



**POLITECNICO**  
MILANO 1863

DIPARTIMENTO DI MECCANICA



# ***SIGMA Lab: Structural integrity under extreme loads***

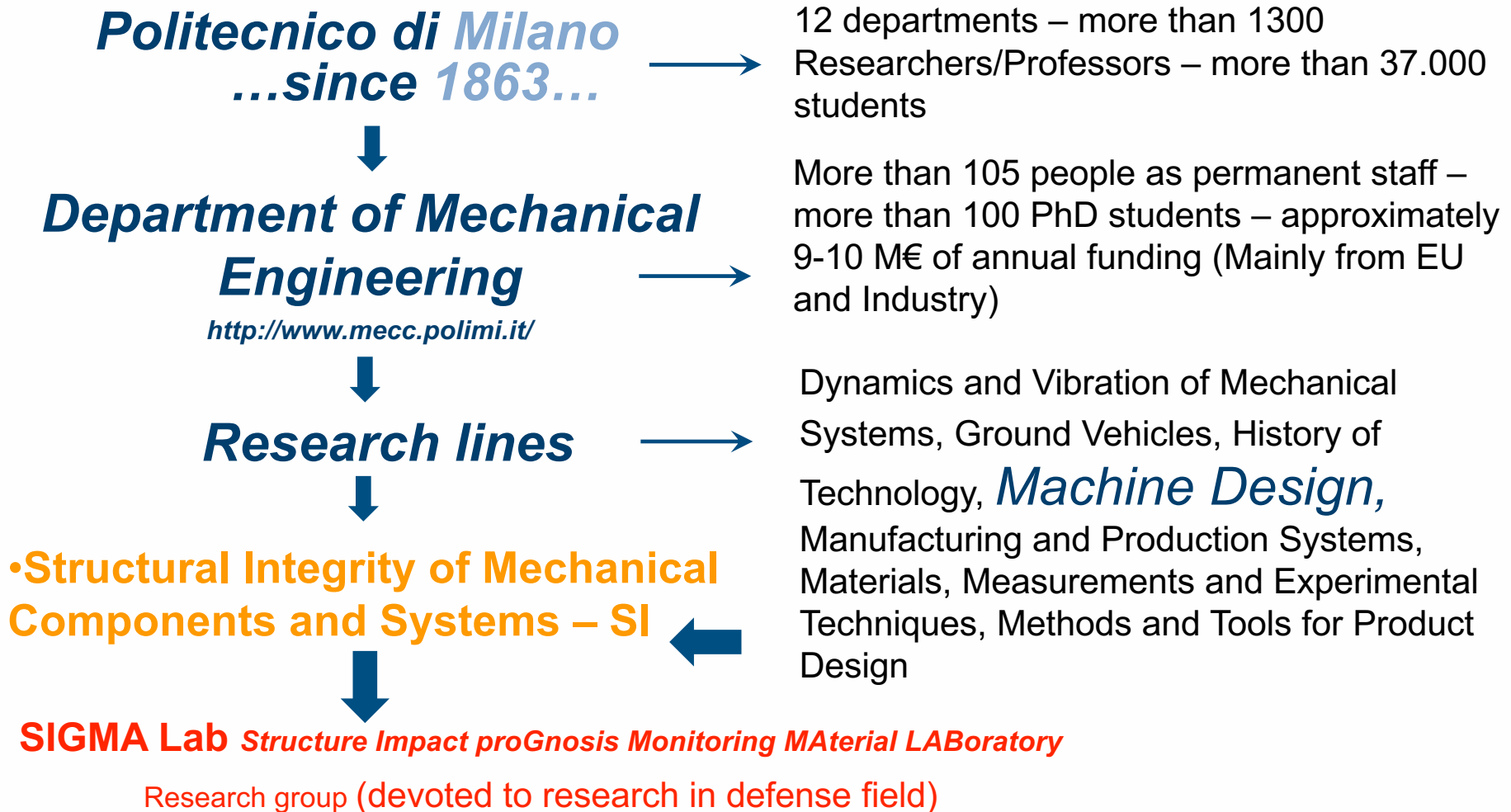
*(May 2018)*

**POLITECNICO DI MILANO, ITALY**

**DIPARTIMENTO DI MECCANICA**

**Structure Impact proGnosis Monitoring MAterial LABoratory**





## SIGMALab, at a glance

**POLIMI/SIGMALab** team has 15 years of expertise in mechanical design of systems and structure under extreme conditions. **SIGMALab** have strong links to **EDA** programmes as coordinator of a number of projects on structural health monitoring (SHM): HECTOR – ASTIANAX – SAMAS (ongoing). **SIGMALab** have lead several national projects about **terminal ballistic, explosion and vulnerability** together with Italian MoD (SUMO, SUMO2) and national enterprises (LEONARDO)

**SIGMALab** have accomplished several research activities with academic and industrial partners and customers (included **security and defense**).

## Team Leader

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## Research Team

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Ph.D. graduate student

## ***Our mission:***

Main aim of the research team is an advanced engineering approach for the **assessment, new design and optimization of mechanical and aerospace components**. Research activities and topics concern with several aspects related to:

- **assessment and optimization** of components under spectrum loads and extreme loads (ballistic damage, etc.);
- **monitoring, diagnosis and prognosis** of critical structures subject to degradation, under fatigue loads and impact loads;
- **application of novel probabilistic approaches** in structural integrity design (flaw tolerant approach, reliability methods, vulnerability, etc.).

Experimental investigations and numerical-analytical investigation allow to individuate models able to simulate components under contingent-extreme loads in order to optimize their behavior.

## *Our vision: a reference team for tailored assessment of critical components under extreme conditions*

More that 15 years of challenging research activities with academic and industrial partners and customers (included security and defense).



**SIGMALab** is active in several research topics related to defense field, but conventionally we have created two main research programmes. Each area develops original and advanced technology platforms at the state of the art in order to deliver the best solutions for challenging problems. The areas merge in several activities.

## **Structural integrity under extreme load**

- Large deformation and failure, ballistic and low velocity impact, explosion, crack and damage, delamination, etc
- Definition of optimal protection
- Material calibration exploiting innovative constitutive law
- Numerical modelling (FEM, DEM, meshless, etc)
- Analytical modelling
- Experimental testing (from micro to full scale)

## **Model-based Structural Health Monitoring and prognosis**

- Investigation of different state of art sensor technologies for SHM
- Numerical and analytical modelling for SHM system training
- Machine learning and pattern recognition for diagnosis
- Bayesian filters and Monte-Carlo methods for prognosis
- Experimental SHM verification and performance qualification



## New entries for SIGMA Lab research topic

### Energy

- SIGMA Lab team is working in order to provide dedicated solutions both for O&G and renewable energy (explorative drilling and innovative solar troughs).

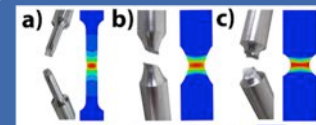
### Reliability and statistical approaches for structural integrity

- Numerical and analytical modeling
- Machine learning and pattern recognition for cheap approximation of complex FEM responses
- Monte-Carlo simulation schemes for uncertainty effects quantification
- Advanced optimization schemes (evolutionary algorithms, etc.)

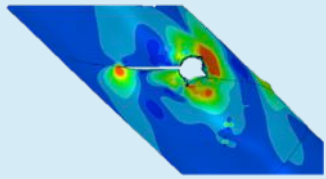


# Outlook of the framework: a fit for purpose / multidisciplinary technology platform 9

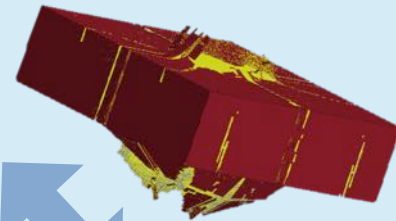
A deep investigation both in practical aspects and state of the art



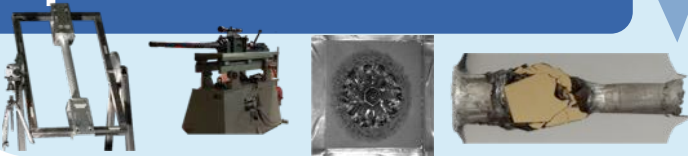
Material calibration



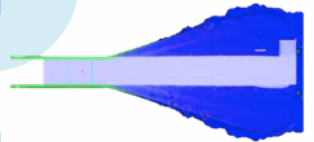
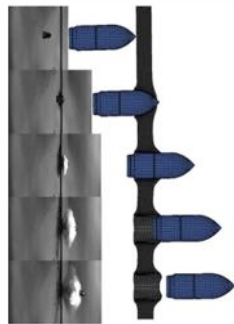
Numerical and analytical modelling / algorithm



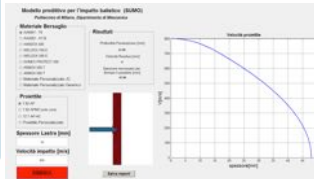
Experimental Tests



Validation of the modelling / algorithm approaches



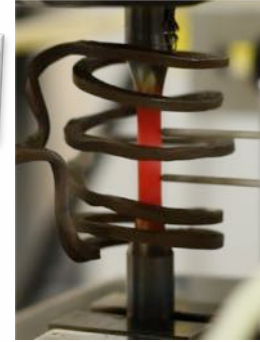
Definition of predictive models/methods  
Design optimisation  
Structural Health Monitoring (monitoring, diagnosis and prognosis)  
Fitness for purpose



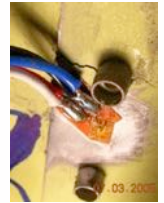
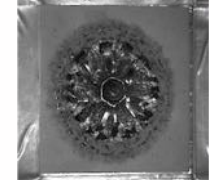
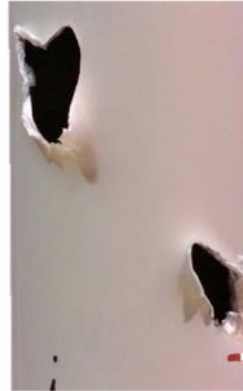
## Experimental Tests

Test on **coupon and small specimens** to determine mechanical behavior

Metal Composite and Ceramic: plasticity, damage - Access to fully equipped materials lab including: quasi-static tension, compression and torsion testing at different temperatures, hardness measurements, fatigue testing, optical microscopy, scanning electron microscopes with coupled EDS and EBSD probes, X-ray diffractometer, CT scan, HIP - test under quality system



Test on **subsystem** also in presence of extreme loading condition

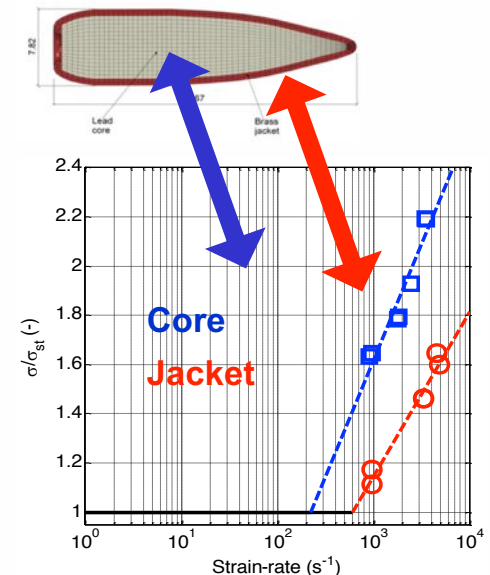
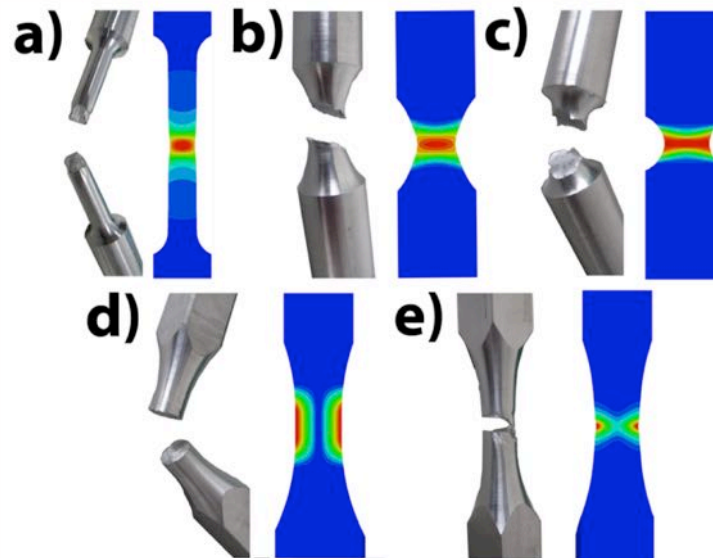
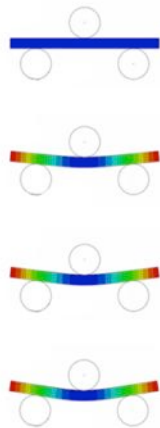
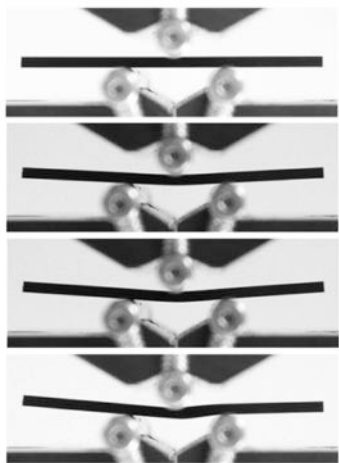
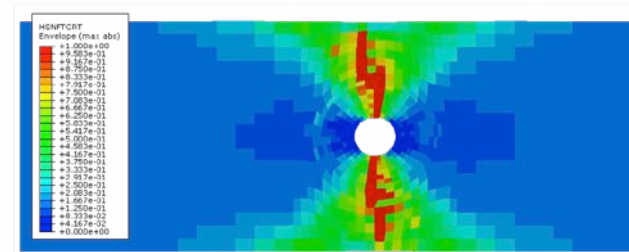


Test on **full-scale components** even for certification purpose

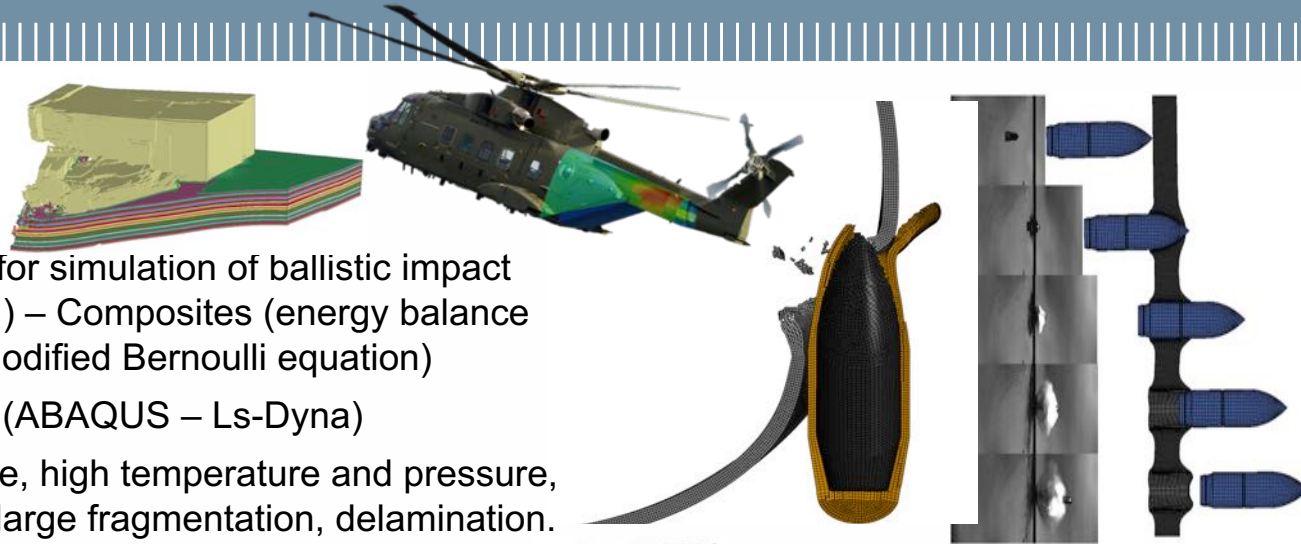


## Material calibration

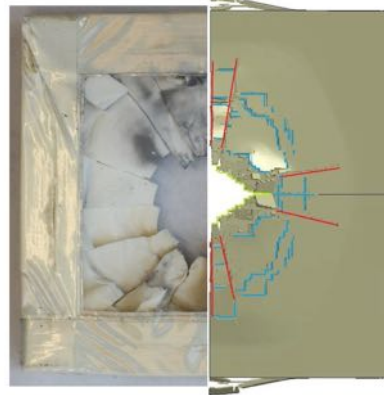
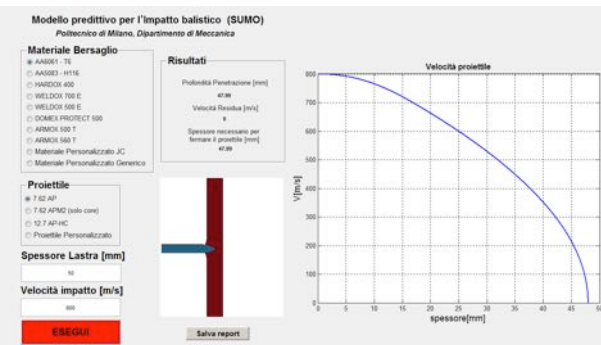
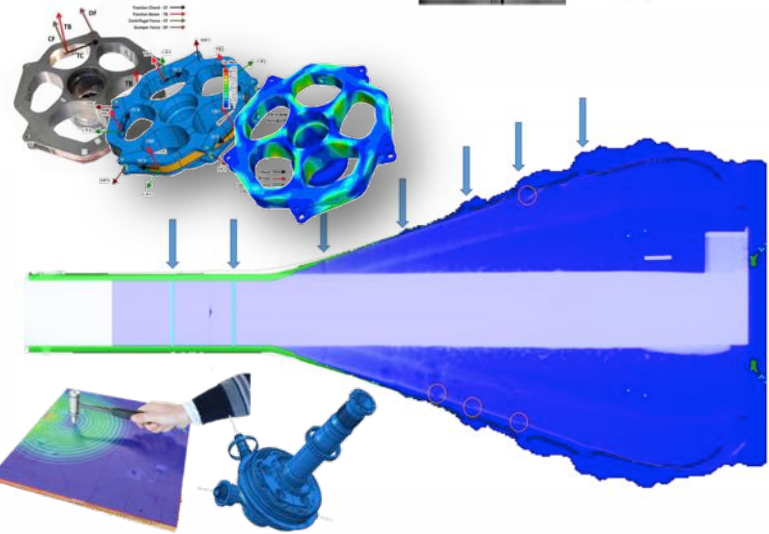
- Material behaviour: focus on **metal - ceramic – composite**
- Inverse methods for **calibration** of mechanical properties
- Definition of **constitutive models** able to describe high plasticity, ductile/brittle failure, strain rate, delamination, etc
- Creation of ad-hoc routine



## Modelling



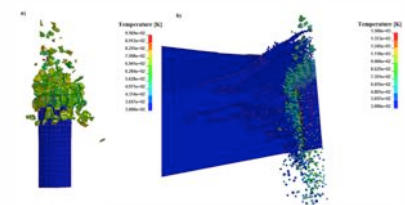
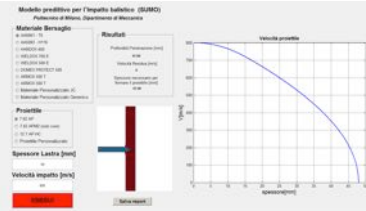
- Creation of **analytical models** for simulation of ballistic impact against Metal (cavity expansion) – Composites (energy balance and wave theory) – Ceramic (modified Bernoulli equation)
- Creation of **numerical models** (ABAQUS – Ls-Dyna)
  - ✓ large plasticity, high strain rate, high temperature and pressure, fracture and damage criteria, large fragmentation, delamination.
  - ✓ Lagrangian, ALE, SPH, perydynamics and in general expertise in mesh-free methods and coupling with lagrangian element.



Definition of predictive methods

Numerical and analytical modelling

Why are so important



- Better **understanding of the physical phenomena** involved
- Better understanding of **effects of several parameters** (in highly non-linear environment)
- Possibility to perform **“virtual test”** when experimental approach is **unsafe and/or unfeasible**
- Reduction of the number of the experimental tests (time and costs reduction) and **better design of testing activities**
- Possibility to perform **optimization process and fitness for purpose** approach

# The role of “Virtual test” in the design and assessment of innovative products aimed to defense system

## Requirement:

Performances as a function of treats and operational conditions



## Design and optimization

- Experience (*not always reliable*)
- Experimental testing (*time consuming and costly*)

## Virtual test

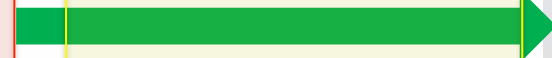
- Predictive models
- Virtual tests
- **Reducing costs / uncertainties / development time**
- **Increasing fitness for purposes**
- **Optimization**



## Validation

Certification, assessment of the fitnesses for purpose ???

Possible unfitting that require another interaction with the design phase



## Final product



# Outlook of the research activities: from actual requirements to R&D

Efforts have been spent in this field starting from three actual tasks:

- Assessment of the residual life and strength of helicopter T/R shafts after ballistic perforation (thin walled structure – aeronautical components): **Ballistic damage tolerance tests on the NH90-T129A tail rotor shafts**
- Evaluation of an optimized procedure for prediction of low caliber bullet penetration in thick armor plate (ground vehicle, civil structure, etc.): **SUMO**



SUMO - P.N.R.M. (Italian National Project for Military Research), completed in 2013:

SvilUpo di un MOdello predittivo per l'impatto balistico

*Development of a predictive model for ballistic impact*

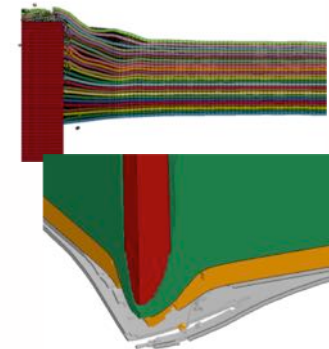


- Investigation in modeling low caliber bullet penetration in multilayer armor (composite – ceramic - metal): **SUMO 2**

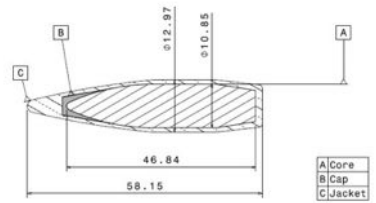
SUMO2. P.N.R.M. (Italian National Project for Military Research), work in progress:

SvilUpo di una Metodologia analitica, numerica e sperimentale per la progettazione di protezioni balistiche cOmposite multistrato.

