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# Fatigue Assessment of Retrofitted Metal Structures Using Local Approaches

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KASRA GHAHREMANI, PH.D.

PRESENTATION AT THE SAE FD&E COMMITTEE MEETING

OCTOBER 12, 2016

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# Kasra Ghahremani

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Ph.D. in Civil Engineering - Structures and Mechanics  
Engineering from the *University of Waterloo*, ON, Canada

*Thesis: Fatigue Assessment of Repaired Highway Bridge  
Welds Using Local Approaches*

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Currently Diagnostics Engineer at *Walter P Moore*,  
Houston, Texas

# Outline

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- 1) Fatigue of Metal Structures
- 2) Analysis of Impact Treated Weld Joints
- 3) Local Stress Design Concept for Fatigue Design

# Outline

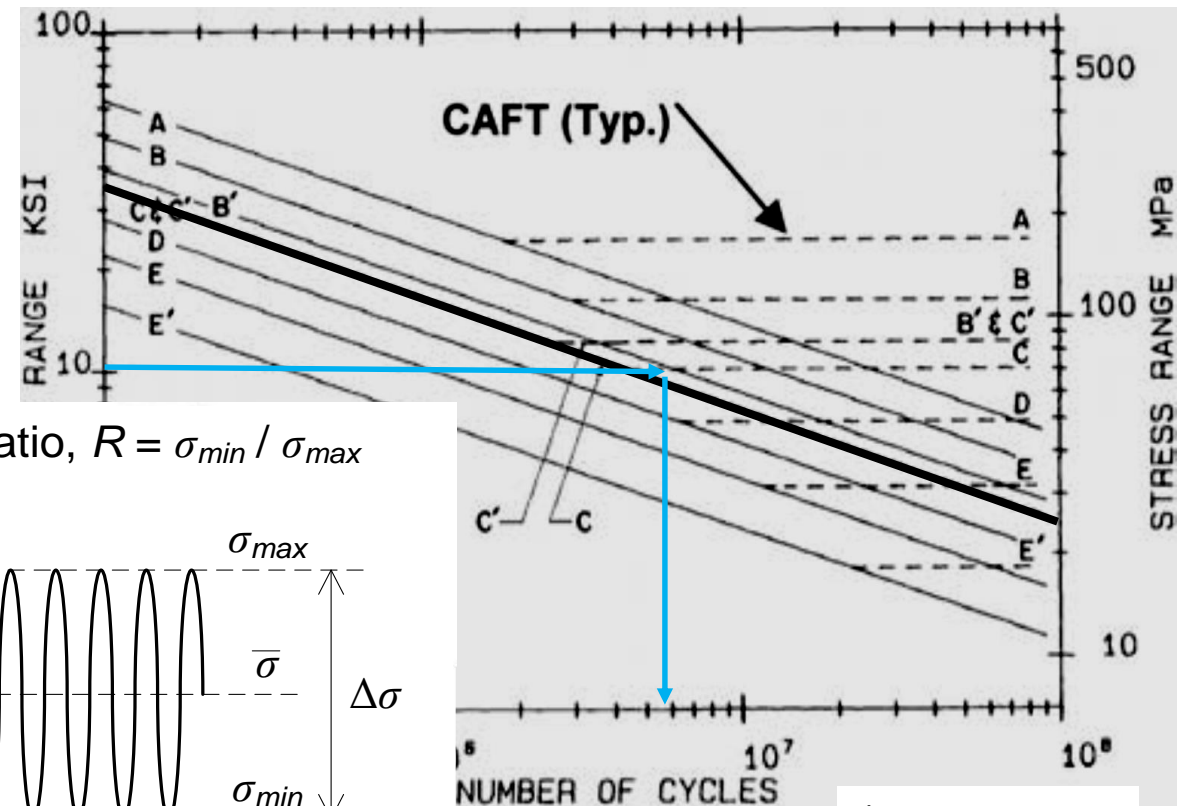
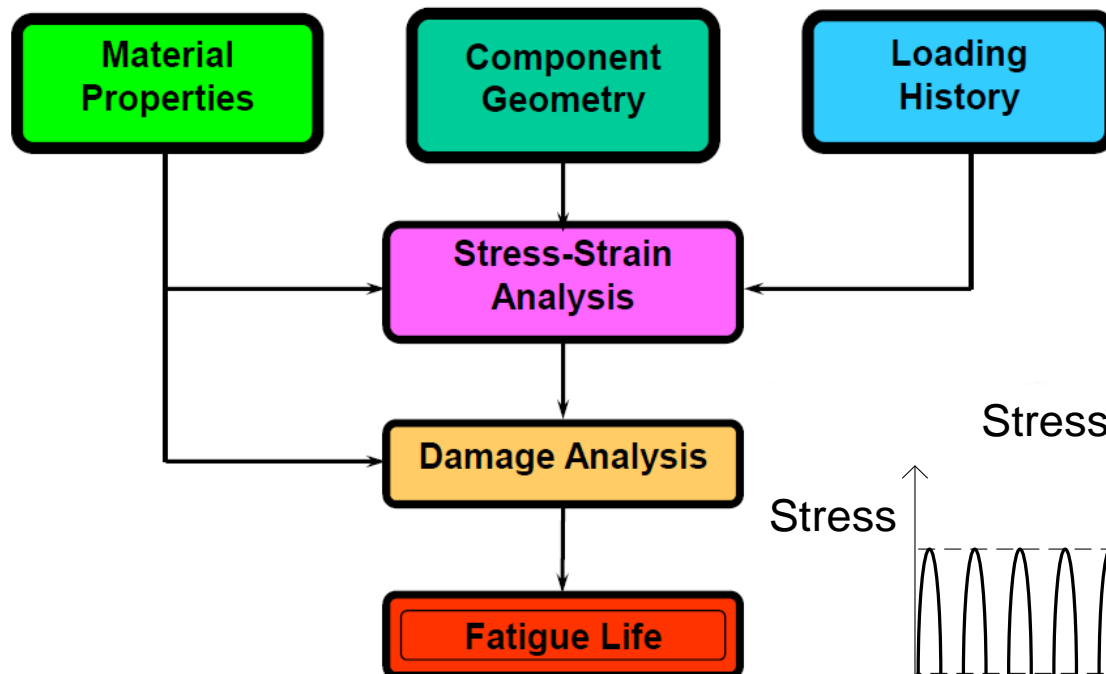
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- 1) *Fatigue of Metal Structures*
- 2) Analysis of Impact Treated Weld Joints
- 3) Local Stress Design Concept for Fatigue Design

