

**F-bar aided Edge-based  
Smoothed Finite Element Method  
with Tetrahedral Elements  
for Large Deformation Analysis  
of Nearly Incompressible Materials**

**Yuki ONISHI**

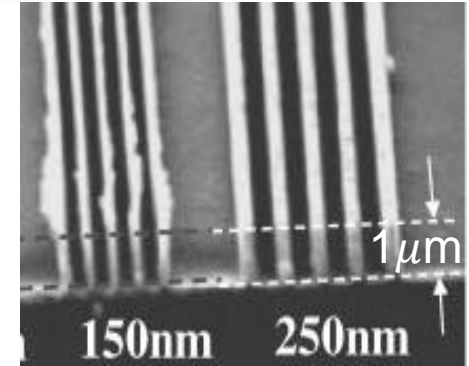
**Tokyo Institute of Technology (Japan)**

# Motivation & Background

## Motivation

We want to analyze **severe large deformation** of nearly incompressible solids ***accurately and stably!***

(Target: automobile tire, thermal nanoimprint, etc.)

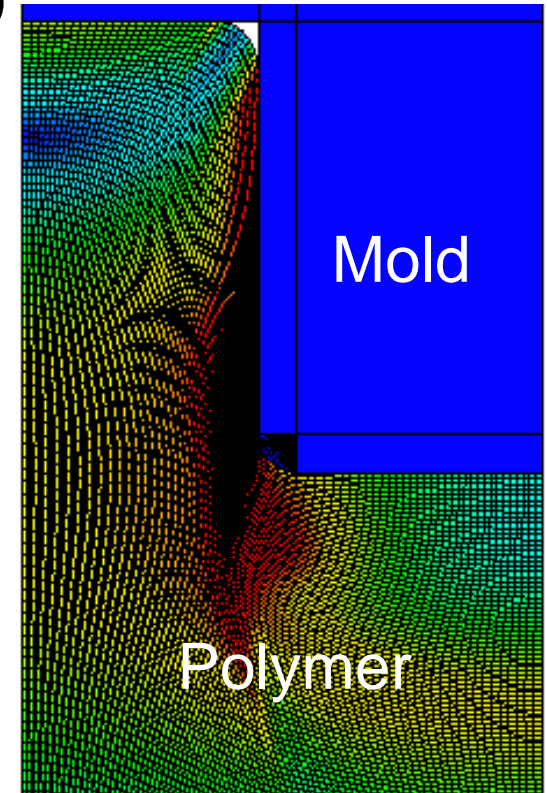


## Background

Finite elements are **distorted** in a short time, thereby resulting in convergence failure.

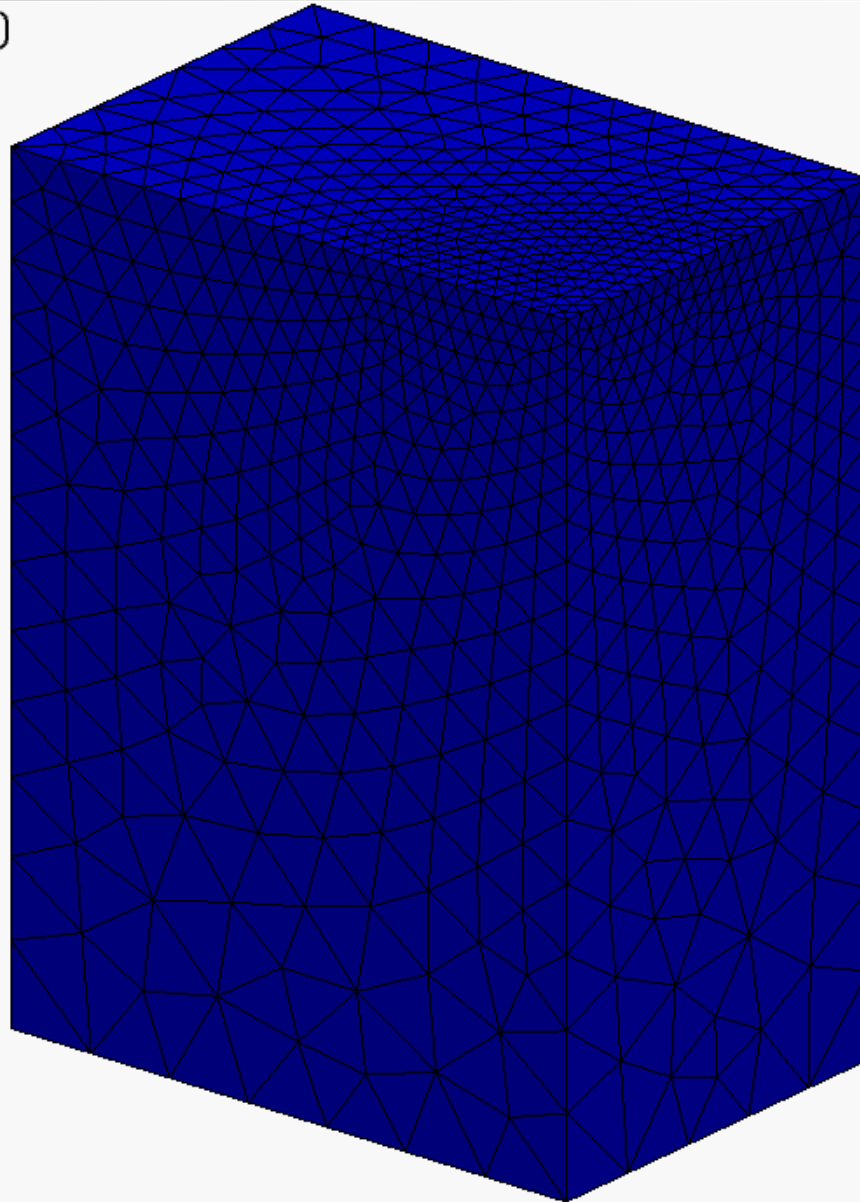
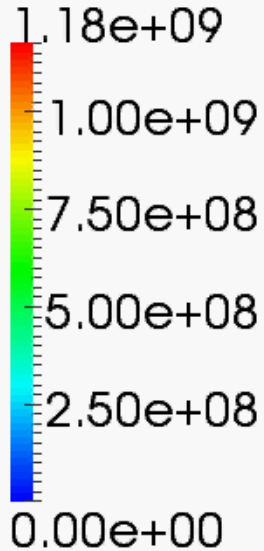


**Mesh rezoning** method (*h*-adaptive mesh-to-mesh solution mapping) is indispensable.



# Our First Result in Advance

Mises Stress (Pa)



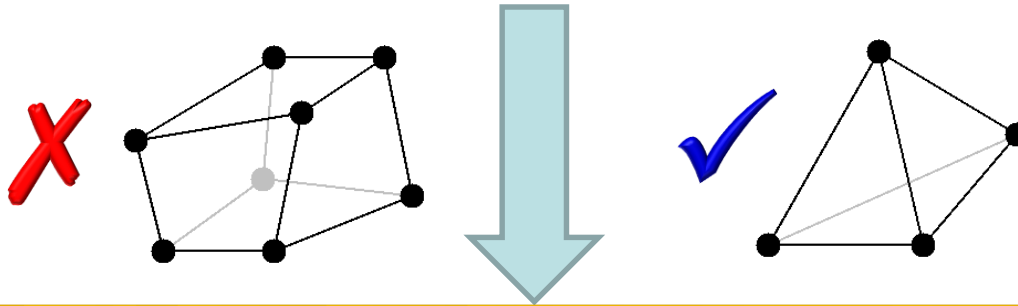
What we want to do:

- Static
- Implicit
- Large deformation
- Mesh rezoning

# Issues

## The biggest issue in large deformation mesh rezoning

It is impossible to remesh arbitrary deformed 3D shapes with **hexahedral (H8) elements**.



We have to use **tetrahedral (T4) elements**...

However, the *standard* (constant strain) T4 elements easily induce **shear and volumetric locking**, which leads to inaccurate results.

