

Multiscale wear modelling of cemented tungsten carbide tools in hard rock drilling

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- Introduction
- Cemented tungsten carbide
- Microstructural model
- Mean-field model
- Tool-rock interaction
- Results
- Conclusion

Introduction

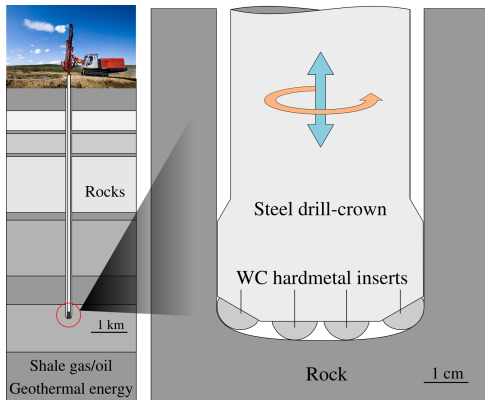
- Rotary percussive drilling
- Down-the-hole technique
- Gas / oil / geothermal energy



Used photo from Traxxon Ltd.

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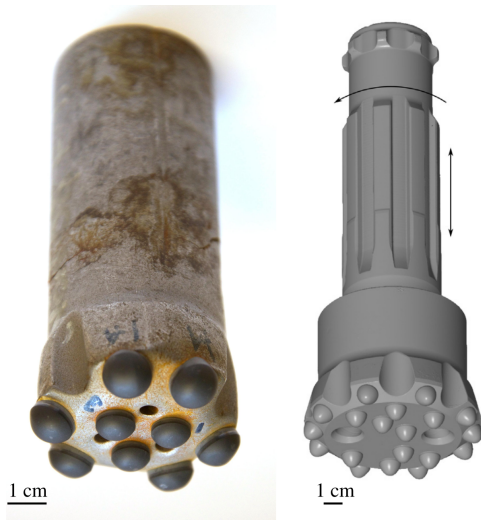
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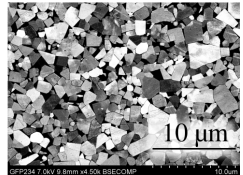
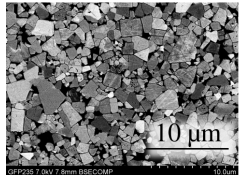
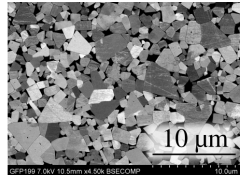
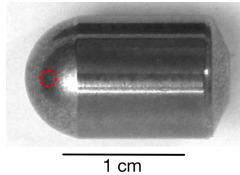
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Drill-bit designs with spherical and ballistic-shape WC hardmetal inserts

Introduction

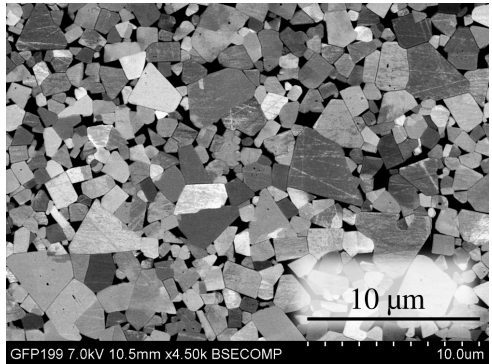
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WC hardmetal insert and different microstructure

Introduction

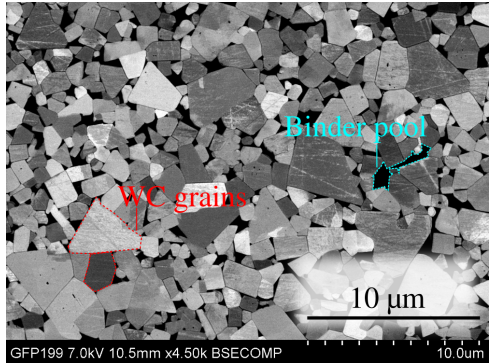
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Microstructure

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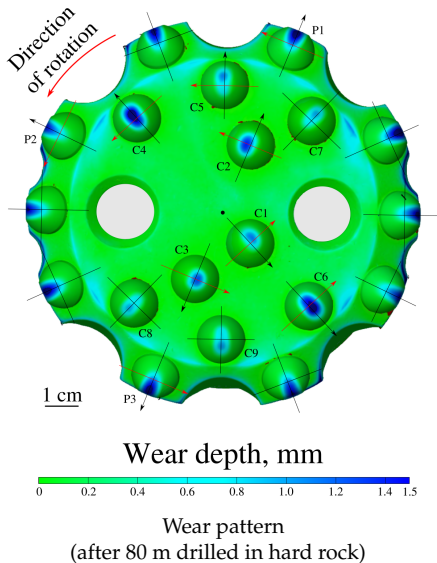
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Microstructure
WC grains bonded by binder (Co here)

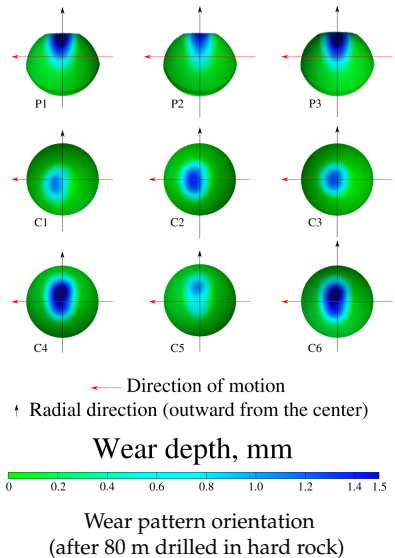
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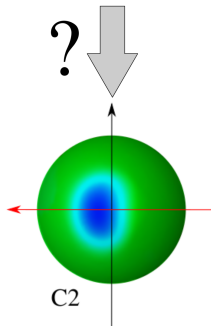
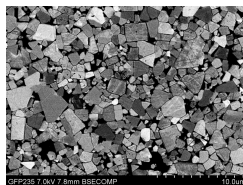
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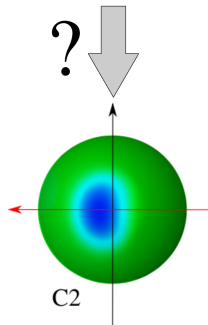
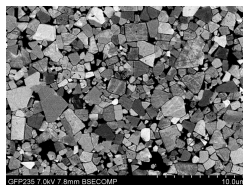
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Objective: understand better the relationship between the wear resistance of WC hardmetals and its composition

