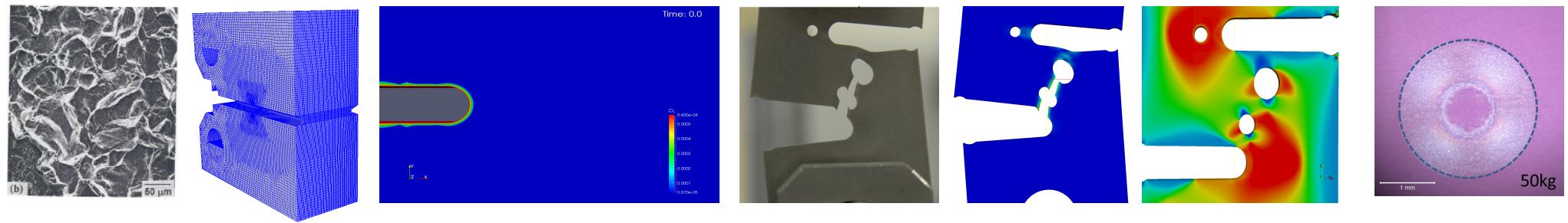


*Exceptional service in the national interest*



# Fracture Mechanics R&D at Sandia National Laboratories

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Manager – Hydrogen and Materials Science Department

**Key Contributors: Edmundo Corona, James W. Foulk III, Reese Jones,  
E. David Reedy Jr., Joseph Ronevich**



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# Predicting fracture – a formidable challenge!

- Sandia's success at its national security missions rely upon:
  - Understanding the mechanical behavior of materials used within its engineering applications
  - Qualification of those materials and achieving a desired reliability of the resultant technology
  - High-fidelity models and high-performance computing platforms that enable prediction of both material behavior and performance of engineering components
- Some areas of investigation permeate multiple missions. For example, understanding how hydrogen affects the structural integrity and mechanical performance of stainless steels is relevant to both nuclear weapon stockpile stewardship and sustainable alternative energies for transportation.
- **Our focus:** develop fundamental understanding and predictive capabilities for crack nucleation, initiation and propagation (as well as ductile deformation) in materials relevant to Sandia's technological systems.

## Recent efforts at Sandia

- Fatigue crack growth in pipeline steels and their welds in high-pressure hydrogen gas
- Simulating hydrogen embrittlement – and hydrogen isotope embrittlement – and fast pathways for diffusion
- Initiation and growth of subcritical cracks in chemically reactive environments, including low-permeability geomaterials
- Calibration of the Johnson-Cook strength and failure models to accurately represent ductile failure under shear-dominated states
- Cohesive zone-based fracture modeling of polymer/solid interfaces
- Sandia's Fracture Challenges – predicting crack initiation and propagation around the nation and around the world

# Fatigue crack growth in pipeline steels and their welds in high-pressure hydrogen gas

- Hydrogen embrittlement is recognized as a potential reliability issue for steel pipelines (1,500 miles of steel hydrogen pipelines already in use in the U.S.)



**X52 or X65 Line Pipe**  
(i.e. base metal)

**Microstructure of base metal affects crack growth rates**

**Welds may be more susceptible to embrittlement**



**Welding to join or repair pipe**

Images used with permission from U.S Pipeline, and Canadian Energy Pipeline Association



**Daily pressure fluctuations can result in fatigue loading which can affect embrittlement**

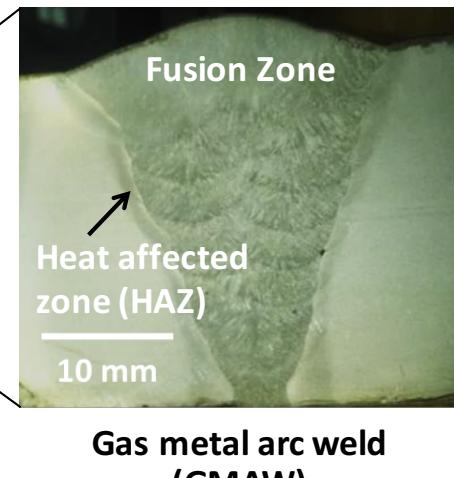
## **Key Questions:**

1. How does H<sub>2</sub> act to embrittle the metal during fatigue (fluctuating) loading?
2. Do all microstructures (base, weld, HAZ) act the same?
3. Can gas impurities mitigate embrittlement effect?

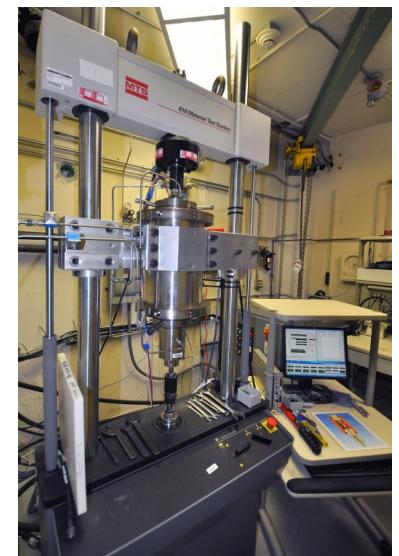
# Approach: Measure fatigue crack growth

- Measure fatigue crack growth in steels in high-pressure H<sub>2</sub> gas (Hydrogen Effects on Materials Laboratory)
  - Industrially relevant pipeline grades
  - Representative service environment
  - Fatigue crack growth data will be the basis for requirements of the ASME B31.12 code “Hydrogen Piping and Pipelines”
- Assess variables that influence hydrogen embrittlement in pipeline steels
  - Microstructure: Base metal vs Welds vs Heat Affected Zones
  - Gas impurities

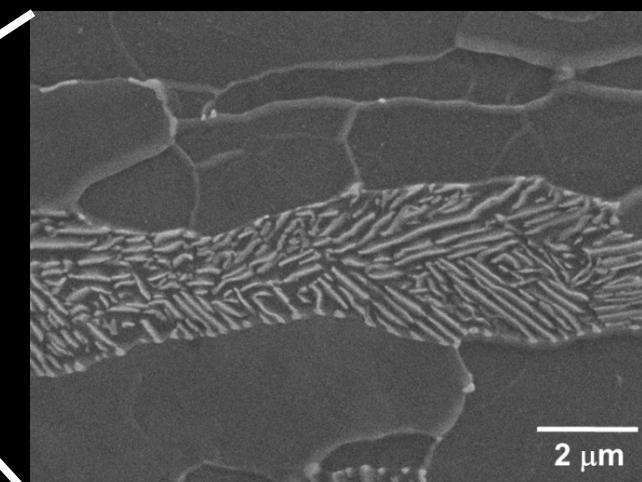
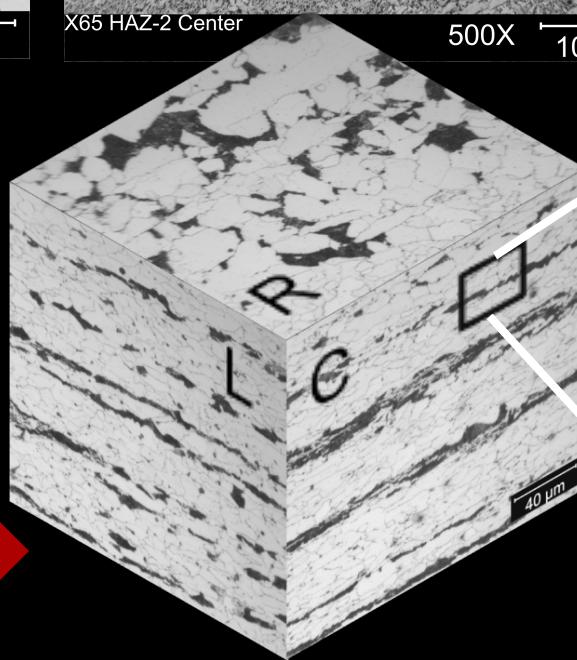
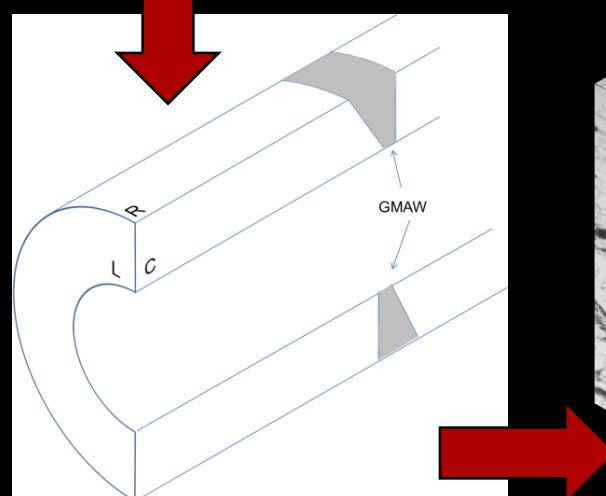
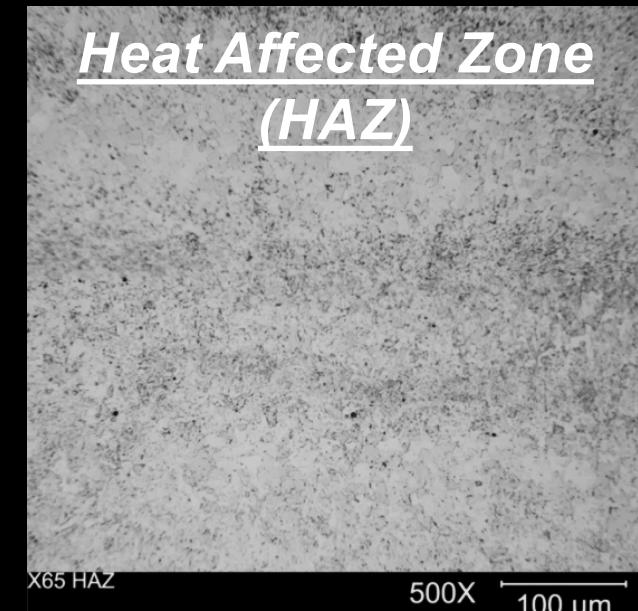
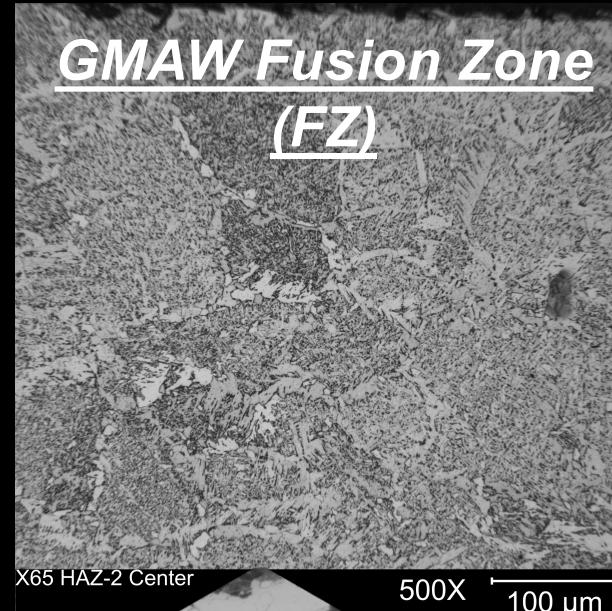
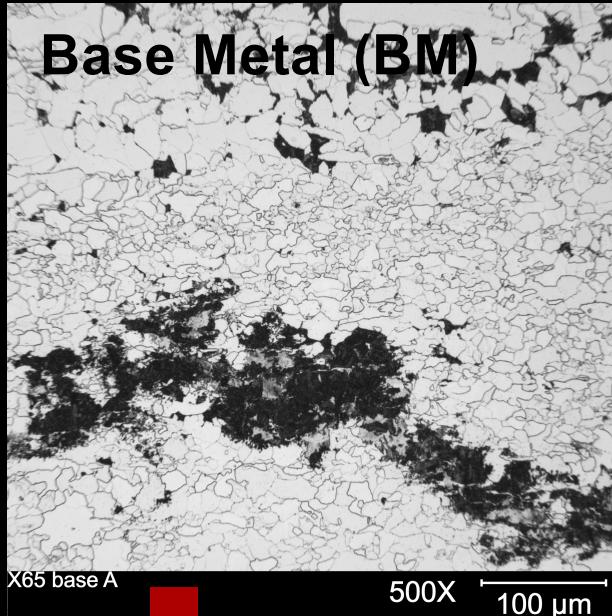
X65



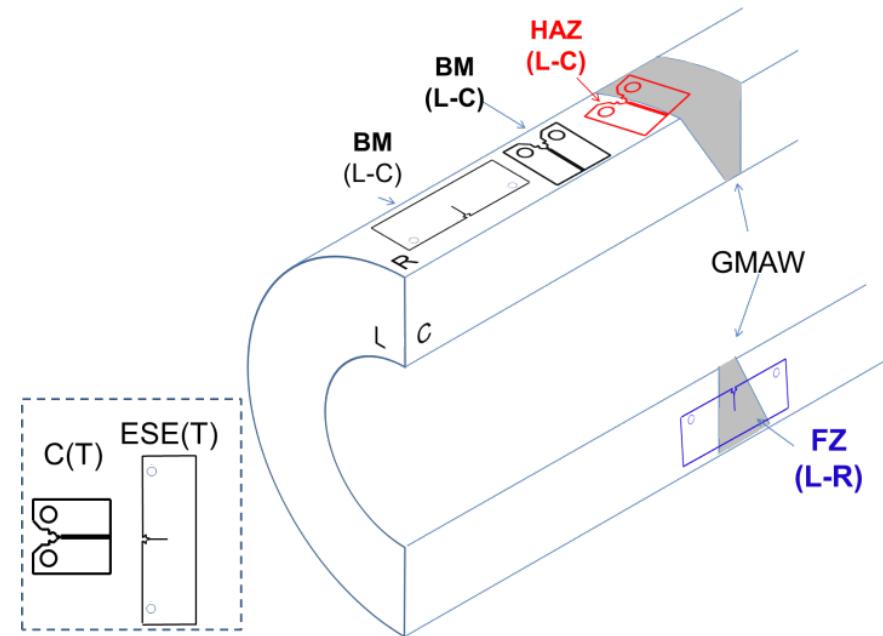
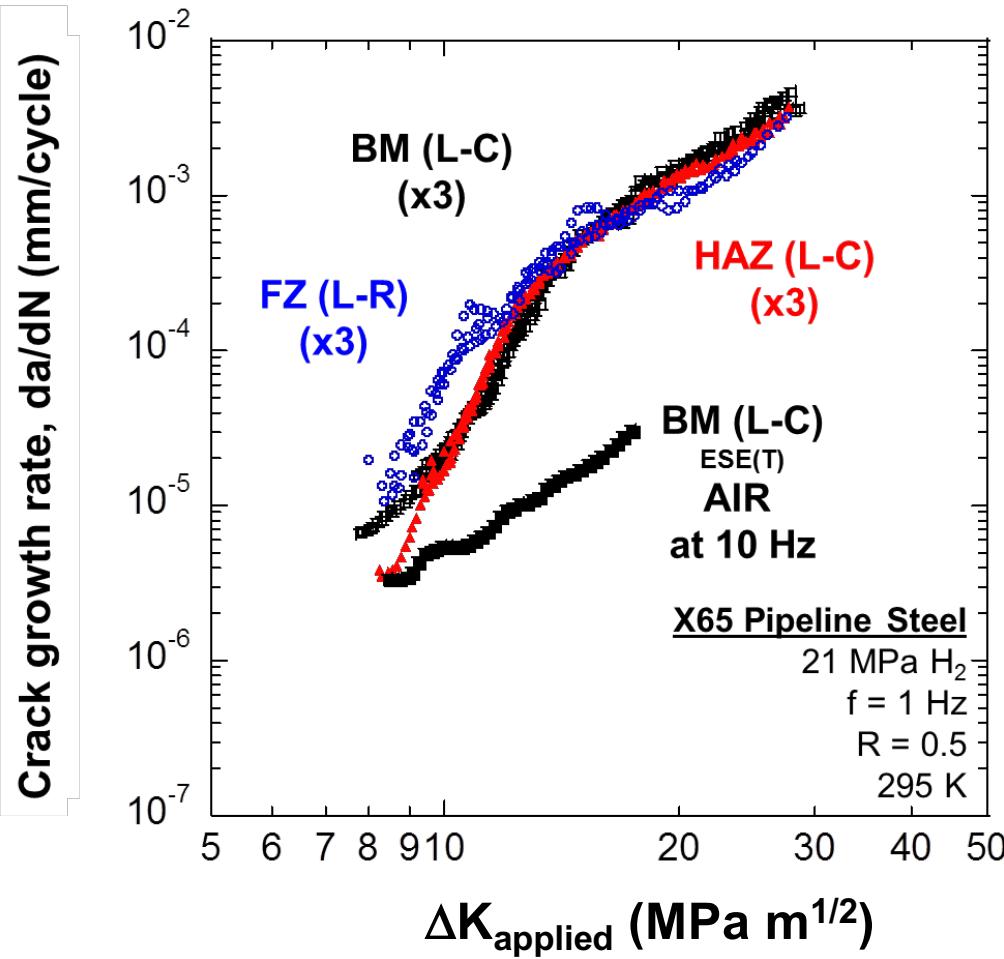
Gas metal arc weld  
(GMAW)



# Approach: Correlate microstructure with crack growth



# Results: X65 Gas Metal Arc Weld (GMAW)



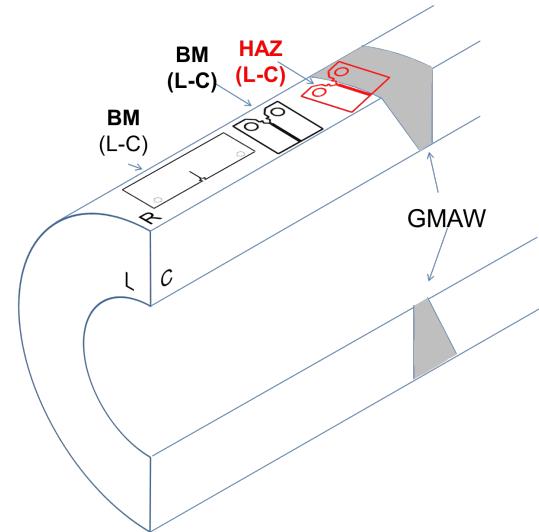
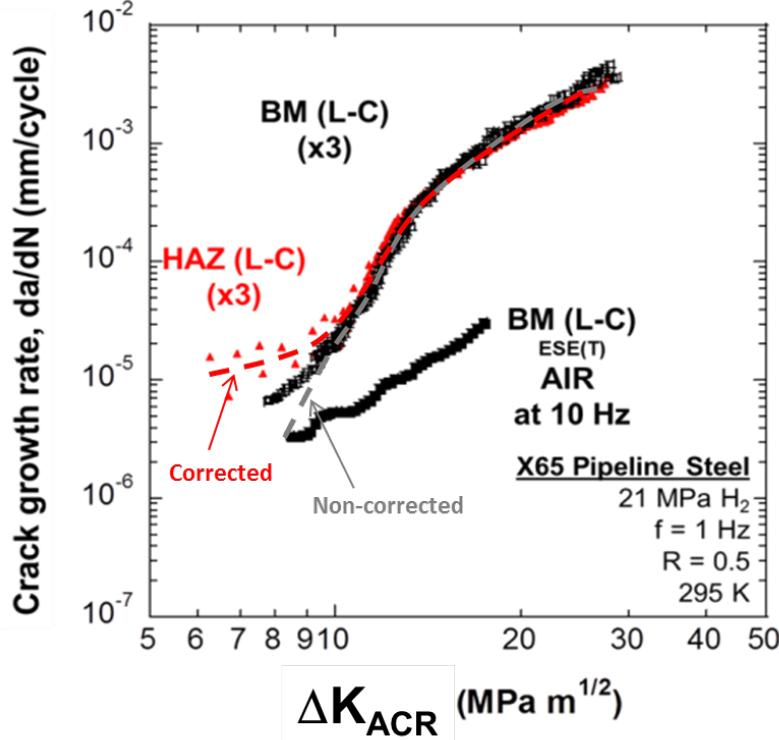
- Triplicate tests revealed repeatable results
- Results did not account for “residual stress” resulting from welding

*Must perform analysis to account for contribution of residual stress to driving force,  $\Delta K$ .*

