

Great Designs in

# STEEL



## Dynamic Considerations in Prediction of Fracture of Ultra High-Strength Steel During Crash

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UNIVERSITY OF  
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**HONDA**  
The Power of Dreams

**MAGNA**

  
ArcelorMittal

- High strain rate response of automotive alloys (tensile + shear characterization):
  - DP980 (SMDI), DP600
  - Fully quenched Usibor® 1500-AS, Ductibor® 500-AS
- Effect of strain rate on fracture?
  - Shear conditions (zero triaxiality)
  - Positive triaxiality conditions
- Weld failure characterization – “*spot weld groups*”



Issue today lies in the majority of fracture characterization for crash CAE being done at quasi-static rates...

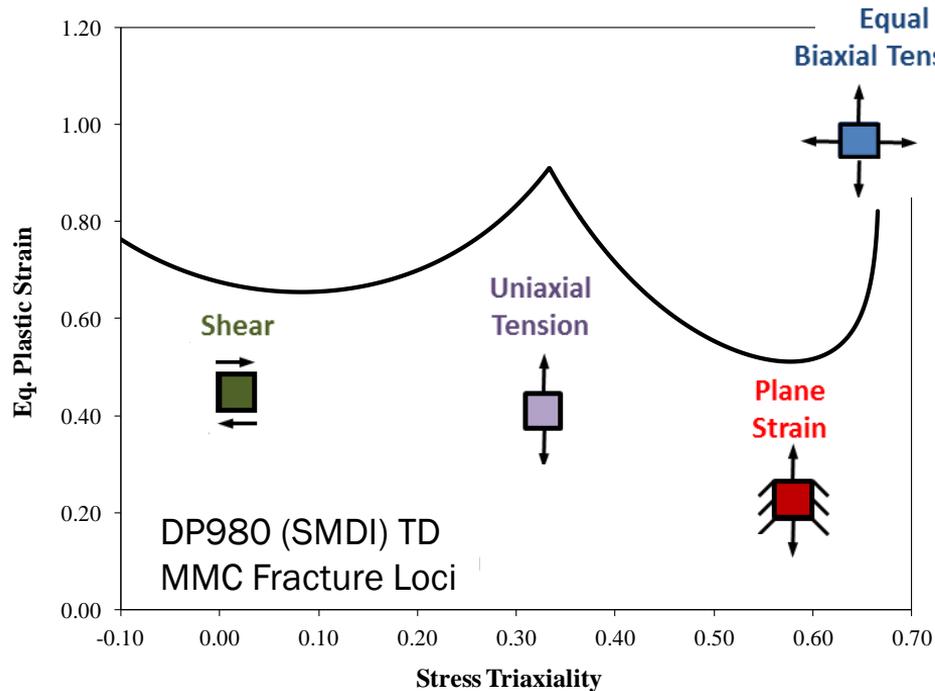
Potential sources of rate effects:

- Elevated strain rates
- Temperature increase through adiabatic heating (~90% of plastic work converted to heat) \*
- Inertial effects

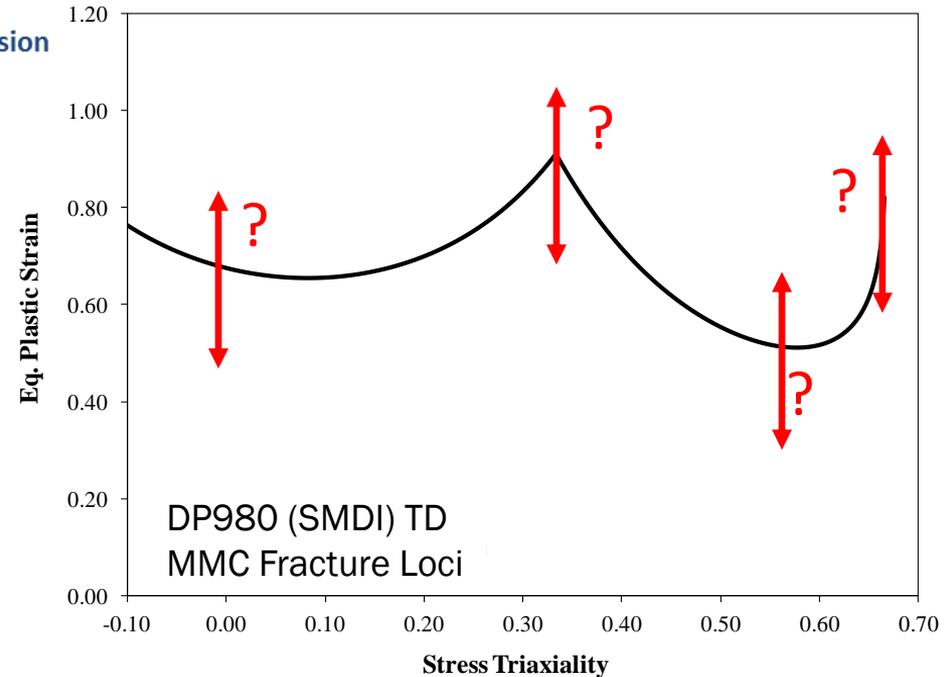
*\* Temperature increase also important for constitutive behaviour and not commonly considered in today's crash CAE...*

# Dynamic Fracture

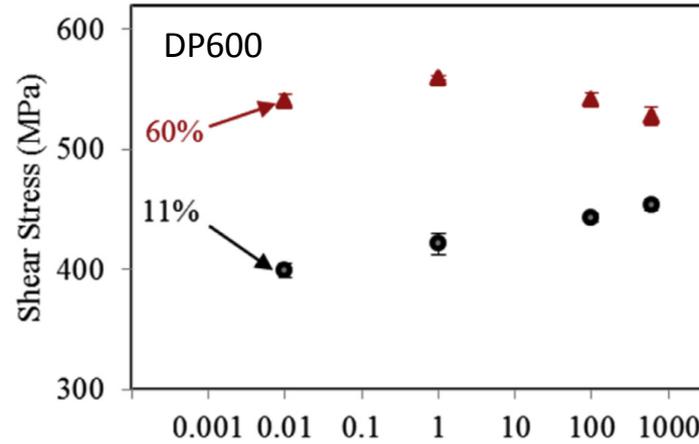
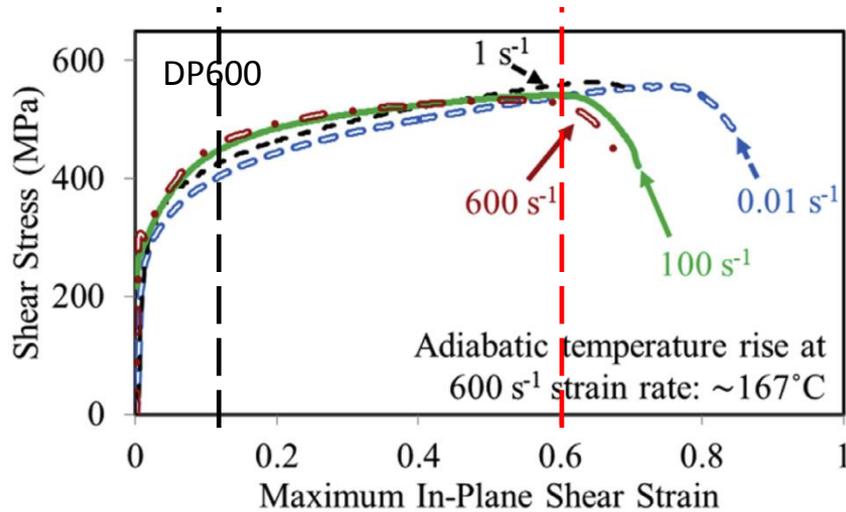
## Quasi-static loading



