



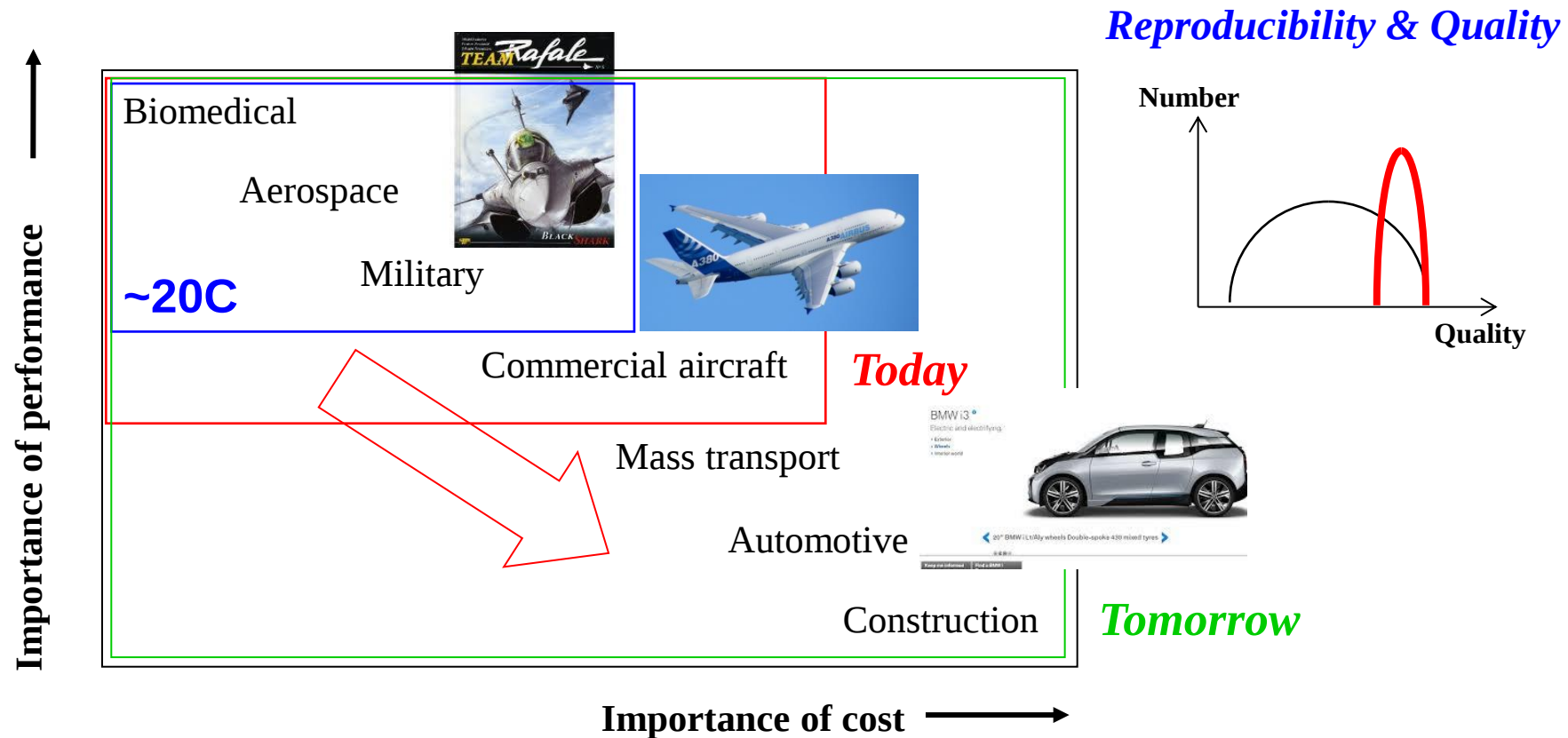
Modélisation et Simulation de la Fabrication des Matériaux Composites à Matrices Thermodurcissable ou Thermoplastique en Conditions Sévères de Mise en Œuvre et Mise en Forme

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Mines Douai, TPCIM



Evolution of Industrial Applications

*Penetration into new markets: **Cost reduction** is a key!*



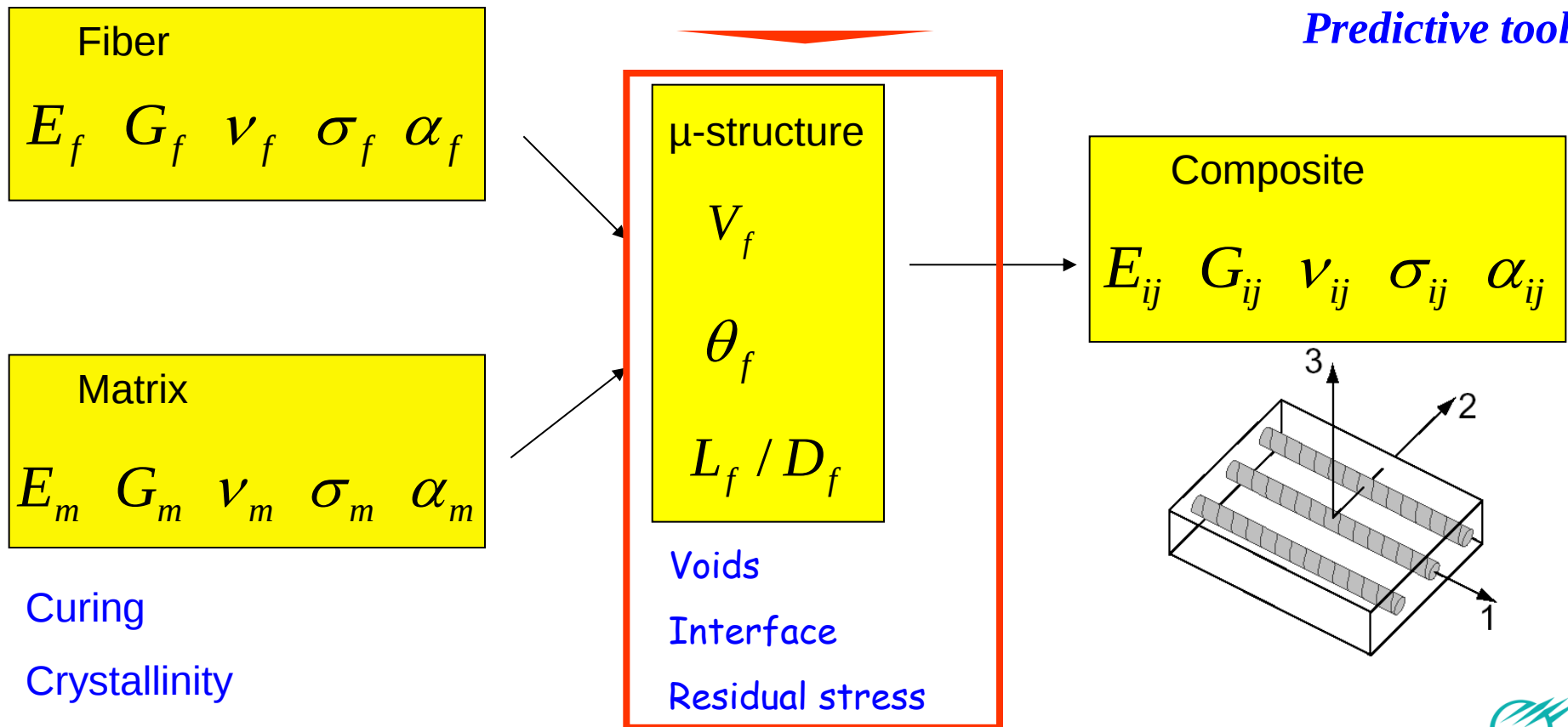
Final Quality Depends on the Manufacturing !

