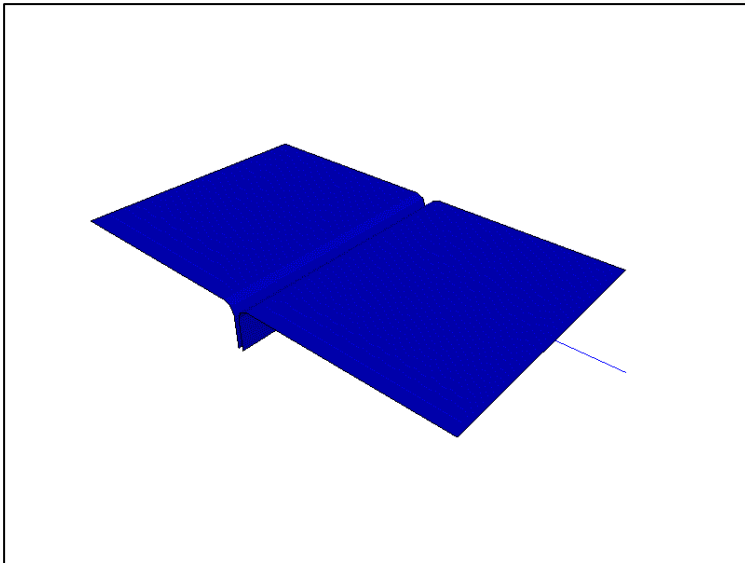
Data from ECB 2013 – 2015 (Steel BIW only)



# Influence of Adhesive

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- Adding adhesive to a spot welded joint makes it:
  - 4 times stiffer in peel
  - 1.5 times stiffer in vertical torsion
  - 5 times stiffer in shear
  - 2.2 times stiffer in horizontal torsion
- This means it's difficult for an engineer to predict what the effect on each joint will be





# SMTC Study

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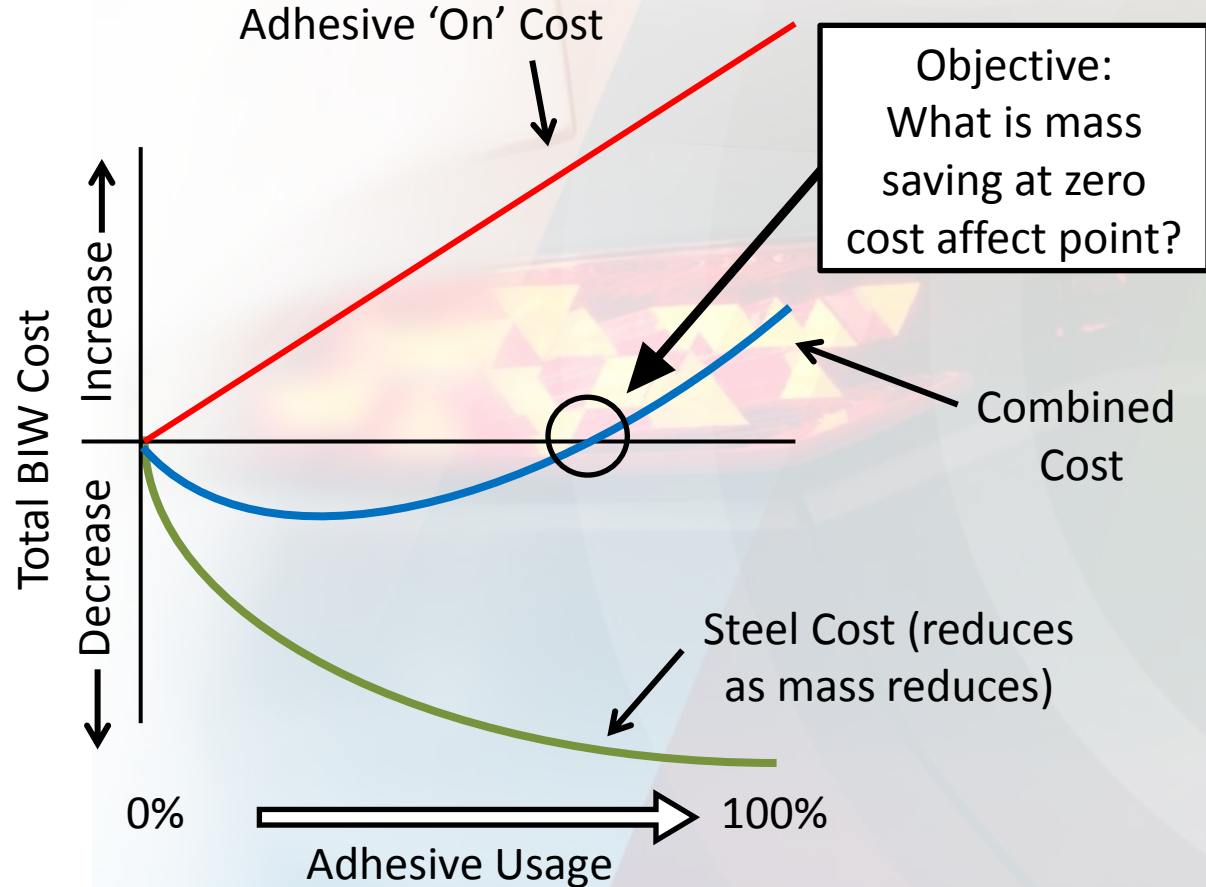
- **Assumption:** using high strength adhesive in the BIW weld flanges will allow a down gauging of some BIW parts allowing a weight reduction without affecting vehicle performance
- **Problem:** the increase in cost from using adhesive in 100% of weld flanges is likely to be prohibitive
- **Study Proposal:** An optimisation study to evaluate where and at what quantity in the BIW structure we can add adhesive to allow a weight reduction without an increase of BIW cost



# Study Process

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1. Perform a number of optimisations at various distinct adhesive percentage use cases
2. For each optimisation plot the adhesive cost, steel cost and combined cost against the adhesive percentage
3. The point at which the combined cost crosses over the neutral cost axis shows the optimum adhesive use for no cost affect
4. Determine the weight reduction available at this point

