

Fatigue, Damage and Failure of Composite Materials: Mechanisms, Fatigue Life Diagrams and Life Prediction

Ramesh Talreja

Department of Aerospace Engineering

Department of Materials Science and Engineering

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, USA

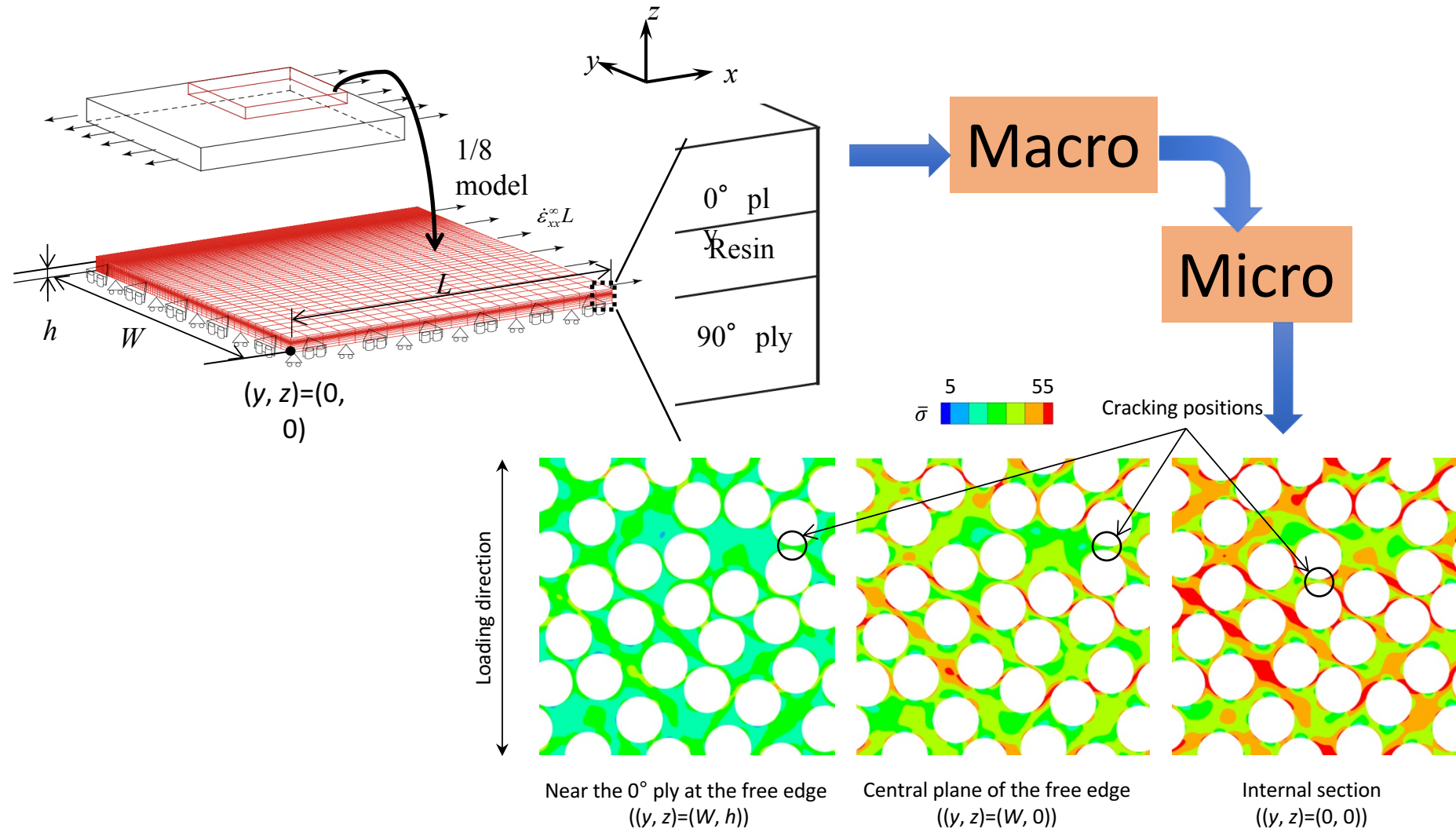
UTMIS Autumn Course, Gothenburg, Sweden, 15-16 October 2019

Lecture 5 : DAMAGE MECHANICS

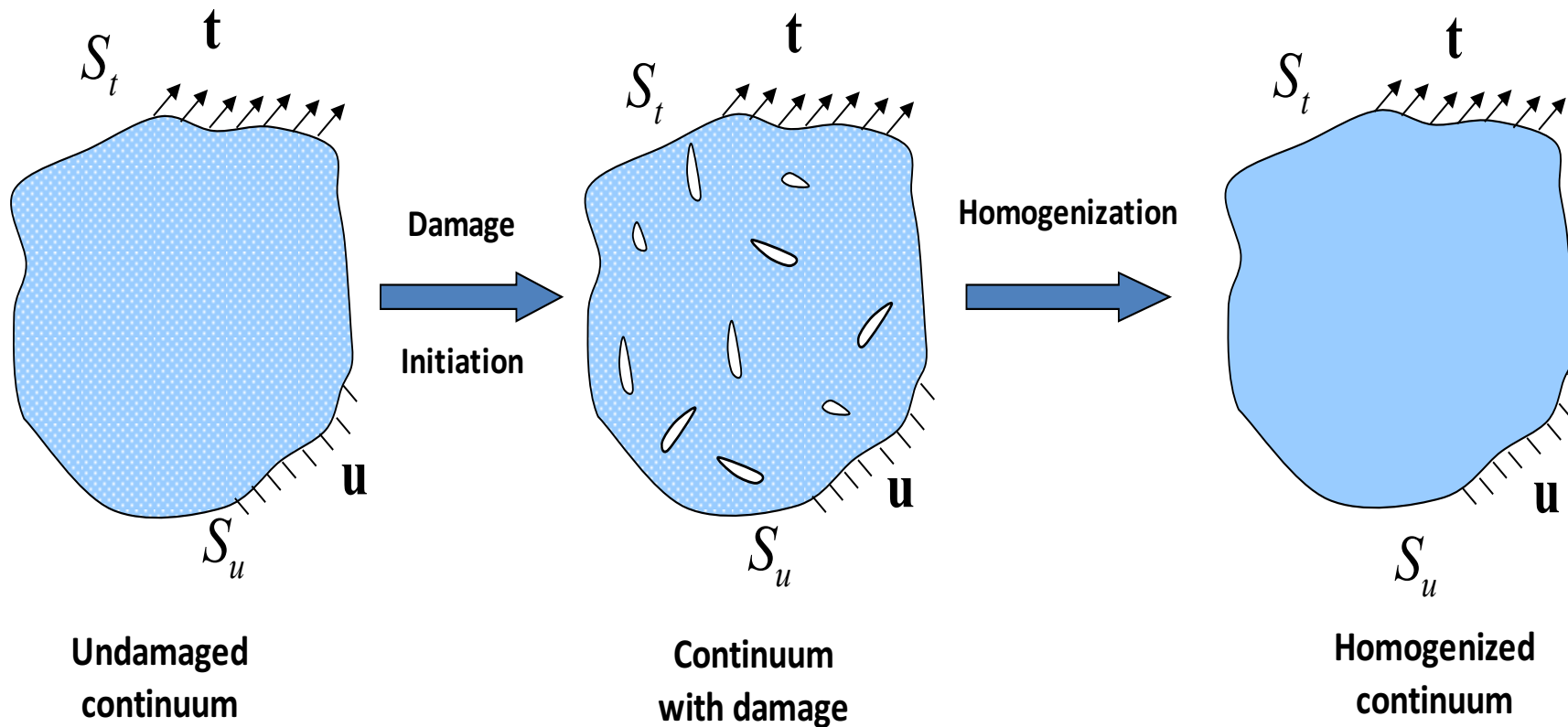
Contents

- Multiscale approach to damage and failure
- Macro damage mechanics
- Micro damage mechanics
- Synergistic damage mechanics
- Defect damage mechanics
- Virtual testing, computational micromechanics

Multi-scale analysis - Methodology



Macro damage mechanics (also called continuum damage mechanics, CDM)



Early concepts of damage as an “internal state”, Kachanov (1958)

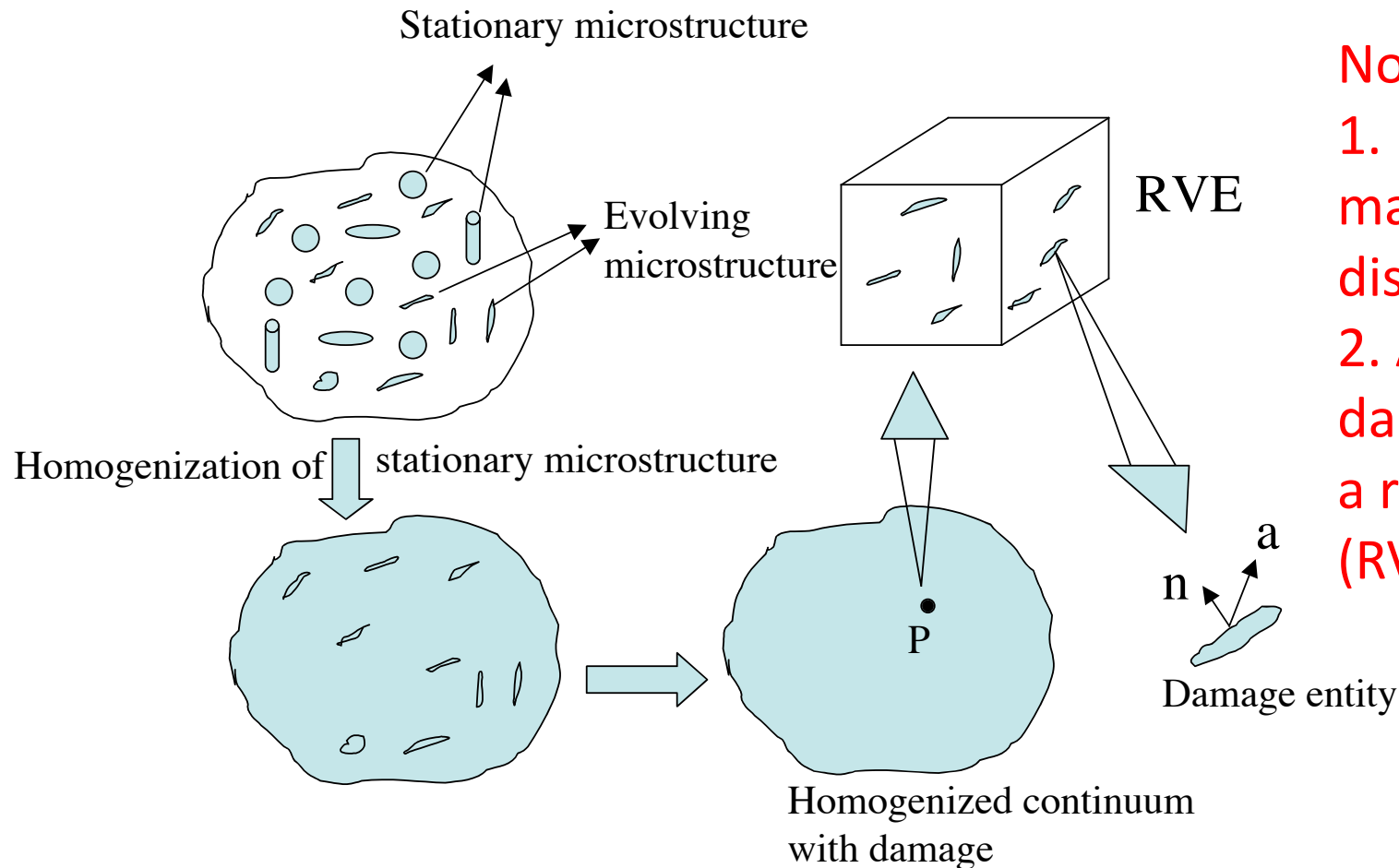
Kachanov considered creep rupture of metals. He assumed the internal structure was degrading in time (becoming discontinuous) and introduced an internal variable called discontinuity, ϕ , $\phi = 1$ at $t = 0$, whose rate of change was assumed as a power law:

$$\frac{d\phi}{dt} = -A \left(\frac{\sigma}{\phi} \right)^m$$

Robotnov later (1969) defined damage as $\omega = 1 - \phi$ as a damage parameter representing net area reduction. Thus, $0 < \omega < 1$ was born as an internal state variable.

Today, “damage” denoted by D has become an abused concept, and D is used arbitrarily as needed, mostly driven by convenience.

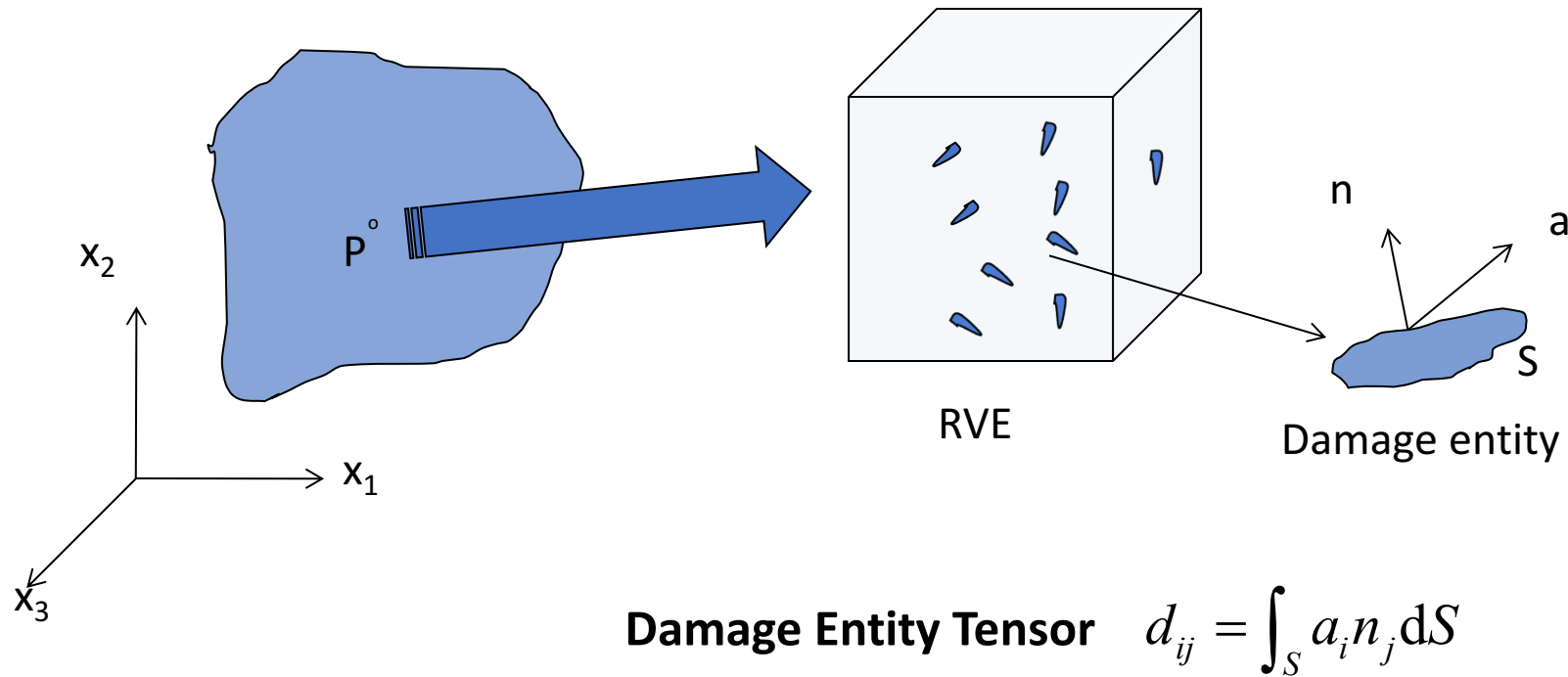
Damage as an internal variable for composite materials (Talreja, 1985)



Note:

1. Internal damage in composite materials is in the form of distributed, **oriented** microcracks.
2. All variables, stress, strain and damage must be described using a representative volume element (RVE).

