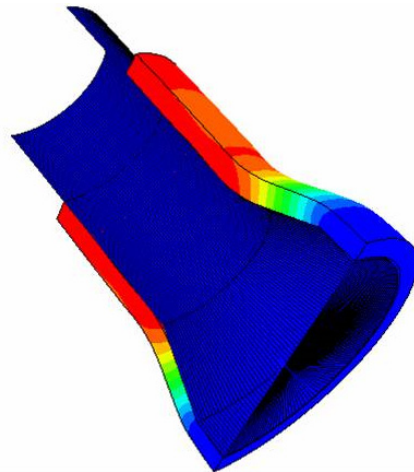


# Fundamentals of EMPT-Welding



**4th International Conference on High Speed Forming**  
**March 9-10 2010**  
**Columbus, Ohio**



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Dipl.-Wirtsch.-Ing. P. Groche  
Dipl.-Ing. A. Elsen

Institute for Production Engineering and Forming Machines  
Technische Universität Darmstadt  
Germany



- Introduction and Motivation
  - Basic Principles of the EMP–Technology
  - The EMP-Welding Process
- Objective and Approach
- Results
  - Simulation of EMP–Welding Zone
  - Welding Experiments
  - Metallographic Examination
  - Concept for Test Stand
- Summary and Outlook



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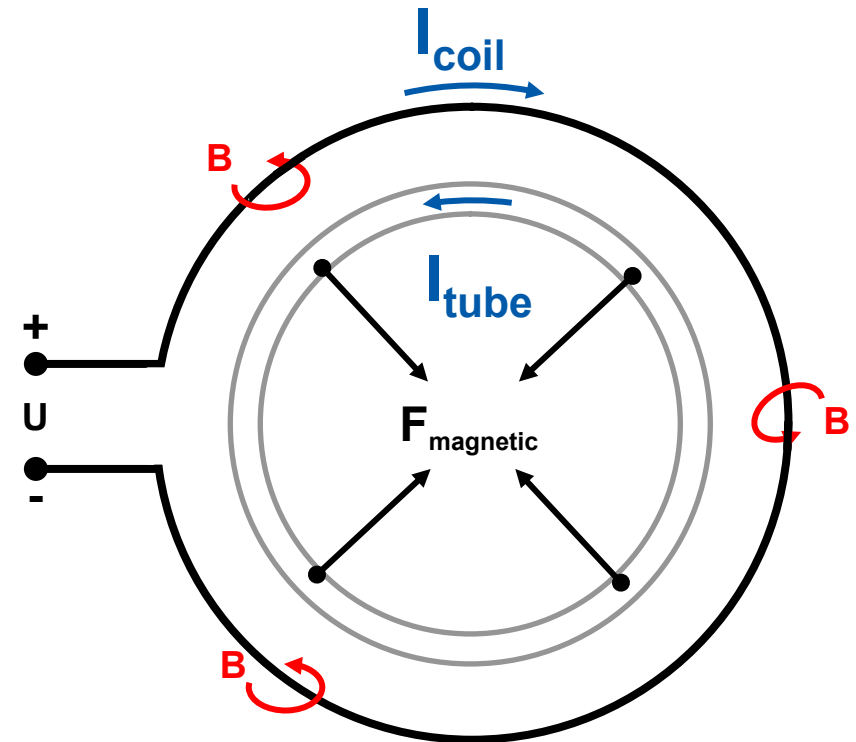
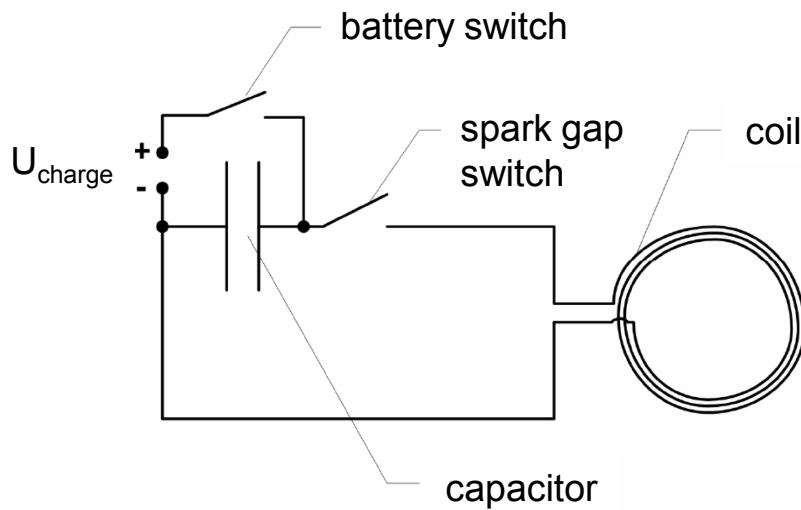




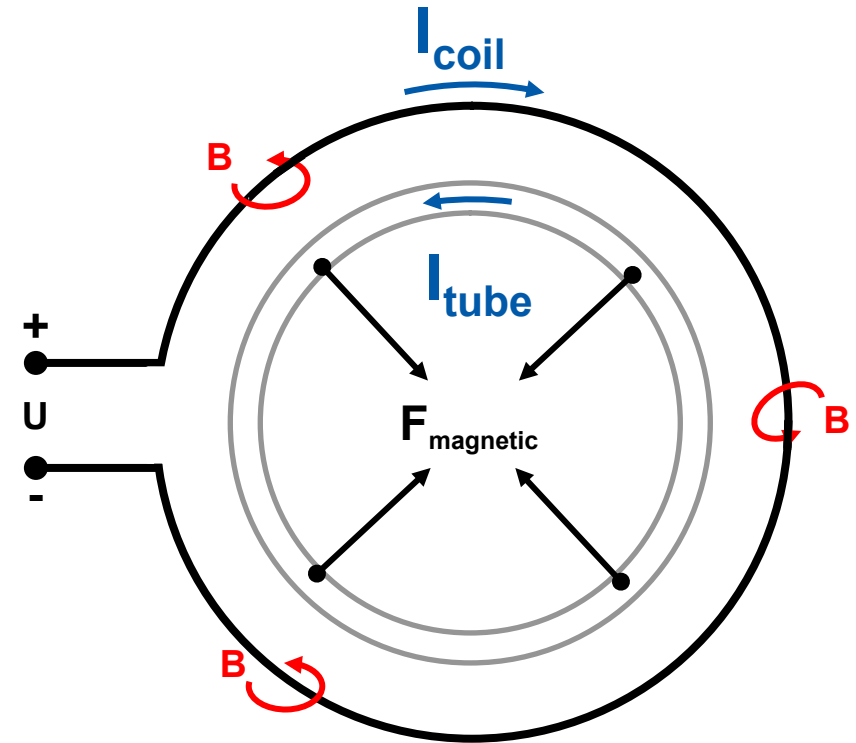
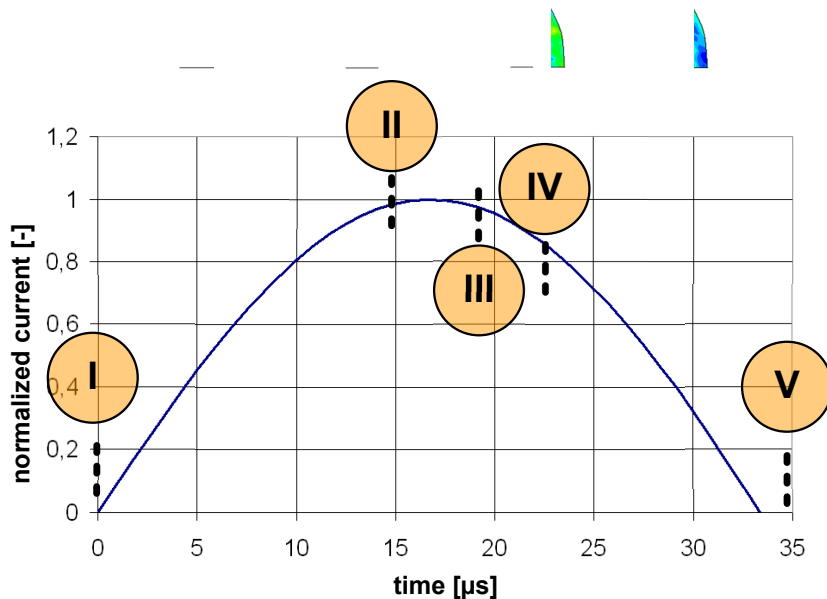
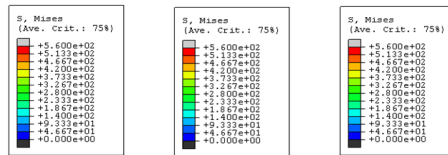
# Electromagnetic Pulse Technology (EMPT)

- The EMPT (Electromagnetic Pulse Technology) utilizes the force effect of an impulse-type magnetic field for the acceleration of planar (e.g. sheets) or cylindrical structures (e.g. tubes, profiles, etc) of conductive materials.
  
- Depending on the conceptual design of the tools, the selection of materials and the adjustment of parameters, the EMPT can be subdivided in:
  - > Electromagnetic Pulse **Joining**,
  - > Electromagnetic Pulse **Forming**,
  - > Electromagnetic Pulse **Cutting**
  - > Electromagnetic Pulse **Powder Compaction** and
  - > Electromagnetic Pulse **Welding**

# Process Sequence



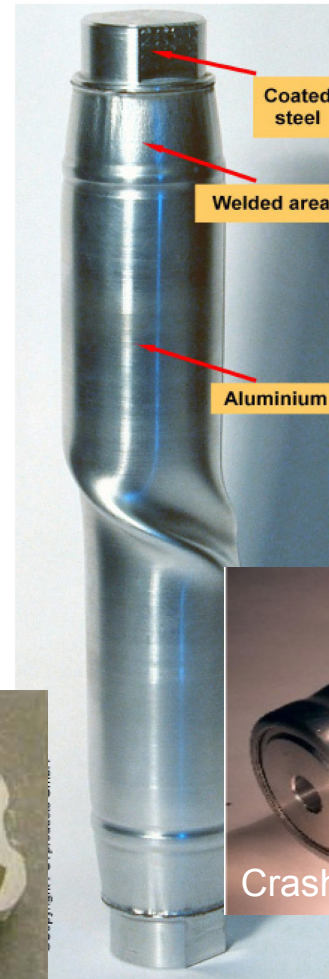
# Process Sequence



# Variety of Parts

## Typical Products are:

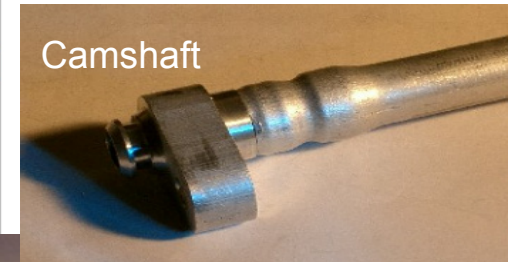
- Hybrid and Lightweight Structural Parts
- Automotive Crash Management Structures
- Filter Bodies and Cases
- Hybrid-Driveshafts
- other Hybrid Metal Assemblies