Taylor-made material?

Process control?

Trial & error?

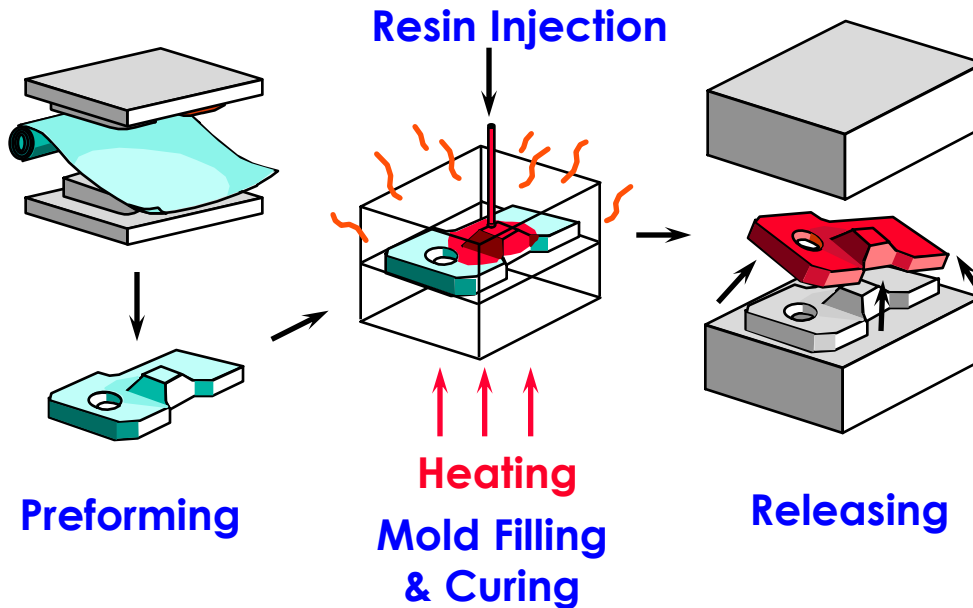
Predictive tool!



Liquid Composite Molding

Impregnation of continuous dry textile reinforcement by liquid resin

■ Resin Transfer Molding process



- ✓ Large and complex structures without assembling
- ✓ Reduction of raw material cost and labor
- ✓ Free from volatile trouble

A320/A340 spoiler

Preform



Final product

Low Cost ! Product Quality ?



*Titanium?
or
Carbon fiber
prepreg?*

- Impact resistance (bird strike)
- Fatigue (high speed rotation)
- Cost

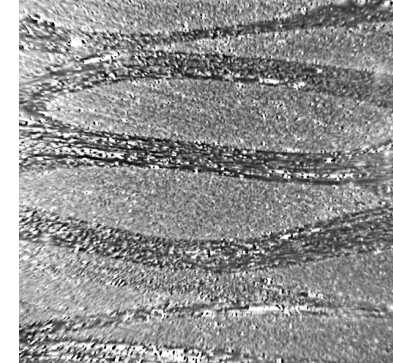
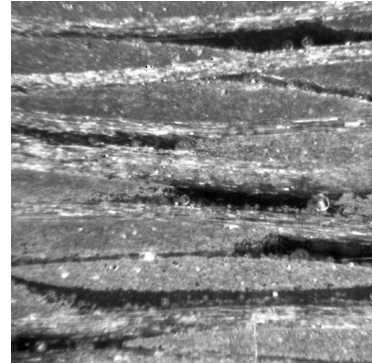


LEAP engine
fan blade

3D carbon interlock +
Epoxy
(Resin Transfer Molding)

- Low manufacturing cost
- Enhanced impact resistance

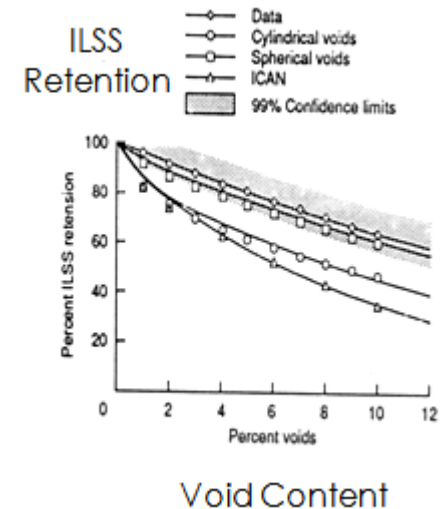
Quality?: Defects (porosity, void)



Degeneration of
mechanical
performances

Aeronautic standard

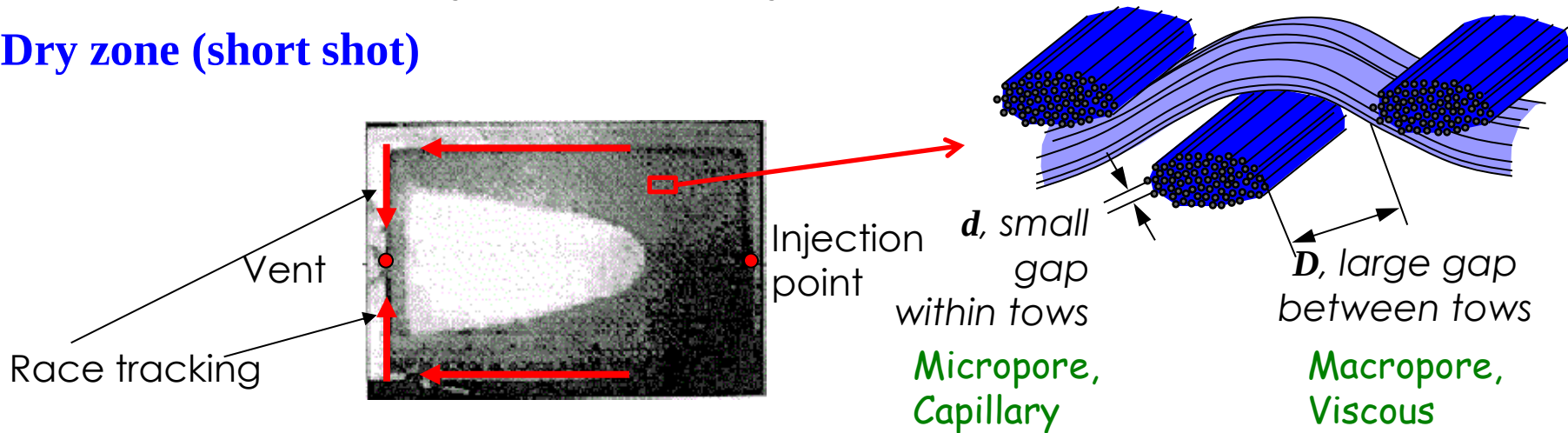
Void content < 2%



Void Defects in Different Scales

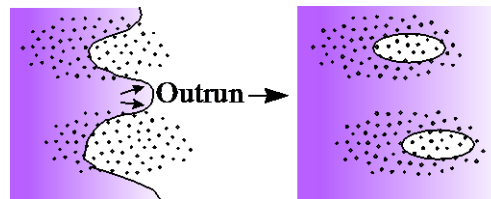
Void, Porosity, Air bubble, Dry zone, etc.

