

Fracture in amorphous alloys: in search of a length scale

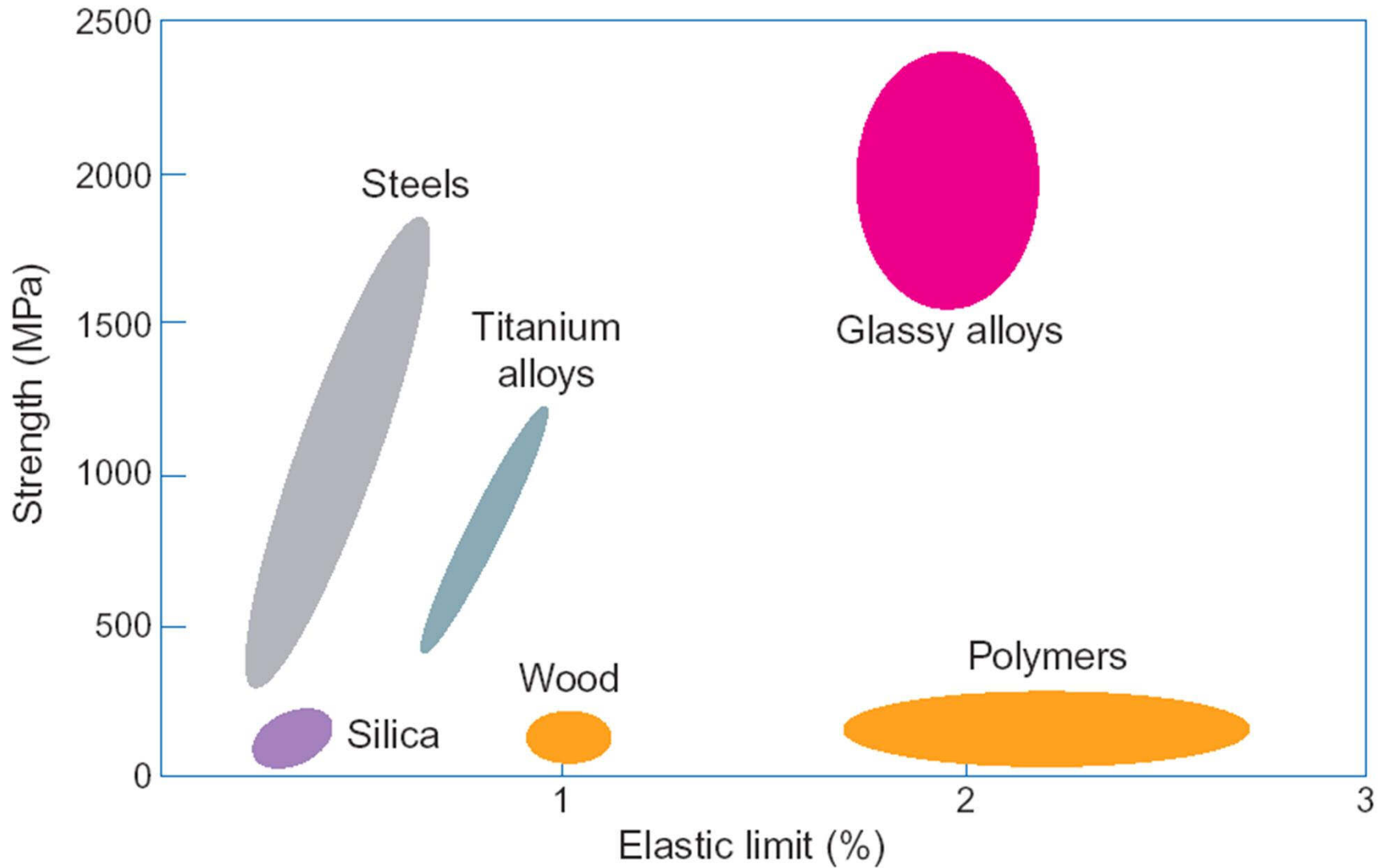
and their physical meaning



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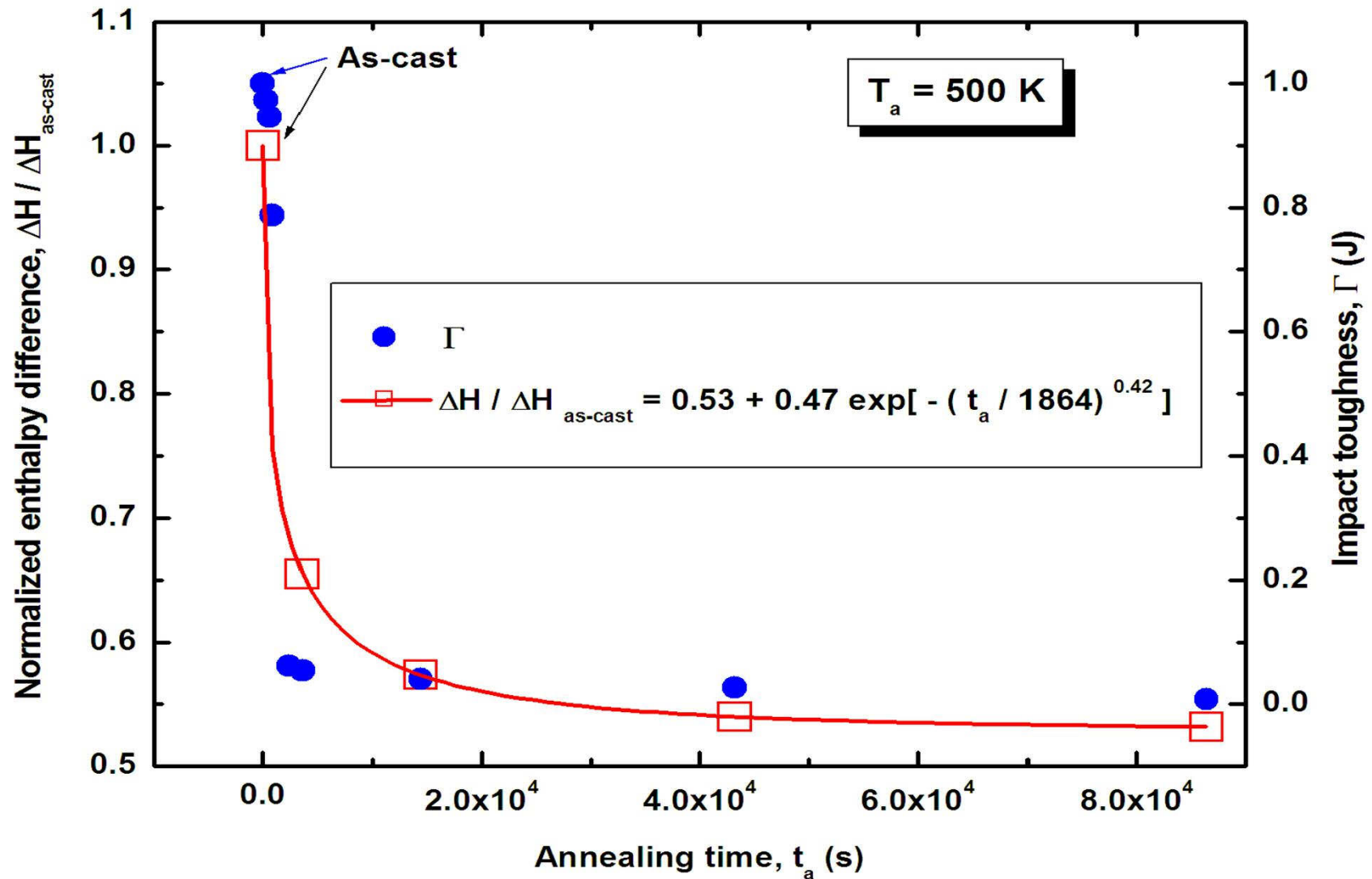
“The first thing you hear about a material is the best thing you will ever hear about it”

What controls the toughness of BMGs?

	Kc (MPa√m)	Hardness (GPa)
Vitreloy Zr _{41.2} Ti _{13.8} Cu _{12.5} Ni ₁₀ Be _{22.5}		
Amorphous steel Fe ₄₈ Cr ₁₅ Mo ₁₄ Er ₂ C ₁₅ B ₆		17.8±0.73

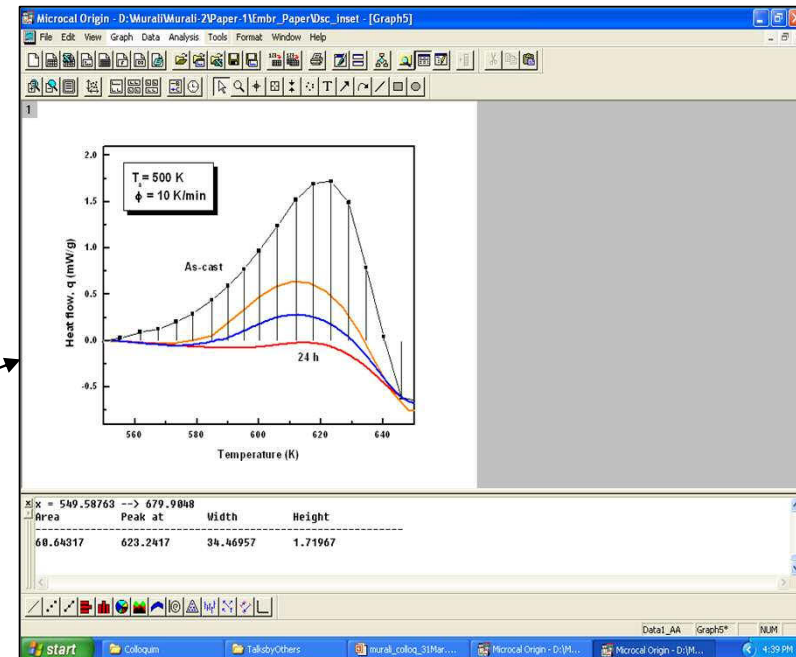
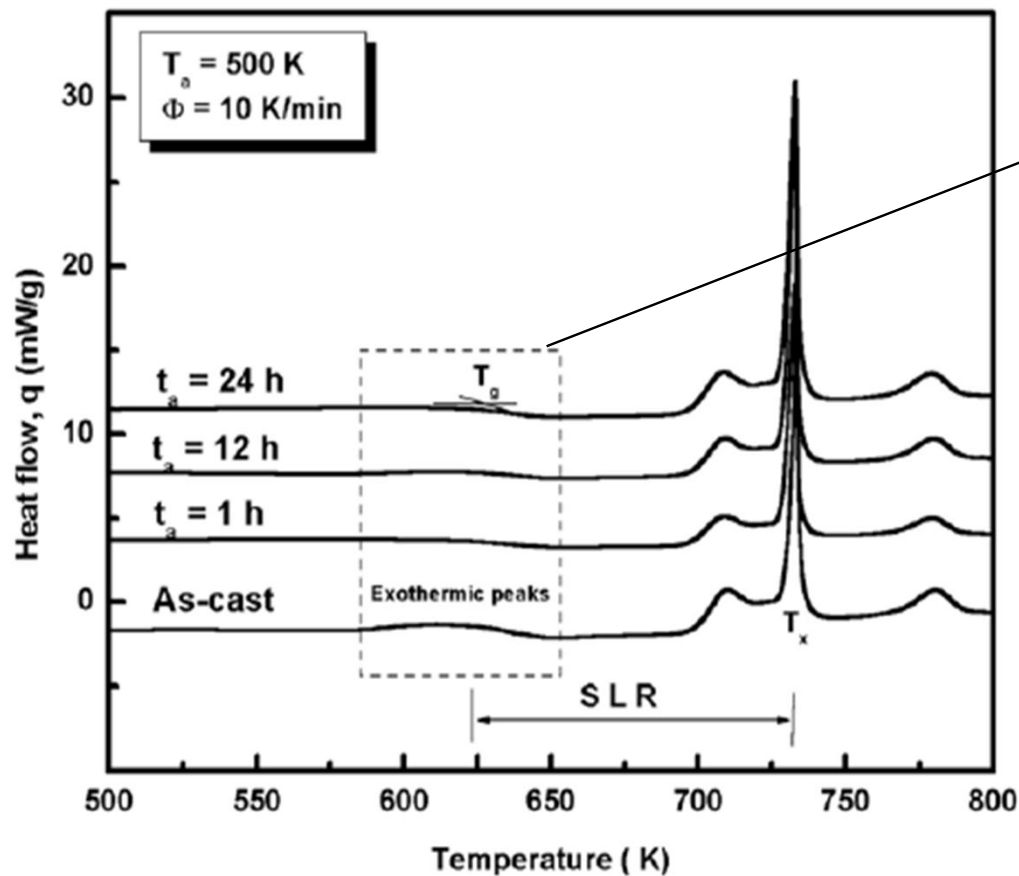
[Bulk amorphous metal - An emerging engineering material](#)
Johnson WL , JOM, Volume: 54, Pages: 40-43 , MAR 2002

Free volume and toughness



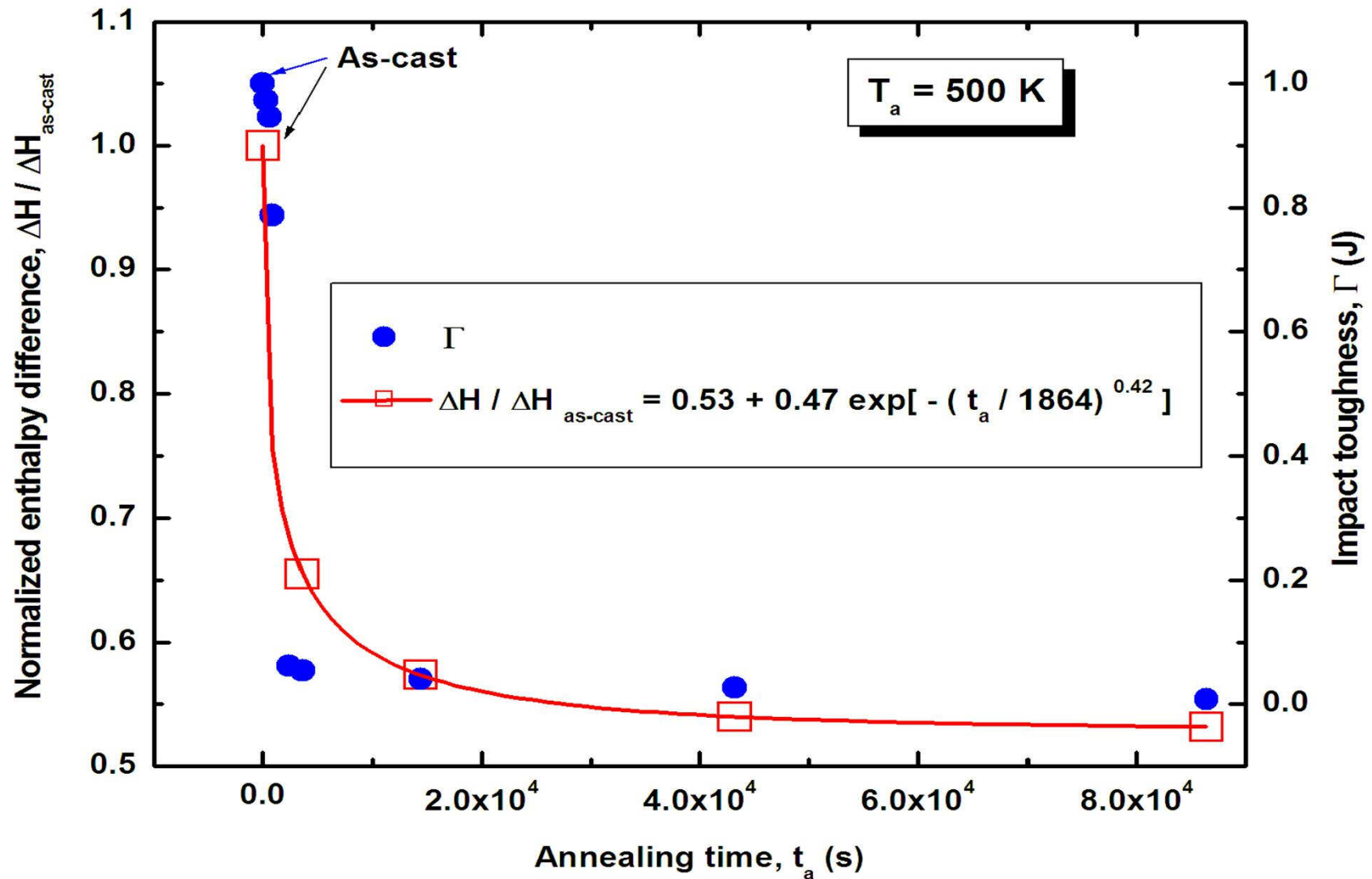
Calorimetric observations

Isothermal Annealing



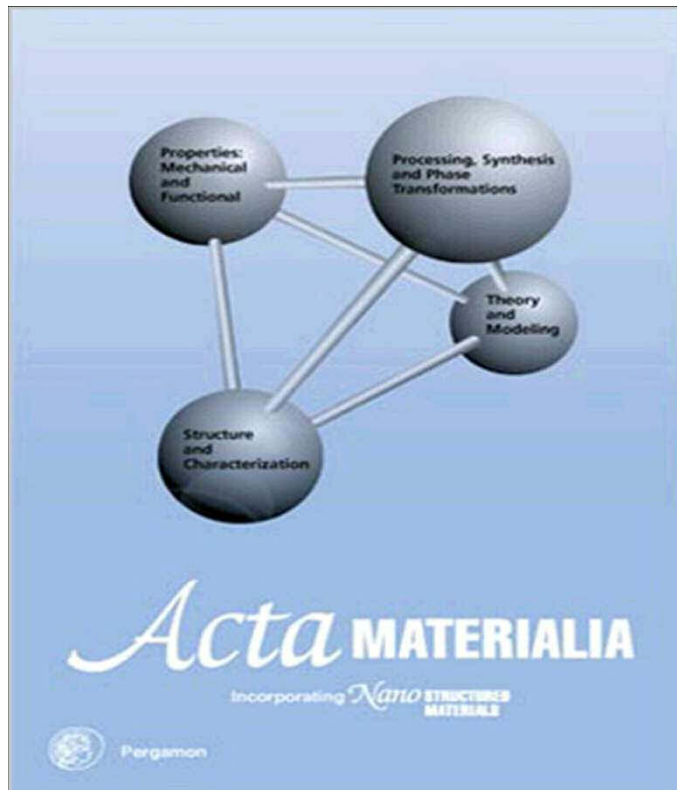
The decrease in the exothermic peak is used estimate free volume changes associated with structural relaxation

