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Seville, Spain

## Key aspects in 3D fatigue crack closure numerical modelling

A. Gonzalez-Herrera, D. Camas and J. Garcia-Manrique

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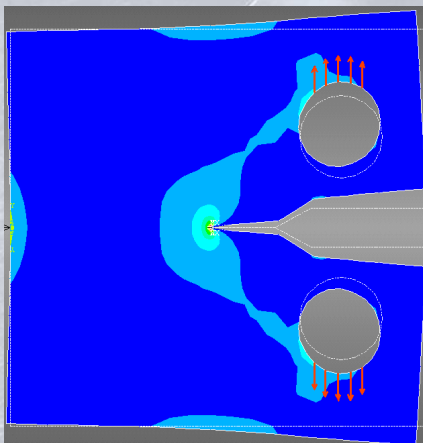
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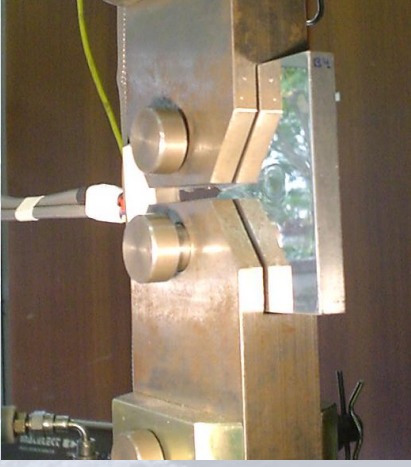
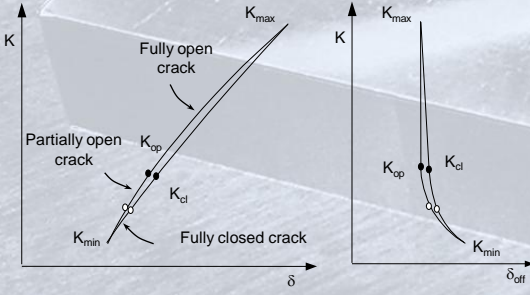
## OUTLINE



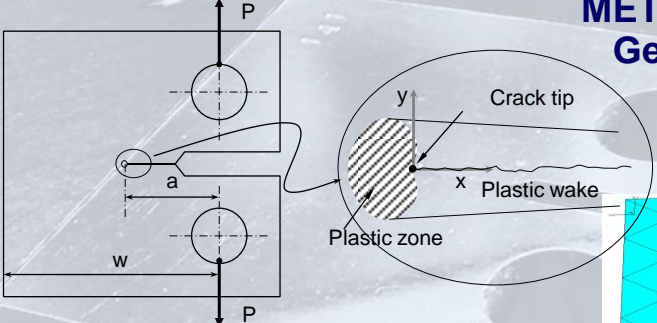
- Introduction
- General methodology
  - Load cycle and Crack Growth
  - Computing opening and closure
- Mesh size
- Plastic wake
- Conclusions

# INTRODUCTION Fatigue Crack Closure

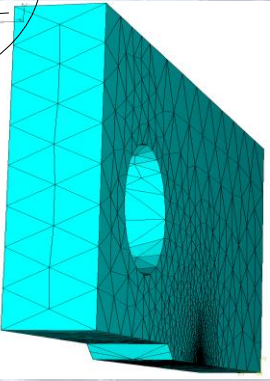
- Elber (1970)
- $\Delta K_{eff}$
- Plasticity Induced Crack Closure
- Experimental measurement



# METHODOLOGY General Issues



- High number of elements
- Non linearity
  - Plasticity
  - Contact
- High number of load cycles





