



# Notes on Simulating Head Impact on Windshields

Stefan Kolling, Christopher Brokmann, Christian Alter

# Introduction and Content



Source: hondanews.com

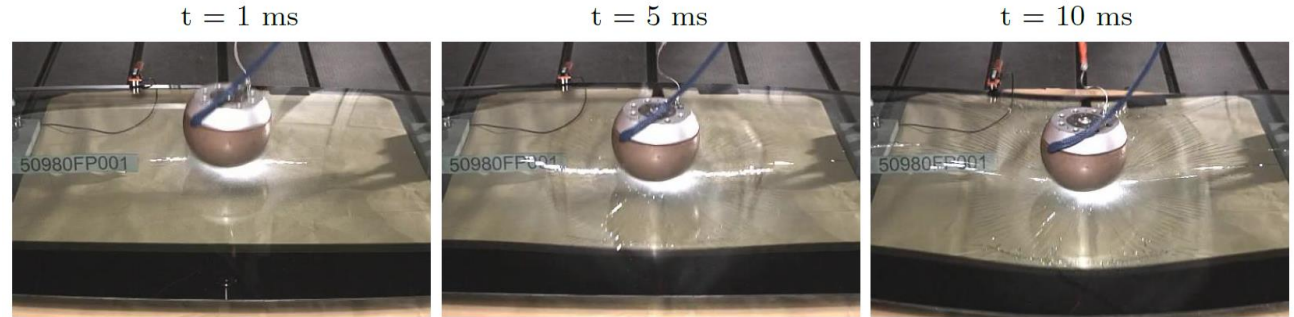
- Reproducibility of head impact tests on windshields
- Probability of glass fracture
- FE-modelling of laminated glass
- Stochastic simulation



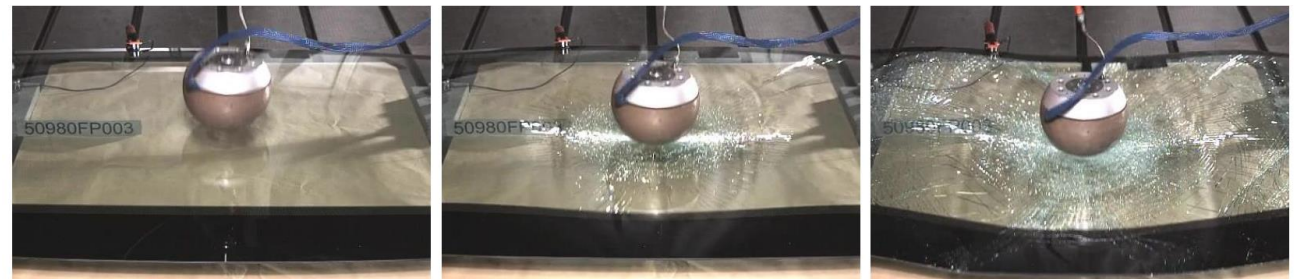
Source: BGS Böhme & Gehring GmbH

# Motivation: How Reproducible are Head Impact Tests?

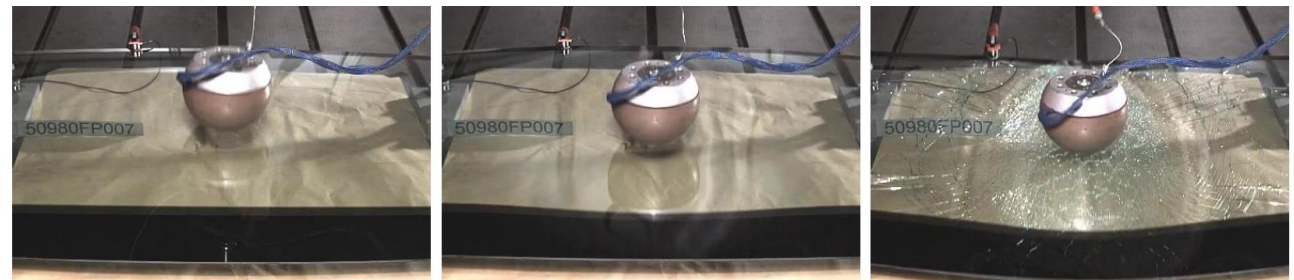
- Audi A3 windshields
- Free-flying head
- 10 m/s, centric, 10 tests
- Euro NCAP adult head
- Four-point support



(a) Initial fracture of test number 1 between 0 and 1 ms.



(b) Initial fracture of test number 3 between 2 and 3 ms.



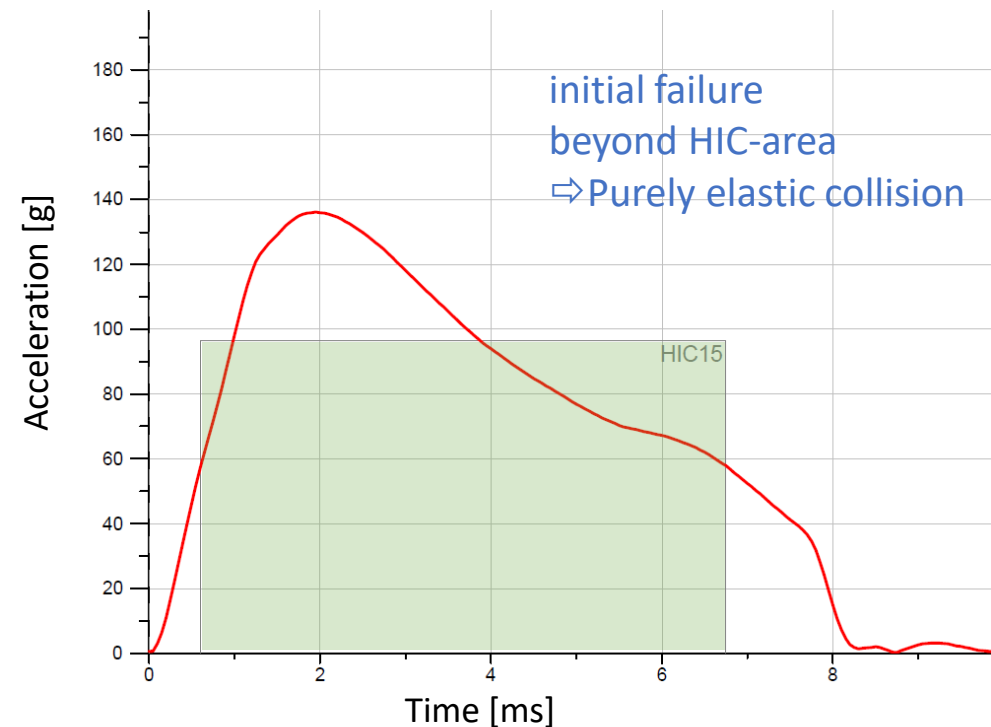
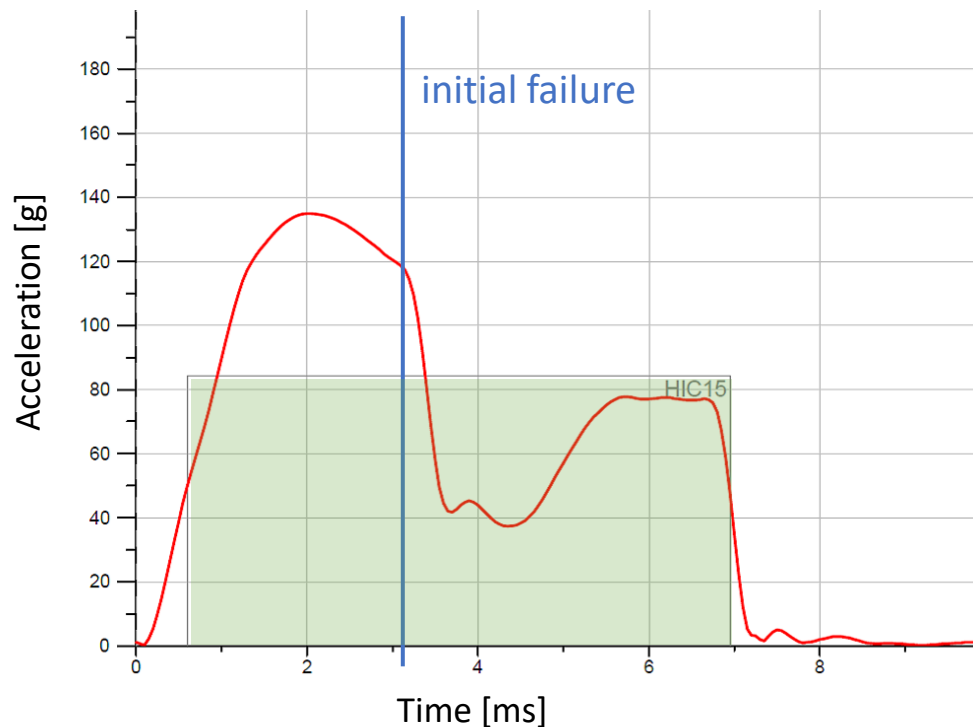
(c) Initial fracture of test number 7 between 8 and 9 ms.



