

# Deformation & Edge Stretchability Of Multiphase Steels After Shear Cutting

**Advaith Narayanan**  
*University of Waterloo*

GREAT DESIGNS IN  
**STEEL**™

# Project Team



## University of Waterloo

Advaith Narayanan (PhD Candidate)

Rhys Northcote (MAsc Candidate)

Patrick Cleary (MAsc Candidate)

Cliff Butcher (Associate Professor)



## Auto/Steel Partnership: SHT and Stamping Teams

Jonathan Smith (Project Manager)

Eric McCarty (Senior Project Manager)

## Project Technical Leads

Dean Kanelos, Nucor Corporation

Vince Millioto, MartinRea

Miguel Quinones, Metalsa

Lu Huang, General Motors



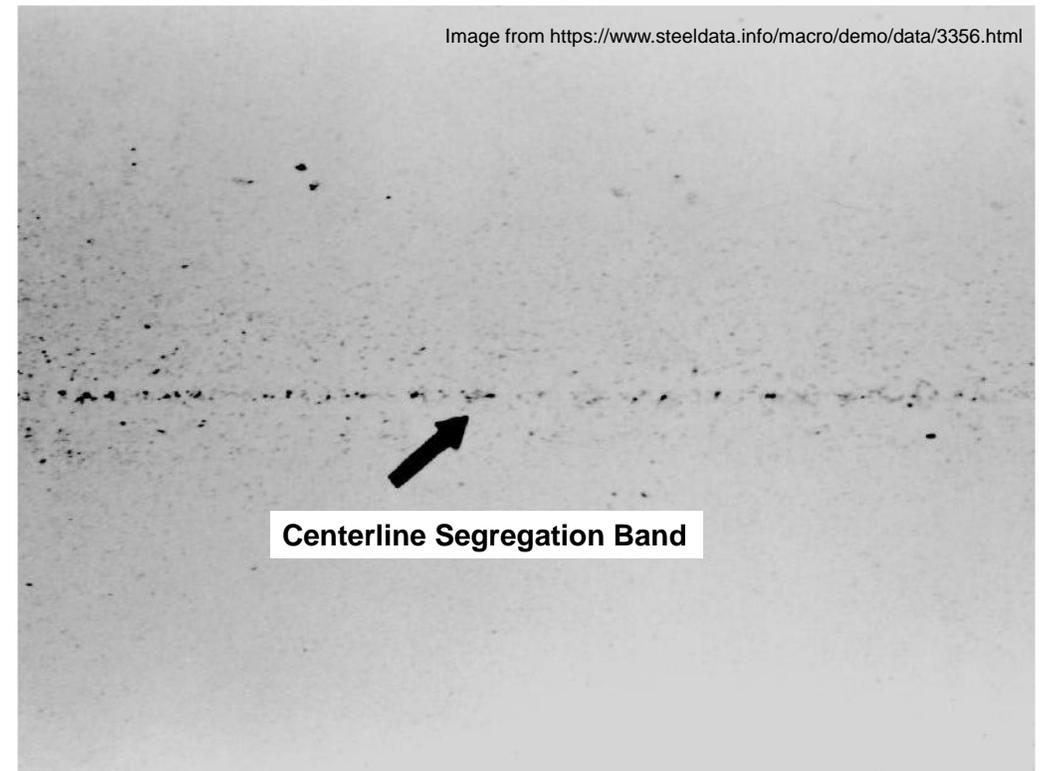
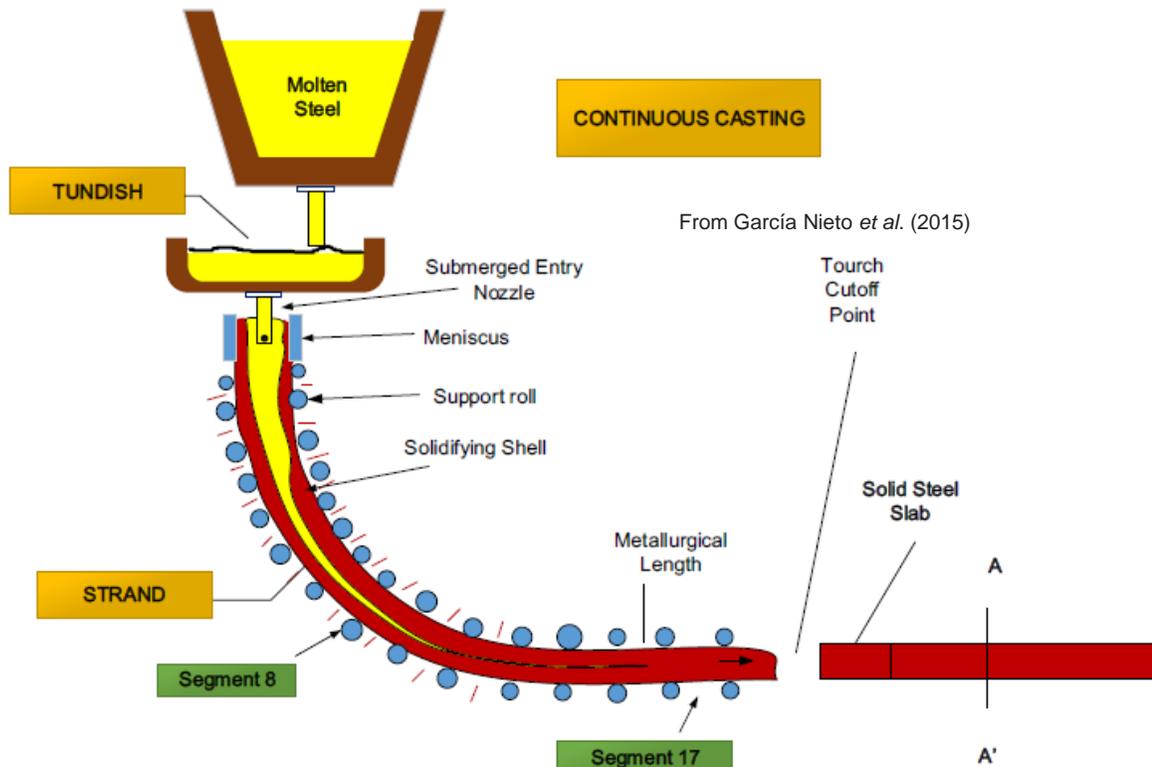
# Outline



- Introduction to Cut Edge Fissures
- Objectives
- Materials of Interest
- Hole Punching Parameters
- Sheared Edge Hardness Distribution
- Conical Hole Expansion Test
- In-Plane Bending Test
- Hole Tension Test at 12% Clearance
- Summary & Future Work

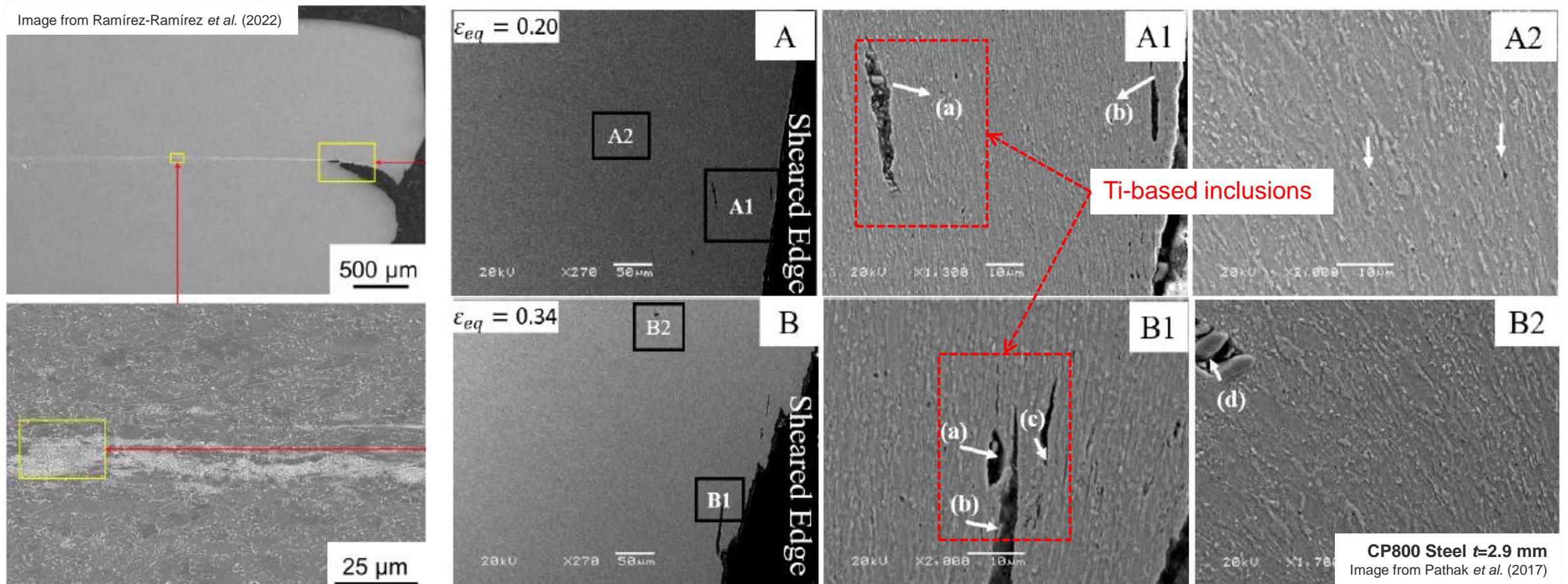
# Introduction: Centerline Segregation in Steels

- Presence and concentration of Ti or Mn-inclusions can occur at mid-thickness in multiphase steels.
- Phenomenon occurs during continuous casting & hot rolling of molten steel containing such alloying elements.
- Higher solidification rate at the surface → alloying elements accumulate near slab mid-thickness.



# Susceptibility to Cut Edge Fissures

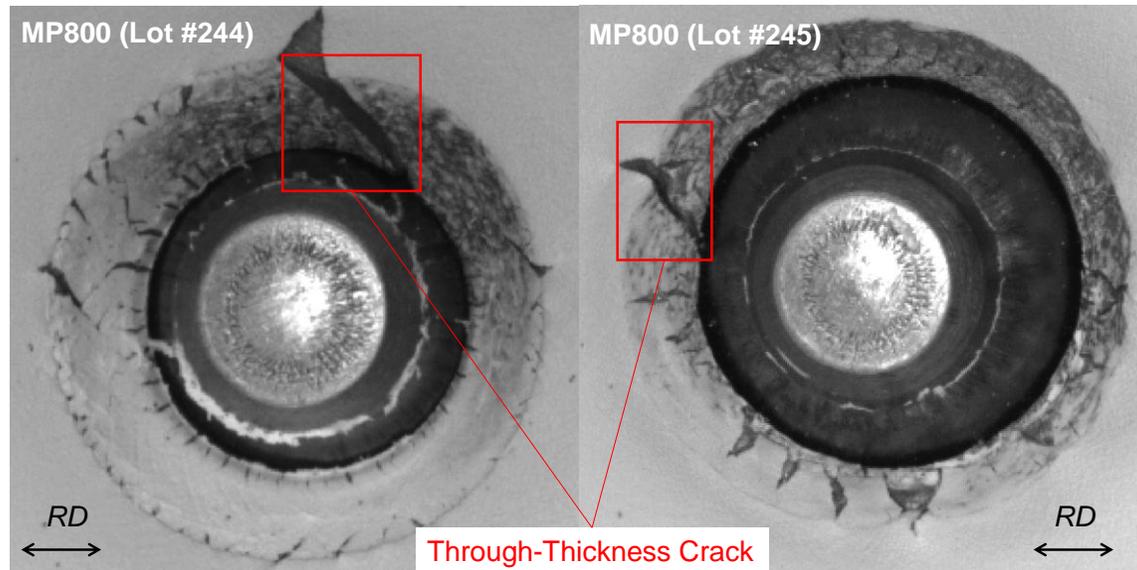
- Presence of centerline segregation can trigger fissures during the shear cutting process.
- Ti-based inclusions can also act as source of cracks during stretching of the sheared edge...



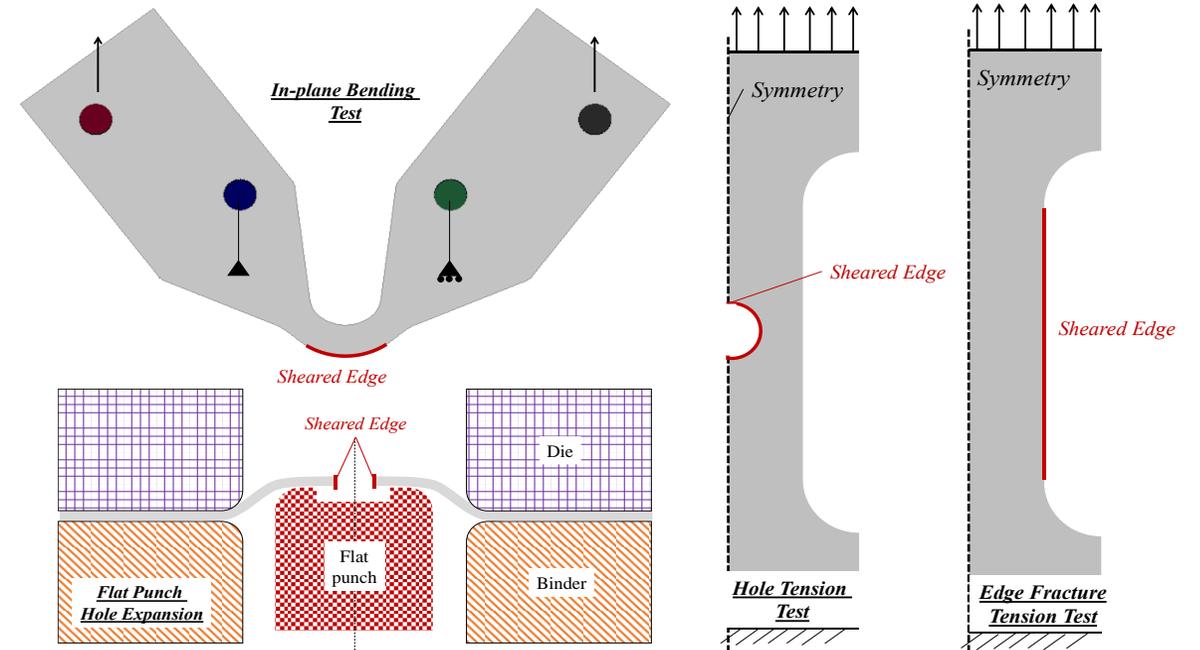
# Detection of Cut Edge Fissure Susceptibility

- Centerline segregation detection requires spectroscopy or etching and optical imaging → time and cost intensive.
- **Can sheared edge stretching behaviour correlate to cut edge fissure susceptibility in steel coils?**
- Conical hole expansion is standardized. Alternate tests deform the centerline and shear affected zone in different modes.

