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CO₂QUEST

Numerical modelling of brittle fracture in API X70 pipeline steel: A XFEM-based cohesive zone approach

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Outline

Introduction to Pipe Line Fracture
Experimental Set-up
Numerical Modelling
Conclusions

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Introduction to Pipe Line Fracture

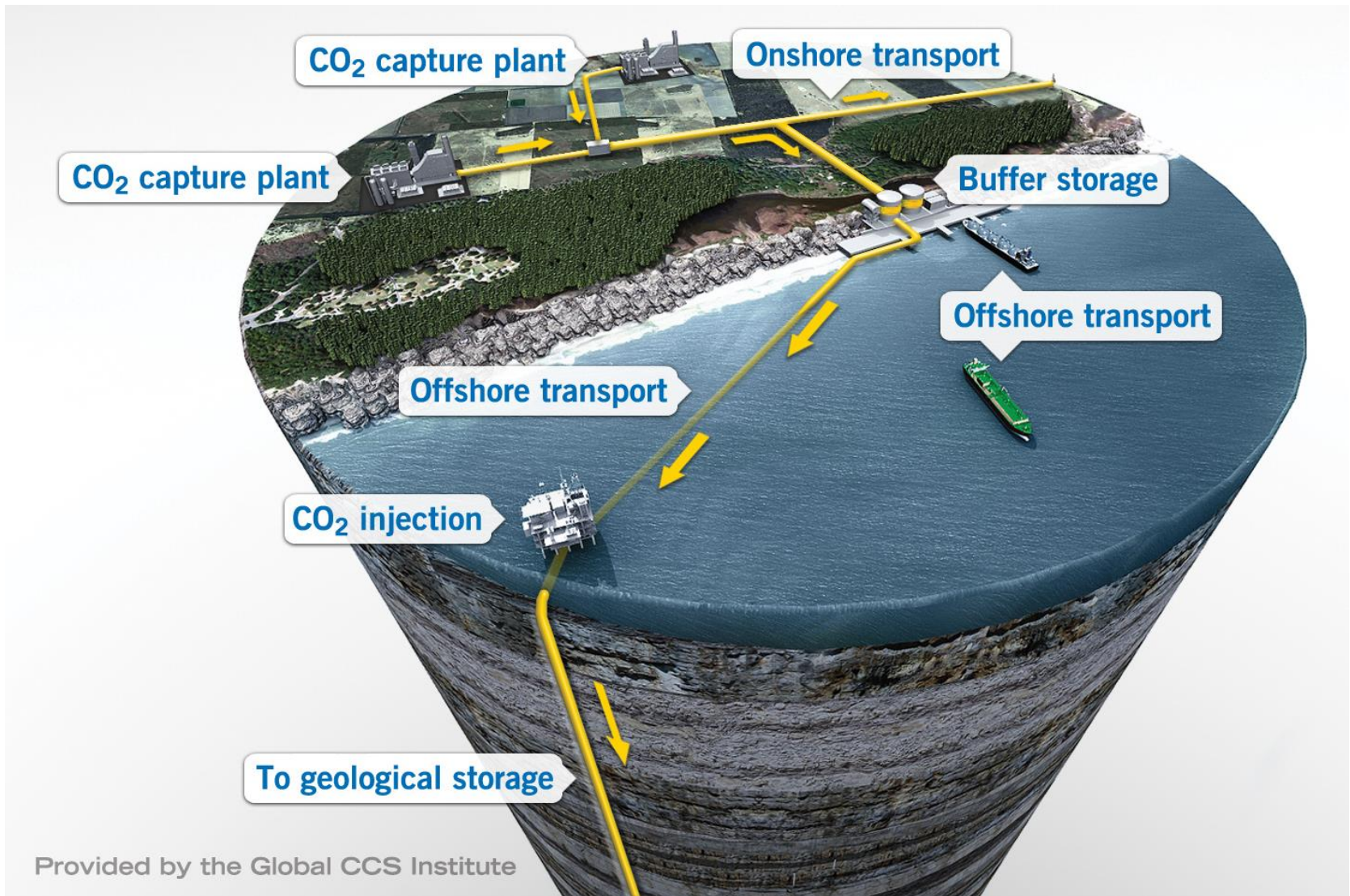
Experimental Set-up

Numerical Modelling

