

Deformation Examination of Circular Membrane by Model for PDMS from Sylgard 186

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Introduction: The aim is to determine the deformation of one dot of tactile display for visually impaired. The dot is a circular membrane, made from a rubber-like material, namely Sylgard 186.

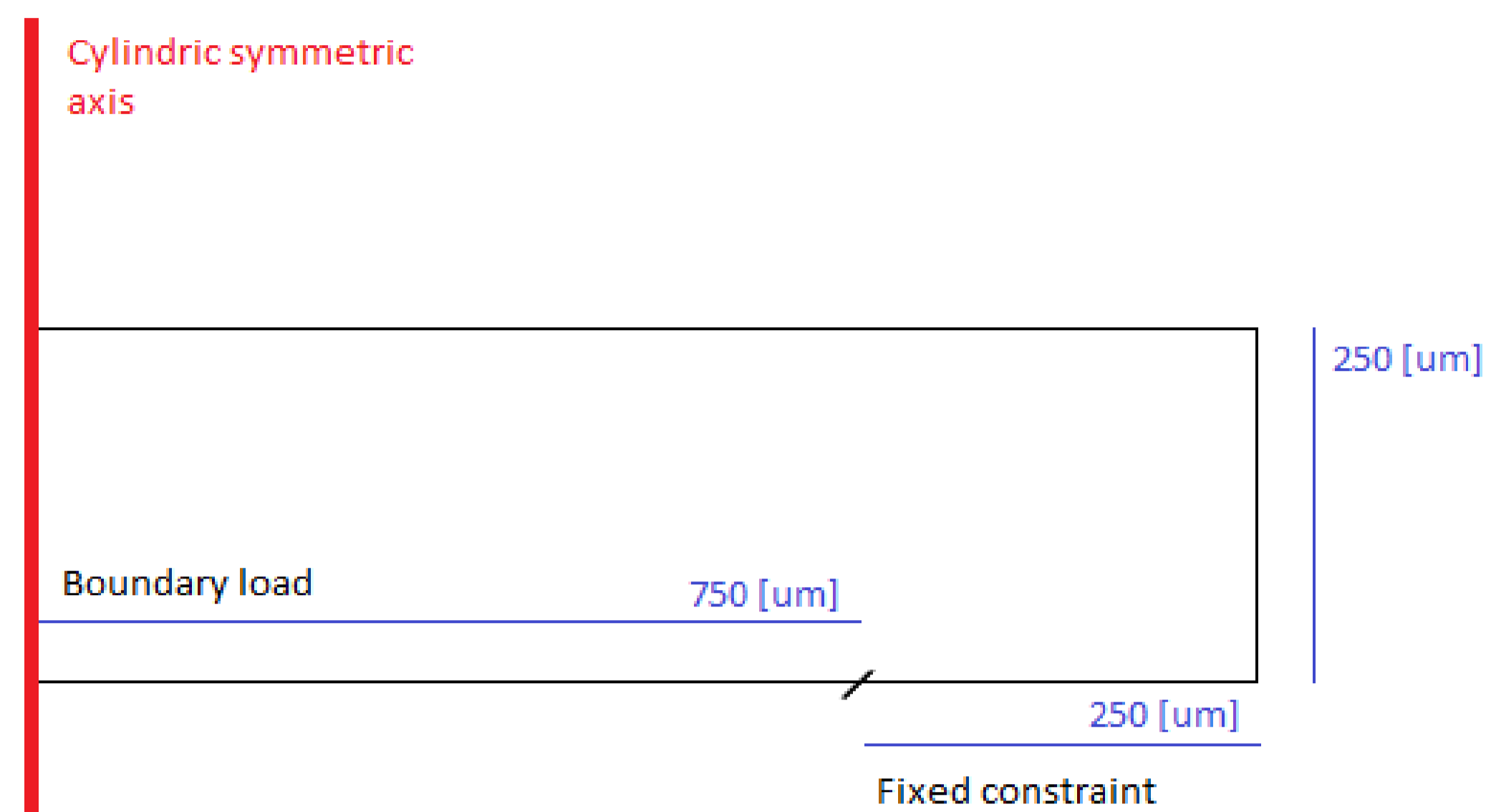


Figure 1. 2D axisymmetric geometry and boundary conditions

COMSOL model requirements:

