

# Phase field modelling of fracture in solids

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# Collaborators and funding agencies

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Dynaflow Research Group (Holland)



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PhD candidate, Monash University

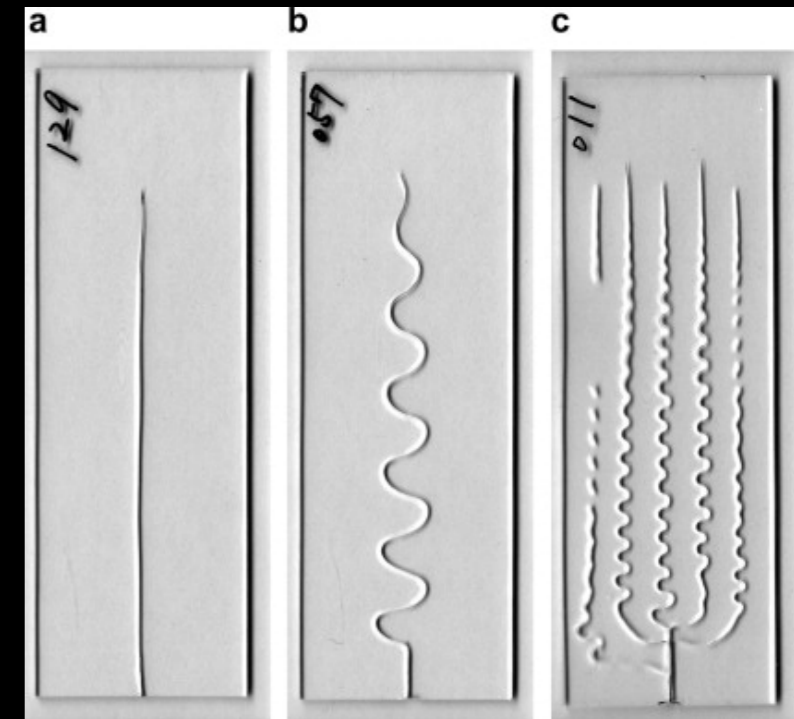
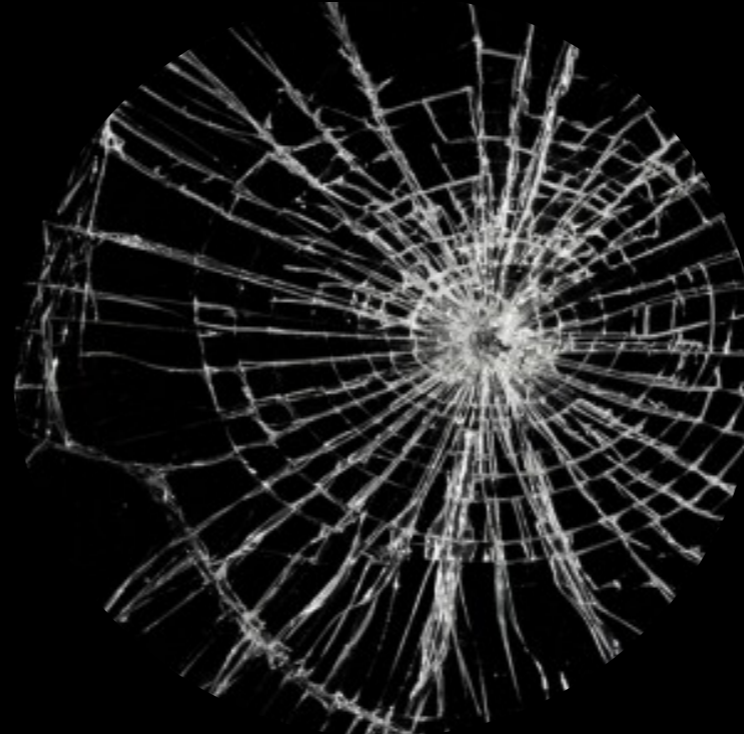


**Australian Government**  

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**Australian Research Council**

# Fracture of solids: an important problem



**loss of integrity**

**catastrophic failure** of structures/materials

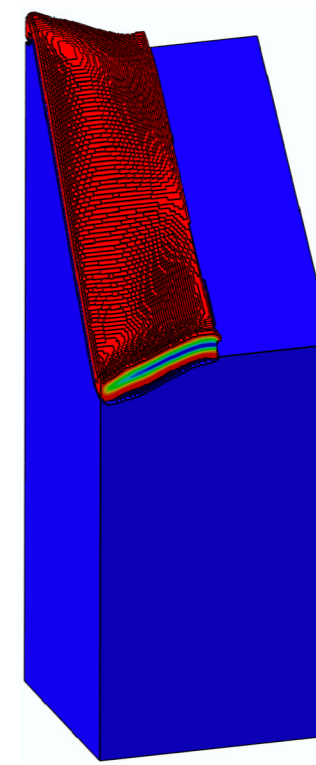
initiation/propagation of cracks: **fascinating/challenging topic**

# Aims: a good fracture model

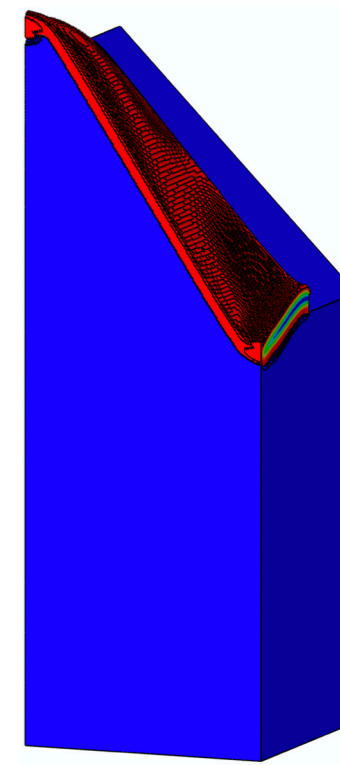
a physically sound model for fracture,  
a robust and objective numerical method to  
analyse crack problems  
generality (2D, 3D, ductile/brittle fracture etc.)  
handles both crack initiation/propagation  
least amount of parameters



