

# Performance of Smoothed Finite Element Methods with Tetrahedral Elements in Large Deformation Elasto-Plastic Analysis

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# Motivation

## Motivation

We want to accurately and stably analyze **severe large deformation** of solids in **any shape** with finite elements.

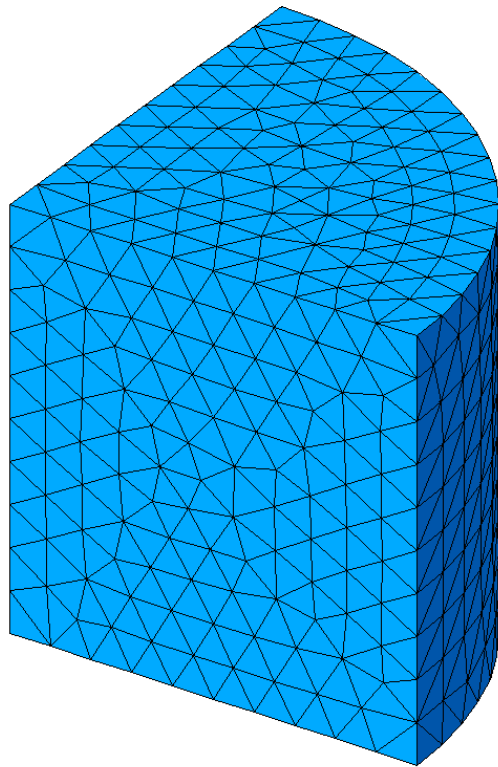
## Issues

- Severe large deformation of arbitrary body  
⇒ No Hex mesh. **Only Tet** mesh.
- 1<sup>st</sup> order standard tetrahedral (constant strain) element (e.g. C3D4 in ABAQUS) for materials with **incompressibility**  
⇒ Shear/volumetric **locking** and **pressure oscillation**.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> order u/p hybrid tetrahedral element (e.g., C3D10H, C3D10MH in ABAQUS)  
⇒ **Low accuracy** in severe large deformation.  
Convergence difficulty in contact.

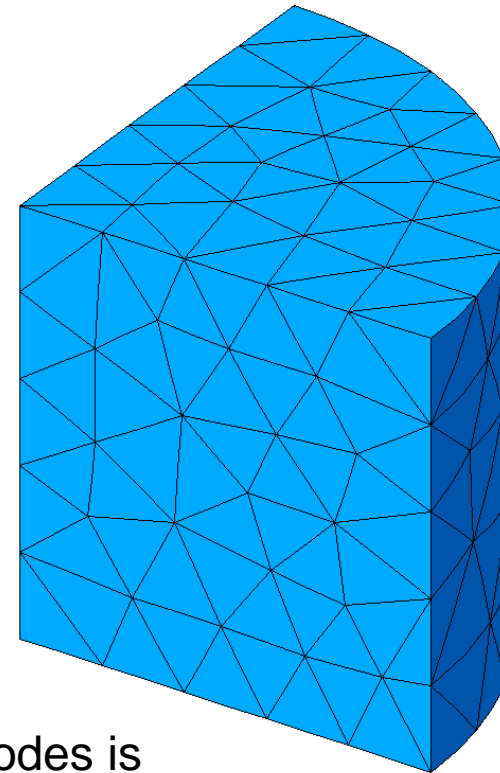
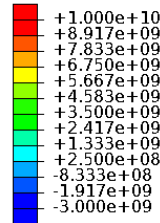
Researches on FE formulations for 1<sup>st</sup> order tetra (T4) are still active especially for **rubber-like** or **elasto-plastic** materials.

# An Example for Rubber-like Material

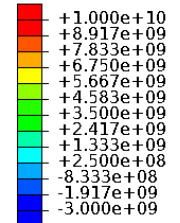
Material: neo-Hookean **hyperelastic**,  $\nu_{ini} = 0.49$



Pressure



Pressure



# of Nodes is almost the same.

1<sup>st</sup> order hybrid T4 (C3D4H)

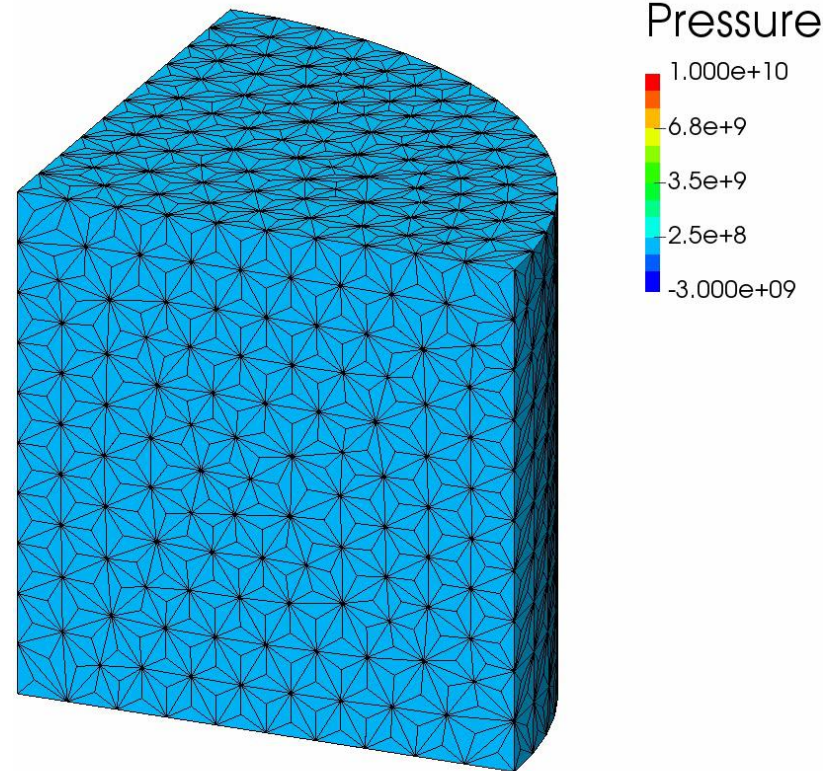
- ✓ No shear/volumetric locking
- ✗ Pressure oscillation
- ✗ Corner locking

2<sup>nd</sup> order modified hybrid T10 (C3D10MH)

- ✓ No shear/volumetric locking
- ✗ Decrease in interpolation accuracy
- ✗ Early convergence failure

# An Example for Rubber-like Material

Material: neo-Hookean **hyperelastic**,  $\nu_{ini} = 0.49$



# of Nodes is exactly the same as the C3D4H case.

**F-barES-FEM-T4** (a new type of smoothed finite element method (**S-FEM**))

- ✓ No shear/volumetric locking
- ✓ Less pressure oscillation
- ✓ Less corner locking

**F-barES-FEM-T4** has excellent accuracy on **rubber-like** materials.

How about it on **elasto-plastic** materials?

# Objective

Apply the new type of S-FEM,  
**F-barES-FEM-T4**,  
to large deformation problems  
of **elasto-plastic** materials.

## **Table of Body Contents**

- Methods: Quick introduction of F-barES-FEM-T4
- Results: A few verification analyses
- Summary

# Methods

## Quick introduction of F-barES-FEM-T4

(F-barES-FEM-T3 in 2D is explained for simplicity.)

