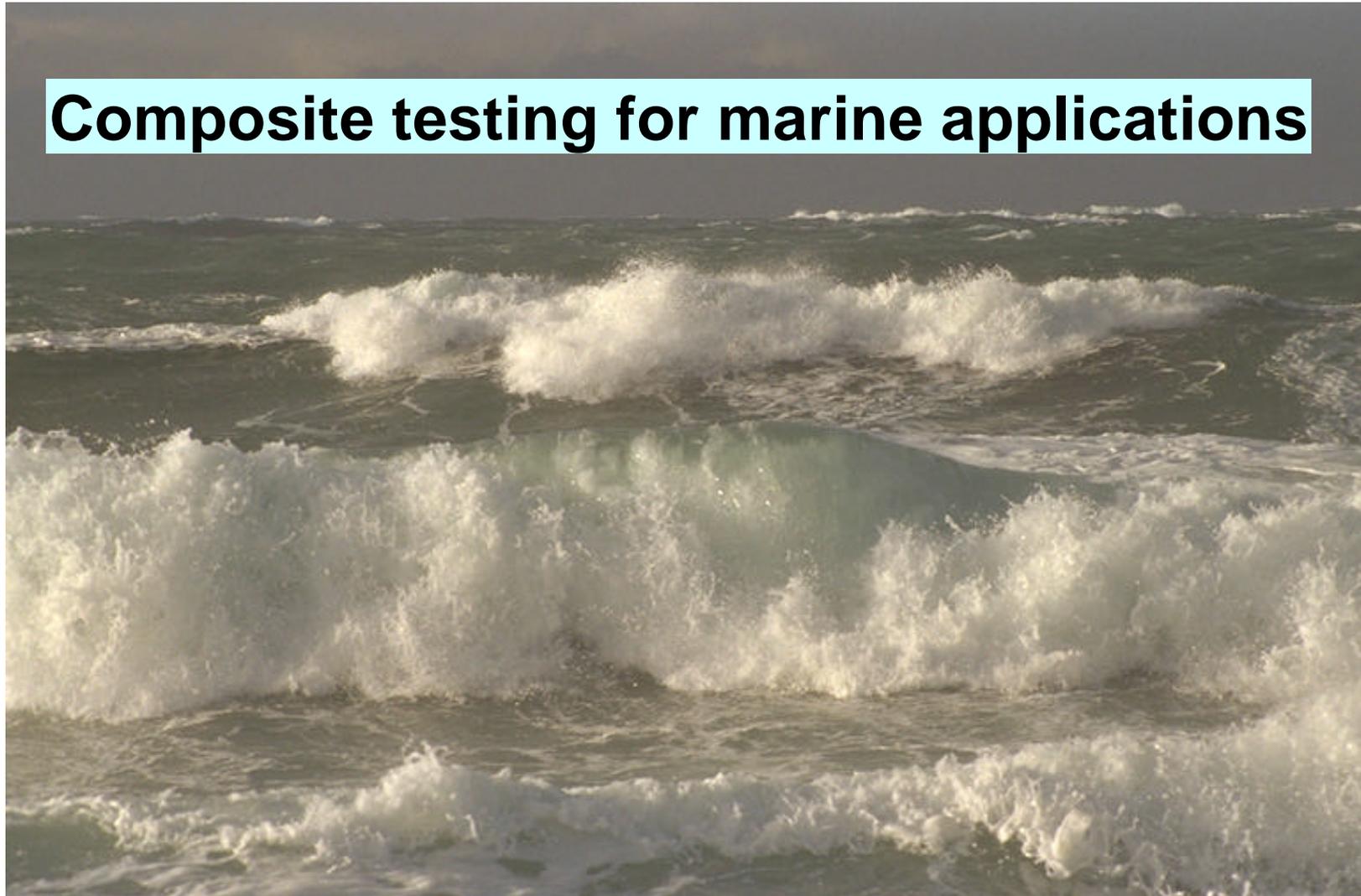




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Composite testing for marine applications



Peter Davies

Materials & Structures group, IFREMER Centre de Brest





IFREMER

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2004

Presentation

- **Introduction, IFREMER**
- **Marine applications of composites**
- **The marine environment**
- **Floating structures**
 - Small boats
 - Racing yachts
 - Offshore
- **Underwater structures**
 - Oceanography
 - Offshore
- **Assemblies**
- **Conclusions & Perspectives**



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IFREMER

The French Ocean Research Institute



Deep sea exploration



Marine Applications of composites



Boats



Underwater



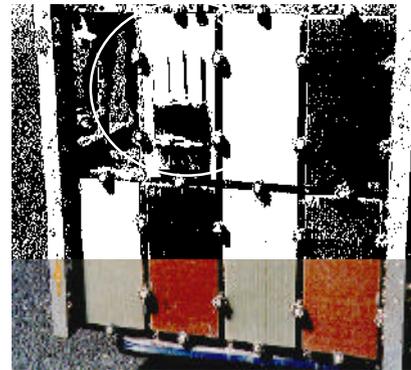
Offshore



The Marine Environment

- Physico-chemical *Seawater (pH, salinity...)*
Temperature (-15 to 60°C)
Sunlight, UV

- Biological



- Mechanical *Hydrodynamic*
Aerodynamic
Hydrostatic pressure



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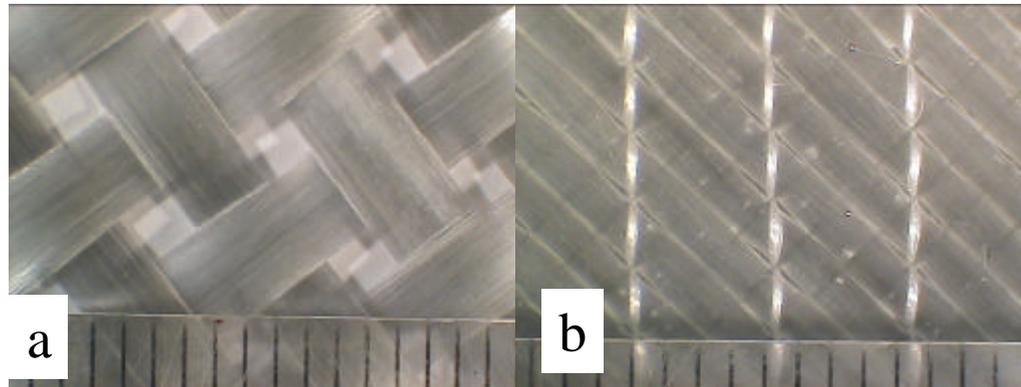


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Floating structures: Marine Materials

Traditional laminates: woven, “rovimat”
Resin: polyester



Sandwich

PVC foams, balsa, (nida)



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Small composite boats

composites for > 40 ans



A rapidly-evolving industry:

- VOC legislation
- Infusion methods
- Carbon.....



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Design of small boats (<24m)

Draft standard ISO/DIS 12215 :

*“Hull construction - Scantlings -
Part 5: Design pressures for monohulls”*

based on expérience, ABS, DNV, BV, Lloyds...

**Aim: achieve a level of structural resistance
which guarantees the integrity of the vessel**

*Rapporteur: G. Dolto, FIN
(Fédération des Industries Nautiques)*



1 Plating – Scantling equations

1.1 FRP single skin plating

The minimum required thickness of the plating t is the greater of t_1 and t_2 defined below

$$t_1 = b \cdot f_k \cdot \sqrt{\frac{P \cdot k_2}{1000 \cdot S_d}} \quad (\text{mm})$$

$$t_2 = b \cdot f_k \cdot \sqrt[3]{\frac{P \cdot k_3}{1000 \cdot k_1 \cdot E_f}} \quad (\text{mm})$$

Table 1 — Design stresses for FRP single skin plating

Material	Structural element	design stress σ_d N/mm ²
FRP single skin	Hull bottom and side	0,5· σ_{uf}
	Decks and superstructures	0,5 σ_{uf}
	Structural and tank bulkheads	0,5· σ_{uf}
	Watertight bulkheads	0,625· σ_{uf}

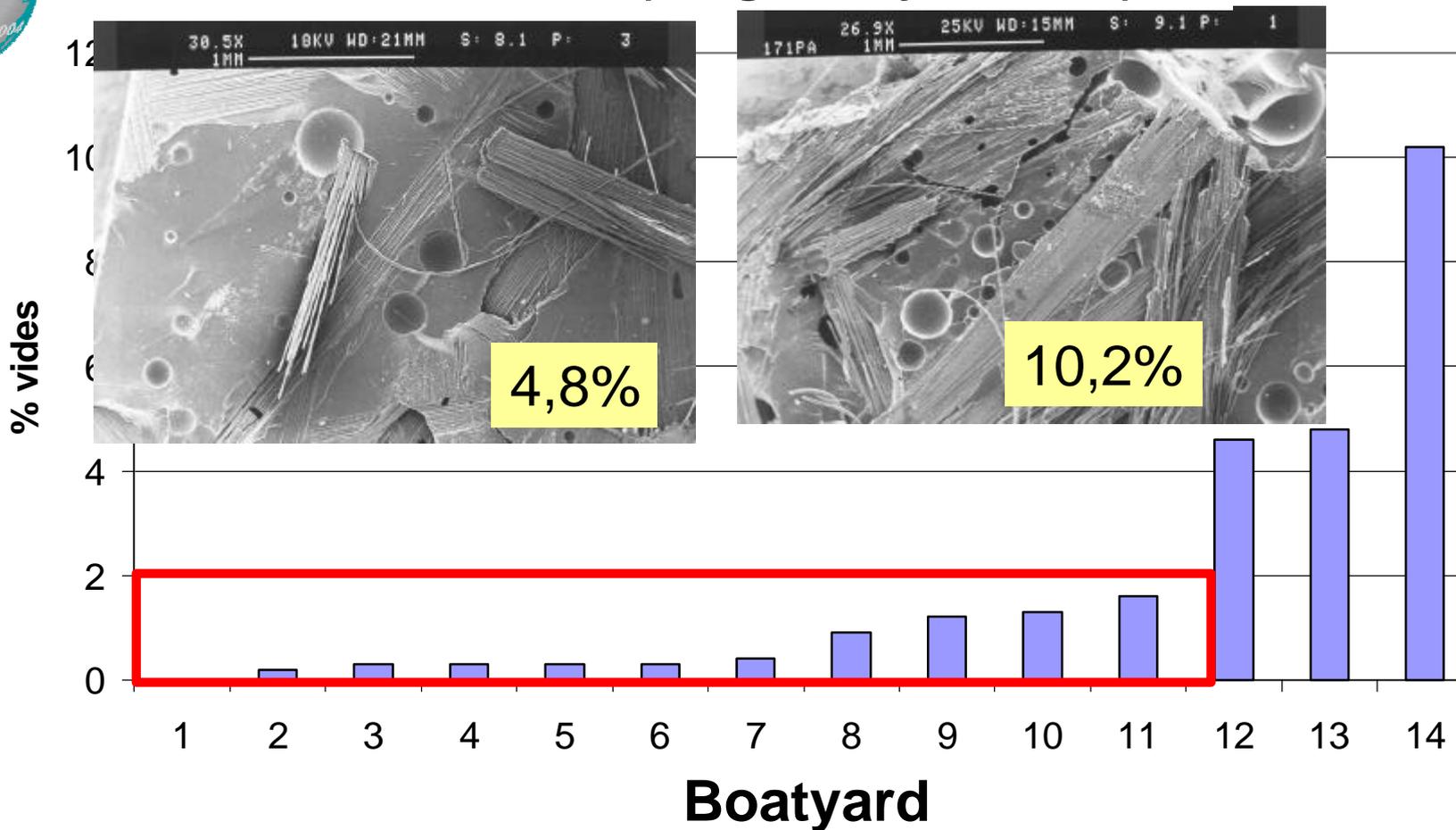
where σ_{uf} is the minimum ultimate flexural strength