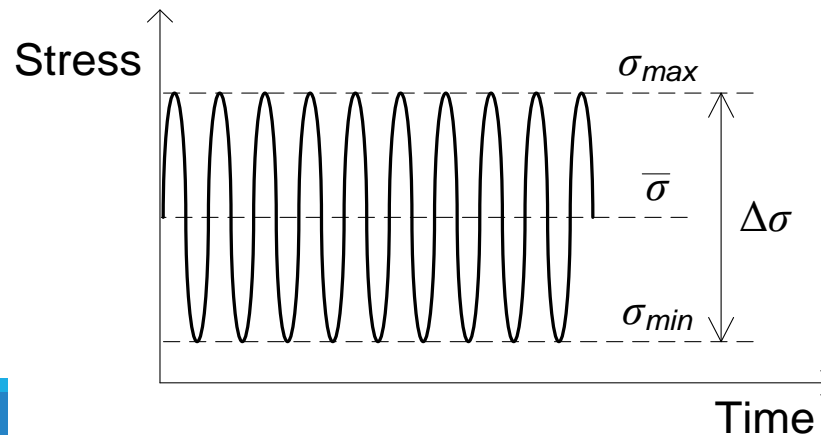
# Fatigue of Metal Structures

## *Fatigue life analysis*

### Nominal Stress-Life (S-N) Approach



$$\text{Stress ratio, } R = \sigma_{\min} / \sigma_{\max}$$



\* AASHTO 2012

# Fatigue of Metal Structures

## *Fatigue improvement*



HFMI treatment tool

**HFMI: High Frequency Mechanical Impact Treatment**



Before HFMI



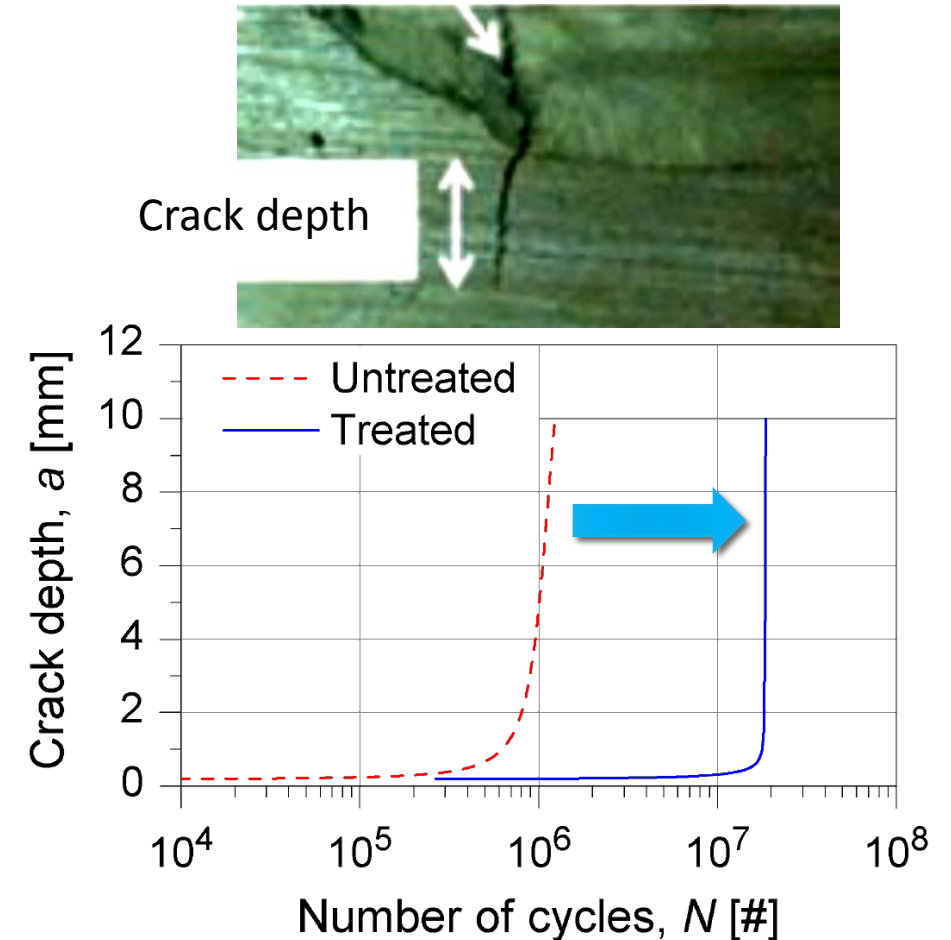
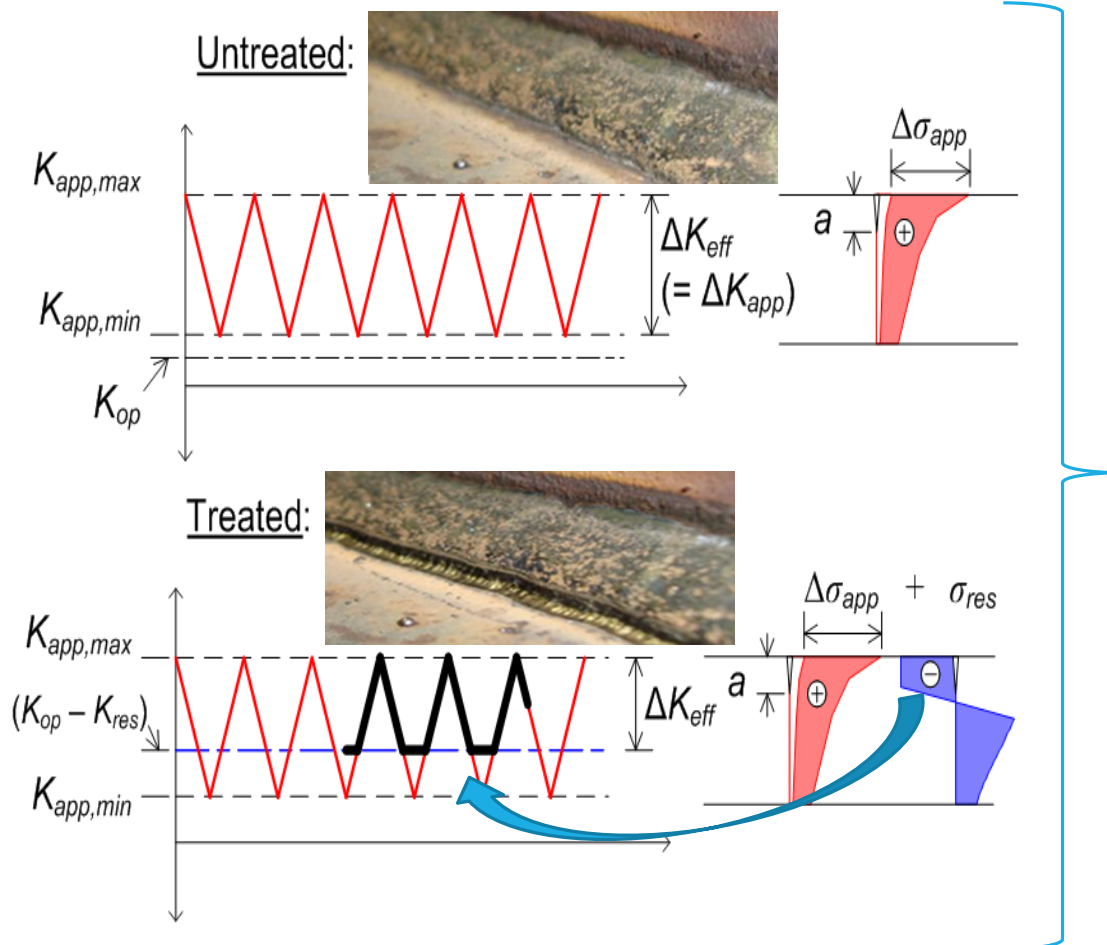
After HFMI

### ***Fatigue enhancement techniques***

Residual stress-based  
post-weld treatments  
(peening methods)  
*delay the growth of fatigue  
cracks by introducing  
a compressive residual  
stress field near the surface*

# HFMI treatments

## *How they work*



# Outline

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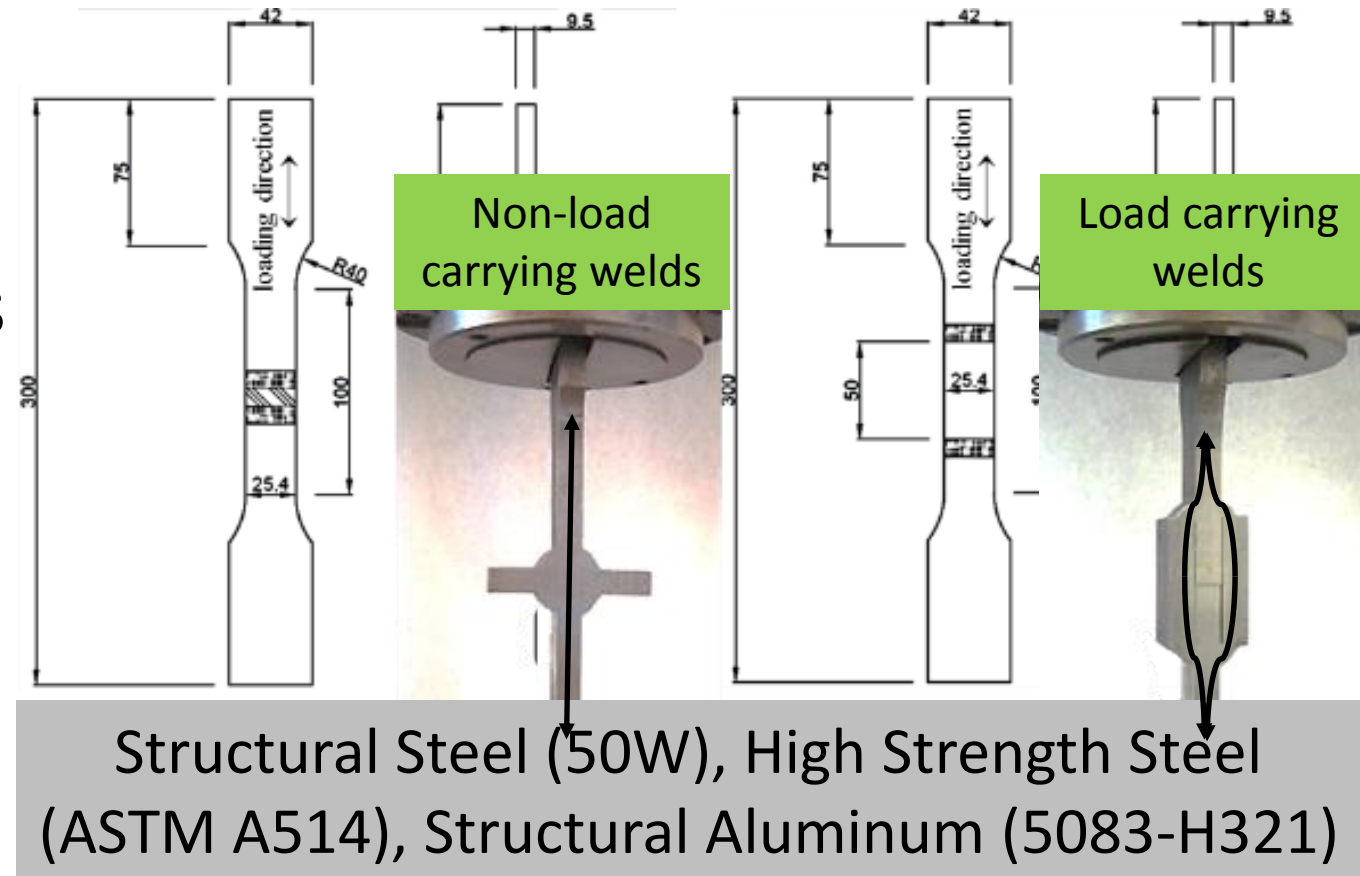
- 1) Fatigue of Metal Structures
- 2) *Analysis of Impact Treated Weld Joints*
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# Impact Treatments