Free volume and toughness



Structure Performance Relationships

“Seeing is Believing”



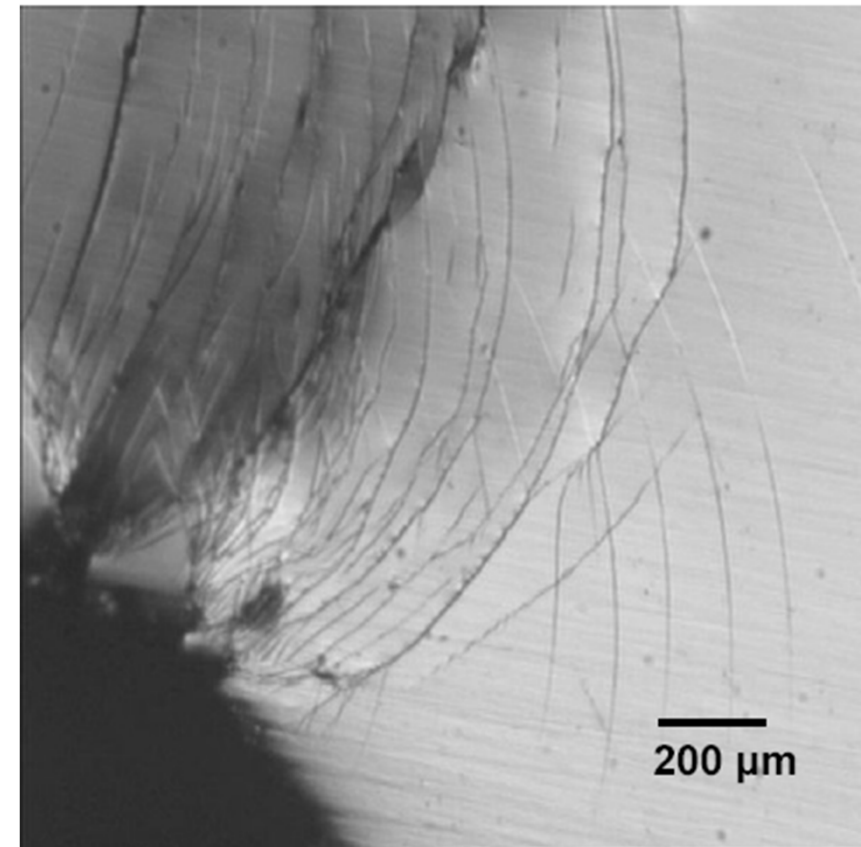
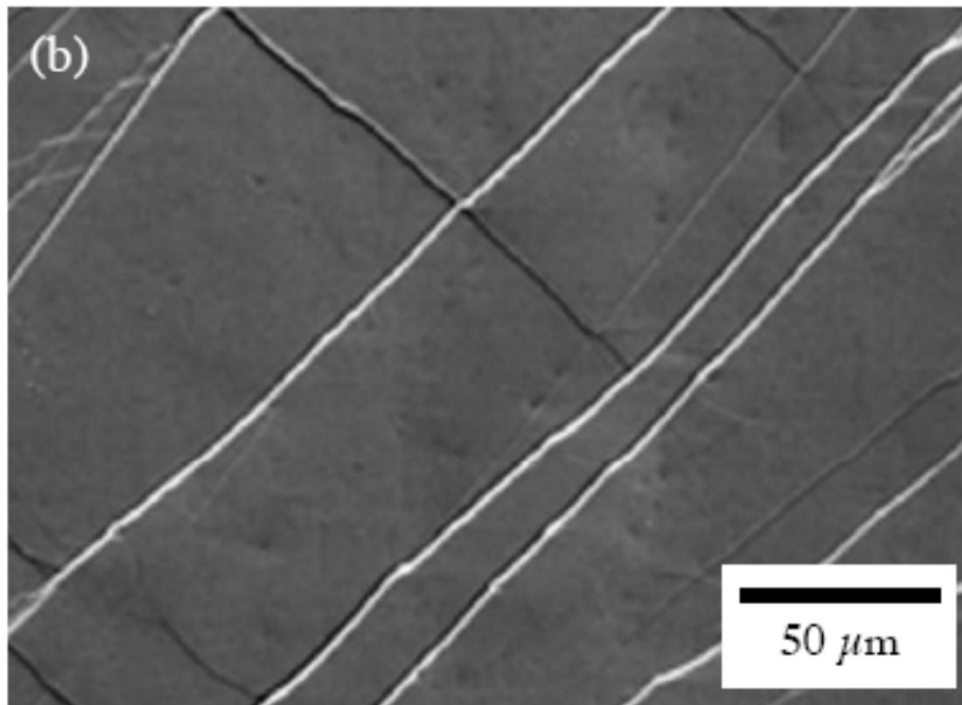
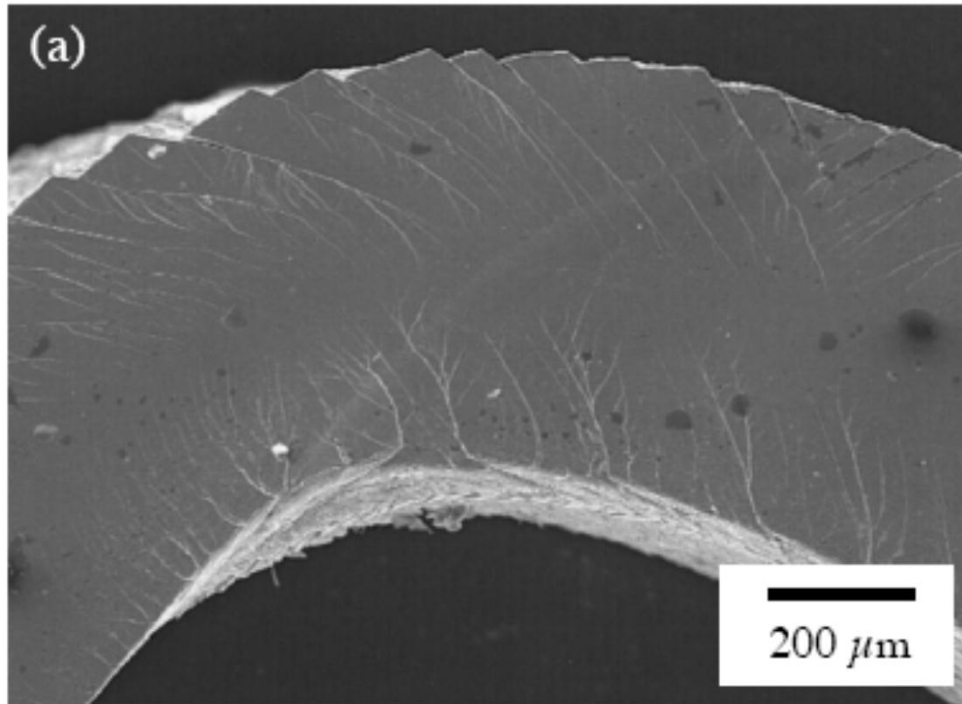
Microstructure

Processing

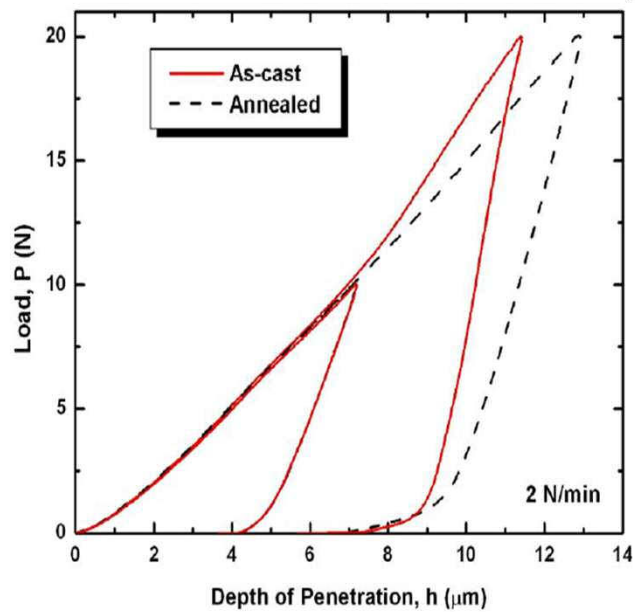
- Performance Second Outline Level
- Stiffness
- Inelastic Third Outline Level deformation
- Ultimate failure Fourth Outline Level
- Reliability Fifth Outline Level
- Life time Outline Level

Allows for tailoring of the microstructure to obtain desired behavior

Deformation through shear localization



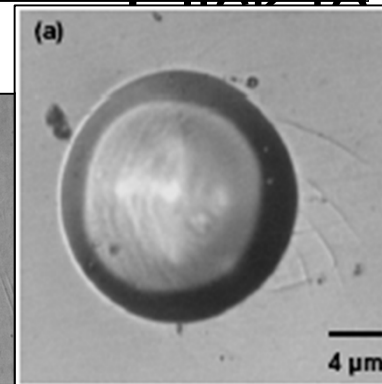
Spherical indentation



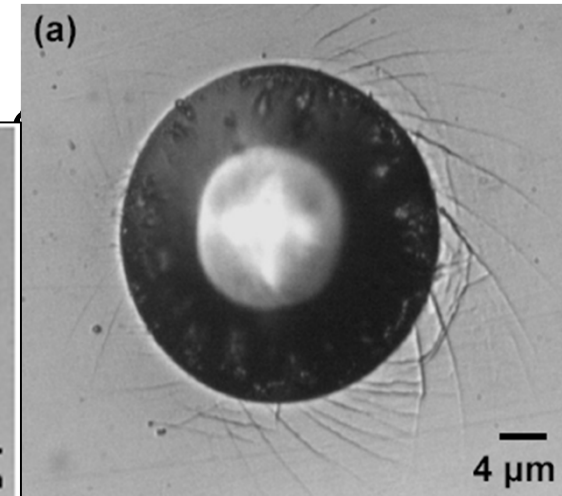
As-cast



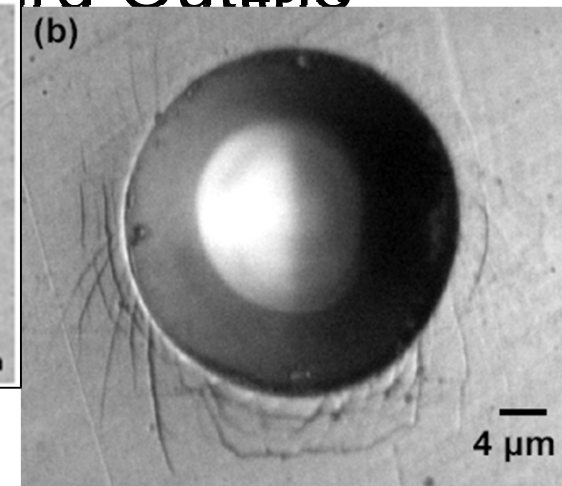
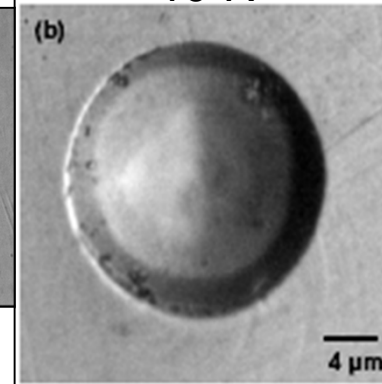
5 N