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Material variability

Void content (image analysis, SEM)



700 tests: Coefficients of Variation 10-15%

$$ISO: s_f (MPa) = 502 * M_f^2 + 106,8$$



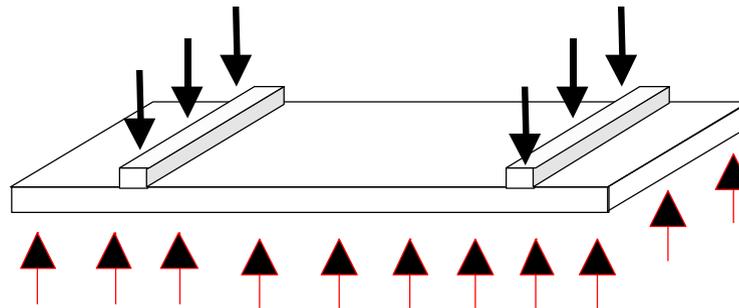
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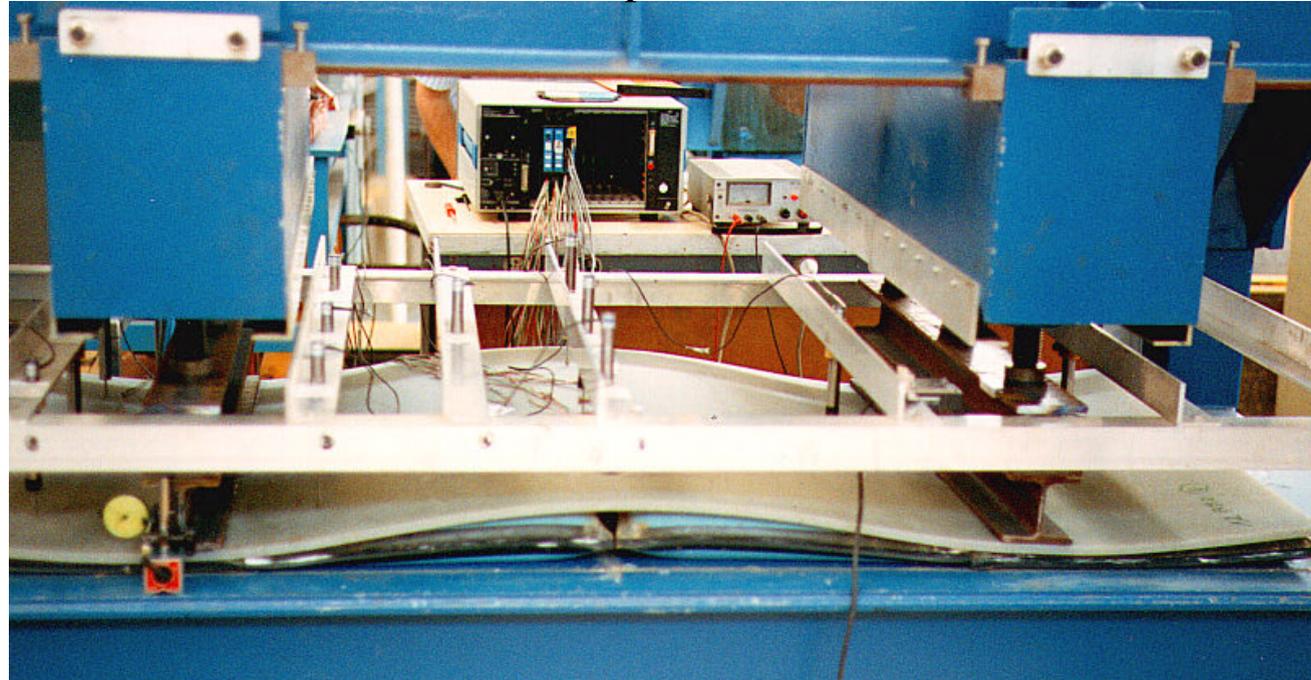
Component testing

Development of pressure loading test for composite and sandwich panels

Reaction forces via stiffeners



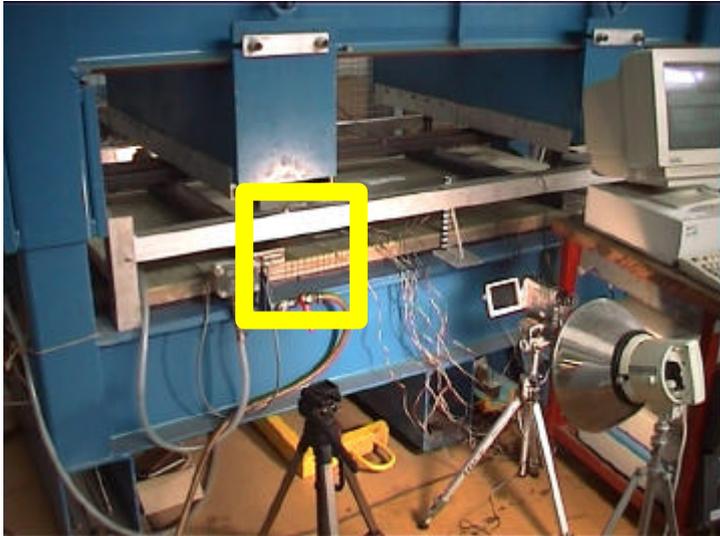
Uniform pressure





Component testing

Study of core behaviour in sandwich panels

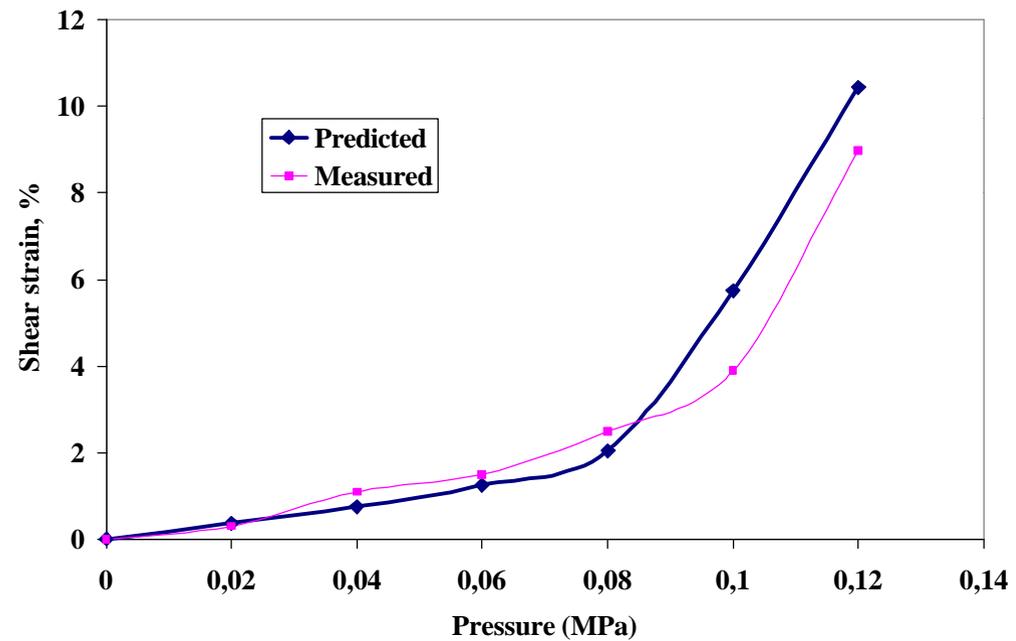
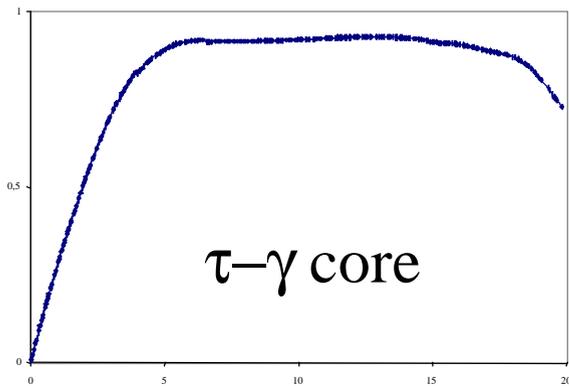
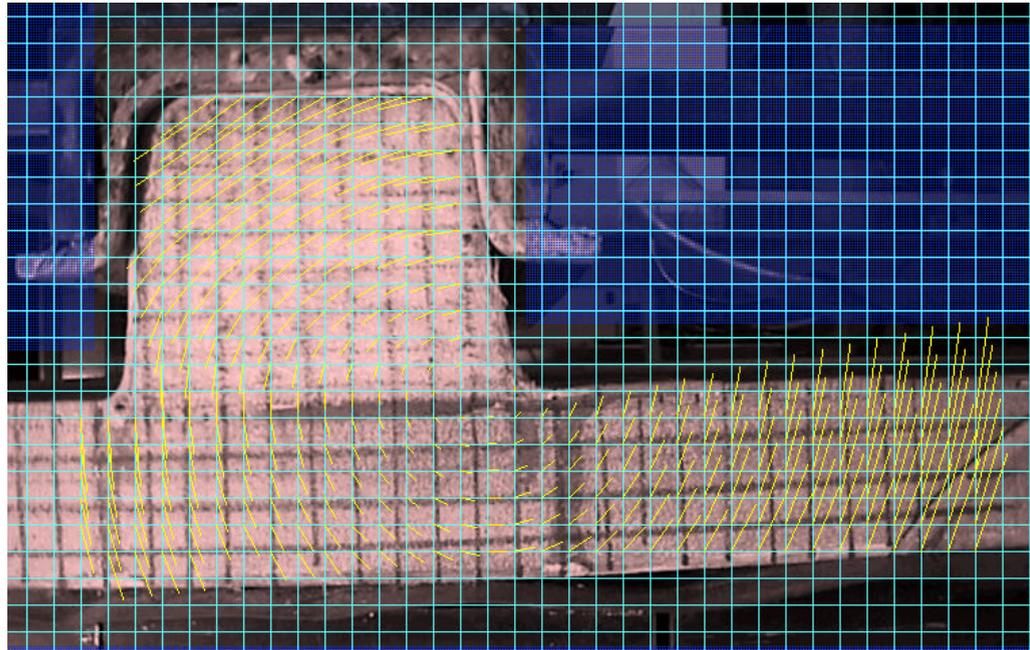