# What is S-FEM?

## S-FEM: Smoothed Finite Element Method

- A new sort of *strain smoothing* technique (since 2007).
- Strain is smoothed **across elements**.
- Various types of S-FEMs:

- Basic types

- Node-based S-FEM (NS-FEM)
- Face-based S-FEM (FS-FEM)
- Edge-based S-FEM (ES-FEM)

✗ Spurious zero-energy mode or Volumetric locking, Pressure oscillation, Corner locking.

- Selective types (e.g. ES/NS-FEM)

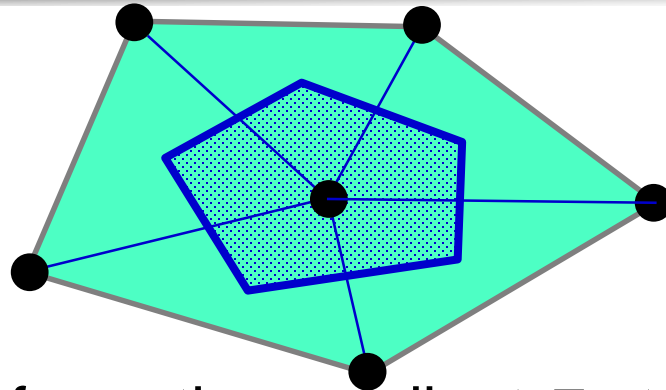
- Bubble types (e.g. bES-FEM)

- F-bar type (e.g. **F-bar**ES-FEM)

✓ Good in hyperelastic case.  
? Unknown in elasto-plastic case.

# Quick Review of NS-FEM

For triangular (T3)  
or tetrahedral (T4)  
elements.



## Algorithm:

1. Calculate the deformation gradient  $F$  at each element as usual.
2. Distribute the deformation gradient  $F$  to the connecting nodes with area weights to make  ${}^{\text{Node}}\tilde{F}$  at each node.
3. Use  ${}^{\text{Node}}\tilde{F}$  to calculate the stress, nodal force and so on.

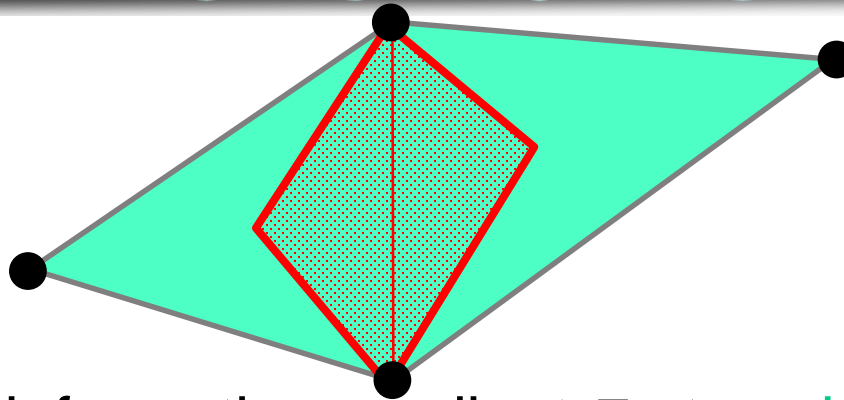
NS-FEM **avoids shear/volumetric locking** in T3/T4 elements.

Yet, it **suffers from zero-energy modes, pressure oscillation and corner locking...**



# Quick Review of ES-FEM

For triangular (T3)  
or tetrahedral (T4)  
elements.



## Algorithm:

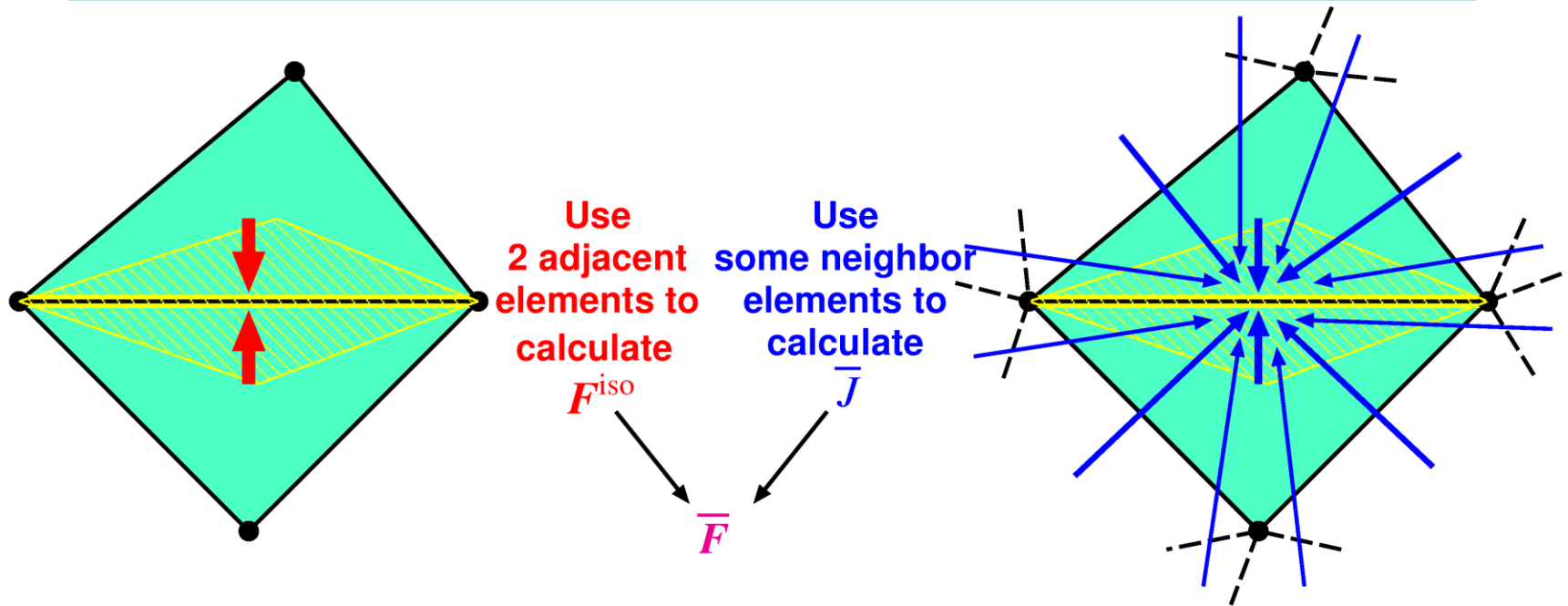
1. Calculate the deformation gradient  $F$  at each element as usual.
2. Distribute the deformation gradient  $F$  to the connecting edges with area weights to make  $^{Edge}\tilde{F}$  at each edge.
3. Use  $^{Edge}\tilde{F}$  to calculate the stress, nodal force and so on.

ES-FEM **avoids shear locking** in T3/T4 elements.

