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Shot peening of TRIP780 steel: Experimental analysis and numerical simulation

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A B S T R A C T

This study aims at the experimental and numerical analysis of TRIP780 steel after conventional shot peening. TRIP steels exhibit a multiphase microstructure with martensitic transformation of the retained austenite during shot peening. In-depth experimental analysis are carried out with microhardness and X-ray diffraction. Residual stresses profiles are determined in the pseudo-ferritic phases ($\alpha + \alpha'$) and in the retained austenite γ . A representative finite element model of shot peening with a material behavior law describing the multiphase microstructure and the martensitic phase transformation during loading is proposed. The results are compared to experimental data and the effect of martensitic transformation is numerically investigated.

1. Introduction

The shot peening process is applied on many metallic structures to enhance their resistance and fatigue life. It is achieved through the generation of a compressive stress profile in the subsurface of a part with a controlled roughness of the surface. TRIP-aided steels are multiphased with ferrite, bainite and retained austenite where austenite transforms to martensite during a thermomechanical loading. TRIP steel sheets are mainly used in the automotive industry after a forming process. In order to enhance their fatigue properties, some automotive parts made of TRIP steels are shot peened. Shot-peening is generally the last step after metal forming and joining. Shot peening is mainly applied to local regions with stress concentration where fatigue failure may occur such as holes, cut-outs or welded regions. Those operations prior to shot peening provide inhomogeneous states with microstructural and mechanical gradients.

The TRIP effect (TRansformation Induced Plasticity) accompanies the martensitic transformation with an additional irreversible strain resulting from the selection of the martensitic variants according to the local stress level (Magee effect) and, from the accommodation of the volume change and the shear components of the phase transformation in the austenitic phase (Greenwood-Johnson effect). Fischer et al. (2000) have presented the different formalisms to take into account the Greenwood-Johnson effect and the Magee effect to derive the transformation kinetics and the thermomechanical behavior.

Many thermomechanical models of strain induced martensitic transformation on shear bands intersections have been proposed in the

literature based on the work of Olson and Cohen (1975). Stringfellow et al. (1992) have investigated the effect of stress triaxiality. They have taken into account that a greater triaxiality would increase the formation of martensite. Tomita and Iwamoto (1995) have proposed an improved model incorporating the strain rate effect and heat generation for describing martensitic transformation. Iwamoto et al. (1998) have proposed a martensitic transformation model to take into account the deformation mode by incorporating the effect of the third stress invariant. Using the aforementioned model of Iwamoto et al. (1998) (IT-model), the TRIP effect has been also investigated at the level of the structure. Kohar et al. (2016) have modeled crashworthiness of a top-hat crush tube made of TRIP800 steel. Comparing to experimental data, they observed how different contents of residual austenite and bainite maximize the energy absorption capacity. Serri et al. (2005) implemented the IT-model in Abaqus for the simulation of the deep-drawing process of a cup. They have numerically investigated the effect of model parameters on the thinning of the material, the punch load vs displacement curves and the residual martensite content.

Within a thermodynamically consistent framework, several constitutive models were proposed in the literature to describe the thermodynamical driving force for martensitic transformation in TRIP steels. Levitas (1998) and Fischer and Reisner (1998) have proposed analogous expressions of the driving force for martensitic transformation. This force is compared to a critical force to derive the transformation kinetics in an elastoplastic material. Works have investigated the TRIP effect in steels at the level of the variants experimentally and with crystallographic models applied to representative polycrystals.

Cherkaoui et al. (2000) have used a double scale transition in a polycrystal (self-consistent scheme) and inside each austenitic crystal (Cherkaoui et al., 1998) to obtain the stress in each martensitic variant. The inelastic behavior has been modeled using crystal plasticity and variant selection in austenitic grains to derive evolution equations for the internal variables from the Helmholtz free energy. Turteltaub and Suiker (2006) have developed a crystal plasticity and phase transformation model in Abaqus that was used by Tjahjanto et al. (2007) to investigate the effect of the microstructural parameters such as crystallographic orientations, the initial volume of retained austenite and the elastoplastic properties of the ferritic matrix. They have shown that the crystallographic texture and the elastoplastic properties of ferrite have a strong effect on the transformation kinetics and on the mechanical behavior. Ma and Hartmaier (2015) have implemented in Abaqus, a finite transformation crystal plasticity and variant selection model based on thermodynamic principles to model the behavior of TRIP assisted steel. With a finite element representation, they have explicitly modeled the microstructure with austenitic grains embedded in a ferritic matrix. The model has been able to capture the TRIP effect under multiaxial loadings. Those microstructural models of TRIP steels are excellent tools to capture the effect of the microstructure on the global behavior of a representative homogenized material point. However, due to computational cost, they are not yet well suited to investigate directly the behavior of structures and of material processes.

Kubler et al. (2011) have developed a multiphase semi-phenomenological model at the scale of the microstructural components (ferrite, bainite, retained austenite, martensite) by describing the elastoplastic behavior of each component by a standard von-Mises approach, for the phase transformation, a mean instantaneous transformation strain that encompasses the different contribution of each variant forming at the same time has been introduced. Though less microstructural parameters than polycrystalline models are considered, this model is able to consider the transformation kinetics, multiaxial effects of the martensitic transformation and the Greenwood-Johnson and Magee effects. It has been implemented into Abaqus to model sheet metal forming of TRIP-aided steels (Kubler et al., 2010). The simulations have been correlated to experimental data of martensite volume fraction and strain field on a cross-stamped metal sheet.

Shot peening and more generally mechanical surface treatments are also of great interest where the prediction of residual mechanical fields, the induced microgeometry and the study of their impact on fatigue life still remain a challenge. Zarka (1990) first proposed an analytical approach to predict the stabilized elastoplastic response of a structure under a cyclic load. They have applied this approach to predict the residual stresses profile after shot peening and their evolution during a cyclic behavior. The benefit of this model is its direct resolution with minimal computational cost. A drawback would be that it is not suited for material with non-standard behavior and that it relies on the assumption of an homogeneous surface treatment. Beside analytical approaches, the effect of shot peening is often modeled with multiple impacts of shots using finite element (FE) analysis that is sometimes coupled with other numerical approaches. The coupling of FE analysis for modeling the subsurface behavior with SPH (Smooth Particles Hydrodynamics) or DEM (Discrete Element Methods) allows to consider the description of the flow of shots and its interaction with any surface. Murugaratnam et al. (2015), Tu et al. (2017) and Zhang et al. (2018) relied on analogous DEM-FEM approaches to model coverage, roughness and residual stresses profiles. The positions and initial velocities of shots are output from a DEM software and applied as initial condition in a FE analysis. Jianming et al. (2011) proposed a SPH-FEM approach, where the shots are modeled with SPH particles and the target material with finite element (FE) in a single model. Those models allow to link the process parameters of shot-peening to the residual state of the impacted surface.

Using FE models of multiple impacts, Guagliano (2001) has linked the Almen intensity to the predicted residual stresses in a shot peened

part made of 39NiCrMo3 steel and SAE 1070 steel. The residual stress profile generated by the simulation of multiple shots is inserted in a Almen strip to predict its bending. Klemenzen et al. (2009) have modeled the surface layer characteristics on a AISI4140 steel with elastoviscoplastic model with a combined isotropic-kinematic behavior using finite element simulations of 121 rigid spheres impacting a surface. They have compared the surface topography with single and double impacts and the residual stress field after multiple impacts. A good correlation between their model and experimental data has been observed. Gariépy et al. (2017) have used a finite element to study the effect of different impact velocities and shot diameters and analyzed the effect of process-related impact velocity scatter on the scatter of the stress distribution. They used an isotropic-kinematic hardening formulation built into the Abaqus solver representing the cyclic hardening behavior of AA2024-T351 alloy. For their process parameters, reducing the number of impacts can be suitable to predict the residual stress distribution with a smaller computational cost.

The effect of friction coefficient has been investigated by Meguid et al. (2002). They have shown that the residual stresses profiles are relatively insensitive to the friction coefficient between the shot and the target material for values between 0.1 and 0.5.

To limit calculation costs, the FE models use generally a representative part of the impacted surface with given positions of the impacts representing the process parameters. Random or regular patterns are used and the realistic simulation of coverage rate is challenging and still needs to make some assumptions. Bagherifard et al. (2012) have studied numerically the effect of random impacts to obtain 100% of coverage and proposed a method to obtain high coverage rates. Xiao et al. (2018) have investigated the effect of coverage rate and impacting density on the residual stresses profile with FE analysis, comparing random and regular impact patterns. When the value of coverage is relatively great, the same coverage in random peening corresponds to slightly greater induced stresses. Gallitelli et al. (2016) have presented different analytical and finite element approaches to model residual stress fields after shot peening of representative parts as well as on parts with complex geometries. They have linked analytically the process parameters to the obtained stress field using a dimensional analysis.

Semi-analytical methods as developed by Chaise et al. (2012) based on calculation of inelastic strain field embedded in a semi-infinite media submitted to contact have been adapted to shot-peening of elastoplastic materials. They have been able to predict the same fields as FE models with a drastic reduction of the computational cost.

