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Failure analysis of unidirectional composites under longitudinal compression considering defects

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❖ Introduction

➤ Composite failure modes

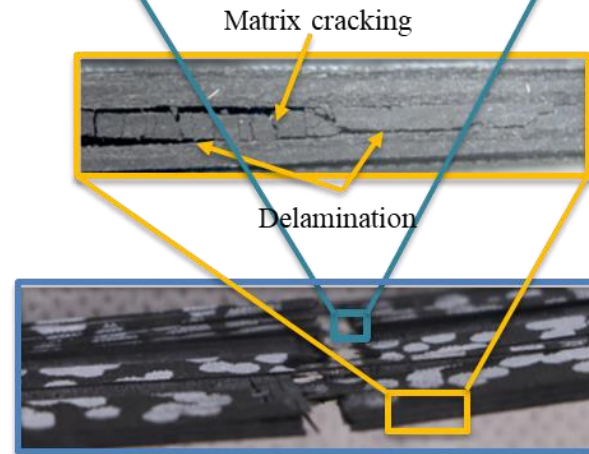
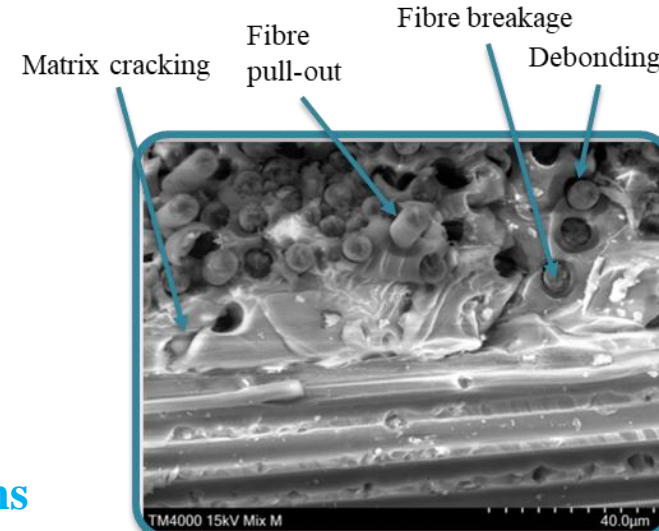
- Fibre breakage
- Fibre kinking
- Matrix cracking
- Fibre/matrix debonding
- Delamination

➤ Multiaxial loading problems

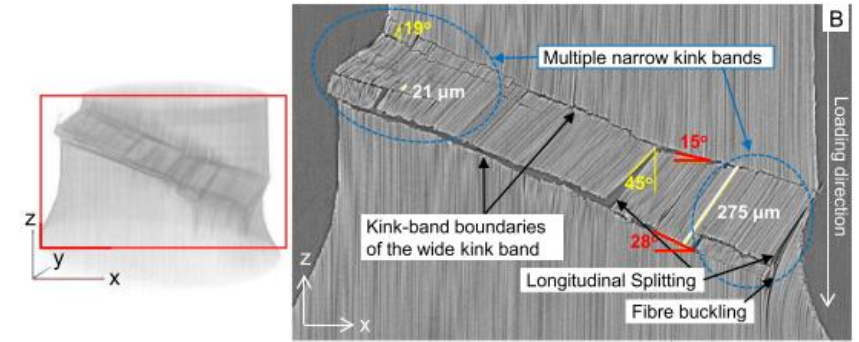
- Damage initiation
- Damage propagation
- Damage mode interaction

➤ Failure criteria

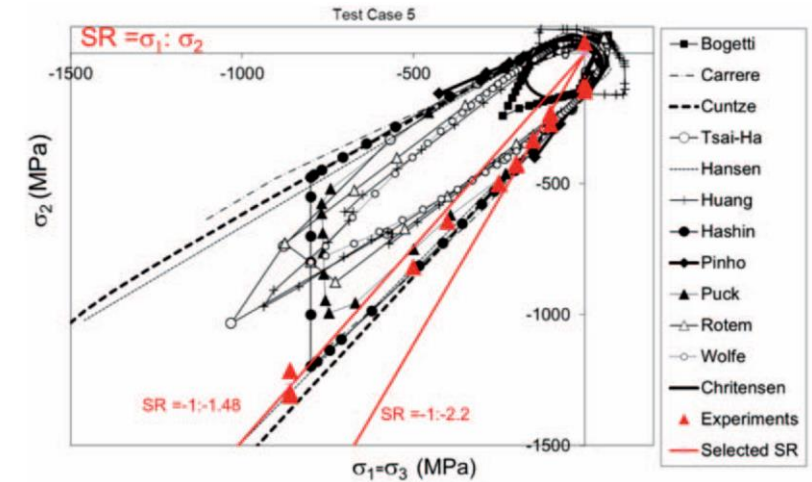
- Maximum stress Criterion
- Tsai-Wu criterion
- Hashin criterion
- Puck criterion
- LARC05
-



Typical failure pattern of cross-ply CFRP composite laminates



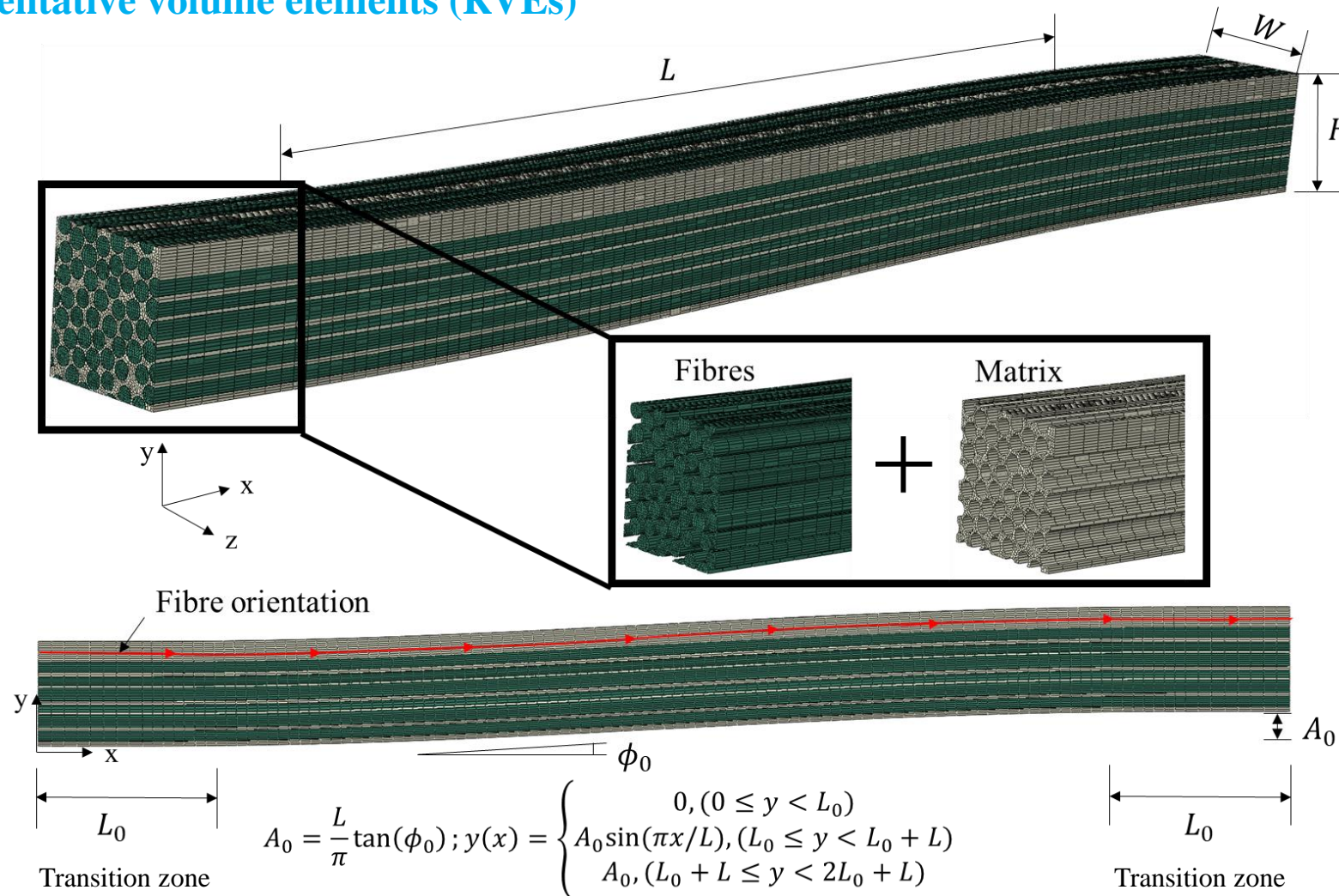
3D X-Ray micro-CT image of kink bands and associated damage mechanisms under longitudinal compression(Wang et al. 2017)