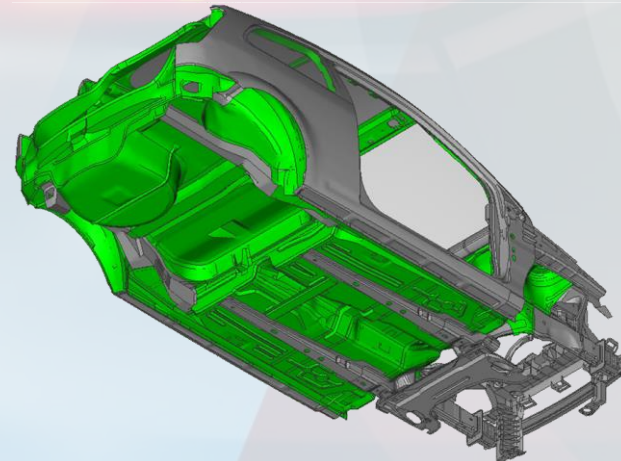
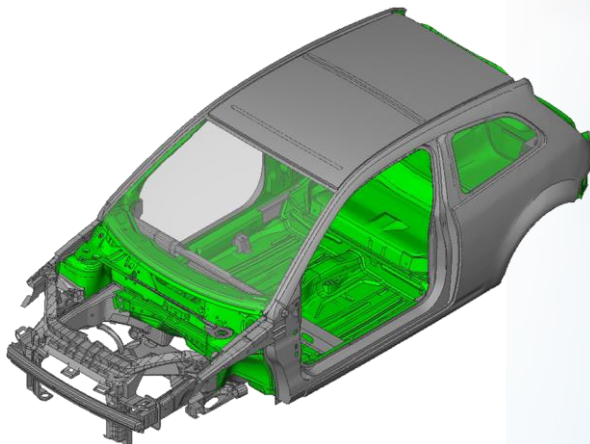




# Optimisation Model and Objective

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- The CAE optimisation was undertaken using a proven known 3 door CAE model
- The objective is to minimise mass by down gauging panel thicknesses whilst maintaining vehicle performance through the addition of high strength adhesive
- The optimiser is only able to alter the green panels pictured below; the grey parts have been excluded from the optimisation as the gauge is determined by the panel geometry (skin panels) or by an over riding function (crash performance)
- Discrete thickness values limit the panel thickness change to panel gauges already present in the vehicle (between 0.65 and 5.0mm)

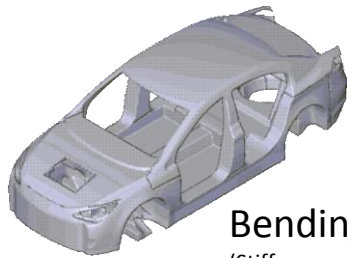




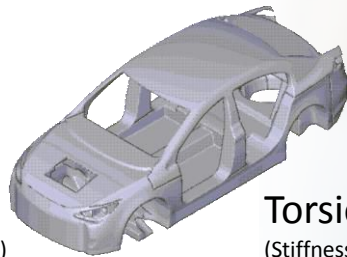
# Constraints and Load Cases

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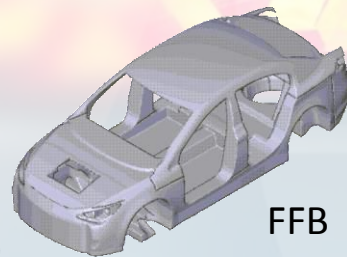
- Performance constrained as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> mode is constrained as a lower bound.
  - For all other load cases the global strain energy is constrained as an upper bound.
- The optimiser will add set amounts of adhesive to constrain the performance but reduce the mass of the system
- Load Cases (picture taken from another project) shown below
- Linierized crash loads are used where applicable



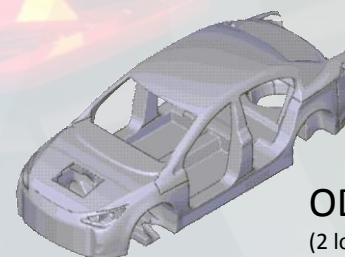
**Bending**  
(Stiffness and 1<sup>st</sup> Mode)



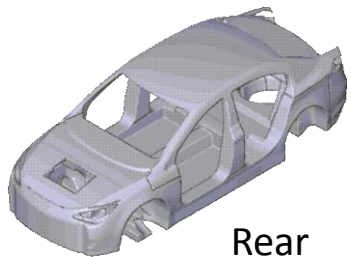
**Torsion**  
(Stiffness and 1<sup>st</sup> Mode)



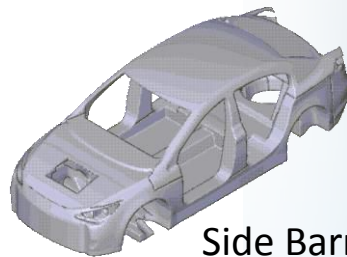
**FFB**



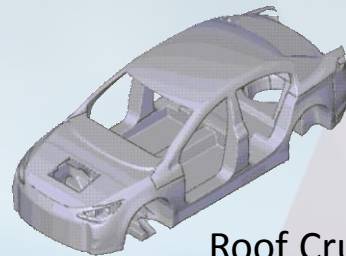
**ODB**  
(2 load cases)



