



Kick-off workshop of the HIPOTHEC  
ANR project.

08/03/2024



# Simulation of ultrasonic testing in metallic components

J. Dalphin



# Jérémy DALPHIN

September 2019

2017-2019

2016-2017

2015-2016

2011-2014

2007-2011

jeremy.dalpin@edf.fr

Research engineer

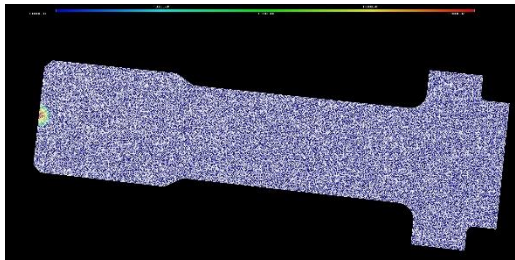


ERMES T6D group (D. Geoffroy)

- Mechanics of components
- Non-destructive testing (NDT)

Projects

- **Software for ultrasonic NDT**
- **Tools for Eddy-current NDT**
- Development in code\_aster



Research engineer in Jussieu



Computational quantum chemistry  
P. Frey and B. Braïda



Maximal Probability Domains

- Software development
- Adaptive mesh techniques
- Level-set method

Postdoctorate in Santiago, Chile



A. Osses

Study of a copper converter

- Inverse problems
- Random uncertainties
- Numerical simulations



Academical thesis in Nancy



Applied mathematics

A. Henrot and T. Takahashi

Studying the shape of vesicles

- Design optimization
- Tridimensional geometry
- Partial differential equations



2007-2011: Ecole des Mines de Nancy



Mathematical engineering section

2009-2010: gap year

- **CRIGEN (Saint Denis)** *GDF SUEZ*  
L. Sinègre and N. Castellan  
Impact of CCCG on the gaz network



- **BCAM (Bilbao, Spain)** *bcam*  
Zuazua and R. Barros  
Optimal shape generating waves



# Sommaire

1. Context
2. Workflow
3. Results



# 1

## Context

It is a collaboration between different entities of EDF R&D:

- **ERMES** (J. Dalphin, *P. Thomas*) and
- **MMC** (P.-E. Lhuillier, A. Schumm, Y. Gelebart, S. Wentzel, and Z. Aghenzour)

for the **APEXIS** project financed by Direction Industrielle (**DI**).



“ The set of techniques and processes giving informations about the health of a component or a structure, without resulting in any harmful alterations to their uses are gathered under two principal appellations: non-destructive testing (NDT) or non-destructive examinations. ”

Created in 1967, the **COFREND**, Confédération Française pour les Essais Non Destructifs, is the reference entity in the domain of Certification and Qualification of agents in France for non-destructive testings and evaluations.



**SAVE THE DATE**

**7ème Journée annuelle SHM@COFREND**  
Confédération Française pour les Essais Non Destructifs

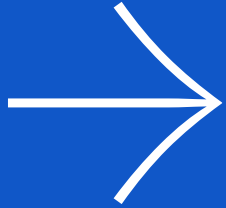
**Le 20 mars 2024**  
**à l'Université de BORDEAUX**  
en collaboration avec les laboratoires I2M - IMS

Une visite du Pont d'Aquitaine sera proposée sur inscription le 21 mars

Toutes les informations sur [www.cofrend.com](http://www.cofrend.com) - [pole.communication@cofrend.com](mailto:pole.communication@cofrend.com)

Université de BORDEAUX I2M IMS

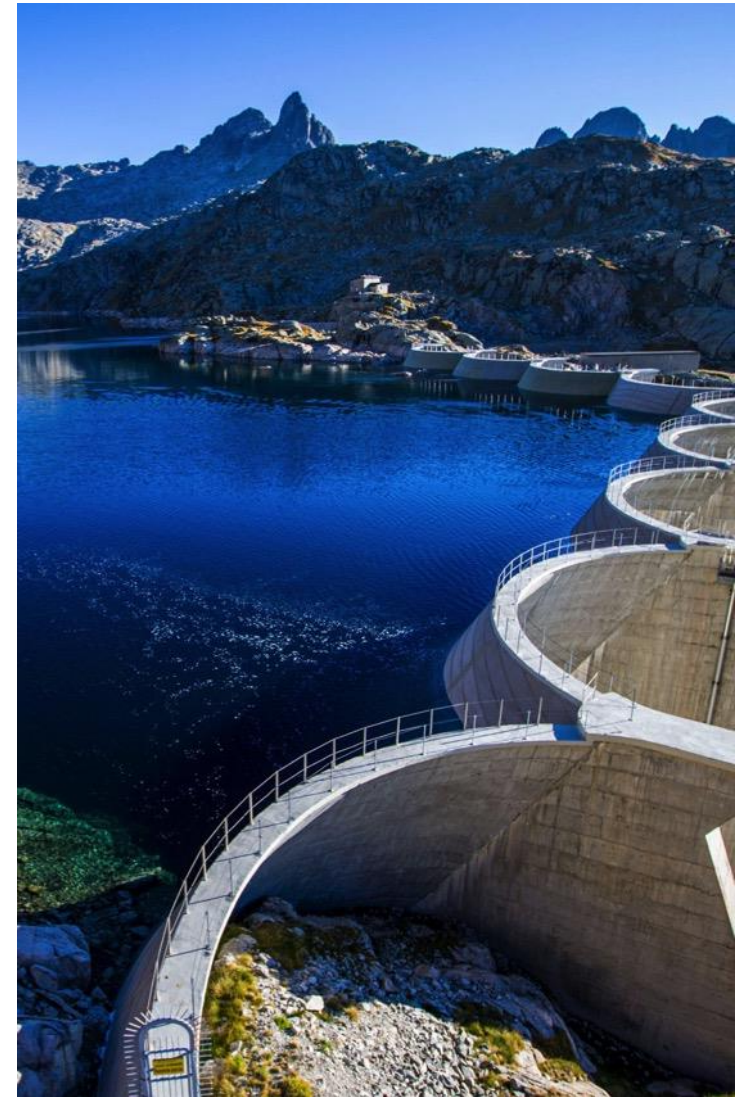
The poster features a dark blue background with white and light blue illustrations. At the top left, a purple circle contains the text 'SAVE THE DATE'. To its right is a satellite icon. The main text is centered and includes the event title, date, location, and collaborating laboratories. Below the text is a horizontal line of icons representing various infrastructure and energy sectors: a factory with smokestacks, a wind turbine, a high-speed train, another wind turbine, and a nuclear power plant. The bottom right corner contains the logos for the University of Bordeaux, I2M, and IMS.



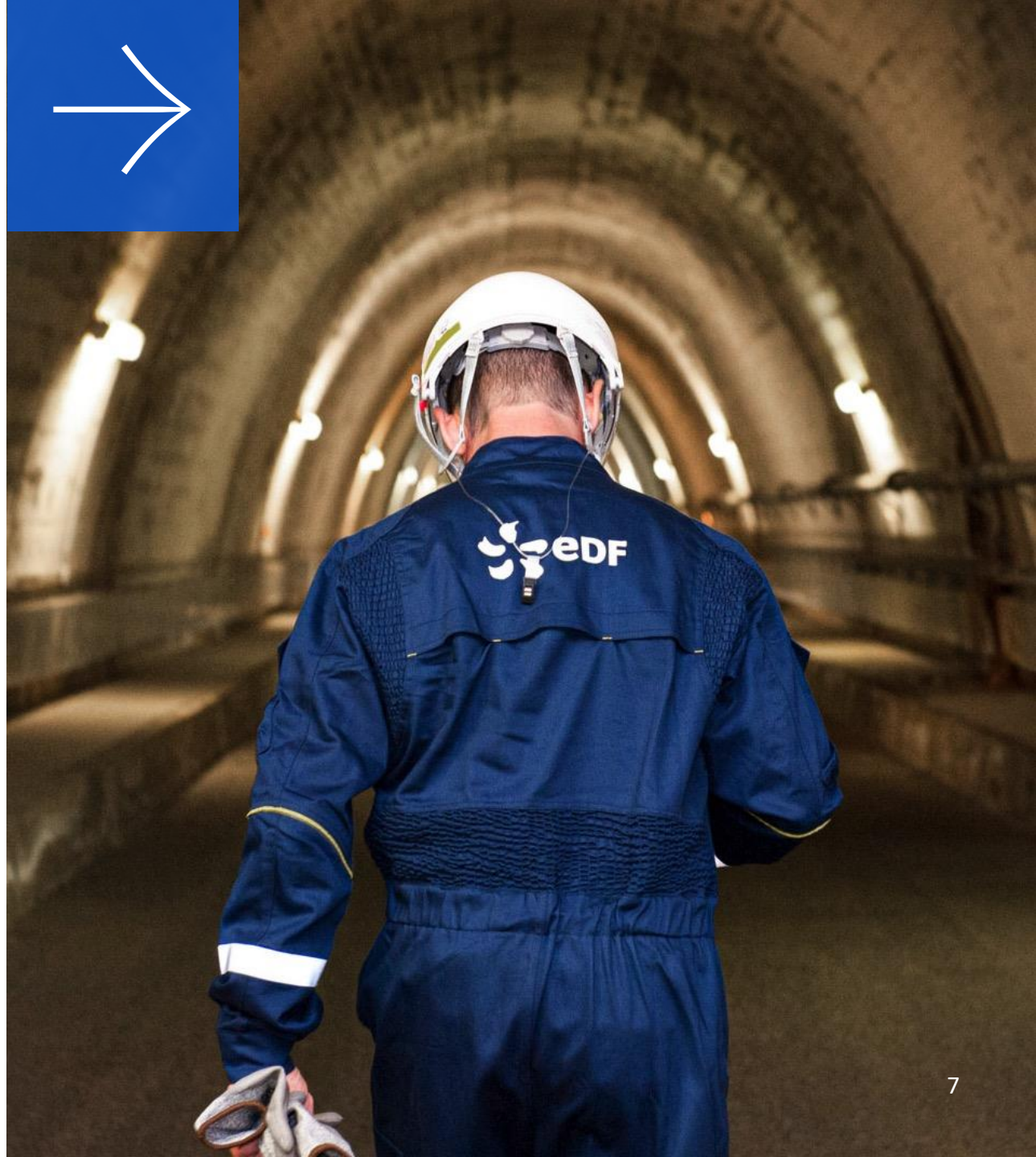
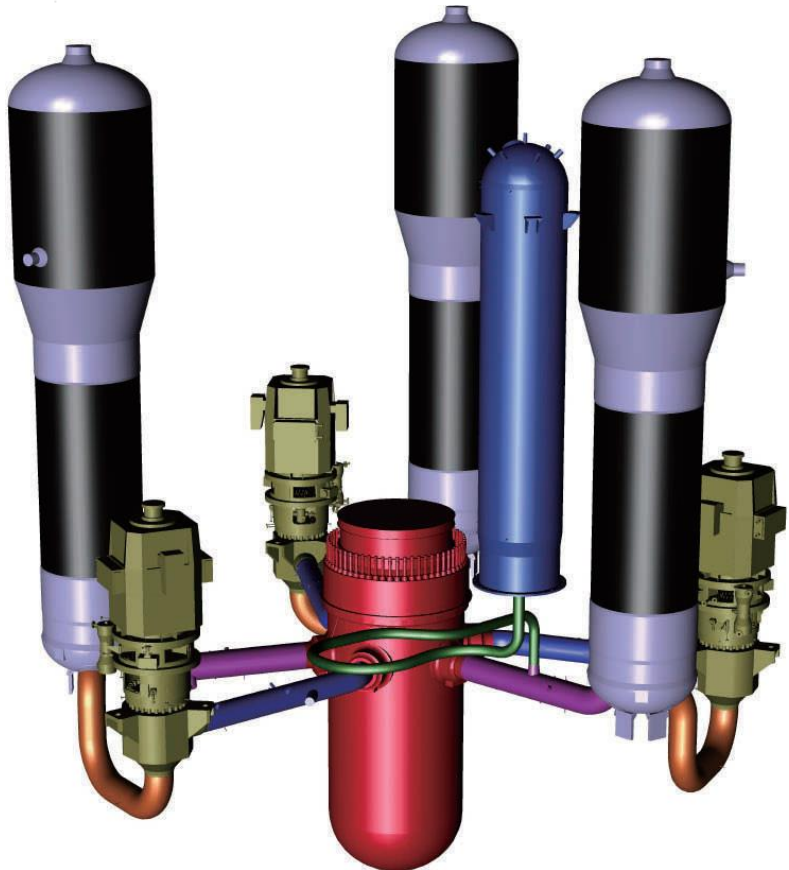
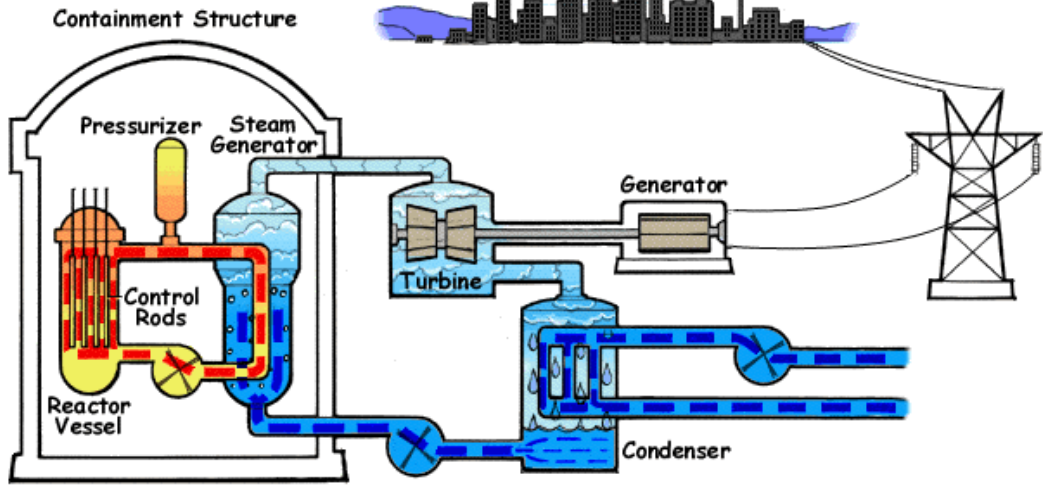
The object of NDT is to **determine with reliability** and at the appropriate scale of observations the presence and the nature of defects in components.

