



Powering Innovation That Drives Human Advancement

New LS-DYNA keyword `*LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLE` and its application to case-hardening

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Motivation:

- Certain manufacturing process steps (for example heat treatment) are diffusion-type processes that have to be simulated in LS-DYNA to close the process chain
 - Translate problem into equivalent temperature diffusion problem
 - Not possible to simulate a temperature dependent diffusion processes
 - How to consider the results in a thermal-mechanical coupled simulation?
- Transfer of nodal field data from a previous simulation
 - *INITIAL_HISTORY_NODES
 - Only for initialization and, thus, field cannot change over time
 - Not applicable to thermal simulations






New nodal loading condition

*LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLE




How can we define external field data?

*LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLE – Input

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Card 1	VID	DBAS	DSCA	DLCID	NMP	NTMP		
Card 2	IMP	PID	PTYP					
Card 3	ITMP	TPID	TPTYP					
Card 4	ID	IDTYP	BAS	SCA	LCID			
Card 4.1 (IDTYP=3)	FILENAME							

- Any external variable can be referenced by its id **VID**
- Default values for all nodes not referenced otherwise in the keyword
 - Value $\tilde{\alpha}$ is defined as $\tilde{\alpha} = \tilde{\alpha}_B + \tilde{\alpha}_S \times \tilde{f}(t)$
 - Input of base value **DBAS** ($\tilde{\alpha}_B$), scaling value **DSCA** ($\tilde{\alpha}_S$) and load curve **DLCID** ($\tilde{f}(t)$)

*LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLE – Reference to material data

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Card 1	VID	DBAS	DSCA	DLCID	NMP	NTMP		
Card 2	IMP	PID	PTYP					
Card 3	ITMP	TPID	TPTYP					
Card 4	ID	IDTYP	BAS	SCA	LCID			
Card 4.1 (IDTYP=3)	FILENAME							

- Structure material behavior is modified based on the local external variable value
 - Card 2 is repeated **NMP** times
 - Material property index **IMP** defines the material property of part (**PTYP=1**) or part set (**PTYP=2**) with ID **PID** that is affected
 - Depending on **IMP** and base material, the external variable either serves as scaling factor (SF) or as independent variable for a load curve (LC) / table (TAB) evaluation




*LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLE – Reference to material data

- Material property index table

IMP	*MAT_106		*MAT_251		*MAT_254	
1	LCE	LC	E	SF	JMAKACC	LC
2	LCPR	LC	LCSS	TAB(3d,4d)		
3	LCSIGY	LC	LCSS	TAB(4d)		
4	LCR	LC				
5	LCX	LC				
6	LCALPH	LC				
7	LCC	LC				
8	LCP	LC				
9	LCFAIL	LC				

$$x_b = x_{eq}(T)(x_a + x_b) \left(1 - e^{-\left(\frac{t}{\beta(\alpha) \cdot \tau(T)} \right)^{n(T)}} \right)$$

*LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLE – Reference to material data

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Card 1	VID	DBAS	DSCA	DLCID	NMP	NTMP		
Card 2	IMP	PID	PTYP					
Card 3	ITMP	TPID	TPTYP					
Card 4	ID	IDTYP	BAS	SCA	LCID			
Card 4.1 (IDTYP=3)	FILENAME							




- Thermal material behavior is modified based on the local external variable value
 - Card 3 is repeated **NTMP** times
 - Material property index **ITMP** defines the material property of part (**TPTYP=1**) or part set (**TPTYP=2**) with ID **TPID** that is affected
 - External variable serves as independent variable for a load curve evaluation

*LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLE – Reference to material data

- Material property index table




IMP	*MAT_T08	*MAT_T10
1	LCC	LCC
2	LCK1	LCK
3	LCK2	
4	LCK3	

*LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLE – Tabulated definition

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Card 1	VID	DBAS	DSCA	DLCID	NMP	NTMP		
Card 2	IMP	PID	PTYP					
Card 3	ITMP	TPID	TPTYP					
Card 4	ID	IDTYP	BAS	SCA	LCID			
Card 4.1 (IDTYP=3)	FILENAME							

- Node (**IDTYP=1**) or Node Set (**IDTYP=2**) cards
 - Value α is defined as $\alpha = \alpha_B + \alpha_S \times f(t)$
 - Input of base value **BAS** (α_B), scaling value **SCA** (α_S) and load curve **LCID** ($f(t)$)
 - Card 4.1 is not read in that case
 - Card 4 can be repeated as often as necessary

*LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLE – Binary definition

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Card 1	VID	DBAS	DSCA	DLCID	NMP	NTMP		
Card 2	IMP	PID	PTYP					
Card 3	ITMP	TPID	TPTYP					
Card 4	ID	IDTYP	BAS	SCA	LCID			
Card 4.1 (IDTYP=3)	FILENAME							

- LSDA option (**IDTYP=3**)
 - All other parameters in Card 4 are ignored
 - **FILENAME** refers to a LSDA file containing the information of the TPRINT section of the binout database file
 - Temperature data in the file will be interpreted as external variable data



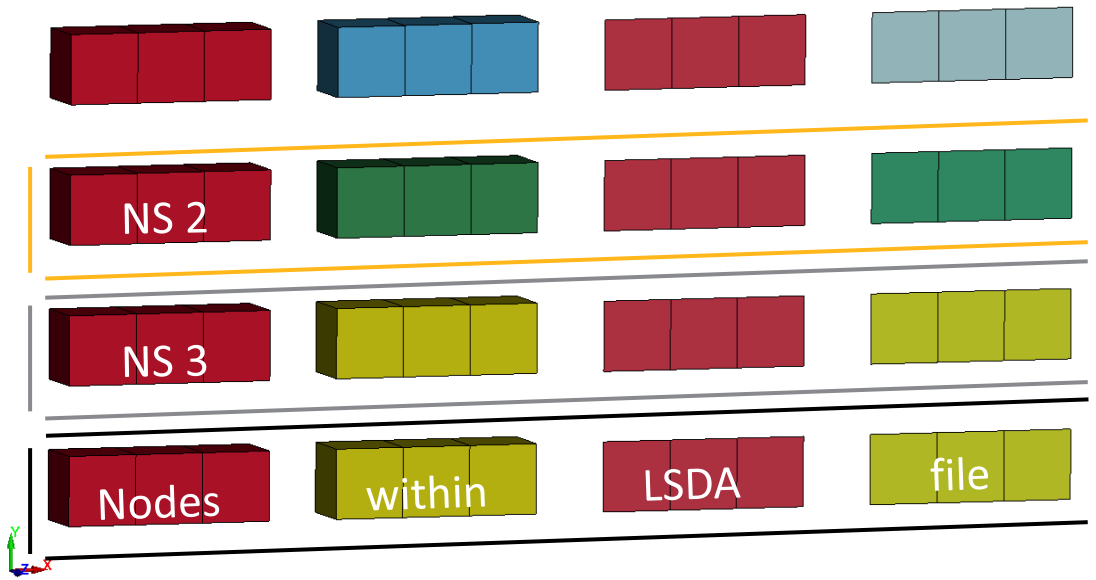
Validation Examples

Is the new information correctly processed?

