

# **Multi-scale Cohesive Failure Modeling of Heterogeneous Adhesives**

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National Science Foundation  
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

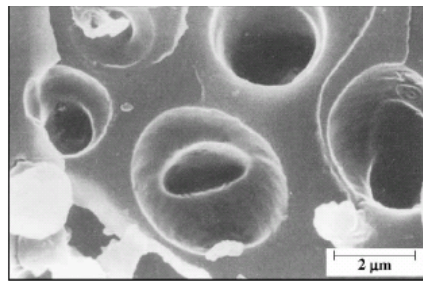
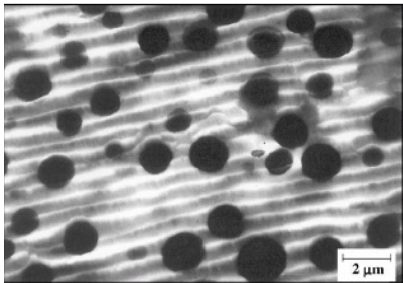


# Motivation: High-Toughness Adhesives

Adhesives are often the *weak* links in bonded structures

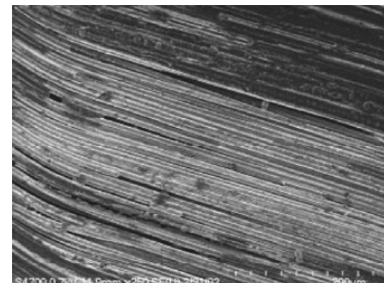


Heterogeneities enhance mechanical and fracture properties



Rubber-toughened epoxy adhesive

Kinloch (2003)



Carbon nanotube-reinforced epoxy adhesives

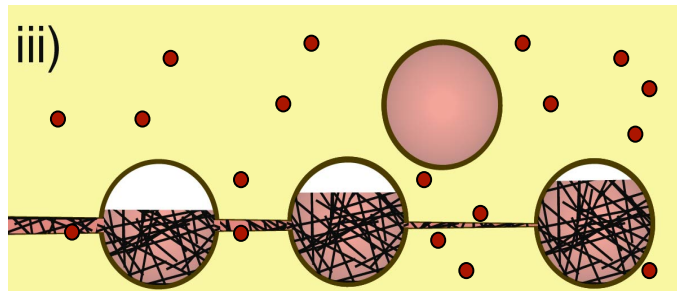
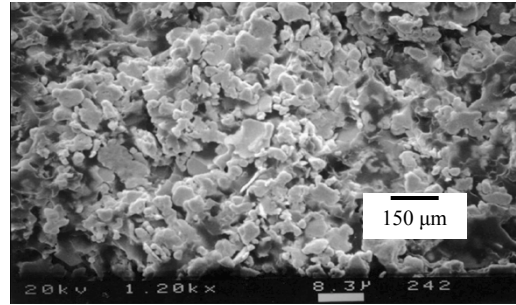
Hsiao *et al.* (2003)

Important to capture microscopic failure processes to develop an accurate model

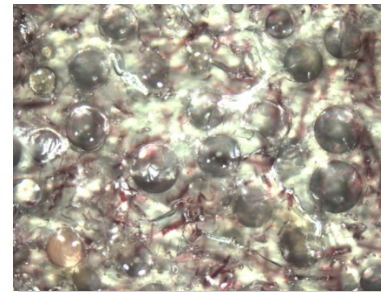
# Motivation: Multi-functional Adhesives

- Silver-enriched epoxy adhesive

Xu *et al.* (2003)



- Self-healing adhesive
  - EPON 828/DETA Epoxy
  - 15 wt% microcapsules (125-180 μm)
  - 2.5 wt% Grubbs' catalyst



Jin *et al.* (2009)



