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## UHPFRC for sustainability: a high-performance material for new and existing structures

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15th fib PhD Symposium 2024 Budapest - Overview

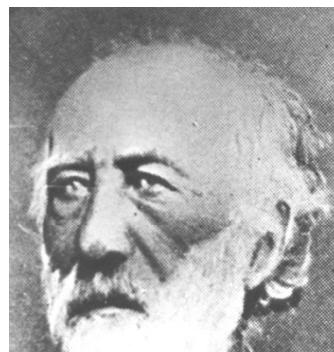
BME, 1111 Budapest, Müegytem rkp. 3.

**fib**  
CEB-FIP



Material	R/C	P/C	FRC
Idea birth	1850	1888	Last 1950's
Preliminary applications	1861	1935	1960
First patent	1867	1927	1975
Scientific papers	1877	1949	1963
Design guidelines	German 1903	CEB-FIP 1970	ACI 544 - 1982 RILEM - 1995
Massive applications	1905	1945	1975

2 chapters in the fib Model Code 2010



J. L. Lambot  
(1814-1887)



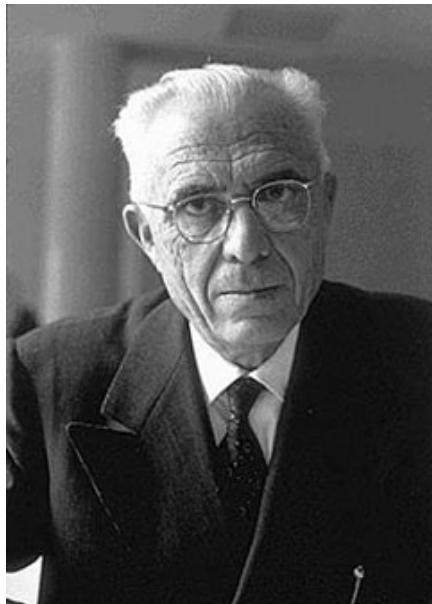
E. Freyssinet  
(1879-1962)



G. B. Batson  
Romualdi, and Batson, ASCE  
Proc. Vol. 89, EM3, June 1963.

✓ A long history ...

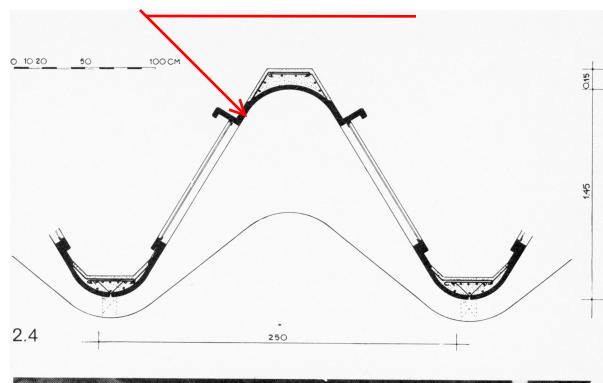
## Ferro cement



*"We wondered if, increasing significantly the diffusion of the steel and its percentage (i.e. reinforcement ratio), it could not be possible to create a new material characterized by a higher strength and especially a larger elasticity and elongation ...".*

Pier Luigi Nervi, 1940

$t = 38 \text{ mm!}$



Vault span 94 m!



Exposition Palace: B Pavilion, Torino, 1949-50

# Reconstruction stadium Jean Bouin, Paris (2012)

- Envelope 23,000 m<sup>2</sup>, roof 12,000 m<sup>2</sup>
- 3600 triangular precast UHPC elements for roof
- All elements precast



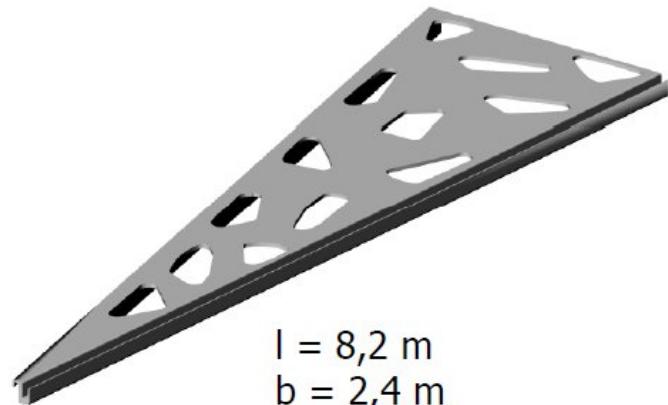
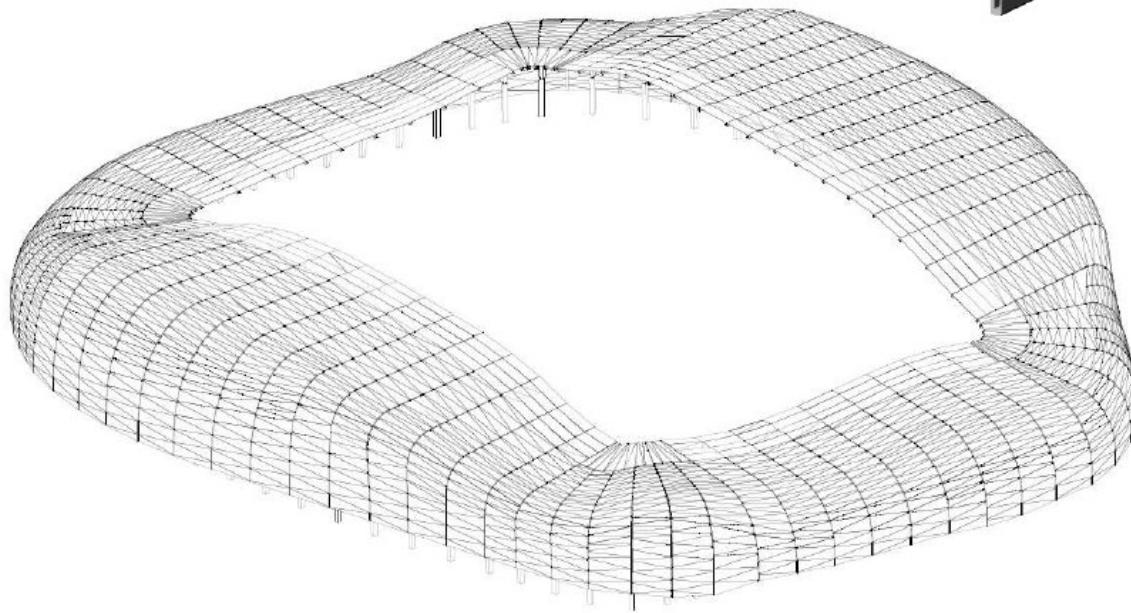
Architect Rudy Ricciotti

*courtesy by J. Walraven*

## Stadium Jean Bouin, Paris (2012)

1900 elements for roof

1600 elements for facade



$l = 8,2 \text{ m}$

$b = 2,4 \text{ m}$

$d = 35\text{mm}$



*courtesy by J. Walraven*

# Stade Jean Bouin, Paris (2012)



23000 m<sup>2</sup> lattice envelope and roof



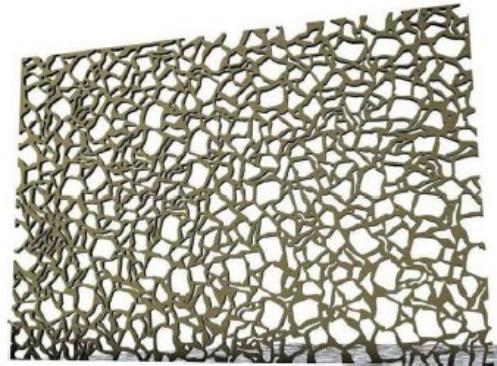
(left): UHPC lattice roof system with glass inserts

(right): sunlight filtering through the facade

*courtesy by J. Walraven*

# UHPC Building structures (2014)

MuCEM: Musée des Civilisations de l'Europe et de la Méditerranée, Marseille 2014

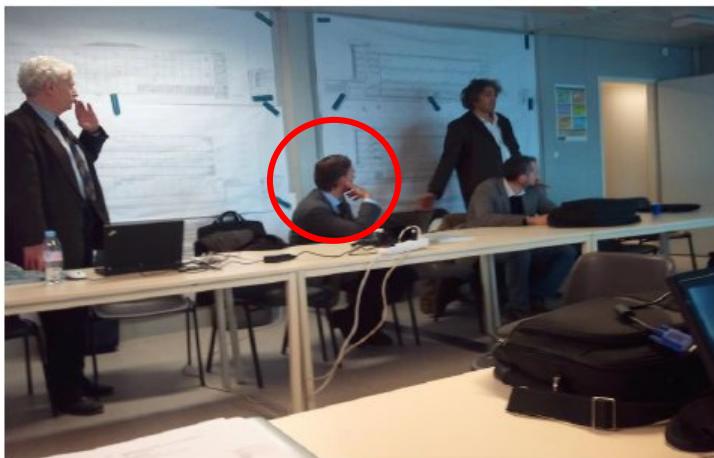


The load bearing structure of this building consist to a large extent of UHPC components such as tree-like columns, the edge beams to the suspended floors, the facade elements and the 78m footbridge to the neighbouring fort Saint Jean.

*courtesy by J. Walraven*

# UHPC Building Structures (2014)

MuCem under construction 2012



*courtesy by J. Walraven*

## UHPFRC roof Montpellier TGV Station 2017



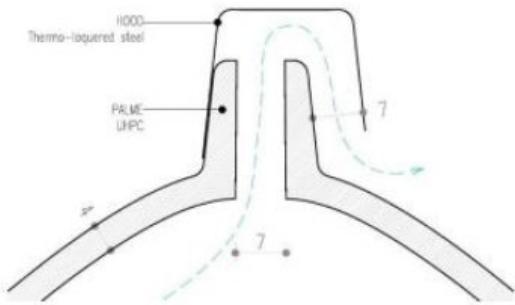
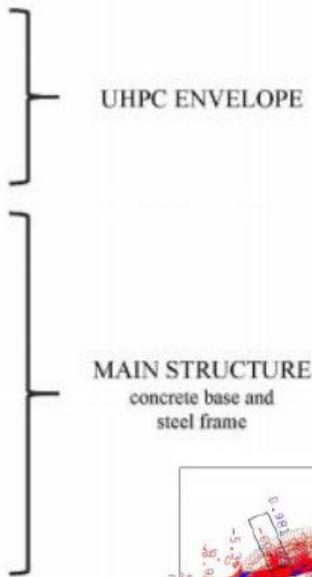
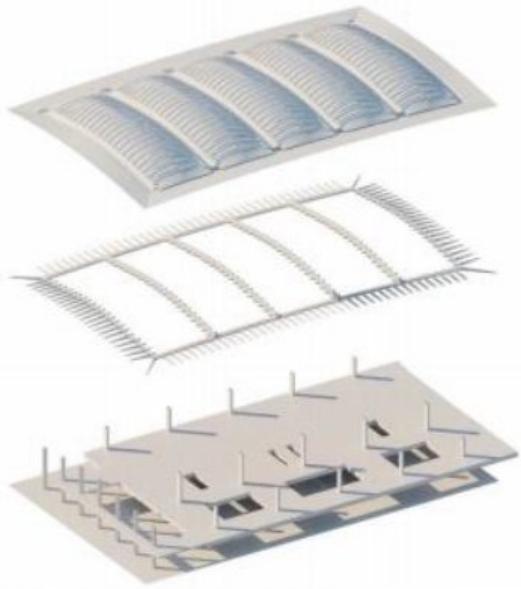
Concrete Ductal White  
B3, 1.75% fibres;  
 $f_{ck} = 130$  Mpa  
LoP (tension) = 5.5  
Mpa.

Roof made of 115  
beams ("palms")

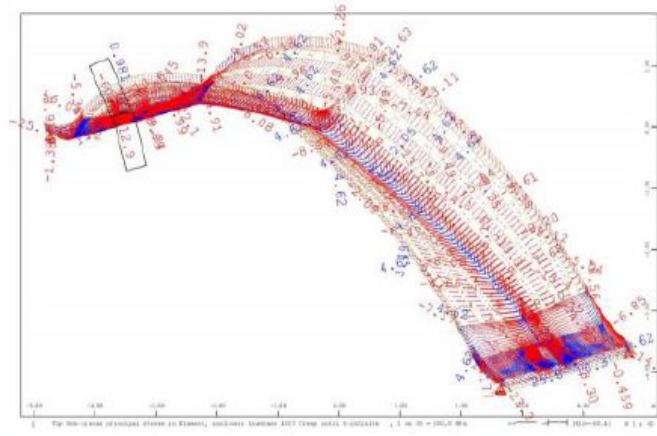
Roof made of 115 modular double cambered self-supporting elements in precast white UHPFRC, filtering the strong southern light. Span = 20m , width = 2.4m, thickness 4 cm. All roofing elements (10.000 m<sup>2</sup>) were produced in 5 months and installed in 2 weeks.

*courtesy by J. Walraven*

# UHPFRC roof Montpellier TGV Station (2017)



"Porous roof", with detail for climate regulation. Natural ventilation verified by fluid dynamics computational analysis



Nonlinear analysis of roof;  
Maximum admissible SLS concrete stress  
 $\sigma_{ct,SLS} = 4.75$  Mpa, and maximum  
compressive stress  $\sigma_{cc,SLS} = 78$  Mpa;  
 $W < 0.1\text{mm}$ ,  $\delta_{max} = 1/1200$

*courtesy by J. Walraven*

## UHPFRC roof Montpellier TGV Station 2017



Full scale testing of a beam, subjected to several load-bearing configurations, with data corresponding to deformations and deflections of the structure and natural frequency, in order to confirm the static and dynamic behaviour.

