



**POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO**

**DIMEAS**

**Department of Mechanical  
and Aerospace Engineering**

**ScuDo**

Scuola di Dottorato ~ Doctoral School

WHAT YOU ARE, TAKES YOU FAR

**Aims, actual results and future plans**

# **Design methodology for automotive steel wheels**

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**PoliTo scholarship without topic  
for Ph.D. Mechanical Engineering XXXIV programme**



 **Fraunhofer**  
ITWM

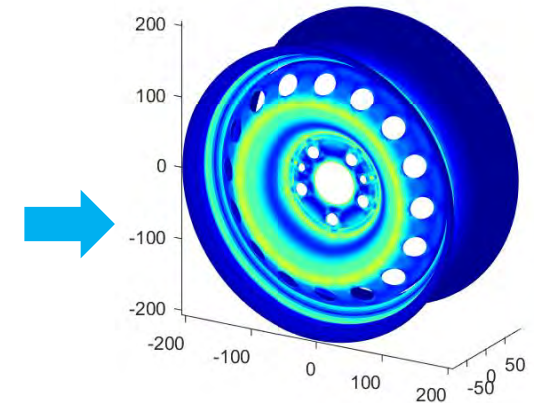
## Objective

### Development of predictive model for steel wheel behaviour

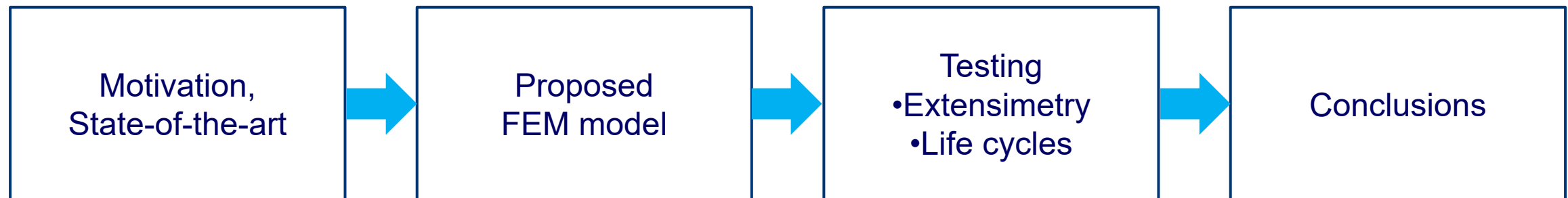
- failure prediction of automotive steel wheels during fatigue tests
- effect of pre-stresses
  - interference fit
  - bolt tightening
  - tyre-rim interaction