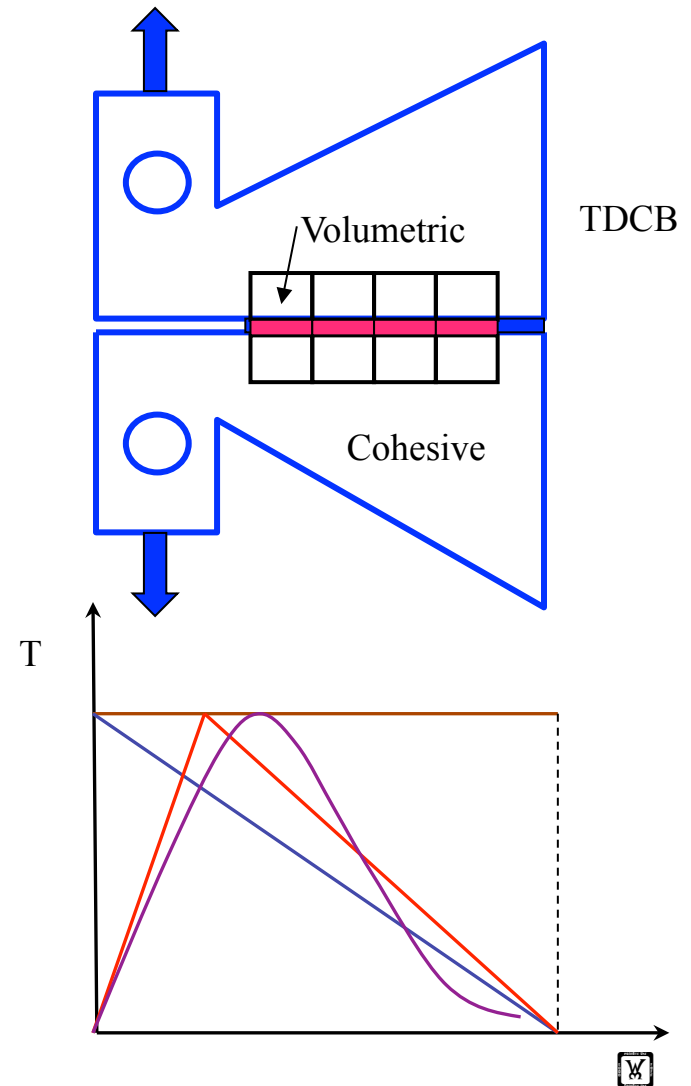
National Science Foundation  
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN



