

Introduction & Motivation

Mechanical strain relaxation (MSR) methods consist of 4 steps:

1. Choose geometry and analytical model
2. Cutting
3. Relaxation measurement
4. Solution of inverse problem

Two key assumptions

1. Uniform stress assumption
2. Purely elastic relaxation assumption

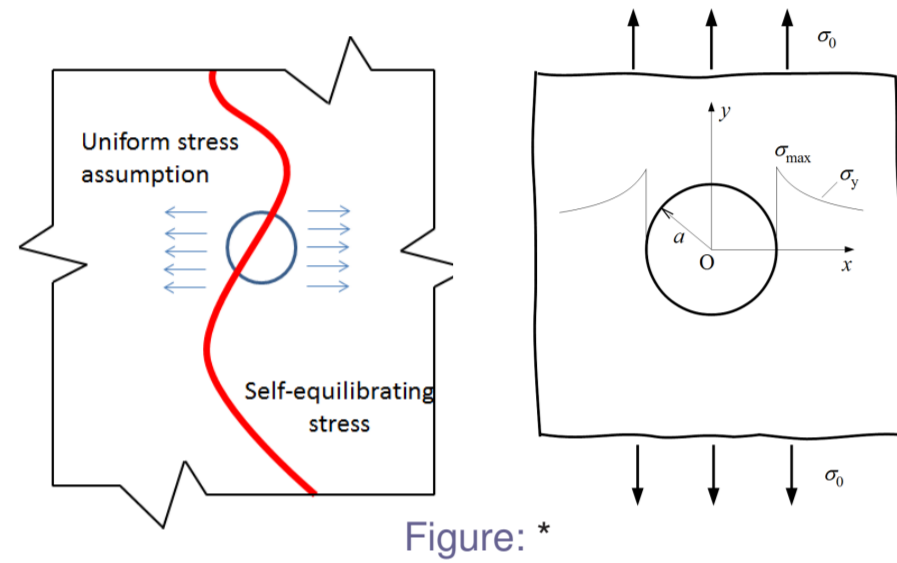
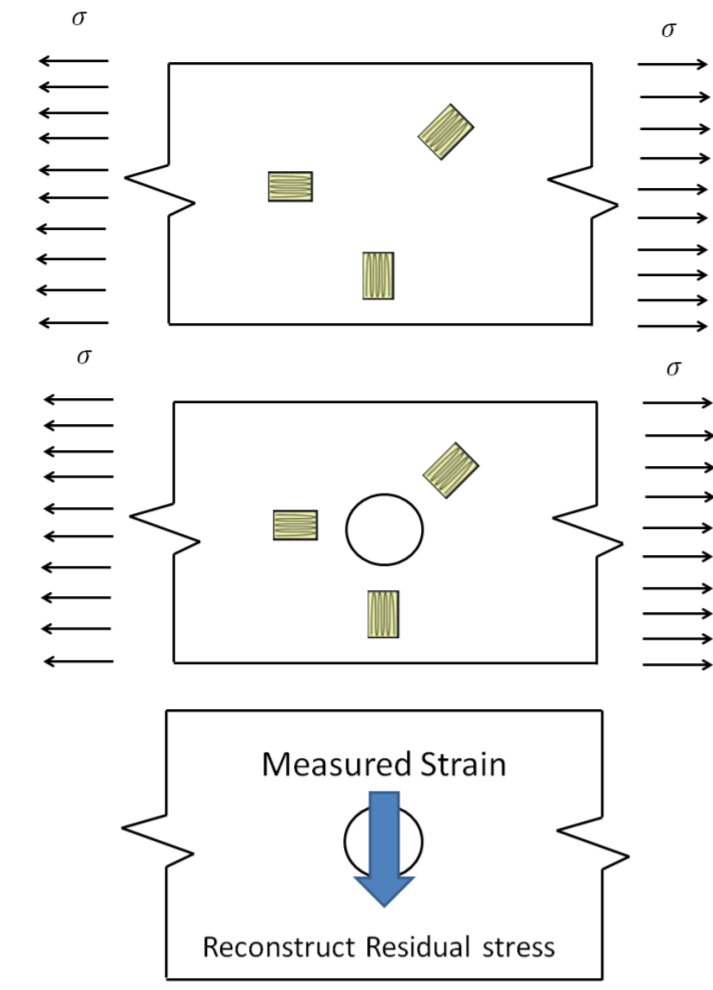


