

Simulation of Side Impact on a Hydroformed B-Pillar Considering the Forming Process

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Background – NGV Project



NGV

- Next Generation Vehicle (NGV) Project
 - Joint project between Stainless steel producers
 - Outkumpu Oyj
 - ArcelorMittal Stainless
 - ThyssenKrupp Nirosta GmbH
 - OEMs
 - BMW AG, AUDI, Daimler AG, Saab Automobile, Volvo Cars, Centro Ricerche Fiat
 - Courtesy of NGV Project consortium
- Aim
 - Demonstrate Stainless Steel in Automotive Applications.
 - Show the world, that stainless steel is an attractive material for lightweight constructions.



Background - ERAB

- Distributor of LS-DYNA in the Nordic Countries and the Baltic states.
- Part in NGV-project
 - Virtual technologies for processing and testing
 - Virtual evaluation of crash behaviour.





Stainless TRIP steels

- TRIP – Transformation induced plasticity
 - Austenite to Martensite transformation during deformation
- Provides a combination of strength and formability
- The TRIP effect is temperature dependent
 - Thermo-mechanical simulations needed
 - Material model and procedures has to be developed which applies to both forming and crash simulations.
 - Since the crash behaviour of the finished part is highly influenced from the previous forming, the results have to transfered from the forming to the crash simulation.



Hänsel Model

- The constitutive model used in the simulations is the Hänsel model¹

Martensite evolution

$$\frac{\partial V_m}{\partial \bar{\varepsilon}^p} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \varepsilon < E_{0(mart)} \\ \frac{B}{A} \exp\left(\frac{Q}{T}\right) \left(\frac{1-V_m}{V_m}\right)^{(B+1)/B} V_m^p \frac{1}{2} (1 - \tanh(C + D \cdot T)), & \text{if } \bar{\varepsilon}^p \geq E_{0(mart)} \end{cases}$$

$$V_m = \int_0^{\varepsilon} \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial \bar{\varepsilon}^p} d\bar{\varepsilon}^p$$

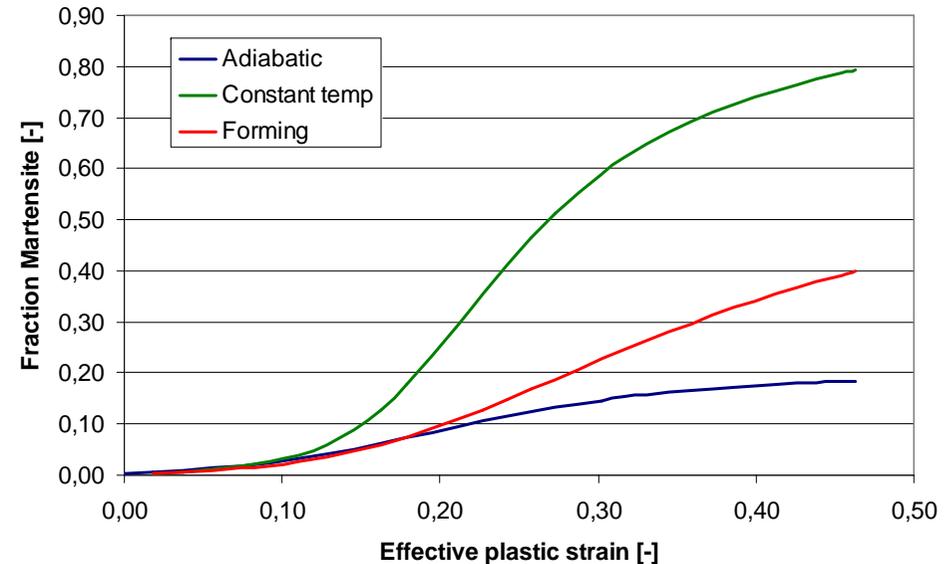
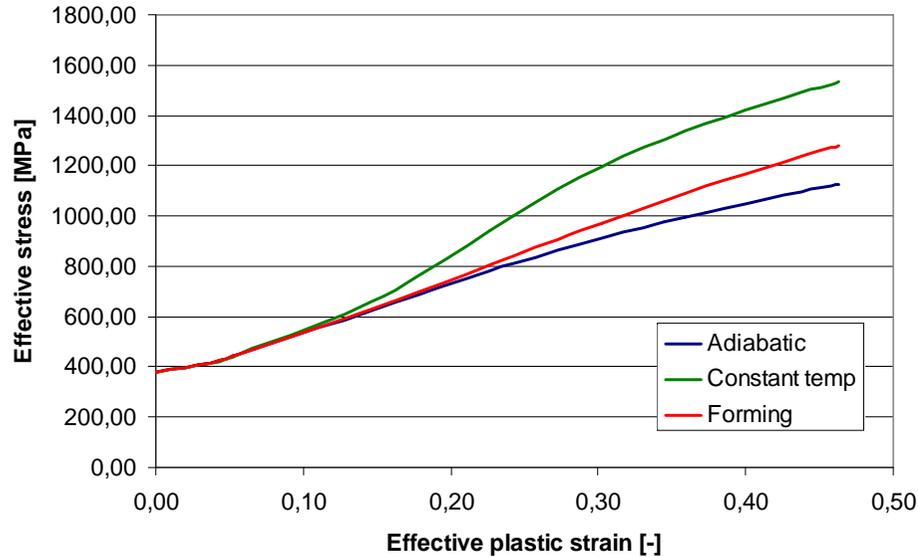
Yield stress

$$\sigma_y = \left\{ B_{HS} - (B_{HS} - A_{HS}) \exp\left(-m \left[\bar{\varepsilon}^p + \varepsilon_0\right]^n\right) \right\} (K_1 + K_2 T) + \Delta H_{\gamma \rightarrow \alpha} V_m$$