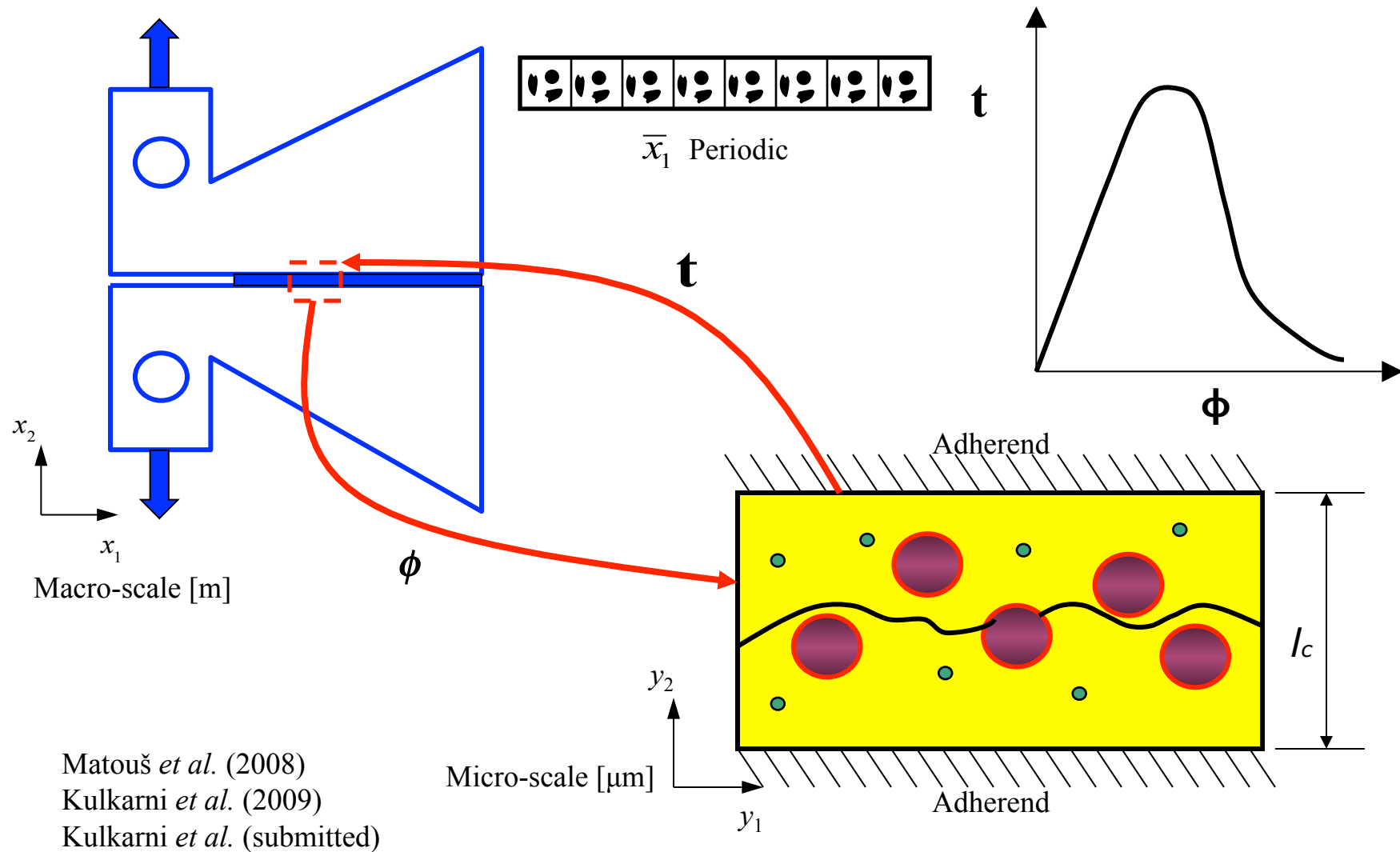
# Macroscopic Failure Modeling

- Cohesive finite element method
  - Collapses adhesive layer to 2D (or 1D) cohesive zone
  - Efficient and well-established scheme
  - Cohesive failure model chosen for mathematical convenience
  - Little connection to *microscopic* failure processes