Figure: \*

Hole drilling case of high gradient &  $3\sigma$  at tip

In many practical applications these assumptions are known not to be true & cause experimental error !!



Assumptions are invalid when

- the gradient of stress field is high within the gauge
- the magnitude of the stress is close to the yield

Experiments: 4-point bending + DIC

4-point bending & relaxation

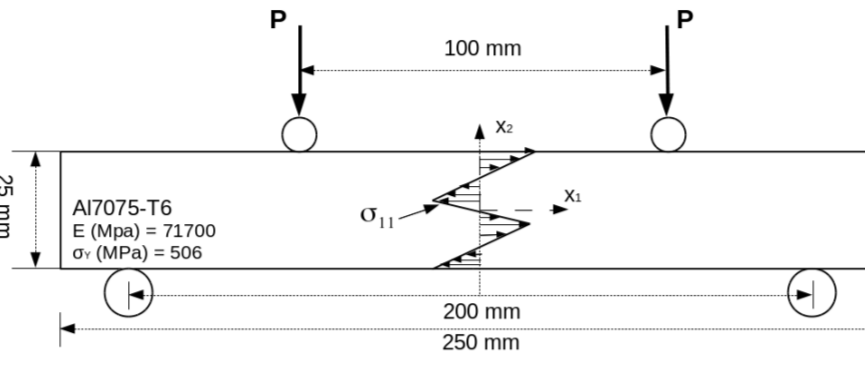


Figure: \*

Schematic diagram of 4pb

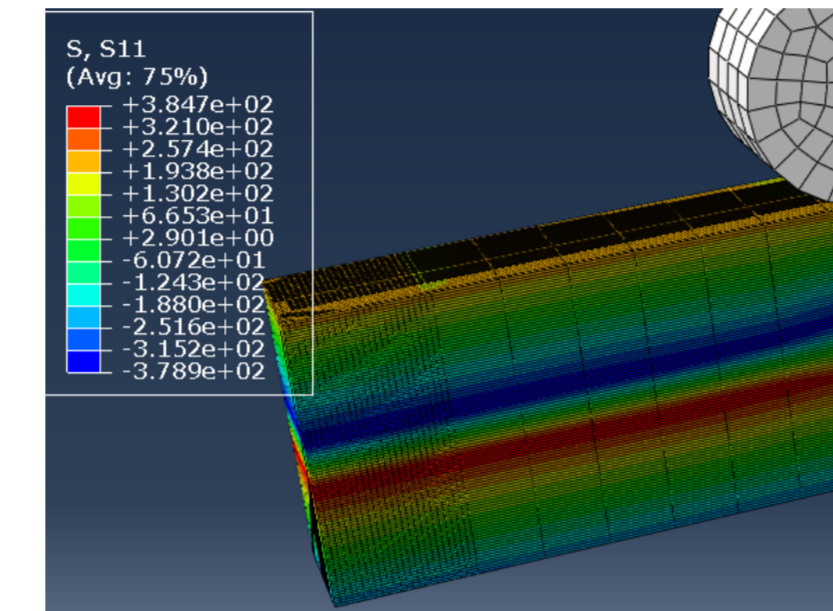


Figure: \*

$\sigma_{11}$  distribution from 4pb modelling

Optical system and DIC result

- 7.6  $\mu\text{m}/\text{pixel}$  spar. res.
- 10.6  $\times$  8mm FoV
- 175 mm working distance.
- P180 sandpaper & Ring right
- 10bit CCD with a 1392  $\times$  1040
- 25 by 25 subset size

