

# Damage analysis of composite structures: simulation supported by testing

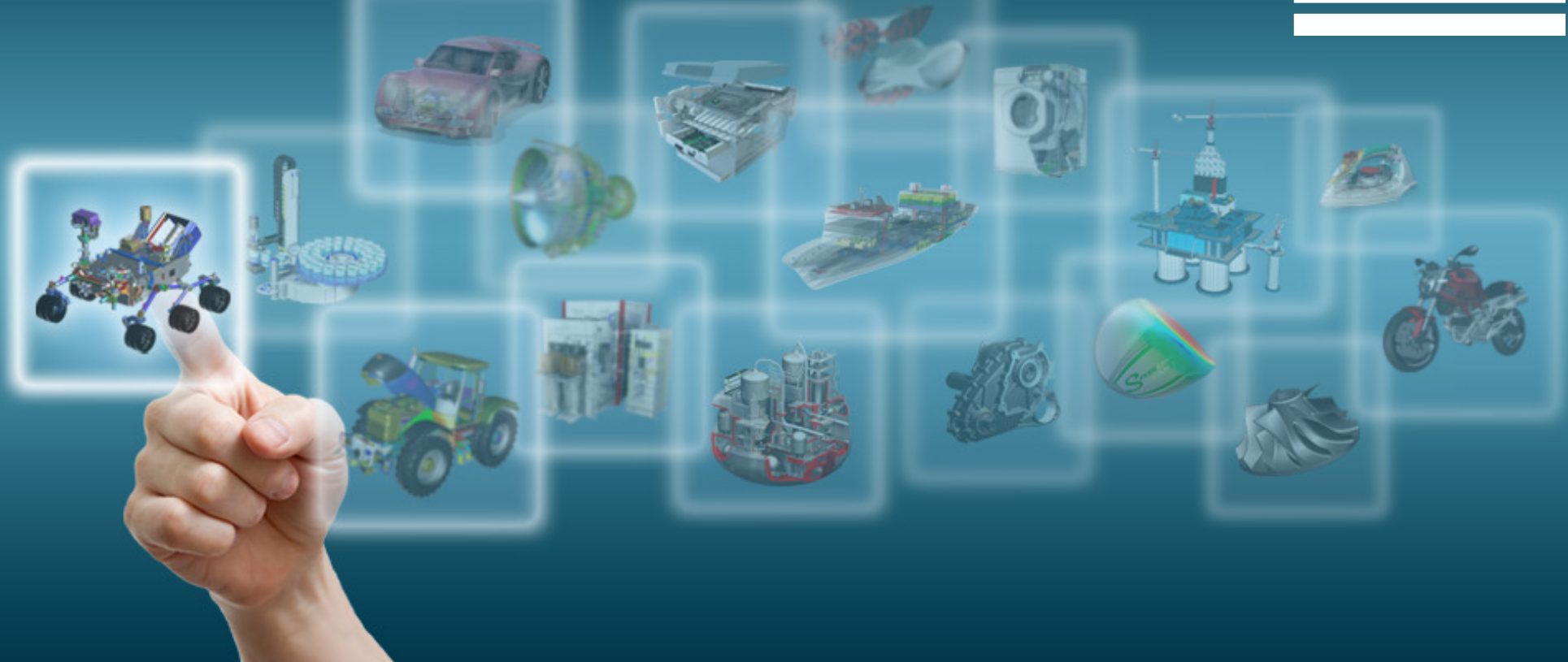
Prof. Dr. Michaël Bruyneel<sup>1,2</sup>



14th Youth Symposium on Experimental  
Solid Mechanics, Traunkirchen, Austria,  
May 2015

## Outline

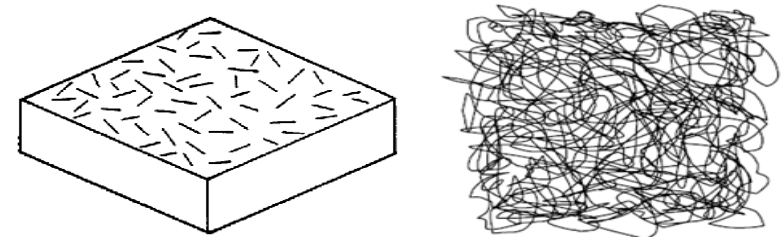
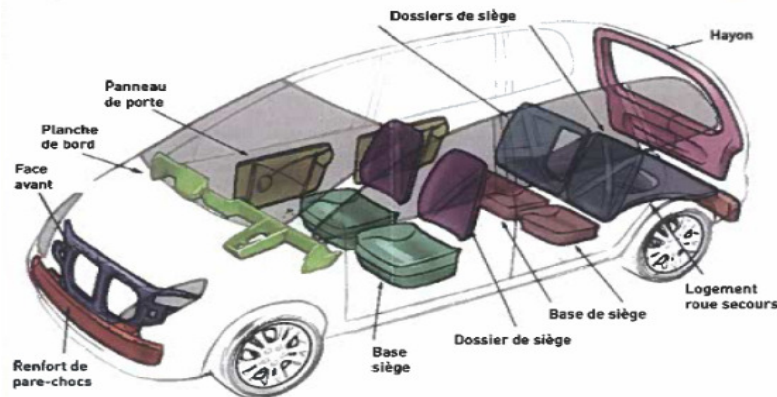
- Which composites are considered in this presentation and why
- The composite structures sizing process
- Challenges for simulation
- Why is it essential to take non linearities (incl. damage) into account?
- SAMCEF capabilities for damage analysis
- Parameter identification process: link between simulation and testing
- Illustrations
- Extensions of the work
- Conclusions



# Which composites are considered and why

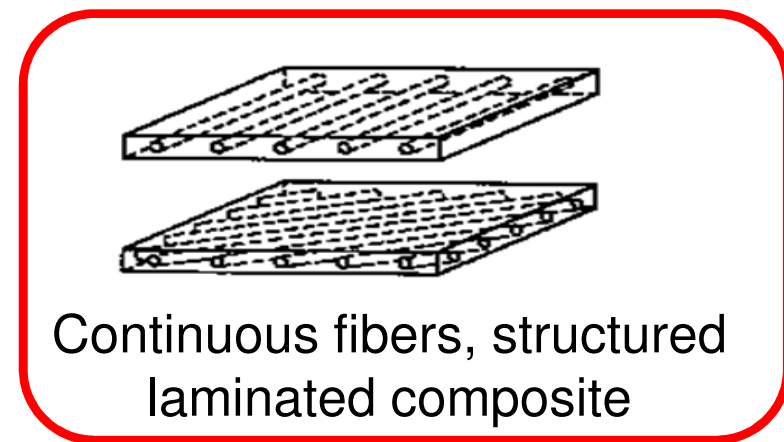
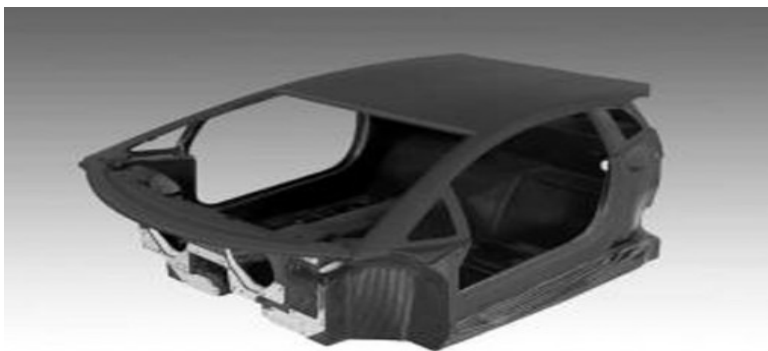
# Which composite materials and why?

- Fibers arrangement and function in the structure
- Non load carrying structural parts



Random short or long fibers composites

- Load carrying structural parts



Continuous fibers, structured laminated composite

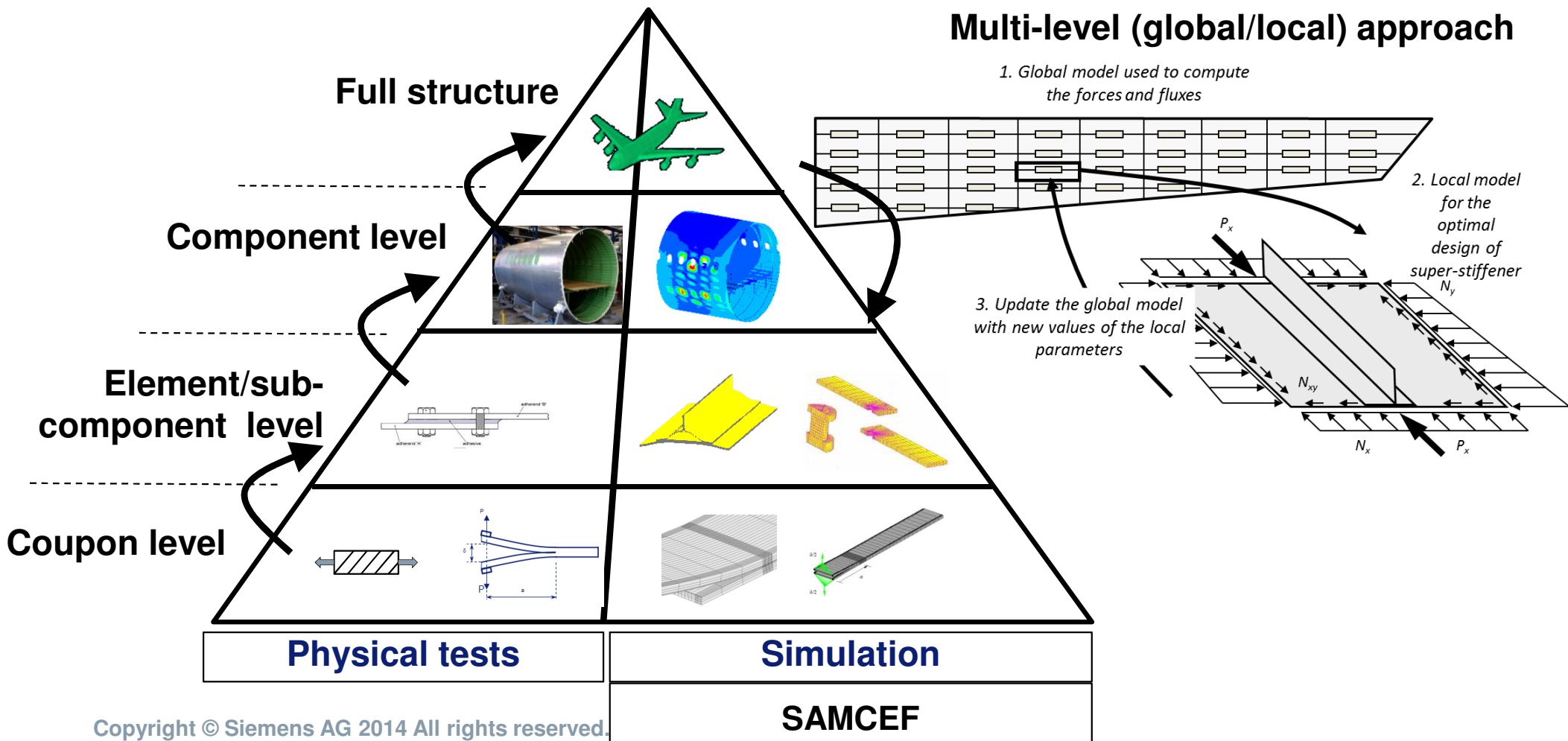
Today's topic: high performance laminated composites Siemens PLM Software



# The composite structures sizing process

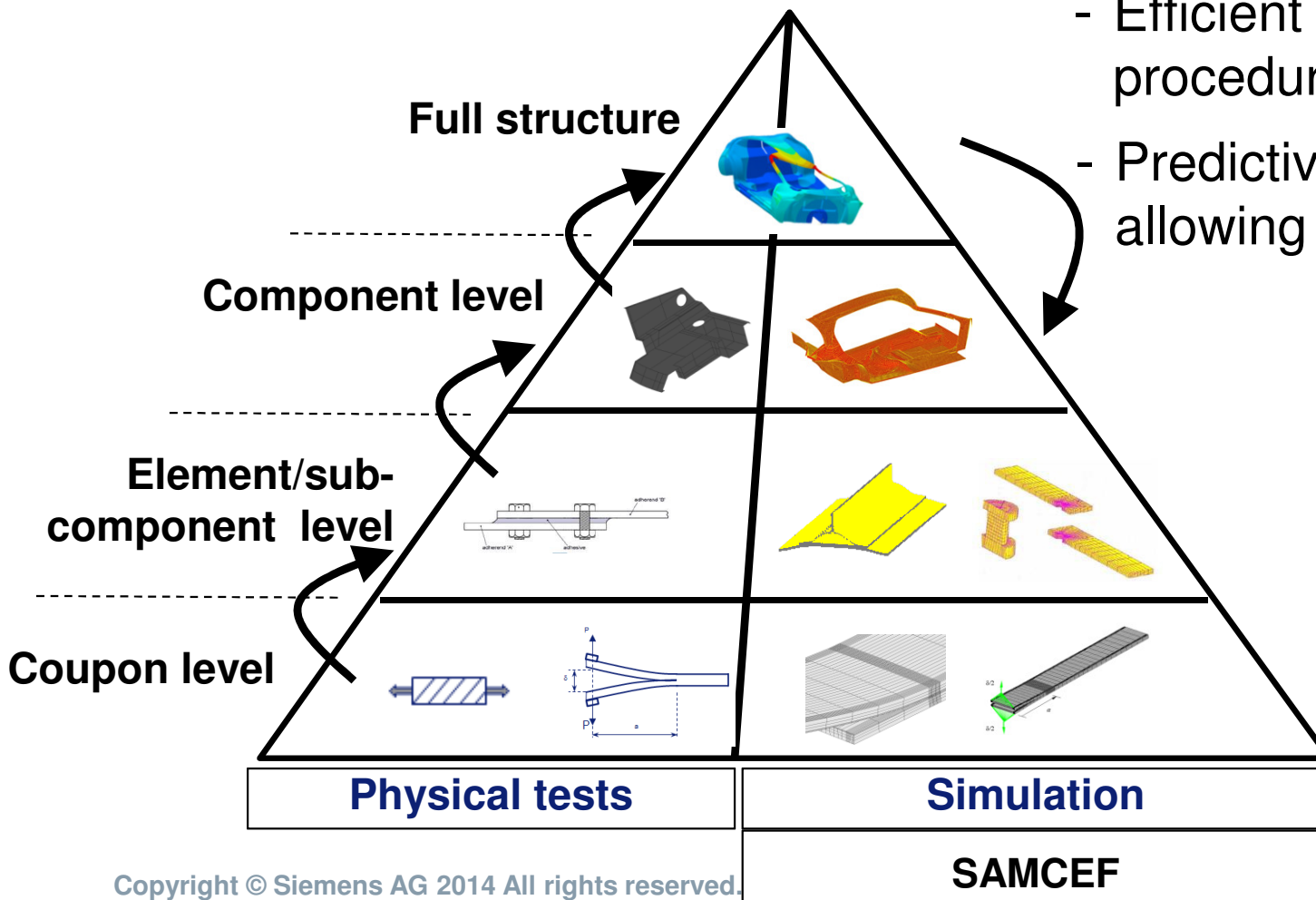
# The composite structures sizing process

- The building block approach
- The pyramid of tests: **real and virtual testing** (“**virtual twin**”)



# The composite structures sizing process

- The building block approach
- Replace some tests by simulation...OK if:
  - Accurate material models
  - Efficient parameter identification procedure (at coupon level)
  - Predictive simulation tool, allowing to go up in the pyramid



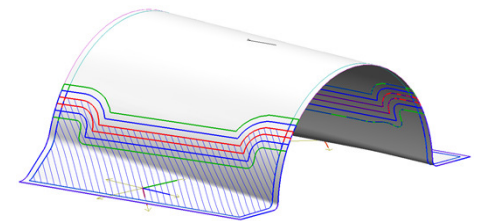
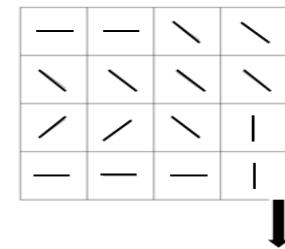
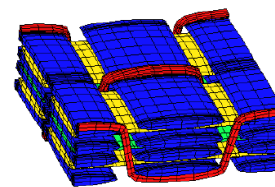
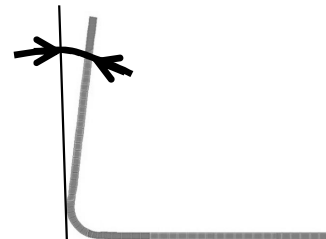
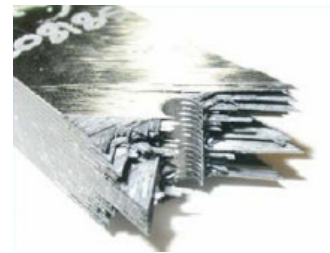


# Challenges in the analysis of composites



## Challenges for analysis of composites

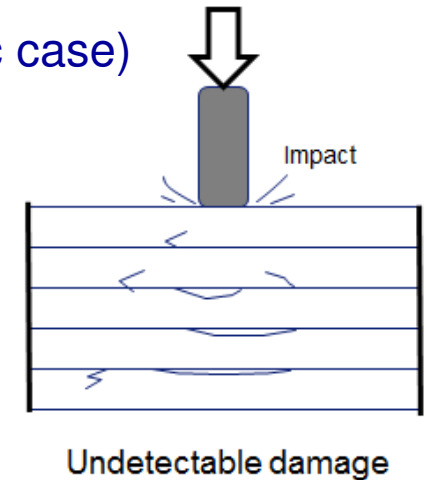
- Predictive simulations, becoming companions of the physical tests
- Some big challenges:
  - Damage analysis
  - Geometric non linearities
  - Manufacturing process simulation
  - Optimization
  - Material modeling
  - Design and link to analysis
- Attributes for damage:
  - Static, fatigue, crash
- Requirement for material models: accurate, simple to use, parameter identification available



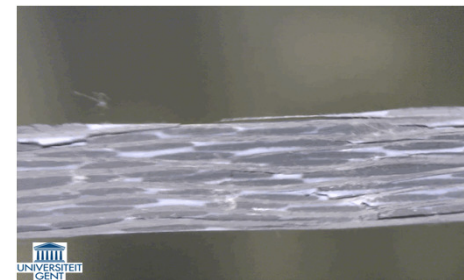
## Challenges in the analysis of composites: damage

- **Damage** appears in composites, even when unexpected
- Damage may appear for quasi-**static case** (or slow dynamic case)