## Effect of dynamic loading on failure strain?



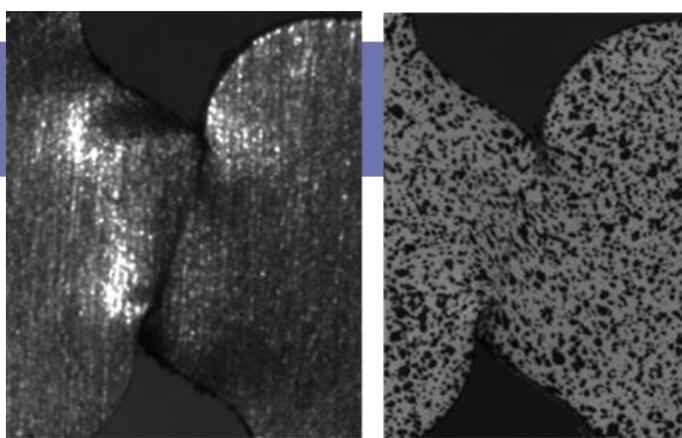
# Rate Effects – Shear (DP600)



- Rate sensitivity is initially positive, but becomes negative at large strains
- Promotes earlier localization under shear loading\*

\*Rahmaan, T., Abedini, A., Butcher, C., Pathak, N., Worswick, M.J., *International Journal of Impact Engineering*, **108**, 303-321, 2017.

# Onset of Shear Localization



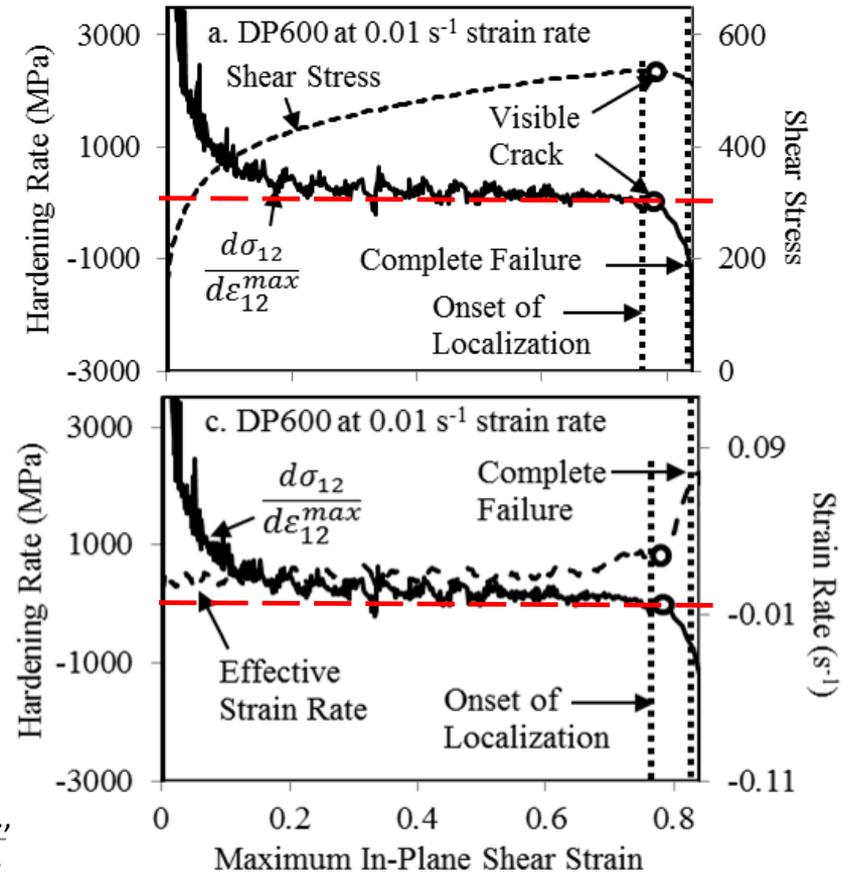
After complete failure  
Specimen without speckle

After complete failure  
Specimen with speckle

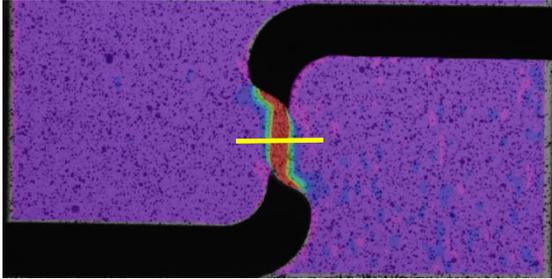
- Onset of shear cracking is determined as the point where the hardening rate is exhausted<sup>1</sup>
- Repeatable and eliminates the need to detect fracture based on visible cracking<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Zener and Hollomon, Journal of Applied Physics, **15**, 22-32, 1944.

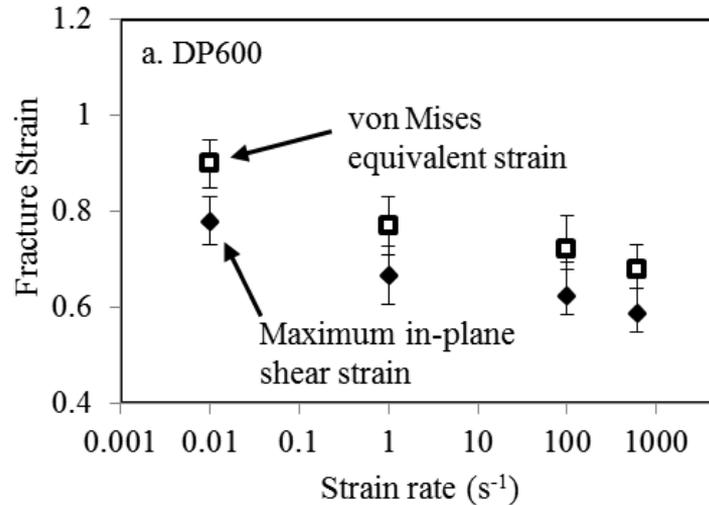
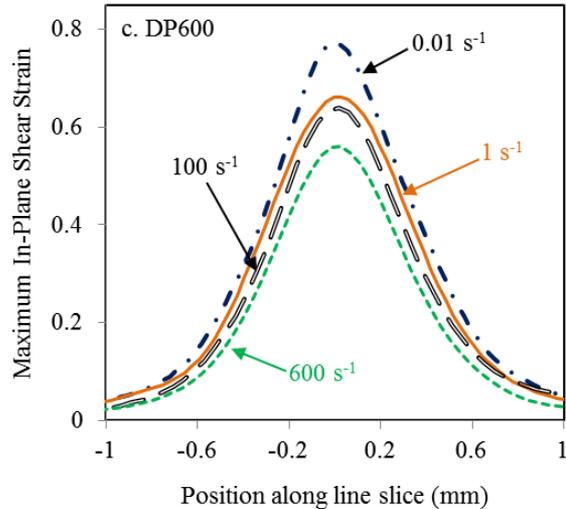
<sup>2</sup>Rahmaan, T., Abedini, A., Butcher, C., Pathak, N., Worswick, M.J., *International Journal of Impact Engineering*, **108**, 303-321, 2017.