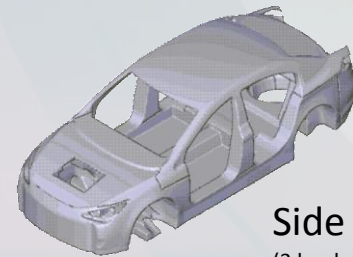
**Rear**



**Side Barrier**



**Roof Crush**



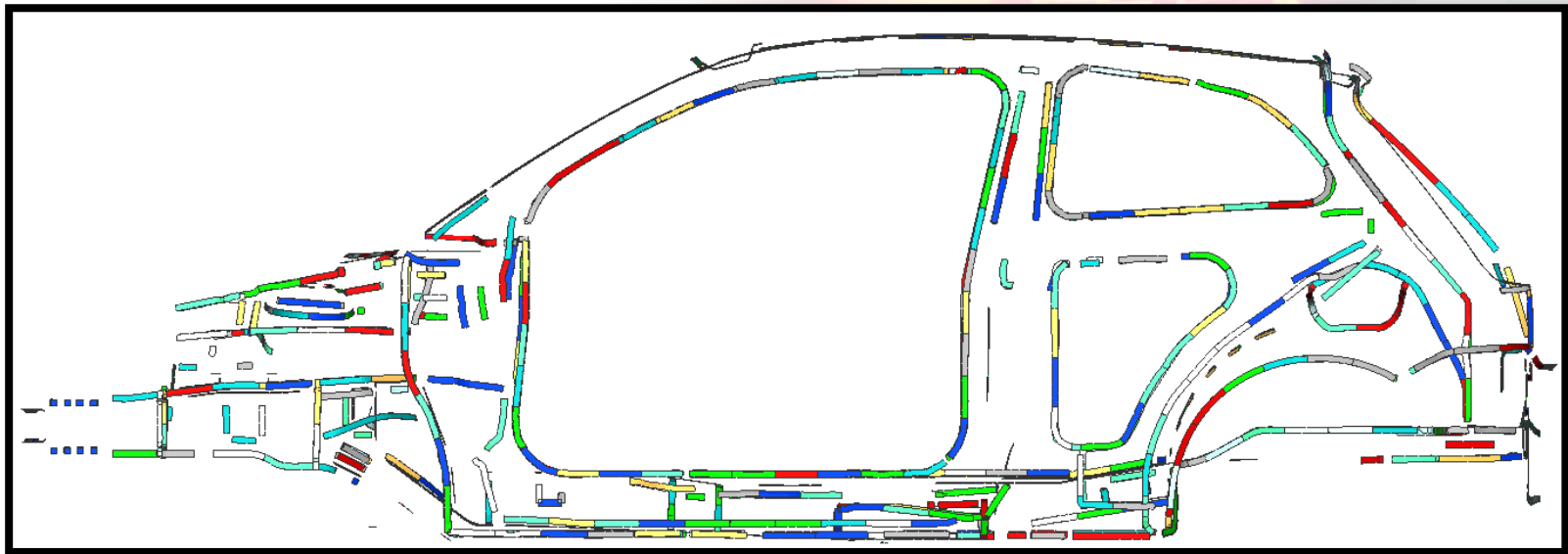
**Side Pole**  
(3 load cases)



# Adhesive setup

1	Vehicle Mass Trend
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- Solid adhesive elements defined at all BIW panel joints.
- Topology optimisation used to remove adhesive not required to achieve target performance.
- The adhesive was split into 100mm design regions and the optimiser forced to only select full regions
  - Prevented the optimiser spacing the adhesive between the spotwelds





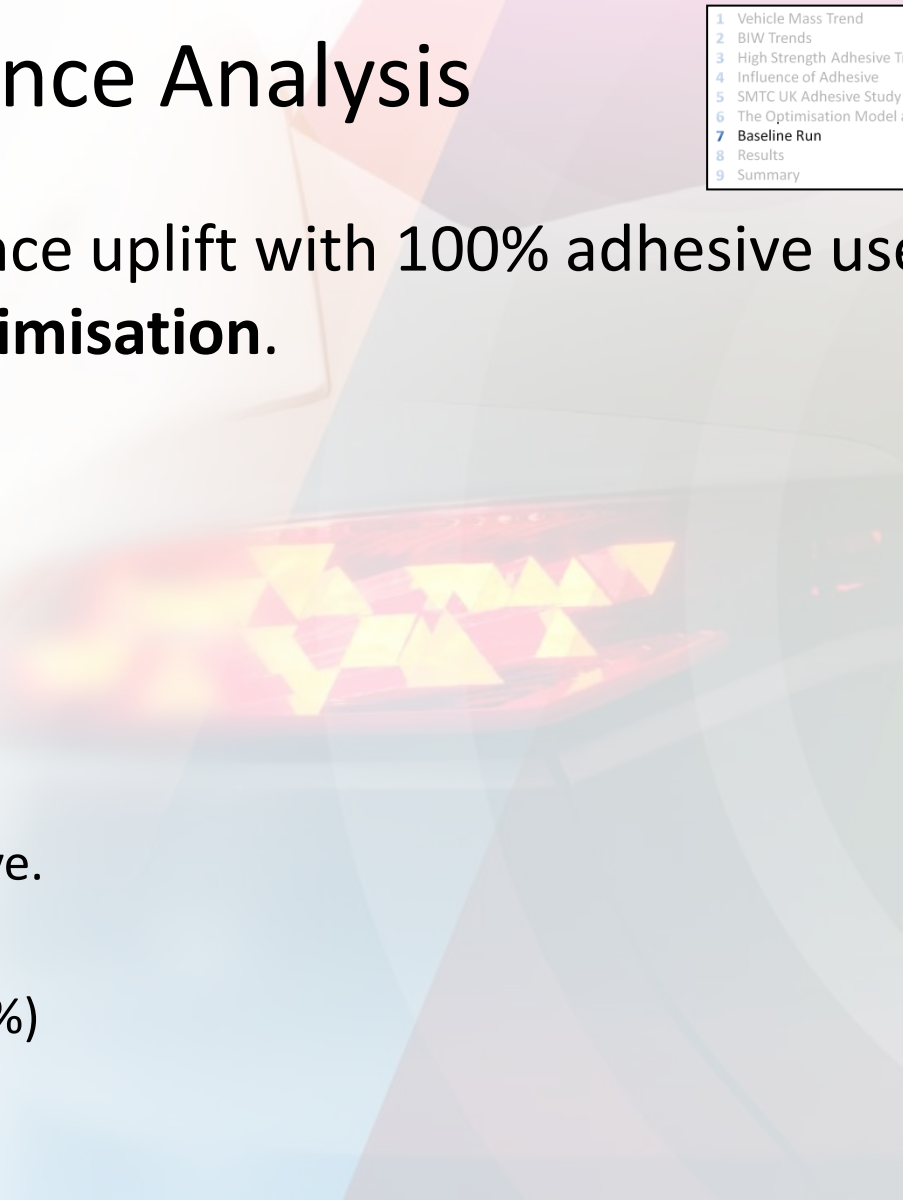
# Baseline Performance Analysis

1	Vehicle Mass Trend
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7	<b>Baseline Run</b>
8	Results
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Baseline runs to see performance uplift with 100% adhesive use.