Failure criteria comparison under triaxial loading conditions from World Wide Failure Exercise – II (Kaddour et al. 2013)

❖ **3D high-fidelity micromechanical modelling**

➤ **Representative volume elements (RVEs)**



❖ 3D high-fidelity micromechanical modelling

➤ Constitutive model of constituents

- **Fibres**

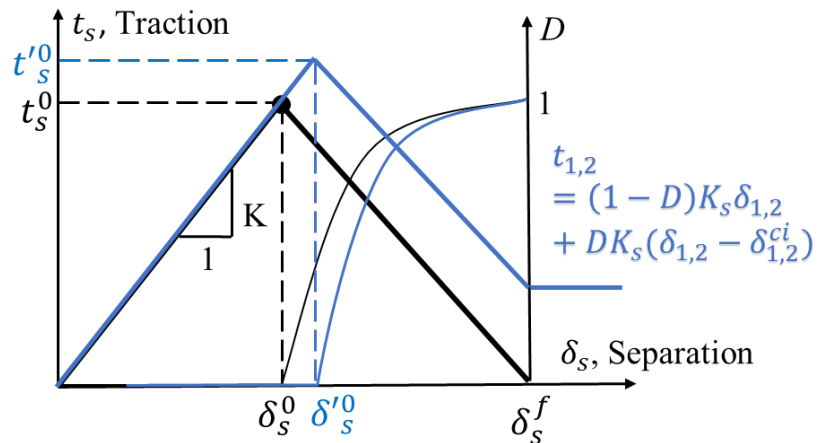
Transversely isotropic, assumed to be elastic.

- **Fibre/matrix interface**

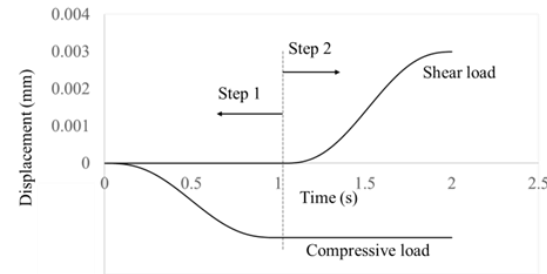
Original cohesive zone model

Friction effect under compression

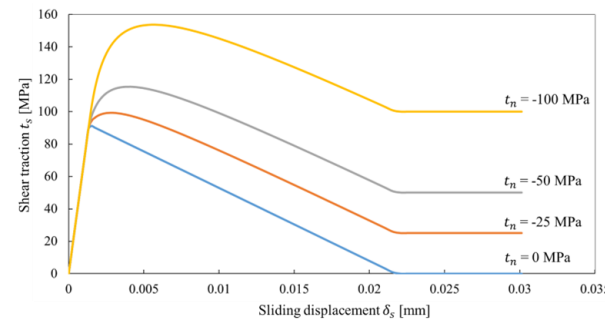
$$\mathbf{t} = (1 - D) \begin{bmatrix} K_s & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & K_s & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \delta_1 \\ \delta_2 \\ \delta_n \end{bmatrix} + D \begin{bmatrix} K_s & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & K_s & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \delta_1 - \delta_1^{ci} \\ \delta_2 - \delta_2^{ci} \\ -\langle -\delta_n \rangle \end{bmatrix}$$



Cohesive surface



Shear stress under transverse compression



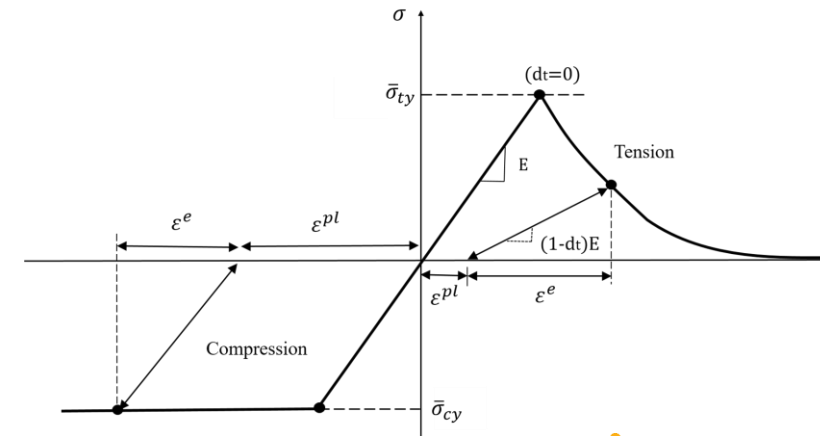
- **Matrix**

Drucker-Prager plastic damage model

- Brittle failure in uniaxial tension
- Plastic behaviour in compression/shear
- Influence of hydrostatic stress on the mechanical behaviour of polymer under multiaxial stress states