## *High cycle fatigue studies*

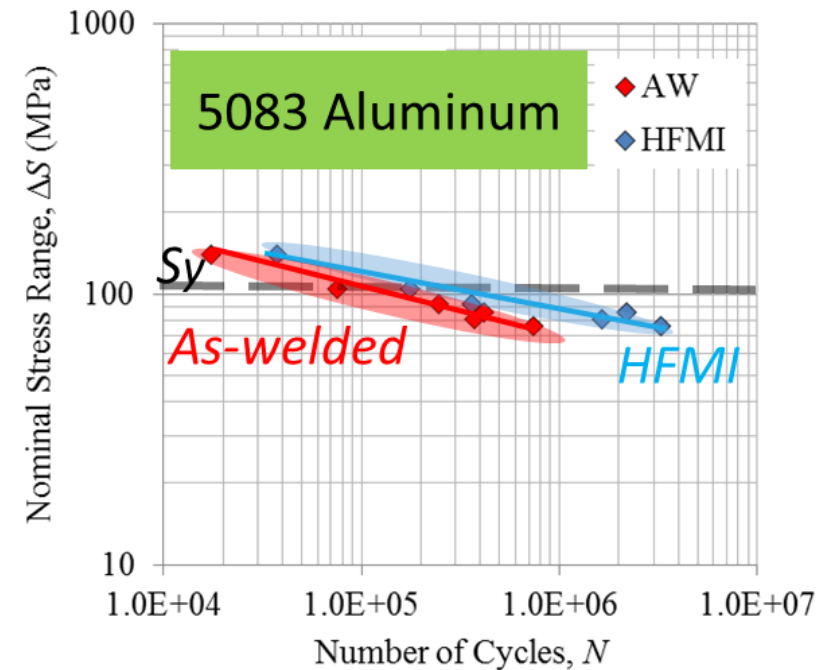
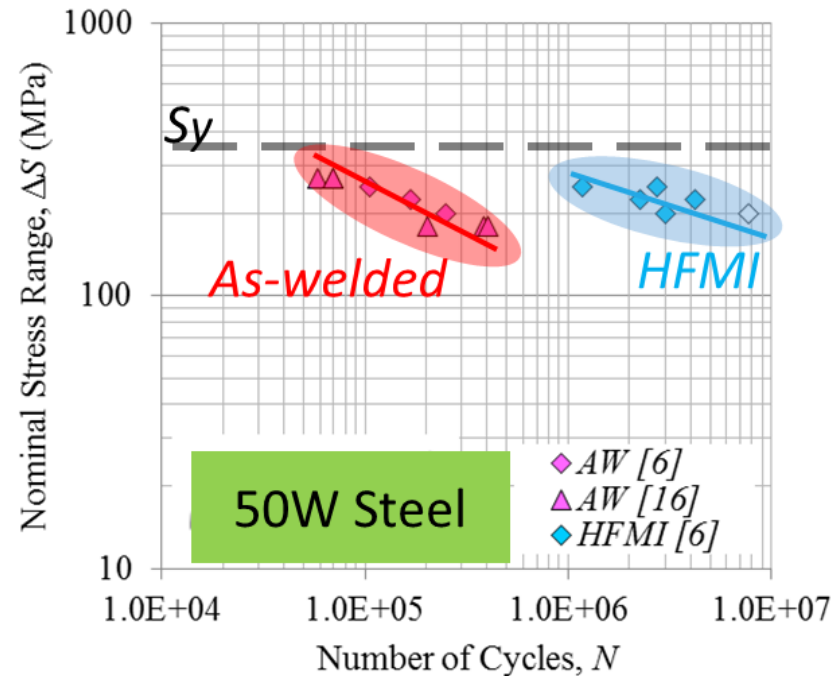
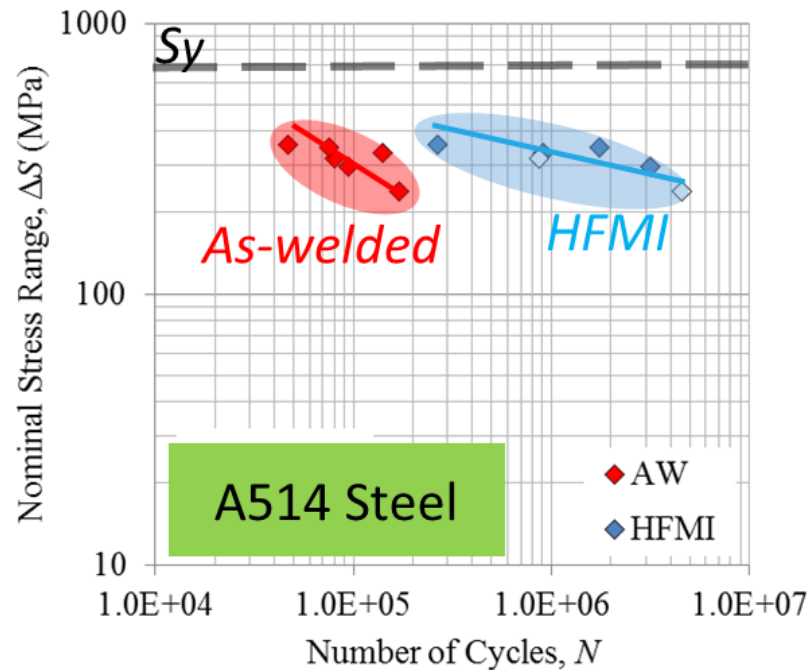
### Objectives:

1. Study the effectiveness of HFMI treatments under in-service loading conditions for different metals
2. Develop recommendations for design of treated weld joints



# Impact Treatments

## *Experimental results (CA)*

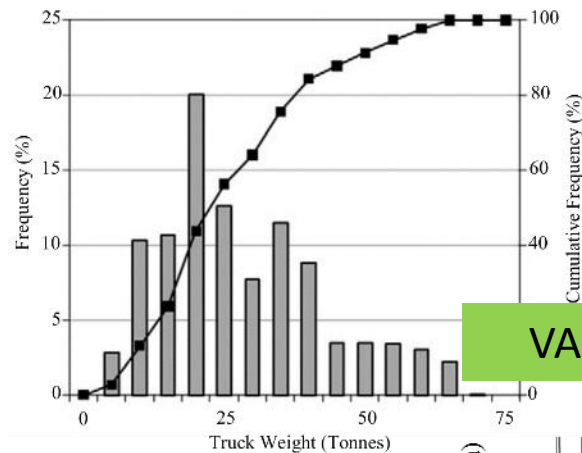


HFMI treatment effectiveness increases with an increase in the material strength

# Impact Treatments

## *Variable Amplitude (VA) Loading Spectrum*

Truck weight histogram

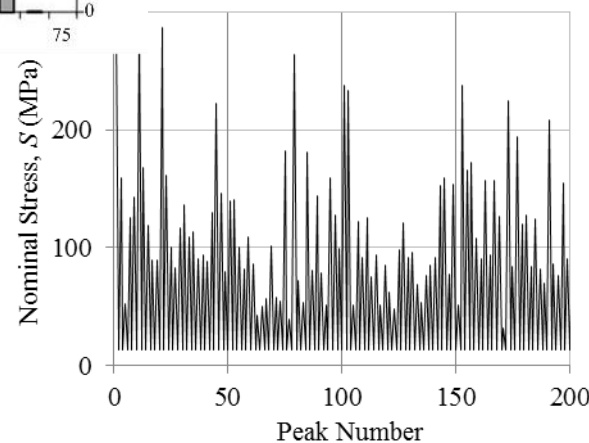


**10,195 Cycles**

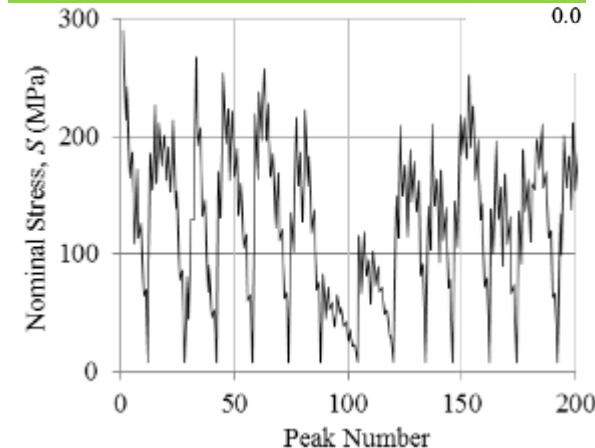
$$\Delta S_{eq} = (\sum \Delta S_i^s \cdot y_i)^{1/s}$$