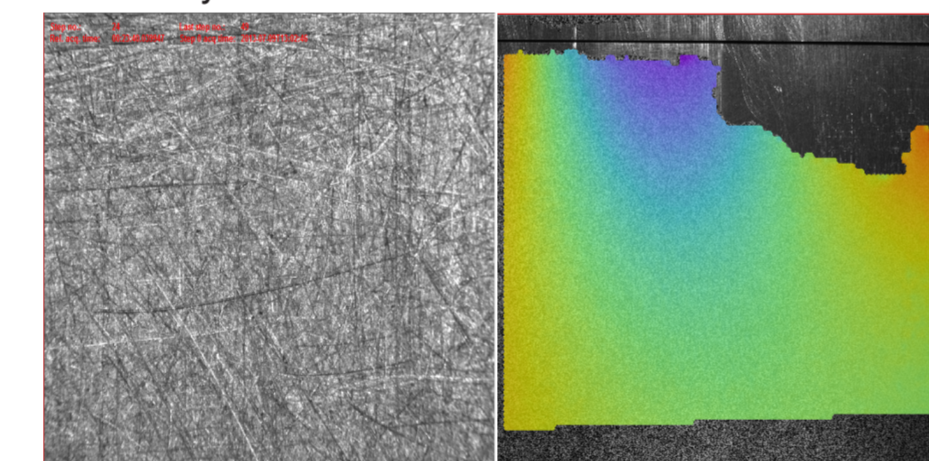


Figure: \*  
Scratch Pattern & Damaged pattern

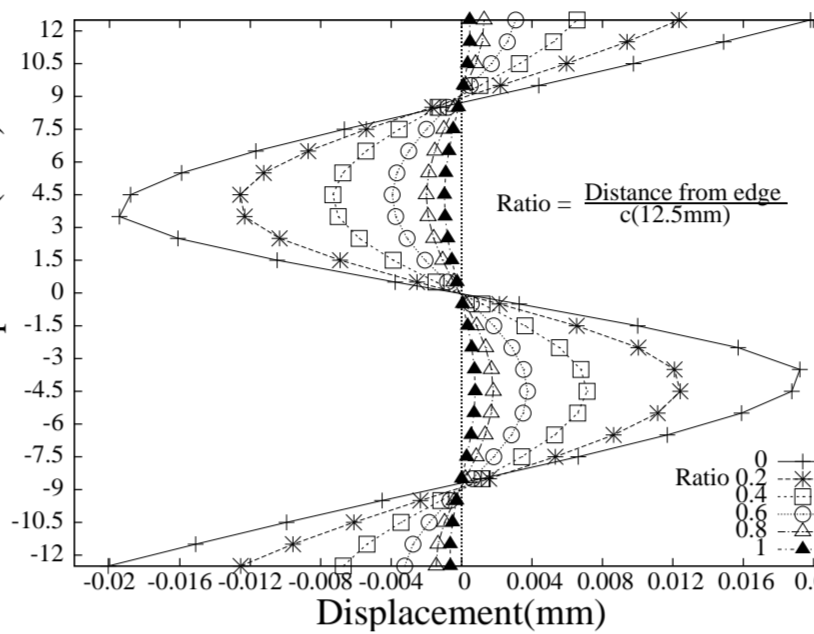


Figure: \*  
Relaxation analysis

- 25  $\times$  25 mm<sup>2</sup> bar 9 mm disp. P = 53.05kN.
- $u_{max} \approx 21 \mu\text{m}$
- Decays very quickly! Collect the data as close to the cut as possible.