■ Dry zone (short shot)

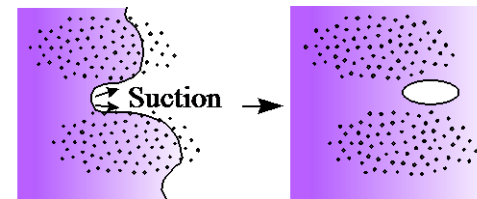


■ Tow void (inside tow)

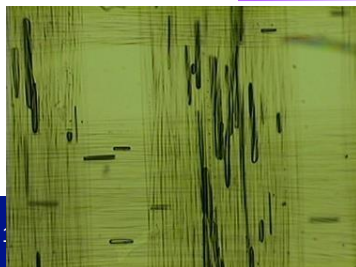
Intra-bundle void



■ Channel void (between tows)



Inter-bundle void

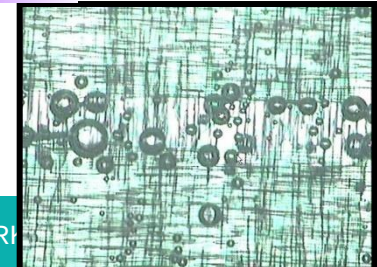


$1 \sim 10 \mu\text{m}$

t Mines-Télécom

$0.1 \sim 1 \text{mm}$

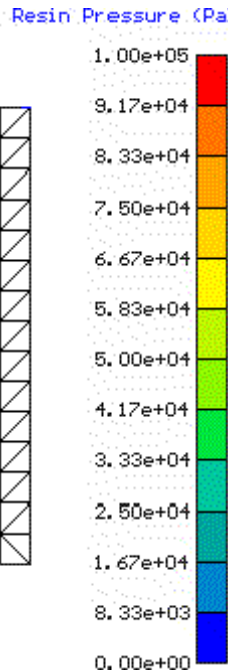
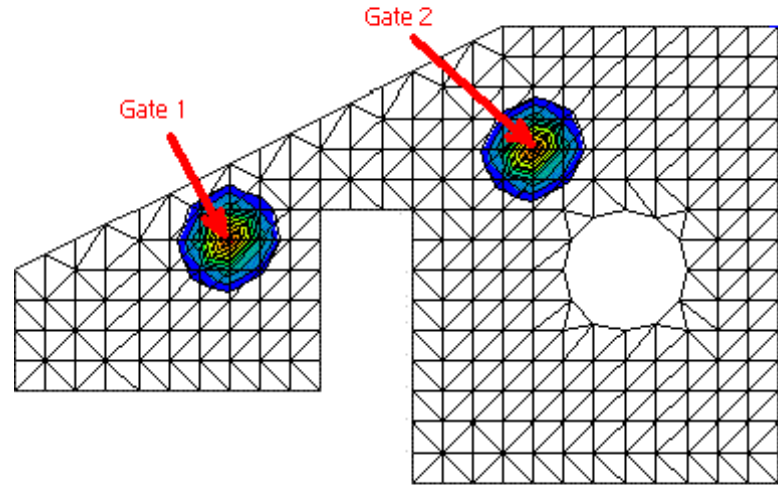
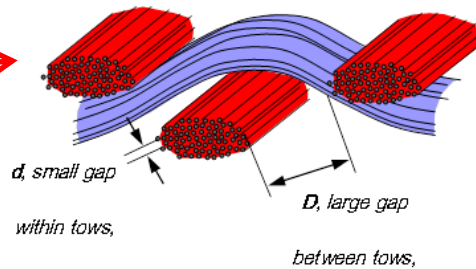
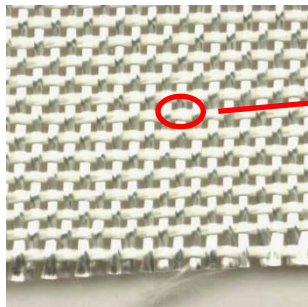
Chung-Hae PARK



Resin Flow Modeling in Different Scales

■ Macroscopic scale

- ✓ Homogeneous porous medium
- ✓ Darcy's law

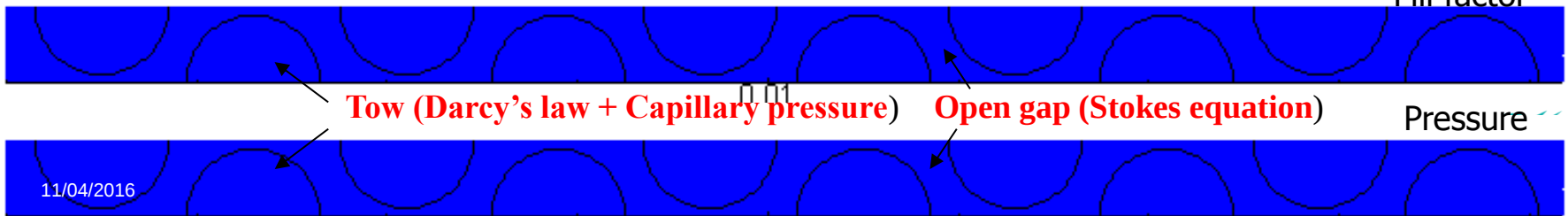


Homogeneous

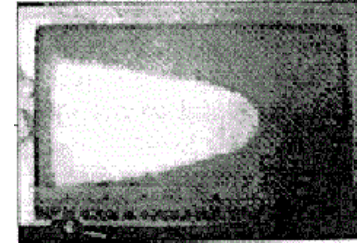
Heterogeneous (d : 1~10 μm , D : 0.1~1mm)

■ Mesoscopic scale

- ✓ Heterogeneous medium: open gap and micro porous zone
- ✓ Stokes-Brinkman equation (viscous flow + capillary flow in porous zone)



Macroscopic Flow Analysis



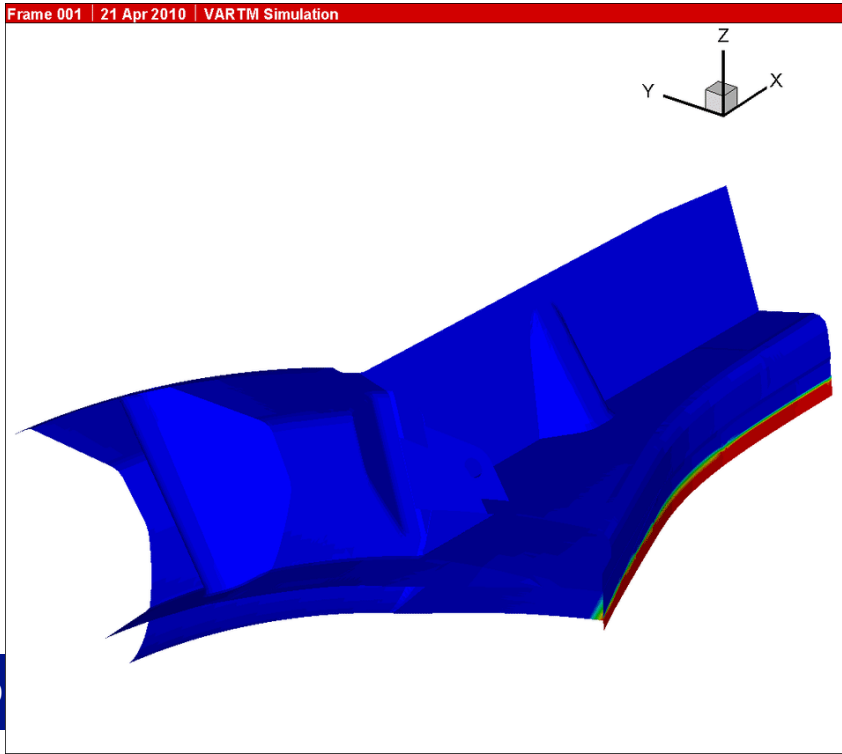
Single-phase analysis

- ✓ Incompressible liquid

$P = P_{vent}$ at the flow front

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(\frac{K_{ij}}{\mu_r} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_j} \right) = 0$$

