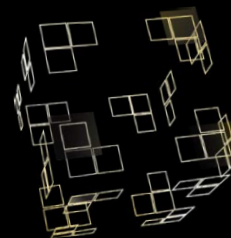
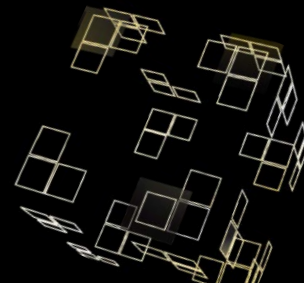
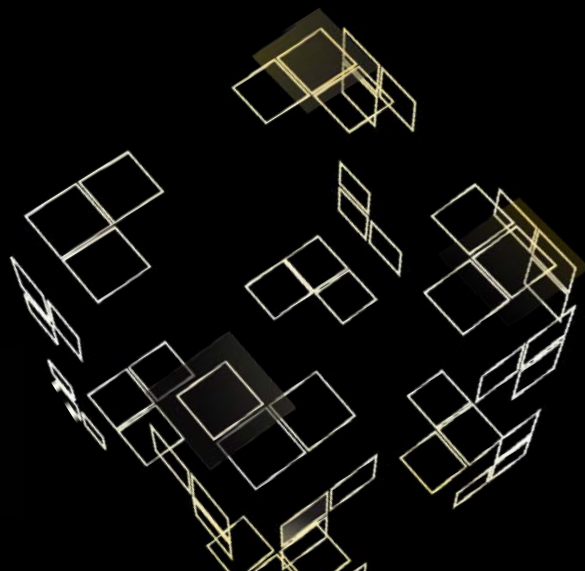


# Flying bits and their fundamentals

Basic research on composite materials and processing  
Or: how industry can help science and vice versa

Remko Akkerman

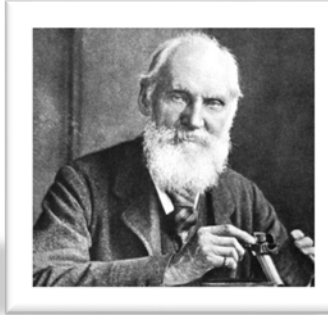
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OF TWENTE.

# Science and Technology

- I have not the smallest molecule of faith in aerial navigation other than ballooning, or of the expectation of good results from any of the trials we heard of. So you will understand that I would not care to be a member of the Aeronautical Society.



— Lord Kelvin, replying to an invitation from Major B. F. S. Baden-Powell to join the Royal Aeronautical Society, 1896.

- Flight by machines heavier than air is unpractical and insignificant, if not utterly impossible.

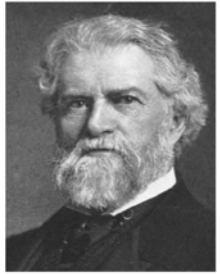
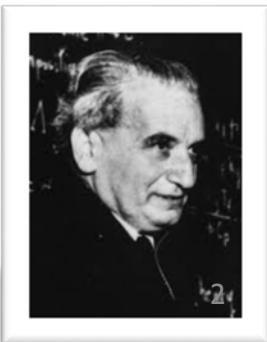
—Simon Newcomb, 1902.

- All attempts at artificial aviation are not only dangerous to human life, but foredoomed to failure from the engineering standpoint.

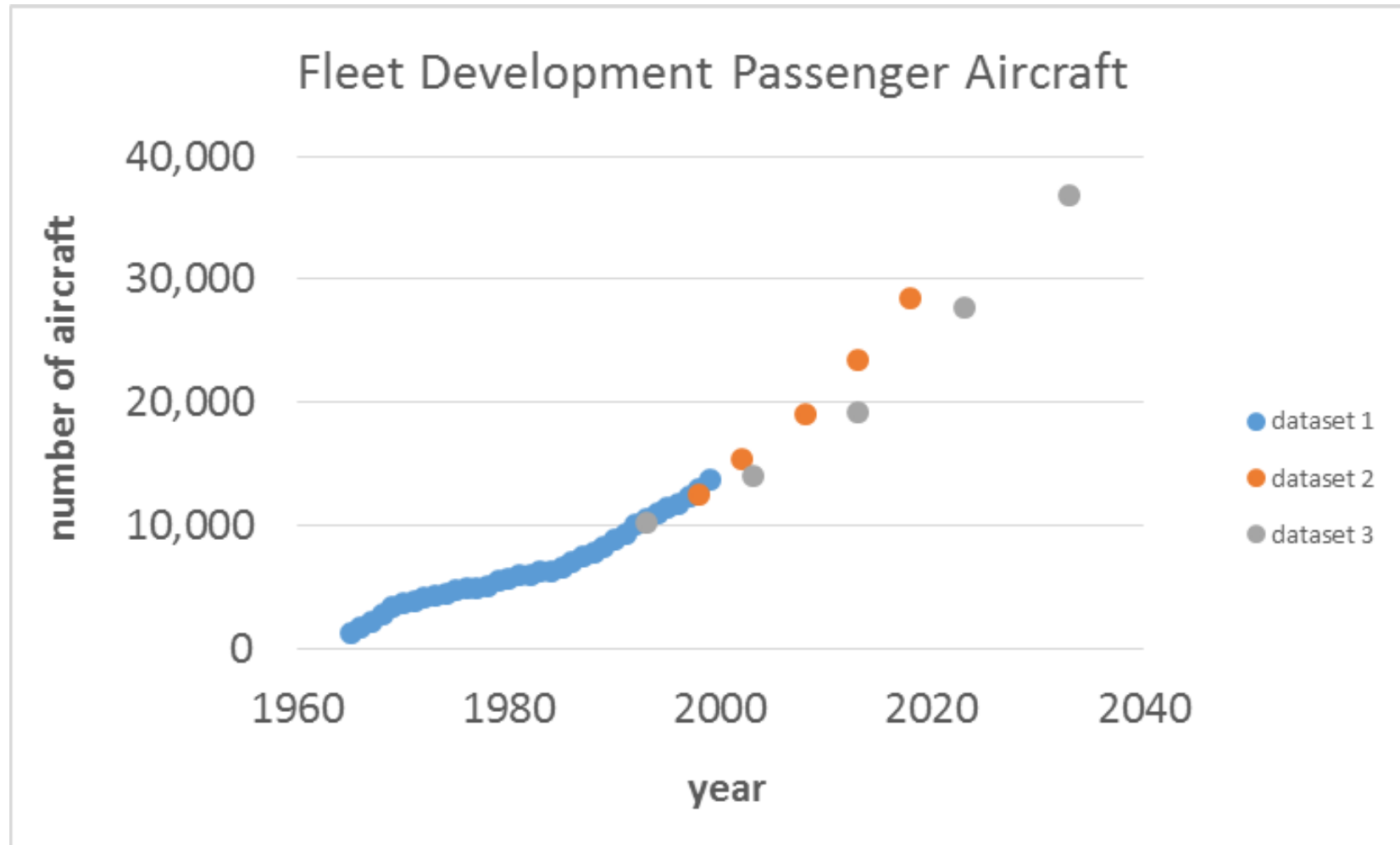
— Engineering Editor, The Times, 1906.

- The scientist describes what is; the engineer creates what never was.

- Theodore von Kármán



# Meanwhile...

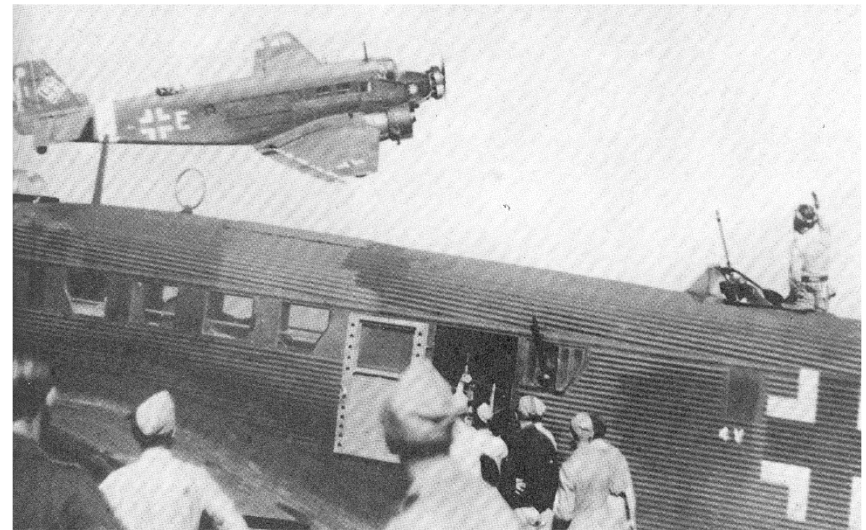


# Materials?

- Wood & canvas
- Plywood
- Iron & steel ► very thin plate



plywood on the  
Fokker FVII-B (1929)



corrugated iron on the  
Junkers JU 52/3m (1932)

# Novel Materials

- Aluminium
- Titanium
- Composites
- Thermoplastic Aromatic Polymer Composites

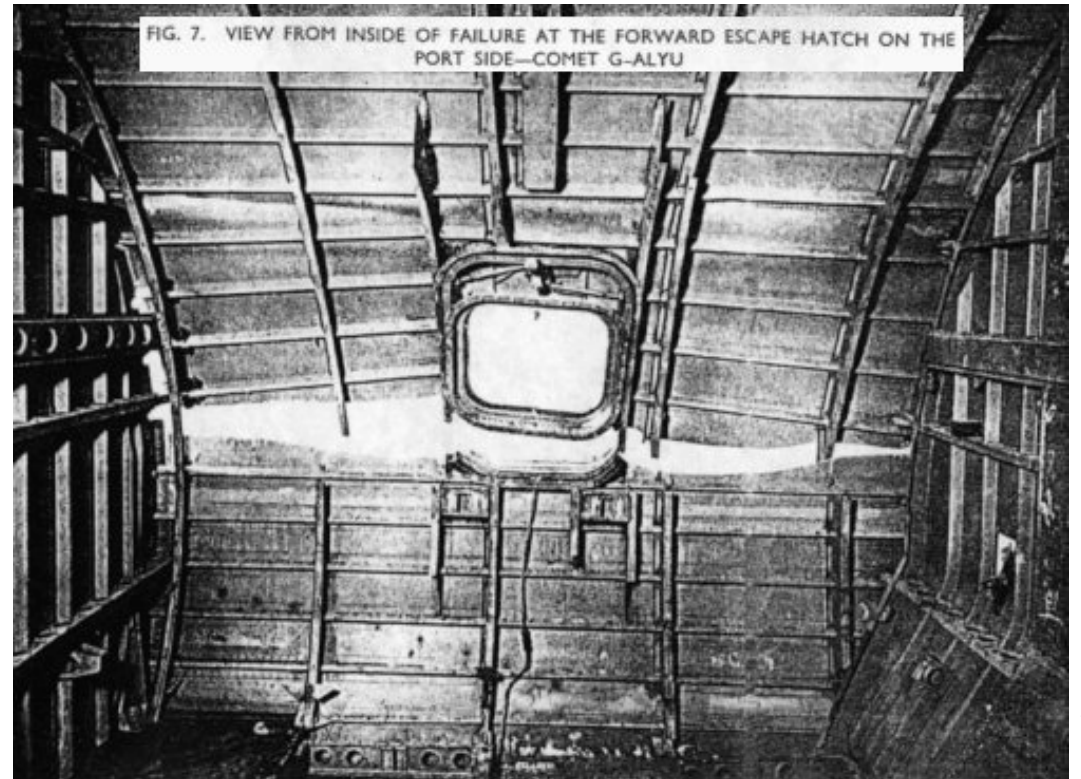
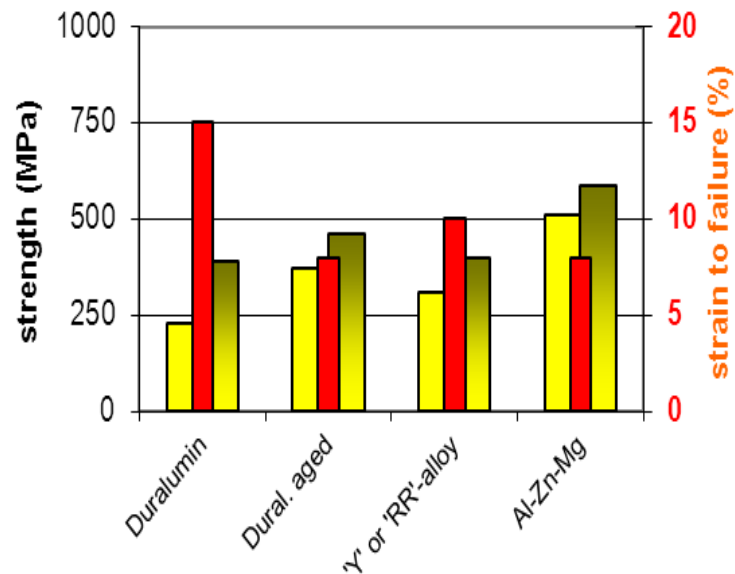
# Aluminium Alloys