# Motivation: How Reproducible are Head Impact Tests?

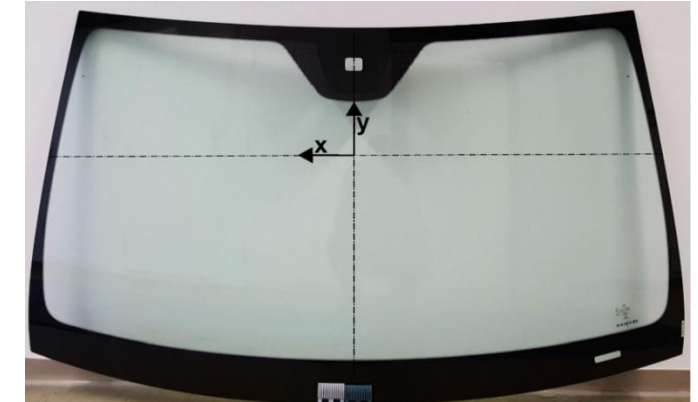
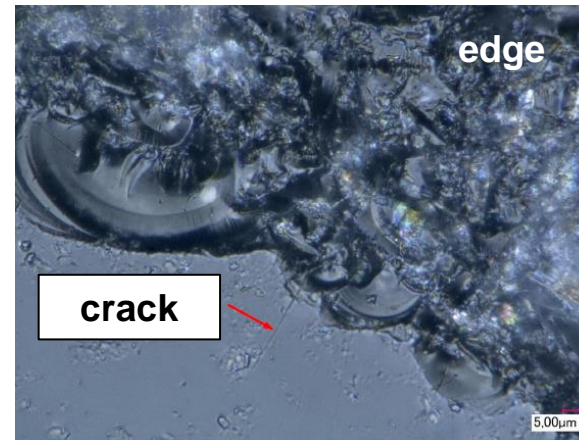
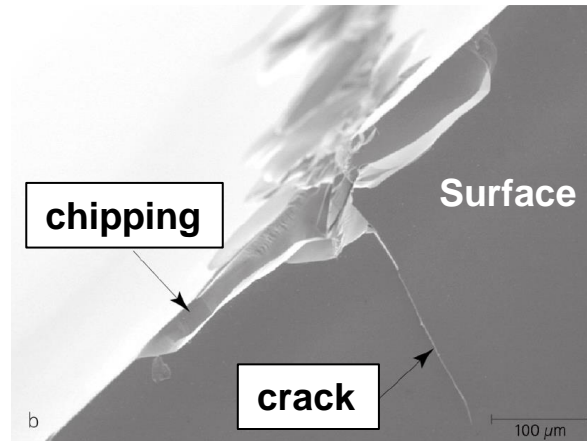
- Head Injury Criterion
- HIC15 = 418 ... 566 in 10 identical tests
- Accelerations are completely different

$$HIC = \max \left\{ \left[ \frac{1}{t_2 - t_1} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} a(t) dt \right]^{2.5} (t_2 - t_1) \right\} < 1000$$



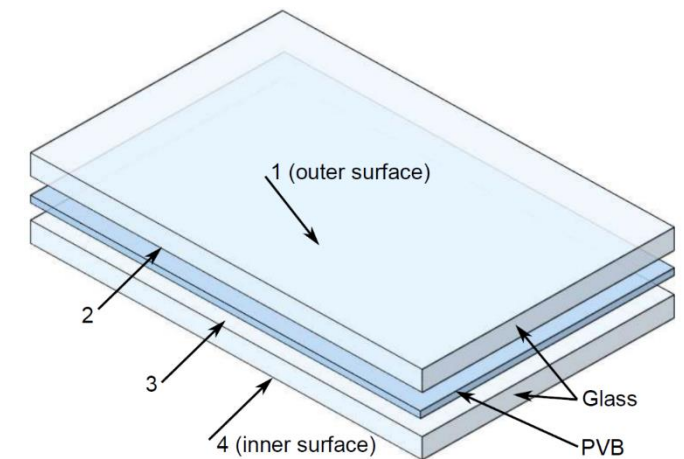
## Where does this Scatter come from?

- The reasons are microcracks in the surface / edge of the glass



- These are production and handling related:

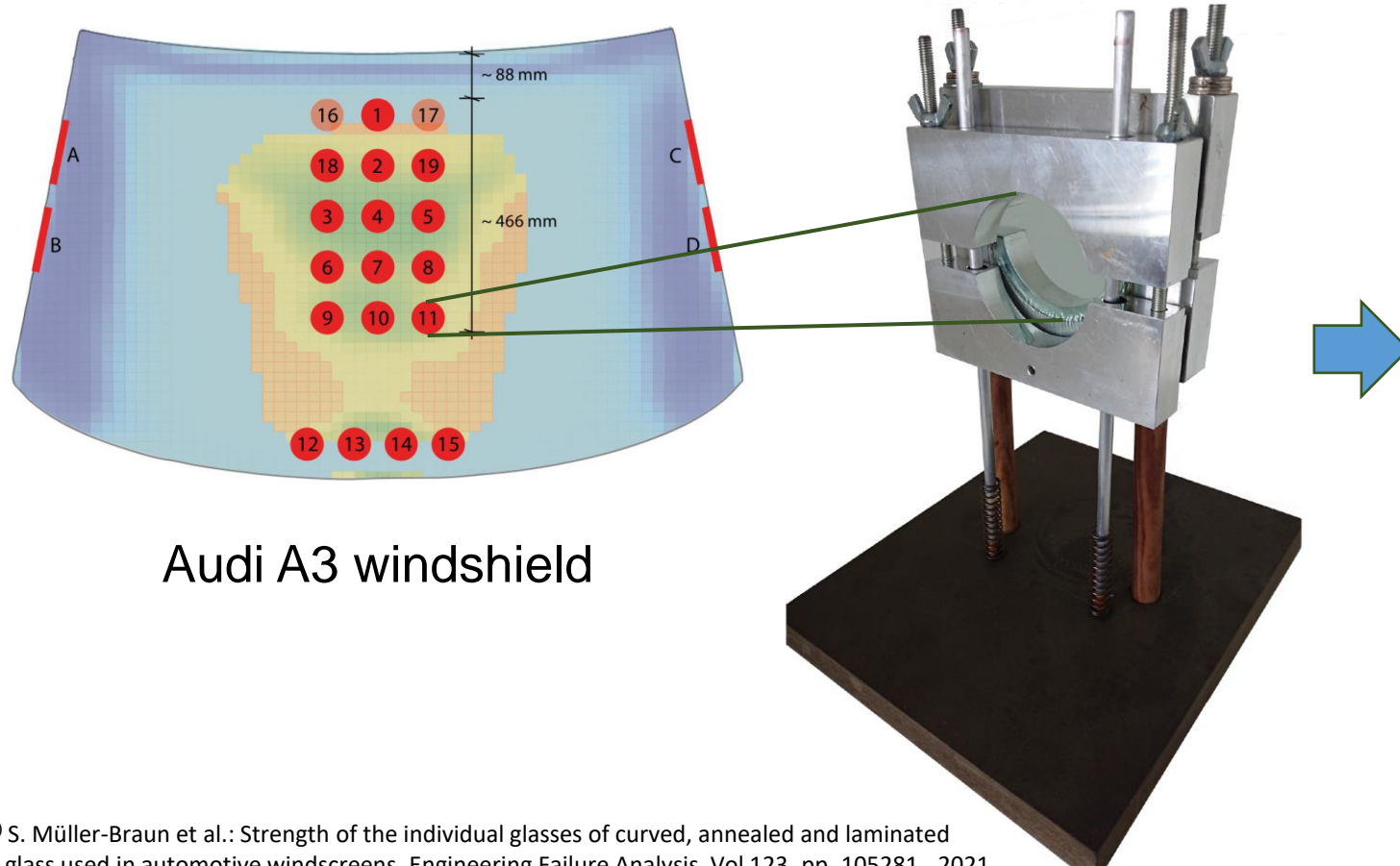
- Edge processing
- Silkscreen
- Transportation



- Different stress at failure for all 4 surfaces, edges and screen-printing area must be considered in the simulation