*Development of a predictive model for multilayer protection*

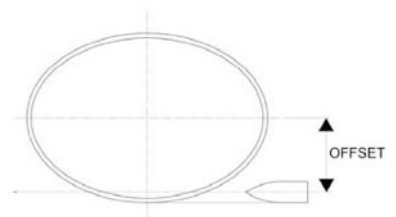
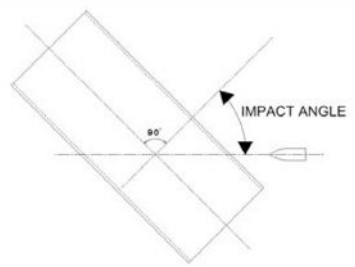


- Identification of the threat: projectiles



A	Core
B	Cap
C	Jacket

- Identification of other important parameters necessary to study the impact on the transmission rotor shaft: offset and the impact angle.
- Development of a reliable test program
- Step1: ballistic damage
- Step2: assessment of the residual strength



## Step1: ballistic test



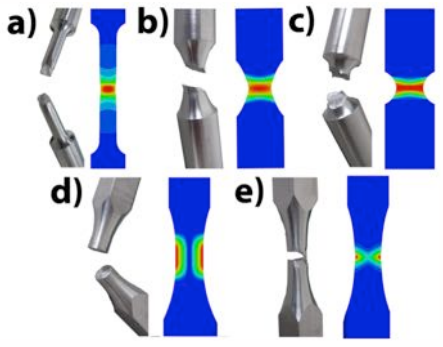


# Ballistic damage tolerance tests on the NH90-T129A tail rotor shafts 17

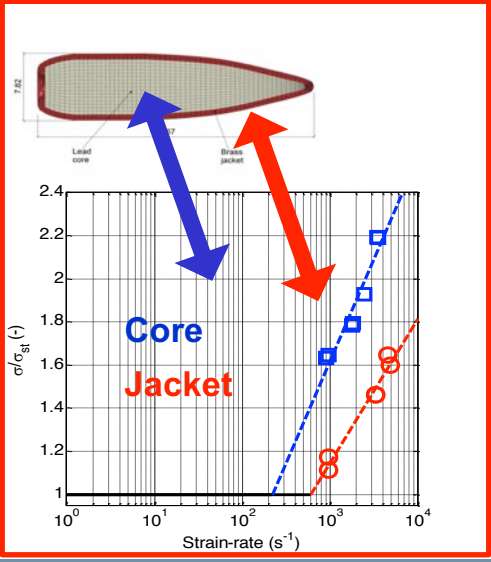
## Numerical modelling: an accurate insight in the physical phenomena

- Numerical simulations are carried out using **Abaqus\Explicit** and **LS-DYNA** solvers
- Projectile and target are geometrically modeled with the correct impact parameters: impact angle, initial velocity and spin, predefined residual stress, etc.
- Suitable elements type is chosen
- Algorithm to consider contact, erosion and deletion are evaluated
- Adiabatic heat effects are considered
- Presence of friction between bullet and target is generally neglected

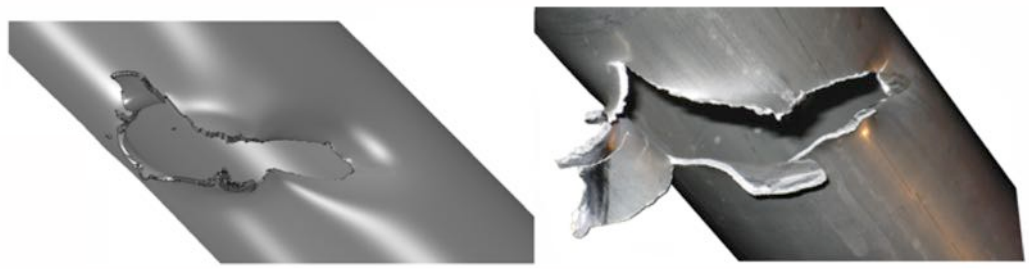
**Focus on material calibration**



A “state of the art” fracture criteria developed in collaboration with M.I.T. which allow the definition of phenomenological models able to describe failure under several loading conditions



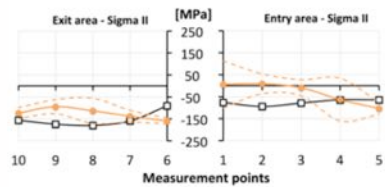
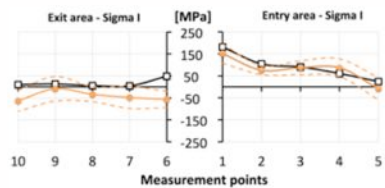
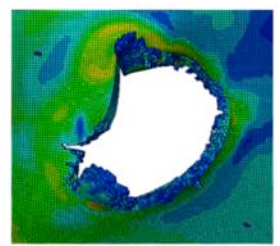
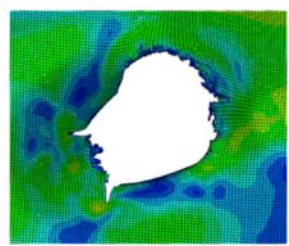
Error in bullet residual velocity calculation: 0.4%



Correct simulation of dimensions and shape of the damages and state o stress: a correct “test bed” for a subsequent stage

Entry Hole

Exit Hole



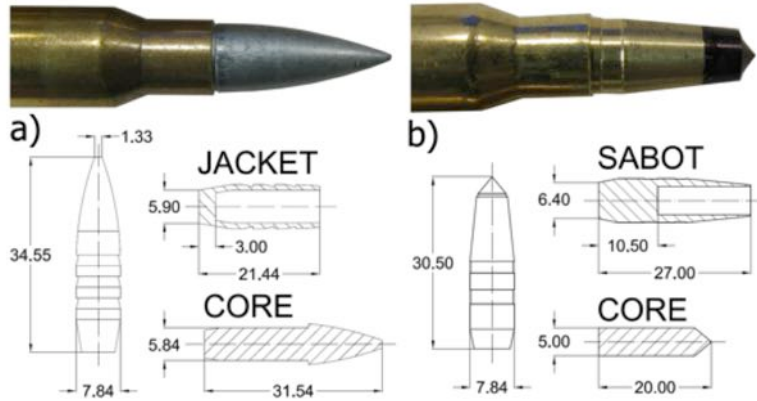
□ FFE model    ● experimental data

## Step 2: residual strength

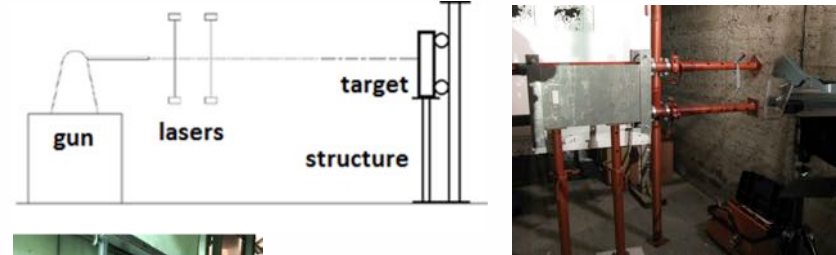
Assessment of the integrity in damaged condition: mission survivability on actual helicopters



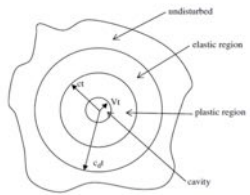
- Identification of the projectiles: AP small caliber



- Identification of materials and thicknesses: aluminium alloy (6061 T6) and structural/ballistic steel (Weldox 700, Hardox 400, ArmoX 500T) with different thicknesses and projectile velocity in order to verify the predictive capability of the models both in case of complete penetration (residual velocity) and arrest (penetration depth)
- Identification of models and approach available in literature (pros and cons, lack, possible improvements)



Analytical models based on spherical-cavity expansion .They allow predicting a large number of parameters involved in the mechanics of penetration, without the need to solve complex equations or to set empiric constants.



Validation in ballistic limit assessment

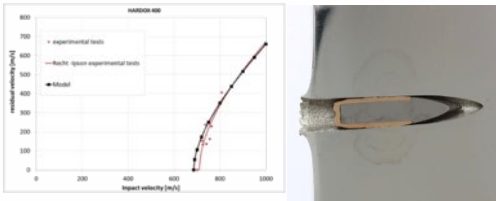
Validation in thick plates impact

**Improvement**

(1 CALIBER = 7.62 mm)

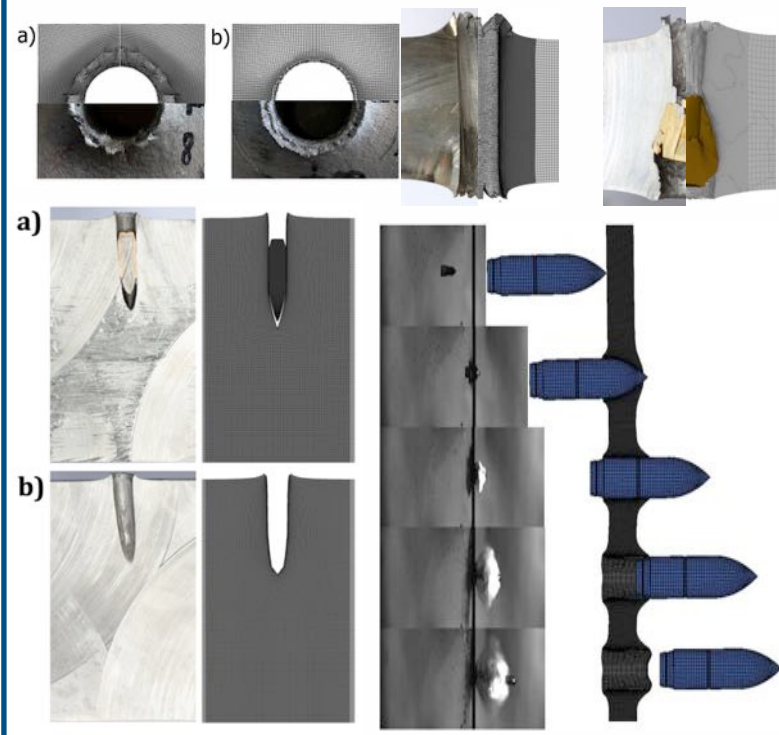
Shape of actual projectiles

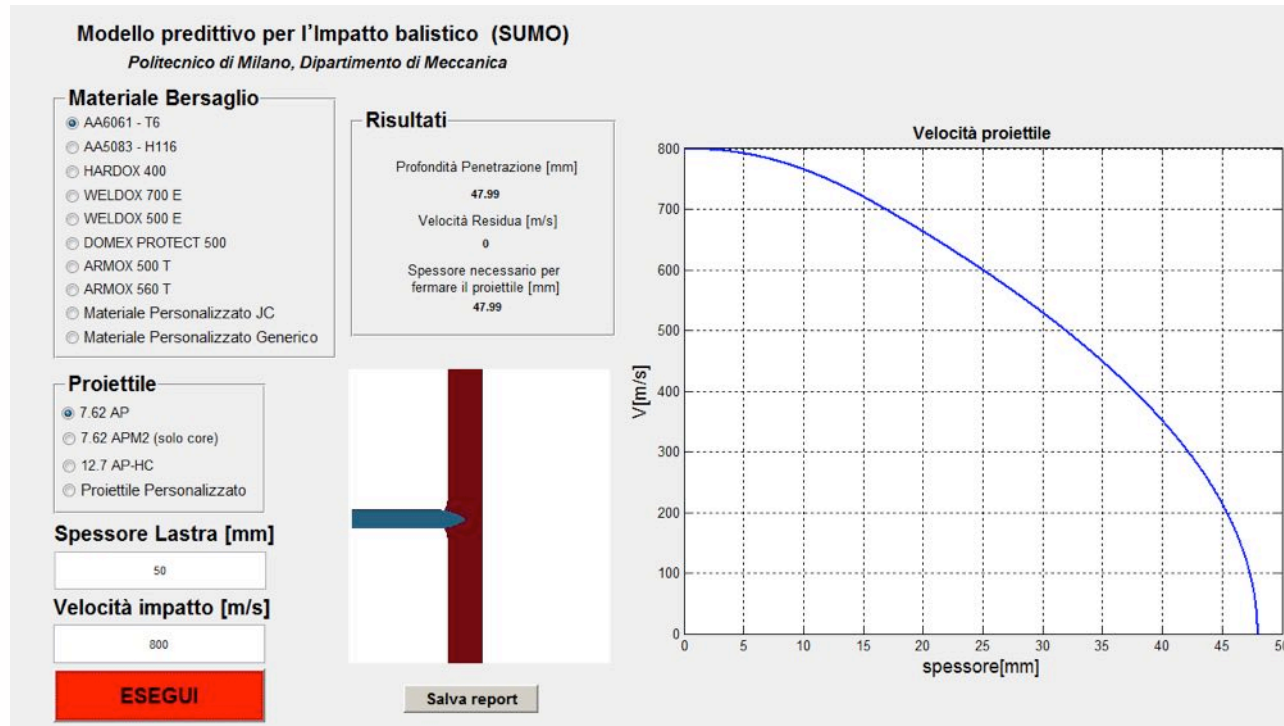
Generalized methodology for calibration of material constants



Model based on spherical-cavity expansion

Numerical FE Models. Very accurate capable to replicate not only velocity and energy features but also shape and damage morphology





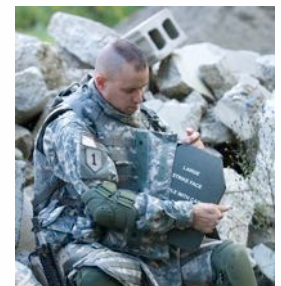
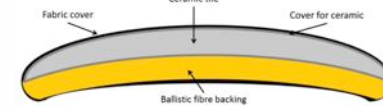
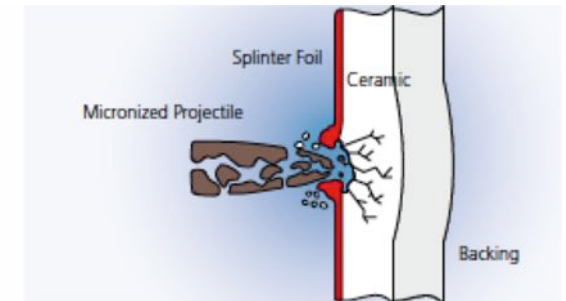
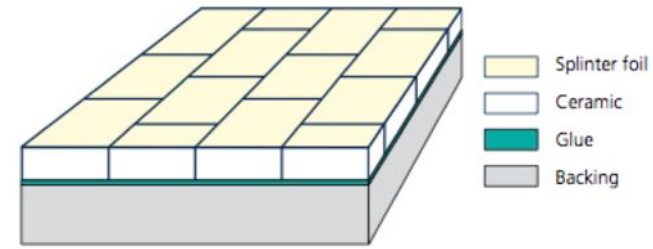
The final result of the SUMO project is the generation of a software application for the design of ballistic protections (armour). It's fitted for mono-layer metallic armour but a simplified approach for multilayer metallic armour has also been evaluated. The programme runs on a Windows platform and can be used for industrial purposes delivering reliable and effective data for preliminary design purposes

# SUMO2 Multilayer armor (composite- metallic - ceramic) - work in progress

Design of **multilayer protection** have to satisfy several requirements regarding the **level of protection**, the **weight**, the **cost** and the **fitting**, etc

At present, **ceramic, composite** and also a small layer of **metal** material can be used in conjunction to satisfy this goal. **Past experience and experimental tests** play a key role in the proper selection and evaluation of armour but the **high level of uncertainties and the variability and range of the threats** makes the correct tailoring a very complex task.

**SUMO2** is aimed to the development of **predictive methods** as “virtual test” in order to define an affective procedure to select the most appropriate materials and layer arrangement, thus performing an **optimal and tailored design** according the type of threats for which the protection is required.



# SUMO 2

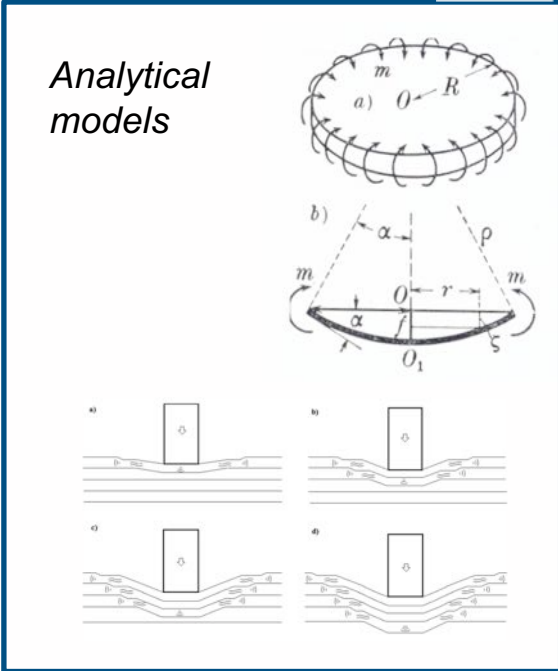
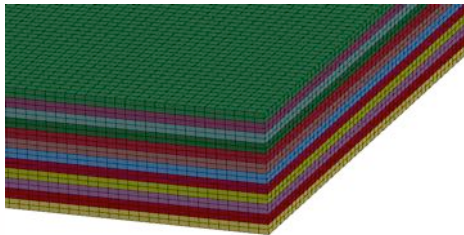
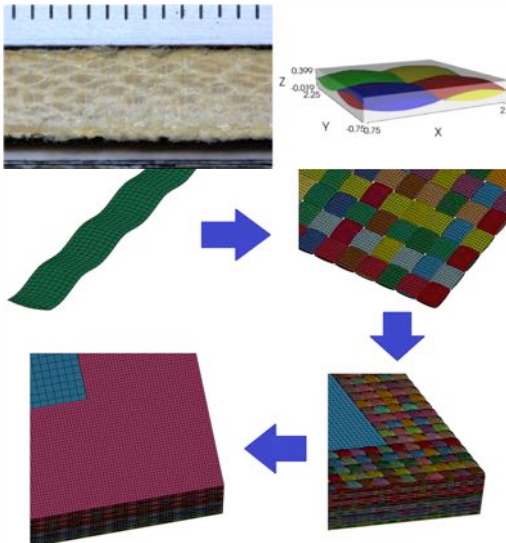
## Step 1, focus on single material: composite

Development and experimental validation of predictive models aimed to simulate the most used composite materials: Kevlar<sup>®</sup>29 and Dynema HB50 targets



**Macro-homogenous:** every layer composing the plates is assumed a homogenous material, without distinction between yarns and the matrix; hence, physical properties are homogenous, the same in every point of the layer, but with orthotropic mechanical properties.

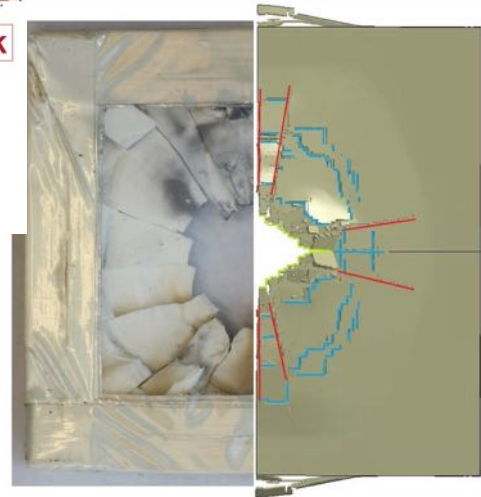
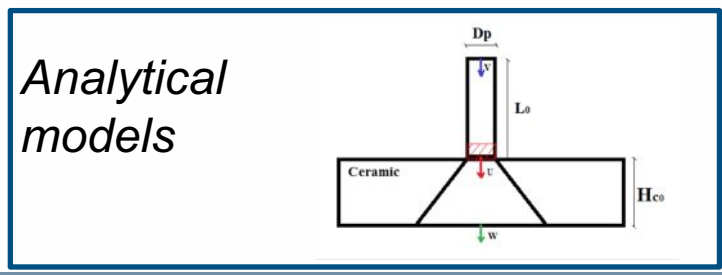
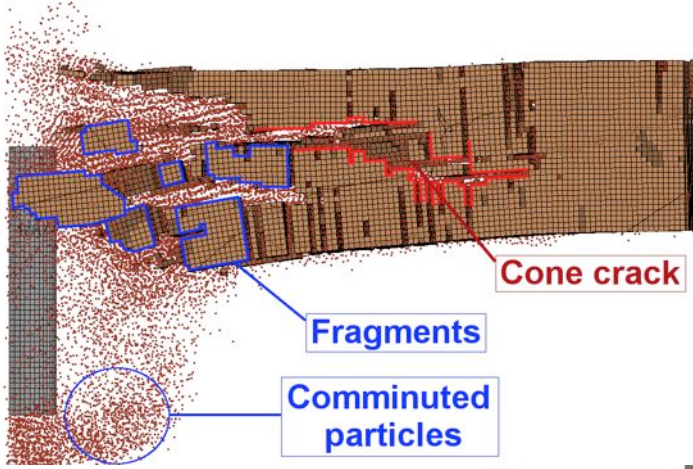
**Meso-heterogeneous:** the yarns and the matrix are reproduced individually



# SUMO 2

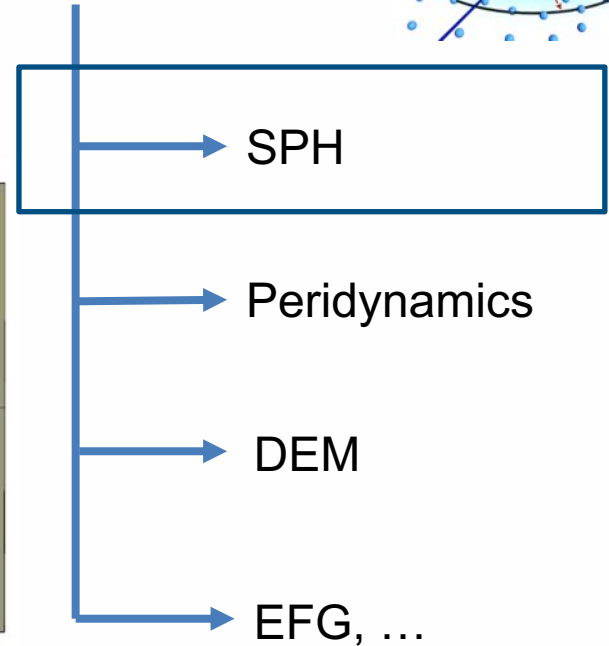
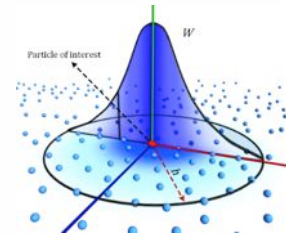
## Step 1, focus on single material: ceramic

- Numerical innovative approaches to reproduce large fragmentation both of the bullet and the ceramic tiles
- **Ceramic tile failure simulated by mean of an adaptive solid mesh to SPH**



## Meshfree methods

No predefined connections.  
 Shape functions definition depends only on node position.

