

Composites Research at The National Institute of Standards and Technology

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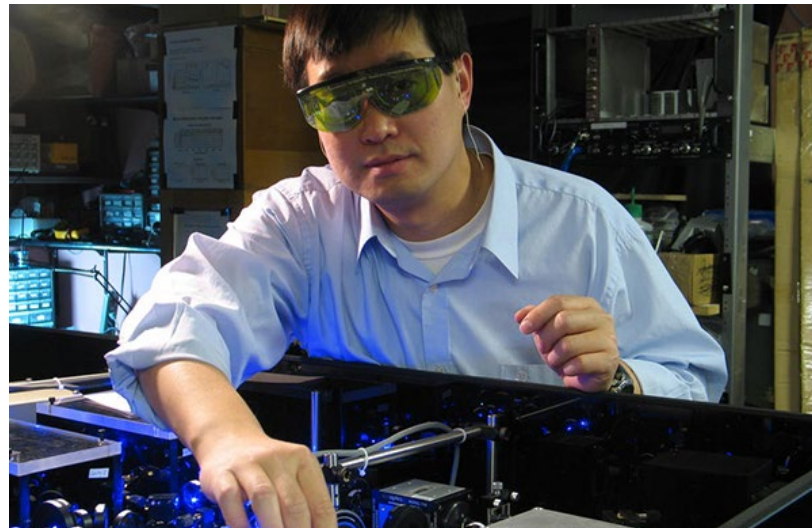
NIST Mission



To promote U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing **measurement science, standards, & technology** in ways that enhance economic security and improve our quality of life



We are Industry's National Lab



NIST's mission is to help industry with their most pressing measurement challenges!

Composites Revolutionize



Calloway Great Big Bertha Epic Drive

few year service life



INEOS Team UK, America's Cup Challenge

few year service life



Liam Malone, 2016 Paralympic Games

few year service life



Boeing 787 Dreamliner
50% composite by mass

20 to 30 year service life



Quantitative
Measurements

Materials Innovations

Manufacturing innovations

Modeling, design, & data

Testing & validation

Standards

CALIBRATED EQUIPMENT & MEASUREMENTS ARE ESSENTIAL

Boeing force
measurements are
traceable to the SI

NIST provides force
standards for traceability



A Revolution is Needed

100+ year service life



Durability Requirements

- extreme Ts
- moisture / water
- salt, pH
- UV radiation
- mechanical fatigue
- natural disasters



<https://www.remi.com/news/tackling-u-s-infrastructure-challenges/>



https://strongtie.co.nz/sites/default/files/general_image/FRP_Application.jpg

NIST can play a critical role to help develop the measurement basis to assess the durability of composites for infrastructure

Composite Activities Cross-Cut All NIST Laboratories



My presentation emphasizes composite activities in our Materials Measurement Laboratory and primarily reflects low TRL (<4) measurement developments. Other parts of NIST operate in high TRL space.

NIST Special Publication 1218

ROAD MAPPING WORKSHOP REPORT ON OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO ADOPTION OF COMPOSITES IN SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE



Richard Sheridan
Northwestern University

John P. Busel, Daniel Coughlin
*American Composites
Manufacturers Association*

Jeffrey Gilman, Gale Holmes, James Fekete,
Stephanie Watson, Jae-Hyun Kim, Aaron Forster,
Ajay Krishnamurthy, Bharath Natarajan
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Owens Corning

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Ellen Lackey
University of Mississippi

William R. O'Donnell
DeSimone Consulting Engineers

Dustin Troutman
Creative Pultrusions, Inc.

Robert W. Harris
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

Jim Gutierrez
California Department of Transportation

Charles Bakis
Penn State University

Scott Holmes
Highland Composites

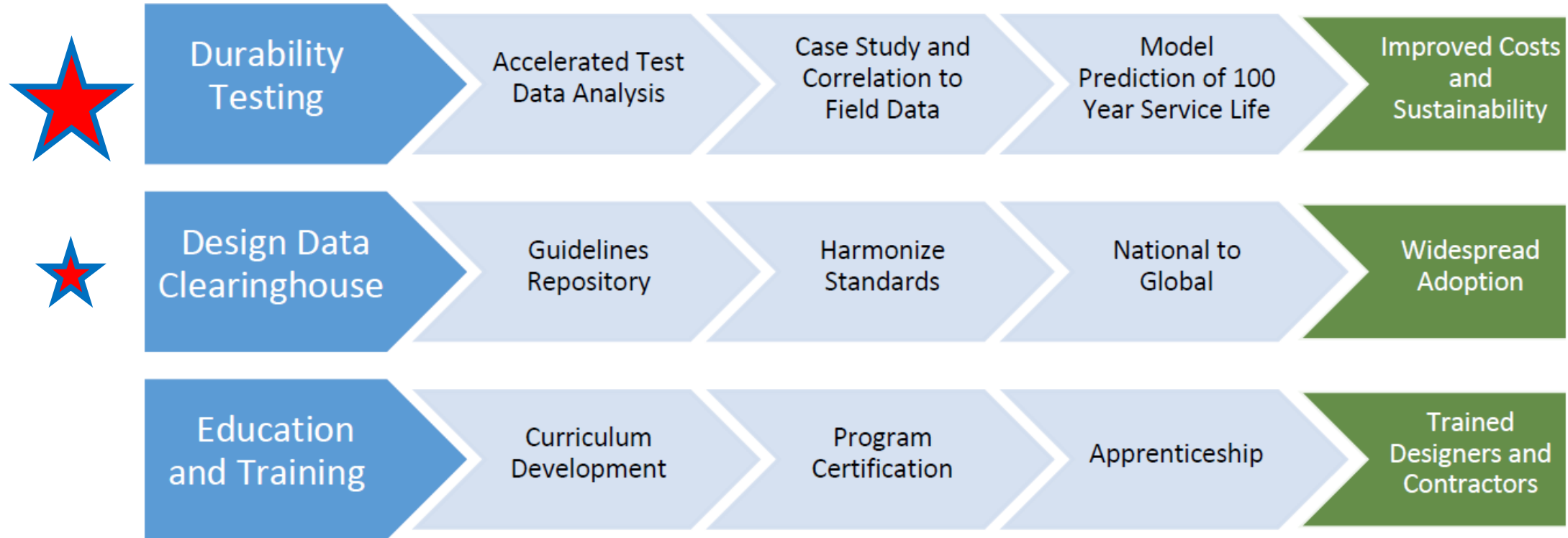
Robert Moser
*US Army Engineer Research
and Development Center*

This February 2017 “Road Mapping Workshop”
brought together **designers, engineers,
manufacturers, researchers, owners and end-users**
to identify barriers and potential solutions

This publication is available free of charge from:
<https://doi.org/10.6028/NIST.SP.1218>

NIST
National Institute of
Standards and Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce

Composites for Infrastructure Roadmap

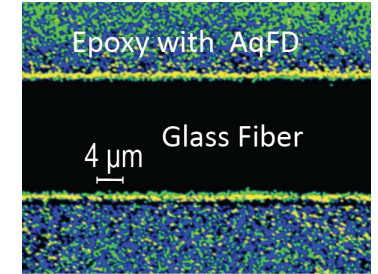
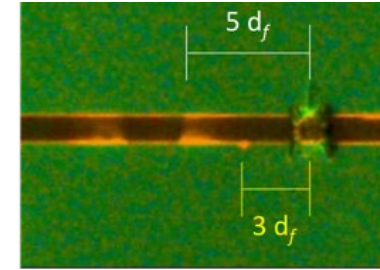
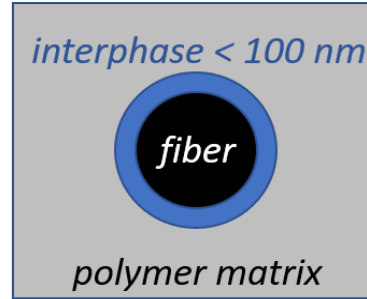


In the absence of legislation, NIST continues to make progress in two key areas at the low TRL levels, focusing on the measurement science

Polymer Matrix Composites

Motivation

The fiber-matrix **interphase** is critical for integrating the strength of high-performance fibers with the toughness of polymer resins into a composite material. However, the role of **interphase** in controlling the strength, toughness & durability of composites under environmental extremes is poorly understood or quantified.



Objectives

Deliver tools that quantify the **interphase** and how it affects:

- Strength, Damage, and Toughness
- Polymer Dynamics, Relaxation, and Water Transport
- Data, Modeling and Design Tools



Interphase dominates
Extremes in T
H₂O, O₂, solvents, salts
Mechanical Fatigue



Customers and Partners:



Polymer Composites for Extreme Environments



*NIST's Materials Genome Initiative
Center of Excellence*



High performance aerospace composites

- T cycles from 80 to 400 K
- Low O₂ permeability
- Cryogenic toughness
- Durable interphase
- Modeling & data
Sharing tools



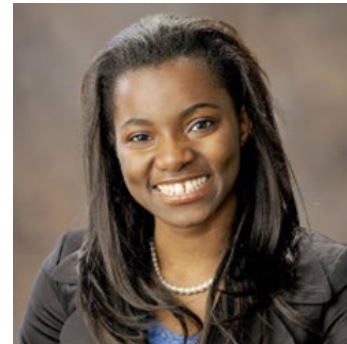
Jeff Gilman
(NIST)



Sinan Keten
(NU)



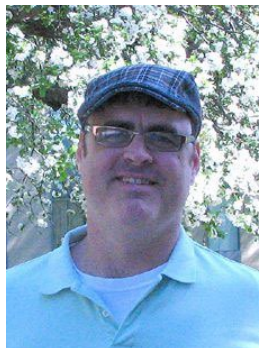
Ken Shull
(NU)



Ange-Therese Akono
(NU)



Chris Soles
(NIST)



J Woodcock
(NIST)



Jack Douglas
(NIST)



Gale Holmes
(NIST)



Douglas Fox
(NIST/AU)



Jan Obrzut
(NIST)

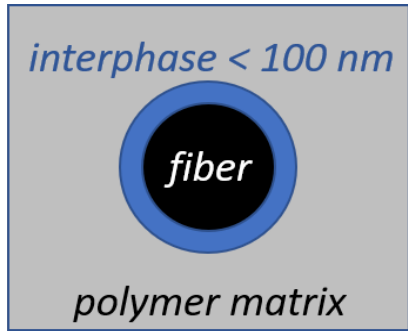


Fred Phelan
(NIST)

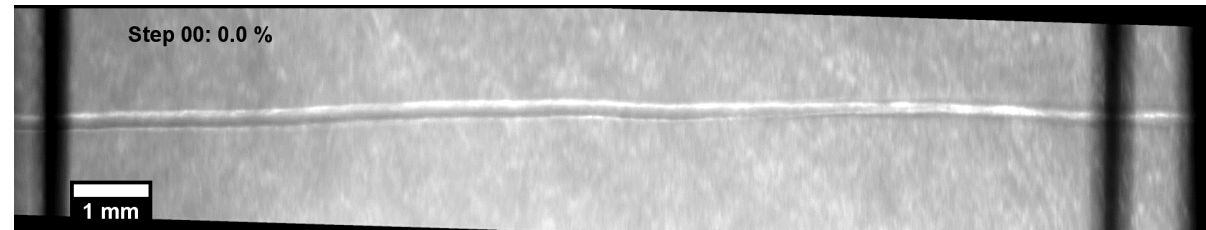
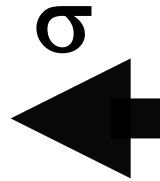


SPACEX

Interfacial Shear Strength (τ_{IFFS})

