

Characterization of fatigue-critical roughness parameter in electron beam powder bed fusion manufactured Ti-6Al-4V

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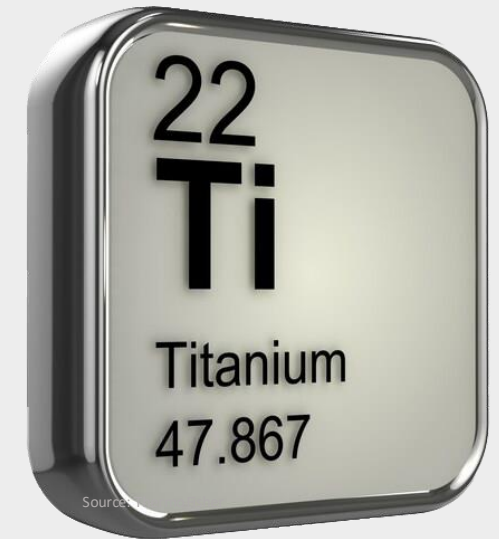
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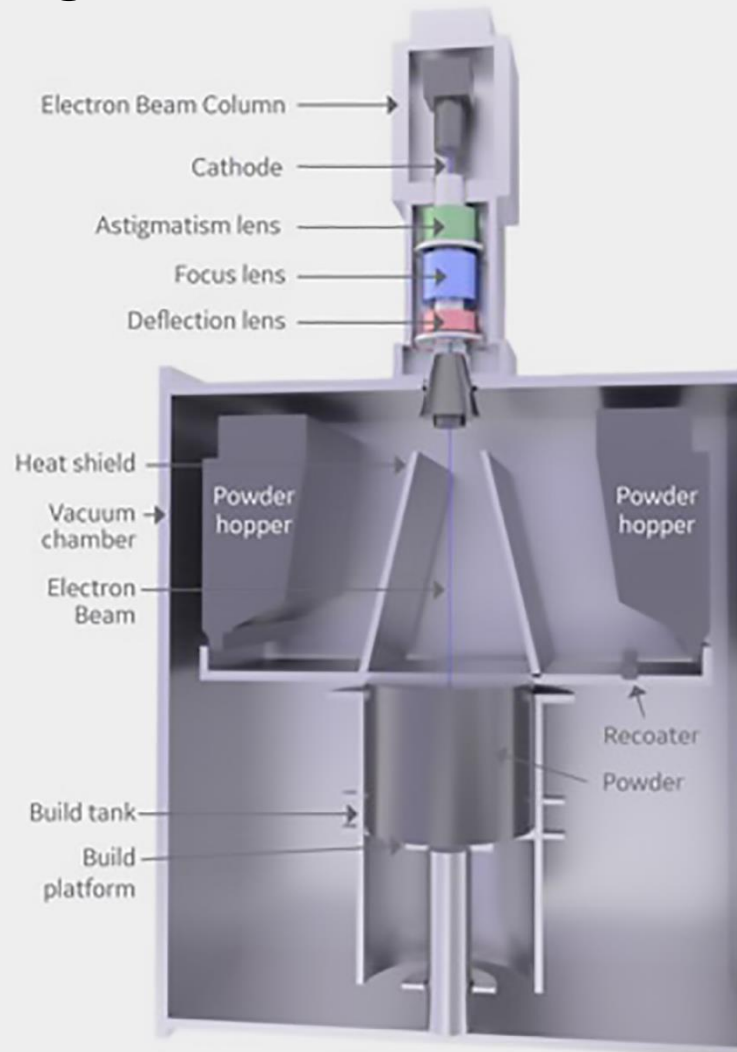
Outline

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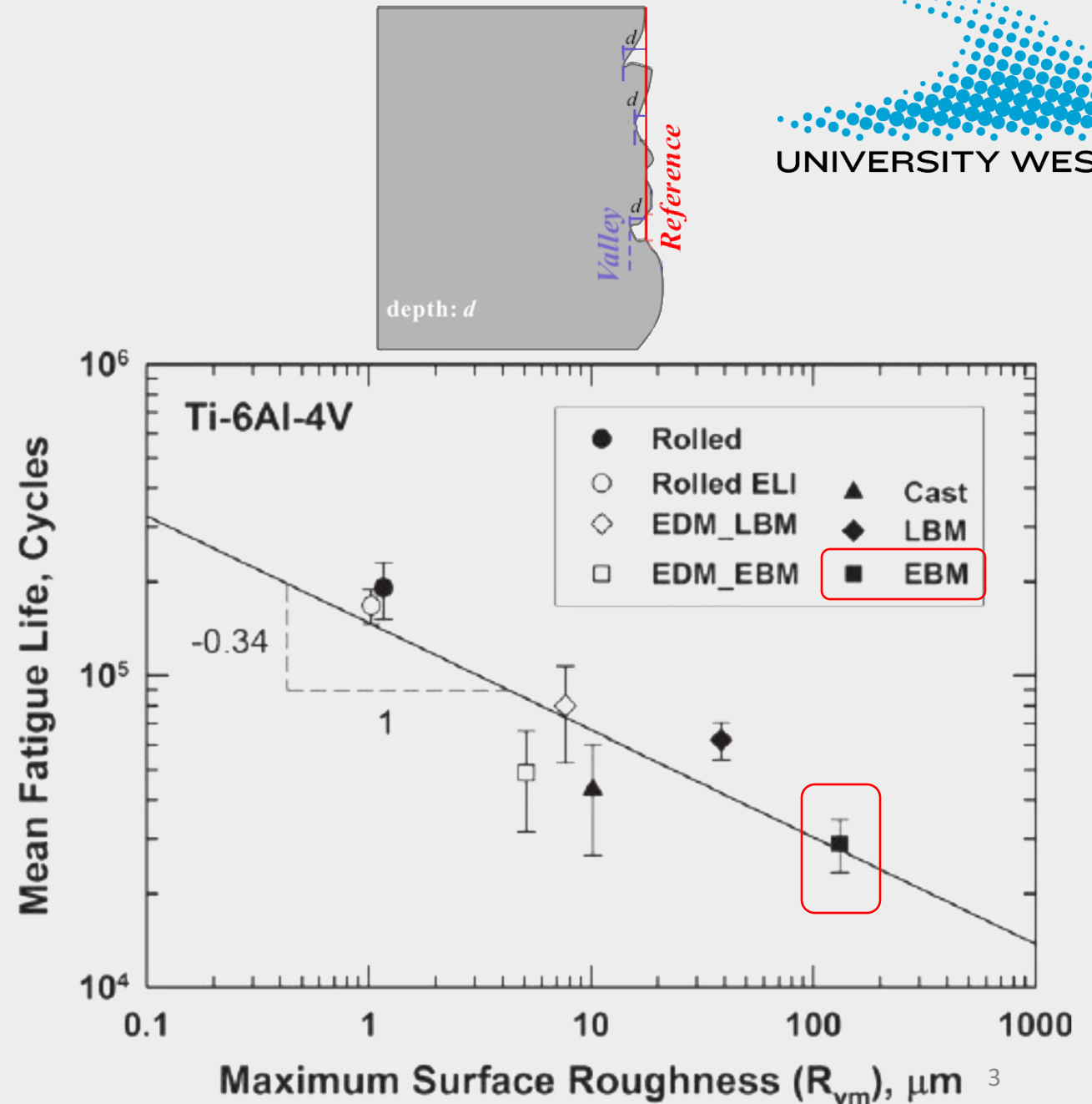