# Conventional Methods

- Higher order elements:
  - ✗ Not volumetric locking free; Unstable in contact analysis; No good in large deformation due to intermediate nodes.
- EAS method:
  - ✗ Unstable due to spurious zero-energy modes.
- B-bar, F-bar and selective integration method:
  - ✗ Not applicable to T4 mesh directly.
- F-bar patch method:
  - ✗ Difficult to construct good patches. Not shear locking free.
- u/p hybrid (mixed) elements:
  - ✗ No sufficient formulation for T4 mesh so far.  
(There are almost acceptable hybrid elements such as C3D4H of ABAQUS.)
- Smoothed finite element method (S-FEM):



# Various Types of S-FEMs

## ■ Basic type

- Node-based S-FEM (NS-FEM) } **✗** Spurious zero-energy
- Face-based S-FEM (FS-FEM) } **✗** Volumetric Locking
- Edge-based S-FEM (ES-FEM) }

## ■ Selective type

- Selective FS/NS-FEM } **✗** Limitation of constitutive model,  
Pressure oscillation,
- Selective ES/NS-FEM } Corner locking

## ■ Bubble-enhanced or Hat-enhanced type

- bFS-FEM, hFS-FEM } **✗** Pressure oscillation,
- bES-FEM, hES-FEM } Short-lasting

## ■ F-bar type

- F-barES-FEM **?** Unknown potential

# Objective

Develop a new S-FEM, **F-barES-FEM-T4**,  
by combining F-bar method and ES-FEM-T4  
for large deformation problems  
of nearly incompressible solids

## **Table of Body Contents**

- ❑ Method: Formulation of F-barES-FEM-T4
- ❑ Result: Verification of F-barES-FEM-T4
- ❑ Summary

# Method

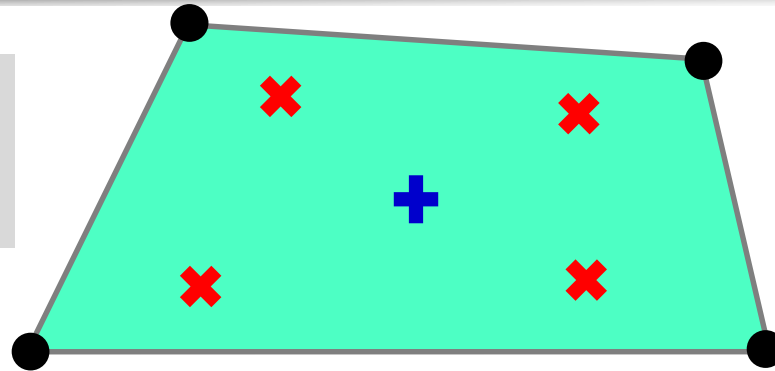
## Formulation of F-barES-FEM-T4

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



# Quick Review of F-bar Method

For quadrilateral (Q4)  
or hexahedral (H8)  
elements



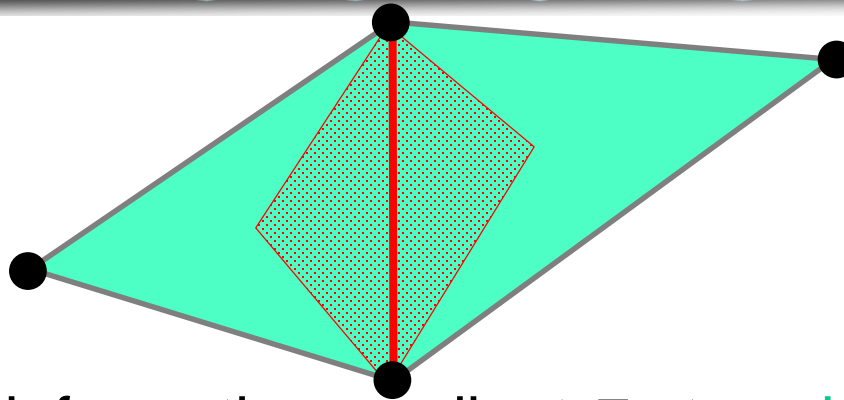
## Algorithm

1. Calculate deformation gradient  $F$  at the element center, and then make the relative volume change  $\bar{J}$  ( $= \det(F)$ ).
2. Calculate deformation gradient  $F$  at each gauss point as usual, and then make  $F^{iso}$  ( $= F / J^{1/3}$ ).
3. Modify  $F$  at each gauss point as
$$\bar{F} = \bar{J}^{1/3} F^{iso}.$$
4. Use  $\bar{F}$  to calculate the stress, nodal force and so on.

F-bar method is used to **avoid volumetric locking** in Q4 or H8 elements. Yet, it **cannot avoid shear locking**.

# Quick Review of ES-FEM

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



## Algorithm:

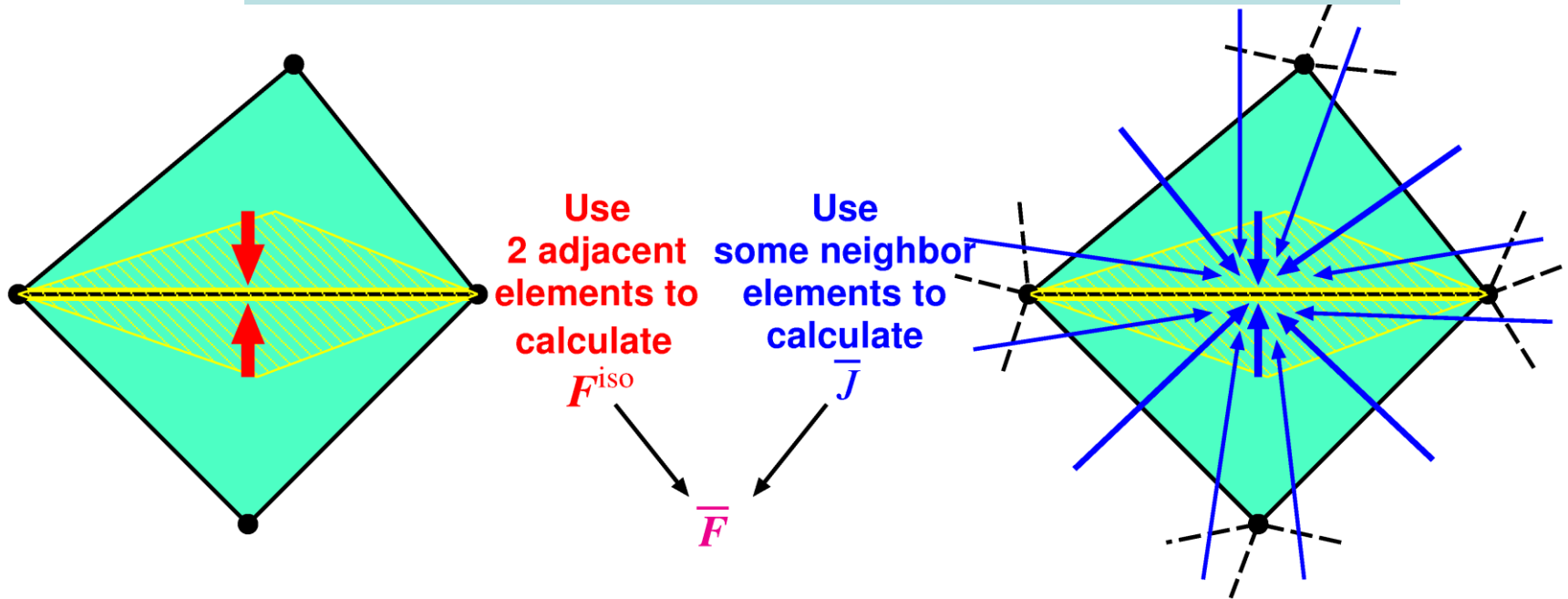
1. Calculate the deformation gradient  $F$  at each element as usual.
2. Distribute the deformation gradient  $F$  to the connecting edges with area weights to make  $^{Edge}F$  at each edge.
3. Use  $^{Edge}F$  to calculate the stress, nodal force and so on.

ES-FEM is used to **avoid shear locking** in T3 or T4 elements. Yet, it **cannot avoid volumetric locking**.

# Outline of F-barES-FEM

## Concept

Combination of F-bar method and ES-FEM



- Edge  $F^{iso}$  is given by **ES-FEM**.
- Edge  $\bar{J}$  is given by **Cyclic Smoothing** (detailed later).
- Edge  $\bar{F}$  is calculated in the manner of **F-bar method**:

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

# Outline of F-barES-FEM

## Brief Formulation

1. Calculate  $^{Elem}J$  as usual.
  2. Smooth  $^{Elem}J$  at nodes and get  $^{Node}\tilde{J}$ .
  3. Smooth  $^{Node}\tilde{J}$  at elements and get  $^{Elem}\tilde{J}$ .
  4. Repeat 2. and 3. as necessary ( $c$  times).
- $\vdots$  ( $c$  layers of ~)
5. Smooth  $^{Elem}\tilde{J}$  at edges to make  $^{Edge}\bar{J}$ .
  6. Combine  $^{Edge}\bar{J}$  and  $^{Edge}F_{iso}$  of ES-FEM as  
$$^{Edge}\bar{F} = ^{Edge}\bar{J}^{1/3} ^{Edge}F_{iso}.$$

Cyclic  
Smoothing  
of  $J$

Hereafter, F-barES-FEM-T4 with  $c$ -time cyclic smoothing is called “F-barES-FEM-T4( $c$ )”.