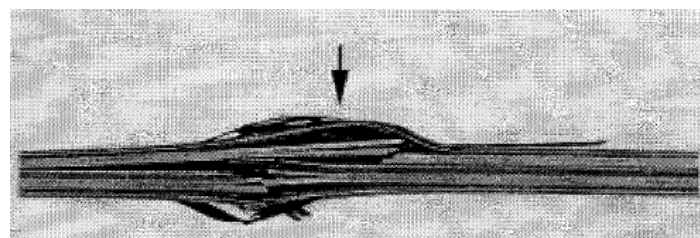
- Quasi-static loading
- Impact (low velocity/low energy)
- Solutions exist today, but still improvements needed

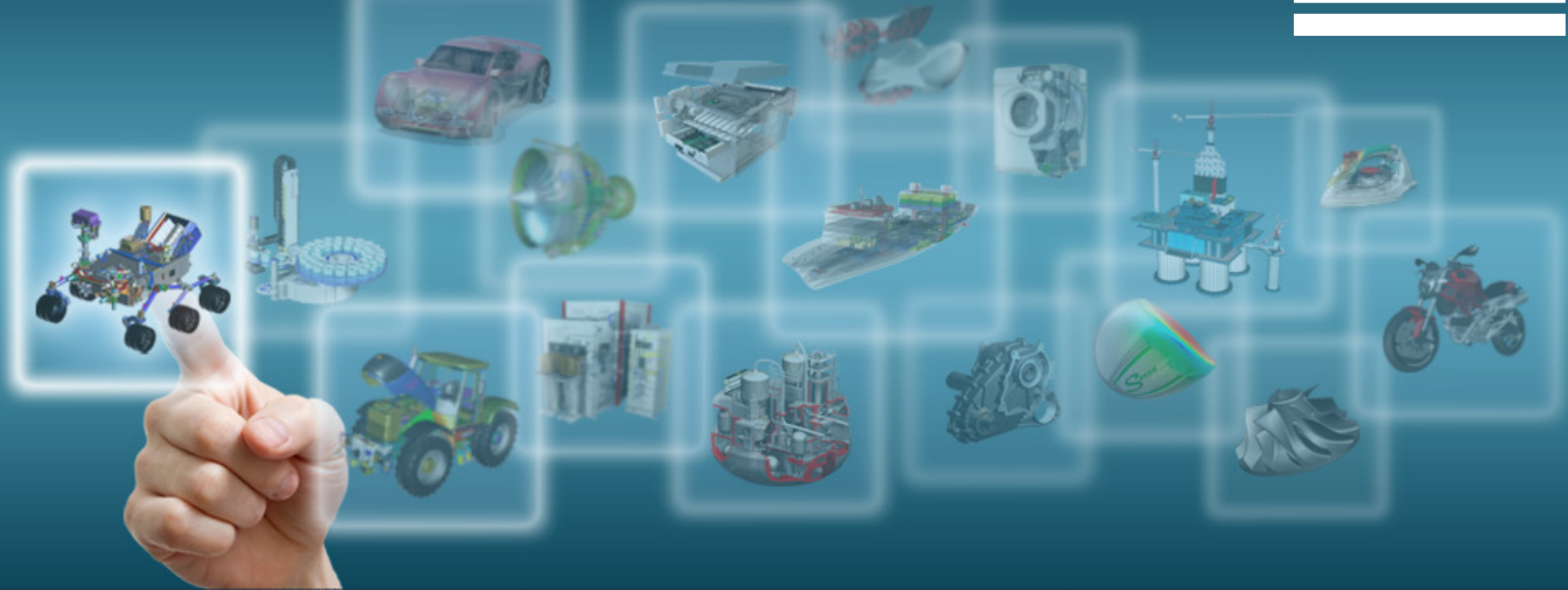


- Damage may appear for **fatigue case**
  - Still lot of things to do...



- Damage in **crash case** (high energy impact/fast dynamics)
  - Still lot of things to do...



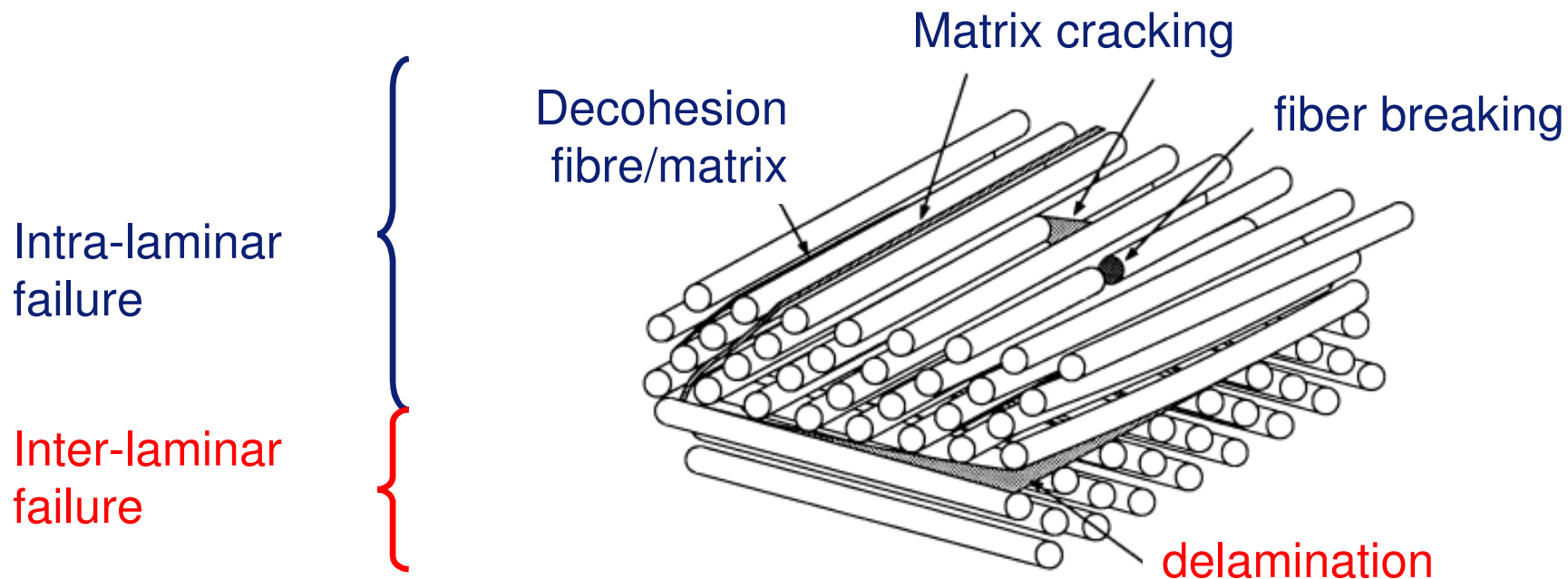


Advanced composites analysis

# Why is it essential to take non linearities into account

## Why considering damage?

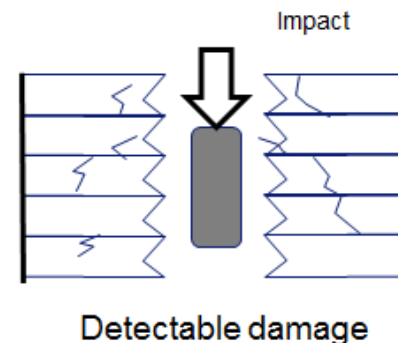
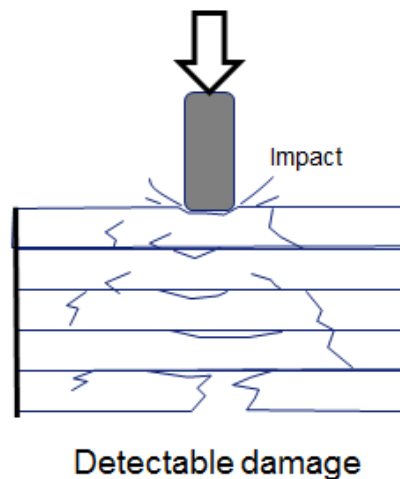
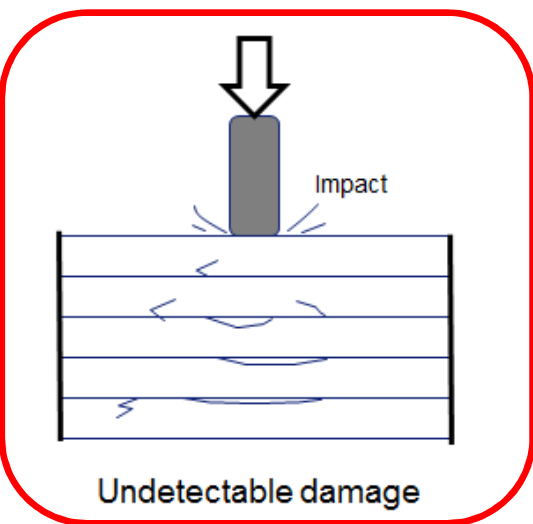
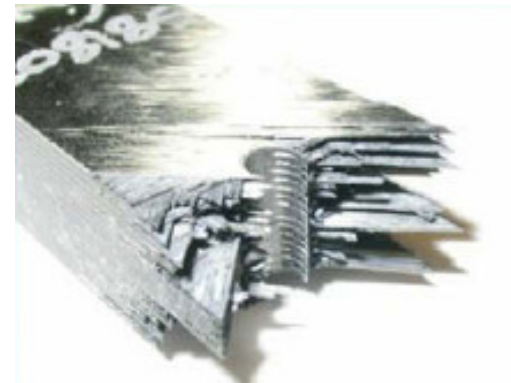
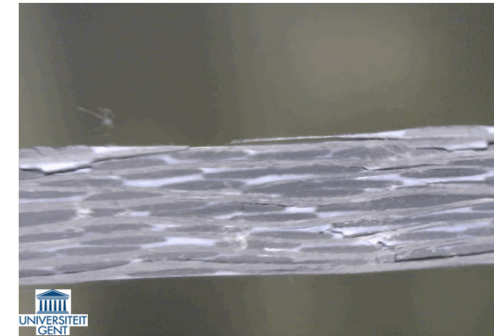
- Failure modes in a laminated composite structure



- Both failure modes families must be taken into account in the analysis

## Why considering damage?

- **Damage** appears in composites, even when unexpected
- **Damage** may appear for static cases, not only for fatigue
- Damage is sometimes invisible, e.g. Barely Visible Impact Damage (**BVID**), so this may be very dangerous if ignored



Damage analyses must be conducted (quasi-static cases)

- Even if we don't want to have damage in the final design
- Because damage will anyway certainly appear...

⇒ There is a need for a **damage tolerant approach**

## Why considering non linearities?

### ○ Weight saving...

⇒ Use the full capacity of the material

⇒ Clever use of composites

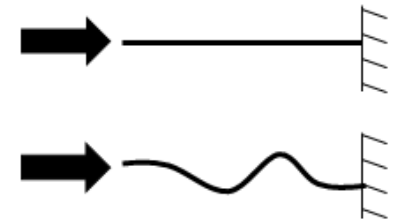
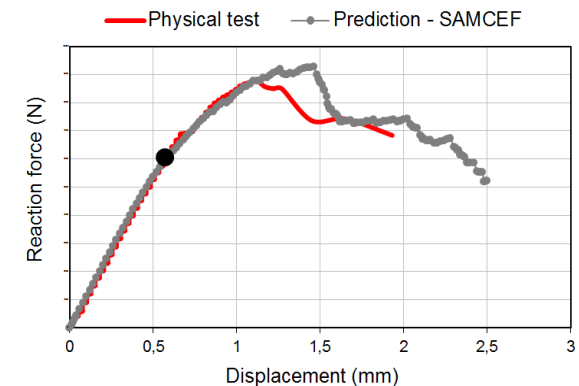
⇒ Minimum weight ⇒ Thin structures sensitive to geometric instabilities

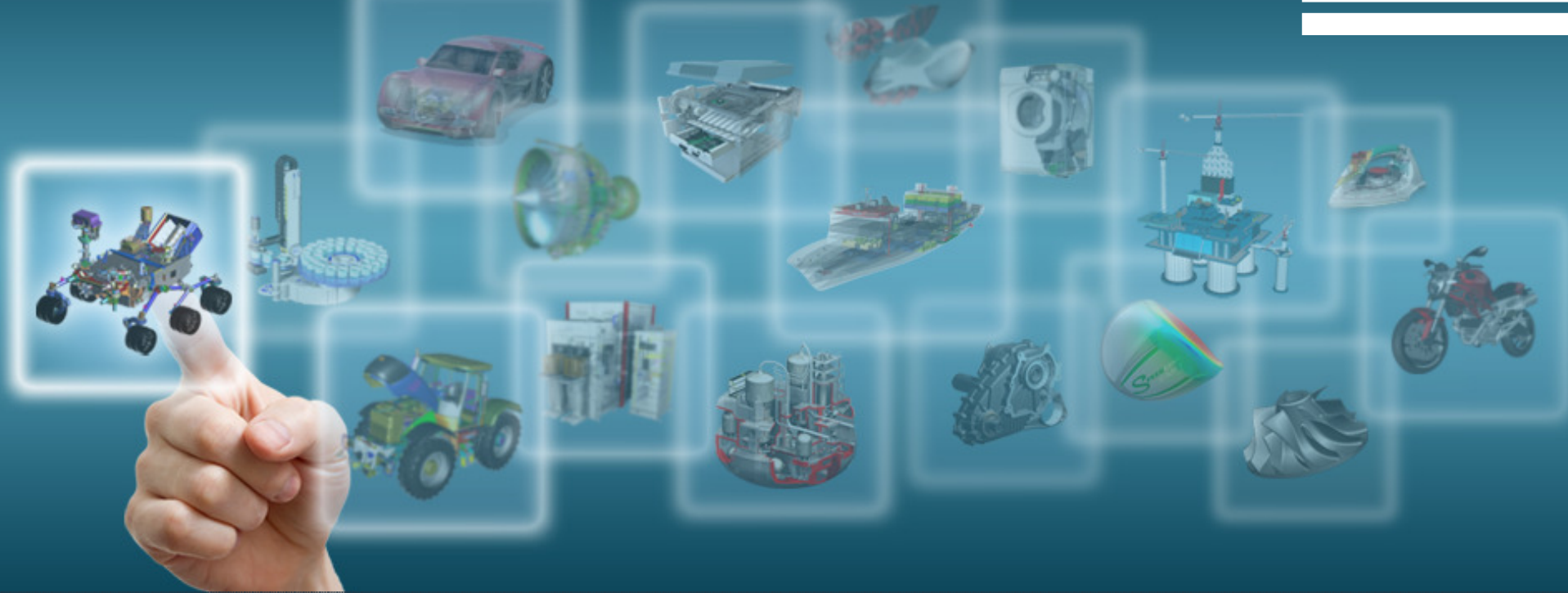
⇒ We can live with damage in composites

⇒ Size in order to limit the probability of its occurrence

⇒ Size in order to avoid its propagation

⇒ There is a need for sizing composites, having these points in mind, and simulation can help



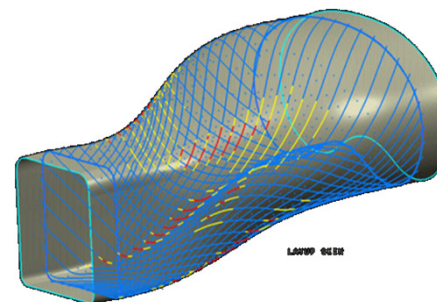
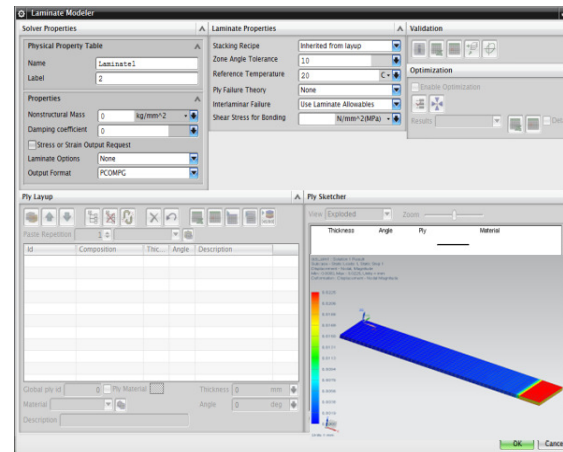


Advanced composites analysis

# SAMCEF capabilities for damage analysis

## Siemens ecosystem for composites analysis

- Today's topic: SAMTECH solutions for composites analysis
  - ⇒ **LMS Samtech Samcef**: general non linear finite element solution (static, dynamic, damage, buckling, post-buckling, curing simulation, ...)
  - ⇒ Specific algorithms for structural optimization of composites
- Other elements of the SIEMENS ecosystem for composite simulation
  - ⇒ **NX CAE**:
    - pre-post environment (define the problem, launch the analysis, results);
    - **NXLC** laminate modeler
    - **NX NASTRAN, SAMCEF**
  - ⇒ **Fibersim**:
    - advanced draping simulation
    - link to manufacturing
  - ⇒ **LMS Virtual Lab** suite
    - Reference solution for NVH, acoustics, durability



**All the ingredients of a global and reliable solution for composite simulation**



## Capabilities for composite analysis

### LMS Samtech Samcef =

- A general (non linear) finite element code (implicit => static and dynamic cases)
- More than 35 years of experience in modeling composites
- Lots of industrial references (here are some of them for the aero sector)



## Capabilities for composite analysis

### LMS Samtech Samcef =

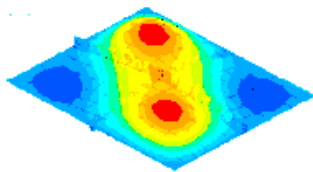
- A general (non linear) finite element code (implicit => static and dynamic cases)
- More than 35 years of experience in modeling composites
- Lots of industrial references (here are some of them for the aero sector)
- A comprehensive library of finite elements for multi-layer composites



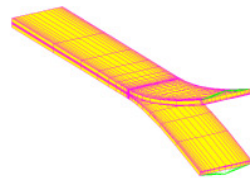
## Capabilities for composite analysis

### LMS Samtech Samcef =

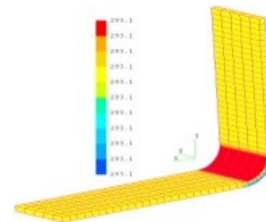
- A general (non linear) finite element code (implicit => static and dynamic cases)
- More than 35 years of experience in modeling composites
- Lots of industrial references (here are some of them for the aero sector)
- A comprehensive library of finite elements for multi-layer composites
- A large range of structural analysis methods for composite structures
- Advanced models for progressive damage in composites
- Specific tools for composite structures optimization



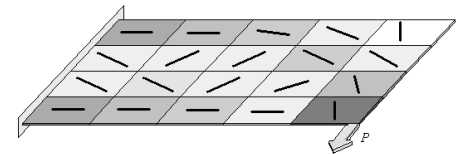
Linear analysis  
(static, modal, buckling,  
Harmonic/time response)