¹ A.H.C Hänsel et. al., Simulation of Materials Processing: Theory, Methods and Applications, Balkema, Rotterdam, 1998



1.4310 Temperature dependence

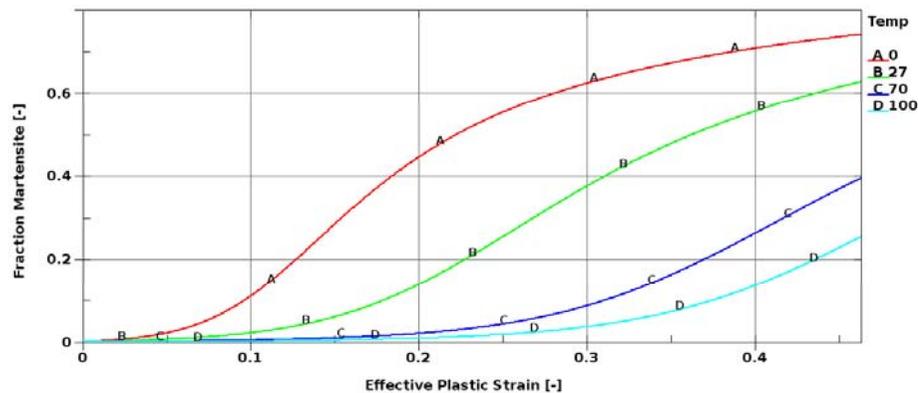
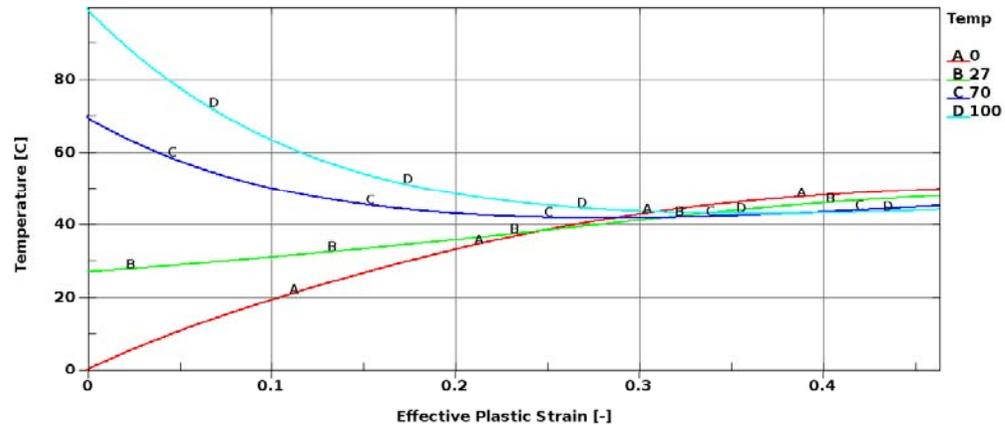


- The Forming case corresponds to a case where the material is in contact with one tool surface and 3s forming time.
- The temperature is around 100° C in the adiabatic case and 67° C in the forming case.



Material characterization

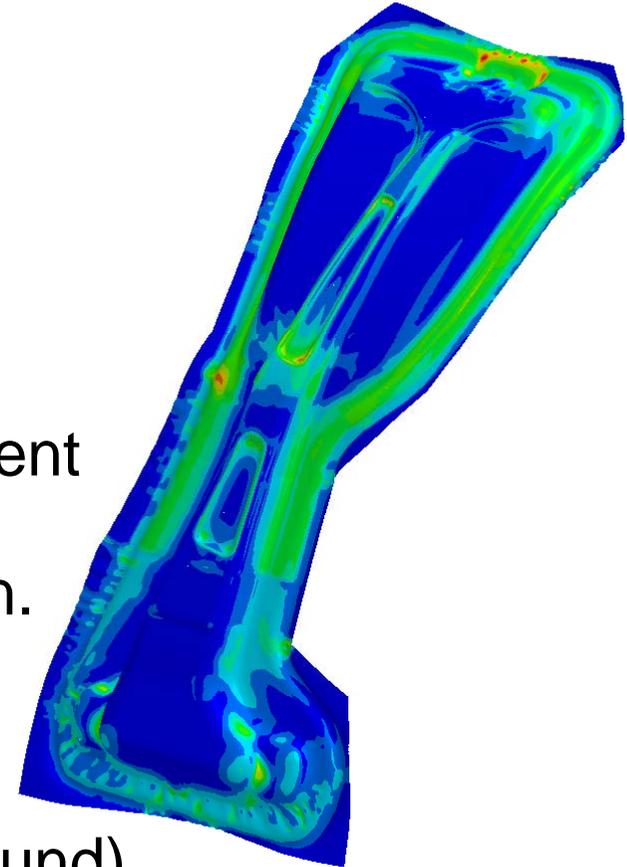
- Material characterization was done using uniaxial tensile tests originating from different temperatures.
- The stress, strain, temperature and Martensite content were continuously monitored and recorded.





