



# Fracture simulation of hybrid Titanium- CF/PEEK laminates

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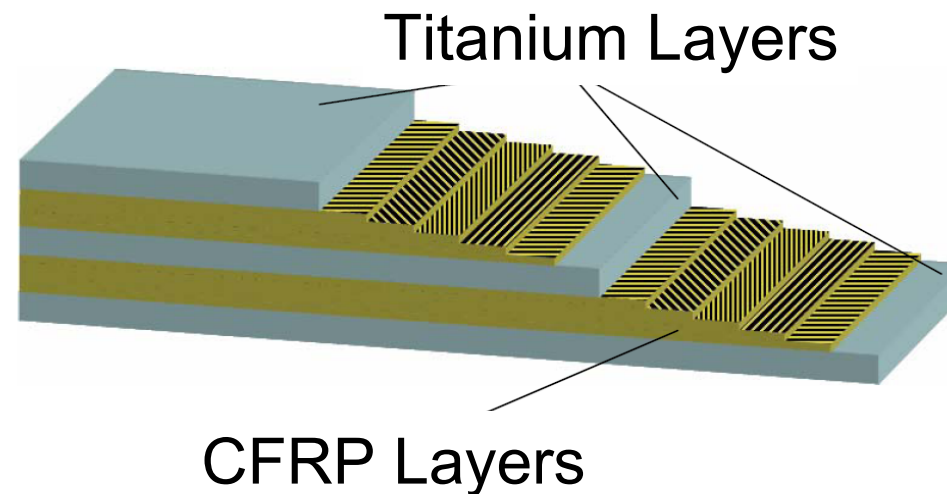
# Outline

- Introduction
- Lamina and Interface (cohesive zone elements) modelling for CFRP (PEEK/AS4)
- Mixed Mode Bending (MMB) on unidirectional and multidirectional CFRP
  - Numerical Finite Element simulations
  - Experimental validation
- Outlook on numerical MMB simulation of multidirectional Ti/CFRP structures
- Summary and conclusion



