

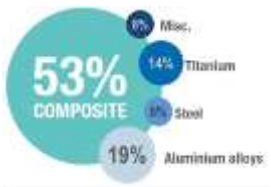
# 2013-2023: TEN YEARS OF EXPERIMENTAL, NUMERICAL AND MEASUREMENT DEVELOPMENTS WITH THE VERTEX MULTIAXIAL TEST BENCH

Bruno Castanié, Jean-Charles Passieux, Jean-Noel Périé,  
Christophe Bouvet and Joël Serra

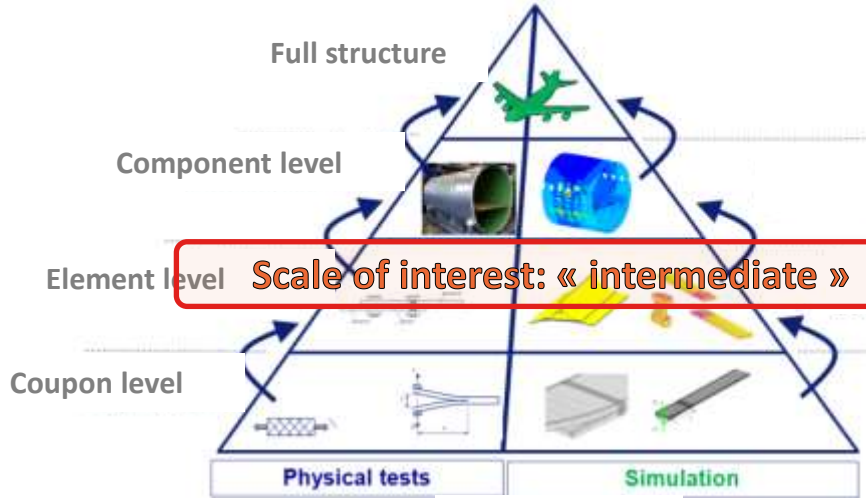
Institut Clément Ader, UMR CNRS 5312  
Toulouse, France

**Aeronautical industry challenge:**

- Reduction of fuel consumption (\$ & CO<sub>2</sub>)
- ⇒ Mass reduction of structures
- ⇒ Large use of composite materials
  - ⇒ Good stiffness/mass ratio
  - ⇒ Complex damage behaviour



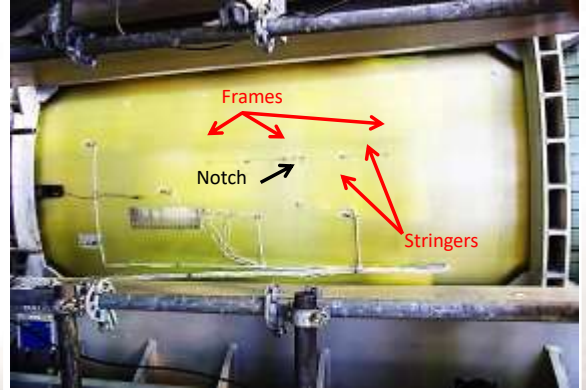
[Rouchon 1990]



**Example : Problem of Large notches**

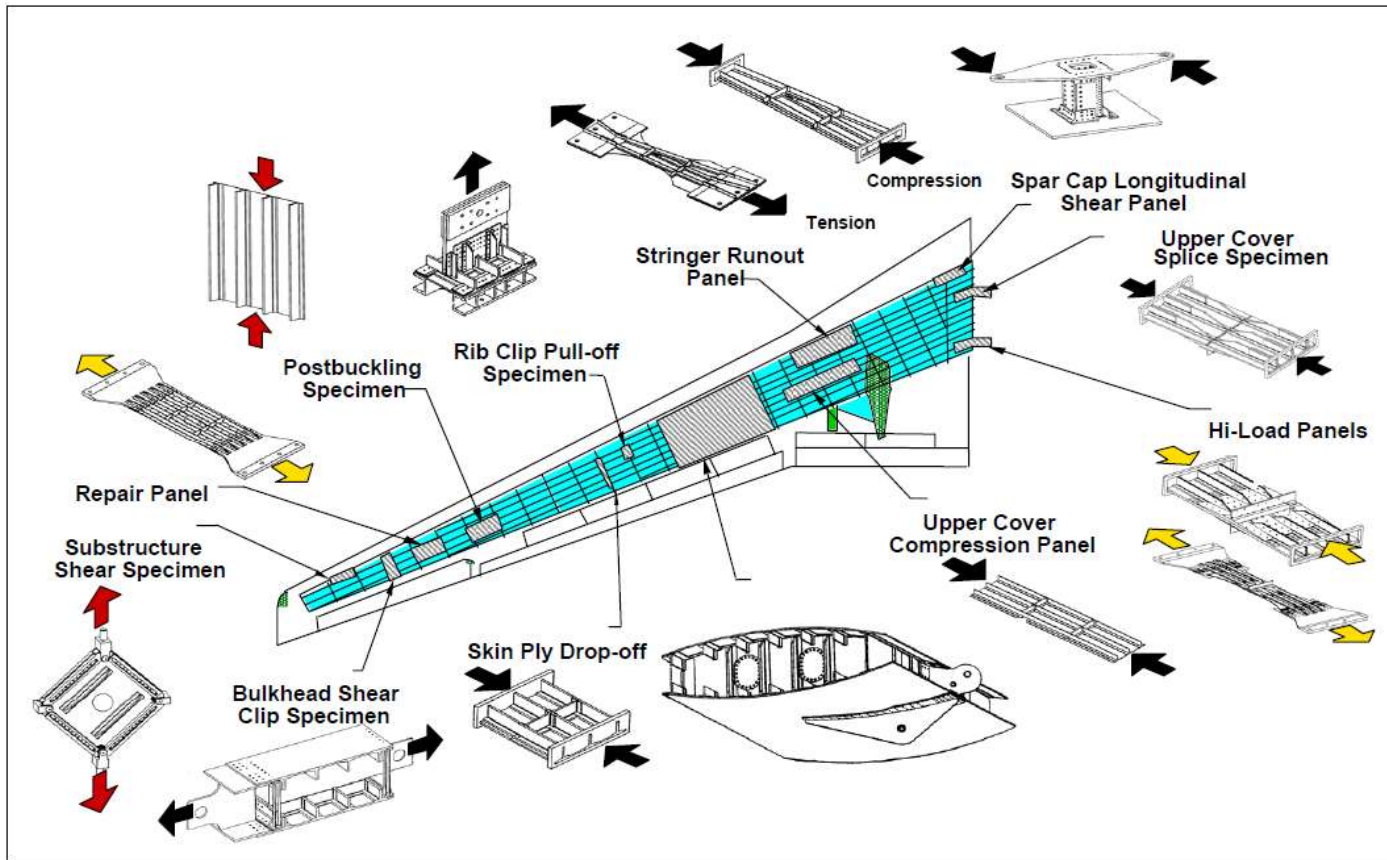


**Downscaling**



**Only Large Scale Testing**

## Building Block Approach – Reliance on Extensive Testing



Example of tests for certification of a carbon wing box (NASA Program) : Only Uniaxial tests

## 2000 – PhD of Bruno Castanié

- Development of a first structural test bench
- Study of asymmetrical sandwiches