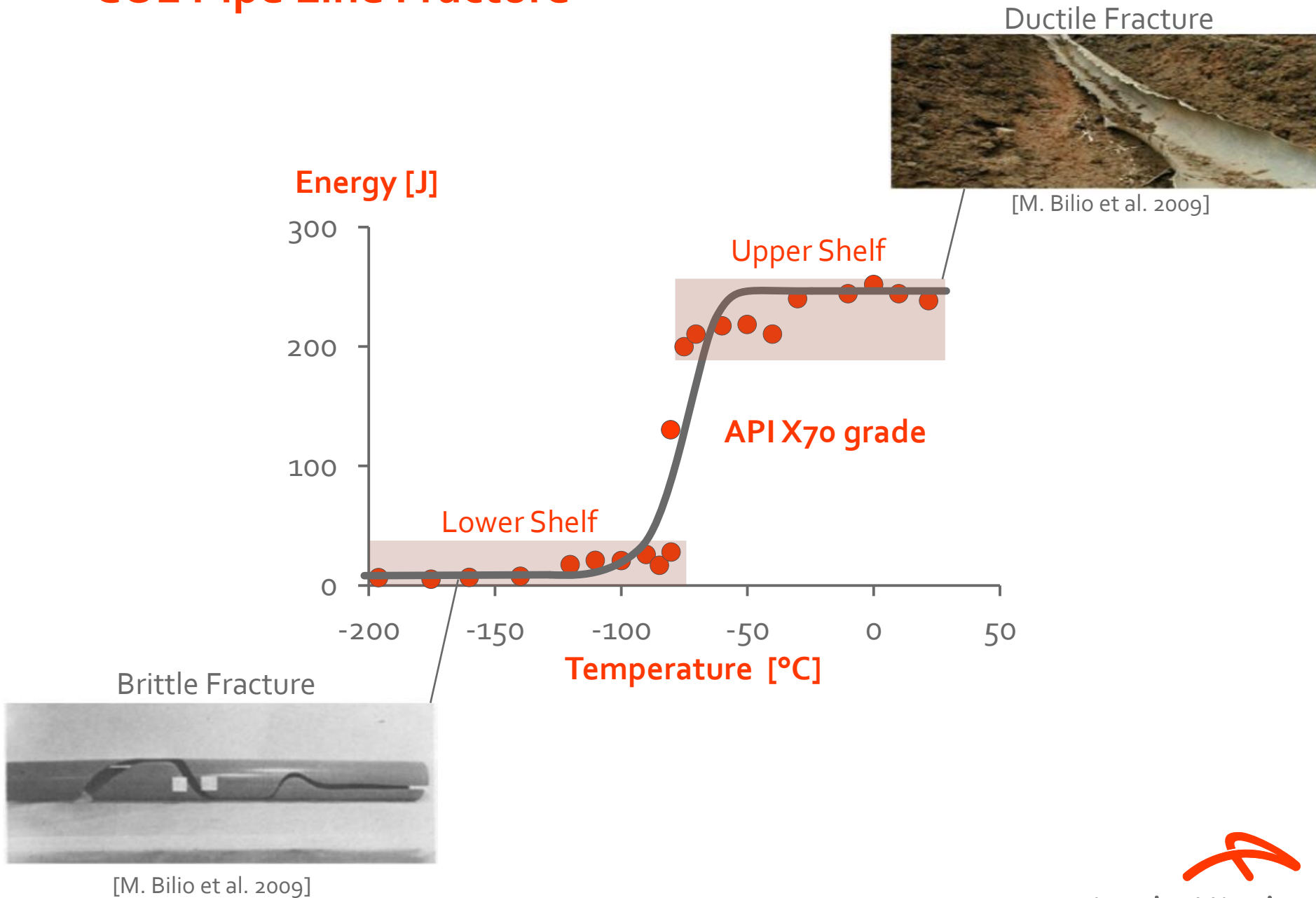
Conclusions



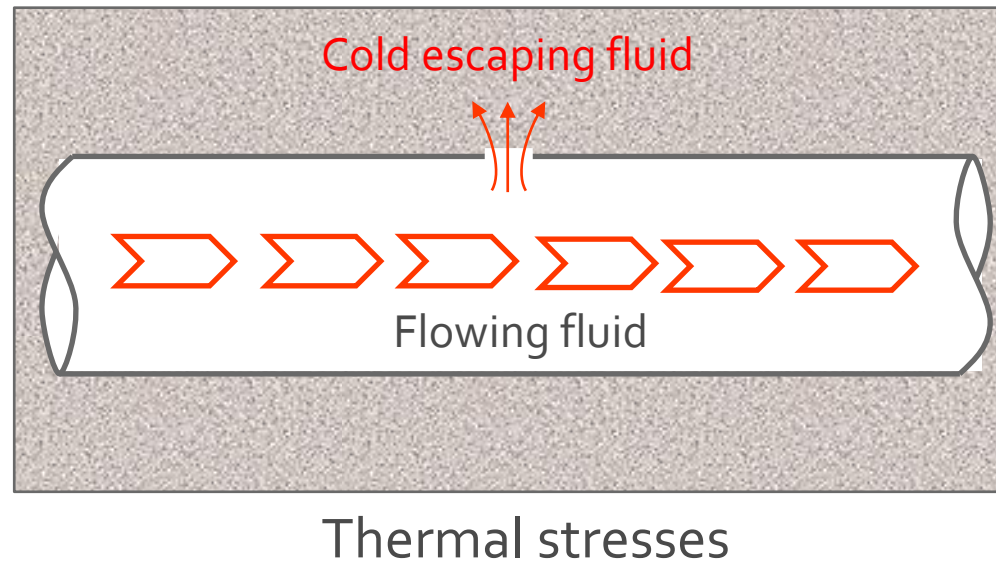
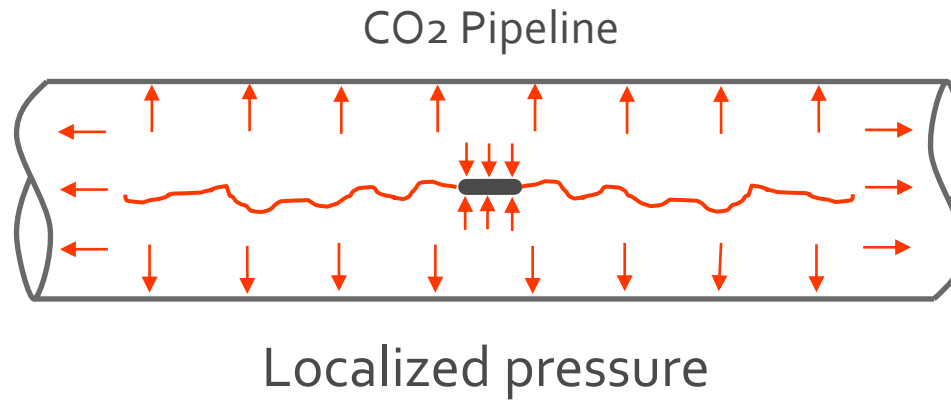
Introduction



CO₂ Pipe Line Fracture



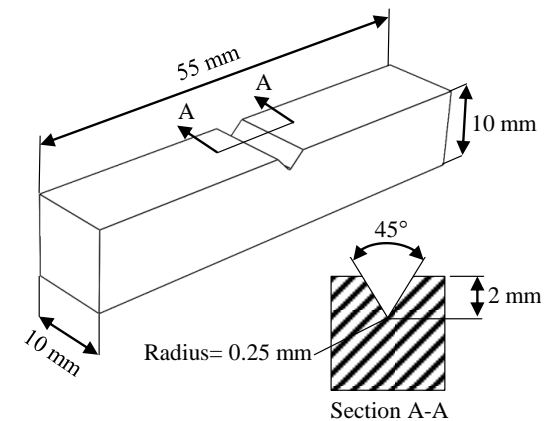
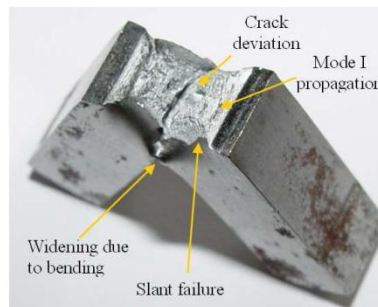
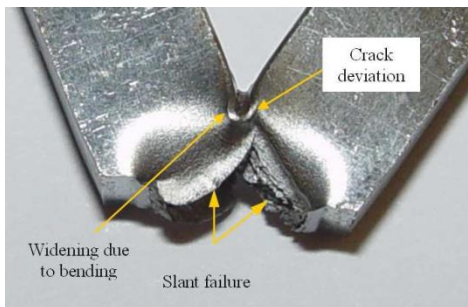
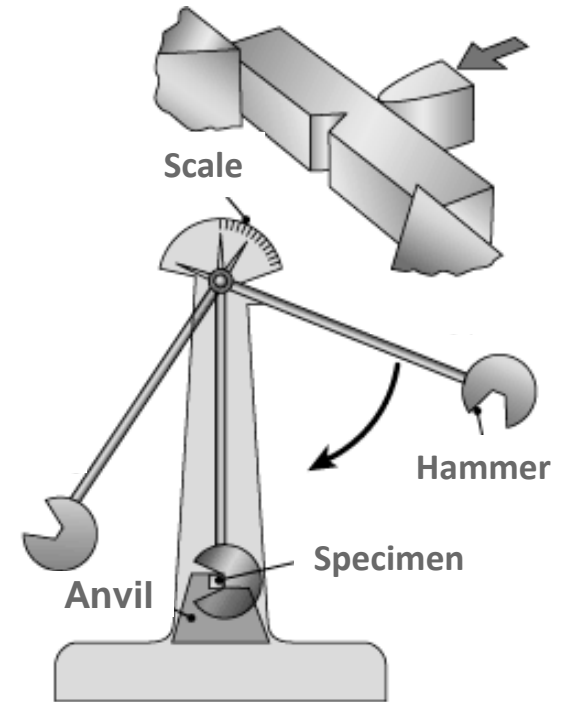
Brittle Fracture



Outline

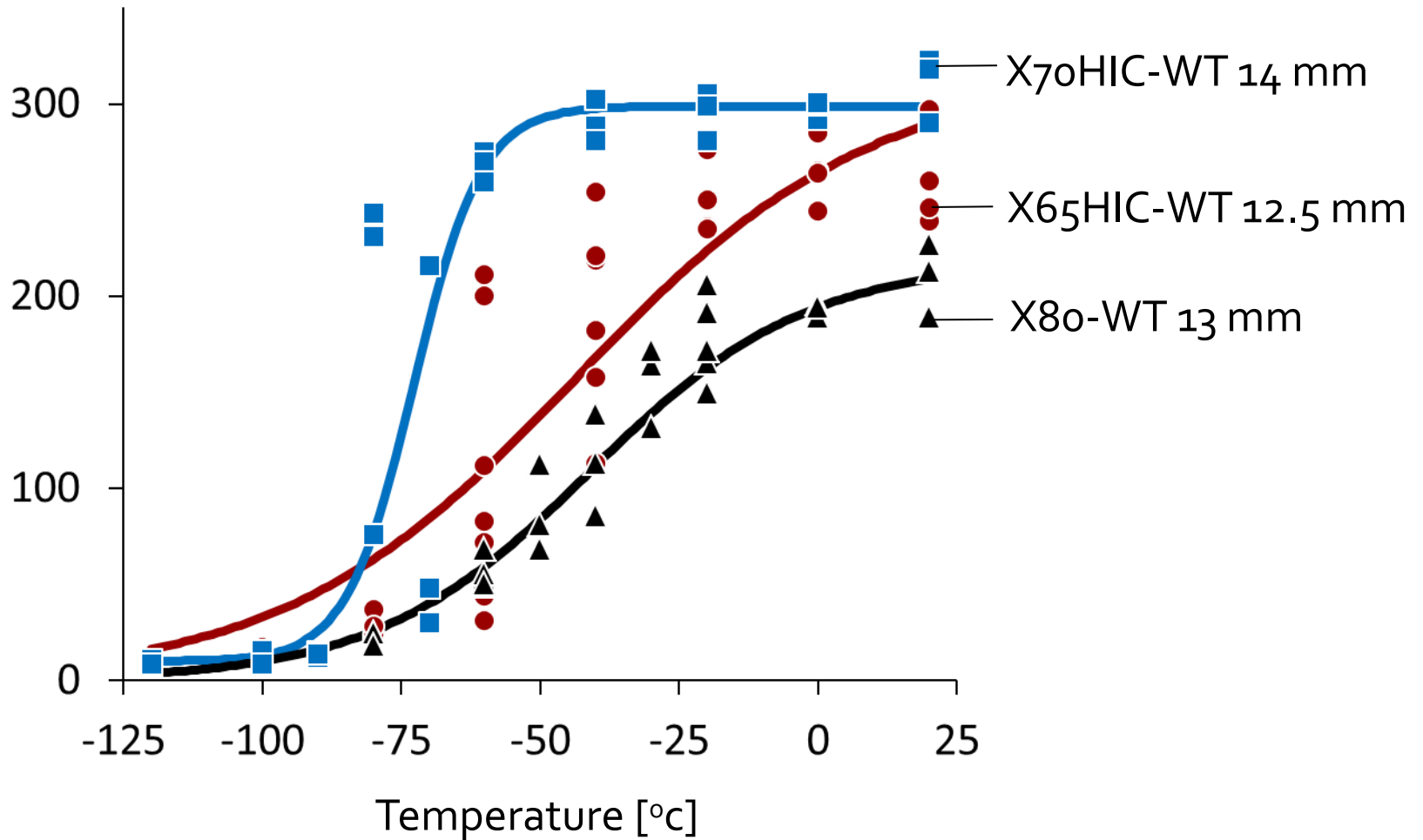
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Charpy V-Notch (CVN) Impact Test Set-up



