

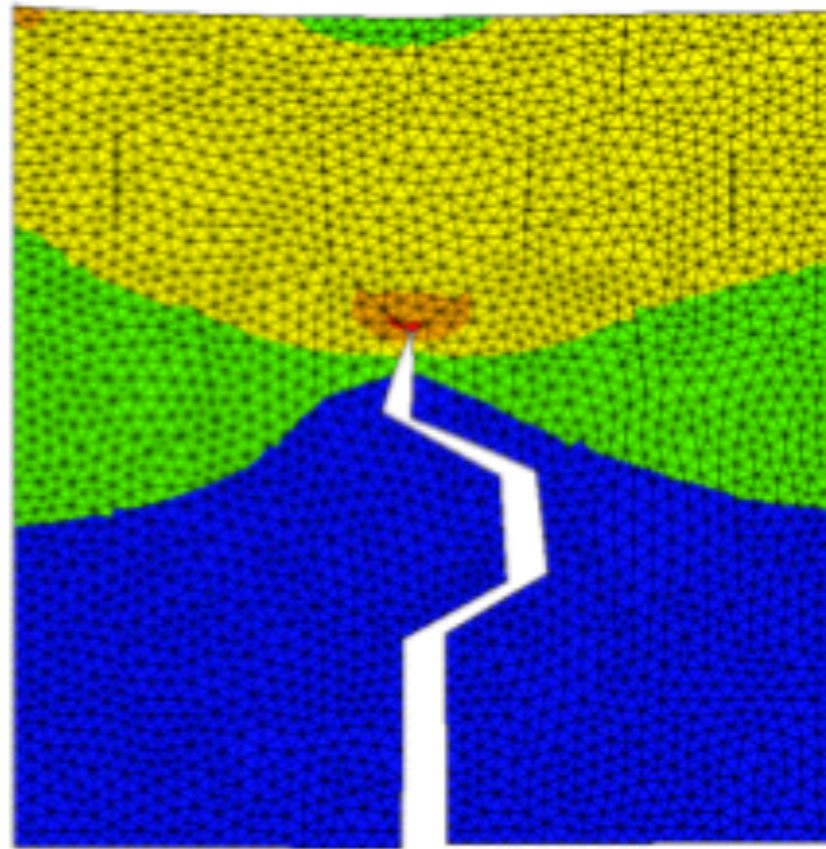
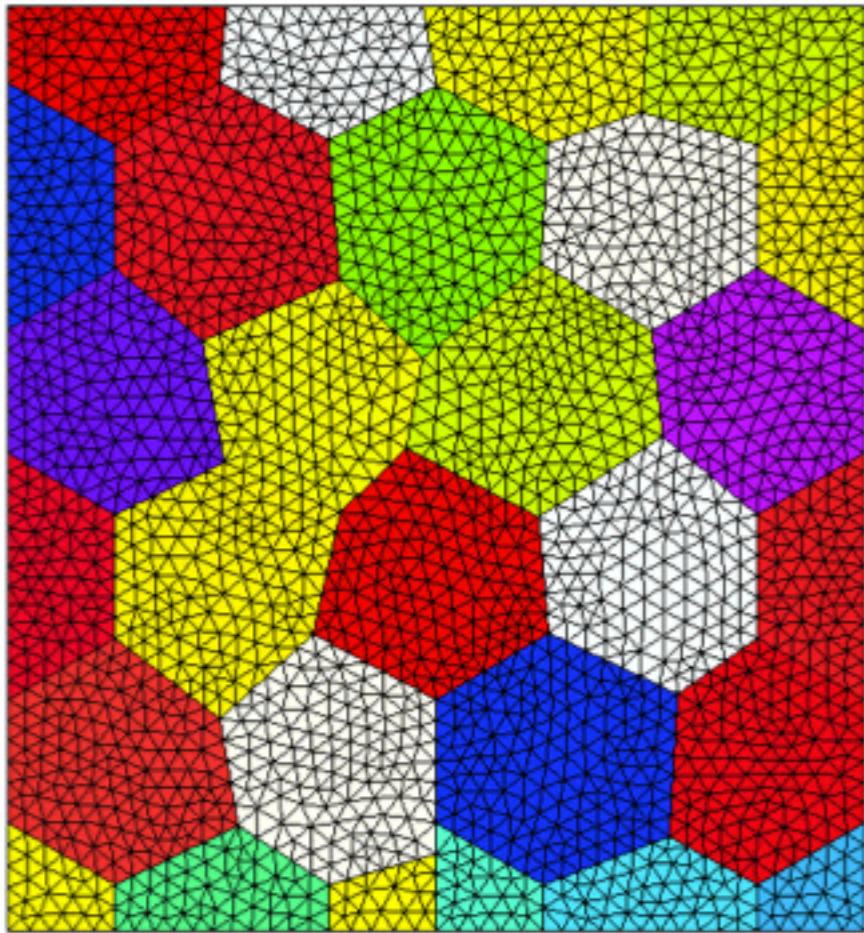
Crack modelling using zero-thickness interface elements

Nguyen Vinh Phu

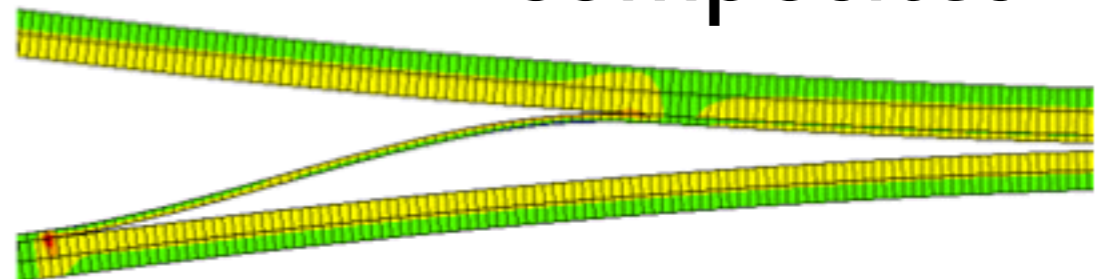
The University of Adelaide

Introduction

There exists problems in which the crack path is known in advance...



delaminated
composites

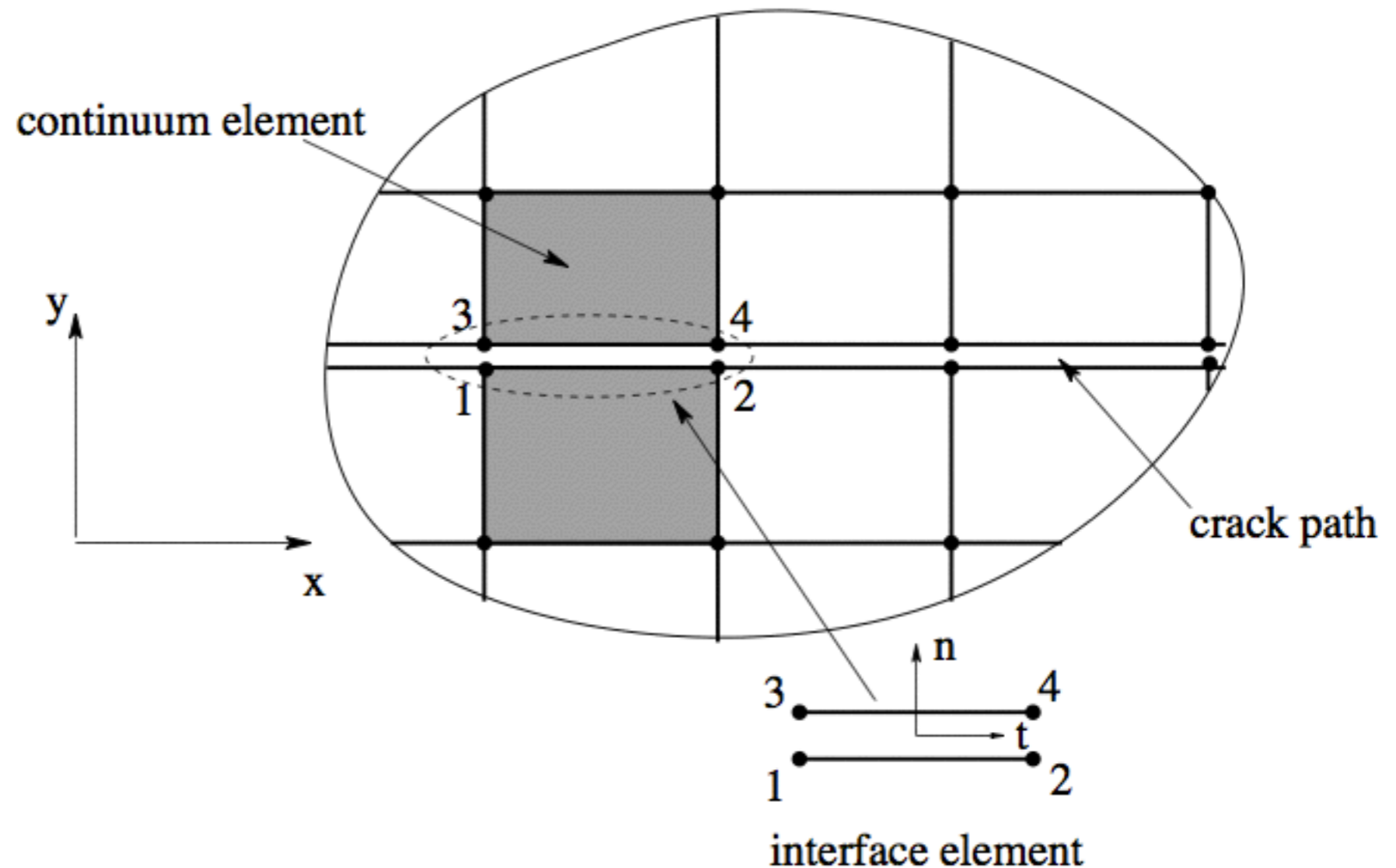


inter-granular cracking in
polycrystals

Introduction (cont.)

...then the use of interface elements is recommended

- easy to implement (2D, 3D)
- available in major FE packages: ABAQUS, LS-DYNA



Alternatives:
XFEM/GFEM

Cohesive crack model

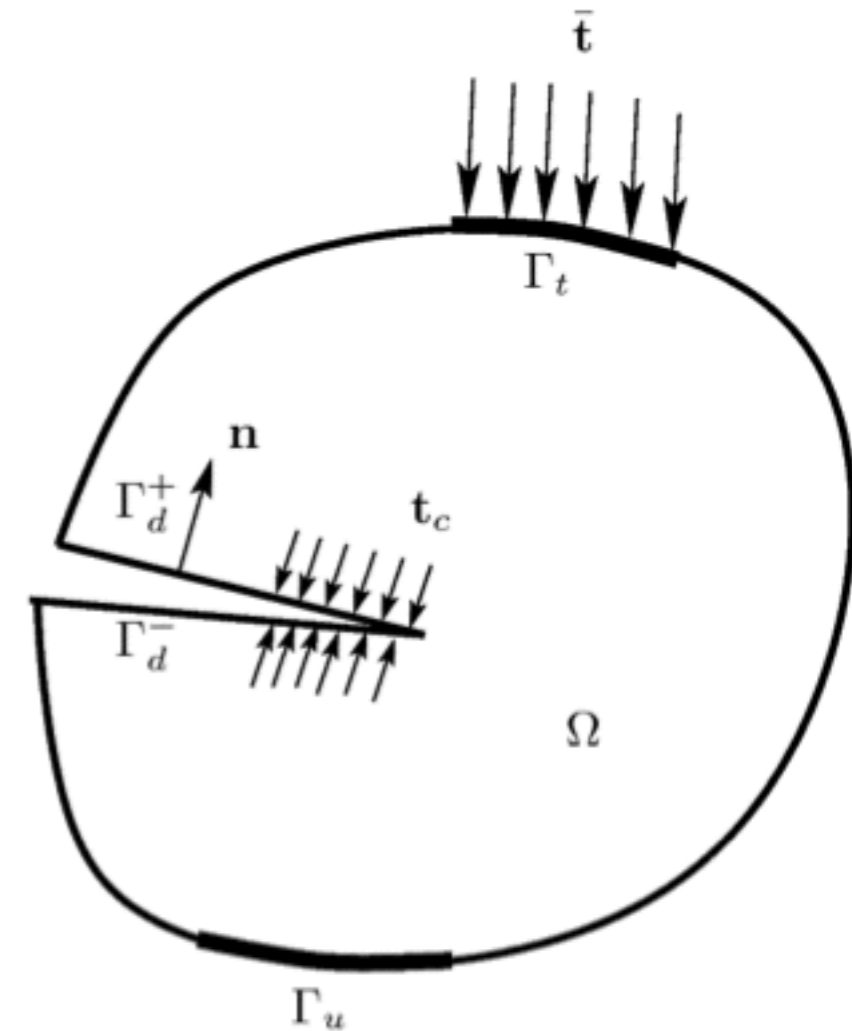
Governing equations (strong form)

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} + \rho \mathbf{b} - \rho \ddot{\mathbf{u}} = 0 \quad \mathbf{x} \in \Omega$$

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} = \bar{\mathbf{t}} \quad \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_t$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \bar{\mathbf{u}} \quad \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_u$$

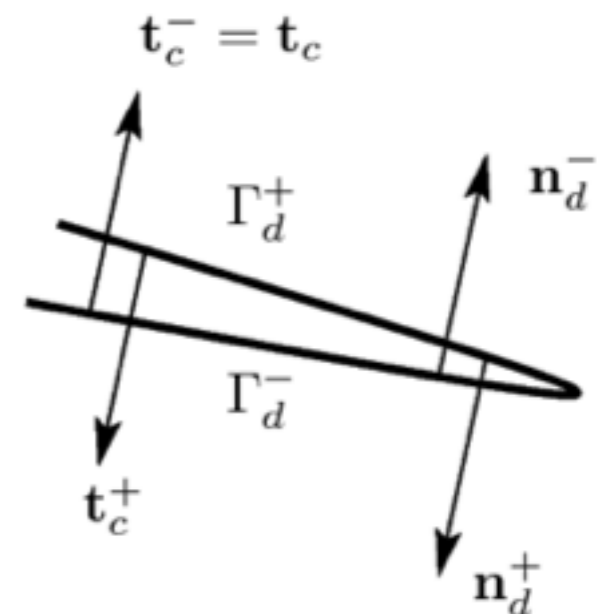
$$\mathbf{n}_d^+ \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} = \mathbf{t}_c^+; \quad \mathbf{n}_d^- \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} = \mathbf{t}_c^-; \quad \mathbf{t}_c^+ = -\mathbf{t}_c = -\mathbf{t}_c^- \quad \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_d$$



Constitutive equations

$$\dot{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} = \mathbf{D} \dot{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{deformation}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{t}}^c = \mathbf{T}[[\dot{\mathbf{u}}]] \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{separation}$$