**Hardware test-rig**

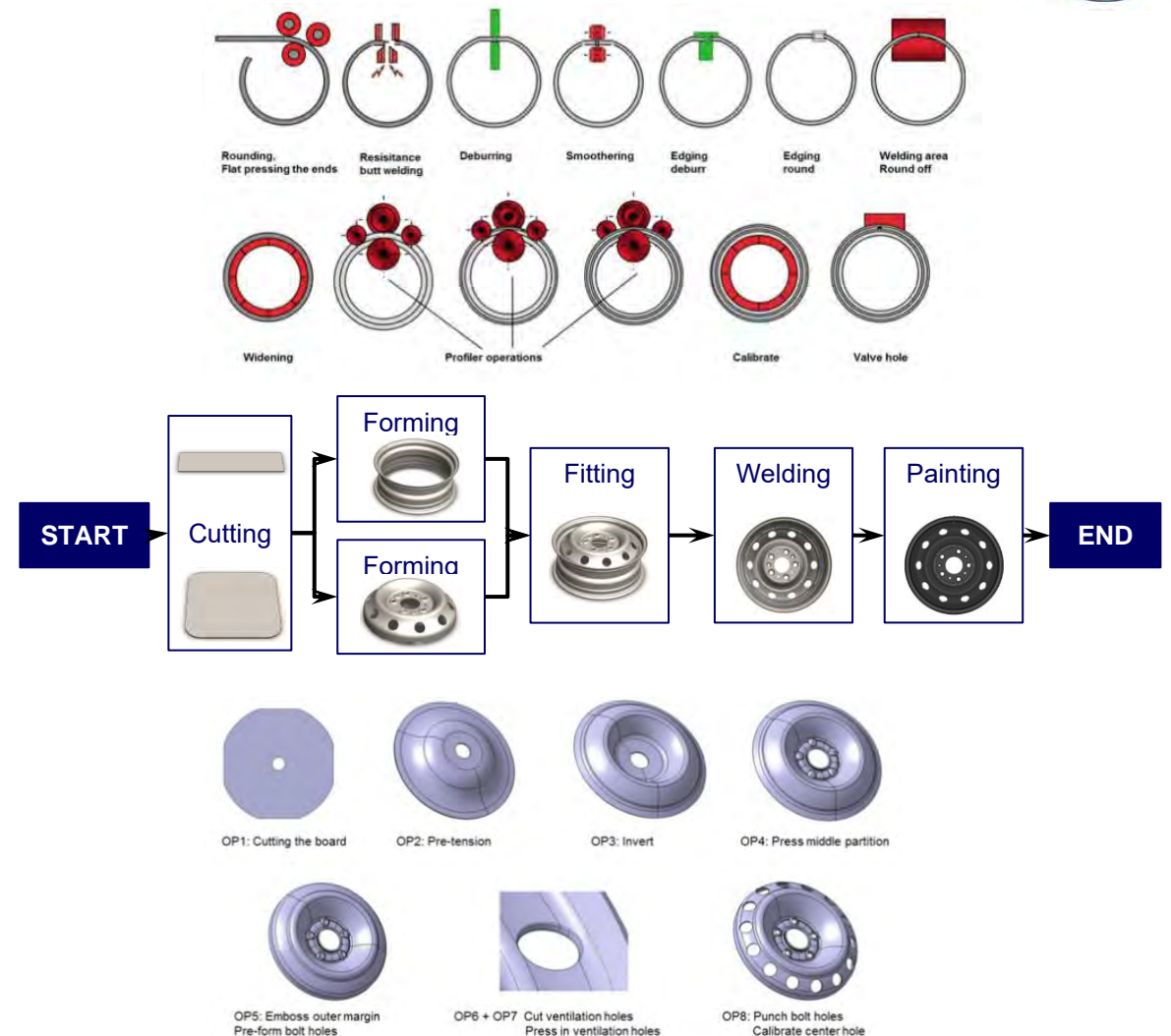


**Virtual test-rig**



## Automotive steel wheel

- Optimised but complex geometry
- Steel based (disc -> DP, rim -> HSLA)
- Lightweight (vent holes)
- Residual stresses (production, assembly by press-fit)



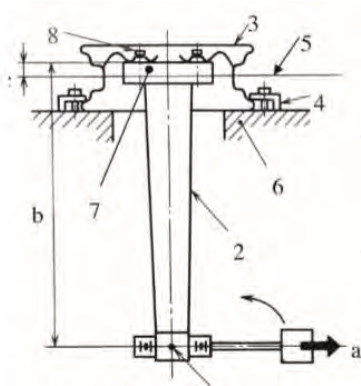


## Fatigue tests

### Dynamic cornering



**SAE J328**

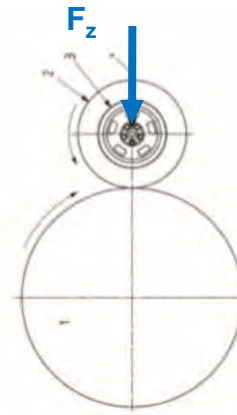


- Bending moment
- ~ hours

### Radial



**SAE J328**

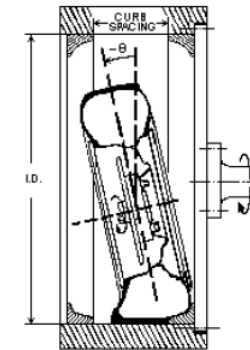


- Tyre contribution
- Vertical load
- (Lateral load)
- (Slip angle)
- ~ hours, days