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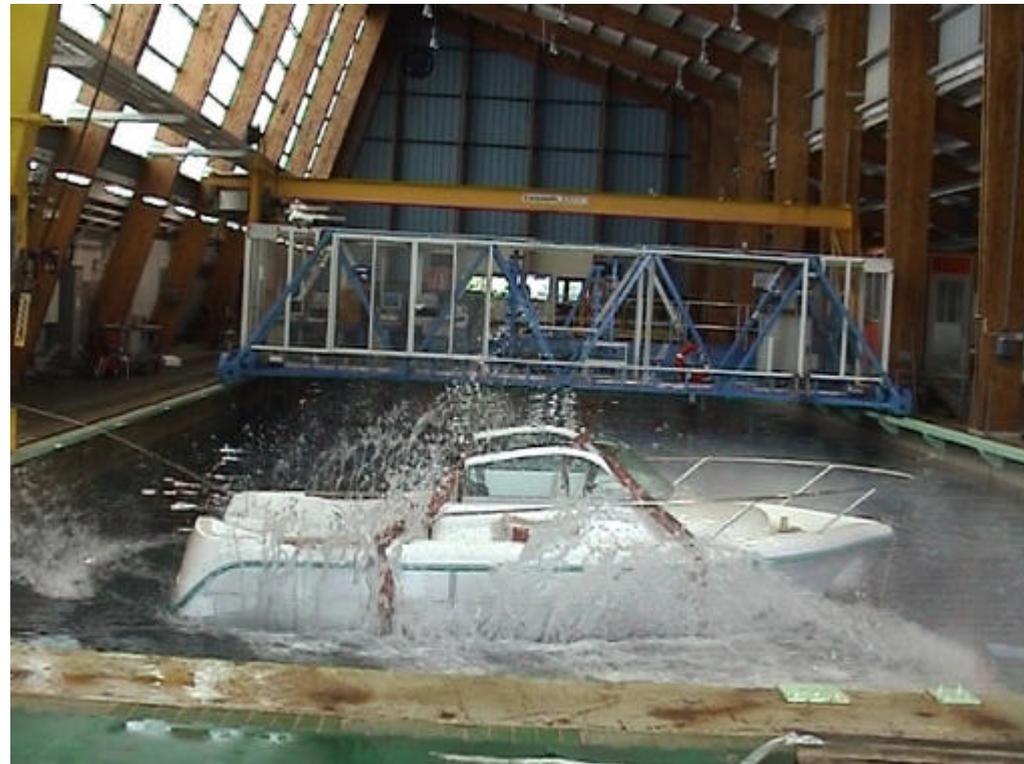




Ex. Motor boat design

ISO/DIS 12215: Annex B. Validation: Drop tests

$$\text{Drop height} = f(V/L^{1/2})$$



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Racing yachts

Test platform for new technology



Mast:
high modulus carbon

Platform:
carbon sandwich

Sails:
aramid, carbon....

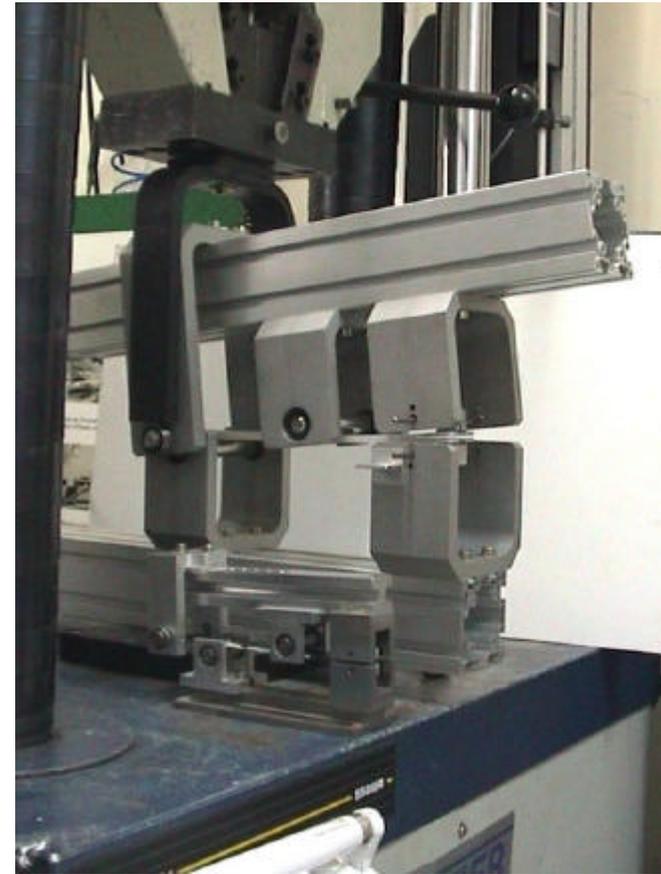
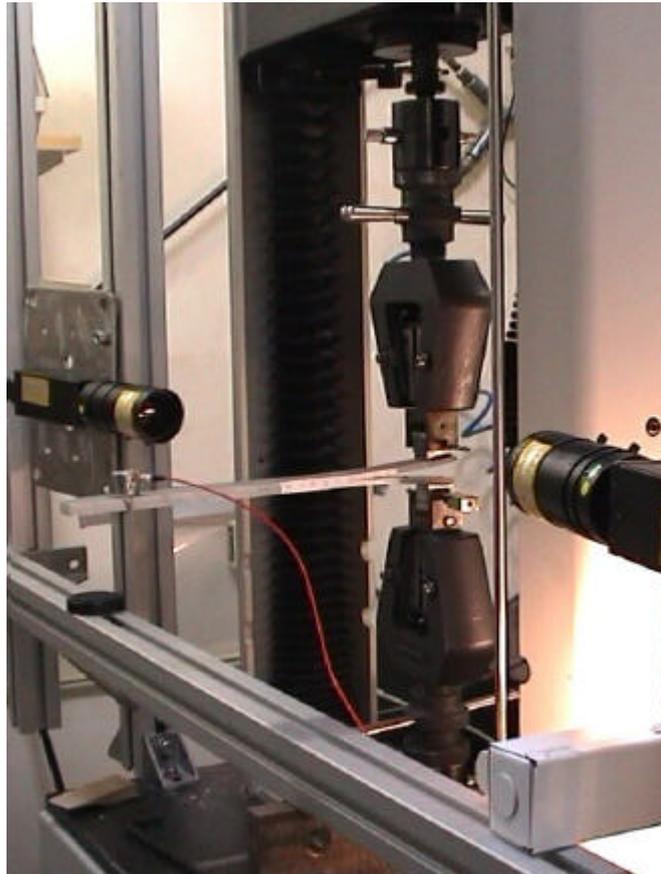
Rigging:
PBO, aramid

Material tests
Component tests



Material tests:

Fracture of high modulus fibre composites



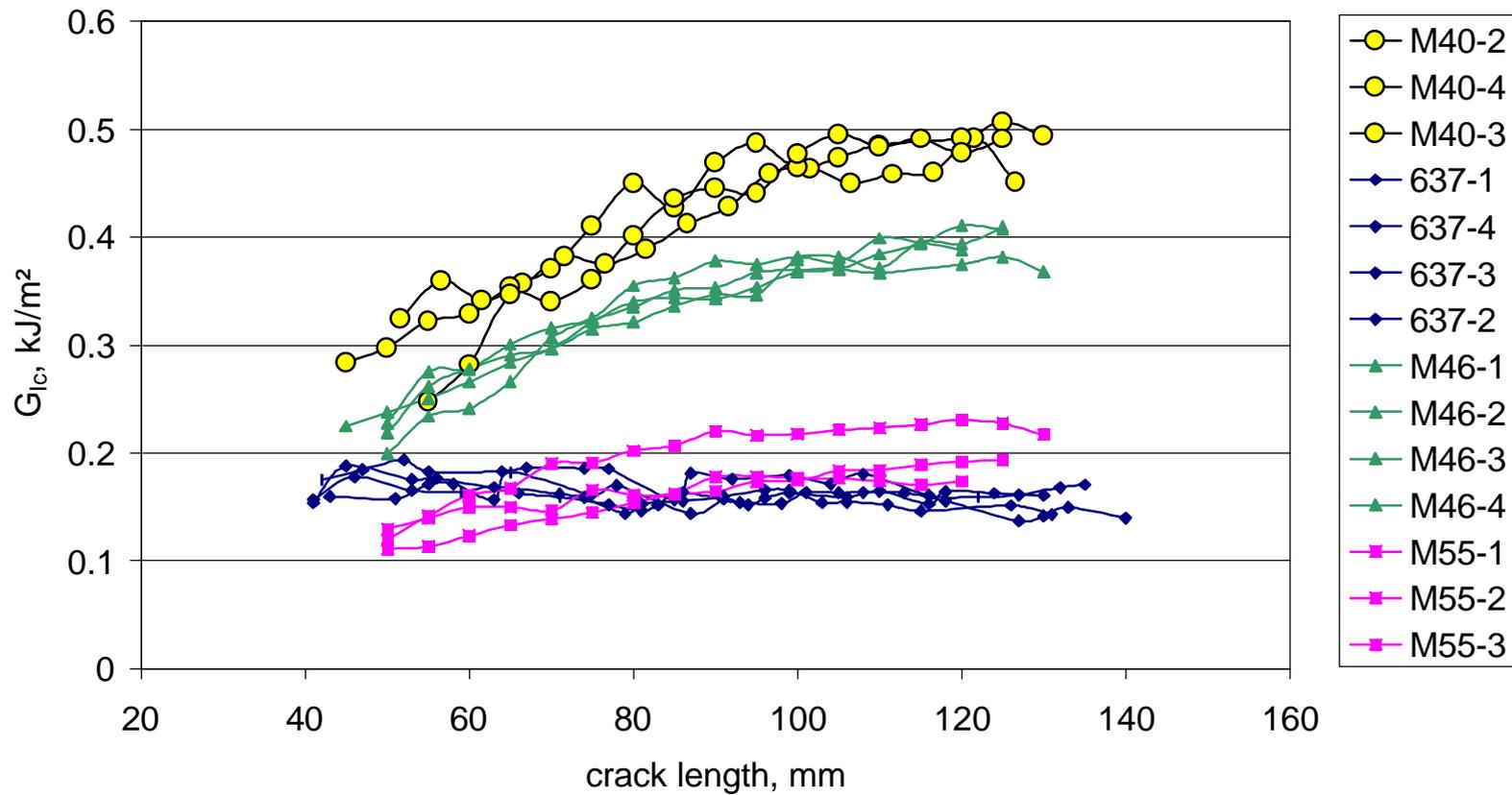
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Mode I propagation, same resin 4 fibres



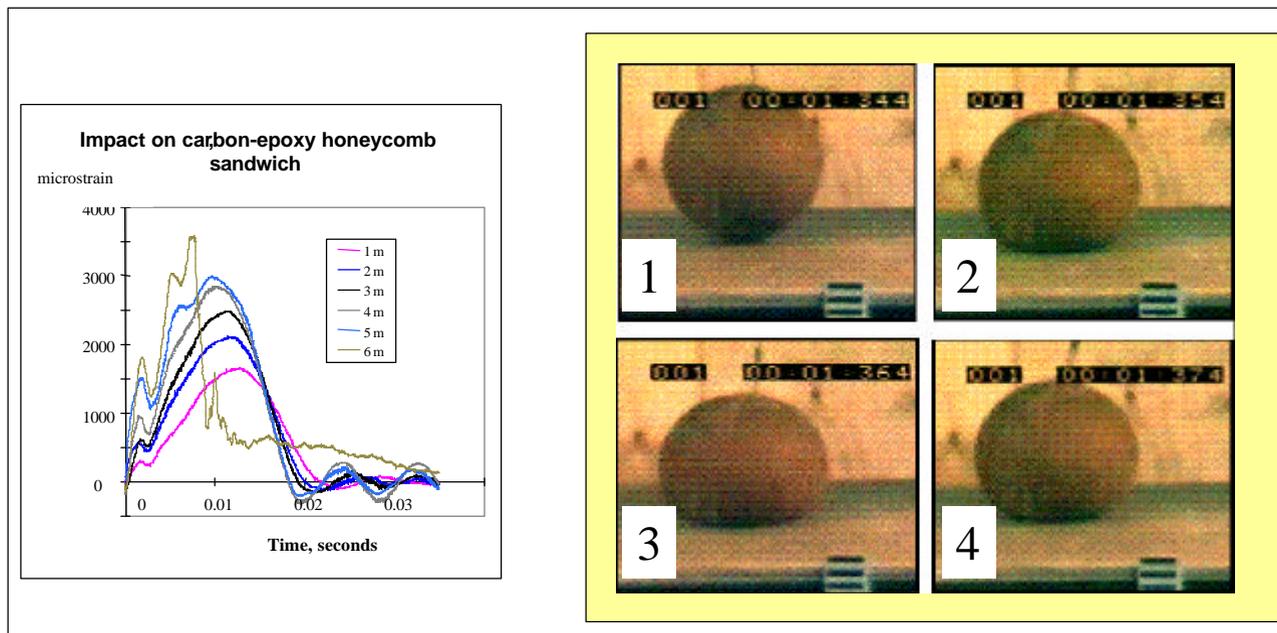
Influence of Z-pinning



Test to simulate slamming impact



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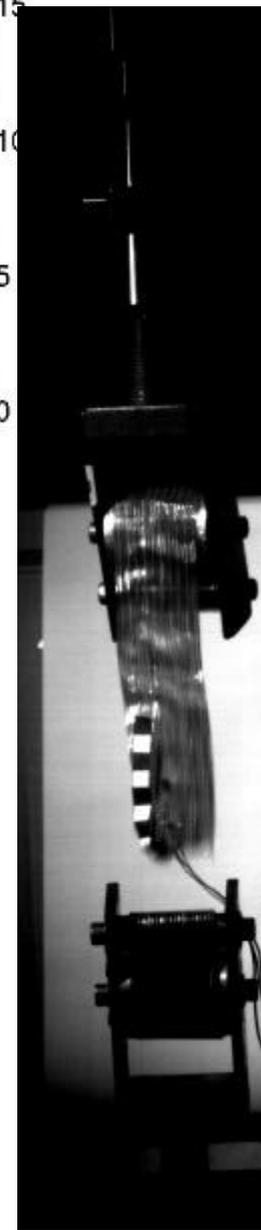
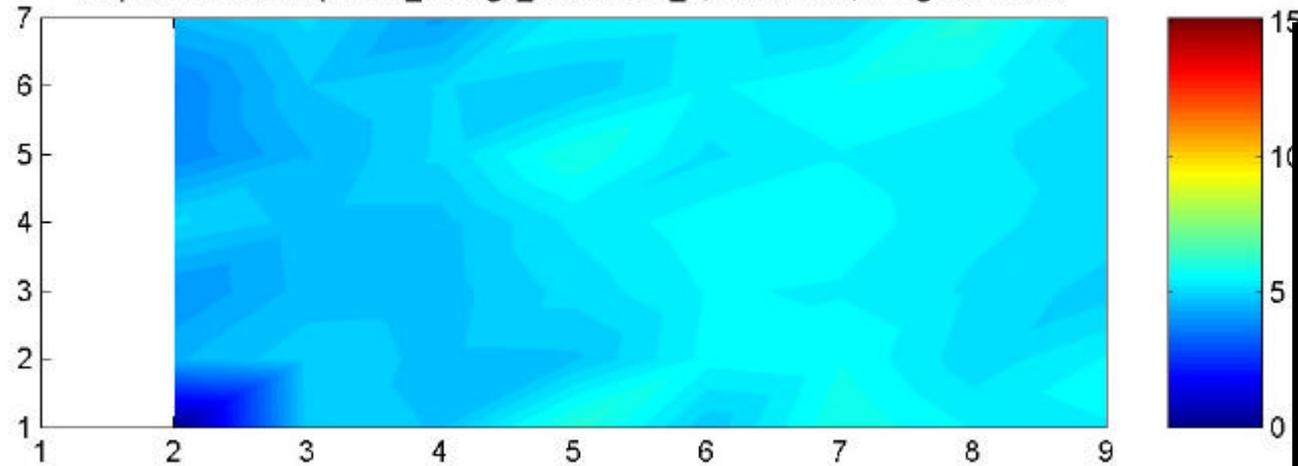


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Répertoire :C:\temp\banc_100t\gv_03\camera_1,Force :0kN, Image 382/545



Sailcloth testing:

- Size effects
- High rate



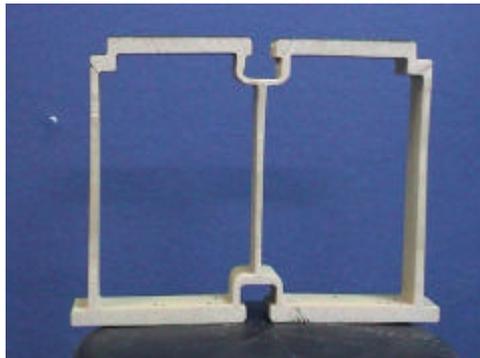
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Composites offshore

Impact testing

4 tons
dropped
from
3 metres

- Steel
- Composite





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Testing for underwater applications

Pressure vessels, often cylindrical

Manufacture: filament winding, tape laying

Materials:

glass/epoxy

carbon/epoxy

(thermoplastic)

Loading well-defined:

$$P(\text{bar}) = 0,101 * H + 0,5 * 10^{-6} * H^2 \quad (H \text{ depth in } m)$$

Testing of curved, thick specimens under pressure



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Development of dedicated test facility

- **Pressure up to 1000 bars (10 km depth)**
- **Dimensions to test all standard specimens
Tension, Compression, Flexure
plus Fracture tests**