CVN Results

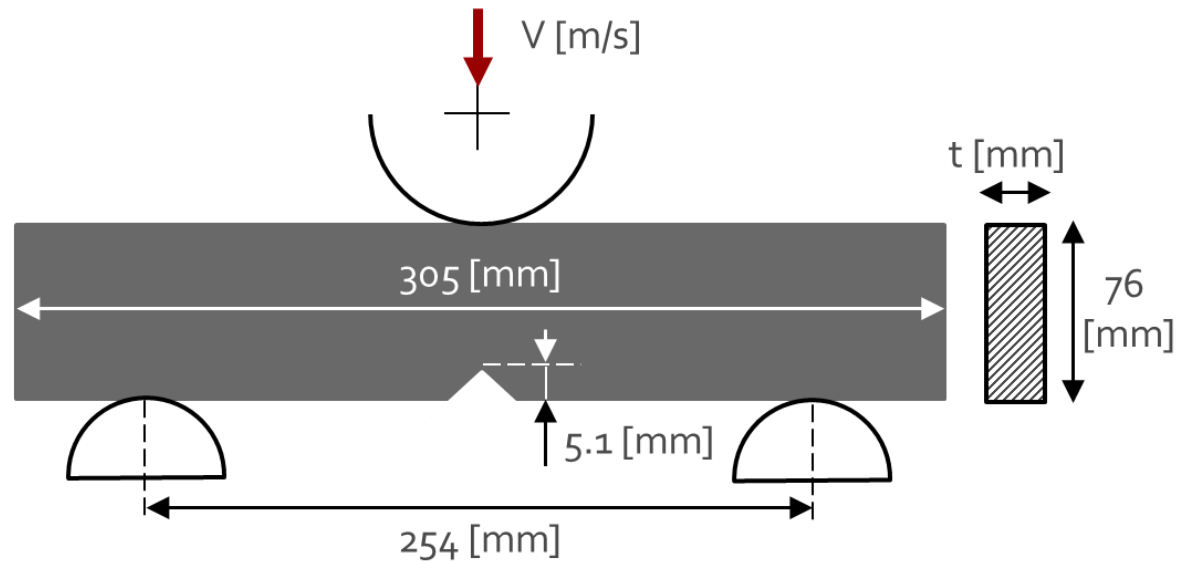
Absorbed Energy [J]



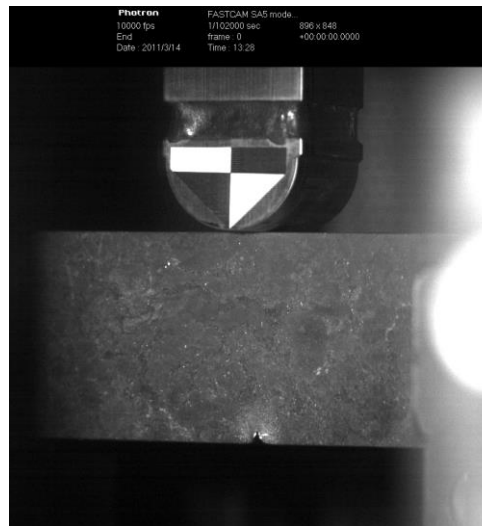
Drop Weight Tear Test (DWTT) Set-up



DWTT Set-up



$T = 20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

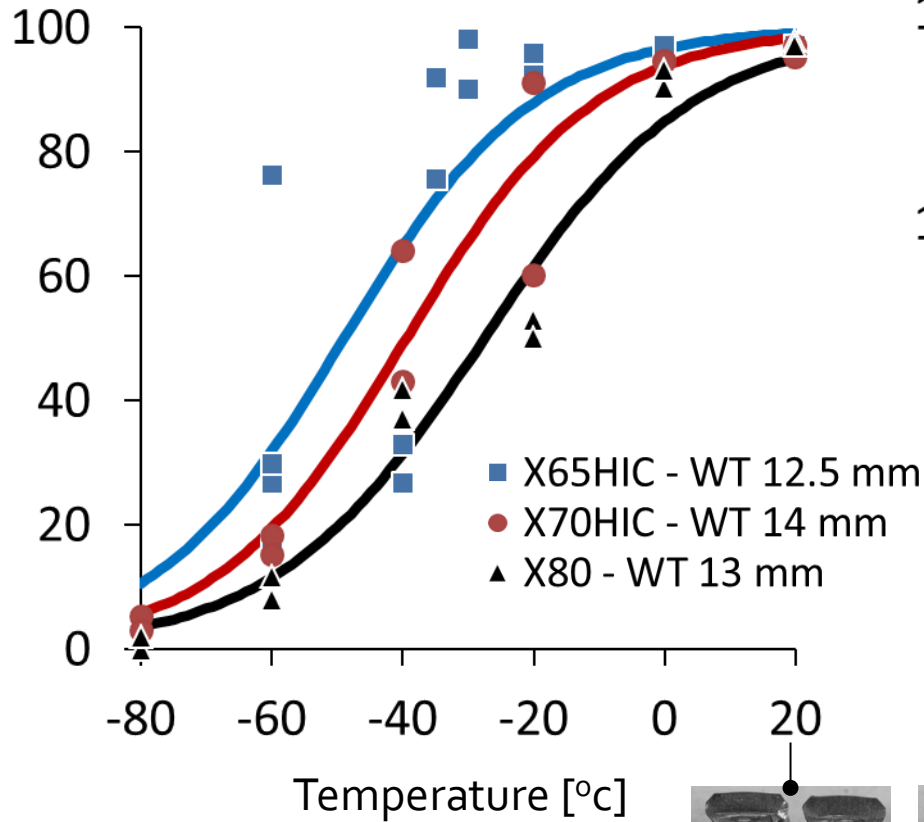


$T = -65\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

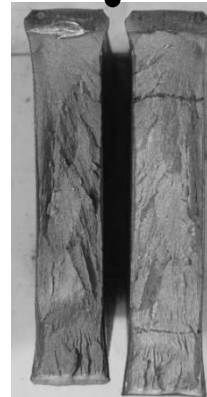
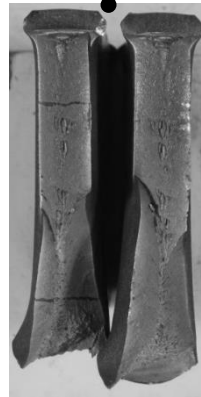
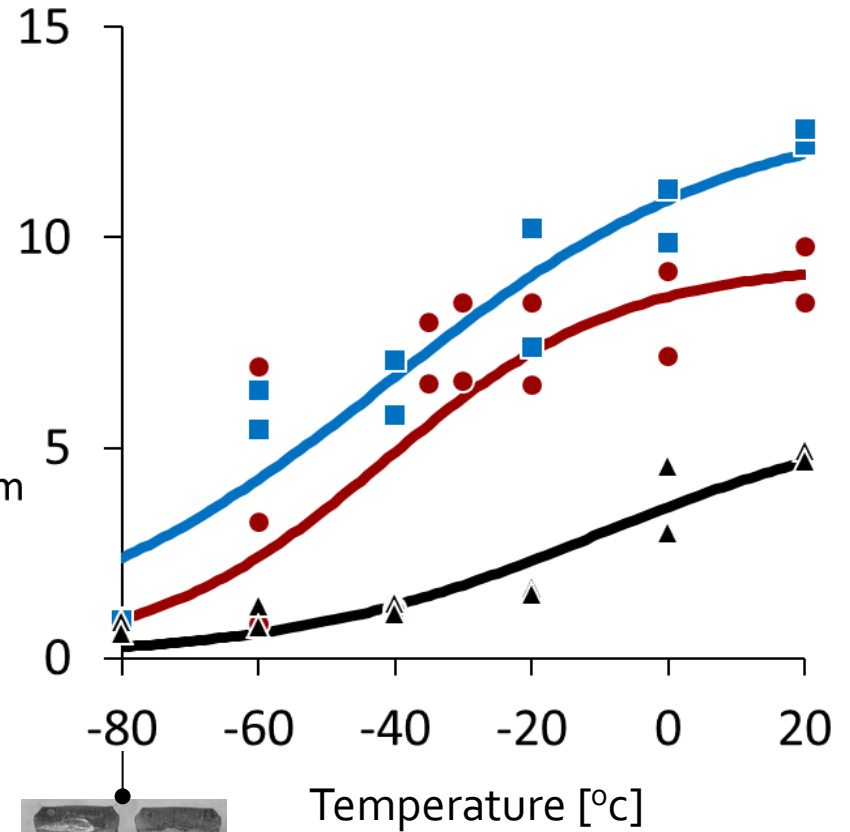


