

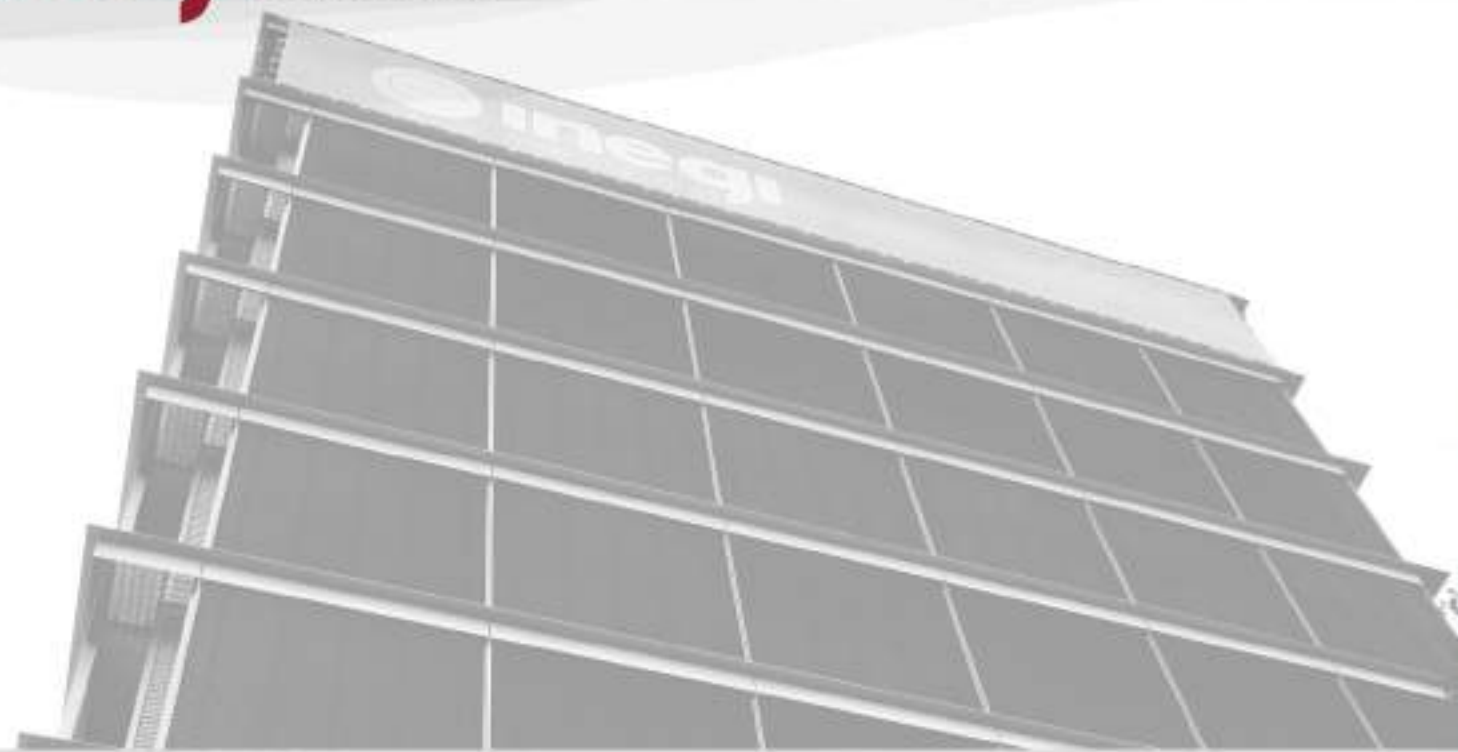
1986

30

2016



driving science  
& innovation



## RESEARCH ON COMPOSITE MATERIALS AT INEGI

NUNO CORREIA

SEPTEMBER 27, 2017, Nottingham



# INDEX

1. On INEGI
2. On the composite materials and structures group of INEGI
3. Main research topics on composite materials
4. Examples of ongoing and completed projects

# 1. ON INEGI



# U. PORTO

31,000 Students  
 24,364 1st Cycle / Degree (BSc) and Integrated Masters (BSc + MSc) Students  
 3,845 2nd Cycle / Masters (MSc) Students  
 2,049 3rd Cycle / Doctorate (PhD) Students  
 742 Post-Doctoral Researchers  
 2,200 Teachers







# U. PORTO

**FEUP** FACULTY OF ENGINEERING  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PORTO

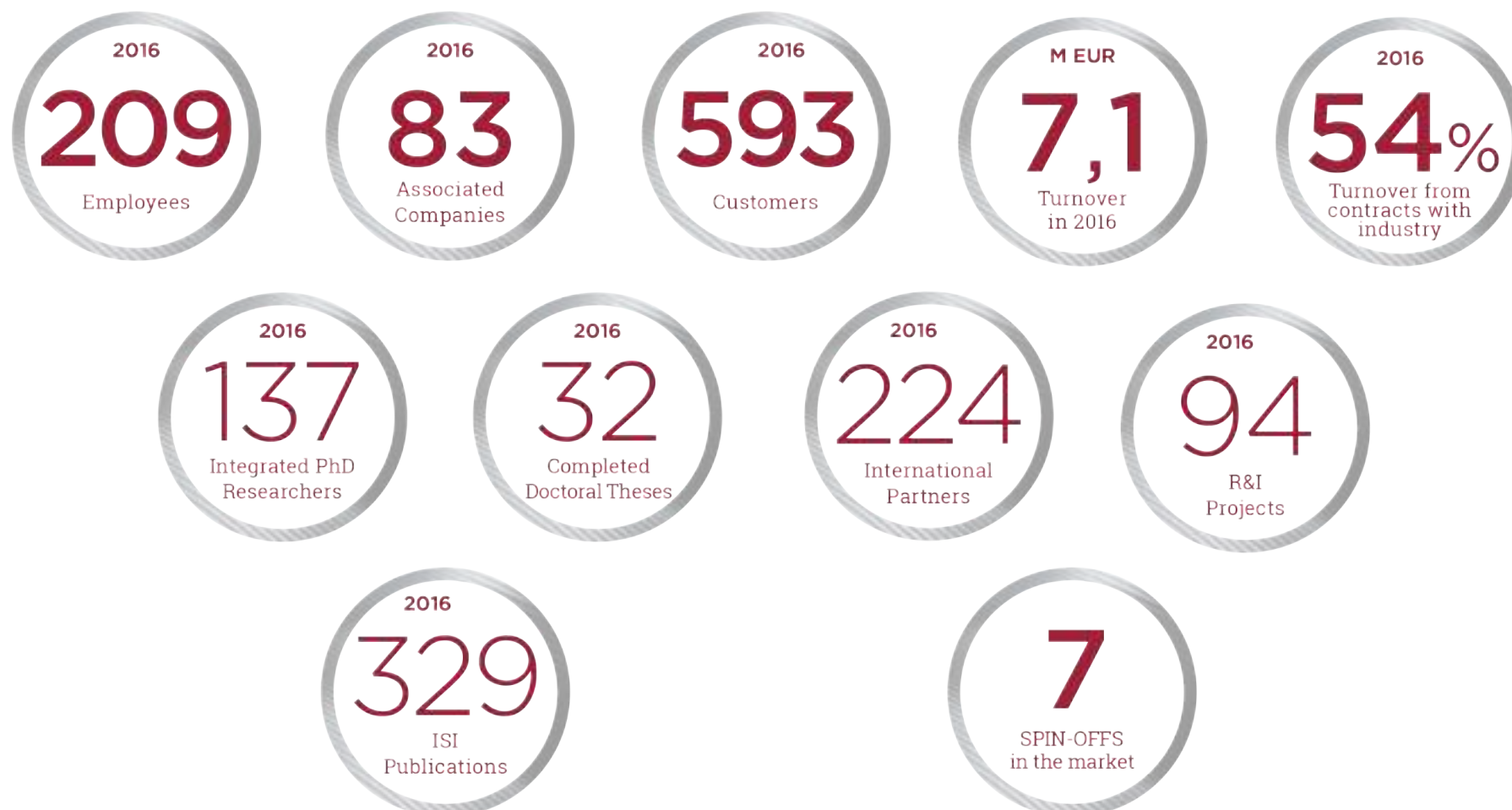
Undergraduate Students	4966
Msc Students	408
Phd Students	395
Teaching Staff	443
Teaching Staff (With Doctorate)	327
Non-teaching Staff	304



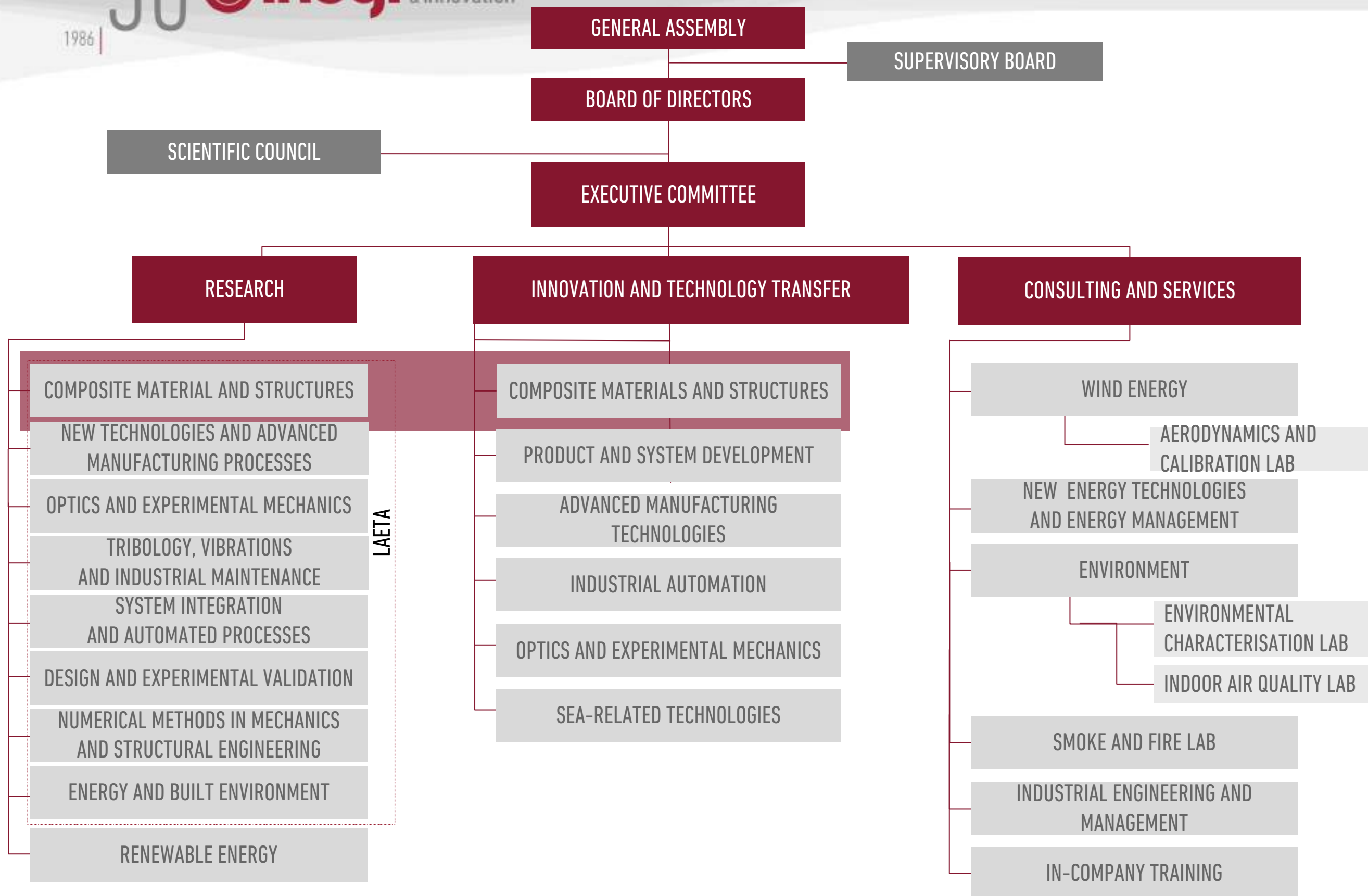


- NON-PROFIT PRIVATE ORGANIZATION
- RESEARCH INSTITUTE CREATED IN 1986 IN PORTO (PORTUGAL) AS AN INTERFACE BETWEEN UNIVERSITY AND INDUSTRY
- RESULTS FROM THE MERGING OF TWO INSTITUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PORTO AND IS THE LARGEST MECHANICAL ENGINEERING INSTITUTE IN PORTUGAL

## KEY NUMBERS OF 2016



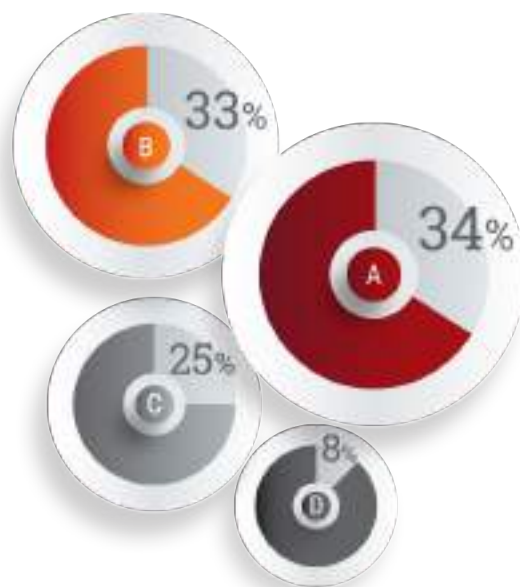




## PEOPLE

(31st December 2016)

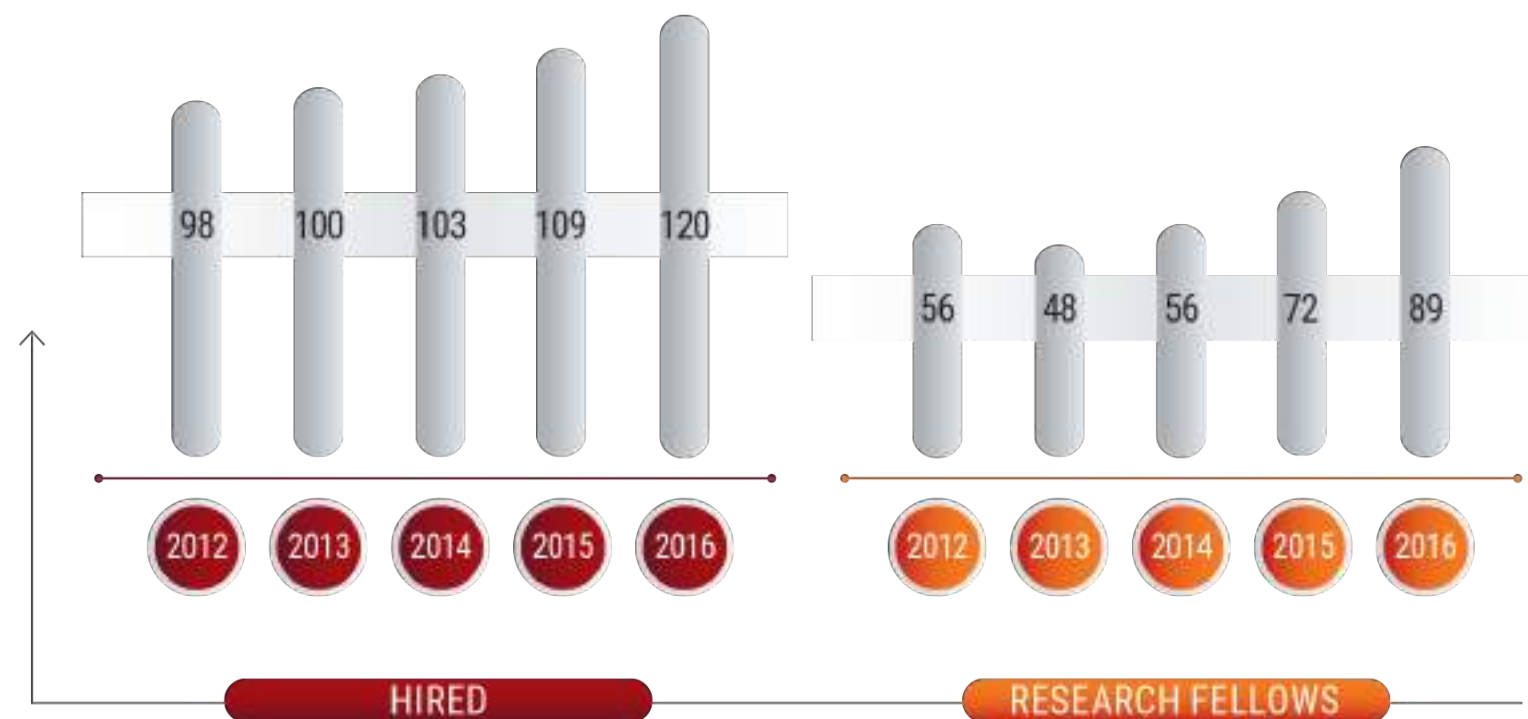
Hired	120
Research Fellows	89
<b>Total of Own Staff</b>	<b>209</b>
.....	
Affiliated Academics	125
FCT Research Fellows hosted at INEGI	28



### Type of Bond

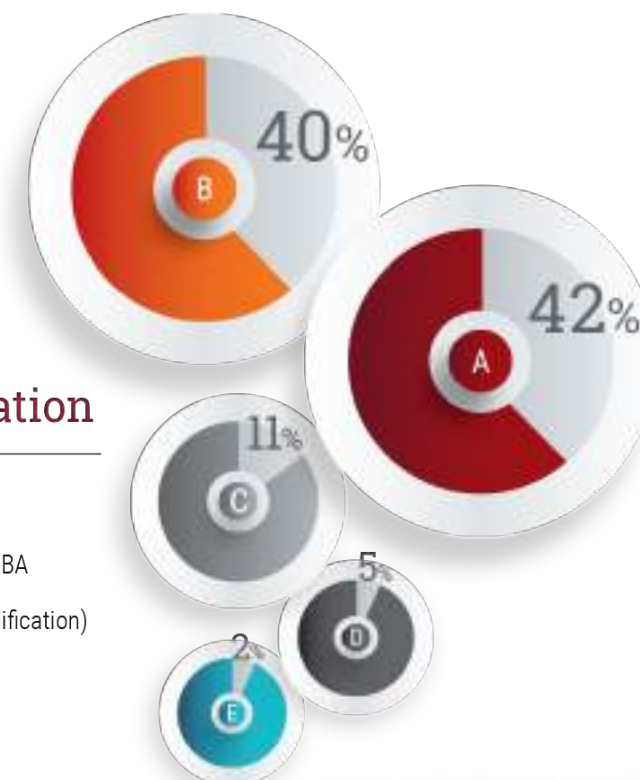
- A Hired
- B Affiliated Academics
- C Research Fellows
- D FCT Research Fellows hosted at INEGI

## Trend in the number of Employees



## Academic Qualification

- A PhD
- B Master's/Postgraduate Studies/MBA
- C Bachelor's Degree (first cycle qualification)
- D 12th Grade + Level IV
- E Below the 12th Grade



# SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT

## Average/researcher:

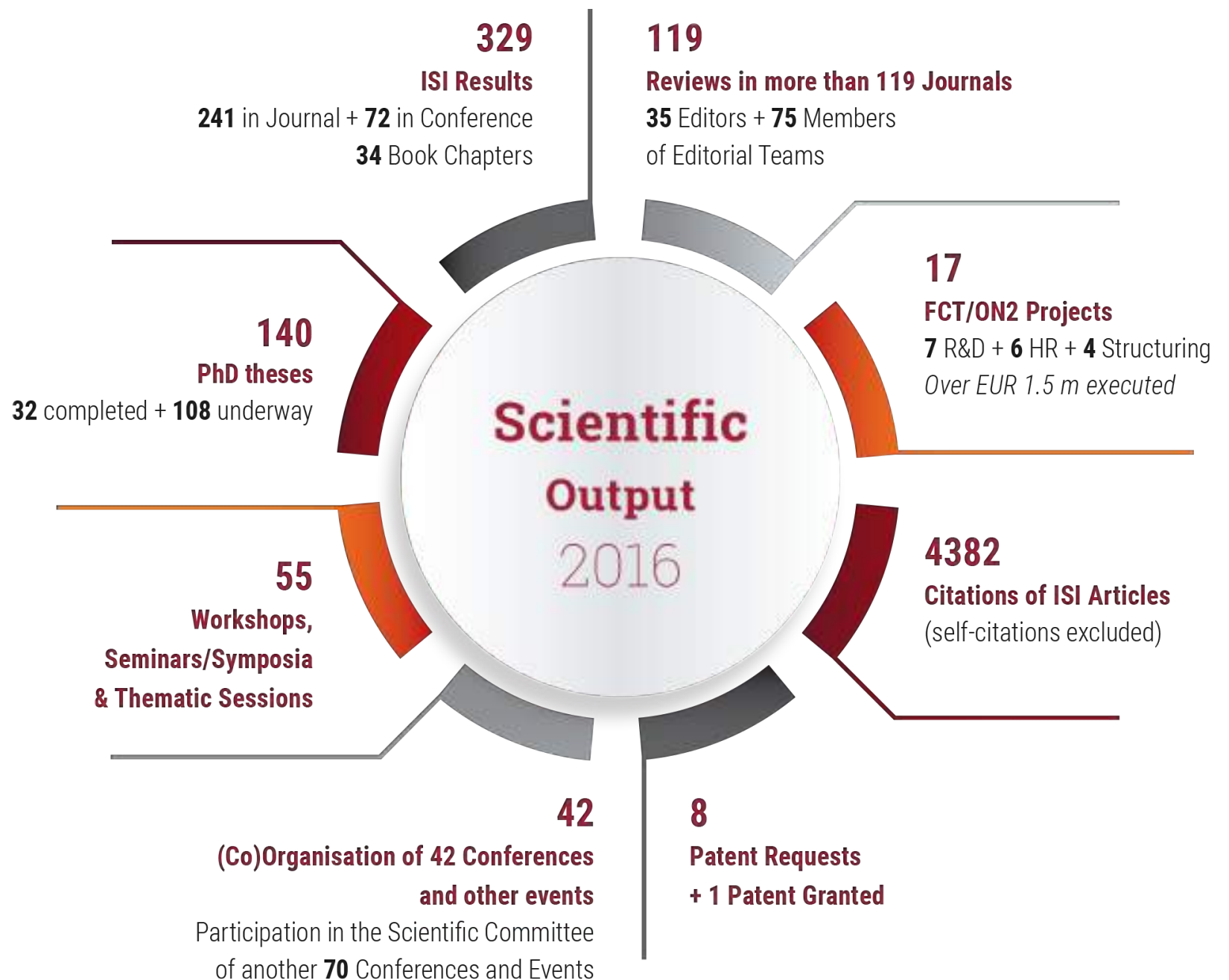
- 2,4 ISI articles
- 34 citations
- 1 PhD thesis