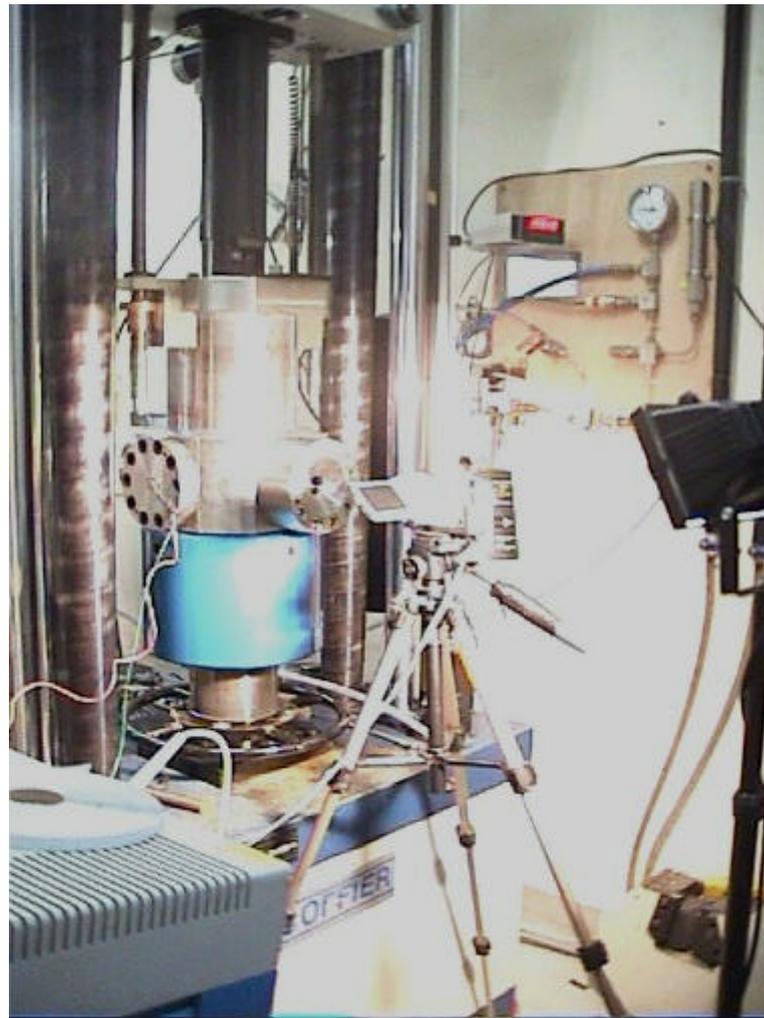
- **Direct observation of tests in-situ**



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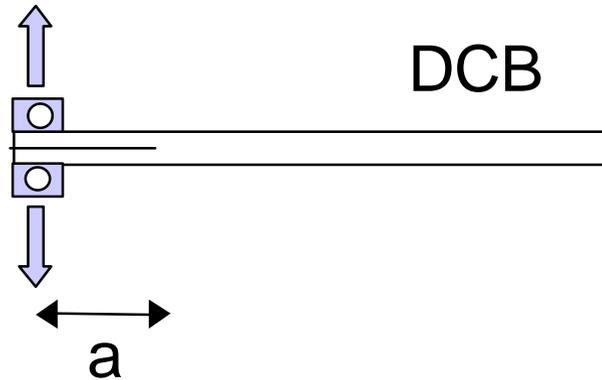
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Pressure vessel adapted to standard 20 ton capacity test machine





i) Mode I fracture testing of composites



DCB

ISO 15024-2001

**IM7/977-2
UD Carbon/Epoxy**



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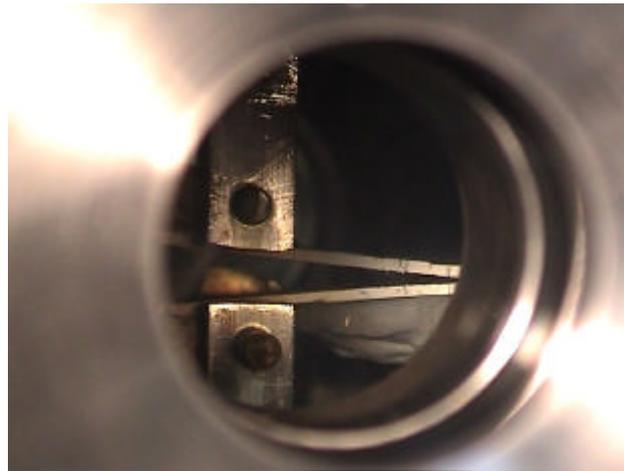


Mode I testing of composites Procedure

Instrumentation, P, d, strain gage

To check Displacement

Image analysis through viewglass



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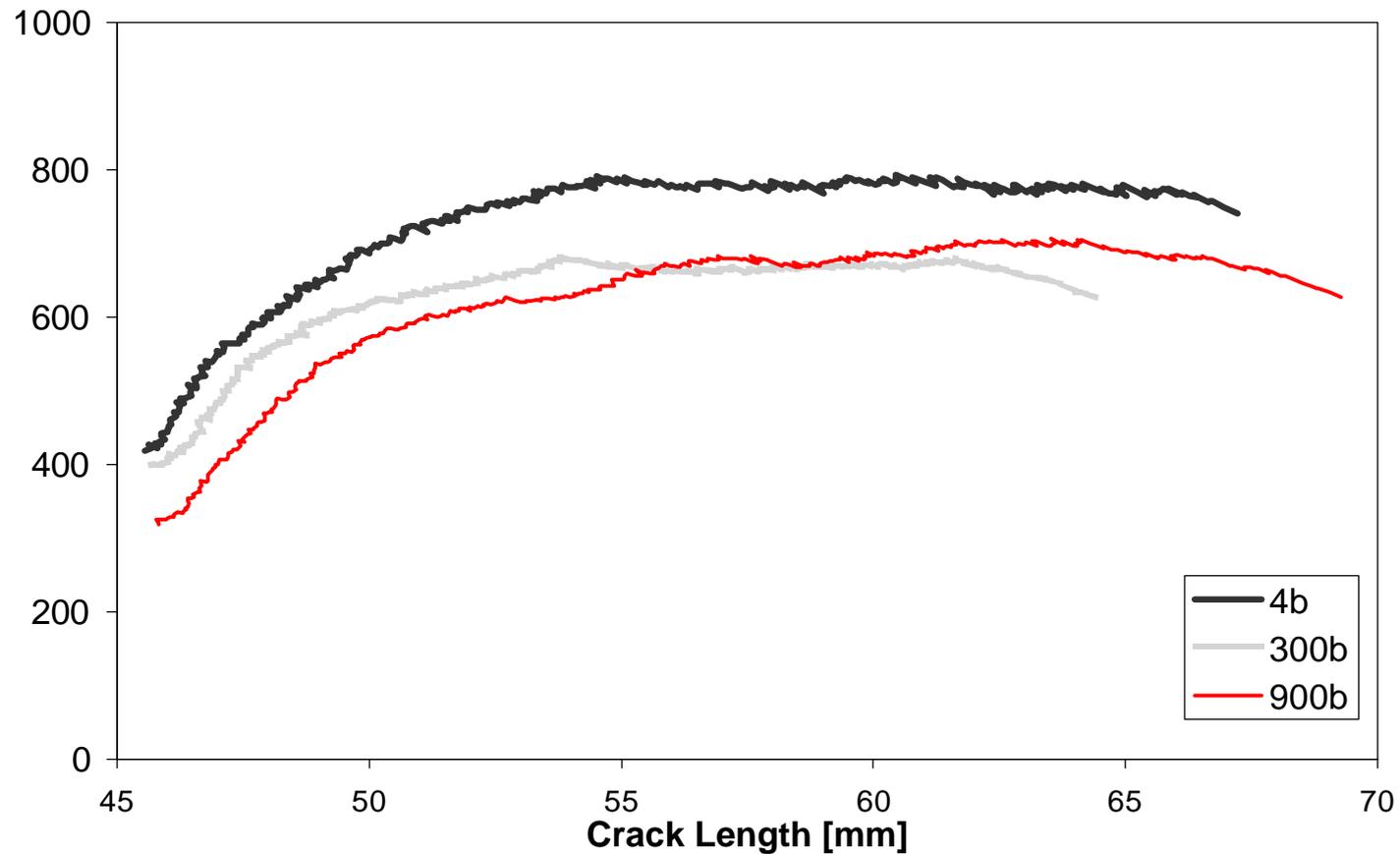


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G_{Ic} [J/m^2]