In the specific context of EDF SA: NDT are the main techniques the operator disposes to **guarantee the components integrity**, in addition to the design and manufacturing ones.

This requirement of detecting defects as soon as they represent a **security threat** of components integrity of pressurized water **nuclear reactor is enforced by law** (arrêté du 10/11/1999). It is one of the main purposes of the operator.







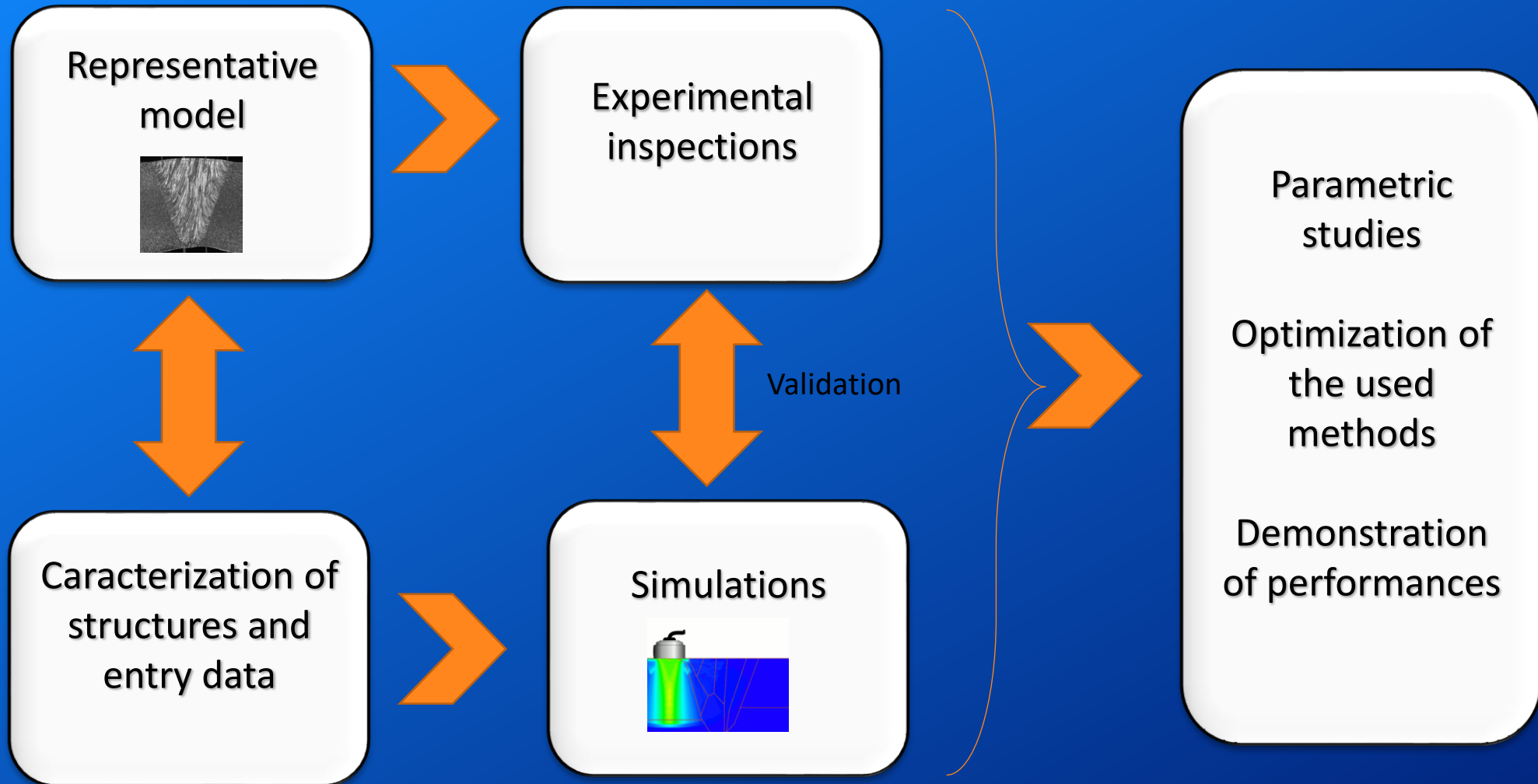


In the field of **metallic components** they are three main types of NDT:

- Eddy-currents
- Ultrasounds
- *Radioagraphy* (≈ 2027)



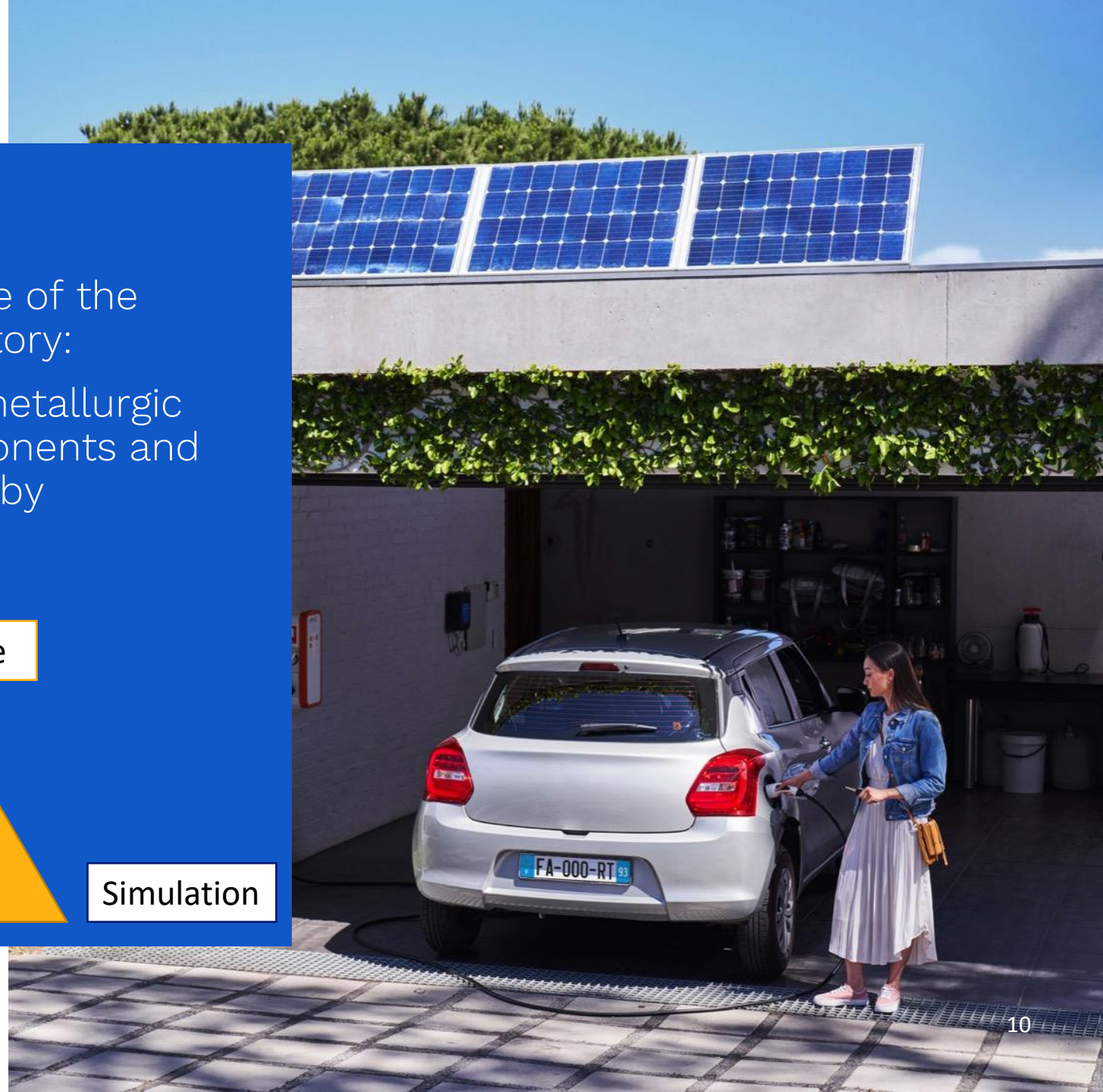
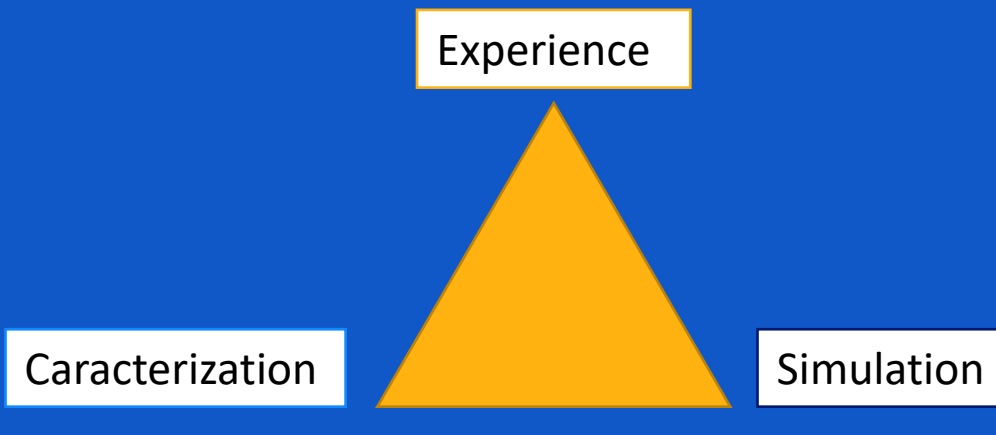




## The methodology of the ultrasonic NDT laboratory

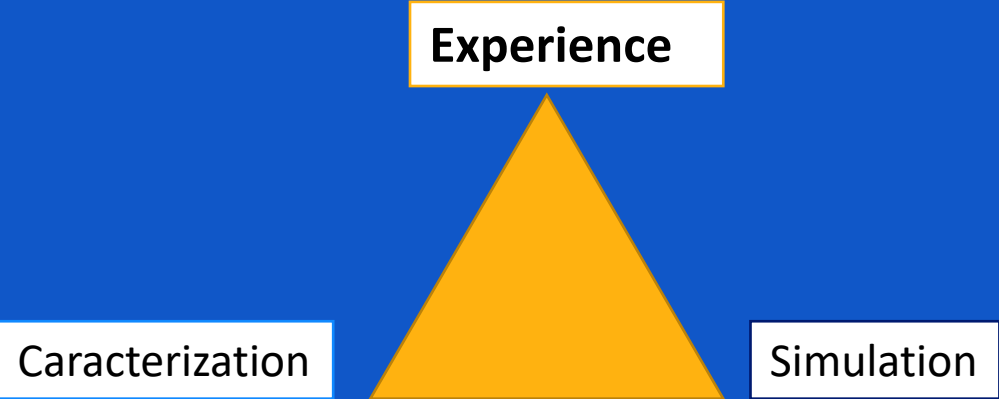
Fundamental expertise of the ultrasonic NDT laboratory:

→ link between the metallurgic structure of components and their controllability by ultrasounds.