## Main Areas:

- Computational Mechanics
- Experimental Mechanics
- Composite Materials

## Application sectors:

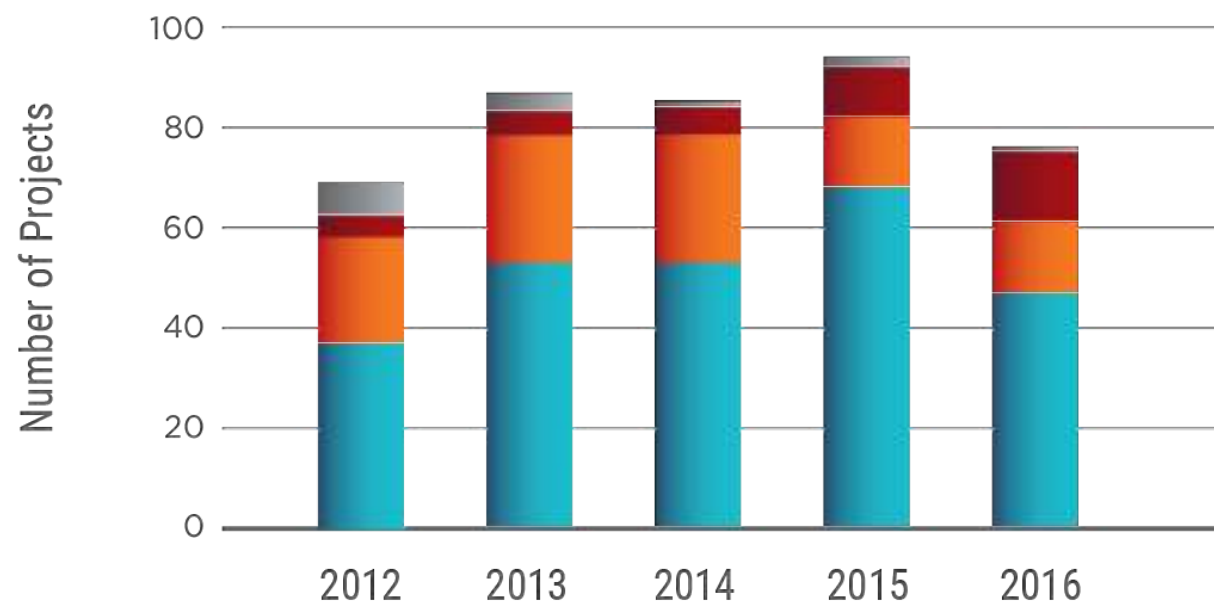
- Transport
- Health & Wellness



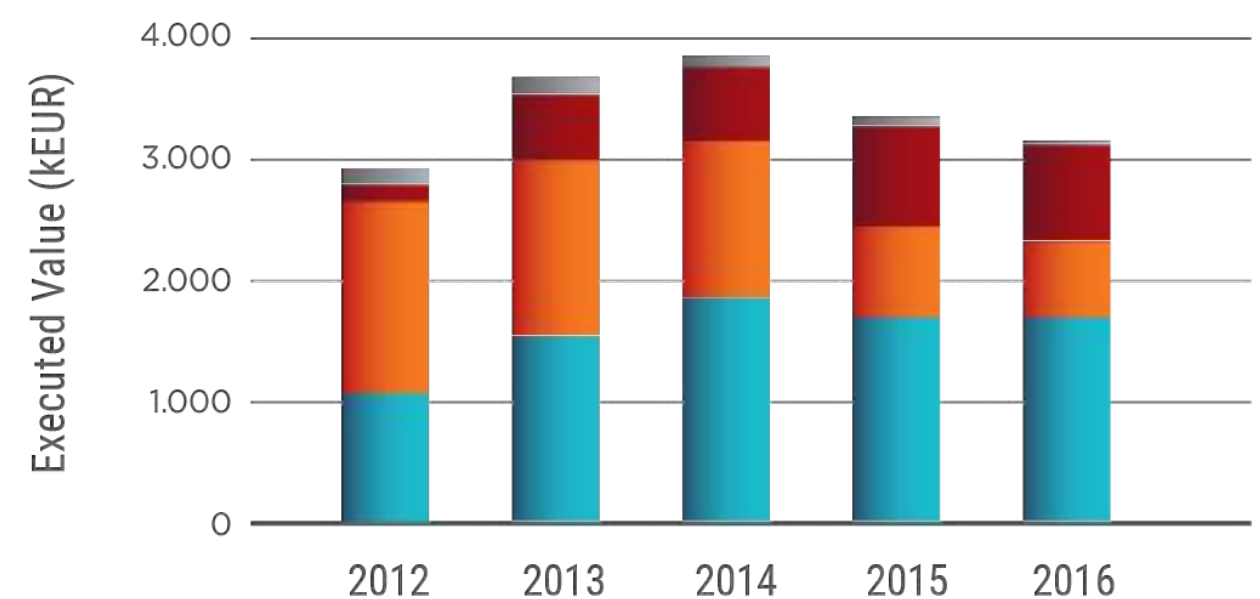


## R&I PROJECTS

**R&I Projects - Number of Projects**



**R&I Projects - Executed Value**



- Projects co-financed by Other Programmes
- Projects co-financed by the European Commission
- Projects co-financed by QREN/P2020
- ITT Projects contracted by Companies\*

\*Budget over EUR 5 k

## 2. ON THE COMPOSITES GROUP OF INEGI



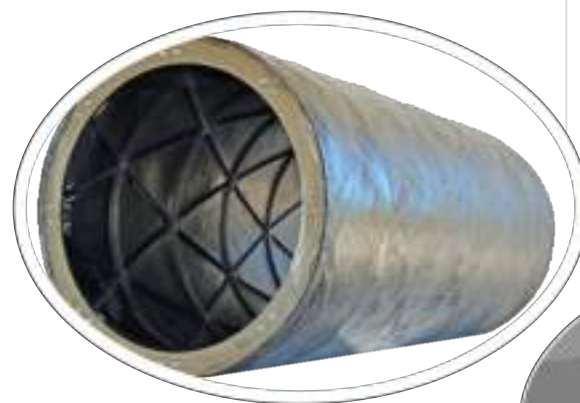


## INEGI COMPOSITES January 2017



SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES

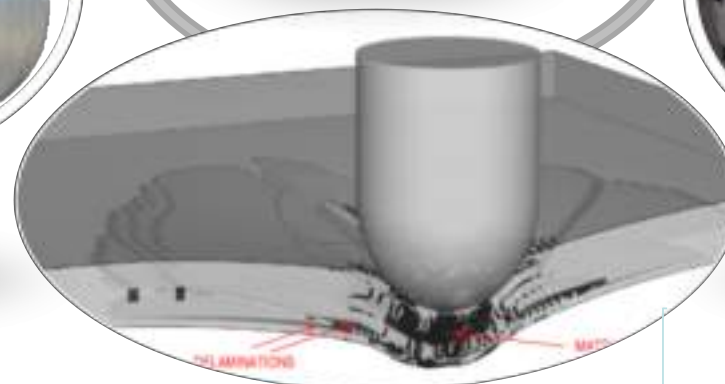
STRUCTURES



MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT



MANUFACTURING



MODELLING

PROTOTYPING AND TESTING



# MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGIES



THERMOPLASTIC COMPOSITE  
AUTOMATED HOT STAMPING CELL



6 AXIS CNC FILAMENT WINDING MACHINE



FILAMENT WINDING IMPREGNATION  
WITH SPOOL SUPPORT



PULTRUSION



THERMOPLASTIC LAYUP



HP RTM



AUTOCLAVE



CLASS 10K CLEAN ROOM



# MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING



GRAPHITIZATION OVEN (UHM CARBON FIBRE AT FISIPE / SGL)



NANO MODIFICATION OF RESINS



PRE-IMPREGNATION



PRE-PREGS



DYNAMIC MECHANICAL ANALYSIS



THERMOGRAVIMETRIC ANALYSIS



DIFFERENTIAL SCANNING CALORIMETER



RHEOMETER



FUME HOOD



### 3. CURRENT RESEARCH TOPICS

## OUR RESEARCH ON COMPOSITES

Reasonable concerns for research in the field of composites

1. Reducing manufacturing costs and improving quality.
2. Improving the understanding of the material's potential (and limitations) for use.
3. Developing new materials or new material combinations that create new or improved uses.

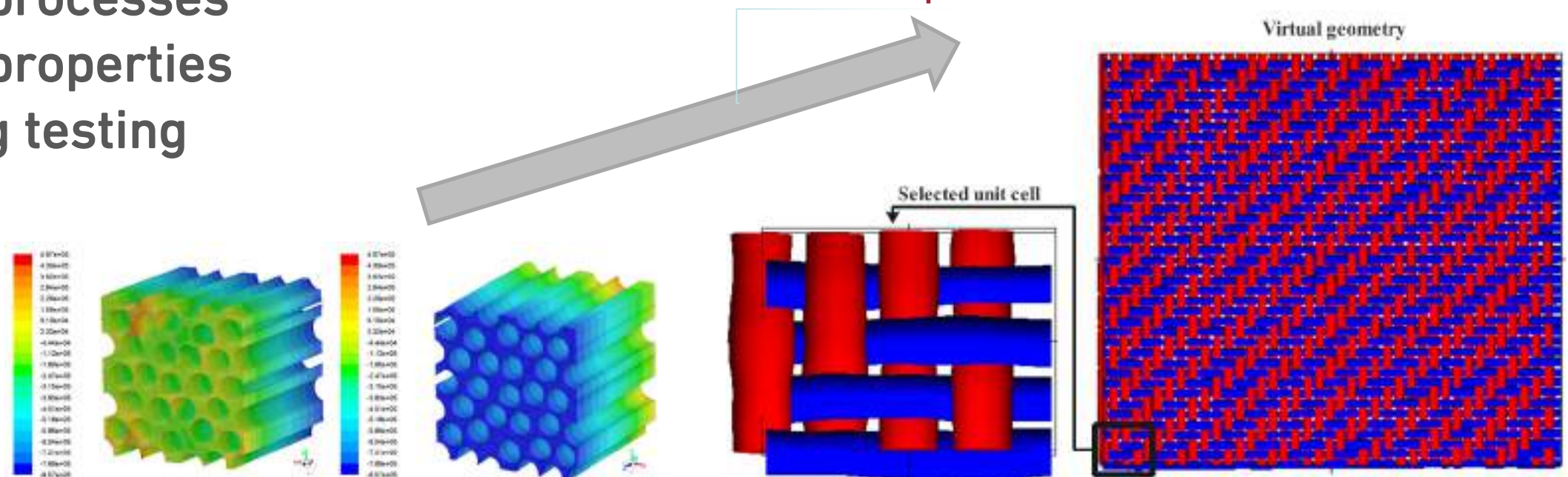
**Manufacturing cost reduction, better understanding of performance and properties and material innovation** can be relevant classes of drivers for materials research.

# 1. MANUFACTURING COSTS ARE LINKED TO: QUALITY; SCRAP; LABOUR; ENERGY; AND INTERMEDIATE PROCESS/SEMI-PRODUCT PREPARATION.

Manufacturing cost reduction leads to automation and advanced out-of-autoclave technologies, including thermoset and thermoplastic processes. But, along with process development, understanding manufacturing is understanding a multiscale phenomenon.

Modelling processes  
 Modelling properties  
 Virtualizing testing

Problems at different scales. Possibly multiscale problems: Micro-meso-macro

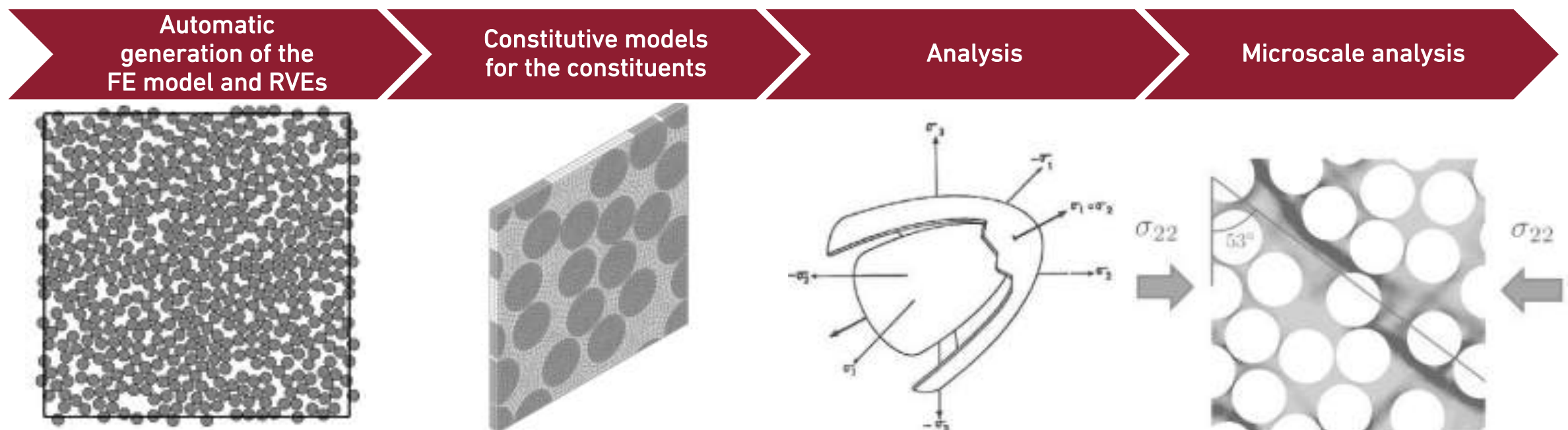




## 2. PERFORMANCE AS A FUNCTION OF: MANUFACTURING; MATRIX SELECTION; AND FIBRE ARCHITECTURE (INCL. HYBRIDIZATION).

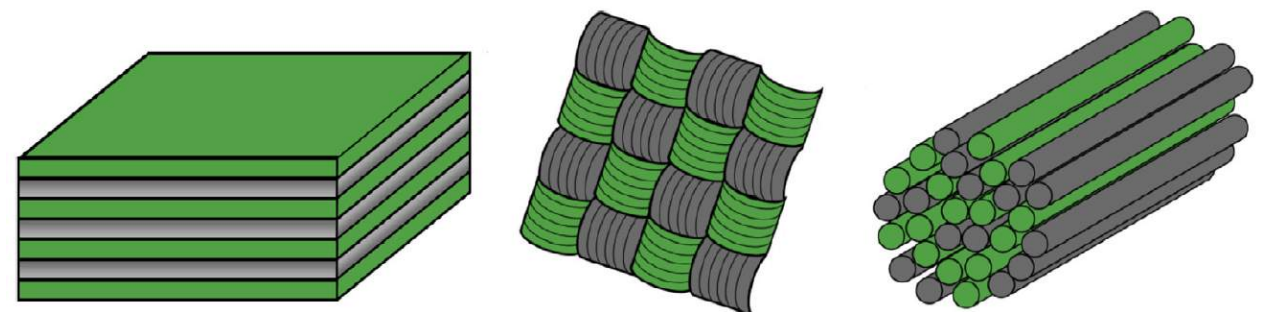
Understanding and improving material performance leads to understanding and improving the material solutions themselves.

In composites, understanding performance is to understanding a structural multiscale phenomenon, starting at the micro-scale.



### 3. NEW MATERIALS AND NEW PROPERTIES OPENING UP NEW OPPORTUNITIES.

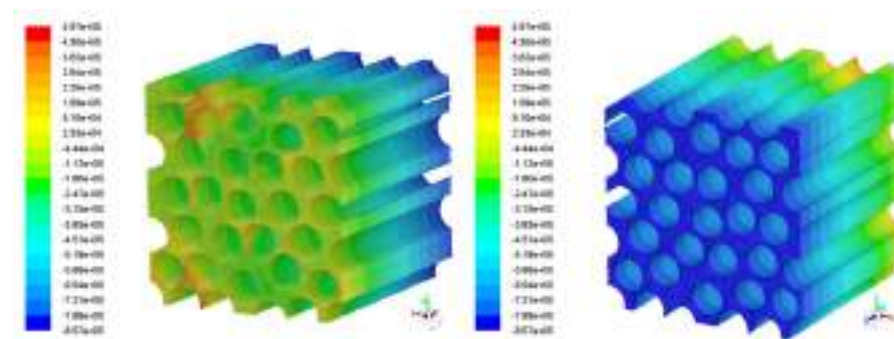
New materials and new properties open up new opportunities. Obvious avenues for development lie not only in the fields of **nano-modification of resins but also on hybridization**. Along side this one could add new or improved fibres and sizing.



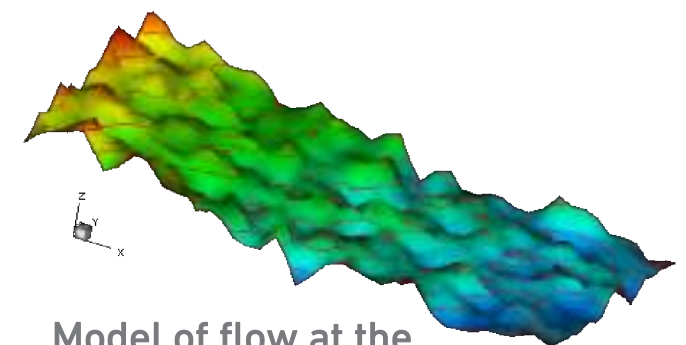
## 1.1. MULTISCALE FLOW MODELLING

The idea behind this work is to create a basis for a fundamental understanding of permeability scatter –**where the scatter comes from, what the implications are, and how it can be reduced.**

**In this sense, this is an important topic and effort to put forward an appropriate distribution model for simulation of its variability is systematic.**



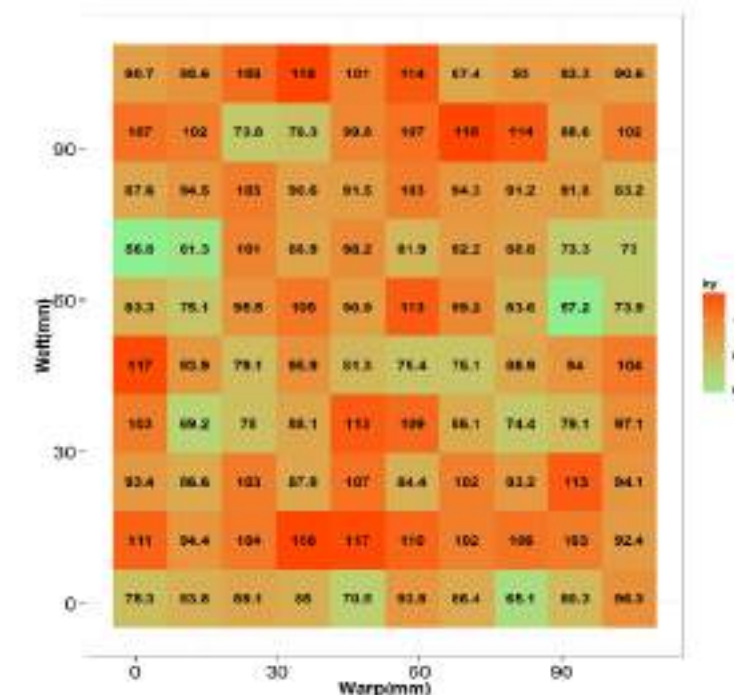
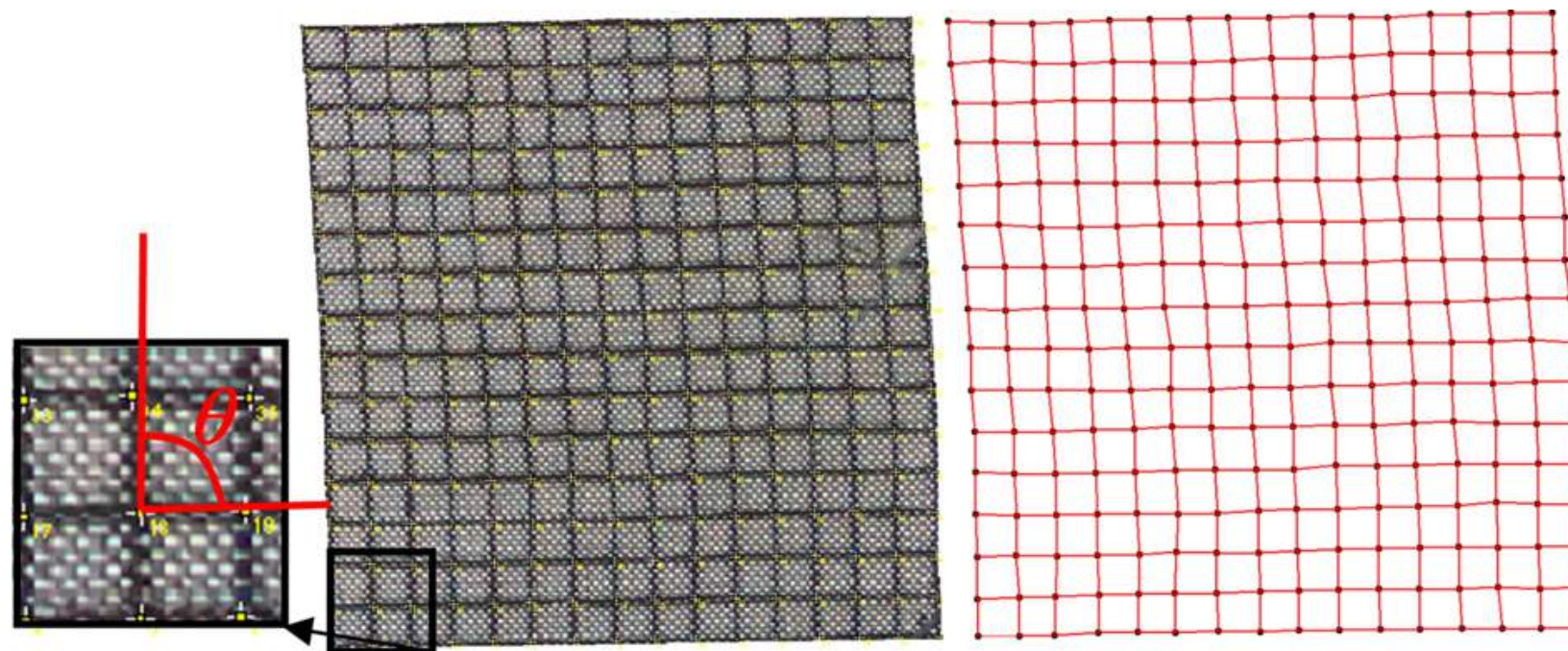
Modelling of permeability on the micro-scale



