

Fraunhofer Institute for Organic Electronics, Electron Beam and Plasma Technology FEP

# Bend it like...

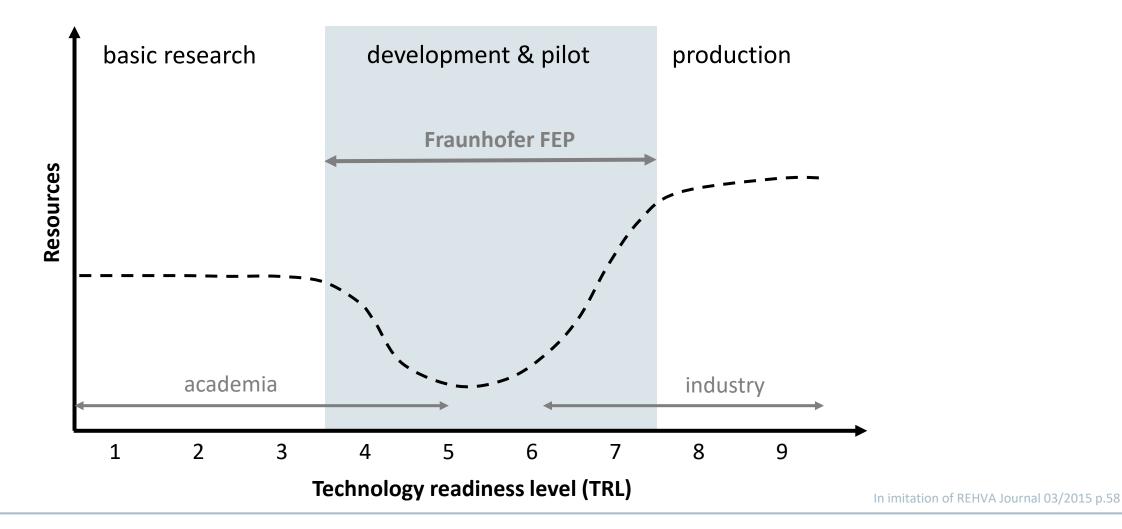
A contribution to investigations of the fatigue behavior of flexible glass

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60<sup>th</sup> Ilmenau Scientific Colloquium, Workshop 1: Living Glass Surfaces XII September 7, 2023