**No optimisation.**

- Baseline - spot-welds only.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Mode : 42 Hertz
  - Torsion : 18,100 Nm/deg
  - Bending : 6.4 kN/mm
  
- With spot-welds and 100% adhesive.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Mode : 45 Hertz (+3 Hertz)
  - Torsion : 21,901 Nm/deg (+21%)
  - Bending : 7.1 kN/mm (+10%)





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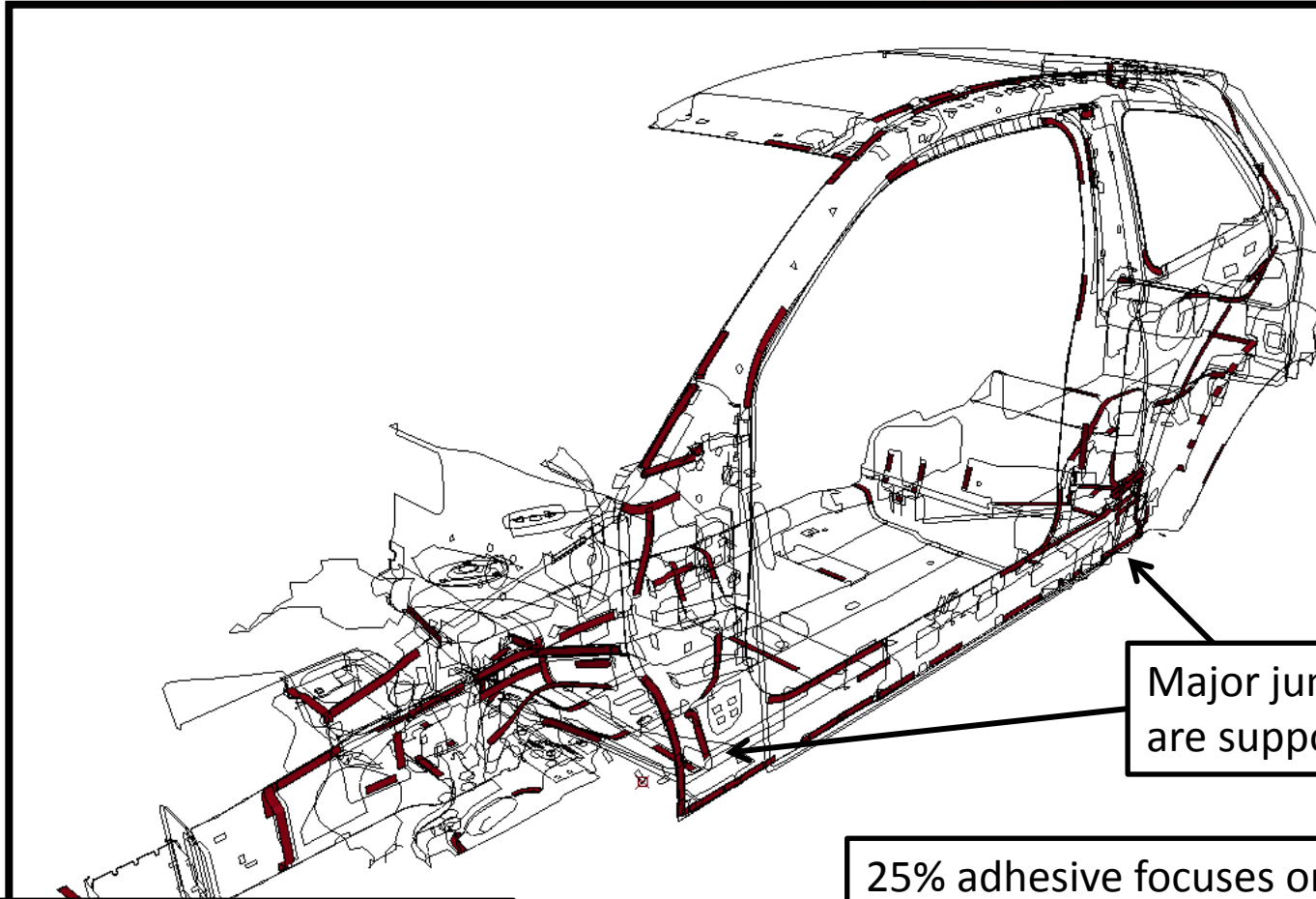
1	Vehicle Mass Trend
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# Optimisation Results



# 25% Coverage

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Major junctions are supported

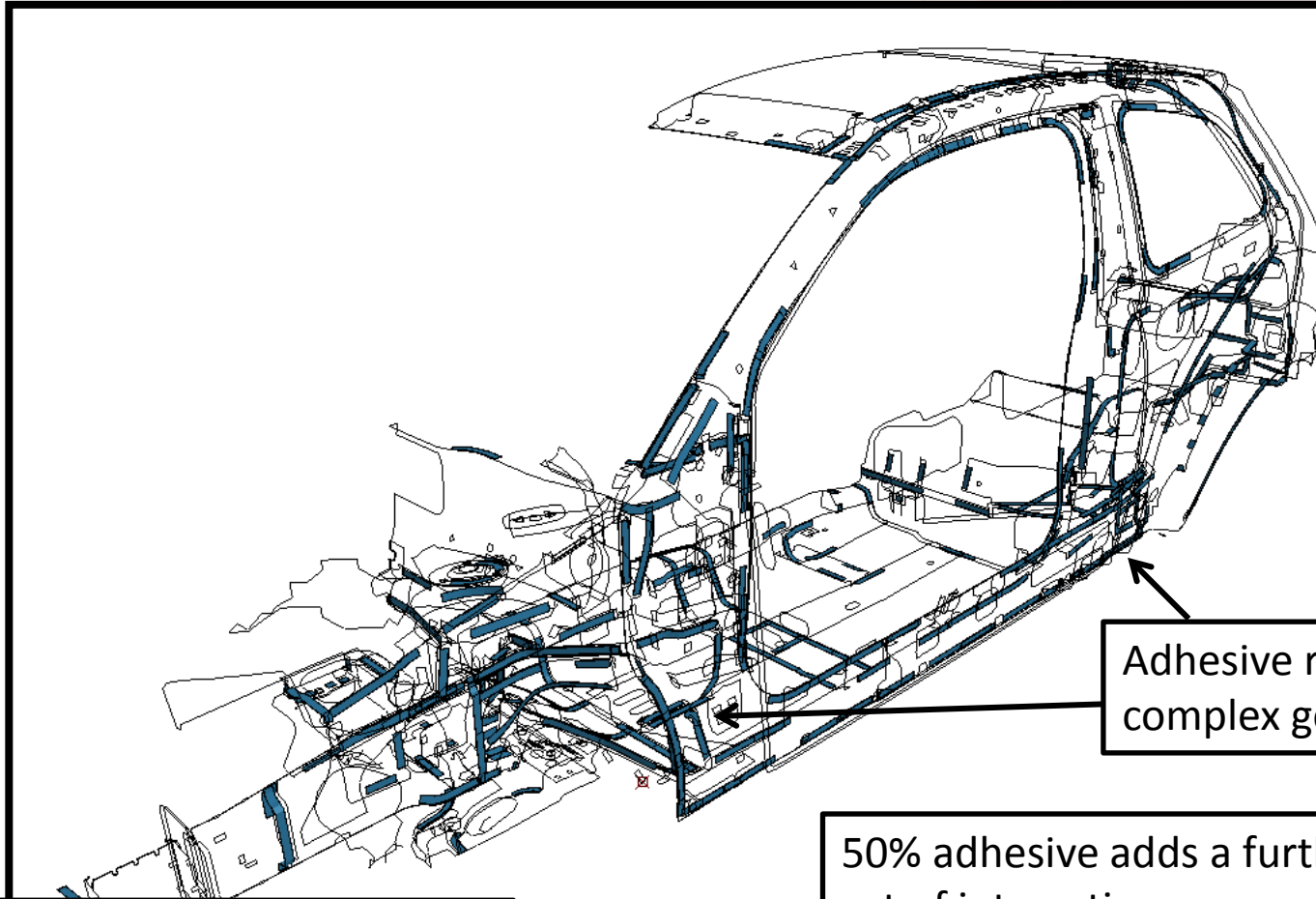
25% adhesive focuses on fundamental basic areas of interest