In the case of shot peening of steels exhibiting a TRIP effect, the effect of martensitic transformation was investigated in the literature. Fu et al. (2013) have determined the residual stresses profiles in austenite and martensite after shot peening of a 18CrNiMo7-6 austenitic steel, with a higher level of compressive stress in martensite due to its higher yield stress. Novelli et al. (2016) have investigated the microstructural evolution for a cryogenic SMAT process applied to 304L stainless steels. Beside nanostructuring, strain induced martensitic phase transformation has been observed in the depth of the specimen: the lower the temperature of shot peening, the greater the affected depth with martensitic transformation. Kleber and Barroso (2010) have determined the martensitic volume fraction and residual stresses in martensite using Barkhausen noise technique in an AISI304L stainless steel after different shot-peening conditions. The greatest amount of phase transformation arises at the surface. Sugimoto et al. (2017) have studied the effect of fatigue testing on the phase transformation and stress in BCC phase after shot peening. The volume fraction of martensite does not considerably change whereas the residual stresses relax after fatigue testing. To the authors knowledge, only Fu et al. (2013) have experimentally studied the stress state in both austenitic and martensitic constituents after shot-peening. For the modeling of surface treatment with phase transformation and the prediction of residual stresses, Halilović et al. (2016) have presented a parametric numerical

study of laser shock peening (LSP) on an AISI304 steel using the material model developed by Hallberg et al. (2007) implemented in an Abaqus UMAT subroutine. They have investigated the temperature effects in LSP, and have shown that, at lower temperatures, the phase transformation was the main cause for residual stresses generation, while plasticity dominates the residual state at higher temperatures. The resulting macroscopic residual stresses were not significantly affected by changing the temperature. It is important to note that for LSP, the maximal plastic strain is less than 0.5% whereas for conventional shot peening, plastic strain can reach several tens of percent.

Shot peening has the objective to enhance fatigue life of TRIP steels widely used in the automotive industry. Without considering shot peening, Haidemenopoulos et al. (2013) have investigated the high cycle fatigue behavior of TRIP700 steel and the role of austenite stability. By comparing two TRIP steel grades with different austenite stability, the authors have concluded that the steel grade with higher austenite stability exhibit greater fatigue performances. As for metal forming, shot peening is a gradient straining process localized close to the surface where it is applied. Ly and Findley (2016) have studied the effect of uniform pre-straining conditions in uniaxial tension on the low cycle fatigue (LCF) performances of TRIP780 steel. They have concluded that the LCF life was relatively independent of prior strain history with respect to the applied strain amplitude and that the amount of austenite transformed during fatigue was comparable or slightly larger than the amount formed at equivalent strains in tension.

This work aims at the study of the shot peening effect on the residual stresses profile of a TRIP780 steel without initial in-depth gradient of microstructure. Experimental investigations were carried out after different shot peening conditions analyzing the gradient of microstructure and residual stresses profiles in the different components. The thermomechanical model for TRIP steels developed by Kubler et al. (2011) was adapted to model the effect of shot peening of TRIP steels in terms of martensitic transformation and stress distributions in the different microstructural components. A representative finite element model of impacts of spheres on a plate using a multiphased behavior law with martensitic phase transformation has been developed and applied to predict the residual stresses profiles in the different constituents. The effect of martensitic phase transformation has been numerically investigated.

2. Experimental set-up

2.1. Material and shot peening conditions

The TRIP780 steel is a low alloy cold-rolled steel. Its name comes from its ability to undergo the TRansformation Induced Plasticity effect and its required ultimate tensile strength ($Y_{TS} \geq 780$ MPa). This material is well suited for automotive structural and safety parts such as cross members, longitudinal beams, B-pillar reinforcements, sills and bumper reinforcements. It was provided by ArcelorMittal as 2 mm thickness sheets. Its chemical composition (in weight%) is the following: Base Fe – 0.209% C – 1.61% Si – 1.64% Mn.

Fig. 1 shows the microstructure of TRIP780 steel. It is composed of islands of hard retained austenite (15%) and carbide-free bainite (10–15%) dispersed in a soft ferritic matrix (70–75%). Austenite appears as island-like-grains of 2–3 μm diameter.

Samples of 60×60 mm² were cut from the rolled sheet. They were shot peened on one side in a turbine Wheelabrator shot-peening machine with steel shots (hardness 700 HV). Two shot peening conditions were applied: SP1 (shot diameter 400 μm , Almen intensity F19A, coverage rate 230%) and SP2 (shot diameter 600 μm , Almen intensity F31A, coverage rate 270%).

2.2. Material characterizations and X-ray diffraction stress analysis

Microhardness in-depth profiles were performed using a Shimadzu

indenter. The initial hardness of the as-received material was measured to 270HV_{0.3} and was constant along the thickness of the material. Microhardness profiles were obtained for SP1 and SP2 conditions by cutting the samples and measuring along the edge.

Texture analysis performed by X-ray diffraction showed that no significant crystallographic texture was present at the surface of the as-received material. X-ray diffraction analysis were performed using a PROTO iXRD portable goniometer, with a spot size of about 2 mm in the center of the plate. Indeed, preliminary measurements demonstrated that residual stresses were homogeneous at the surface of the shot peened plate until 20 mm from the center.

The diffraction peaks of ferrite (α , BCC) and martensite (α' , QC) appearing more or less at the same position and since no peak separation has been performed in this study, residual stresses results thus matched to the pseudo-ferritic phases ($\alpha + \alpha'$). The residual stresses were also determined in the austenitic phase γ (FCC).

Residual stresses analysis was conducted using the $\sin^2(\Psi)$ method (NF-15305, 2009) with the following parameters:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha + \alpha': & \{211\}_{\alpha+\alpha'} \text{ lattice planes, } Cr \text{ } K_{\alpha} \text{ anode, } \\ -S_1 & = 1.28 \times 10^{-6} \text{MPa}^{-1}, 1/2S_2 = 5.92 \times 10^{-6} \text{MPa}^{-1}; \\ \gamma: & \{311\}_{\gamma} \text{ lattice planes, } Mn \text{ } K_{\alpha} \text{ anode, } \\ -S_1 & = 1.20 \times 10^{-6} \text{MPa}^{-1}, \\ 1/2S_2 & = 7.18 \times 10^{-6} \text{MPa}^{-1}; \end{aligned}$$

13 Ψ angles were used and peaks were localized with a gaussian fit at 30% height of the peak maximum.

The full width at half maximum (FWHM) profiles were acquired for the pseudo-ferritic phases ($\alpha + \alpha'$) and the austenitic phase γ (FCC). The volume fraction of retained austenite was determined following ASTM standards (ASTM-E975, 2013) with a Cr anode and a V filter by measuring the corresponding intensities of the following peaks in both phases: $\{220\}_{\gamma}$, $\{200\}_{\gamma}$ and $\{211\}_{\alpha+\alpha'}$, $\{200\}_{\alpha+\alpha'}$.

Electrolytical polishing was used to remove locally a material layer and thus determine the retained austenite content and the residual stresses in both phases in the sub-surface. The layer removal was conducted gradually and was measured at each step by a dial indicator. The estimated measurement accuracy was about 5 μm .

The layer removal can induce a stress relaxation, even greater as the reached depth is significant. Residual stresses results were thus corrected by a model suggested by Sikarskie (1967):

$$\sigma_{\text{corrected}}(z) = \sigma_{\text{measured}}(z) - 4 \times \sigma_{\text{measured}}(z=0) \times \frac{\Delta z}{e} \quad (1)$$

where z is the corresponding depth of the measurement, Δz the layer removal thickness, e the initial thickness of the specimen and $\sigma_{\text{measured}}(z=0)$ the residual stresses obtained at the surface.

3. Modeling and finite element simulation

A representative finite element modeling of the shot peening process was carried out in order to model the residual mechanical fields from the surface towards the core of the material. A specific material behavior law for multiphased TRIP steels has been adapted from the model developed by Kubler et al. (2011). The strain sensitivity effect is negligible for TRIP780 steels, therefore it was not considered in the model and the behavior is elastoplastic with time independent martensitic phase transformation. The simulation uses a user subroutine (VUMAT) for the material behavior implemented in Abaqus Explicit. The shot peening process was modeled using finite element method with multiple successive impacts of spheres on a semi-infinite body.