- Objective: Develop a multi-scale cohesive model to obtain cohesive laws that embed physics from the micro-scale

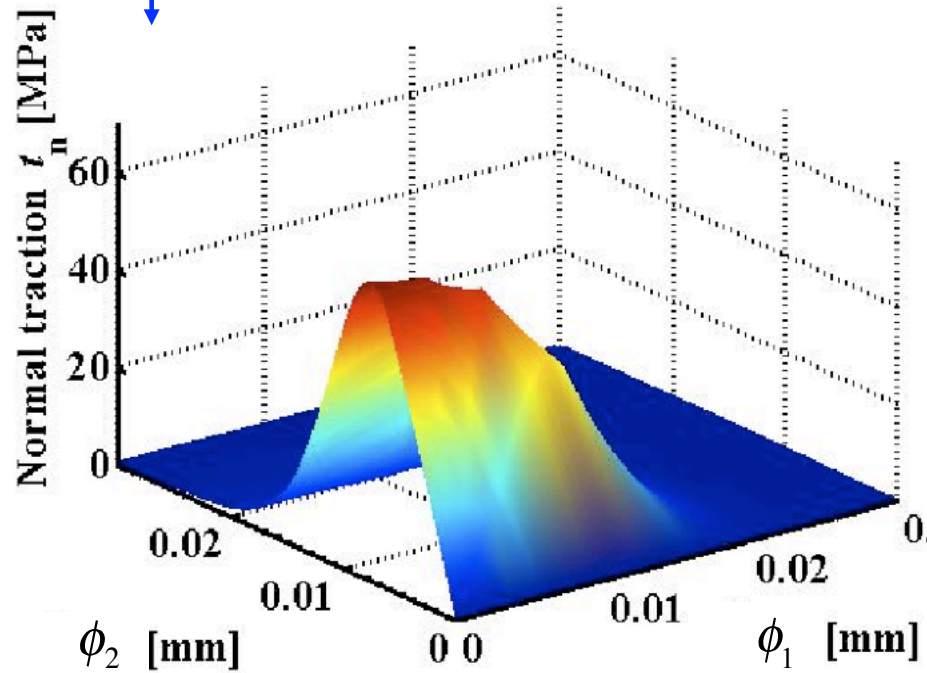
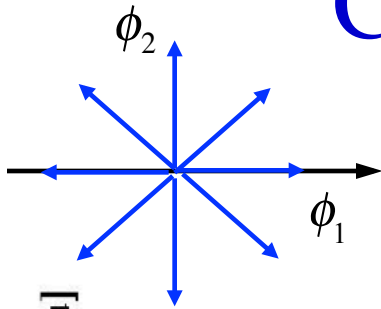
Xu and Needleman (1994), Camacho and Ortiz (1996)  
Geubelle and Baylor (1998)