Cohesive crack model

Weak form

$$\delta W^{\text{kin}} = \delta W^{\text{ext}} - \delta W^{\text{int}} - \delta W^{\text{coh}} \quad \text{new term}$$

where

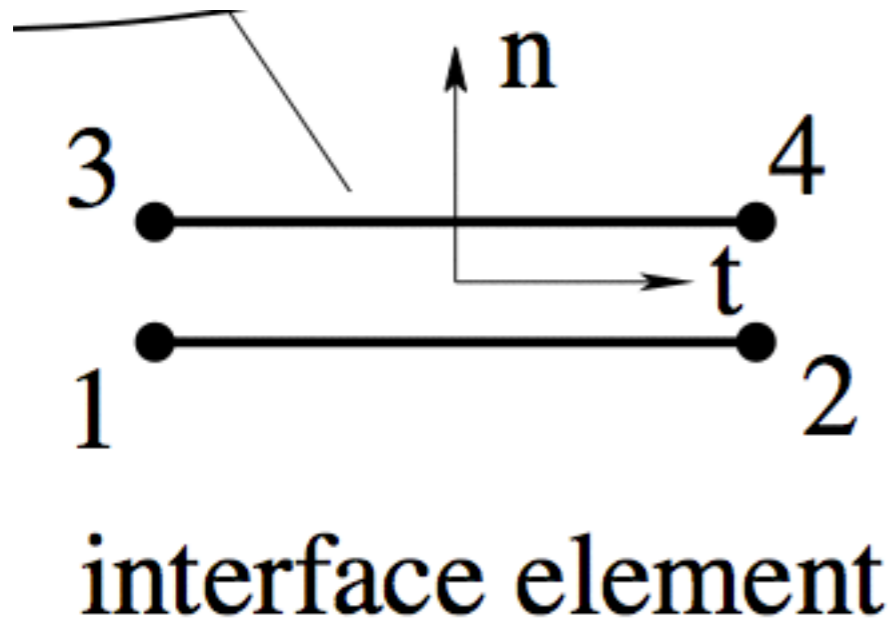
$$\delta W^{\text{kin}} = \int_{\Omega} \delta \mathbf{u} \cdot \rho \ddot{\mathbf{u}} d\Omega \quad (\text{skipped for static problems})$$

$$\delta W^{\text{int}} = \int_{\Omega} \nabla^s \delta \mathbf{u} : \boldsymbol{\sigma} d\Omega$$

$$\delta W^{\text{ext}} = \int_{\Omega} \delta \mathbf{u} \cdot \rho \mathbf{b} d\Omega + \int_{\Gamma_t} \delta \mathbf{u} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{t}} d\Gamma_t$$

$$\delta W^{\text{coh}} = \int_{\Gamma_d} \delta [[\mathbf{u}]] \cdot \mathbf{t}^c d\Gamma_d$$

Discrete equations



$$\mathbf{u}^+ = \mathbf{N}^{\text{int}} \mathbf{u}^+ \quad \text{upper face}$$

$$\mathbf{u}^- = \mathbf{N}^{\text{int}} \mathbf{u}^- \quad \text{lower face}$$

$$\mathbf{N}^{\text{int}} = \begin{bmatrix} N_1 & 0 & N_2 & 0 \\ 0 & N_1 & 0 & N_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$N_1 = 0.5(1 - \xi)$$

$$N_2 = 0.5(1 + \xi)$$

$$[[\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})]] = \mathbf{u}^+ - \mathbf{u}^- = \mathbf{N}^{\text{int}} (\mathbf{u}^+ - \mathbf{u}^-)$$

Solid elements

$$\mathbf{u} = N_I \mathbf{u}_I, \quad \delta \mathbf{u} = N_I \delta \mathbf{u}_I$$

Discrete equation

$$\mathbf{M} \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{f}^{\text{ext}} - \mathbf{f}^{\text{int}} - \mathbf{f}^{\text{coh}}$$

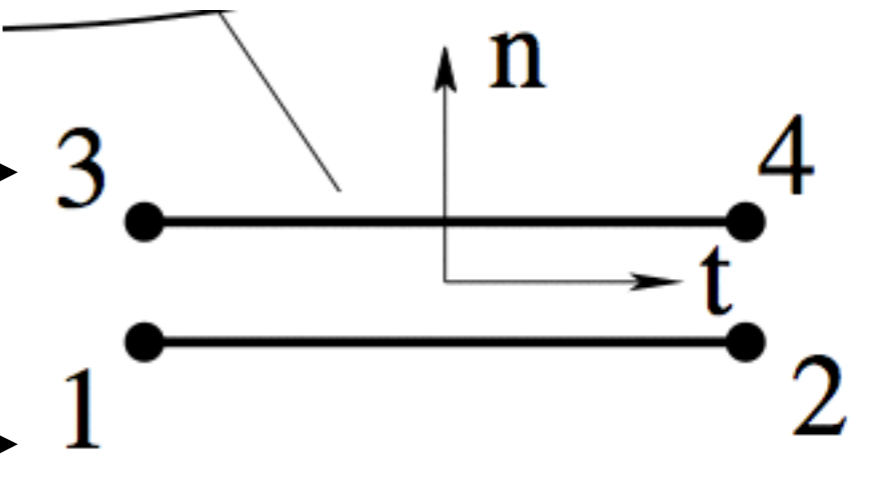
$$\mathbf{M}_e = \int_{\Omega_e} \rho \mathbf{N}^T \mathbf{N} d\Omega_e$$

$$\mathbf{f}_e^{\text{int}} = \int_{\Omega_e} \mathbf{B}^T \boldsymbol{\sigma} d\Omega_e$$

$$\mathbf{f}_e^{\text{ext}} = \int_{\Omega_e} \rho \mathbf{N}^T \mathbf{b} d\Omega_e + \int_{\Gamma_t^e} \mathbf{N}^T \bar{\mathbf{t}} d\Gamma_t^e$$

Discrete equations (cont.)

$$\mathbf{f}_{ie,+}^{\text{coh}} = \int_{\Gamma} \mathbf{N}_{\text{int}}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{t}^{\text{c}} d\Gamma \xrightarrow{\text{assembled}}$$

$$\mathbf{f}_{ie,-}^{\text{coh}} = - \int_{\Gamma} \mathbf{N}_{\text{int}}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{t}^{\text{c}} d\Gamma \xrightarrow{\text{assembled}}$$


The diagram shows an interface element consisting of two parallel horizontal line segments. The top segment has nodes labeled 3 on the left and 4 on the right. The bottom segment has nodes labeled 1 on the left and 2 on the right. A vertical arrow labeled \mathbf{n} points upwards from the top segment, and a horizontal arrow labeled \mathbf{t} points to the right from the top segment. A line from the word "assembled" above the first equation points to the top segment of the diagram.

interface element

Static problems

$$\mathbf{f}^{\text{ext}} = \mathbf{f}^{\text{int}} + \mathbf{f}^{\text{coh}}$$

Linearization (Newton-Raphson)

$$\dot{\mathbf{t}}^{\text{c}} = \mathbf{T}[\dot{\mathbf{u}}]$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{t}}^{\text{c}} = \mathbf{T} \mathbf{N}^{\text{int}} (\dot{\mathbf{u}}^+ - \dot{\mathbf{u}}^-)$$

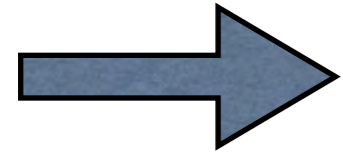
$$\dot{\mathbf{t}}^{\text{c}} = \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{T} \mathbf{Q}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{N}^{\text{int}} (\dot{\mathbf{u}}^+ - \dot{\mathbf{u}}^-)$$

transformation matrix

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\mathbf{i}_1, \mathbf{n}) & \cos(\mathbf{i}_1, \mathbf{s}) \\ \cos(\mathbf{i}_2, \mathbf{n}) & \cos(\mathbf{i}_2, \mathbf{s}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{f}_{ie,+}^{\text{coh}} = \int_{\Gamma} \mathbf{N}_{\text{int}}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{t}^{\text{c}} d\Gamma$$

$$\mathbf{f}_{ie,-}^{\text{coh}} = - \int_{\Gamma} \mathbf{N}_{\text{int}}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{t}^{\text{c}} d\Gamma$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_{ie,+}^{\text{coh}}}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_{ie,-}^{\text{coh}}}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_{ie,+}^{\text{coh}}}{\partial \mathbf{u}^+} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_{ie,+}^{\text{coh}}}{\partial \mathbf{u}^-} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_{ie,-}^{\text{coh}}}{\partial \mathbf{u}^+} & \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}_{ie,-}^{\text{coh}}}{\partial \mathbf{u}^-} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{u}^+ \\ \delta \mathbf{u}^- \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{t}^{\text{c}} = \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{T} \mathbf{Q}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{N}^{\text{int}} (\dot{\mathbf{u}}^+ - \dot{\mathbf{u}}^-)$$

// assembly of stiffness due to cohesive traction

```
mbuilder.addBlock ( idofsA, idofsA, elemMat );
mbuilder.addBlock ( idofsB, idofsB, elemMat );
```

```
elemMat = -elemMat;
```

```
mbuilder.addBlock ( idofsA, idofsB, elemMat );
mbuilder.addBlock ( idofsB, idofsA, elemMat );
```

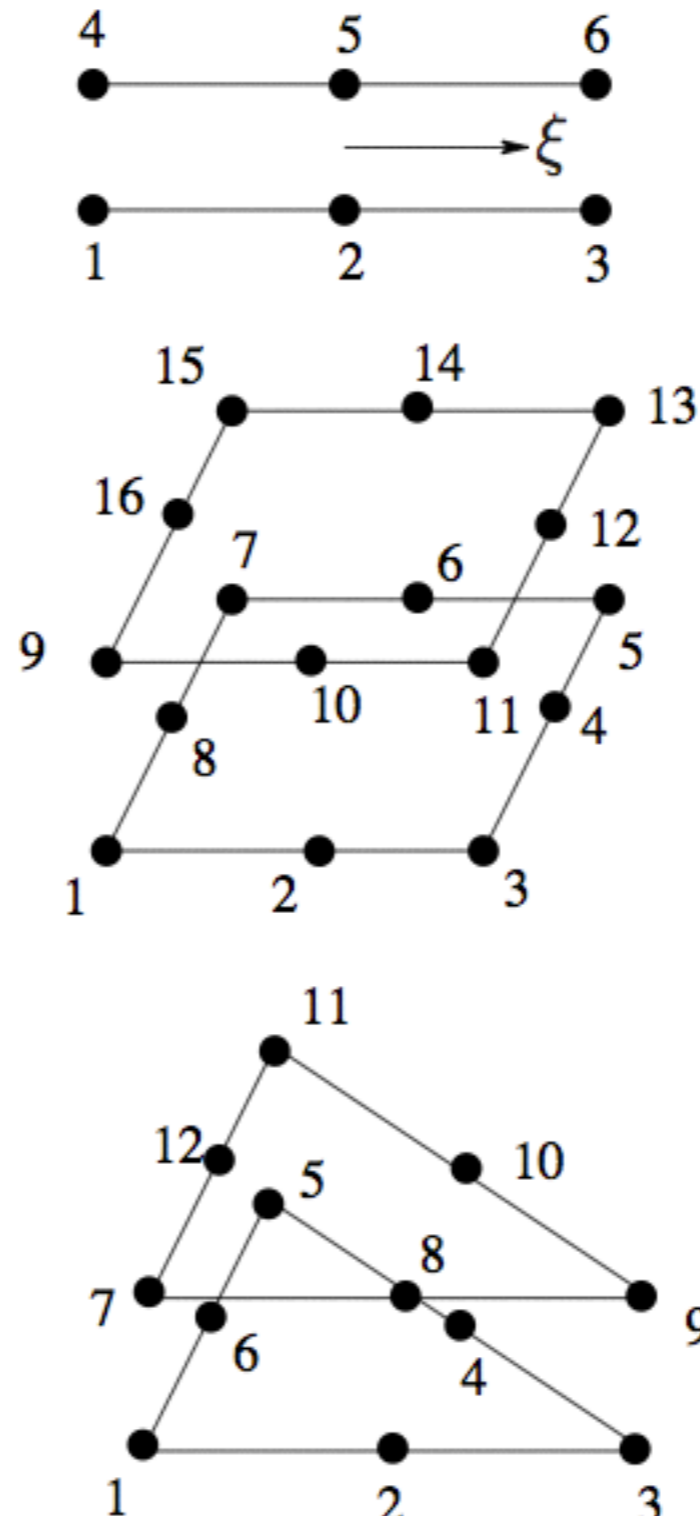
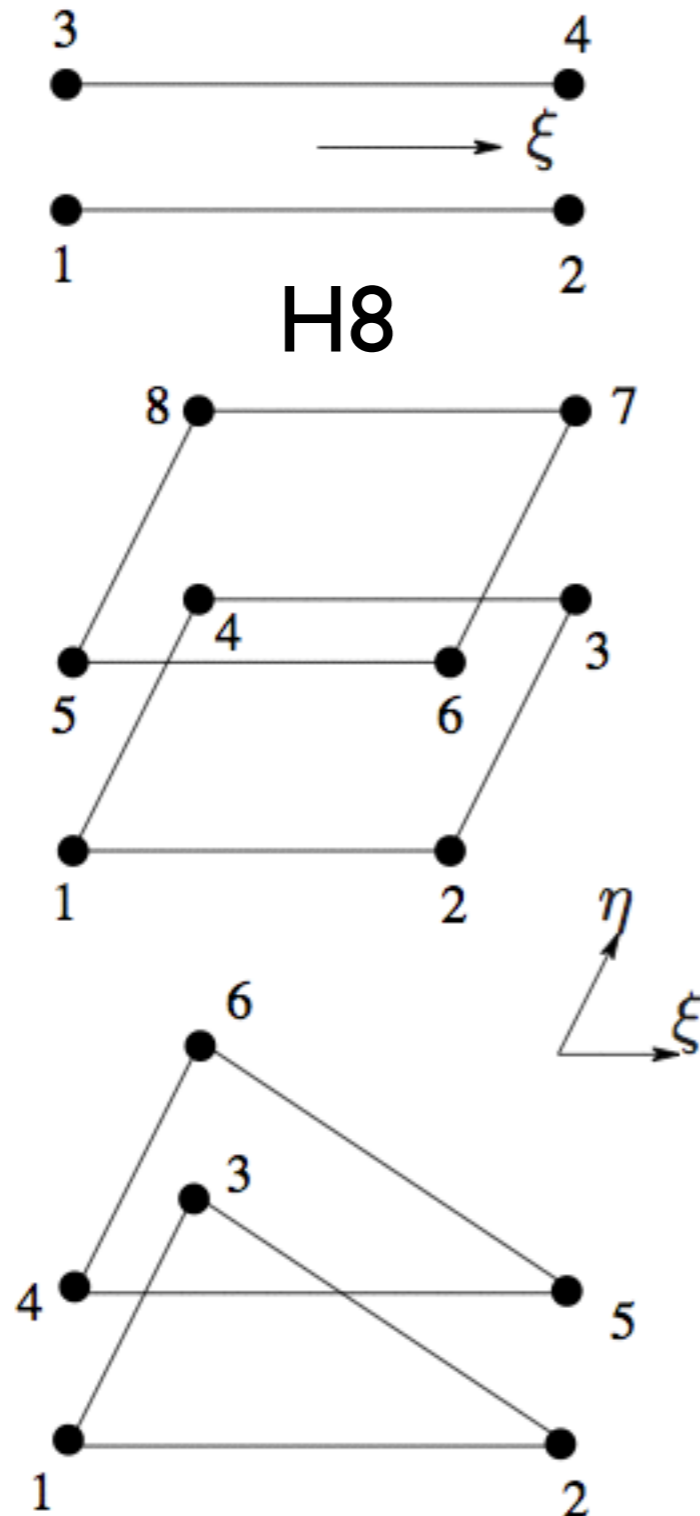
$$\mathbf{K}_e^{\text{int}} = \begin{bmatrix} \int_{\Gamma} \mathbf{N}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{Q}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{T} \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{N} d\Gamma & - \int_{\Gamma} \mathbf{N}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{Q}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{T} \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{N} d\Gamma \\ - \int_{\Gamma} \mathbf{N}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{Q}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{T} \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{N} d\Gamma & \int_{\Gamma} \mathbf{N}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{Q}^{\text{T}} \mathbf{T} \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{N} d\Gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

Common interface elements

Solid elements

Q4/T3

Q8/T6



2D

3D

Numerical integration

It has been observed numerically that integrating the internal force and stiffness matrix of interface elements using the standard Gauss rule led to oscillatory response [de Borst, IJNME, 1993].