### Biaxial



**SAE J2562**

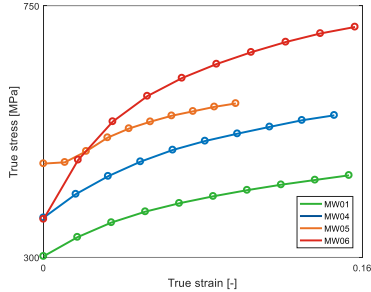


- Tyre contribution
- Vertical load
- Lateral load
- Camber angle
- Overturning moment
- Definitely days

Complexity, Level of details, Industrial demand, ...

# Methodology

## Virtual test-rig



### Abaqus® FE model

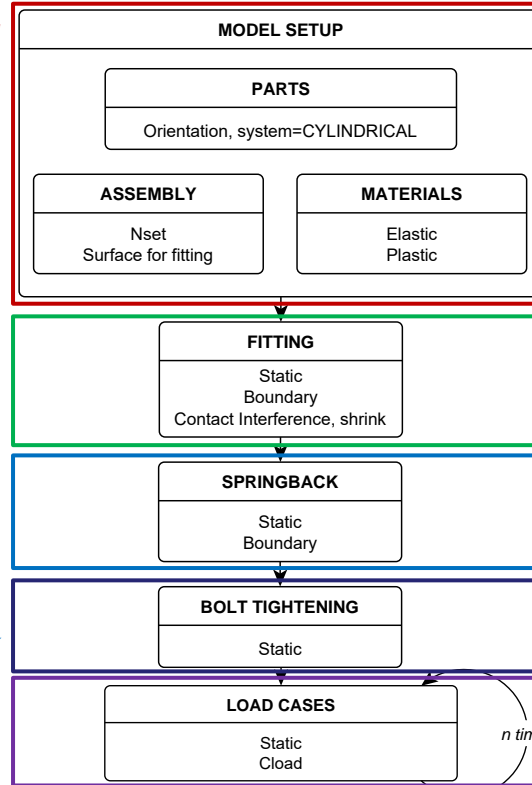
- shell elements
- elasto/plastic behaviour

### Interference by strain-free geometry deformation

- overclosure solved by minimum strain
- correct disc offset

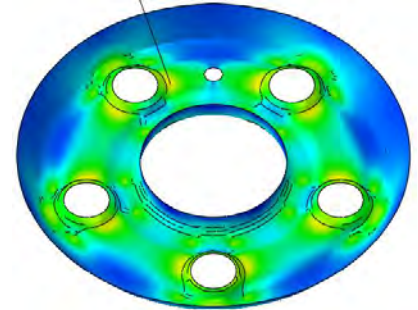
### Springback

- remove residual elastic stresses



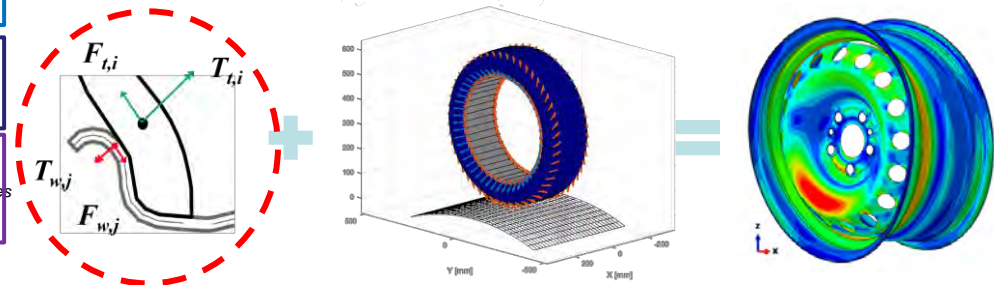
### Bolt tightening

- add pre-stress
- bolt hole plastic behaviour



### Load cases

- quasi-static simulations
- loads acting on flange nodes
- ITWM WheelTestRig reactions to the rim