Damage characterization for composites

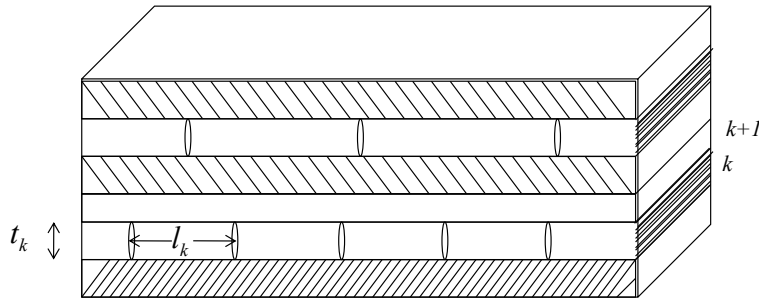


Damage Mode Tensor

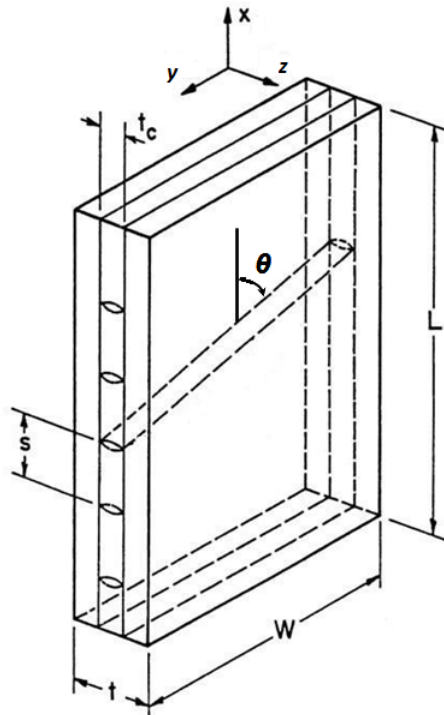
$$D_{ij}^{(\alpha)} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{k_\alpha} (d_{ij})_{k_\alpha}$$

Note: Instead of a tensor a vector can be used (see Talreja, Proc. R. Soc, 1985)

Damage Mode Tensors



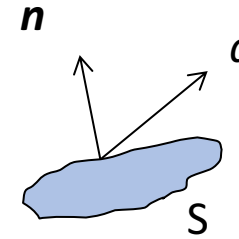
RVE of volume V



Assume $b = 0$



$$d_{ij} = \int_S a_i n_j dS$$



$$D_{ij}^{(\alpha)} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{k_\alpha} (d_{ij})_{k_\alpha}$$

where k_α is the number of damage entities in the α^{th} mode

$$a_i = an_i + bm_i \quad n_i m_i = 0$$

a : crack opening displacement

b : crack sliding displacement

$$d_{ij} = d_{ij}^1 + d_{ij}^2$$

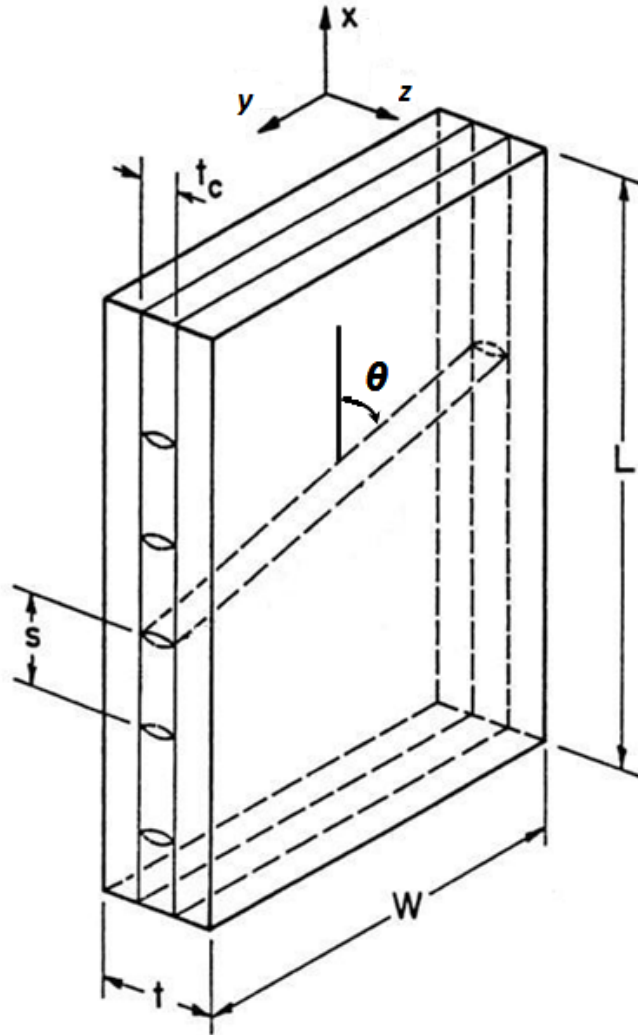
$$d_{ij}^1 = \int_S an_i n_j dS, \quad d_{ij}^2 = \int_S bm_i n_j dS$$

$$D_{ij}^{(\alpha)} = D_{ij}^{1(\alpha)} + D_{ij}^{2(\alpha)}$$

$$D_{ij}^{1(\alpha)} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{k_\alpha} (d_{ij}^1)_{k_\alpha}, \quad D_{ij}^{2(\alpha)} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{k_\alpha} (d_{ij}^2)_{k_\alpha}$$

$$D_{ij}^{(\alpha)} = D_{ij}^{1(\alpha)} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{k_\alpha} \left[\int_S an_i n_j dS \right]_{k_\alpha}$$

Damage Tensor Components (One Damage Mode)



$$D_{ij}^{(\alpha)} = D_{ij}^{1(\alpha)} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{k_\alpha} \left[\int_S a n_i n_j dS \right]_{k_\alpha} .$$

$$V = L.W.t$$

$$S = \frac{W.t_c}{\sin \theta}$$

$$a = \kappa t_c$$

$$n_i = (\sin \theta, \cos \theta, 0)$$

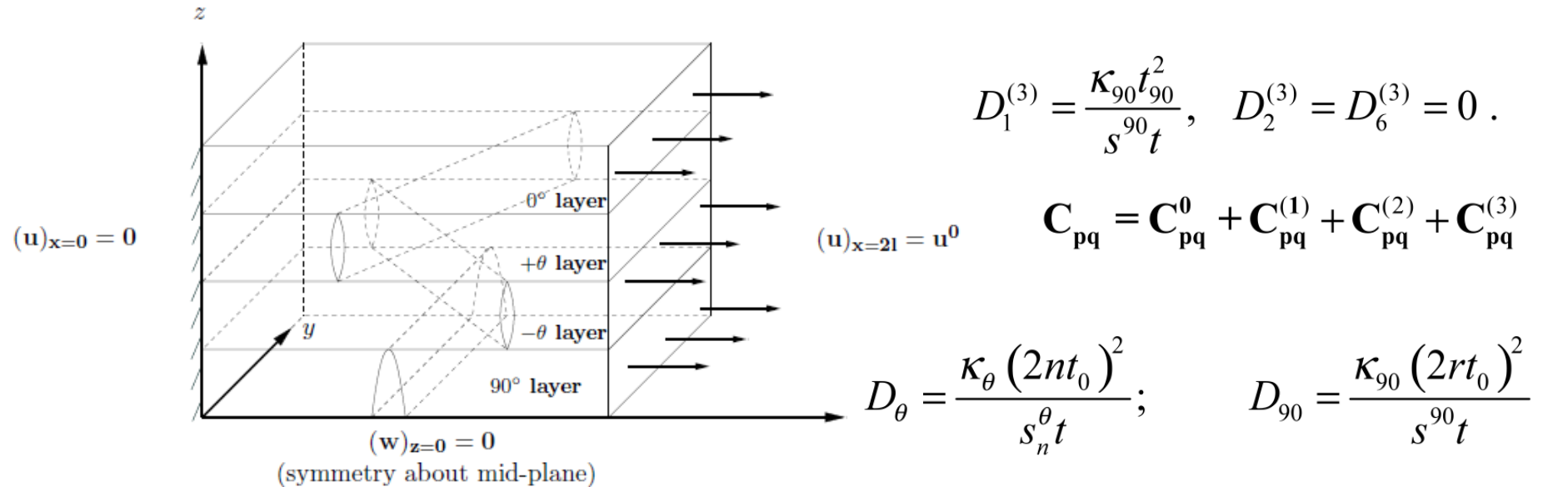
$$D_{ij}^{(\alpha)} = \frac{\kappa t_c^2}{st \sin \theta} n_i n_j$$

$$\alpha = 1$$

(one damage mode)

κ (kappa): Constraint parameter

Three Damage Modes: Cracking in θ , $-\theta$, and 90° Plies



$[0_m/\pm\theta_n/90_r]_s$ laminate

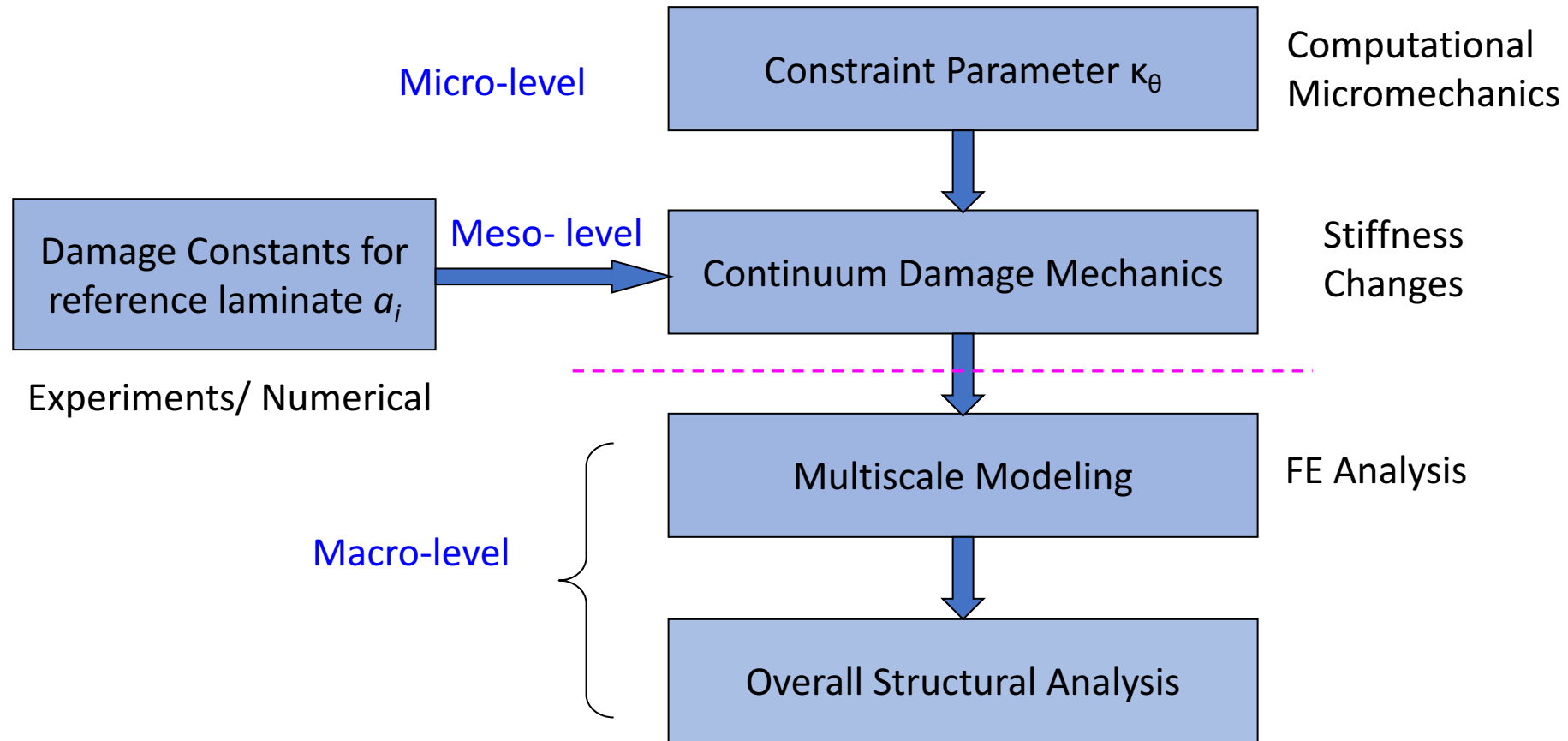
$$\kappa_\theta = \frac{(\overline{\Delta u_y})_{\pm\theta_{2n}}}{2nt_0};$$

$$\kappa_{90_{4n+2r}} = \frac{(\overline{\Delta u_y})_{90_{4n+2r}}}{(4n+2r)t_0};$$