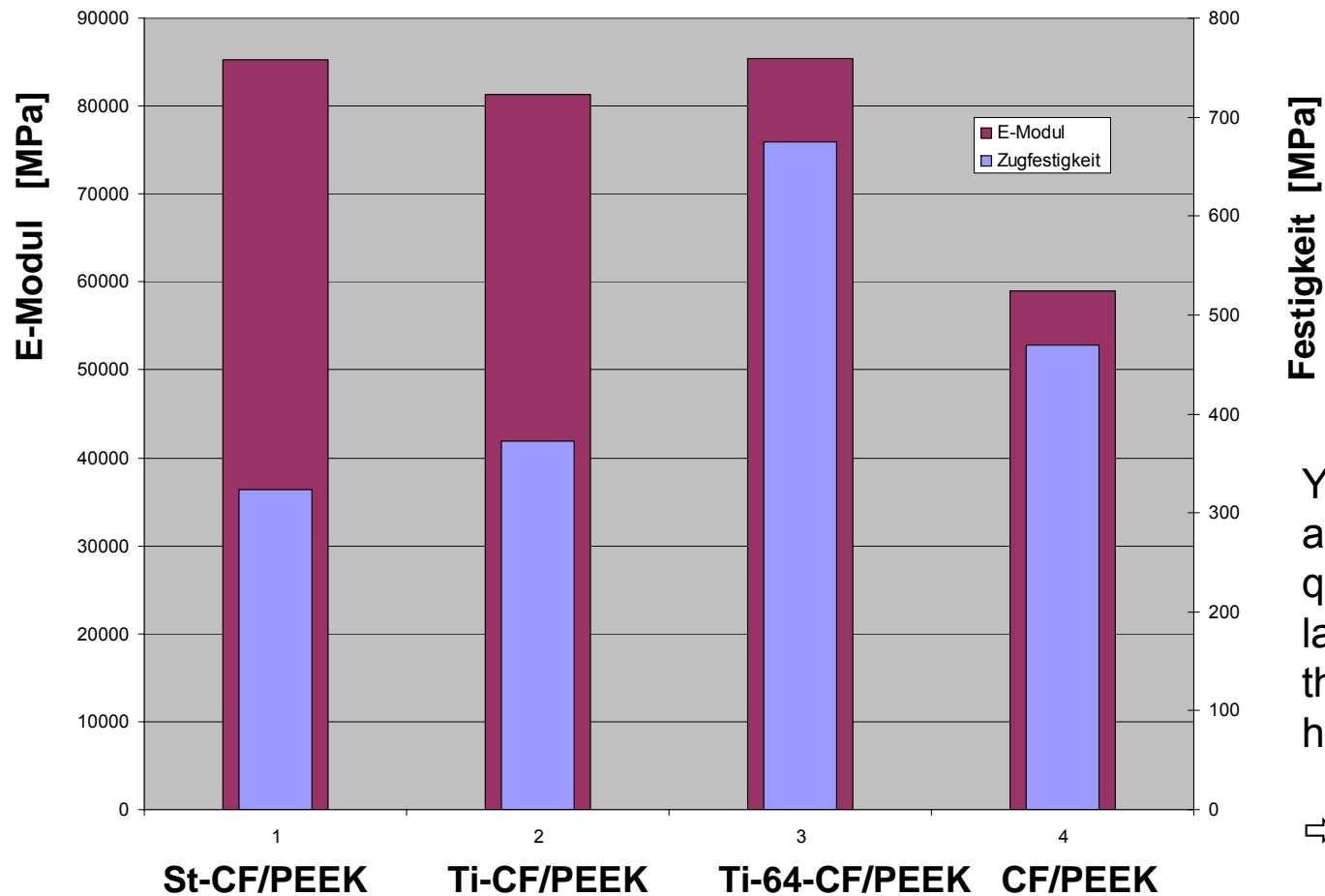
## Hybrid Ti-CFRP structure

- Hybrid Ti/CFRP layered structures combine advantageous properties for aerospace applications.
  - CFRP provides higher structural stiffness and resistance to fatigue effects.
  - Titanium protects the CFRP core from environmental effects and improves impact resistance.





## Potential of different metals in hybrid laminates



Young's Modulus and tensile strength of quasi-isotropic hybrid laminates of the same thickness and same hybrid density