- evolved from 1909 (“Duralumin”)  
copper + magnesium + quenching from 480°C  
ageing since 1934
- structural application since 1917 (Junkers)
- dominant material for aerostructures from the late 1930s

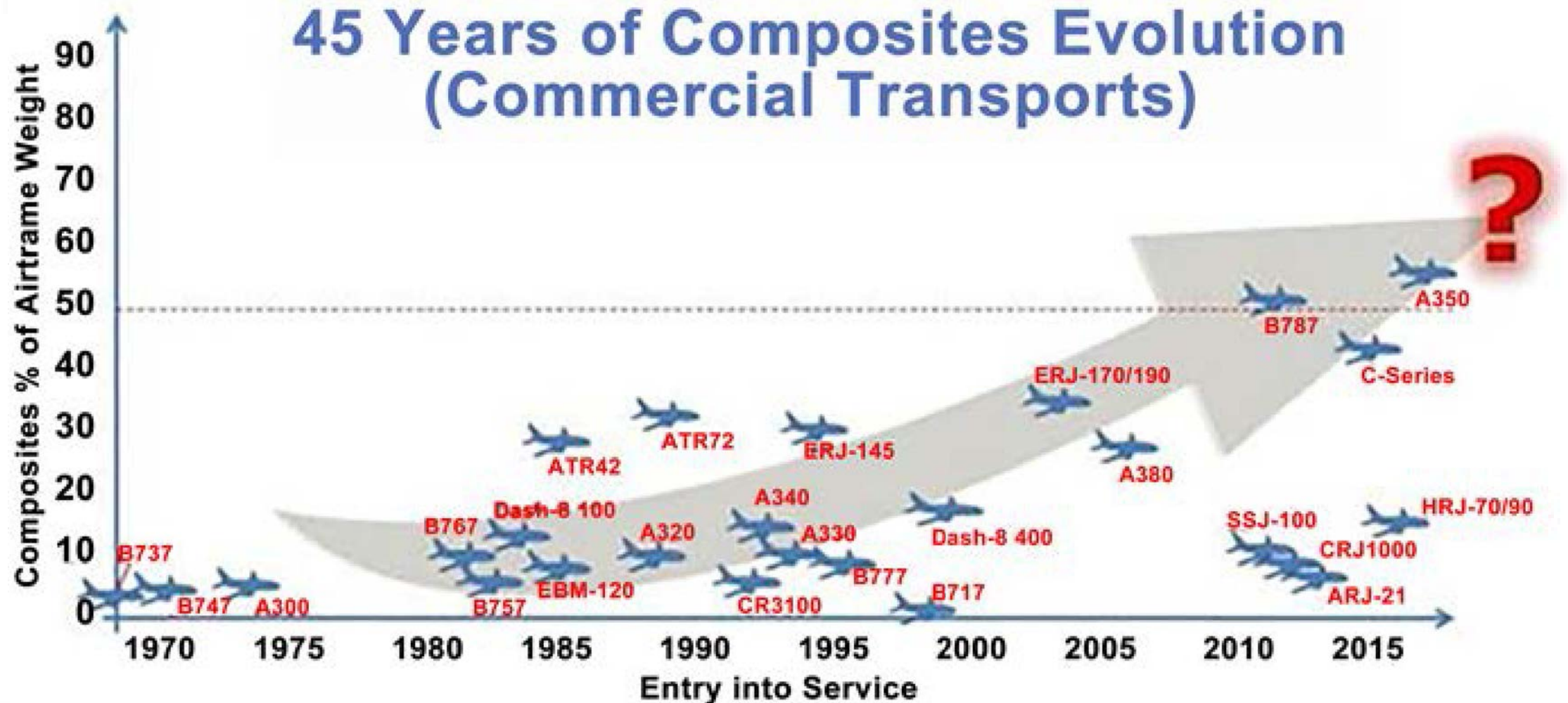
# Aluminium Alloys

Food for science!

- Thermal treatment,
- Tune the alloy to the loading,
- Fracture mechanics,
- ...



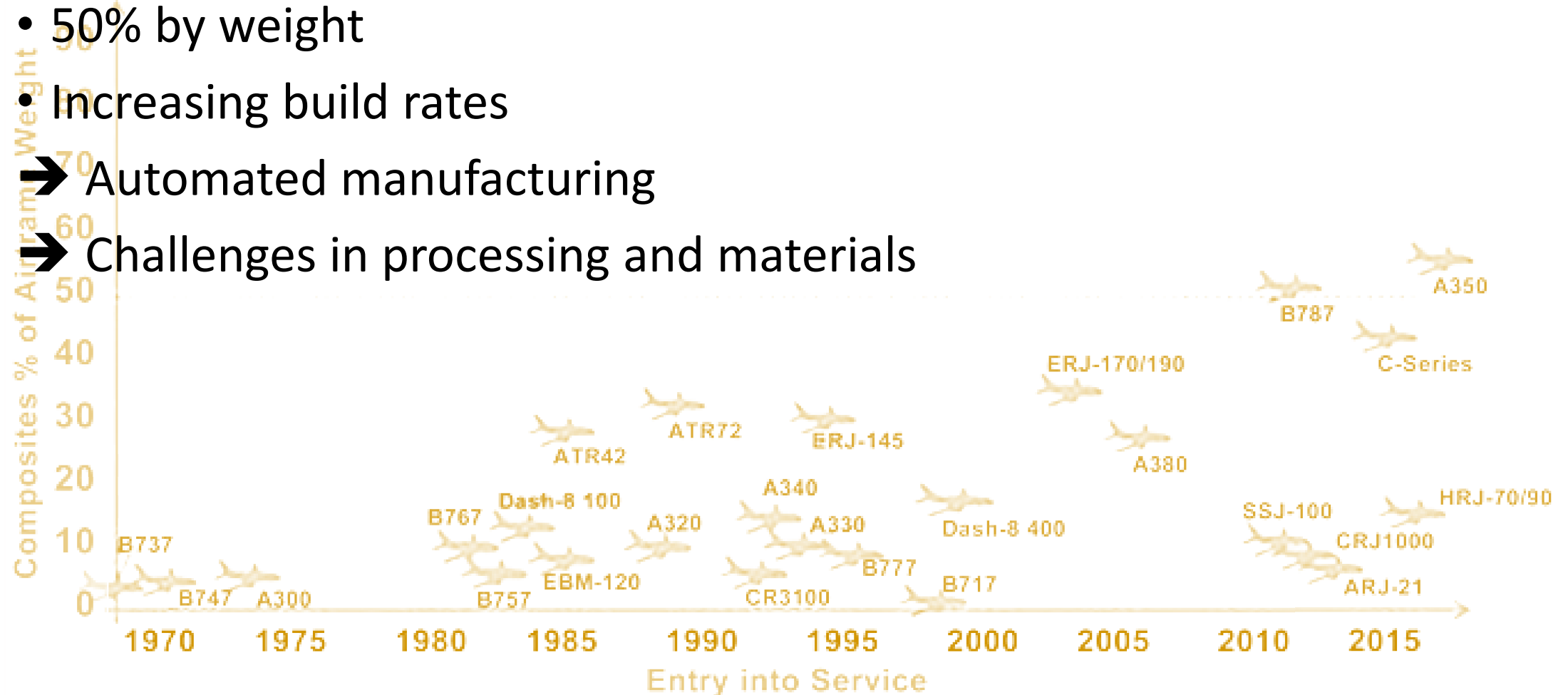
# Composites





# Composites

- 50% by weight
- Increasing build rates
  - ➔ Automated manufacturing
  - ➔ Challenges in processing and materials

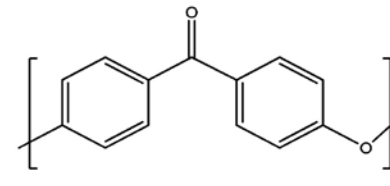


# Thermoplastic Composites (TPCs)

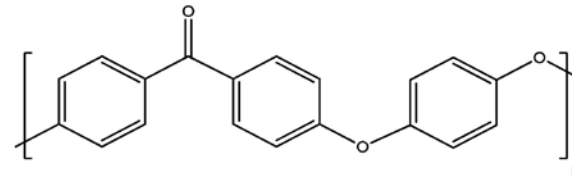
- Light weight
- High toughness
- No chemistry during part manufacturing
- Excellent fire, smoke and toxicity performance
- Solvent resistant
- Corrosion resistant
- Infinite shelf life
- Suited for recycling
- Suited for welding (no adhesives needed)
- Rapid processing (only heating and cooling)
- ....
- For large series production

# Thermoplastic Composites (TPCs)

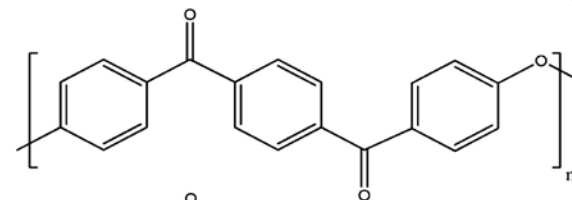
- PAEKs discovered early 1960s (ICI, DuPont)
- 1982 Victrex PEEK patented (polyether synthesis)  
 $T_m=343^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $T_g=143^\circ\text{C}$
- 1982 thermoplastic prepreg manufacturing patented  
→ Carbon/PEEK, APC-2  
Aromatic Polymer Composite
- Superior properties!