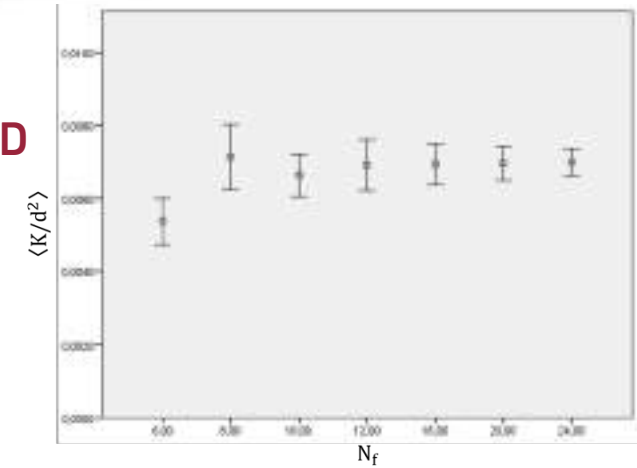
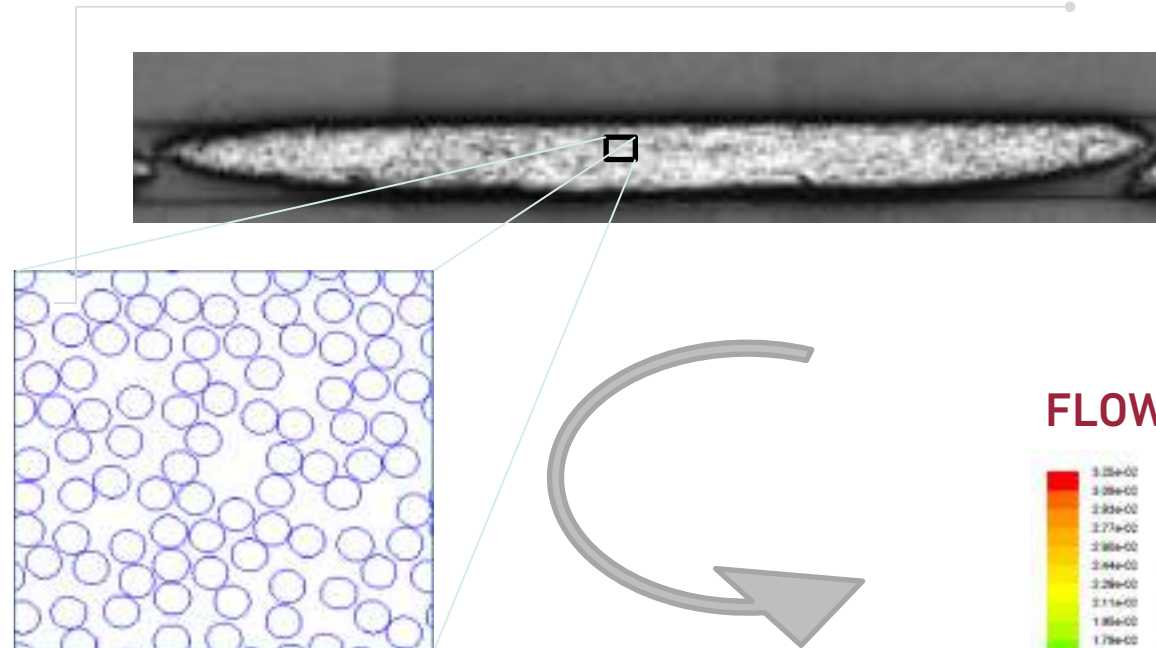
Model of flow at the macro-scale  
(Nottingham 2004)



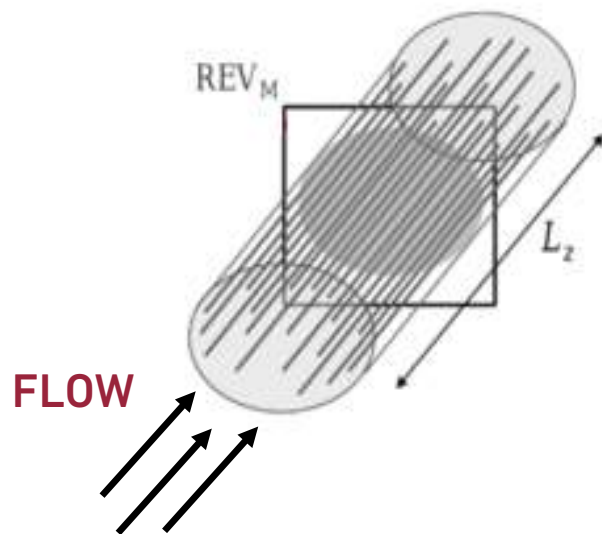
A **difference** in  $K_x$  and  $K_y$  of one specific unit cell was observed which is attributed to the difference in warp and weft yarn width, confirming that a wider inter-yarn gap leads to higher permeability in that direction.



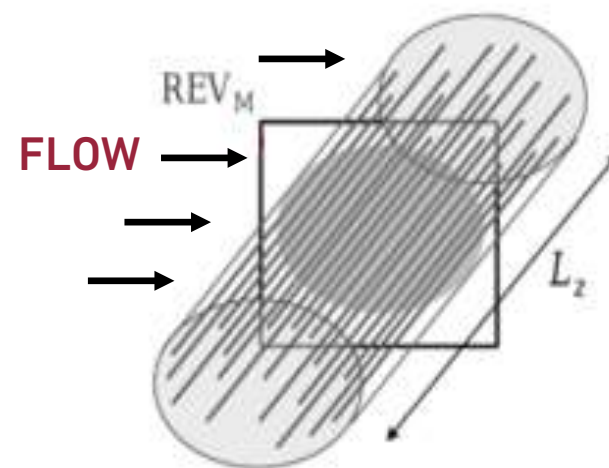
## AUTOMATICALLY GENERATED CROSS SECTION RVE



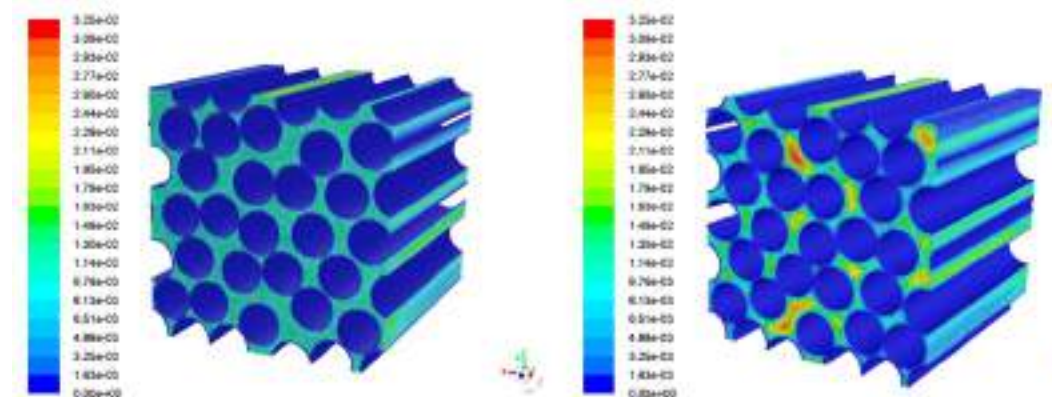
## LONGITUDINAL FLOW



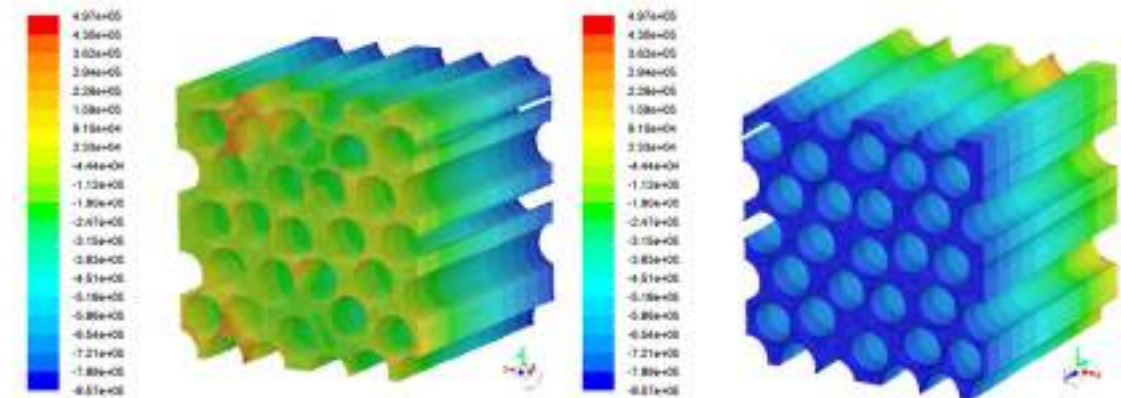
## TRANSVERSE FLOW



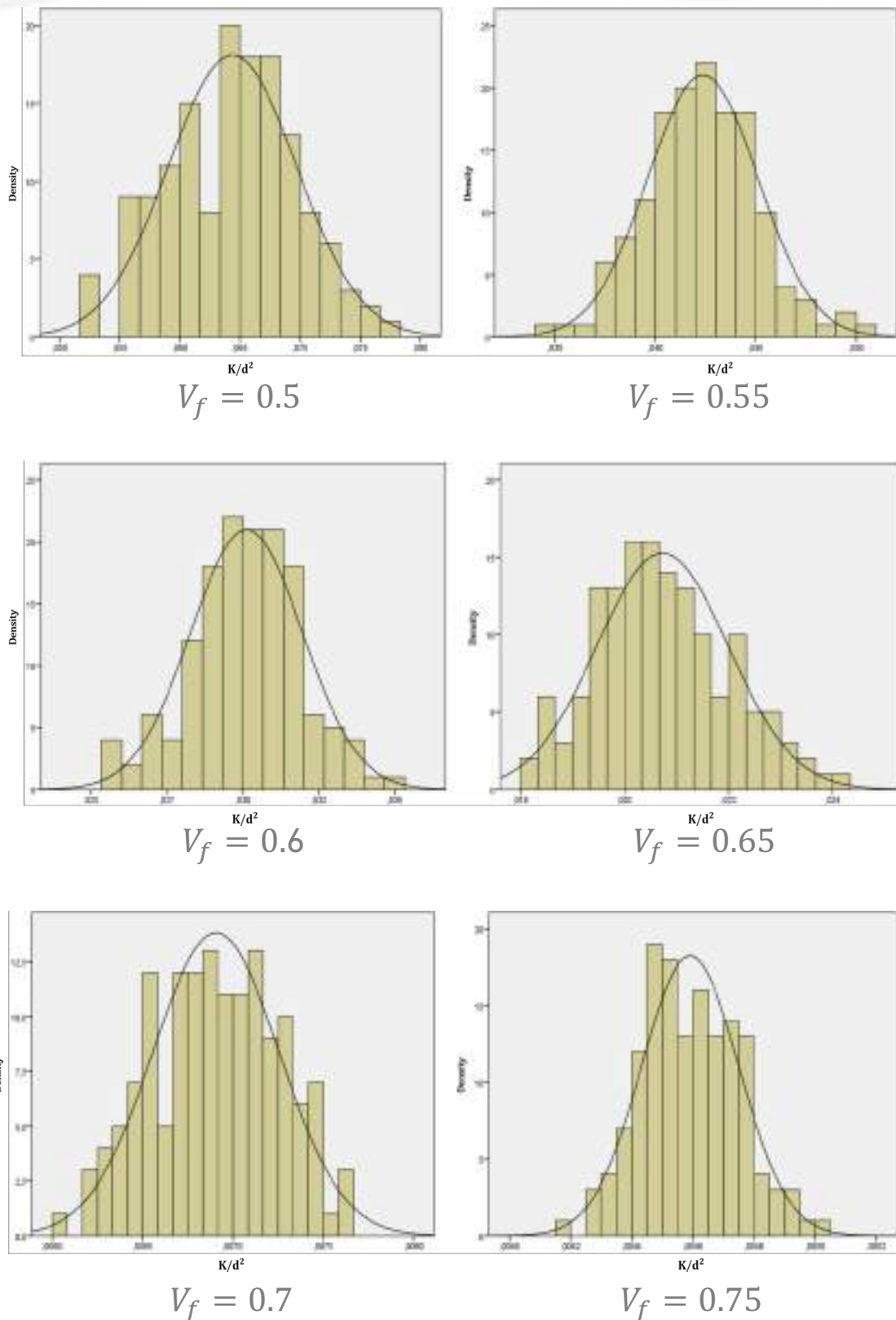
## FLOW RATE – LONGITUDINAL FLOW



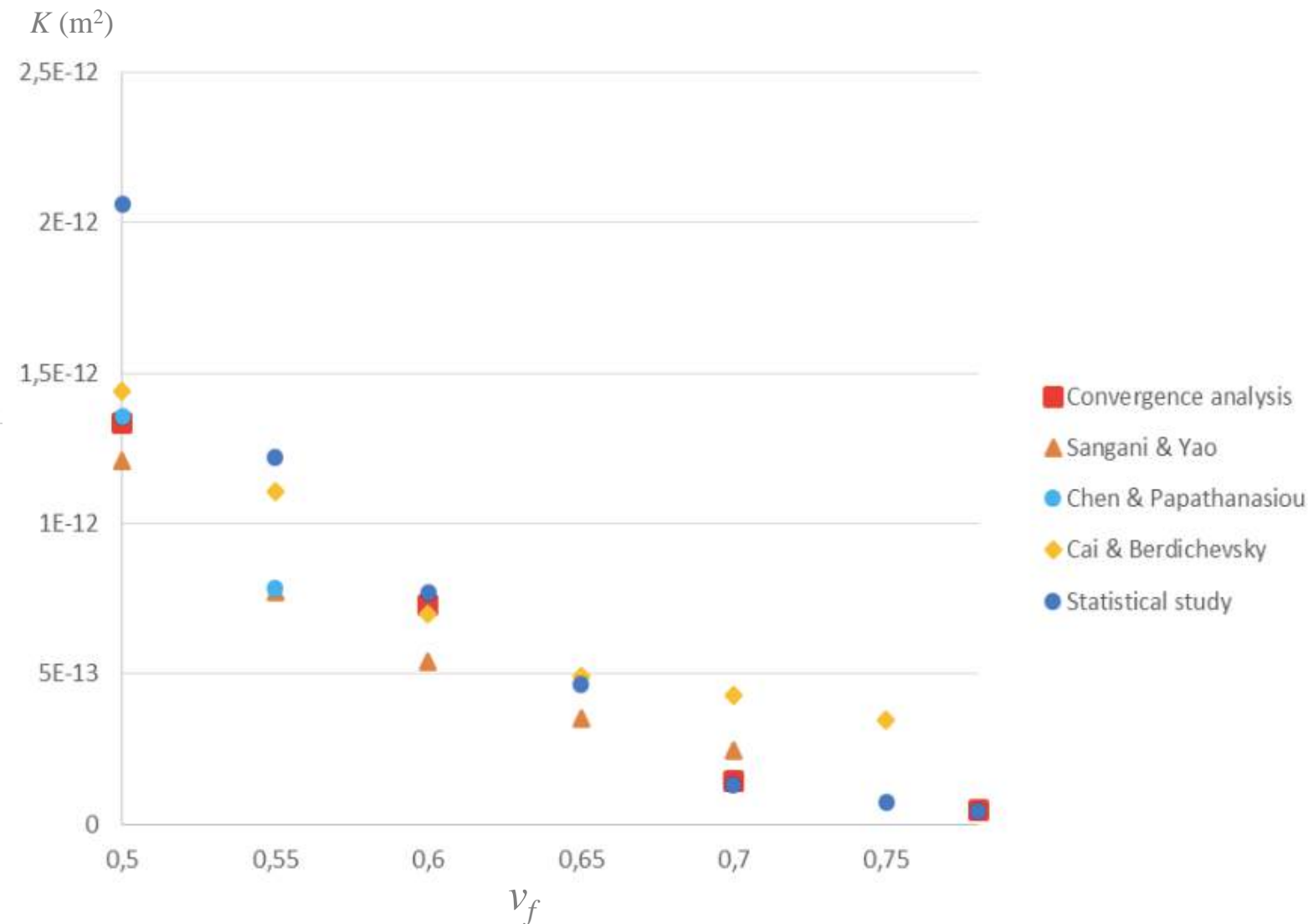
## PRESSURE – LONGITUDINAL FLOW







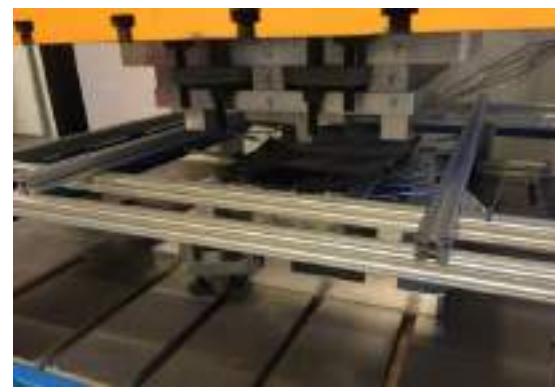
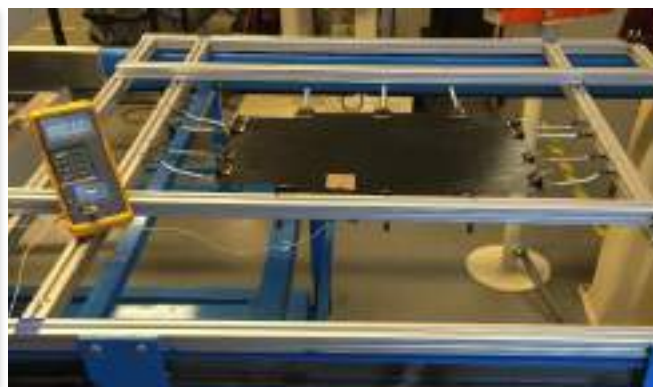
Ability to model, from the fundamental physics of the process, both the permeability at multiple scales and its statistical properties.





## 1.2. MULTISCALE MODELLING IN HOT FORMING

We have been involved in modelling hot forming (with a collaboration with UoGlasgow). An interesting avenue for research (which we are just starting to explore) is to begin modelling the mechanical tests that are currently run to provide data for complex forming simulations (cantilever bending, rheology, ply-ply friction, variability, etc). Ultimately this would form a framework that would enable reduced testing.

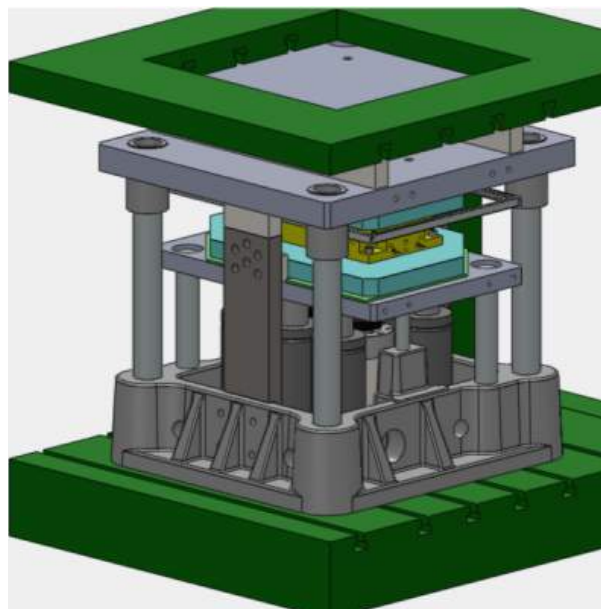


# Advanced Processing of Thermoplastic Matrix Composites

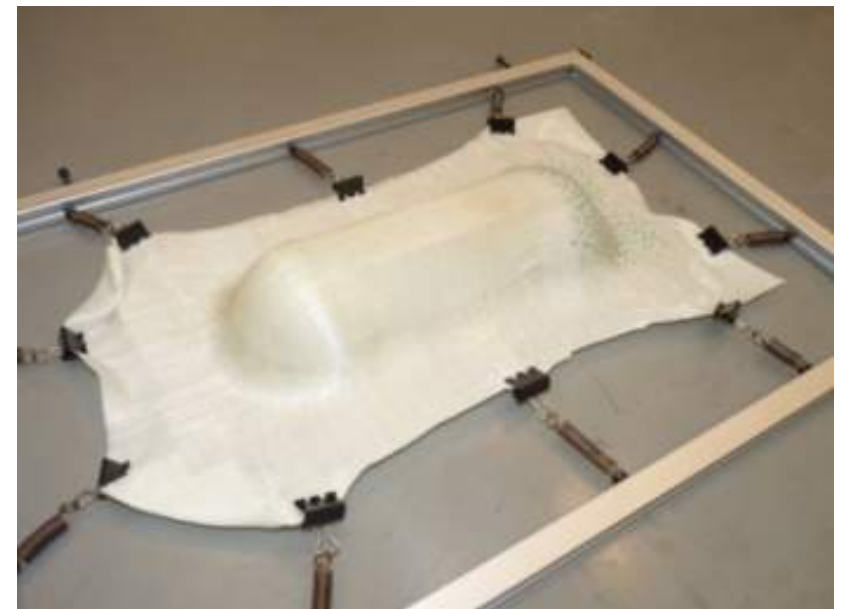
INEGI integrates a capability in the implementation of advanced processing of thermoplastic matrix composites and has ongoing collaborations in this activity.