Driveshaft



Camshaft



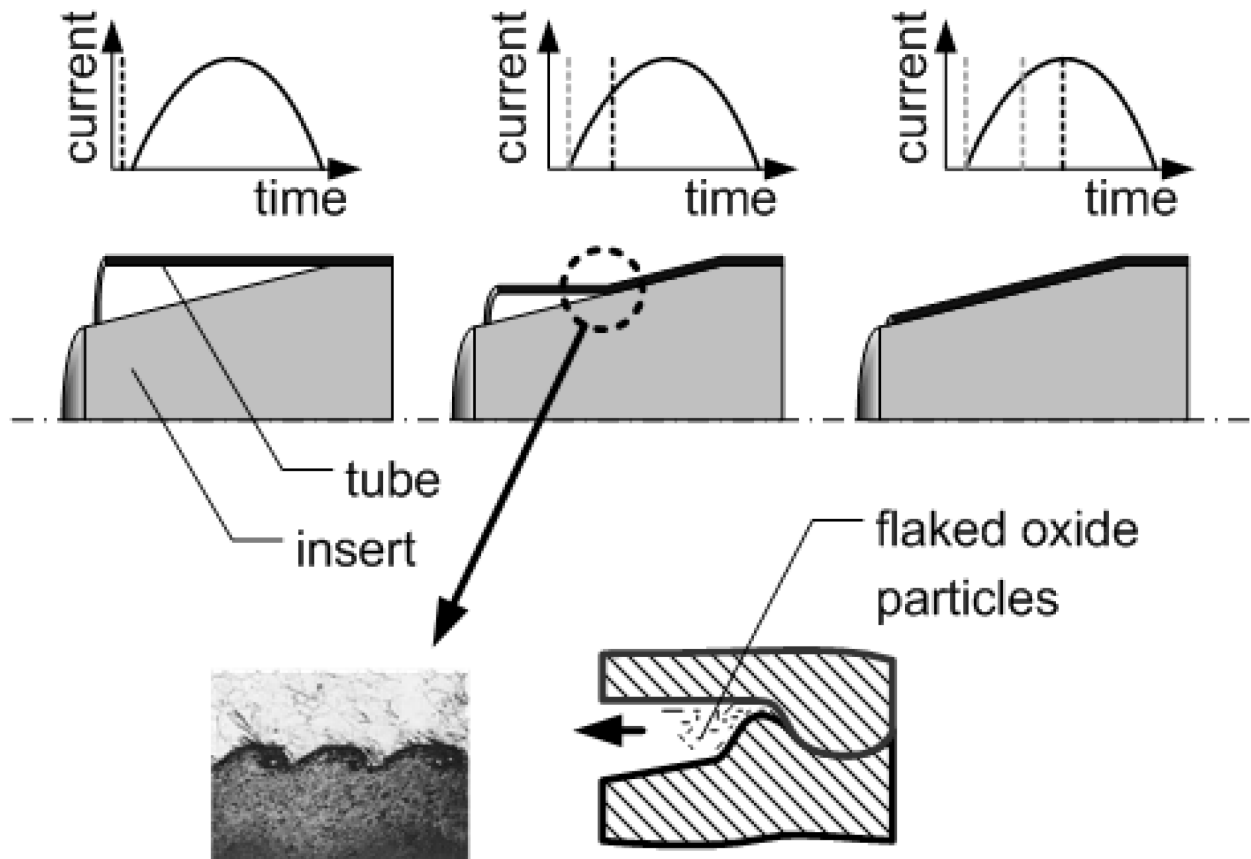
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# The EMP-Welding Process

Integral joining of metallic parts without addition of thermal energy



## Advantages

- **no thermal loads** on the parts as in conventional welding processes
- **no extensive preparations** as in adhesive joining
- **non-contacting** forming forces
- feasibility joining of **joining dissimilar materials**
- **high repeat accuracy** at an actual production time of  $<0.1$  s
- high potential of **automation** as well as manual handling without particular technical skills
- **no additives** or auxiliary materials required

## Disadvantages

- several **unknown process parameters**
- procedure of **“trial and error”** in prototyping

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## Overall Objective

### **Programming of an „Expert System EMP-Welding“**

for the numerical dimensioning of relevant process parameters prior to prototyping

### **Development of a conventionally driven test stand with reduced complexity for the investigation of high-speed impacts**

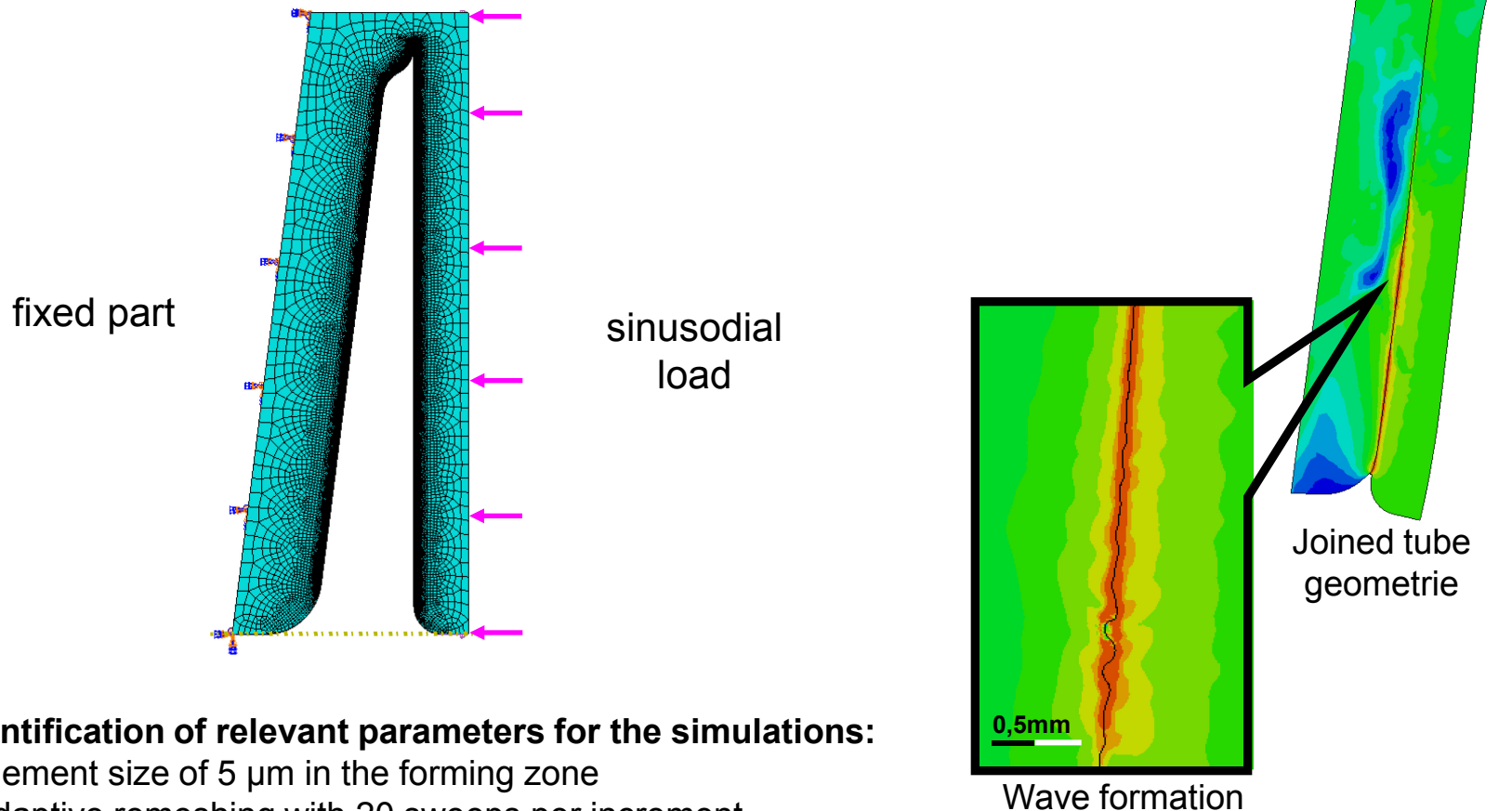
- identification of process windows for welding of Al-Al, Al-steel and steel-steel combinations
- study of the joining mechanism
- numerical modeling of the forming process and validation by experimental data
- conduction of experiments on joint strength
- coding of scripts and subroutines; implementation into FEA-software

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# Numerical Simulation of EMPW-Process

- rotationally-symmetric model consisting of two tubular parts
- Application of the magnetic pressure with a sinusoidal amplitude within  $35 \mu\text{s}$

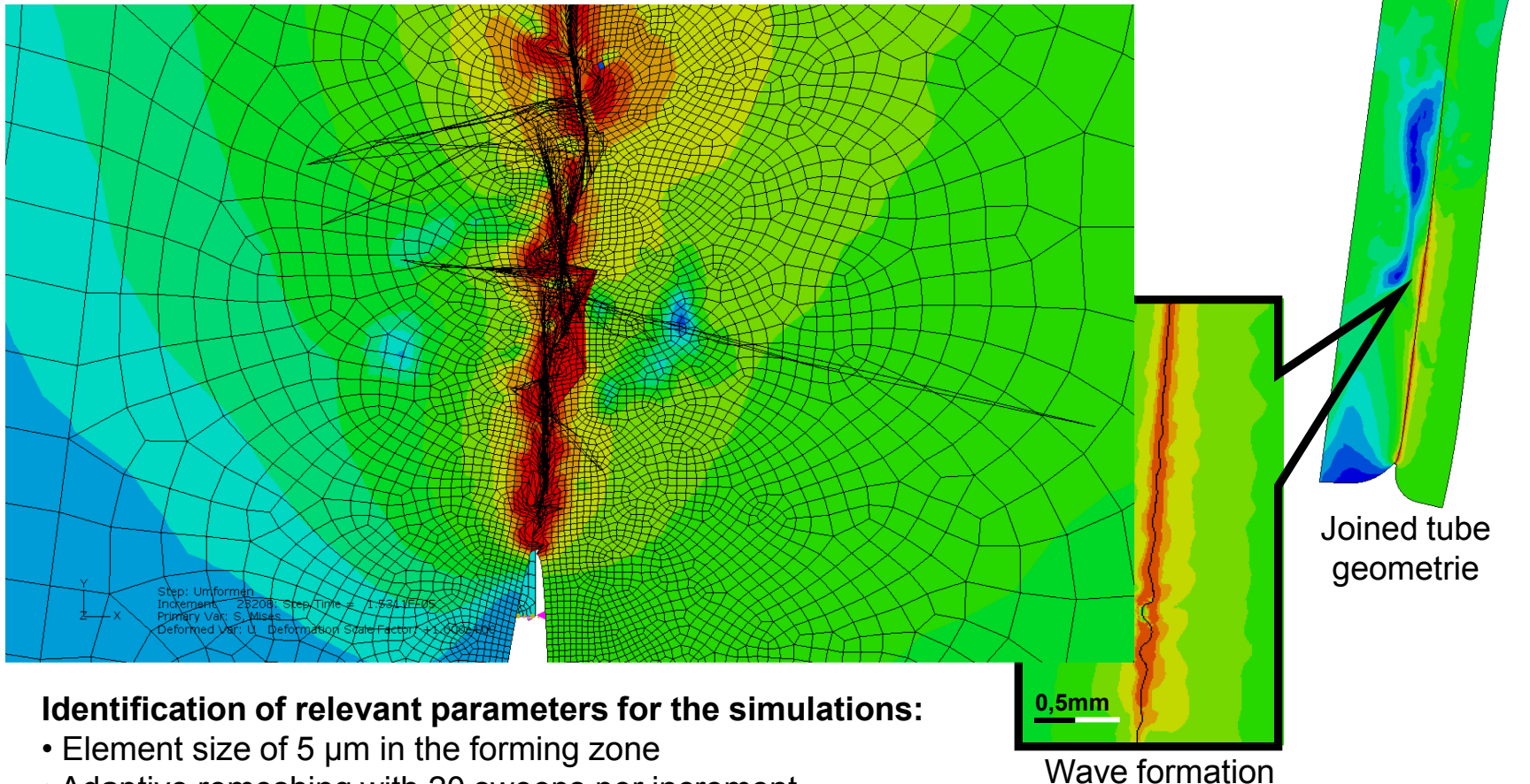


## Identification of relevant parameters for the simulations:

- Element size of  $5 \mu\text{m}$  in the forming zone
- Adaptive remeshing with 20 sweeps per increment