Yet, it **suffers from volumetric locking, pressure oscillation and corner locking...**

# Quick Introduction of F-barES-FEM

Concept: combination of F-bar method and ES-FEM



- Edge  $\tilde{F}^{iso}$  is given by **ES-FEM**.
- Edge  $\bar{J}$  is given by **cyclic nodal smoothing**.
- Edge  $\bar{F}$  is calculated in the manner of **F-bar method**:

$$\text{Edge } \bar{F} = \text{Edge } \bar{J}^{1/3} \text{ Edge } \tilde{F}^{iso}$$



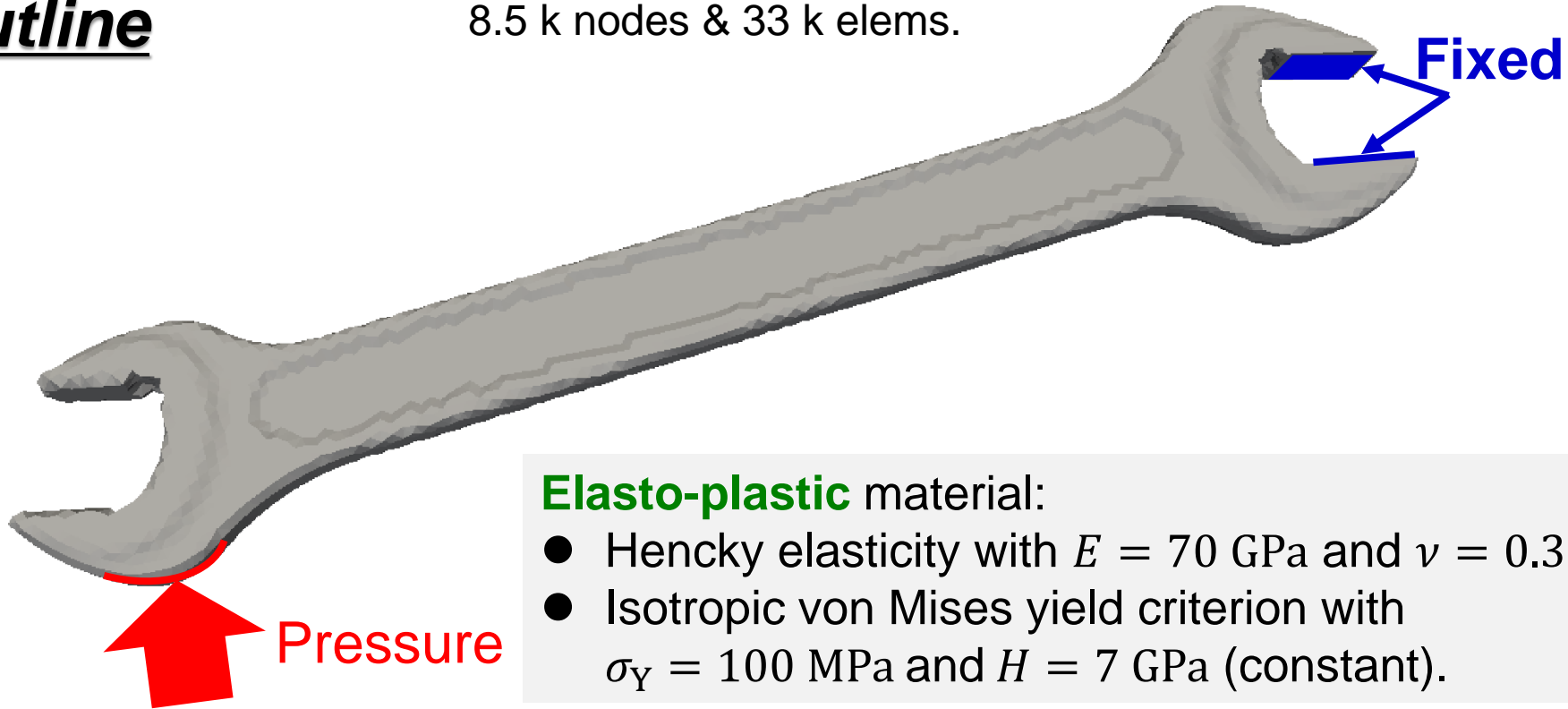
# Results

A few verification analyses

# Bending of Elasto-Plastic Spanner

## Outline

8.5 k nodes & 33 k elems.



### Elasto-plastic material:

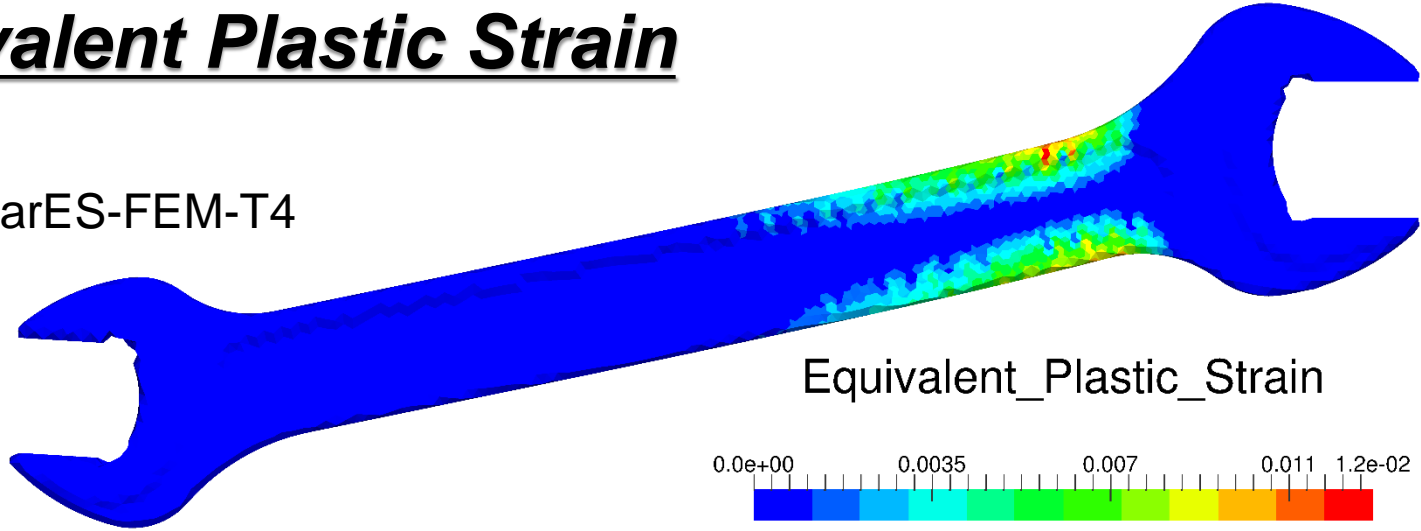
- Hencky elasticity with  $E = 70$  GPa and  $\nu = 0.3$ .
- Isotropic von Mises yield criterion with  $\sigma_Y = 100$  MPa and  $H = 7$  GPa (constant).

- 2 faces are perfectly constrained.
- Pressure is applied to a side part of the spanner.
- Compared to ABAQUS C3D4H with the same unstructured T4 mesh.