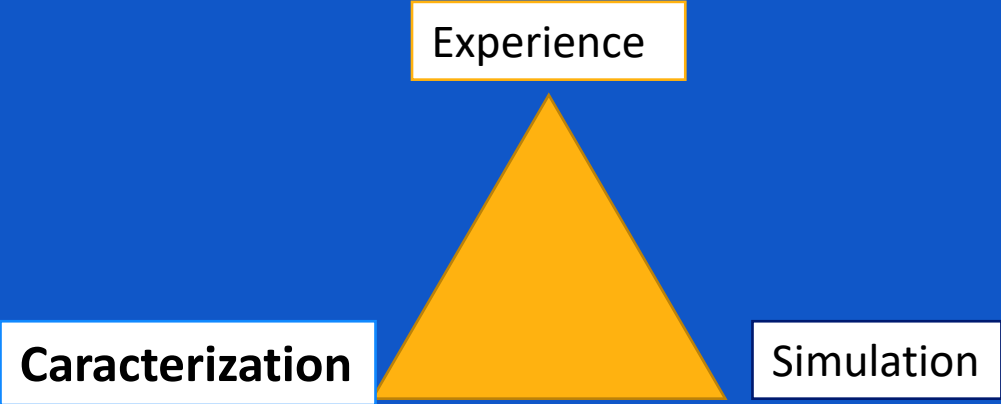




→ Sorry, this part is confidential

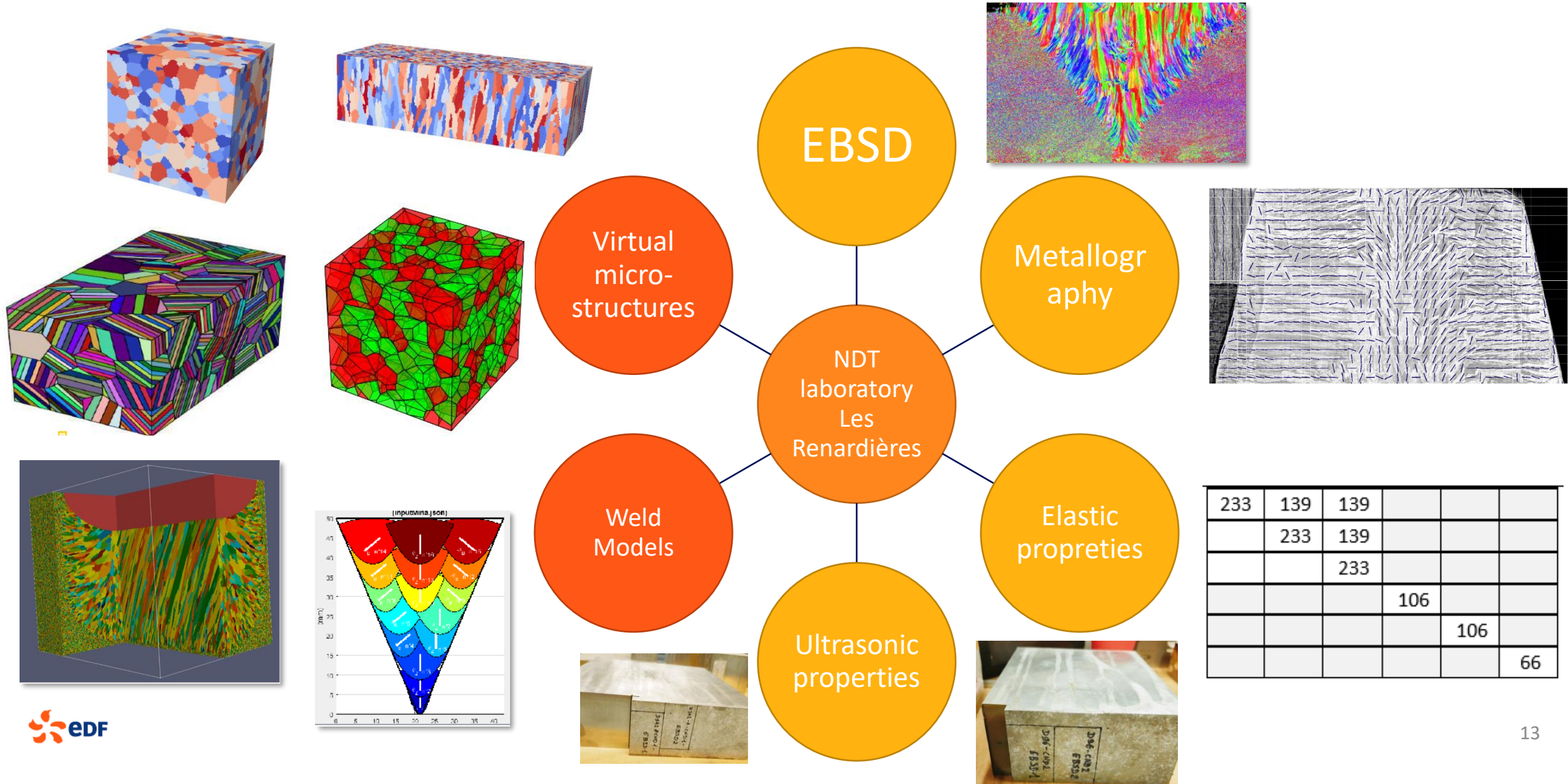


→ Give reliable entry data for the simulation codes



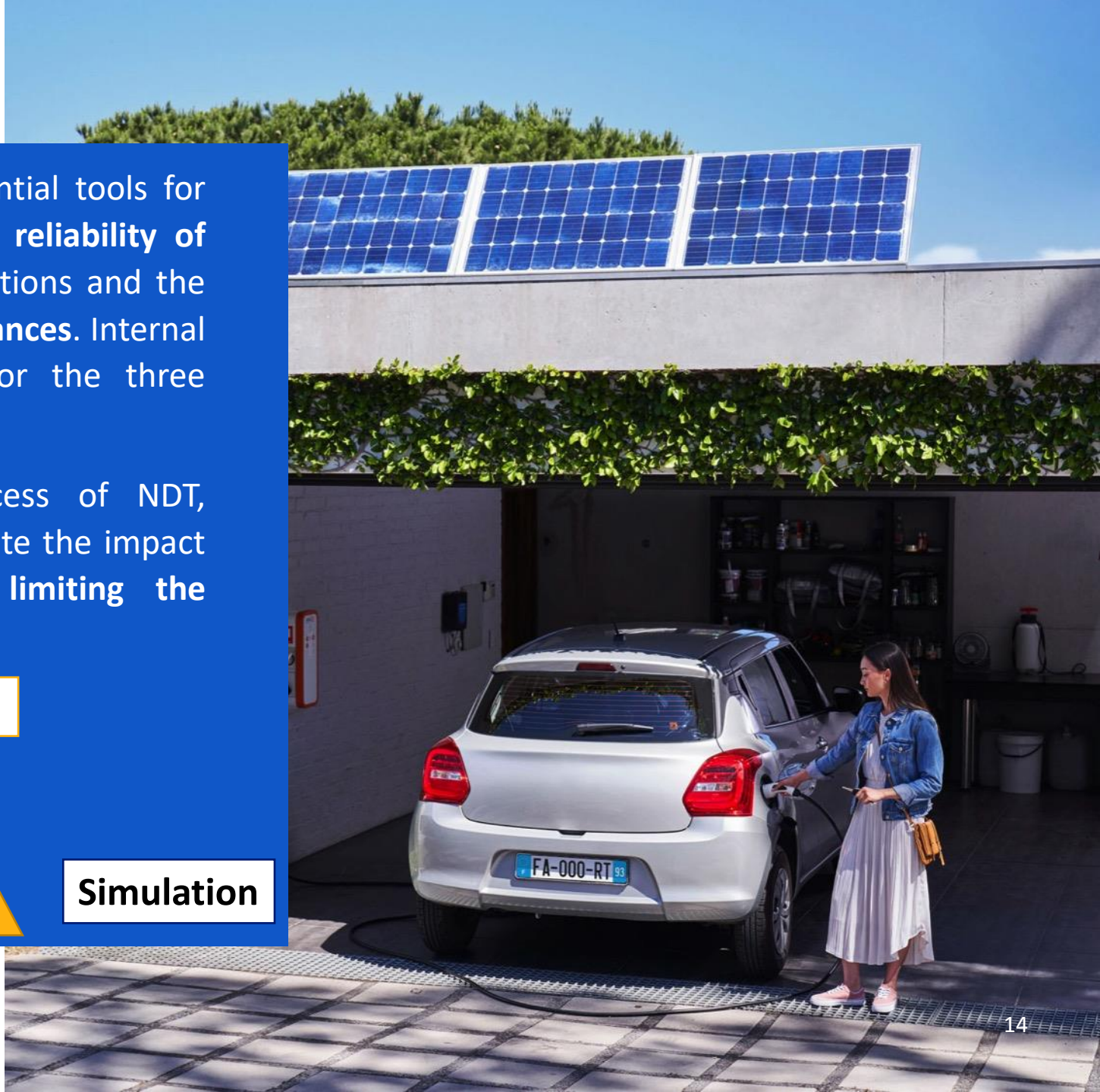
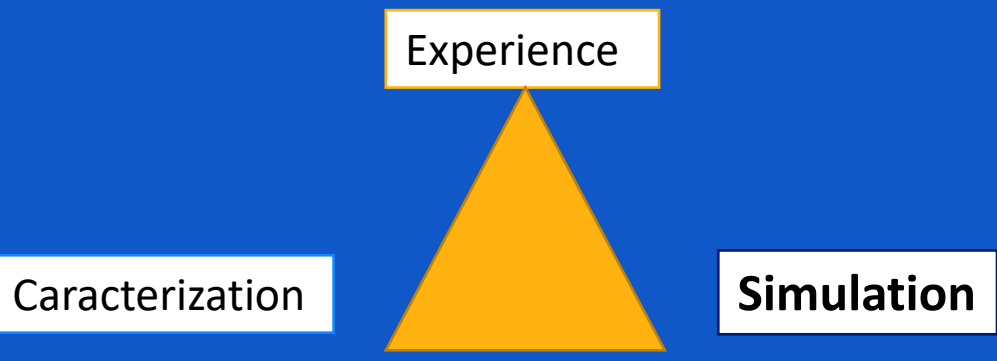


# 1. The tools for the characterization of materials



233	139	139			
	233	139			
		233			
			106		
				106	
					66

- Simulation codes are essential tools for engineers to enhance the **reliability of diagnostics** for NDT inspections and the **demonstration of performances**. Internal softwares are available for the three types of NDT at EDF R&D
- In the qualification process of NDT, simulations allow to evaluate the impact of influent parameters, **limiting the number of experiments**.