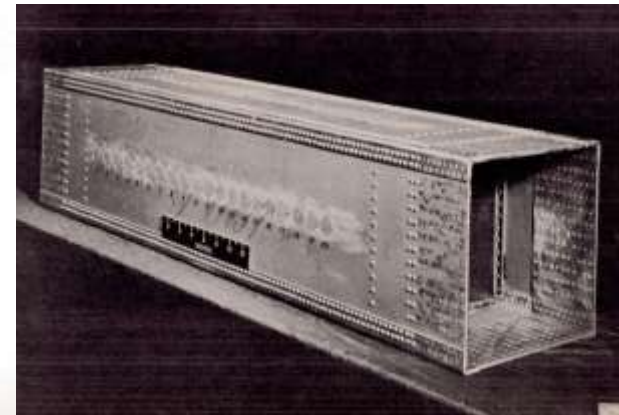


VERTEX precursor

Boxes used for a long time in multiaxial testing : NACA TN 1750 1948



B. Castanié, JJ Barrau, JP Jaouen, S Rivallant. [Combined shear/compression structural testing of asymmetric sandwich structures](#) Experimental mechanics 44, 461-472, 2004



# VERTEX and VIRTUOSE project

<https://websites.isae-superaero.fr/virtuose/>

## VERTEX

Leader: B. Castanié



Granted by ANR 2013-2017: 2800 k€

## VIRTUOSE

Leader: J. Serra



AIRBUS



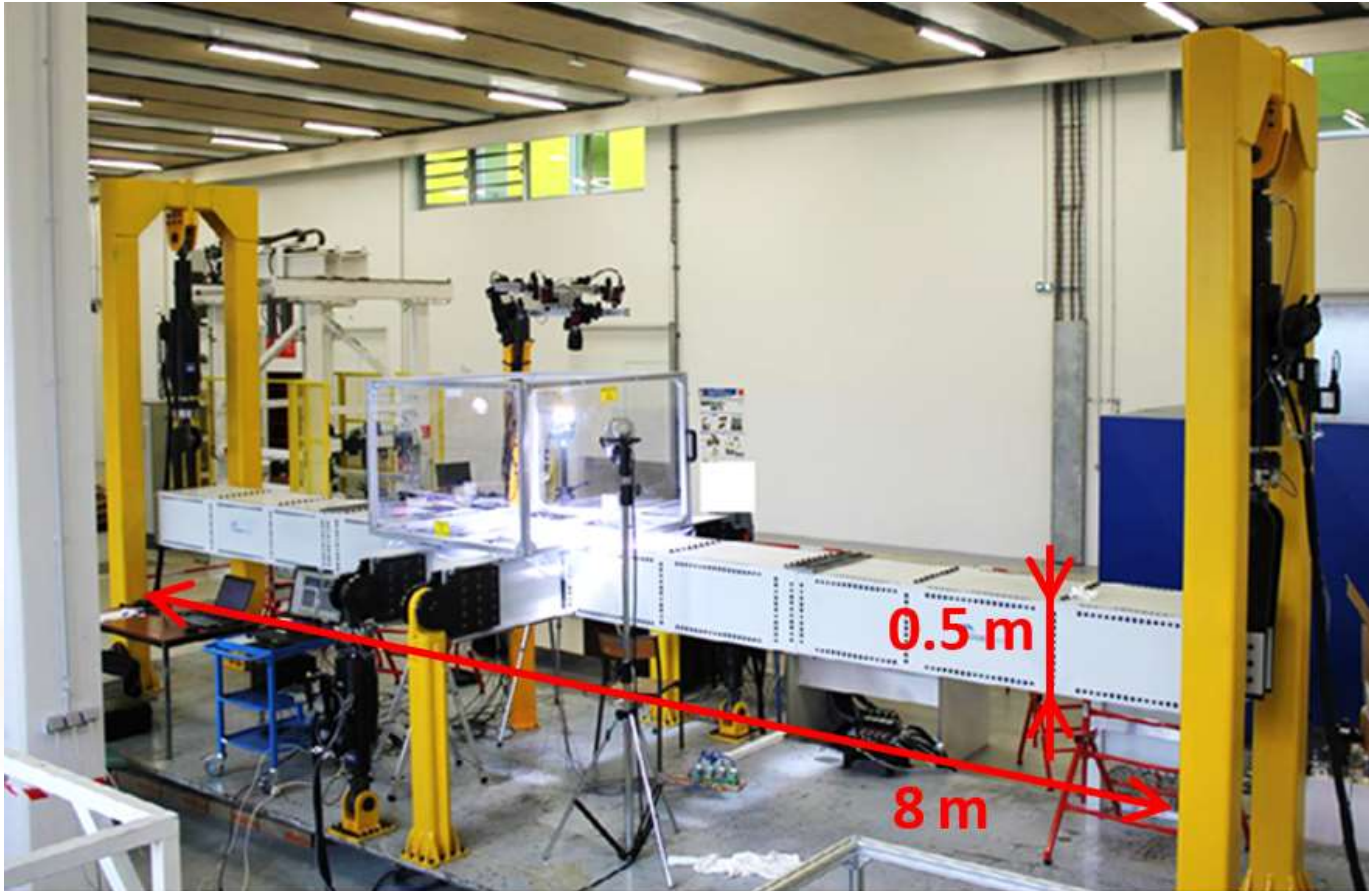
arianeGROUP

Granted by Fondation Lopez-loreta 2019-2024: 1000 k€

+ 500 k€ Funding by région midi-pyrénées to built the machine  
+ 2 Phd with Elixir Aircraft and Ségula 100 k€

## Intermediate-scale testing, emulating larger structural issues

[Serra 2017]