DWTT Results

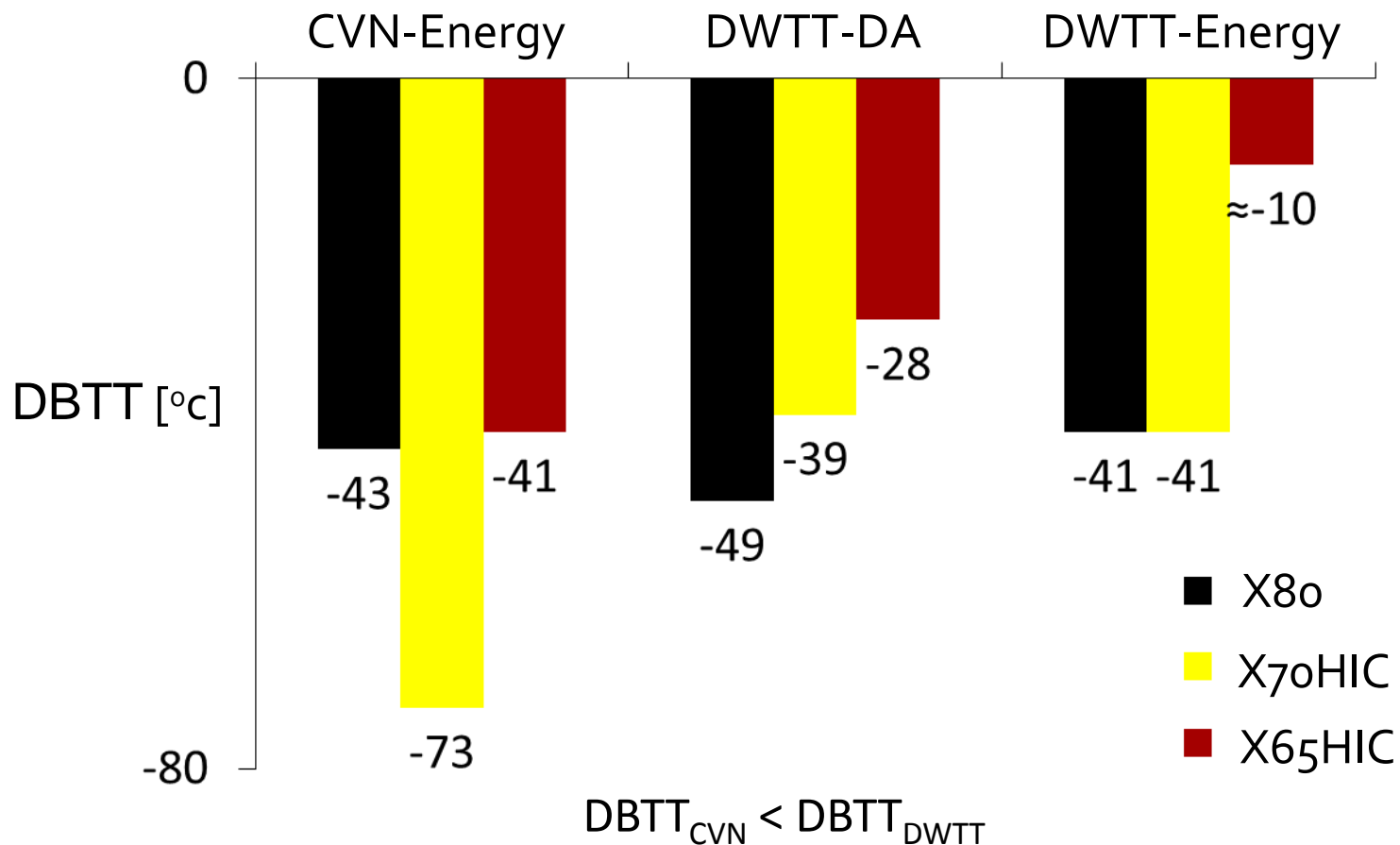
Ductile Shear Area (DA) [%]



Absorbed Energy [kJ]



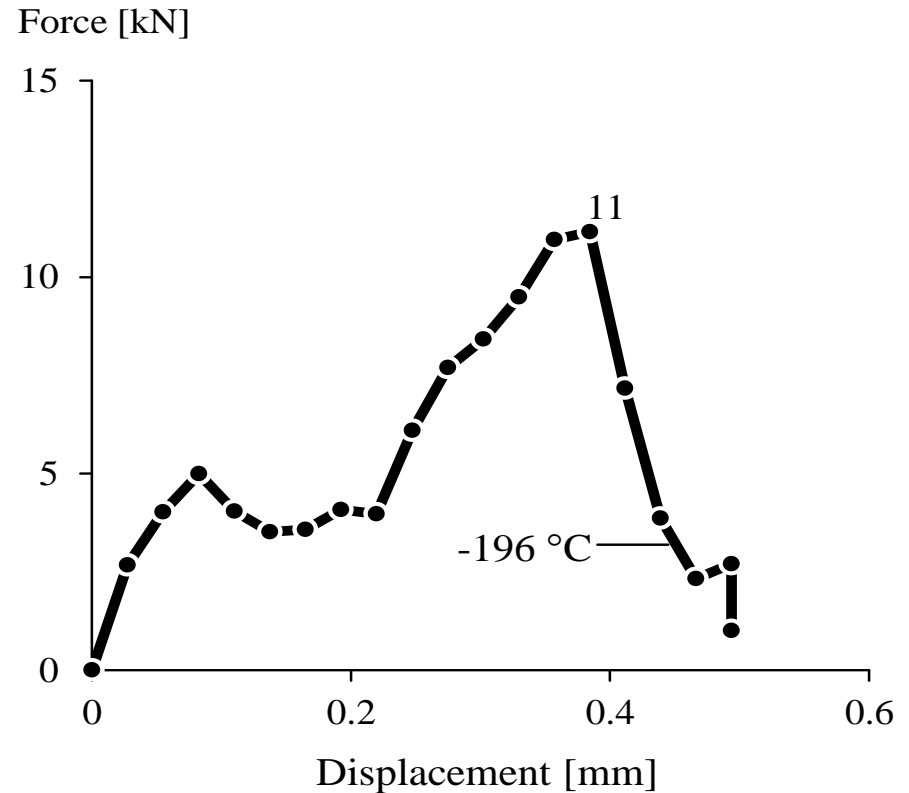
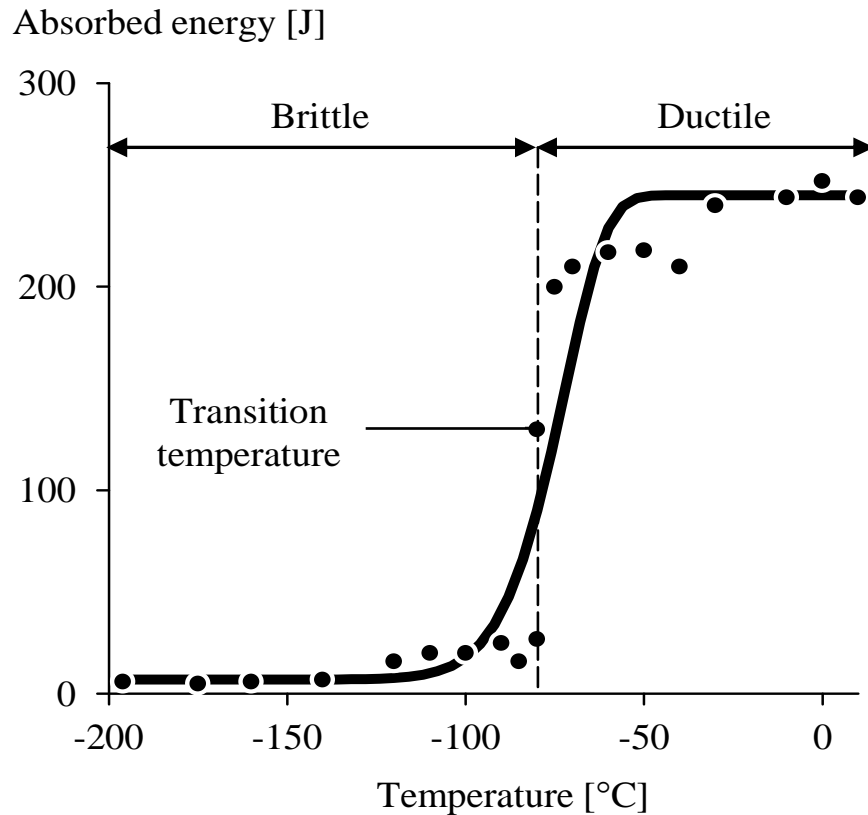
CVN VS DWTT



X70MS (HIC) offers the best combination of strength, low temperature toughness and resistance to (accidental) H₂S exposure



Charpy V-Notch (CVN) Impact Results



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Brittle Fracture Model

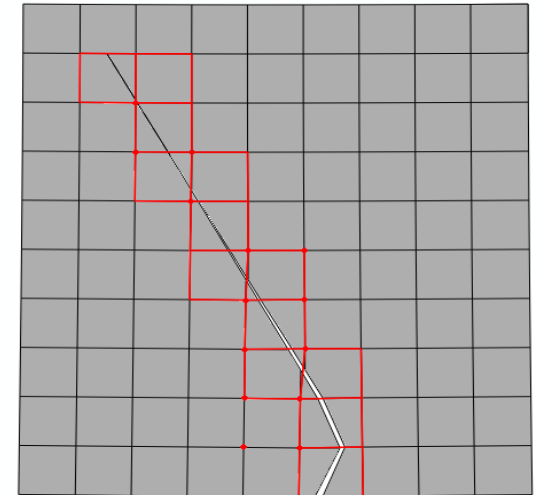
eXtended Finite Element Method (XFEM)

Moës, Nicolas;
Dolbow, John;
Belytschko, Ted
(1999)

Heaviside enrichment function

$$u^h(x) = \underbrace{\sum_{I \in S_A} N_I(x) u_I}_{\text{Nodal DOF for conventional shape functions } N_I} + \underbrace{\sum_{J \in S_H} N_J(x) H(x) q_J^0}_{\text{Heaviside enrichment function}}$$

u_I Nodal DOF for conventional
shape functions N_I



S_A = All nodes

S_H = Nodes cut by the crack

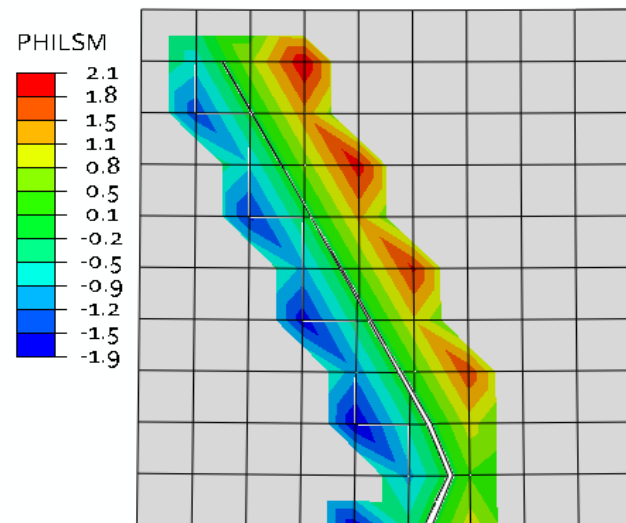
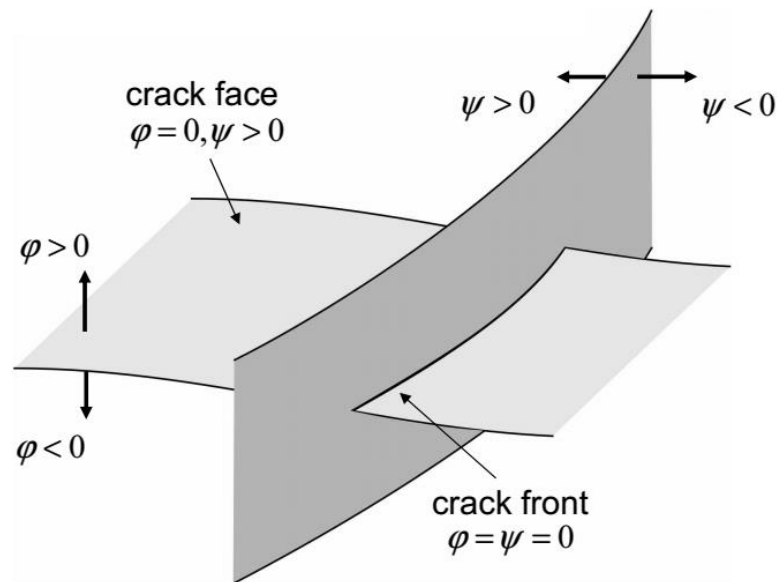
S_c = Nodes surrounding the crack tip