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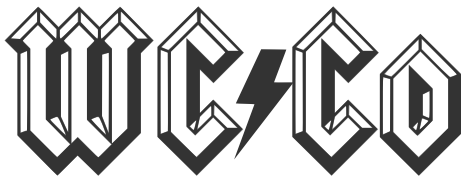


Objective: estimate *quantitatively* microstructural deformation mechanisms in WC hardmetals during hard rock drilling

Hard Metal

VS

Hard Rock



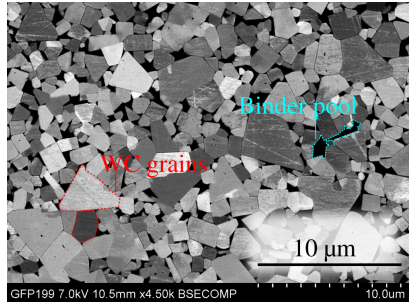
VS

KURU GRANITE

Material: cemented tungsten carbide

Main characteristics

- Brittle WC
- Ductile binder (Co, Ni, Fe)
- High hardness and wear resistance
- Very high melting point of WC prevents abrasive wear



Microstructure
WC grains binded by binder (Co here)

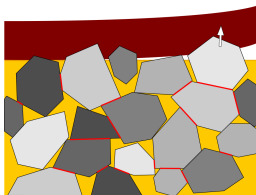
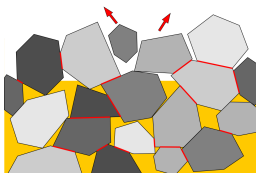
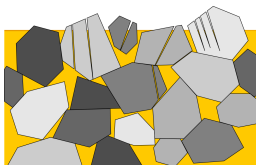
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Microscopic mechanisms leading to macroscopic wear

- Fragmentation of WC grains
- Binder lost
- Tribofilm debonding with grains



Wear mechanisms

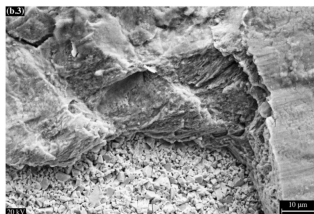
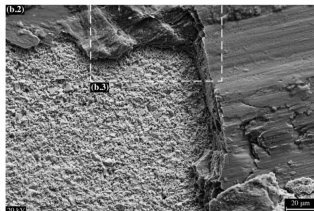
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Microscopic mechanisms leading to macroscopic wear

- Fragmentation of WC grains
- Binder lost
- **Tribofilm** debonding with grains



SEM showing a tribofilm formed after 80m drilling in hard rock^[1]

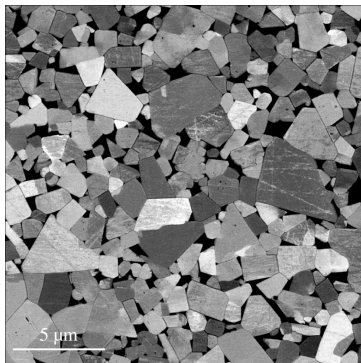
[1] Tkalich et al, *Wear* 386-387 (2017)

Physics

- Linear dimensions of the binder
"quasi crystals" $\approx 10d_{WC}$
- Cohesion WC/WC and WC/binder
- Anisotropic WC grains (hcp)

2D model

- Outlined SEM images converted to mesh microstructure
- Perfect interfaces
- Isotropic WC and binder
- Von Mises plasticity for the binder
- Non-associated pressure dependent plasticity for WC (Drucker-Prager)



SEM image

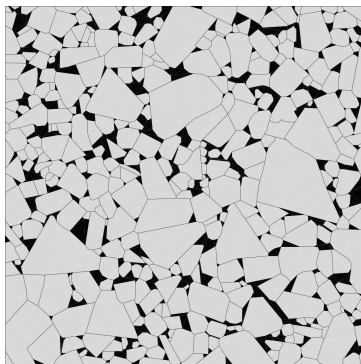
[1] Tkalich, Cailletaud, Yastrebov, Kane, *Mech Mater* 105 (2017)

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Outlined SEM image, CAD model

[1] Tkalich, Cailletaud, Yastrebov, Kane, *Mech Mater* 105 (2017)

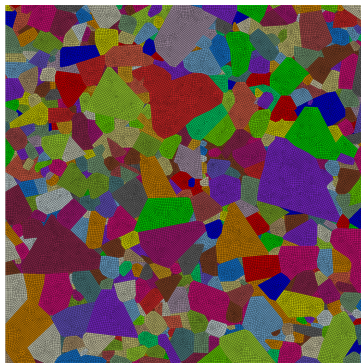
Microstructural mechanical model: 2D

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FE mesh

[1] Tkalich, Cailletaud, Yastrebov, Kane, *Mech Mater* 105 (2017)

