

Modeling of Residual Stresses in a Butt-welded Joint with Experimental Validation

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Outline

- Structural Integrity: Role of Residual Stresses (RS)
- Residual Stress: Origin and Distortion Effect
- Welding Residual Stress Effect on Fatigue Life
- Problem Description : Modeling of RS in Butt-weld joint
- COMSOL Multiphysics Model Description: Thermal & Structural Mechanics
- Simulation Results & Experimental Validation
- Concluding Remarks

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Structural Integrity

– science & technology of margin between safety & disaster

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Key Aspects

- ❖ Structural Analysis
- ❖ Failure Analysis
- ❖ Creep Analysis
- ❖ Structural Monitoring & Instrumentation
- ❖ Software Development for Life Time Assessment
- ❖ Non destructive testing
- ❖ Fracture Mechanics
- ❖ Fatigue Analysis & Assessment
- ❖ Corrosion
- ❖ Welding Metallurgy
- ❖ **Residual Stress Analysis**

Residual Stress Analysis

Caused by Thermo-mechanical Processing of steel

- ❖ Mechanical factors – alter physical shape
 - Machining, Forging, Rolling, Drawing
- ❖ Thermal factors – induce temperature gradient
 - Welding, Casting, Quenching

Measurement Techniques :

- ❖ Destructive – Sectioning, Contour methods
- ❖ Semi-destructive – Hole Drilling method
- ❖ Non-destructive – X-ray diffraction, Neutron diffraction & Magnetic Noise method