Newton-Cotes integration scheme
for interface elements

Cohesive laws

Mode I Bilinear cohesive law (traction-separation law)

$$G_{Ic} = \frac{1}{2} t_c \delta_f = \frac{1}{2} k \delta_c \delta_f$$

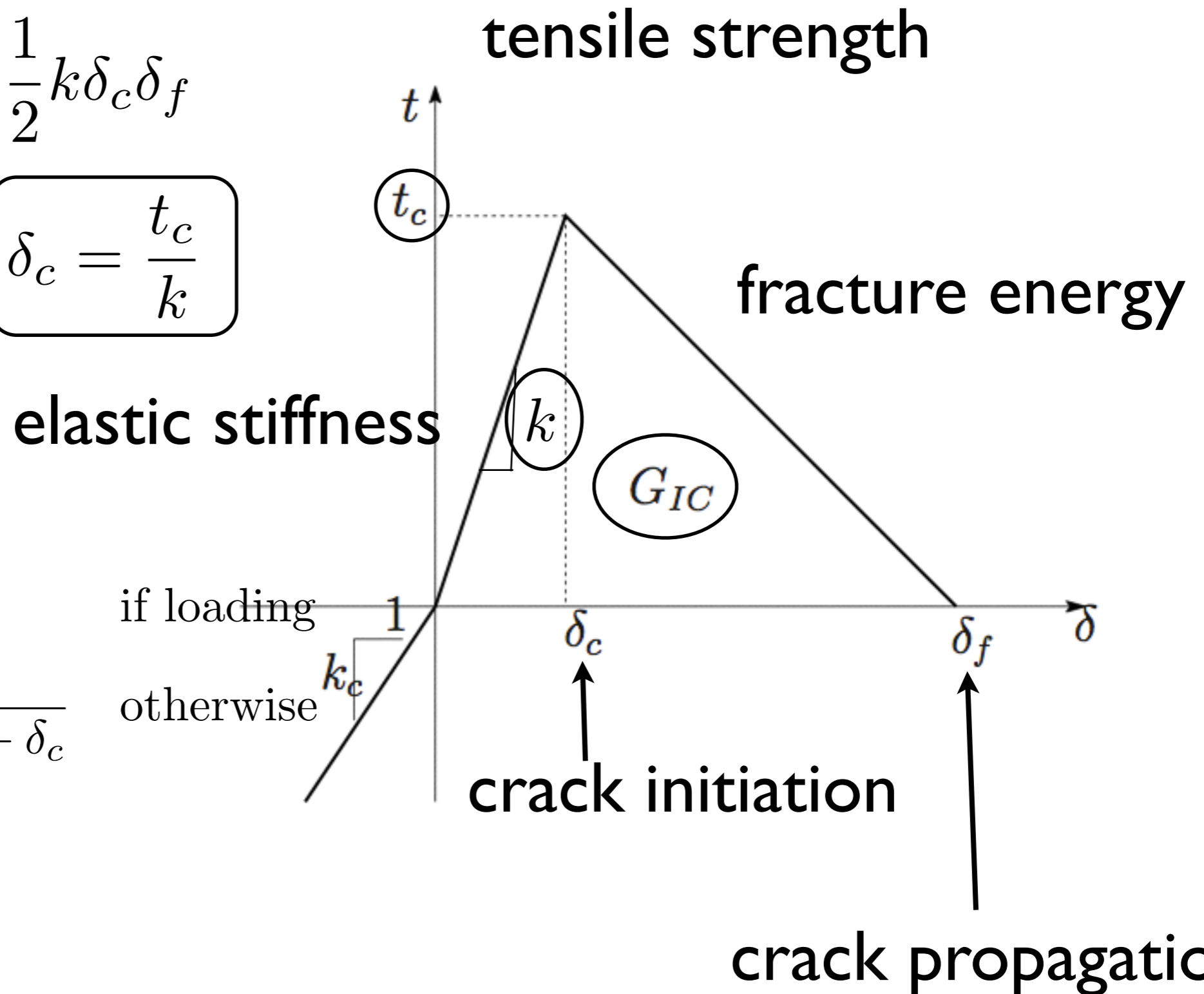
$$\delta_f = \frac{2G_{Ic}}{k\delta_c}$$

$$\delta_c = \frac{t_c}{k}$$

$$t = (1 - d)k\delta$$

$$d = \begin{cases} \frac{\delta_f}{\delta} \kappa & \text{if loading} \\ \frac{\kappa_{max} \delta_f}{\kappa_{max} (\delta_f - \delta_c) + \delta_c} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\kappa = \frac{\delta - \delta_c}{\delta_f - \delta_c}$$



Implementation aspects

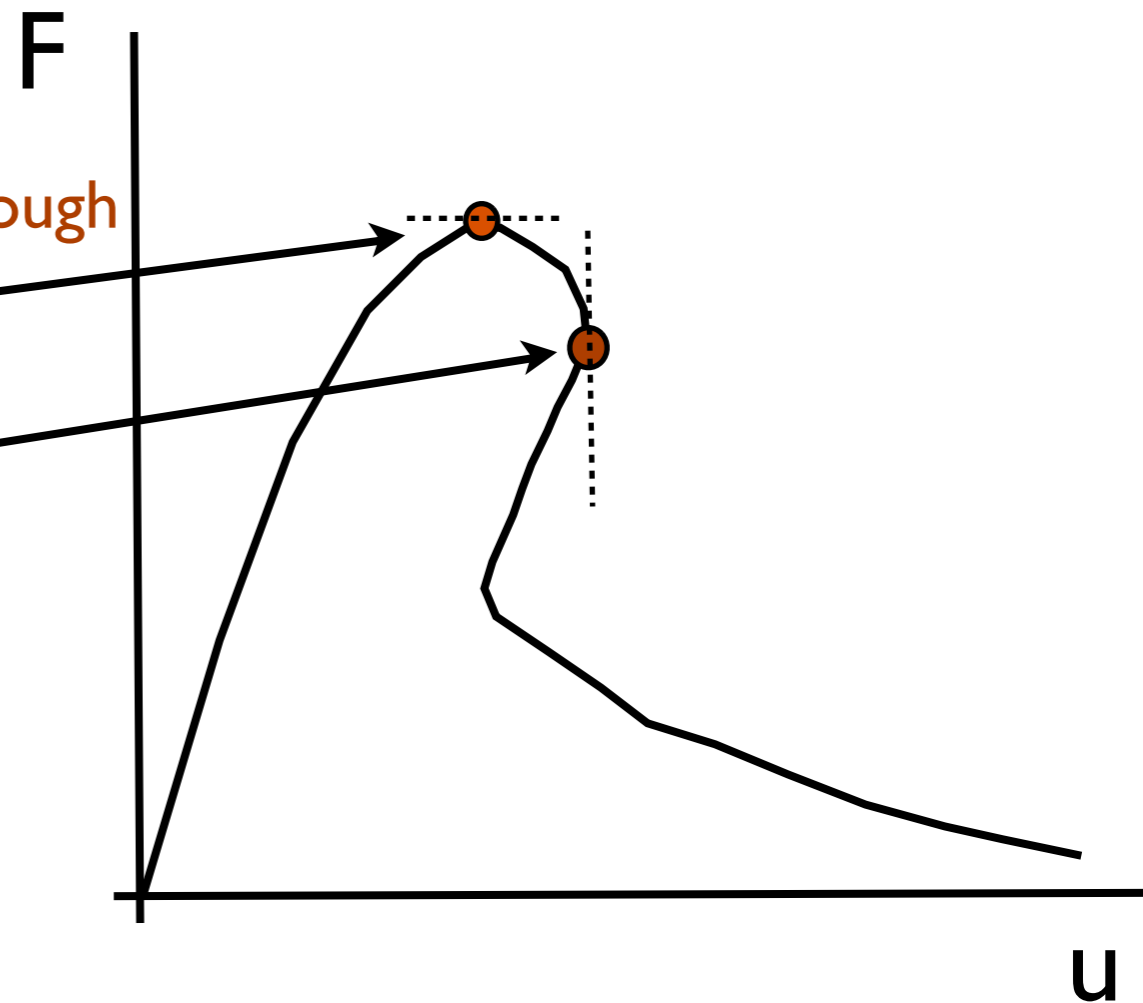
- How to generate interface element meshes?

- Solution control

- load control: NO
- displacement control
- path following control
(arc-length methods)

cannot pass the snap-through

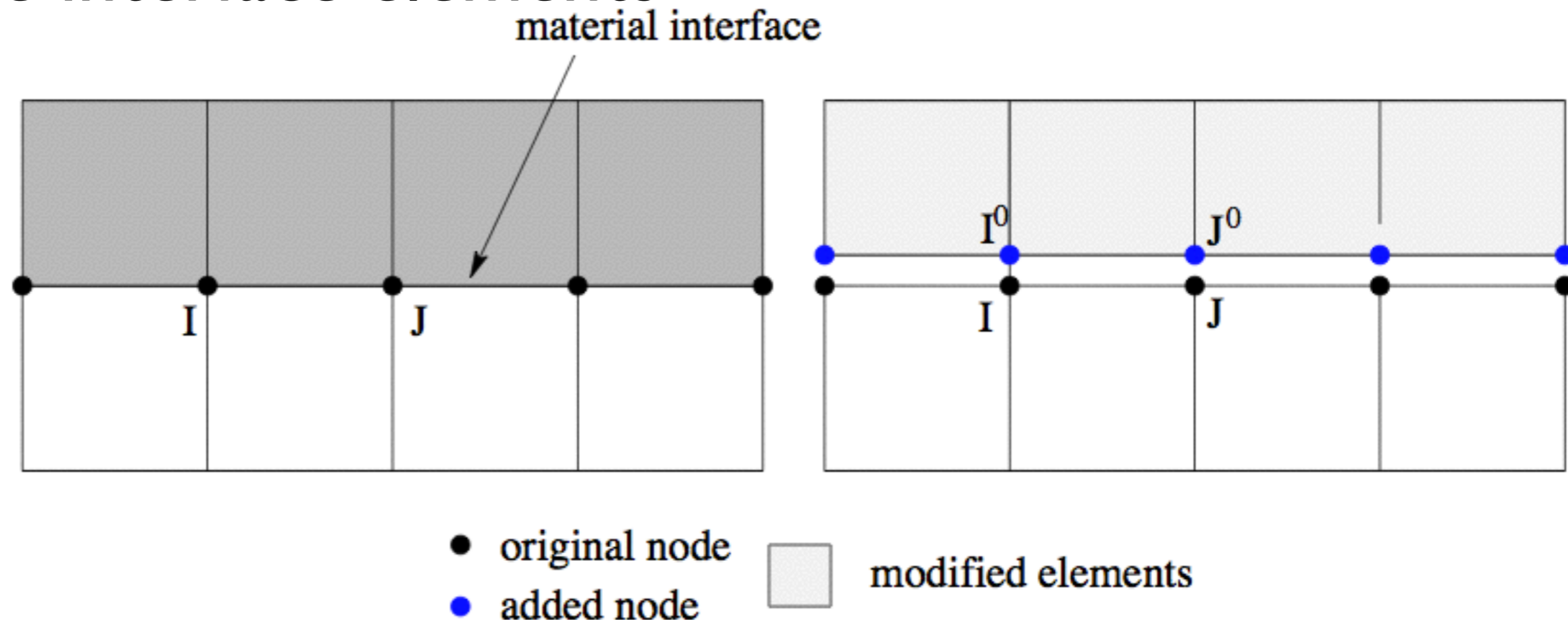
cannot pass the snap-back



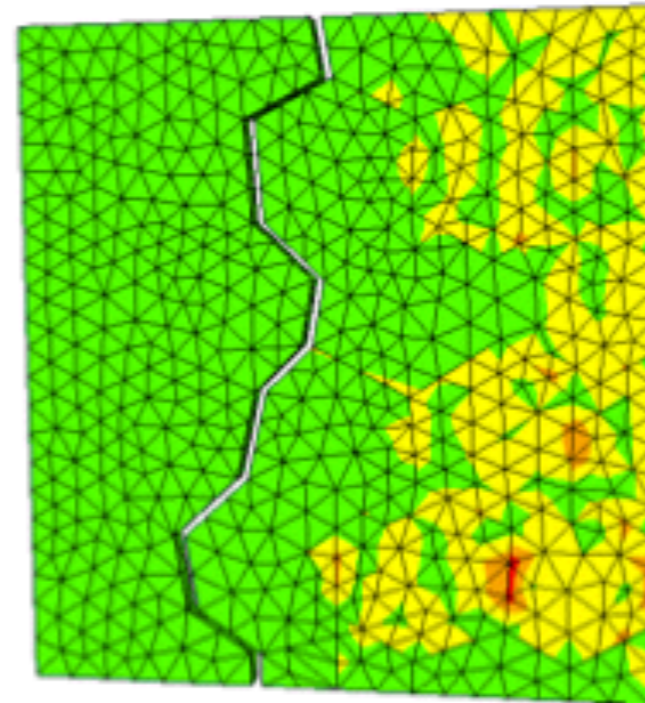
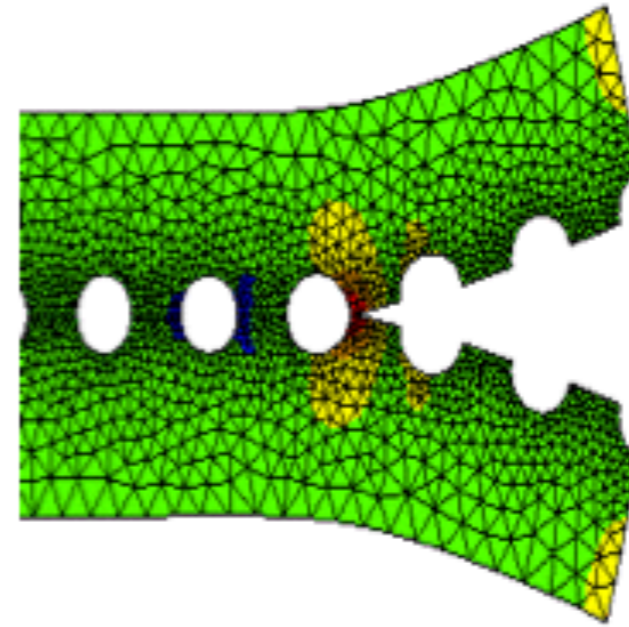
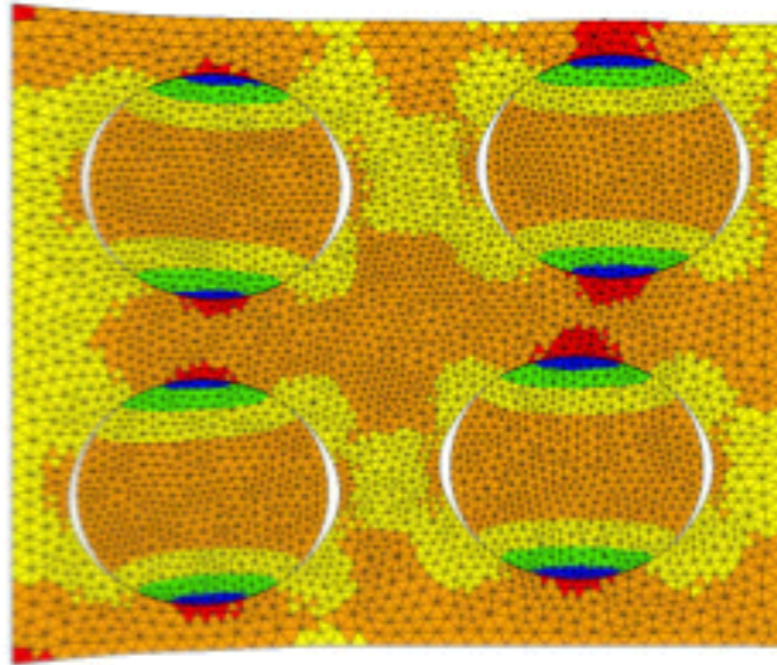
Mesh generation