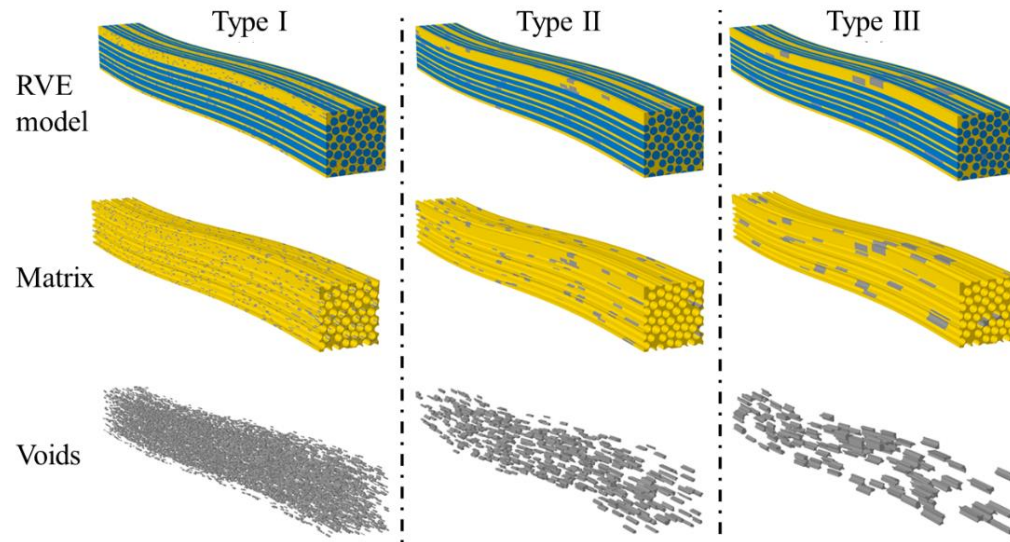
$$\Phi(I_1, J_2, \sigma_I, \beta, \alpha) = \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} (\sqrt{3J_2} + \alpha I_1 + B \langle \sigma_I \rangle) - \sigma_{myc} = 0$$

I_1 stands for the first invariant of the stress tensor, J_2 is the second invariant of the deviatoric stress tensor, α is the **pressure-sensitivity** parameter of the Drucker-Prager yield criterion, σ_I is the maximum principal stress.



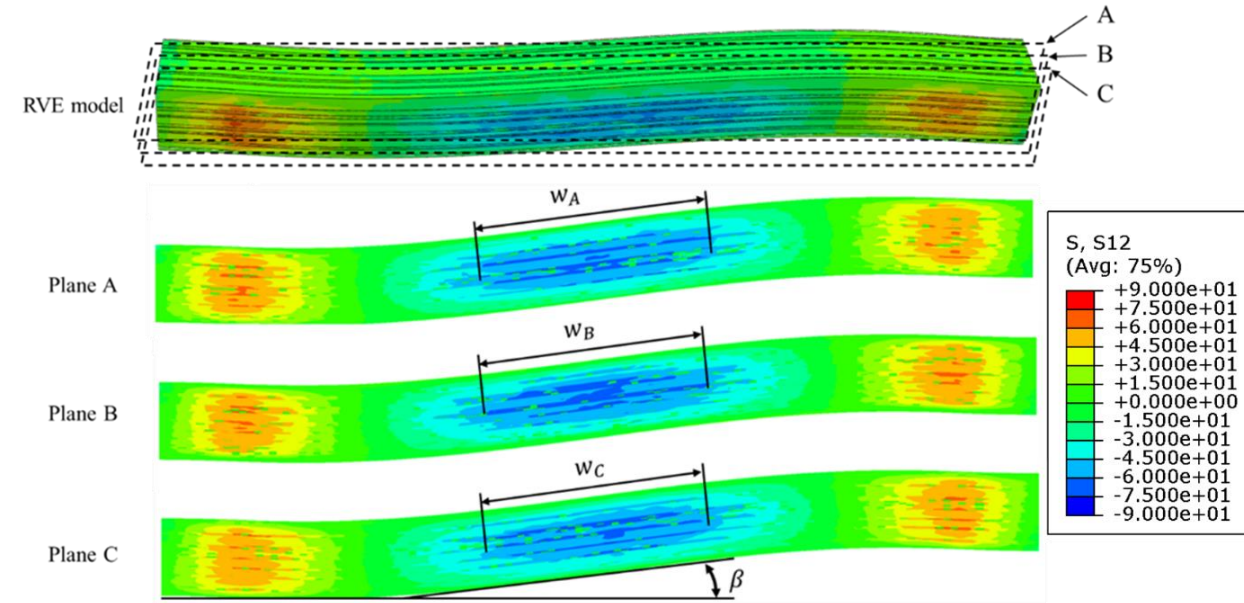
❖ Definition of voids and kink-band

➤ Definition of voids



Three types of voids (type I, type II and type III) in 3D RVE models with $\varphi_0=5^\circ$, $f_v=3\%$.

