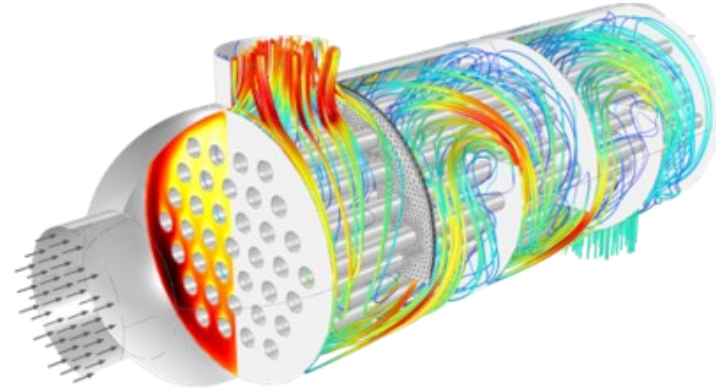
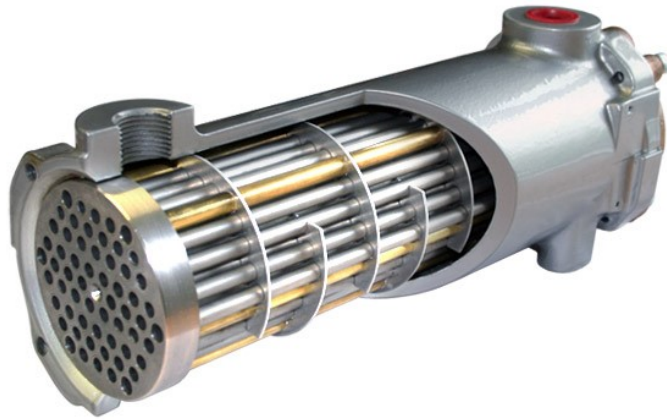


# ABAQUS/FE-SAFE™ FATIGUE CORRELATION HEAT EXCHANGER APPLICATION

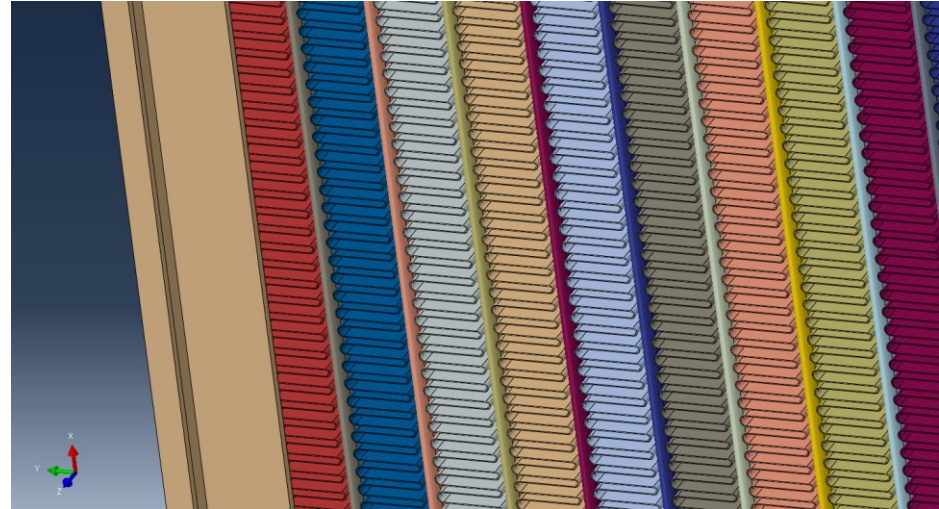
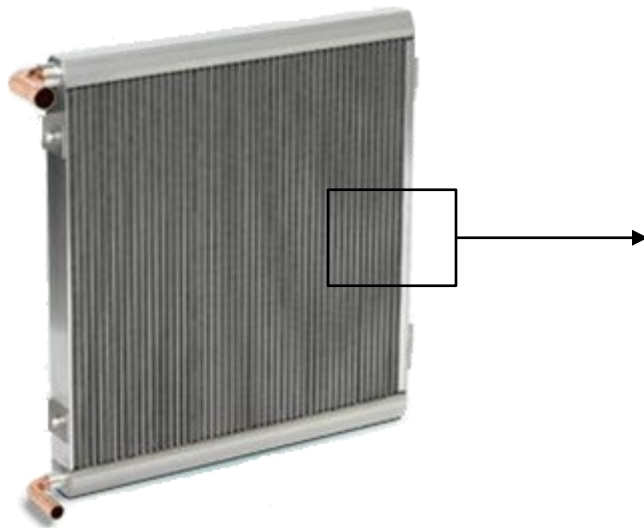
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Heat Exchangers (HX)