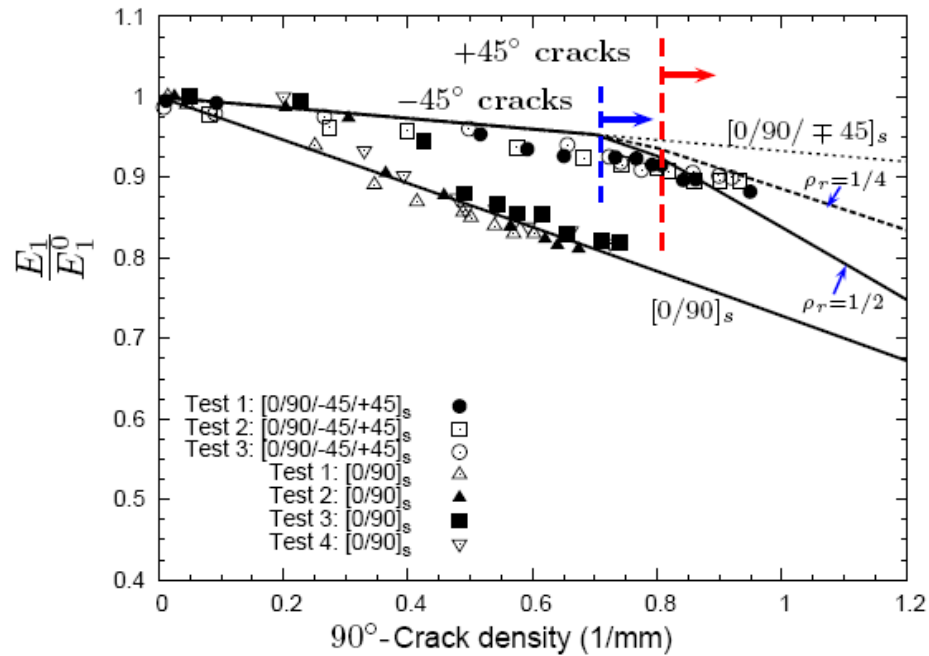
$$\kappa_{90} = \frac{(\overline{\Delta u_y})_{90_{2r}}}{2rt_0}.$$

$$\Delta C_{pq} = 2D_\theta \begin{bmatrix} 2a_1 & a_4 & 0 \\ & 2a_2 & 0 \\ \text{Symm} & & 2a_3 \end{bmatrix} + D_{90} \begin{bmatrix} 2a'_1 & a'_4 & 0 \\ & 2a'_2 & 0 \\ \text{Symm} & & 2a'_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

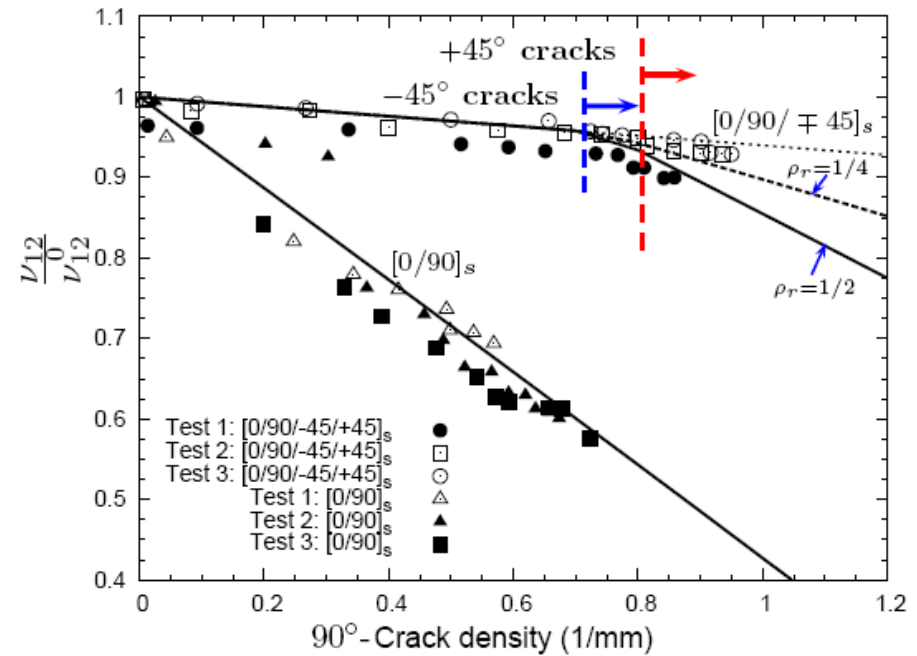
Multiscale Synergistic Damage Mechanics (SDM)



Results: quasi-isotropic laminate



Longitudinal Modulus



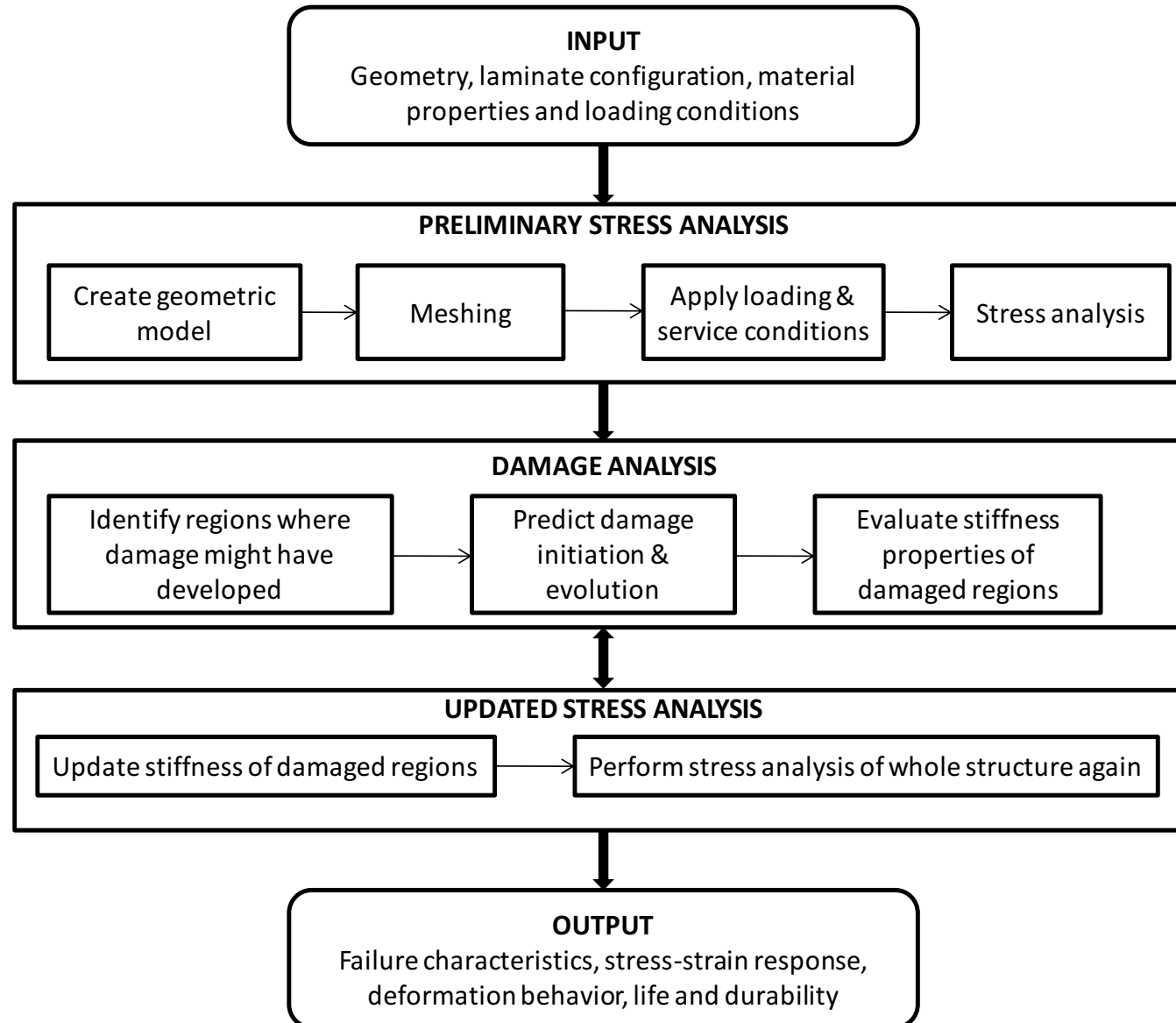
Poisson's Ratio

Steps

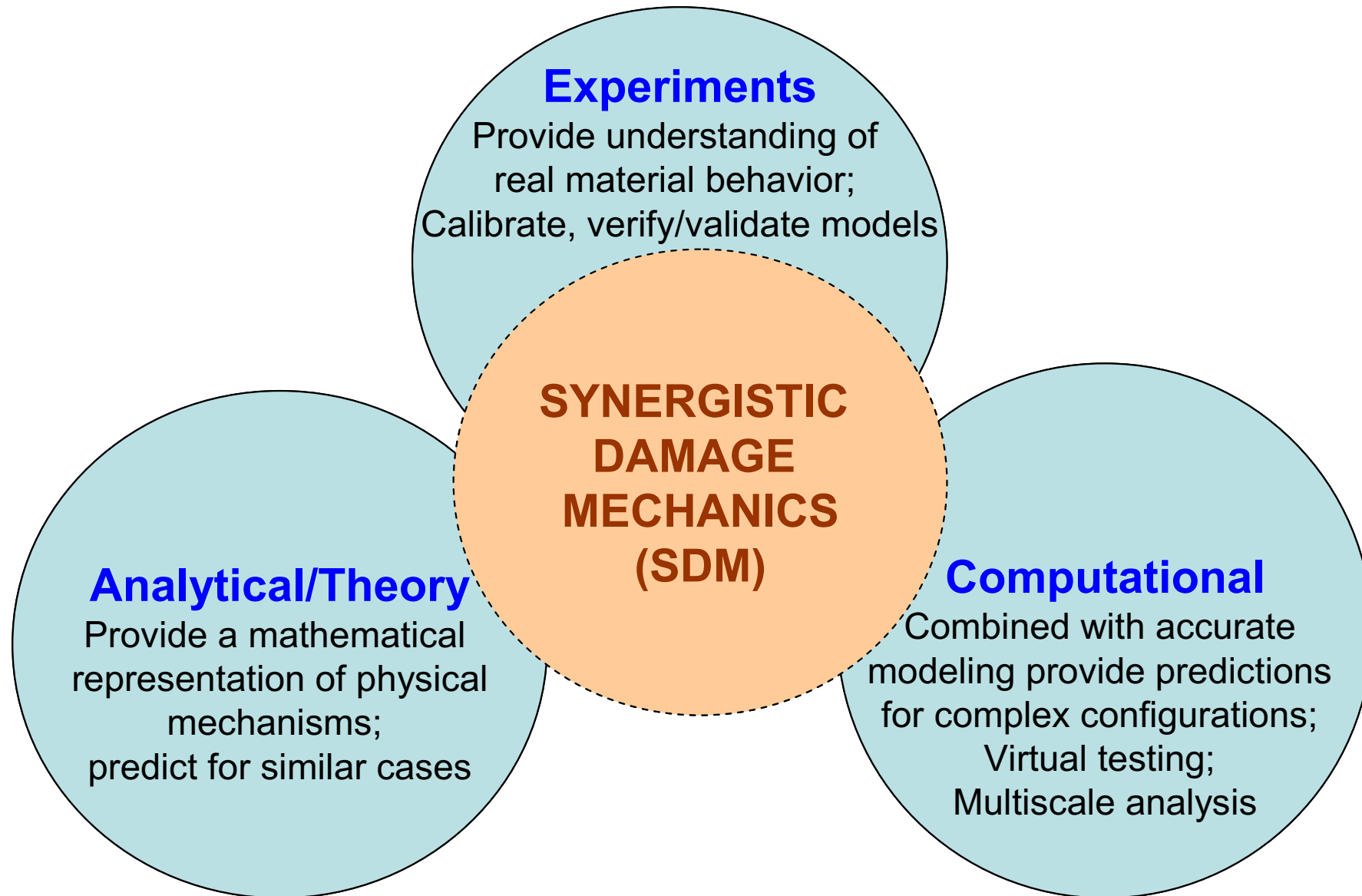
1. Fit the damage model with experimental data for crossply laminate
 → Gives us phenomenological constants a_i
2. Compute constraint parameters by calculating CODs from FEM
3. Employ the model for quasi-isotropic laminate.