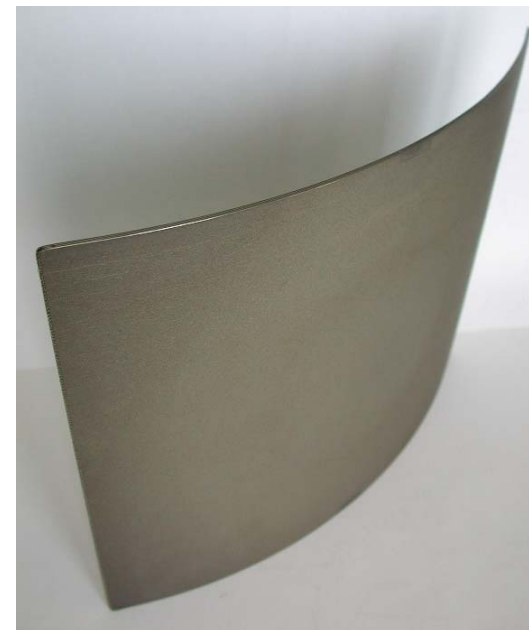
⇒ best: Ti-64-CF/PEEK



# Thermoplastic CFRP-Matrix PEEK

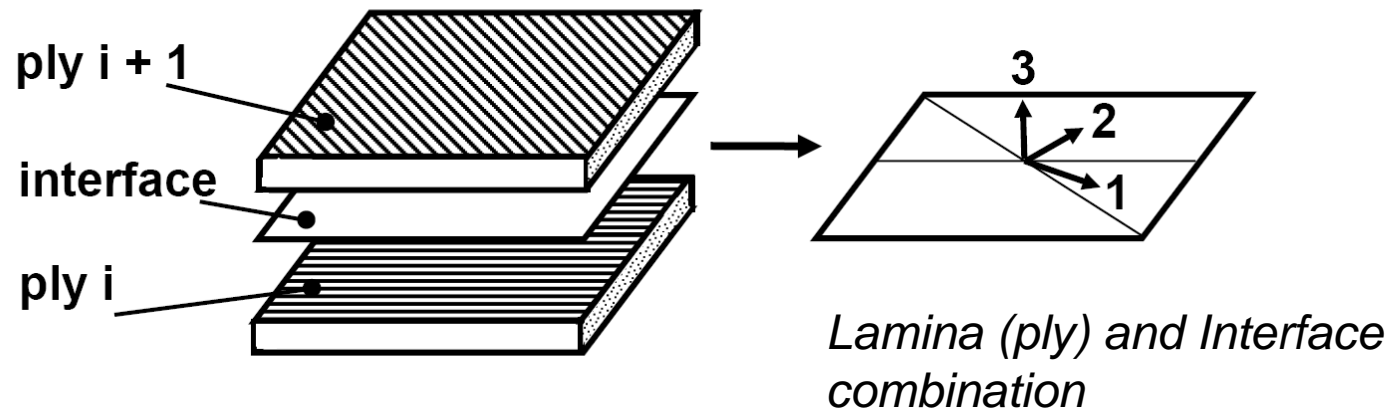
## Advantages

- Good adhesion to metals
- Resistant up to 150°C (short term),  
250°C (long term), respectively
- Easy to store, no expiry date of prepregs
- Environmentally friendly processing
- Formable by reheating
- Weldable
- Certified for aeronautic applications



# Material models for CFRP-lamina and interlaminar interfaces

- Composite laminates exhibit complex damage states under mechanical loads as a result of:
  - **intralaminar** damage modes, i.e. matrix cracking, fiber rupture (orthotropic ply damage by Hashin's reinforced ply damage model)
  - **interlaminar** damage modes or delamination (out of plane damage by cohesive zone approach)



# Intralaminar ply damage model (Hashin, 1981)

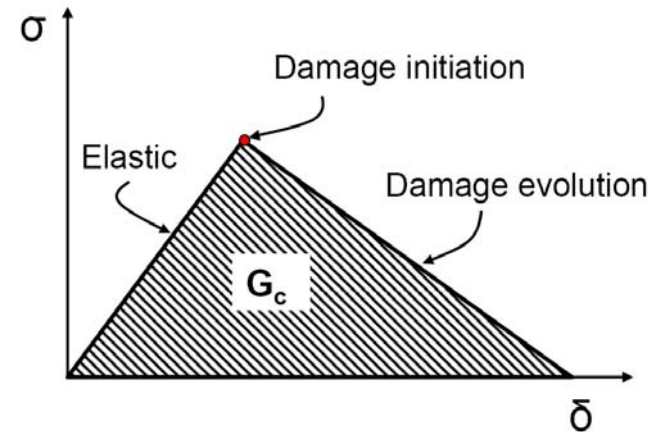
**Undamaged** ply response:  
orthotropic linear elastic material  
under plane stress

## Damage initiation:

- Tensile fiber rupture
- Compressive fiber buckling/kinking
- Transverse tensile matrix cracks
- Transverse compressive & shear matrix crushing

## Damage Evolution:

Based on the displacement & stress  
for each of the 4 damage modes  
⇒ 3 independent damage variables  $\mathbf{d}$   
⇒ effective density of micro-defects  
degrading the material stiffness



$$d_{fiber,matrix,shear} = \frac{\delta_f (\delta - \delta_0)}{\delta (\delta_f - \delta_0)}$$

$$\bar{\sigma} = \frac{1}{1 - \nu_{12}\nu_{21}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \frac{E_{11}}{(1-d_f)} & E_{22}\nu_{12} & 0 \\ E_{11}\nu_{21} & \frac{E_{22}}{(1-d_m)} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{G}{(1-d_s)} \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Stiffness matrix}} \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{11} \\ \varepsilon_{22} \\ \varepsilon_{12} \end{bmatrix}$$



# Interlaminar damage: cohesive zone interface elements

Very thin intermediate glue material: a traction-separation description for separation under mixed mode is used.

## Damage initiation:

Quadratic nominal stress criterion

$$\sum_{i=n,s,t} \left( \frac{t_i}{t_i^0} \right)^2 = 1$$

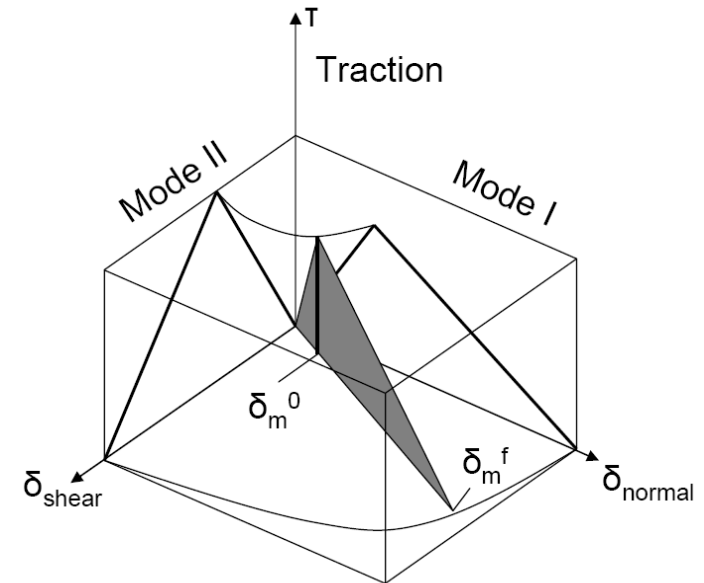
## Damage Evolution:

Constitutive equation (if  $\delta_n > 0$ ):

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tau_s \\ \tau_t \\ \tau_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (1-d)K & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & (1-d)K & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (1-d)K \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \delta_s \\ \delta_t \\ \delta_n \end{bmatrix}$$

K = initial stiffness of the interface

**Damage parameter:** 
$$d = \frac{\delta_m^f (\delta_m^{\max} - \delta_m^0)}{\delta_m^{\max} (\delta_m^f - \delta_m^0)}$$



$$G_{IC} + (G_{IIC} - G_{IC}) \left( \frac{G_{II}}{G_T} \right)^\eta = G_C$$

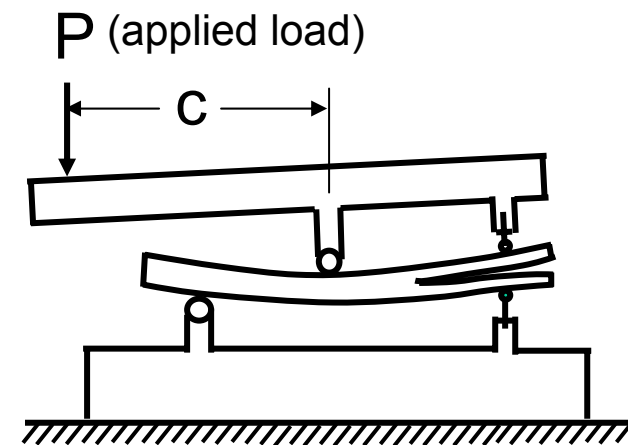
Energy based damage propagation criteria under mixed mode

# Determination of material model parameters in mixed mode bending (MMB)



Specimen: 24-ply, AS4/PEEK  
width=25 mm, length=150 mm, thickness=3.12 mm  
Initial delamination length  $a_0=50$  mm

Superposition of mode I + mode II  
Tests conducted by a single load, P.

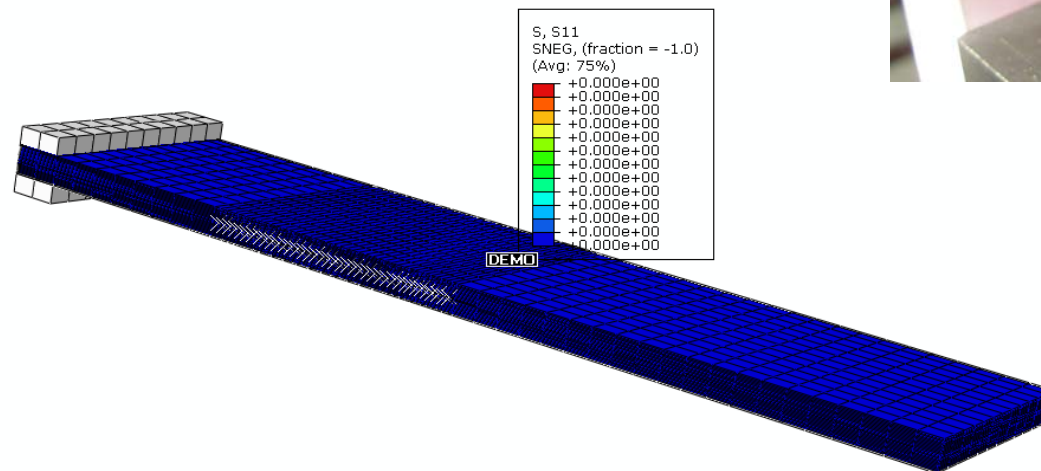
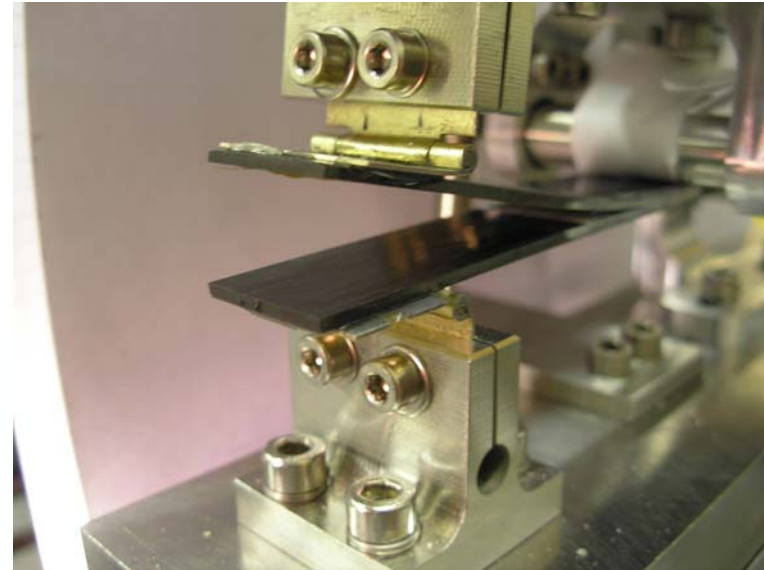