Vertical tube HX with transverse cooling fins

## Heat Exchanger (HX) Application

Small fin cracking in stress riser noticed in early testing

Believed to be aesthetic only

Actual *design* failures (i.e., fluid leaks) were *not* found

**Customer investigated further for durability certainty**

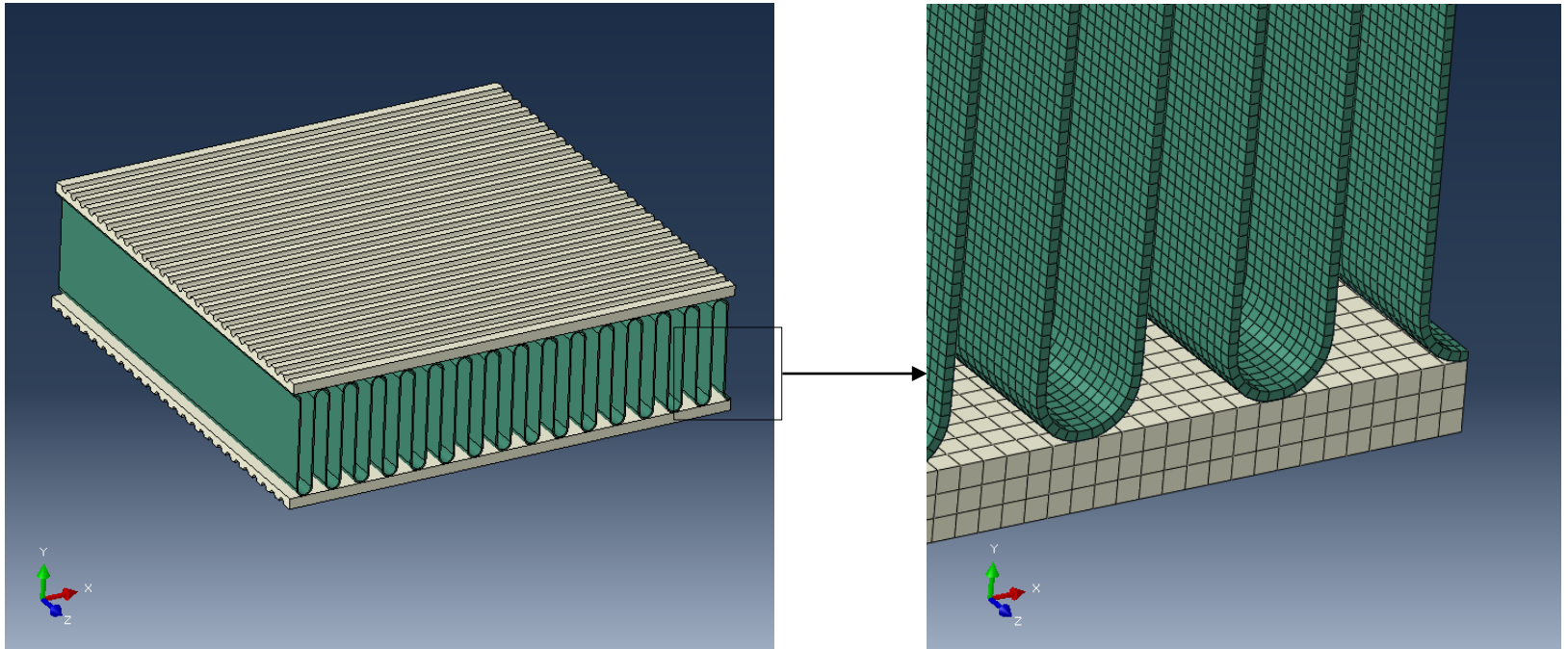
## Heat Exchanger (HX) Application

Full-Scale HX modeled with Abaqus with pressure and thermal loads

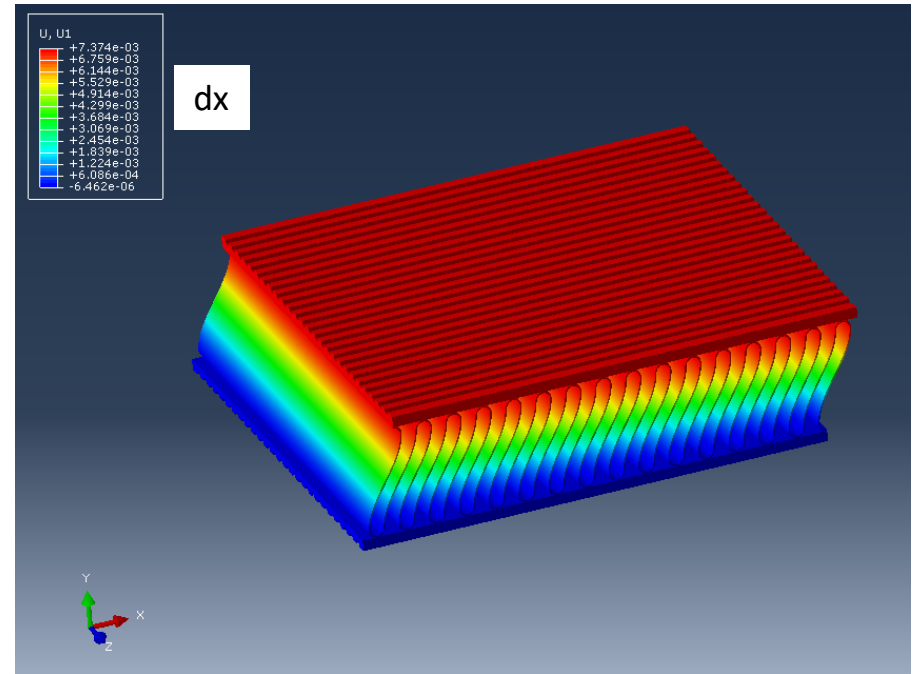
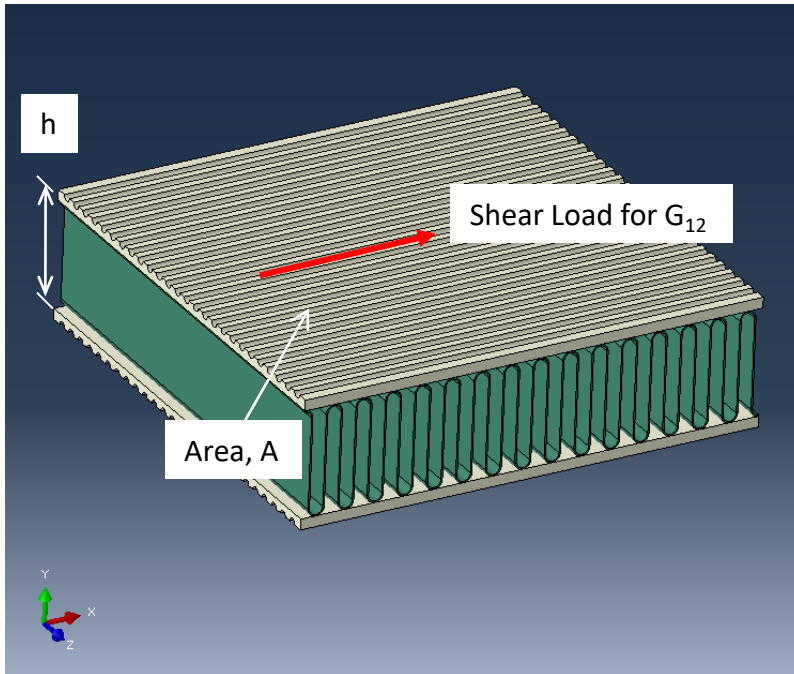
Sub-modeling technique to focus on stress riser