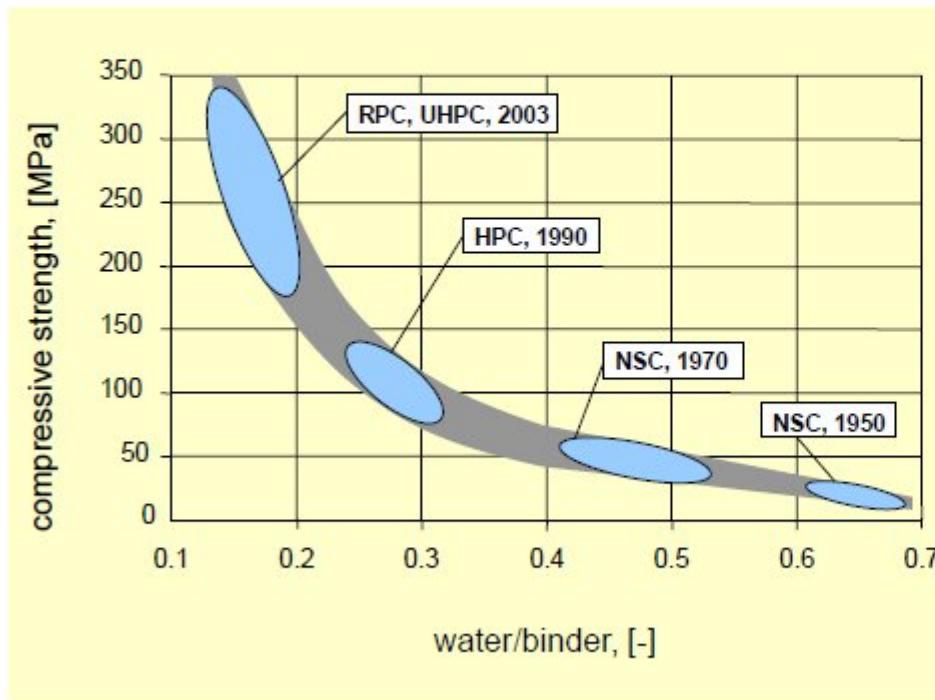
*courtesy by J. Walraven*

# Outline

- ✓ HPFRC sustainability
- ✓ hybrid solution to optimize mechanical performance
- ✓ constitutive law identification and modelling problems
- ✓ applications:
  - precast light roofing: a synergic solution for industrial building rehabilitation
  - light floors partially prefabricated
  - UHPFRC panels as loss formworks to protect bridge deck
  - UHPFRC to strengthen damaged half-joints
  - tunnel segments
  - HPFRC for retrofitting
- ✓ Concluding remarks

## Concrete evolution

### Development of compressive strength of concrete since 1950



*courtesy by J. Walraven*

## Maximum strength by optimization packing density

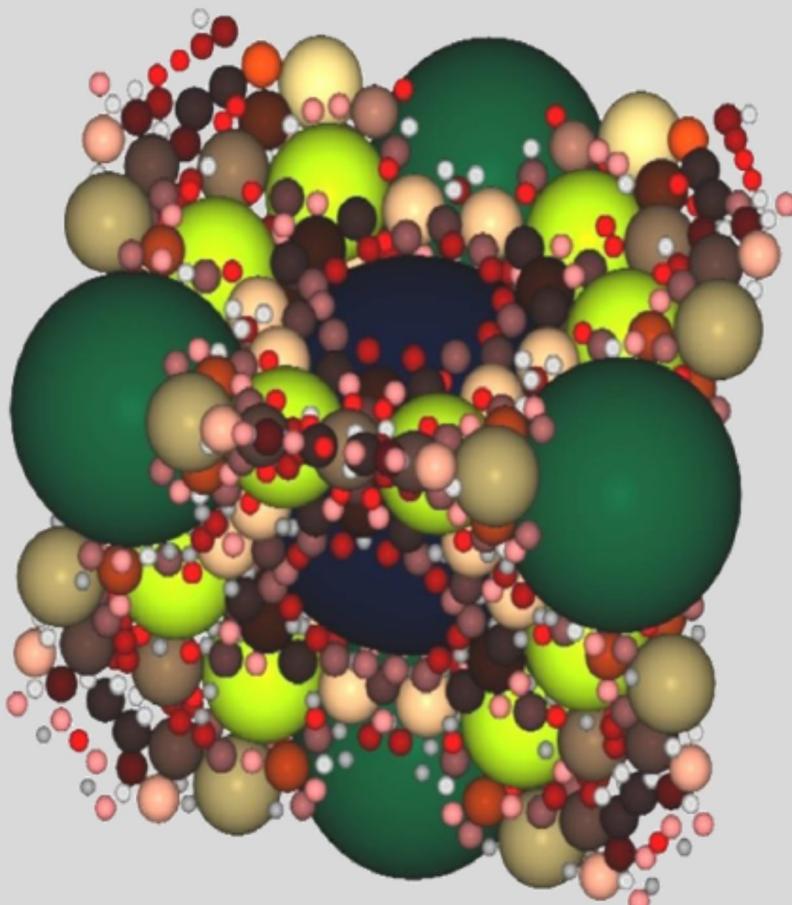


Figure: University Kassel

	Dosage (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Cement type I 52.5	600
Slag	500
Water	200
Superplasticizer	33 (l/m <sup>3</sup> )
Sand 0-2 mm	983
Fibers ( $l_f = 13\text{mm}$ ; $d_f = 0.16\text{mm}$ )	100

$$\bar{\rho} = 2450 - 2530 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

$R_{cm, 24h} = 66.3 \text{ Mpa}$   
 $R_{cm, 7d} = 99.1 \text{ Mpa}$   
 $R_{cm, 28d} = 116.5 \text{ Mpa}$   
 $E_{sm} = 45249 \text{ Mpa}$

Around 600 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> for 1 m<sup>3</sup> of UHPFRC

- > durability (life time extension)
- < volume (structure optimization)



To have a daily-life comparison, we have to take into account that:

1 km with a hybrid car = 0.1 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> emission

1 km with a modern plane = 0.25 kg/pass

1 km with a modern cruise ship = 0.4 kg/pass

1 km with a train = 0.024 kg/pass

1 kwh = 0.3 kg



In Italy the whole emission of CO<sub>2</sub> / inhabitant for the whole production of concrete is around 1.5 kg

## CASE STUDY: ROOF ELEMENT

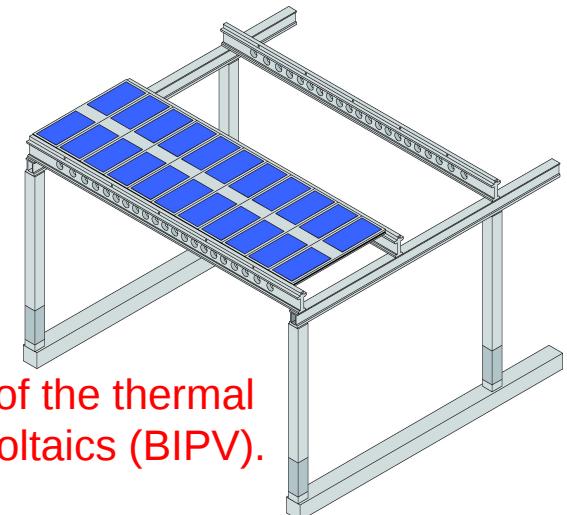
Roof systems are an important component of the building envelope, since they are specifically designed to separate the living spaces from the natural environment. **They should ensure: adequate mechanical performances, energy efficiency, sound insulation, durability and aesthetics.**

### HOW CAN WE MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE REVISED NATIONAL CODES?

A retrofitting strategy that might be successfully applied to several precast structures in northern Italy is represented by the substitution of the unsafe tertiary roofing elements with **innovative multilayer panels** characterized by lightness and remarkable structural performances.

#### HPFRC + INSULATING CORE + TRC

- self-weight reduction;
- global cost reduction;
- fire safety;
- no need of waterproofing layer;
- environmental sustainability, relying both on the improvement of the thermal performances and on the design of Building-Integrated Photovoltaics (BIPV).

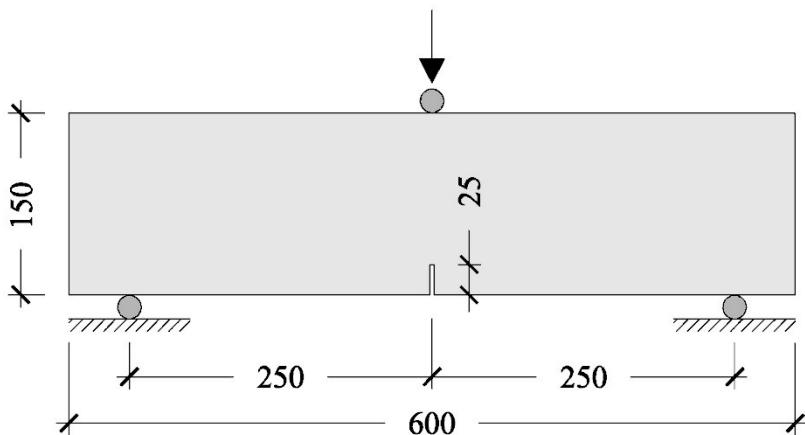


# MATERIALS

## HPFRCC

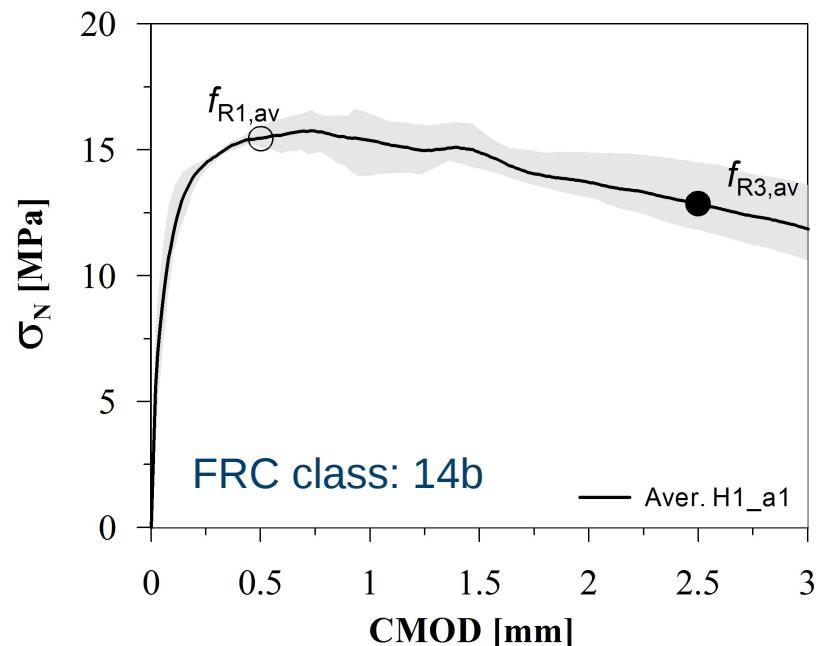
w/b=0.19 and SP/c=5.5%.

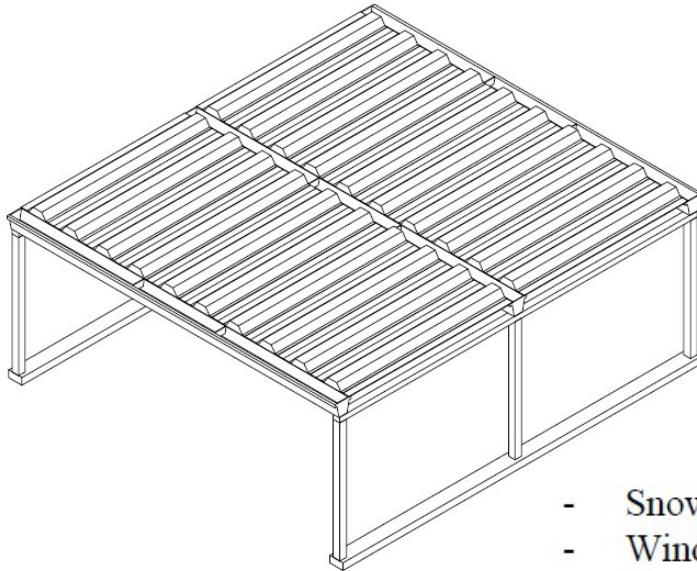
Component	Content
Cement I 52.5	600 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Sand 0 ÷ 2 mm	977 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Water	200 l/m <sup>3</sup>
Superplasticizer	33 l/m <sup>3</sup>
Slag	500 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Steel fibers	100 kg/m <sup>3</sup>



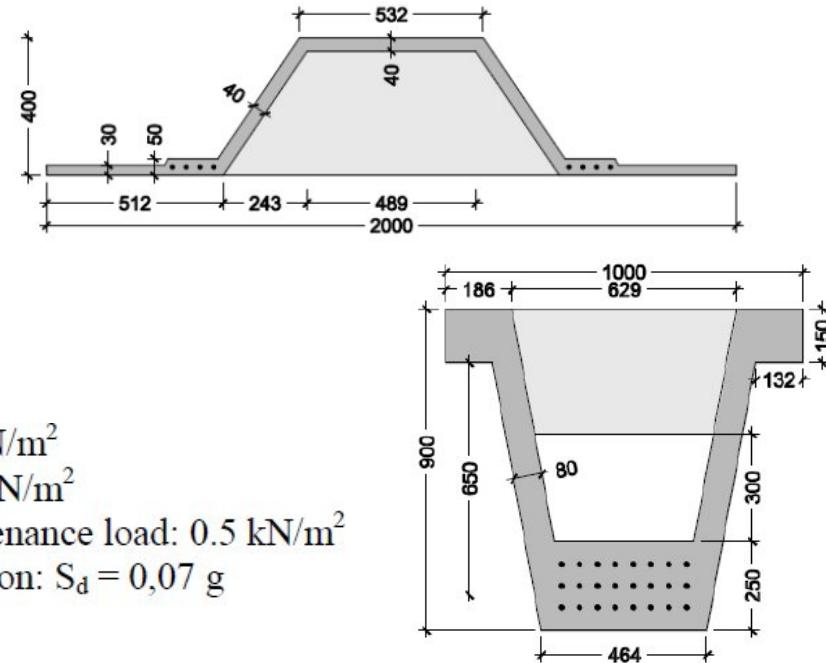
Flexural residual strengths.

Specimen	$f_{R1}$ [MPa]	$f_{R1,av}$ [MPa] (std)	$f_{R3}$ [MPa]	$f_{R3,av}$ [MPa] (std)
H1_a1_1	15.90	15.46	14.51	12.87
H1_a1_2	15.11	(0.40)	12.27	(1.44)
H1_a1_3	15.38		11.82	





- Snow load: 1.2 kN/m<sup>2</sup>
- Wind load: 0.64 kN/m<sup>2</sup>
- Distributed maintenance load: 0.5 kN/m<sup>2</sup>
- Seismic acceleration: S<sub>d</sub> = 0,07 g



*Table 3. Materials costs*

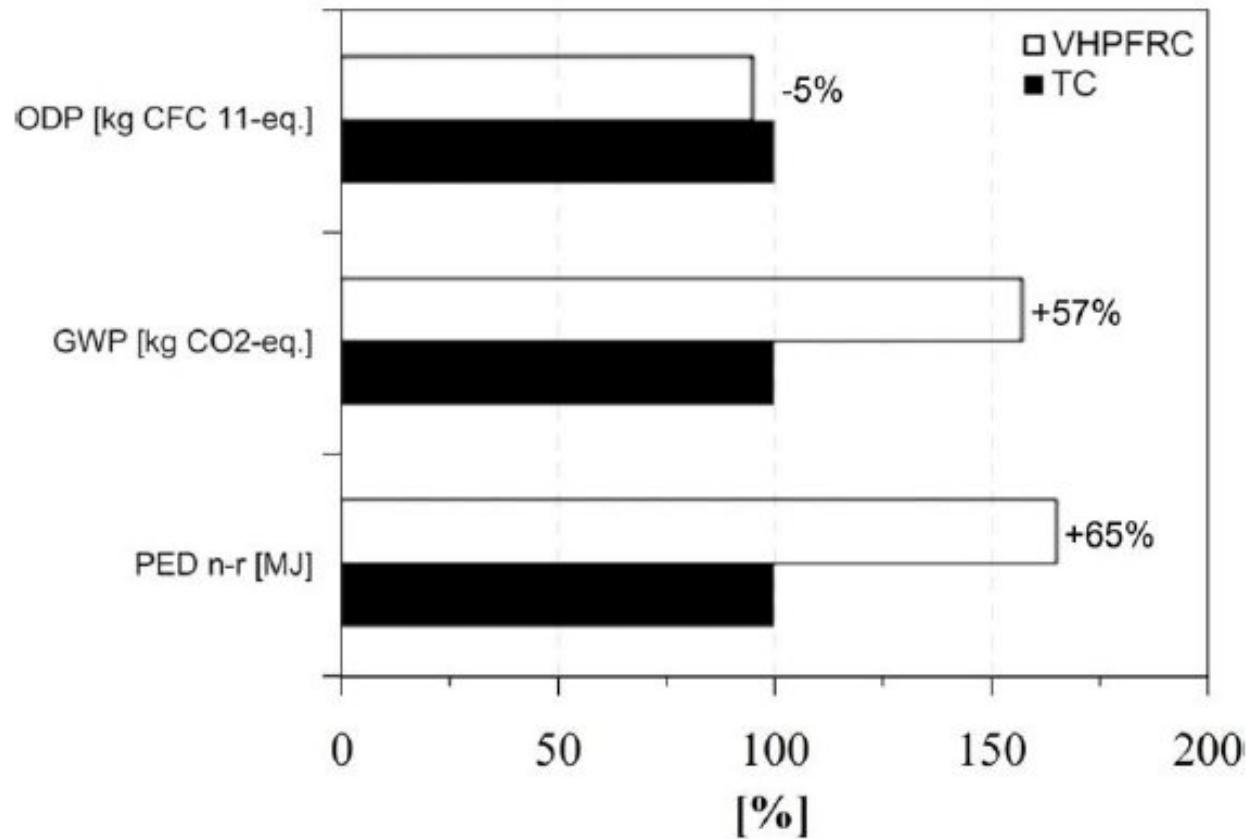
Conventional Concrete C50/60 (€/m <sup>3</sup> )	VHPFRC (fibers incl.) (€/m <sup>3</sup> )	Steel Bars (€/kg)	Prestressed Tendons (€/kg)	Fiber Reinforced Concrete (€/m <sup>3</sup> )
50	440	0.65	1.00	150

