



Identifying Uncertainty in Material Model Selection for Finite Element Analysis of a Hermetic Connector

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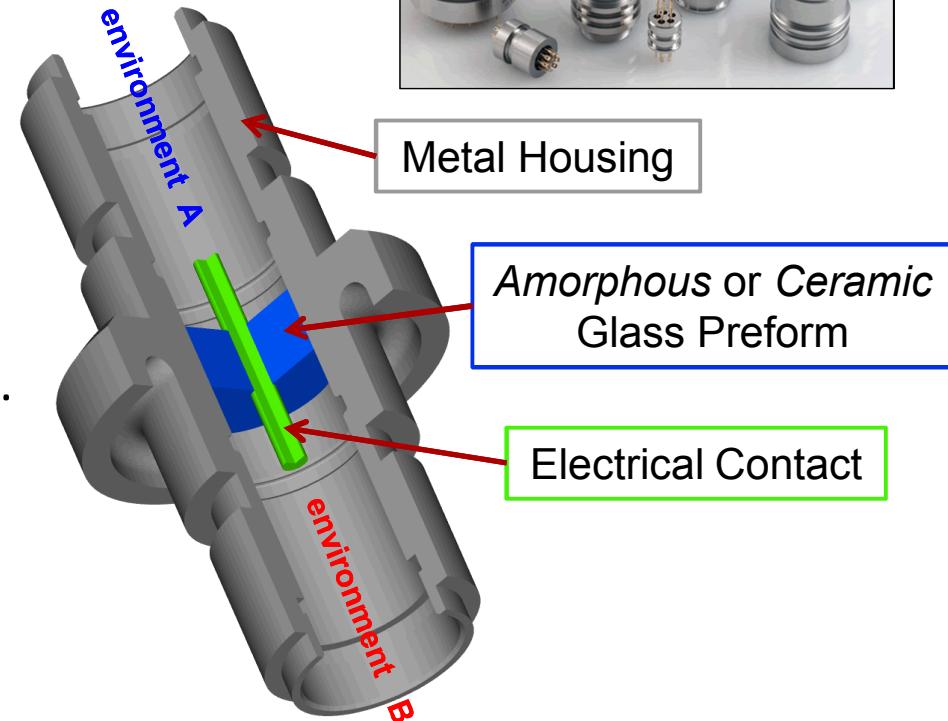
*Exceptional
service
in the
national
interest*



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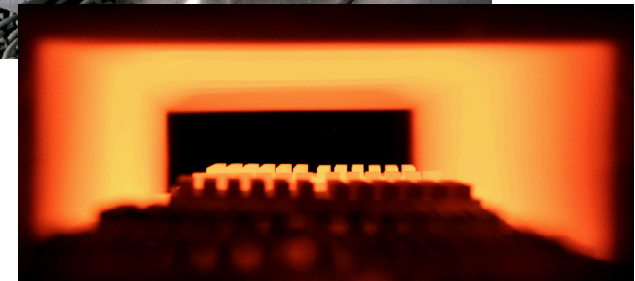
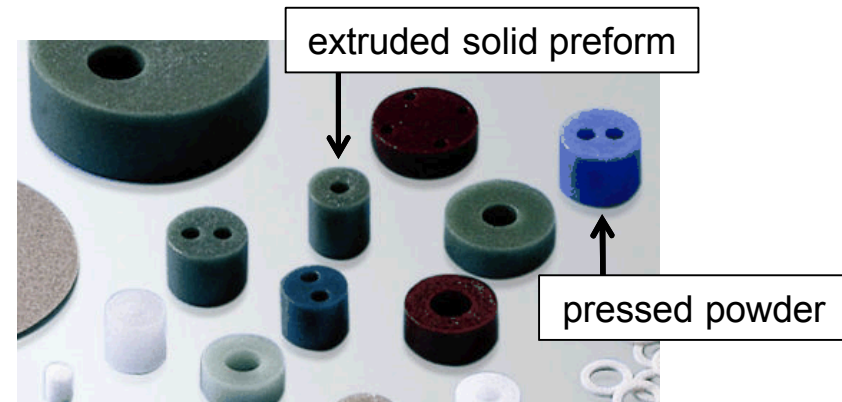
What is a hermetic connector?

- Barrier to gas/liquid transfer between environments.
 - Allow electrical transmission
- Designed for extreme conditions
 - Thermal
 - Pressure
 - Shock/vibration
- Many applications:
 - Satellites, submarine vehicles, medical, telecommunications, etc.
- Types of hermetic connectors
 - Matched seals
 - Compression seals



Creating a Hermetic Seal

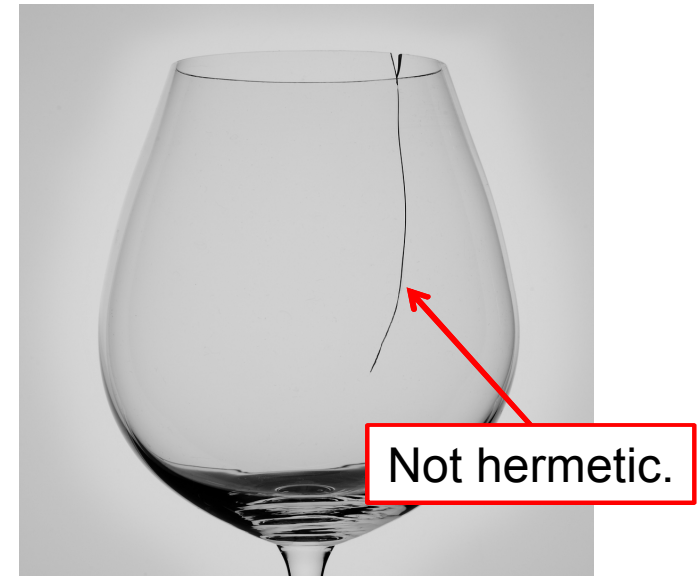
- Piece-part assembly
 - Fixture holds preform and contact(s) in shell
- Glass melt and flow
 - Belt fed furnace w/ multiple chambers
 - Exceed melt temp
- Compression from shell as connector cools
 - $304L_{CTE} \approx 17 \text{ ppm}/^{\circ}\text{C}$
 - $GLASS_{CTE} \approx 10 \text{ ppm}/^{\circ}\text{C}$



So what's the problem?



*processing...
...testing*



Visual, x-ray, CT, ultrasonic, etc.

- Processing, testing, and fielding causes short and/or long term residual stress.
- Difficult to identify and visualize cracks due to size of connectors.
- Very difficult to measure stress in the glass of a hermetic connector.

WE MUST RELY ON MODELING!

So what's the BIGGER problem?

Assumptions and approximations lead to uncertainties in model predictions.

- Real Geometry → Modeled Geometry
 - Drawing does not match processed form (not just tolerances).
 - Menisci vary and may be neglected in the model.
 - Shell details may be neglected which affects modeled shell volume.
- FEA Assumptions
 - Material model selection for pin, glass, and shell (chosen based on available data or limited computational resources).
 - Set temperature (T_{set})
 - Glass transition (T_g) is dependent on processing history

Simulating the Sealing Process

Old way...