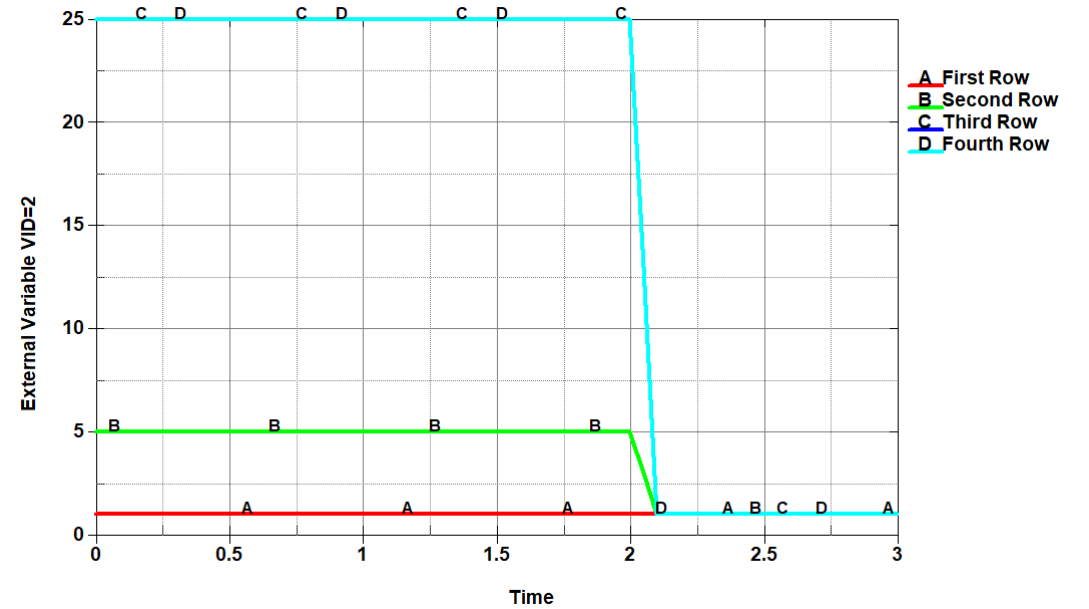
Validation – Model and External Variable Definition