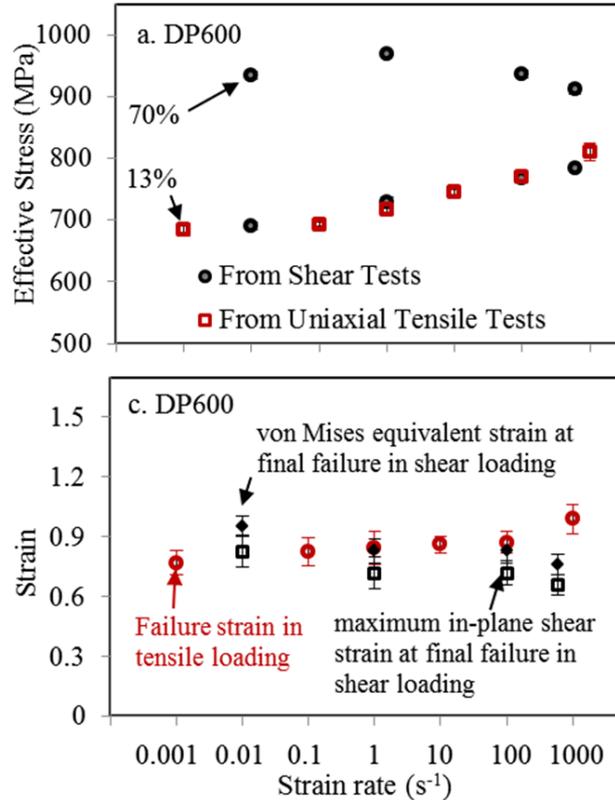
# Effect of strain rate on failure strain



Earlier localization at higher strain rates due to thermal instability promotes lower fracture strain (DIC measurements)



# Failure in Uniaxial Tension versus Shear – Rate Effect



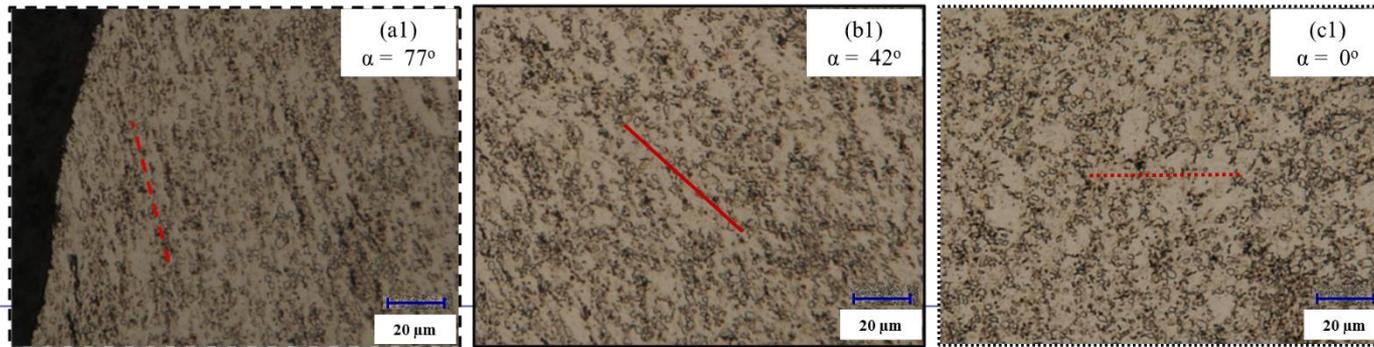
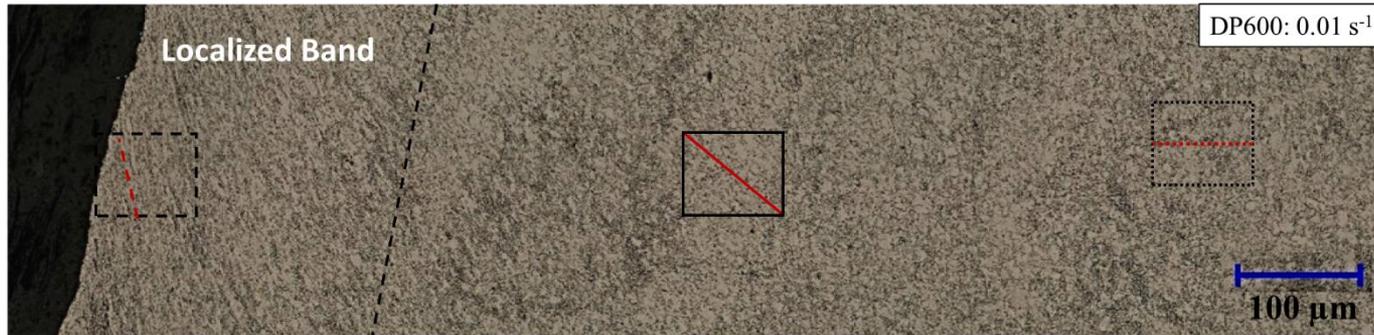
In tension, positive rate sensitivity promotes higher failure strains as strain rate increases.

In shear, thermal localization reduces failure strain (as measured using DIC) with increasing strain rate.