3.1. Constitutive equations for the TRIP steel behavior and identification of model parameters

The material behavior law for TRIP steels is a multiphased model where the elastoplastic behavior is predicted in each phase (ferrite, bainite, austenite and created martensite) and martensitic transformation is taken into account by a transformation kinetic law. Table 1

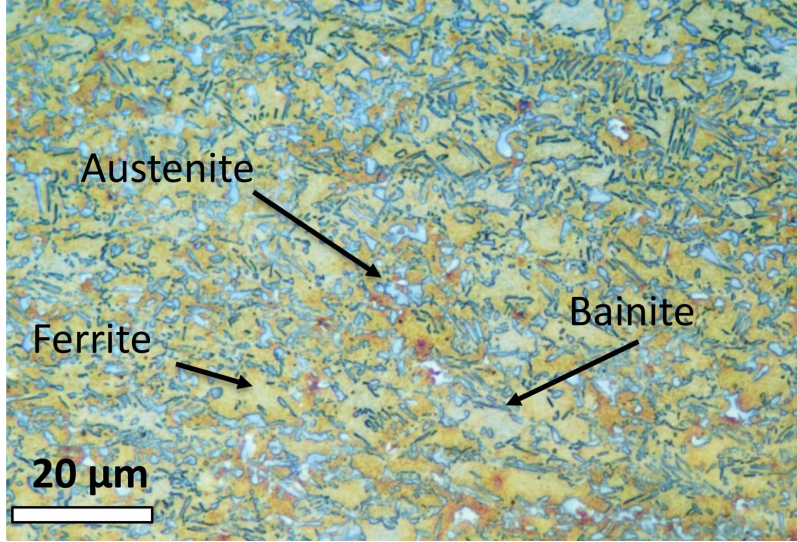


Fig. 1. Optical micrograph of the microstructure of TRIP780 steel.

Table 1
Glossary of notations

Symbol	Definition
\dot{X}	Rate of quantity X , $\dot{X} = \frac{dX}{dt}$
$\underline{\underline{\Sigma}}$	Macroscopic stress tensor
$\underline{\underline{E}}$	Macroscopic strain tensor
$\underline{\underline{\sigma}}$	Local stress tensor
$\underline{\underline{s}}$	Deviatoric part of the stress tensor
$\underline{\underline{\epsilon}}$	Local strain tensor
$\underline{\underline{C}}$	Fourth order tensor of elastic moduli
$\underline{\underline{I}}^{ep}$	Fourth order elastoplastic tensor
ϵ_{eq}^p	Equivalent plastic strain
p	Accumulated equivalent plastic strain
R	Isotropic hardening
$\underline{\underline{X}}$	Kinematical hardening tensor
$\underline{\underline{\xi}}^T$ (MITS)	Mean Instantaneous Transformation Strain tensor
θ	Volume change accompanying the $\gamma \rightarrow \alpha'$ transformation
$\underline{\underline{\xi}}^T$	Deviatoric part of the MITS
F^α, F^b, F^A	Volume fractions of ferrite, bainite and retained austenite
f	Martensitic Volume fraction in the retained austenite

presents the notations used to formulate the constitutive equations of the model.

For multiphase steel grades containing ferrite (α), bainite (b) and metastable austenite (A) of respective volume fraction F^α , F^b and F^A , the total strain rate is divided in each constituent, within a small strain assumption, such as:

$$\underline{\underline{\dot{E}}} = F^\alpha \underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^\alpha} + F^b \underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^b} + F^A \underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^A} \quad (2)$$

with

$$F^\alpha + F^b + F^A = 1 \quad (3)$$

In the representation proposed by the model, the retained austenite A includes the non-transformed austenite γ and the created martensite α' such as $A \equiv \gamma + \alpha'$.

With the thermo-elastoplastic behavior of ferrite and bainite, the total strain rate is:

$$\underline{\underline{\dot{E}}} = F^\alpha (\underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^{ep\alpha}} + \underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^{th\alpha}}) + F^b (\underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^{epb}} + \underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^{thb}}) + F^A \left((1-f) \left(\underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^{ep\gamma}} + \underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^{th\gamma}} + \frac{\dot{f}}{1-f} \underline{\underline{\xi}}^T \right) + f (\underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^{ep\alpha'}} + \underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^{th\alpha'}}) \right) \quad (4)$$

The martensite α' of volume fraction $f = \frac{V^{\alpha'}}{V^A}$, is created from the transformation of austenite γ under a thermomechanical loading.

$\underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}}$ is the elastoplastic strain rate, $\underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^{th}}$ is the thermal strain rate and $\underline{\underline{\xi}}^T$ is the mean instantaneous transformation strain (MITS) describing a part of the induced plasticity (Kubler et al., 2011).

For the finite element implementation of the behavior law in a VUMAT subroutine, the total strain rate is localized in each constituent using Taylor's assumption: $\underline{\underline{\dot{E}}} = \underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^\alpha} = \underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^b} = \underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^A}$.

The macroscopic stress rate derives from the contribution of the stresses in each constituent such as:

$$\underline{\underline{\dot{\Sigma}}} = F^\alpha \underline{\underline{\dot{\sigma}}^\alpha} + F^b \underline{\underline{\dot{\sigma}}^b} + F^A ((1-f) \underline{\underline{\dot{\sigma}}^\gamma} + f \underline{\underline{\dot{\sigma}}^{\alpha'}} + \dot{f} (\underline{\underline{\sigma}}^{\alpha'} - \underline{\underline{\sigma}}^\gamma)) \quad (5)$$

The constitutive behavior includes different contributions:

- Elastoplastic behavior:

The elastoplastic behavior is described in each constituent using von-Mises criterion with non-linear hardening.

The linear elastic behavior is isotropic and is described with the shear modulus $\mu = 80 \text{ GPa}$ and Poisson's ratio $\nu = 0.3$. The yield surface is defined by the yield function Y as:

$$Y = \sigma_{eq} - \sigma_y - R \quad (6)$$

where σ_y is the yield stress and the von-Mises stress is defined as:

$$\sigma_{eq} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2} (\underline{\underline{s}} - \underline{\underline{X}}) : (\underline{\underline{s}} - \underline{\underline{X}})} \quad (7)$$

$\underline{\underline{s}}$ is the deviatoric stress tensor. R and $\underline{\underline{X}}$ representing the isotropic and the kinematical hardenings are defined as functions of the plastic strain $\underline{\underline{\epsilon}}^p$ and its equivalent value ϵ_{eq}^p such as:

$$R = Q_0 (1 - e^{-b \cdot \epsilon_{eq}^p}) \quad (8)$$

$$\underline{\underline{\dot{X}}} = \frac{2}{3} C \cdot \underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}^p} - \Gamma \cdot \underline{\underline{X}} \cdot \dot{p} \quad (9)$$

where Q_0 , b , C and Γ are material parameters, and \dot{p} the accumulated plastic strain rate.

The incremental elastoplastic behavior is defined by:

$$\underline{\underline{\dot{\sigma}}} = \underline{\underline{I}}^{ep} : \underline{\underline{\dot{\epsilon}}}^{ep} \quad (10)$$

Using the standard approach for associated plasticity (Lemaitre and Chaboche (1985)), the elastoplastic modulus $\underline{\underline{l}}^{\text{ep}}$ of each constituent is derived as a function of the hardening parameters:

$$\underline{\underline{l}}^{\text{ep}} = \underline{\underline{C}} - \alpha \frac{9\mu^2}{(H + 3\mu)\sigma_{\text{eq}}^2} (\underline{\underline{s}} - \underline{\underline{X}}) \otimes (\underline{\underline{s}} - \underline{\underline{X}}) \quad (11)$$

where α depends on the yield function:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &= 1 \text{ if } Y \geq 0 \\ \alpha &= 0 \text{ if } Y < 0 \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

with $\underline{\underline{C}}$ the tensor of elastic moduli and H defined as:

$$H = \frac{\partial R}{\partial \varepsilon_{\text{eq}}^p} \quad (13)$$

- Mean Instantaneous Transformation Strain (MITS):

The MITS $\underline{\underline{\xi}}^T$ represents the mean contribution of transformation strain rate over all the activated variants of martensite. It is additively decomposed in a volumic part $\frac{1}{3}\theta\delta$ and a deviatoric strain contribution e^T :

$$\underline{\underline{\xi}}_{ij}^T = \frac{1}{3}\theta\delta_{ij} + e_{ij}^T \quad (14)$$

with

$$\theta = \frac{\Delta V}{V} = \frac{\underline{\underline{\xi}}_{kk}^T}{3} \quad (15)$$

being the volume variation, resulting from the crystallographic transformation from the austenitic to the martensitic lattice. θ is independent of the stress level and considered as a material data.

Including volume variation, the MITS is given as a function of the deviatoric stress in the non transformed austenite s^γ by Kubler et al. (2011):

$$\underline{\underline{\xi}}_{ij}^T = \frac{\theta}{3}\delta_{ij} + d_1' s_{ij}^\gamma + d_2' \left(\frac{9}{16} [s_{kl}^\gamma s_{kl}^\gamma] \delta_{ij} - \frac{27}{16} s_{ki}^\gamma s_{kj}^\gamma \right) \quad (16)$$

where d_1' (MPa^{-1}) and d_2' (MPa^{-2}) are two parameters.

- Transformation kinetics:

The martensitic transformation kinetics, i.e. evolution of the volume fraction of martensite f versus the control parameters, is defined within a thermodynamical time-independent framework. Guiheux et al. (2017) completed the transformation kinetics proposed by Kubler et al. (2011), where the transformation kinetics involves Patel-Cohen (Patel and Cohen, 1953) and Olson-Cohen (Olson and Cohen, 1982) evolution laws:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{f} &= \frac{1-f}{\kappa} (\underline{\underline{\dot{\sigma}}}: \underline{\underline{\xi}}^T - B \cdot \dot{T} \\ &+ \alpha \cdot \beta \cdot n \cdot \exp(-\alpha \cdot \varepsilon_{\text{eq}}^p) \cdot [1 - \exp(-\alpha \cdot \varepsilon_{\text{eq}}^p)] \dot{\varepsilon}_{\text{eq}}^p \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

where κ , α , β and n are material parameters.