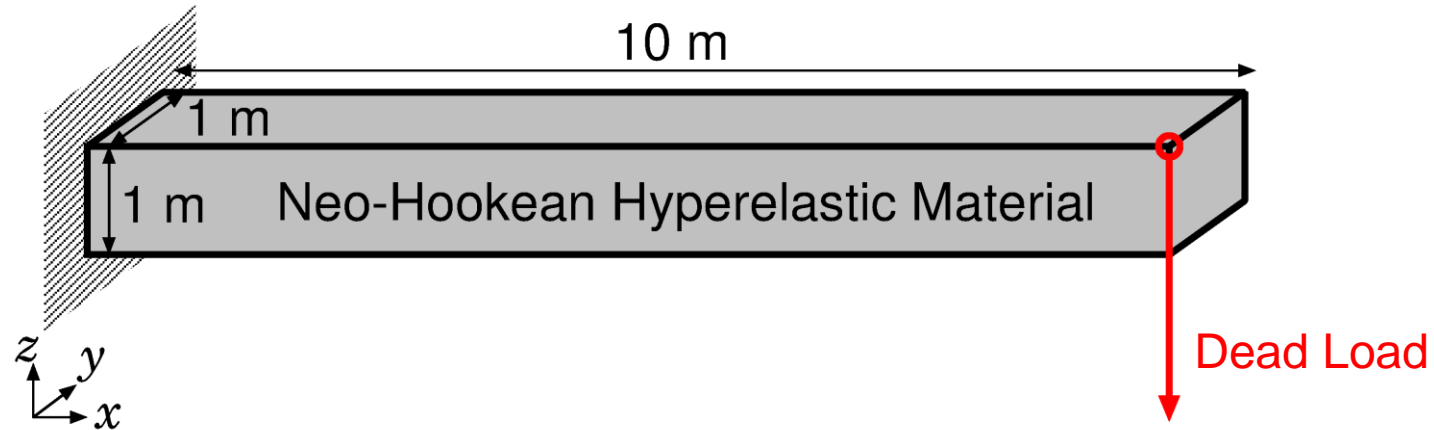
# Result

## Verification of F-barES-FEM-T4

(Analyses without mesh rezoning are presented for pure verification.)

# #1: Bending of a Cantilever

## Outline



- Neo-Hookean **hyperelastic** material

$$[T] = 2C_{10} \frac{\text{Dev}(\bar{B})}{J} + \frac{2}{D_1} (J - 1)[I]$$

with a constant  $C_{10}$  (=1 GPa) and various  $D_1$ s so that the initial Poisson's ratios are 0.49 and 0.499.

- Two types of tetra meshes: structured and unstructured.
- Compared to ABAQUS C3D4H (1st-order hybrid tetrahedral element).

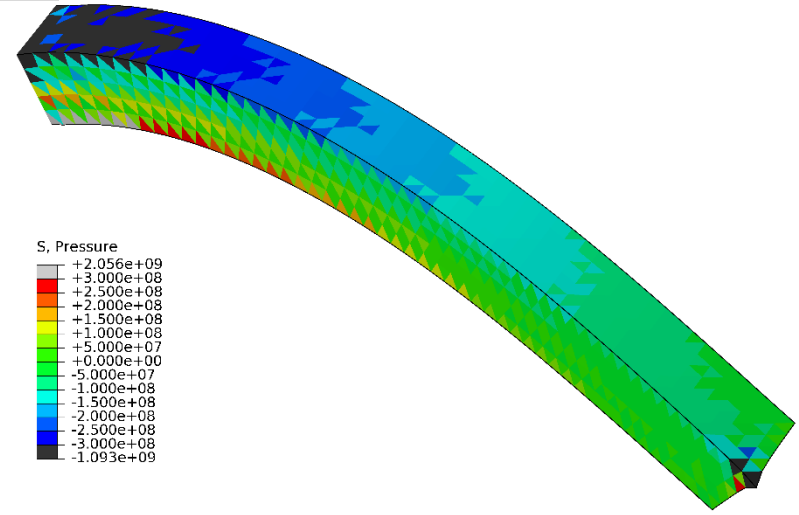
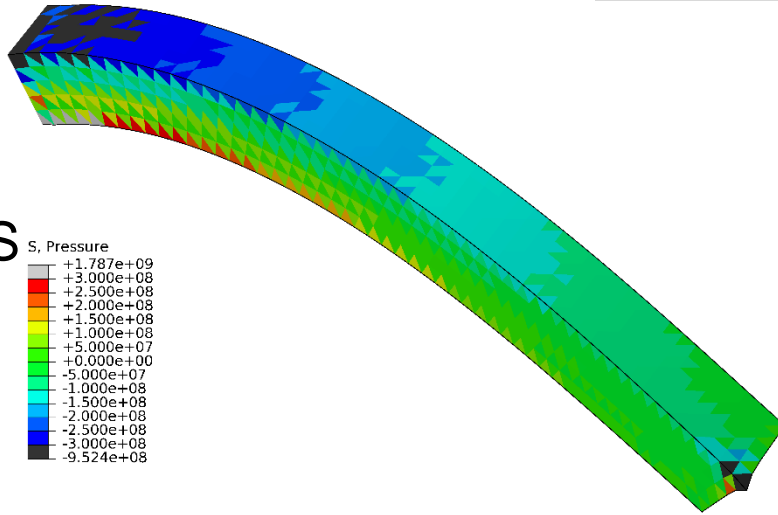
# #1: Bending of a Cantilever

## Pressure Distributions

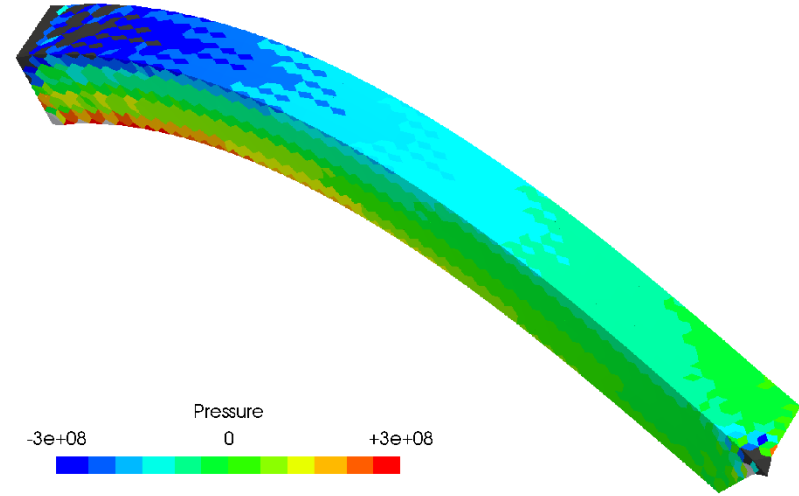
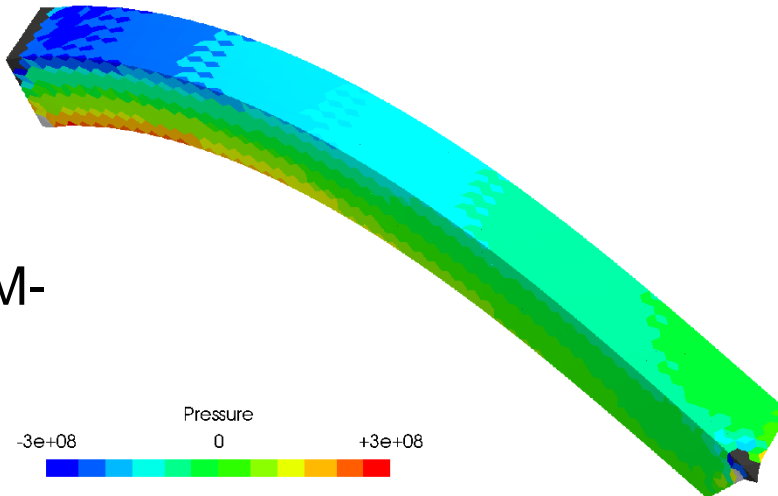
$$\nu^{\text{ini}} = 0.49$$

Structured Mesh

$$\nu^{\text{ini}} = 0.499$$



## F-bar ES-FEM- T4(1)



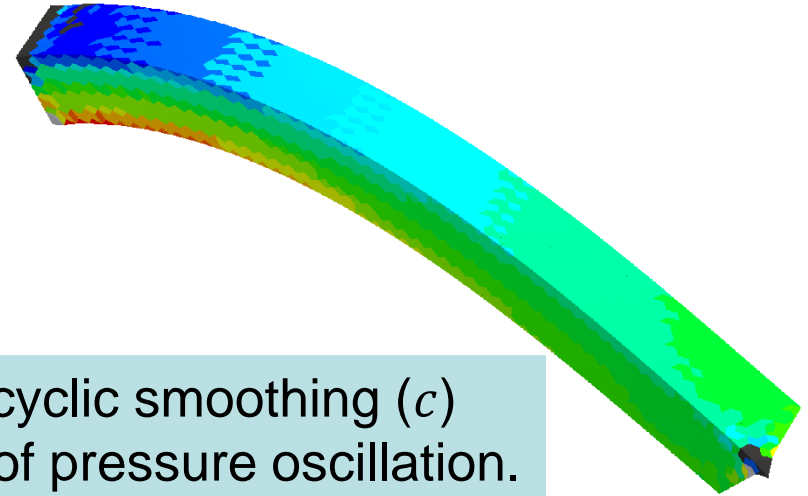
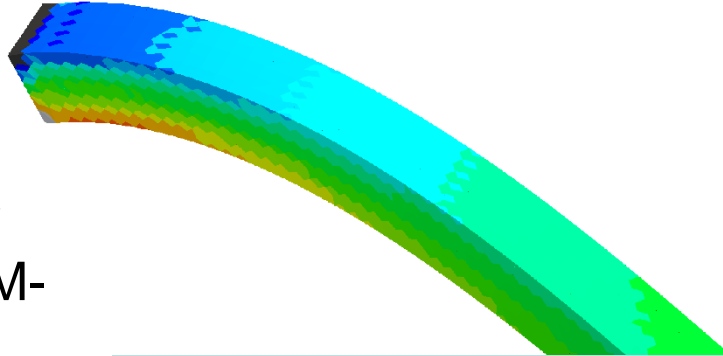
# #1: Bending of a Cantilever