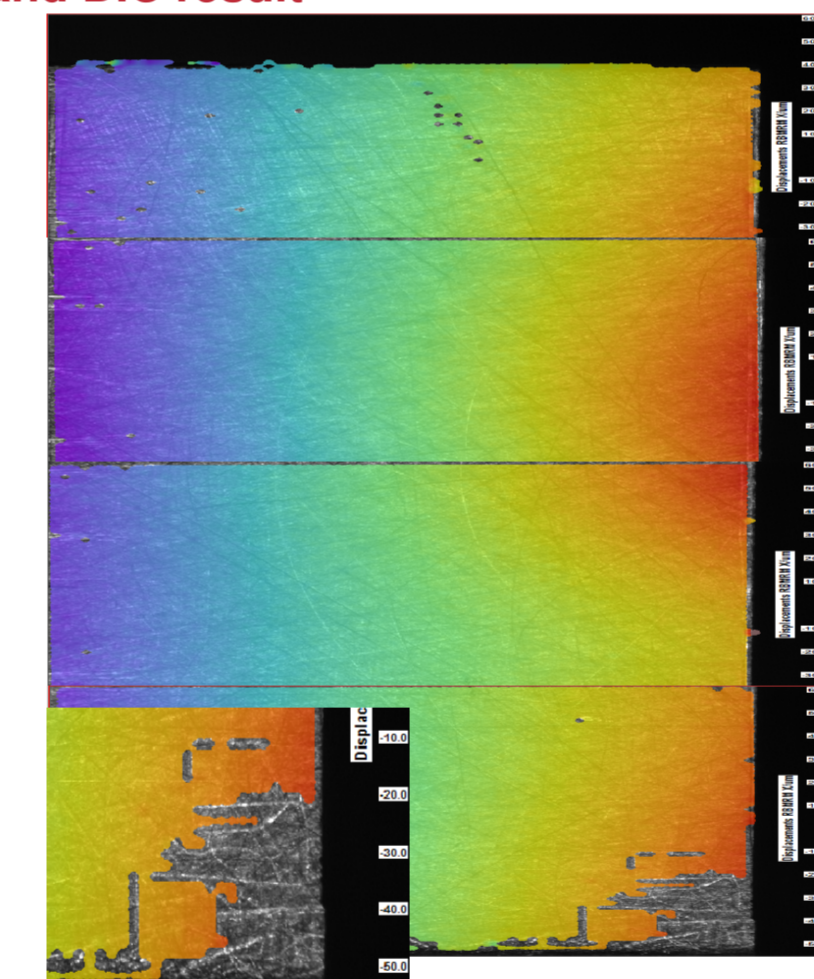
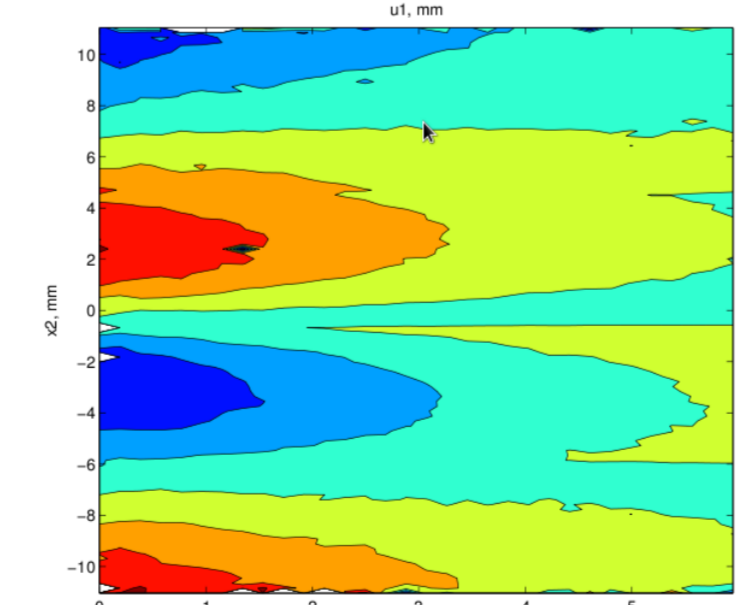
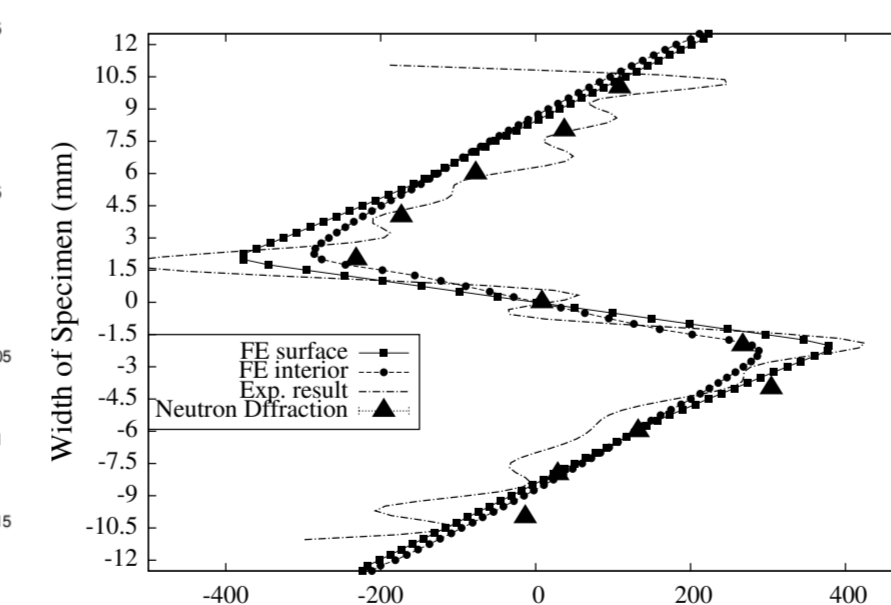