BIW Mass reduction: 6.9 %



# 50% Coverage

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Adhesive reinforces complex geometry

50% adhesive adds a further set of interesting areas

BIW Mass reduction: 10.0 %

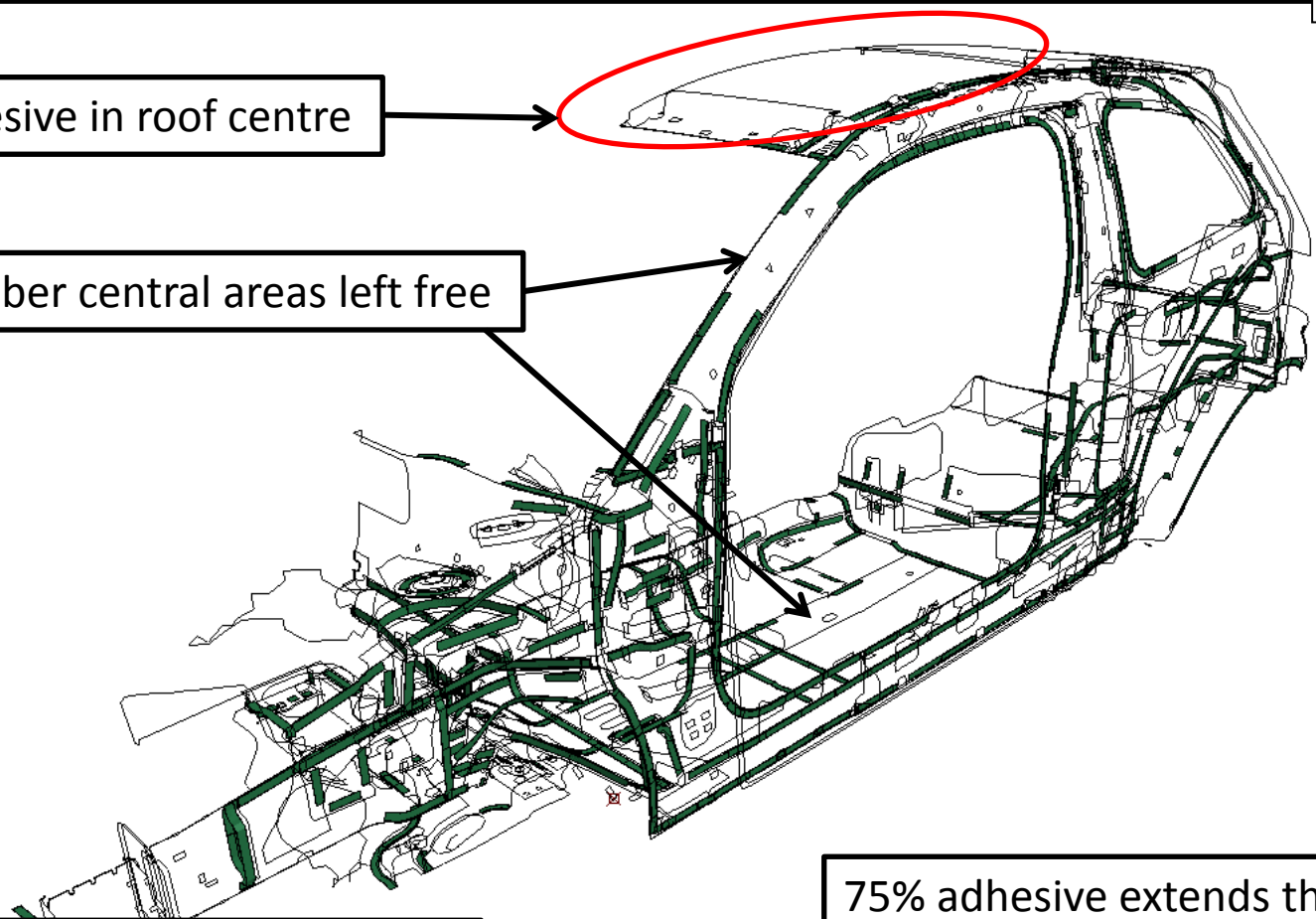


# 75% Coverage

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No adhesive in roof centre

Long member central areas left free



BIW Mass reduction: 10.7 %

75% adhesive extends the previous set but doesn't add many new ones.