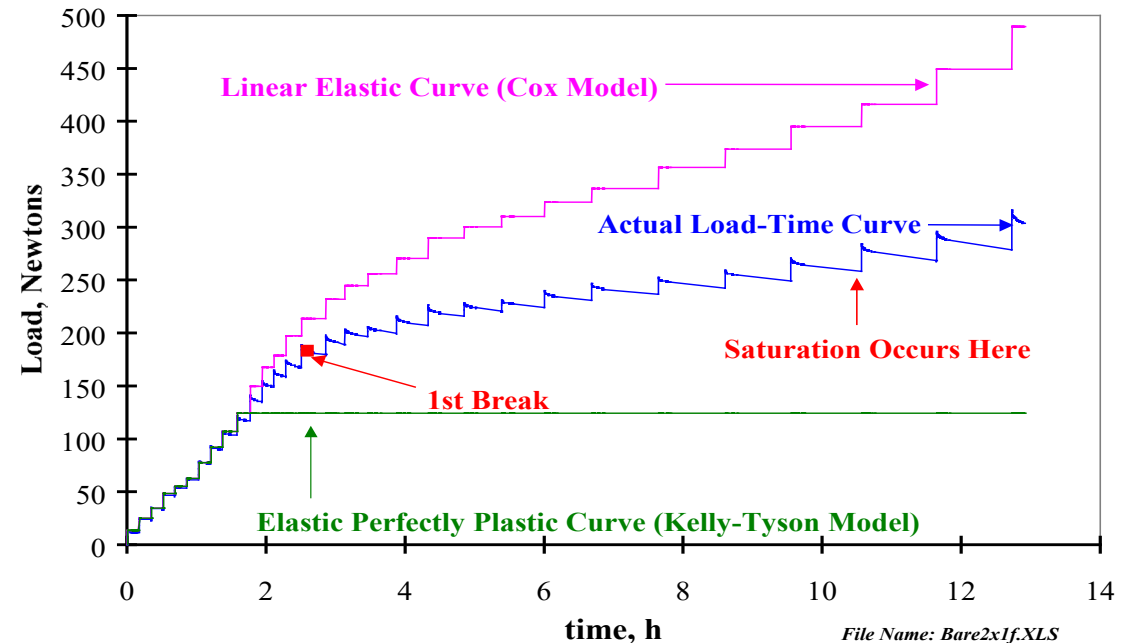
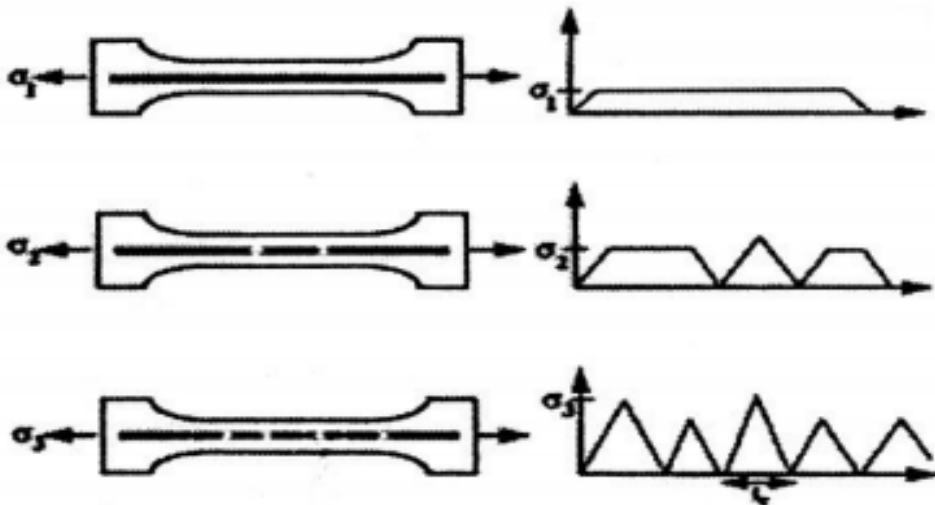


Interphase transfers load to fiber



McCarthy et al, Composites Science and Technology, 121, 73–81

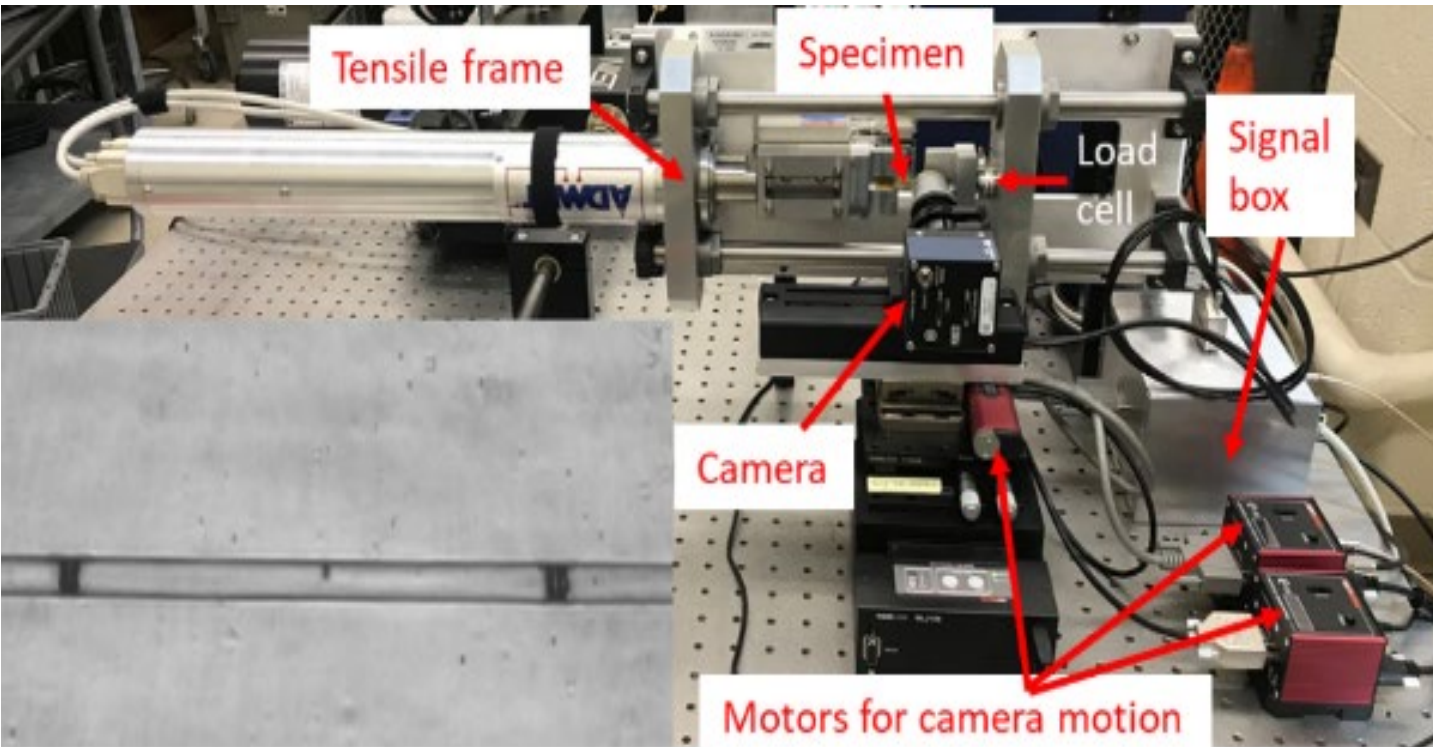
$$\tau(IFSS) = f \left[\left(\frac{1}{l_c} \right) \right] \sigma_f (l_c)$$



Tedious & Model Dependent Analysis

Autonomous Interfacial Shear Strength (τ_{IFFS})

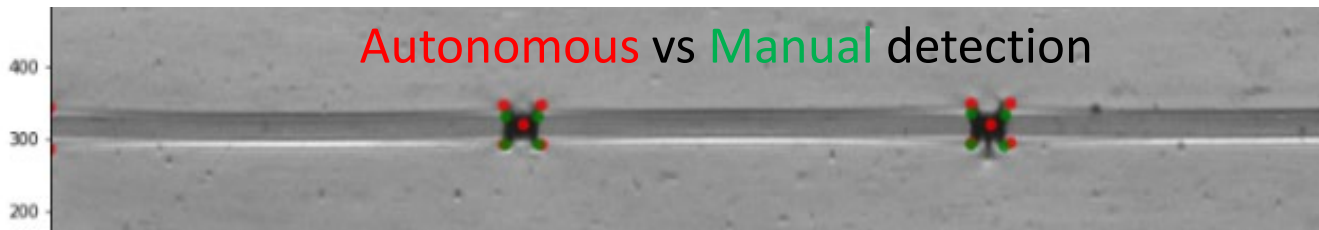
SNAPPY: Autonomous Fiber Fragmentation



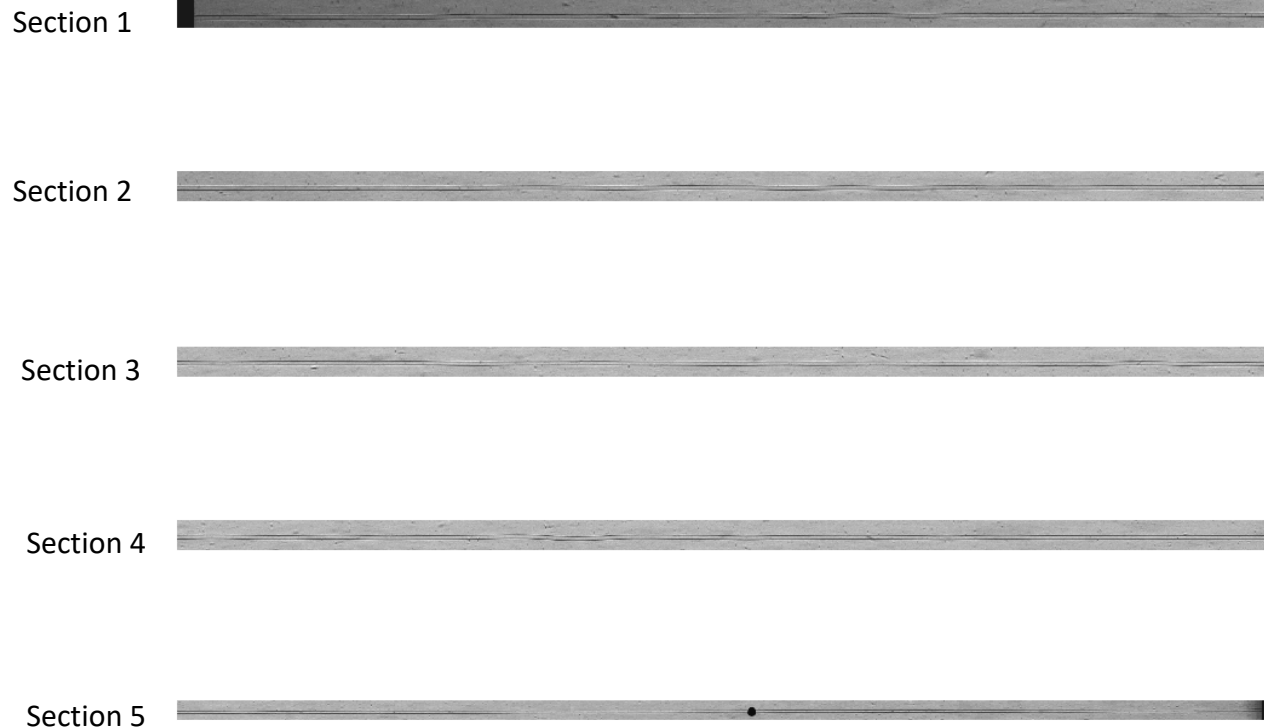
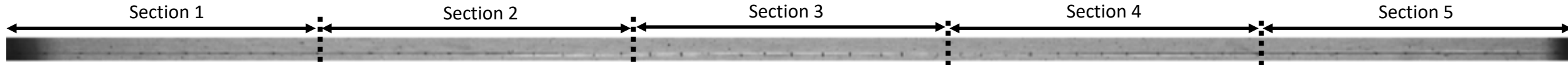
SNAPPY uses computer vision and autonomous methods for real time and high-speed tracking of:

- Break locations
- Fiber fragment length
- Debond lengths at fiber ends
- Break morphology
- Stress relaxation
- Improved τ_{IFFS} calculations

Autonomous vs Manual detection

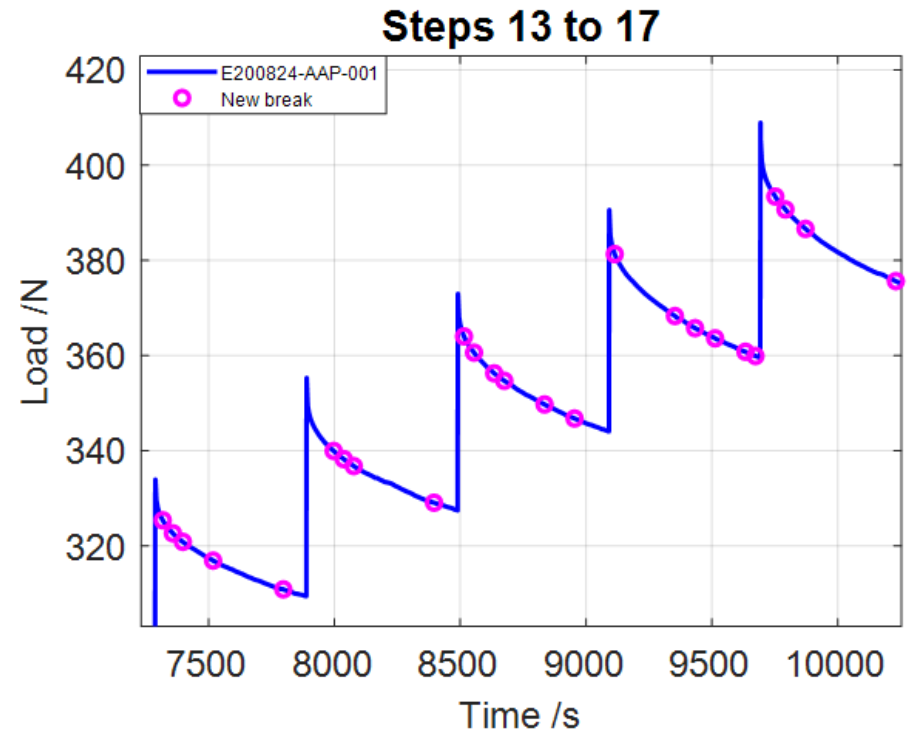


Autonomous Interfacial Shear Strength (τ_{IFFS})