(a) test

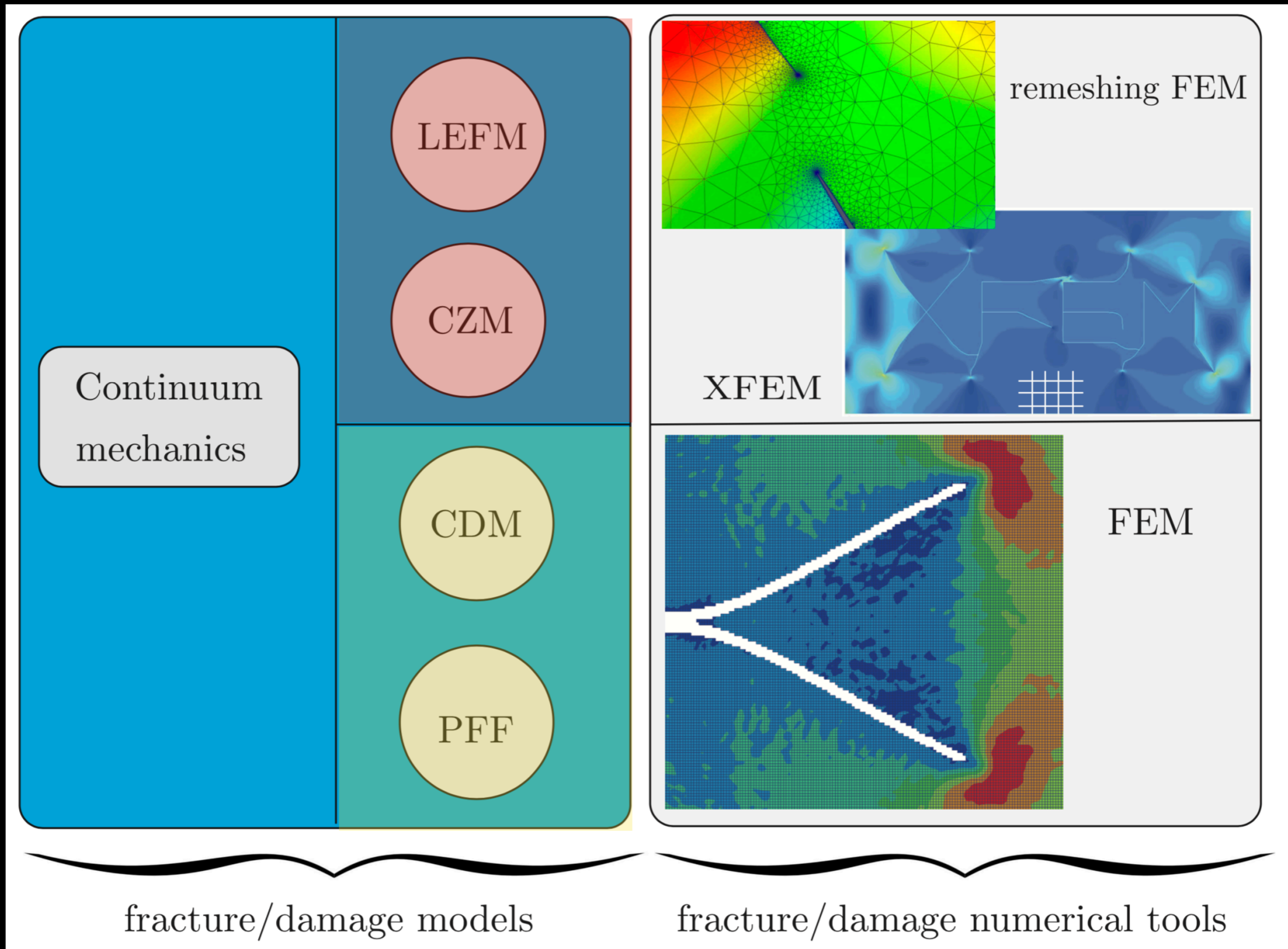


(b) view 1

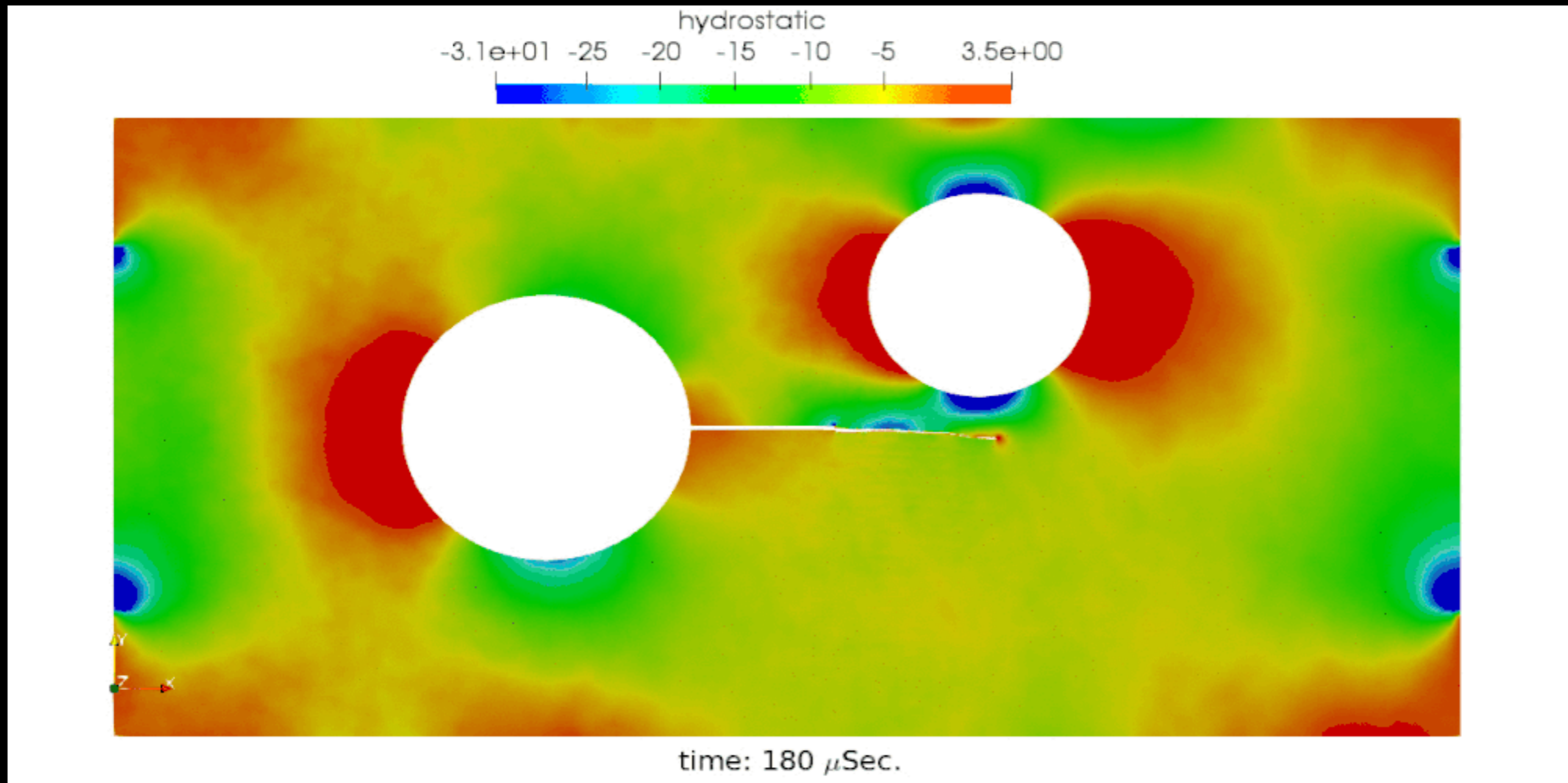


(c) view 2

# Continuum fracture/damage models



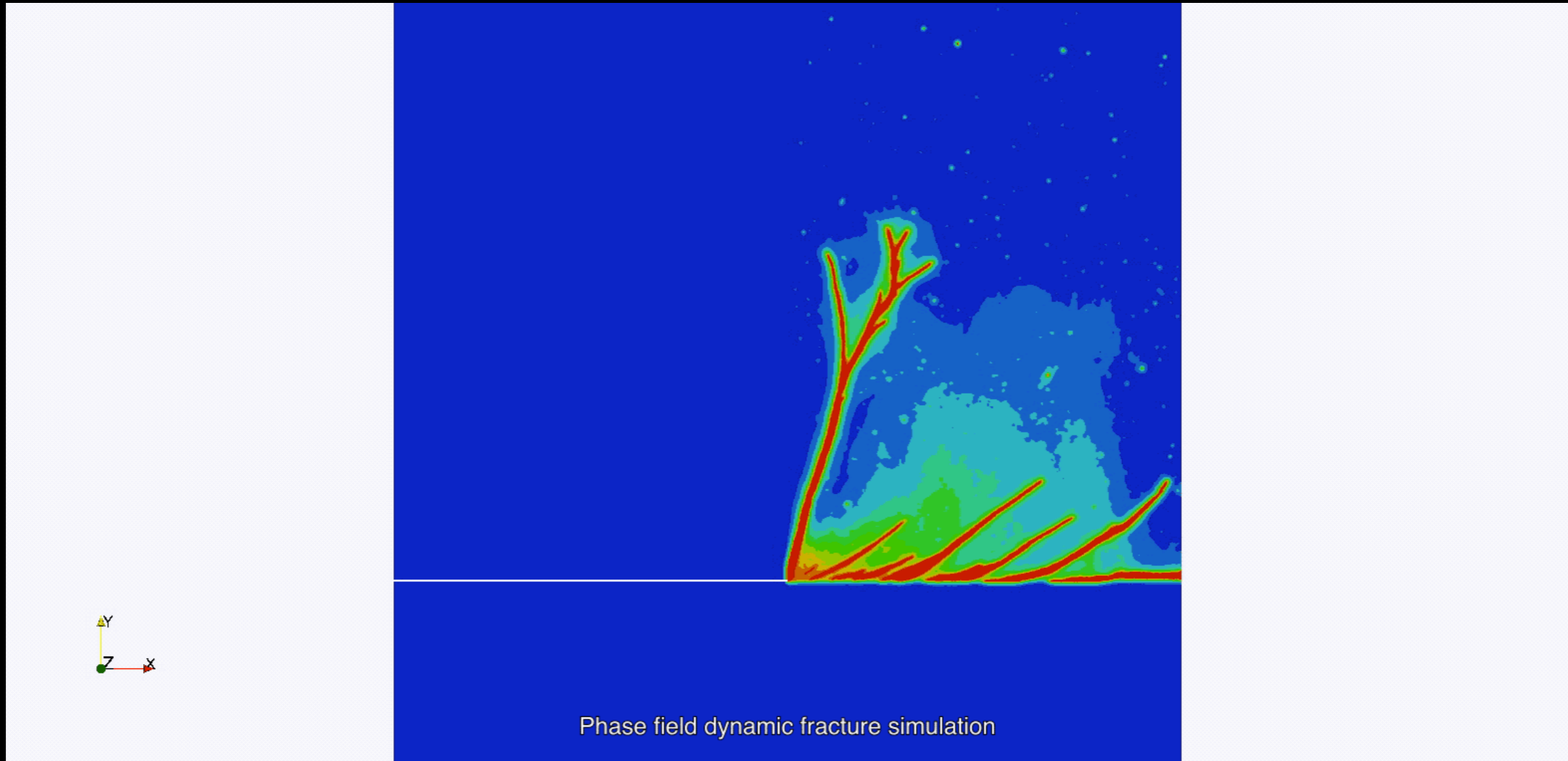
# Phase field fracture: why?



**DYNAMIC CRACK ARREST**

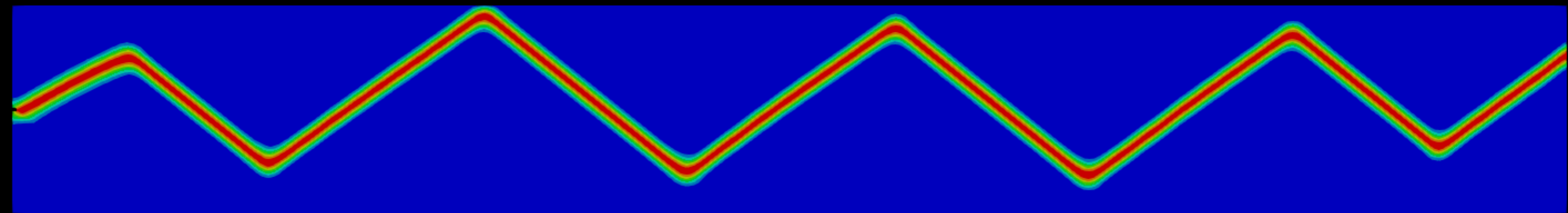
# Phase field fracture: why?

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# Phase field fracture: why?

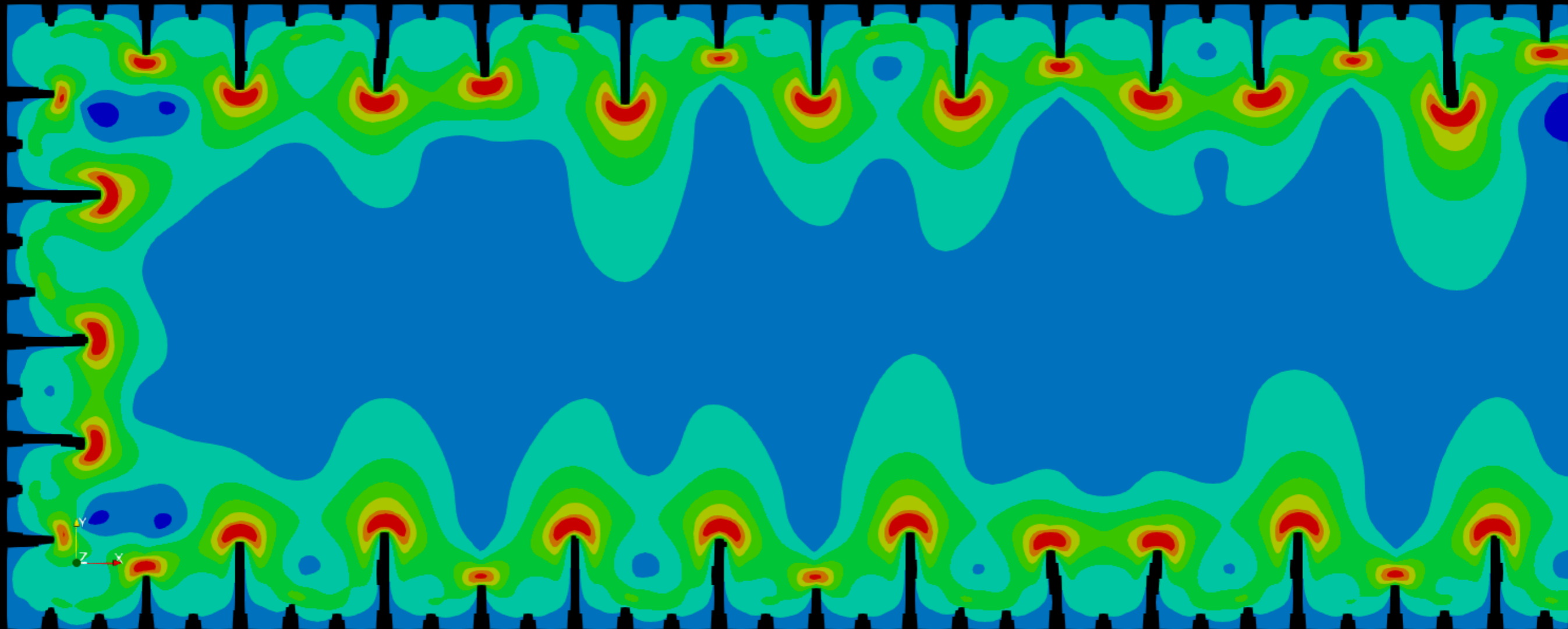
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**CRACK KINKING**



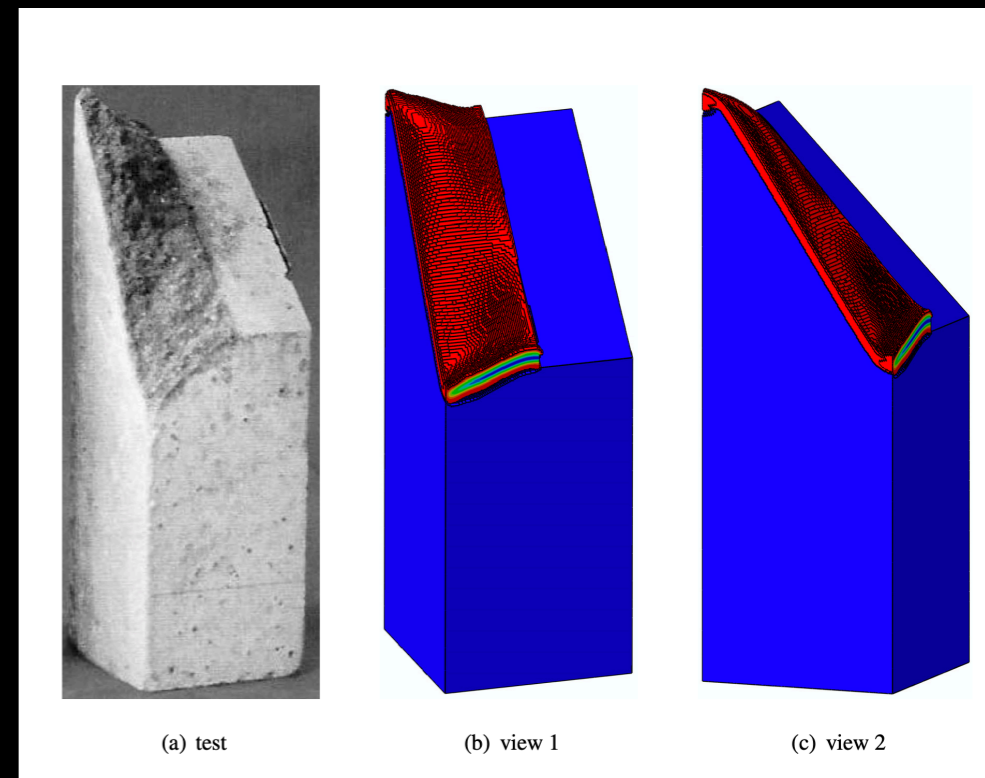
# Phase field fracture: why?



**THERMAL QUENCHING**

# Phase field fracture: why?

**complex crack patterns** without 'tricks'  
**simplicity** and **generality** (2D, 3D & parallelisation)  
mesh **convergent** results (crack profile, crack velocities)  
**rigorous** mathematics/physics behind  
**robustness**  
can be easily coded in **commercial FE codes**



# A brief history

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AA Griffith  
1893 – 1963



JJ Marigo  
Ecole polytechnique



B Bourdin  
Louisiana State Uni.



C Miehe  
(1956-2016)