Refs. Singh & Talreja, Mech Mat (2009) ; Singh & Talreja, Int J Solids Struct (2008)

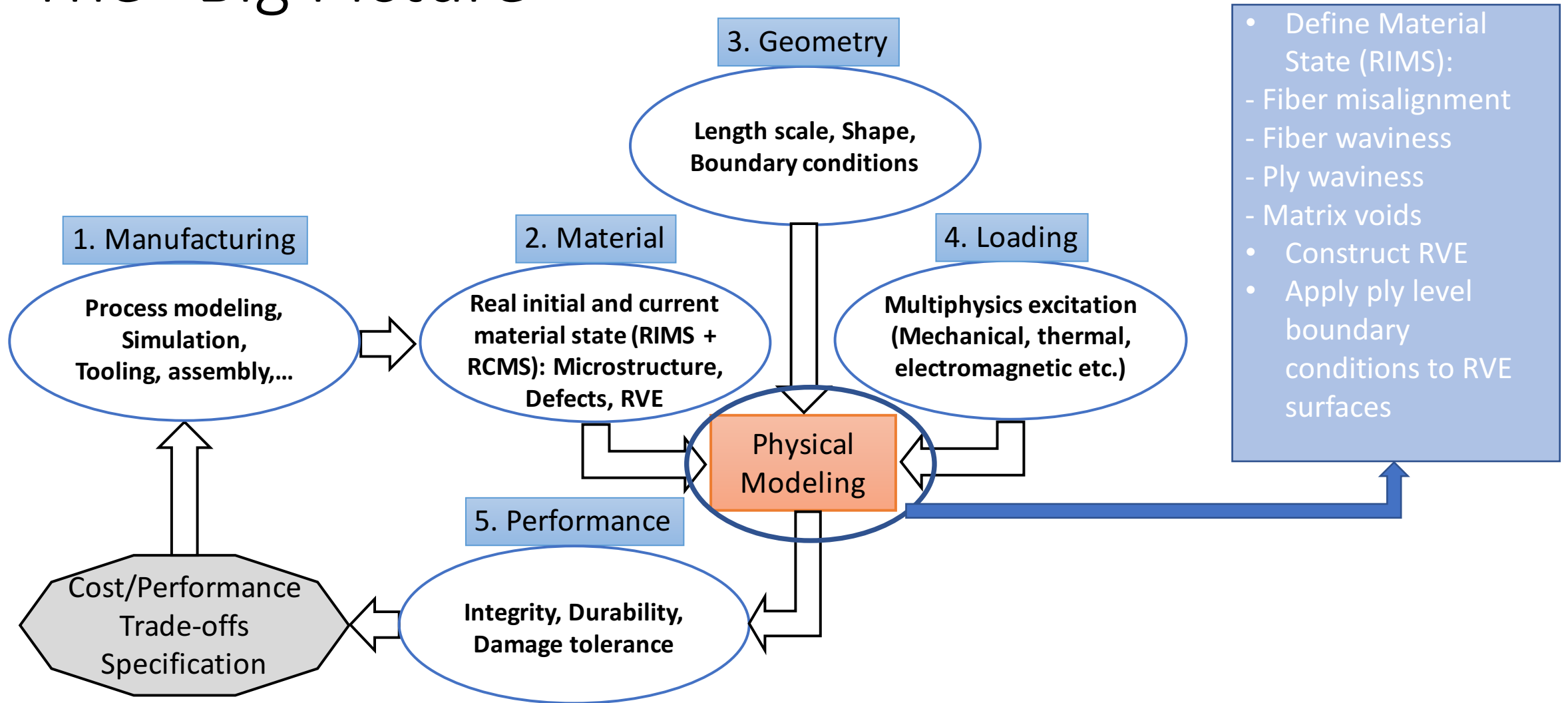
Computational structural analysis



SDM methodology



The “Big Picture”



Defect Damage Mechanics

Idealized models:

Heterogeneities,
no defects

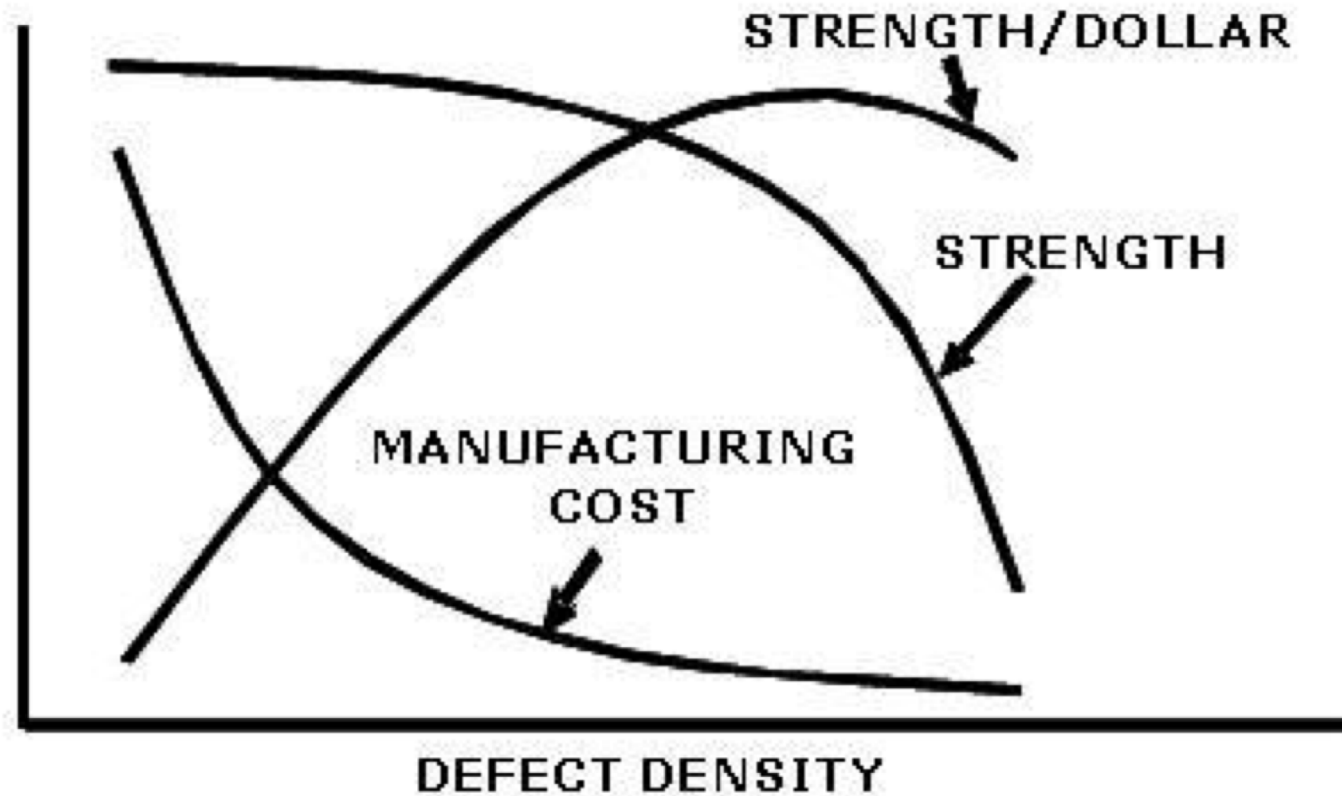
- Fiber volume fraction
- Fiber Distribution
 - Length
 - Orientation

Real composites:

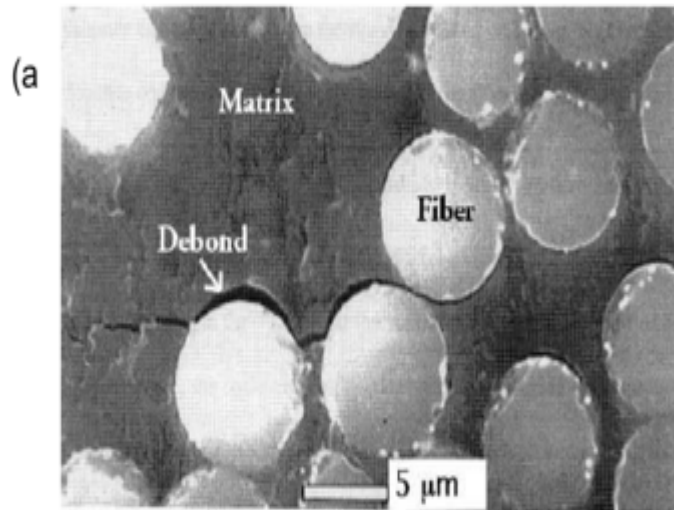
Defects

- Fiber Defects
 - Misalignment, waviness
 - Breakage
- Matrix Defects
 - Incomplete curing
 - Voids
- Interface Defects
 - Fiber/matrix disbonds
 - Delamination

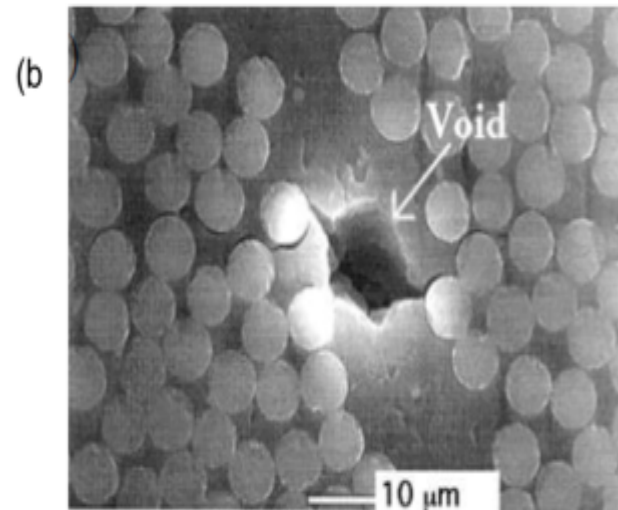
Cost-performance trade-off



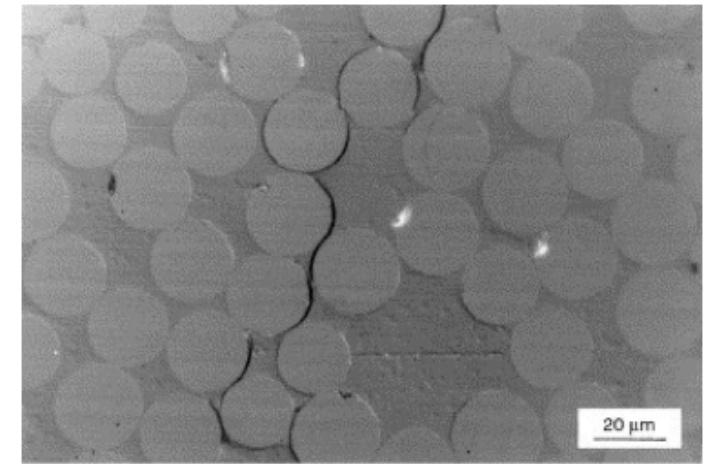
Manufacturing Defects: Nonuniform Fiber Distribution and Matrix Voids



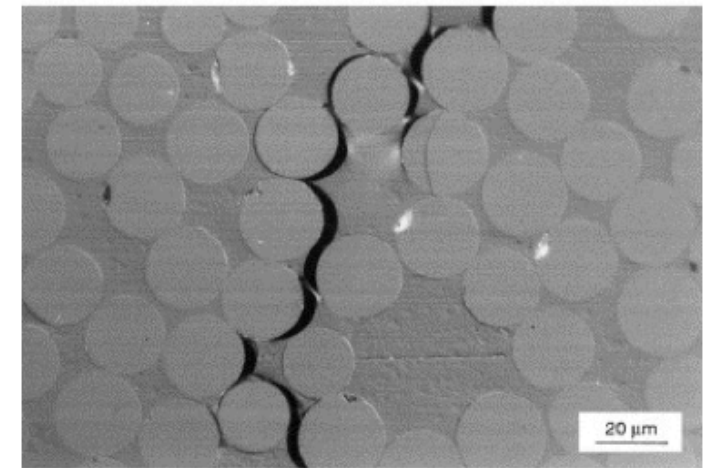
Cracks initiating from weak planes



Cracks initiating from voids



(a)

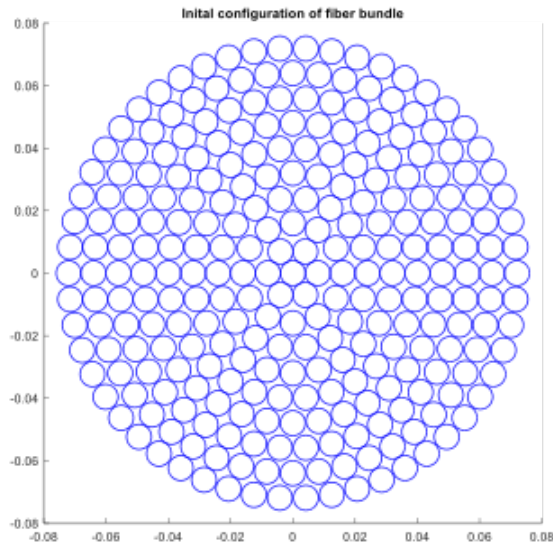


(b)

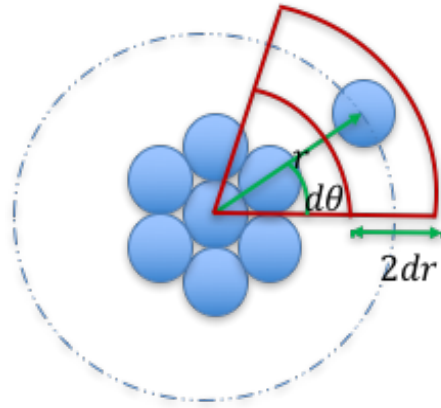
Debond link-up to transverse cracking

Simulation of manufacturing induced fiber distribution nonuniformity

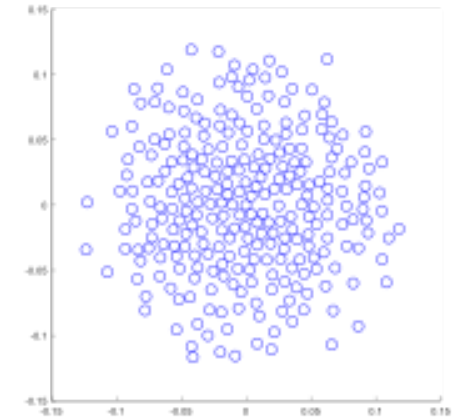
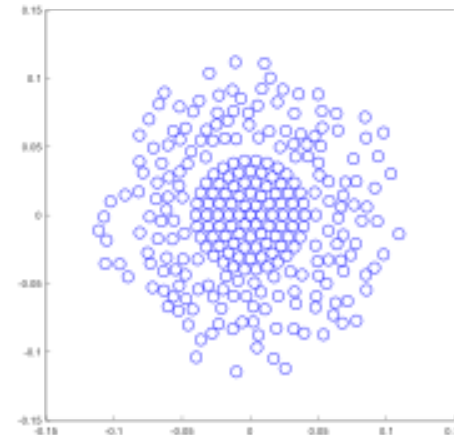
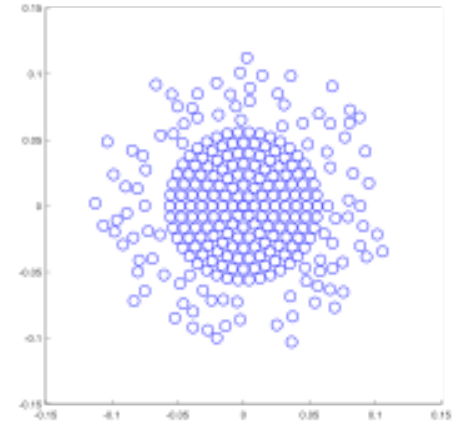
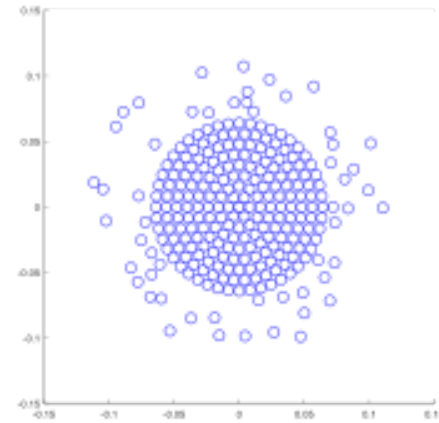
Approach 1: Quantification of fiber mobility (radial and angular)



