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# **NTO2 Graphite Fin Swelling Analysis**

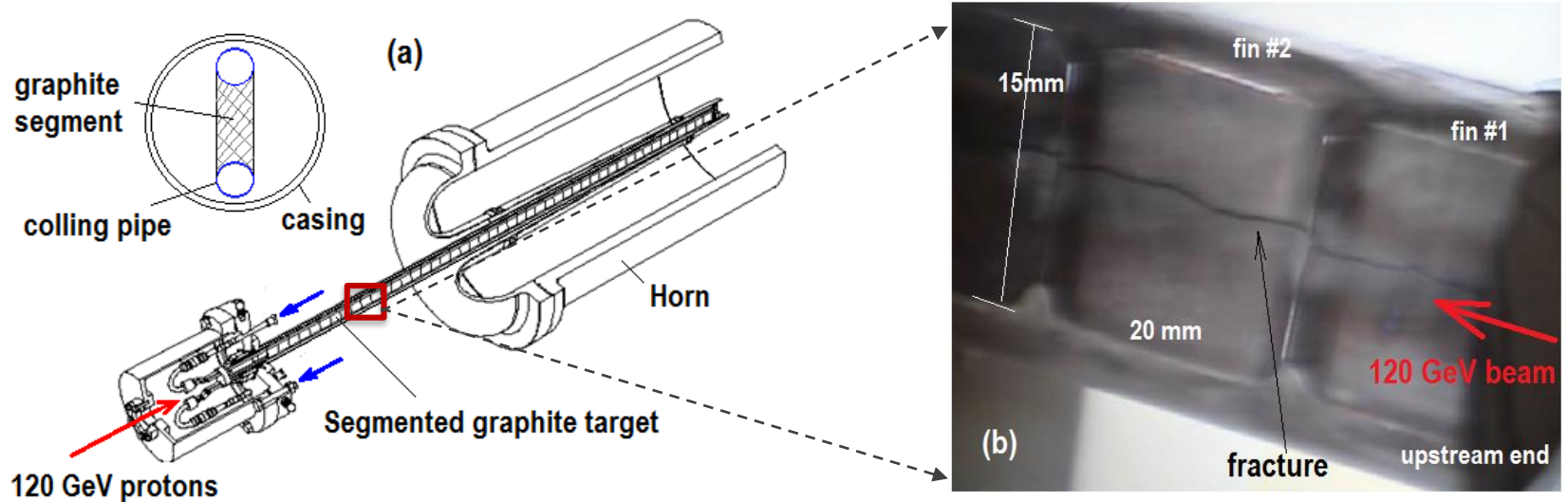
Sujit Bidhar  
TSD Topical Meeting  
April 18, 2019

# Outline

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- Background NTO2 fin
- Empirical modeling of swelling
- Finite element implementation
- Thermal-structural dynamic analysis
  - Failure investigation

# Neutrino (NuMI) target



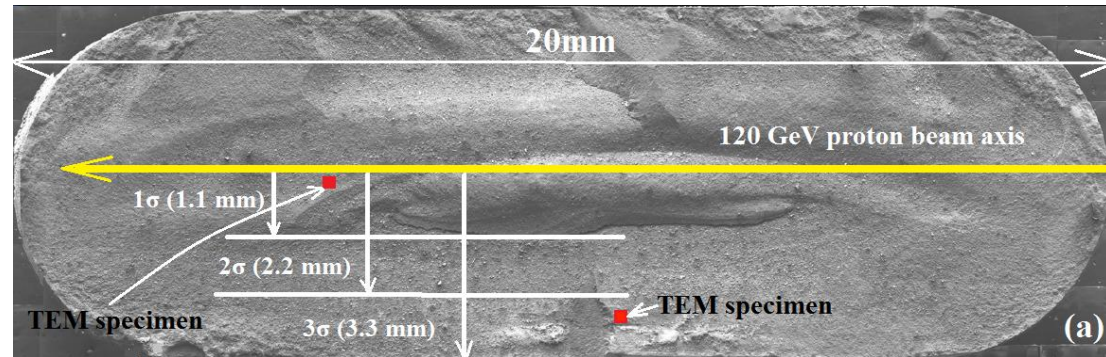
## Fractured surface

Bulk swelling ~2%

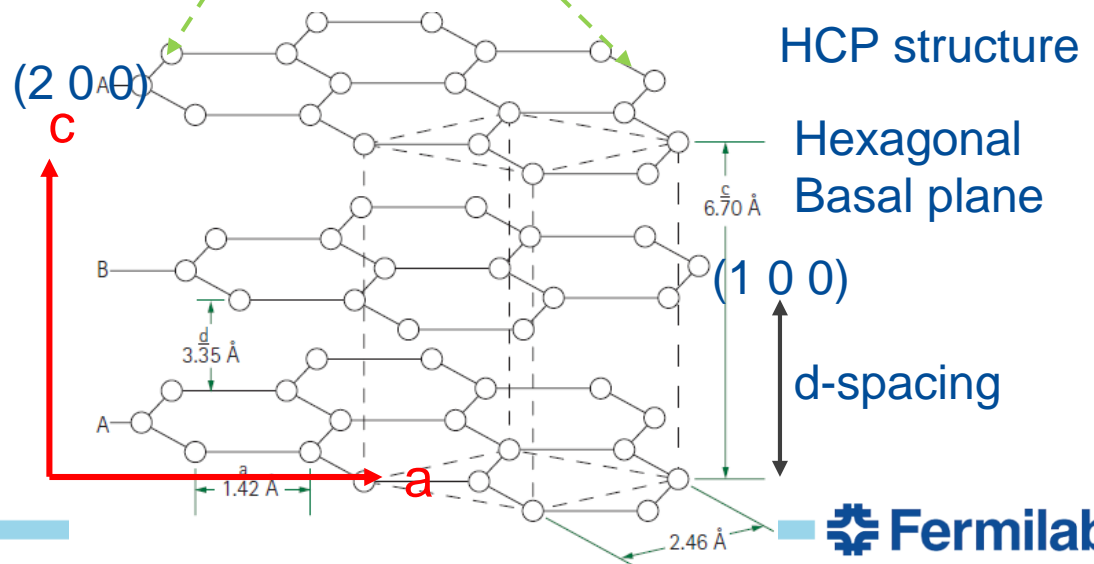
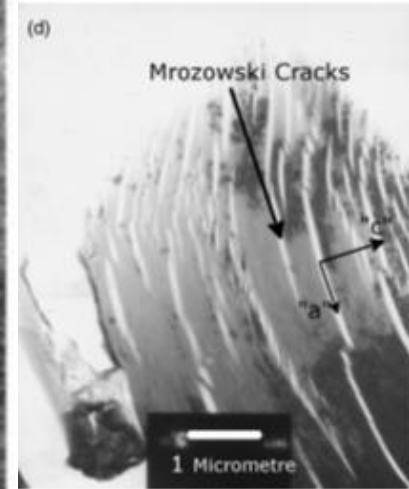
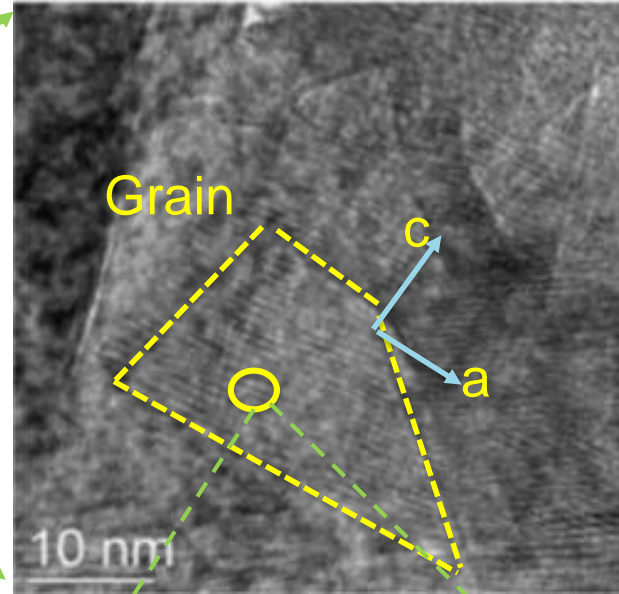
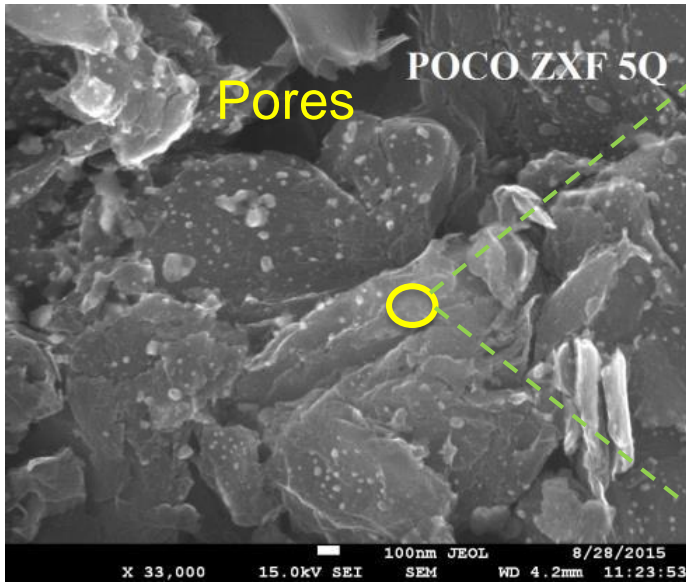
Fractured fins at upstream