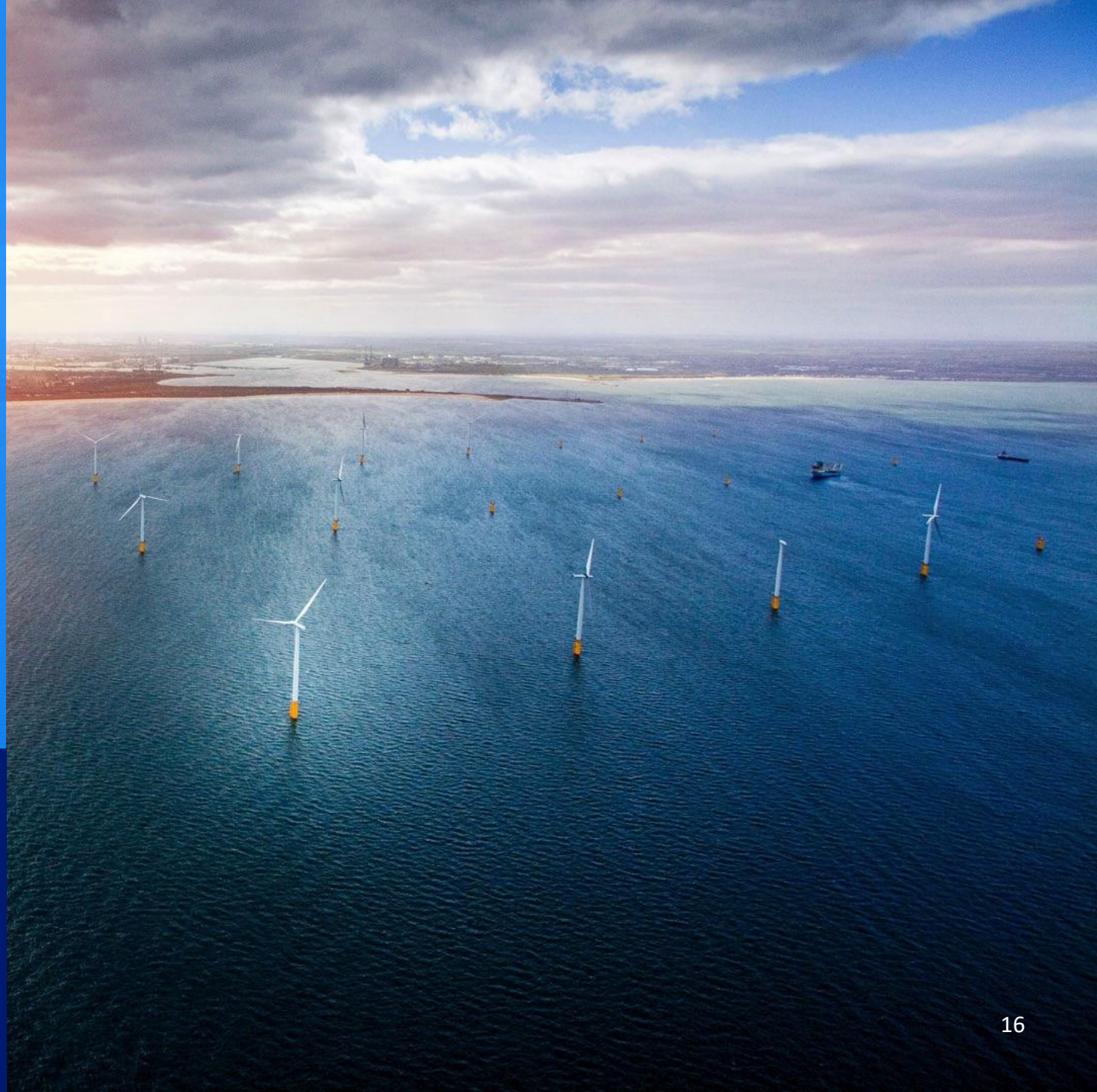
- Detection of **realistic defects** by numerical simulations.
- Propagation of 3D ultrasonic waves in an **elastic media**.
- Remplace ATHENA3D by a industrial tools to help engineers to make decision.
- Be compatible with the already-existing tools of **pre- and post-processing treatments**.





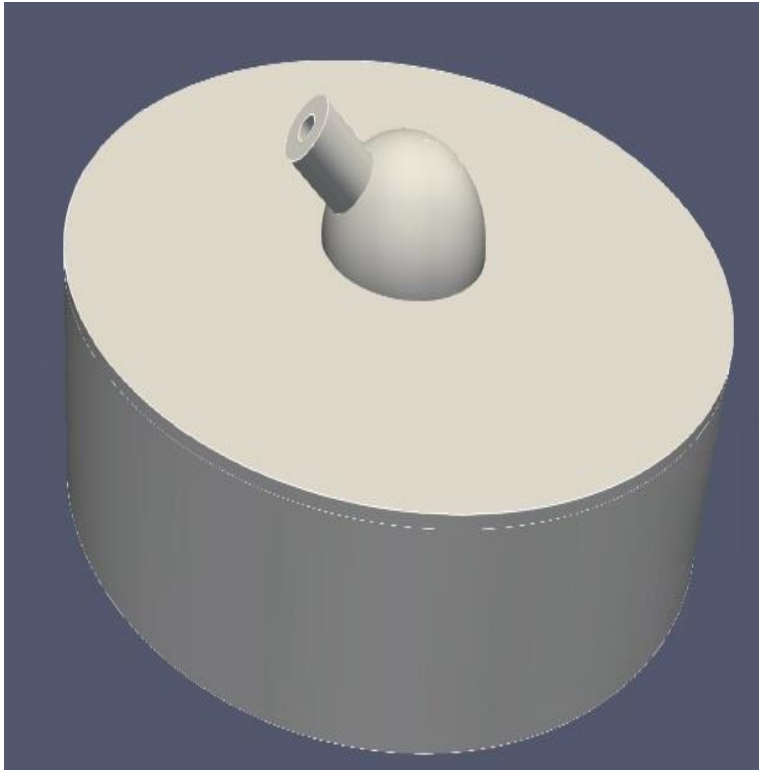
- Treat arbitrary geometry with potential complex defects.
- Elastodynamics in heterogeneous anisotropic media.
- Performance et reliability greater than ATHENA3D.
- Easy code maintenance and ergonomomy of use for engineers.
- Compatibily with MILENA, SALOME and PARAVIS.

Desired specifications with respect to the new solver called **A3D-CND**.



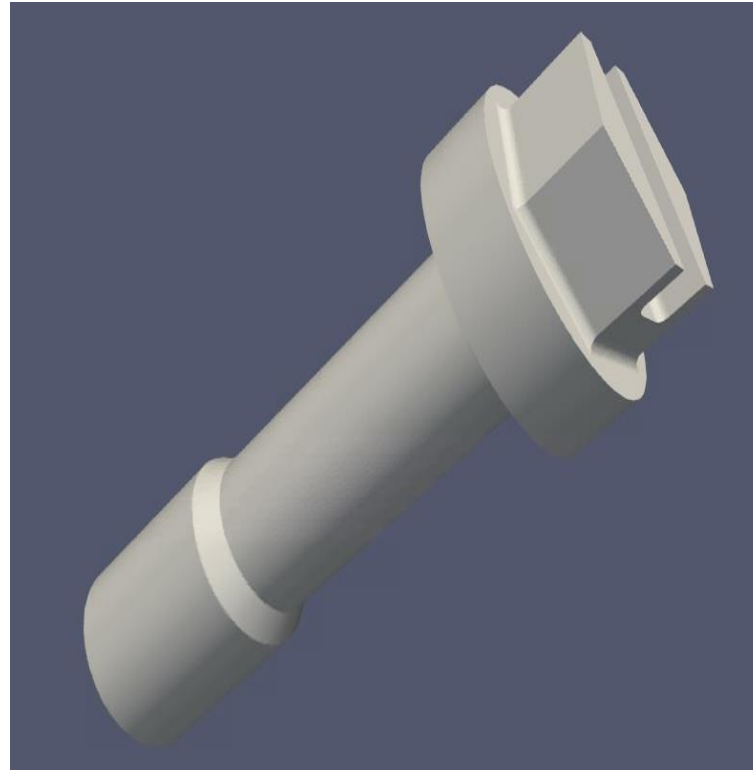


2020



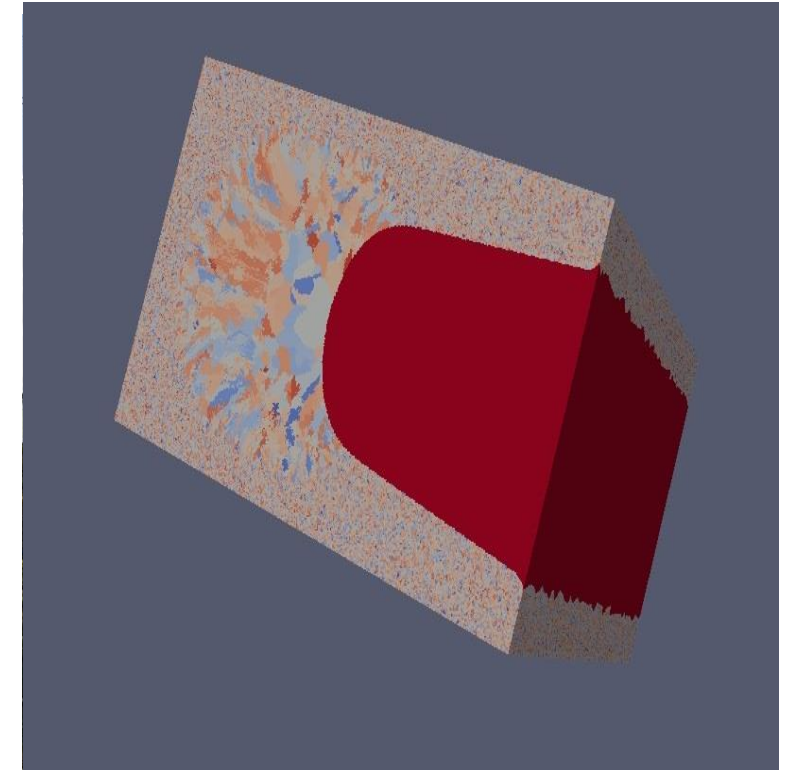
Comparison of performances between a Fortran short code (P. Thomas) et code\_aster on a PFC.

2021



First successfull connection between A3D-CND (written in C) and MILENA (C++) on a isotropic screw of the nuclear pressure vessel.

2022



Simulation over granular microstructures highly anisotropic and heterogeous like a numerical real three-pass weld (NEMESIS).

# 2

## Workflow

Strong physical and numerical constraints:

- **Simplify** methods as much as one can;
- Gain **time** in software development.



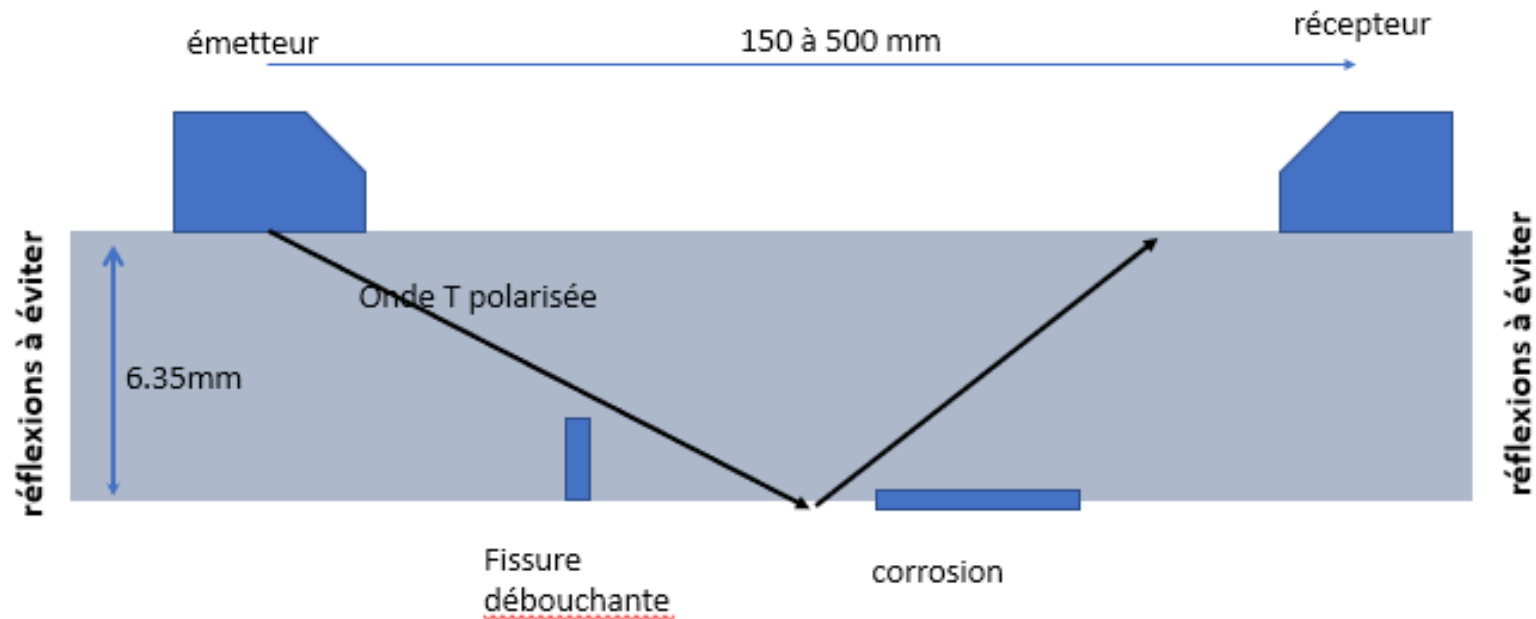
## 2.0 Typical workflow of an ultrasonic inspection