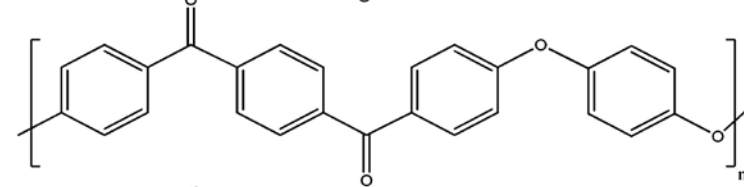
PEK



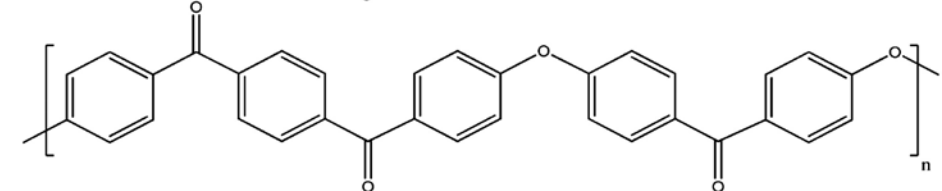
PEEK



PEKK



PEEKK



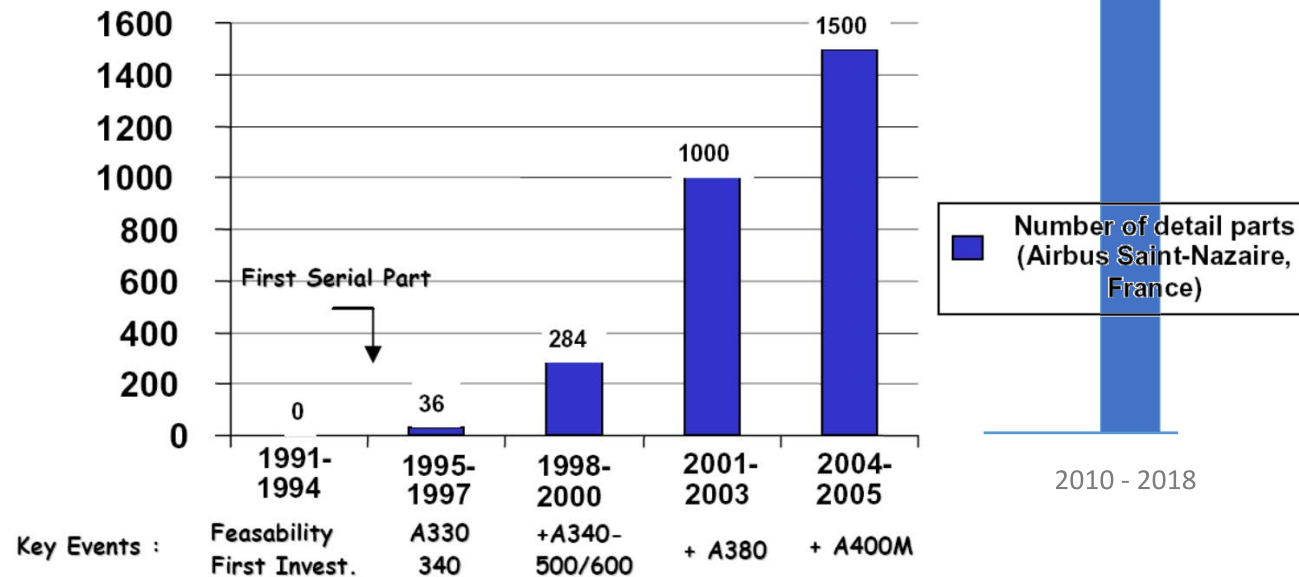
PEKEKK

# Thermoplastic Composites (TPCs)

- Light weight
- High toughness
- No chemistry during part manufacturing
- Excellent fire, smoke and toxicity performance
- Solvent resistant
- Corrosion resistant
- Infinite shelf life
- Suited for recycling
- Suited for wetting (no adhesives needed)
- Rapid curing (only heating and cooling)
- ....
- For large series production

• A long standing promise for the future

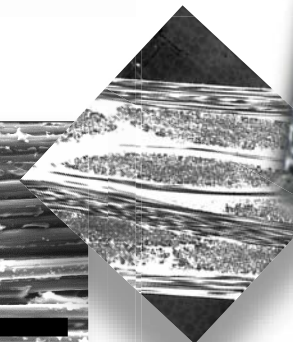
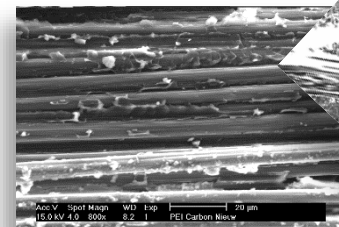
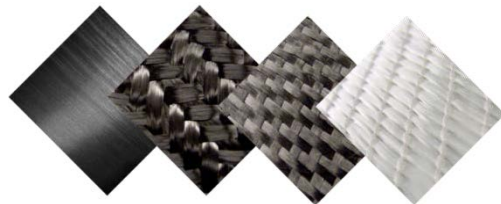
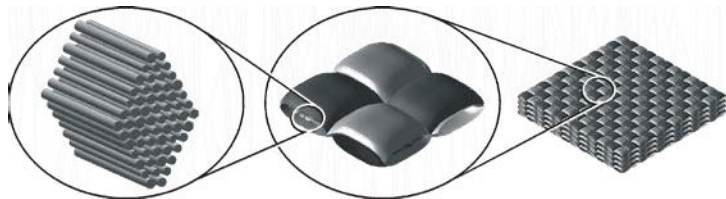
# Aerospace Applications of TPCs



Key:

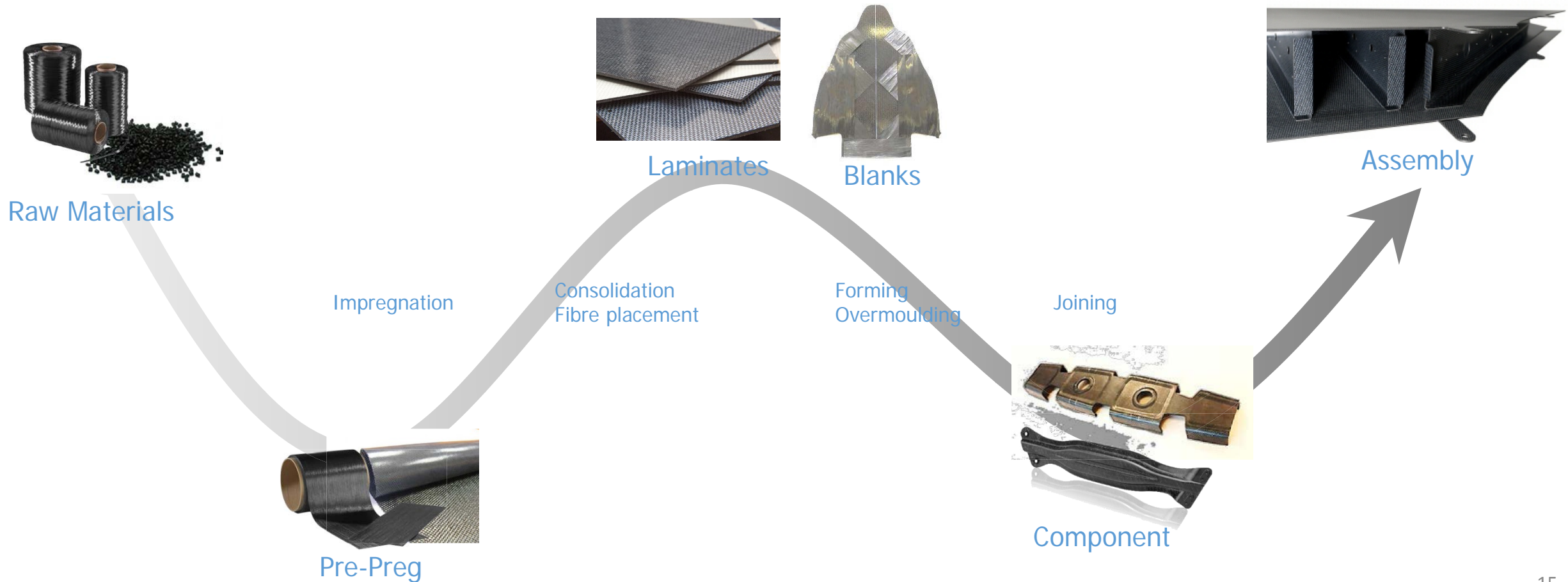


- $F(m,p)$  determined by structure (multiscale)



# Key

- The structure is determined by the processing history



# Evolving state and structure

- Fibre orientation and distribution
- Consolidation (void generation, migration and dissolution; lamination/healing)
- Crystallinity
- Degradation (matrix, fibre, interphase)
- Residual stresses
- ....



... in a PPP \*



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Alcoa  
Fastening  
Systems & Rings