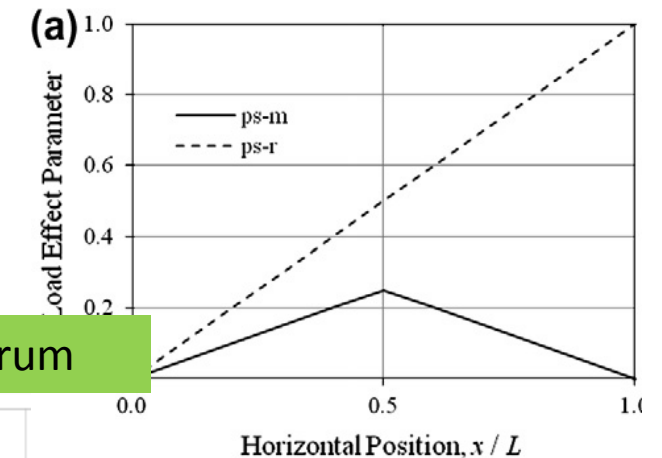
VA1 loading spectrum



VA2 loading spectrum

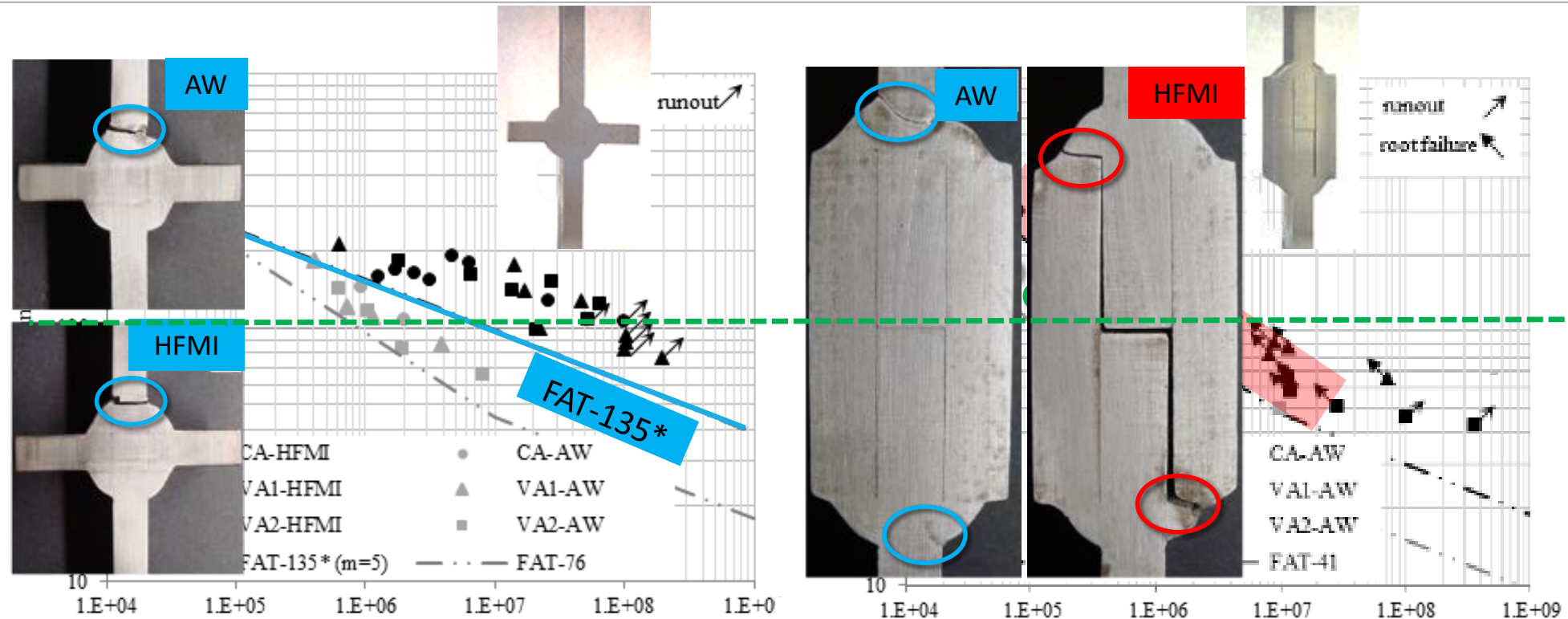


Influence lines



# Impact Treatments

## *Experimental results (50W steel)*



Treatments The maximum applied stress should be based on the local stress value

# Impact Treatments

## *Strain-based fracture mechanics analysis*

### Effective Strain-Life Model + Strain-based Fracture Mechanics Model

$$\Delta \varepsilon_{eff} = \frac{A}{E} (2N_f)^e + \Delta \varepsilon_i$$

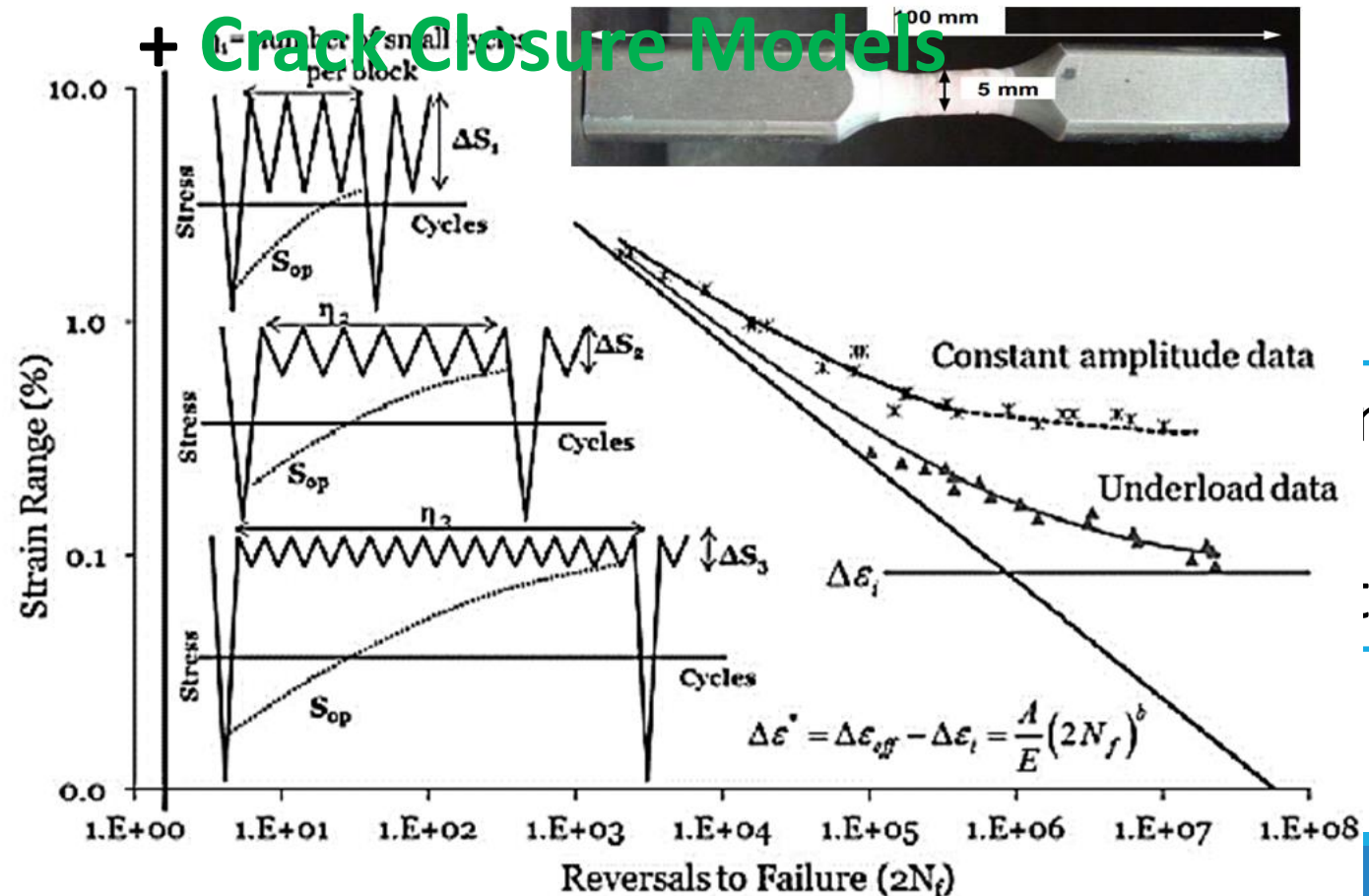
$$\frac{da}{dN} = C(\Delta K_{eff} - \Delta K_i)^m$$

$$\Delta K_{eff} = K_{max} - MAX(K_{op}, K_{min})$$

$$K = Y \cdot E \cdot \varepsilon \cdot \sqrt{\pi \cdot a}$$

$$\sigma_{el} = k_p \cdot S$$

+ Crack Closure Models



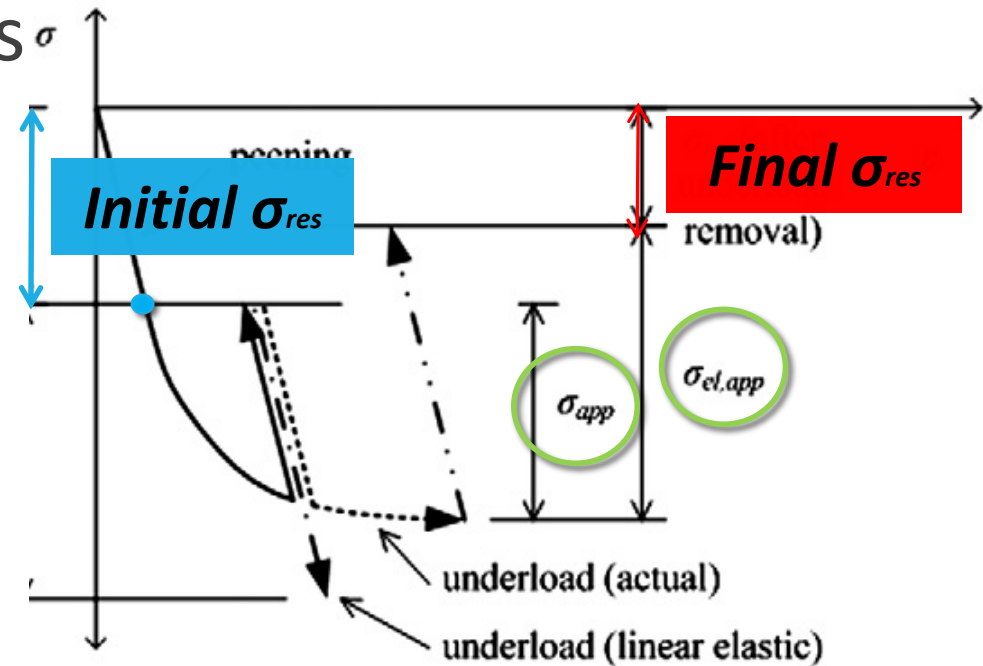
functions  
a semi-  
e

# Impact Treatments

## *Why strain-based fracture mechanics?*

SBFM captures and tracks the effects of:

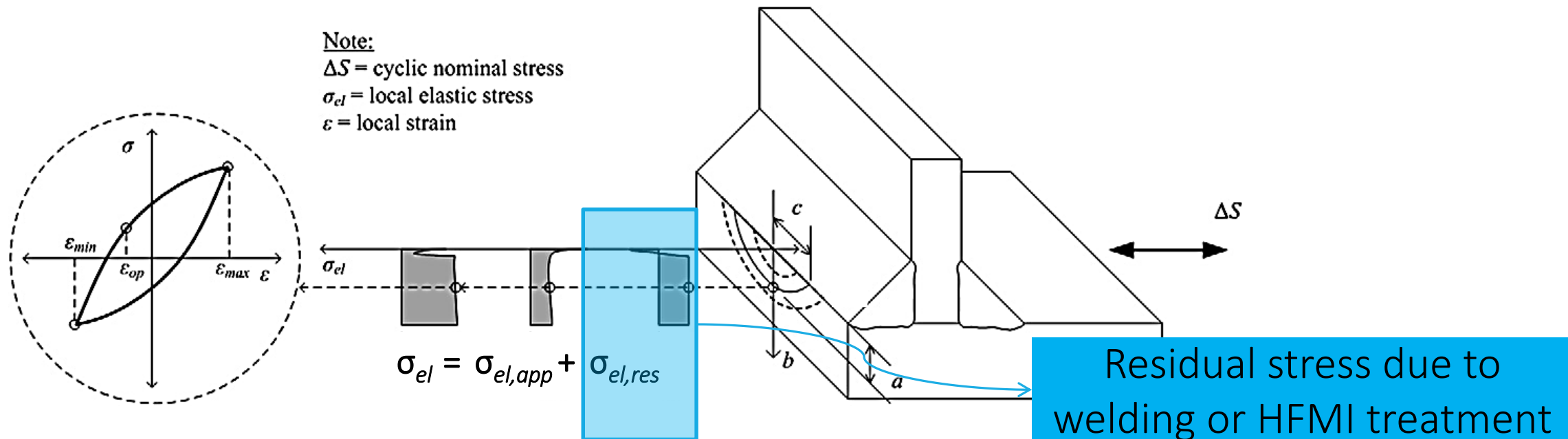
- residual stress relaxation due to increasing plasticity at higher stress levels
- significant non-linear material response
- reducing the crack opening stress level



# Impact Treatments

## *Strain-based fracture mechanics analysis*

The analysis consists of cyclically loading the material at various depth below the surface of the weld notch to determine the strain parameters for each completed cycle