# Numerical Simulation of EMPW-Process

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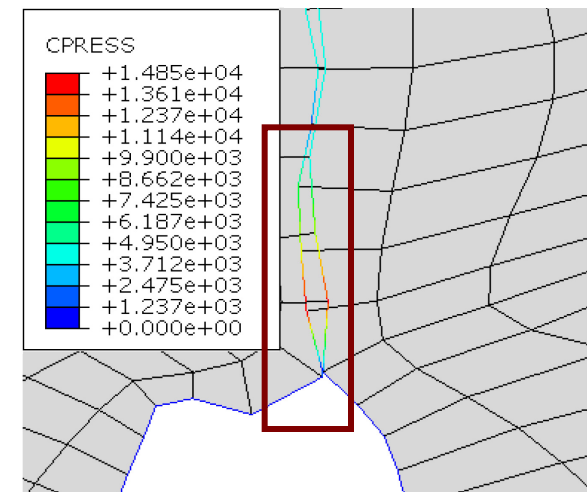
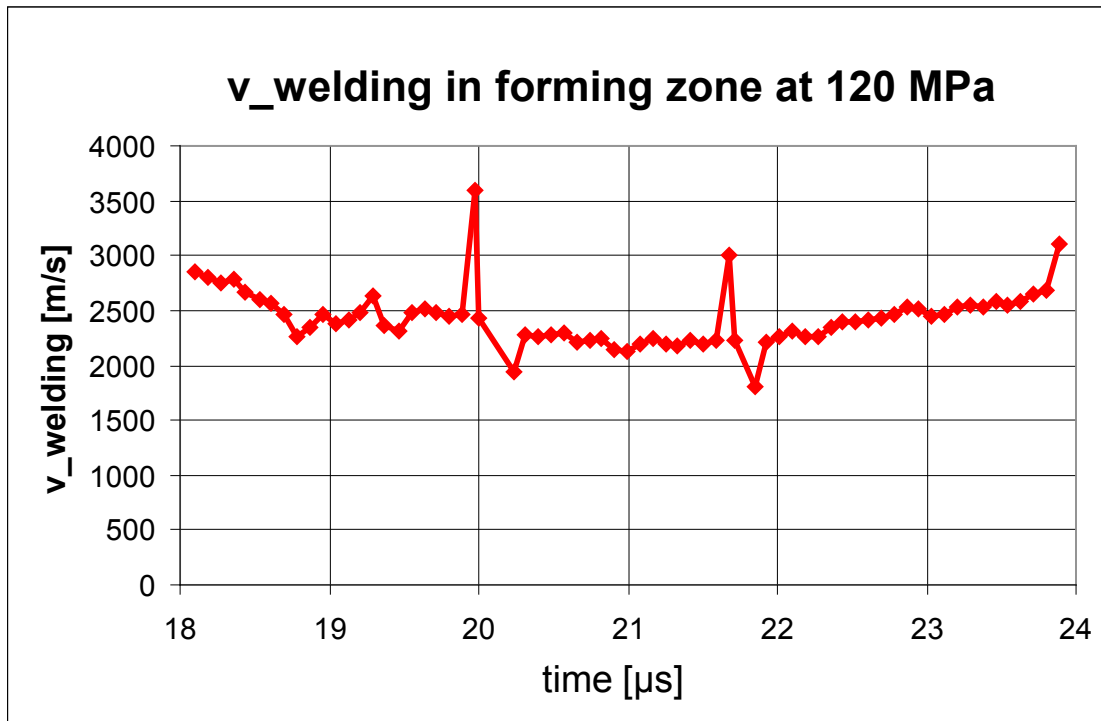


## Identification of relevant parameters for the simulations:

- Element size of  $5 \mu\text{m}$  in the forming zone
- Adaptive remeshing with 20 sweeps per increment

# Numerical Simulation of EMPW-Process

- local welding velocity  $v_{\text{welding}}$ : 300 - 4000 m/s
- formation of a wavy interface
- normal contact forces 2 – 8 GPa



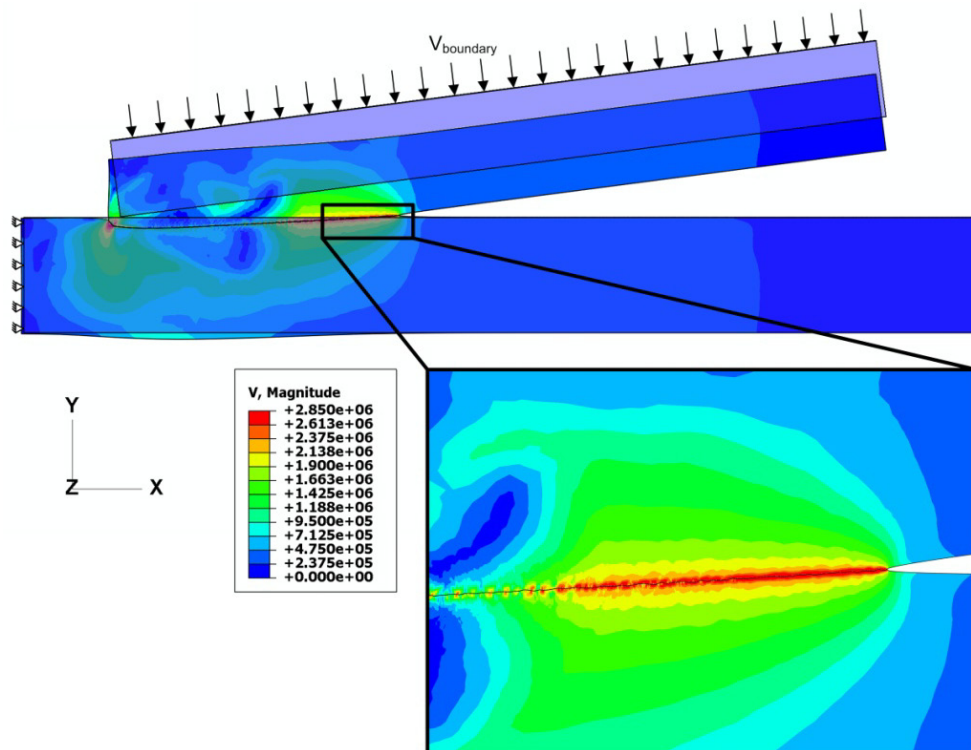
limited significance of contact  
normal force values due to  
element penetration



# Numerical Simulation of EMPW-Process

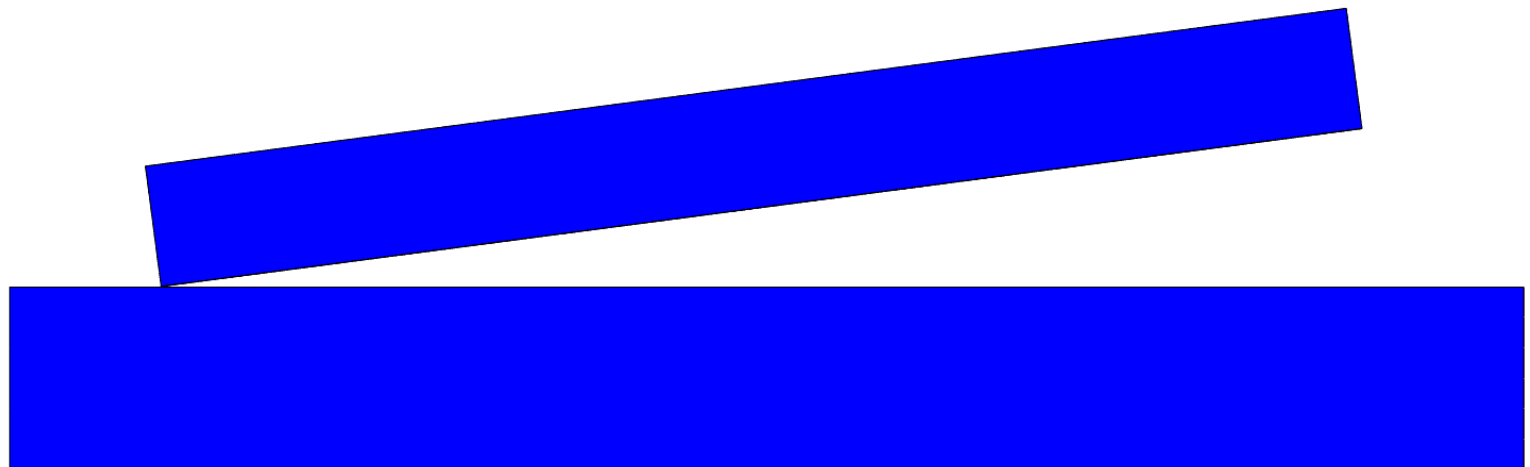
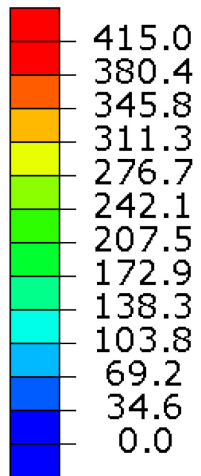
Abstraction of the process to reduce computing times:

- no sinusoidal pressure but presetting of impact velocity
- utilization of mass inertia
- planar sheet metal in place of tubular parts