Automotive front hood (half body)
SAPRAN / Nacelle



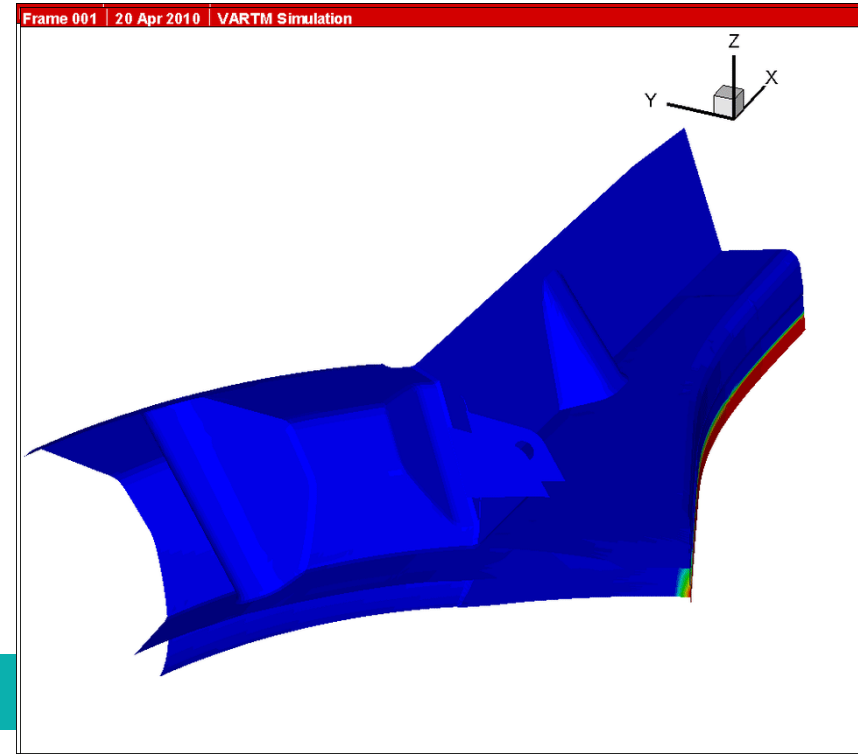
Two-phase analysis

- ✓ Incompressible liquid + Compressible air

$P = P_{vent}$ at the vent

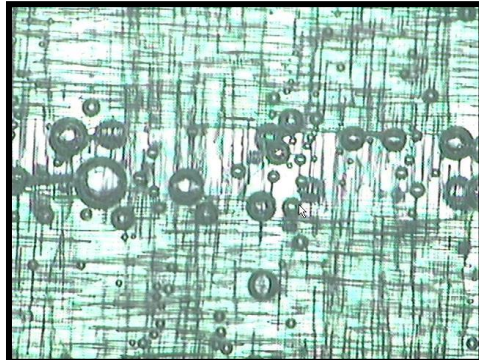
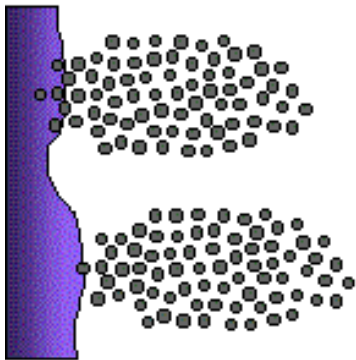
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(\frac{K_{ij}}{\mu_r} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_j} \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{1 - V_f}{p_a} \frac{\partial p_a}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(\frac{K_{ij}}{\mu_a} \frac{\partial p_a}{\partial x_j} \right)$$

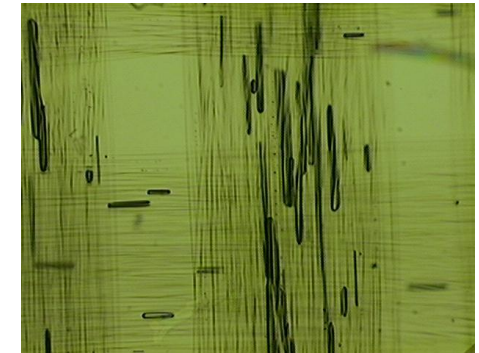
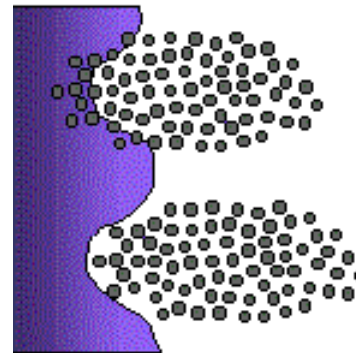


Microvoid Formation Mechanism

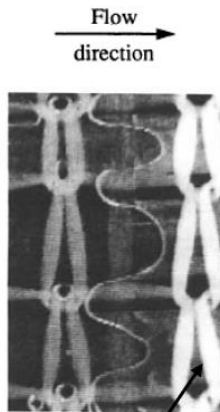
- Mechanical air entrapment at the flow front
- Competition between the viscous flow between fiber tows and the capillary wicking inside the fiber tow



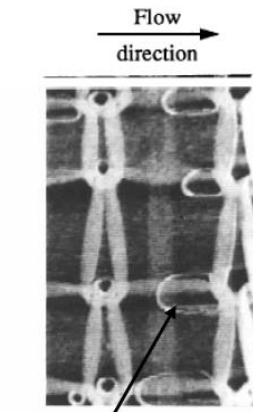
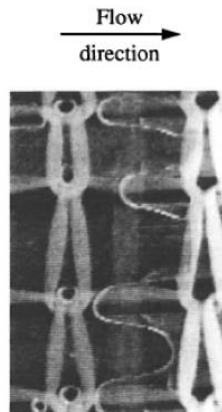
Low resin velocity: **Channel void**



High resin velocity: **Tow void**



Stitch



Air bubble

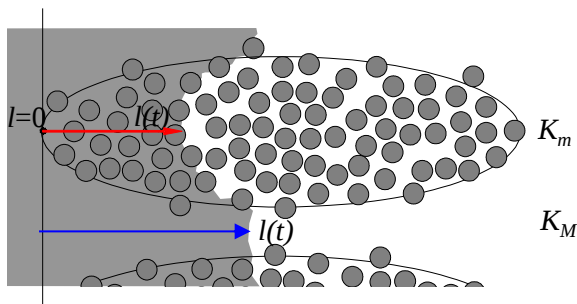
Mutli-scale Flow Model: Microvoid Formation