J. Ronevich & B. Somerday, *Materials Performance and Characterization*, 2015, submitted.

# Results: X65 Gas Metal Arc Weld (GMAW)

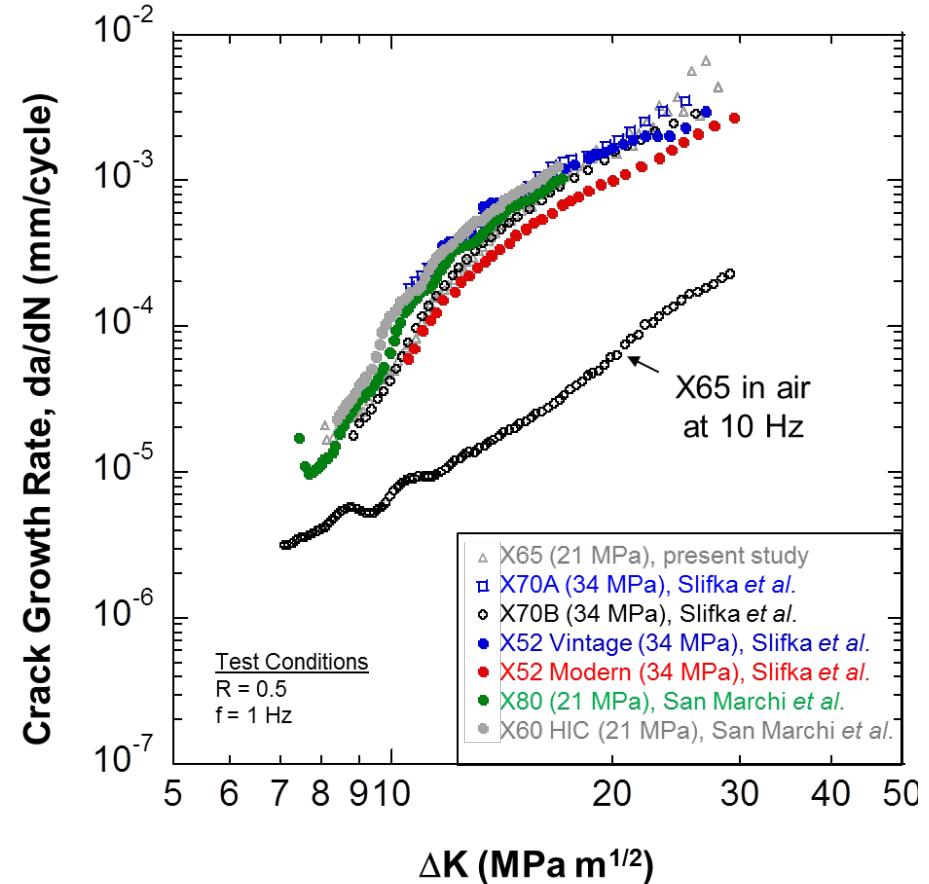
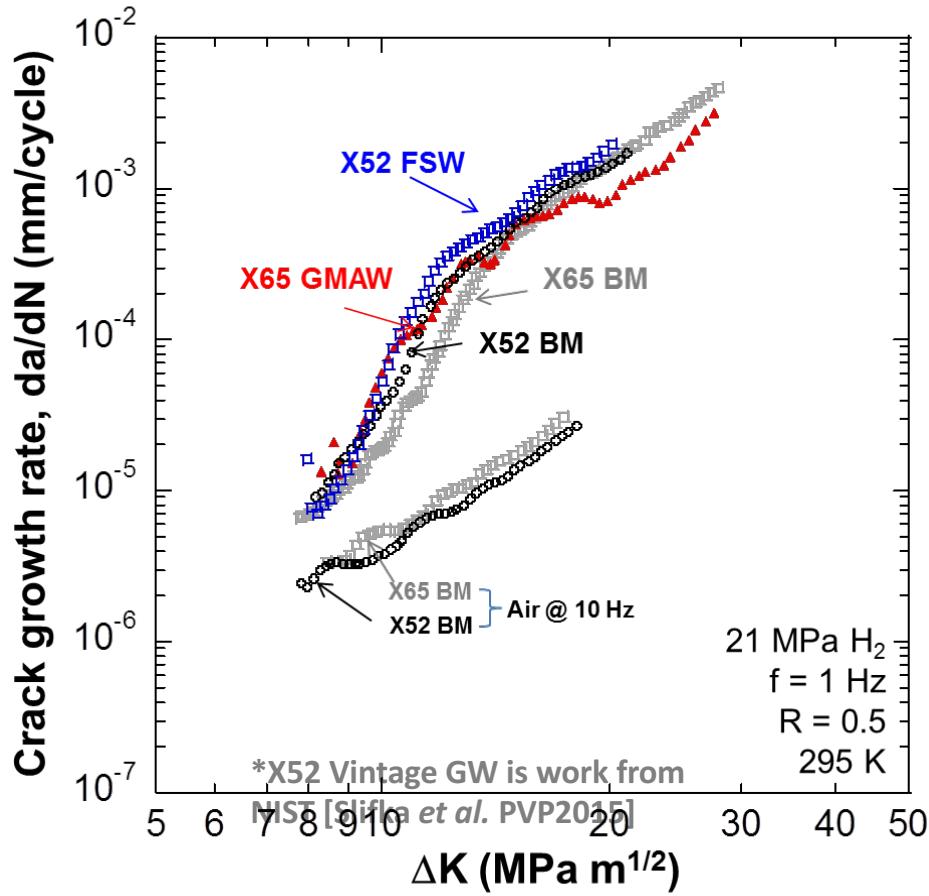
Analysis to account for residual stress in driving force leads to more reliable  $da/dN$  vs.  $\Delta K$  curves.



- Corrections show faster crack growth at lower  $\Delta K$  than previously determined.

**X65: Crack growth faster in weld heat affected zone than in base metal.**

# Comparisons of different weld types and steels

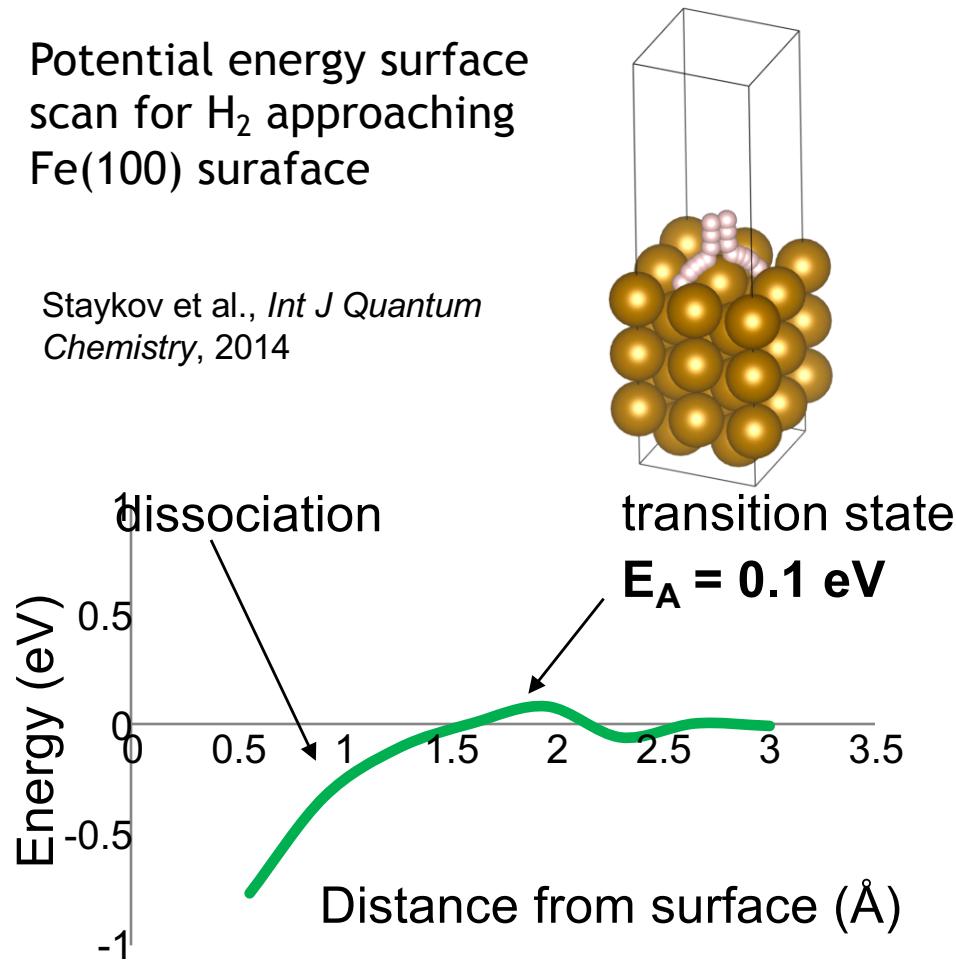


- Friction stir welds and conventional gas metal arc welds exhibit similar crack growth rates in hydrogen.
- Pipelines of different strength exhibit similar hydrogen accelerated fatigue crack growth

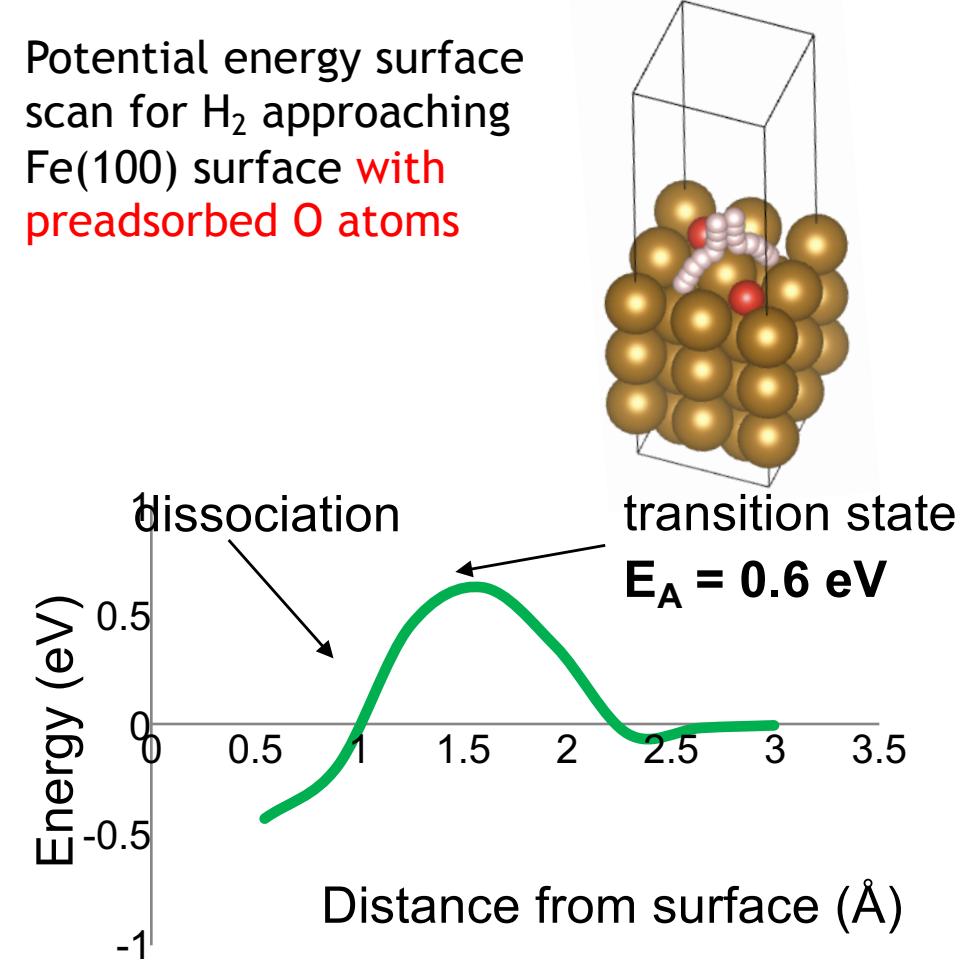
# Embrittlement Mitigation: Hydrogen uptake retarded by oxygen adsorption on crack-tip surface

Potential energy surface scan for  $\text{H}_2$  approaching  $\text{Fe}(100)$  surface

Staykov et al., *Int J Quantum Chemistry*, 2014

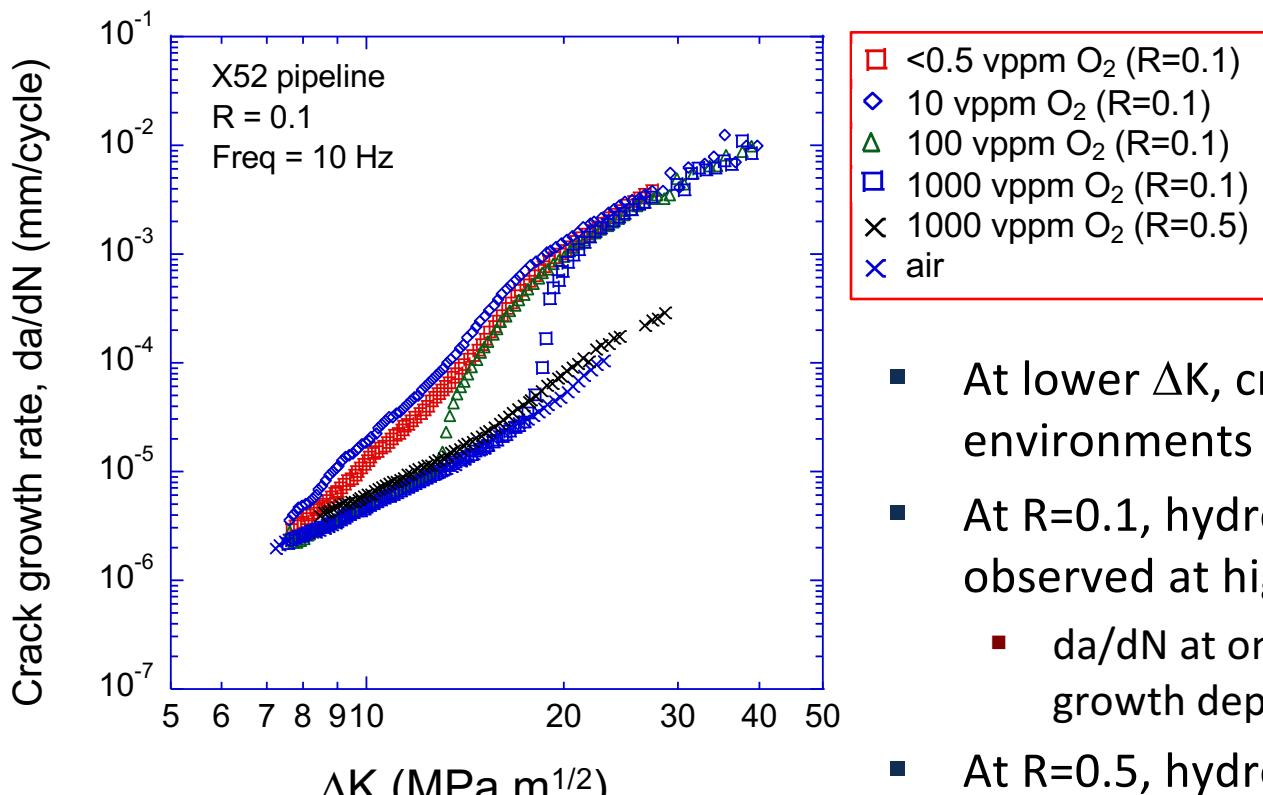


Potential energy surface scan for  $\text{H}_2$  approaching  $\text{Fe}(100)$  surface **with preadsorbed O atoms**



*DFT simulations show that pre-adsorbed oxygen inhibits  $\text{H}_2$  dissociation.*

# Embrittlement Mitigation: Testing



- At lower  $\Delta K$ , crack growth rates in H<sub>2</sub> environments same as rates in air
- At R=0.1, hydrogen-accelerated crack growth observed at higher  $\Delta K$ 
  - $da/dN$  at onset of hydrogen-accelerated crack growth depends on O<sub>2</sub> concentration
- At R=0.5, hydrogen-accelerated crack growth not observed

***Mitigation depends on several variables: O<sub>2</sub> concentration, R-ratio, da/dN, and load cycle frequency.***

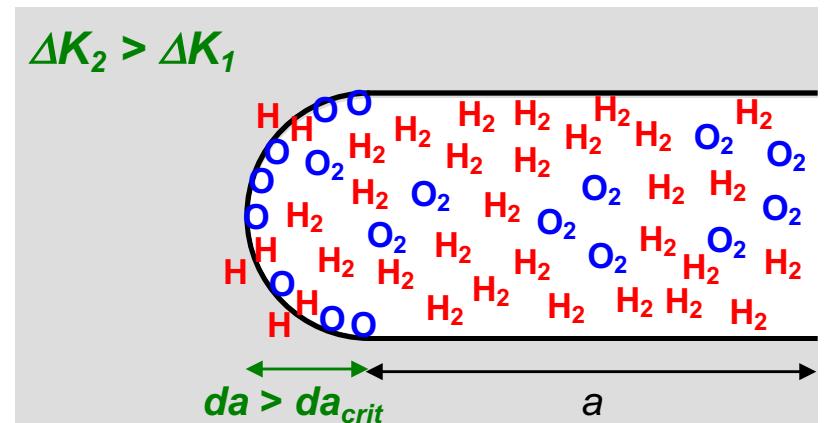
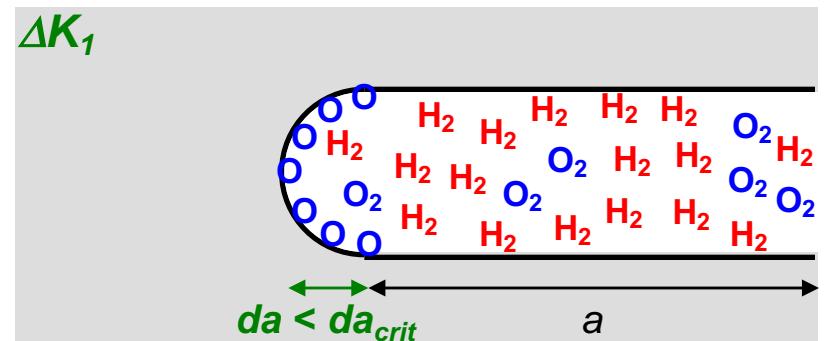
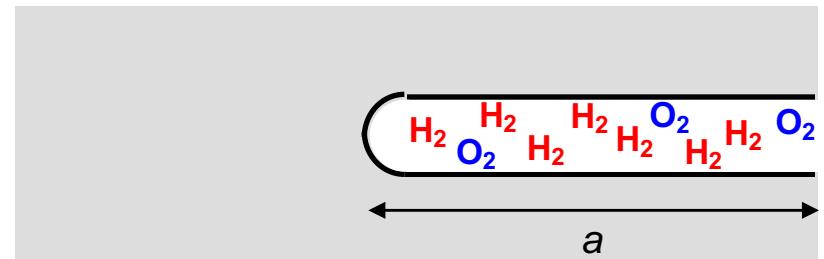
# Embrittlement Mitigation: Modeling H<sub>2</sub> Embrittlement with Oxygen Impurities



B. Somerday et al., *Acta Mater* (2013)

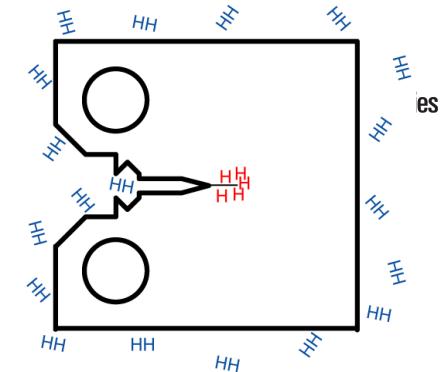
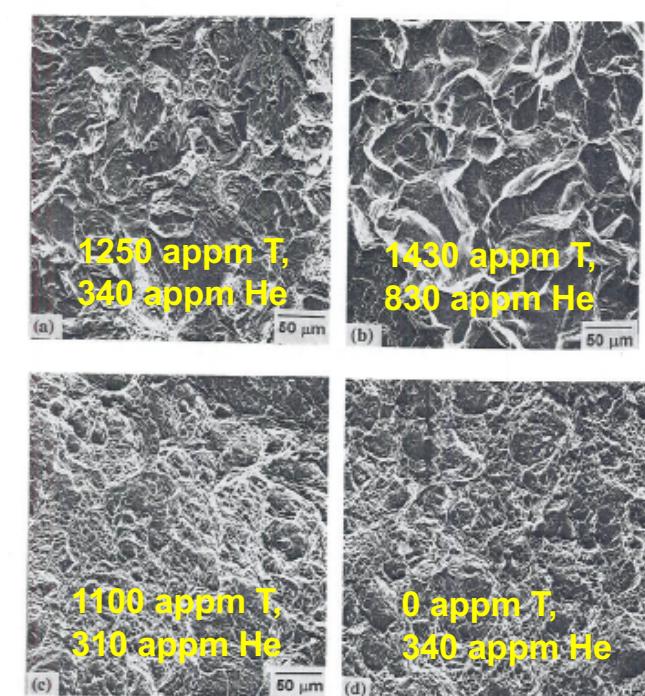
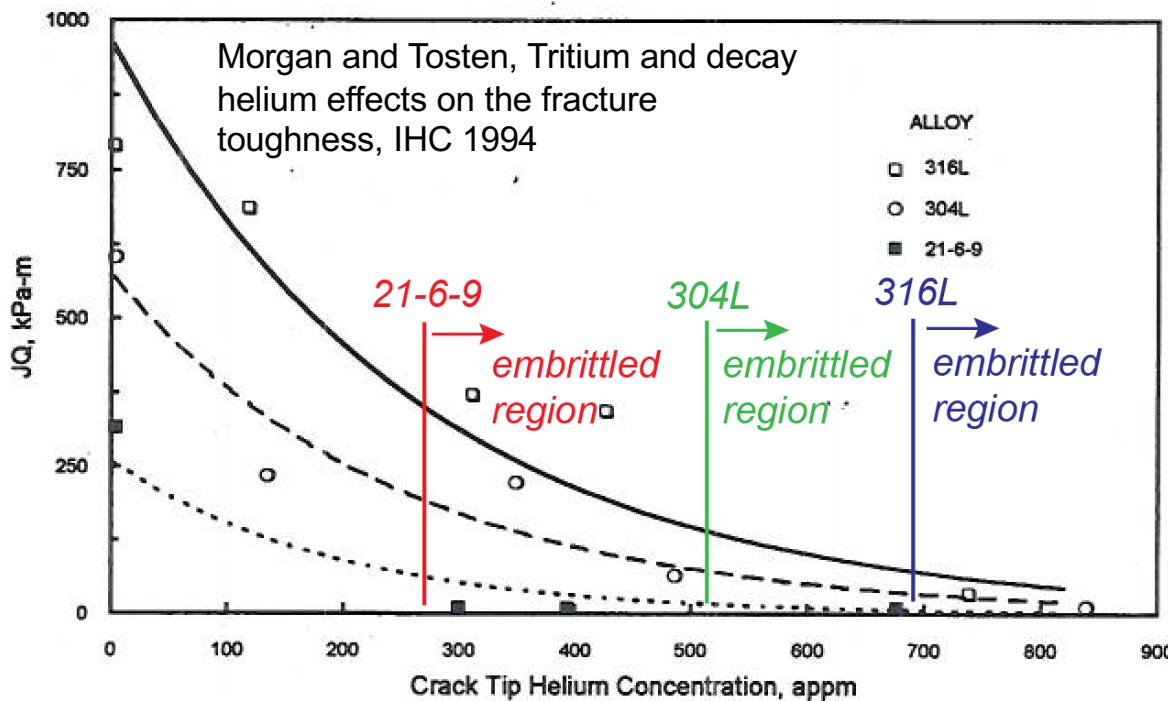
## Assumptions

- Initial inert-environment crack growth modeled by blunting-resharpening
- Oxygen out-competes hydrogen for adsorption sites on freshly exposed crack-tip surface
- Extent of oxygen adsorption depends on crack-tip area, proportional to crack-growth increment ( $da$ )
  - when  $da < da_{crit}$ , crack tip *fully passivated* by oxygen
  - when  $da > da_{crit}$ , crack tip *not fully passivated* → H uptake
- Model foundation: oxygen delivered to crack tip ( $Jh\Delta t$ ) = oxygen adsorbed on crack tip ( $S\theta\pi\Delta a$ )
- H uptake and accelerated crack growth when  $f(\Delta a) = f(\Delta a)_{crit} = h(p_{tot}, \Delta K, R, \dots)$**



# Simulating hydrogen (and hydrogen isotope) embrittlement and fast diffusion

- Motivated through observation
- Strong chemo-mechanical coupling
- Capture sub-grid processes through a surface approach
- Explore fast pathways for diffusion at structural and microstructural scales
- **Develop models for H/T/He embrittlement w/focus on void nucleation**
  - Fracture toughness degrades with increasing helium concentrations
  - Both tritium and helium are requisite for degradation
  - Transition from void evolution to fracture along twin and grain boundaries



# Finite deformation diffusion of hydrogen

This path heavily leverages Sofronis/McMeeking (1989)\* and Krom (1998). Recent work by Leo and Anand (2013).