Process implementation



Mould engineering

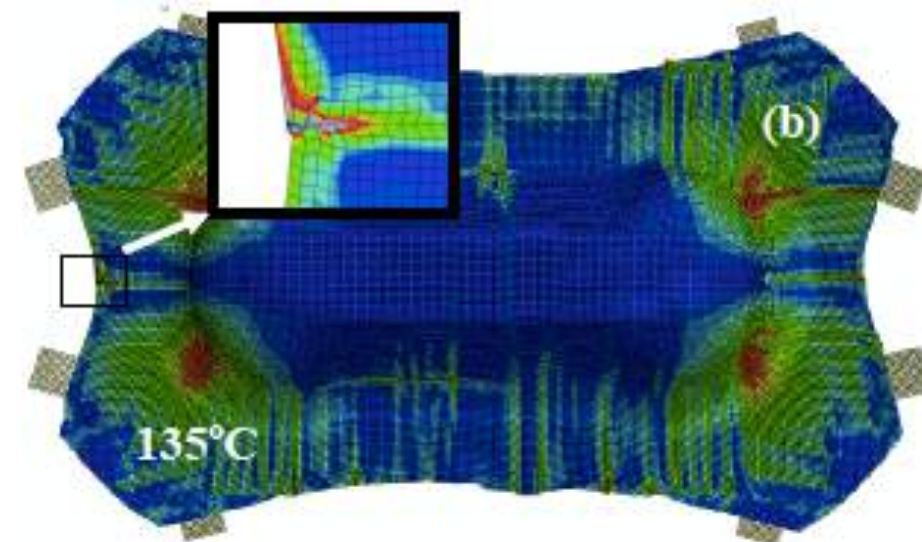
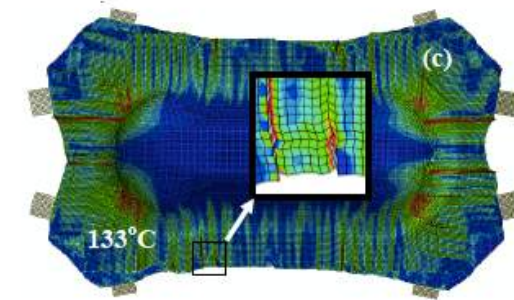
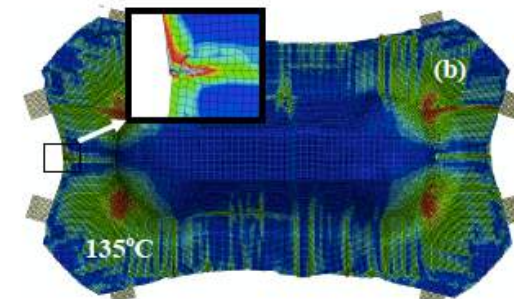
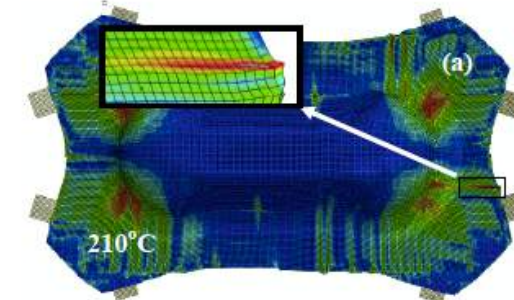
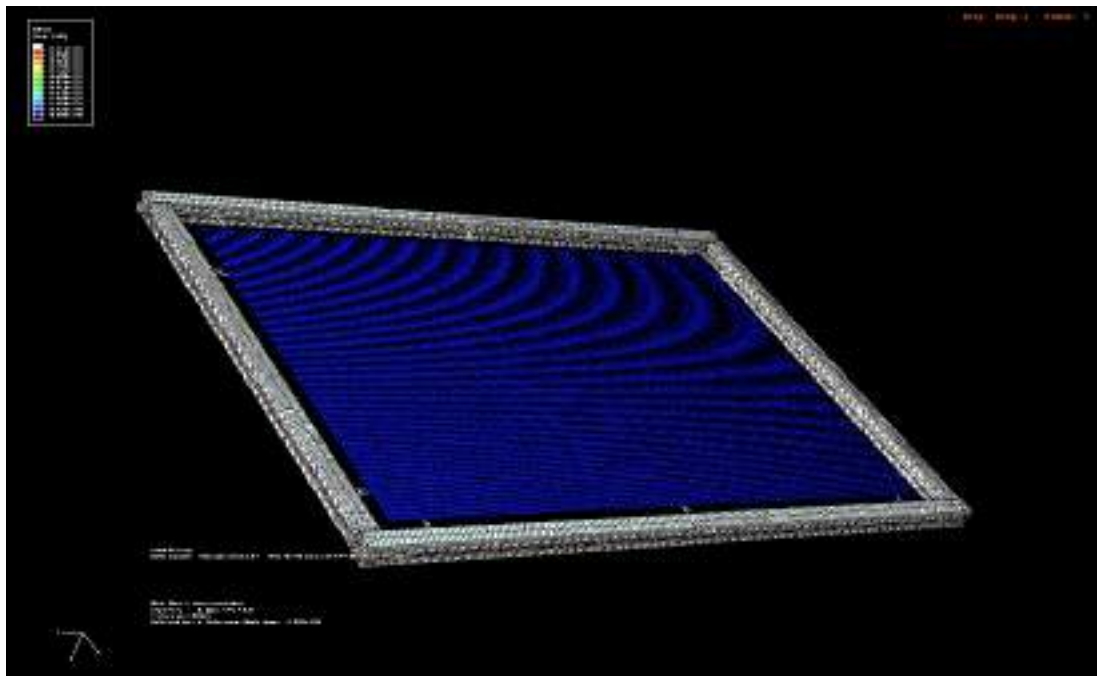


Prototyping



# Modelling hot forming of thermoplastic matrix composites, including variability

Long term collaboration with Prof. Phillip Harrison – University of Glasgow.

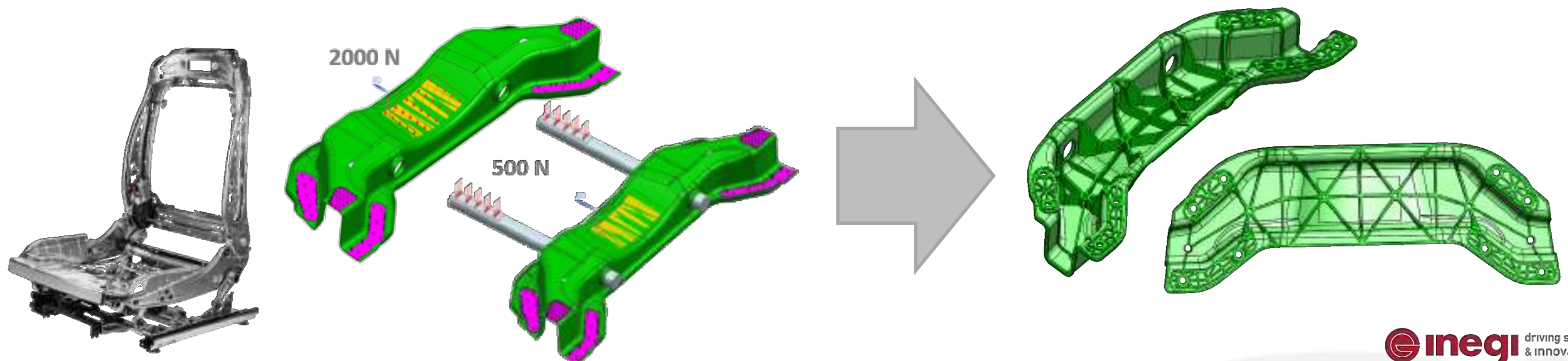






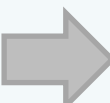




# LaTCh: “Lightweight Thermoplastic Composites” (2014-2015)

## Objective:

- Develop and integrate new composite materials of thermoplastic matrix of unidirectional continuous fibre and of its manufacturing technologies
- Replace steel with thermoplastic composites in an automotive seat upper cross member



## Ongoing vision for forming

Modelling scale	Numerical strategy	To-scale	Result integration
Macro-scale	Calibration with experimental data	 To micro-scale 	
Multi-scale	Calibration / validation with experimental data	 To meso-scale model 	
Validation	Calibration / validation with experimental data	 To macro-scale model 	 Validation; numerical results; benchmarks; forming process

## Ongoing vision for forming

Modelling scale	Numerical strategy
Continuous	<i>A-priori</i> computation: Numerical homogenization, Definition of the material properties
Semi-discrete	<i>A-priori</i> computation Computation of specific FE behaviour Main behaviours of the representative unit cell
Multiscale FE Modelling	At each time step Computation of specific FE Behaviour; Full behaviour of the representative unit cell; Contact conditions; Matrix behaviour; Pressure; Thickness of the FE.

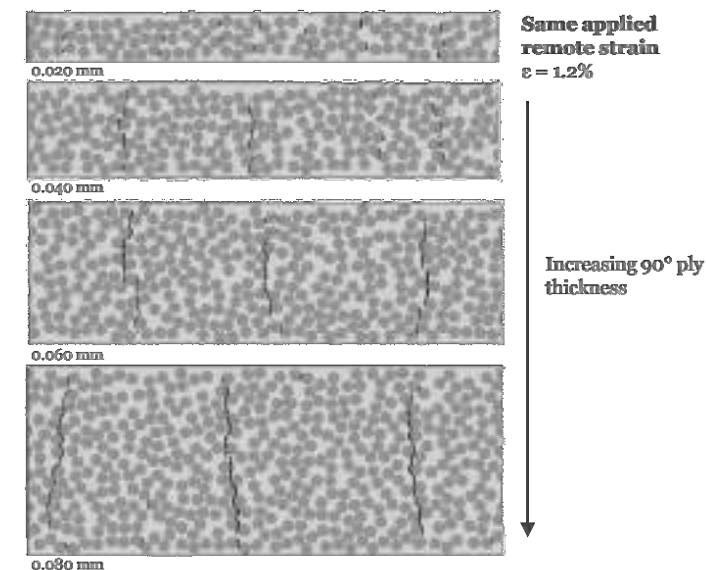


## Ongoing vision for forming

Modelling scale	Numerical strategy
Other advanced FE techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● FE<sup>2</sup> method <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Continuous approach</li> <li>– Stress/Strain at the Gauss points</li> <li>– FE model of RVE</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Arbitrary Lagrangian Eulerian formulation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Sliding: fibre/fibre – ply/ply</li> <li>– Fluxes of viscoplastic matrix</li> <li>– 1 element over the thickness</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## 2.1. MULTISCALE 1: PLY MATERIALS

This is the most advanced framework in place for using a multiscale approach to the understanding of composite materials. In this case RVEs were developed to work, with natural variability, at the micro-scale and fundamentally understand notch sensitivity, compressive strength and fatigue properties in thin laminates.

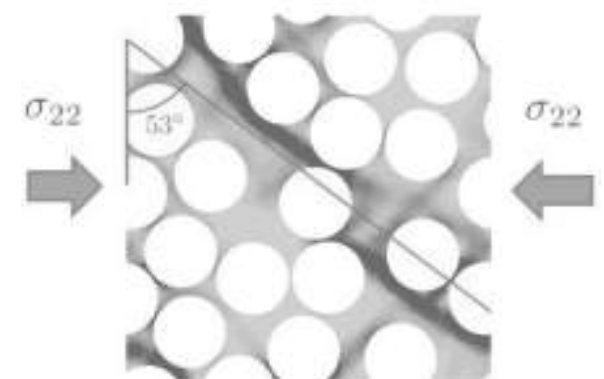
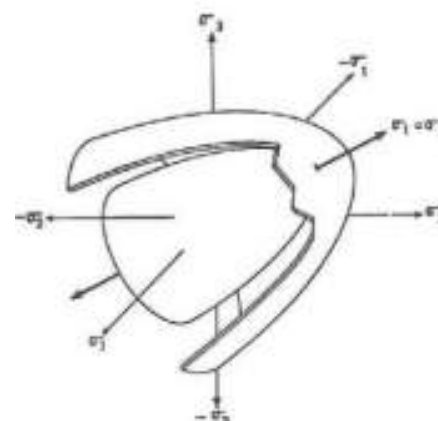
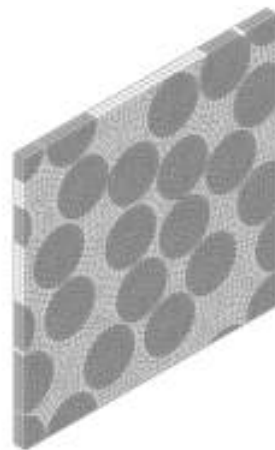
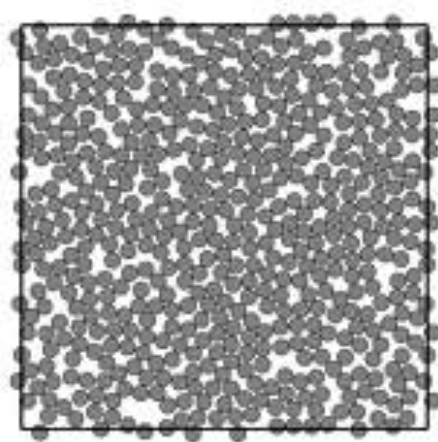


Matlab® code for  
the generation of  
random RVEs

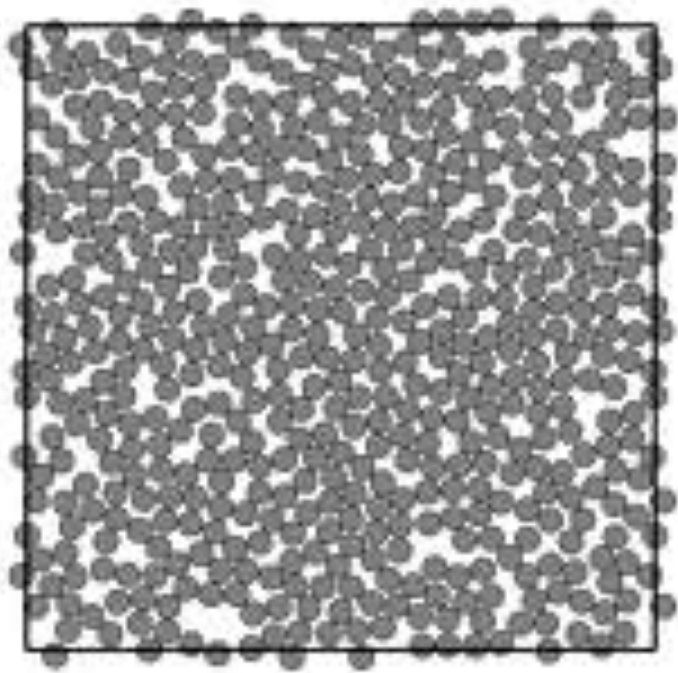
Automatic  
generation of the  
FE model and PBCs

Constitutive models  
for the constituents

Application of PBCs  
and analysis



## MICRO-SCALE MODELS: RANDOM FIBRE POSITIONING RVE

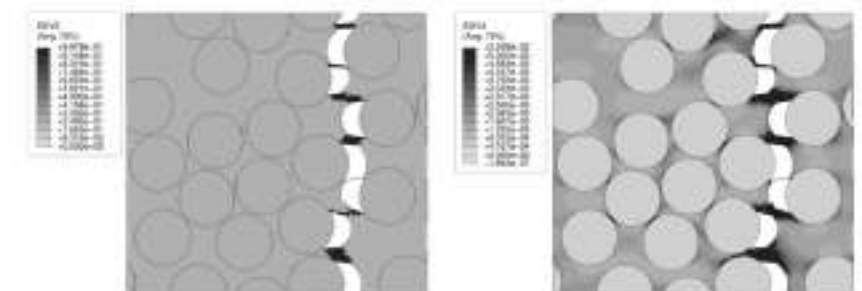


Matlab generated RVE (allowing fibre arrangement variability).

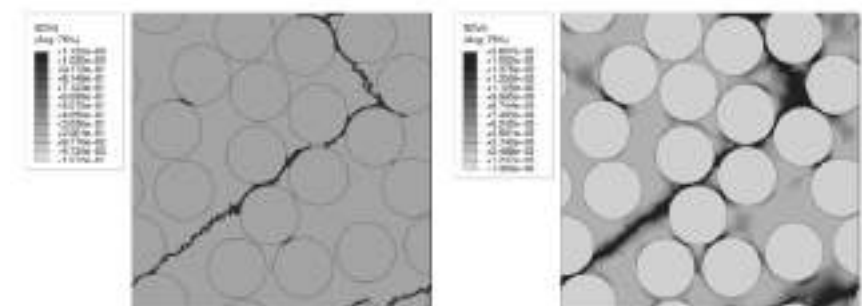
Automated procedure for the generation of RVEs.

On the generation of rve-based models of composites reinforced with long fibres or spherical particles  
Compos Struct., 138 (2016), pp. 84-95, [10.1016/j.compstruct.2015.11.039](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.compstruct.2015.11.039)

Modelling of specific phenomena like Damage (left) and equivalent plastic strain (right) fields in transverse tension.



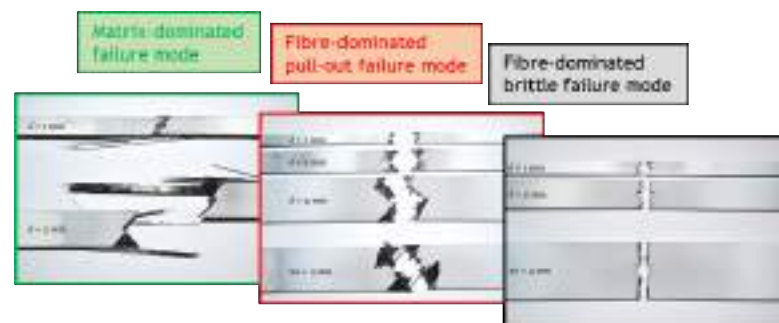
To damage (left) and equivalent plastic strain (right) fields in transverse compression.



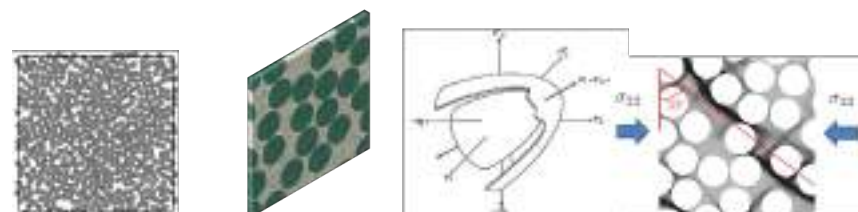


# STRUCTURAL MECHANICS OF THIN-PLY LAMINATED COMPOSITES

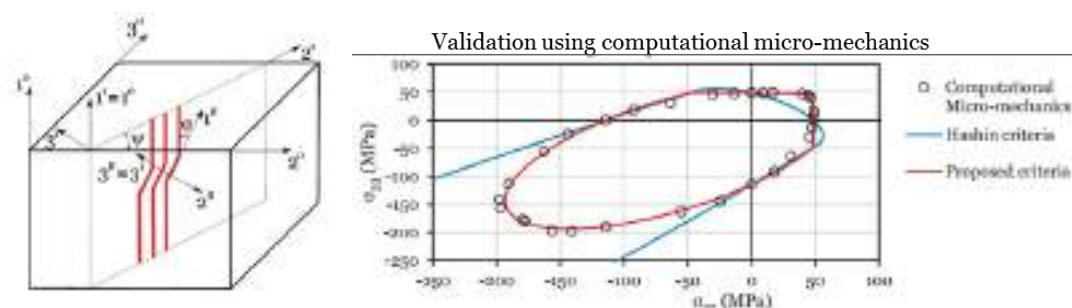
## Experimental testing and characterisation



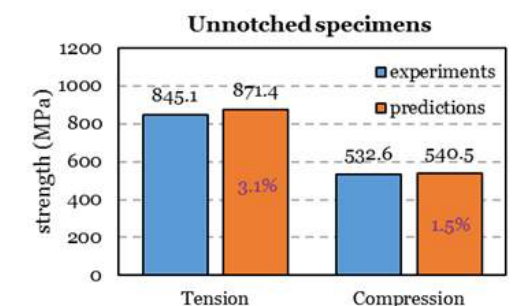
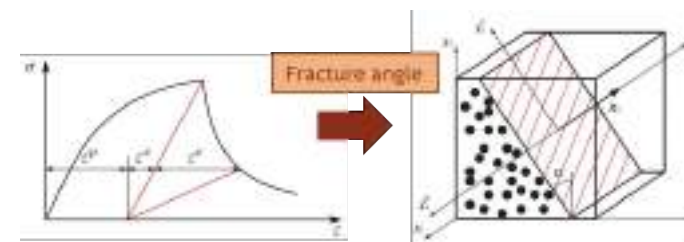
## Computational micro-mechanics