# ...but it is partly stuck in the technological valley of death



## Flexible glass requires dedicated handling

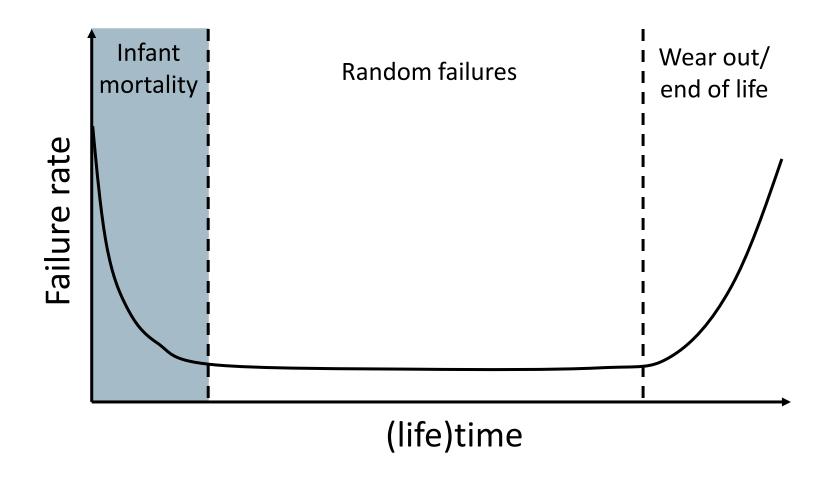
Cutting Cleaning Handling

raw materials functionalization products

Functionalization products

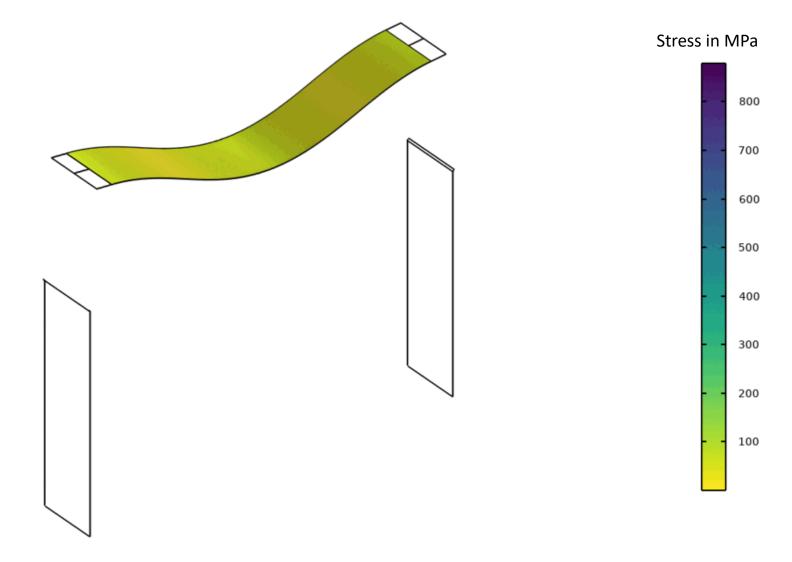
**Coating Inspection** 

# Infant mortality is highly relevant in the flexible glass process chain



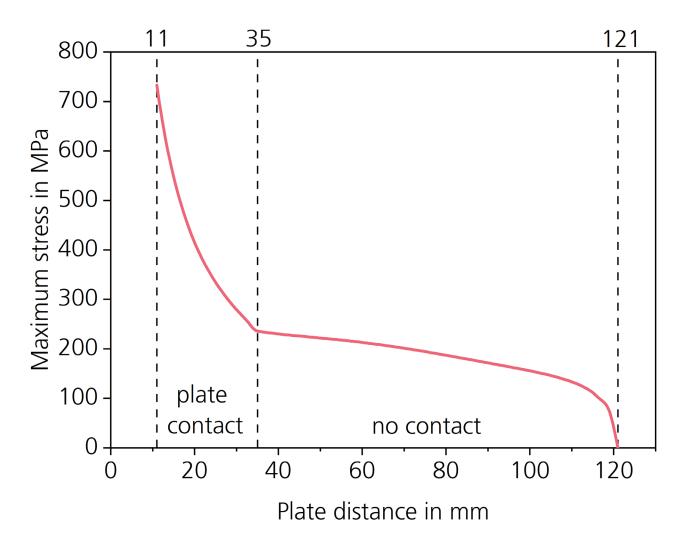


# U-Shape folding test using an endurance testing machine



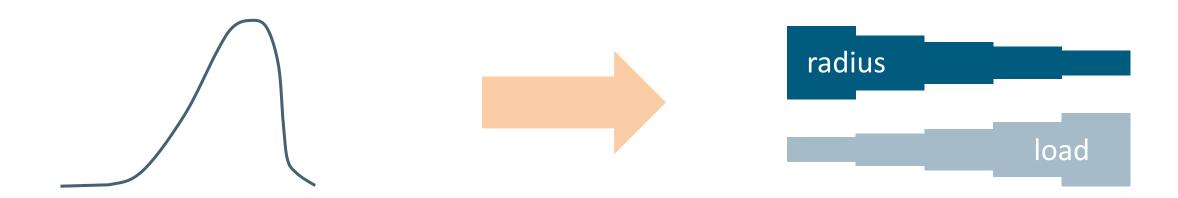


# The maximum stress curve is non-linear and consists of two ranges





## Stepwise testing can probably reveal the fatigue window of flexible glass



- Glass strength is randomly distributed, following the Weibull distribution
- Fatigue occurs in a very small window right before total failure