Tier 1 Members



Tier 2 Members



Sponsors

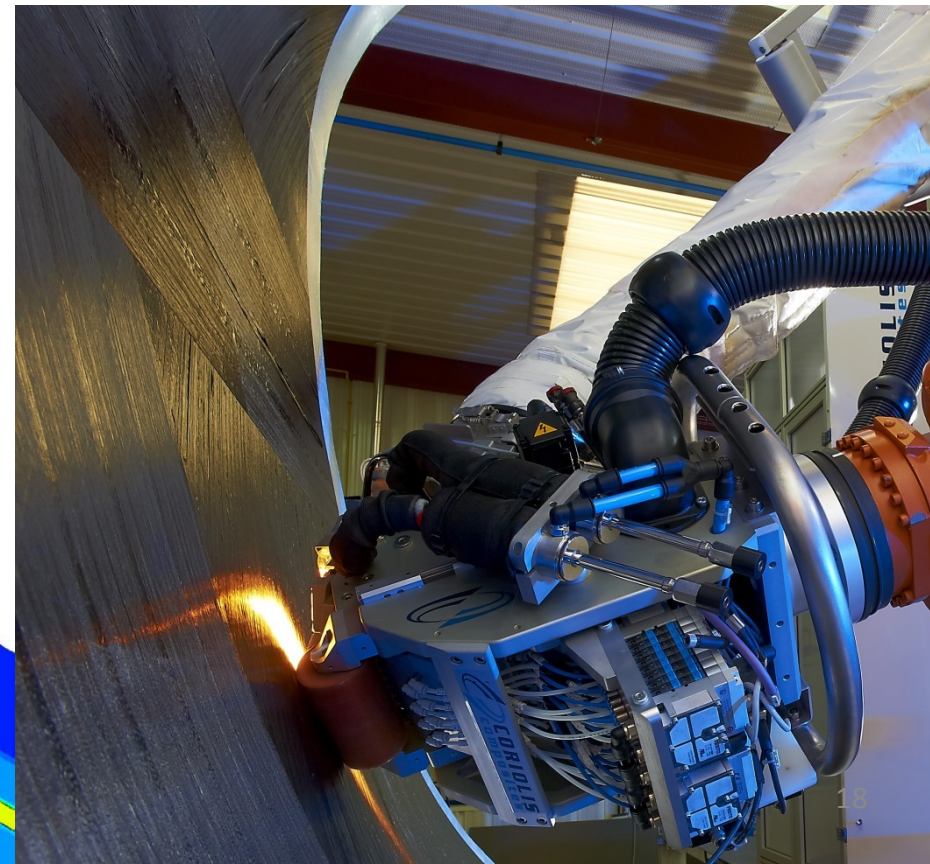
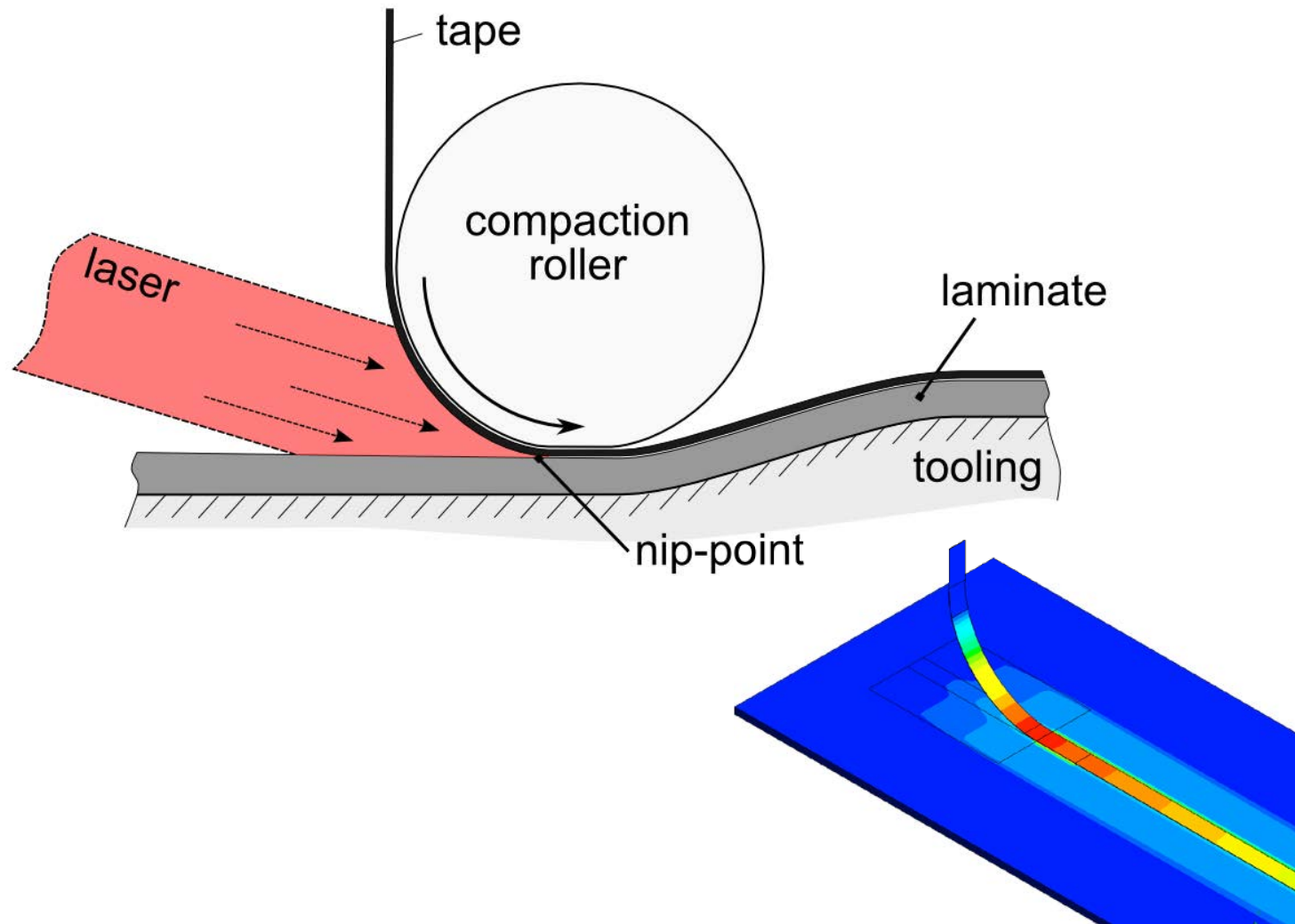


Support, financial and in-kind



\*) *Public Private Partnership*

# Examples - (1) Laser Assisted Fibre Placement

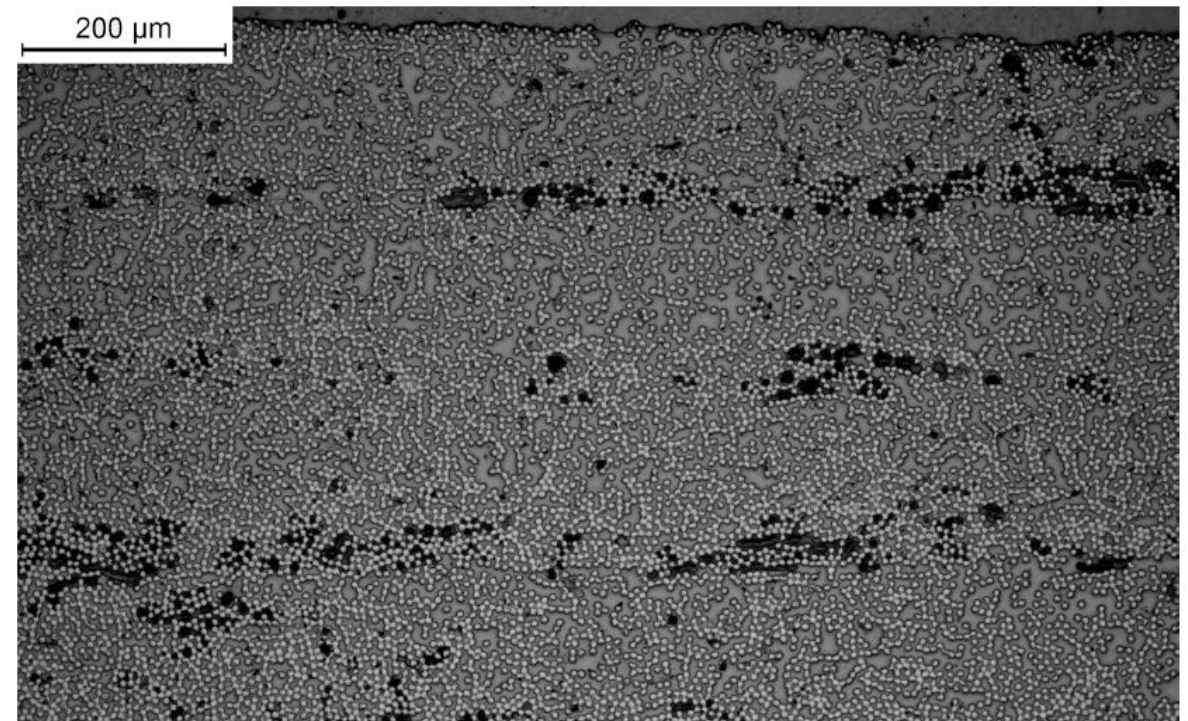


# Examples - (1) Laser Assisted Fibre Placement

Challenges:

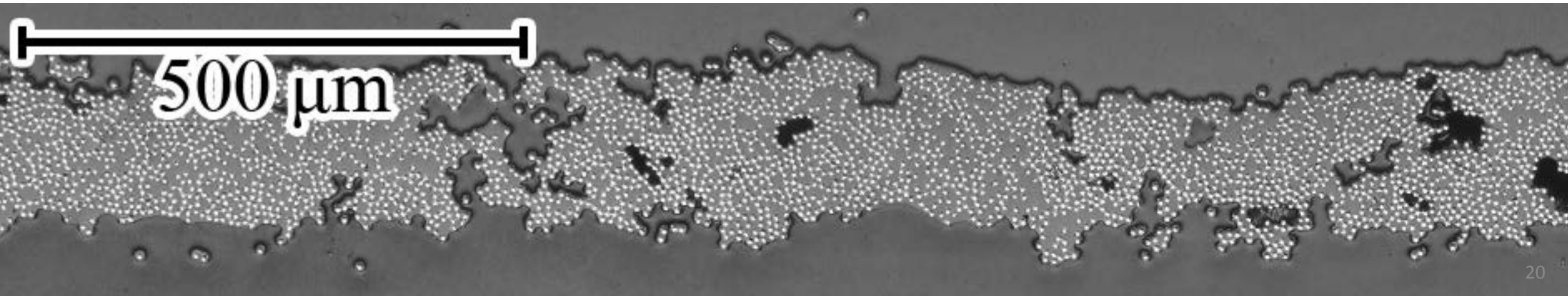
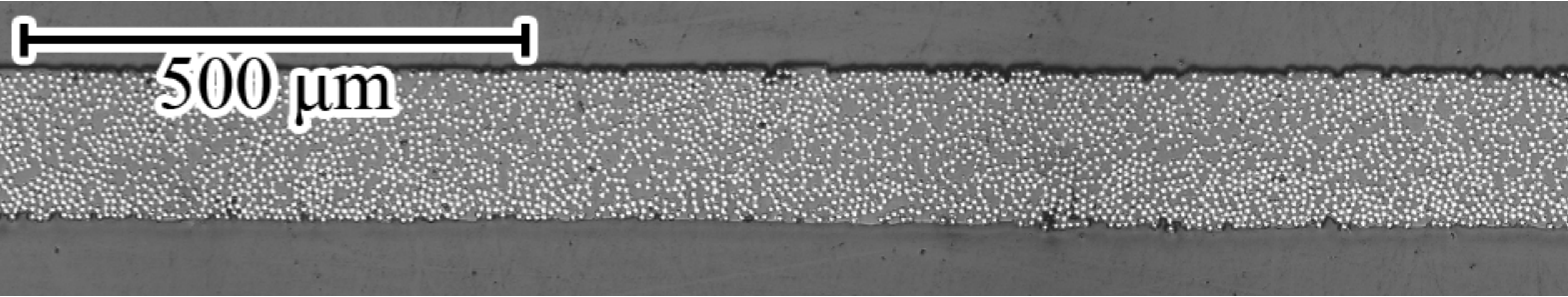
- Heating / degradation / cooling
- Air entrapment
- Deconsolidation
- Intimate contact
- Healing

within  $O(1 \text{ ms})!$

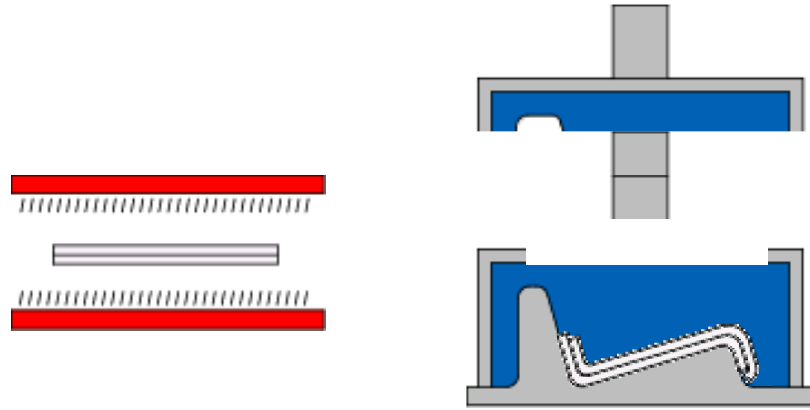


AFP ( $\sim 4\%$  voids)