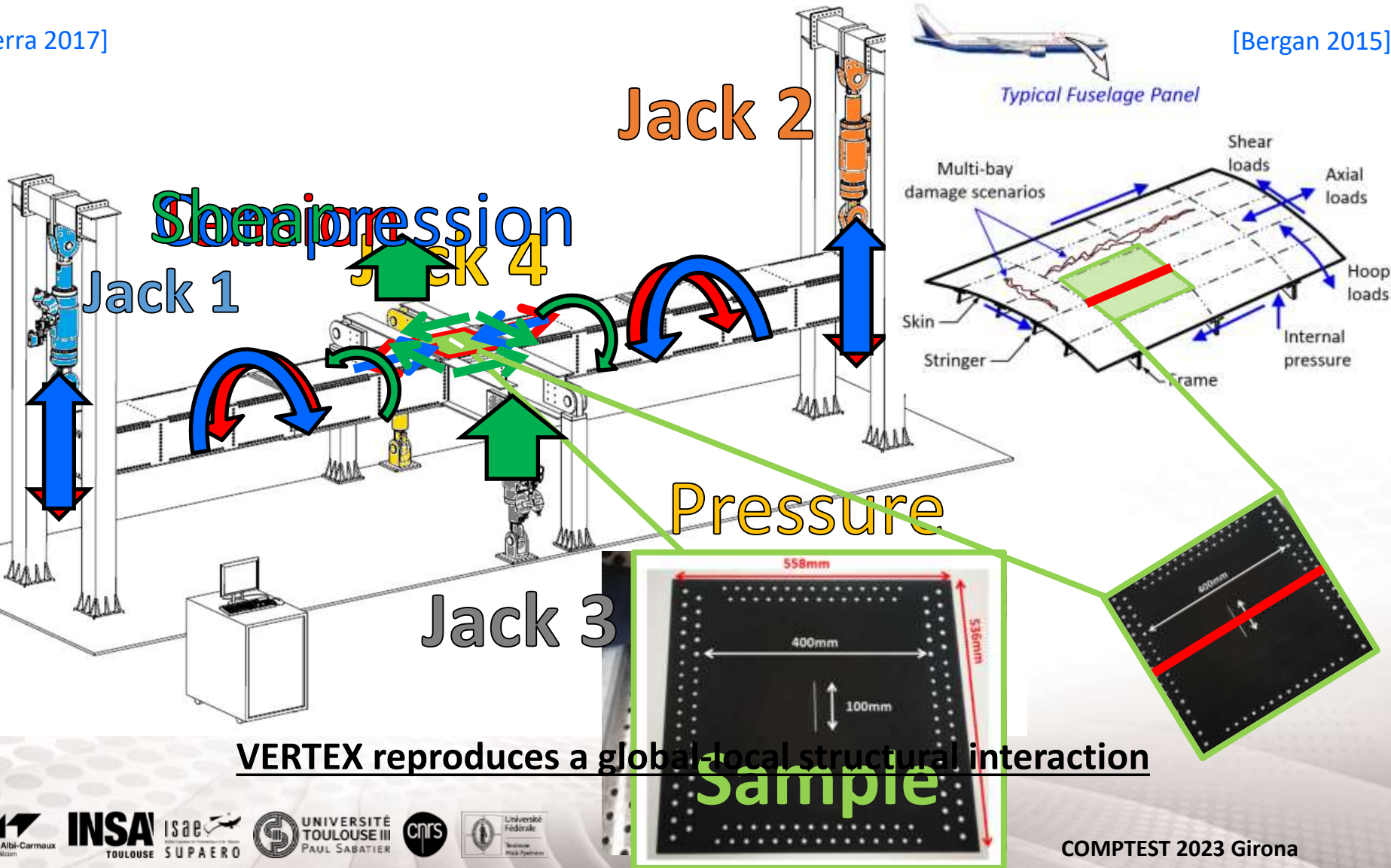


**Compression 3000 N/mm, Shear 1000 N/mm, pressure 1,6 Bars**

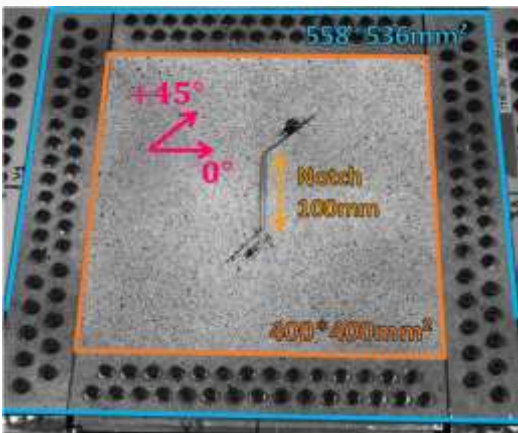
## Intermediate-scale testing, emulating larger structural issues

[Serra 2017]

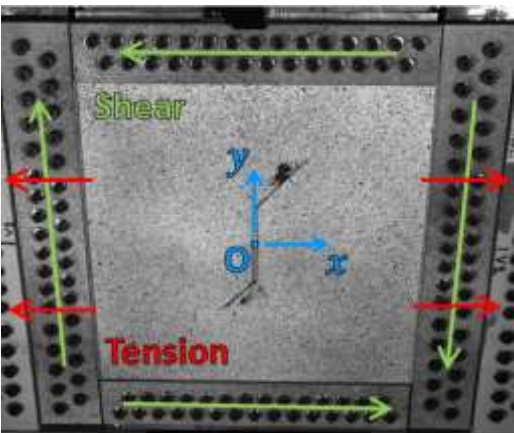
[Bergan 2015]



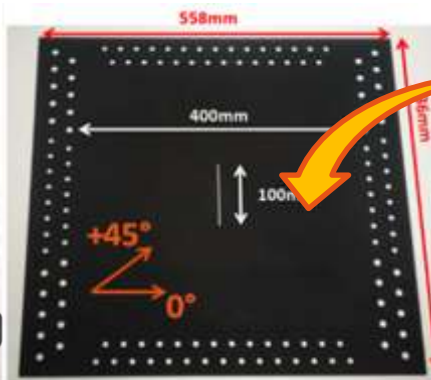
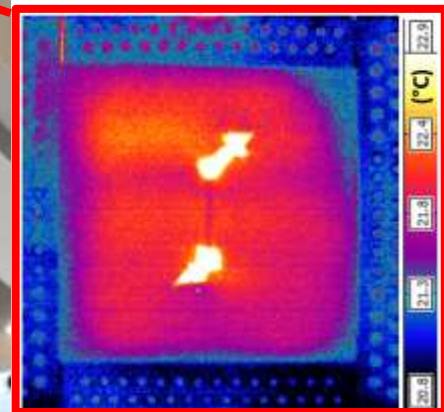
Camera A



Camera B



Infrared camera



?