Beam Power: 350 kW, 120 GeV

Beam Sigma: 1.1 mm

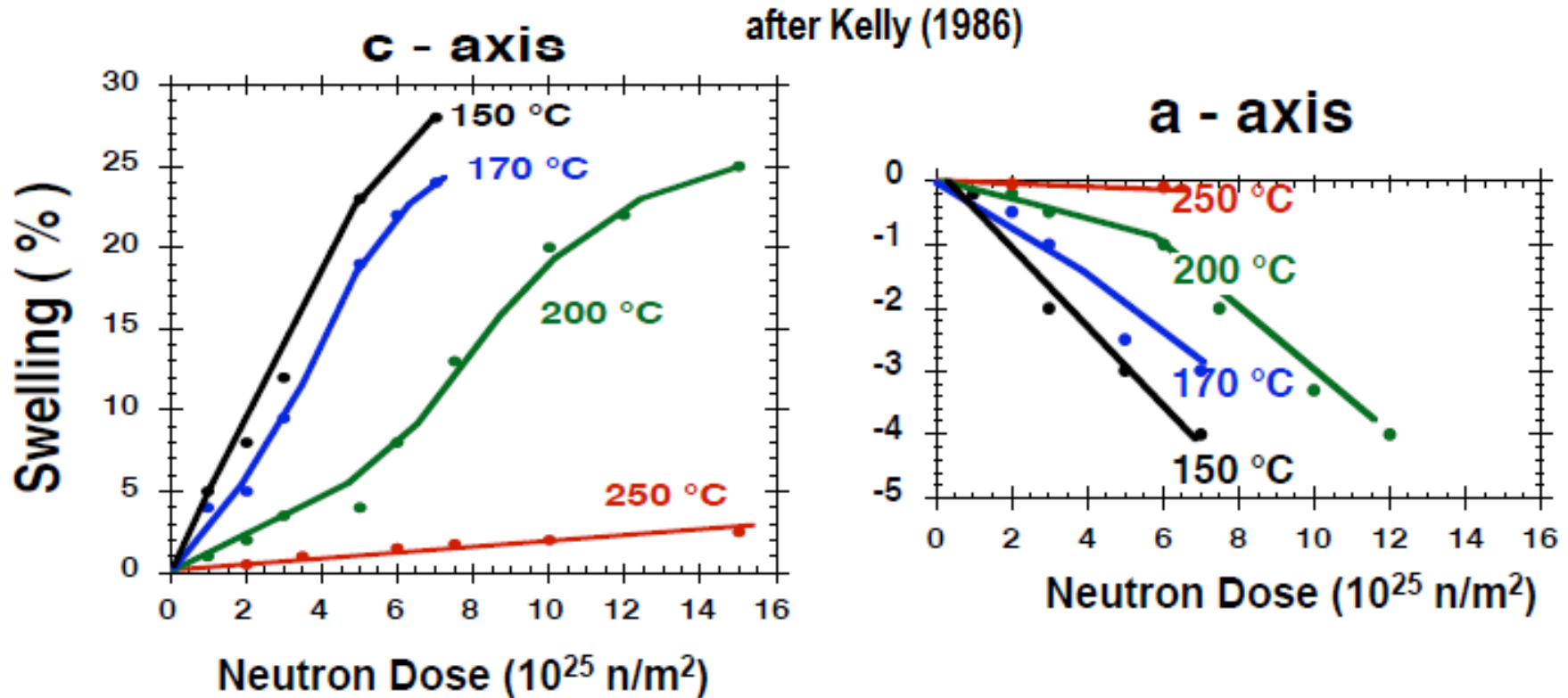


# POCO ZXF 5Q Graphite microstructure



- Less Mrozowski cracks
- Randomly oriented grains
  - isotropic
- Fine grains (~30nm)
- Porosity ~ 20%

# XRD – Pyrolytic carbon

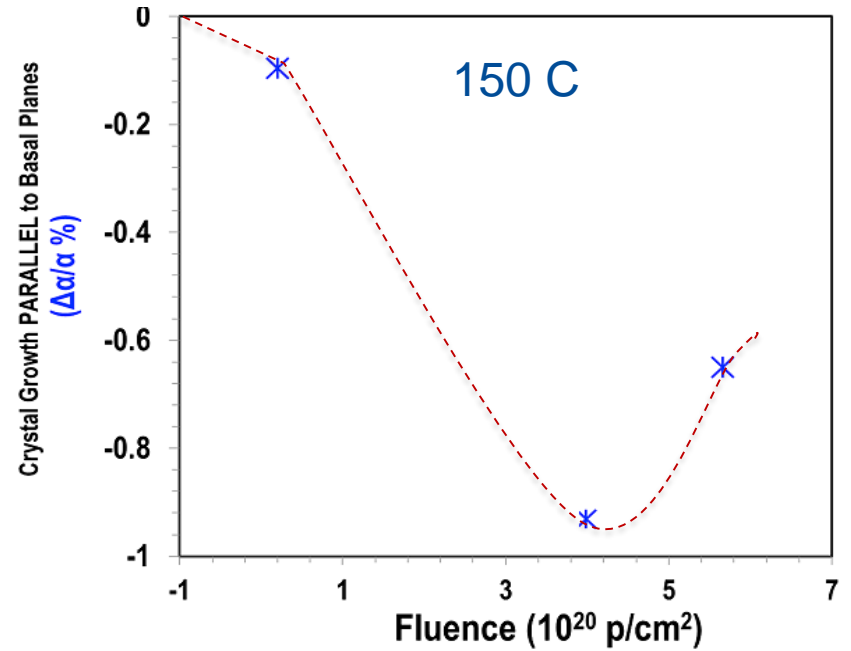
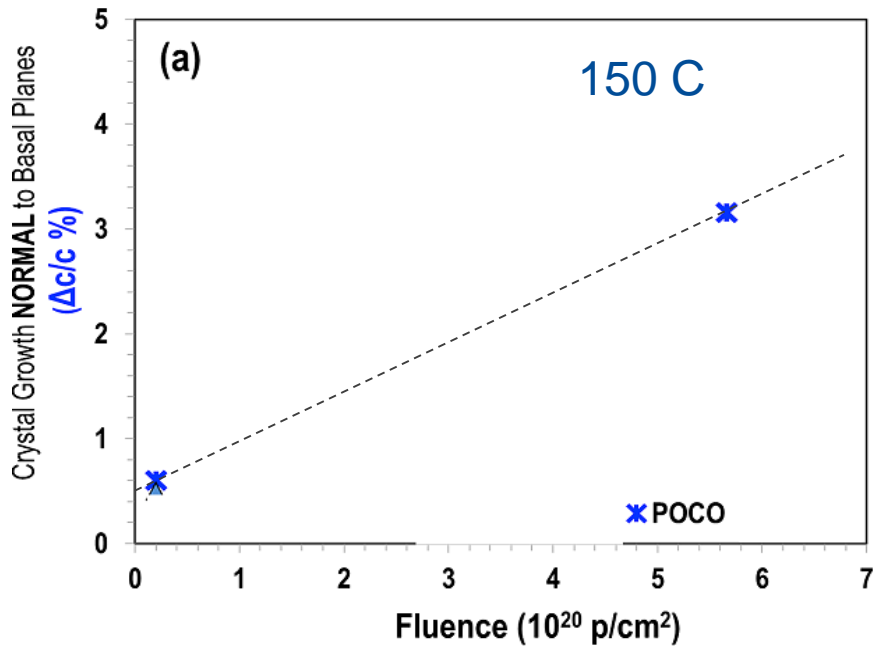


C-axis expansion is more than a-axis contraction

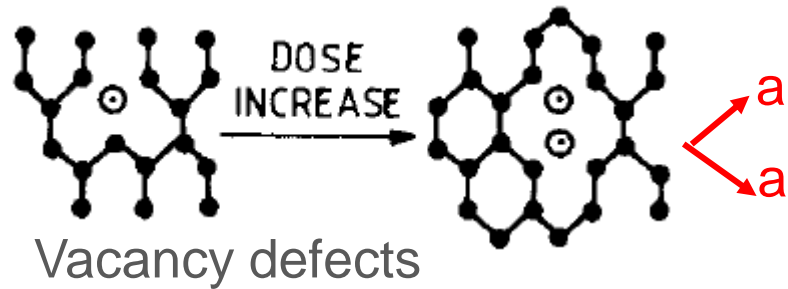
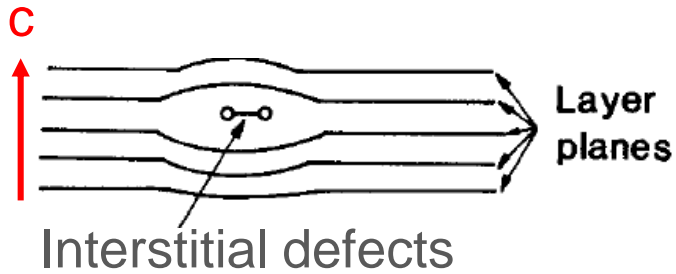
Swelling  $\rightarrow$  f(fluence, temperature)

- More pronounced at lower temperature

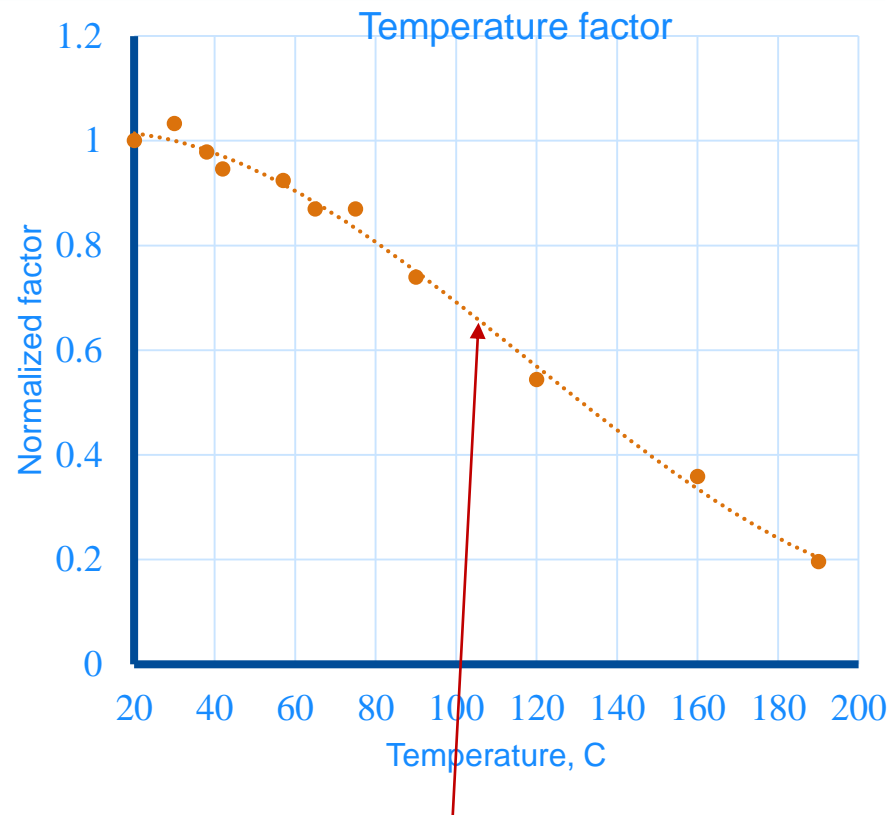
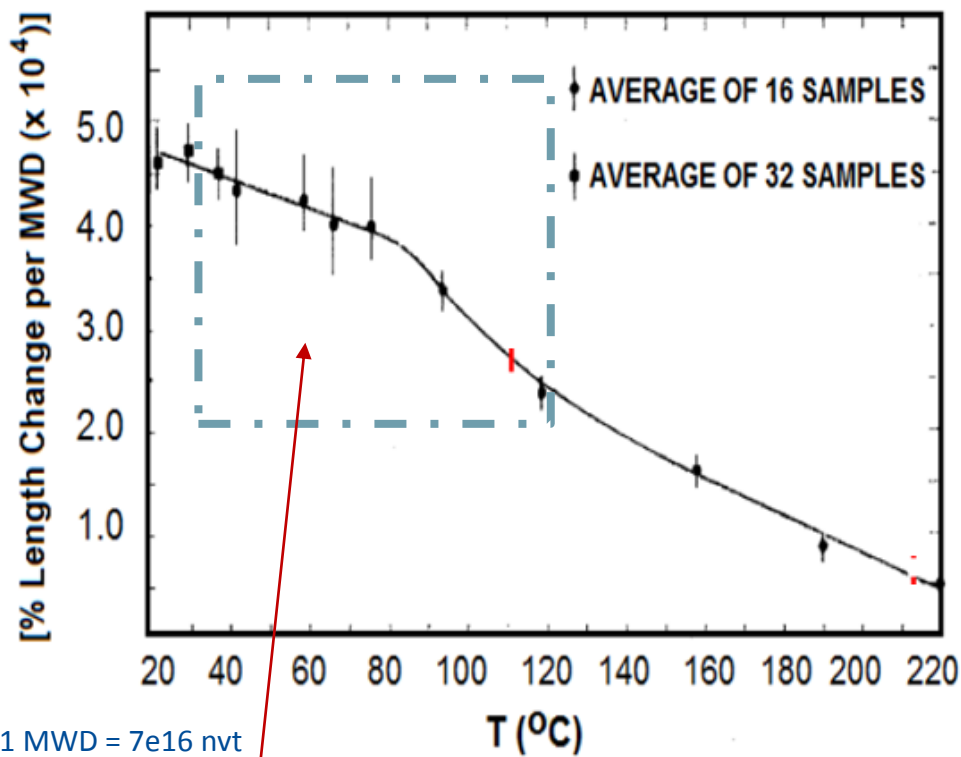
# XRD- POCO ZXF5Q