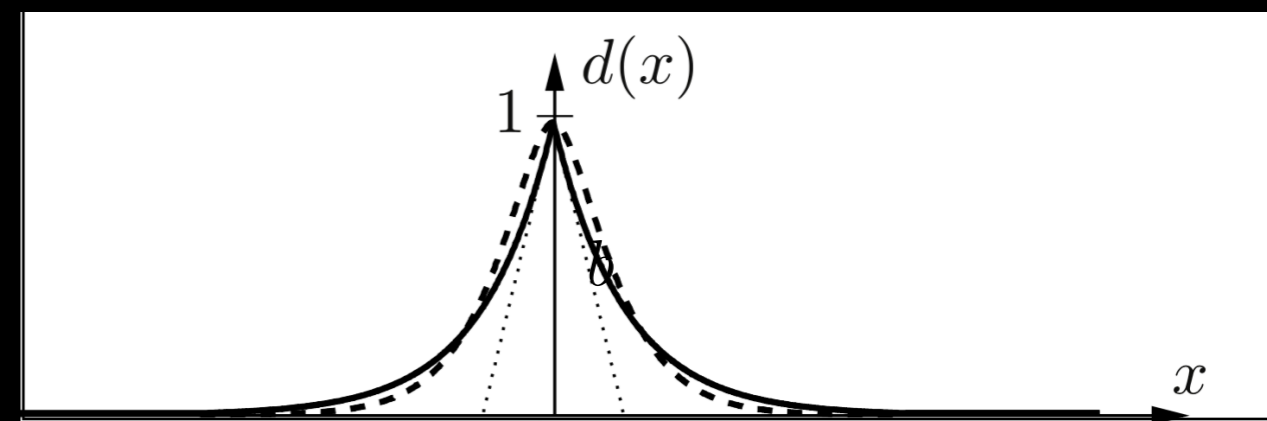
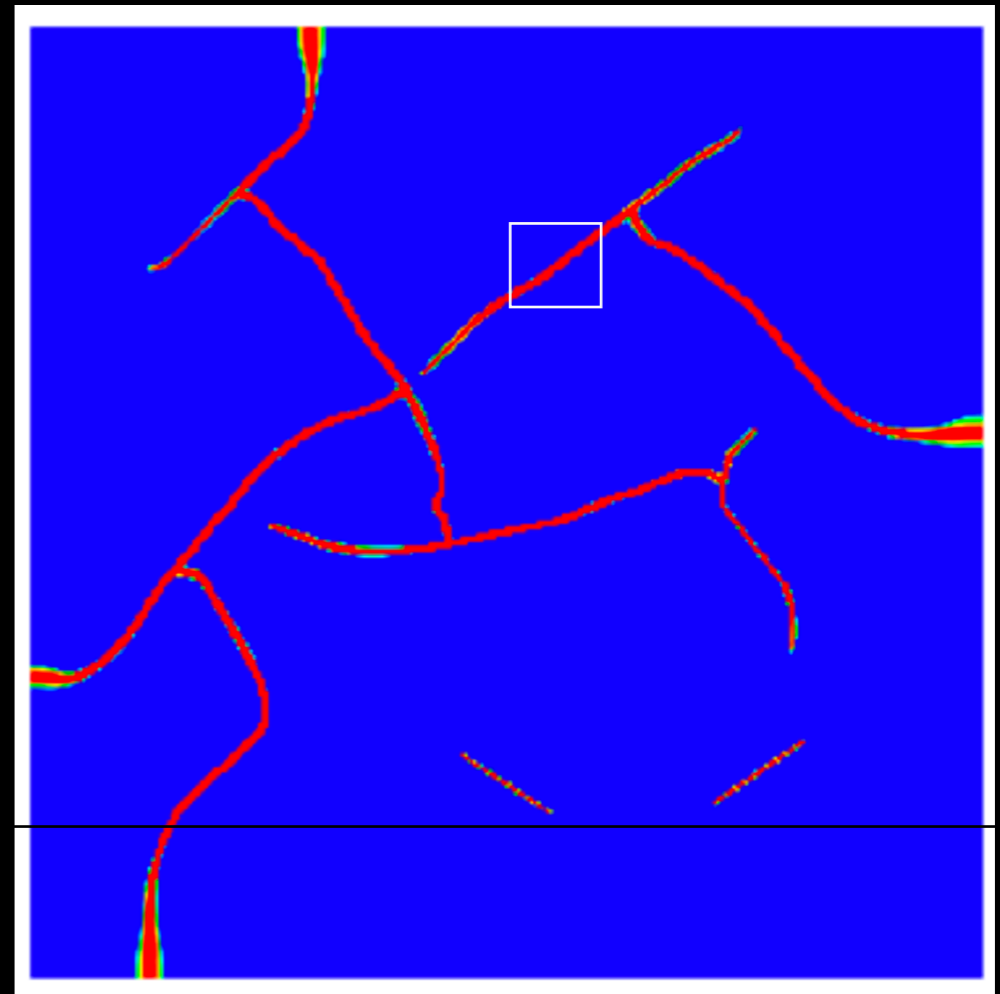
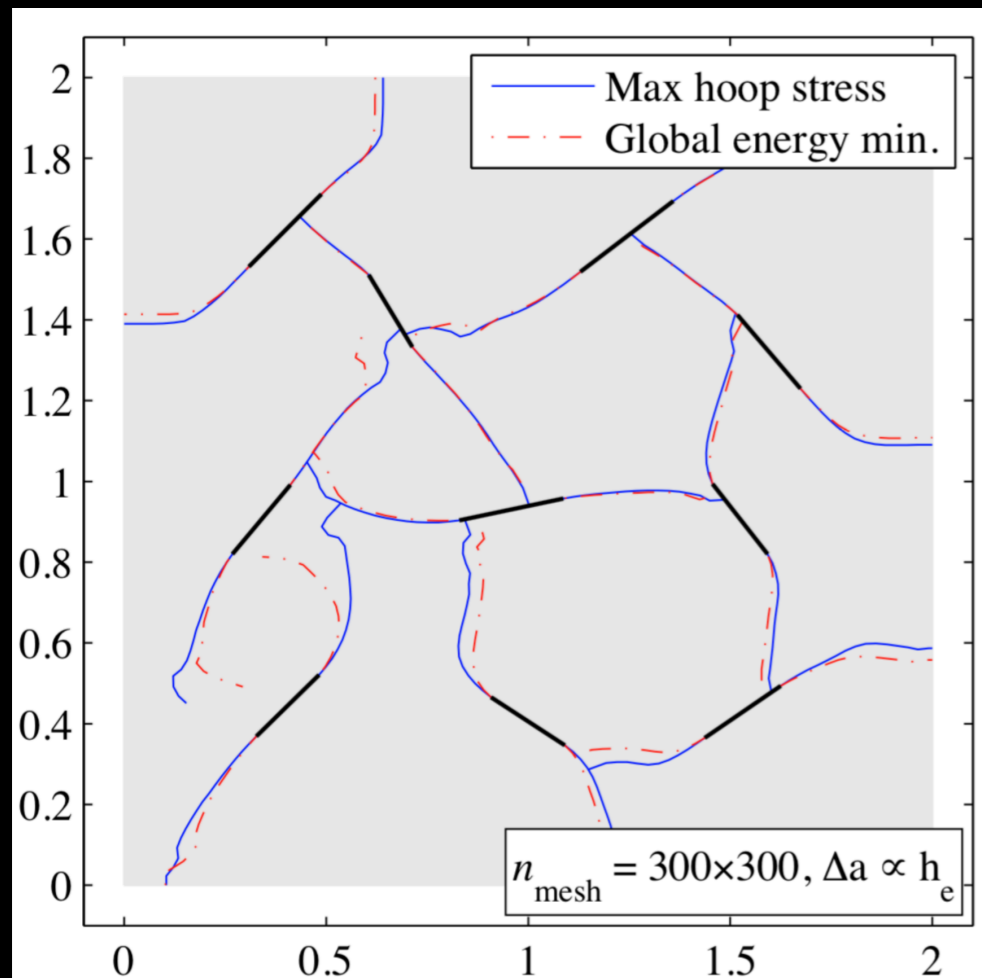
**Energy method  
for brittle fracture (glass)  
1922**

**Phase-field implementation  
of Marigo's theory, 2000**

**Variational formulation  
of Griffith's theory, 1998**

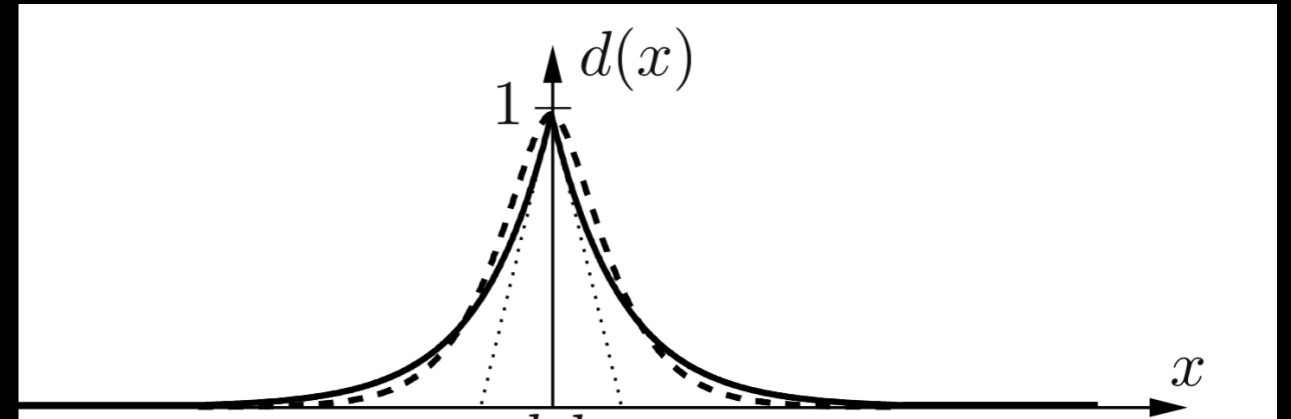
**Reformulation of phase-field  
fracture accessible to engineers  
2010**

# PFM's key idea 1: crack geometry approximation



# PFM's key idea 1: crack geometry approximation

$$d(x) = \exp\left(-\frac{|x|}{b}\right)$$



$$\frac{1}{b}d(x) - bd''(x) = 0$$

$$I[d(x)] = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{b}d^2 + b[d'(x)]^2 \right] dx$$

$$I[d(\mathbf{x})] = \int \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{b}d^2 + b\nabla d \cdot \nabla d \right] dV$$

# PFM's key idea 2: Griffith's energy principle

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Solutions are **minimiser** of the energy functional

$$\Psi(\mathbf{u}, \Gamma) = \int_{\Omega/\Gamma} \psi_0(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}(\mathbf{u})) dV + \int_{\Gamma} G_c dA - \mathcal{P}$$

strain energy                      surface/fracture

# Variational fracture with phase-field approximation of the crack surfaces

$$\int_{\Gamma} G_c dA \approx \int_{\Omega} G_c \gamma(d; \nabla d) dA$$

$$\gamma(d; \nabla d) = \frac{1}{c_\alpha} \left[ \frac{1}{b} \alpha(d) + b |\nabla d|^2 \right]$$

$$\Psi(\mathbf{u}, d) = \int_{\Omega} g(d) \psi_0(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}(\mathbf{u})) dV + \int_{\Omega} G_c \gamma(d; \nabla d) dV - \mathcal{P}$$

strain energy

surface/fracture energy

GA Francfort, J-J Marigo. Revisiting brittle fracture as an energy minimization problem. *JMPS*, 1998.

B. Bourdin, GA Francfort, and J-J Marigo. Numerical experiments in revisited brittle fracture. *JMPS*, 2000.

# Governing equations

## Governing equations

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} + \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0} \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$g'(d)\psi_0(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}) + G_c \delta_d \gamma = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathcal{B}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{t} \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega_t$$

$$\frac{\partial \gamma}{\partial \nabla d} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\mathcal{B}} = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\mathcal{B}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = g(d) \frac{\partial \psi_0}{\partial \boldsymbol{\epsilon}}$$

$$\psi_0 = \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\epsilon} : \mathbb{E}_0 : \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = g(d) \mathbb{E}_0 : \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

$$g(d) = (1 - d)^2$$

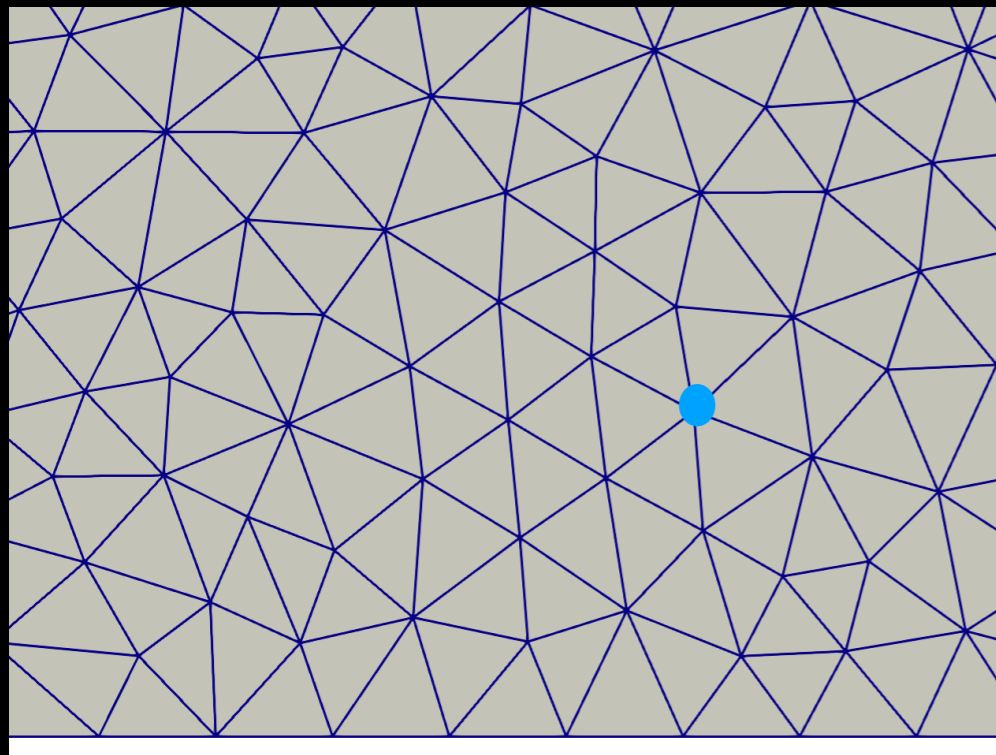
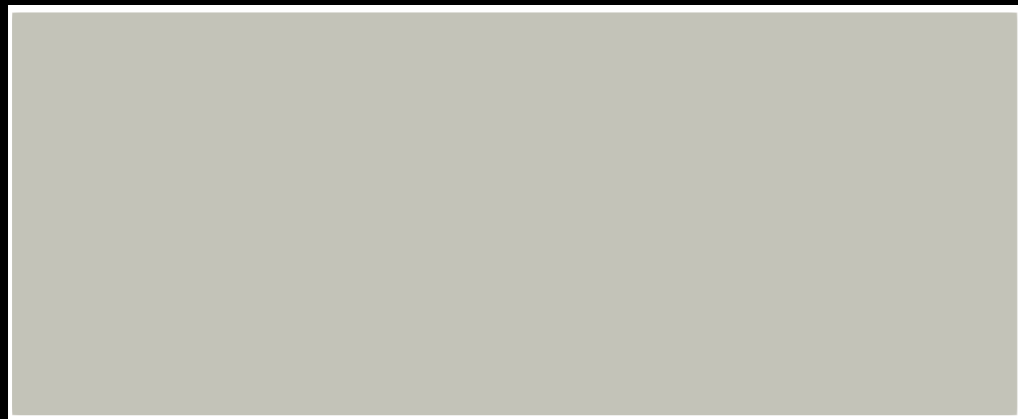
$$\alpha(d) = d^2$$

$$\dot{d} \geq 0$$

only for brittle fracture



# Implementation: multi-field elements & staggered solver



●  $(u_x, u_y, d)$

Solve for displacements with damage fixed

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} + \boldsymbol{b} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = g(d^*) \mathbb{E}_0 : \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