The calibration of the material parameters was carried out with mechanical tests in tension (monotonic and cyclic) at room temperature coupled with martensitic volume fraction determination vs strain on TRIP780 specimens obtained from a first steel cast. Results from the literature (Furnemont, 2003) were also used for shear testing. The volume fractions of the initial constituents were $F^a = 70\%$, $F^b = 13\%$ and $F^c = 17\%$ ($f = 0$). The calibrated material parameters are presented in Table 2, for hardening and in Table 3 for the transformation

Table 2

Model parameters for the hardening behavior of each constituent

	σ_y (MPa)	C	Γ
Austenite	600	3900	5
Martensite	1400	3000	5
Ferrite	510	3600	10
Bainite	700	4050	5

Table 3

Model parameters for the transformation kinetics

θ (%)	d_1' (MPa^{-1})	d_2' (MPa^{-2})	κ	n	α	β
4	$2 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$-2 \cdot 10^{-7}$	909	1.8	11	1000

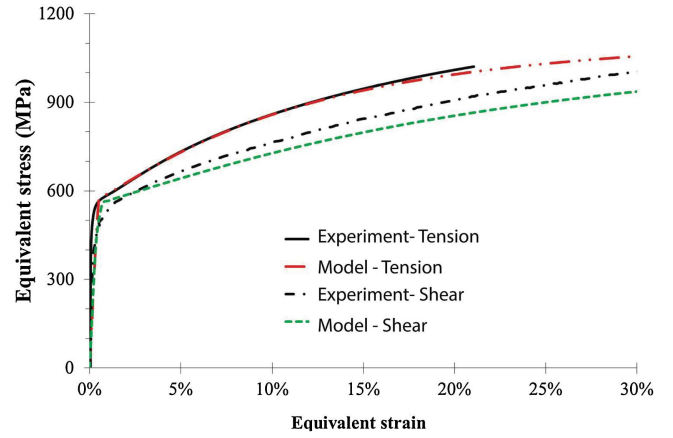


Fig. 2. Mechanical stress vs strain response in tension and shear testing. Experiments vs model with the calibrated parameters.

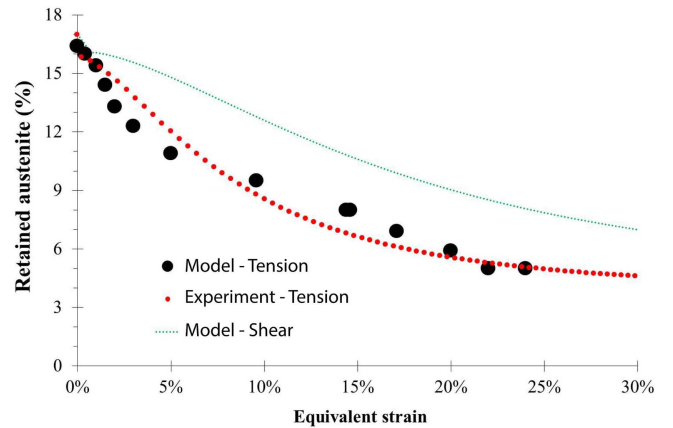


Fig. 3. Martensitic volume fraction vs total strain. Experiments vs model with the calibrated parameters.

kinetics. Only the kinematical hardening was considered in the calibration (i.e. $Q_0 = 0$). The comparisons between experimental and simulation data are presented in Figs. 2 and 3 for a monotonic loading. Though phase determination was not available in shear testing, simulations are in good agreement with experimental data. The model predicts more phase transformation in tension than in shear testing.

For the TRIP780 steel grade that was used for shot peening, the initial value of retained austenite volume fraction was determined by XRD and was set in the simulation to $F^a = 13\%$ with $F^c = 70\%$ and $F^b = 17\%$. Before shot peening, the simulation considers a constant distribution of constituents in the depth of the modeled medium.

The model is coded in FORTRAN and implemented in a VUMAT

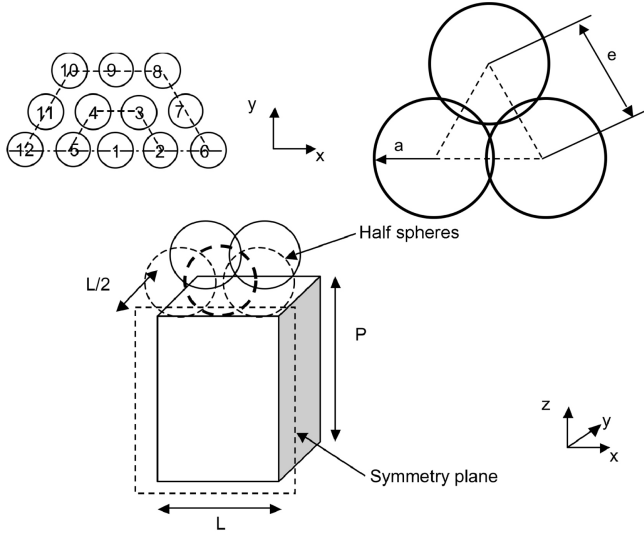


Fig. 4. Multiple impact configuration. Numbers indicates the shooting order. e represents the distance between the center of impacts of radius a .

subroutine using ABAQUS Explicit.

3.2. Finite element model for multi-impact shot peening

In order to link the finite element simulation to process parameters such as coverage rate and impact velocities, an a priori estimation of the coverage is needed. The case of a single shot of diameter D impacting at a velocity V is useful to obtain an analytical value of impact radius a using Hertz theory, as developed in A. The impact radius a is given by:

$$a = D \cdot \left(\frac{K \cdot \pi \rho_s V^2}{4\sqrt{2} \bar{E}} \right)^{1/5} \quad (18)$$

where K is the impact efficiency ratio, ρ_s is the density of the material of the shot and \bar{E} is the equivalent Young modulus.

The shot peening process is modeled by the impact of multiple spheres on a plate. Considering an homogeneous repartition of the shot peening flow, a representative volume element of the process can be modeled. A symmetry condition is also considered in order to model halfspace. The plate is restricted to a rectangular box of thickness P , length L and width $L/2$ as seen in Fig. 4. The spheres have only an elastic isotropic behavior ($E = 210$ GPa, $\nu = 0.3$). The spheres in the plane of symmetry are cut in half and boundary conditions are applied according to the symmetry. The translations of each face of the box are blocked along their normal directions, except the top face. The cutting planes of the half spheres in the plane of symmetry are blocked in translation in direction y . The other spheres are free. In the presented study, the velocity of the shot is initialized on each node of the spheres in direction y (normal impact). The initial velocity for SP1 and SP2 are estimated from the turbine rotation velocity and its diameter, and are set to: $V = 60$ m/s.

For multi-impact simulations, the spherical pebbles impact the plate according to an hexagonal pattern, where the distance between the center of the closest pebbles is equal to e . The impact radius a representing the diameter of the dimple after impact is estimated using Eq. (18).

The coverage rate T defined as the ratio of the impacted area over the total area, is estimated with respect to the distance e (see Fig. 4), the diameter D and the velocity V as:

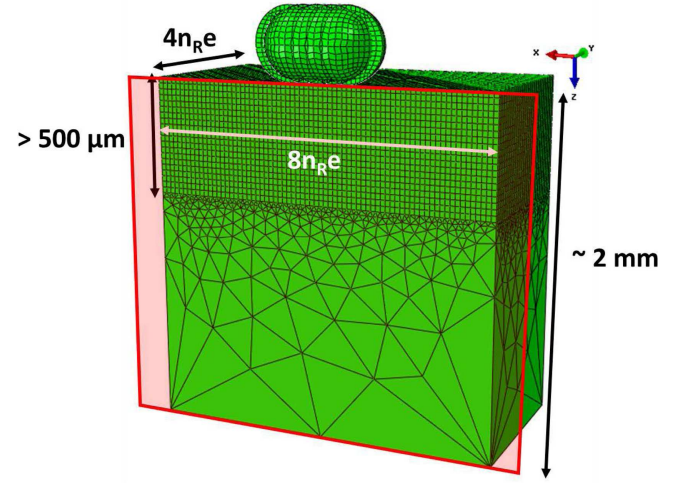


Fig. 5. Dimensions and finite element mesh of the shot-peened block. $n_R = 2$ in the presented case.

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \frac{S_{\text{impacted}}}{S_{\text{total}}} = \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{3}} \left(\frac{a}{e} \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{3}} \left(\frac{D}{e} \cdot \left(\frac{K \cdot \pi \rho_s V^2}{4\sqrt{2} \bar{E}} \right)^{1/5} \right)^2 \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

Inversing Eq (19), the coverage rate T will give the distance between impacts e for a given media impacting with a velocity V .