C-axis expansion is more than a-axis contraction



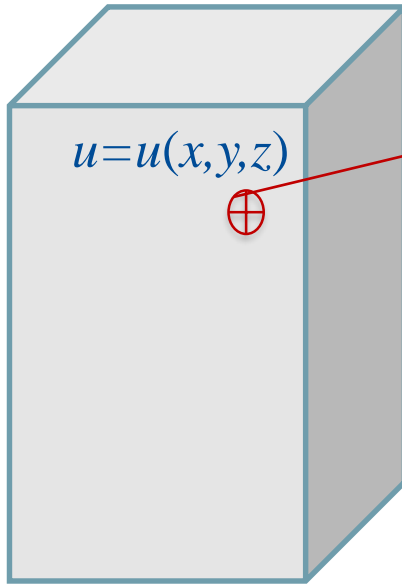
# Swelling → Temperature factor



NT02 steady state operating temperature range

$$g(T) = 2 \times 10^{-7} T^3 - 7 \times 10^{-5} T^2 + 1.5 \times 10^{-3} T + 1.0083$$

# Swelling factor function



Local Swelling factor  
= $f(\text{fluence}) \cdot g(\text{temperature})$   
 $sw(\emptyset, T) = f(\emptyset) \cdot g(T)$

Fluence is Gaussian distribution with location  
 $f(\emptyset) = \exp\{-b(u/\sigma)^2\}$

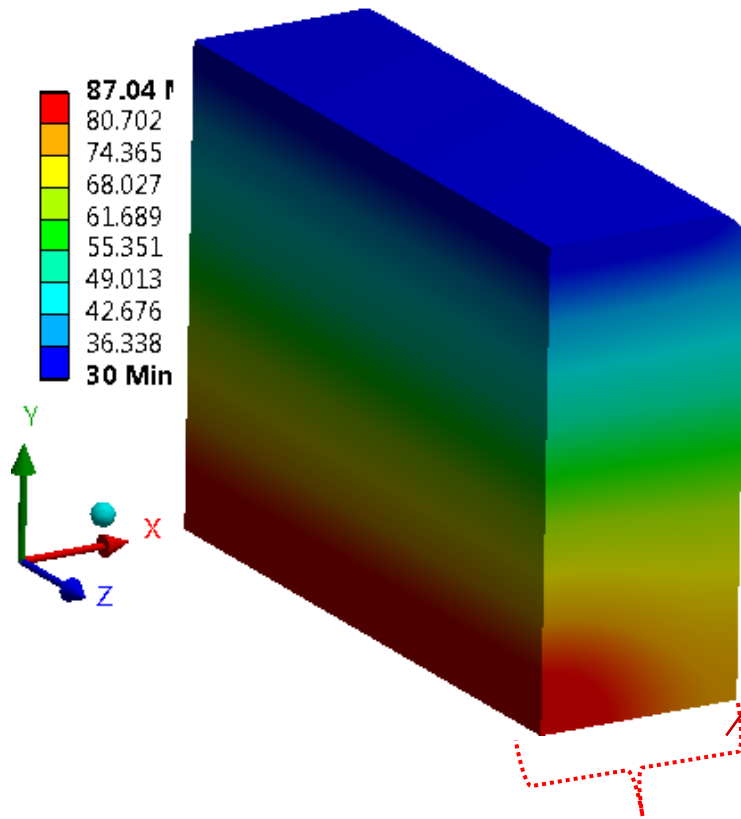
$$\partial(sw) = g(T) \cdot \partial f(\emptyset) + f(\emptyset) \cdot \left\{ \frac{\partial g(T)}{\partial T} \right\} \cdot \left\{ \frac{\partial T}{\partial u} \right\}$$

At constant fluence swelling factor follows a polynomial function with temperature