- Model

input test for *LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLES



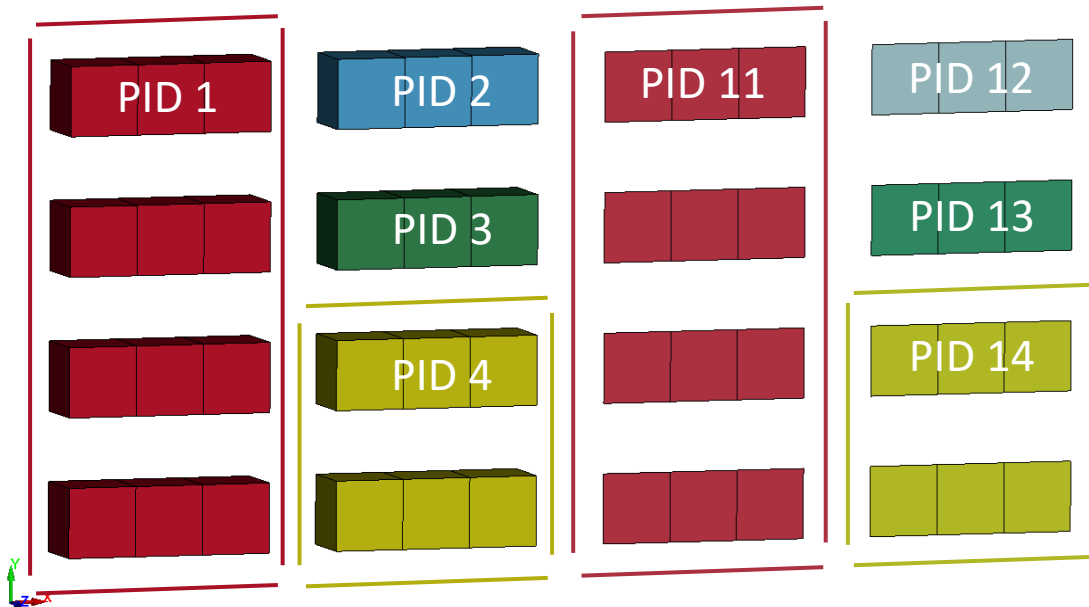
- External variable VID=2



Validation in thermal solver

- Model

input test for *LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLES

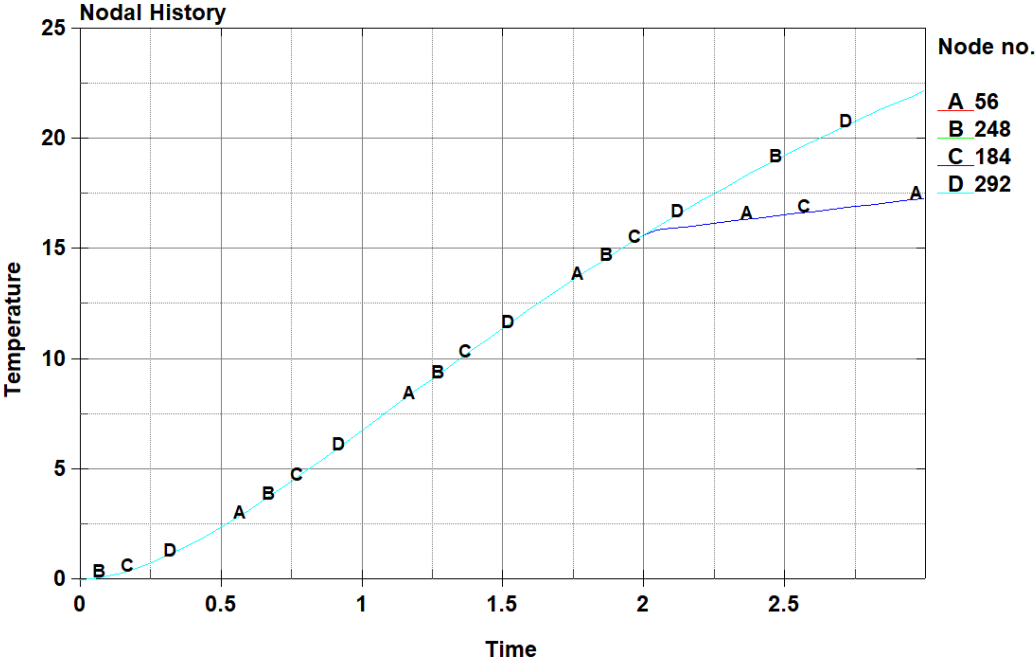
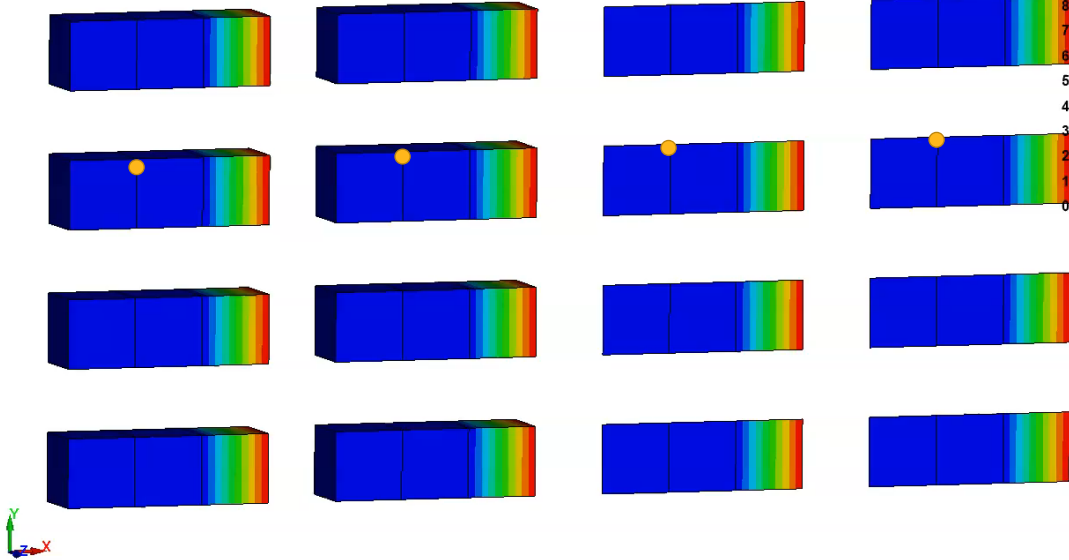
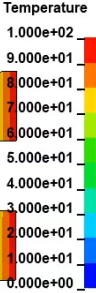


- Constant heat capacity everywhere
- Parts 1 and 11 use the same *MAT_T10
 - Conductivity equals value of VID 2
- Parts 2, 3, 4, 12, 13, 14 use *MAT_T01
 - Parts 2, 12: TC=1.0
 - Parts 3, 13: TC=5.0
 - Parts 4, 14: TC=25.0
- Conditions:
 - T=100 on the right of each block
 - T=0 on the left of each block
 - Zero initial temperature for free nodes

Validation in thermal solver

input test for *LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLES

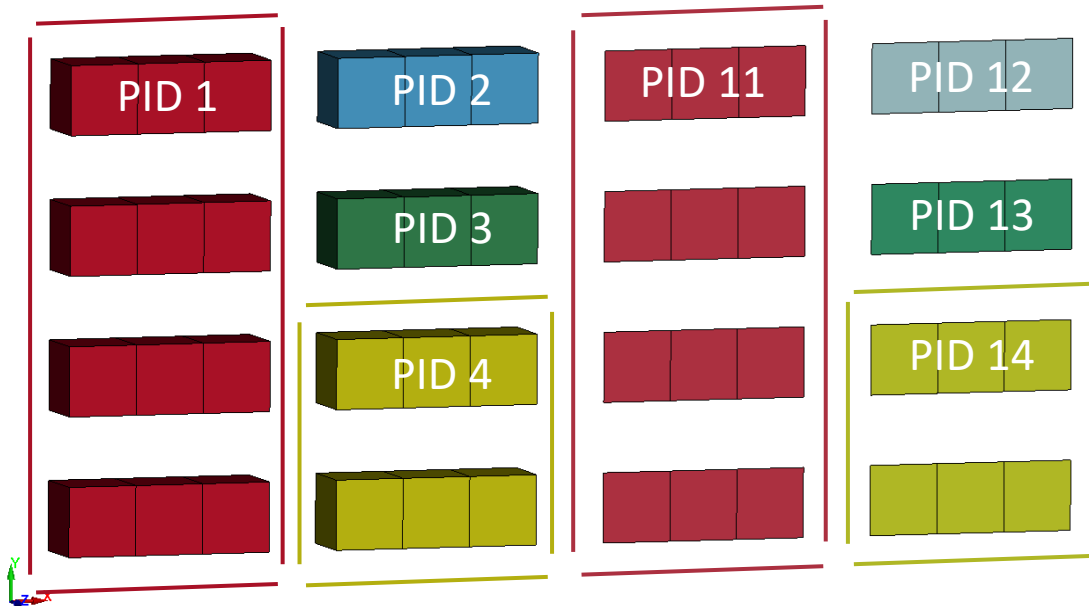
Time = 0
 Contours of Temperature
 min=0, at node# 17
 max=100, at node# 29