## 3D failure criteria

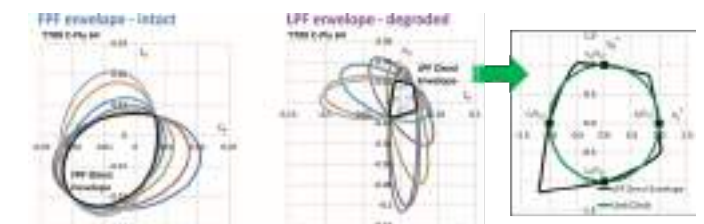


## Smeared crack model

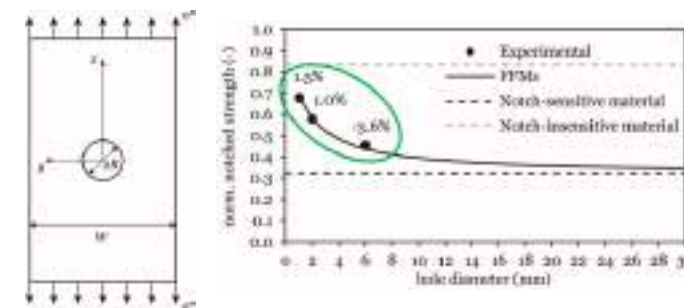


## Invariant-based approach to laminate design based on Trace

	$\epsilon_x / \epsilon_0$	$\epsilon_y / \epsilon_0$	$\gamma_{xy} / \gamma_0$	$\nu_{xy}$
Universal [0]	0.880	0.052	0.031	0.320
[0/90]	0.468	0.468	0.031	0.036
$[\pi/4]$	0.336	0.336	0.129	0.308
$[0, \pm 45/90]$	0.662	0.175	0.070	0.310



## Failure prediction of notched laminates

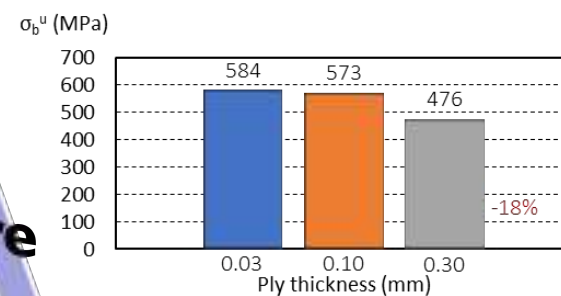


# SPREAD-TOW THIN-PLY LAMINATES

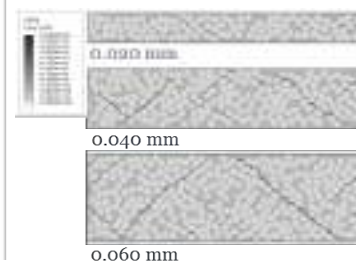
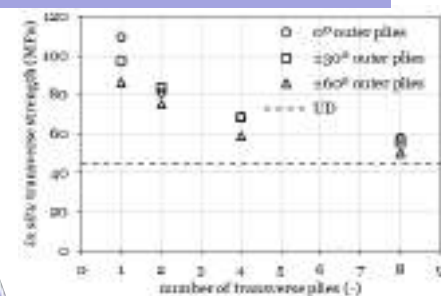
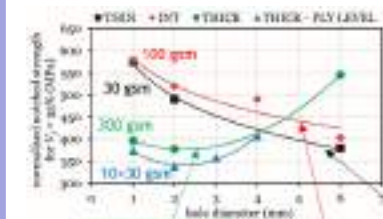
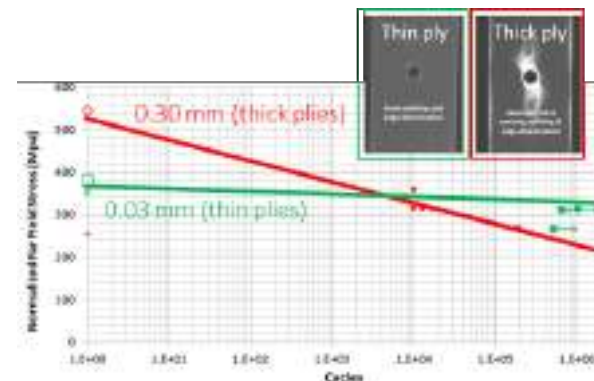
Structure

Laminate

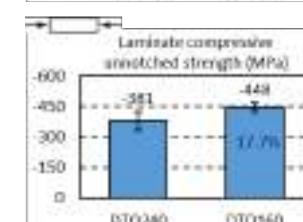
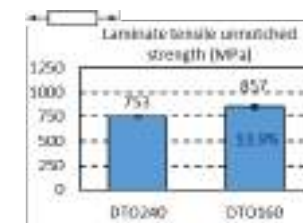
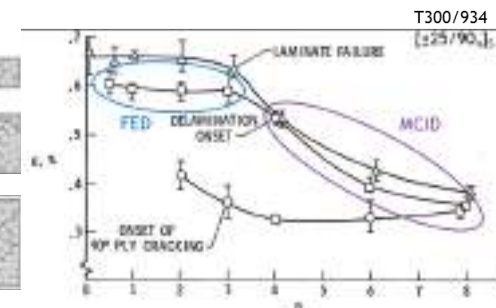
Ply



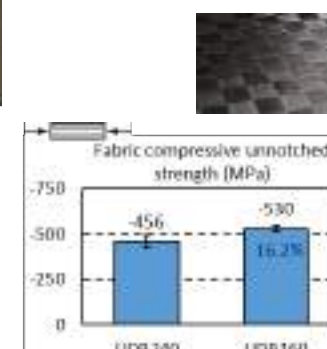
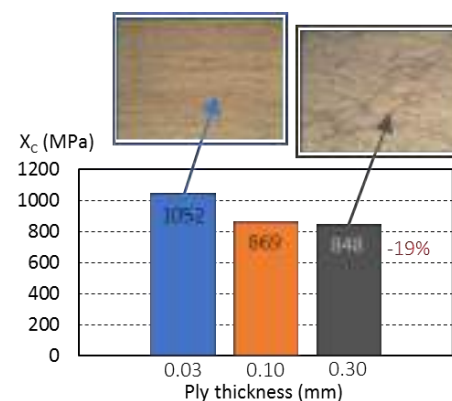
Superior **bearing strength**



Higher resistance to **matrix cracking** (*in situ* effect) and **delamination**



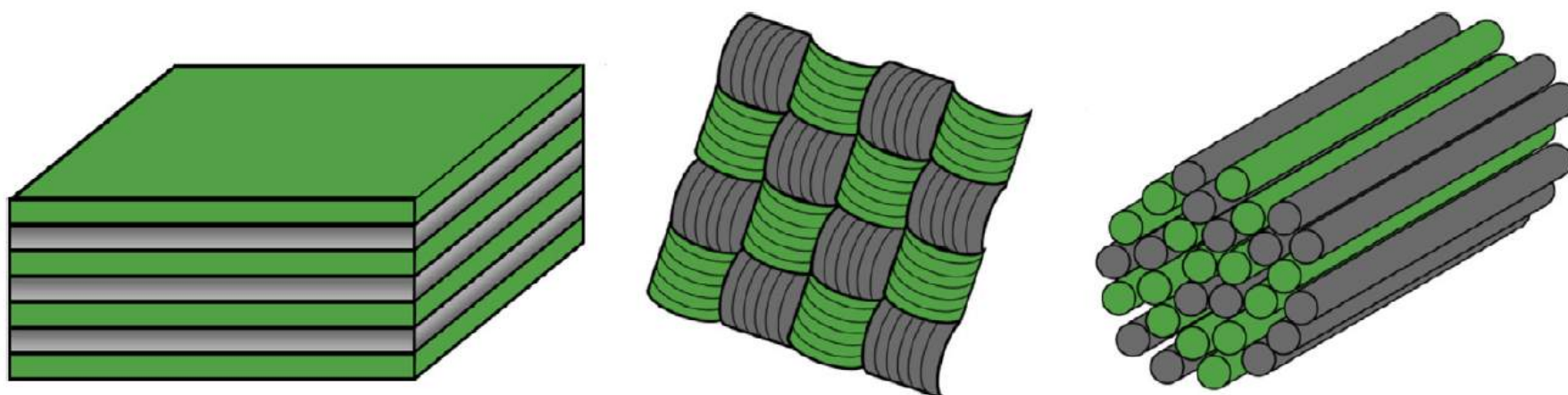
Superior **laminate strength** in **tension** and in **compression**



Improved **longitudinal compressive strength** in **UD** and **woven** reinforcements

## 2.2. MULTISCALE 2: HYBRIDS

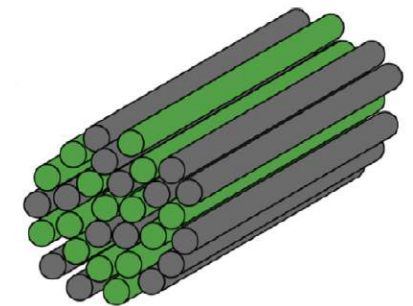
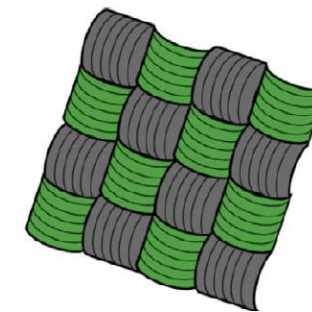
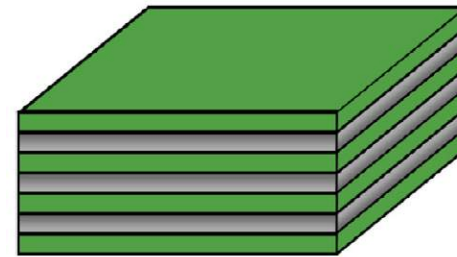
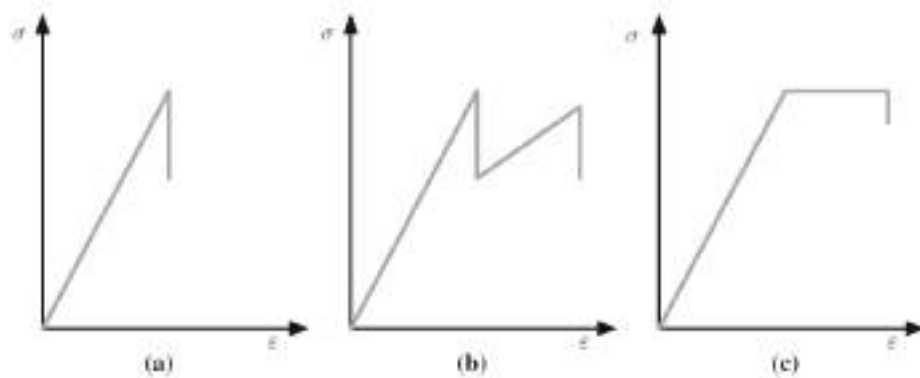
The previous work was extended to using different types of fibres in order to understand failure of these hybrid materials. Analysis are run considering hybridization in three different forms, at the lamina, at the tow level or within the tow. Ultimately we aim to design the failure of these composites to induce pseudo-ductility.





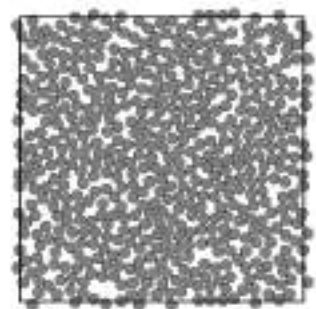
## 2.2. Hybrid Composites

Fibre hybridization changes not only the properties of the composite material but also the failure mechanisms and can be used to achieve a non-catastrophic failure of the material.



### Modelling strategies:

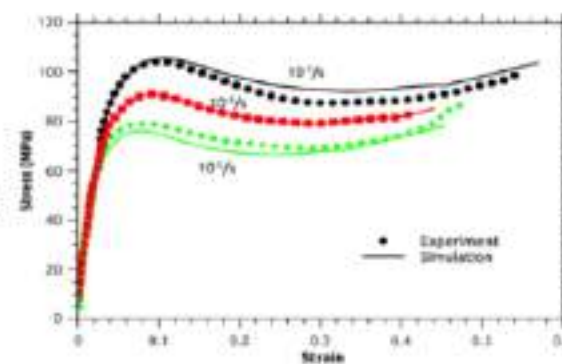
1. Fibre tow model
2. Continuous damage model
3. Spring element Model
4. 3D Micromechanical model



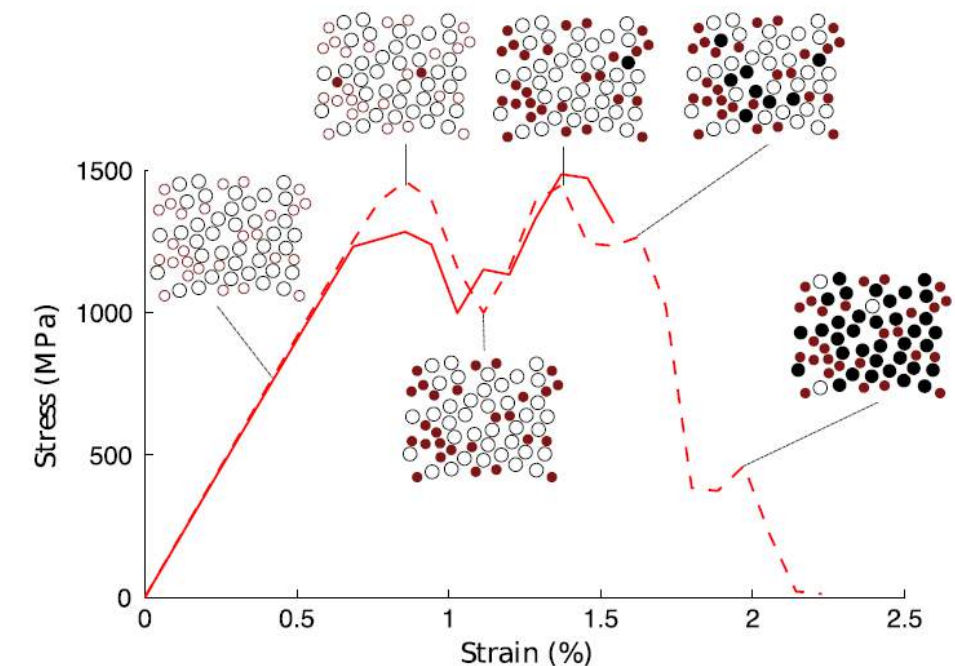
Random distribution of  
fibres



RVE and mesh  
generation



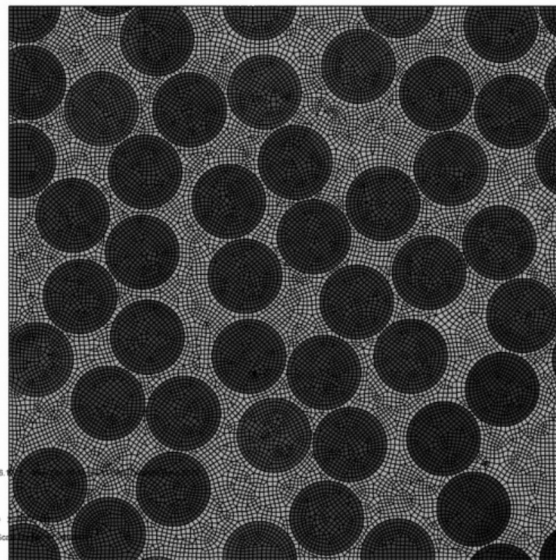
Fibre Matrix and fibre-matrix  
constitutive modelling



## 2.2. Hybrid Composites – micromechanical model

### Finite Element Model (FEM)

- Real 3D microscopic representation
- All physical phenomena



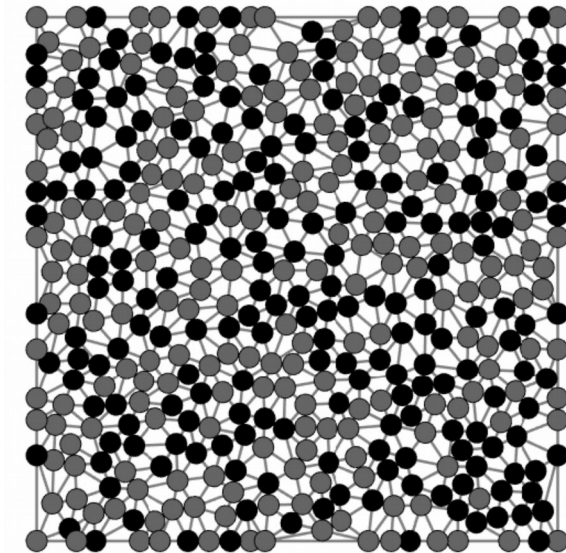
- **Computationally expensive** extremely

50 Fibres,  $3 \cdot 10^6$  elements

☁ few days

### Spring Element Model (SEM)\*

- Simplified 1D microscopic representation
- The main physical phenomena for longitudinal failure
- **Computationally efficient**



500-100 Fibres,  $5 \cdot 10^5$  elements

☁ few hours

\* R. P. Tavares, F. Otero, A. Turon & P. P. Camanho, **Effective simulation of longitudinal failure of unidirectional polymer composites**, *International Journal of Fracture* (Submitted)



## 2.2. Hybrid Composites – 1D model

Fibre = longitudinal spring element

Matrix = transverse spring element

3D Represent Volume Element (RVE)

- Random fibre distribution (2D mesh)
  - Extrusion of 2D triangular mesh
- Fibre elements = connecting sections

Failure criteria

- Fibre failure

$$\frac{\sigma_f}{X_T^e} - 1 < 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \sigma_f > 0$$

stress

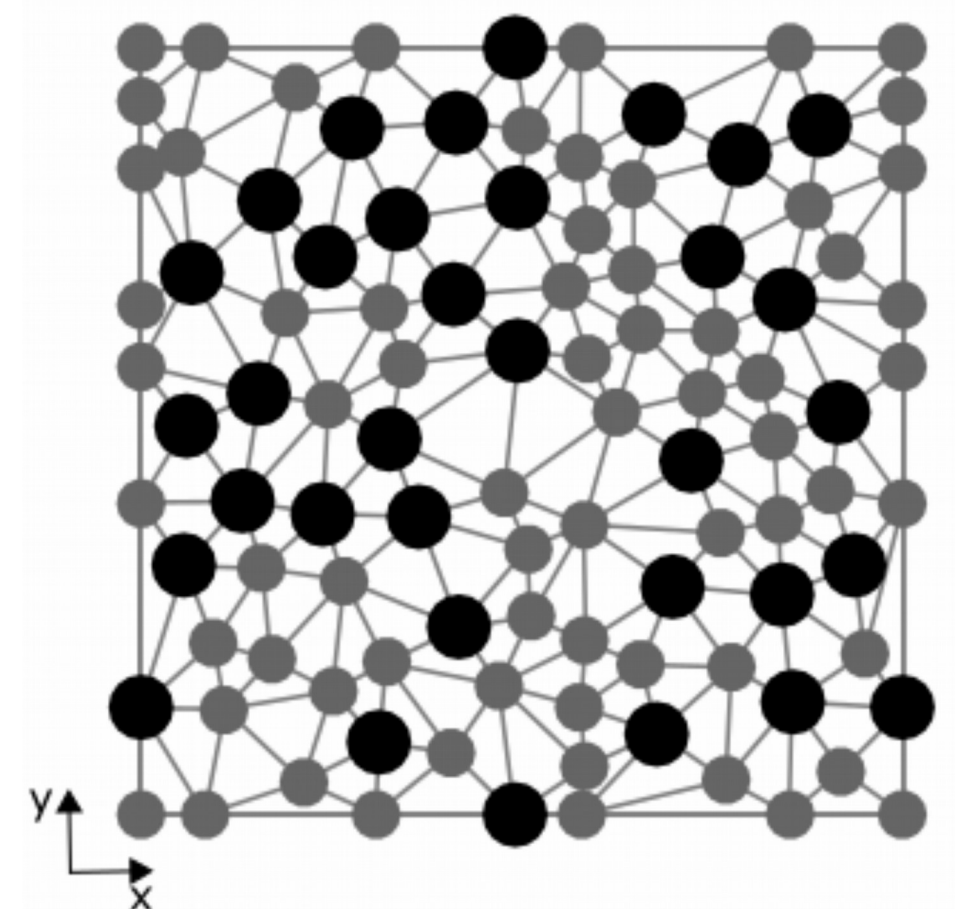
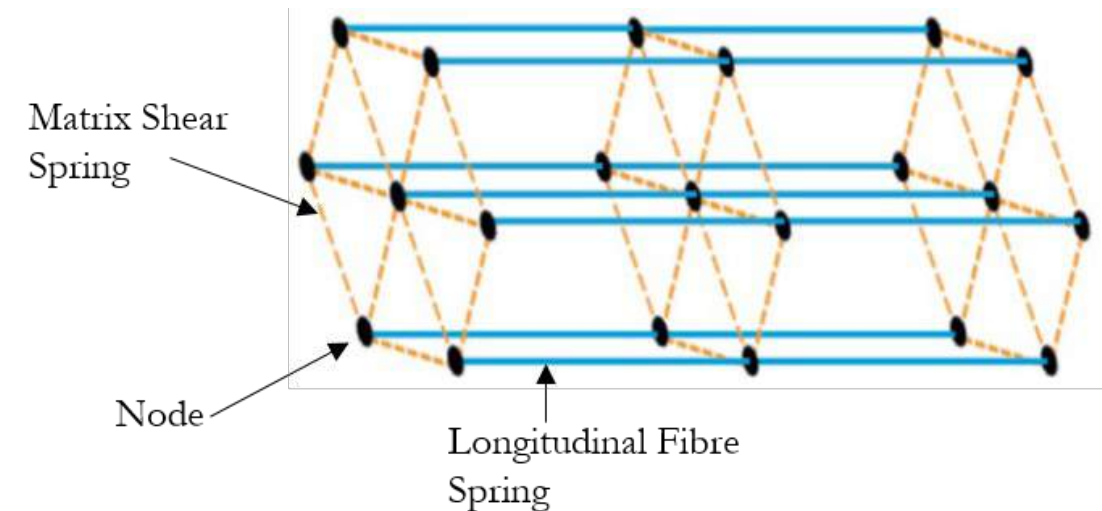
tensile strength

- Each fibre = random strength
  - Matrix damage

- Shear stress = maximum  $G$

$$G_{i+1} = \frac{G_i}{\alpha}$$

shear stiffness





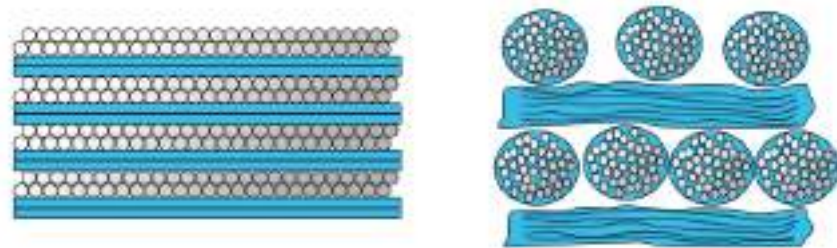
## 2.3. MULTISCALE 1: NANO-REINFORCED MATERIALS

We are working on nano-reinforcement in two parallel tracks, at the matrix modification level and at the computational mechanical levels. At the computational mechanical concepts work is using existing models and experimenting with different constitutive models to attempt to replicate the modifications.