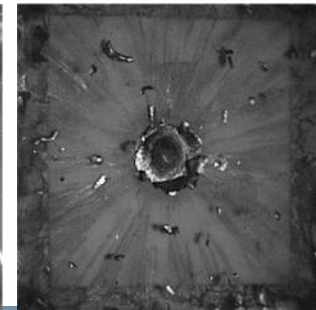
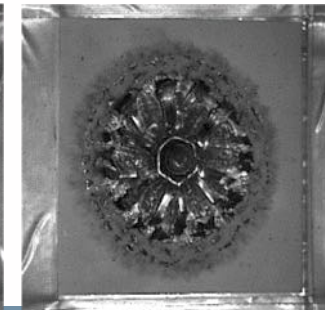
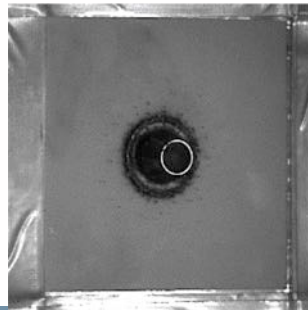
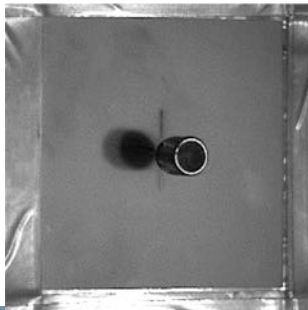
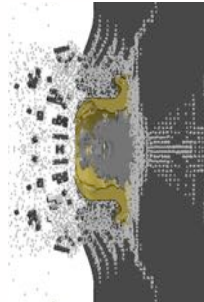
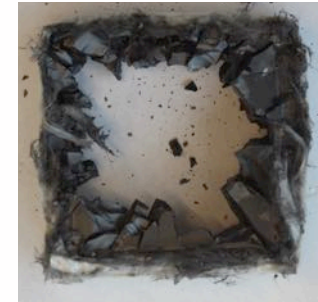
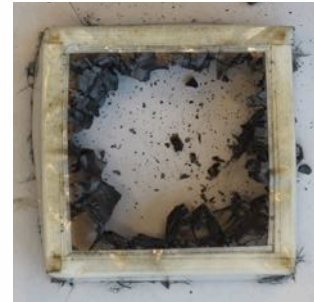
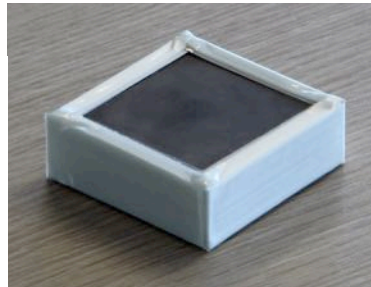
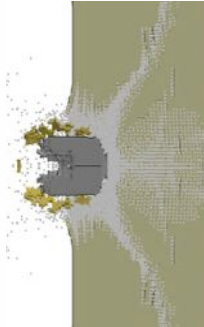
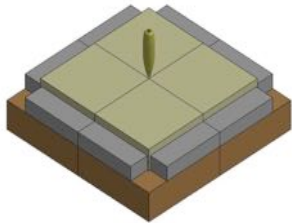
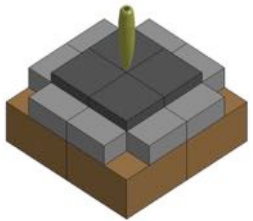




## SUMO 2

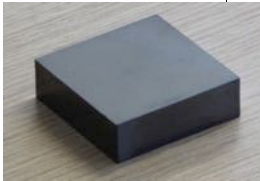
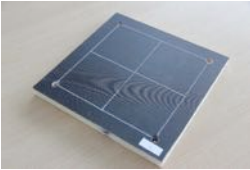
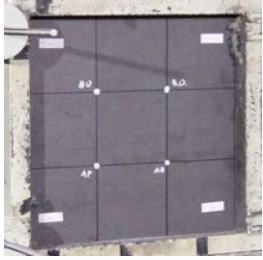
## Step 1, focus on single material: ceramic

- Experimental validation
- **Alumina 99%**
- **Silica carbide**



# SUMO 2

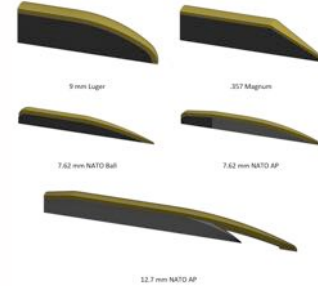
## Step 1, focus on actual threats



Material	Sub-category	Treat
Metals	Monolayer: Ramor 500	7.62 mm NATO Ball 7.62 mm NATO AP
	Multilayer: Ramor 500 + AA6061-T6	7.62 mm NATO Ball 7.62 mm NATO AP 12.7 mm NATO AP
Composite	Kevlar 29/Epoxy	9 mm Luger .357 Magnum 7.62 mm NATO Ball 7.62 mm NATO AP
	Dyneema HB50	9 mm Luger 7.62 mm NATO Ball 7.62 mm NATO AP 12.7 mm NATO AP
Ceramic	Allumina	9 mm Luger 7.62 mm NATO Ball 7.62 mm NATO AP 12.7 mm NATO AP
	Silica Carbide	9 mm Luger 7.62 mm NATO Ball 7.62 mm NATO AP



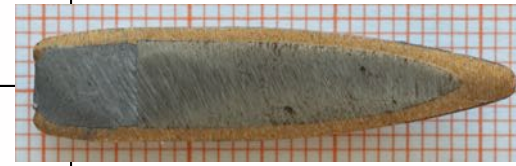
**9mm  
Luger**



**0.357  
Magnum**



**7.62mm NATO  
Ball**



**7.62mm  
NATO AP**

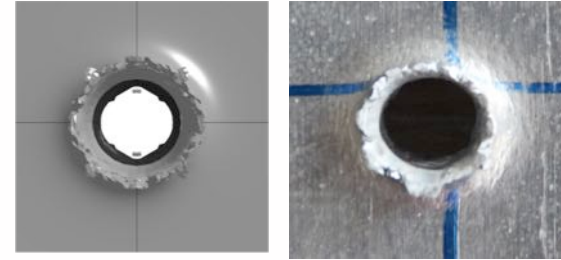
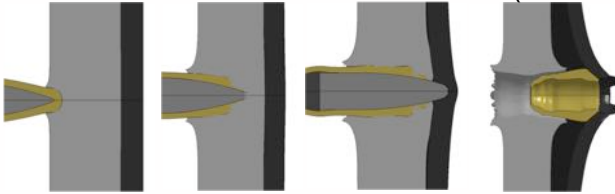


**12.7mm  
NATO AP**

# SUMO 2

## Step 1, focus on single material: assessment

Protection: 10 mm AA6061-T6 Plate + 3 mm Ramor 500 Plate  
 Threat: 7.62 mm NATO AP at 820 m/s (EN1522 FB7 Class)

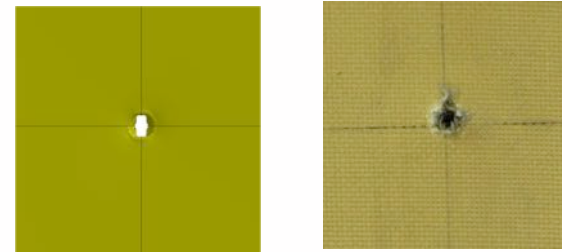
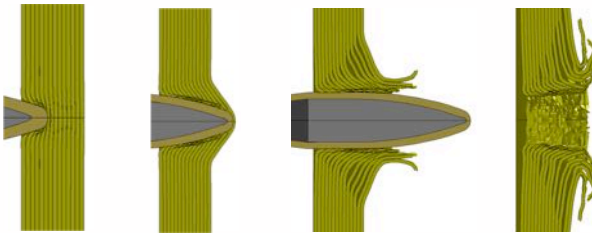


Experimental: 655.13 m/s

Analytical: 753 m/s

Numerical: 644.10 m/s

Protection: 6.5 mm Kevlar29/Epoxy Panel (14 Layers)  
 Threat: 7.62 mm NATO AP at 820 m/s (EN1522 FB7 Class)

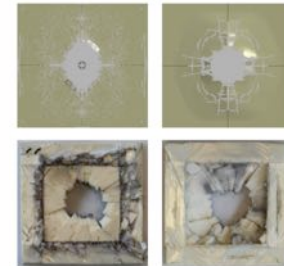
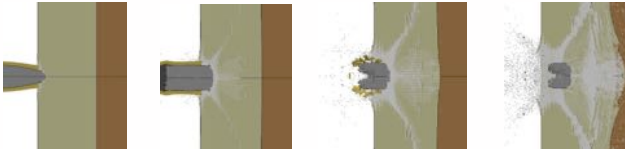


Experimental: 807.16 m/s

Analytical: 776.1 m/s

Numerical: 797.89 m/s

Protection: 15 mm Alumina Plate  
 Threat: 7.62 mm NATO AP at 817 m/s



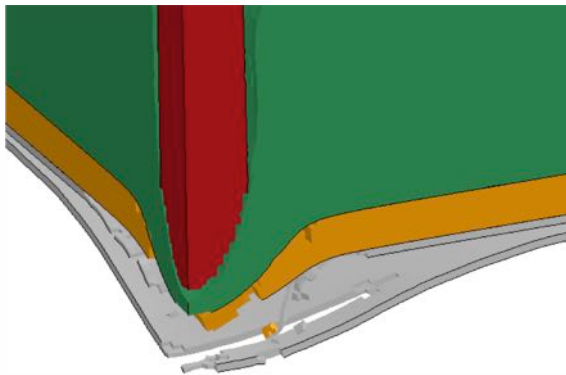
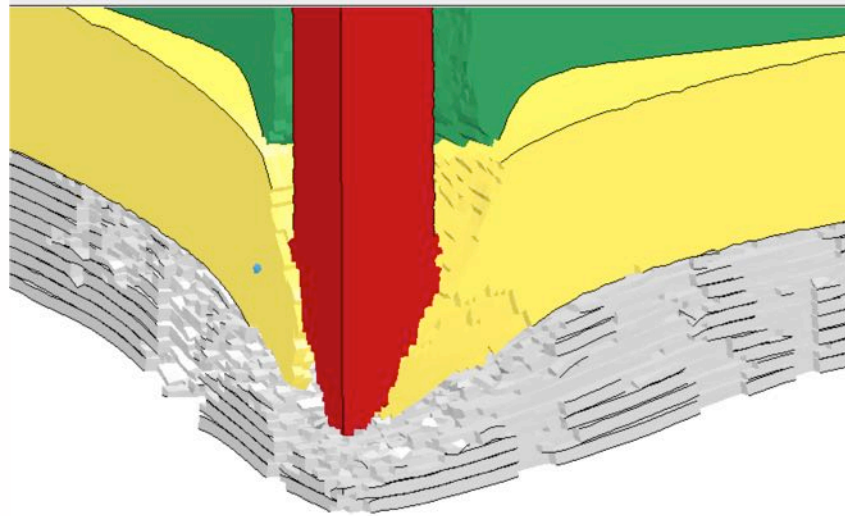
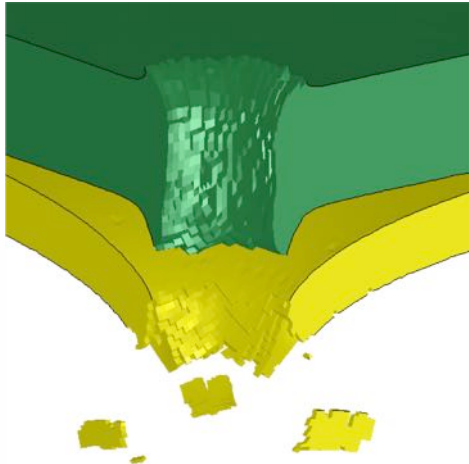
Experimental: 76.17 m/s


Analytical: 309.8 m/s

Numerical: 186 m/s

## Step 2 – multilayer protection – work in progress

Development of a complete predictive methods for multilayer protection

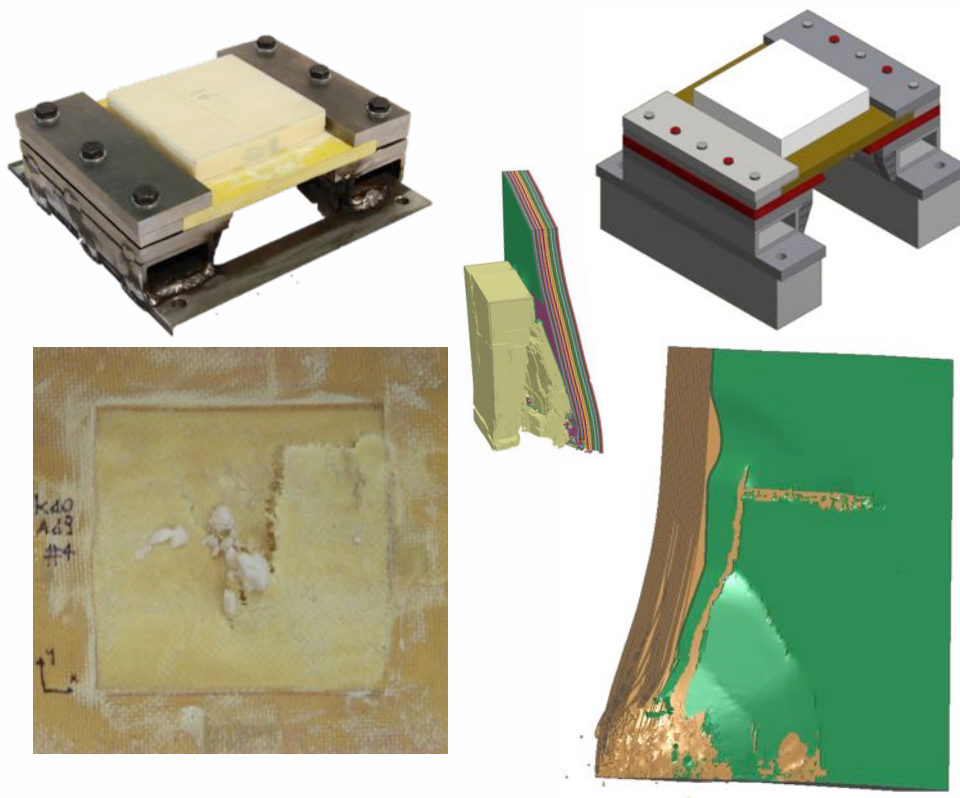


- Starting from the knowledge of the single material (phase 1)
  - Investigation in the interaction between several materials
  - Definition of predictive models for optimization process
- 
- **Reducing costs / uncertainties / development time**
  - **Increasing fitness for purposes**

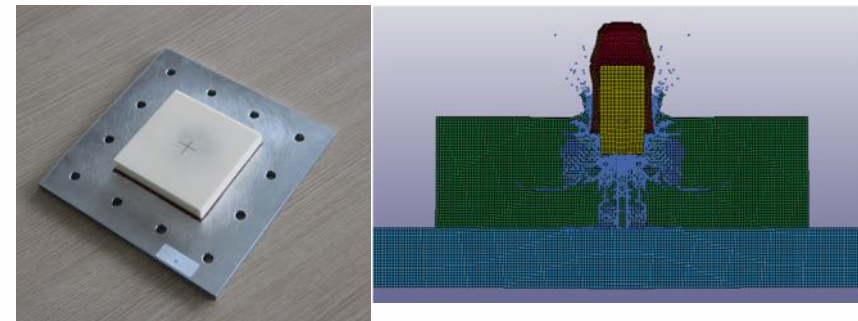
# Step 2 – multilayer protection – work in progress

## Multilayer ceramic – composite

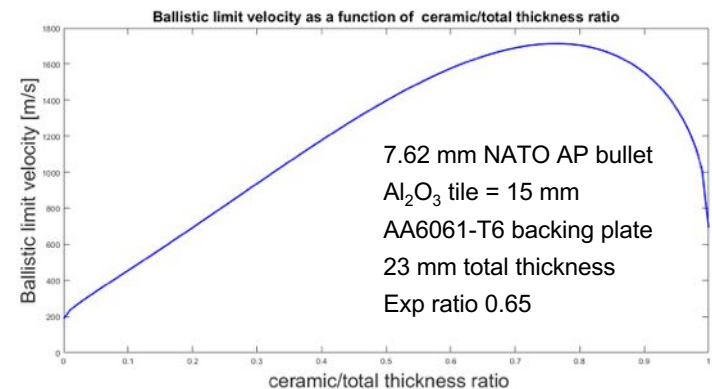
- Development of numerical and analytical modelling approaches with focus on fragmentation of the bullet



## Multilayer ceramic – metals



- Focus on optimization procedure

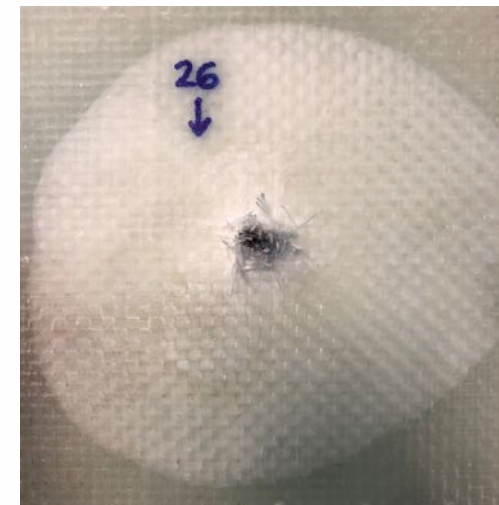


- Different type of composites materials are considered: kevlar-epoxy (with different technological process and microfiller), ballistic glass fiber
- Experimental tests on specimens for calibration of mechanical properties (tensile, three point bending, indentation).
- Exploitation in ballistic and low velocity impact



## Focus on nanofiller

- EM behaviour
- Structural behaviour

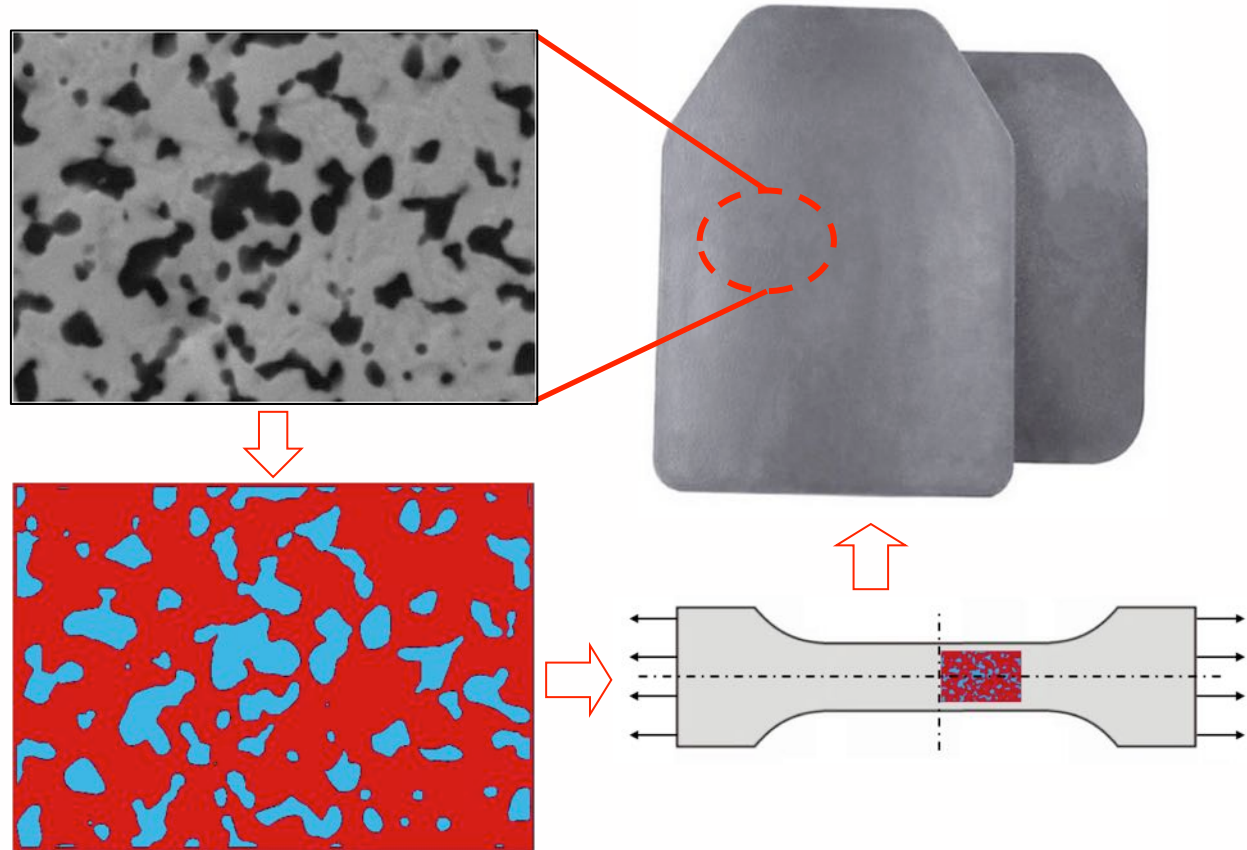


# Ceramic metal particle reinforced composite: a preliminary research on innovative promising technique

Development of Composite properties of macroscopic material from  
Constituent data in microstructured-based model for optimization purpose