## Pressure Distributions

$$\nu^{\text{ini}} = 0.49$$

Structured Mesh

$$\nu^{\text{ini}} = 0.499$$

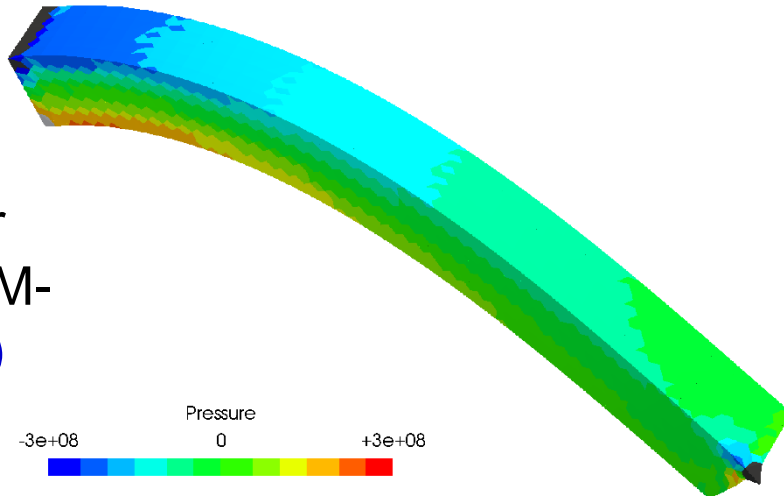


F-bar  
ES-FEM-  
T4(2)

-3e+08



Increase in the number of cyclic smoothing ( $c$ ) makes stronger suppression of pressure oscillation.

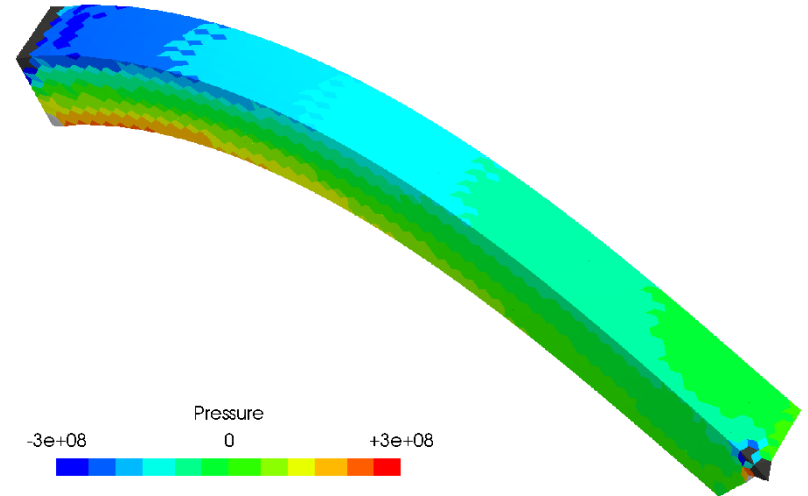


-3e+08

Pressure

0

+3e+08



-3e+08

Pressure

0

+3e+08





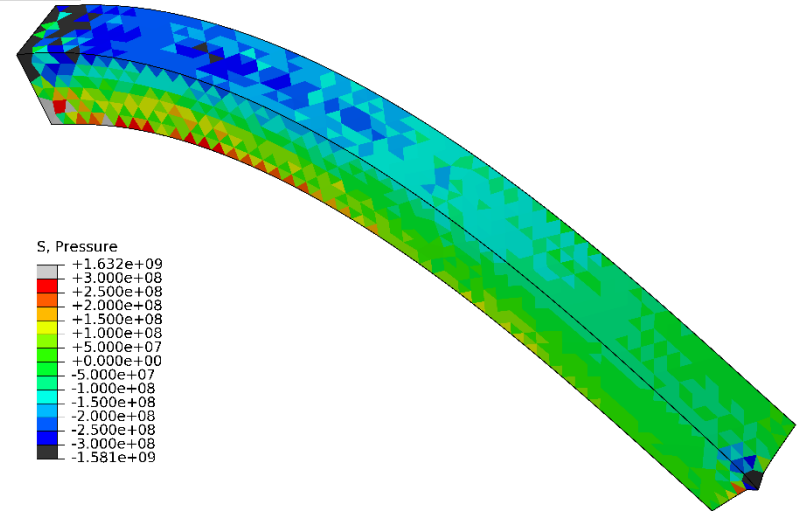
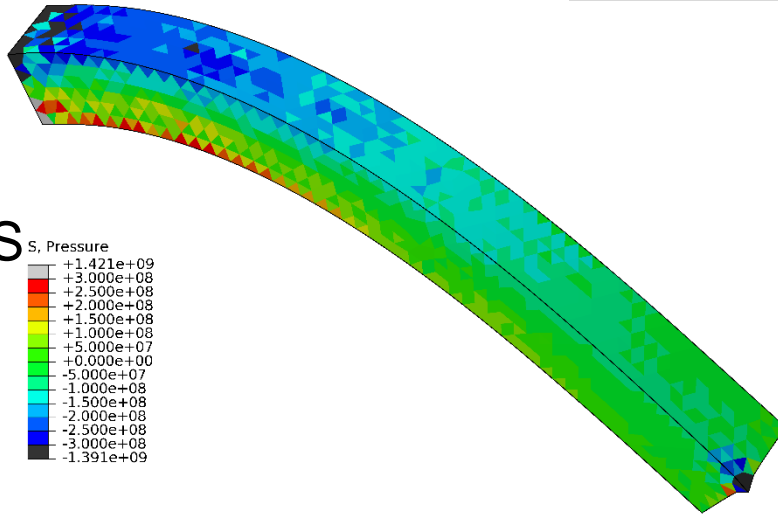
# #1: Bending of a Cantilever

**Pressure Distributions**

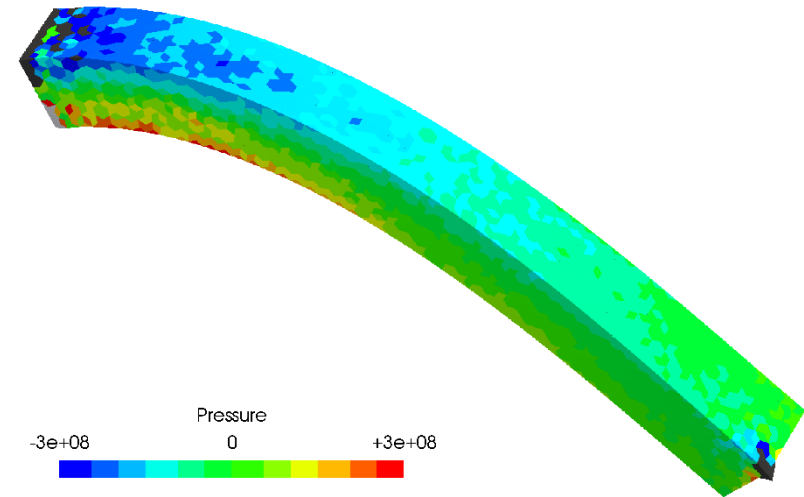
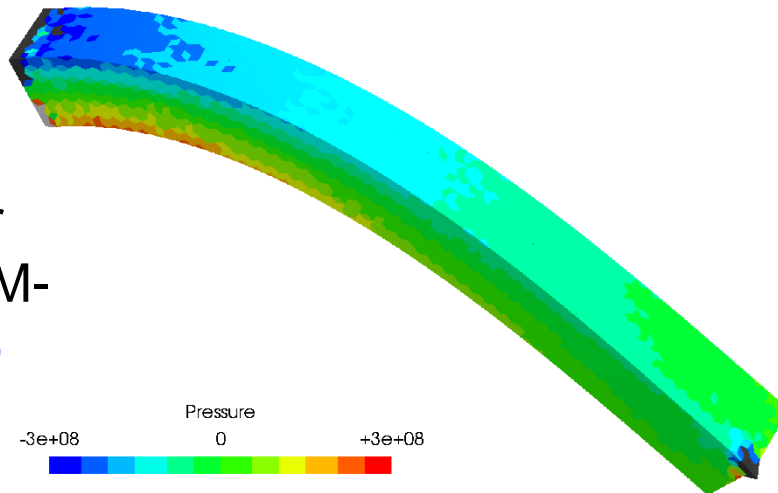
$$\nu^{\text{ini}} = 0.49$$

Unstructured Mesh

$$\nu^{\text{ini}} = 0.499$$



F-bar  
ES-FEM-  
T4(1)