PHASE 0 (preparation): machining or generation of the component to inspect

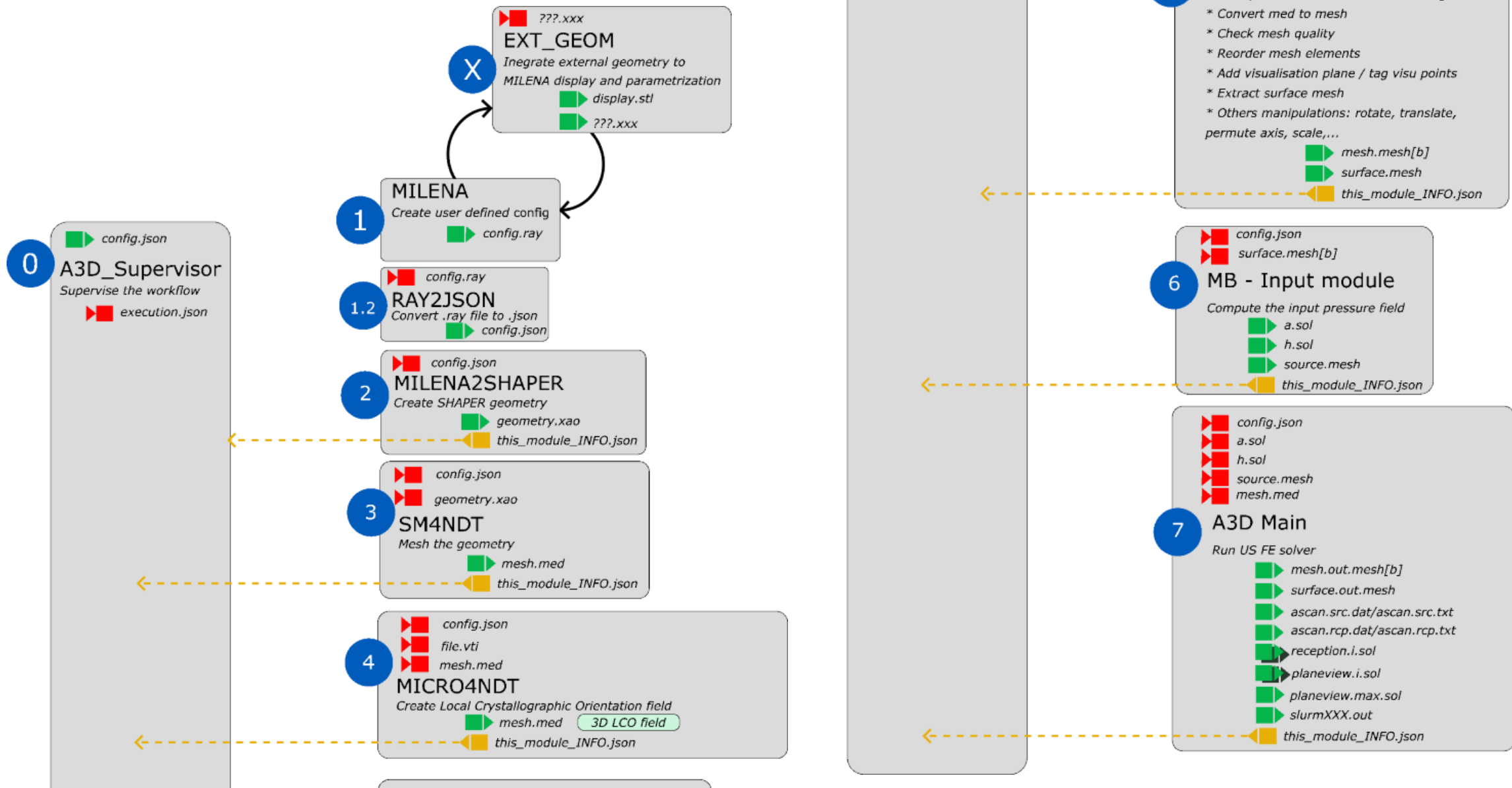
PHASE 1 (emission): creation of an ultrasonic signal and propagating it up to the boundary of the object to inspect

PHASE 2 (inspection): propagate the signal inside the material with complex properties and arbitrary geometry

PHASE 3 (reception): recording the part of the signal that will propagate up to the sensors (A-Scan).



# 2.0 Typical workflow for the simulation of an ultrasonic inspection



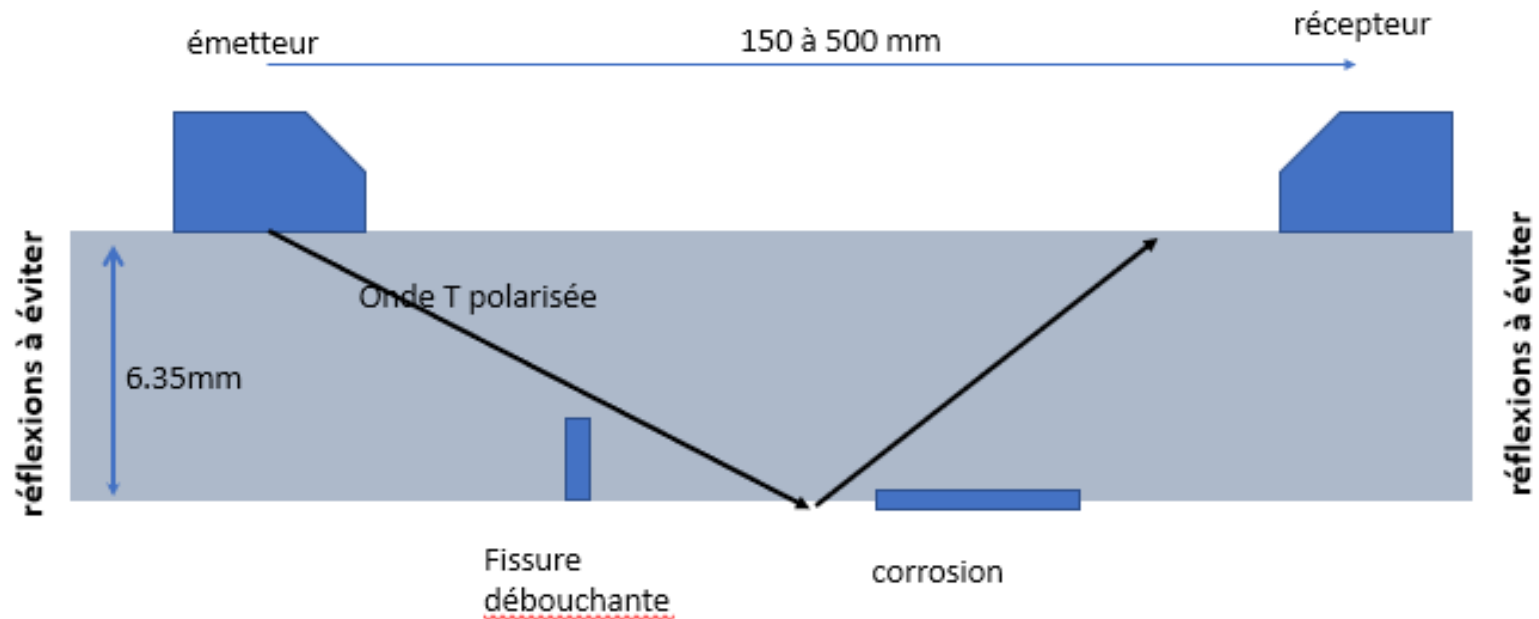


## 2.1 The physical constraint

The **size** of the defect one aims to detect **determine** the minimal **frequency** of the incident wave sent by the emission sensor:

- $\text{frequency\_minimal} = \text{speed\_waveP\_steel} / 2 \text{ size\_defect}$ .

Example: A **defect of 1 mm** imposes a central **frequency of 6 MHz** (with 50% bandwidth) for the emission sensor.



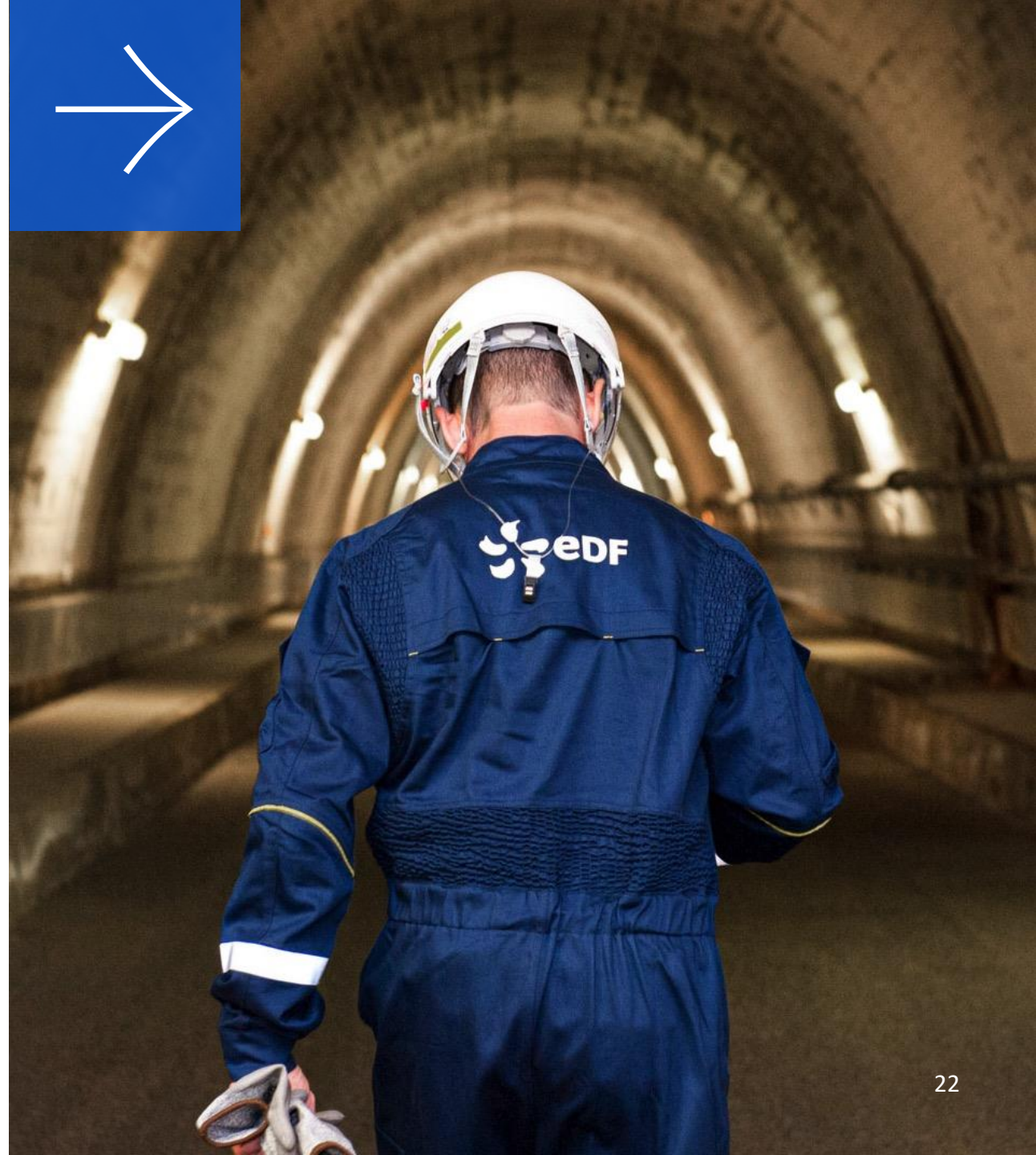
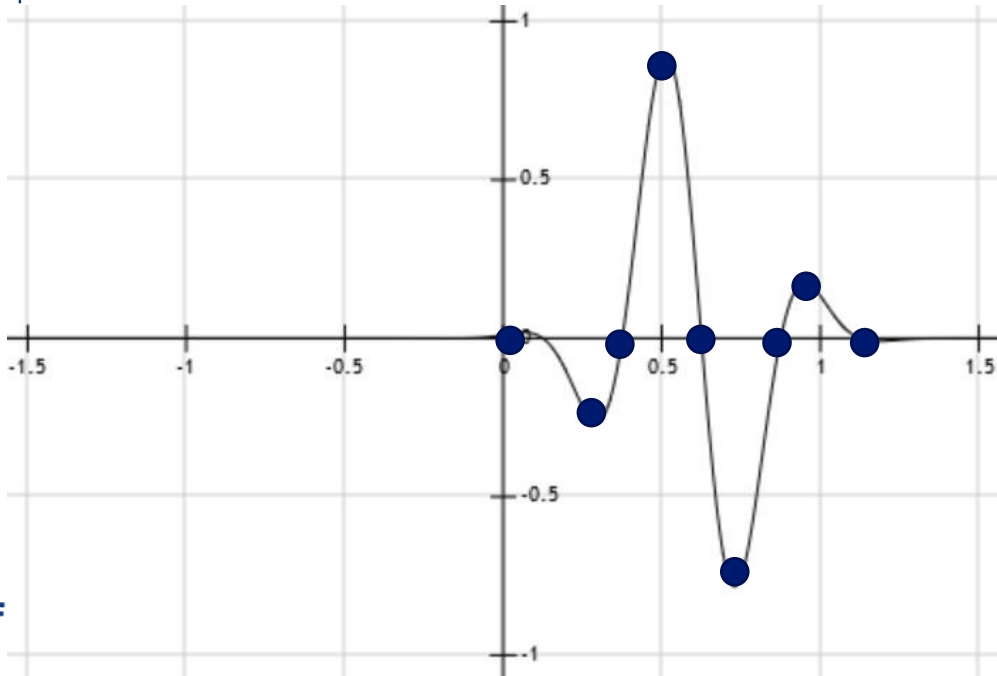
## 2.2 The spatial numerical discretization constraint