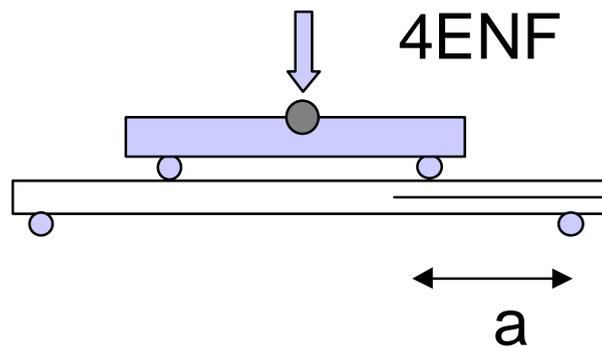
Mode I testing of composites

Examples of results

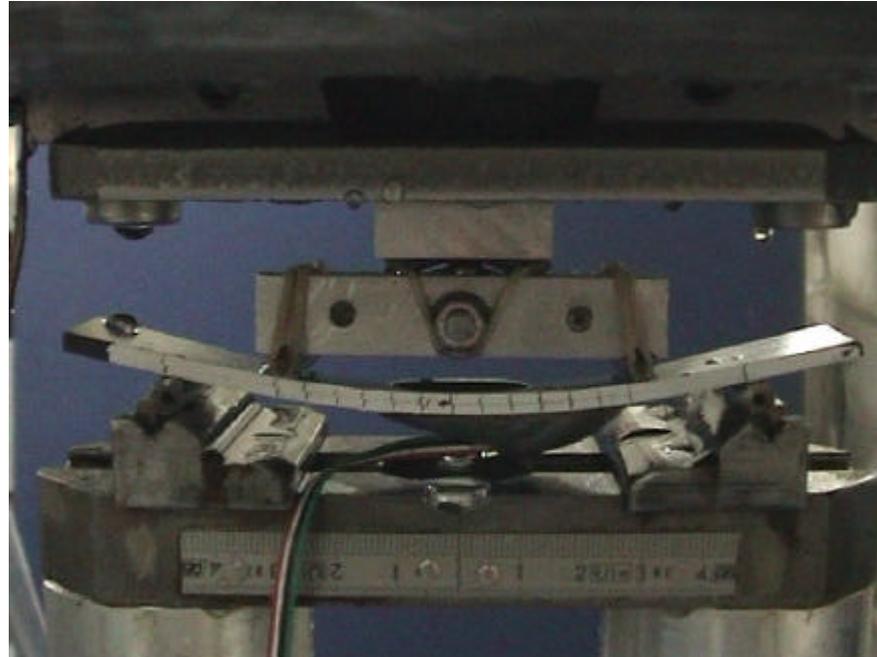




ii) Mode II (in-plane shear) fracture testing of composites



**Four point Edge Notched
Flexure specimen**



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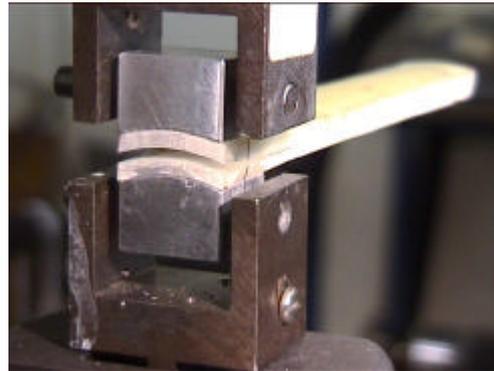
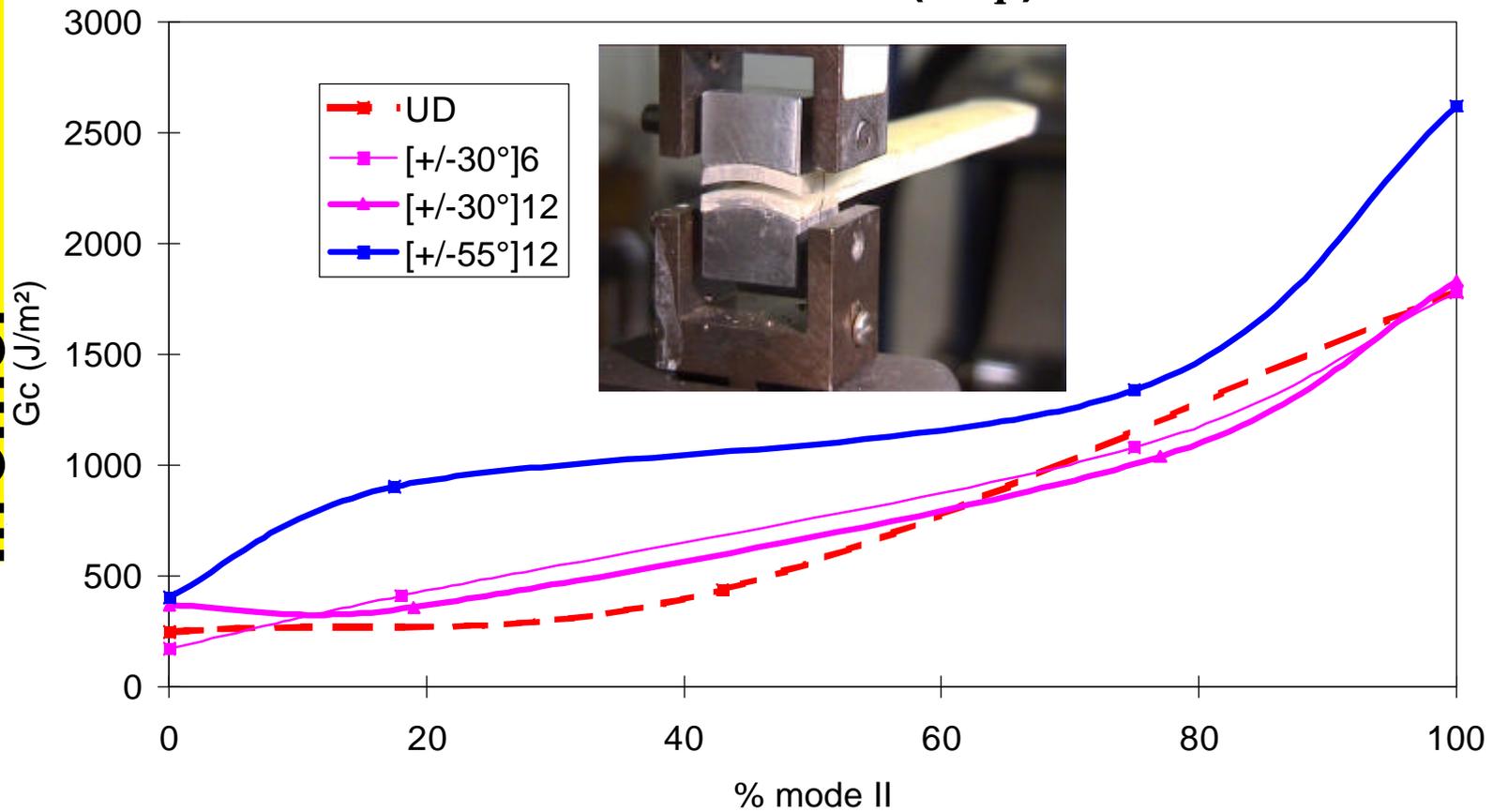


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Influence of curvature

Filament wound specimens cut from tubes (+/-q)



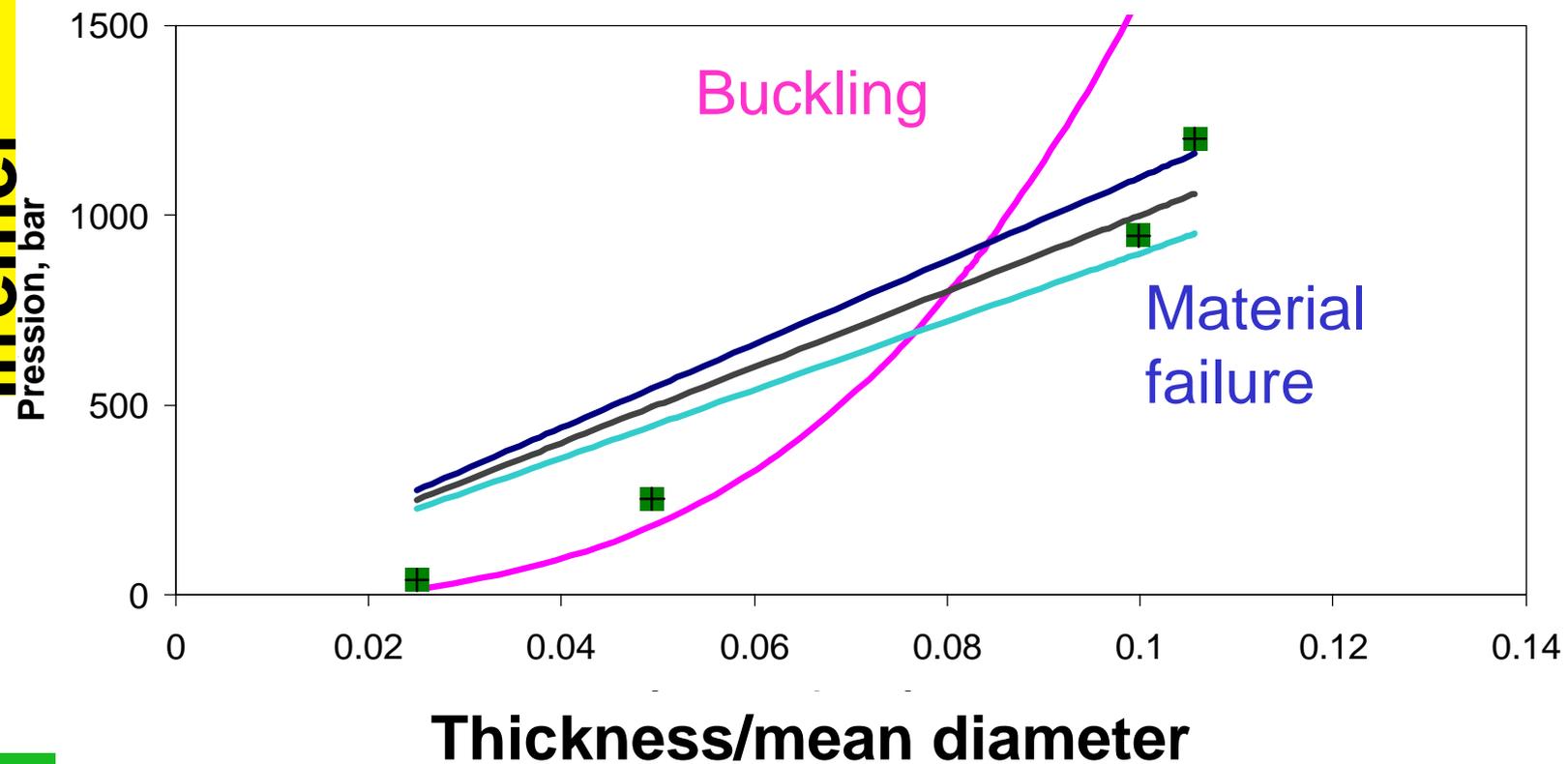


Underwater Applications

Component testing

Two failure modes, depending on t/R ratio :