# How to determine the probability of fracture?

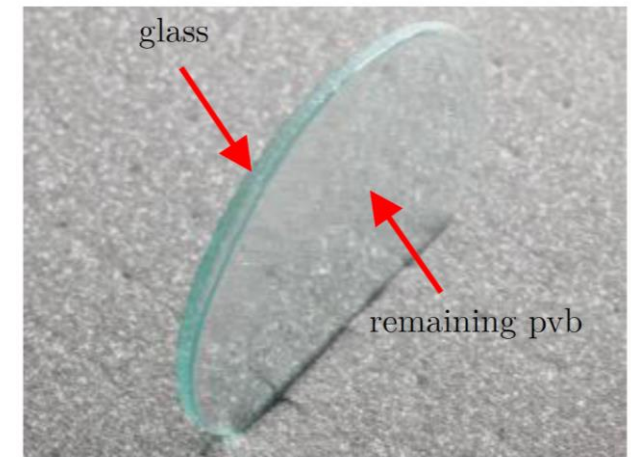
## ➤ Specimen preparation<sup>1)</sup>



Audi A3 windshield



(a) before separation



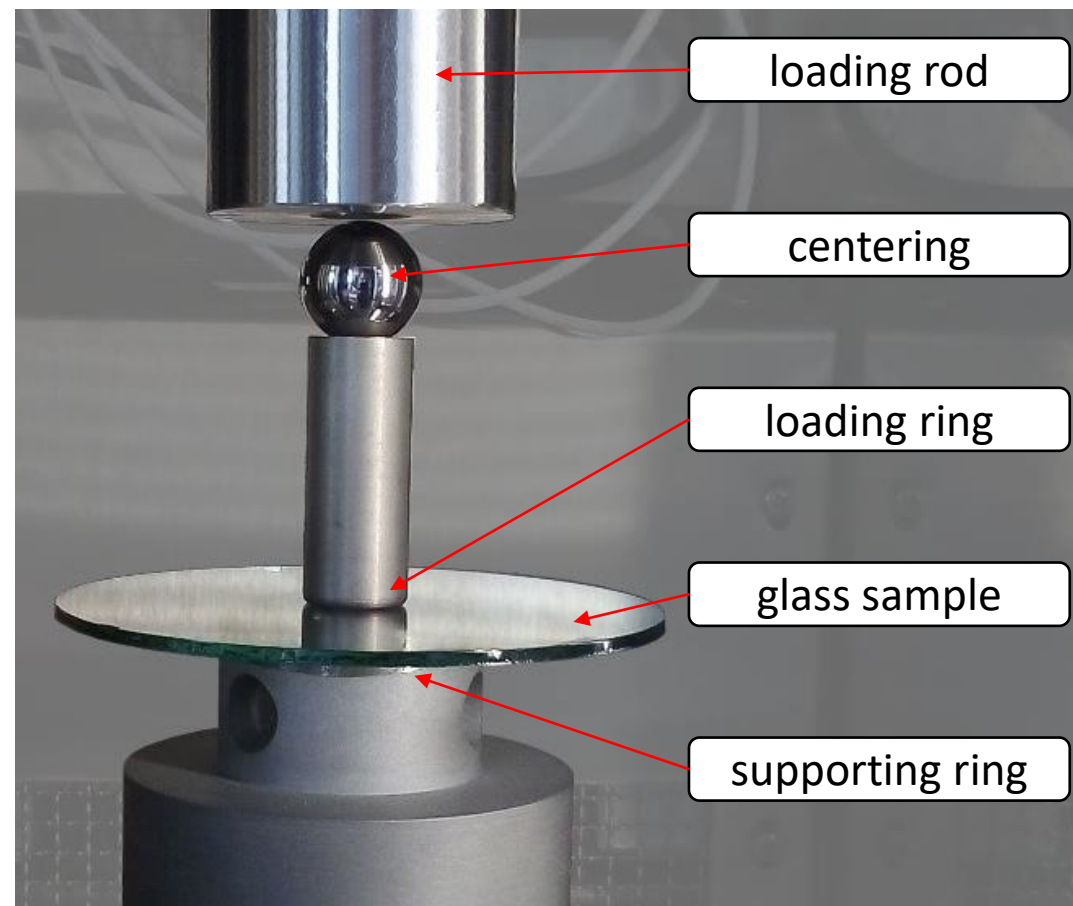
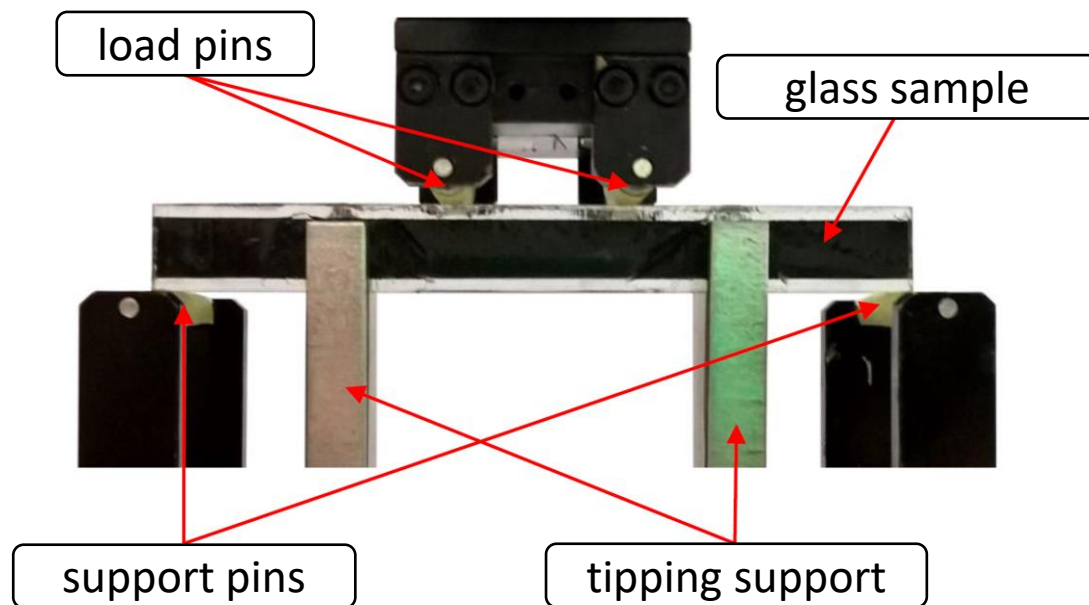
(b) after separation

<sup>1)</sup> S. Müller-Braun et al.: Strength of the individual glasses of curved, annealed and laminated glass used in automotive windscreens, Engineering Failure Analysis, Vol 123, pp. 105281, 2021.

# How to Determine the Probability of Fracture?

## ➤ Small specimens (quasi-static)<sup>1)</sup>:

- waterjet cutting / separation
- coaxial ring-on-ring tests (surface)
- four-point bending (edges)



<sup>1)</sup>S. Müller-Braun et al.: Strength of the individual glasses of curved, annealed and laminated glass used in automotive windscreens, Engineering Failure Analysis, Vol 123, pp. 105281, 2021.

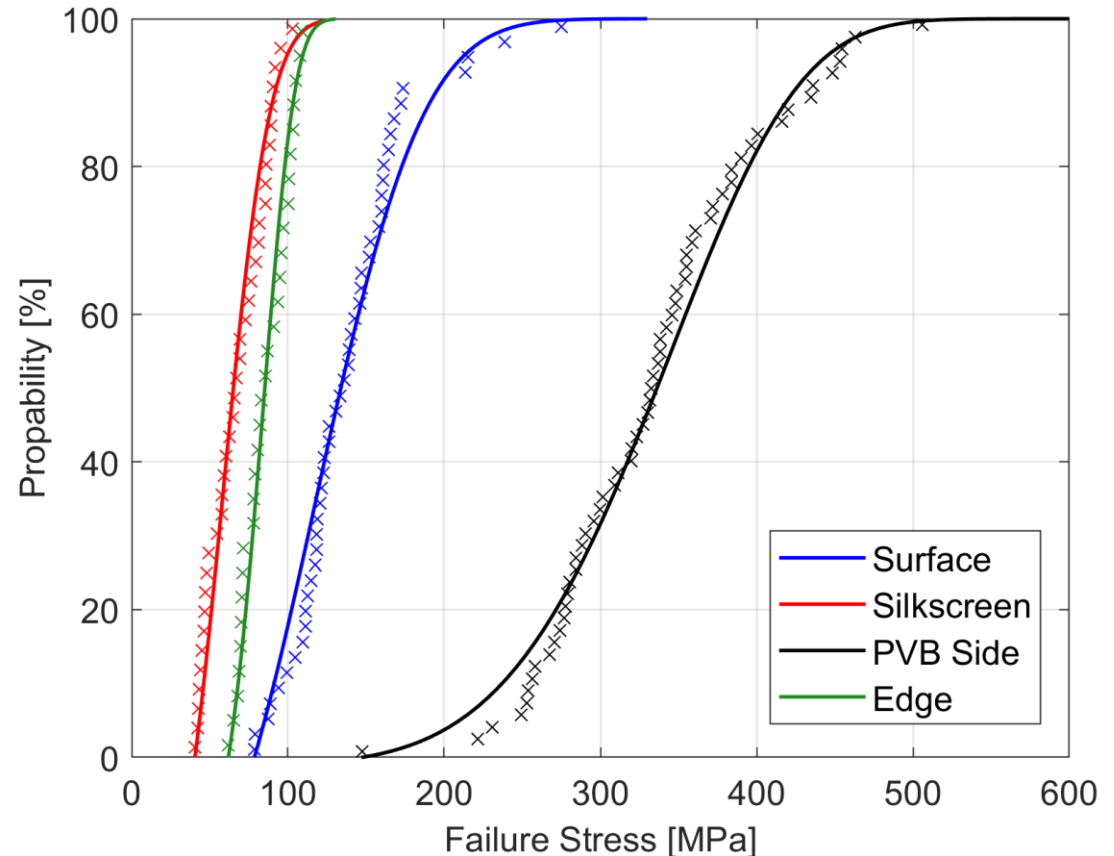
# Probability Distribution – Critical Crack Lengths

- Statistical evaluation<sup>1)</sup>
- Left truncated Weibull distribution

$$P(x) = 1 - \exp \left[ \left( \frac{\tau}{\eta} \right)^\beta - \left( \frac{x}{\eta} \right)^\beta \right]$$

- Scale parameter  $\eta$
- shape parameter  $\beta$
- Truncation point  $\tau$   
 $\tau=0$  yields the well-known  
two-parameter Weibull distribution

- So far, we obtained the critical  
and not the initial crack lengths from  
this distributions !