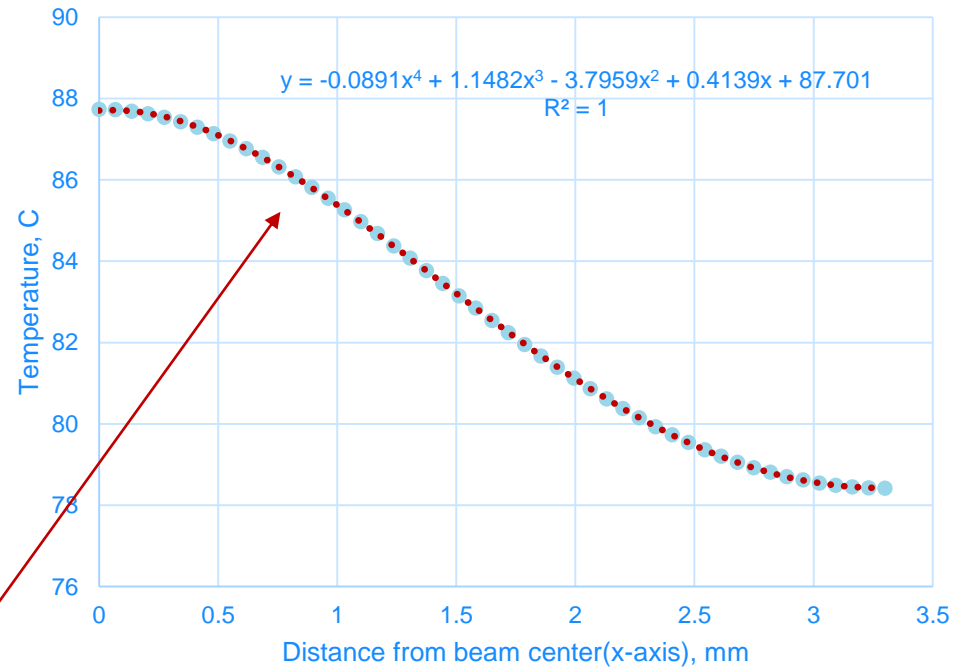
Steady state thermal analysis



# Steady state thermal analysis



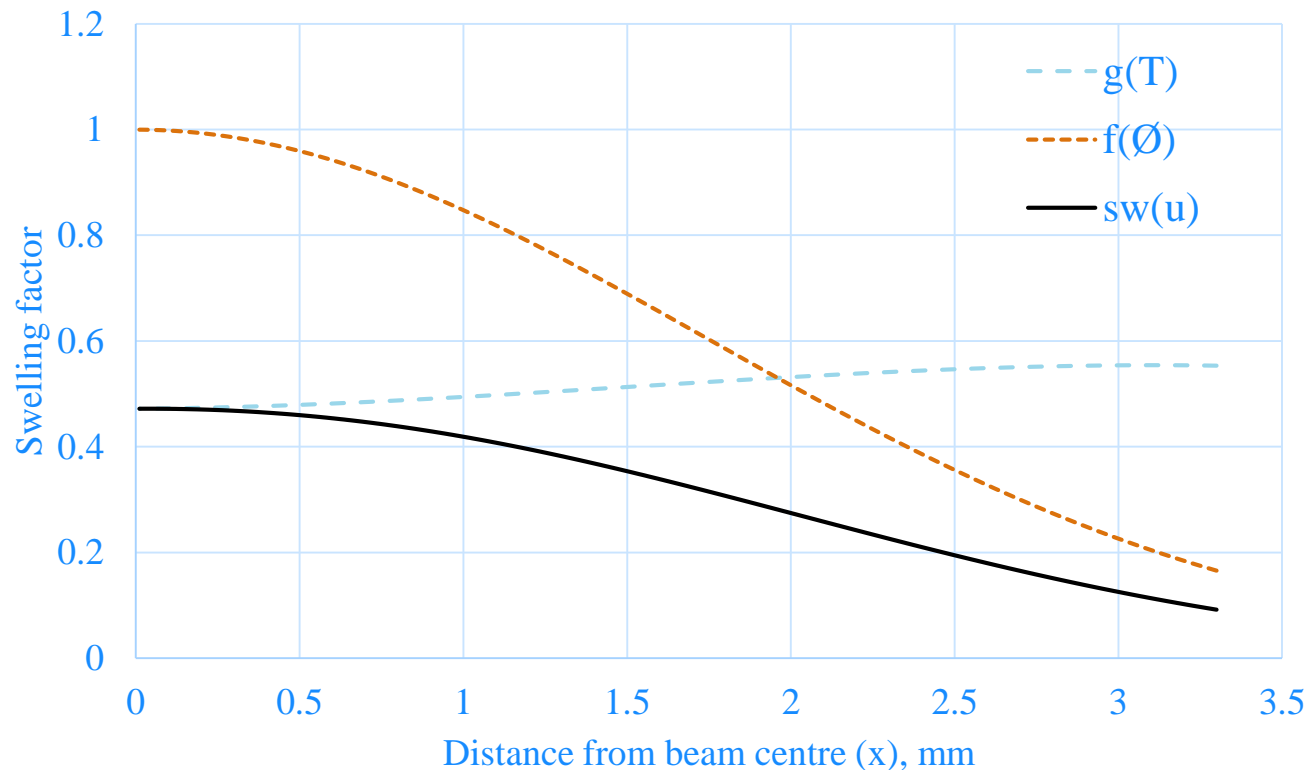
## Temperature



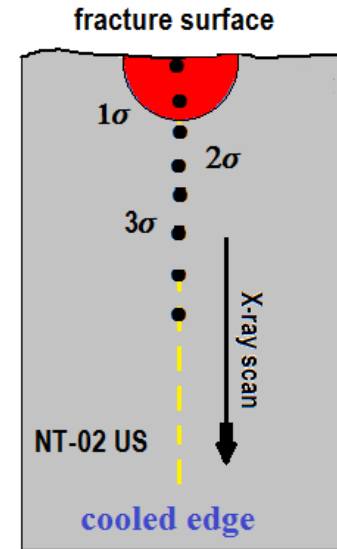
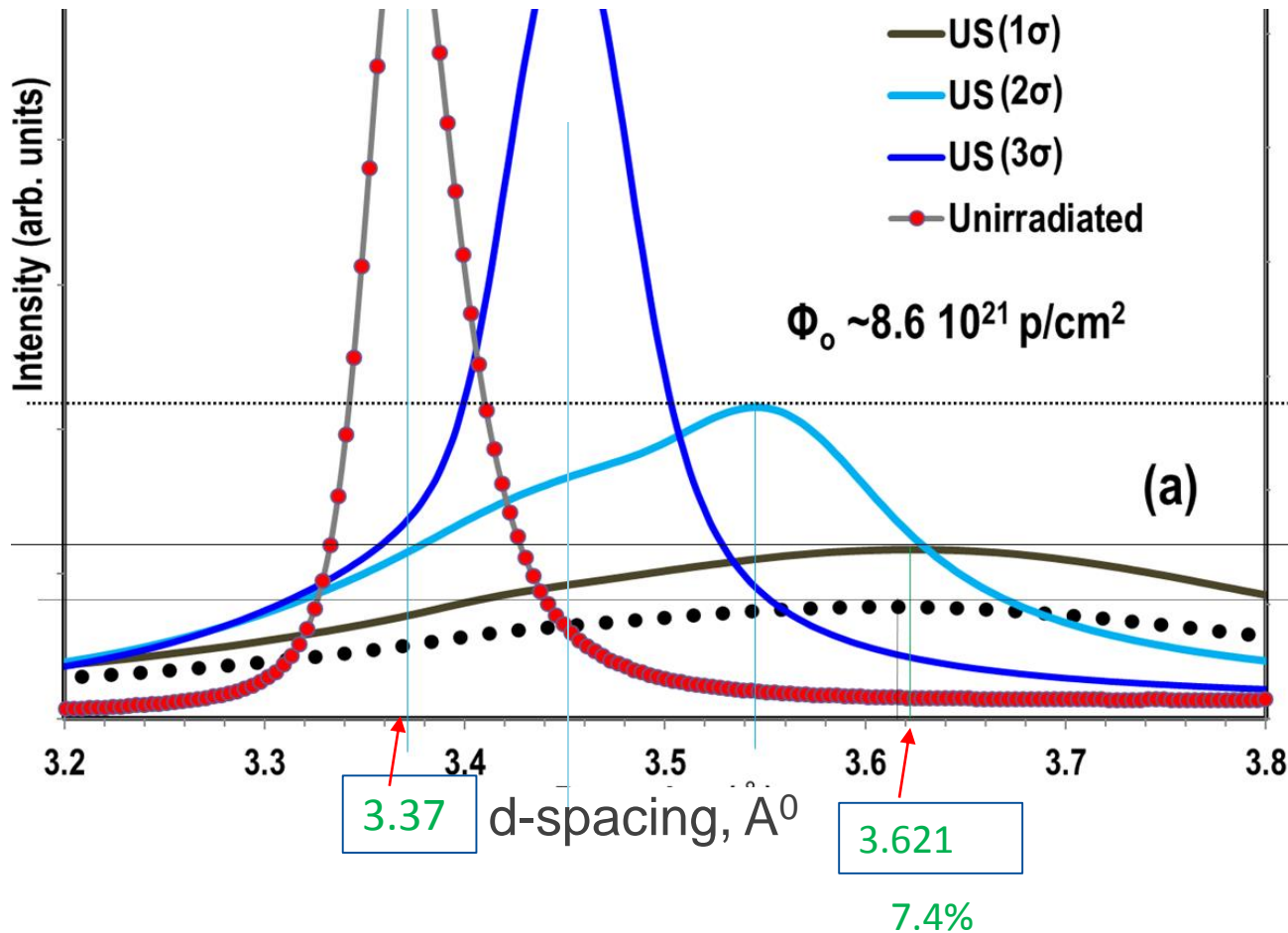
# Swelling factor → combined function of fluence and temperature

$sw(u, T)$

$$= C \cdot \exp\left\{-b \left(\frac{u}{\sigma}\right)^2\right\} \cdot \left\{2 \times 10^{-7} T^3 - 7 \times 10^{-5} T^2 + 1.5 \times 10^{-3} T + 1.0083\right\}$$



# XRD data NTO2



Assumption  
Experimental  
swelling =  $\partial d/d_0$

# Determining Swelling Coefficient

U (mm)	Temperature	sw	d-spacing	$\partial d/d_0$	C
0	88	0.779	3.621	0.074481	0.095604
1.1	84	0.686	3.618	0.073591	0.107303
2.2	81	0.442	3.542	0.051039	0.115405
3.3	78	0.210	3.45	0.023739	0.112924

XRD

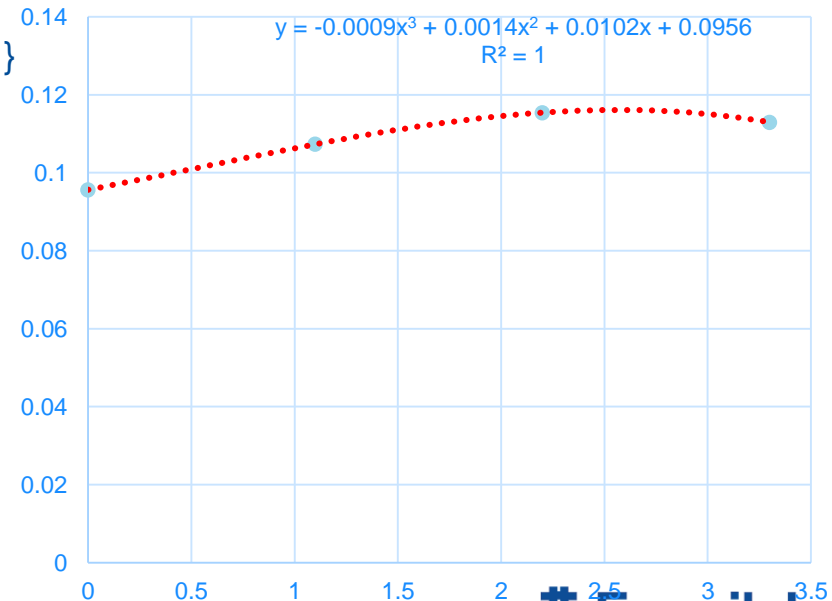
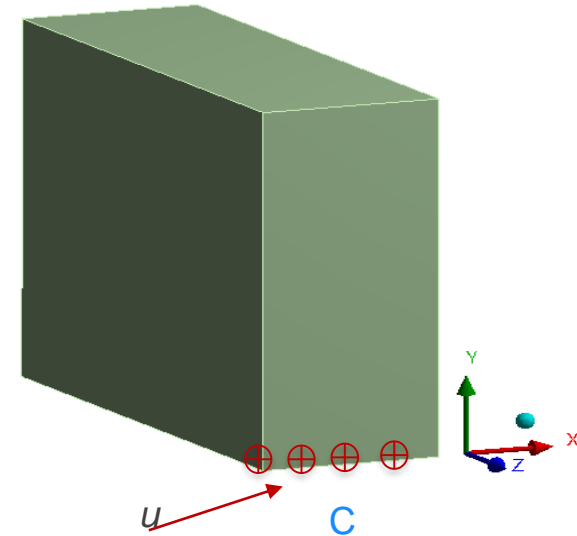
$$sw(u, T) = C \cdot \exp\left\{-b \left(\frac{u}{\sigma}\right)^2\right\} \cdot \{2 \times 10^{-7} T^3 - 7 \times 10^{-5} T^2 + 1.5 \times 10^{-3} T + 1.0083\}$$

Equating  $sw(u, T)$  to  $\partial d/d_0 \rightarrow C$

Multi-variable regression analysis:

Varying “b” and “σ” to get C curve as flat as possible

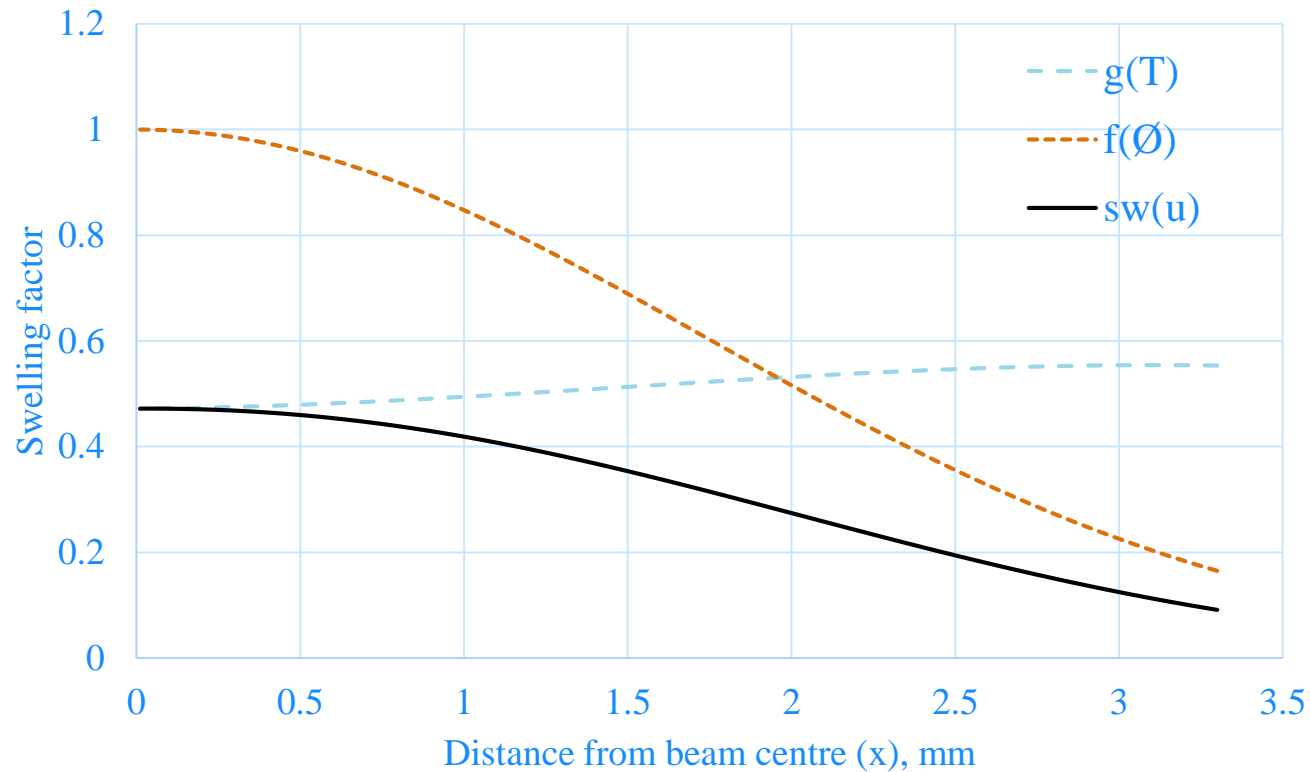
→ **b = 0.155, C = 0.107, σ = 1.11**



# Swelling factor → combined function of fluence and temperature

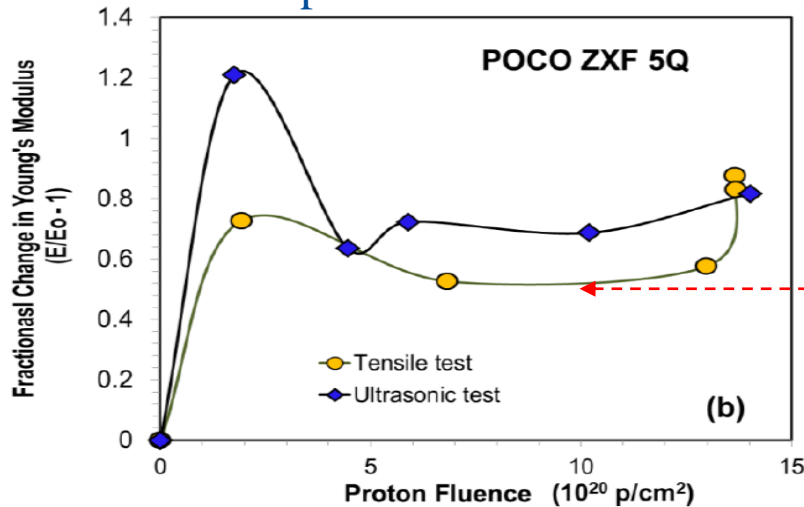
$sw(u, T)$

$$= 0.107 \cdot \exp\left\{-0.155 \left(\frac{u}{1.11}\right)^2\right\} \cdot \{2 \times 10^{-7} T^3 - 7 \times 10^{-5} T^2 + 1.5 \times 10^{-3} T + 1.0083\}$$