➤ Definition of kink-band width and fibre rotation angle

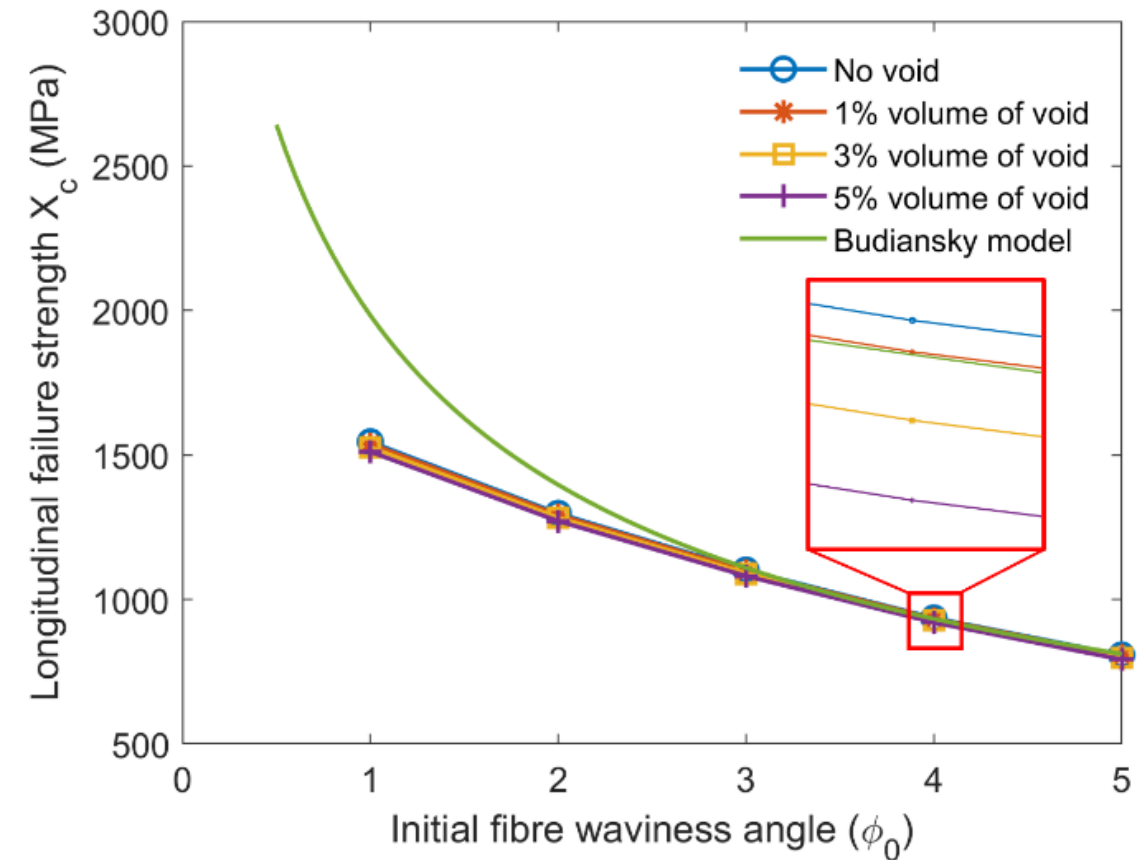
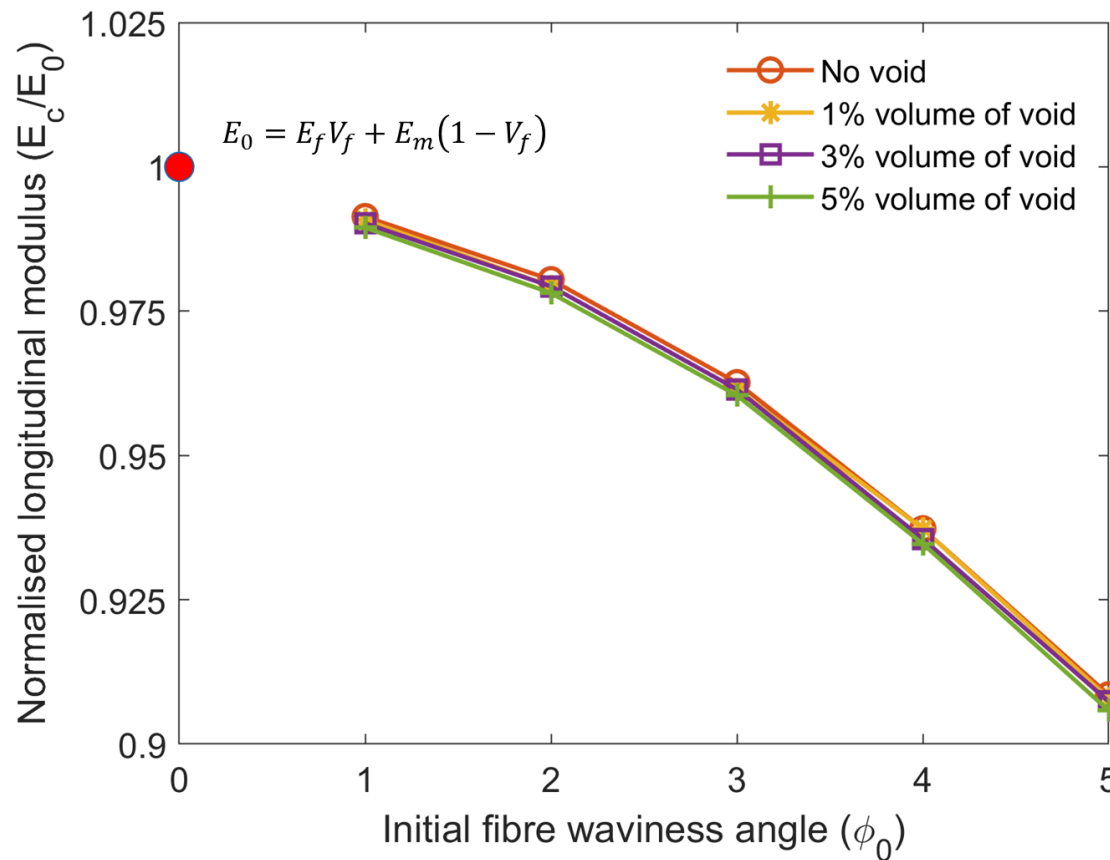


$$\text{Kink-band width: } w = \frac{w_A + w_B + w_C}{3}$$

$$\text{Fibre rotation angle: } \beta$$

❖ Numerical results under uniaxial longitudinal compression considering voids

➤ Influences of initial waviness angle and voids on the prediction of modulus and strength of composites



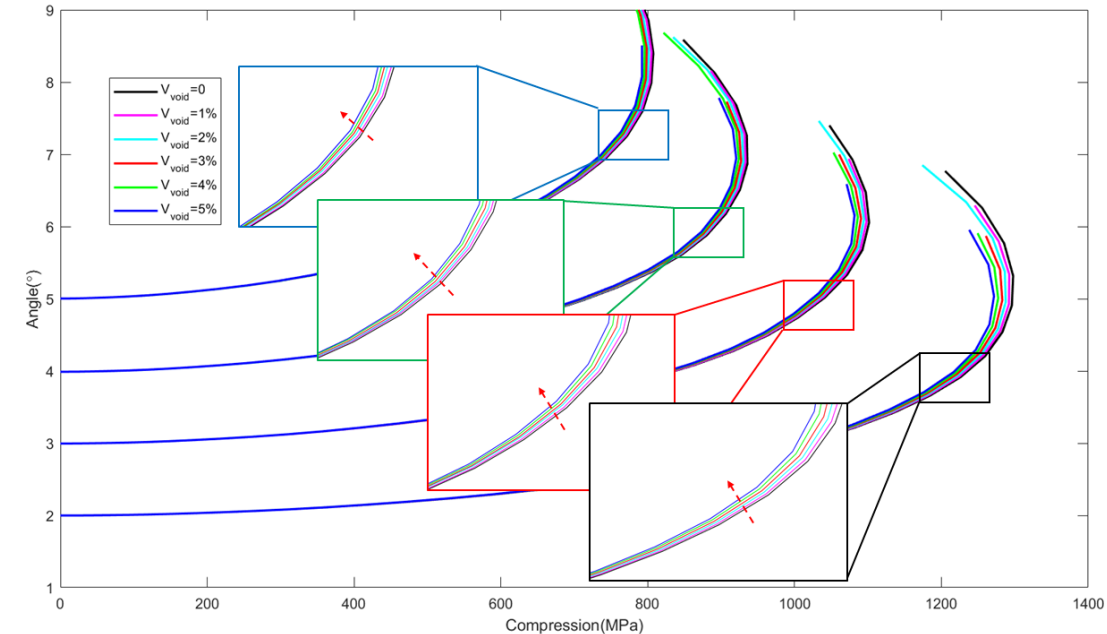
- Initial fibre waviness angle has significant influences on the longitudinal compressive modulus and failure strength.
- Volume fraction and type of voids have insignificant effects on the longitudinal compressive modulus and strength.