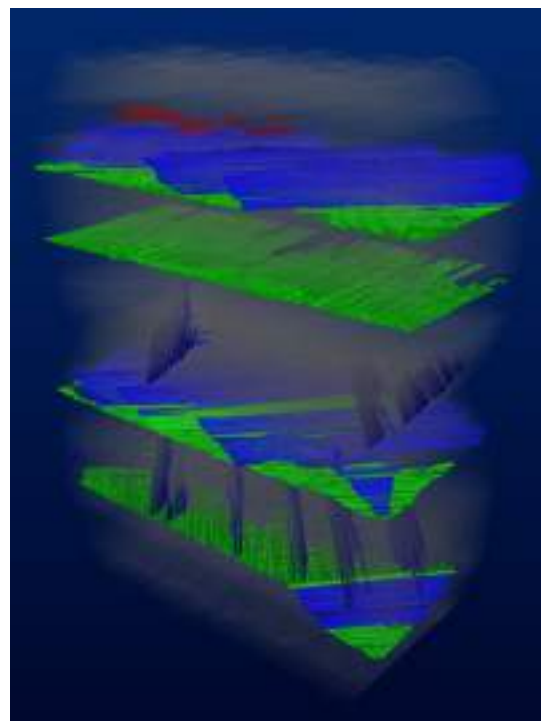
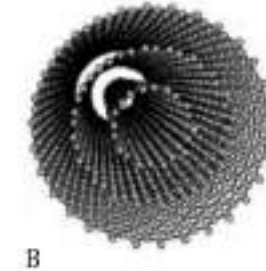
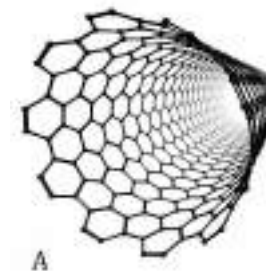
Interesting work could also take place at a sub micro level (atomistic/molecular modelling) which we are not doing.

## 2.3 Nano-reinforced thin ply laminates

Ultra-thin ply laminates

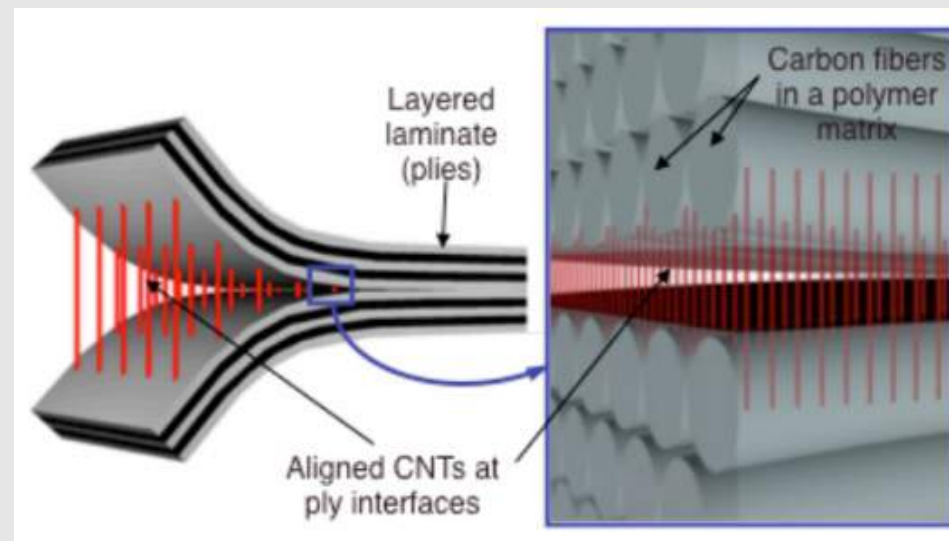


Nanostructured materials

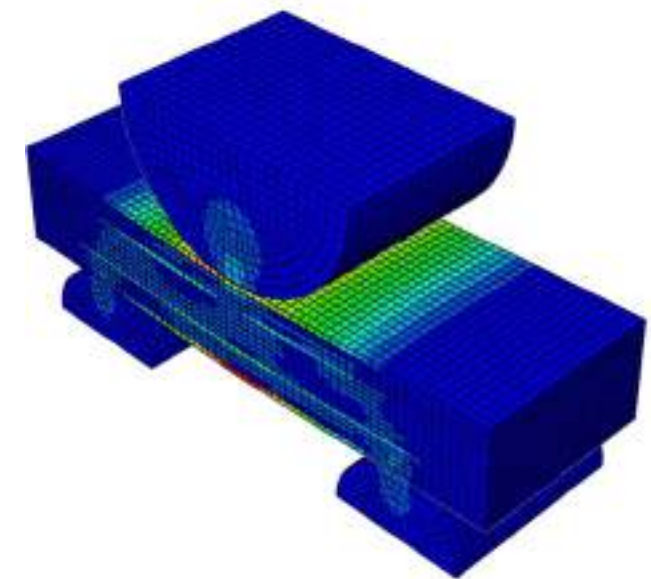


Experimental work

Nano-reinforced thin ply laminates



Concept

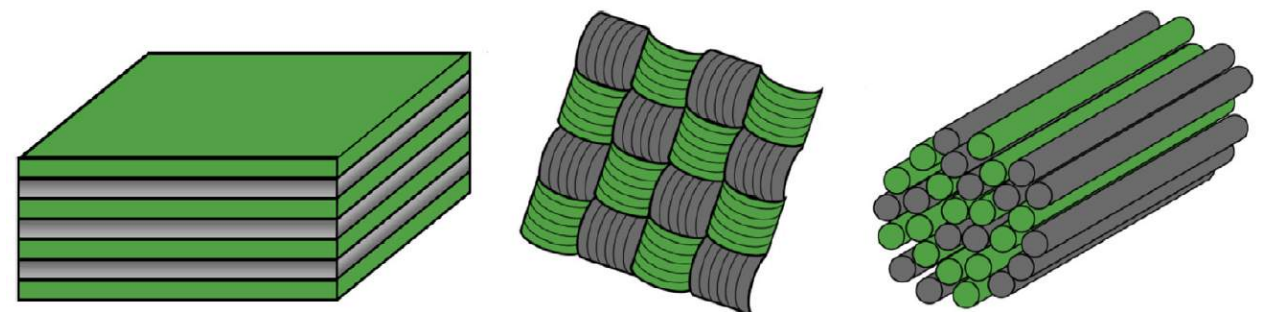


Simulation

What are the improvements of nano-reinforced thin-ply laminates over standard grade composite materials?

### 3. NEW MATERIALS AND NEW PROPERTIES OPENING UP NEW OPPORTUNITIES.

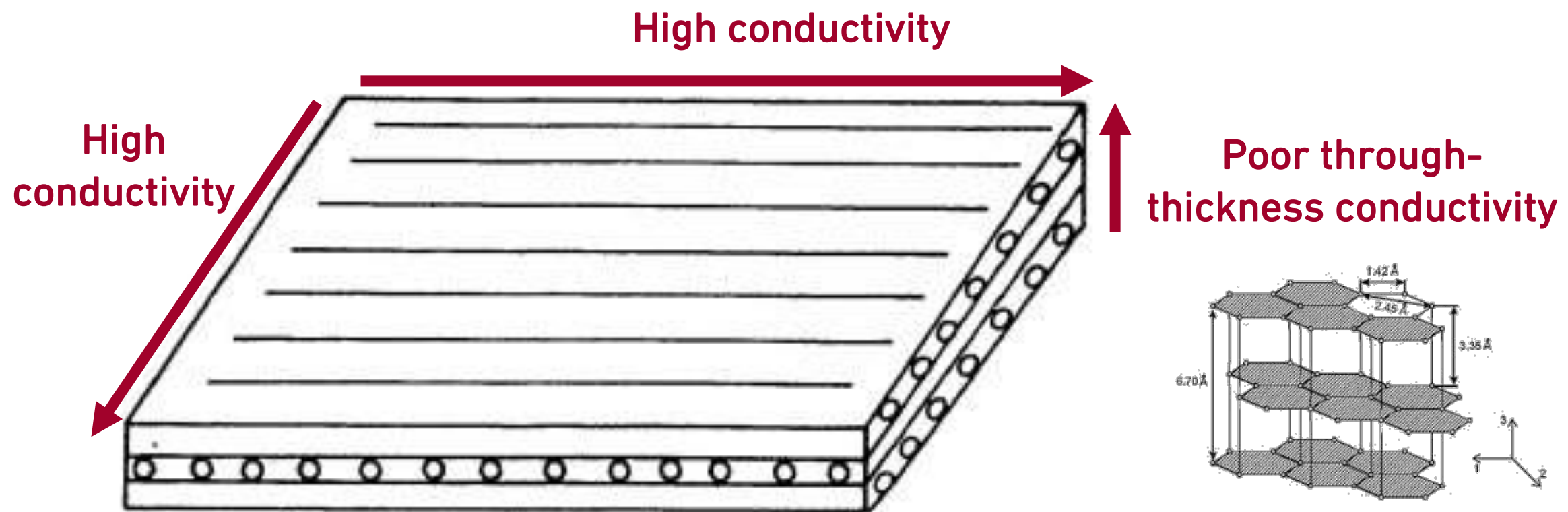
New materials and new properties open up new opportunities. Obvious avenues for development lie not only in the fields of nano-modification of resins but also on hybridization. Along side this one could add new or improved fibres and sizing.





## Relevance of MultiFunctionality in CFRP

- When compared to metals, due to their anisotropic characteristics, CFRP do not provide thermal and electrical **conductivity in the through-thickness direction**, currently limiting their use in structural applications where it is required to dissipate heat and electric charges (ex: electronic boxes and aircraft structures for lightning-strike protection).



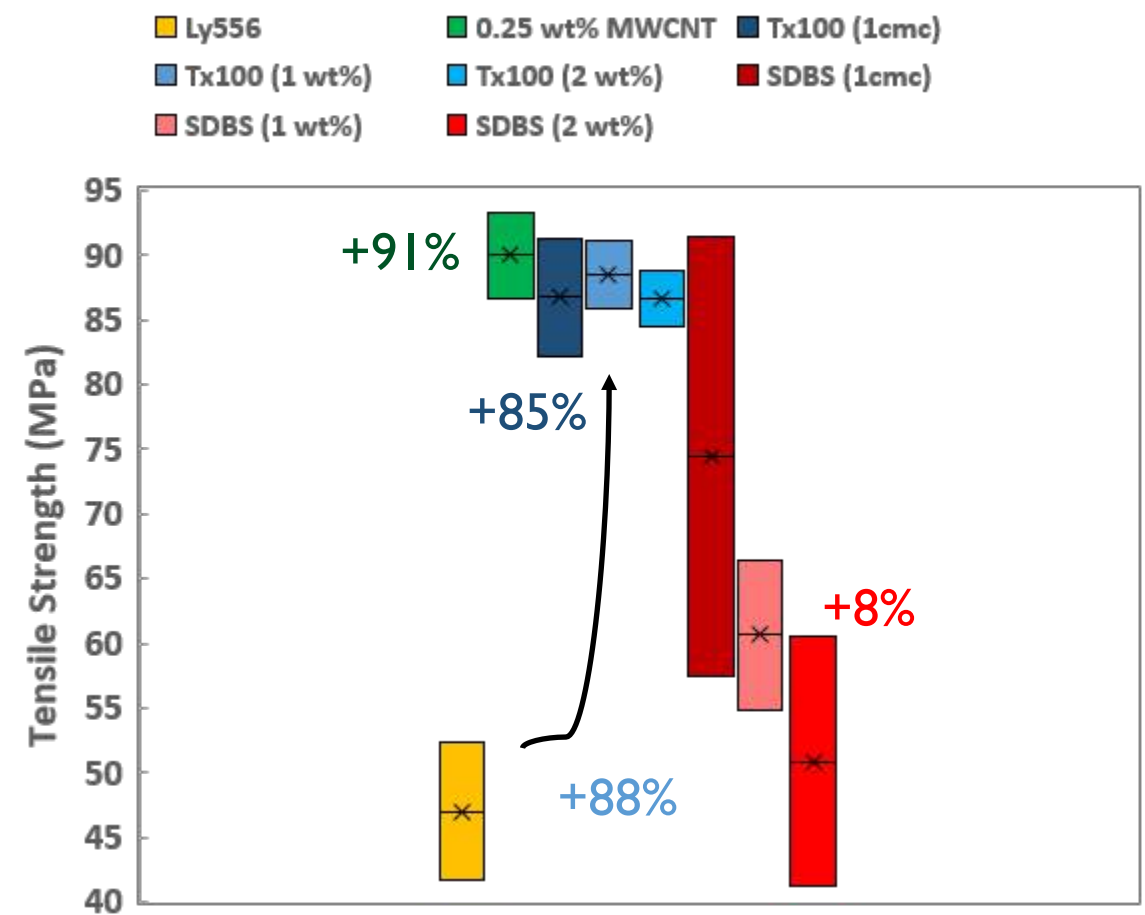
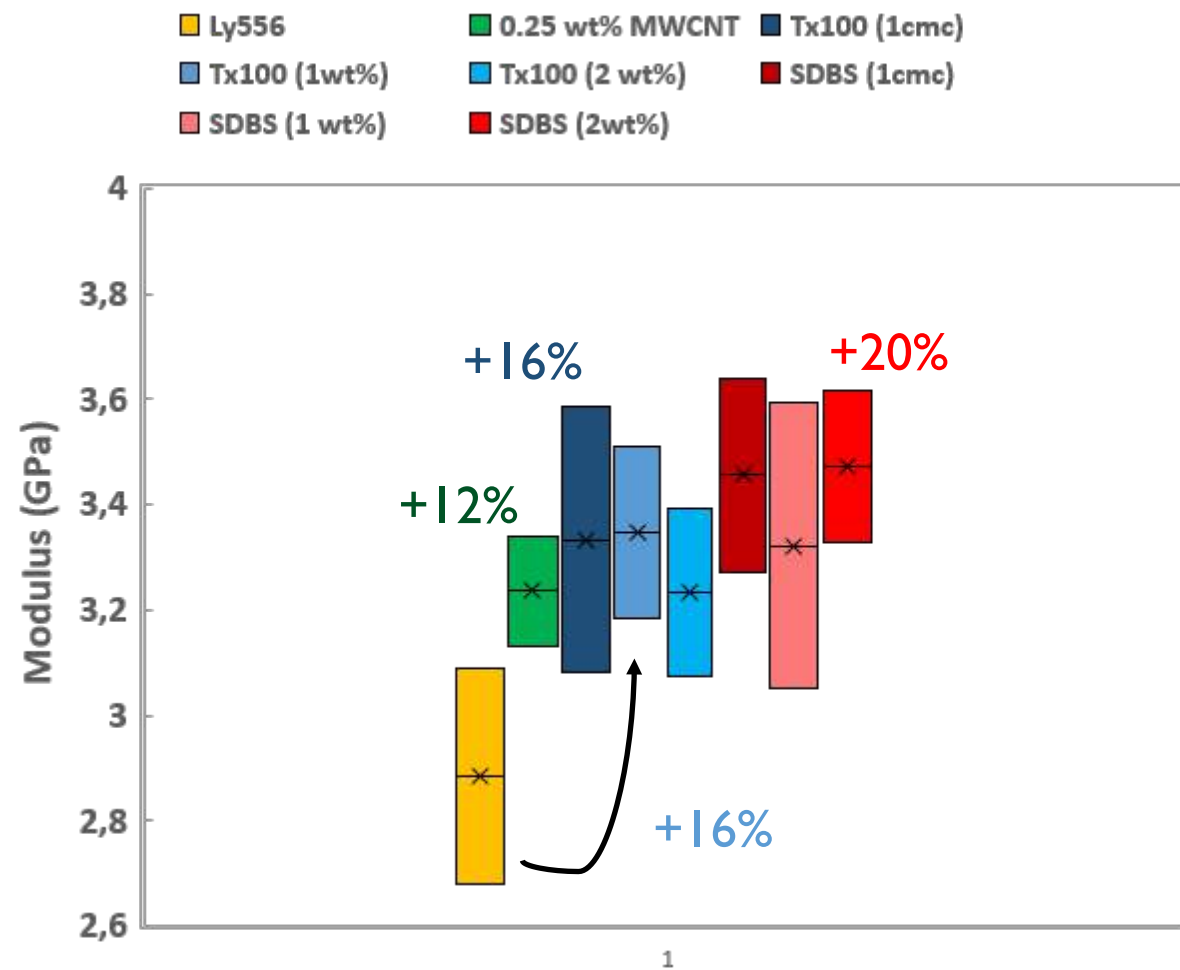
## 3.1. CARBON NANOTUBE AND GRAPHENE MODIFIED MATRICES

The approach that is being followed is to modify epoxy matrices with the inclusion of CNTs and graphene (including the development of dispersing agents) and to include these new matrices in bespoke prepreg materials (which are then used to demonstrate macroscale, structural, impact of the modifications).



## Our approach & Results

### The influence of different surfactants on Mechanical Properties



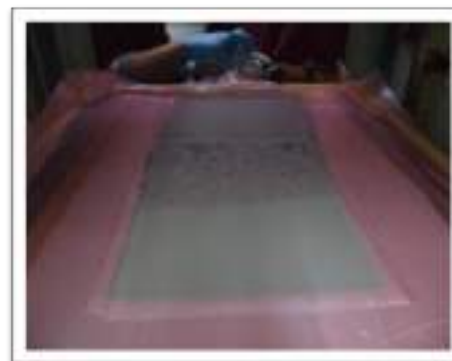
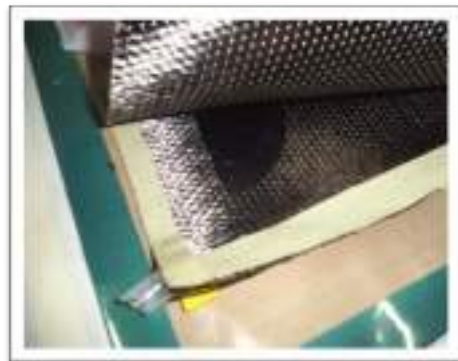
The addition (0,2wt%) of CNTs normally improves the elastic modulus (~34%) and reduces the tensile strength (10%)  
 Ghorabi et al., Iran Polym J (2012)



# Use of carbon nano tubes and graphene for high thermal conductivity

## Materials development

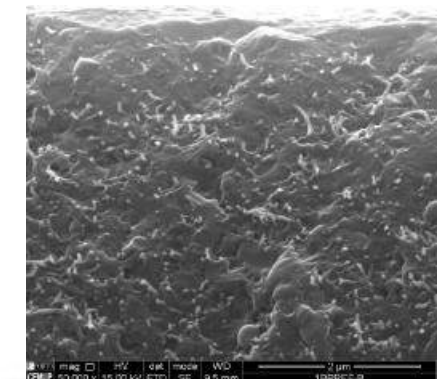
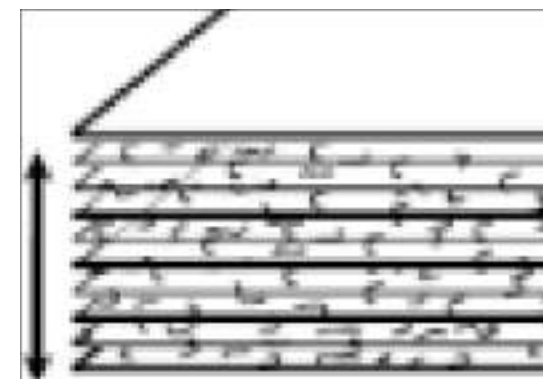
CFRP preparation based on thermally conductive pitch-based carbon fibres.  
 Evaluation of processing variables.



Very high in-plane conductivity is an advantage for systems thermal design

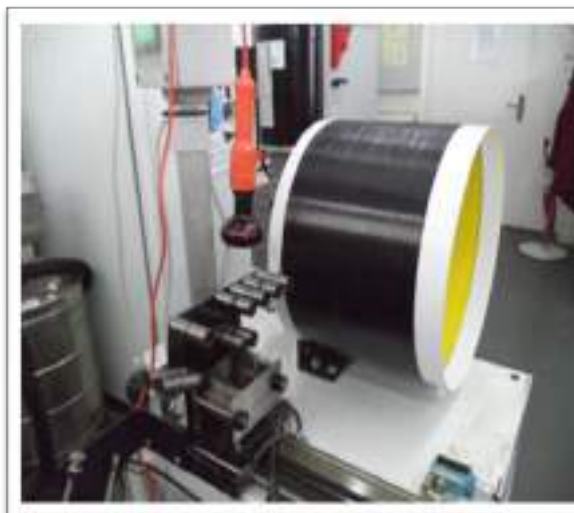


Alternative approaches based on carbon nanotubes doping for increased through thickness conductivity



## 3.2. NEW FIBRE MATERIALS

Our work on the development of fibres extends from the development of composite demonstrators for high modulus ( $>350$  GPa) PAN based carbon fibres working with FISIFE (now SGL) on the development of the precursor, graphitization and pre-impregnation steps to currently working on a number of follow-on projects (MODCOMP, SPACE CARBON and others) which aim to stabilize this knowledge and bring it to the market. We are also starting work on thermoplastic comingling (CF/PPS) on a 4 year project.



## 4. EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS



# European Space-Qualified Carbon Fibres and Pre-Impregnated Based Materials



Partners: INEGI (PT), Fisipe (PT), Airbus Defence and Space (SP), and CTL (IR).  
 Client: EC – European Commission

**EUCARBON (2011-2015):** the main objective was to develop European carbon fibers and pre-impregnated materials for satellite sub-systems applications. It was further objective to improve electrical and thermal conductivity of these materials using CNT doped resins approach.