## Key aspects in 3D fatigue crack closure numerical modelling

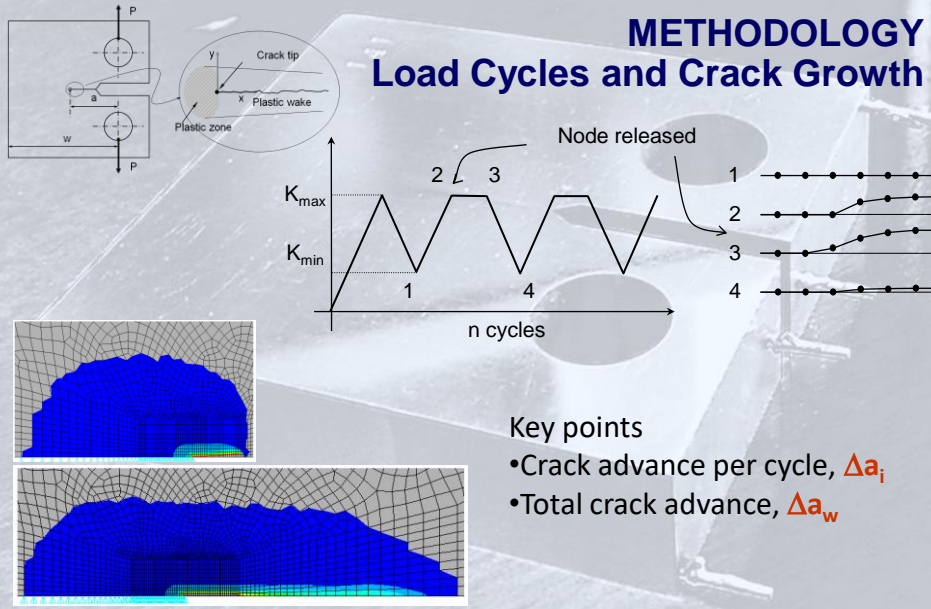
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## METHODOLOGY Load Cycles and Crack Growth



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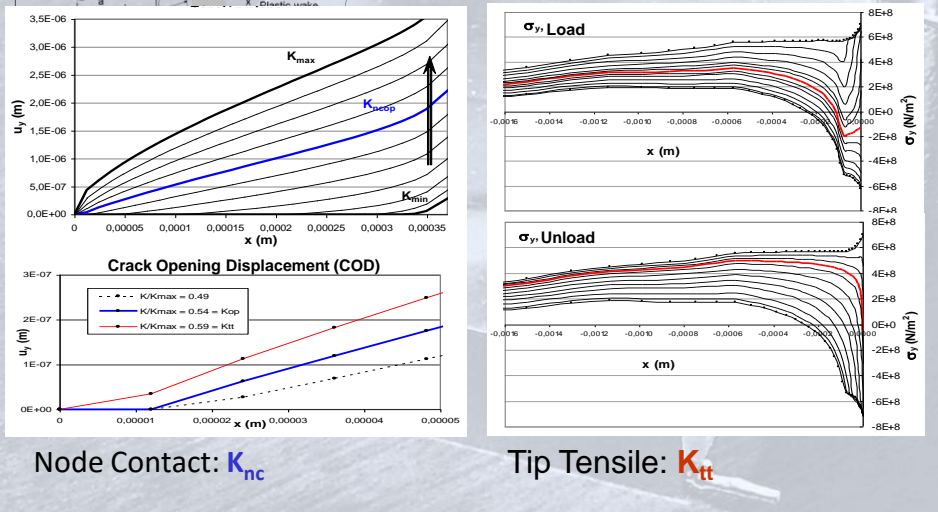
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## METHODOLOGY Computing Opening and Closure