Step 14: 1.8 % strain

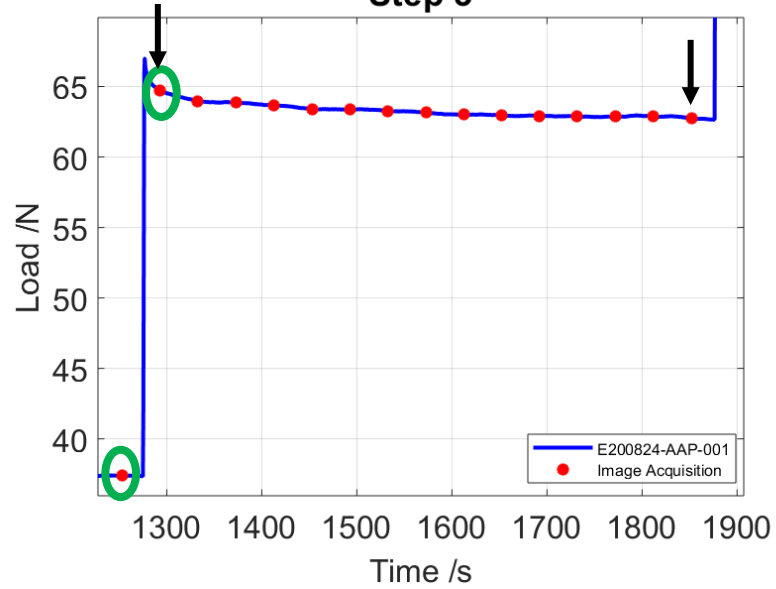
SNAPPY greatly improves counting statistics – reduced uncertainty



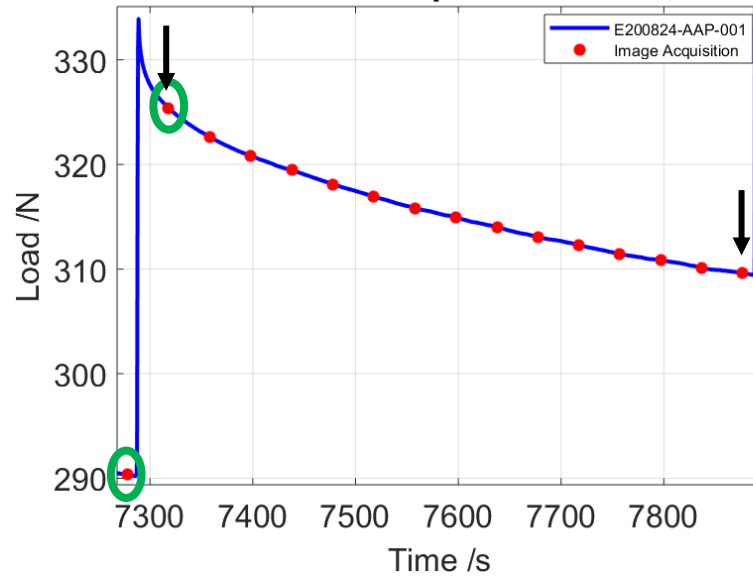
SNAPPY quantifies stress relaxation – new information from SFFT measurements!

Autonomous Interfacial Shear Strength (τ_{IFFS})

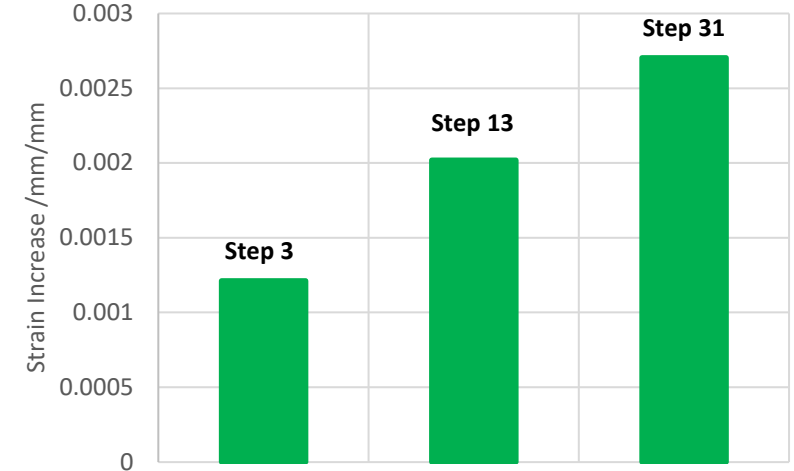
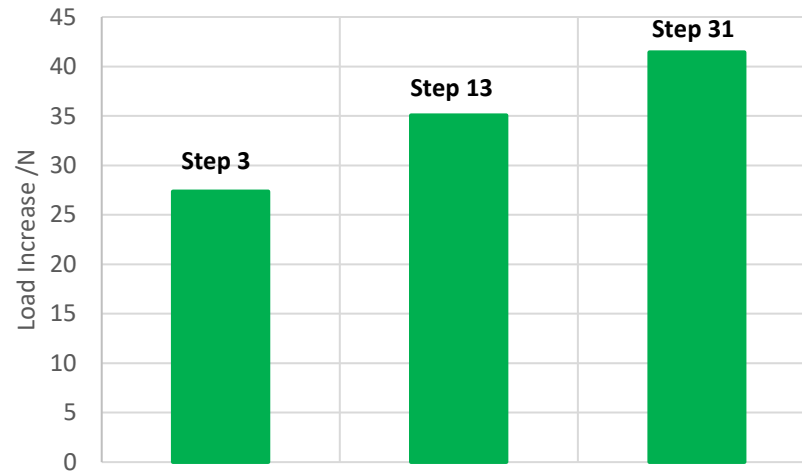
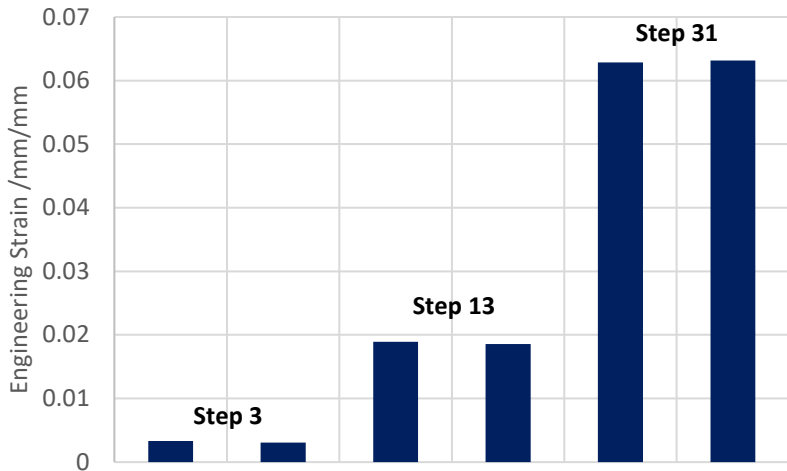
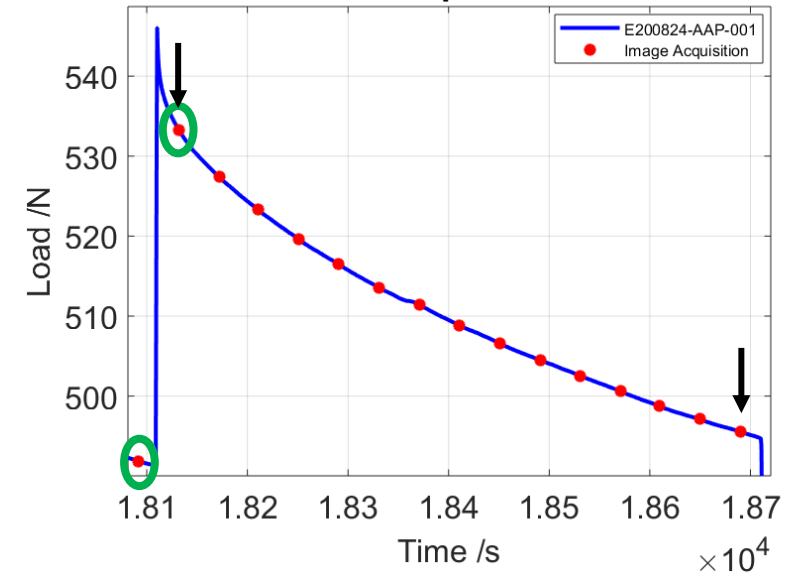
Step 3



