

COMSOL: MEMS NOTES

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COMSOL Multiphysics Notes, First Edition

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Batch of 2011

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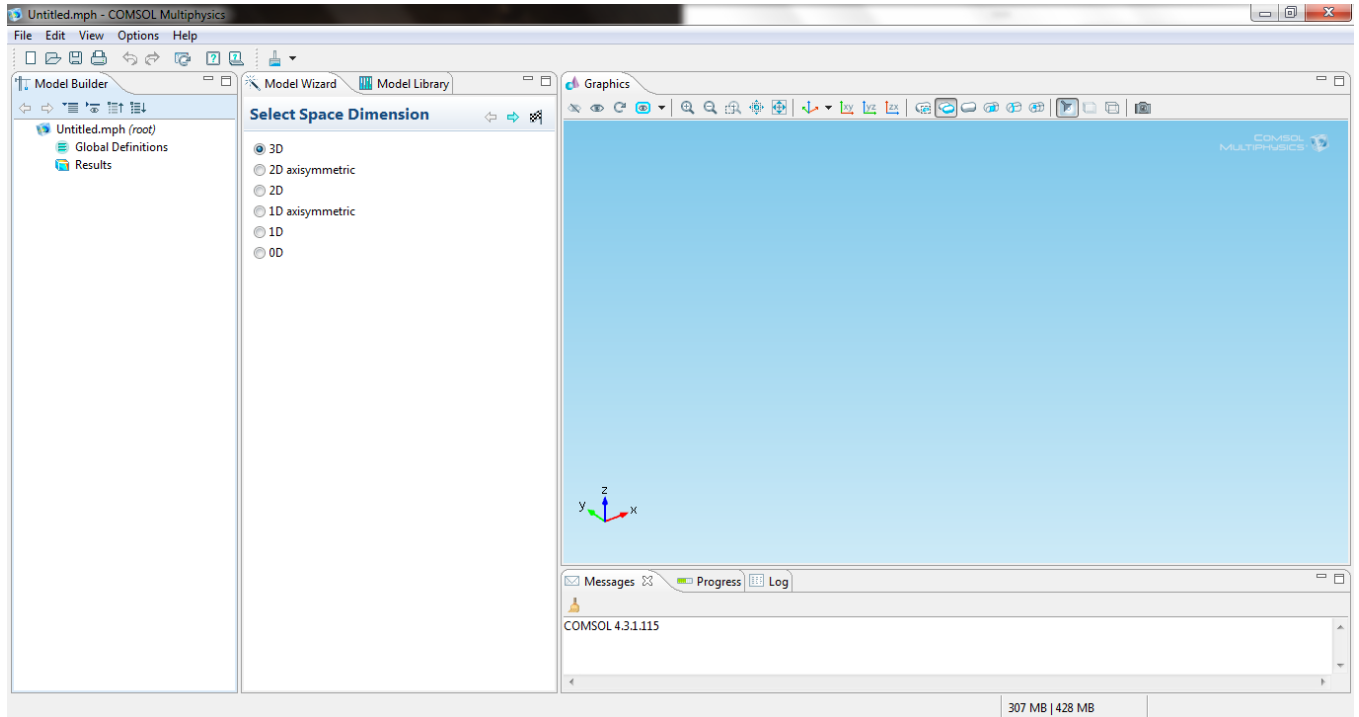
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Point Load

Starting Interface -

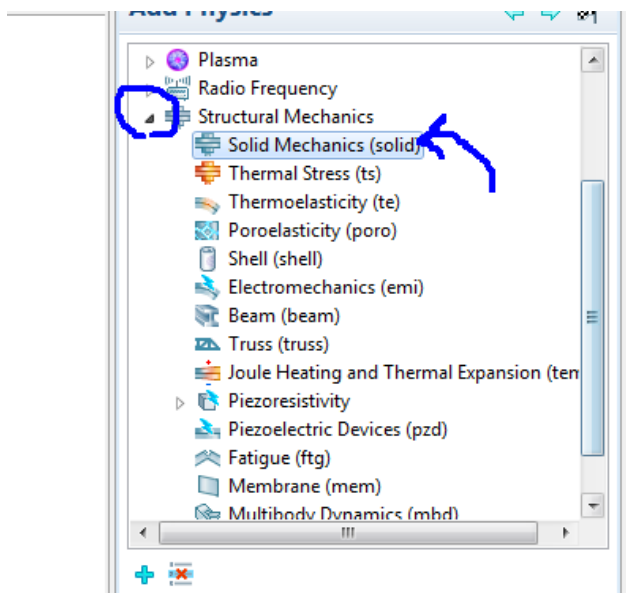


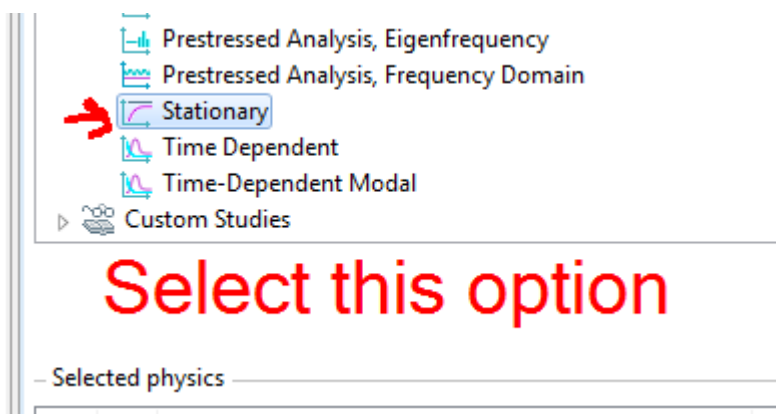
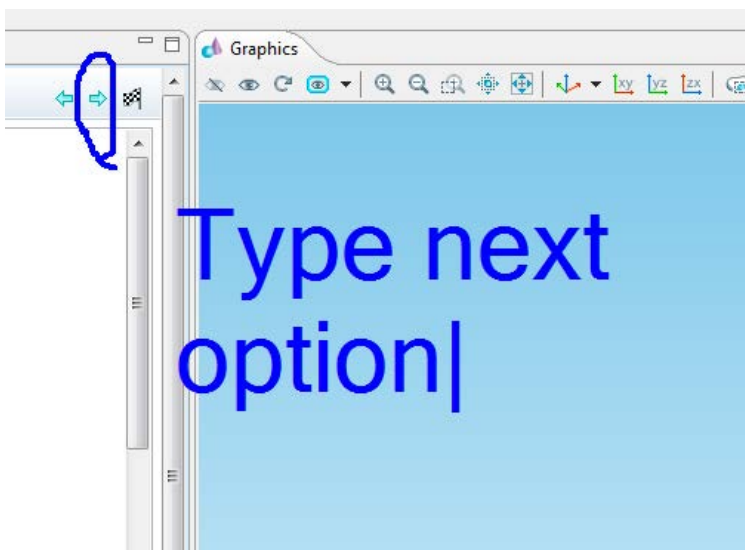
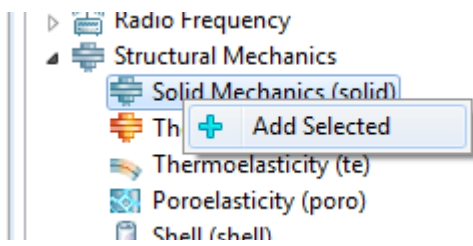
Idea:

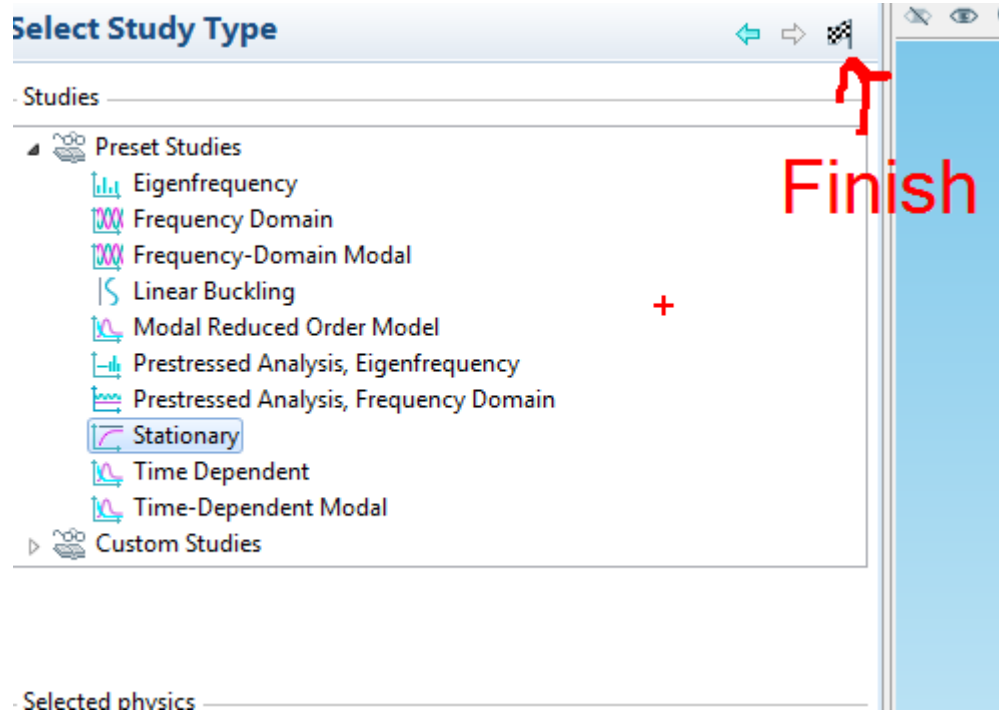
Starting with cantilever

Design a beam

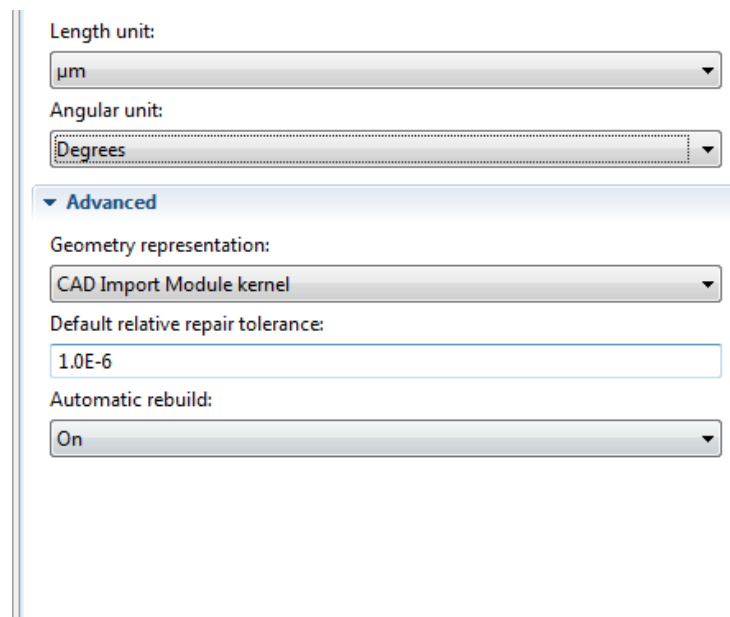
Leave the second side free of the beam

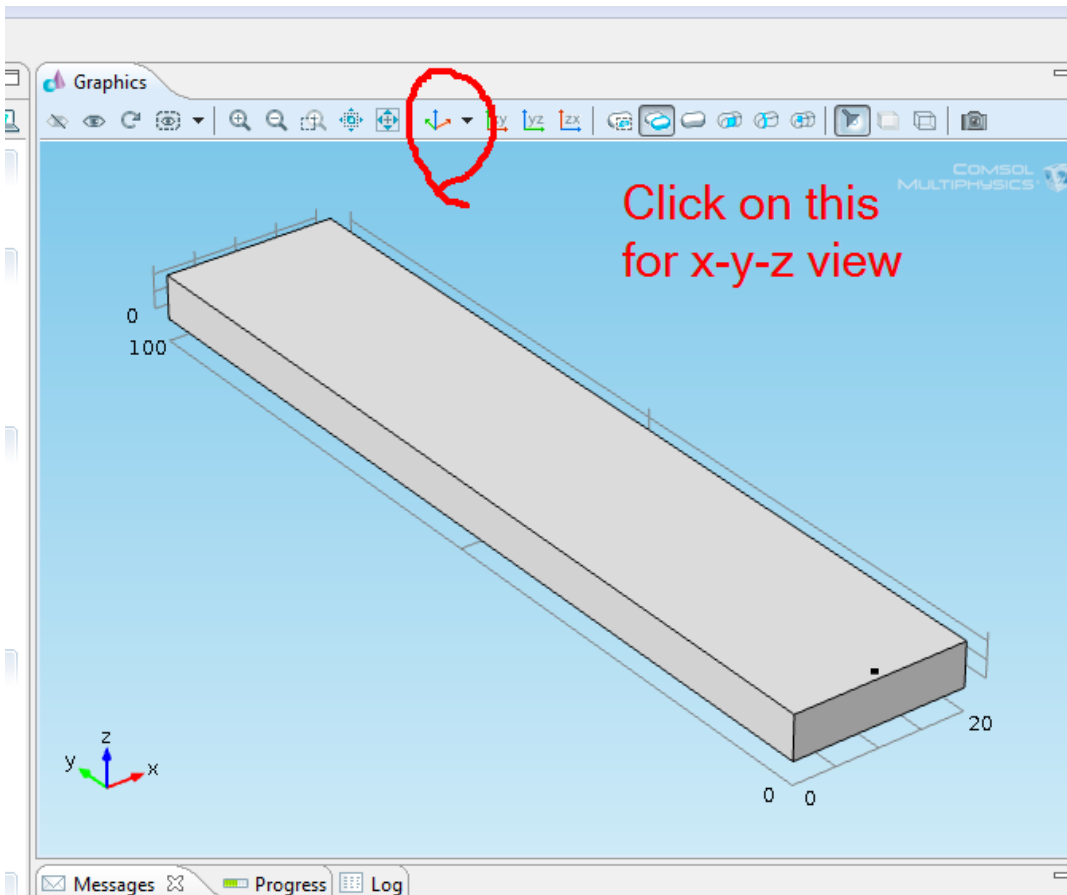
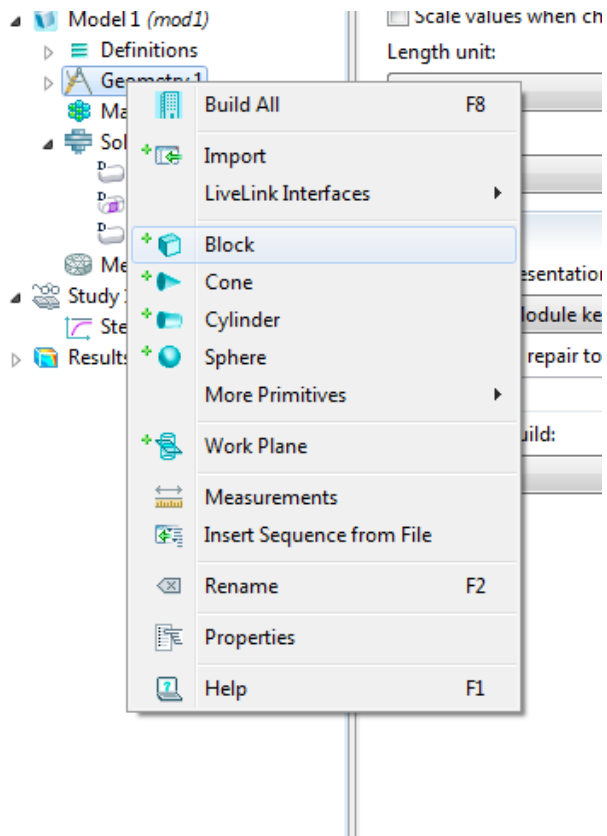






Next, select the measurement unit and other dimensions as given





Type: Solid

Size and Shape

Width: 20 μm

Depth: 100 μm

Height: 5 μm

Position

Base: Corner

x: 0 μm

y: 0 μm

z: 0 μm

Axis

Axis type: Cartesian

x: 0

y: 0

z: 1

Rotation Angle

Point

x: 10 μm

y: 1 μm

z: 5 μm

Selections of Resulting Entities

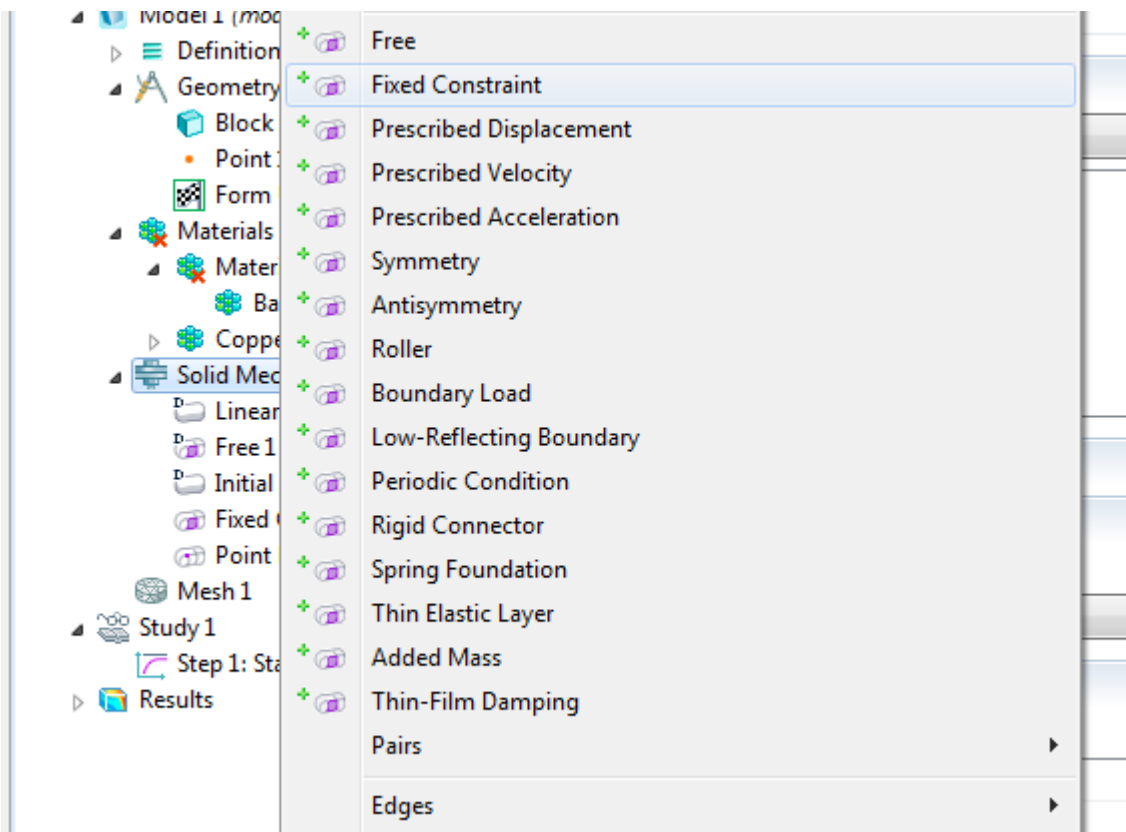
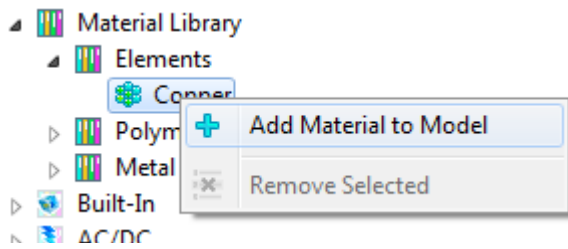
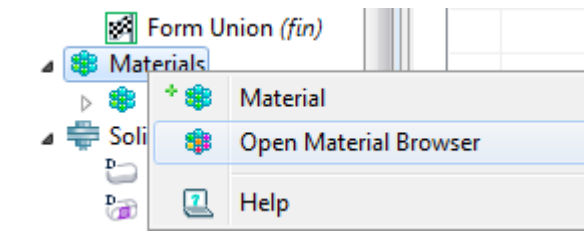
Create selections

Finalization method:

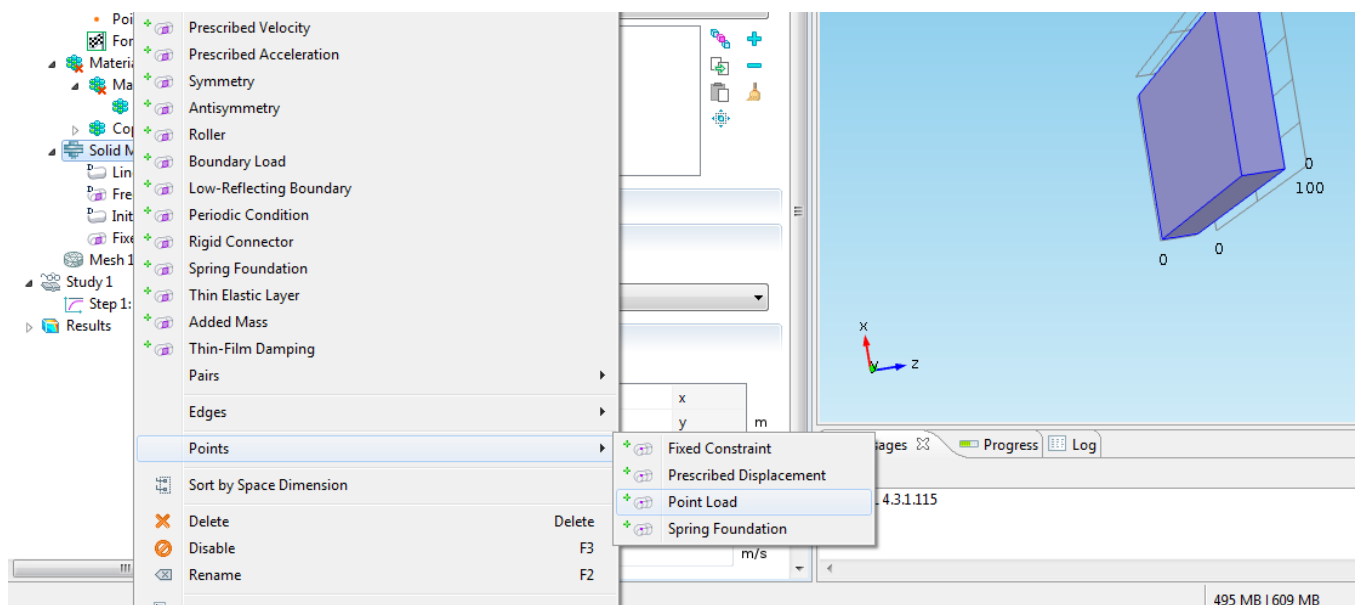
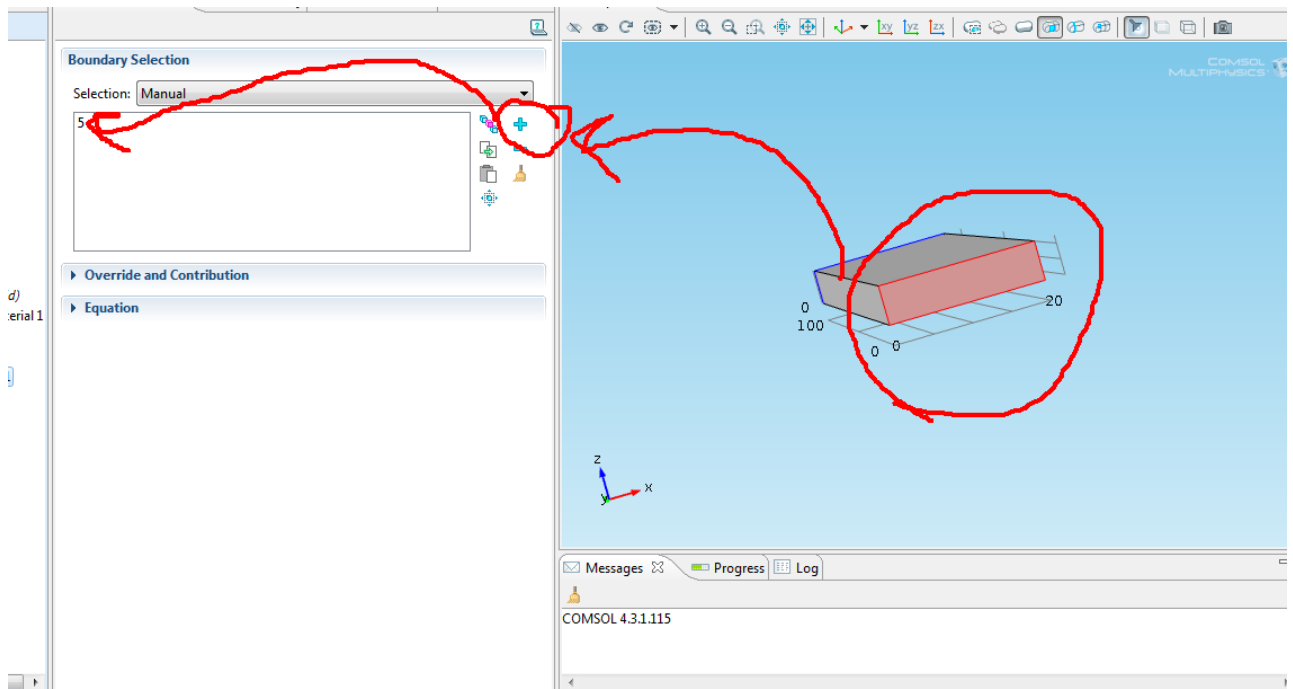
Form a union

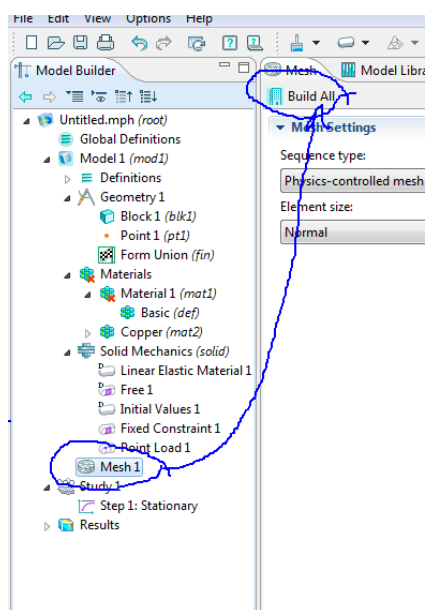
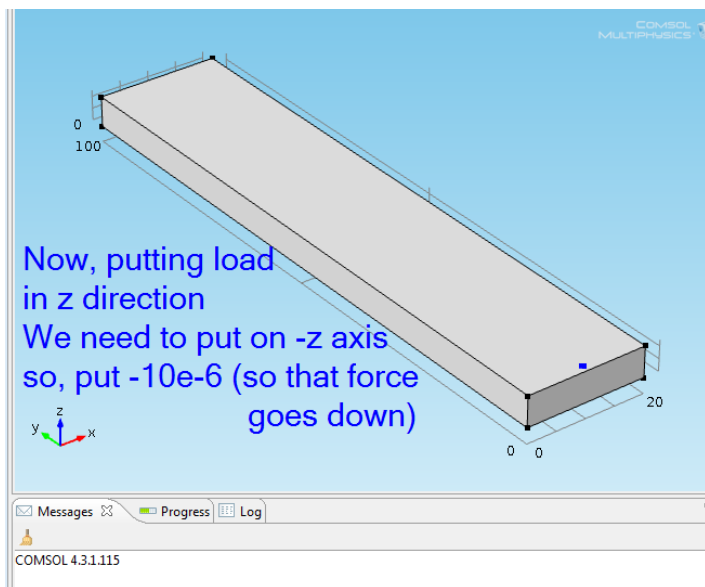
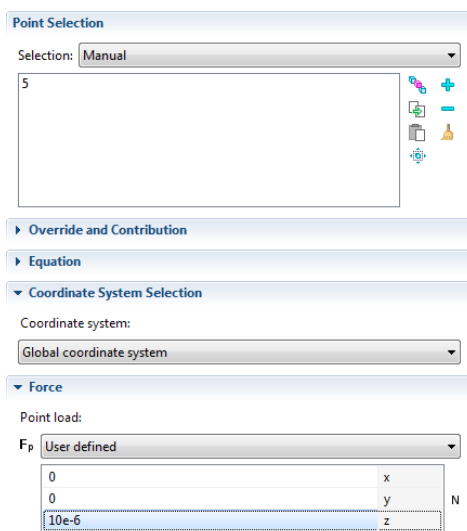
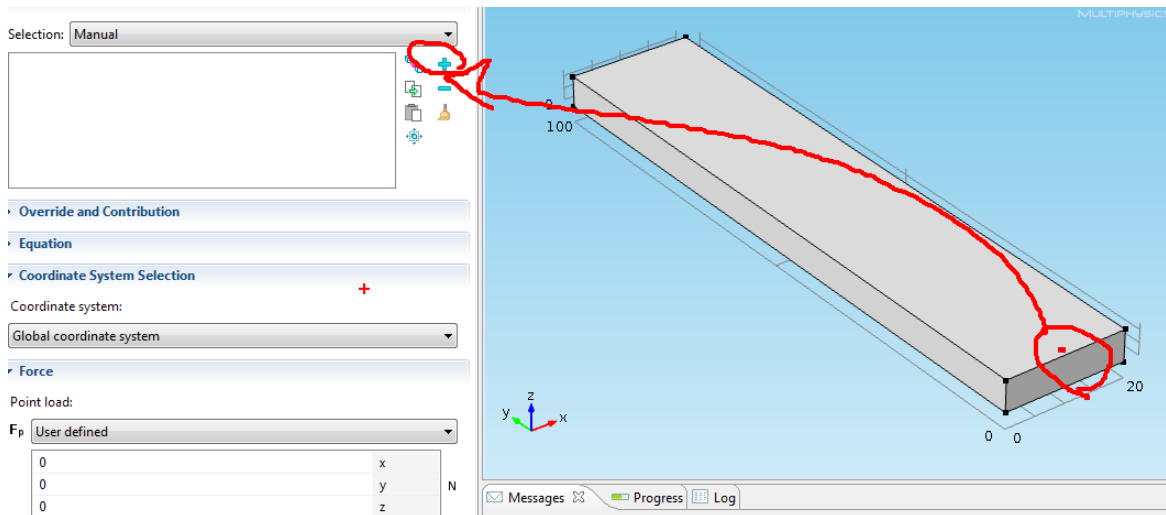
Relative repair tolerance:

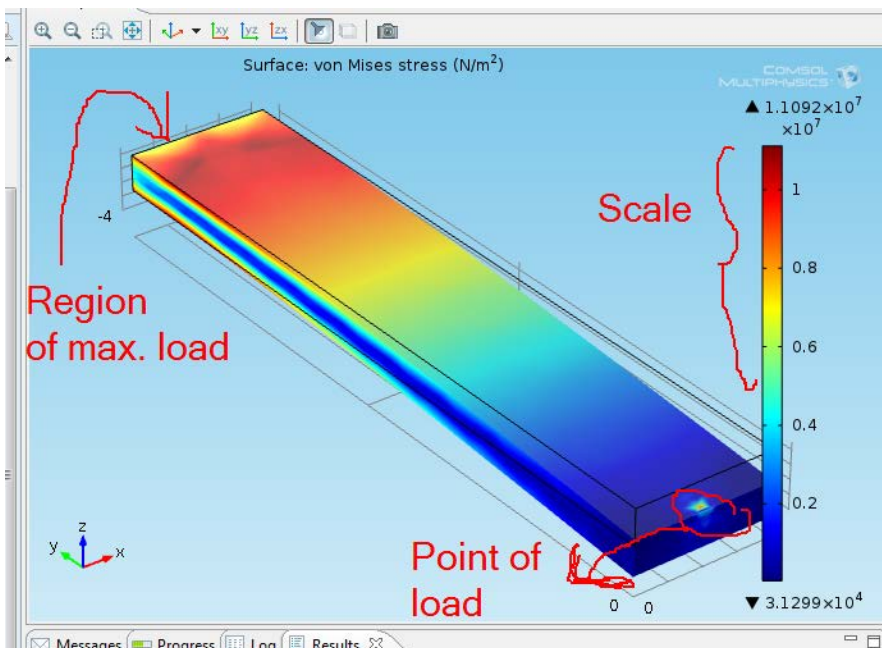
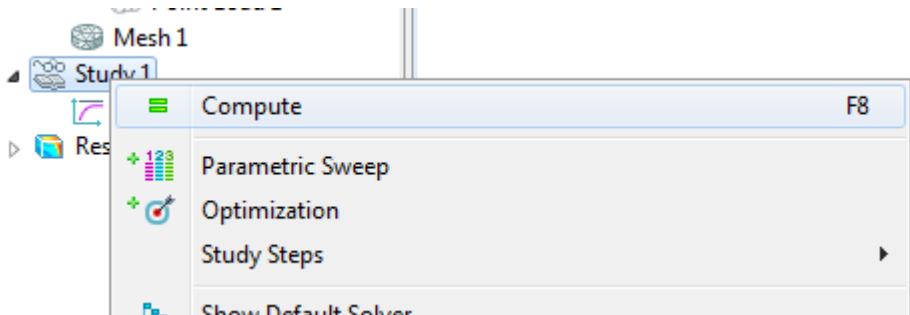
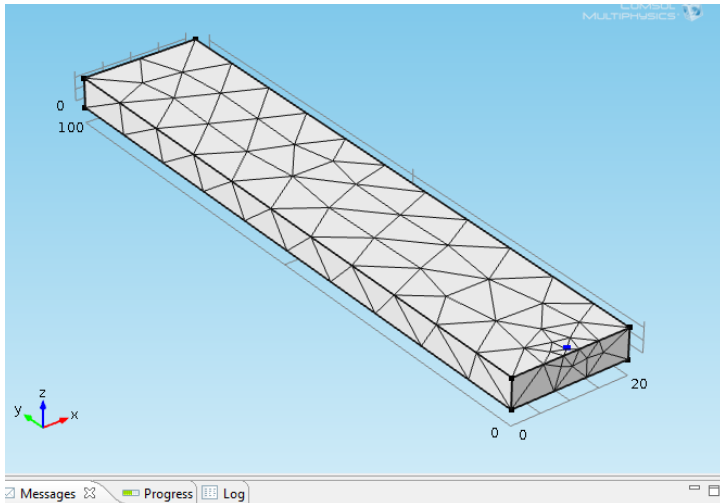
1.0E-6



Now, rotate the model and select one of the sides of length 5. Next, click on + button on the toolbox at the side.

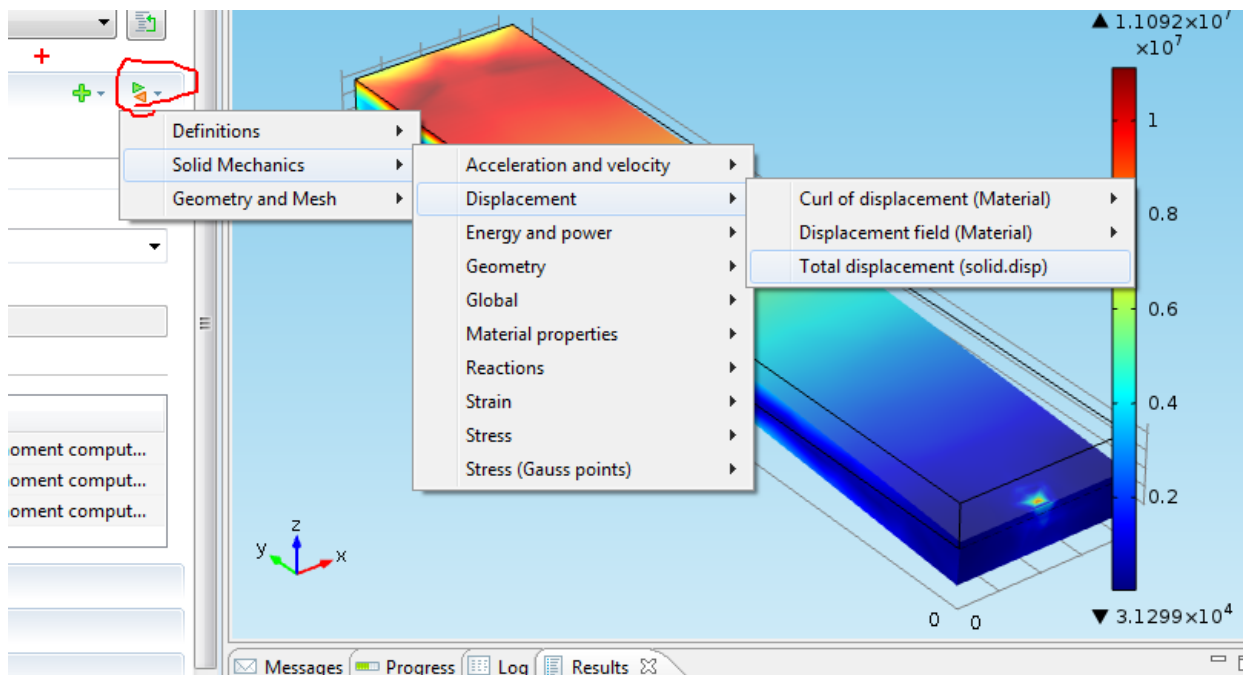




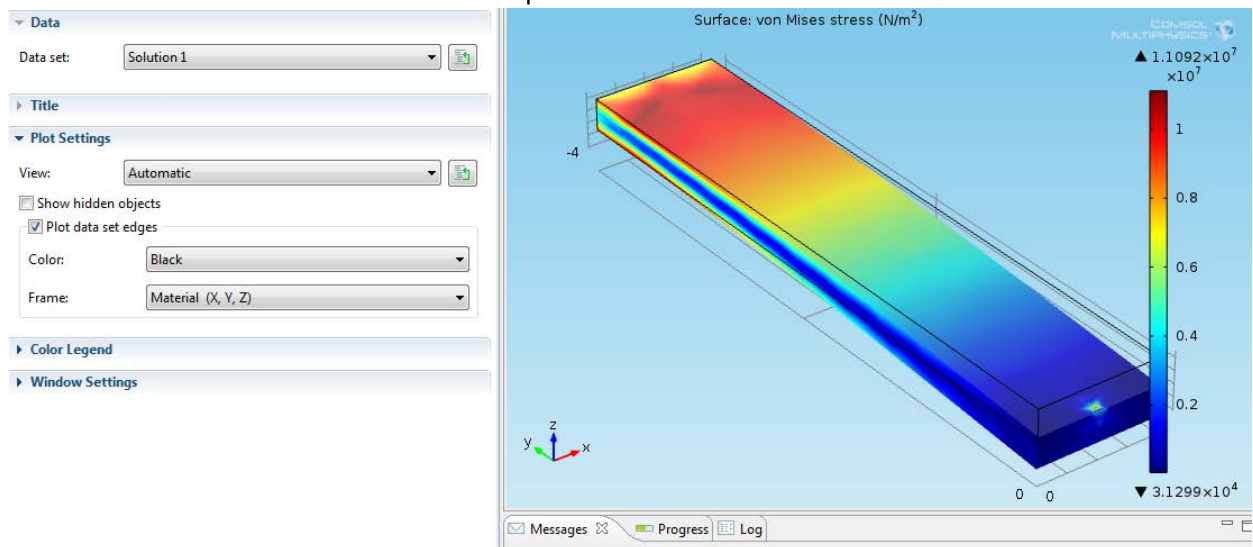


This makes the diagram colored
A strip tells the amount of stress and the details on that.
Which figure has the max stress - we get to know from the figure

- Results
 - Data Sets
 - Derived Values 8.85e-12
 - Tables
 - Stress (solid)
 - Surface 1
 - Export
 - Reports