Basic XFEM Concepts

Level Set Method

The level set $\phi = 0$ represents the crack face

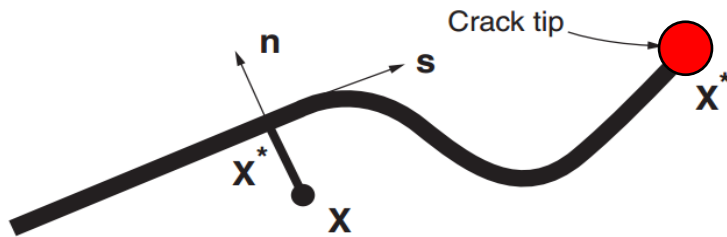
The intersection of level sets $\phi = 0$ and $\psi = 0$ denotes the crack front



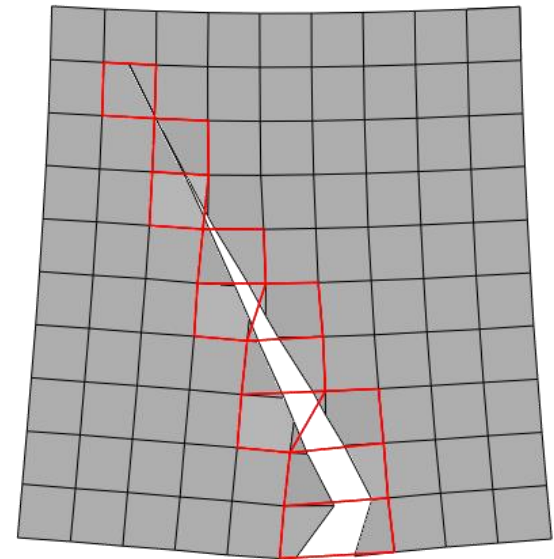
Basic XFEM Concepts

Heaviside function

Accounts for displacement jump across crack



$$H(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for, } (x - x^*)n \geq 0 \\ -1 & \text{else,} \end{cases}$$

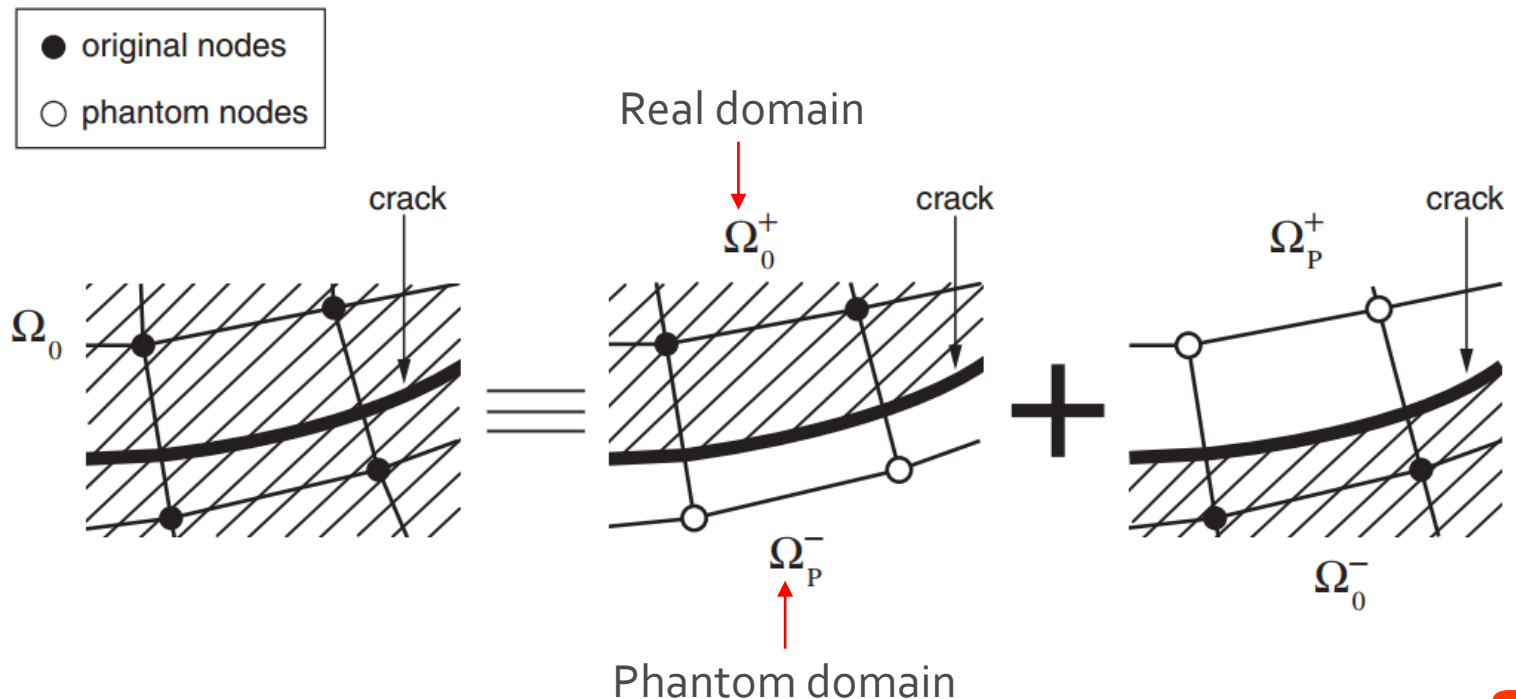


Basic XFEM Concepts

Phantom node approach (propagating cracks)

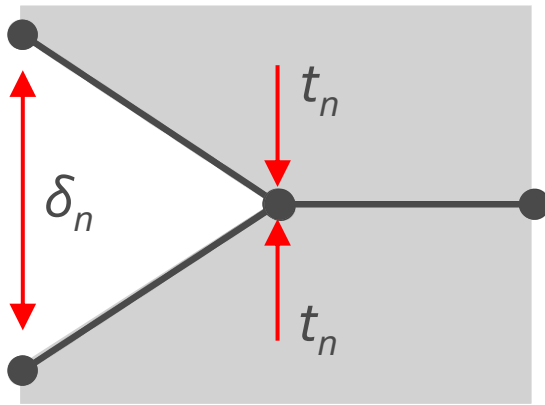
Belytschko *et al.* (2006)

Discontinuous element with Heaviside enrichment is treated as a single element with **real** and **phantom nodes** that gets split into two parts



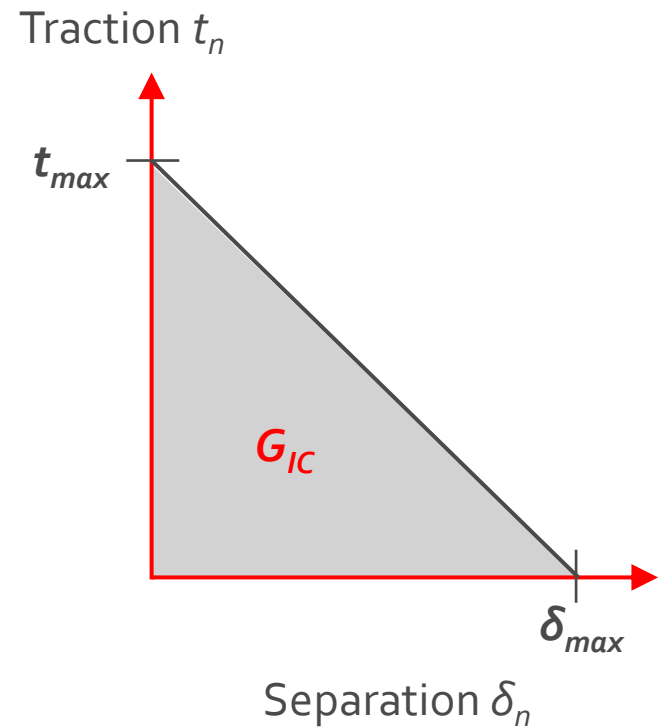
XFEM-Based CZM approach

Cohesive Zone Model (CZM)