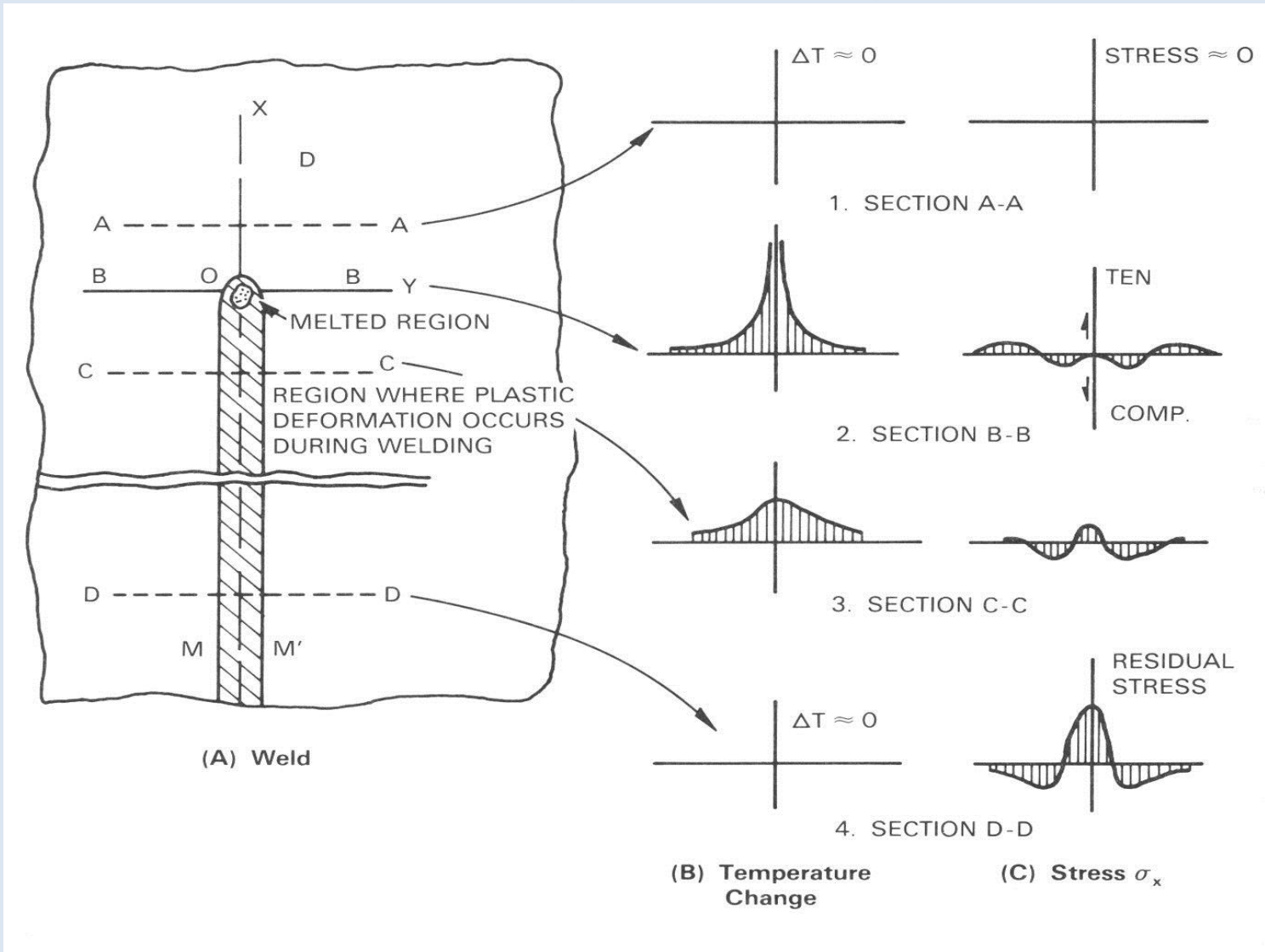
Role of Fracture Mechanics

- ❖ Linear Elastic Fracture Mechanics – Stress Intensity Factor (K), Crack tip plasticity, Modes of Fracture, Plane Strain Fracture Toughness
- ❖ Elastic-Plastic Fracture Mechanics – CTOD & J-integral
- ❖ **Fatigue Design /Life Assessment** – Initiation & Propagation
- ❖ Environment Assisted Cracking in metals – Stress corrosion, Hydrogen Embrittlement, Corrosion Fatigue
- ❖ Fracture Mechanisms - Brittle, Ductile, Cleavage, Trans-granular, Intergranular



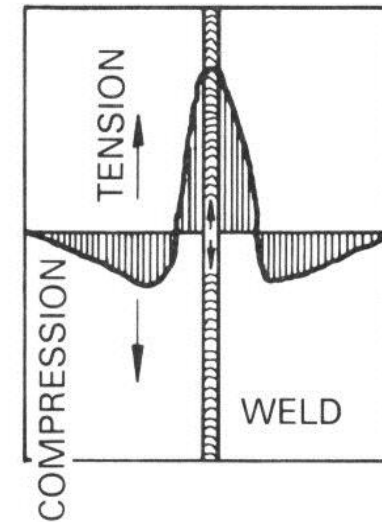
Residual Stress Evolution during Welding

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Residual Stress & Distortion in Welds

- *Heat flows from the weld area and causing the joint area to expand*
- *Thermal expansion and contraction due to welding can leave behind permanent stress and distortion*
- *Higher heat input welds are more prone to residual stress and distortion*
- *Increased restraint can decrease distortion but can result in higher residual stress*



(B) Residual Stresses Due to Welding

Fatigue Life Assessment (FLA) Methodology of Structures (based on Fracture Mechanics)

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Driving Force

Stress Intensity Range:

$$\Delta K = Y \Delta \sigma \sqrt{\pi a}$$

Where,

$$\Delta \sigma = \sigma_{\max} - \sigma_{\min}$$

Y = structural geometric correction factor (dimensionless); determined by FEA

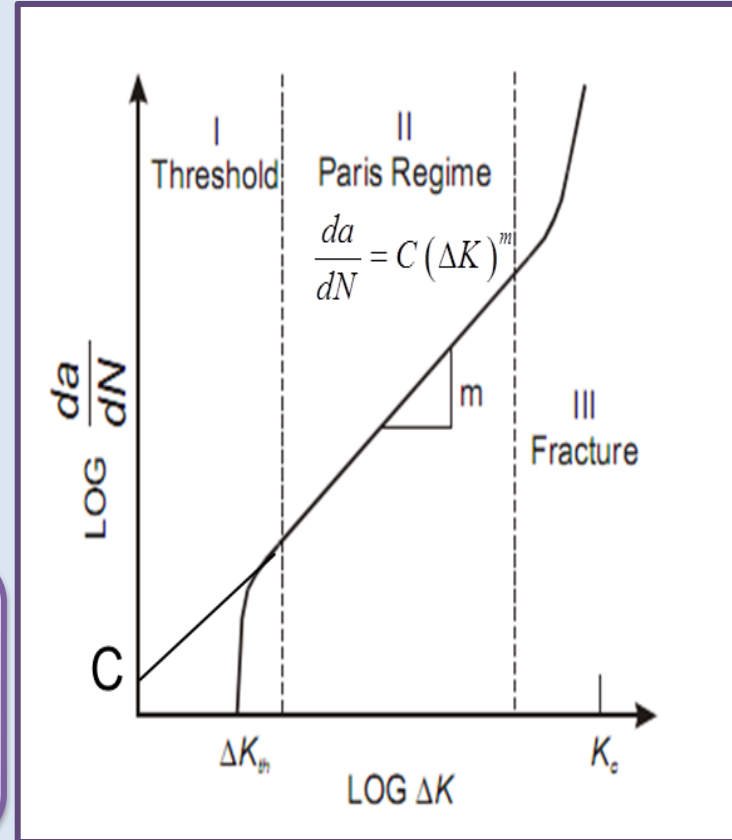
a = **damage variable** (crack length)

Response Variable

Incremental Damage per cycle for stable FCP regime II

i.e. **Paris Regime:**

$$\frac{da}{dN} = C (\Delta K)^m$$



Predicted Fatigue Life of Structure

Predicted Life of Naval structure i.e. **number of corrosion fatigue cycles** (from initial damage, a_i to critical damage, a_{CR}):

$$N = \int dN = \int \frac{da}{C (\Delta K)^m} = \int_{a_i}^{a_{CR}} \frac{da}{C Y^m \Delta \sigma^m (\pi a)^{m/2}}$$



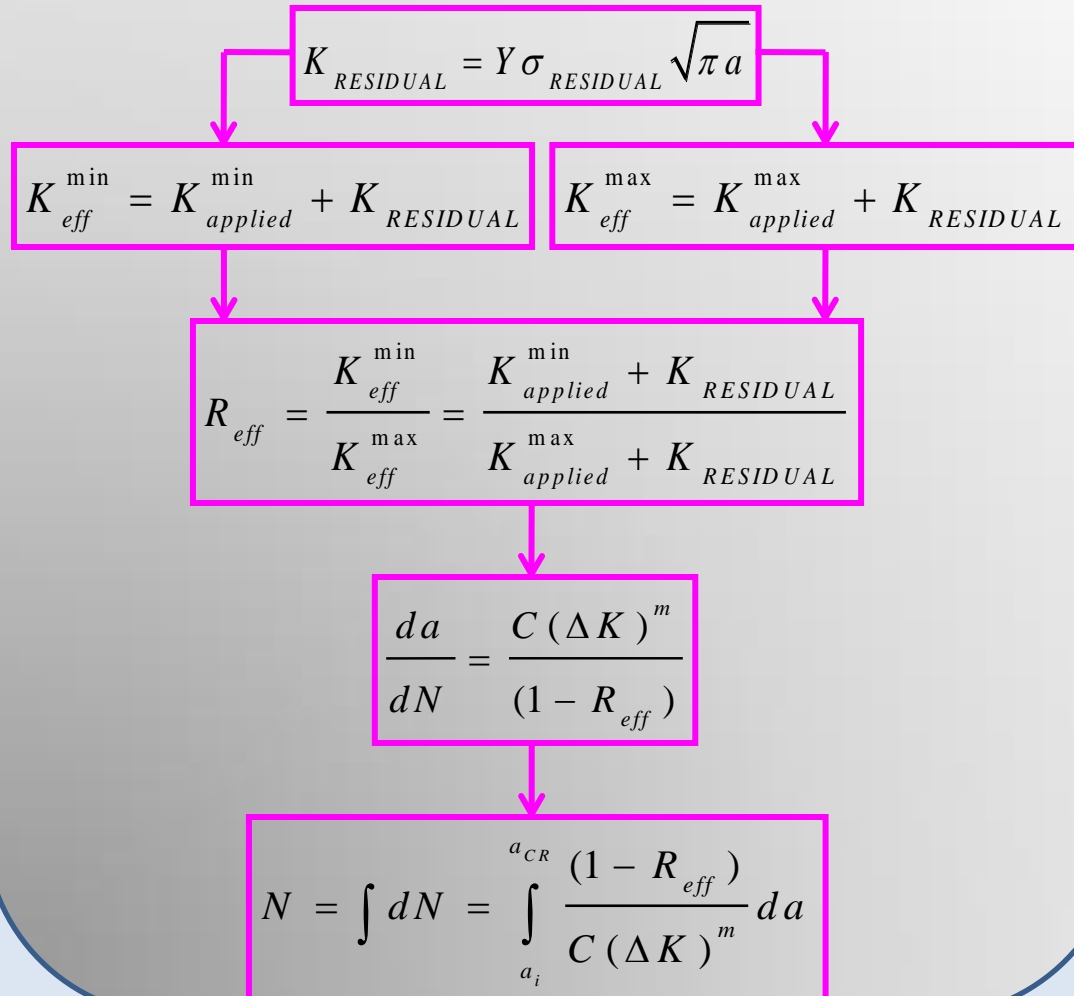
Fatigue Life of Weld Joints: Effect of Residual Stresses