# Deconsolidation of a single tape

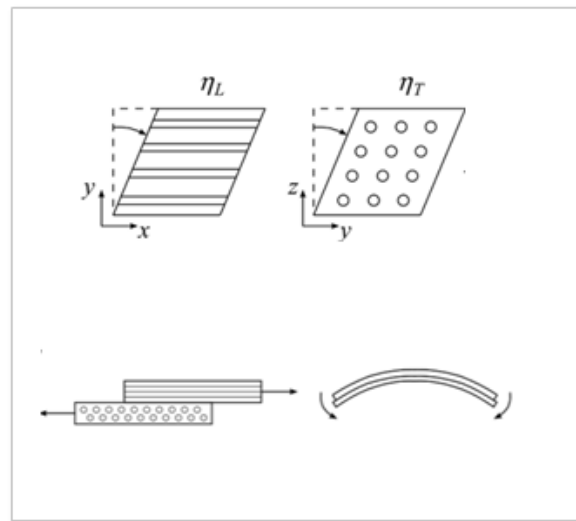


# Examples - (2) Composites Forming



# Examples - (2) Composites Forming

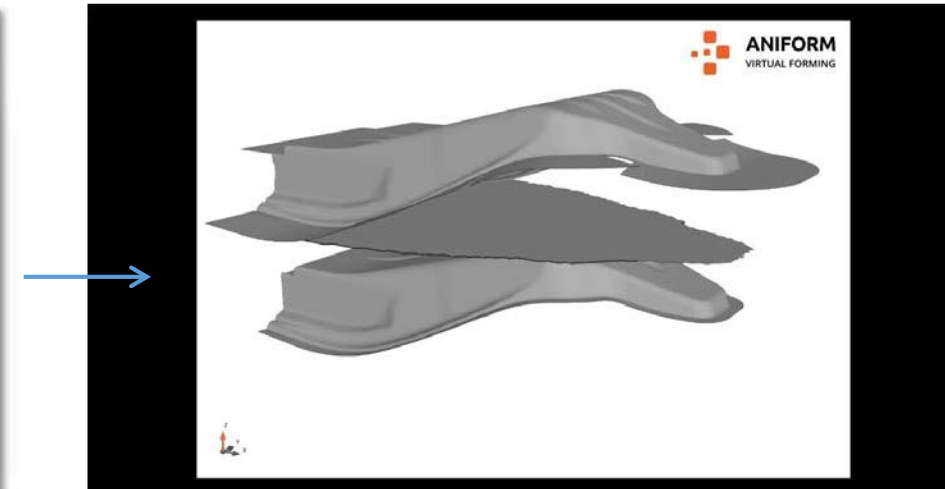
Multi-scale, multi-phase



Deformation mechanisms



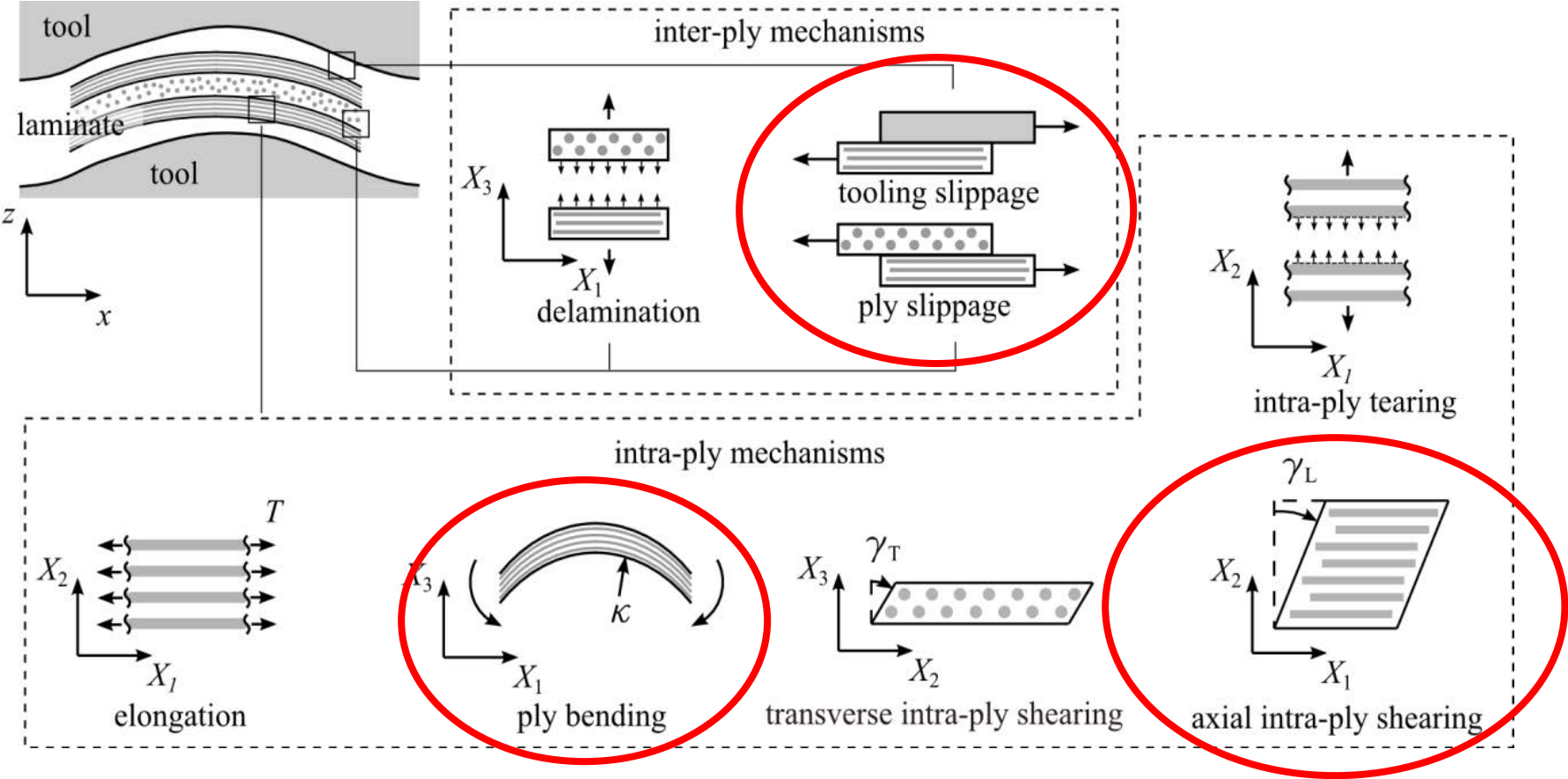
Develop characterizations tests



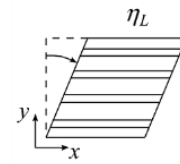
Develop CAE tools

# Deformation Mechanisms

- UD laminates

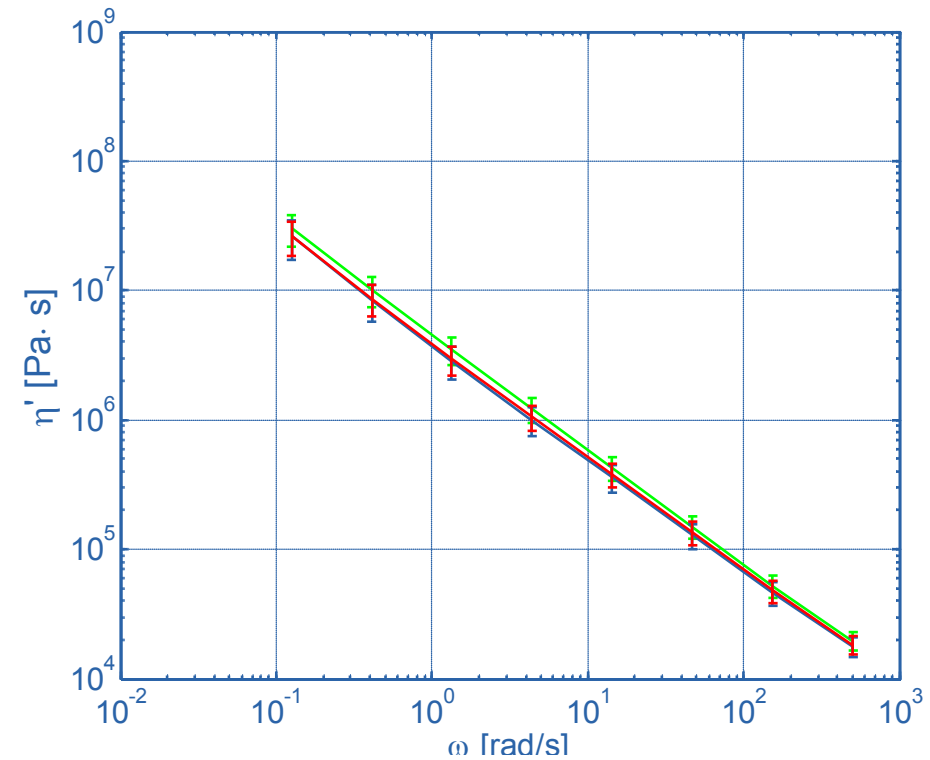
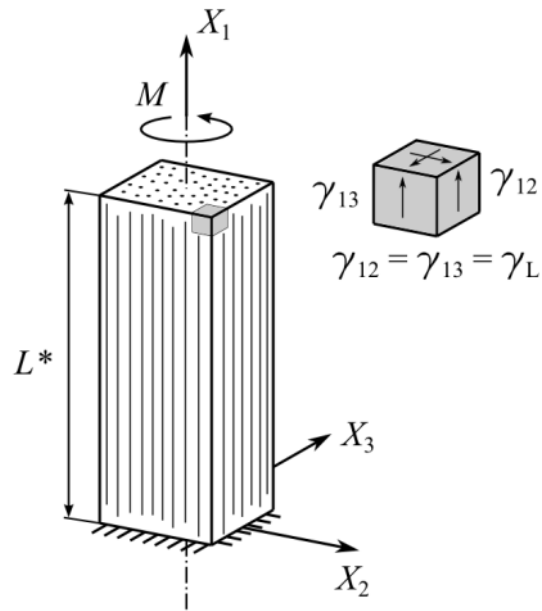