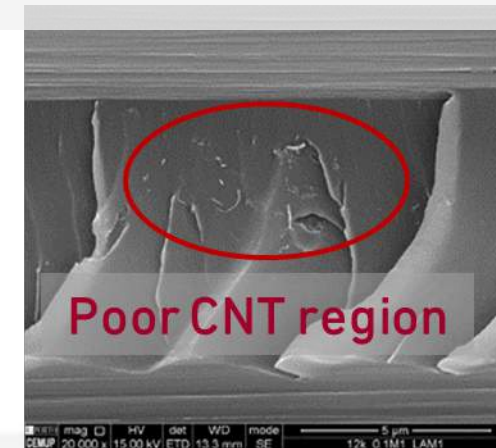
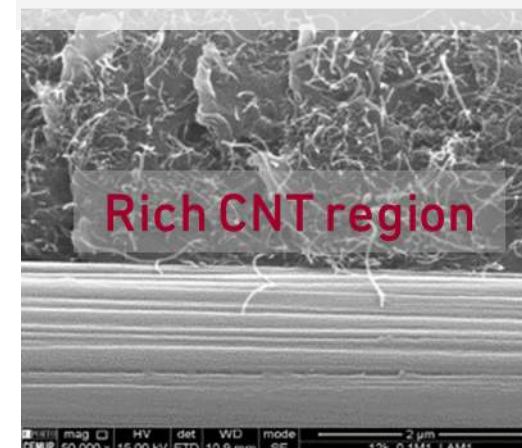
# Pre-Impregnation with resin system modified with carbon nanotubes



- Strength decreased for only 0.1% loadings

Sample	HM	HM + 0.1%wt.CNT
<b>Fibre Volume Fraction</b>	52% (Reference: 60%)	47% (Reference: 60%)
<b>Voids content (%)</b>	0.77 (Acceptance: <2)	0.21 (Accept: <2)
<b>ILSS (MPa)</b>	70 ± 1.3 (Nom: 81; Accept: 80)	69 ± 0.9 (Nom: 89; Accept: 80)
<b>0° Tensile Strength (MPa)</b>	1700 ± 97 (Nom: 2000; Accept: 2000)	1340 ± 98 (Nom: 1700; Accept: 2000)
<b>0° Tensile Modulus (GPa)</b>	182 ± 8.0 (Nom: 210; Accept: 195)	162 ± 2.3 (Nom: 206; Accept: 195)

- Poor dispersion in the matrix



- High fibres stiffness and further increase of epoxy resin system viscosity makes this process very challenging
- CNT contents up to 1.5% (wt. in epoxy) were achieved using intermediate modulus fibres (IMS60)

# SPACECARBON Project | European Carbon Fibres and Pre- Impregnated Materials for Space Applications



- › Develop **intermediate and high modulus carbon fibres** for launchers and satellite sub-components.
- › Develop pre-impregnation process for **Space Qualified Prepregs**
- › **Novel prepreg formulations** for future Spacecraft structural composites



CO-FUNDING



PARTNERS





## ECO-COMPASS Project | Ecological and multifunctional composite materials for application in aircraft



› Development and evaluation of **multifunctional and ecologically improved composite materials** using **bio-fibres** and **bio-resins** for application in the aviation sector.

CO-FUNDING



PARTNERS

Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V. | Airbus Group Innovations France University of Manchester | Centre Internacional de Mètodes Numèrics a l'Enginyeria LEITAT Technological Centre | University of PATRAS | L-UP China Aviation Industry Corporation | Beijing Institute of Aeronautical Materials | China Aviation Industry Corporation | Hefei Hangtai Electrophysics Co, Ltd. | Avic Xi'an Aircraft Industry Company Ltd. | Ningbo Institute of Materials Technology and Engineering, CAS | Tongji University | Shandong University | Harbin Institute of Technology | Shanghai Aircraft Manufacturing CO, Ltd. | China Aviation Industry Corporation General | Aircraft Co, Ltd.

## PASSARO Project | Design of multifunctional structures using intelligent technologies



- › Produce more **efficient aircraft** in relation to **cost and weight**, using the incorporation of **composite materials**.
- › Demonstrate, through **representative prototypes**, the **applicability of technologies** for design, manufacturing and ground testing, including **full-scale physical demonstrators on the ground** (a cockpit structure, external wing and aileron).

CUSTOMER



CO-FUNDING



Horizon 2020  
European Union funding  
for Research & Innovation

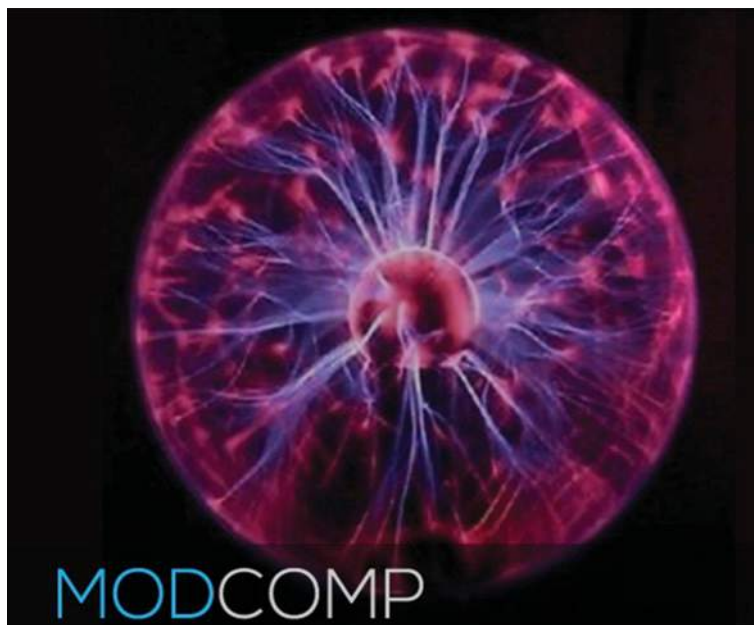
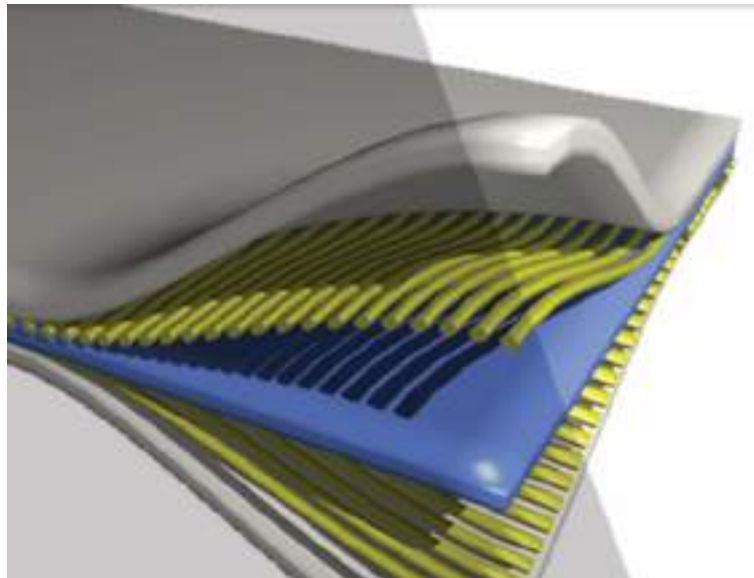


PARTNERS





## MODCOMP Project | New structural solutions based on carbon fibres



- › Development of **new structural solutions** for technical products with **high added value** and **high performance**, through **new fibre modification** strategies.
- › Design of **demonstrators** capable of satisfying levels for **future industrialisation**, having as end users several **industrial sectors**, namely automobile and transport, aeronautics and space, construction, leisure and electronics.

### CO-FUNDING



### PARTNERS

National Technical University of Athens | The Welding Institute | University of Birmingham | Thales Research & Technology | ITAINNOVA - Instituto Tecnológico de Aragón | GlobalSafeGuard Ltd | Anthony, Patrick & Murta Exportação | NCC Operations Ltd | Open Source Management Ltd. OSM United Kingdom SME | Innovation in Research & Engineering Solutions | IRES Belgium SME | Politecnico di Torino POLITO Italy RTO | Swerea SICOMP AB SICOMP Sweden RTO | Aernnova Engineering Division S.A. AERN Spain IND | Freni Brembo SpA BREMBO Italy IND | Yuzhnoye State Design Office YUZ Ukraine IND | Euromobilita S.R.O. EUMO Czech Republic SME



## ENLIGHT Project | Car door prototype made of carbon fibre reinforced polymer



- › Development of **viable and sustainable solutions** for the production of **electric vehicles**.



CO-FUNDING

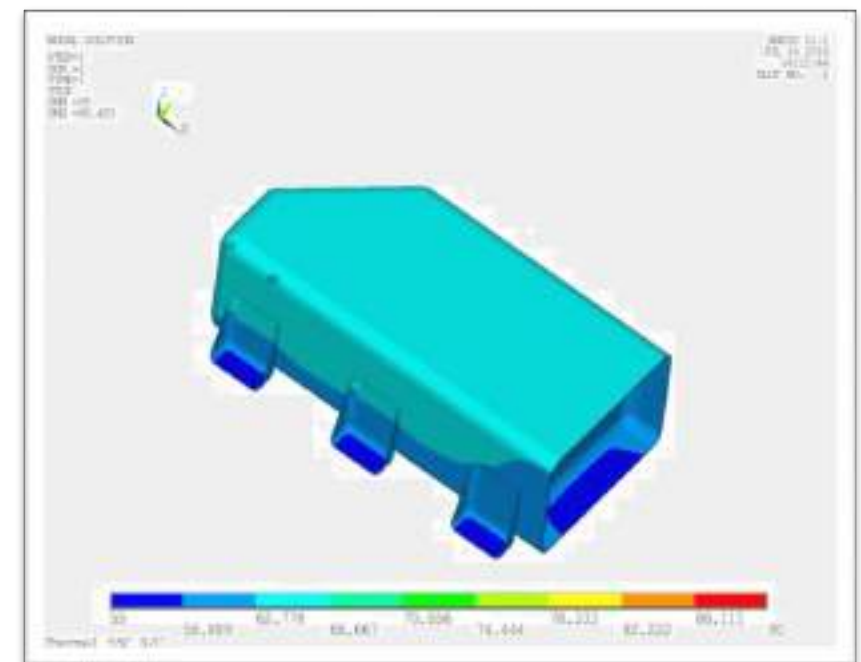
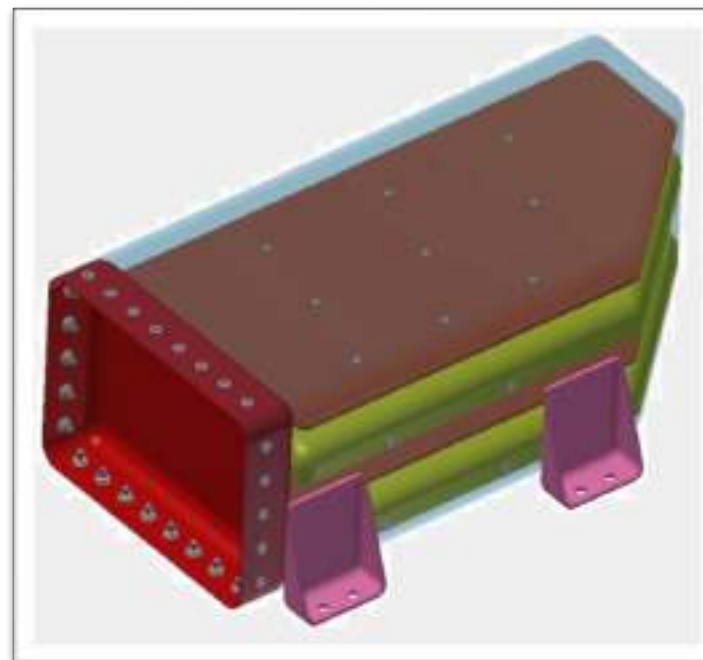
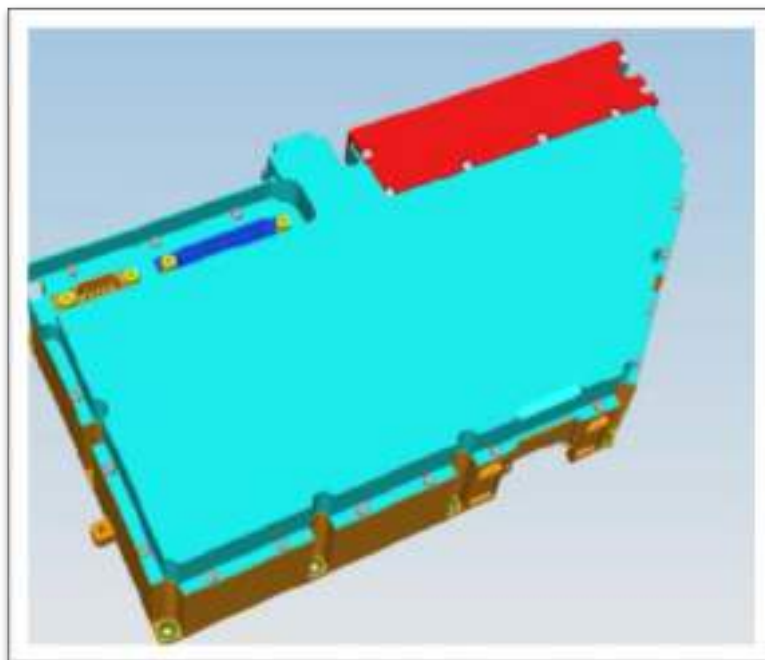


PARTNERS

Fraunhofer LBF | AIT Austrian Institute of Technology - LKR GmbH | Airborne Technology Center B.V. | Bax & Willems S.L. | Benteler Automobiltechnik GmbH | CENTRO RICERCHES FIAT SCPA | DSM Engineering Plastics | Institut für Kraftfahrzeuge - RWTH Aachen | Jaguar Cars & Land Rover | Katholieke Universiteit Leuven | MAGNETI MARELLI S.P.A. | Oxeon AB | RENAULT | Sistemas y Procesos Avanzados S.L. | Swerea SICOMP AB | Tecnar GmbH | Università degli Studi di Firenze | Volvo Technology Corporation | VOLKSWAGEN AG | The University of Warwick

# RTM EBOX: “Thermally Conductive RTM CFRP” (2013-2015)

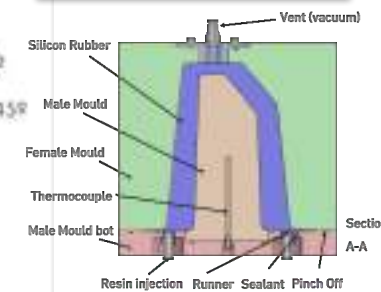
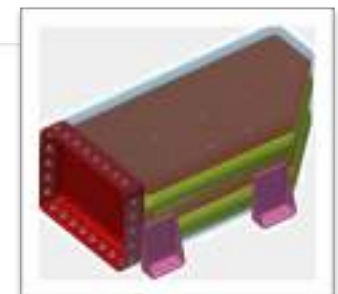
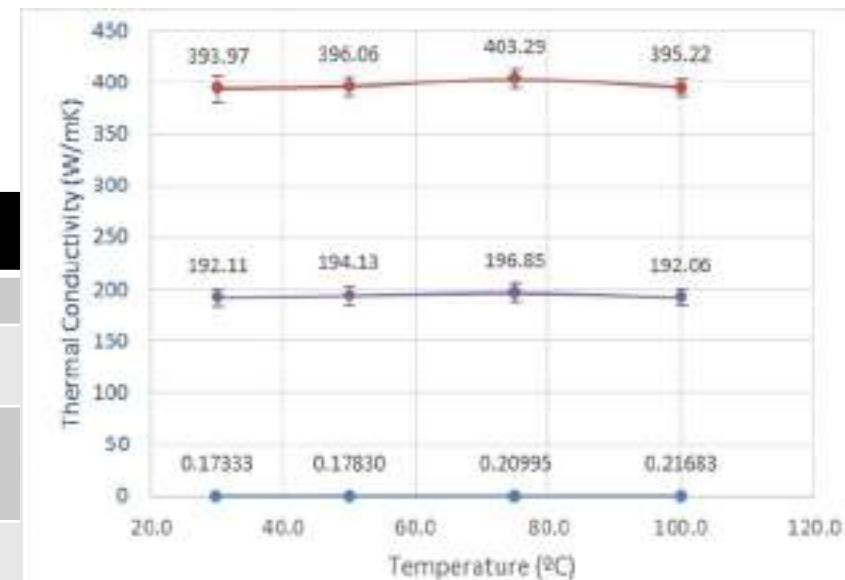
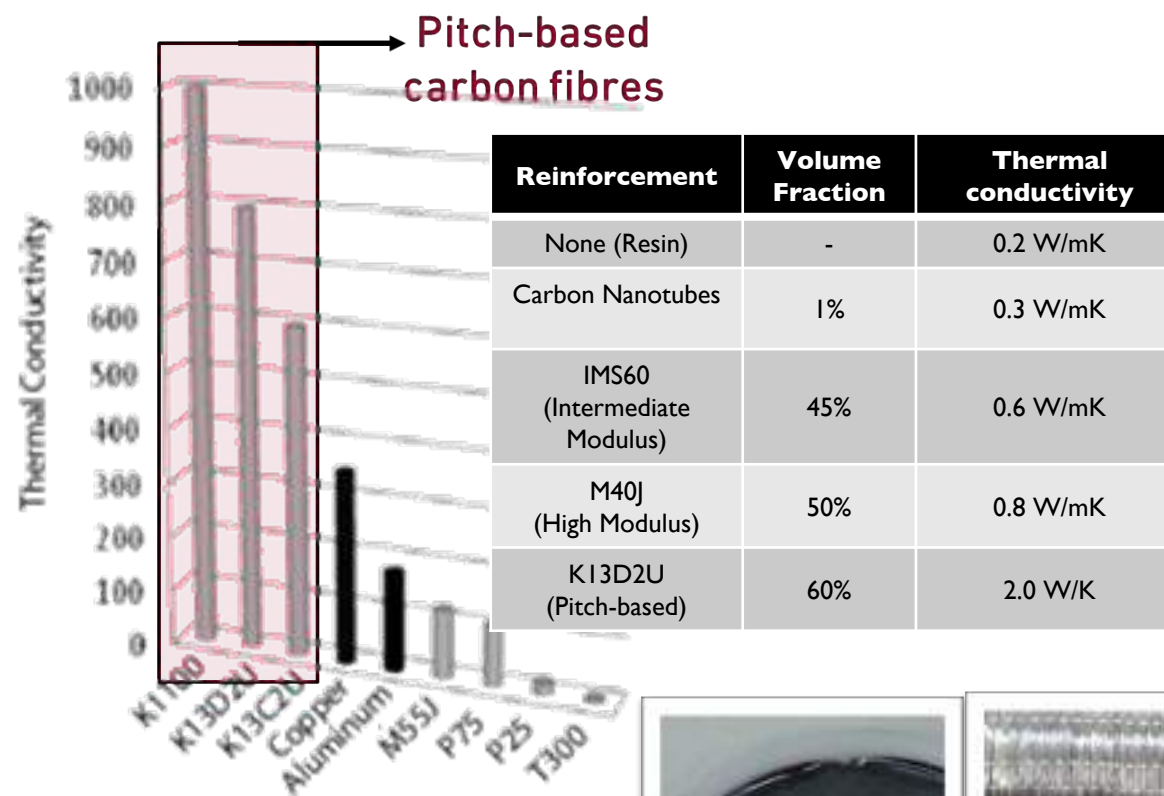
**Objective:** Manufacturing of a thermally conductive electronic box based on Resin Transfer Moulding (RTM) process.  
 Increased interest in out-of-autoclave processes and thermally conductive CFRP.



# Thermally Conductive CFRP manufactured by Resin Transfer Moulding

Partners: INEGI (PT), HPS (DE), and Evoleo (PT).  
 Client: ESA – European Space Agency

**RTM E-BOX (2013-2015):** the main objective was to develop a thermally conductive composite material for electronic box space applications, manufactured through an out-of-autoclave process (Resin Transfer Moulding).