*Transport of hydrogen in the current configuration*

$$D^* \dot{c}_l + C^* \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} - \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot \mathbf{d}_l \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} c_l - \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot \frac{c_l}{J} \mathbf{d}_l \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} J + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot \frac{c_l V_H}{RT} \mathbf{d}_l \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \tau_h + \frac{\theta_l}{J} \frac{\partial N_T}{\partial \epsilon_p} \dot{\epsilon}_p - \frac{\theta_t N_T}{J^2} \dot{J} = 0$$

*Transport of hydrogen in the reference configuration (push back)*

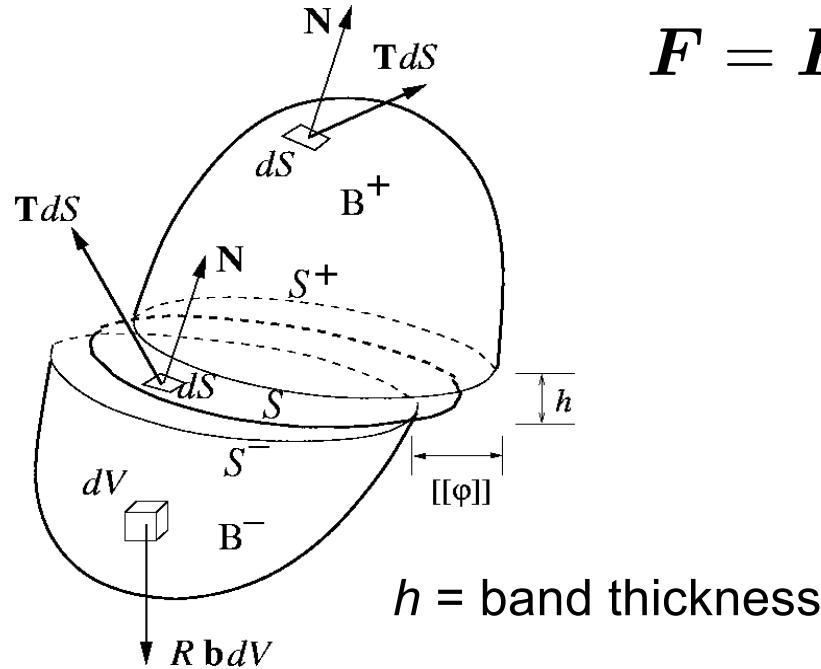
$$D^* \dot{C}_L - \nabla_{\mathbf{X}} \cdot d_l \mathbf{C}^{-1} \nabla_{\mathbf{X}} C_L + \nabla_{\mathbf{X}} \cdot \frac{d_l V_H}{RT} \mathbf{C}^{-1} \nabla_{\mathbf{X}} \tau_h C_L + \theta_T \frac{d N_T}{d \epsilon_p} \dot{\epsilon}_p$$


  
*transient term*      *diffusion term*      *advection term from hydrostatic stress*      *source term from trapping*

Deformation-dependent diffusivity     $\mathbf{D}_L = \mathbf{F}^{-1} \mathbf{d}_l \mathbf{F}^{-T} = d_l \mathbf{C}^{-1}$

# Capture sub-grid processes for R(a)

Goal: Capture sub-grid processes through methods that regularize the jump

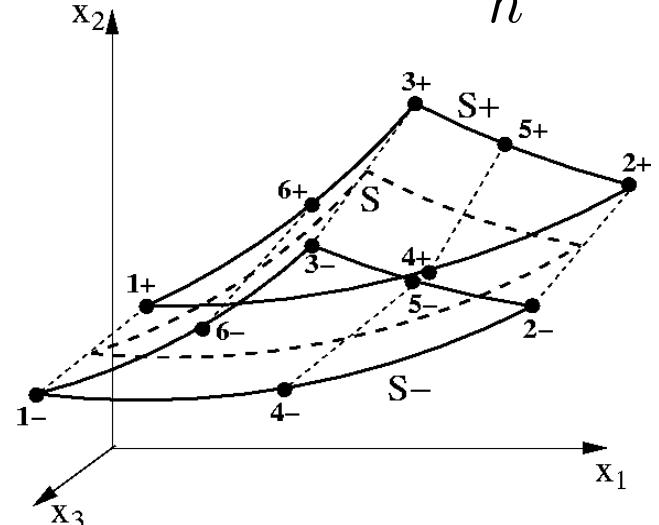


$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F}^{\parallel} \mathbf{F}^{\perp}$$

$$\mathbf{F}^{\parallel} = \mathbf{g}_i \otimes \mathbf{G}^i$$

$$\mathbf{F}^{\perp} = \mathbf{I} + \frac{[\![\Phi]\!]}{h} \otimes \mathbf{N}$$

$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F}^{\parallel} + \frac{[\![\varphi]\!]}{h} \otimes \mathbf{N}$$



Akin to “cohesive” element

Yang, Mota and Ortiz (IJNME, 2005), Armero and Garikipati (IJSS, 1996)

# Extended sub-grid model for multiphysics

Fox and Simo (1990), Callari, Armero, Abati (2010)

*redefine space*  $\mathbf{X} = \Phi(\xi^1, \xi^2, \xi^3) = \bar{\Phi}(\xi^1, \xi^2) + \mathbf{N}(\xi^1, \xi^2)\xi^3$

$$G_i = \Phi_{,i} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{X}}{\partial \xi^i}$$

*include jump in C*  $C(\mathbf{X}) = \bar{C}(\bar{\Phi}[\xi^1, \xi^2]) + \frac{[C](\bar{\Phi}[\xi^1, \xi^2])}{h} \xi^3$

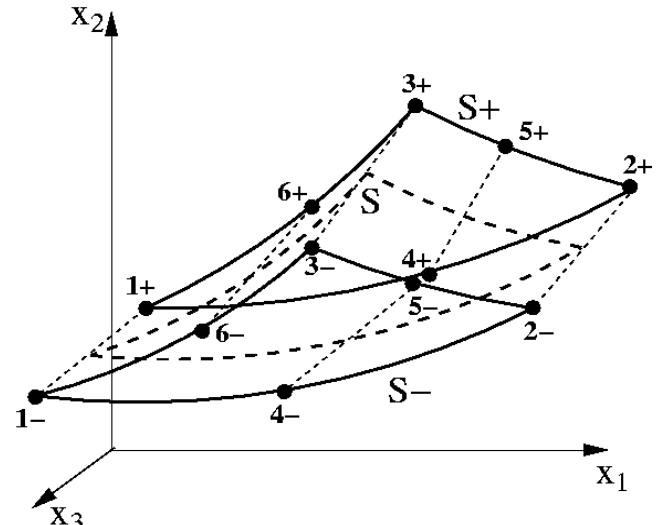
$$\nabla_{\mathbf{X}} C = (\nabla \Phi)^{-T} \frac{\partial C}{\partial \xi^i}$$

Finite element implementation is straightforward

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{X}} C|_{\xi^3=0} = [B] \begin{bmatrix} \{C\}^+ \\ \{C\}^- \end{bmatrix} = [[B]^+ \quad [B]^-] \begin{bmatrix} \{C\}^+ \\ \{C\}^- \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B_{ia}^{\pm} = [G_i^1 \quad G_i^2 \quad G_i^3] \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial N_a}{\partial \xi^1} \quad \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial N_a}{\partial \xi^2} \quad \pm \frac{1}{h} N_a \right]$$

$i = \# \text{ dimensions}, a = \# \text{ nodes}$

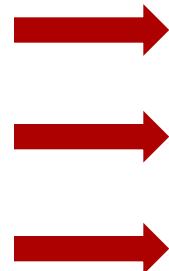
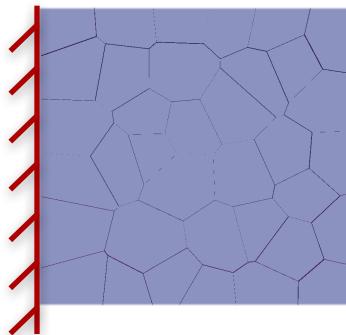


*Given this gradient operator, we can use the same PDE for finite-deformation diffusion*

$$D^* \dot{C}_L - \nabla_{\mathbf{X}} \cdot d_l \mathbf{C}^{-1} \nabla_{\mathbf{X}} C_L + \nabla_{\mathbf{X}} \cdot \frac{d_l V_H}{RT} \mathbf{C}^{-1} \nabla_{\mathbf{X}} \tau_h C_L + \theta_T \frac{d N_T}{d \epsilon_p} \dot{\epsilon}_p$$

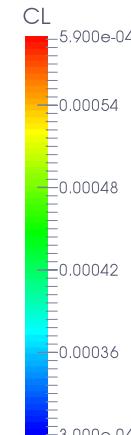
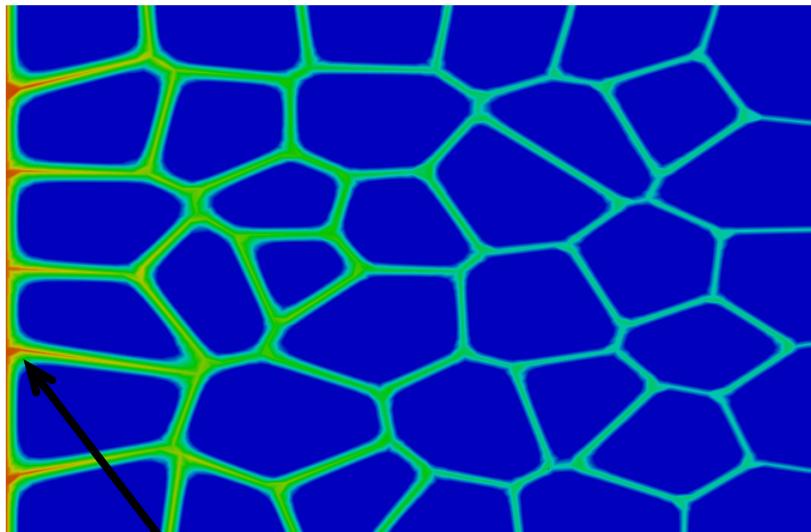
# Polycrystal with fast pathway

*Grain interface diffusion coupled with mechanical loading:*



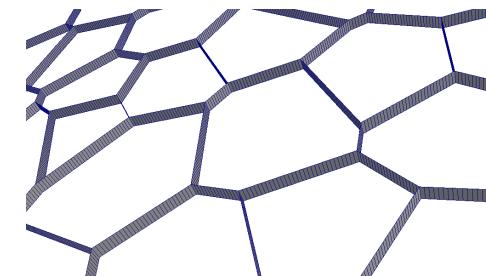
- Stretched in horizontal direction
- Fast pathway =  $10^5 D_0$
- Horizontal diffusion
- Vertical diffusion

Horizontal diffusion

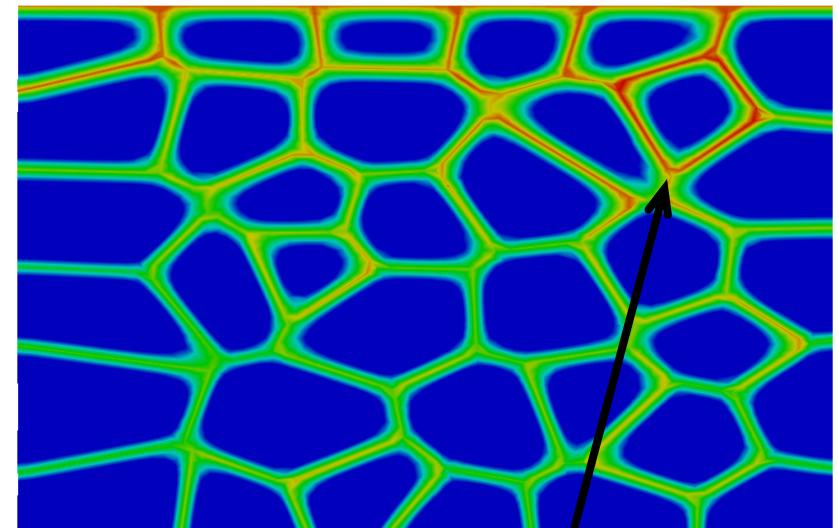


*Diffusion slows down due to increasing length.*

$$D_L = F^{-1} d_l F^{-T} = d_l C^{-1}$$



Vertical diffusion

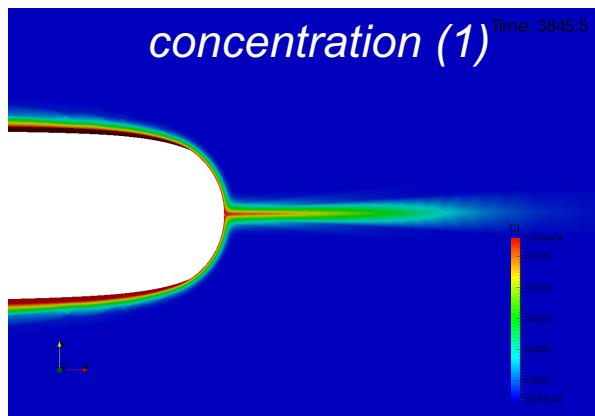


*Diffusion speeds up due to decreasing length*

# Solving 5 fields simultaneously

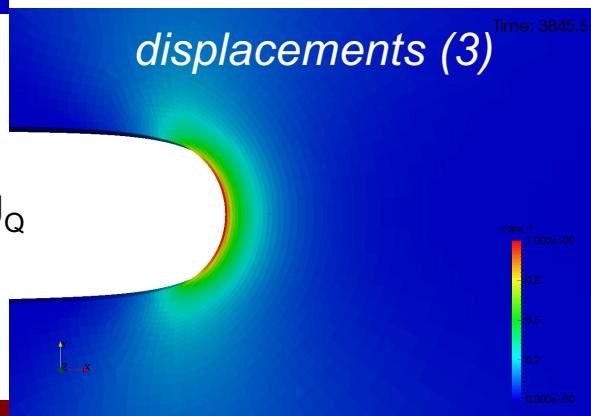
*Units are scaled in the balance of linear momentum, conservation of concentration, and  $L_2$  projection to improve condition number of the system*

$$D^* \dot{C}_L$$



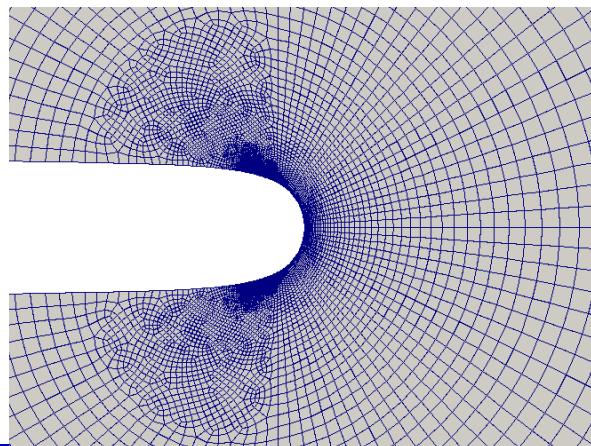
$$\nabla_{\mathbf{X}} \cdot d_l \mathbf{C}^{-1} \nabla_{\mathbf{X}} C_L$$

NOTE: 85 MPa m<sup>1/2</sup> is well below  $J_Q$  for 21Cr-6Ni-9Mn (220 MPa m<sup>1/2</sup>)

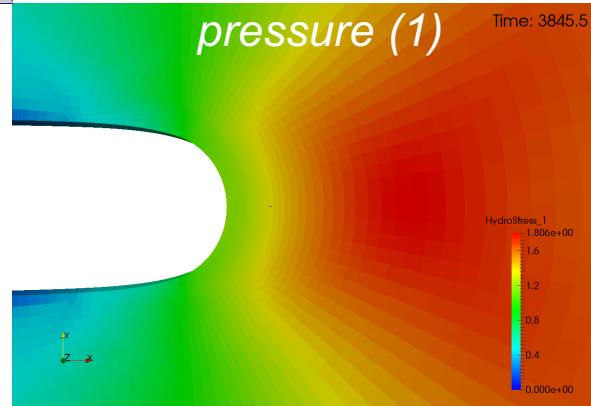


$$\nabla_{\mathbf{X}} \cdot \frac{d_l V_H}{RT} \mathbf{C}^{-1} \nabla_{\mathbf{X}} \tau_h \mathbf{C}_L$$

$$\theta_T \frac{dN_T}{d\epsilon_p} \dot{\epsilon}_p$$

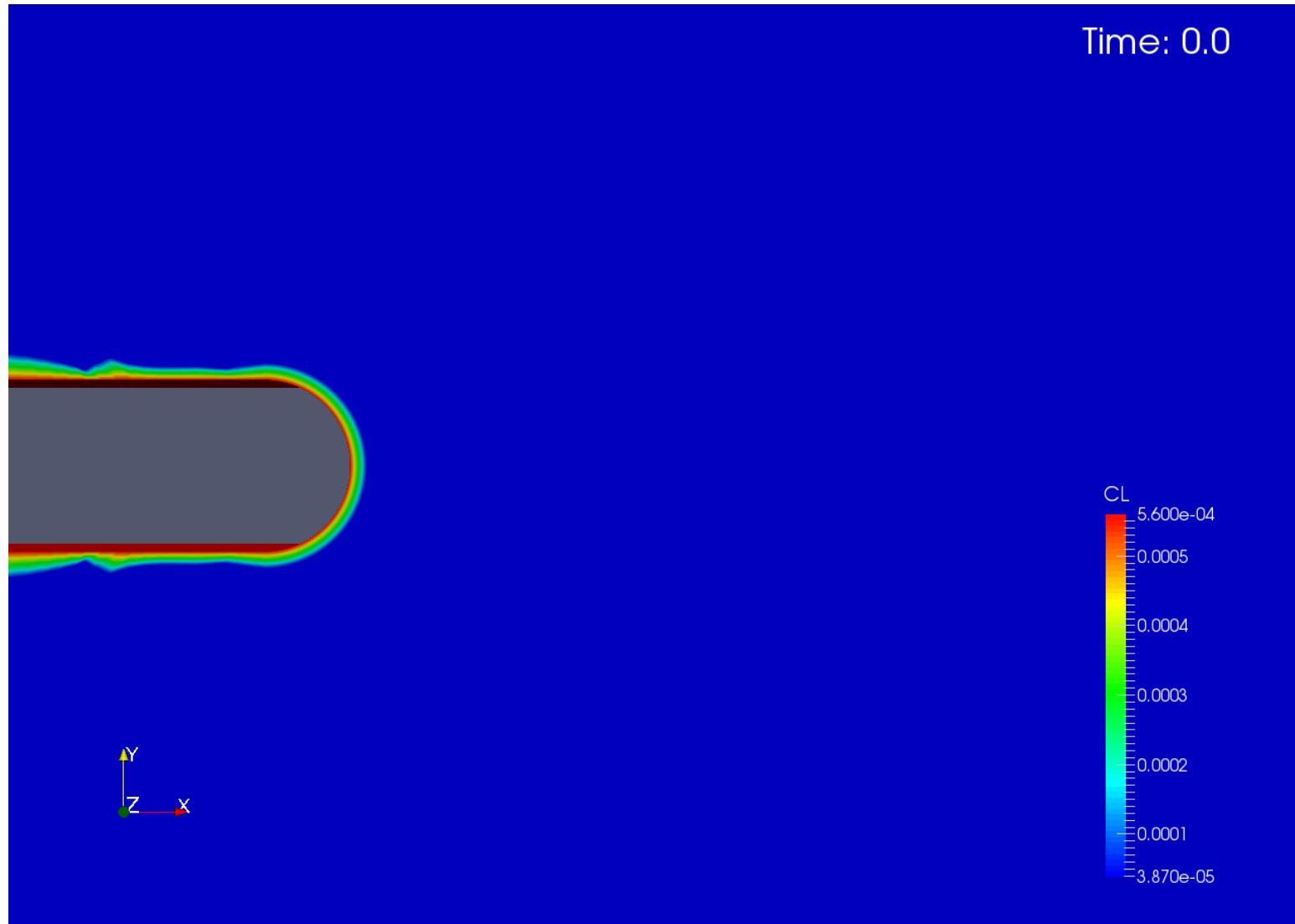


- Path:  $10^5 D_0$
- $K_{app}$ : 85 MPa  $m^{1/2}$
- Time: 3850 s



<https://software.sandia.gov/albany/>

# Evolution of lattice hydrogen concentration at crack tip



## Increasing complexity: Hydrogen isotope diffusion with helium bubbles

We seek to find descriptors of helium bubble formation that result from the radioactive decay of tritium (T) to He.