10 N



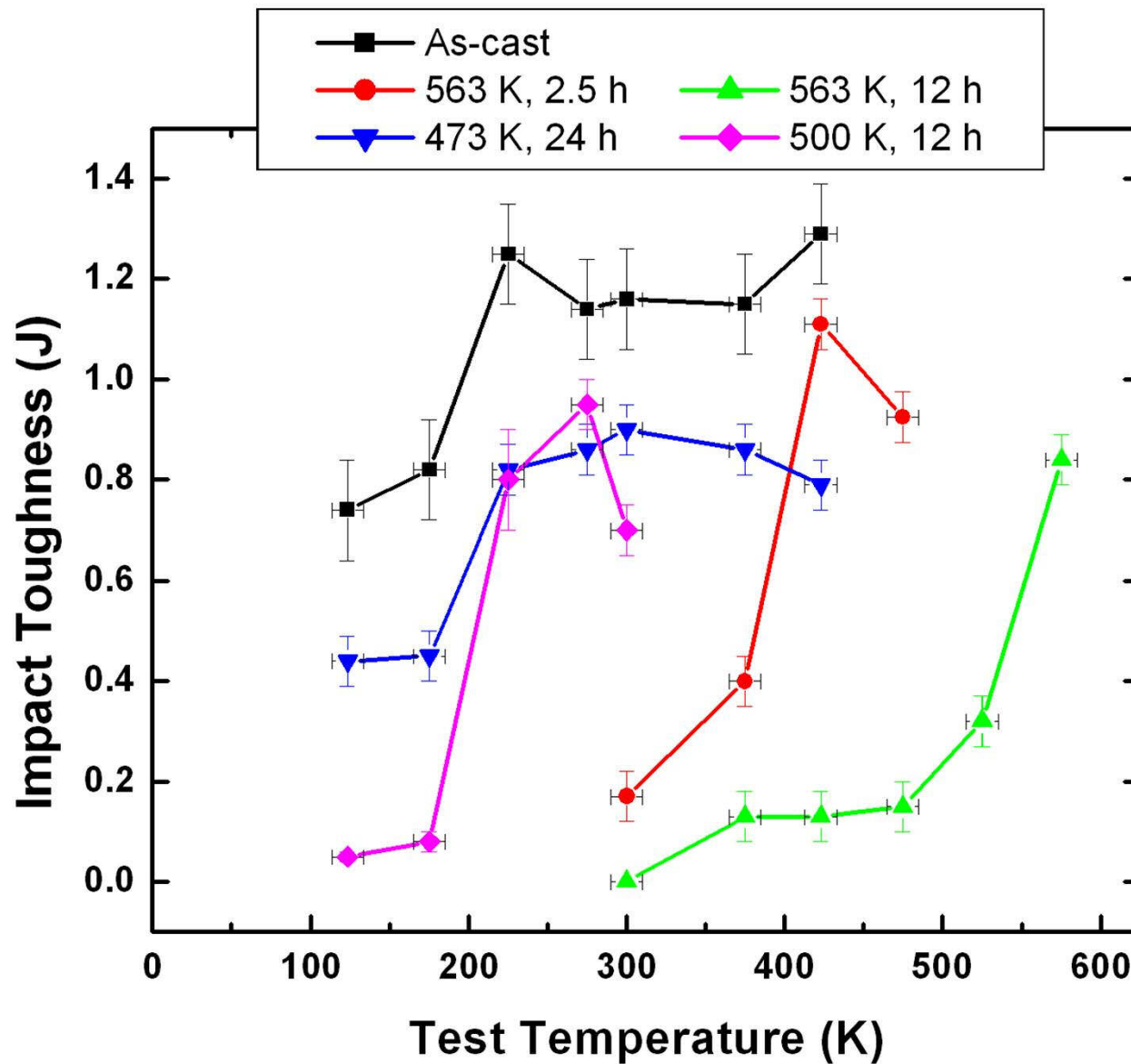
20 N



Annealed

Level
- Sixth

Ductile-to-brittle transition



Raghavan, Murali, Ramamurty. Acta mat. 2009

Fundamental mechanical properties*

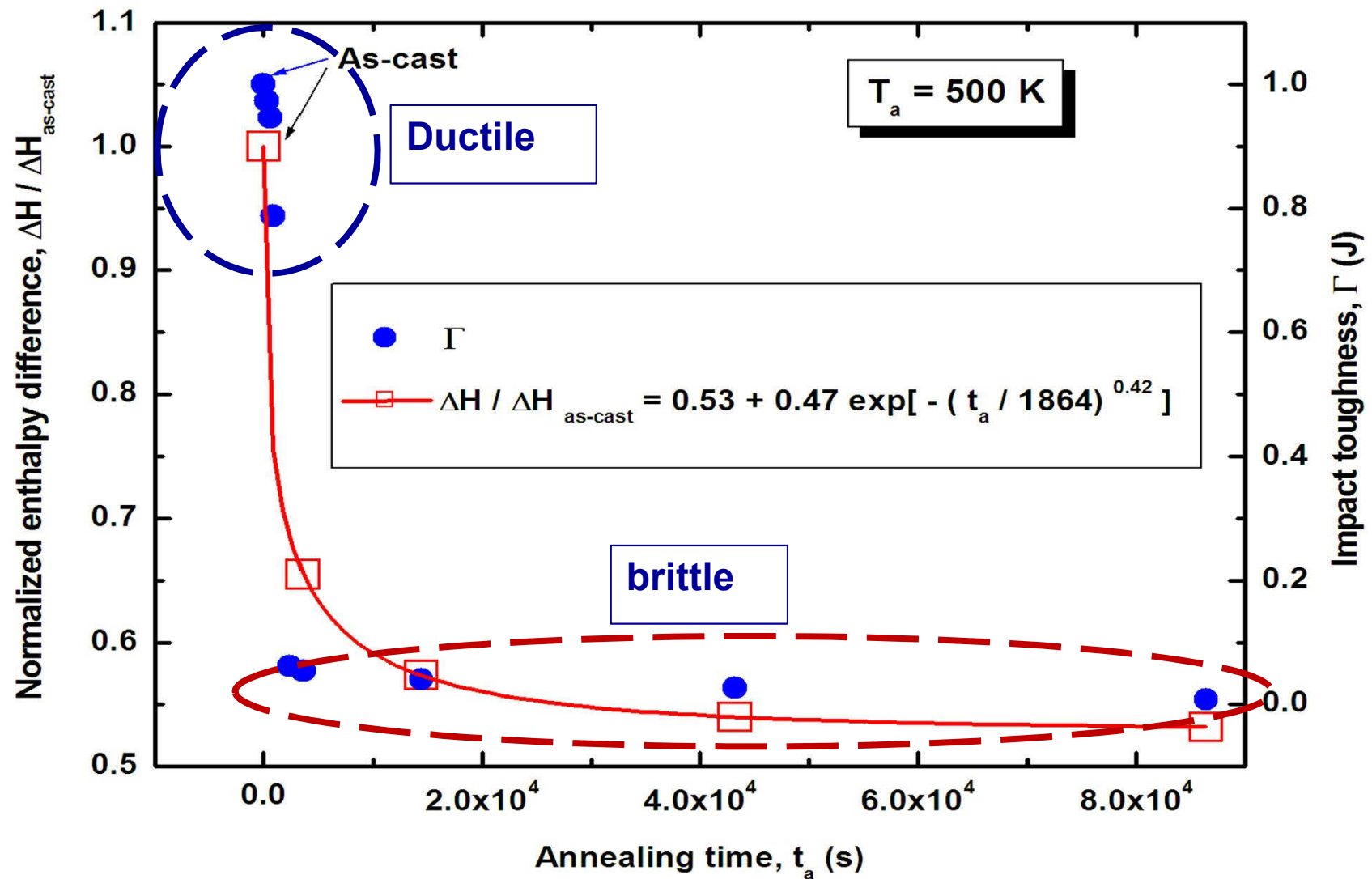
No length scale

Toughness

length scale
required

*Quasi-static loading, room temperature

Free volume and toughness



Our approach

Fracture modeling and experiments

Simulations of
crack-tip fields
using FEM

Experiments to
identify the
fracture criterion



Material model

Anand-Su model for metallic glasses

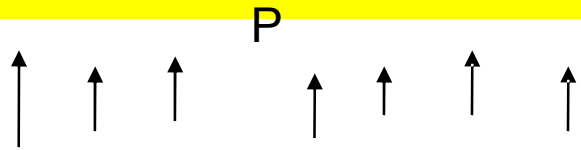
- based on Mohr-Coulomb yield criterion
- involves discrete shearing accompanied by dilatation
- dilatation induced strain softening
- captures inhomogeneous deformation of BMGs well

$$\theta = \left\{ \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\phi}{2} \right\} \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \mu$$

➤ Plastic dilatancy function (β)

➤ Cohesion function

FE analysis of stationary cracks

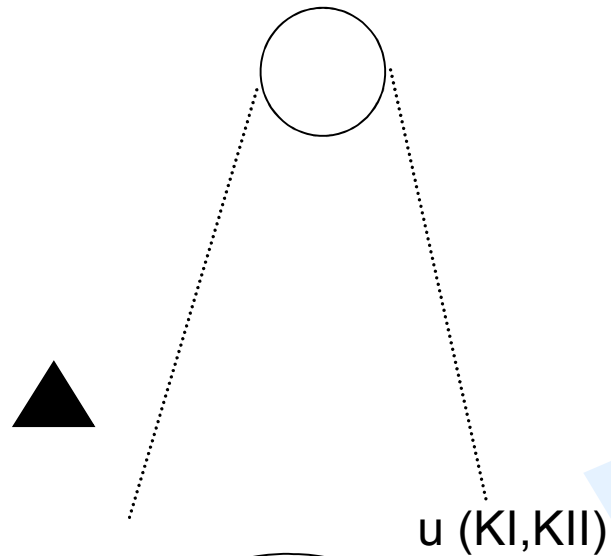
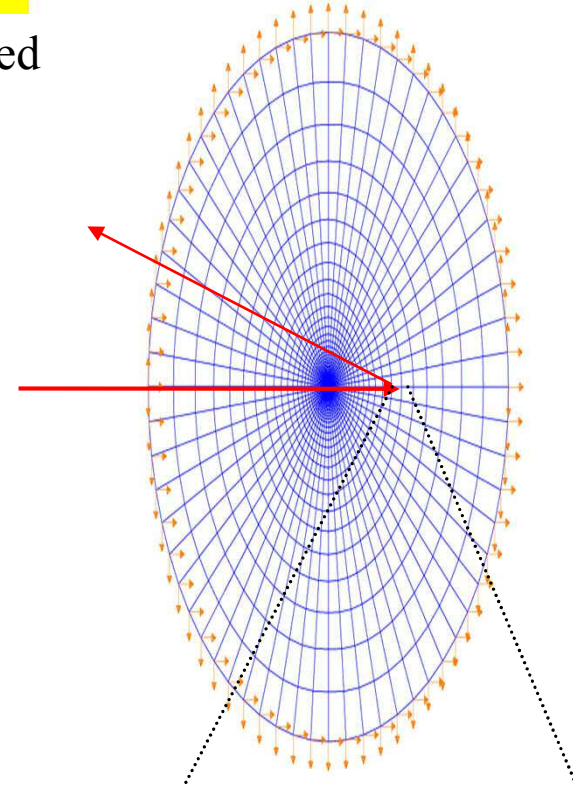


Elastic KI, KII based
displ. field

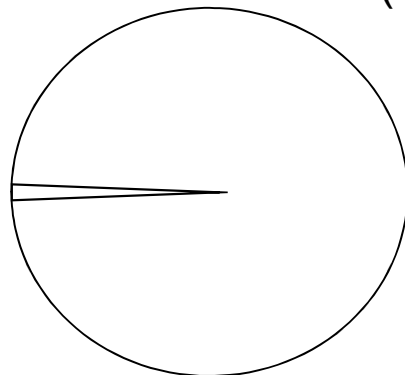
$$R = 4000 b_0$$

Crack line

FE MESH for
Boundary Layer
(SSY) analysis



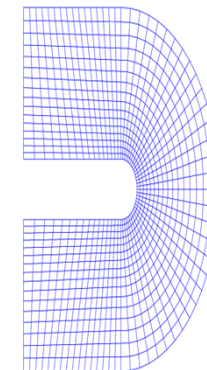
$u (K_I, K_{II})$



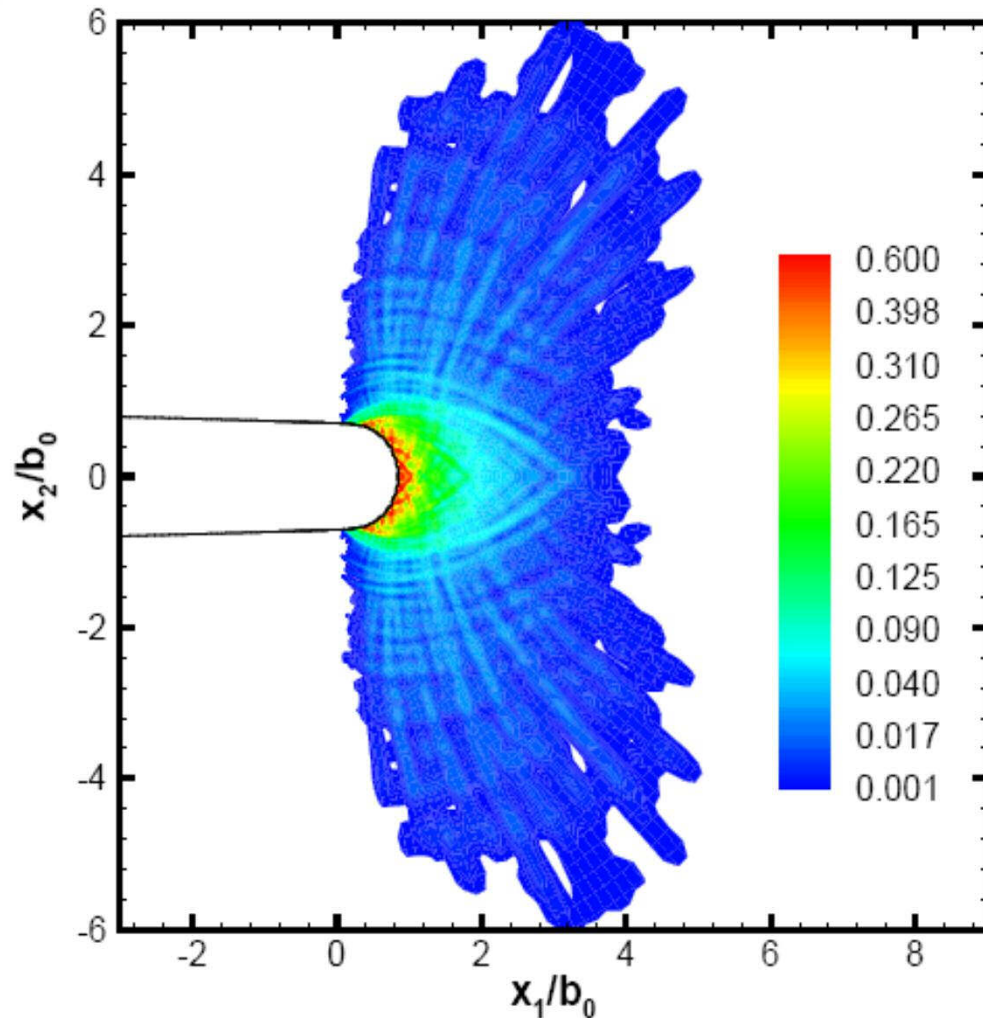
SSY conditions

Near tip region

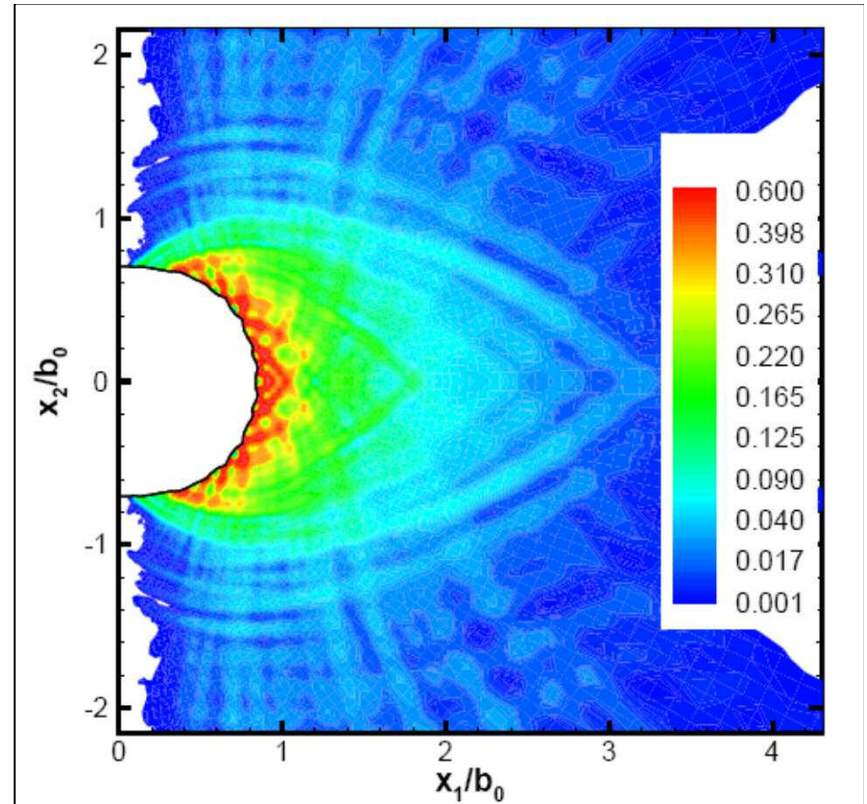
b
 0



Simulation of shear bands around the notch root



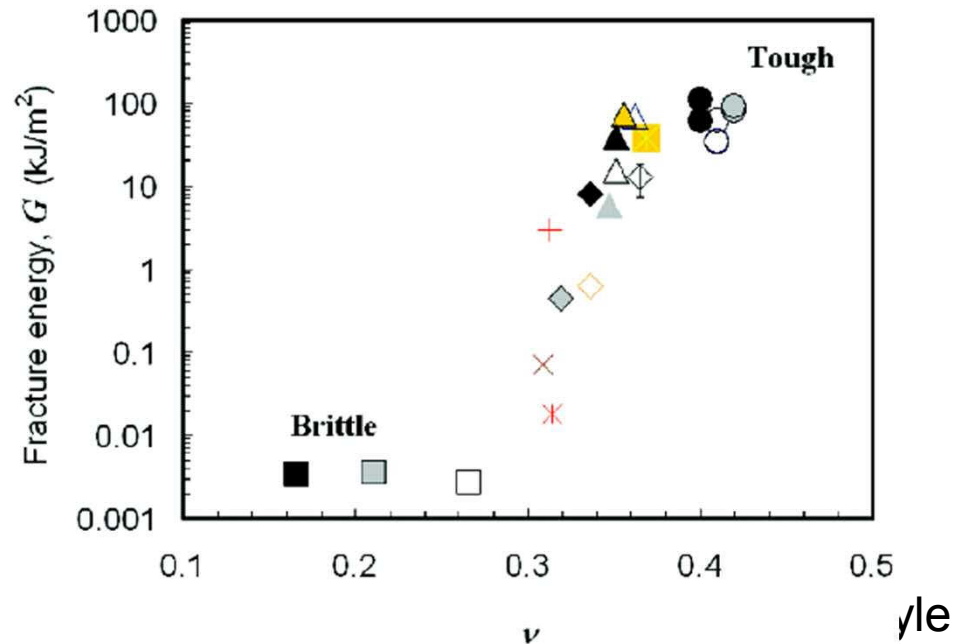
Simulation using statistical distribution of initial cohesion in the finite elements



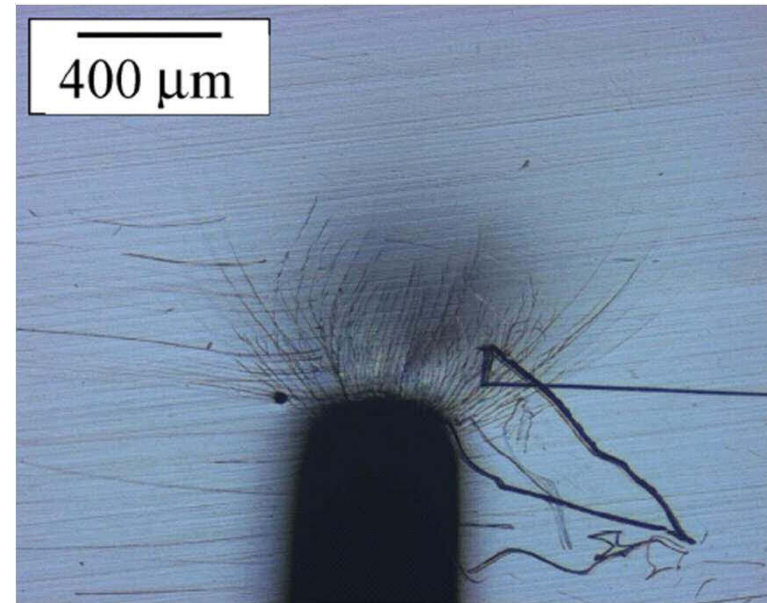
Level

- Fourth Outline Level
 - Fifth Outline Level
 - Sixth

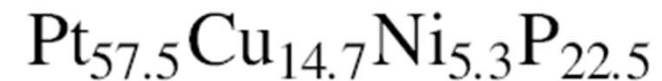
Effect of Poisson's ratio



× Mg ₆₅ Cu ₂₅ Tb ₁₀	+ Ce ₇₀ Al ₁₀ Ni ₁₀ Cu ₁₀	* Fe ₅₀ Mn ₁₀ Mo ₁₄ Cr ₄ C ₁₆ B ₆
△ Zr ₅₇ Ti ₅ Cu ₂₀ Ni ₈ Al ₁₀	△ Zr ₄₁ Ti ₁₄ Cu _{12.5} Ni ₁₀ Be _{22.5}	◇ Zr ₅₇ Nb ₅ Cu _{15.4} Ni _{12.6} Al ₁₀
■ Cu ₆₀ Zr ₂₀ Hf ₁₀ Ti ₁₀	● Fe ₈₀ P ₁₃ C ₇	○ Pd _{77.5} Cu ₆ Si _{16.5}
○ Pt _{57.5} Cu _{14.7} Ni _{5.3} P _{22.5}		
□ Toughened (partially crystallized) glass	□ Window glass	■ Fused silica