1. Introduction

Background and motivation



Source: GE



Research Question



As-built surface investigations

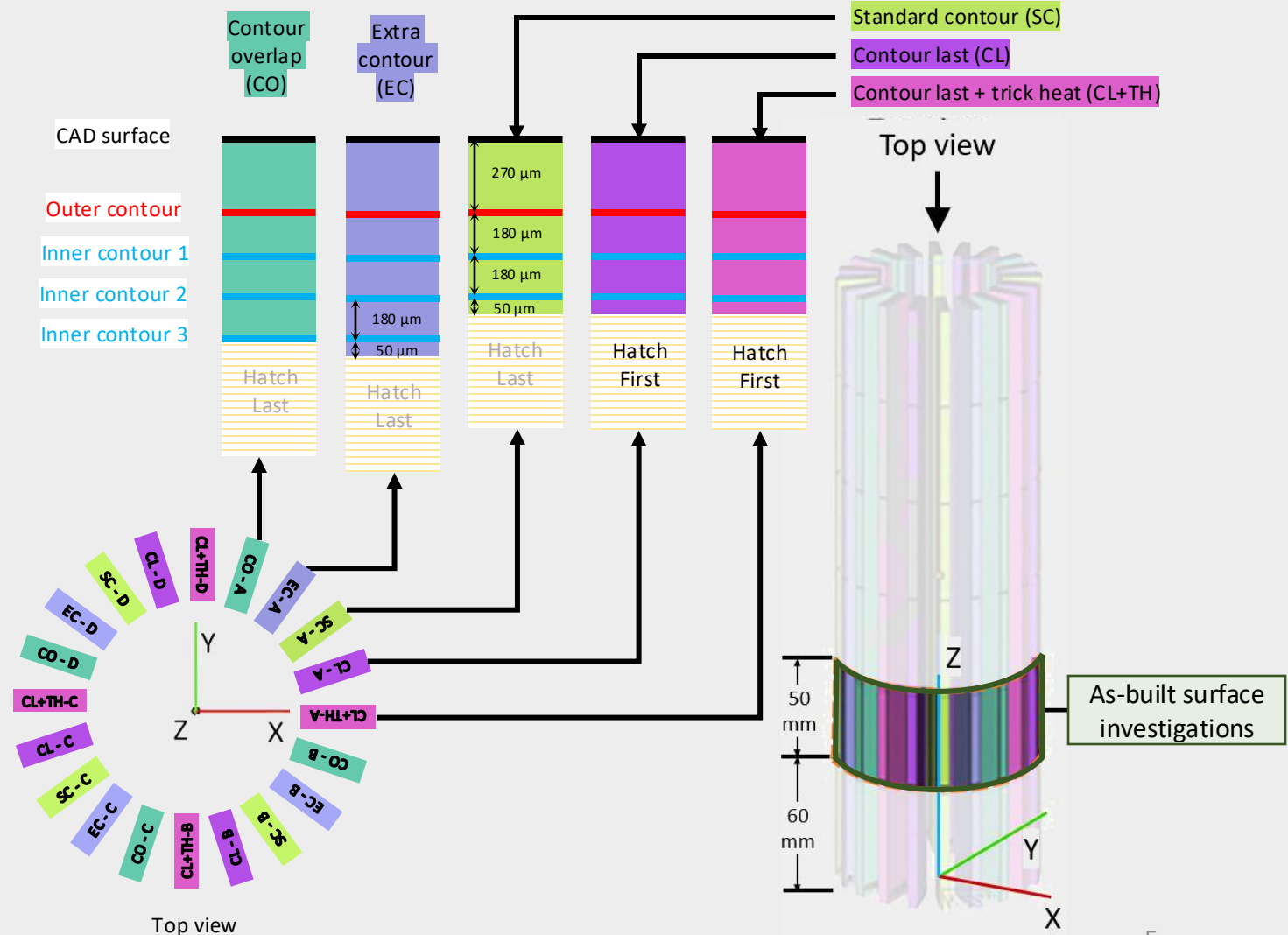
- How does the PBF-EB as-built surface roughness affect the fatigue properties in Ti-6Al-4V?

Method

Process parameter

Key process parameter for melt theme : 5.2.24

- 90 μm layer thickness.
- Plasma-atomized Ti-6Al-4V powder with 45–106 μm particle size distribution.
- No post-heat treatment.



Method

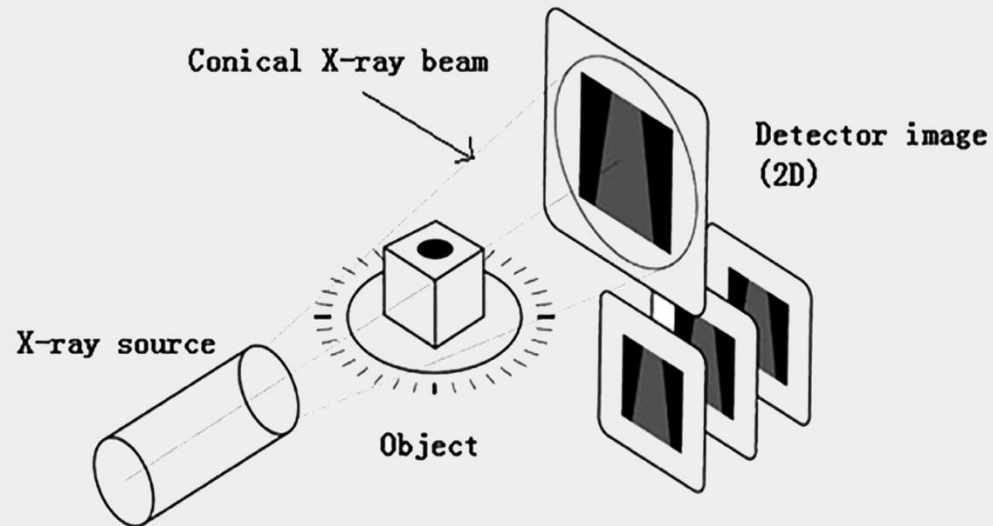
Material characterization

Surface characterization:

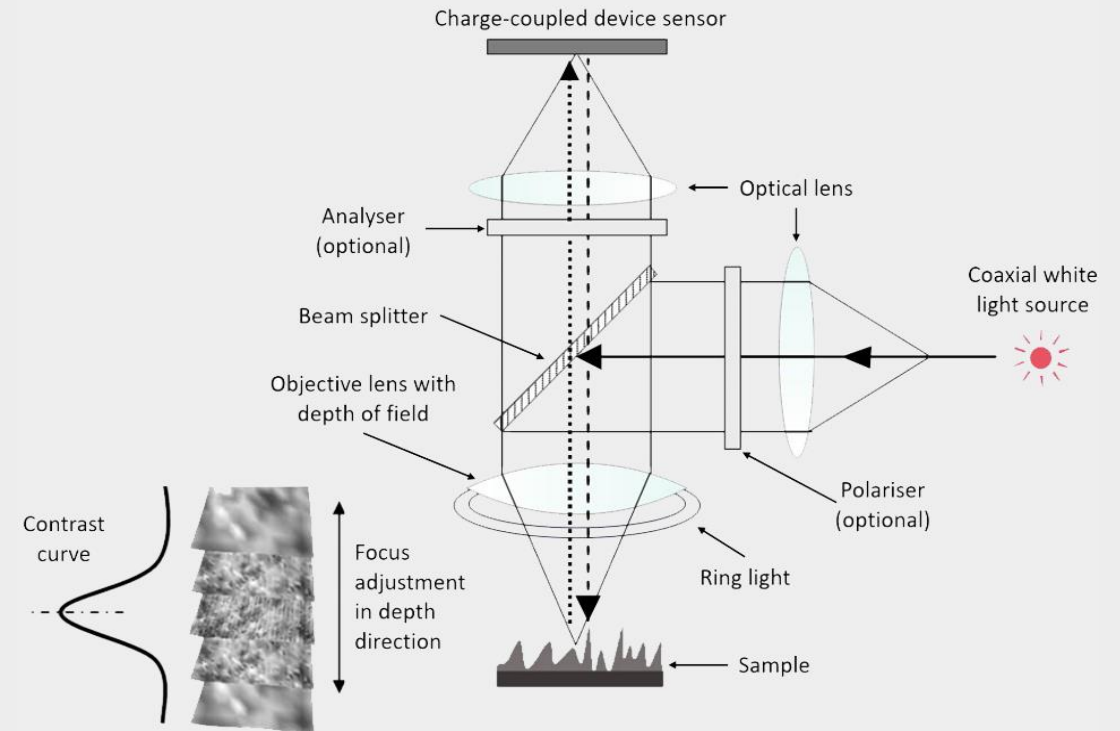
- Focus variation microscopy (FVM).
- X-ray computed tomography (XCT).
- Surface texture filtering per ISO 25178-2.