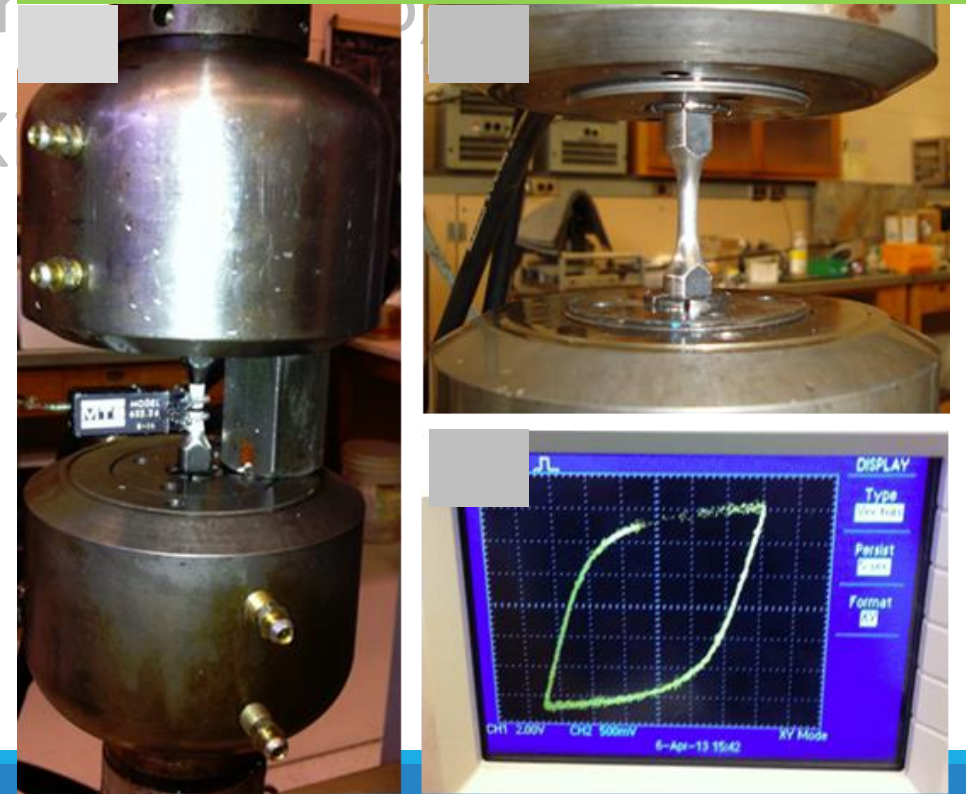


# Fracture Mechanics Model (SBFM)

## *Input parameters*

- *Material constants:  $E$ ,  $S_y$ ,  $\sigma_y$ ,  $K'$ ,  $n'$*
- Crack closure/ opening stress parameter
- Crack growth parameters:  $C$ ,  $m$ ,  $\Delta K_{th}$
- Initial crack size
- Elastic stress concentration
- Residual stresses

Monotonic and cyclic material testing

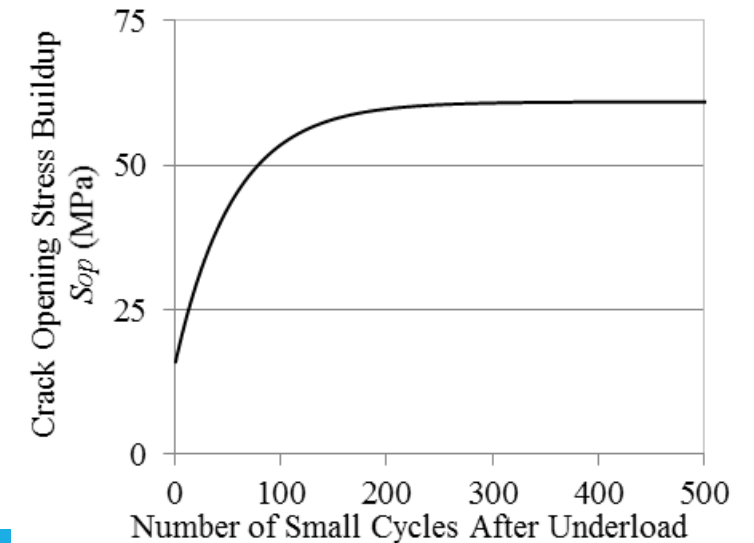
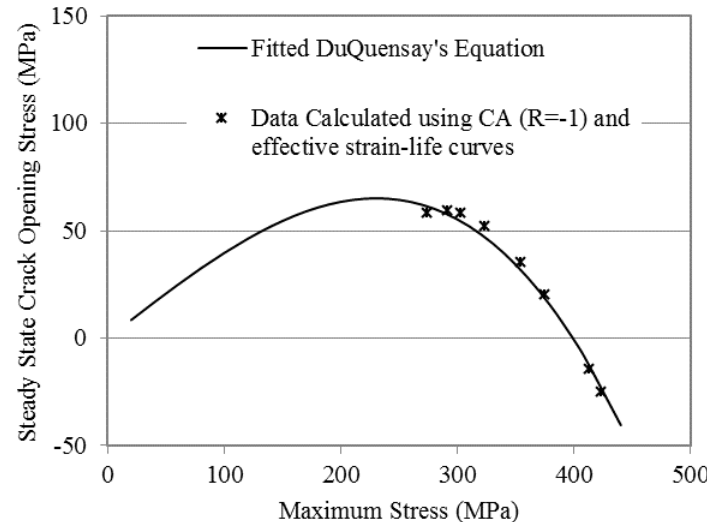


# Fracture Mechanics Model (SBFM)

## *Input parameters*

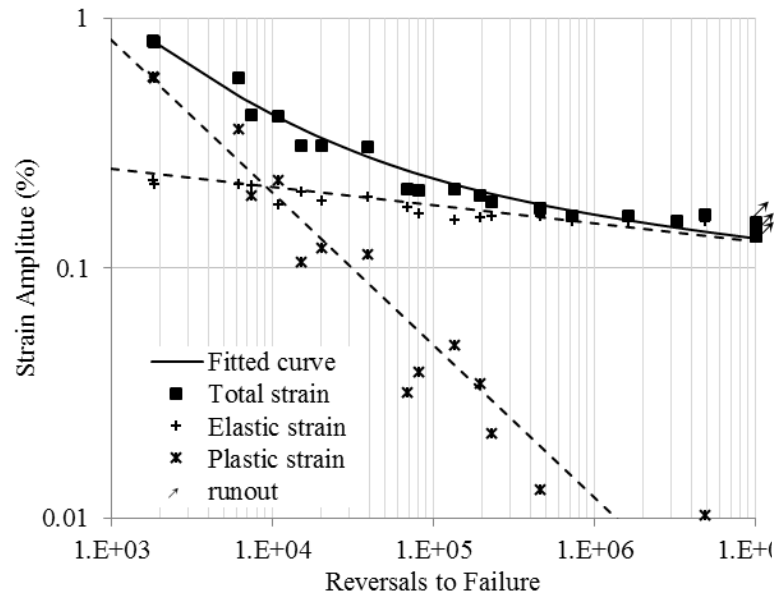
- Material constants:  $E$ ,  $S_y$ ,  $\sigma_y$ ,  $K'$ ,  $n'$
- *Crack closure/ opening stress parameters:  $\theta$ ,  $\varphi$ ,  $\mu$*
- Crack growth parameters
- Initial crack size
- Elastic stress concentration
- Residual stresses

### Effective strain-life model

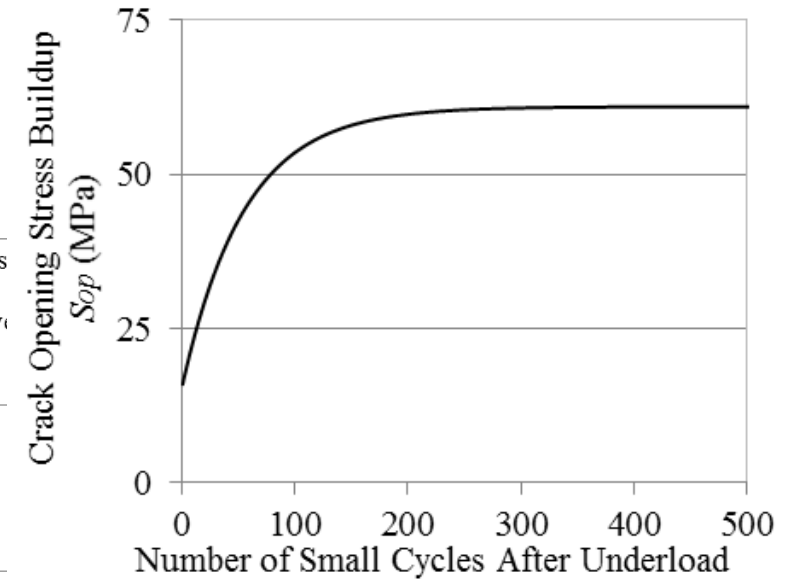
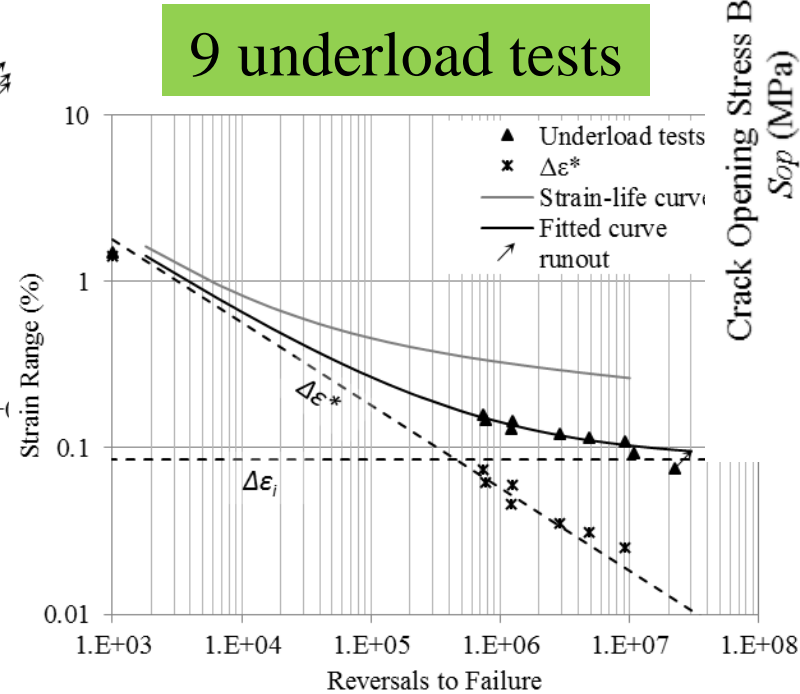