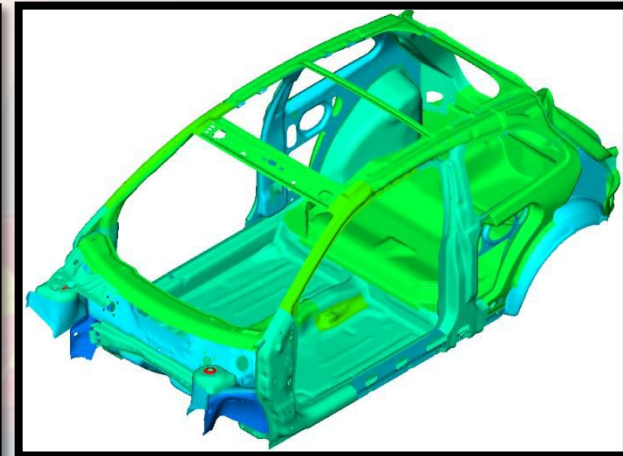
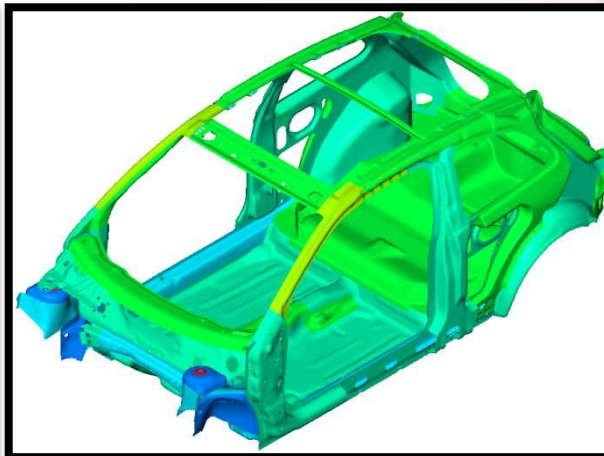
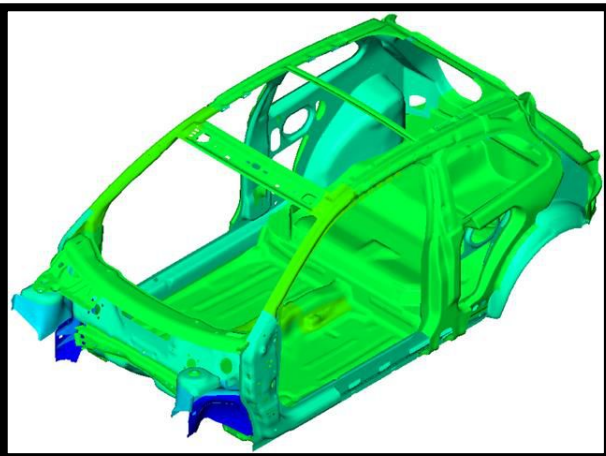
# Down Gauge Comparison

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25% Adhesive

50% Adhesive

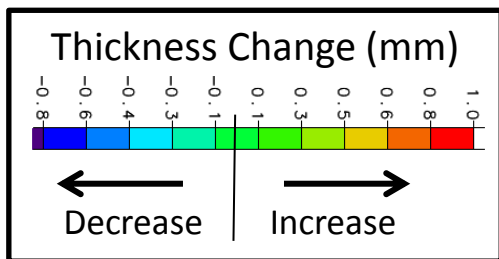
75% Adhesive



6.9 % Reduction

10.0 % Reduction

10.7 % Reduction





# All Optimisation Results

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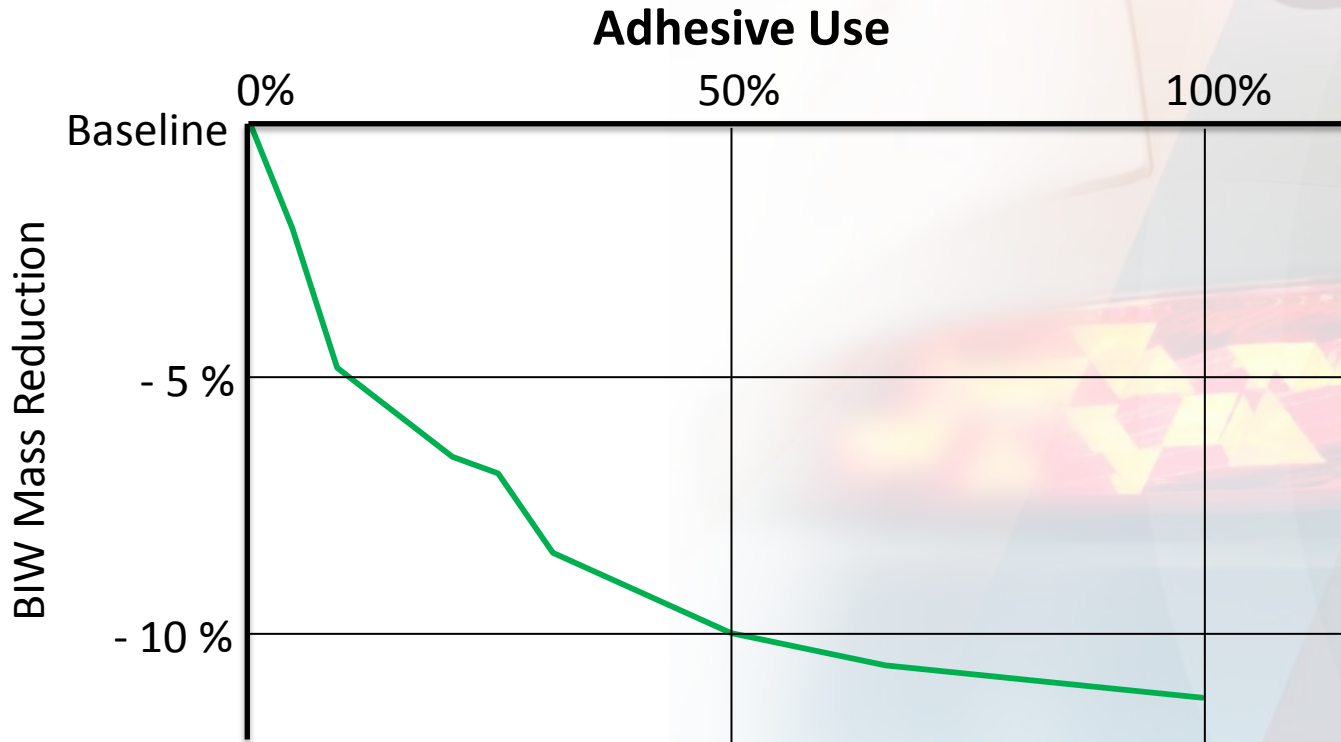
- 8 studies carried out in total
- Results show useful and interesting trends which allow us to start plotting comparisons.