- Stepwise load increase
- 500 cycles per load step
- 30 specimens per sample

## Three different sample groups have been tested

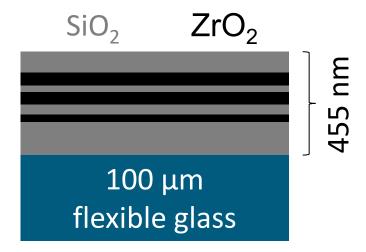
Blank substrates

Transparent electrode

Antireflective layer stack

100 μm flexible glass 150 nm ITO

100 μm flexible glass



4 variations per group



# Vacuum inline coating machine with 10 process stations



DC and PMS

PVD and PECVD

Planar and rotatable

targets



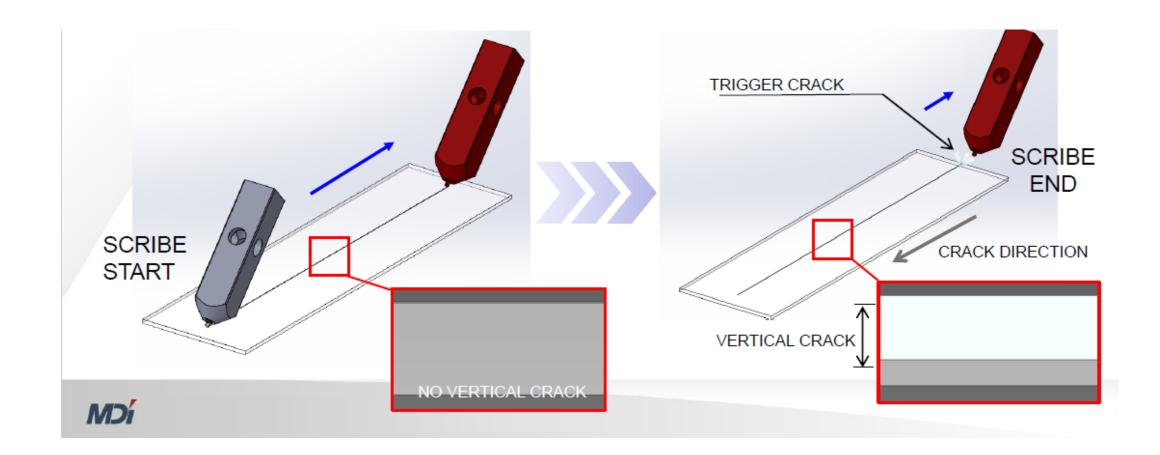
max. 600 x 1200 mm<sup>2</sup>



Pre- and postannealing Inline flash lamp annealing

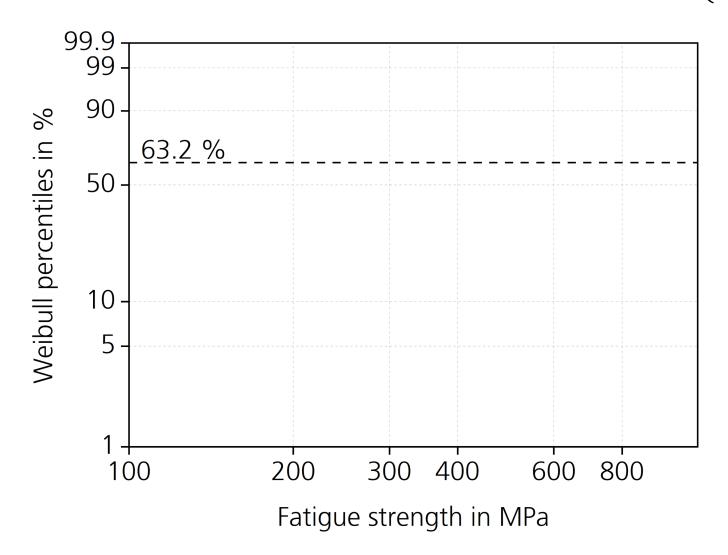


# The samples were cut on the coated side with a diamant tip



# A coating seems to increase the fatigue strength...

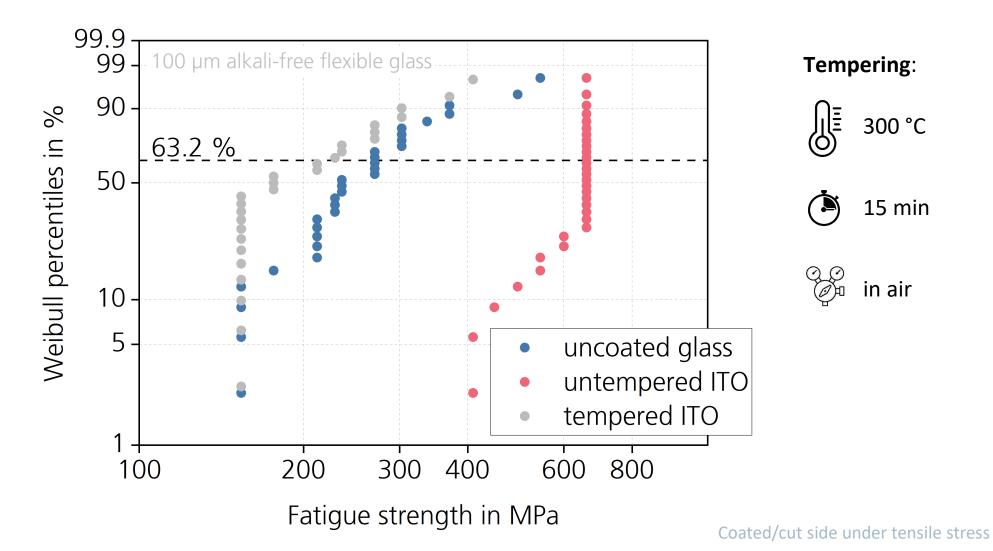
$$F(\sigma) = 1 - e^{-\left(\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_{crit}}\right)^m}$$