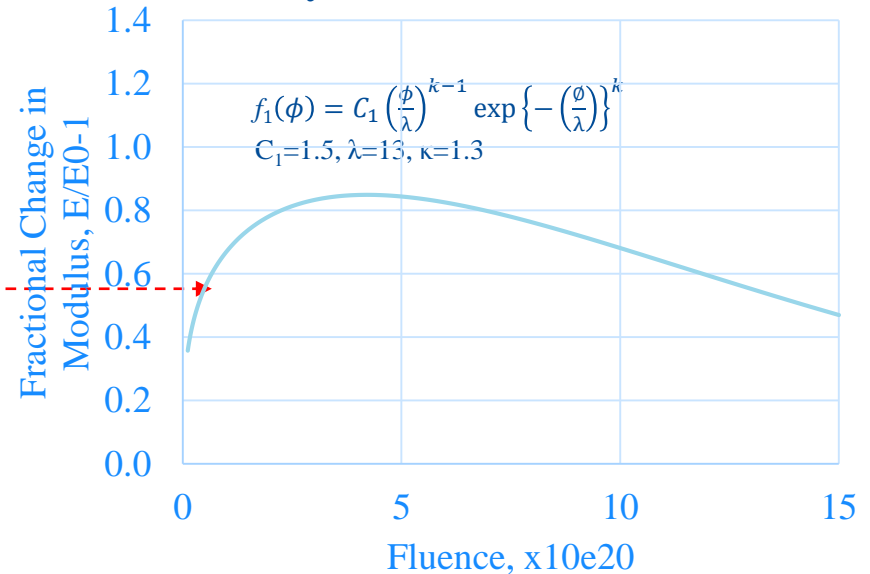


# Young's Modulus variation with Fluence $\emptyset$

Experimental observation



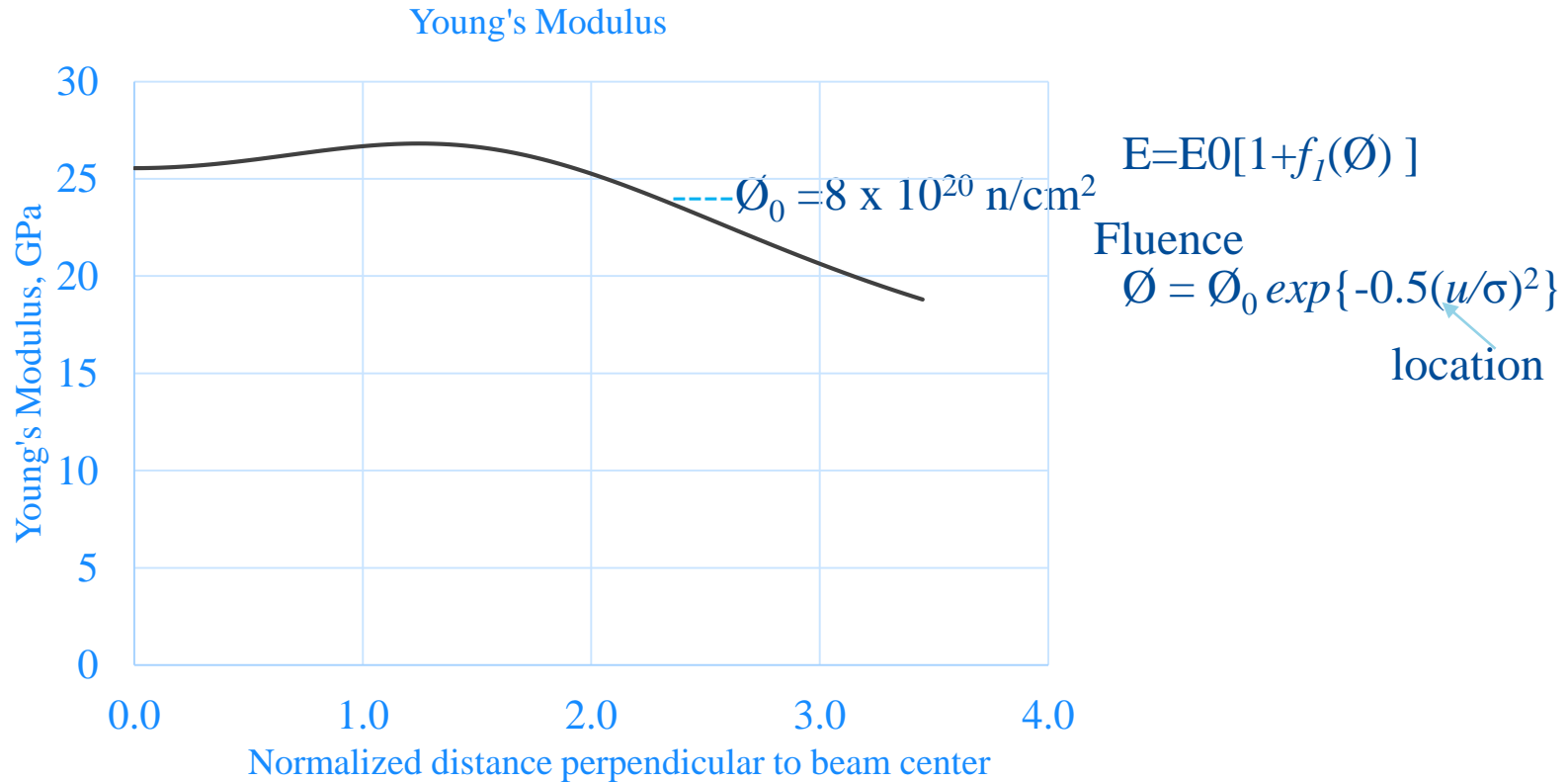
Analytical function fit (Weibull)



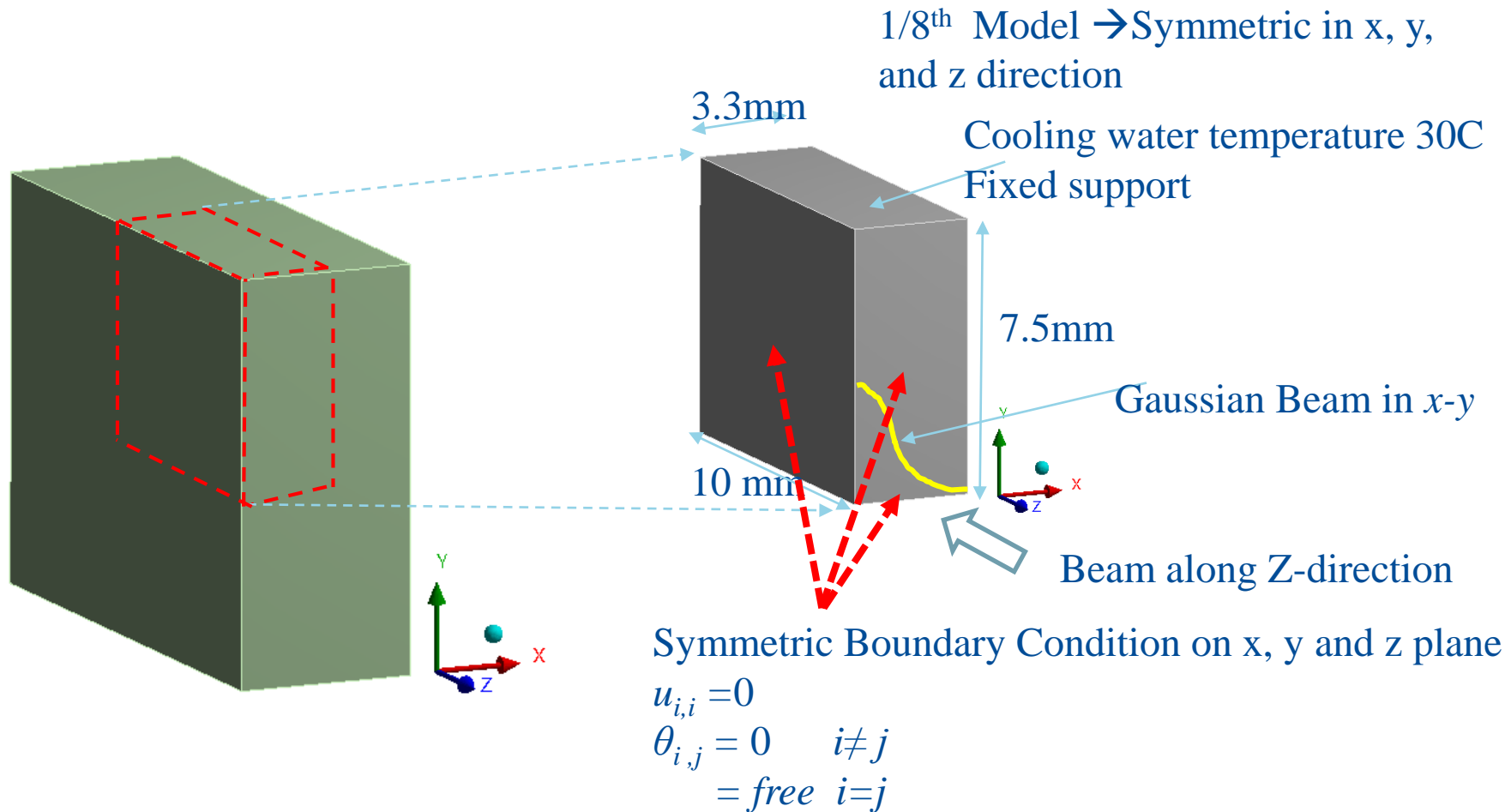
“E” varies with  $\emptyset$   
 $\emptyset$  varies with location.