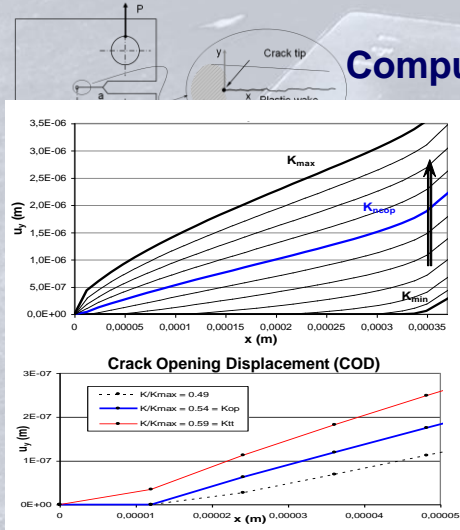
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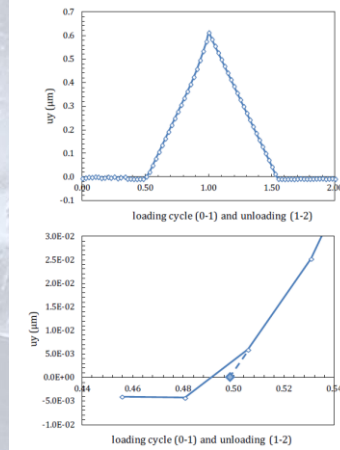
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# METHODOLOGY Computing Opening and Closure



Node Contact:  $K_{nc}$



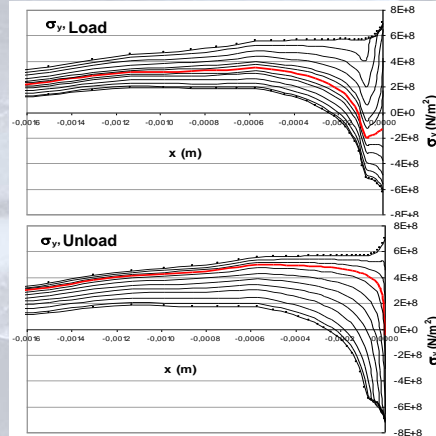
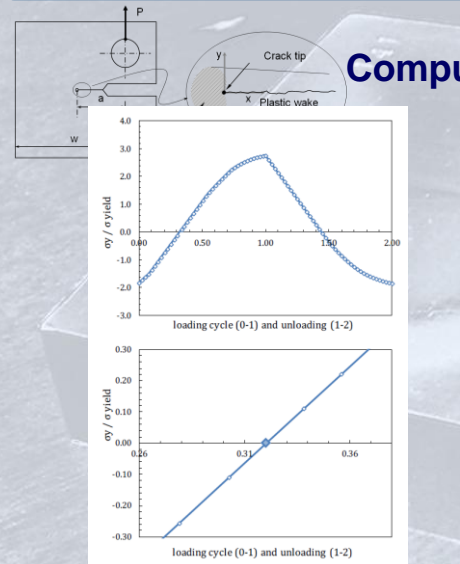
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# METHODOLOGY Computing Opening and Closure



Tip Tensile:  $K_{tt}$



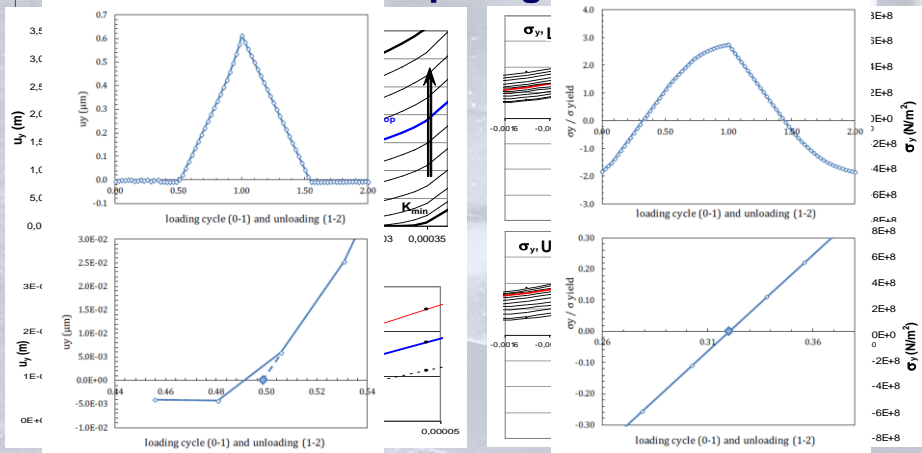
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# METHODOLOGY Computing Opening and Closure