- Nonlinear Structural Materials Module
- 2D axisymmetric geometry
- Parametric sweep for different pressures
- Maximum achieved pressure: 1.8 [bar]
- Modified boundary load was applied to eliminate error causing by the corner

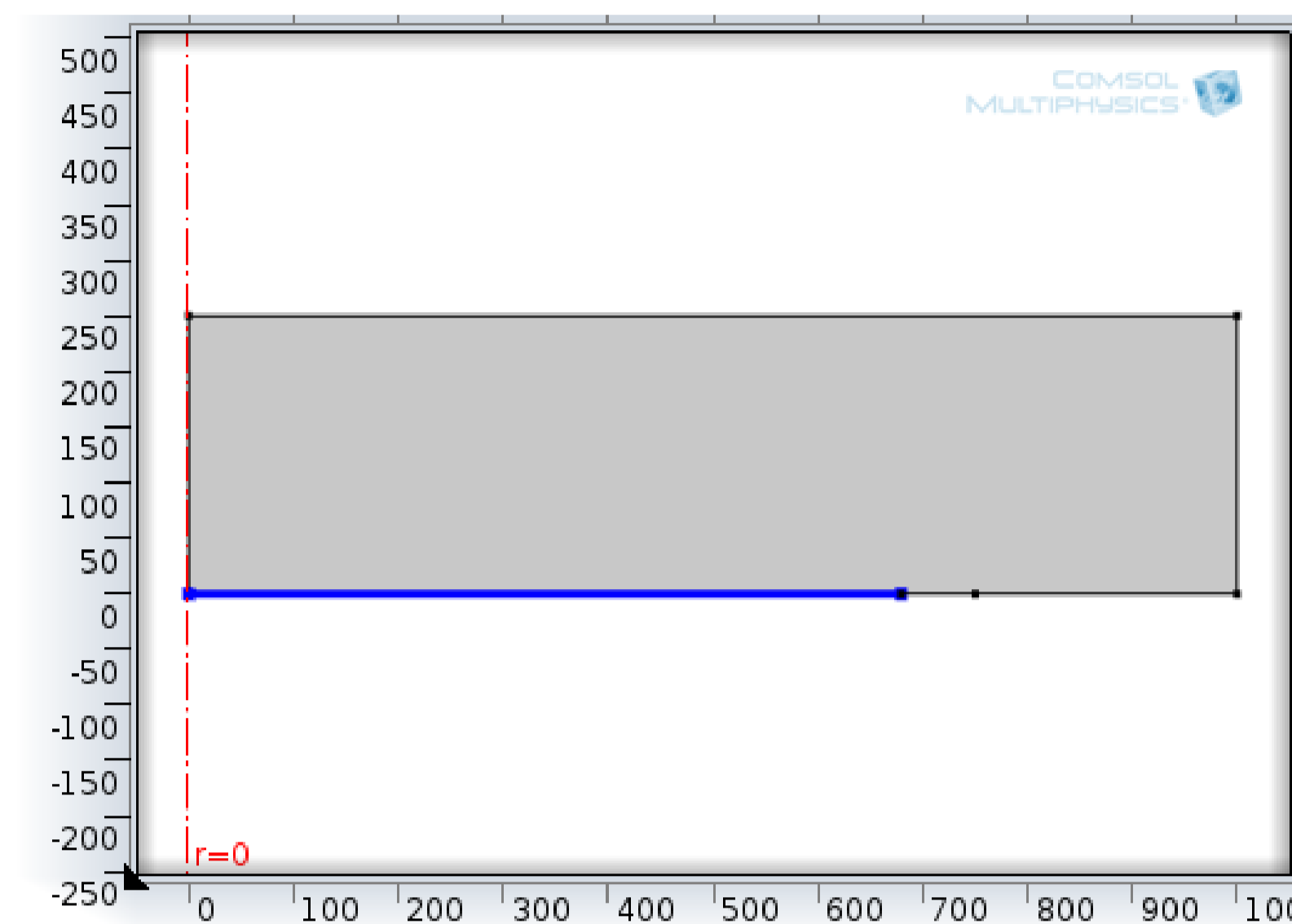


Figure 4. Modified boundary load

Computational methods: In the FEM model hyperelastic material model was used. The Ogden model proved to be the most appropriate material model.

