How to protect a weak spot inside a load-bearing architecture material: a lesson from bone

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Introduction

What can be defined as architecture?

Intermediate structural arrangement bridging elementary building blocks (**nm**) and component size (**cm**):

Adapted from Elizabeth A. Zimmermann et al. *Sci Rep* **6,** 21072 (2016)

Aims

Combine 3D printing & computational modeling to explore the fracture behavior of osteon-inspired materials.

Experimental part: method

Samples tested in tension with:

Fixed parameters:

- Samples dimensions
- Haversian canal dimensions
- Osteon dimensions
- Cement line thickness $t = 1$ [mm]
- Test speed: 1 [mm/min]
- Matrix material properties (Gray60)

Explored parameters:

- Crack vertical position (s)
- Cement line material properties

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Experimental part: results

First configuration: soft cement line (Shore95)

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-Matrix

Stable position: 100% cases, crack reaching the hole

Unstable position:

- 80% cases, crack reaching the hole
- 20% cases, crack crossing the osteon without entering the hole

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s = 0.5R
$$

Stable positions:

100% cases, crack crossing the osteon without entering the hole

 $R =$ inner radius of CL

Experimental part: results

Second configuration: ultra-soft cement line (TangoBlack)

Stable position: 100% cases, crack reaching the hole

Unstable position:

- 37.5% cases, crack reaching the hole
- 62.5% cases, crack trapped inside the cement line

Stable positions: 100% cases, crack trapped inside the cement line

 $R =$ inner radius of CL

Computational part: method

Model simulated with:

Fixed parameters:

- Model dimensions
- Haversian canal dimensions
- Osteon dimensions
- Cement line thickness: $t \sim 0.9$ [mm]
- Displacement applied: 1 [mm/s]
- Matrix material properties
- Ductile damage parameters
- Perfectly square elements (0.15 [mm] side length)

Explored parameters:

- Crack vertical position (s)
- Cement line Young's modulus and Yield stress

Top nodes blocked along x Bottom nodes blocked along x & y

Computational part: method

Damage initiation

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Damage initiation criterion based on an equivalent plastic strain at the onset of damage:

> $\omega_D =$ $d\varepsilon^{pl}$ $\bar{\mathcal{E}}_D^P$ $\frac{1}{p\Lambda}\geq 0$

- $\omega_D \nightharpoonup$ monotonically with plastic deformation
- When $\omega_D = 1$, damage initiation start

Damage variable:

progressive damage degradation (adapted from Abaqus 6.14 Documentation)

Computational part: method

Initial crack position ?

On the model without cement line, what corresponds to a switch of crack propagation behavior ?

 $R =$ inner radius of CL

CL's Young's modulus and yield stress **increased** compared to matrix.

Factor **2:** 100% cases reaching the hole Factors **in between**: unstable situation

- Factor **2.5**: 40% reaching the hole 60% deflection
- Factor **3**: 20% reaching the hole 80% deflection

Factor **3.5:** 100% cases deflection along the CL

Undamaged elements Damage initiated elements (under plastic deformation)

Fully damaged elements

Animations of the main crack behaviors

Reaching the hole

Animations of the main crack behaviors

Reaching the hole **Deflection along the CL**

Animations of the main crack behaviors

Reaching the hole **Deflection along the CL** Trapped in the CL

Conclusion

Asymmetry in crack propagation behavior observed for both parts:

Three behaviors observed for the experimental part:

- Crack reaching the hole if $s \leq 0.3R$ for both material
- Crack trapped in the CL if $s \geq 0.5R$ for the ultra-soft CL material
- Crack crossing the osteon without entering the hole if $s \geq 0.5R$ for the soft CL material

Three behaviors observed for the computational part :

- Crack reaching the hole if \geq or \searrow E and yield stress stay under factor 2
- Crack trapped in the CL if \vee E and yield stress is greater or equal to factor 2.5
- Crack deflected along the CL if \geq E and yield stress is greater or equal to factor 3.5

The soft material (experiment part) was not able to trap the crack compared to similar case in the computational part. \rightarrow Printing the material in an architecture gave higher stiffness than expected from tested alone ?

Outlook

Introduction of several interlayers ?

Thanks to all co-authors!

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Thank you for your attention!

Printer specifications

Stratasys Objet260 Connex2 3D printer

Resolutions:

Simulation specifications

- Number of intervals of output extraction (evenly spaced in time): 1000 extractions/s
- Simulation over 2 seconds.
- Incrementation set on automatic / stable increment estimator set on global
- Linear bulk viscosity: 0.06 (by default)
- Elements used: CPS4R (Four-node plane stress element)
- 297636 nodes and 296360 elements
- CPU times around 1-2 days
- The force and displacement outputs are filtered (during the simulations) using a second order Butterworth filter with a cut-off frequency of 150 [Hz]