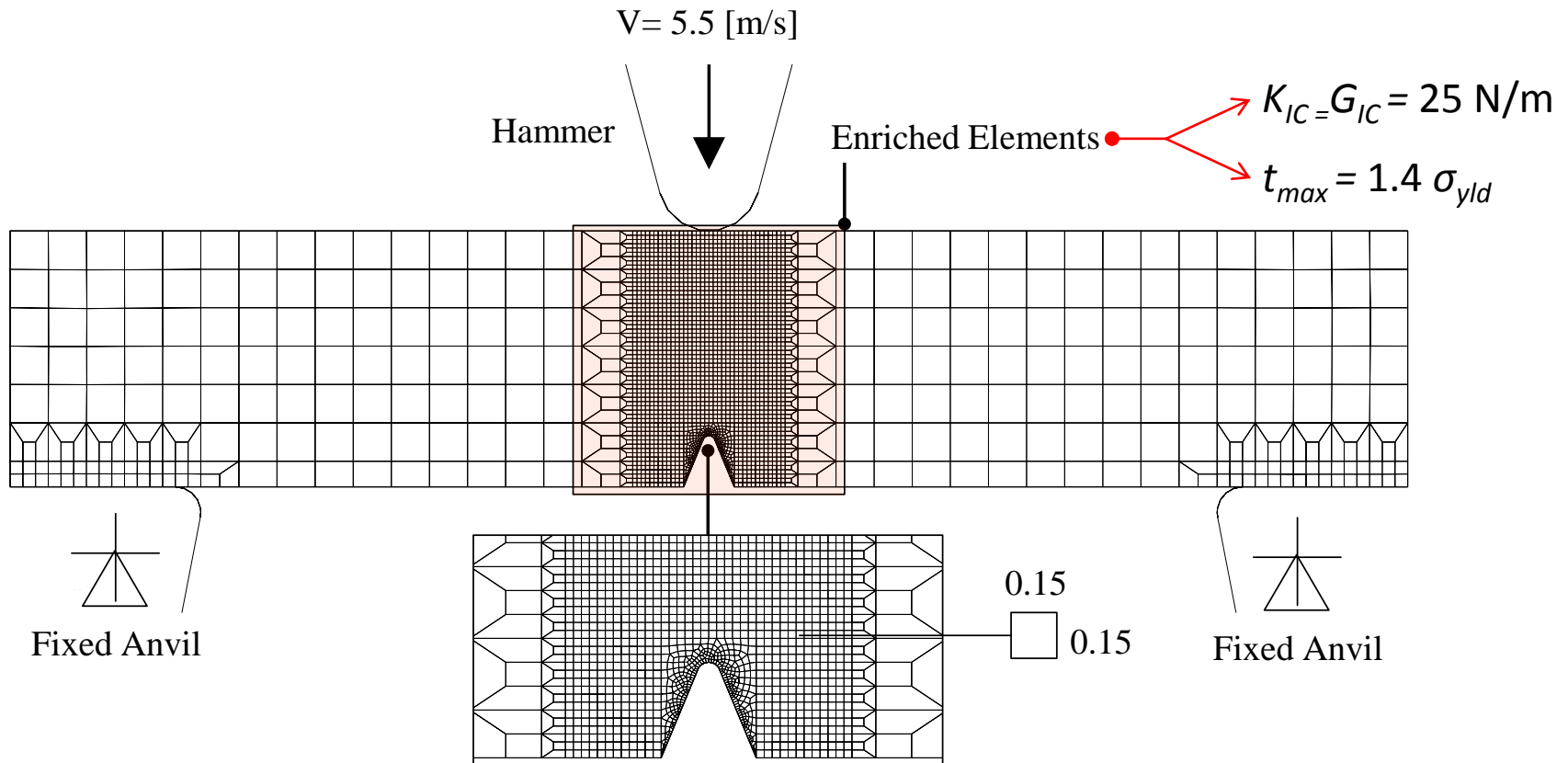


$$G_c = \int_0^{\delta_{max}} T(\delta) d\delta$$

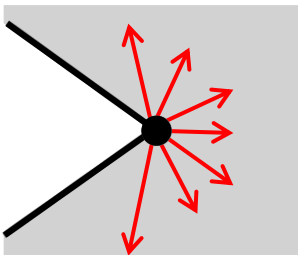
A red dot is shown to the right of the integral, with three red arrows pointing from it towards the labels G_{IC} , t_{max} , and δ_{max} .



CVN Brittle Fracture Model

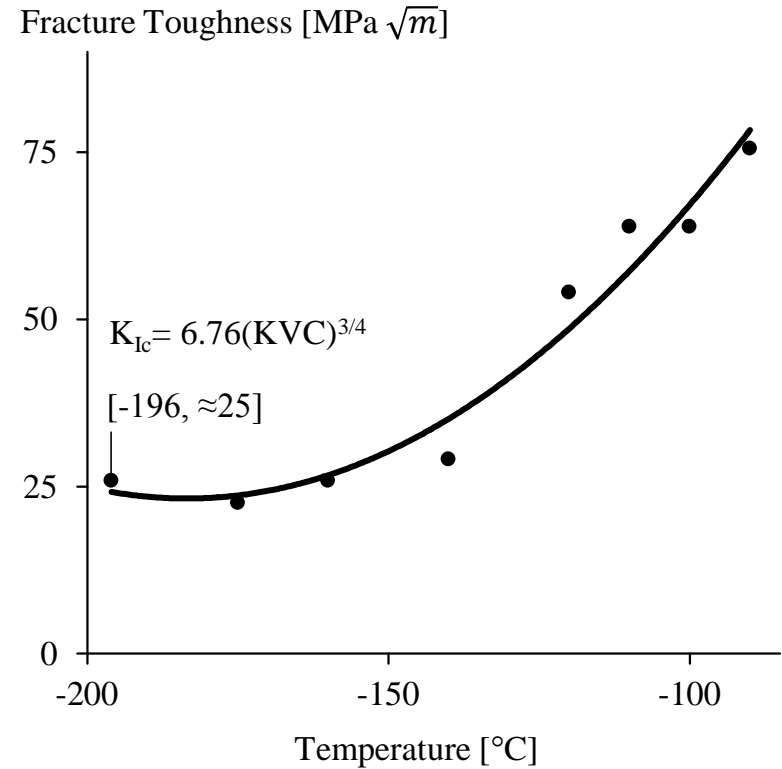
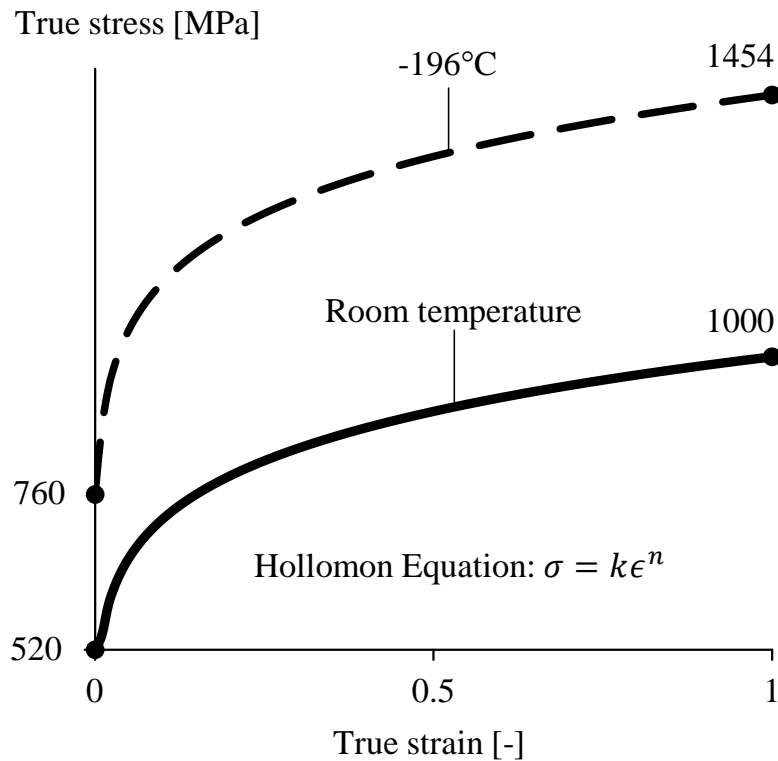


$$f = \left\langle \frac{\sigma_{max}}{\sigma^0_{max}} \right\rangle \quad \text{IF } f = 1 \rightarrow \text{Crack initiates or an existing crack extends}$$