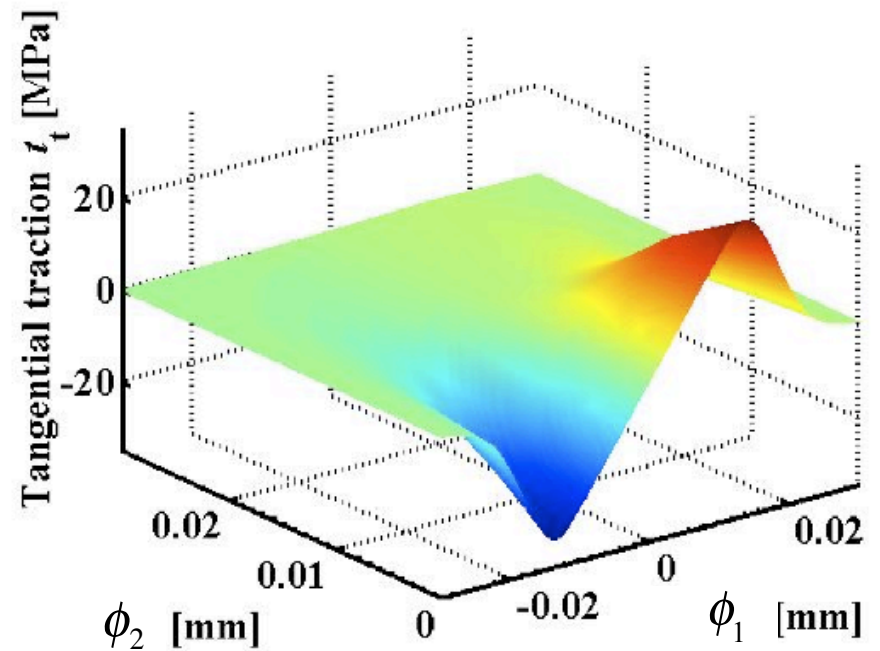
# Multi-scale Cohesive Approach



# Cohesive Damage Envelope



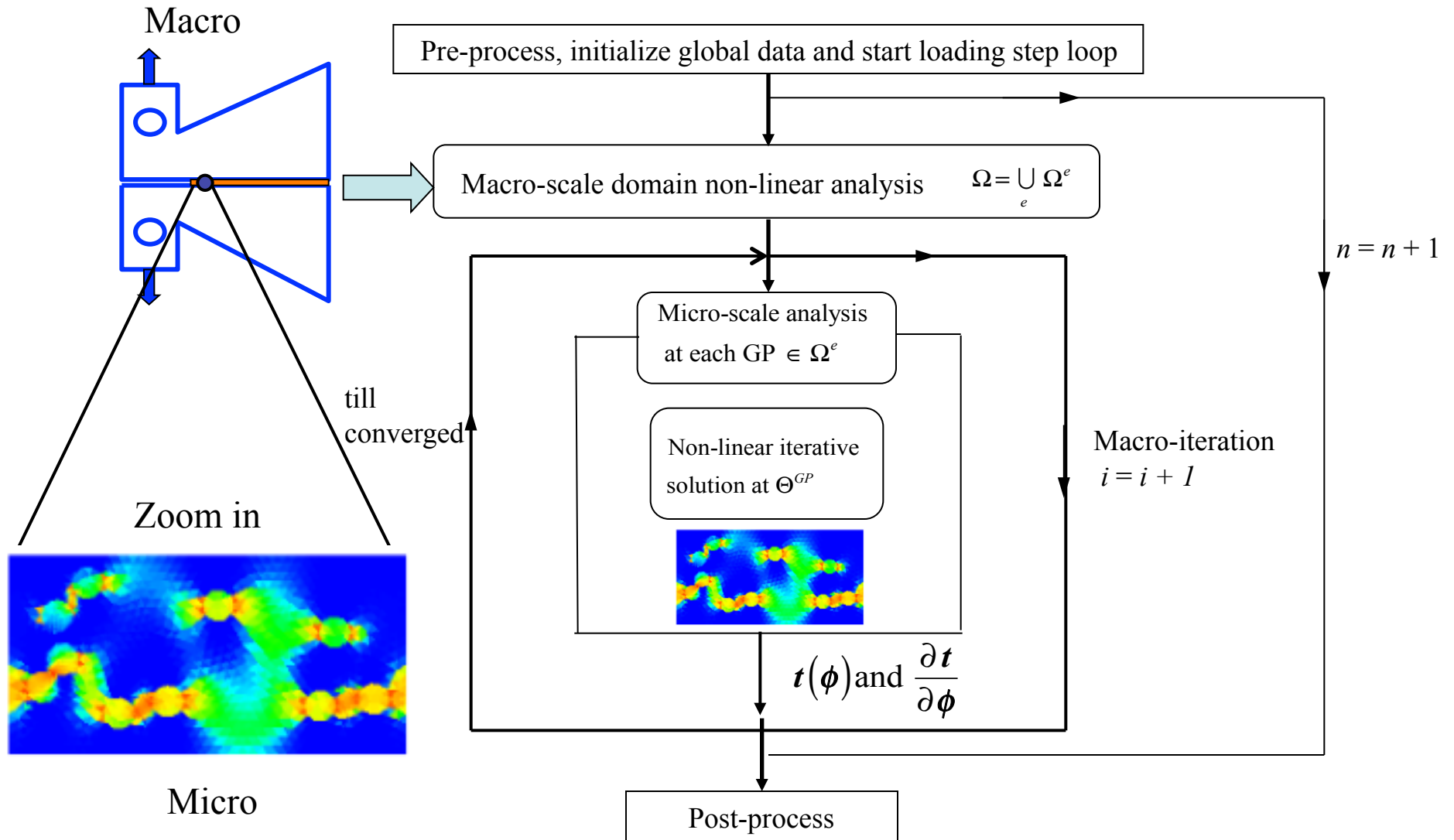
Normal cohesive envelope



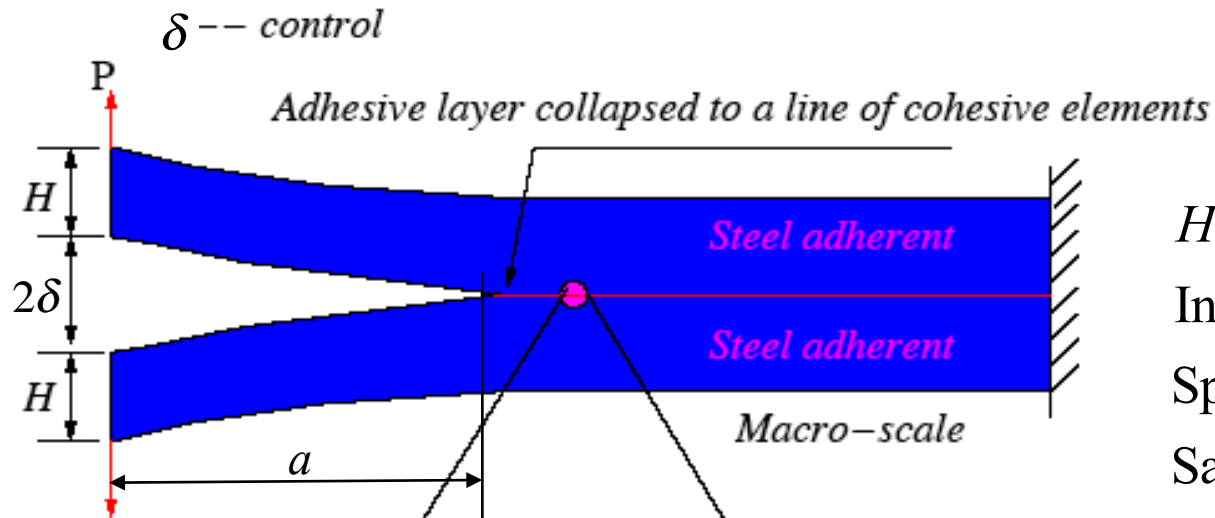
Tangential cohesive envelope



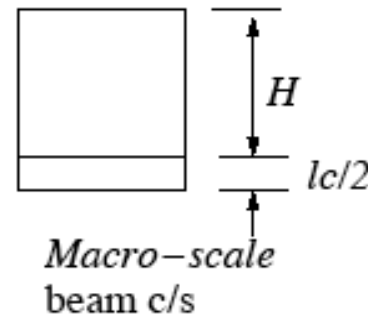