Implosion pressure, glass/epoxy $\pm 55^\circ$



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Pression, bar



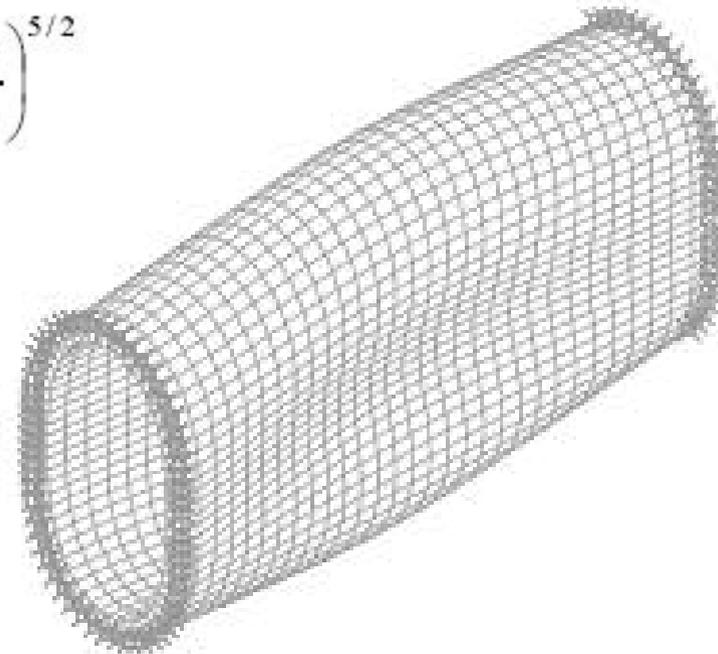
Buckling studies

Analytical expressions :

$$P_{cr} = \frac{0.807 E_{\theta}}{(1 - \nu_{\theta z} \nu_{z\theta})^{3/4}} \left(\frac{r}{h} \right) \left(\frac{t}{r} \right)^{5/2}$$

FE analyses:

Imperfections:
“knock-down factors”



European Projects,
BRITE “DEVILS”, EUCLID RTP3.8
MAST “AUV”, “Composite Housings”

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Material failure

Biaxial Compression WWFE

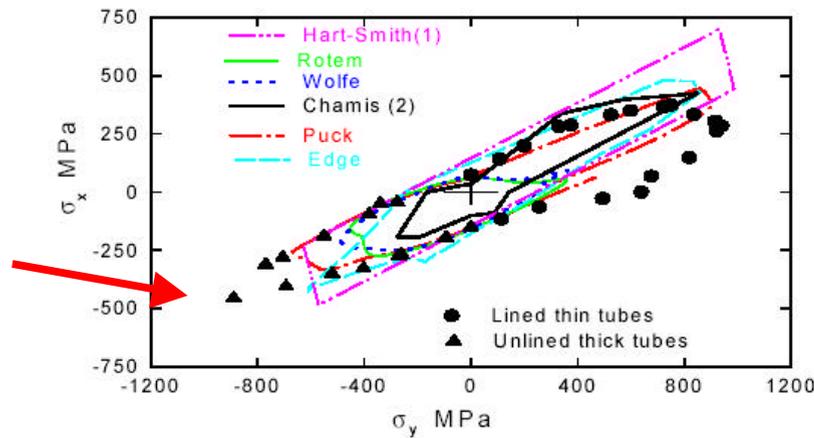


Figure 2(a) Biaxial Final Failure Envelope for $\pm 55^\circ$ GRP angle ply lay-up

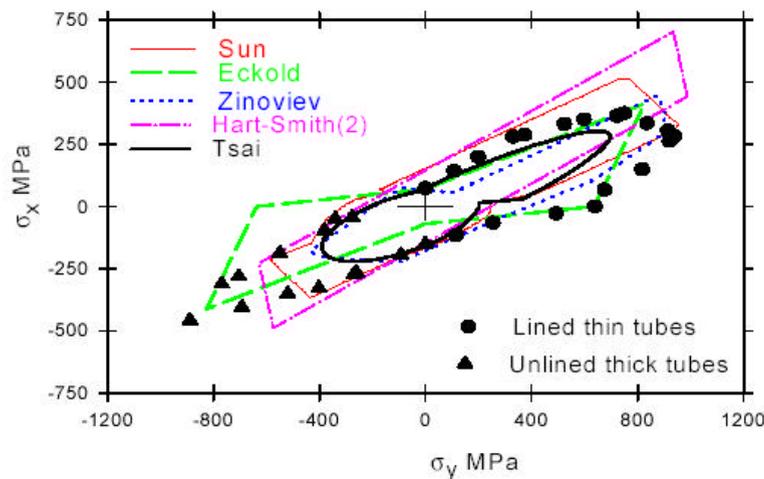


Figure 2(b) Biaxial Final Failure Envelope for $\pm 55^\circ$ GRP angle ply lay-up

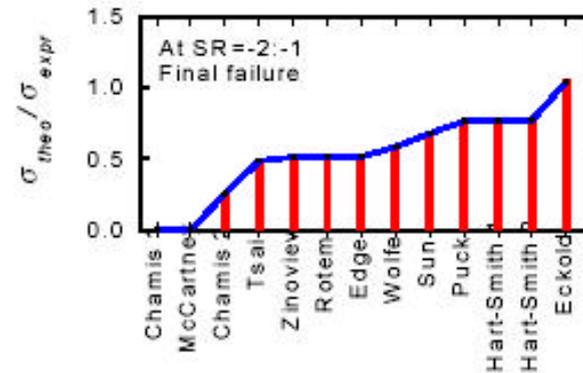


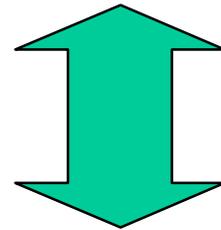
Fig 5. Bar charts showing the ratio of theoretical/experimental failure stresses for $\pm 55^\circ$ GRP laminate under $SR = -2/-1$

Input data: S_{1c} , S_{2c} ?



Material failure

Uniaxial compression on specimens



Biaxial compression on tubes



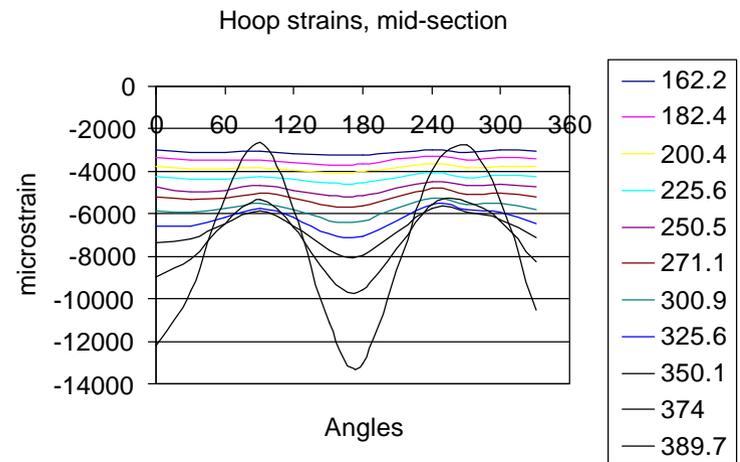
Implosion tests



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MAST3 * Composite Pressure Housing * Demonstrator test - IFREMER Brest - 2000



MAST3 * Composite Pressure Housing * Demonstrator test - IFREMER Brest - 2000

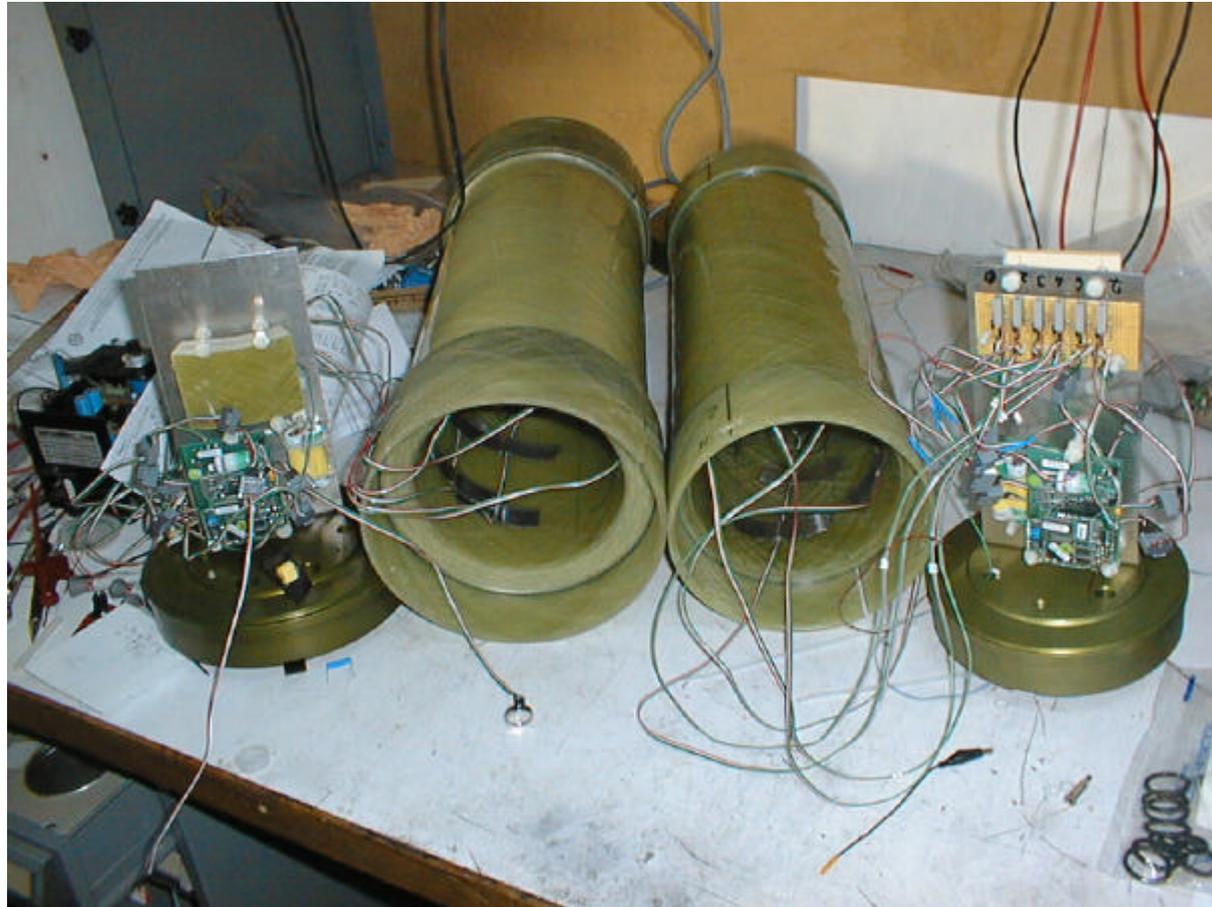




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Long term behaviour: tests at sea