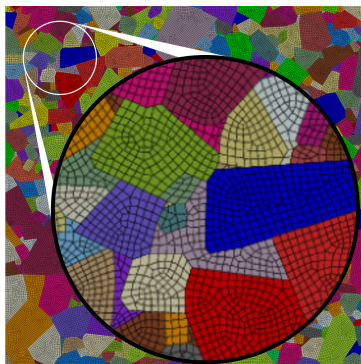
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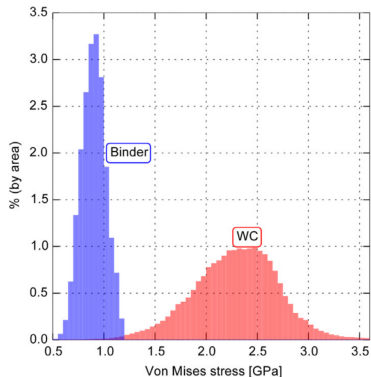
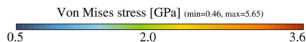
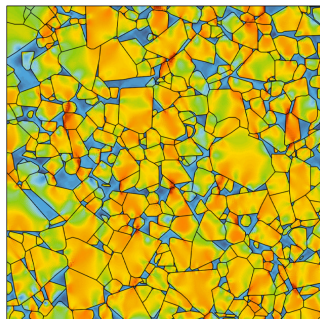
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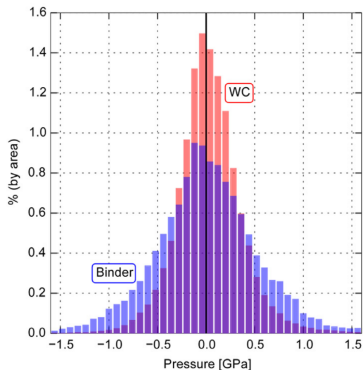
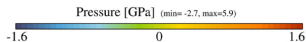
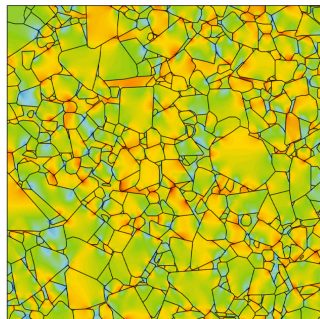
Pure shear loading



von Mises stress σ_{vM}

[1] Tkalich, Caillaud, Yastrebov, Kane, *Mech Mater* 105 (2017)

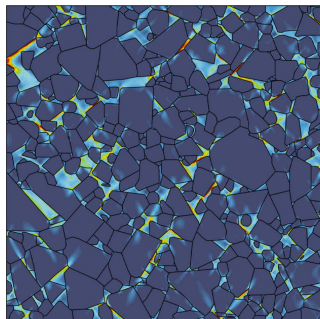
Pure shear loading



$$\text{Pressure } P = -\text{trace}(\sigma)/3$$

[1] Tkalich, Cailletaud, Yastrebov, Kane, *Mech Mater* 105 (2017)

Pure shear loading



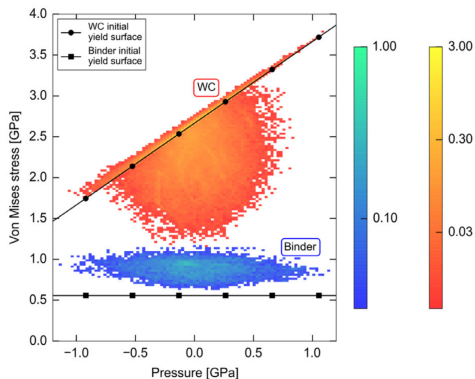
Accumulated plastic strain [%] (min=0, max=5.7)

0 1.3 2.6

Accumulated plastic strain p

[1] Tkalich, Cailletaud, Yastrebov, Kane, *Mech Mater* 105 (2017)

Pure shear loading



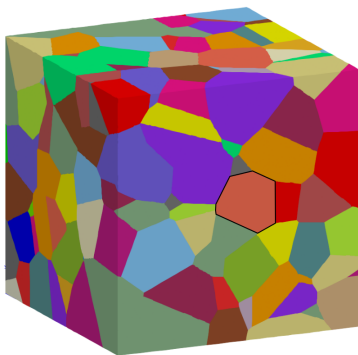
Joint probability density in von Mises – Pressure space $Pr(\sigma_{vM}, P)$

[1] Tkalich, Cailletaud, Yastrebov, Kane, *Mech Mater* 105 (2017)

It's only 2D . . .

Microstructural model

- Generate Voronoi tessellation (voro++^[1])
- Every Voronoi grain is cut by randomly oriented planes^[2]
- The smaller cut parts become the binder, the rest remains the WC
- Parameters:
 - (1) number of cuts
 - (2) binder volume fraction



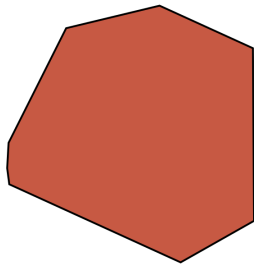
Voronoi grains

[1] Chris Rycroft math.lbl.gov/voro++/

[2] Tkalich, Yastrebov, Cailletaud, Kane, *Int J Solids Struct* 128 (2017)

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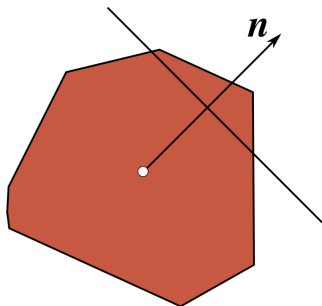
Example in 2D
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[1] Chris Rycroft math.1bl.gov/voro++/

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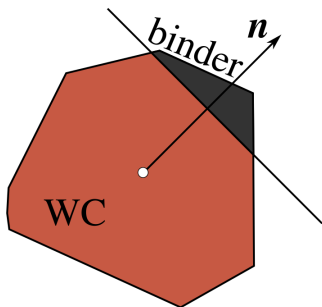
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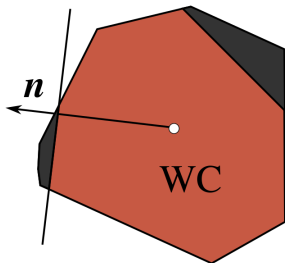
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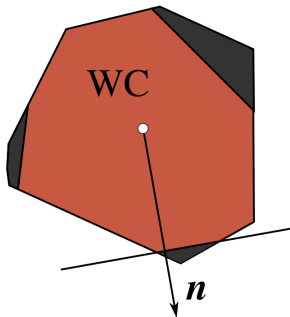
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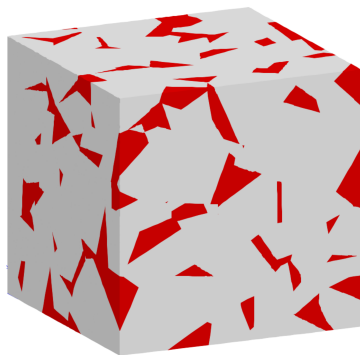
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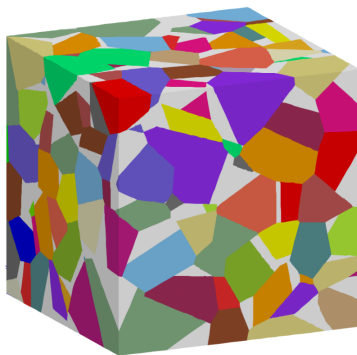
Binder phase