❖ Numerical results under uniaxial longitudinal compression considering voids

➤ Influences of uncertainties on in-situ kink-band width

Φ_0		Void volume												
		1%			2%			3%			4%		5%	
		Void size												
Intact model		I	II	III	I	I	II	III	I	I	II	III		
1°	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
2°	w_s	75.22	85.76		92.98	105.27			116.17	121.23				
3°	w_s	97.84	103.55	104.14	102.04	108.72	122.54	125.12	131.47	134.25	136.38	138.25	156.73	
4°	w_s	132.82	135.78			143.37	149.2			154.12	160.45			
5°	w_s	143.4	150.57	148.86	149.75	159.04	158.17	159.95	173.07	171.82	158.59	174.99	169.93	

➤ Influences of uncertainties on fibre rotation angle



- Kinking phenomenon disappears when $\Phi_0 \leq 1^\circ$ as the failure mechanism is fibre failure
- In-situ kink-band width increases as the initial fibre waviness angle Φ_0 or volume fraction of voids increases
- The type of voids has insignificant effects on the in-situ kink-band width
- The volume fraction of voids does not influence fibre rotation angles at peak loads

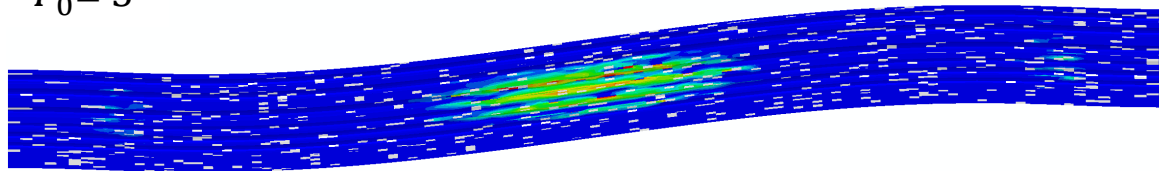
❖ Numerical results under uniaxial longitudinal compression considering voids

➤ Influences of the initial waviness angle on the failure of composites with $f_v=3\%$ and Type I

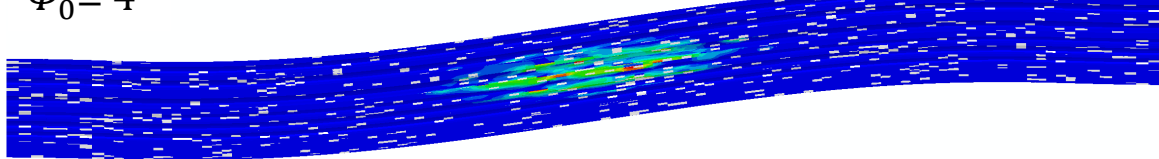
Tensile damage in matrix

Shear stress distribution in matrix

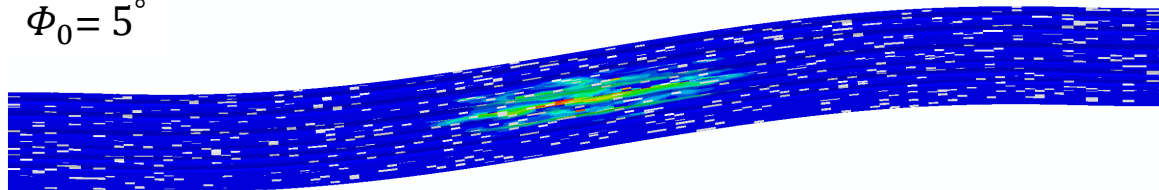
$\phi_0 = 3^\circ$



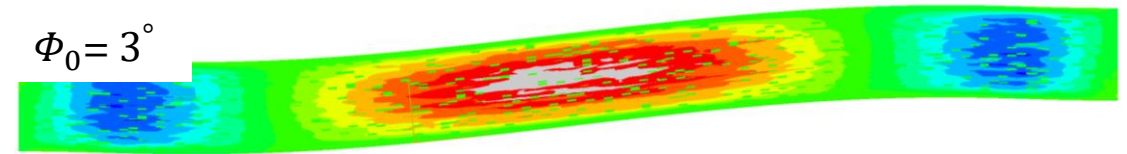
$\phi_0 = 4^\circ$



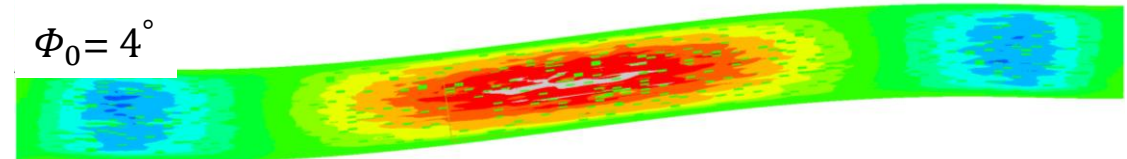
$\phi_0 = 5^\circ$



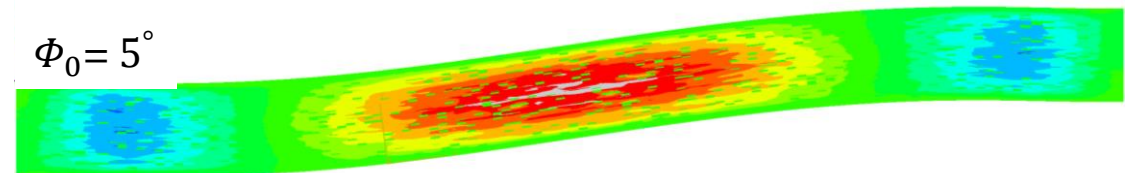
$\phi_0 = 3^\circ$



$\phi_0 = 4^\circ$



$\phi_0 = 5^\circ$

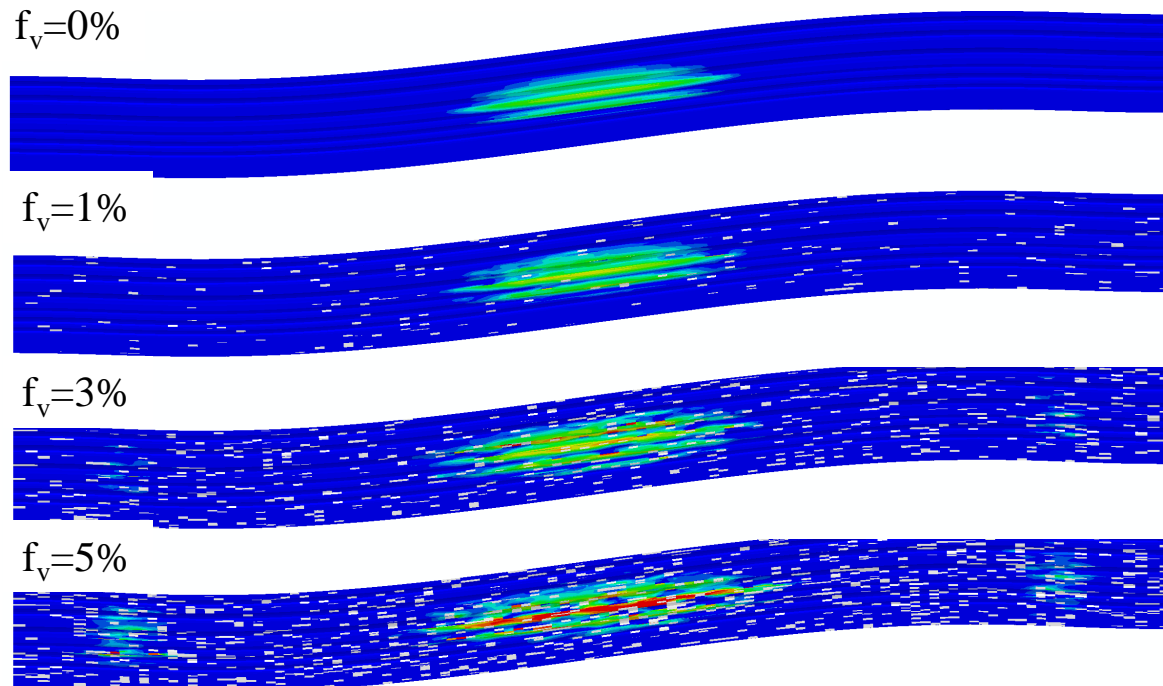


- Initial fibre waviness angle has insignificant influences on the final failure of composites under longitudinal compression