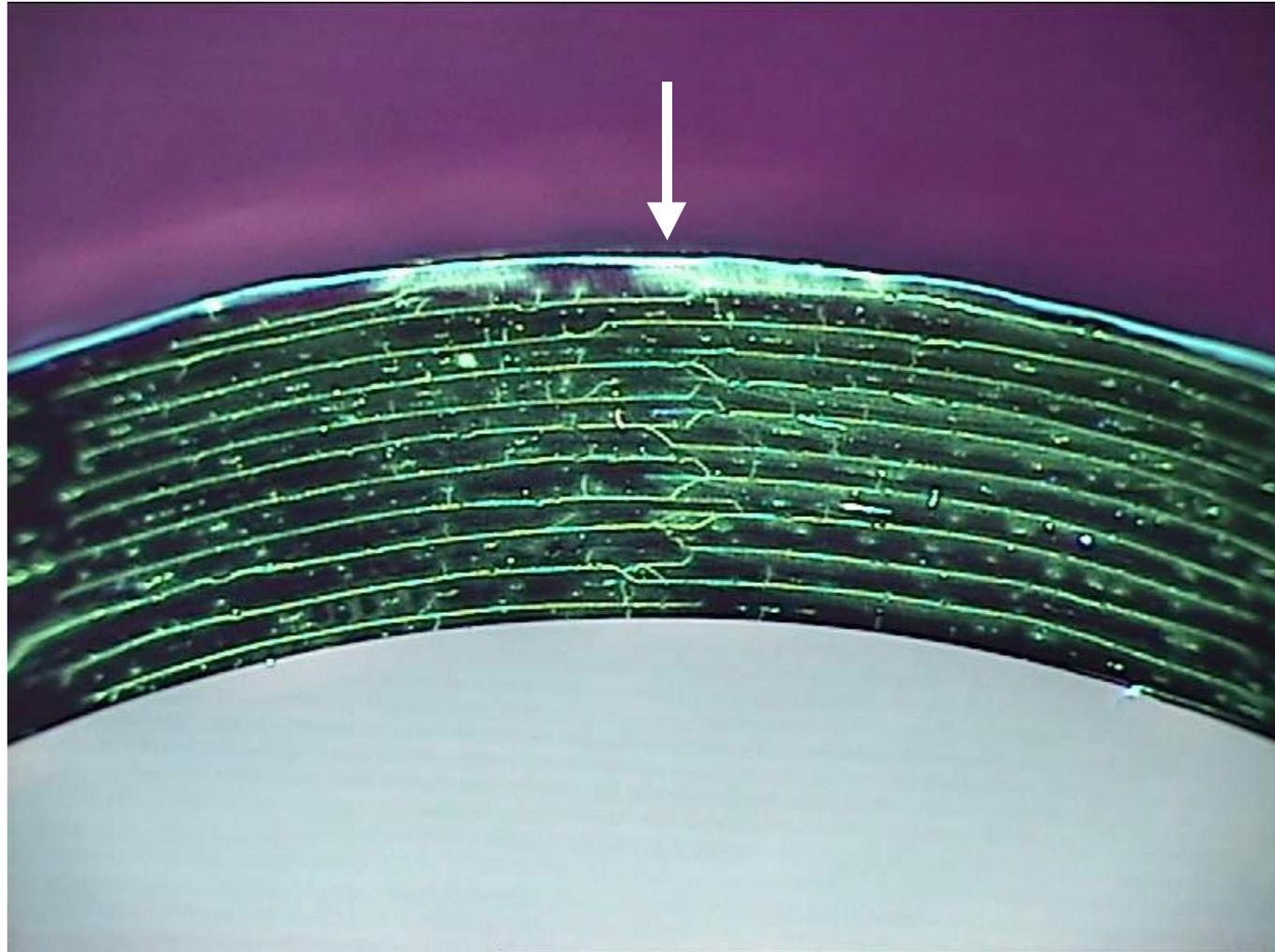


**Biaxial compression creep tests
2500m, Mediterranean
to validate laboratory qualification**

Damage tolerance



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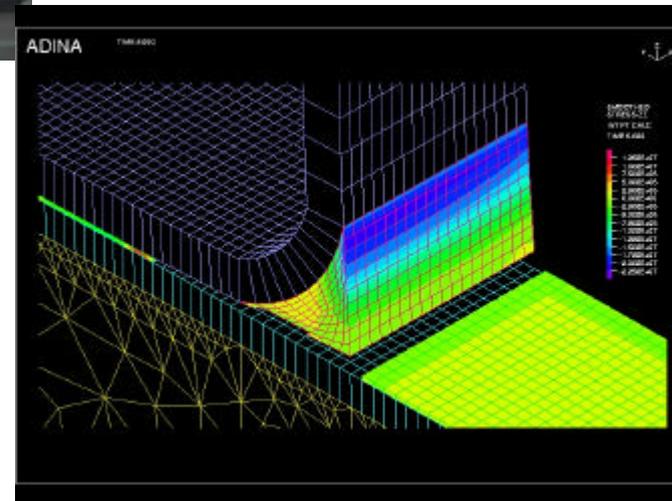
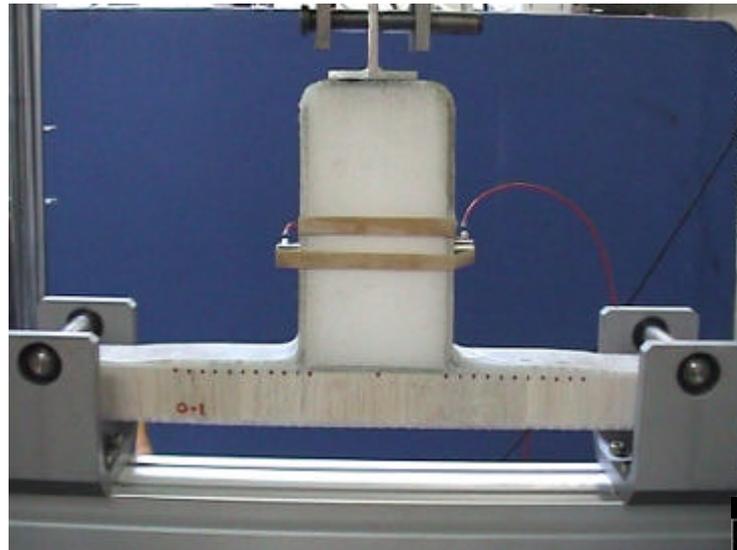


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Assemblies

Recent experimental studies: 2-D pull-off



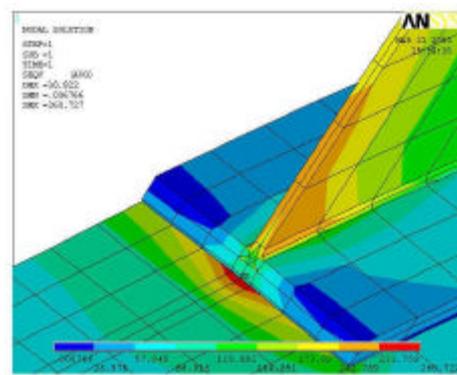
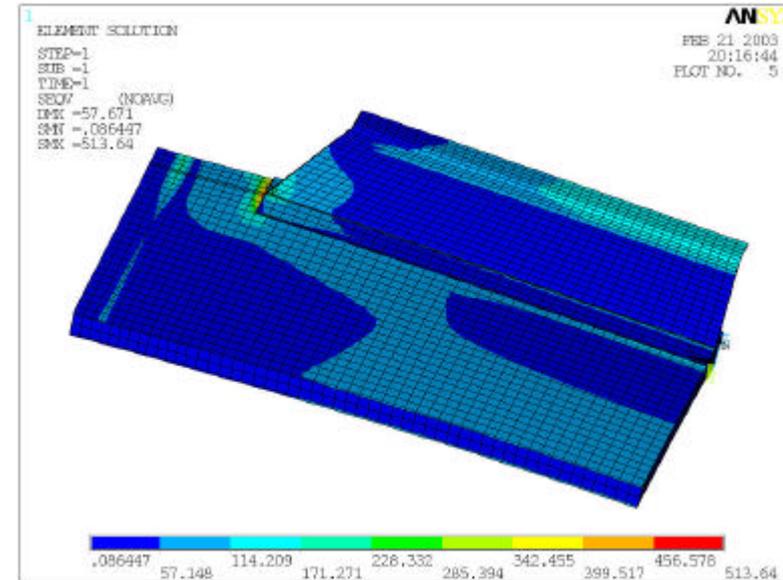


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Assemblies

Recent experimental studies: 3-D





High rate testing of adhesive joints



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Acknowledgements

Small boats:

FIN, Université Bretagne Sud
BV (Groupement National Composites Navals)
A. Roy CRITT Rochefort/ENSMA
P. Casari (Univ. Nantes)

Racing yachts:

Groupama, HDS, Incidences, Cranfield...

Offshore:

Projets CEP&M IFP, DCN, Total...

Underwater:

European projects (BRITE DEVILS, MAST AUV,
Composite Housings) DERA, Univ Athènes, SOC...

Assemblies

EUCLID RTP 3.21 (DNV leader, DCN GERBAM,)
Adhesive bonding (ENSIETA, ENS, UBO, Multiplast, HDS)

and IFREMER colleagues Dominique Choqueuse, Benoit Bigourdan