$$K_{Ic} = 80$$

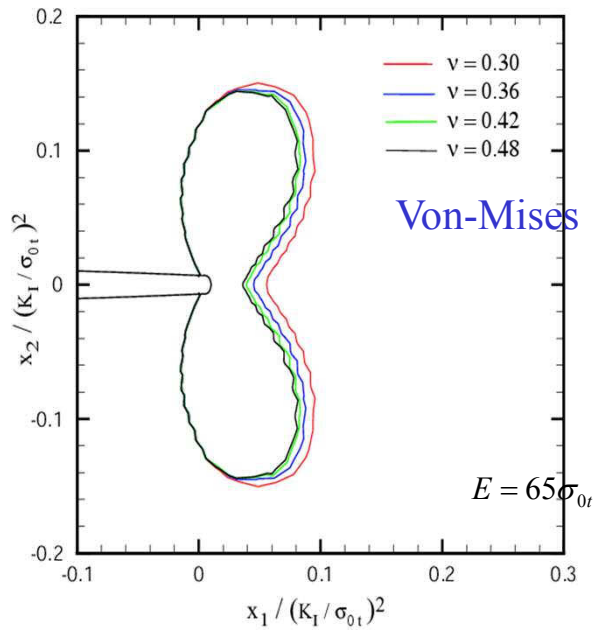


Poisson's ratio = 0.42

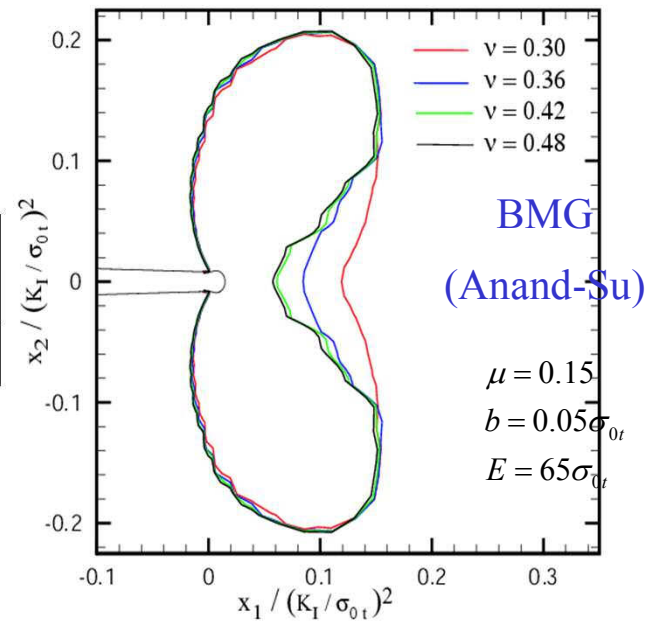
Lewandowski et al., Phil. Mag 2005

Schroers and Johnson, PRL 2004

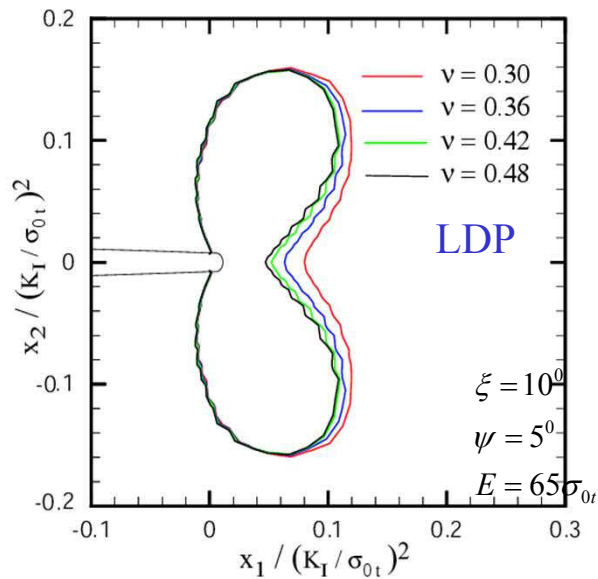
Mode I plastic zones



=



: $0.05\sigma_{0t}$



Fracture in metallic glasses

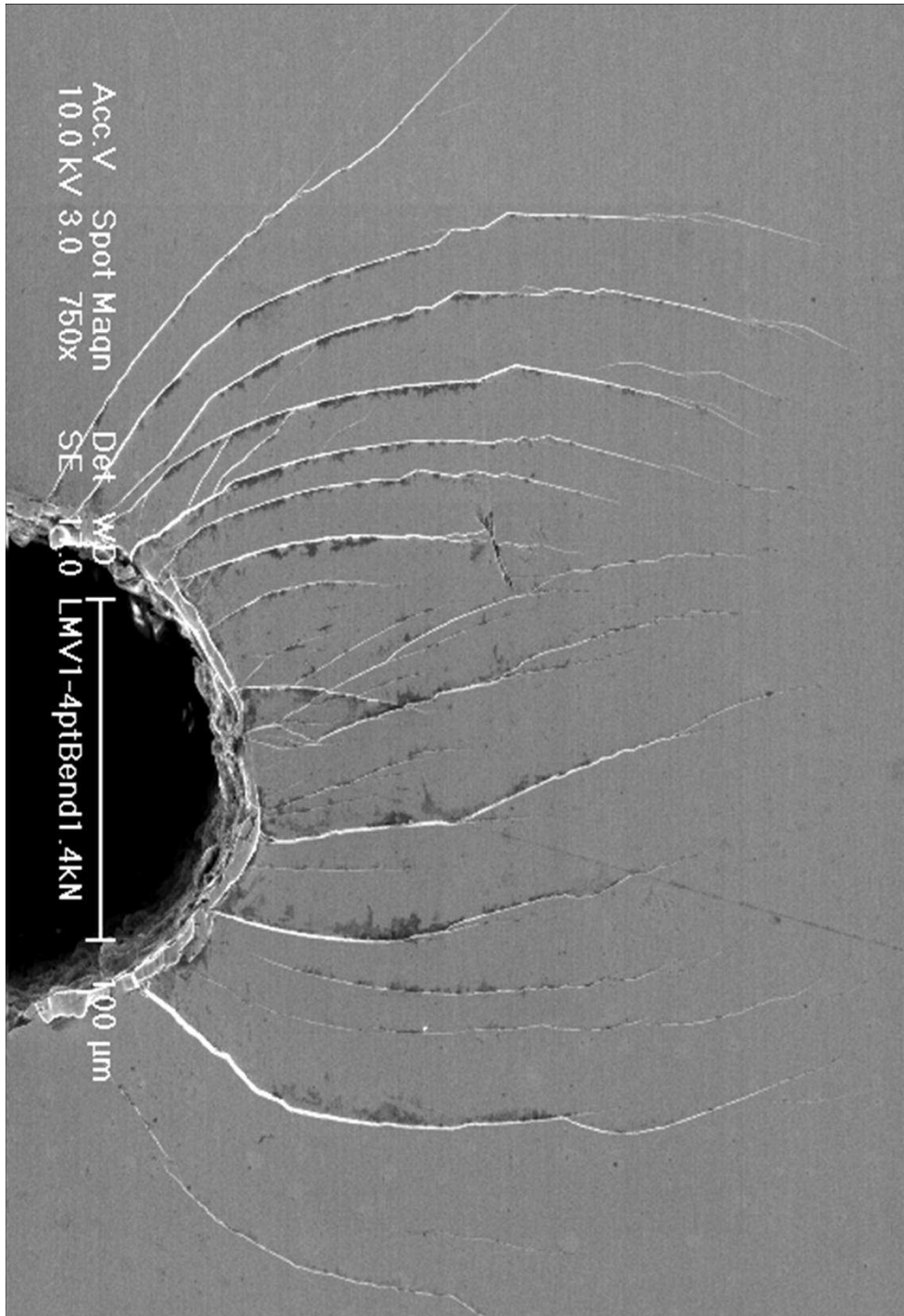
- Click to edit the outline text format
- *What is the governing fracture criterion?*
- Second Outline Level

Metallic glasses are schizophrenic in the fracture sense

Outline
Level

– Fifth

Outline



Stress based (RKR) fracture criterion

Models failure by brittle micro-cracking

(Ritchie et. al, 1973 and MTS theory of mixed mode fracture)

Failure occurs when $\sigma\theta$ exceeds a critical value σ_c over a critical distance r_c from the notch tip

Suitable for brittle materials

Strain based fracture criterion

Models failure by ductile void nucleation and growth

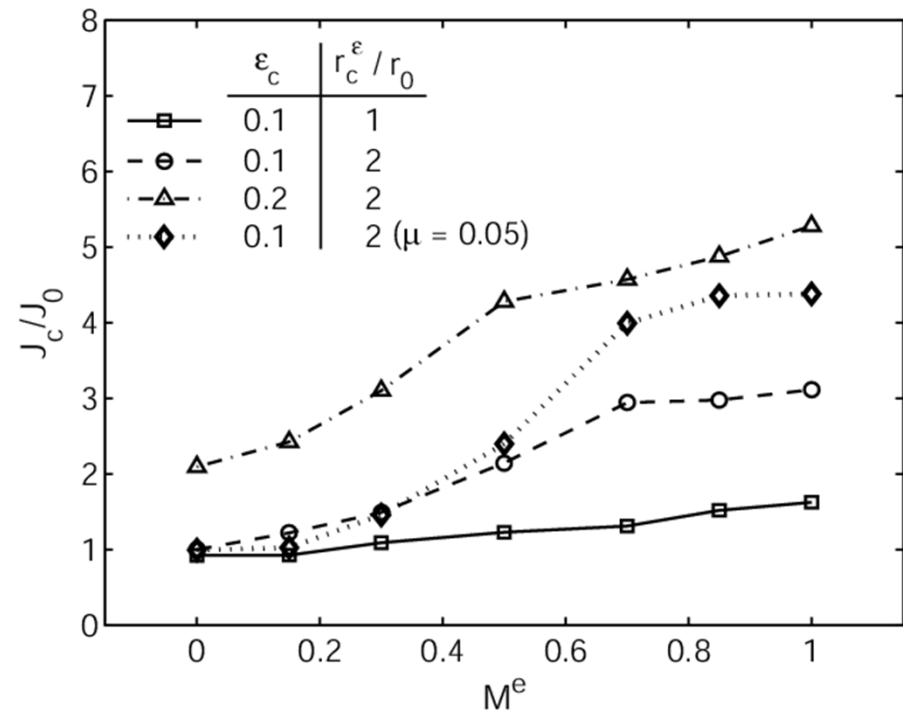
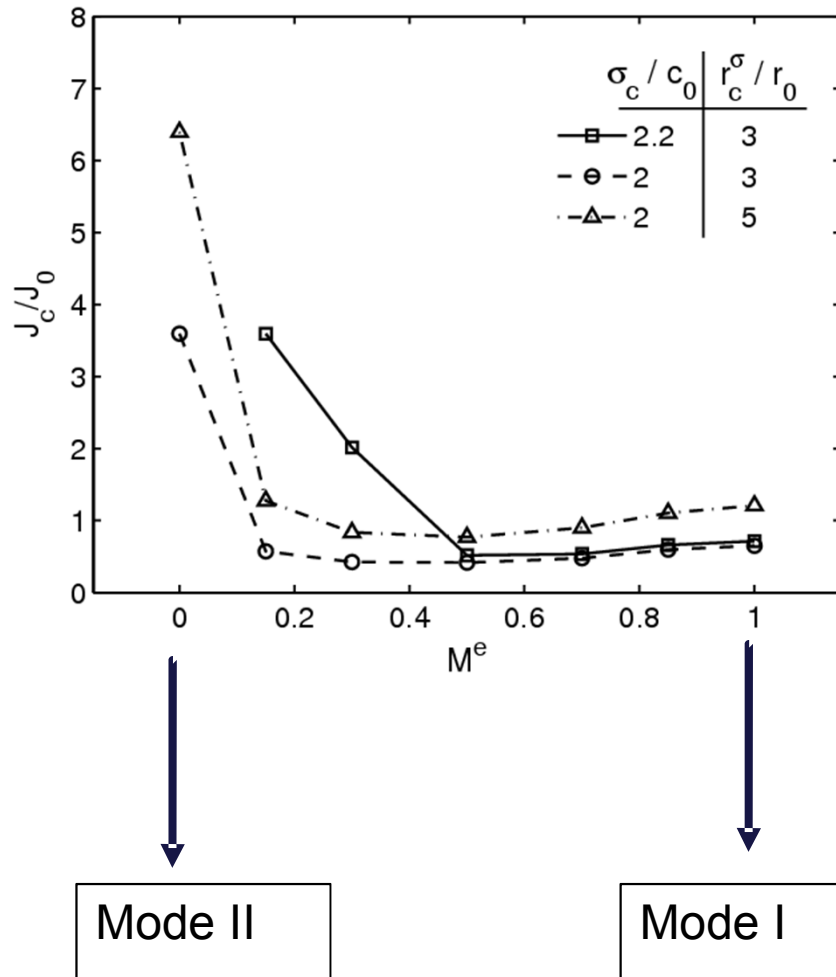
Failure occurs when $\ln \epsilon_p$ exceeds critical value ϵ_c over a critical distance r_c from the notch tip

Suitable for ductile materials

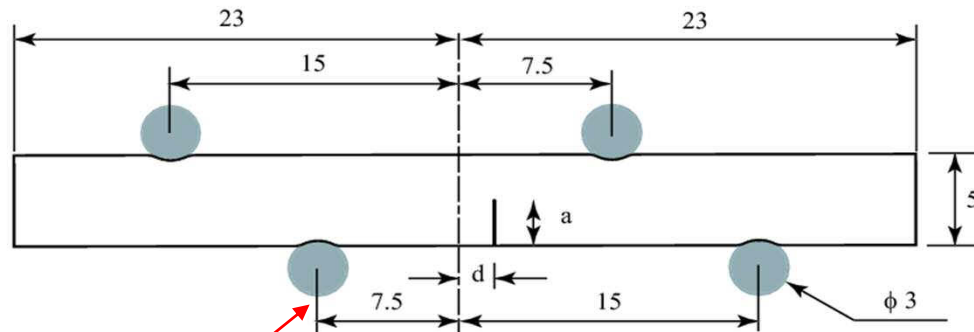
Variation of J_c versus M_e

Operative failure mechanism : RKR for all $M_e \rightarrow J_c (M_e=0)/J_c (M_e=1) \approx 5.5$

Operative failure mechanism : ductile for all $M_e \rightarrow J_c (M_e=1)/J_c (M_e=0) \approx 1.75$ to 3



Mixed-mode (I and II) fracture experiments using asymmetric 4-point bend specimens



HSS Loading pins

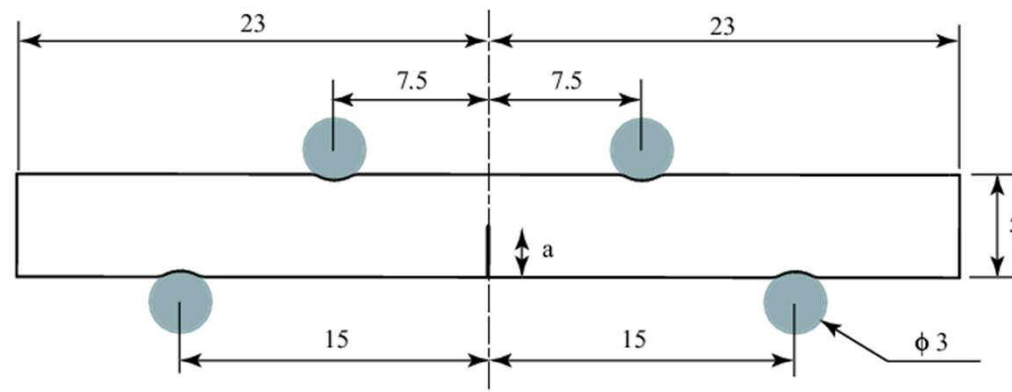
Vitreloy 1

($Zr_{41.2}Ti_{13.8}Cu_{12.5}Ni_{10}Be_{22.5}$)