Residual Stresses
($\sigma_{RESIDUAL}$)
in a Structure
modify :

- ❖ Effective Stress Intensity Factor (K)
- ❖ Load Ratio (R)
- ❖ Governing Paris Equation **>>**
Walker's Equation
- ❖ Fatigue Life of the Structure

Barsoum Z et al,
Eng Fail Anal (2008)

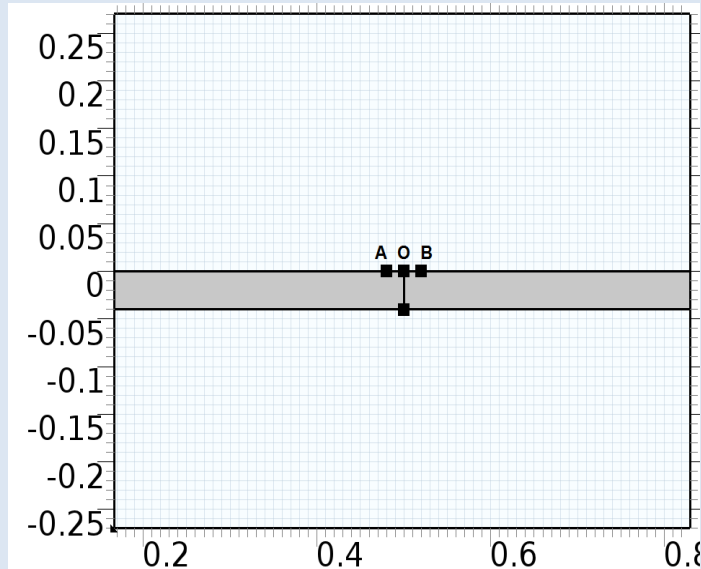
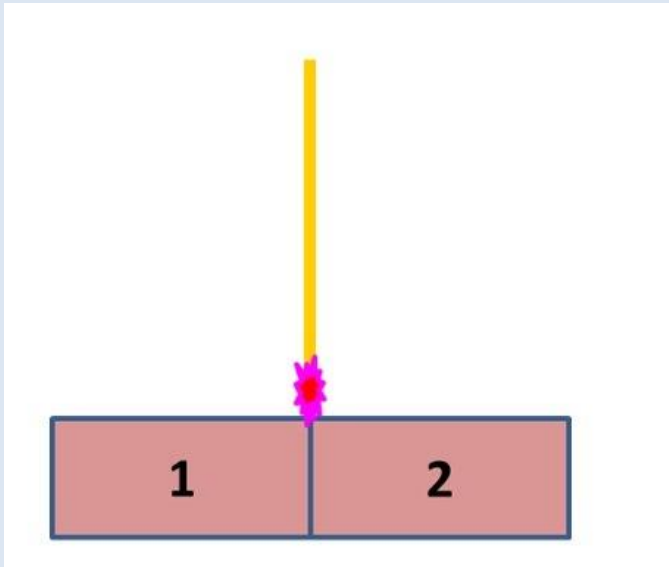
Flow Chart for Incorporating Residual Stresses into Fatigue Life Assessment



Problem Description : Modeling of RS in Butt-weld Joint

- *Two HSLA steel plates were weld simulated*
- *Geometry was 2D-modeled*
- *Weld electrode arc contact occurred with a circular span radius of 1.5 mm*
- *This arc contact area used for calculating the input surface heat flux*