Schematic - XCT



Schematic - FVM



Four point bend specimen



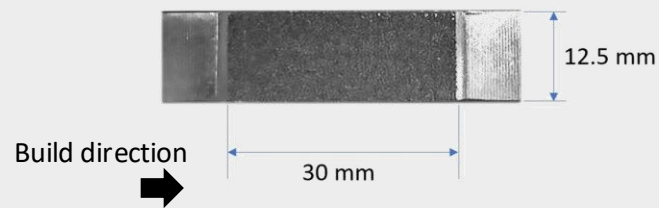
Method

Fatigue properties



Fatigue life predictions

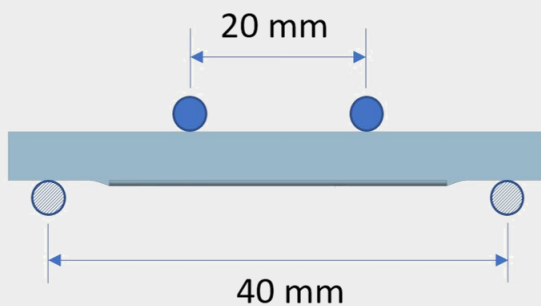
Four point bend test



$$\sigma_{\max} = 591 \text{ Mpa}$$

$$\sigma_{\min} = 59.1 \text{ Mpa}$$

$$R = 0.1$$



FCG data

Modified HIP FCG data
tested at $R = -1$

Walker equation

$$\frac{da}{dN} = C(\overline{\Delta K})^m = C \left(\frac{\Delta K}{(1-R)^n} \right)^m$$

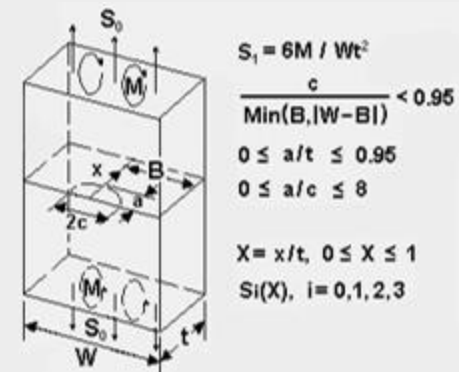
$$n = 0.9 \text{ for } R < 0$$

$$n = 0.5 \text{ for } R > 0$$

Corrected $R = 0.1$

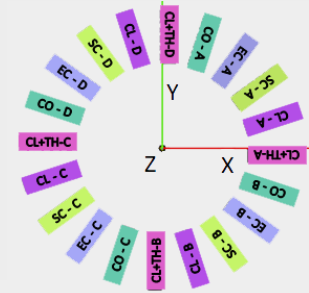


SC30



Results

Maximum pit height and fatigue life



✖ Contour overlapping hatch

○ Standard contour

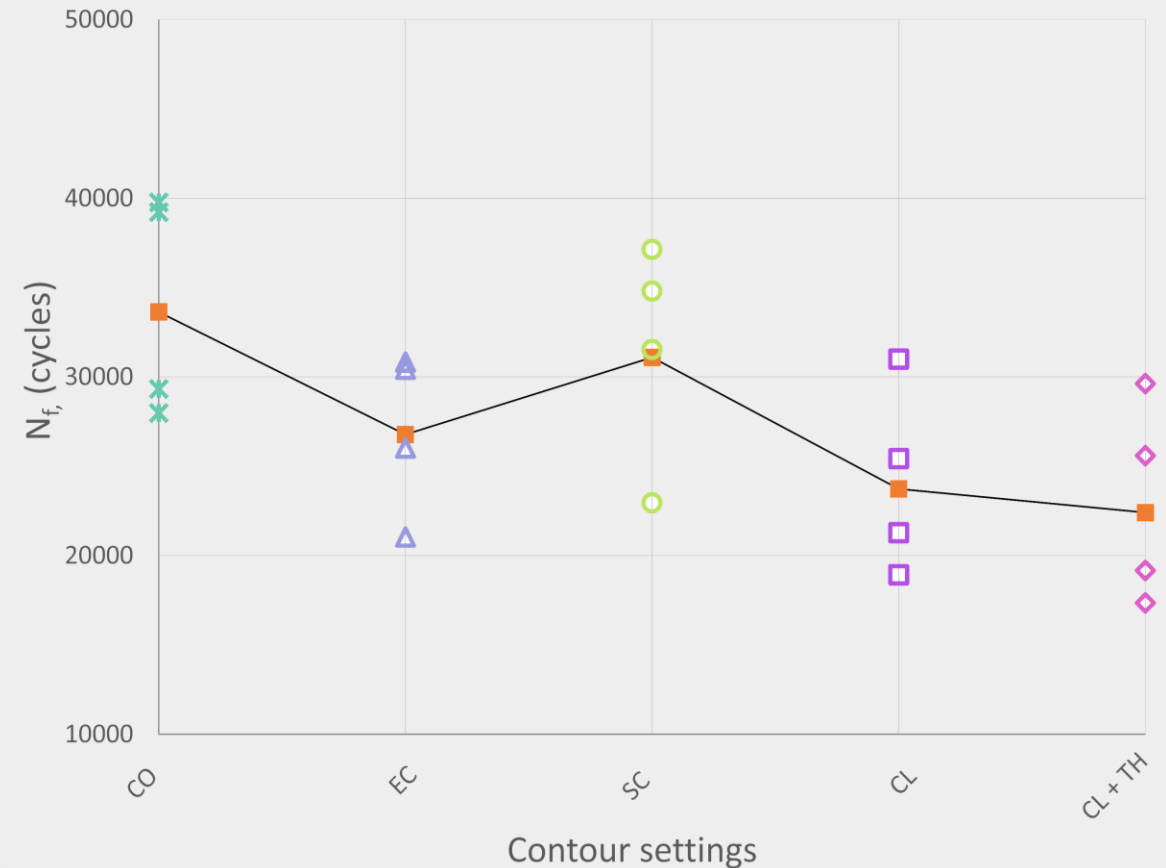
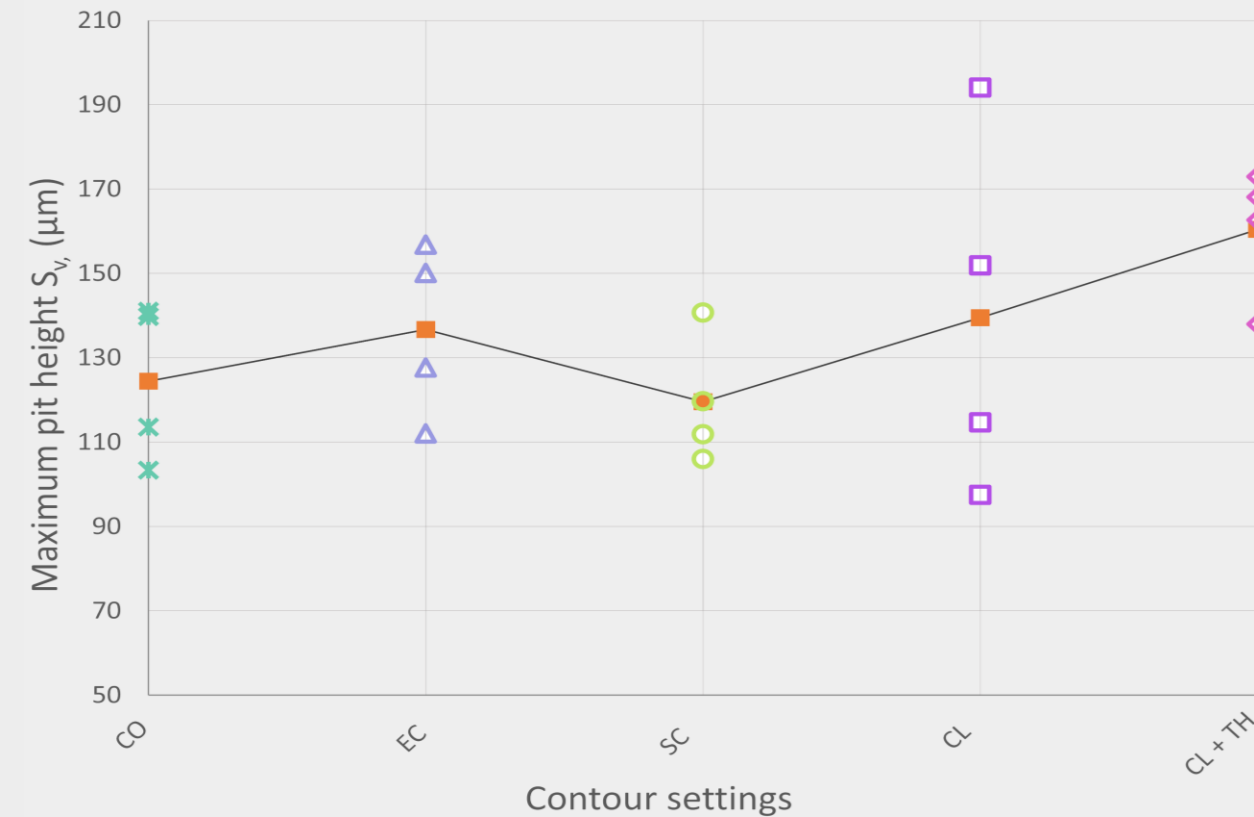
◇ Contour last+trick heat