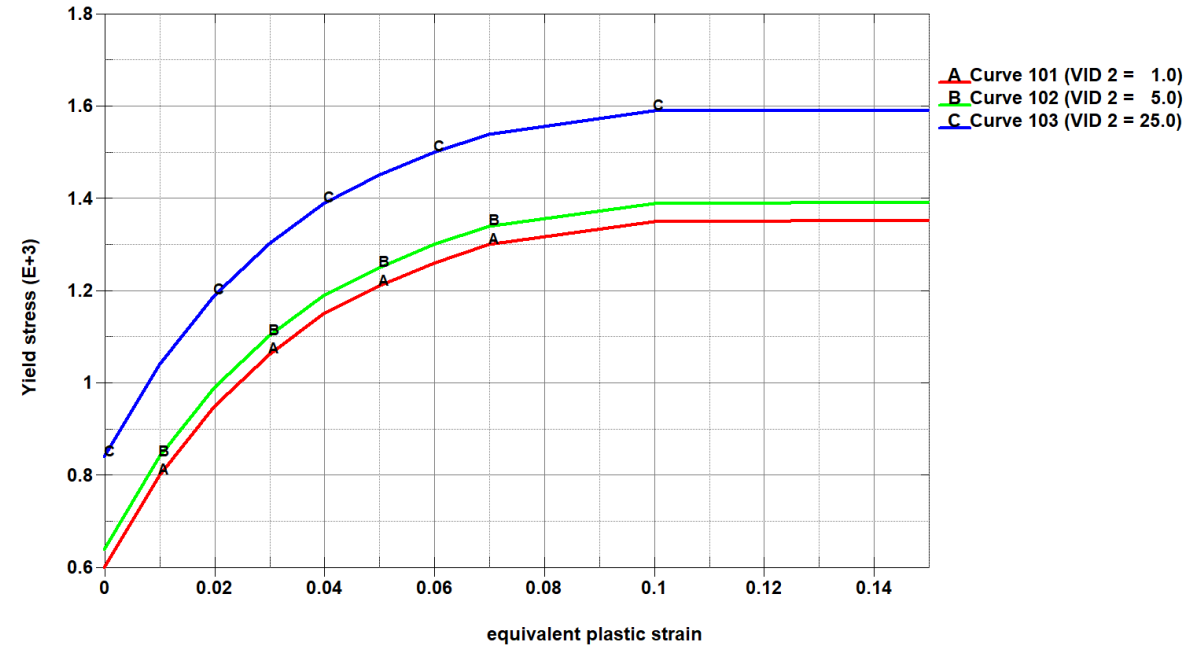
Validation in mechanical solver: *MAT_251

- Model

input test for *LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLES

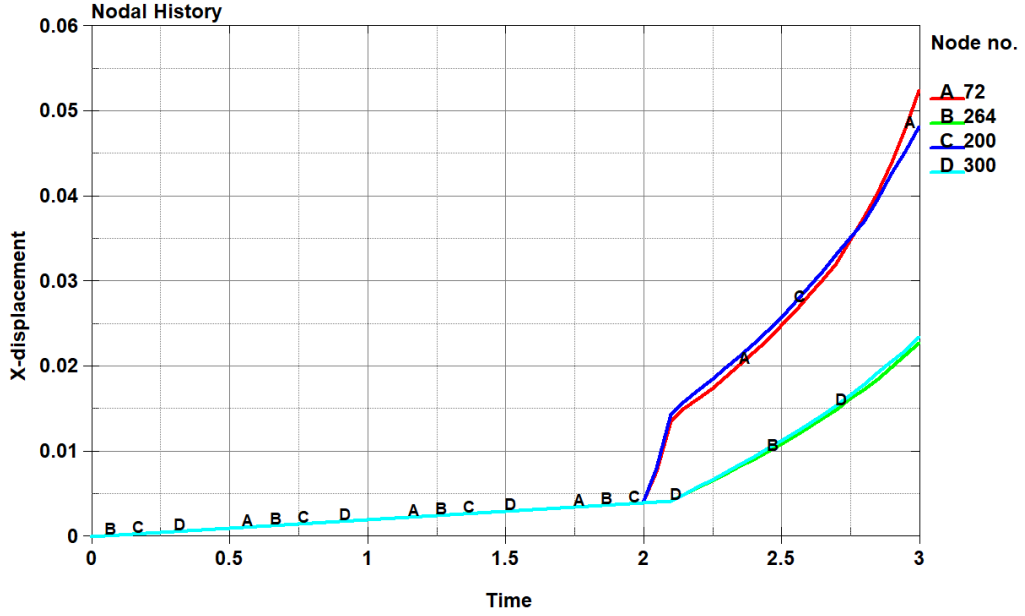
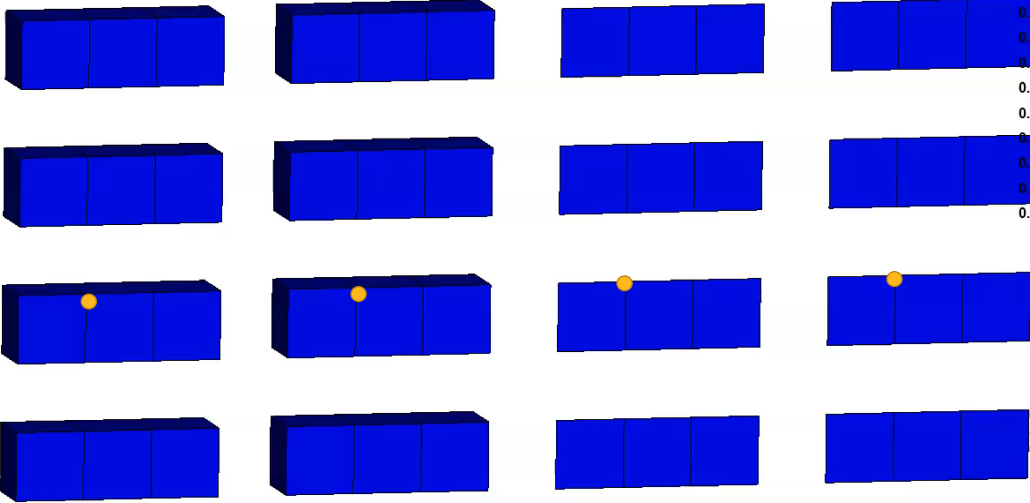
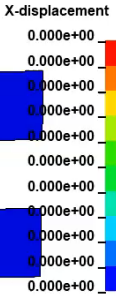


- Constant, identical material parameters except for yield stress
- Parts 1 and 11 use the same *MAT_251
 - Yield stress is a function of VID 2 (3d table)



Validation in mechanical solver: *MAT_251

input test for *LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLES
 Time = 0
 Contours of X-displacement
 min=0, at node# 17
 max=0, at node# 17