Fatigue analysis with fe-safe™

**Correlation between analysis and test to calibrate**

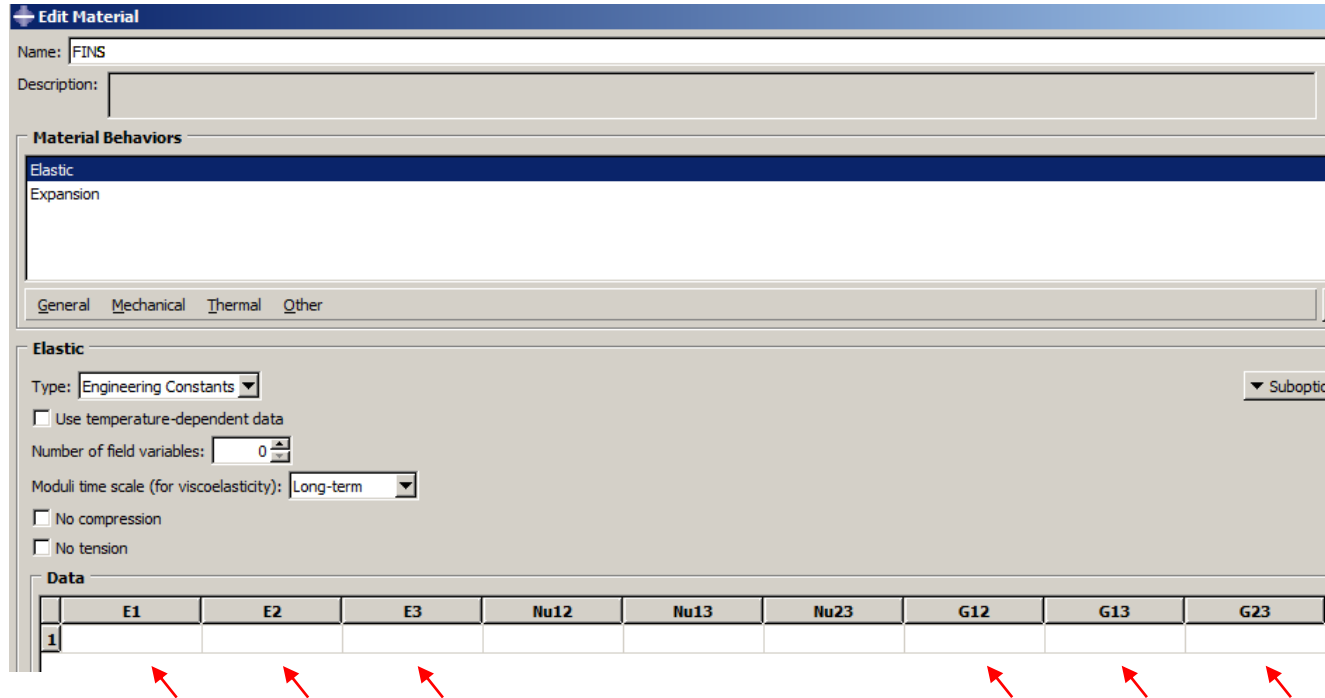


Model virtual coupons to develop stiffness response  
of the fins as sandwiched between tubes



$$G_{12} = \frac{(\text{Shear Load}) h}{A dx}$$

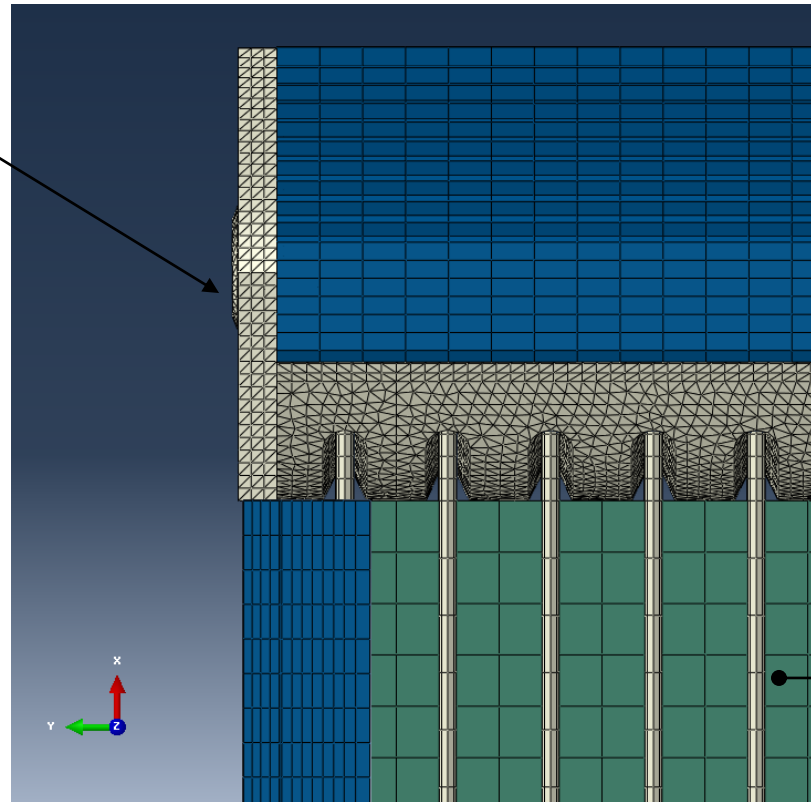
Model virtual coupons to develop stiffness response of the fins as sandwiched between tubes



With Engineering Constants defining fin stiffness within brick elements, now proceed with a more manageable model