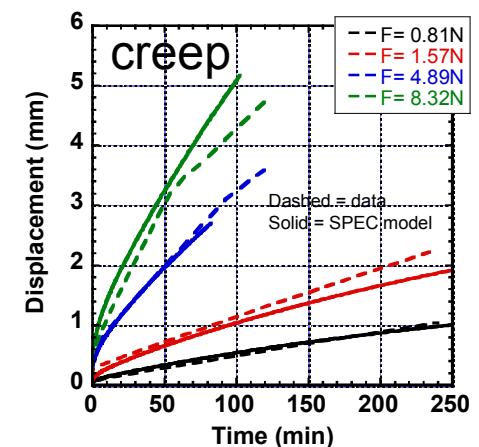
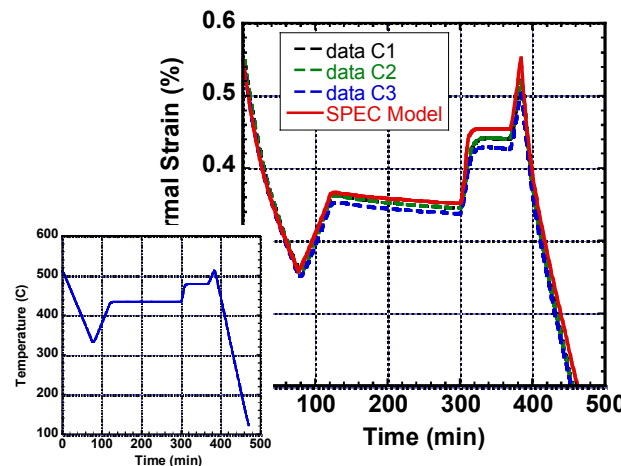
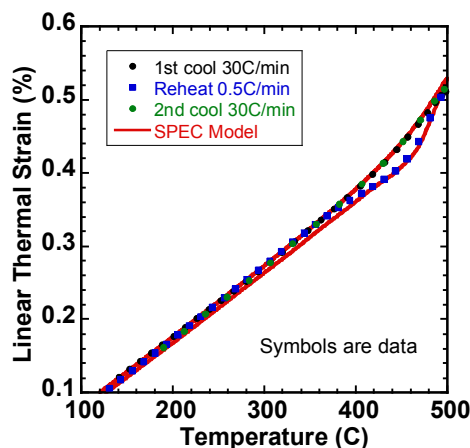
- Choose constitutive models:
 - Elastic for glass
 - Elastic-plastic for metals
- **Assume** T_{set}
 - $T_{\text{set}} \rightarrow \text{Room Temp}$
 - Rate independent
- **Less** information about processing is needed
- **Qualitative** predictions
 - Lead design process
 - Determine features that greatly affect stress

New Way!

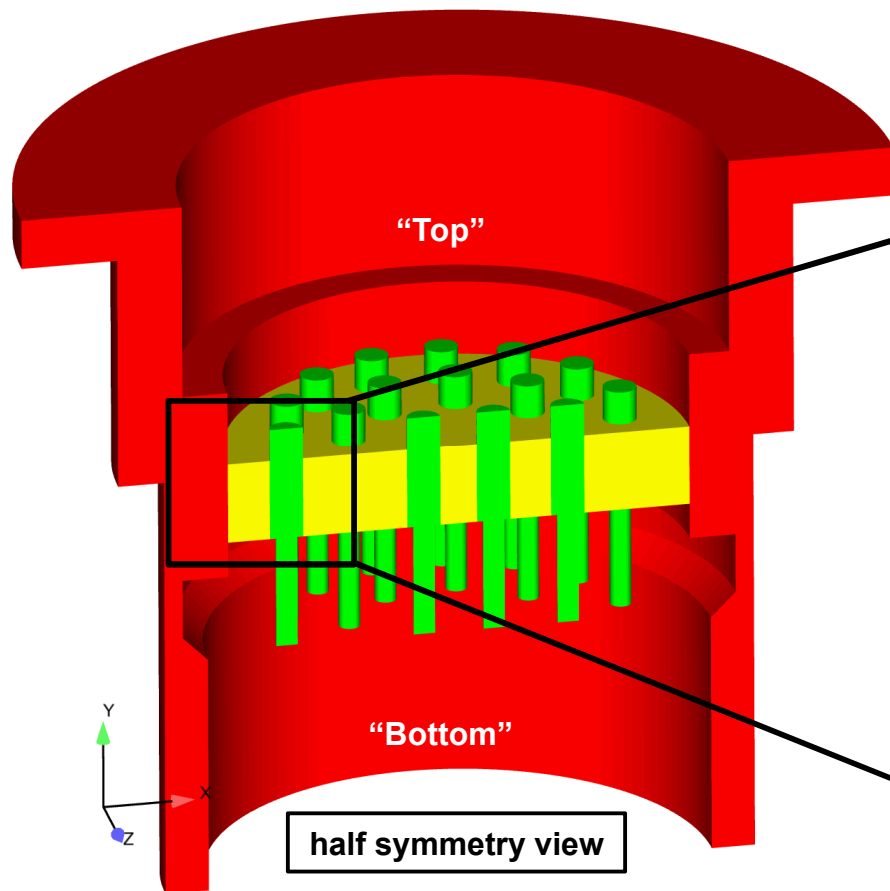
- Choose constitutive models:
 - Viscoelastic for glass
 - Viscoelastic-plastic for metals
- **Predicted** T_g
 - $>T_g \rightarrow \text{Room Temp}$
 - Rate dependent
- **Detailed** information about processing is needed
- **Quantitative** predictions
 - Predict evolution of residual stress and structural relaxation over time.

Viscoelastic Glass Predictions

- Simplified Potential Energy Clock (SPEC) Model [1]
 - Predicts behavior of thermorheologically simple materials [2]
 - thermosets, thermoplastics, elastomers, and inorganic glasses
 - Based on the Potential Energy Clock (PEC) model which is derived using the Helmholtz free energy and a material clock through which potential energy accelerates relaxation. [3,4]
 - SPEC easier to calibrate and requires less data to parameterize.
 - stress relaxation, physical aging, creep, and “yield”
 - time and temperature history dependent