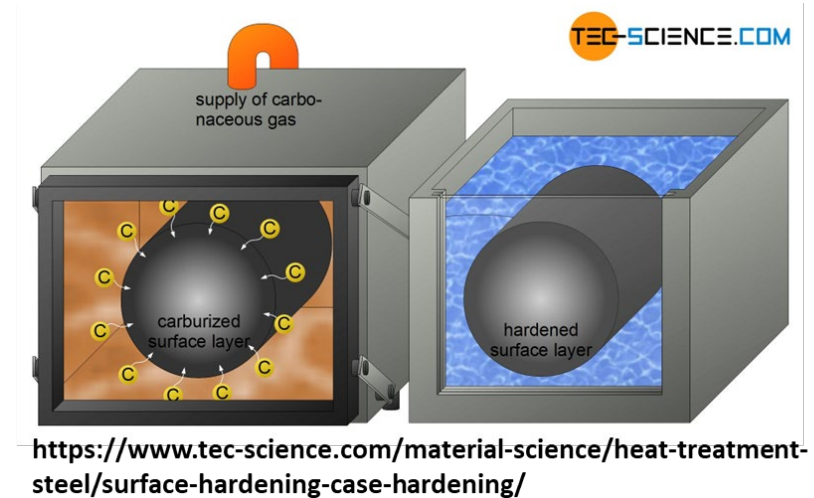


Case Hardening Example

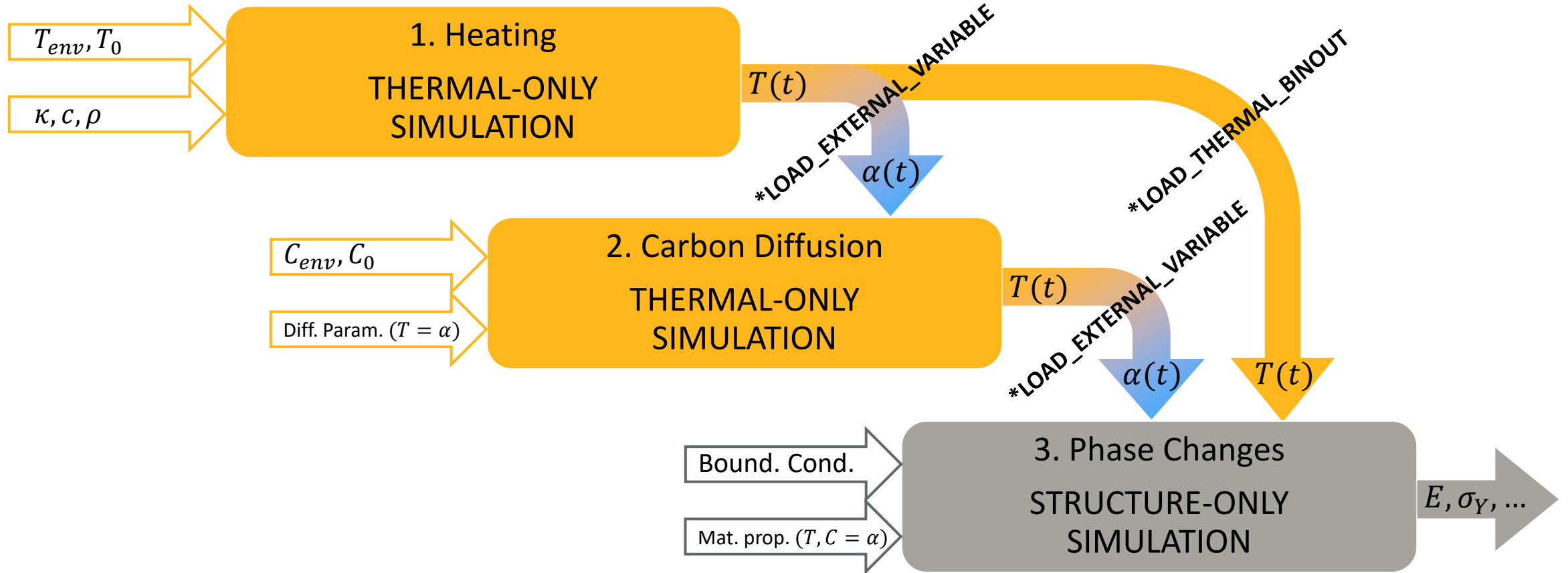
Is approach useful for a more realistic scenario?

Carburization and Direct Hardening - Process

- Heating of a steel specimen in an oven with a carbonaceous environment
 - Austenitization in the material
 - Diffusion of carbon into the material (temperature dependent)
- Quenching of the specimen
 - Diffusion process of carbon stops
 - Austenite decomposition
 - Carbon concentration in the material slows down diffusion control phase changes
 - Carbon concentration locally improves martensite formation

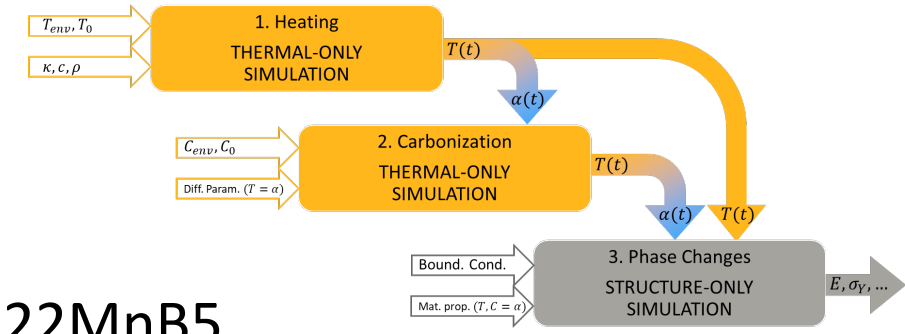


Carburization Heat Treatment – Numerical Model



Carburization – Remarks on the Simulation

- Use generic data for the carbon diffusion parameters
- Modify material data (*MAT_254) that is available for a 22MnB5
 - Steel grade is usually not used for case-hardening
 - Change some phase transition parameter to better resemble a case-hardening steel
 - Introduce dependency on carbon content by generic load curve to demonstrate the possibilities of the new concept