Parameter	Value
Plates	1 and 2
Material	Structural Steel
Weld Joint Type	Butt
Weld Pre-Heat / Interpass Temperature	150 °C (423 °K)
Heat Input	1.5 kJ / mm



COMSOL Multiphysics Model Description: Thermal Behavior (Heat Transfer Module)

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- **Heat source** modeled as a surface heat flux following Gaussian distribution
- **Calculated Surface Heat Flux** from weld heat input, weld speed and contact length: **5e8 W/m²**
- **Prediction of temperature field** required for determining plastic strains and welding residual stresses
- **Conductive heat transfer** with phase change
- **Convective heat transfer** with appropriate BCs applied on the open surfaces of the geometry except arc contact length AOB

Parameter / IC / BC	Value
Material Thermo-physical Properties	Structural Steel
Liquidus temperature of the steel	1790 K
Latent Heat of Fusion	245 KJ/Kg
Convective heat transfer coefficient	50 W/m ² -K
IC: Initial temperature (weld pre-heat / inter-pass temperature)	150 °C (423 K)
BC: Ambient temperature	25 °C (298 K)

$$\rho C_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \rho C_p \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla T = \nabla \cdot (k \nabla T) + Q + Q_{vh} + W_p$$

$$k = \theta k_{\text{phase1}} + (1 - \theta) k_{\text{phase2}}$$

$$C_p = \theta C_{p,\text{phase1}} + (1 - \theta) C_{p,\text{phase2}} + L \frac{d\alpha}{dT}$$

$$\rho = \frac{\theta \rho_{\text{phase1}} C_{p,\text{phase1}} + (1 - \theta) \rho_{\text{phase2}} C_{p,\text{phase2}}}{\theta C_{p,\text{phase1}} + (1 - \theta) C_{p,\text{phase2}}}$$

$$-\mathbf{n} \cdot (-k \nabla T) = h \cdot (T_{\text{ext}} - T)$$



COMSOL Multiphysics Model Description: Structural Behavior (Solid Mechanics Module)

- *Linear Elastic material domain selected with **constitutive stress-strain behavior with thermal effect***
- *Thermal elastic-plastic behavior described by a plasticity model based on **Von Mises yield criteria and isotropic hardening model***
- *Zero values of initial stress, strain, displacement and structural velocity fields were **initial conditions***
- *Restrained welding configuration during the course of this study, prescribed displacement in vertical direction were put to zero ($u_y = 0$) as a **boundary condition***
- *Fully Coupled with Heat Transfer Module*

$$-\nabla \cdot \sigma = F_V, \quad \sigma = s$$

$$s - S_0 = \underline{\underline{C}} : (\epsilon - \epsilon_0 - \epsilon_{inel})$$

$$\epsilon = \frac{1}{2} [(\nabla \mathbf{u})^T + \nabla \mathbf{u}]$$

$$s - S_0 = \underline{\underline{C}} : (\epsilon - \epsilon_0 - \epsilon_{inel}), \quad \epsilon_{inel} = \epsilon_p$$

$$F(\sigma, \sigma_{ys}) \leq 0, \quad \dot{\epsilon}_p = \lambda \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \sigma}$$