*Table 7 – Structure costs*

	Material Cost (€)	Labor Cost (€)	Transport Cost (€)	Storage Cost (€)	Assembly Cost (€)	Structure Cost (€)
Traditional	22.401	21.728	5.601	6.301	7.002	<b>63.033</b>
New Solution	24.037	8.175	3.075	3.459	7.002	<b>45.748</b>

ODP = Ozono Depleting Potential  
GWP = Global Warming Potential  
PED = Primary Energy Demand

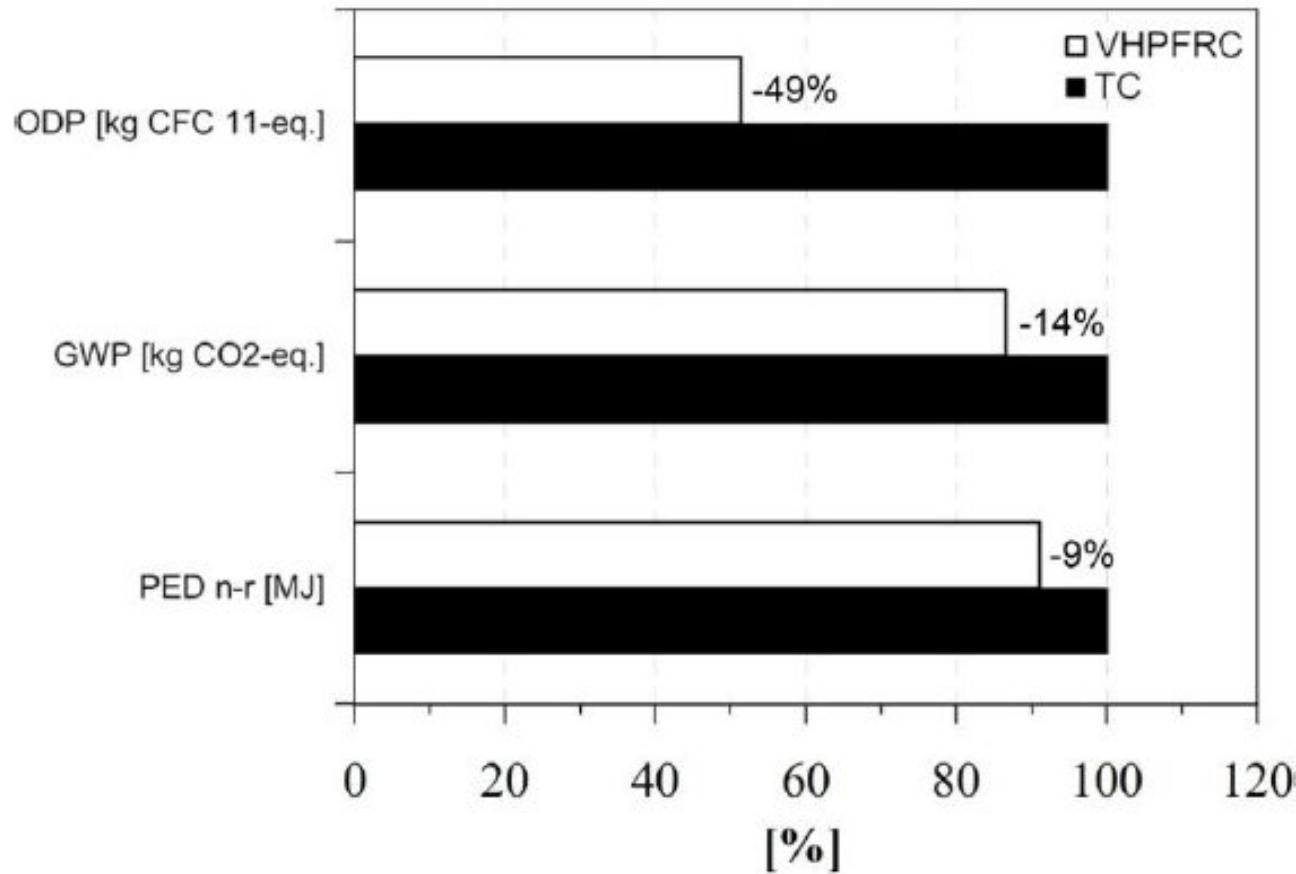
## Computation for a specific volume



di Prisco M., Moro S., Bayard O., Zani G., (2014), New Industrial Building Designed with Very High Performance Fiber Reinforced Concrete, Concrete Innovation Concrete, Oslo, June 2014

ODP = Ozono Depleting Potential  
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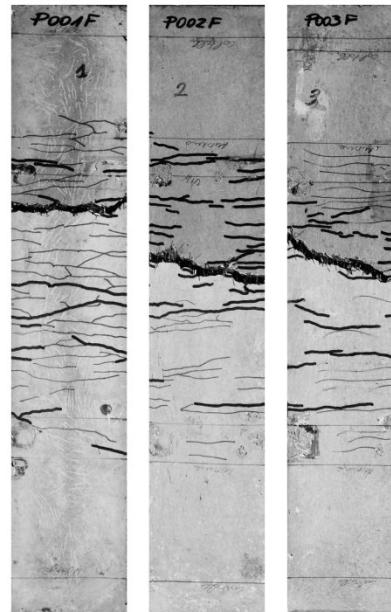
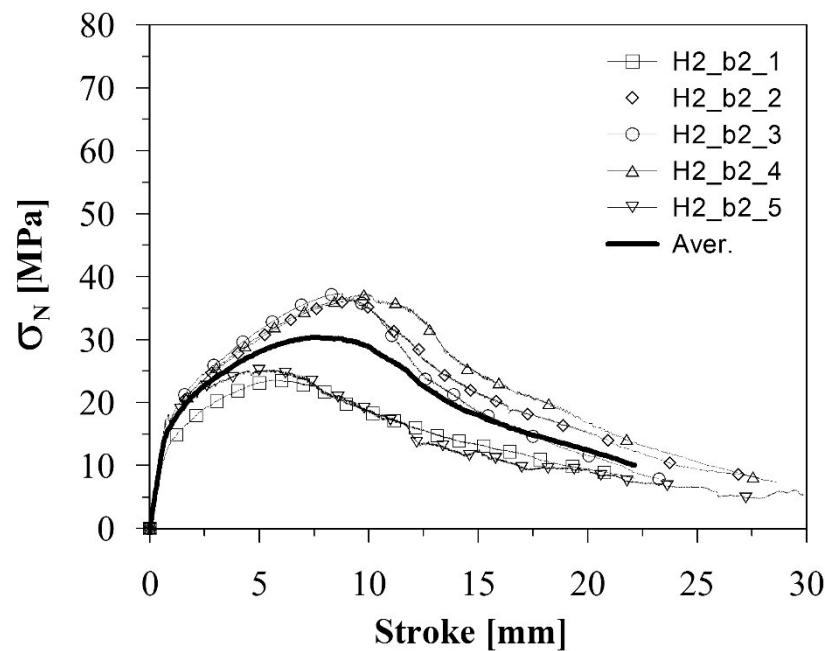
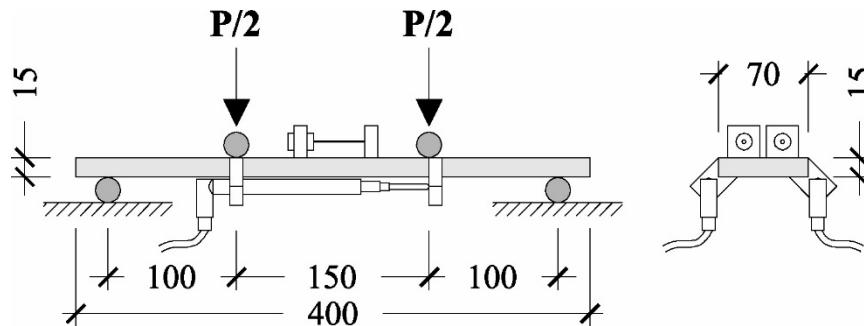
## Computation for the whole structure



di Prisco M., Moro S., Bayard O., Zani G., (2014), New Industrial Building Designed with Very High Performance Fiber Reinforced Concrete, Concrete Innovation Concrete, Oslo, June 2014

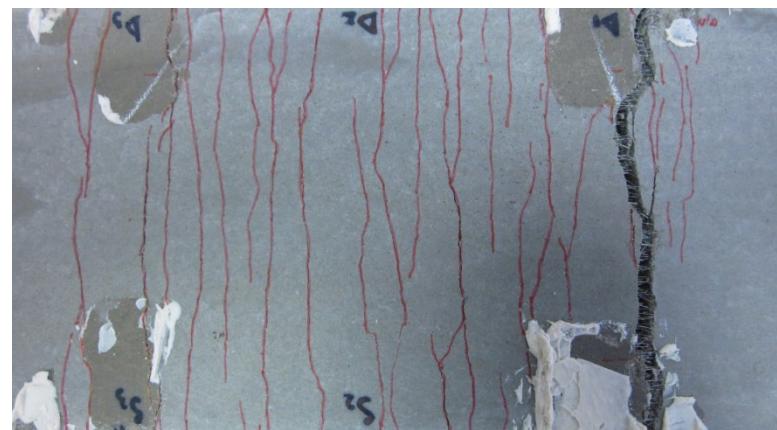
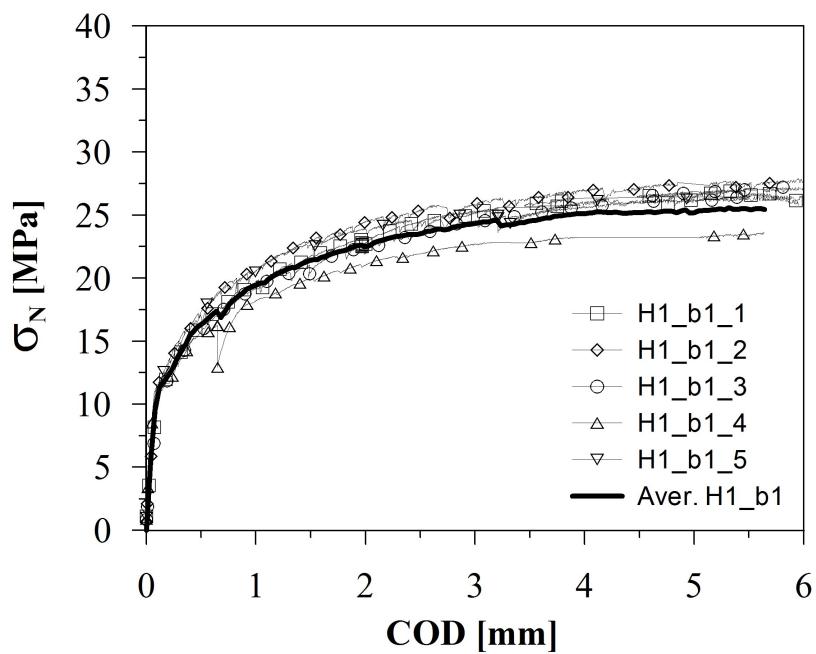
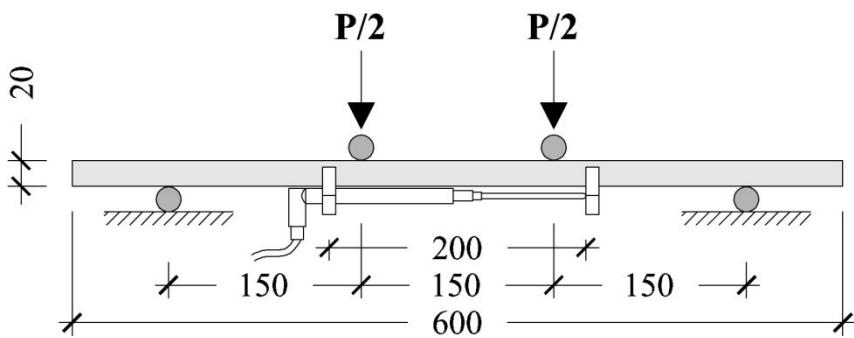
## 4PB tests on 'structural' unnotched specimens