Material:  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{Ti}$   
particle reinforced  
composite

Process technology:  
Spark Plasma Sintering

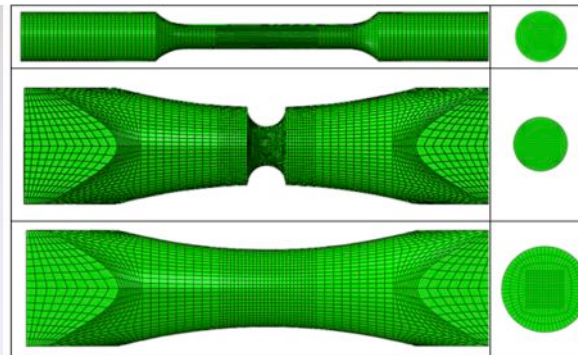
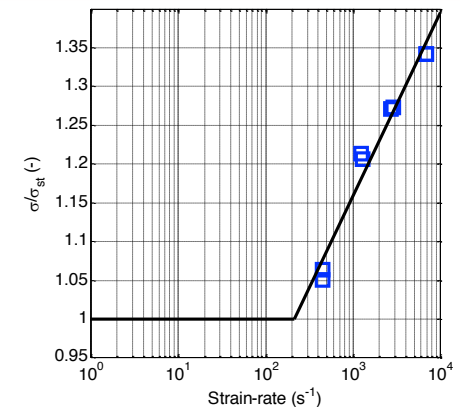
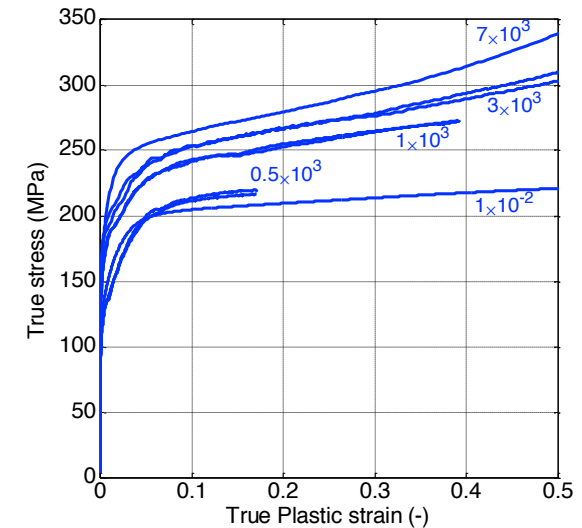


# Basic and applied research on Explosion Material Calibration

Several activities to simulate the explosion phenomena

**Confined explosion: in deep investigation on mechanical behavior of material of the confinement box**

- Plasticity
- Failure
- Strain rate and temperature dependency



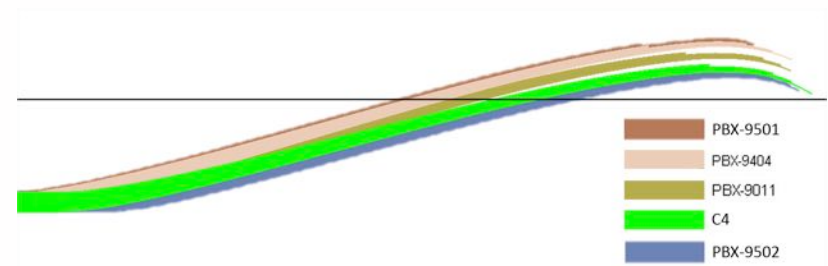
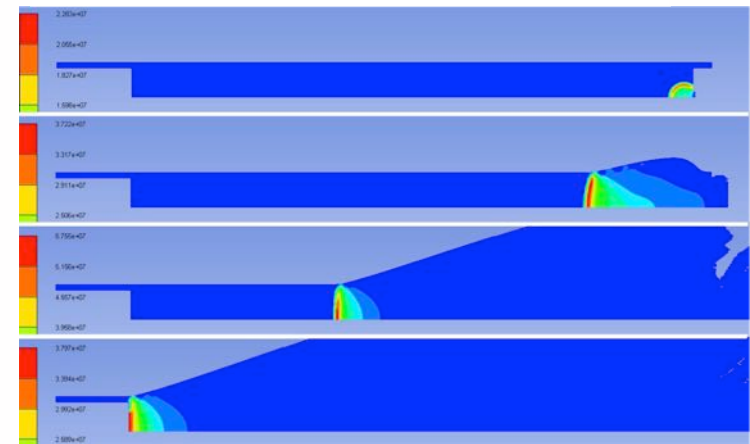
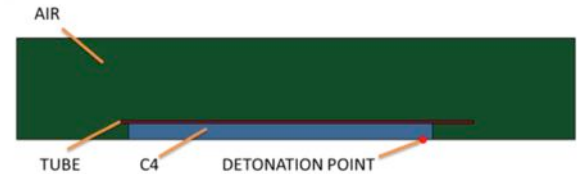
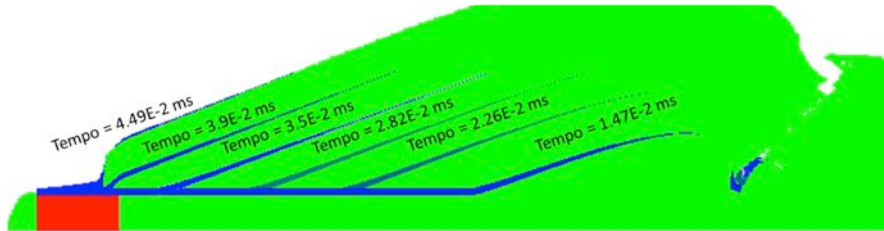
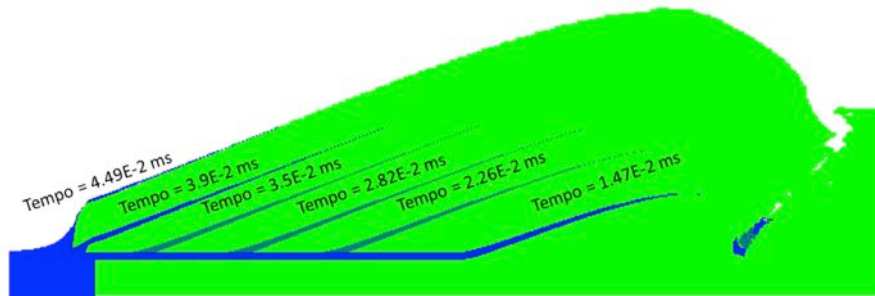


# Basic and applied research on Explosion Simulation of a Confined explosion

Several activities to simulate the explosion phenomena

Confined explosion

- Eulerian – Lagrangian analyses
- Investigation on several confinement options / type of explosive

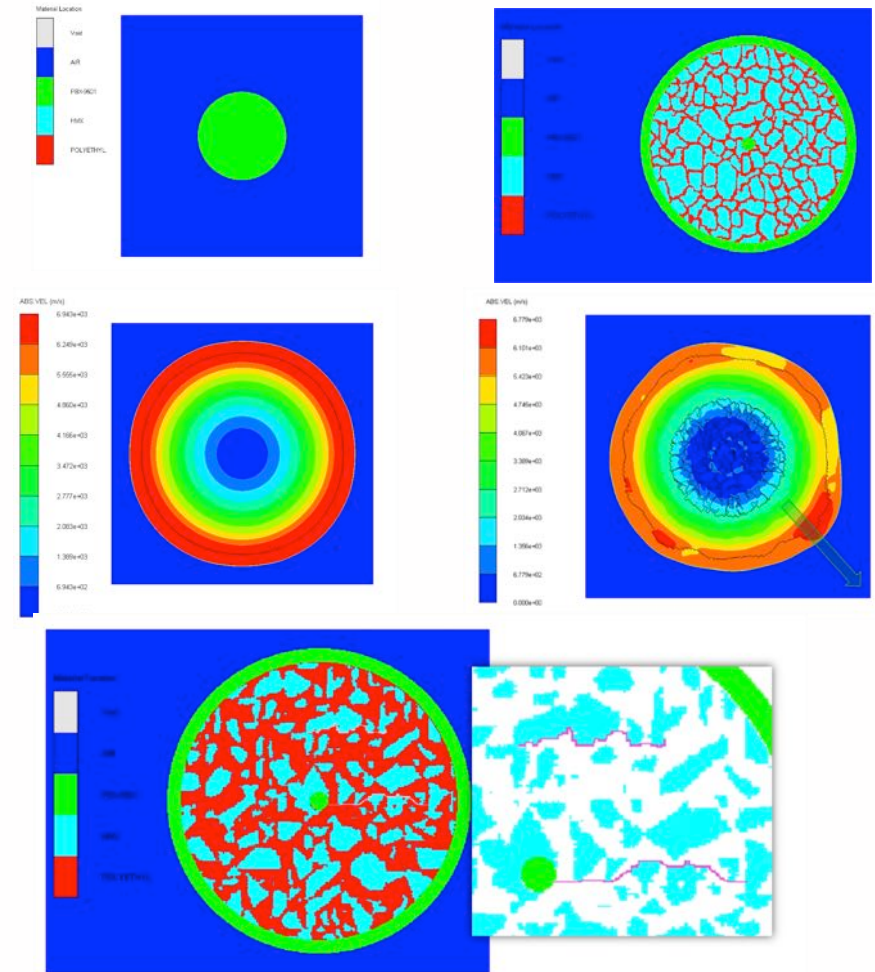
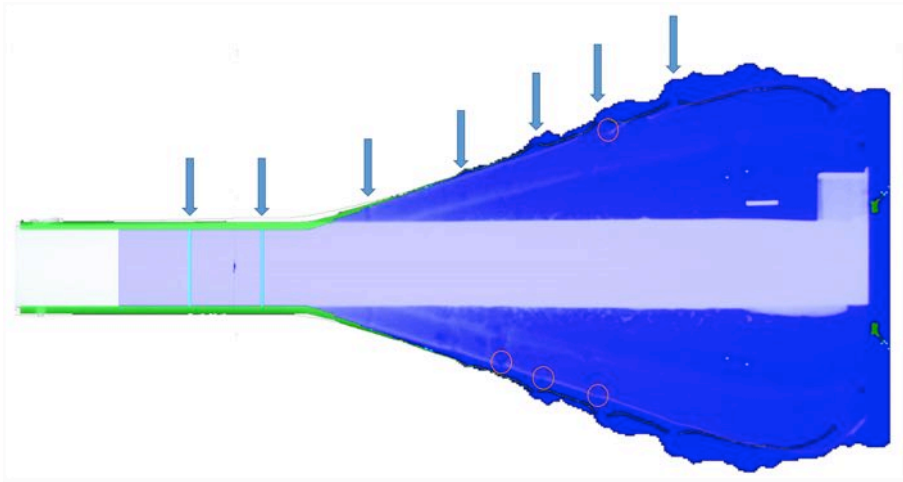


# Basic and applied research on Explosion Simulation of a Confined explosion

Several activities to simulate the explosion phenomena

Confined explosion

- Effect of the inhomogeneity's in the PBX, presence of internal cracks
- Comparison with experimental data



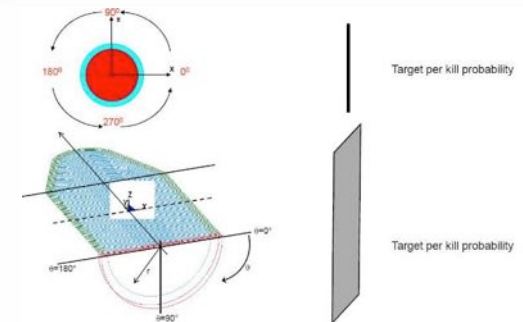
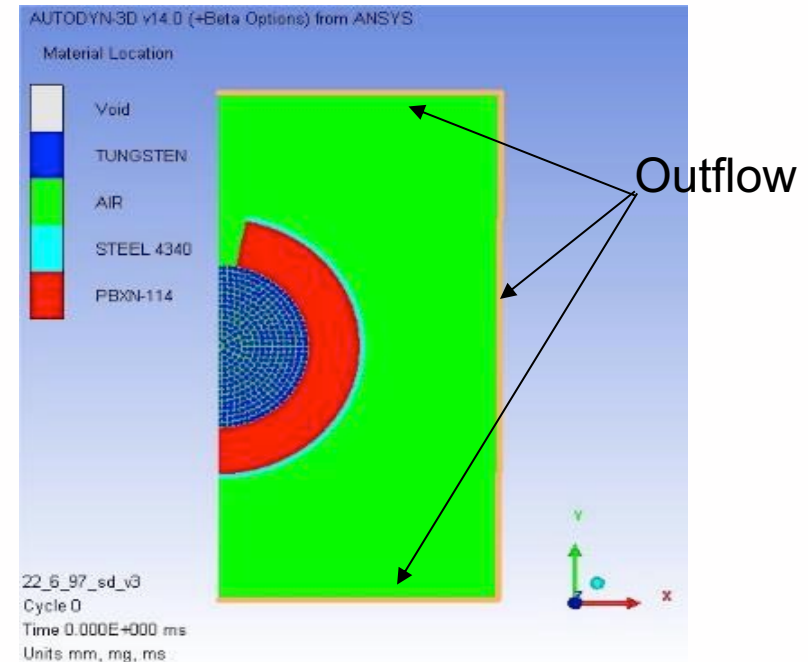
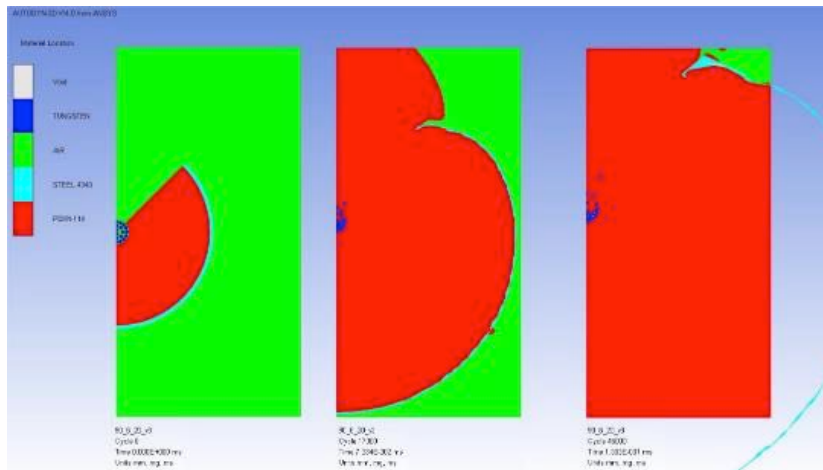
# Basic and applied research on Explosion Simulation of a Directional explosion

Several activities to simulate the explosion phenomena

Directional explosion

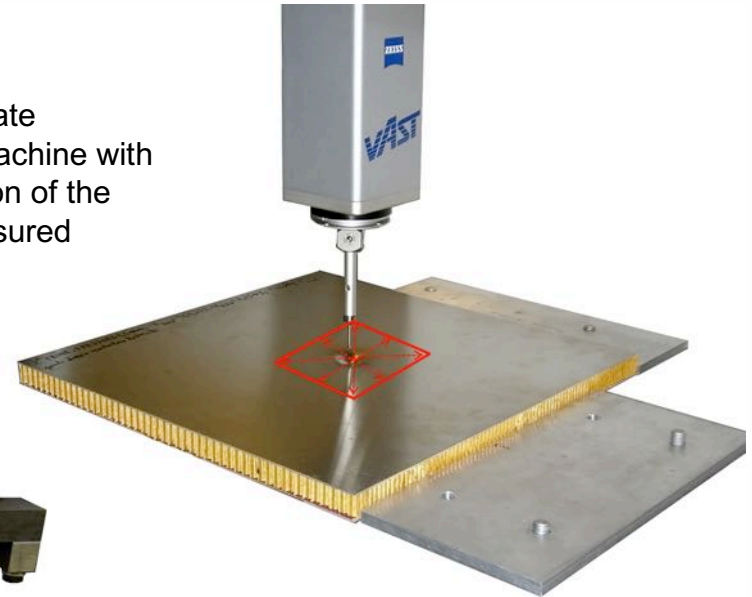
Analyses on:

- Detonation points
- Rod diameters
- Aperture angles
- Analyses of the target kill probability

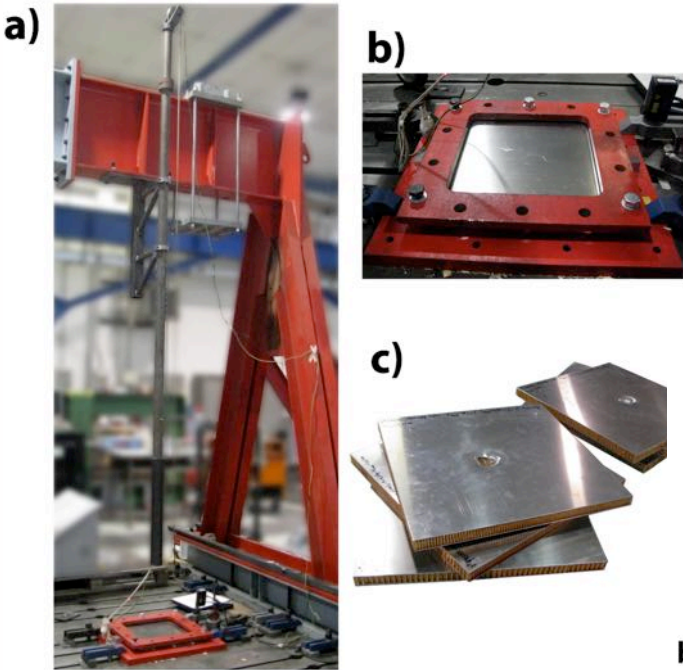


## Impact and CAI test: Complete set-up, design and manufacturing of the test rigs.

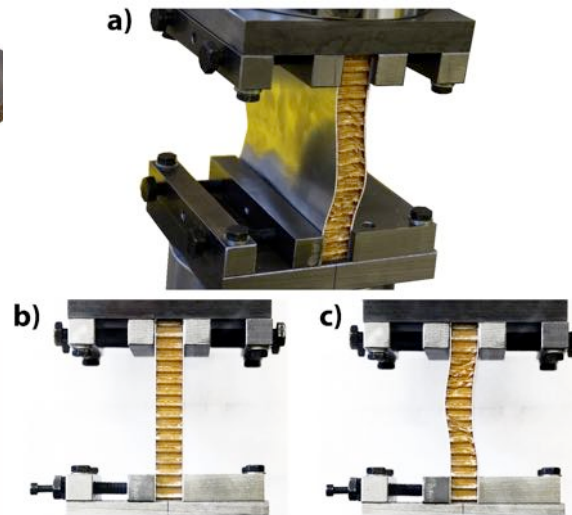
2) Coordinate measure machine with the indication of the profile measured paths.



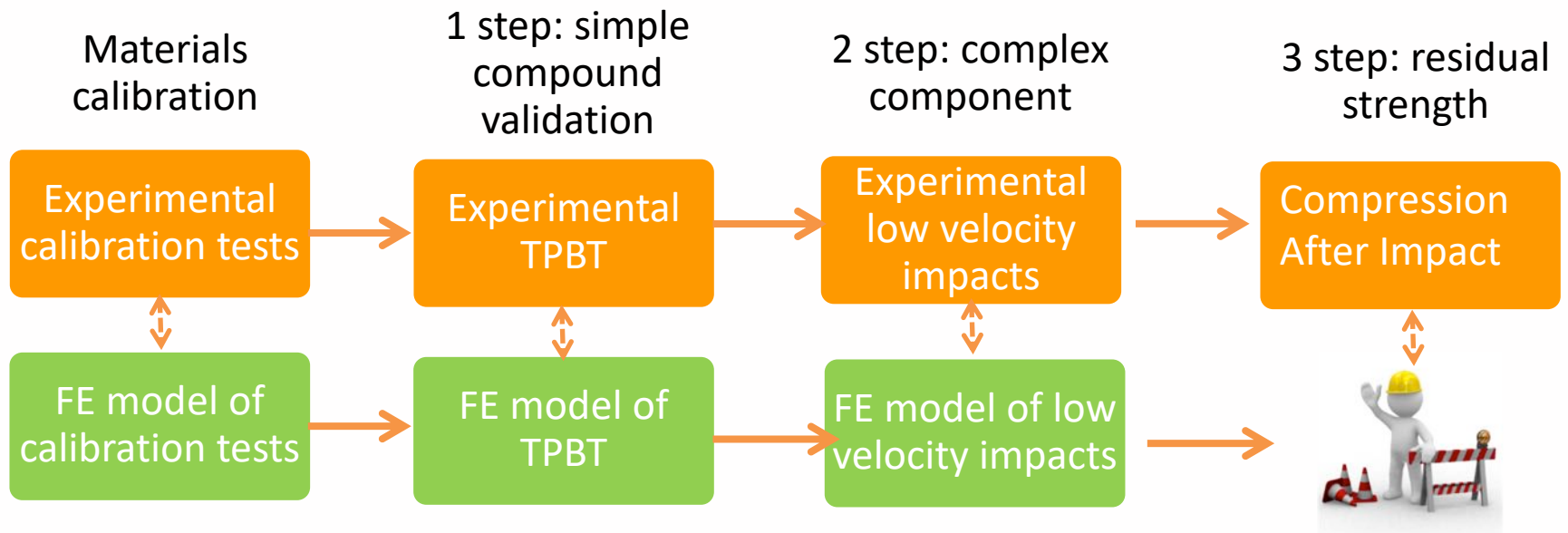
3) Compression After Impact (CAI) test, (a) Prospective view of a sandwich panel specimen and the gripping system during a compression test, (b) orthogonal view of an uncompressed panel and (c) orthogonal view of a compressed panel.