Node Contact:  $K_{nc}$

Tip Tensile:  $K_{tt}$



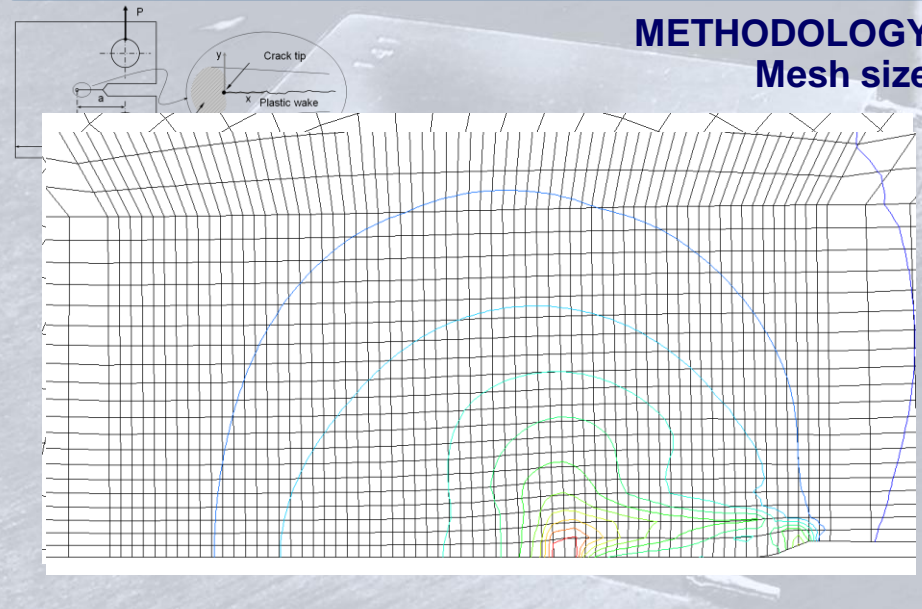
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# METHODOLOGY Mesh size





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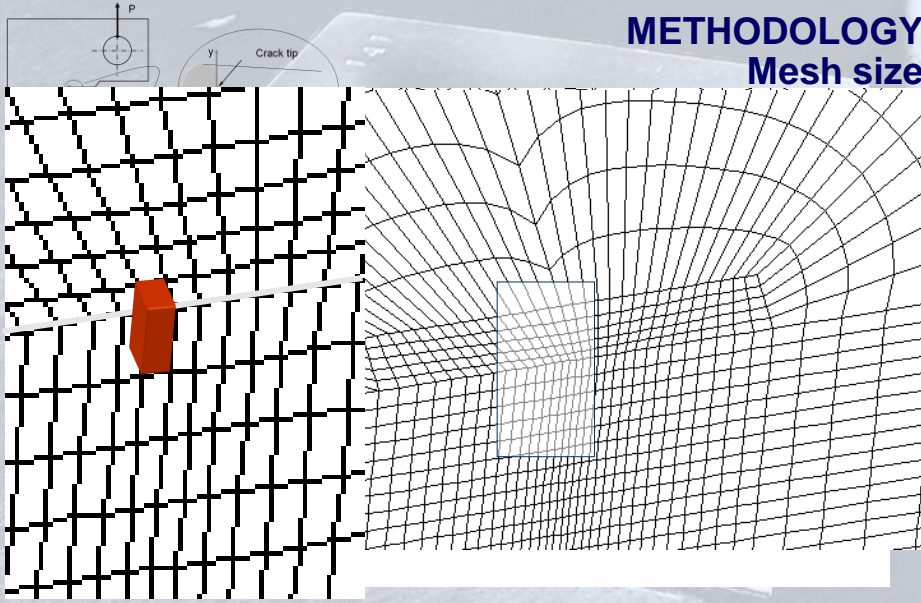
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### METHODOLOGY Mesh size