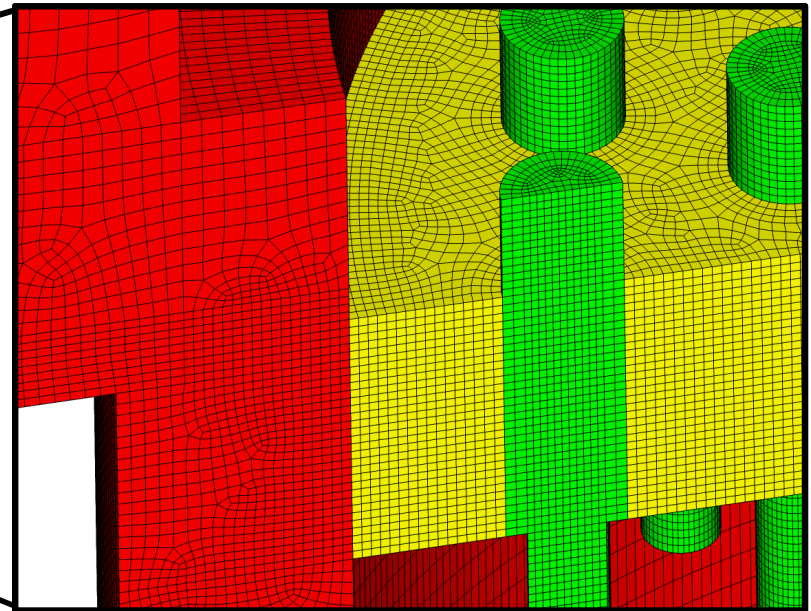
Hermetic Seal Model



RED – Shell

YELLOW – Inorganic sealing glass

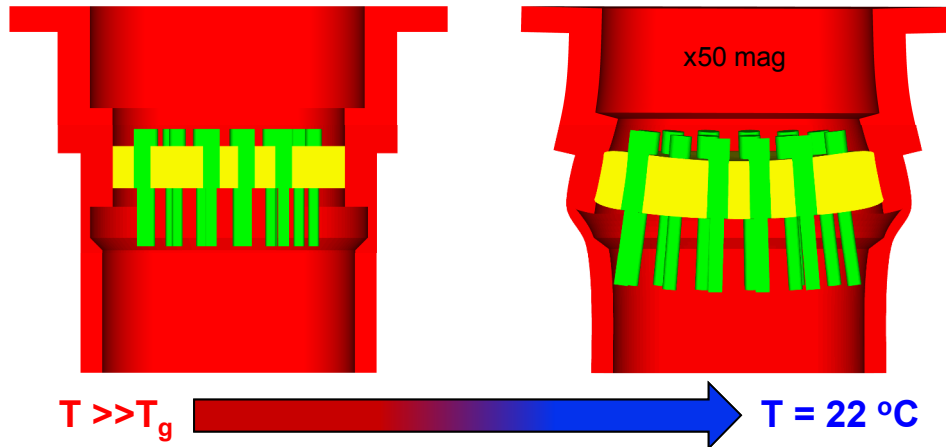
GREEN – Pins



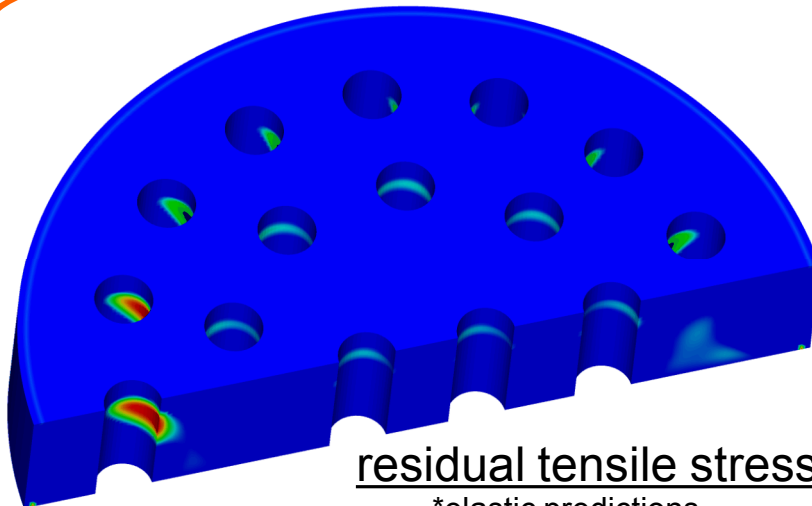
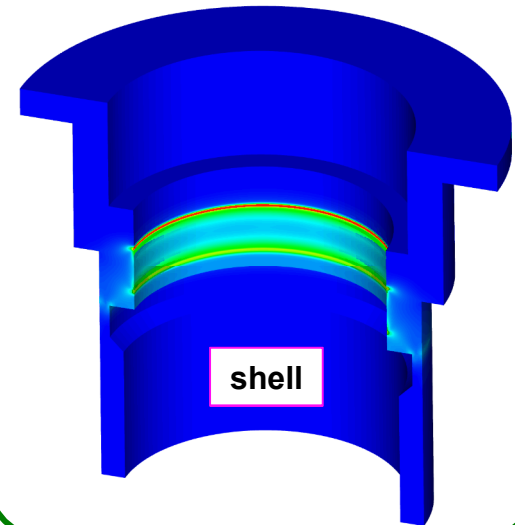
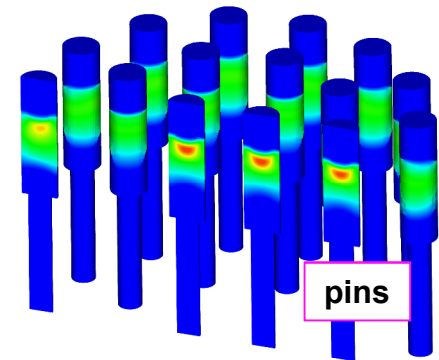
- no glass menisci or pin details
- simplified shell (no threads, rounds, chamfers)
- contiguously meshed interfaces