Coupled thermo-mechanical simulations

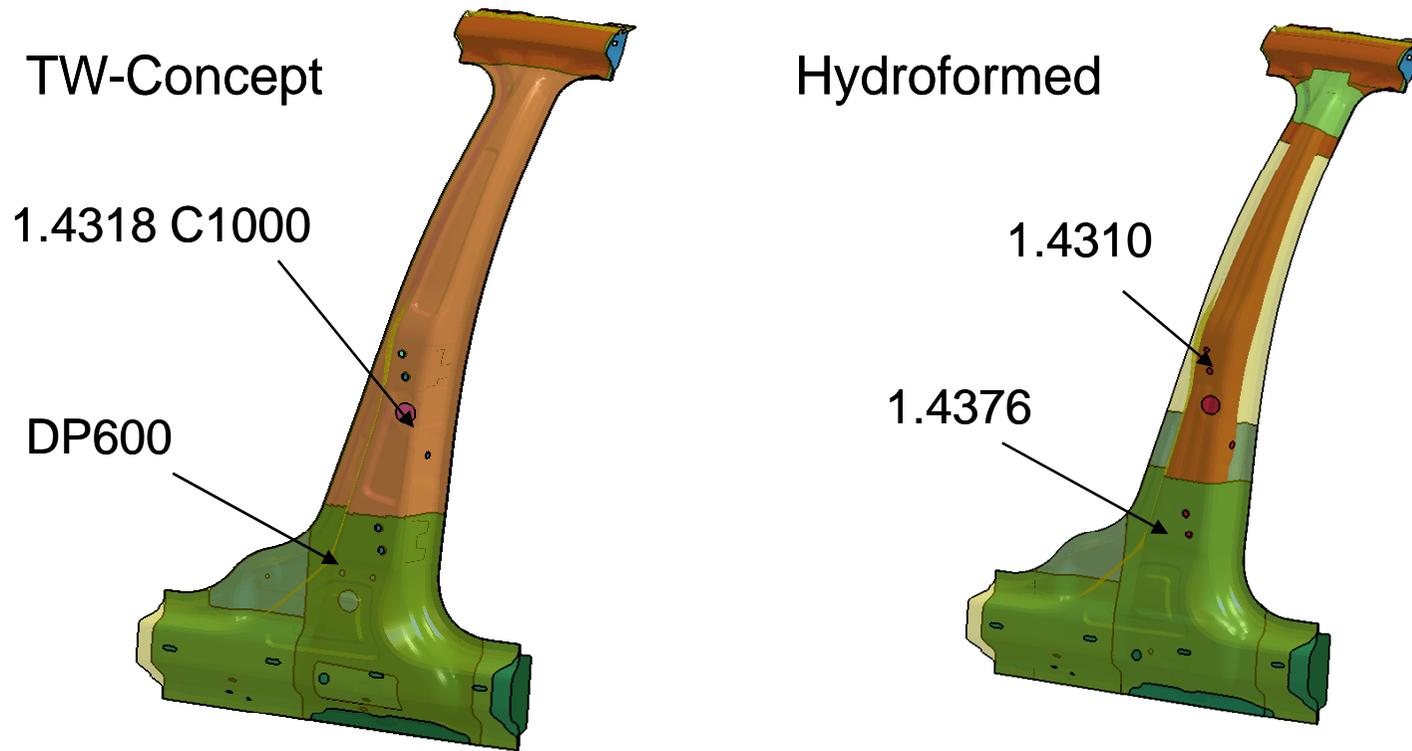
- Requirements for solver
 - Coupled thermo-mechanical solver
 - Thermomechanical material models
 - Thermal contacts
 - The functionality above has to be present in a production-friendly environment, i.e. one-code strategy and mpp version.
- Requirements for simulation
 - Thermal properties
 - Heat transfer coefficients (not easily found)
 - Time is a factor