Conical HX (12% CI) –Insight into Cut Edge Fissure Susceptibility?



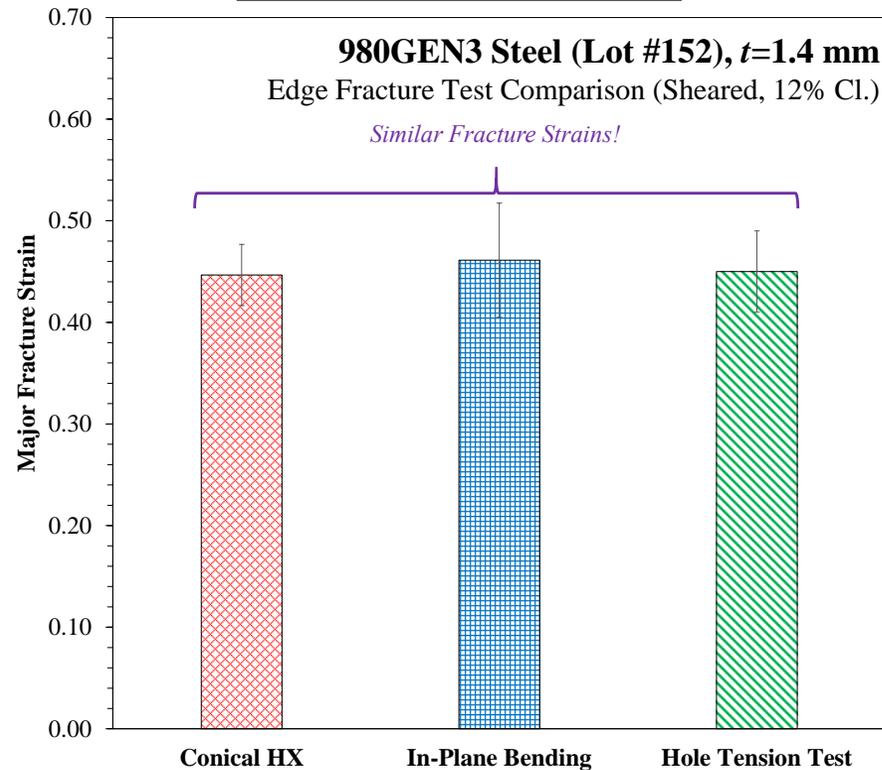
Alternate Edge Fracture Test Techniques



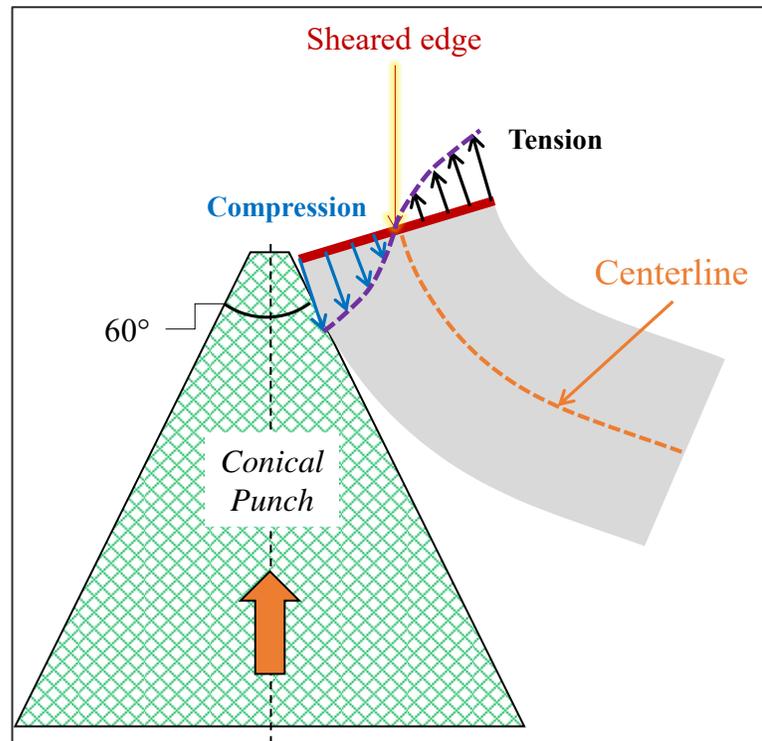
# Boundary Condition Effect in Edge Fracture Tests

- Recap: Previous work conducted on 980GEN3 steel revealed minimal edge sensitivity to boundary condition at 12% clearance.
- **However, fracture limits can diverge between the tests for hot-rolled MP800 steels due to centerline effects.**
- Conical HX → *Centerline crack propagation can be delayed due to punch contact.* In-plane Bending → *centerline in uniaxial tension.*

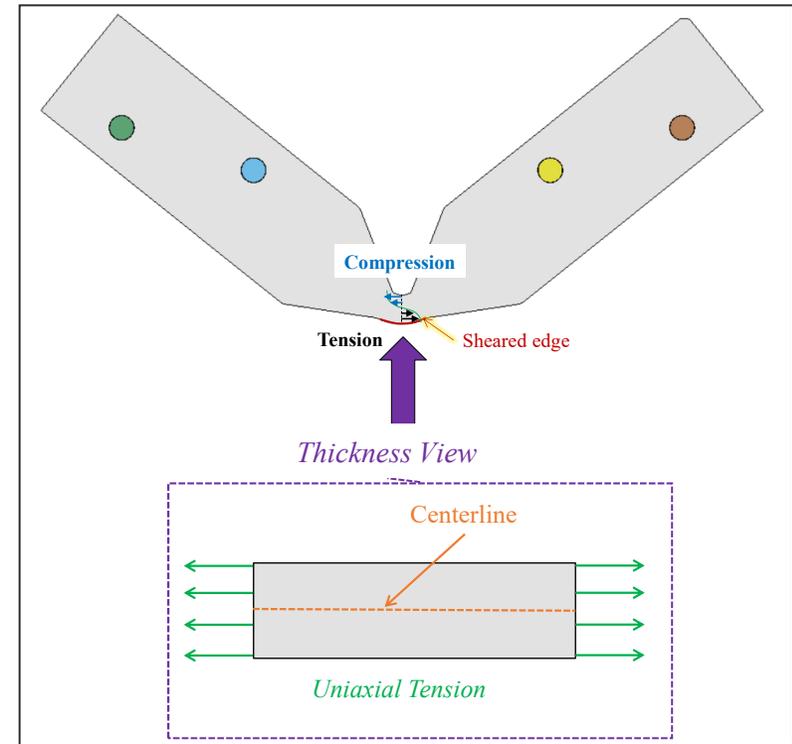
980GEN3 Fracture Strains (12% Cl.)



Conical HX Deformation Mode: Initial Stages



In-Plane Bending Deformation Mode



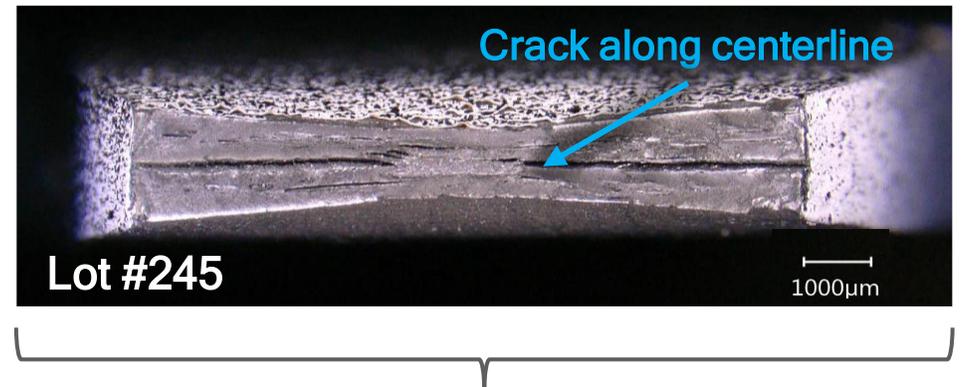
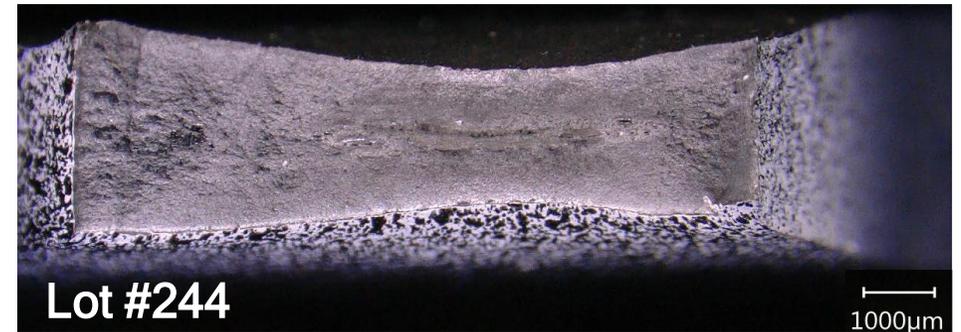
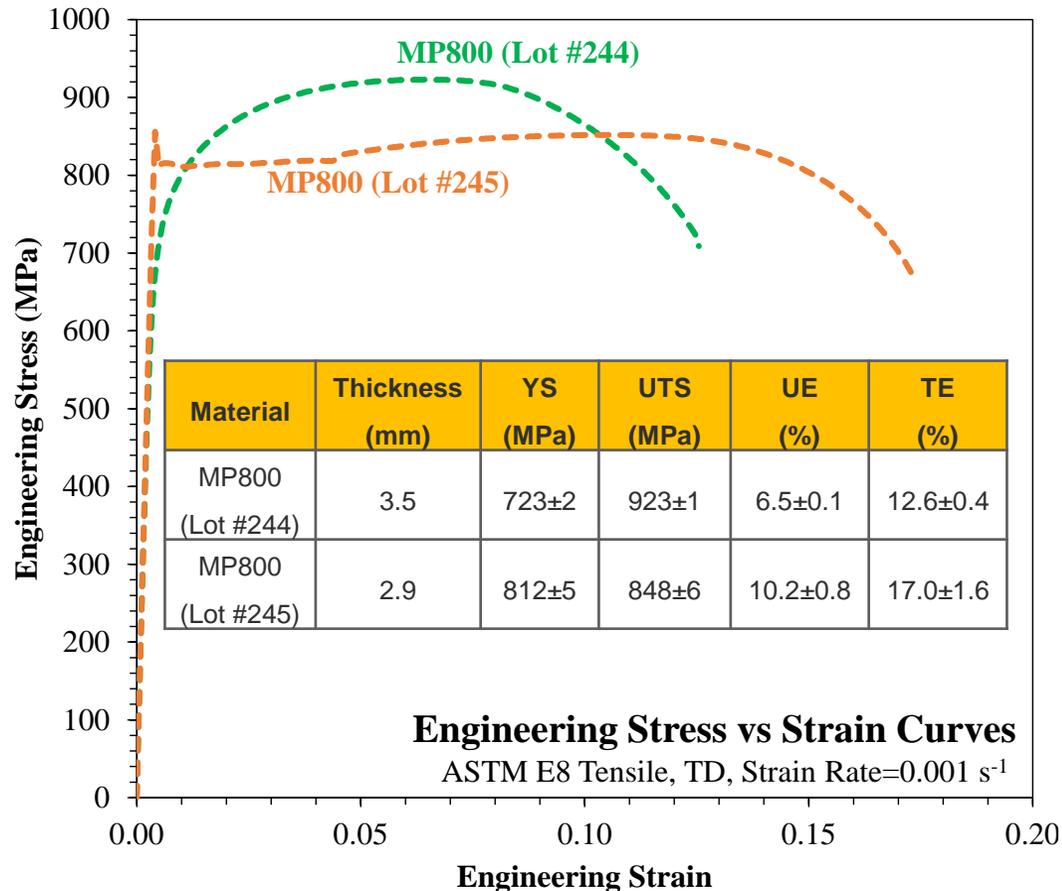
# Objectives



- Determine the effect of clearance on edge stretchability, centerline crack initiation & propagation.
- Assess the effect of edge stretching methods on sheared edge fracture limits of steels with centerline segregation.
- Identify coupon test(s) that are able to trigger centerline effects to identify cut edge fissure susceptibility.
- **Two hot-rolled MP800 steels with different centerline segregation severity are considered for this work.**
- *980GEN3 steel edge fracture characterization results from GDIS 2024 are also revisited for selected cases.*

# Materials of Interest

- Two lots of MP800 steels considered. Lot #245 has higher elongation and a lower hardening rate than Lot #244.
- Higher cut edge fissure susceptibility in Lot #245 → centerline cracks observed in ruptured tensile specimens.