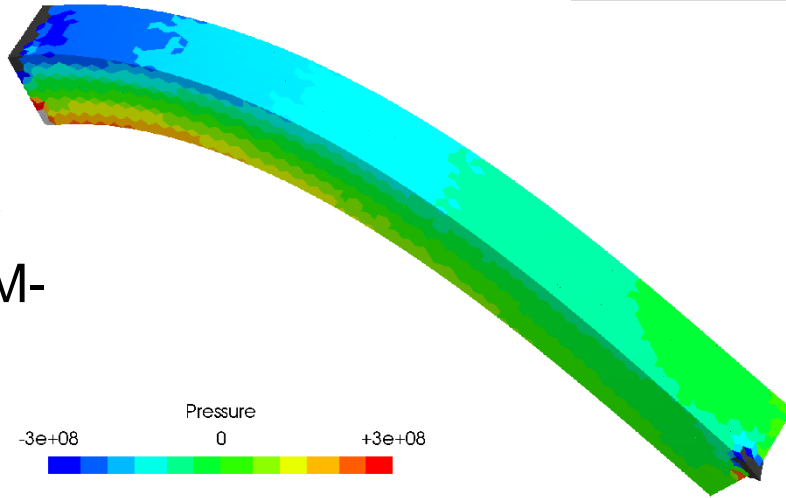
# #1: Bending of a Cantilever

## Pressure Distributions

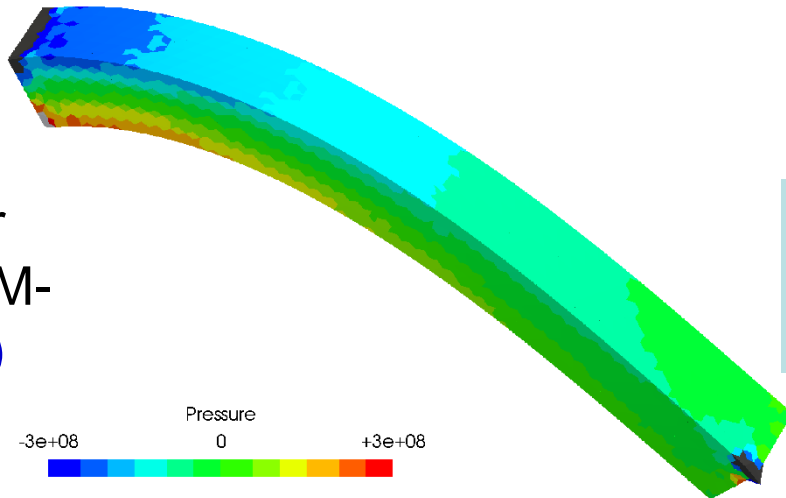
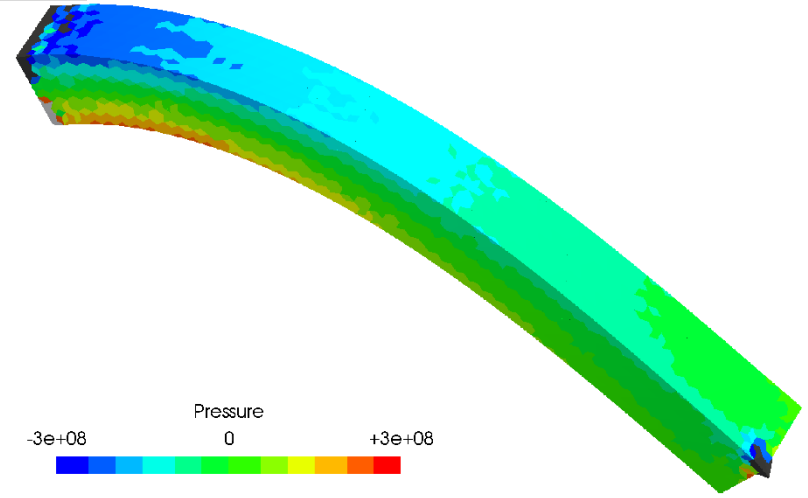
$$\nu^{\text{ini}} = 0.49$$

Unstructured Mesh

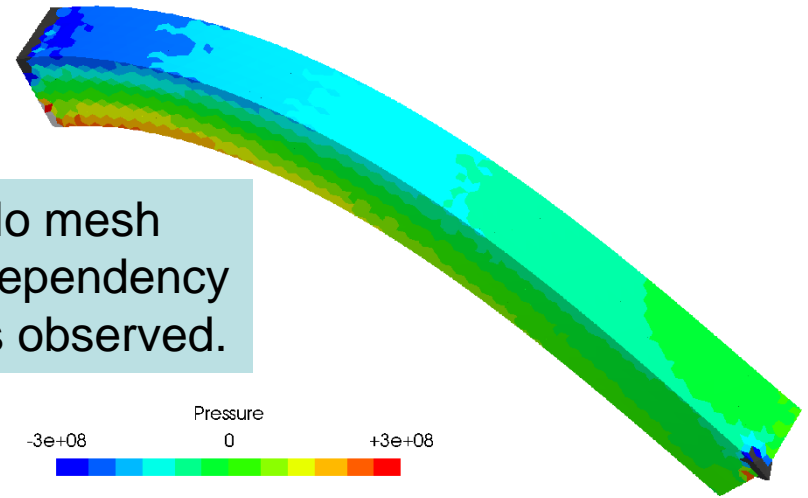
$$\nu^{\text{ini}} = 0.499$$



F-bar  
ES-FEM-  
T4(2)



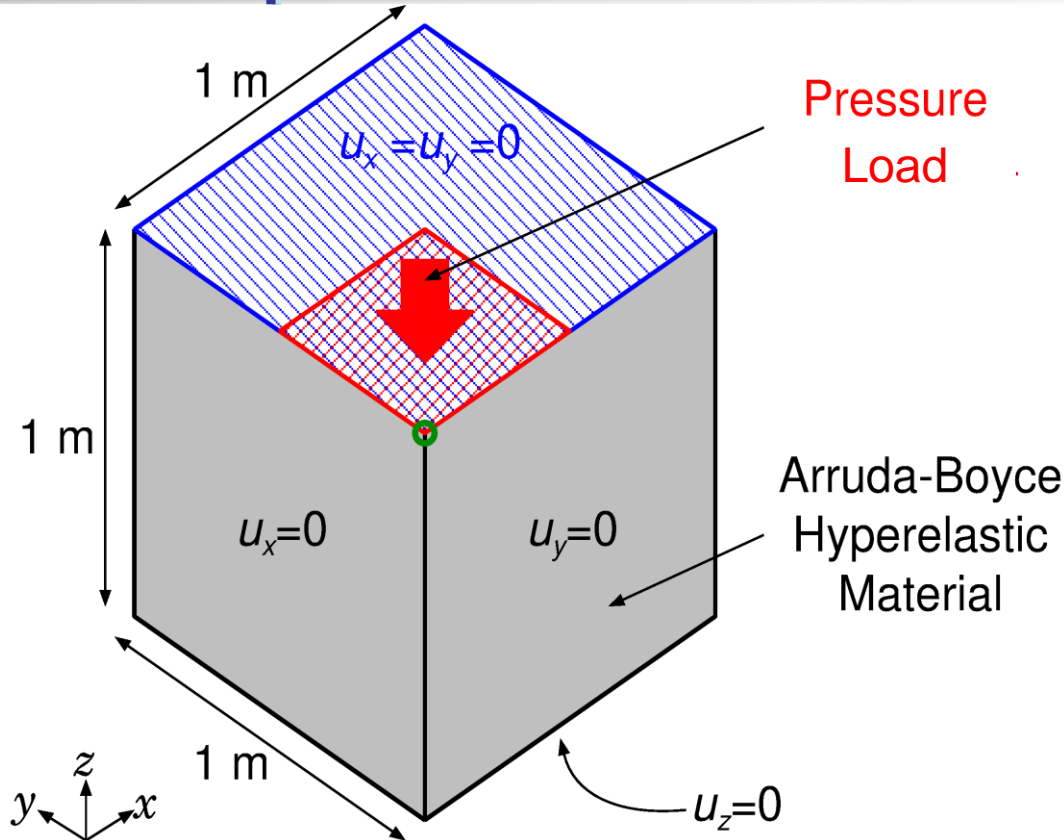
F-bar  
ES-FEM-  
T4(3)



No mesh dependency is observed.

# #2: Compression of a Block

## Outline



- Arruda-Boyce hyperelastic material ( $\nu_{ini} = 0.499$ ).
- Applying pressure on  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the top face.
- Compared to ABAQUS C3D4H with the same unstructured tetra mesh.