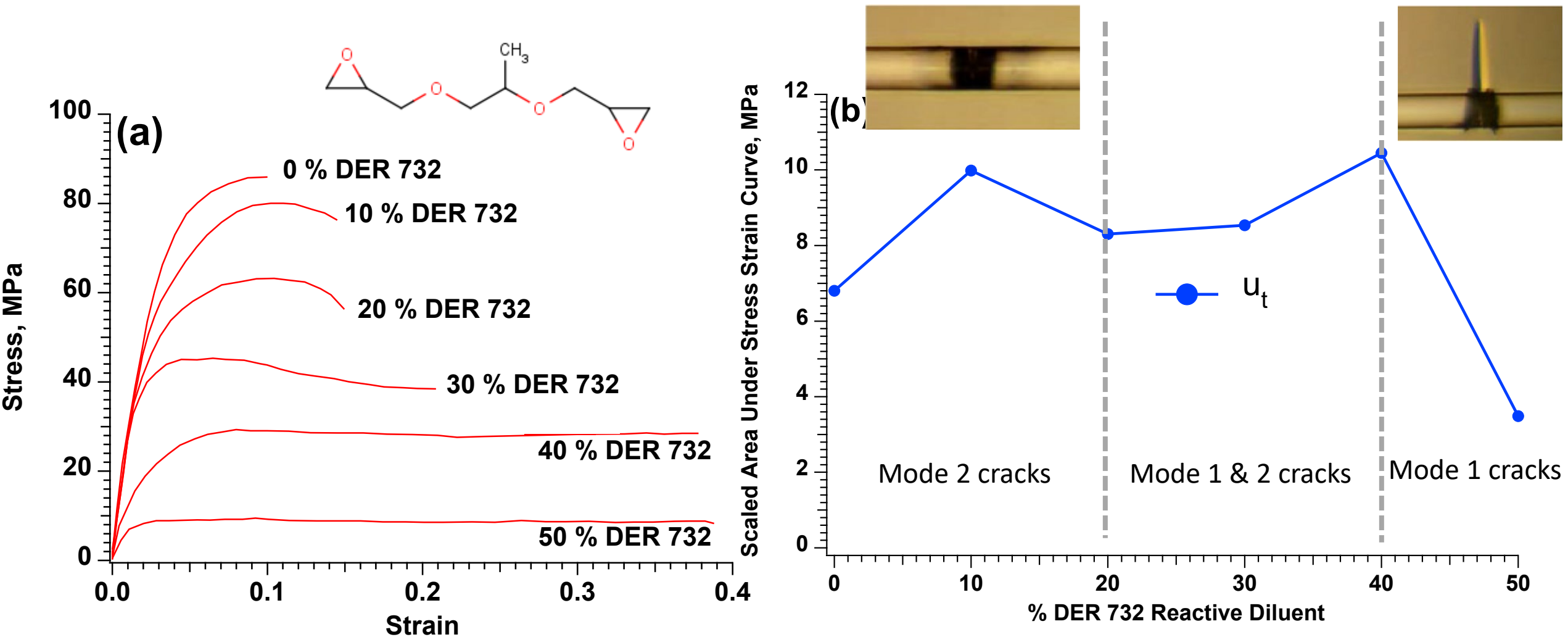
Step 13



Step 31



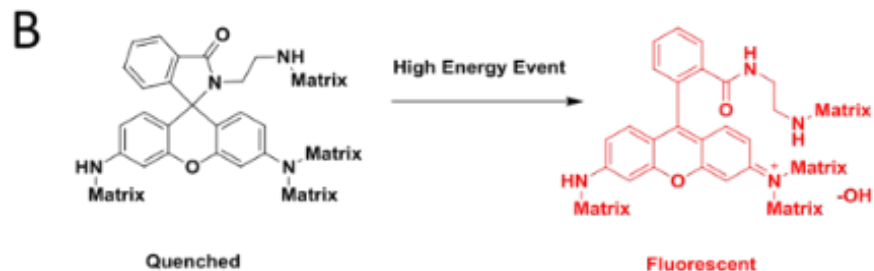
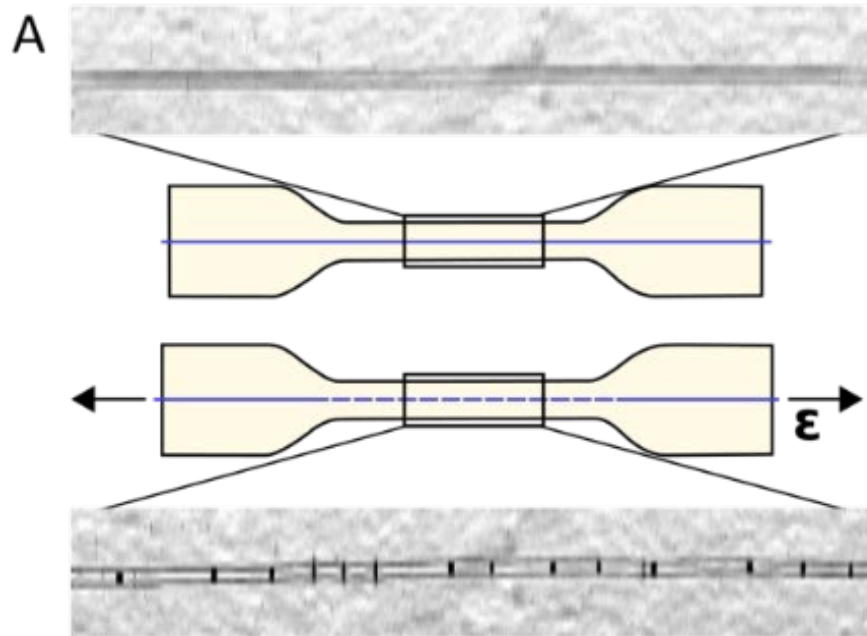
Fiber Fragmentation Break Morphology



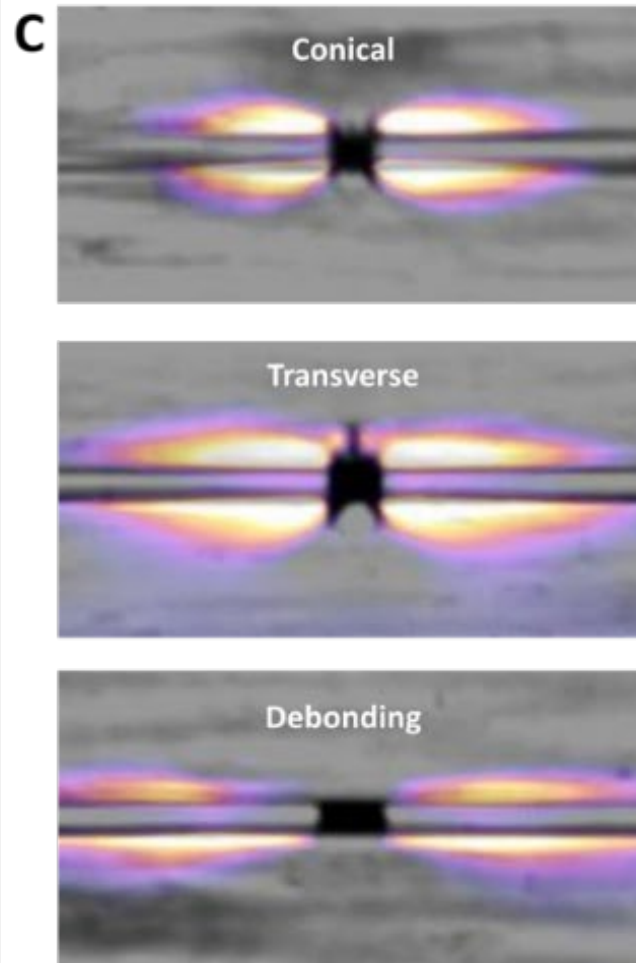
Different resins lead to different break morphologies – affects τ_{IFFS} calculations!

Mechanophores to image matrix damage

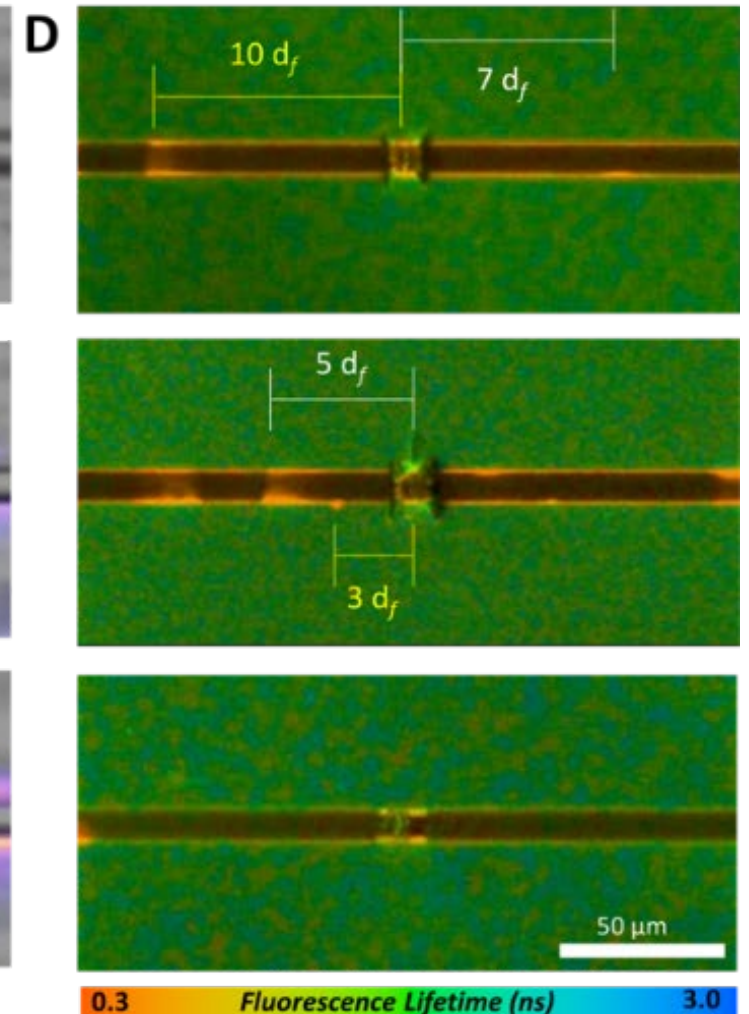
Single Fiber Fragmentation Test
Interfacial Shear Stress



Birefringent Images
(stress fields)



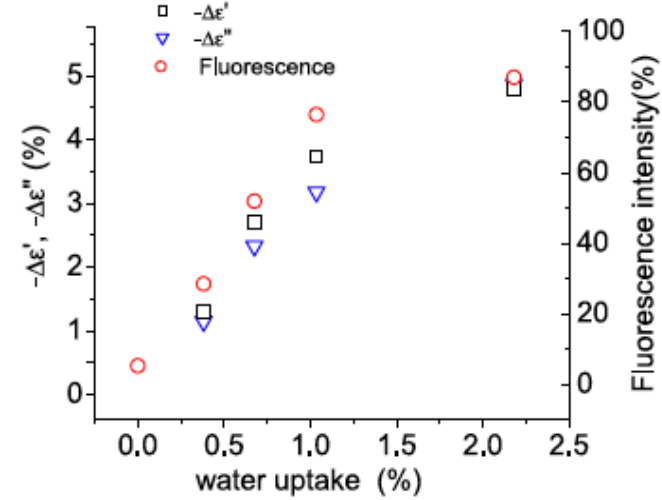
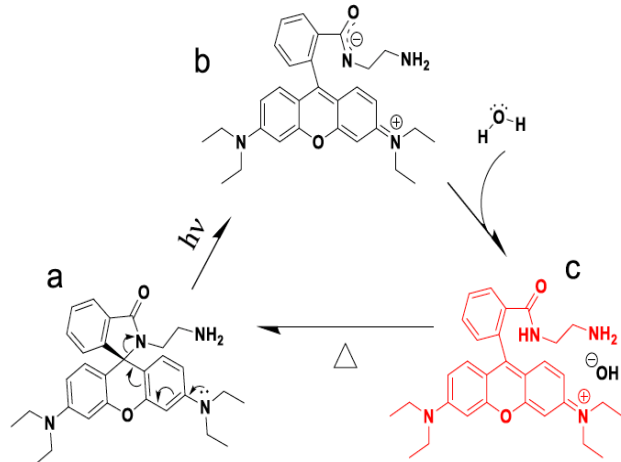
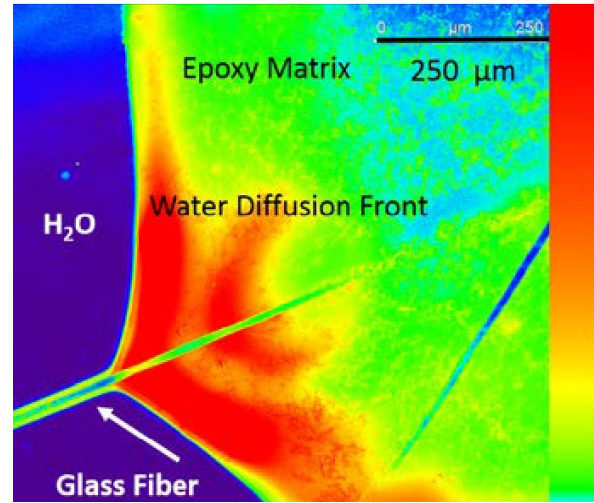
Mechanophore Images
(matrix yield)



Aquaflors to image absorbed water

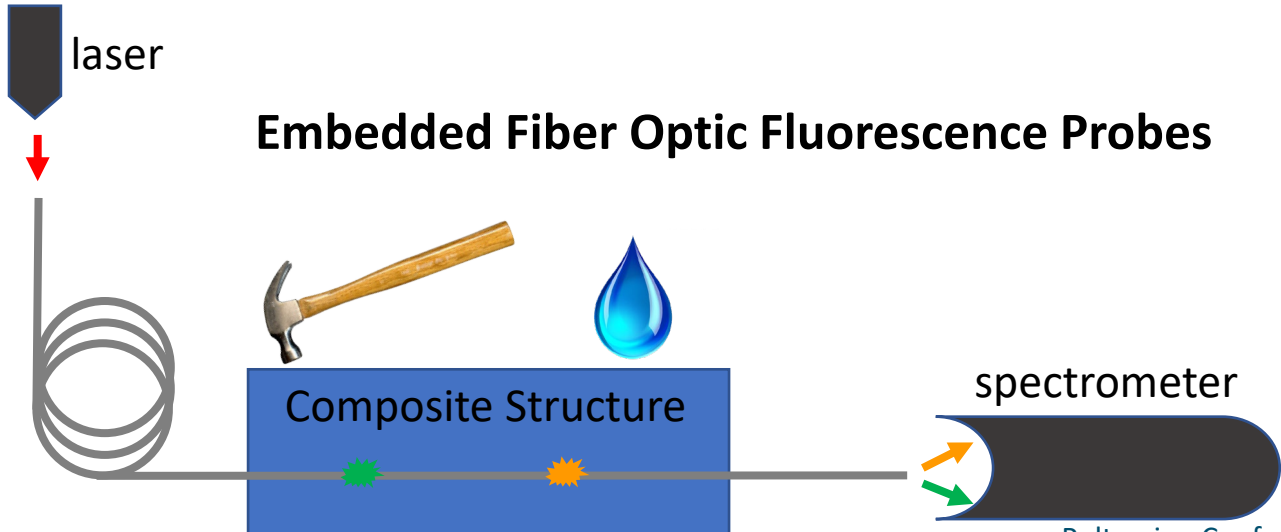
Water Sensing Fluorescent Dye Molecules (AqFDs)

Non-Contact Microwave Dielectric Measurements



4 H₂O per AqFD dye
? photons per H₂O ?

Embedded Fiber Optic Fluorescence Probes

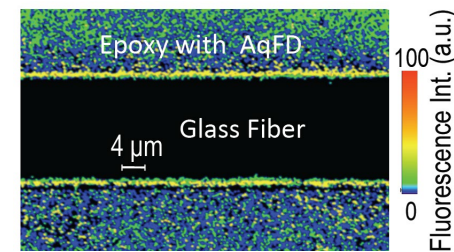
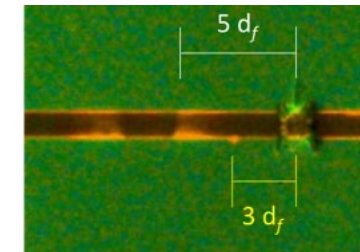
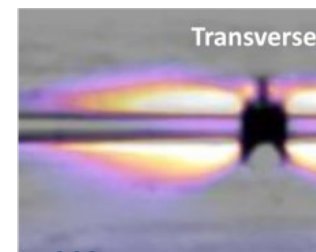


Activation of AqFD creates measurable change in dipole strength!