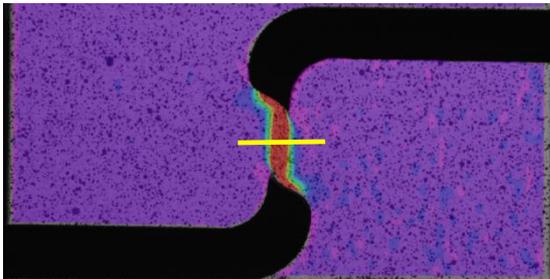
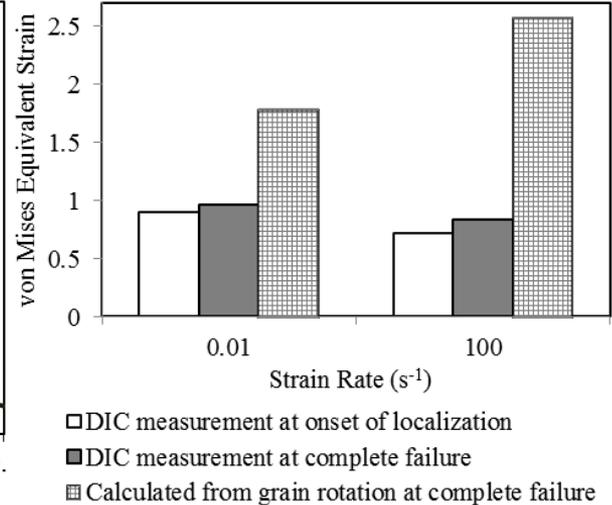
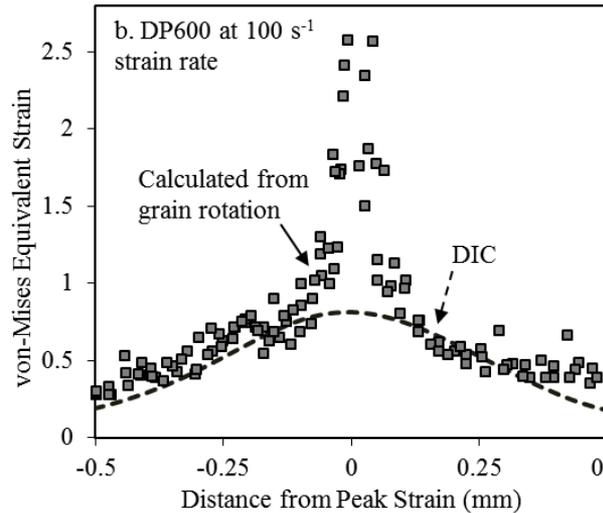
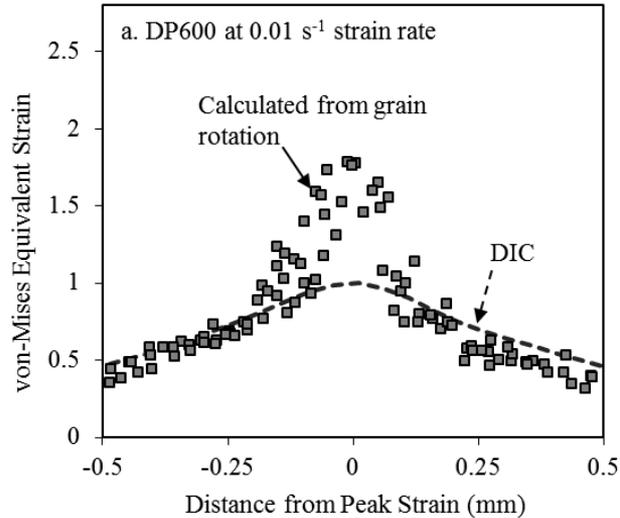
# Local Strains at Failure

- At microstructural level, grain rotation can be used to estimate the local shear strains within the shear band (gives shear angle,  $\alpha$ )

$$\varepsilon_{eq}^{VM} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \varepsilon_1 = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \sinh^{-1}(\gamma/2) \quad \gamma = \tan(\alpha)$$

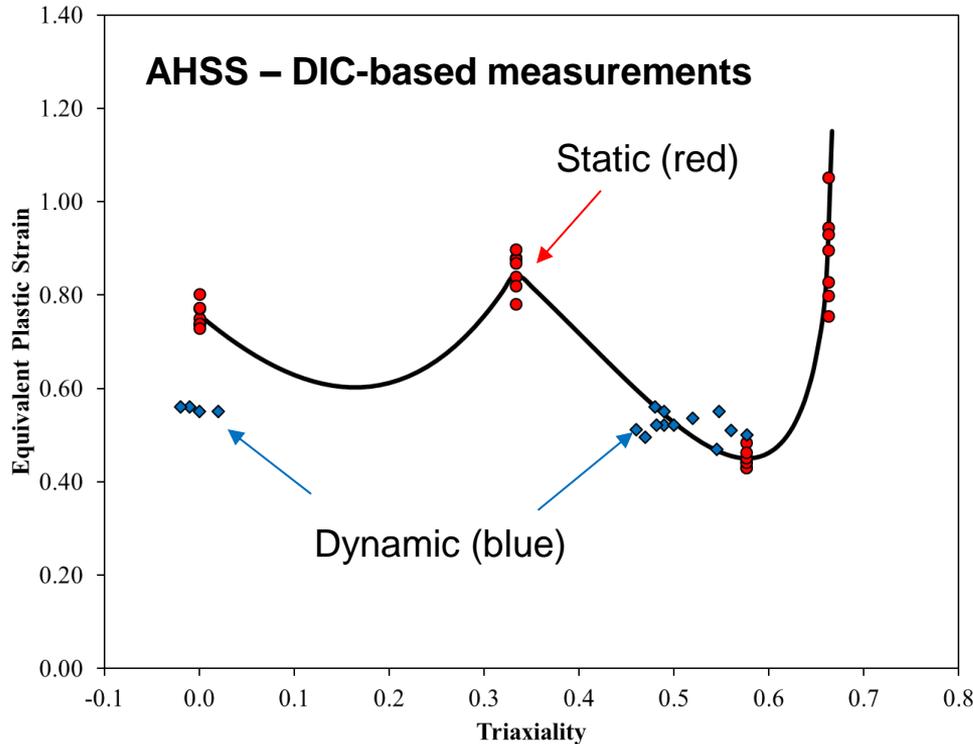


# Local Strains at Failure



Sharper strain localization and higher peak strains using the grain-level strain measurement as compared to DIC measurements.

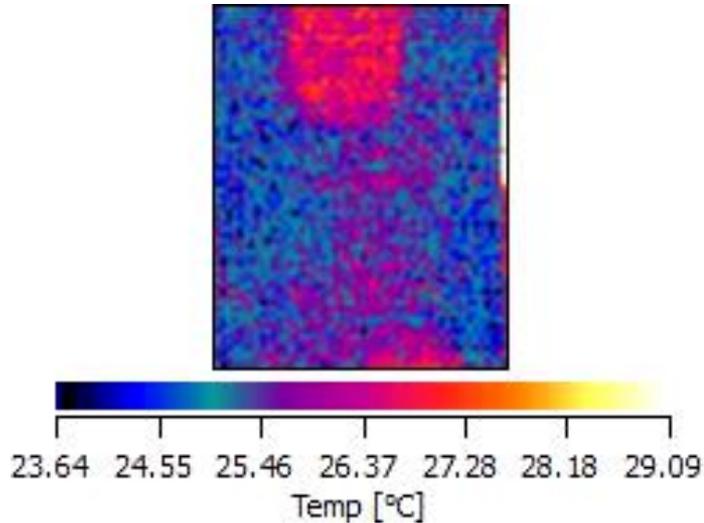
# Implications for crash CAE



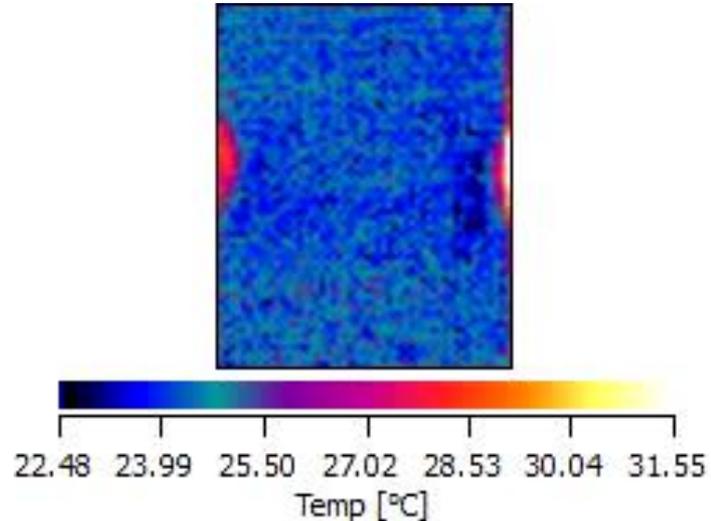
- Given the coarse meshes necessitated in vehicle CAE, failure strains should be measured using a length scale on the order of the element size
- DIC virtual strain gauge length: 0.3 mm) versus 3-5 mm element size
- For these materials, shear strain to failure **input to FEA decreases** with strain rate!
- Less impact on positive triaxiality regime, however, confounding results exist in the literature