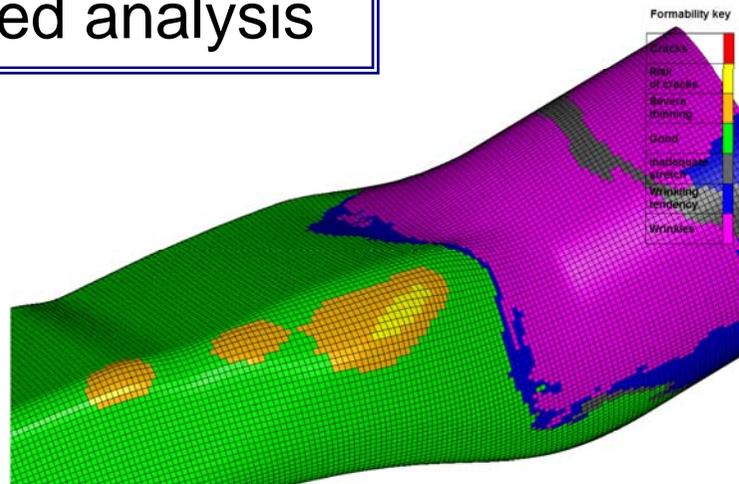
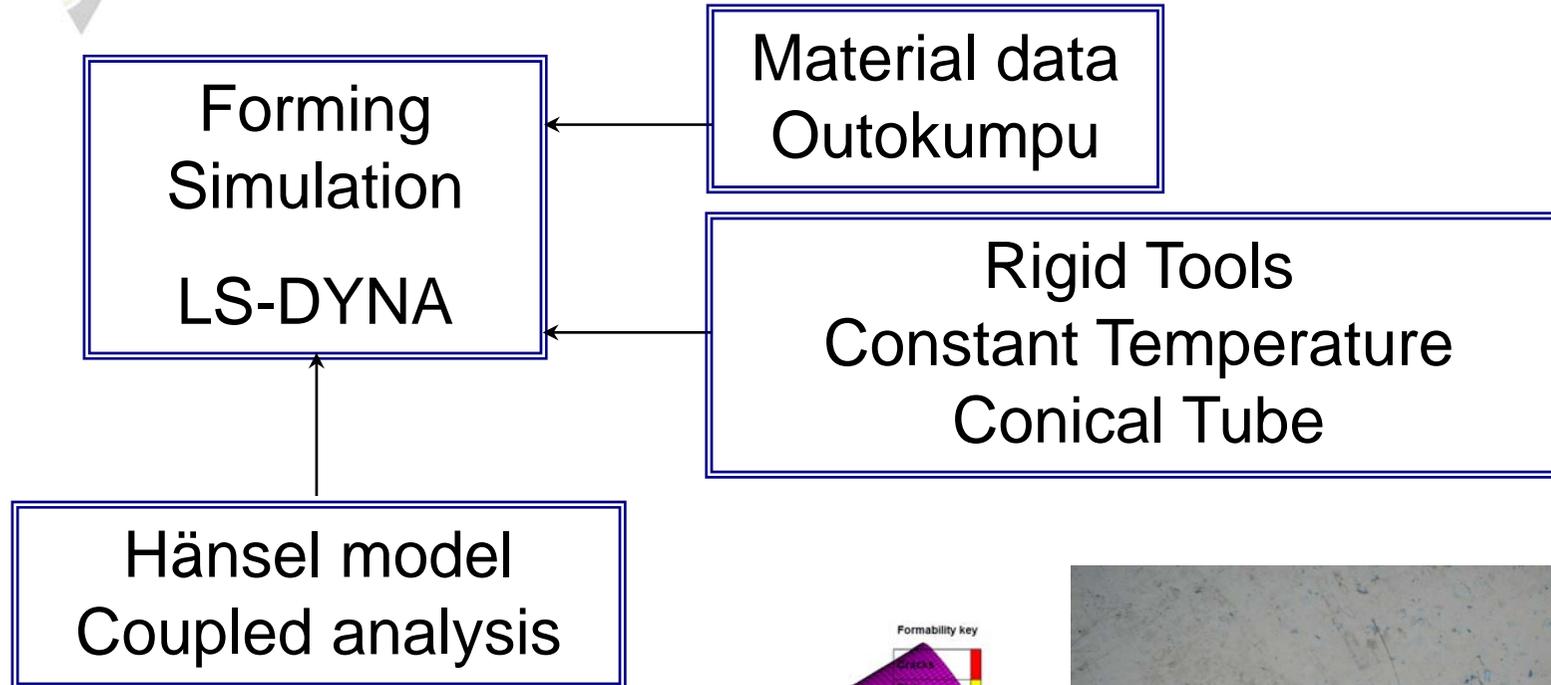
B-Pillar Concepts

- The Volvo S40 B-Pillar was chosen as a reference



- Both concepts were simulated, produced and crash tested.

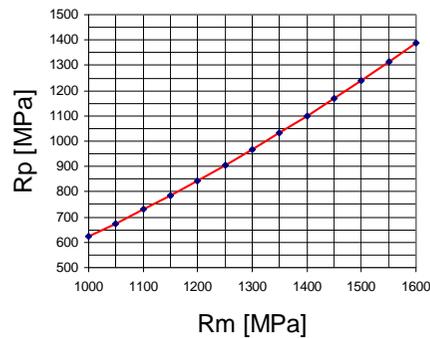
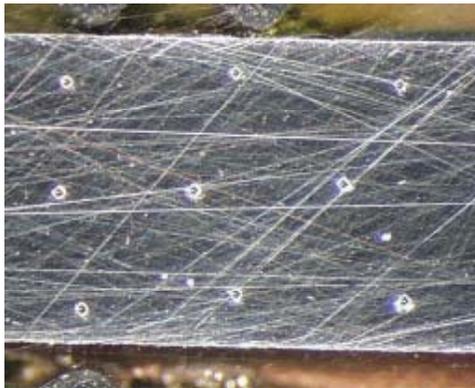
Simulation procedure