A C++ code was written to

- read a Gmsh mesh file
- double nodes along a path defined by the user
- modify the solid elements involved and
- generate interface elements



Some application examples



Path following method

Riks 1972

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}^{\text{int}}(\mathbf{u}) - \lambda \mathbf{g} \\ \phi(\mathbf{u}, \lambda) \end{bmatrix} = 0 \quad \mathbf{f}^{\text{ext}} = \lambda \mathbf{g}$$

λ load factor
 \mathbf{g} reference load vector

Newton-Raphson $\phi(\mathbf{u}, \lambda)$ arc-length/constraint function

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}^{\text{int}}(\mathbf{u}_{(k)}) - \lambda_{(k)} \mathbf{g} \\ \phi(\mathbf{u}_{(k)}, \lambda_{(k)}) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K} & -\mathbf{g} \\ \mathbf{v}^T & w \end{bmatrix}^{(k)} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \mathbf{u} \\ \Delta \lambda \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

where

$$\mathbf{K} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}^{\text{int}}}{\partial \mathbf{u}}, \quad \mathbf{v} = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \mathbf{u}}, \quad w = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \lambda}$$

$$\longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \mathbf{u} \\ \Delta \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_I \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{\mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{u}_I + \phi}{\mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{u}_{II} + w} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_{II} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

correction $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} \\ \lambda \end{bmatrix}^{(k+1)} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} \\ \lambda \end{bmatrix}^{(k)} + \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \mathbf{u} \\ \Delta \lambda \end{bmatrix}$ $\mathbf{u}_I = \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{r}, \quad \mathbf{u}_{II} = \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{g}$

Energy control

Gutierrez 2004

$$\epsilon = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{a}$$

$$\mathbf{f}^{\text{int}} = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{B}^T \boldsymbol{\sigma}$$

equilibrium

$$V = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}^T \boldsymbol{\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^T \boldsymbol{\sigma} = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{f}^{\text{int}} = \frac{1}{2} \lambda \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{g}$$

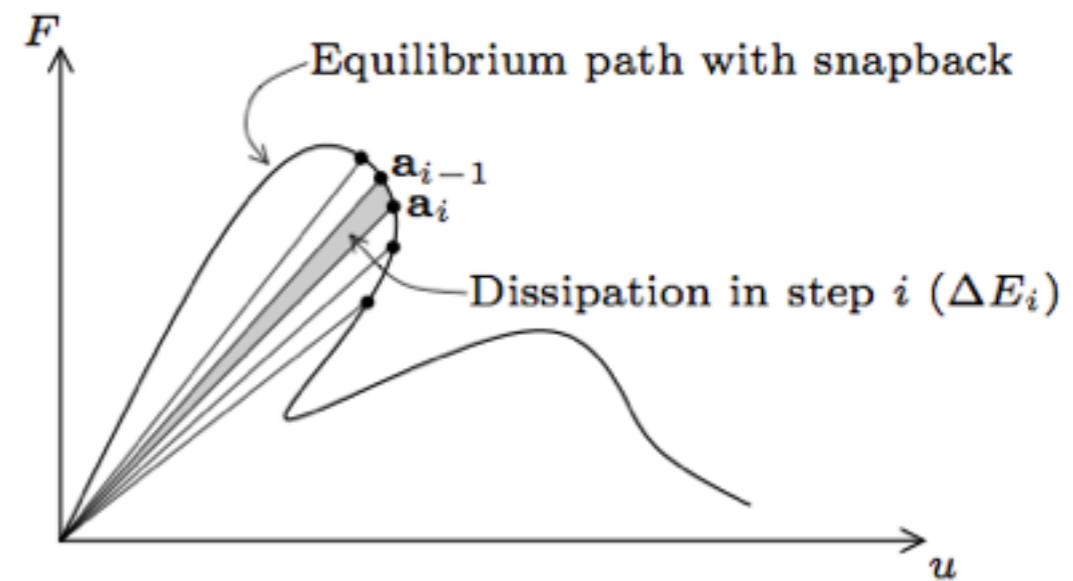
$$\dot{V} = \frac{1}{2} \lambda \dot{\mathbf{a}}^T \mathbf{g} + \frac{1}{2} \dot{\lambda} \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{g}$$

Energy release rate

$$\dot{V} - \lambda \dot{\mathbf{a}}^T \mathbf{g}$$

$$G = \frac{1}{2} \lambda \dot{\mathbf{a}}^T \mathbf{g} - \frac{1}{2} \dot{\lambda} \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{g}$$

$$G > 0$$

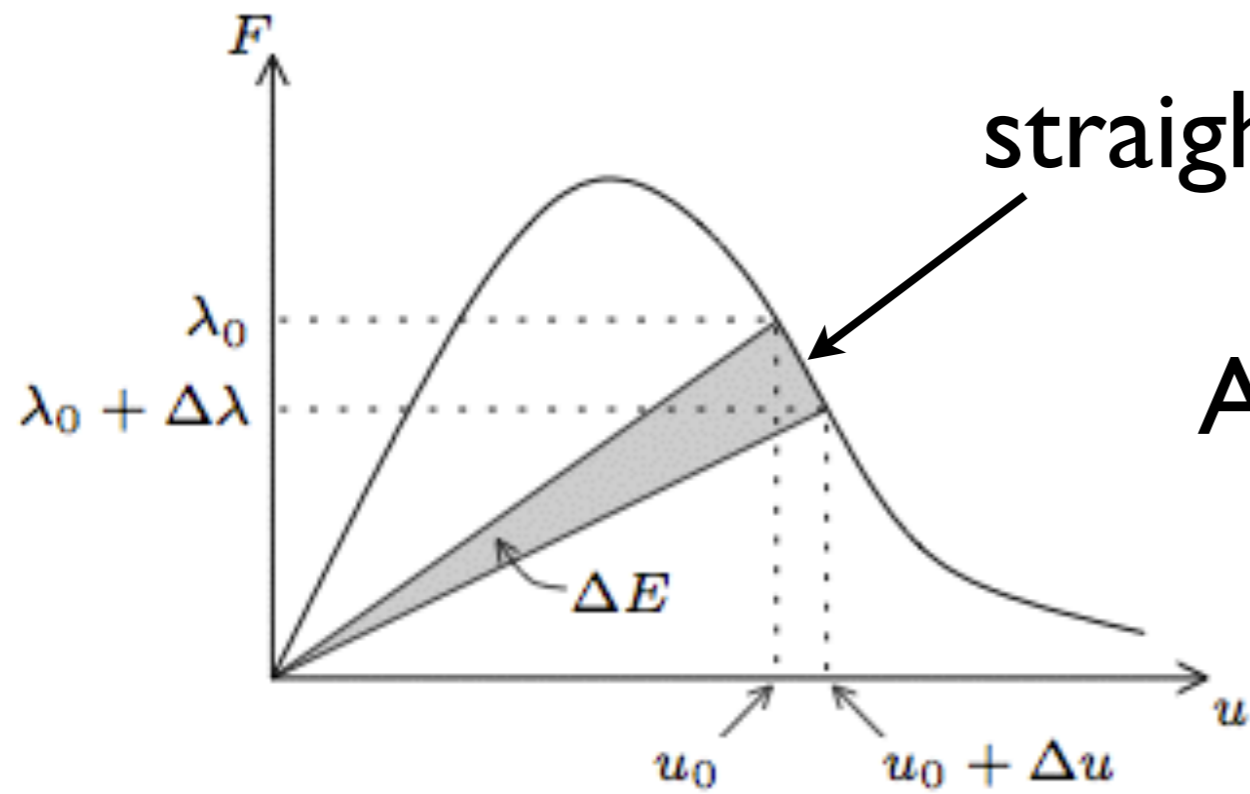


Arc-length function

$$\phi = \frac{1}{2} \left[\lambda^{(n)} (\mathbf{a}_{(n+1)}^T - \mathbf{a}_{(n)}^T) - \Delta \lambda^{(n)} \mathbf{a}_{(n)}^T \right] \mathbf{g} - \Delta \tau = 0$$

predefined amount of energy to be released [Nm]

forward Euler



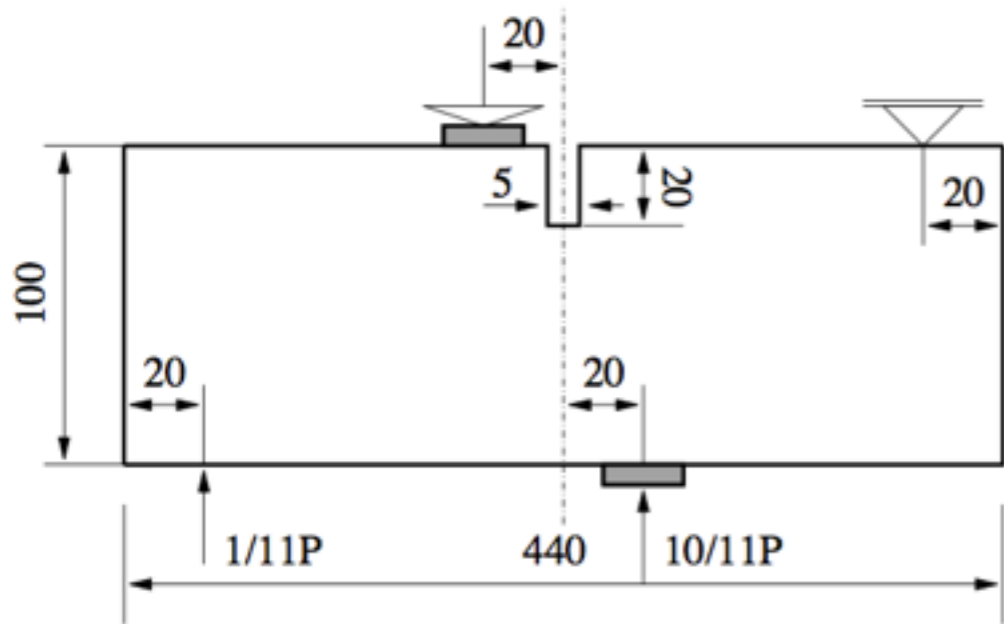
Assumption: secant unloading!!!

$$\Delta E = \frac{1}{2} (\lambda_0 \Delta u - \Delta \lambda u_0)$$

$$\phi = \frac{1}{2} [\lambda^{(n)} (\mathbf{a}_{(n+1)}^T - \mathbf{a}_{(n)}^T) - \Delta \lambda^{(n)} \mathbf{a}_{(n)}^T] \mathbf{g} - \Delta \tau = 0$$

ΔE

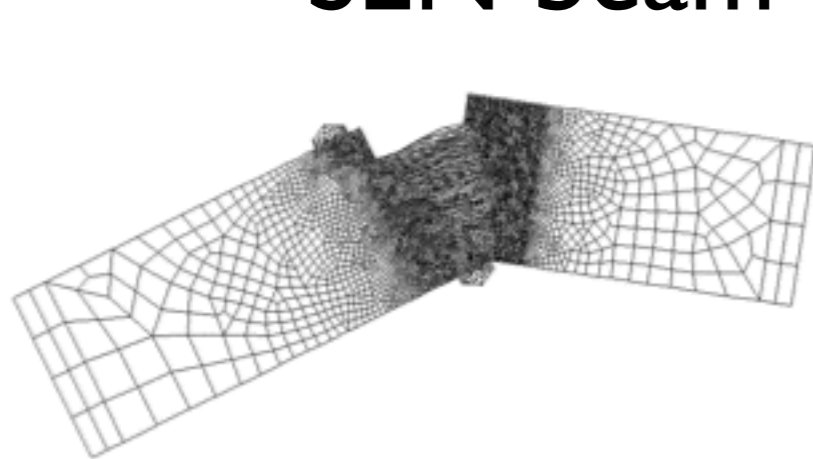
Indirect displacement control [de Borst 1986]



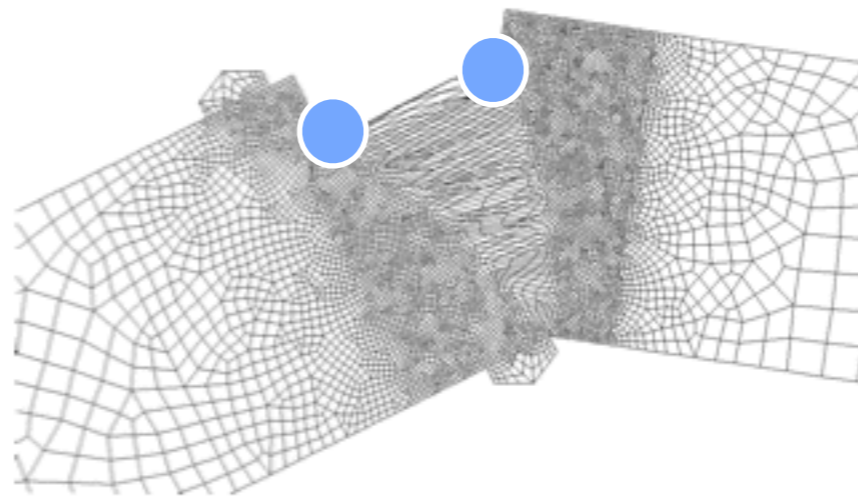
SEN beam

Indirect displacement control

$$\phi(\|u_A - u_B\|, \Delta l) \quad \text{local quantity!!!}$$



(a)



(b)

imagine what if there are 2 cracks???