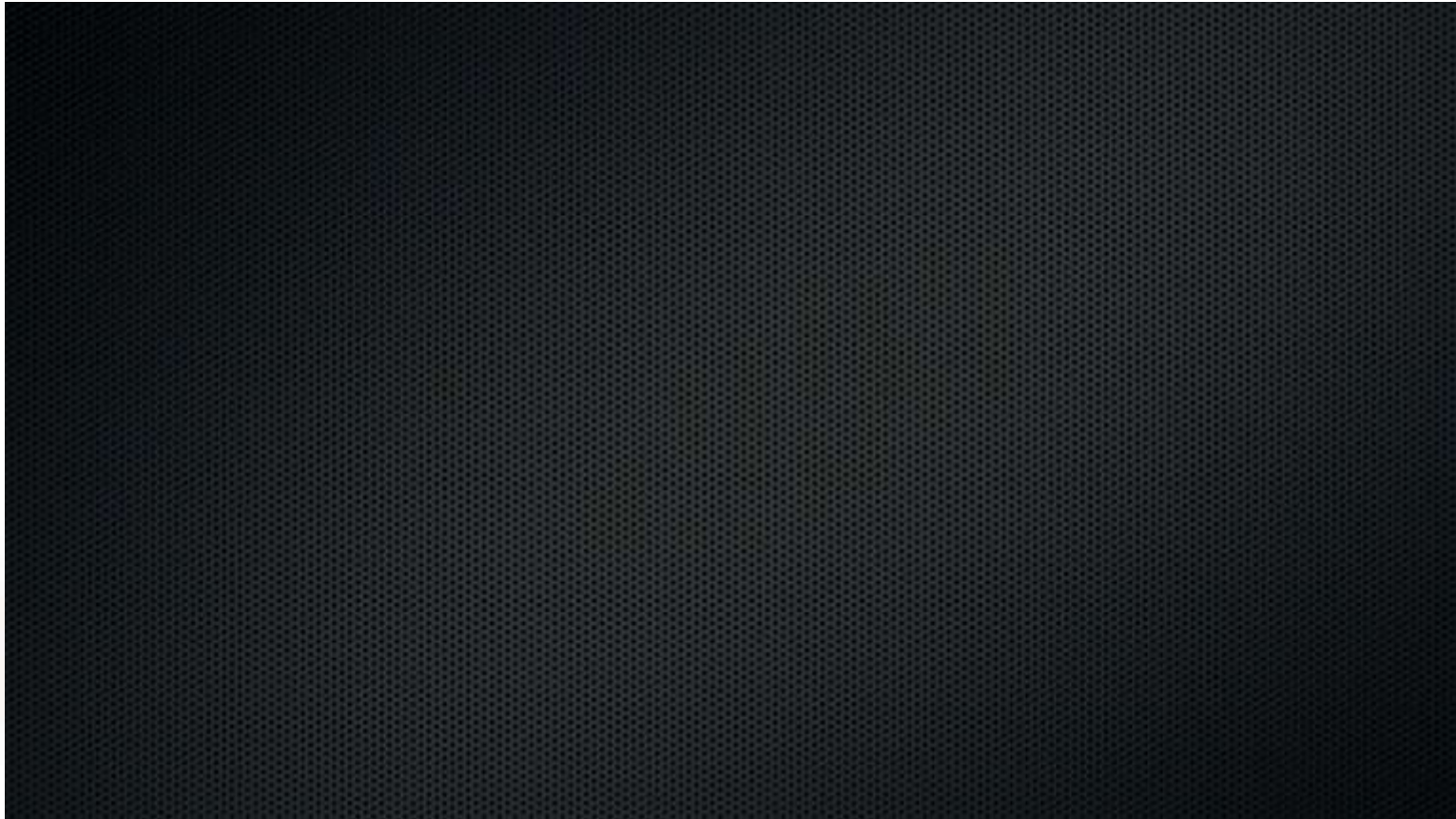


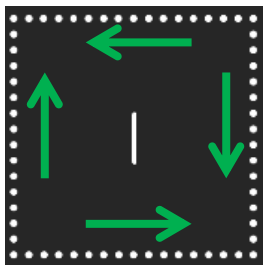


# A test in real time

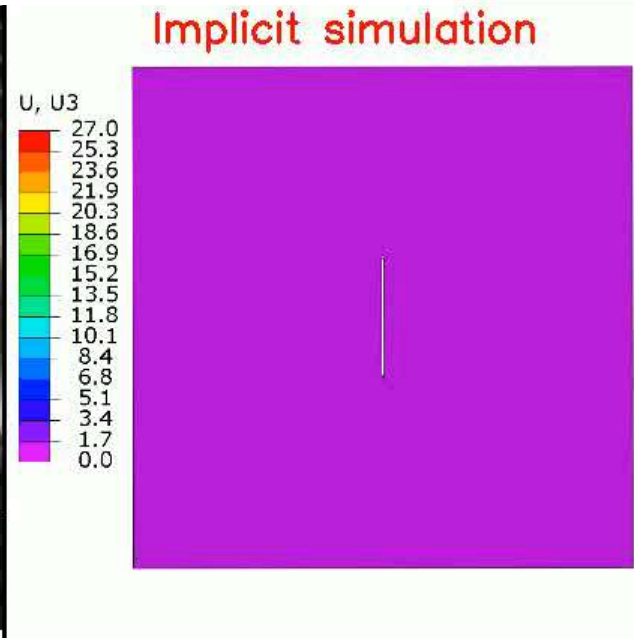
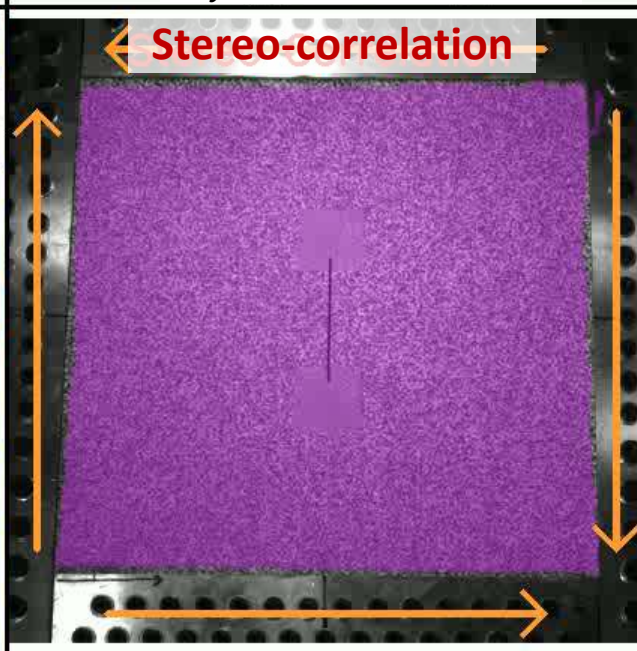
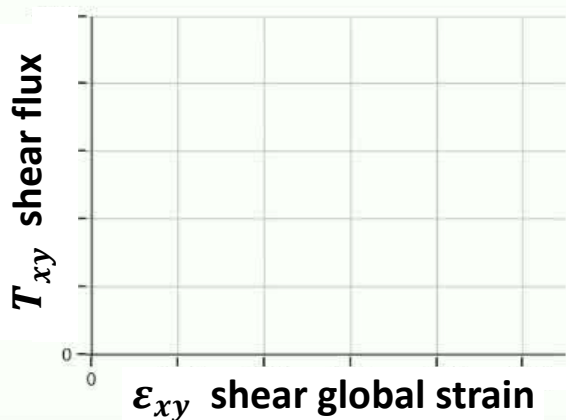