Homogeneous medium at the macro-scale



$$\nabla \cdot \left(\frac{K}{\mu} \nabla P \right) = 0$$

Double-scale flow



Macropore $\langle \vec{v} \rangle = - \frac{K_M}{\mu} \nabla P$

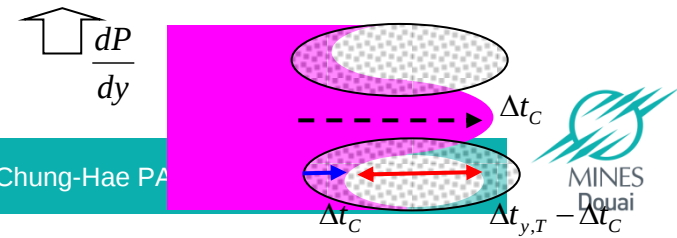
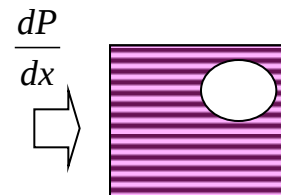
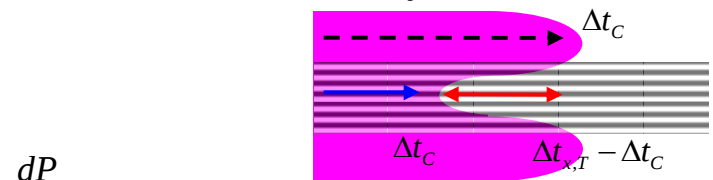
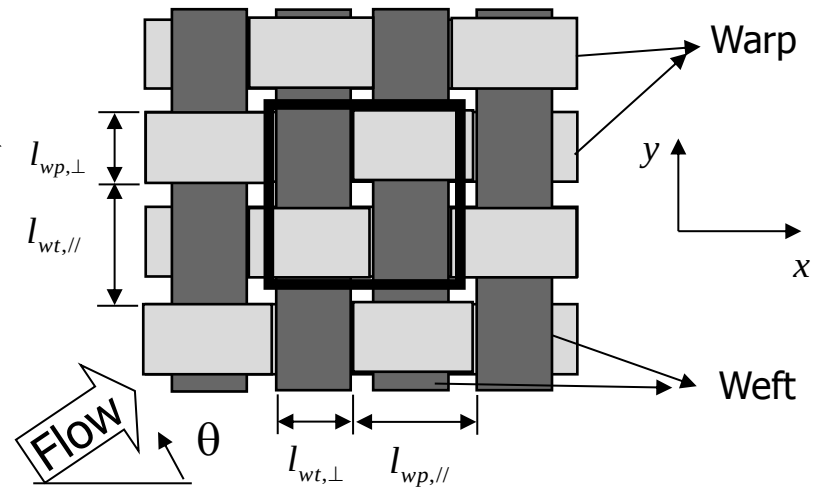
Micropore $\langle \vec{v} \rangle = - \frac{K_m}{\mu} \nabla (P - P_{cap})$

$$P_{cap} = \left(\frac{F}{D_f} \right) \frac{1-\phi}{\phi} \gamma \cos \theta$$

γ : Surface tension

θ : Contact angle

Microstructure of fabric

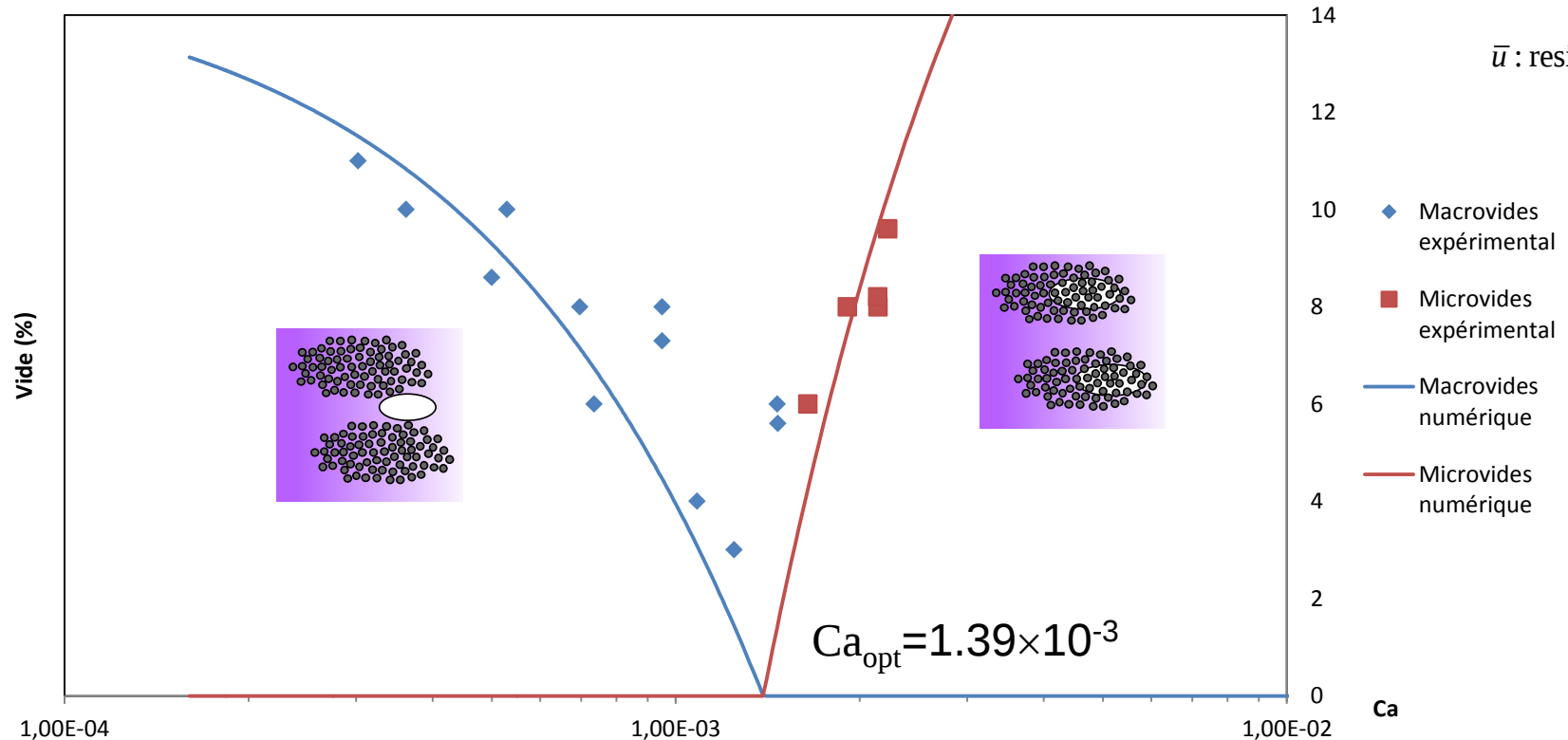


Microvoid Formation Modeling

- Unidirectional fabric / constant flow rate injection / in-situ measurement
- Analytical solution for void content against Ca

$$fn(K_M, K_T, V_{f,T}, D_f, l_T, \ln(Ca^*))$$

Fabric micro-architecture $Ca^* = \frac{\mu \bar{u}}{\gamma \cos \theta}$
 $\bar{u}$: resin velocity

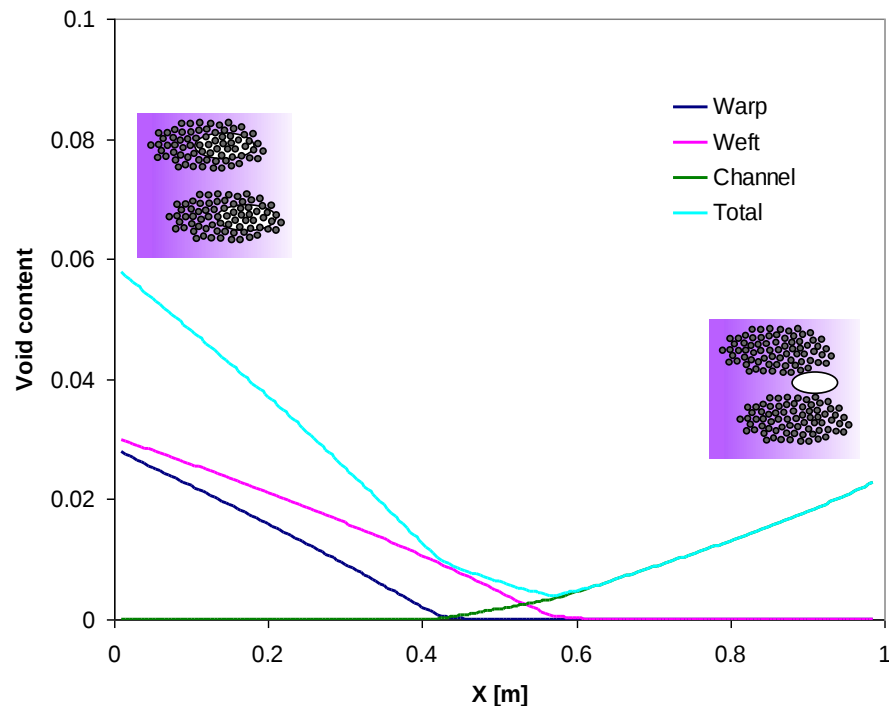


Microvoid Formation in Woven Composites

Modeling the formation and compression of microvoids

Influence of tow orientation!