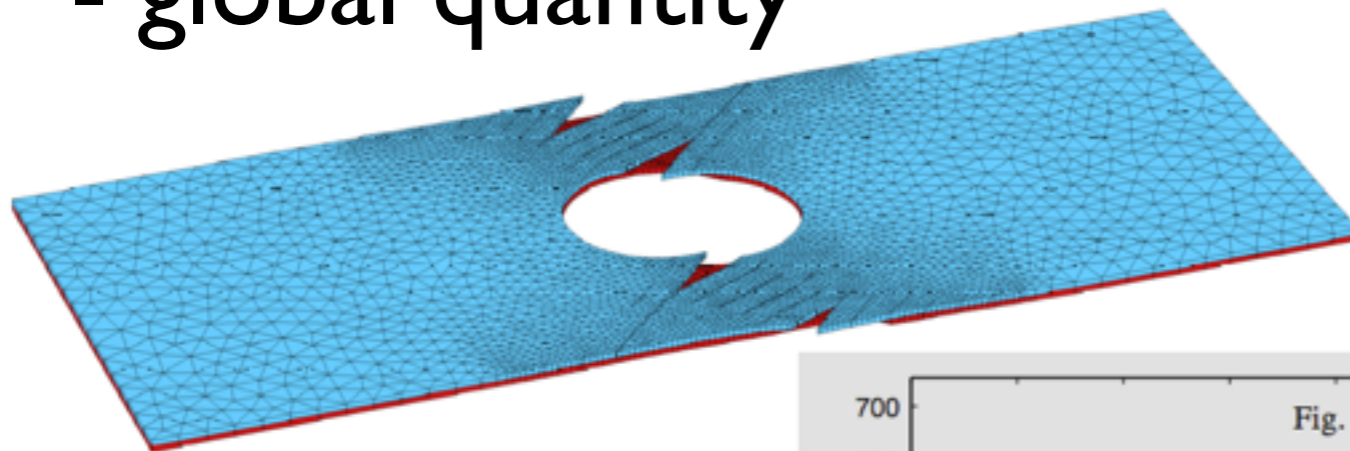
Advantages of energy control

SEN beam

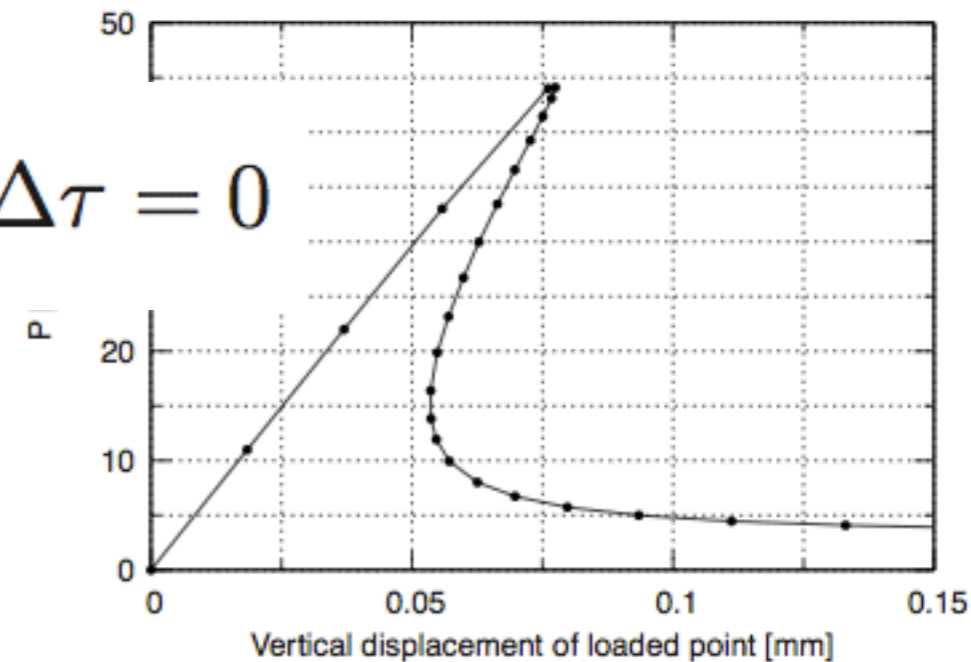
Energy control

$$\phi = \frac{1}{2} [\lambda^{(n)} (\mathbf{a}_{(n+1)}^T - \mathbf{a}_{(n)}^T) - \Delta\lambda^{(n)} \mathbf{a}_{(n)}^T] \mathbf{g} - \Delta\tau = 0$$

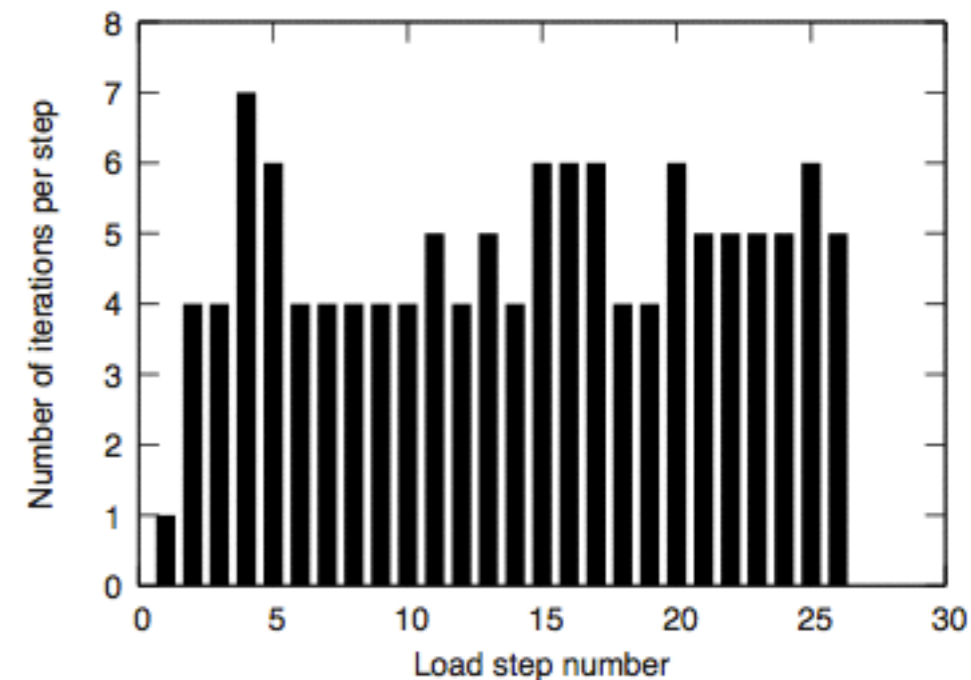
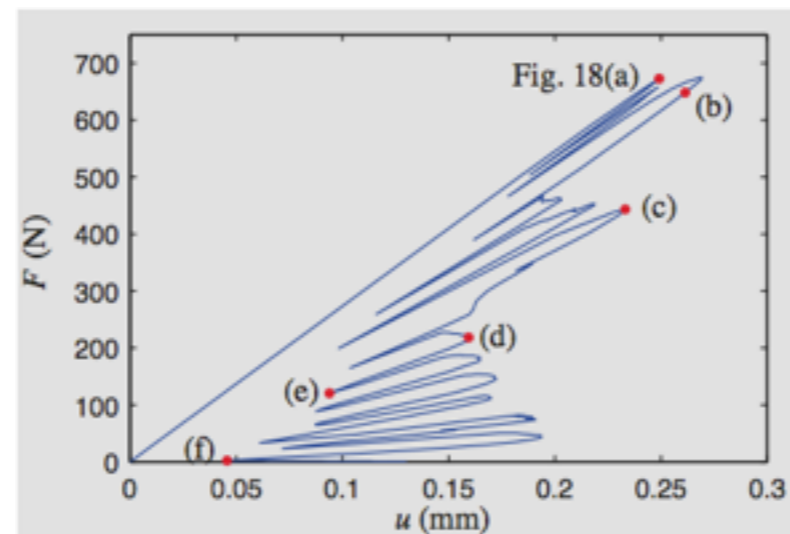
- fast to evaluate
- global quantity



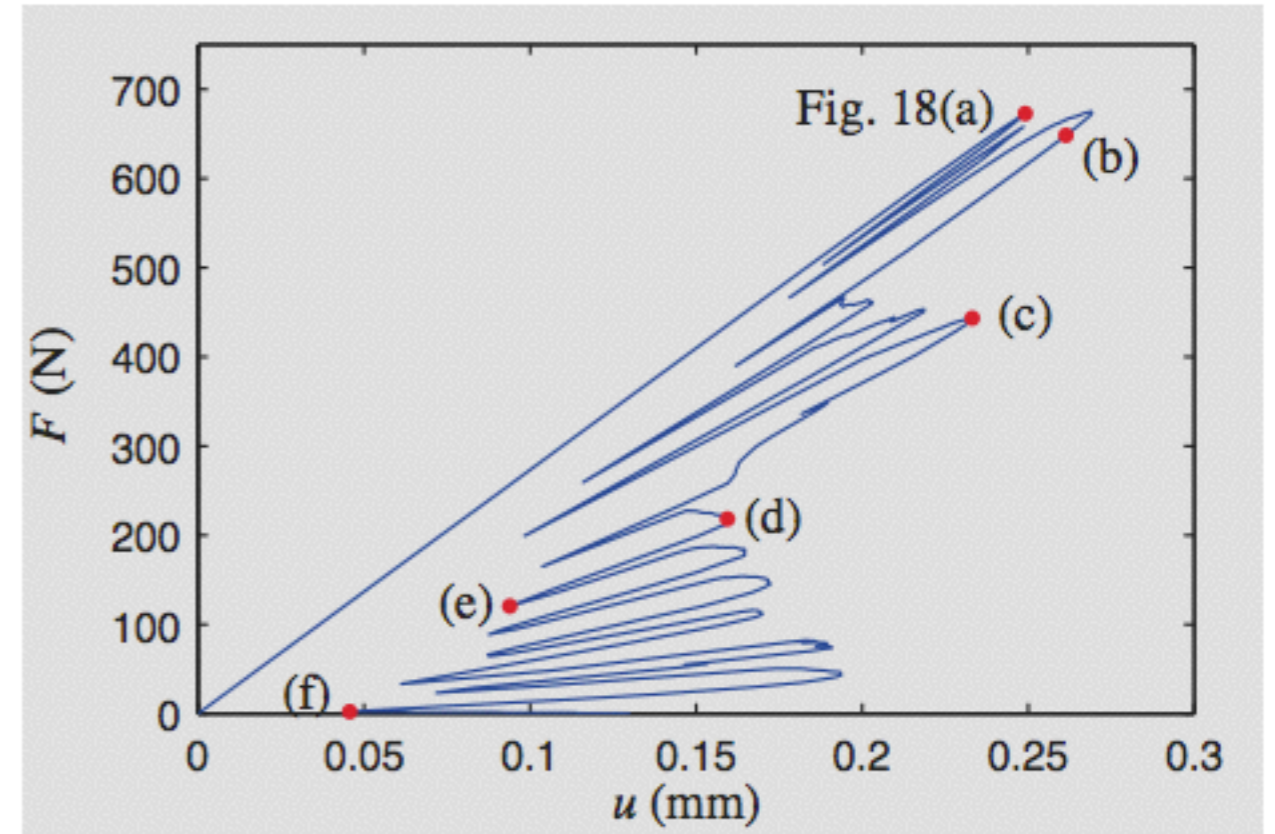
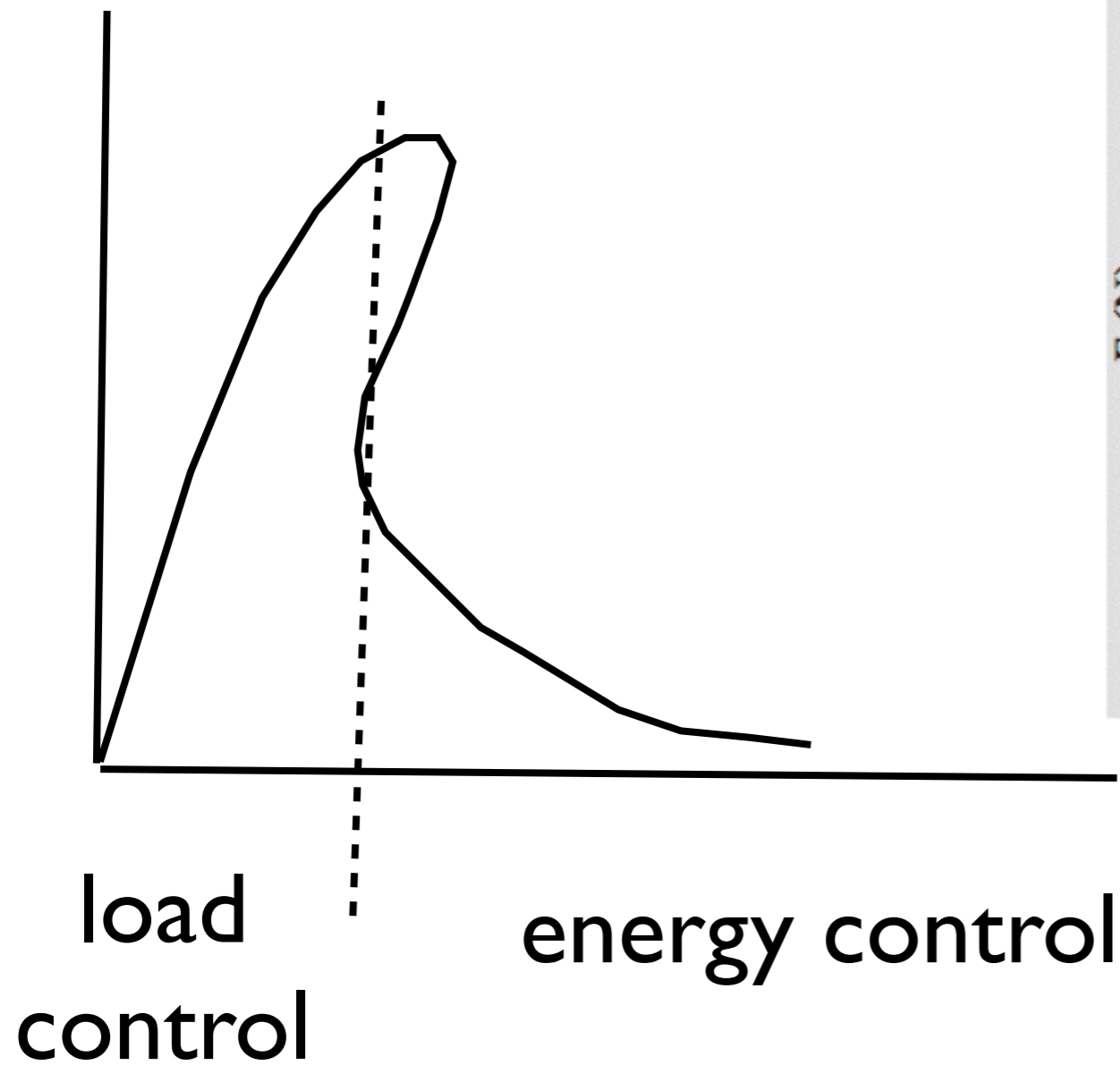
multiple cracks
 FP van der Mer
 EFM, 2008



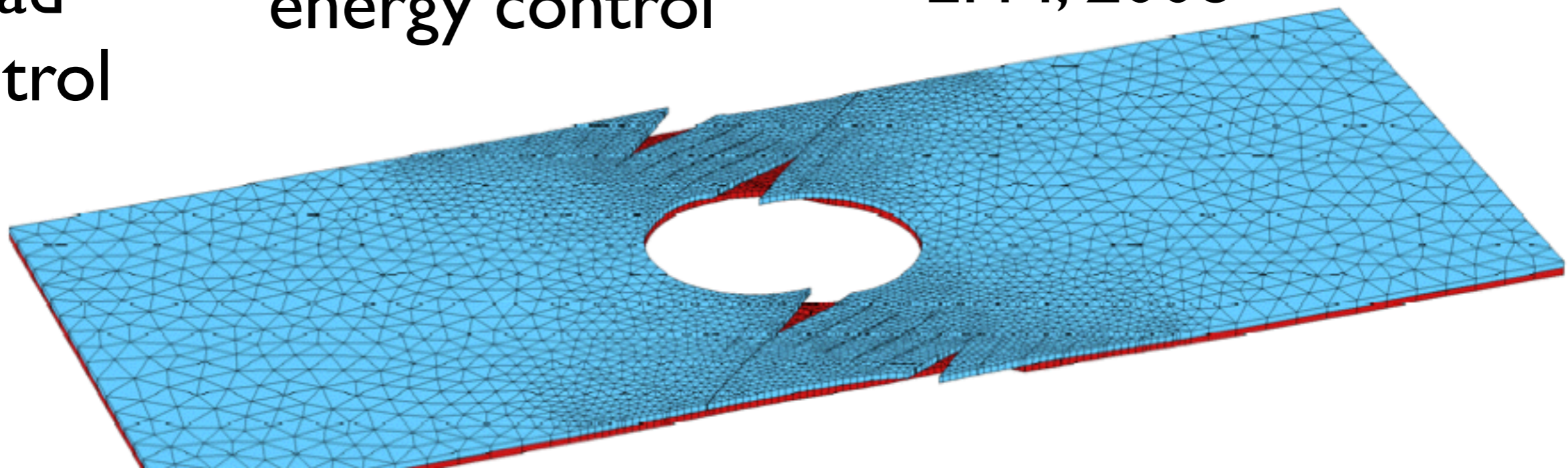
(a)