} This two relationship is used to map  
 “E” as a function of location

# Young's Modulus variation with location



# Model- Geometry





# FE Model

Larger temperature gradient within beam center

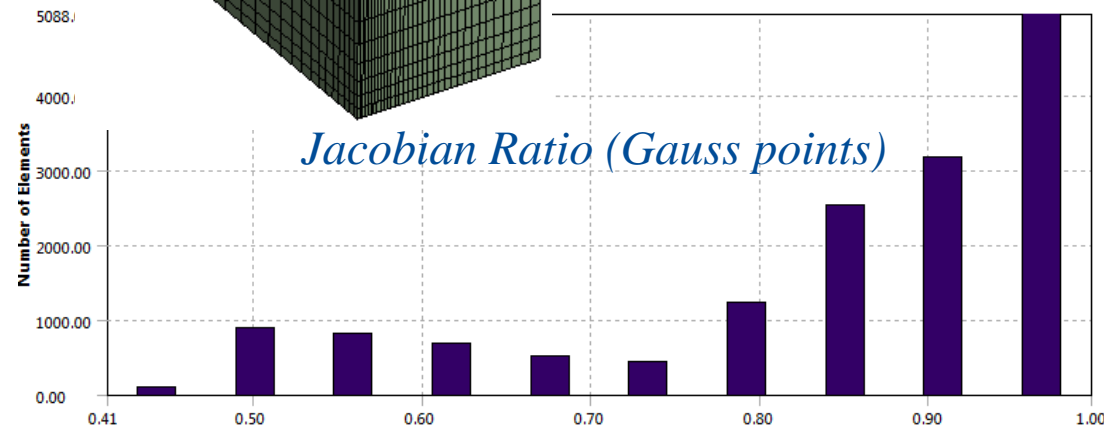
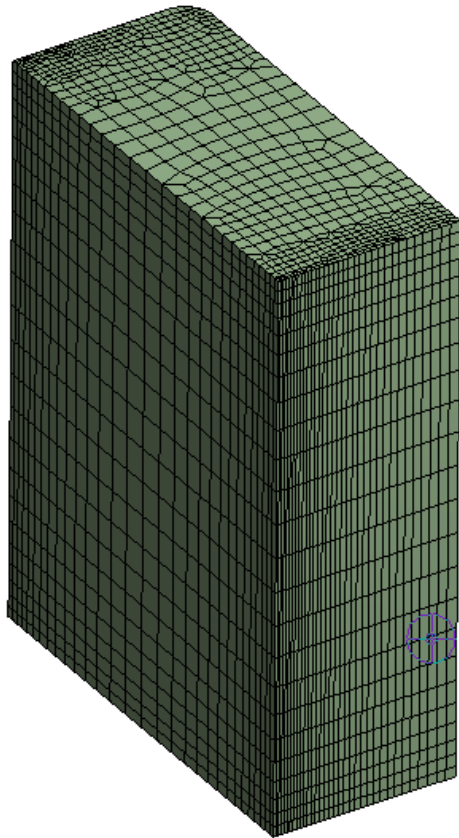
Adaptive mesh (Optimization)

- Finer elements at the beam center
- Progressively larger elements
- 30 elements within  $1\text{-}\sigma$  of beam
- Minimum distorted elements
- Curvature and proximity refinement.

15000 elements 68,000 nodes

Check element quality

High Jacobian ratio  $\rightarrow$  spurious stress values

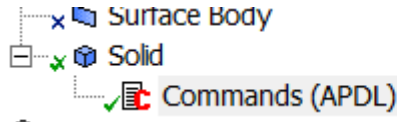


# FEM Implementation of Empirical Formula

Total Strain  $\epsilon = \dot{\epsilon}_{el} + \dot{\epsilon}_{pl} + \dot{\epsilon}_{cr} + \dot{\epsilon}_{th} + \dot{\epsilon}_{sw}$

Linear swelling model  $\dot{\epsilon}_{sw} = C \dot{\Phi}_t$

Swelling Strain  $\dot{\epsilon}_{sw} = \epsilon_{sw}(t, T, \Phi_t, \sigma)$



```
tb,swell,matid,,,line
tbdata,1,0.1
```

$$\{\epsilon^{SW}\} = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_n^{SW} & \epsilon_n^{SW} & \epsilon_n^{SW} & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T \Rightarrow \text{No shear, only volume change}$$

**APDL Scripts**

```
currnode1=0
tmax=0
*do,i,1,numnodes
currnode1=ndnext(currnode1)
*get,tem,node,currnode1,ntemp
  *if,tem,gt,tmax,then
    tmax=tem
  *endif
*enddo
max_temp=tmax
*dim,locax,array,numnodes
*dim,flu_value,array,numnodes
!Swelling only factor
peak=0.107
sigma=1.11
b=0.155
currnode=0
*do,i,1,numnodes
  currnode=ndnext(currnode)
  l_x=nx(currnode)
  l_y=ny(currnode)
  flu_fact=exp(-b*(l_x**2+l_y**2))
  locax(i)=l_x
  flu_value(i)=flu_fact
```

**APDL Scripts**

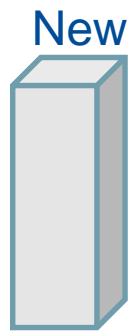
```
Eo=14.5e3 ! Unirradiat
nus=0.3 ! Poisson's
sigma=1.1
lambda=13
k=1.3
c=1.5
peak_flu=8
scale=1.0

!elem_count=elmidqr(0,i4)
!OR
*get,elem_count,elem,,count
curr_elem=0

*do,i,1,elem_count
  curr_elem=elnext(curr_elem)
  x_loc=centrx(curr_elem)
  y_loc=centry(curr_elem)

  ! Defining young's as a 2-D sp:
  sigma=1.1
  flu_local=peak_flu*exp(-0.5*
  mod_fact1=(flu_local/lambda)
  mod_fact2=(flu_local/lambda)
  mod_fact3=exp(-mod_fact2)
  mod_fact=c*mod_fact1*mod_fact3
  Es_mod=scale*Eo*(1+mod_fact)
  mp,sv,i,Es_mod
```

# Simulation Flow



New

After years of neutron flux



Deformed



One beam pulse



Dynamic stresses

Steady State Thermal Analysis

Static structural analysis

- swelling factor as function of fluence, temperature  $sw(\Phi, T)$
- Variable Young's modulus
- Solve stress, strain, deformation states

Beam Parameters

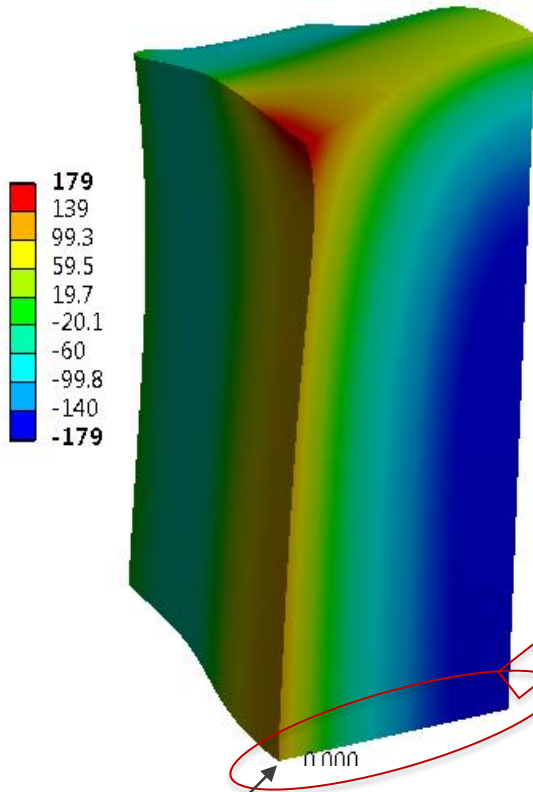
Number of protons pulse:  $4 \times 10^{13}$   
Pulse duration : 10  $\mu$ sec  
Beam  $\sigma$  : 1.1 mm  
Energy deposited/ pulse : 480 J/cm<sup>3</sup>

Transient Thermal-Dynamic analysis

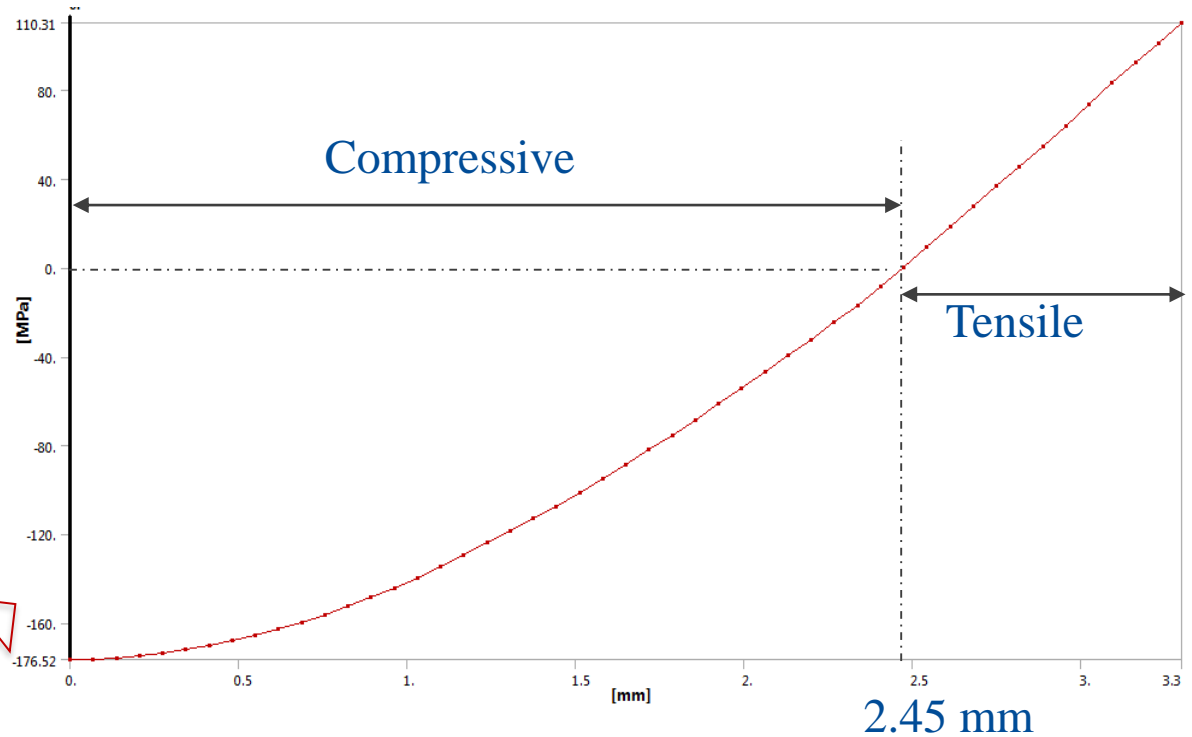
- Initialize domain with  $\sigma, \epsilon, u$  from static structural
- No swelling during transient thermal
- Variable Young's modulus