# Fracture Mechanics Model (SBFM)

## *Smooth specimens testing results*



21 CA ( $R=-1$ ) tests

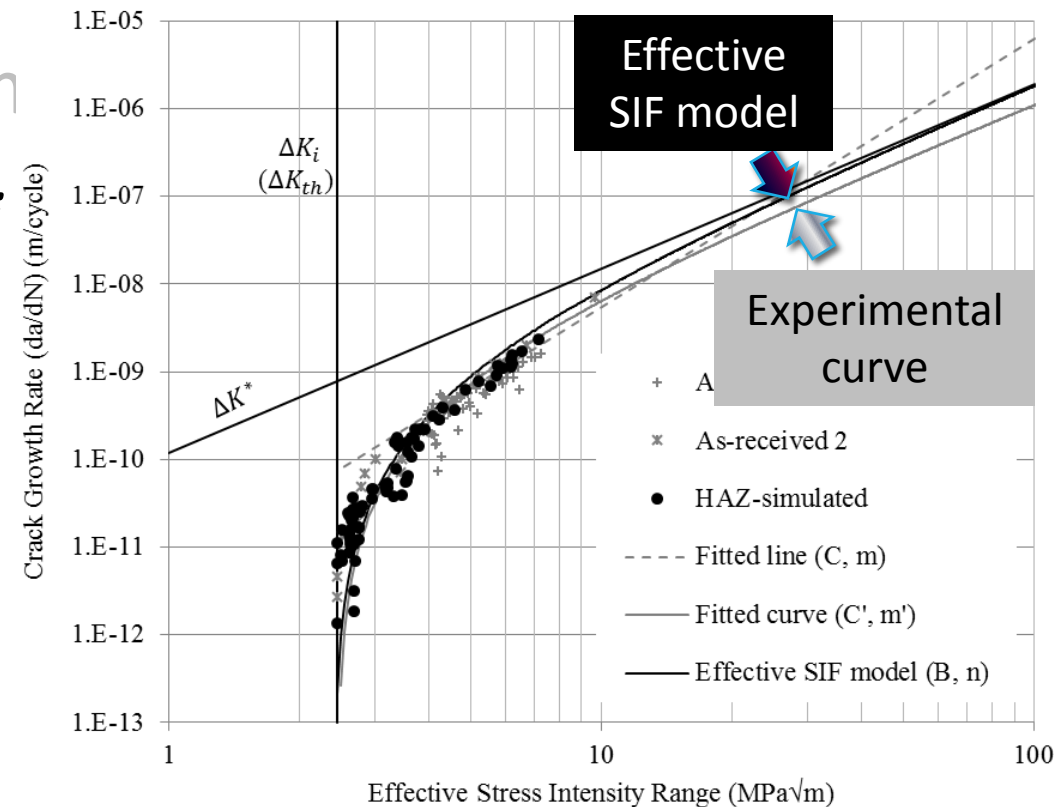
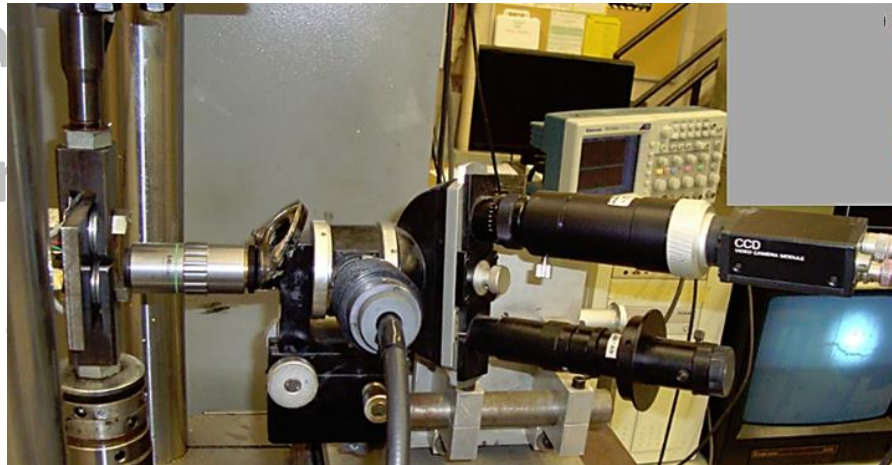


8 overload tests

# Fracture Mechanics Model (SBFM)

## *Input parameters*

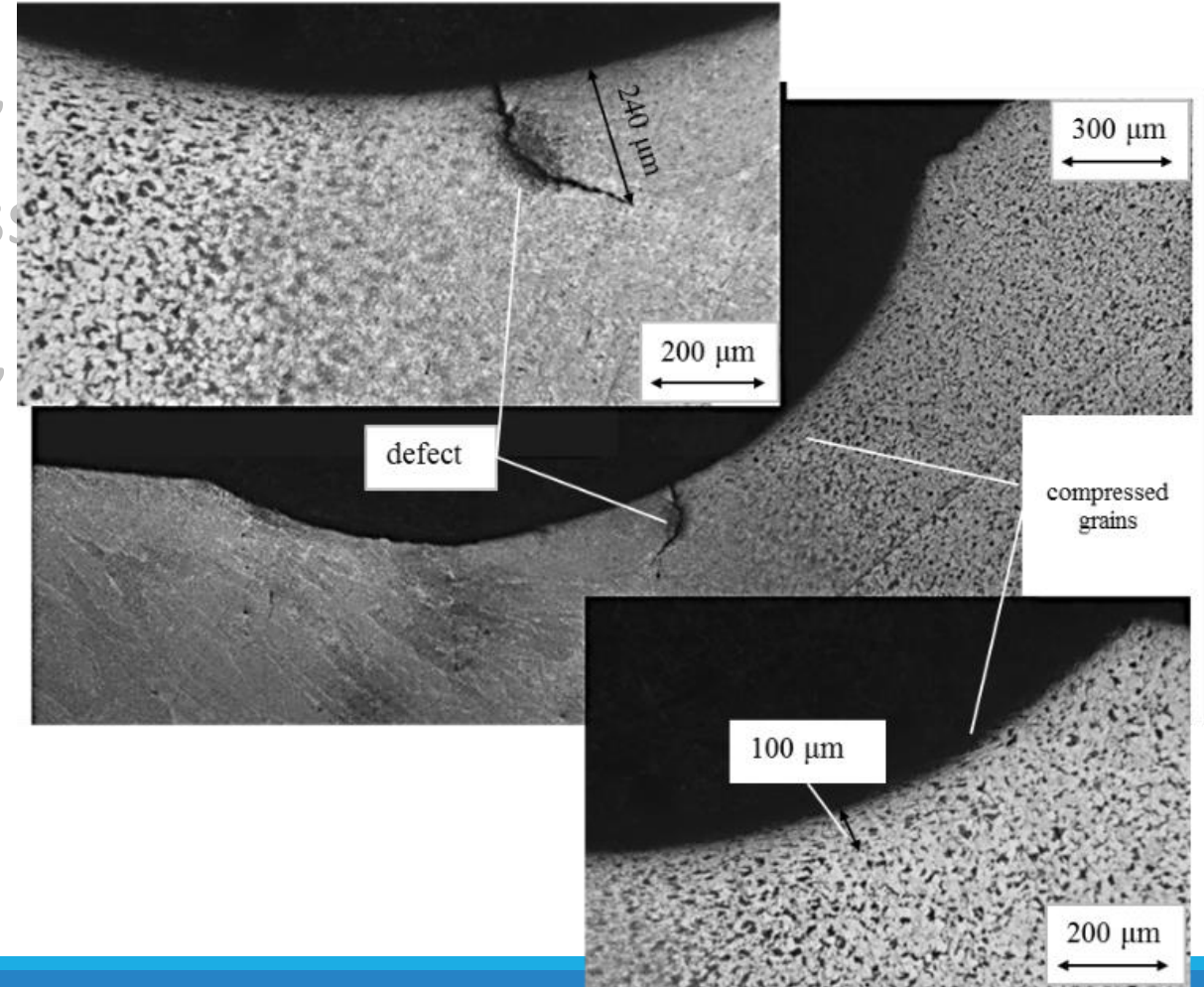
- Material constants:  $E$ ,  $S_y$ ,  $\sigma_y$ ,  $K'$ ,  $n'$
- Crack closure/ opening stress param
- *Crack growth parameters:  $C$ ,  $m$ ,  $\Delta K_i$*



# Fracture Mechanics Model (SBFM)

## *Input parameters*

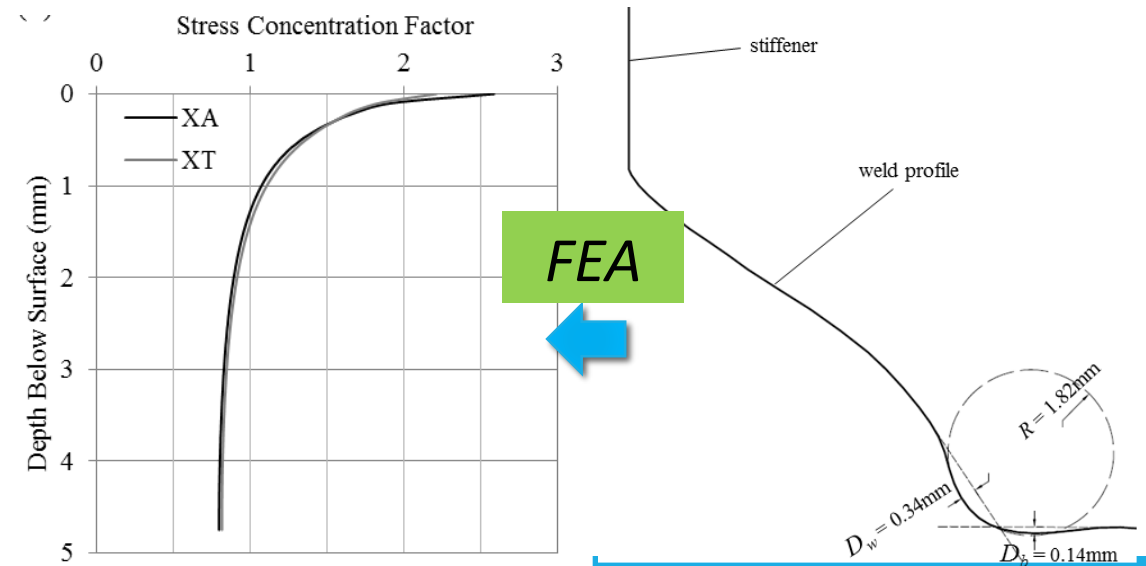
- Material constants:  $E$ ,  $S_y$ ,  $\sigma_y$ ,
- Crack closure/ opening stress
- Crack growth parameters:  $C$ ,
- ***Initial crack size***
- Elastic stress concentration
- Residual stresses