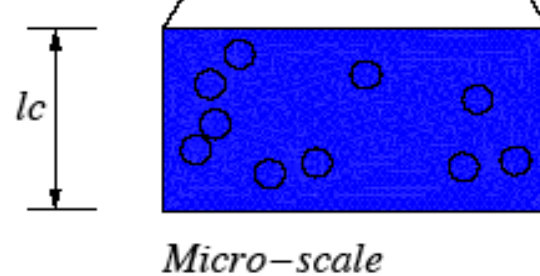
# Nested Iterative Algorithm



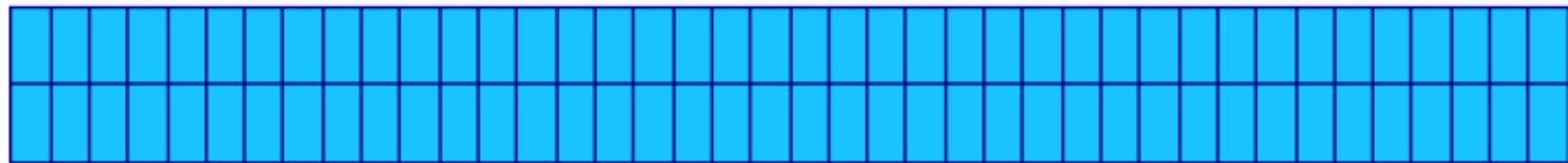
# Application #1: Mode I DCB



$H = 2 \text{ mm}$ ,  
 Initial crack length = 4 mm  
 Specimen length = 40 mm  
 Same micro-scale properties