Dry fiber bundle

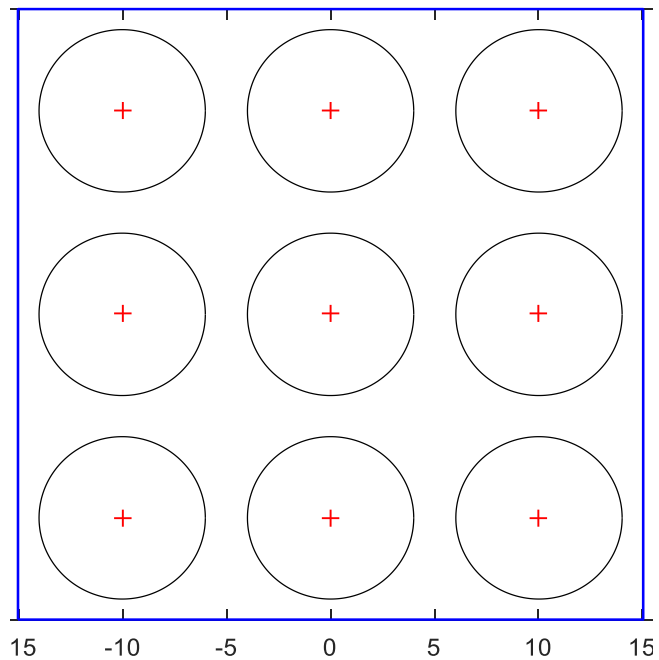


Resin
infusion

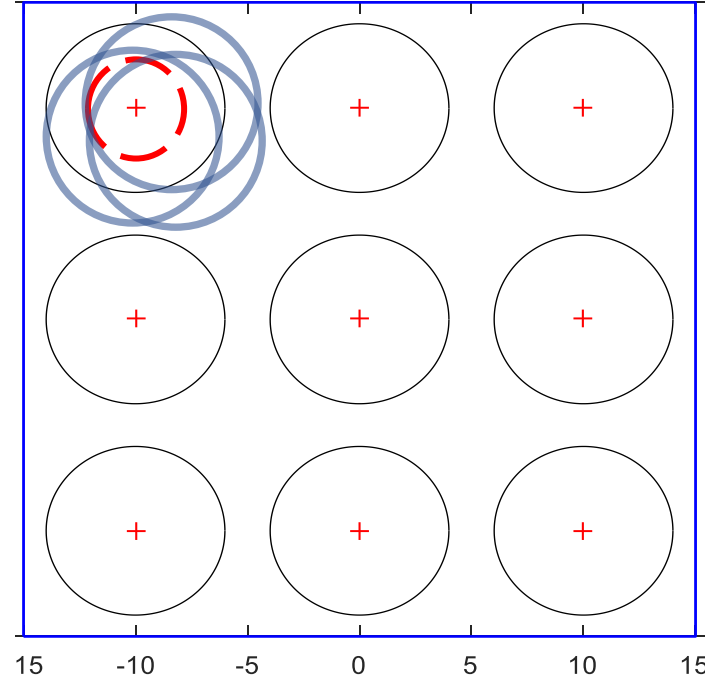


Simulation of manufacturing induced fiber distribution nonuniformity

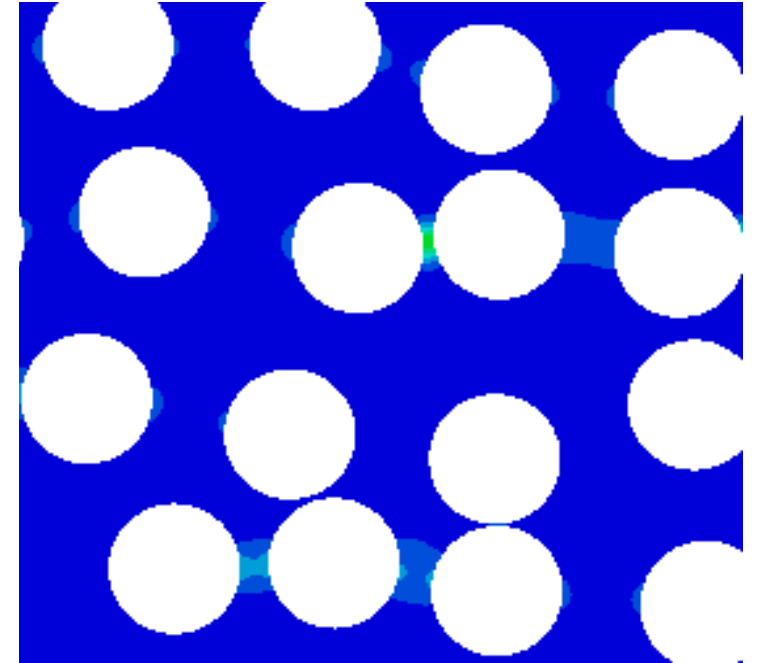
Approach 2: Quantification of degree of nonuniformity



Initial uniform
pattern

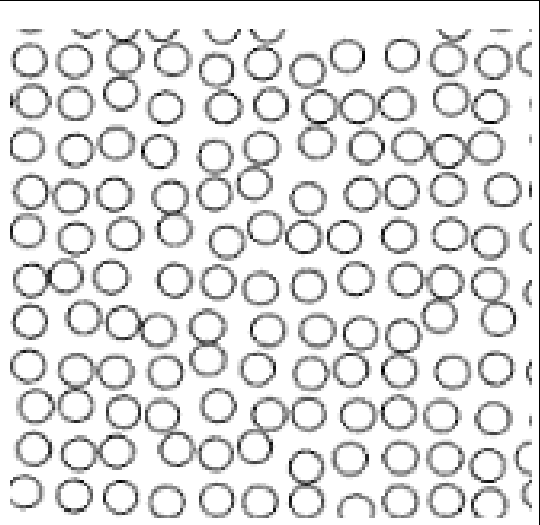
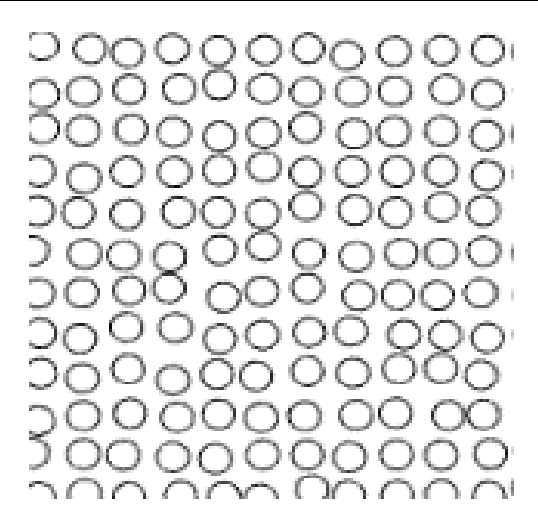
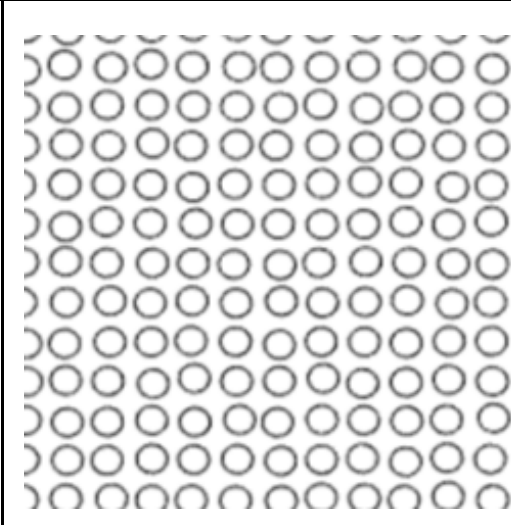
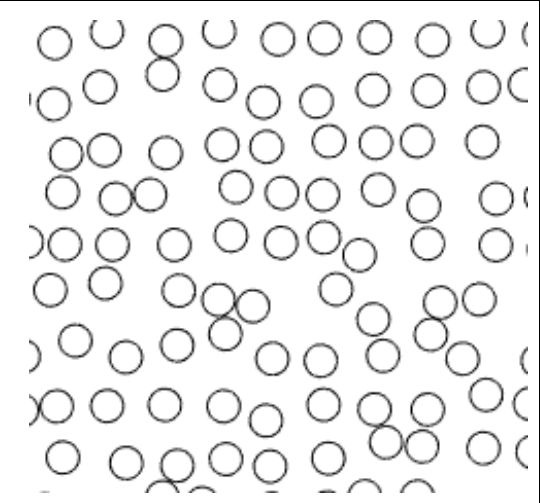
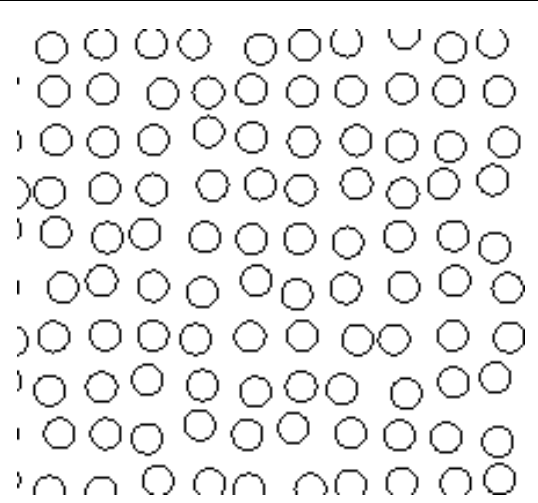
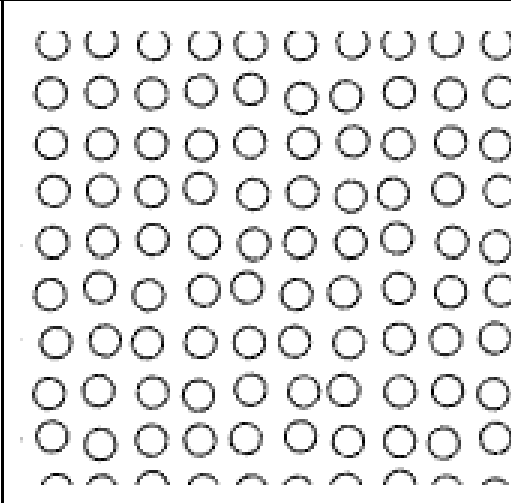


Intermediate steps
to "shake" fibers



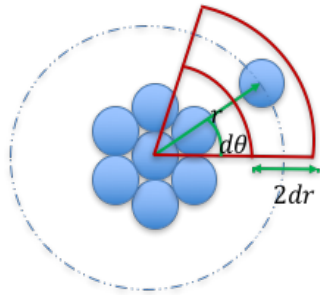
Final nonuniform
pattern

RVE realizations for different degrees of nonuniformity

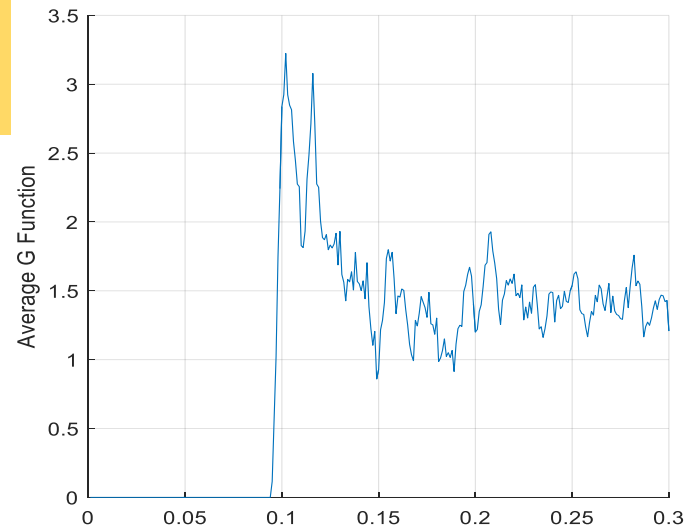
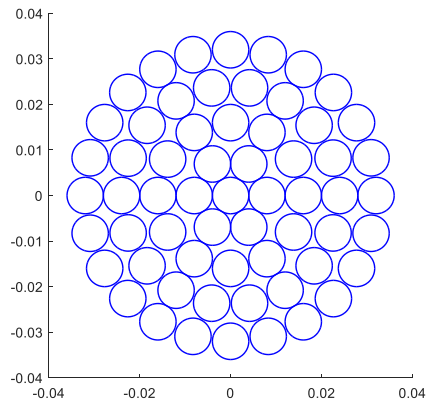
	100% Nonuniformity	60% Nonuniformity	30% Nonuniformity
(a) 40% fiber volume fraction			
(b) 30% fiber volume fraction			