# Fracture Mechanics Model (SBFM)

## *Input parameters*

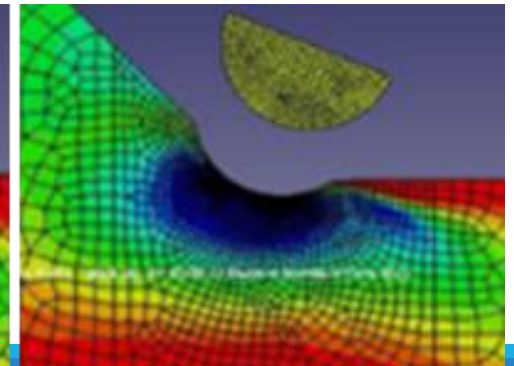
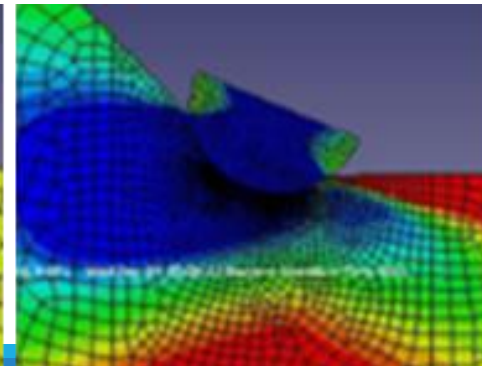
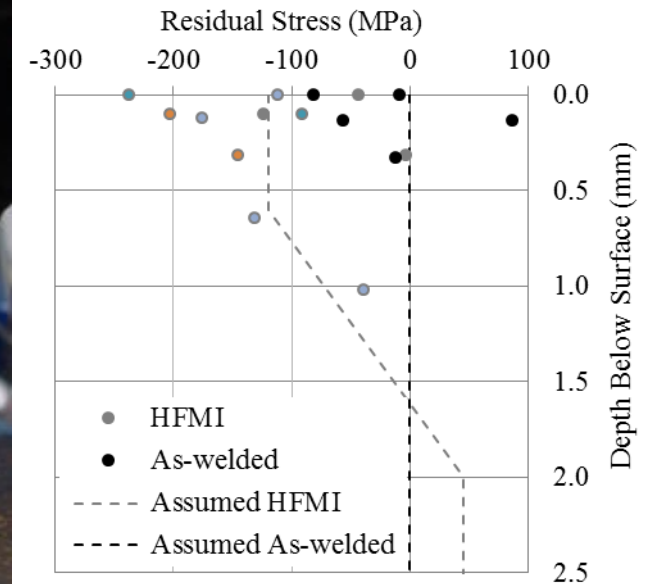
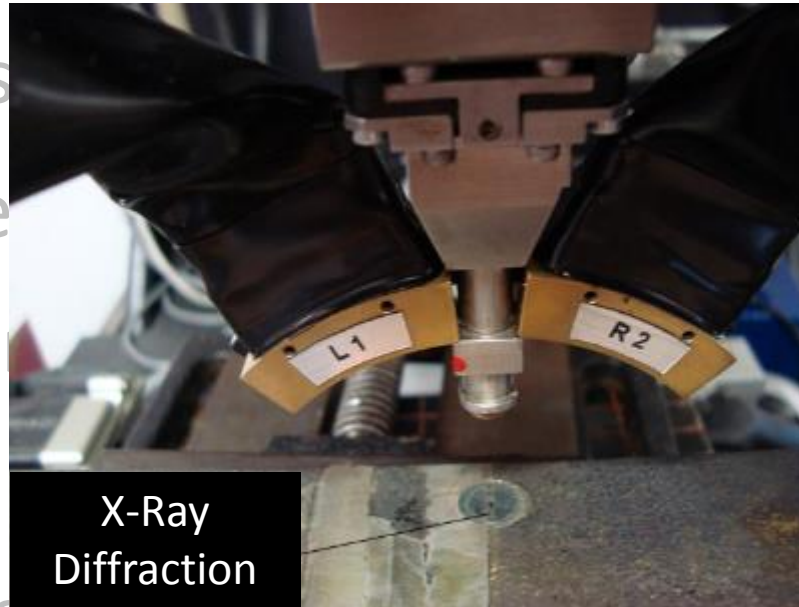
- Material constants:  $E$ ,  $S_y$ ,  $\sigma_y$ ,  $K'$ ,  $n'$
- Crack closure/ opening stress parameters:  $\theta$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\mu$
- Crack growth parameters:  $C$ ,  $m$ ,  $\Delta K_I$
- Initial crack size
- ***Elastic stress concentration***
- Residual stresses



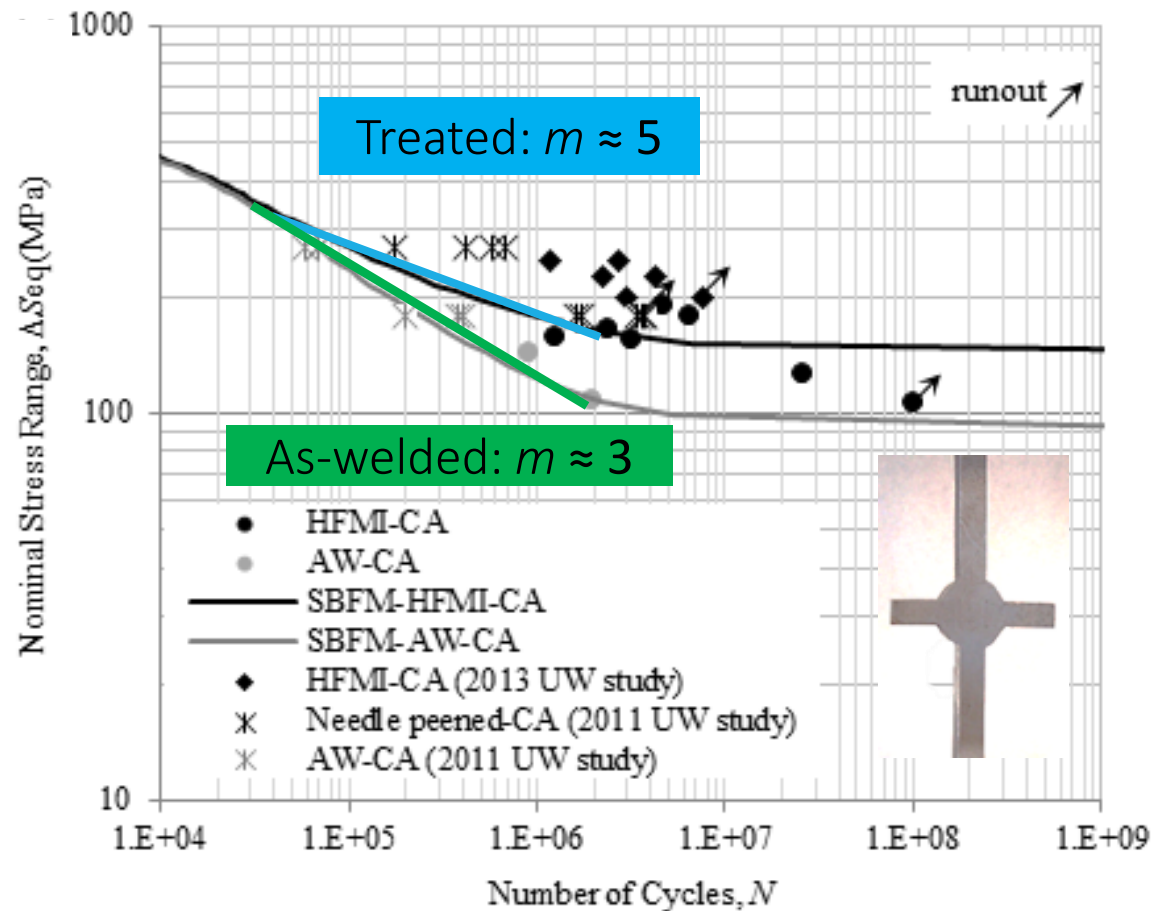
# Fracture Mechanics Model (SBFM)

## *Input parameters*

- Material constants
- Crack closure/ opening
- Crack growth parameters
- Initial crack size
- Elastic stress concentration
- *Residual stresses*

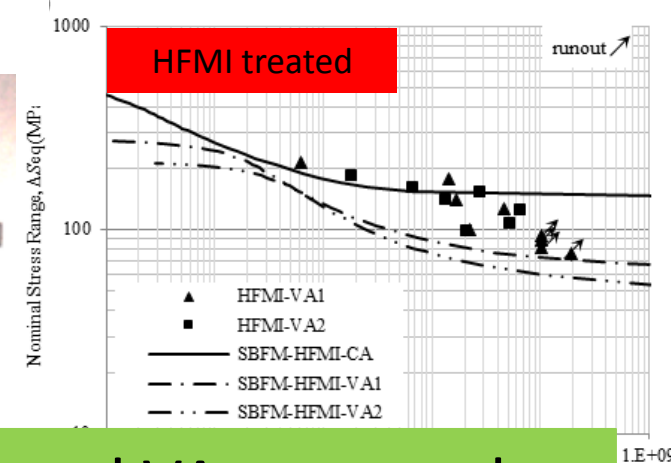
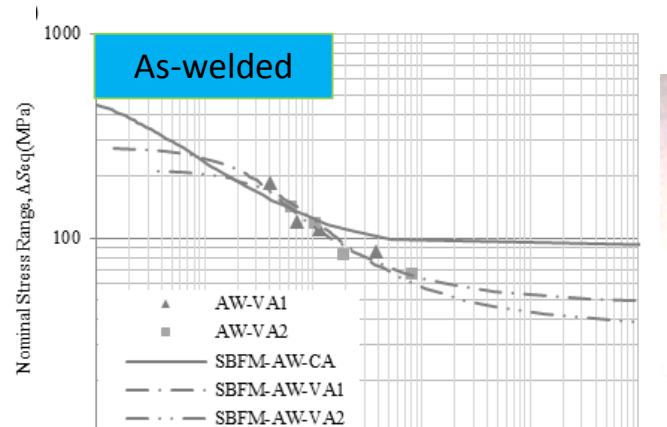