- Schaldach and Wolfer (2004) focus on the total number of clusters (total bubble density)

1000s of ODEs for helium clusters are condensed into 3 coupled ODEs written in

- Single He (monomers)  $N_1$ , total bubble density,  $N_b$ , and bubble volume fraction  $S_b$
- ODEs are nonlinear. We can integrate them implicitly with Newton's method
- Chemo-mechanical solution ( $T, \mathbf{u}$ ). Solve ODEs (dependent on  $T$ ) at integration points.

$$\frac{dN_1}{dt} = G(t) - 16\pi(r_1 + r_1)DN_1^2 - 4\pi DN_1 \left( \frac{3}{4\pi} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} S_b^{\frac{1}{3}} N_b^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$\frac{dN_b}{dt} = 8\pi(r_1 + r_1)DN_1^2$$

$$\frac{\eta}{\Omega} \frac{dS_b}{dt} = 16\pi(r_1 + r_1)DN_1^2 + 4\pi DN_1 \left( \frac{3}{4\pi} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} S_b^{\frac{1}{3}} N_b^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$C_{He} = N_1 + \left( \frac{\eta}{\Omega} \right) S_b$$

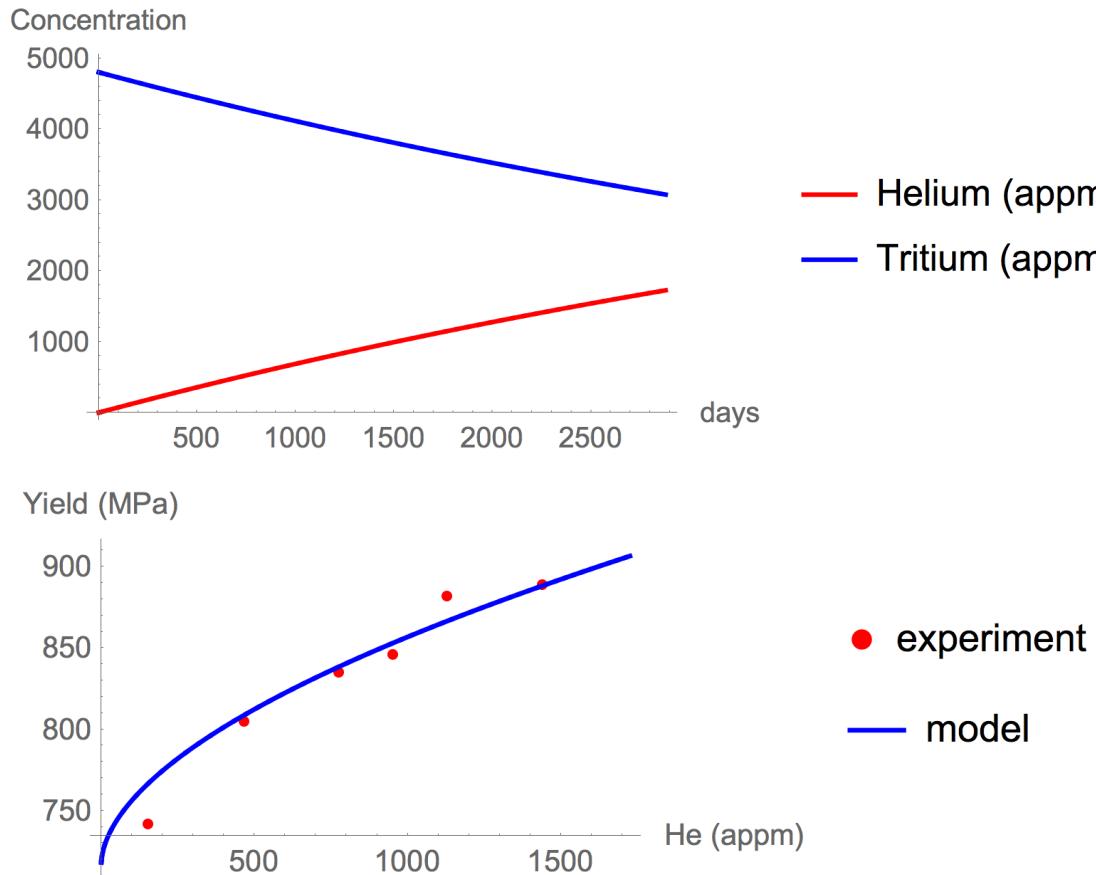
$G(t)$  – helium source term

$r_1$  - initial bubble radius

$\eta$  - number of He atoms/vacant site

$\Omega$  - partial molar volume

# Effects of tritium and helium on yield strength



Comparison of current model to experimental data by Robinson and Thomas (1991). Data from hydrogen yields  $\alpha_1$  (hydrogen = tritium). Nonlinearity in fit stems from average bubble radius, not fitting parameter  $\alpha_2$ . Both parameters are needed to accurately fit Robinson's data.

From helium bubble ODEs, we have:

$N_b$  total bubble density

$S_b$  bubble volume fraction

Calculate average bubble radius:

$$\bar{R}_b = \left( \frac{3S_b}{4\pi N_b} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

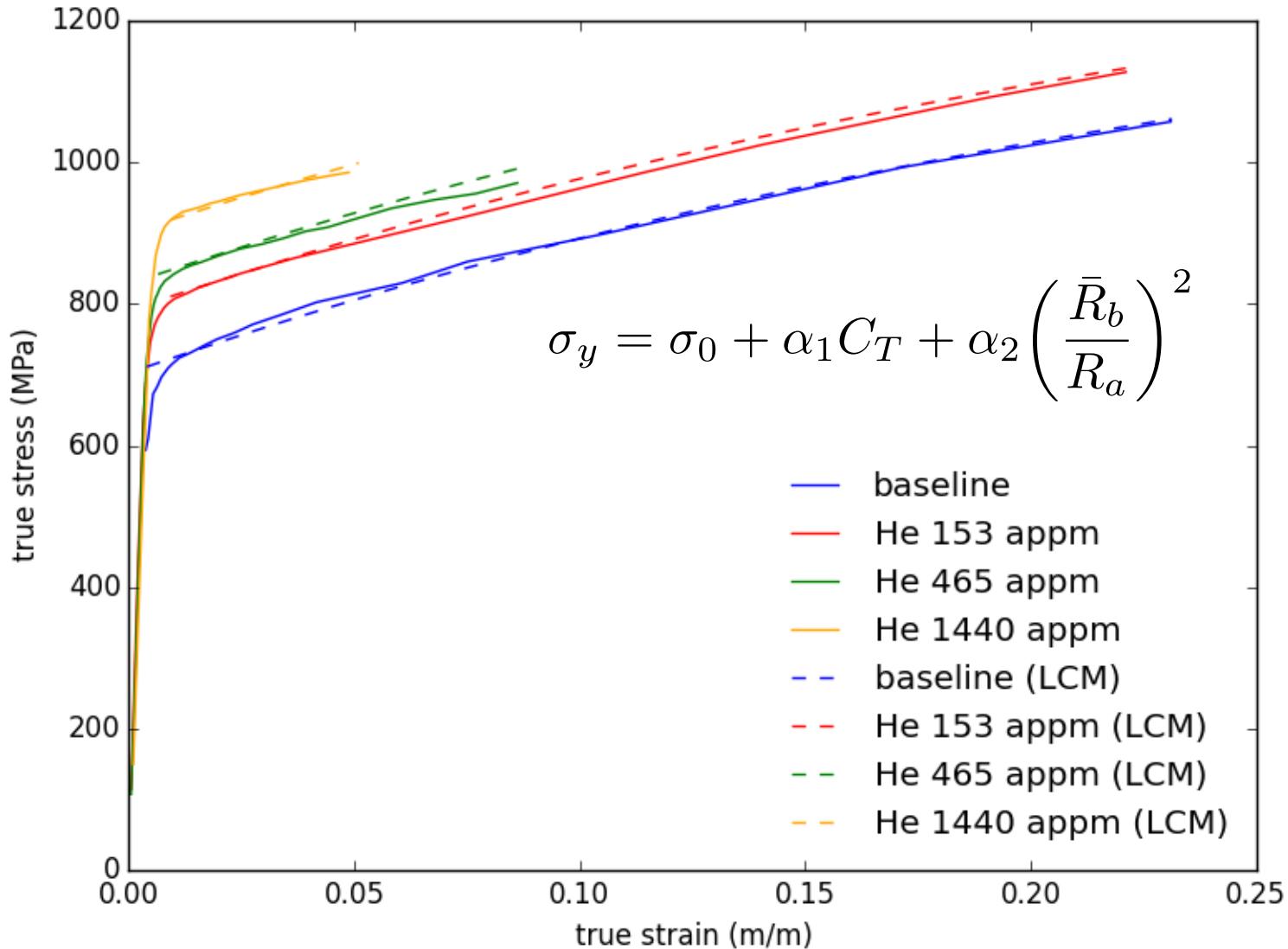
Assumptions for yield stress  $\sigma_y$ :

- Rate independent yield stress  $\sigma_0$
- Proportional to T concentration,  $C_T$
- Misfit strengthening from He is dominant (Arsenlis, Wolfer, JNM)
- Misfit strengthening varies w/ $R_b^2$
- Normalize w/He atomic radius  $R_a$

$$\sigma_y = \sigma_0 + \alpha_1 C_T + \alpha_2 \left( \frac{\bar{R}_b}{R_a} \right)^2$$

$\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  are constants fit to experiments

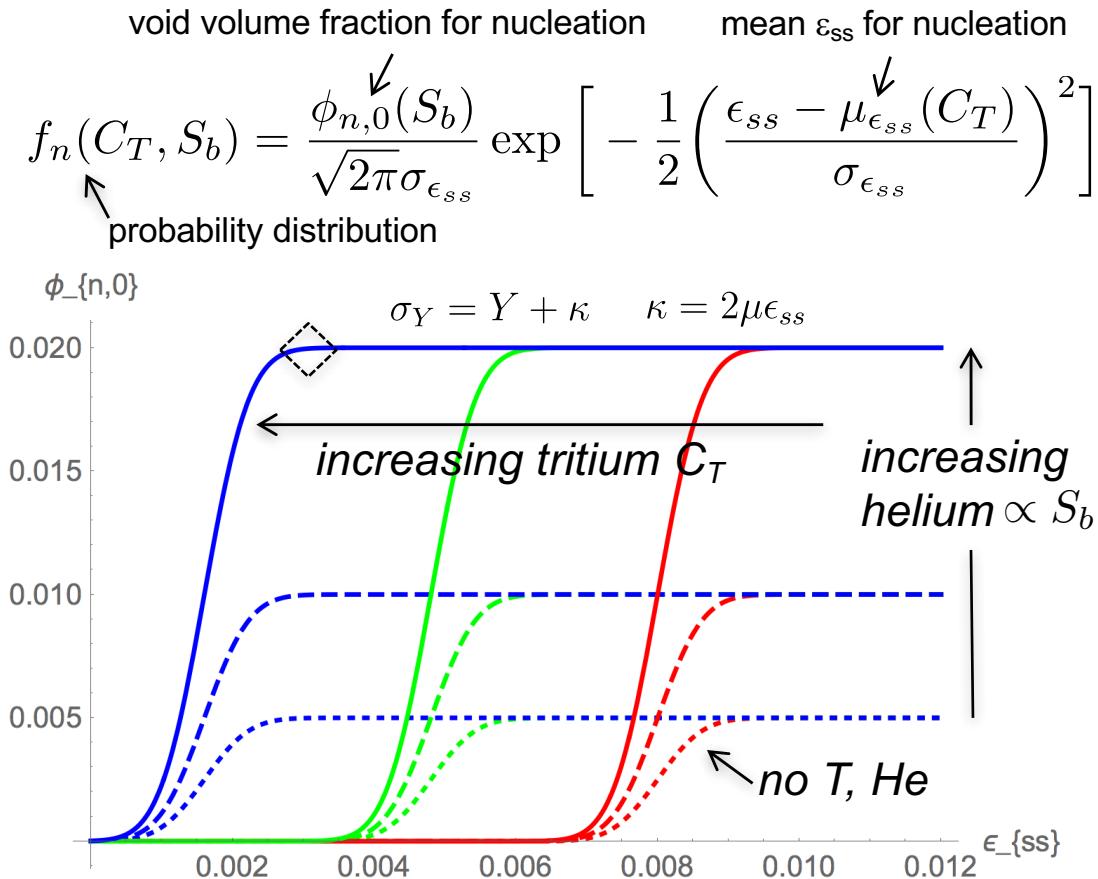
# Change of yield strength is dominant in flow behavior



$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_0 &= 710 \text{ MPa} \\ H &= 0.0149 \mu \\ R_d &= 3.5 \\ \alpha_1 &= 63.9 \text{ J/mol} \\ \alpha_2 &= 4.1 \text{ MPa}\end{aligned}$$

# T/He nucleation, growth and coalescence

In spirit of Chu and Needleman (1980) we choose an appropriate state variable to capture void nucleation through elevated stresses at pile-ups.



*Statistical nucleation:* Tritium localizes deformation and enables voids to nucleate earlier in the deformation. Helium-hardened microstructure nucleates more voids.

Initial model for void evolution:

- Void nucleation driven by deformation (dislocations, twins)  $\propto \epsilon_{ss}$ 
  - Tritium  $C_T$  hastens process
  - Helium amplifies process
- Void growth through Gurson
- Void coalescence governed by  $S_b$ 
  - Nucleated voids connected by smaller helium bubbles

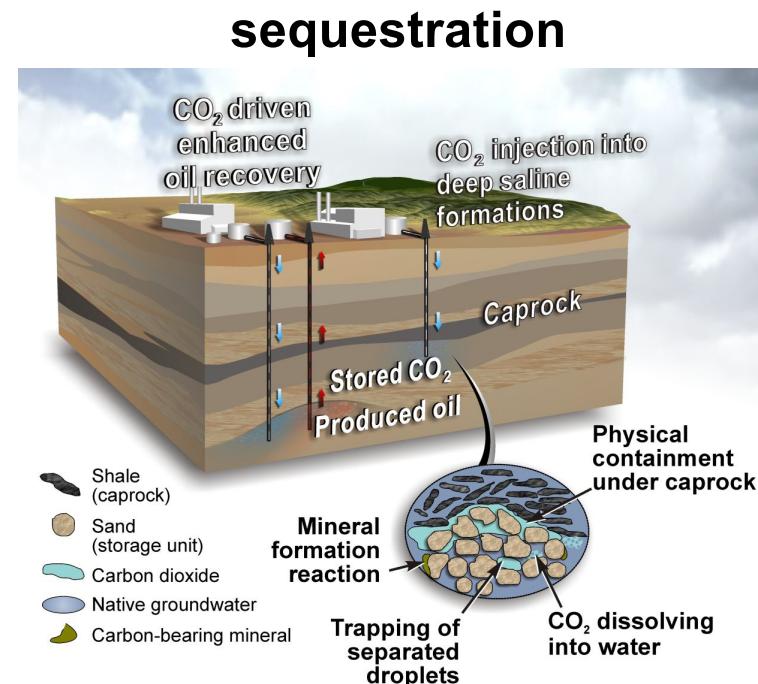
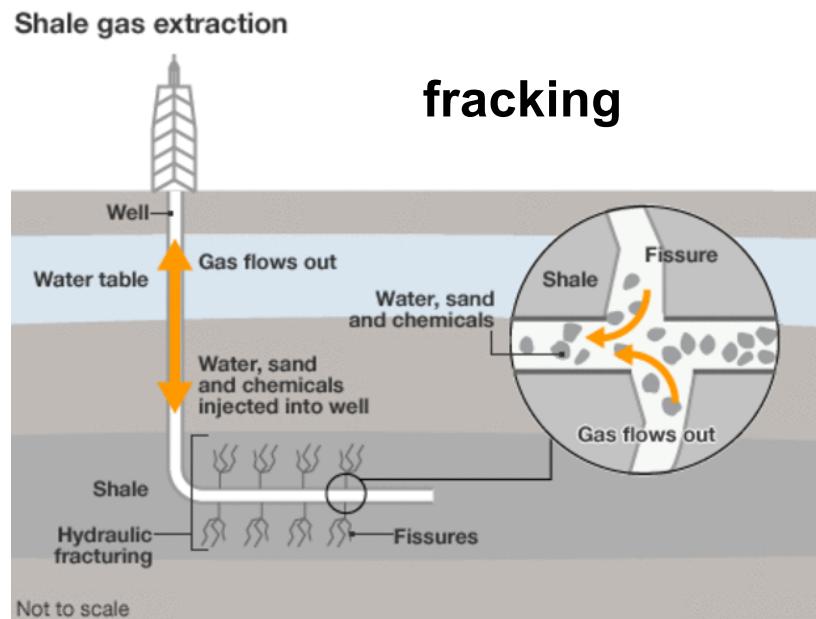
***A tritium-embrittled, helium-hardened microstructure can move from nucleation to coalescence***

***Moving forward: develop models to guide discovery, such as dislocation-mediated void nucleation in the presence of hydrogen***

# Initiation and growth of subcritical cracks in chemically reactive environments (geomaterials)

## ■ Goals:

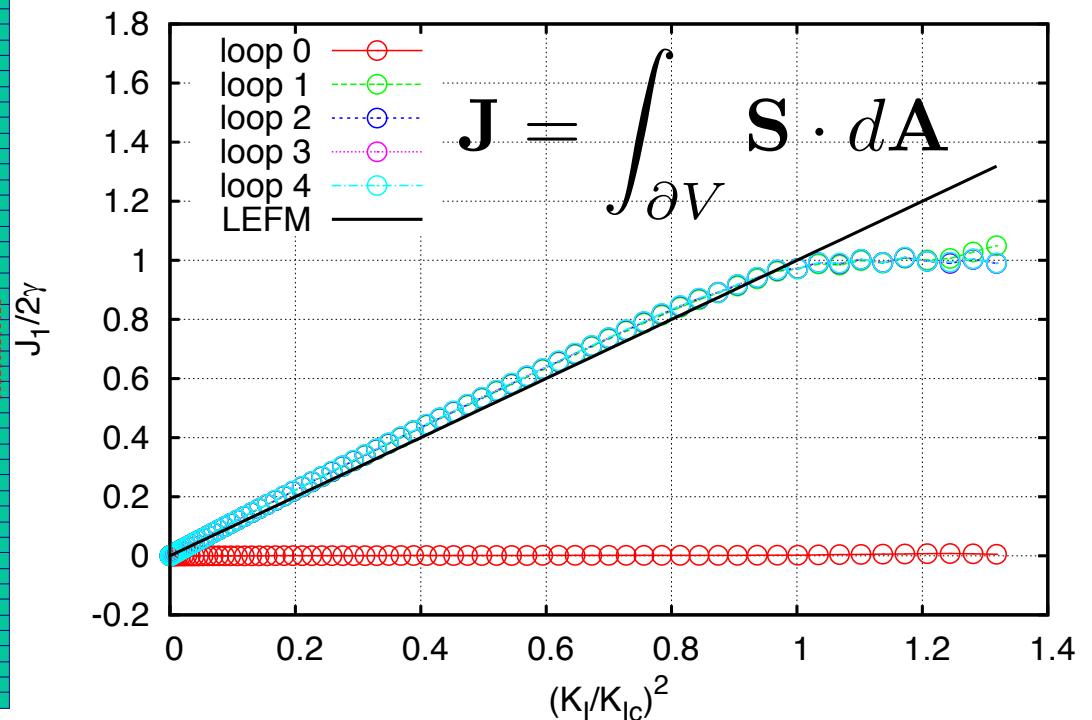
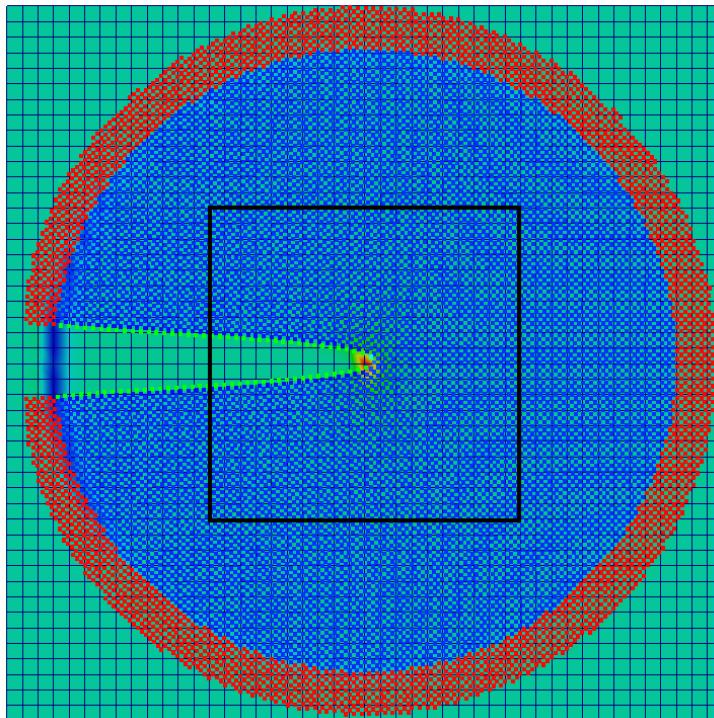
- Develop fundamental understanding of the chemical-mechanical mechanisms that control subcritical cracks in low-permeability geomaterials
- Link atomic-scale insight to macroscale observables and directly address how chemical environment affects mechanical behavior