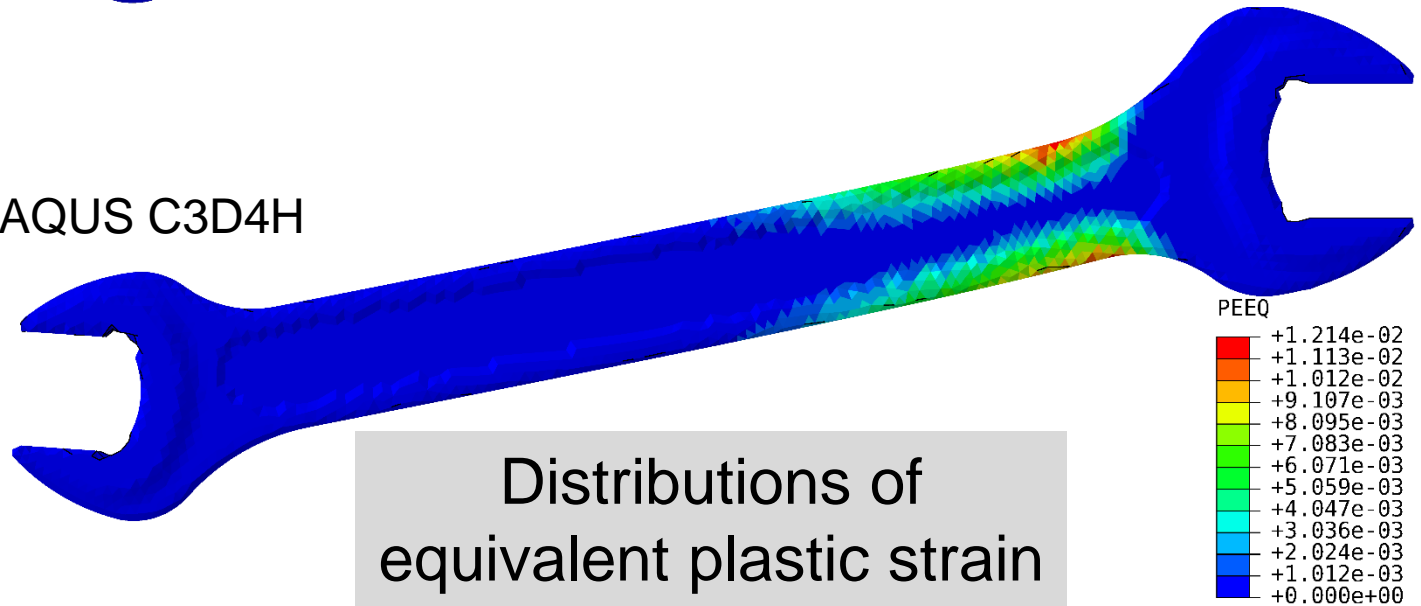
# Bending of Elasto-Plastic Spanner

## Equivalent Plastic Strain

F-barES-FEM-T4



ABAQUS C3D4H

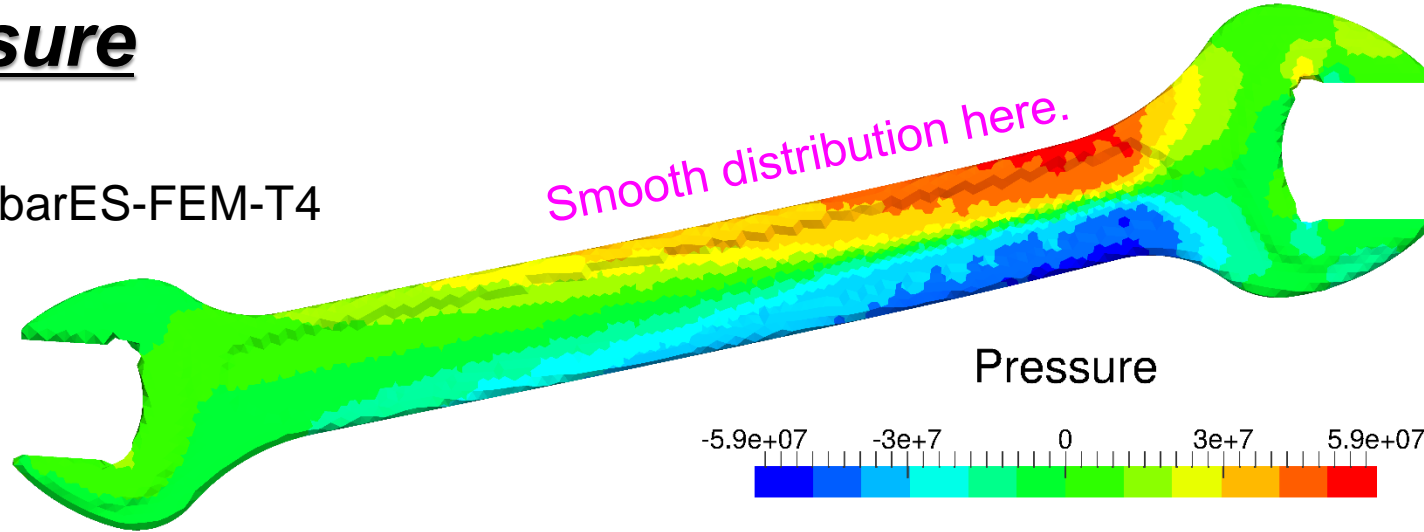


Distributions of equivalent plastic strain are about the same.