Solve for damage with new displacements

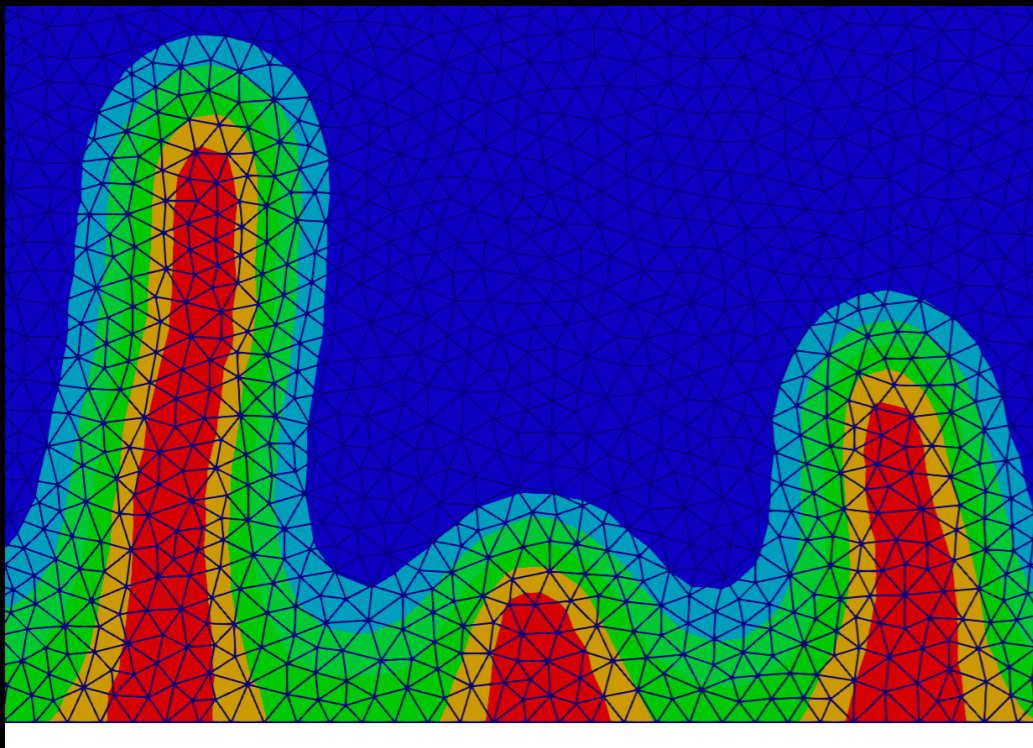
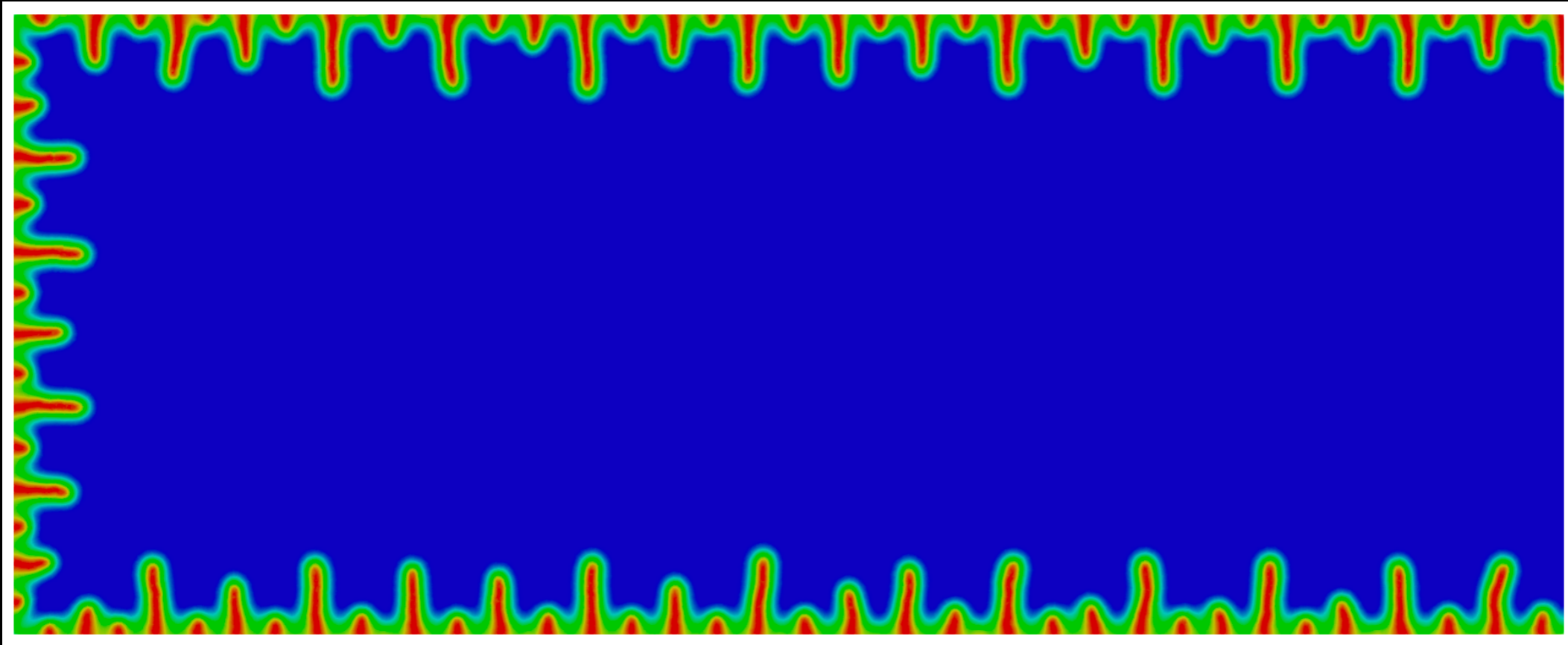
$$G_c \delta_d \gamma = -g'(d) \psi_0(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}(\boldsymbol{u}))$$

B. Bourdin, GA Francfort, and J-J Marigo. *JMPS*, 2000.

J.Y. Wu, V.P. Nguyen et al. *Advances in Applied Mechanics*, 2018

# Cracks are region where damage is non-zero

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many elements  
across the damage band

# How to select the value of the length scale?

	AT2	AT1
fracture type	brittle	brittle
Elastic domain	No	Yes
$\alpha(d)$	$d^2$	$d$
$\omega(d)$	$(1 - d)^2$	$(1 - d)^2$
$c_\alpha$	2	8/3
length scale $b$	$b = \frac{27}{256} l_{\text{ch}}$	$b = \frac{3}{8} l_{\text{ch}}$
Damage bandwidth	$\infty$	$4b$
Parameters	$E_0, \nu_0, \rho, G_f, b(f_t)$	$E_0, \nu_0, \rho, G_f, b(f_t)$

$$l_{\text{ch}} = \frac{E_0 G_f}{f_t^2}$$

Such length scales can be: too small

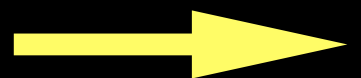
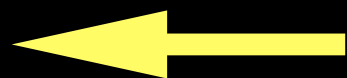
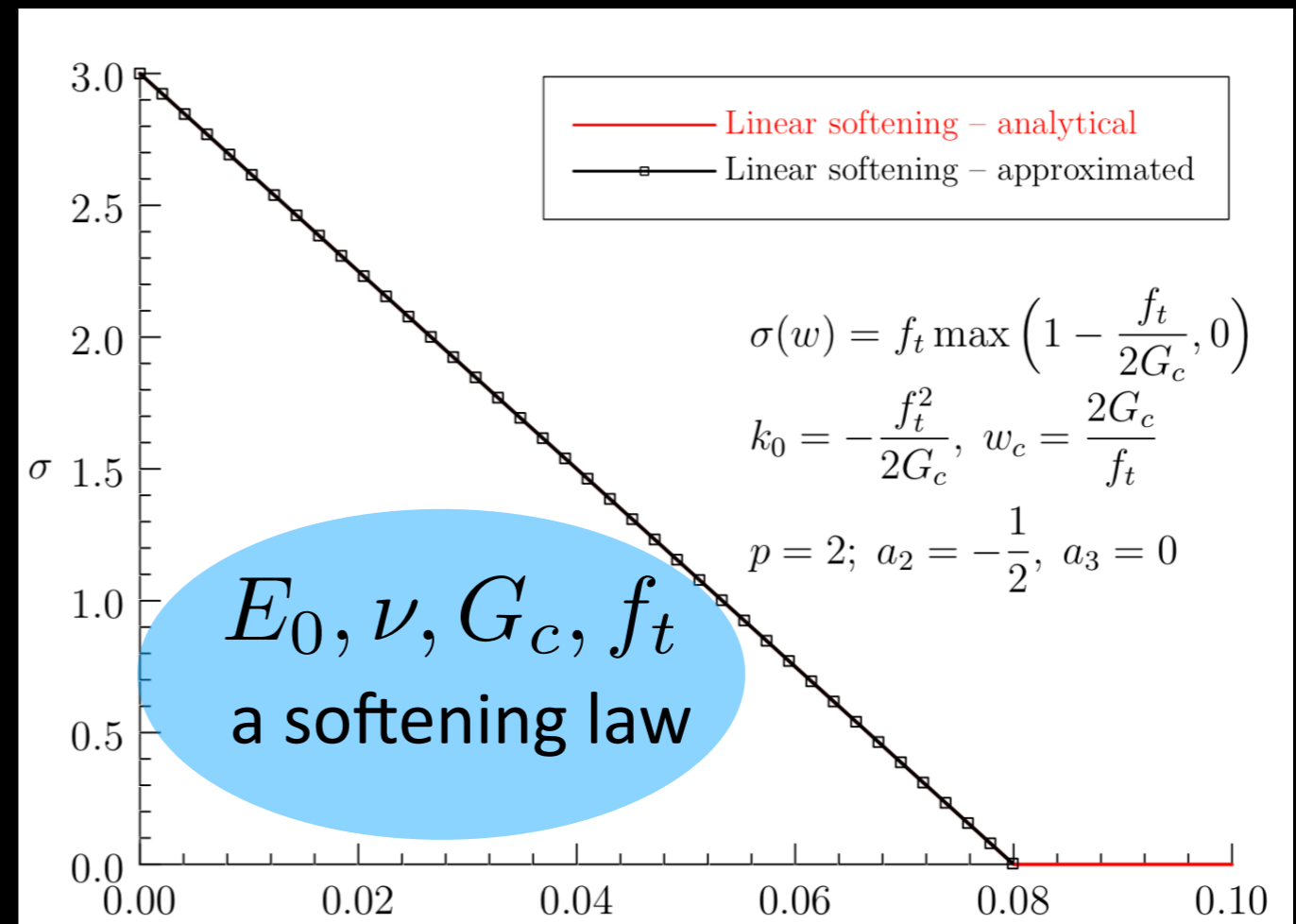
Such length scales can be: too big