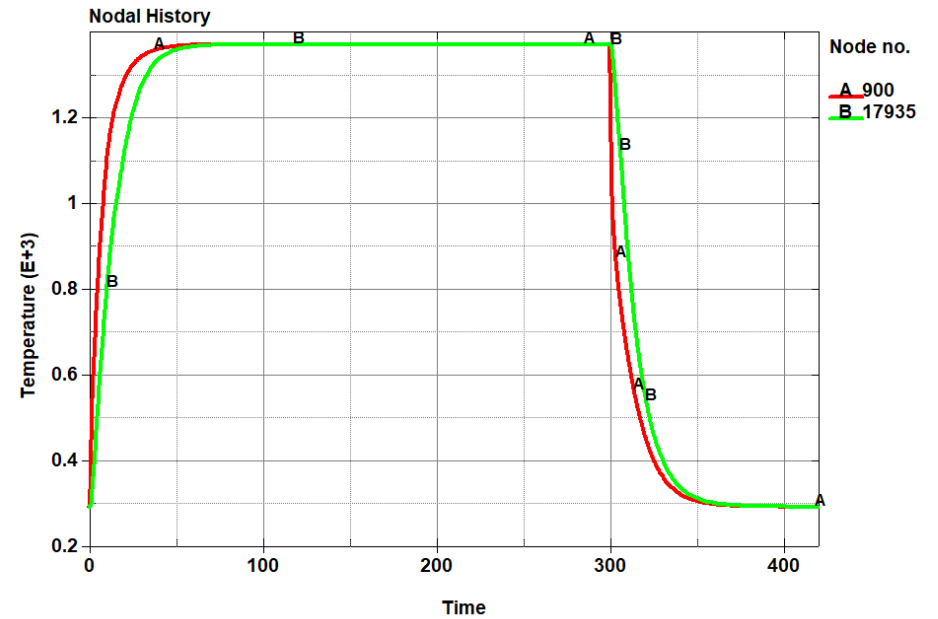
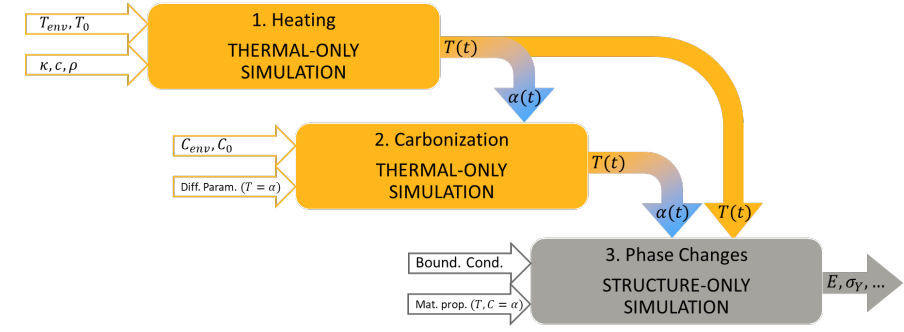
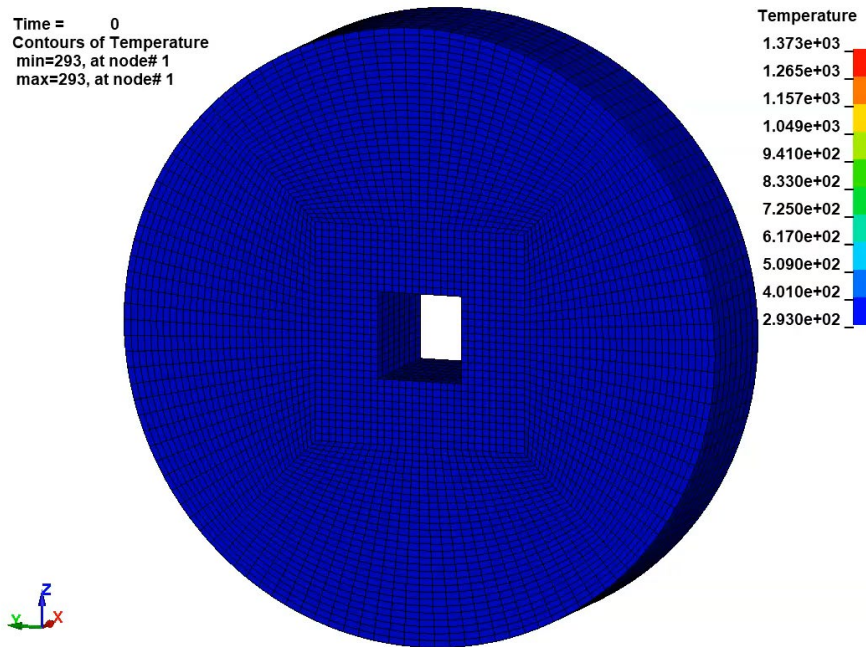


Carburization – Numerical Results

- 1. Heating

- $T_{oven} = 1373K, t_{oven} = 300s,$
 $T_{quench} = 293K, t_{quench} = 120s$

- Results:

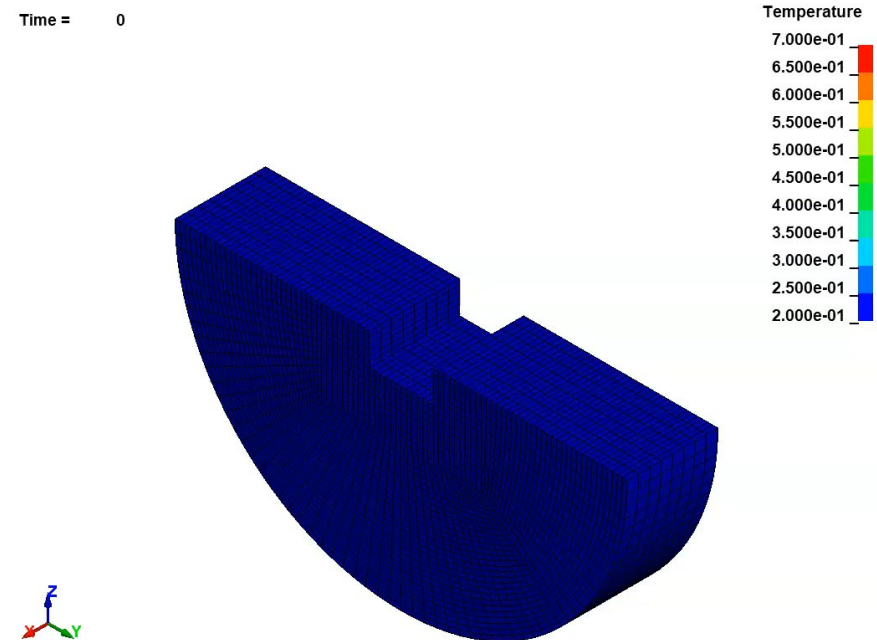
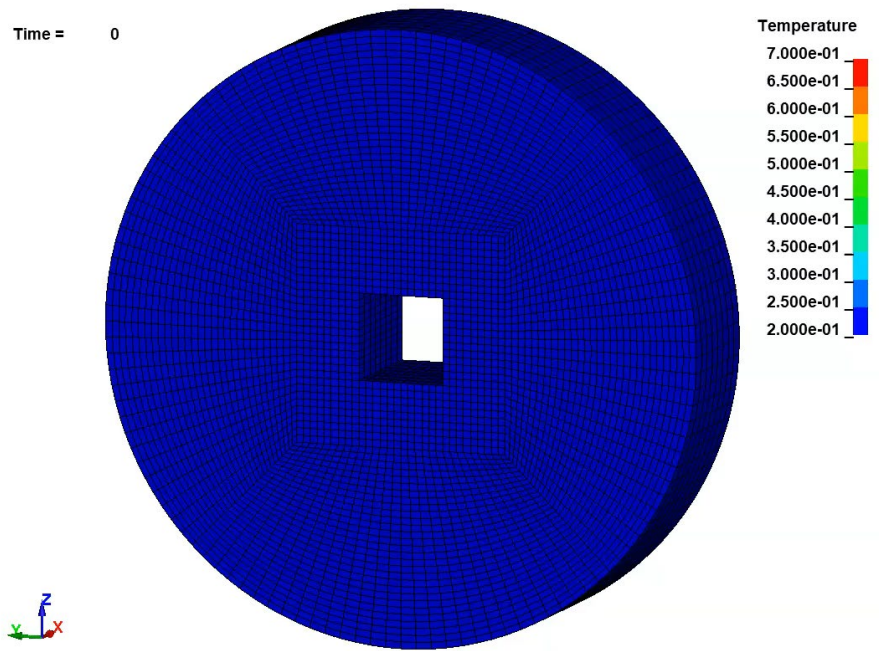
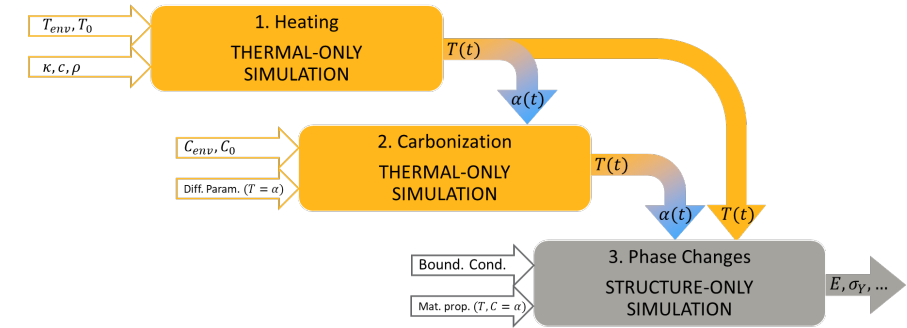