Non linear analysis  
(static, dynamic, rotor  
dynamic)



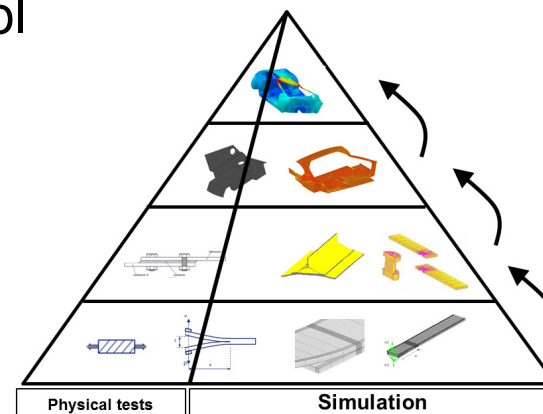
Thermo-mechanical  
analysis



Structural optimization

## Damage analysis of composites

- Capabilities of the LMS Samtech Samcef damage models
  - Sophisticated material models for:
    - **Ply progressive damage** (strengths, non linearities, plasticity, coupling effects in the matrix): **continuum damage mechanics**.
    - **Delamination** (possibly coupled to damage in surrounding plies): **cohesive elements**
  - Comprehensively implemented in LMS Samtech Samcef
    - No need for self-programming (difficult, prone to errors; little support)
    - No need for additional plug-in/add-on (not free!)
  - Validated on lots of industrial use cases (as illustrated in the following)
  - The parameter identification procedure for these damage models exists:
    - We can provide the test protocol
    - Few physical tests needed
  - Predictive models



## Overview of the SAMCEF capabilities for damage

- Damage models available in SAMCEF

### Native in SAMCEF

- No need for additional plug-ins/add-on
- No need for self-programming

#### Intra-laminar failure

#### Inter-laminar failure

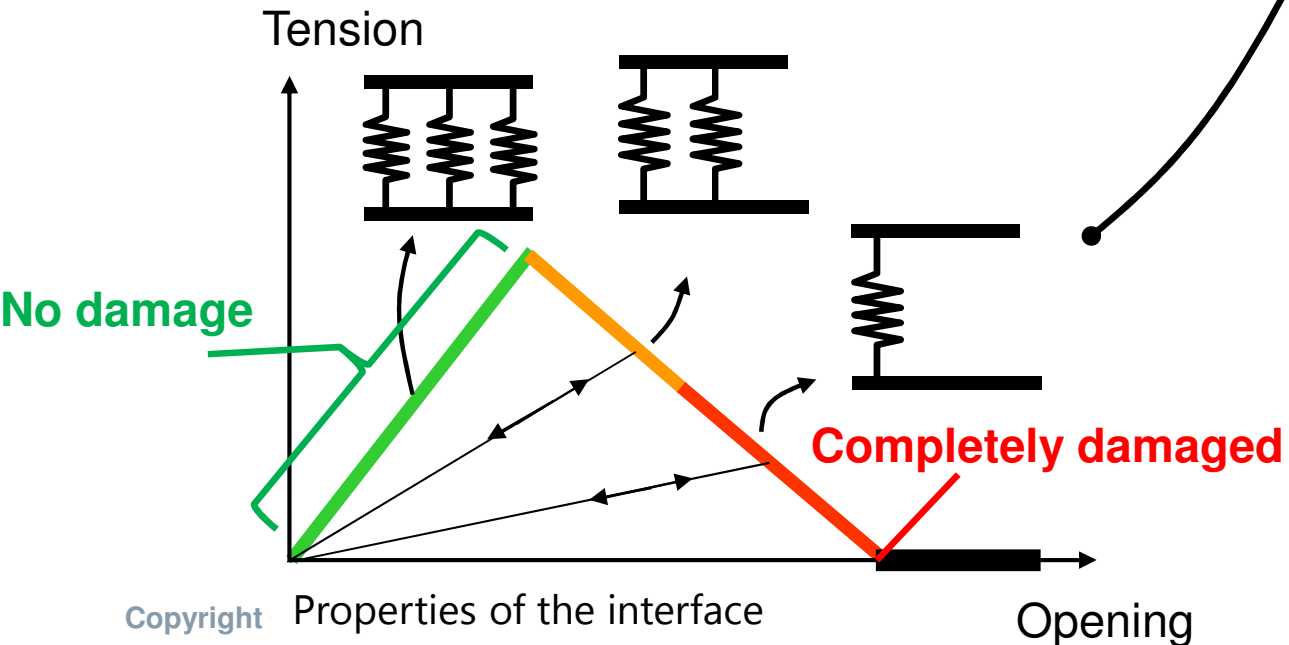
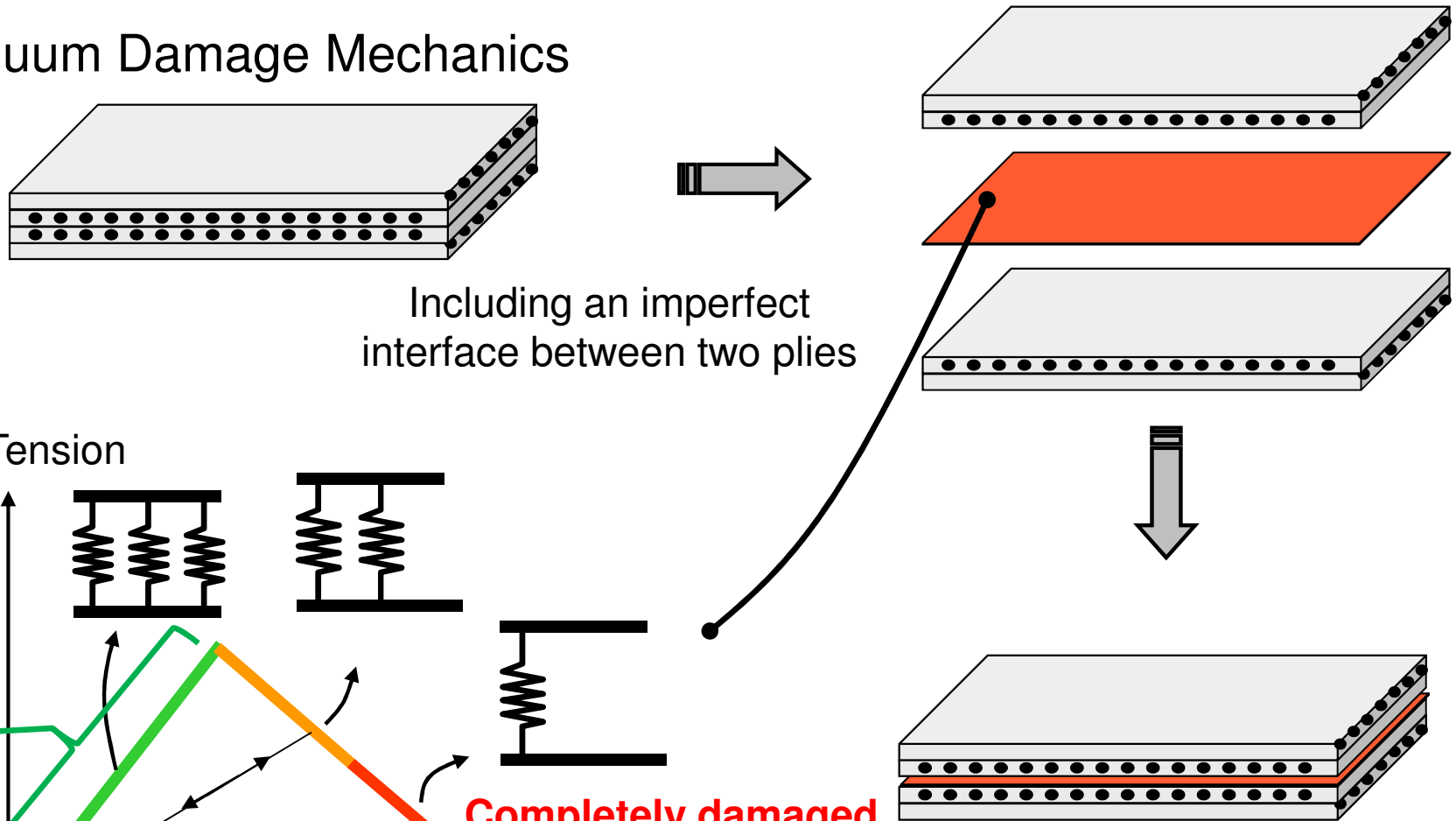
- Progressive failure of general orthotropic ply
- Damage model for the **UD** ply – Cachan (Ladevèze)
- Damage model for **woven fabrics** – Marseille (Hochard)
- User material

- Virtual Crack Extension (**VCE**)
- **Cohesive elements** approach (Cachan model, Allix & Ladevèze)
- User material

Model with  
coupling available  
– Cachan model

# Progressive inter-laminar damage: delamination

- Inter-laminar failure – delamination (cohesive elements)
- Continuum Damage Mechanics

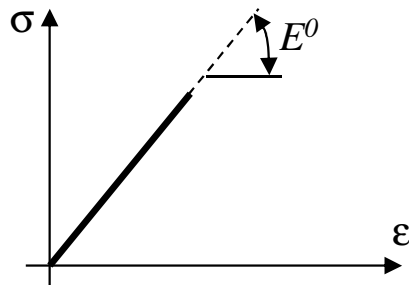


# Damage analysis of composites

- Principle of the **continuum damage mechanics**

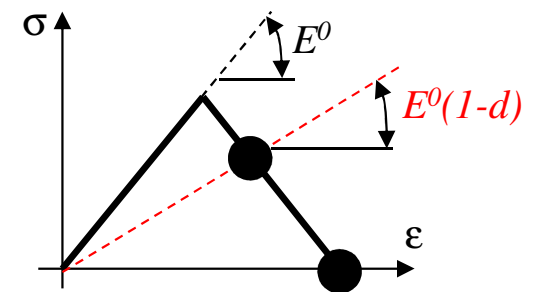
Potential without damage

$$\sigma = E^0 \varepsilon \quad e = \frac{\sigma^2}{2E^0}$$



Potential with damage variable

$$e_d = \frac{\sigma^2}{2(1-d)E^0} \quad Y = \frac{\partial e_d}{\partial d} = \frac{\sigma^2}{2(1-d)^2 E^0}$$

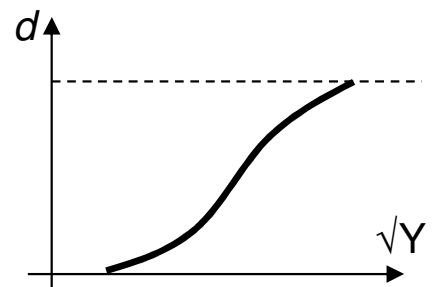


$d = 1 \Rightarrow$  completely failed

$d$  = damage associated to the (isotropic) material

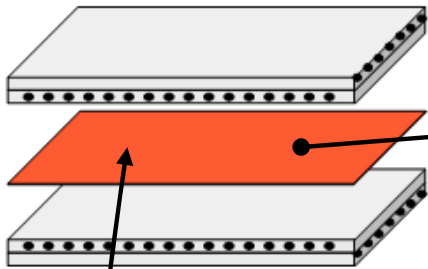
$$d \in [0 \ 1]$$

$d$  increases as the loading increases



# Progressive inter-laminar damage: delamination

- Inter-laminar failure – delamination (cohesive elements – Cachan model)



1. Potential in the interface elements

$$e_d = \frac{1}{2} \left[ k_I^0 \langle \epsilon_{33} \rangle_-^2 + k_I^0 (1 - d_I) \langle \epsilon_{33} \rangle_+^2 + k_{II}^0 (1 - d_{II}) \gamma_{31}^2 + k_{III}^0 (1 - d_{III}) \gamma_{32}^2 \right]$$

2. Thermodynamic forces ("forces in the interface")

$$Y_{d_I} = \frac{1}{2} k_I^0 \langle \epsilon_{33} \rangle_+^2 \quad Y_{d_{II}} = \frac{1}{2} k_{II}^0 \gamma_{31}^2 \quad Y_{d_{III}} = \frac{1}{2} k_{III}^0 \gamma_{32}^2$$

3. Equivalent thermodynamic force (with the 3 modes effects)

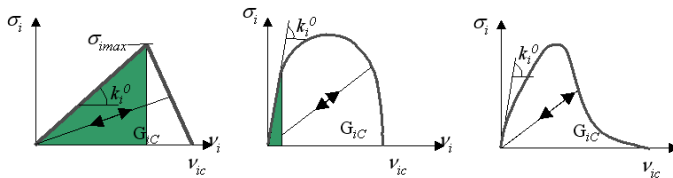
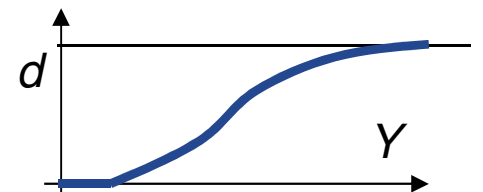
$$Y = \sup_{\tau \leq t} G_{IC} \left\{ \left( \frac{Y_I}{G_{IC}} \right)^\alpha + \left( \frac{Y_{II}}{G_{IIC}} \right)^\alpha + \left( \frac{Y_{III}}{G_{IIIC}} \right)^\alpha \right\}^{1/\alpha}$$

4. Only one resulting damage variable

$$d_I = d_{II} = d_{III} = d$$

5. Evolution of the damage wrt the thermodynamic force

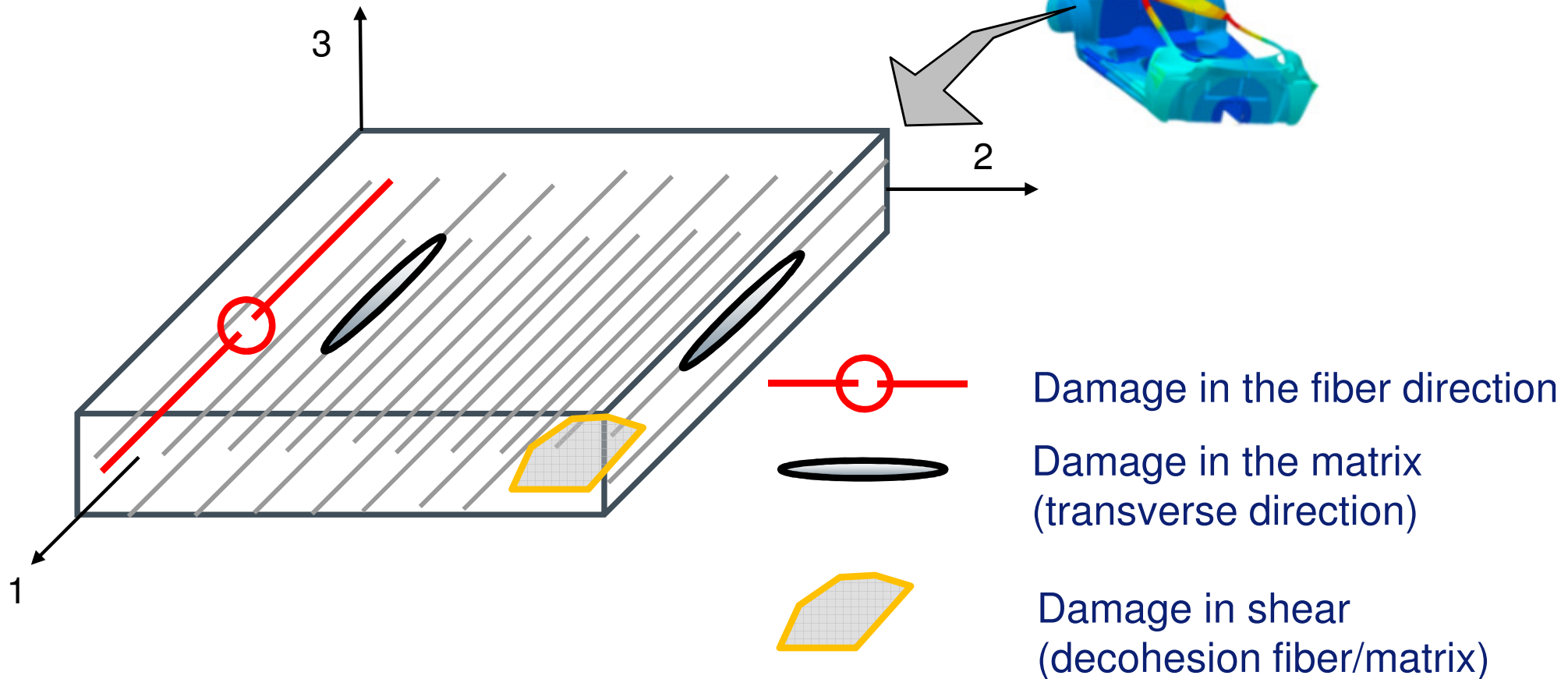
$$d = h(Y)$$





## Progressive intra-laminar damage: inside the plies

- Intra-laminar failure of the unidirectional plies



- The approach is based on the **Continuum Damage Mechanics**

- **Homogenized approach (meso-model):** we work at the ply level

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## Progressive intra-laminar damage: inside the plies

- Intra-laminar failure of the unidirectional plies

Strain energy without damage

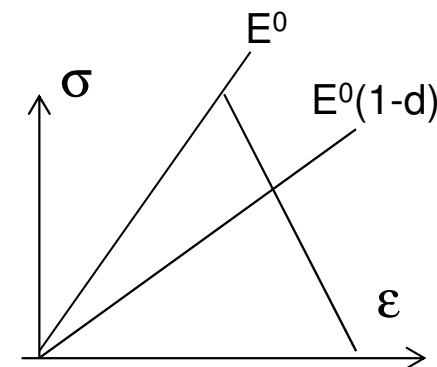
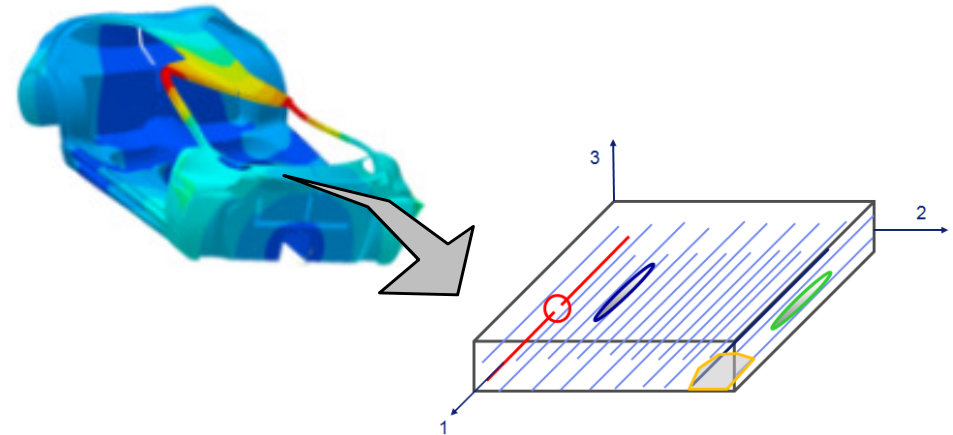
$$e = \frac{\sigma_{11}^2}{2E_1^0} + \frac{\sigma_{22}^2}{2E_2^0} - \frac{\nu_{12}^0}{E_1^0} \sigma_{11} \sigma_{22} + \frac{\sigma_{12}^2}{2G_{12}^0}$$