Spatial discretization must correctly approximate the incident waves.

The **frequency** of the incident wave **determine** the **maximal edge length** possible inside the mesh:

- $\text{Length\_max} = \text{speed\_wave} / 12 \text{ frequency\_max}$

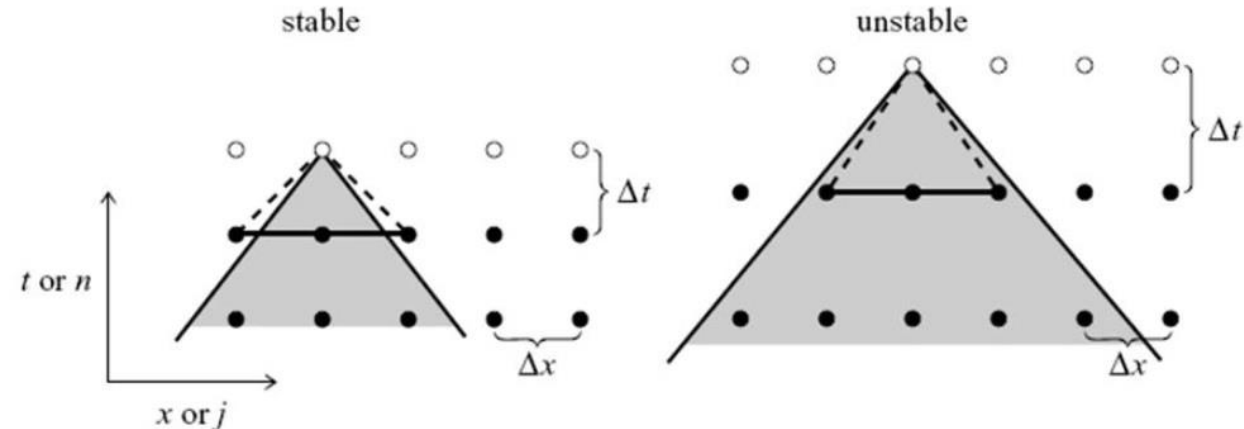
Example: 60 micrometers maximum for 6 MHz.







## 2.3 The time discretization numerical constraint



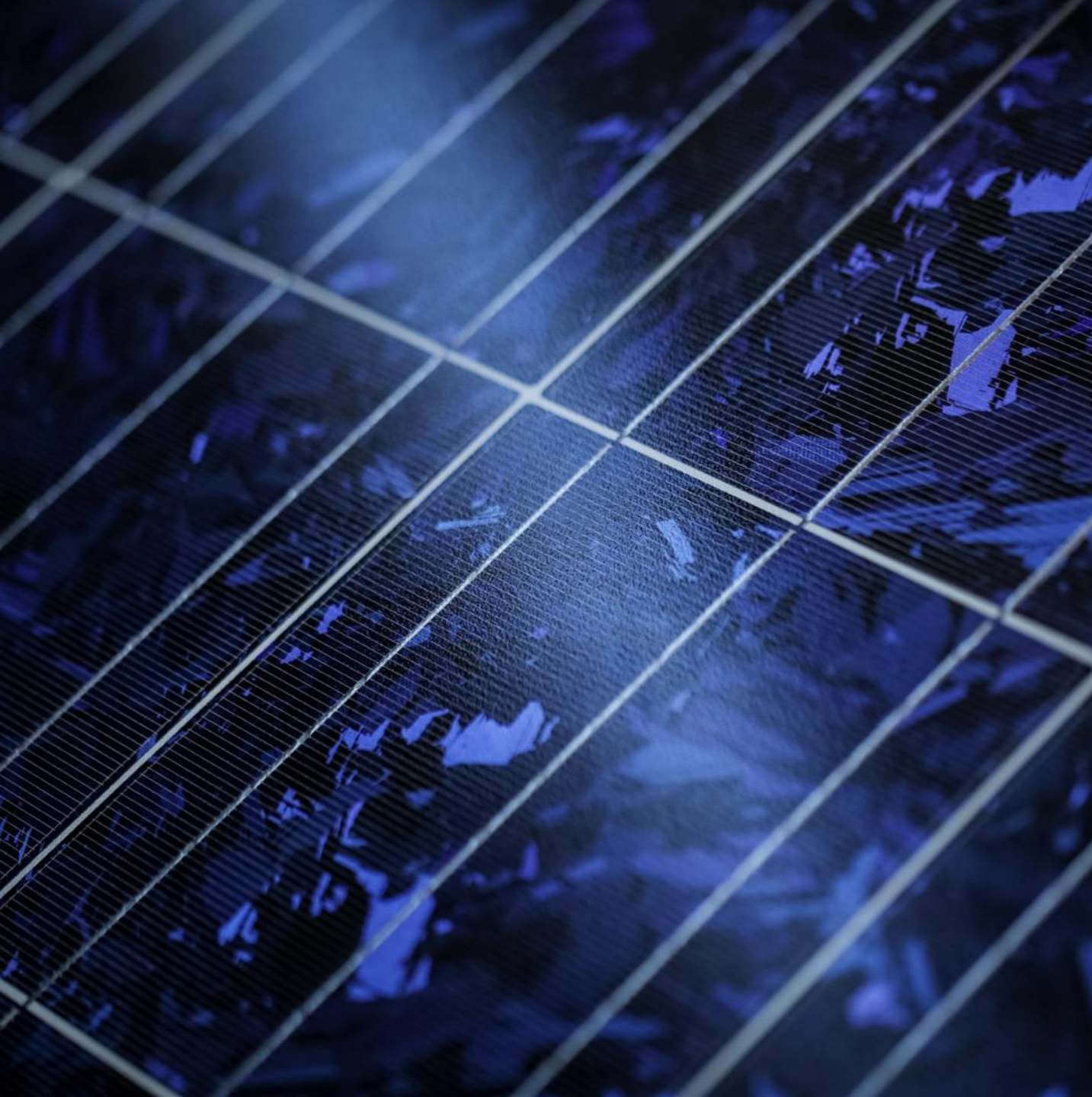
Condition CFL (Courant-Friedrich-Levy): roughly speaking, the time necessary for any physical wave to travel over one tetrahedra in the worst case cannot be lower than the numerical time step.

The **minimal edge length** possible inside the mesh determine the **maximal time step**:

- $\text{Time\_step\_max} = 0.5 \text{ length\_min} / \text{speed\_waveP\_steel}$ .

Example: 2 ns for 10 micrometers.





Engineer: can you simulate on a  $(10\text{cm})\times(10\text{cm})\times(5\text{cm})$  grid the propagation of an incident wave of **5MHz**?

Numerician: yes, but that implies a space discretization step of 50 micrometers, hence a mesh of **24 billions of tetraedra** (and 4 billions of nodes) for 5000 iterations of 8 ns.



## About the number of tetraedra:

- Coarse mesh: 400 millions
- Usual mesh: **1 milliard**
- Fine mesh: 10 milliards

## Software development choice:

- Re-implementation ex-nihilo
- A solution using code\_aster

## Bet made on the solver A3D-CND:

- P1 –finite element for space discretization, **explicit** Euler scheme for the time discretization
- Parallelization with **OpenMP** of the time loop.

$$\begin{cases} U_{m+1} = U_m + \Delta t \dot{U}_m \\ \dot{U}_{m+1} = \dot{U}_m + \Delta t M^{-1} [G_{m+1} + F_{m+1} - K U_{m+1}]. \end{cases}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \sigma + \mathbf{f} = \rho \ddot{\mathbf{u}},$$

$$\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2} [\nabla \mathbf{u} + (\nabla \mathbf{u})^T],$$

$$\sigma = \mathbf{C} : \varepsilon,$$

$$\sigma \cdot \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{g};$$

$$\mathbf{u}(\bullet, 0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{\mathbf{u}}(\bullet, 0) = 0,$$



# 3

## Results

Two typical studies are considered for qualitative results:

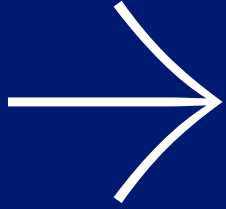
- Simulate for a potentially little defect (7 MHz) on a complex geometry (crew) with homogeneous **isotropic** material.
- Simulate for potentially **coarser defects** (2 MHz) on granular objects (weld) with simple geometry but highly **heterogeneous** and/or **anisotropic** material.