**Result:**  $G_I, G_{II}$   
(applied load (P), crack length (a),  
mode mixity (m), specimen  
geometry)



# Simulation of the MMB experiment

- A fully parametric model
- Lamina: Hashin ply damage model, SC8R elements
- Interface: Cohesive elements (User defined elements)
- Load: Mixed mode
- Solver: ABAQUS implicit

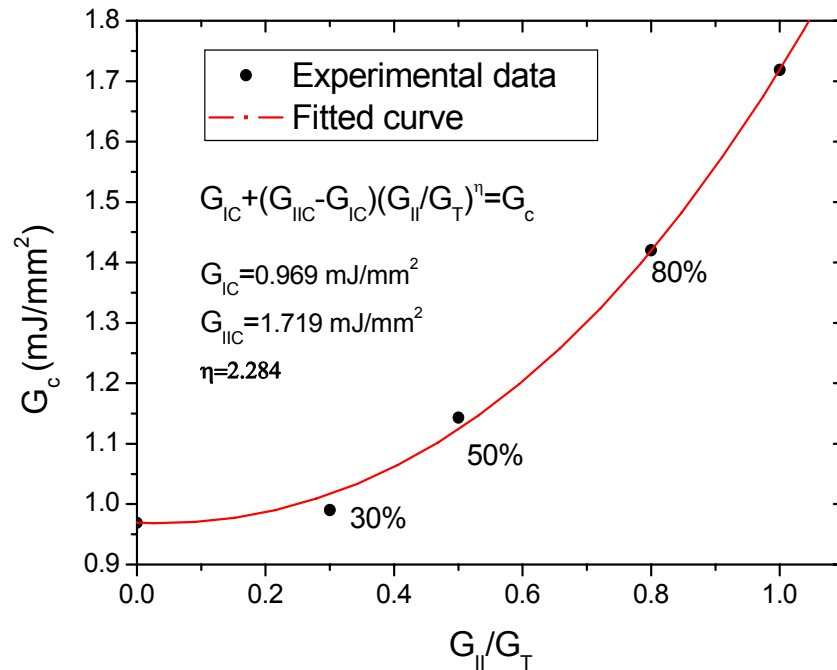


ODB: CFRP\_MD\_24\_uel\_disp3\_22,5\_Nend\_change\_Tns.odb Abaqus/Standard Version 6.8-1 Thu Aug 28 13:47:07 W. Europe Daylight Time 2008



Step: Step-1  
Increment: 0; Step Time = 0.000  
Primary Var: S, S11  
Deformed Var: U; Deformation Scale Factor: +1.000e+00