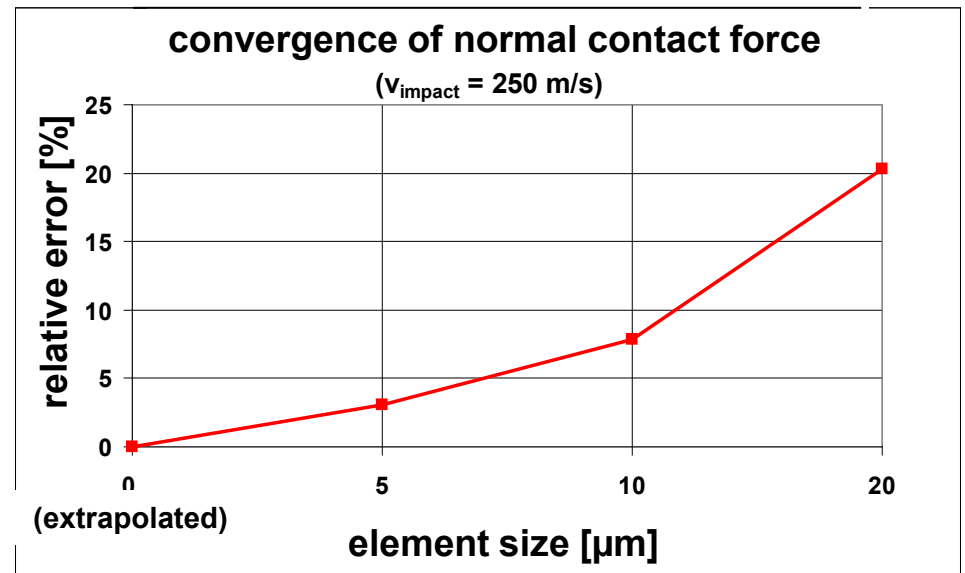
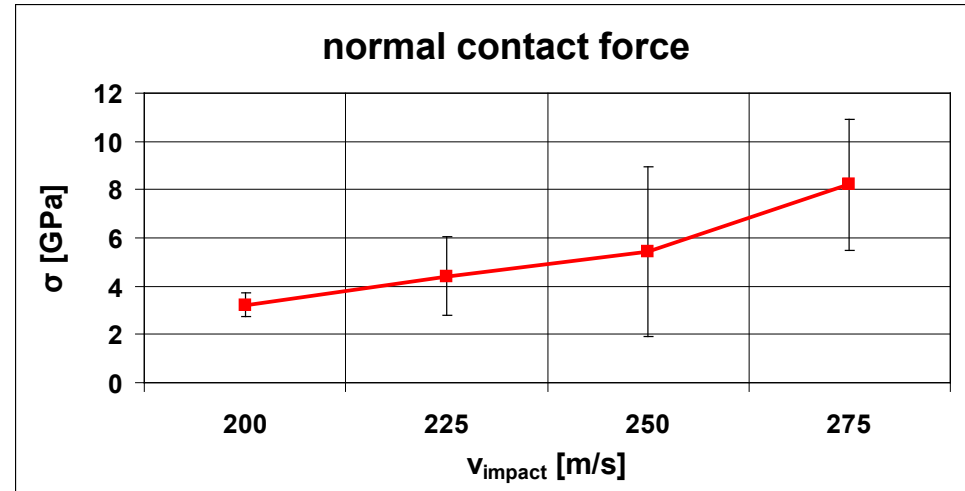
# Numerical Simulation of EMPW-Process

S, Mises  
(Avg: 75%)



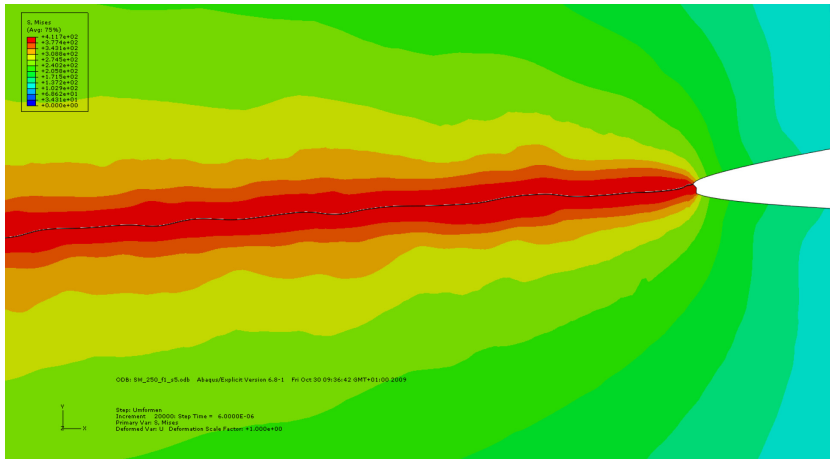
# Results: normal contact forces

- normal contact forces in the joining zone are subject to wide variations and inaccuracies
- analyses can only be carried out with the aid of average values
  
- Average value can be utilized for convergence examination purposes

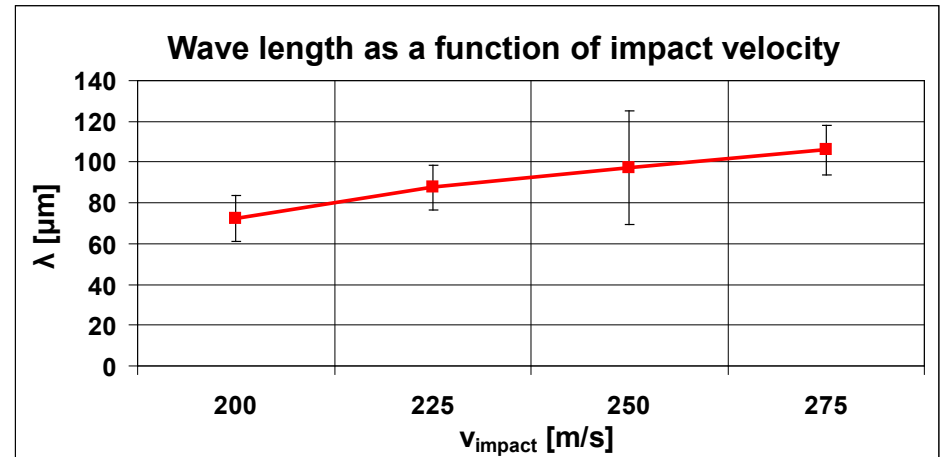
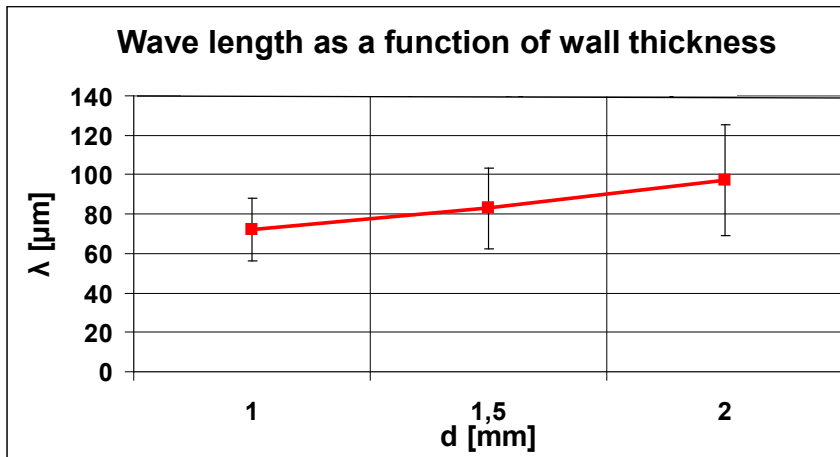
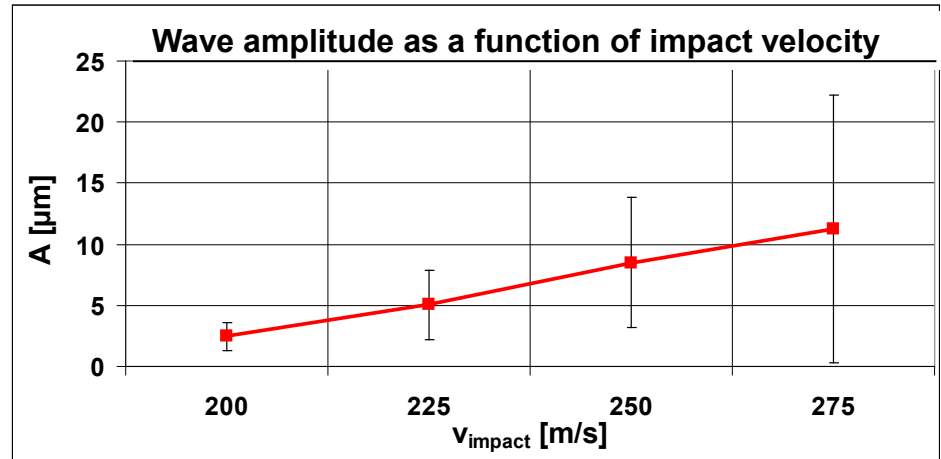


# Results: wave formation

- Formation of waves in the welding interface



- Specific values are dependent on load and geometry

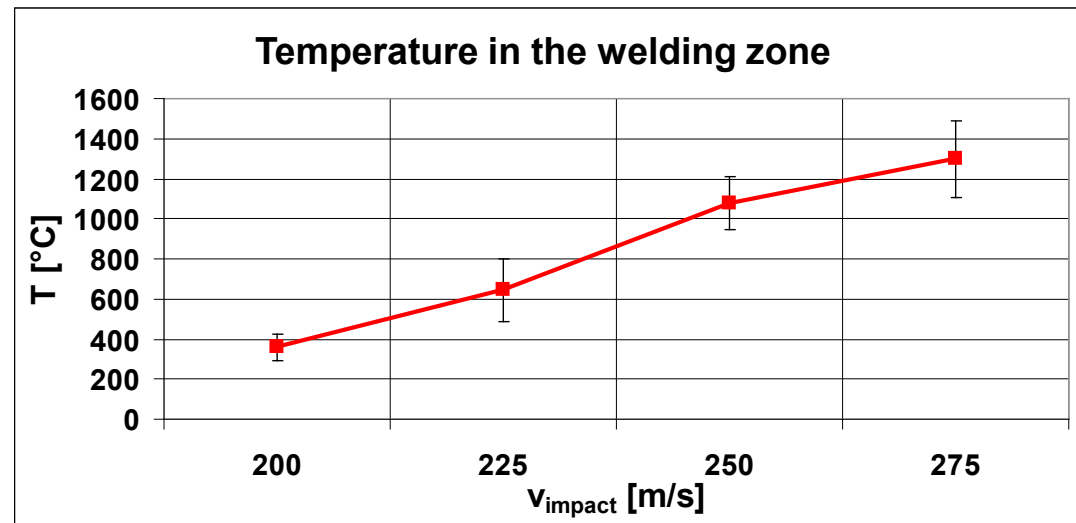
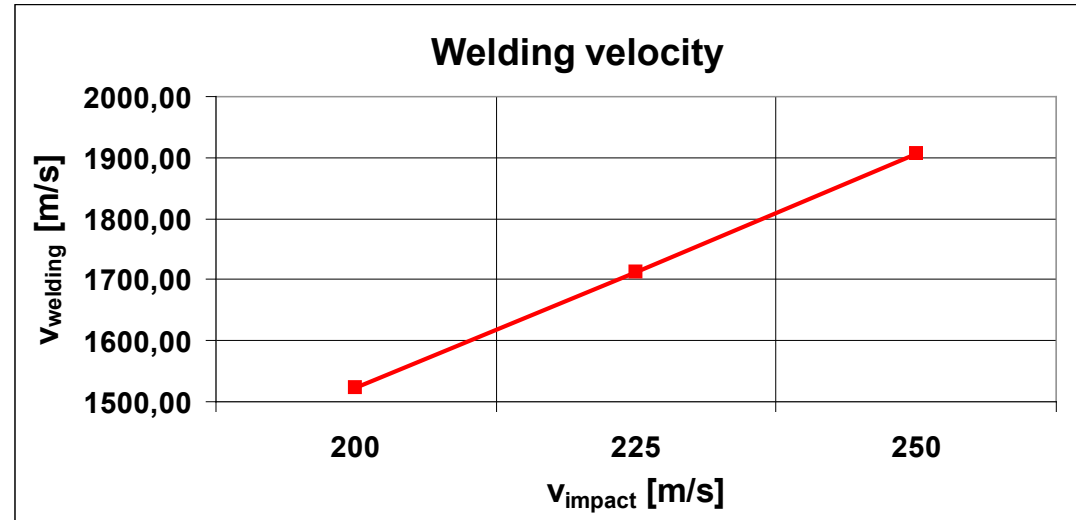