△ Extra contour

□ Contour last

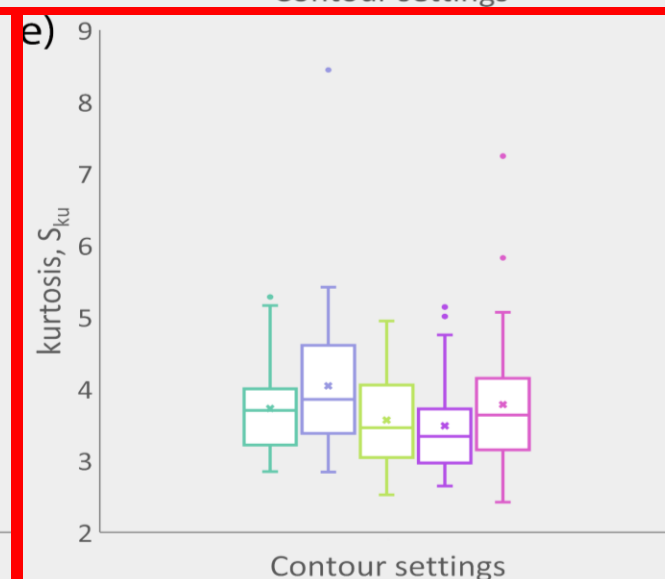
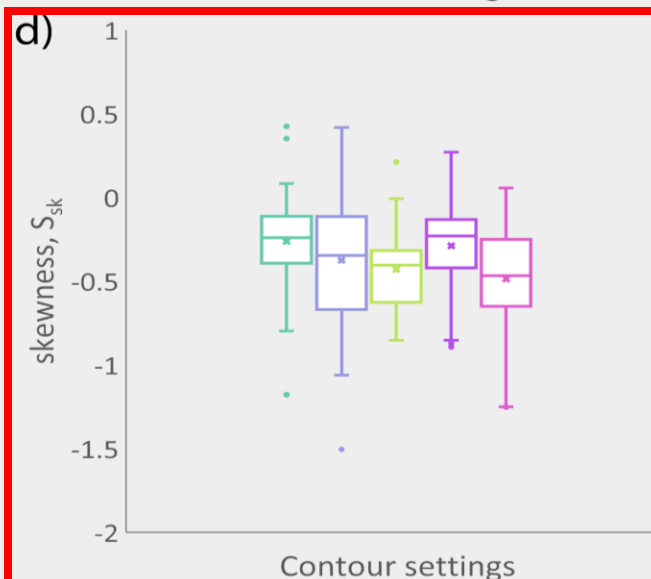
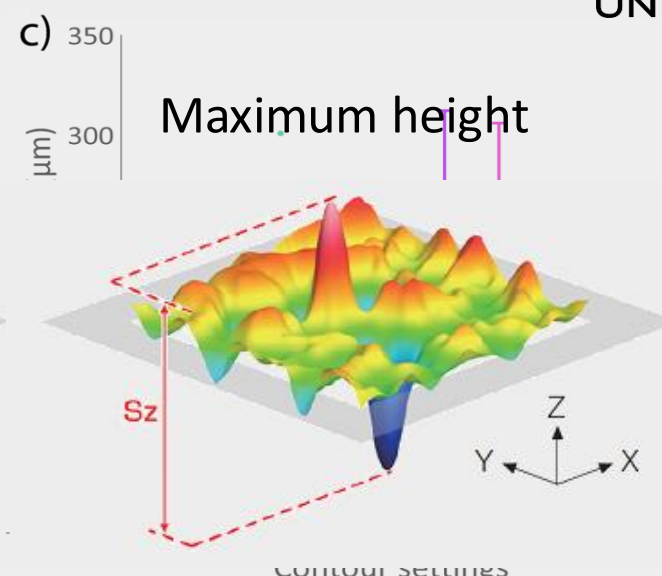
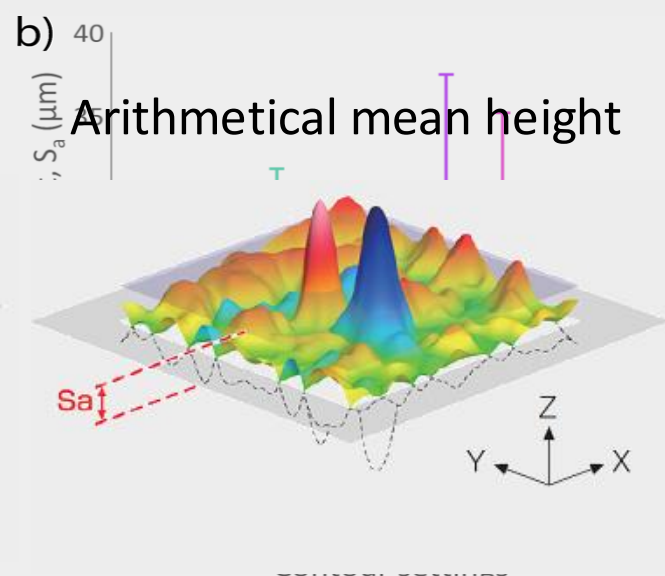
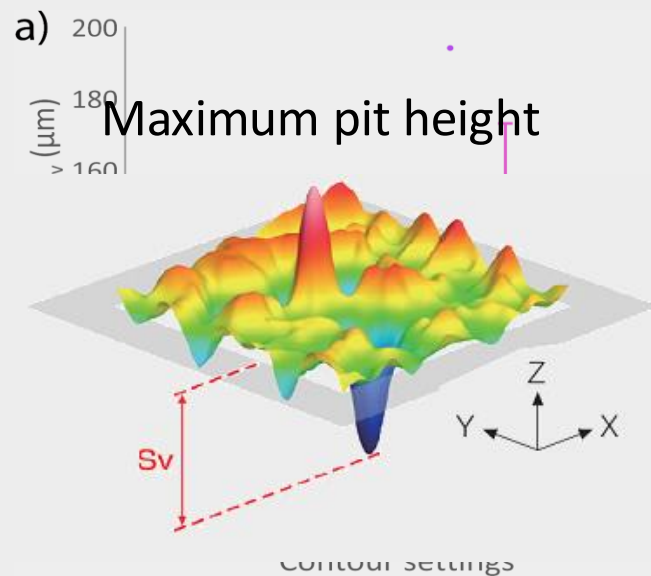
■ Arithmetic mean