Heat treatment of a tensile specimen

- 2. Carburization

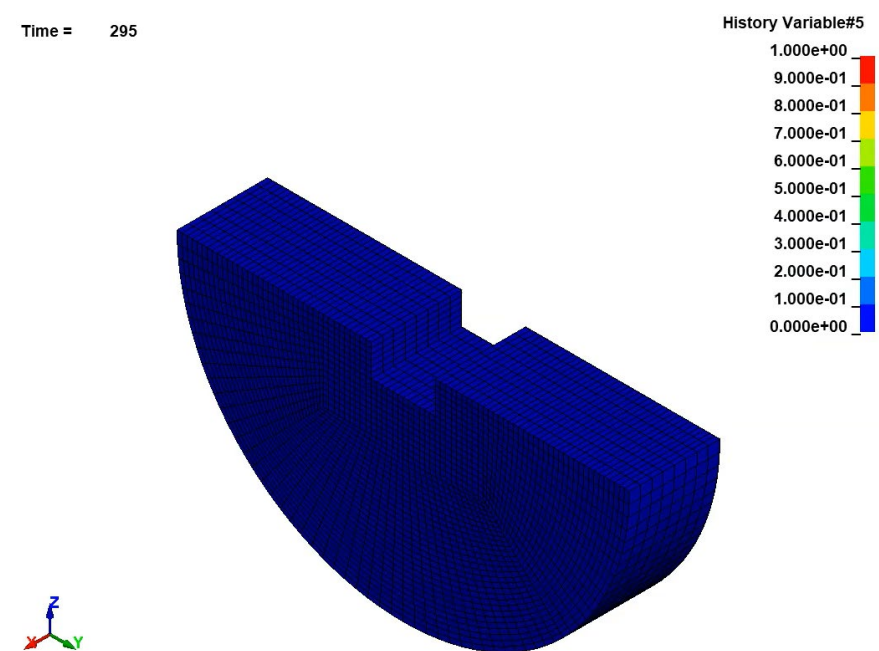
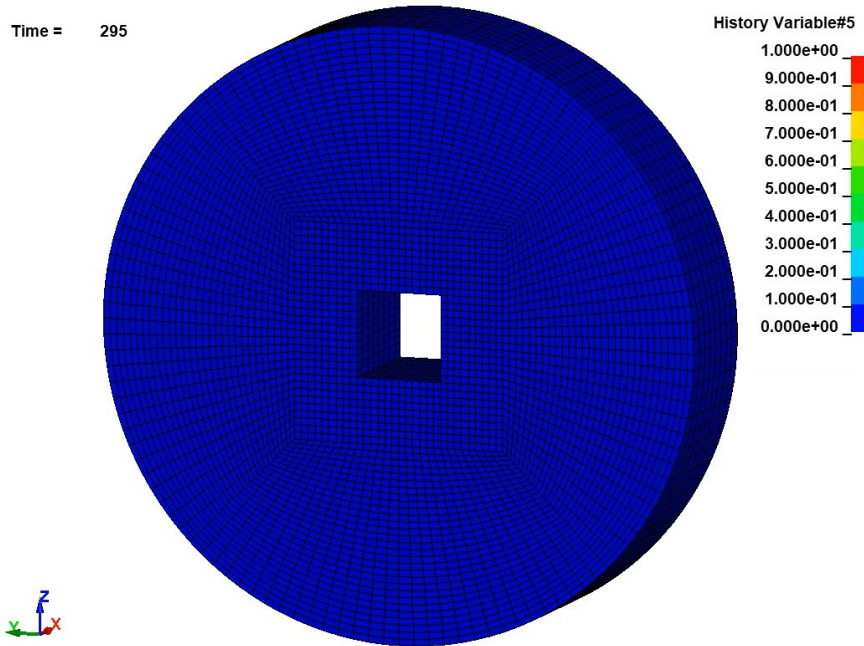
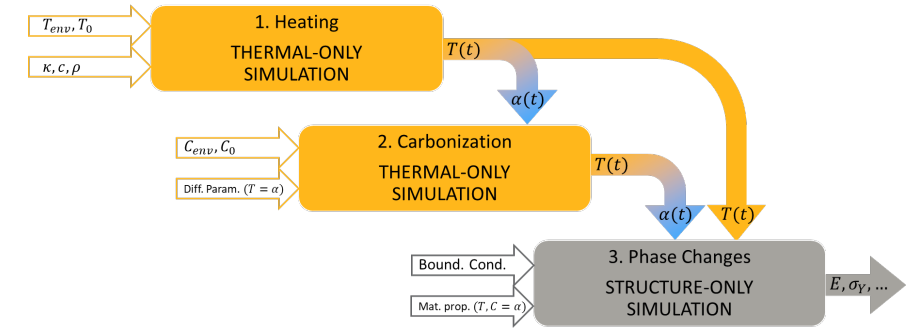
- $C_{oven} = 0.7, C_0 = 0.2$