# PFM for quasi-brittle fracture: rational degradation function

$$g(d) = \frac{(1-d)^p}{(1-d)^p + a_1 d \cdot P(d)}$$

$$P(d) = 1 + a_2 d + a_3 d^2$$

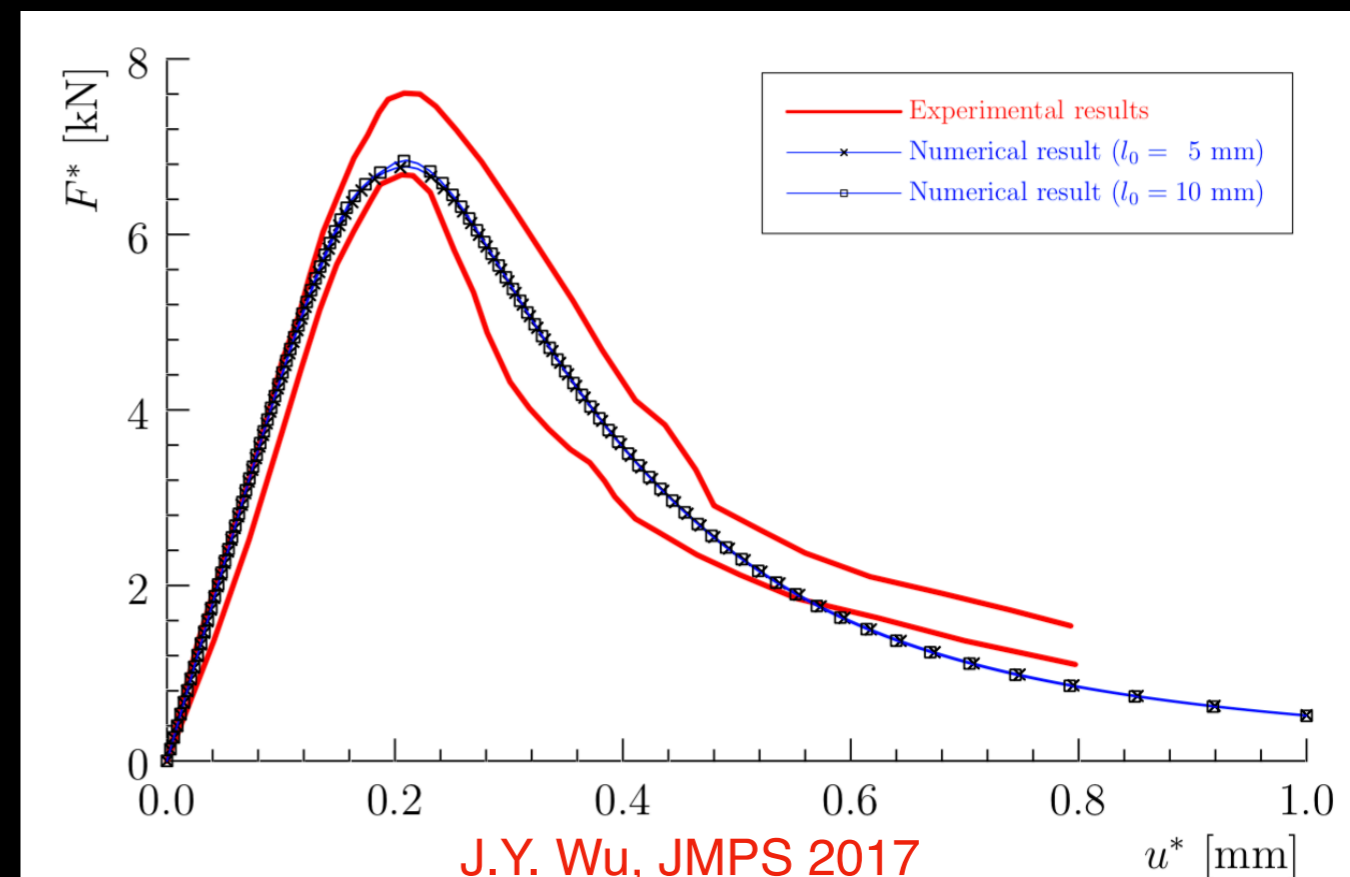
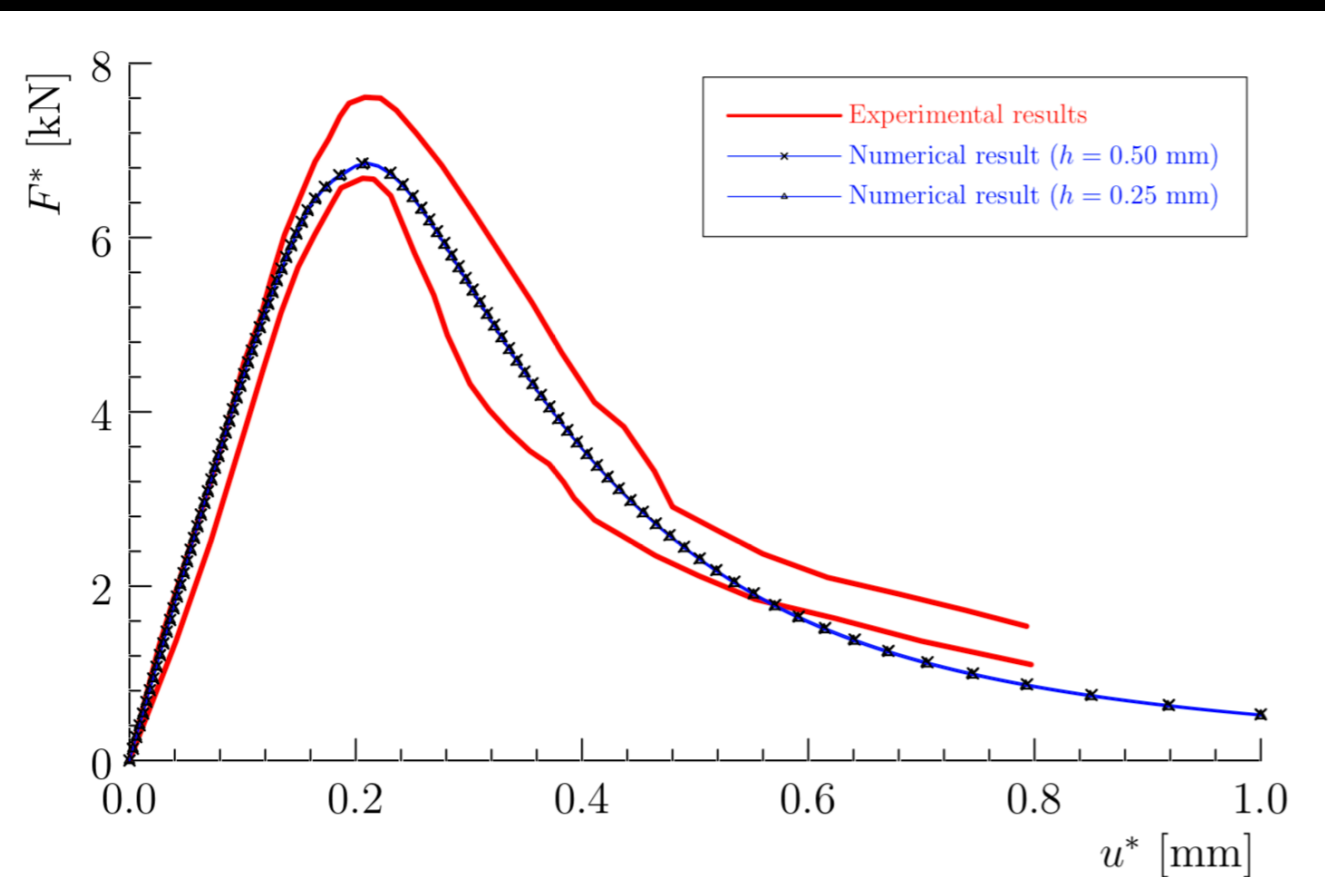
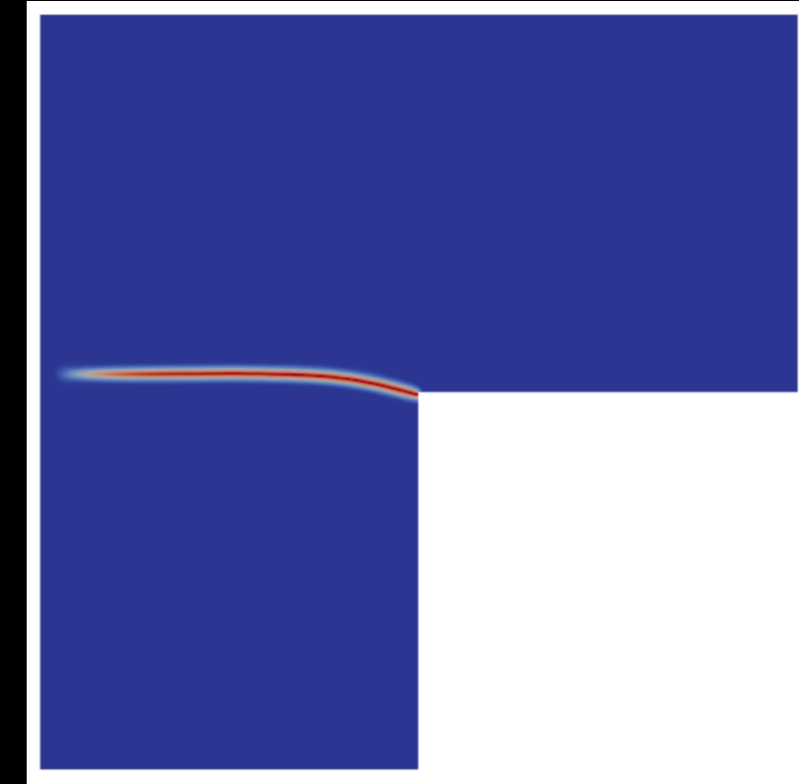
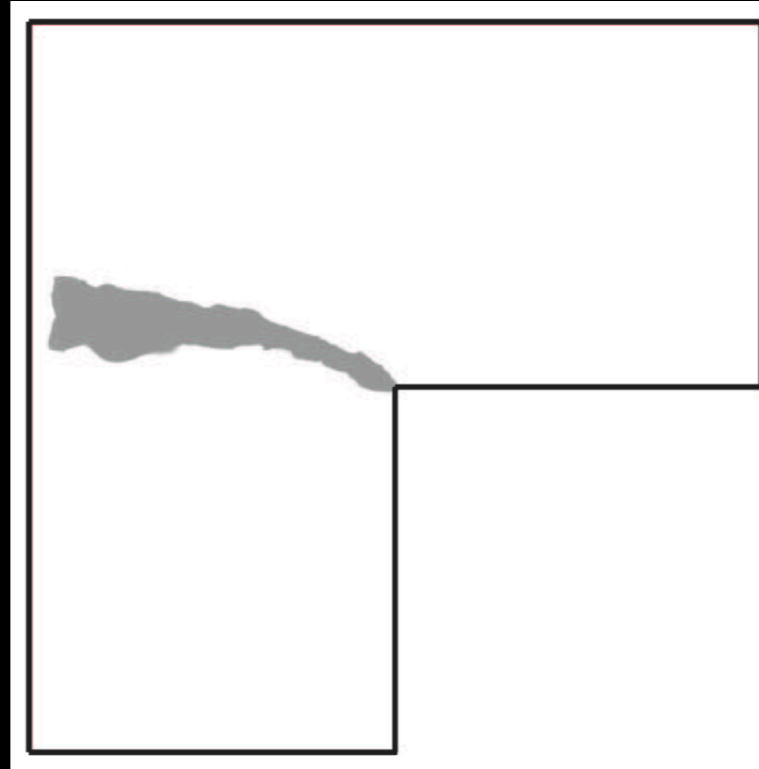
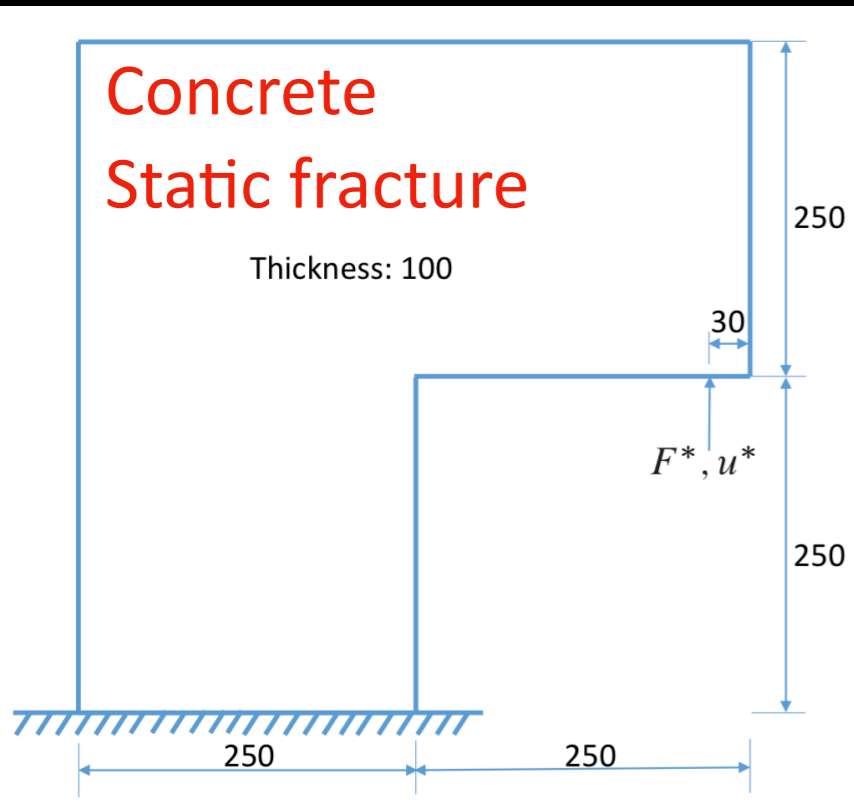
$$\alpha(d) = 2d - d^2$$



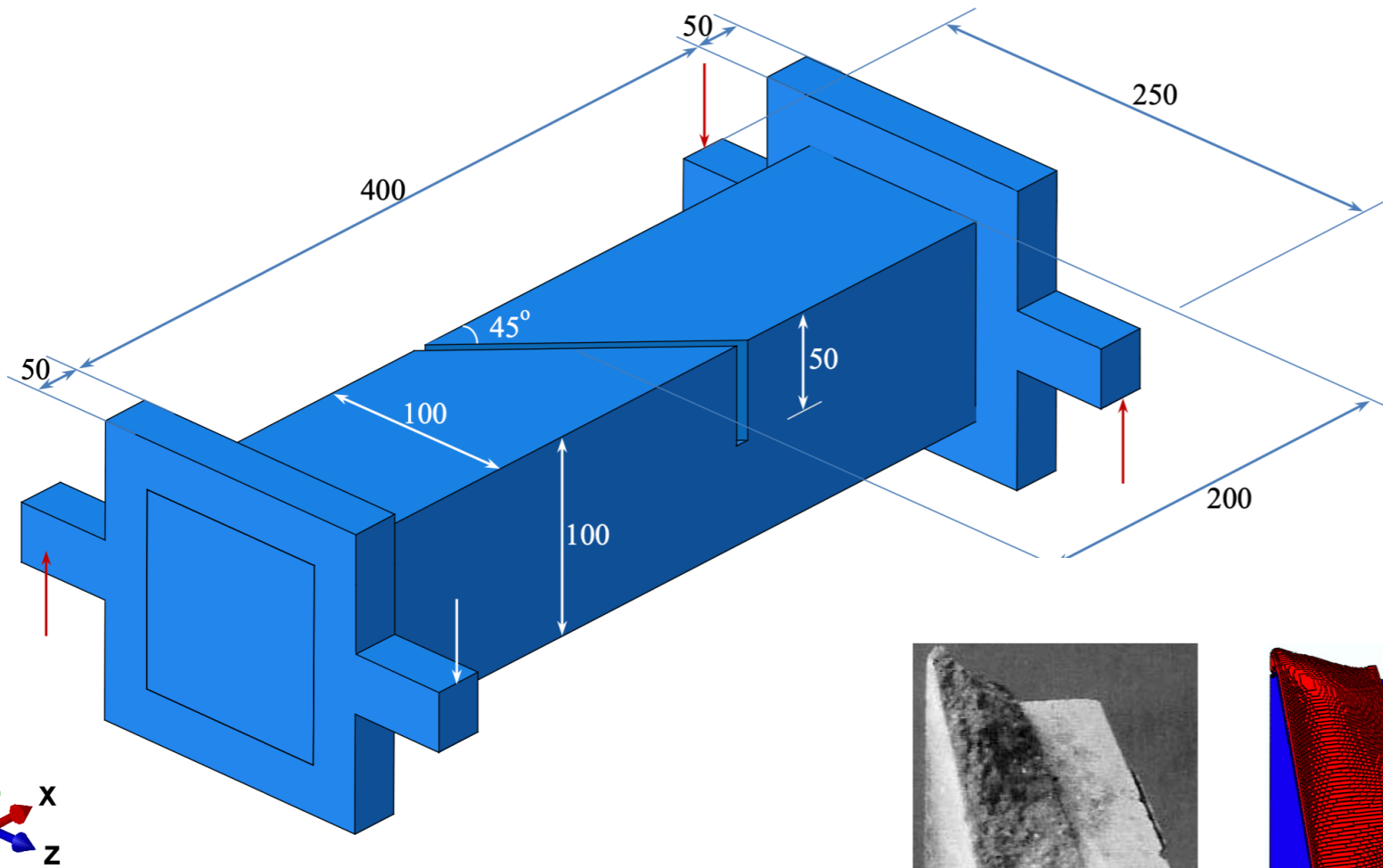
J. Y. Wu. A unified phase-field theory for the mechanics of damage and quasi-brittle failure. *JMPS*, 2017.