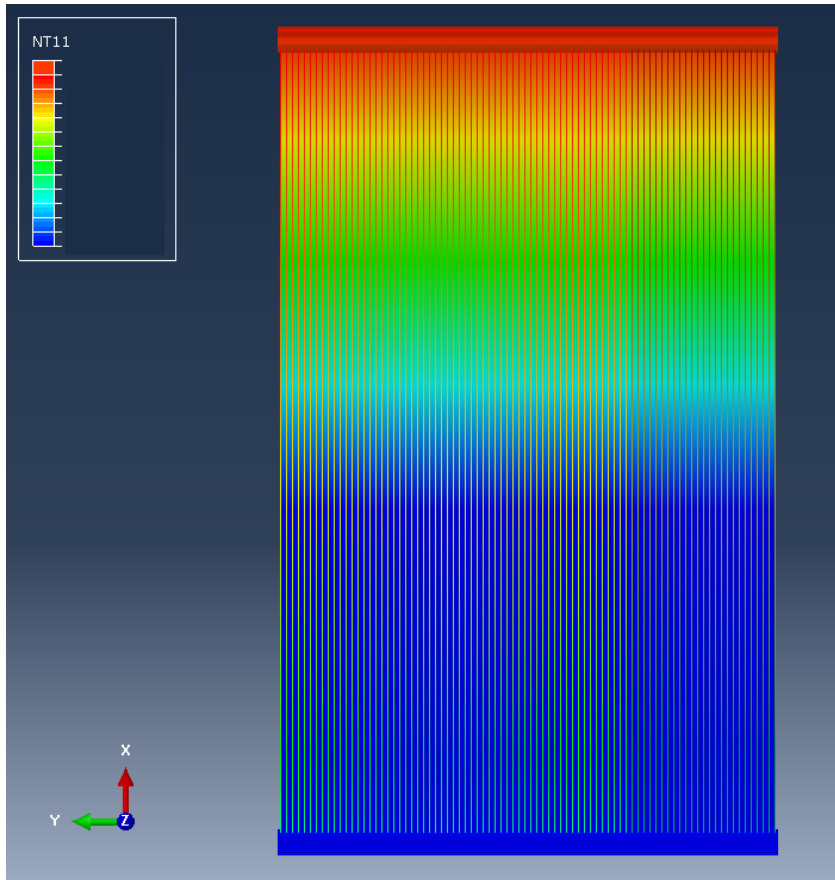


Discrete elements for all parts except fins



Non-isotropic properties for the fin acreage sections

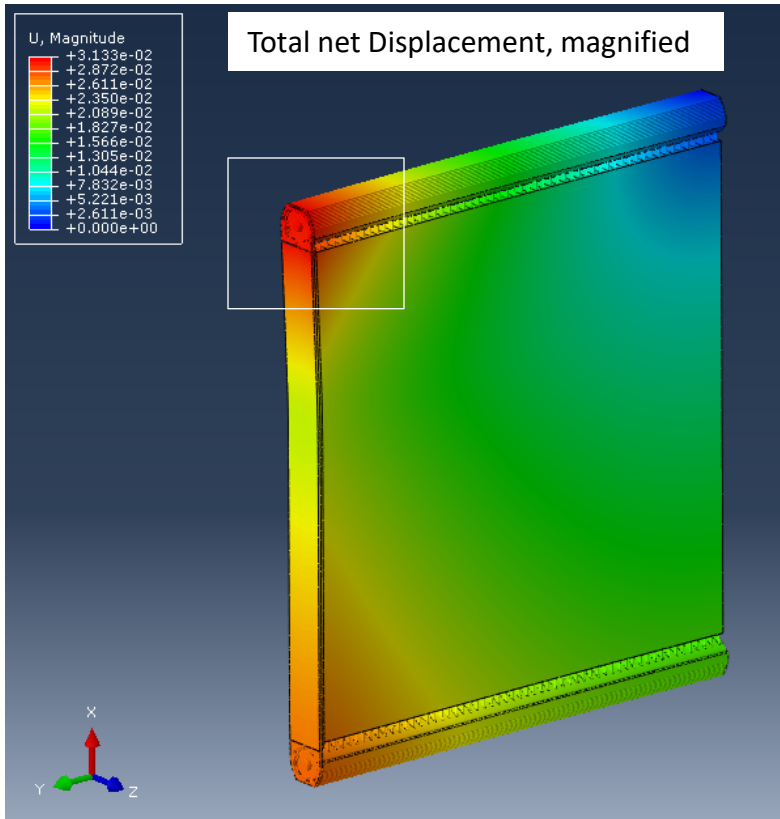
With Engineering Constants defining fin stiffness within brick elements, now proceed with a more manageable model