Strain energy with **damage variables** for fiber breaking, matrix cracking and decohesion between fiber/matrix

$$e_d = \frac{\sigma_{11}^2}{2(1-d_{11})E_1^0} + \frac{\langle \sigma_{22} \rangle_+^2}{2(1-d_{22})E_2^0} + \frac{\langle \sigma_{22} \rangle_-^2}{2E_2^0} - \frac{\nu_{12}^0}{E_1^0} \sigma_{11} \sigma_{22} + \frac{\sigma_{12}^2}{2(1-d_{12})G_{12}^0}$$

$d_{ij}$  depending on the physics of the problem (observed from physical tests)

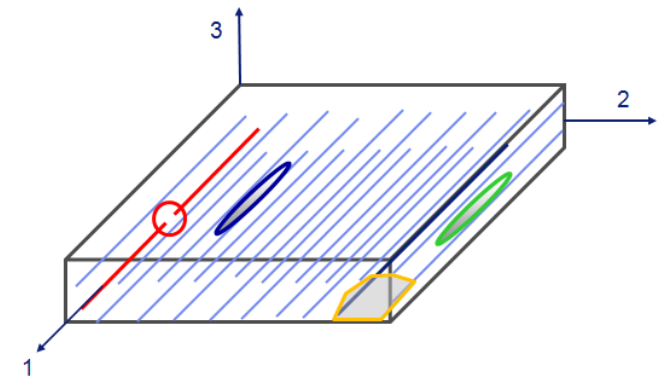
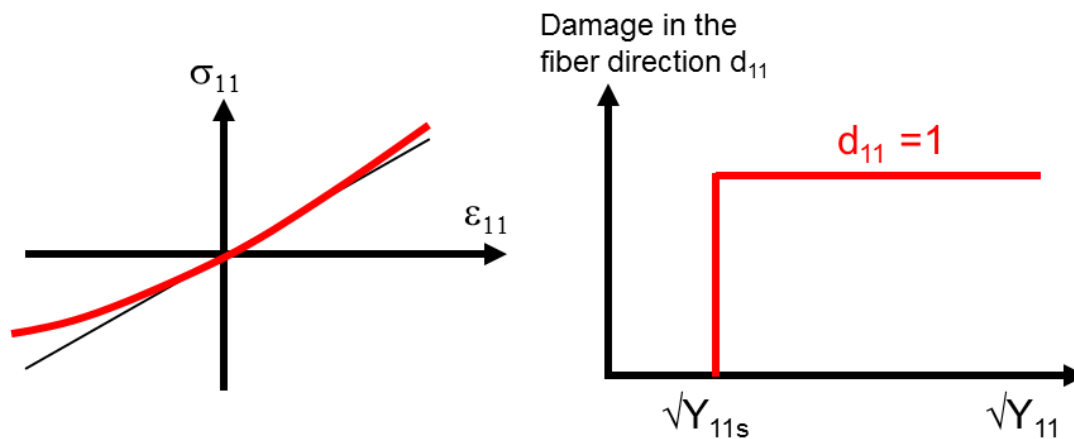


# Progressive intra-laminar damage: inside the plies

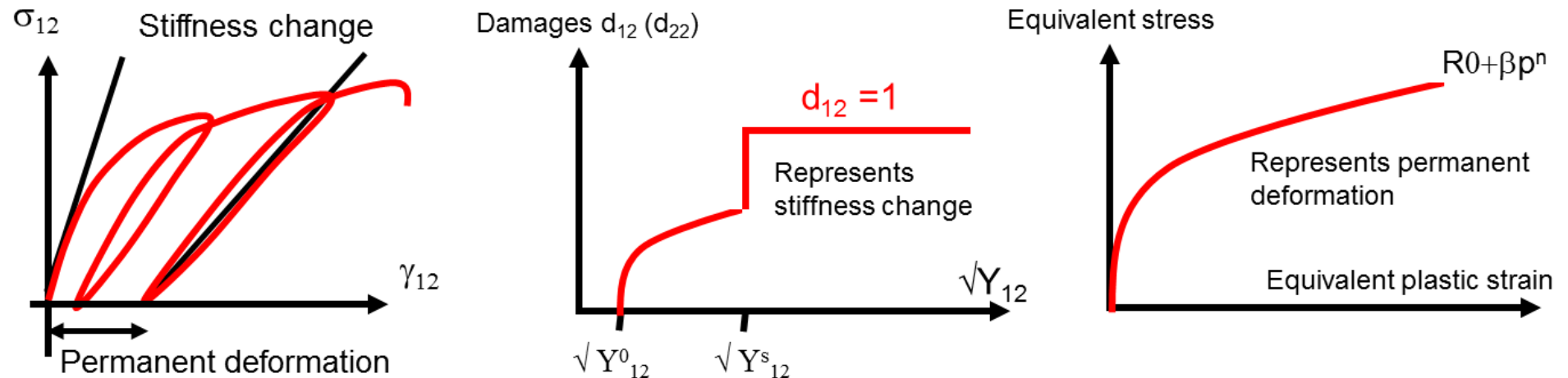
- Intra-laminar failure of the unidirectional plies: Cachan model (Ladevèze)

The parameters:  $E_1, E_2, \nu_{12}, G_{12}, Y_{11s}, Y_{12s}, R_0, \beta, \dots$

## Along the fiber direction



## In the matrix

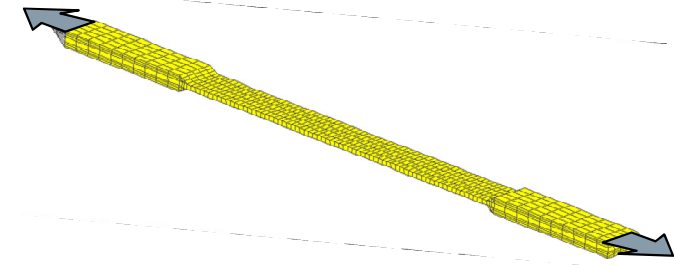
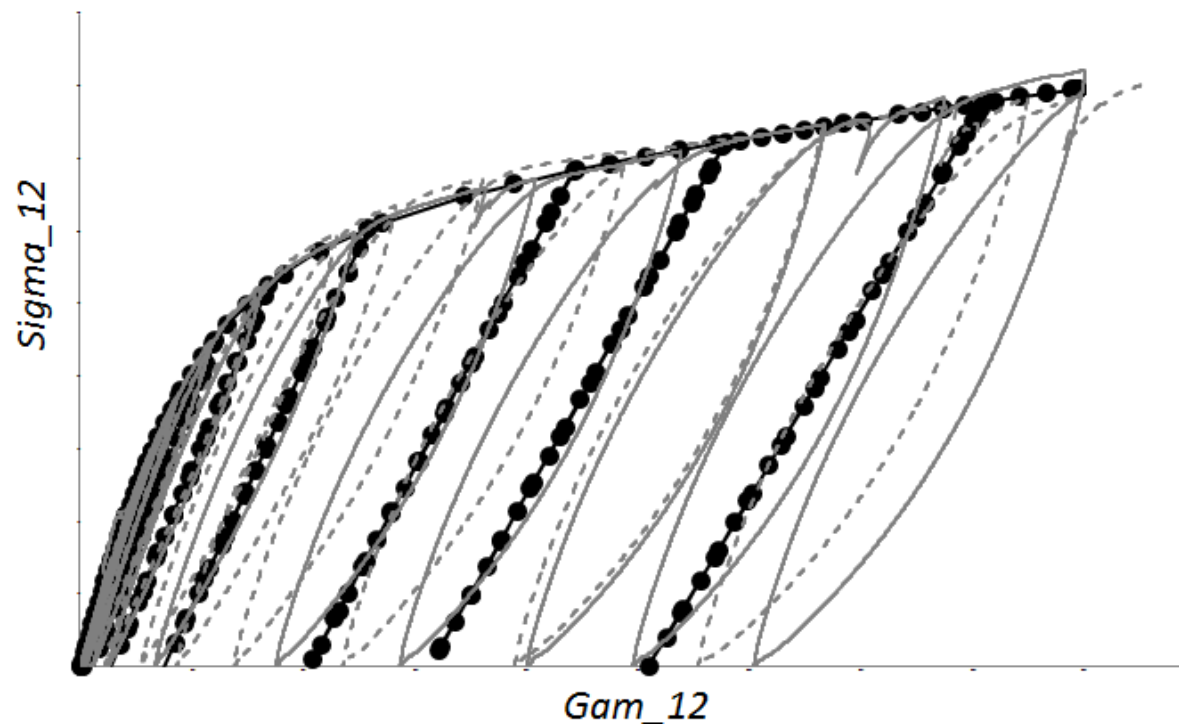


## Progressive intra-laminar damage: inside the plies

- Intra-laminar failure of the unidirectional plies

Parameter identification at the coupon level  
(Here  $[45/-45]_{2s}$ )

● SAMCEF — Test 1 --- Test 2



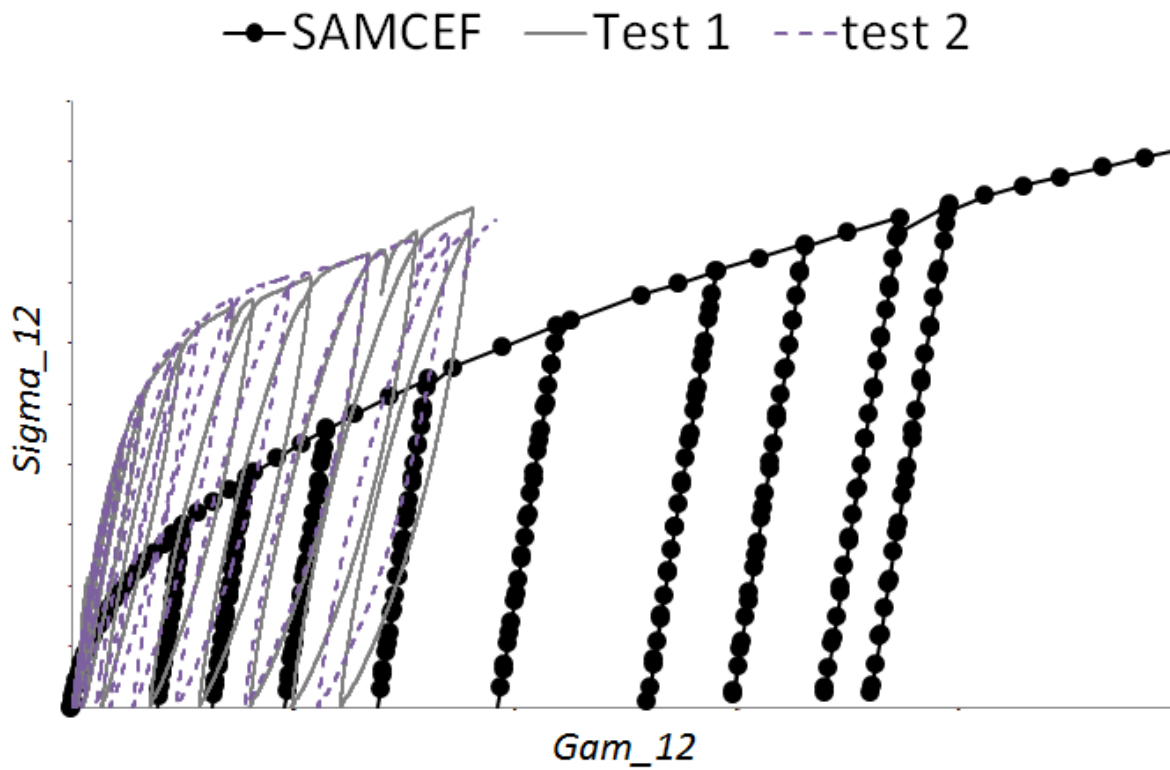
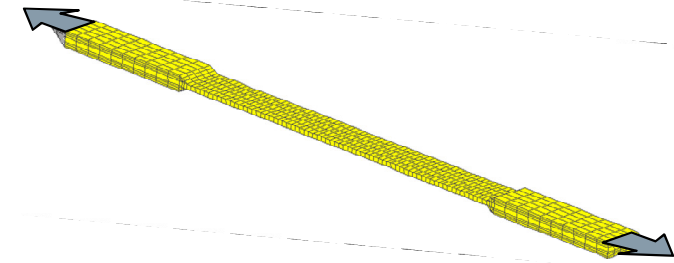
**With the  
well-  
identified  
parameters**

Source : Bruyneel, Urushiyama, Naito, ASC Conference, 2014

## Progressive intra-laminar damage: inside the plies

- Intra-laminar failure of the unidirectional plies

Parameter identification at the coupon level  
(Here  $[45/-45]_{2s}$ )

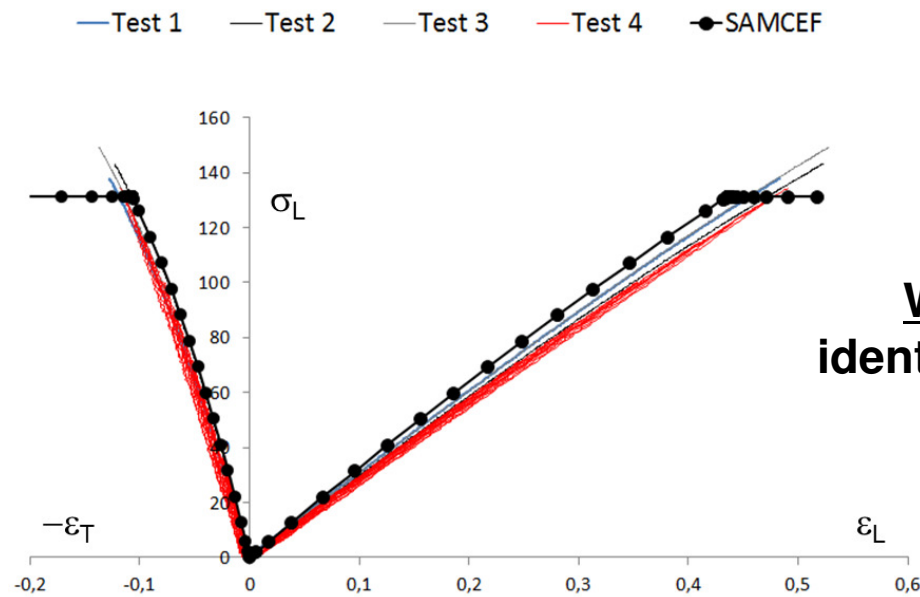


With other  
values for the  
parameters

Source : Bruyneel, Urushiyama, Naito, ASC Conference, 2014

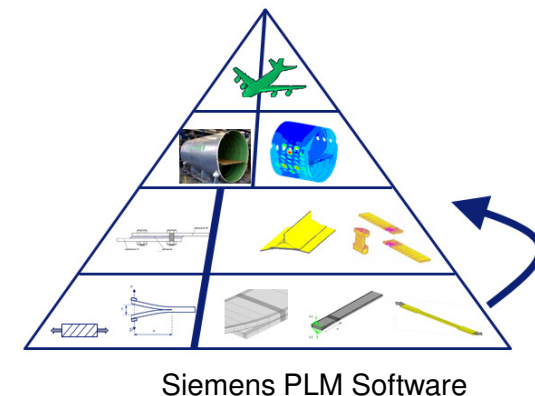
## Progressive intra-laminar damage: inside the plies

- Intra-laminar failure of the unidirectional plies
- **Predictive models** at the coupon level
  - ⇒ Still Ok if change stacking sequence, number of plies in the coupon
- Example: blind test on a **[67,5/22,5]<sub>2s</sub>**



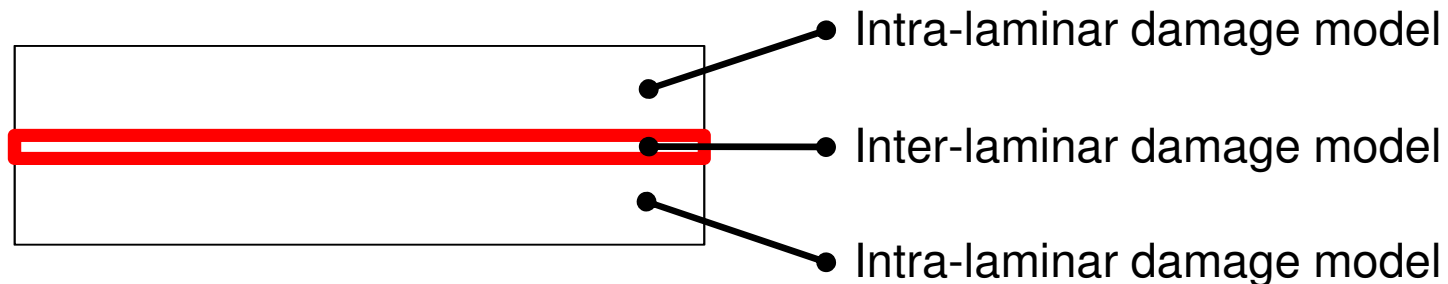
With the well-identified parameters

- Parameters used at the upper stages of the pyramid of tests
  - ⇒ Replace physical tests by simulation



## Coupling inter and intra-laminar damages

- Inter and intra-laminar damage models used **independently but simultaneously** in the FE model
- Progressive damage model in the plies
- Progressive damage model in the interfaces } **No communication between the material models**



- Most of the time, this is **enough** to represent the physics of the composite degradation