Mixed-enhanced strain elements at macro-scale

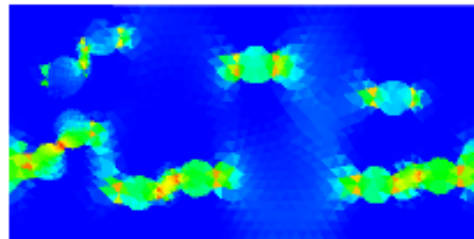


$h_{\text{macro}}$

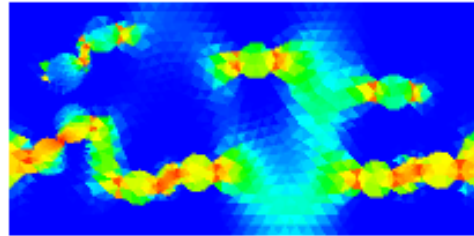




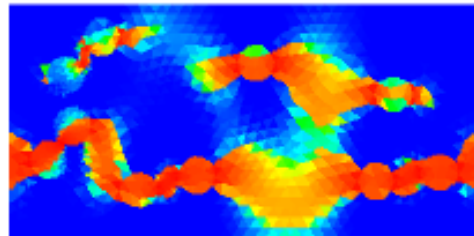
# Damage Evolution



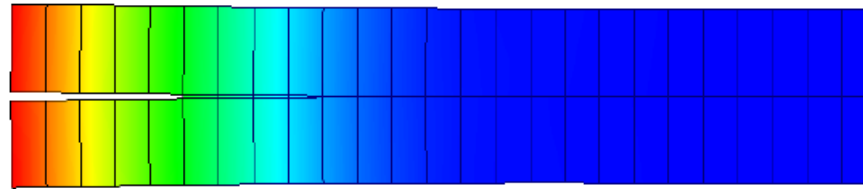
(a) Step # 14



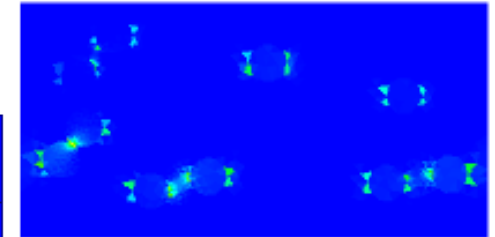
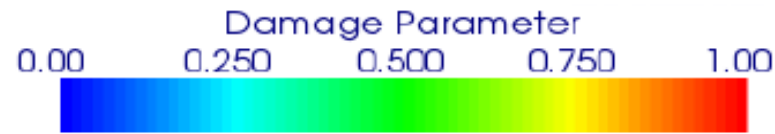
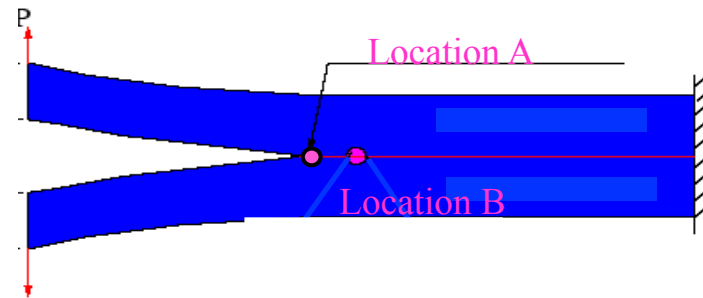
(b) Step # 16