3.1 Results  
obtained for a  
crew in 2021





Mesh of a screw with specifications  
(23,8mm)x(23,8mm)x(69,55mm):

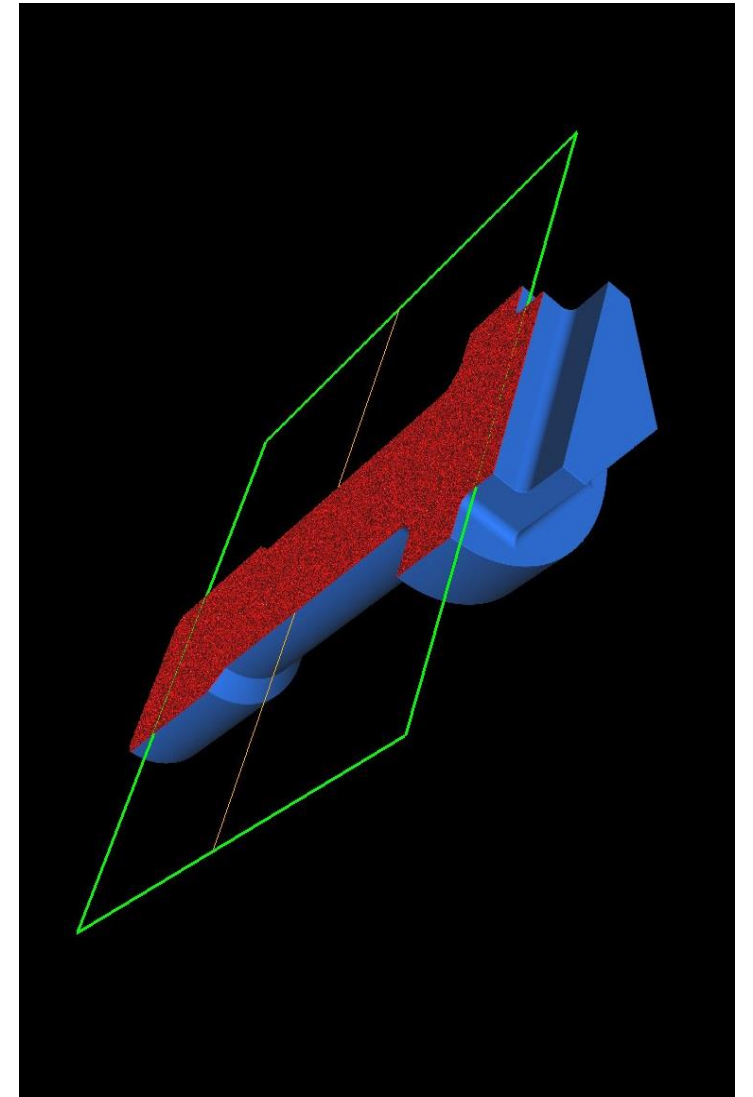
- Nb nodes (= nb dof) ~ 40 millions
- Nb tetra ~ 225 millions
- Nb coef  $\neq 0$  matrix ~ 570 millions

Length of edges in the mesh:

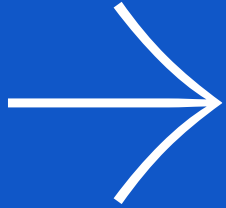
- Minimal = 26 micrometers
- Mean = 84 micrometers
- Maximal = 153 micrometers

Numerical constraints:

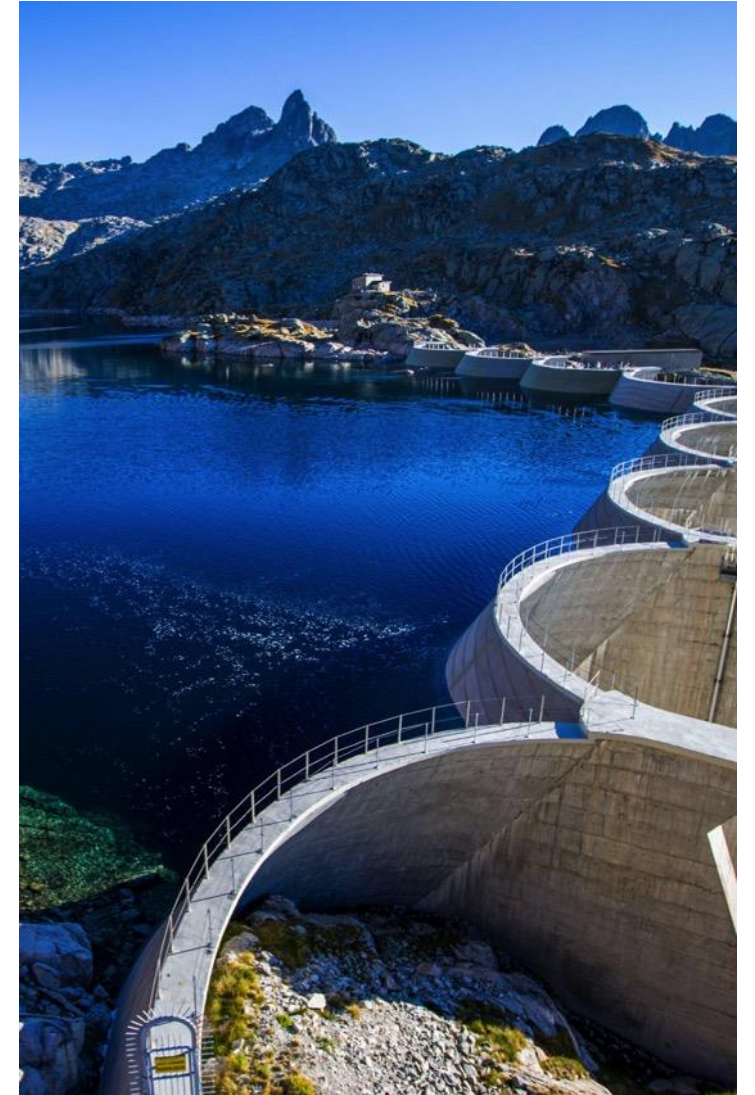
- Central frequency < 4,2 MHz
- Time step < 4,4 ns
- Defect size ~ 1 mm





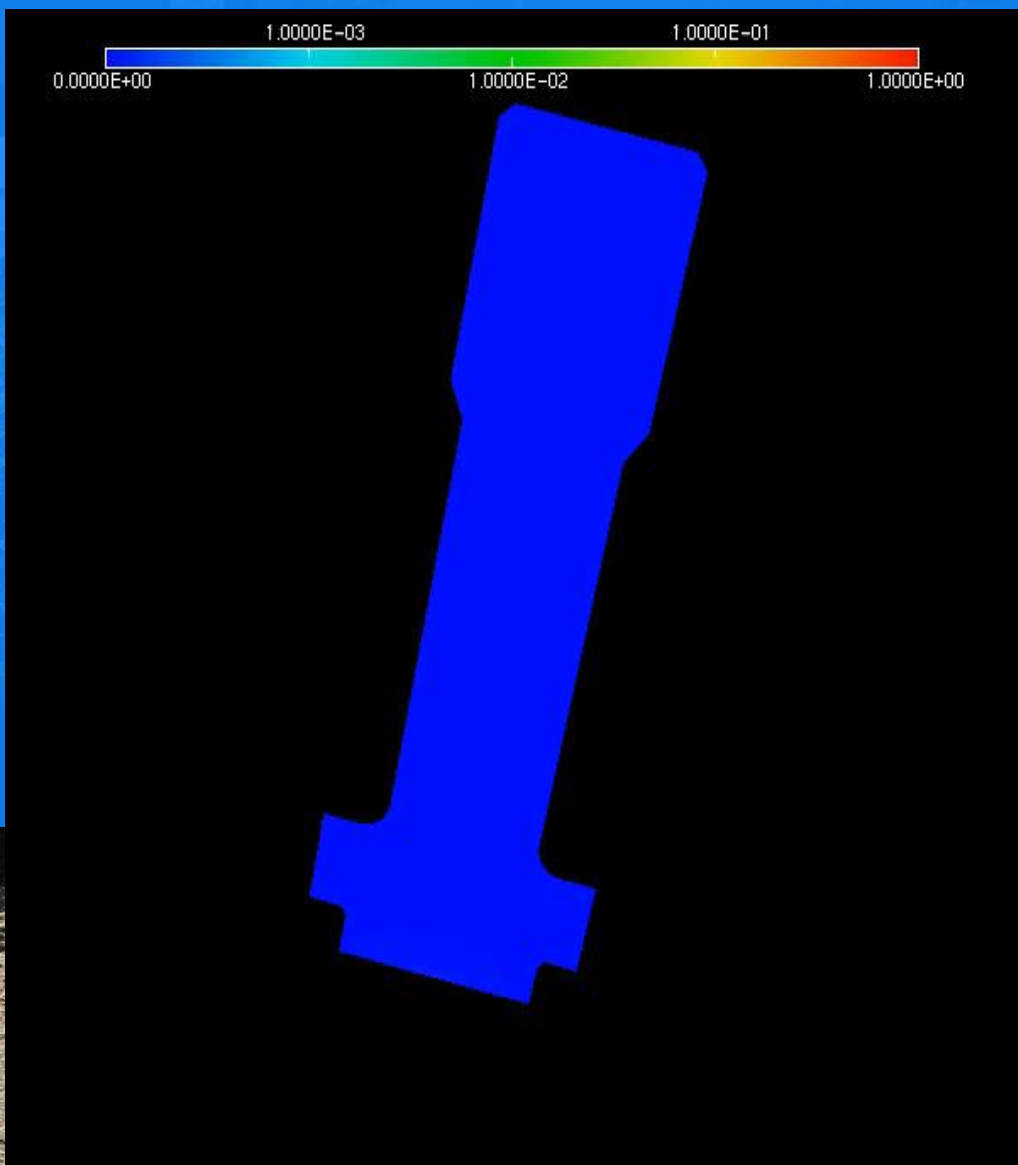


- Central frequency used for the emission: 4 MHz
- Source used: punctual and inclined
- Sampling frequency: 500 MHz
- RAM used : 60 GB
- Standard node (cn) on the old cluster with 28 cpus
- Computational time: 2h53 = 27 min (initialization) + 4 000 iter x 2,19 sec





# Norm of the velocity inside a plane cut of the screw

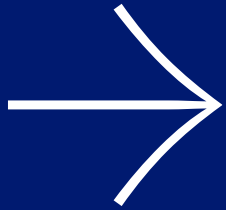






3.2 Results  
obtained for a  
three-pass weld  
in 2022





Mesh of an anisotropic heterogeneous grid (14mm)x(10mm)x(10mm):

- Nb nodes (=nb dof) ~ 175 millions
- Nb tetra ~ 1 billion
- Nb coef  $\neq 0$  matrix ~ 2.5 billions

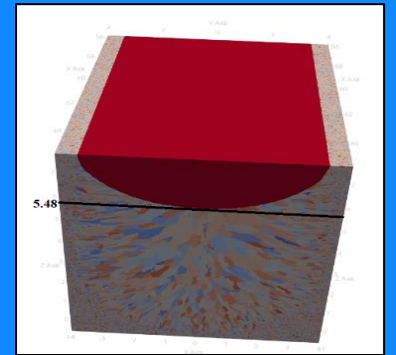
Length of edges in the mesh:

- Minimal=20 micrometers
- Mean=26 micrometers
- Maximal=35 micrometers

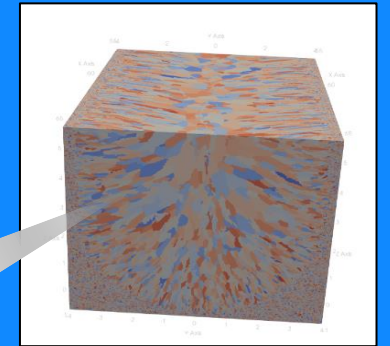
Numerical constraints:

- Source frequency < 4.8 MHz
- Time step < 3,3 ns
- Taille défaut ~ 1 mm

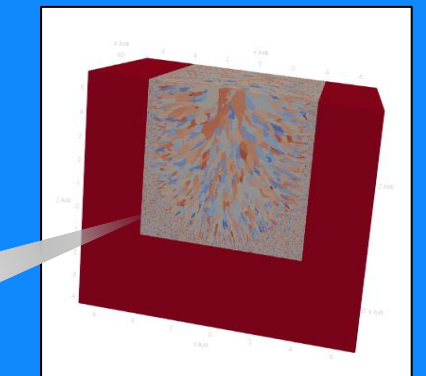
**Maillage initial**



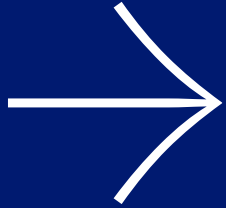
**Maillage découpé**



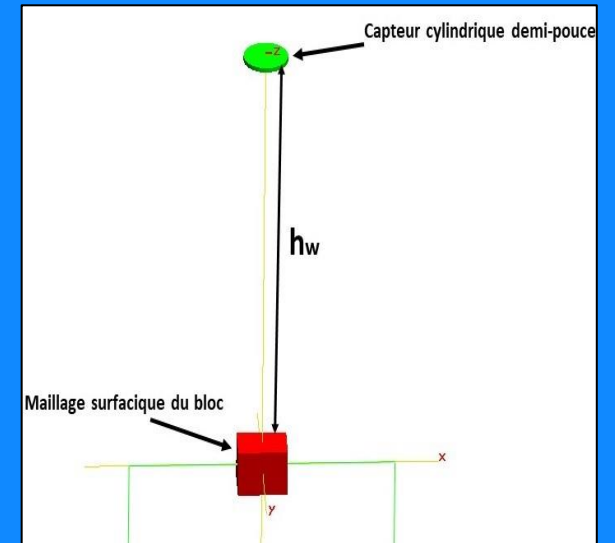
**Maillage final**







- Different frequencies used for a sensor in immersion
- Time of the simulation: 6,4  $\mu$ s
- Sampling frequency: 625 MHz
- RAM used : 340 GB
- Big memory node (bm) on the new cluster with 24 cpus
- Computation time: 5h30 (4 000 iterations)