### Life assessment

- McDiarmid criterion (Damage Factor)
- extensimetry

**CRITICAL**

## Post-processing

- Uncertain strain gages location and orientation
- Experimental data not synchronised

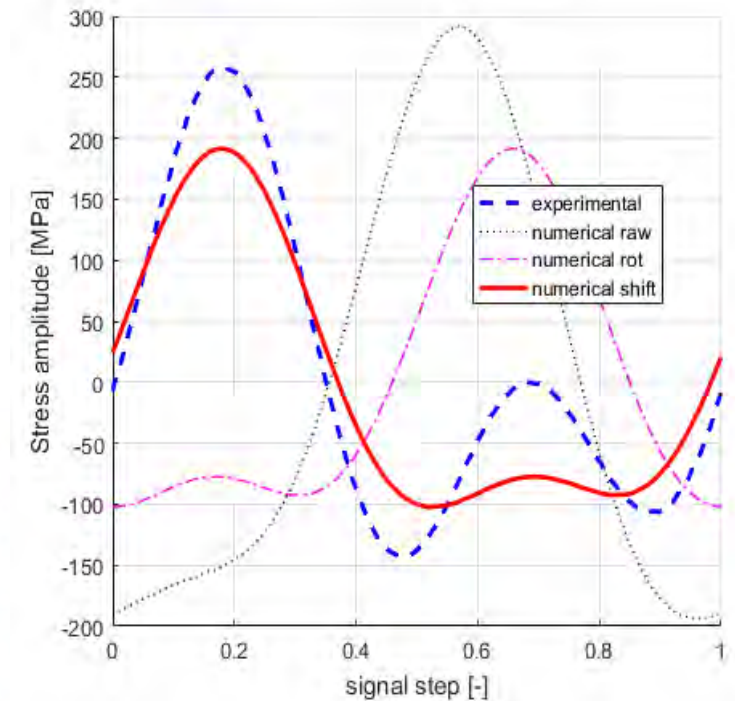
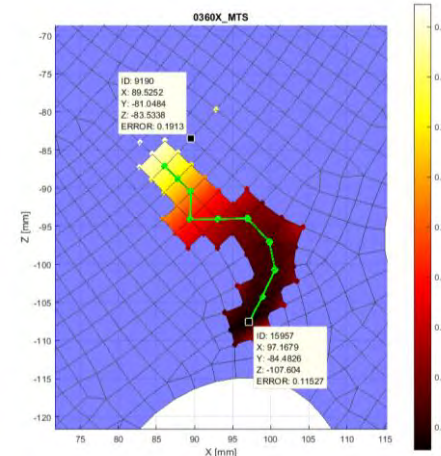
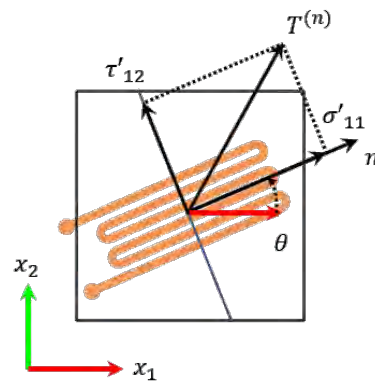
Minimisation problem:

- Strain gage orientation
- delay between exp. and num. stress history



Gradient method:

- Strain gage location

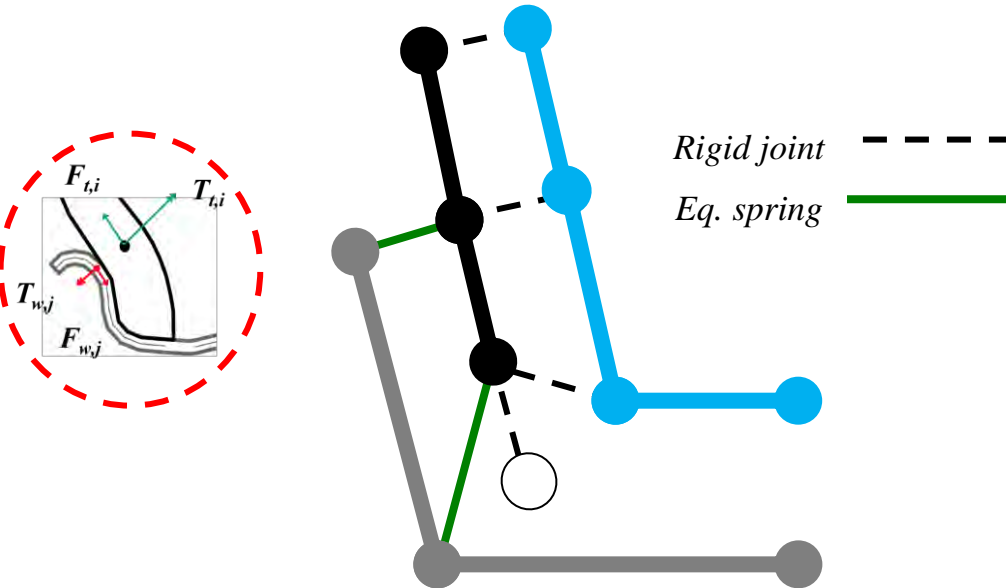




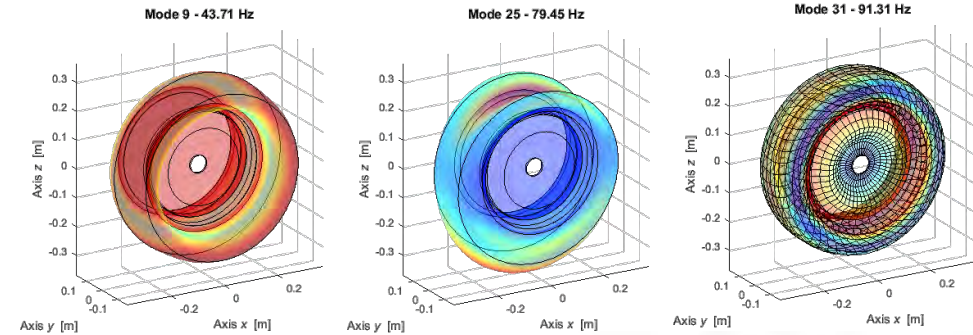
## Tyre-rim interface

Stiff instead of a rigid interface

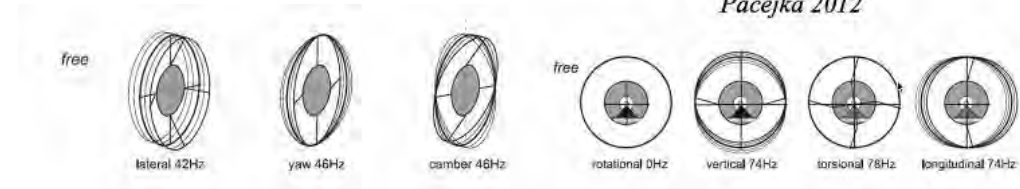
- Coincident non collapsed nodes
- 3D Air volume
- 1D elastic elements at tyre-rim interface
- 1D Tire bead pretension
- Contact -> equivalent stiffness (Hertz)