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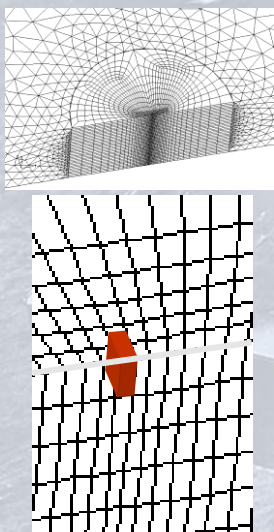
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### METHODOLOGY Mesh size



Tri-dimensional models			
Thickness	3 mm	6 mm	12 mm
Number of elements	37838	64016	148898
Number of nodes	158995	238010	498016
Number of variables	404471	591631	1205131
Minimum element size, $s_{me}$	10 $\mu\text{m}$	10 $\mu\text{m}$	10 $\mu\text{m}$
Thickness division size, $h_b$	42.86 $\mu\text{m}$	60 $\mu\text{m}$	60 $\mu\text{m}$
Number of divisions of the thickness	35	50	100
Element shape ratio	4.3 to 1	6 to 1	6 to 1

Gonzalez-Herrera, A., Zapatero, J., *Tri-dimensional numerical modelling of plasticity induced fatigue crack closure.* Eng Fract Mech 2008;75:4513-4528

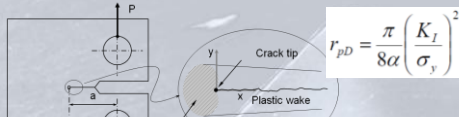


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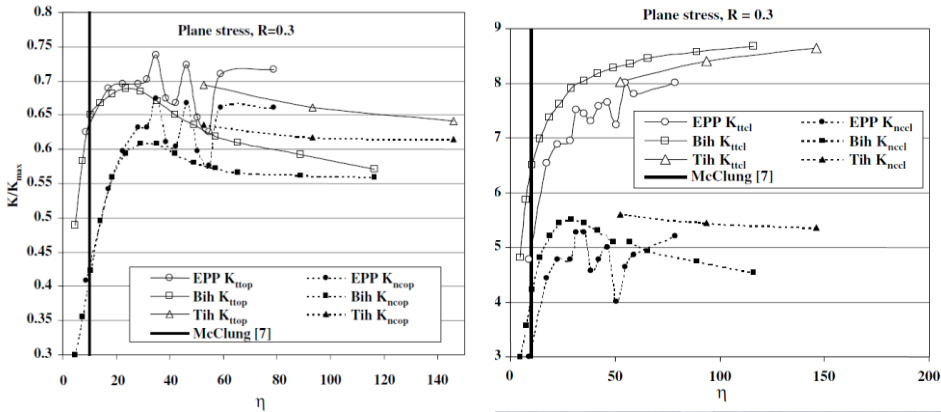
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$$r_{pD} = \frac{\pi}{8\alpha} \left( \frac{K_I}{\sigma_y} \right)^2$$

$$\eta = r_{pD} / S_{me}$$

## METHODOLOGY Mesh size



Gonzalez-Herrera A, Zapatero J. Influence of minimum element size to determine crack closure stress by the finite element method  
Eng Fract Mech 2005;72:337-55.

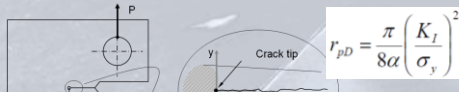


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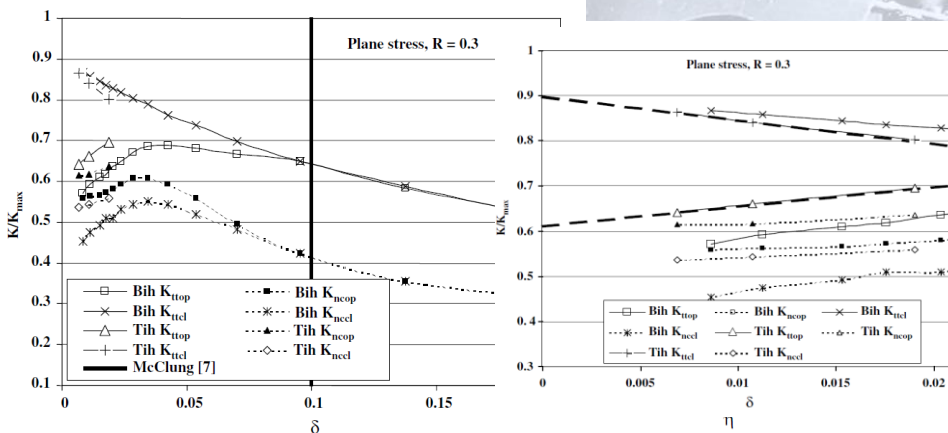