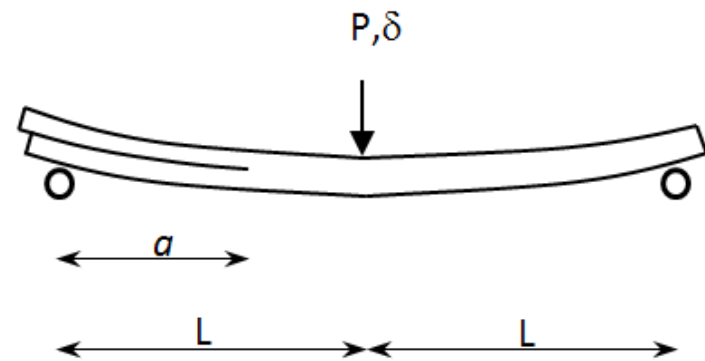
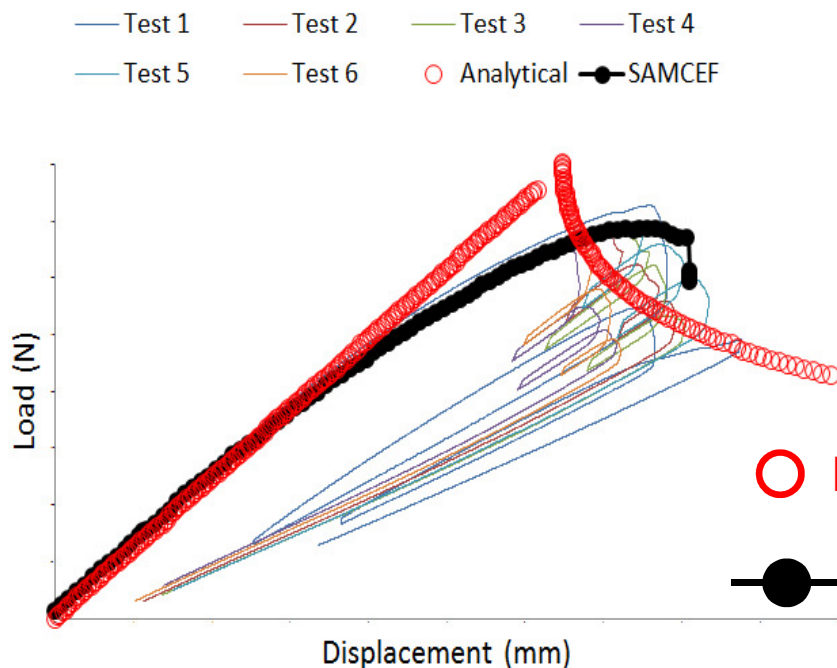
## Coupling inter and intra-laminar damages

### ○ Inter and intra-laminar damage models

⇒ Inter-laminar damage law alone may be not enough

⇒ Intra-laminar damage law alone may be not enough

⇒ Simple example: ENF coupon with delamination at a 45/-45 interface



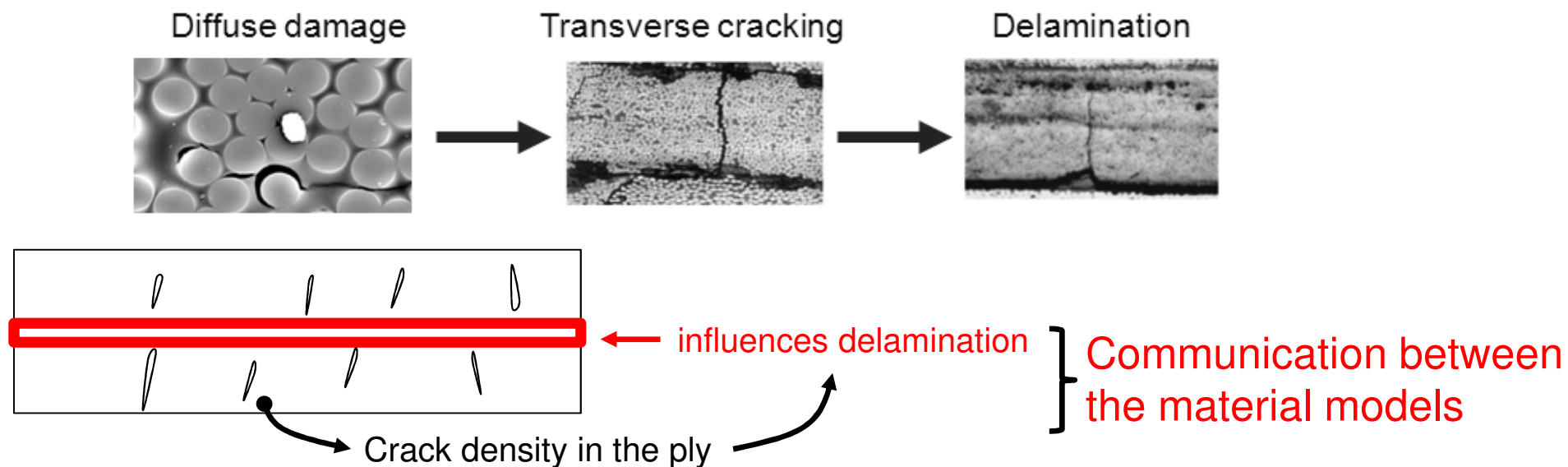
○ Delamination only (intra-laminar): analytical solution

● SAMCEF (simulation: inter- and intra-laminar damage)



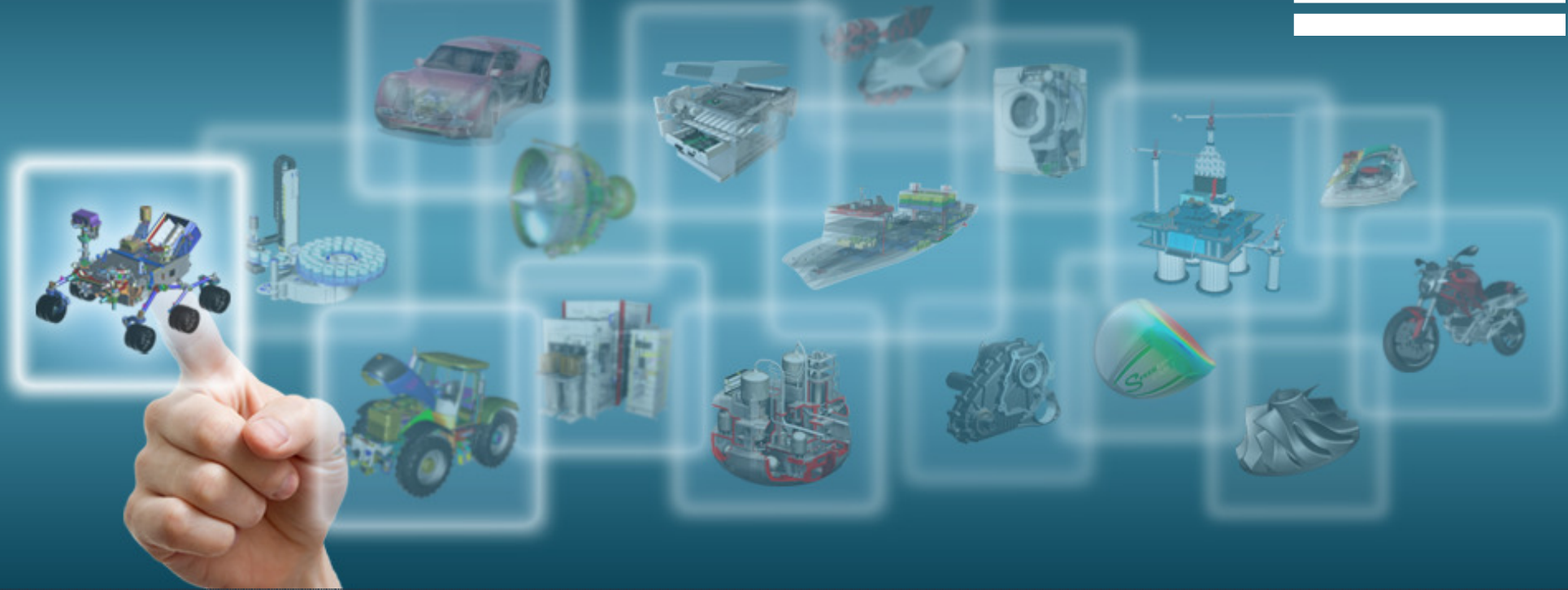
## Coupling inter and intra-laminar damages

- Inter and intra-laminar **damage models coupled** in the FE model
  - In case of large stress concentrations in the problem, a **coupling** may be necessary
  - Influence of the crack density on the ply on delamination
  - The cohesive element must see the crack density in the adjacent solid elements
- ⇒ **Non local aspect of the material law (Cachan model, implemented in SAMCEF)**



⇒ Simulation results even closer to reality

⇒ Interesting for e.g. **plates with hole**



Advanced composites analysis

# Parameter identification process: link between simulation and testing

## Progressive damage models: parameter identification

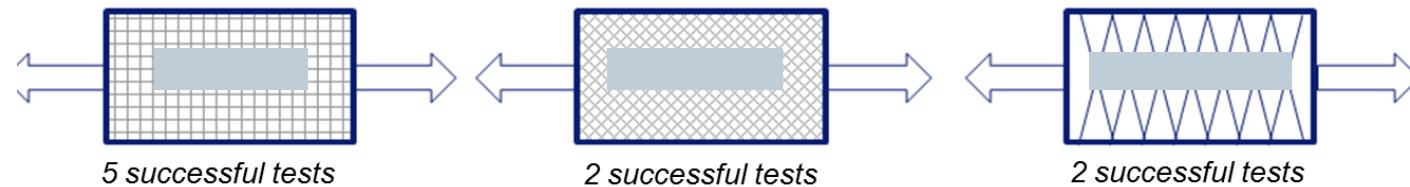
- Parameter identification procedure: a comprehensive test protocol exists (via Engineering Service)

### Test protocol Intralaminar elastic and damage identification

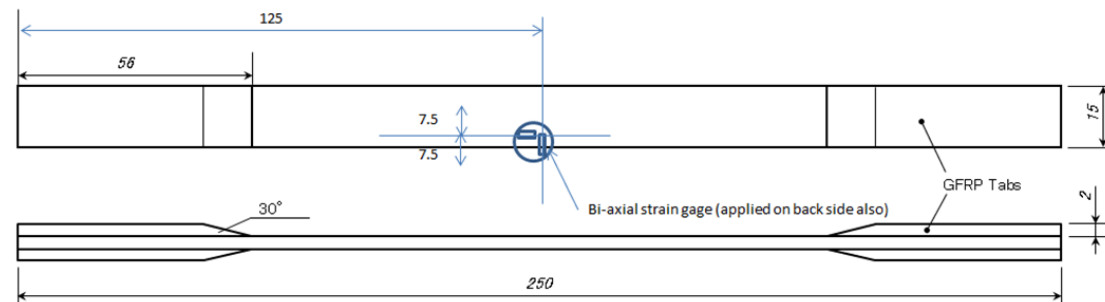
- Tests needed
- Number of tests
- Associated standards
- Test output requested

#### Elastic properties: Coupons under tensile strength

- 3 layups



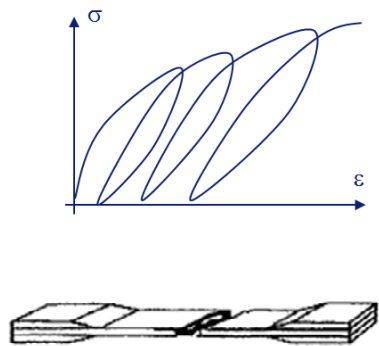
- Norm: **ASTM D3039** for coupon under tensile strength



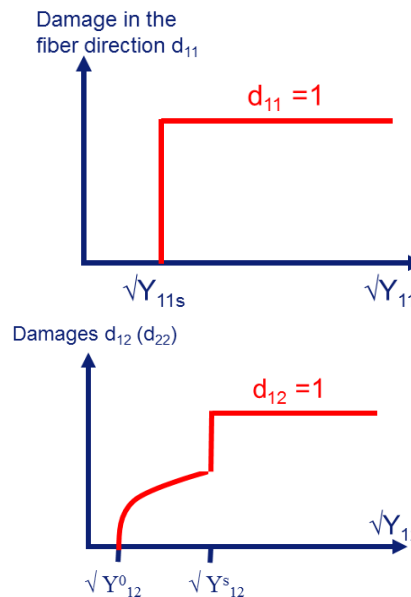
ASTM D3039 Test piece with GFRP Tabs for UD Material

## Progressive intra-laminar damage: inside the plies

- Intra-laminar failure of the unidirectional plies
  - The parameter identification procedure exists (coupon level)
  - The test protocol is known
    - ⇒ for UD, **standard tests on 4 stacking sequences are needed (very few tests)**
    - ⇒ only few simulations needed / procedure mainly based on EXCEL sheets
  - It results that the damage laws available in LMS Samtech Samcef can be used



Loading/unloading the coupon  
(physical test on standard  
machine)



- ✓ Identification of the elastic properties  $E_1, E_2, \nu_{12}, G_{12}, \dots$
- ✓ Identification of damage/plasticity laws
- ✓ Identification of strengths

## Progressive intra-laminar damage: inside the plies

- Parameter identification procedure: a comprehensive test protocol exists (more information via Engineering Service)

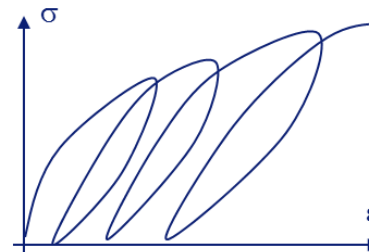
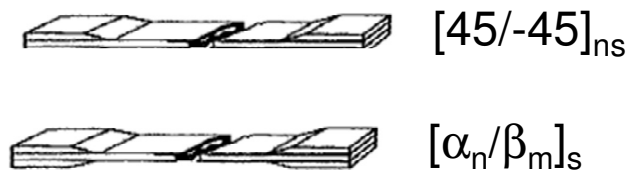
Tests needed to identify the parameters ( $E_1$ ,  $E_2$ ,  $\nu_{12}$ ,  $G_{12}$ ,  $Y_{11s}$ ,  $Y_{12s}$ ,  $R_0$ ,  $\beta$ , ...)

⇒ Test on a  $[x/y]_{ns}$  laminate; tension and compression



⇒ Test on a  $[45/-45]_{ns}$  laminate, in tension with loading/unloading

⇒ Test on a  $[\alpha_n/\beta_m]_s$  laminate, in tension with loading/unloading



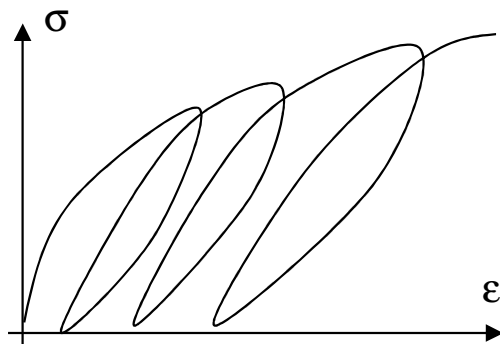
**Tests on 4 configurations only!!**



**Very small number of tests**

# Progressive intra-laminar damage: inside the plies

- Parameter identification procedure: a comprehensive test protocol exists

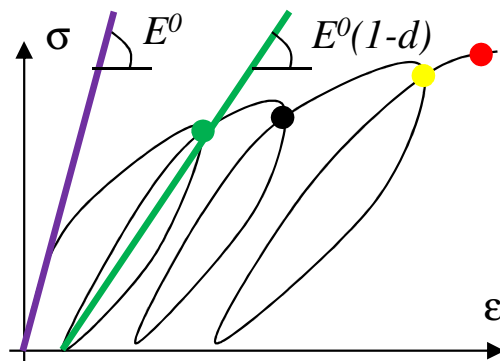


Loading/unloading

$$e_d = \frac{\sigma^2}{2E^0(1-d)}$$

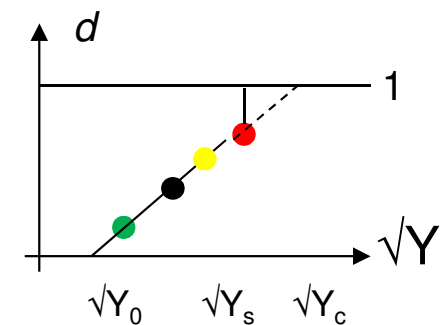
$$\epsilon = \frac{\partial e_d}{\partial \sigma} = \frac{\sigma}{E^0(1-d)}$$

$$Y = \frac{\partial e_d}{\partial d} = \frac{\sigma^2}{2E^0(1-d)^2}$$



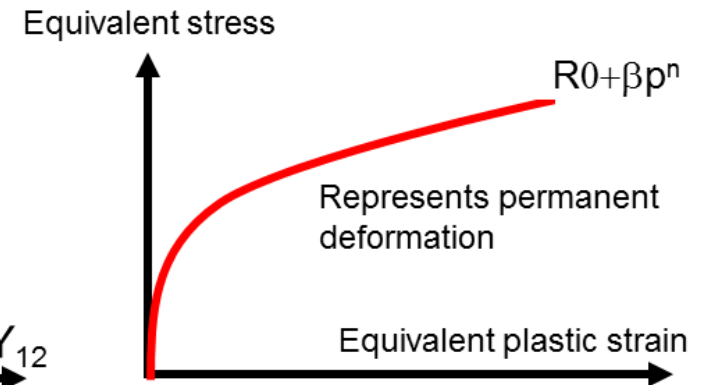
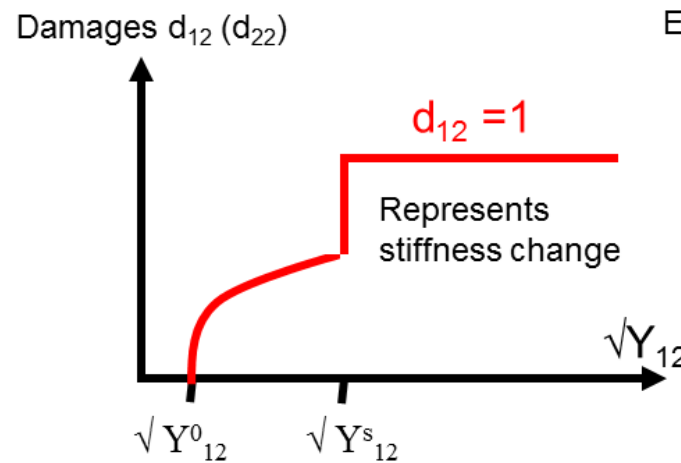
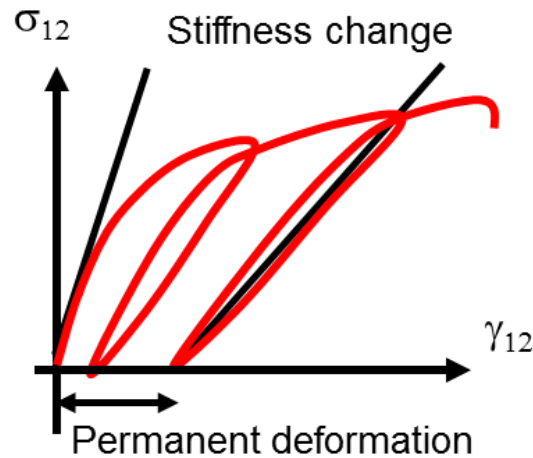
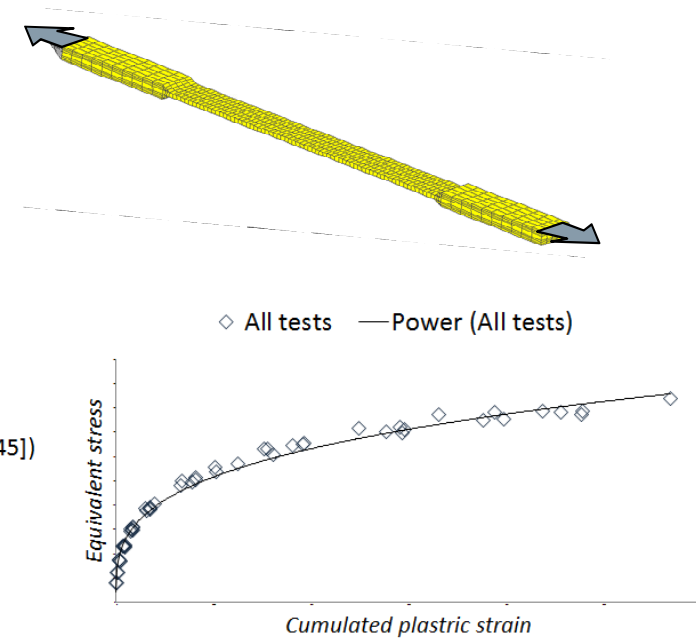
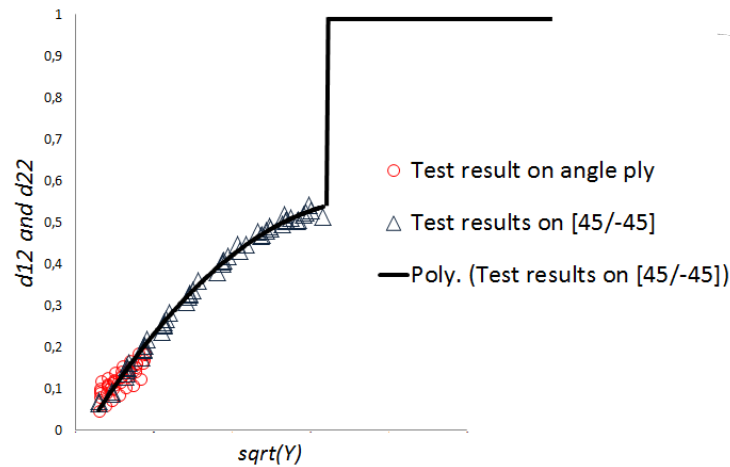
- Determine  $d$  by comparing  $E^0(1-d)$  and  $E^0$
- Calculate  $Y$ , and  $\sqrt{Y}$
- Plot  $d$  as a function of  $\sqrt{Y}$
- Determine the parameters