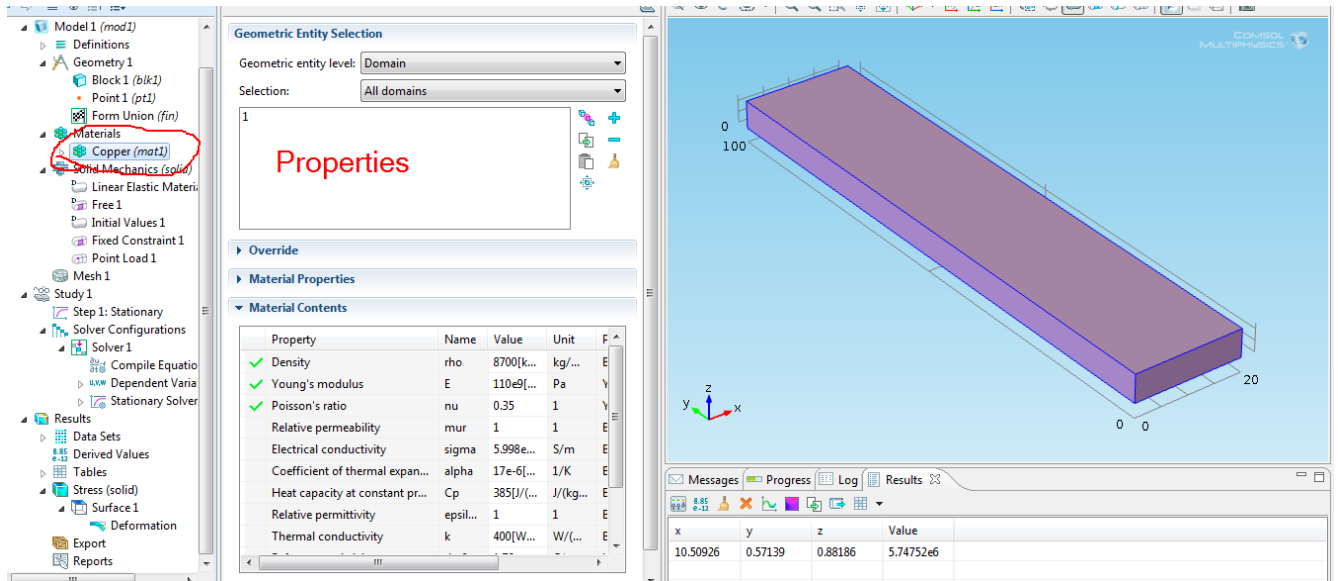


We find that the free end has maximum displacement



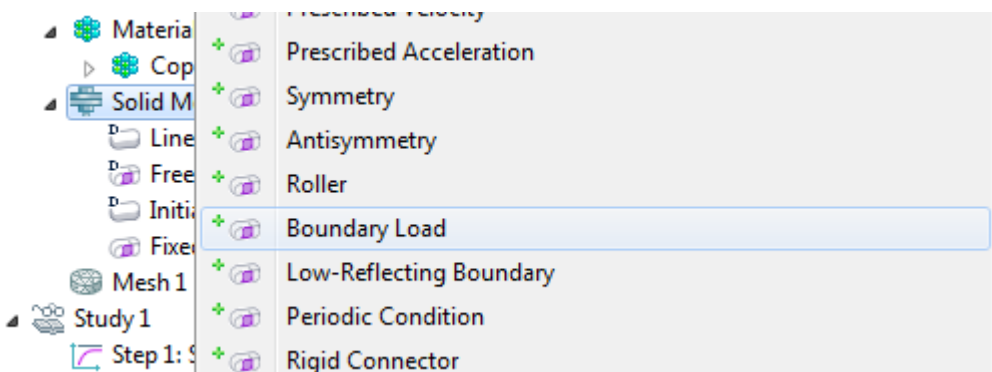
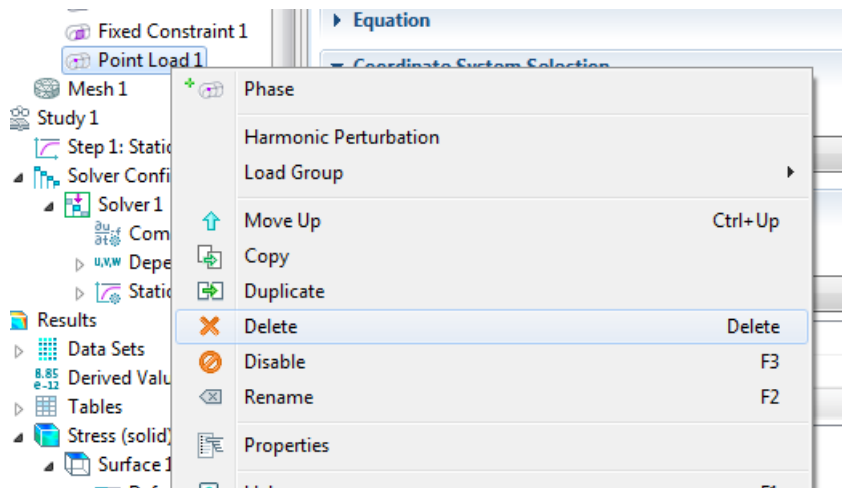
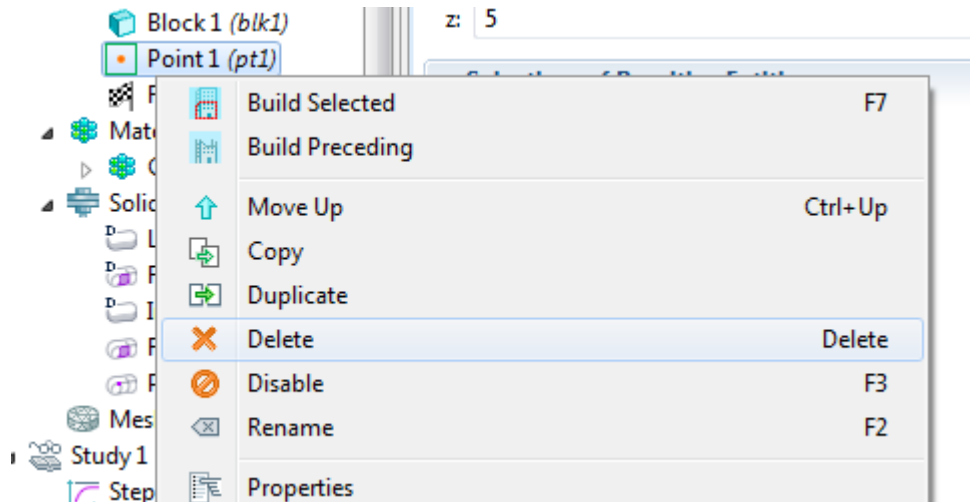
Note:

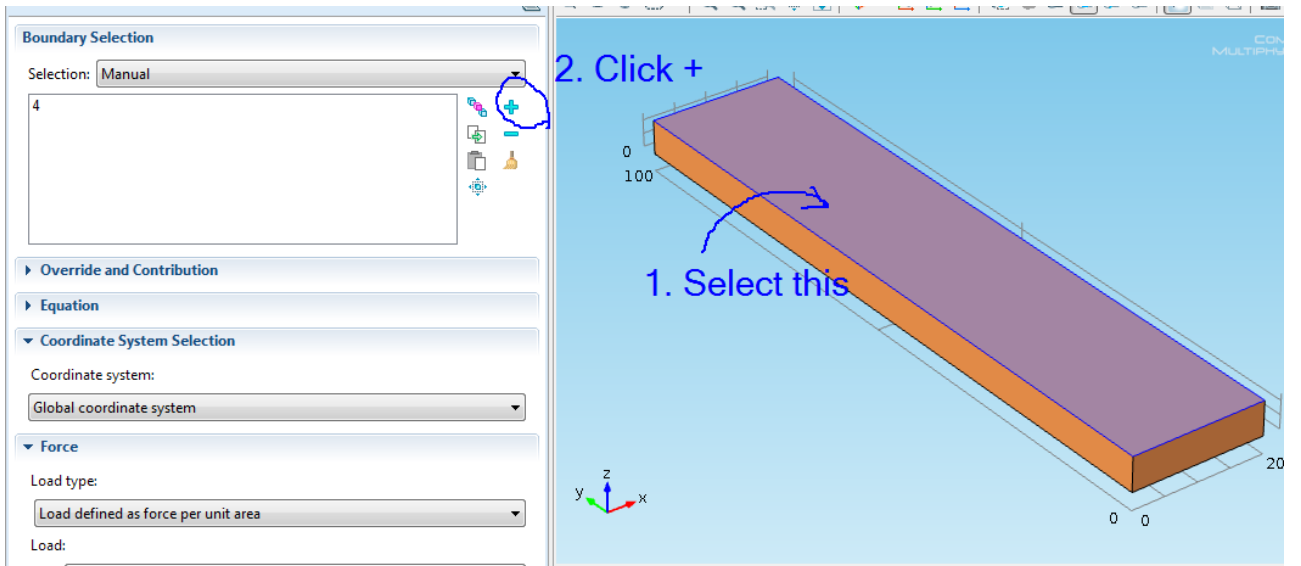
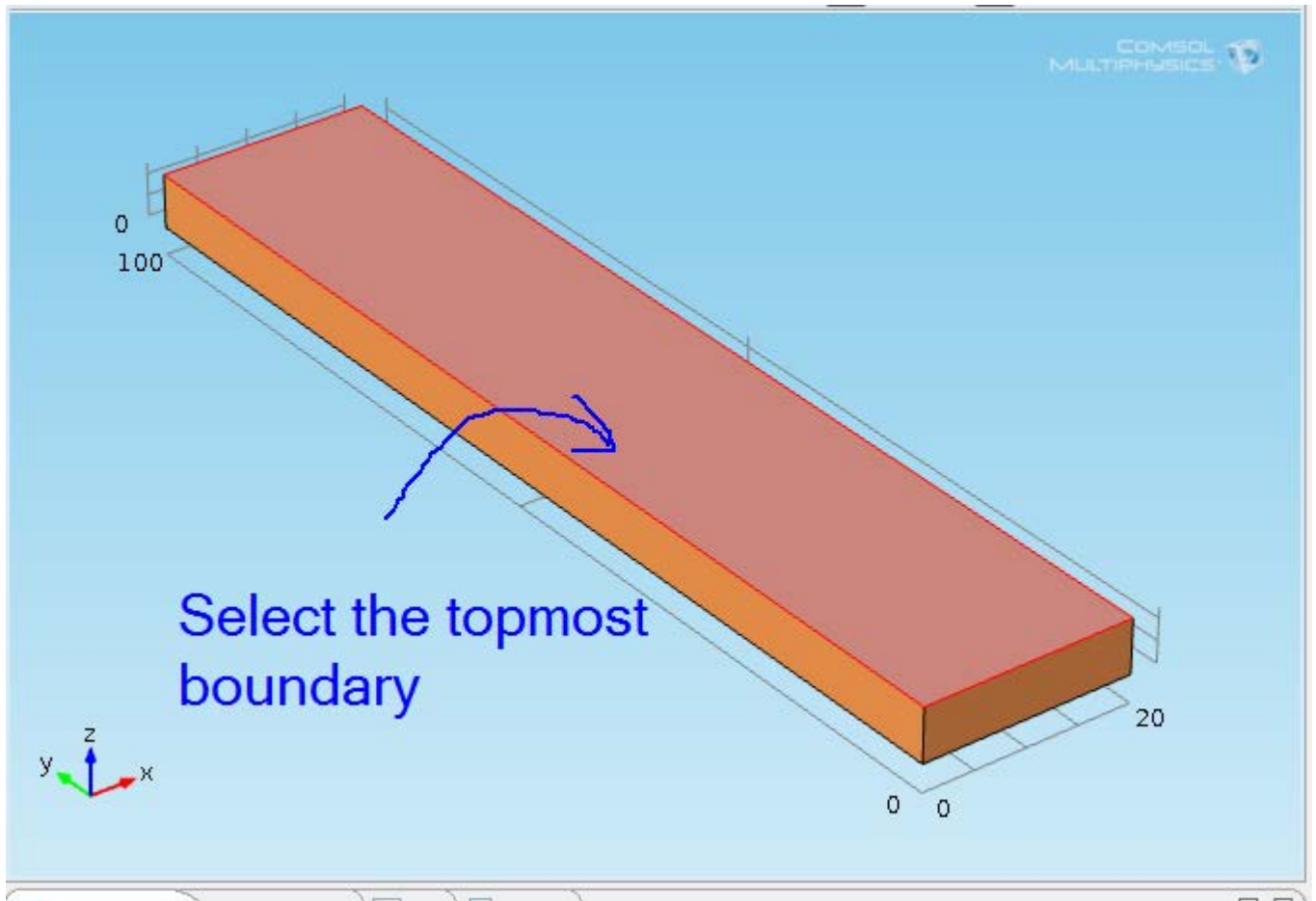
We can know the properties of material we are using. Here we are using copper. So, click on it to see its properties.



Save the file.

Boundary LOAD

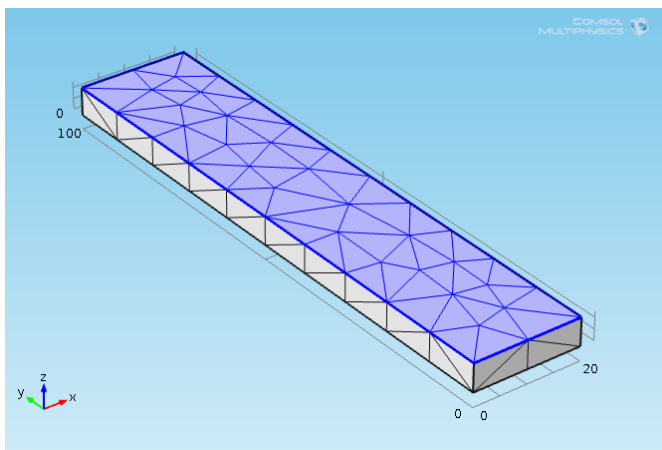
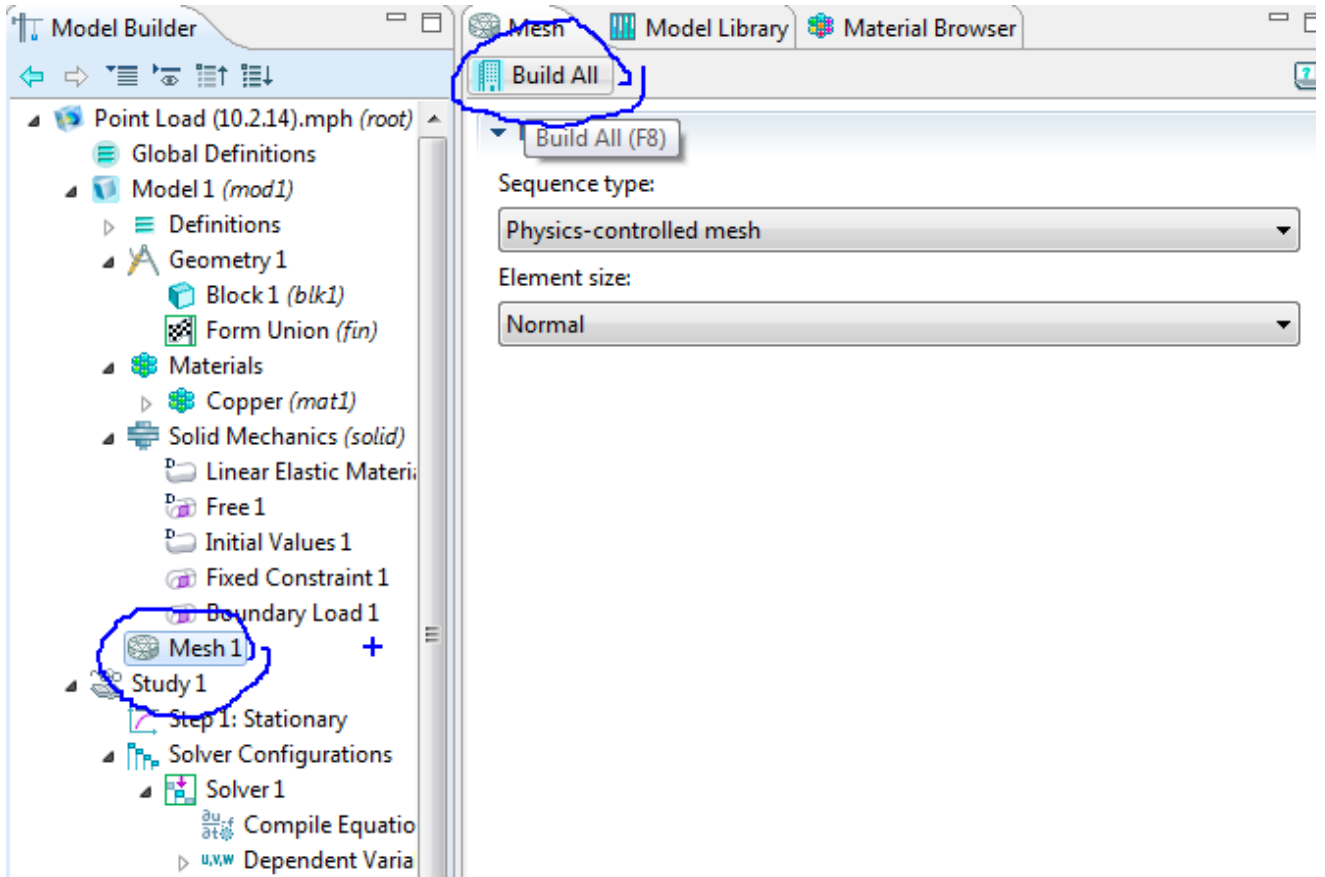


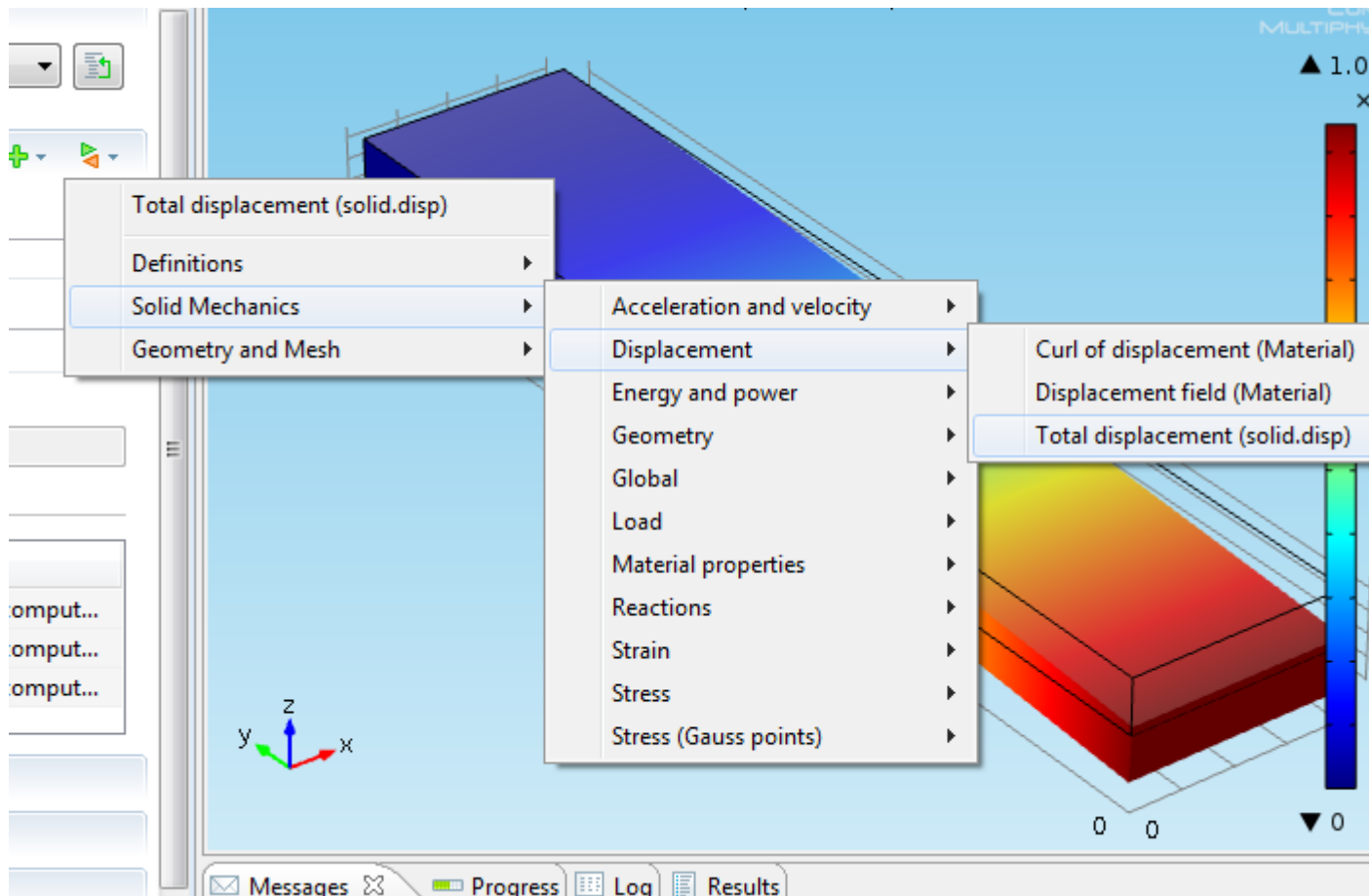
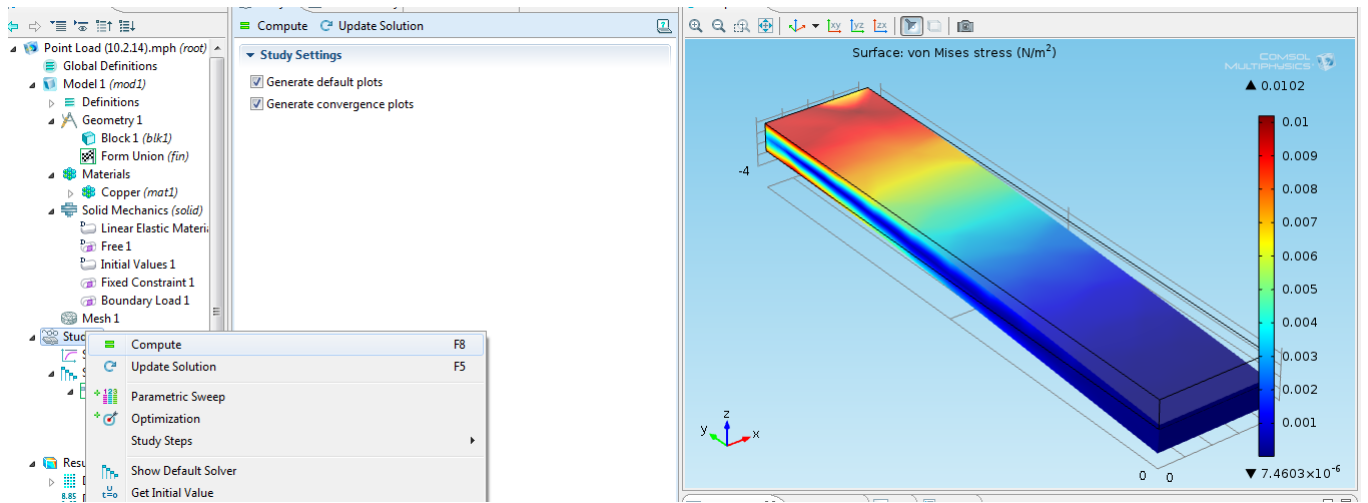


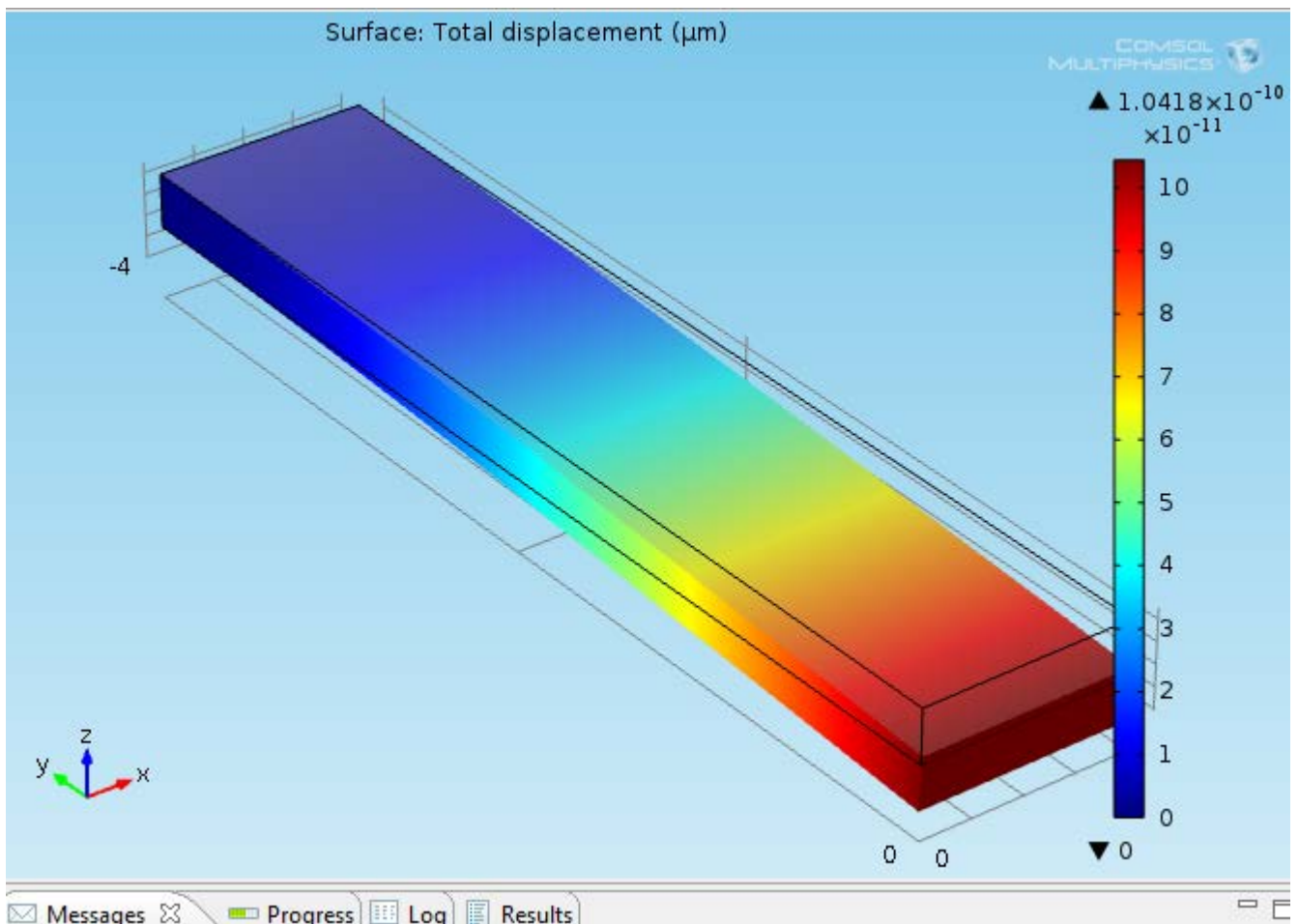
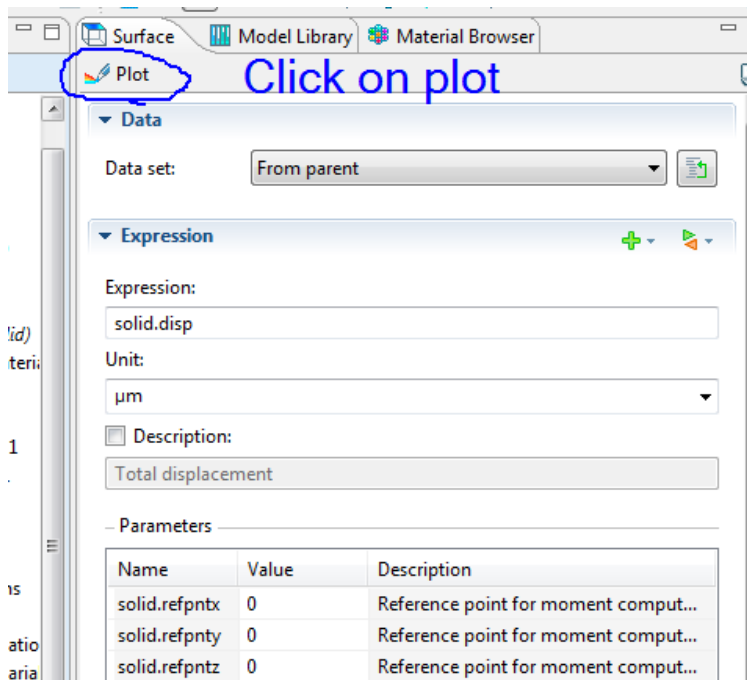
FA User defined

0	x	N/m ²
0	y	
-10e-6	z	

Again, apply load



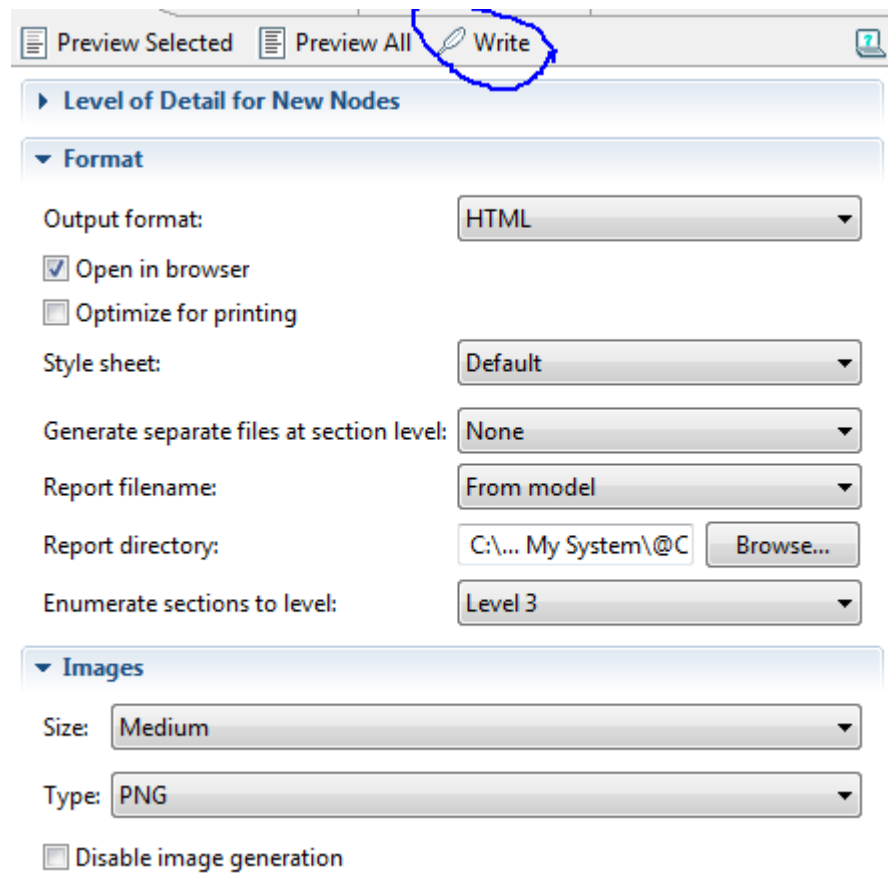
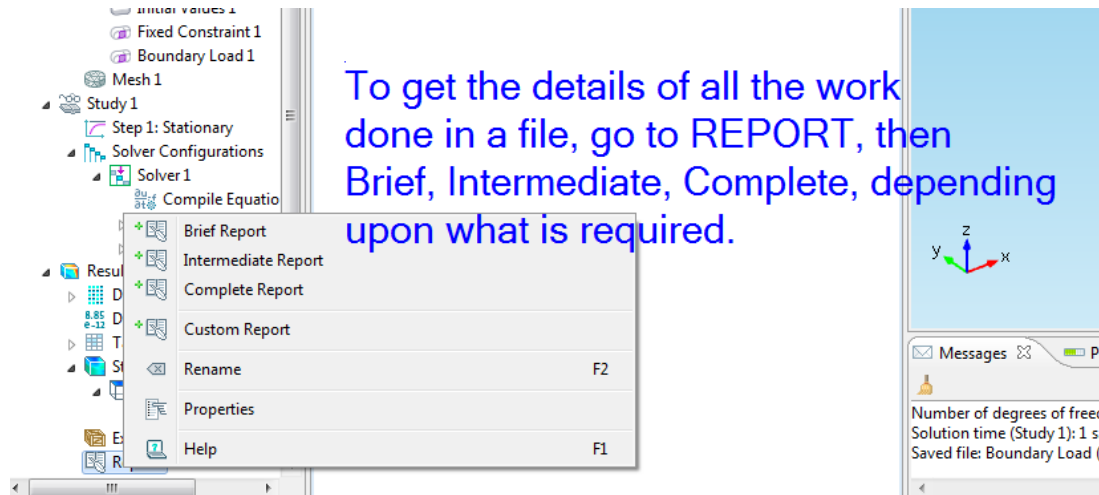




The total displacement is, as shown in the diagram.

By observation, it is lesser, as compared to point load.

Save the file again.



Changes

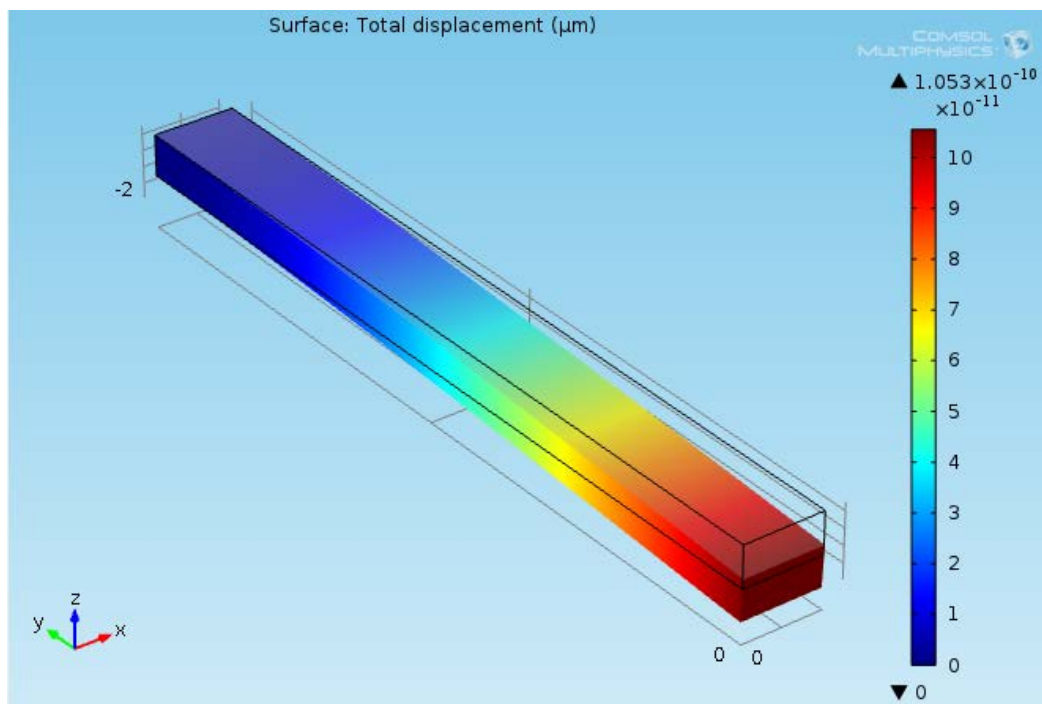
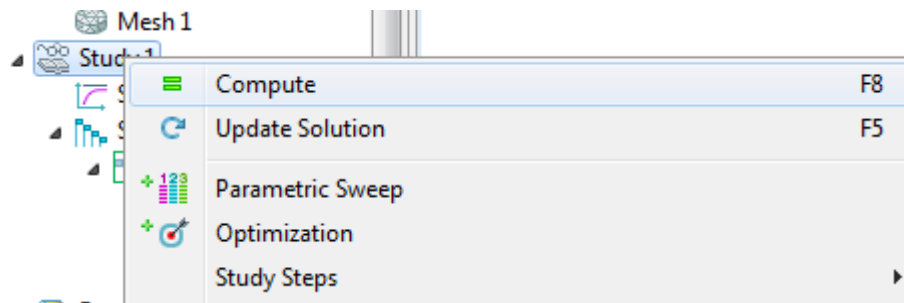
Now,

Change 1

Changing the values in geometry and seeing the deflection in that case.

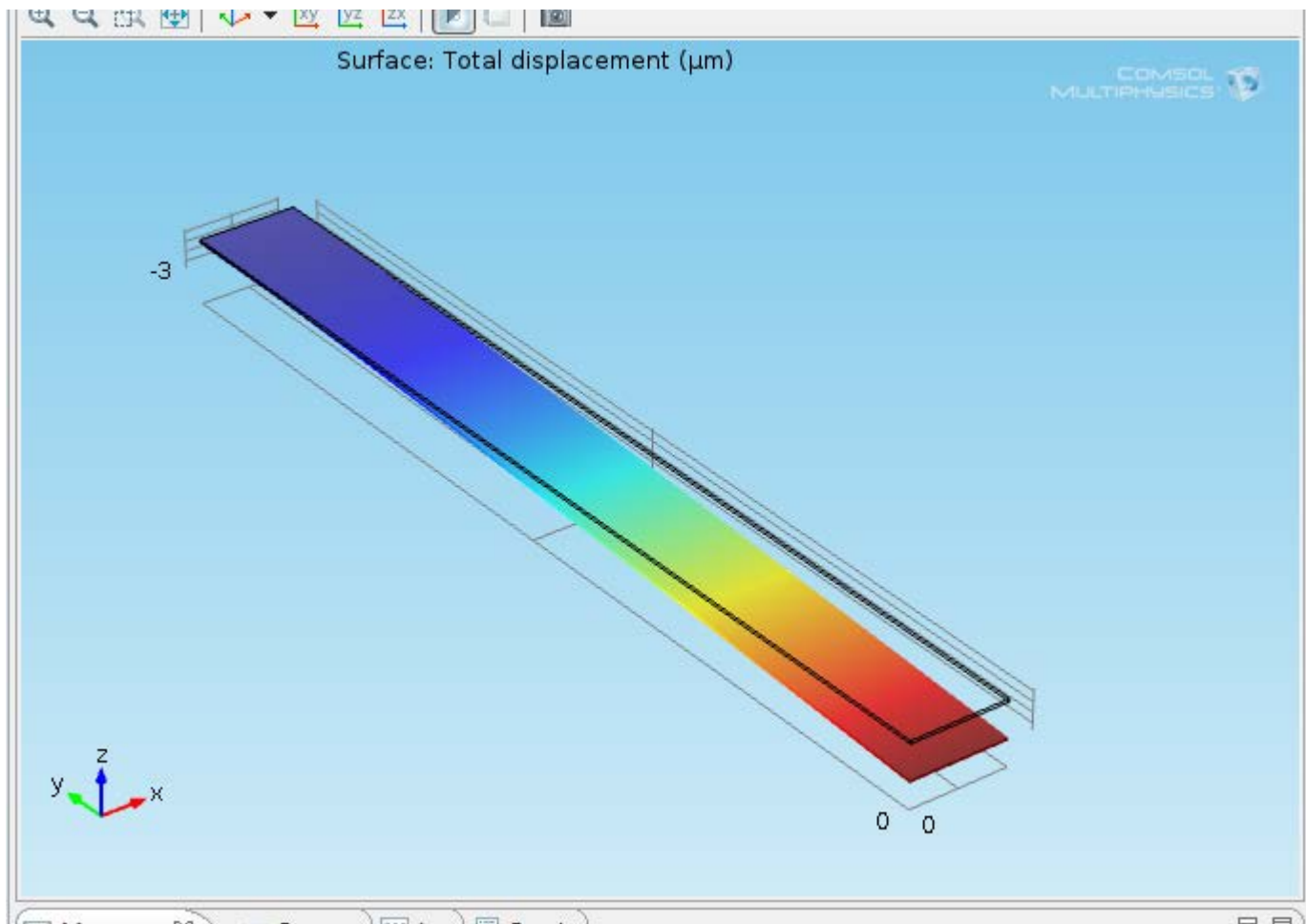
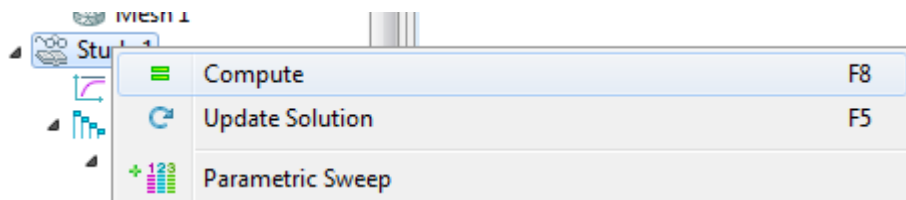
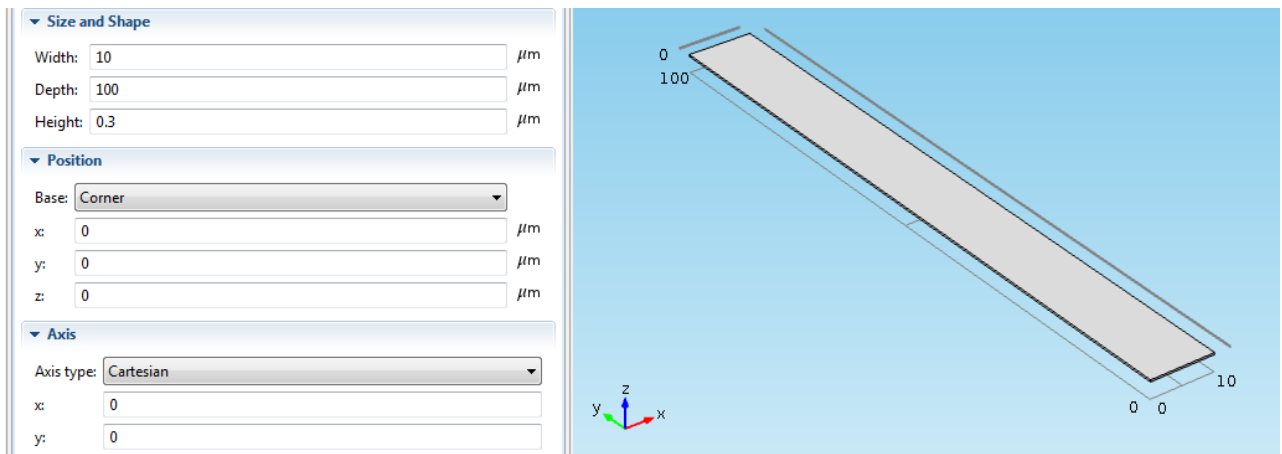
Width:	<input type="text" value="10"/>	μm
Depth:	<input type="text" value="100"/>	μm
Height:	<input type="text" value="5"/>	μm

Position



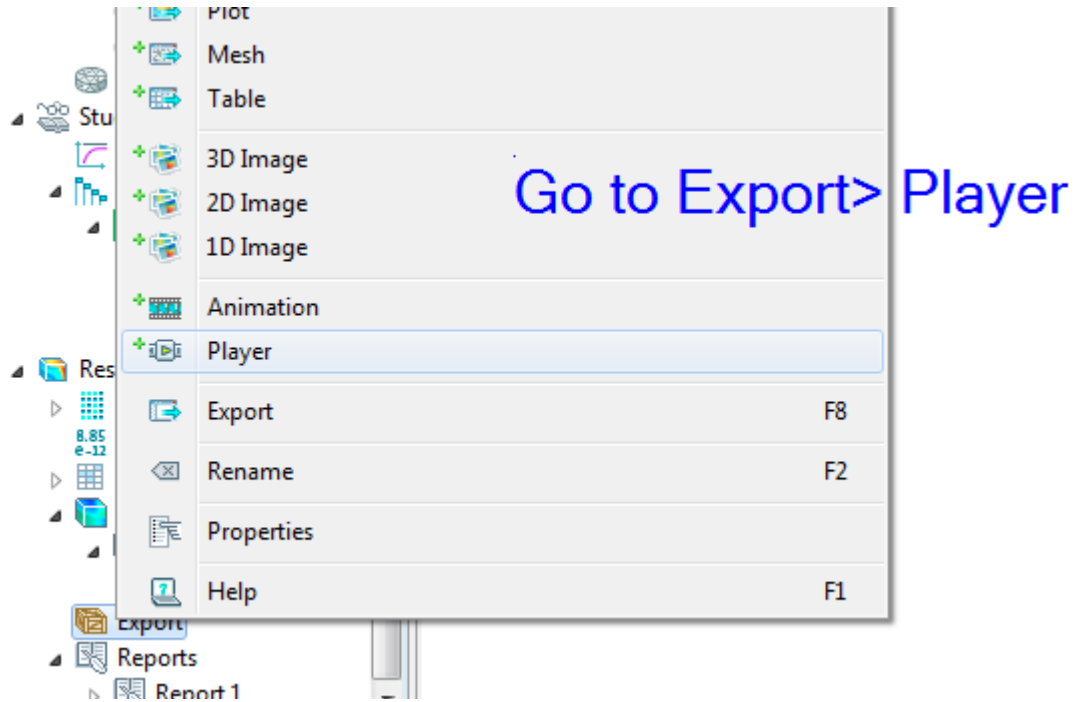
Change 2

Now, change the thickness (height) of the model and for small values, check which is the smallest value, giving the maximum deflection and is able to tolerate as well.