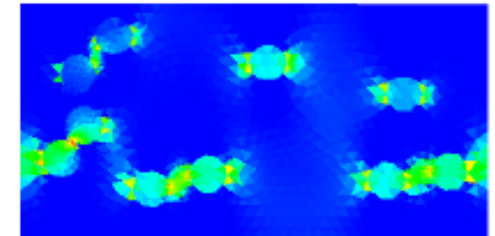
(c) Step # 20  
Location A



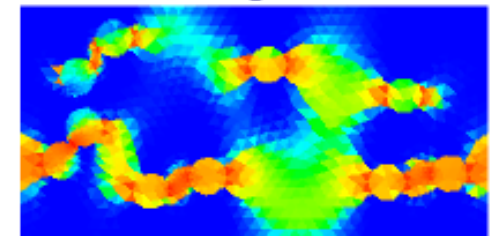
Macroscopic mesh



(d) Step # 20



(e) Step # 22

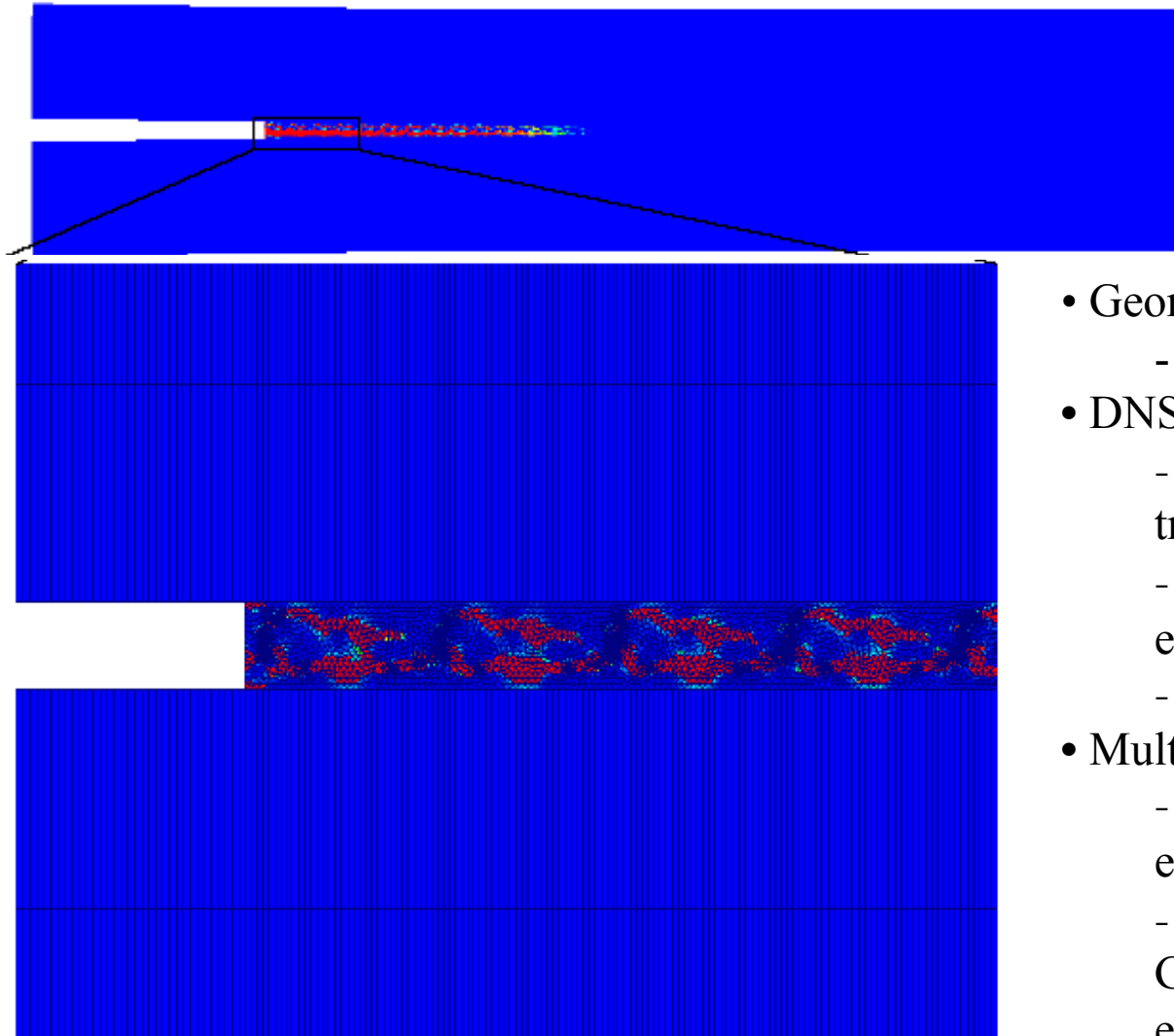


(f) Step # 26  
Location B





# DNS



Damage pattern periodic  
except at notch tip

- Geometry:
  - Beam length = 20 mm
- DNS:
  - 68766 constant strain triangles
  - 11248 mixed-enhanced quad elements
  - 96000 degrees of freedom
- Multi-scale:
  - 80 mixed-enhanced quad elements
  - 40 cohesive elements (3 Gauss quadrature points per element)
  - 1436 nodes, 2750 elements

Kasper and Taylor (2000)



# Comparison with DNS

Beam length = 20 mm

Minor differences  
due to non-  
periodicity of  
solution in front of  
the crack tip