➤ Notch diameter : 60 μm

➤ d controls mode mixity

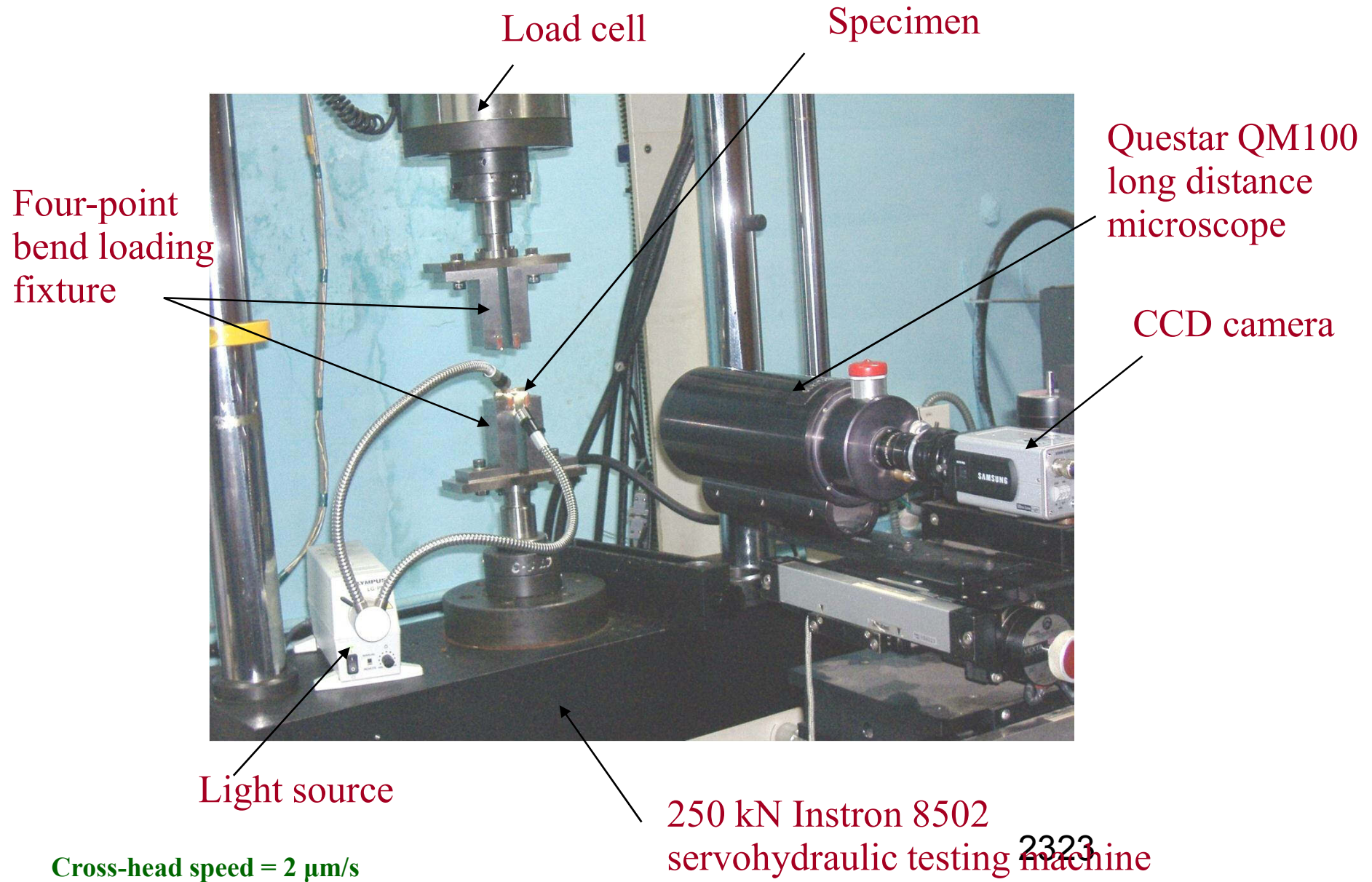
● Pure mode I tests: Symmetric four-point bend specimen



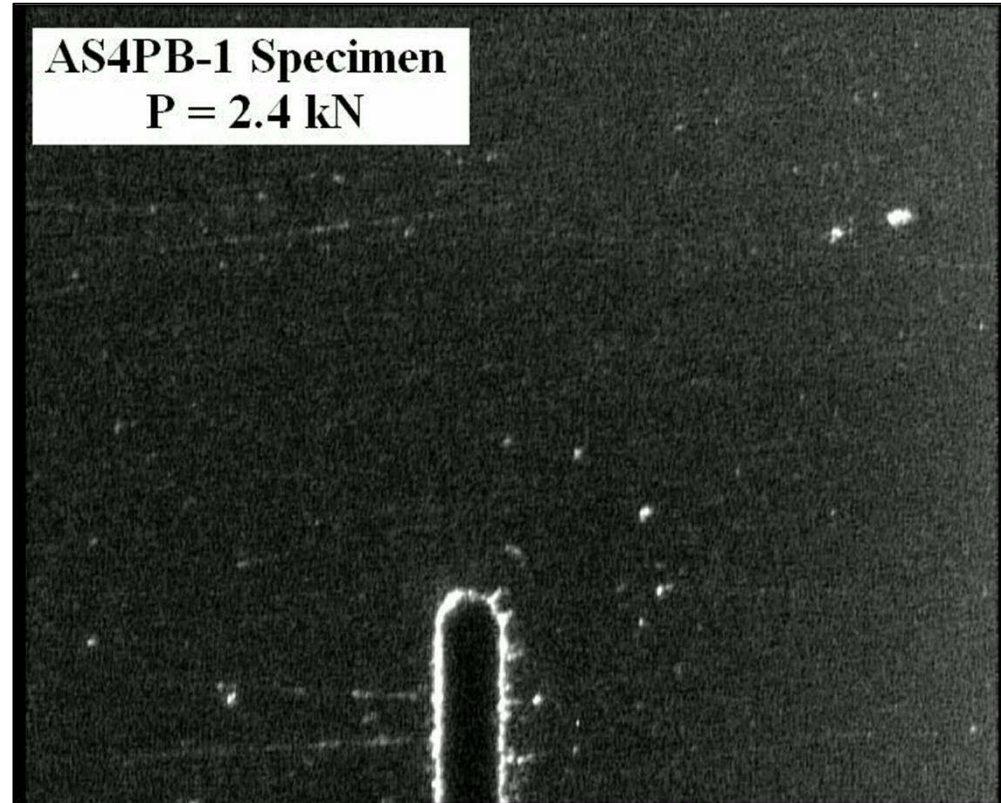
Specimen type	crack length, a/W	d	M^e	M^p	Initiation load, P_c (kN)	J_c (Elastic) (N/mm)	J_c (Elastic-plastic) (N/mm)	
AS4PB-1	3.5	0.7	0	-0.105	-0.089	9.58 \pm 0.22	9.23 \pm 0.36	11.1 \pm 0.57
AS4PB-2	2.5	0.5	0.4	0.043	0.175	13.16 \pm 0.40	7.13 \pm 0.39	8.38 \pm 0.59
AS4PB-3	2.5	0.5	0.8	0.215	0.484	14.31 \pm 0.12	9.50 \pm 0.15	12.29 \pm 0.32
AS4PB-4	2.5	0.5	1.5	0.448	0.684	14.15 \pm 0.22	14.49 \pm 0.48	20.59 \pm 1.39
S4PB-1	2.5	0.5	-	1	1	2.66 \pm 0.33	32.27 \pm 6.48	35.03 \pm 7.73

(All dimensions are in mm)

Test setup



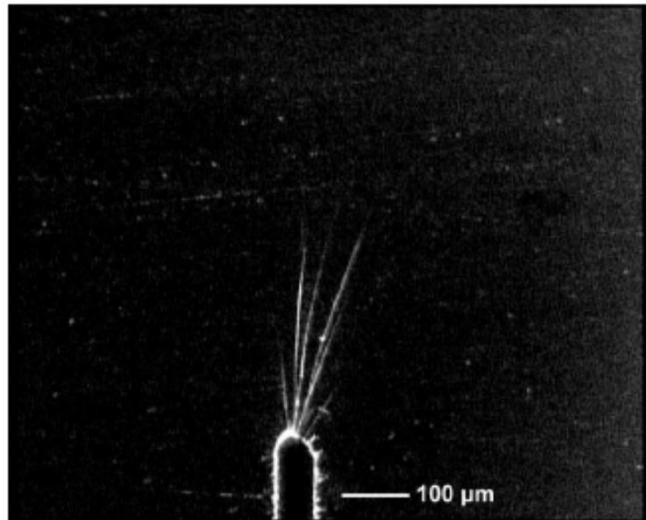
In-situ observations



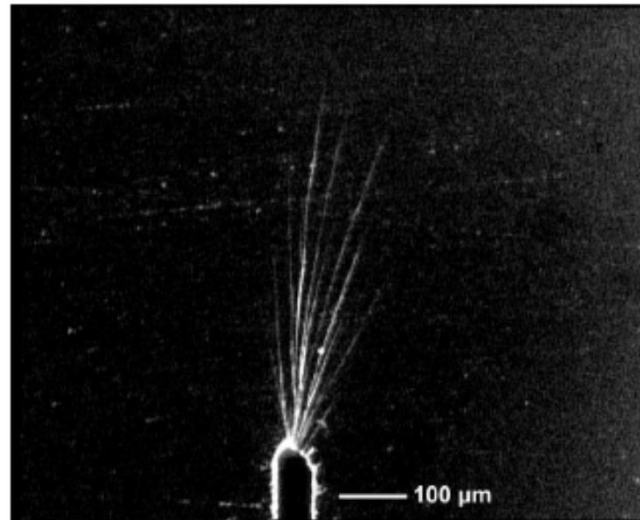
— 100 μm

Speed: 16x

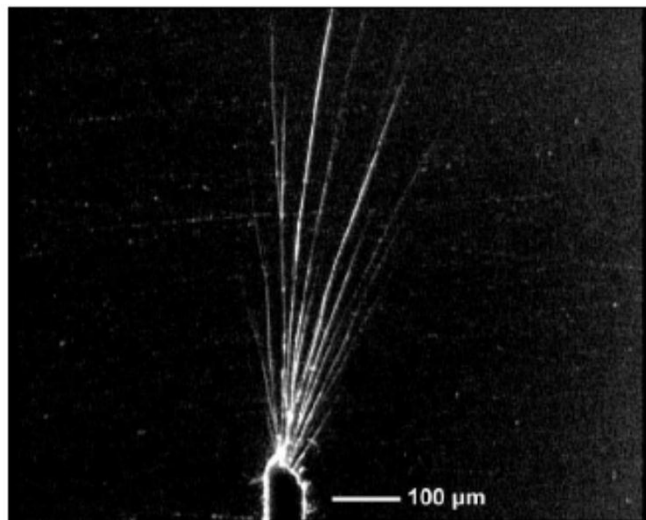
In-situ observations of AS4PB-1 specimen



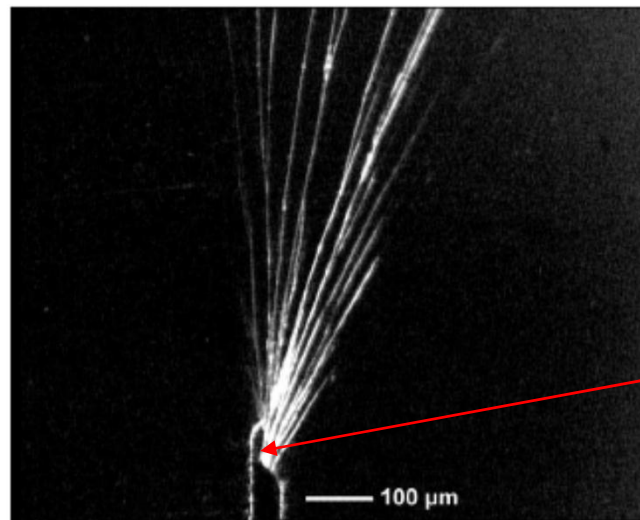
(a) 6.8 kN



(b) 7.7 kN



(c) 9.4 kN



(d) 12.4 kN

➤ Notch deformation

➤ Shear banding

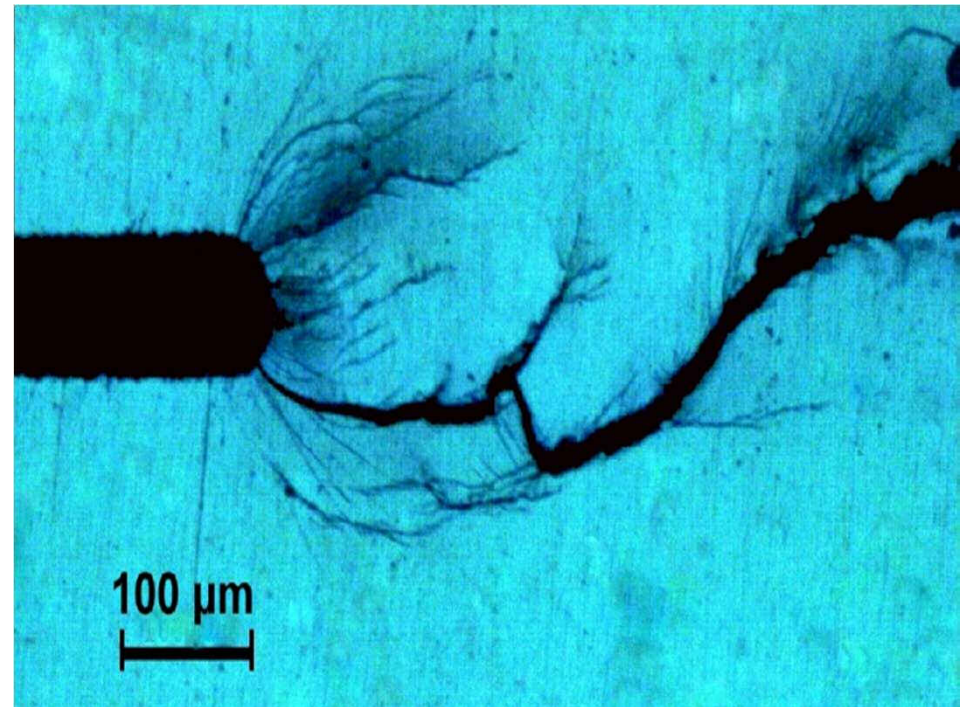
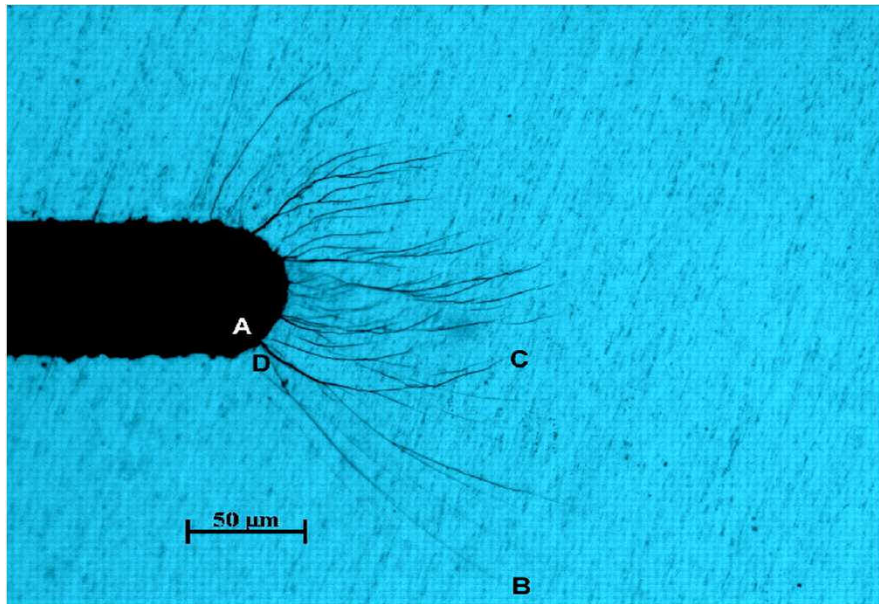
➤ Stable crack growth inside shear bands

➤ Final failure

Stable crack growth in a shear band

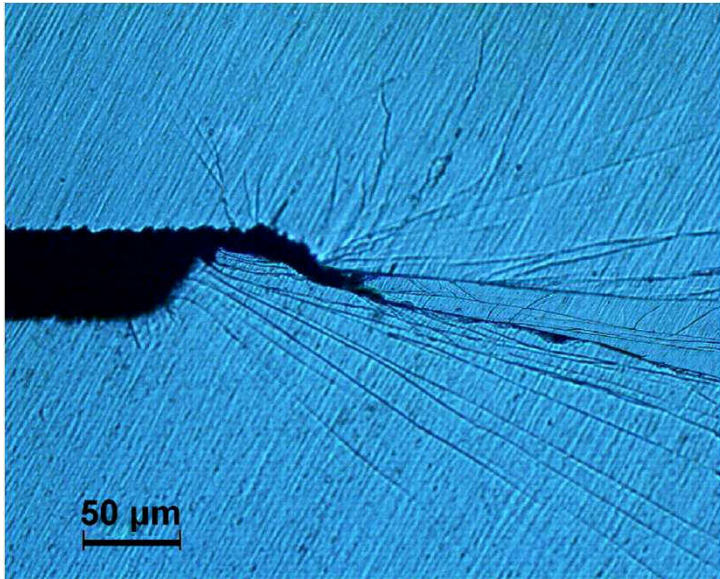
2525

Crack grows within a shear band

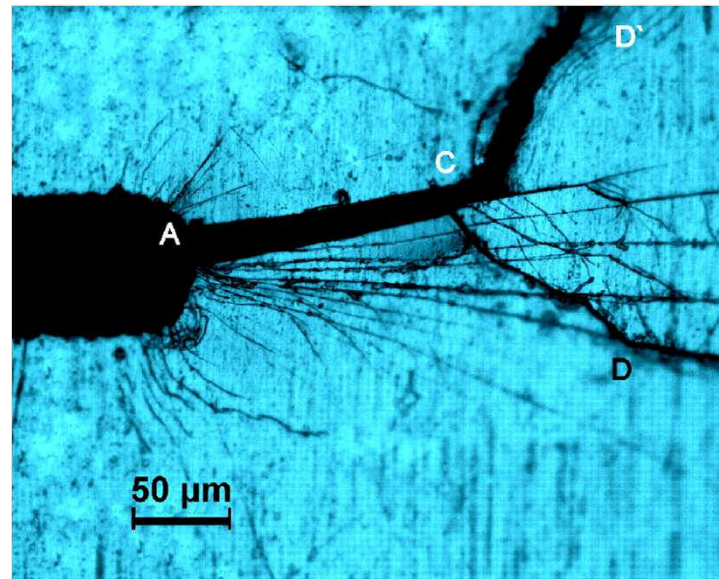


$Me = 1$ (pure mode I)