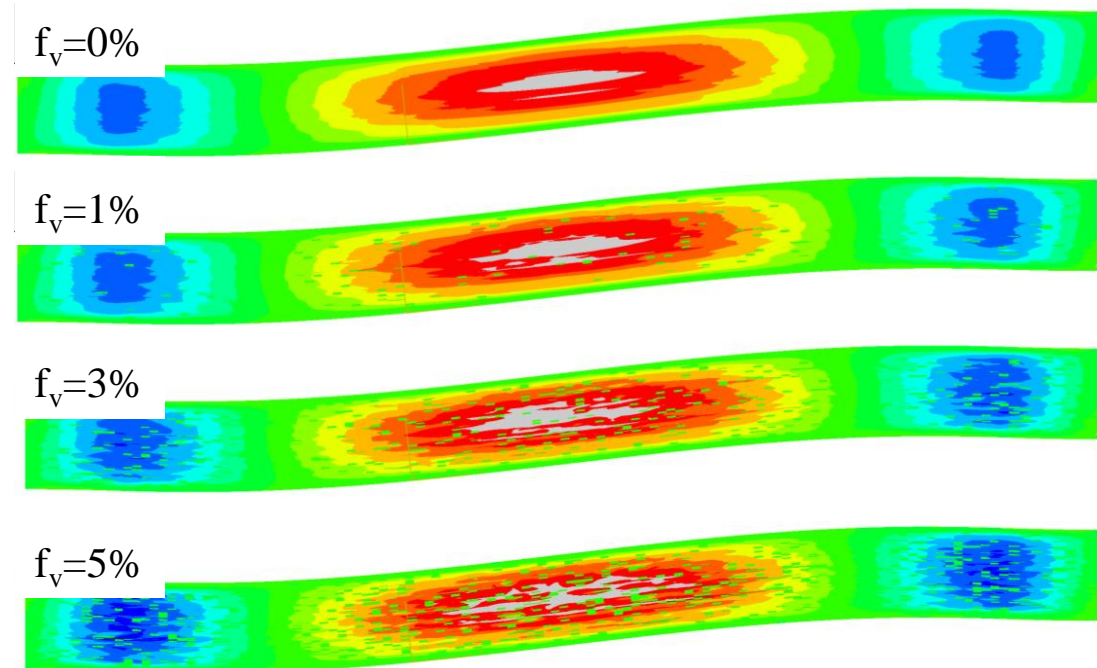
❖ Numerical results under uniaxial longitudinal compression considering voids

➤ Influences of the volume fraction of voids on the failure of composites with $\phi_0 = 3^\circ$ and Type I

Tensile damage in matrix



Shear stress distribution in matrix



- The volume fraction of voids has significant effects on the damage initiation and propagation in the matrix
- The existence of voids has effects on the distribution of shear stress in the matrix

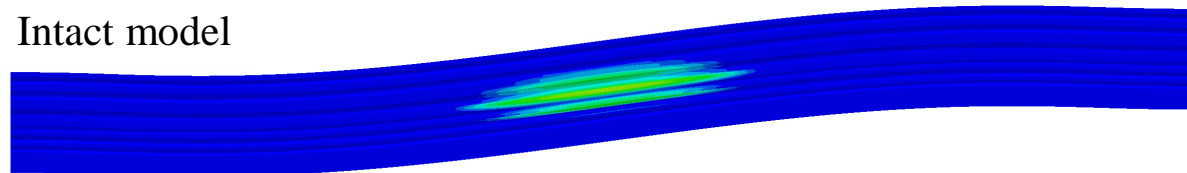
❖ Numerical results under uniaxial longitudinal compression considering voids

➤ Influences of the type of voids on the failure of composites with $\Phi_0 = 3^\circ$ and $f_v = 3\%$