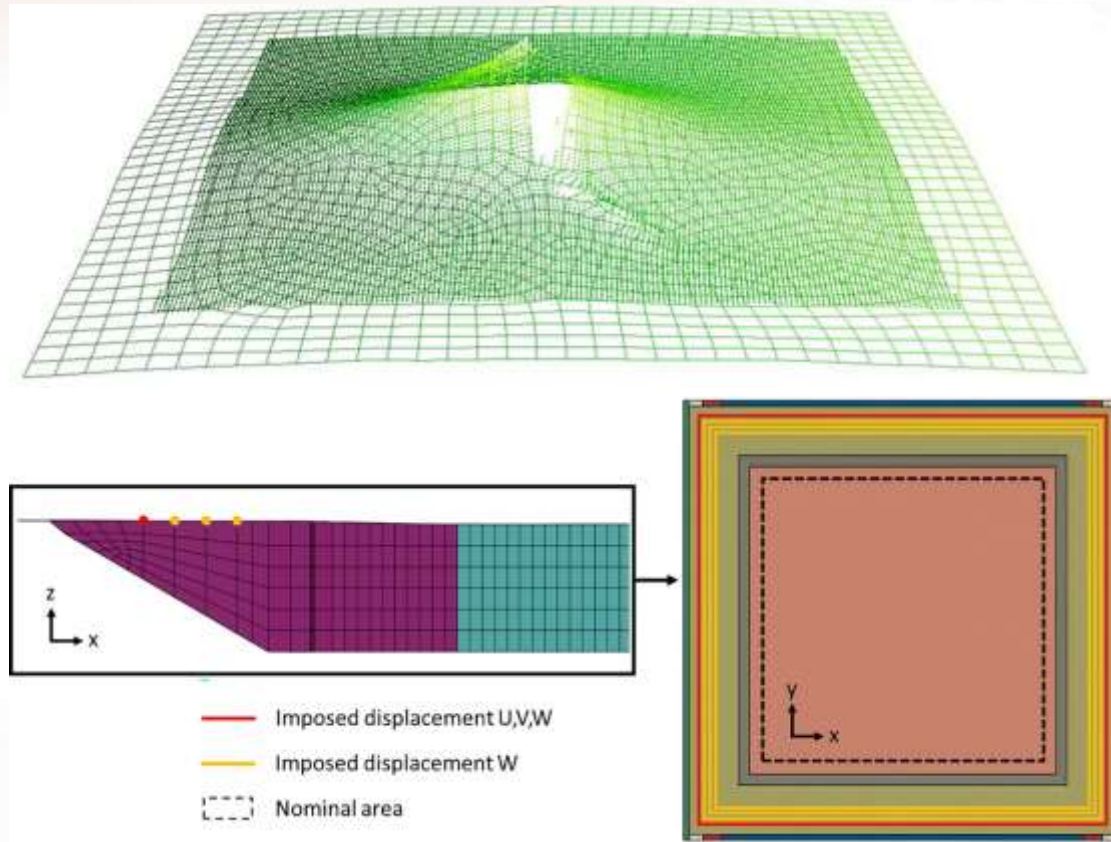
# A test in real time





Playback speed  $\times 3$

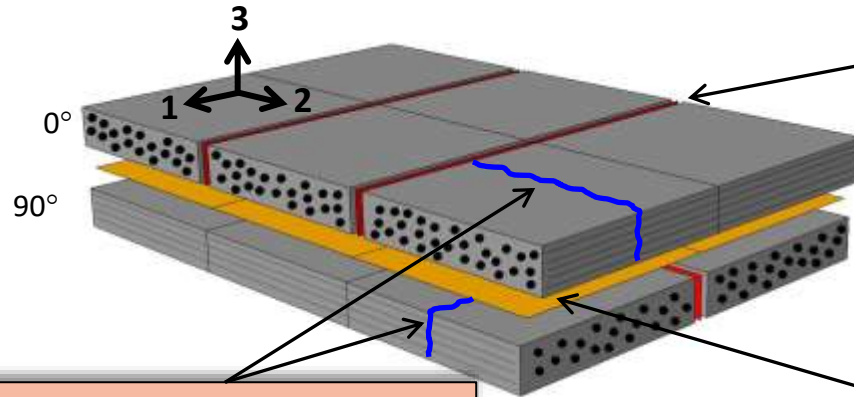




Finite Element Stereo Digital Image Correlation (SDIC) data are extracted and used to apply a loading path in the numerical model. It consists of imposing the displacements (U,V,W) measured by SDIC on a rectangular frame of upper face nodes (red), plus out-of-plane displacements (W) on 3 additional rectangular frames

# Using DPM for modeling

## Constitutive law: 3 damage modes



**Matrix cracking**  
(interface elements)

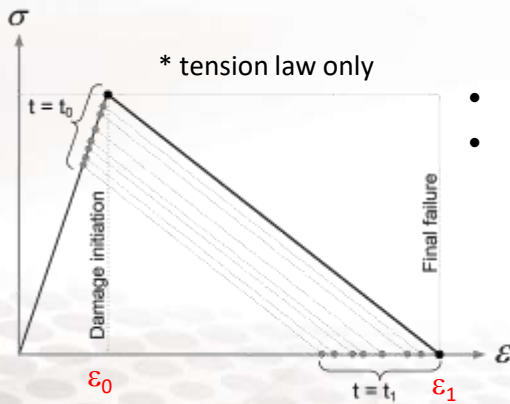
$$\left( \frac{\langle \sigma_{22} \rangle^+}{\sigma_{22}^f} \right)^2 + \frac{\tau_{12}^2 + \tau_{23}^2}{(\tau_{12}^f)^2} \leq 1$$

\*\* calculated at neighbouring volume elements

**Fibre failure**  
(3D volume elements)

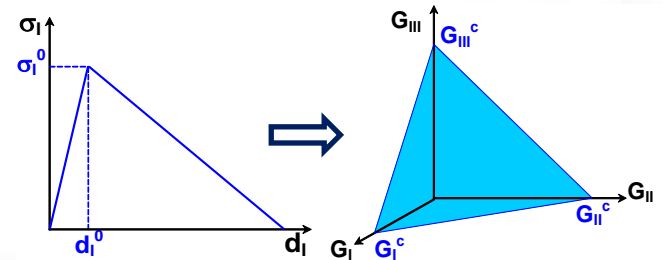
**Delamination**  
(interface elements)

Mixed-mode progressive delamination law

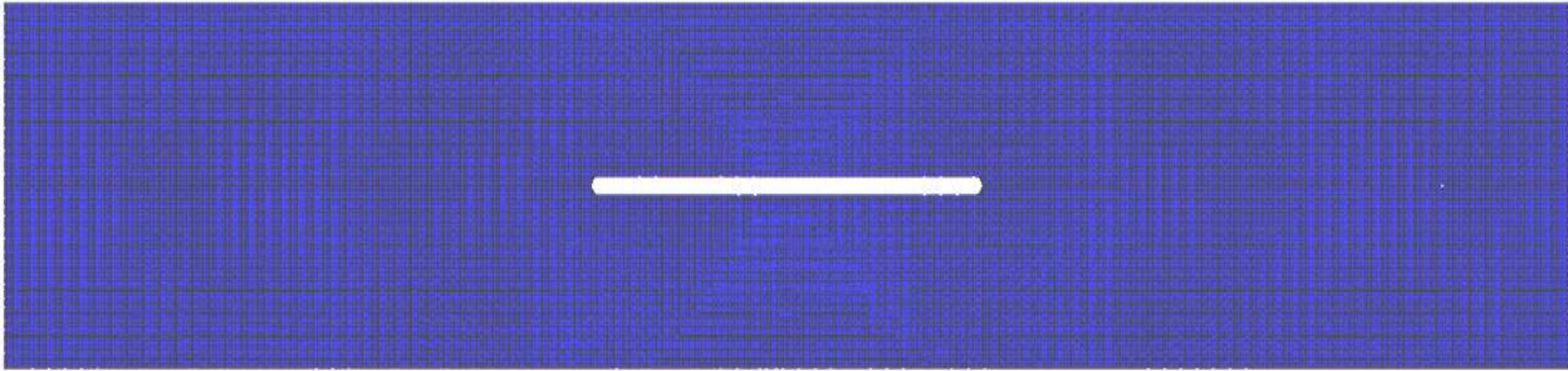
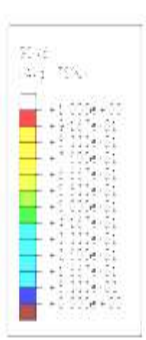


- Calculate at 8 integration points
- Energy based damage mechanics

$$\int_V \left( \int_0^{\epsilon_1} \sigma \cdot d\epsilon \right) \cdot dV = S \cdot G_{Ic}^{fibre}$$



# Using DPM for modeling (Notches and Impact)



## Solution

Determination of 6 fields of force and moment fluxes

Averaged on edges  $\Rightarrow$  6 scalar representative of the global loading intensity