[1] Chris Rycroft math.lbl.gov/voro++/

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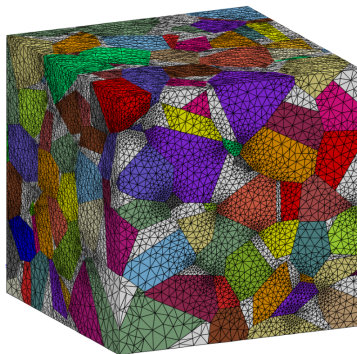
WC grains

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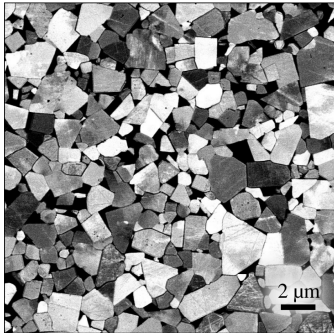


Finite element mesh

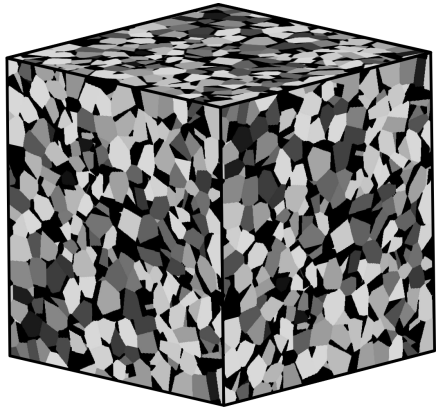
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Microstructural mechanical model: 3D examples



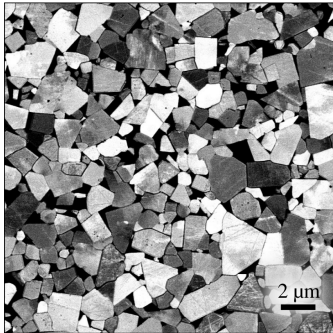
WC/Co microstructure (SEM)



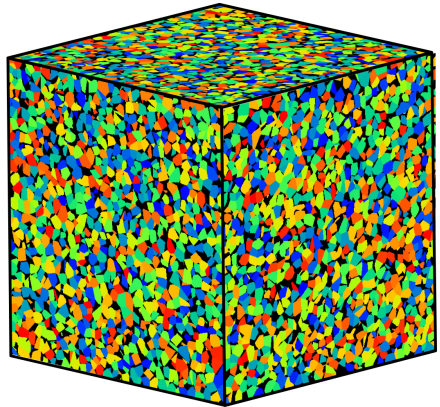
WC/Co artificial microstructure

2 500 grains

Microstructural mechanical model: 3D examples



WC/Co microstructure (SEM)



WC/Co artificial microstructure

30 000 grains

Mean-field model

- Notations: $\underline{\underline{E}} = \langle \underline{\underline{\varepsilon}} \rangle$, $\underline{\underline{\Sigma}} = \langle \underline{\underline{\sigma}} \rangle$ with $\langle \bullet \rangle = \frac{1}{V} \int_V \bullet dV$
- Effective elastic tensor $\underline{\underline{C}}_{\text{eff}}$
- Strain decomposition: global $\underline{\underline{E}} = \underline{\underline{C}}_{\text{eff}}^{-1} : \underline{\underline{\Sigma}} + \underline{\underline{E}}^p$, local $\underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}_i = \underline{\underline{C}}_i^{-1} : \underline{\underline{\sigma}}_i + \underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}_i^p$
- Eshelby tensor^[1] $\underline{\underline{S}} = \frac{1}{15(1 - \nu_{\text{eff}})} \left[(5\nu_{\text{eff}} - 1) \underline{\underline{I}} \otimes \underline{\underline{I}} + 2(4 - 5\nu_{\text{eff}}) \underline{\underline{I}} \right]$
with $\underline{\underline{I}} \sim \delta_{ij}^j$, $\underline{\underline{I}} \sim \frac{1}{2}(\delta_i^k \delta_j^l + \delta_i^l \delta_j^k)$

- Iterative procedure to identify the effective elastic tensor^[2]

$$\underline{\underline{C}}_{\text{eff}}^{k+1} = \sum_i f_i \underline{\underline{C}}_i : \left[\underline{\underline{I}} + \underline{\underline{S}}^k : (\underline{\underline{C}}_{\text{eff}}^{-1} : \underline{\underline{C}}_i - \underline{\underline{I}}) \right]^{-1}$$

- Stress in phases: $\underline{\underline{\sigma}}_i = \underline{\underline{A}}_i : \underline{\underline{\Sigma}} + \underline{\underline{A}}_i : \underline{\underline{C}}^* : (\underline{\underline{\beta}} - \underline{\underline{\beta}}_i)$ with

$$\underline{\underline{C}}^* = \underline{\underline{C}}_{\text{eff}} : (\underline{\underline{I}} - \underline{\underline{S}}) \text{ and } \underline{\underline{A}}_i = \left[\underline{\underline{S}} + \underline{\underline{C}}^* : \underline{\underline{C}}_i^{-1} \right]^{-1}$$

- Accommodation tensors^[3,4] $\underline{\underline{\beta}}_i$ with evolution

$$\dot{\underline{\underline{\beta}}}_i = \dot{\underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}}_i^p - \|\dot{\underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}}_i^p\| \left(D_i^s \underline{\underline{\beta}}_i^{sp} \underline{\underline{I}} + D_i^{dev} \underline{\underline{\beta}}_i^{dev} \right)$$

[1] Eshelby. *Proc Royal Soc L: A* 241 (1957)

[2] Kröner. *J Mech Phys Solids* 25 (1977)

[3] Cailletaud, Pilvin. *Rev Eur Elem Fin* 3 (1994)