# Results: other values

- Welding velocity is in good accordance with the geometrical relation ( 0,3%)

$$v_{\text{welding}} = v_{\text{impact}} / \tan(\alpha)$$

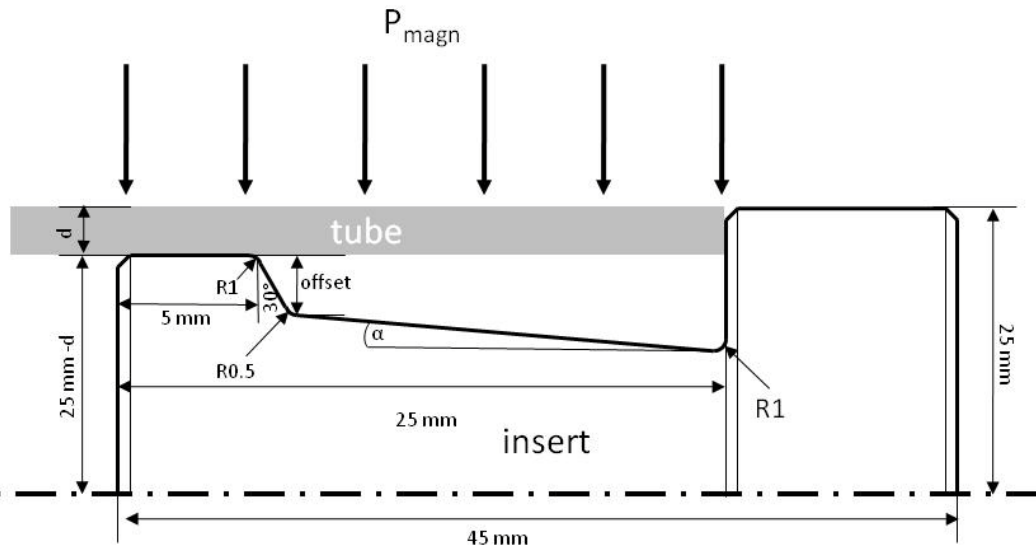
- Temperature exceeds the melting temperature in individual elements
- no overall temperature increase of the components



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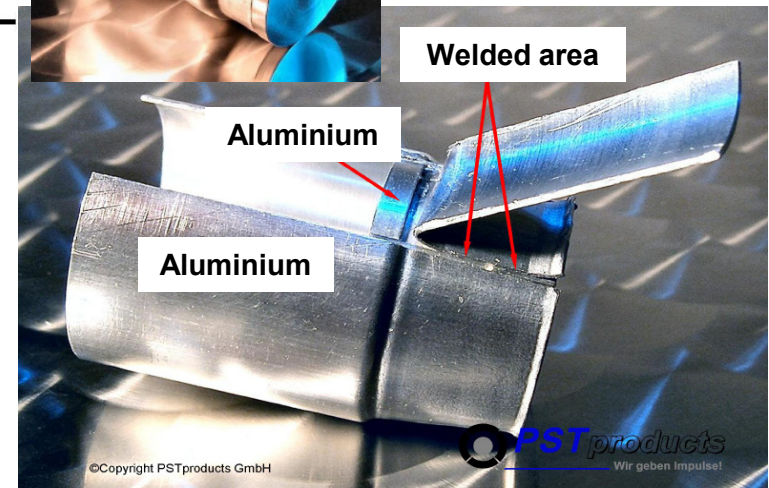
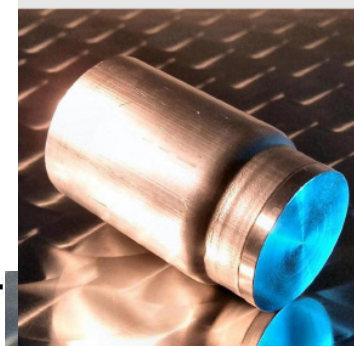


# Welding Experiments



discharge current:  
930 kA @ 14 KHz  $\rightarrow$  400 MPa

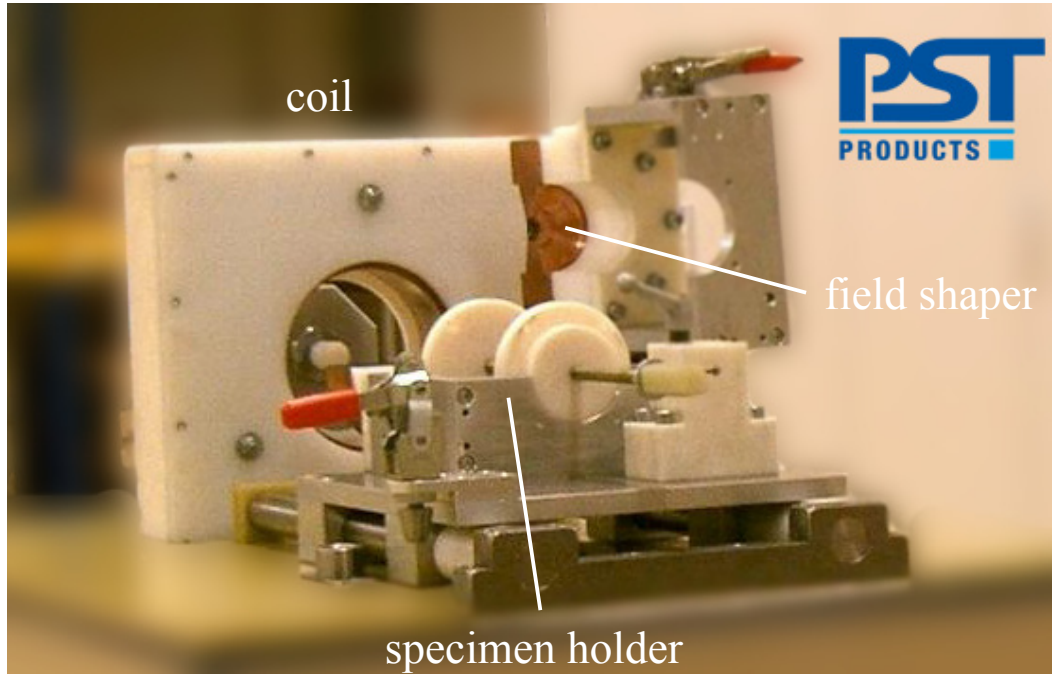
Material: EN AW-6061-T6



Variation of

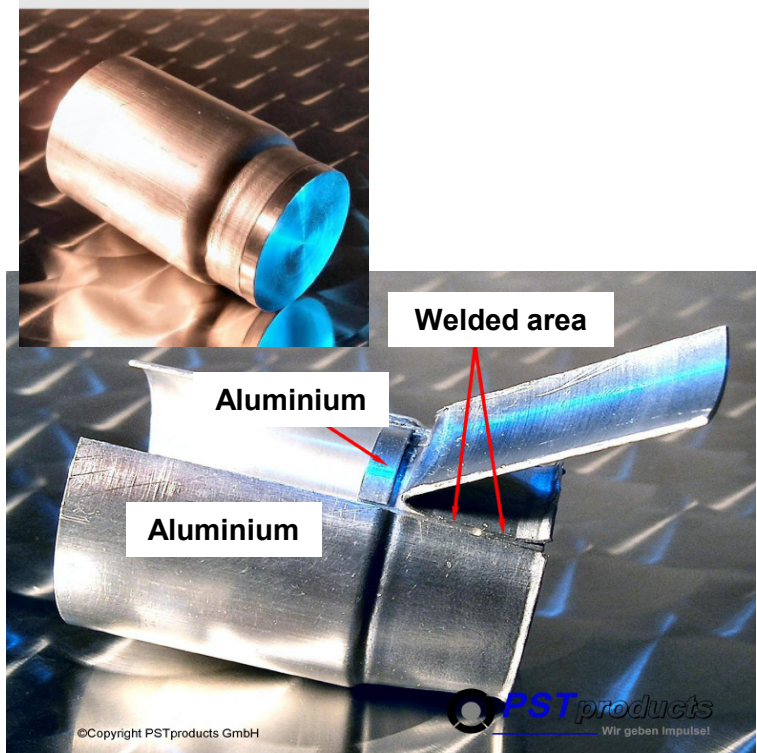
- step size („offset“): 1 mm, 3 mm
- angle  $\alpha$ : 5°, 7.5°, 10°
- wall thickness of flyer: 1.5 mm, 2 mm, 3 mm

# Welding Experiments



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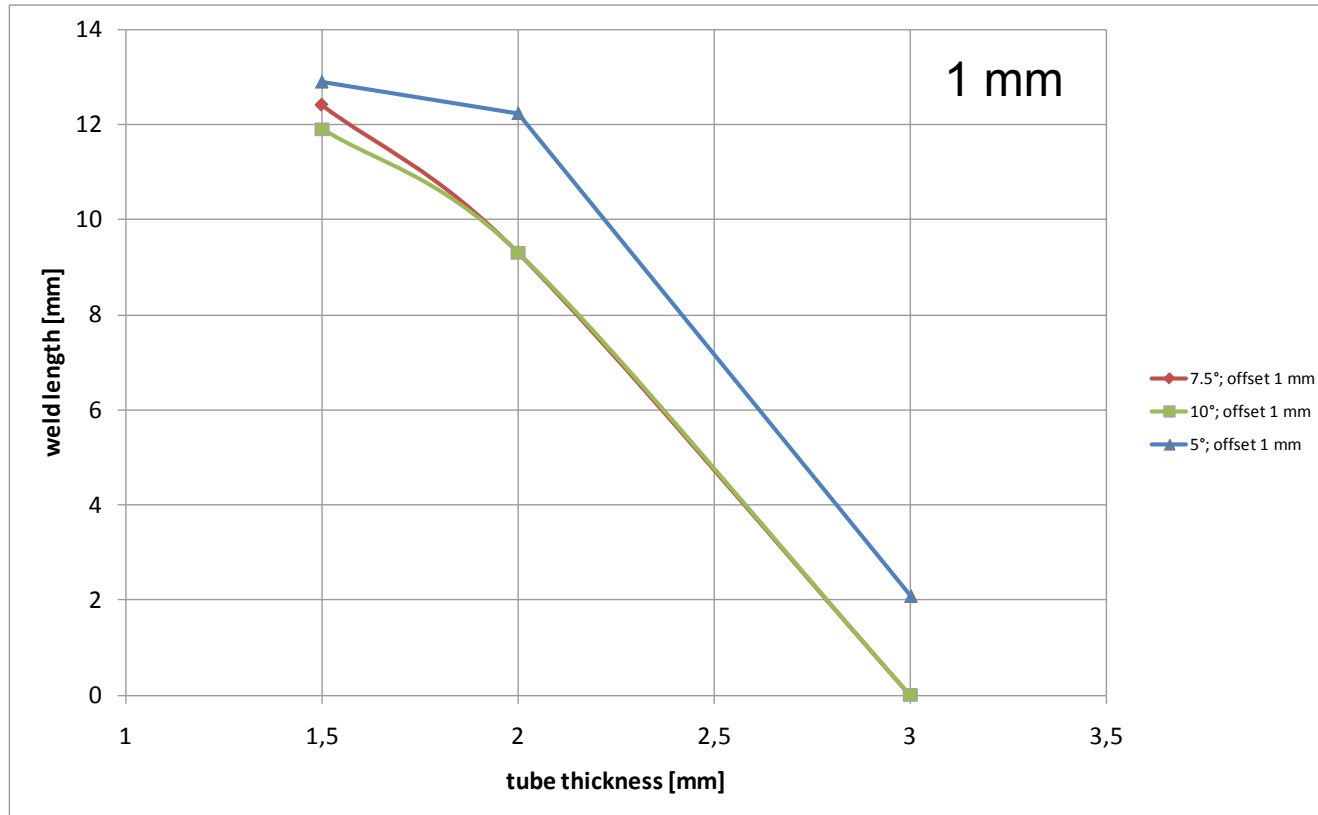