<sup>1)</sup> S. Müller-Braun et al.: Strength of the individual glasses of curved, annealed and laminated glass used in automotive windscreens, Engineering Failure Analysis, Vol 123, pp. 105281, 2021.



# How to Determine the Initial Crack Lengths?

- For subcritical crack growth, the crack velocity can be expressed by the stress intensity

$$K_I = Y\sigma\sqrt{\pi a} \quad \text{and} \quad K_{IC} = Y\sigma_f\sqrt{\pi a_f} \quad \text{at fracture}$$

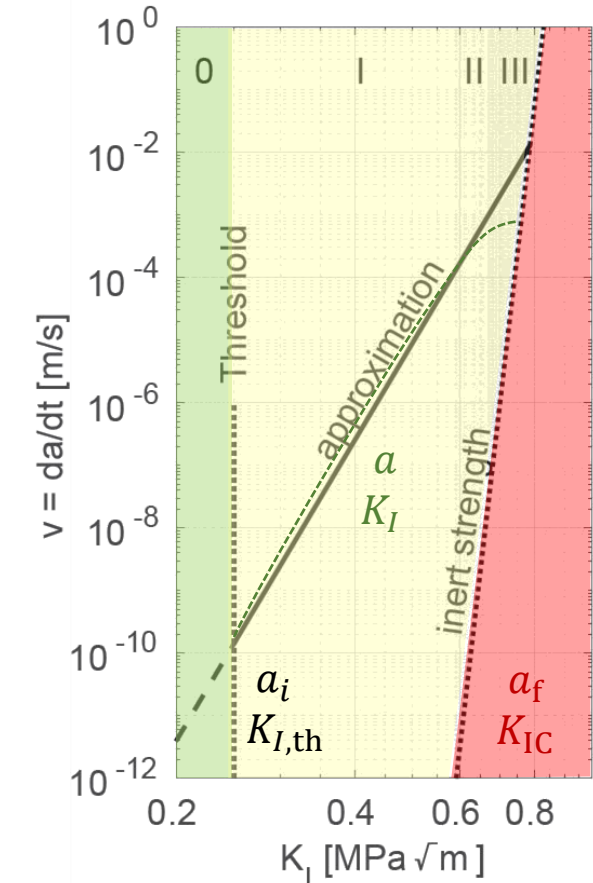
- Linear approximation by parameters  $n$  and  $v_0$  yields

$$v = \frac{da}{dt} = v_0 \left( \frac{K_I}{K_{IC}} \right)^n$$

from which the initial crack length  $a_i$  can be computed reversely by integration.

- Crack grow parameters<sup>1)</sup>:

| H [%rh], 25°C | 30    | 40    | 50    | 60    | 70    |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $n$           | 15.43 | 15.10 | 14.75 | 12.96 | 12.26 |
| $v_0$         | 9.54  | 10.22 | 10.47 | 13.95 | 15.99 |



<sup>1)</sup> C. Brokmann et al.: Subcritical crack growth parameters in glass as a function of environmental conditions. Glass Structures & Engineering 6:89–101, 2021.

# What About the Rate Dependence of Glass?

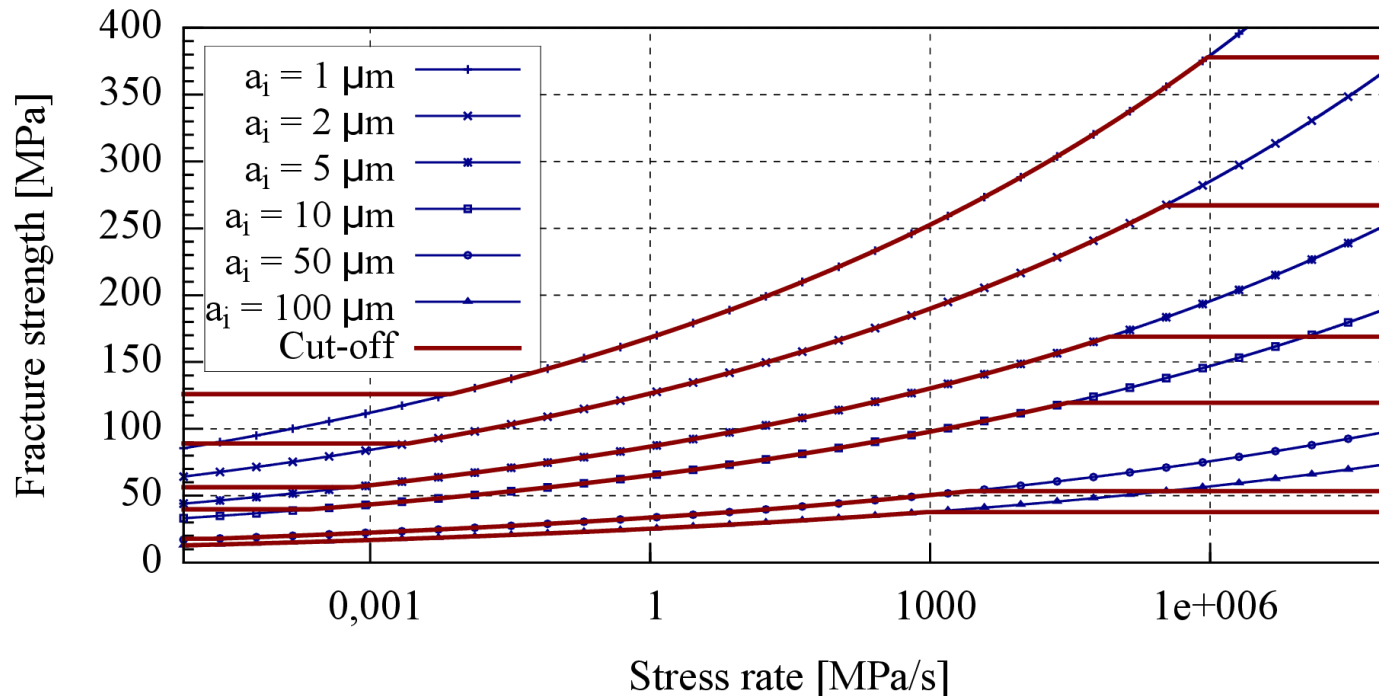
Fracture strength in dependency of the stress rate:  $\sigma_{crit.} = \left( \frac{2(n+1)K_{Ic}^n}{v_0(n-2)(Y\sqrt{\pi})^n a_i^{\frac{n-2}{2}}} \right)^{1/(1+n)} \dot{\sigma}^{1/(1+n)}$

with  $v_0 \approx 6 \text{ mm/s}$  and  $n \approx 16$

### Lower limit

$$K_I = \sigma \sqrt{\pi a} Y$$

$$\sigma_{TH} = \frac{K_{TH}}{\sqrt{\pi a} Y}$$



### Upper limit

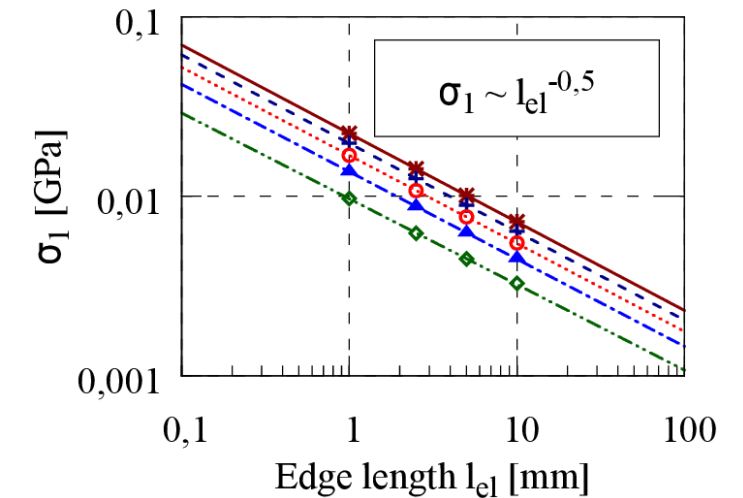
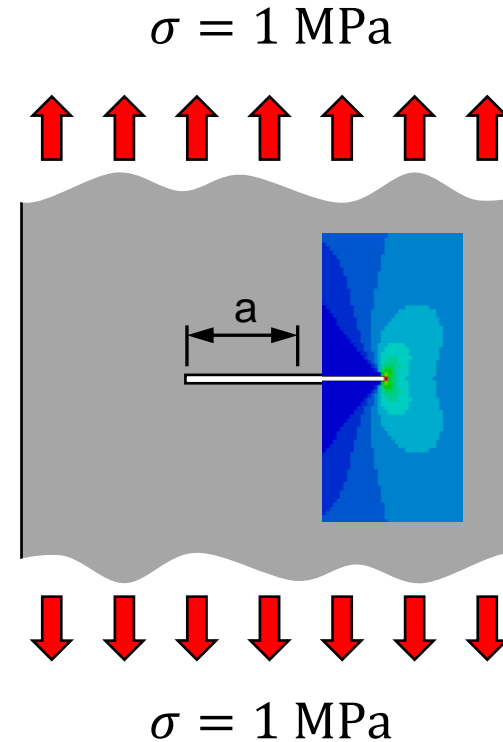
$$K_I = \sigma \sqrt{\pi a} Y$$