# #2: Compression of a Block

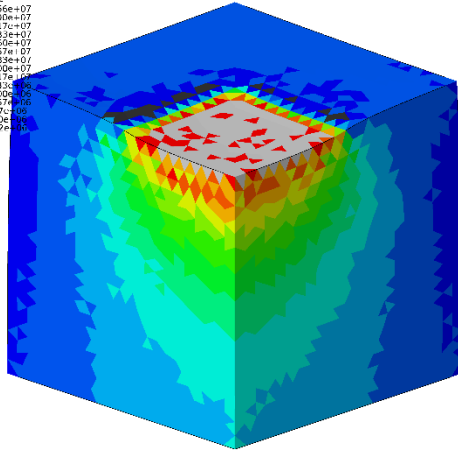
## Pressure Distribution

Early stage

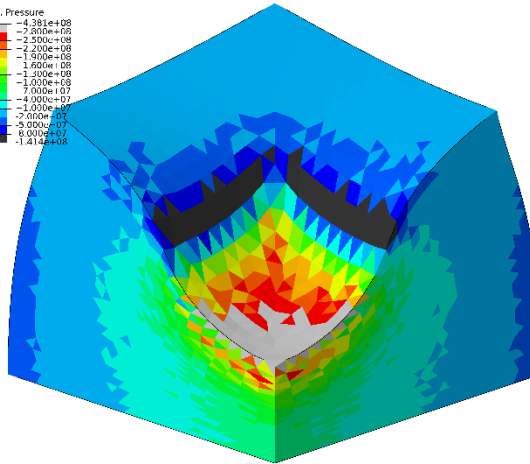
Middle stage

Later stage

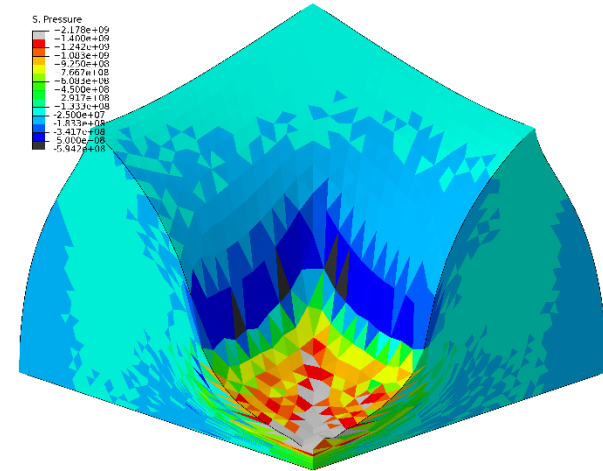
S. Pressure  
-3.656e+07  
-3.080e+07  
-2.717e+07  
-2.433e+07  
-2.150e+07  
-1.867e+07  
-1.582e+07  
-1.309e+07  
-1.037e+07  
-7.533e+06  
-4.500e+06  
-1.667e+06  
-1.207e+05  
4.000e+04  
-9.612e+03



S. Pressure  
-4.381e+08  
-2.801e+08  
-2.500e+08  
-2.200e+08  
-1.900e+08  
1.500e+08  
-1.200e+08  
-1.000e+08  
-7.000e+07  
-4.000e+07  
-2.000e+07  
-5.000e+07  
8.000e+07  
-1.612e+08



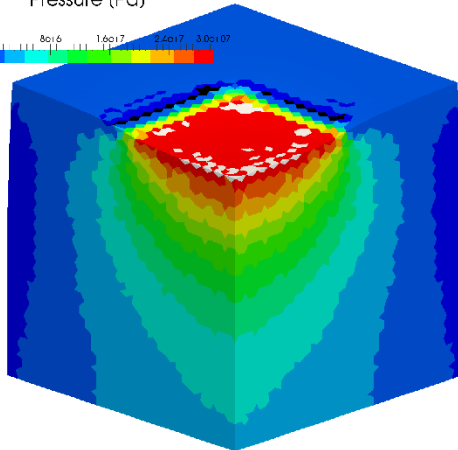
S. Pressure  
-2.178e+09  
-1.408e+09  
-1.242e+09  
-1.005e+09  
-5.00e+08  
7.667e+08  
-4.500e+08  
2.917e+08  
-1.333e+08  
-2.500e+07  
-1.833e+08  
-3.817e+08  
5.000e+08  
-5.447e+08



ABAQUS  
C3D4H

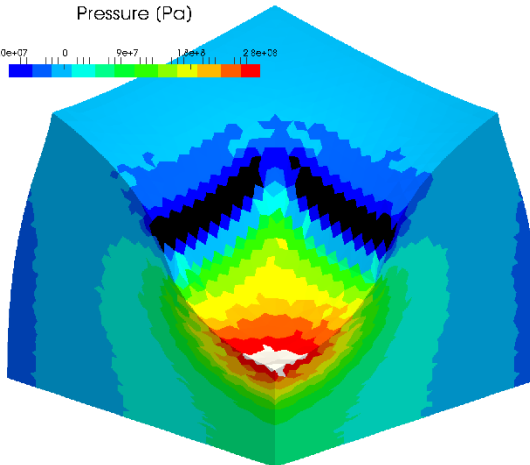
Pressure (Pa)

4.0e+06 0 8.0e+6 1.6e+7 2.4e+7 3.0e+07



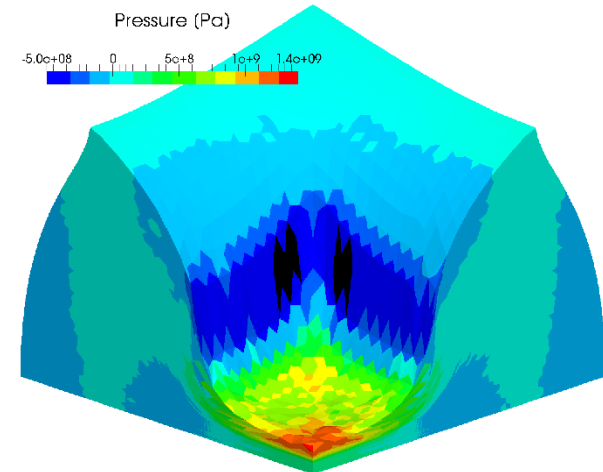
Pressure (Pa)

-8.0e+07 0 9e+7 1.8e+8 2.8e+08



Pressure (Pa)

-5.0e+08 0 5e+8 1e+9 1.4e+09



F-bar  
ES-FEM-  
T4(2)

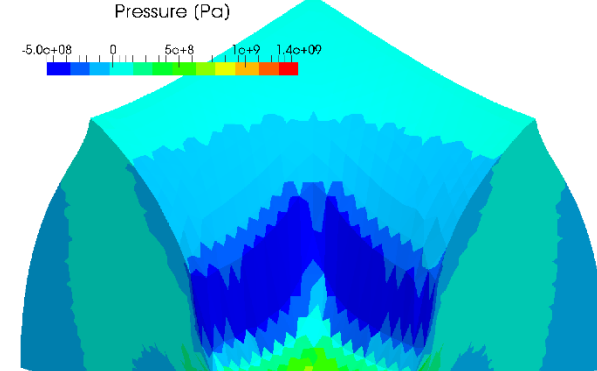
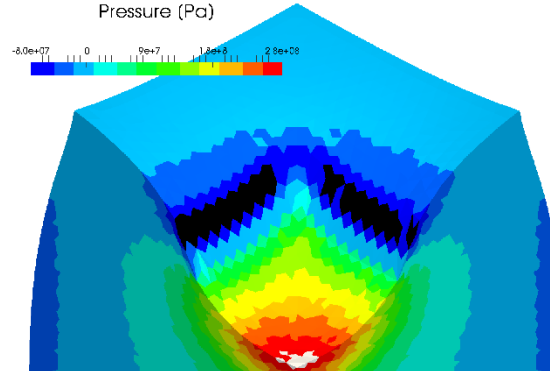
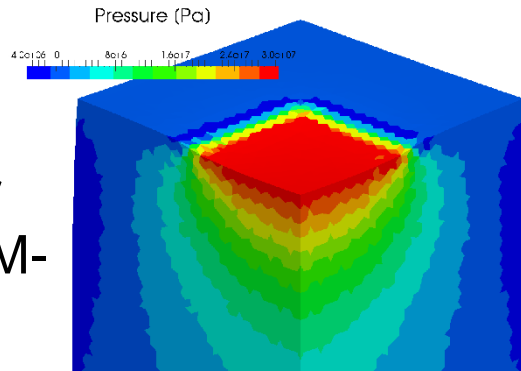
# #2: Compression of a Block

## Pressure Distribution

Early stage

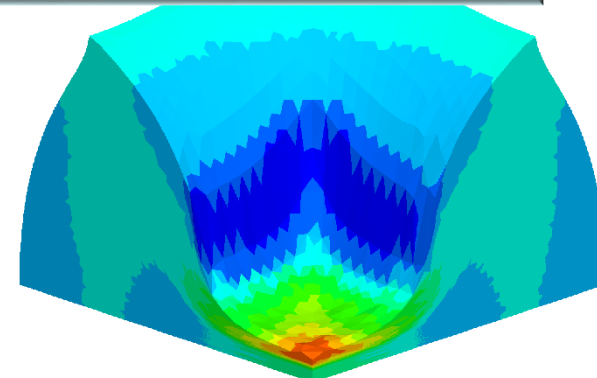
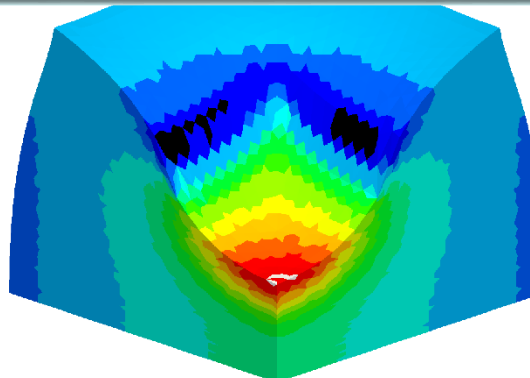
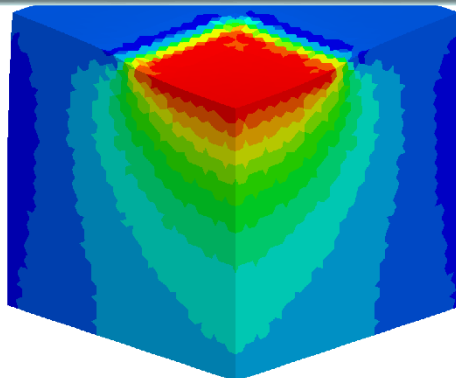
Middle stage