EXTRA

Displaying moving details of how the figure was getting modified



Joule Heating Method for Actuator

We want to see how the temperature varies in our work piece when it is made as per the specifications.

Idea :

S1) Make a 3d Figure. For that, make a workplane under geometry tab. Then, add rectangles as per the dimension. Next, go to Work plane option and click on Extrude. That makes it 3D.

S2) Add Material. Go to Material library and select Poly-Si.

MEMS>Semiconductor>Poly-Si

S3) Select Joule Heating in Physics.

Model 1 - Right Click> Add Physics

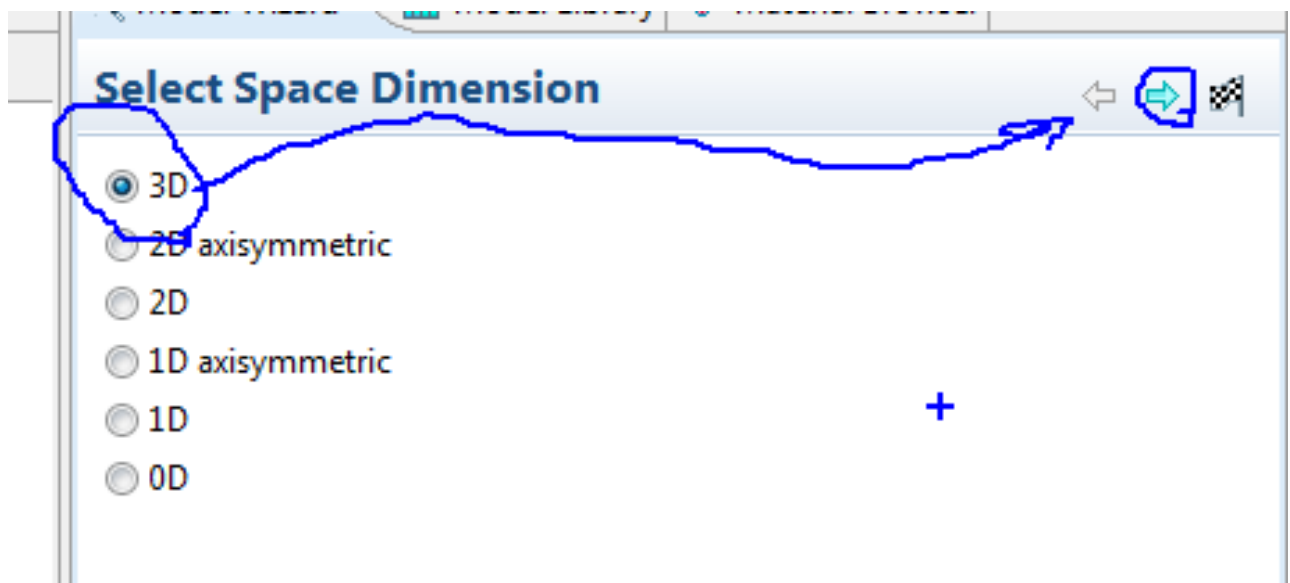
Heat Transfer> Electromagnetic Heating> Joule Heating (jh)

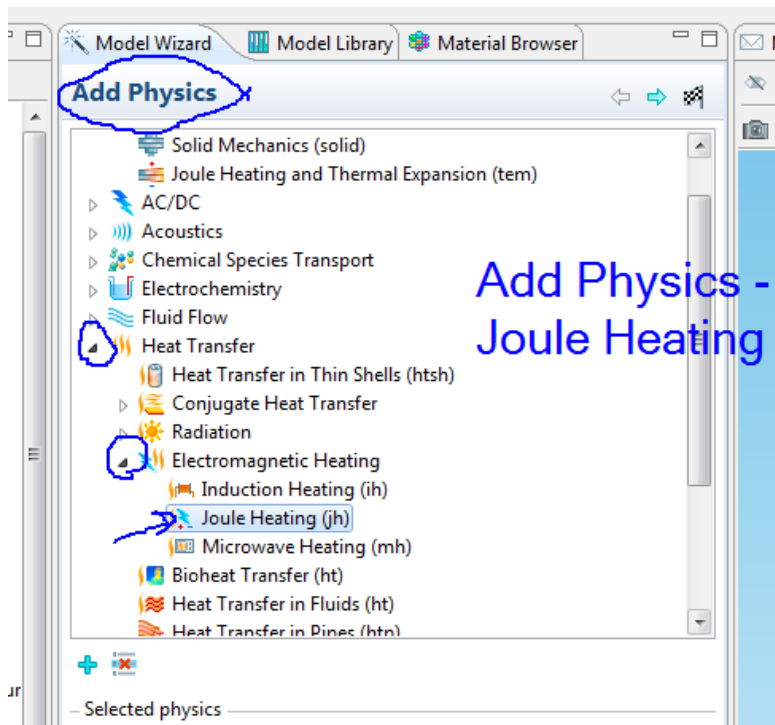
S4) Now, start adding the properties to the work piece.

S5) Do meshing of the object

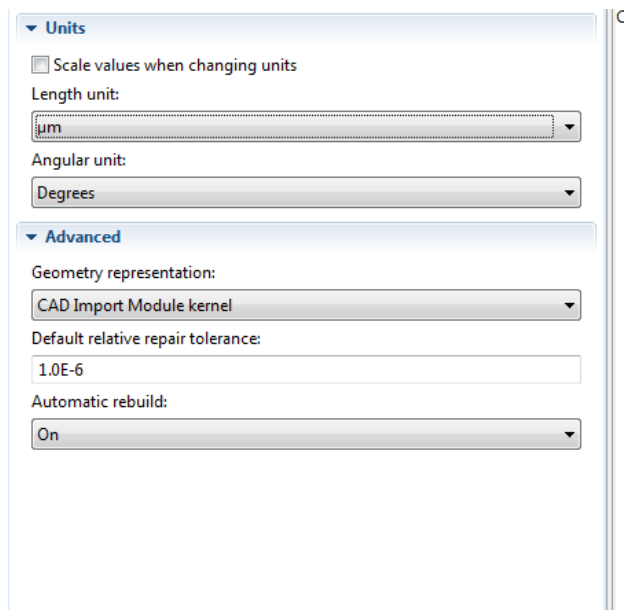
S6) Compute

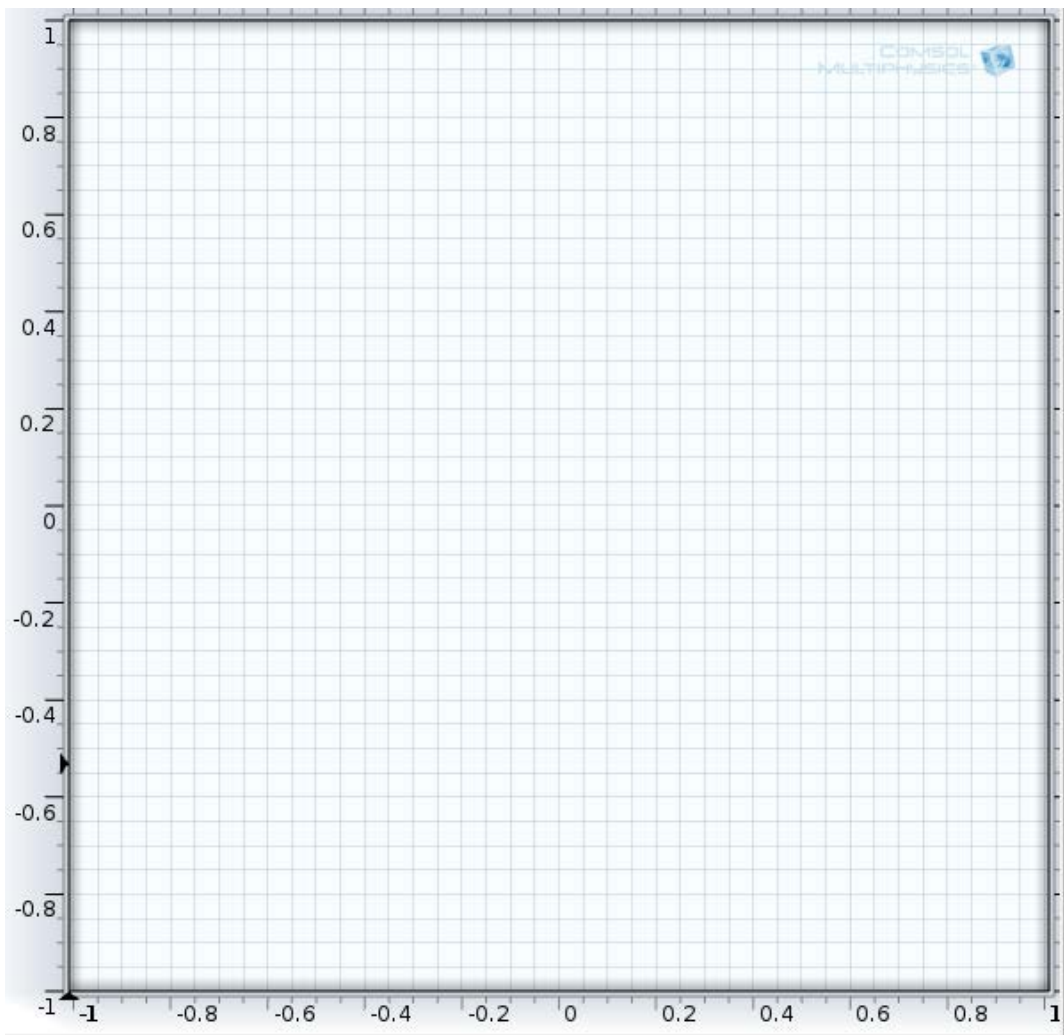
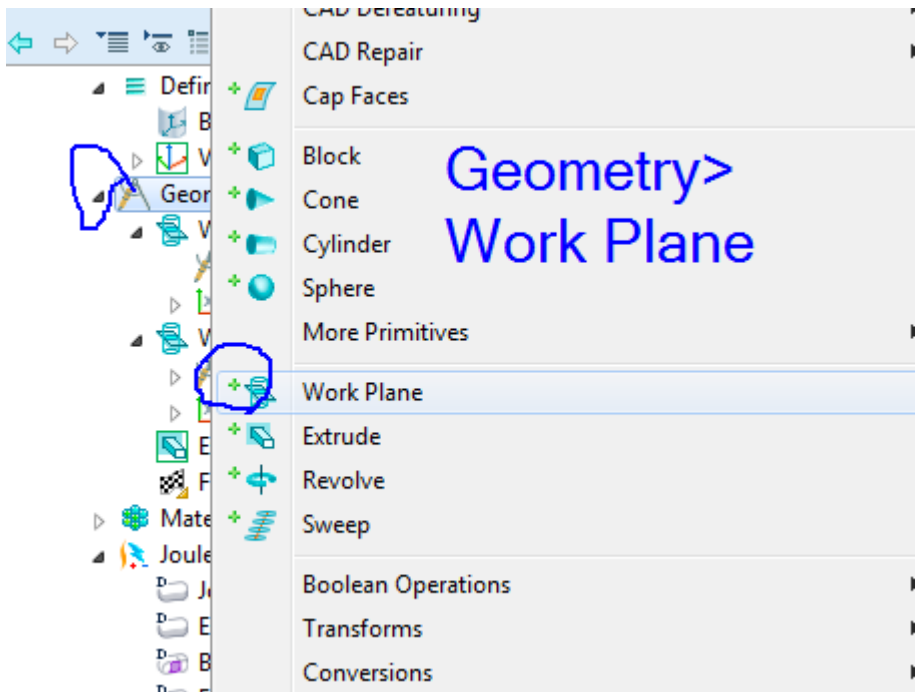
Objective - To model Joule heating of a micro actuator using COMSOL Joule heating module

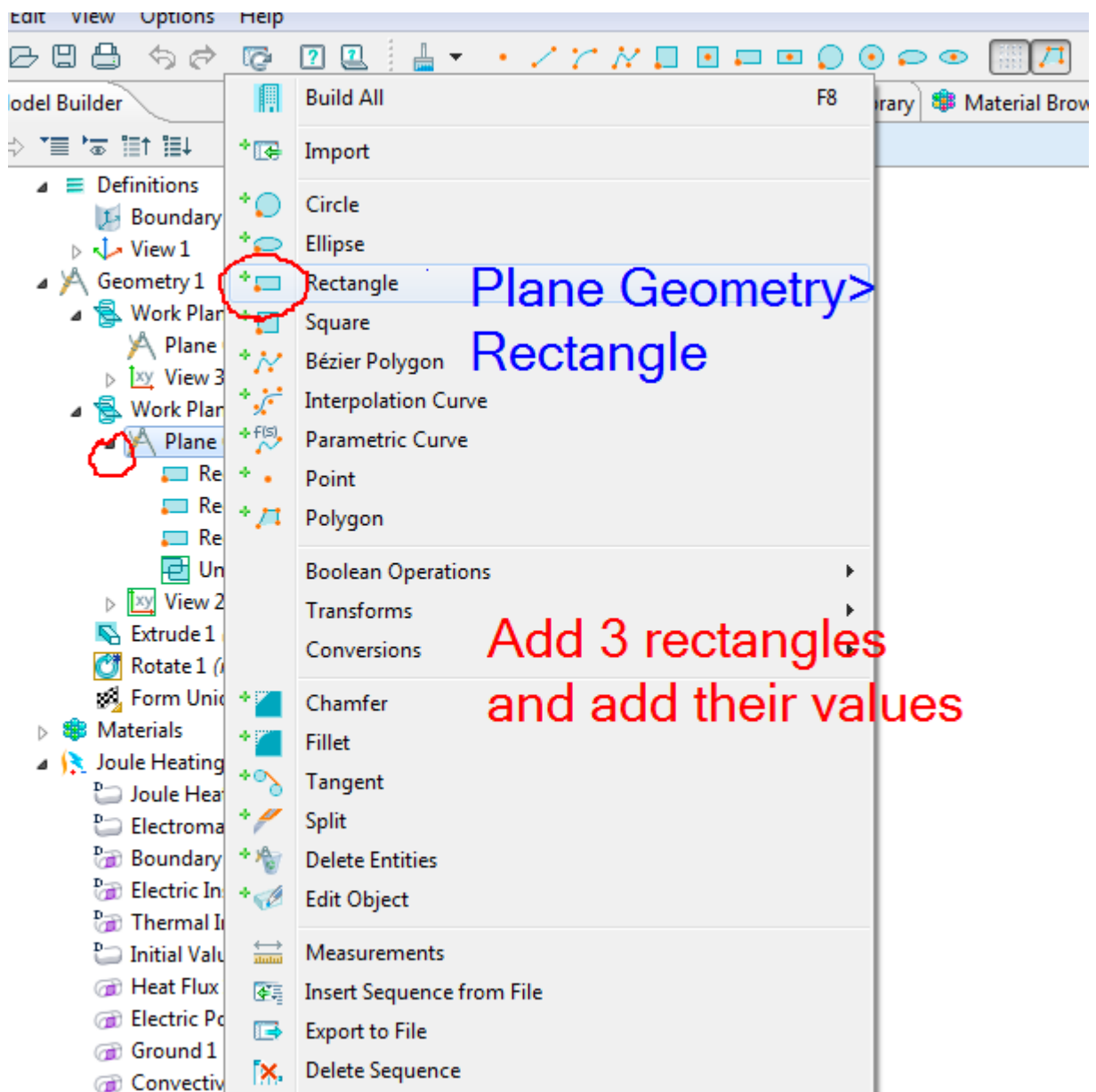
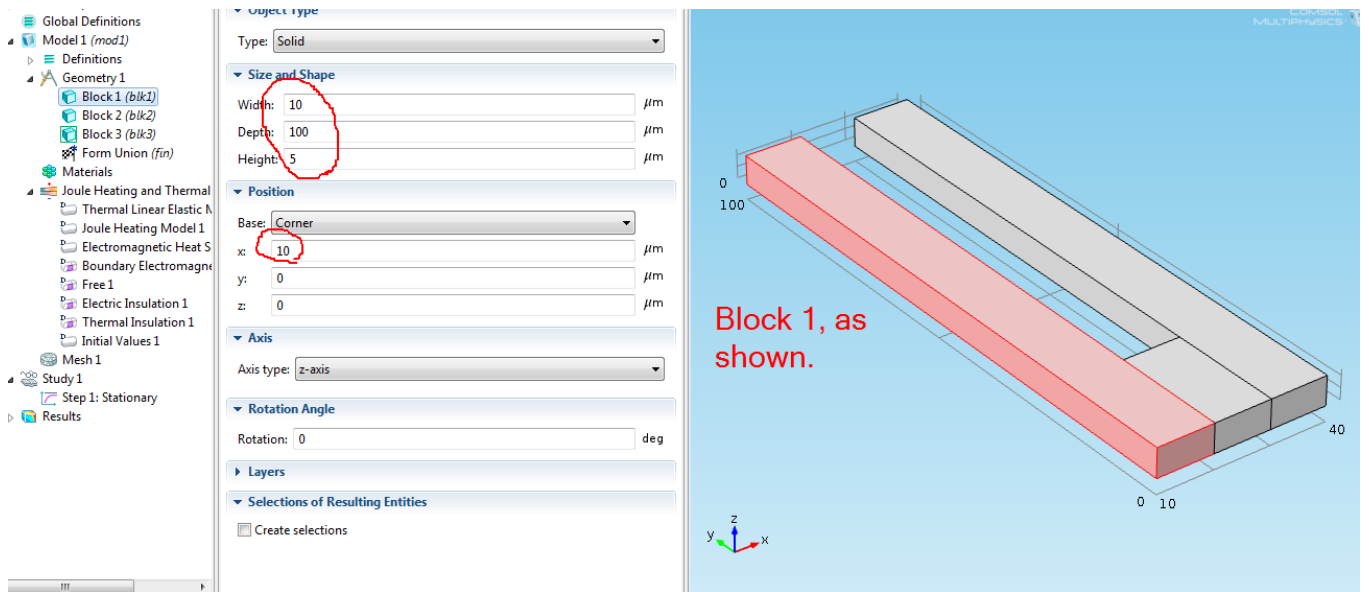




- ▲ Preset Studies
 - Eigenfrequency
 - Stationary
 - Time Dependent
- ▶ Custom Studies







Object type
Type: Solid

Size
Width: 100 μm
Height: 10 μm

Position
Base: Corner
xw: -50 μm
yw: 0 μm

Rotation Angle
Rotation: 0 deg

Layers

Object Type
Type: Solid

Size
Width: 20 μm
Height: 10 μm

Position
Base: Corner
xw: -50 μm
yw: 10 μm

Rotation Angle
Rotation: 0 deg

Layers

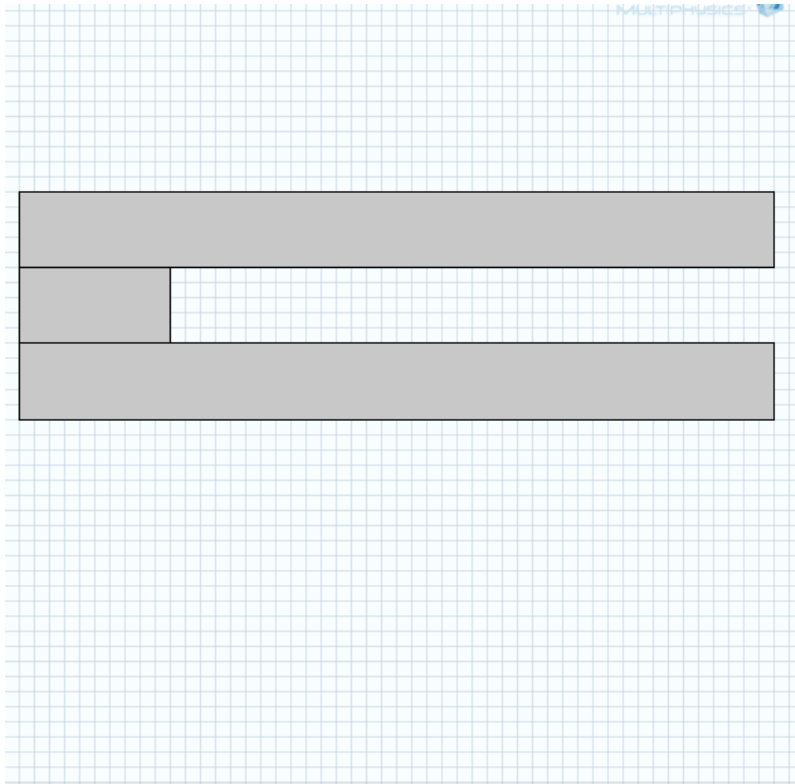
Object Type
Type: Solid

Size
Width: 100 μm
Height: 10 μm

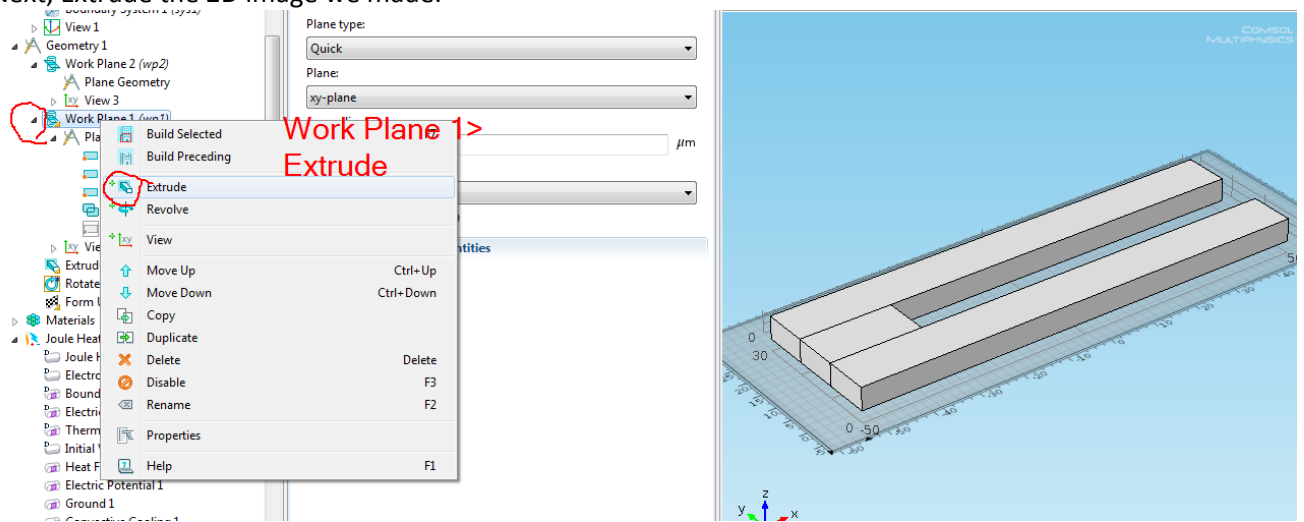
Position
Base: Corner
xw: -50 μm
yw: 20 μm

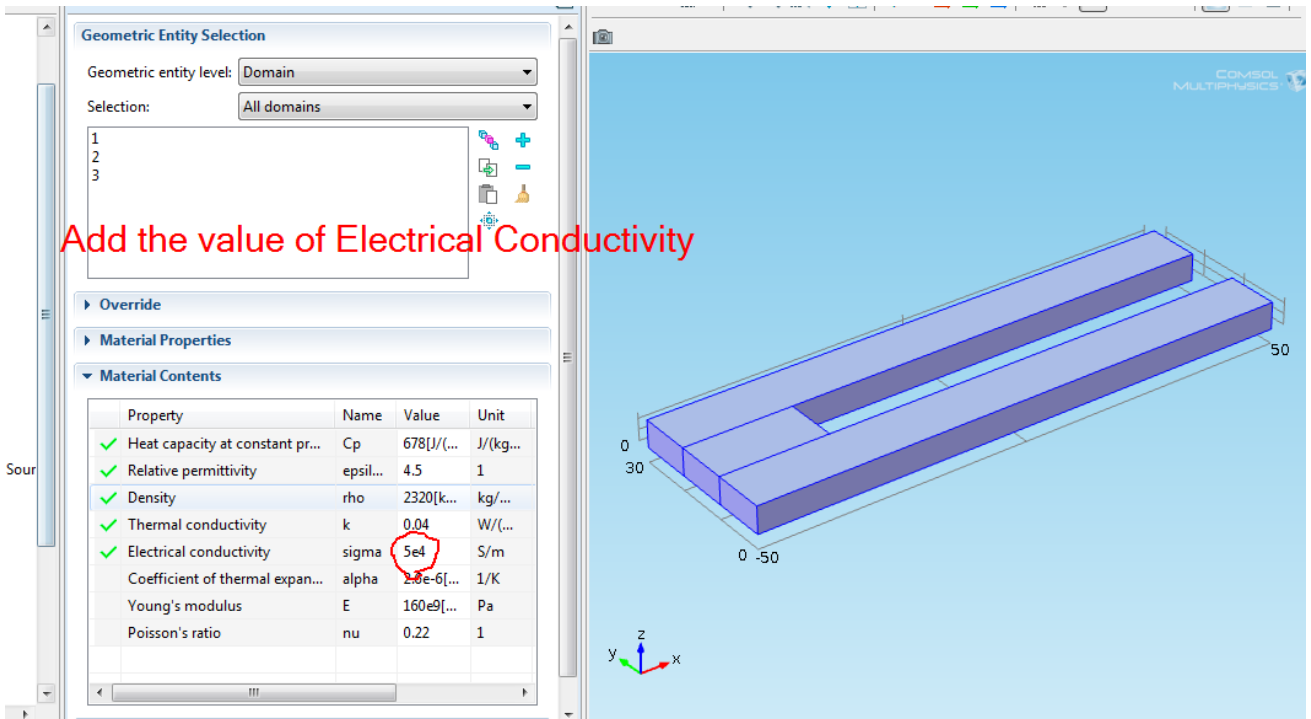
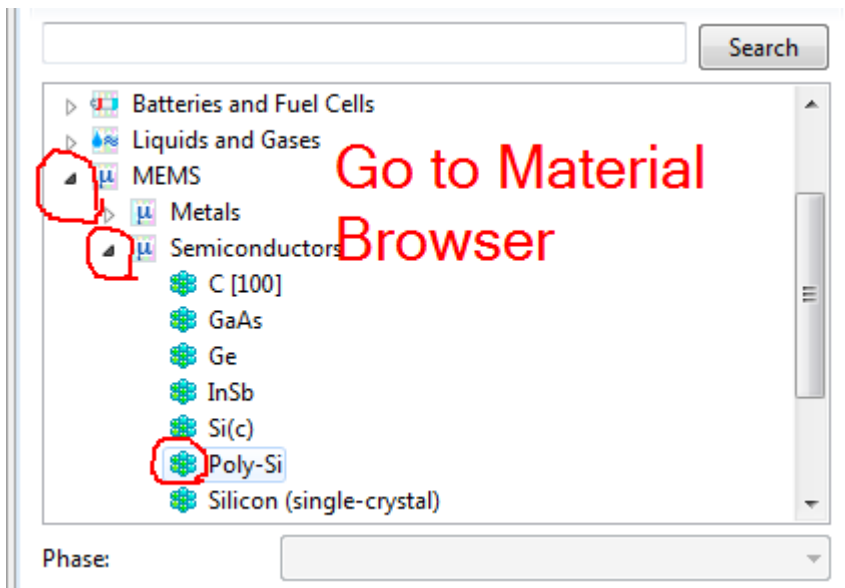
Rotation Angle
Rotation: 0 deg

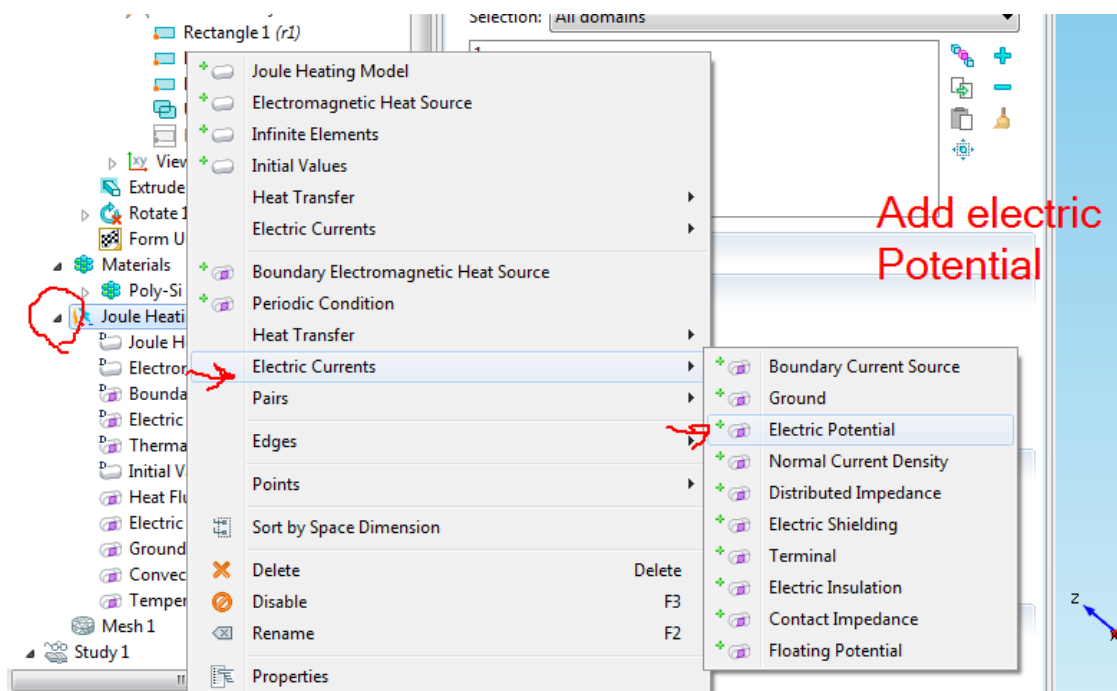
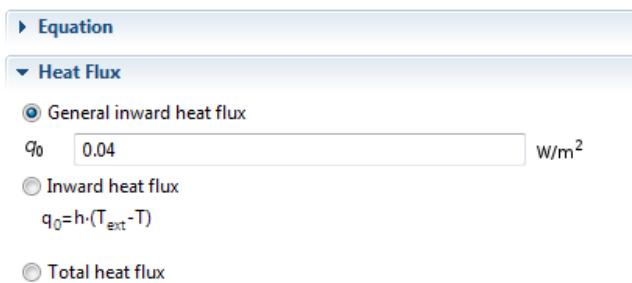
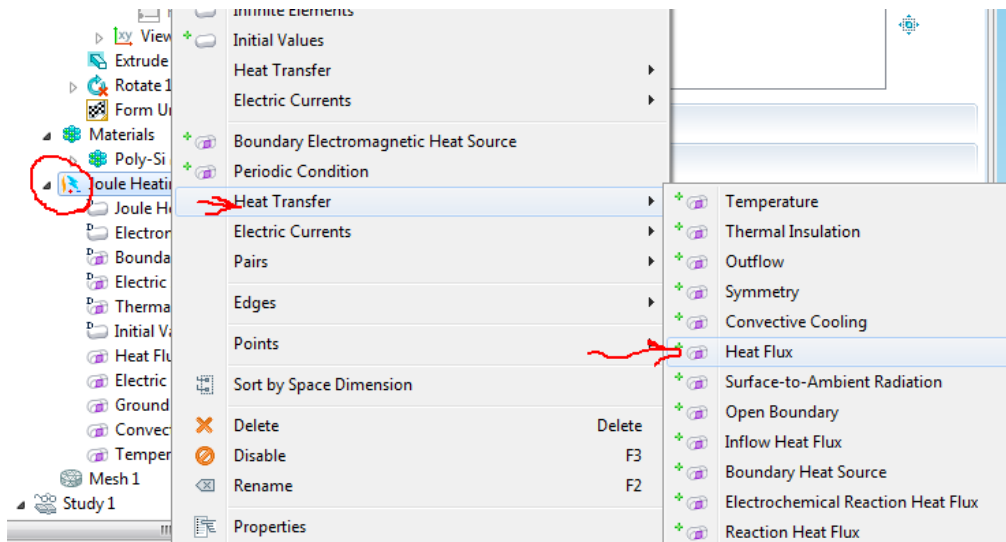
Layers

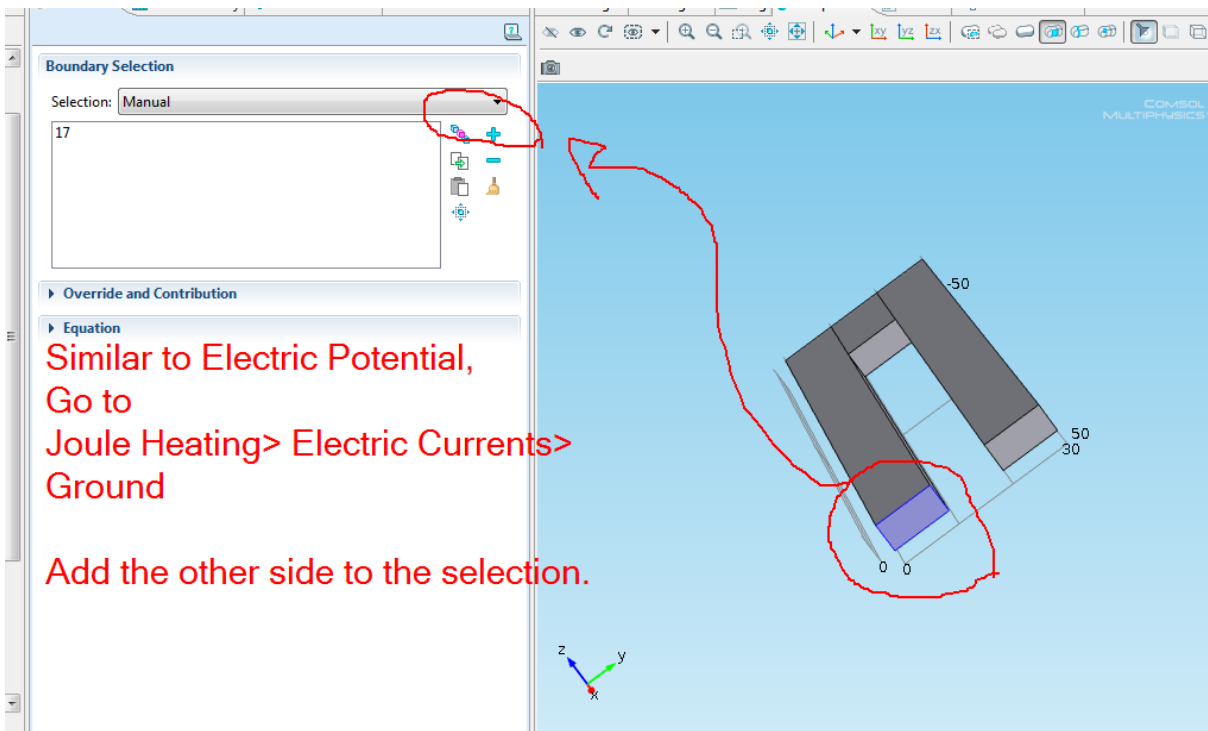
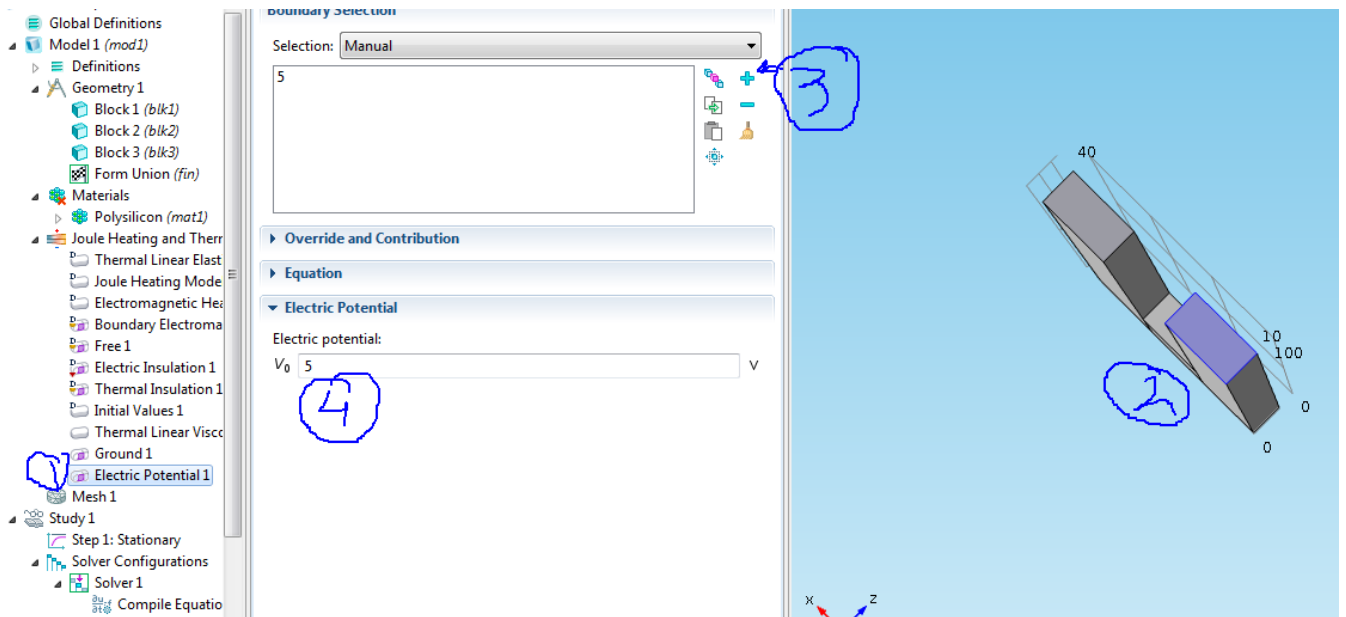


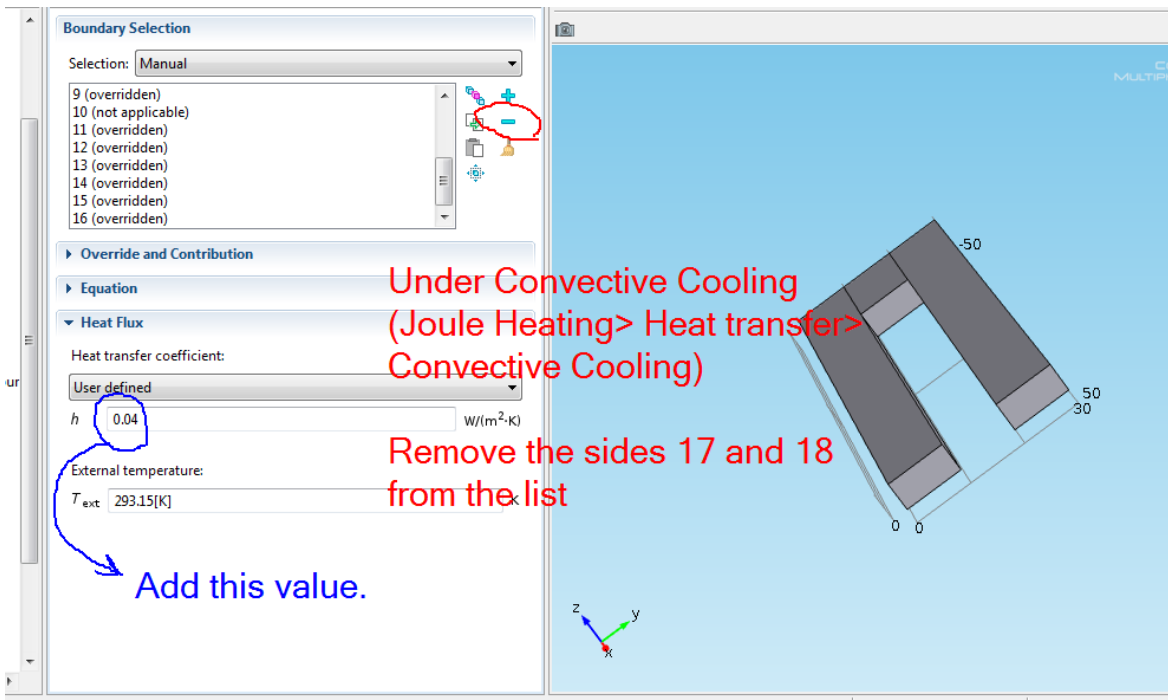
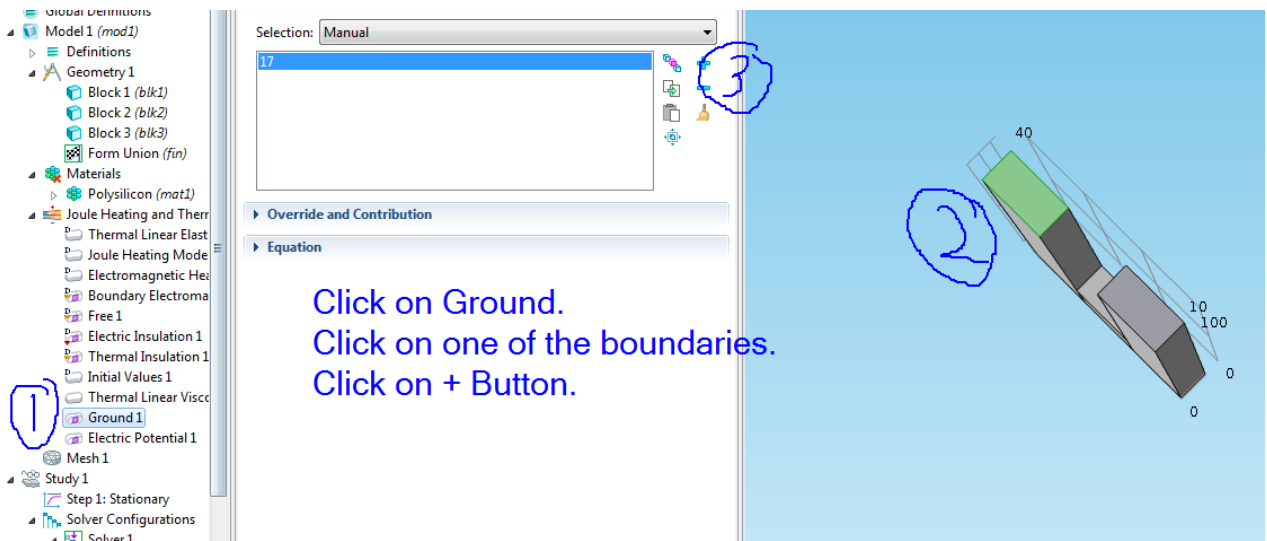
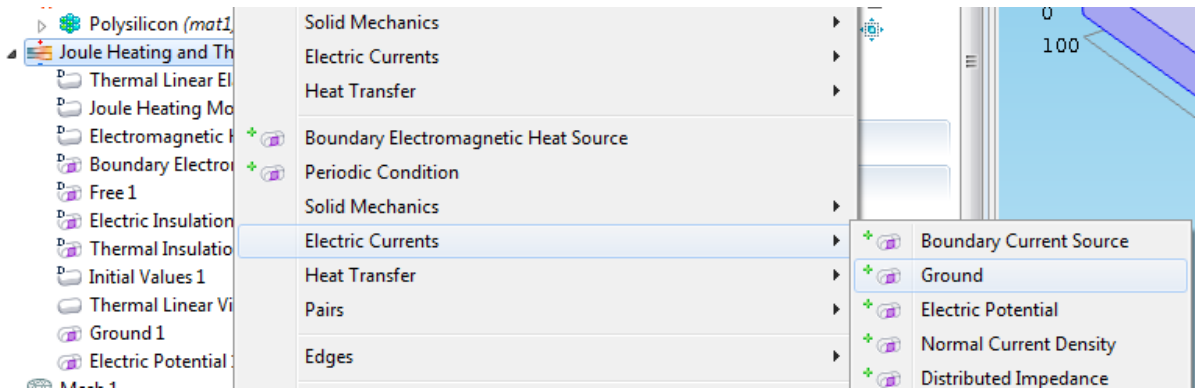
Then, go to Union and click Build all.
 Next, Extrude the 2D image we made.