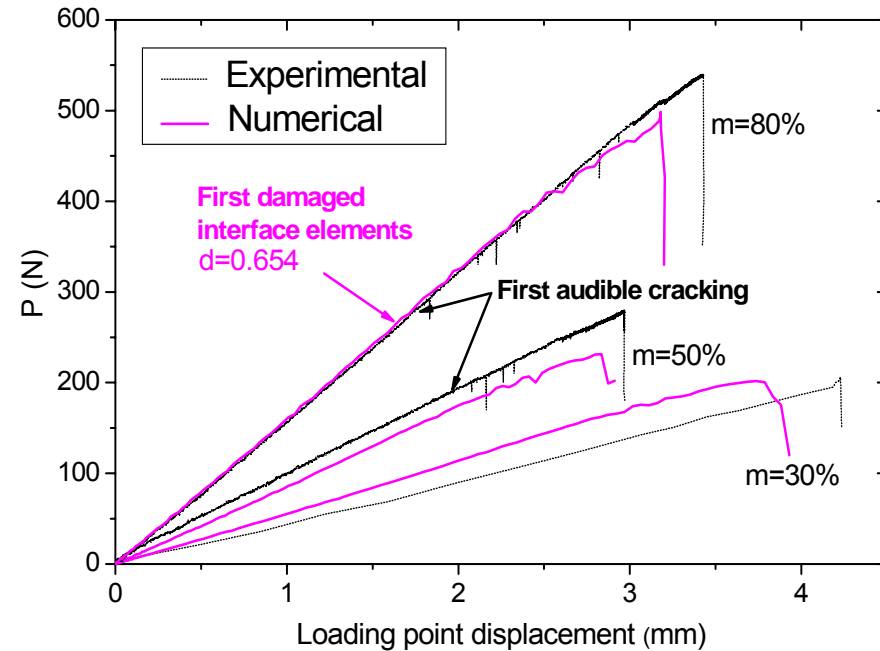
# Comparison of numerical and experimental results on unidirectional CFRP-laminates