$E^0(1-d)$  and  $E^0$



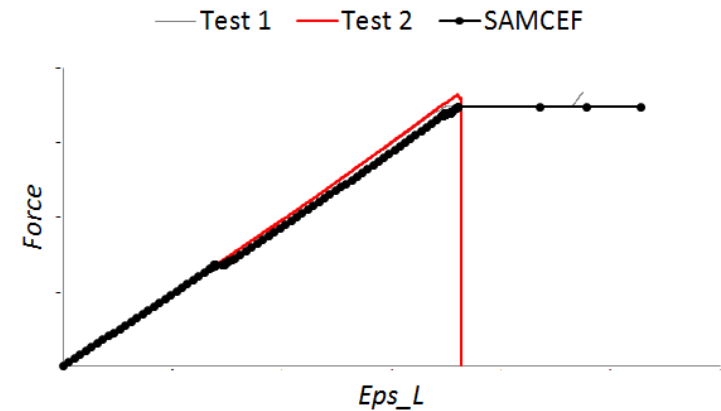
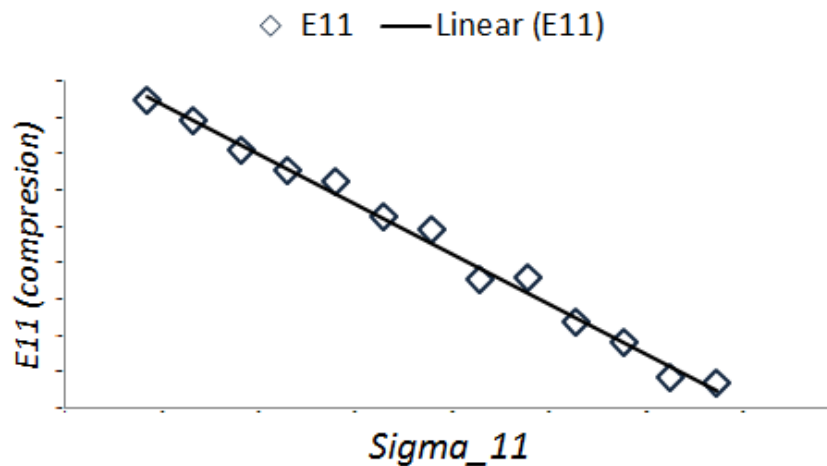
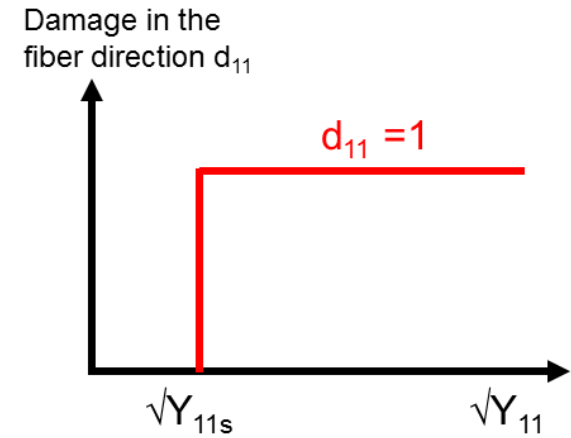
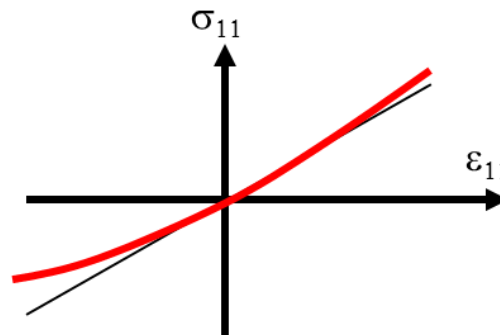
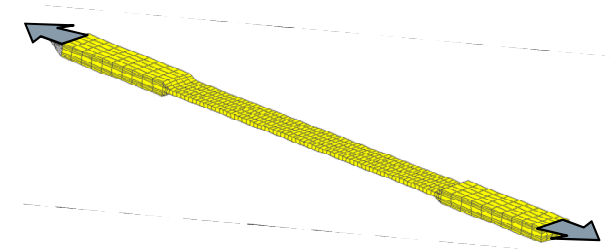
# Progressive intra-laminar damage: inside the plies

○ Parameter identification procedure



# Progressive intra-laminar damage: inside the plies

- Parameter identification procedure

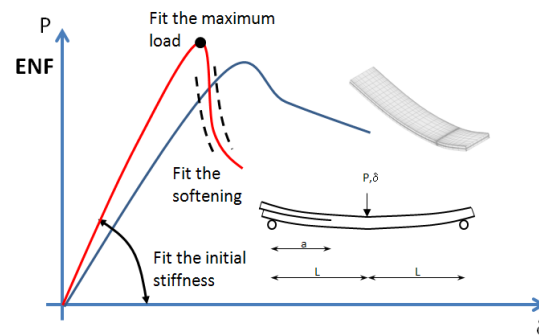
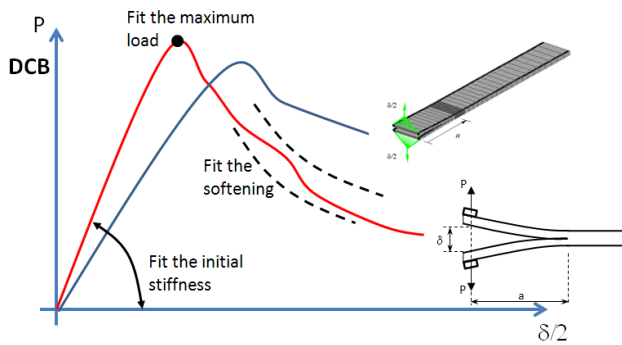
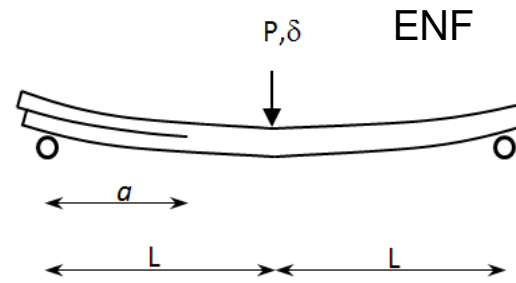
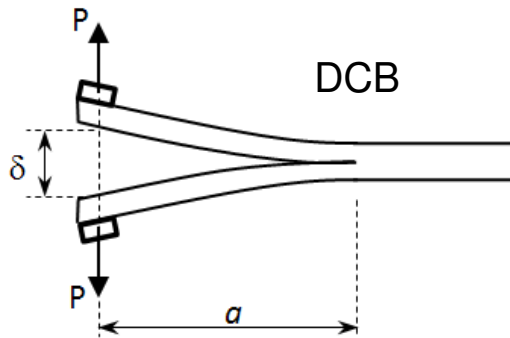




# Progressive inter-laminar damage: delamination

- Inter-laminar failure: parameter identification

Conduct physical tests  
 ↓  
 Fit simulation with tests results



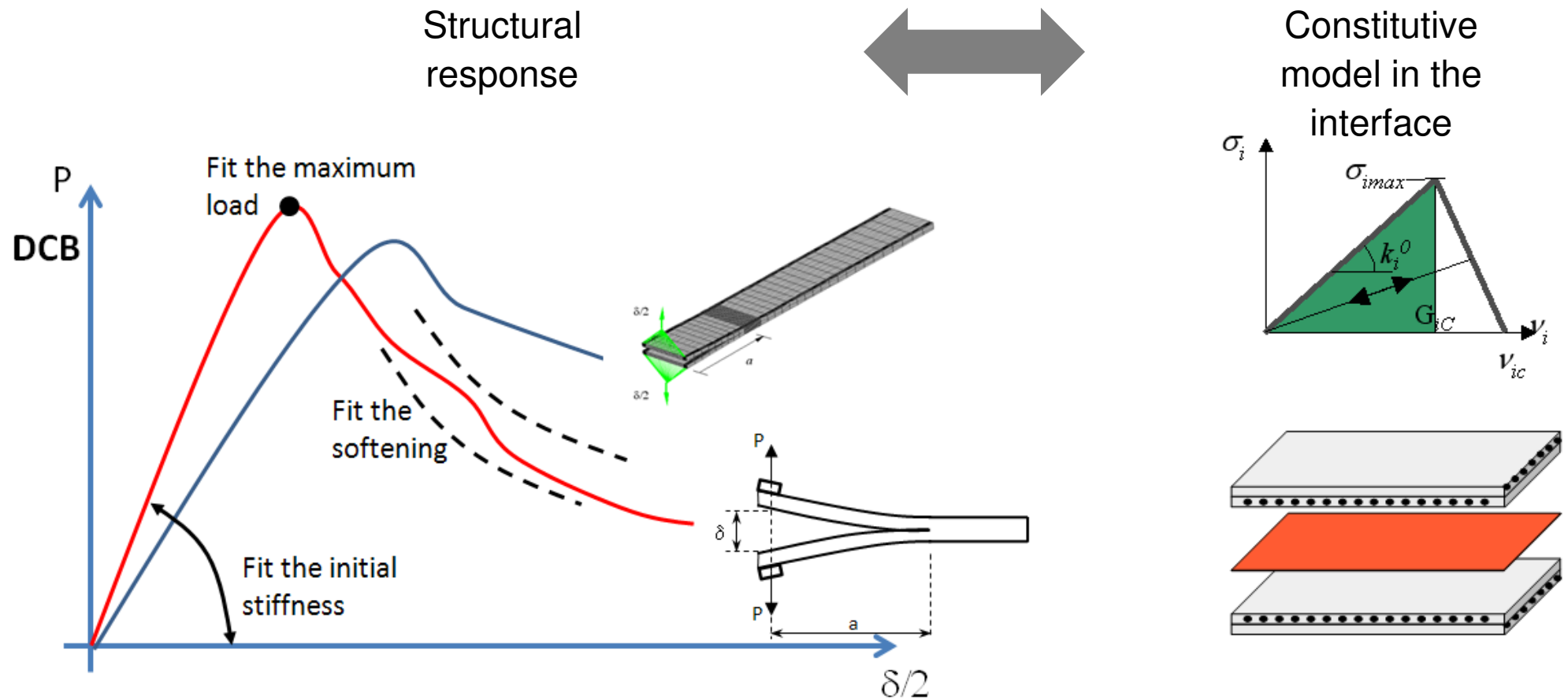
Value of the interface parameters

Used to study delamination on larger structures



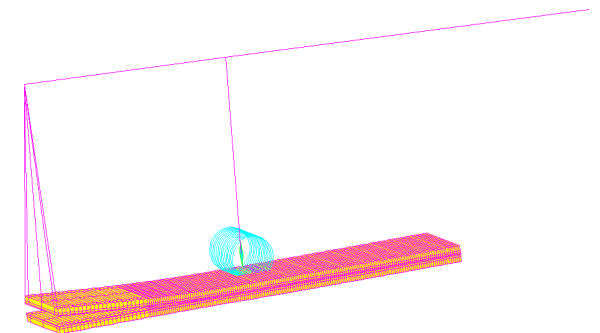
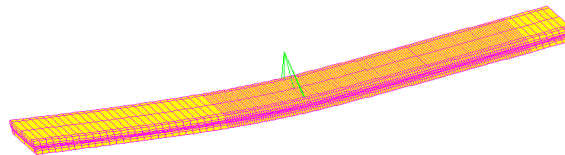
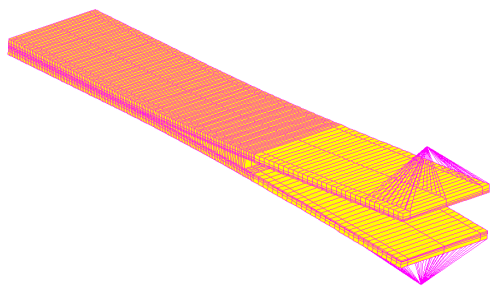
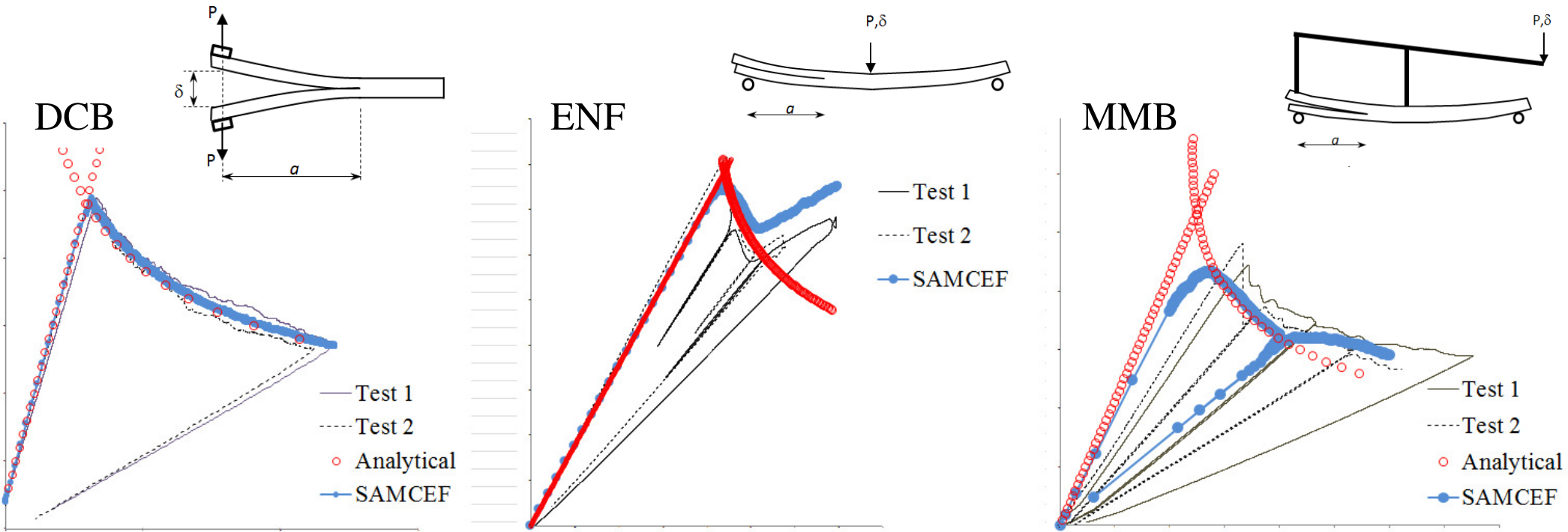
# Progressive inter-laminar damage: delamination

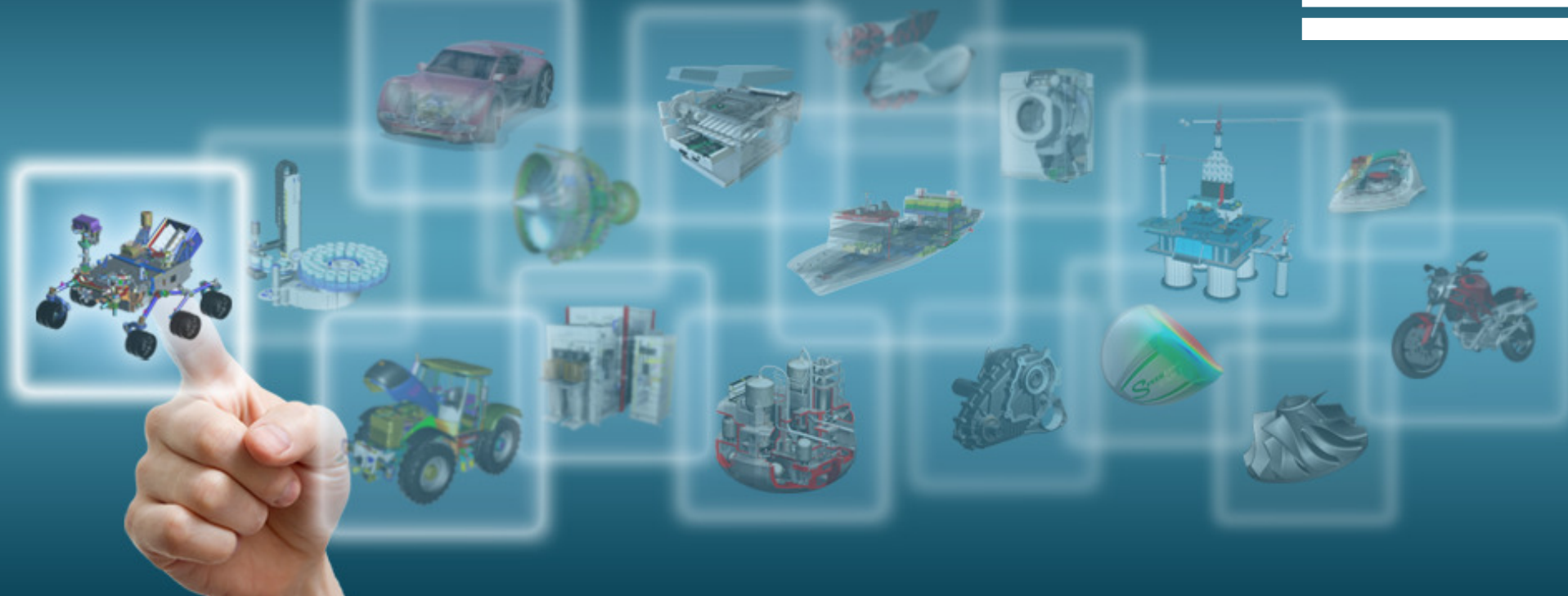
- Inter-laminar failure: parameter identification