Stress Fields

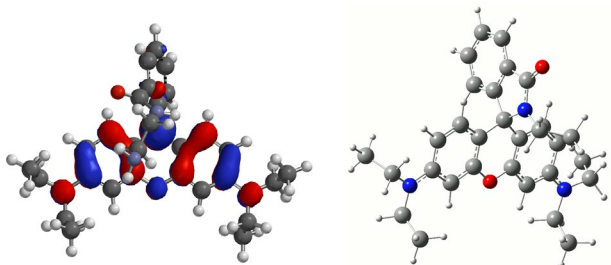
Matrix Damage

Interfacial H₂O

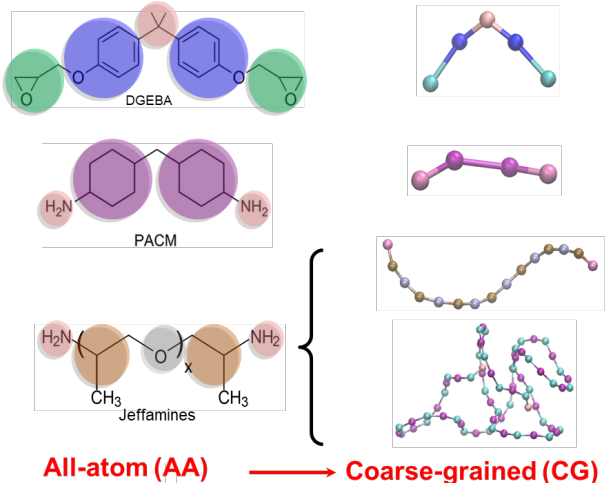


Composites Modeling & Data

Mechanophore Design



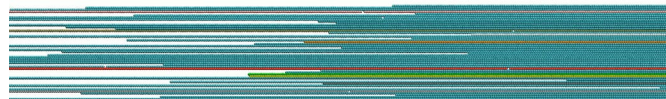
Coarse Graining – Mesoscale Modeling



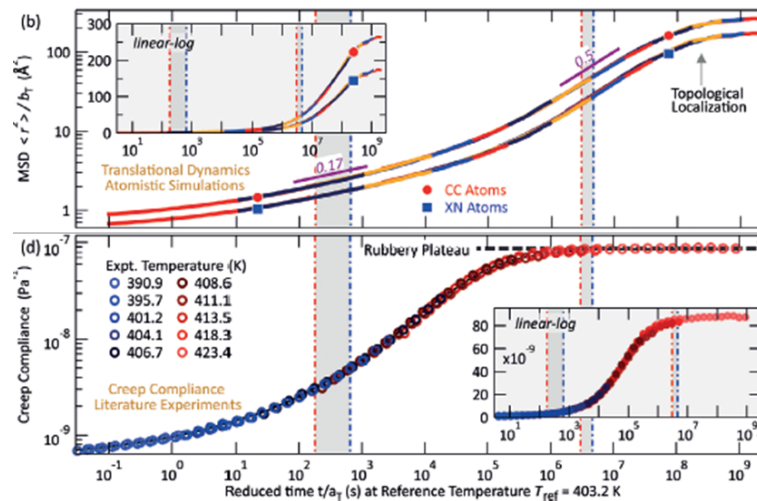
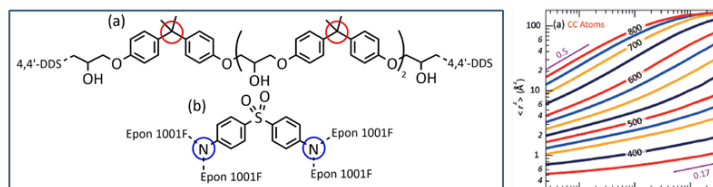
Menu of CG Options

- Iterative Boltzmann Inversion (structure)
- Strain Energy Mapping (order)
- Energy Renormalization (local dynamics)
- Dissipative Potentials (viscous dissipation)

Mechanical Deformation of CNC Films



Atomistic Modeling of Composite Epoxies



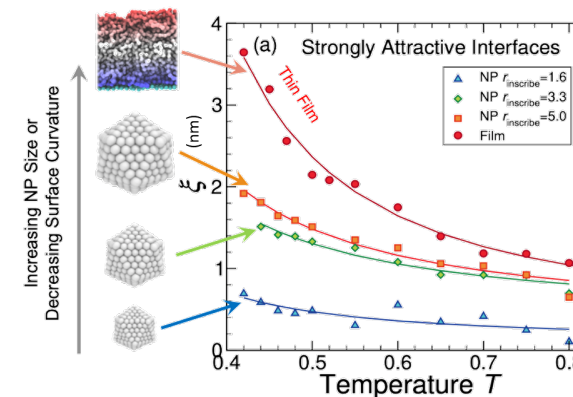
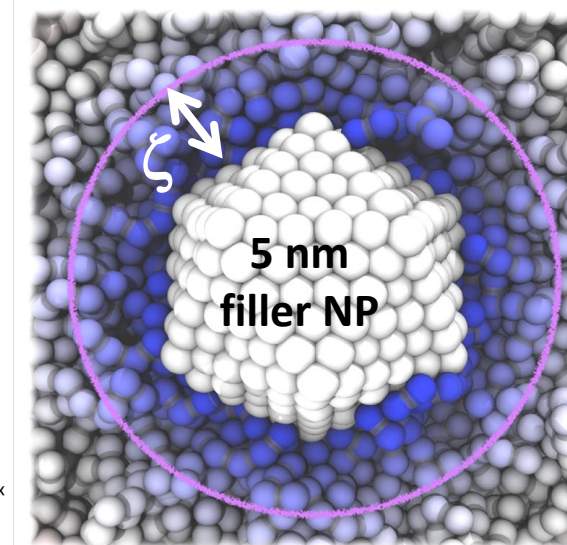
Validate modelling out to ~ 30 years!

Interphase Dynamics

Slower Relaxation



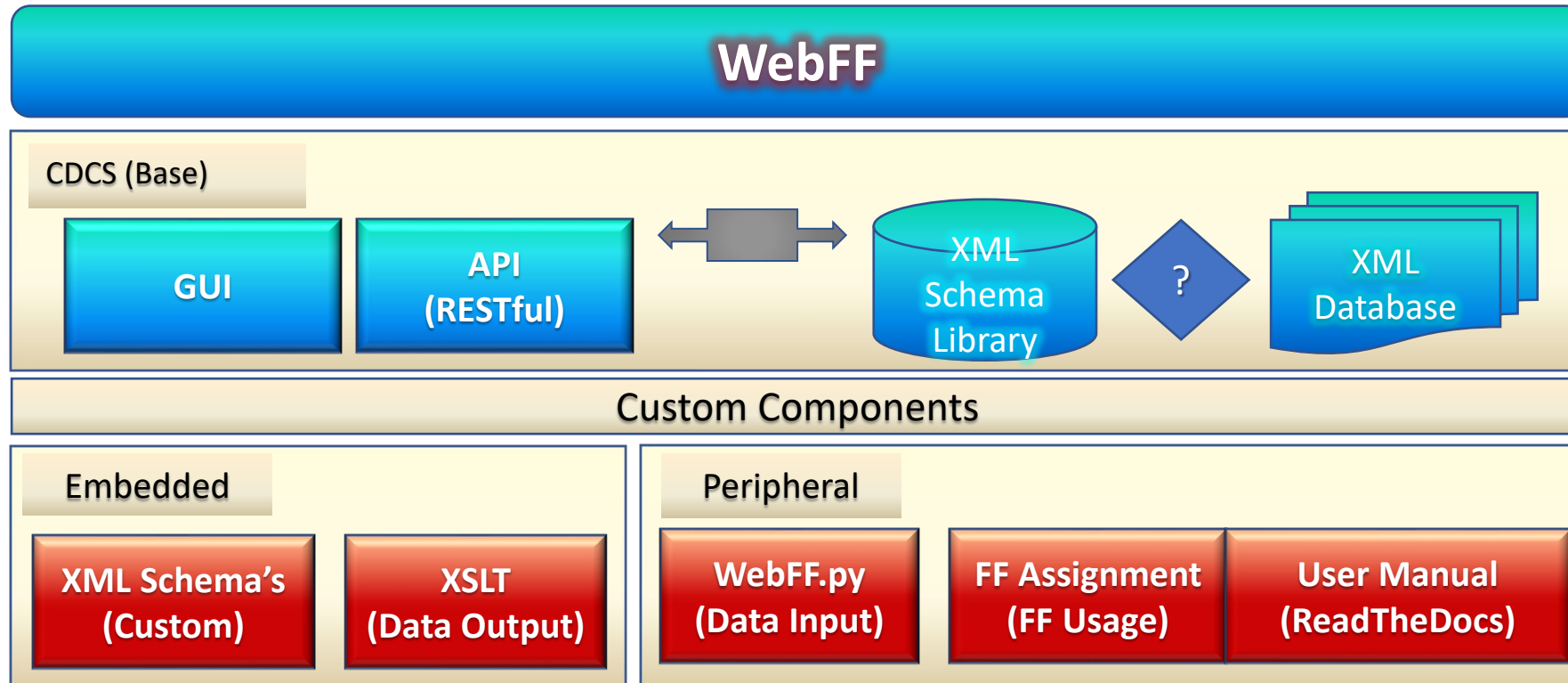
Polymer Matrix Relaxation



WebFF (data archiving & sharing)

Comsoft Workbench (data tools)

WebFF – A Platform for Sharing Simulation Data



Findable
Accessible
Interoperable
Reusable

WebFF is a public, central repository being developed by NIST for atomistic modeling force field data for composites material. Data is curated from published sources (community) with metadata to provide provenance and quality. [This infrastructure can be expanded into a composites data clearinghouse](#)

Modeling tool set to work with shared atomist force field data (WebFF)

Iterative Boltzmann Inversion (IBI)

Application Specific Code

Functional Libraries

Data Handling (I/O)

Chemical Perception

Molecular Construction

Data Classes

MD Data

Force-Field

Atom Types

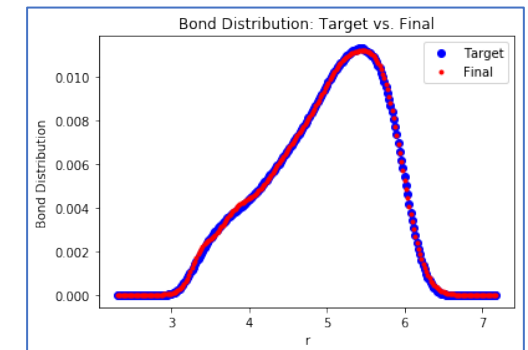
Peripheral Engines

MD Simulator

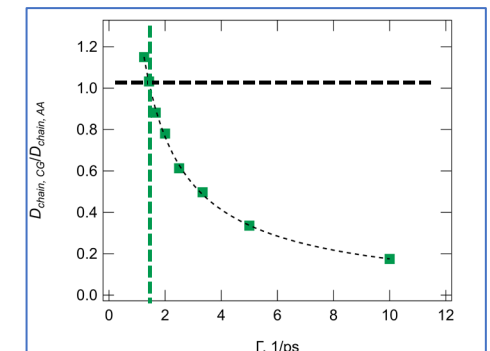
Database

AI/ML

Validated CG Methods



Coarse-grained FF
(Conservative Forces)



Coarse-grained dynamics
(Dissipative Forces)

Proper coarse graining is critical to improve modeling efficiency and extend simulations & predict long term performance

Modeling tool for designing new composite materials

NIST is supporting a broad range of composites research across our campus and laboratories

Composites for infrastructure is a strategic area where we are currently making investments

The NIST Composites Project / Materials Measurement Laboratory focuses on:

- Role of the fiber-matrix interphase on mechanical properties / interfacial shear strength
- Fluorescence dyes to image matrix damage and deleterious absorbed water
- Non-contact microwave inspection tools for matrix damage and water
- Modelling, data sharing, and analysis tools for composite materials

NIST is interested in measurement and standards issues facing the composites community