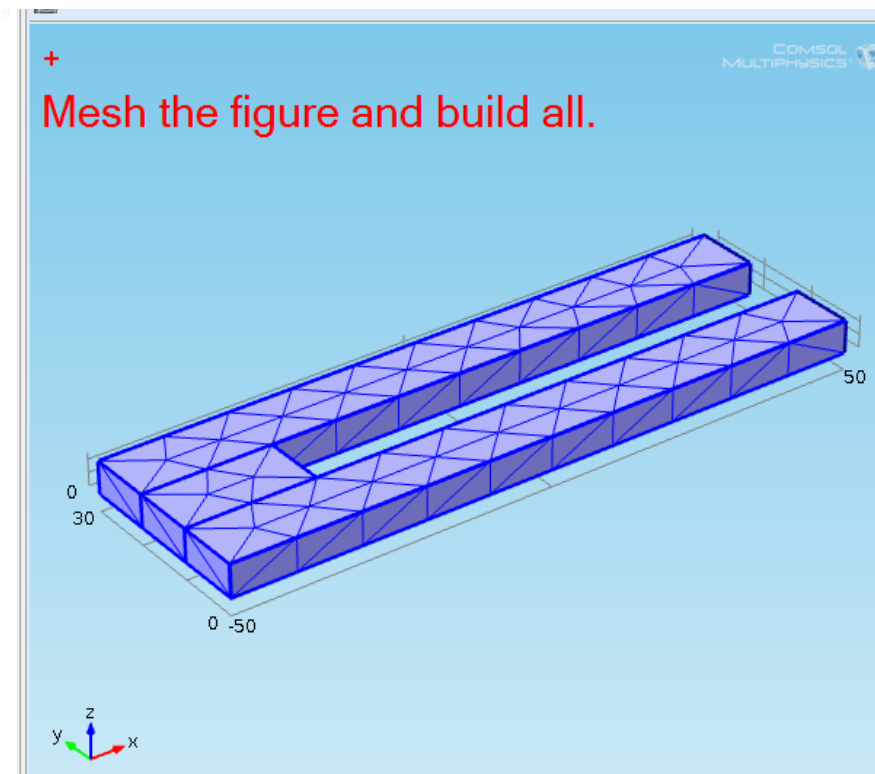
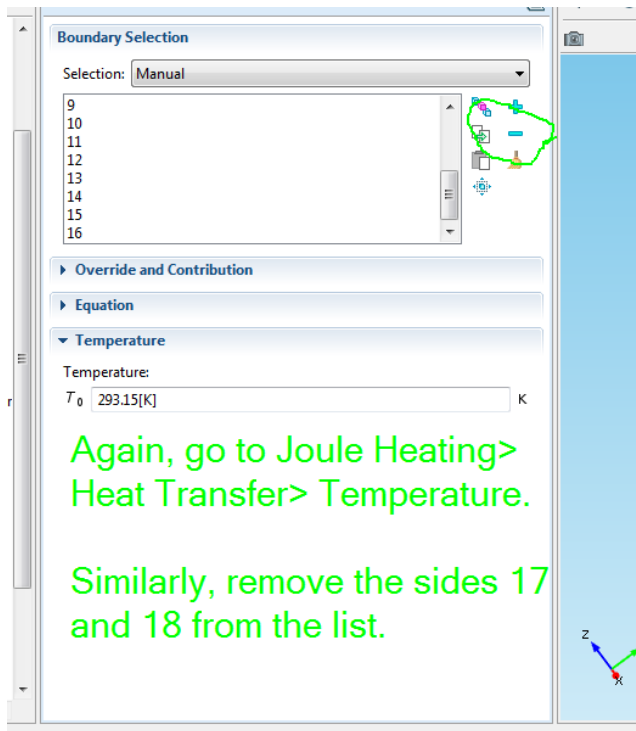


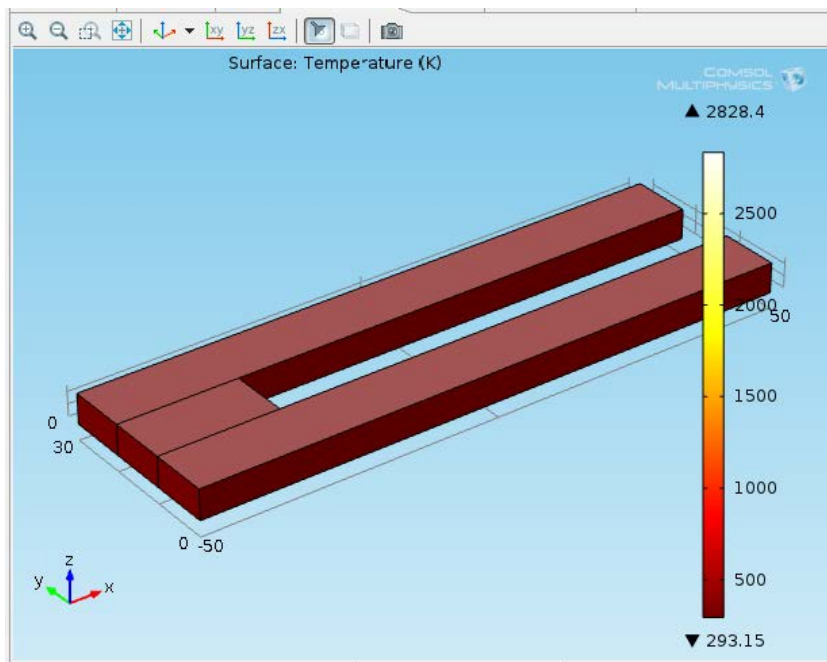
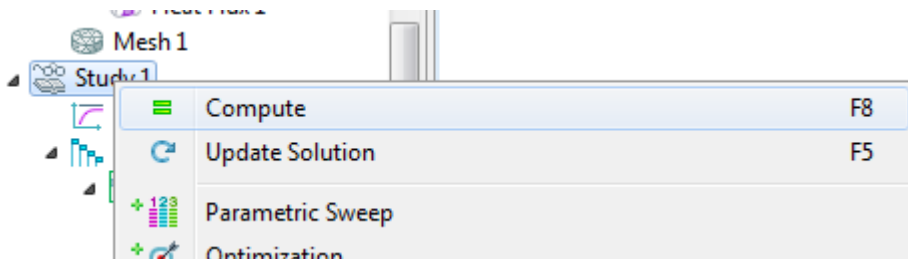
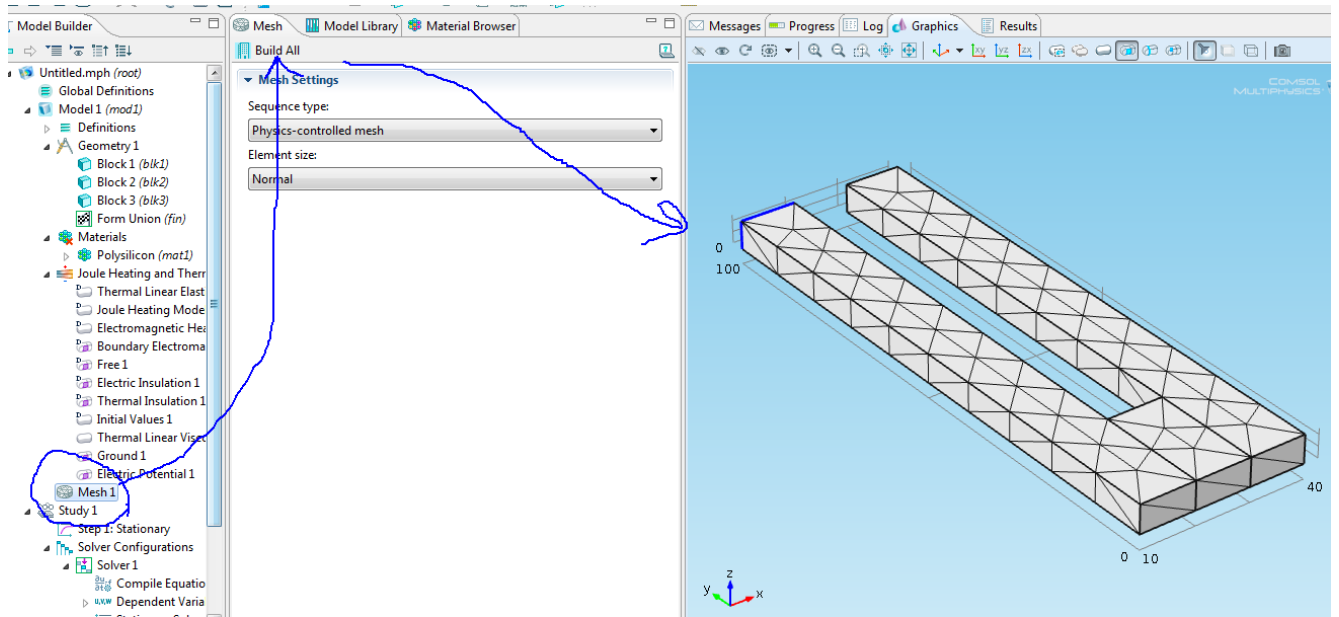


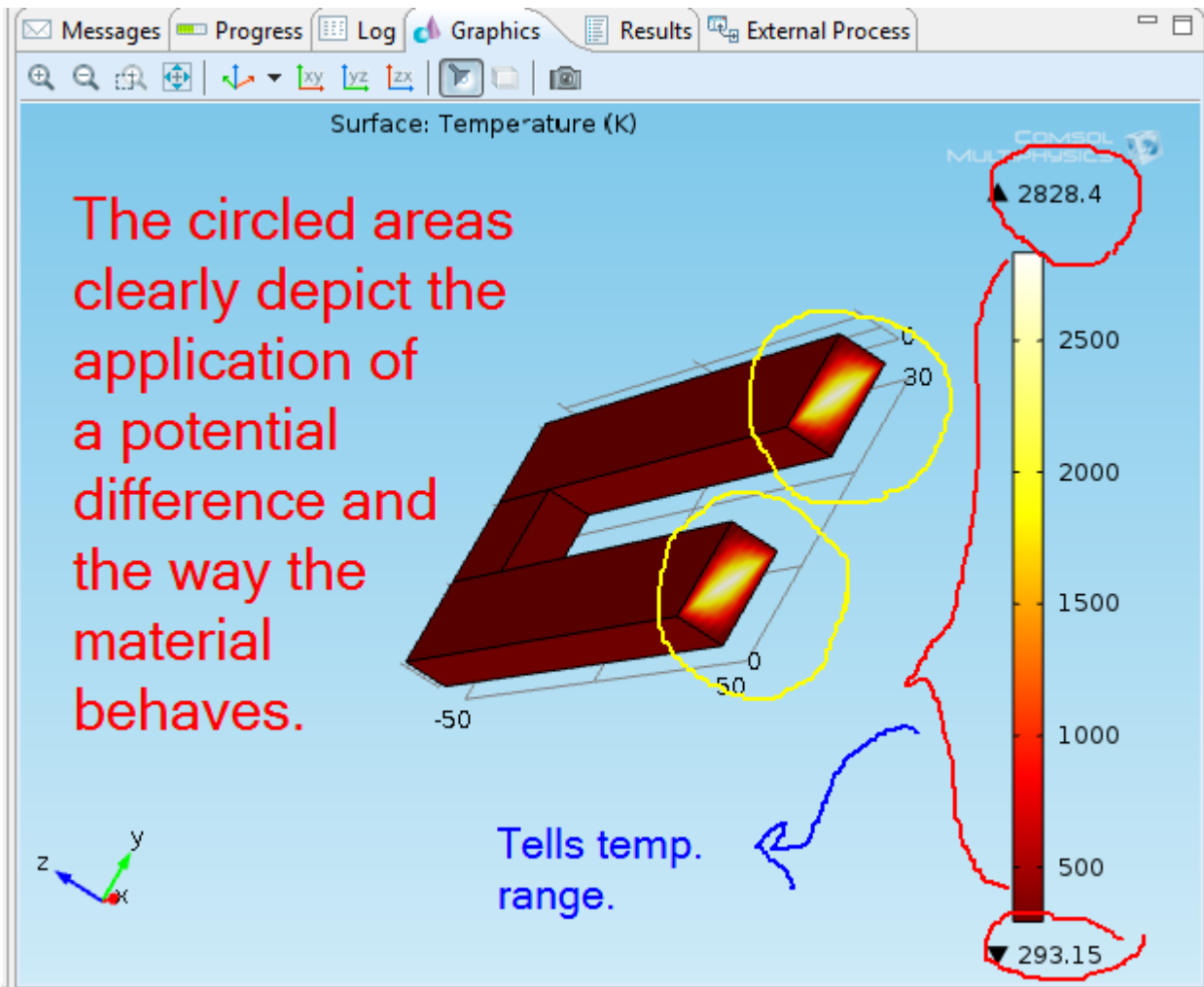










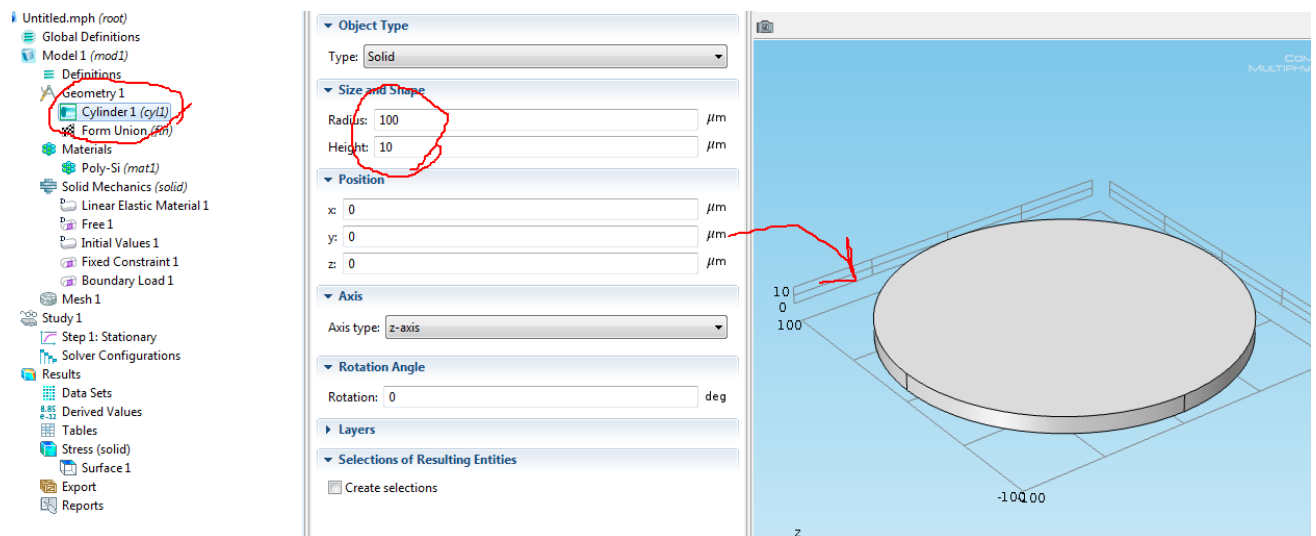


Analysis of Circular diaphragm in micro pressure sensor and find the deflection

We have to make a disk (or a thin cylinder)
Now, apply pressure at its top and analyze the figure we get.

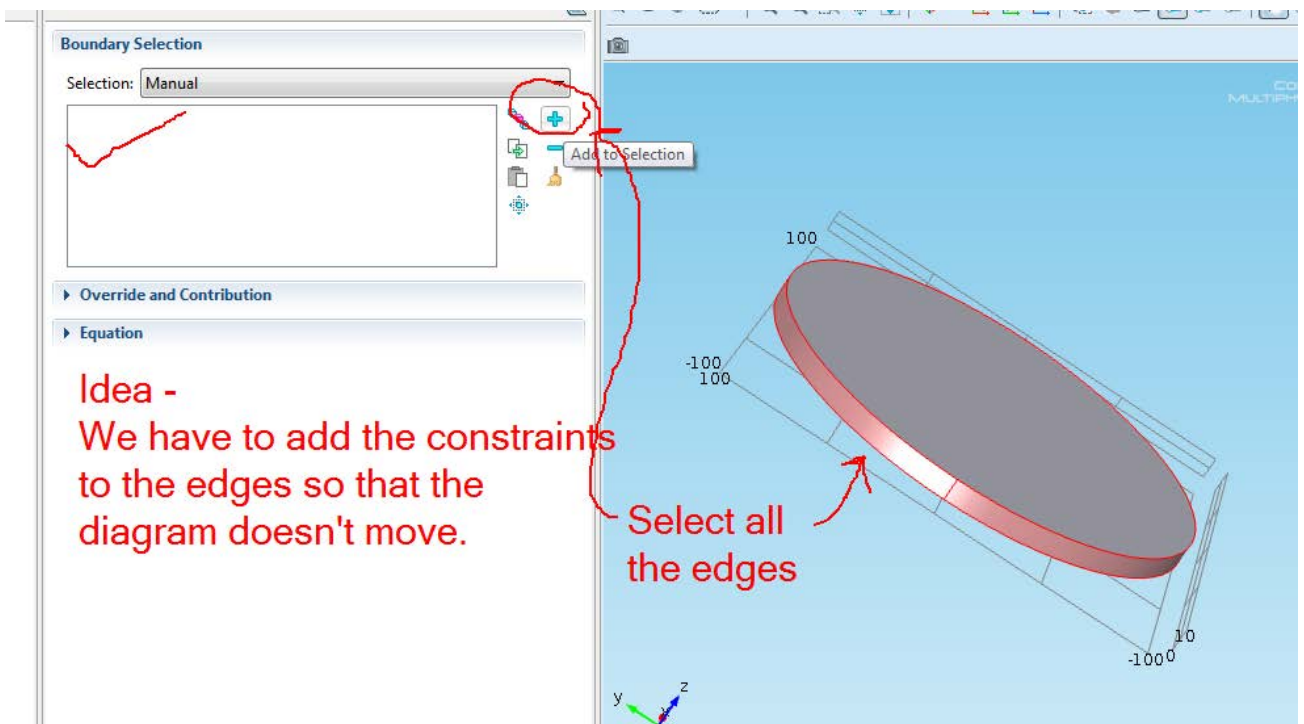
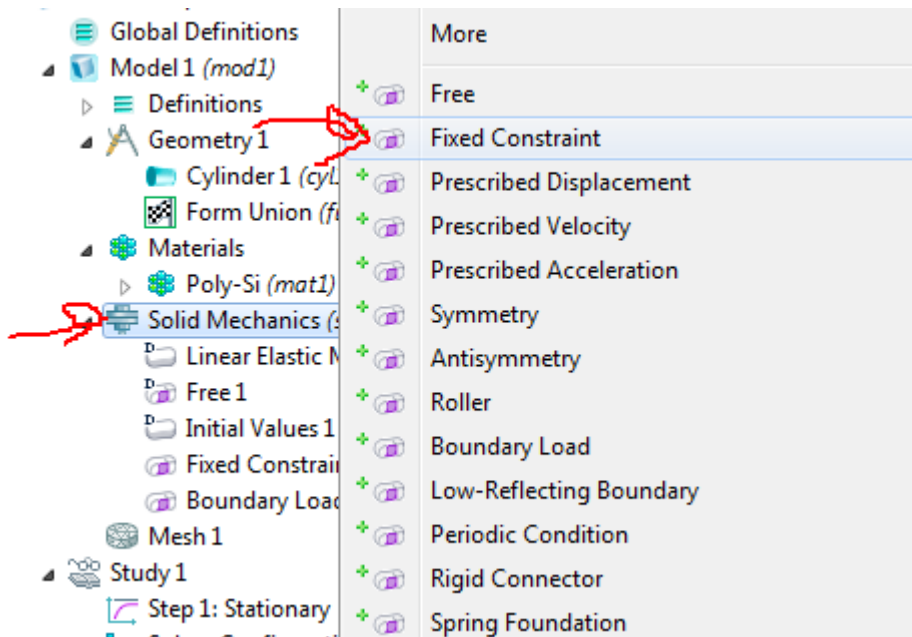
Initial steps - 3D > Solid Mechanics (solid) > Stationary

Select cylinder in Geometry and take the following dimensions -

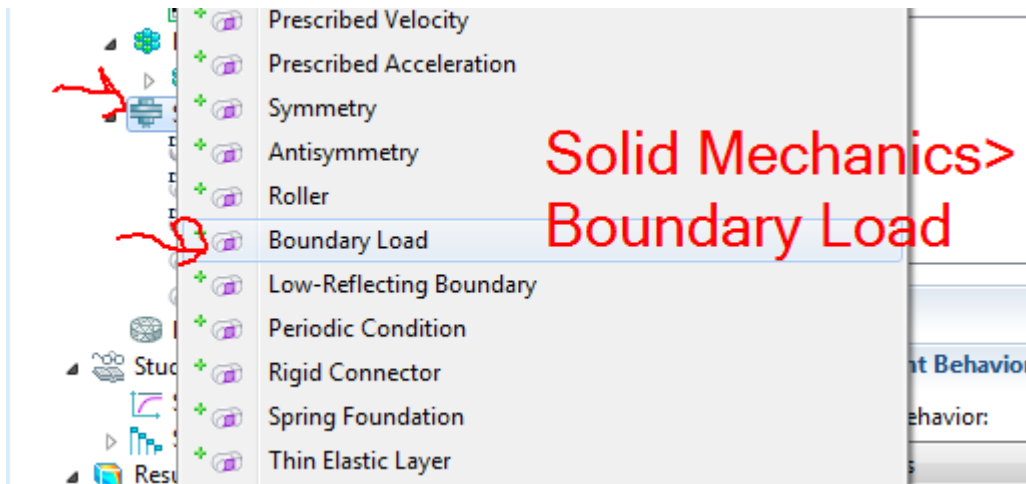


Now,
Select the material -
Poly-Si

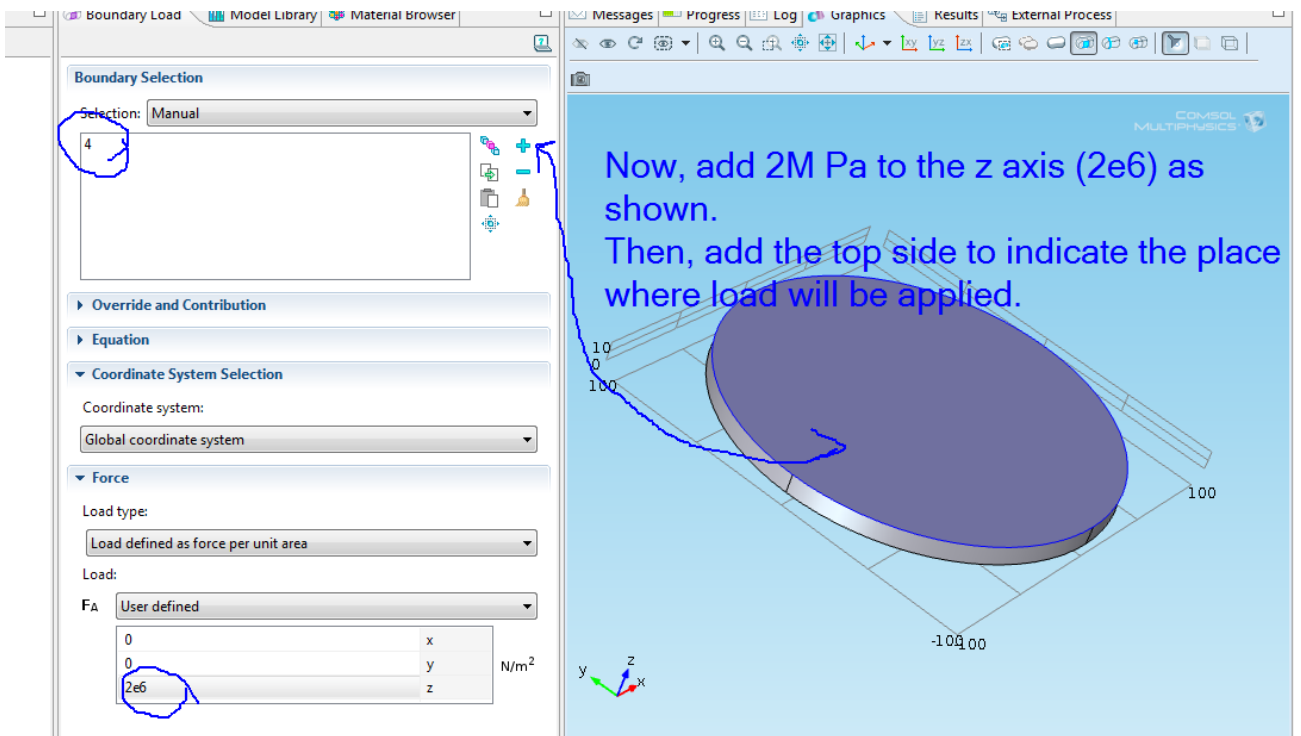
Next,
Click on Solid Mechanics.
Right click and add -
Fixed Constraint.



Now, once the base is set, we need to add load over the top or bottom. For that use Boundary load option.

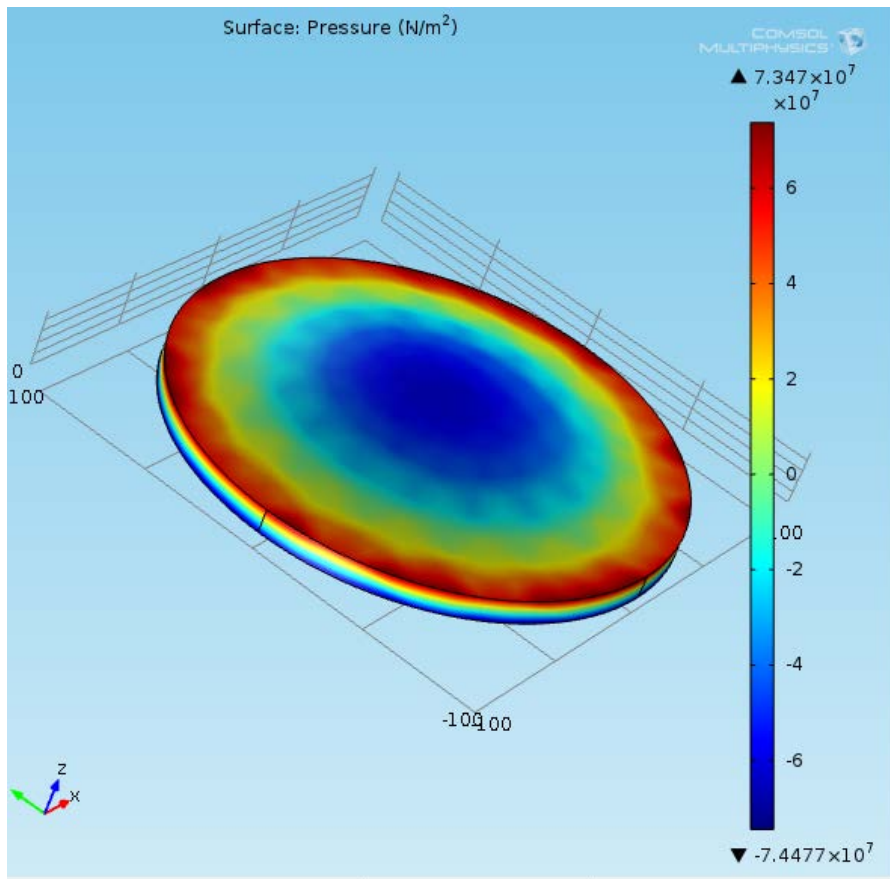


Solid Mechanics >
Boundary Load



Next, go to Mesh and Build All.

Finally, Study 1 > Compute.



Now, to see the total displacement,
Stress > Surface

Plot

Data set: From parent

Expression: solid.pm

Unit: N/m²

Description: Pressure

Name	Value	Description
solid.refpntx	0	Reference point for moment co...
solid.refpnty	0	Reference point for moment co...
solid.refpntz	0	Reference point for moment co...

Title

Range

Coloring and Style

Coloring: Color table

Color table: Rainbow

Color legend

Reverse color table

Surface: Pressure (N/m²)

Pressure (solid.pm)

Total displacement (solid.disp)

Definitions

Solid Mechanics

Curl of displacement (Material)

Displacement field (Material)

Total displacement (solid.disp)

Acceleration and velocity

Displacement

Energy and power

Geometry

Global

Load

Material properties

Reactions

Strain

Stress

Stress (Gauss points)

0

100

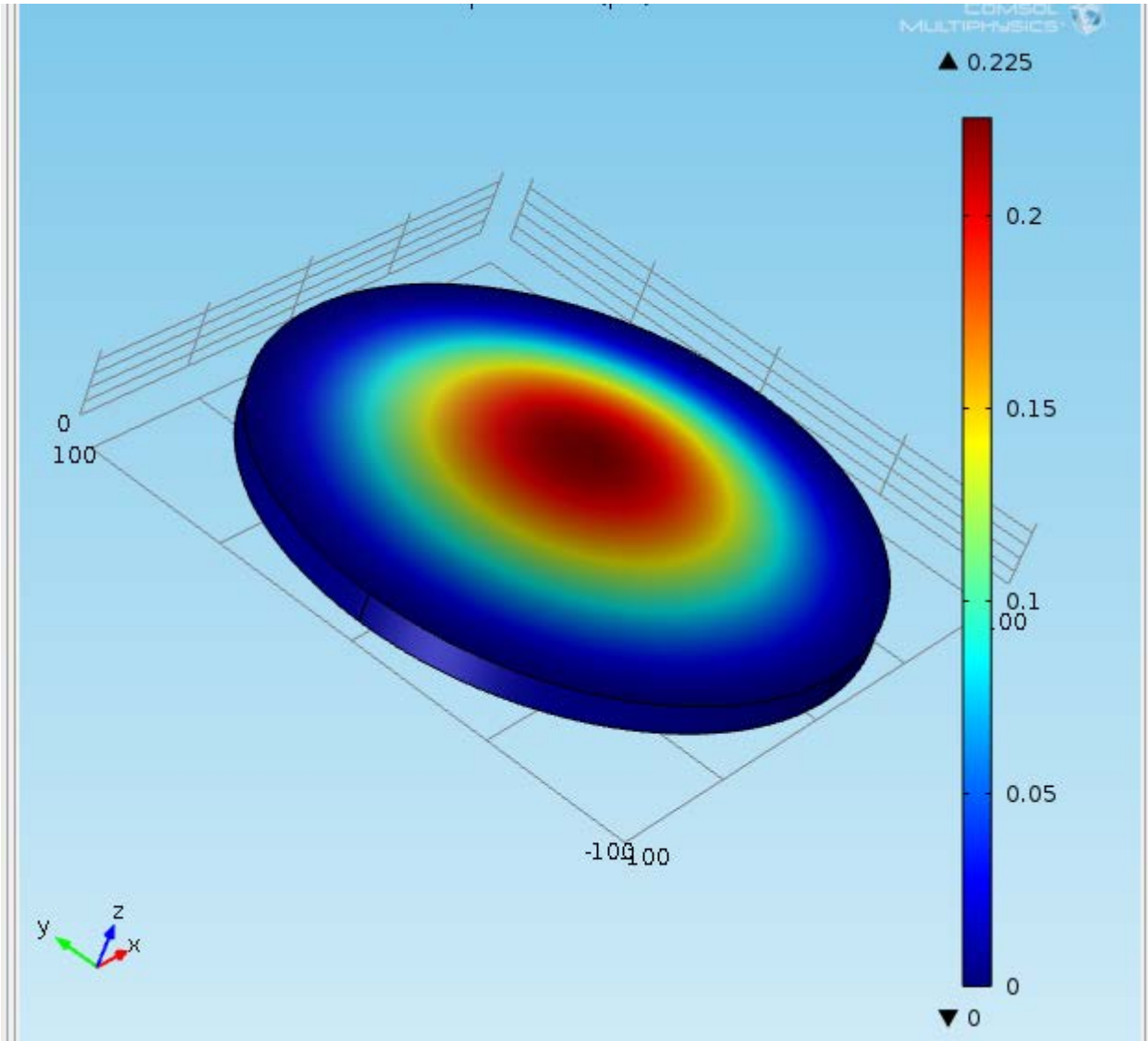
-100

y

z

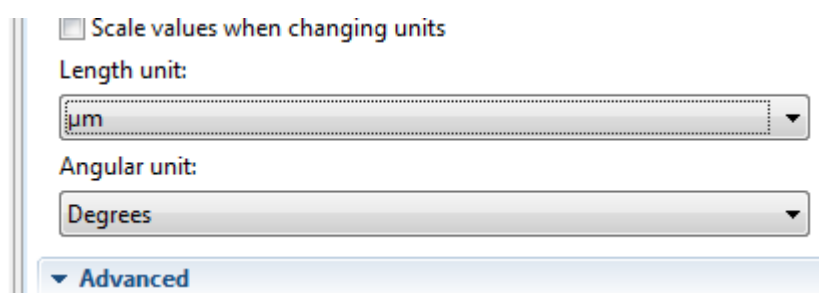
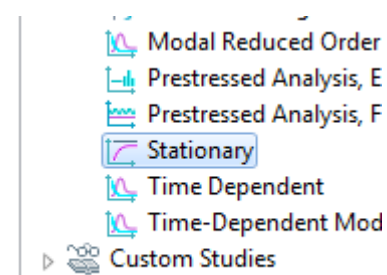
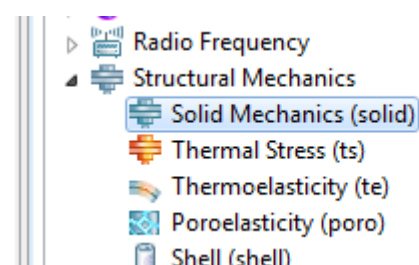
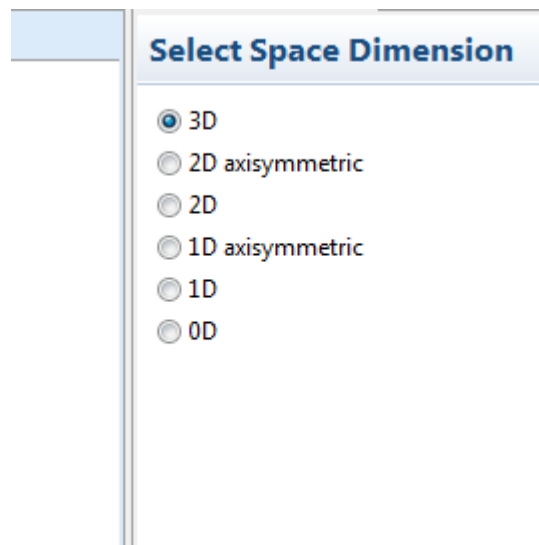
x

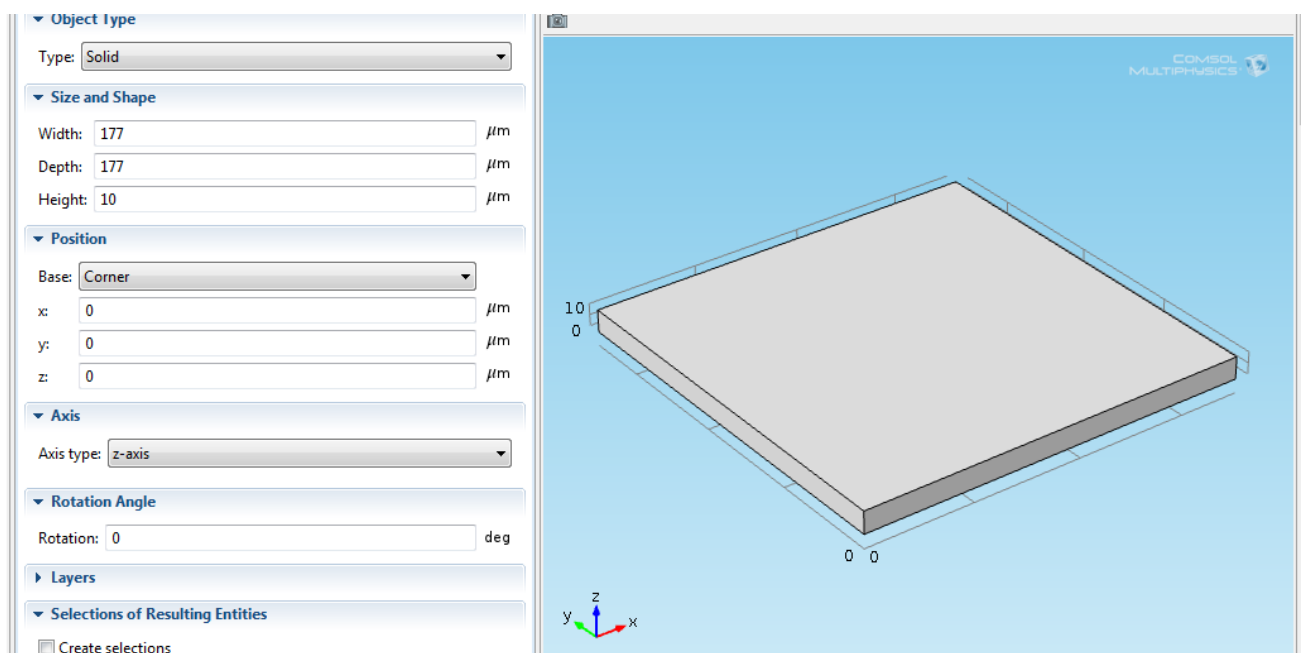
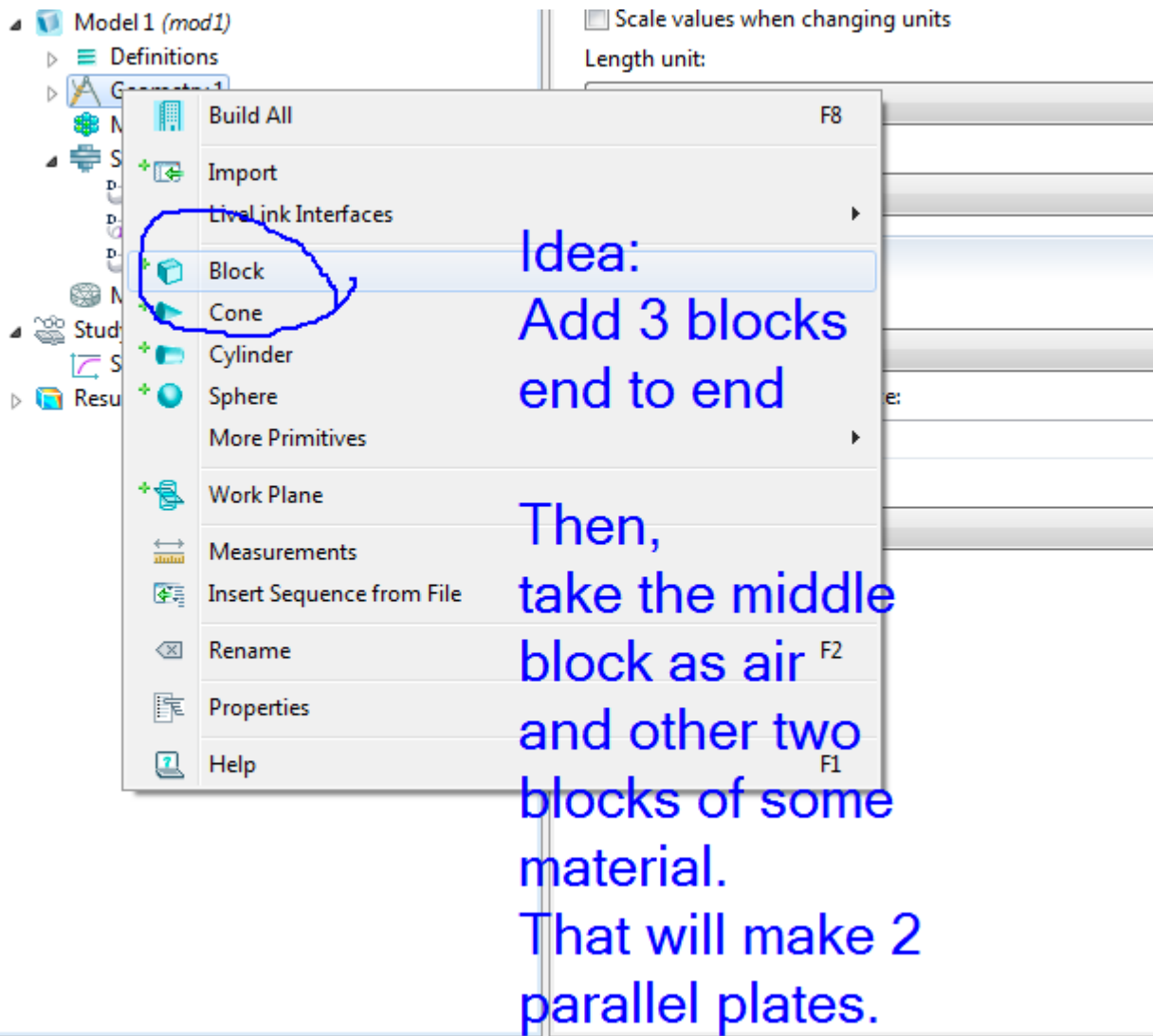
Then, Click on Plot.