## Experimental $G_C$ values

average from at least 2 experiments for each mode mixity

Fitted curve  $\Rightarrow$  Parameter  $\eta$

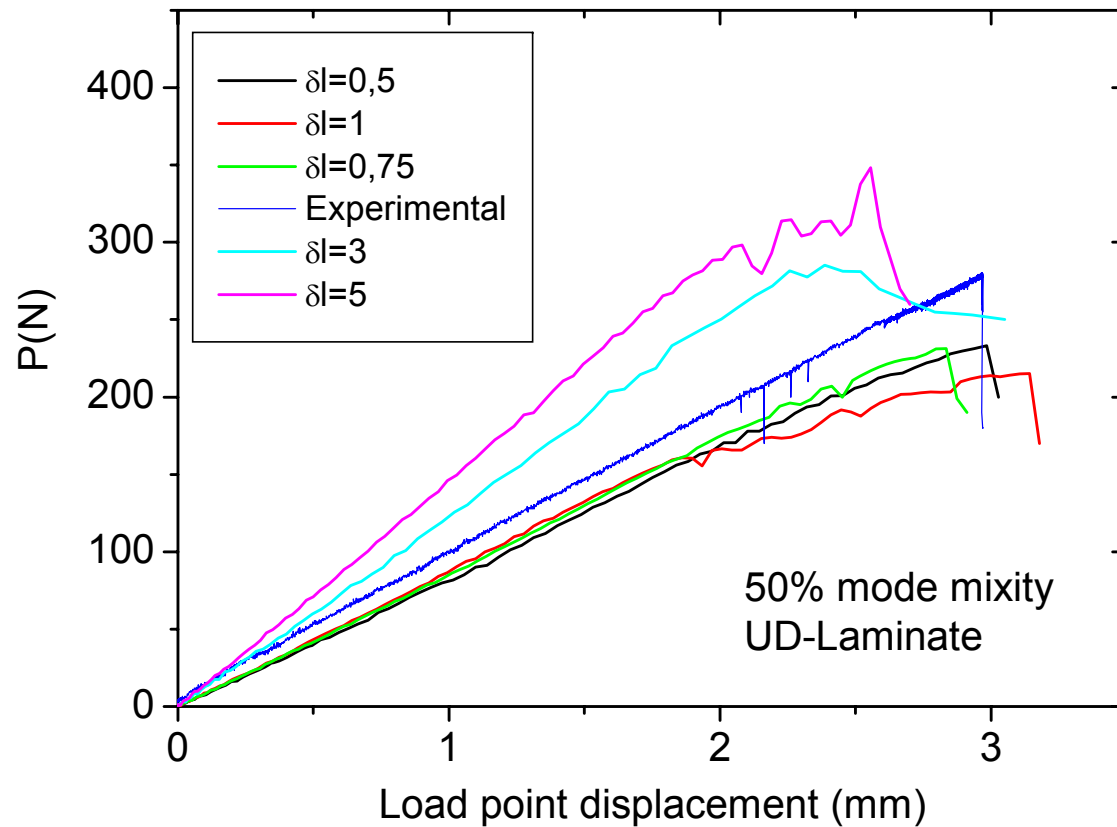


## Load displacement curves

$d$  = damage parameter of the interface elements

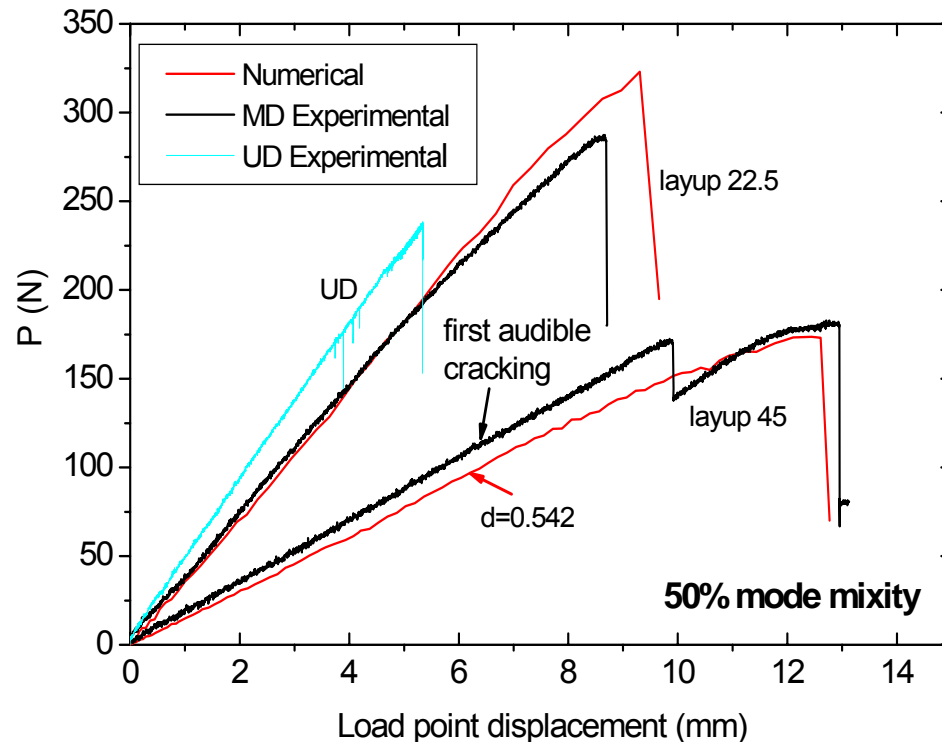


## Mesh dependence study on the numerical model



Mesh dependence study  $\Rightarrow$  stable results with a length of the cohesive interface elements of  $\delta l \leq 1\text{mm}$

# Analytical, experimental, and numerical MMB results on multidirectional (MD) laminates



Lay-up	Analytical $G_c$ (mJ/mm <sup>2</sup> )	Experimental $G_c$ (mJ/mm <sup>2</sup> )
$(+22,5/-22,5)_{24}$	1,71	1,59
$+45/-45/0_3/-45/0/+45/0_2/+45/-45/d/-45/+45/0_2/+45/0/-45/0_3/-45/+45$	1,92	1,73
UD	1,32	1,19

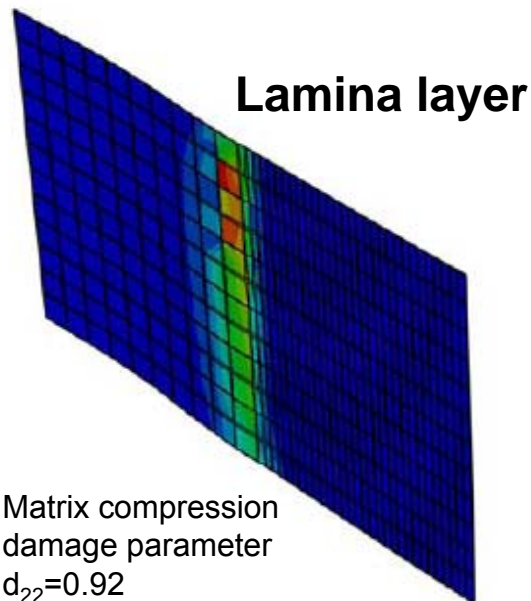
- Fracture toughness of MD laminates > UD fracture toughness
- Fiber angle orientation & stacking sequences ⇔ Global load- displacement response
- 45° layup ⇔ highest MMB interlaminar fracture toughness (45.7% increase)