# Progressive inter-laminar damage: delamination

## ○ Inter-laminar failure: parameter identification





Advanced composites analysis

# Illustrations

# Illustration 1

## Honda R&D Co., Ltd.



Source : Bruyneel, Urushiyama, Naito, ECCM Conference, 2014

Source : Bruyneel, Urushiyama, Naito, WCCM Conference, 2014

## Challenges

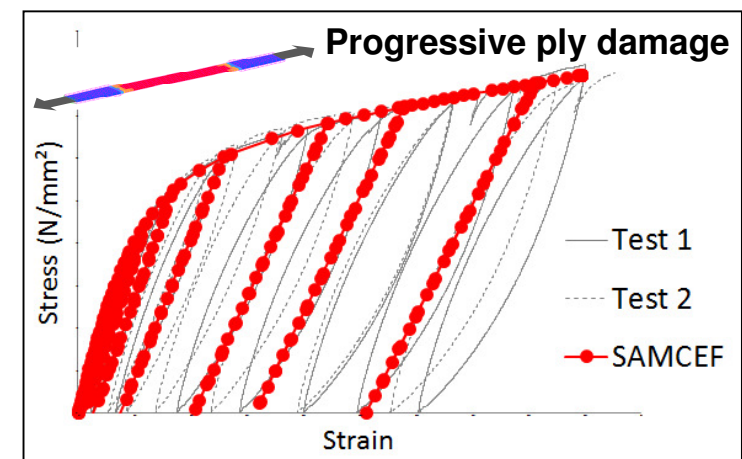
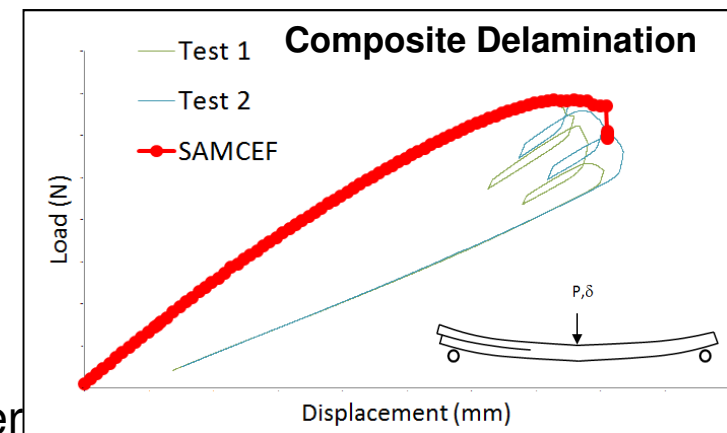
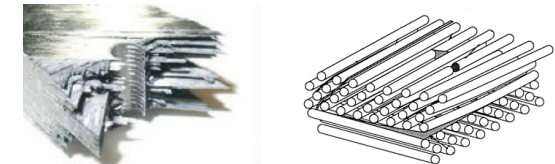
- Innovative methodology for progressive damage analysis in composite car design (weight saving requirements)
- Complex non-linear behavior of composites
- Need for development of material models, characterization and parameter identification procedures for progressive damage analysis and body performance evaluation

## Solution

- LMS Samtech Samcef Mecano non-linear finite element solver
- LMS Engineering Services for composite damage model identification

## Results

- Sophisticated material models implemented for:
  - Progressive ply damage; delamination ; coupling of both
- Development of the parameter identification procedure, based on a limited amount of physical tests on coupons
- Predictive damage models



# Illustration 1

## Honda R&D Co., Ltd.



Source : Urushiyama, Naito, JSAE Spring Conference, 2014 52 05

Source : Bruyneel et al., NAFEMS WC, San Diego, June 2015

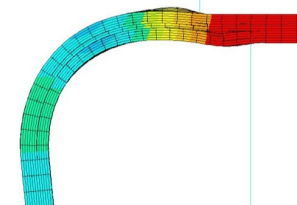
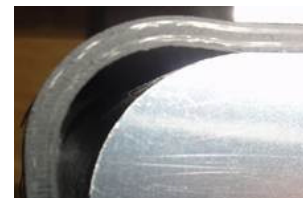
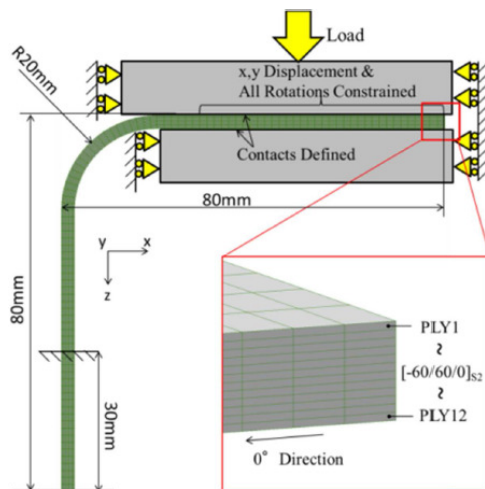
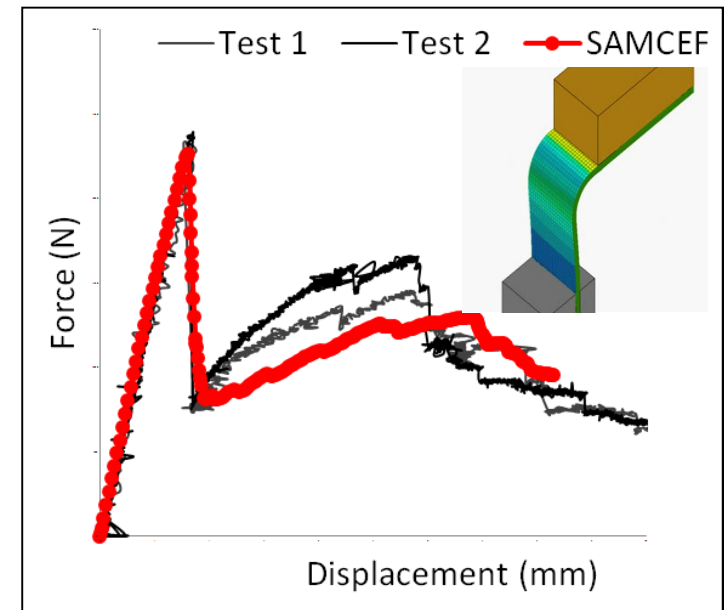
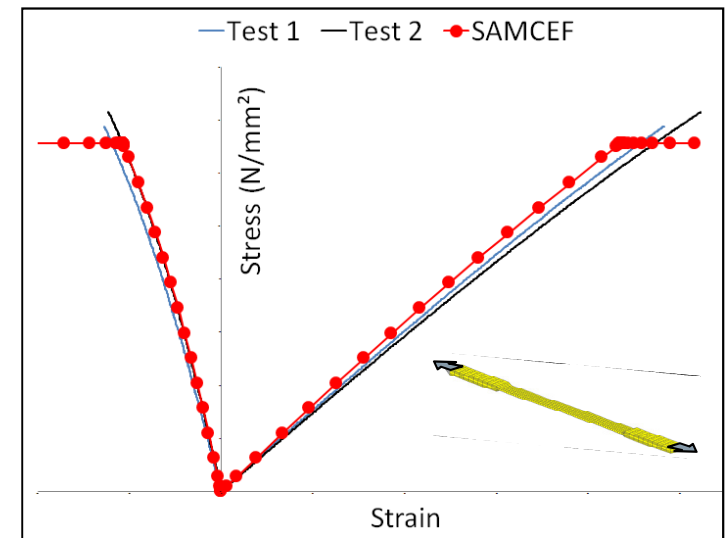
### Exploitation of the methodology

- Validation of damage models at coupon level**

Starting from identified material parameters, the damage model is used to predict the mechanical behavior at the coupon level for evaluation of the behaviour for other stacking sequences and hence replacing physical tests

- Application of damage models for predictive delamination behavior at component level**

The damage models are supporting the prediction of the progressive damage and delamination inside the plies and at their interface at component level



Progressive ply damage  
Progressive delamination

# Illustration 1

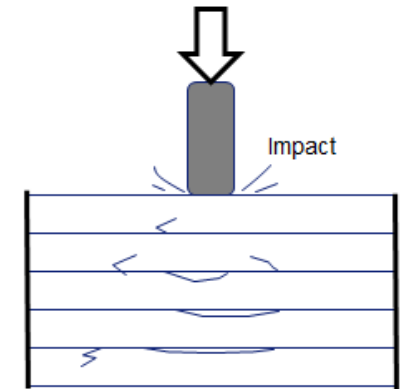
Honda R&D Co., Ltd.



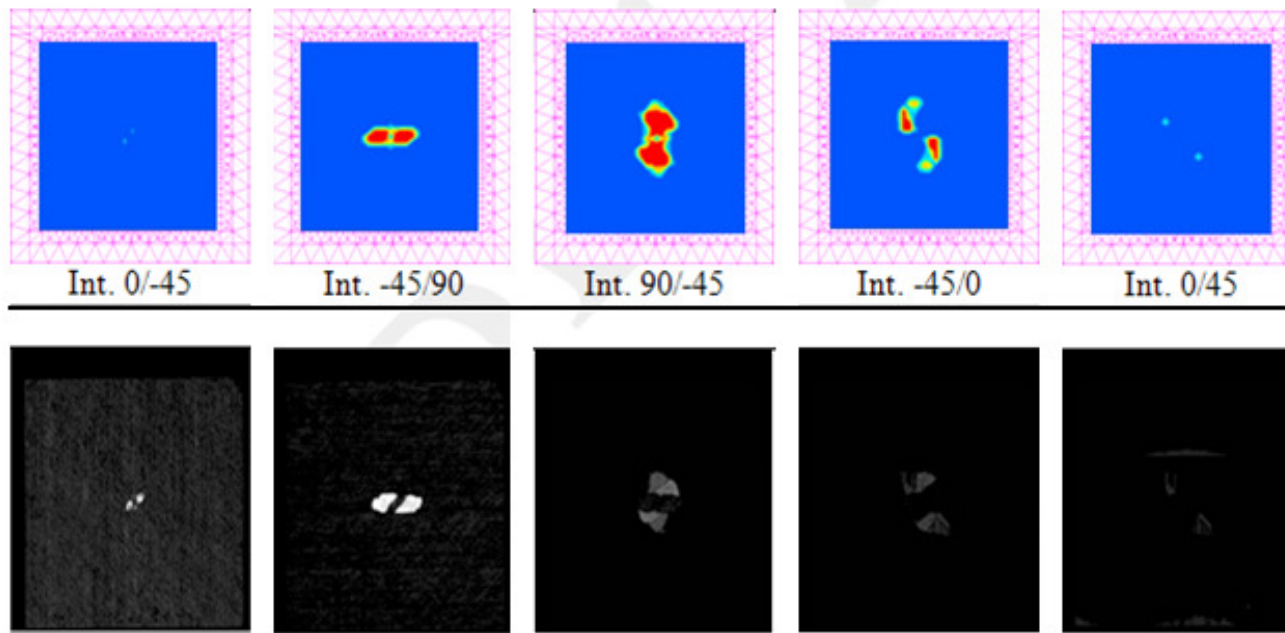
Source : Bruyneel, Urushiyama, Naito, NAFEMS Benchmark Magazine, July 2015

## Exploitation of the methodology

- **Application of damage tolerant approach for composite design**
  - Barely visible impact damage (BVID)
  - Damage induced by a low energy impact
  - Delamination appears at the interfaces between the plies
  - Very good agreement between simulation and C-scan test results



Undetectable damage



# Illustration 2

## Latecoere



Source : Bruyneel et al., JEC Composite Magazine 80, 2014

## Challenges

- Investigate the damage propagation at the interface of plies of a laminated composite (damage tolerant approach – weight saving)
- Multi-delaminated composite material
- Need for a fast solution procedure

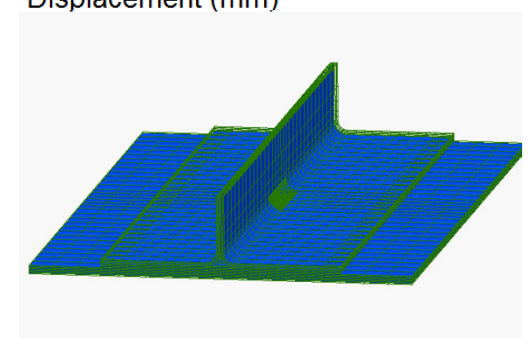
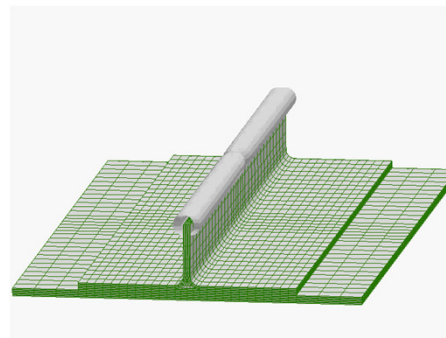
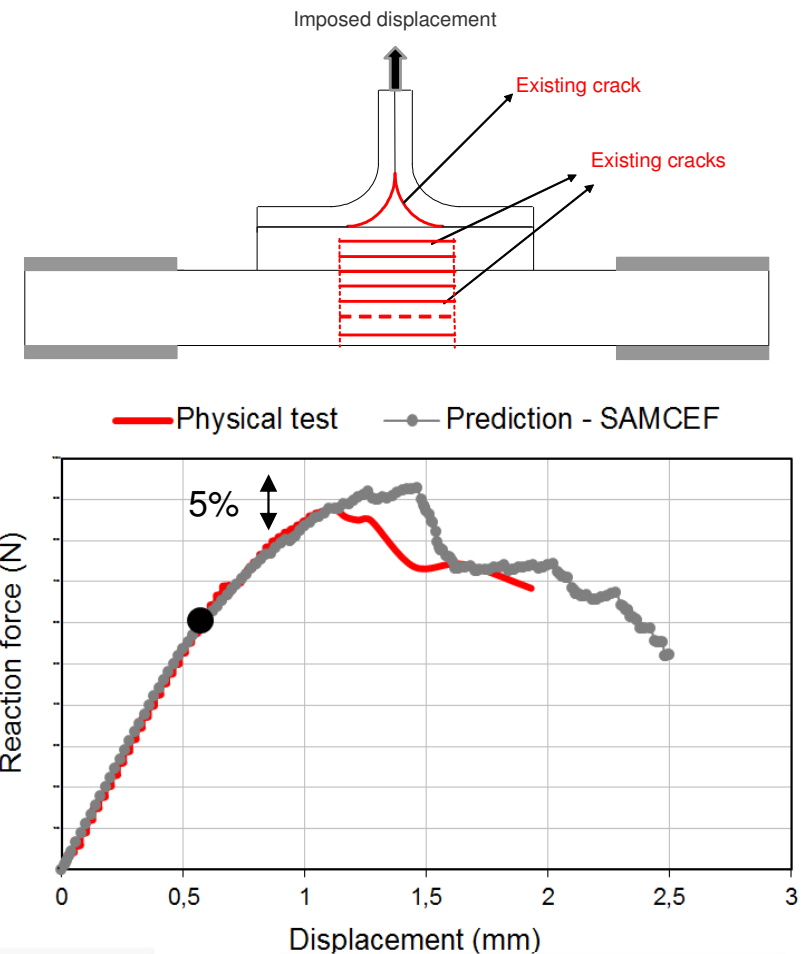
## Solution

- LMS Samtech Samcef Mecano, non-linear finite element solver
- LMS Engineering Services

## Results

- Better knowledge of the composite structure performance
- Determination of tighter safety margins for
  - A safer design
  - A lighter design

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# Illustration3

## DLR



Source : Bruyneel et al., JEC Composite Magazine 48, 2009

### Challenges

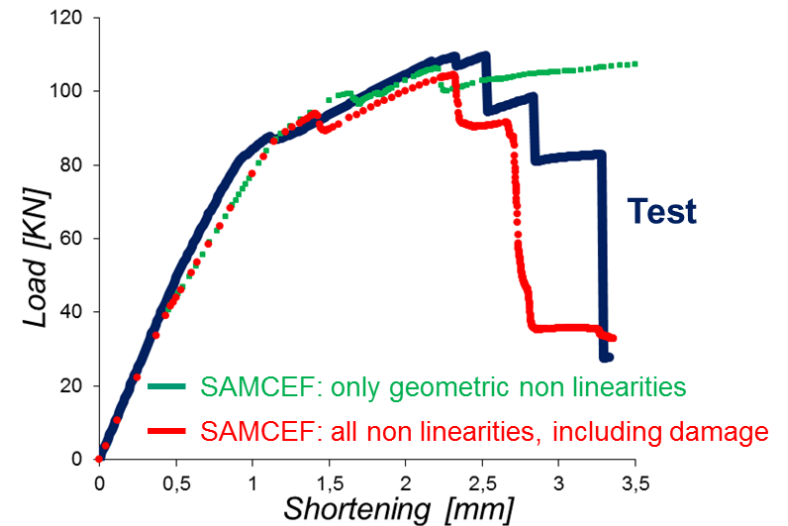
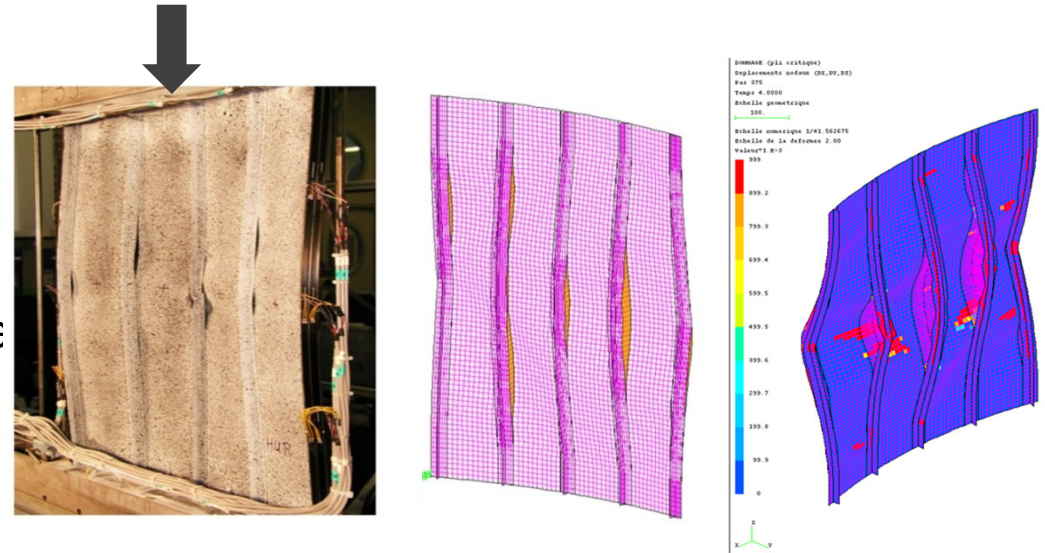
- Investigate the non-linear behavior of thin-walled composite structures
- Damage, buckling, post-buckling, collapse
- Develop a predictive model to further optimize the design