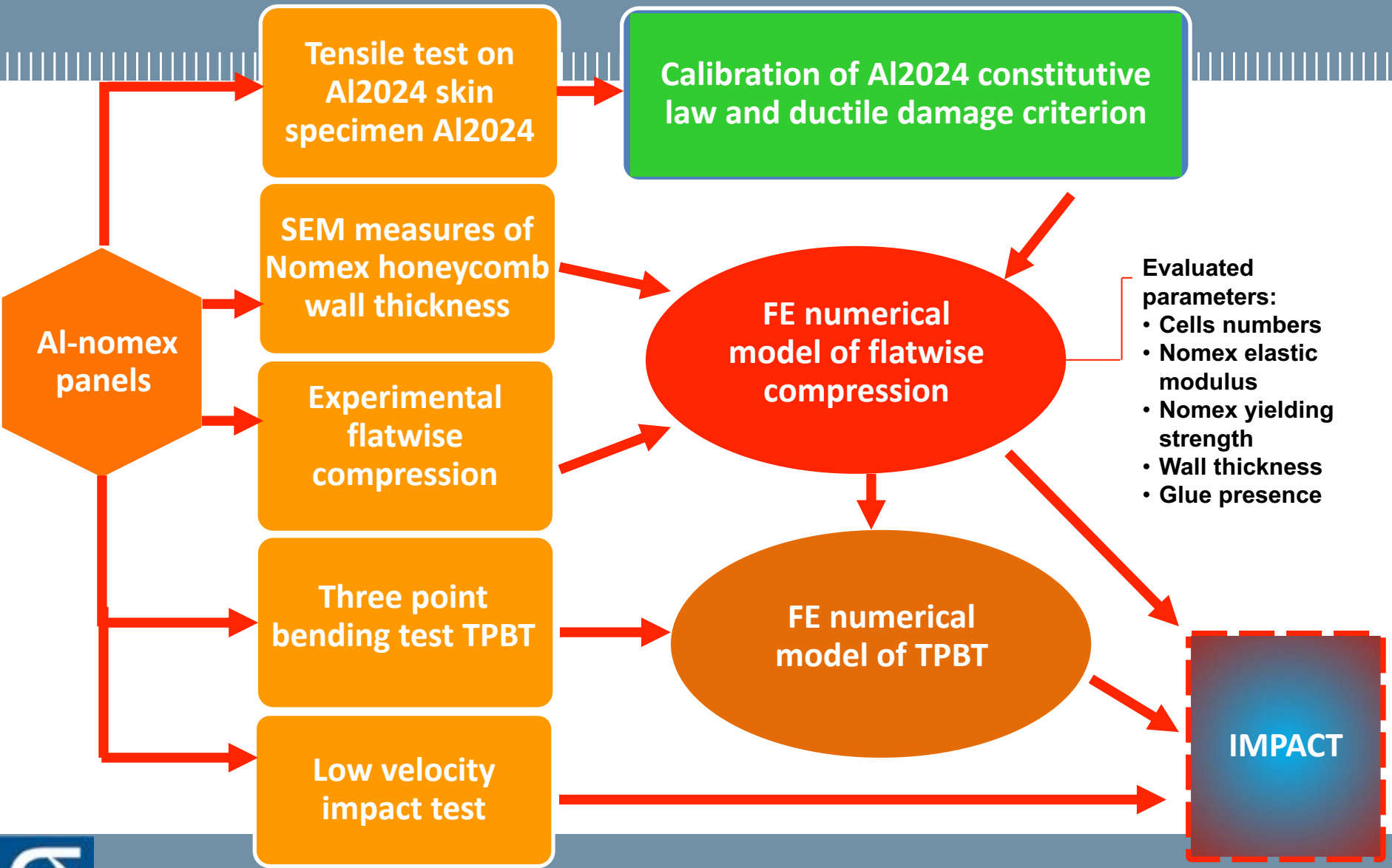


1) (a) test rig for the drop test; (b) focus on the rigid frame for panel grounding and (c) examples of sandwich panel specimens after impact tests.

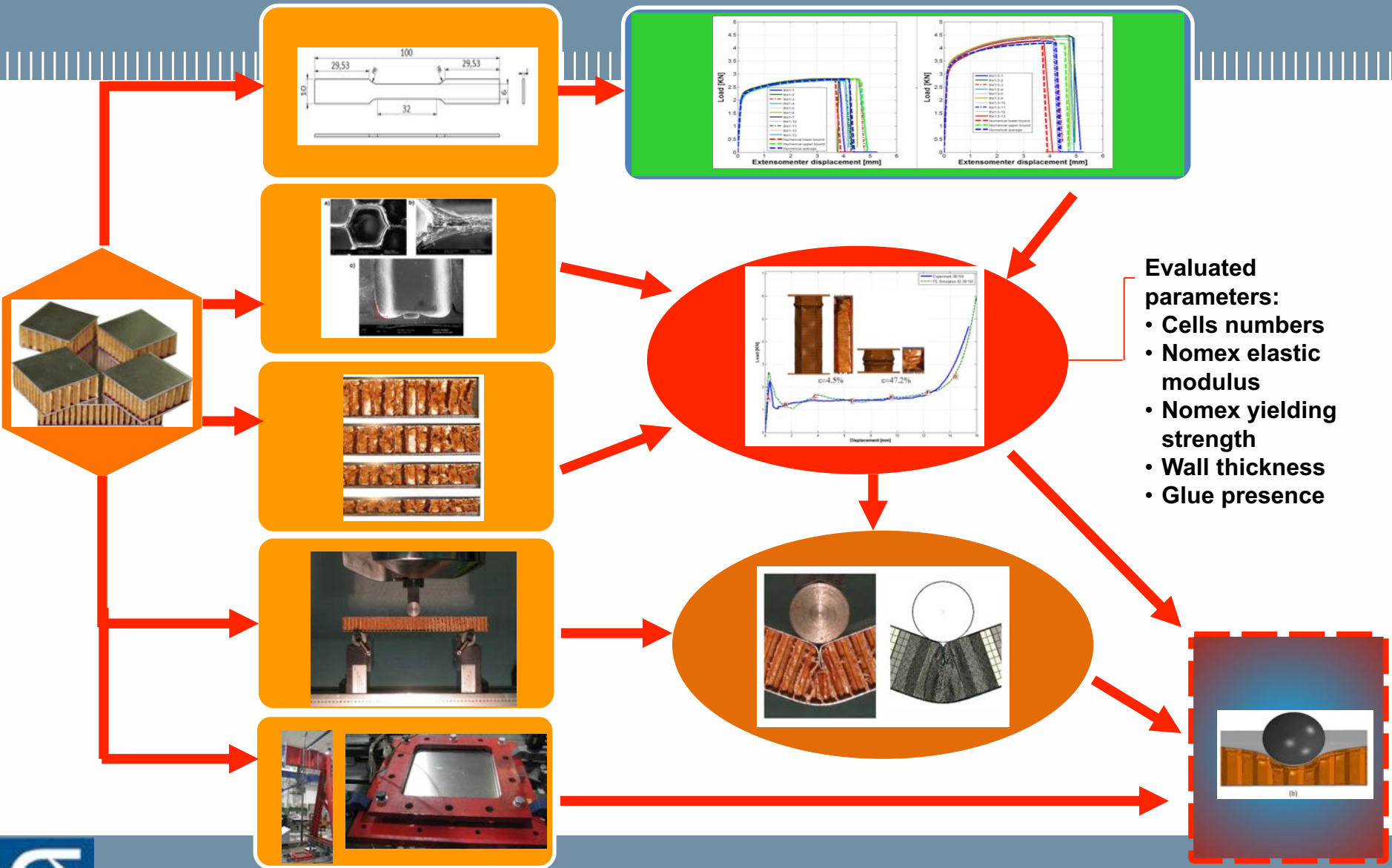


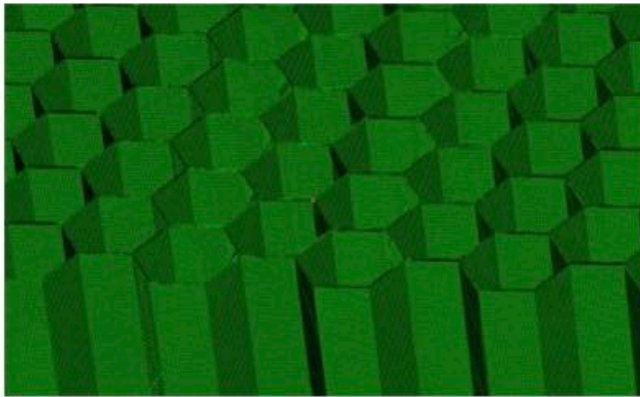
- The final research objective is to create **versatile finite element models able to reproduce damage at a micromechanical level for low velocity impacts**.
- The idea is to **highlight a methodology** in order to build a complex model (for impacts), validating it **step by step**, increasing the complexity level of the simulation
- At present the numerical models were exploited comparing numerical results of low velocity impacts with data obtained from an experimental campaign (in the future CAI)



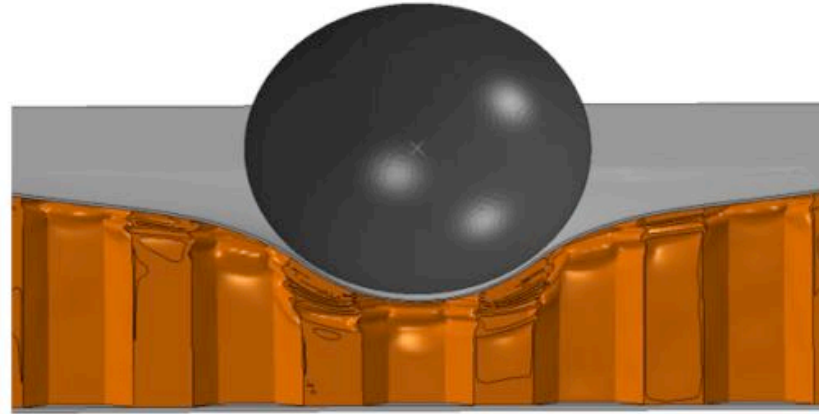


# Other cases: low velocity impact (numerical)

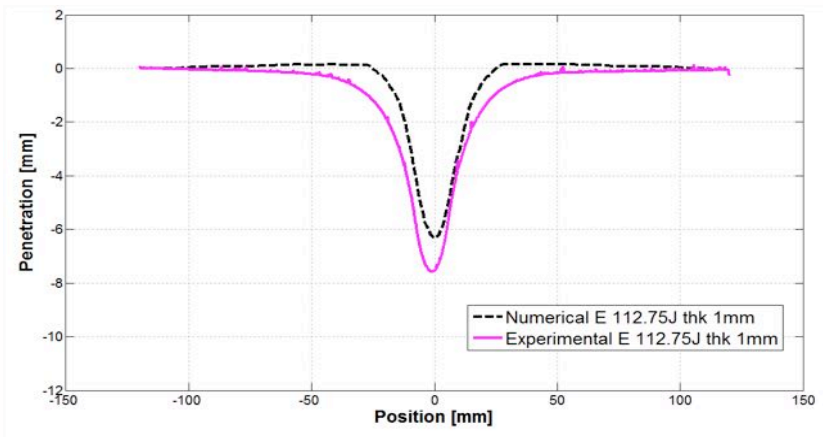




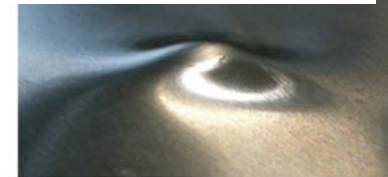
(a)



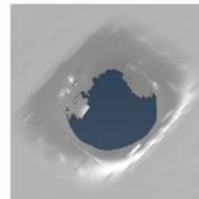
(b)



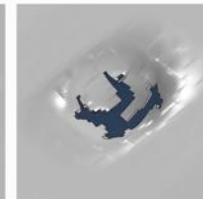
a)



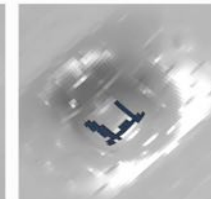
b)



c)



d)



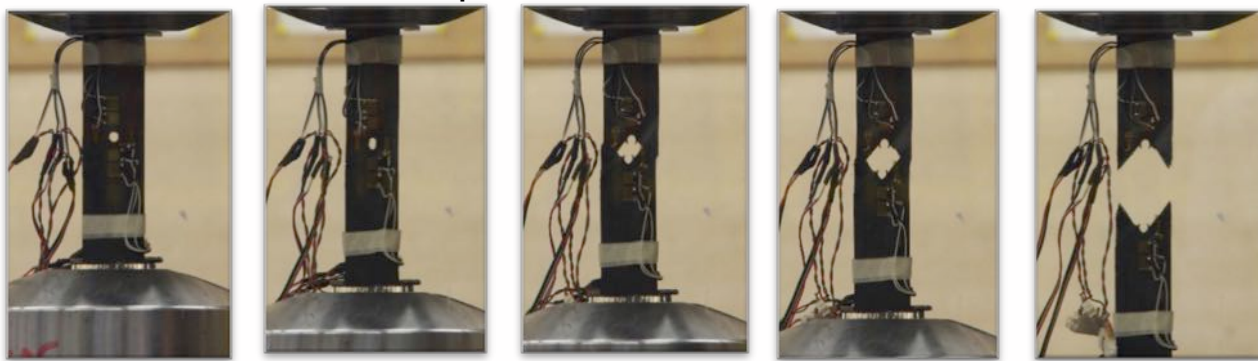
e)

Onset of failure 185J exp vs 173J FEM



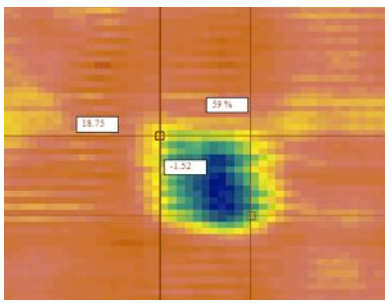
# Other cases: low velocity impact on sensorised CFRP panel (work in progress)

Impact on Monitored CFRP plate starting from an accurate mechanical characterization of laminated carbon fibre composites

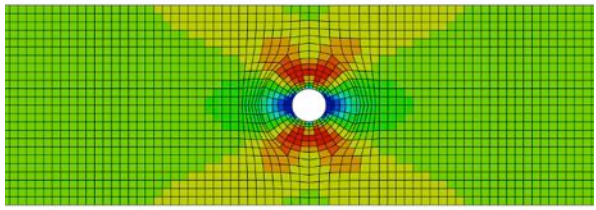


• Tensile test on notched specimen

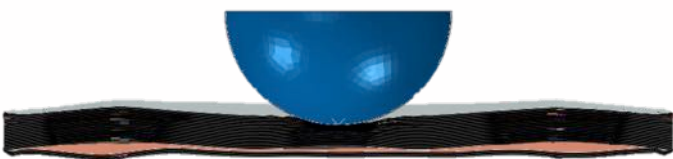
• NDT



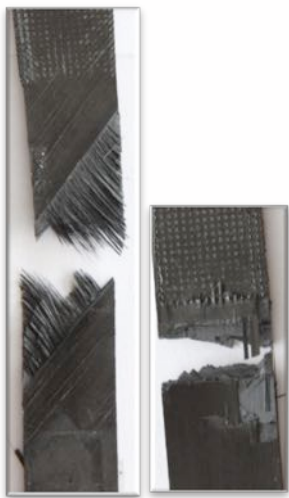
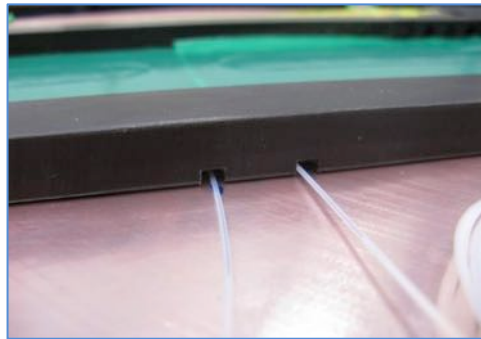
• Virtual test



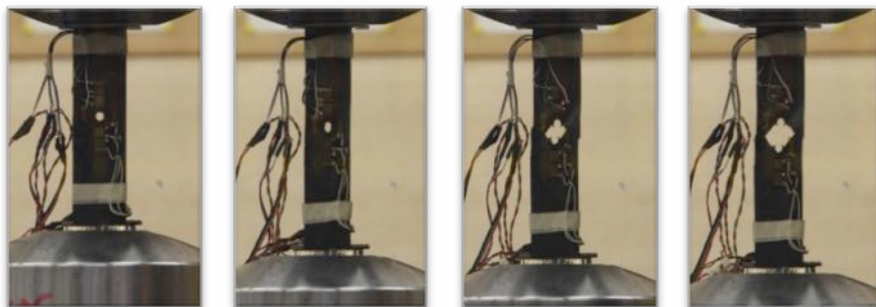
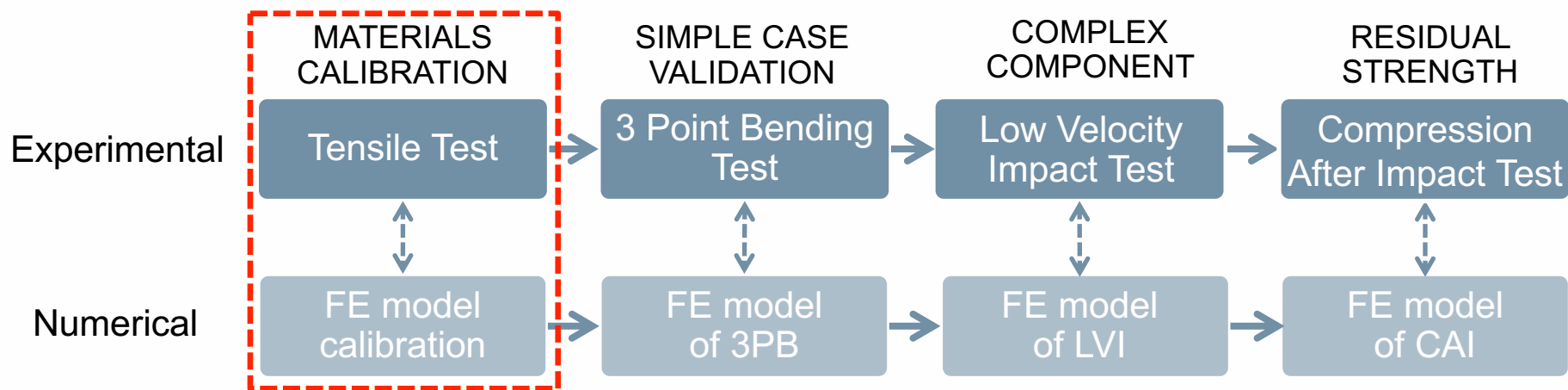
• FE model of low velocity impacts



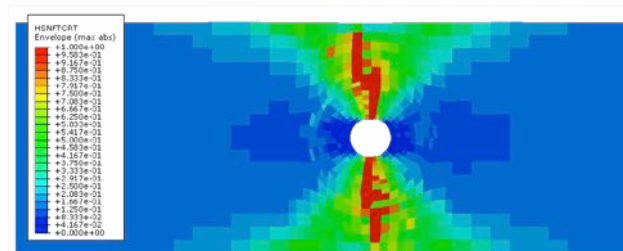
• Embedded sensors (FBG)



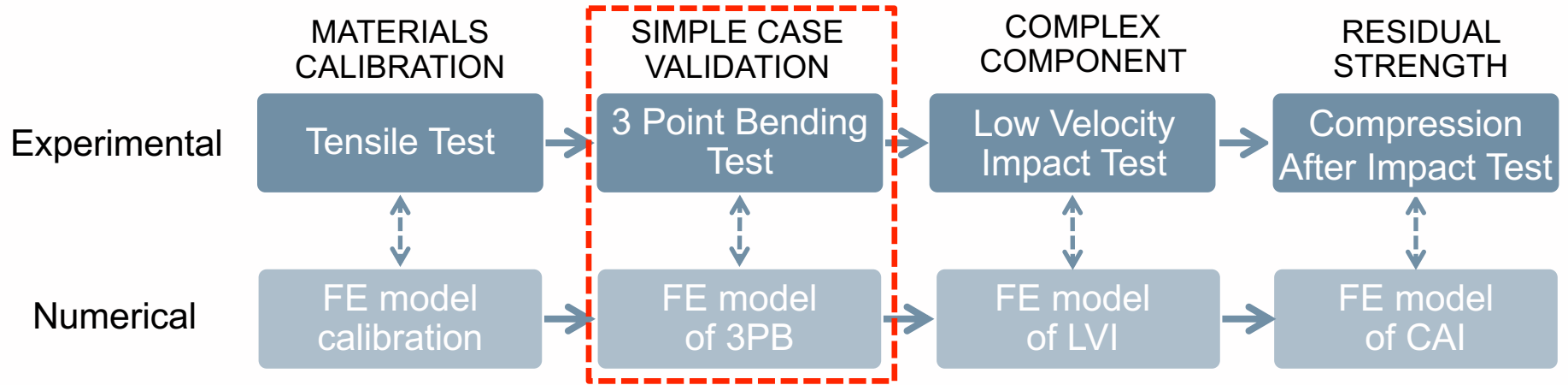
# Other cases: low velocity impact on sensorised CFRP panel (work in progress)