# A. Intra-ply Behaviour



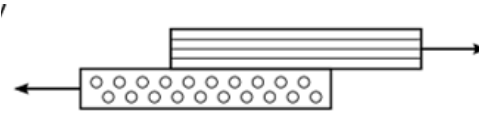
- CHARACTERISATION & CONSTITUTIVE MODEL

## UD shear testing: torsion bar (rheometer)



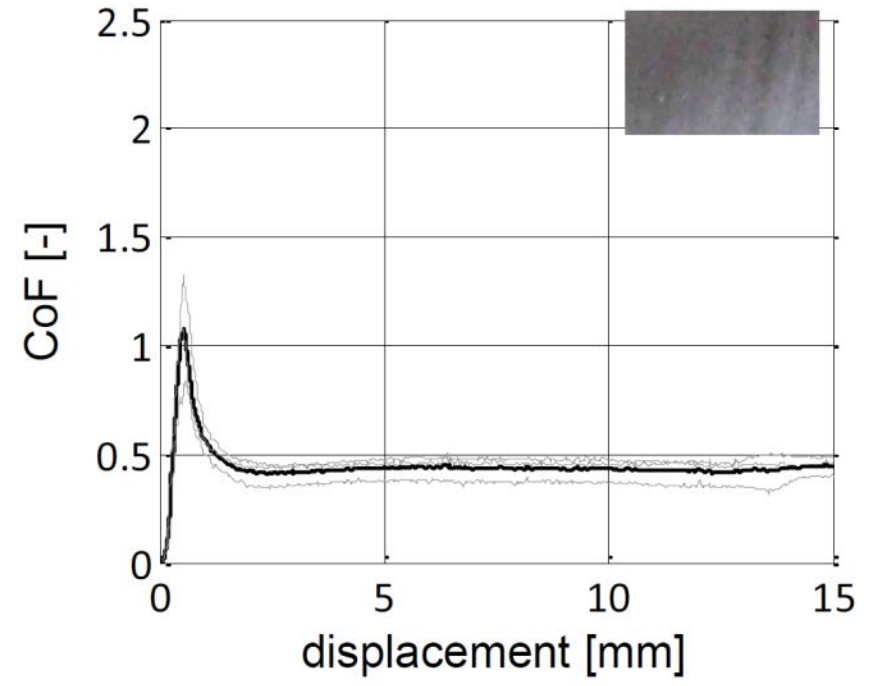
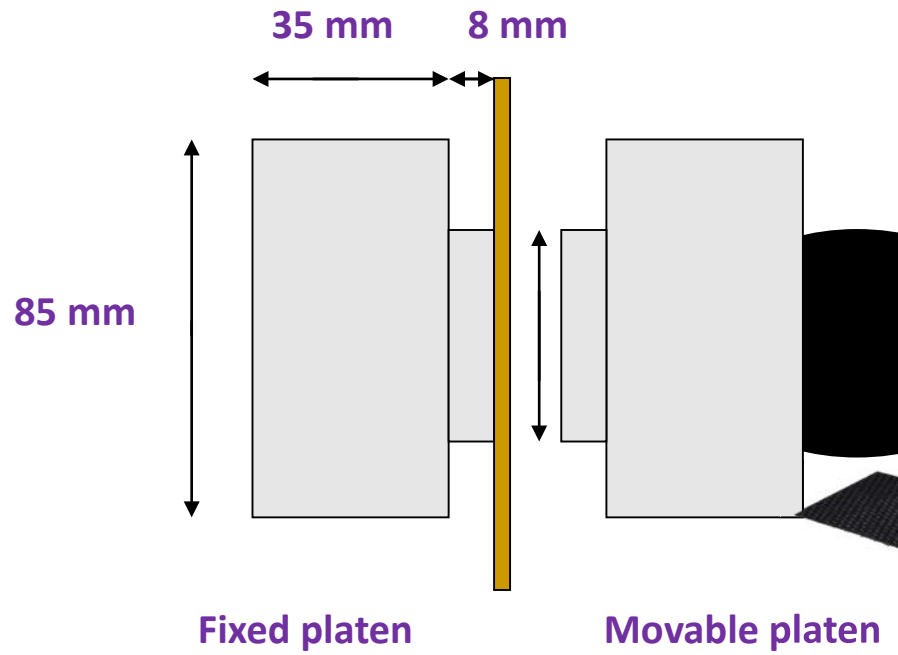
Cetex Thermo-Lite TC1200