Solution procedure



FP van der Mer
EFM, 2008



Box 4 Flowchart for solution procedure with energy-based control

1. Initialization: $\lambda = 0$, set $n_d, \Delta\tau_0, \Delta\tau_{\min}, \Delta\tau_{\max}$
2. Solve the elastic branch using load control
 - i. Solving the equilibrium $\mathbf{f}^{\text{int}} = \lambda\mathbf{g}$ using Newton-Raphson method
 - ii. Store the load scale: $\lambda_0 = \lambda$
 - iii. Check number of iterations: $n > n_d$. If no, $\lambda = \lambda + \Delta\tau_0$, goto 2i. Else
 - iv. Compute the released energy $G = 0.5 [\lambda_0(\mathbf{u}^T - \mathbf{u}_0^T) - \Delta\tau_0\mathbf{u}_0^T] \mathbf{g}$
 - v. $\Delta\tau = G$
 - vi. $\Delta\tau_{\min} \leq \Delta\tau \leq \Delta\tau_{\max}$
3. Switch to arc-length control
 - i. Update \mathbf{K}, \mathbf{f} from element contributions using a FE formulation
 - ii. Update \mathbf{v}, ω, ϕ

$$\mathbf{f}^{\text{int}} + \mathbf{f}^{\text{coh}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v} &= 0.5\lambda_0\mathbf{g} \\ \omega &= -0.5\mathbf{u}_0^T\mathbf{g} \\ \phi &= 0.5 [\lambda_0(\mathbf{u}^T - \mathbf{u}_0^T) - \Delta\lambda\mathbf{u}_0^T] \mathbf{g} - \Delta\tau\end{aligned}$$

- iii. Start the iteration procedure

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{r} &\leftarrow \lambda\mathbf{g} - \mathbf{f} \\ \mathbf{u}_I &\leftarrow \mathbf{K}^{-1}\mathbf{r} \\ \mathbf{u}_{II} &\leftarrow \mathbf{K}^{-1}\mathbf{g} \\ \alpha &\leftarrow \frac{\mathbf{v}^T\mathbf{u}_I + \phi}{\mathbf{v}^T\mathbf{u}_{II} + \omega} \\ \mathbf{u} &\leftarrow \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u}_I - \alpha\mathbf{u}_{II} \\ \lambda &\leftarrow \lambda - \alpha\end{aligned}$$

- iv. Check convergence, if not return to step 3i
- v. Adjust the path following parameter $\Delta\tau = \Delta\tau * 0.5^\gamma$, $\gamma = \frac{n_j - n_d}{4}$ **
- vi. $\Delta\tau_{\min} \leq \Delta\tau \leq \Delta\tau_{\max}$
- vii. Store the load scale: $\lambda_0 = \lambda$

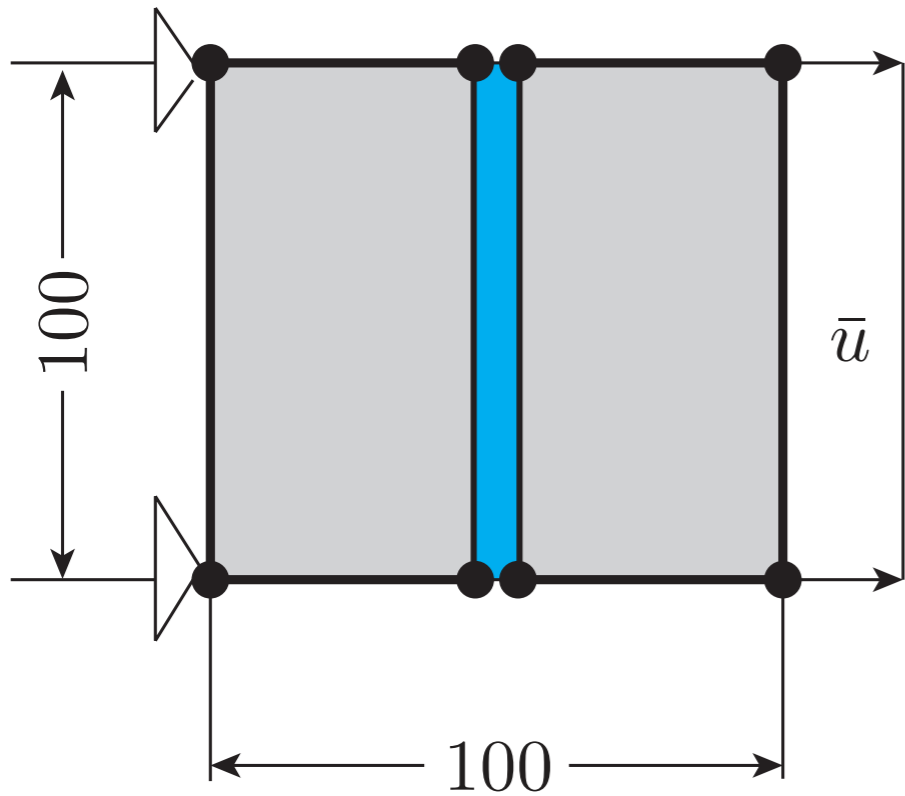
* In the above the subscript 0 denotes converged values of previous load step.

** This is a kind of automatic incrementation which calculate the complete behavior in as few steps as possible. n_d is a user-defined number of desired iterations per step.

Numerical examples

- Simple tests (to debug code)
- Material interface debonding
- Multi-delamination of a composite DCB
- Delamination of the DCB

Simple test (2D)



$$E = 1000$$

$$\nu = 0.0$$

$$f_n = 1.0$$

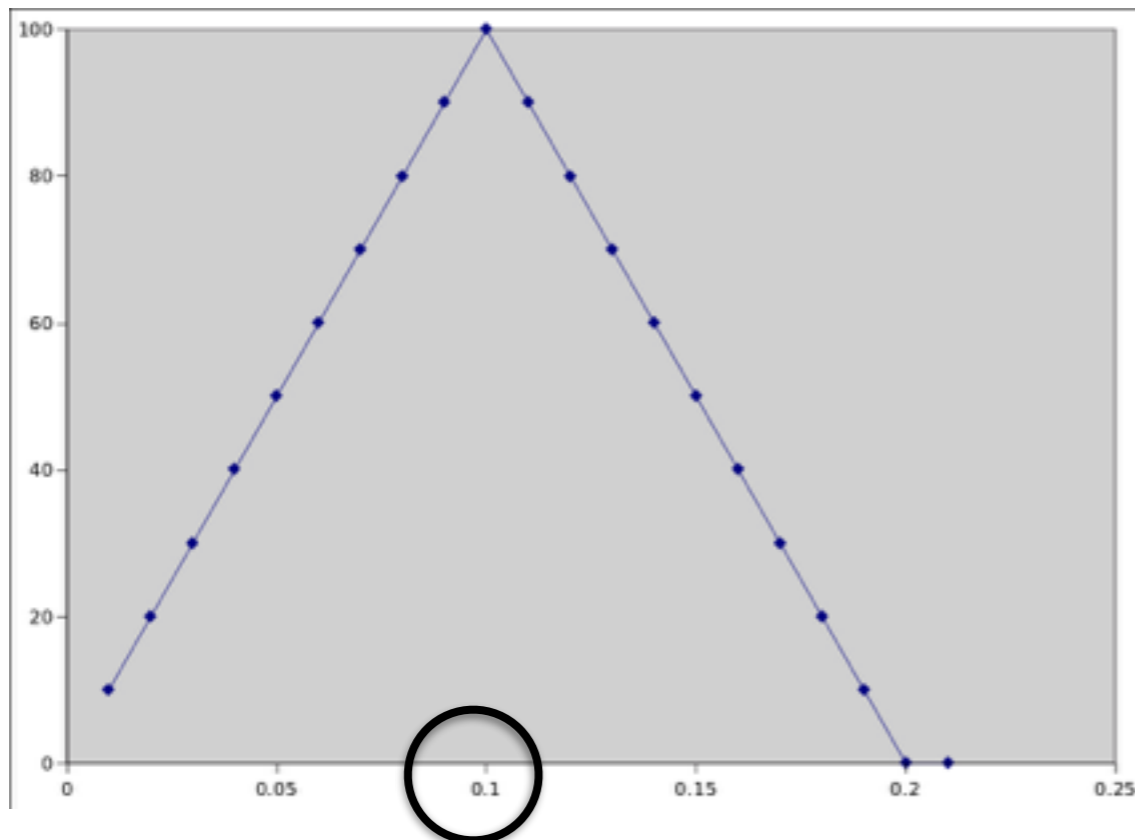
$$f_s = 1.0$$

$$g_I = 0.1$$

$$g_{II} = 0.1$$

$$K = 10^6$$

$\bar{u} = 0.01 \times i$
plane strain



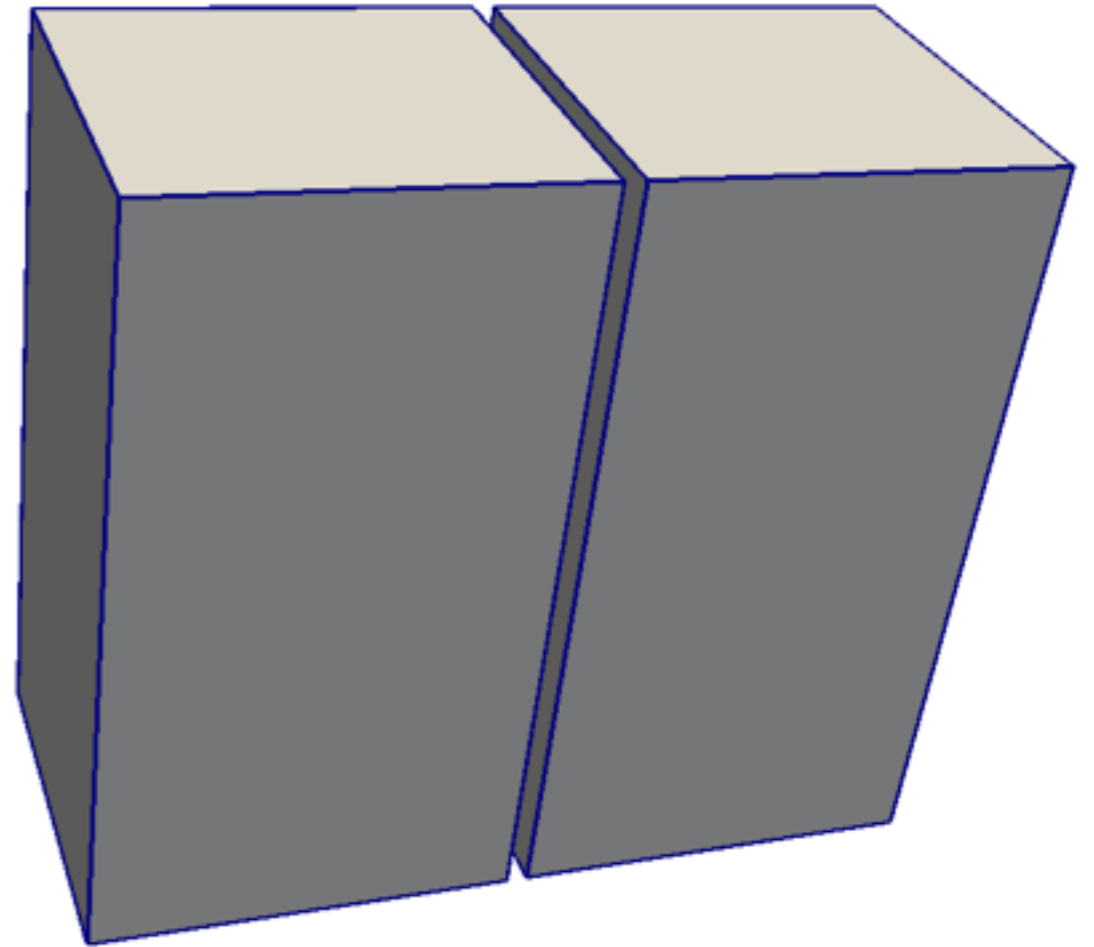
$$\sigma_{xx}^c = t^c = 1$$

$$\epsilon_{xx}^c = \frac{\sigma_{xx}^c}{E} = 0.001$$

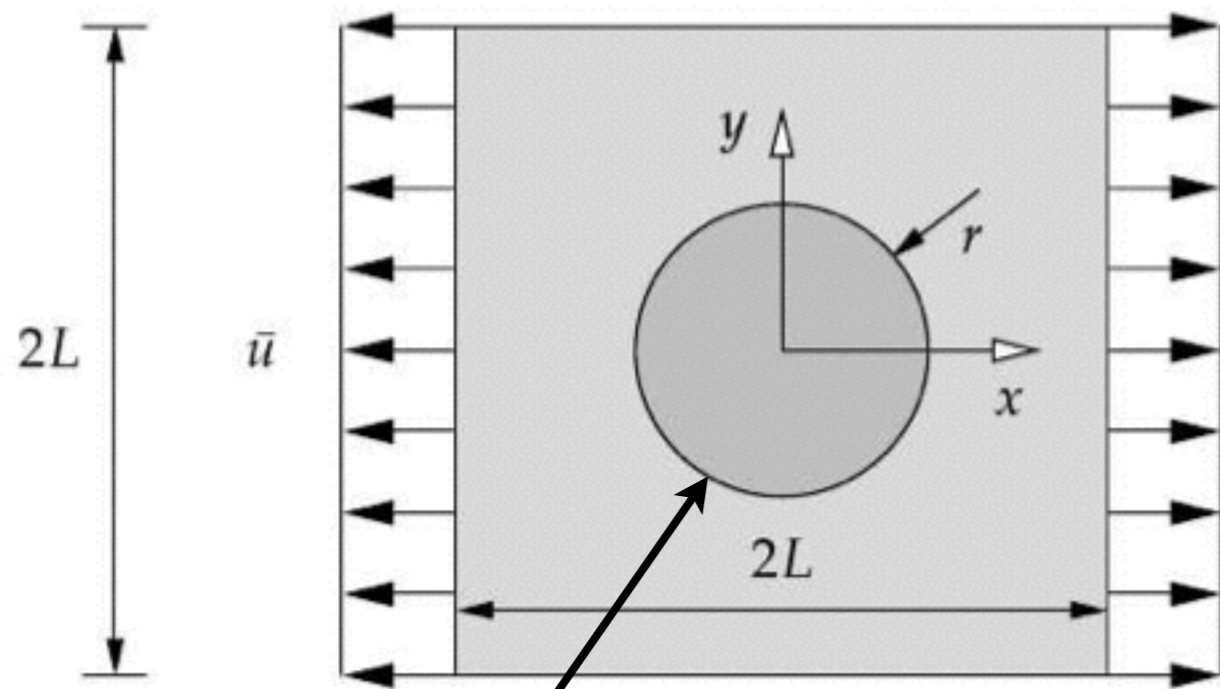
$$u_x^c = \epsilon_{xx}^c \times L = 0.1$$

Simple test (3D)