<b>Adhesive (%)</b>	<b>Mass reduction due to adhesive (%)</b>
0	0
5	2.0
10	4.8
20	6.6
25	6.9
30	8.5
50	10.0
75	10.7
100	11.3



# BIW System Mass Change

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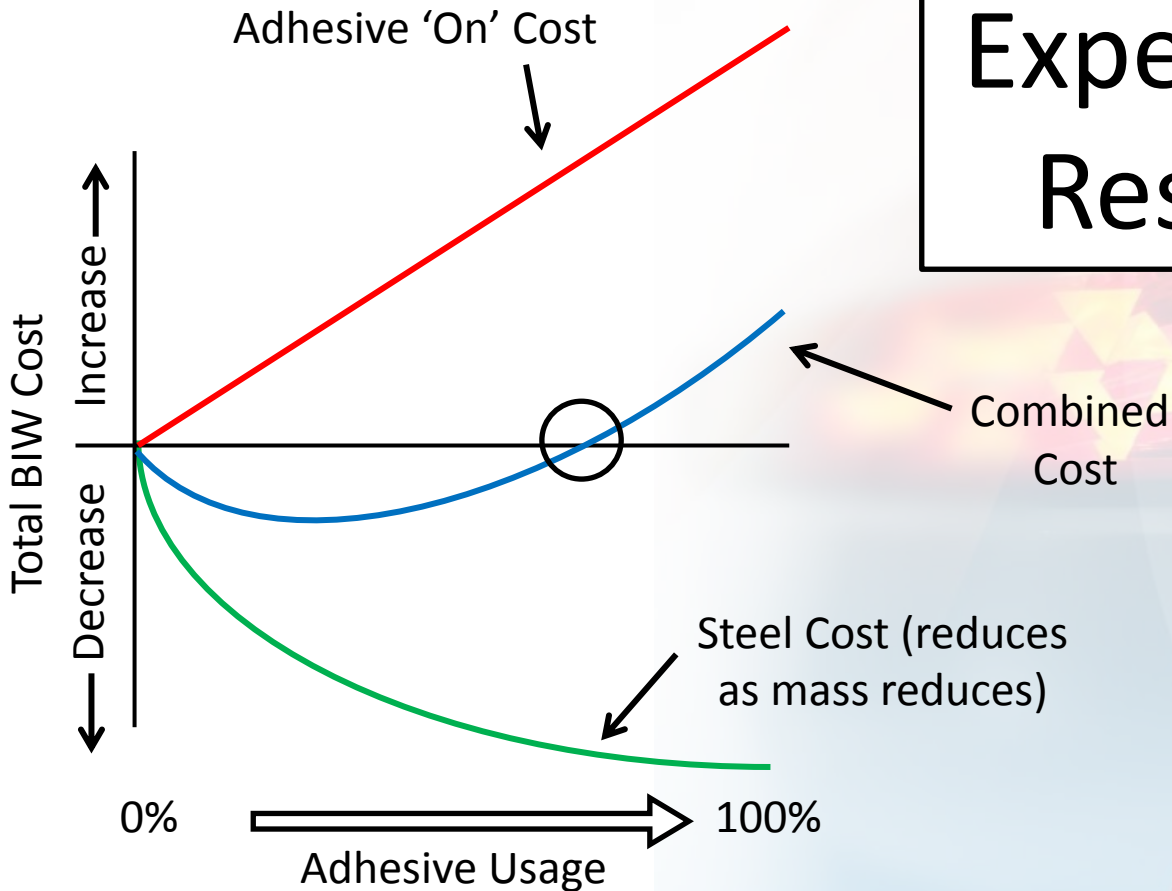
- The first 50% of adhesive removed 10 % of the BIW Mass
- The second 50% removes only a further 1.7%



# Reminder

- 1 Vehicle Mass Trend
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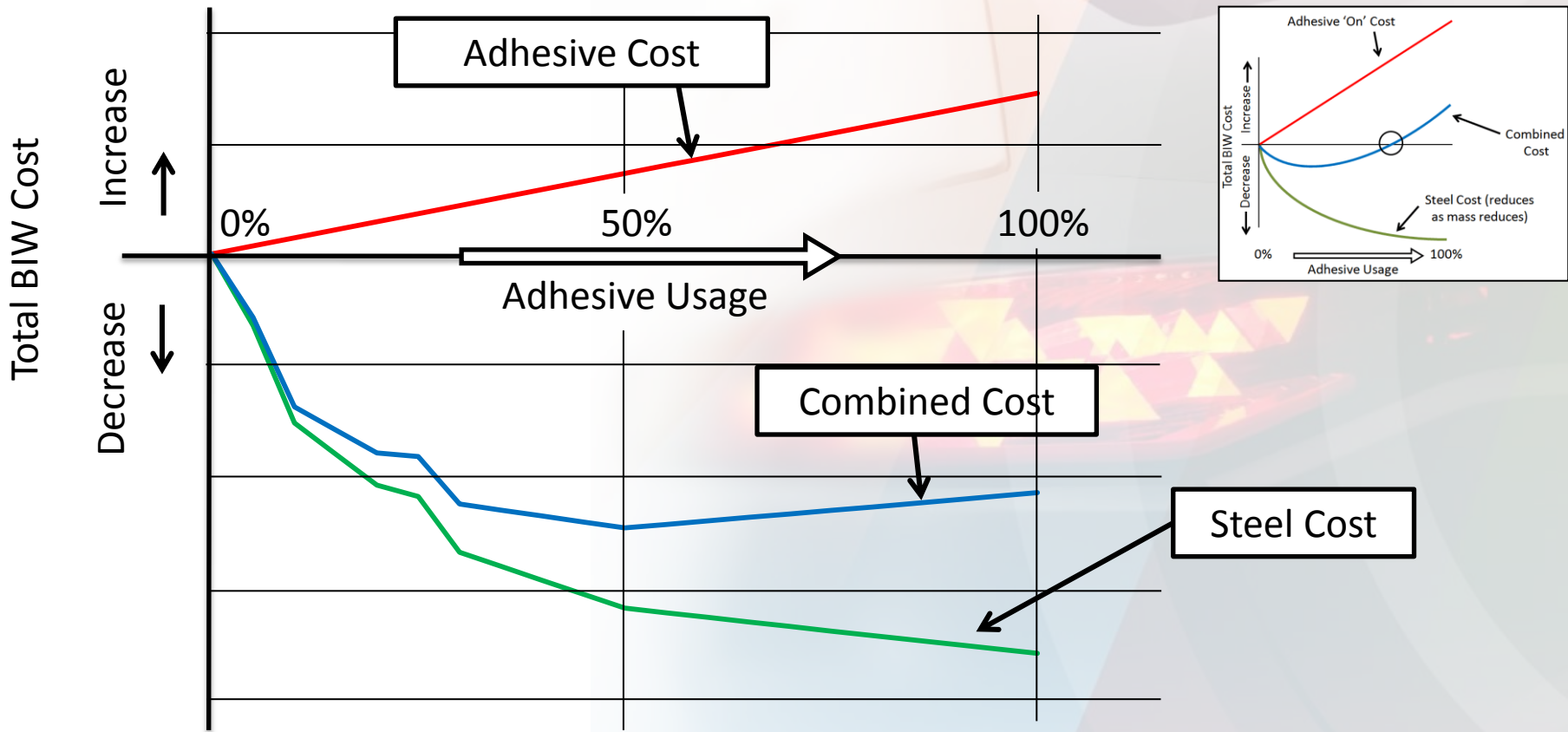
The Expected Result