Residual Stress from Sealing Process

compression during cool down

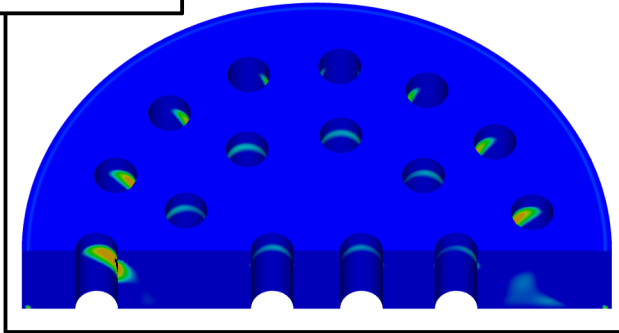


plastic strain in metals

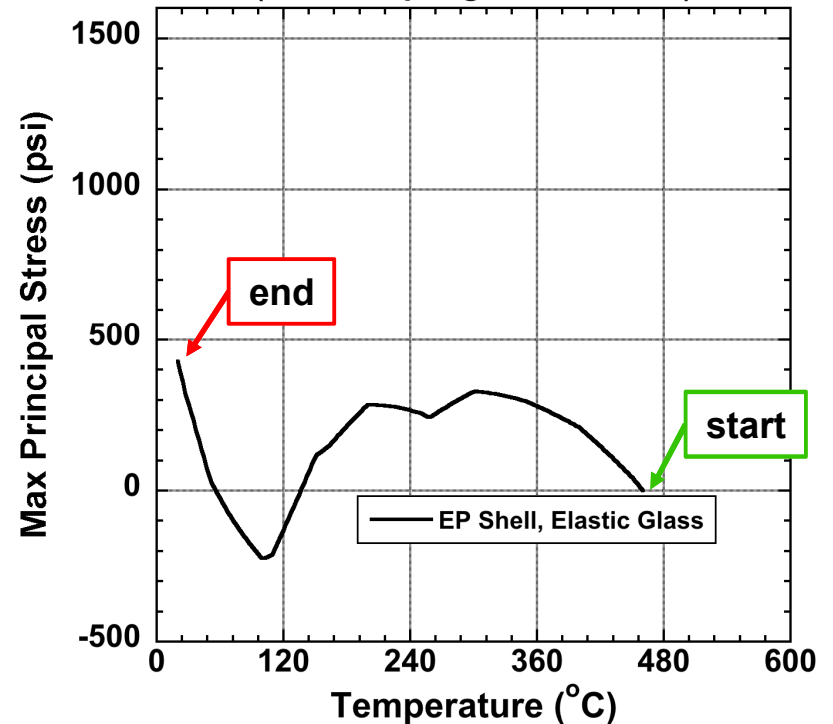


Constitutive Model Comparison

EP Shell, Elastic Glass



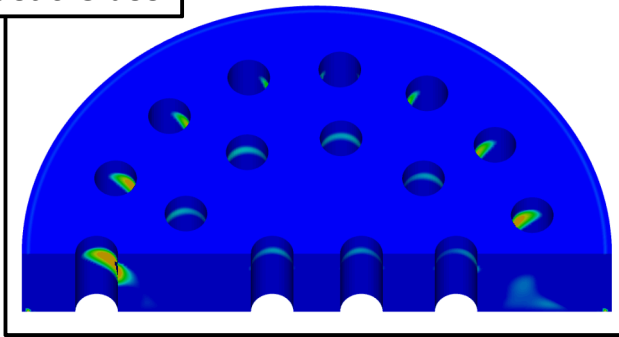
GtM Seal Constitutive Model Comparison
(stress at pin-glass interface)



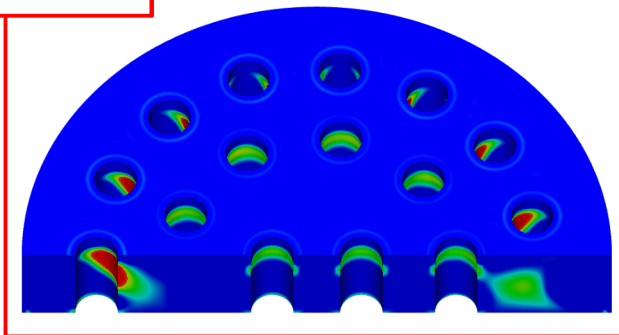
*assumed failure at 5000 psi

Constitutive Model Comparison

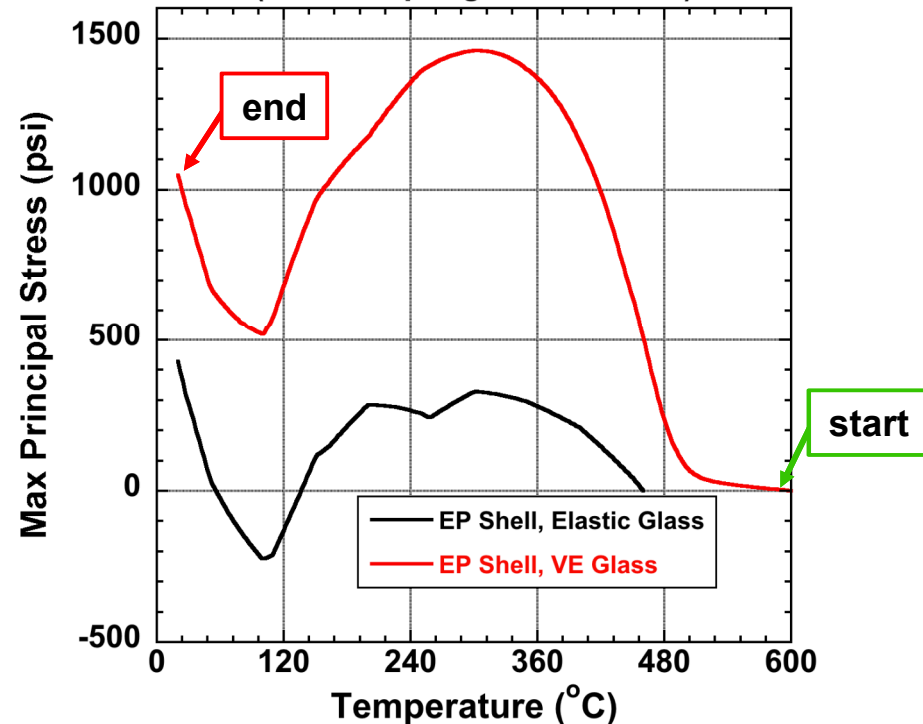
EP Shell, Elastic Glass



EP Shell, VE Glass



GtM Seal Constitutive Model Comparison
(stress at pin-glass interface)

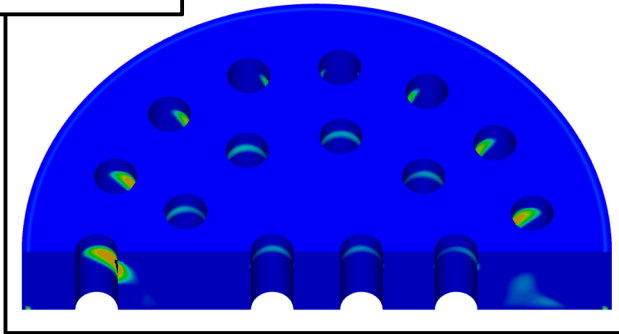


*1 °C/min cooling rate

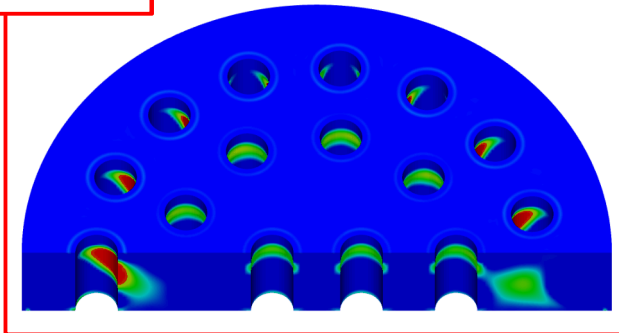
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Constitutive Model Comparison