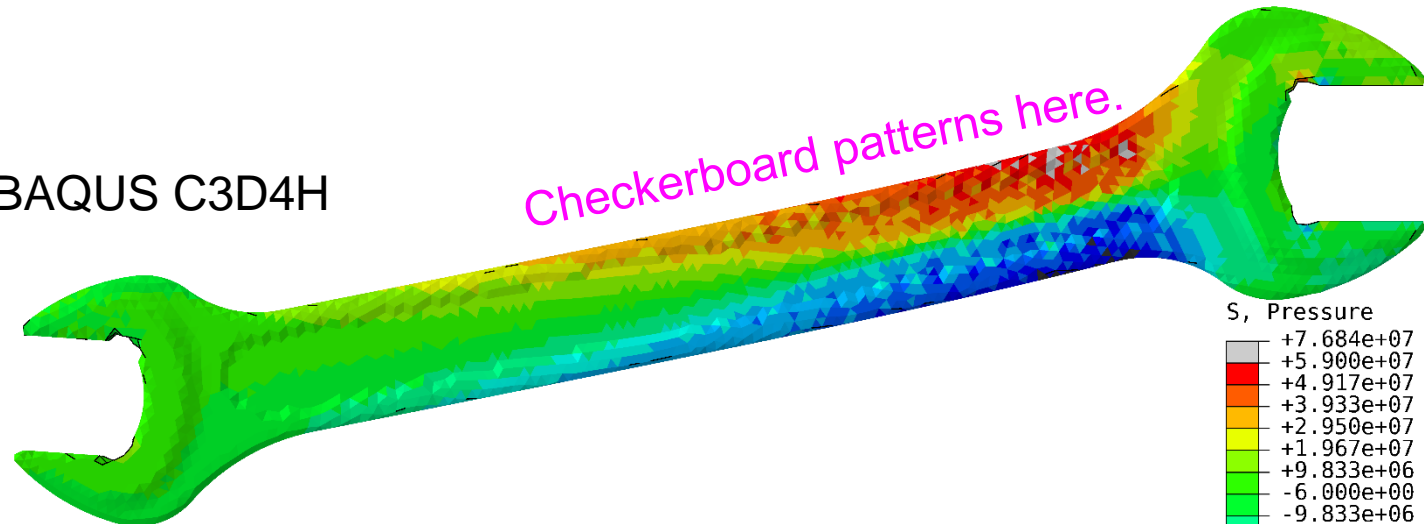
# Bending of Elasto-Plastic Spanner

## Pressure

F-barES-FEM-T4



ABAQUS C3D4H

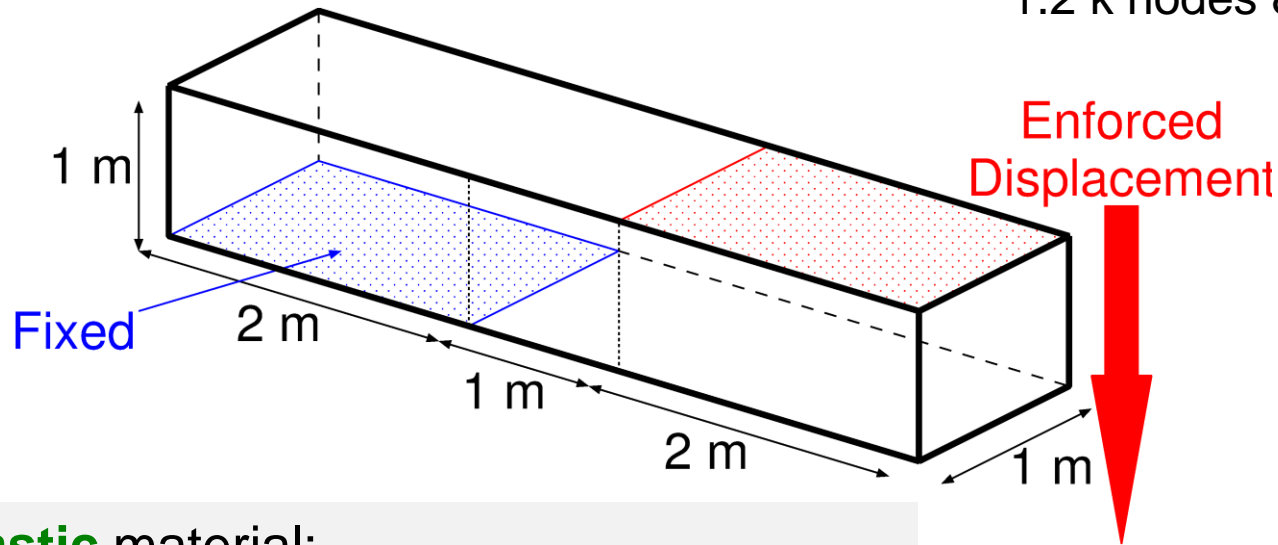


ABAQUS C3D4H suffers from pressure oscillation even in a small deformation elasto-plastic case.

# Shearing & Tensioning of Elasto-Plastic Bar

## Outline

1.2 k nodes & 4.8 k elems.



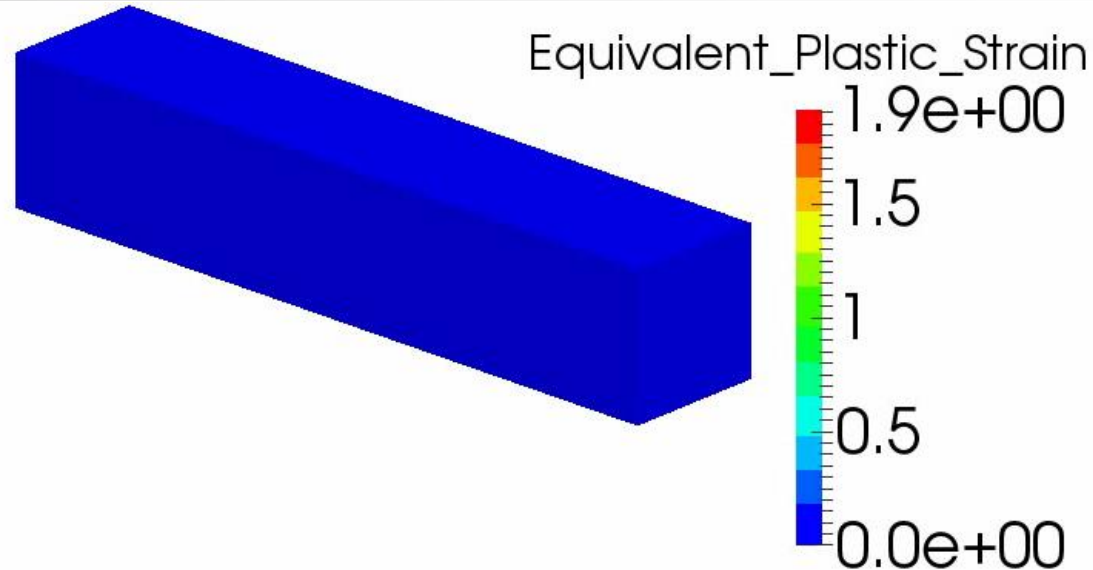
### **Elasto-plastic** material:

- Hencky elasticity with  $E = 1$  GPa and  $\nu = 0.3$ .
- Isotropic von Mises yield criterion with  $\sigma_Y = 1$  MPa and  $H = 0.1$  GPa (constant).

- Blue face is perfectly constrained.
- Red face is constrained in plane and pressed down.
- Compared to ABAQUS C3D4H with the same unstructured T4 mesh.