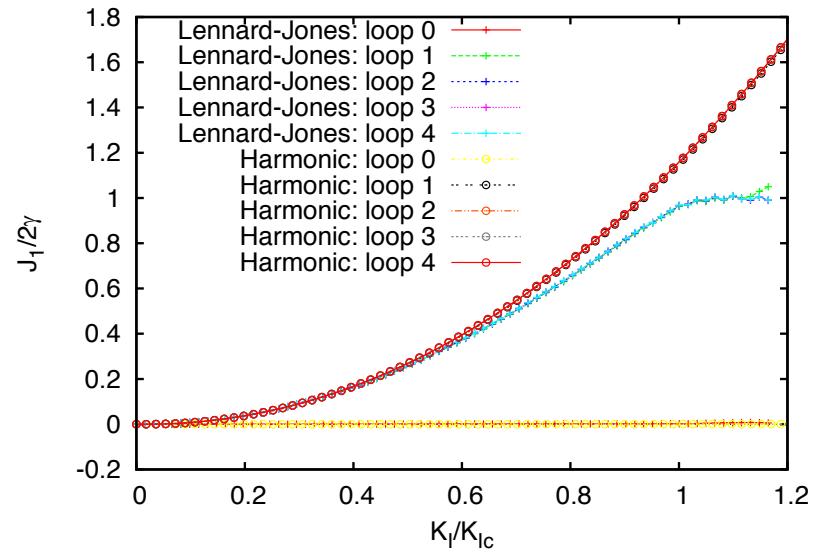
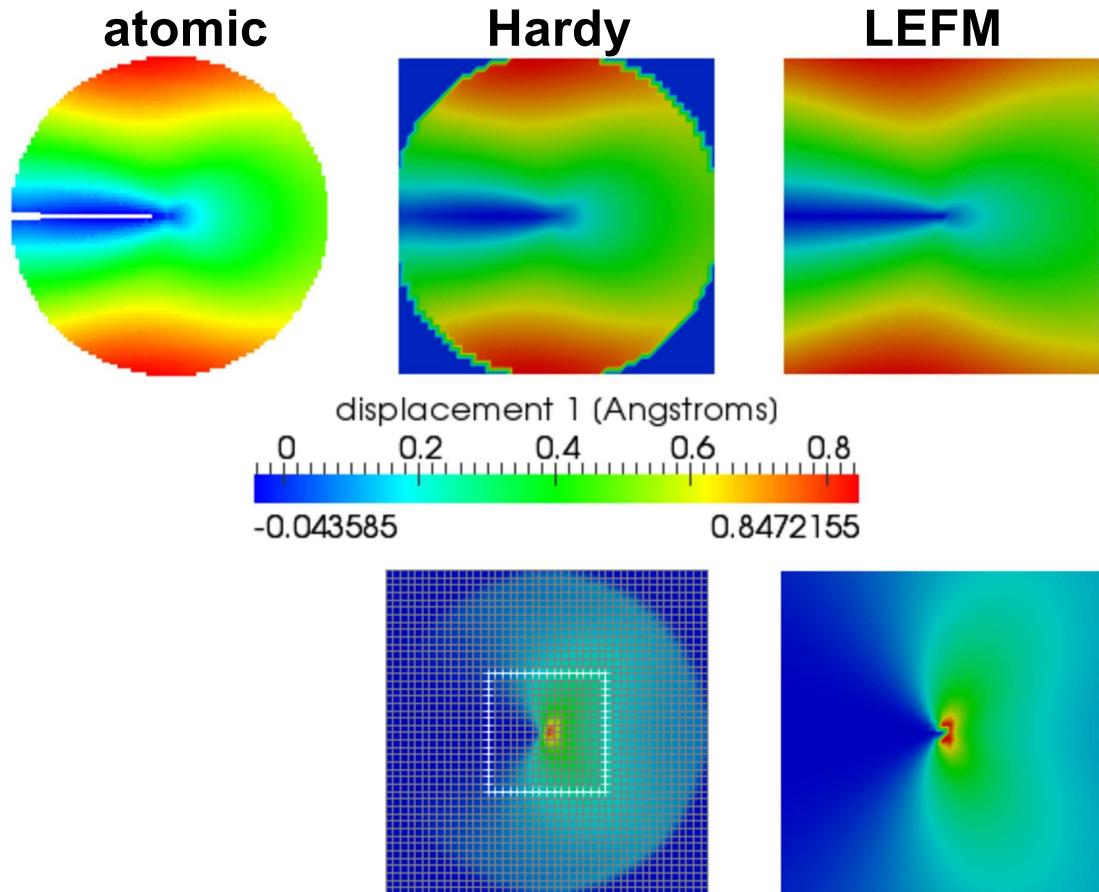
# Use atomistic simulation to elucidate crack formation and propagation

## ■ Approach:

- Use atomistic simulation (e.g. molecular dynamics) to study crack formation at solid-fluid interface and how this process, and propagation is influenced by fluid and surface chemistry.
- Upscale atomic quantities to continuum fields and use continuum theories of crack propagation to interpret simulation results.



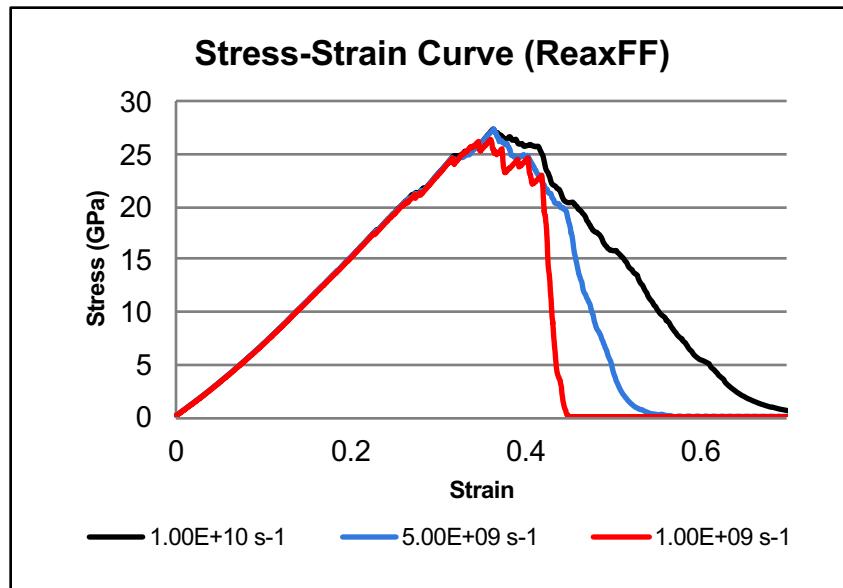
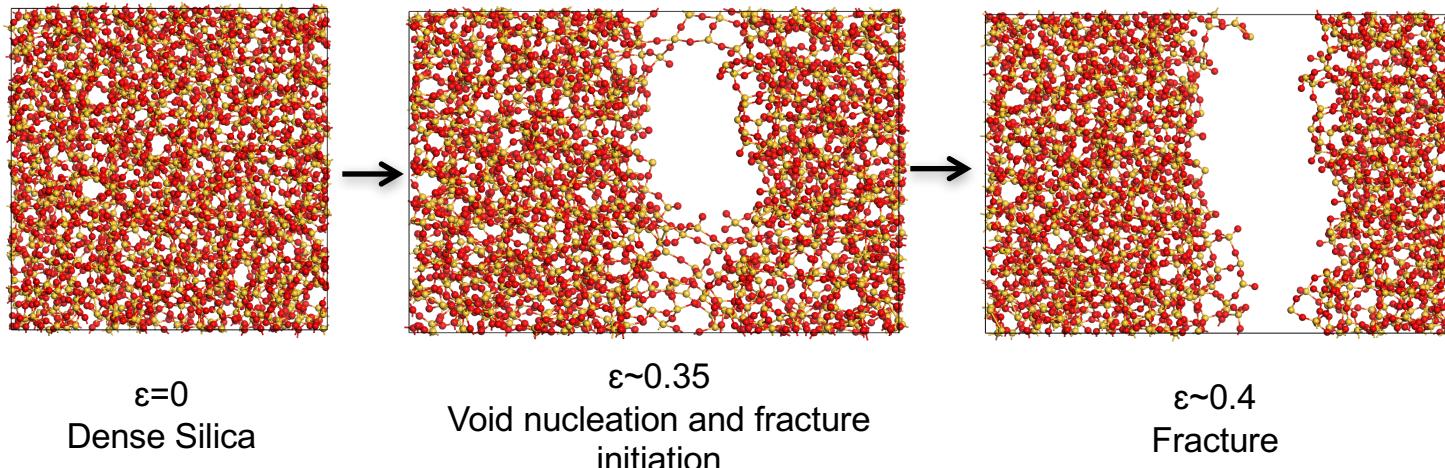
# Upscaling accomplished using method by Hardy



*Upscaling of Hardy method and use in J-integral calculation exhibits path-independence and confirms expected fracture toughness*

*We've adapted this method to quasi-static, finite temperature scenarios*

# Simulations of $\text{SiO}_2$ with ReaxFF (force field)

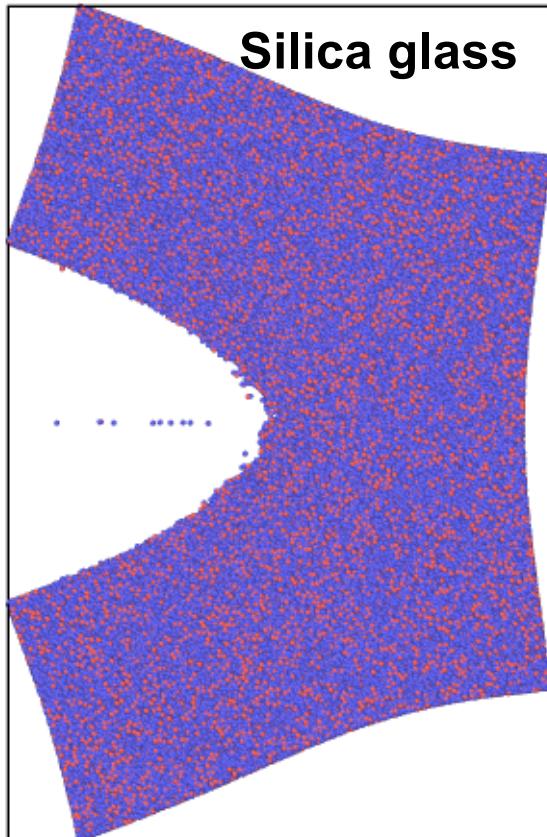


*Silica is present in sandstone and shales.*

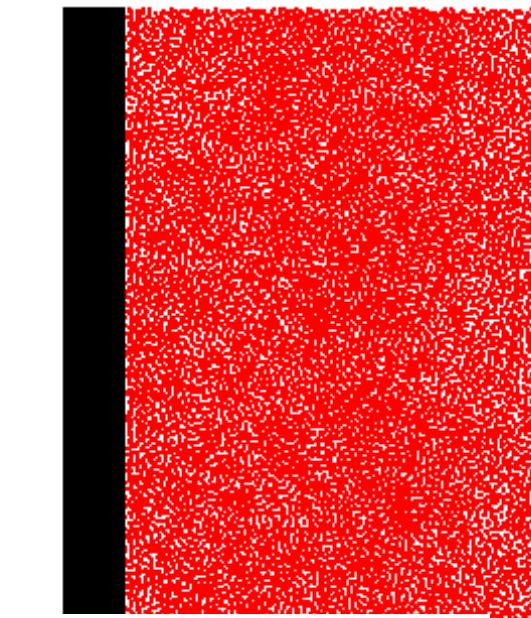
*Simulations show “rate-dependent” behavior during decohesion.*

*In progress: parameterization of ReaxFF potential for clay materials (KCl structure).*

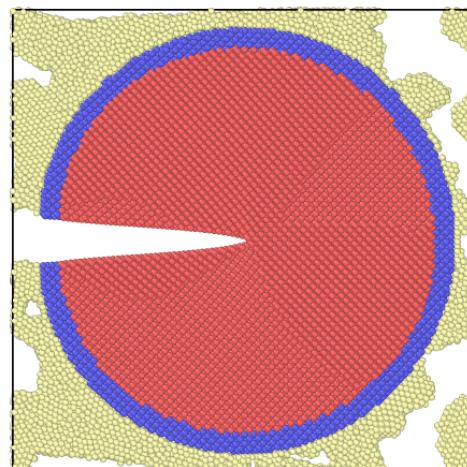
# Progress on current effort for chemical reactivity



Wall regulates pressure in fluid



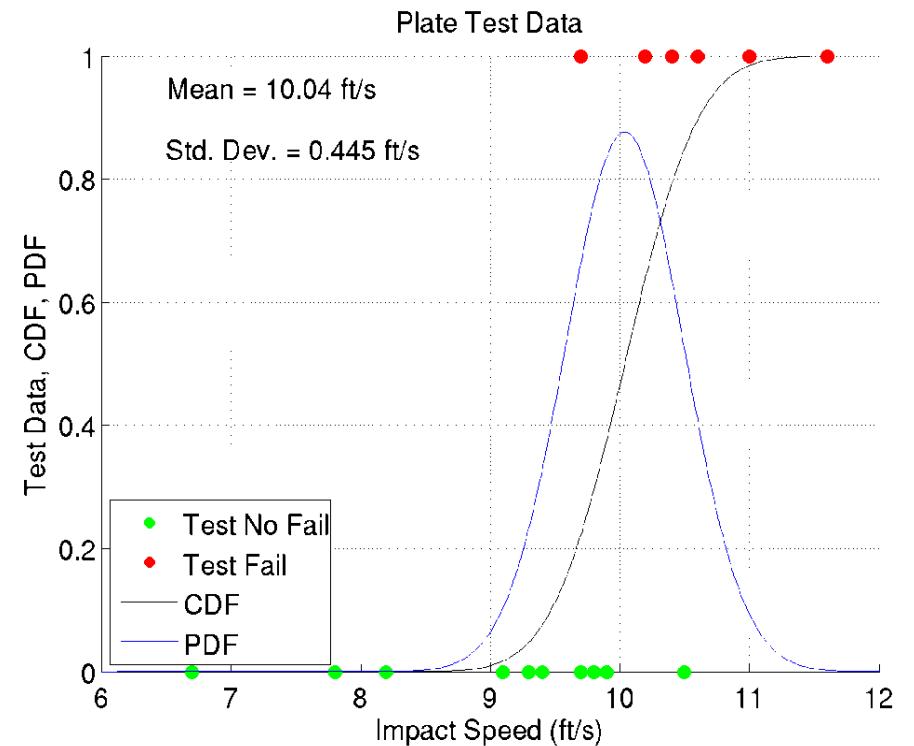
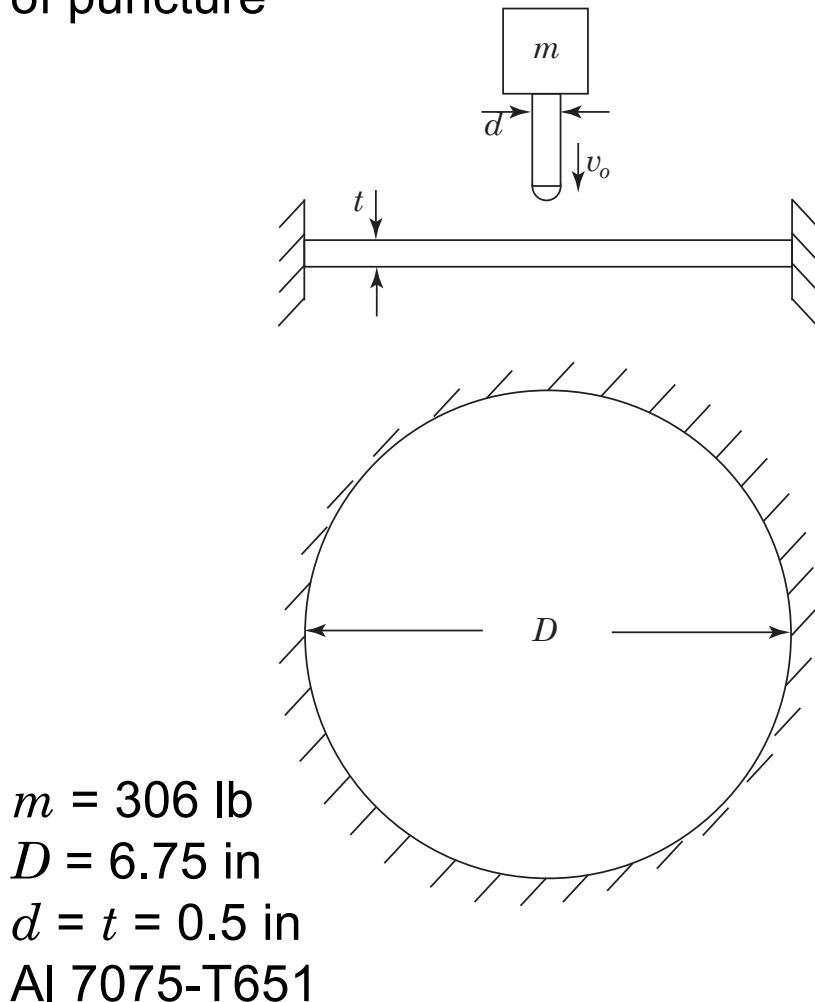
**Fluid infiltration**



Green atoms provide far-field loading of the crack and allow access of the pressurized fluid

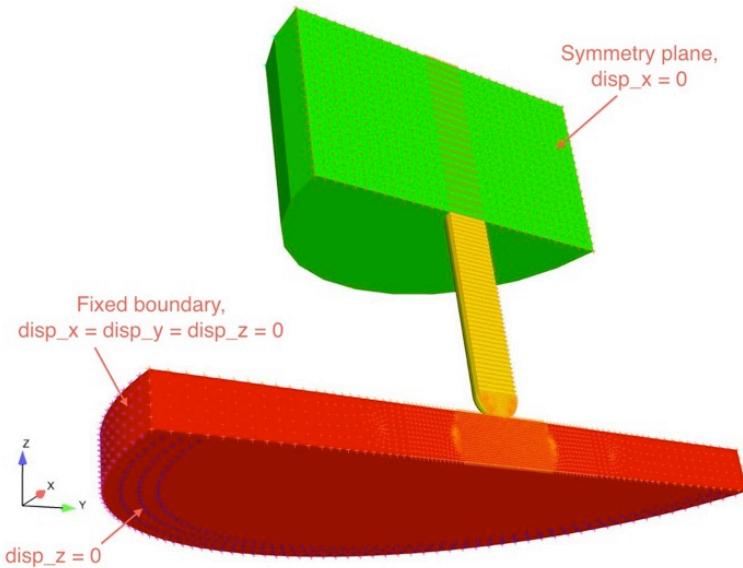
# Calibration of strength and failure models to model ductile failure under shear-dominated states

Plate puncture problem: determine minimum puncture velocity and mode of puncture



# Numerical simulations

## FEM Model:



- 3-D model with 8-node hexahedral elements
- One plane of symmetry
- Explicit dynamics formulation
- Adiabatic – significant heat generation during plastic deformation

## Plate Material Model:

$$\sigma_e = [A + B (\varepsilon_e^p)^n] \left[ 1 + C \ln \left( \frac{\dot{\varepsilon}_e^p}{\dot{\varepsilon}_{eo}^p} \right) \right] \left[ 1 - \hat{T}^m \right]$$