✓ Void content vs. position

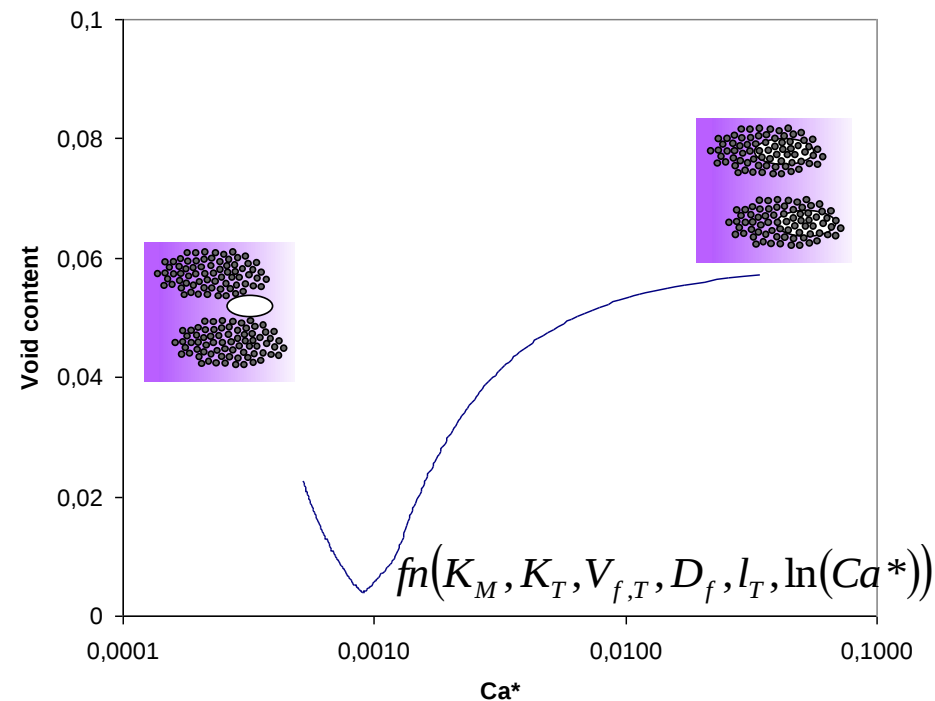


$P_{inj} = \text{const}$
Plain weave

✓ Void content vs. Ca^*

$$Ca^* = \frac{\mu \bar{u}}{\gamma \cos \theta}$$

$\bar{u}$: resin velocity



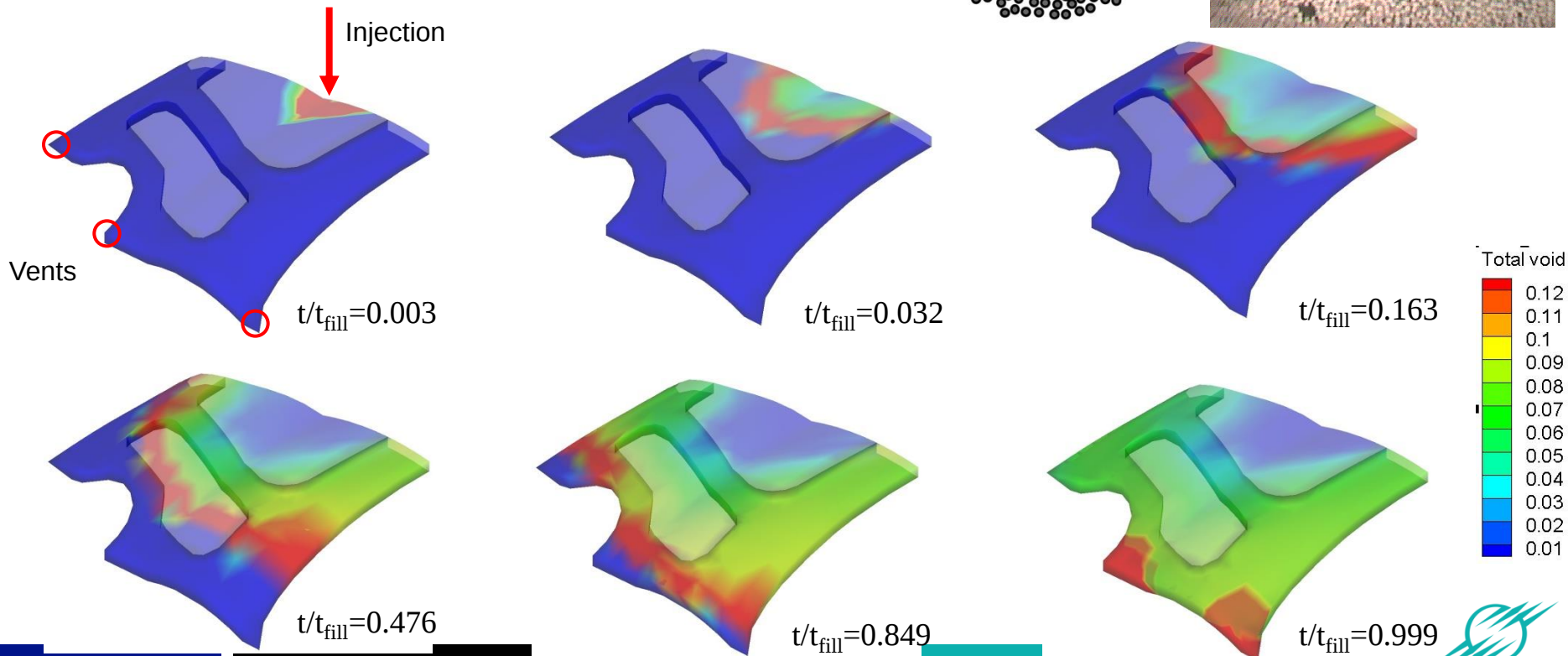
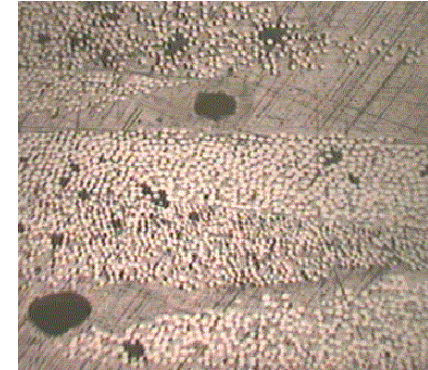
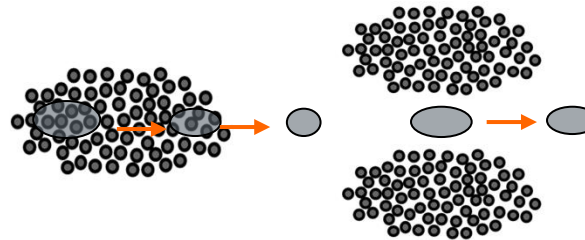
Microvoid Migration Modeling

$$\frac{\partial V_{air,C}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (V_{air,C} \cdot \vec{u}_{air}) = \dot{S}$$

Microvoid distribution

- ✓ Void migration inside the tow and in the channel
- ✓ Highly bubbly zone (with a constant width) behind the flow front

Bleeding !