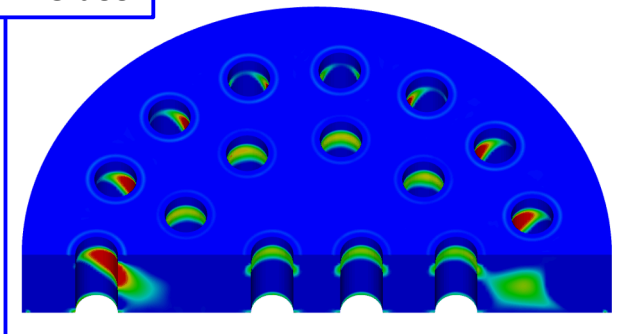
EP Shell, Elastic Glass



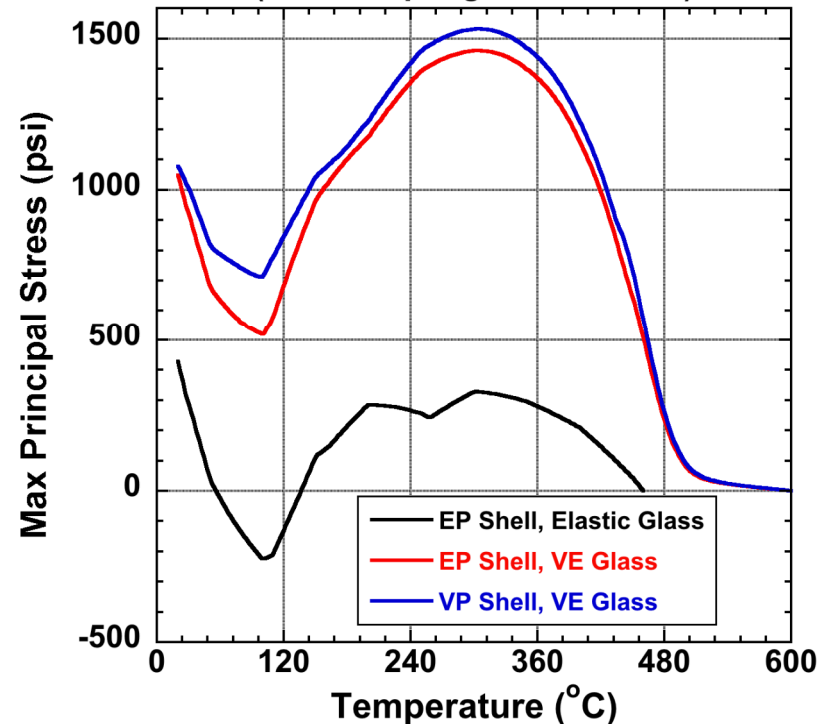
EP Shell, VE Glass



VP Shell, VE Glass



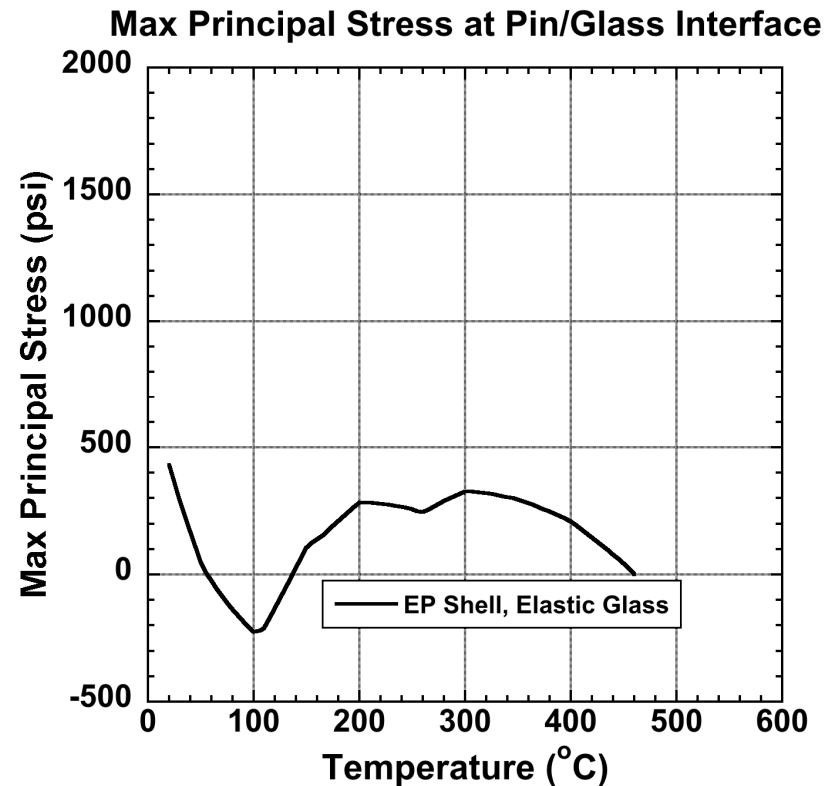
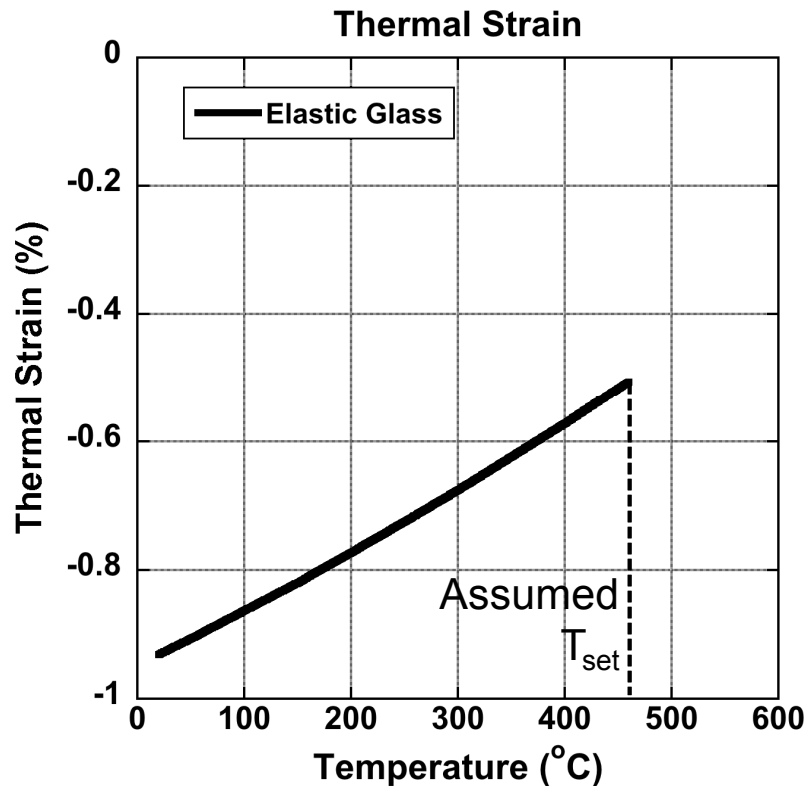
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(stress at pin-glass interface)