Simulation procedure

Forming
Simulation

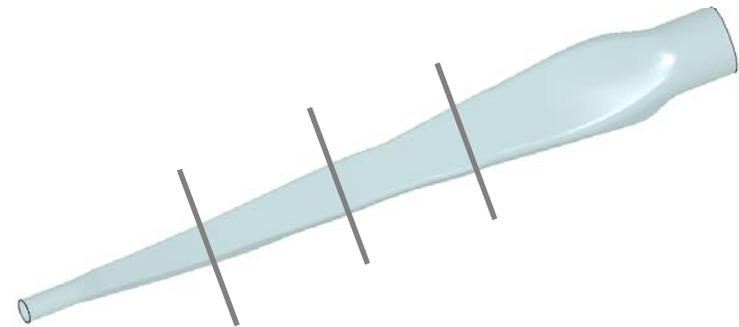
LS-DYNA



Thickness
Yield stress
Evaluation

Hänsel model

T_{Room}



Simulation procedure

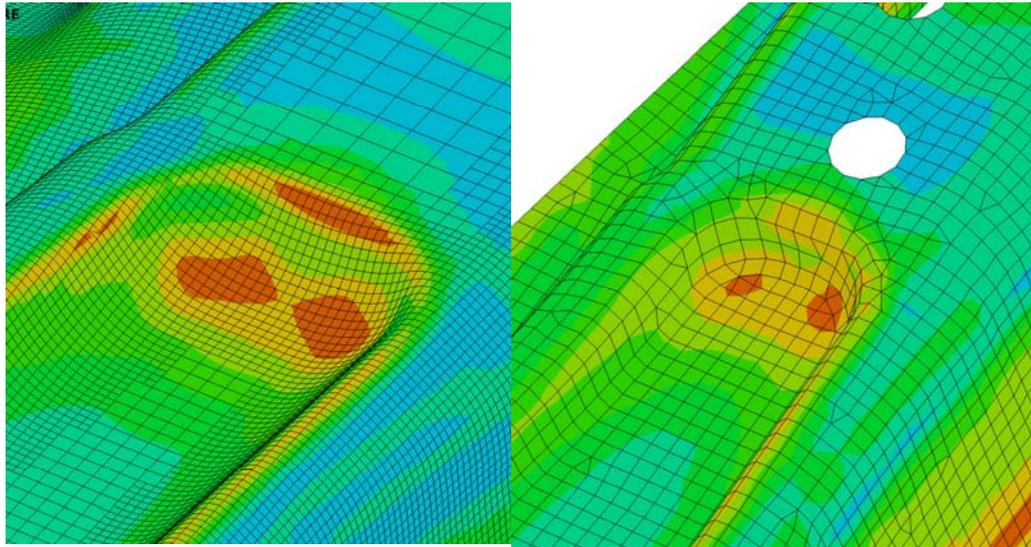


Forming
Simulation
LS-DYNA