Thermoplastic Matrices

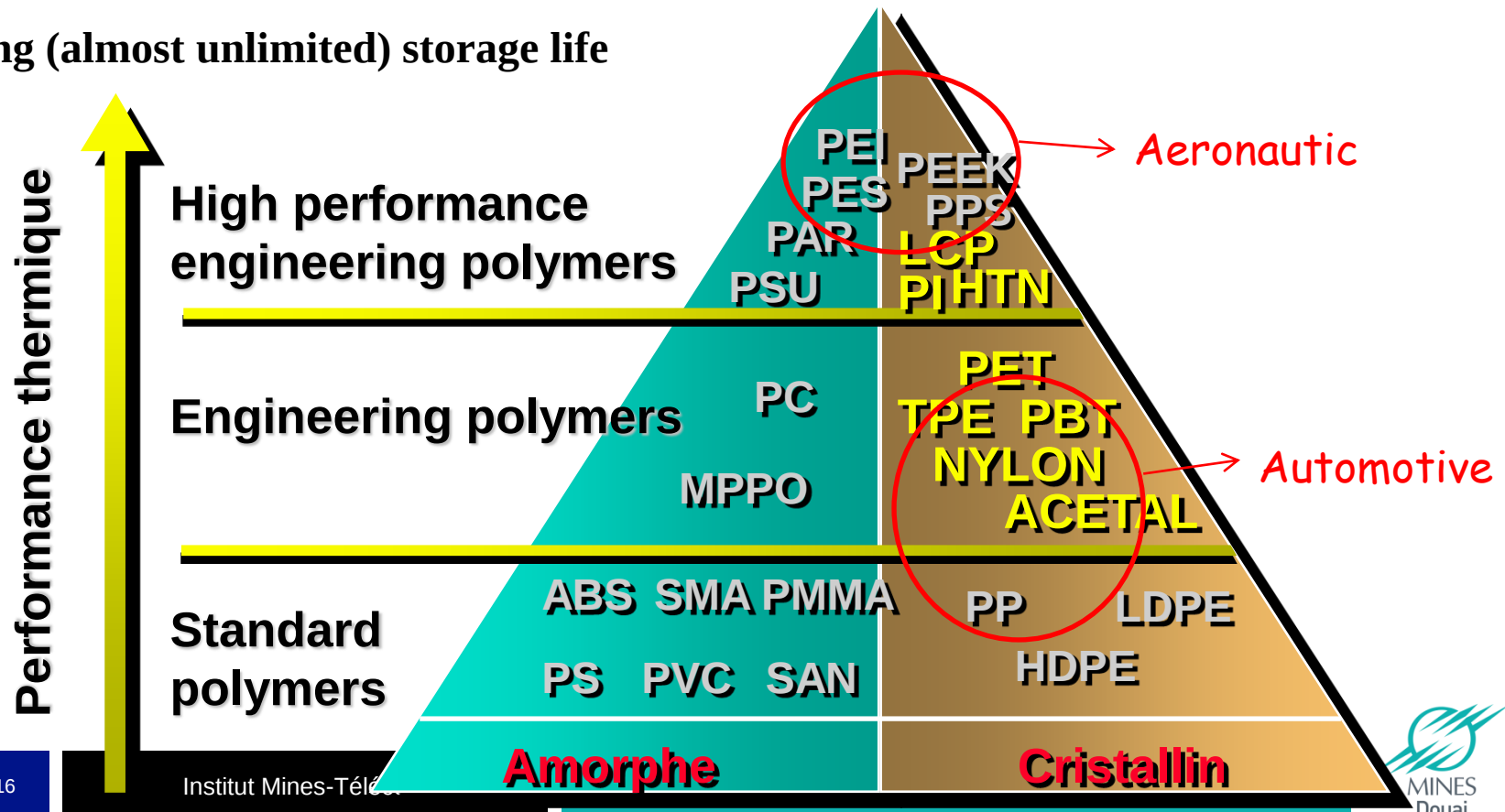
Advantages (over thermoset resins)

- ✓ High impact resistance
- ✓ Possibility of patch repair
- ✓ Long (almost unlimited) storage life

Disadvantage

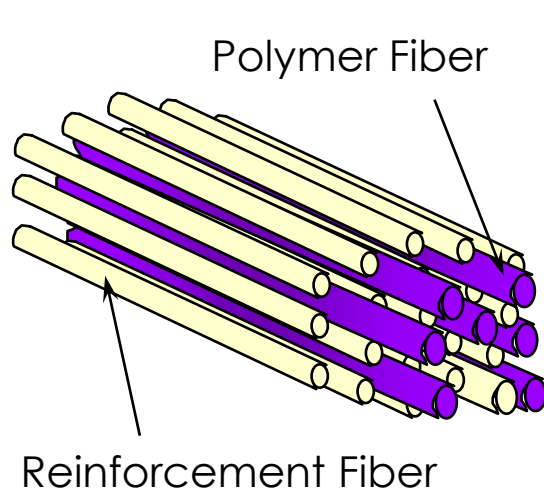
- ✓ **High viscosity** (difficult impregnation)

0.1-1 Pa s (TS) vs. $10^2 - 10^5$ Pa s (TP)

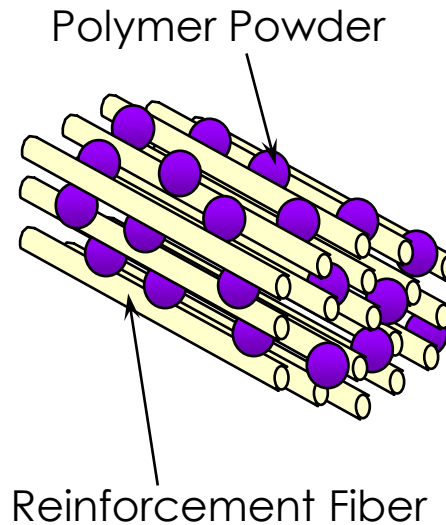


Semi-Products: Polymer-Fiber Pre-Mixture

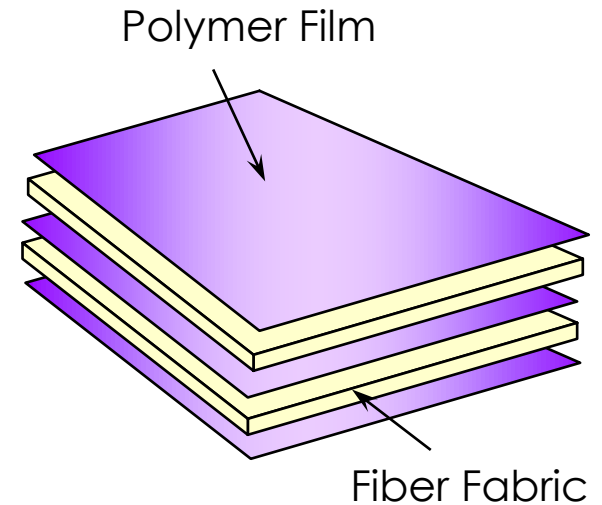
- **Solid polymer + Reinforcing fiber : Reduce the resin flow path**