Later stage



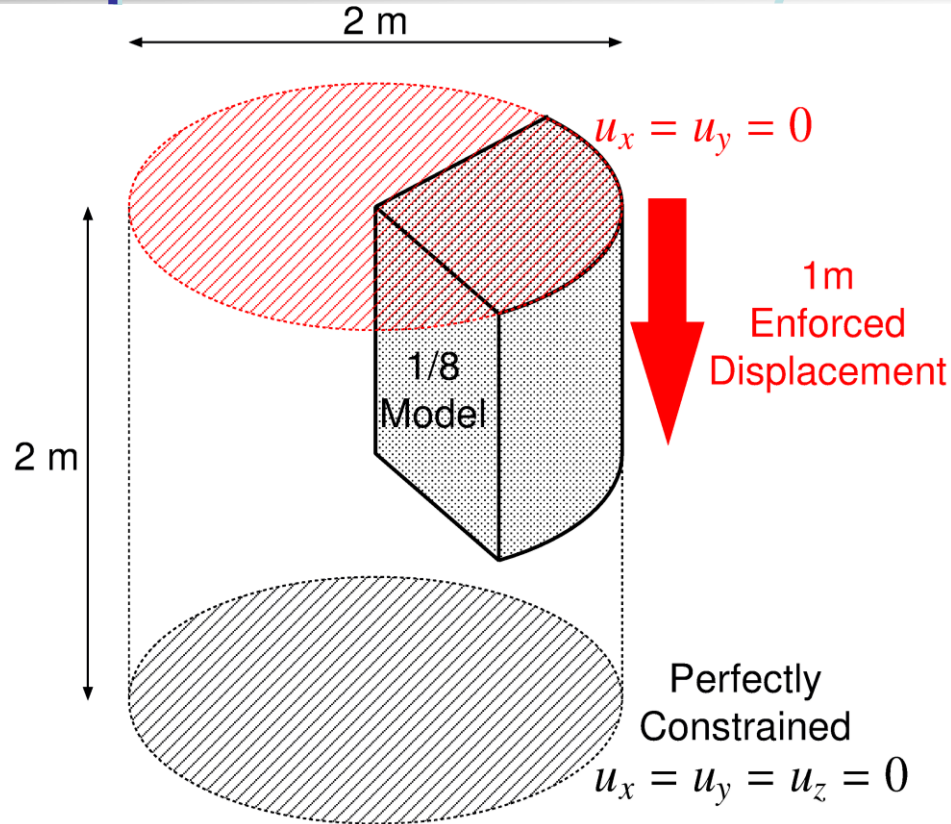
In case the Poisson's ratio is **0.499**,  
F-barES-FEM-T4(2) or later can suppress pressure oscillation  
successfully in large strain analysis.

F-bar  
ES-FEM-  
T4(4)



# #3: Compression of 1/8 Cylinder

## Outline



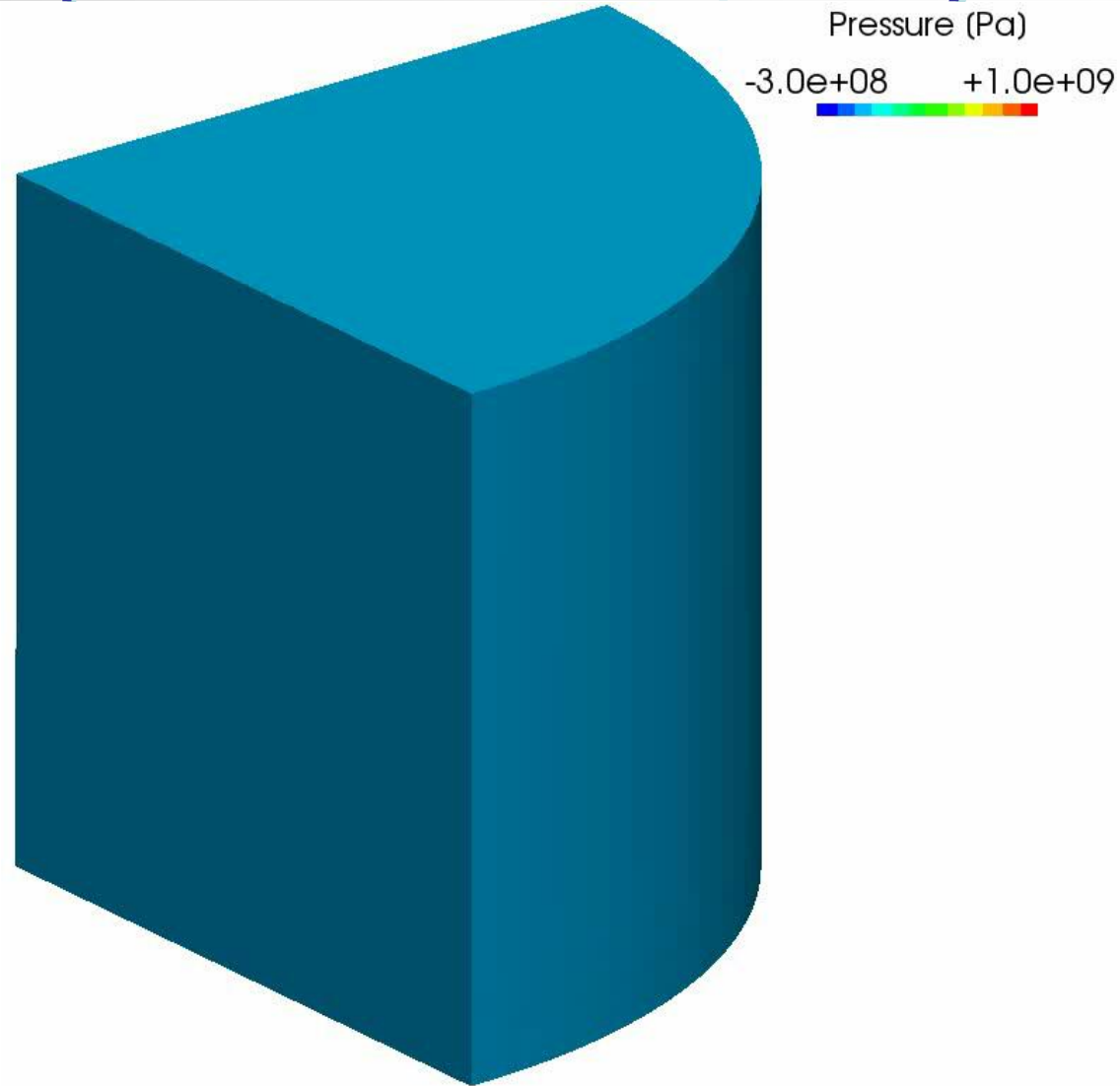
- Neo-Hookean hyperelastic material ( $\nu_{ini} = 0.499$ ).
- Enforced displacement is applied to the top surface.
- Compared to ABAQUS C3D4H with the same unstructured tetra mesh.

# #3: Compression of 1/8 Cylinder

## Result of F-bar ES-FEM(2)

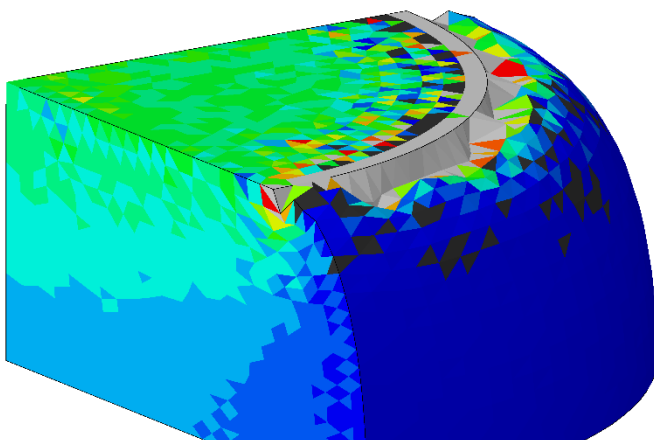
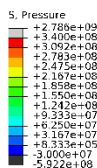
50% nominal  
compression

Almost smooth  
pressure  
distribution  
is obtained  
except just  
around the rim.