Minimum RVE size

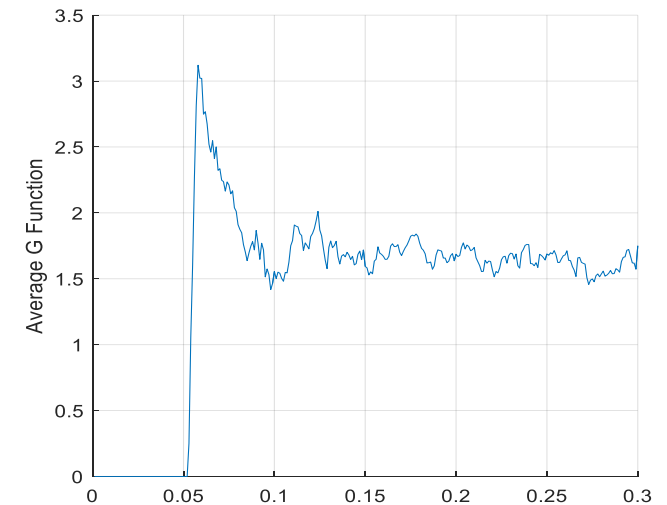
Approach 1: Pair distribution function $G(r)$



$$dr = \pm 0.25r$$
$$d\theta = \pm 15^\circ$$



NOR=5



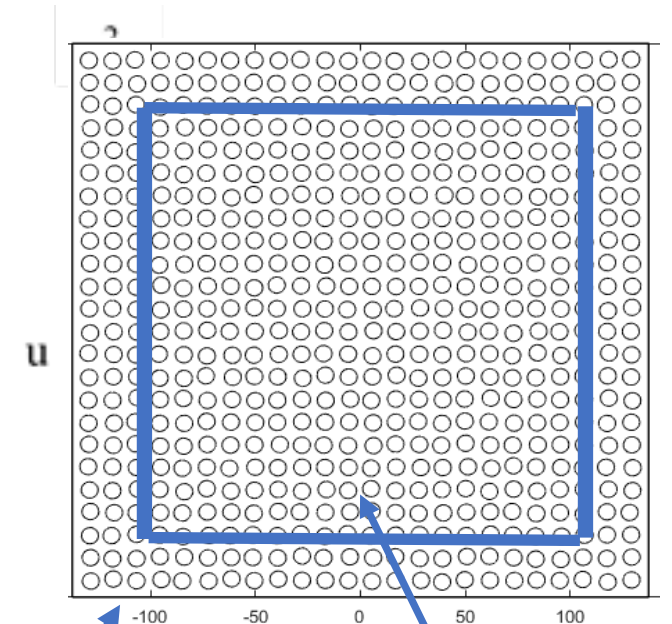
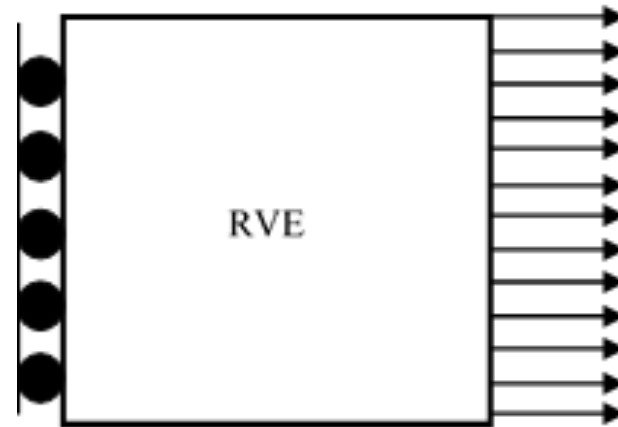
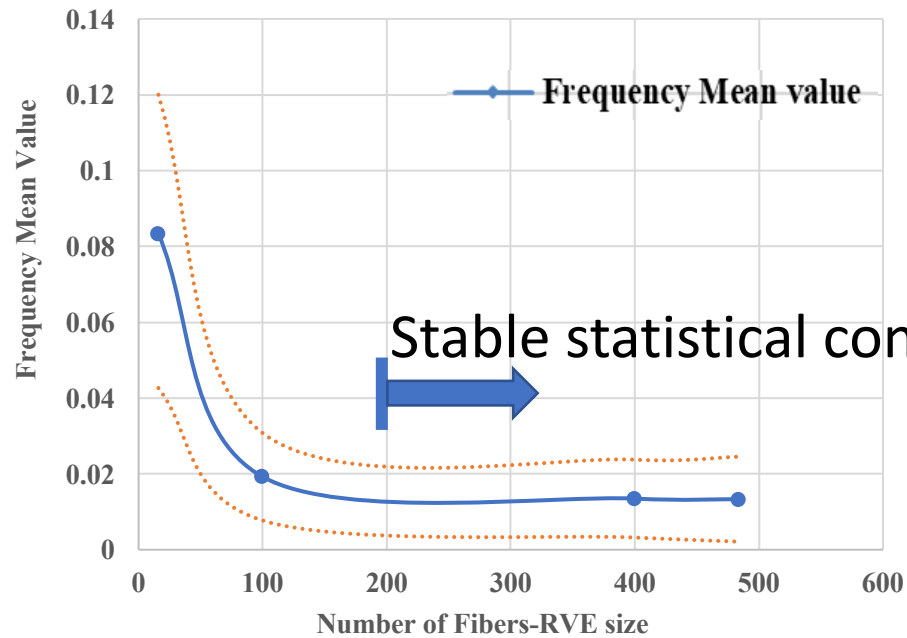
NOR=9

NOR: Number of Rings around the central fiber

As $NOR \geq 9$ the avg G function stabilizes → the min size of RVE is $NOR=9$

Minimum RVE size

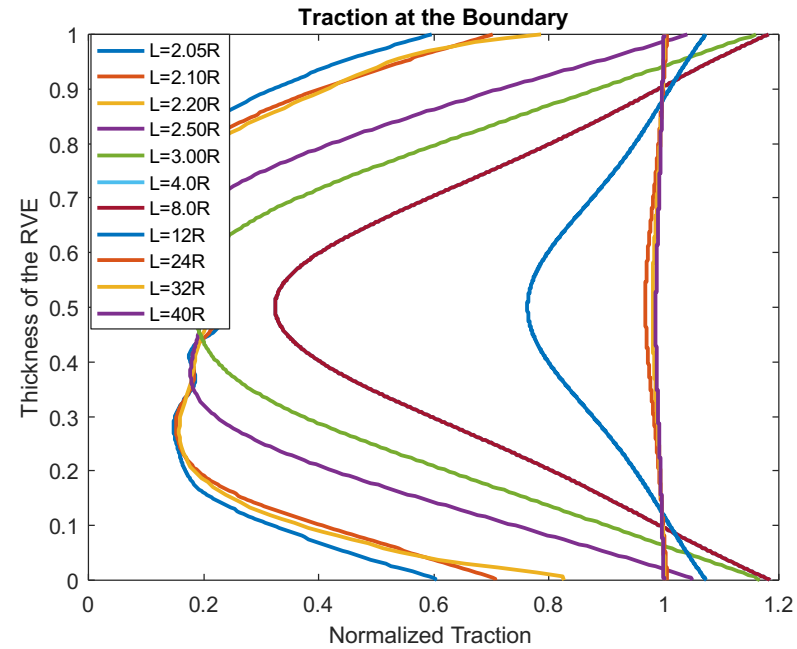
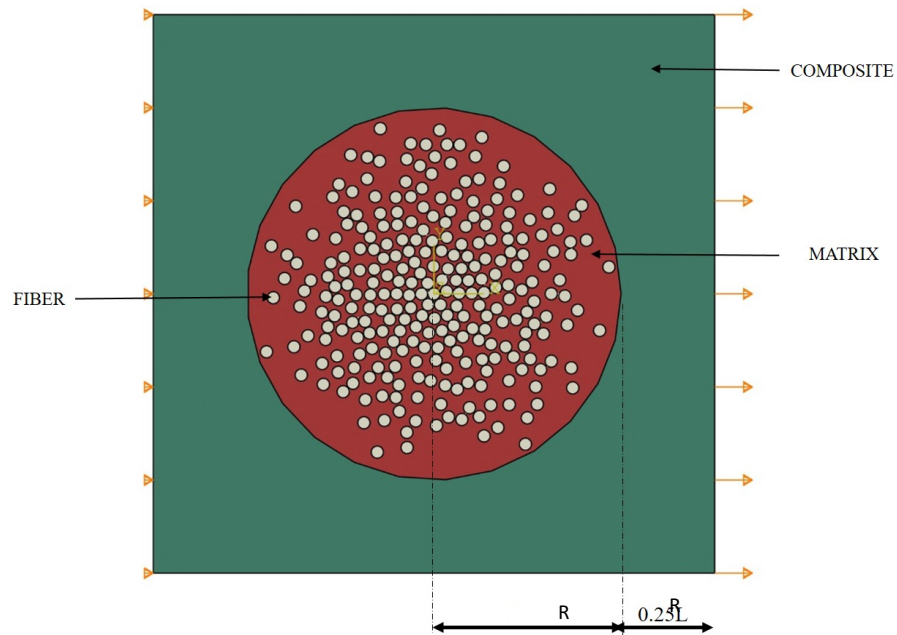
Approach 2: Stabilization of nearest neighbor statistics



24 x 24 fibers RVE

20 x 20 fibers
Inner window

Stress analysis for Approach 1: Embedded cell method



$\Delta T = -82^\circ\text{C}$,
Uniform boundary displacement

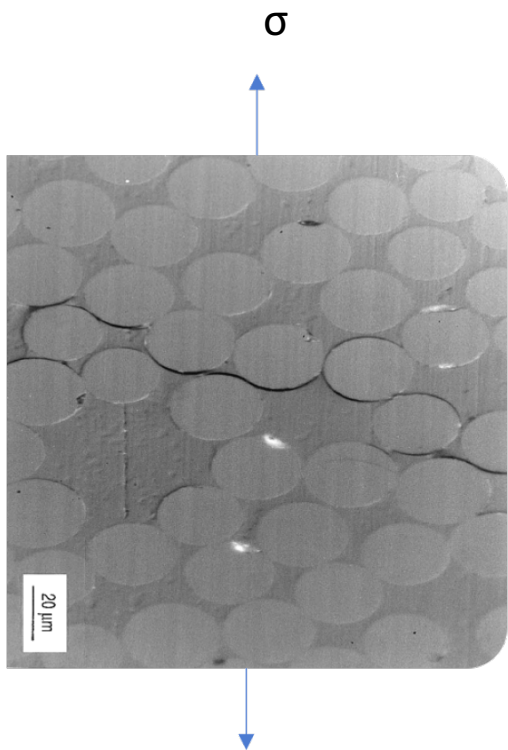
Size of the embedding composite determined
by Hill's criterion: Uniform boundary traction

Failure analysis: Multi level energy hierarchy approach

Assumptions (Statements of truths):

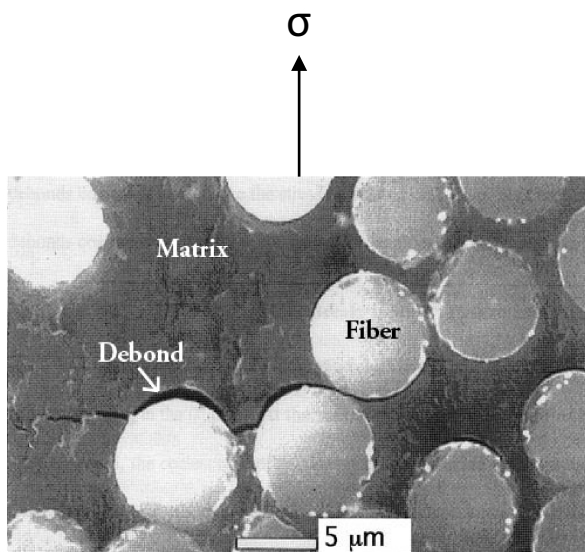
- The FIRST failure event occurs at the LOWEST critical energy level
- Local stress states are generally TRIAXIAL
- “Strength” criteria (max tension, max shear, “effective” stress, etc.) are not rational unless derived from energy criteria
- Progression of failure can be by a sequence of failure events or by incremental advance of already occurred failure (e.g. crack growth)

Failure under transverse tension



Gamstedt et al (1999)

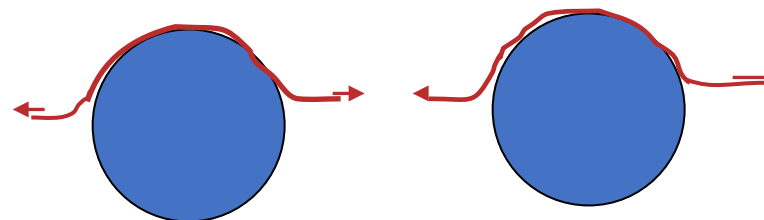
**Fiber/Matrix debonding
and matrix cracking**



Wood & Bradley (1997)

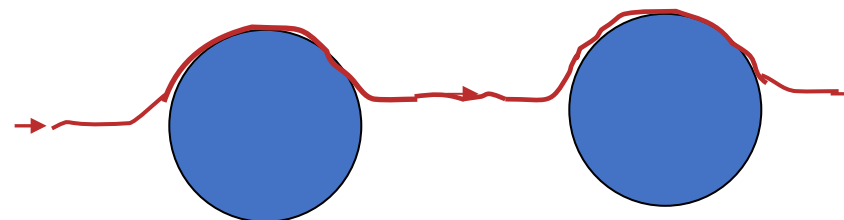
How is damage initiated under transverse tension?