$$F = \sigma_{mises} - \sigma_{ys}, \quad Q = F$$

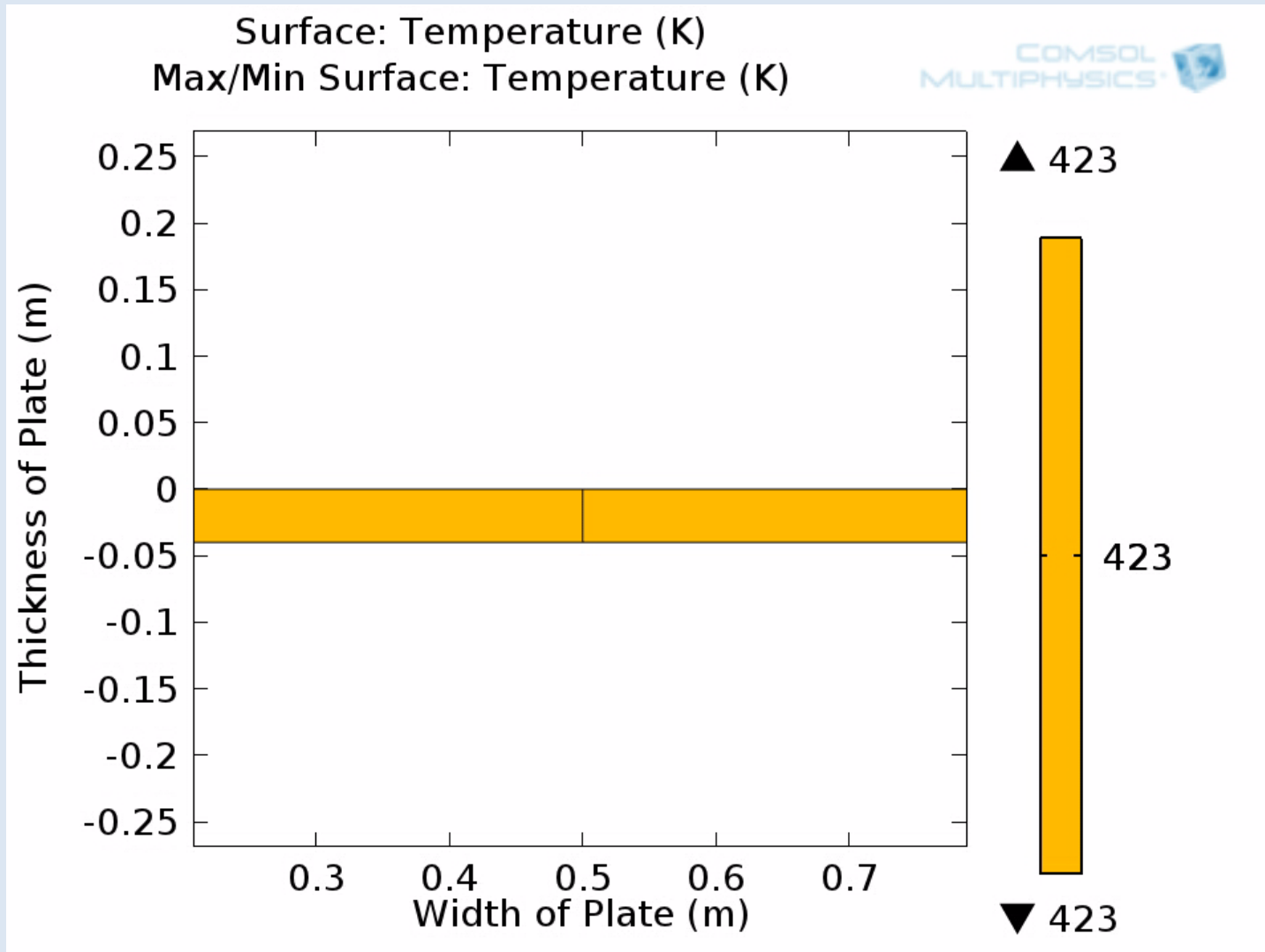
$$\sigma_{ys} = \sigma_{ys0} + \frac{E_{Tiso}}{1 - \frac{E_{Tiso}}{E}} \epsilon_{pe}$$