■ Log-normal-mean



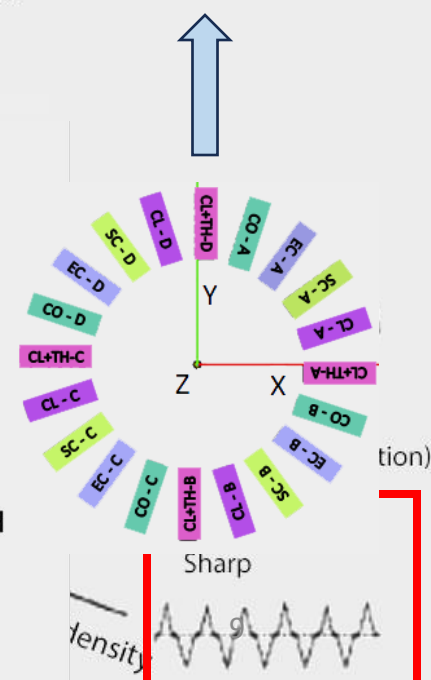
Results

Areal roughness height parameters



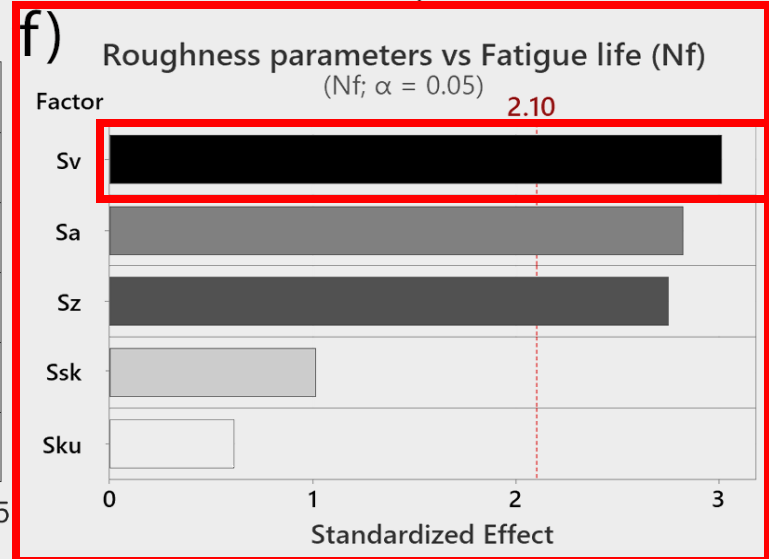
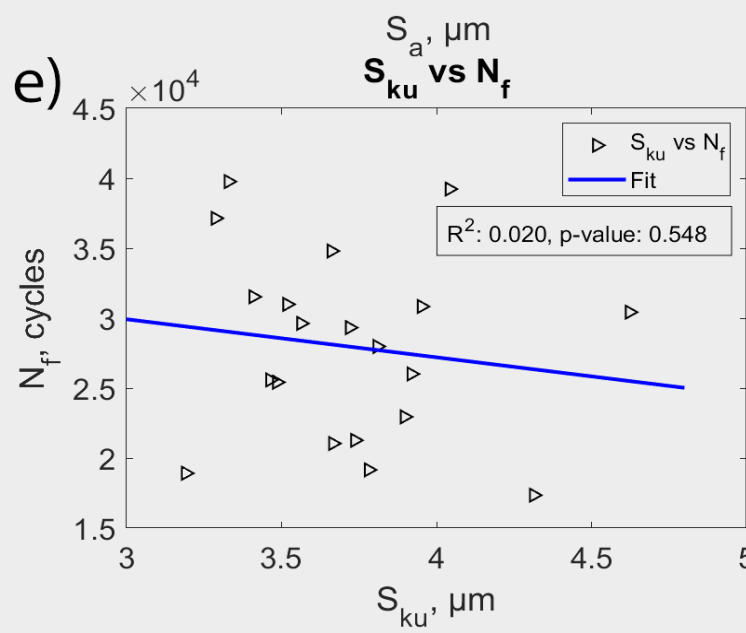
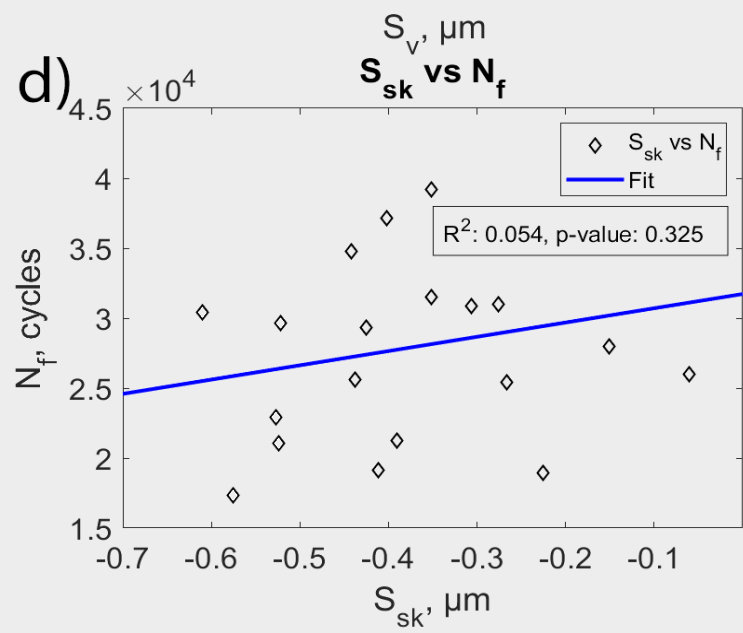
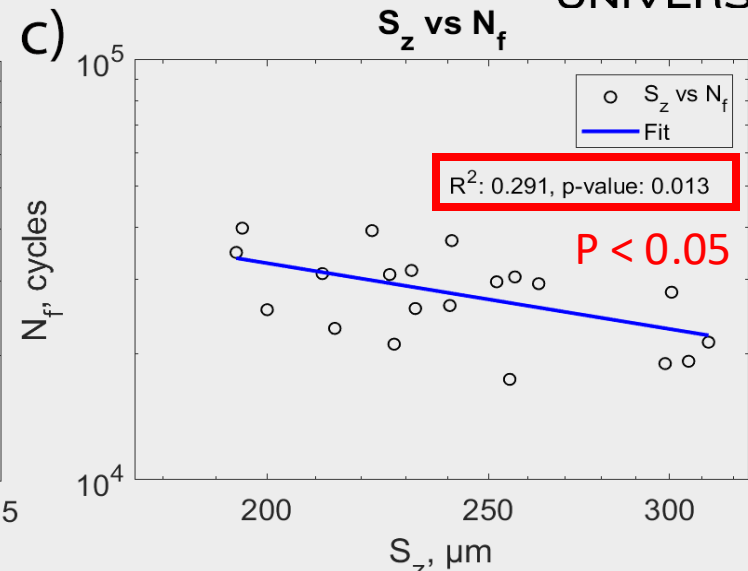
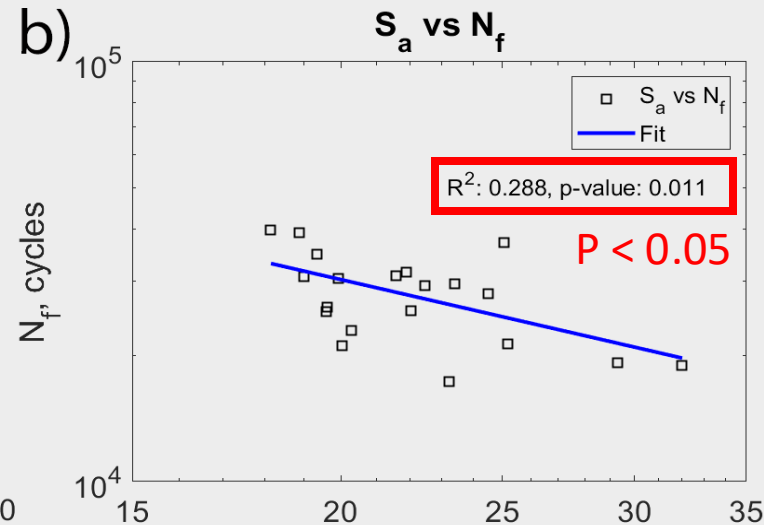
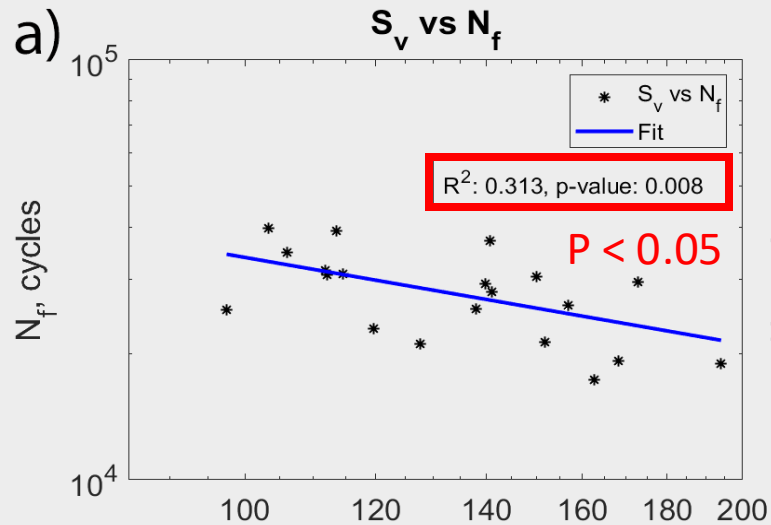
K