Debonding induces matrix cracking

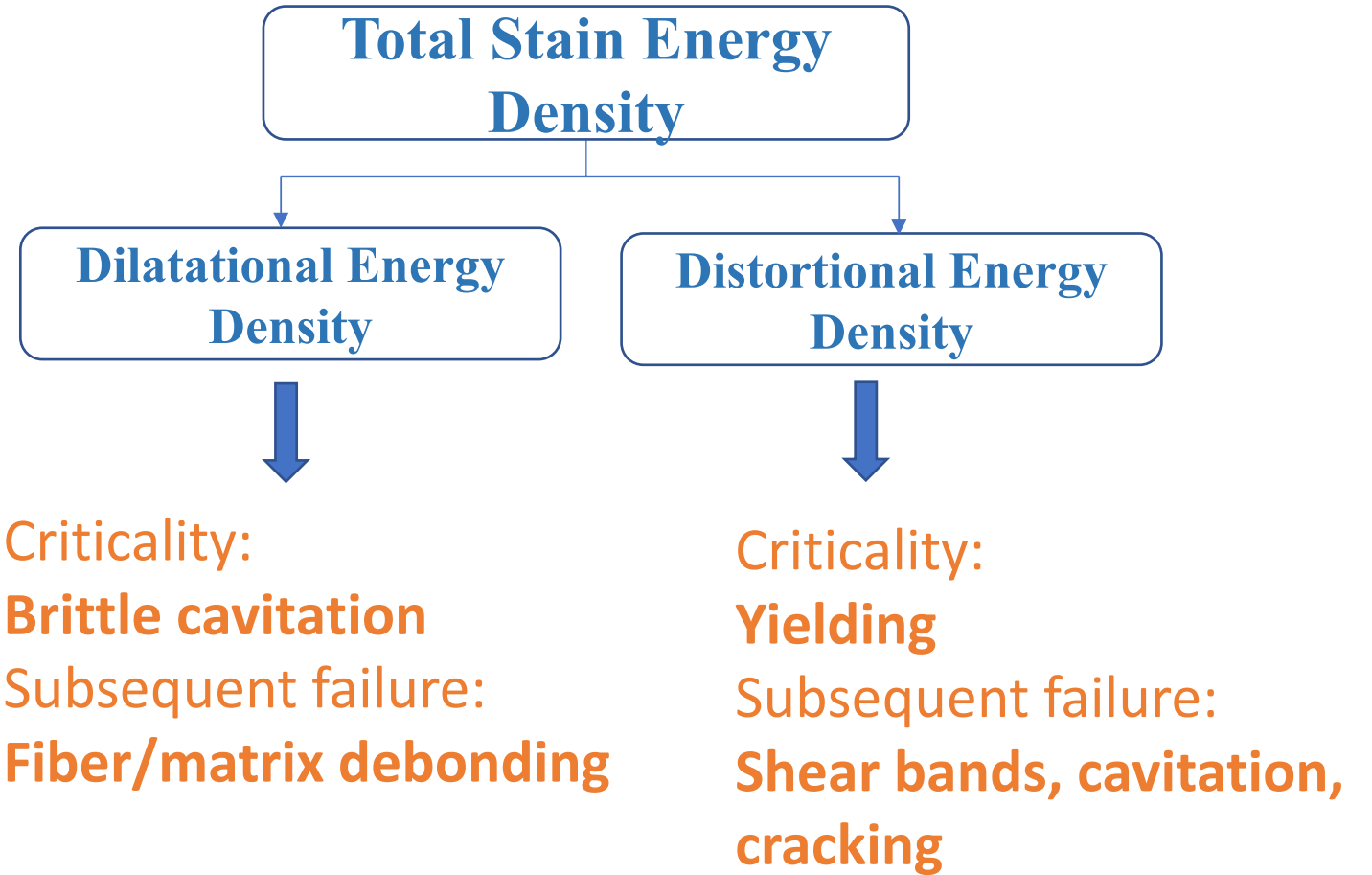
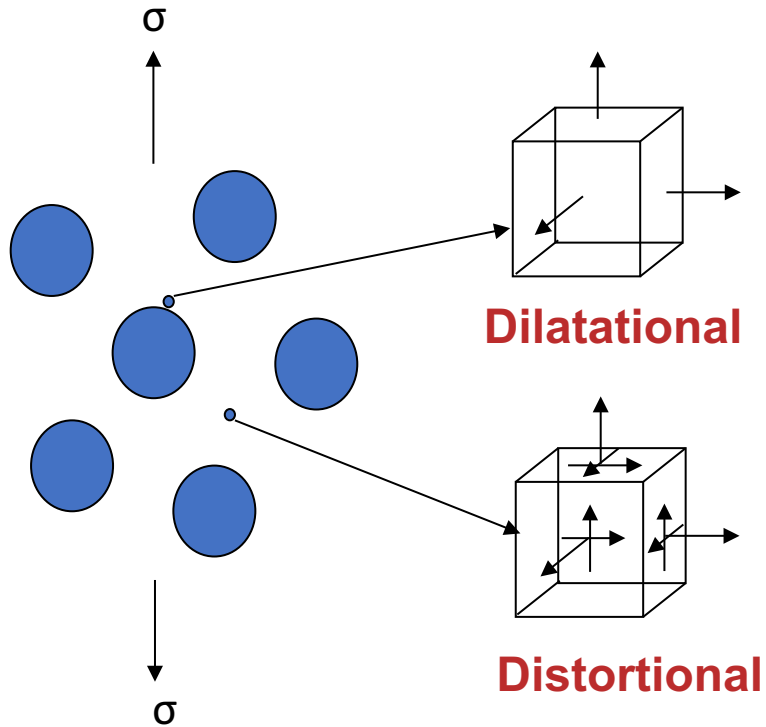


OR

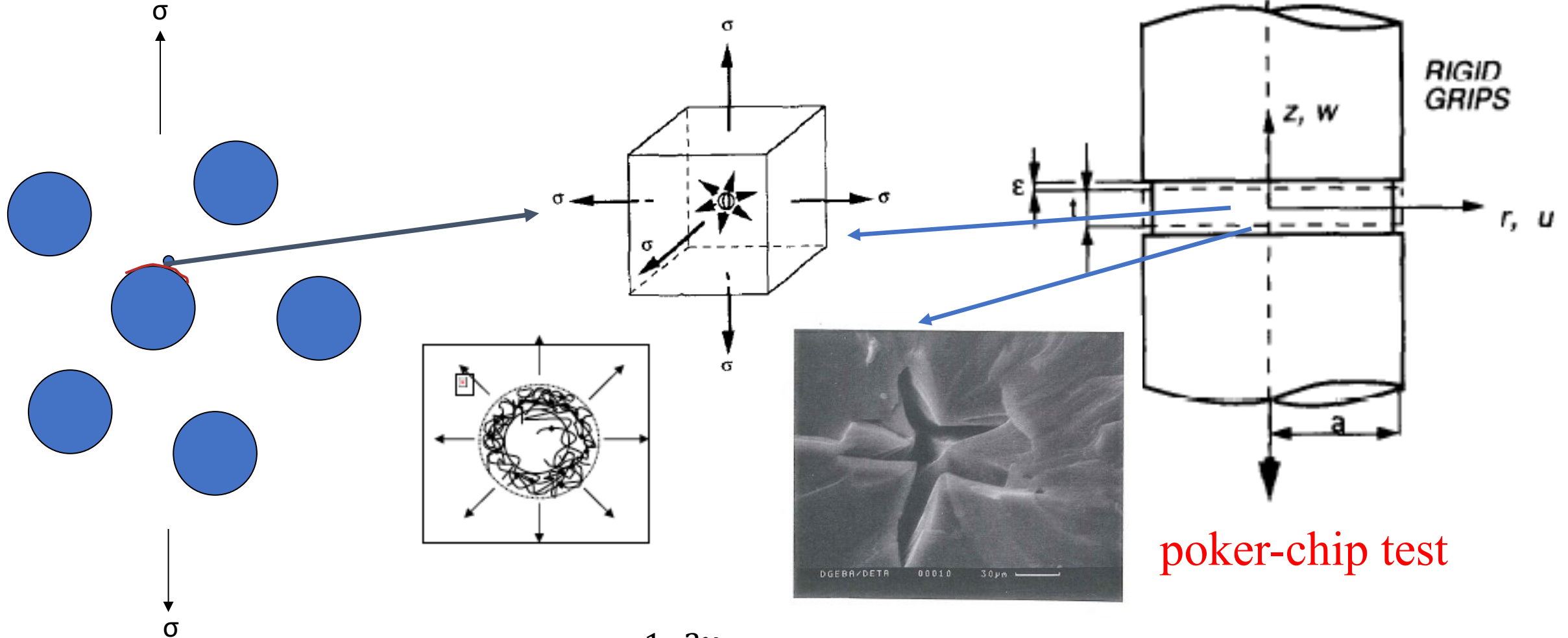
Matrix cracking causes debonding



Failure under transverse tension



Failure analysis: Brittle cavitation



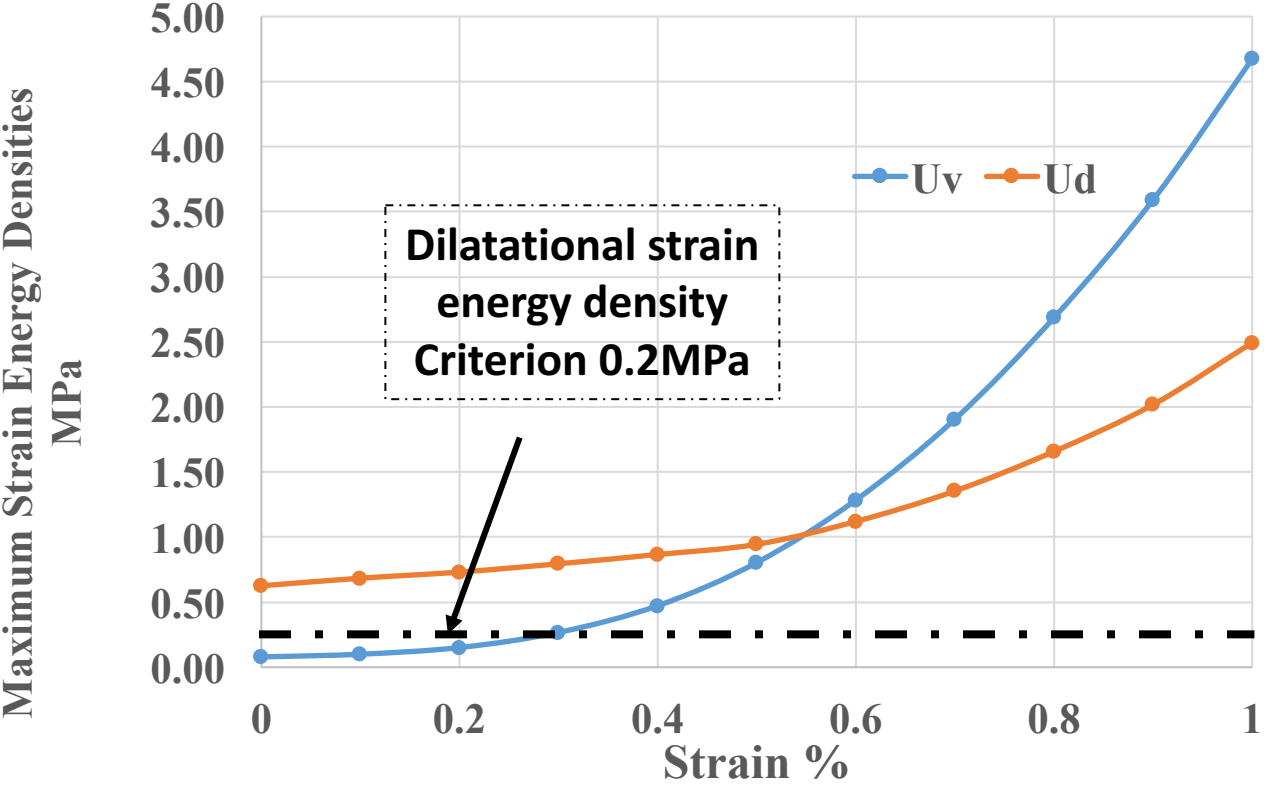
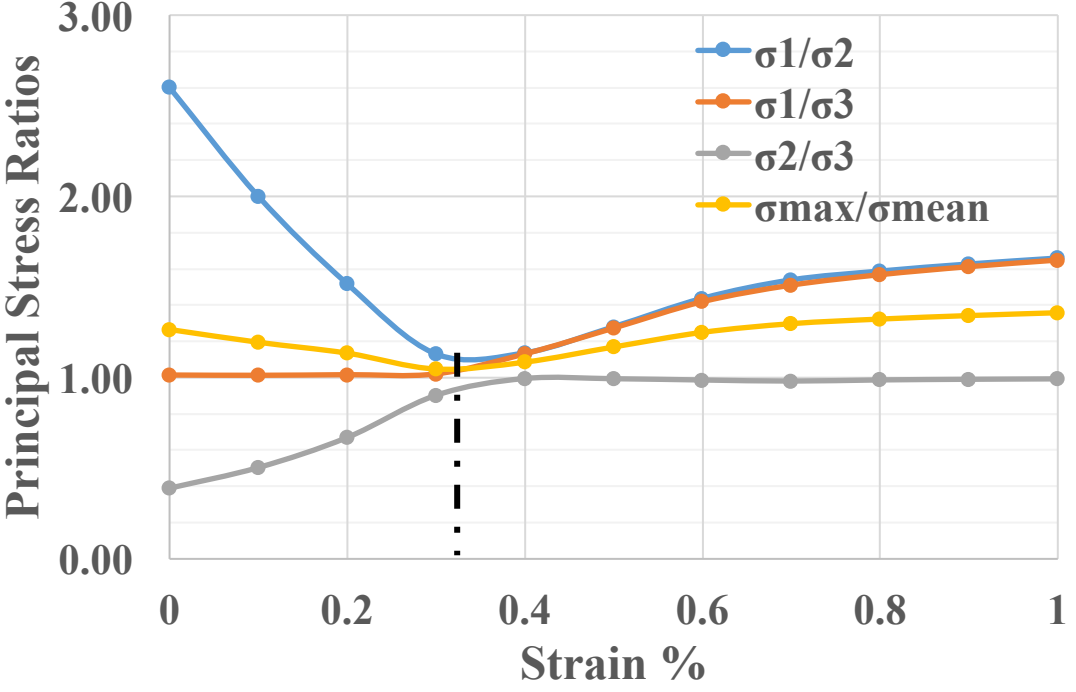
Asp, Berglund, Talreja (1996)

$$U_v = \frac{1-2\nu}{6E} (\sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \sigma_3)^2 = U_{v,crit} \approx 0.2 \text{ MPa} \text{ for epoxies}$$

Much lower than energy for yielding

Brittle cavitation under transverse tension

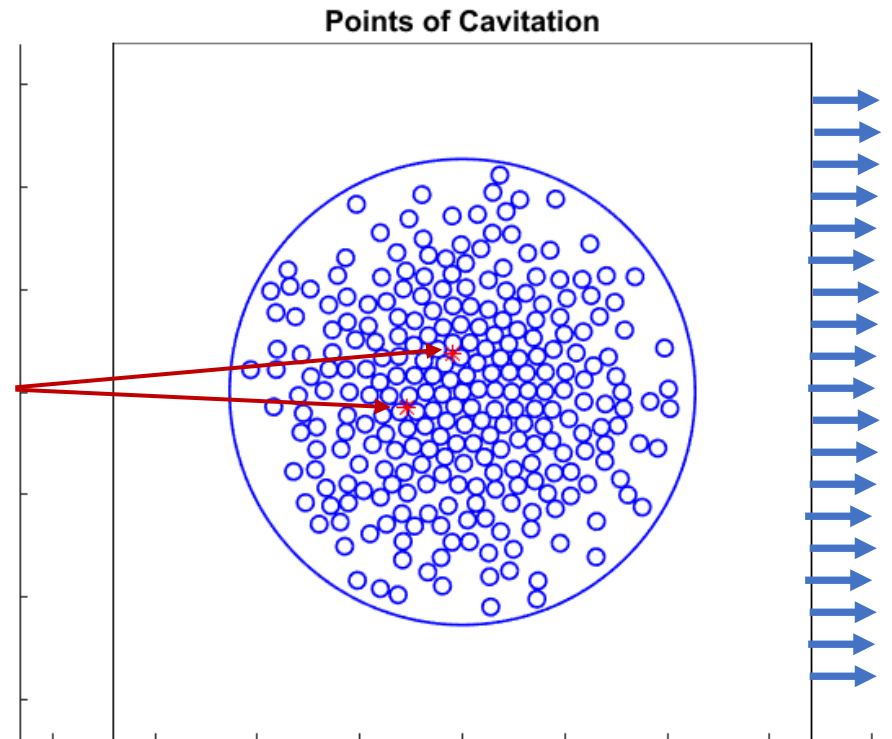
Example: 50% fiber volume fraction and 100 % degree of nonuniformity