Figure: \*

Reconstructed residual stress



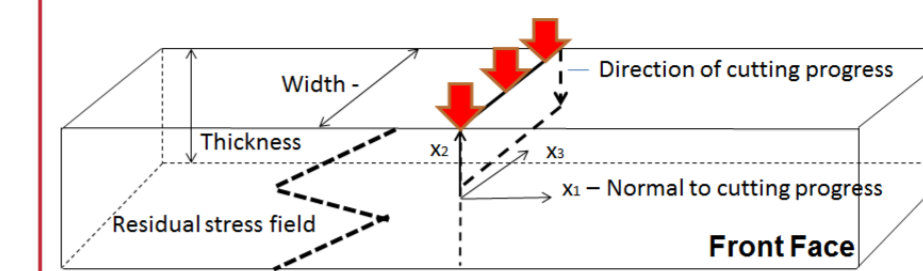
(a) Displacement field of  $u_1$



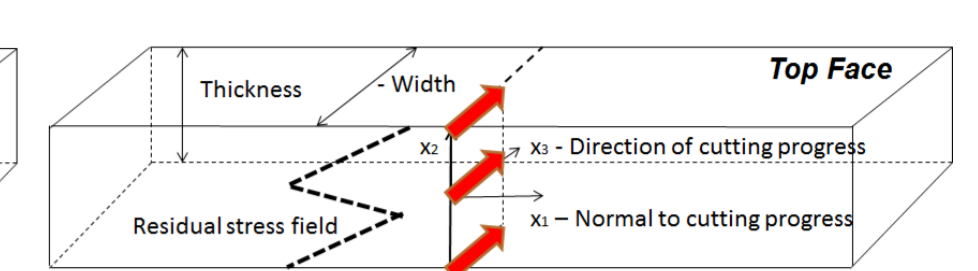
(b) Reconstructed residual stress field

- Pattern preservation is essential.
- High mag = Many images  $\rightarrow$  stitching & Complex experiment
- Out-of-plane motion is unavoidable
- Surface measurement  $\rightarrow$  plane stress condition
- Challenge of getting better accuracy of measured disp.