J. Y. Wu and V. P. Nguyen. A length scale insensitive phase-field damage model for brittle fracture. *JMPS*, 2018.

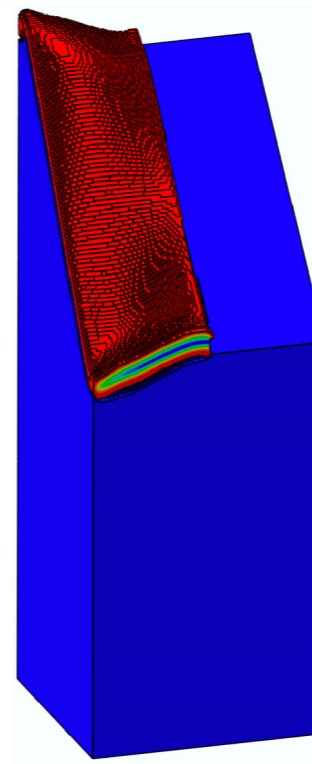
# 2D quasi-brittle fracture



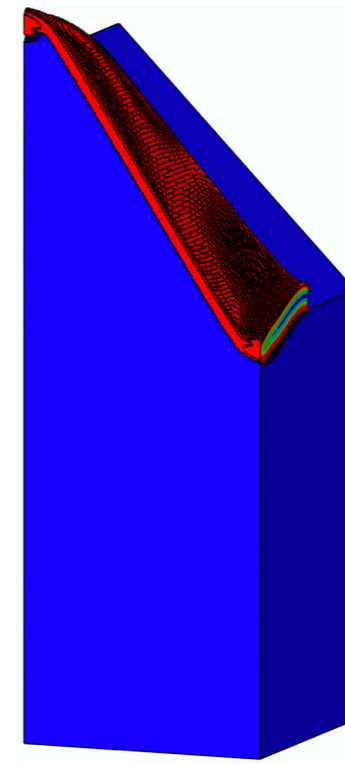
# 3D quasi-brittle fracture



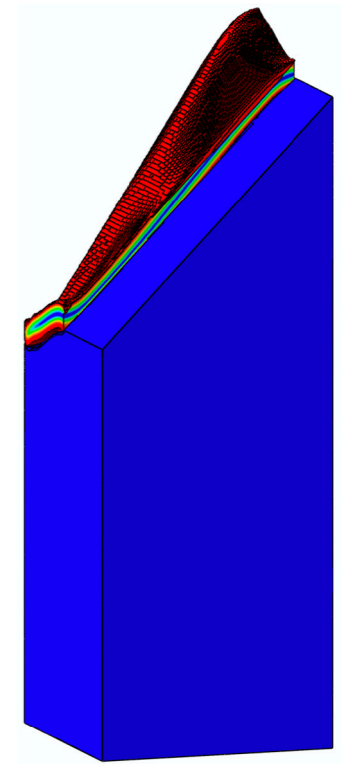
(a) test



(b) view 1

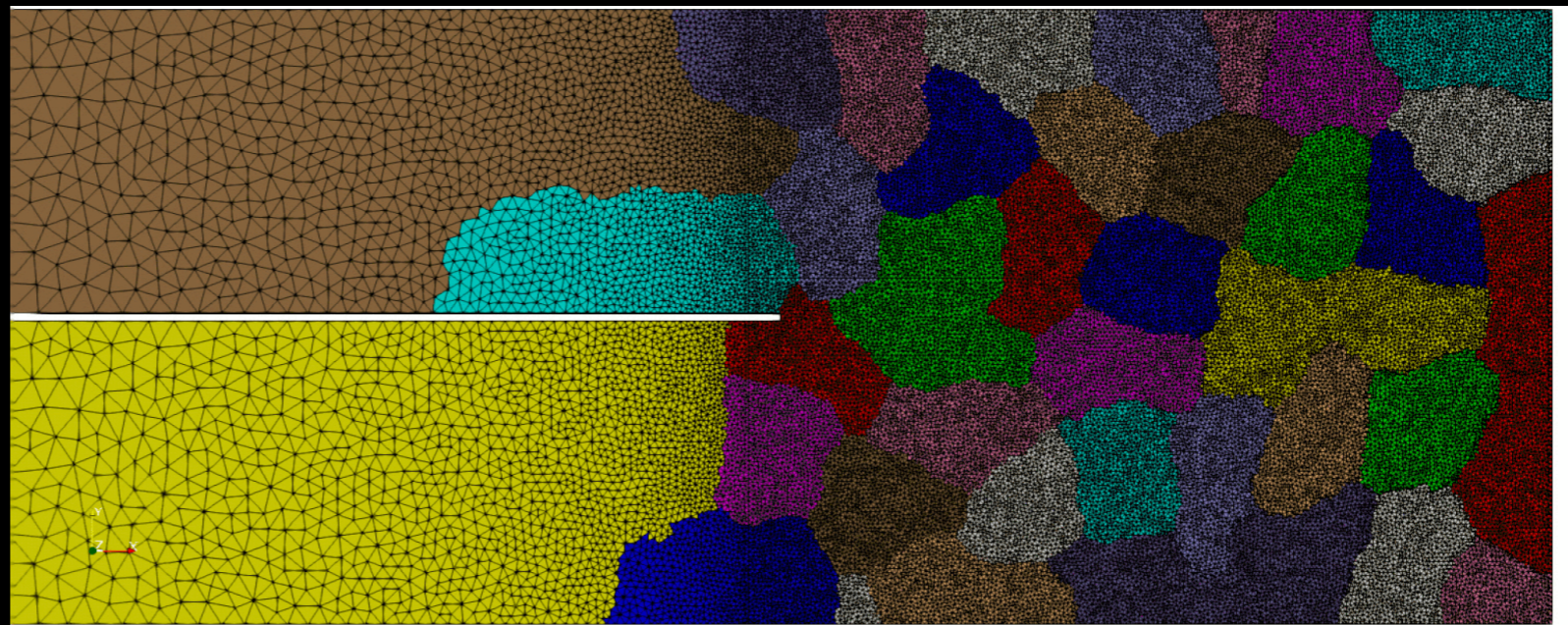
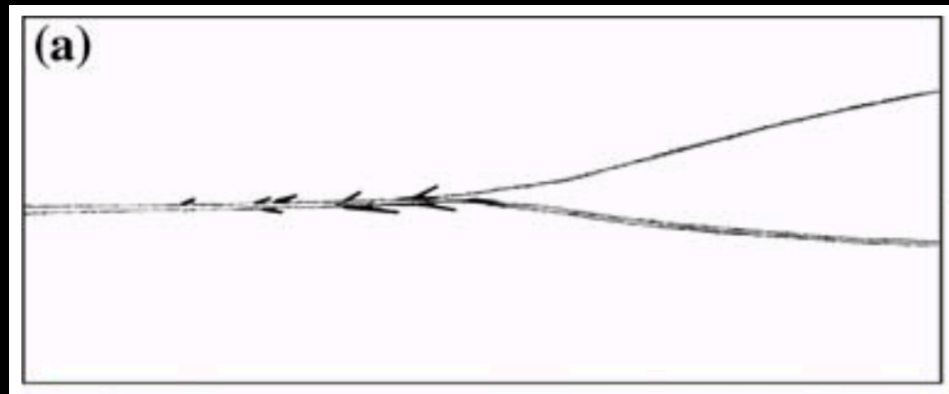
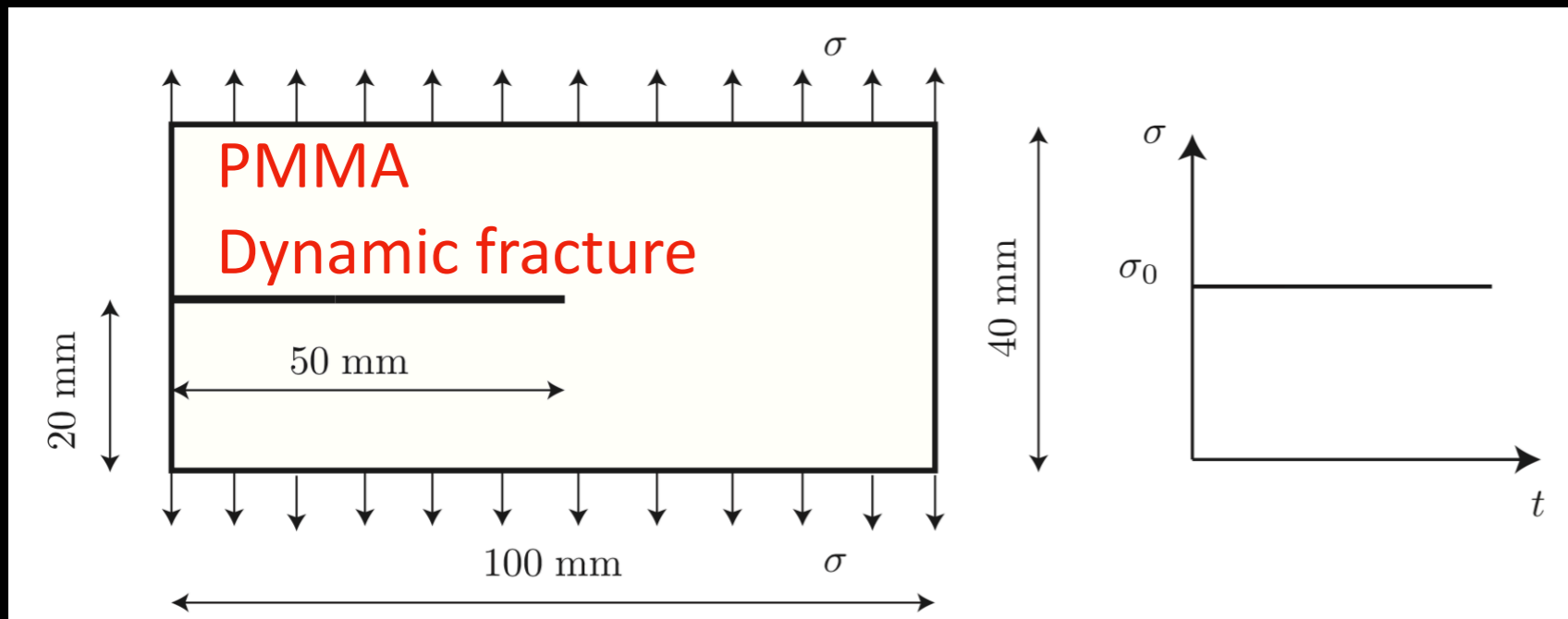