d/cut side under tensile stress

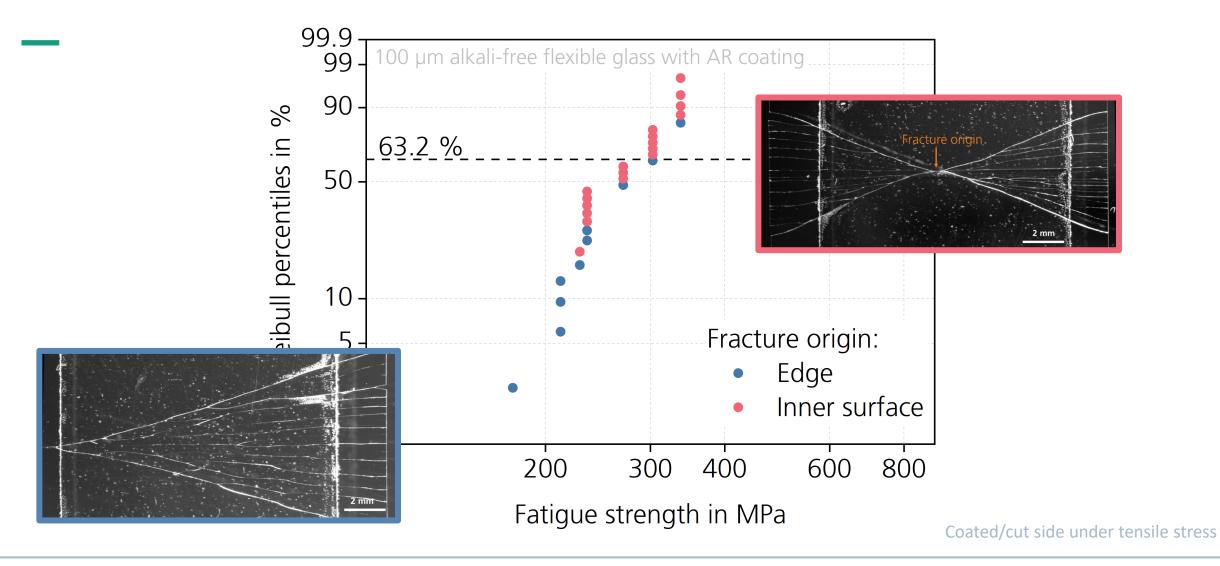


### ... but tempering seems to lower the fatigue strength again

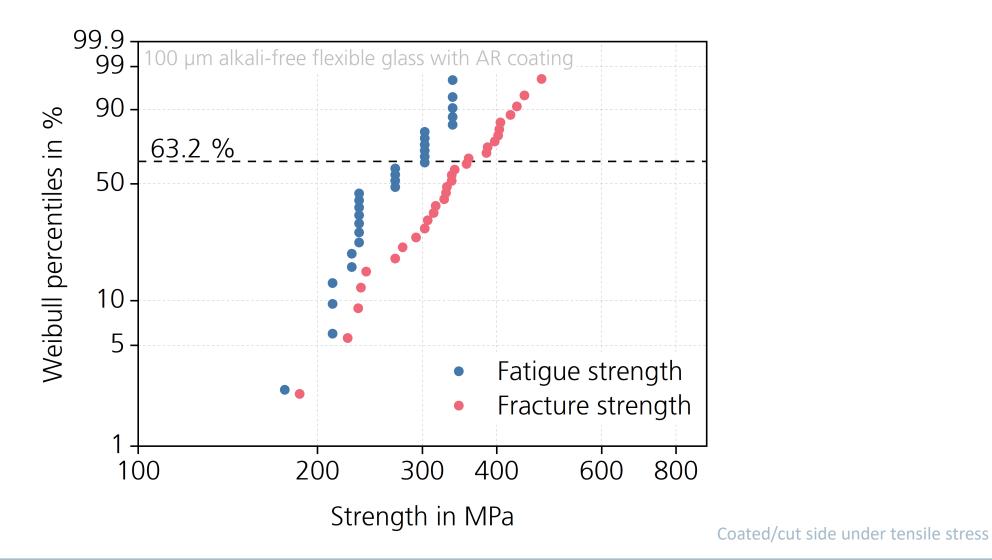




### Fractures due to edge defects seem to dominate at low failure probabilities

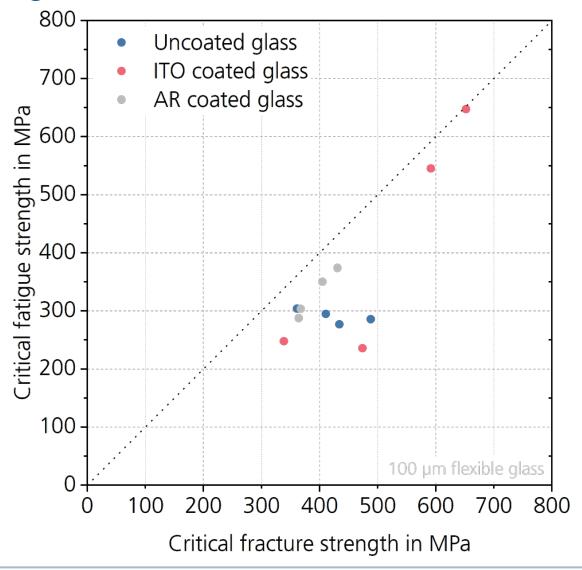


### The fatigue strength seems to differ from the "normal" fracture strength





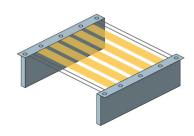