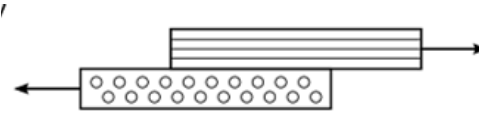




# B. Inter-ply Behaviour

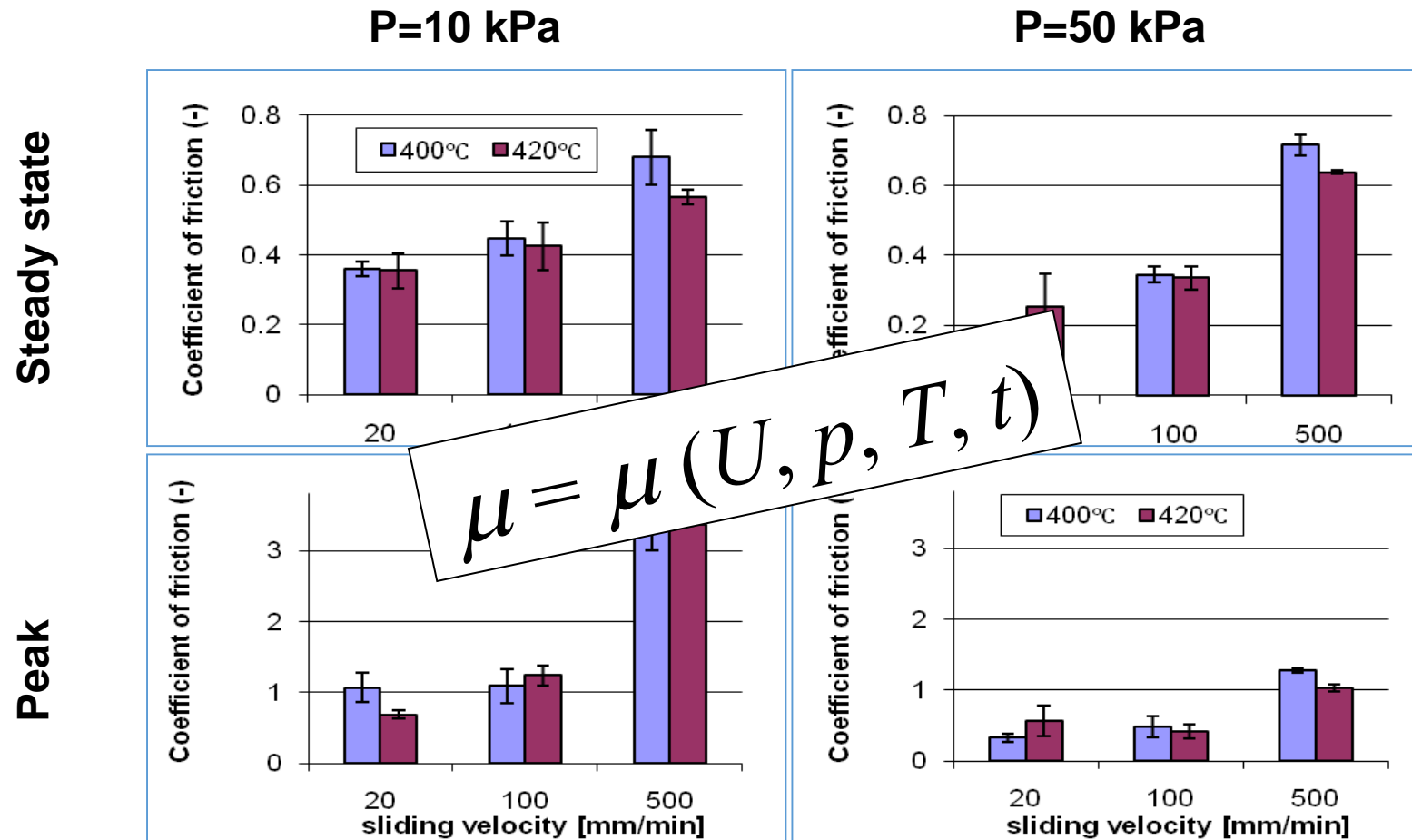
- CHARACTERISATION & CONSTITUTIVE MODEL

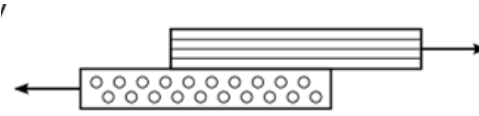




# B. Inter-ply Behaviour

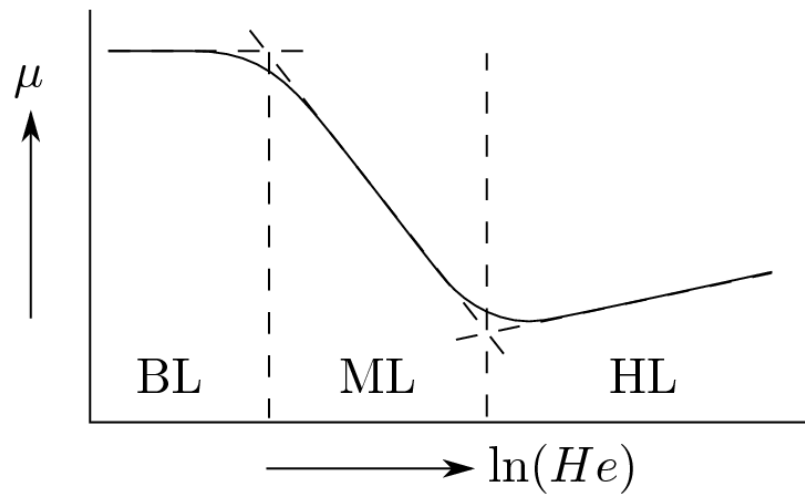
- Ten Cate UD C/PEEK – tool/ply





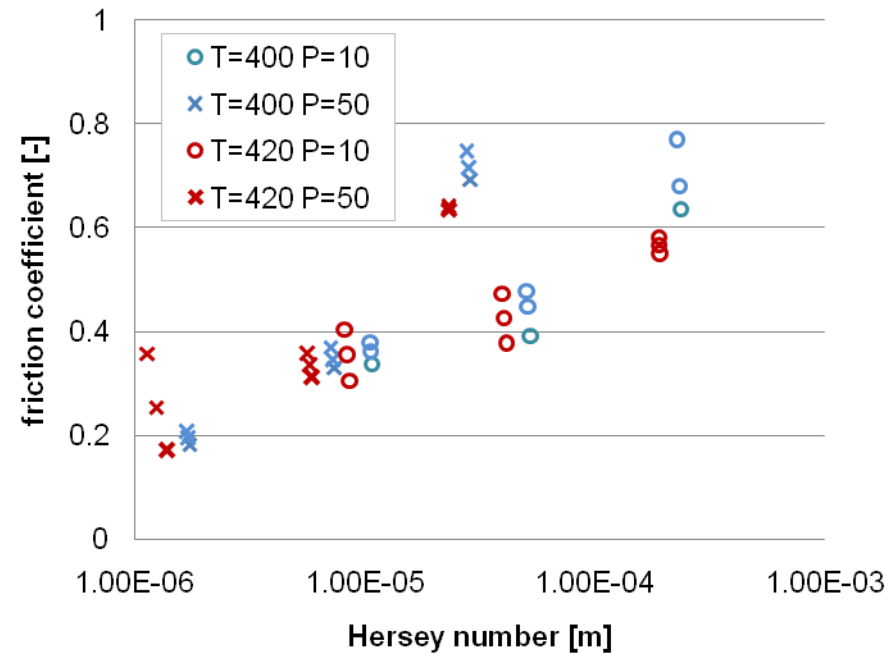
# B. Inter-ply Behaviour

- Ten Cate UD C/PEEK – tool/ply



$$He = \frac{\eta U}{p}$$

Not the ideal Stribeck curve / hydrodynamic lubrication



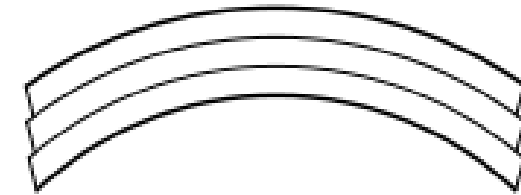
# C. Bending



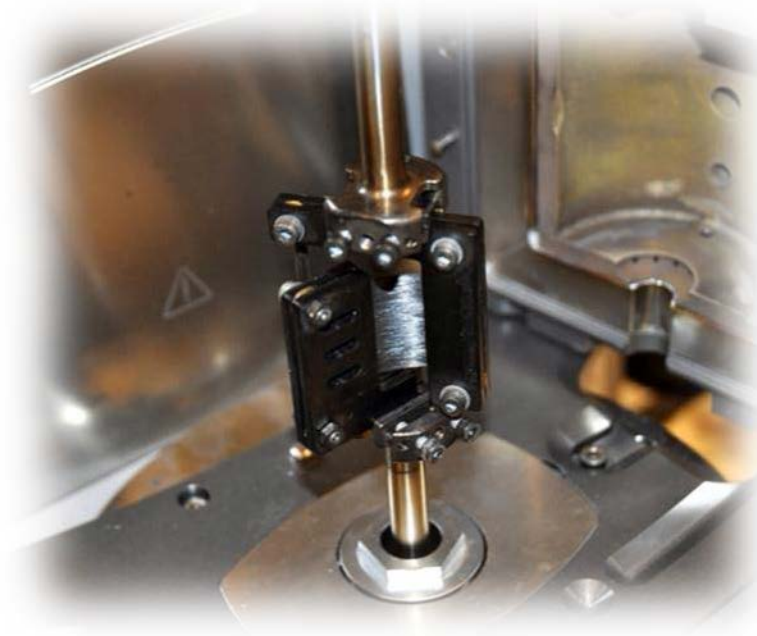
**Kirchhoff ...**



**transverse shear ...**



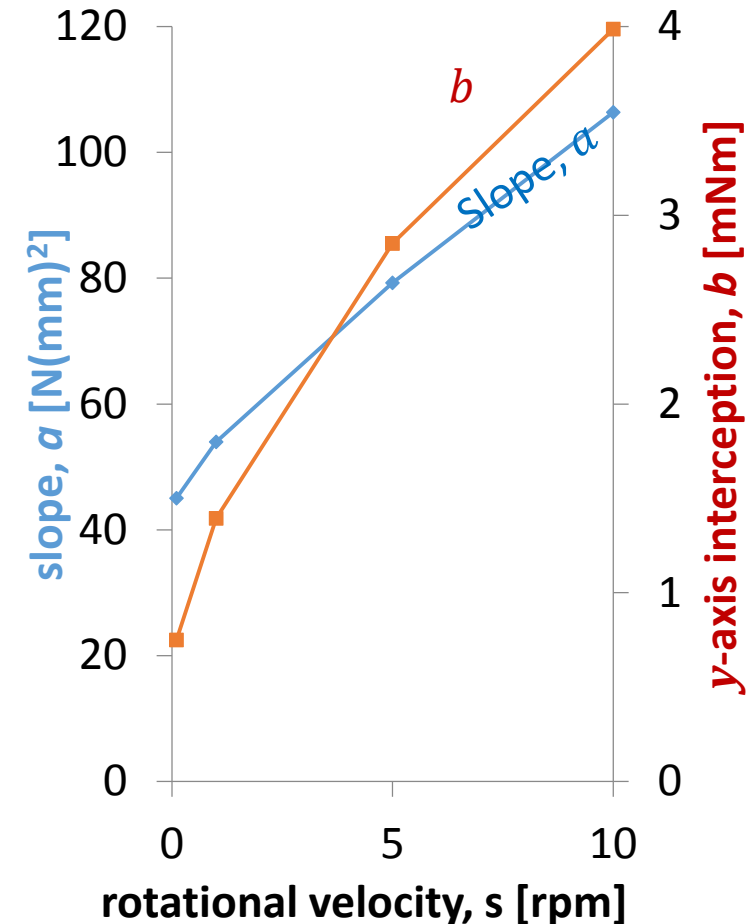
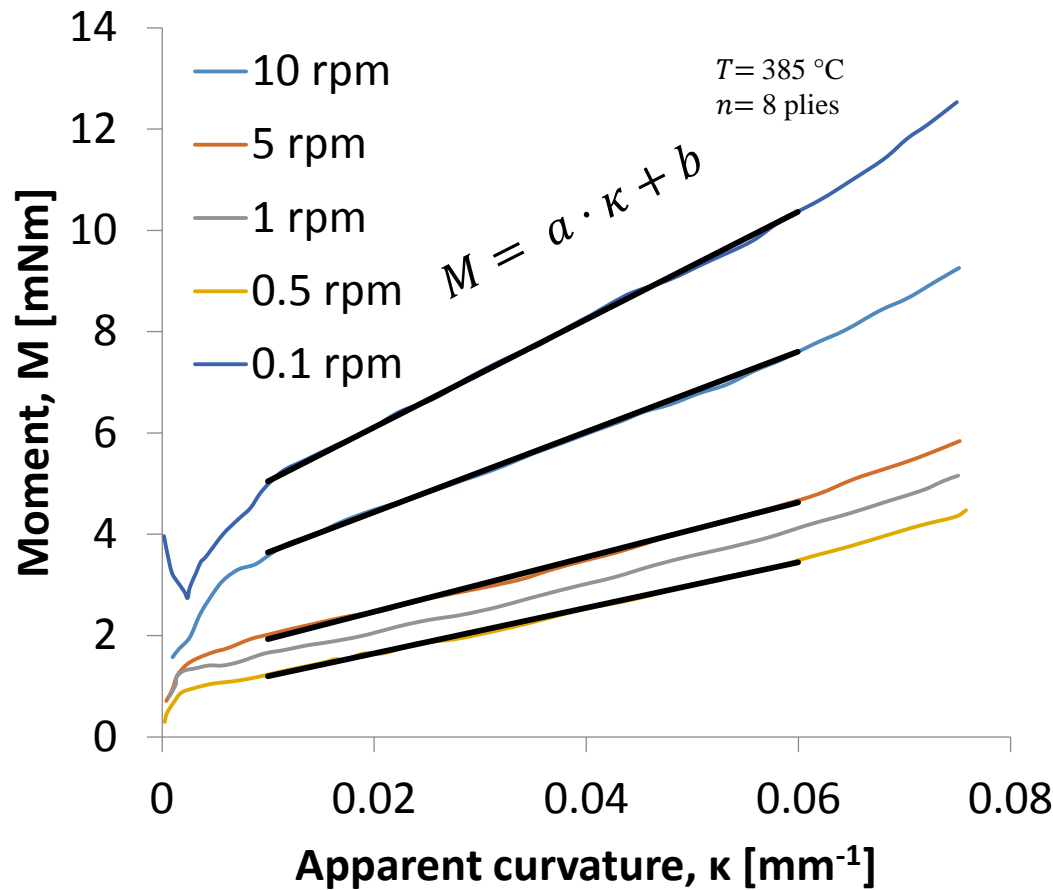
**both ...?**





# C. Bending Characterization

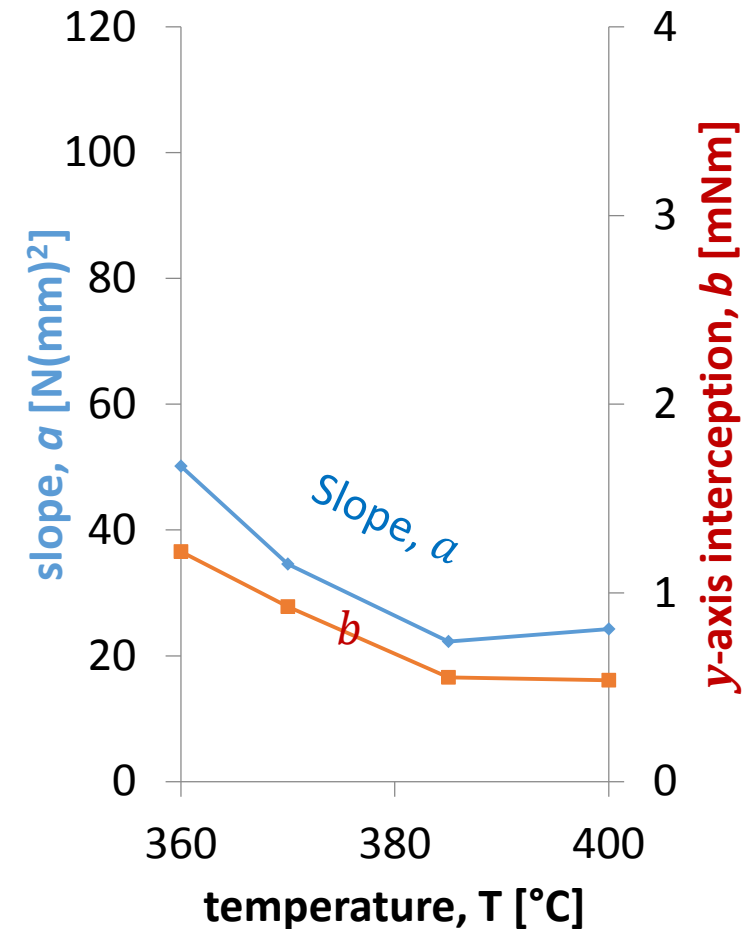
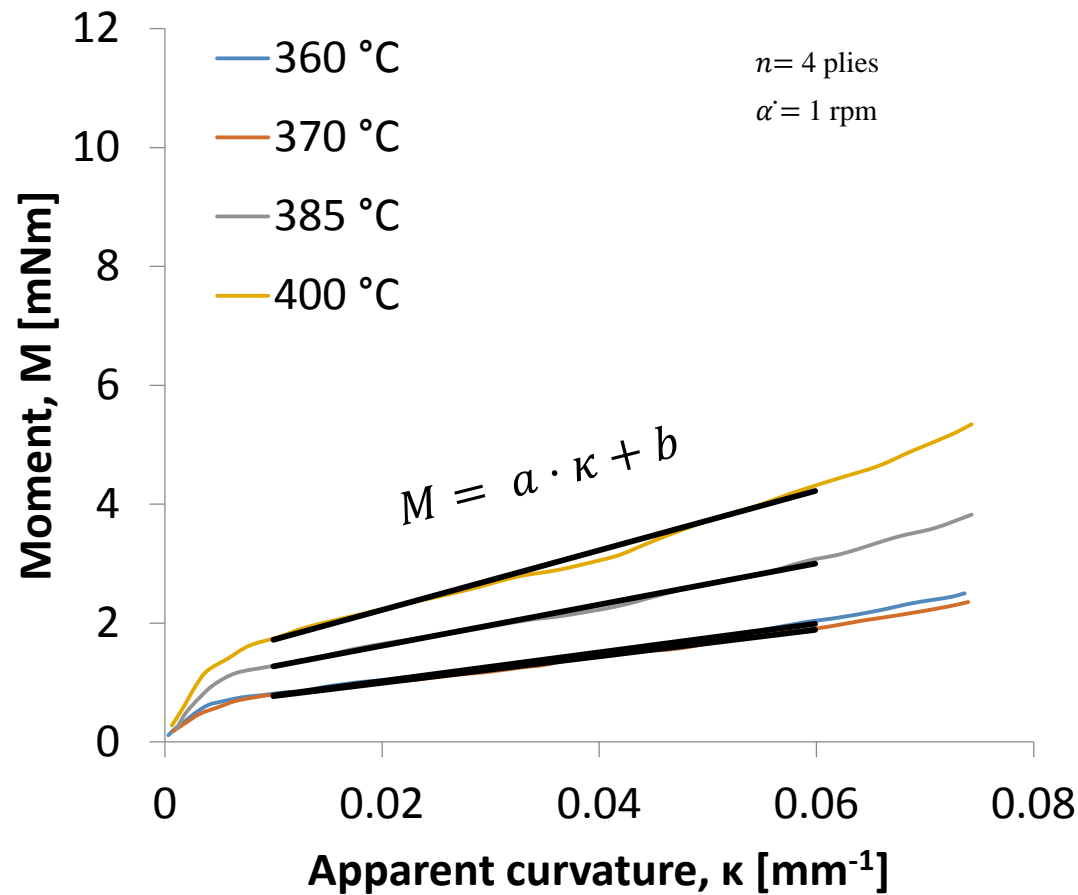
- Rate variation (UD carbon/PEEK)