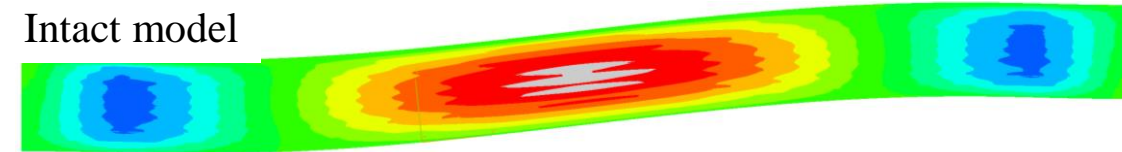
Tensile damage in matrix

Shear stress distribution in matrix

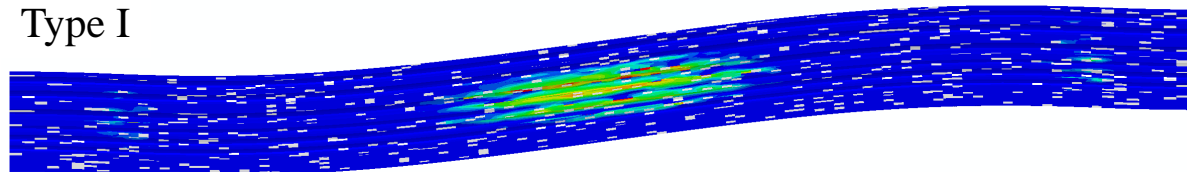
Intact model



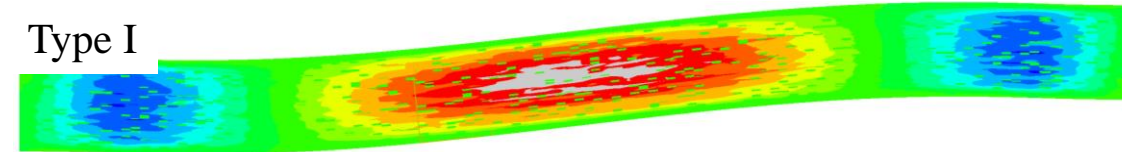
Intact model



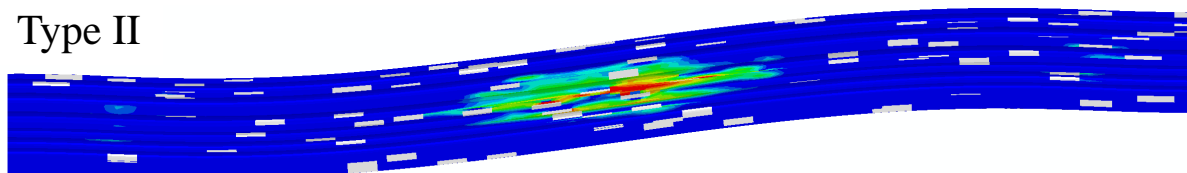
Type I



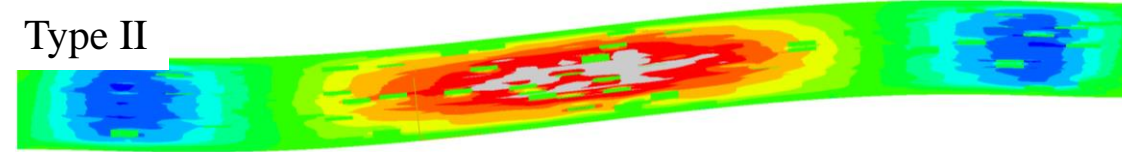
Type I



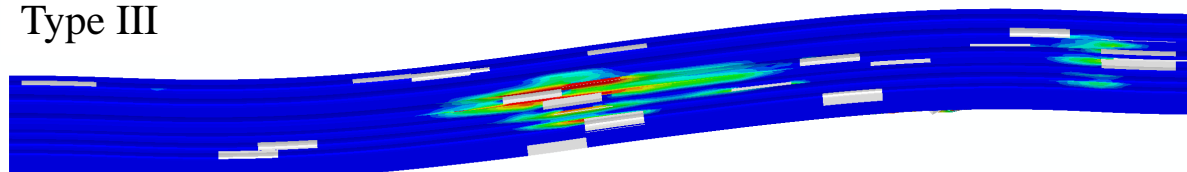
Type II



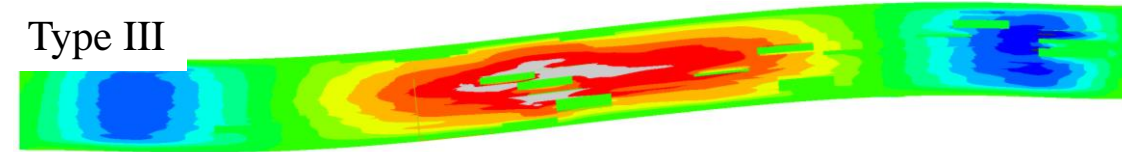
Type II



Type III



Type III

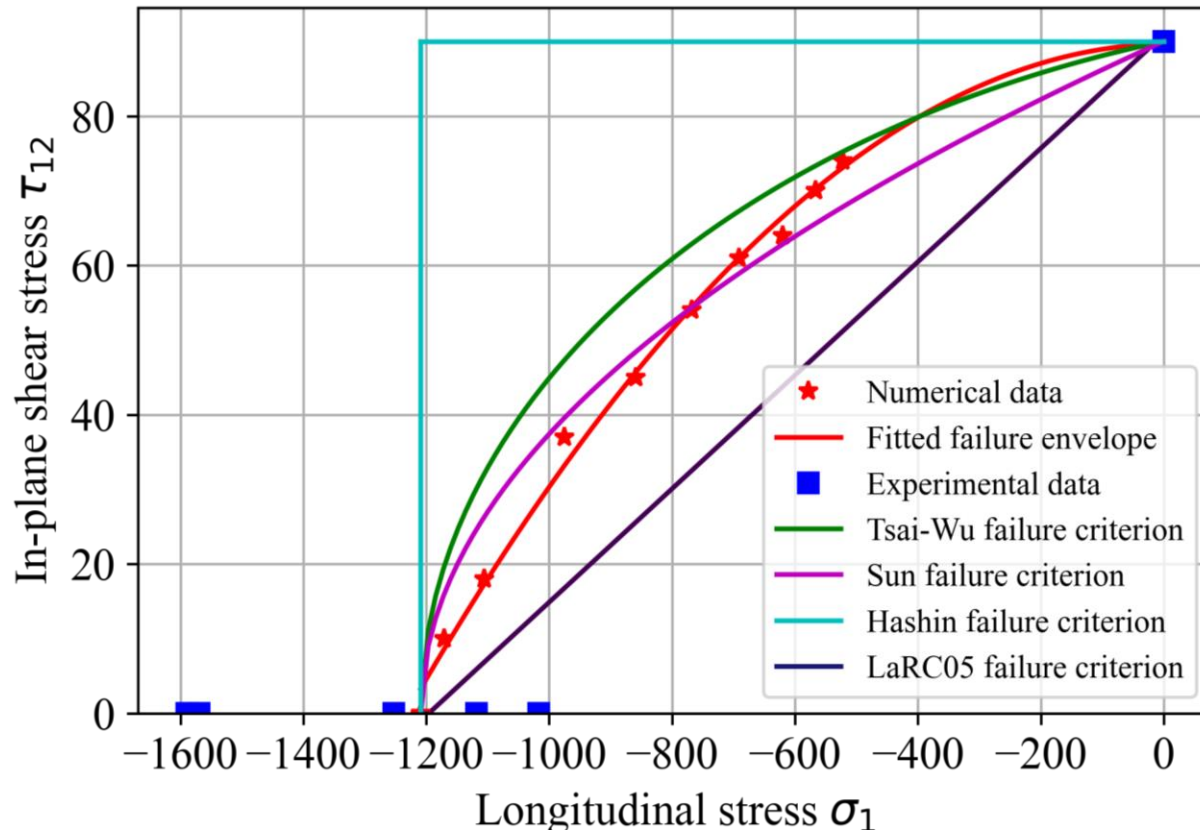


- Damage easily initiates and propagates from the larger voids in the matrix
- The size of voids can influence the distribution of shear stress in the matrix

❖ **Failure prediction under combined longitudinal compression and in-plane shear**