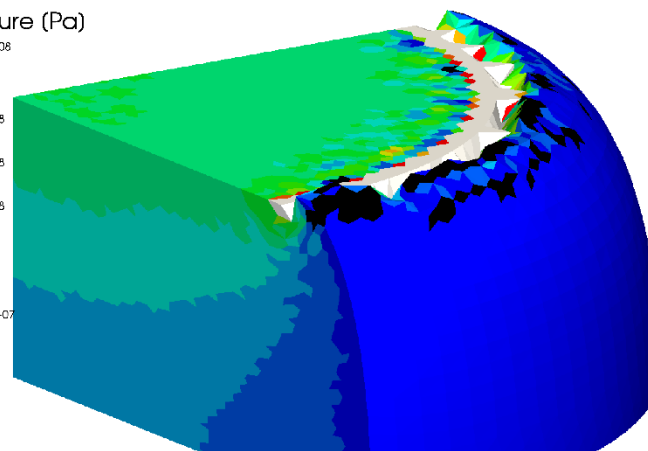
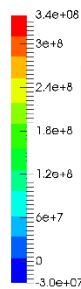
# #3: Compression of 1/8 Cylinder

## Pressure Distribution



ABAQUS  
C3D4H

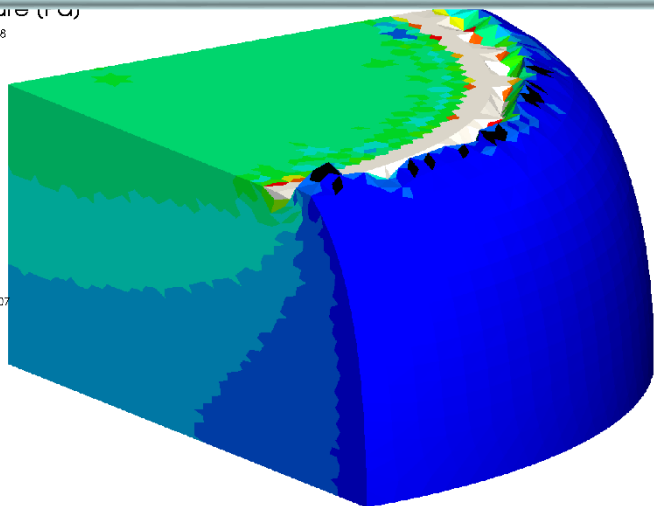
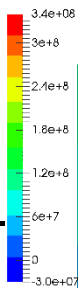
Pressure (Pa)



F-bar  
ES-FEM-  
T4(2)

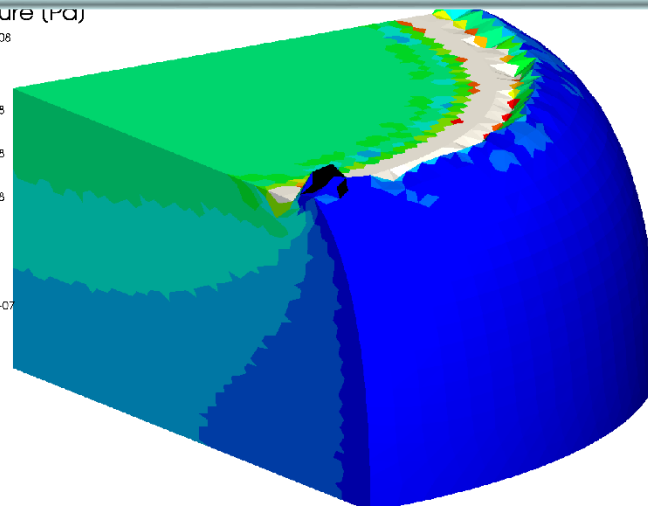
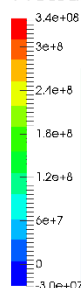
F-barES-FEM-T4 with a sufficient cyclic smoothing also **resolves the corner locking** issue.

Pressure (Pa)



F-bar  
ES-FEM-  
T4(3)

Pressure (Pa)



F-bar  
ES-FEM-  
T4(4)



# Characteristics of F-barES-FEM-T4

## Benefits

- ✓ Locking-free with tetra meshes.
- ✓ No increase in DOF;  
No need of static condensation;  
Easy extension to dynamic explicit analysis.
- ✓ No difficulty in contact analysis.
- ✓ Adjustable smoothing level by changing the number of  
cyclic smoothings ( $c$ ).
- ✓ Suppression of pressure oscillation  
in nearly incompressible materials.

In point of accuracy, F-barES-FEM-T4 is excellent!!

# Characteristics of F-barES-FEM-T4

## Drawbacks

- ✗ Blur of high-frequency pressure distribution.  
(The impact of blur seem to be not significant.)
- ✗ Increase in bandwidth of the exact tangent stiffness  $[K]$ .  
In case of standard unstructured T4 meshes,

Method	Approx. Bandwidth	Approx. Ratio
Standard FEM-T4	40	1
F-barES-FEM(1)	390	x10
F-barES-FEM(2)	860	x20
F-barES-FEM(3)	1580	x40
F-barES-FEM(4)	2600	x65

In point of speed, F-barES-FEM-T4 needs some improvements.  
e.g.) finding a good sparse approximation of  $[K]$   
for iterative matrix solvers.

# Summary

# Summary

- A new FE formulation named “**F-barES-FEM-T4**” is proposed.
- F-barES-FEM-T4 combines the F-bar method and ES-FEM-T4.
- Owing to the cyclic smoothing, F-barES-FEM-T4 is **locking-free** and also **pressure oscillation-free** with **no increase in DOF**.
- Only one drawback of F-barES-FEM-T4 is the decrease of calculation speed due to the **increase in bandwidth of  $[K]$** , which is our future work to solve.

Thank you for your kind attention!

# Appendix

# Characteristics of FEM-T4s

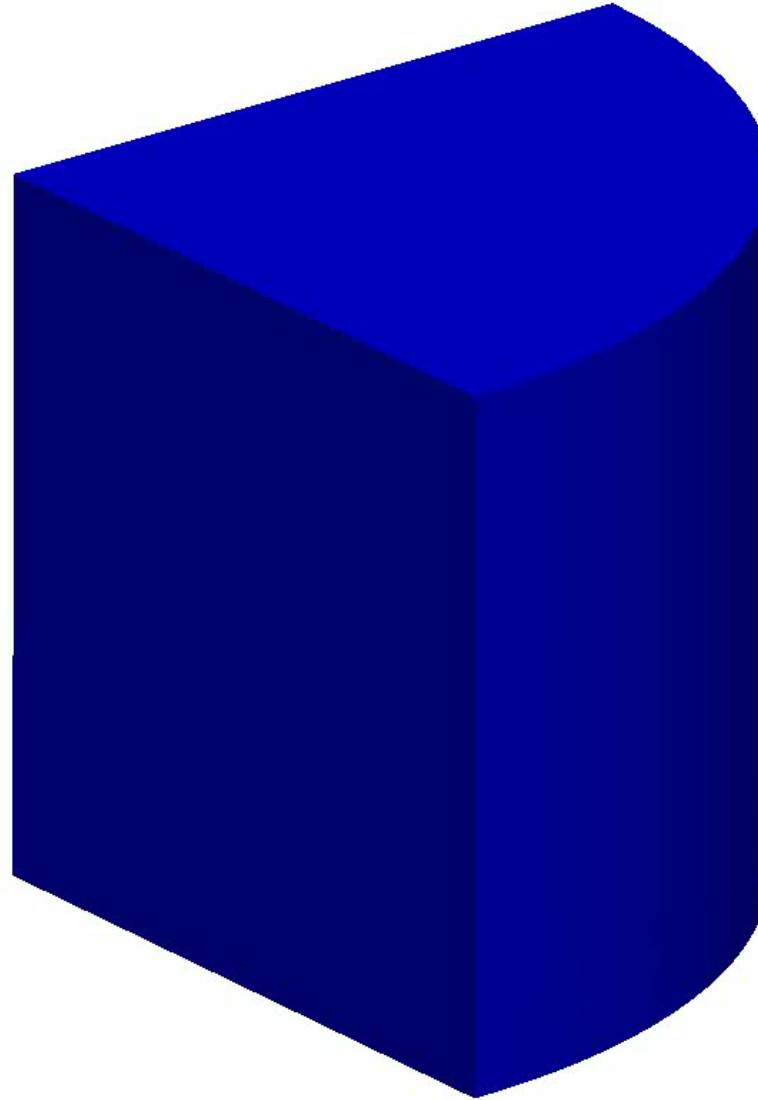
	Shear & Volumetric Locking	Zero-Energy Mode	Dev/Vol Coupled Material	Pressure Oscillation	Corner Locking	Severe Strain
Standard FEM-T4	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓
ABAQUS C3D4H	✓	✓	✓	X	X	✓
Selective S-FEM-T4	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓
bES-FEM-T4 hES-FEM-T4	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X
F-bar ES-FEM-T4	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓*	✓

\* ) when the num. of cyclic smoothings is sufficiently large.

# #3: Compression of 1/8 Cylinder

## Result of F-bar ES-FEM(2)

50% nominal  
compression



Mises\_Stress (Pa)



Smooth  
Mises stress  
distribution  
is obtained  
except just  
around the rim.