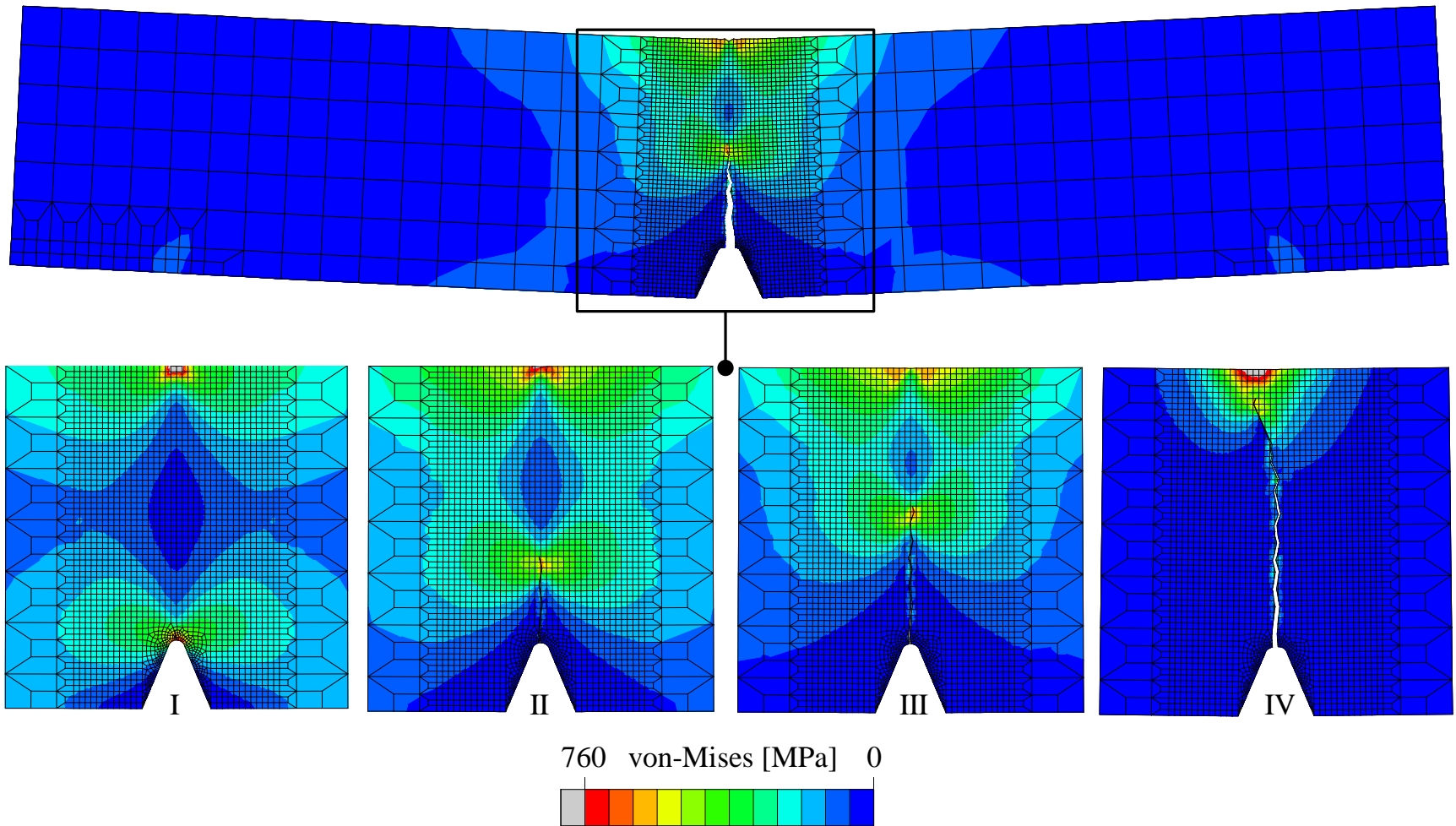


→ Crack propagation direction

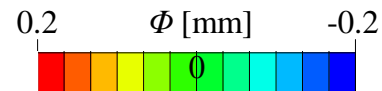
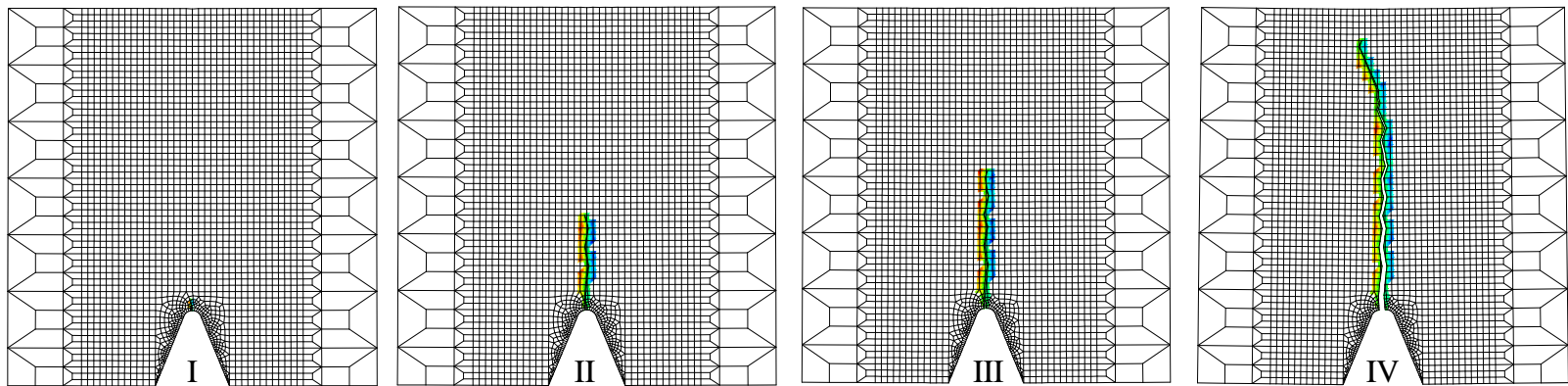
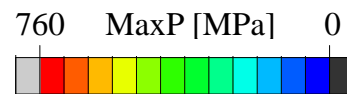
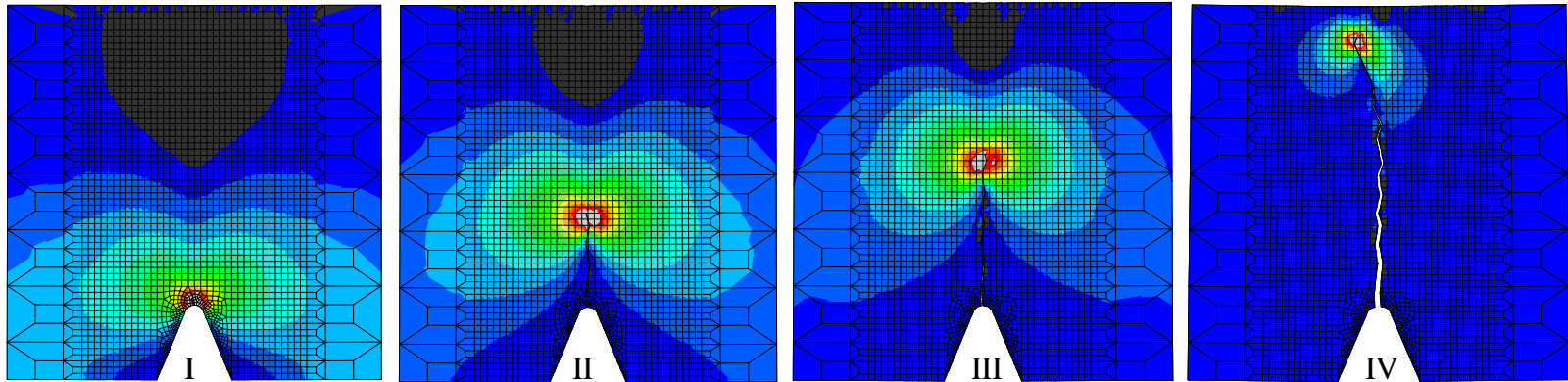
Material Properties



Numerical Model Results

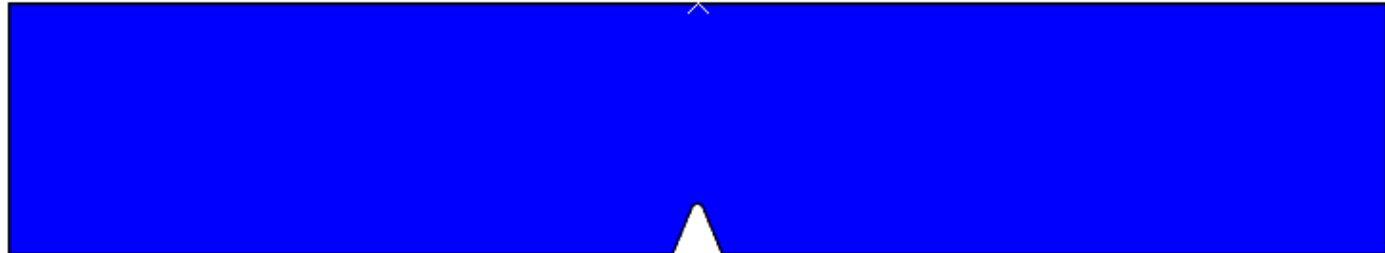
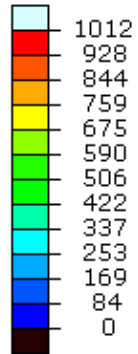