[4] Cailletaud, Coudon. Ch. in *Scale Transition Rules Applied to*

Mean-field model

- Notations: $\underline{\underline{E}} = \langle \underline{\underline{\varepsilon}} \rangle$, $\underline{\underline{\Sigma}} = \langle \underline{\underline{\sigma}} \rangle$ with $\langle \bullet \rangle = \frac{1}{V} \int_V \bullet dV$
- Effective elastic tensor $\underline{\underline{C}}_{\text{eff}}$
- Strain decomposition: global $\underline{\underline{E}} = \underline{\underline{C}}_{\text{eff}}^{-1} : \underline{\underline{\Sigma}} + \underline{\underline{E}}^p$, local $\underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}_i = \underline{\underline{C}}_i^{-1} : \underline{\underline{\sigma}}_i + \underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}_i^p$
- Eshelby tensor^[1] $\underline{\underline{S}} = \frac{1}{15(1 - \nu_{\text{eff}})} \left[(5\nu_{\text{eff}} - 1) \underline{\underline{I}} \otimes \underline{\underline{I}} + 2(4 - 5\nu_{\text{eff}}) \underline{\underline{L}} \right]$
with $\underline{\underline{I}} \sim \delta_{ij}^j$, $\underline{\underline{L}} \sim \frac{1}{2}(\delta_i^k \delta_j^l + \delta_i^l \delta_j^k)$
- Iterative procedure to identify the effective elastic tensor^[2]
$$\underline{\underline{C}}_{\text{eff}}^{k+1} = \sum_i f_i \underline{\underline{C}}_i : \left[\underline{\underline{I}} + \underline{\underline{S}}^k : (\underline{\underline{C}}_{\text{eff}}^{-1} : \underline{\underline{C}}_i - \underline{\underline{I}}) \right]^{-1}$$
- Stress in phases: $\underline{\underline{\sigma}}_i = \underline{\underline{A}}_i : \underline{\underline{\Sigma}} + \underline{\underline{A}}_i : \underline{\underline{C}}^* : (\underline{\underline{\beta}} - \underline{\underline{\beta}}_i)$ with
$$\underline{\underline{C}}^* = \underline{\underline{C}}_{\text{eff}} : (\underline{\underline{I}} - \underline{\underline{S}}) \text{ and } \underline{\underline{A}}_i = \left[\underline{\underline{S}} + \underline{\underline{C}}^* : \underline{\underline{C}}_i^{-1} \right]^{-1}$$
- Accommodation tensors^[3,4] $\underline{\underline{\beta}}_i$ with evolution
$$\dot{\underline{\underline{\beta}}}_i = \dot{\underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}}_i^p - \|\dot{\underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}}_i^p\| \left(\underline{\underline{D}}_i^s \underline{\underline{\beta}}_i^{sp} \underline{\underline{I}} + \underline{\underline{D}}_i^{dev} \underline{\underline{\beta}}_i^{dev} \right) - \text{for each phase (WC and binder)}$$

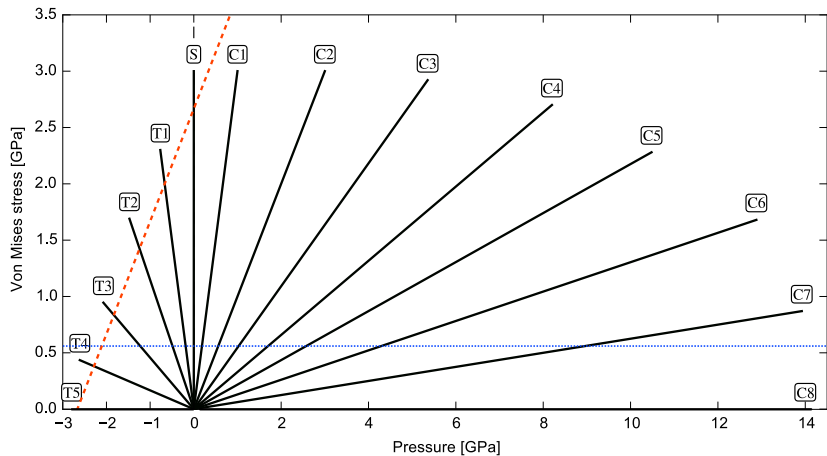
[1] Eshelby. *Proc Royal Soc L: A* 241 (1957)

[2] Kröner. *J Mech Phys Solids* 25 (1977)

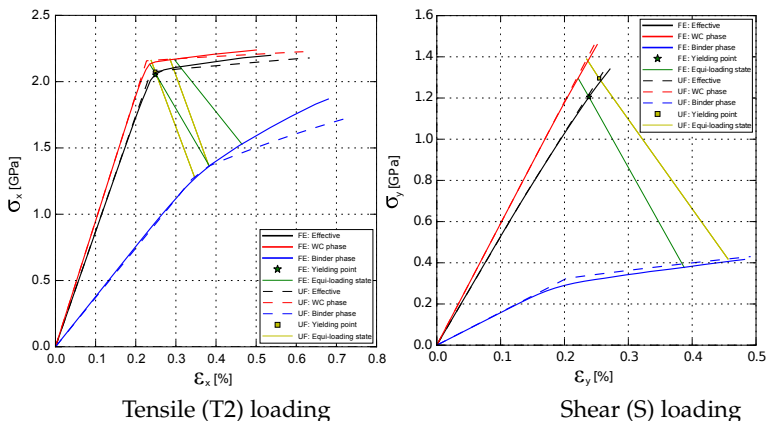
[3] Cailletaud, Pilvin. *Rev Eur Elem Fin* 3 (1994)