# High Speed Thermography

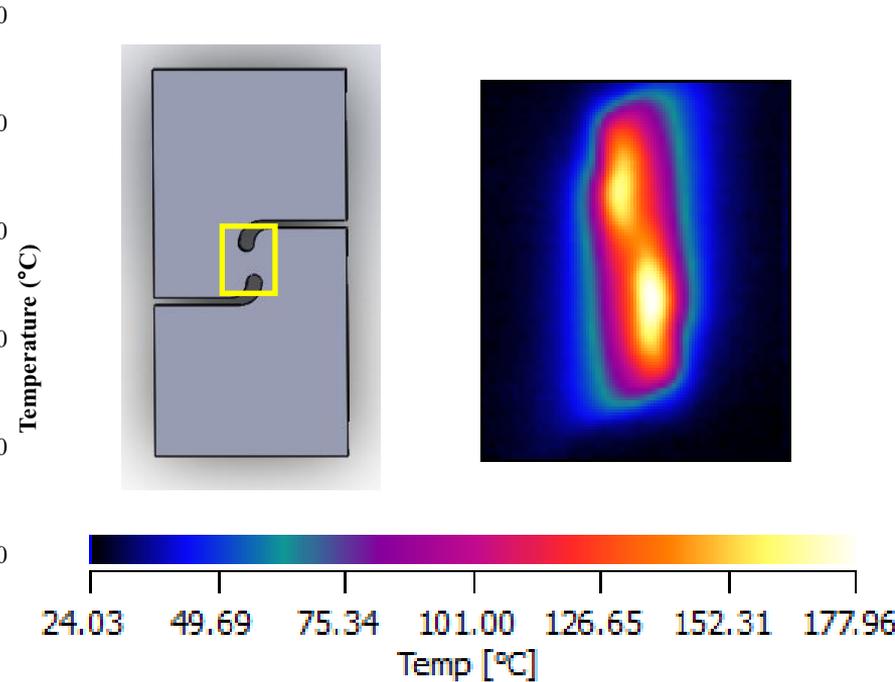
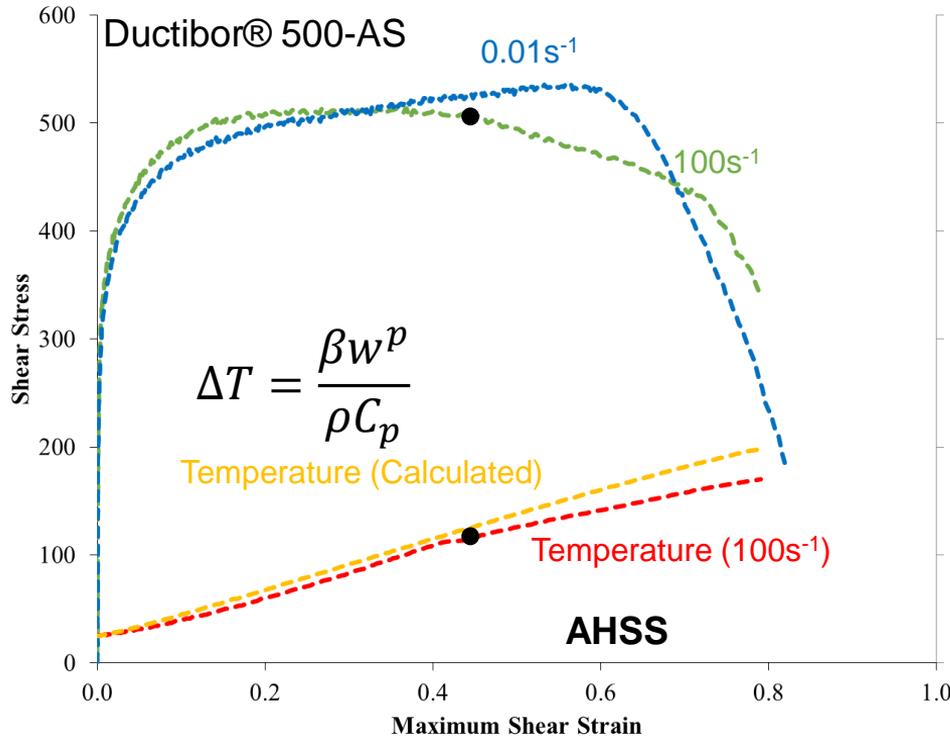
Ductibor® 500-AS: Shear  
( $T_{\text{peak}} \sim 234 \text{ C}$ )



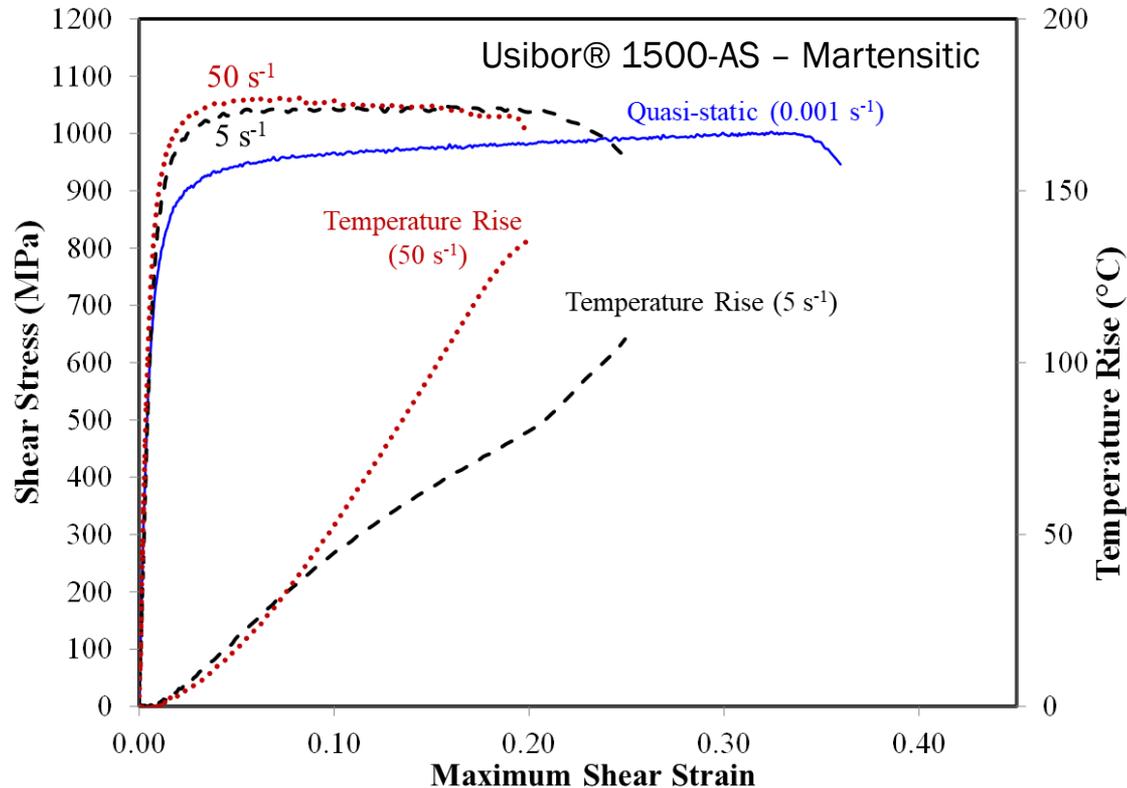
Ductibor® 500-AS: Notched Tension  
( $T_{\text{peak}} \sim 230 \text{ C}$ )