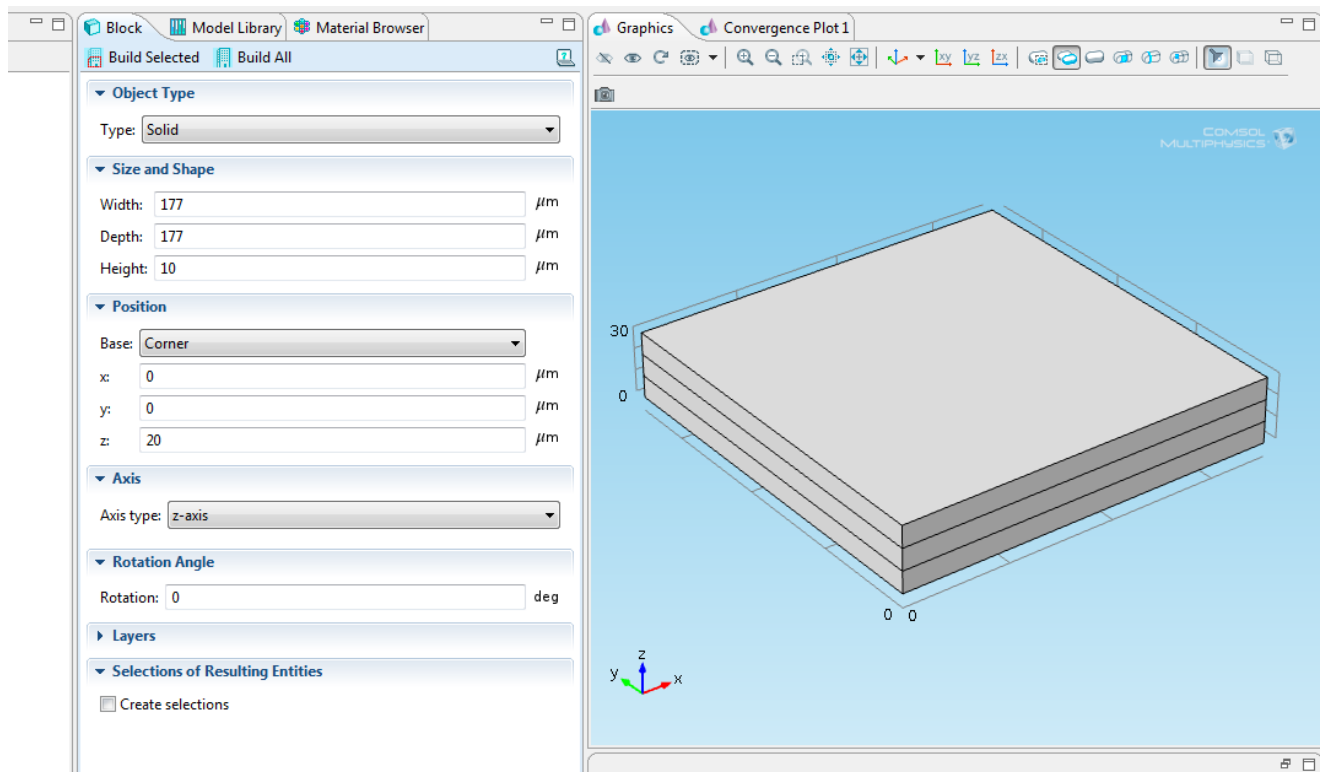
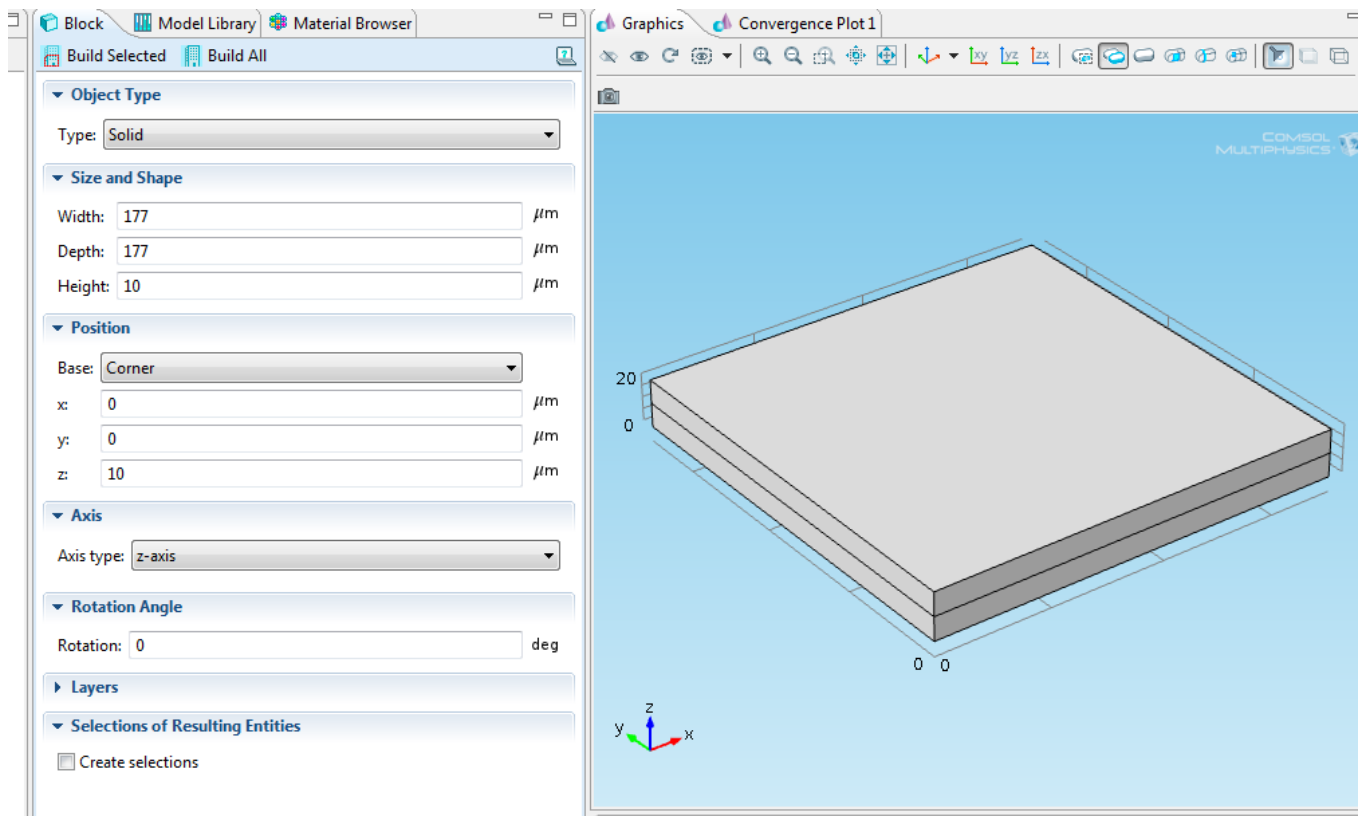


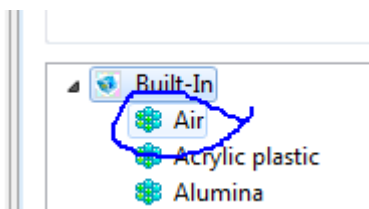
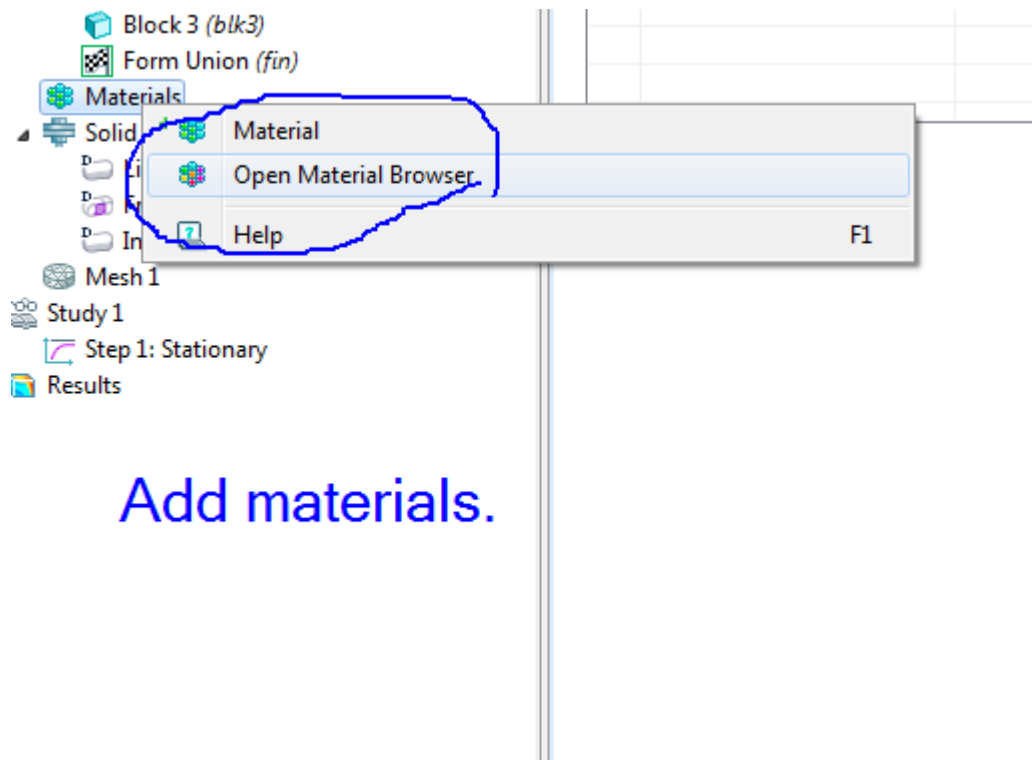
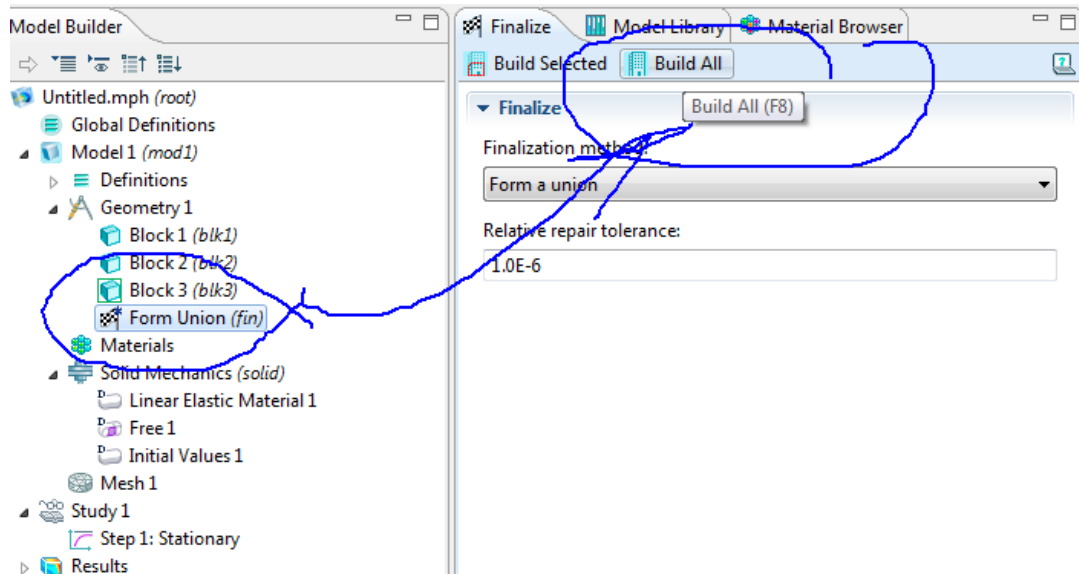
Similarly, the dimensions of the disk can be changed and we can see for different values.
Done!

Making a Capacitor









Geometric Entity Selection

Geometric entity level: Domain
 Selection: Manual

2

Material Contents

Property	Name	Value	Unit
✓ Density	rho	rho(pA...	kg/...
✓ Young's modulus	E	1	Pa
✓ Poisson's ratio	nu	1	1
Relative permeability	mur	1	1
Relative permittivity	epsil...	1	1
Dynamic viscosity	mu	eta(T[1...	Pa*s
Ratio of specific heats	gam...	1.4	1
Electrical conductivity	sigma	0[S/m]	S/m
Heat capacity at constant pr...	Cp	Cp(T[1...	J/(kg...

COMSOL MULTIPHYSICS

Add the values of Young's Modulus and Poisson's ratio
 Also, add the middle layer as air.

Global Definitions

- Model 1 (mod1)
 - Definitions
 - Geometry 1
 - Block 1 (blk1)
 - Block 2 (blk2)
 - Block 3 (blk3)
 - Form Union (fin)
 - Materials
 - Air (mat1)
 - Solid Mechanics (solid)
 - Linear Elastic Material 1
 - Free 1
 - Initial Values 1
 - Mesh 1
 - Study 1
 - Step 1: Stationary
 - Results

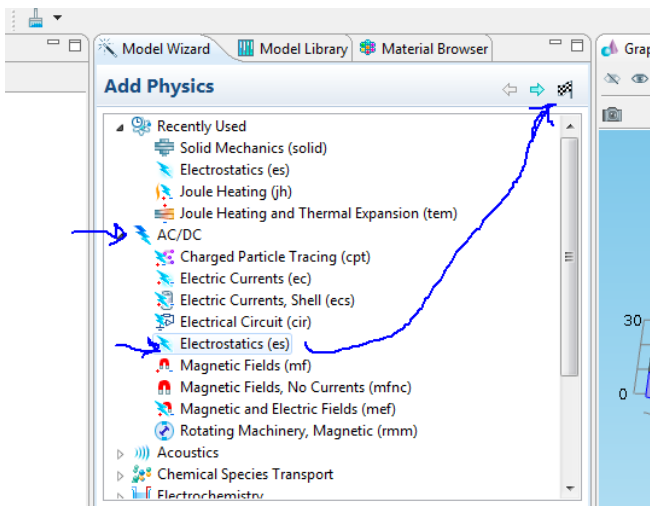
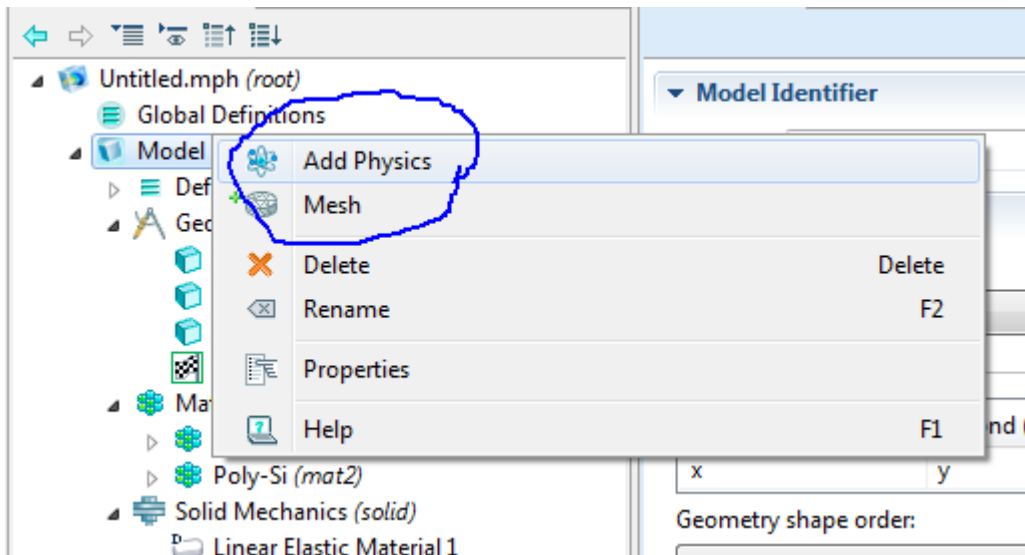
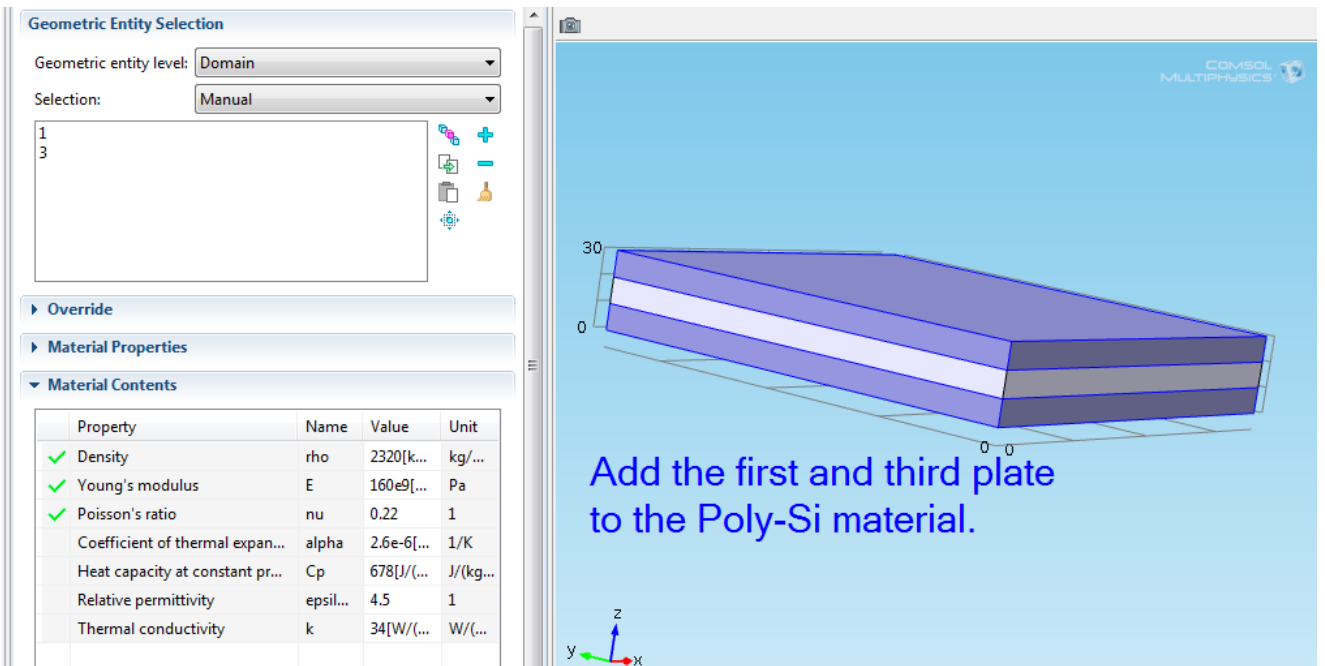
Search

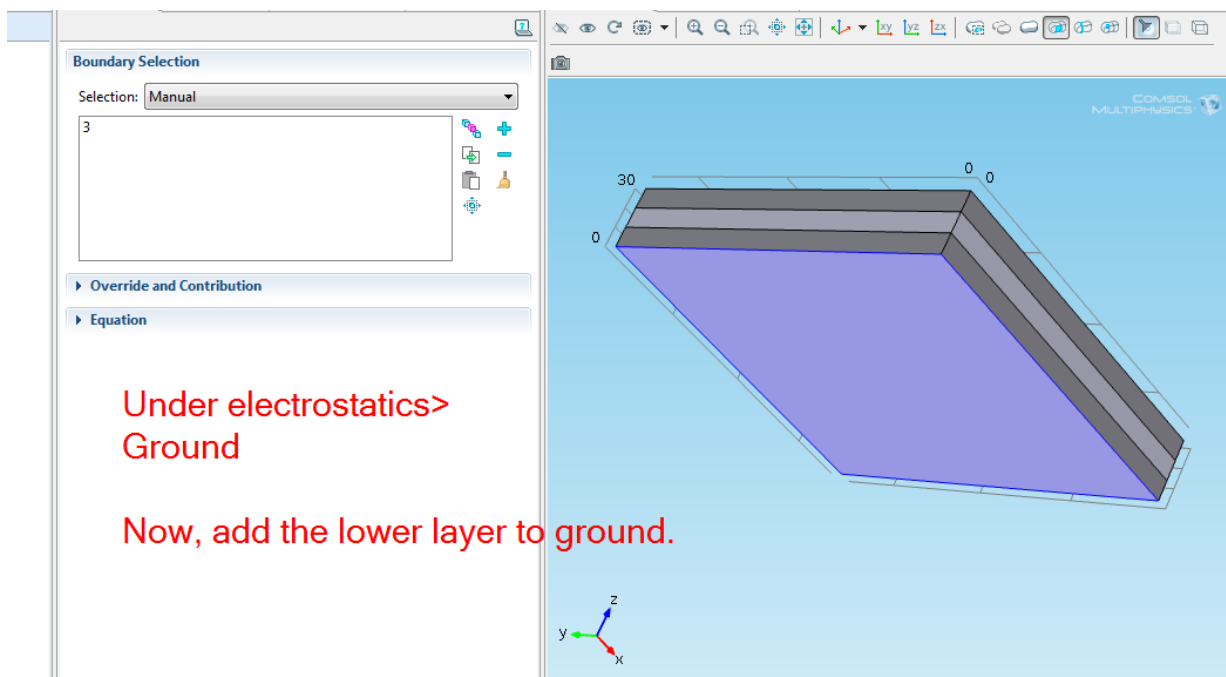
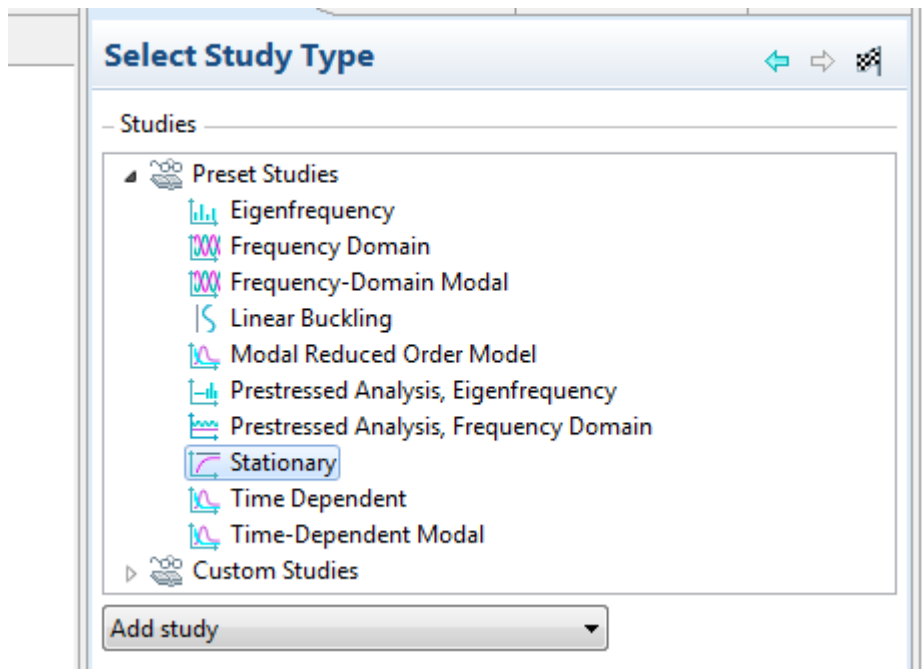
- Metals
- Semiconductors
 - C [100]
 - GaAs
 - Ge
 - InSb
 - Si(c)
 - Poly-Si
 - Silicon
- Insulators
- Polymers
- Piezoelectric

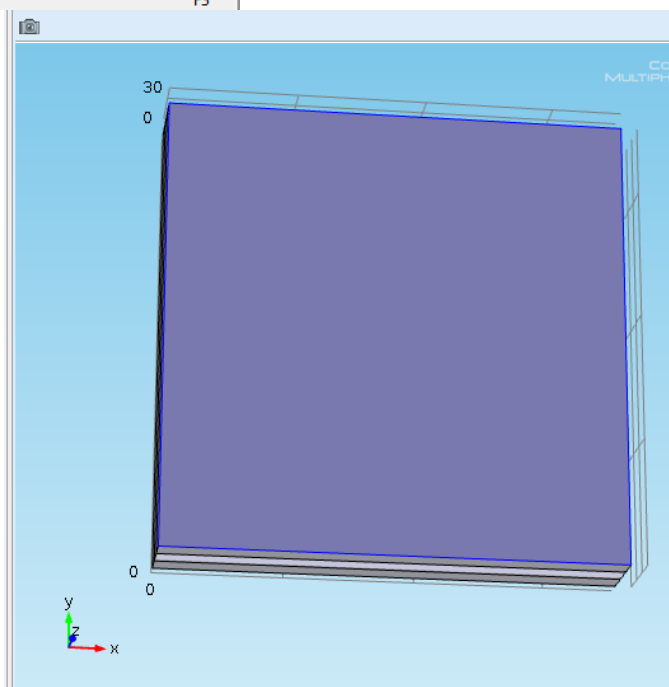
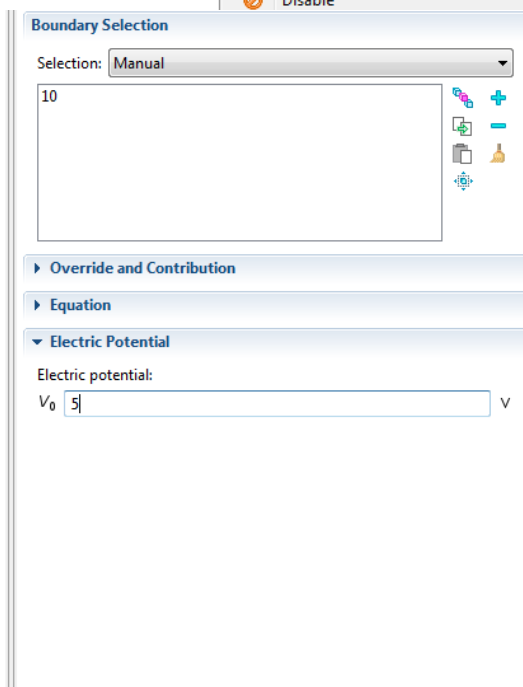
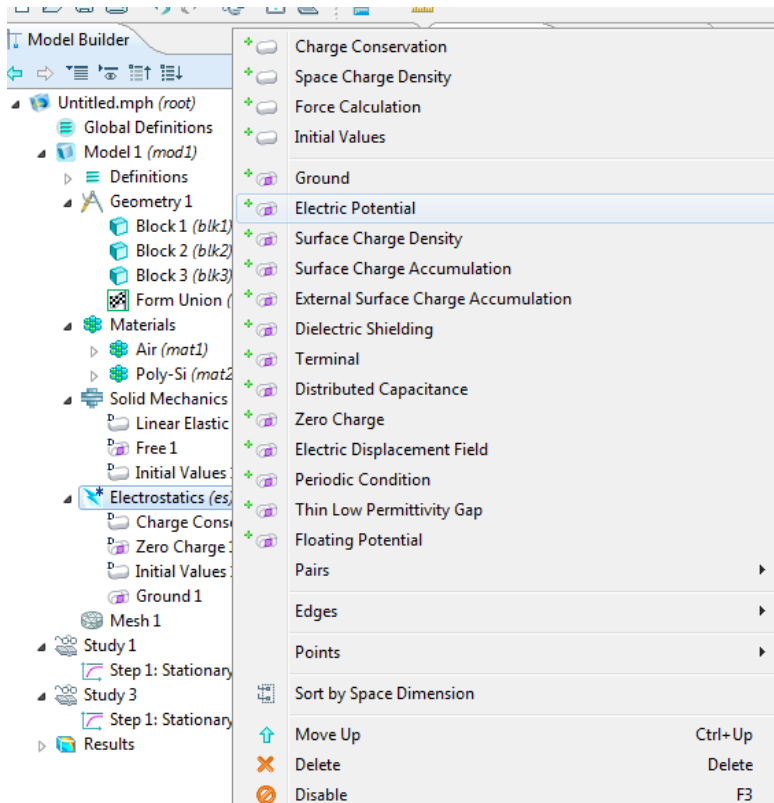
+ Add Material to Model
 X Remove Selected

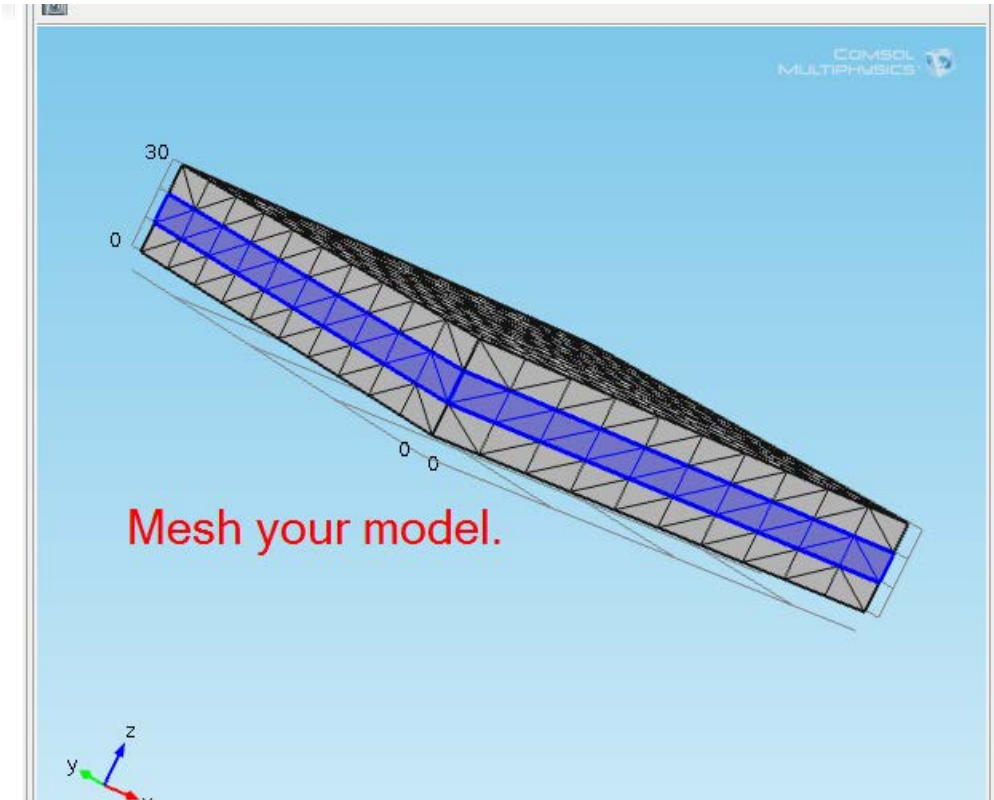
Phase:

Orientation/variation:









Model Builder

- Form Union (fin)
- Materials
 - Air (mat1)
 - Poly-Si (mat2)
- Solid Mechanics (solid)
 - Linear Elastic Material 1
 - Free 1
 - Initial Values 1
- Electrostatics (es)
 - Charge Conservation 1
 - Zero Charge 1
 - Initial Values 1
 - Ground 1
 - Electric Potential 1
- Mesh 1
- Study 1
 - Step 1: Stationary
- Study 2
 - Step 1: Stationary
- Study 3
 - Step 1: Stationary
- Results
 - Data Sets
 - Derived Values
 - Tables
 - Stress (solid)
 - Surface 1
 - Stress (solid) 1
 - Electric potential**
 - Multislice
 - Export

3D Plot Group

Model Library

Material Browser

Graphics

Convergence Plot 1

Plot

Data

Data set: Solution 2

Title

Plot Settings

View: Automatic

Show hidden objects

Plot data set edges

Color: Black

Frame: Material (X, Y, Z)

Color Legend

Window Settings

Multislice: Electric potential (V)

5

4.5

4

3.5

3

2.5

2

1.5

1

0.5

0

-5.1772×10^{-1}

30

0

0

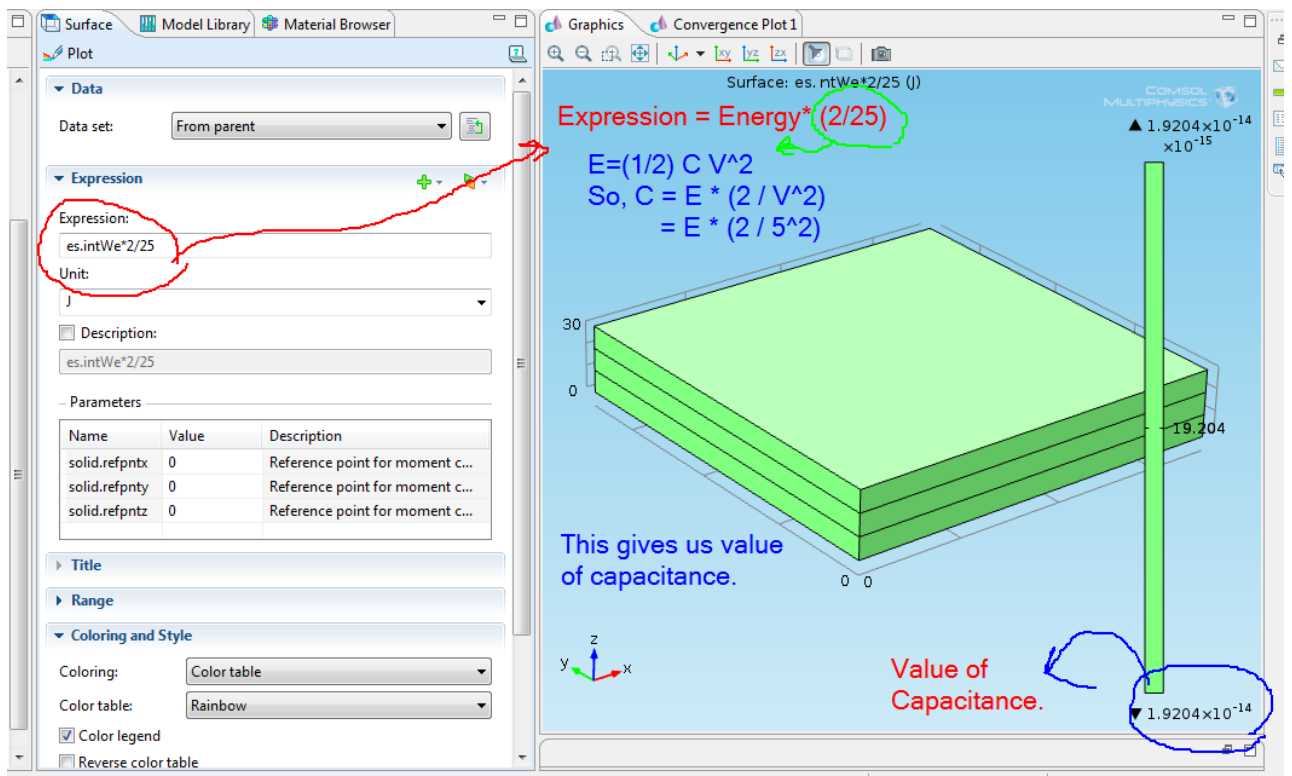
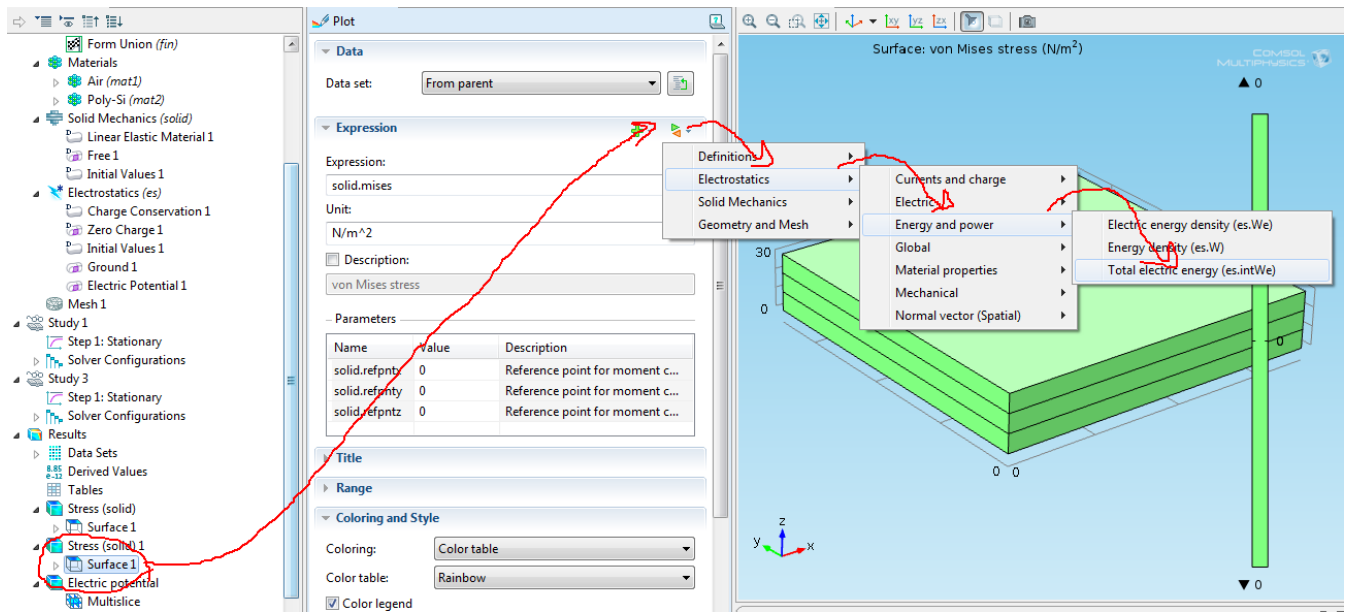
0

z

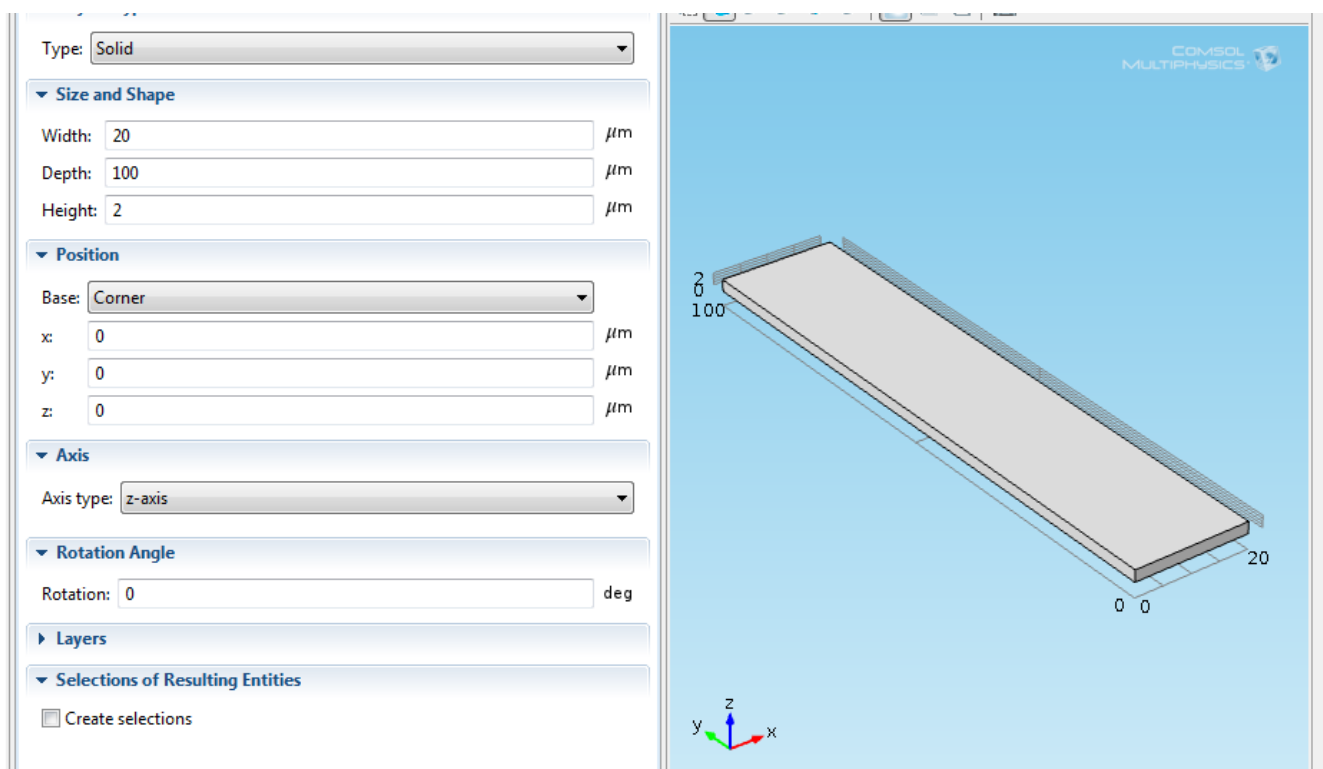
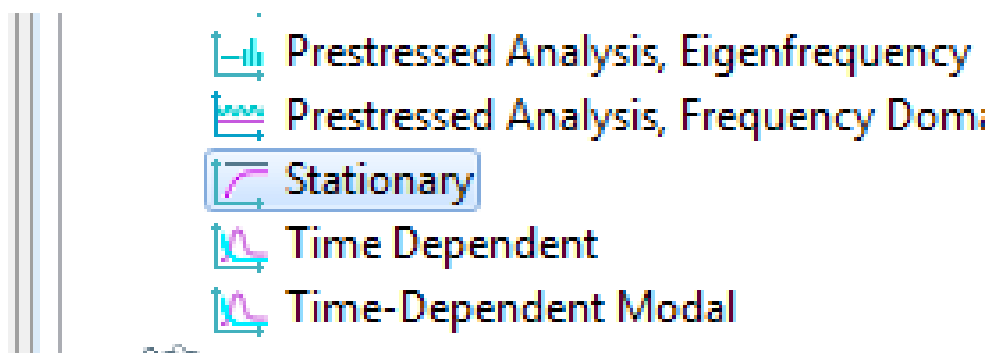
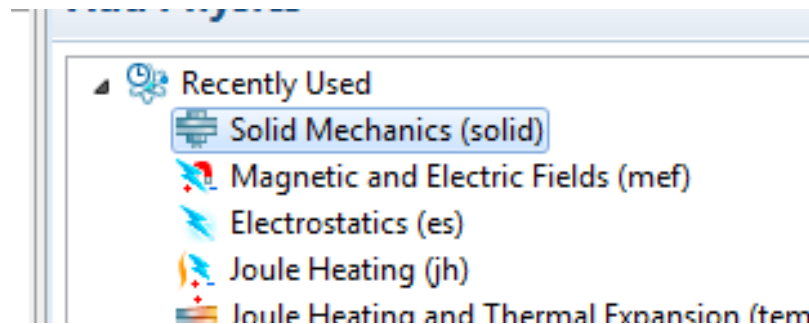
y