(c) view 2



(d) view 3

# Dynamic brittle fracture:

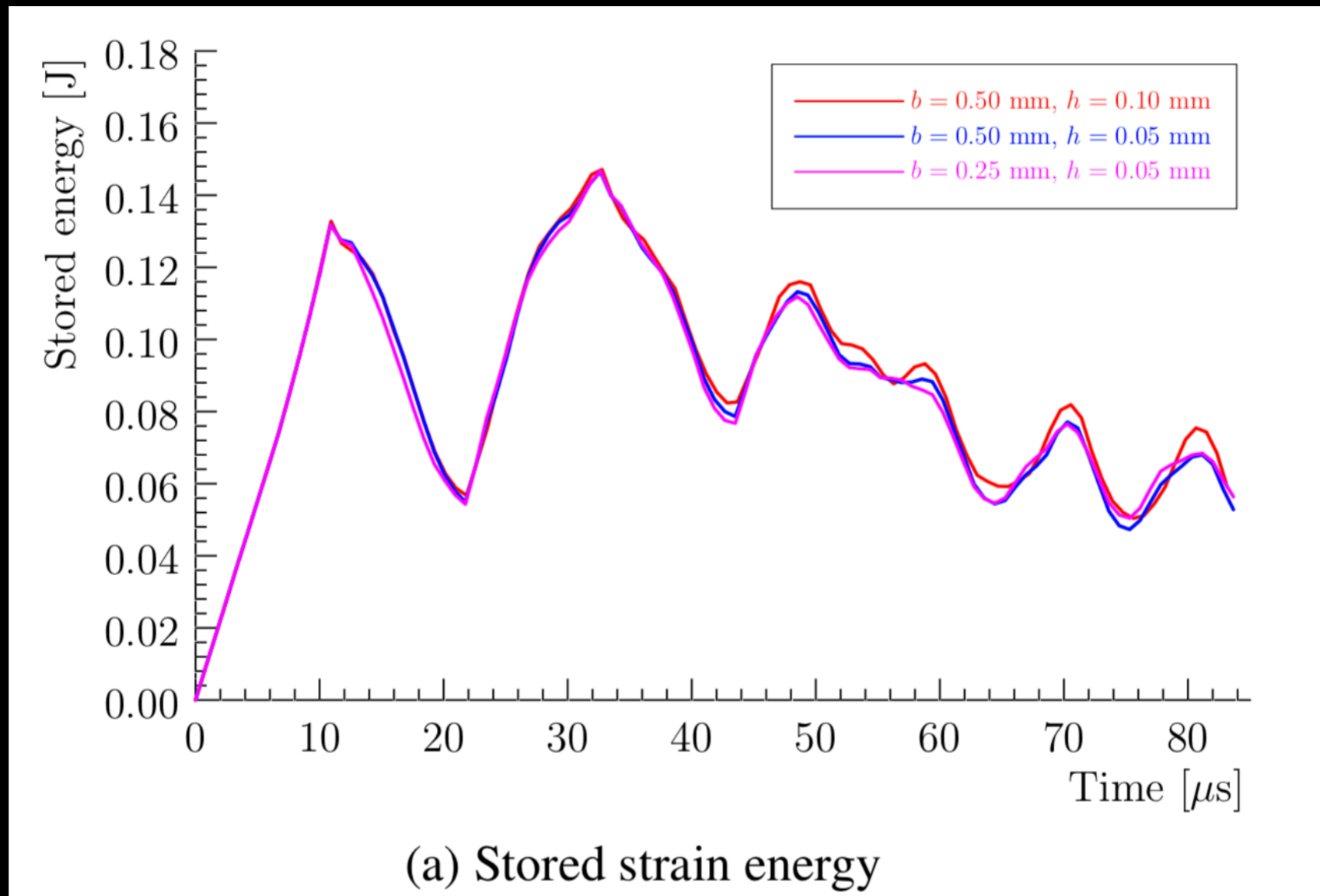


M. J. Borden, C. V. Verhoosel, M. A. Scott, T. J. Hughes, and C. M. Landis. CMAME, 2012.

V.P. Nguyen and J.Y. Wu CMAME 2018

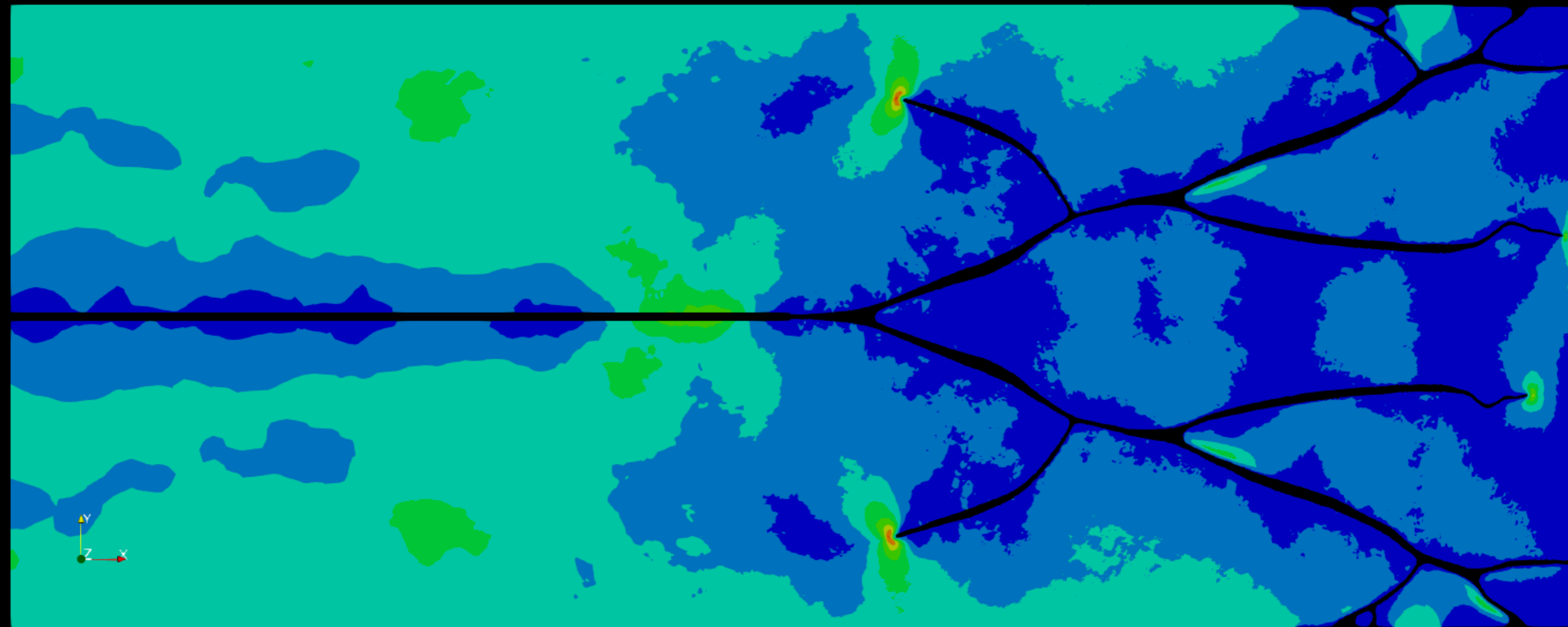
T.K. Mandal, V.P. Nguyen, J.Y. Wu, EFM, 2020

# Dynamic brittle fracture:



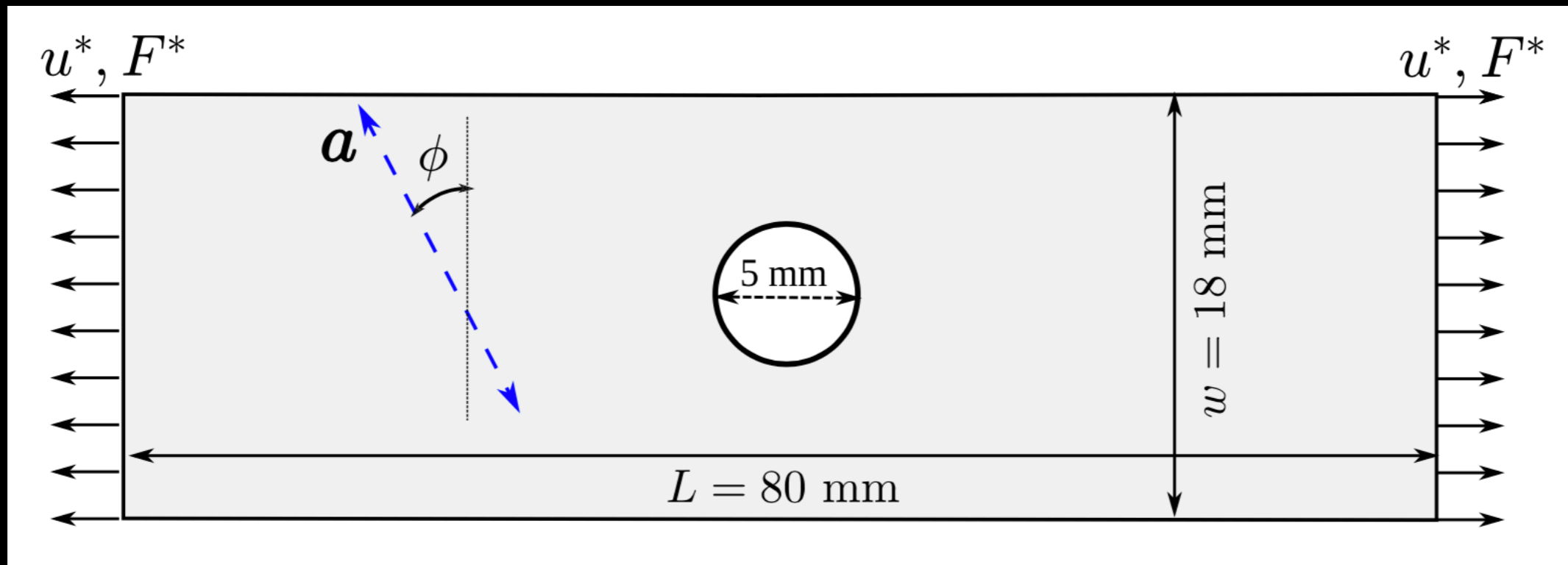


# Dynamic brittle fracture:



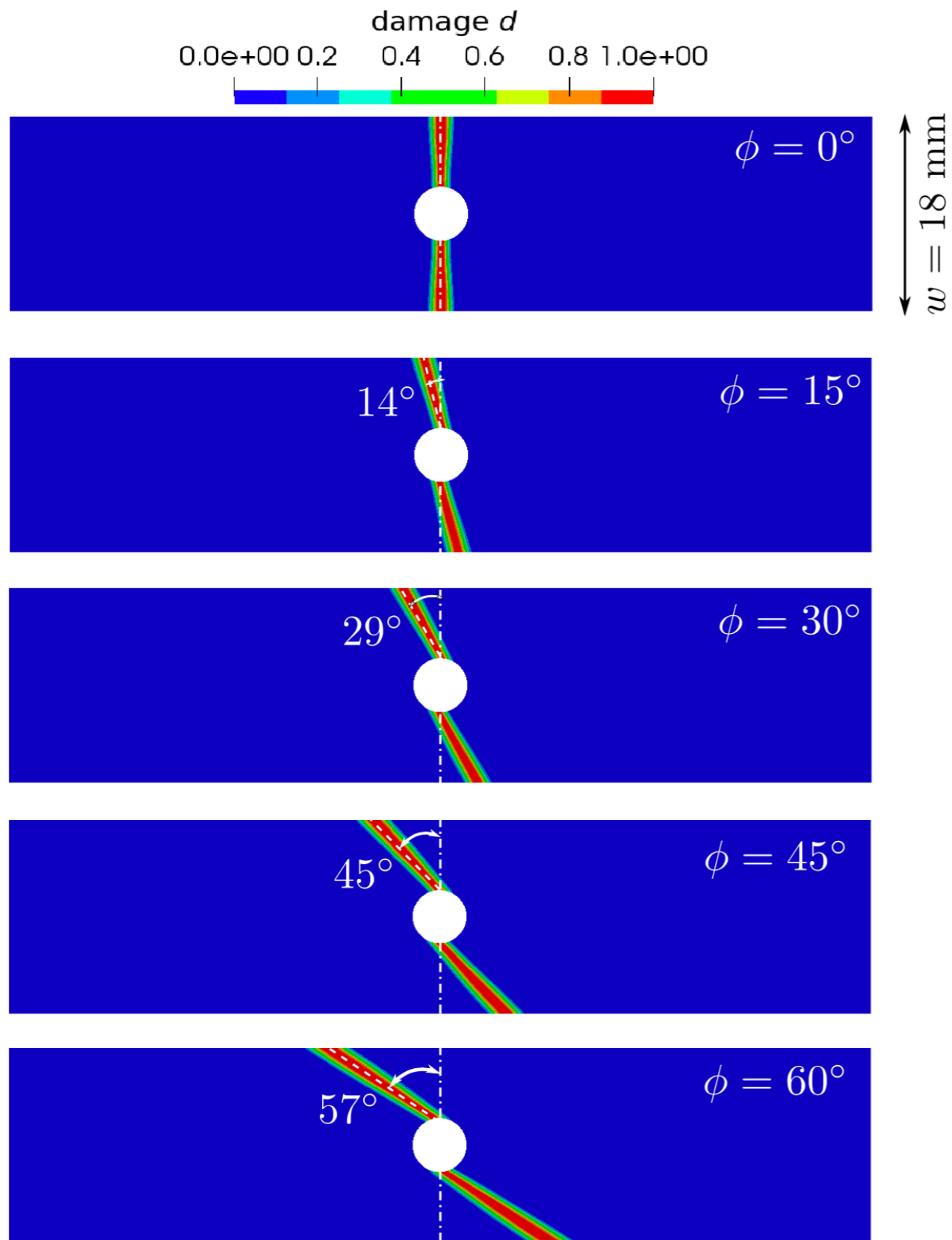
Multiple branching events

# Fracture of fibre-reinforced composites



Modniks J, Sprniņš E, Andersons J, Becker W. Analysis of the effect of a stress raiser on the strength of a UD flax/epoxy composite in off-axis tension. Journal of Composite Materials 2015.

# Fracture of fibre-reinforced composites



crack follows the fibre

# Fracture of fibre-reinforced composites

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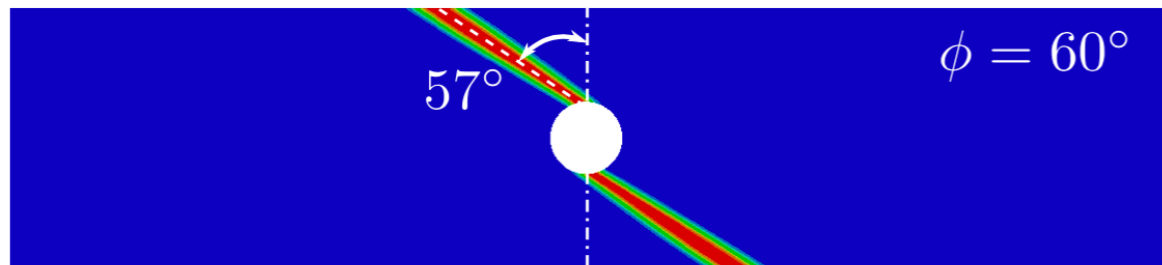
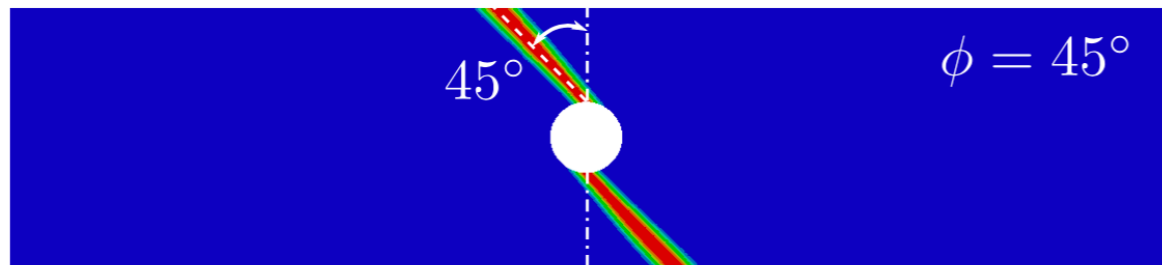
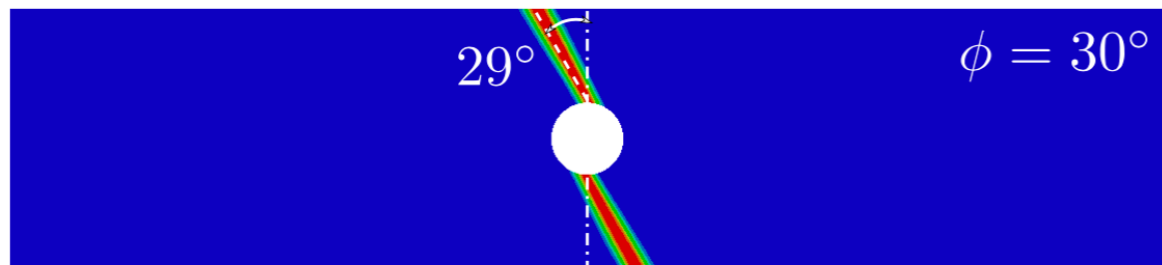
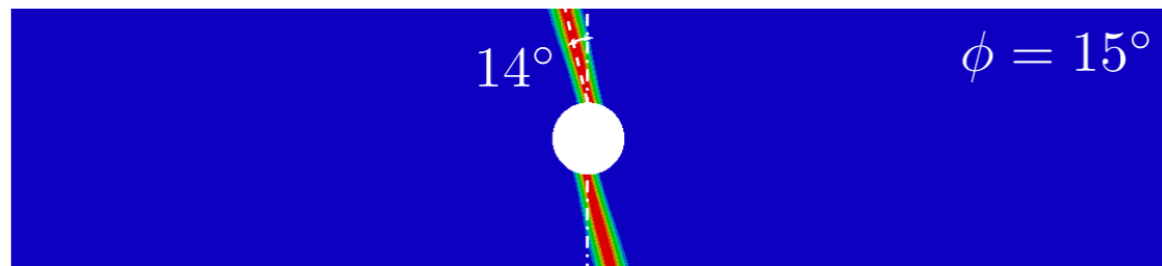
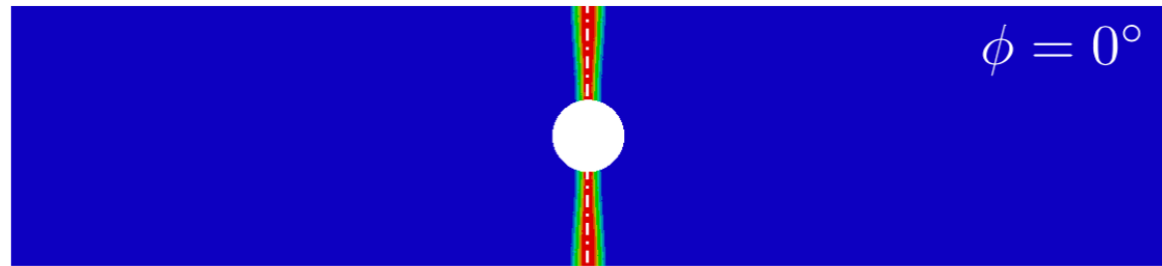
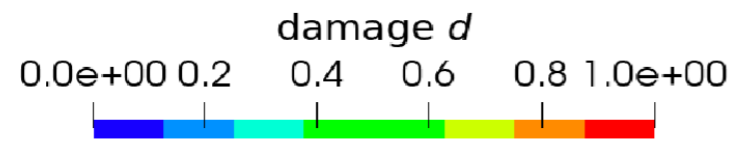
$$\int_{\Gamma} G_c dA \approx \int_{\Omega} G_c \gamma(d; \nabla d) dA$$

$$\gamma(d; \nabla d) = \frac{1}{c_\alpha} \left[ \frac{1}{b} \alpha(d) + b |\nabla d|^2 \right]$$