$$\sigma_{Ic} = \frac{K_{Ic}}{\sqrt{\pi a} Y}$$

# Non-Local Failure Model for Glass – Regularization

## Reduction of strength

- Griffith crack
  - Element size: 10 mm, 5 mm, 2,5 mm, 1 mm
  - Element at the crack tip
- Stress depends on element size
- Stress decreases proportional to  $1/\sqrt{l_{el}}$
- Combination of
  - Stress field
  - Element geometry
  - Major stress
- Regularized stress intensity

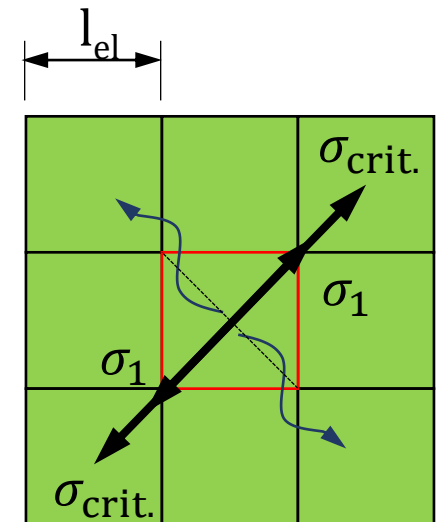
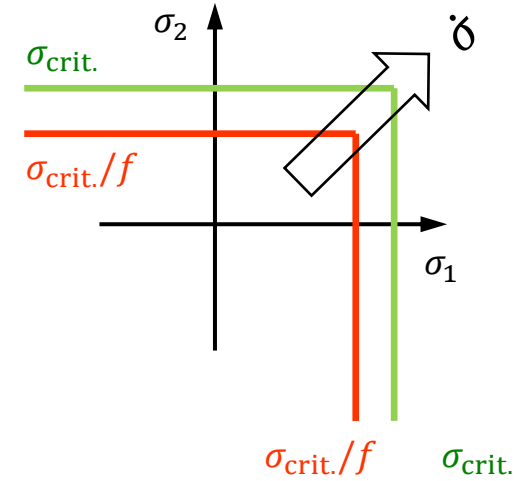


$$K_I^{\text{Num.}} = \sigma_1 \sqrt{\pi l_{el}} f_{\text{geo}}$$

$$K_I^{\text{Analyt.}} \sim K_I^{\text{Num.}}$$

# Non-Local Failure Model for Glass<sup>1)</sup>

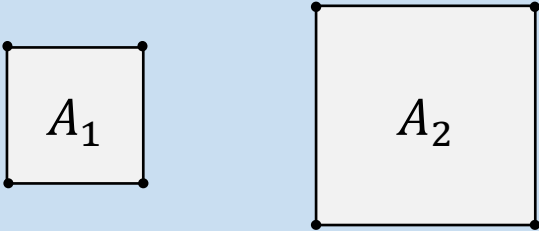
- Major stress criterion
  - $\sigma_{1,2} \geq \sigma_{crit.}$
- Strength depends on stress rate
  - $\sigma_{1,2} \geq \sigma_{crit.}(\dot{\sigma})$
- Crack orthogonal to principal stress
  - Linear stress reduction
  - $n = \text{int} \left[ \frac{l_{el}}{v \Delta t} \right], v = 1,520 \text{m/s}$
- Reduction of strength in crack direction
  - Reduction depends on neighboring fracture state ( $\Rightarrow$  non-local)
  - $\sigma_{crit.} = \begin{cases} \sigma_{crit.} & \text{without neighboring crack} \\ \sigma_{crit.}/f(l_{el}) & \text{with neighboring crack} \end{cases}$
- Element erosion after second element perpendicular to first crack failed

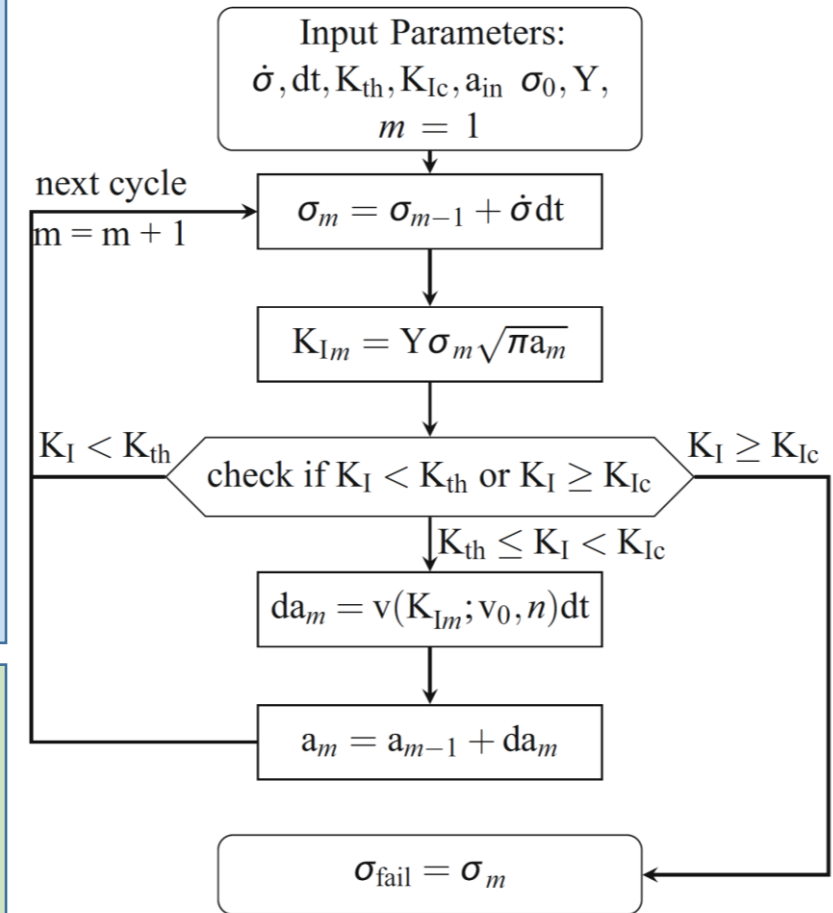


<sup>1)</sup> C. Alter et al. : An enhanced non-local failure criterion for laminated glass under low velocity impact. Int. J. Imp. Eng. 109:342–353, 2017.