➤ **Failure strength prediction of composites and failure criteria comparison**

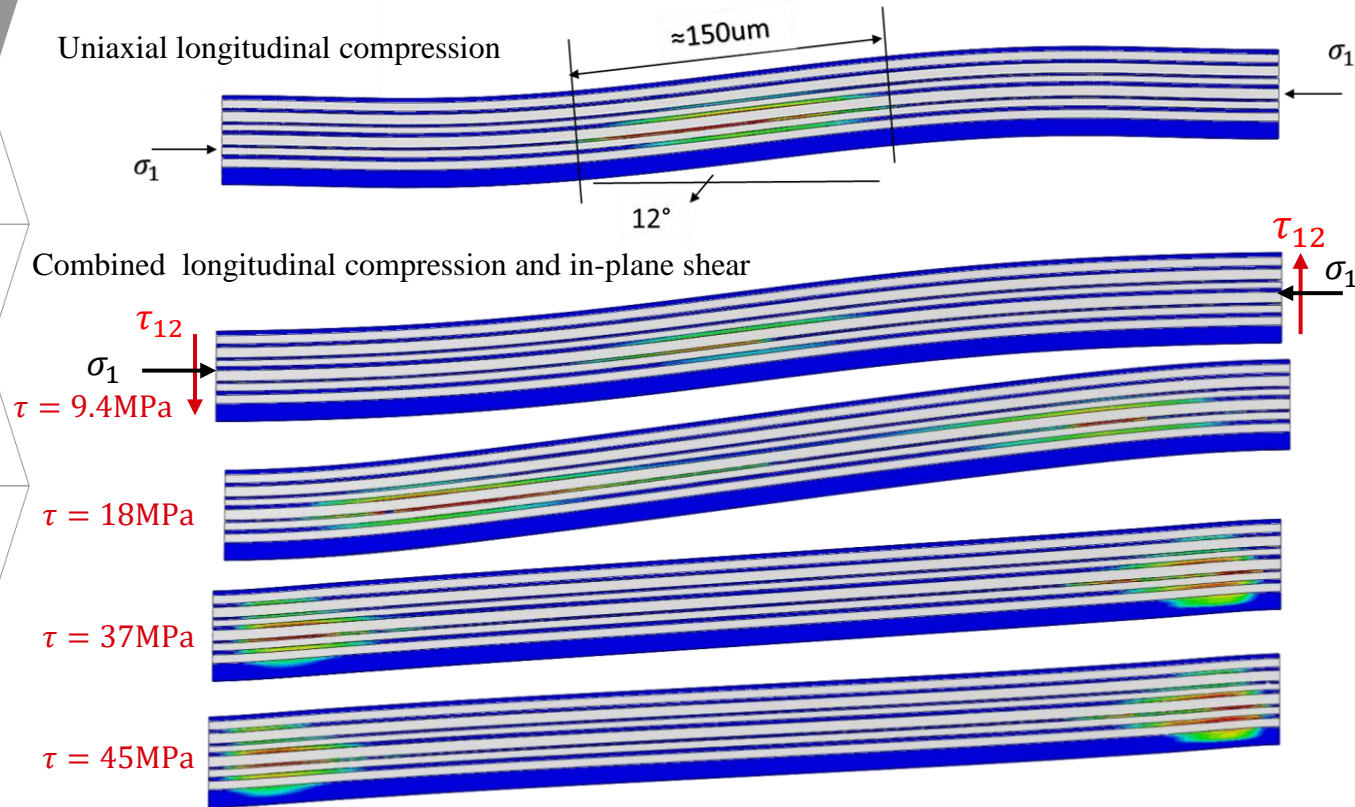
Shear stress	0	9.4	18	37	45	54	61	64	70	74
Failure point (MPa)	(1209,0)	(1171,9.4)	(1106,18)	(974,37)	(859,45)	(768,54)	(691,61)	(620,64)	(567,70)	(522,74)
Kink-band width (μm)	150	135	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fibre rotation angle	12°	14°	16°	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



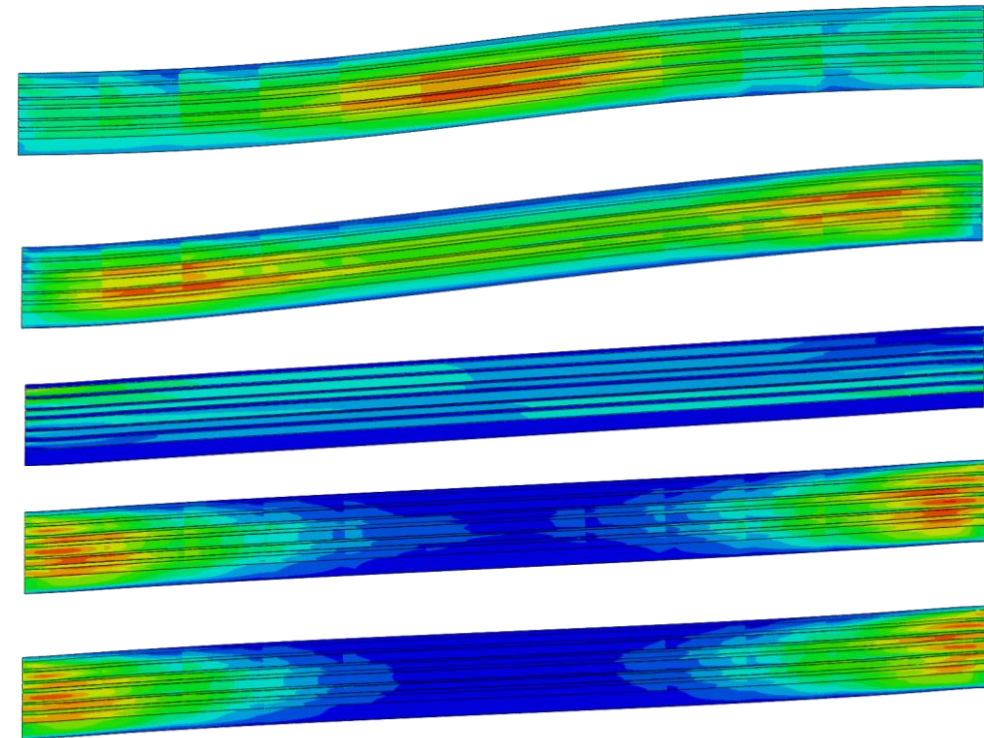
- In-situ kink-band width decreases as in-plane shear stress increases and disappears when the stress exceeds 18 MPa
- In-plane shear stress facilitates the fibre rotation under combined loading conditions when the stress is not larger than 18 MPa
- Hashin and Tsai-Wu failure criteria overestimate the failure strength under biaxial loadings while the LaRC05 failure criterion underestimates the strength.
- Sun Failure criterion has a better agreement with the failure strengths obtained from numerical simulations mainly due to its consideration of the initial waviness angle of fibres.

➤ **Failure analysis of composites under combined loadings**

Tensile damage in matrix



Shear stress distribution in matrix



- In-situ kink-band shrinks and shifts to both sides when in-plane shear stress increases
- The failure of composites is triggered by the matrix tensile failure in the form of splitting

❖ Conclusions:

- 3D high-fidelity micromechanical models can predict the failure of unidirectional composite materials in great detail under uniaxial longitudinal compression.
- A new approach is proposed for the measurement of in-situ kink band width for numerical studies
- Manufacturing-induced uncertainties, such as the initial waviness angle of fibres and voids, have a significant influence on the failure prediction of composites.
- In-plane shear stress influences the formation of kink bands and fibre rotation angle.
- Conventional failure criteria were assessed based on the failure strength under combined longitudinal compression and in-plane shear and the Sun failure criterion performs best due to the consideration of initial waviness angle.

❖ Acknowledgement

The first author wishes to acknowledge the financial support of Rolls-Royce UTC at the Bristol Composite Institute of the University of Bristol.

❖ References

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Thanks! Any question?



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