$f_{cen}$ (MHz)	$h_w$ (mm)
2	90
5	160
7.5	250

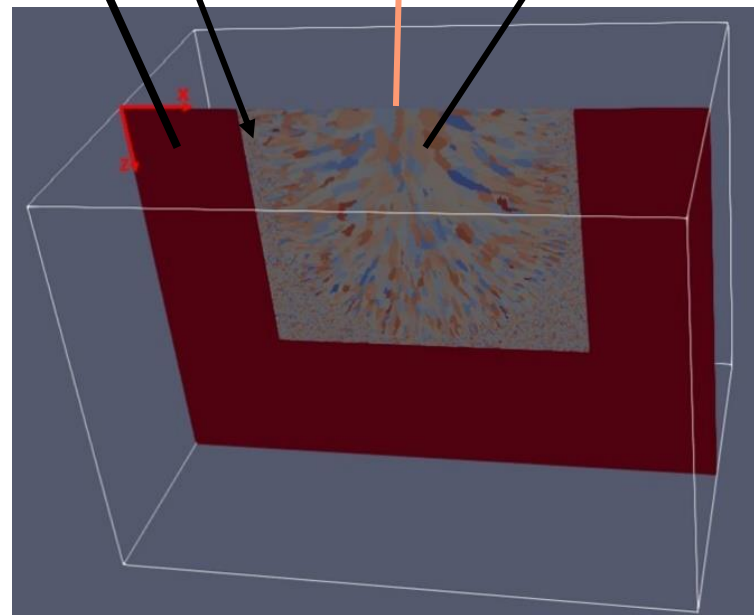
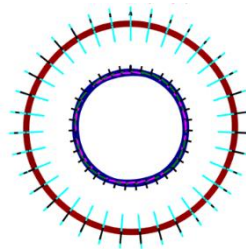
# Configuration of the NEMESIS simulation

Vizualization plane (Oxz) of equation (y=0)

Homogeneous isotropic zone  
Material = ferritic steel ☹️

268	107	107			
	268	107			
		268			
			80		
				80	
					80

rho = 7700, VL = 5900, VT = 3230



US sensor

Type : cylindrical

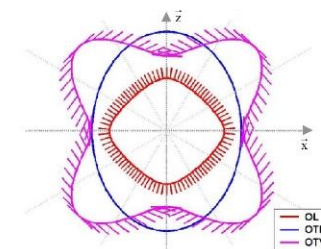
Incidence : normal ( $i=0^\circ$ )

Coupling media : immersion in water

Dimension : 12,7 mm (demi-inch)

CAFE zone

Material = Austenite (single crystal)



206	133	133			
	206	133			
		206			
			119		
				119	
					119

rho = 7925, VLmax = 6184, VTmin = 2292

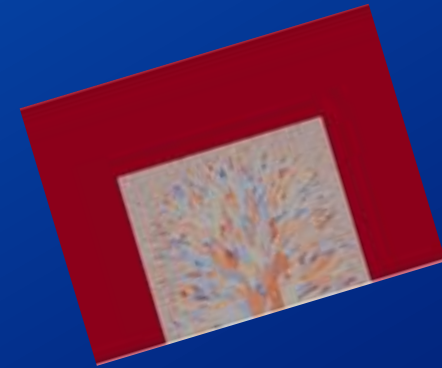
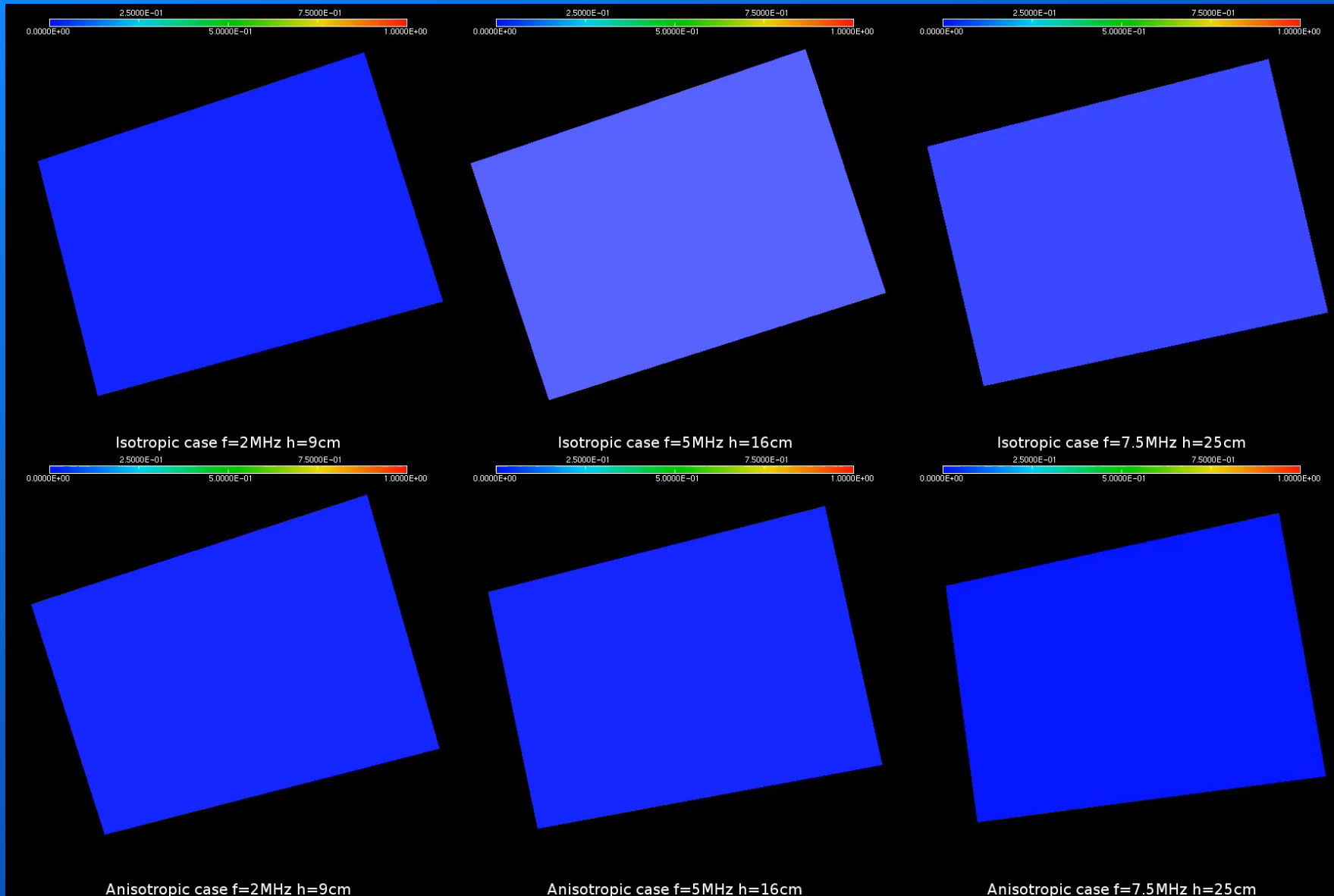
+ 3 Euler angles for each grain (x 3 000 000 grains)





edf

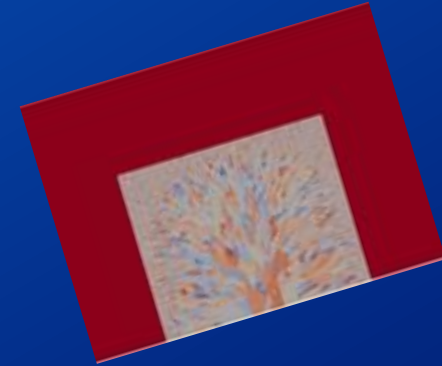
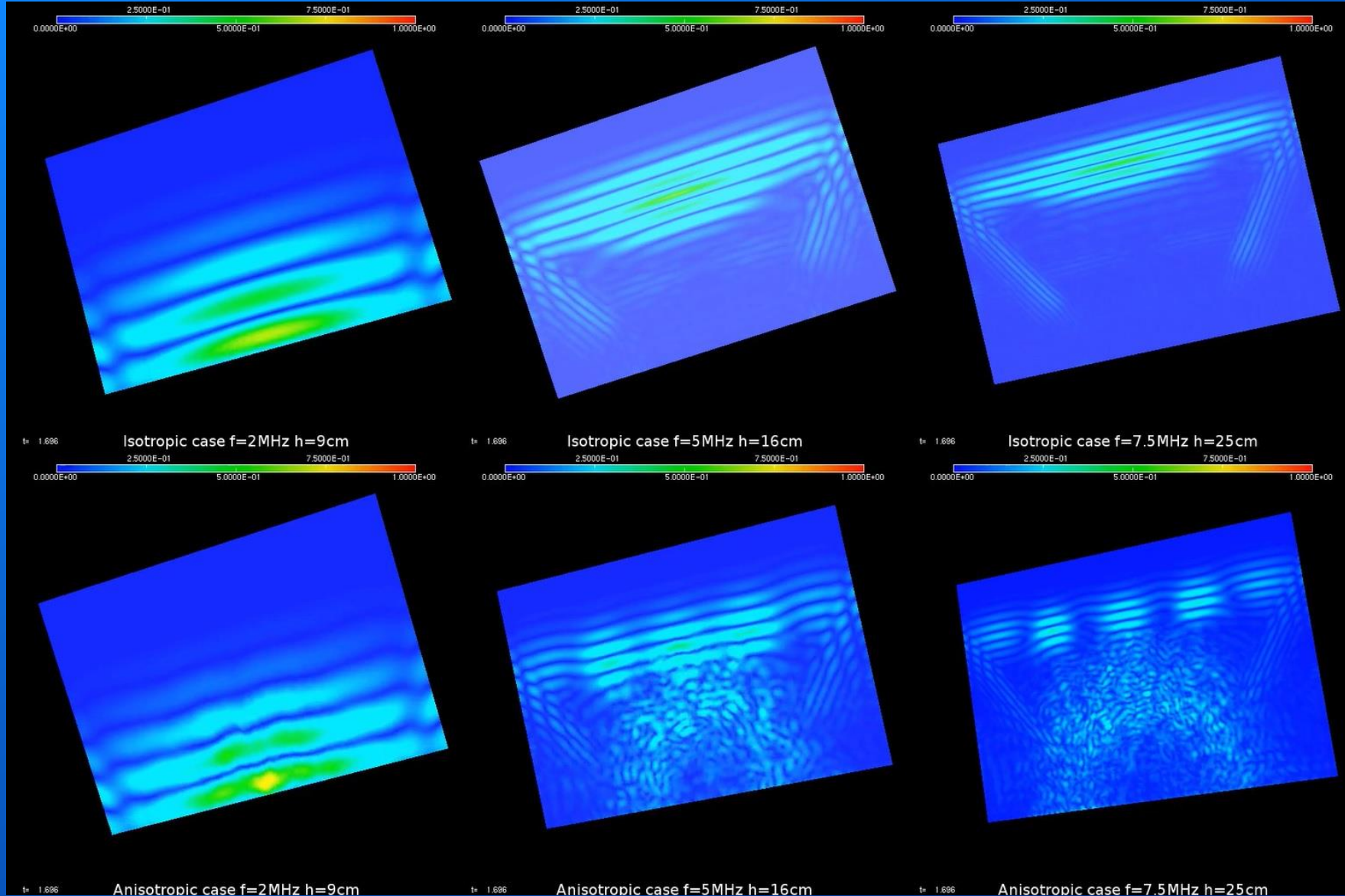
Norm of the velocity in the visualization plane for different frequencies





edf

Norm of the velocity in the visualization plane for different frequencies at  $t=1,7\mu s$







Merci