Thermal map from test lab process and data provided from customer

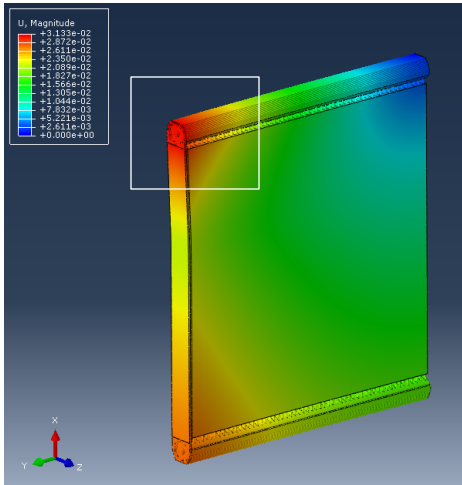
Internal tube pressure also applied

Run the large global model inclusive of the entire assembly

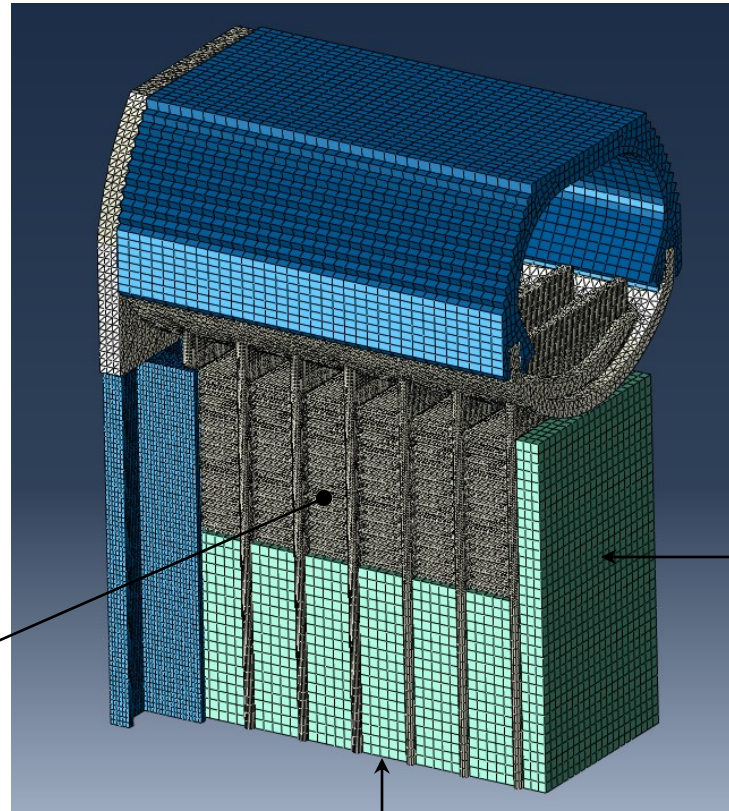


Main purpose of the global model is to find a displacement map throughout the X, Y, Z space

The global model also finds more highly stressed zone(s)

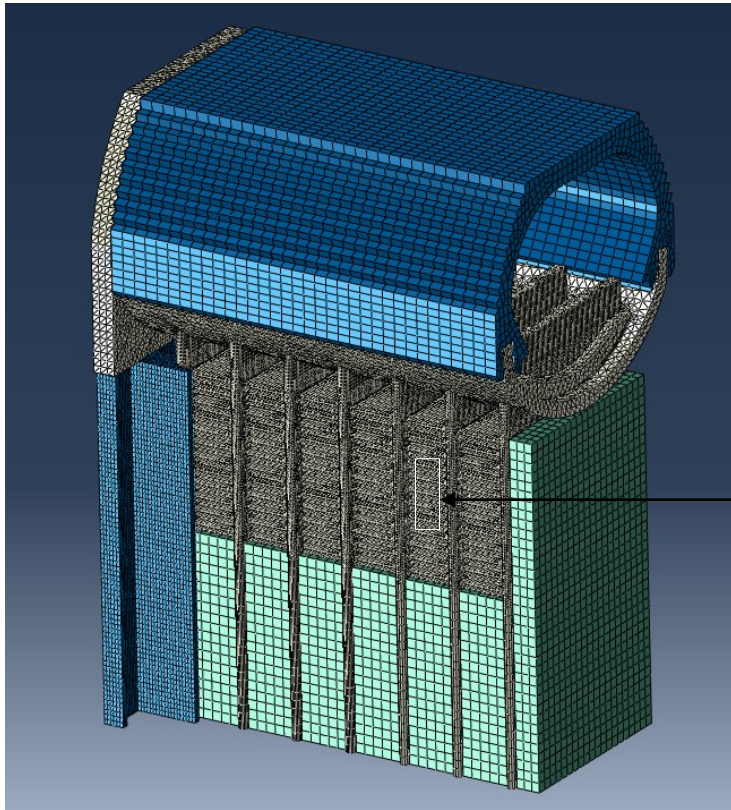


Fins are now discretely meshed

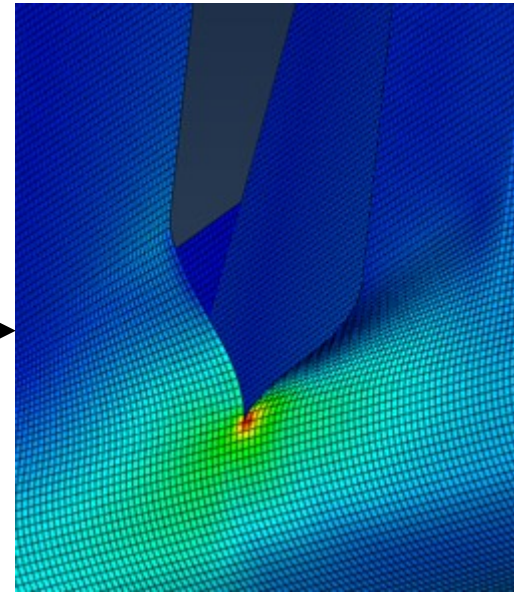


Sub-model boundary plane

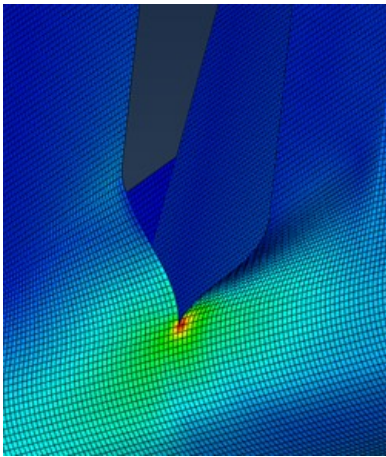
Sub-model boundary plane



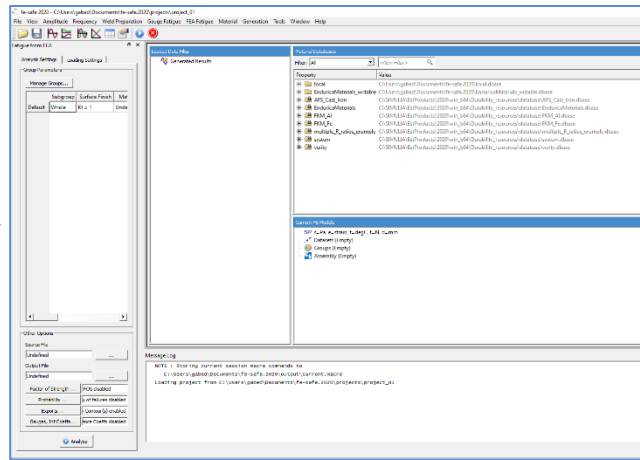
Multi-axial stress seen  
in sharp corner



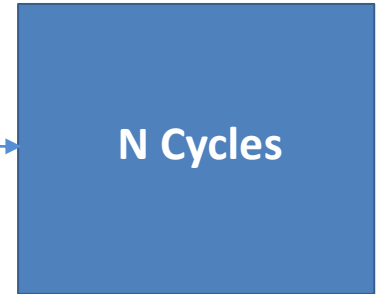
Although the fins appear to be 2D in shape, there are also 3D features along the length – one of which creates a stress riser