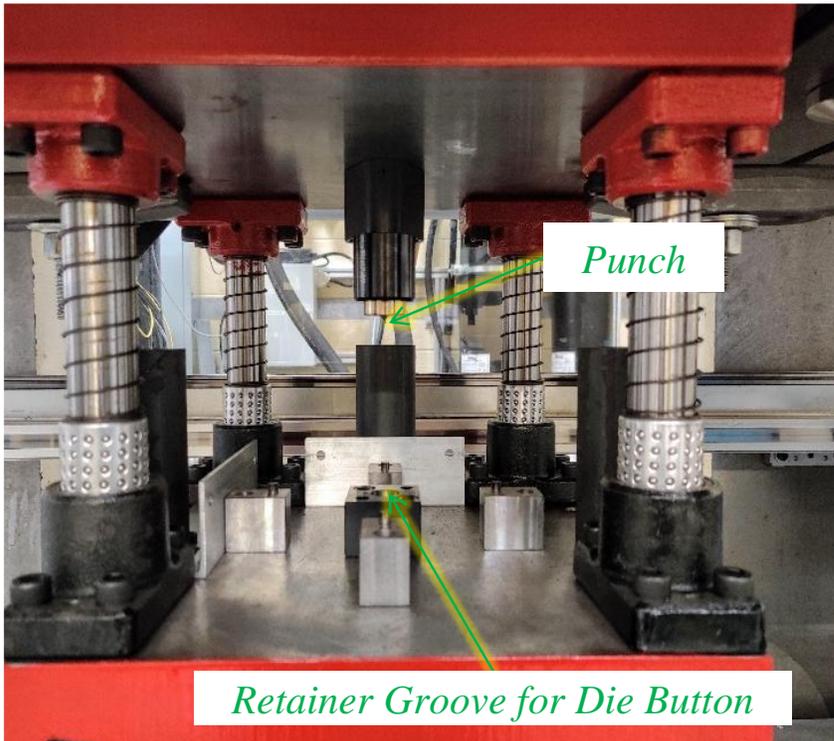


Lot #245 tensile fracture surface can correlate to edge fissure susceptibility during shearing

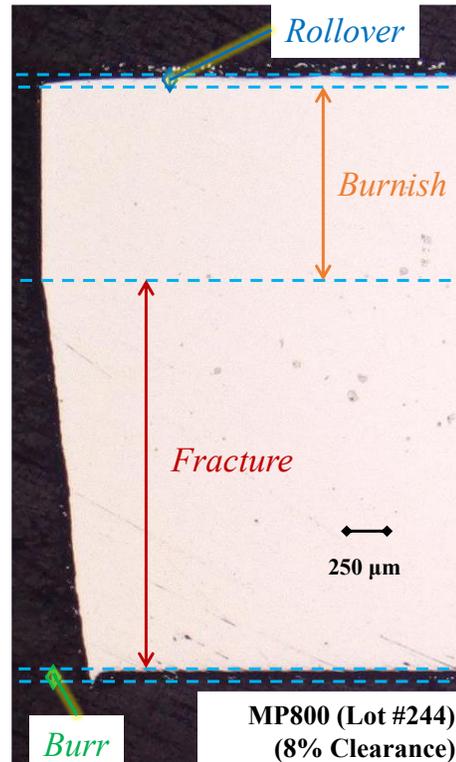
# Hole Punching Parameters & Edge Geometry

- Four clearances considered : 5%, 8%, 12%, and 20%. Hole size of 5 mm (circle or square).
- Edge profile dominated by burnish & fracture zones. Minimal rollover and burr.

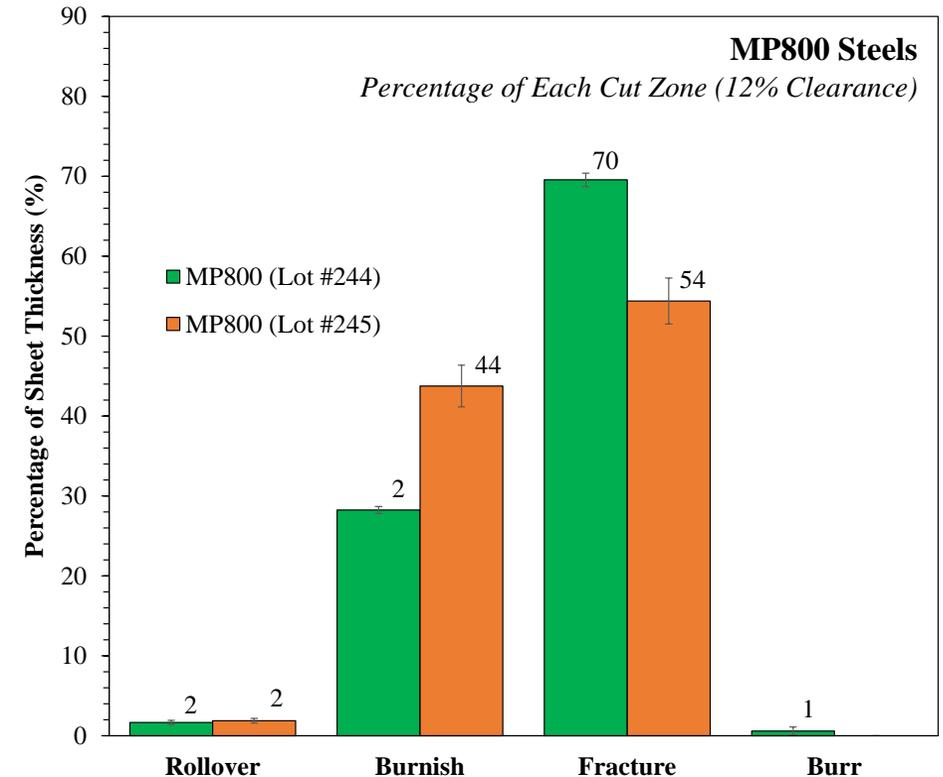
Hole Punching Tool



Sheared Edge Profile



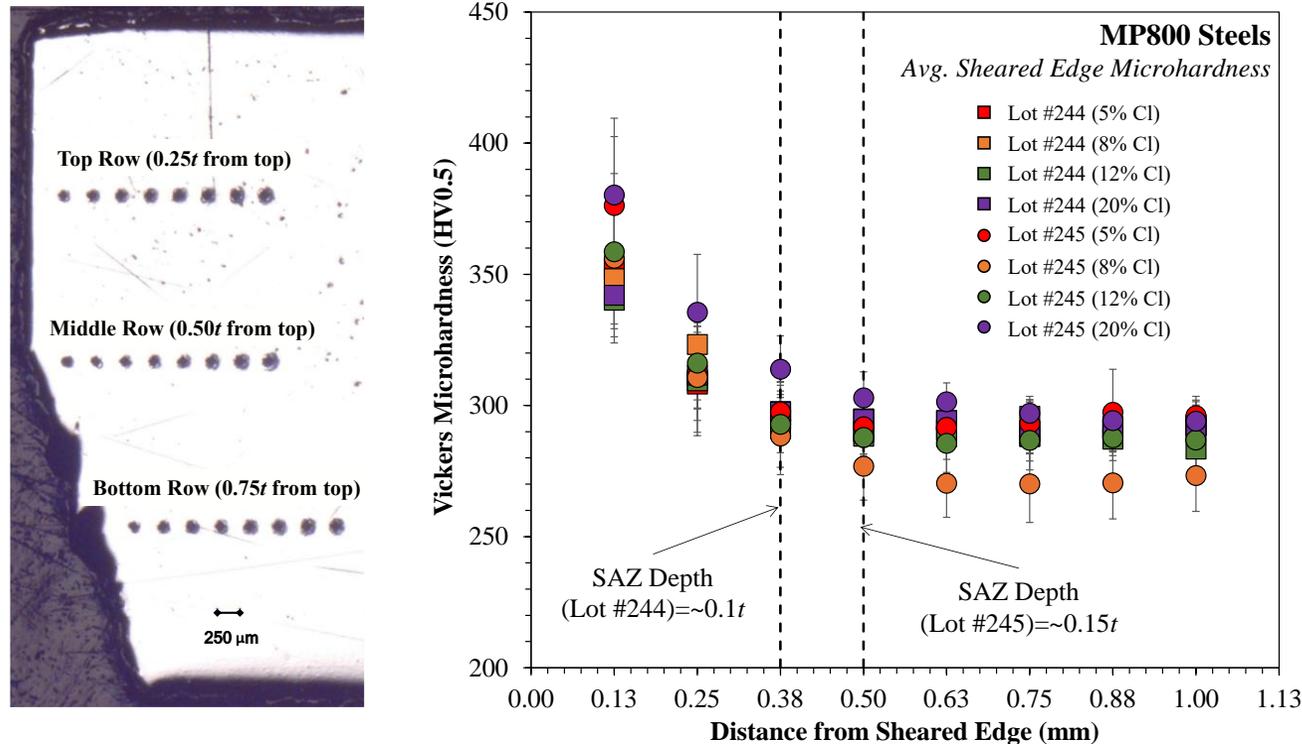
Percentage of Each Cut Zone (12% Clearance)



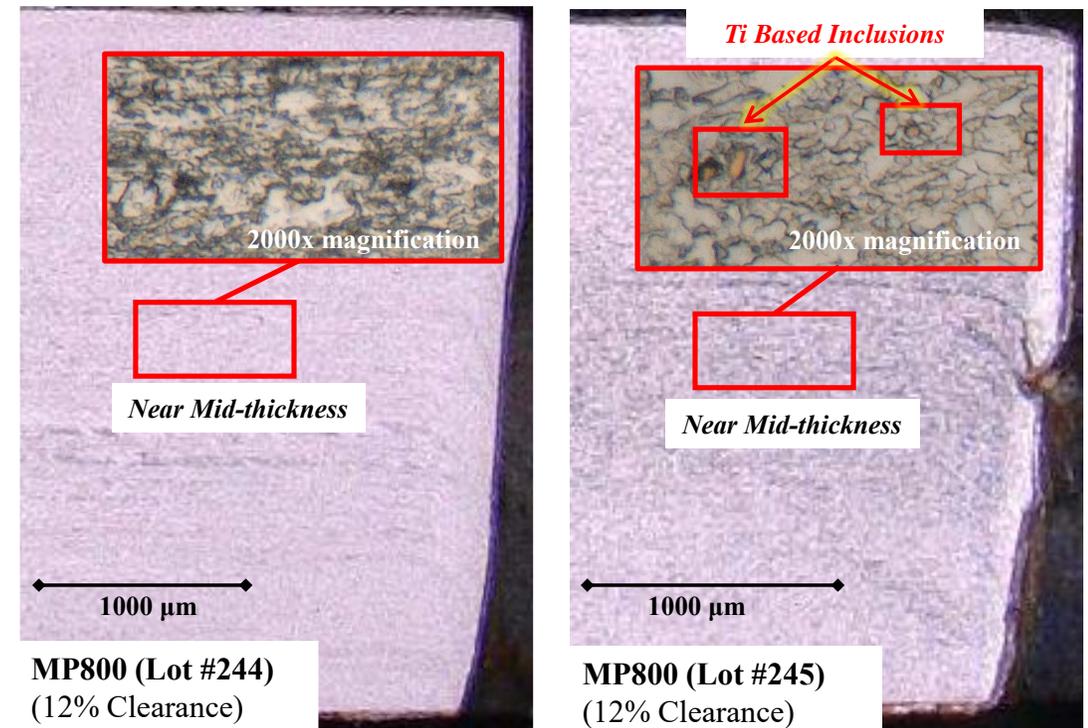
# Sheared Edge Hardness Distribution

- Average hardness of SAZ statistically similar for the two MP800 steels across all clearances.
- **Presence of Ti-based inclusions near mid-thickness observed for Lot #245 after etching.**