$$r_{pD} = \frac{\pi}{8\alpha} \left( \frac{K_I}{\sigma_y} \right)^2$$

$$\eta = r_{pD} / S_{me}$$

$$\delta = 1 / \eta$$

## METHODOLOGY Mesh size



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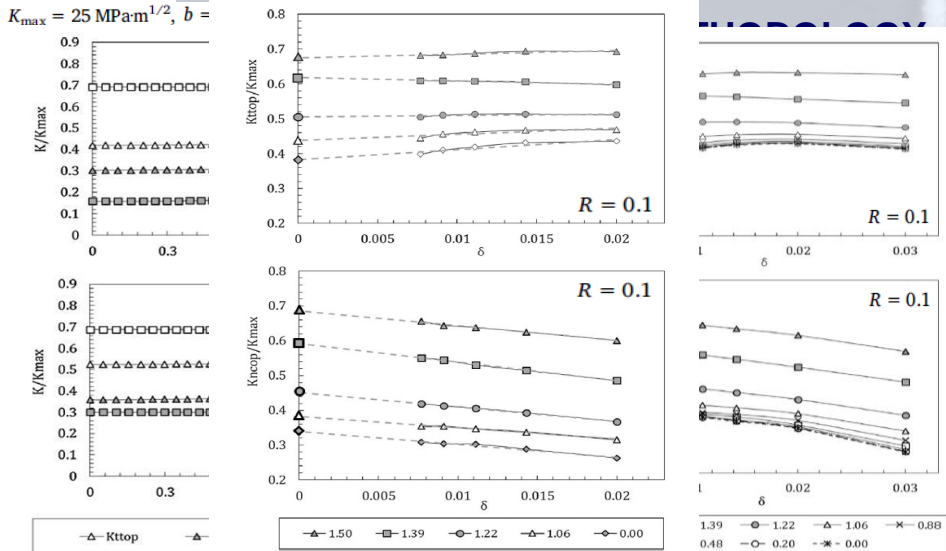
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Camas, D. et al., Numerical modelling of three-dimensional fatigue crack closure: mesh refinement, Int J Fatigue 2018;113:193-203



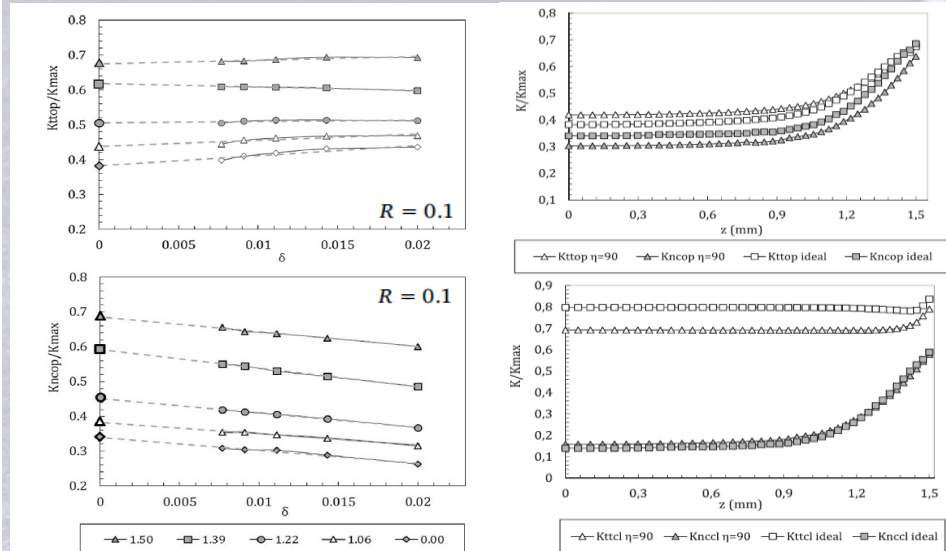
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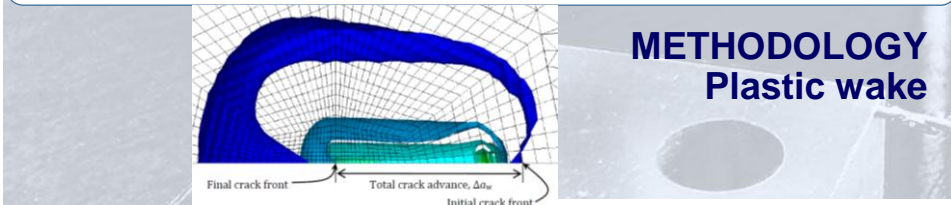