# C. Bending Characterization

- Temperature variation



# Implementation

## **Numerical aspects:**

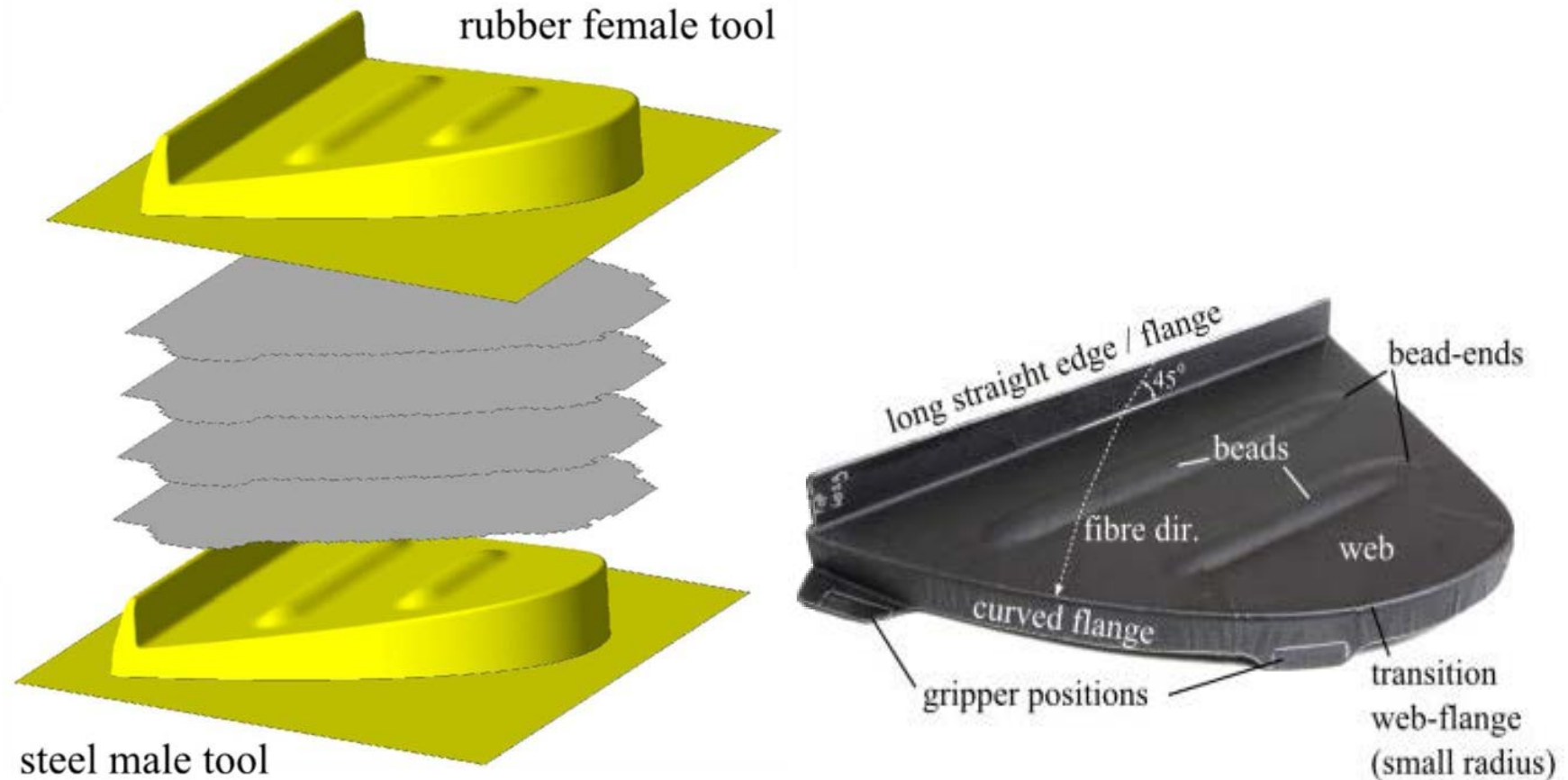
- Very high anisotropy
- Highly Sensitive to Fibre Directions –  
Use exact (non linearised) strain definition
- Shear Locking for non-aligned meshes
- ‘Stiff systems’ –  
Consistent Tangent Operators to prevent divergence

## **Multi-layer approach**

- With discrete layers
- Including bending, intra- & inter-ply behaviour



# Application & Results





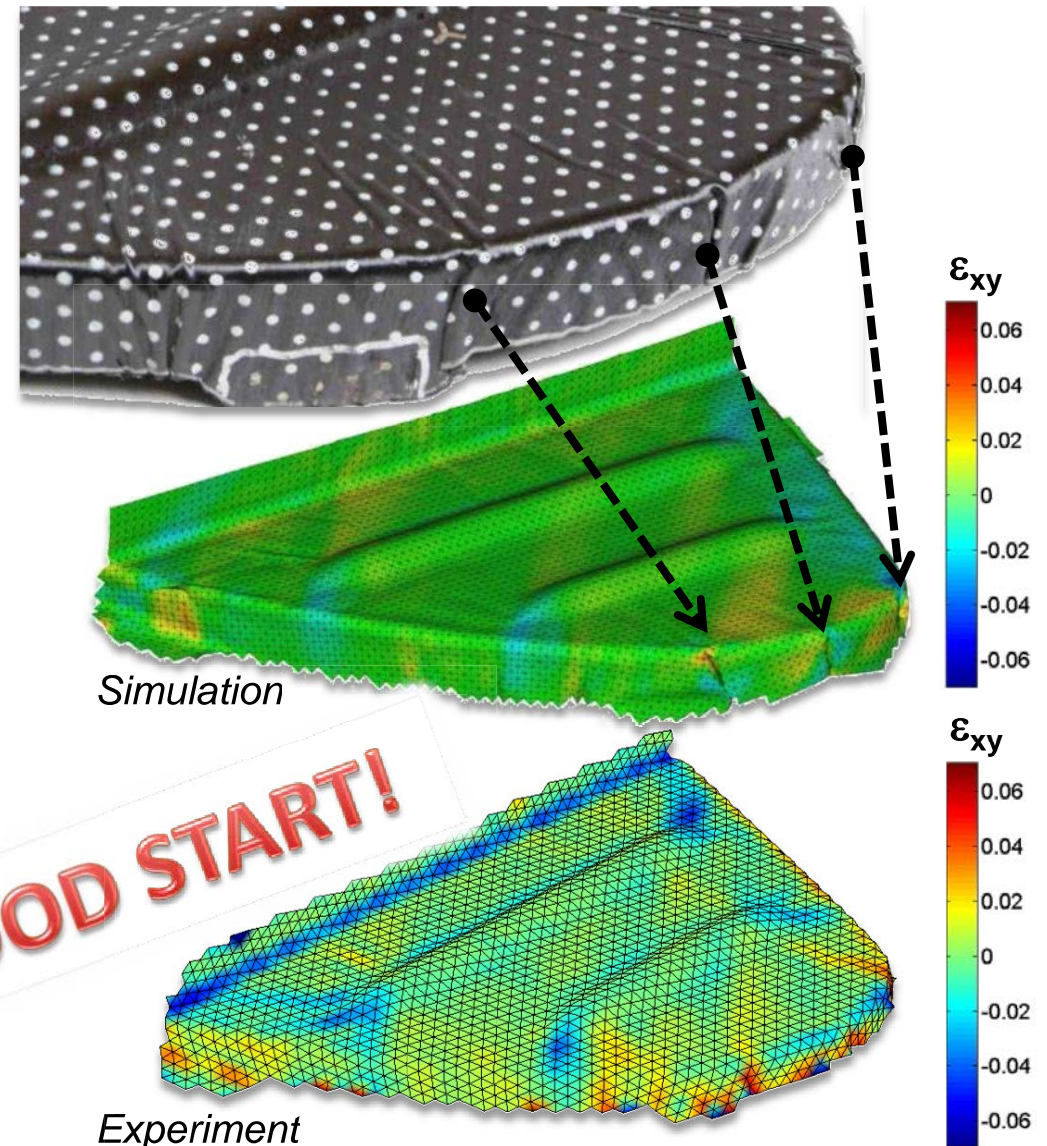
# Application & Results

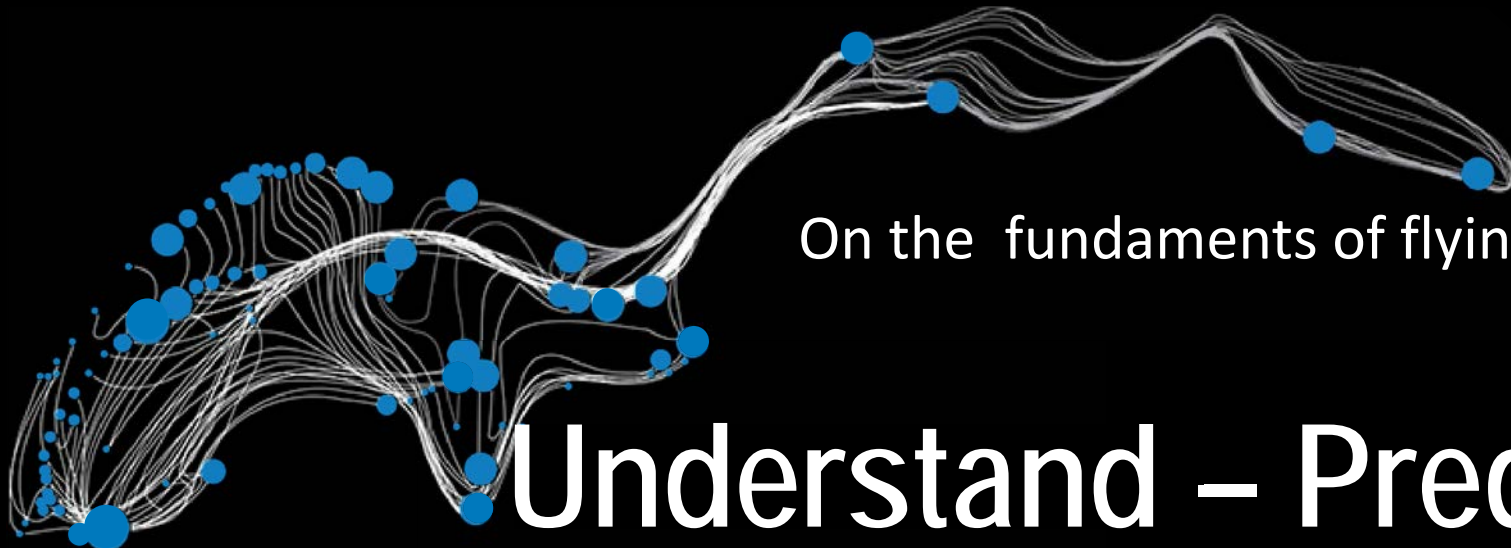
Small shear strains predicted in wrinkle free areas

Diagonal shear patterns are recognised in both simulation and experiment

Waviness in mesh near critical spots with local wrinkling in practise

Global wrinkling correctly predicted





On the fundamentals of flying bits:

# Understand – Predict - Control

Where the application provides the topic

And science provides the tools

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r.akkerman@utwente.nl

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