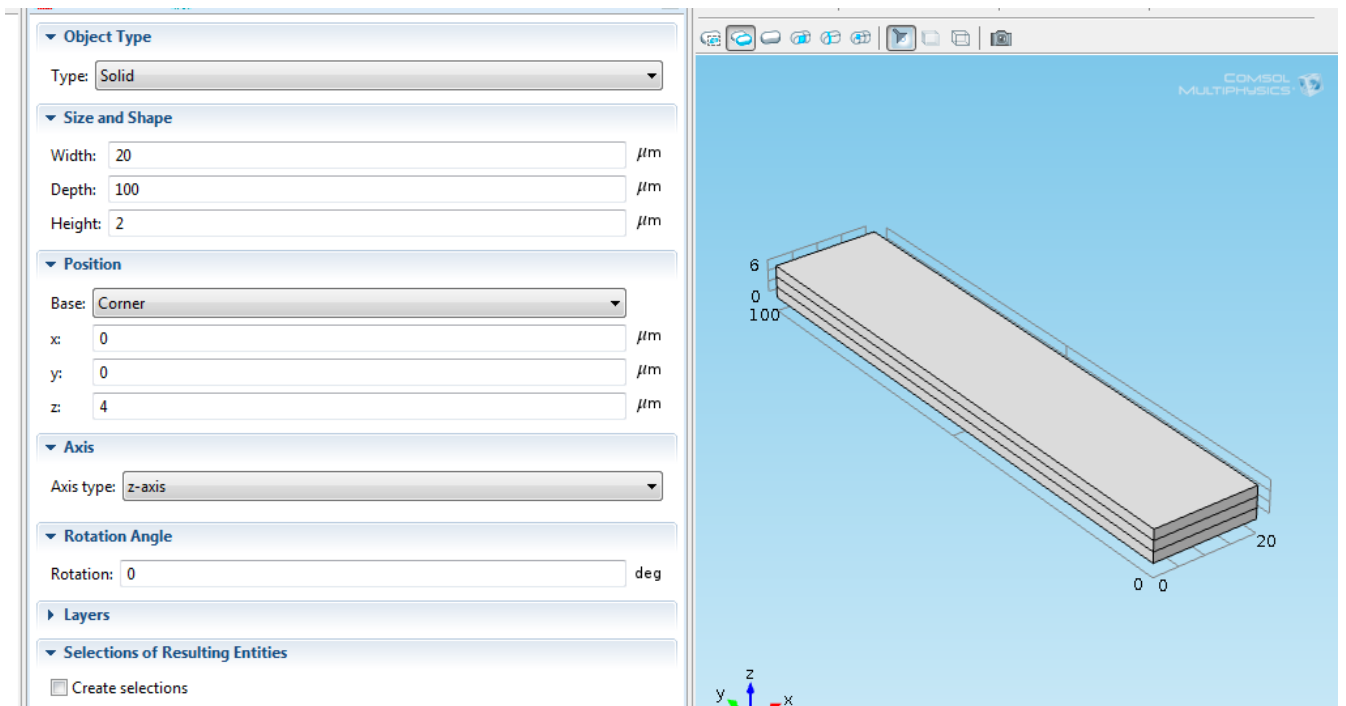
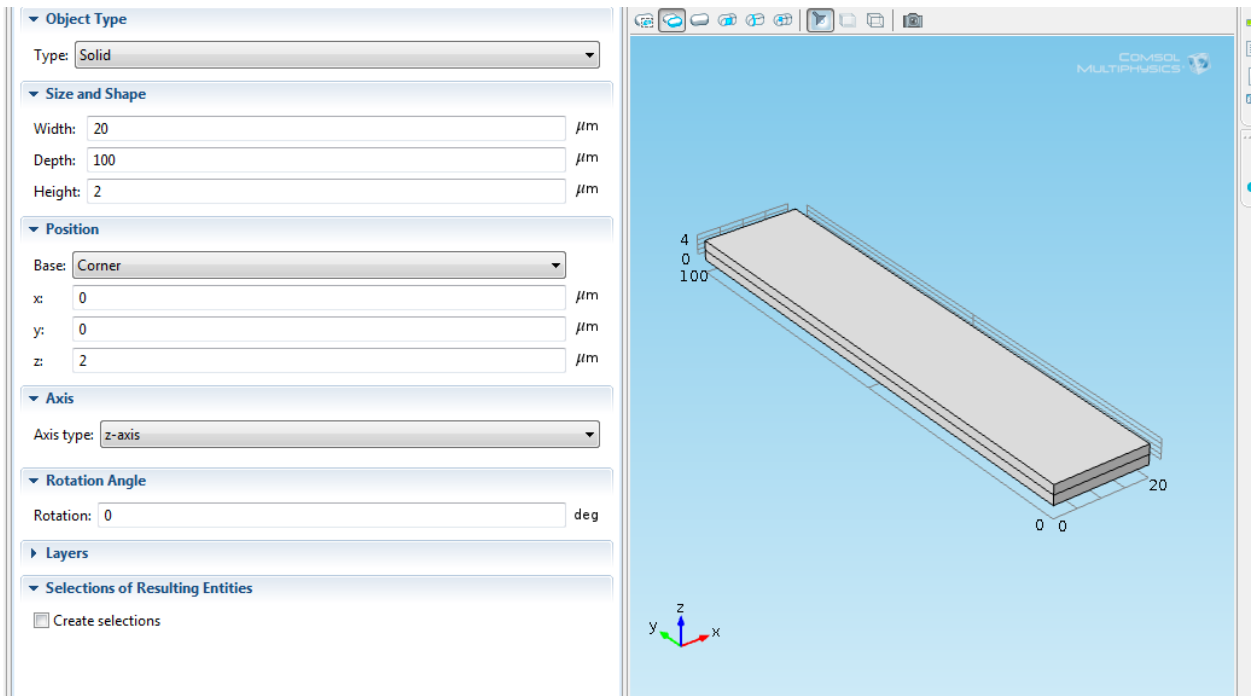
x






After computing,
Go to electric potential
to know the value of the
potential.

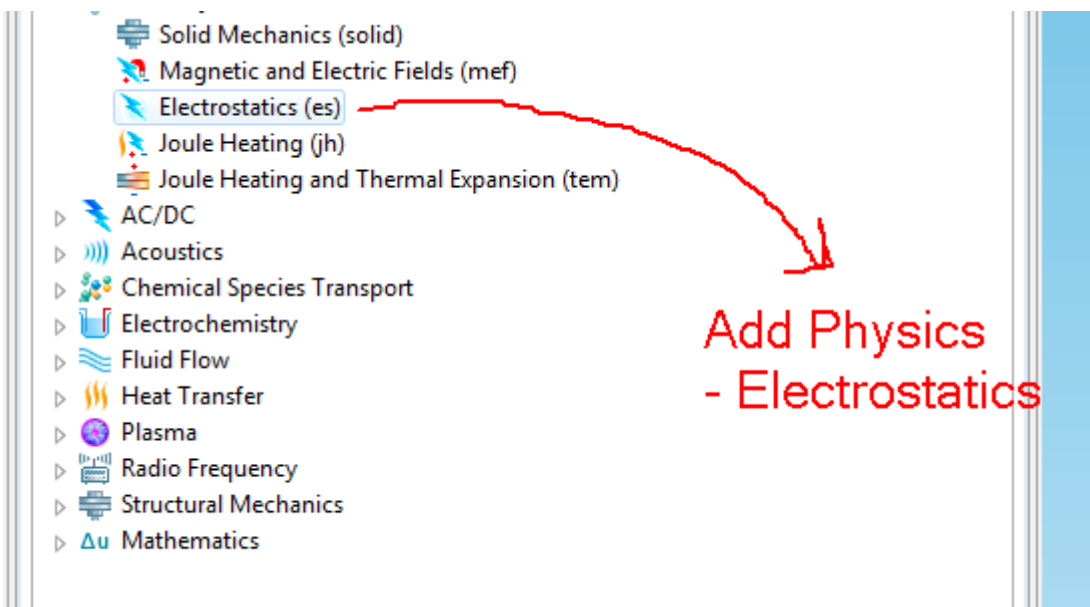
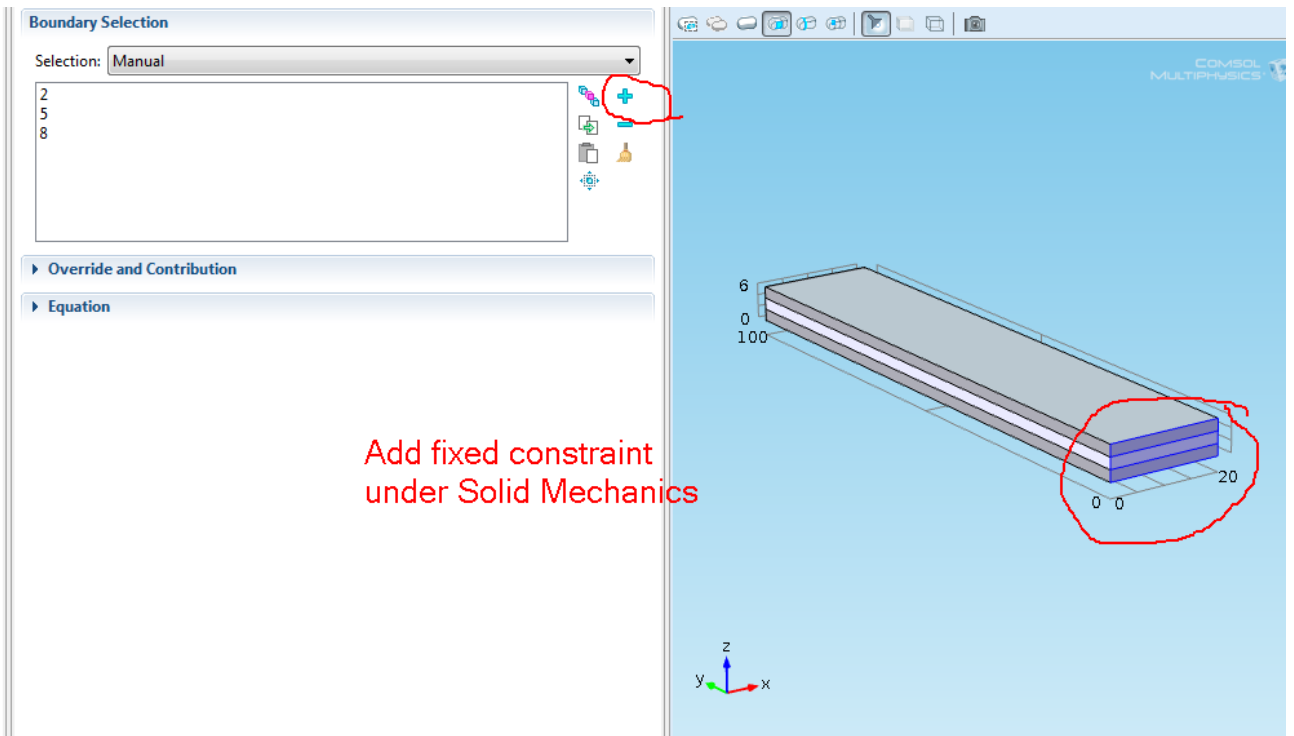


Microgripper





-  Form Union (*fun*)
-  Materials
 -  Si(c) (*mat1*)
 -  Air (*mat2*)
-  Solid Mechanics (*solid*)



Selection: Manual

10

Override and Contribution

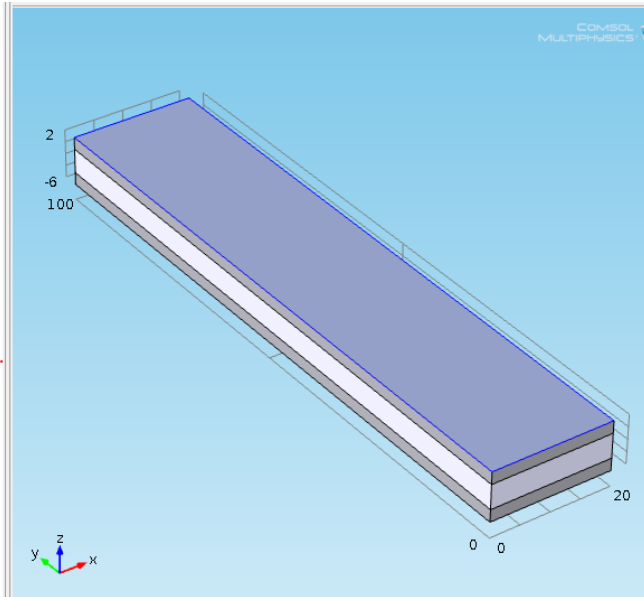
Equation

Electric Potential

Electric potential:

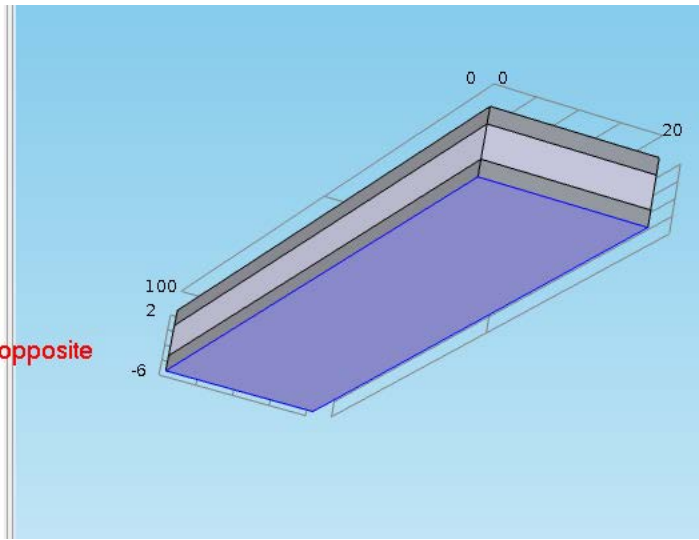
V_0 5 V

Give electric potential at the top.



tribution

Add ground on the opposite side of the voltage.

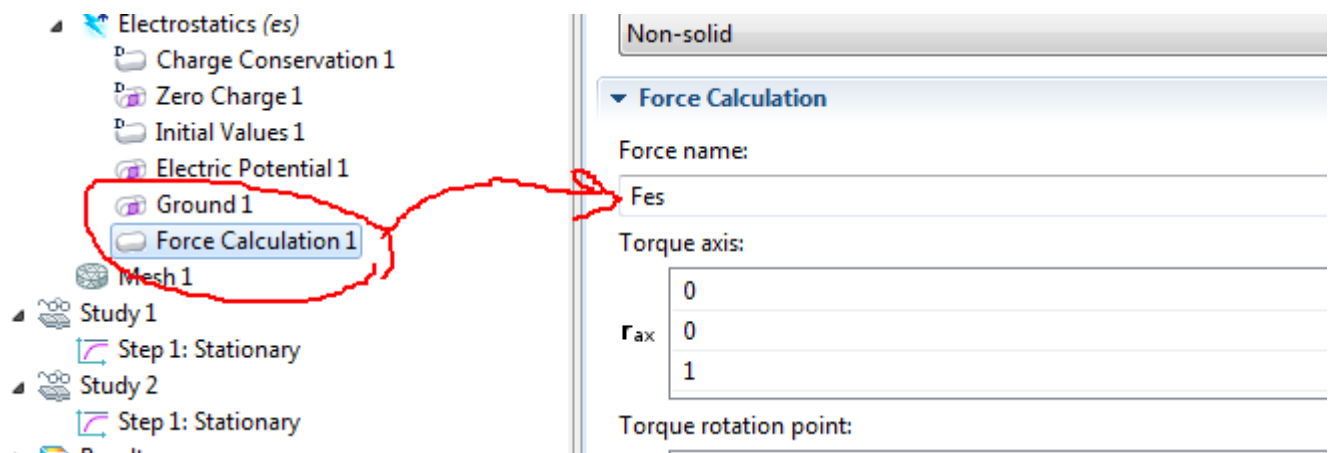


del Bu

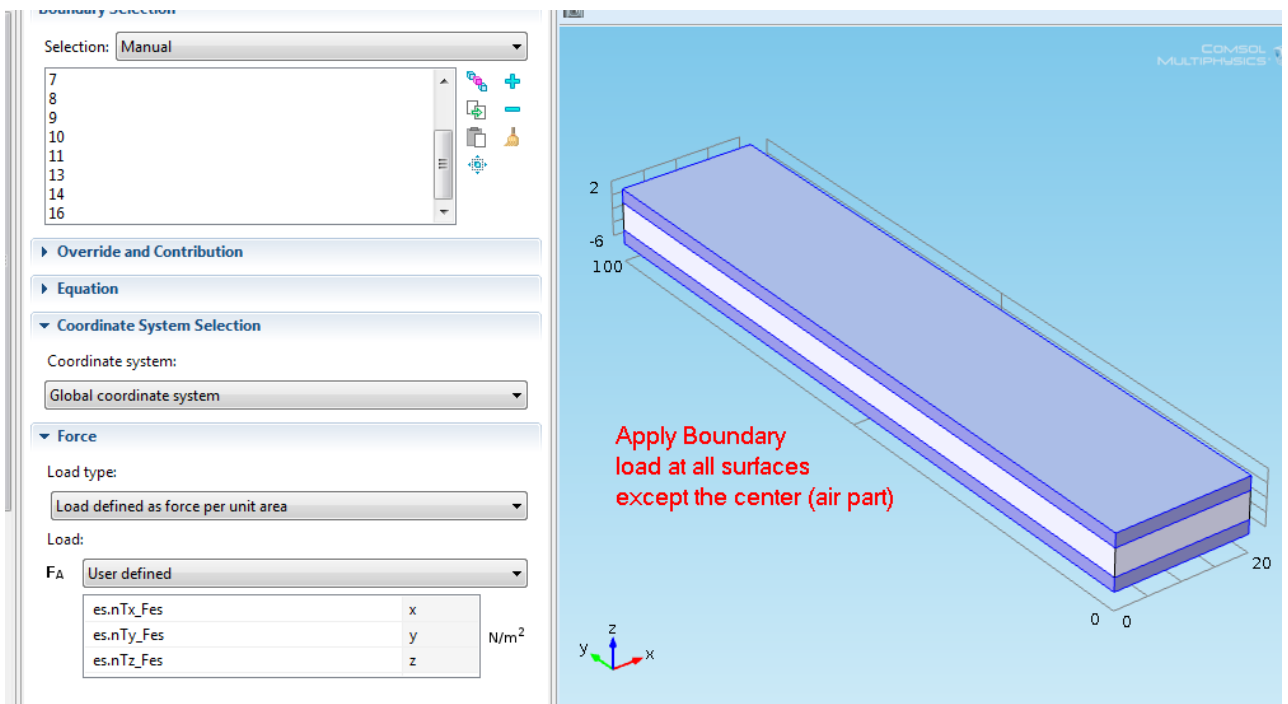
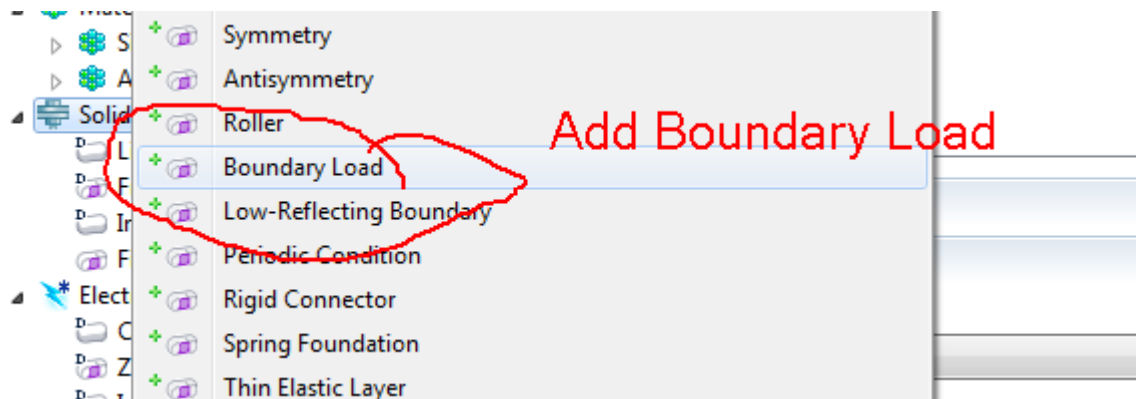
- Charge Conservation
- Space Charge Density
- Force Calculation
- Initial Values
- Ground
- Electric Potential
- Surface Charge Density
- Surface Charge Accumulation
- External Surface Charge Accumulation
- Dielectric Shielding
- Terminal
- Distributed Capacitance
- Zero Charge
- Electric Displacement Field
- Periodic Condition
- Thin Low Permittivity Gap
- Floating Potential
- Pairs
- Edges
- Points

Material Browser

Go to Electrostatics > Force Calculation. Then, give some name to force.



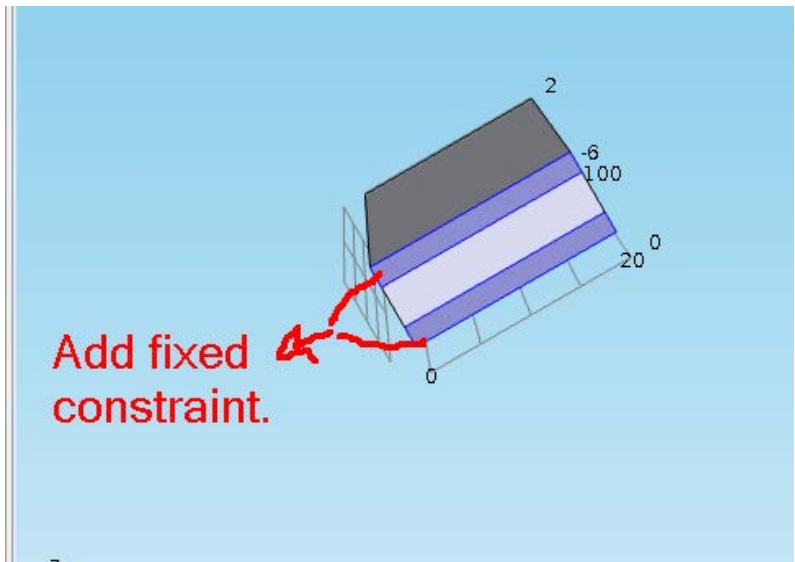
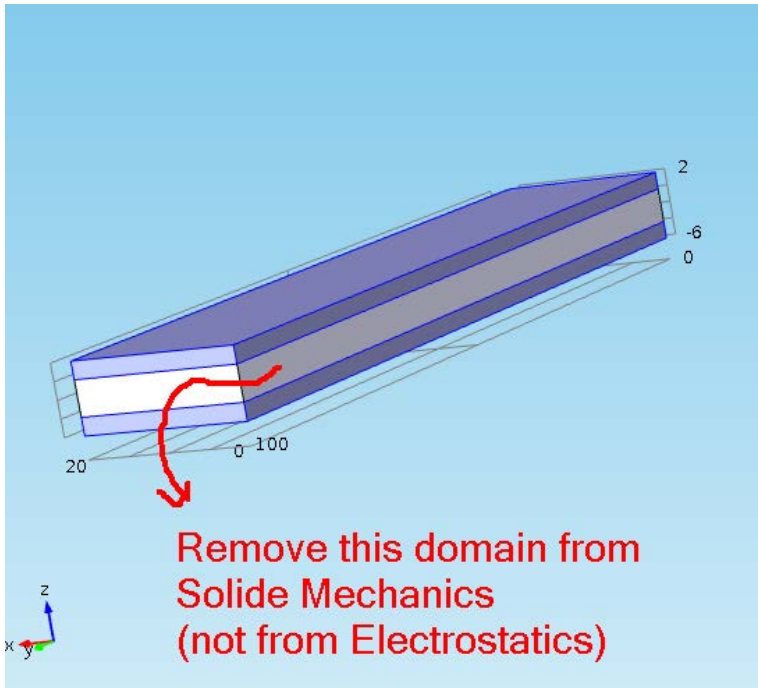
Note: Force also has to be given only at the top and bottom. Not in the middle.

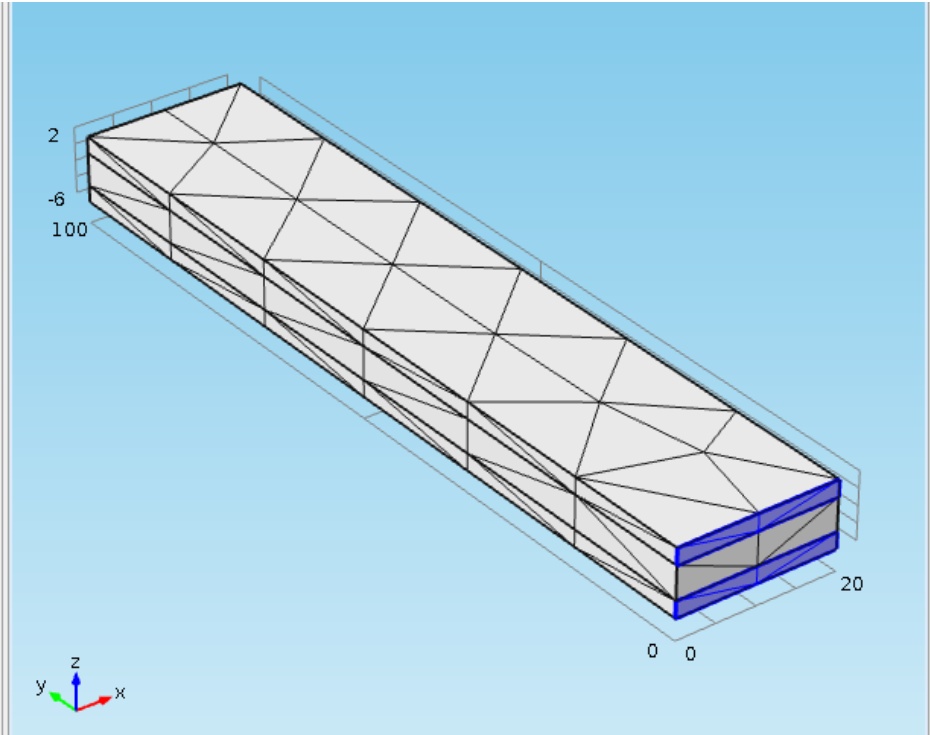


Load:

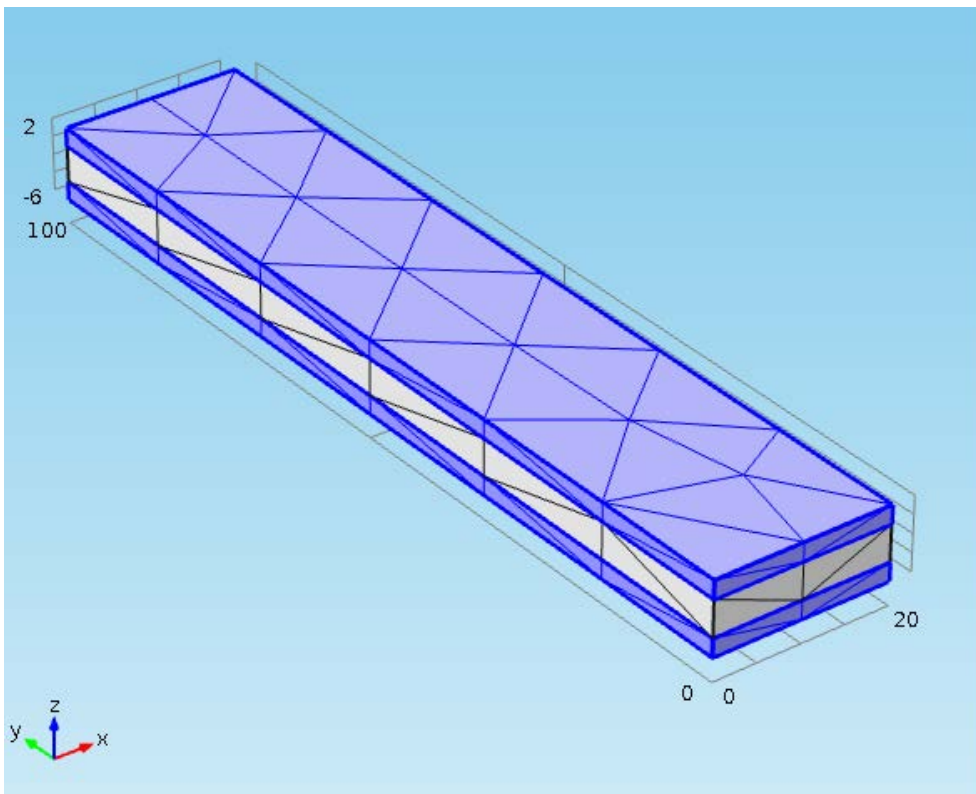
F_A

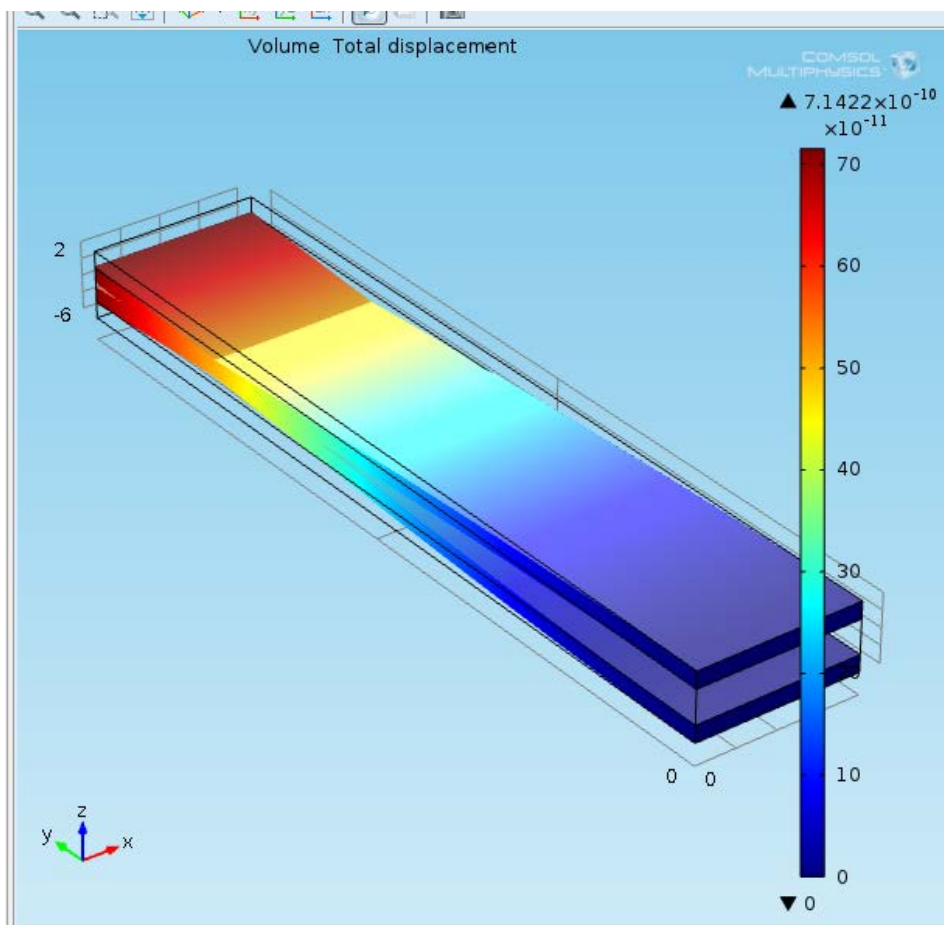
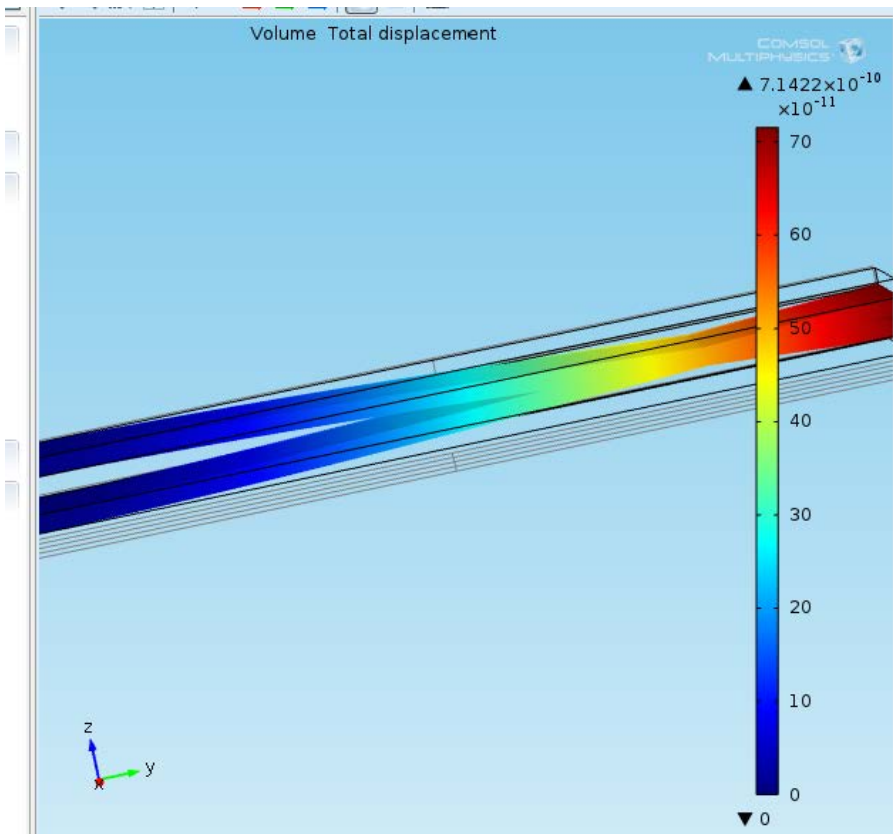
es.nTx_Fes	x	N/m ²
es.nTy_Fes	y	
es.nTz_Fes	z	

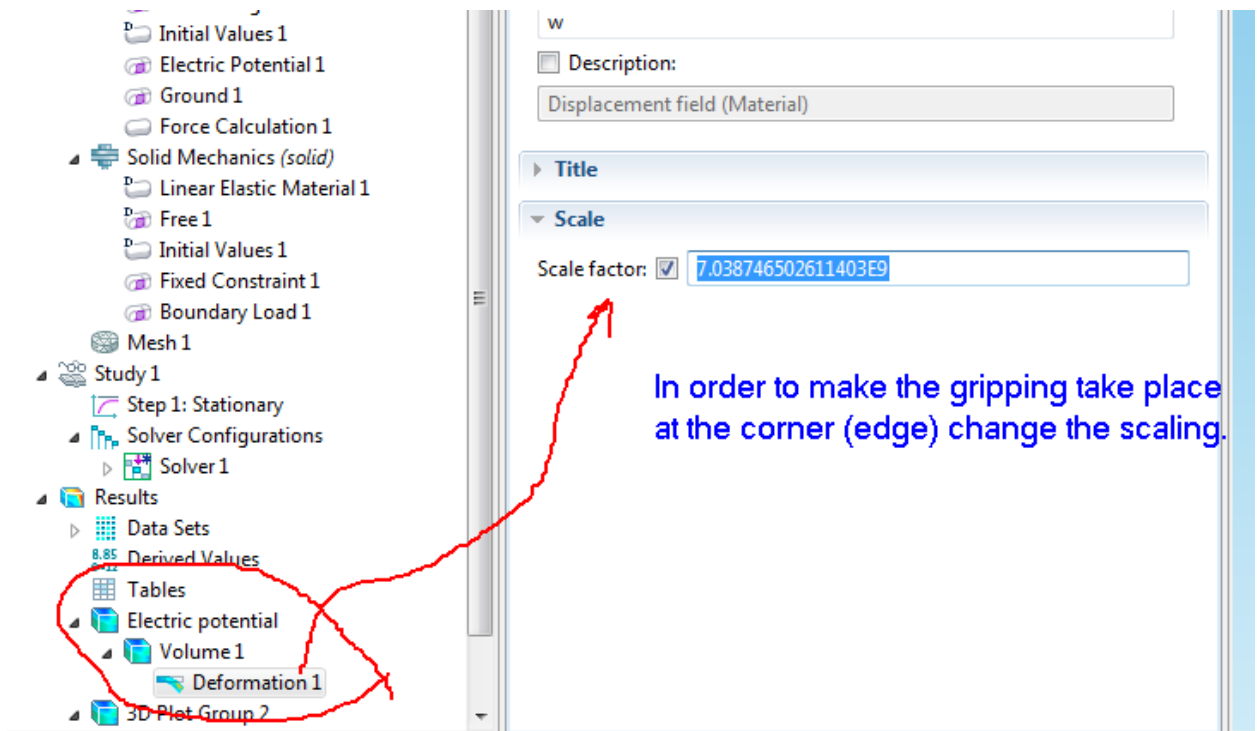




In Force calculation, the force has to be added in the specified part:







Initial Values 1
 Electric Potential 1
 Ground 1
 Force Calculation 1
 Solid Mechanics (solid)
 Linear Elastic Material 1
 Free 1
 Initial Values 1
 Fixed Constraint 1
 Boundary Load 1
 Mesh 1
 Study 1
 Step 1: Stationary
 Solver Configurations
 Solver 1
 Results
 Data Sets
 Derived Values
 Tables
 Electric potential
 Volume 1
 Deformation 1
 3D Plot Group 2

w

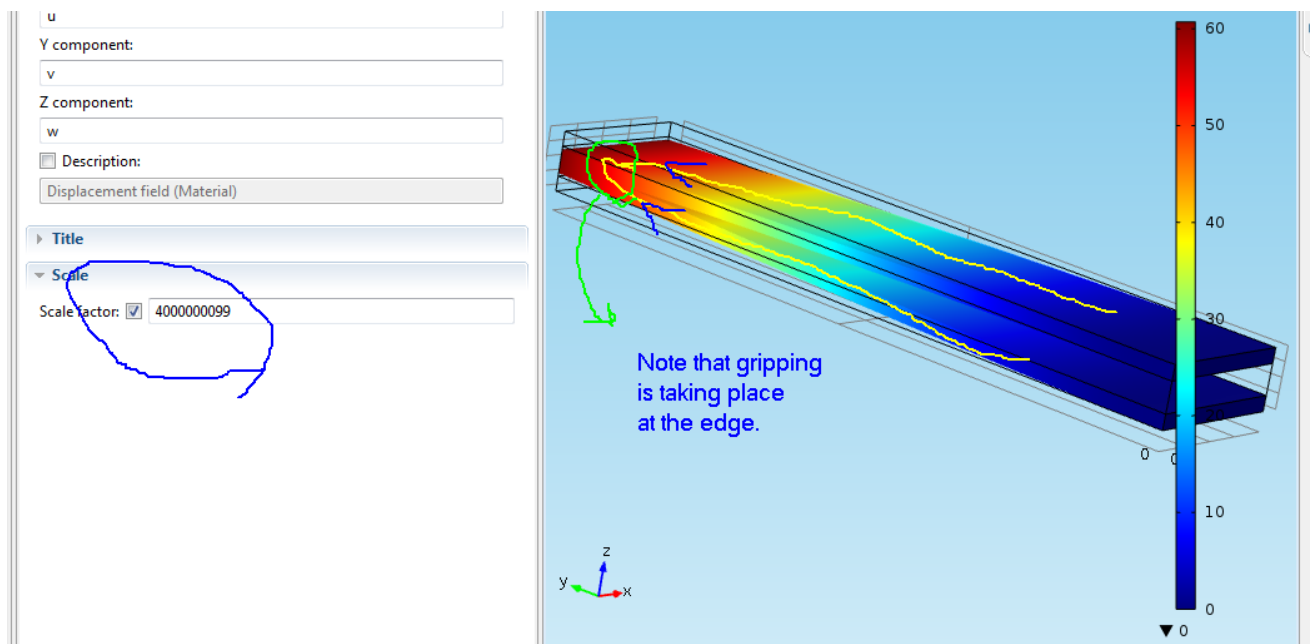
Description:
 Displacement field (Material)

Title

Scale

Scale factor: 7.038746502611403E9

In order to make the gripping take place at the corner (edge) change the scaling.



u

Y component:
 v

Z component:
 w

Description:
 Displacement field (Material)

Title

Scale

Scale factor: 4000000099

Note that gripping is taking place at the edge.

MICROGRIPPER: Scale Changing

Micro gripper was used in Micro scale.

Now, change it to different scales and measure the difference in deflection.

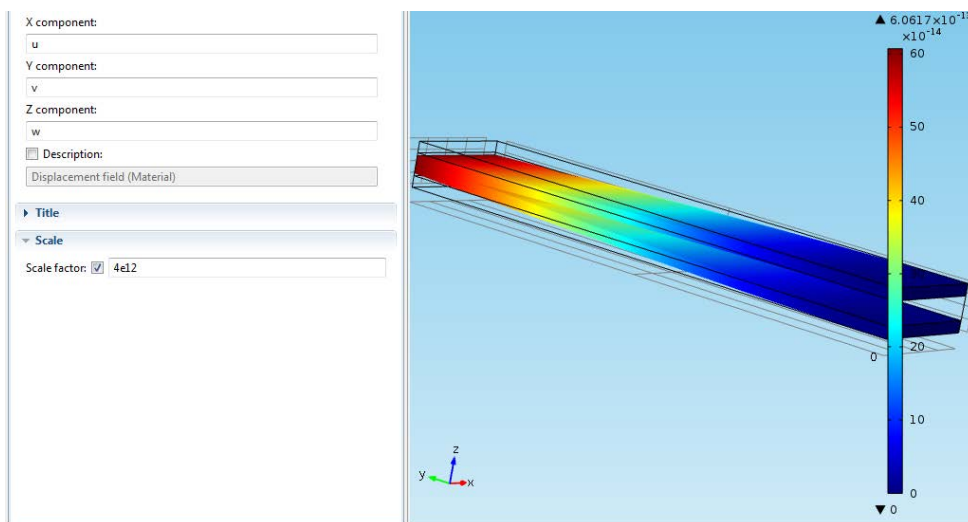
We see that the only change needs to be done in the scaling factor.