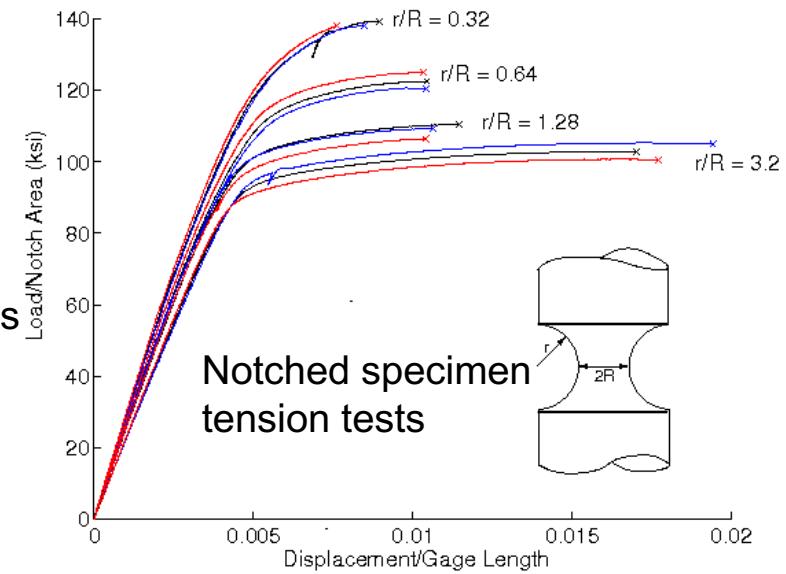
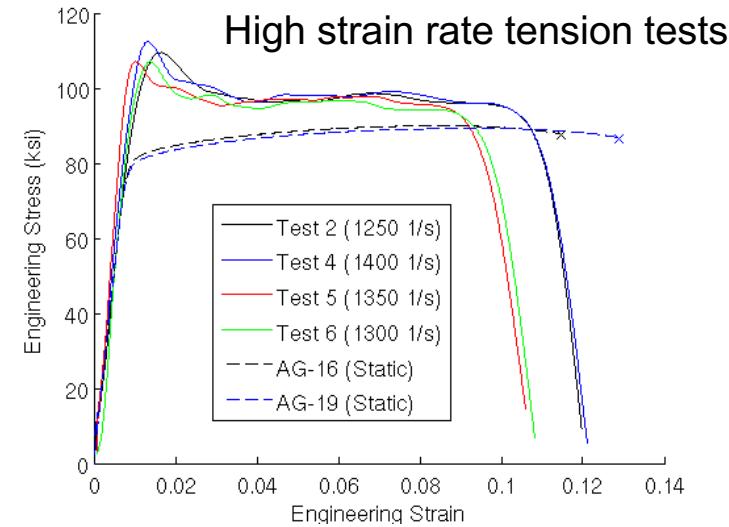
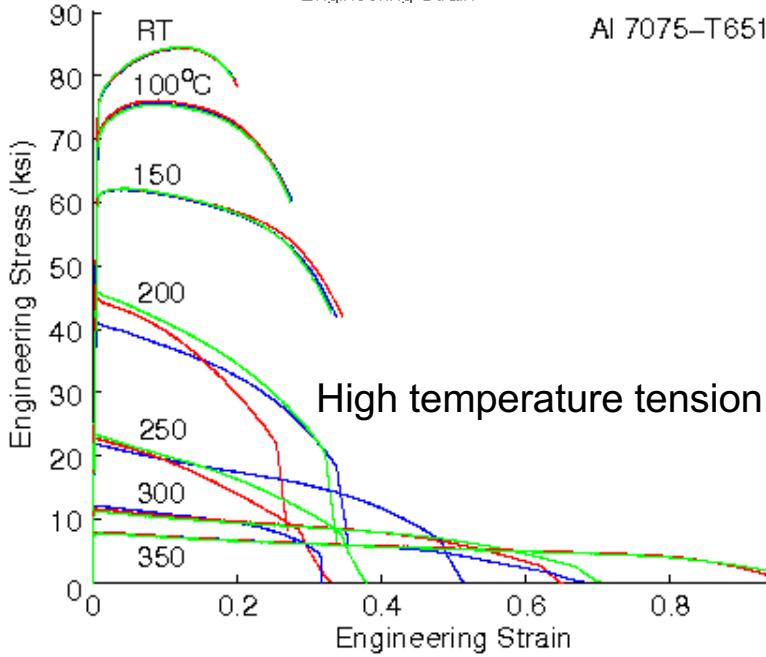
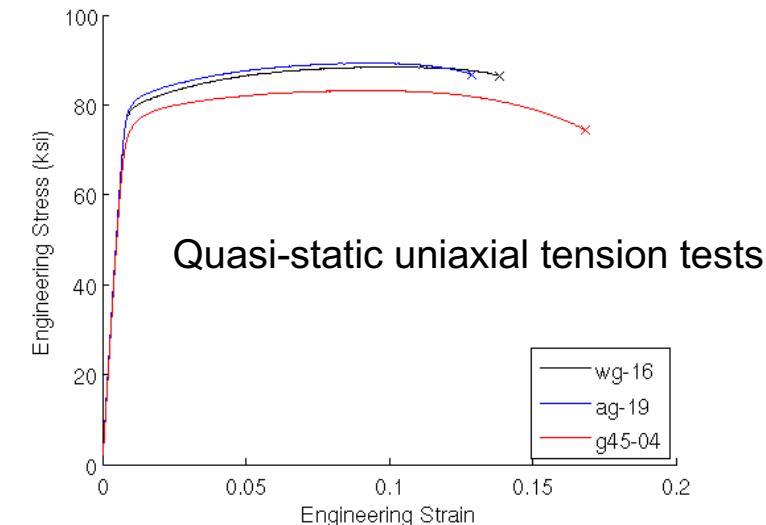
$$\hat{T} = \frac{T - T_r}{T_m - T_r}$$

$$\varepsilon_{ef}^p = [d_1 + d_2 e^{d_3 \eta}] \left[ 1 + d_4 \ln \left( \frac{\dot{\varepsilon}_e^p}{\dot{\varepsilon}_{eo}^p} \right) \right] \left[ 1 + d_5 \hat{T} \right] \quad \eta = \frac{\sigma_m}{\sigma_e}$$

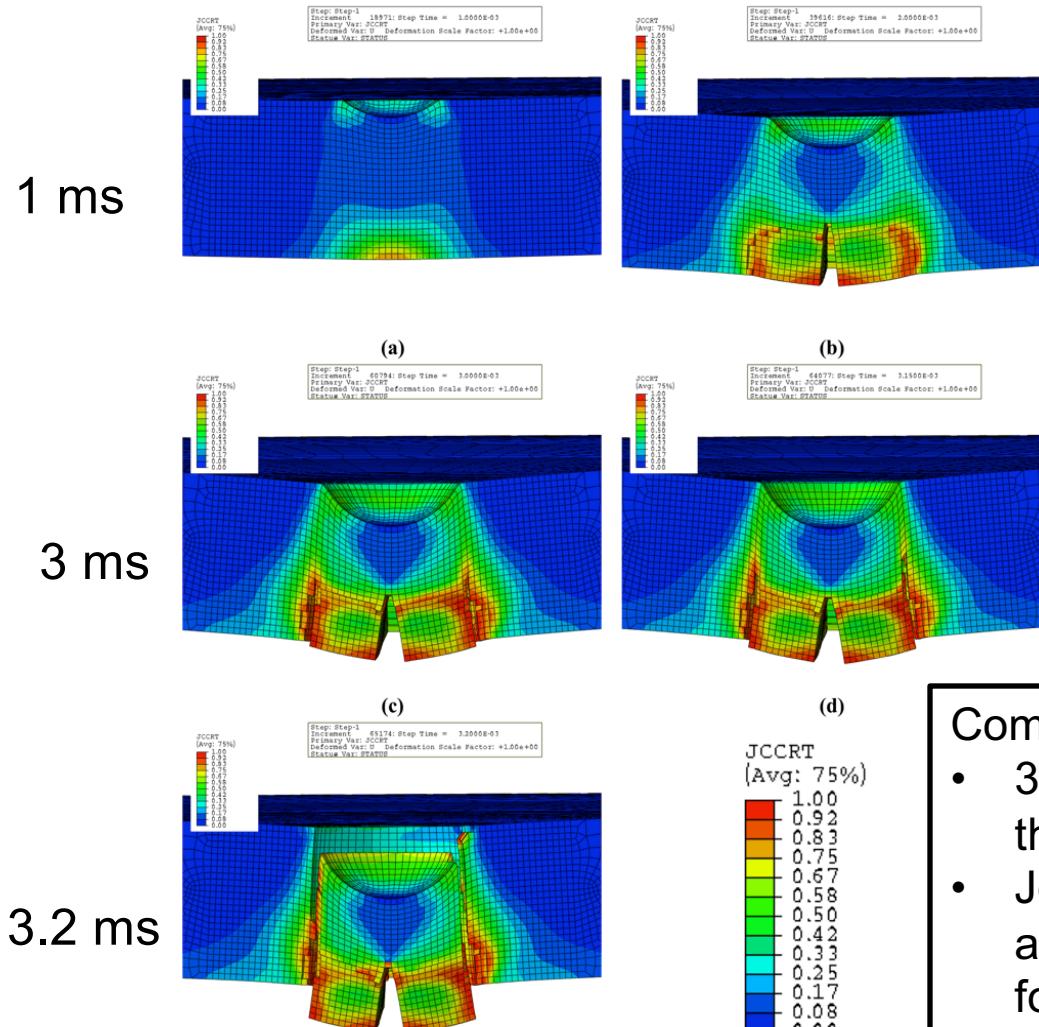
$$\Delta T = \frac{\beta W^p}{\rho C_p}$$

- $J_2$  elastic-plastic with isotropic hardening
- Johnson-Cook strength model
- Johnson-Cook ductile failure model
- Calibration through a series of material tests

# Material testing for model calibration: rate and temperature-dependent tension



# FEM results are consistent with experiments with respect to threshold velocity and mode of failure



## Analysis Results:

- Threshold speed: [10, 10.5] ft/s
- Mode of failure: Plugging

## Comments:

- 3-D FEM model with 25 hexahedral elements through the thickness
- Johnson-Cook model provides a first order approximation of material behavior and failure for the aluminum alloys considered
- Analysis results are in reasonable agreement with experimental observations.

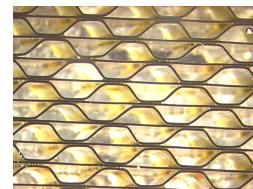
# Cohesive zone-based fracture modeling of polymer/solid interfaces



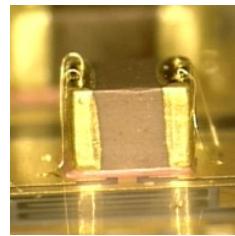
- The performance and the reliability of many Sandia components depend on the integrity of interfaces between dissimilar materials
- **Goal:** Develop a finite element-based simulation capability to predict how variations in processing, environment, geometry, and loading affect the integrity of polymer/solid interfaces



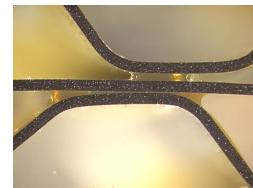
Adhesively bonded stainless steel rupture disk



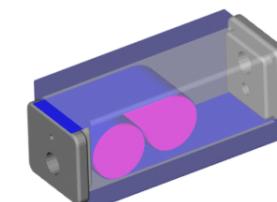
Aluminum Honeycomb



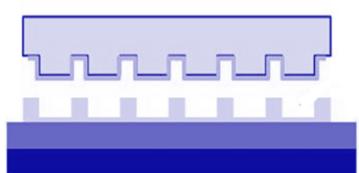
Adhesively bonded capacitors



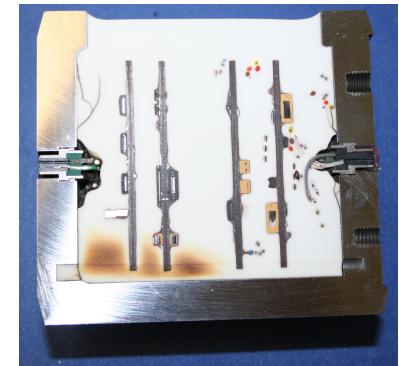
Thin films in microelectronics



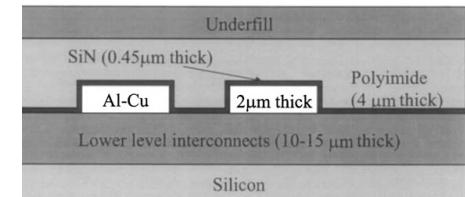
Bonded end caps in a switch



Nanoimprint lithography

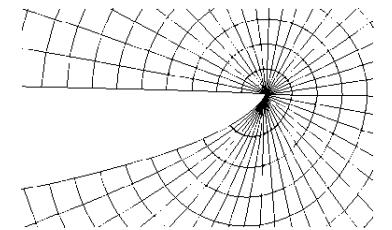


Fuze canister

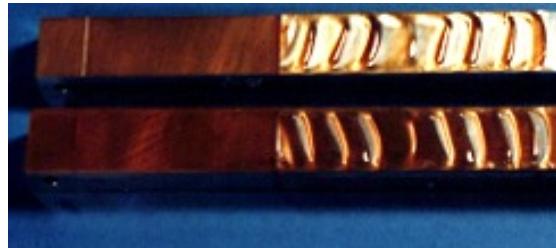


# Interfacial toughness depends on mode mixity $\Psi$

- Mode mixity  $\Psi_{r=l}$  is a measure of shear-to-opening deformation at the crack tip ( $\Psi_{r=l}=0$  is pure opening)
- Interfacial cracks are subjected to a mixed mode loading because of material and geometric asymmetries



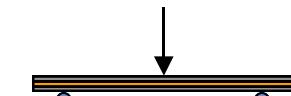
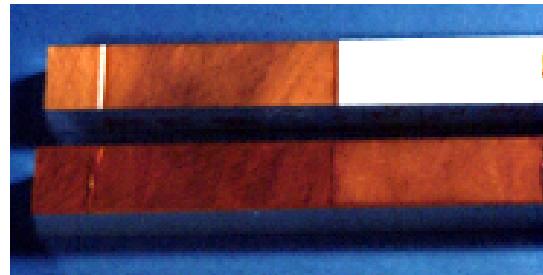
$$r=l_o \quad \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\sigma_{xy}}{\sigma_{yy}} \right)$$



ADHERENDS SAME THICKNESS

$$G_c = 140 \text{ J/m}^2$$

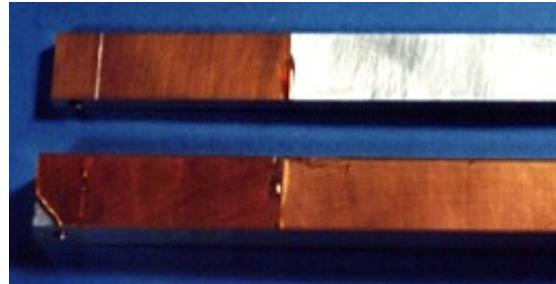
$$l=10 \text{ m} = 8^\circ$$



ADHERENDS SAME THICKNESS

$$G_c = 2000 \text{ J/m}^2$$

$$l=10 \text{ m} = -83^\circ$$



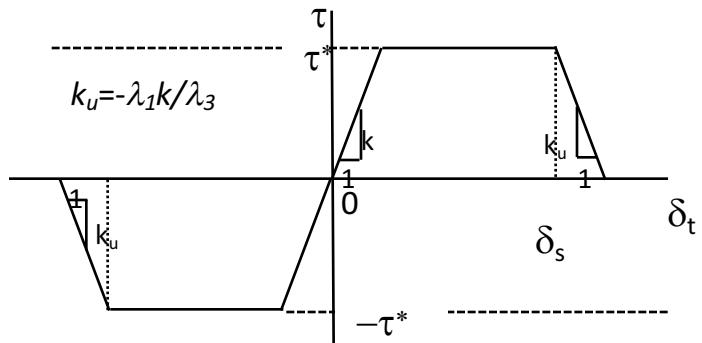
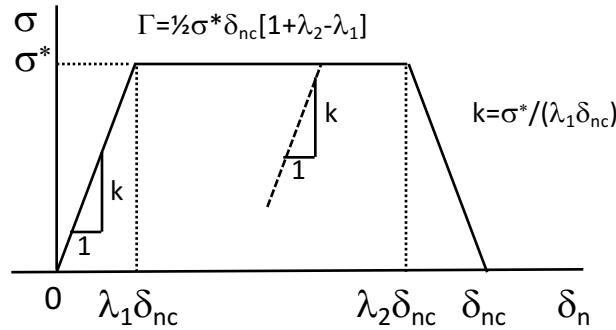
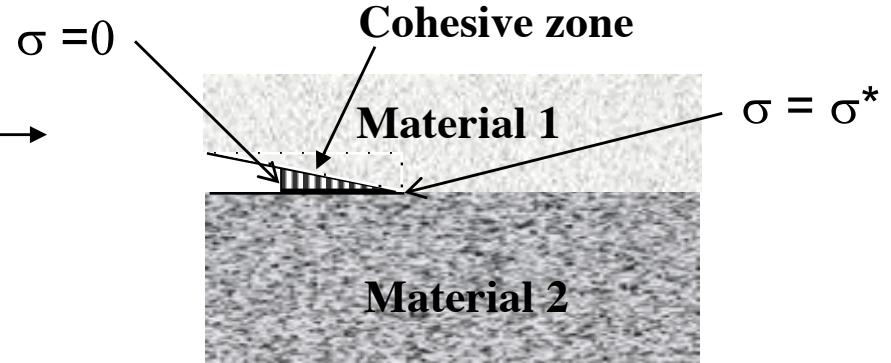
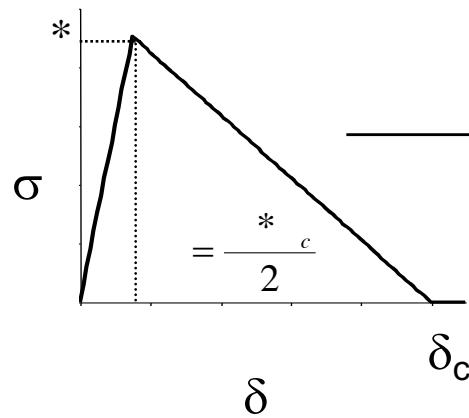
TOP ADHEREND HALF AS THICK

$$G_c = 60 \text{ J/m}^2$$

$$l=10 \text{ m} = -8^\circ$$

# Developed a mode mixity-dependent cohesive zone model

CZM  
defines  
interfacial  
separation

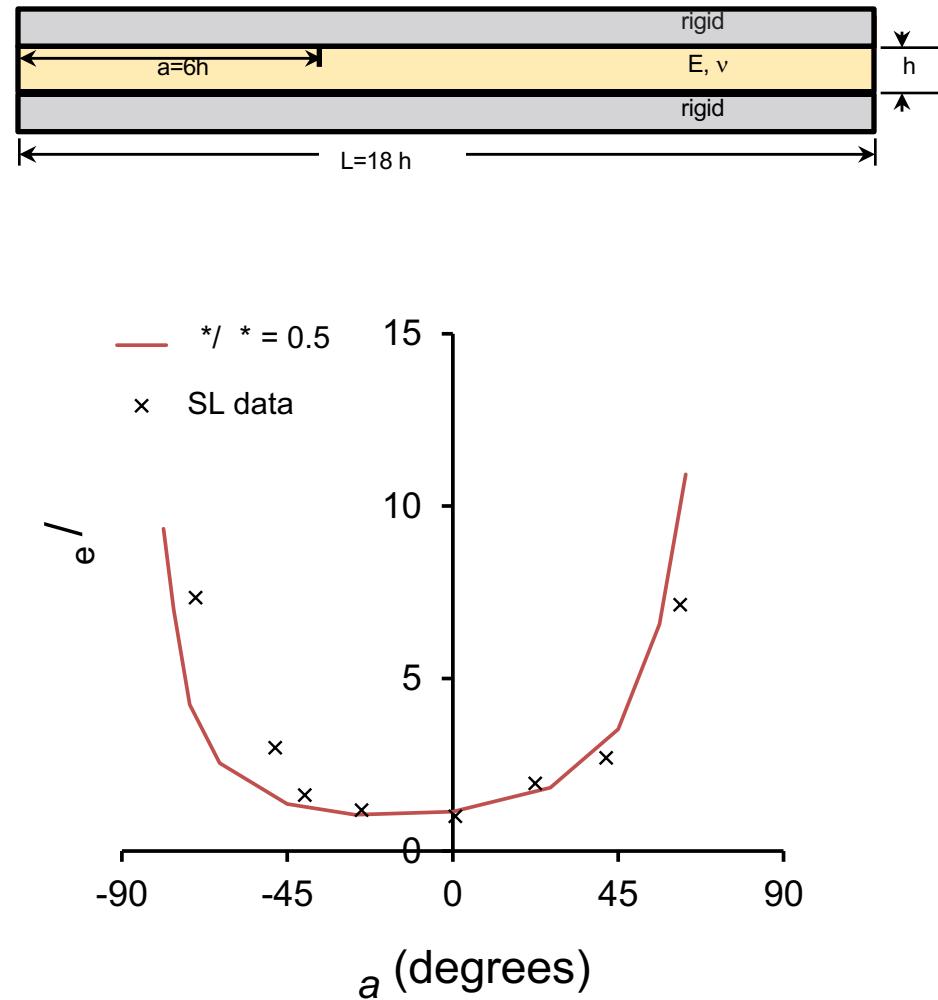


- Mode I dissipation depends only on normal separation
- Mode II dissipation by shear yielding along intact interface in front of CZ

CZM generates a  $\Psi$ –dependent toughness (Reedy and Emery, IJSS 2014)

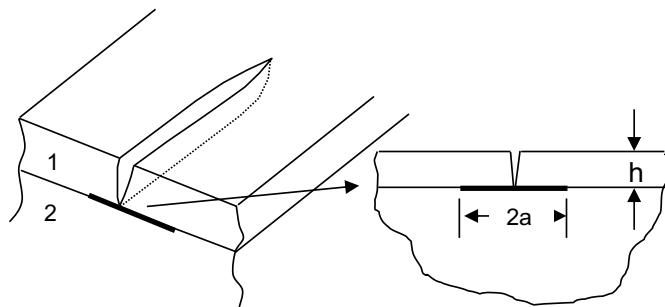
## CZM predictions match published data

- Swadener and Liechti, measured the interfacial toughness of a glass/epoxy interface (JAM, 1998)
  - $E = 2 \text{ GPa}$ ,  $h=0.25 \text{ mm}$ , and  $\Gamma=1.5 \text{ J/m}^2$
- Calculated effective toughness  $\Gamma_e$  in good agreement with data
  - displays similar asymmetric response
- Shape of calculated  $\Gamma_e/\Gamma$  vs.  $\psi_a$  relationship is not predefined

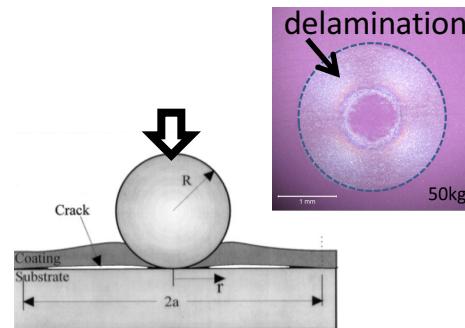


# Capability enables predictions of life cycle history

- Implemented in SNL's Sierra/Solid Mechanics finite element code
- Enables predictions on how processing/life cycle history affects integrity of polymer/solid bonds in Sandia components
- Have begun to apply our new techniques to SNL problems



Interfacial cracking (delamination) from the root of a channel crack in a thin film.