[4] Cailletaud, Coudon. Ch. in *Scale Transition Rules Applied to*

Loading paths



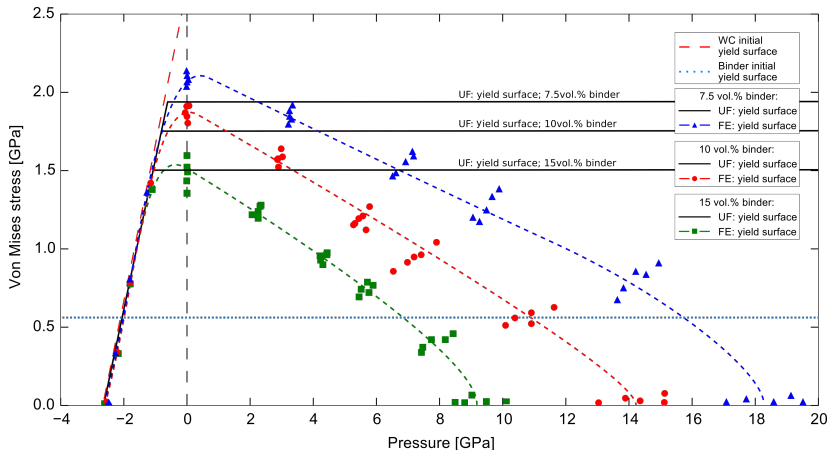
Deformation curves



Elastic limit is determined at the point when the plastic strain $p > 0.01$ %,

$$\text{where } p = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3} \underline{\underline{E}}^p : \underline{\underline{E}}^p} \text{ and } \underline{\underline{E}}^p = \underline{\underline{E}} - \underline{\underline{C}}_{\text{eff}} : \underline{\underline{\Sigma}}$$

Yield surface



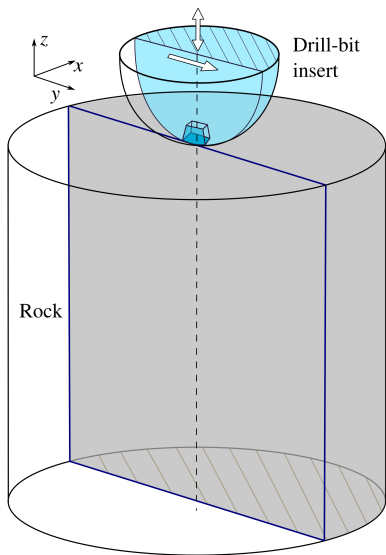
Elastic limit is determined at the point when the plastic strain $p > 0.01\%$,

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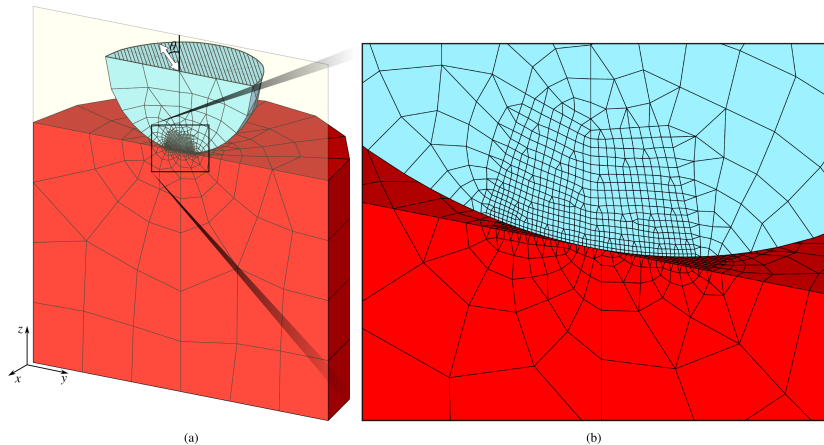
Simulation of the tool-rock interaction

- Quasi-static FEA
- Elastic rock cylinder $E = 79$ GPa, $\nu = 0.26$ (Kuru granite^[1])
- Frictional (lubricated) contact $\mu = 0.3$
- Oblique impacts at different angles
- Every Gauss point integrates the calibrated mean-field β -model

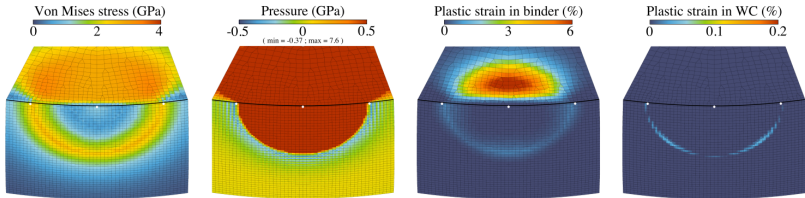
[1] Hokka et al, *Int J Impact Eng* 91 (2016)