### The critical fatigue strength seems to be lower than the critical fracture strength



Coated/cut side under tensile stress



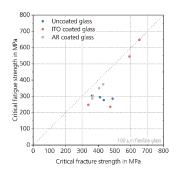
### Take home messages



U-Shape Folding is an easy to conduct rapid testing method.

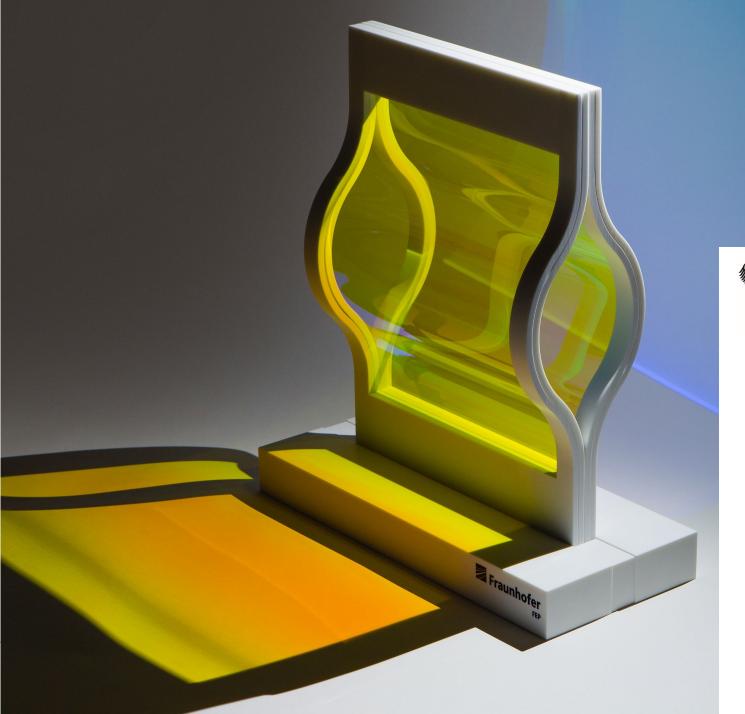


Coatings can both strengthen and weaken the glass depending on the functionalization procedure.



First results suggest that the fatigue strength of flexible glass is lower than its fracture strength.







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