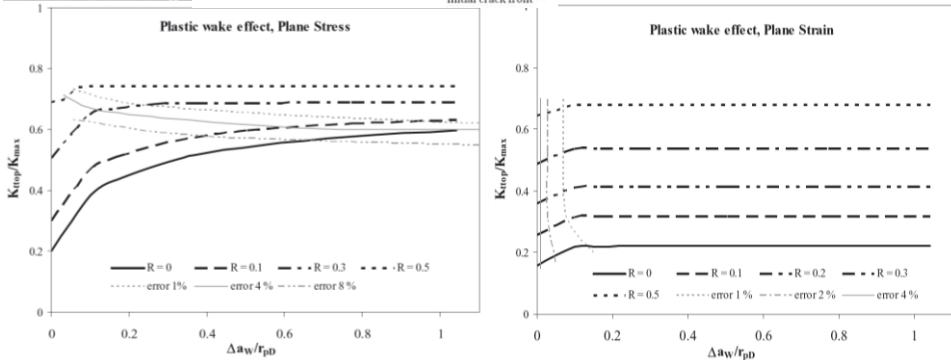
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## METHODOLOGY Plastic wake



Gonzalez-Herrera A, Zapatero J. Numerical study of the effect of plastic wake on plasticity-induced fatigue crack closure. *Fatigue Fract Eng Mater Struct* 2009;32:249–60.



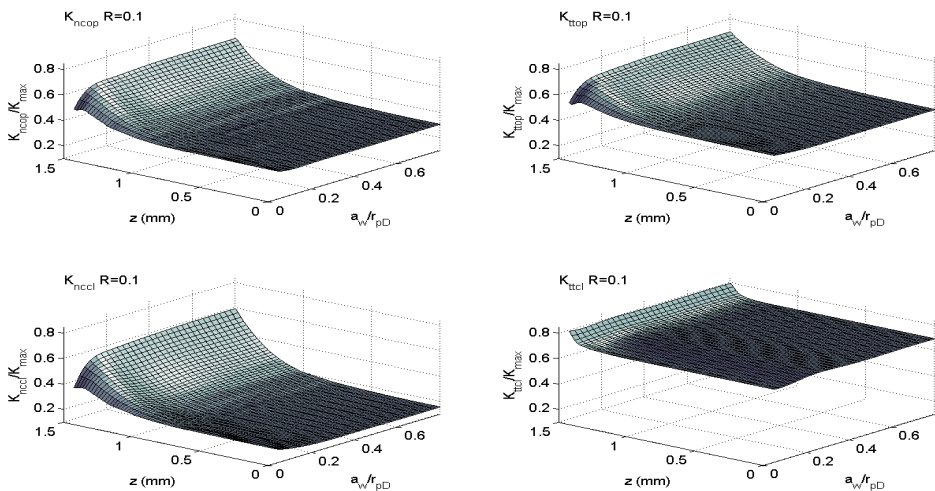
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## METHODOLOGY Plastic wake