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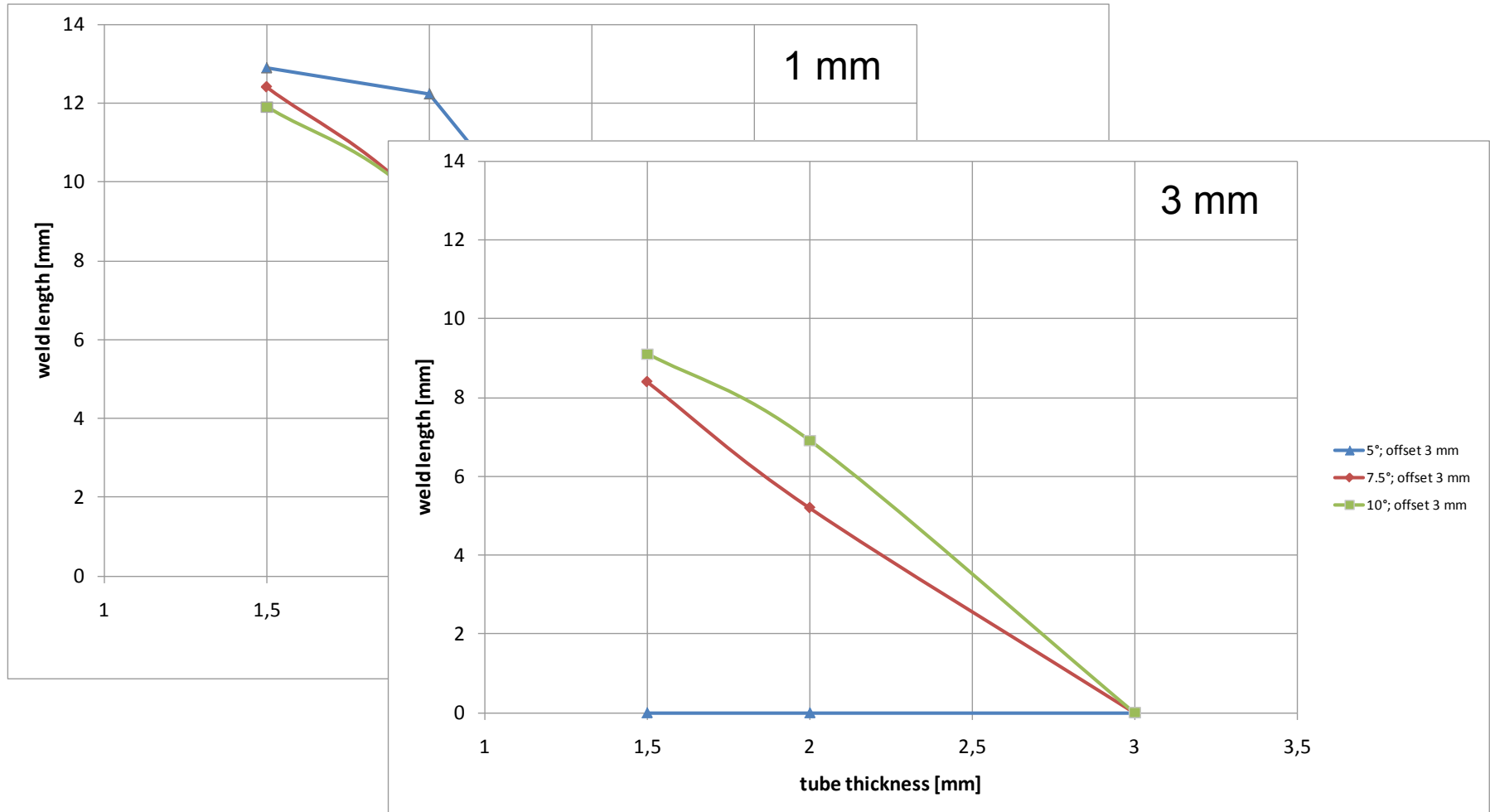
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# Welding length as a function of tube thickness



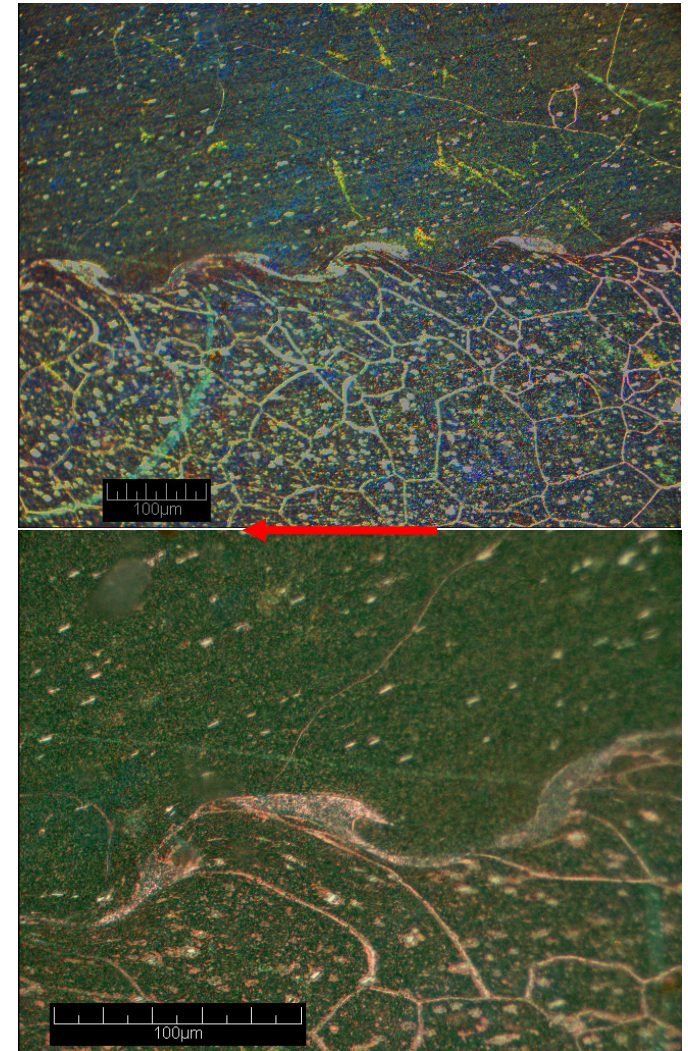
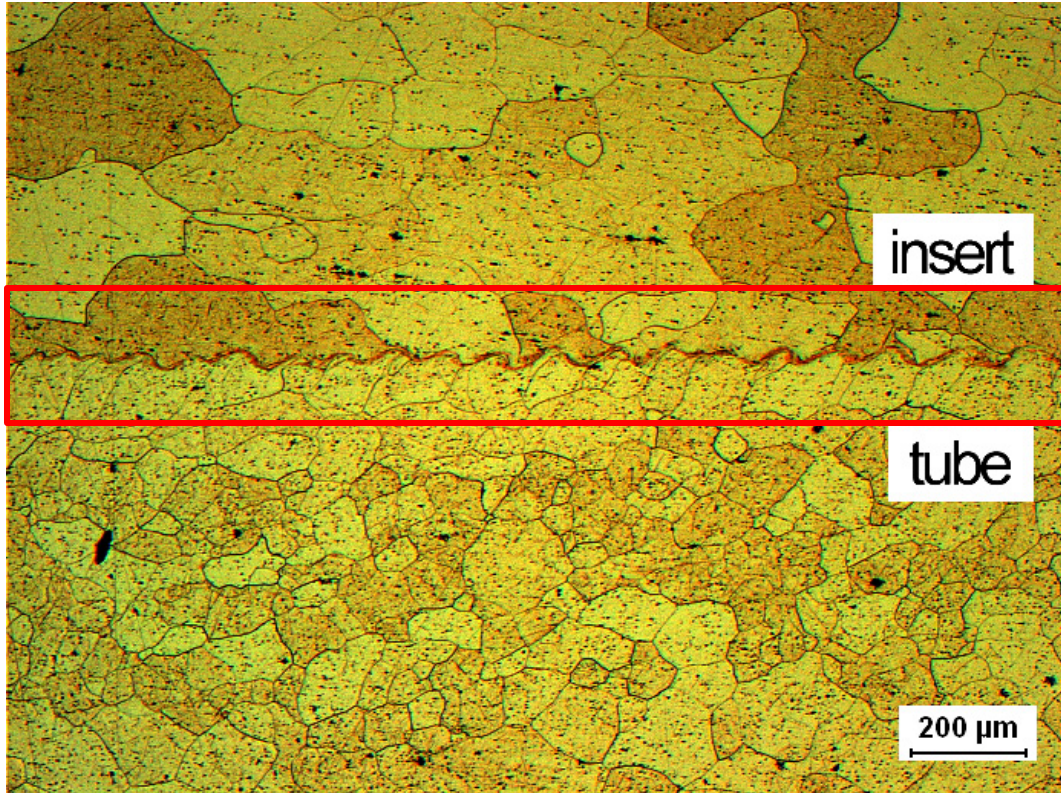
# Welding length as a function of tube thickness



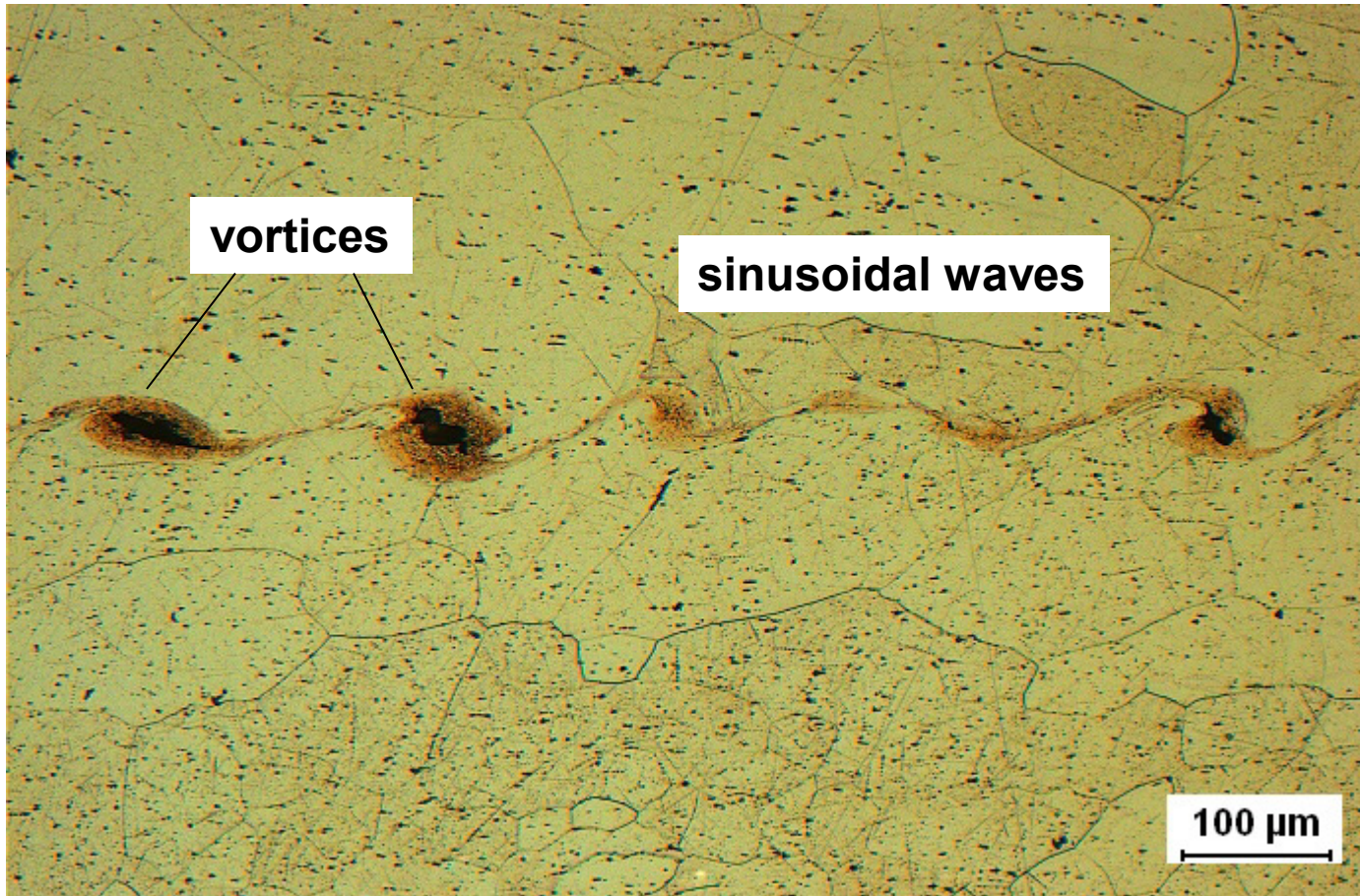
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# Metallographic Examination