The scaling needs to be increased to see the same effect of gripping.

Original Scale : μm

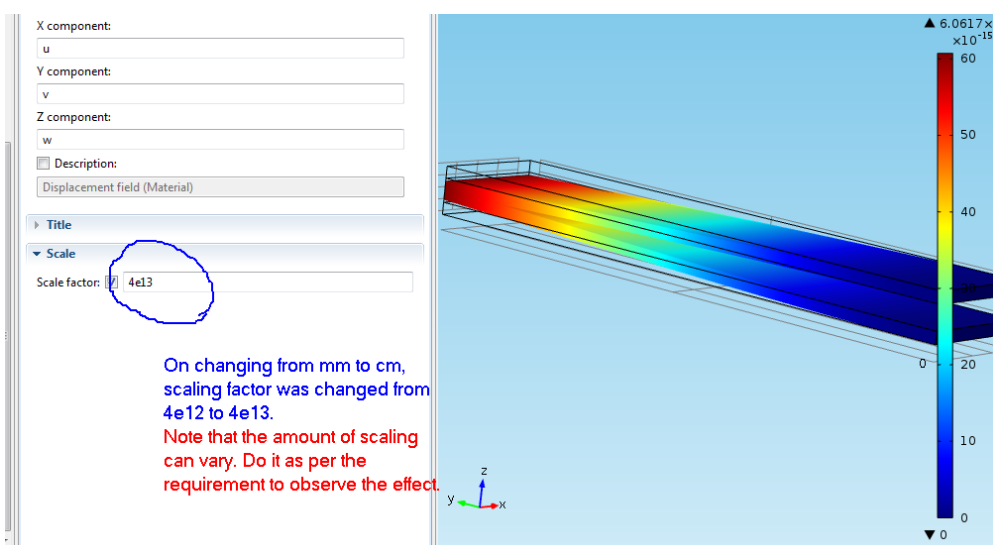
Case 1:

Changing scale to mm

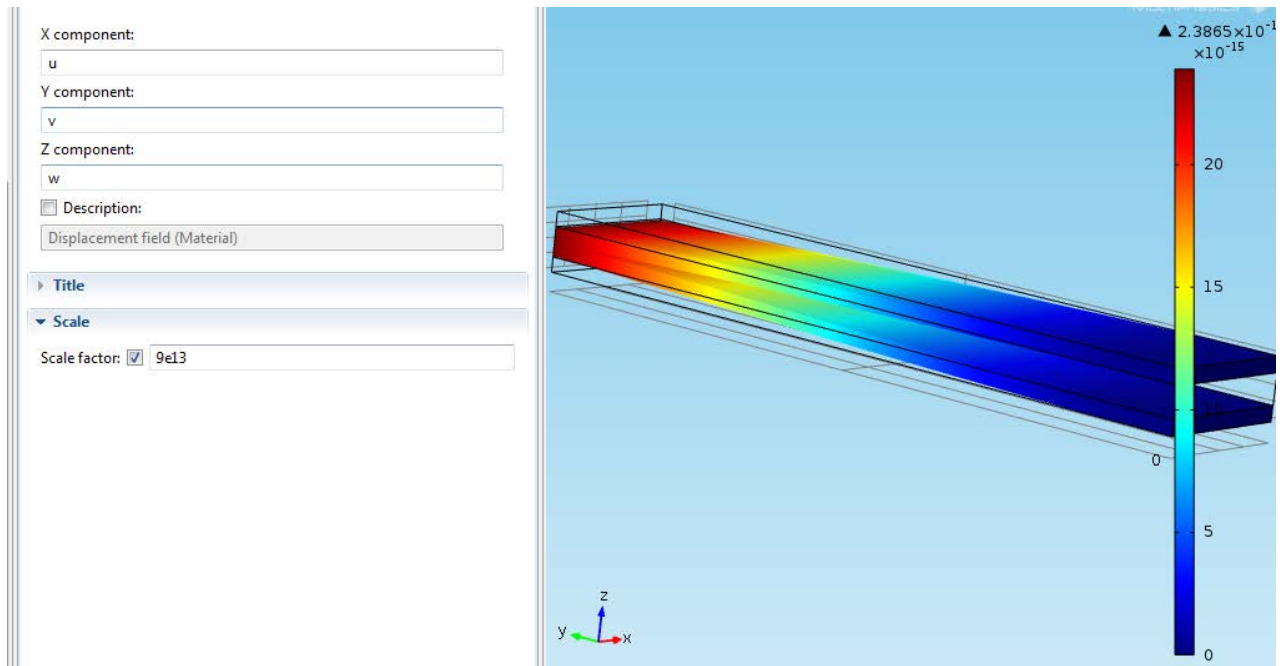


Case 2:

Changing the scale to cm



Case 3: Changing scale to inch



Note: Displacement is independent of scaling.

OBSERVATION 1:

Constant:

- Material - Si (c)

Table 1: Shows the amount of scaling that needs to be done in order to get the gripping action at the corner.

Dimension	Scaling	Displacement (m)
Mm	4e12	6.0617×10^{-13}
Cm	4e13	6.0614×10^{-14}
In	9e13	2.3865×10^{-14}

OBSERVATION 2:

Now, keeping μm as standard displacement, changing the values of voltage to get the same displacement at other scales.

Constant:

- Material: Silicon
- Reference - μm
 - Scaling - 4e9
 - Displacement - 6.0617×10^{-10} m

Table 2: Shows the value of the voltage for each scale, giving the same displacement as in micrometer scale.

Dimension	Displacement (m)	Voltage value (V)
Mm	6.0617×10^{-13}	5
	6.0617×10^{-11}	50
	1.3639×10^{-10}	75
	6.053×10^{-10}	158
Cm	6.0614×10^{-14}	5
	6.0617×10^{-12}	50
	5.455×10^{-11}	150
	6.0617×10^{-10}	500
In	2.3865×10^{-14}	5
	9.546×10^{-12}	100
	8.5914×10^{-11}	300
	6.03333×10^{-10}	795

OBSERVATION 3:

Now changing the material of the micro gripper and observing the displacement.

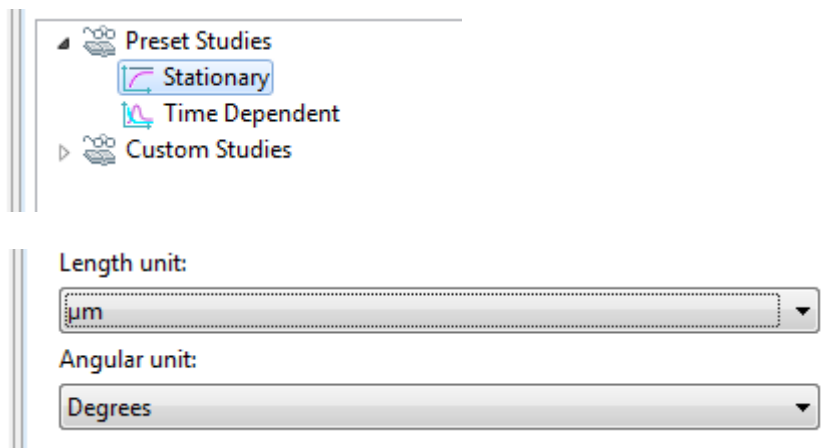
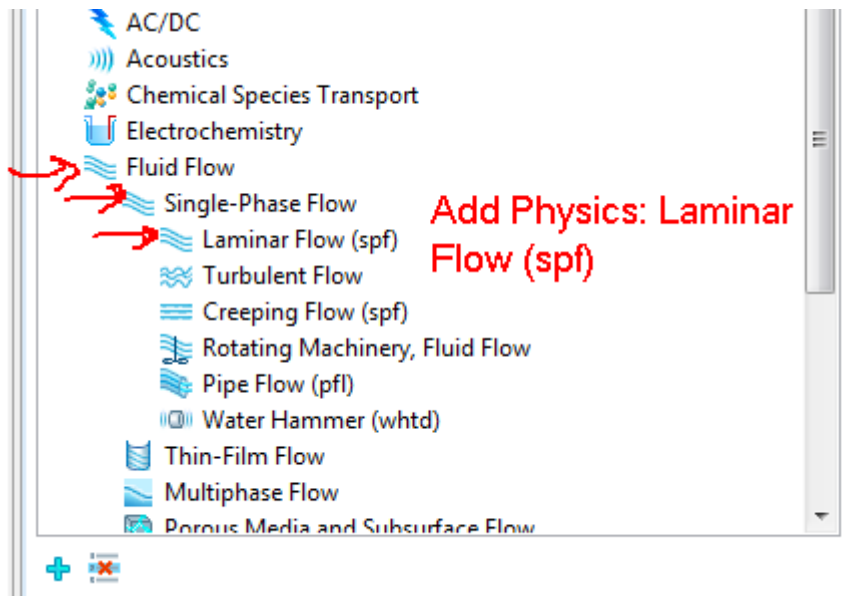
Constant:

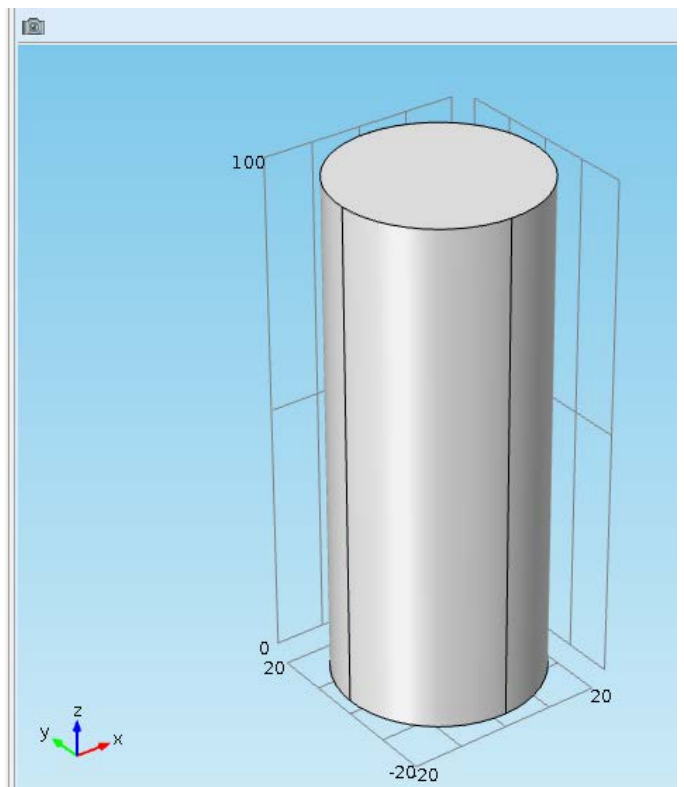
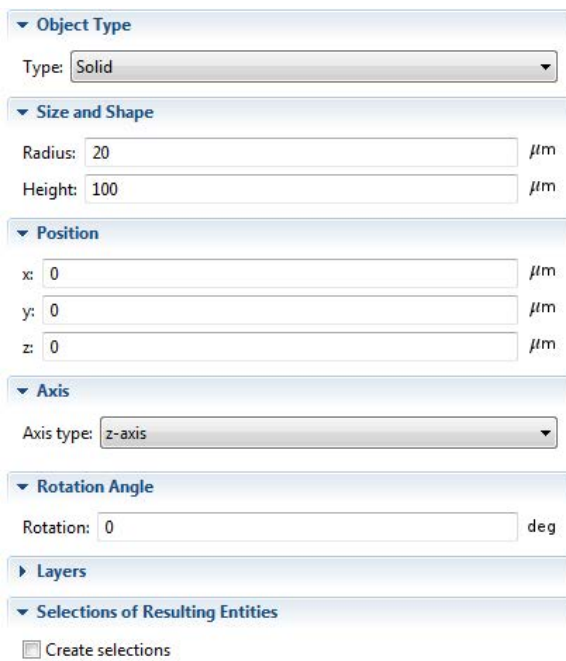
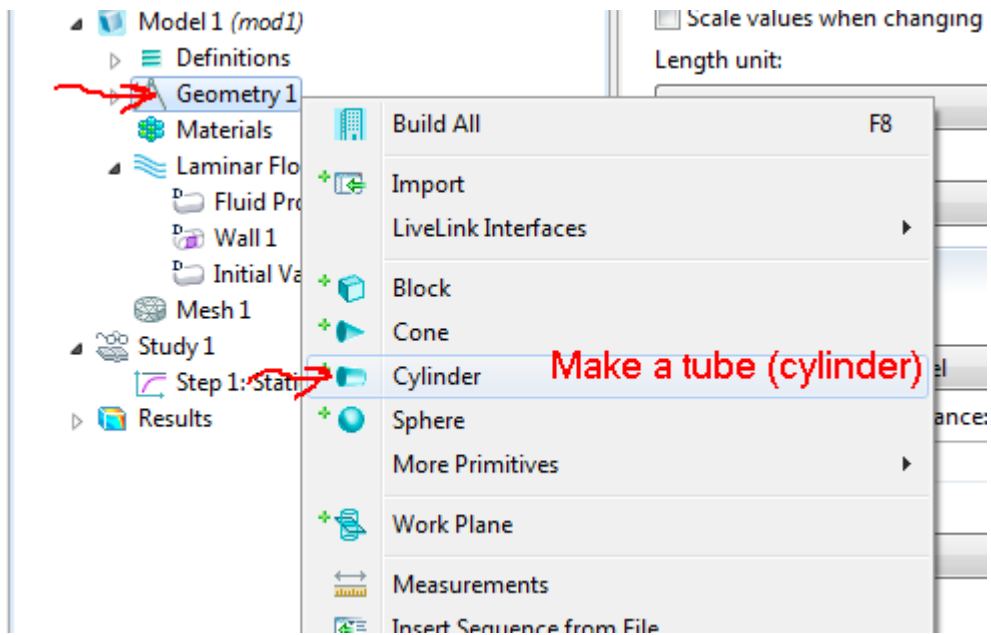
- Dimension: μm
- Middle layer: Air

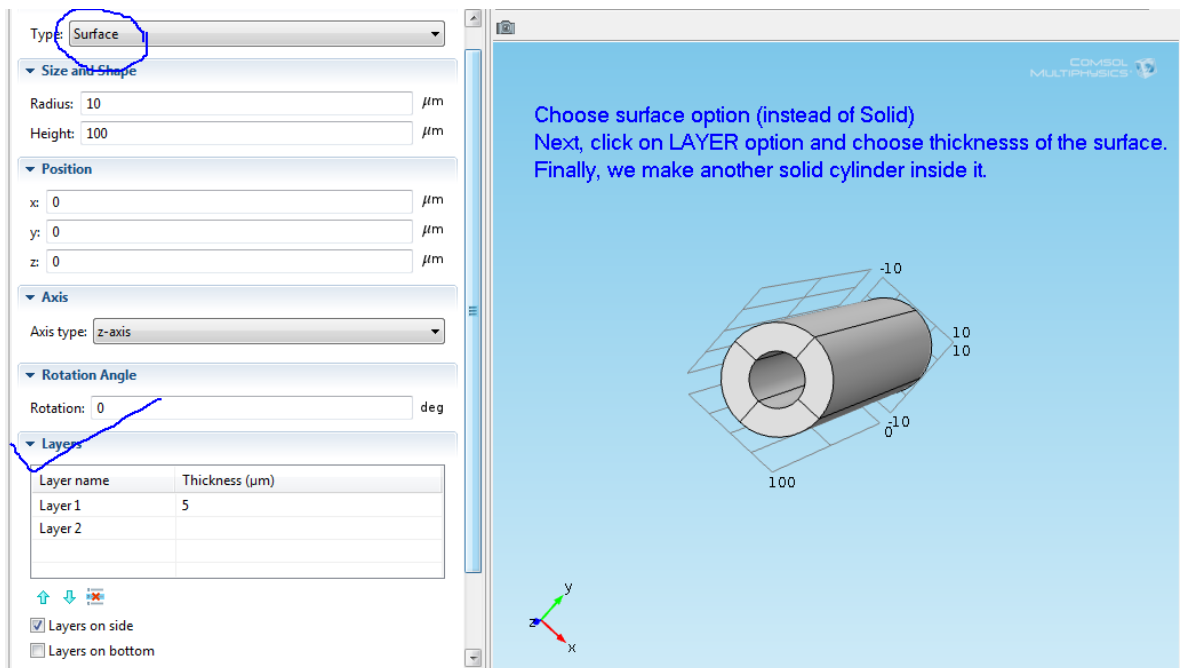
Table 3: Shows the displacement of the micro gripper with different materials.

Material	Displacement (m)
Si (c)	6.0617×10^{-10}
Poly-Si	5.1787×10^{-10}
Glass (quartz)	1.0616×10^{-9}
GaAs	1.189×10^{-9}
SiO ₂	1.1665×10^{-9}

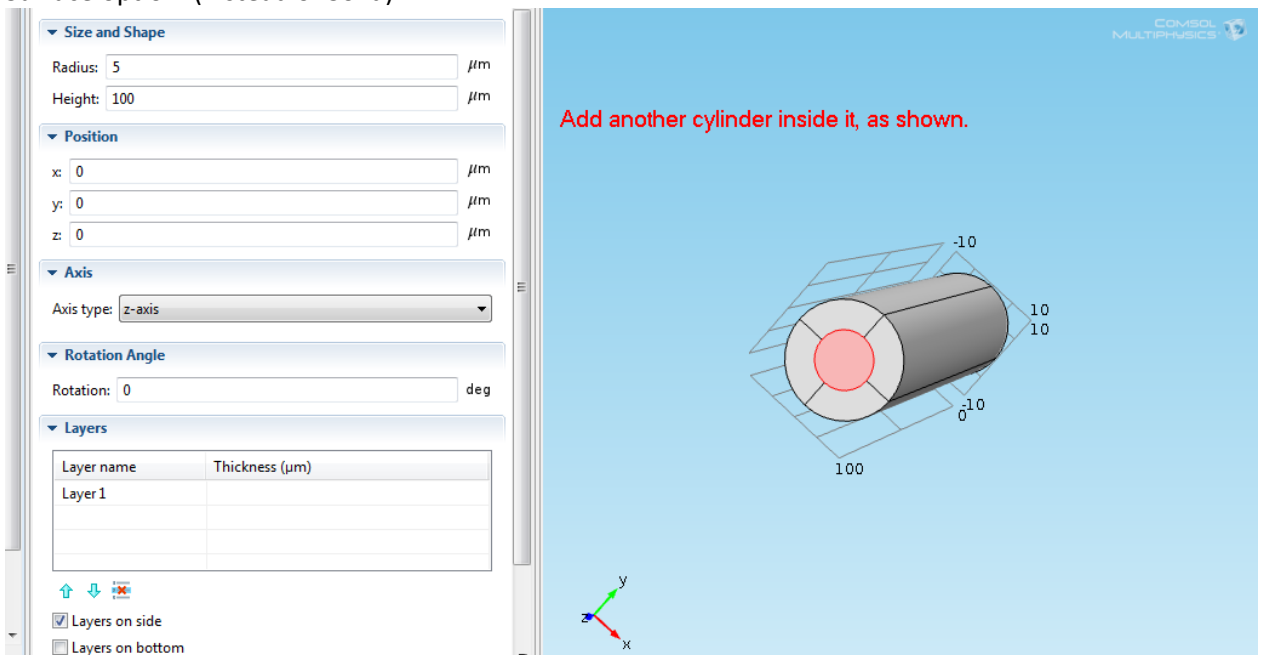
Scaling Problem: We have a cylinder (tube) and fluid flowing through it. Now, when the dimensions of the tube is changed, note the pressure drop.







Surface option. (instead of Solid)



Selection: Manual

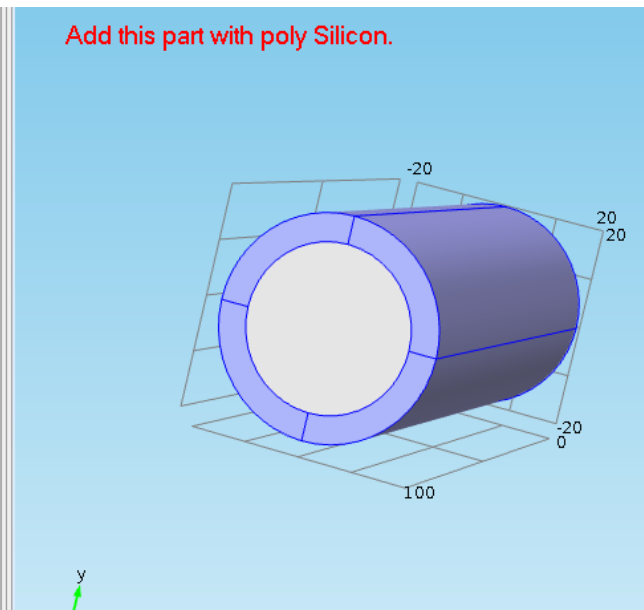
1
2
4
5

► Override

► Material Properties

▼ Material Contents

Property	Name	Value	Unit
✓ Density	rho	2320[k...	kg/...
✓ Dynamic viscosity	mu	1	Pa*s
Coefficient of thermal expan...	alpha	2.6e-6[...	1/K
Heat capacity at constant pr...	Cp	678[J/(...	J/(kg...
Relative permittivity	epsil...	4.5	1
Thermal conductivity	k	34[W/(...	W/(...
Young's modulus	E	160e9[...	Pa
Poisson's ratio	nu	0.22	1



Selection: Manual

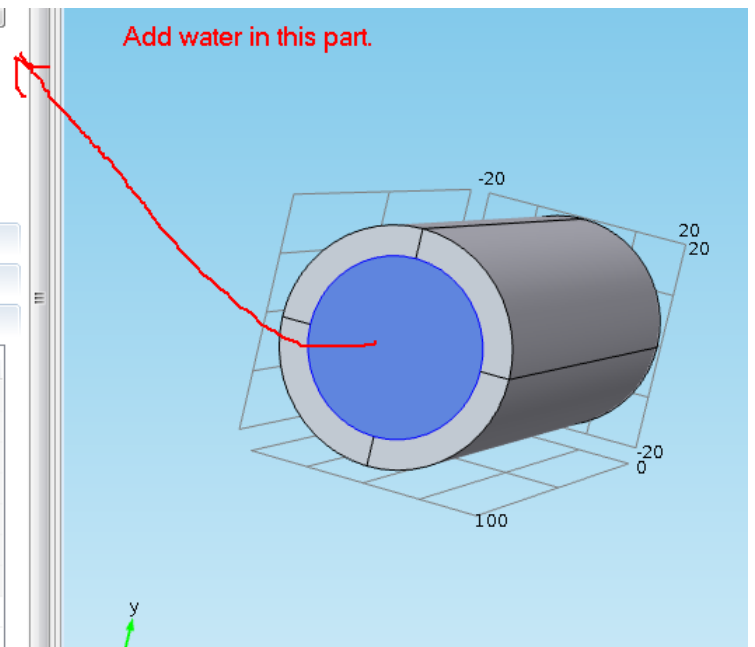
3

► Override

► Material Properties

▼ Material Contents

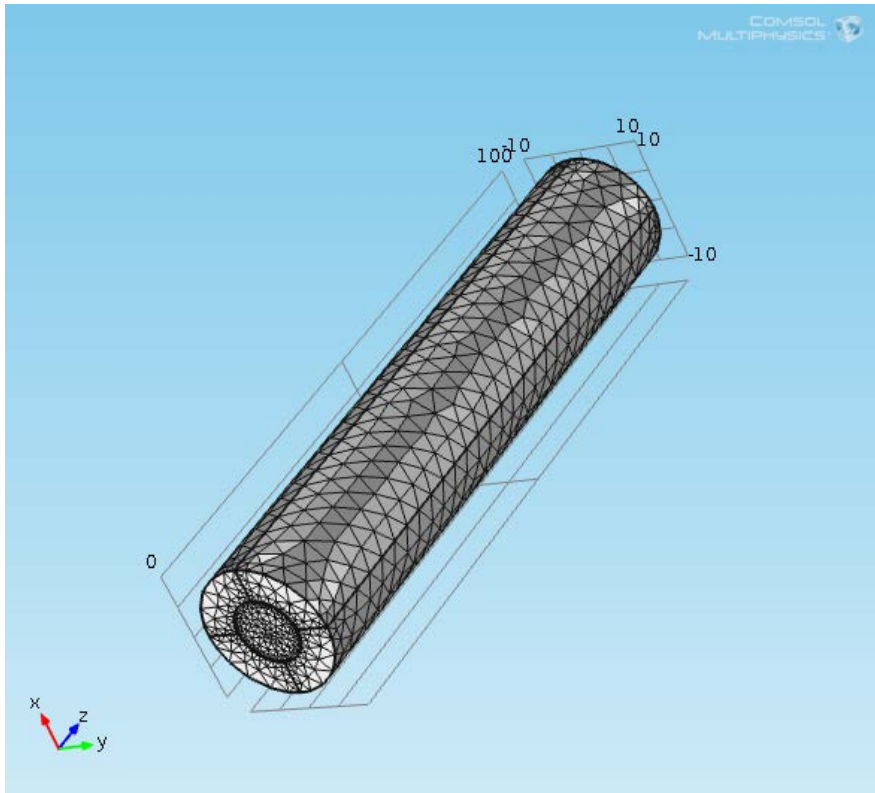
Property	Name	Value	Unit
✓ Dynamic viscosity	mu	eta(T[1...	Pa*s
✓ Density	rho	rho(T[...	kg/...
Ratio of specific heats	gam...	1.0	1
Electrical conductivity	sigma	5.5e-6[...	S/m
Heat capacity at constant pr...	Cp	Cp(T[1...	J/(kg...
Thermal conductivity	k	k(T[1/...	W/(...
Speed of sound	c	cs(T[1/...	m/s



Under Laminar Flow, choose the inlet layer. Then, add one side as inlet. Give the conditions of Laminar Inflow in Boundary Condition with the given values.

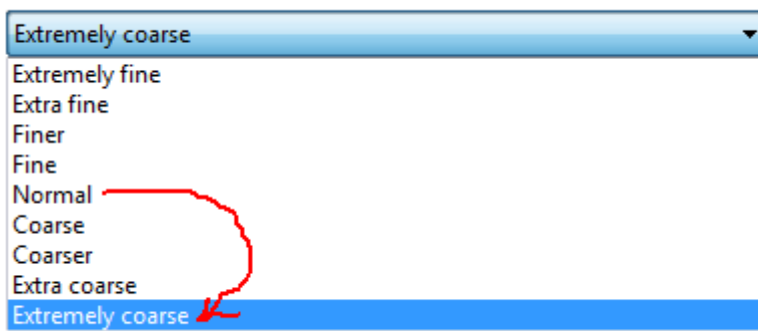
Similarly, add Outlet to the other side of inlet.

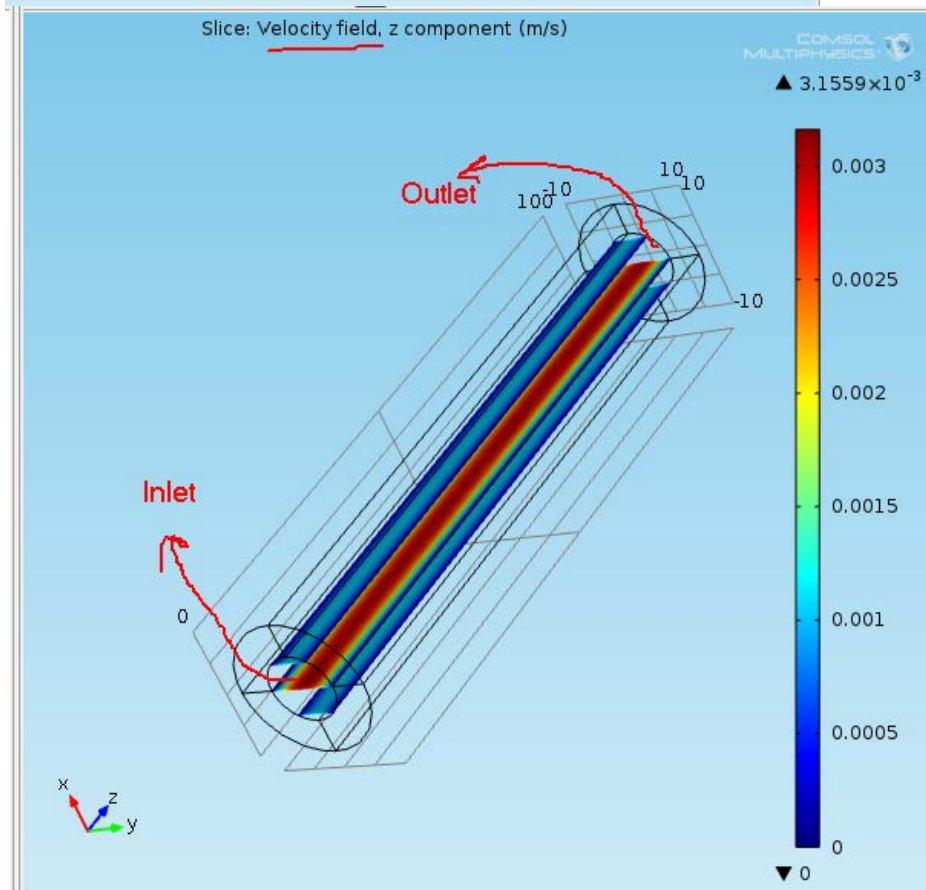
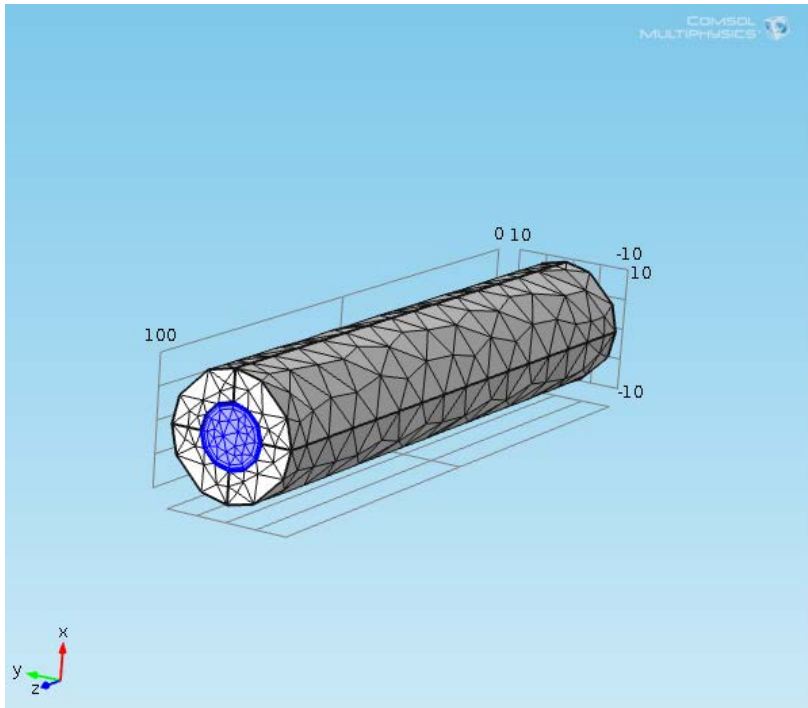
Remove the outer part (Poly-Si) because fluid is only moving inside.



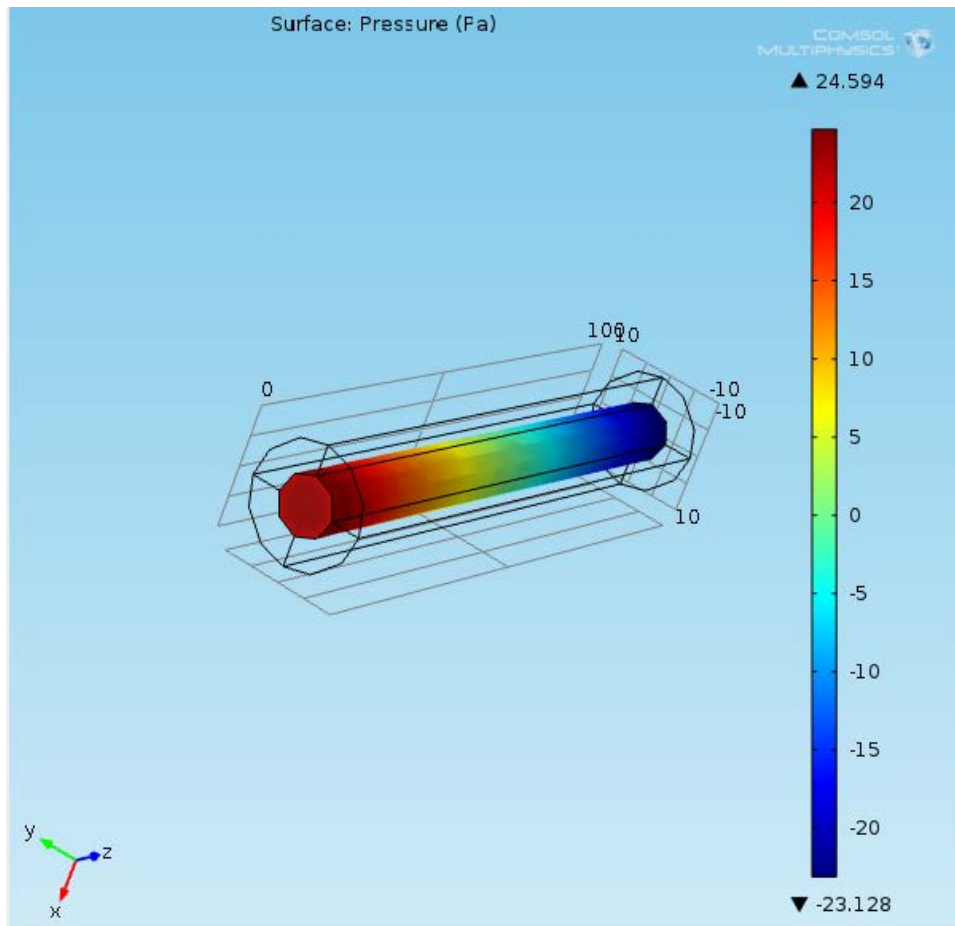
Note: In case you get the error saying, "Error: Maximum number of Newtonian Iterations reached" change the mesh amount from NORMAL TO EXTREMELY COARSE.

Element size:

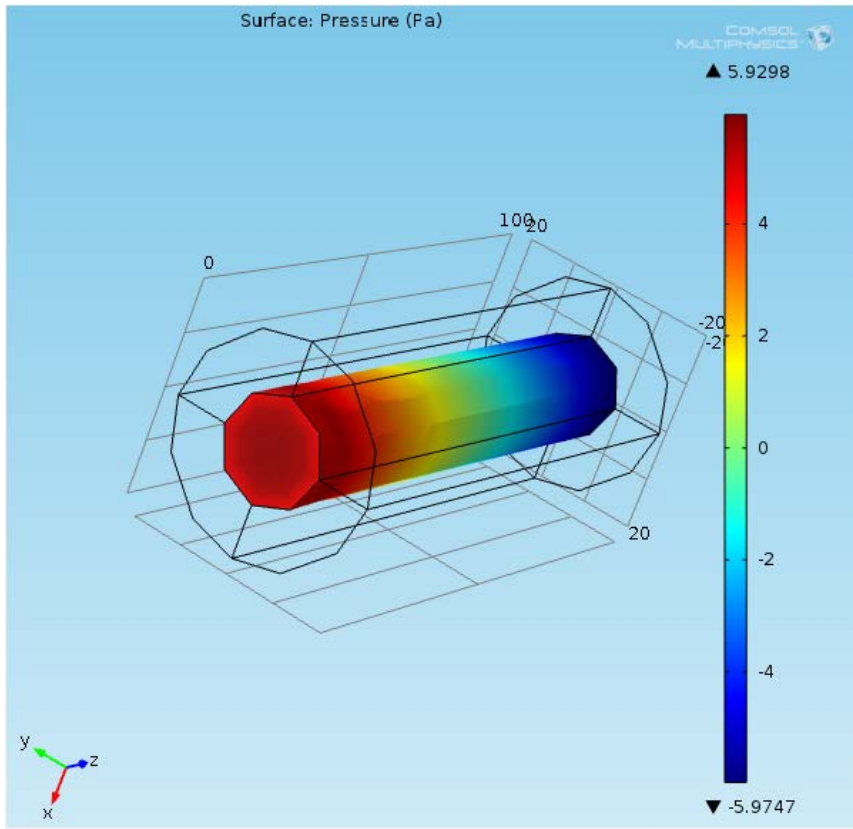




Radius is 5um



On changing the dimensions to 10um and 20um, we have this pressure.
(it decreases, as expected)
Radius is doubled (10um now)
So, by formula, Pressure is inversely proportional to the square of radius.
So, as radius is doubled, pressure is becoming 1/4 times.



Plot

Data

Data set: From parent

Selection

Selection: Manual

8

Add one of the centre lines

y-Axis Data

Title

x-Axis Data

Parameter: Expression

Expression: p

Unit: Pa

Description: Pressure

Line Graph: Pressure (Pa)

COMSOL MULTIPHYSICS

Pressure (Pa)

Pressure (Pa)

20

15

10

5

0

-5

-10

-15

-20

-20

-10

0

10

20

Pressure (Pa)

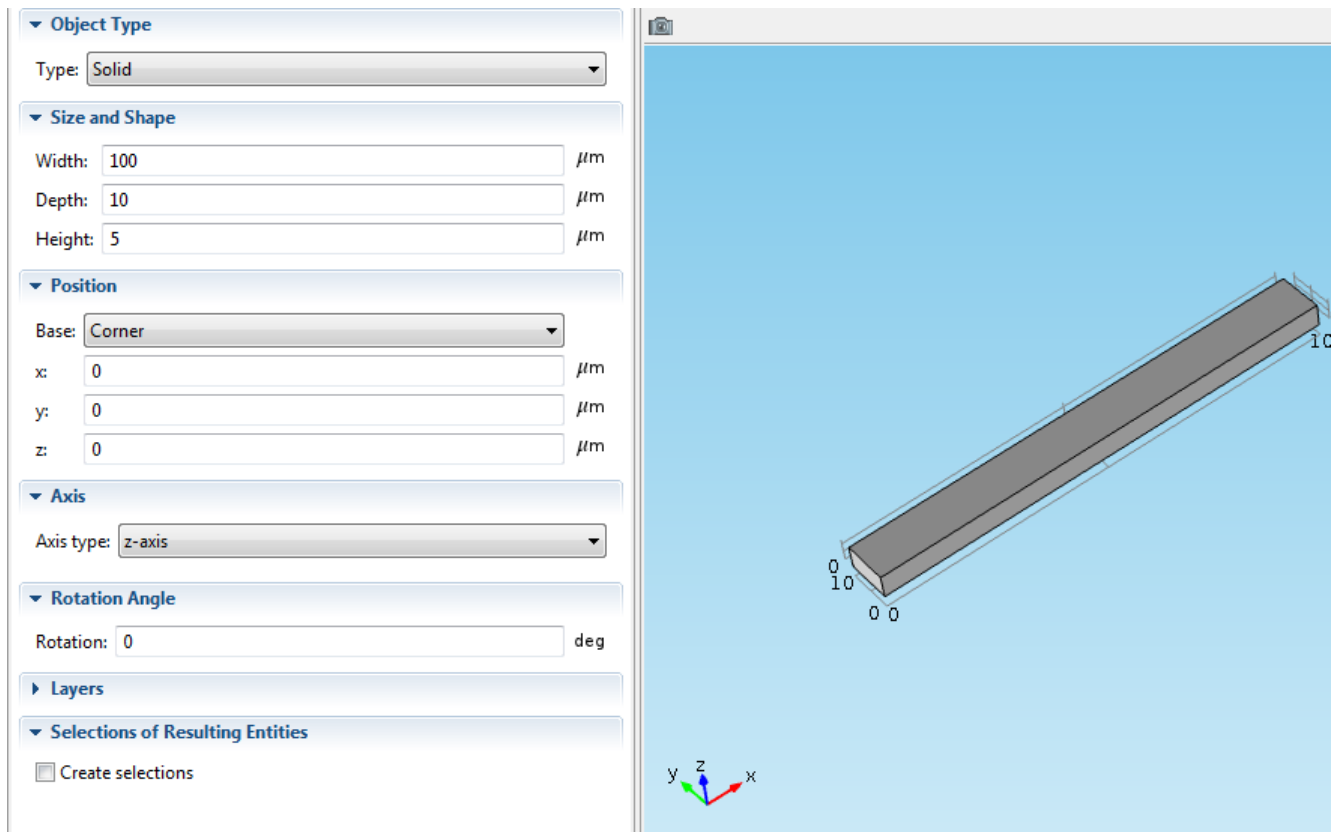
MICRO MIXER

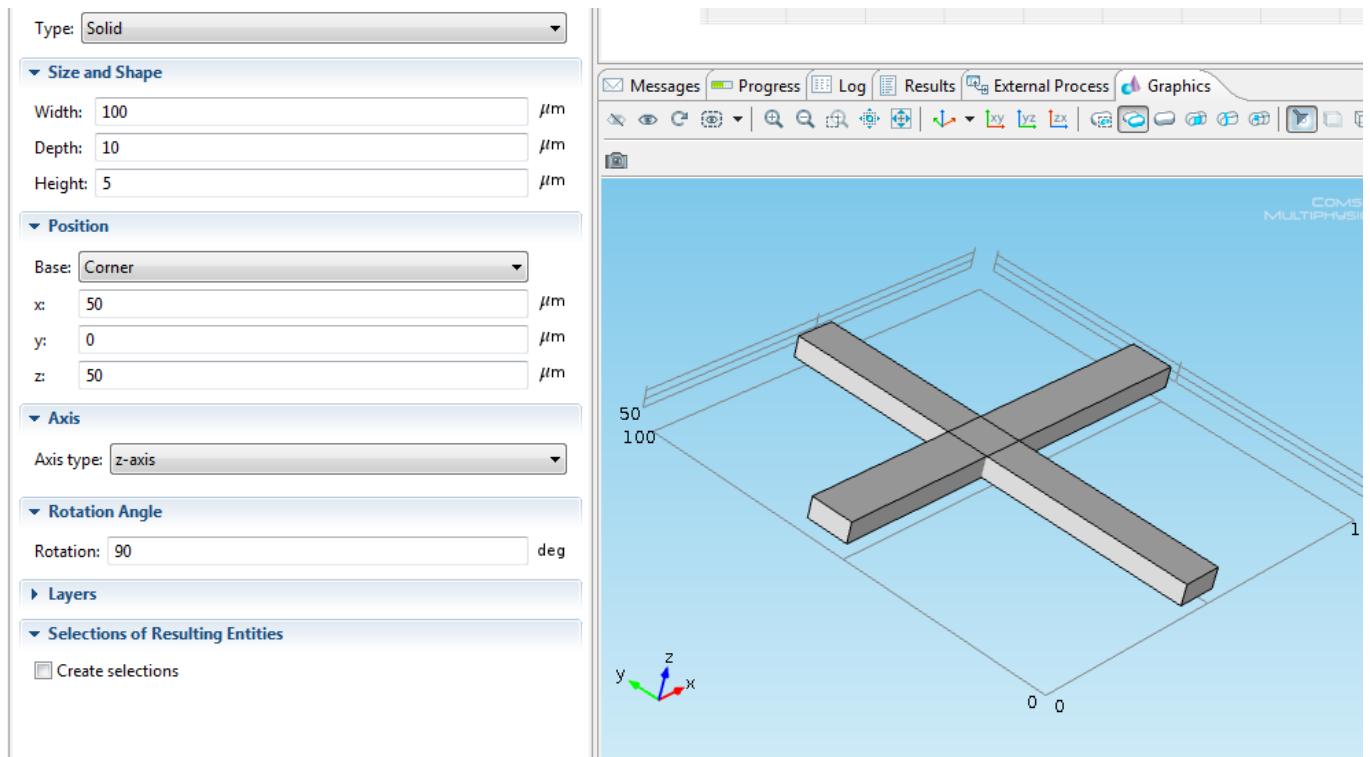
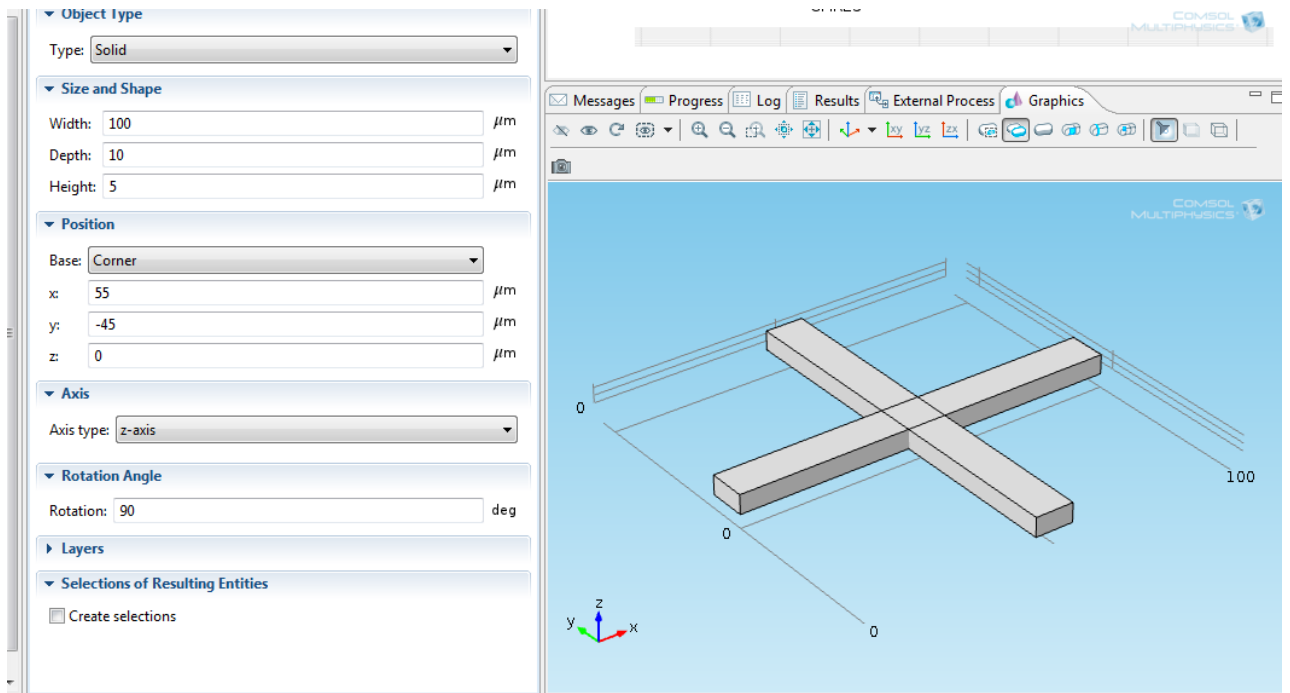
Model - 3D

Physics - Laminar Flow

Property - Stationary

Make the model.