# Static Structural analysis

$S_{yy}$



$S_{yy}$  along X-axis

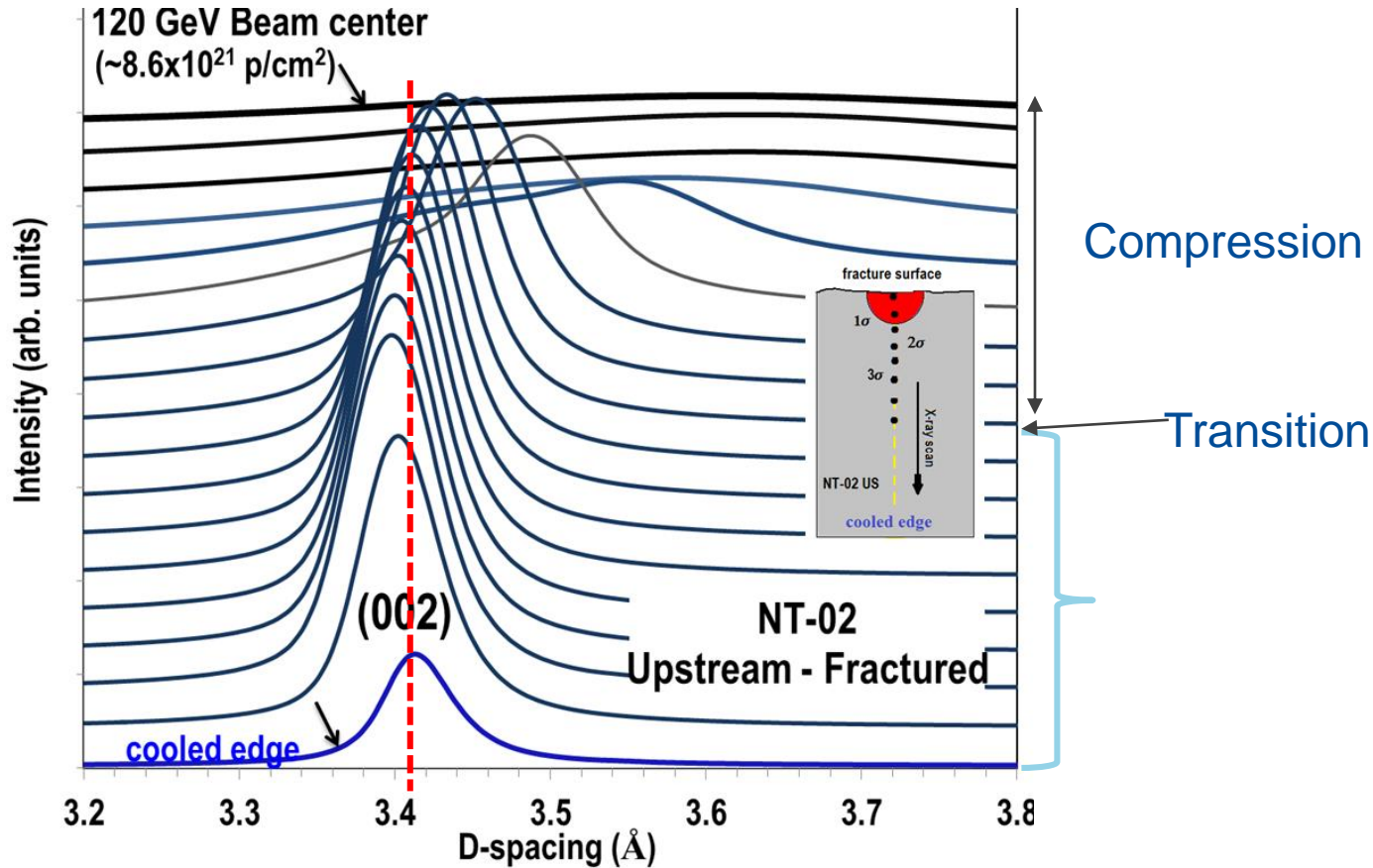


State just before beam pulse after number of years of exposure to neutrons

X-Coordinate of outer node=3.3293, Original position=3.3

→ swelling=0.8% Observed swelling ~2%

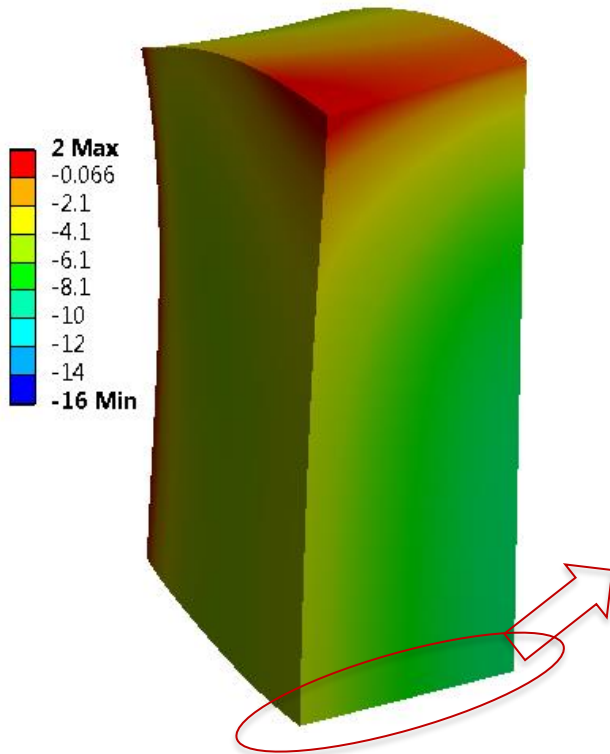
# XRD Scan NTO2



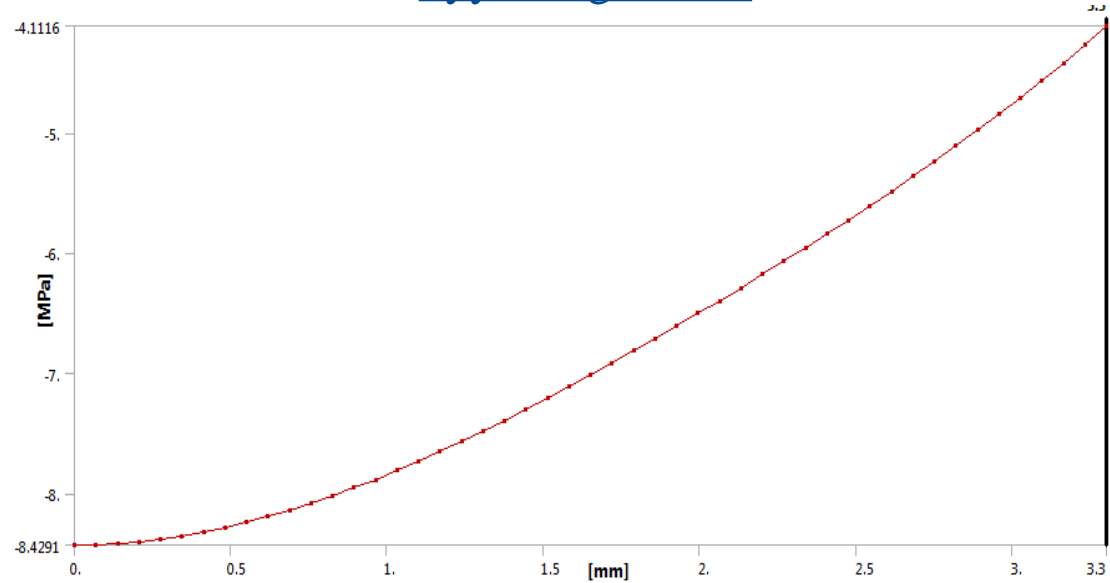
... of the (002) crystallographic plane of the top half of the upstream (US) t