# Fracture Mechanics Analysis (SBFM) *CA results*

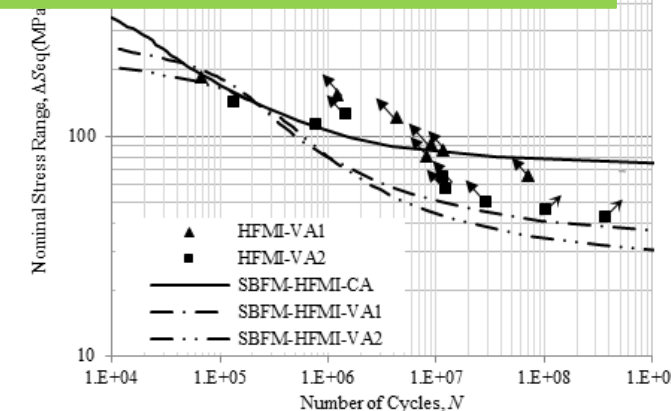
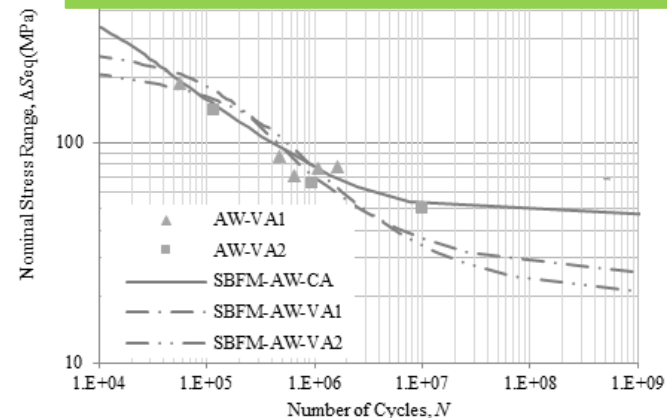


# Fracture Mechanics Analysis (SBFM)

## *VA results*



SBFM model predictions and VA test results were in a good agreement



# Fracture Mechanics Analysis (SBFM)

## *Simulations for other load histories*

Envelopes for 20 VA loading histories corresponding to simulations for other influence lines and bridge spans

1000

1000

### Design recommendations for impact treated weld toes:

- 1- Single-sloped  $S-N$  design curves with  $m=5$
- 2- No fatigue improvement under in-service loading for  $N < 10^6$
- 3- Limit the structural (local) maximum stress to  $1.15f_y$

# Outline

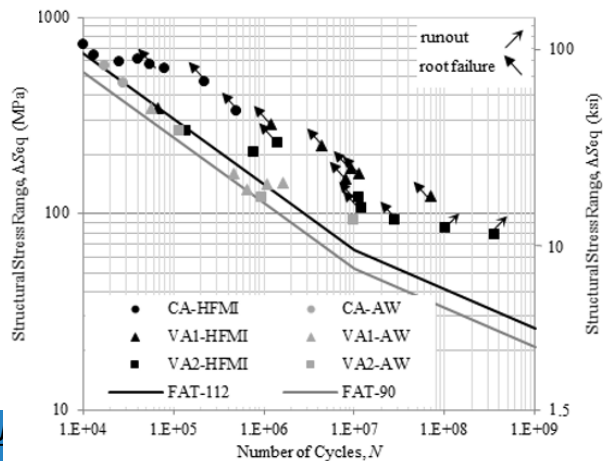
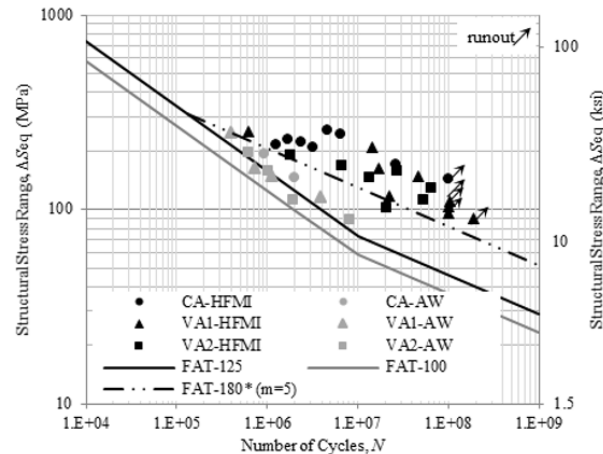
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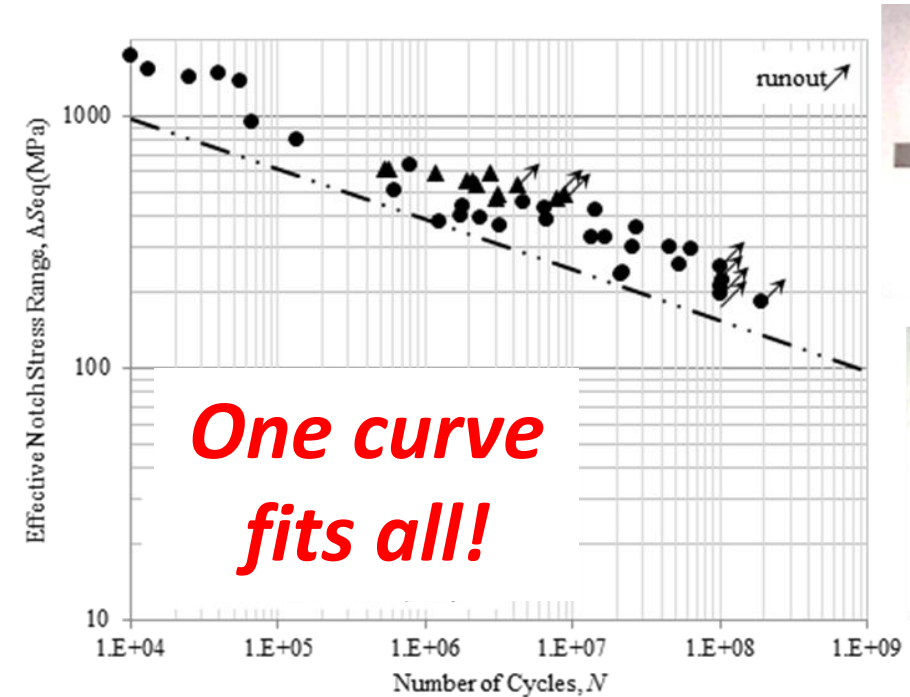
# Local Stress Approach

## Definitions for the local stress

### Structural Stress



### Effective Notch Stress



# Local Stress Approach

## A methodology to generate $S$ - $N$ curves

Material testing

Effective strain-life model

Residual stress state

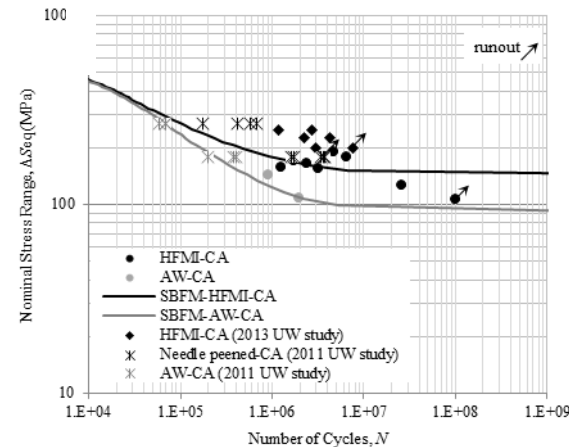
Geometry measurements

Elastic FE analysis

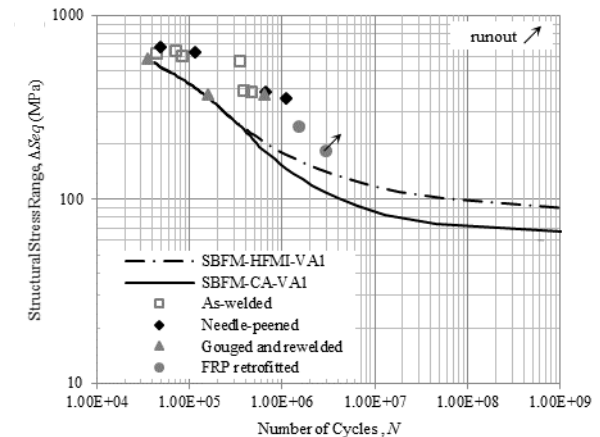
SBFM analysis

Local stress coefficient

Generate the local (e.g. structural) stress  $S$ - $N$  curve



$\times K_{st}$



Small-scale fatigue tests



# Publications

1. **K. Ghahremani**, S. Walbridge, & T. Topper. "A Methodology for Variable Amplitude Fatigue Analysis of Structural Welds Based on Fracture

2. R. Ranjani, S. Walbridge, & T. Topper. "Fatigue Behavior of Steel Welds Under Variable Amplitude Loading"

3. **K. Ghahremani**, S. Walbridge, & T. Topper. "Fatigue Loading of Steel Welds Under Variable Amplitude Loading"

4. **K. Ghahremani**, S. Walbridge, & T. Topper. "Impact Behavior of Steel Welds Under Variable Amplitude Loading"

5. M. Safa, S. Walbridge, & T. Topper. "Analysis of Steel Welds Under Variable Amplitude Loading"

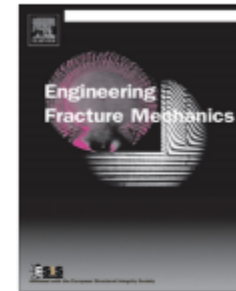
6. **K. Ghahremani**, S. Walbridge, & T. Topper. "Angles", "Fatigue Behavior of Steel Welds Under Variable Amplitude Loading"

7. R. Tehrani, S. Walbridge, & T. Topper. "of Ultrasound in the Detection of Fatigue Cracks in Steel Welds"

8. **K. Ghahremani**, S. Walbridge, & T. Topper. "Steel High Strength Steel Welds Under Variable Amplitude Loading"

9. **K. Ghahremani**, S. Walbridge, & T. Topper. "Amplitude Fatigue Analysis of Steel Welds Under Variable Amplitude Loading"

Engineering Fracture Mechanics 163 (2016) 348–365



**A methodology for variable amplitude fatigue analysis of HFMI treated welds based on fracture mechanics and small-scale experiments**

**Kasra Ghahremani\***, Scott Walbridge, Tim Topper

*Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Canada*



Variable Amplitude Fatigue

Variable Amplitude

Mechanical Properties 391-400.

Variable Amplitude

Using FRP

Performance

Retrofitted

Variable

# Questions...

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# Results – Design recommendations

## Effective notch stress