# Fracture behavior of UD and MD CFRP-laminates

Multidirectional laminates have higher resistance to through thickness fracture compared to UD laminates, owing to:

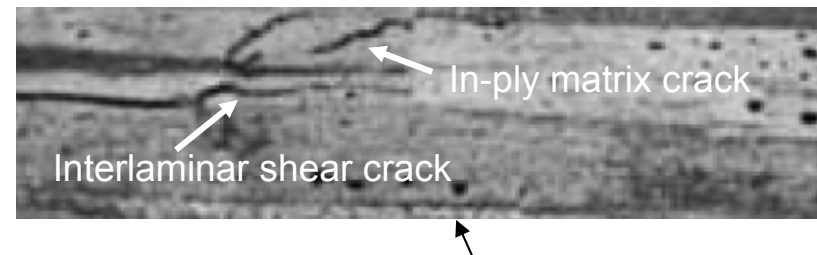
⇒ crack jumping, fiber bridging, intraply energy absorption, curved crack fronts in the vicinity of fracture surfaces.



Layer adjacent to delamination plane in a 45° MD-lay up



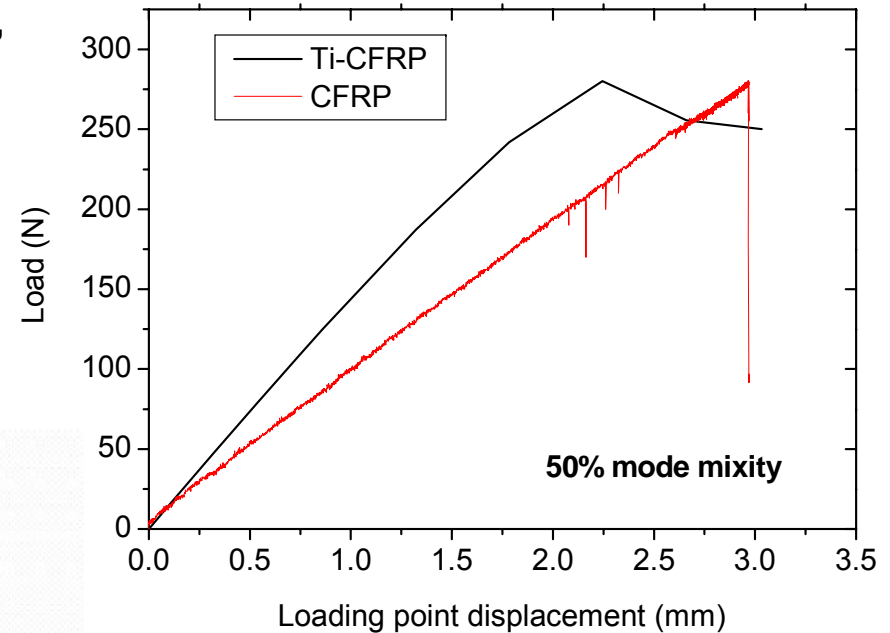
Curved crack front in 45° layup



Gilchrist M.D, Svensson N., Compos Sci and Tech. 1995; 55:195-207

# Numeric simulation of MMB in Ti/CFRP-hybrid laminate

- 3 Ti – layers, 0.5 mm thick, Ti-6Al-4V, elastic-plastic properties
- 2 – CFRP-layers, 1.12 mm thick, PEEK/AS4, 8 plies each, lay up  $[0/0]_{8s}$ ,
- between Ti and PEEK/AS4 interface: cohesive elements





## Summary and conclusion

- The mixed mode interlaminar delamination of UD and MD PEEK/AS4 laminates can be modeled successfully with cohesive zone approach (UEL in ABAQUS).
- MMB simulations of UD and MD laminates give very close results to experiments
- MD laminates have higher mixed mode fracture toughness compared to UD laminates
- In MD laminates crack jumping from interface to the adjacent disoriented layer is observed
- Observed crack jumping, intraply damage, and curved crack front will rise the fracture toughness of MD laminates (~ 45%)
- The cohesive elements can be used in Ti/AS4-PEEK interface to further model the MMB damage in hybrid Ti/CFRP laminates



## Acknowledgement

- Colleagues at DLR Stuttgart for manufacturing the CFRP lay-ups
- Herr H. Hinderlich for experimental support

**Thank you for your Attention!**