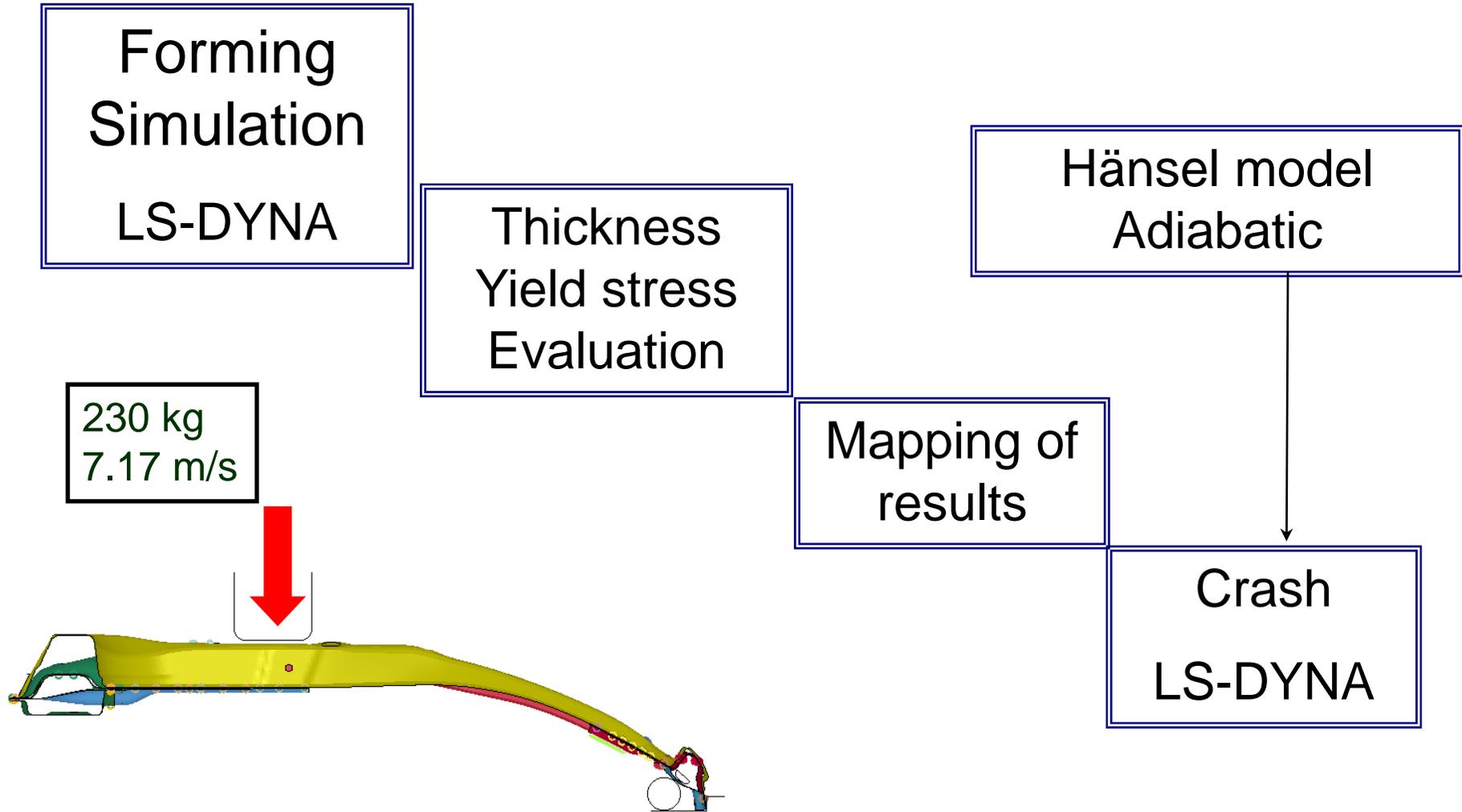
Thickness
Yield stress
Evaluation

$V_m, \bar{\epsilon}_p$
Thickness

Mapping of
results

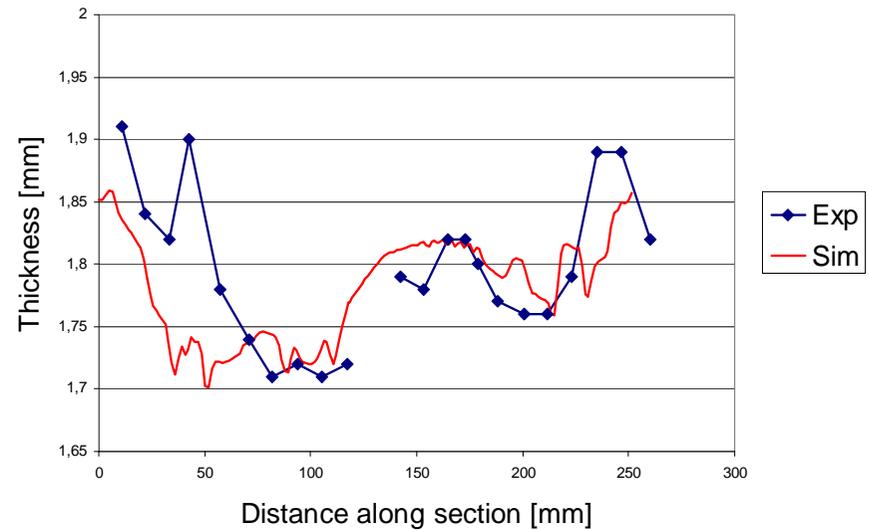
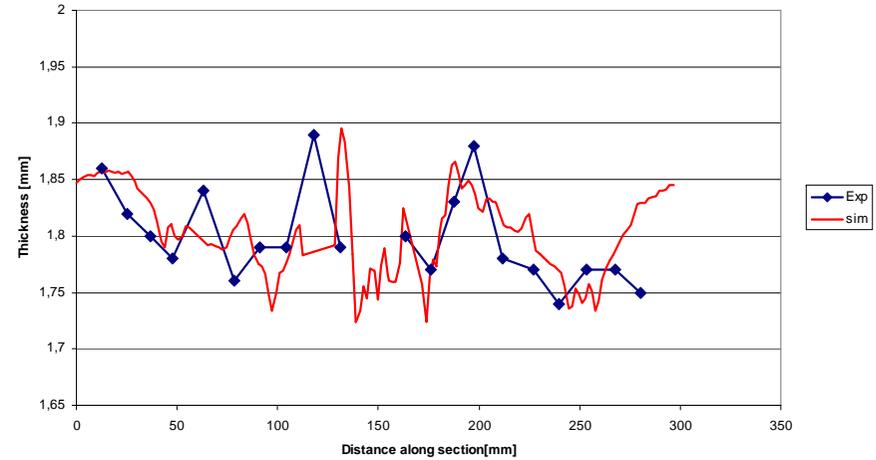
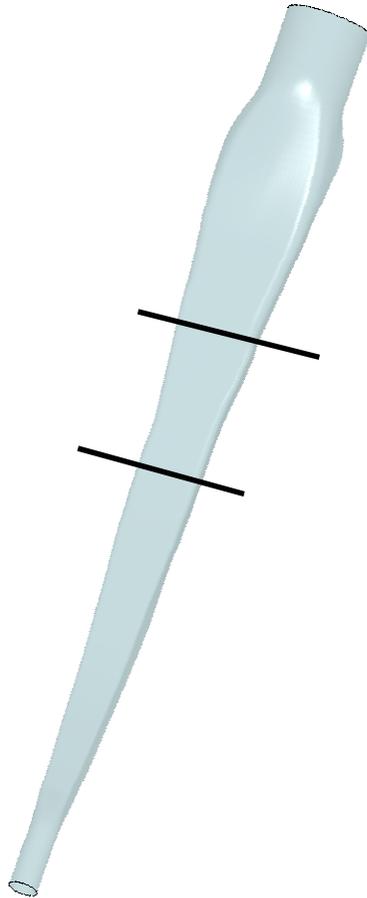