Commingled yarn



Powder-mixed bundle

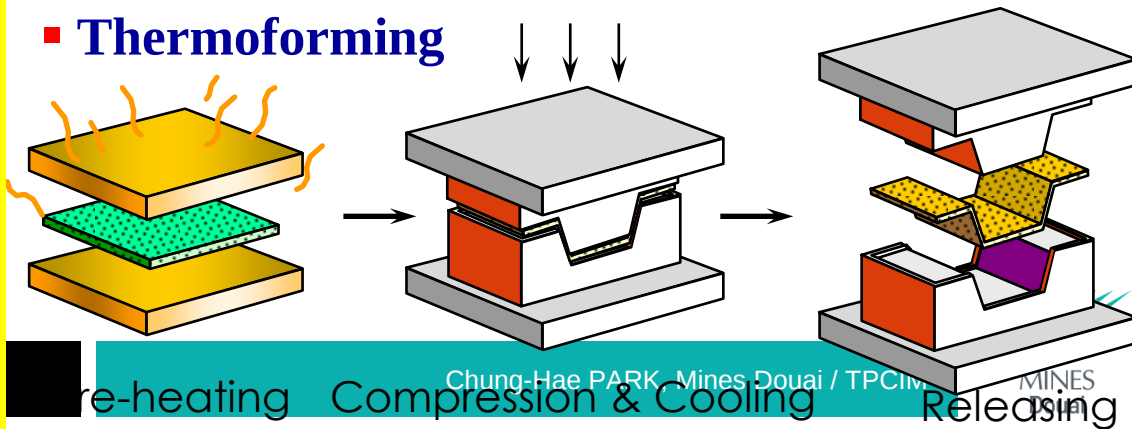


Film stacking

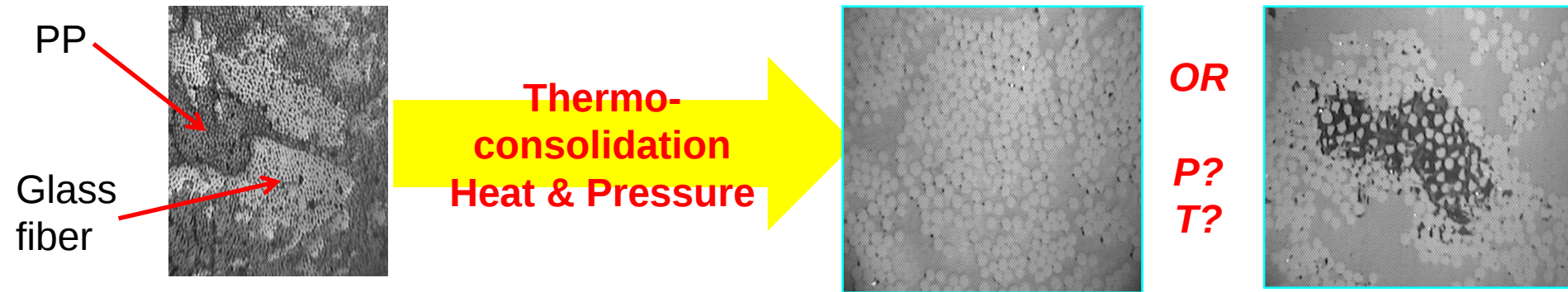
**One-shot manufacturing
of 3D structure
without prepreg**

FP7 / MAPICC 3D

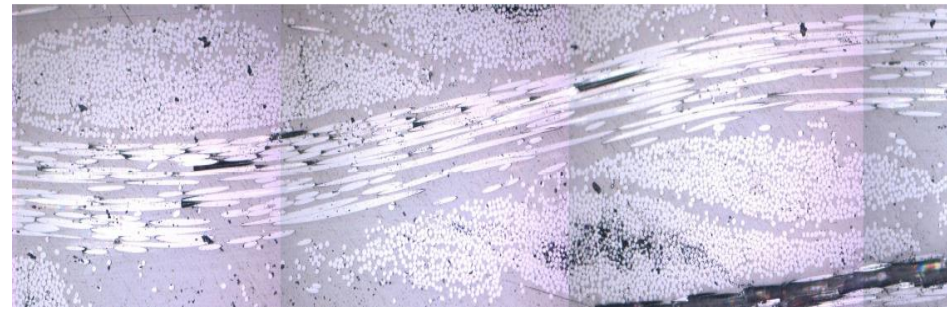
- **Thermoforming**



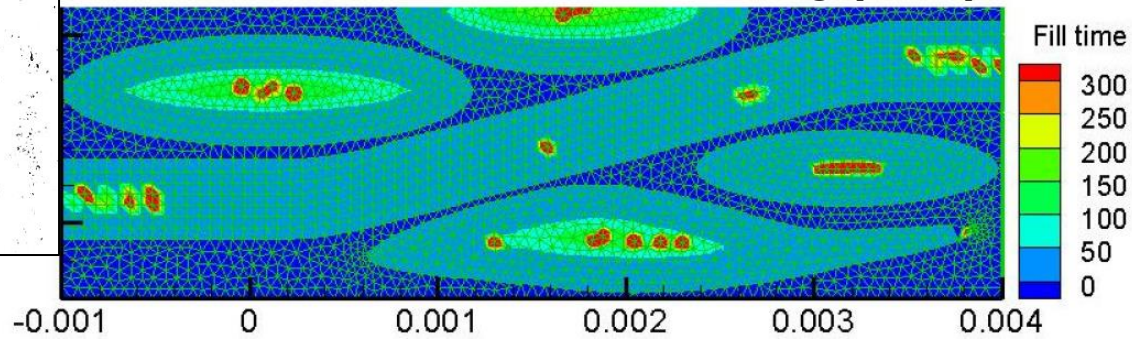
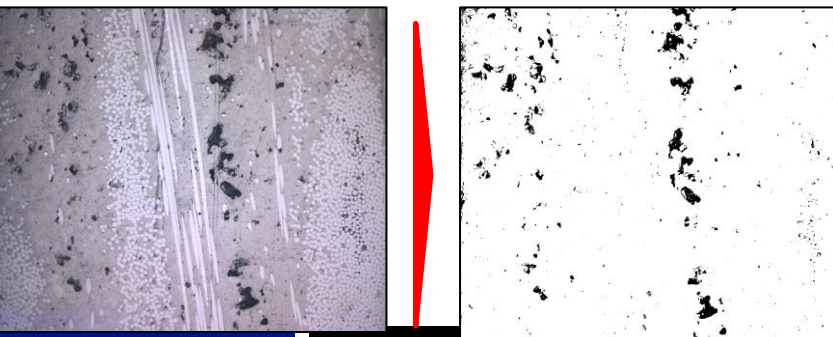
Resin & Air Flow in Micro-Scale



- Micrographic observation
- Image processing (B/W image)
- Void content calculation



- Real textile architecture
- Resin/air flow modeling (FEM)



Conclusions

- Low cost manufacturing techniques for structural composites are widely employed for aeronautic and automotive applications.
- The final product quality depends on the manufacturing technology.
- The simulation tools to predict process-induced defects are indispensable.
- The influence from the manufacturing process on the mechanical properties of final products should be considered in the structural design.
- Multi-scale and multi-physics approaches should be adopted in the composites manufacturing process modeling.