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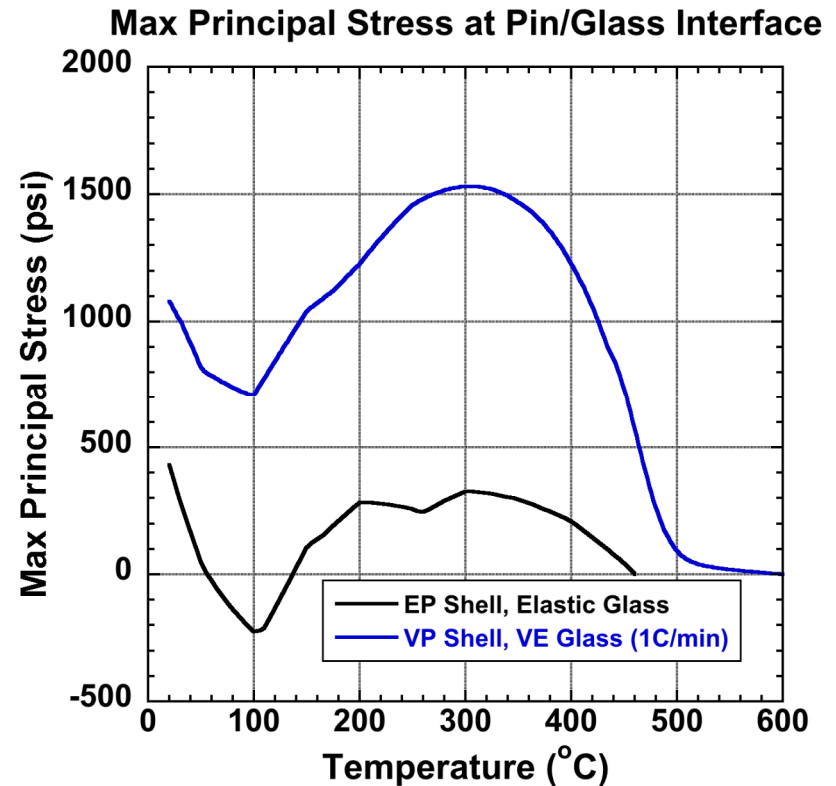
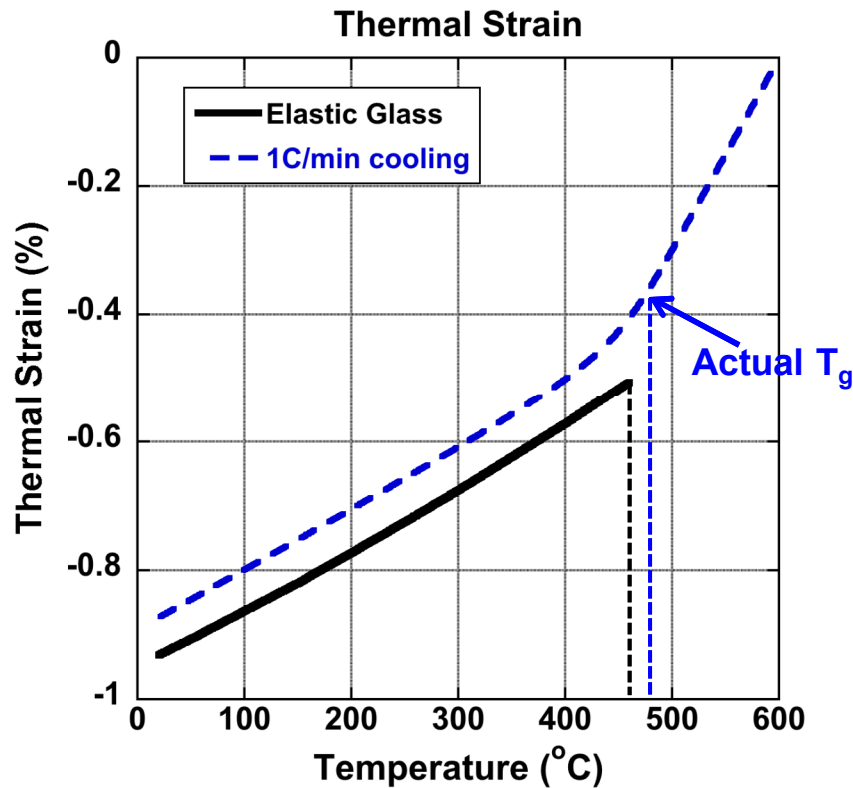
*assumed failure at 5000 psi

History Dependent Predictions



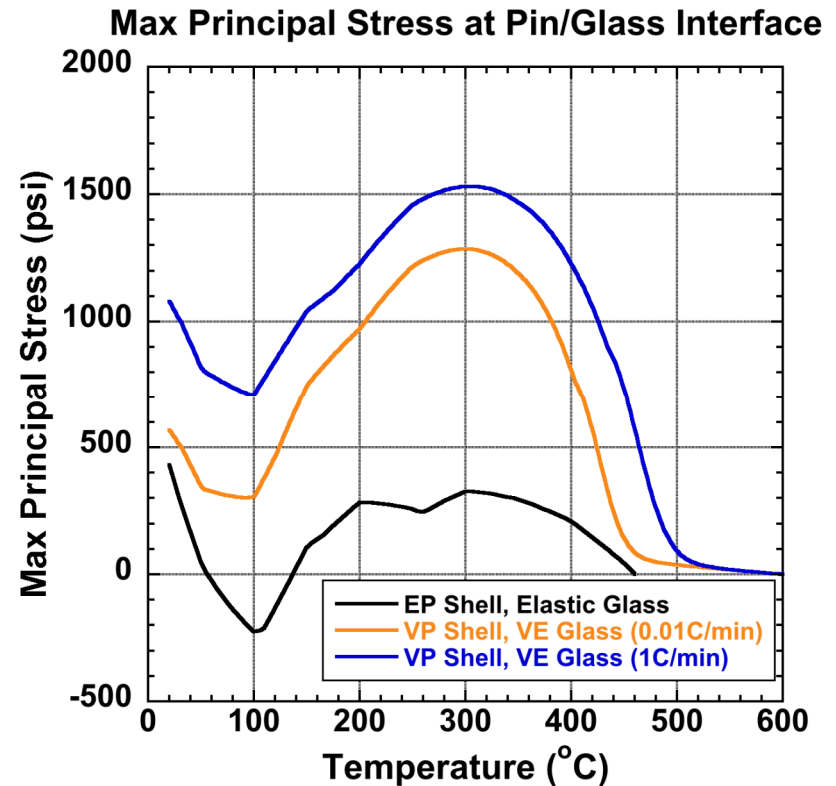
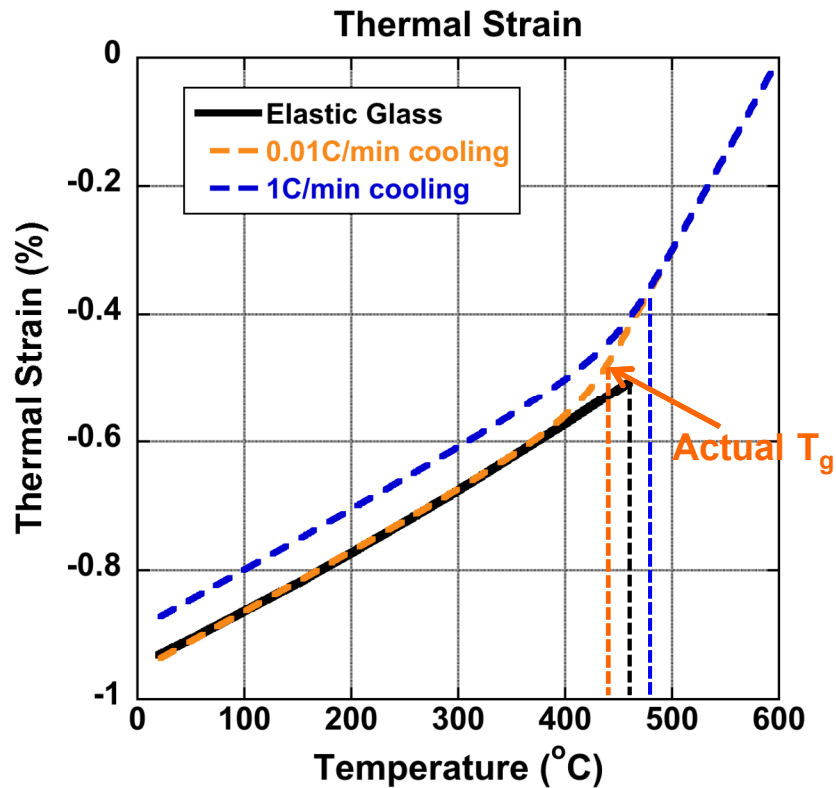
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History Dependent Predictions