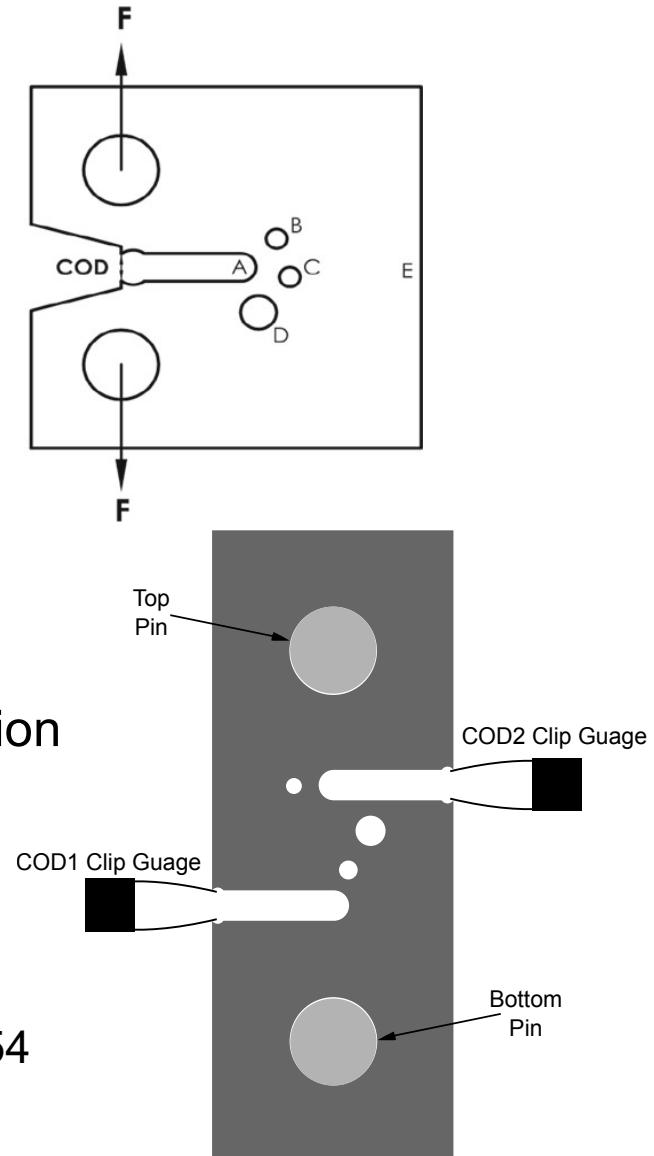
Interfacial cracking generated by indentation of a thin film.

## Publications:

1. Reedy, E.D., Jr. and Emery, J.M., A Simple Cohesive Zone Model that Generates a Mode-mixity Dependent Toughness, *International Journal of Solids and Structures* (2014) p3727.
2. Reedy, E.D., Jr., Cohesive Zone Finite Element Analysis of Crack Initiation from a Butt Joint's Interface Corner. *International Journal of Solids and Structures* (2014) p4336.

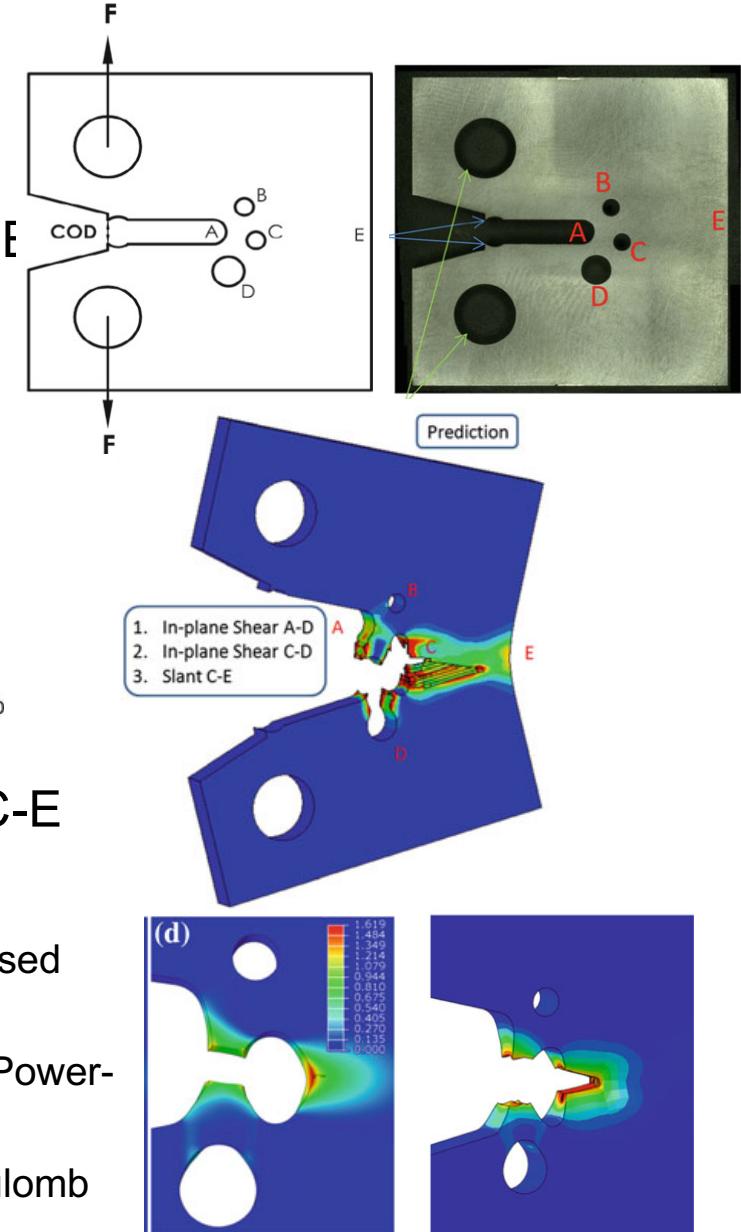
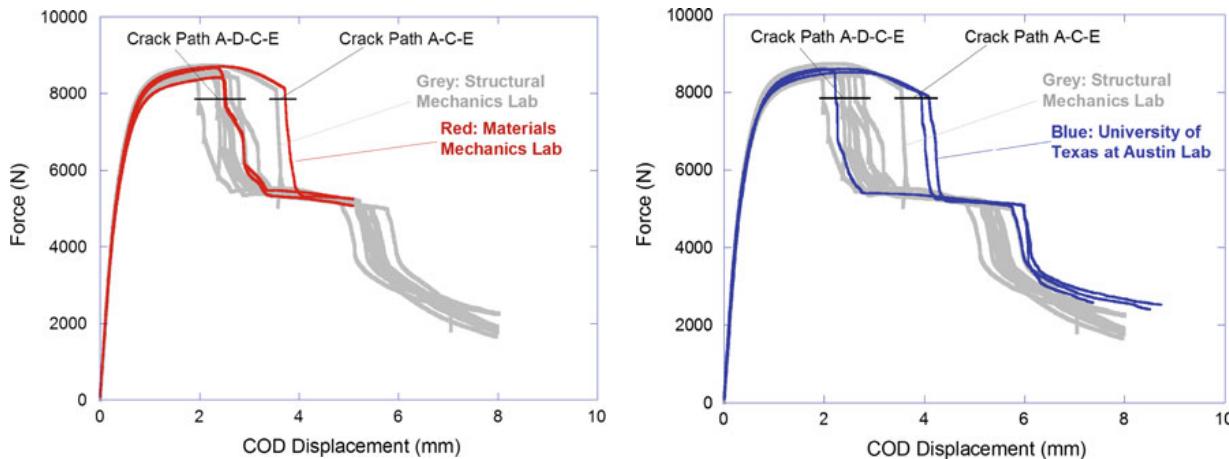
# Sandia's Fracture Challenges – predicting crack initiation and propagation across the mechanics community

- SFC1 and SFC 2 are computational challenges for predicting failure open to internal/external competitors
- 1<sup>st</sup> Challenge: Ductile tearing of 15-5 PH
  - Modified C(T) specimen with 3 holes in front of primary notch
  - 10 specimens tested at SNL, 3 at UT-Austin
  - Loading rate of 0.0127 mm/s
  - 13 teams competing from SNL, academia, industry
  - **B.L. Boyce et al, *Int. J. Fract.* (2014)**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Challenge: Variable rate, mixed-mode crack initiation and propagation in Ti-6Al-4V sheet
  - Included two data sets for material model calibration, geometry information, and test procedures
  - Success = correct crack path and accurate load-displacement curves for two rates: 25.4 mm/s and 0.0254 mm/s pin loading rates
  - **B.L. Boyce et al, *Int. J. Fract.* (2016)**



# 1<sup>st</sup> Fracture Challenge: Dimensional accuracy is crucial

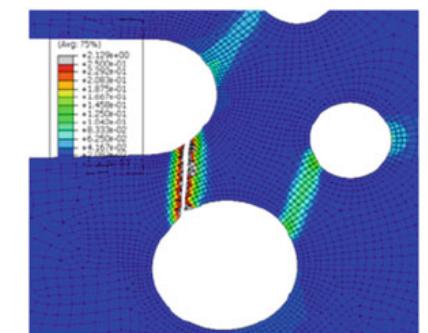
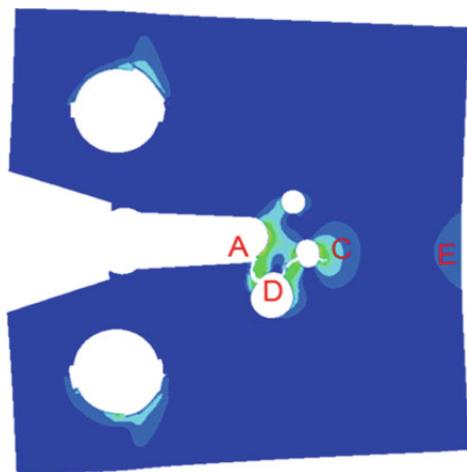
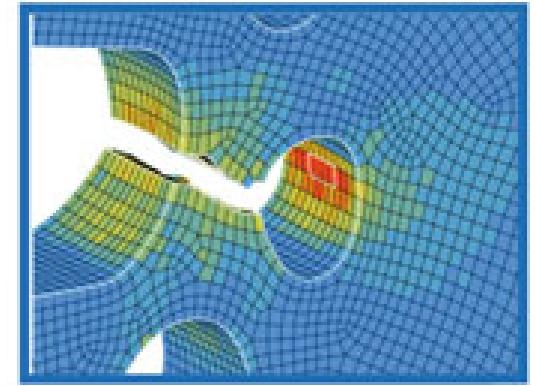
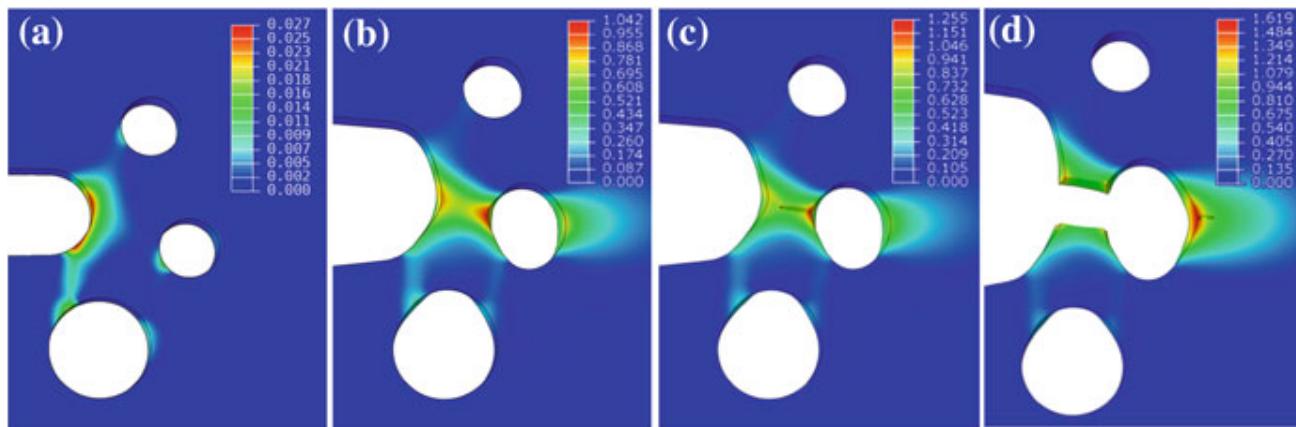
- Of 13 specimens, 3 were found to not meet dimensional accuracy ( $\pm 50.8$  mm) regarding distances between holes
- 10 specimens predicted A-D-C-E path, 3 for A-C-E



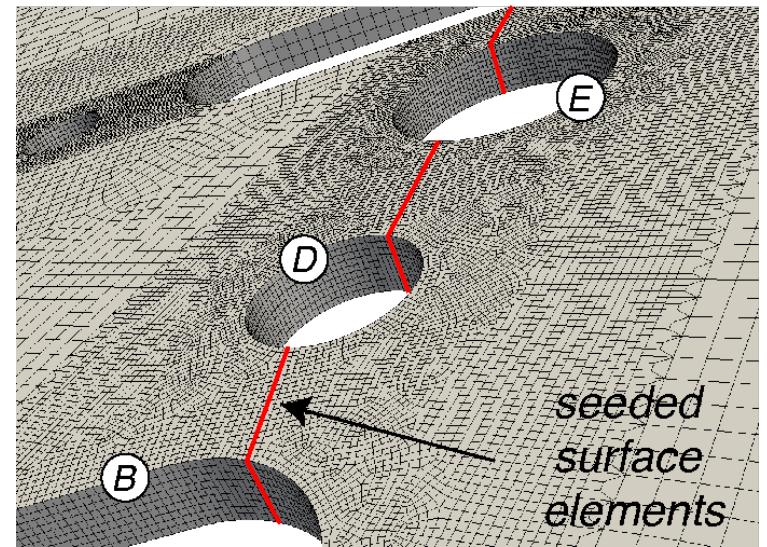
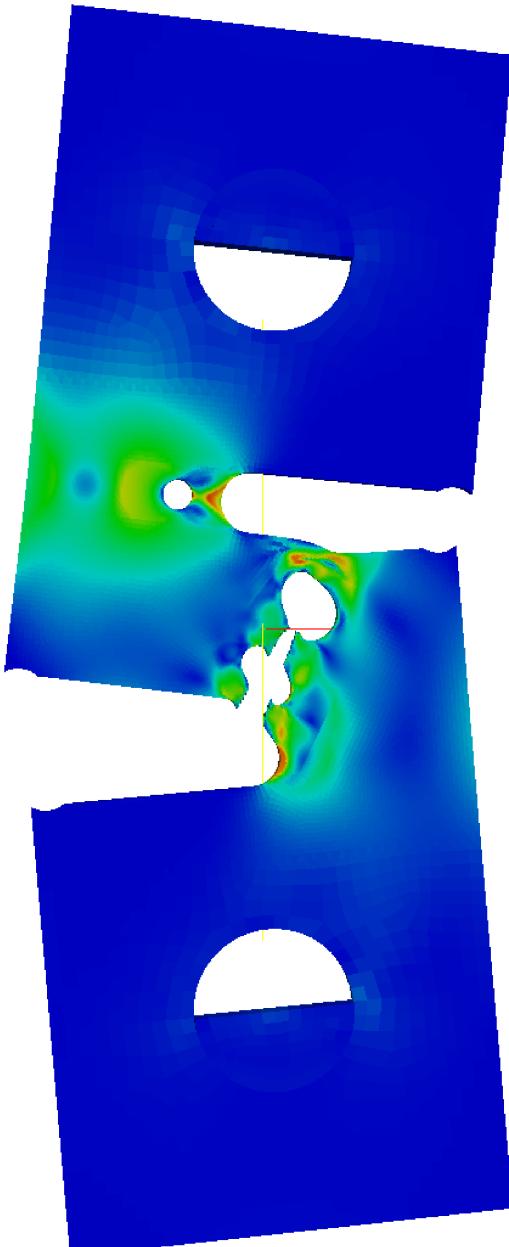
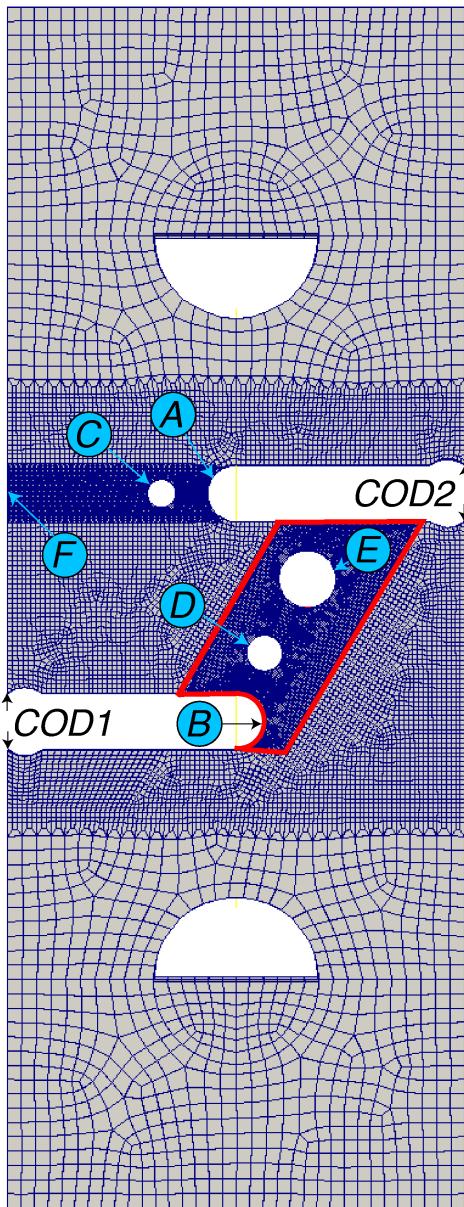
- Predictions: 4 teams predicted A-D-C-E, 9 for A-C-E
- Closest predictions by:
  - Xue (Schlumberger) – Damage plasticity model with stress-based fracture envelope
  - Gross, Ghahremaninezhad and Ravi-Chandar (UT-Austin) – Power-law plasticity + Johnson-Cook failure model
  - Pack, Luo, Wierzbicki (MIT) – 3-parameter Modified Mohr-Coulomb model

# 1<sup>st</sup> Fracture Challenge: Lessons learned

- Availability of calibration data is important
- Geometric uncertainties were shown to have a huge impact on crack path predictions
- Mesh convergent methods remain an open issue
- Effects of microstructure may be important but were not included by any of the teams
- Improved physical descriptions of fracture are necessary to reduce dependence on empirical material testing
- A trade-off is necessary between physical realism and computational efficiency



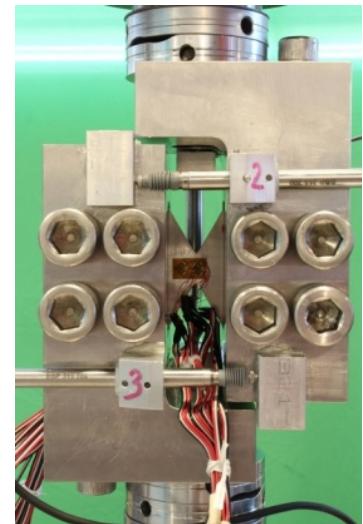
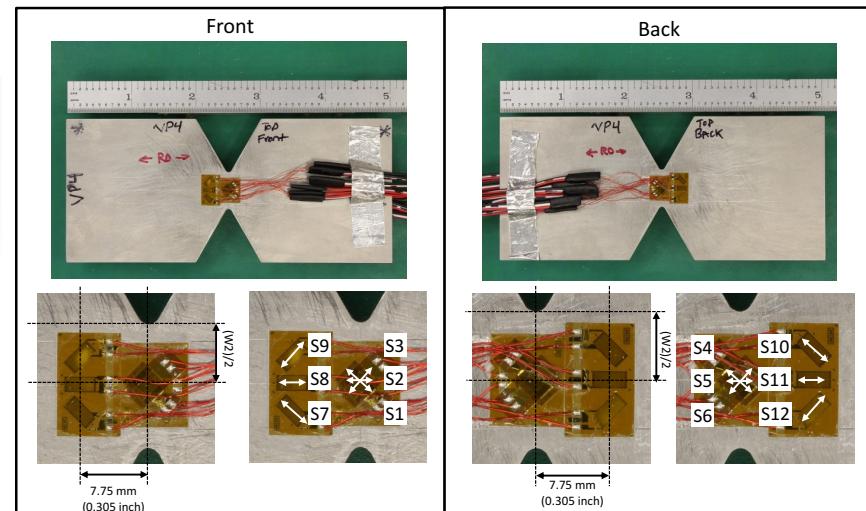
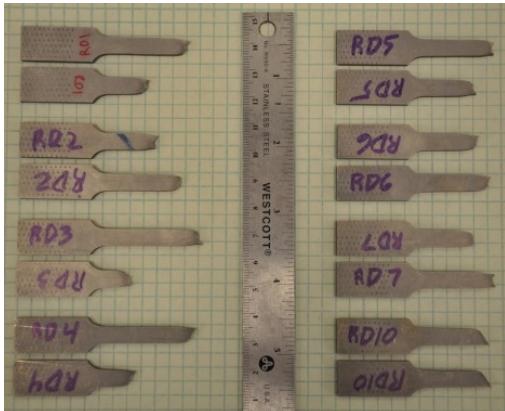
## 2<sup>nd</sup> Fracture Challenge: Anisotropy and rate effects



- Ti-6Al-4V plate
- Anisotropy
- Mixed-mode loading
- Slow/fast rates of loading
- Thermomechanical coupling
- Dynamics (unstable propagation)
- Employed surface elements
- Multiple damage models
- Implicit solution
- *Sierra SolidMechanics*

## Data provided for modeling teams

- Detailed engineering drawings with tolerances
- Dimensional measurements of all test coupons
- Grip details
- Heat treatment details, with hardness values
- Extensive tensile data (2 rates, 2 orientations, 5 tests each)
- Extensive shear deformation & failure data (non-standard)
- Fixture compliance measurements
- Deformed shape
- Fractography