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# Principles for Acceleration of impacting Specimen

## Partial Solutions

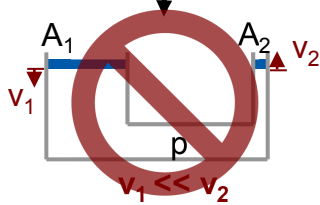
### Magnetic



knock-out criterion

- opposite tendencies of magnetic circuit attributes and demands on mass inertia

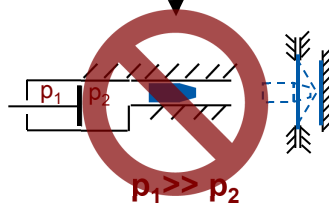
### Hydraulic



knock-out criterion

- turbulent flows
- high mass inertia
- compressibility

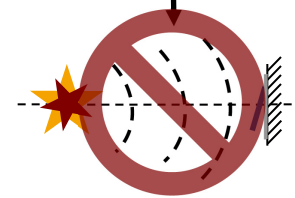
### Pneumatic



knock-out criterion

- insufficient impulse transmission
- reproducibility
- influence of projectile

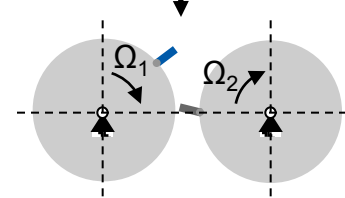
### Explosive



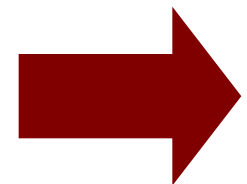
knock-out criterion

- safety in handling explosives
- reproducibility
- parameter adjustment

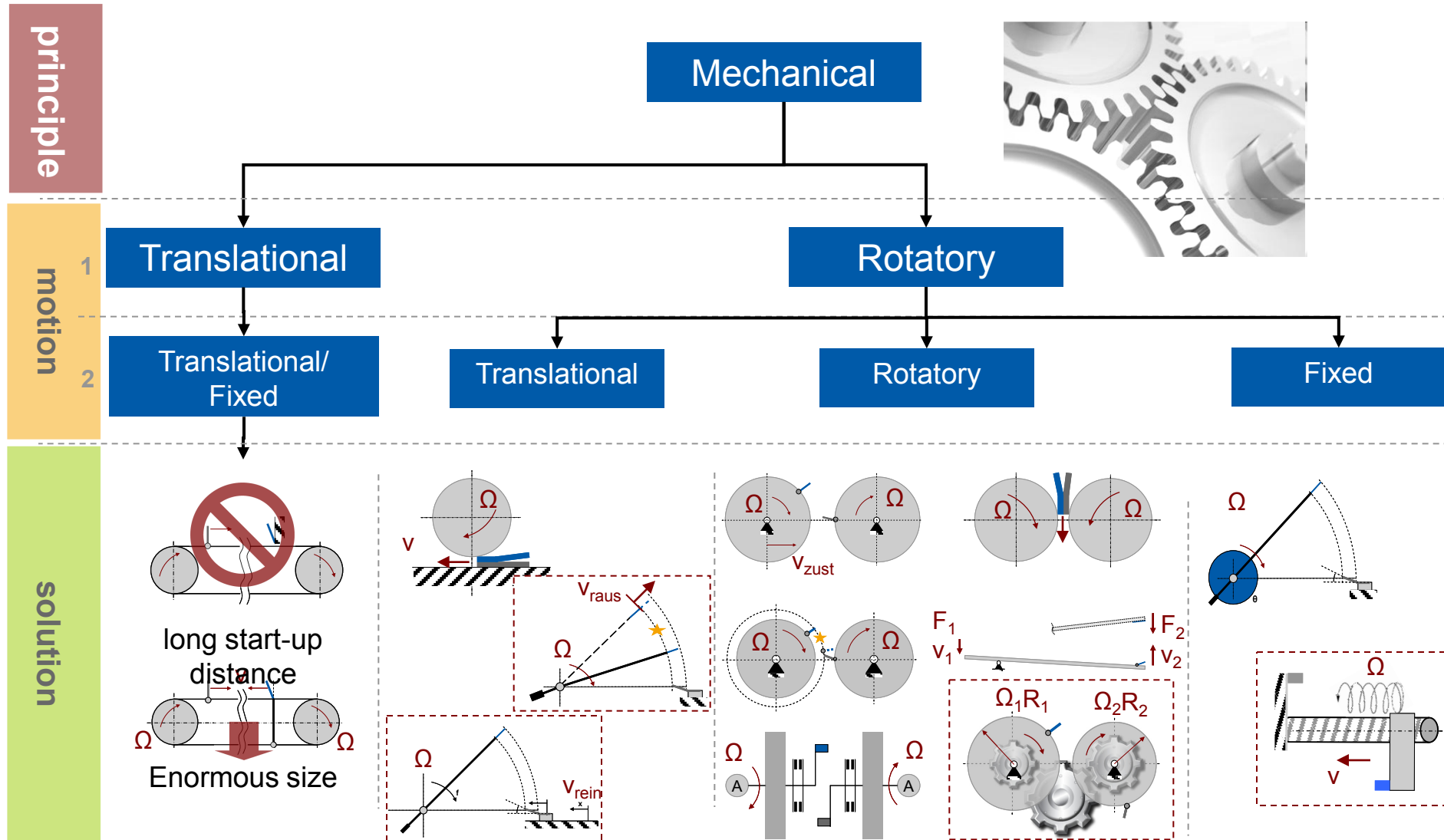
### Mechanical



**feasible**

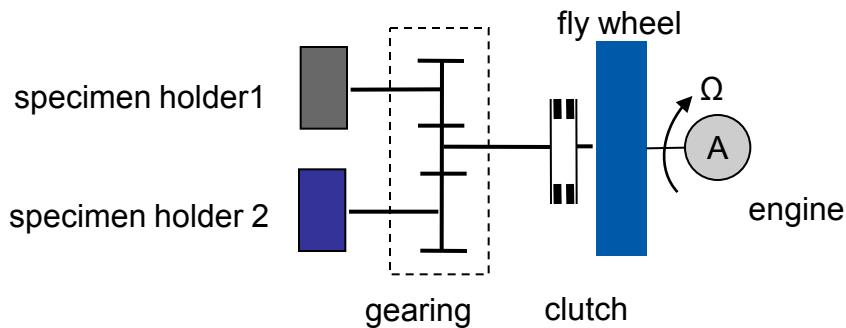
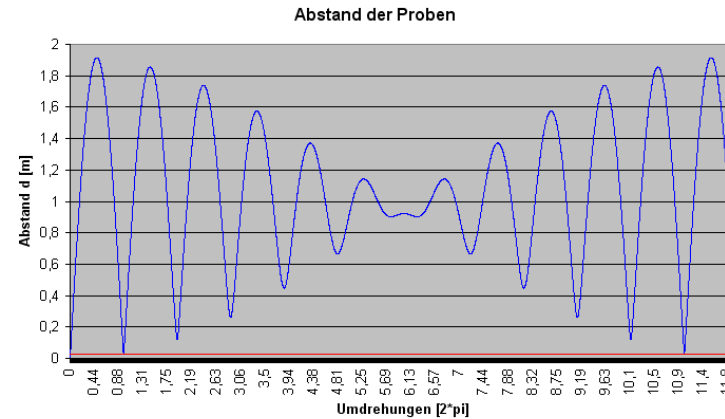
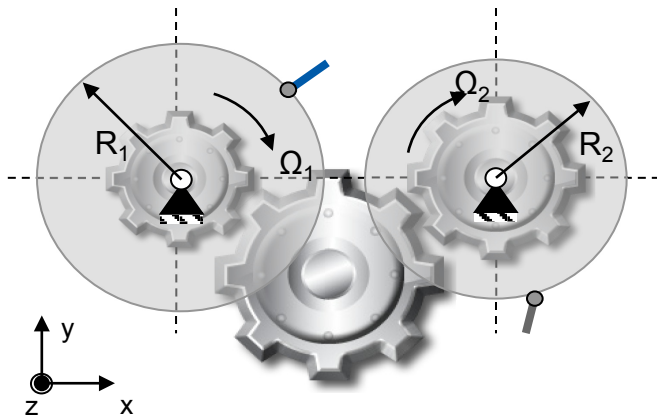