Crack trajectories

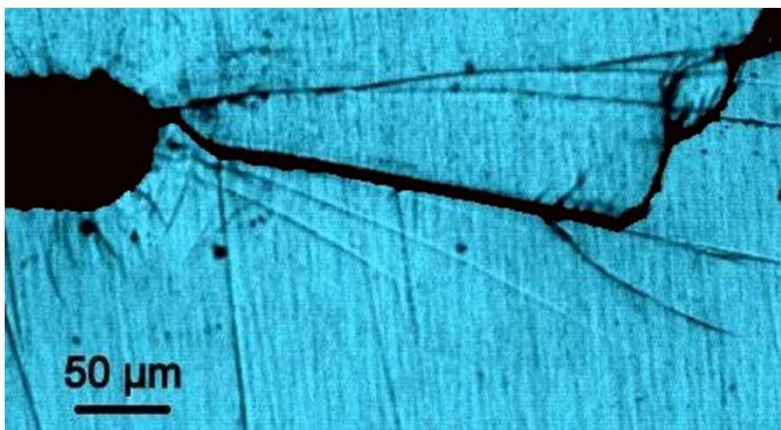


AS4PB-1

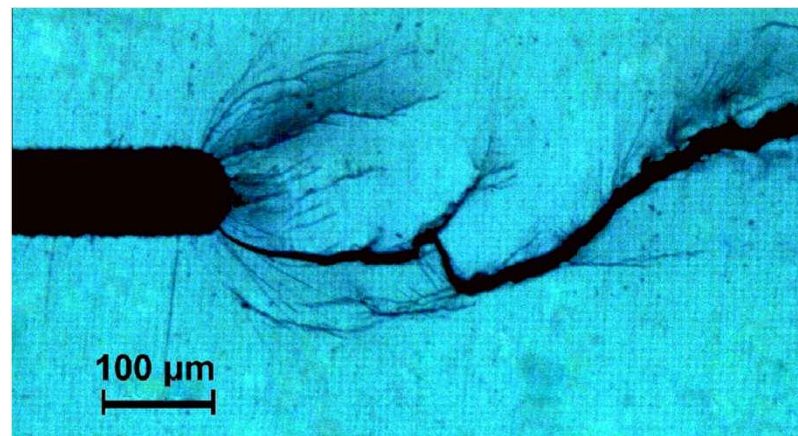


AS4PB-2

▶ Incipient crack growth occurs inside a dominant shear band for all the specimens



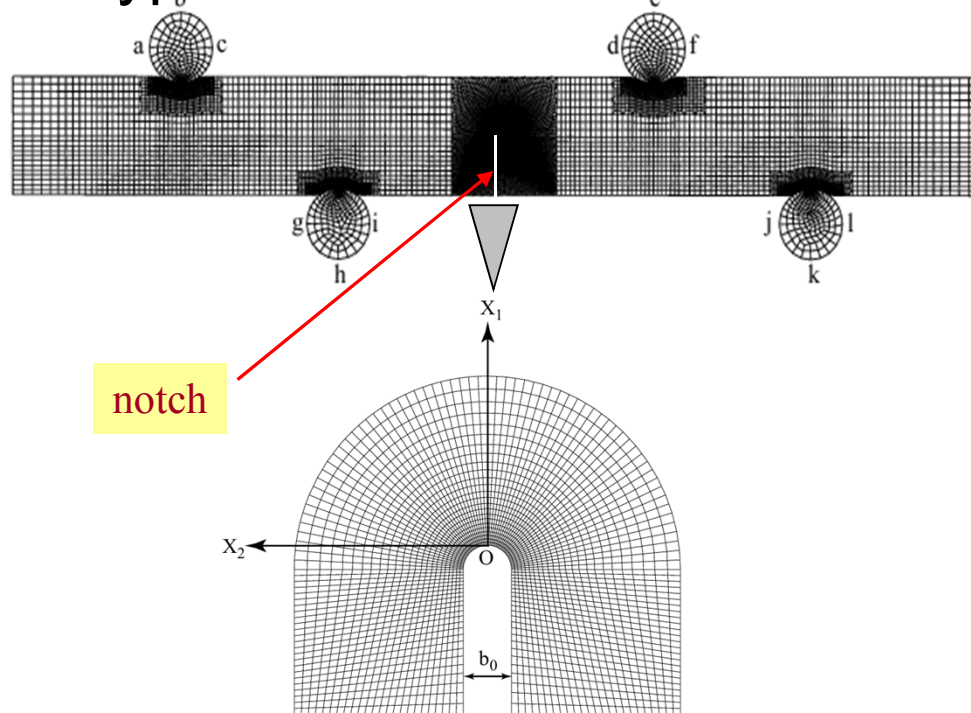
AS4PB-4



S4PB-1

Finite element analyses

• Typical finite element mesh



notch

Near tip mesh

- No. of elements = 14394
- 64 elements around the notch root
- Frictionless contact
- Downward displacement prescribed for nodes on arcs abc and def
- Nodes on arc ghi and jkl are fixed

➤ Two analyses:

Linear elastic

Elastic-plastic

a.

b.

➤ Constitutive model:

Anand and Su model implemented through UMAT in ABAQUS/Standard

➤ Material properties for Vitreloy 1:

$E = 97 \text{ GPa}$; $\nu = 0.36$; $c_0 = 890 \text{ MPa}$; $\mu = 0.06$;
 $b = 120 \text{ MPa}$

➤ Determine:

Elastic mode mixity parameter M_e

b. Plastic mode mixity parameter M_p

a.

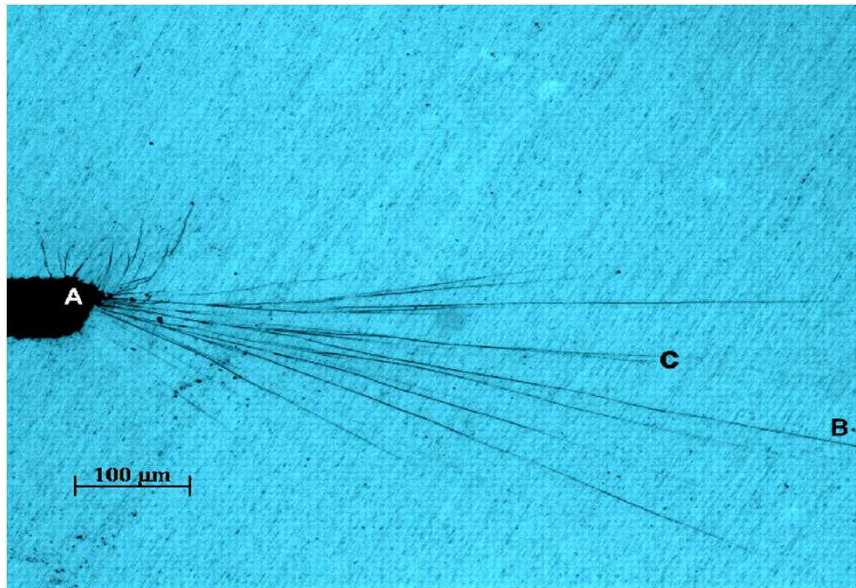
c. Calibrate of J against P for each specimen using both the above analyses

d. Find critical energy release rate J_c

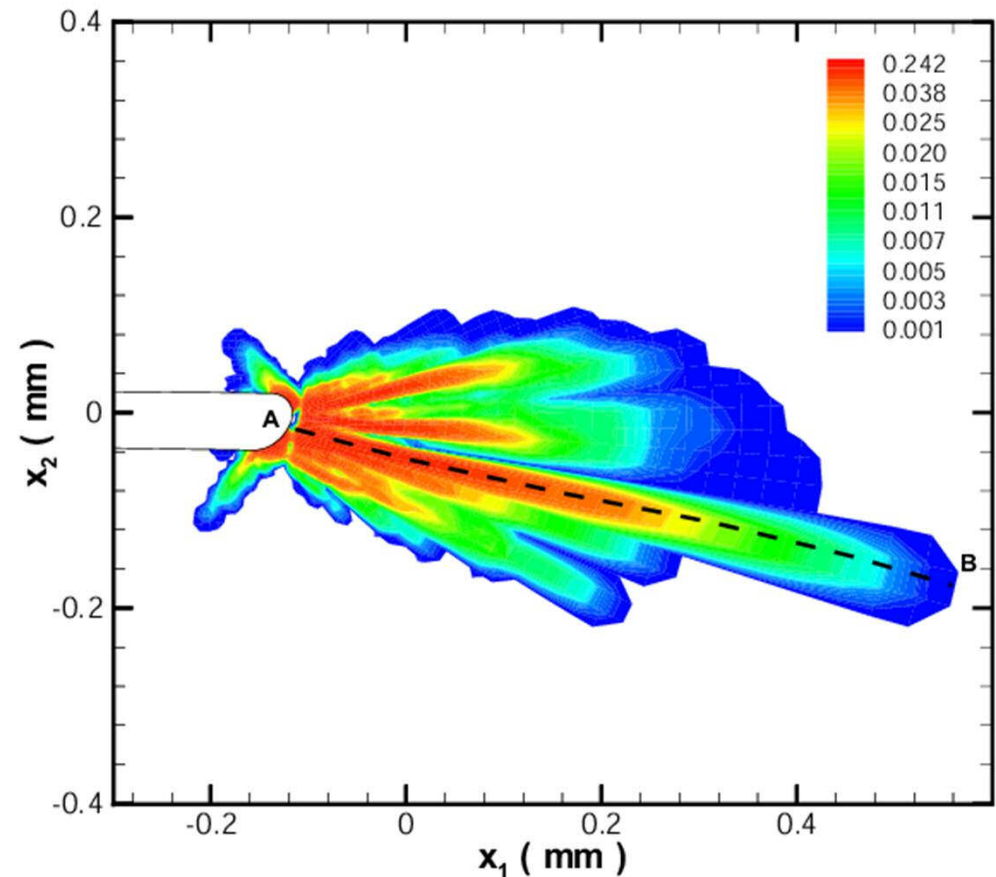
e. Simulate near-tip shear band patterns

Mixed Mode Fracture

Experiment



Simulation

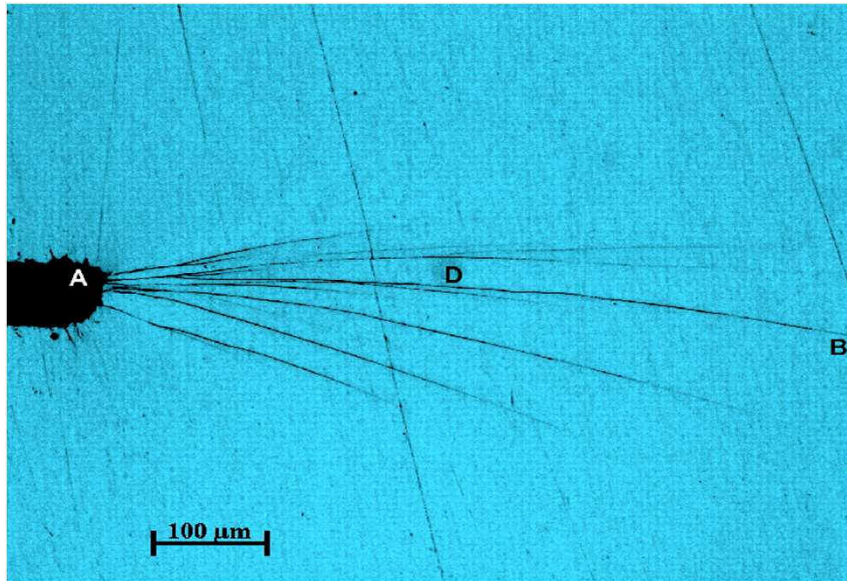


$$M_e = -0.089 (\sim \text{pure mode II})$$

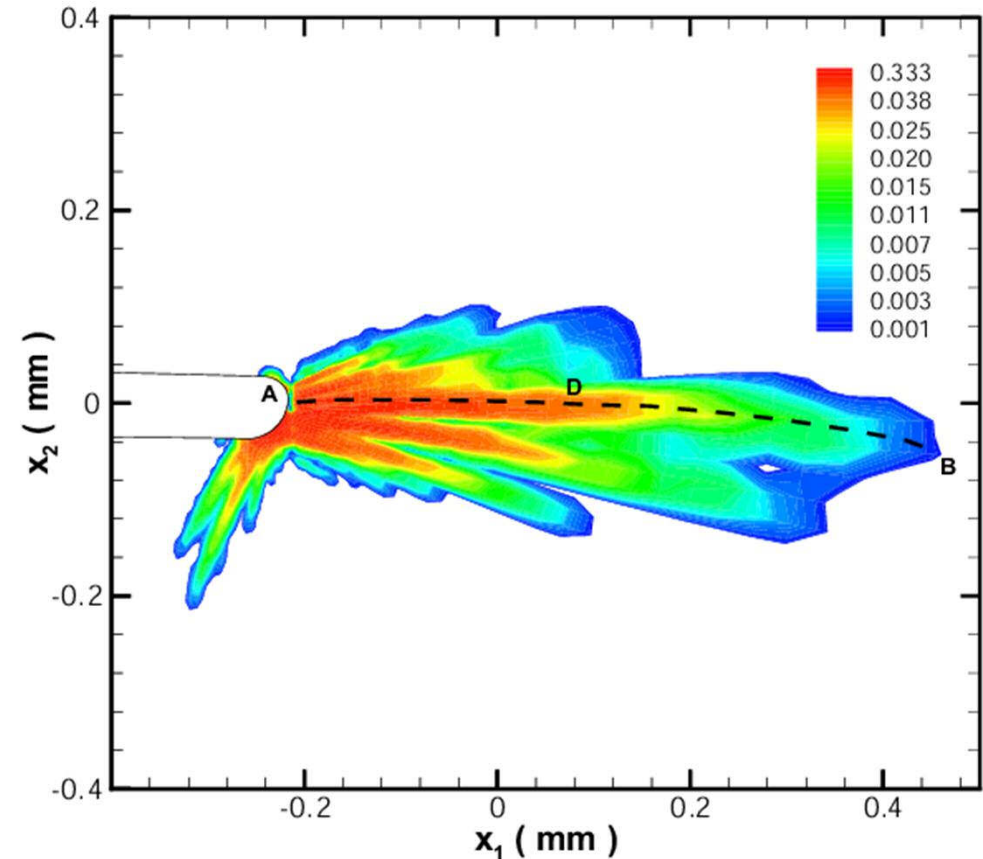
Tandaiya, Ramamurty, Narasimhan,

Mixed Mode Fracture

Experiment



Simulation

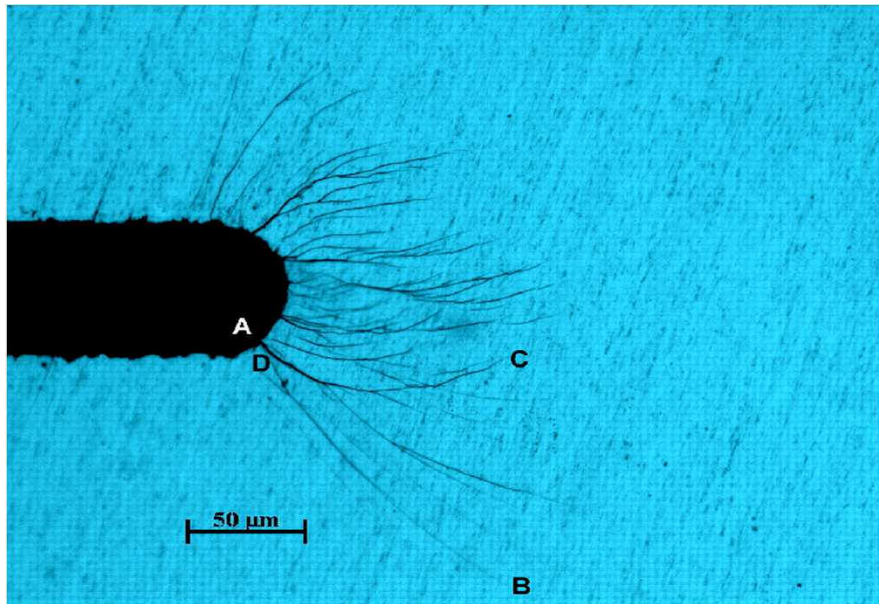


$M_p = 0.484$ (mixed mode)