Plastic flow on cutting



(a) Conventional slitting method

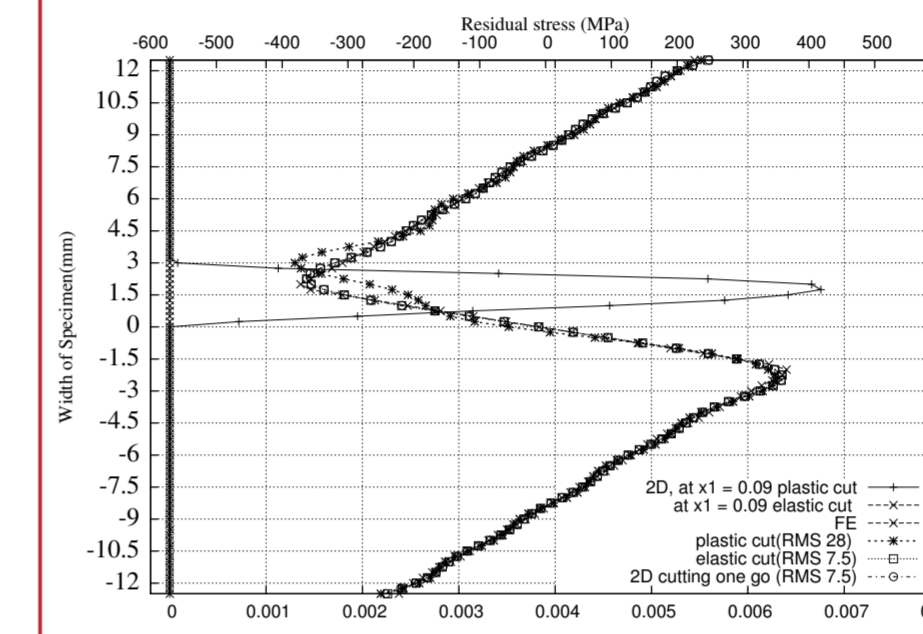


(b) Proposed cutting method

Cut from top

The stress along the cutting edge is constant.

Stress redistribution

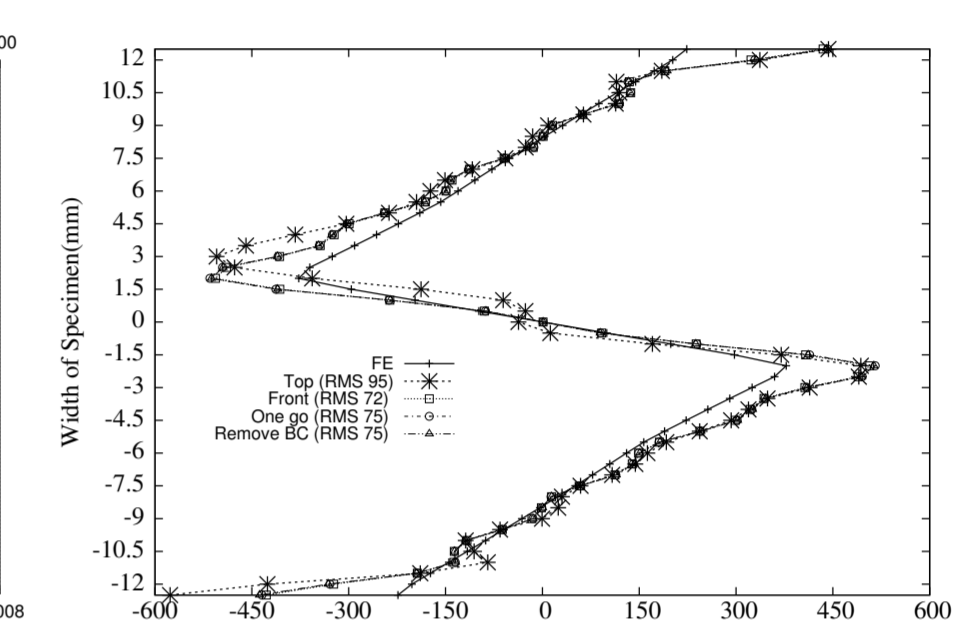


(a) 2D reconstructed stress fields

Cut from front

The stress along the cutting edge is non-uniform, self-equilibrated.