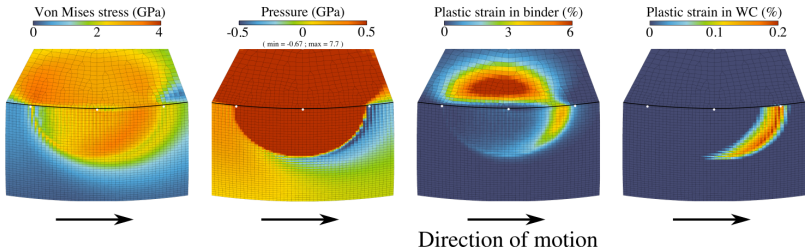
Simulation of the tool-rock interaction



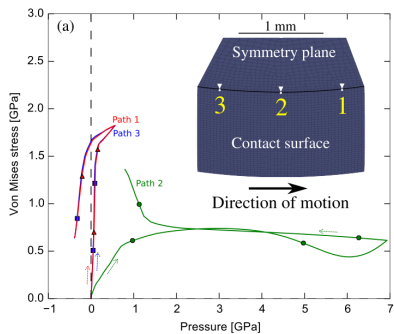
Normal impact



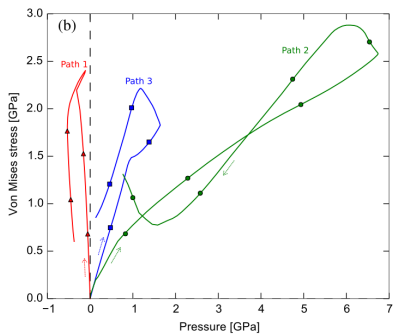
Oblique impact at $\varphi = \pi/12$



Representative loading paths $\sigma_{ij}(t)$



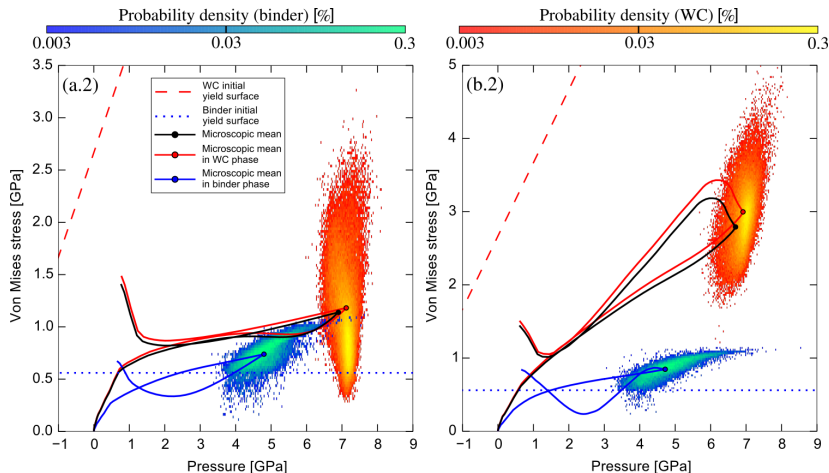
Normal impact



Oblique impact at $\varphi = \pi/12$

Point 2.

Joint probability density of microstress state in $\sigma_{vM}-P$ space.

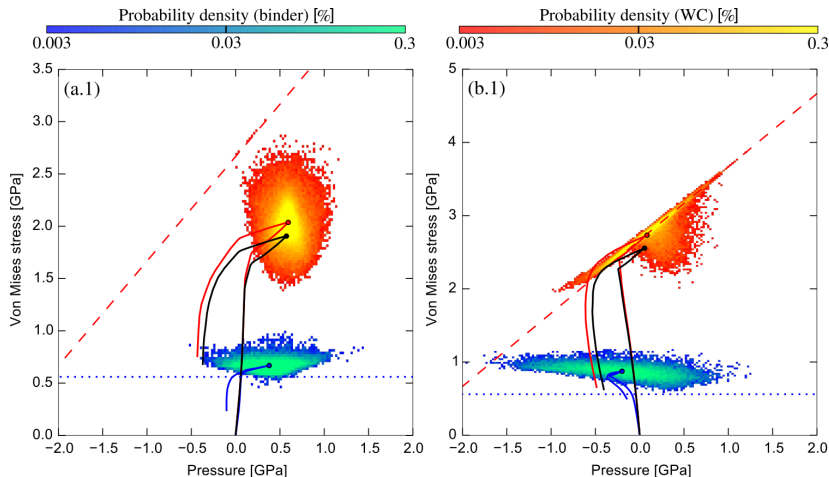


Normal impact

Oblique impact at $\varphi = \pi/12$

Point 1.

Joint probability density of microstress state in $\sigma_{vM}-P$ space.



Normal impact

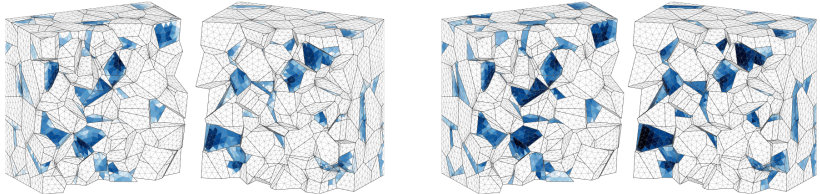
Oblique impact at $\varphi = \pi/12$

Point 2.

Accumulated plastic strain in the binder and WC

normal impact

oblique impact



Plastic strain in binder (%) 0  1

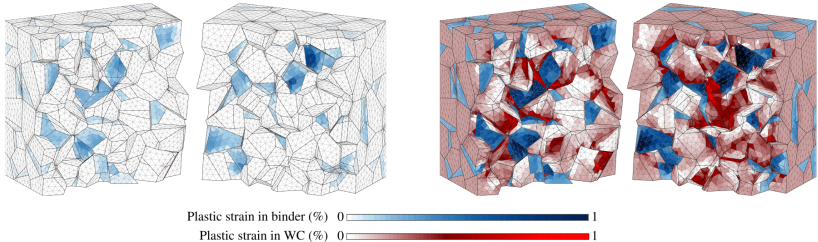
Plastic strain in WC (%) 0  1

Point 1.

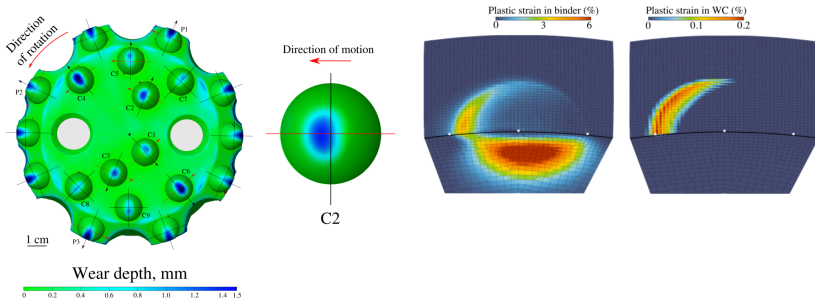
Accumulated plastic strain in the binder and WC

normal impact

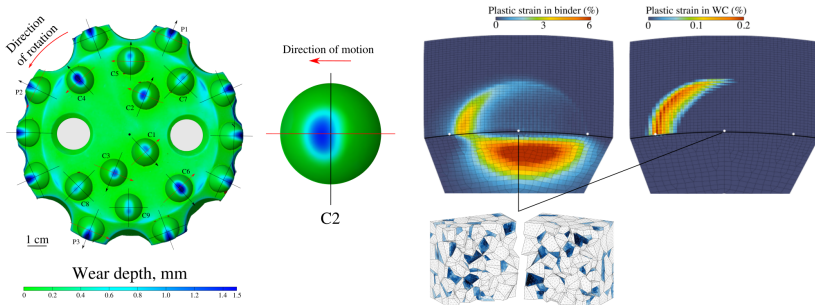
oblique impact



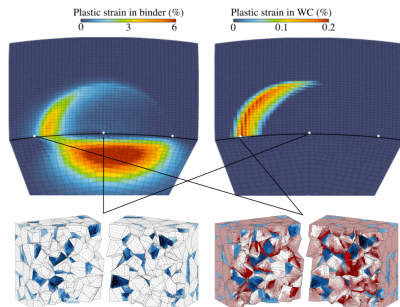
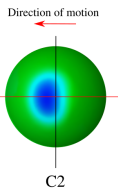
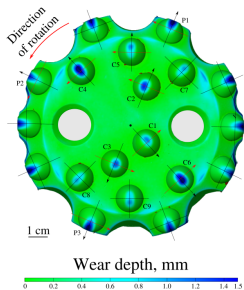
Wear at drill bit inserts