Two ranges ($n_R = 2$) around the central impact are modeled allowing the simulation of a 19 shot peening process. The mesh consists of C3D8R elements in the impacted material close to the surface and in the shots. At a depth where the residual stresses become negligible, C3D4 elements are used. The mesh size close to the surface is $25 \mu\text{m}$.

The contact is defined between the impacted surface (slave surface) and the shots (master surface) with the penalty method with a normal and tangential behavior and a constant friction coefficient of 0.4. The initial state is free of residual stresses and with an homogeneous composition (no gradients of behaviors or volume fractions).

The estimated coverage rate (19) is used to set the size L of the rectangular box so that the closest sphere contacts the plate at a distance of the edge of the box. P is also set to obtain a semi-infinite body conditions. Fig. 5 presents the adopted mesh. The shooting order has no effect on the averaged results if the results are averaged on a zone bigger than the first range. In this case, the results are averaged over an hexagonal zone corresponding to the last range of the impacted part (hexagon of radius $2e$). The mechanical (residual stresses and plastic strain) and microstructural fields (martensitic volume fraction f) are averaged at a depth with respect to the undeformed mesh.

4. Results and discussions

4.1. Experimental results

Fig. 6 presents the hardness profiles after shot peening SP1 and SP2 which was performed on the cross sections of shot peened samples; the dashed line represents the base material. Hardening is clearly observed for SP1 condition (respectively SP2 condition) for which the maximum value of 315HV (respectively, 410HV) is reached at the near-surface and decreases until the material hardness at a depth of roughly $50 \mu\text{m}$ (respectively, $150 \mu\text{m}$). These results are in agreement with the literature [Fargas et al., 2015].

The retained austenite fraction was measured by XRD; the absolute accuracy is about $\pm 3\%$. Before shot peening, the austenite content is 5% at the surface; it increases up to 12% for depths larger than $50 \mu\text{m}$. The lowest value at the surface is due to the processing route as the

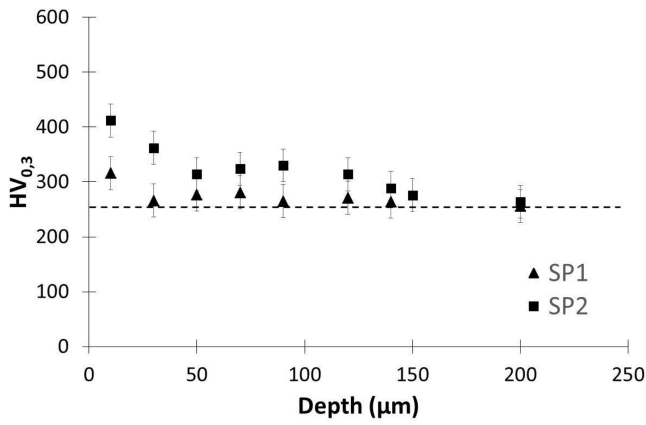


Fig. 6. Microhardness profiles for SP1 and SP2 conditions.

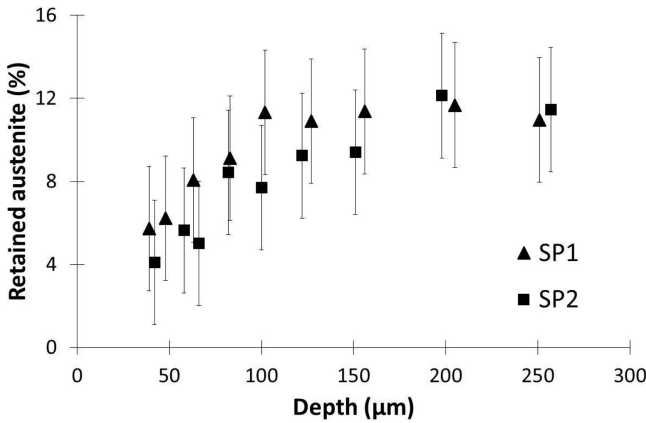


Fig. 7. Profiles of austenite volume fraction for SP1 and SP2 conditions.

sheets were skin-passed; this has induced martensitic transformation in the near surface. Fig. 7 presents the retained austenite content as a function of depth for both SP conditions. In the first fifty micrometers, it was too weak to be detected by XRD. Then the retained austenite content increases up to its initial value, 12%, at a depth of 100 μm for SP1 condition (respectively 200 μm for SP2). The TRIP effect induced by SP is maximum at the surface; an increase of the shot diameter and the intensity induces an increase of the affected depth (i.e. where the martensitic transformation occurred).

Before SP, the residual stresses in ferritic phases and in austenite were quite low, less than 100 MPa in absolute value. Fig. 8 presents the

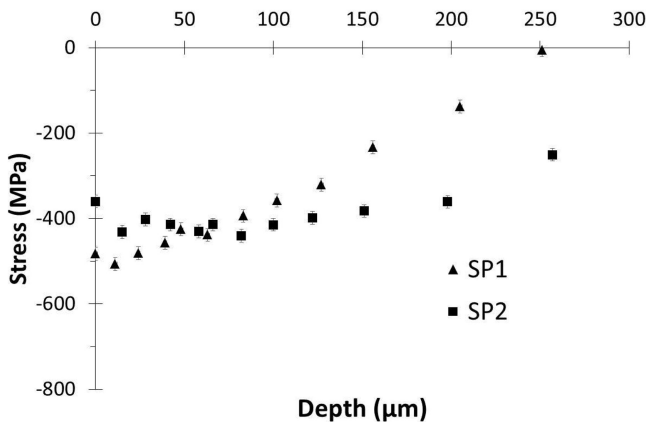


Fig. 8. Profiles of residual stresses in ferritic phases ($\sigma_{11}^{\alpha+\alpha'}$) for SP1 and SP2 conditions.

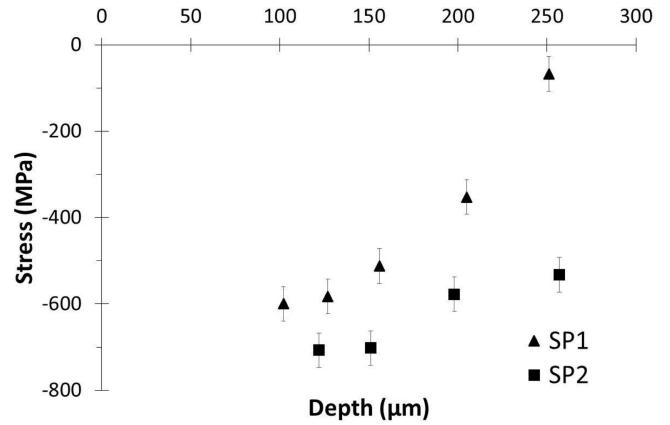


Fig. 9. Profiles of residual stresses in austenite (σ_{11}^{γ}) for SP1 and SP2 conditions.

residual stresses profile for the ferritic phases for both SP conditions. As mentioned in Section 2.2, this is an average value over ferrite, bainitic ferrite and martensite phases as XRD do not allow to separate each contribution. Both profiles are quite similar to those commonly found in the literature. SP1 condition leads to a more intense surface and maximum compressive stresses than SP2, respectively -380 MPa and -420 MPa for SP1, and -490 and -510 MPa for SP2. Moreover, whereas the compressive stress is rather constant over the first hundred micrometers for SP2, it decreases from the first twenty micrometers for SP1: its value at 250 μm depth is almost null, compared to -200 MPa for the other peening condition.

In austenite, due to its low fraction, stresses could not be determined in the first hundred micrometers as the accuracy was not sufficient. Fig. 9 shows that austenite is also in compression; the values are larger than in the ferritic phases, of about 150–200 MPa. The highest compressive stresses are observed with the larger shot diameter (SP2) which are 100 MPa higher than the SP1 values. Moreover, the stress has returned to zero value at 250 μm for SP1 whereas it is still in high compression for SP2. An inflection point seems to be observed around 120 μm , resp. between 150 and 200 μm , for SP1, resp. SP2; these depths correspond to the point where the retained austenite fraction becomes equal to its initial value of 12%. In agreement with literature, increasing the shot diameter induces an increase of the maximum compressive stress and the stress peak is shifted towards larger depths. Stress analysis in the austenitic phase seems to show that the stress decrease is more important in the non martensitic transformation affected depth.

The Full-Width at Half Maximum (FWHM) of diffraction peaks is an indicator of micro-strain and coherent domain size. In the following,

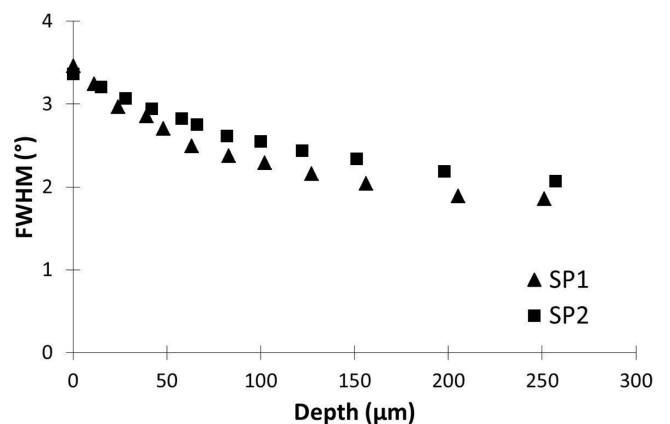


Fig. 10. Profiles of FWHM in the ferritic phases ($\alpha + \alpha'$) for SP1 and SP2 conditions.