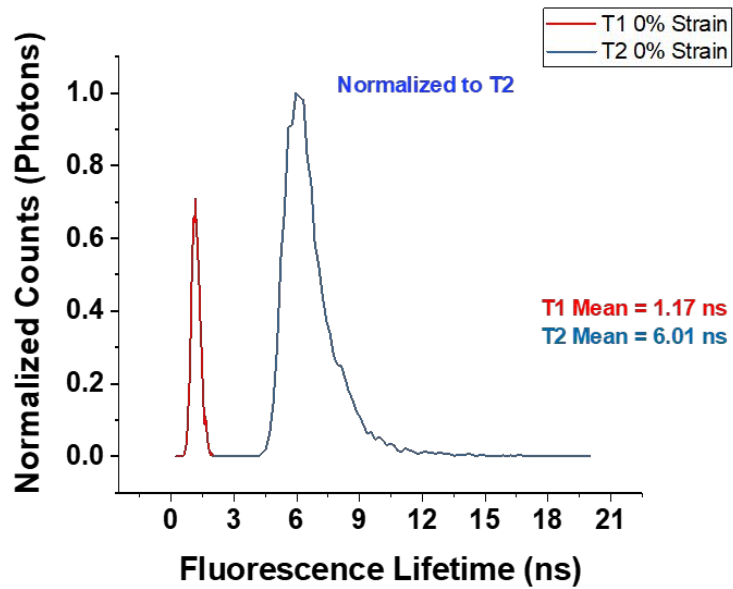
CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION



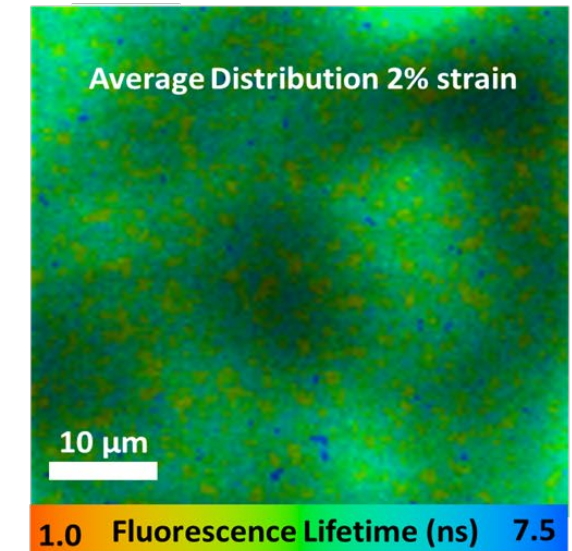
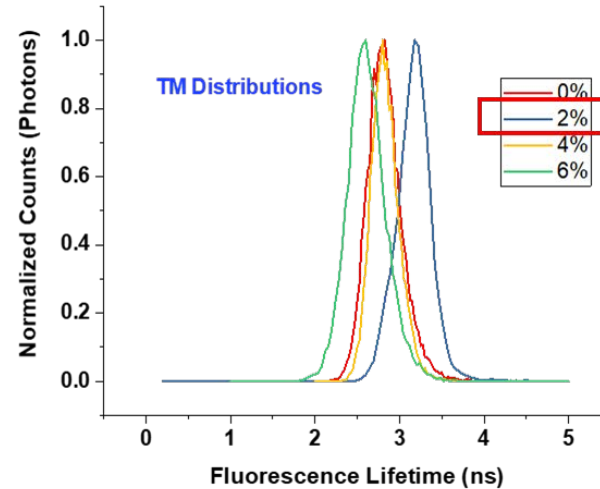
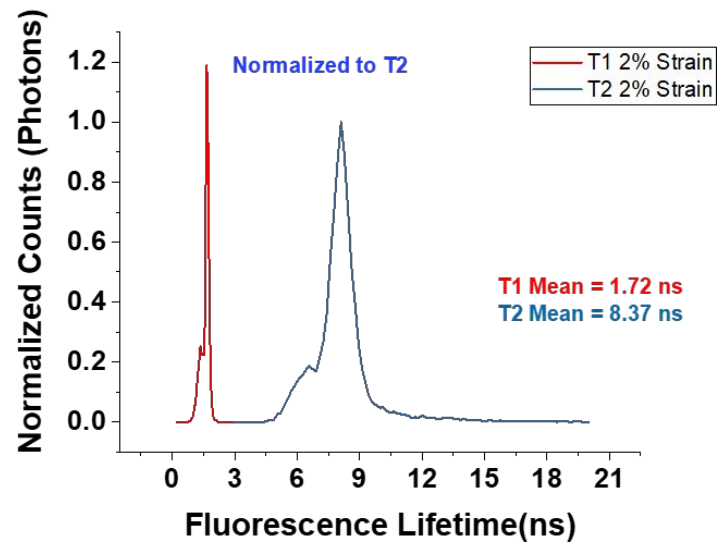
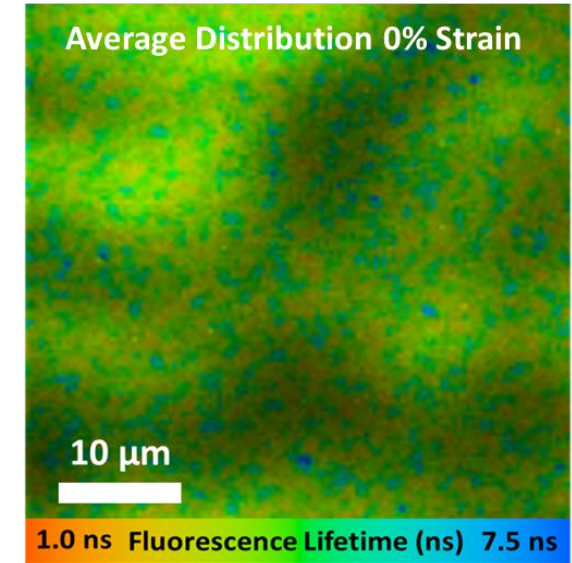
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<https://www.nist.gov/mml/materials-science-and-engineering-division/functional-polymers-group>

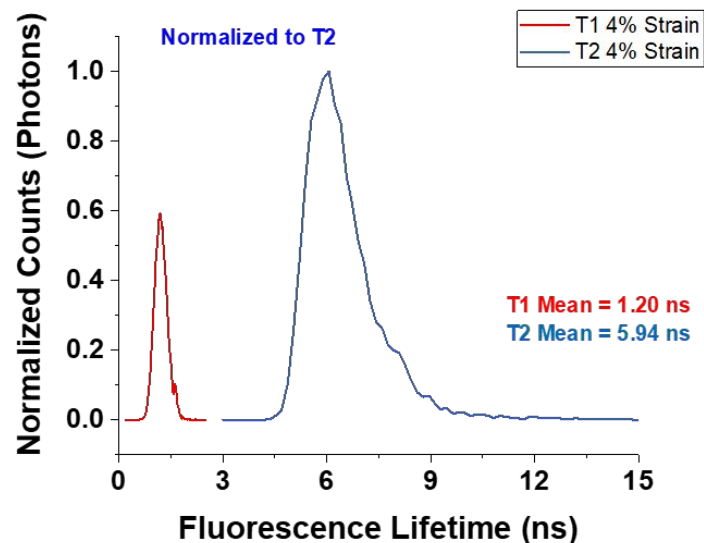
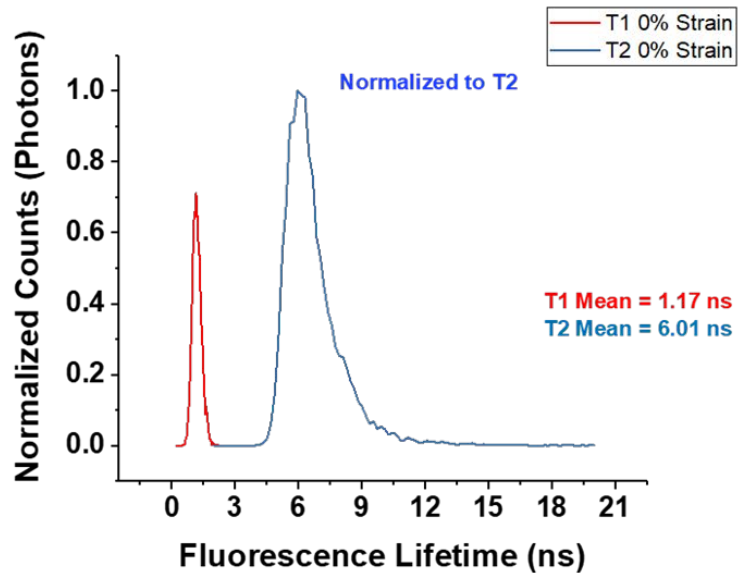
Mechanophores to image matrix damage



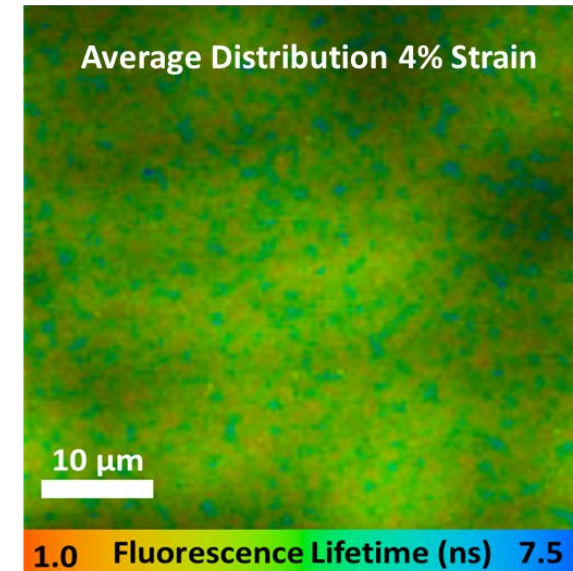
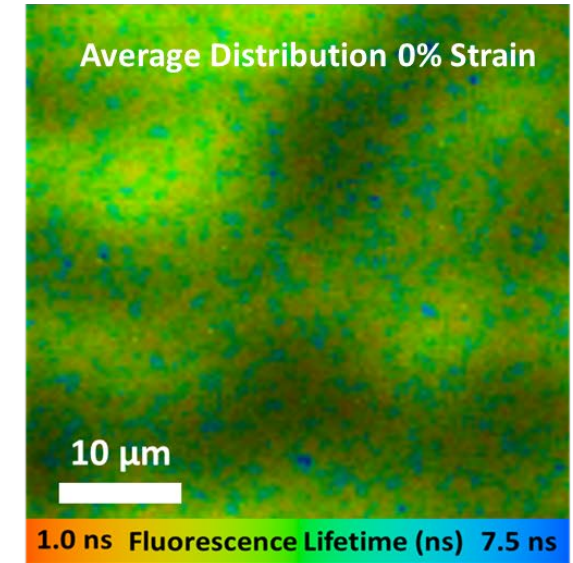
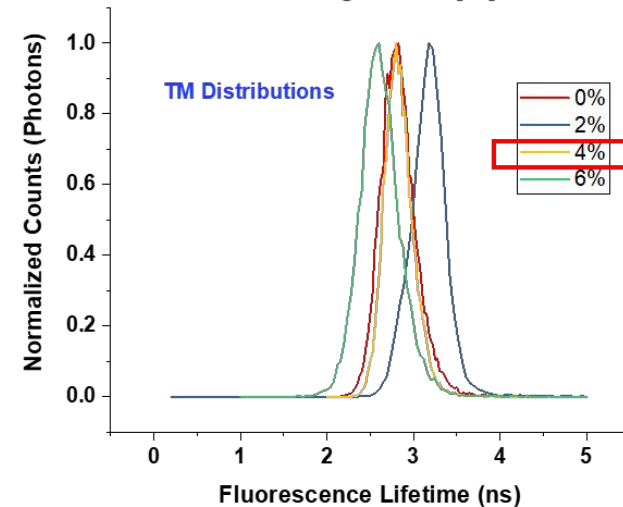
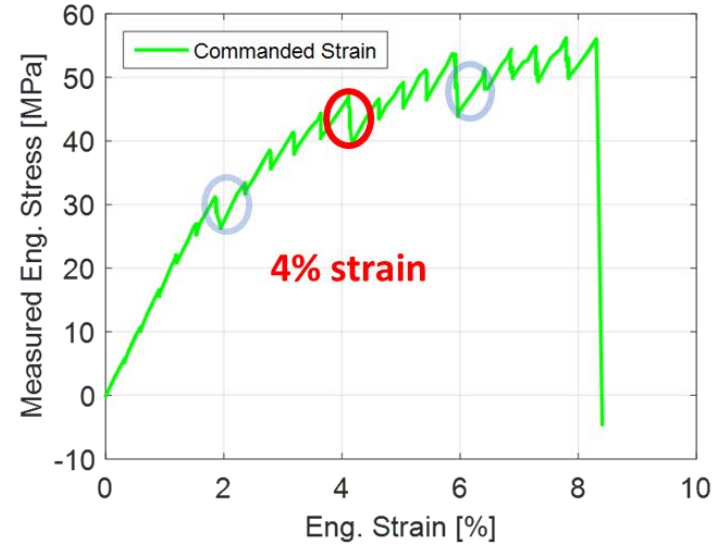
Observed Lifetime with Strain (0 and 2% Strain)