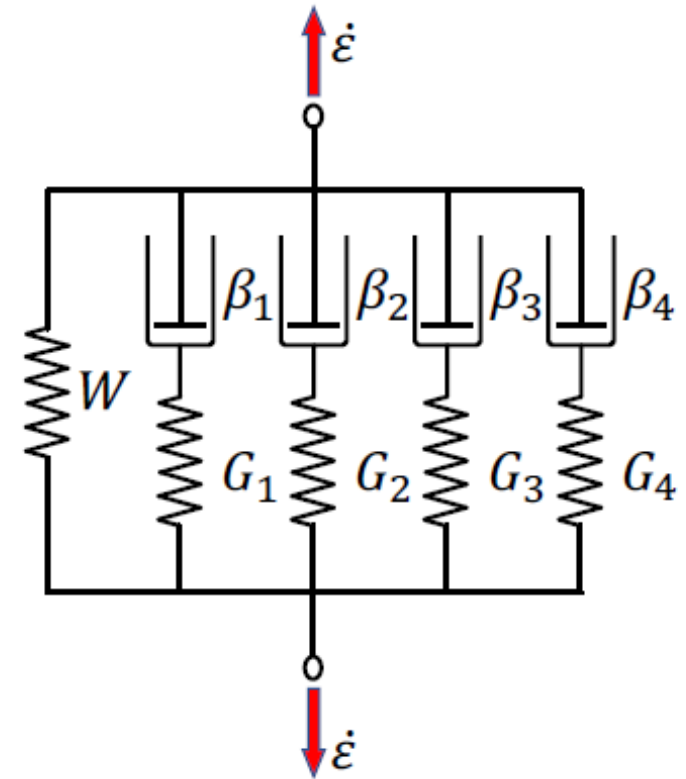
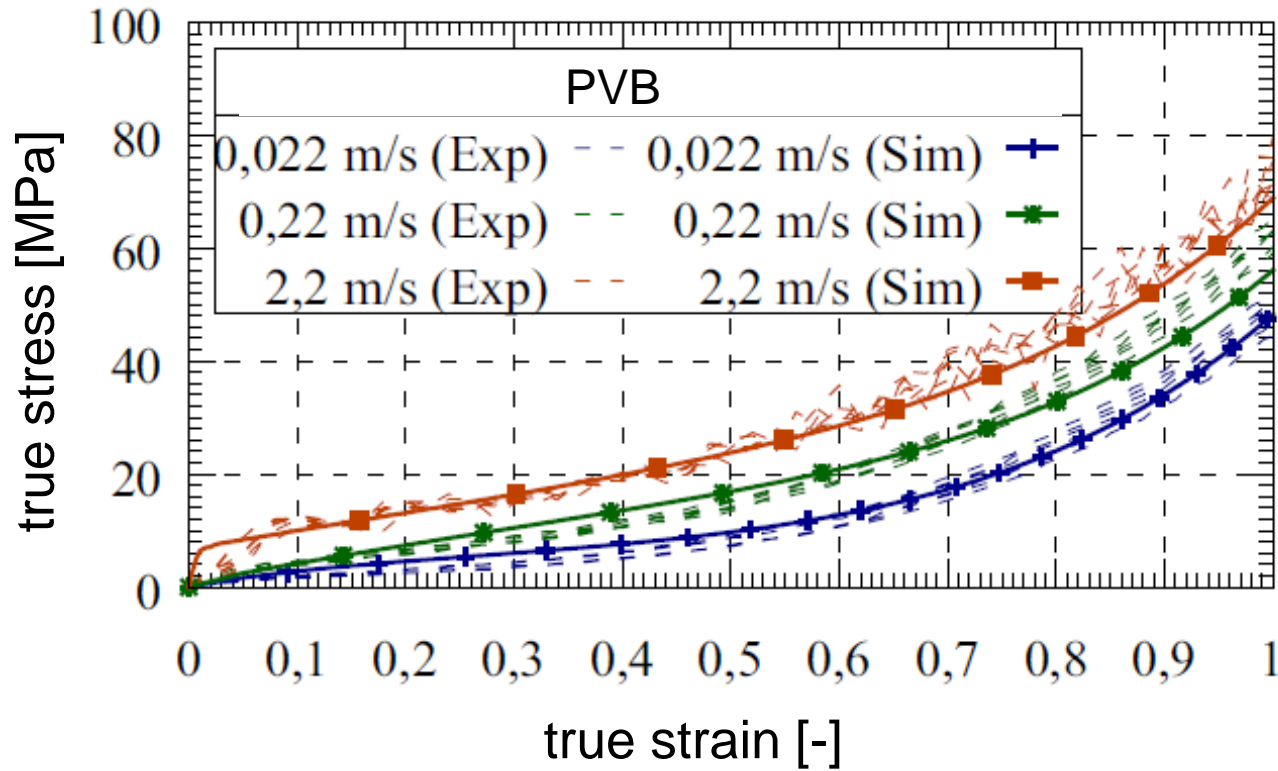
# Numerical Treatment <sup>1)</sup>

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| initialization | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assign stress at fracture to the Gauss points according to the distribution functions separately for edges, each side of the surface and screen-printing area</li> <li>Regularization of the fracture stress<br/>  <math display="block">\sigma_2 = \sigma_1 \left( \frac{A_1}{A_2} \right)^{-\frac{1}{\beta}}</math> </li> <li>Calculate the initial crack length in each Gauss point</li> </ol> |
| simulation     | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compute subcritical crack growth</li> <li>Activate (non-local) failure criterion</li> </ol>  |



<sup>1)</sup> C. Brokmann et al.: Subcritical crack growth parameters in glass as a function of environmental conditions. Glass Structures & Engineering 6:89–101, 2021.

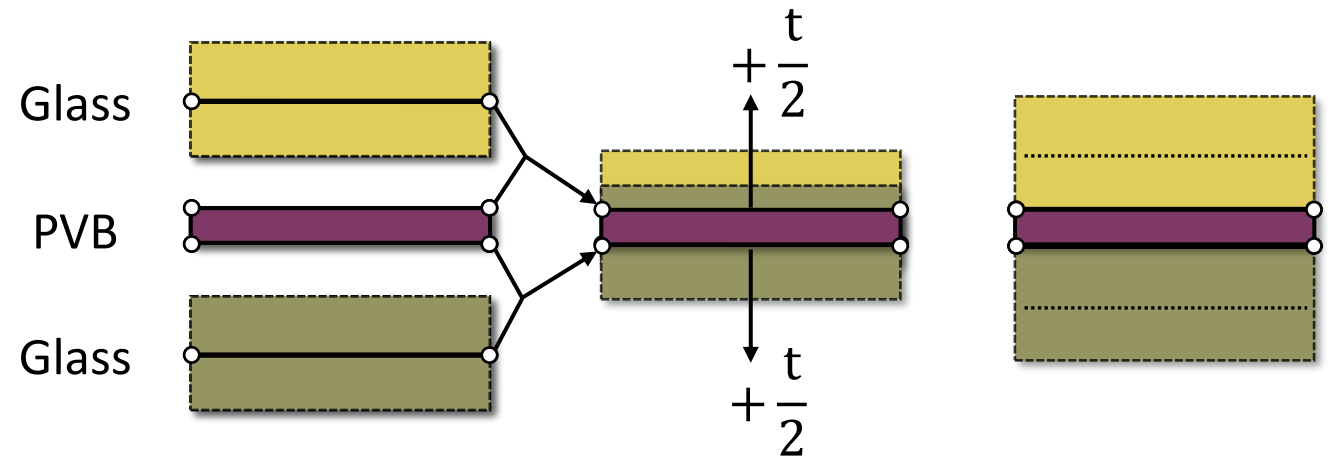
# PVB – Interlayer: \*MAT\_GENERAL\_HYPERELASTIC



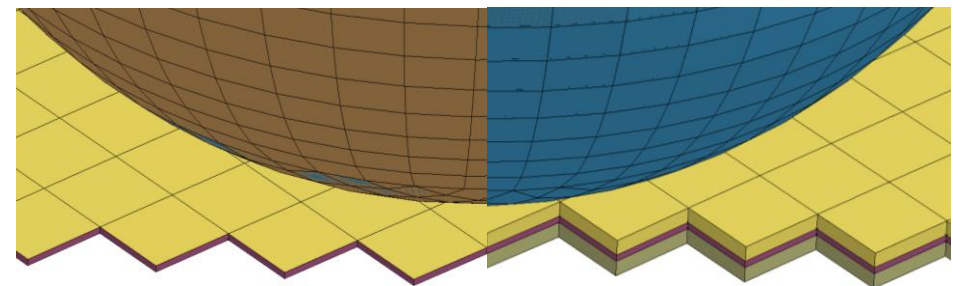
$$W_{\text{DEV}}(I_C, II_C) = \sum_{i,j=0}^n A_{ij} (I_C - 3)^i (II_C - 3)^j$$

# FE-Model for Laminated Glass

- Element types
  - Glass: Shell elements  
linear elastic  
non-local failure criterion
  - PVB: Solid elements  
hyperelastic
- Coincident coupling
- Shift of shell  
and contact thickness
  
- Regular mesh for the windscreen (2.5 - 10mm)
- Commercial model of the impactor from Lasso
- User subroutines in the explicit  
FE packages Radioss and LS-DYNA



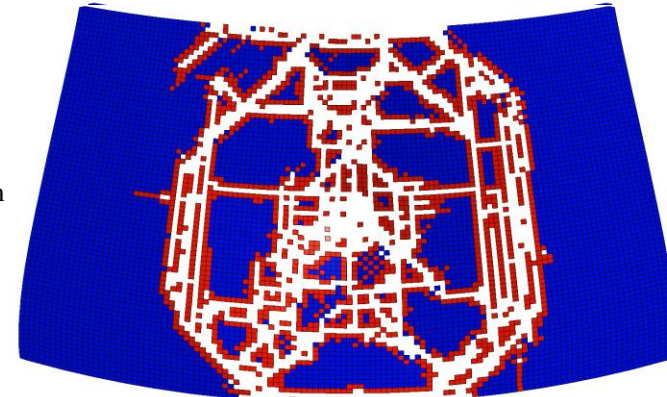
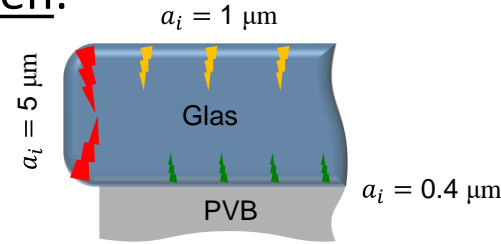
Visualization of shifted shell thickness