Variation of Avg. Hardness with Distance from Sheared Edge



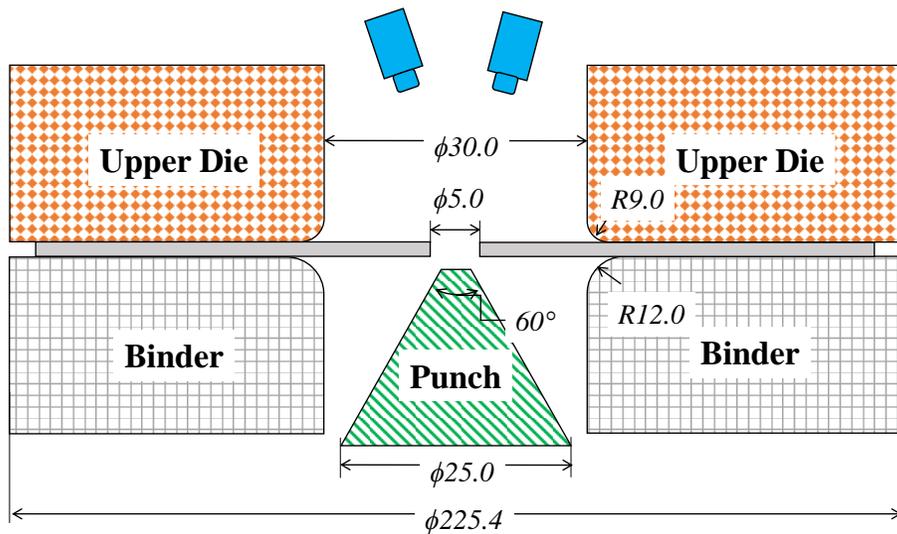
Sheared Edge Views After Etching



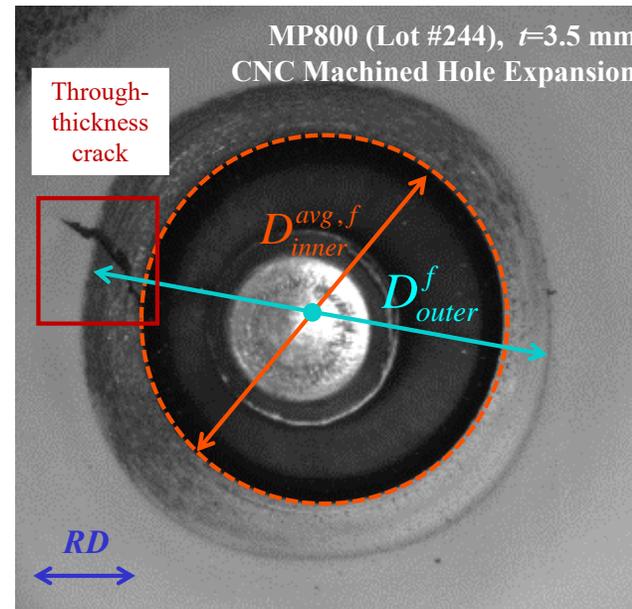
# Conical Hole Expansion (HX) Test

- Standardized sheared edge stretching test. Hole diameter of 5.0 mm adopted to reduce chances of necking.
- Test can be monitored continuously using cameras to analyze through-thickness crack image post failure.
- **Major fracture strain can be obtained from outer hole geometry without need for DIC!**

Conical Hole Expansion Setup



Measurements from Conical HX



➔ **Hole expansion ratio:**

$$HER(\%) = \left( \frac{D_{inner}^{avg,f} - D_0}{D_0} \right) \times 100$$

➔ **Major fracture strain:**

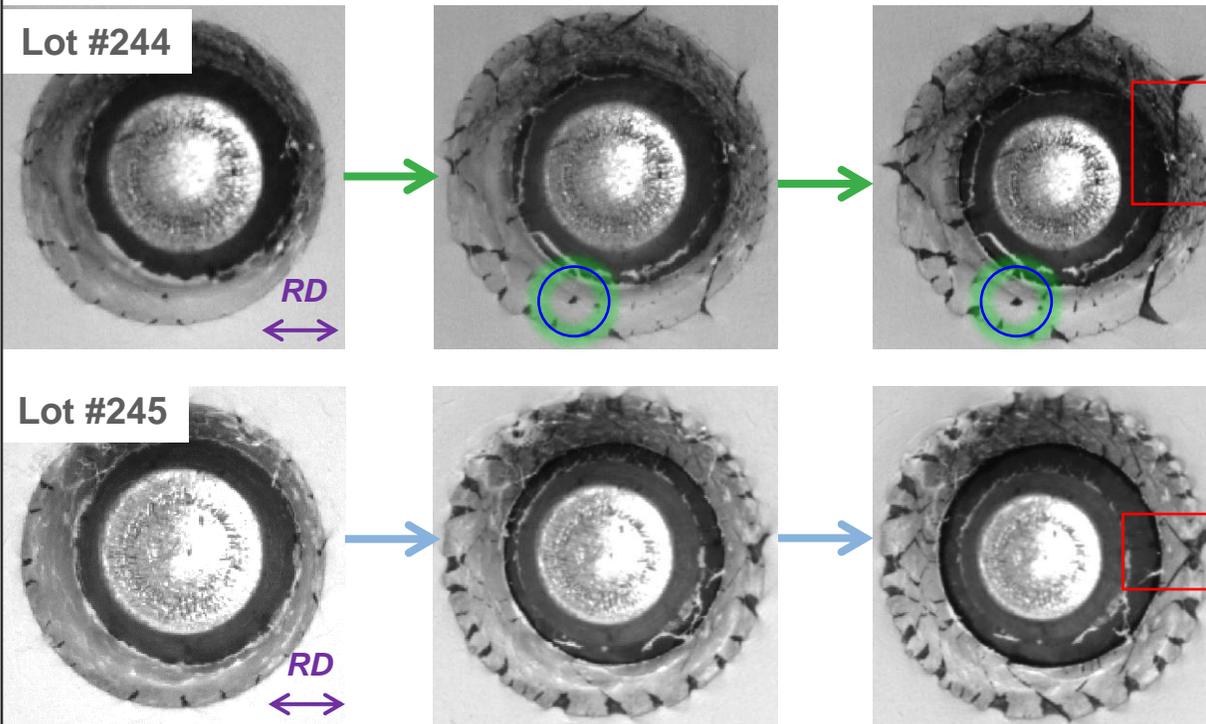
$$\epsilon_1^{HX} = \ln \left( \frac{D_{outer}^f}{D_0} \right)$$

➔ **Initial Diameter:**  $D_0 = 5.0 \text{ mm}$

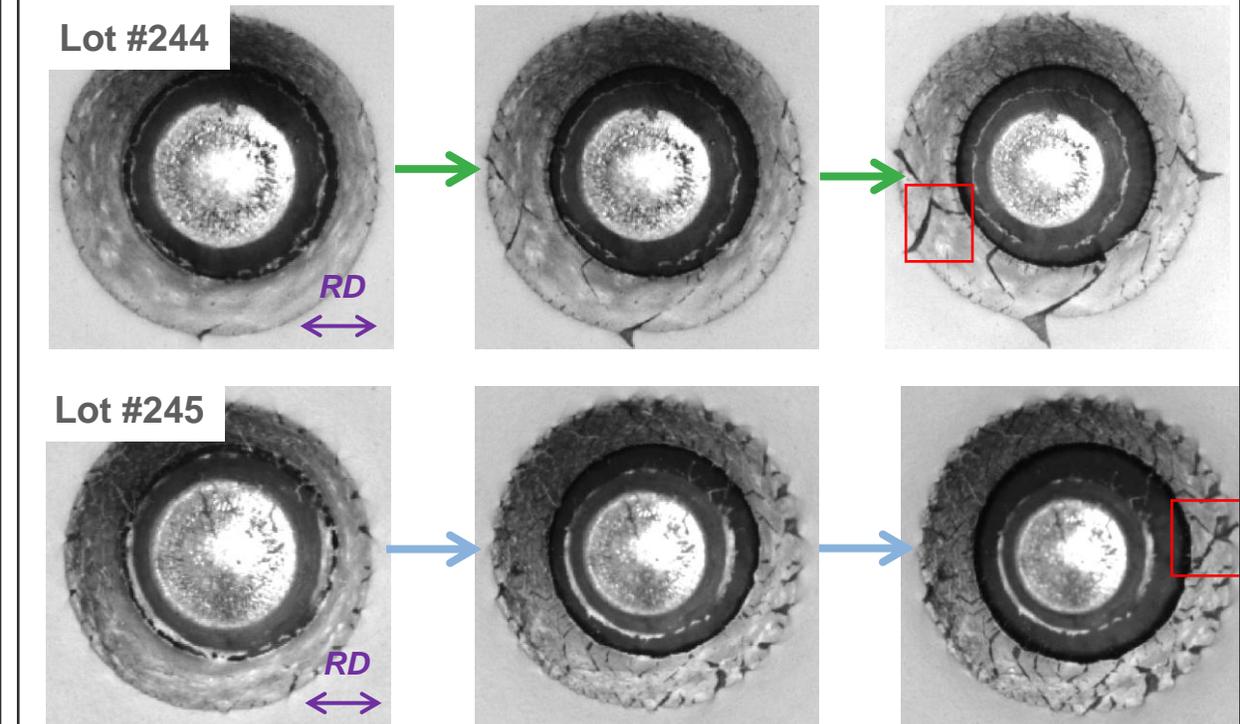
# Conical HX Deformation (5% and 8% Clearances)

- Few cracks can be observed at mid-thickness for 5% clearance for Lot #244 having lower edge fissure susceptibility.
- Cracks primarily initiated from the edges to then propagate through-thickness at 5% and 8% clearances for Lot #245.

Conical HX Crack Progression (5% Clearance)



Conical HX Crack Progression (8% Clearance)



Crack at centerline/mid-thickness

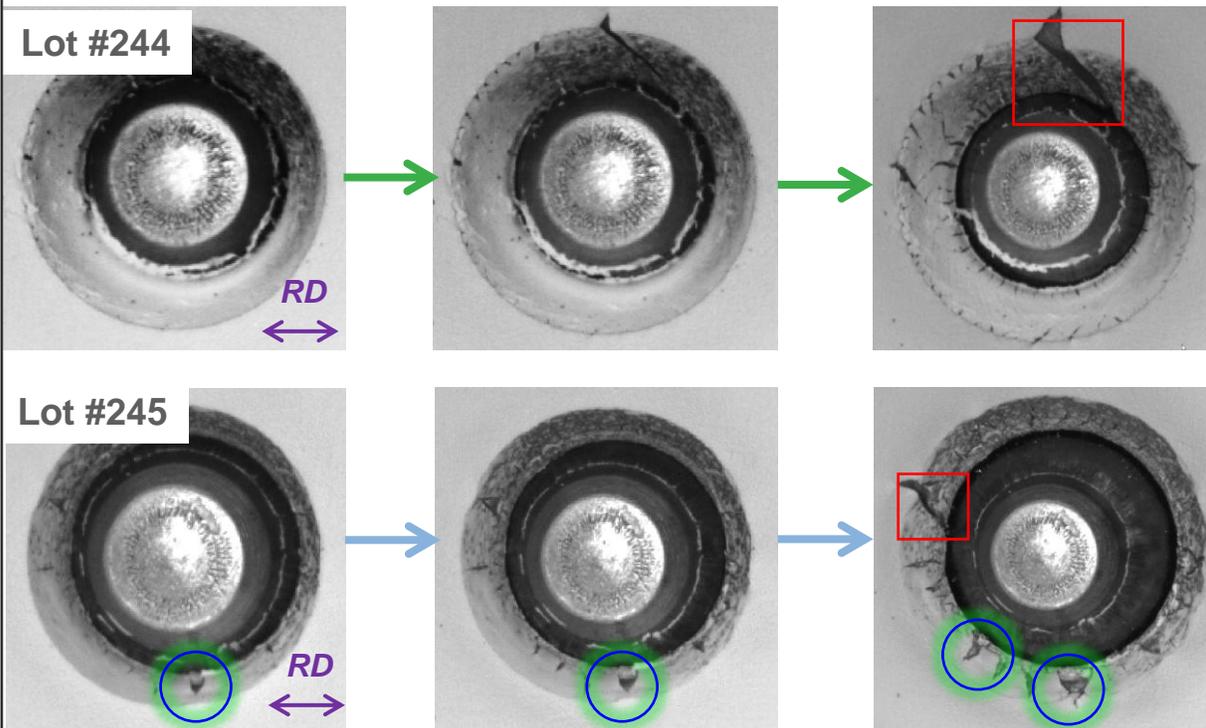


Through-thickness Crack

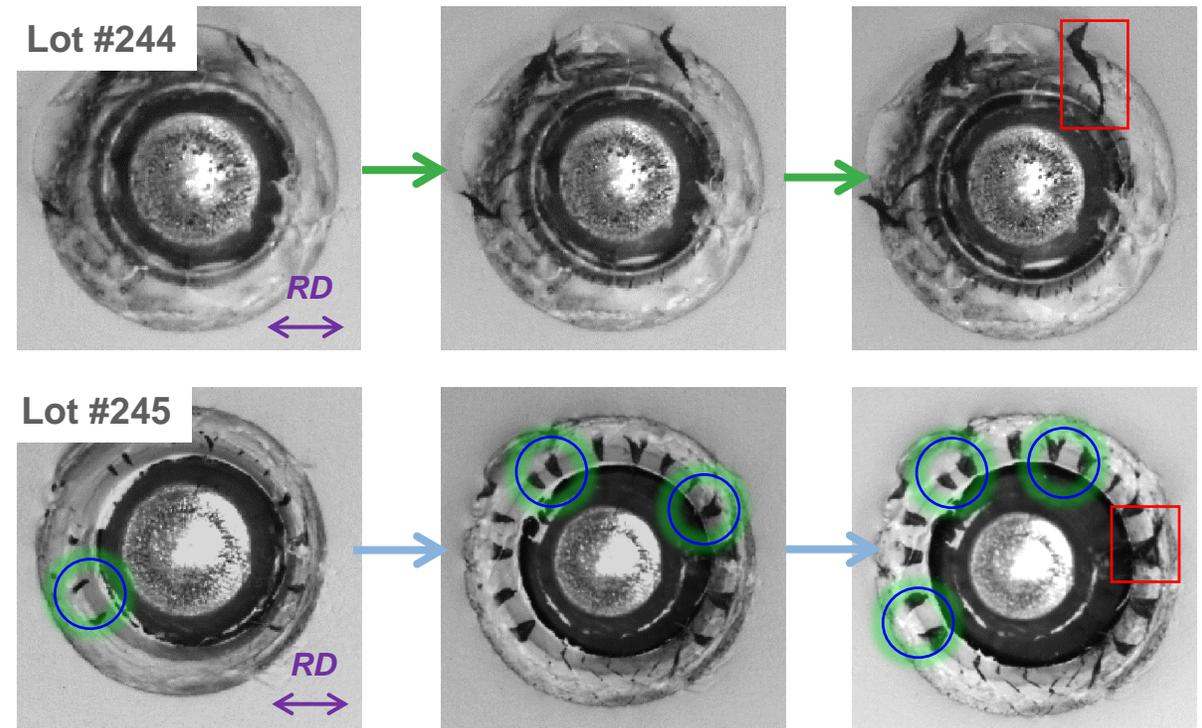
# Conical HX Deformation (12% and 20% Clearances) **GDIS**

- Several centerline cracks observed in Lot #245 during conical HX of holes punched at 12% and 20% clearances.
- No mid-thickness cracks observed during conical HX of punched Lot #244 samples except at 5% clearance.