# The Actual Result

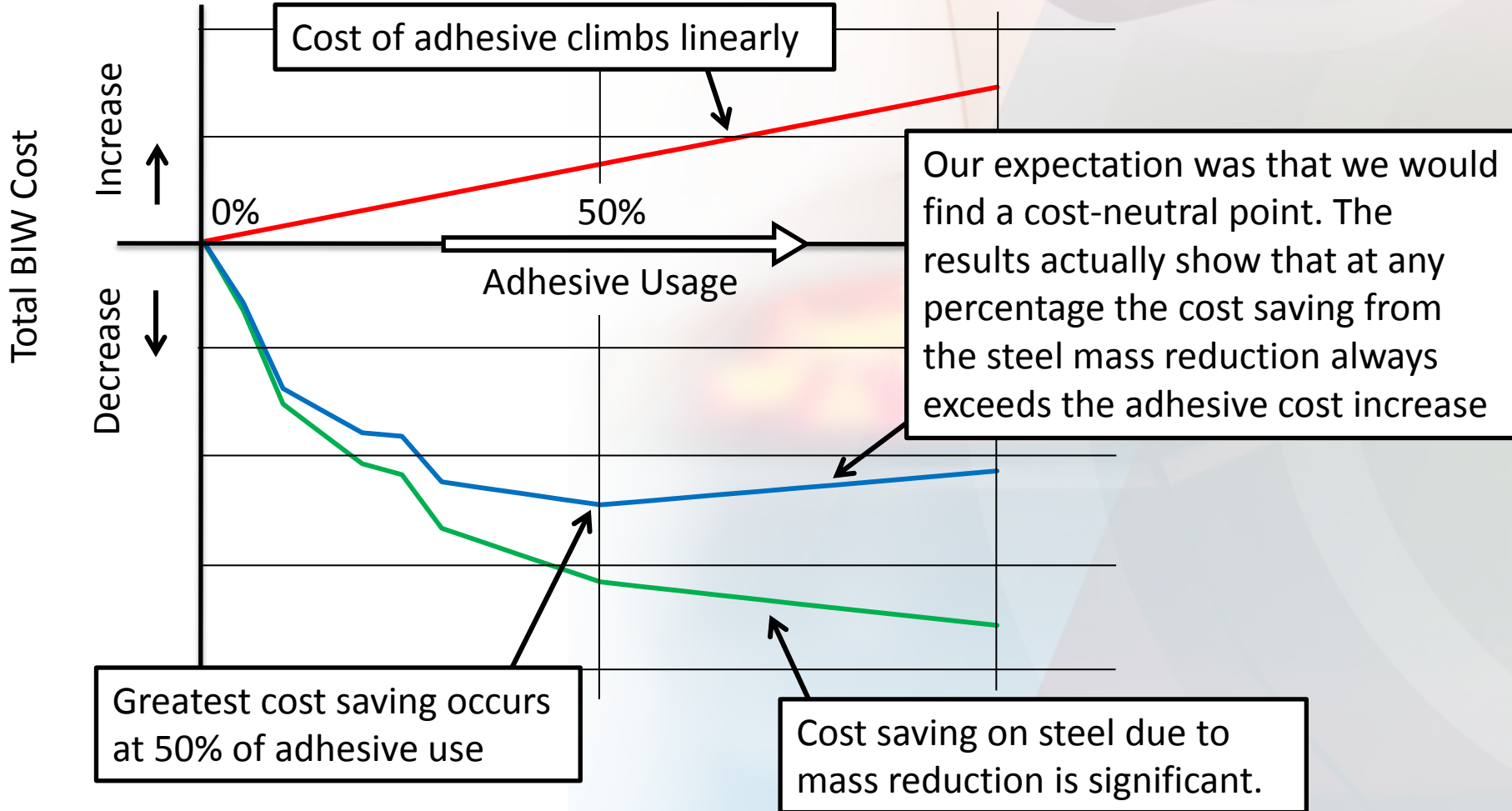
- 1 Vehicle Mass Trend
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# Graph Explanation

- 1 Vehicle Mass Trend
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# To Conclude:

1	Vehicle Mass Trend
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## Summary

- Ideal areas to locate adhesive in a BIW have been established
- The influence of the adhesive use vs. cost reduction has been determined
- The optimum amount of adhesive based on the maximum material cost reduction was exactly 50% - this offered a c: 10% mass reduction to the BIW Structure
- More surprisingly this study demonstrated that even with a 100% adhesive usage the cost of the BIW was still reduced from it's no adhesive baseline

## Next Steps

- Understand manufacturing constraints
- Move from the linear world into the non linear and into the real world

## A Word of Caution!

- These figures are best case. It's highly likely the actual mass reduction available will reduce once the affects of other load cases, manufacturing constraints, non linear analysis etc. are included