Location of Dilatation Induced Brittle Cavitation

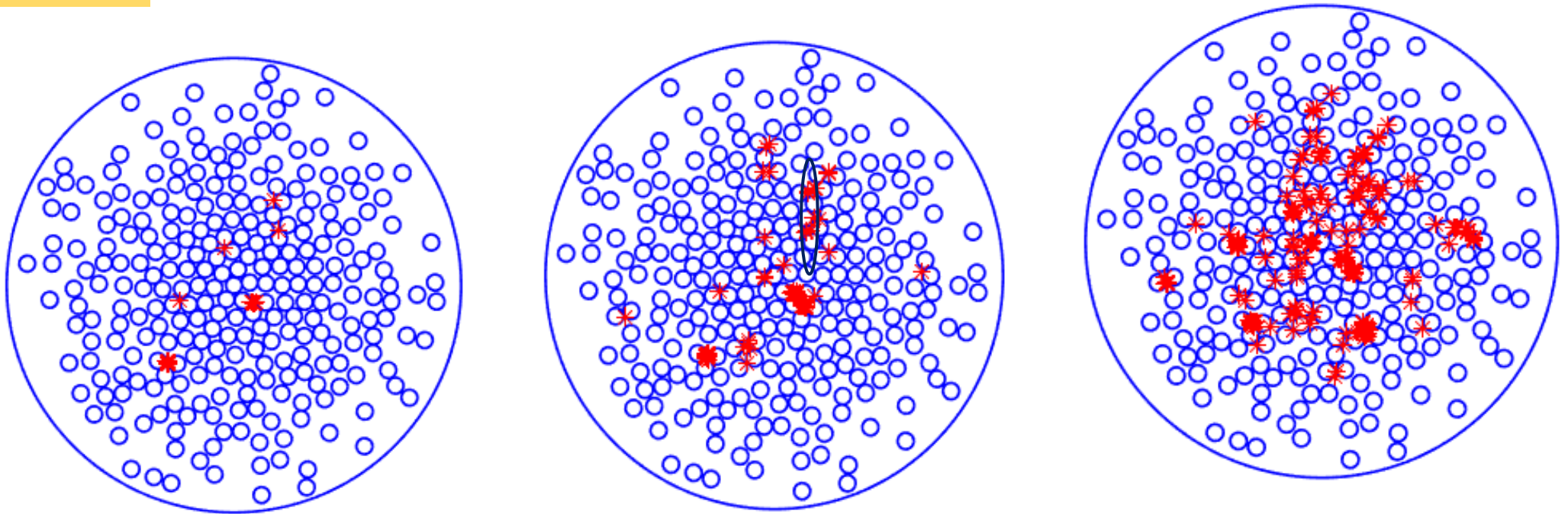
$$dr = \pm 0.25r$$
$$d\theta = \pm 15^\circ$$

Point of damage initiation
(cavitation) by dilatational
energy density criteria



Crack Formation by Debond Coalescence

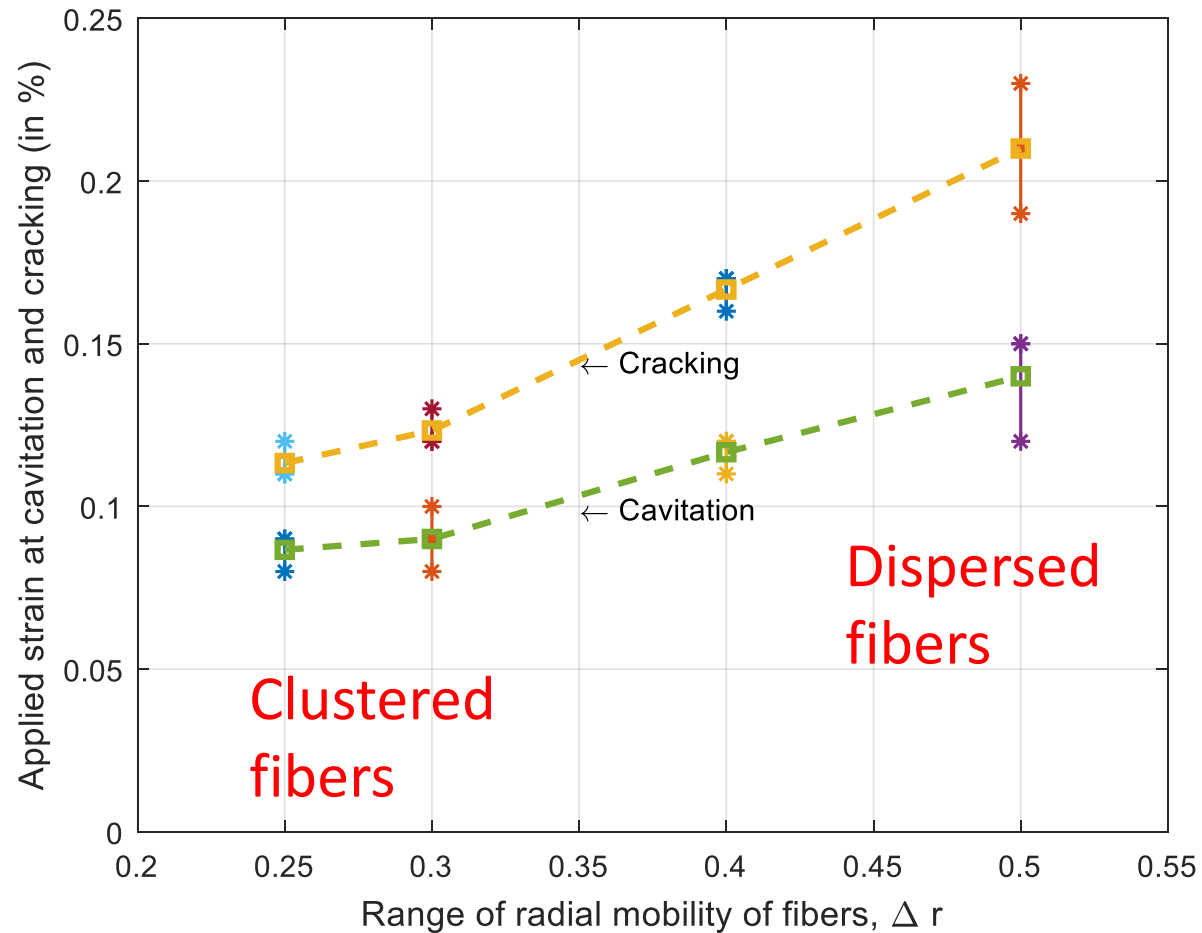
$$dr = \pm 0.25r$$
$$d\theta = \pm 15^\circ$$



Increasing load

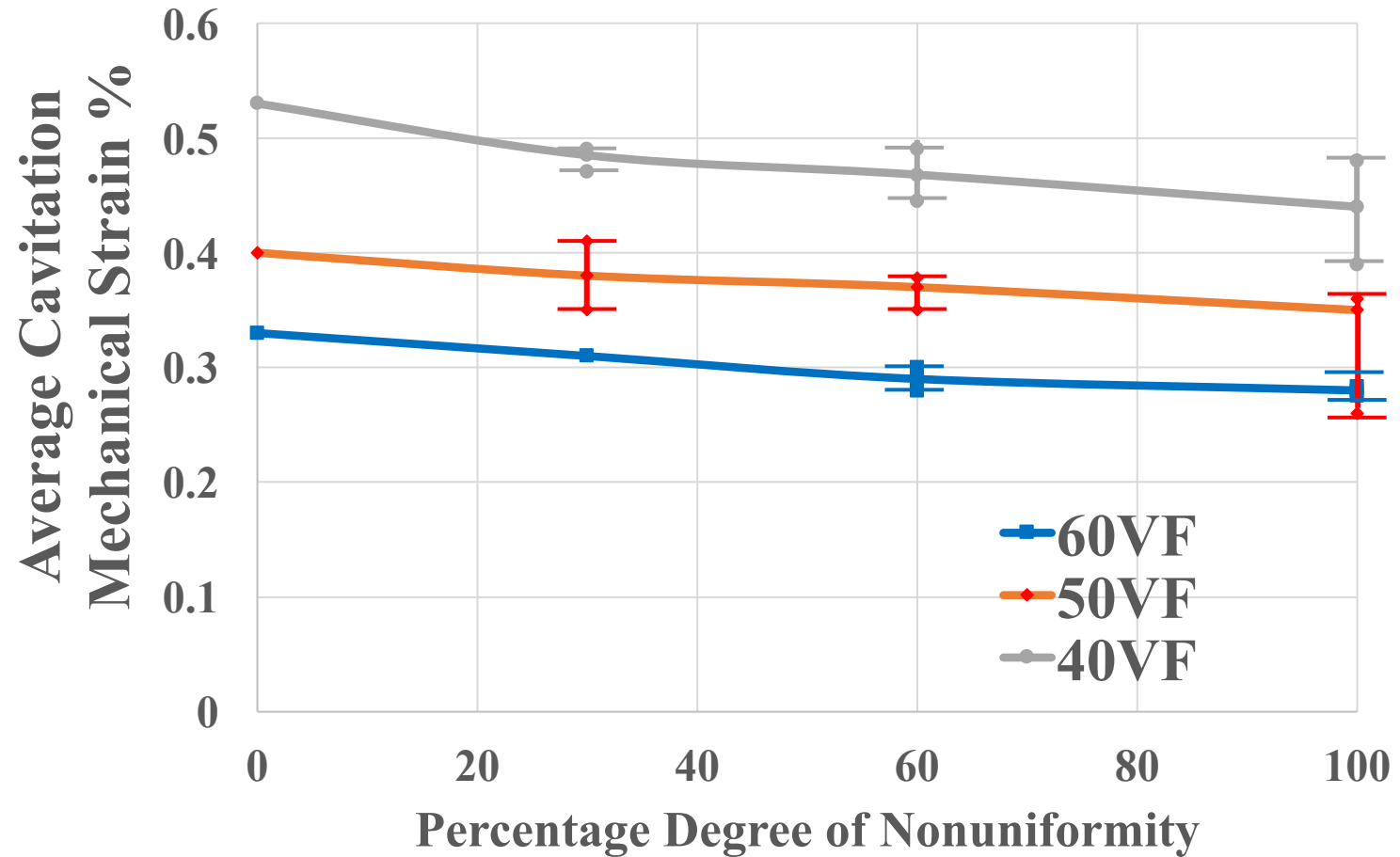


Applied strain to transverse cracking



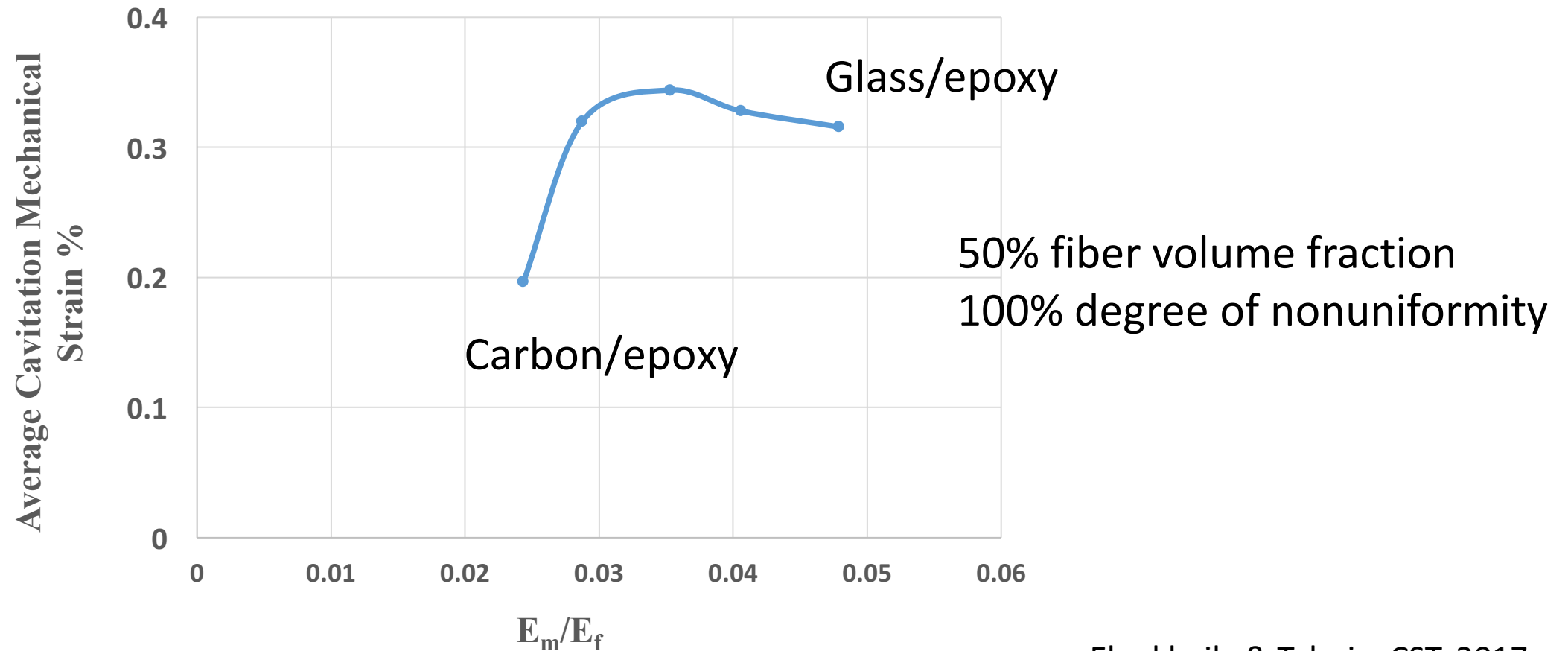
Note: These results cannot be obtained by homogenizing composites, or by considering uniform fiber distributions

Transverse strain to initiation of debonding



Effect of fiber volume fraction and degree of nonuniformity

Debond initiation depends on fiber stiffness



Summarizing remarks

- Manufacturing defects cannot be fully eliminated without making composite structures prohibitively expensive
- Stress and failure analysis of early failure events must include defects
- Defect severity depends on the failure mode, e.g., for transverse crack formation, it is the degree of nonuniformity of fiber distribution (degree of fiber clusters)

Other examples:

- Fiber misalignment for axial compression failure
- Voids for matrix crack initiation
- Fiber surface defects for axial tension failure