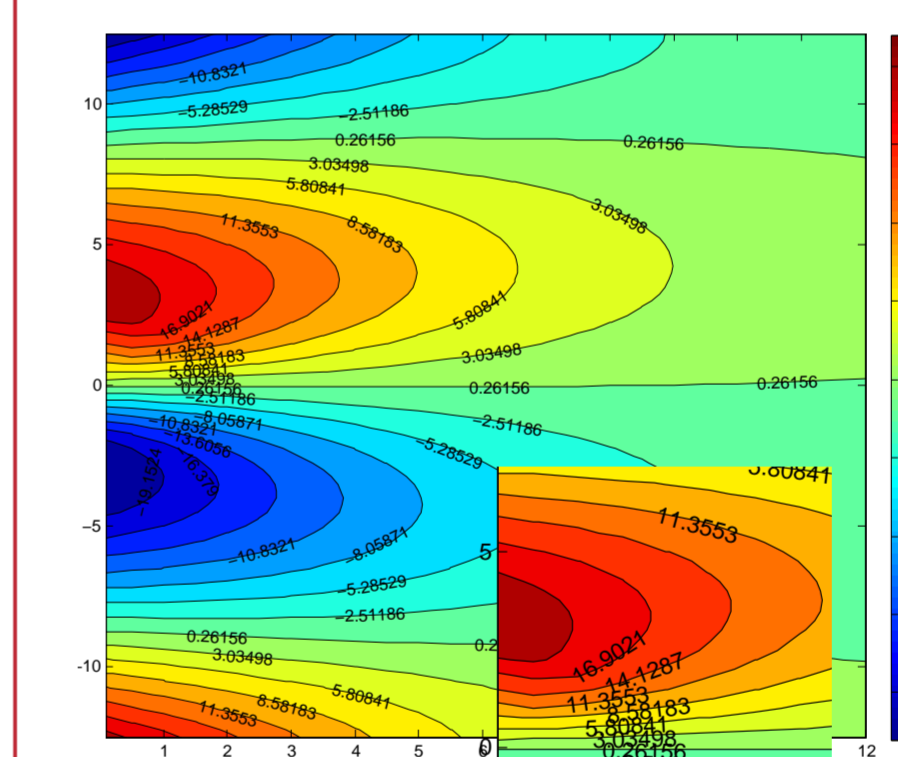
No stress redistribution



(b) 3D reconstructed stress fields

Plastic flow is substantial in the region of residual stress peak

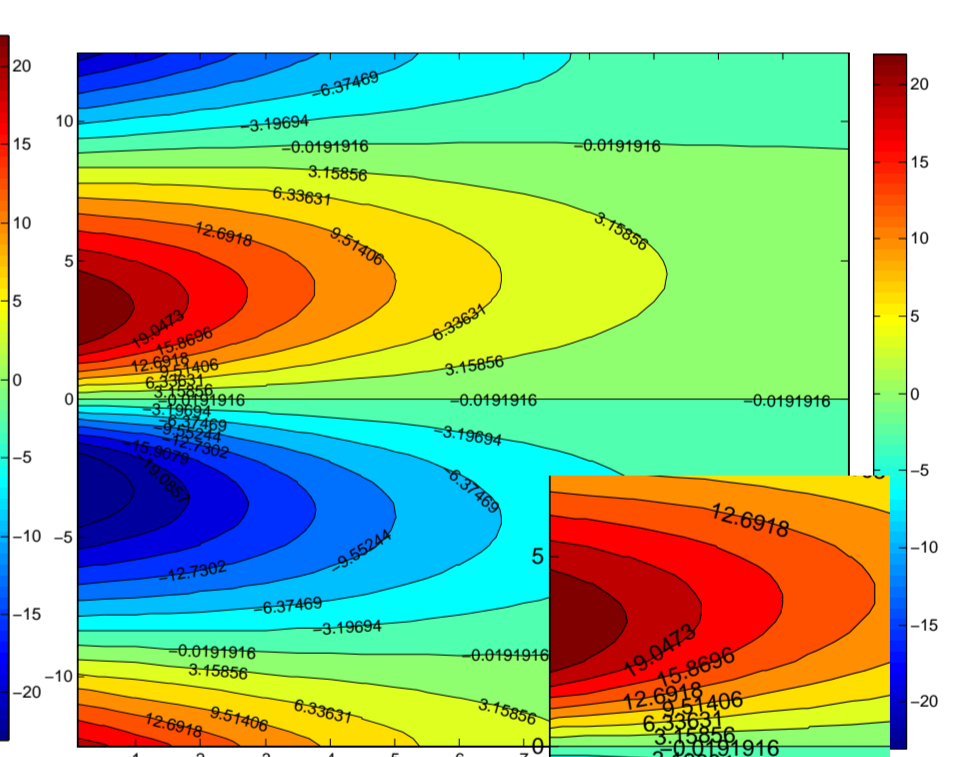
No plastic flow on the front cutting



(a) 2D  $u_1$  disp. fields from top cut

Front cut still disagrees with FE

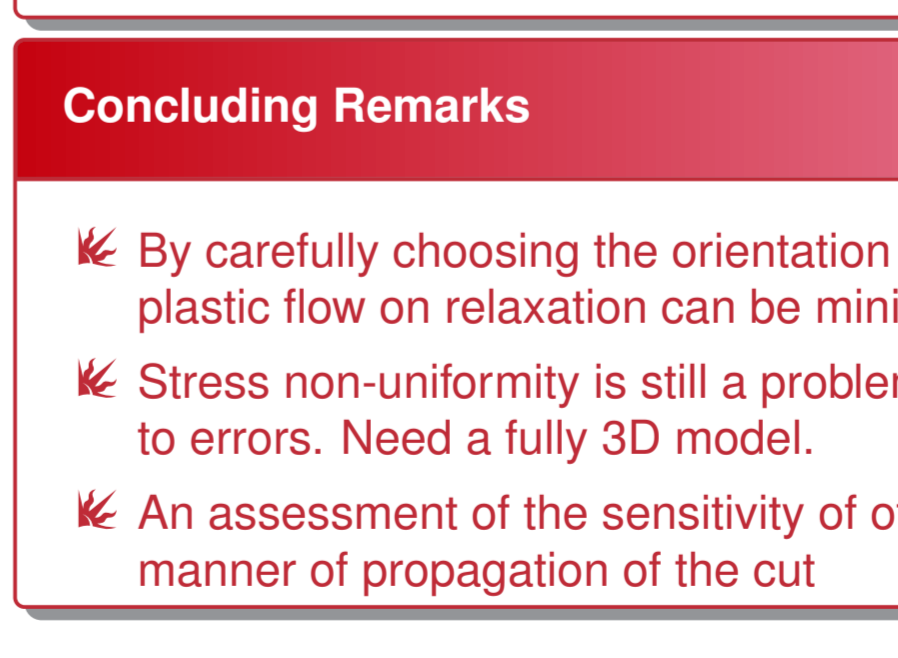
Top cut - significant discrepancy in the peak



(b) 3D  $u_1$  disp. fields from front cut

Plastic flow distorts disp. field

Leading to discrepancy in stress field in the peak



No distortion, but 3D peak higher than 2D

Mismatch between 2D analytical model and 3D real exp.

Concluding Remarks

- By carefully choosing the orientation and the direction of the propagation of the cut, plastic flow on relaxation can be minimised.
- Stress non-uniformity is still a problem. Using 2D model for a 3D experiment leads to errors. Need a fully 3D model.
- An assessment of the sensitivity of other MSR methods to the direction and the manner of propagation of the cut