# Shearing & Tensioning of Elasto-Plastic Bar

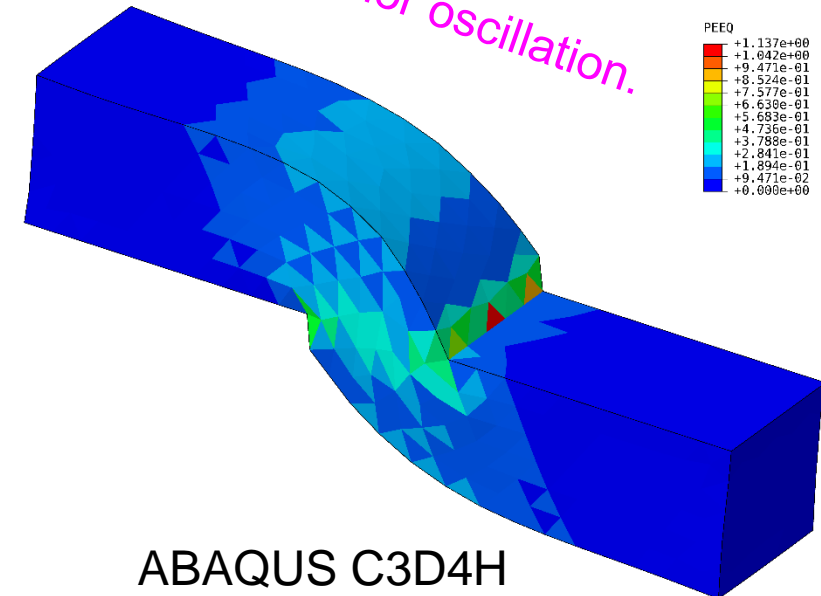
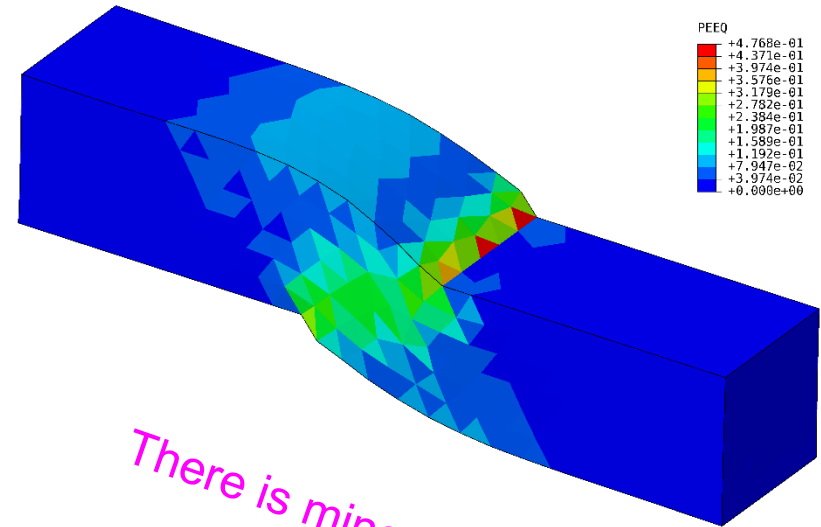
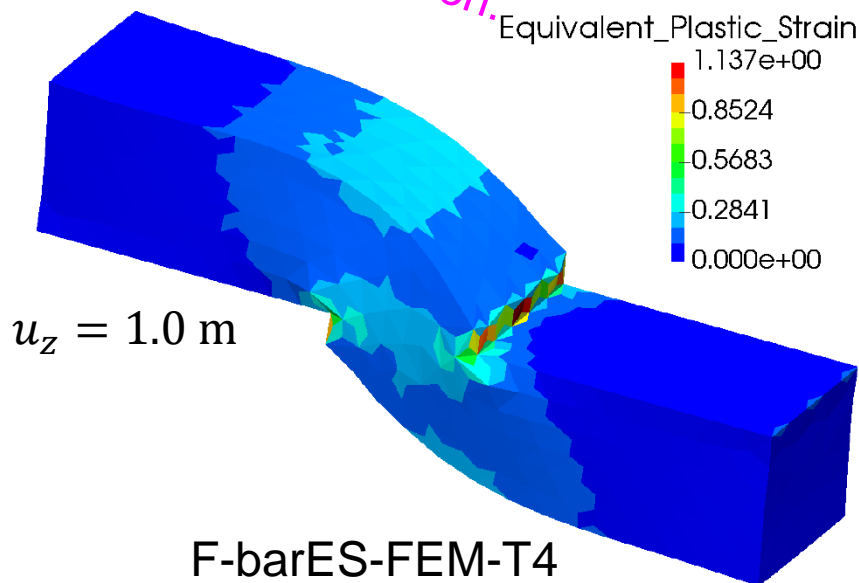
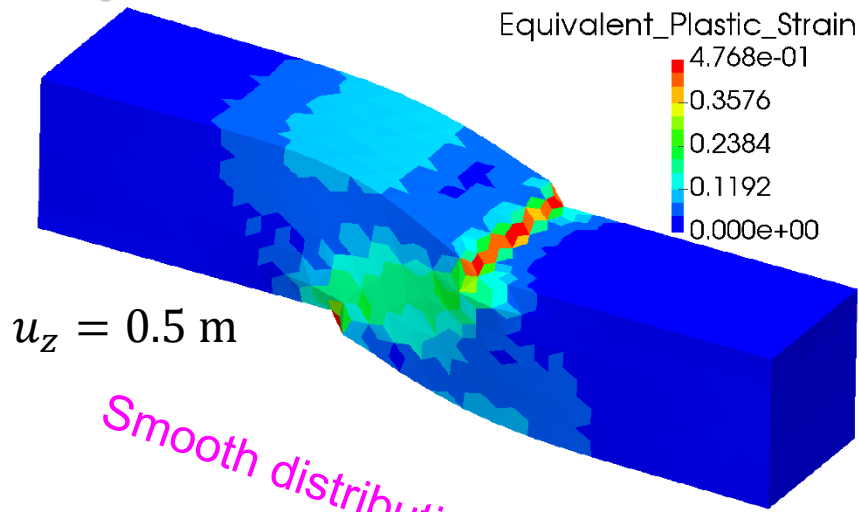
**Result**  
**of F-bar**  
**ES-FEM**  
**(Equiv.**  
**Plastic**  
**Strain)**