## Force and moment fluxes (classical plate theory)

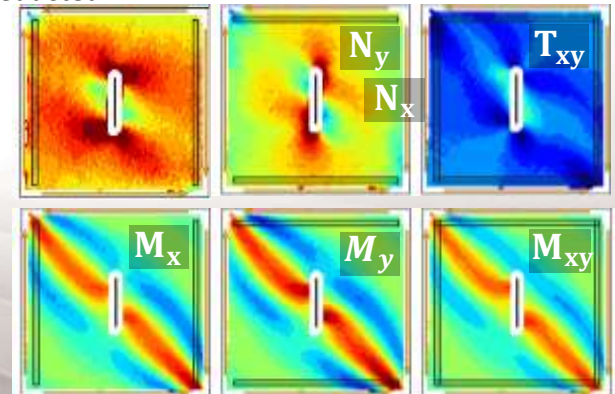
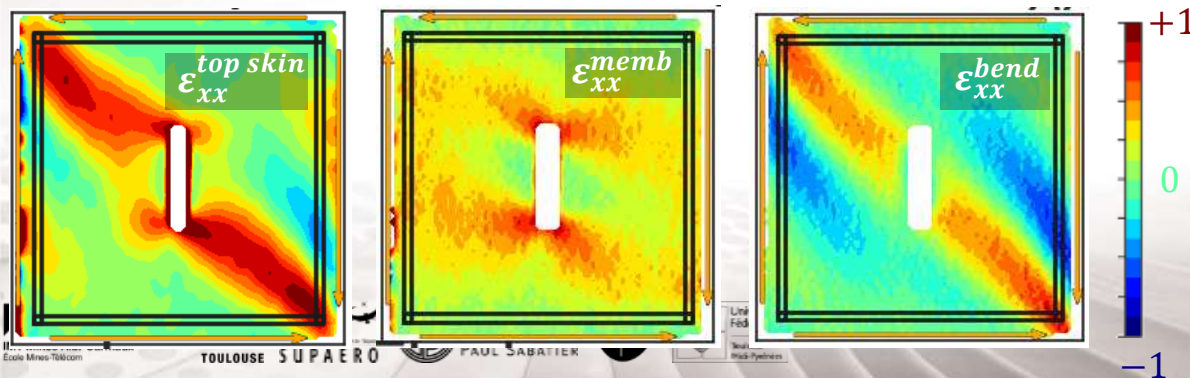
$$\underline{\underline{\varepsilon}}(M(x, y, z)) = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{0x}(x, y) \\ \varepsilon_{0y}(x, y) \\ \gamma_{0xy}(x, y) \end{bmatrix} + z * \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2}(x, y) \\ -\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2}(x, y) \\ -2\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x \partial y}(x, y) \end{bmatrix}$$

top skin measured
= membrane deduced
bending (top skin) measured-computed

curvature
half thick.

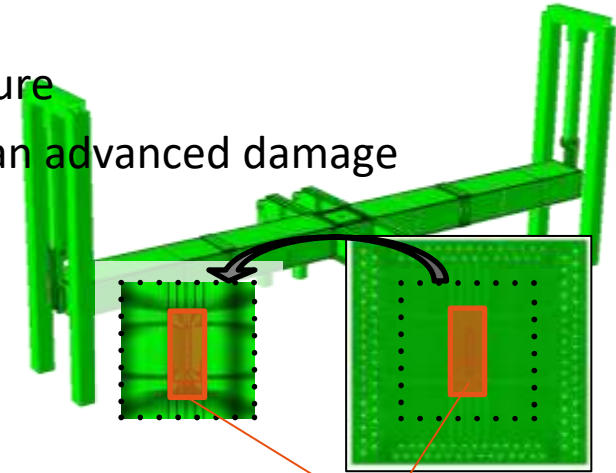
$$\begin{bmatrix} N_x \\ N_y \\ T_{xy} \\ M_x \\ M_y \\ M_{xy} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\underline{A}} & \underline{\underline{B}} \\ \underline{\underline{B}} & \underline{\underline{D}} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{0x} \\ \varepsilon_{0y} \\ \gamma_{0xy} \\ -\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} \\ -\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} \\ -2\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x \partial y} \end{bmatrix}$$

flux deduced
=
stiffness known
x
plate strain known

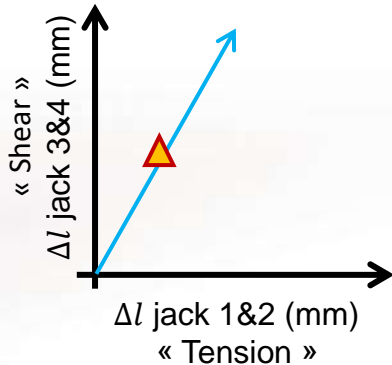


## Model usage

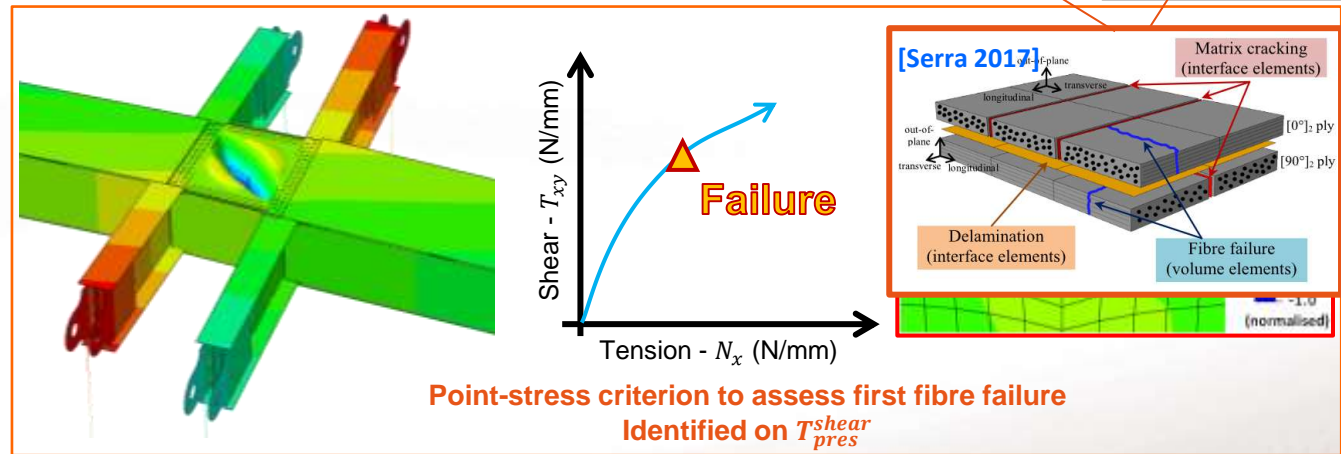
- Model input = real bench inputs = jack setpoints
- Estimate directly if a given jack displacement causes failure
- Meant to be used to generate Boundary Conditions for an advanced damage model