Simulation procedure



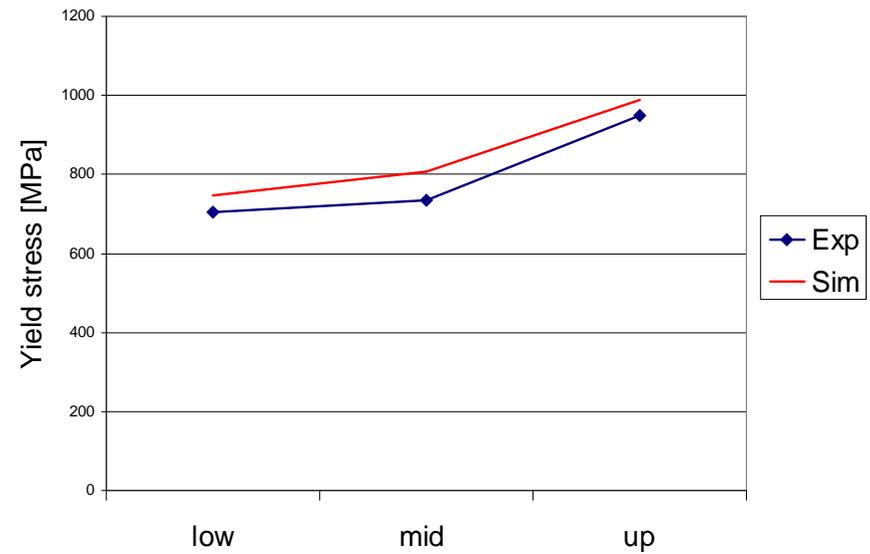
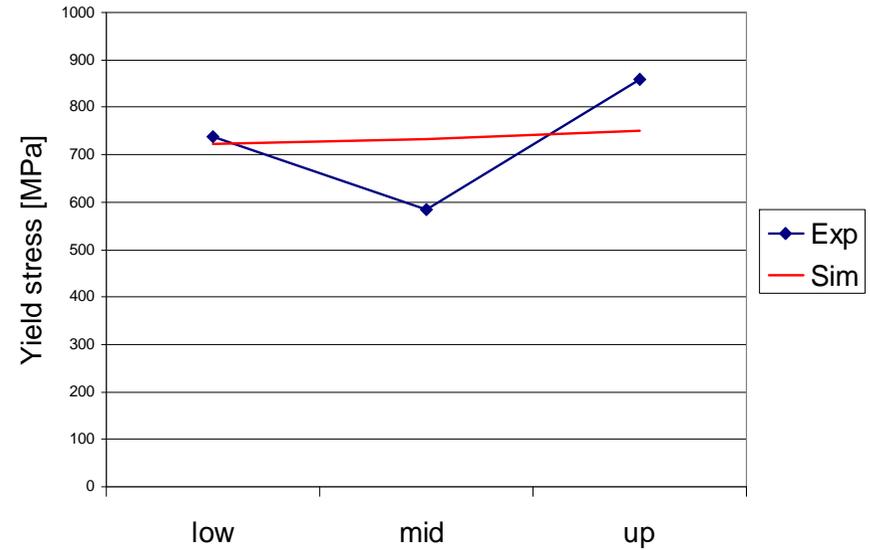
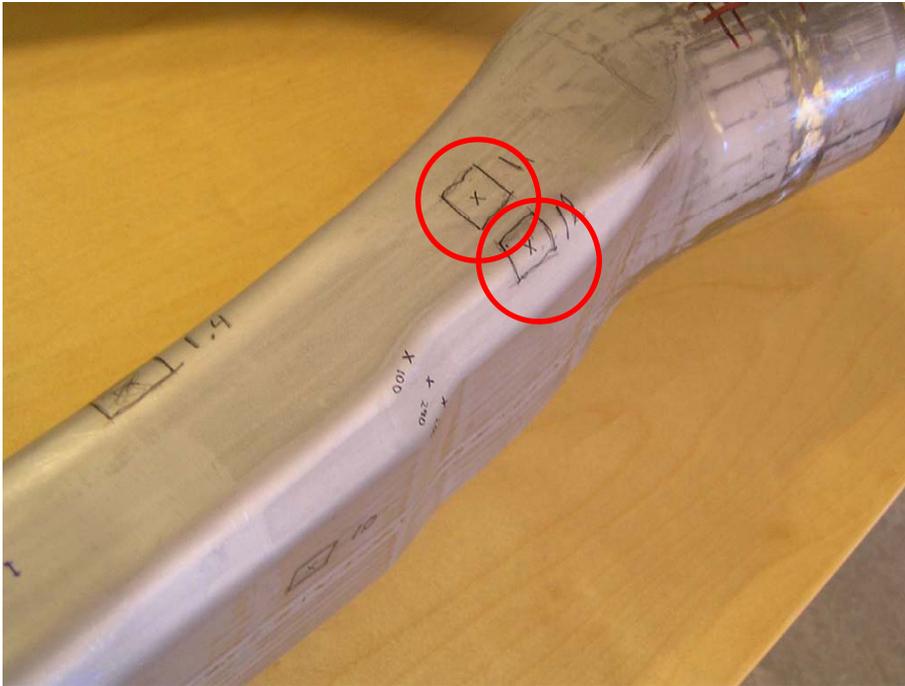