# Thermal Softening in Shear (Ductibor® 500-AS)

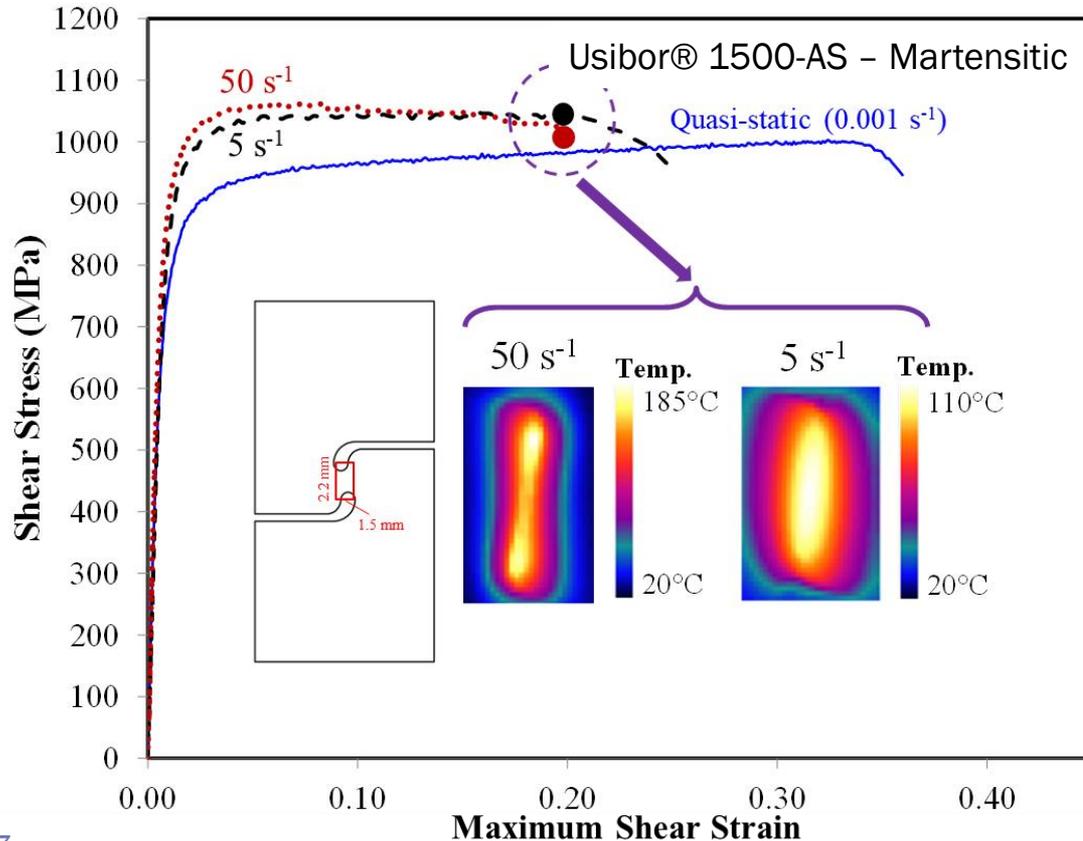


# Shear Response: Martensitic Condition



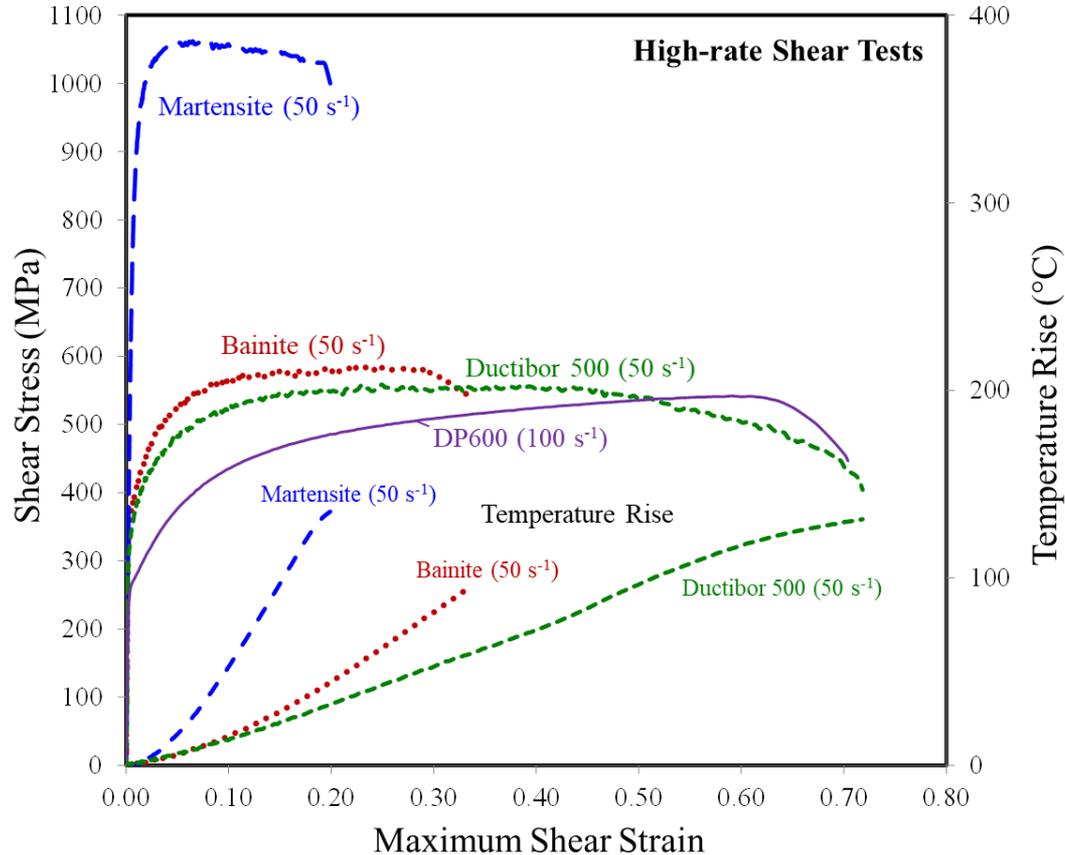
- Fully-quenched  
Usibor® 1500-AS  
condition – primarily  
martensitic  
Microstructure
- Lower strains to failure
  - Higher heat generation rates