- As previous 2D example
- Thickness: 50
- Solved with Hex8 and Tet4

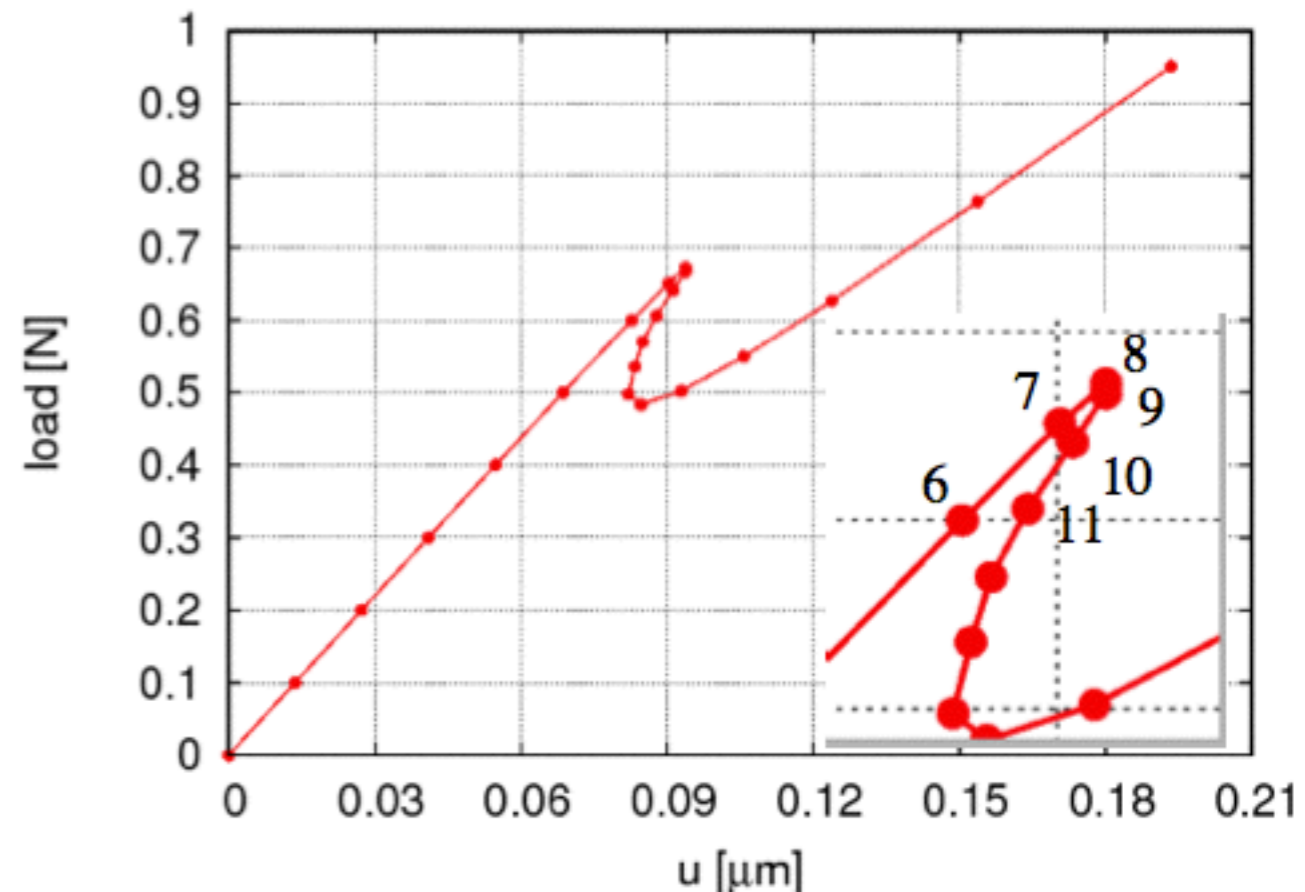


Debonding of a material interface

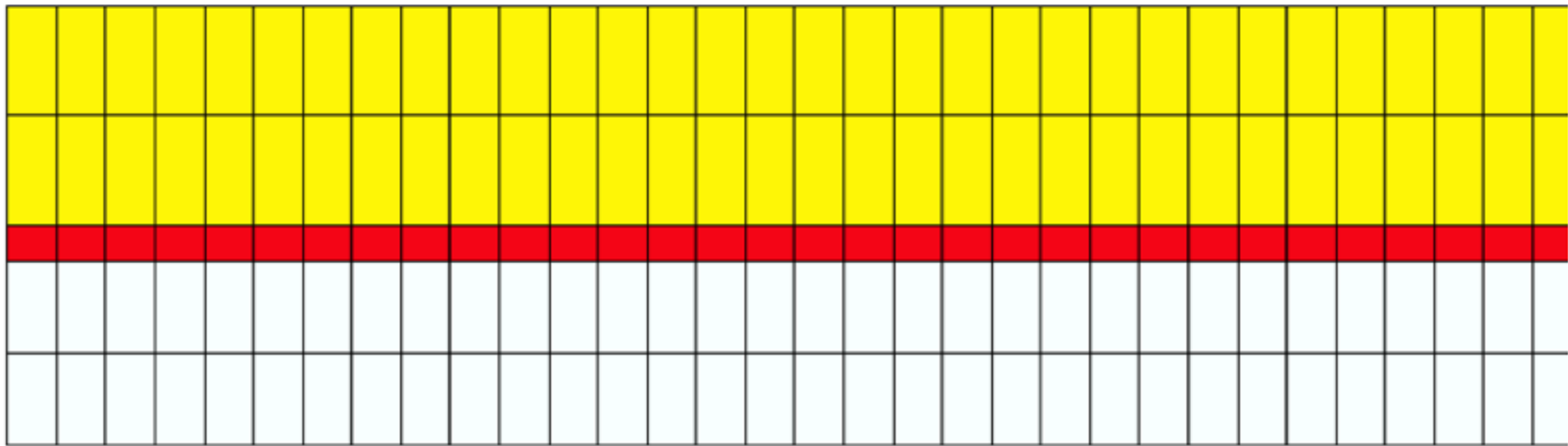
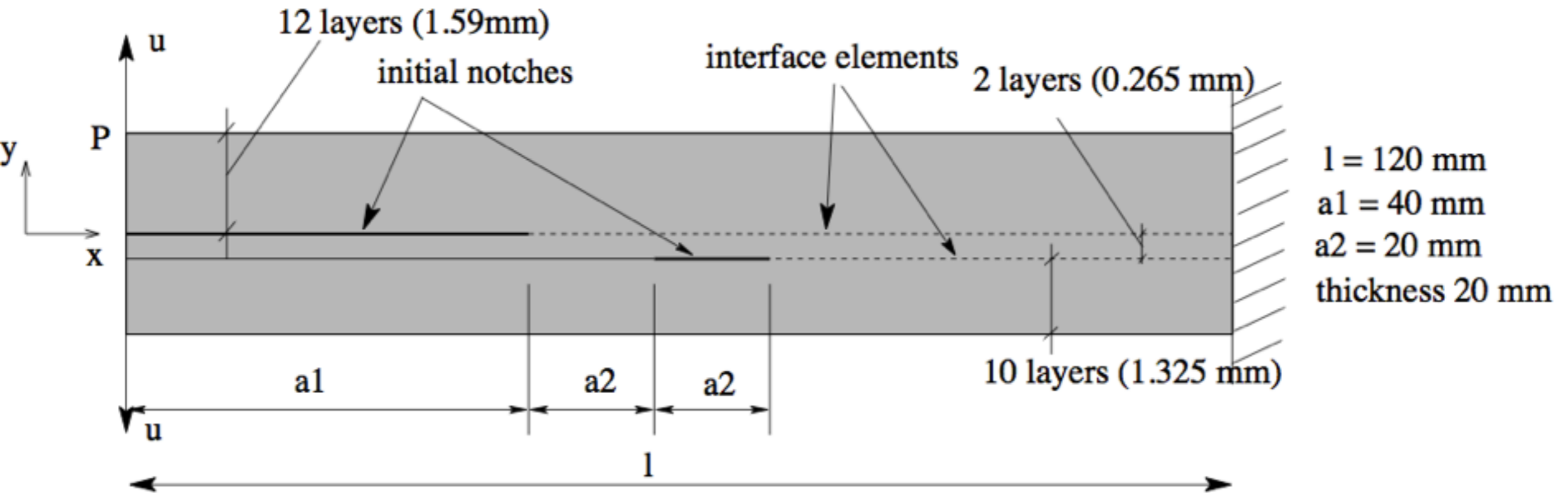


$$L = 15\mu m$$
$$r = 5\mu m$$
$$E_{\text{fib}} = 225 \text{ GPa}$$
$$\nu_{\text{fib}} = 0.2$$
$$E_{\text{mat}} = 4.3 \text{ GPa}$$
$$\nu_m$$

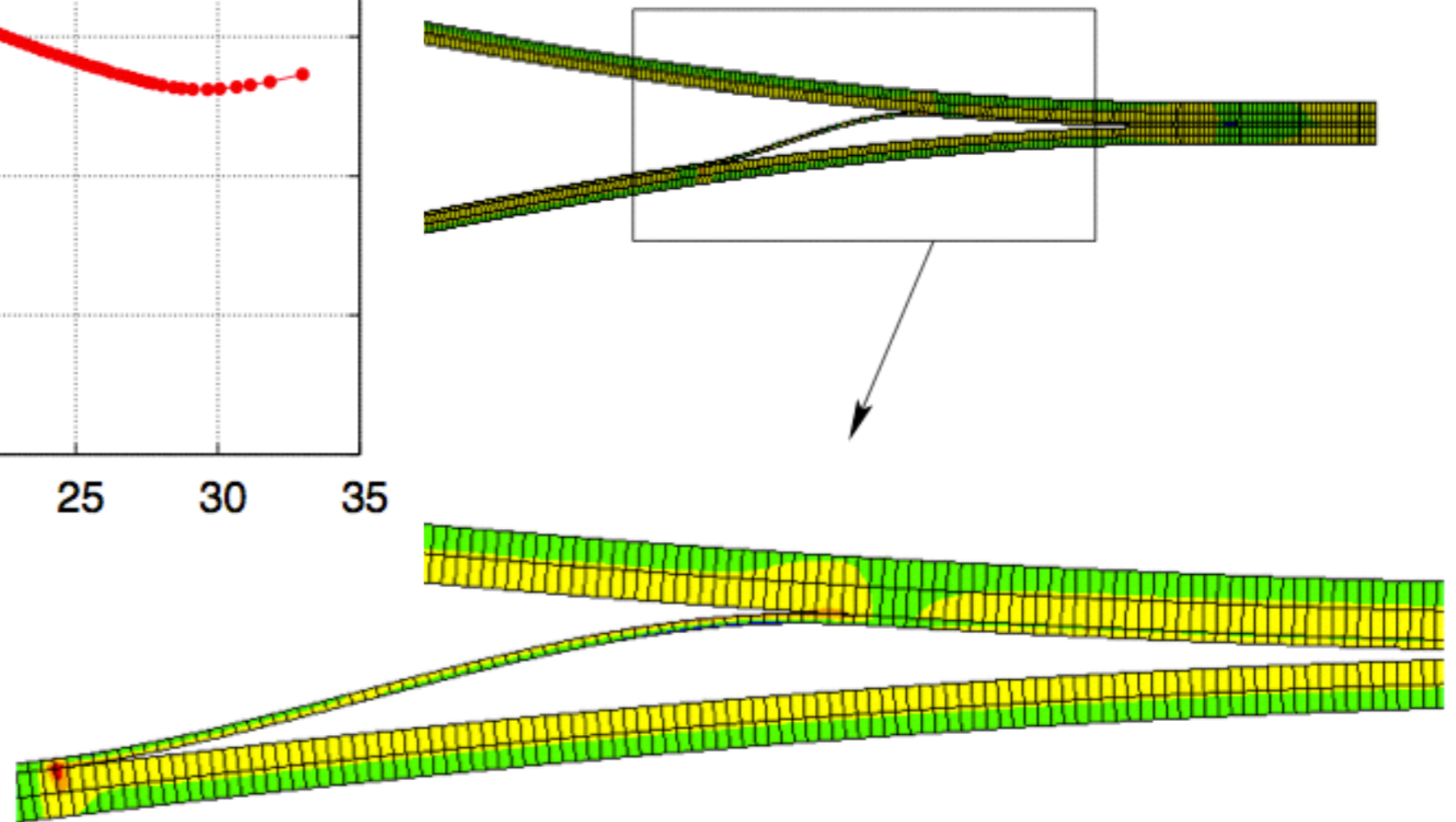
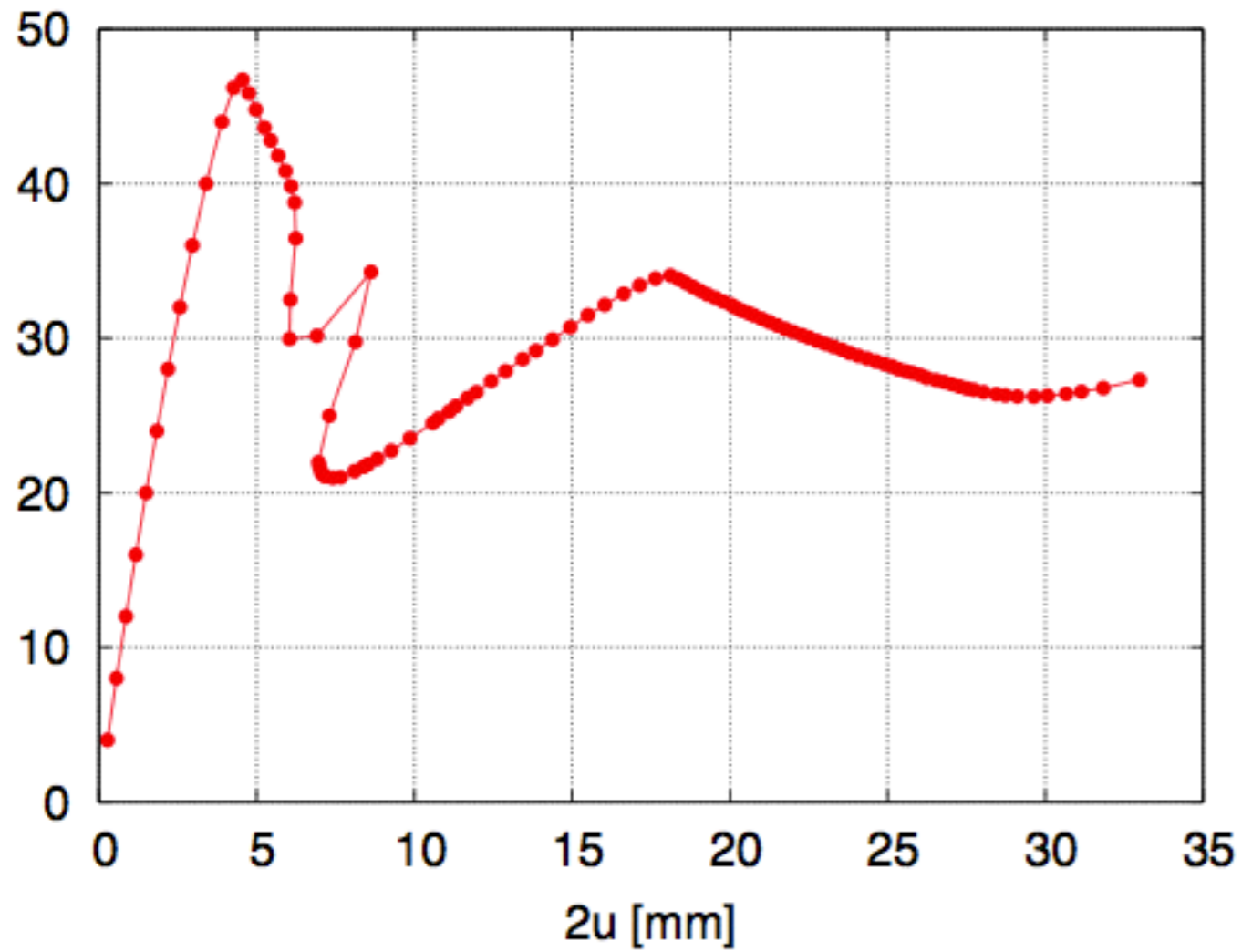
interface: linear 4-node
continuum: T3 elements
Cohesive law: Xu-Needleman