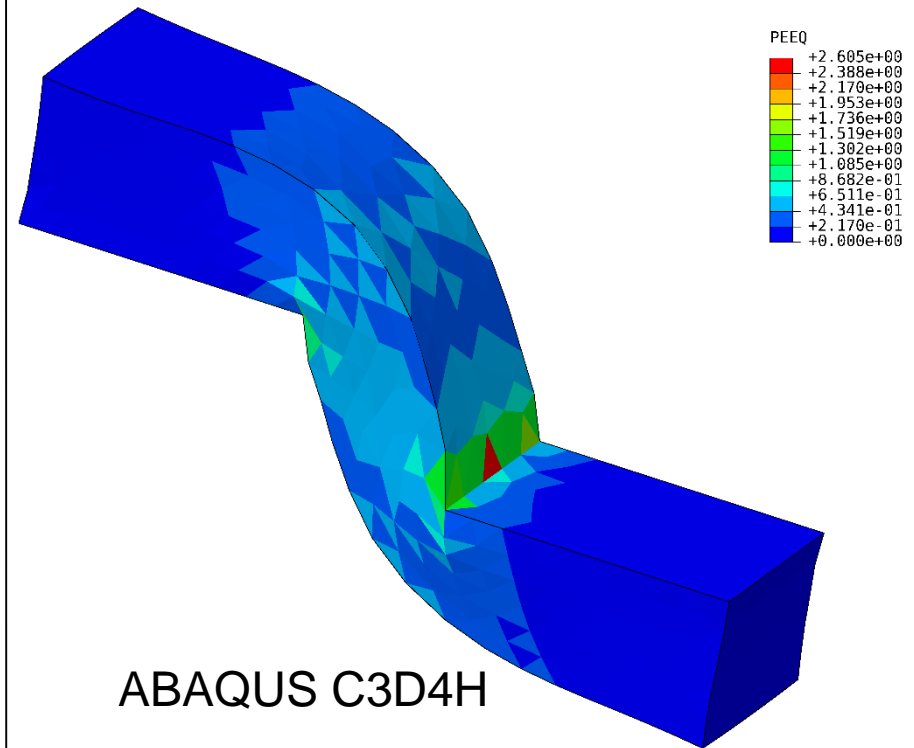
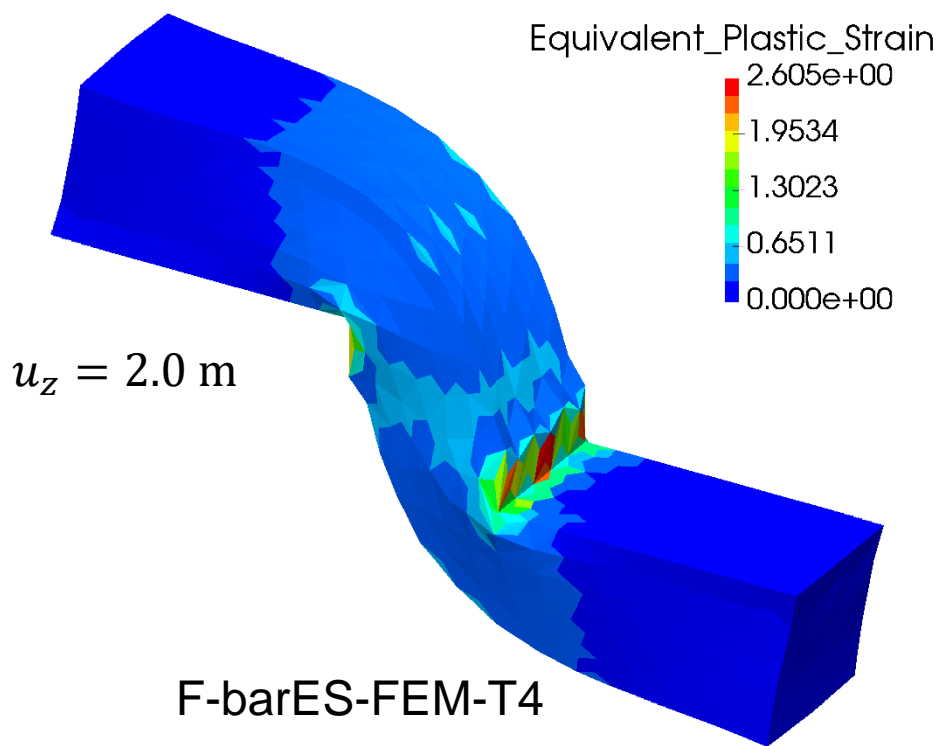
# Shearing & Tensioning of Elasto-Plastic Bar

## Equivalent Plastic Strain



# Shearing & Tensioning of Elasto-Plastic Bar

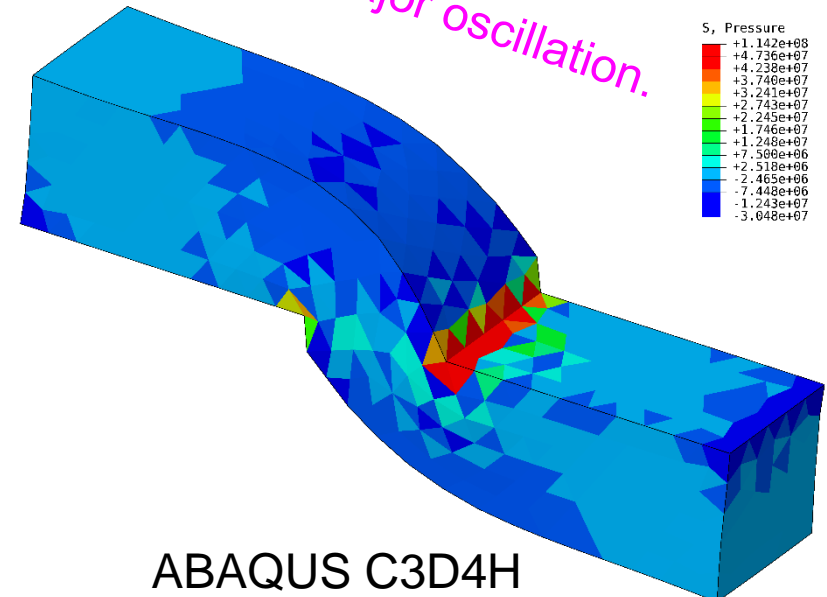
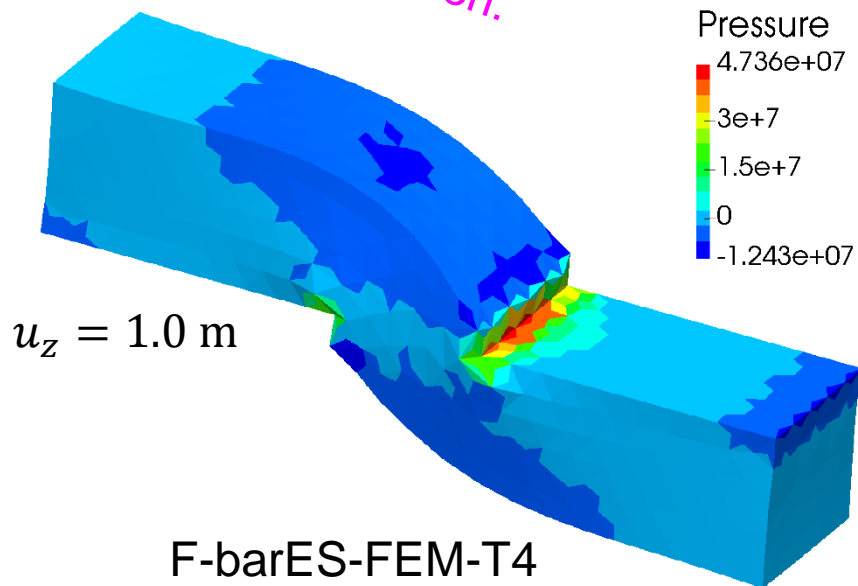
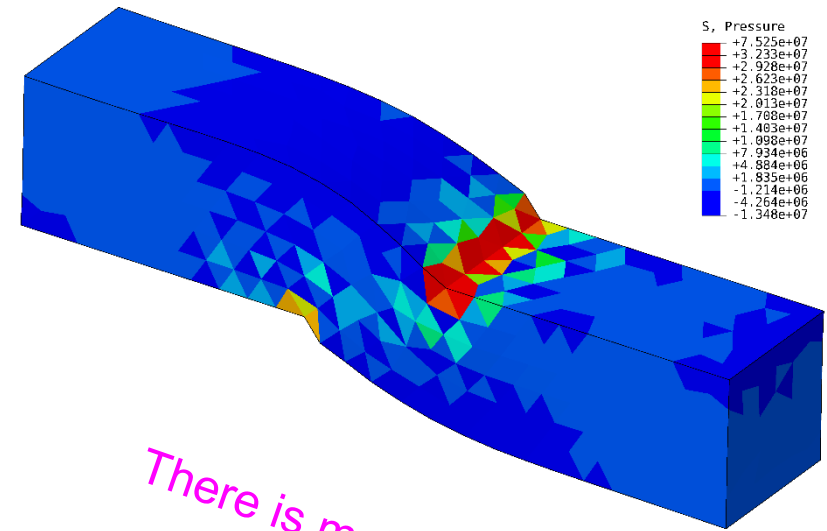
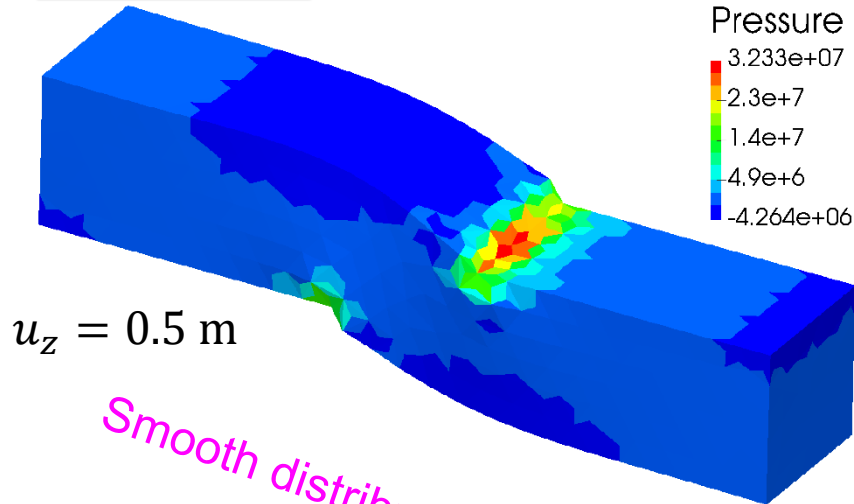
## Equivalent Plastic Strain