Geometric entity level: Domain

Selection: All domains

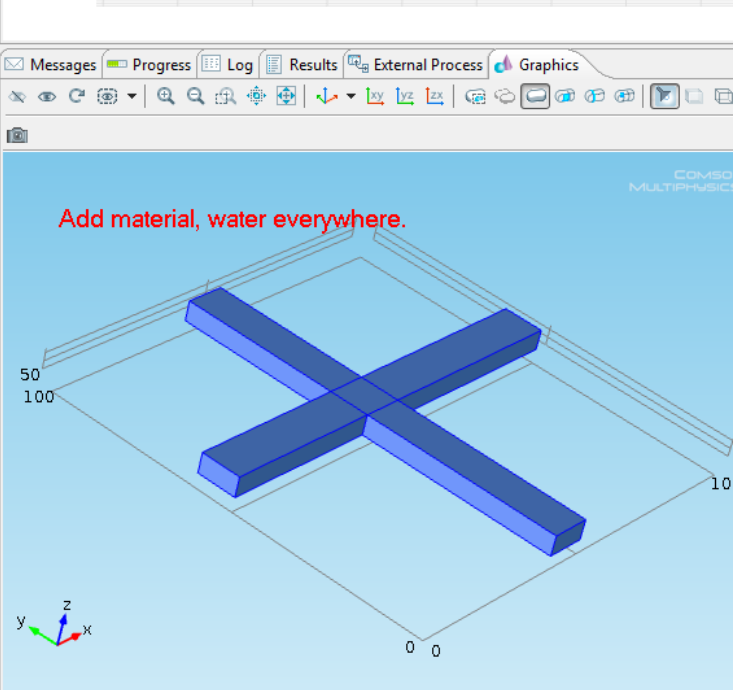
1
2
3
4
5

► Override

► Material Properties

▼ Material Contents

Property	Name	Value	Unit
✓ Dynamic viscosity	mu	eta(T[1...	Pa*s
✓ Density	rho	rho(T[...	kg/...
Ratio of specific heats	gam...	1.0	1
Electrical conductivity	sigma	5.5e-6[...	S/m
Heat capacity at constant pr...	Cp	Cp(T[1...	J/(kg...
Thermal conductivity	k	k(T[1/...	W/(...
Speed of sound	c	cs(T[1/...	m/s



COMSOL MULTIPHYSICS

50
100

0 0

z
y x

Boundary Selection

Selection: Manual

1

► Override and Contribution

► Equation

▼ Boundary Condition

Boundary condition: Laminar inflow

▼ Laminar Inflow

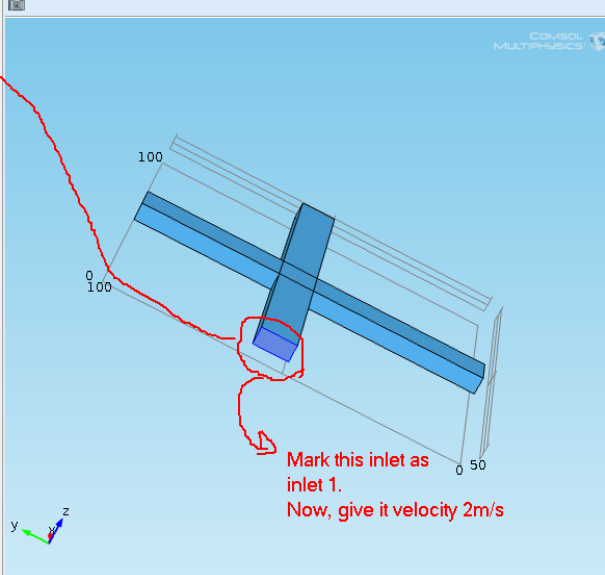
Average velocity

Flow rate

Entrance pressure

Average velocity: U_{av} 2 m/s

Entrance length: L_{entr} 1 m



COMSOL MULTIPHYSICS

100

0 100

0 50

z
y x

Mark this inlet as inlet 1.
Now, give it velocity 2m/s

Global Definitions

Model 1 (mod1)

Definitions

Geometry 1

Block 1 (blk1)

Block 2 (blk2)

Form Union (fin)

Materials

Water (mat1)

Laminar Flow (spf)

Fluid Properties 1

Wall 1

Inlet Values 1

Inlet 1

Inlet 2

Outlet 1

Mesh 1

Study 1

Step 1: Stationary

Solver Configurations

Results

Data Sets

Derived Values

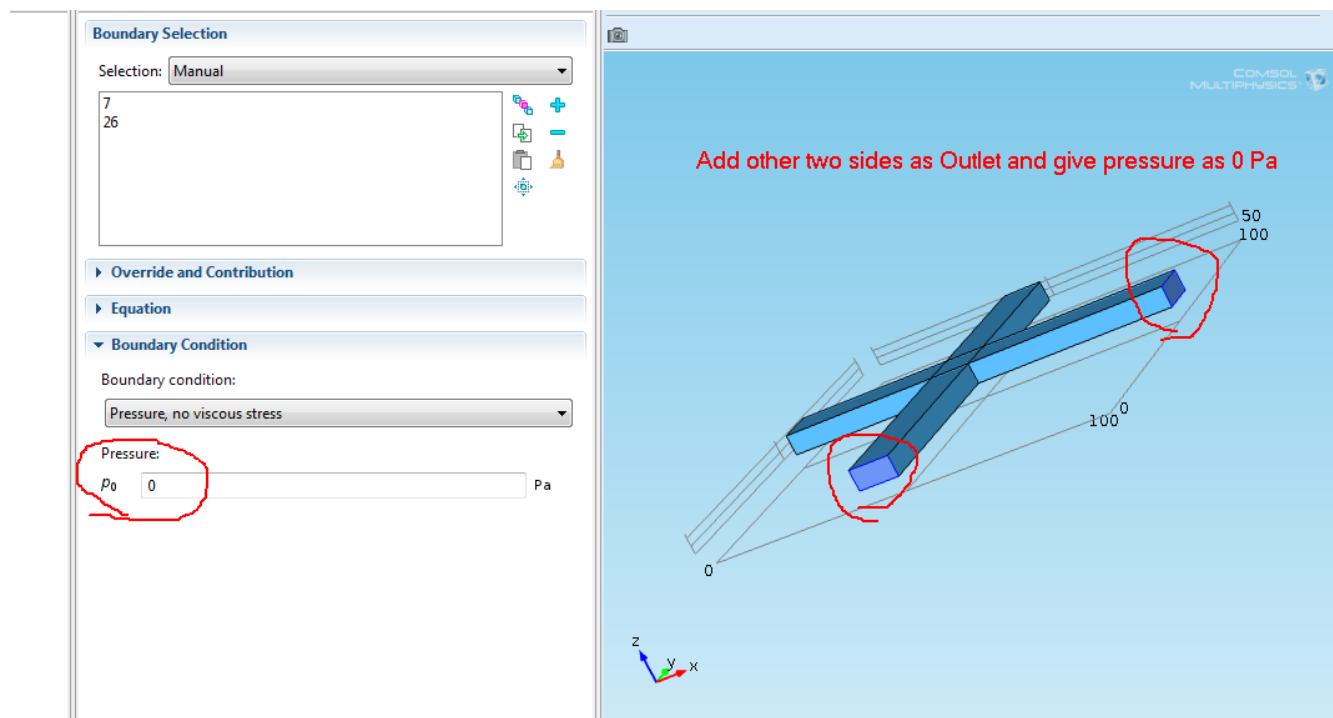
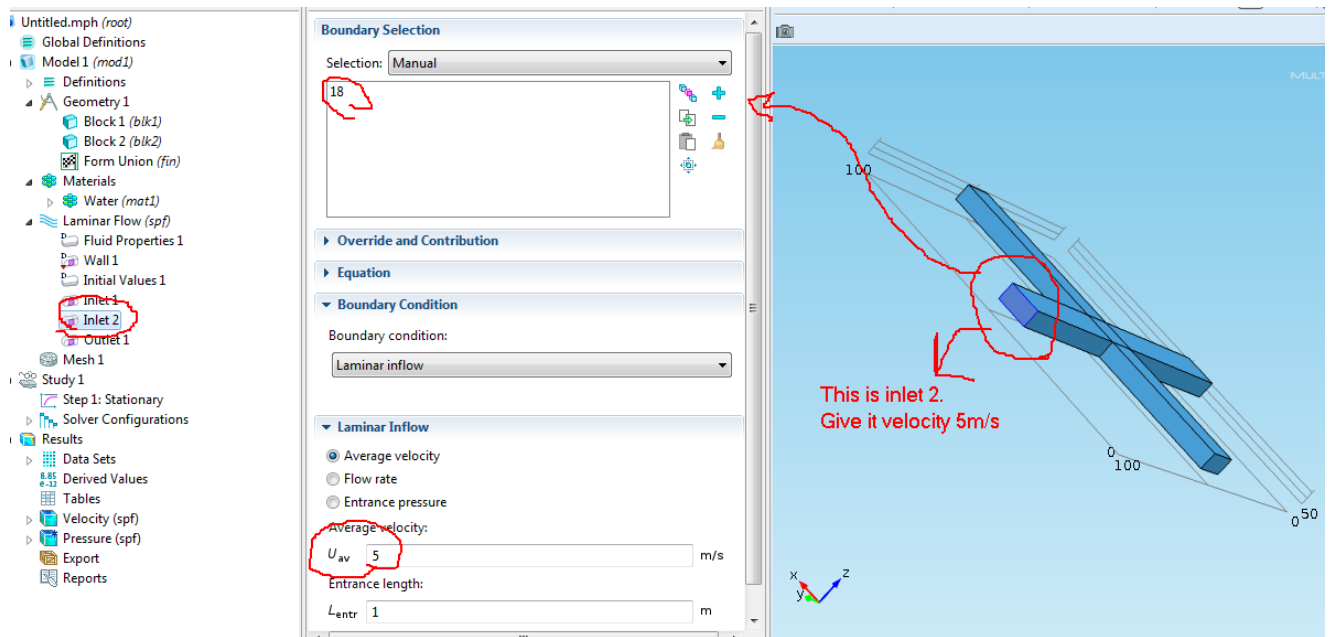
Tables

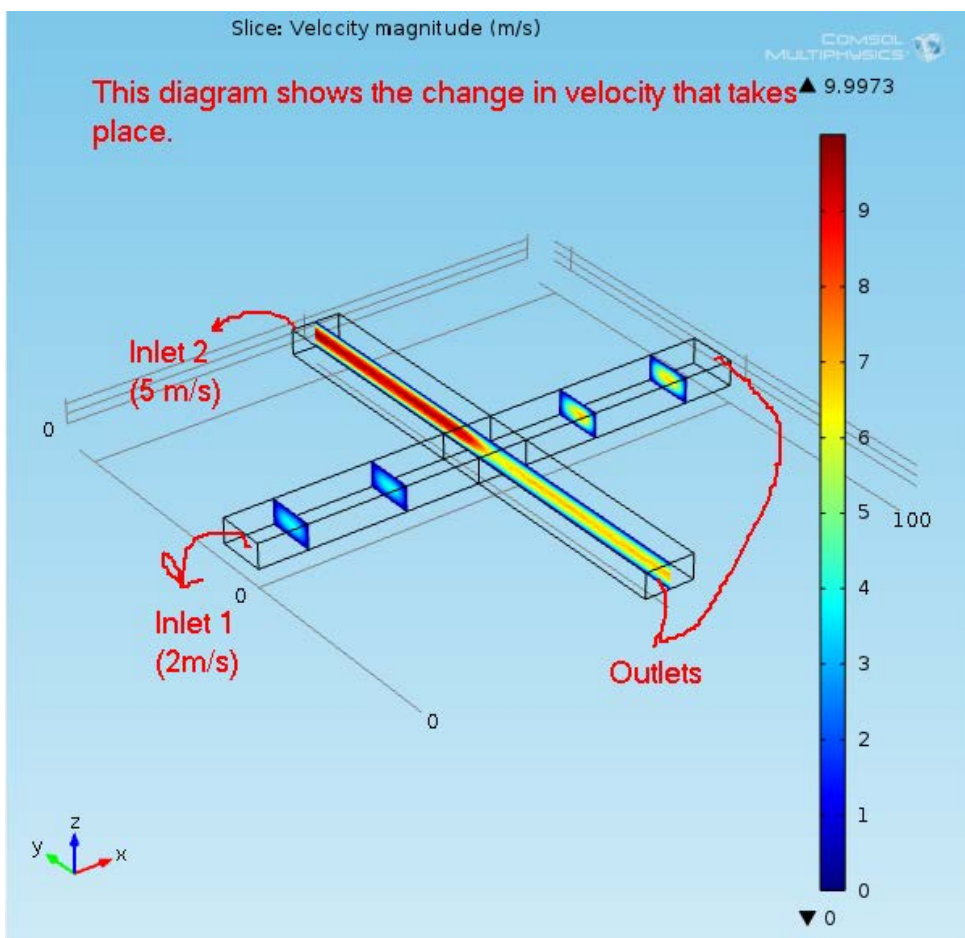
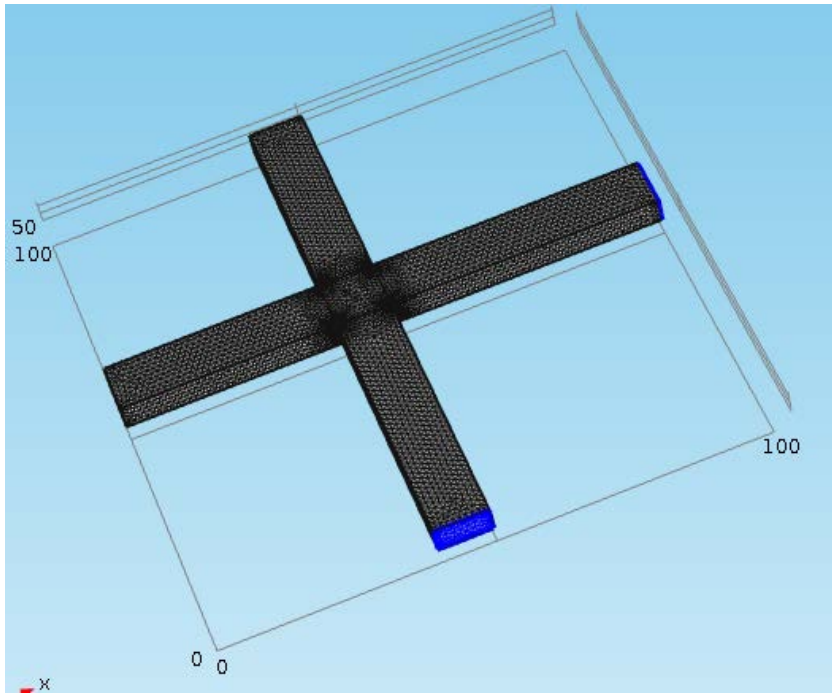
Velocity (spf)

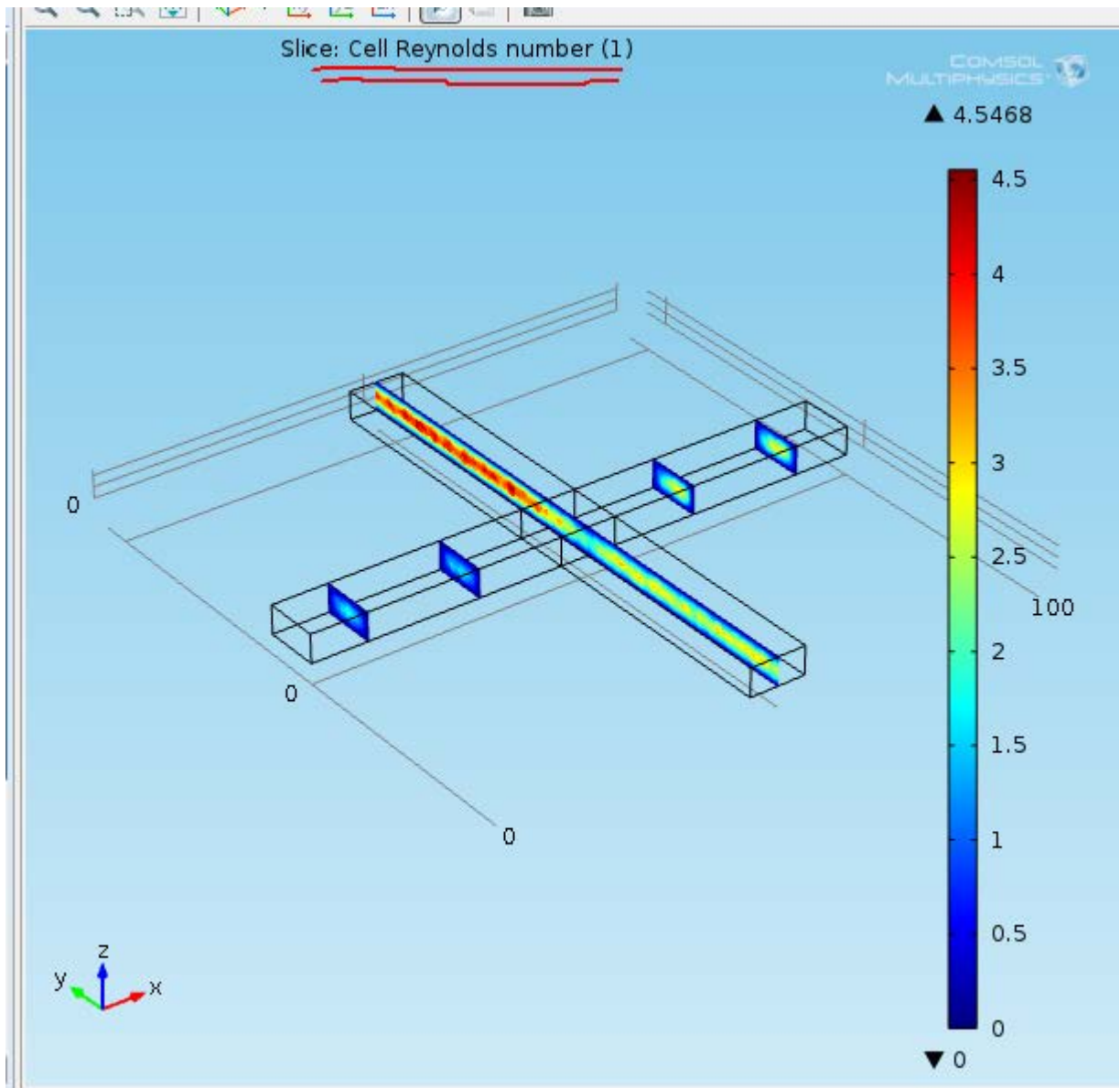
Pressure (spf)

Export

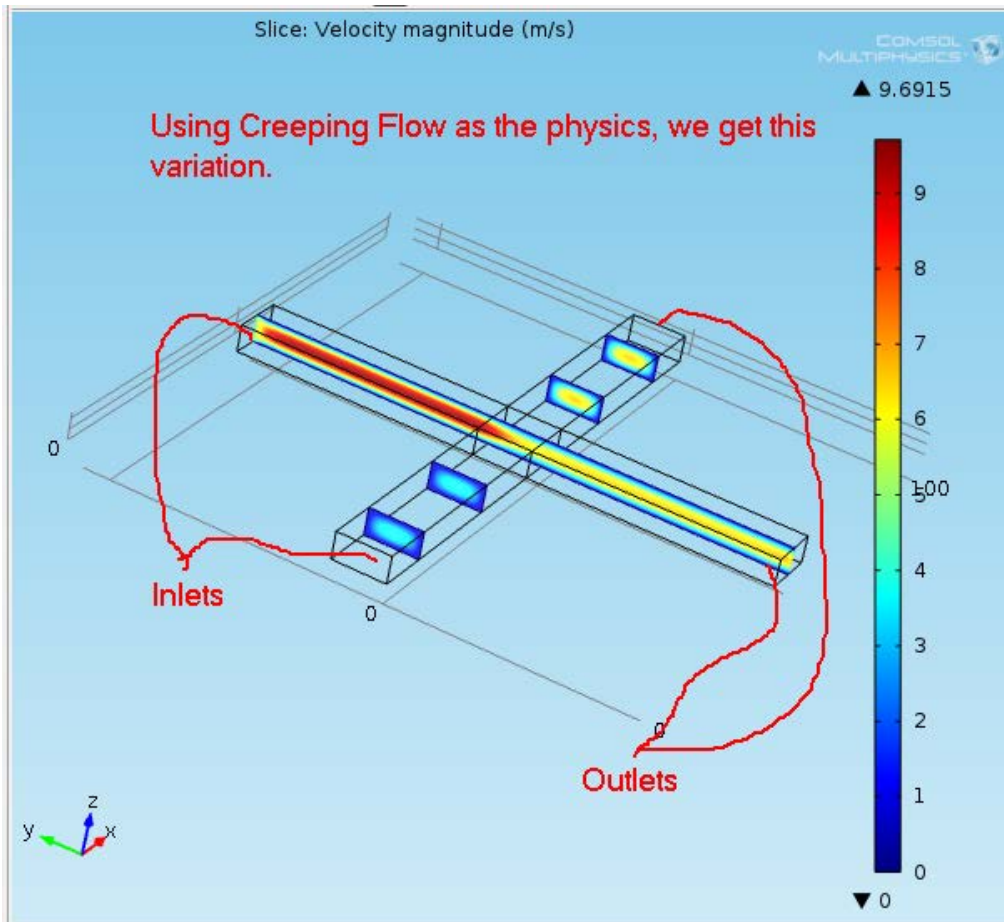
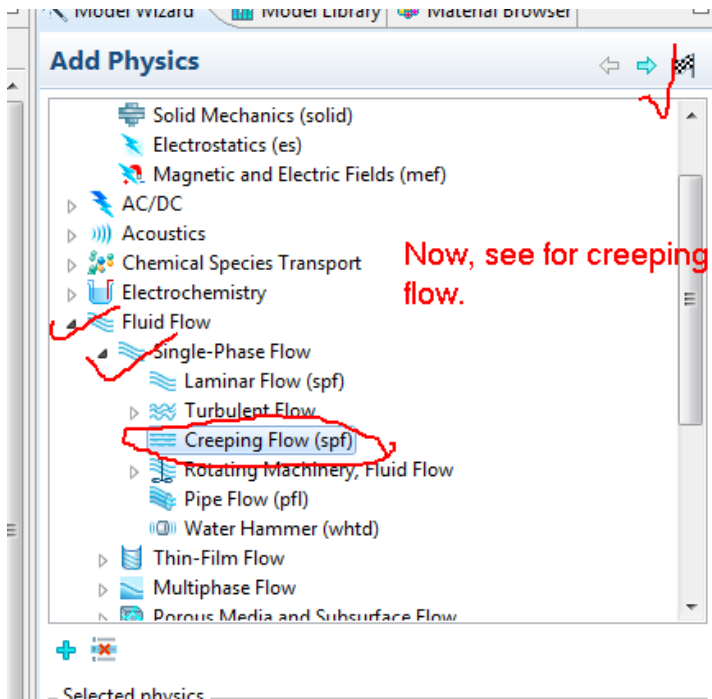
Reports

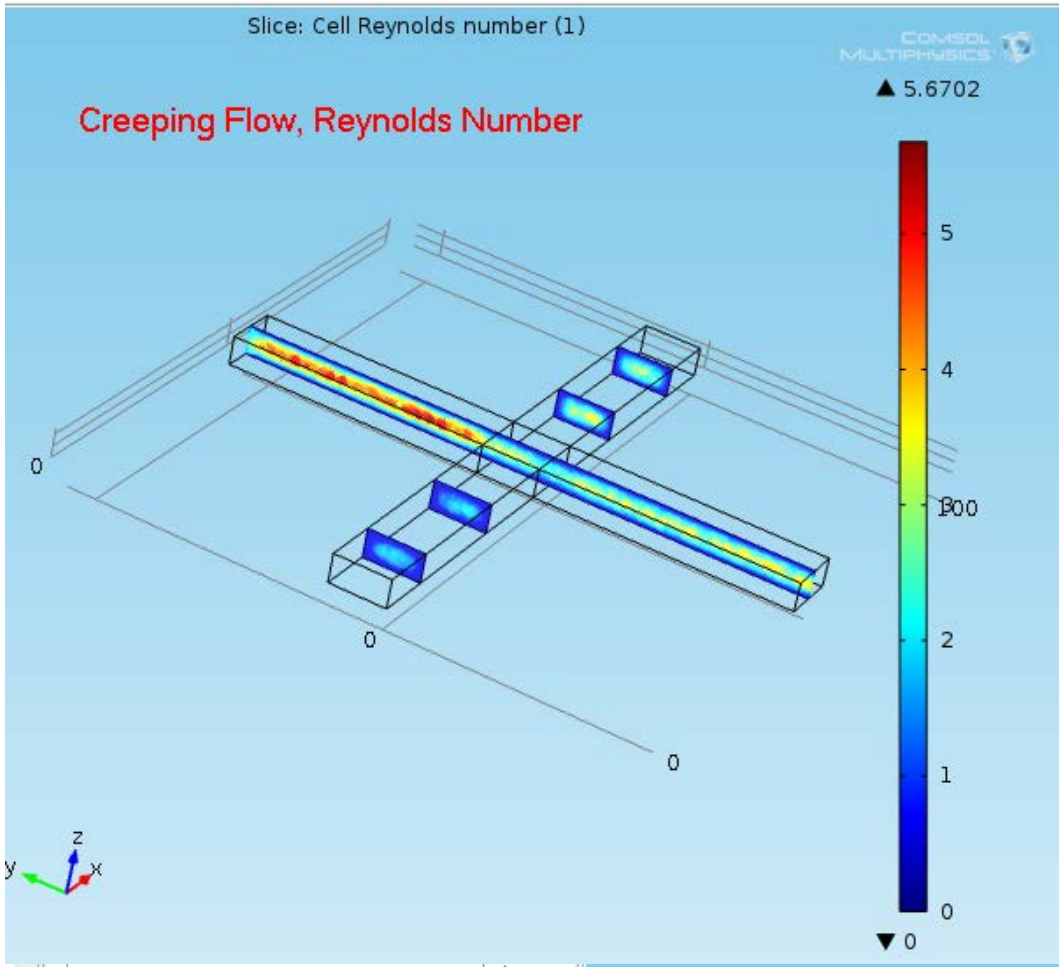






ONLY CREEPING FLOW





► Override and Contribution

► Equation

▼ Boundary Condition

Boundary condition:

Velocity

▼ Velocity

Normal inflow velocity

Velocity field

U_0 2000 m/s

Changing Inlet 1 Velocity as 2000 m/s

CREeping FLOW

ONE FLOW LAMINAR, ONE FLOW CREEPING

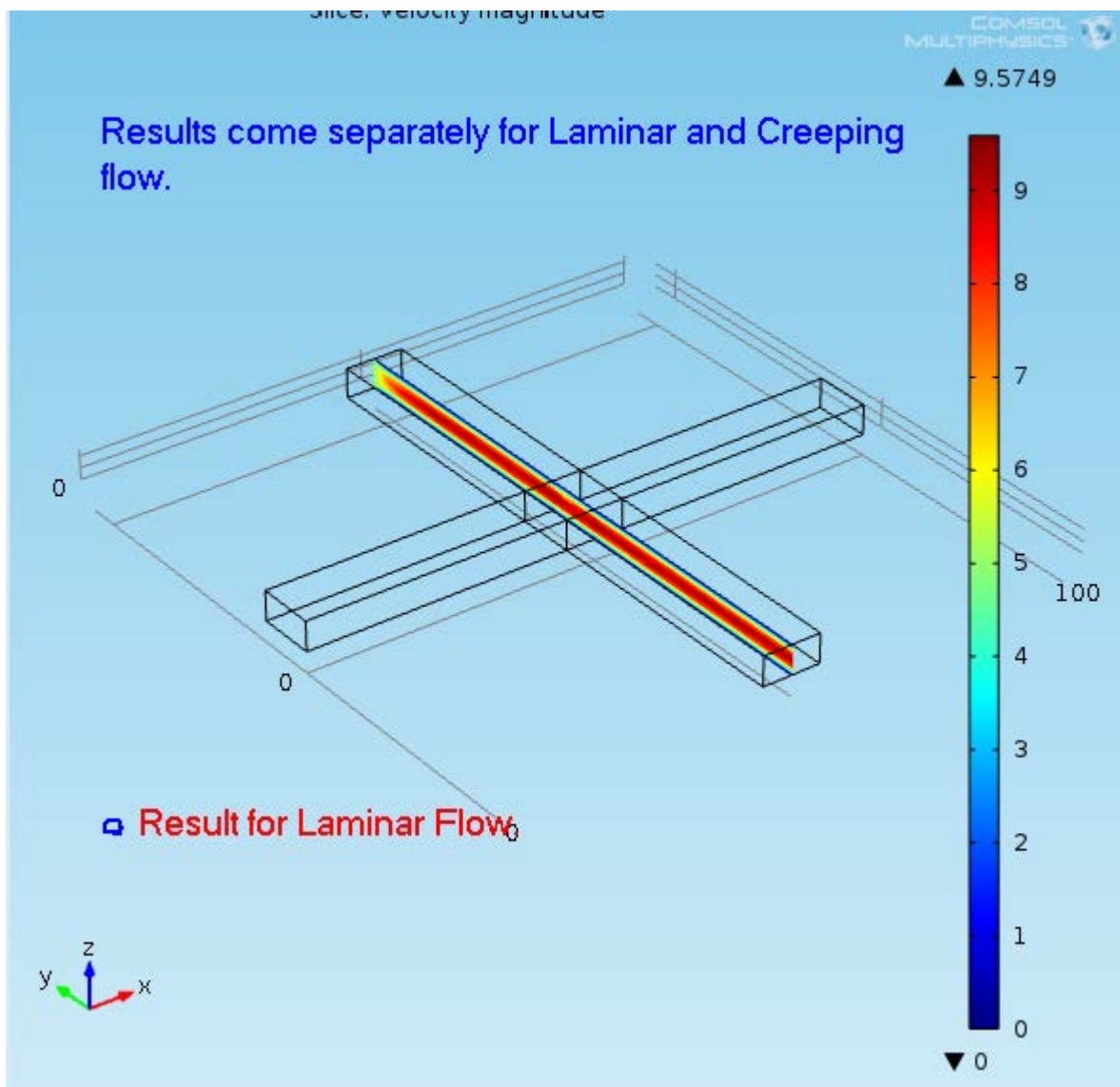
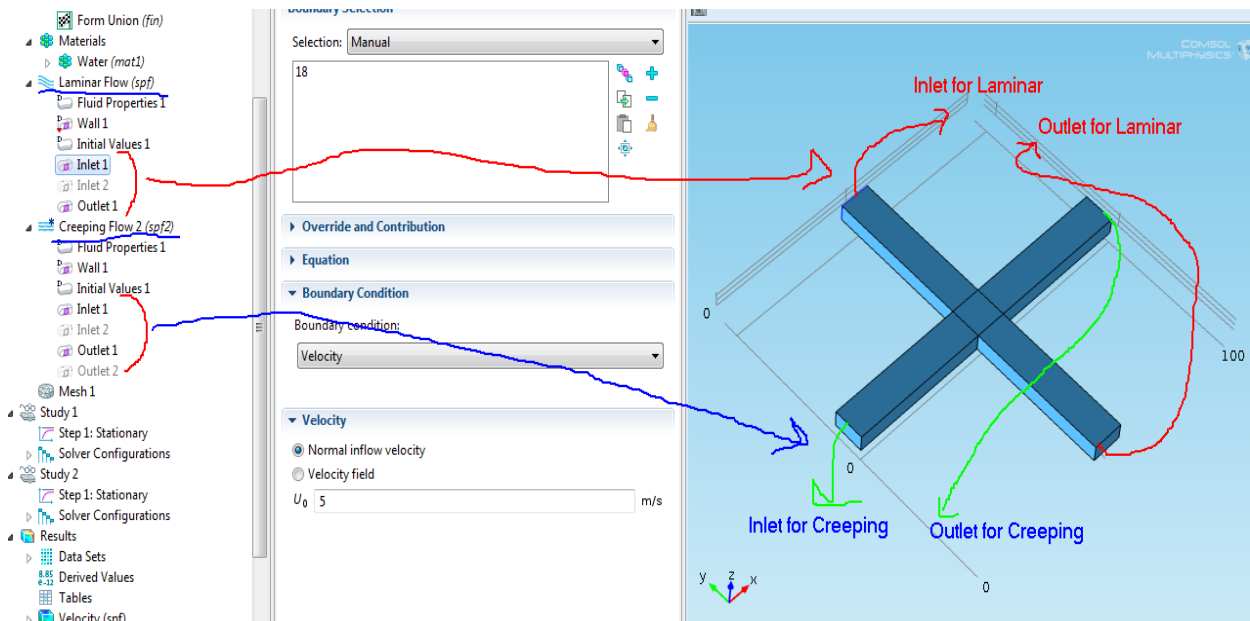
The screenshot displays the COMSOL Multiphysics interface for a fluid flow simulation. The left-hand tree view shows the model structure, with 'Laminar Flow (spf)' and 'Creeping Flow 2 (spf2)' highlighted by red circles. The central properties panel shows the configuration for these models. The right-hand graphics window shows a 3D model of a cross-shaped structure with red annotations: 'Select one of the side in Laminar Flow.' and 'Deselect this side.' for the top model, and 'Select only the other side in Creeping Flow.' for the bottom model.

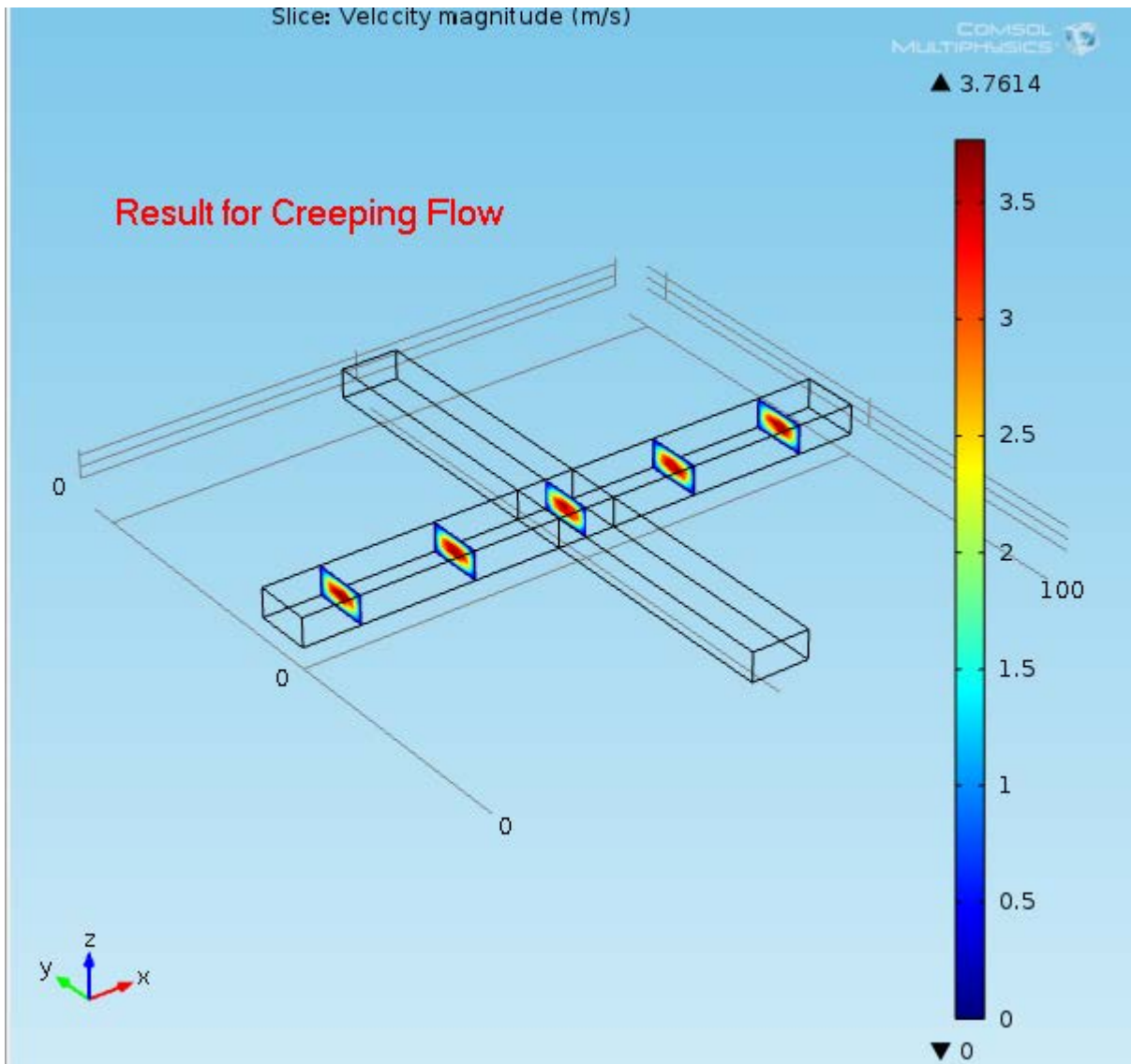
Top Model (spf):

- Identifier: spf
- Domain Selection: Manual (2, 3, 4)
- Equation: μ
- Physical Model: Compressible flow ($Ma < 0.3$), Turbulence model type: None, Turbulence model: $k-\epsilon$, Neglect inertial term (Stokes flow)

Bottom Model (spf2):

- Identifier: spf2
- Domain Selection: Manual (1, 3, 5)
- Equation: μ
- Physical Model: Compressible flow ($Ma < 0.3$), Turbulence model type: None, Turbulence model: $k-\epsilon$, Neglect inertial term (Stokes flow)





USING TWO FLUIDS, WATER AND ETHANOL