HPFRCC - Randomly oriented fibers



## 4PB tests on 'structural' unnotched specimens

HPFRCC - Oriented fibers



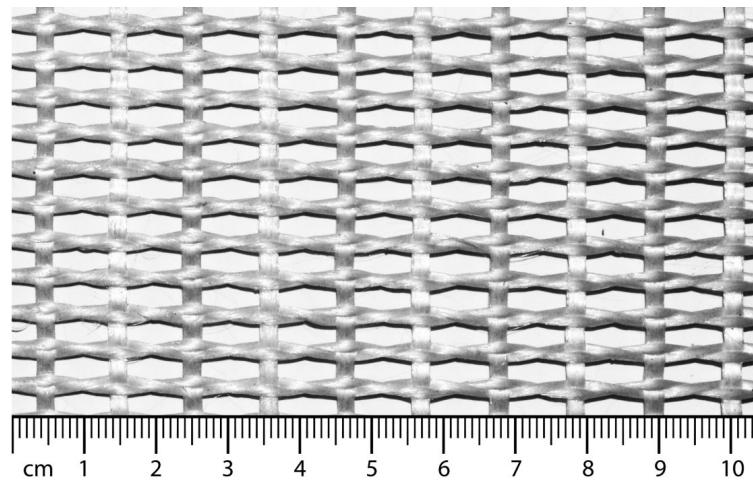
# HyFRC

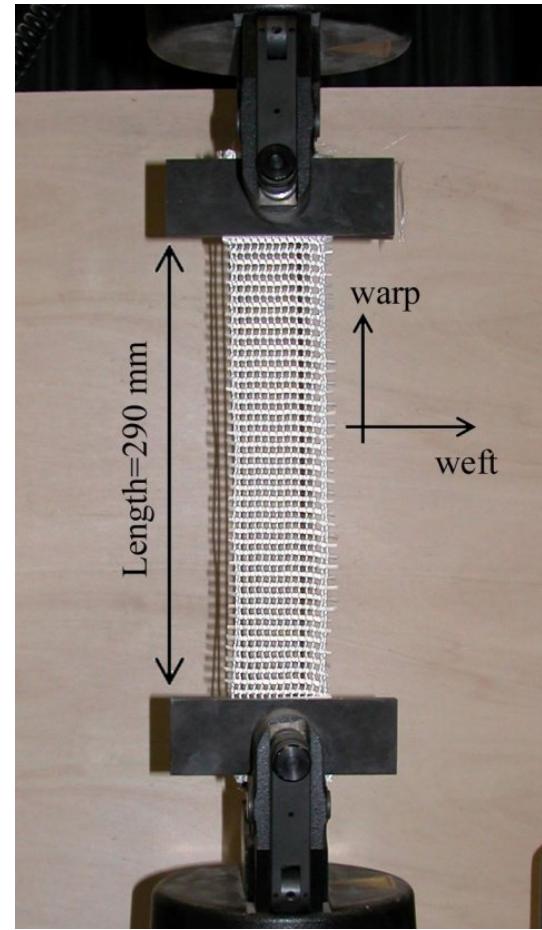
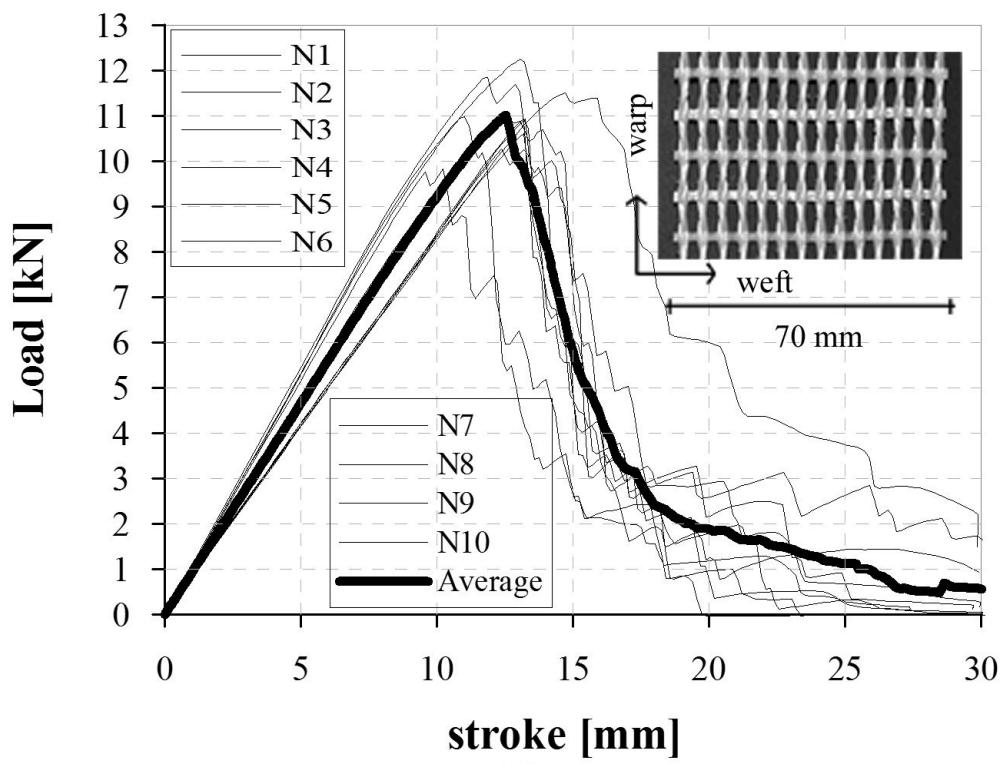
## MATERIALS

- High Performance Concrete (HPC)  
w/b=0.19 and SP/c=5.5%
- Straight high carbon steel microfibers (randomly dispersed)  
Content: 100 kg/m<sup>3</sup> (1.2% by volume)  
Length 13 mm, diameter 0.16 mm, aspect ratio ( $l_f/d_f$ ) 80
- Alkali-resistant (AR) glass fabrics

Component	Content
Cement I 52.5	600 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Sand 0–2 mm	977 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Water	212.7 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Superplasticizer	33 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Slag	500 kg/m <sup>3</sup>

Material	AR-glass
Fabrication technique	Leno weave
Warp wire spacing [mm]	4.9
Weft wire spacing [mm]	10.1
Warp fineness [Tex]	2 x 1200
Weft fineness [Tex]	1200
Warp filament [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	19
Weft filament [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	19
Maximum tensile load on 70 mm [kN]	11.02

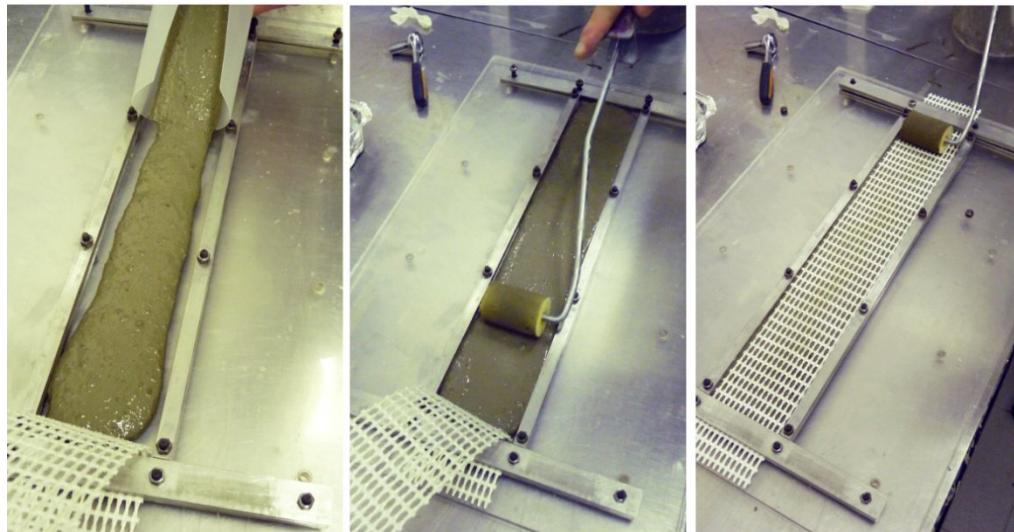




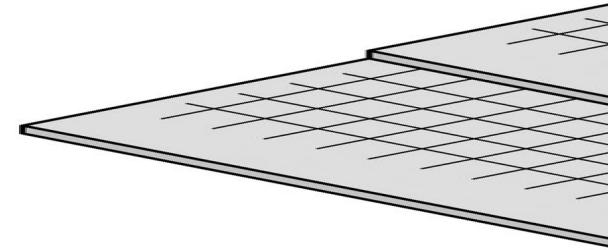
## SPECIMENS PREPARATION

Code	Steel fibers content [kg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	Glass textiles layers
F	100	0
T	0	2
FT	100	2

## Reinforcement layouts



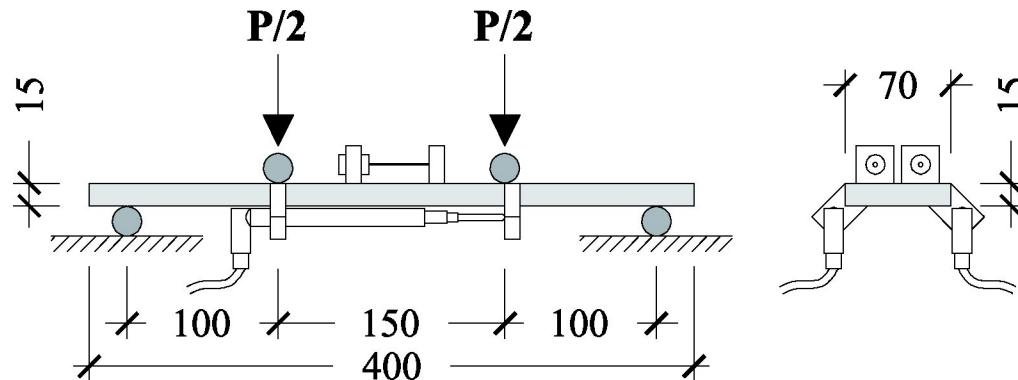
Hand lay-up technique



Global thickness = 15 mm

The thickness of the concrete layer embedded between the two fabrics and of the concrete cover was set equal to 5 mm.

## TESTING



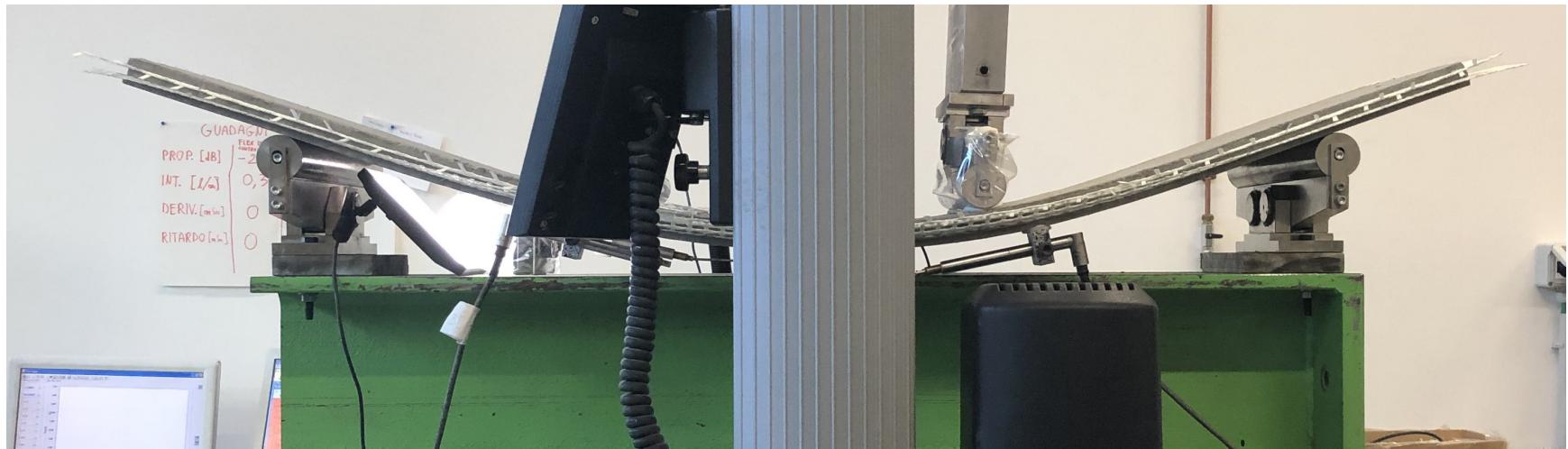
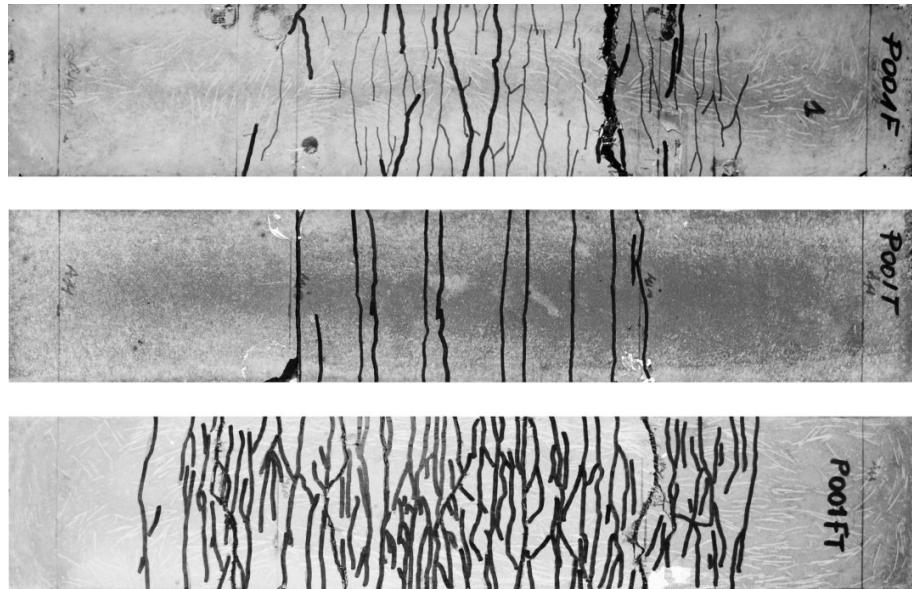
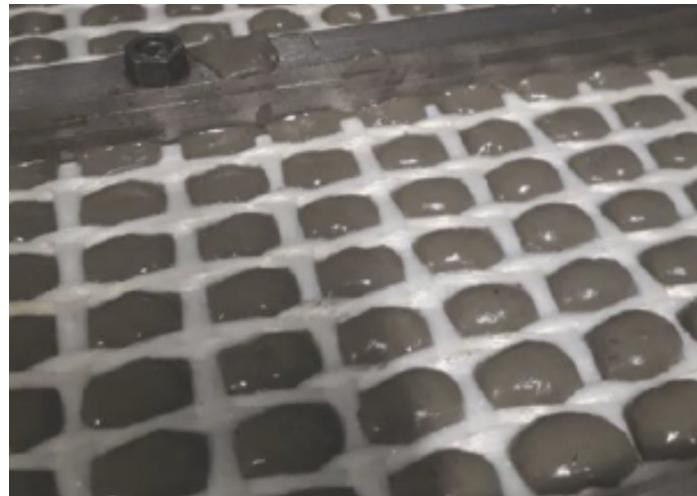
Four point bending test setup