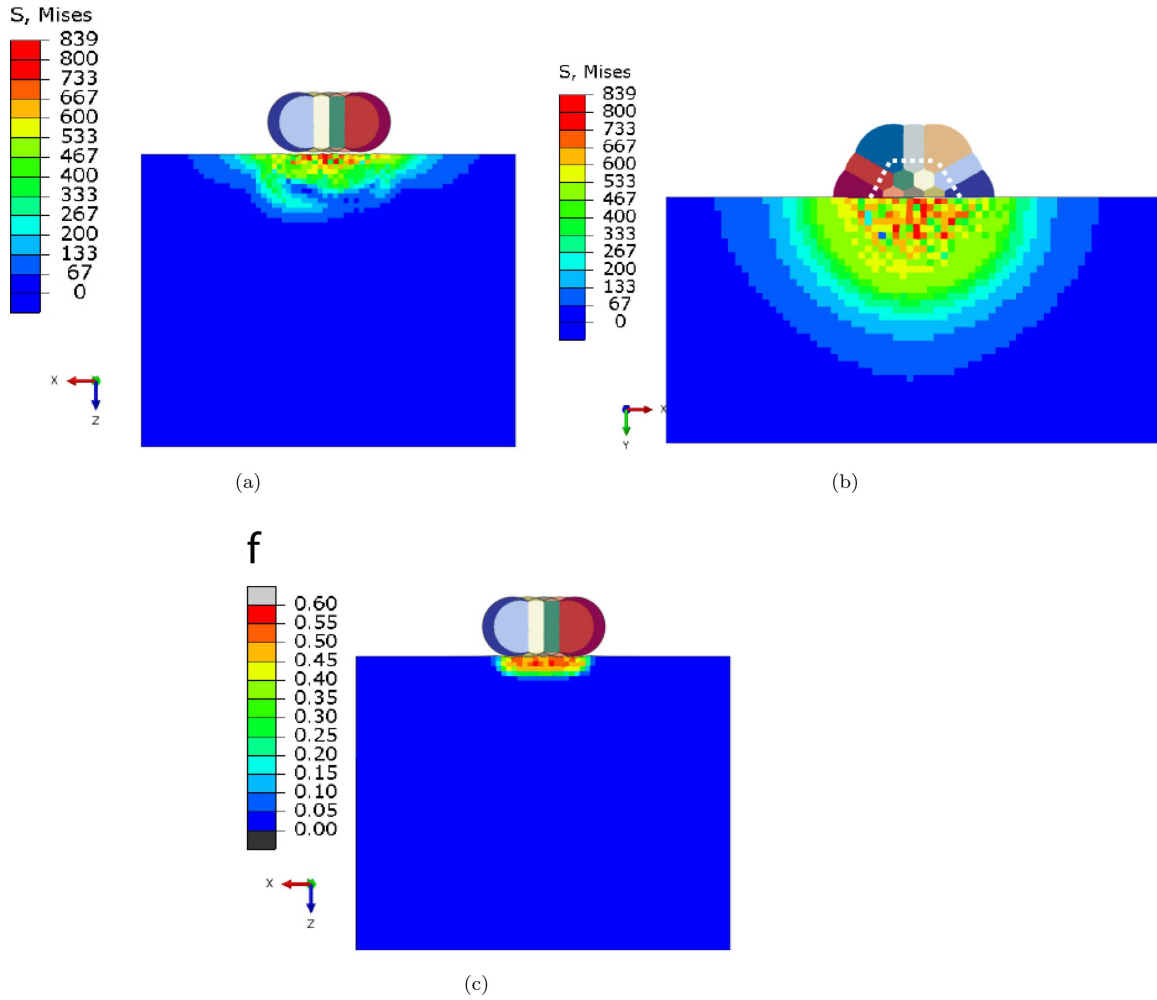


Fig. 11. Field contours after the impacts for SP1 condition. Macroscopic von Mises stress (MPa), (a) side view from the plane of symmetry, (b) Top view. (c) Martensitic volume fraction f . The positions of the shots before impact are indicated.

only the FWHM corresponding to $\{211\}$ crystallographic planes of the ferritic phases is presented; there is no austenite diffraction peak at the near surface, as it has been fully transformed into martensite. The FWHM evolution is plotted in Fig. 10 as a function of depth. The maximum value, observed at the surface, is the same for both SP conditions. It decreases to a constant value, corresponding to the initial value (before SP), from 200 μm depth for SP1; for SP2, the stable state does not seem to be reached yet at 250 μm depth. From a qualitative point of view, the FWHM is increased compared to the initial value in

the zone where compressive stresses are observed too.

To summarize, all these measurements show an impact of martensitic transformation on stresses profiles and FWHM. The depth affected by SP can be defined as the one where the retained austenite fraction is lower than the initial one, that is 100 μm for SP1 and around 200 μm for SP2; it is also associated with the highest compressive stresses and hardness which differ from less than 10% from the maximum value. In the non affected zone, stresses, hardness and FWHM decrease. An increase of the shot diameter increases the zone size where the

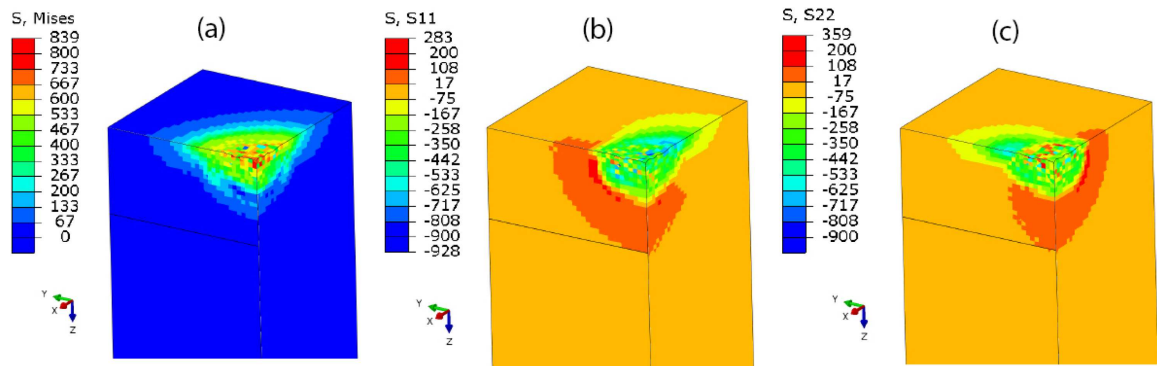


Fig. 12. Macroscopic von Mises (a), σ_{xx} (b) and σ_{yy} (c) stress (MPa) contours after the impacts for SP1 condition. 1/4 cut.

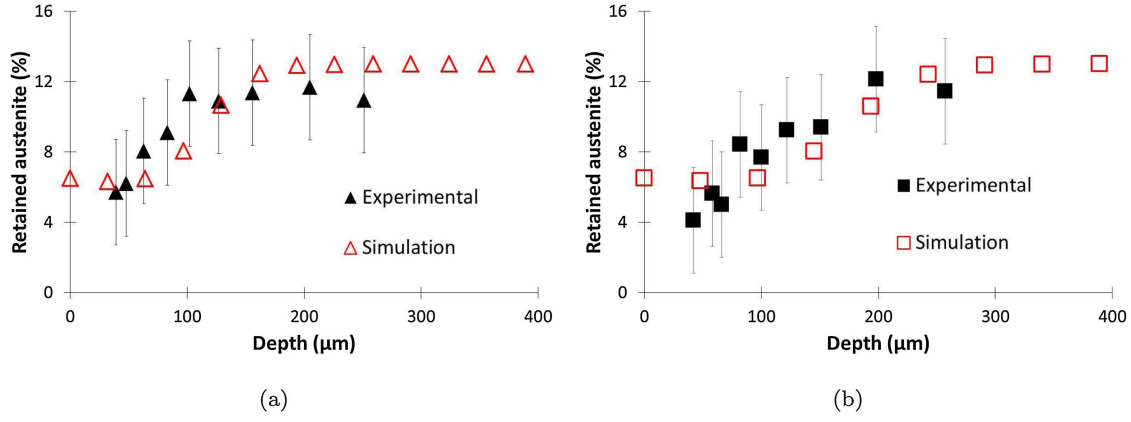


Fig. 13. Profile of austenite volume fraction for (a) SP1 and (b) SP2 conditions. Model vs Experimental data.

martensitic transformation occurs but it decreases the maximum stress value in the ferritic phases.

4.2. Numerical results and comparison of residual profiles after shot peening

The modeled mechanical and microstructural quantities are averaged in order to be compared to experimental profiles obtained from X-ray diffraction. After the sequence of impacts on the surface, the following quantities averaged on the elements located at a depth z , are analyzed:

- Volume fraction of retained austenite $f \times F^A$;
- Residual stresses in austenite $\sigma_{xx}^{\gamma} - \sigma_{zz}^{\gamma}$;
- Residual stresses in ferritic phases comprising ferrite α , bainite b and

created martensite α' , $\sigma_{xx}^{\alpha+\alpha'} - \sigma_{zz}^{\alpha+\alpha'}$;

- Residual macroscopic stress Σ_{xx} .