# Static Structural analysis without swelling formula

Syy

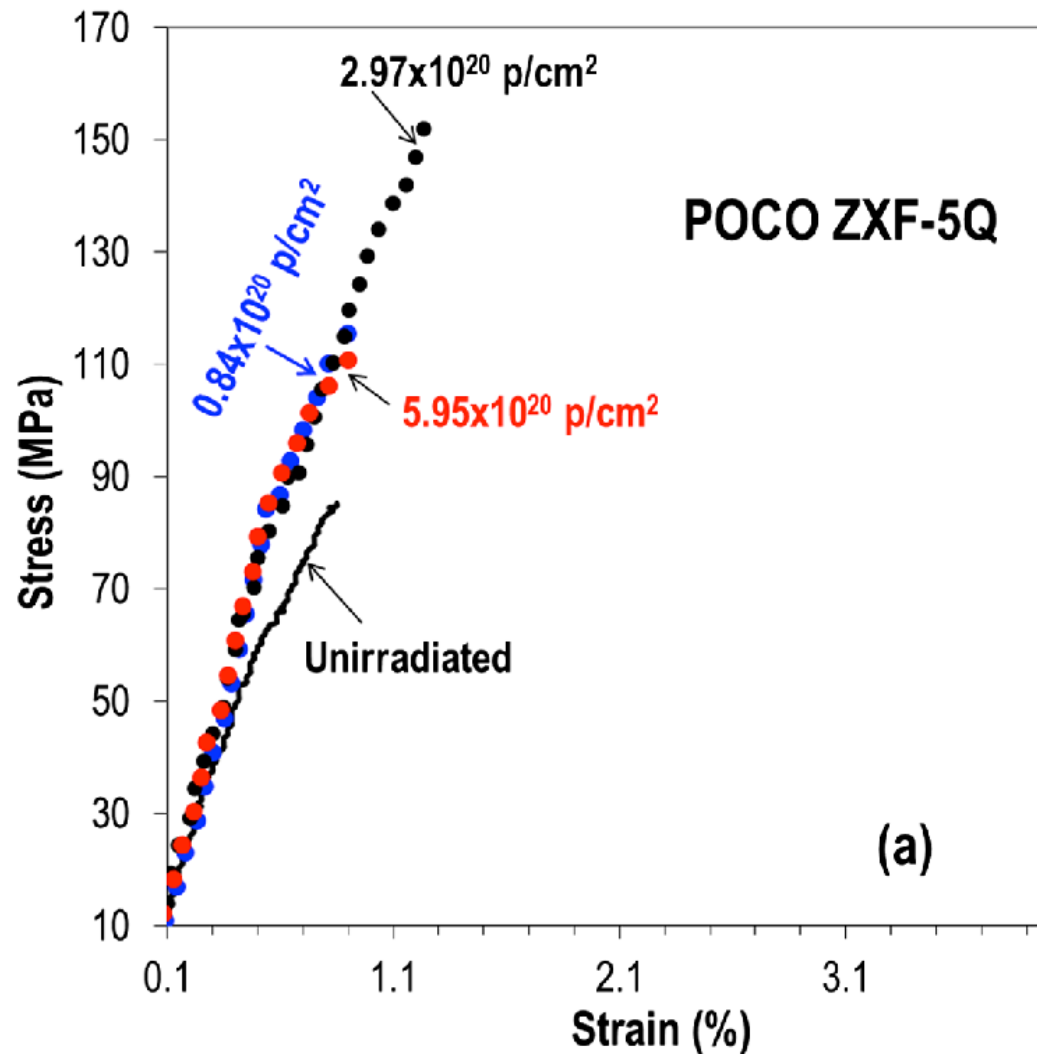


Syy along X-axis

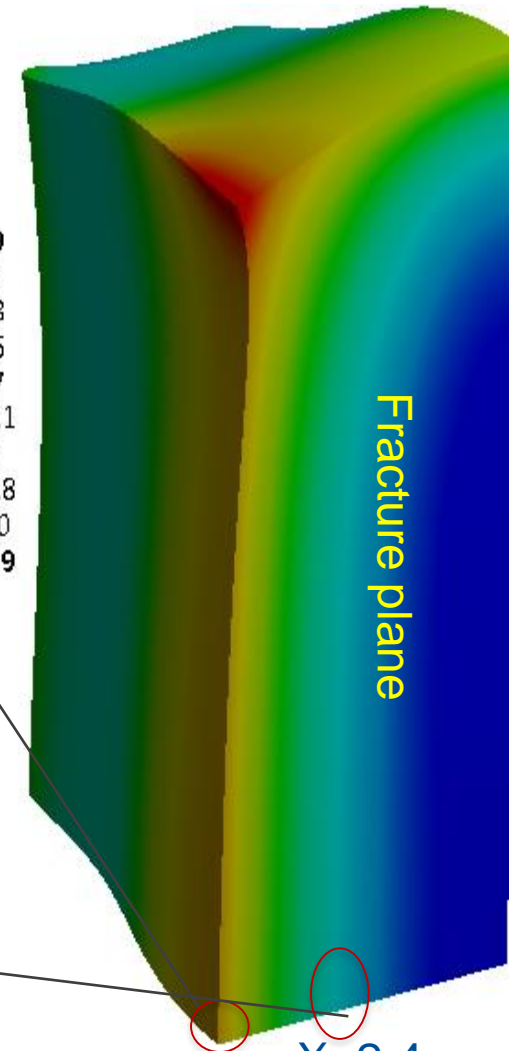
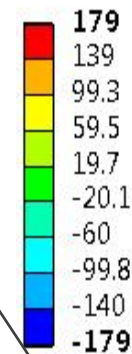
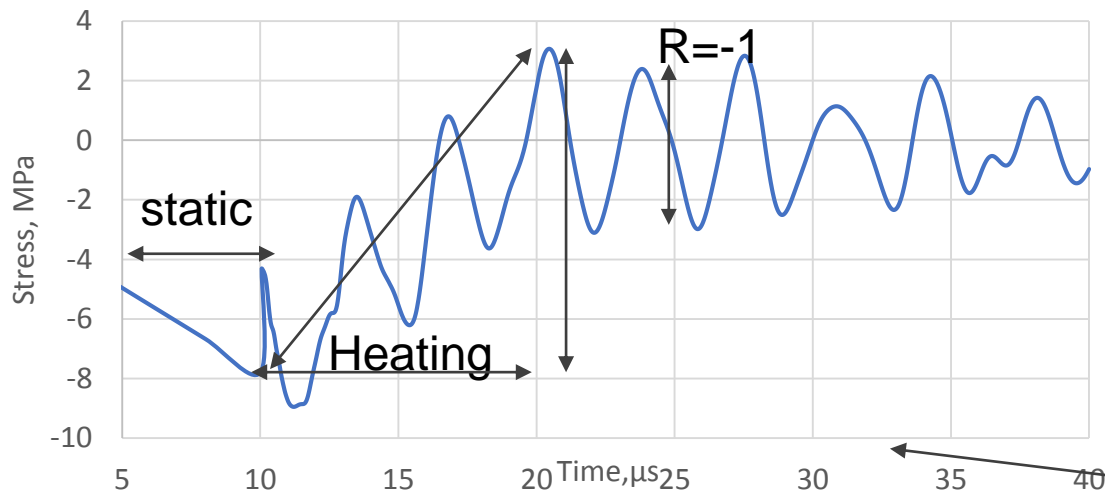
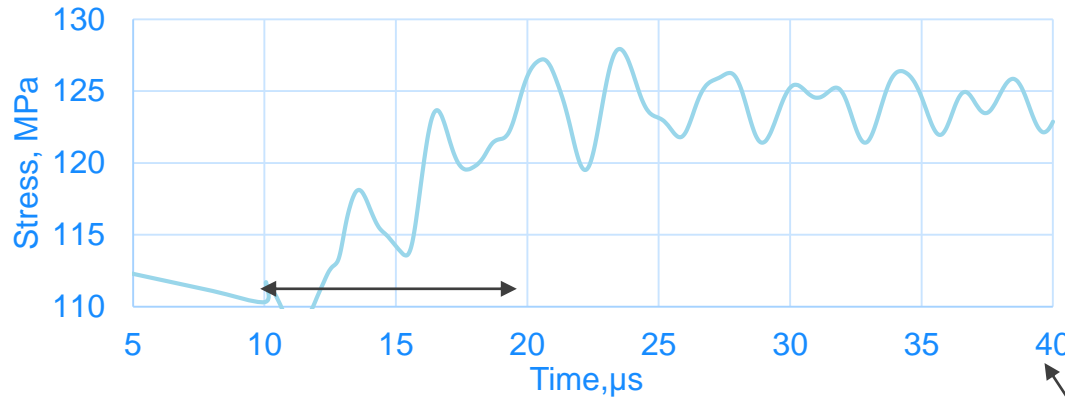


Small thermal stresses  
All Compressive  
Doesn't support XRD data

# Stress-strain Proton Irradiate POCO ZXF 5Q



# Dynamic stresses- $S_{yy}$



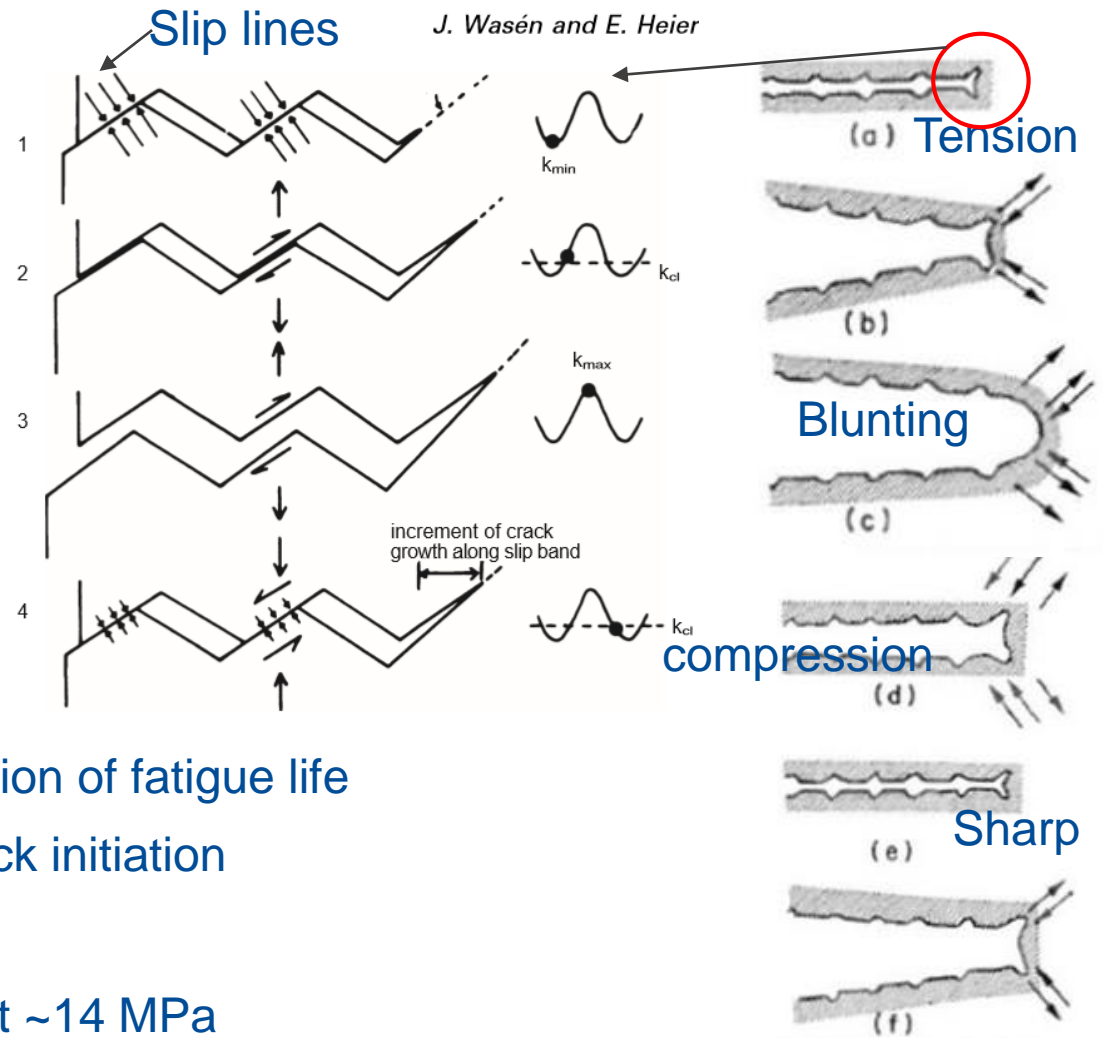
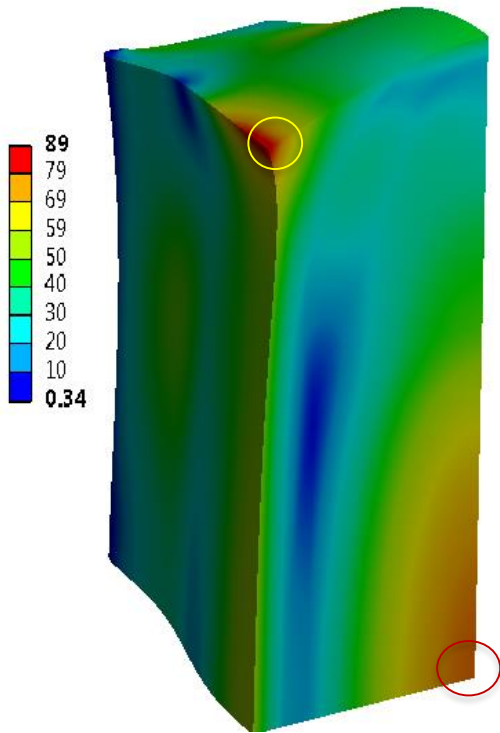
R=-1 Sever form of fatigue

Two fatigue loading 1) 10MPa with 1.87sec 2) 5MPa with 4 $\mu$ sec

Graphite has low endurance limit ~14 MPa



# Maximum Shear stress distribution



Crack initiation → significant portion of fatigue life

High shear stress → Fatigue crack initiation

$\sigma_{yy}$  fracture driving force

Graphite has low endurance limit ~14 MPa

# Summary

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- Crack seems to initiated near beam and propagated outward
  - Smooth crack surface → brittle fracture
- Swelling raises the stresses close to failure strength
- Beam induced dynamic stresses may lead to fatigue failure
  - High amplitude low frequency (~50 million over 3 years!)
  - Low amplitude high frequency
- Predicted susceptible area
  - Near beam center → High Max. shear stress probable crack initiation
  - 2.4mm away from beam →  $R < -1$  severe form of fatigue

## Further work

- Model radiation damage through user-subroutine
  - Knowledge of dislocations distribution
  - Multiscale modelling