Numerical Model Results

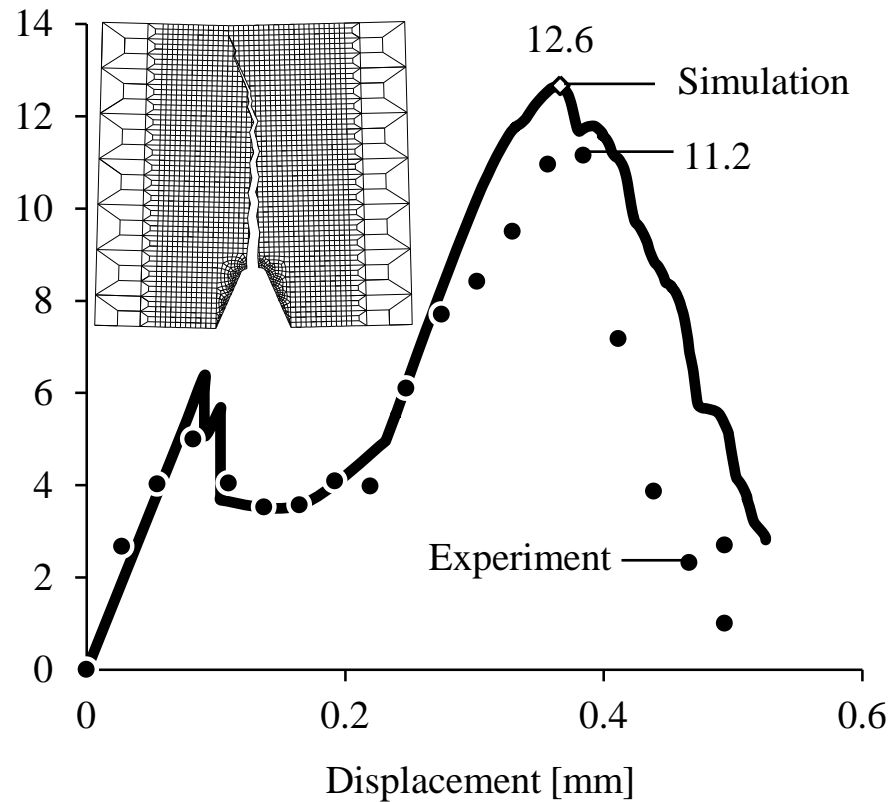


Numerical Model Validation

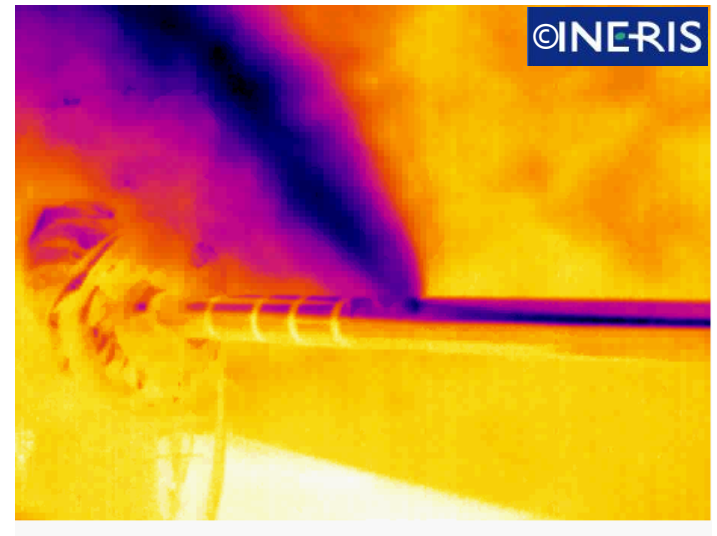
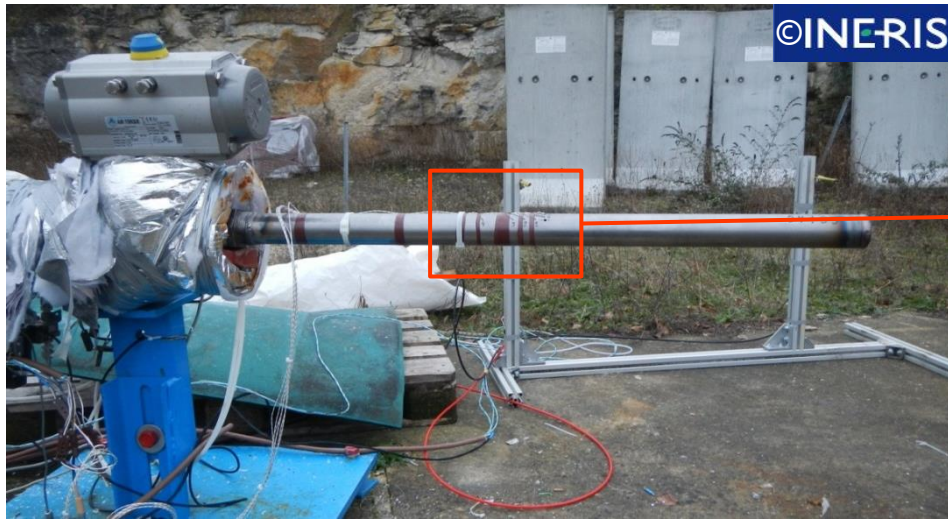
S, Mises
(Avg: 75%)



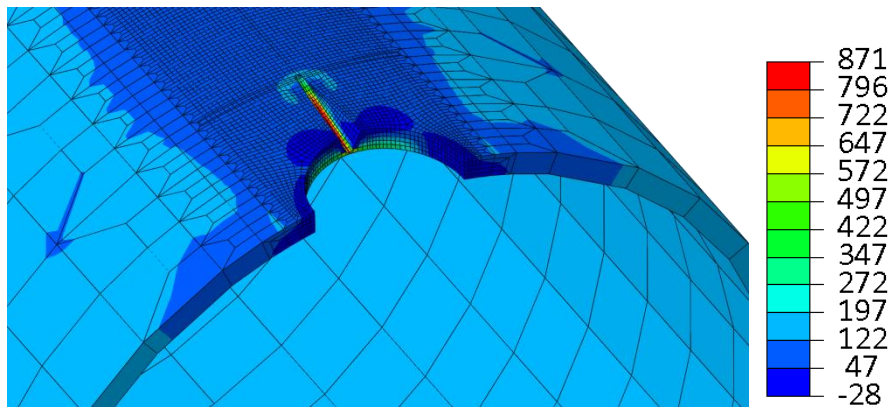
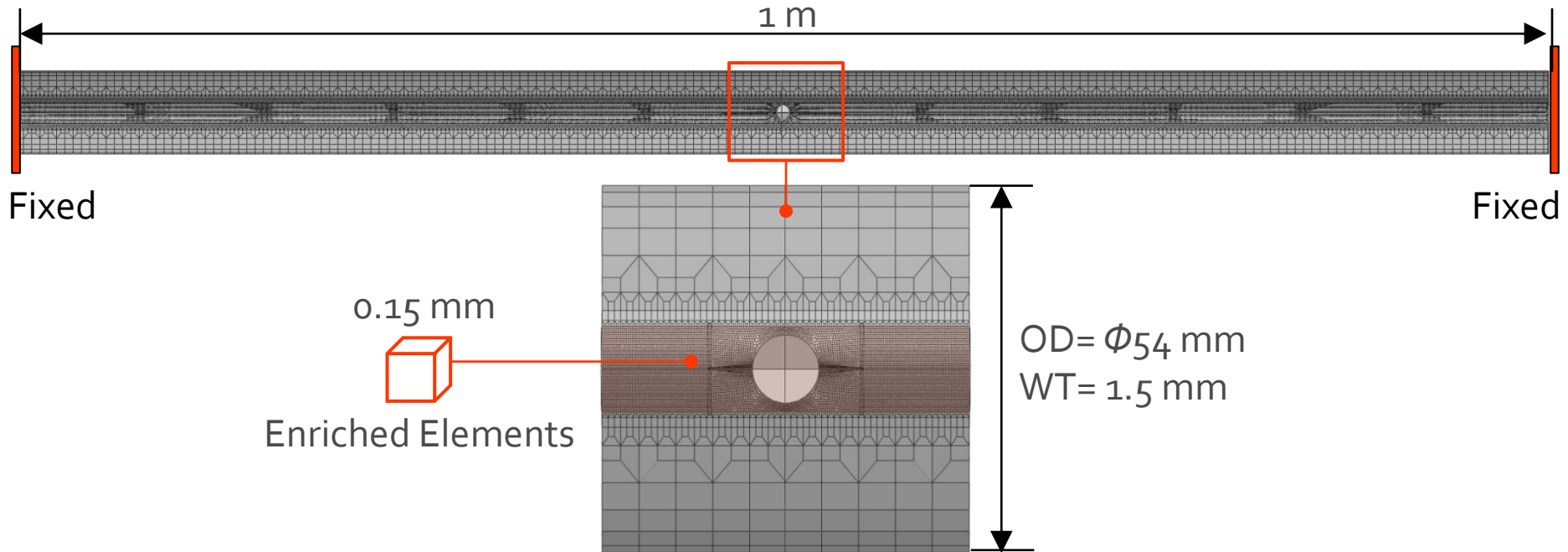
Force [kN]



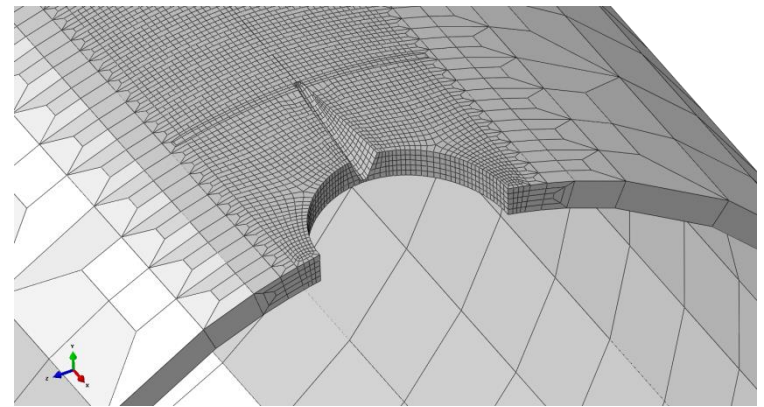
Small Scale Pipe Fracture Test



Small Scale Pipe Fracture Model



Maximum Principal Stress [MPa]



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Conclusions

- XFEM-based cohesive zone approach is a suitable methodology to model brittle fracture behaviour of API X70 pipeline steels
 - Due to strong discontinuity behaviour of XFEM crack propagation process the possibility of facing numerical convergence issues are high!

Acknowledgements and Disclaimer

The research leading to the results described in this presentation has received funding from the European Union 7th Framework Programme FP7-ENERGY-2012-1-2STAGE under grant agreement number 309102.

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