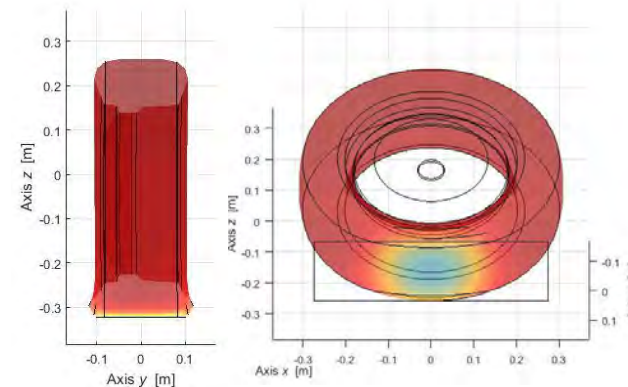
## Free-Free / Clamped hub



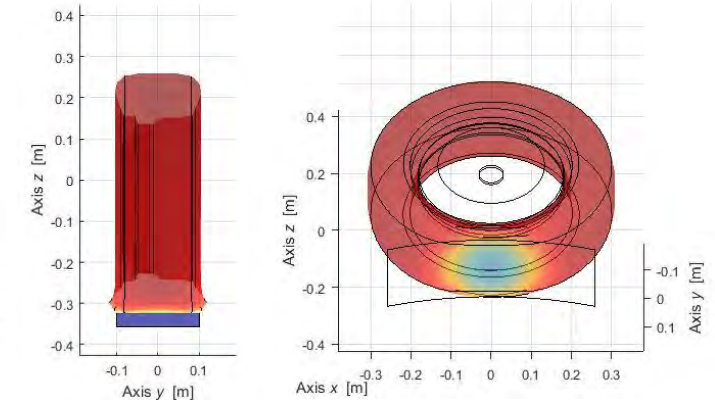
*Pacejka 2012*



## Planar contact

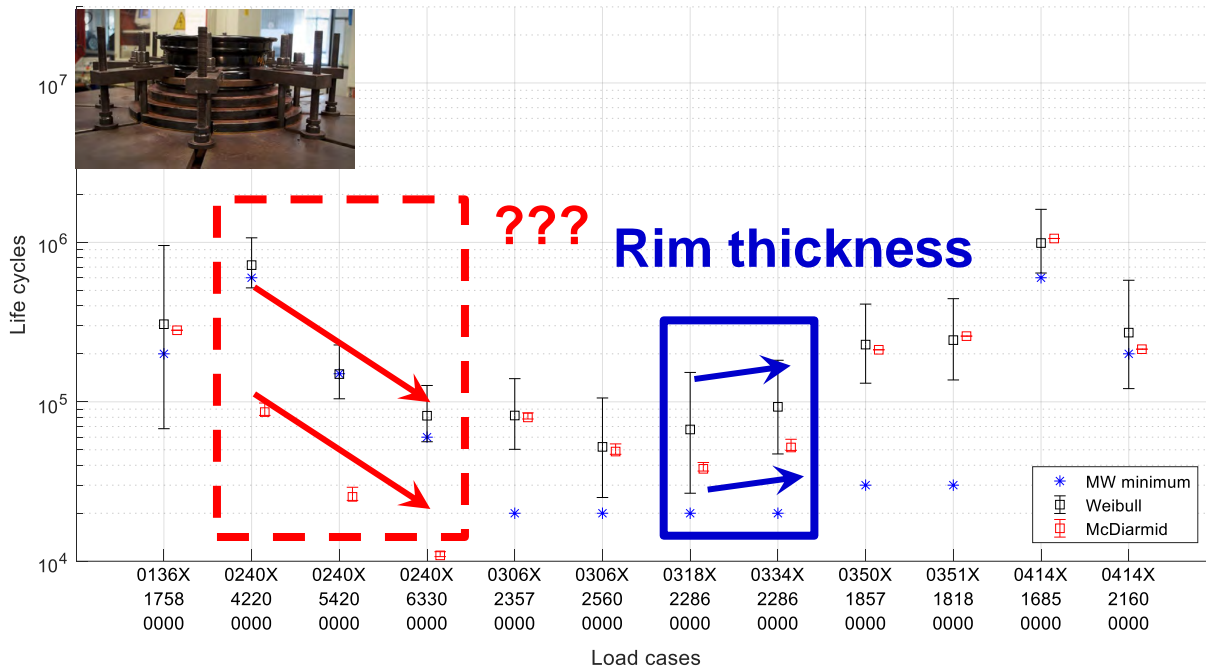


## Drum contact

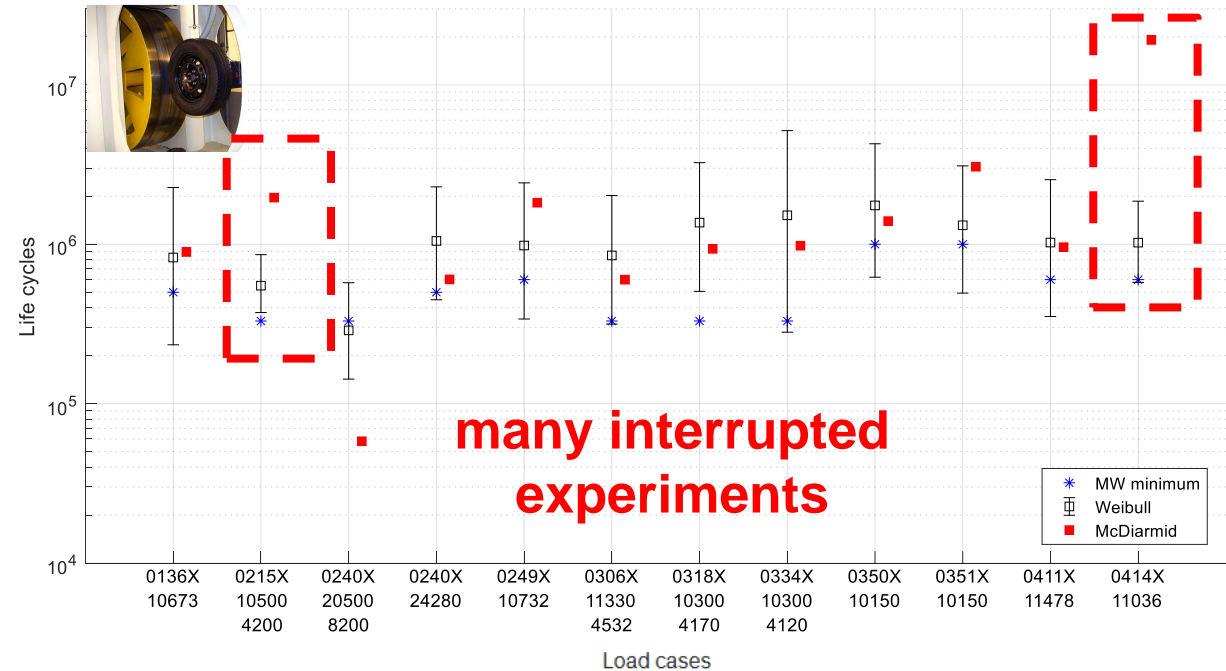


## Dynamic cornering and radial tests

### Dynamic cornering



### Radial





## ZWARP biaxial fatigue tests



Normal production

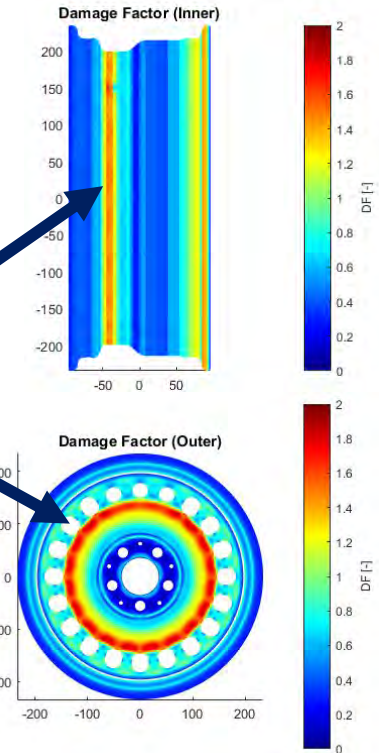
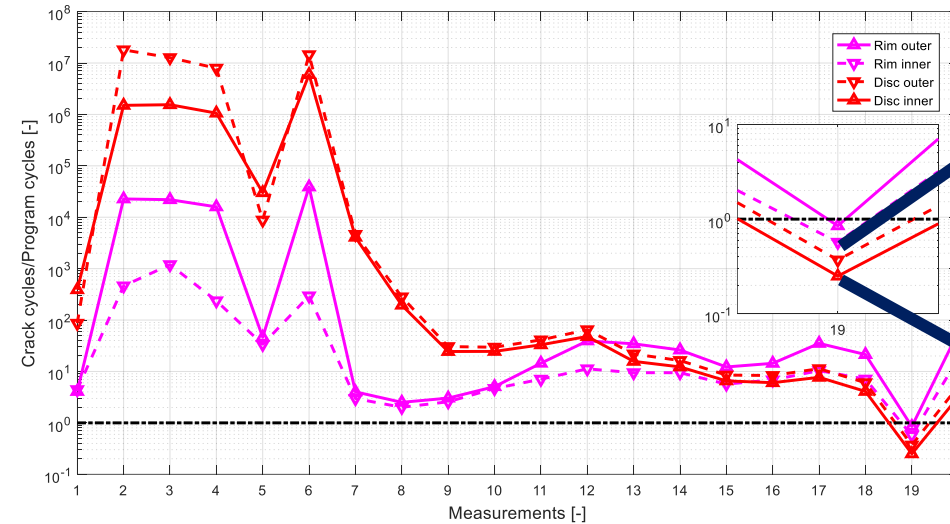


Reworked vent holes

Test end: ZWARP Test (AK349)				
Final Cycles		Final km	End test data	
623'515		1'300	15/06/2019	
Time test [h]		%	Repet. no.	Step no.
18		26%	44	12
Description				
Cracks on disc starting from vent holes ("crusts" are visible on the trimmed surfaces; coining radii are almost absent).				

Test end: ZWARP Test (AK349)				
Final Cycles		Final km	End test data	