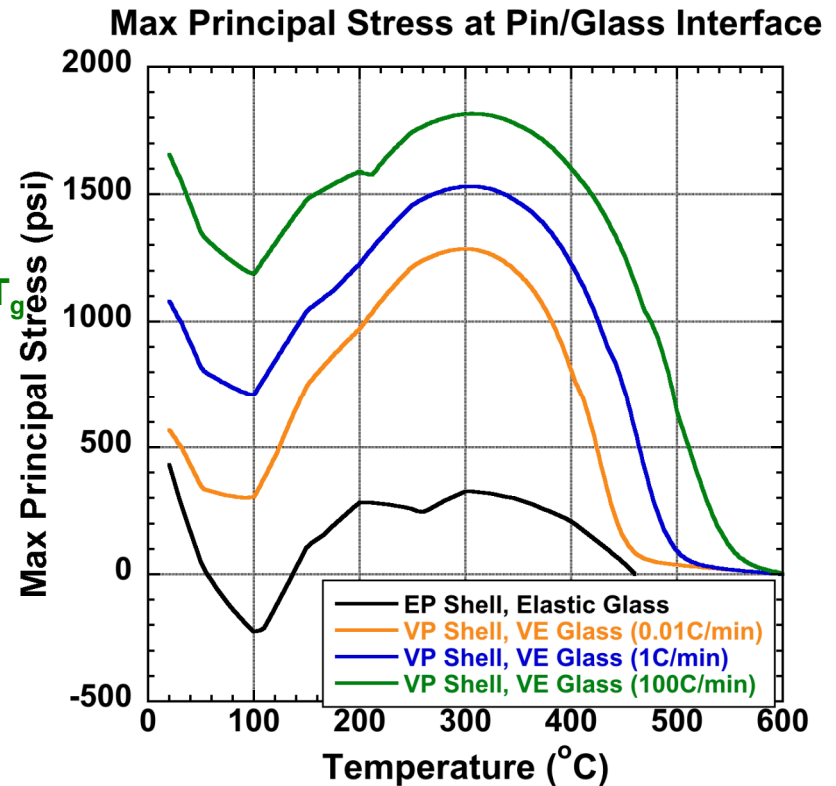
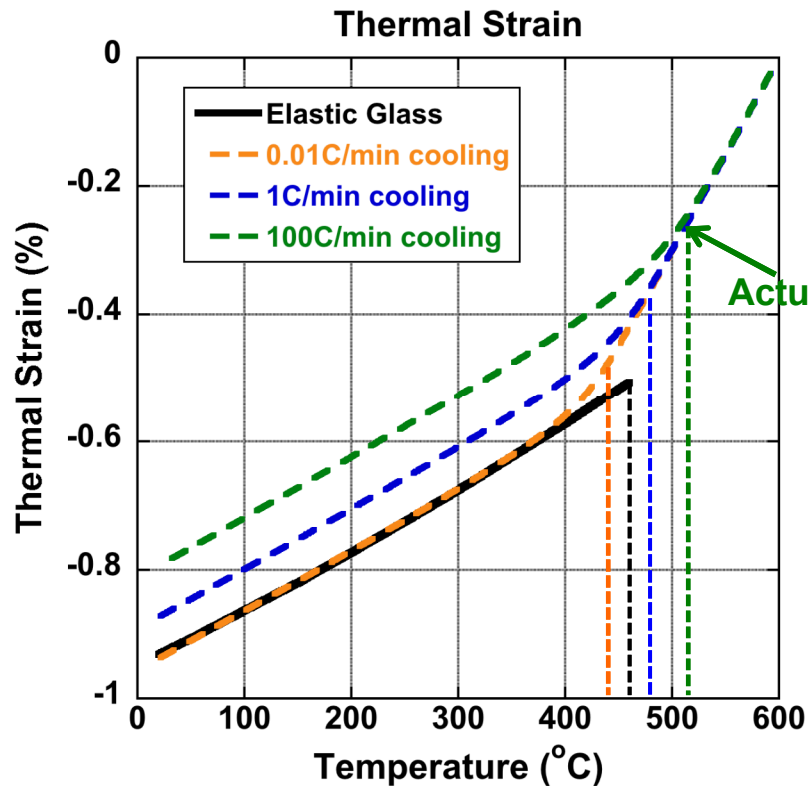
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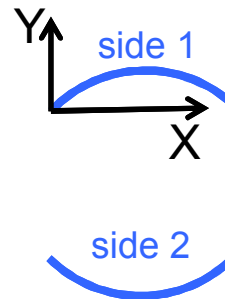
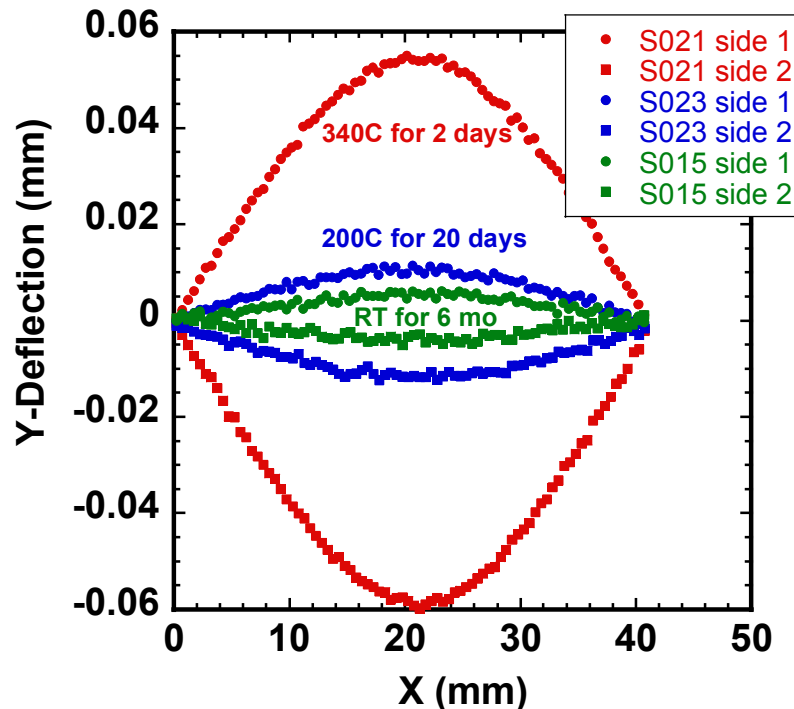
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History Dependent Predictions