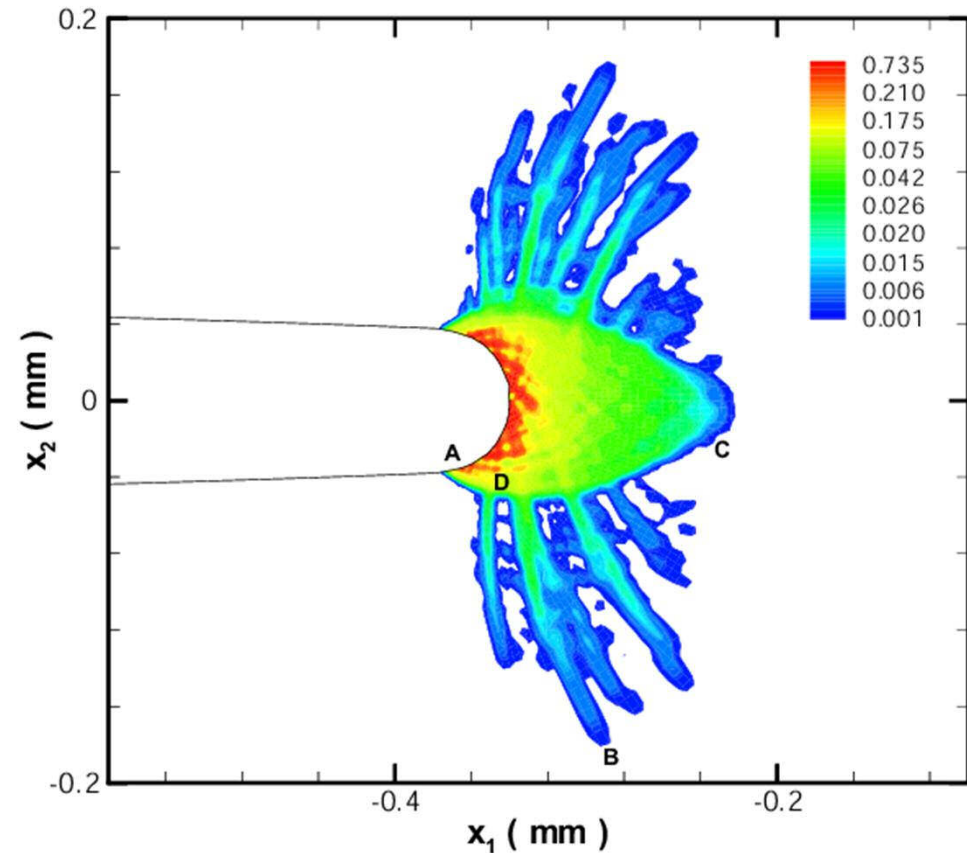
$P = 14.1$ kN

Shear band patterns near the notch root

Experiment



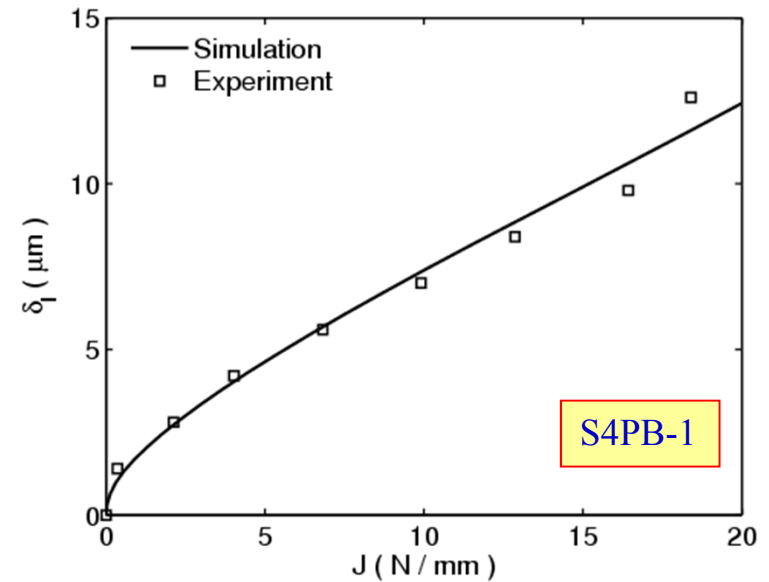
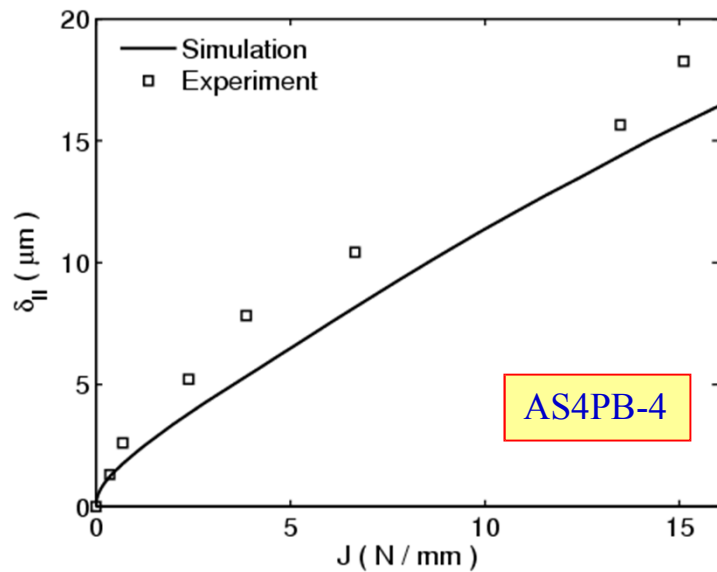
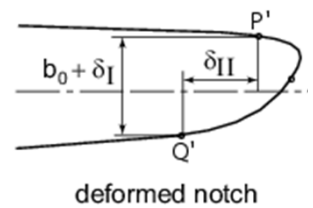
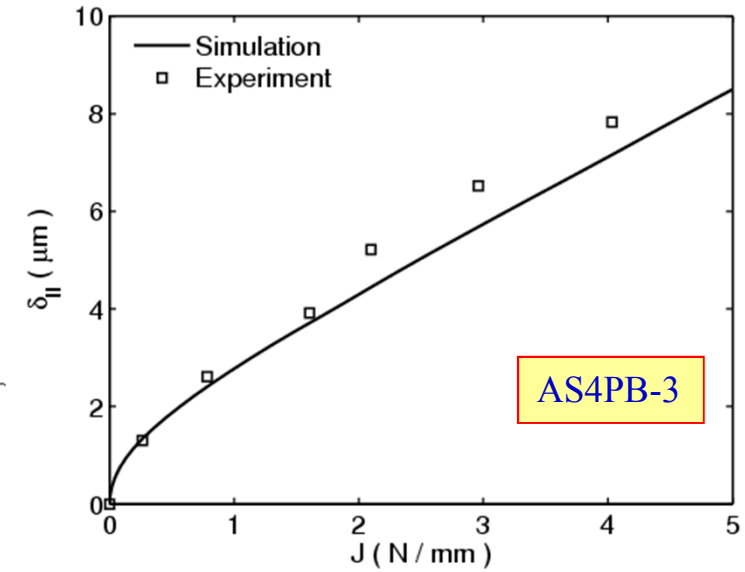
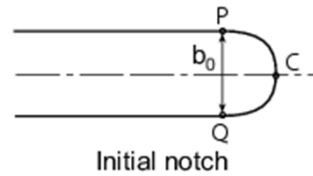
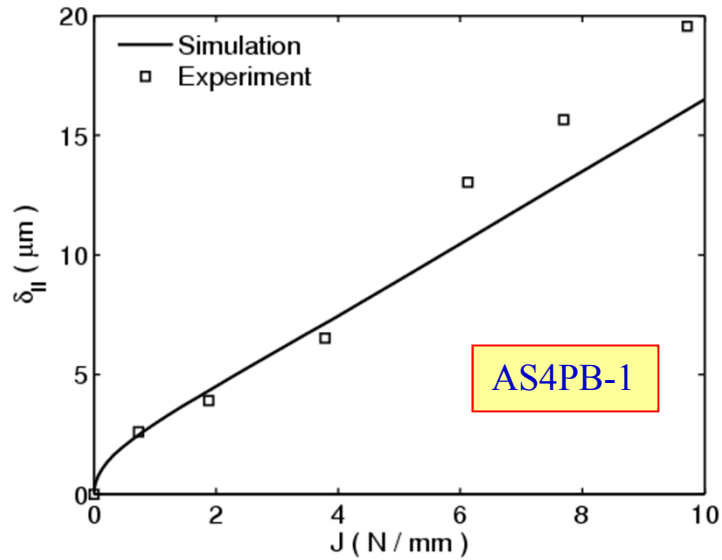
Simulation



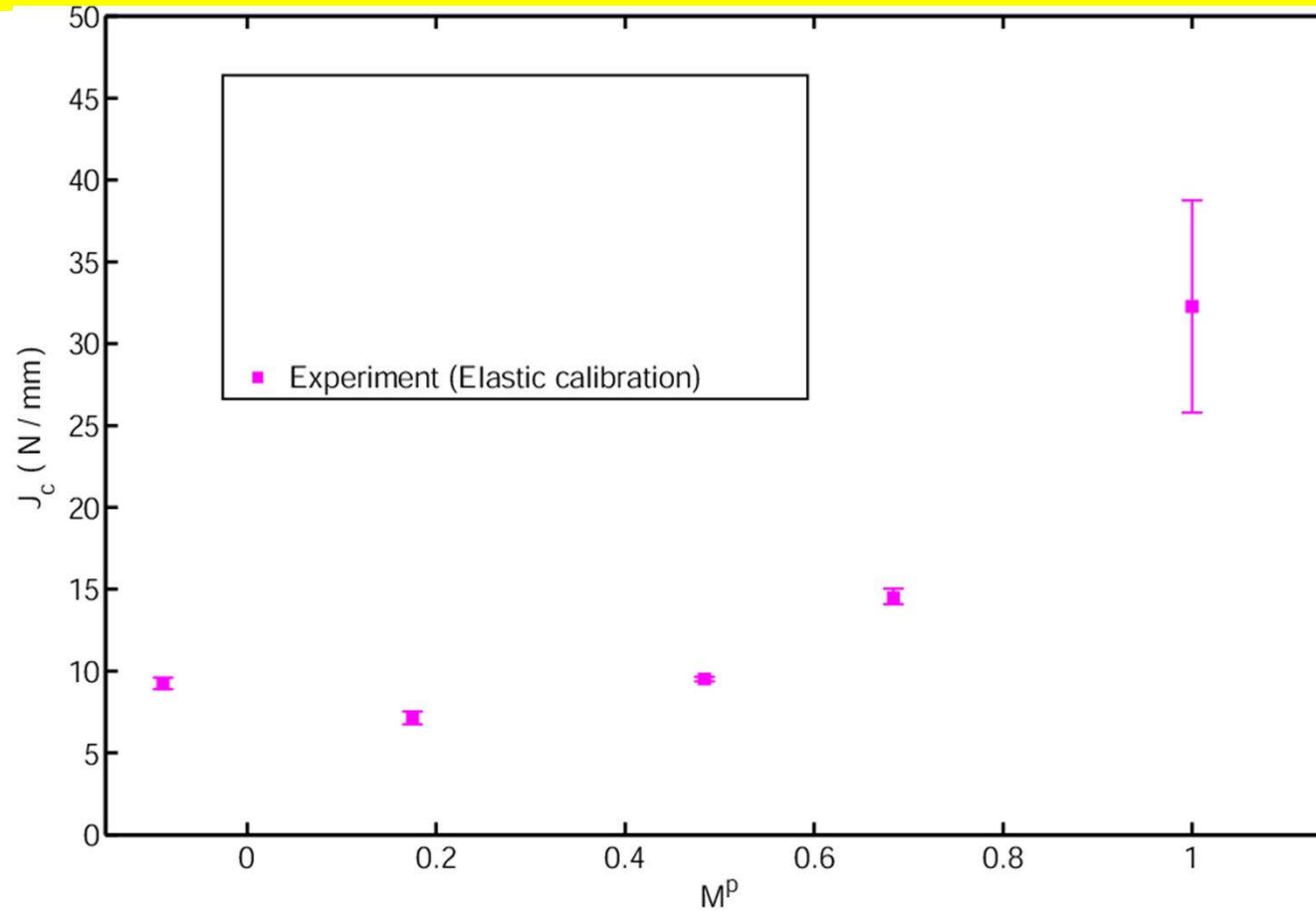
$P = 2.3 \text{ kN}$

$Me = 1$ (pure mode I)

Notch opening (δ_I) and shear (δ_{II}) displacements with J

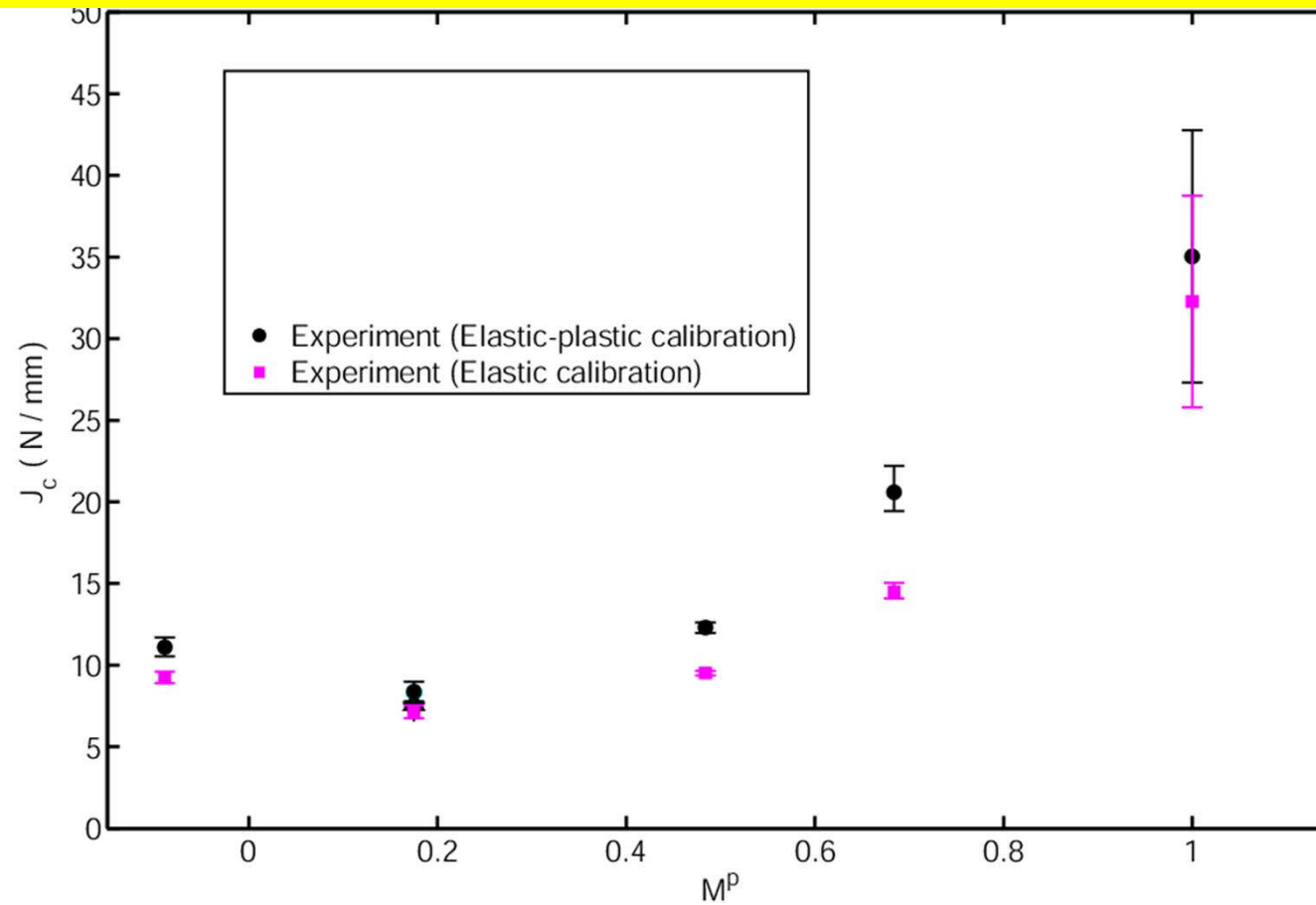


Variation of fracture toughness with mode mixity



- J_c increases with M^p
- J_c under mode I > 4 times that under mode II

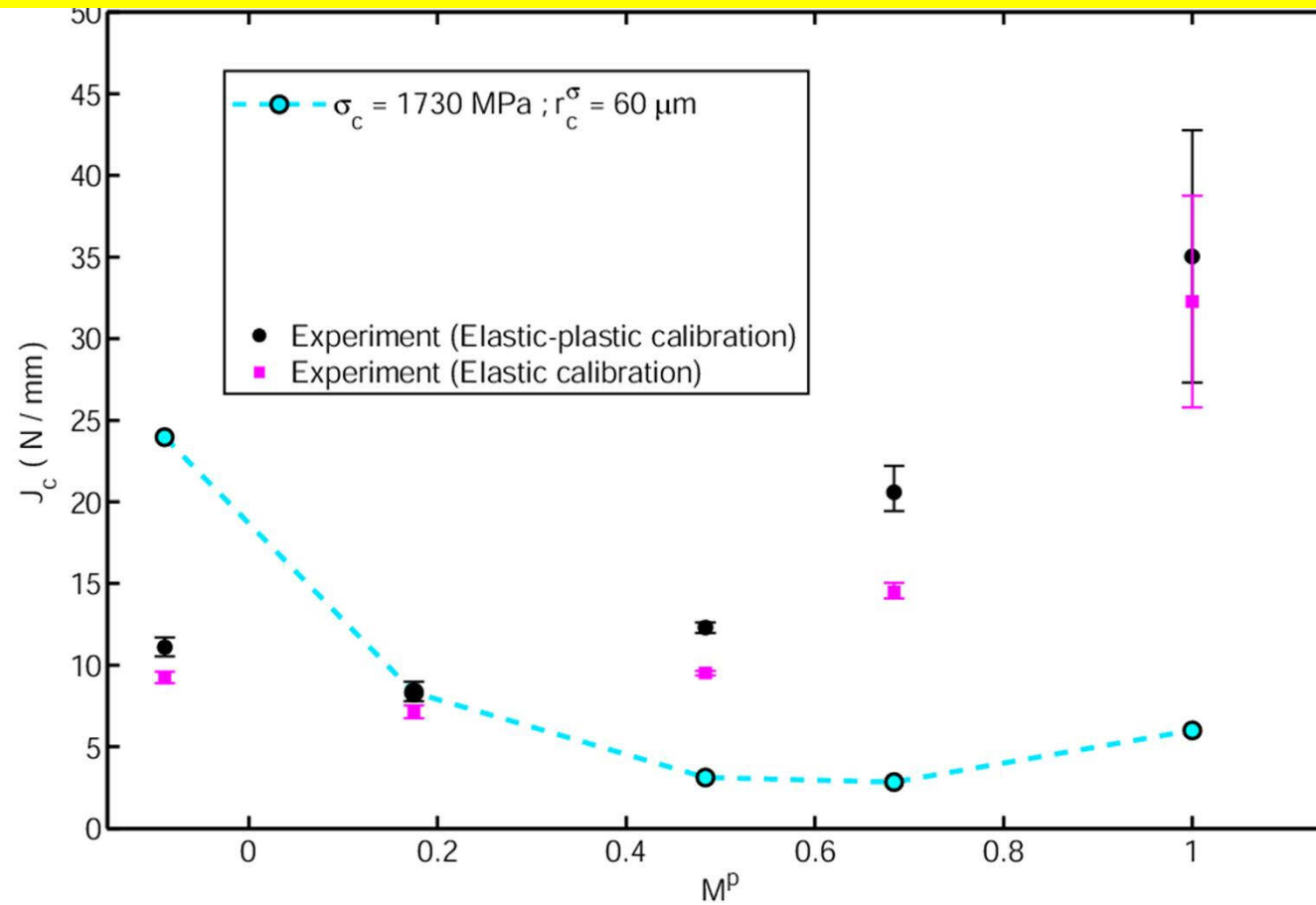
Variation of fracture toughness with mode mixity