Results Forming Simulation





Results Forming Simulation

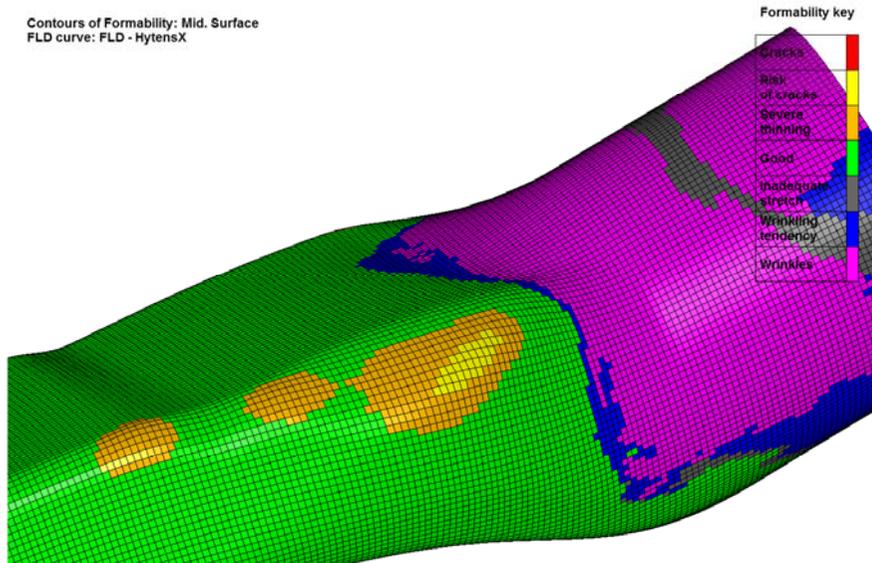




Results Forming Simulation

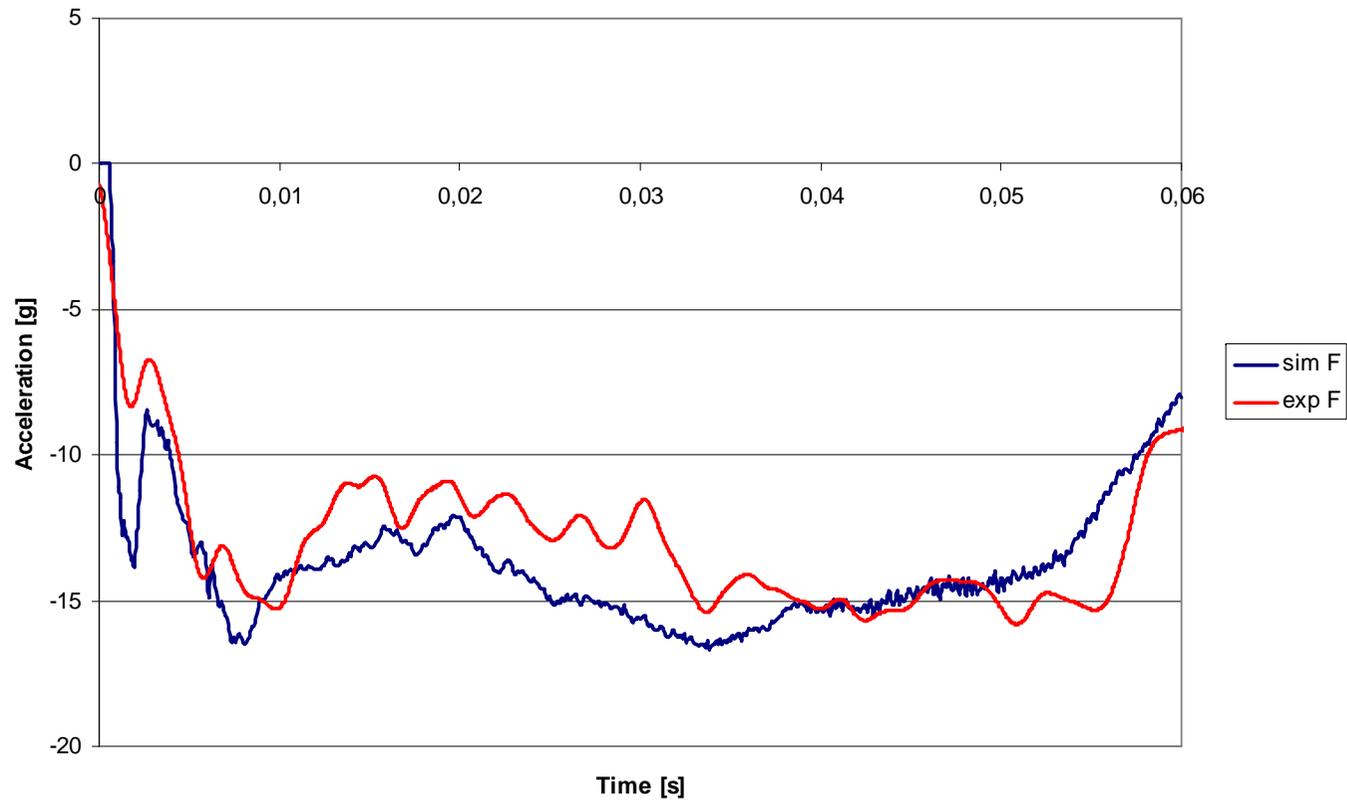


Contours of Formability: Mid. Surface
FLD curve: FLD - HytensX





Results Crash simulation



- The behaviour of the virtual B-Pillar is slightly stiffer compared to experiments

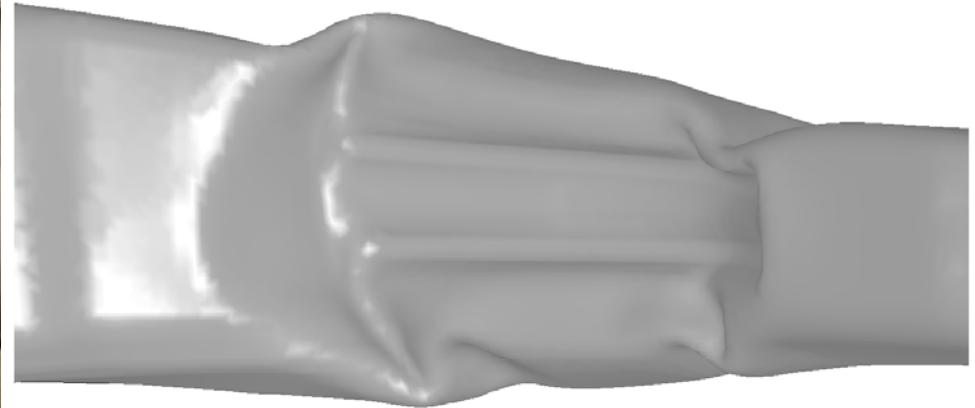


Results Crash simulation





Results Crash simulation





Conclusion

- The decrease in weight for the TW and hydroformed concept was 9 % and 11 %, respectively.
- Coupled FE-simulations with the TRIP material model were successfully used in the development of the B-Pillar designs. By using virtual models continuously through the design process it was possible to:
 - Estimate formability, resulting strength and process parameters
 - Modify the process and part geometry prior to making tools and testing.
 - Predicting crash response with increased accuracy
- This leads to that parts can be produced almost directly and avoids having to spend a lot of time on tool and process adjustment and tuning.



Thank You!