Abaqus output

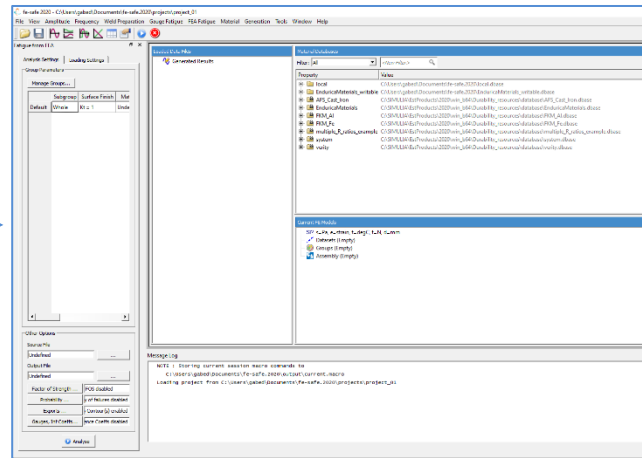


fe-safe™



Cycle count results

$$n_{fes} = 1.000$$



**N Cycles**

Results from fe-safe™:

Actual results proprietary

Normalize with:  $N_{fes} = n_{fes} \times K/b$

$n_{fes}$  (normalized result) = 1.000

$$n_{fes} = 1.000$$

$$N_{fes} = 1.000 \frac{K}{b}$$

Some fe-safe™ notes:

**Mostly defaults**

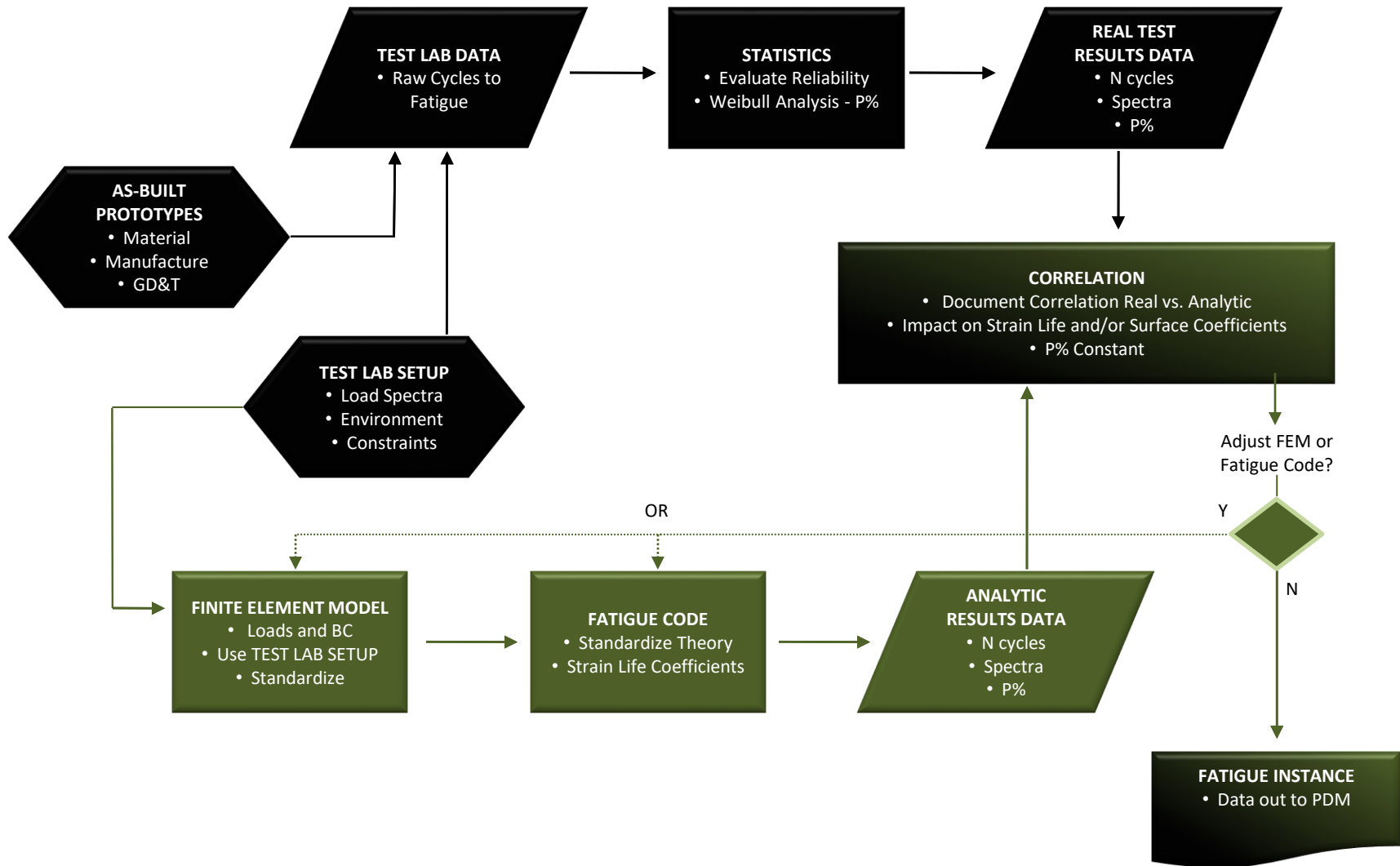
Linear material with the built-in Nueber's rule

For strain life properties, used the built-in Seegar's rule and textbook strength values at the maximum temperature

Due to extreme stress-riser, import stresses from elemental centroid

Completed **February 2021**





Physical lab testing results, using the same temperature and pressure profile as analysis