# Systematic Variation of Mechanical Principles





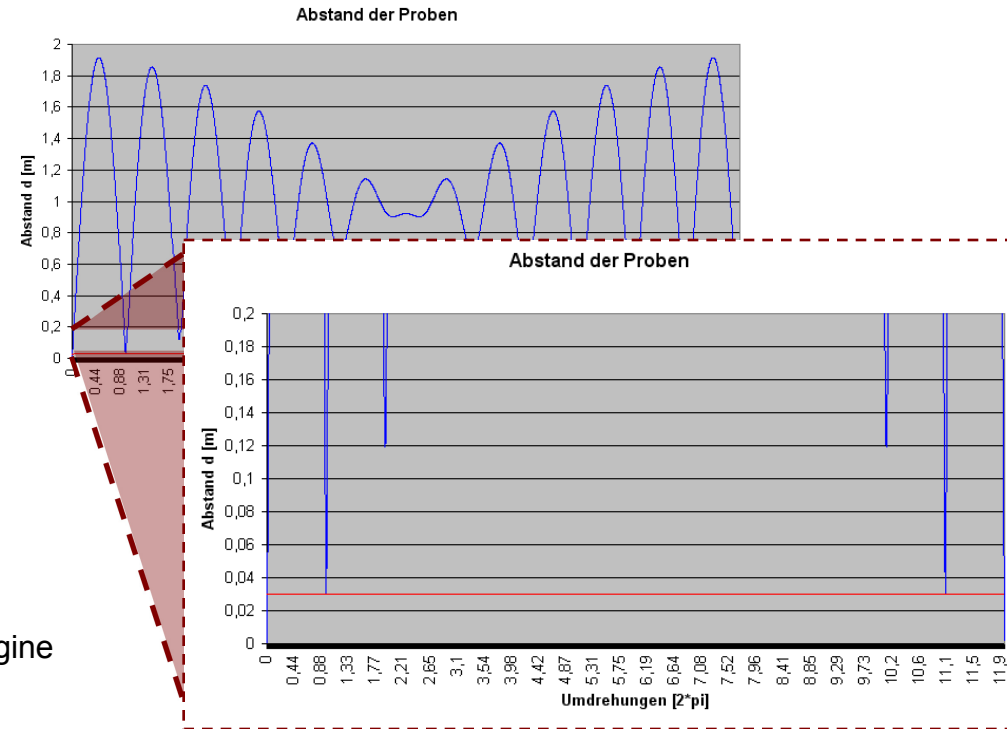
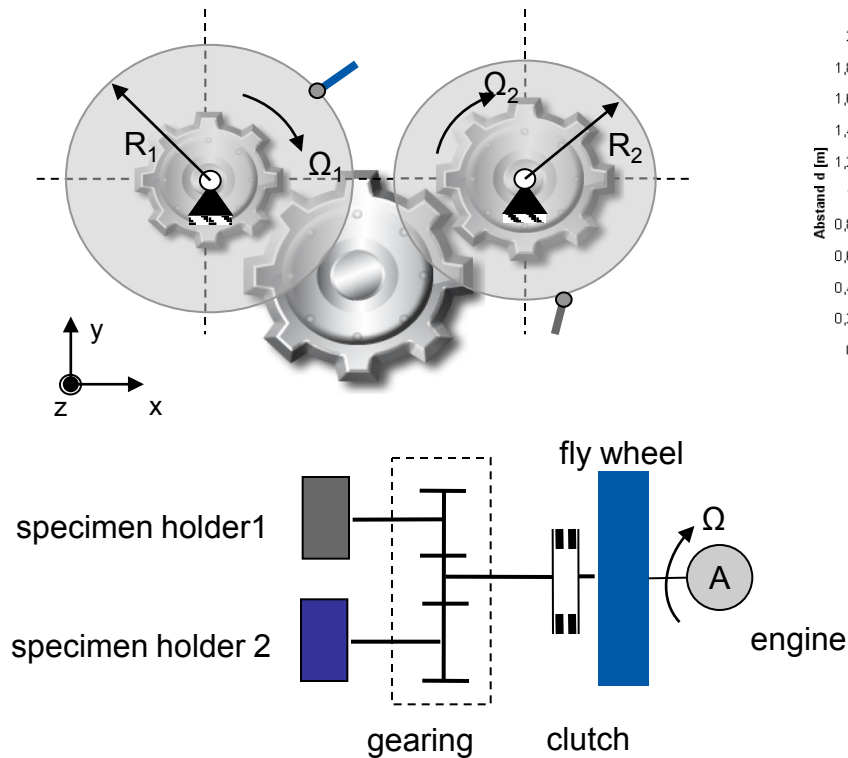
# Final Conception



## Characteristics:

- free-wheeling run-up of the fly wheel
- coupling of the clutch
- transmission of the energy of the fly wheel onto the synchronous gear
- run-up of both specimen within several rotations
- only half the speed per specimen required

# Final Conception



## Characteristics:

- free-wheeling run-up of the fly wheel
- coupling of the clutch
- transmission of the energy of the fly wheel onto the synchronous gear
- run-up of both specimen within several rotations
- only half the speed per specimen required

- Objective: Programming of an „Expert System EMP-Welding“ for the numerical dimensioning of relevant process parameters prior to prototyping
- Development of a conventionally driven test stand with reduced complexity for the investigation of high-speed impacts
- Numerical Simulations show similar characteristics as the actual welding process
- Welding experiments are conducted to indentify the process window

## Outlook

- Manufacturing of test stand starting in april
- Numerical simulations are adapted with contact algorithms that prevent the materials from separating, once threshold values for contact force and strain are exceeded
- SEM-imaging and electron microprobe analysis of the interface

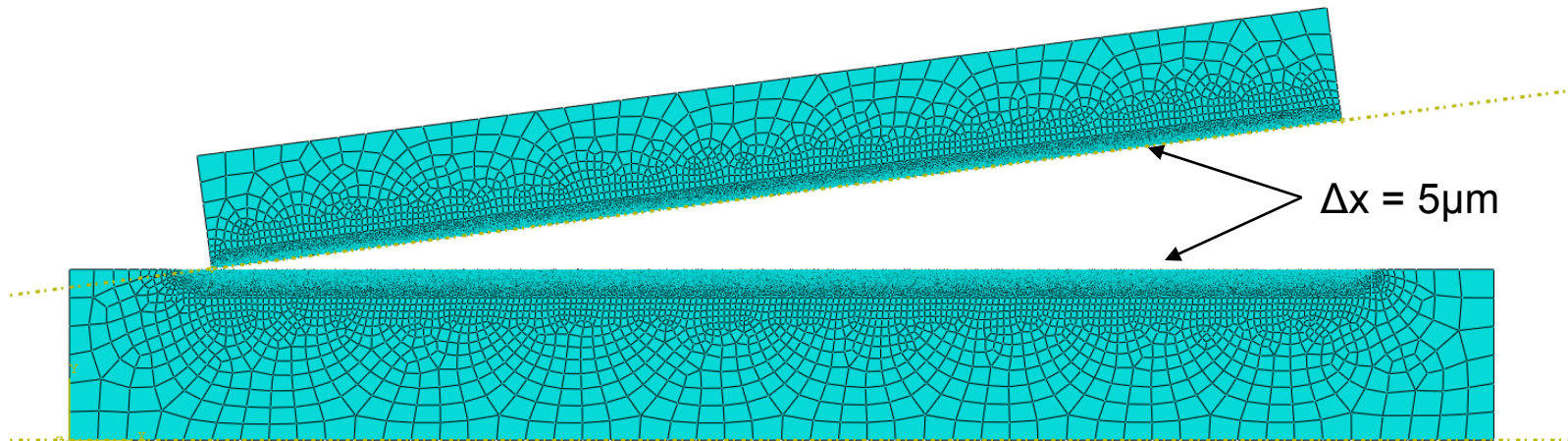
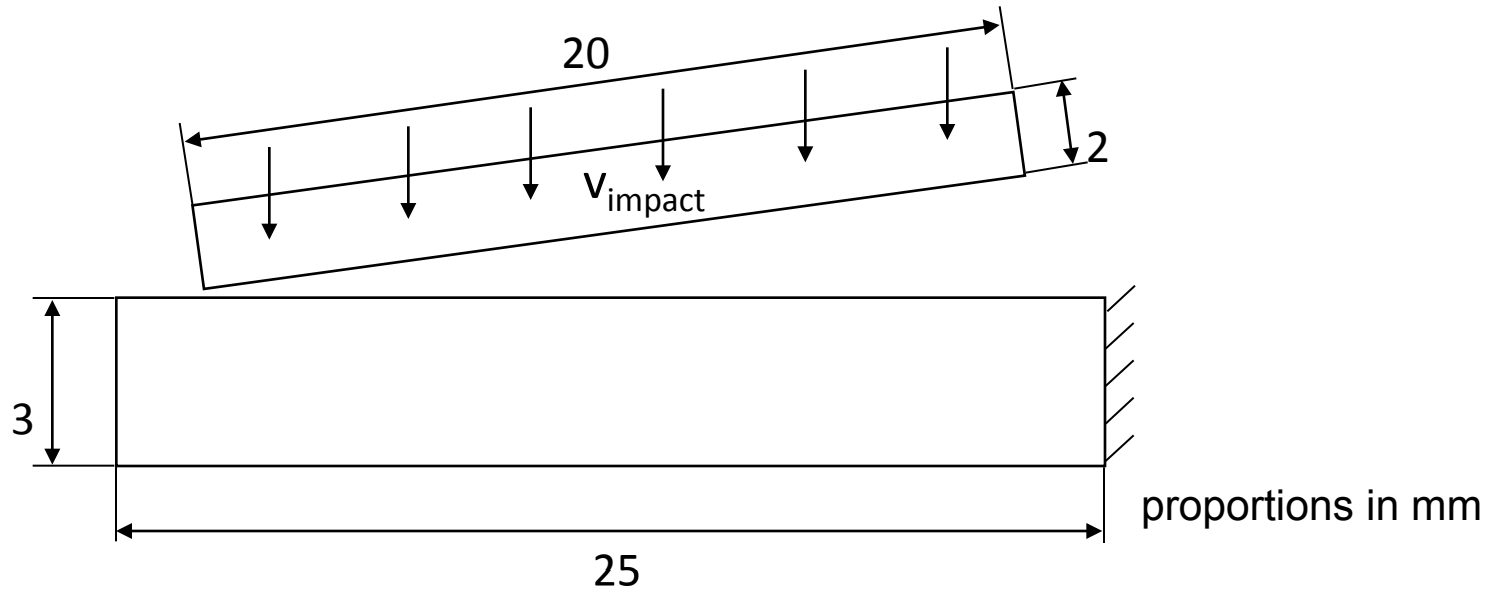


Thank you for your attention

# Numerical Simulation: Geometry and Boundary Conditions

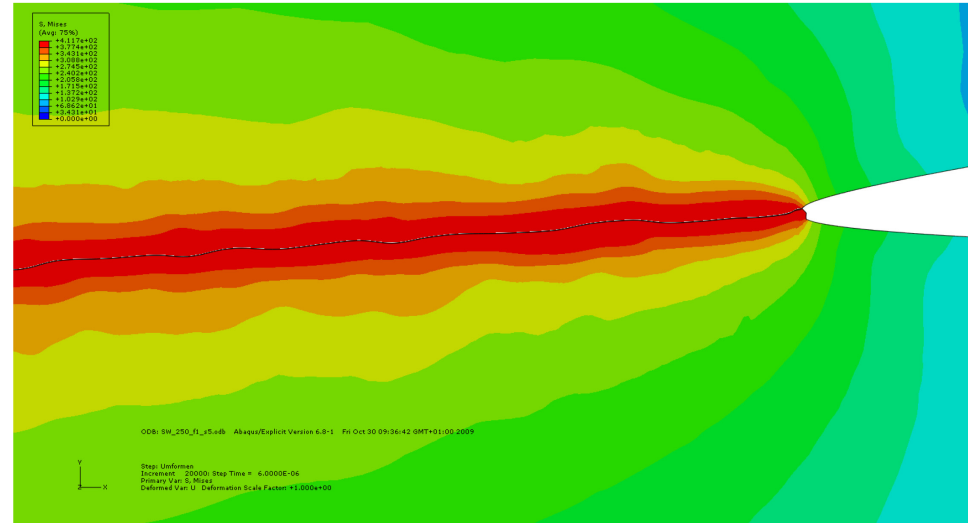


TECHNISCHE  
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DARMSTADT



# Influence of Rezoning

- Rezoning with ideal settings



- no Rezoning