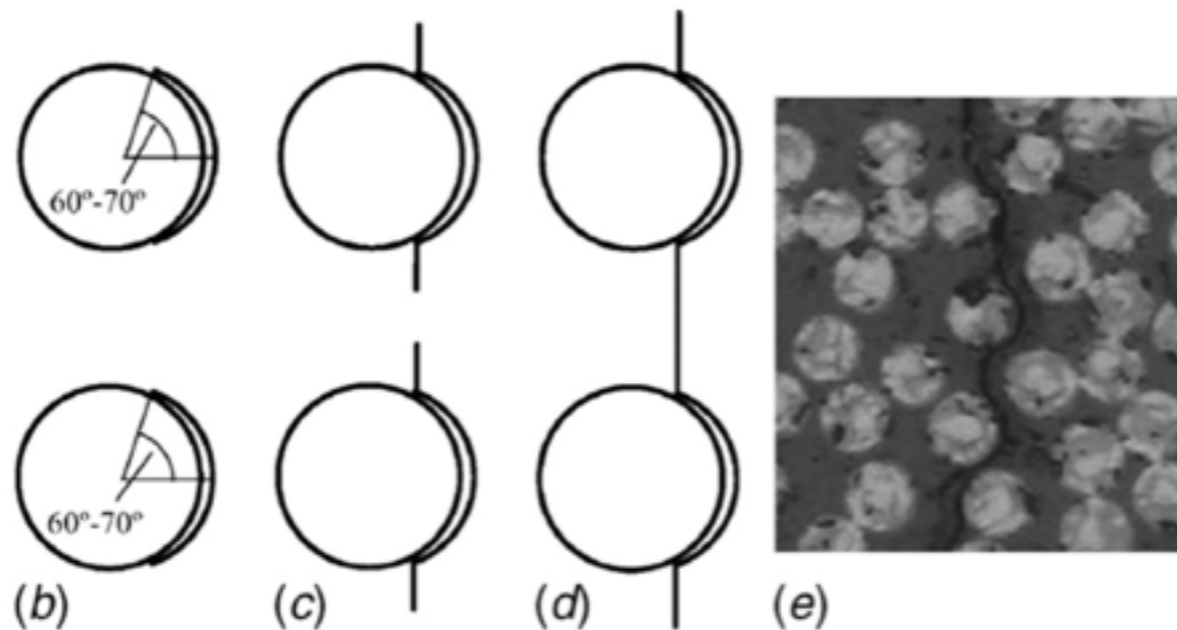
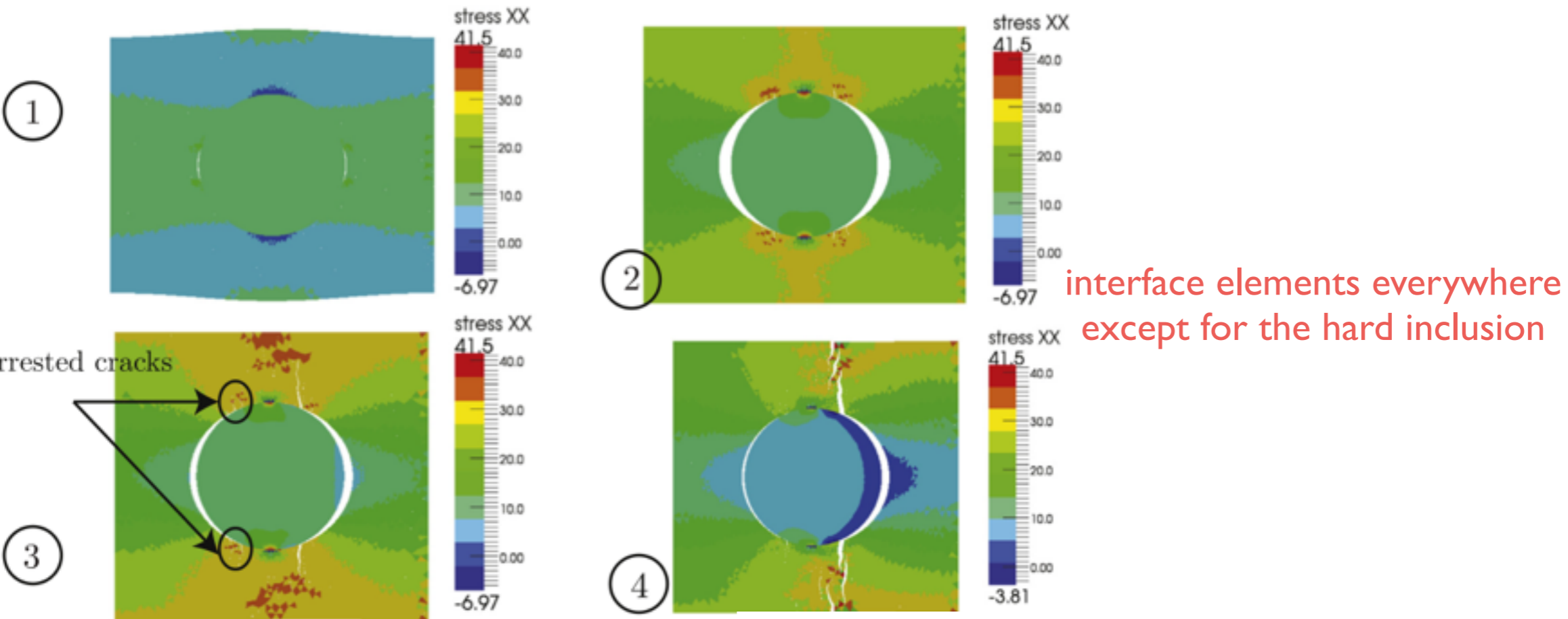
Multi-delamination



Multi-delamination

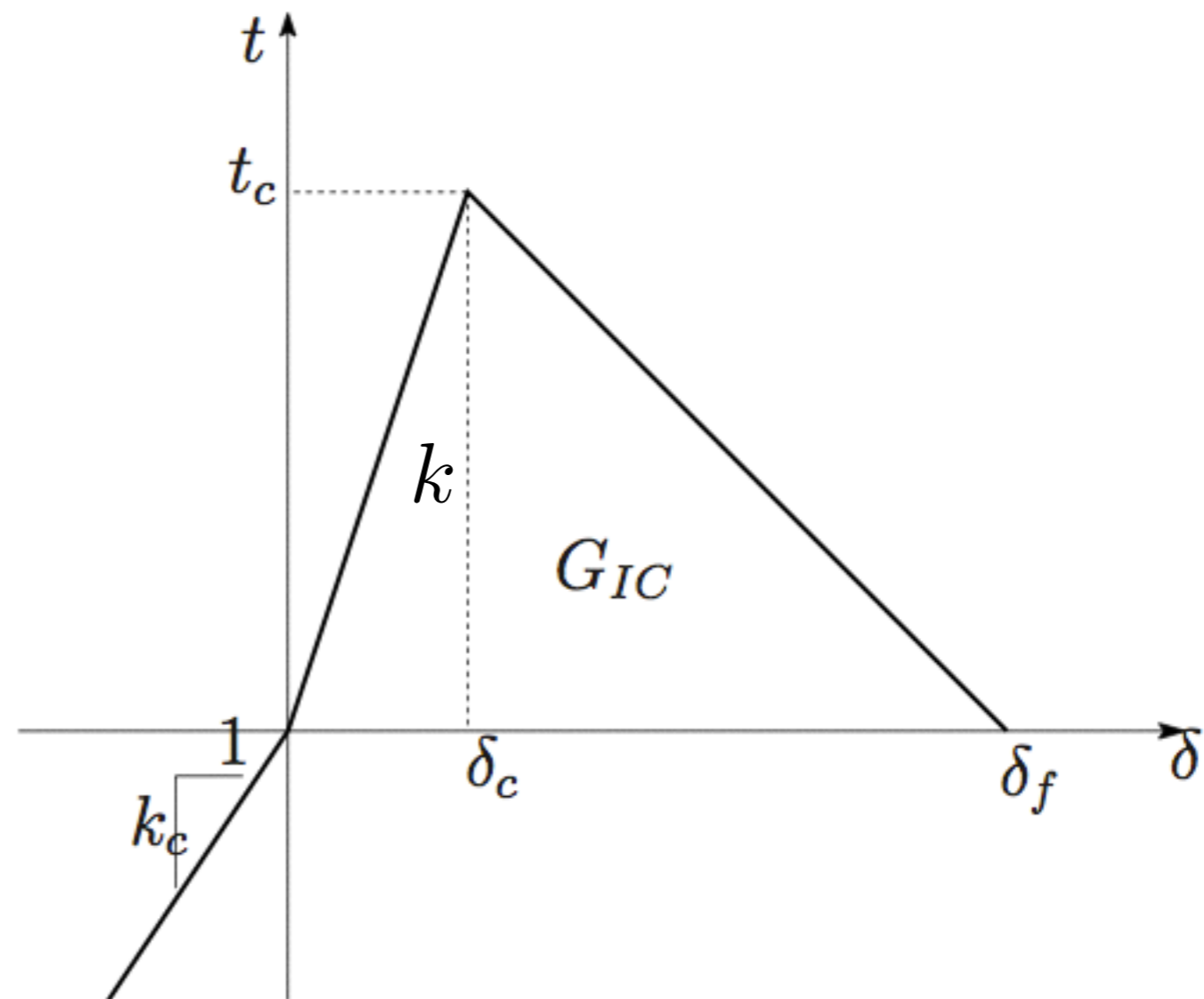


Matrix kinking



“Discontinuous Galerkin/extrinsic cohesive zone modeling: Implementation caveats and applications in computational fracture mechanics”, VP Nguyen, Engineering Fracture Mechanics, 2014.

Discontinuous Galerkin and cohesive interface elements



k : sufficiently large not to reduce the compliance of solid

Weibull distribution

$$P(\sigma_f) = 1 - \exp \left[- \left(\frac{\sigma_f}{\sigma_0} \right)^m \right] \quad (\text{two-parameter version})$$

$$P(\sigma_f) = 1 - \exp \left[- \left(\frac{\sigma_f - \sigma_m}{\sigma_0} \right)^m \right] \quad (\text{three-param. version})$$

Stresses smaller than σ_m , no failure: $P=0$

Probability Density Function (PDF)

$$f(\sigma_f) \equiv \frac{dP}{d\sigma_f} = \frac{m}{\sigma_0} \left(\frac{\sigma_f}{\sigma_0} \right)^{m-1} \exp \left[- \left(\frac{\sigma_f}{\sigma_0} \right)^m \right]$$

Account for the fact that larger samples more prone to failure

$$P(\sigma_f) = 1 - \exp \left[- \left(\frac{V}{V_0} \right) \left(\frac{\sigma_f}{\sigma_0} \right)^m \right]$$

Weibull distribution: implementation

$$P(\sigma_f) = 1 - \exp \left[- \left(\frac{\sigma_f - \sigma_m}{\sigma_0} \right)^m \right]$$

$$\exp \left[- \left(\frac{\sigma_f - \sigma_m}{\sigma_0} \right)^m \right] = 1 - P(\sigma_f) \equiv P_s(\sigma_f)$$

$$- \left(\frac{\sigma_f - \sigma_m}{\sigma_0} \right)^m = -\log [P_s(\sigma_f)]$$

$$\sigma_f = \sigma_0 (-\log(rand))^{1/m} + \sigma_m$$

where *rand* is a random number between 0 and 1.

Weibull distribution: implementation

$$\sigma_f = \sigma_0 (-\log(rand))^{1/m} + \sigma_m$$

where *rand* is a random number between 0 and 1.

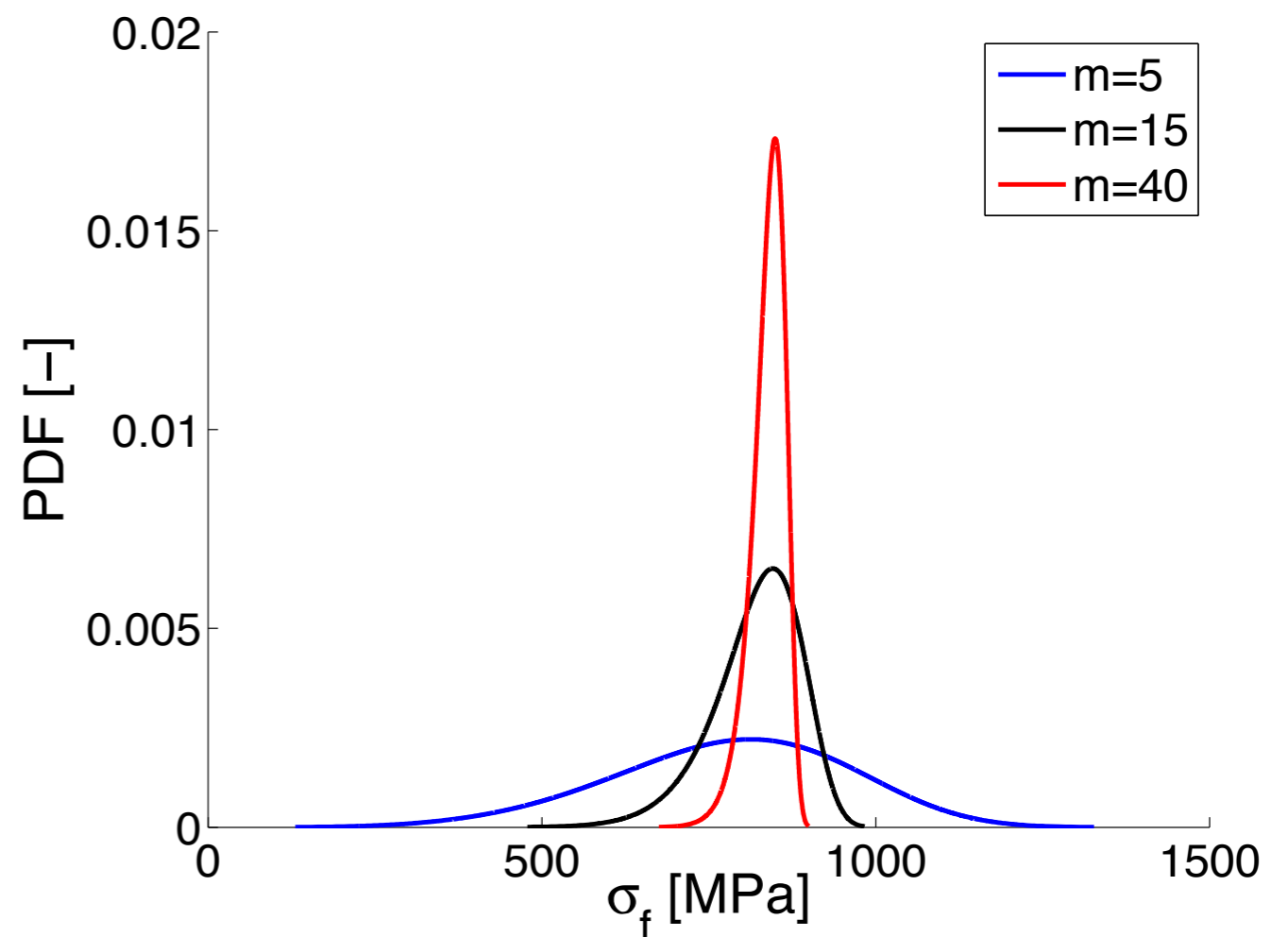
```
double xrand;
double value, f2t;

std::random_device rd;
std::mt19937 gen(rd());
std::uniform_real_distribution<> dis(0, 1);

int ipCount = 2;
int elemCount = count / ipCount;

for ( int i = 0; i < elemCount; i++ )
{
    xrand = dis(gen);
    value = pow(-log(xrand), 1/m_);
    f2t = f2t_ * value + sigmaMin_;
    f2ts_.pushBack ( f2t, ipCount );
}
```

each IE has the same strength



$$\sigma_0 = 850 \text{ MPa} \quad \sigma_m = 0 \text{ MPa}$$

Things to explore

- New cohesive laws
- New (better) interface element formulations (current element technology does not allow industrial applications to be realized.)
- Mesh topology such that mesh bias can be avoided.