## Sandia team

- Jay Foulk, Kyle Karlson, Arthur Brown, Mike Veilleux, Wei-Yang Lu, Tracy Vogler, Jake Ostien, Bill Scherzinger, Alejandro Mota, John Emery, Lauren Beghini, Kendall Pierson
- Sandia codes and tools used for analysis: *SIERRA Solid Mechanics (SM)*
- Time scales for characterization and testing require *implicit* analysis, *implicit dynamics* required for unstable crack growth
- Low thermal conductivity demands *thermomechanical* coupling
- Provided experimental data and the literature advocate
  - *Rate* and *temperature* dependence
  - *Anisotropy* in yield stress and hardening
  - *Void evolution* (multi-axial nucleation, growth, coalescence)
- We resolve fields in space/time with *Q1P0, hex 8 elements* on the order of 0.175mm
- We seek to *regularize* the solution through multiple technologies
  - Nonlocal method retains multiphysics. Refinement needed.
  - Localization elements enable *efficient* and *stable* solutions

# Material model

- From the start, we knew we needed a constitutive model with the following capabilities:

- Strain-rate dependence
- Temperature dependence
- Damage/failure in tension and in shear
- Anisotropic yield and hardening behavior

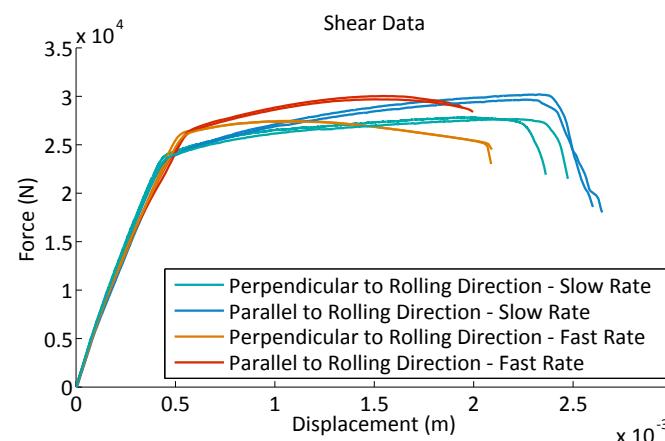
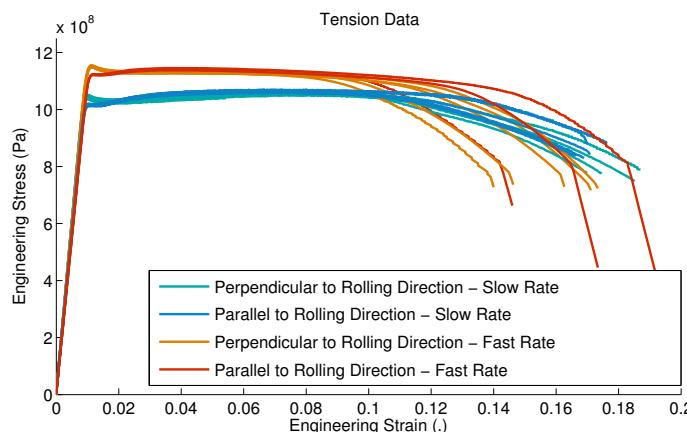
## SIERRA SM Elasto Viscoplastic (EV) Model

$$\dot{\eta} = \eta \dot{\epsilon}_p \textcolor{red}{N}_1 \left[ \frac{4}{27} - \frac{J_3^2}{J_2^3} \right]$$

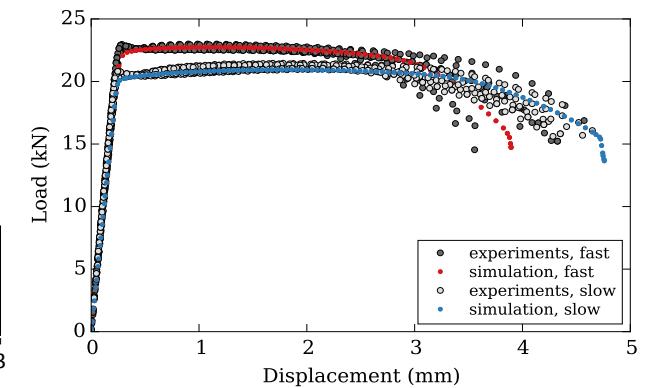
$$\dot{\phi} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \dot{\epsilon}_p \frac{1 - (1 - \phi)^{\textcolor{red}{m}+1}}{(1 - \phi)^{\textcolor{red}{m}}} \sinh \left[ \frac{2(2\textcolor{red}{m} - 1)}{2\textcolor{red}{m} + 1} \frac{\langle \frac{I_1}{3} \rangle}{\sqrt{3} J_2} \right]$$

$$\sigma_y = \left( \textcolor{red}{Y}(\theta) \left\{ 1 + \sinh^{-1} \left[ \left( \frac{\dot{\epsilon}_p}{f(\theta)} \right)^{1/\textcolor{red}{n}(\theta)} \right] \right\} + \frac{H(\theta)}{R_d(\theta)} \left( 1 - e^{-R_d(\theta)\epsilon_p} \right) \right) (1 - \phi)$$

Boyce and Kramer

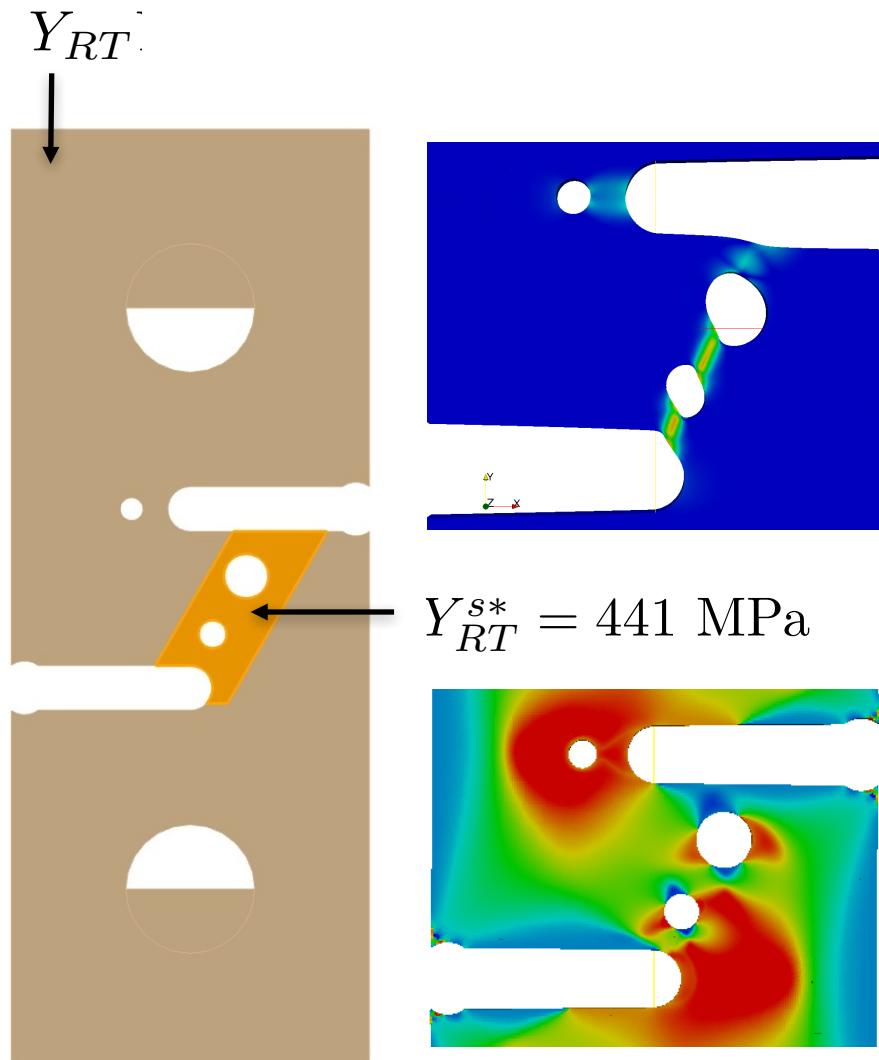
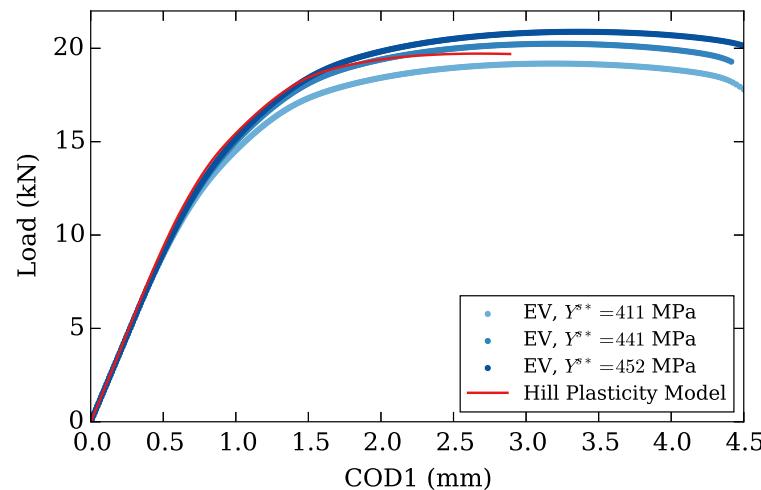


$$\begin{aligned} Y^t &= 493 \text{ MPa} & H &= 3084 \text{ MPa} & R_d &= 13 & \beta &= 0.8 \\ f &= 1 \times 10^{-6} & n &= 26 & m &= 6 & N_1 &= 54 \\ \phi_0 &= 1 \times 10^{-4} & \phi_0^\eta &= 2 \times 10^{-5} & \eta_0 &= 5 & \phi_{coal} &= 0.15 \end{aligned}$$

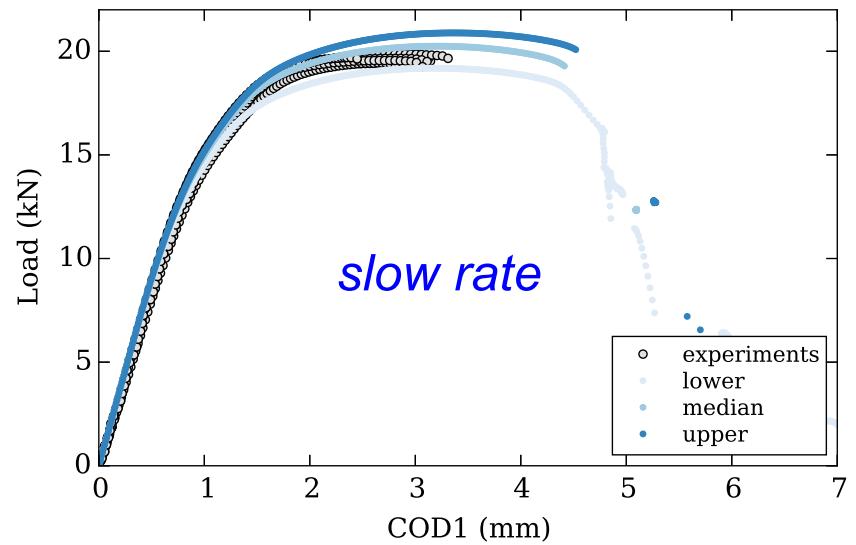
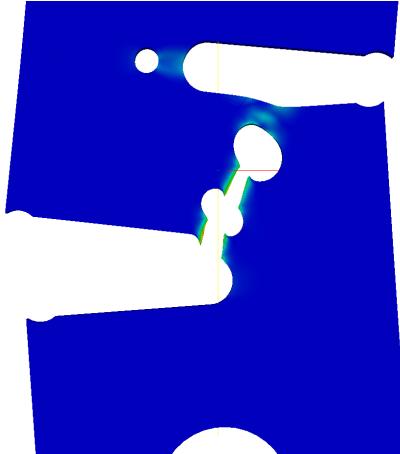
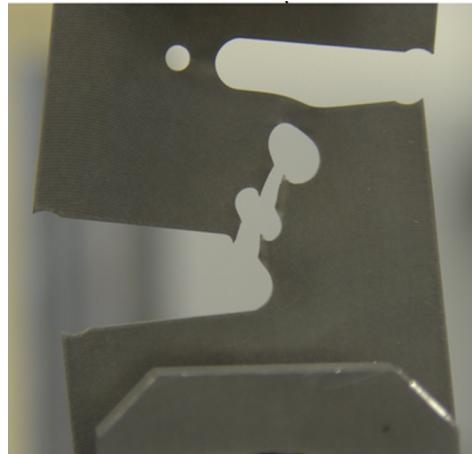
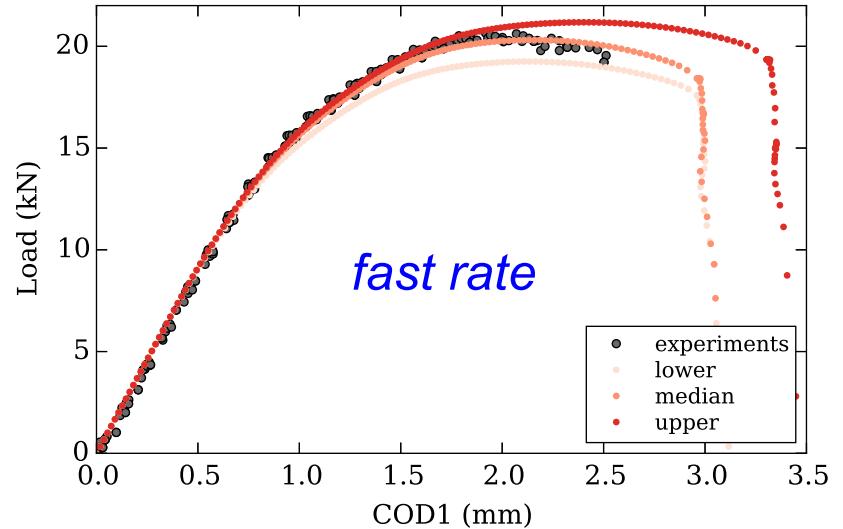
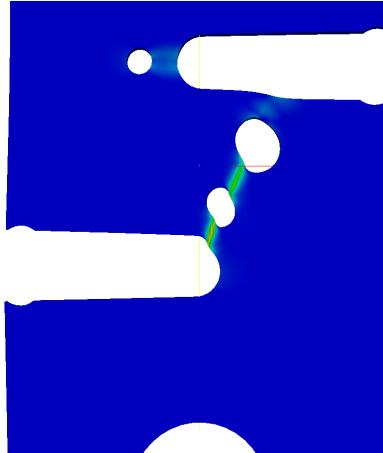
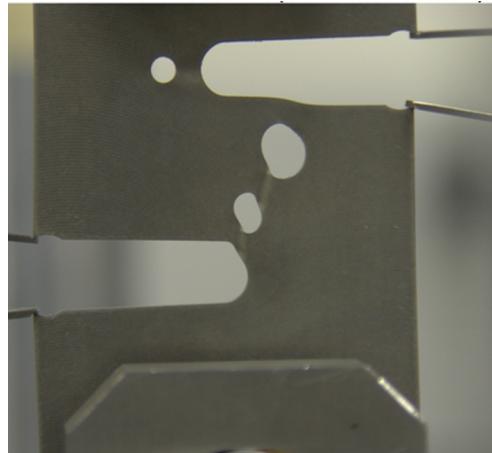


## Including anisotropy

- Calibrated a Hill, anisotropic yield surface to the shear and tensile data
- Anisotropic yield predicted SFC would localize in the lower notch
- Lower notch experiences shear loading and rate/temperature effects are still important
- Vary isotropic material properties in regions with shear loading to mimic simulation results using the Hill, anisotropic yield surface

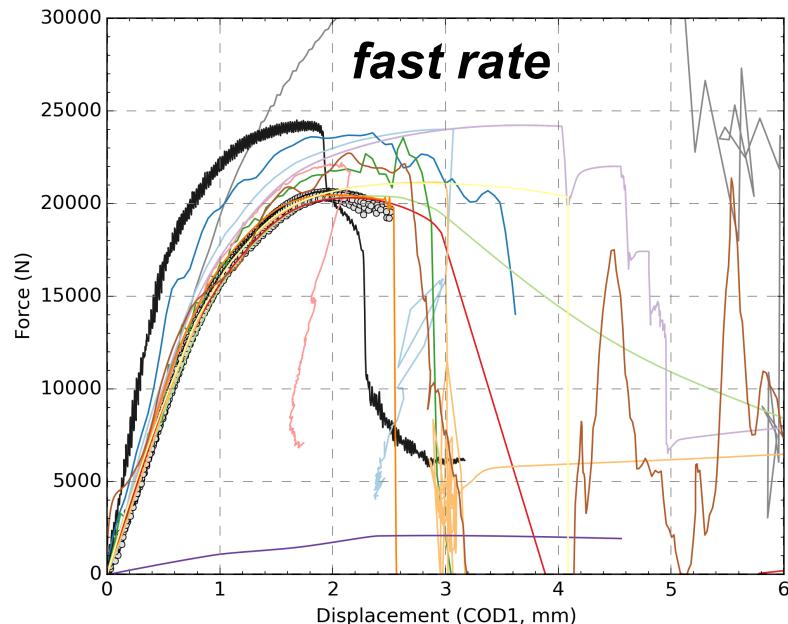
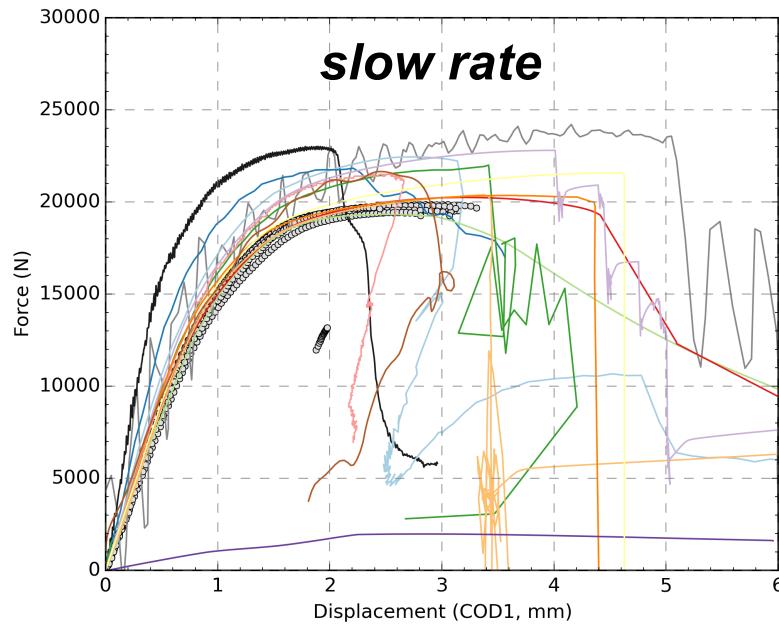


# Prediction compared to experiment: SNL results



## Prediction compared to experiment: all teams

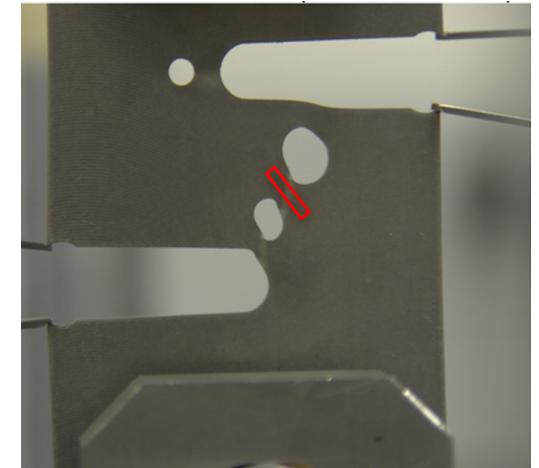
- Most teams predicted the correct crack path
- Not a single team predicted the load-displacement curves within the experimental data for both rates



- No team rigorously accounted for material/geometric variability
- Almost all teams over-predicted the loads and displacement to failure

## Lessons learned from 2<sup>nd</sup> fracture challenge

- Crack path dependent on inclusion of *anisotropic yield surface*
- *Thermomechanical modeling* with *rate* and *temperature dependence* required to capture necking behavior
- *Void nucleation* is the observed failure mechanism
- Too much flexibility may convolute different physics and lead to non-uniqueness
- Physics of interest must exist in the code to determine how/if these physics affect the solution.
- More test standards for material characterization needed
- Shear testing required; tension tests are not enough
- Conversion of plastic work to heat
- **Paths forward:**
  - Enhance code robustness to include failure/contact and thermo-mechanical coupling
  - Improve mesh independent failure methods: localization elements and non-local failure
  - Modeling and characterization should include: anisotropy, damage, dynamic strain aging and crystal plasticity



## Final Thoughts

- Hopefully, I've given you a brief view on fracture mechanics R&D at SNL.
- Key themes:
  - Microstructure can play a large role, especially for aging and reaction processes
  - Considerations of microstructure, **anisotropy, stress triaxiality**, nucleation and rate effects can impact the fidelity of models and predictions, but level of fidelity needed should be evaluated.
  - Various modeling approaches all have value, and many provide essentially the same result.
- Examples of fracture in thin sheet materials:
  - Plate puncture problem:  $t/D \sim 0.074 \rightarrow$  shear dominated failure
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Fracture challenge:  $a/W = 0.577$ ,  $t/W = 0.095$ ,  $R_{B/C}/W = 0.020$ ,  $R_D/W = 0.046$
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Fracture challenge:  $a/W = 0.525$ ,  $t/W = 0.061$   $R_{A/B/E}/W = 0.063$ ,  $R_C/W = 0.031$ ,  $R_D/W = 0.039$
- Our interests in thin sheet metals and microstructure-based fracture modeling (<http://www.sandia.gov/PPM/>)