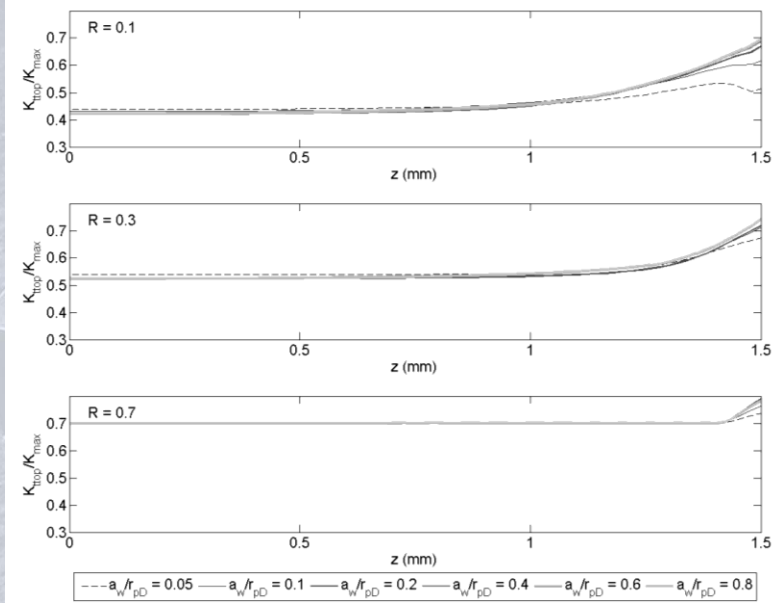


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LOGY  
crack

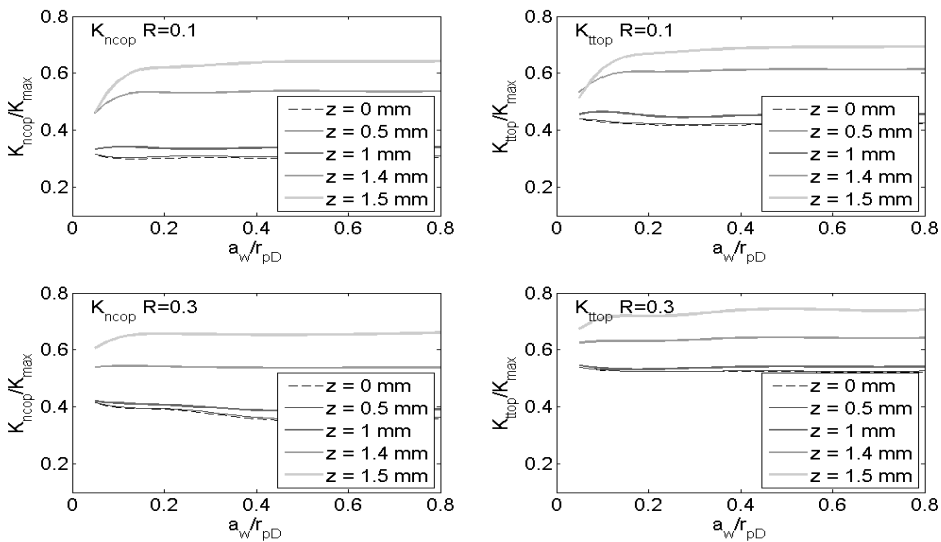


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## CONCLUSIONS

- This paper summarises the main learning and recommendations from the numerical modelling experience of the authors.
- The influence of the **minimum element size** on crack opening and closure results has been analysed considering a three-dimensional model. The error can be minimized when a minimum element size is established as  $\delta < 0.015$  for  $K_{ttop}$  and  $\delta < 0.03$  for  $K_{ncop}$
- Regarding the influence of the **plastic wake length**, a plastic wake extension of  $0.2r_{pD}$  for  $R=0.1$  and  $0.1r_{pD}$  for  $R=0.3$  and  $R=0.7$  would be acceptable. Results obtained in 3D case are less restrictive than those obtained in the 2D case.