Conical HX Crack Progression (12% Clearance)



Conical HX Crack Progression (20% Clearance)



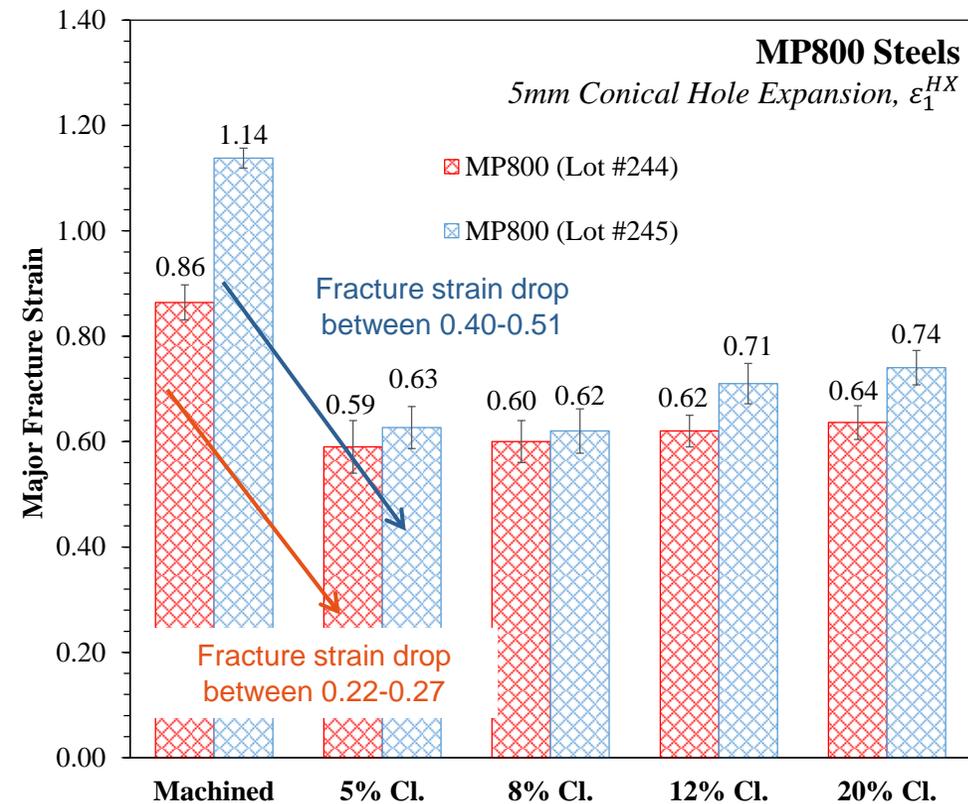
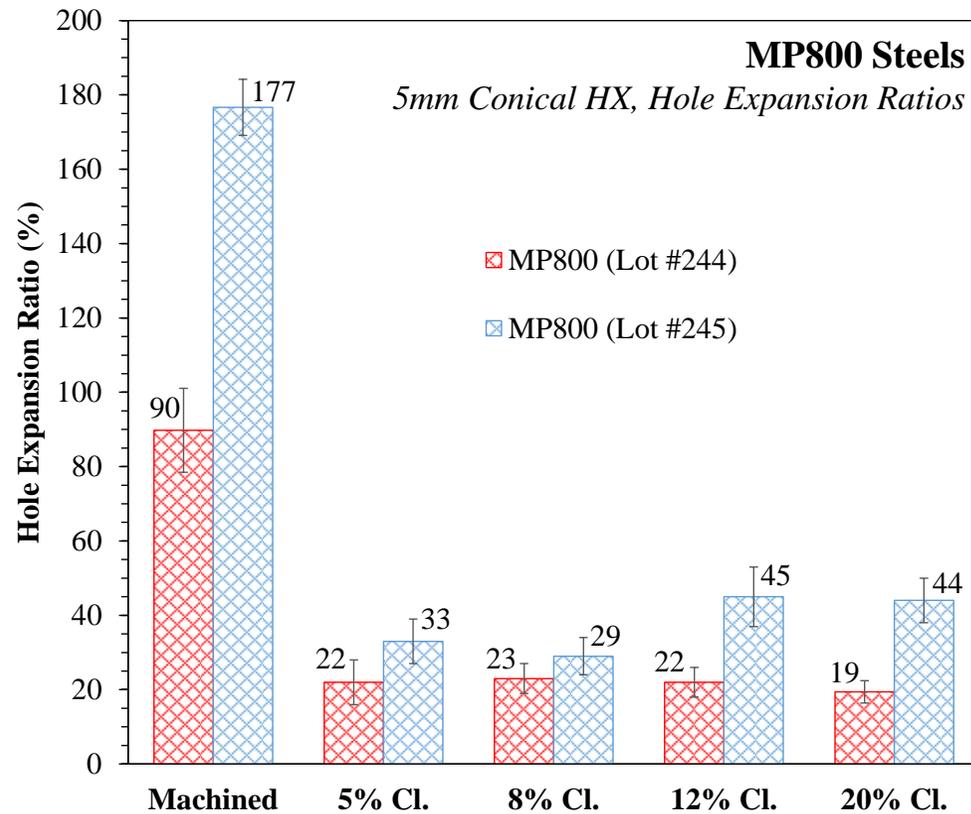
Crack at centerline/mid-thickness



Through-thickness Crack

# Conical HX: MP800 Fracture Strains

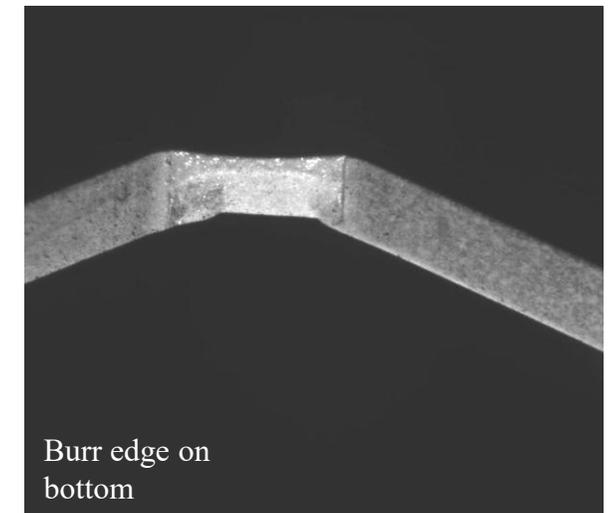
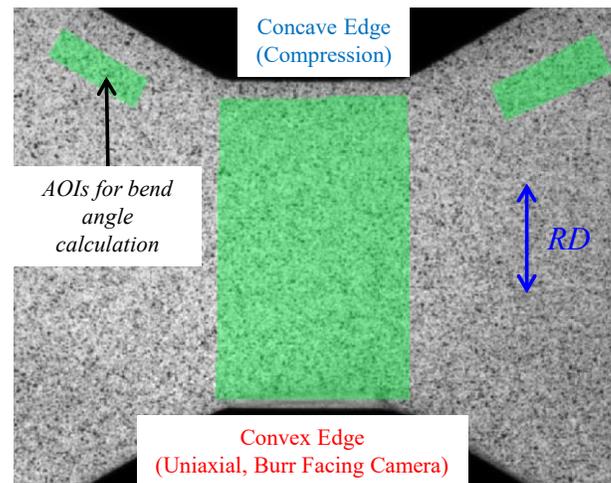
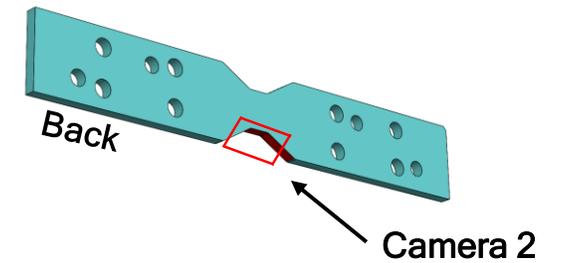
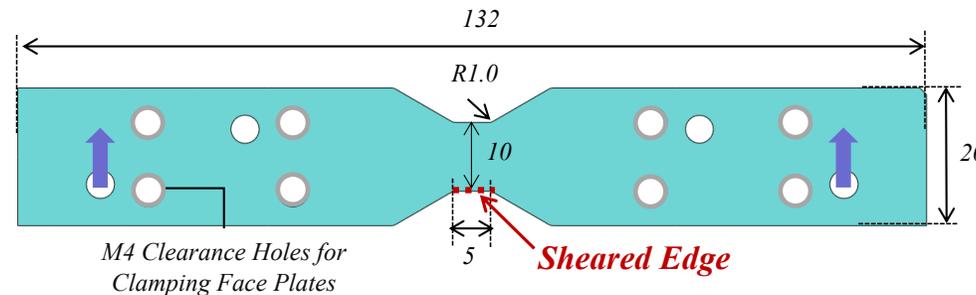
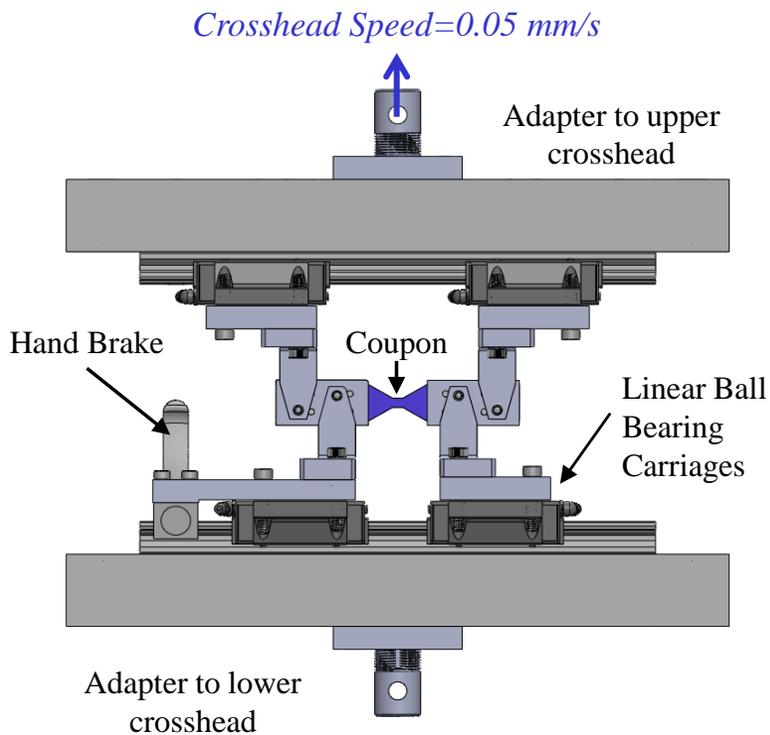
- Higher delta in HER and fracture strain observed after shearing for Lot #245.
- Negligible clearance effect for Lot #244. Lot #245 has highest fracture strains for 12% and 20% clearances.





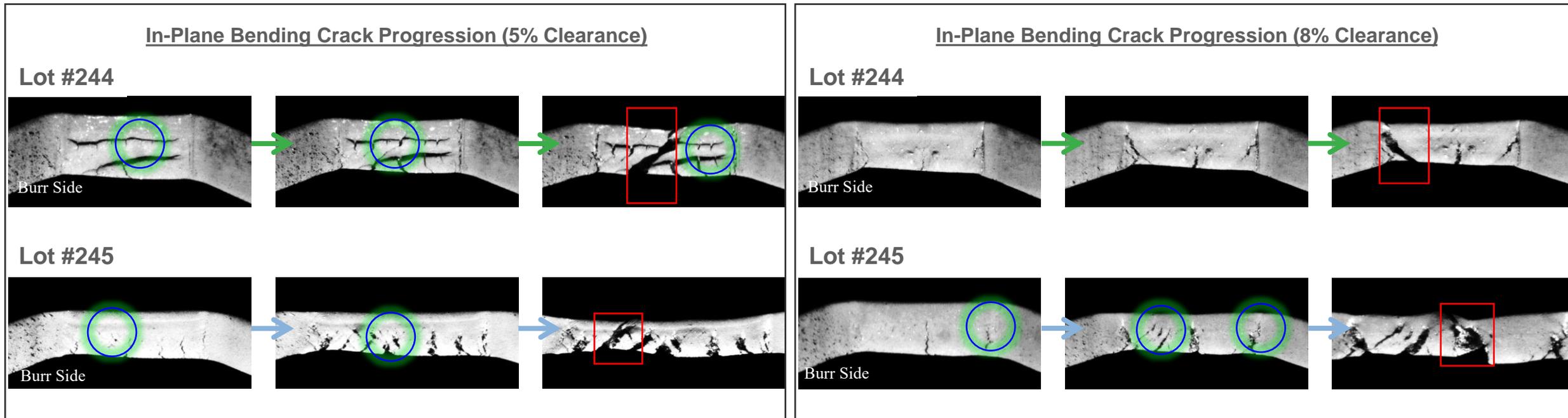
# In-Plane Bending: Test Setup

- Fixture installed on a Shimadzu AGS-X tensile frame with 10 kN load capacity. Principal stretching in TD.
- Gauge section dimensions of the specimen chosen to prevent out-of-plane buckling during deformation.
- Sheared edge placed on convex side under tension. A 2<sup>nd</sup> camera was placed underneath to monitor crack propagation.