### Solution

- LMS Samtech Samcef Mecano, non-linear finite element solver

### Results

- Better knowledge of the composite structure performance
- Virtual prototype, then used to develop:
  - A safer design
  - A lighter design



Skin/stiffener separation

Damage inside the ply Siemens PLM Software

# Illustration 4

## Airbus Helicopters

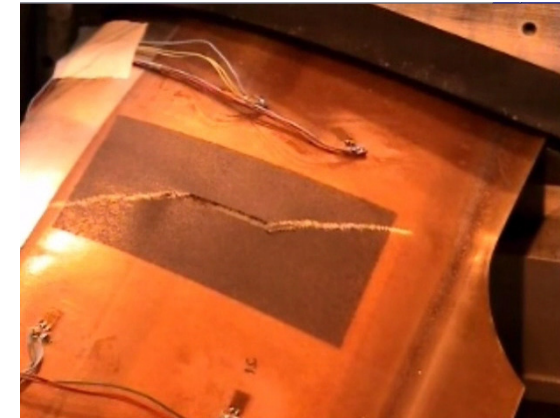
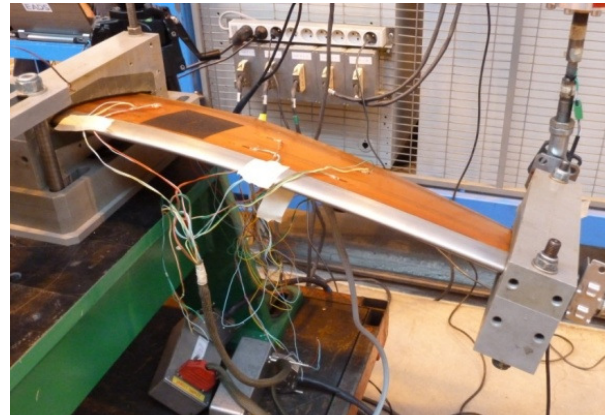
### Airbus Group Innovations



Source : Galucio et al., ECCOMAS Composite Conference, 2011

## Challenges

- Reliable solution procedure for damage analysis at the component level
- Development of predictive damage models
- Specific case of a pre-cracked helicopter blade

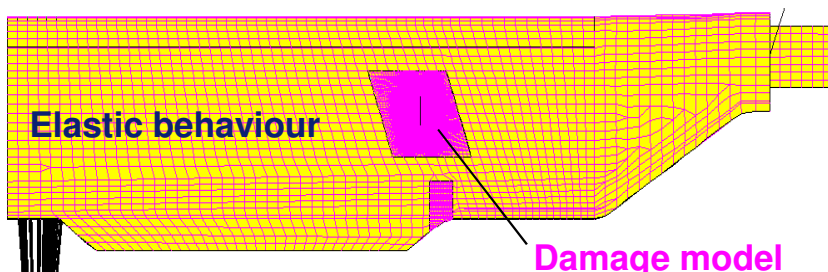


## Solution

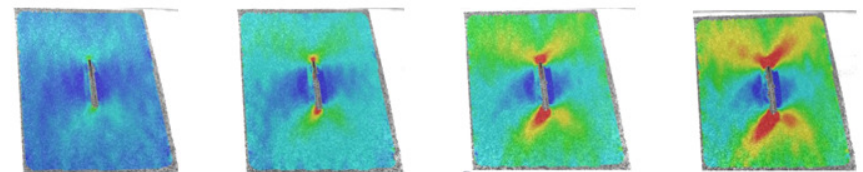
- LMS Samtech Samcef Mecano, non-linear finite element solver

## Results

- Validation at the component level of the predictive damage models of LMS Samtech Samcef

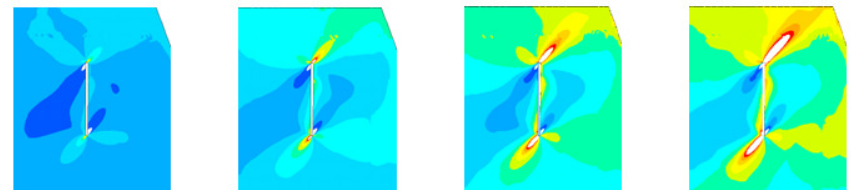


Tests

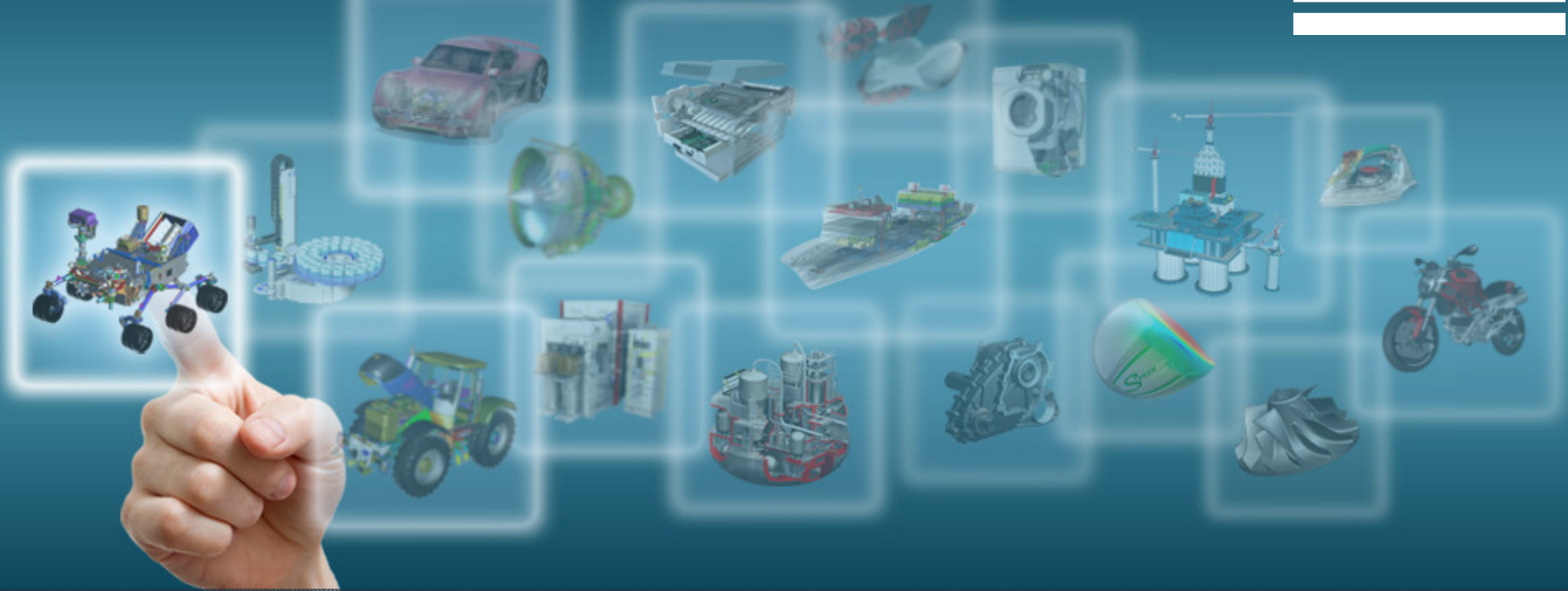


Increasing loading

Simulation



Strain along blade axis



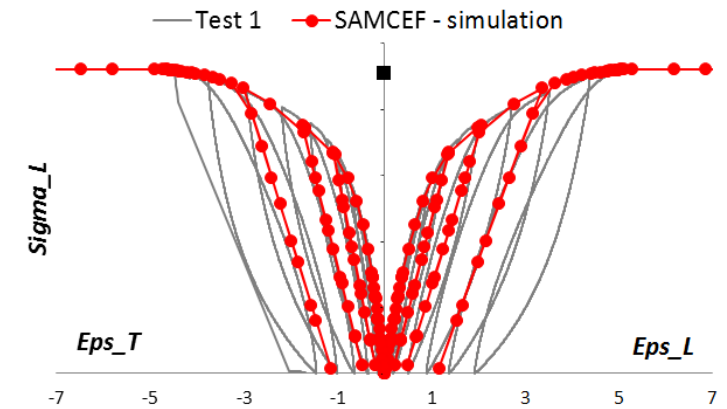
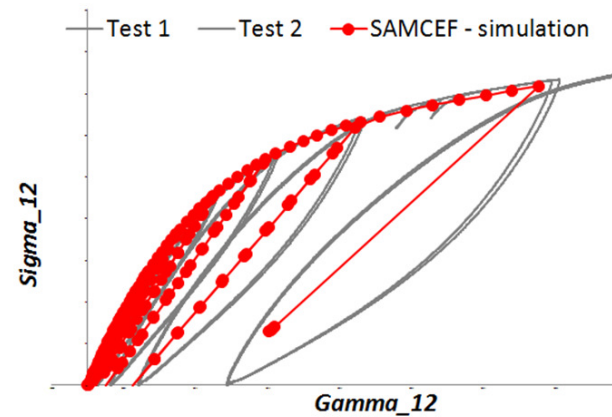
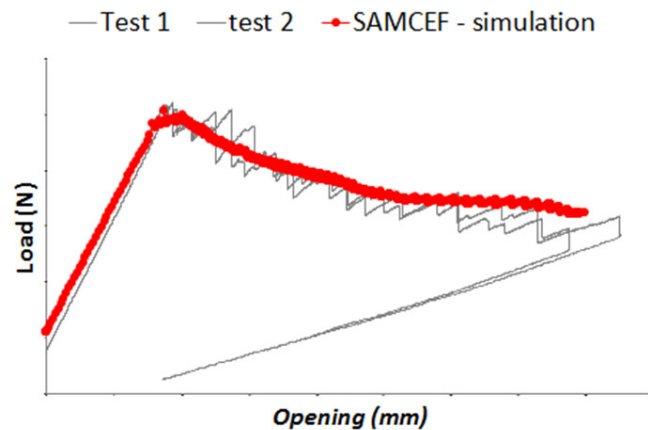
Advanced composites analysis

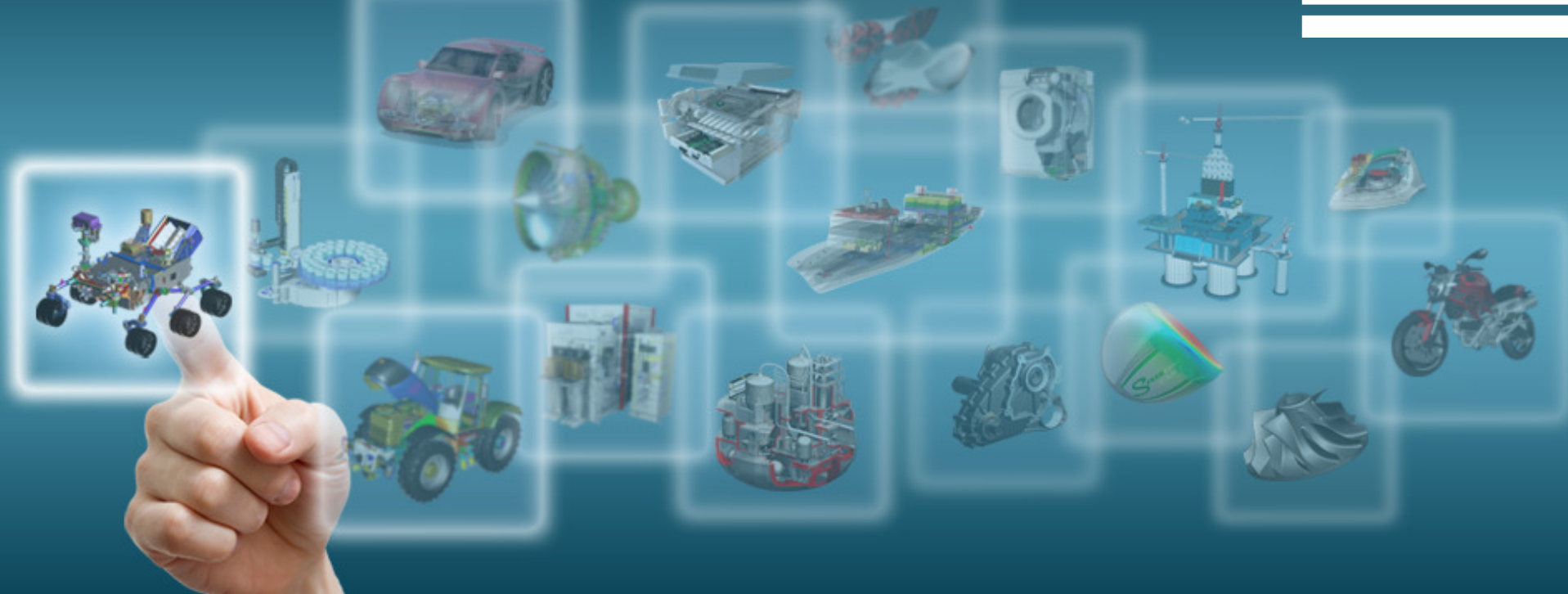
# Extensions of the work

## Extensions of the work

Source : Bruyneel et al., ACOMEN Conference, Ghent, 2014

- The solution procedure was applied to NCF and woven fabrics
- Here, an illustration for woven fabrics
  - ⇒ Inter-laminar damage (model: Cachan, Allix & Ladevèze)
  - ⇒ Intra-laminar damage (model: Marseille, Hochard)





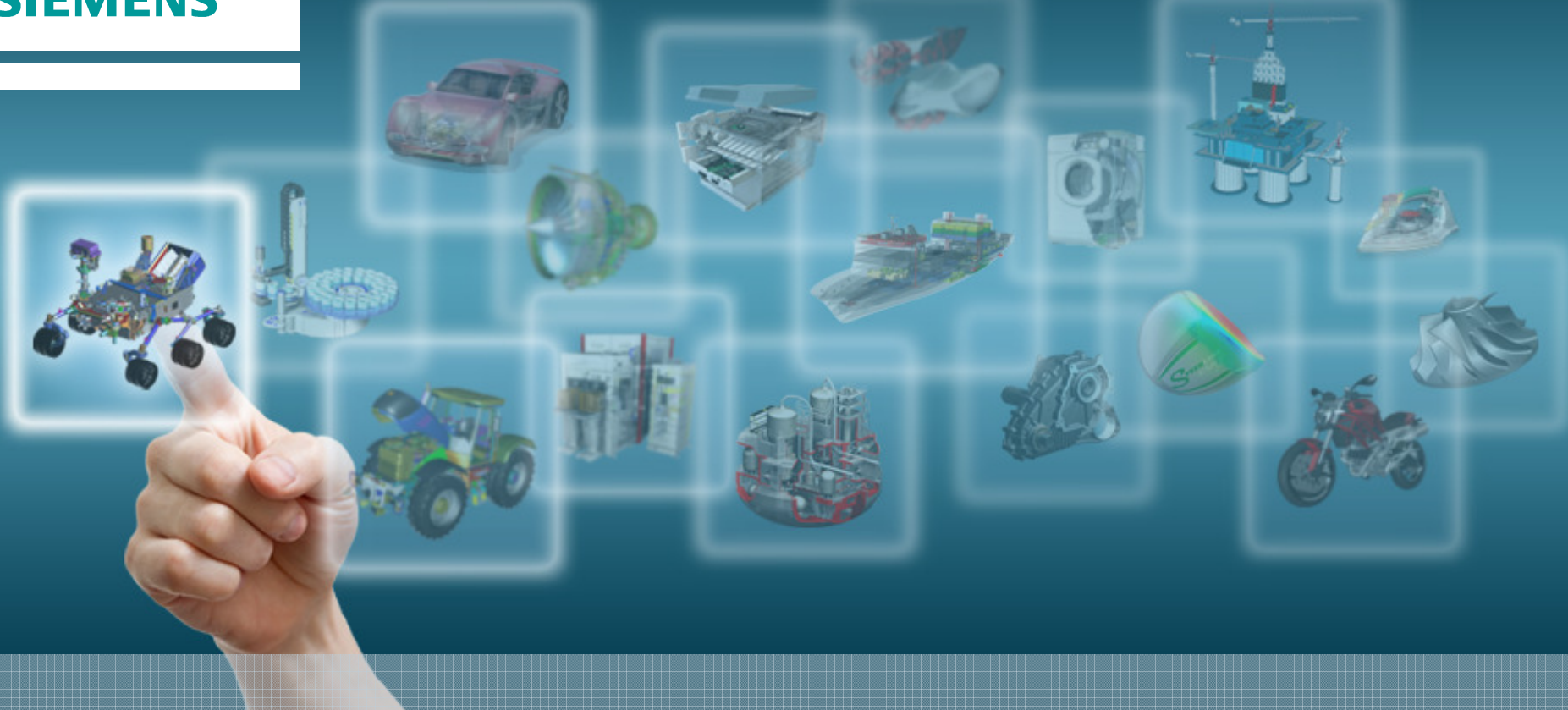
Advanced composites analysis

# Conclusions

## Conclusions

- Minimum weight  $\Leftrightarrow$  use of the full capacity of the composite materials
- Damage appears and should be controlled in the sizing process
- Simulation can help  $\Rightarrow$  need for predictive models becoming companions of the physical tests (virtual twin)
- Physical testing + virtual testing: need to define the material models parameter identification
- Today, the simulation tools for composite structures have reached a certain level of maturity, and can be predictive
  - For static analysis
  - Not yet for fatigue analysis; not yet for crash analysis
- Even if good results can be obtained today for the static case, research is still necessary for these 3 attributes

SIEMENS



# Thank you for your attention

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