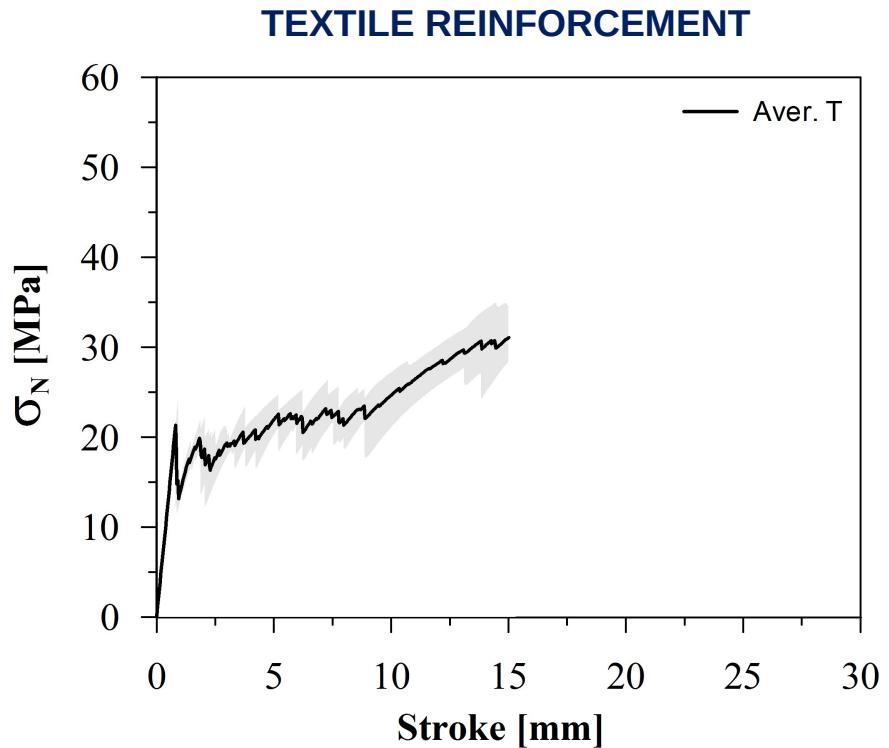
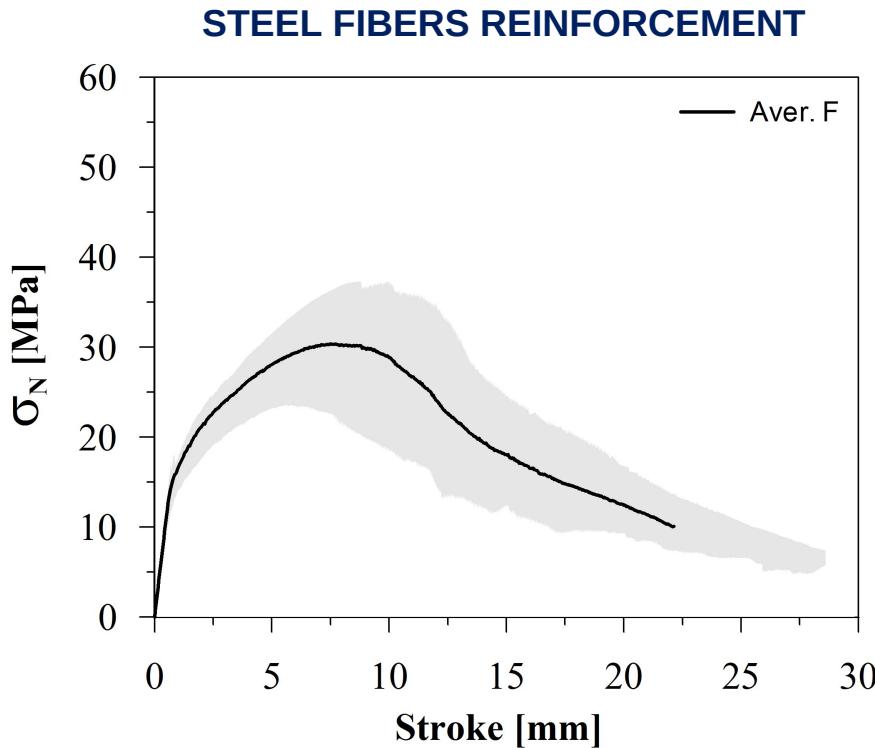
Displacement controlled closed-loop tests rates:

- $4 \cdot 10^{-3}$  mm/sec up to a 20 mm stroke.
- $1.2 \cdot 10^{-2}$  mm/sec up to the specimen failure.

## Hybrid composites



# Experimental results

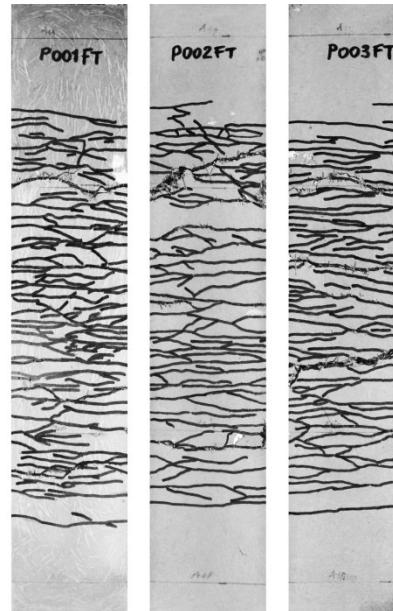
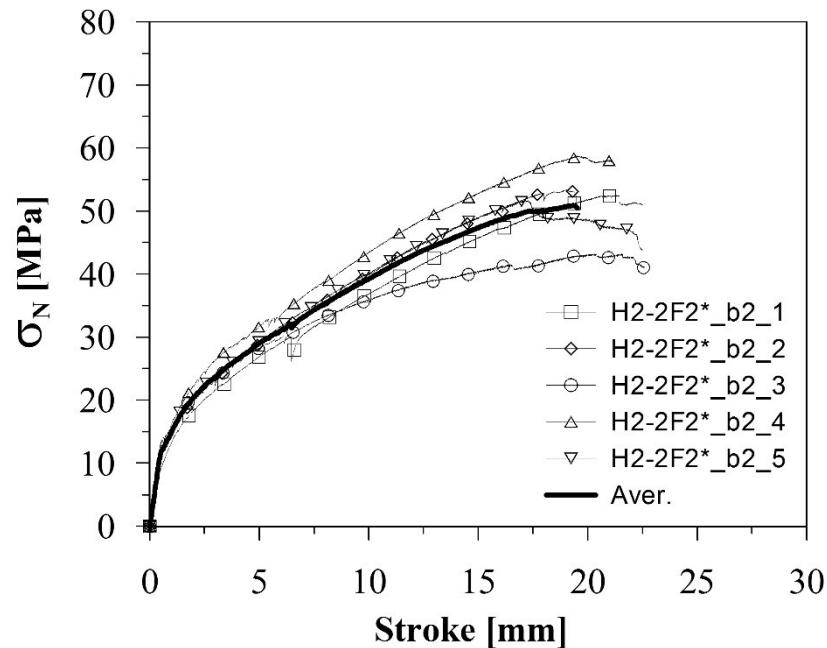
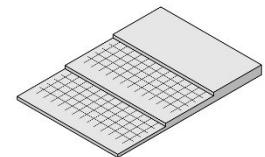


**Nominal Stress vs. Stroke curves**

## 4PB tests on 'structural' unnotched specimens

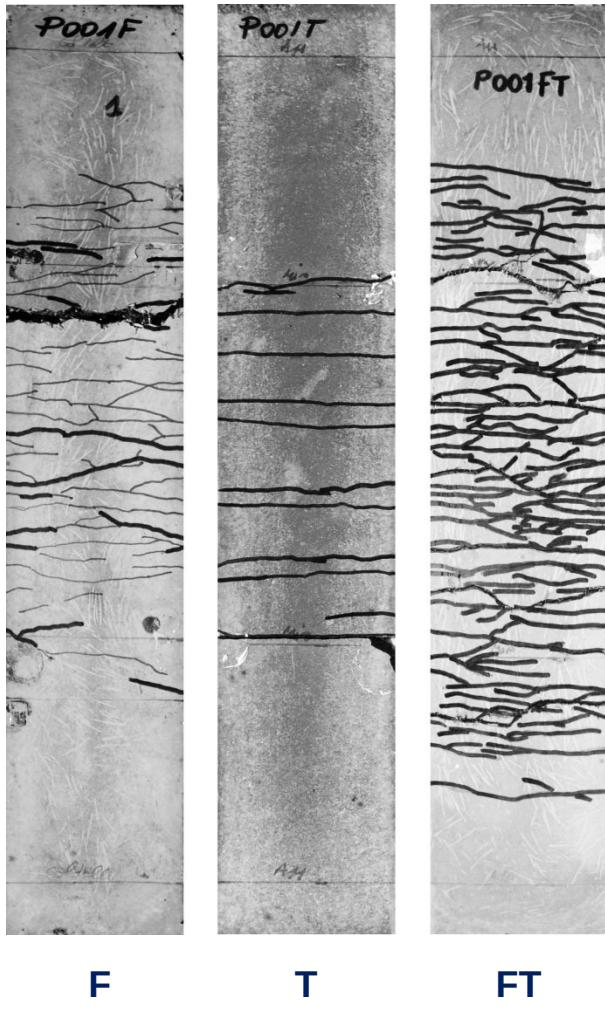
HyFRCC: HPFRCC + 2 layers of AR glass fabrics - Randomly oriented fibers

2 layers



## EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

## AVERAGE DATA

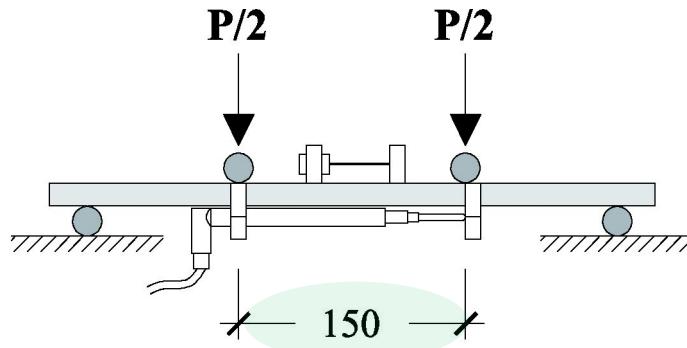


TYPICAL CRACK PATTERNS

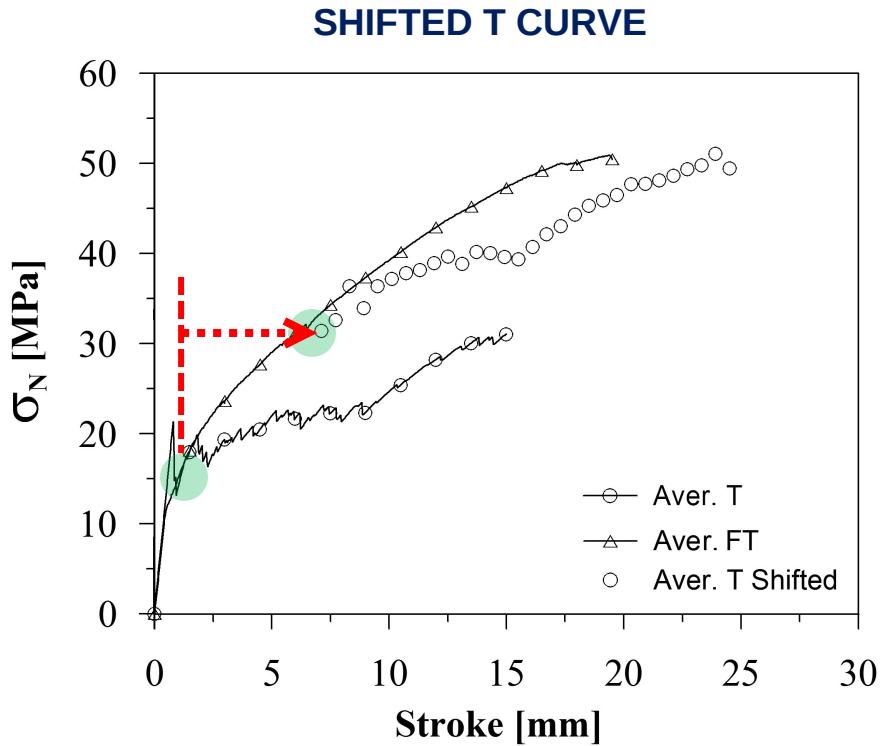
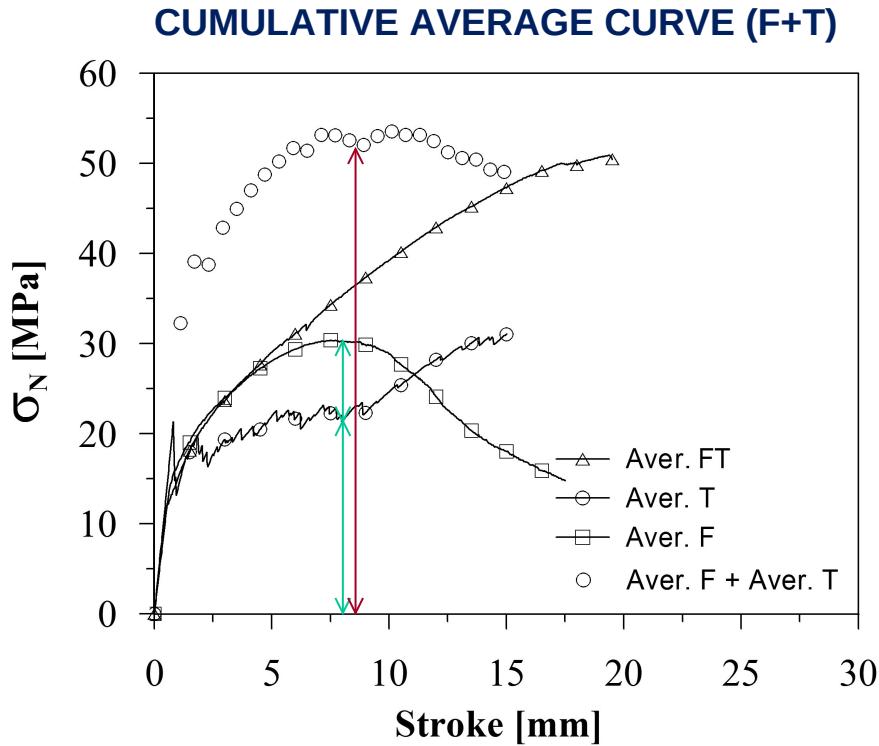
Set	$\sigma_{N;peak,av} \text{ (std)} [\text{MPa}]$	$\varepsilon_{peak,av}^* [\%]$
F	32.2 (6.6)	2.1
T	36.1 (2.9)	5.8
FT	52.4 (5.6)	> 6

$$\sigma_{N;peak} = \frac{P_{peak}}{b \cdot h^2}$$

$$\varepsilon_{peak}^* = \frac{COD_{peak}}{\ell_{COD}}$$



# Experimental results



No clear synergic effects (as the ones highlighted in direct tension)

The response of the lower glass fabric took place after the onset of a diffuse micro-cracking, that was found to be close to an equivalent strain  $\epsilon^*$  of about 2.7%.

# constitutive law identification and modelling problems



**Table 1**  
Direct tension test setups – dogbone shaped specimens.

Shape dogbone	Material (-)	Performance level (-)	Length, width and depth of constant area (total specimen) in (mm)			Diff. area	Grip/attachment	DOF <sup>a</sup> top-bottom	Ref.
			L	W	D				
	UHP-FRC	4	80 (330)	30 (60)	13 (13)	50%	Fixed	0-0	[12,13]
	HPFRCC	3-4	80 (240)	24 (40)	40 (40)	60%	Fixed	0-0	[14]
	HPFRCC	4	152 (457)	38 (76)	76 (76)	50%	Self-clamping friction grip <sup>b</sup>	1-1	[16]
	HPFRCC	3	150 (200)	25 (40)	25 (25)	63%	Anchored/pinned	1-1	[17]
	HPFRCC	3	200 (525)	50 (125)	13 (13)	40%	Anchored/pinned	1-1	[17]
	UHP-FRC	3-4	178 (525)	51 (125)	25 (25)	41%	Anchored/pinned	1-1	[7]
	UHP-FRC	3-4	200 (750)	100 (300)	50 (50)	33%	Top glued/anchored	0-0	[18]
	UHP-FRC	3	250 (740)	100 (200)	35 (35)	50%	Side glued/pinned	1-1	[19]
	UHP-FRC	3	200 (700)	160 (200)	45 (45)	80%	Side glued + anchored (greased)	0-0	[3]
	HPFRCC	3-4	80 (330)	30 (60)	13/30 (13/30)	50%	Clamped/fixed/pinned	0/2-0/2	[11]
	Plain concrete	0	200 (400)	60 (100)	100 (100)	60%	Top glued	0-0	[20]
	Plain concrete	0	0 <sup>c</sup> (150) <sup>c</sup>	60 <sup>c</sup> (100) <sup>c</sup>	100 <sup>c</sup> (100) <sup>c</sup>	60%	Top glued/pinned	2-2	[21]
	Plain lightweight concrete	0	0 (270)	80 <sup>d</sup> (100) <sup>d</sup>	- (100) <sup>d</sup>	64%	Top glued/fixed	0-0	[22]

<sup>a</sup> DOF – degree of freedom.