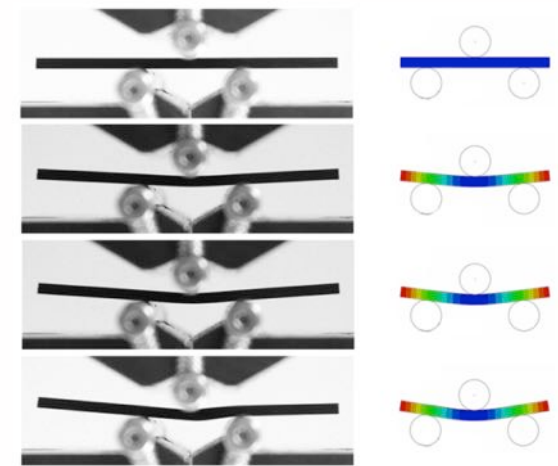
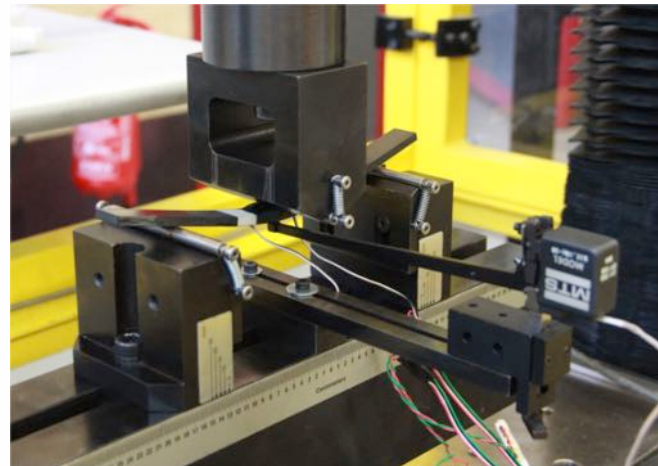
Tensile test on standard and open-hole specimens



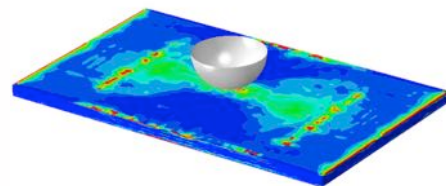
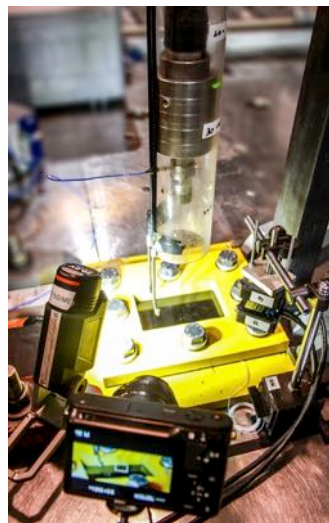
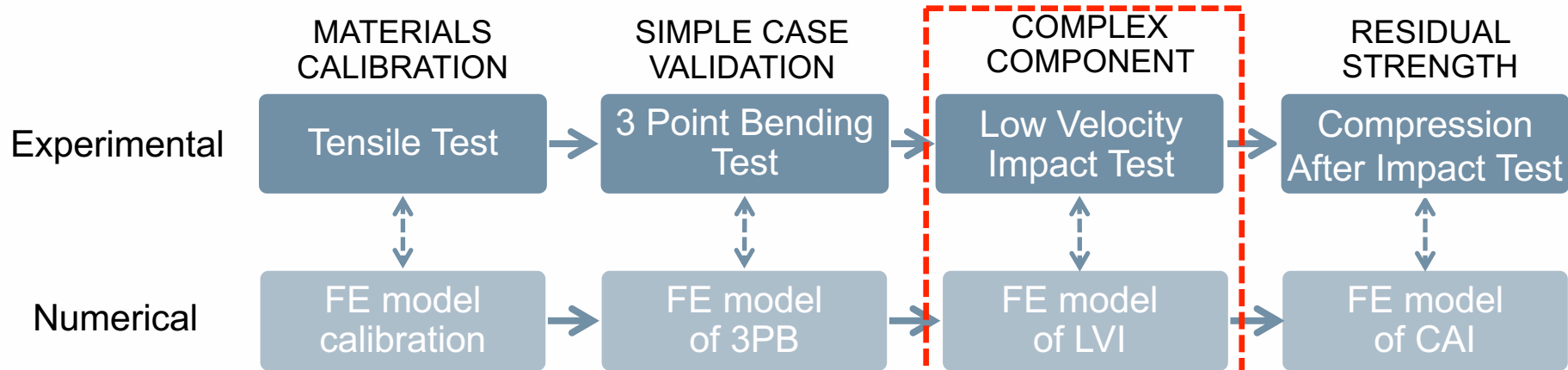
# Other cases: low velocity impact on sensorised CFRP panel (work in progress)



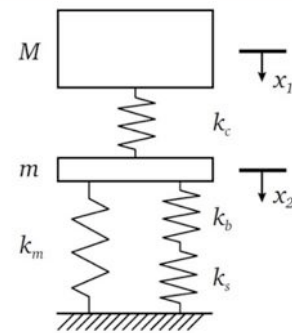
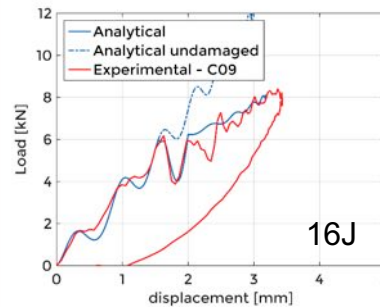
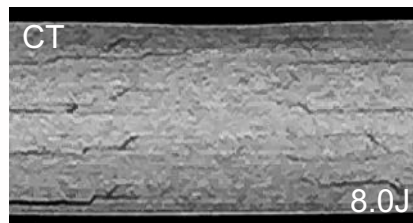
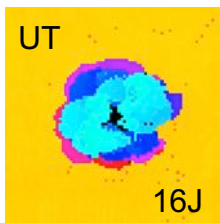
3 Point Bending Test with different span configurations



# Other cases: low velocity impact on sensorised CFRP panel (work in progress)

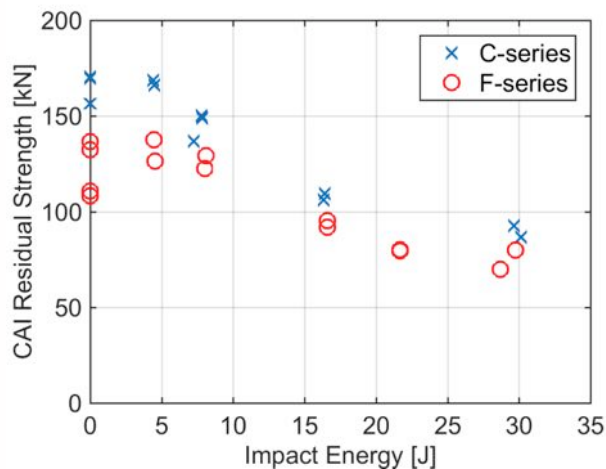
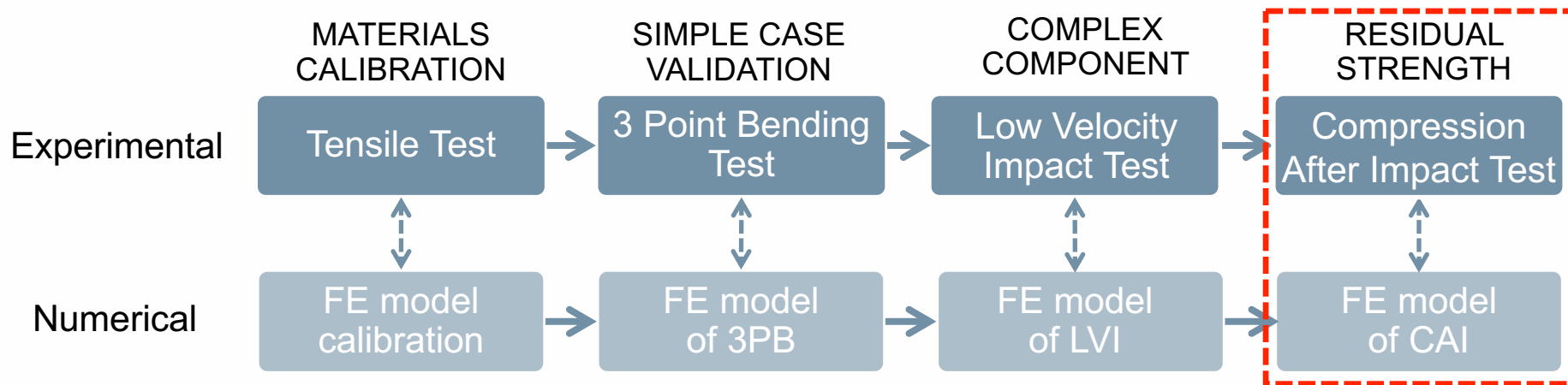


Ultrasonic and Computed Tomography Damage Assessment



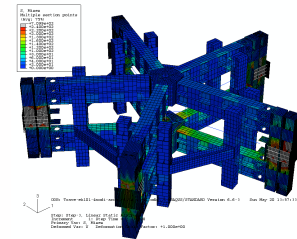
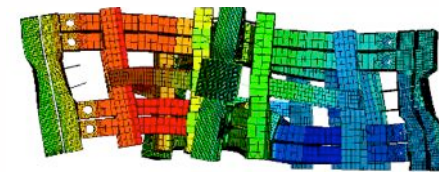
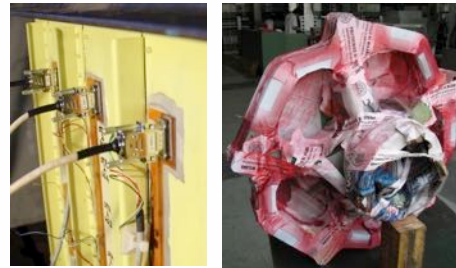
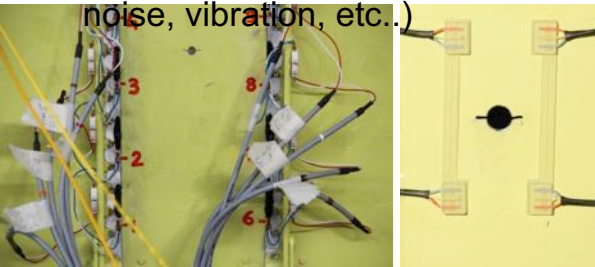
$$P_{cr} = \sqrt{\frac{32\pi^2 D^* G_{IIc}}{n + 2}}$$

# Other cases: low velocity impact on sensorised CFRP panel (work in progress)

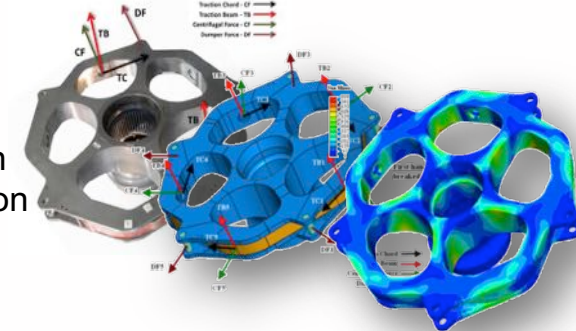


# Other cases: experimental tests

- Laboratory of Mechanical Department allow tests of specimens - components up to full scale large/complex systems
- Availability of: *servo hydraulic testing technology* (actuators and digital controls) – measurement system (forces, strain, displacement, accelerations, crack propagation, etc ) - *NDT Technologies – qualification certificates for testing procedure – dedicated and qualified personnel*
- Experiences with *design, installation and use of several sensors technologies* (Strain Gauges, Fiber brag, Crack gages, CVM, Lamb Waves, thermal, acoustic noise, vibration, etc..)

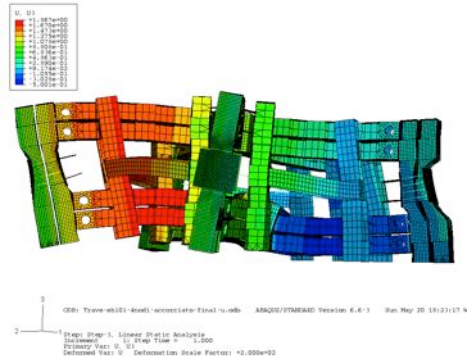


- Availability of *workshop service* for in house design and building of service structures and items to carry on innovative tests
- Advanced numerical modelling methodology for structural optimization/assessment (virtual testing) - Numerical simulations laboratory both for test rig assessment and optimization (also in critical condition) and correlation of the experimental data
- Dedicated long term experience on full scale helicopter components test
- Expertise in certification tests (FAA)

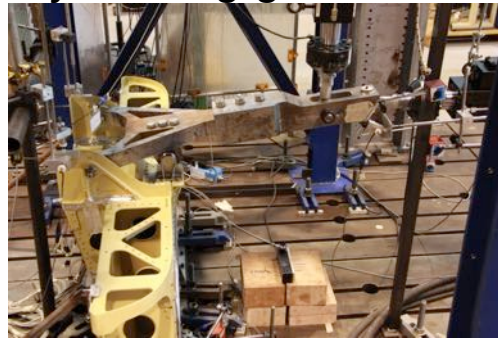
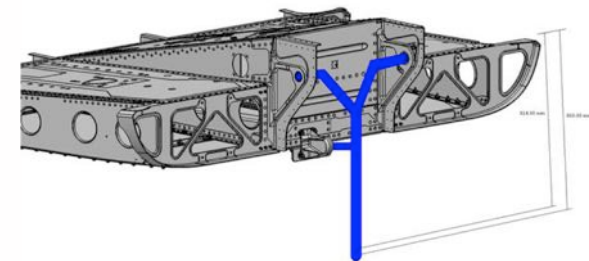


# Other cases: experimental tests

Static test of the AW101 composite MR/H: Set-up of the test and assessment by analysis of the test rig in case of actuator breakdown

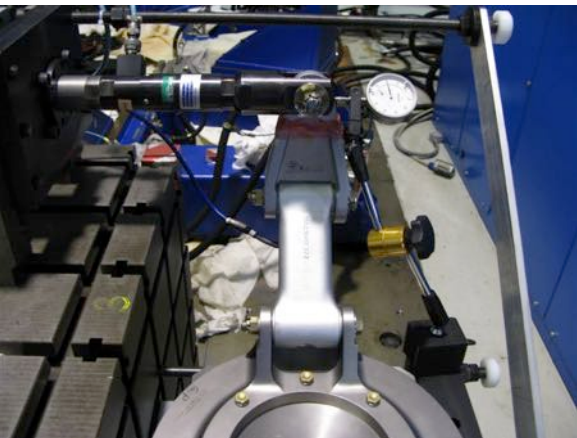


AW 169 Nose Landing Gear Installation Static Test: set up of the test, design and manufacturing of test rig and dummy landing gear.



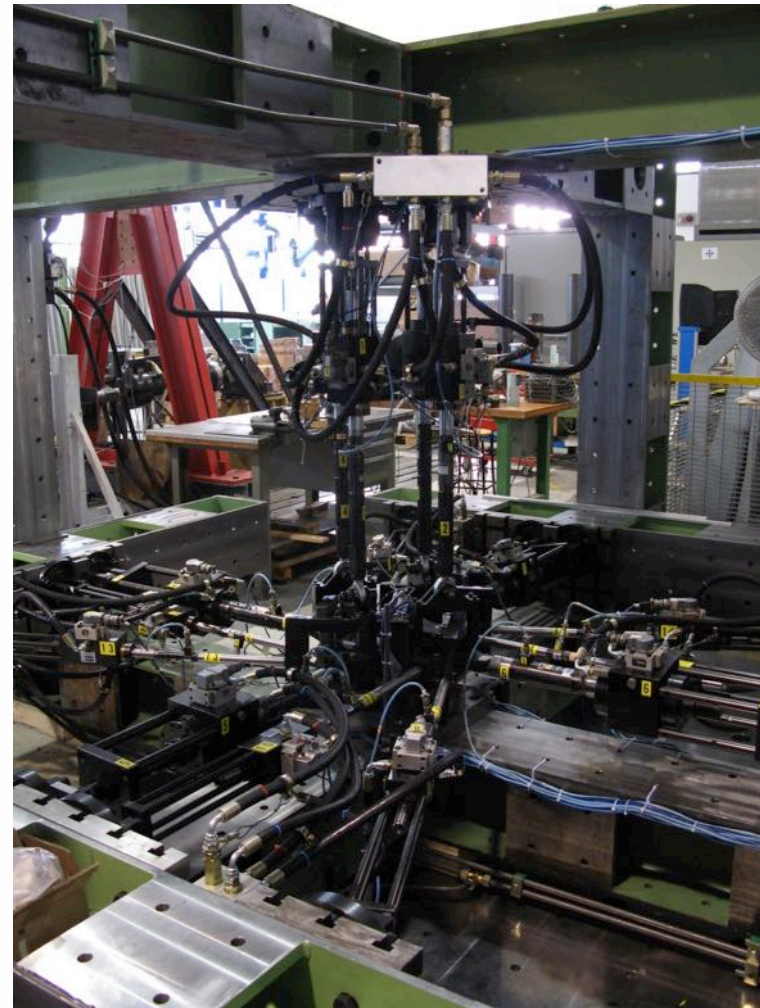


*AW 109  
Swashplate  
Rotating  
Assy  
Fatigue Test*



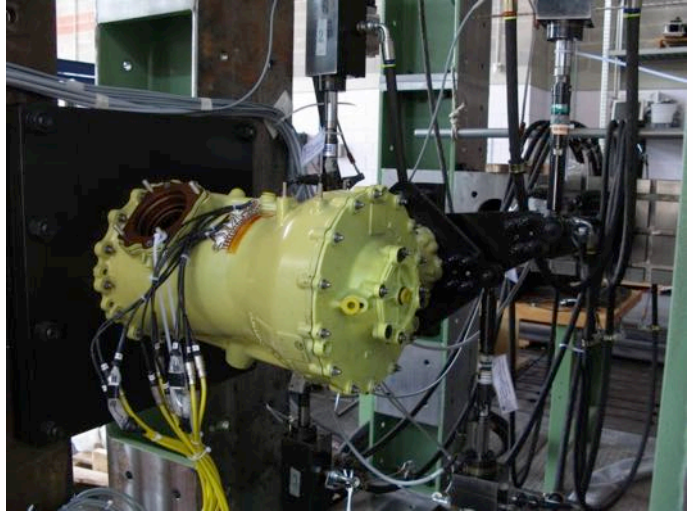
*AW 139  
M/R  
Lower  
Scissor  
Lever  
Fatigue  
Test*

*Fatigue test  
of the AW  
139 tail  
rotor hub  
assy*

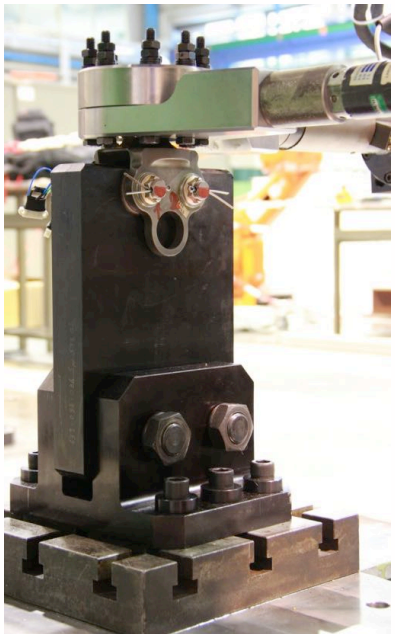




*Sea King  
Tail pylon  
fold joint  
upper hinge  
fitting  
fatigue test*



*NH 90 Input case Fatigue test*



*AW 609 inboard  
Spindle Fatigue  
Test (FAA  
certification)*

*Static test of  
the AW 609  
composite wing  
rear spar (FAA  
certification)*



## Rock Drilling

- physical complexity of drill bit-rock interaction,
- fracture mechanics,
- crack propagation of rocks, etc.