# Shear Response: Martensitic Condition



Thermal localization at lower strains due to higher internal work rate and low work hardening rate

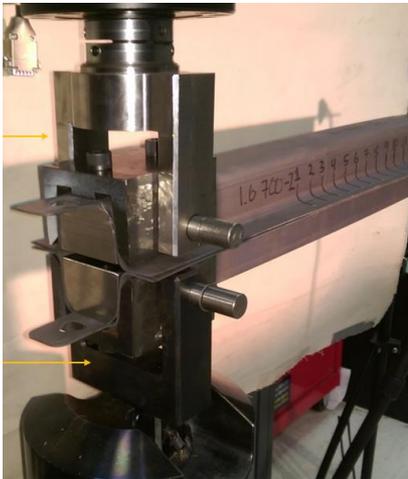
# Effect of strength on onset of localization



- Earlier localization, narrower thermal field for the higher strength conditions
- Thermal localization enhanced for higher strength alloys
- The strong work hardening of the DP600 is clearly beneficial

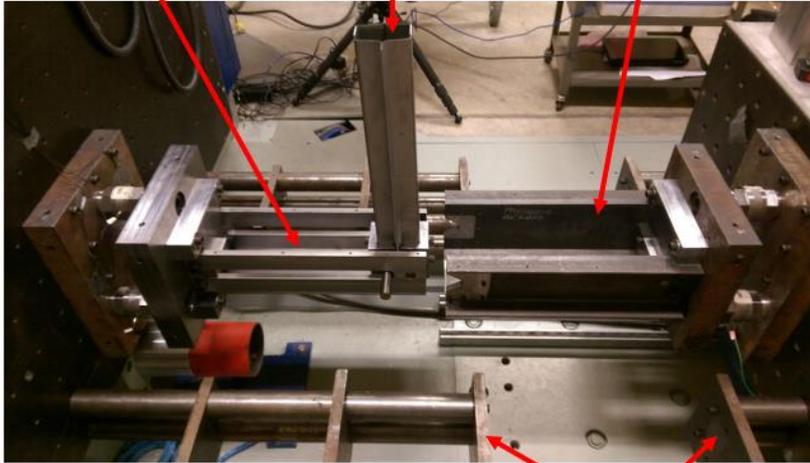
# Characterization of failure in spot weld groups

- Interaction between nugget, HAZ and parent metal strength (single weld)
- Test method for weld group testing (Mode I Caiman)



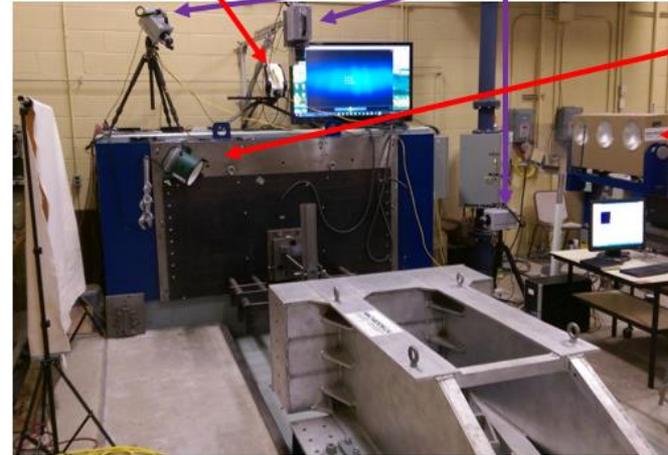
# MODE I DYNAMIC (1.6MM)

Wall Assembly      Specimen      Fork Assembly



Honeycomb supports

Thermal Camera      High Speed Cameras



LED Light

Mercury Light

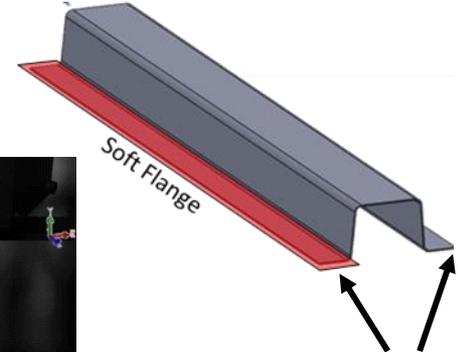
Fully Martensitic

# DYNAMIC SIDE VIEW

1.6mm 25°C

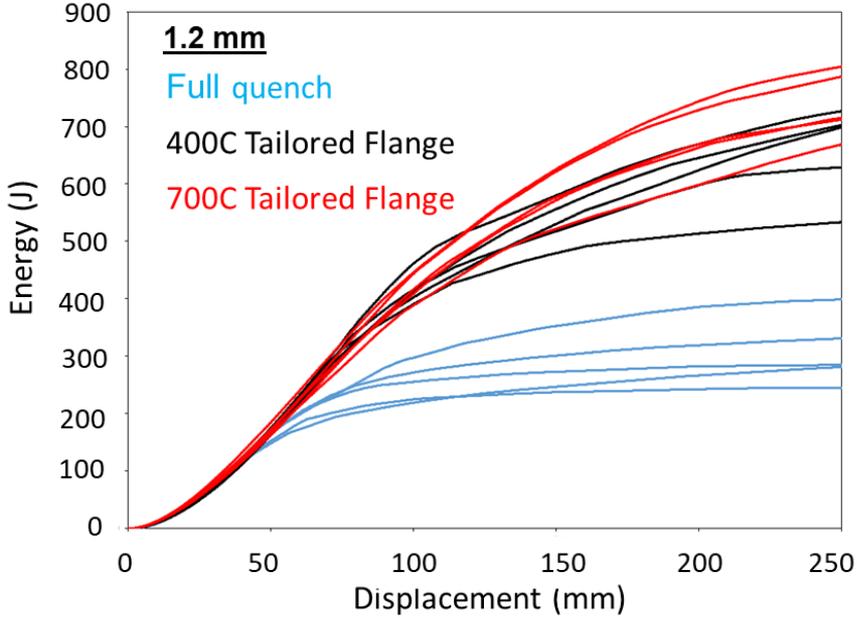
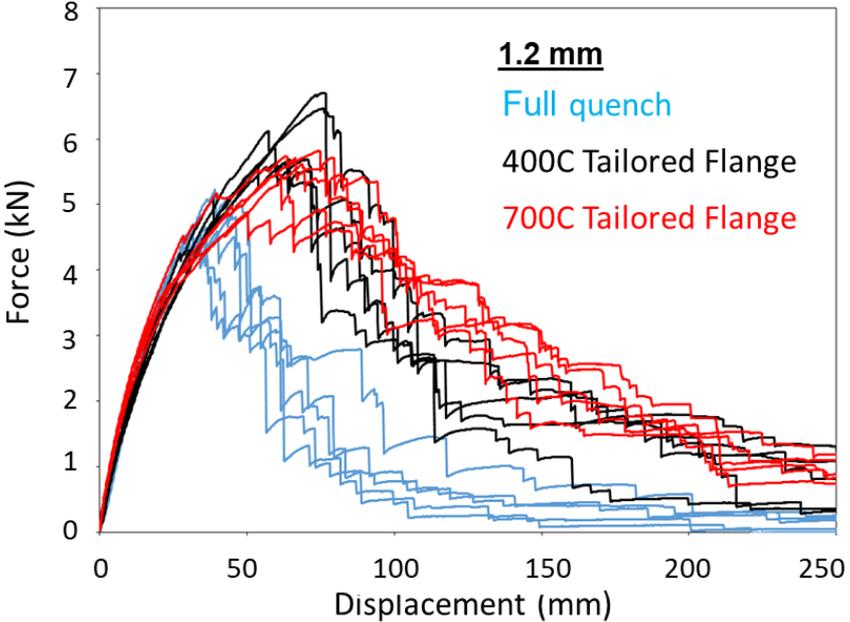