<sup>b</sup> Similar to Saito and Imai [15].

<sup>c</sup> Other sizes were also investigated.

<sup>d</sup> Diameter of the cylinder.

by Naaman *Cement & Concrete Composites* 48 (2014) 53–66

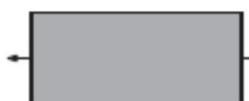
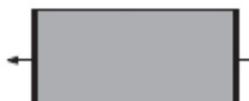
Properties of strain hardening ultra high performance fiber reinforced concrete (UHP-FRC) under direct tensile loading

K. Wille<sup>a,\*</sup>, S. El-Tawil<sup>b</sup>, A.E. Naaman<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, University of Connecticut, 261 Glenbrook Road Unit 2037, Storrs, CT 06269-3037, USA

<sup>b</sup> Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, University of Michigan, 2350 Hayward, G.C. Brown, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2125, USA

**Table 2**  
Direct tension test setups – unnotched prism/cylinder specimens.

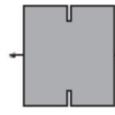
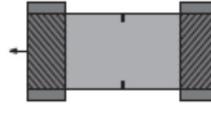
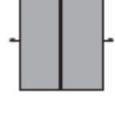
Shape unnotched prism/cylinder	Material (-)	Performance level (-)	Length, width and depth of constant area (total specimen) in (mm)			Diff. area	Grip/attachment	DOF <sup>a</sup> top-bottom	Ref.
			L	W	D				
	FRC	<3	127 (330)	127 (76)	28 (28)	100%	Side glued/pinned	0-0	[23]
	FRC/ECC	3/4	205 (305)	76 (76)	13 (13)	100%	Side glued/pinned	0-0	[24,25]
	UHP-FRC	3	102 (432)	51 (51)	51 (51)	100%	Side glued + clamped /fixed	0-0	[26]
	UHP-FRC	3	160 (160)	70 (70)	70 (70)	100%	Top glued	0-0	[27]
	Plain concrete/UHP-FRC	0/3	200 (200)	100 <sup>b</sup> (100) <sup>b</sup>	–	100%	op glued	0-0	[28,29]

<sup>a</sup> DOF – degree of freedom.

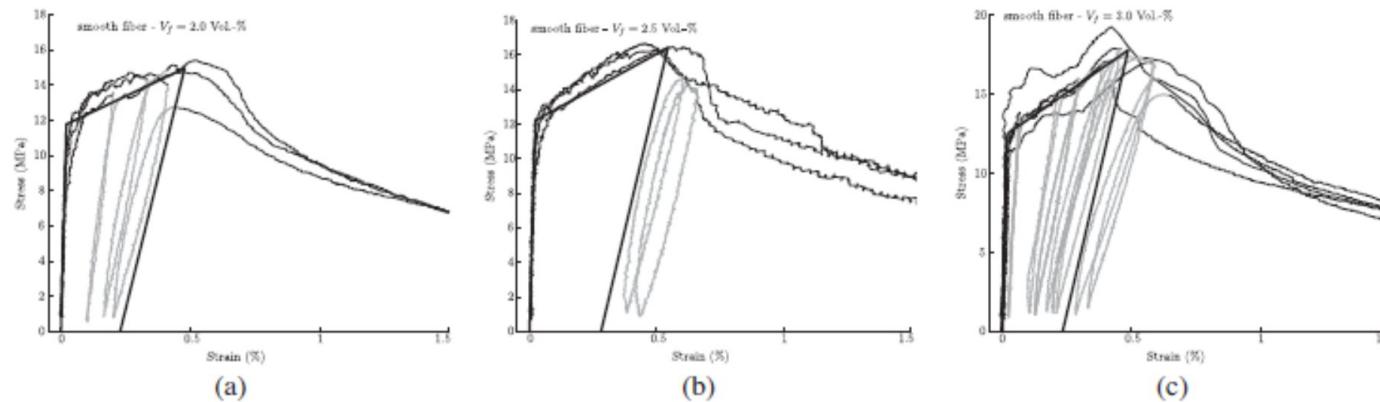
<sup>b</sup> Diameter of the cylinder.

**Table 3**

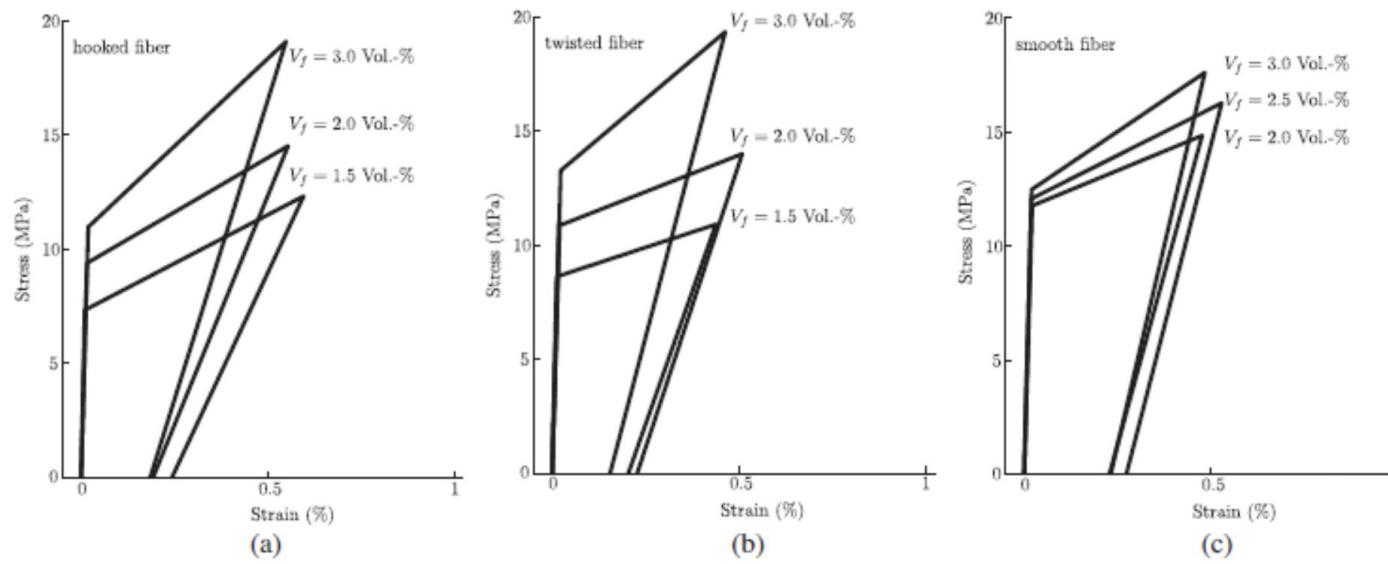
Direct tension test setups – notched prism/cylinder specimens.

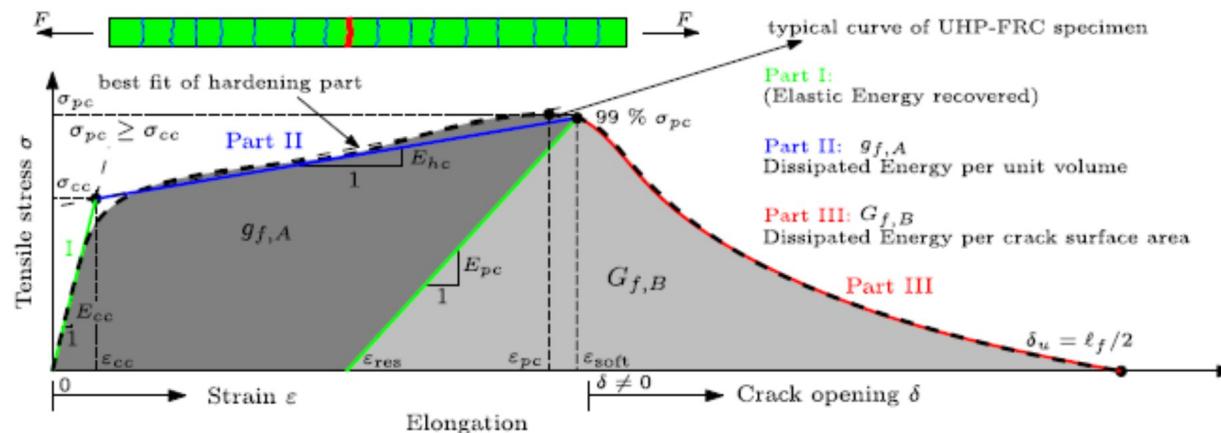
Shape notched prism/cylinder	Material (-)	Performance level (-)	Length, width and depth of constant area (total specimen) in (mm)			Diff. area	Grip/attachment	DOF <sup>a</sup> top-bottom	Ref.
			L	W	D				
	FRC	<3	2	51	51	44%	Top glued	0-0	[30]
	FRC	<3	(152) 3	(76) 42	(76) 50	70%	Top glued	0-0	[31]
	FRC	2	(55) 1	(60) 51	(50) 13	67%	Top glued	0-0	[32]
	UHP-FRC	3-4	(254) ~5	(76) 160	(13) 50	80%	Side glued + anchored (greased)	0-0	[33,34]
	FRC/UHP-FRC	2/3	(500) 2-5	(200) 135 <sup>a</sup>	(50) –	81%	Top glued	0-0	[29,35-37]
	UHP-FRC	3-4	(150) 2	(150) <sup>b</sup> 44 <sup>b</sup>	–	35%	Top glued	0-0	[38]
			(60)	(74) <sup>b</sup>					

<sup>a</sup> DOF – degree of freedom.<sup>b</sup> Diameter of the cylinder.

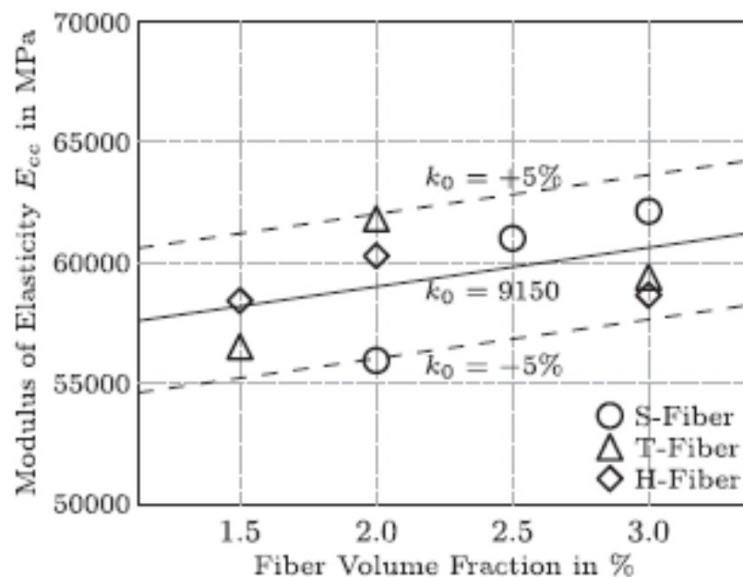


**Fig. 8.** Test data for U-S-specimens and bi-linear model including unloading line, (a) U-S-2, (b) U-S-25 and (c) U-S-3.

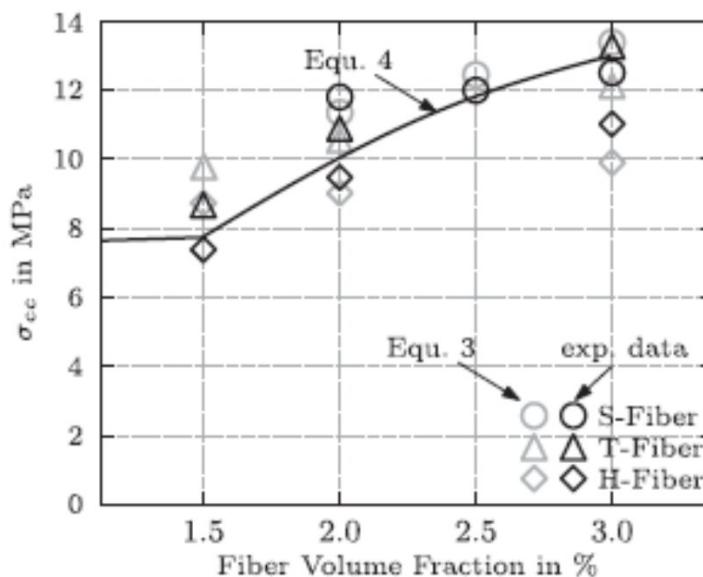




**Fig. 3.** Strain hardening tensile behavior of UHP-FRC and idealized modeling approach (horizontal axis scale magnified for clarity).