Primary objectives

- Investigate numerically the response of a medium strength rock under on laboratory loading
- Calibrate material modeling and numerical approach - Methods
- Exploit methods to design and asses innovative drilling technique

Numerical Methods

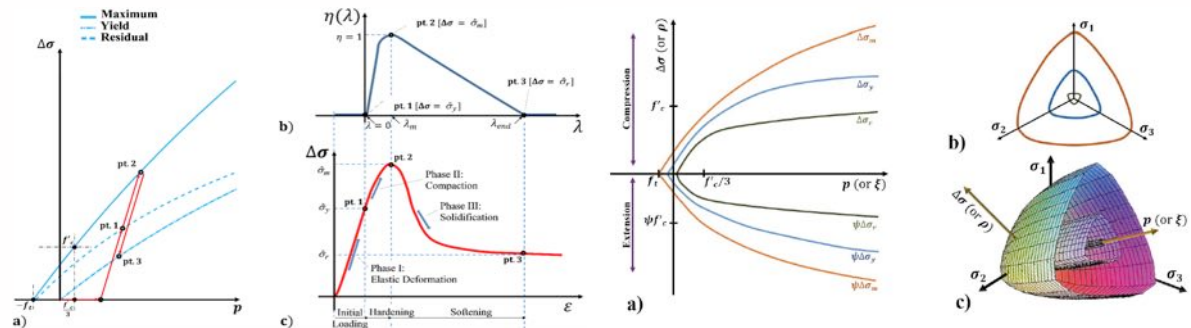
FEM

DEM

SPH

Constitutive models

Mohr-Coulomb - Drucker-Prager - Karagozian and Case Concrete (KCC) Model



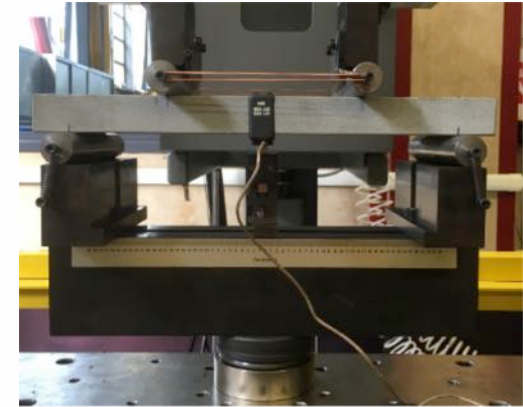
**UC Test**



**Brazilian Test**



**Flexural Test**



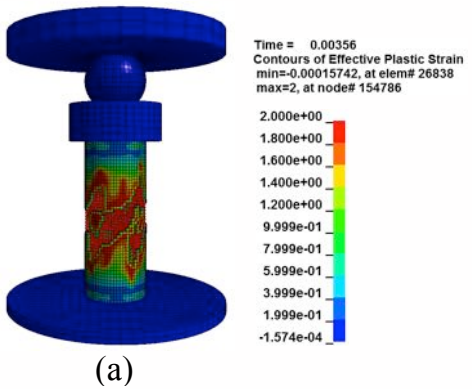
**TXC Test**



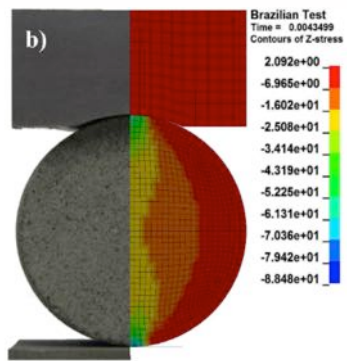
**Punch Penetration Test**



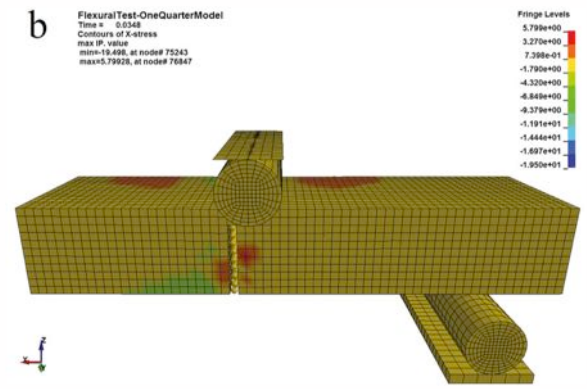
## UC Test



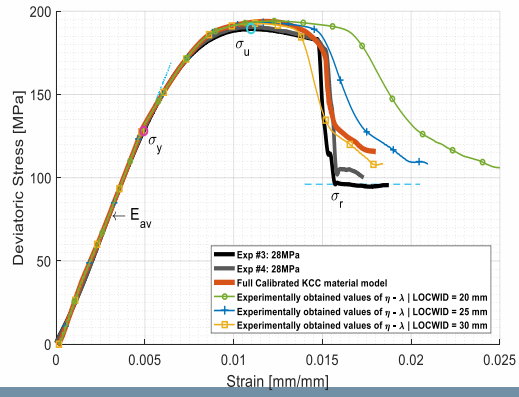
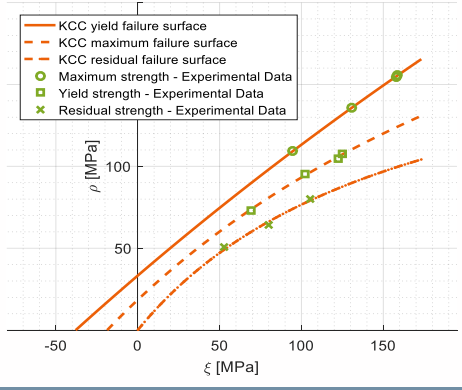
## Brazilian Test



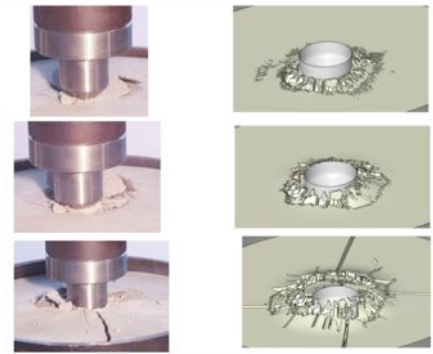
## Flexural Test



## TXC Test



## Punch Penetration Test



# Project: ISSA



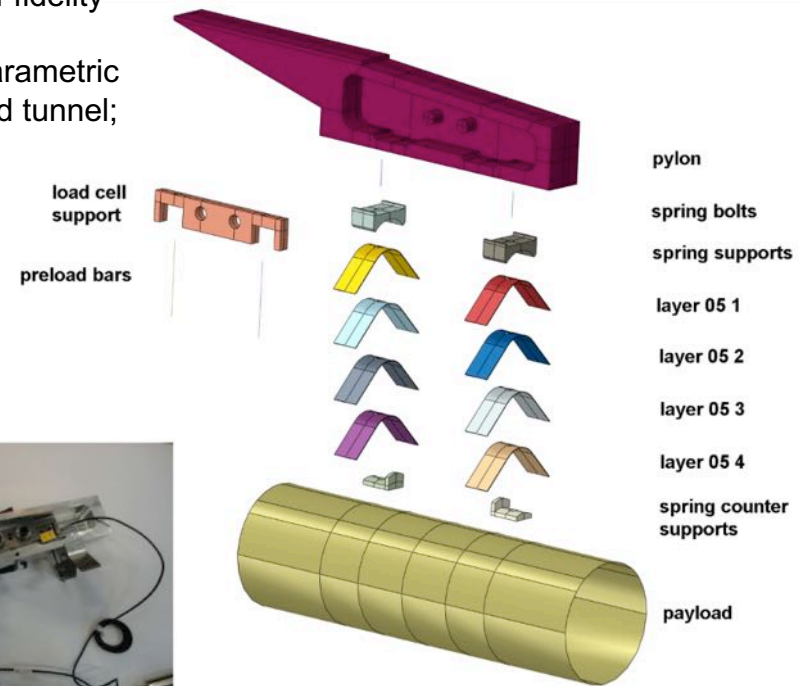
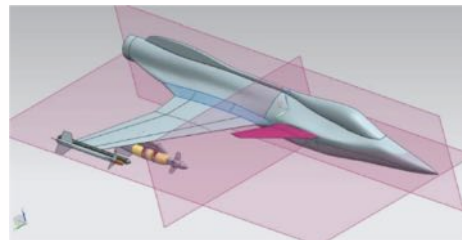
European Defence Agency Tendering procedure, Ad Hoc Research & Technology Project, No B 1190 ESM2 GP "Integrated Simulation of Non-Linear Aero-Structural Phenomena Arising On Combat Aircraft In Transonic Flight", ISSA 2013-2016



The scope of ISSA is to create an environment of validated linear and high-fidelity analytical methods and tools for the investigation of LCO, mainly focusing on fighter external store configurations flying in transonic conditions.

- Develop high-fidelity methods for the simulation of LCO, based on the coupling of CFD/CSM models that include aerodynamic and structural non-linearity;
- Develop methods for the linearization of the phenomenon and the application of linear tools currently in use to industry, corrected using the results of high-fidelity simulation;
- Upgrade an existing aeroelastic wind tunnel model with the addition of parametric pylon-store systems, designed to investigate LCO phenomena in the wind tunnel;

POLIMI contribution is mainly related to non-linear structural analyses and linearization methodology

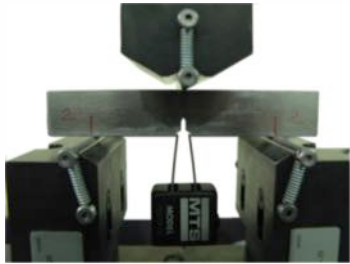


# Some past activities at a glance

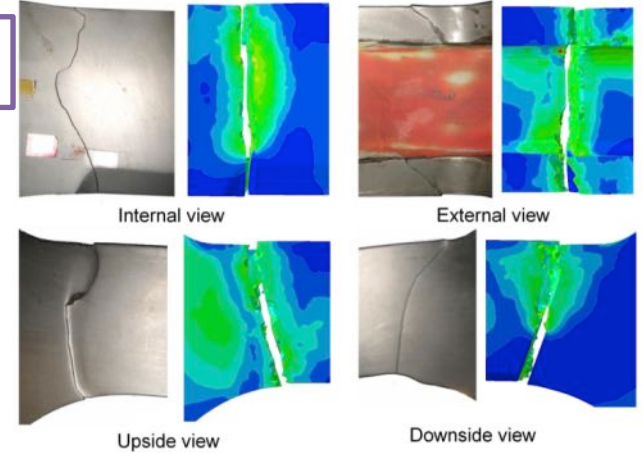
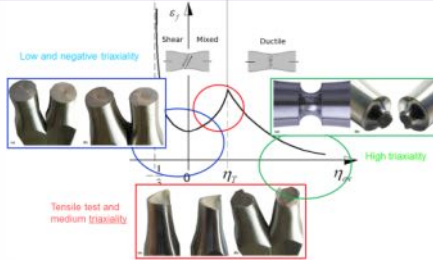
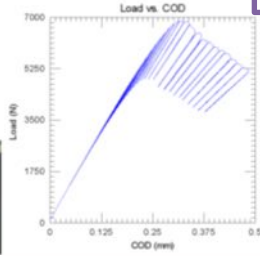
## Assessment of a Ti6Al4V helicopter Main Rotor Hub under fatigue loads.

Ductile failure models: definition and calibration (in collaboration with M.I.T.)

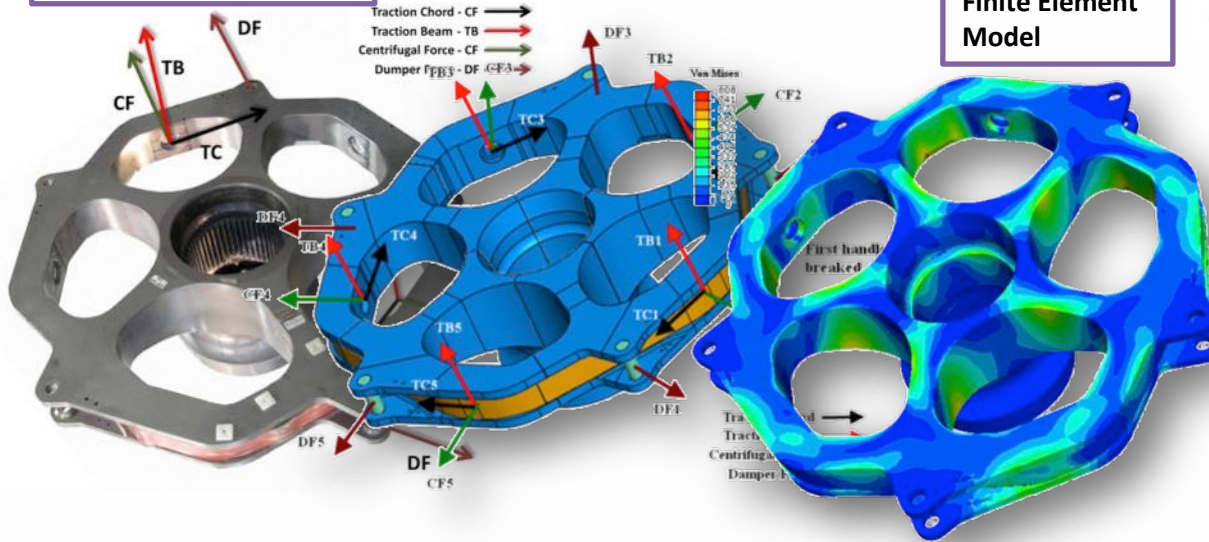
Comparison: experimental-numerical results



Fracture mechanics



Finite Element Model



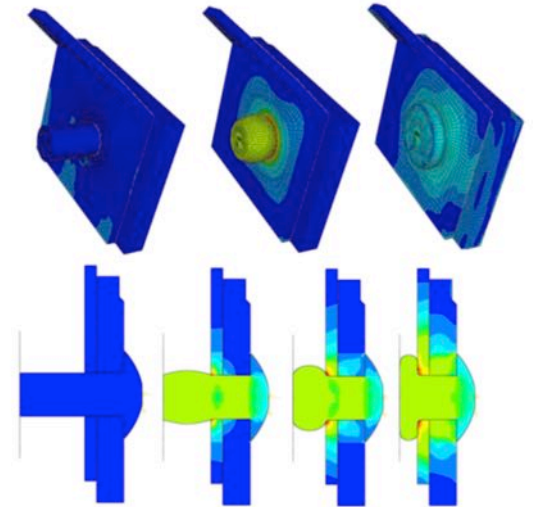
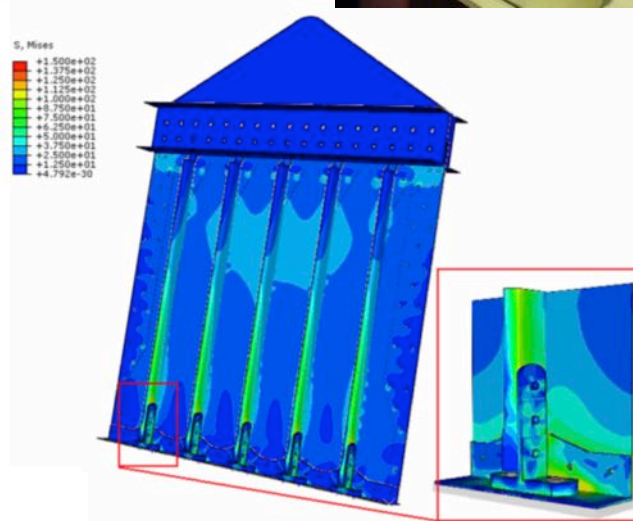
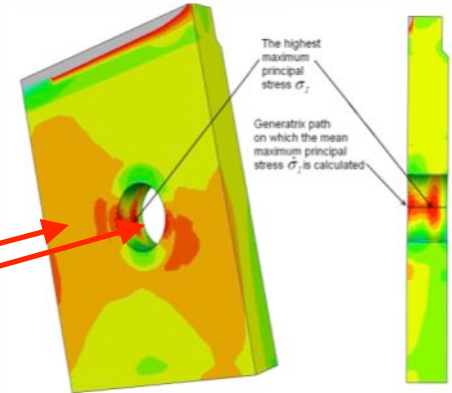
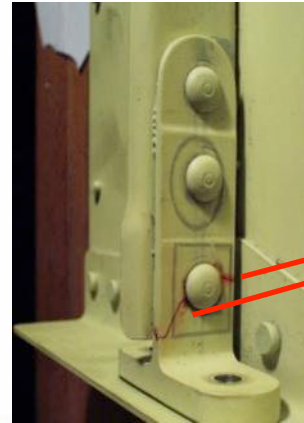
Experimental "full scale" Tests

Comparison:  
experimental-  
numerical results

# Analysis on the effect of rivets cold driving process on fatigue life of a bolted joint for metallic helicopter frame.



Experimental Tests "full scale"



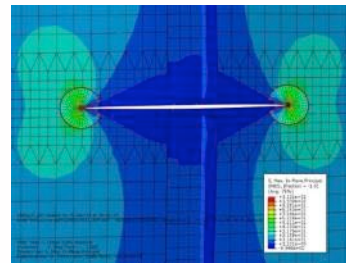
Finite Element Model  
(submodeling)

# Some past activities at a glance

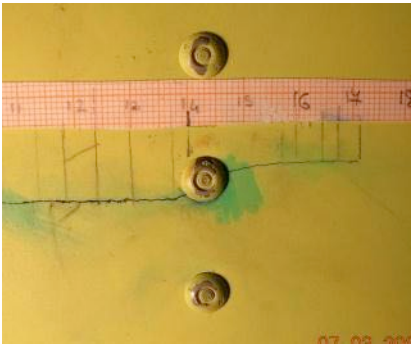
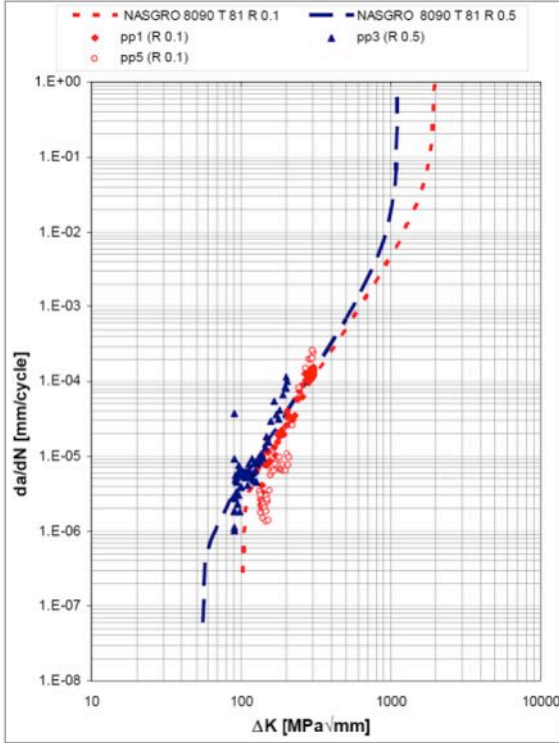
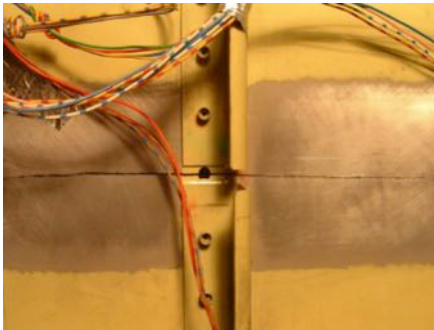
**Damage tolerance behaviour of artificial cracks (on the skin with different configurations) during fatigue load in metallic helicopter frame.**

Comparison: experimental-numerical results

Finite Element Model (submodeling)



Experimental Tests "full scale"

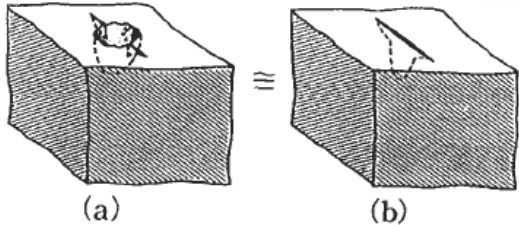
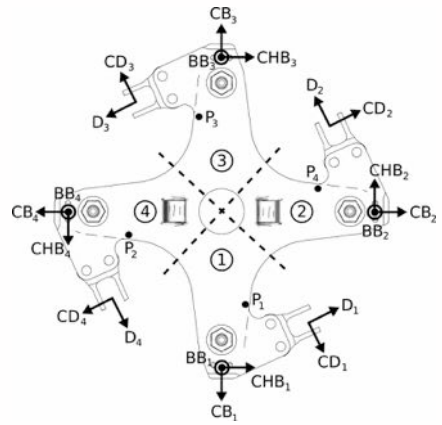
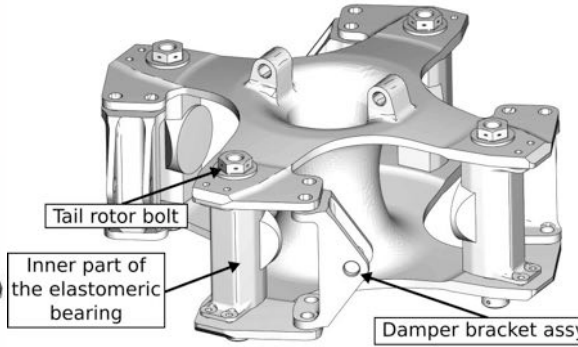
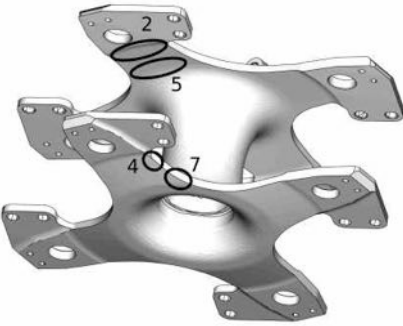
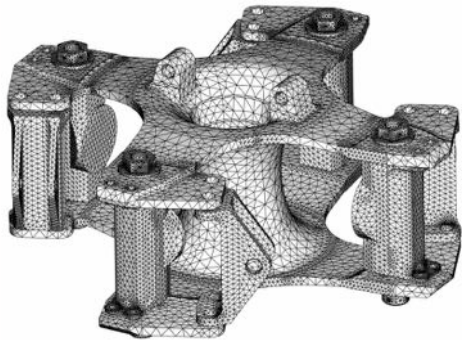


Material Calibration: fracture mechanics

$$\frac{da}{dN} = \frac{C \Delta K^n \left(1 - \frac{\Delta K_{th}}{\Delta K}\right)^p}{\left(1 - \frac{K_{max}}{K_c}\right)^q}$$



**Definition of a flaw tolerance procedure to evaluate the behaviour of non-propagating cracks (flaws) nucleated from defects inside critical helicopter components.**



$$\Delta K = \beta \cdot \Delta \sigma \cdot \sqrt{\pi \cdot \sqrt{area}}$$

Finite Element Model

Material Calibration:  
fracture limit conditions

Assessment of the component numerical results

Direction of the maximum tensile stress

$$\Delta K_{th} = \Delta K_1 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{area}}{\sqrt{area} + \sqrt{area_0}}} \cdot \left[ \frac{1-R}{1-f} \right]^{1+R \cdot C_{th}^p} / (1-A_0)^{(1-R)C_{th}^p}, R \geq 0$$

$$\Delta K_{th} = \Delta K_1 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{area}}{\sqrt{area} + \sqrt{area_0}}} \cdot \left[ \frac{1-R}{1-f} \right]^{1+R \cdot C_{th}^m} / (1-A_0)^{(C_{th}^p - R \cdot C_{th}^m)}, R < 0$$

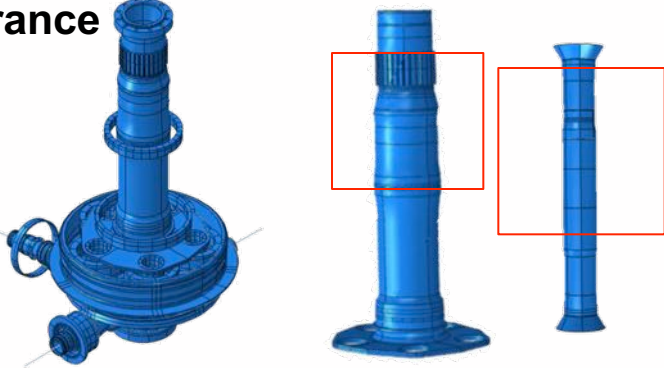
$$\eta = \frac{\Delta K_{th}}{\Delta K}$$