1'211'401		2'550	28/06/2019	
Time test [h]		%	Repet. no.	Step no.
34		51%	86	4
Description				
Crack on rim with air leakage (in correspondance to welding seam); no cracks on disc.				

### Non-cumulative damage



### Cumulative damage

	CDTire + Abaqus	Experimental
Final repetition	31	44
Final cycles	447540	623515
Completion	18.80%	26%

## Conclusions

Steel wheel FEM model to simulate effects on fatigue of:

- Prestress during assembly and manufacturing
- Major industrial fatigue tests
- Good crack site identification and life estimation

## Next steps

- Stiff tyre-rim parametric mockup embedded in the methodology
- Experimental extensimetry campaign to characterise different flange geometries

## Publications (in the year)

- **Venturini S.**, Bonisoli E., Rosso C., Rovarino D., Velardocchia M., "Modal analyses and meta-models for fatigue assessment of automotive steel wheels", *Model Validation and Uncertainty Quantification Vol. 3, Proceedings of the 38th IMAC, A Conference and Exposition on Structural Dynamics, Conference Proceedings of the Society for Experimental Mechanics Series*, 520 pp., Ch. 17, 2020, Springer, ISSN: 2191-5644.
- Rovarino D., Actis Comino L., Bonisoli E., Rosso C., **Venturini S.**, Velardocchia M., Baecker M., Gallrein A., "A methodology for automotive steel wheel life assessment", *SAE Technical Paper*, 2020-01-1240, 2020, pp. 1-10, DOI: 10.4271/2020-01-1240.
- Rovarino D., Actis Comino L., Bonisoli E., Rosso C., **Venturini S.**, Velardocchia M., Baecker M., Gallrein A., "Hardware and virtual test-rigs for automotive steel wheels design", *SAE Technical Paper*, 2020-01-1231, 2020, pp. 1-19, DOI: 10.4271/2020-01-1231.