# RTM EBOX: “Thermally Conductive RTM CFRP” (2013-2015)

Alternative approaches based on carbon nanotubes doping for increased through thickness conductivity

RTM process modelling

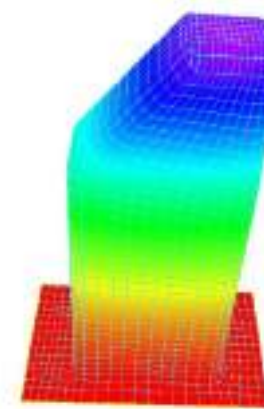


Figure 1-18 - Resin injection profile

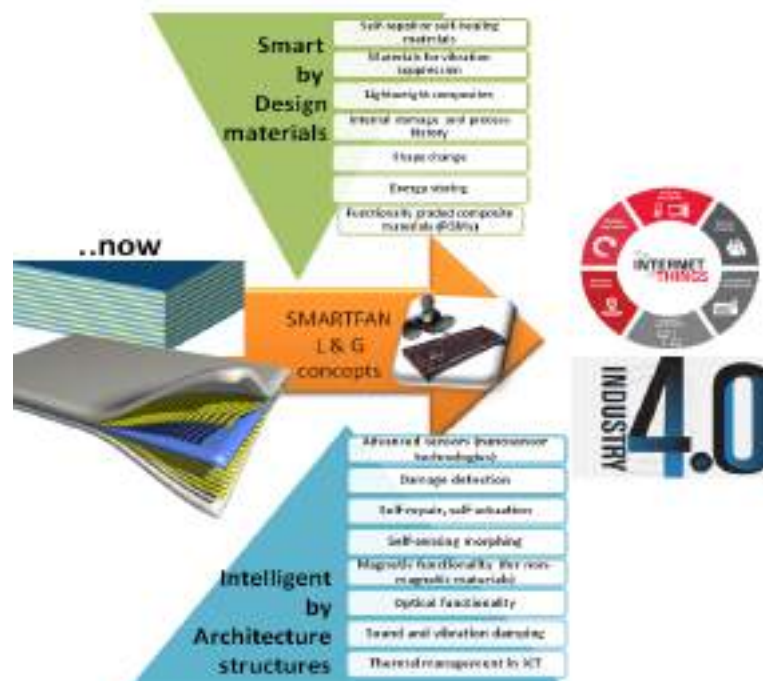


Figure 1-22 - 3D model of mold for box manufacturing

In-house RTM manufacturing facilities



# SMARTFAN Project | Smart by Design and Intelligent by Architecture for turbine blade fan and structural components systems



SmartFAN

- › Develop “**smart**” **composite materials**, from raw-materials to novel architectures, with integrated functionalities that will interact with surrounding environmental (focus on **self-sensing, actuating and damage repair**)
- › Demonstration through prototypes of **turbine blade fans and structural component systems**, requiring **materials and process development** to integrate smart behaviour on final composites

CO-FUNDING



PARTNERS

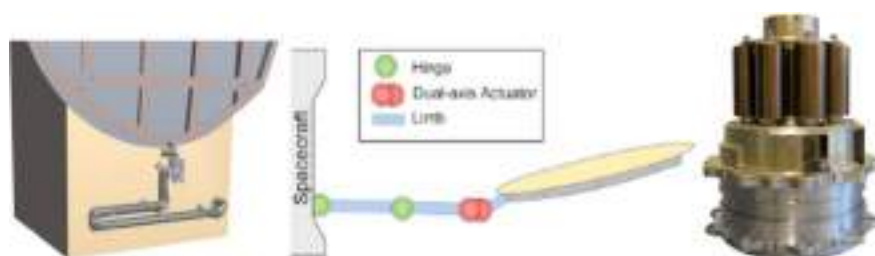
National Technical University of Athens | Warrant Group | Canoe Platform - Adera | Dallara Automobili | Thales Research & Technology | ITAINNOVA - Instituto Tecnológico de Aragón | Elica | Foundation for Research and Technology- Hellas | Techedge Group | University of Rome - Tor Vergata | Innovation in Research & Engineering Solutions | IRES Belgium SME | Politecnico di Torino POLITO Italy RTO University of Birmingham | BioGen3D - 3D New Technologies | Open Source Management Critical Materials | Lavrion Technology Culture Park

# COMETH Project | Composite Elastic Hinge For Antenna Deployment Structures



› **Current technology:** deployment arms by articulation of one or multiple limbs through mechanical hinges.

› **Objective:** develop an ultra-light and low-cost composite arm for deployable antennas based on elastic hinges.



CUSTOMER



PARTNERS

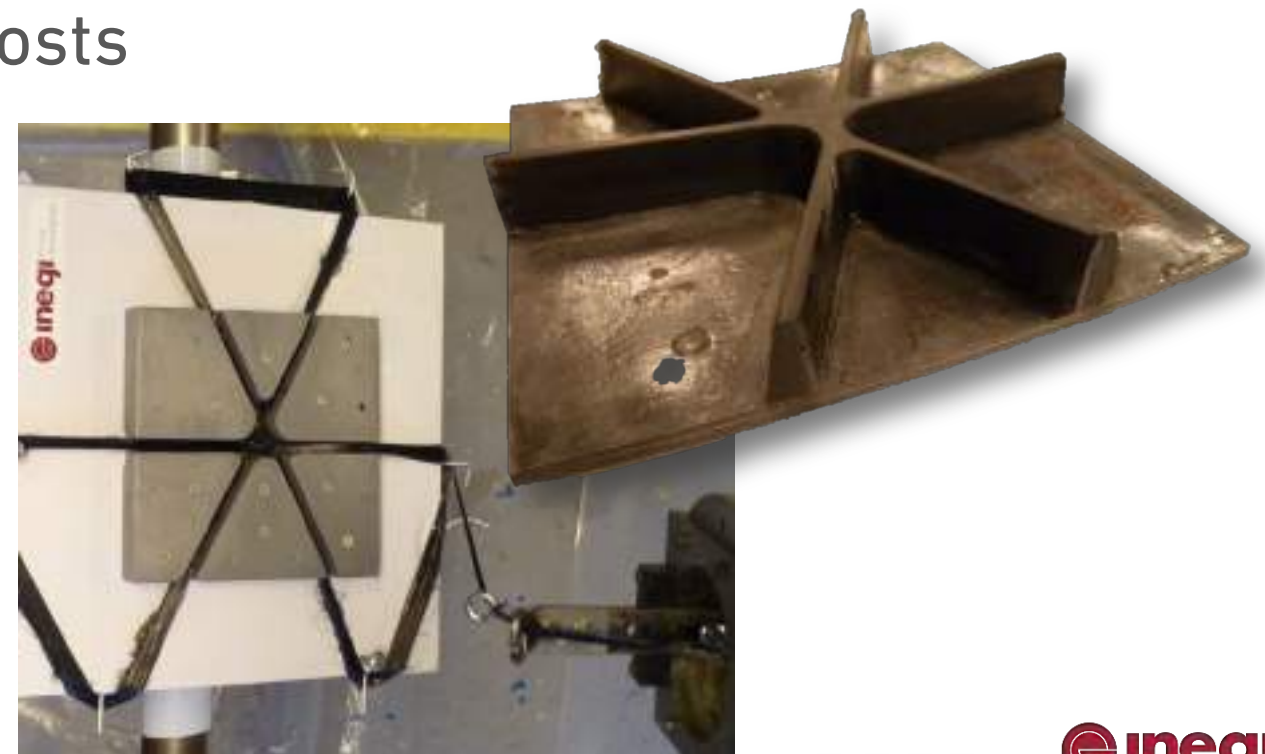
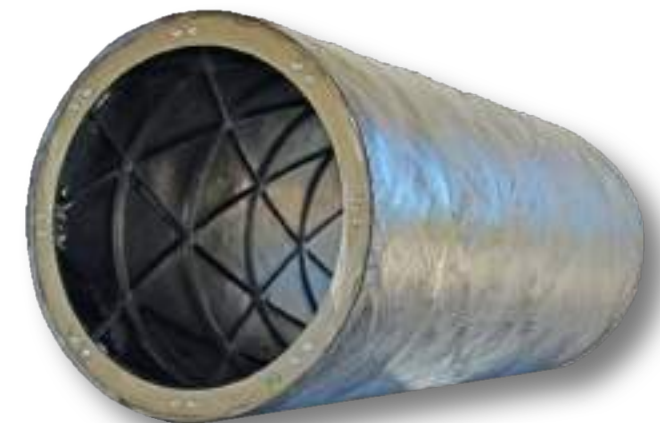




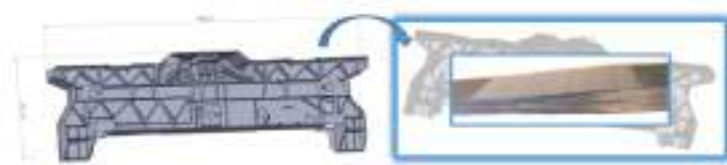
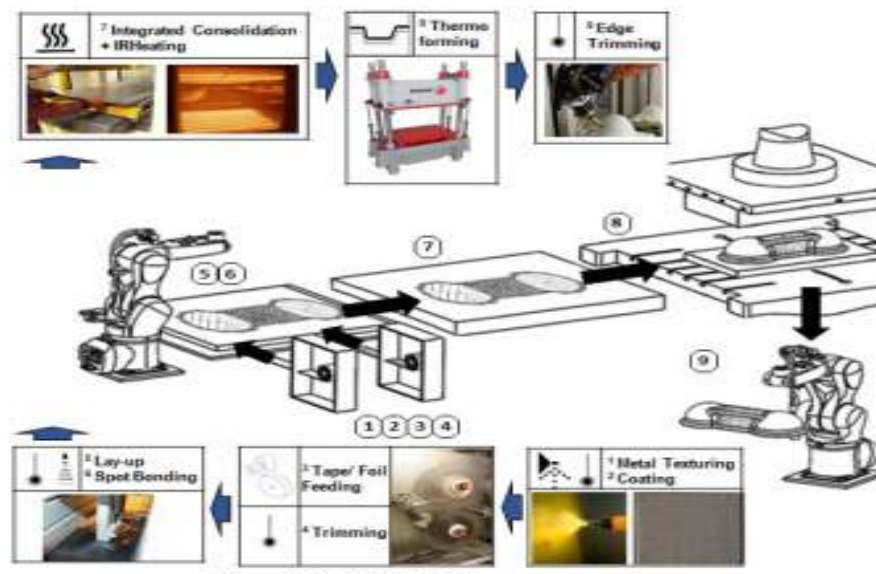
# WASIS: “Wafer desing Approach for Safety Increasing in worst case Situations and joints minimizing” (2011-2014)

## Objective:

- Reduce composite fuselage section weight
- Reduce aircraft fuselage weight
- Raise fuselage section safety in worst case situations
- Reduce aircraft manufacturing costs



# LAY2FORM Project | Efficient Material Hybridization by Unconventional Lay-up and Forming of Metals and Composites for Fabrication of Multifunctional Structures



**LAY2FORM**

- › Develop a **new advanced and highly integrated** manufacturing process for forming of **layered metal / thermoplastic-matrix composites** hybrid materials
- › Suitable to highly **dynamic and competitive manufacturing environments**, such as those of the **automotive sector**

CO-FUNDING

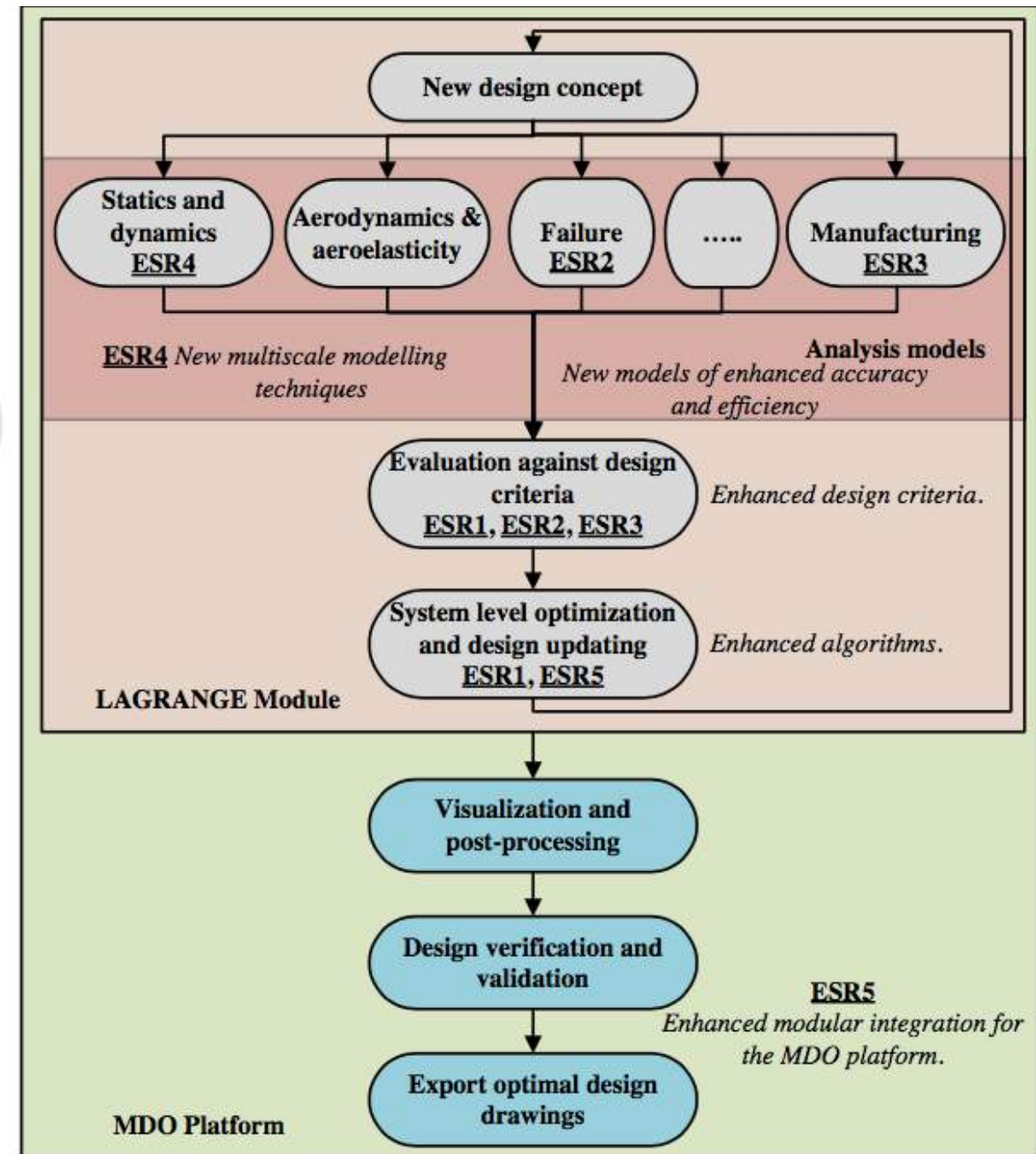
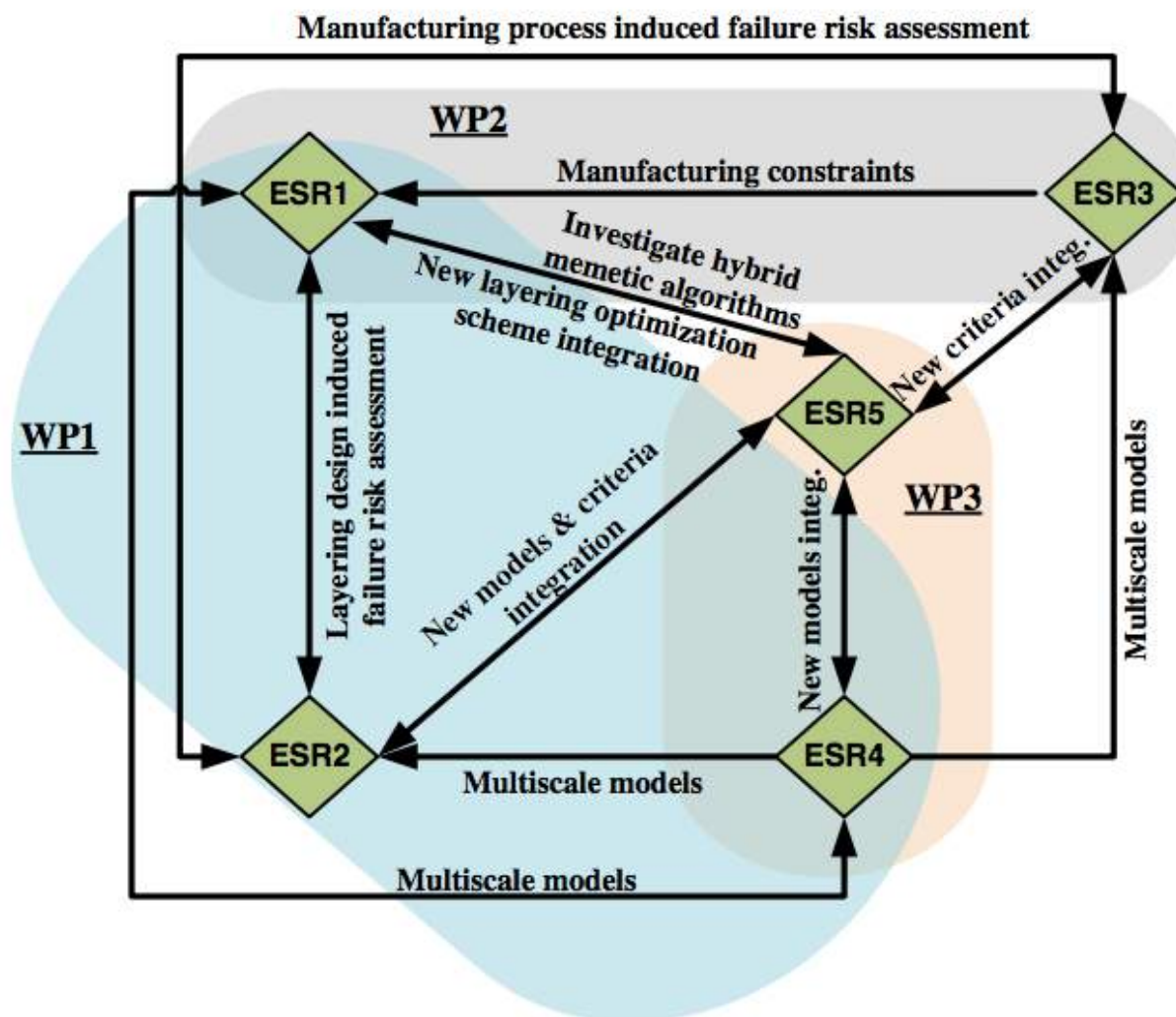


PARTNERS

FAGOR | AIMEN | RESCOLL | ESI | MASSGE | V2I | INAPAL | TREELOGIC | MECASONIC



# OPTIMACS





# X Aero Structures: “Manufacturing of a large wingspan UAV” (2012-2015)

## Objective:

- Develop a new concept of operation for a UAV,
- Design specifically for a target-market that is characterized by missions of a pre-determined nature
- Develop new manufacturing methodologies for aerostructures, supported by new materials to be employed
- Develop new test and validation methodologies for the aerostructure, that are conducive to its certification for civilian applications



# I-SEAT- RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATED COMPONENTS FOR RAILWAY SEATS

Consórcio: Amorim Cork Composites, Caetano Components, Couro Azul, INEGI  
Colaboração: Almadesign e ALSTOM | Cofinanciamento: QREN / COMPETE

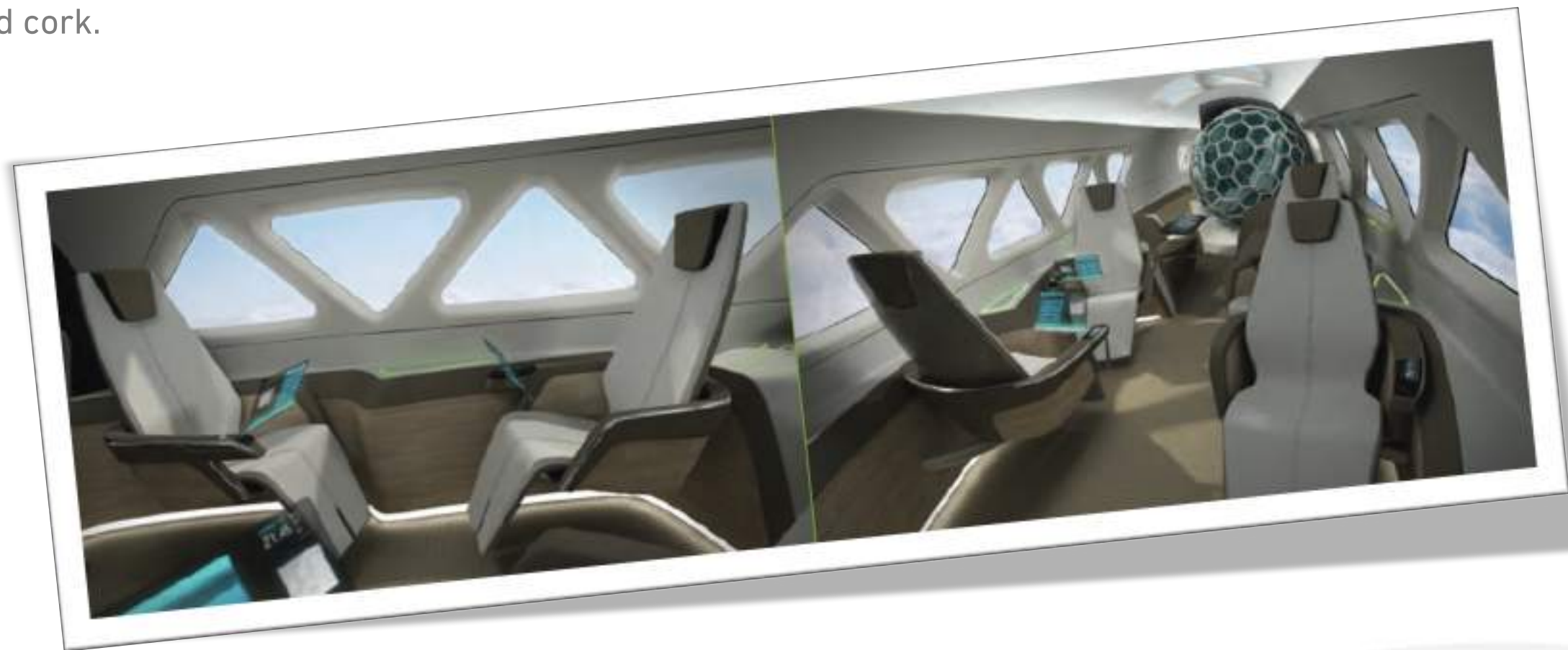
The projects purpose is to create skills for design, development and industrialization of functional and technical solutions, for eco-efficient, lighter, more comfortable and innovative railway seats in high-speed trains.



# L.I.F.E. - LIGHTER, INTEGRATED, FRIENDLY AND ECO-EFFICIENT

Partners: Amorim Cork Composites, Couro Azul, SET;  
Colaboration: Embraer e a Almadesign | Co-financing: QREN / COMPETE

The project L.I.F.E. is a vision for aviation in the future resulting in the conception of the private jet inside within a few years, combining solutions and technology with natural and sustainable materials like leather and cork.





## I-BUS - COMPONENTS DEVELOPMENT FOR INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR TOURISM BUS

Partners: Amorim Cork Composites, Caetano Components, Couro Azul, SET  
Colaboration: Almadesugn | Co-financing: QREN / COMPETE

This project integrates expertise from different areas of technology to build an innovative "mock-up", reflecting the technological capabilities and the group synergies, applied to the interiors of buses which become lighter, more eco-efficient, comfortable and integrated.



## ENROLFILAM - COMET - PLUMA

Client: AMTROL-ALFA | Parceiros: INEGI, PIEP, Saint Gobain Vetrotex  
Co-financing: QREN

Development of medium/high pressure composite tanks. INEGI's participation covers the development of the filament winding process, testing of the tank's behaviour to pressure and steaming tests.





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2016



**ineqi** driving science  
& innovation

Thank you for your attention