Accuracy of equivalent plastic strain seems no much different.

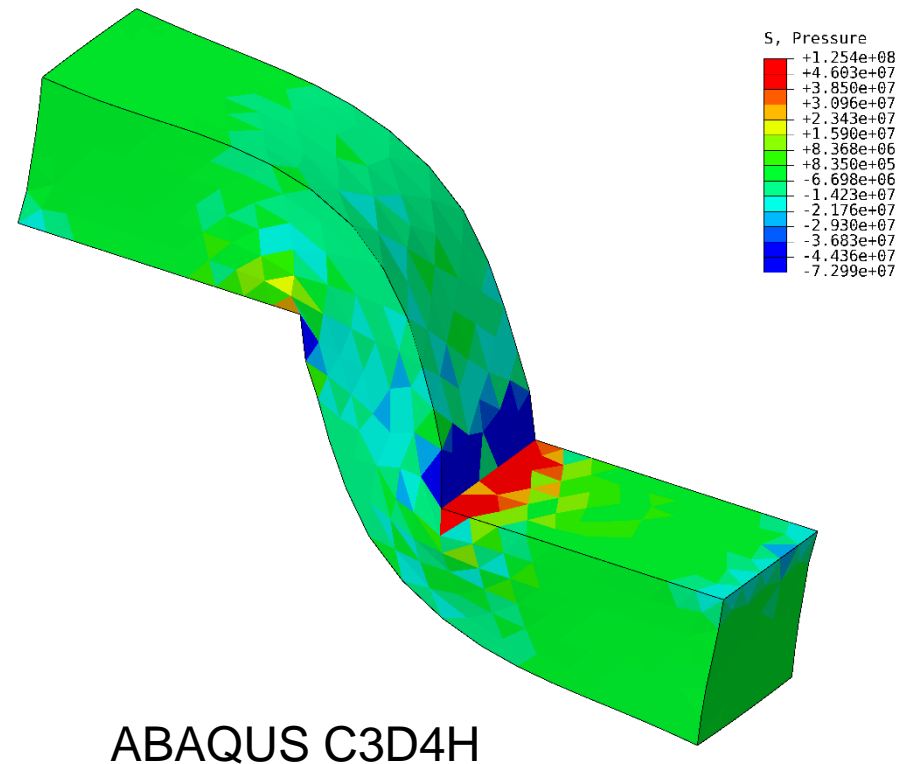
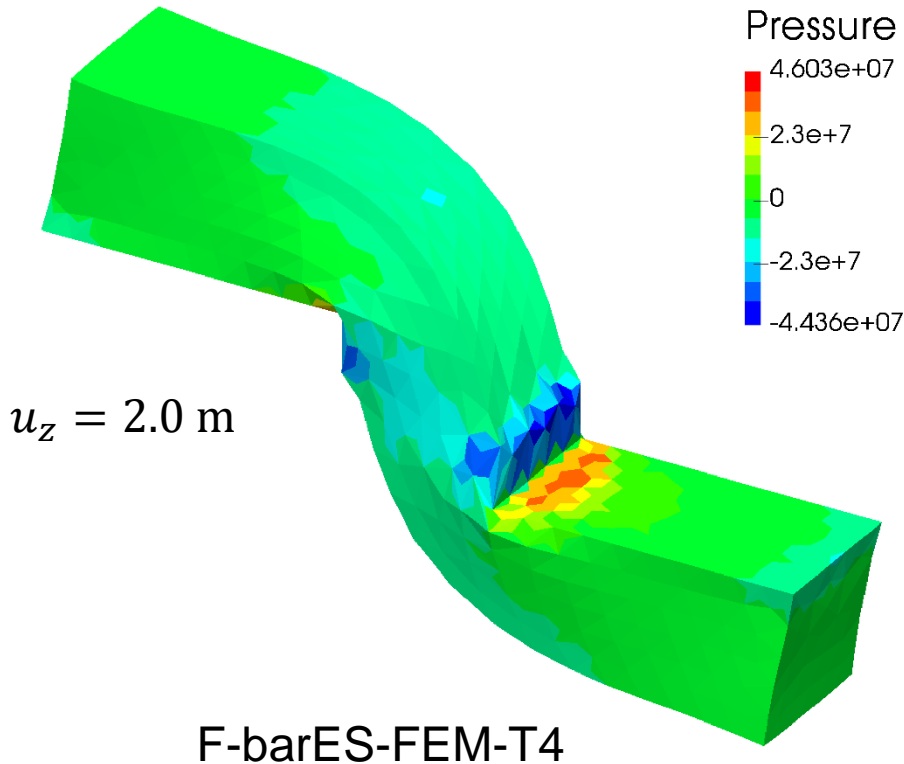
# Shearing & Tensioning of Elasto-Plastic Bar

## Pressure



# Shearing & Tensioning of Elasto-Plastic Bar

## Pressure



Accuracy of pressure is quite different due to the pressure oscillation of ABAQUS C3D4H.

# Summary

# Benefits and Drawbacks of F-barES-FEM-T4

## Benefits

- ✓ Locking-free with 1<sup>st</sup> -order tetra meshes.  
No difficulty in severe strain or contact analysis.
- ✓ No increase in DOF.  
No intermediate nodes. No need for static condensation.
- ✓ No restriction of material constitutive model.  
Pressure dependent models are acceptable.
- ✓ Less pressure oscillation and corner locking.

## Drawbacks

- ✗ The more cyclic smoothing necessitates the more CPU time.

# The Take-Home Message

If you are interested in **elasto-plastic** problems that have

- ◆ 3D bulk complex shapes,
- ◆ severe large deformation or contact, and especially
- ◆ pressure dependent constitutive models,

then, please consider using **F-barES-FEM-T4**.

Thank you for your kind attention!