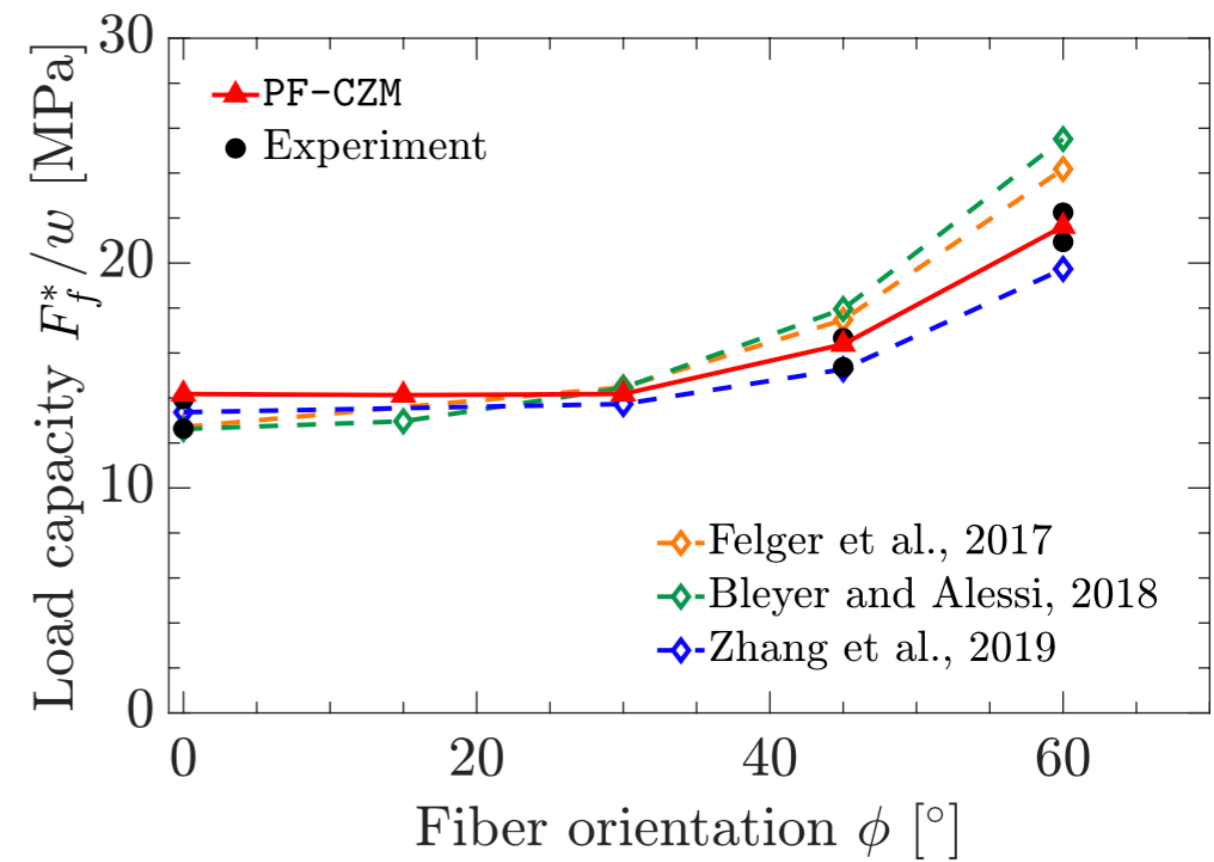
$$\gamma(d; \nabla d) = \frac{1}{c_\alpha} \left[ \frac{1}{b} \alpha(d) + b \nabla d \cdot \mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla d \right]$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{1} + \sum_p \xi_p \mathbf{a}^p \otimes \mathbf{a}^p$$

# Fracture of fibre-reinforced composites



$w = 18 \text{ mm}$



# Thermally induced fracture: thermo-mechanical-damage formulation

## Governing equations

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} + \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0} \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$g'(d)\psi_0(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}) + G_c \delta_d \gamma = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathcal{B}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{t} \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega_t$$

$$\frac{\partial \gamma}{\partial \nabla d} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\mathcal{B}} = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\mathcal{B}$$

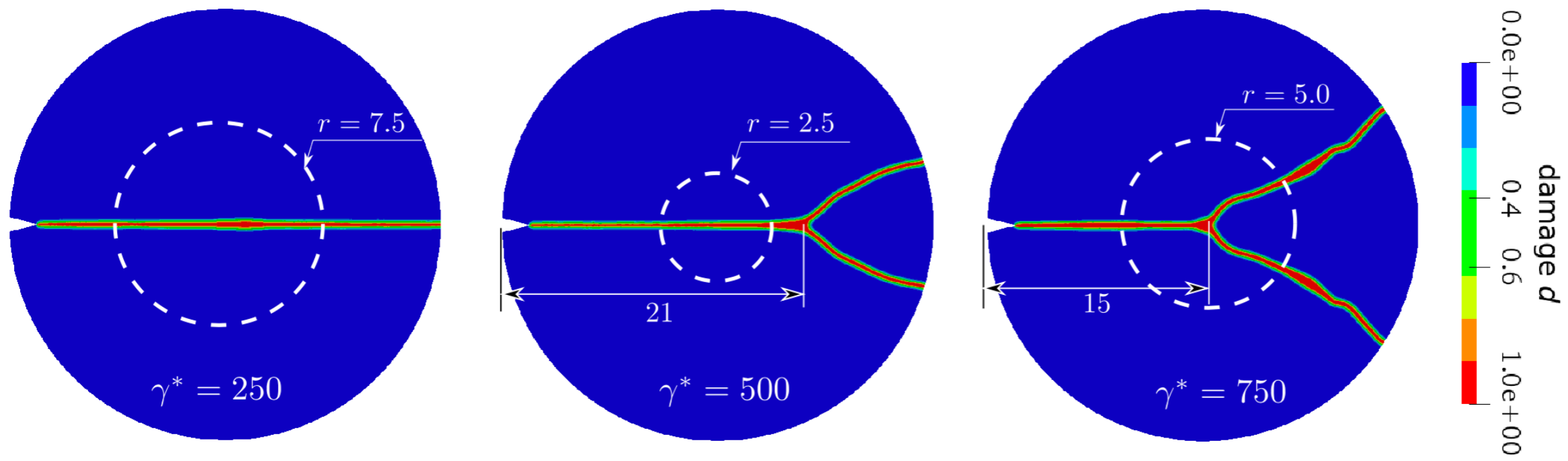
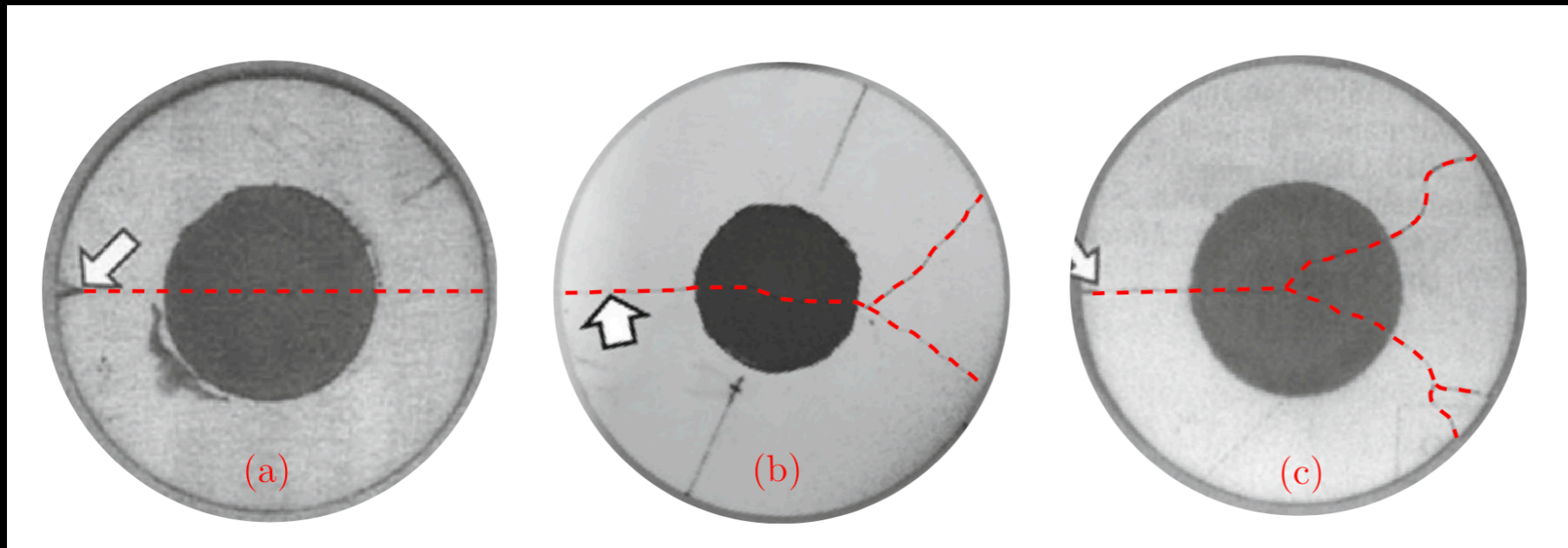
$$\rho c \dot{\theta} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = \gamma^*$$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = g(d)\mathbb{E}_0 : (\boldsymbol{\epsilon} - \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_\theta)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_\theta = \alpha(\theta - \theta_0)\mathbf{1}$$

$$\mathbf{J} = -k\nabla\theta$$

# Thermally induced fracture:



# Conclusions 1

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$$\Psi(\mathbf{u}, d) = \int_{\Omega} g(d)\psi_0(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}(\mathbf{u}))dV + \int_{\Omega} G_c\gamma(d; \nabla d)dV - \mathcal{P}$$

strain energy surface/fracture energy

Works for **brittle/cohesive fracture**

Works for **static/dynamic/thermo fracture**

Works for **both 2D/3D: same implementation**

**Few parameters:** elastic properties, tensile strength & fracture energy

**Very robust**



# Conclusions 2

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$$\Psi(\boldsymbol{u}, d) = \int_{\Omega} g(d)\psi_0(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}(\boldsymbol{u}))dV + \int_{\Omega} G_c\gamma(d; \nabla d)dV - \mathcal{P}$$

strain energy

surface/fracture energy

extended for ductile fracture

**extended for fatigue**

**extended for hydrogen assisted cracking**

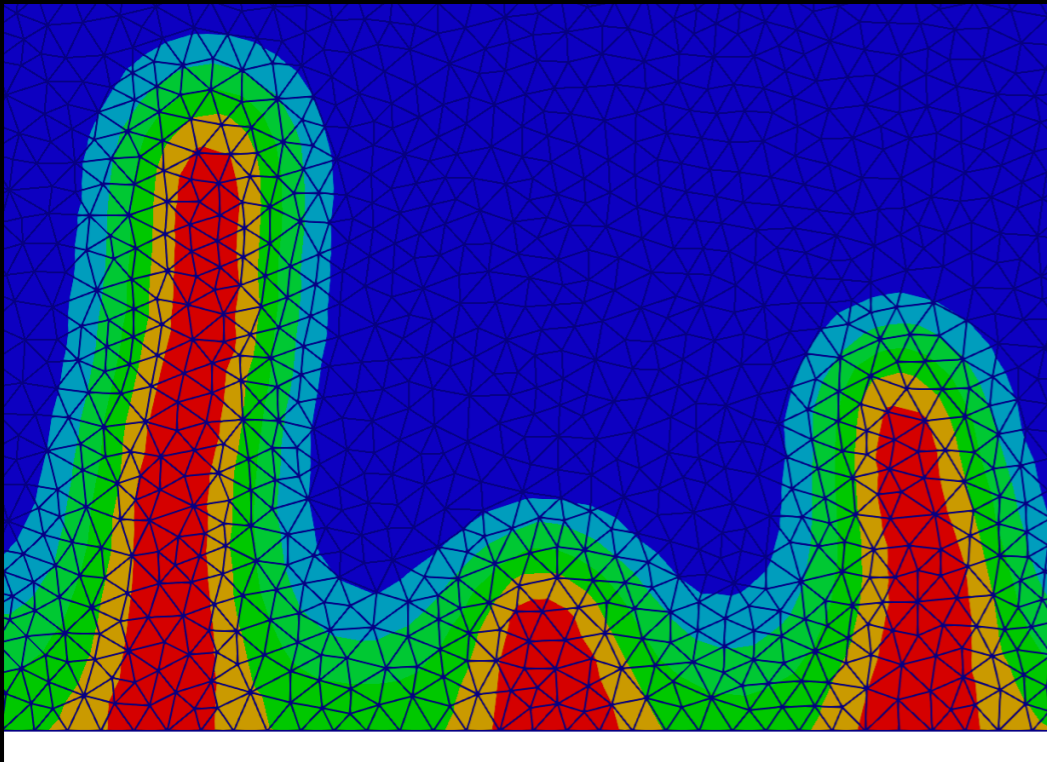
# Conclusions 3

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$$\Psi(\mathbf{u}, d) = \int_{\Omega} g(d)\psi_0(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}(\mathbf{u}))dV + \int_{\Omega} G_c\gamma(d; \nabla d)dV - \mathcal{P}$$

strain energy

surface/fracture energy



too many elements  
across the damage band

*The end*

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