1.6mm 700°C



400 or 700 °C  
die temperature  
in flange  
regions

# Mode 1 Quasi-Static



# Mode 1 Dynamic

## Weld Failure Surface (1.6 mm)

Dynamic

Quasi-static

25°C

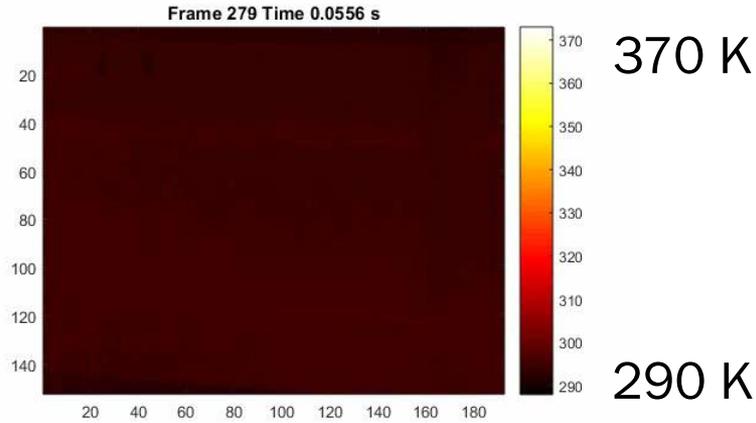


700°C

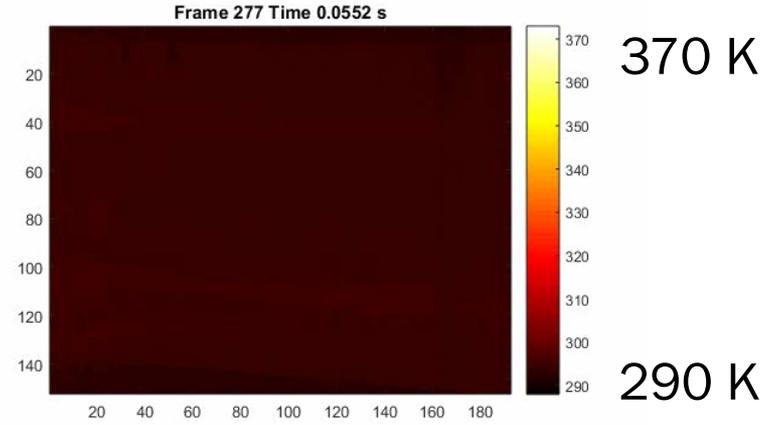


# DYNAMIC THERMOGRAPHY

1.6 mm, 25°C

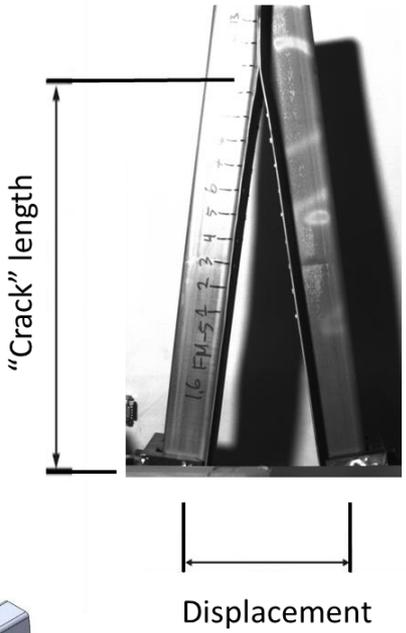
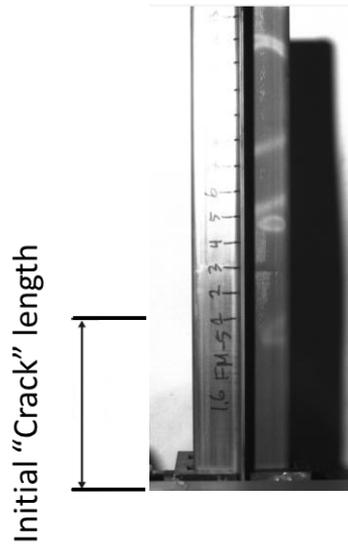
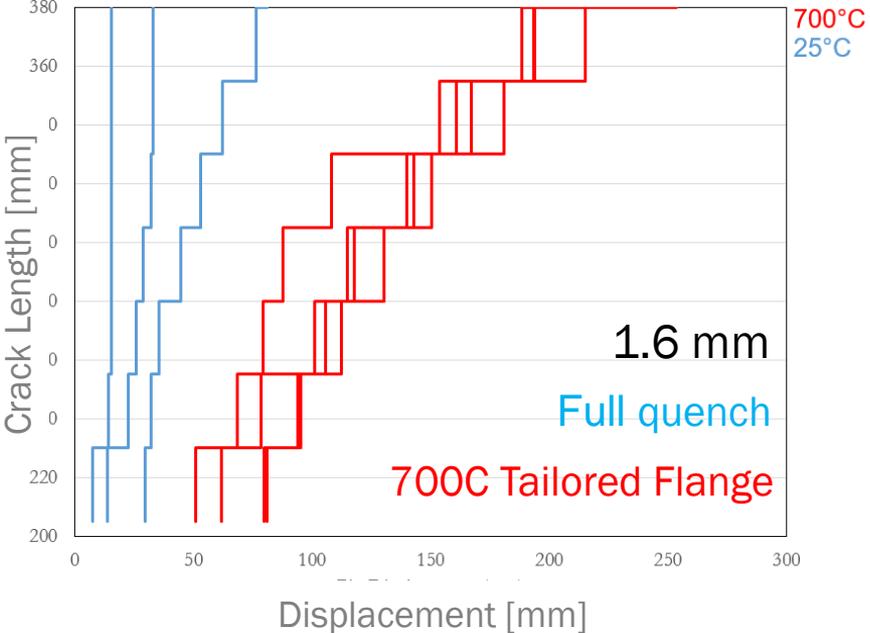


1.6 mm, 700°C

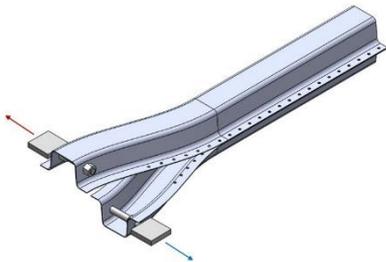


Softer flanges (high flange die temperature) contribute more towards energy dissipation

# Mode 1 Quasi-Static



- Key data for CAE validation
- Weld assessment tool for AHSS and UHSS
- Shear version of the "Caiman"



# Acknowledgements



## For More Information

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