# IPB Deformation (5% and 8% Clearances)

- Centerline crack occurrence in Lot #244 at 5% clearance → consistent with conical HX observations.
- Cracks initiate from the burr side for Lot #244 in-plane bend test conducted with 8% clearance.
- Few centerline microcracks observed for Lot #245 as well at both 5% and 8% clearances.



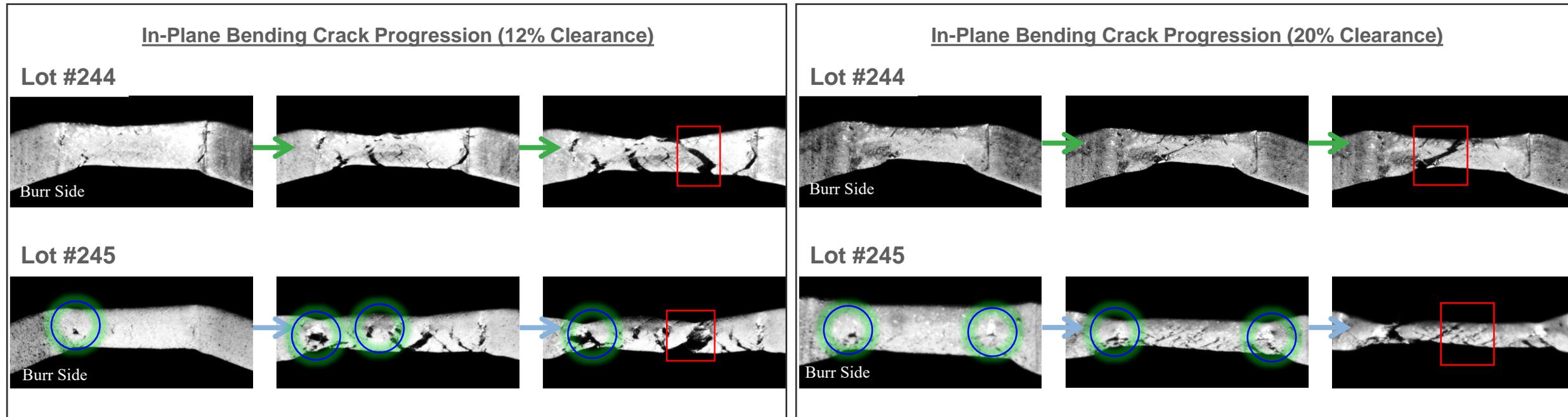
Crack at centerline/mid-thickness



Through-thickness Crack

# IPB Deformation (12% and 20% Clearances)

- Cracks initiated on the burr side in Lot #244 bend tests at 12% and 20% cl.
- Numerous cracks develop at centerline for 12% and 20% clearances for Lot #245.



Crack at centerline/mid-thickness

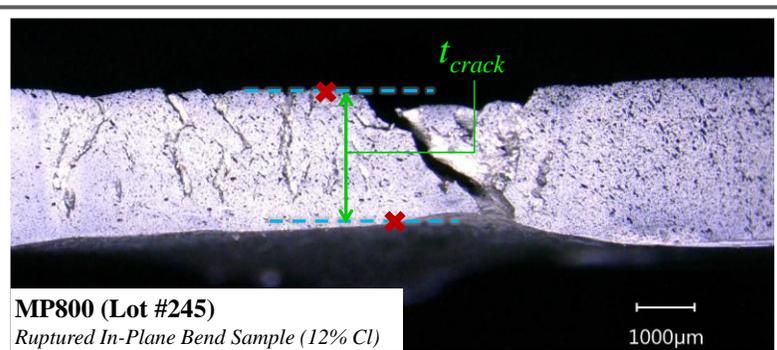


Through-thickness Crack

# In-Plane Bending: MP800 Fracture Strains

- Post-rupture thickness was converted to fracture strain to correspond to similar fracture instant as conical HX.
- Strong boundary condition effect observed for Lot #244 at 5% and 8%. Reduced sensitivity at higher clearances.
- Marginal influence of applied loading on fracture strains for Lot #245 at all clearances except 8%.

Fracture Strain from Post-Mortem Thickness



MP800 (Lot #245)  
Ruptured In-Plane Bend Sample (12% CI)

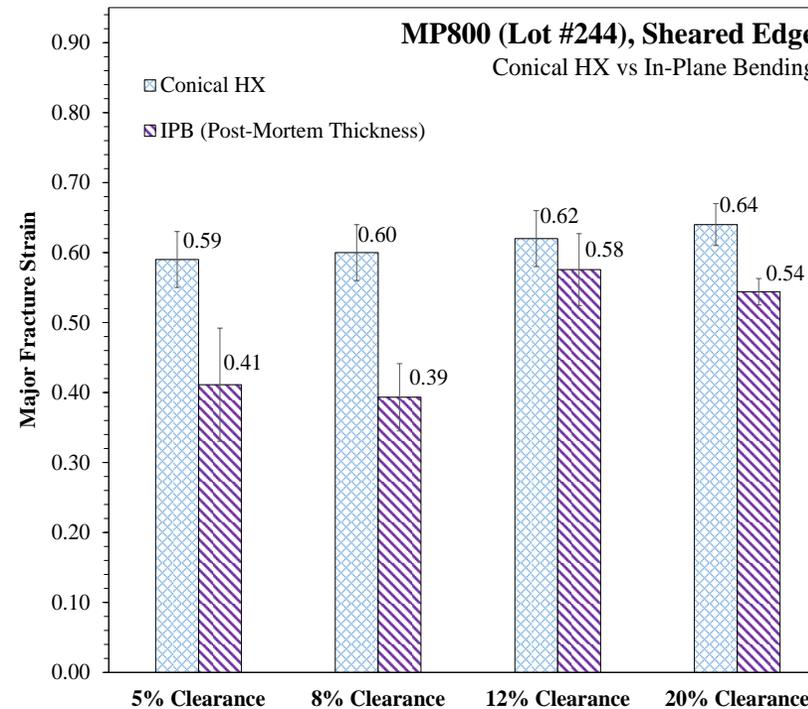
## Fracture Strain

$$\epsilon_3^{IPB} = \ln\left(\frac{t_{crack}}{t_0}\right); \epsilon_1^{IPB} = -(1 + R_{90}) \times \epsilon_3^{IPB}$$

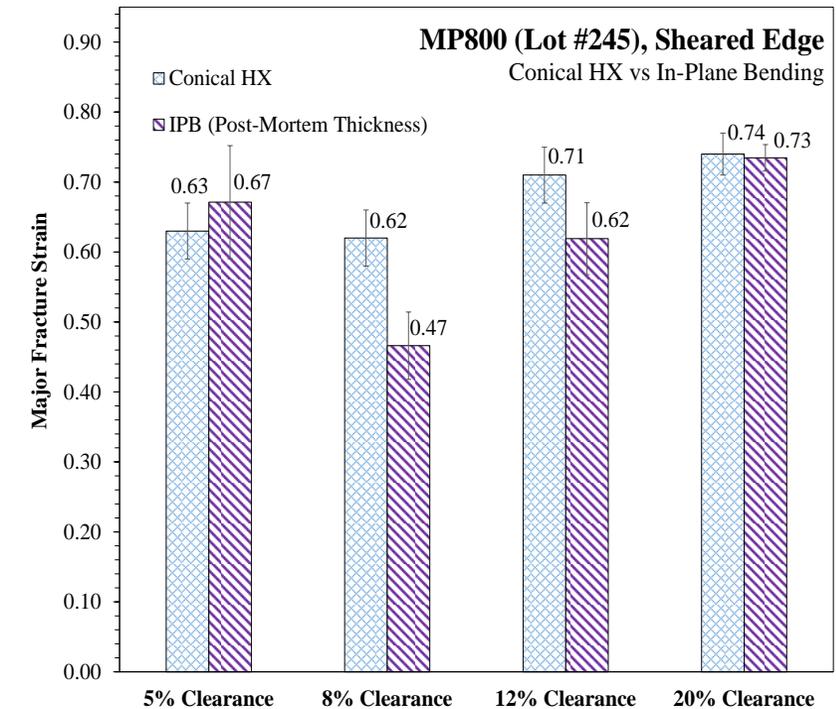
$$R_{90}(\text{MP800 Lot \#244}) = 0.76$$

$$R_{90}(\text{MP800 Lot \#245}) = 0.80$$

MP800 (Lot #244) Fracture Strains



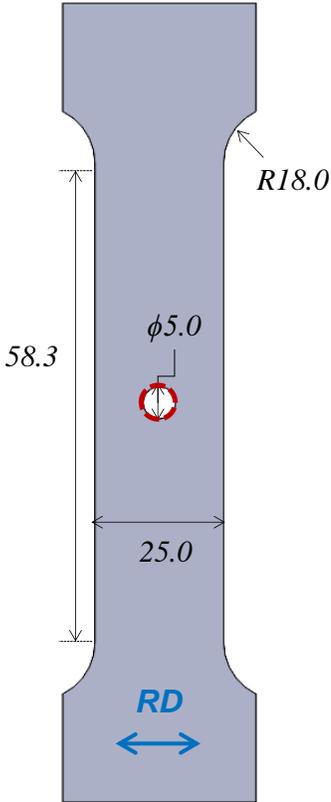
MP800 (Lot #245) Fracture Strains



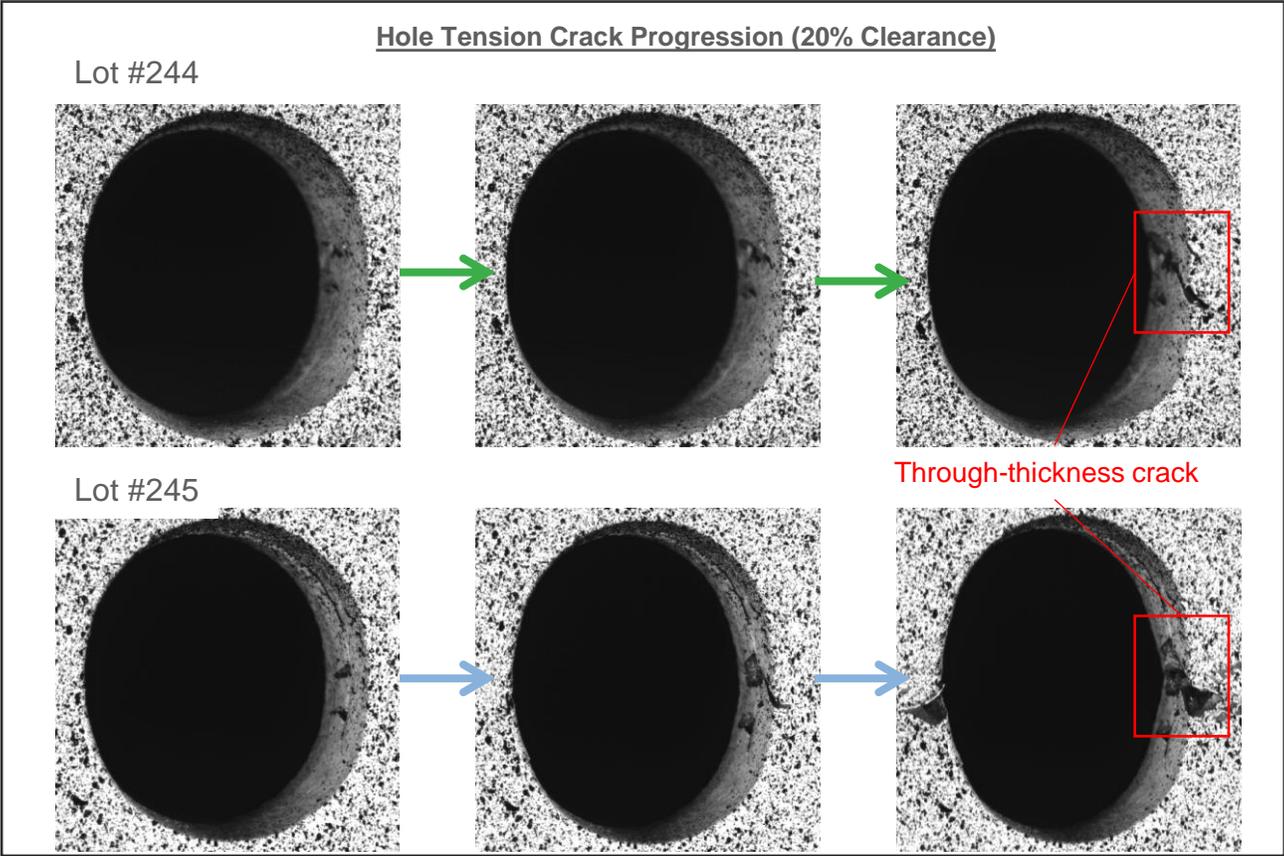
# Hole Tension Test (HTT): 12% Clearance

- Unidirectional stretching of the hole. Tests conducted at 12% clearance since centerline cracks were seen in Lot #245.
- Cracks appear to initiate near the mid-thickness for both materials followed by gradual propagation.