Wear at drill bit inserts



Wear at drill bit inserts



Conclusion: recall of methodology

Micro

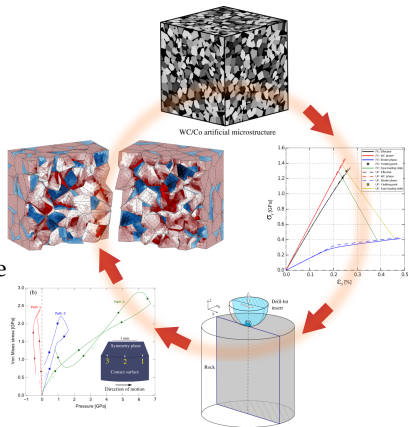
- 1 Construct FE RVE
- 2 FE RVE: proportional loadings
- 3 Calibration of the mean field β -model

Macro

- 4 FE structural simulation with the embedded β -model
- 5 Extract near-surface representative loading paths

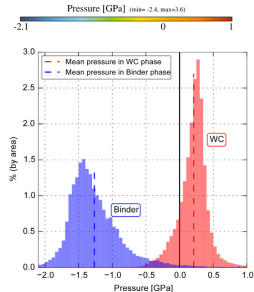
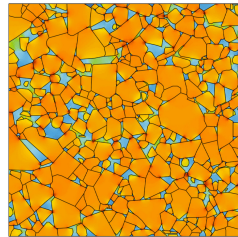
Micro

- 6 FE RVE: representative loadings



- WC grain anisotropy
- Residual stresses due to sintering^[1]
- Binder's loose due to melting (coupled thermo-mechanical model)
- Bore-hole's floor topography
- WC/WC decohesion

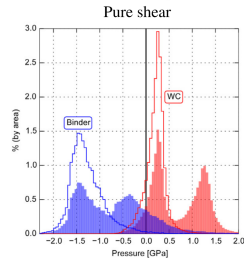
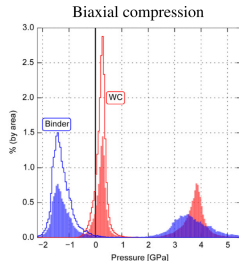
[1] Krawitz, Reichel, Hitterman. *Mater Sci Eng A119* (1989)



2.5D microstructure
Spatial and probability distribution of pressure after sintering from 800 to 20 °C.

- WC grain anisotropy
- Residual stresses due to sintering^[1]
- Binder's loose due to melting (coupled thermo-mechanical model)
- Bore-hole's floor topography
- WC/WC decohesion

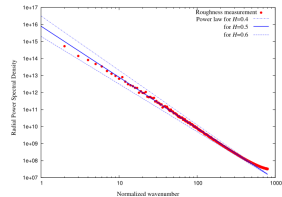
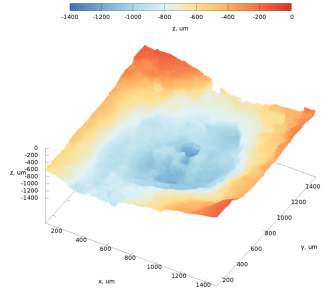
[1] Krawitz, Reichel, Hitterman. *Mater Sci Eng A119* (1989)



2.5D microstructure
Probability distribution after subsequent loading

- WC grain anisotropy
- Residual stresses due to sintering^[1]
- Binder's loose due to melting (coupled thermo-mechanical model)
- Bore-hole's floor topography
- WC/WC decohesion

[1] Krawitz, Reichel, Hitterman. *Mater Sci Eng A119* (1989)

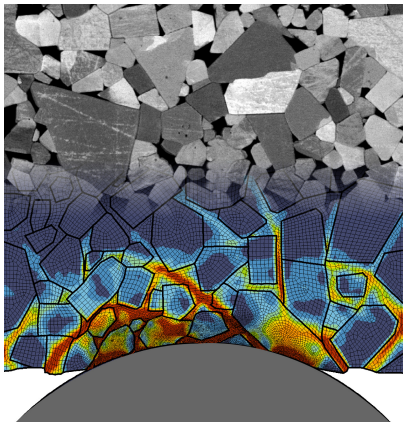


Crater in Kuru granite after a single impact^[2]

[2] Tkalic et al, *Wear* 386-387 (2017)

- WC grain anisotropy
- Residual stresses due to sintering^[1]
- Binder's loose due to melting (coupled thermo-mechanical model)
- Bore-hole's floor topography
- WC/WC decohesion

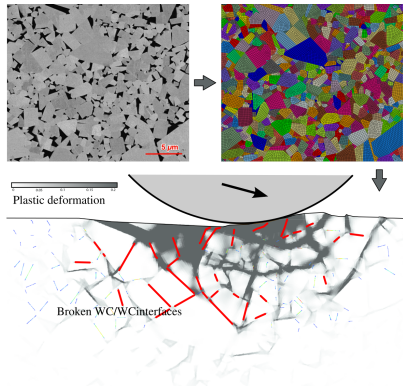
[1] Krawitz, Reichel, Hitterman. *Mater Sci Eng A119* (1989)



Rigid rock asperity impacting WC hardmetal

- WC grain anisotropy
- Residual stresses due to sintering^[1]
- Binder's loose due to melting (coupled thermo-mechanical model)
- Bore-hole's floor topography
- WC/WC decohesion

[1] Krawitz, Reichel, Hitterman. *Mater Sci Eng A119* (1989)



2D simulation of oblique rock asperity impact of WC hardmetal microstructure
Account for the effect of weak WC/WC interfaces (cohesive zone model)

Thank you for you attention!

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