● J_c increases with M^p

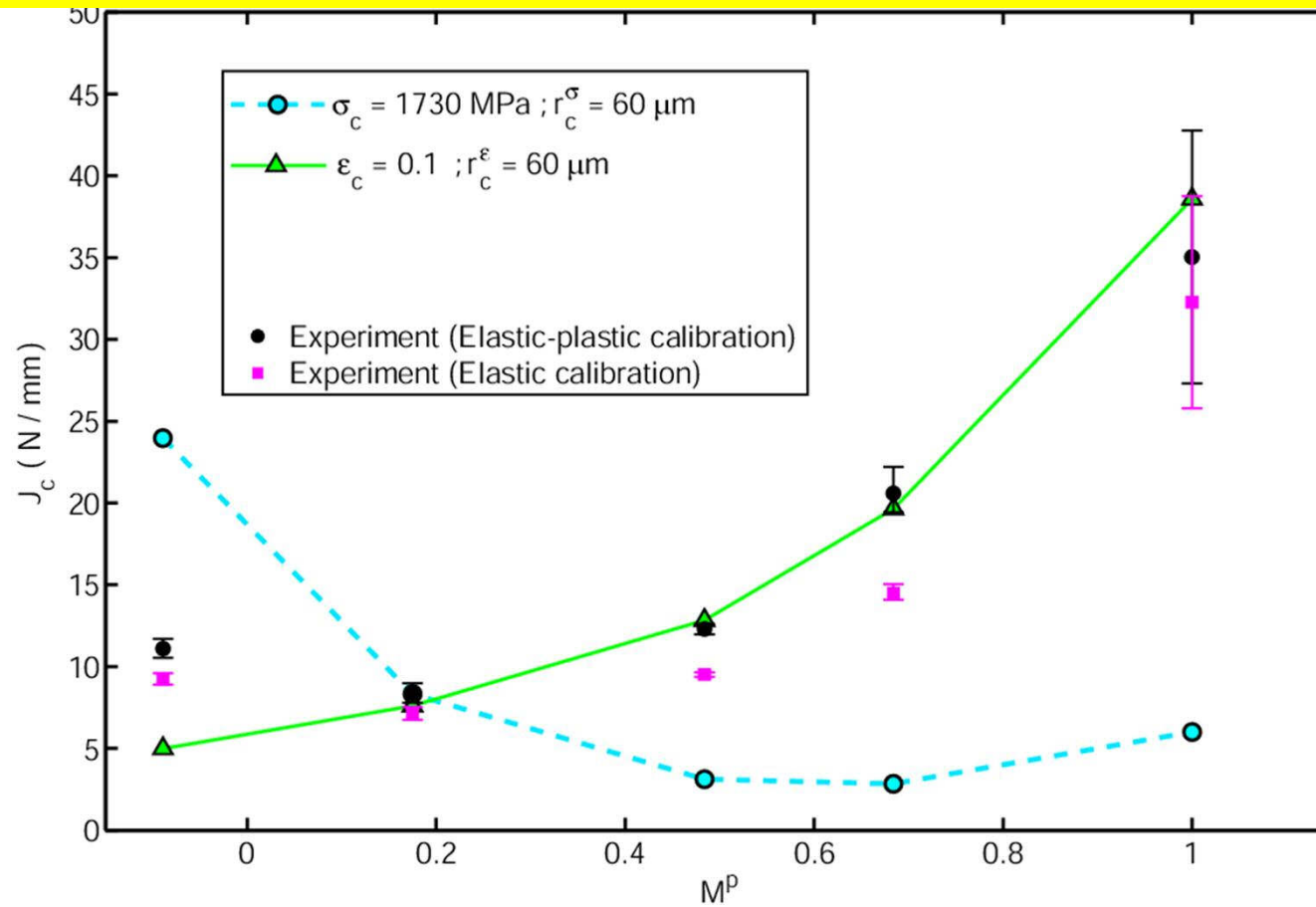
● J_c under mode I > 4 times that under mode II

Variation of fracture toughness with mode mixity

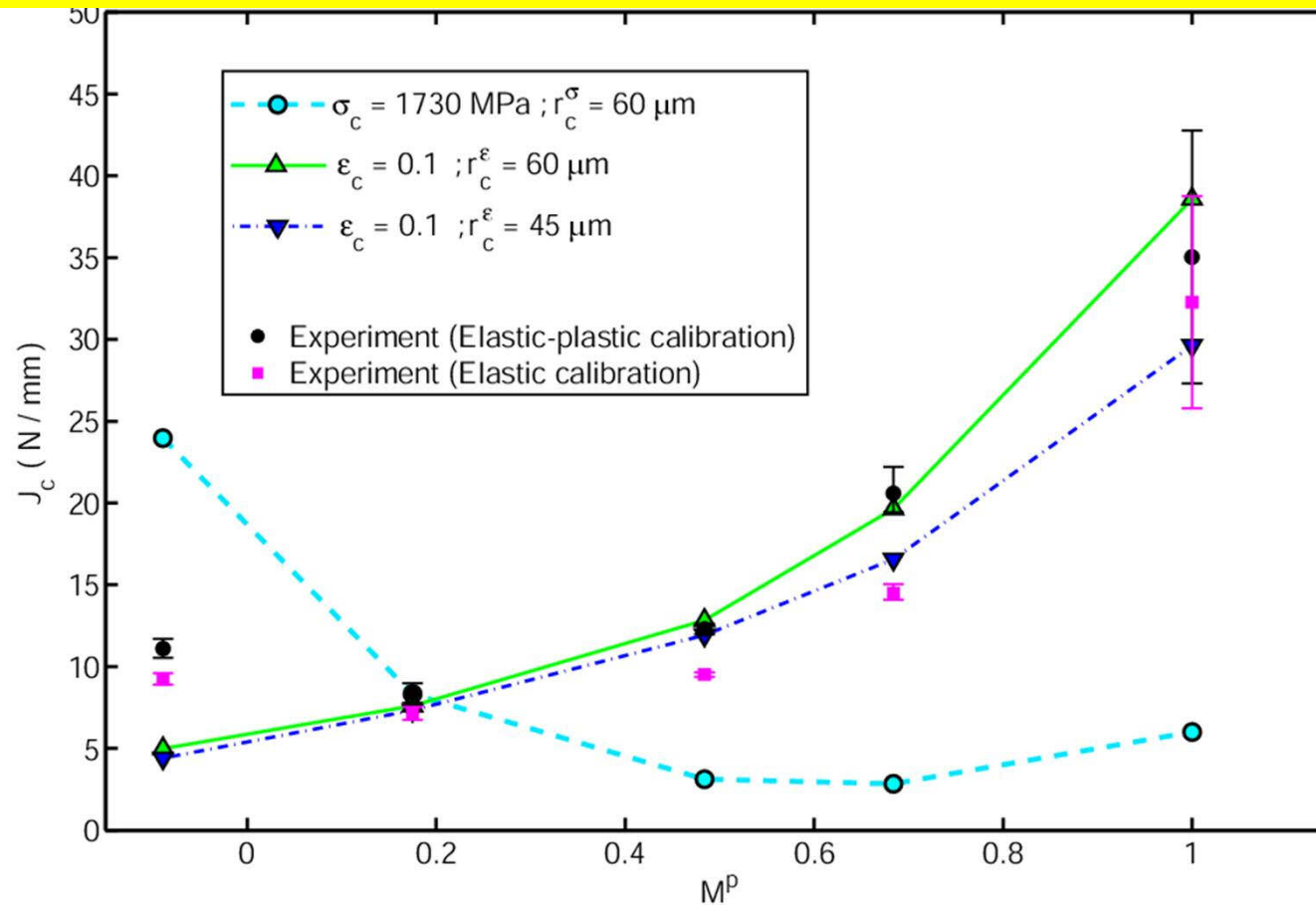


- J_c increases with M^p
- J_c under mode I > 4 times that under mode II
- Critical stress based criterion is not suitable

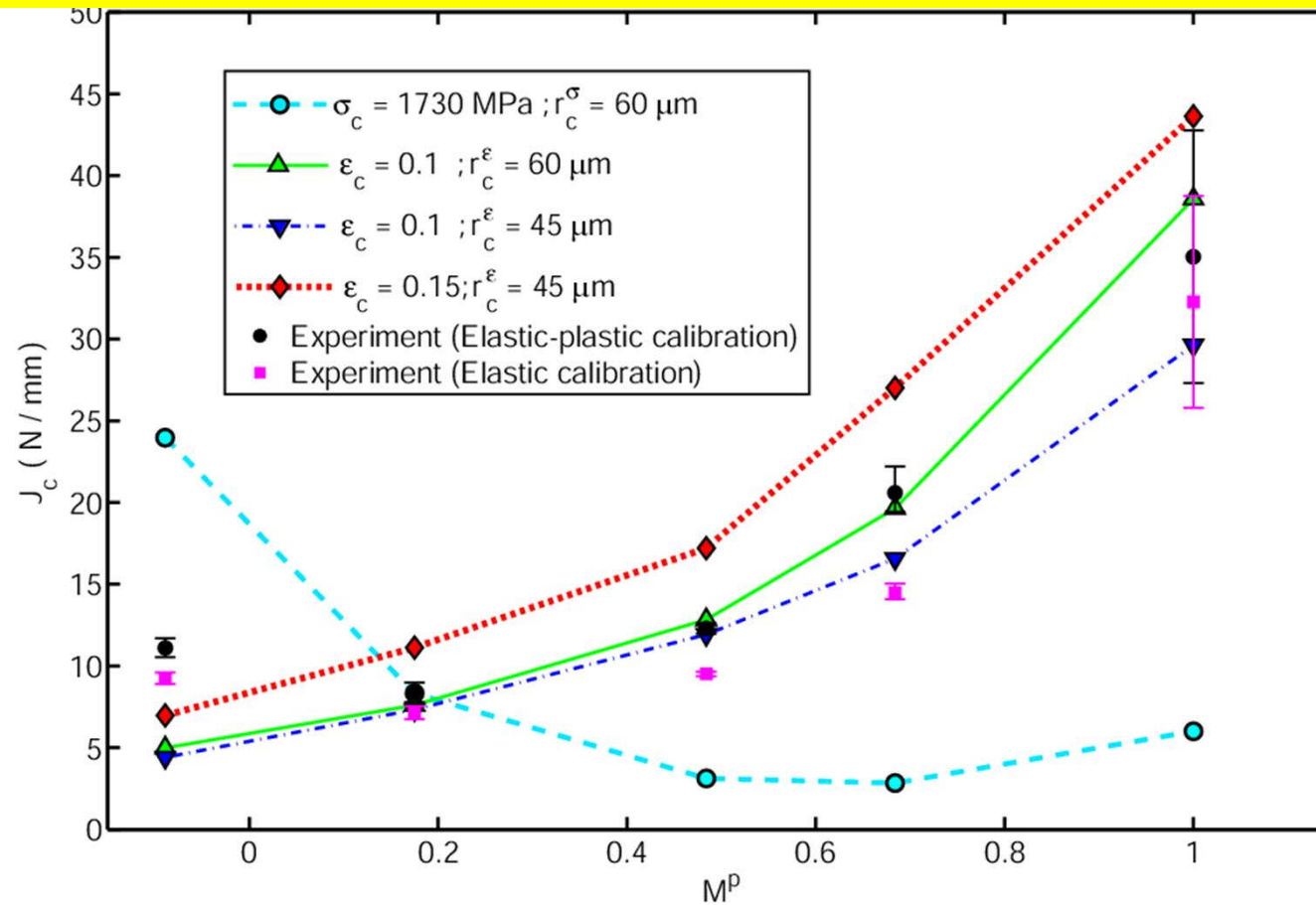
Variation of fracture toughness with mode mixity



Variation of fracture toughness with mode mixity



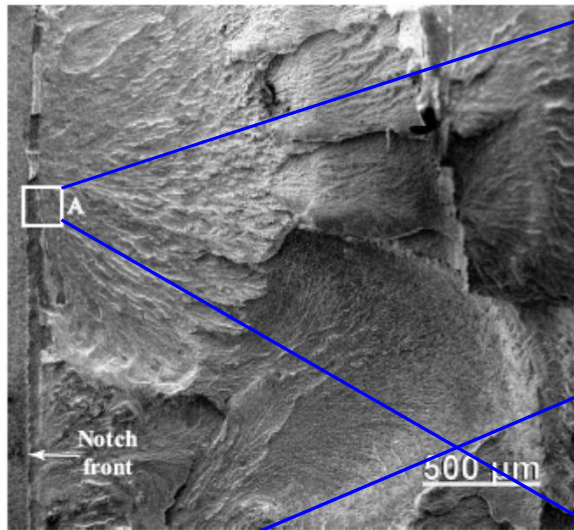
Variation of J_c with mode mixity



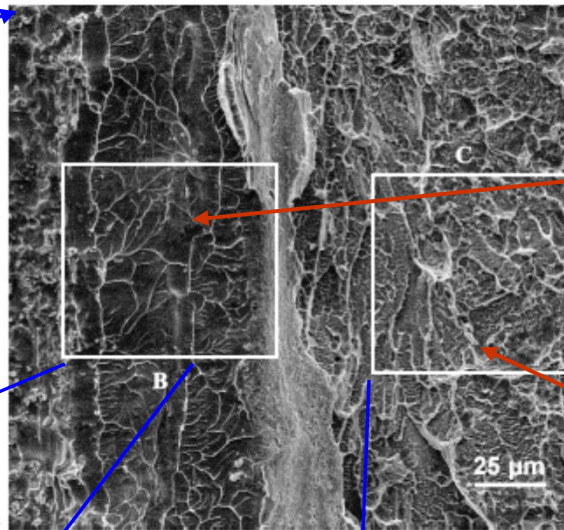
● J_c increases with M^p J_c under mode I > 4 times that under mode II

● $\epsilon_c = 0.1$; $r_c^\epsilon = 60$ μm match with the experimental data and is appropriate for Vitreloy 1 BMG.

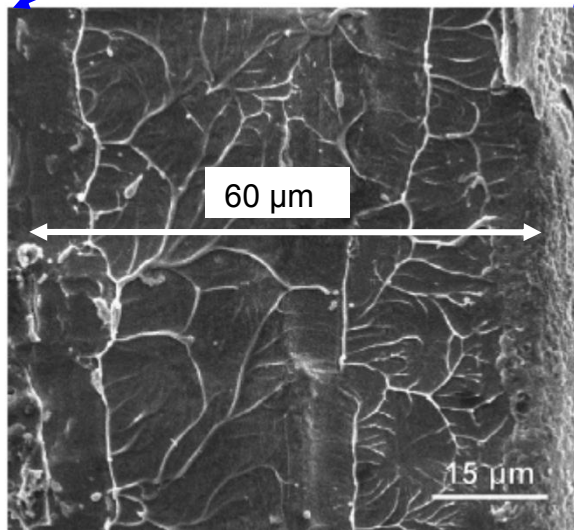
Fractography



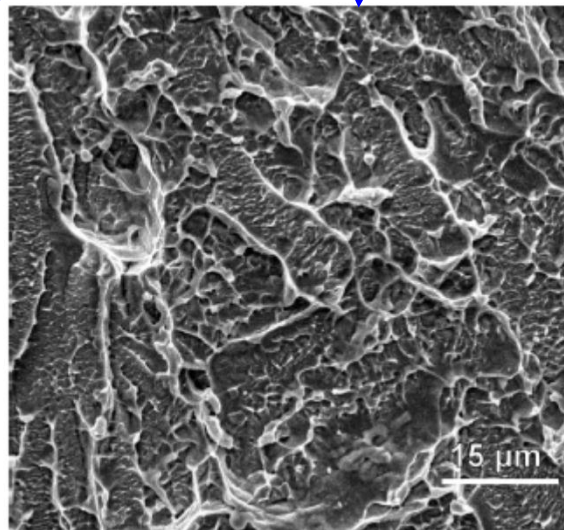
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

➤ Two types of morphologies

1. Smooth and shallow features involving highly smeared vein patterns within 45-60 μm from the notch front

2. Rough and deep features involving coarse dimple patterns superposed on ridges and valleys beyond 60 μm from the notch front

➤ Similar observations apply for other specimens also

Conclusions

- Experiments combined with FEM show that the fracture criterion for a ductile BMG is strain controlled with a critical length of 60 microns.
- At notch tips: shear bands turn into shear cracks, which grow stably before final fracture. Cracks grow inside shear bands!
- Still need to understand a lot of things w.r.t. fracture in amorphous solids!