Hole Tension Geometry



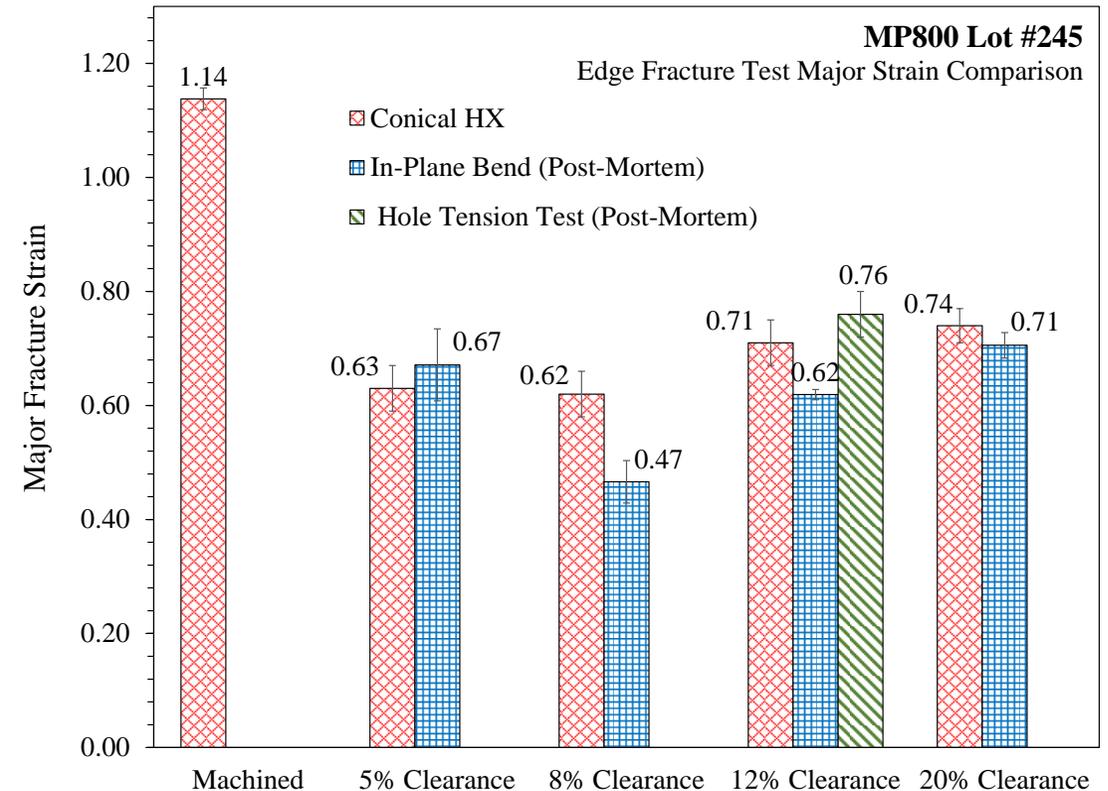
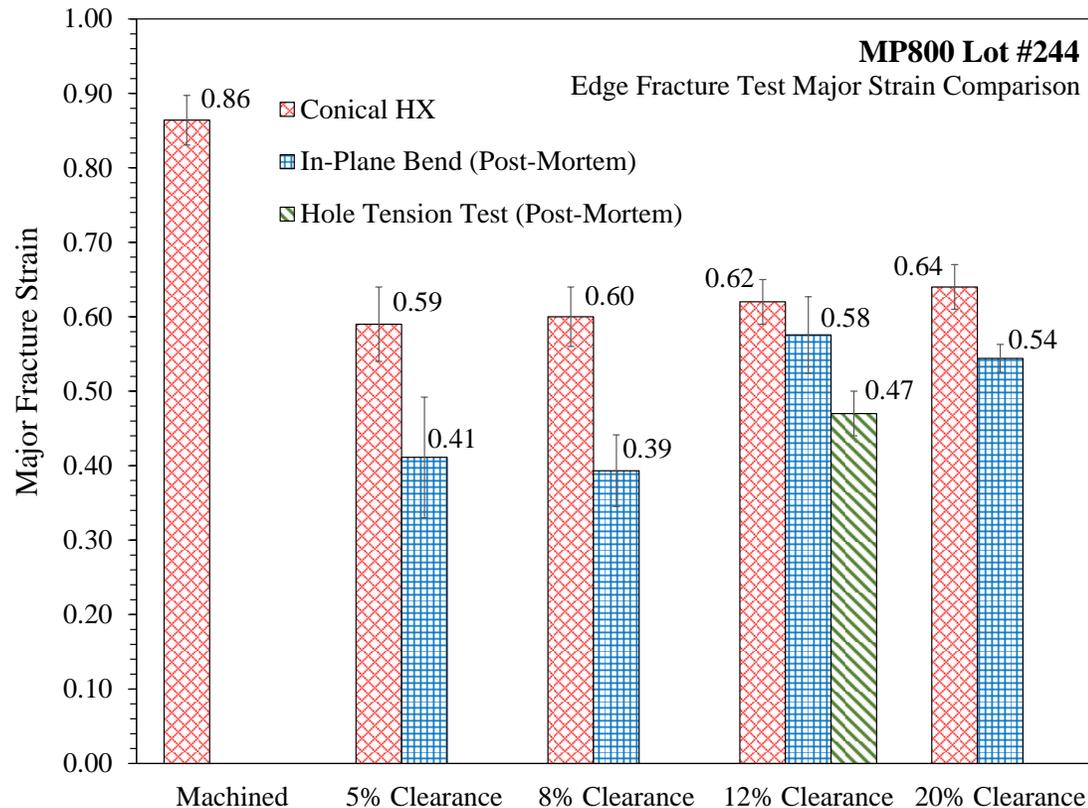
Hole Tension Crack Progression (20% Clearance)



# Fracture Strain Summary: Boundary Condition Effect

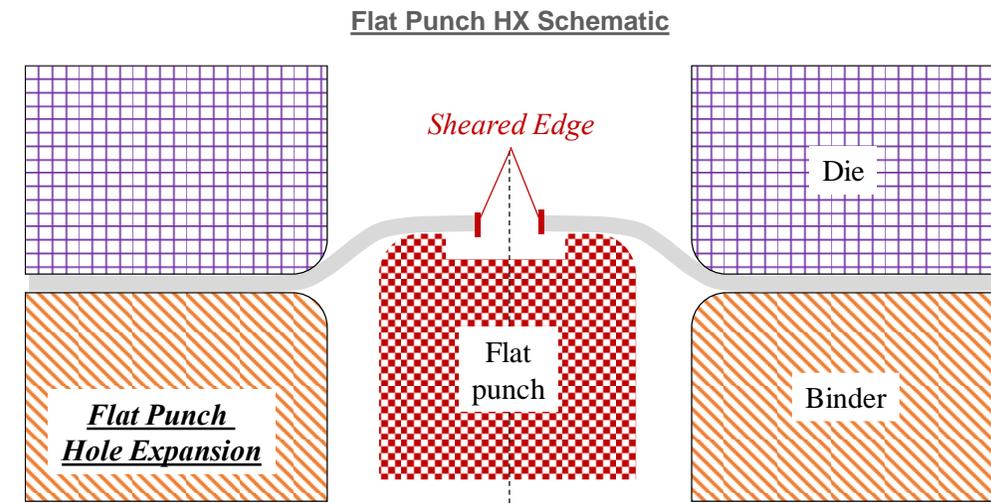
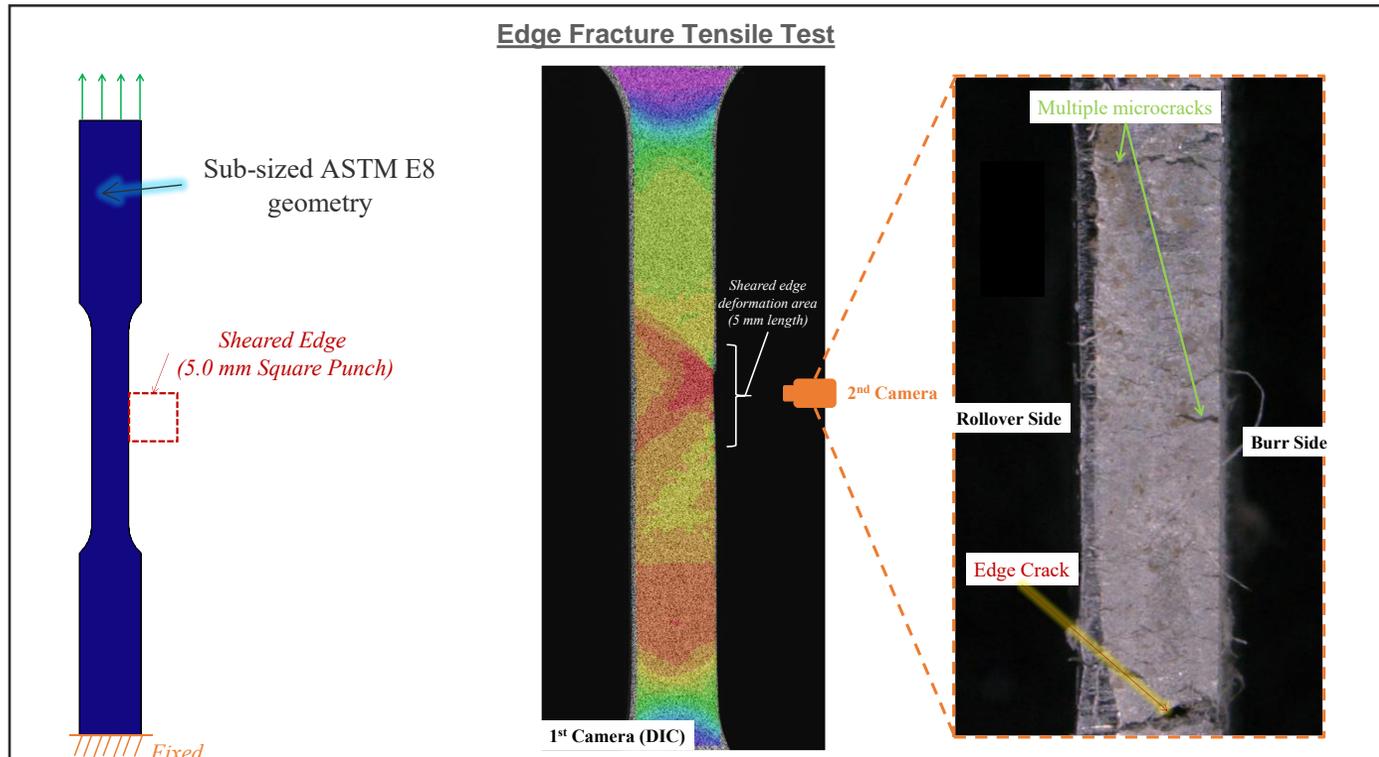


- HTT fracture strains also measured using post-mortem thickness. Tests compared at through-thickness rupture.
- Hole tension fracture strains similar to conical HX and in-plane bending for Lot #245.
- **Significant sensitivity to test type observed for Lot #244 at 12% clearance. Strong boundary condition effect!**



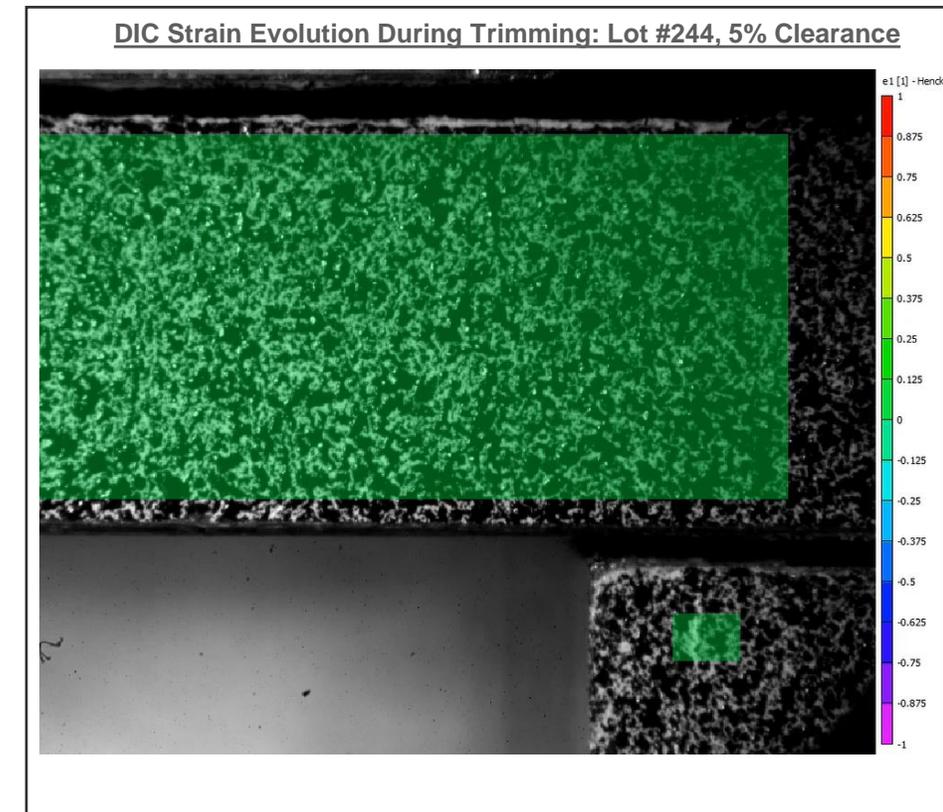
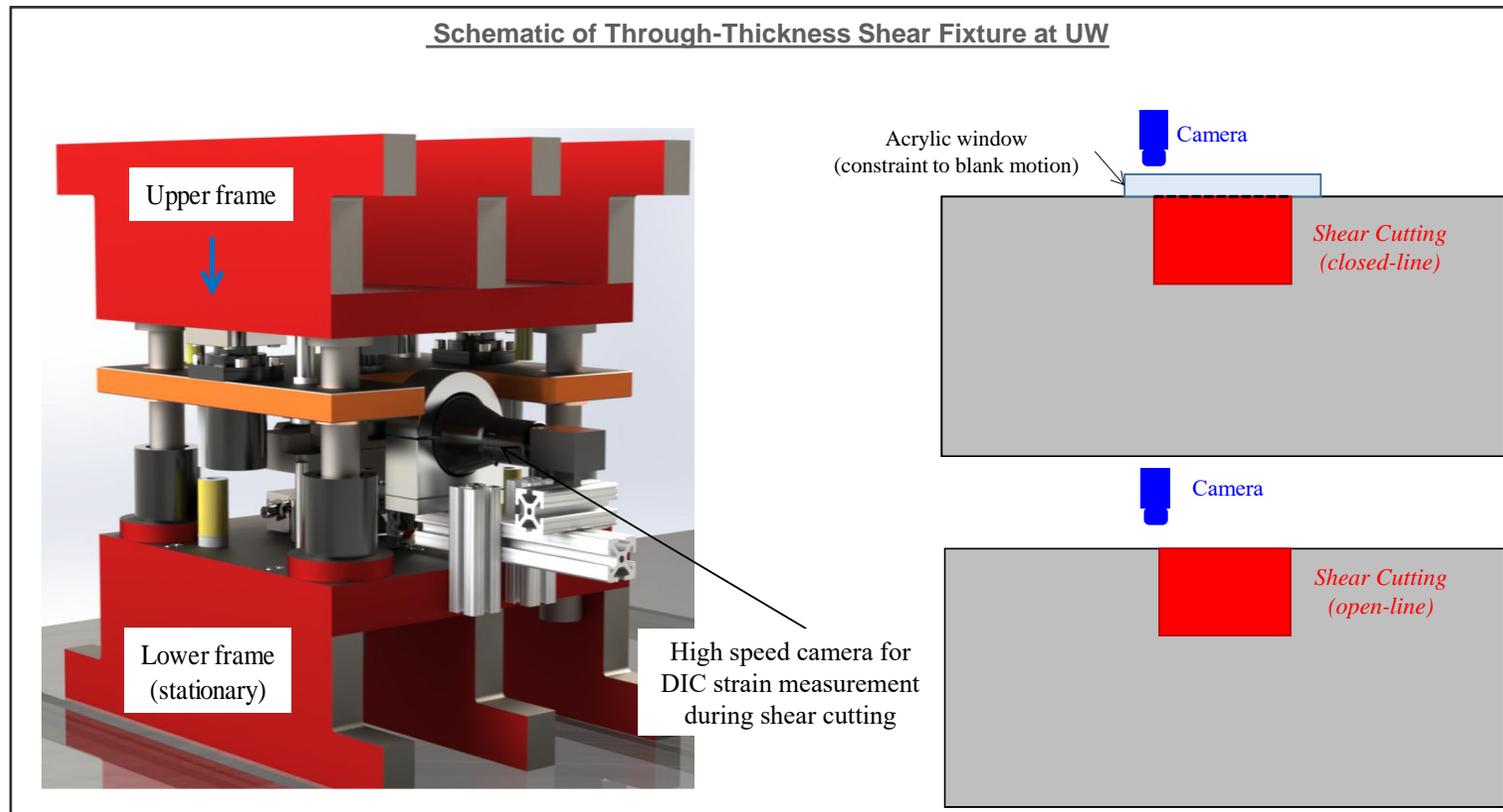
# Next Steps on MP800 Edge Stretchability