(a)



(b)

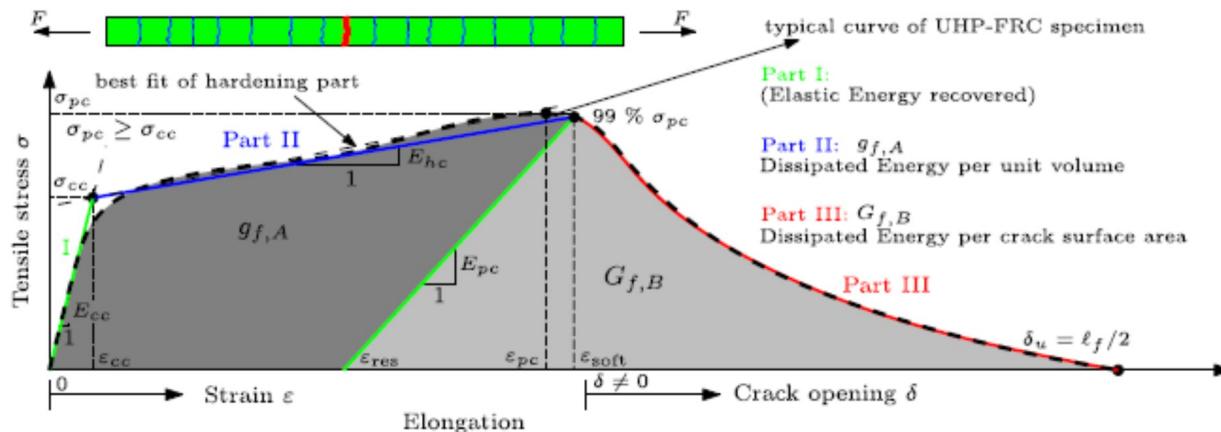
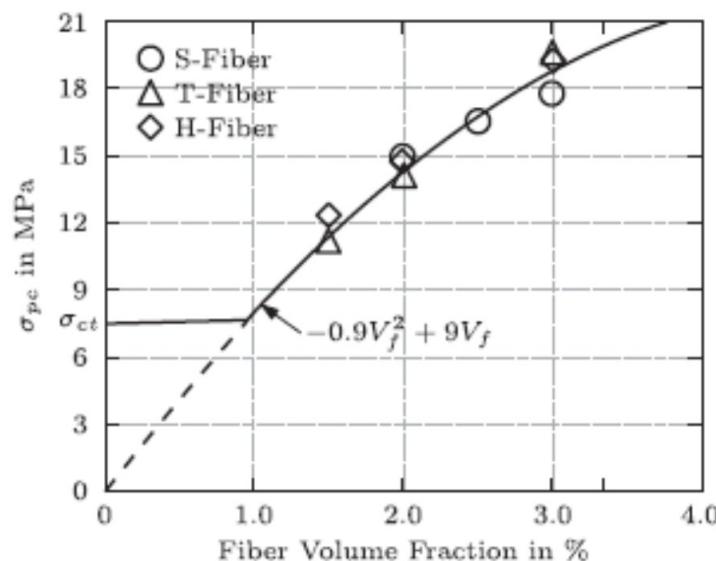
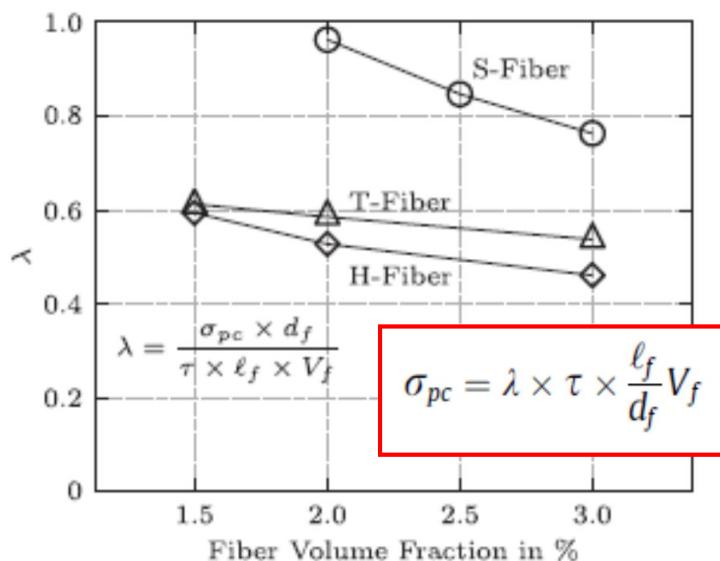


Fig. 3. Strain hardening tensile behavior of UHP-FRC and idealized modeling approach (horizontal axis scale magnified for clarity).



(a)



(b)

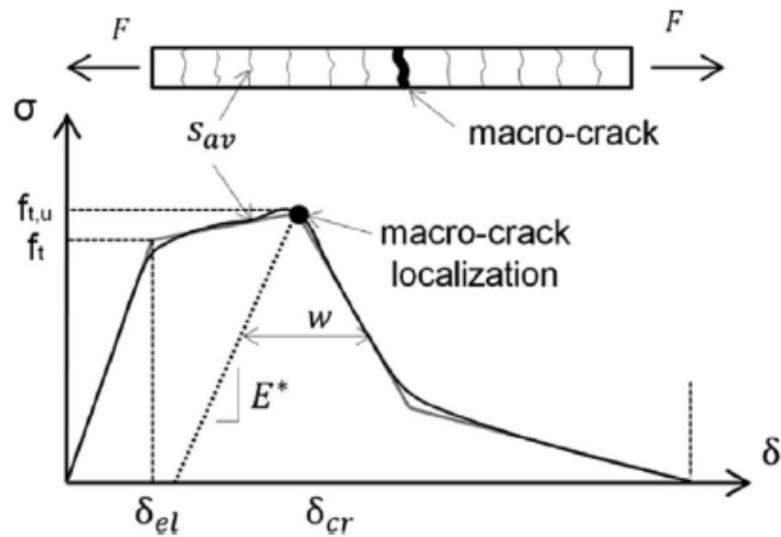


Fig. 2. Typical strain-hardening tensile response of UHPFRC.

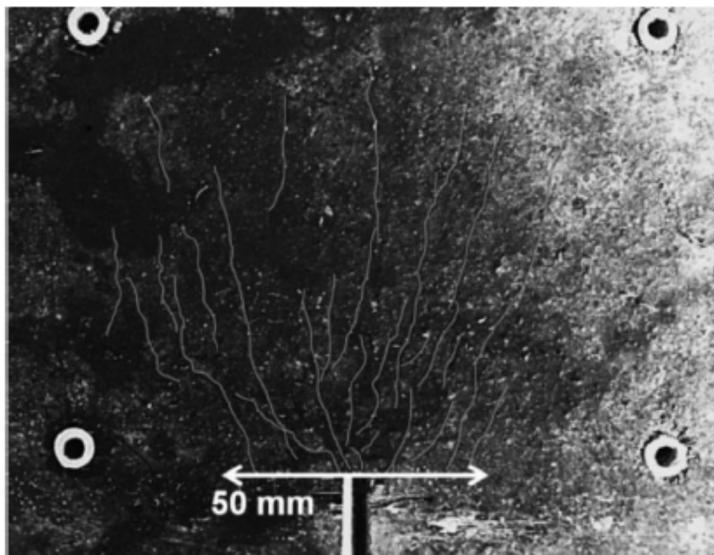


Fig. 1. Multi-microcracking in a UHPFRC specimen notched three-point bending test.

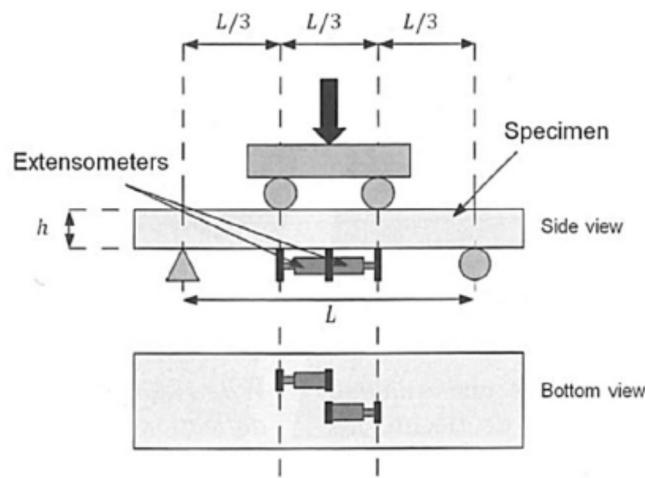


Fig. 17. Crack localisation measurement staggers the extensometers on the tensile face [1].

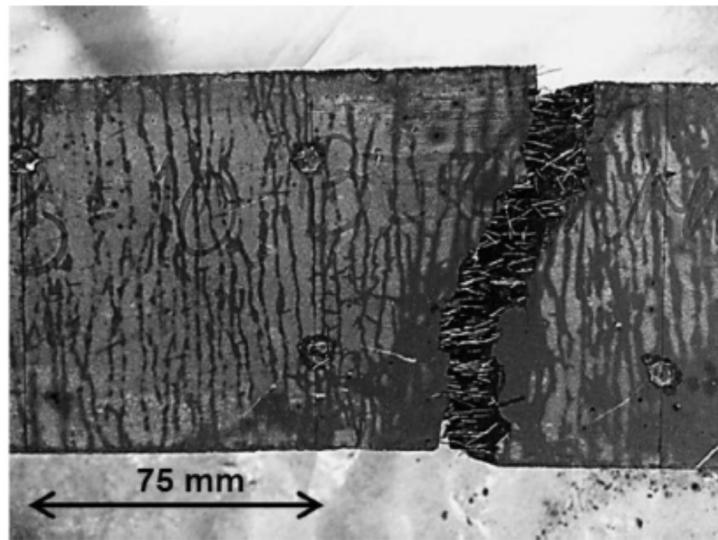


Fig. 23. Average crack spacing determination after FPBT (bottom view of the specimen).

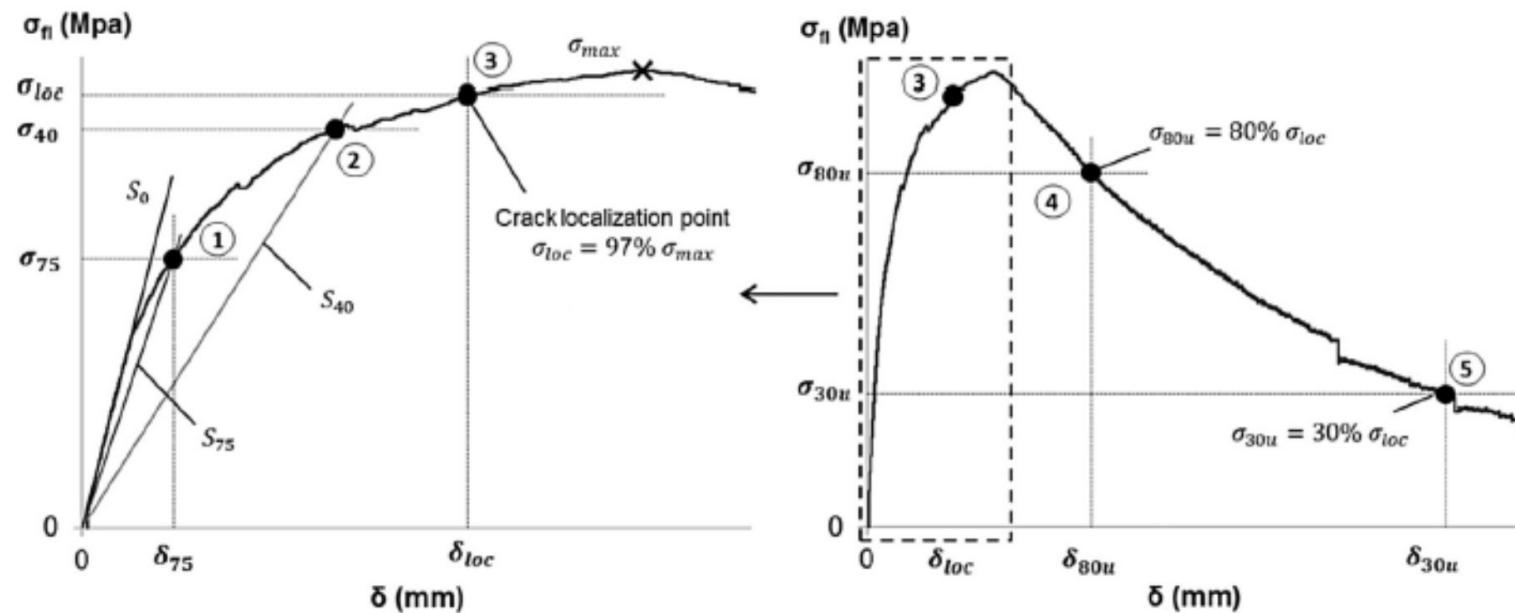


Fig. 4. The five proposed key points obtained from the  $\sigma_n-\delta$  curve.

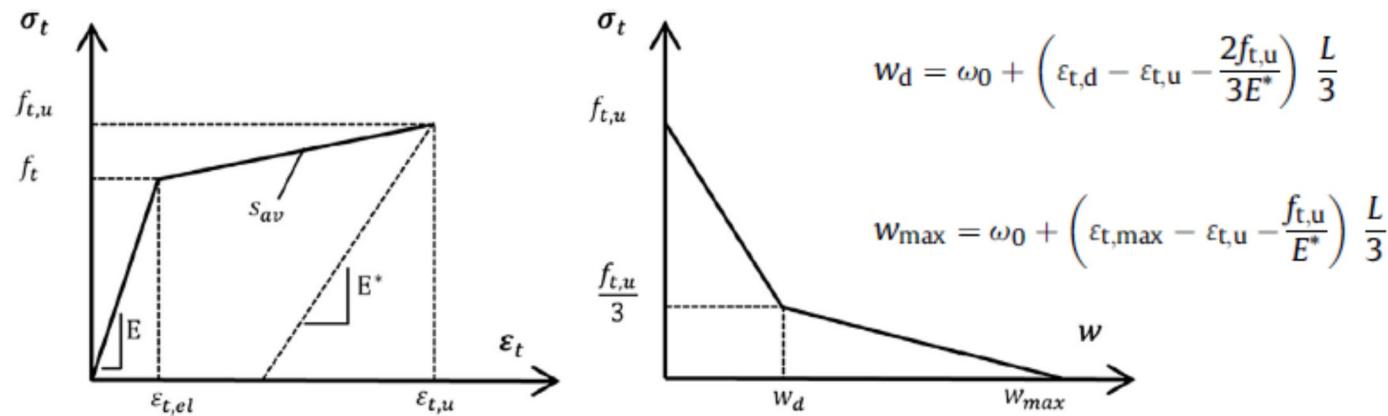


Fig. 5. The bilinear  $\sigma$ - $w$  relationship considered for UHPFRC behaviour.

**Table 1**

The simplified inverse analysis formulation to determine the stress–strain relationship from the five key points extracted from the  $\sigma_{fl}$ – $\delta$  experimental curve (Fig. 4).