- Results:



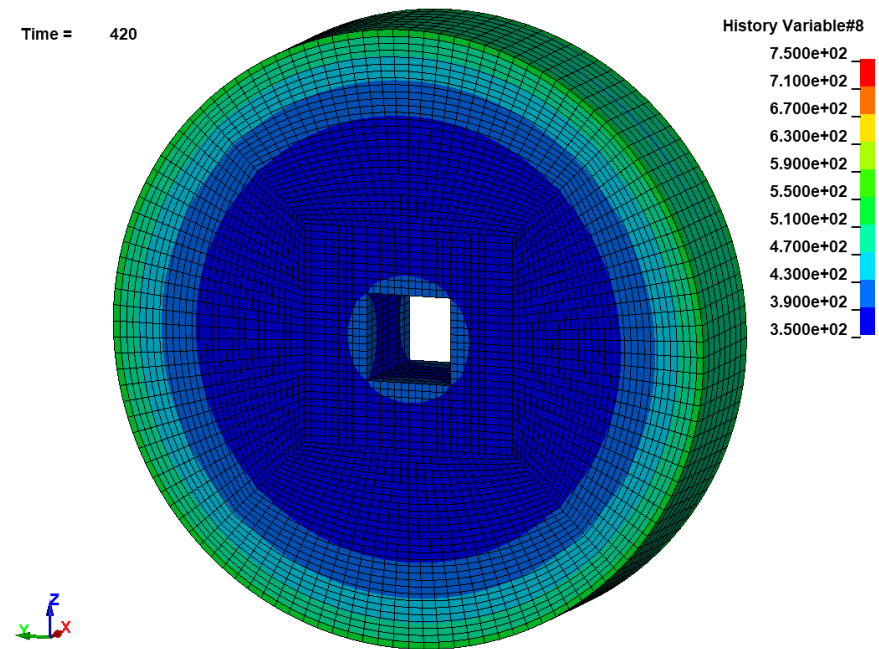
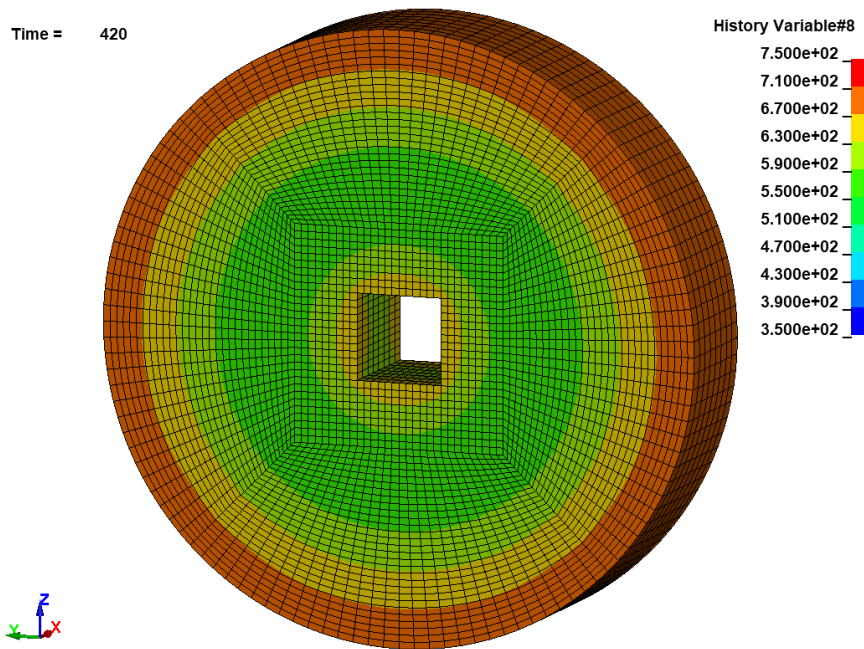
Heat treatment of a tensile specimen

- 3. Phase Change (modified UHS parameters)
 - Resulting martensite distribution



Heat treatment of a tensile specimen

- Comparison to base model ($C = C_0 = 0.2$)
 - Yield stress distribution





Conclusion and Outlook

Conclusion and Outlook

- Presented new concept of external variables in LS-DYNA for locally and temporally varying direct definition of data
- Data can be used to modify thermal (*MAT_T10), structural (*MAT_106, *MAT_251) and phase change parameters (*MAT_254)
- New keyword *MAT_ADD_EXTVAR_EXPANSION to connect material expansion to external field
- Demonstrated the capabilities of the approach with a simplified case-hardening example
- In future, we will extend the functionality to further material models, boundary conditions and damage (*MAT_ADD_GISSMO)

The Ansys logo consists of a yellow slanted bar followed by the word "Ansys" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.



*LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLE

- Input example

```

*LOAD_EXTERNAL_VARIABLE
$   VID      DBAS      DSCA      DLCID      NMP      NTMP
   2         0.0       1.0       105         2         1
$   IMP      PID      PTPY
   3         1         0
   5         1         0
$   ITMP     TPID     TPTY
   1         11      1
$   ID      IDTYP     BAS      SCA      LCID
   11       2         0.0     1.0     101
   12       2         0.0     1.0     102
res1.binout      3
res2.binout      3
   1         1         0.0     1.0     100
   3         1         2.5     1.0     100
    
```

- Translation:

External variable 2

- Influences the mechanical properties with index 3 and 5 of part 1
- Modifies thermal property with index 1 for part set 11
- Follows curve 101 and 102 for node sets 11 and 12, respectively
- Interprets nodal temperature results from two files
- Follows curve 100 for nodes 1 and 3, using an offset for the latter
- Uses load curve 105 for all other nodes



Material expansion due to an external variable

*MAT_ADD_EXTVAR_EXPANSION

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Card 1	PID	LCID	MULT	LCIDY	MULTY	LCIDZ	MULTZ	IDEV

- New keyword to add expansion property to an (arbitrary) material model in part **PID**
- Isotropic or orthotropic expansion based on an external variable α with id **IDEV**
 - Expansion strain rate proportional with rate $\dot{\alpha}$ of the external variable
 - Expansion coefficient $\gamma(\alpha)$ itself can be a function of the external variable