M-order Ogden model:

$$W(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3) = \sum_{i=1}^M \frac{\mu_i}{\alpha_i} (\lambda_1^{\alpha_i} + \lambda_2^{\alpha_i} + \lambda_3^{\alpha_i} - 3), \quad \text{where } \alpha_i \cdot \mu_i > 0$$

M-order Ogden model for simple tension:

$$t_s^M = \sum_{i=1}^M \mu_i \cdot (\lambda^{\alpha_i - 1} - \lambda^{-\frac{\alpha_i - 1}{2}})$$

Determination of Ogden parameters:

- Simple tension measurements with dumbbell shaped specimens (standard: ASTM D412)
- Using Optimization Toolbox (Matlab) for curve fitting
- In the first order Ogden model the magnitudes of nominal stresses show significant deviation
- Second order Ogden model applied

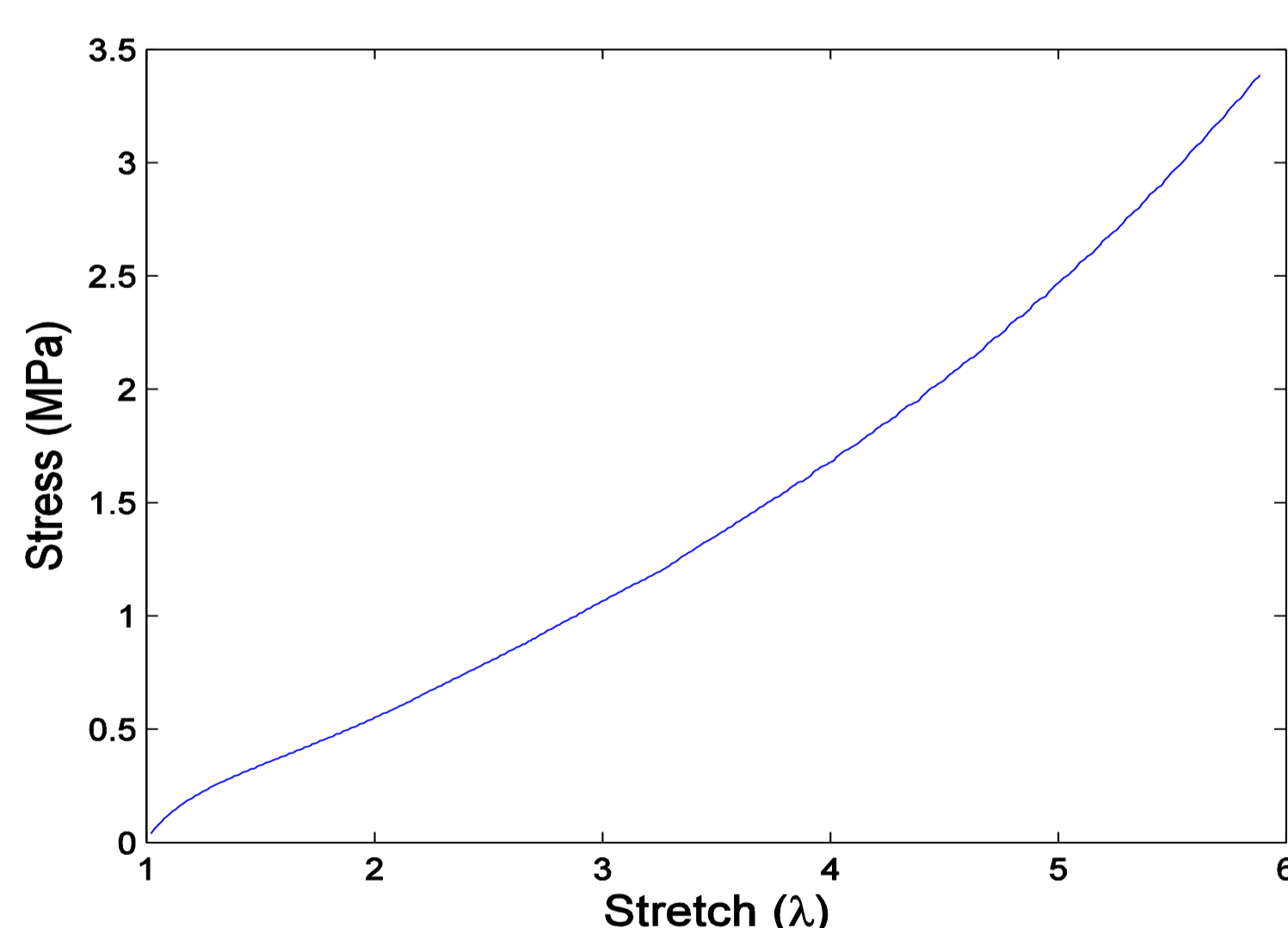


Figure 3. Typical Stretch – Nominal stress curve



Figure 2. Moulded dumbbell specimens before trimming

Results:

- The results of displacement implies buckling phenomena
- Maximum displacements at 2 [bar] pressure is ~800 [um]

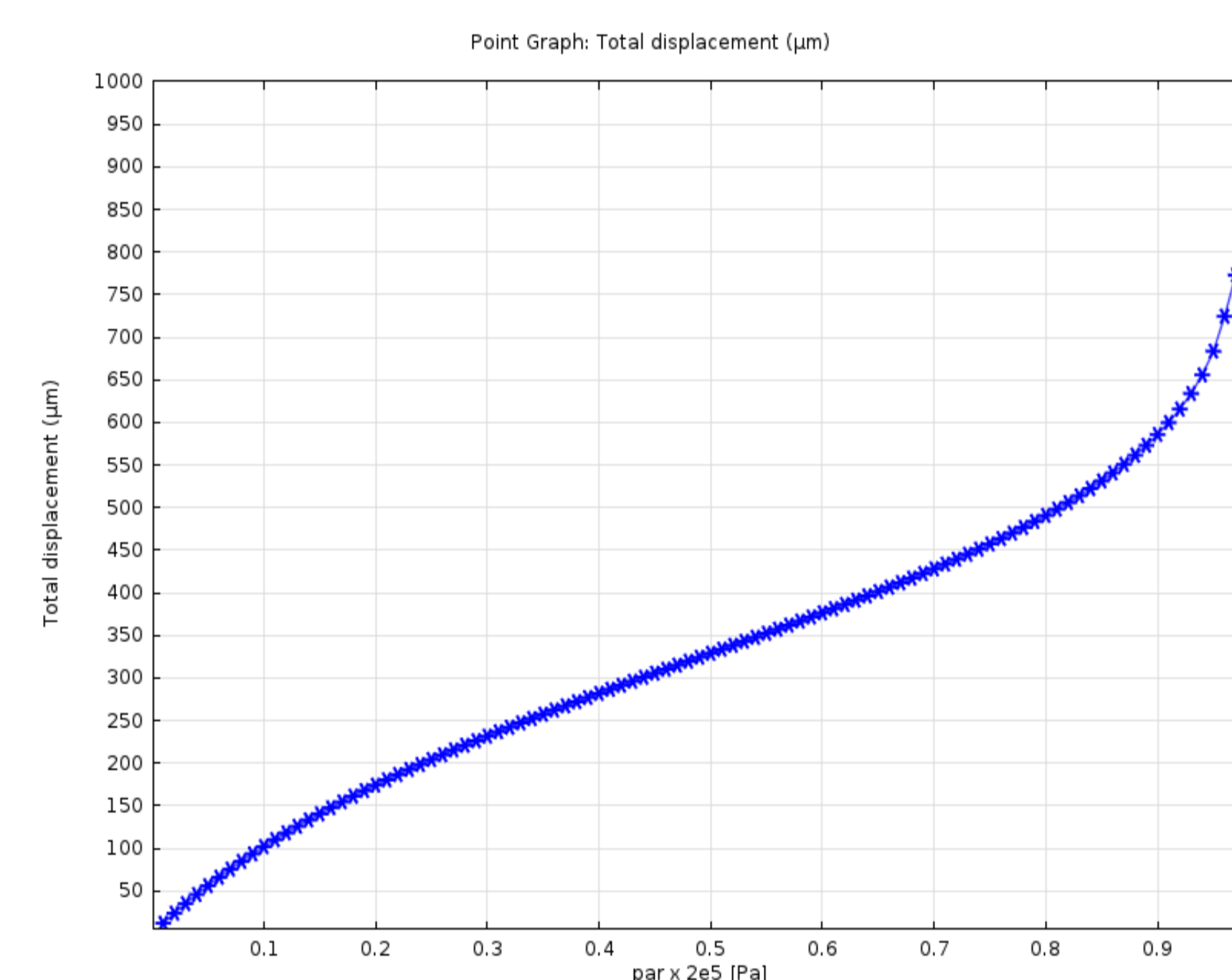


Figure 5. Total displacement (in [um]) in case of modified boundary load

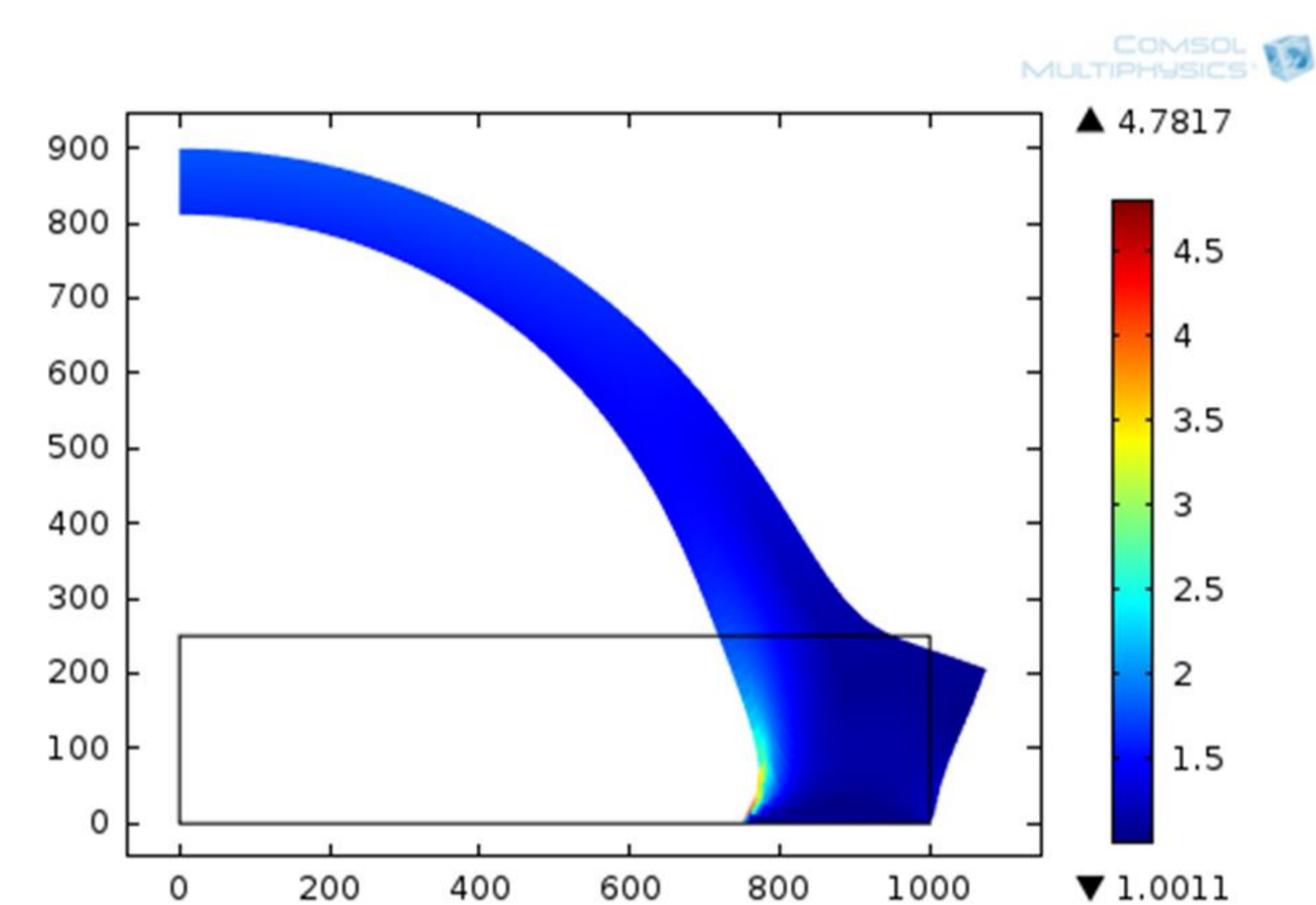


Figure 6. First principal stretch in case of 1.8 [bar]

Conclusions:

- Good approximation in order of magnitude for displacement of one dot
- Further measurements (at least one other kind) are necessary for more precise results
 - Second order Ogden model's parameters getting more accurate

References:

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3. R.W. Ogden, G. Saccomandi, I. Sigura: Fitting hyperelastic models to experimental data, Computational Mechanics 34, 484-502 (2004)