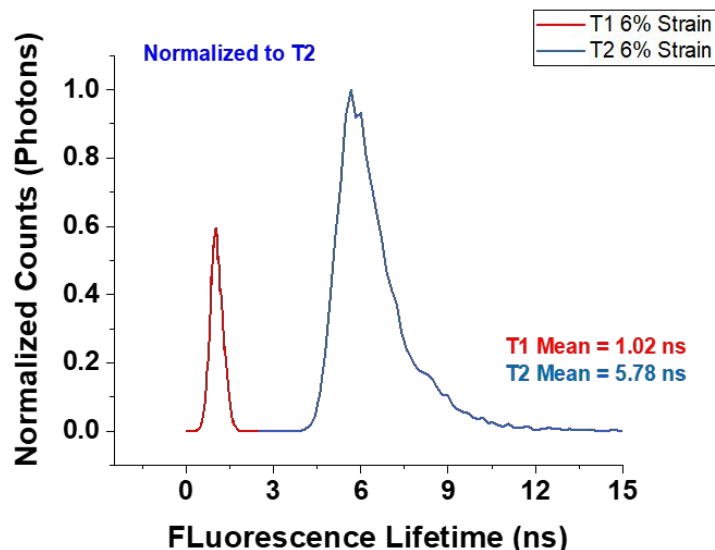
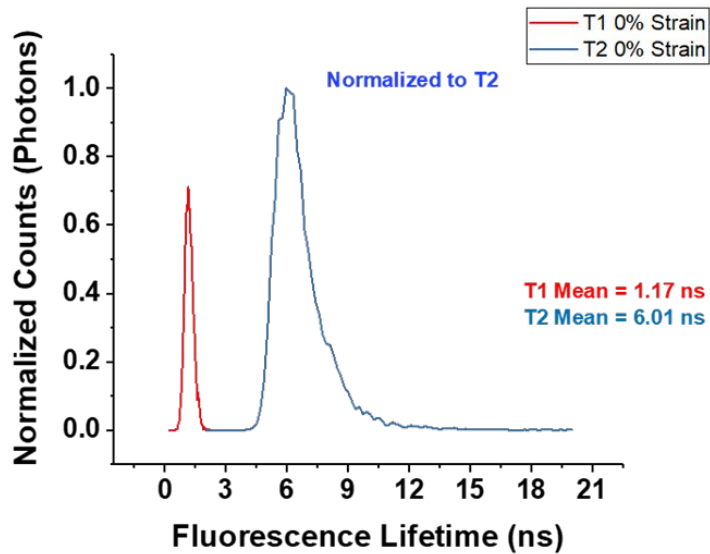
Mechanophores to image matrix damage



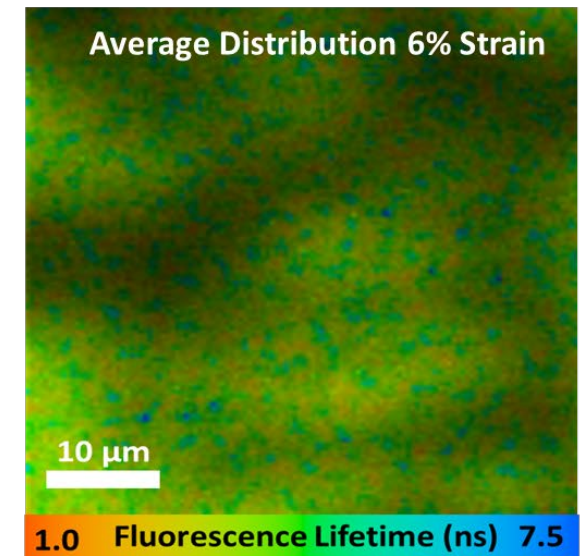
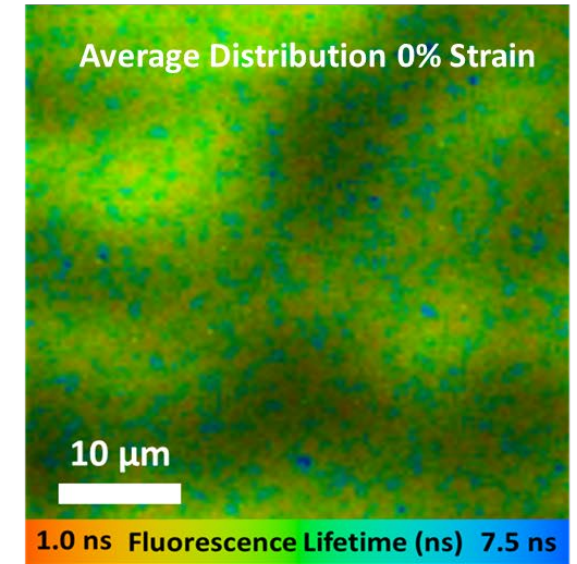
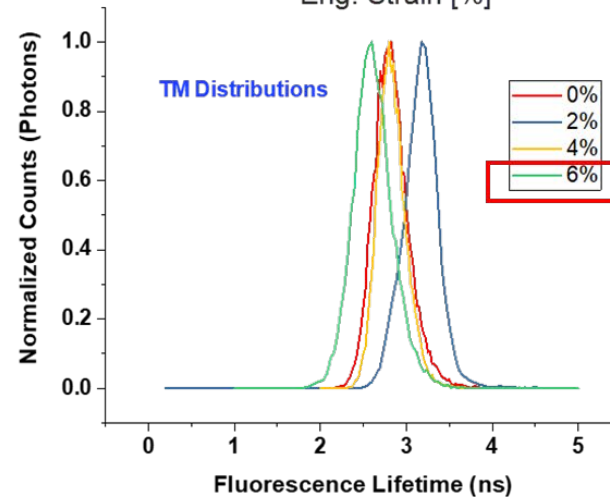
Observed Lifetime with Strain (0 and 4% Strain)



Mechanophores to image matrix damage



Observed Lifetime with Strain (0 and 6% Strain)



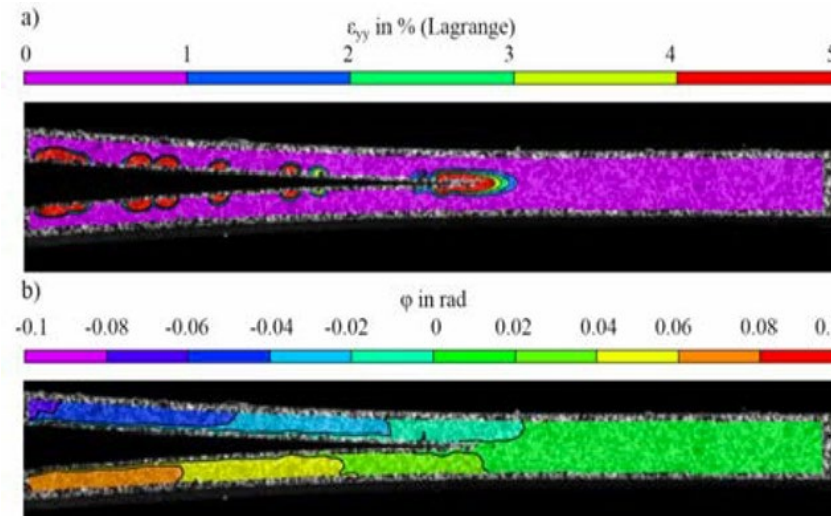
Composites at NIST



National Fire Research
Laboratory



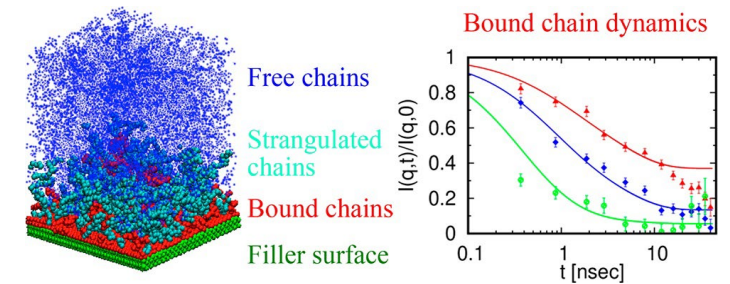
Interlaminar Failure in CFRP



Accelerated Environmental
Service Life Prediction

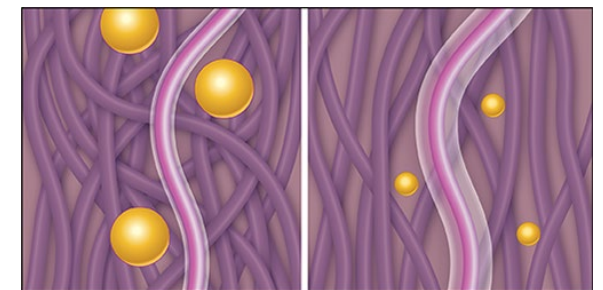


UV, water, temp, load,



Polymer dynamics near a carbon filler

<https://doi.org/10.1021/acsmacrolett.5b00368>



Polymer entanglement near a filler particle

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 118, 147801 \(2017\)](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1251111)

NIST Center for Automotive Lightweighting




Academic Partners

Logos include: NorthWestern University, Ohio State, Michigan, Tokyo University of Agriculture & Technology, UNH Manchester, POSTECH GIFT 철강대학원 Graduate Institute of Ferrous Technology, University of Maryland, KIT Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, University of Windsor Ontario Canada, MIT Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Carnegie Mellon, tu technische universität dortmund, PennState.



Organizations

Logos include: ISO International Organization for Standardization, USCAR UNITED STATES COUNCIL FOR AUTOMOTIVE RESEARCH, lift LIGHTWEIGHT INNOVATIONS FOR TOMORROW, American Iron and Steel Institute, ASIM INTERNATIONAL Standards Worldwide, U.S. ARMY, A/S P, ornl Oak Ridge National Laboratory, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY Office of Science, TARDEC.



Industrial Partners

Logos include: Toyota, CAT, Dow, ADITYA BIRLA NOVELIS, ThyssenKrupp, Ford, GM, EWI We Manufacture Innovation, PPG, DOFASCO Our product is steel. Our strength is people., Honda, LG, Volvo, FCA FIAT CHRYSLER AUTOMOBILES, BASF The Chemical Company, ALCAN, USS, ExxonMobil, ArcelorMittal, ALCOA.

Automotive Lightweighting

Motivation

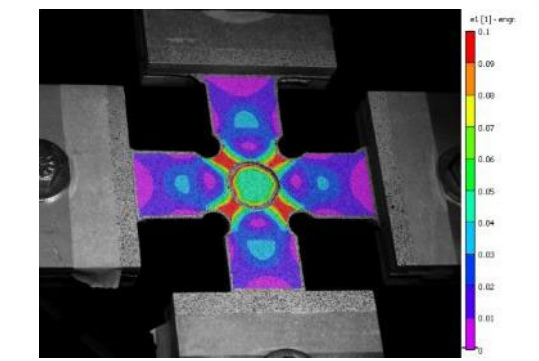
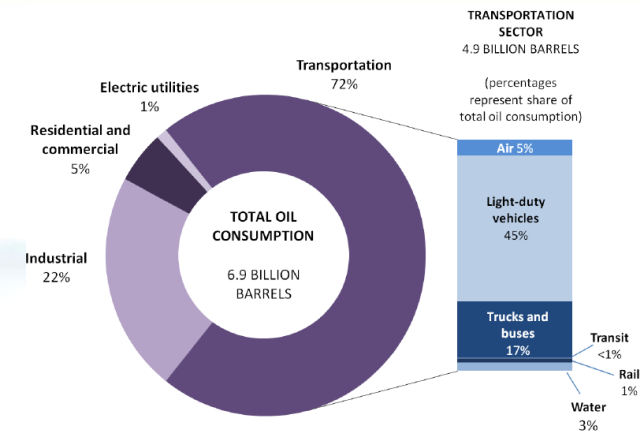
The US auto industry lacks the tools to quickly and inexpensively adopt new, lightweight materials