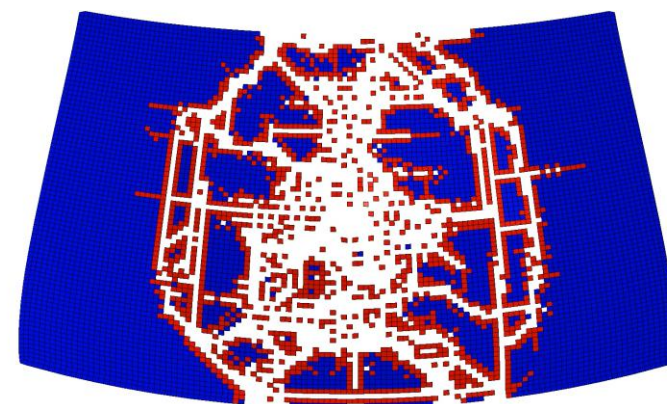
# Validation of the Laminated Glass Model

## Head impact on center of the windscreen:

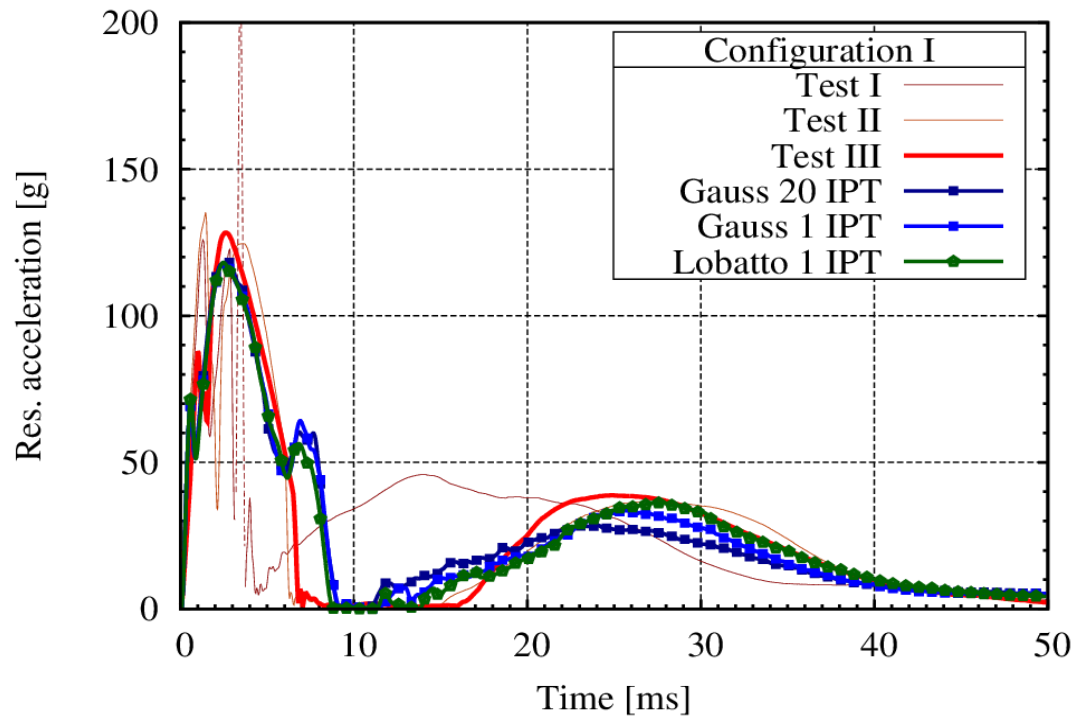
- Integration points at the glass surface
- Element erosion if one integration point fulfills the crack criteria



impact side



interior side

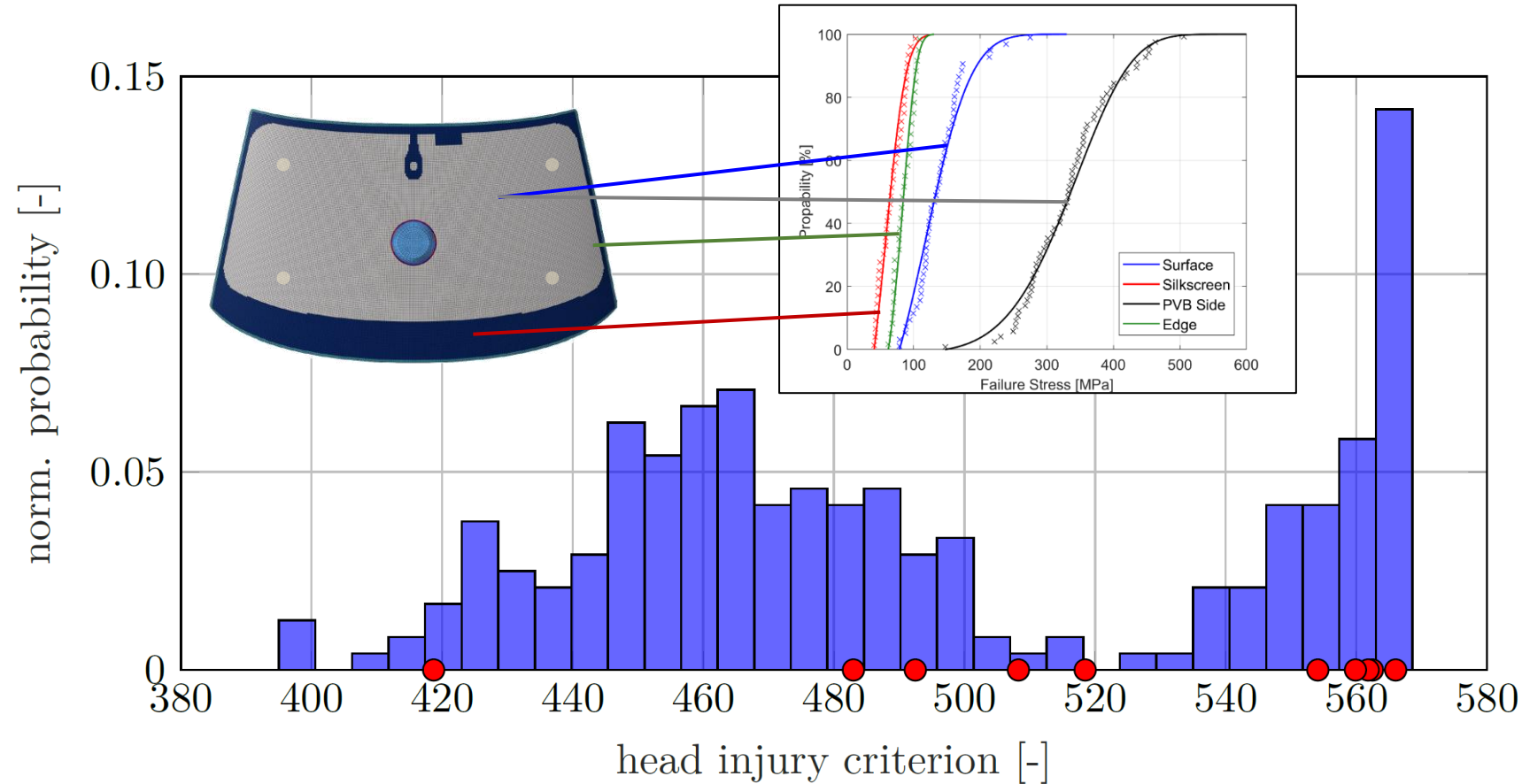




# Stochastic Simulation: HIC as a Probability Value



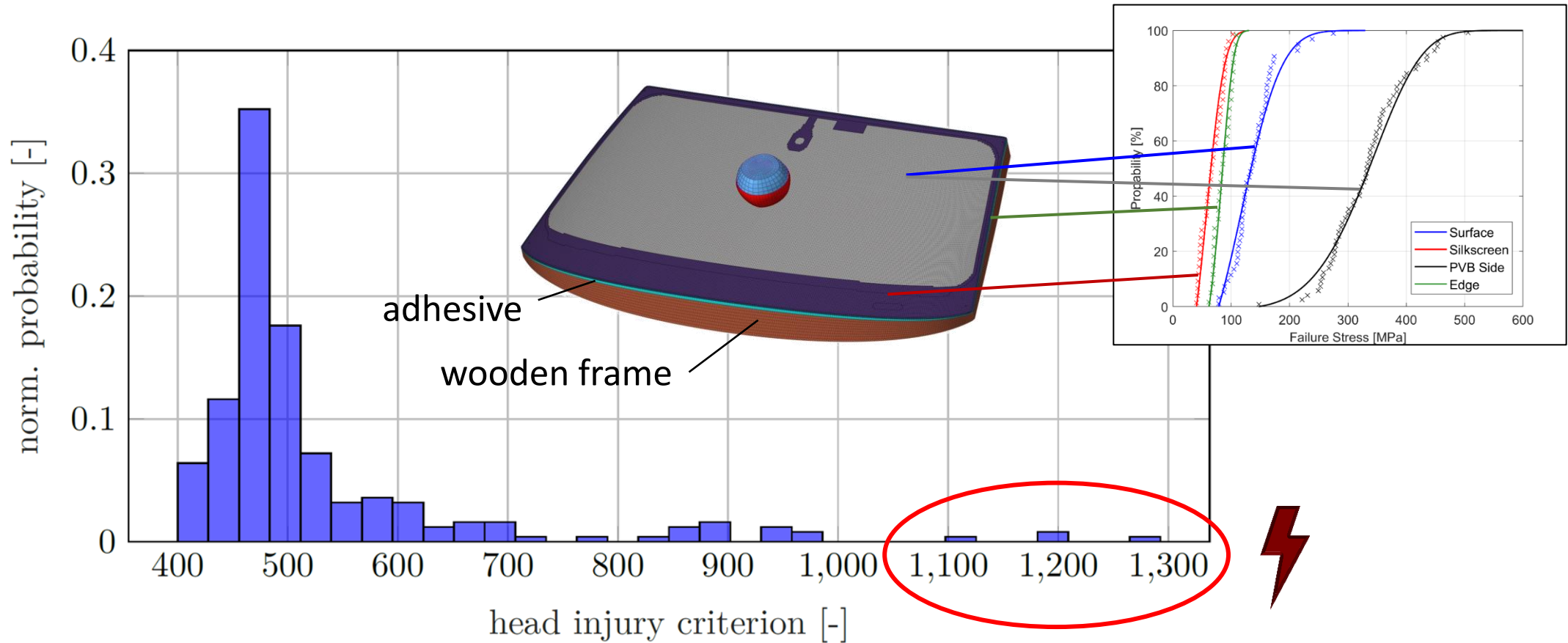
➤ Stochastic simulation, four-point support (250 runs)