## Inputs



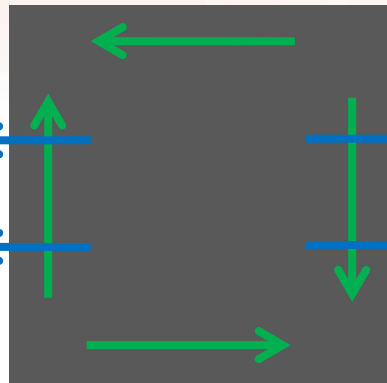
## Outputs



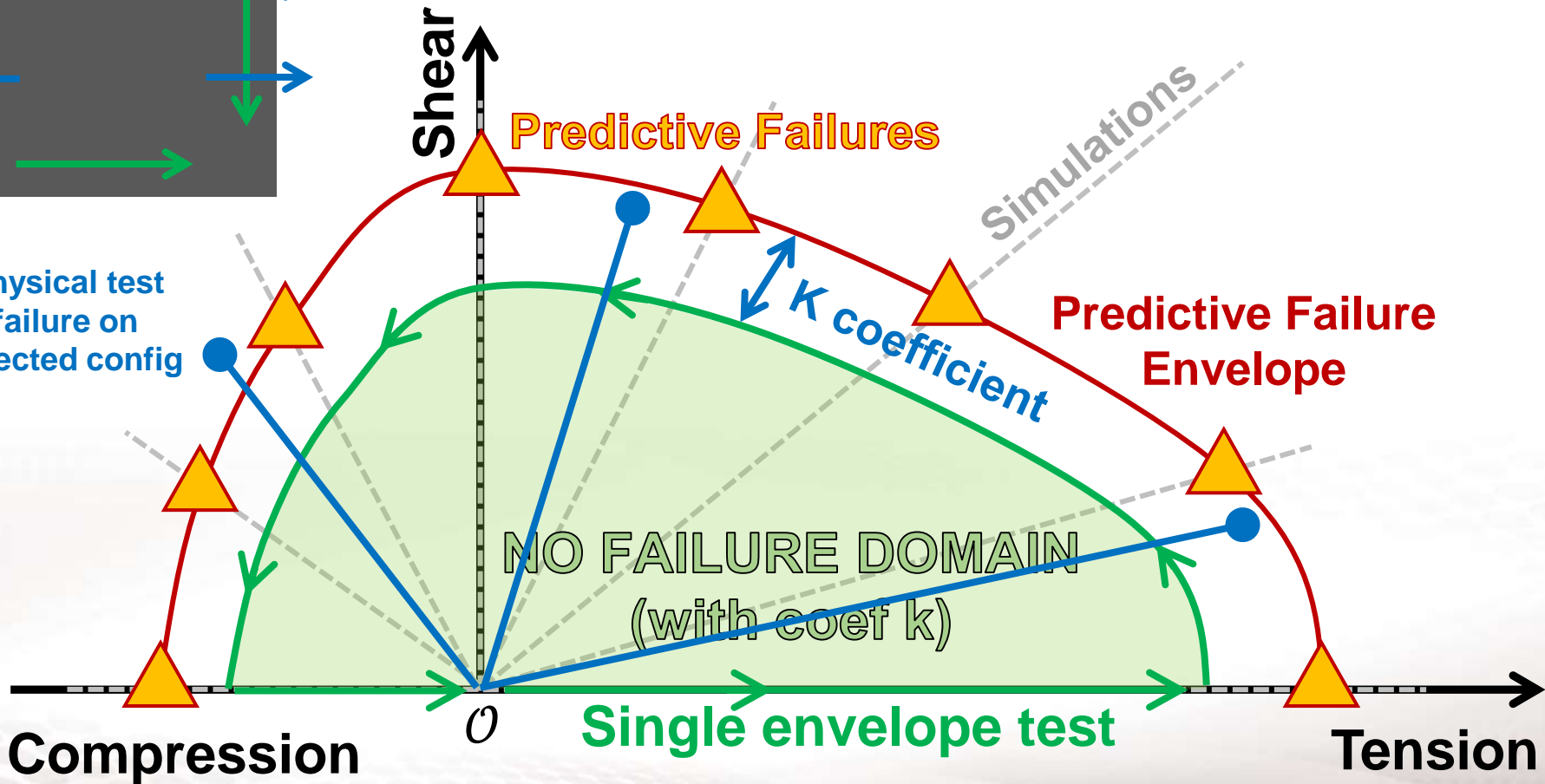


# Envelope Validation method

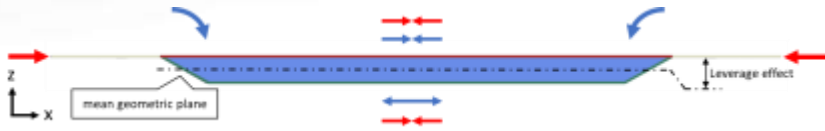
Multi-loading and multi-failure modes  
at element level



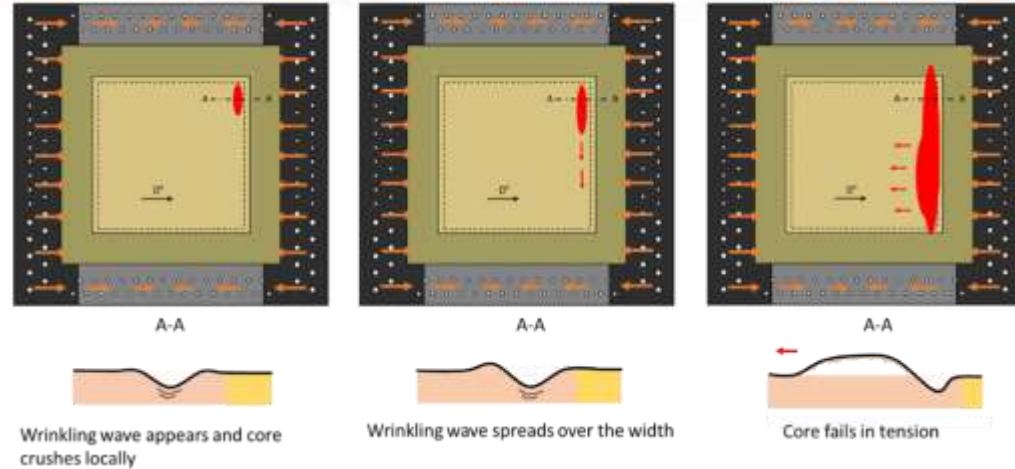
Physical test failure on selected config



## Sandwich panels (with Elixir Aircraft)



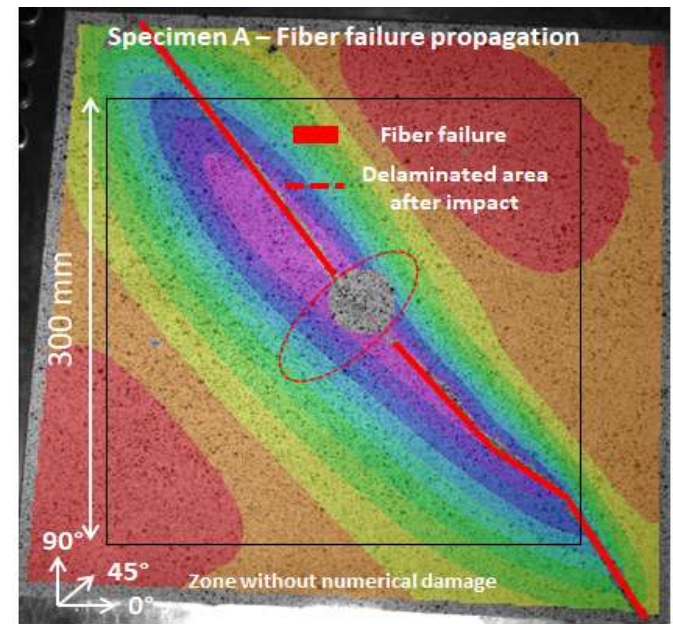
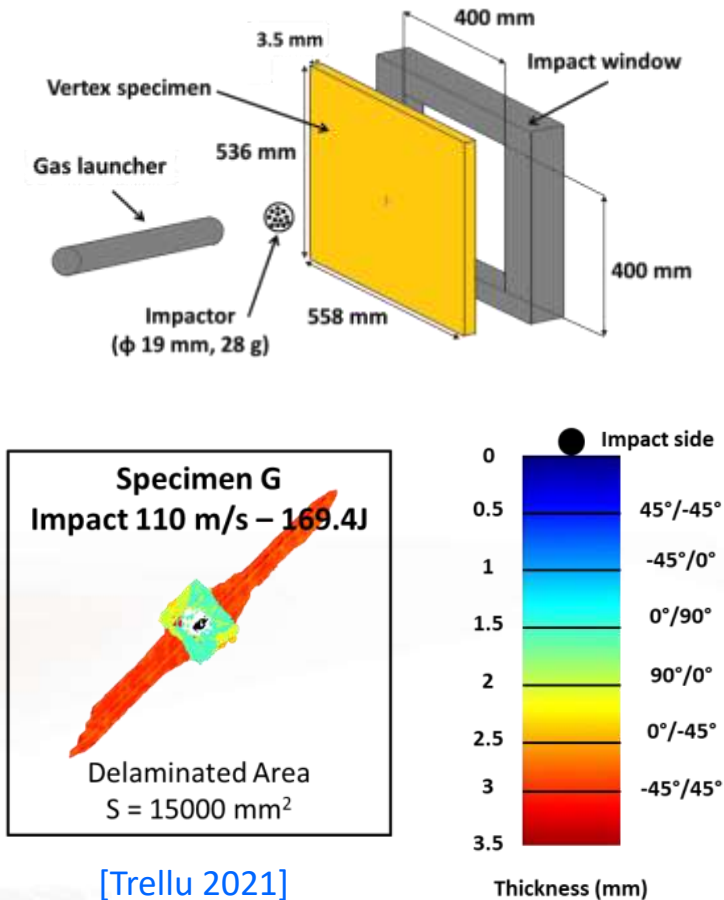
[Ginot 2023a] [Ginot 2023b]