- Contour overlap (CO)
- Extra contour (EC)
- Standard contour (SC)
- Contour last (CL)
- Contour last + trick heat (CL+TH)



Results

Effect of roughness parameter on fatigue

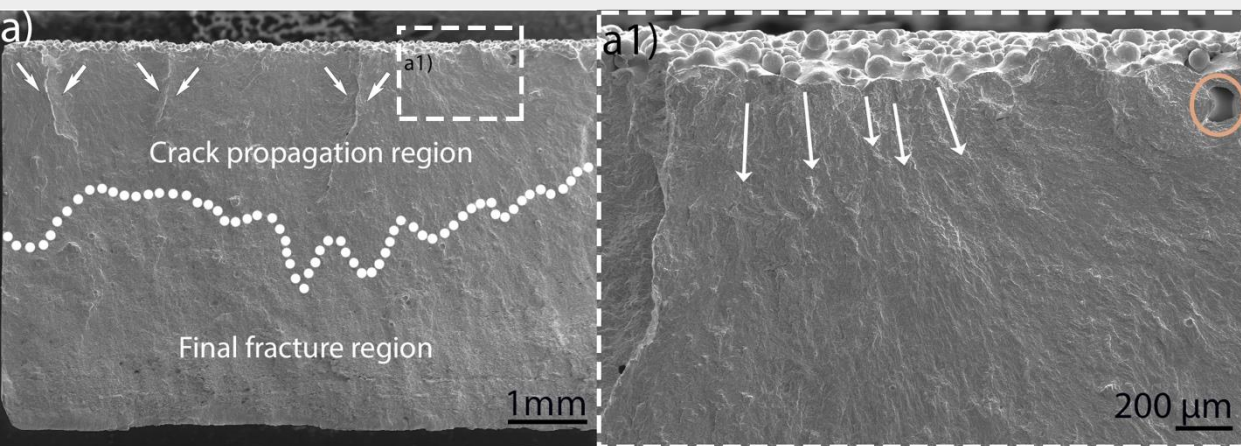


Results

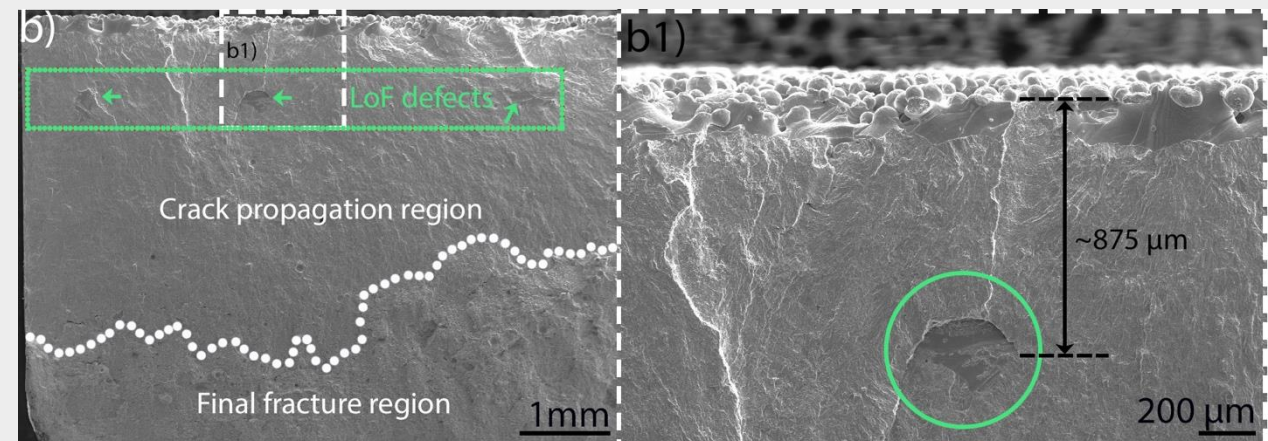
Fractography



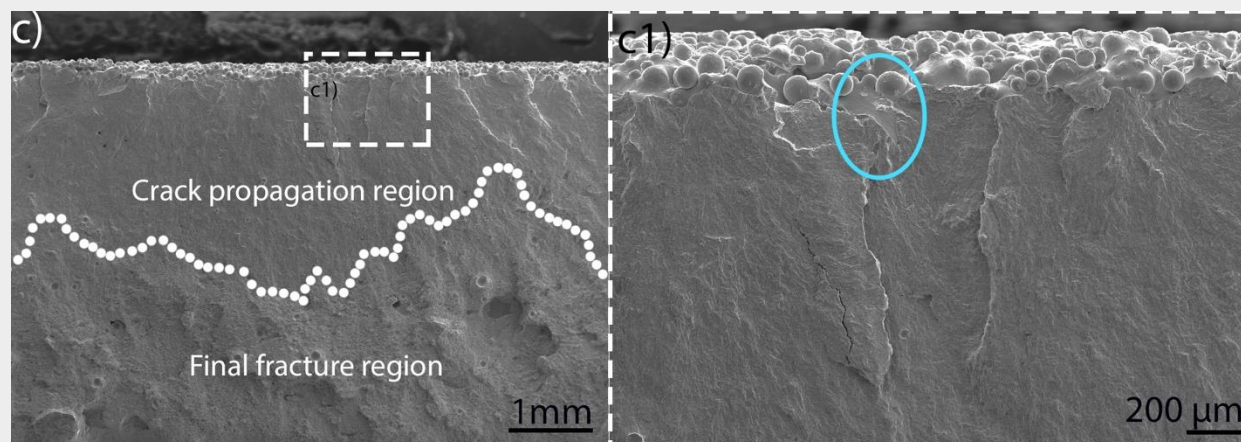
Low life - 17350 cycles



Medium life - 30987 cycles

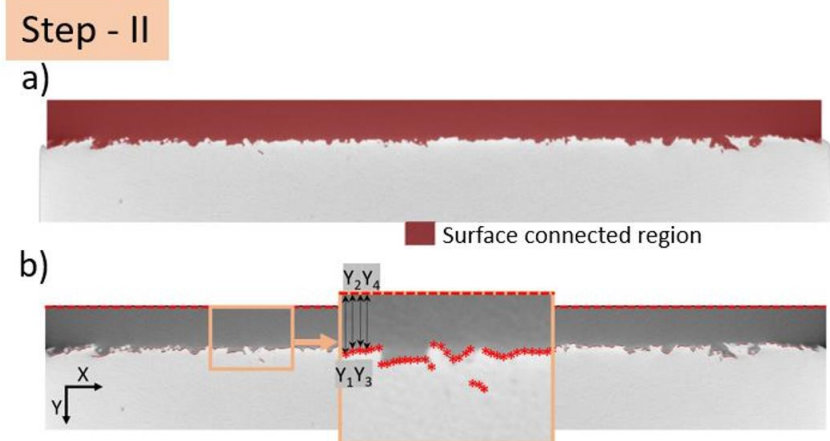
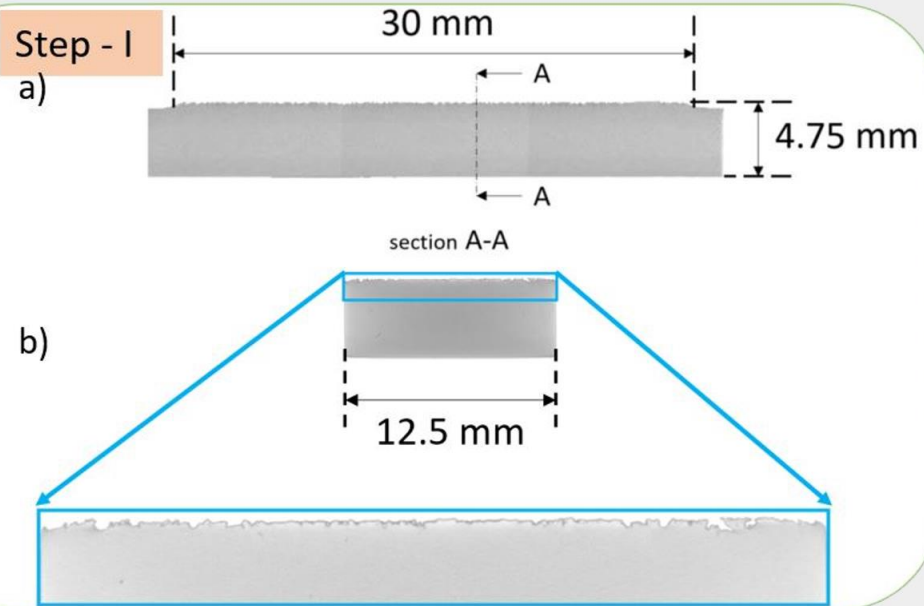