- Additional clearances such as 2%, 10%, and 30% will be considered for select edge fracture characterization tests.
- Edge fracture tensile test and flat punch HX will be conducted at clearances with lowest and highest edge formability.
- **Output: Assess influence of stress and strain gradients in the SAZ on edge fracture strain at multiple clearances.**



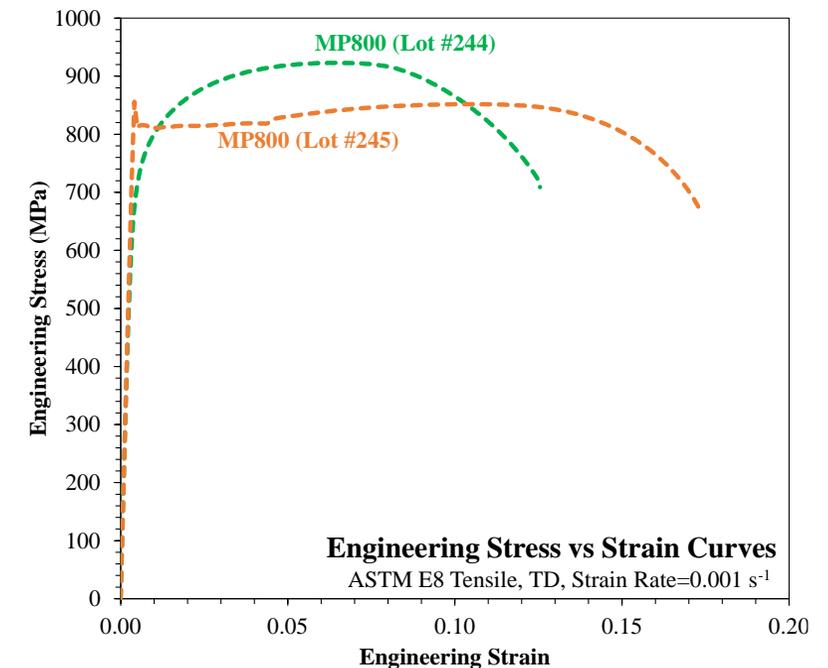
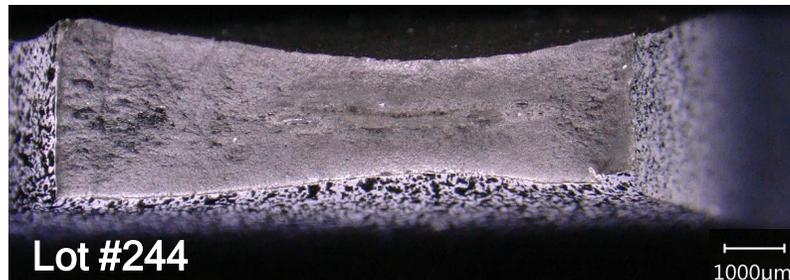
# Future Work

- Influence of trimming vs punching and tool wear on cut edge fissure generation and edge stretchability.
- Experimental measurement and numerical modelling of strains induced during shear cutting.
- SAZ mapping and evaluation of FE simulations of edge stretching using software like LS-DYNA and Autoform.



# Summary

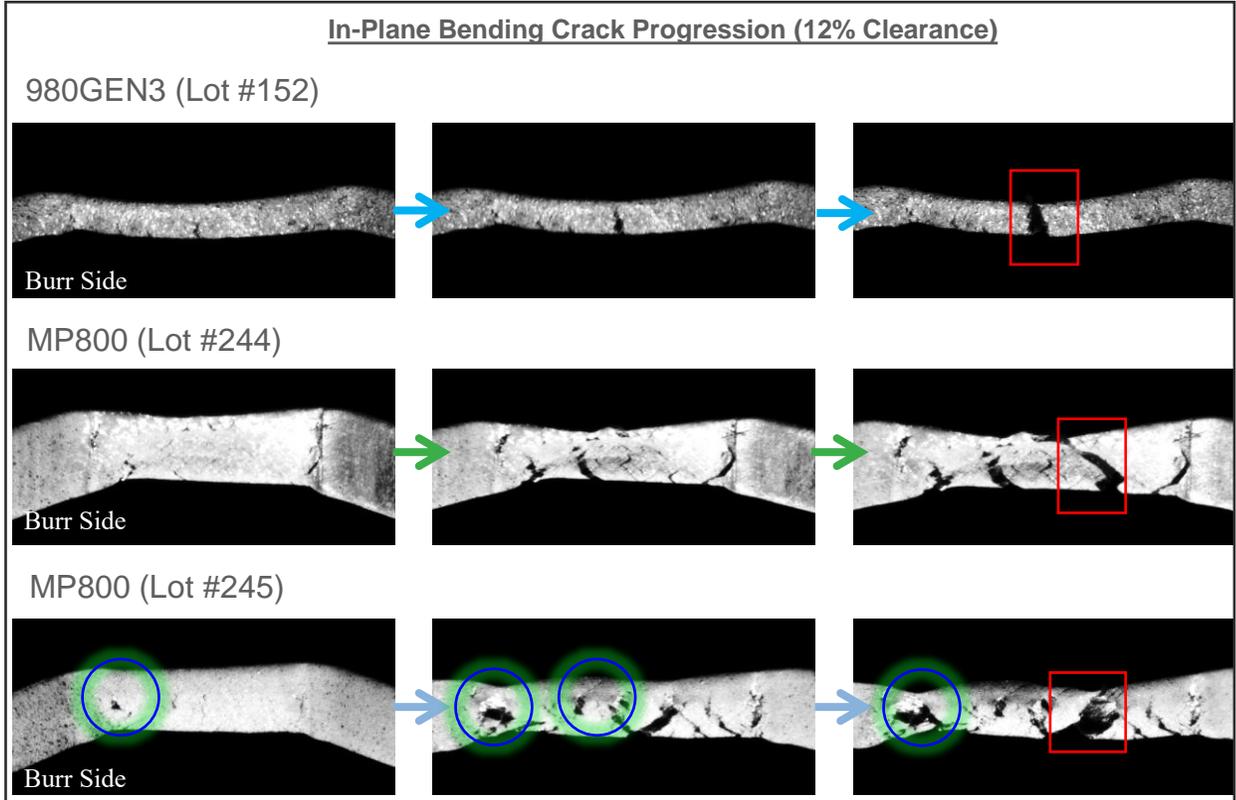
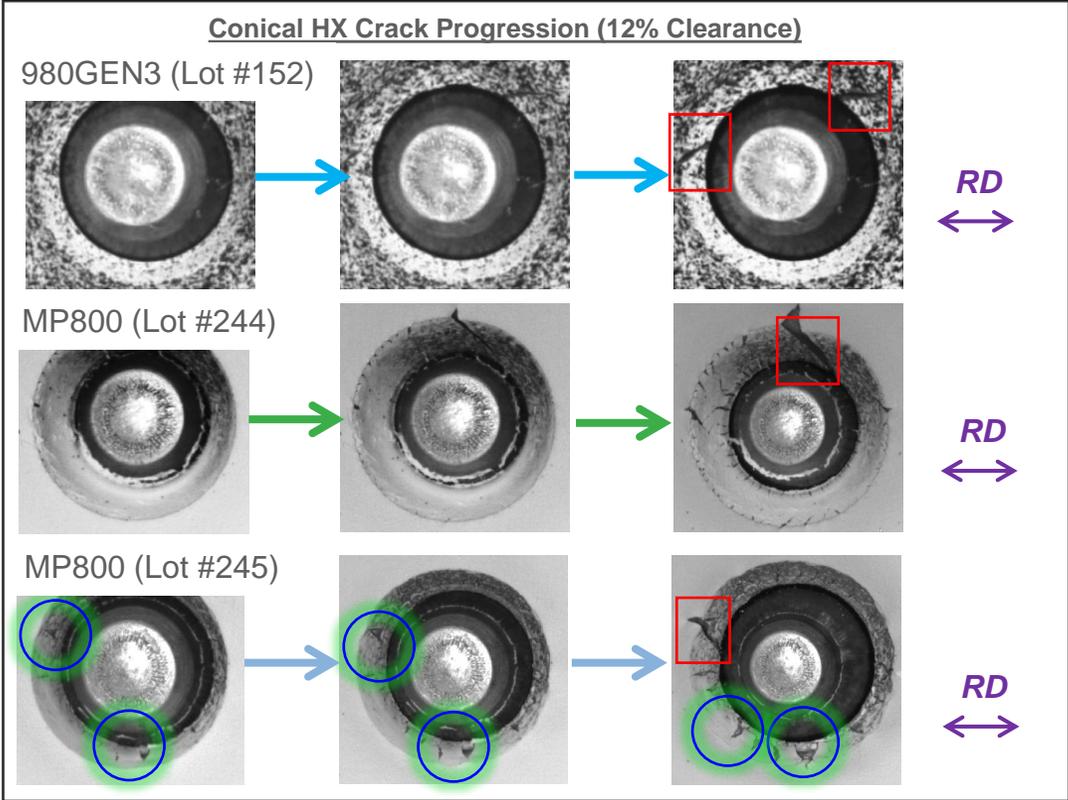
- Tensile fracture surface and stretching of edges sheared at 12% or higher promoted centerline cracks in Lot #245.
- Lot #245 possessed similar or higher fracture strain than Lot #244 due to its larger elongation and low hardening rate.
- **Strong sensitivity of fracture strains to test type observed in Lot #244. Relatively smaller influence in Lot #245.**



# Crack Evolution Comparison with 980GEN3 Steel



- Crack evolution behavior of the two steels contrasted with 980GEN3 having no cut edge fissure at 12% clearance.
- Cracks initiated from tensile edge observed for 980GEN3 steel regardless of the test type.



Crack at centerline/mid-thickness



Through-thickness Crack

# For More Information



Name: Advait Narayanan

Company: University of Waterloo

Email: [anadvait@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:anadvait@uwaterloo.ca)

Name: Cliff Butcher

Company: University of Waterloo

Email: [cbutcher@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:cbutcher@uwaterloo.ca)

Name: Jonathan Smith

Company: Auto/Steel Partnership

Email: [jsmith@a-sp.org](mailto:jsmith@a-sp.org)

Name: Eric McCarty

Company: Auto/Steel Partnership

Email: [emccarty@a-sp.org](mailto:emccarty@a-sp.org)

Name: Dean Kanelos

Company: Nucor Corporation

Email: [dean.kanelos@nucor.com](mailto:dean.kanelos@nucor.com)

Name: Vince Millioto

Company: MartinRea

Email: [vince.millioto@martinrea.com](mailto:vince.millioto@martinrea.com)