$$\epsilon_{th} = \alpha (T - T_{ref})$$



Weld Simulation Results – Temperature Field Evolution in Fusion Zone

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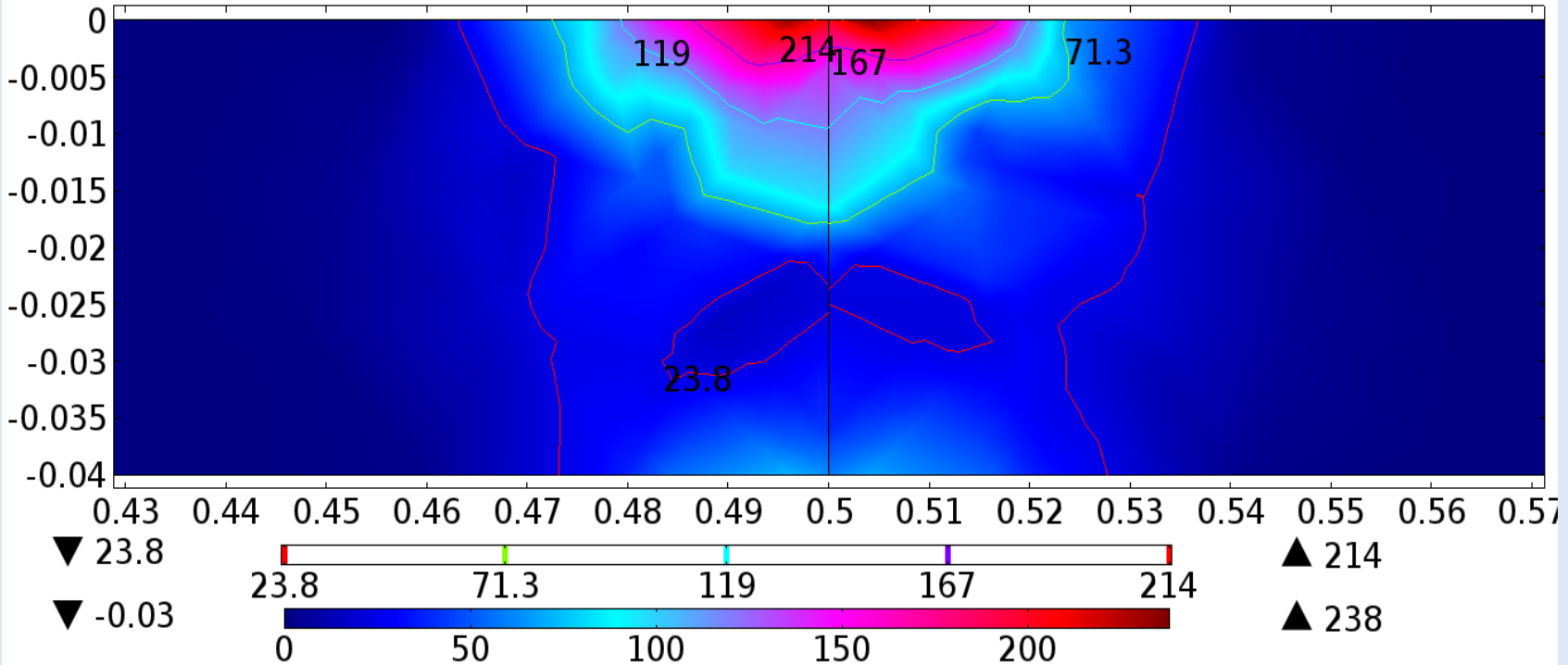


Weld Simulation Results – Residual Stress Mapping

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Time=50 s Surface: von Mises stress, Gauss-point evaluation (MPa)

Contour: von Mises stress, Gauss-point evaluation (MPa)



Experimental Validation of 2D Butt-weld Model for Residual Stress Prediction

Depth (mm)	Residual Stress (Simulation) – COMSOL	Residual Stress (Experimental) – XRD	Percentage Deviation (%)
10	116.1	100.8	15.2
20	65.3	73.5	11.2
30	32.1	34	5.6

- *Close agreement (within 15 %) between the simulated and experimental values of in-situ residual stresses*
- *Validation of the accuracy of COMSOL simulated FEM model of the studied butt-weld joint*



Concluding Remarks

- ❖ *In this study, complex multi-physical phenomenon of **arc welding for a butt-joint configuration was 2D-modeled using COMSOL***
- ❖ *Inward surface heat flux from weld electrode arc, conductive and convective heat transfer with appropriate initial and boundary conditions were applied to describe the **temperature evolution within the fusion zone** and plates*
- ❖ *Further **constitutive stress-strain behavior was solved with thermal-elastic-plastic effect** using a plasticity model based on Von Mises stress and isotropic hardening.*
- ❖ *Steady state solution achieved for final state of the stress was the measure of **residual stresses distribution** across thickness-oriented plane of a butt-welded joint of an HSLA steel.*
- ❖ ***Experimental validation** of the above model was performed by measuring residual stresses using **X-Ray Diffraction (XRD) method***
- ❖ ***Close agreement (within 15 %)** between the simulated and experimental values of in-situ residual stresses was found **validating the accuracy of COMSOL simulated FEM model of the studied butt-weld joint***



Thank You

Questions ?