Fig. 11 presents the contours of residual stresses and martensitic volume fraction after impacts for SP1 condition. The averaging region is similar to the hexagonal pattern limited by the center of the impacts as shown in Fig. 11b. In Fig. 12, it is shown that the average stress is axisymmetrical since the σ_{xx} contours look like the σ_{yy} contours with a 90° rotation. All the quantities are compared to experimental data in the depth of the sample after shot peening.

Fig. 13 compares the predicted and the experimental profile of retained austenite after SP1 (a) and SP2 (b). The model predicts accurately the increase of the affected depth for SP2 compared to SP1. The predicted affected depth by martensitic transformation is 150 μm for

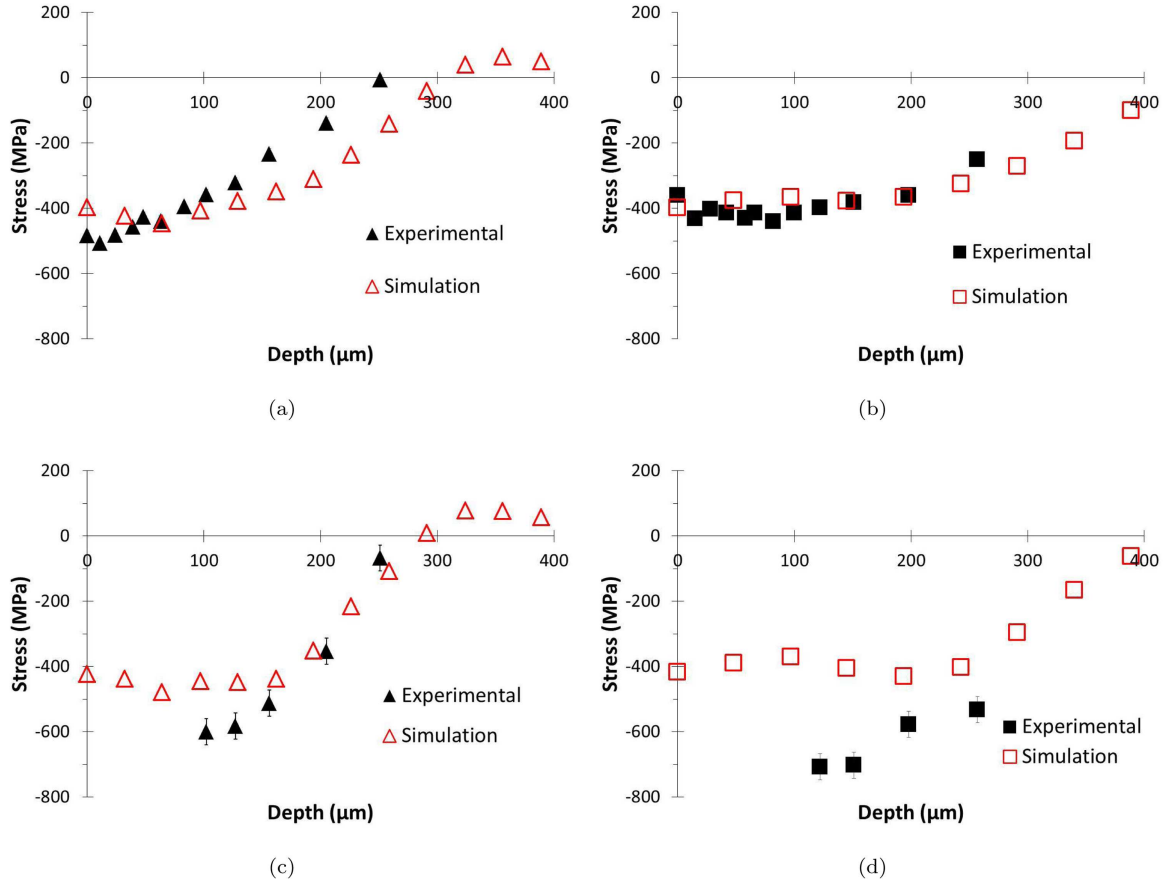


Fig. 14. Profile of residual stresses: $\sigma_{11}^{\alpha+\alpha'}$ for (a) SP1 and (b) SP2 conditions; σ_{11}^{γ} for (c) SP1 and (d) SP2 conditions. Model vs Experimental data.

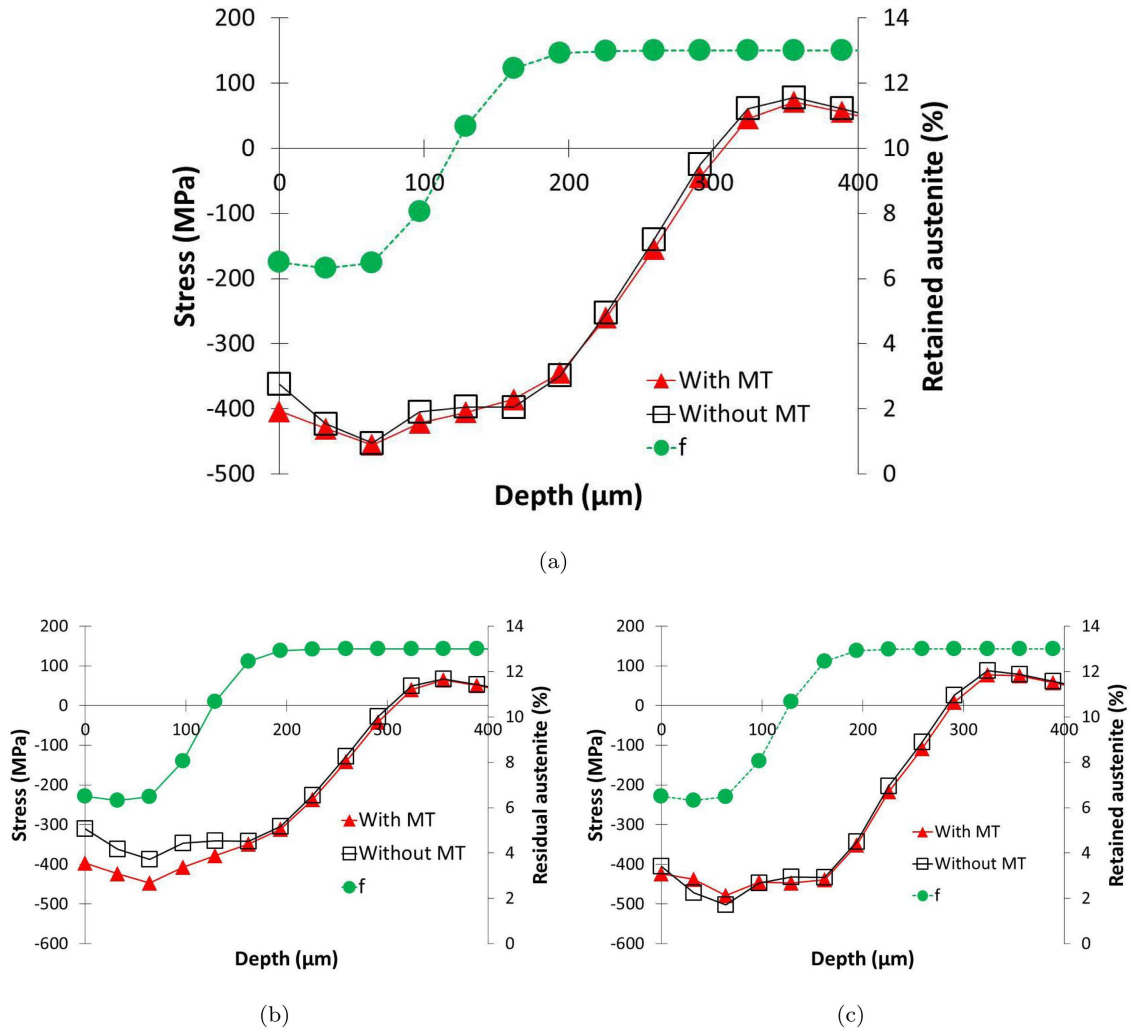


Fig. 15. Effect of the martensitic transformation (MT) on the profile of residual stresses (a) macroscopic stress Σ_{11} , (b) $\sigma_{11}^{\alpha+\alpha'}$ in ferritic phases, (c) σ_{11}^{γ} in austenite for SP1 condition.

SP1 (exp: 100 μm) and 250 μm for SP2 (exp: 200 μm). The profiles are in good agreement with respect to the experimental uncertainty.

In the experimental work, it was not possible to measure the volume fraction of austenite at the surface. However, the model predicts a volume fraction of retained austenite of 6% at the surface. At the surface, where contact between the shots and the plate takes place, this may be attributed to a shear loading where less retained austenite is transformed compared to tension (see Fig. 3). Let us also remind that the decrease of retained austenite content at the surface (< 50 μm) prior to shot peening was not considered in the model.