High life - 39761 cycles



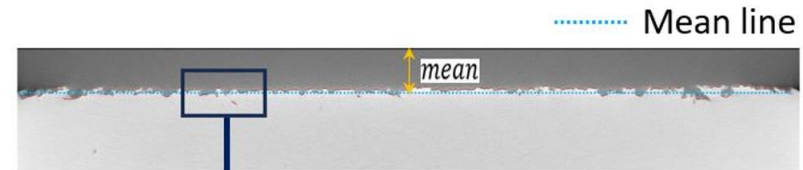
Results

Post-processing XCT data

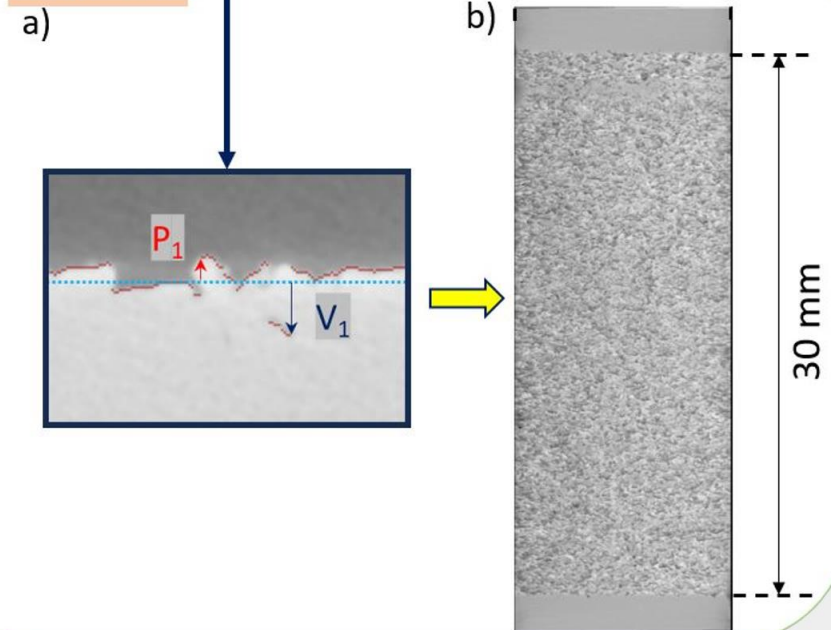


Step - III

$$mean = \frac{Y_1 + Y_2 + Y_3 + Y_4 + \dots + Y_n}{n}$$

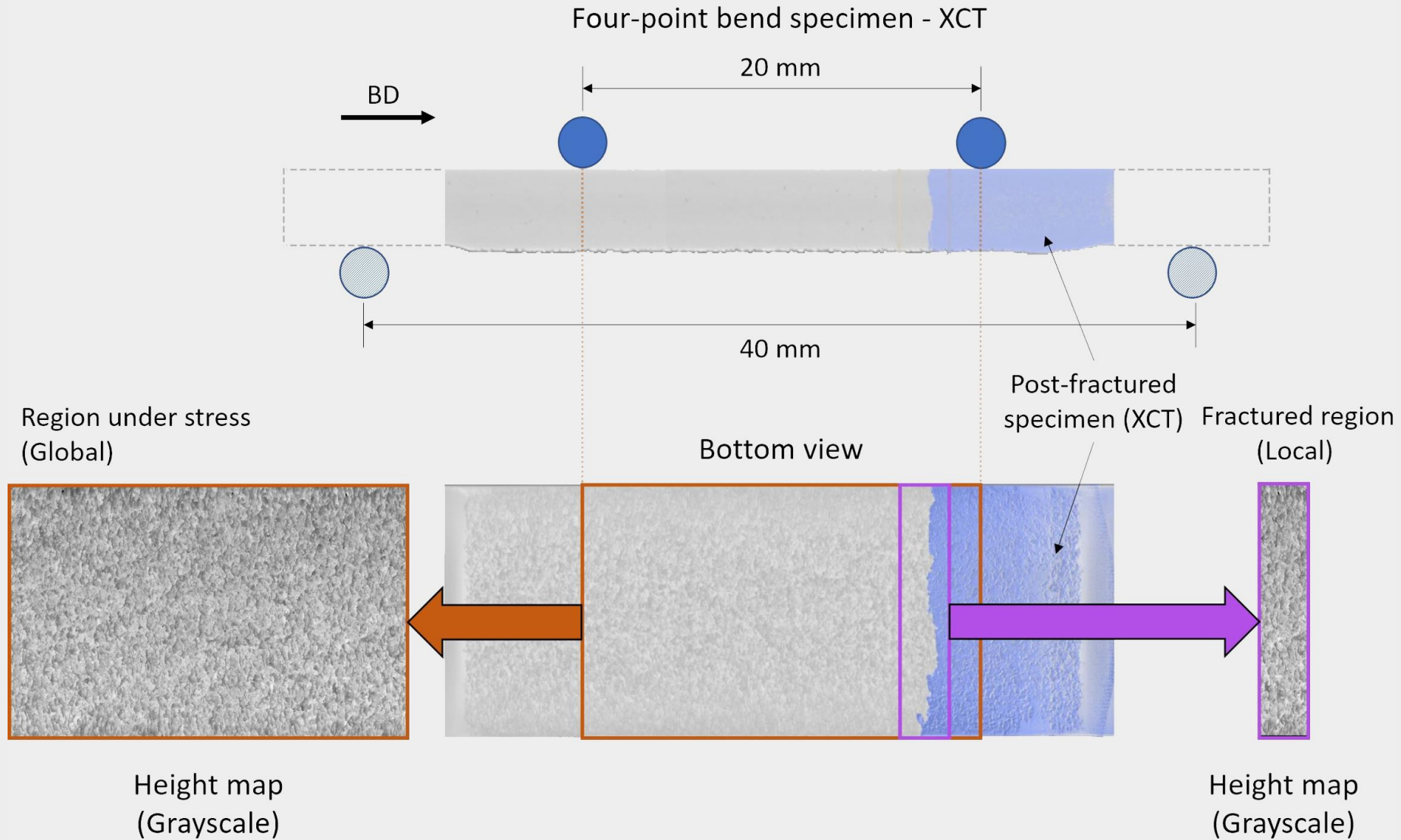


Step - IV



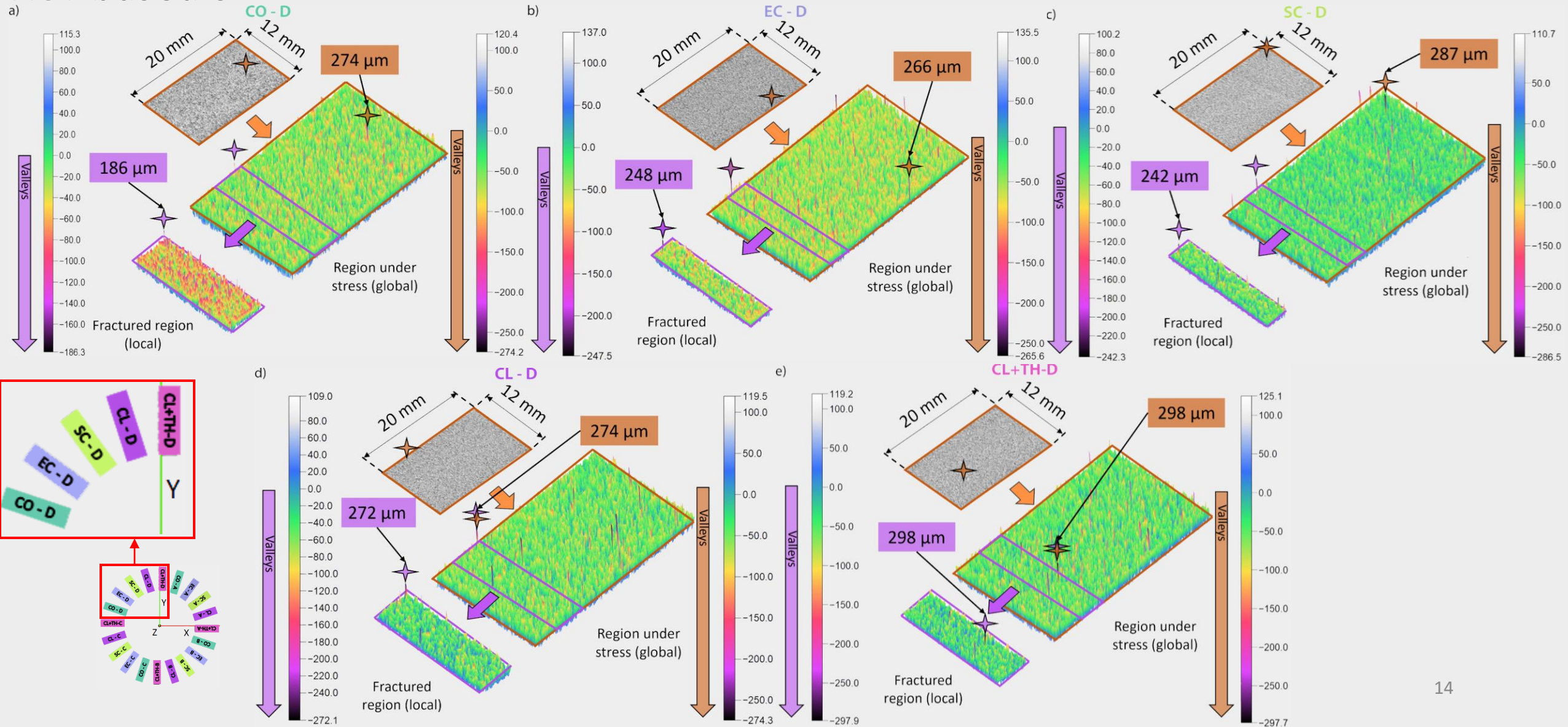
Results

Post-processing XCT data



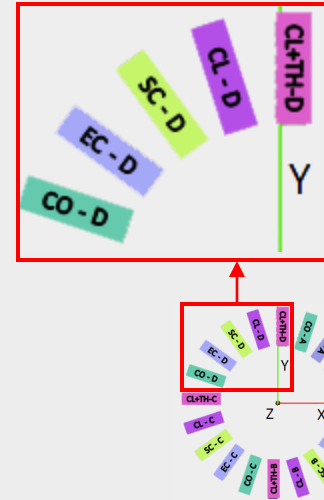
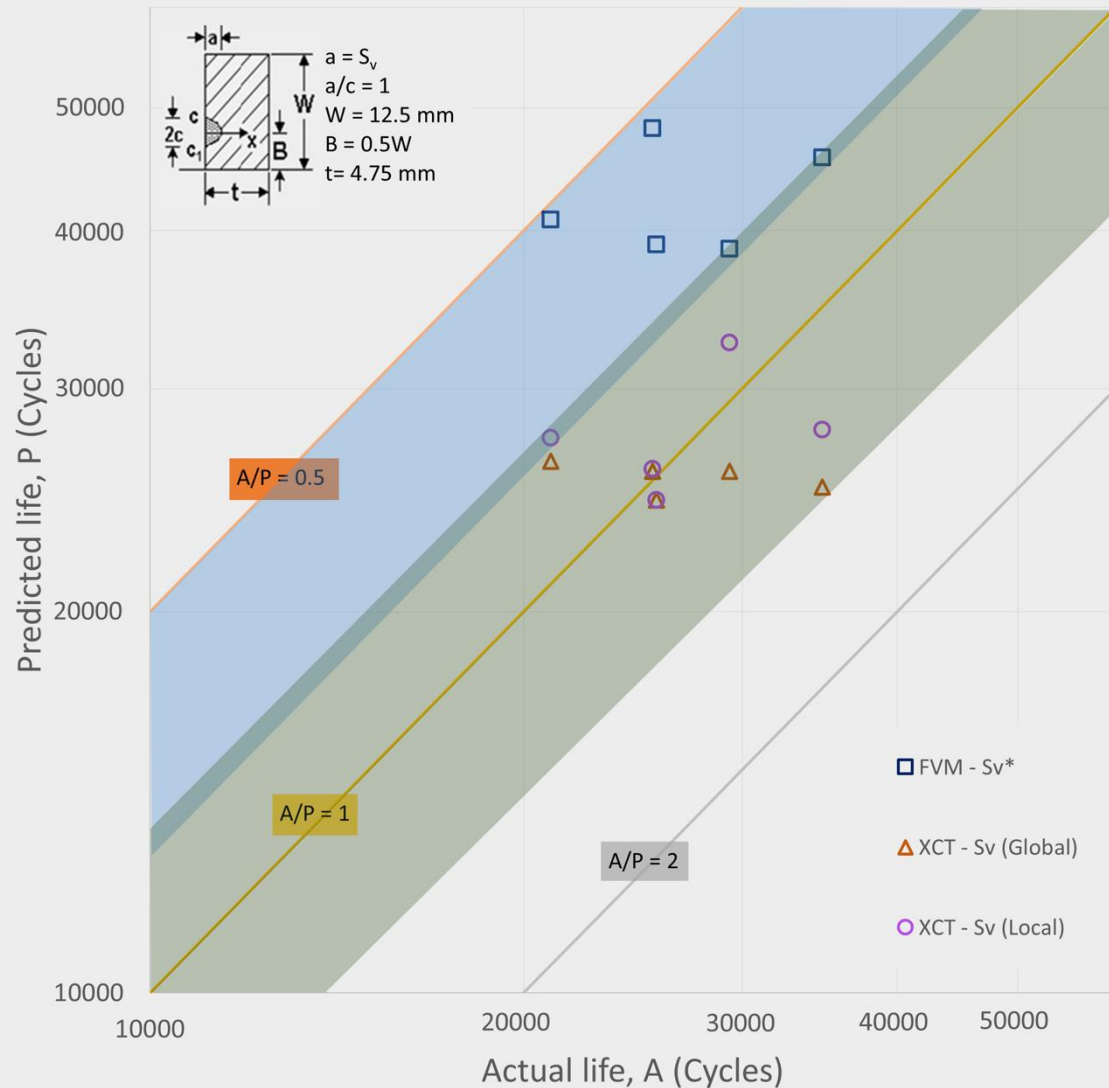
Results

XCT based S_v



Results

Estimation of fatigue life



Specimen ID	Actual cycles to failure (A)	Initial defect size a (μm)		
		FVM S_v^*	XCT S_v (Global)	XCT S_v (local)
EC - D	21043	128	266	248
CL - D	25421	97	274	272
CL+TH - D	25587	138	298	298
CO - D	29323	140	274	186
SC - D	34800	106	287	242

3. Summary



- Melting the contours before hatch showed a trend of reduced surface roughness. However, it is challenging to observe a significant effect due to the large scatter in the data.
- Maximum pit height (S_v) roughness parameter was found to be statistically significant in affecting fatigue life.
- Hidden surface-connected valley features revealed from XCT data resulted in a more conservative life predictions than estimating life using the FVM-based data.

Thank you for your attention!