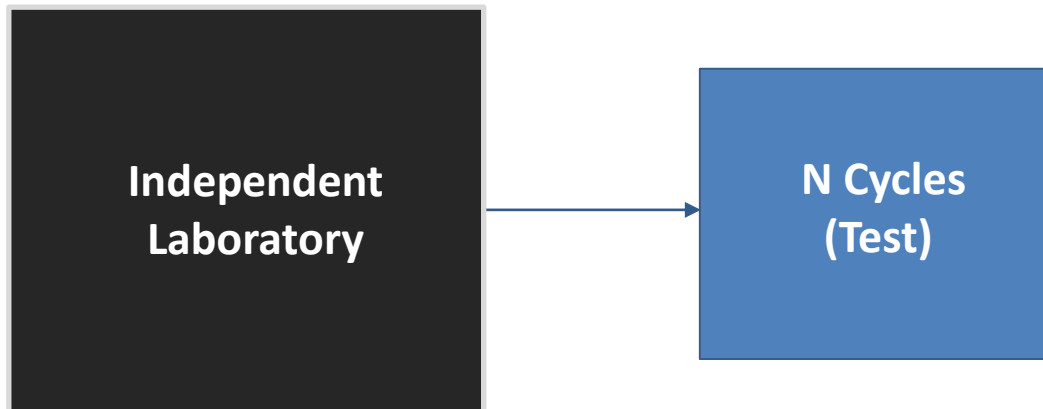
3<sup>rd</sup> party independent lab results are proprietary

Use the same function:  $N_{lab} = n_{lab} \times K/b$

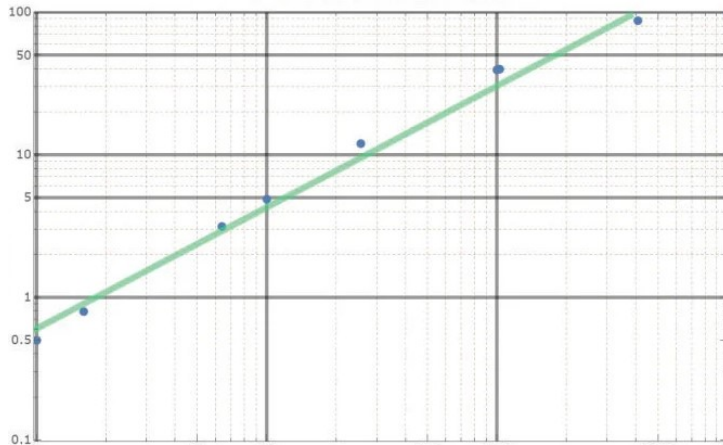
Completed **November 2021**

$$N_{lab} = n_{lab} \frac{K}{b}$$

$$n_{lab} = ?$$



Physical lab testing results, data development

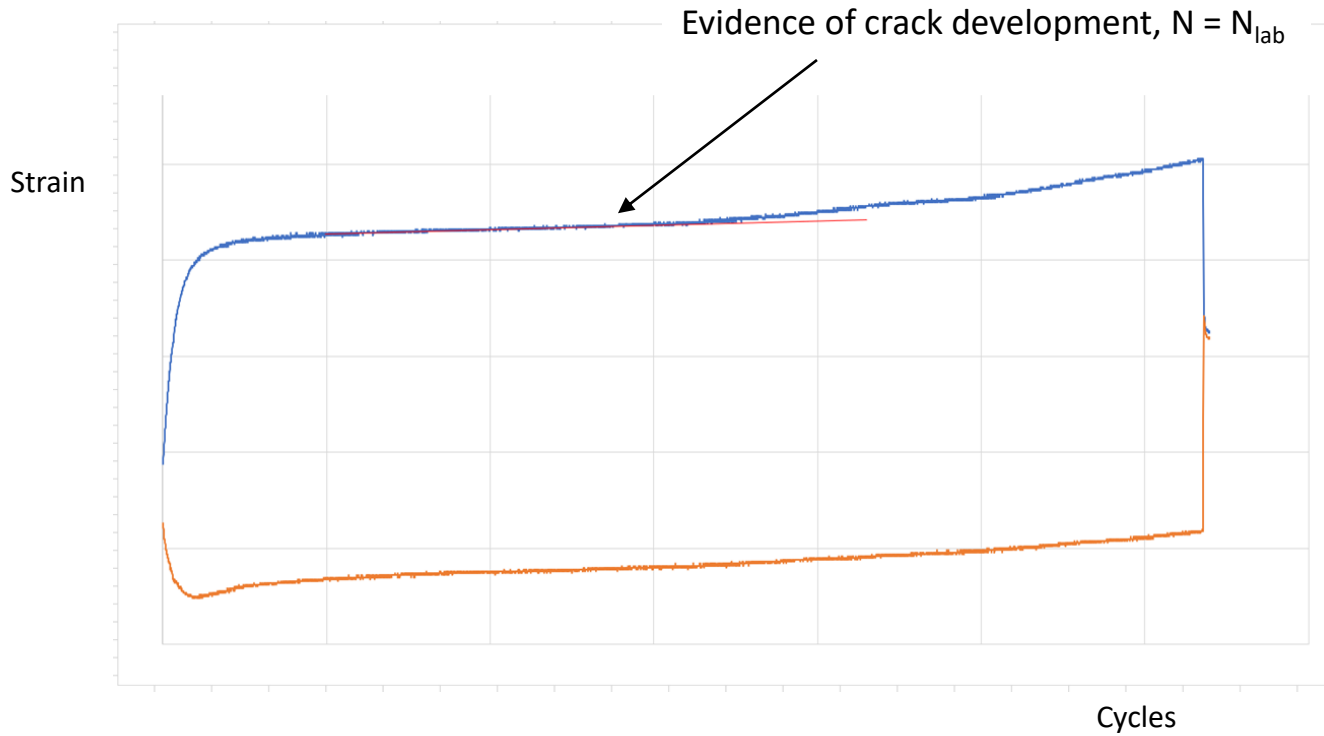


Visual observation of cracking  
produced wide scatter



Strain gages placed near area  
around crack observation

## Physical lab testing results, data development



From strain gages, track change in strain/displacement

## Physical lab testing results

Now with a better-defined N result from the lab

Find n for lab result using the same function:  $N_{lab} = n_{lab} \times K/b$  for comparison to fe-safe™ result

$$N_{lab} = \text{from testing}$$

$$N_{lab} = n_{lab} \frac{K}{b}$$

$$n_{lab} = ?$$

## Physical lab testing results

Now with a better-defined N result from the lab

Find n for lab result using the same function:  $N_{lab} = n_{lab} \times K/b$  for comparison to fe-safe™ result