Fig. 14(a-b) presents the residual stresses profiles $\sigma_{11}^{\alpha+\alpha'}$ for SP1 and SP2 conditions. A good agreement is found between the model and experimental data. The residual stresses at the surface are identical for SP1 and SP2 conditions. When regarding the affected depth by the compressive residual stresses, the model predicts 300 μm for SP1 and more than 400 μm for SP2. In Fig. 14(c-d), the predicted residual stresses level in the non-transformed austenite σ_{11}^{γ} underestimates the experimental stress though the affected depth is well predicted. The predicted affected depth by the compressive residual stresses in austenite are identical to the one predicted in the pseudo-ferritic phases ($\alpha + \alpha'$).

4.3. Effect of the martensitic transformation

The adopted model for TRIP steels allows to investigate the effect of

the martensitic transformation by canceling artificially the transformation. The same sequence of impacts was simulated with the extinction of the martensitic transformation, i.e. the impacted surface behaves as a multiphased elastoplastic steel. Fig. 15.a shows the effect of the martensitic transformation on the macroscopic stress profile. A beneficial effect is observed in the first 50 μm where the martensitic transformation generates more compressive residual stresses ($\Delta\sigma = 50$ MPa). In Fig. 15b, it is observed that with martensitic transformation the pseudo-ferritic phases are more in compression ($\Delta\sigma = 100$ MPa) on a depth of 180 μm corresponding to the depth affected by martensitic transformation. Martensitic transformation has a positive effect on the compressive stress generation. In the retained austenite, the stress profile is only slightly affected by the transformation (Fig. 15c). The martensitic transformation is accompanied by a transformation strain resulting from the Bain strain in each martensitic variant and the accommodation inelastic strain in the other phases. Fig. 16 shows that the additional transformation strain is maximum at the surface with a value of 5% and decreases to zero until no martensitic transformation takes place at a depth greater than 150 μm. Compared to the total inelastic strain, the contribution of the transformation strain represents 10%.

5. Conclusions

Shot peening was experimentally and numerically investigated in a TRIP780 steel with two shot peening conditions.

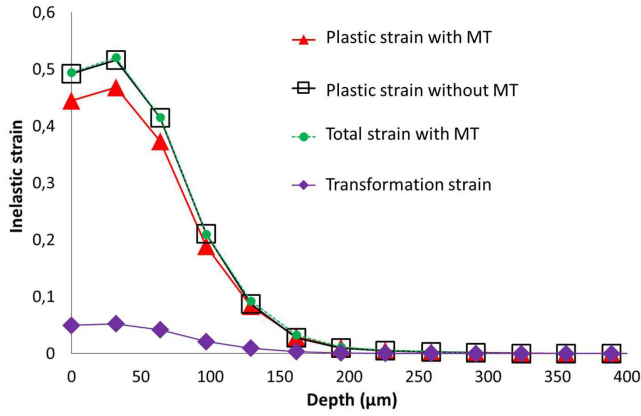


Fig. 16. Inelastic strain profiles for SP1 condition. Effect of the martensitic transformation (MT).

The experimental X-ray diffraction analysis allows to distinguish the austenitic phase γ and the pseudo-ferritic phases ($\alpha + \alpha'$). The martensitic peaks have not been separated from the ferritic peaks in this study. However, in a future work it would be interesting to investigate the stress in ferrite and in martensite.

The experiments showed:

- Martensite appears in the first hundred micrometers and the martensitic transformation is greater when Almen intensity is higher;
- The stress level is determined in the pseudo-ferritic phases ($\alpha + \alpha'$) and in the austenitic phase γ in depth of the samples. Austenite appears more in compression than the pseudo-ferritic phases. Comparing two SP conditions, though the residual stresses in the pseudo-ferritic phases are similar at the surface, the affected depth is different. It is thus necessary to analyze the stress profiles;
- The affected depths by residual stresses in the pseudo-ferritic phases and in austenite are identical. Those affected depths by compressive residual stresses are greater than the affected depth by martensitic transformation.

Numerical simulations by finite element analysis were carried out

Appendix A. Determination of the impact radius using Hertz theory (Hertz, 1882; Johnson, 1985)

The normal impact of a sphere of diameter D with a semi-infinite medium is considered.

In case of a static indent (see Fig. A.17), the total compression δ is related to the contact size a by:

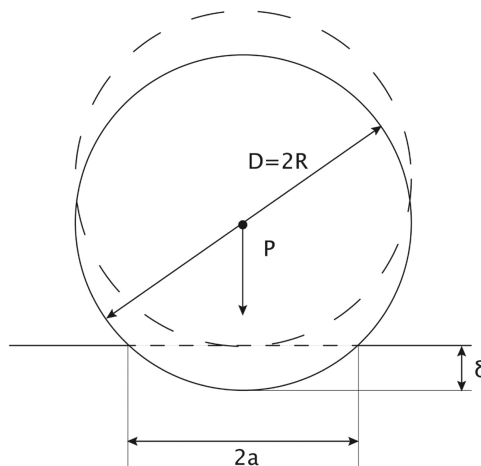


Fig. A.17. Geometry of a sphere in normal contact with a plane.

by representative dynamical shots on a TRIP780 steel medium, whose behavior is described by an elasto-plastic multiphase model with phase transformation. This model leads to the following conclusions:

- The martensitic transformation profile is well described by the model for two SP configurations;
- The stress profiles in the pseudo-ferritic phase are well predicted regarding the stress level and the affected depth. The stress in austenite is underestimated. A better model for strain partitioning between phases could help to improve the experimental-modeling agreement;
- By numerically canceling martensitic transformation in the studied TRIP780 steel, it is predicted that martensitic transformation has a beneficial effect on the level of compressive stress in the first 50 μm . An additional transformation strain of 5% contributes to this beneficial effect. In a stress fatigue life estimation, this would increase the fatigue life compared to steels without phase transformation.

The presented finite element tool can be used to investigate the effect of other microstructural parameters (phase distribution, volume variation) and of different process parameters on the mechanical states after shot-peening. In future studies, the presented numerical tool could also be chained with other simulations of metal forming prior to shot-peening to take into account the initial gradients of microstructure and residual stress fields. Indeed, this could be performed by initializing in-depth profiles of internal variables (plastic strain, martensitic phase transformation) and of mechanical stress fields over which shot peening will be superimposed. Thus, understanding the loading history and their resulting mechanical and microstructural fields would benefit to the fatigue prediction of shot peened parts.

Acknowledgments

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$$\delta = \frac{a^2}{D} \quad (\text{A.1})$$

In the Hertz theory, the load P , resulting from the pressure forces of the ball on the plate, is linked to δ by:

$$P = \frac{4\bar{E}\sqrt{D}}{3\sqrt{2}}\delta^{3/2} \quad (\text{A.2})$$

with \bar{E} is the equivalent Young modulus defined as a function of the elastic material properties of the shot (subscript s) and of the impacted plate (subscript p):

$$(\bar{E})^{-1} = \frac{1 - \nu_s^2}{E_s} + \frac{1 - \nu_p^2}{E_p} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

In order to obtain a relationship between the shot peening parameters and the resulting contact area of radius a , an equivalence between an elasto-plastic shock and an elastic one is made. The kinetic energy W of a shot is converted to an elasto-plastic energy W_{ep} of the impacted material and a energy W_d dissipated in the form of temperature and oscillations such as:

$$W = W_{ep} + W_d \quad (\text{A.4})$$

The efficiency of the impact is characterized by the ratio K between the elasto-plastic energy and the total kinetic energy.

$$K = \frac{W_{ep}}{W} \quad (\text{A.5})$$

The ratio K was estimated to be 0.8 by [Johnson \(1972\)](#).

The elasto-plastic energy is thus defined as:

$$W_{ep} = K \cdot \frac{1}{2} mV^2 = \frac{K\pi\rho_s D^3 V^2}{12} \quad (\text{A.6})$$

where ρ_s is the density of the material of the shot, D its diameter and V its velocity.

For a plastic impact at moderate velocities (up to 500 m/s), impact velocities are small compared to elastic wave speeds. Thus the impact behaviour can be investigated under static conditions. The kinetic energy W is absorbed in local deformation of the two colliding bodies, up to the instant of maximum compression, which is expressed by [Johnson \(1985\)](#):

$$W = \int_0^\delta P d\delta \quad (\text{A.7})$$

where the resulting load P is linked to the average dynamic pressure p_d by:

$$P = \pi a^2 p_d \quad (\text{A.8})$$

By inserting Eqs. (A.1) and (A.8) in Eq. (A.7), the kinetic energy is expressed:

$$W = \int_0^a \pi a^2 p_d \frac{a}{R} da = \frac{\pi a^4 p_d}{4R} \quad (\text{A.9})$$

By writing the equivalence between Eq. (A.9) and Eq. (A.6), the contact radius is linked to the shot peening parameters by:

$$a = D \cdot \left(\frac{K \cdot \pi \rho V^2}{4\sqrt{2}\bar{E}} \right)^{1/5} \quad (\text{A.10})$$

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