## To come Wood-Based Sandwich panels (with Avion Mauboussin)



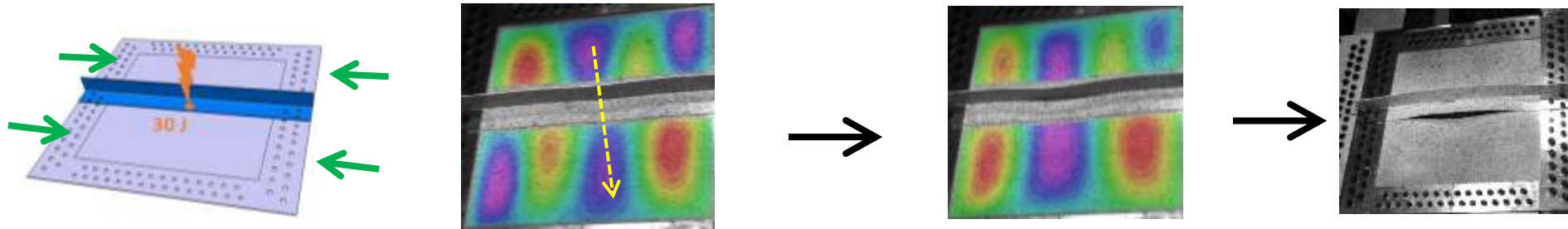
## Impacted panels



[Trellu 2020]

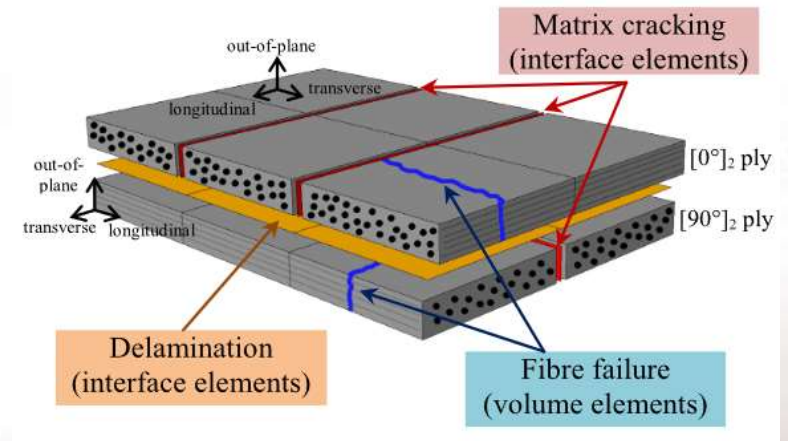
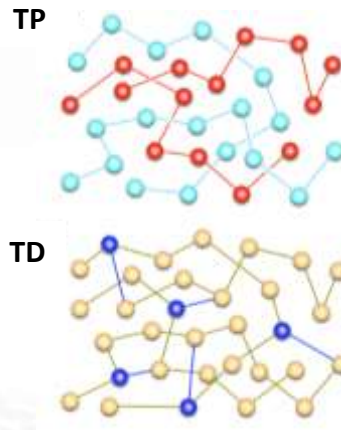
[Trellu 2021]

## Impacted stiffened panels



[Grotto 2023]

## Notched panels: TP vs. TD (on going)



## Conclusions

**Moving from Coupon to Intermediate scale testing : the next step**

**Much complex but much informations at the early stage of design at lower prize**

**Less conservative (CAI)**

**Strong links with measurement methods and enhanced test/computation dialog**

- Researchers



J. SERRA



C. BOUVET



B. CASTANIE



J.-N. PERIE



J.-C. PASSIEUX

- Research engineers, Phd Student and Research associates



F. GROTTTO



R. LALANNE



J.-E. DUFOUR



G. COLANTONIO



Q. BAUSIERE

# Some Papers

- F. Grotto, C. Bouvet, B. Castanié, J. Serra « Design and Testing of Impacted Stiffened CFRP Panels under Compression with the VERTEX Test Rig », **Aerospace**, Vol. 10 (4), **2023**
- M. Ginot, C. Bouvet, B. Castanié, M. D'Ottavio, J. Serra, N. Mahuet, « Local buckling on large sandwich panels applied to light aviation: Experimental and computation dialogue », **International Journal of Solids and Structures**, doi.org/10.1016/j.ijsolstr.2023.112170, **2023**
- F. Grotto, C. Bouvet, B. Castanié, J. Serra « Experimental behaviour of aeronautical notched carbon fibre reinforced thermoplastic panels under combined tension-shear-pressure loadings », **Engineering Failure Analysis**, Vol. 146, **2023**
- J. Serra, A. Trelu, C. Bouvet, S. Rivallant, B. Castanié, L. Ratsifandrihana « Combined loadings after medium velocity impact on large CFRP laminated plates: Discrete ply model simulations », **Composites Part C**, Vol. 6, N° 100203, **2021**
- A. Trelu, G. Pichon, C. Bouvet, S. Rivallant, B. Castanié, J. Serra, L. Ratsifandrihana « Combined Loadings After Medium Velocity Impact on Large CFRP Laminate Plates: Tests and enhanced computation/testing dialogue », **Composites Science and Technology**, Vol. 196, N° 108194, **2020**
- Pierré, J.-E. , Passieux, J.-C., Périé, J.-N. Finite Element Stereo Digital Image Correlation: Framework and Mechanical Regularization **Experimental Mechanics**, 57(3), pp. 443–456, **2017**
- J. Serra, J.E. Pierré, J.C. Passieux, J.N. Périé, C. Bouvet, B. Castanié, C. Petiot, « Validation and modeling of aeronautical composite structures subjected to combined loadings: The VERTEX project. Part 2: Load envelopes for the assessment of panels with large notches », **Composite Structures**, Vol. 180, pp. 550-567, **2017**
- J. Serra, J.E. Pierré, J.C. Passieux, J.N. Périé, C. Bouvet, B. Castanié, « Validation and Modeling of Aeronautical Composite Structures Subjected to Combined Loadings: the VERTEX Project. Part 1: Experimental Setup, FE-DIC Instrumentation and Procedures », **Composite Structures**, Vol. 179, pp. 224-244, **2017**
- Castanié, B., Barrau, J.-J., Jaouen, J.-P. Theoretical and experimental analysis of asymmetric sandwich structures **Composite Structures**, 55(3), pp. 295–306, **2002**
- Castanié, B., Barrau, J.J., Jaouen, J.P., Rivallant, S. Combined shear/compression structural testing of asymmetric sandwich structures. **Experimental Mechanics**, 44(5), pp. 461–472, **2004**

Thank you for your attention