# Some past activities at a glance

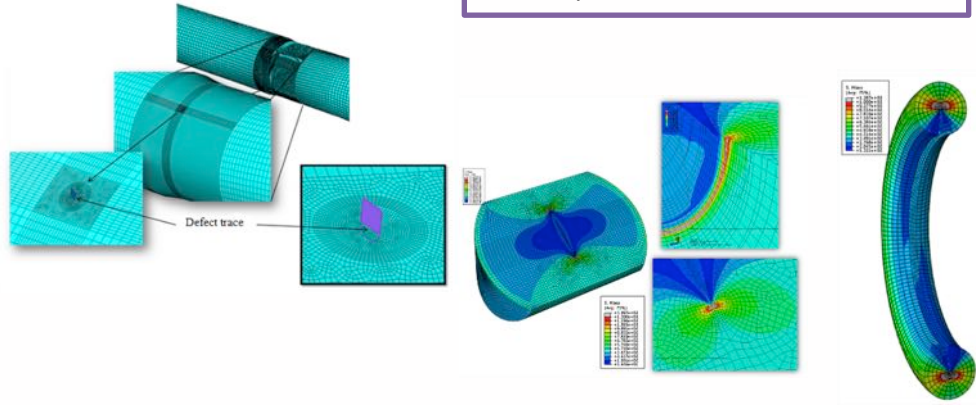
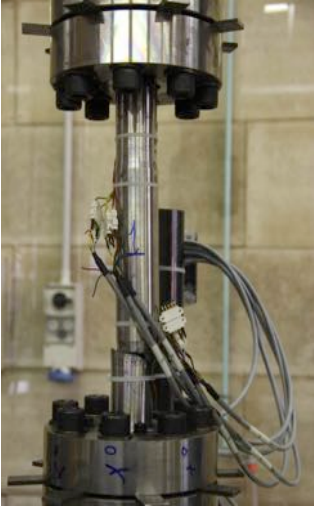
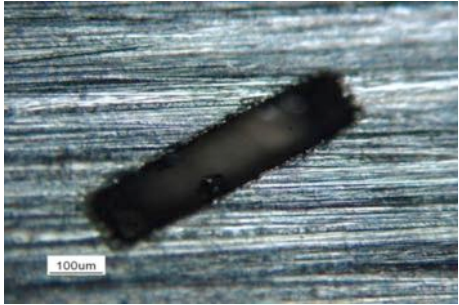
## Develop an operational methods that provide high reliability in the design of primary components of a military helicopter rotor system: Flaw Tolerance

Numerical model of the mast and design of a specimen that reproduces exactly the most critical stress field

Application of the Flaw Tolerance on the mast and experimental assessment



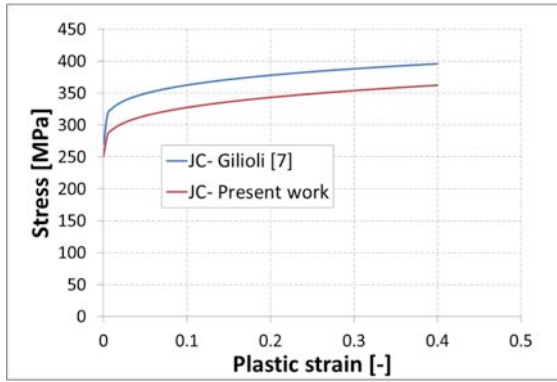
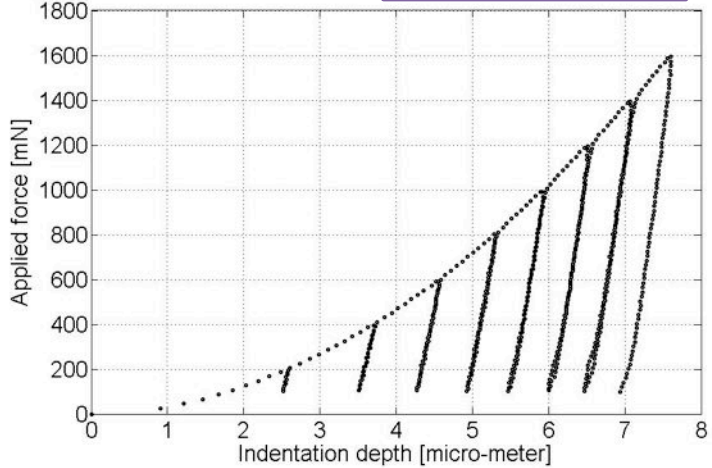
Numerical modelling: the defects were insert on the FE models using both XFEM and Sub-modeling technique. Stress Intensity Factors were obtained



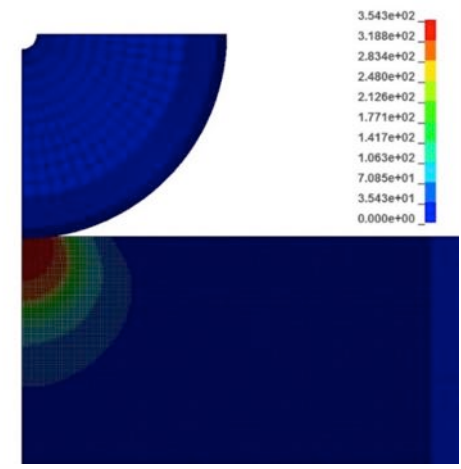
# Some past activities at a glance

## Use of micro-indentation for determining elastic-plastic properties and fracture toughness of bulk and film materials, with a special focus on collectors of lithium-ion batteries

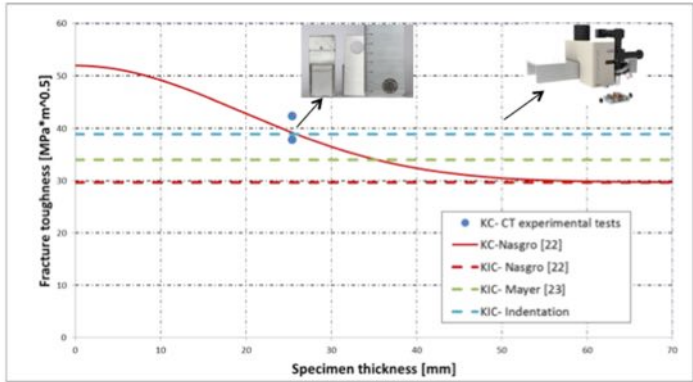
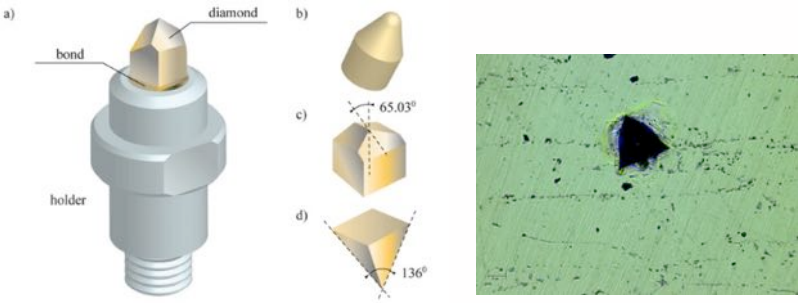
Experimental tests



Finite Element Model for inverse method

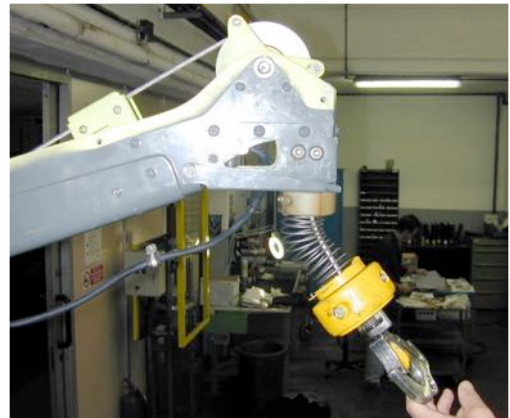


Comparison of present technique with classical approach



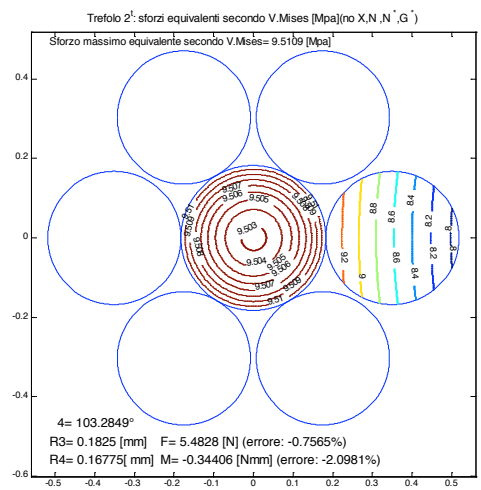
## Fatigue assessment of a wire rope for helicopter hoist

Experimental fatigue test

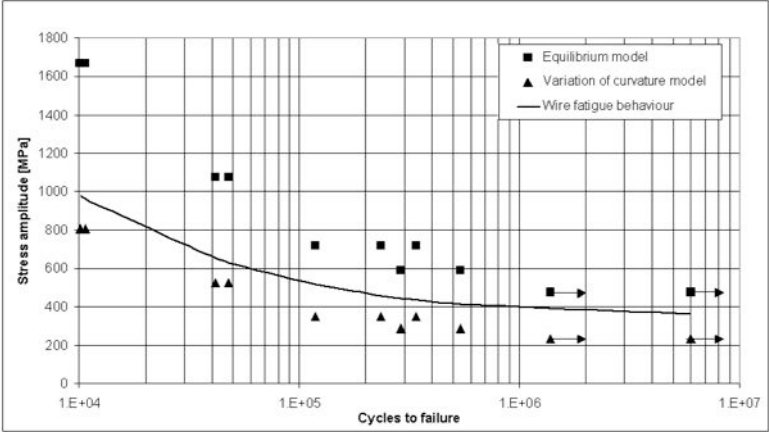
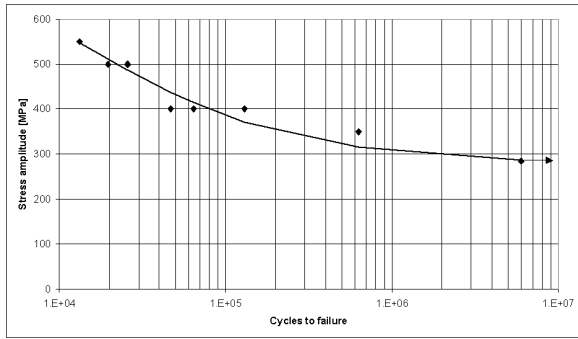


Comparison between experimental fatigue life and predicted one

Analytical model



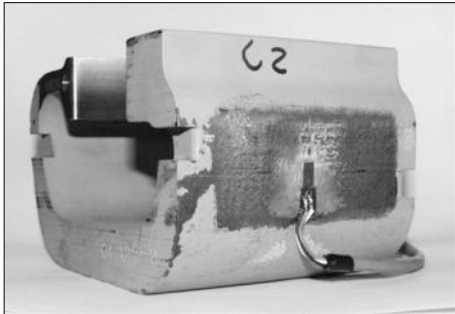
Single wire behaviour



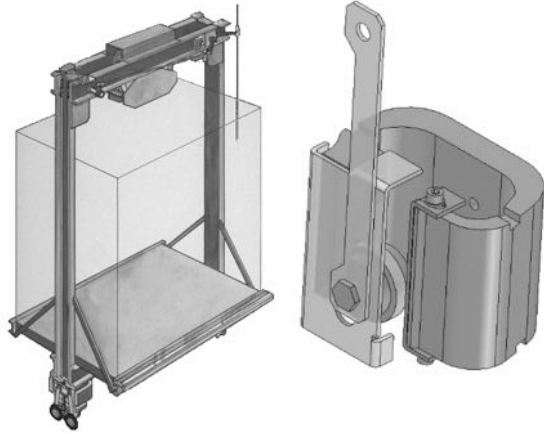
# Some past activities at a glance

## Experimental and numerical damage evaluation of a lift safety gear

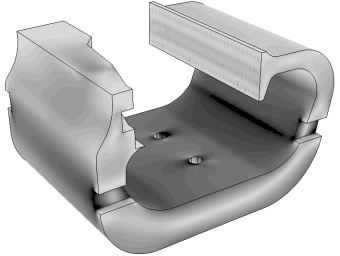
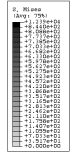
Experimental fatigue tests with strain gauges and accelerometers



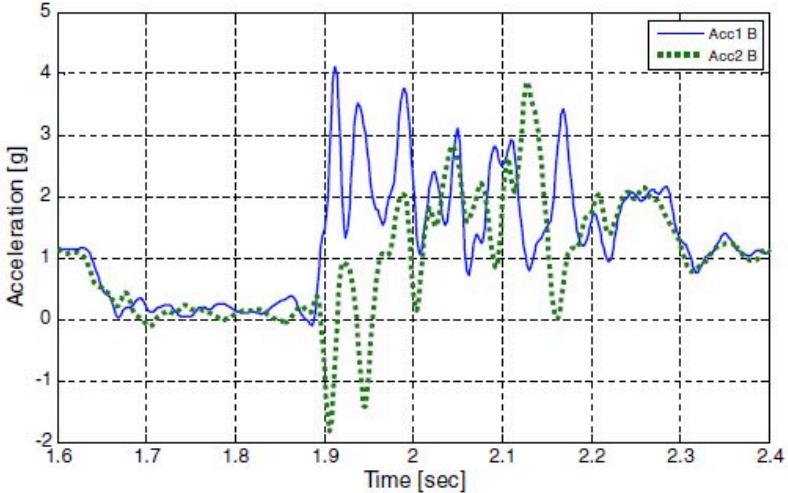
Elaboration from accelerometers measurements: deceleration level and non simultaneity in the safety gear application



Numerical model of the safety gear

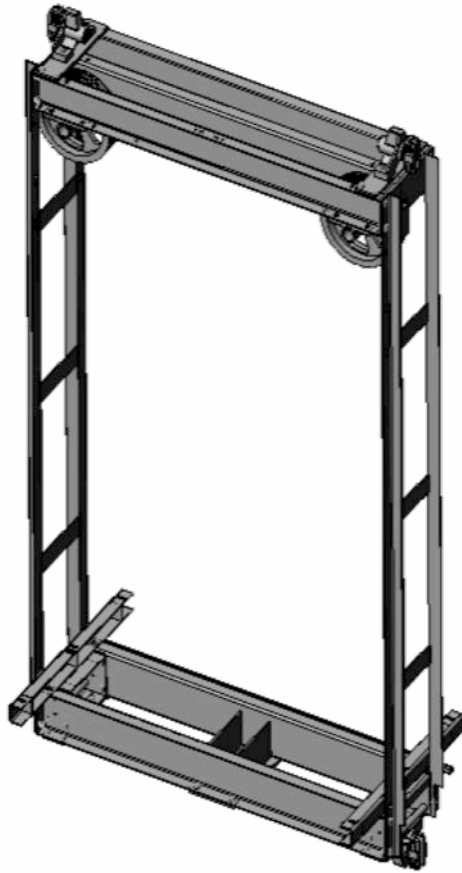


ABRACO (80) created on: 15-Dec-05 at 11:07:14  
C001: 11/10/17/0000 ABRACO/P7ABRACO Version 4.1-3 Thu Jul 19 16:19:47 ora italiana Europa occidentale 2007  
Step: 01 Step: 1, Linear Static Analysis  
Increment: 1, 10, Step Time = 1.000  
Element: 100, 0, 0, 0  
Deformed: Yes, 0 Deformation Scale Factor = 1.000e+00



# Some past activities at a glance

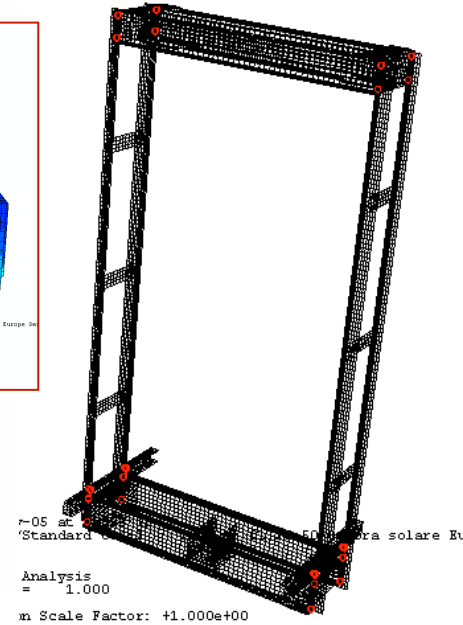
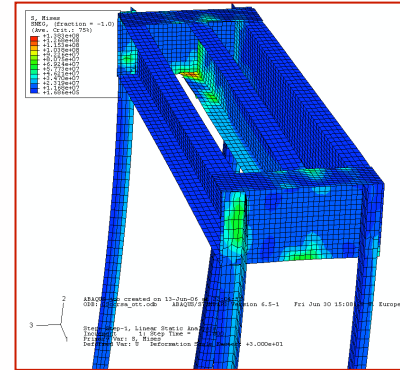
## Analysis and optimization of a frame for elevators



Analytical model

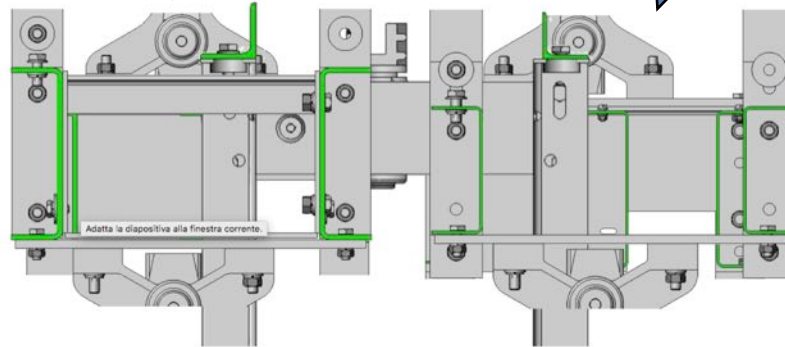
Numerical model

Optimization under critical condition: activation of safety devices



Starting structure

Optimised structure – 40% of weight



7-05 at  
'Standard' ... ora solare Eu

Analysis  
= 1.000

m Scale Factor: +1.000e+00

Maximum stresses and deflection are used as constrains according to standard and regulation

P.N.R.M. (Italian National Project for Military Research),

Consortium: Italy (Politecnico di Milano)



## OPTY-V

*Ottimizzazione di una Protezione “underbody” per Veicoli nei confronti di una carica sepolta (OPTY\_V)*

Improve and optimize survivability in under-body blast attack by means of advanced numerical modeling



## VULNUS

*Analisi della VULNerabilità di costrUzioni in calceStruzzo soggetti ad impatti ed esplosioni – VULNUS*

Define a methodological approach for survivability analysis of concrete structure subjected to impact and explosion



P.N.R.M. (Italian National Project for Military Research),

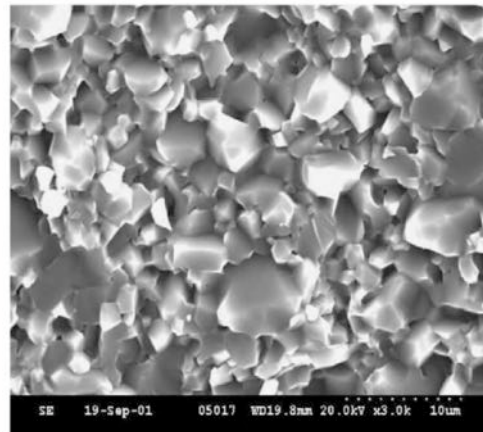
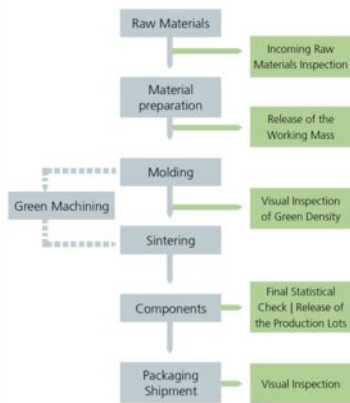


Consortium: Italy (Politecnico di Milano – Bitossi)

## AIDENTITI

*IdentificAzione una metoDologia Efficace per la correlazione del processo tecNologico, proprieTà fisiche e mIcrostrutturali e prestazione balisTica di piastrelle ceramIche*

Identification of an effective methods in order to correlate technological process, physical and microstructural properties and ballistic performance of ceramic tiles





PADR Preparatory action for defense research

Role: subcontractor in the consortium

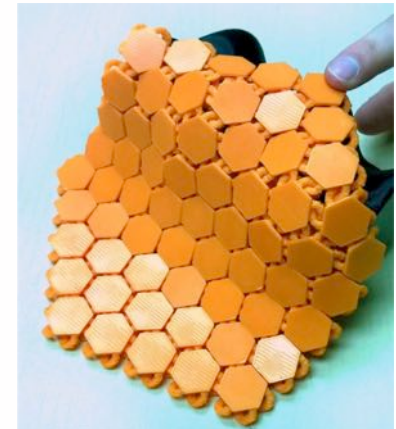


## INCA

*A project for the development of an innovative personal protection aimed to explore the best technologies in “soft armour”, “hard plate” and “CBRN”*

### *ROLE of POLIMI*

POLIMI will use his expertise in modelling terminal ballistic event to create analytical and numerical models to investigate on the behaviour of several solutions against high speed bullets. Focus on the reproduction of the back-face signature of bullets and fragments – Optimization



- C. Mapelli, A. Manes, M. Giglio, D. Mombelli, (2013), " *Structural Effect of ballistic impact on a shaft by means of crystallographic investigation*" SDHM Structural Durability and Health Monitoring, Vol. 9, Issue 2, pp. 181-199
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