Objective

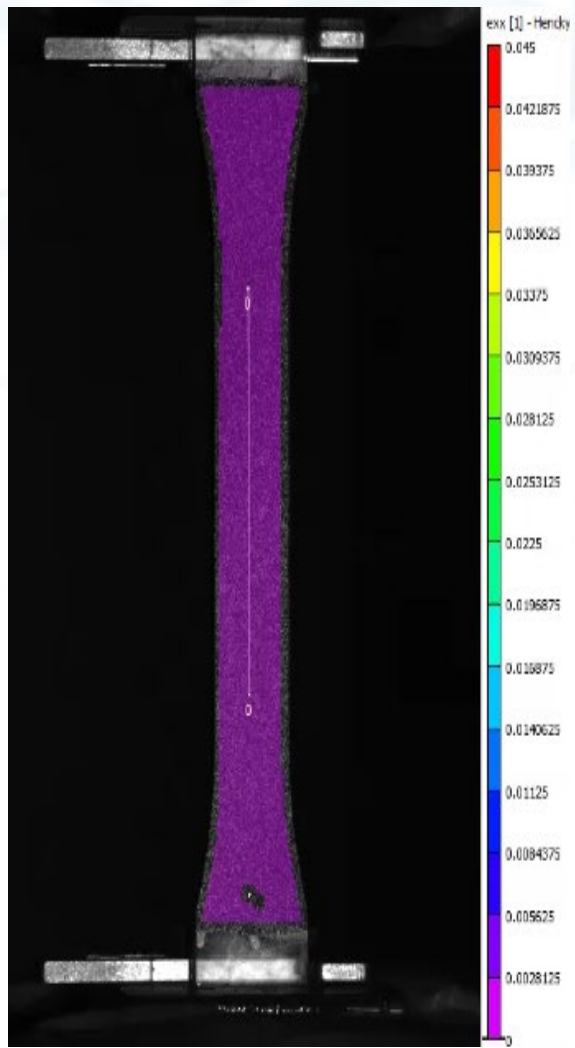
Develop new metrology, data and models to help them achieve these goals

Accomplishments

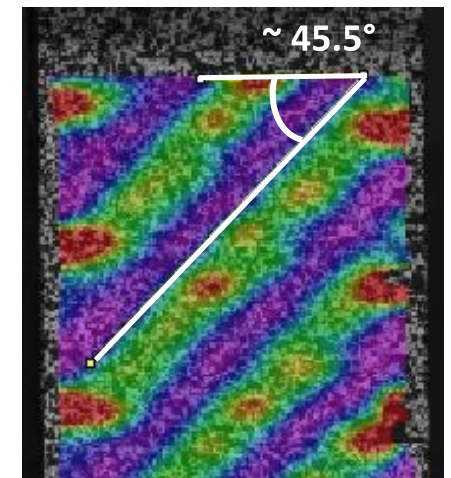
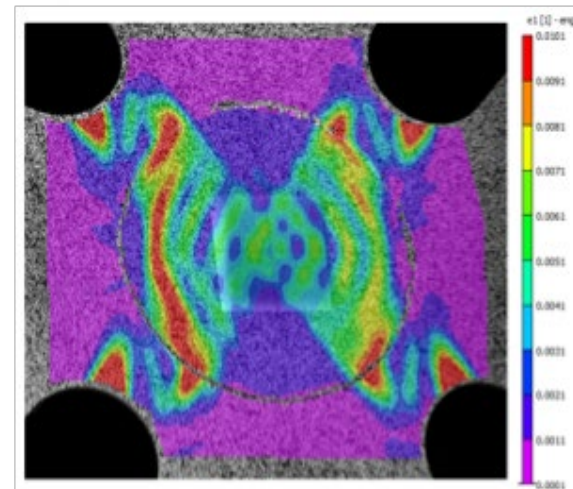
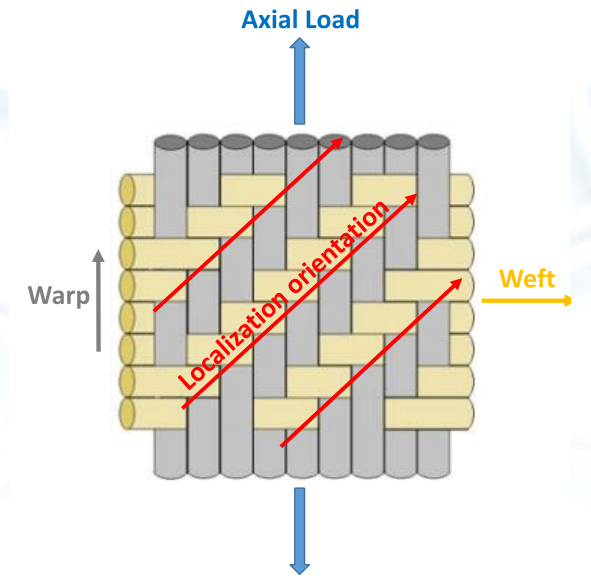
- Providing high rate and complex stress state data on CFRPs and developed new mechanical tests
- New instrumented tension/compression testing system developed
- Formation of new society for DIC and launched new standards activities
- New insights into best practices for interpreting texture data for accurate mathematical representation
- Our data on evolving yield surface in aluminum used by Ford to save development time and cost for aluminum bodied F-150 pickup
- Provided guidance and leadership to manufacturing center LIFT on project selection and review
- Active and pending research agreements: LIFT, Novelis, GM, Caterpillar, Auto/Steel Partnership, Ford, Dow



Digital Image Correlation (DIC) Standards



- Calculates deformation in 3D with high resolution
- Shows details previously unobserved
- Problem: “Garbage In, Garbage Out”
- **NCAL Role:**
 - Standards Development
 - Best Practices
 - Dissemination to Industrial Partners

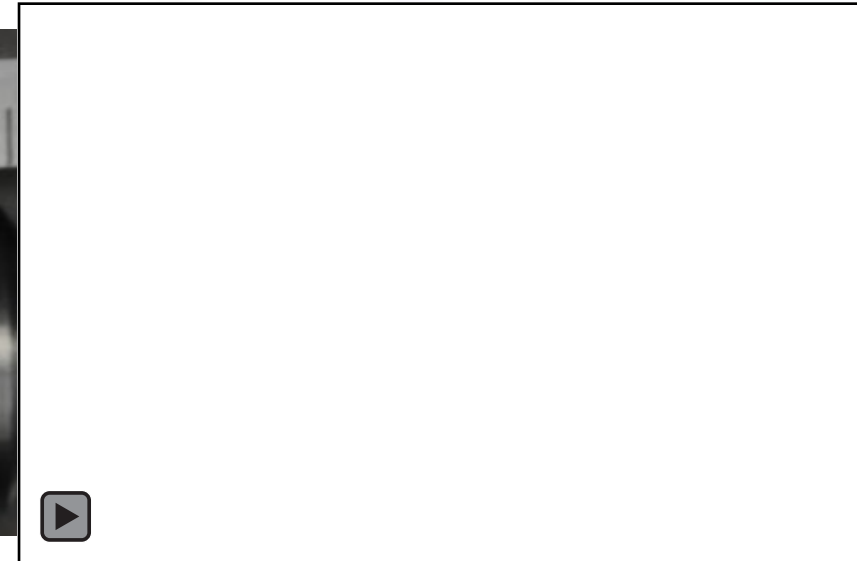
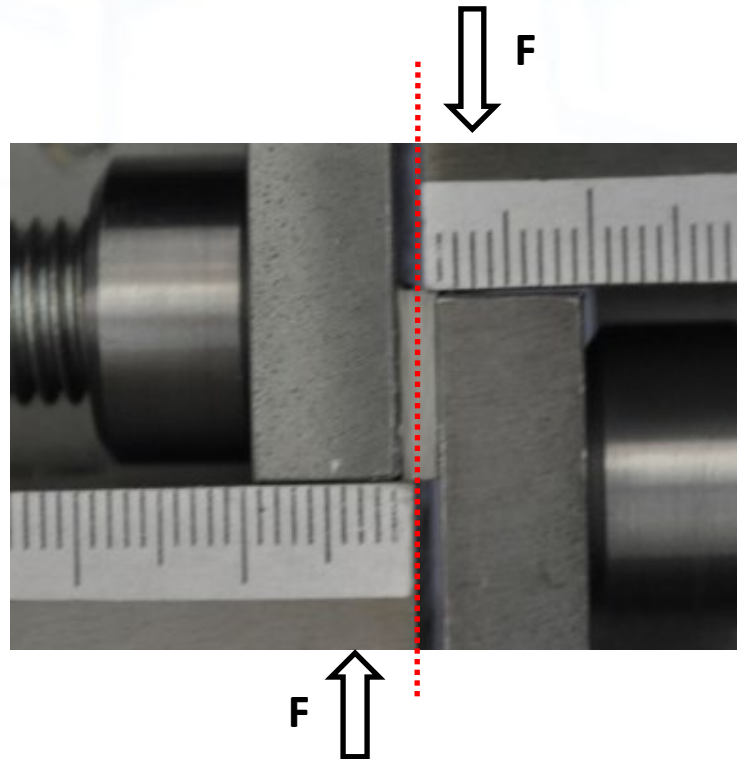


Industrial Interactions: Carbon Fiber Composites



“Smart” models to design w/ CFRPs for structural components. We measure complex behaviors that include:

- High rate for crashworthiness (w/T)
- Interfacial strength
- Single fiber adhesion to epoxy



COMPOSITES FOR INFRASTRUCTURE ROADMAP **NIST**

NIST Special Publication 1218

ROAD MAPPING WORKSHOP REPORT ON OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO ADOPTION OF COMPOSITES IN SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

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Northwestern University

John P. Busel, Daniel Coughlin
*American Composites
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Jeffrey Gilman, Gale Holmes, James Fekete,
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Dave Hartman
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Antonio Nanni
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William R. O'Donnell
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National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

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Charles Bakis
Penn State University

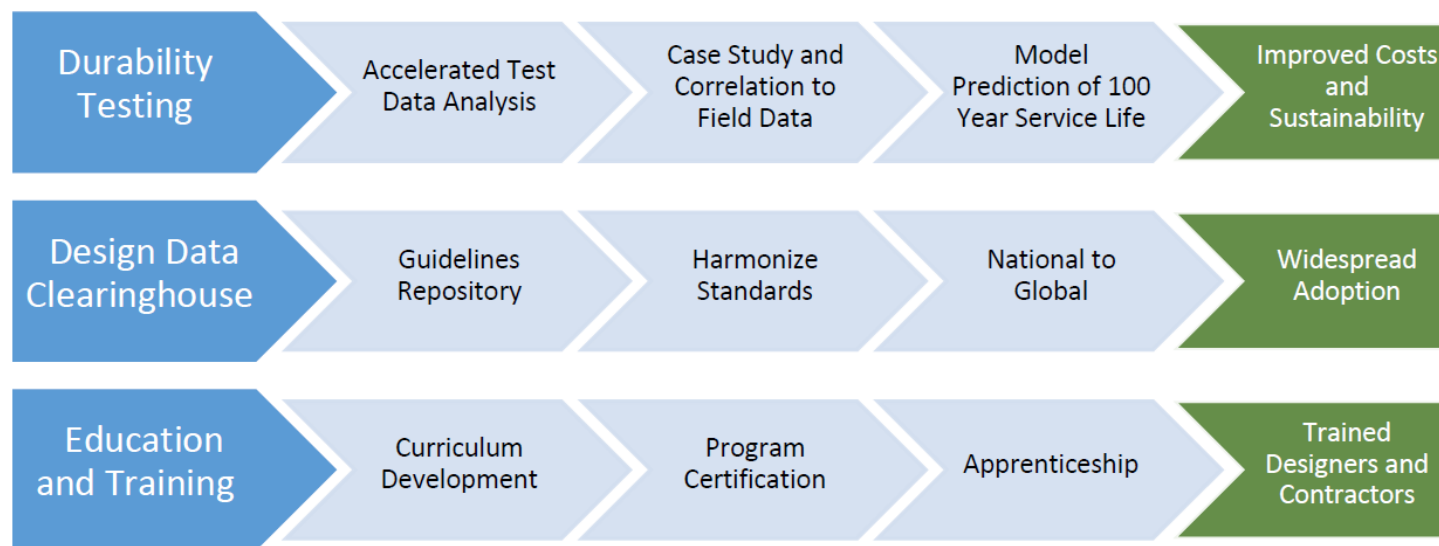
Scott Holmes
Highland Composites

Robert Moser
*US Army Engineer Research
and Development Center*

This publication is available free of charge from:
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December 2017

Workshop Report makes three key
recommendation to overcome barriers
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December 2017

Resounding support from our stakeholders!
Variations on the recommendations appear in many bills

Year	Number	Sponsor
2018	S.3765	Capito
	H.R.6229	Comstock
2019	S.384	Capito
	H.R.2393	Webster
	H.R.1159	Cicilline
2020	S.403	Whitehouse
	H.R.5685	Lucas
	H.R.6898	Cicilline
2021	S.451	Capito

To date, none of these bills have been enacted into law