$$N_{lab} = \text{from testing}$$

$$N_{lab} = n_{lab} \frac{K}{b}$$

$$n_{lab} = 1.028$$

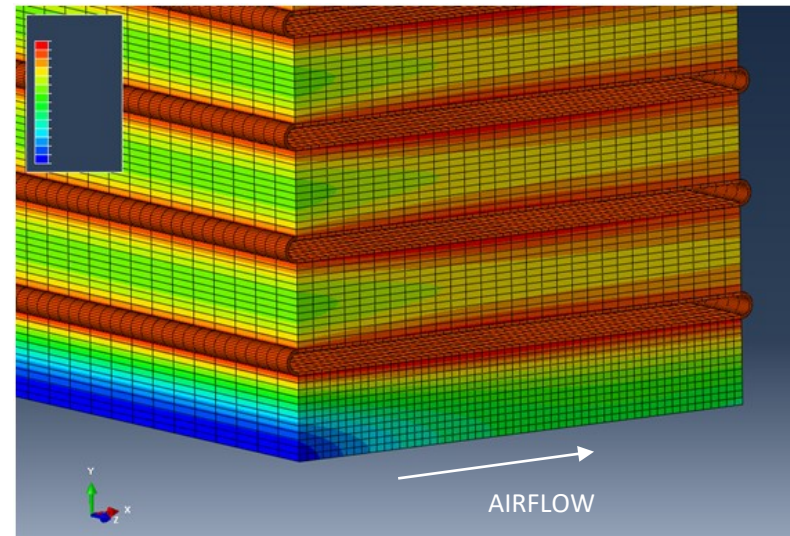
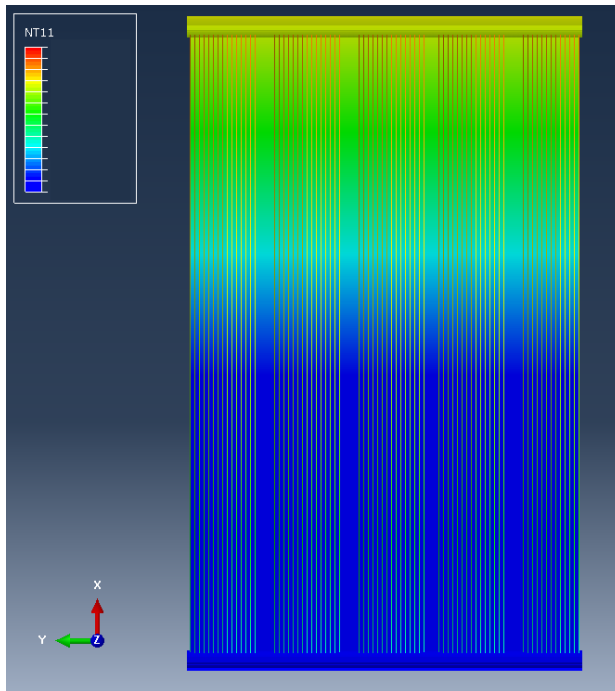
*~3% delta*

## Calibration utilization

Given excellent calibration, we have high confidence in using the FE method, assumptions, and the fe-safe™ parameters to:

- Quantitatively compare lab results to expected field results
- Study new designs
- Optimize thicknesses or other design features

For example: running the same analysis process using field service loads led to high confidence in the expected durability versus requirements of the design in the field

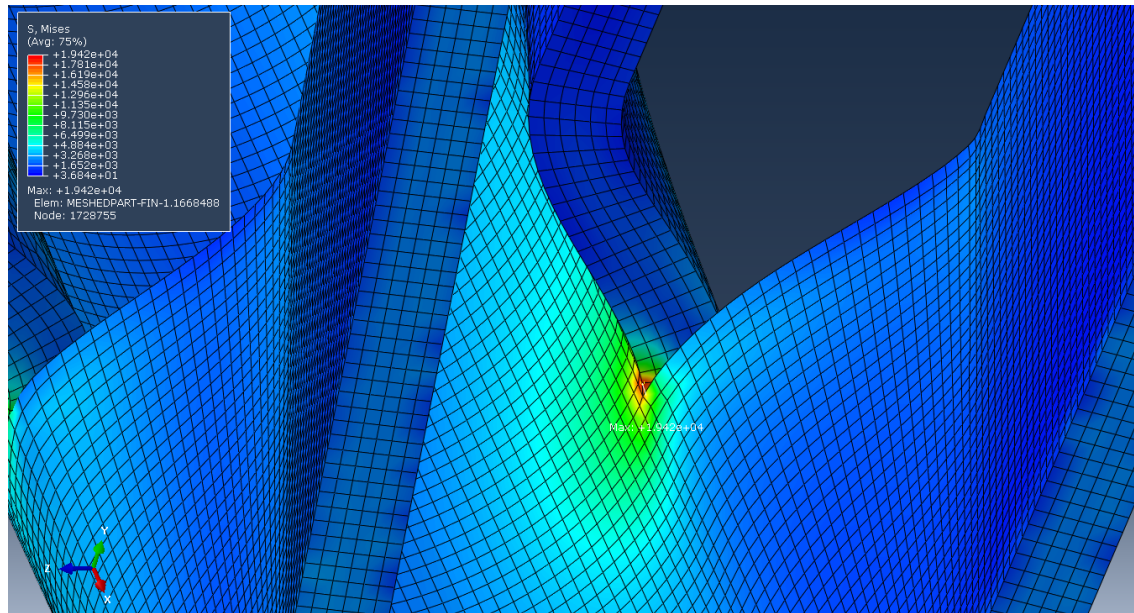


Field service thermal map provided from CFD including 3D effects



As an additional study of the fe-safe™ method, the fin sub-model, which was originally made with shell elements, was also made using brick elements

The fatigue analysis results were nearly identical as per the shell element model



## Summary

Small fin cracking in stress riser noticed in early testing  
*proved* to be aesthetic only

**Excellent correlation between test and analysis lead to high confidence in design durability vs. field requirements**

High confidence also obtained in methodology and assumptions for further design optimizations