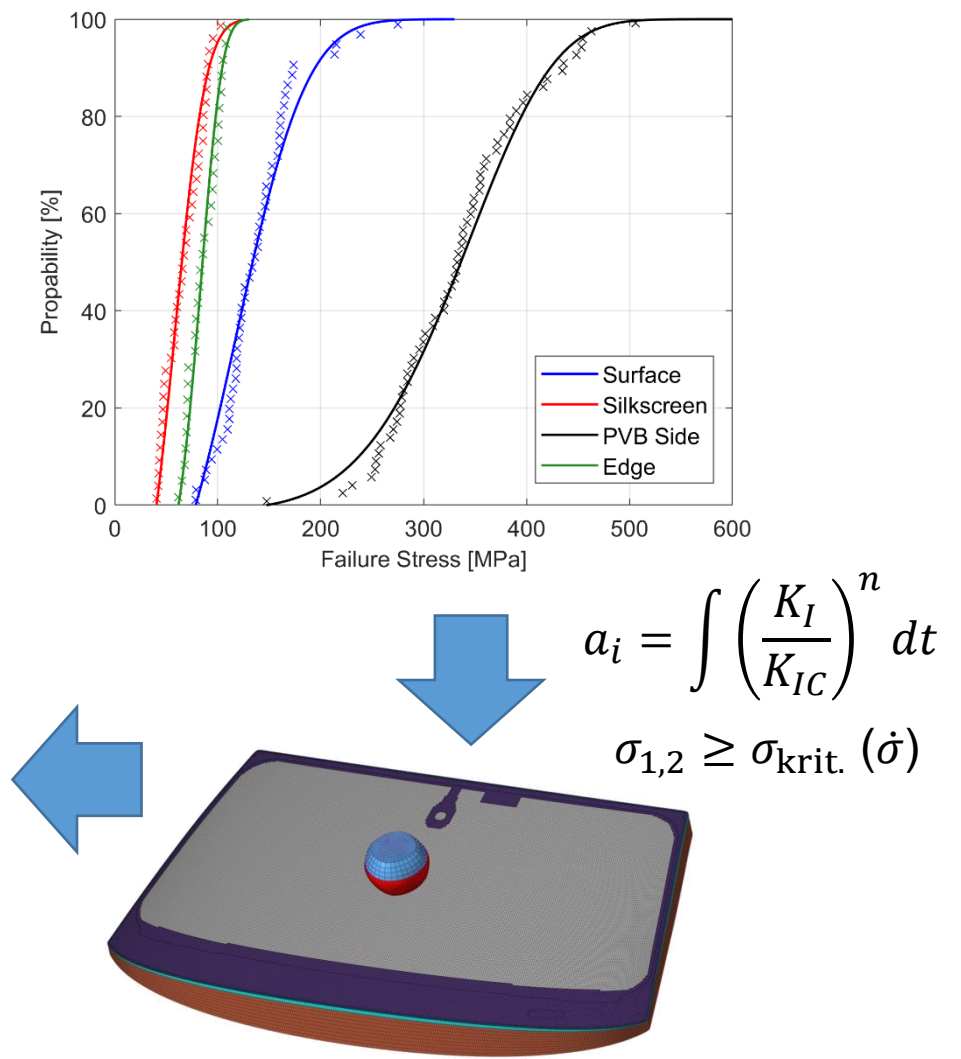
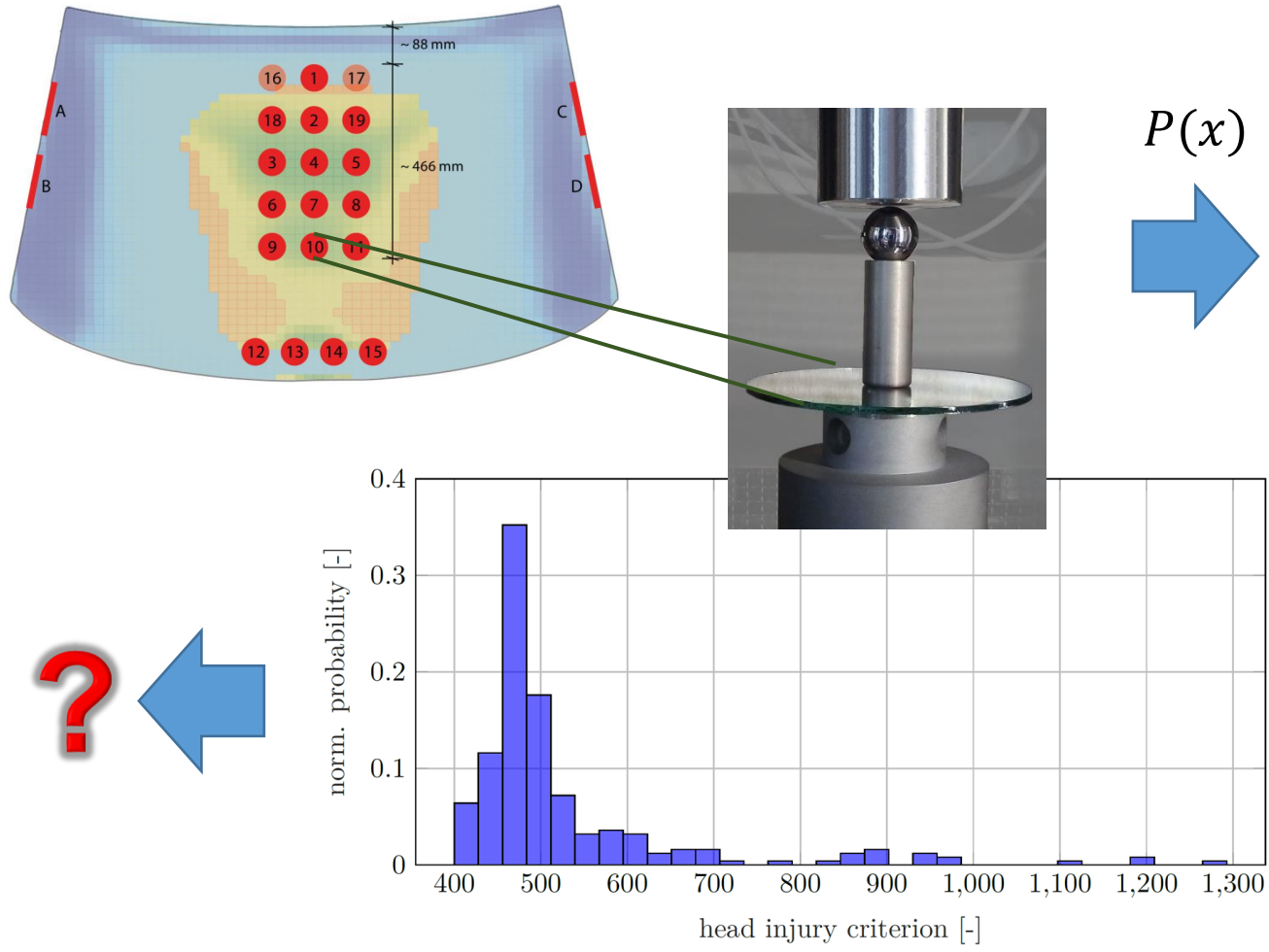
| Test No. | HIC |
|----------|-----|
| 1        | 492 |
| 2        | 483 |
| 3        | 419 |
| 4        | 554 |
| 5        | 562 |
| 6        | 562 |
| 7        | 560 |
| 8        | 566 |
| 9        | 518 |
| 10       | 508 |

# Stochastic Simulation: HIC as a Probability Value

➤ Test setup close to the car and stochastic simulation (250 runs)



# Summary: The Methodology in a Nutshell



**Thank you  
for your attention!**



Federal Ministry  
for Economic Affairs  
and Climate Action