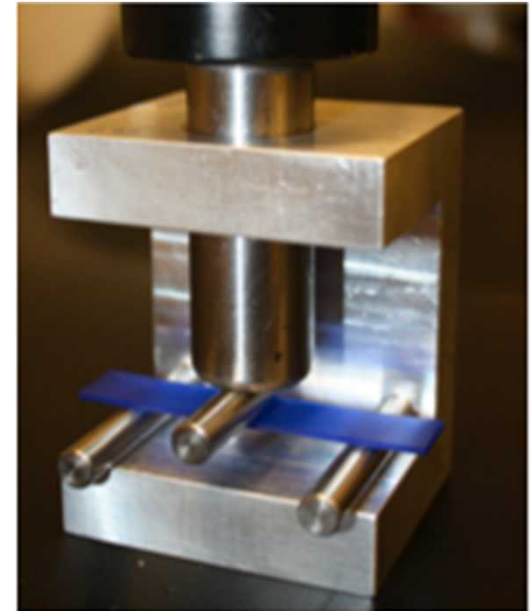
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Glass Creep at Room Temperature



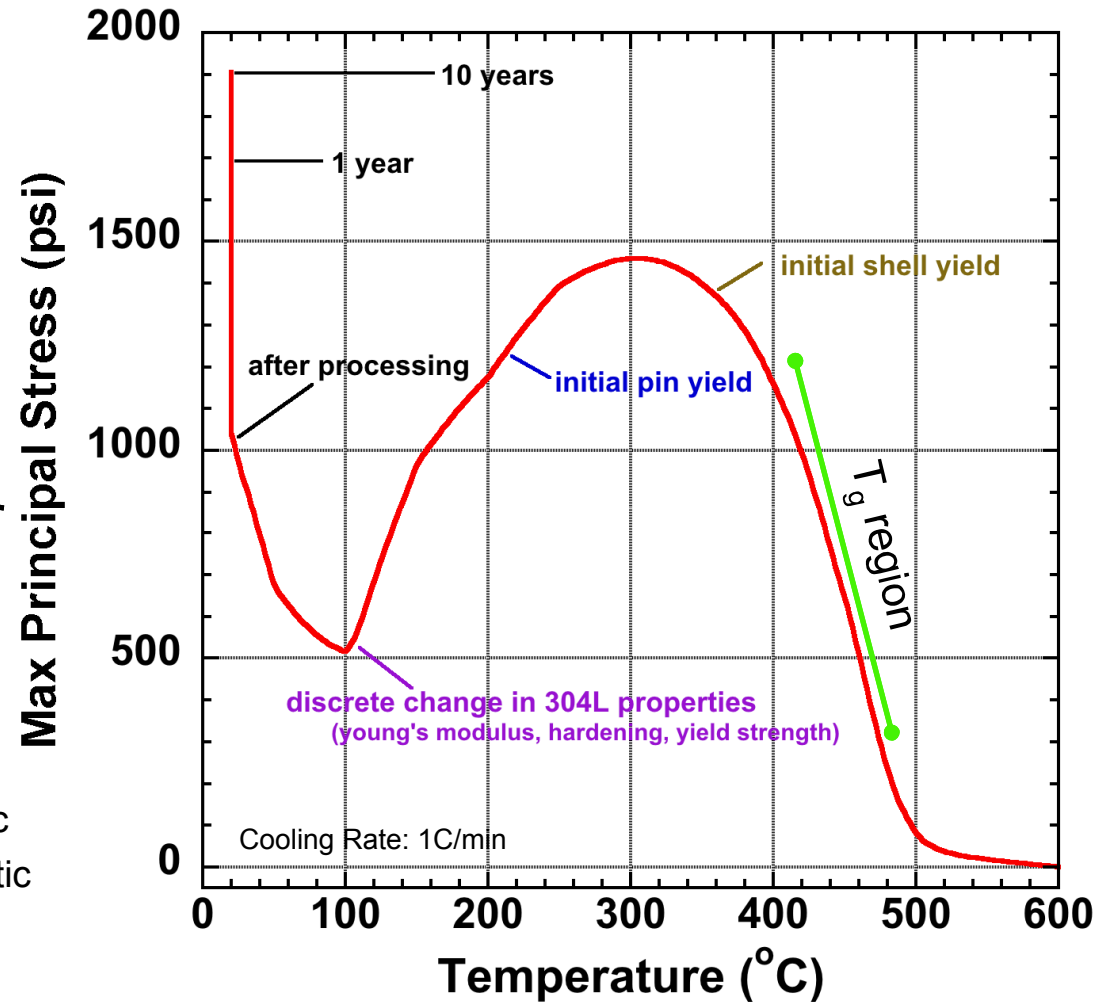
<u>T (°C)</u>	<u>Stress (psi)</u>
340	3500
200	3500
20	4000

3-Pnt Bending Test
Creep Under Dead Load



.... Measurable creep 440°C below glass transition...
So what happens over long periods of time?

Aging of Compression Seal



Max Principal Stress (psi)

Temperature (°C)

- 304L Shell: thermoelastic-plastic
- Alloy 52 Pin: thermoelastic-plastic
- Glass: viscoelastic (SPEC)

Back to uncertainties...

- Geometry
 - **5-10%** error within tolerances
 - Glass thickness/position, pin diameter, and various shell features.
- Material properties
 - **150% error** of room temperature predicted tensile stress.
 - Based on elastic \rightarrow 1 °C/min viscoelastic
 - Difference in predicted stress depends on temperature examined.
- Cooling rate dependence
 - **50% error** of room temperature predicted tensile stress.
 - 1 °C/min \rightarrow 0.1 °C/min OR 1 °C/min \rightarrow 100 °C/min
 - Difference in predicted stress depends on temperature examined.
- History dependence (aging)
 - 55% increase in tensile stress after 1 year.
 - Additional testing needed to validate aging predictions...

Conclusion

- FEA models can lack geometry and material model detail and still predict qualitative trends to direct the design process.
- Predicted tensile stress when using viscoelastic glass is significantly higher than assuming elastic properties.
- Actual history (processing, aging) makes a difference.
- Quantitative predictions will require physically based models.
- Uncertainty in model predictions are difficult to quantify, but easy to identify! 👍

QUESTIONS?

References

1. Adolf, Douglas B., Chambers, Robert S., Neidigk, Matthew A., “A simplified potential energy clock model for glassy polymers.” *Elsevier Polymer* 50 (2009): 4257-4269.
2. Chambers, Robert S., Tandon, Rajan, Stavig, Mark E., “Characterization and calibration of a viscoelastic simplified potential energy clock model for inorganic glasses.” *Elsevier Journal of Non-Crystalline Solids* 432 (2016): 545-555.
3. Caruthers, James M., Adolf, Douglas B., Chambers, Robert S., Shrikhande, Prashant, “A thermodynamically consistent, nonlinear viscoelastic approach for modeling glassy polymers.” *Elsevier Polymer* 45 (2004): 4577-4597.
4. Adolf, Douglas B., Chambers, Robert S., Caruthers, James M., “Extensive validation of a thermodynamically consistent, nonlinear viscoelastic model for glassy polymers.” *Elsevier Polymer* 45 (2004): 4599-4621.