	$L/h = 3$	$L/h = 4.5$
$f_t$	$\frac{\sigma_{75}}{1.63} \left( \frac{\sigma_{75}}{\sigma_{40}} \right)^{0.19}$	$\frac{\sigma_{75}}{1.59} \left( \frac{\sigma_{75}}{\sigma_{40}} \right)^{0.21}$
$\varepsilon_{t,u}$	$\frac{f_t}{E} \left( 7.65 \frac{\delta_{loc}}{\sigma_{75}} - 10.53 \right)$	$\frac{f_t}{E} \left( 6.65 \frac{\delta_{loc}}{\sigma_{75}} - 9.40 \right)$
$f_{t,u}$	$\alpha^{-0.18} \left( 2.46 \frac{\sigma_{loc}}{\sigma_{75}} - 1.76 \right) f_t$	$\alpha^{-0.17} \left( 2.24 \frac{\sigma_{loc}}{\sigma_{75}} - 1.55 \right) f_t$
$\varepsilon_{t,d}$	$\gamma^{-0.37} \alpha^{0.88} \left( 3.00 \frac{\delta_{30u}}{\delta_{loc}} - 1.80 \right) \frac{f_t}{E}$	$\gamma^{-0.38} \alpha^{0.89} \left( 2.82 \frac{\delta_{30u}}{\delta_{loc}} - 1.68 \right) \frac{f_t}{E}$
$\varepsilon_{t,max}$	$2.81 \beta^{-0.76} \gamma^{-0.19} \alpha^{1.42} \left( \frac{\delta_{30u}}{\delta_{loc}} \right)^{1.85} \frac{f_t}{E}$	$2.17 \beta^{-0.76} \gamma^{-0.26} \alpha^{1.48} \left( \frac{\delta_{30u}}{\delta_{loc}} \right)^{1.86} \frac{f_t}{E}$

A simplified five-point inverse analysis method to determine the tensile properties of UHPFRC from unnotched four-point bending tests

Juan Ángel López <sup>a,\*</sup>, Pedro Serna <sup>a</sup>, Juan Navarro-Gregori <sup>a</sup>, Hugo Coll <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain

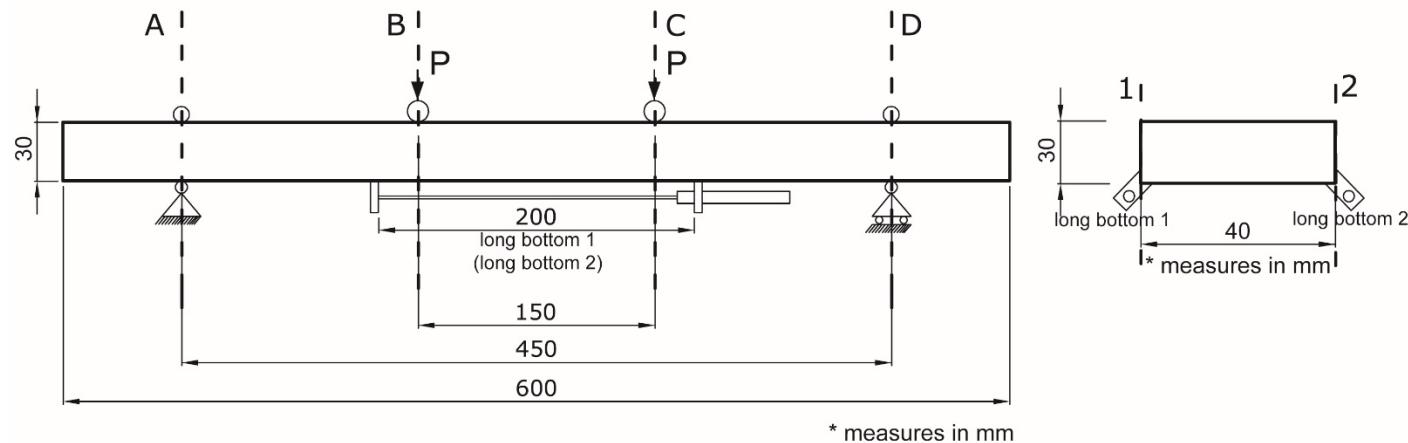
<sup>b</sup> Research & Development Concretes S.L. Spain

# UN-NOTCHED BEAMS

## Test set-up

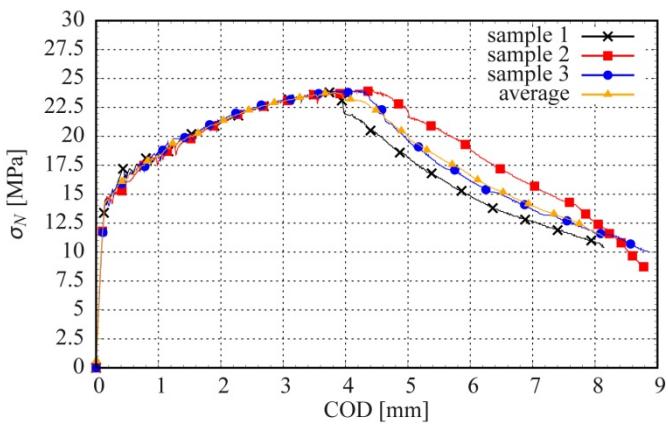


## Specimens geometry



# STATIC FIELD: BENDING TESTS

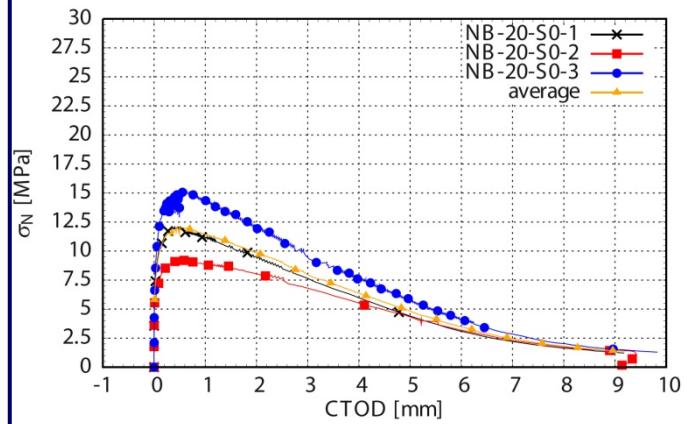
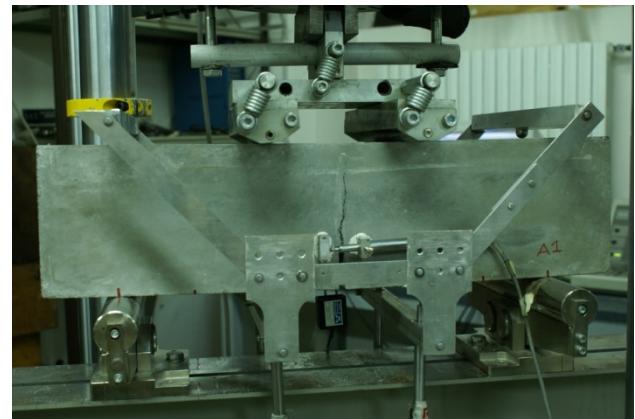
## Un-notched specimens



same  
material

- different cast procedure
- different specimen (sizes and notch)

## EN14651 specimens



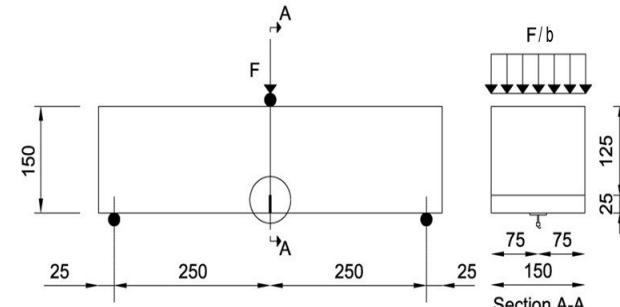
## Model Code 2020: Performance classification

The strength interval is defined by  $f_{R1k}$  values in [MPa]:

1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, **10.0, 12.0, 14.0**

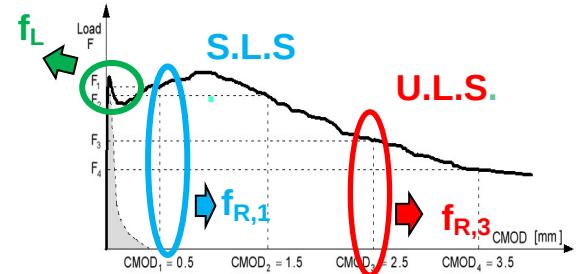
and a letter (a, b, c, d, e) corresponding to residual strength ratios:

- a if  $0.5 < f_{R3k}/f_{R1k} \leq 0.7$
- b if  $0.7 \leq f_{R3k}/f_{R1k} \leq 0.9$
- c if  $0.9 \leq f_{R3k}/f_{R1k} \leq 1.1$
- d if  $1.1 \leq f_{R3k}/f_{R1k} \leq 1.3$
- e if  $1.3 \leq f_{R3k}/f_{R1k}$

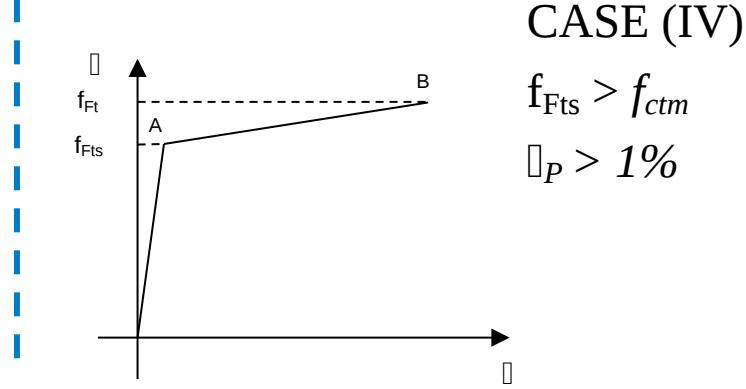
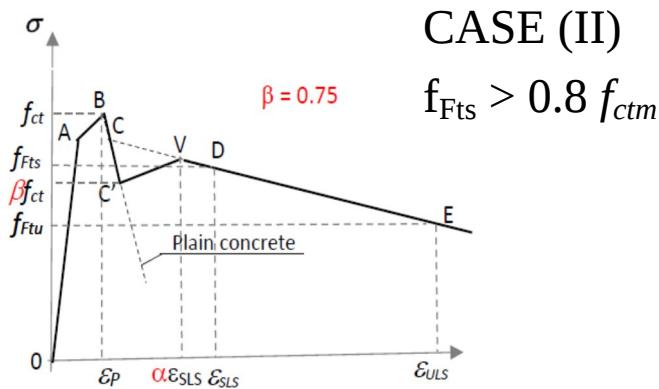
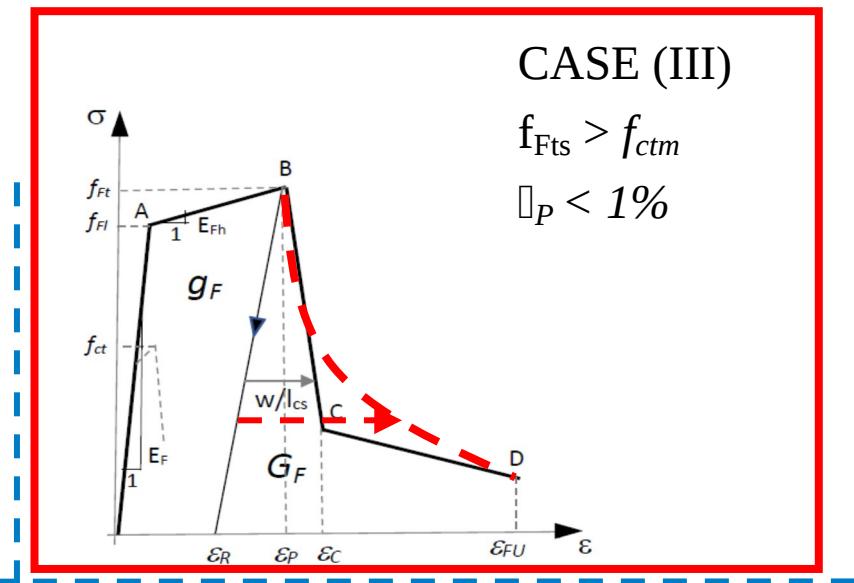
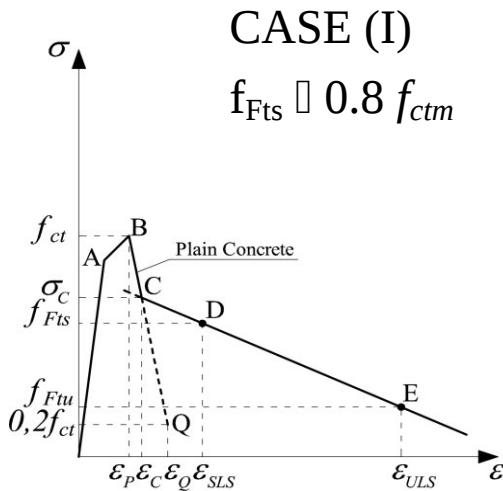


EN 14651

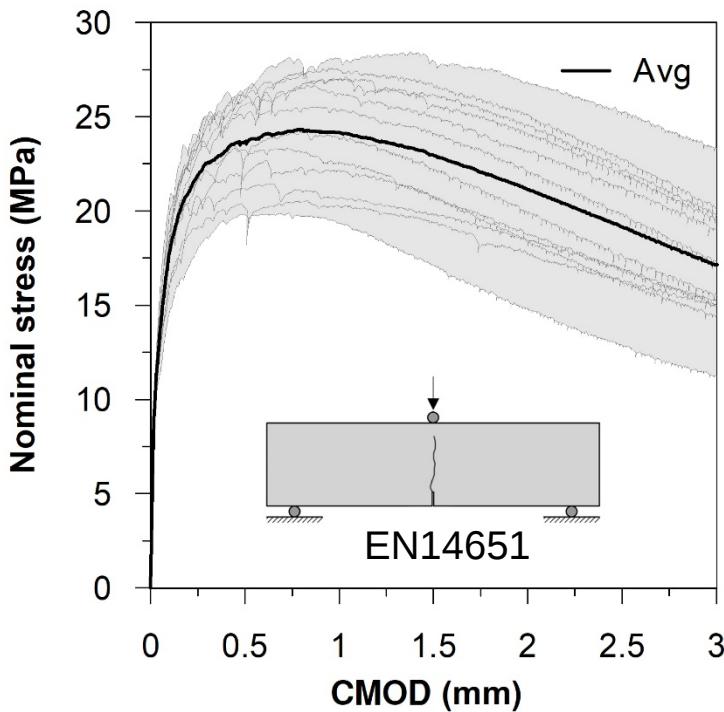
$$f_{R,j} = \frac{3F_j l}{2bh_{sp}^2}$$



# Constitutive laws (LoA III) in MC 2020



# Reference UHPFRC material



Thixotropic UHPFRC

Ingredient	Dosage
Premix powder	2105.3 kg
Water	153.7 l
Superplasticizer	31.6 kg
Fibers	263.2 kg



OL 13/20, AR 65

$V_f = 3.3\%$

	$f_{ctfl}$ (MPa)	$f_{R1}$ (MPa)	$f_{R2}$ (MPa)	$f_{R3}$ (MPa)	$f_{R4}$ (MPa)
Avg	13.56	23.68	22.96	19.17	15.17
CV%	9%	10%	15%	19%	20%
k (log-n)	11.43	19.23	17.04	13.12	10.2

$f_{cm,cube} = 143.7$  MPa

C130 class

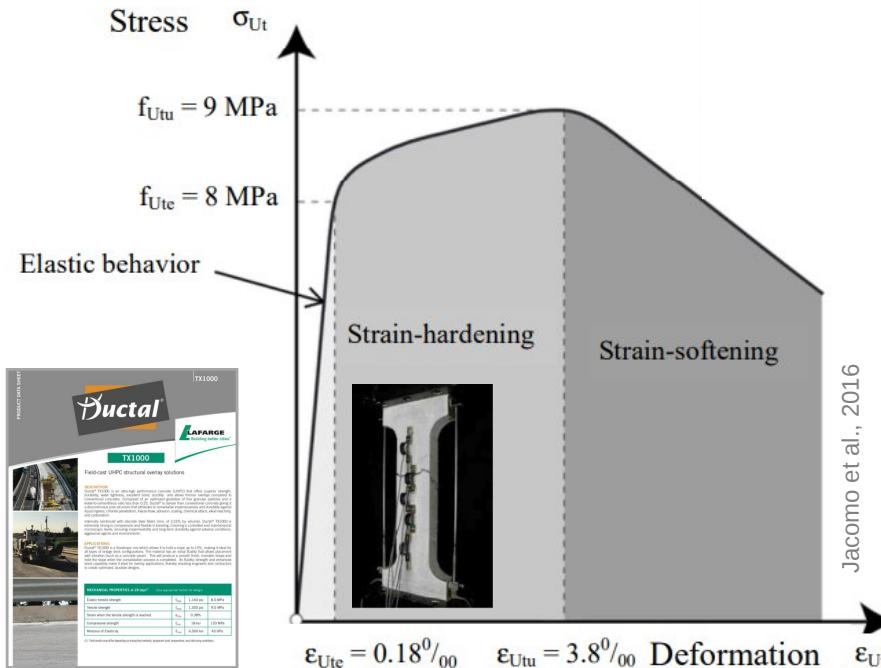
19a FRC  
class

Compressive behavior assumed linear elastic

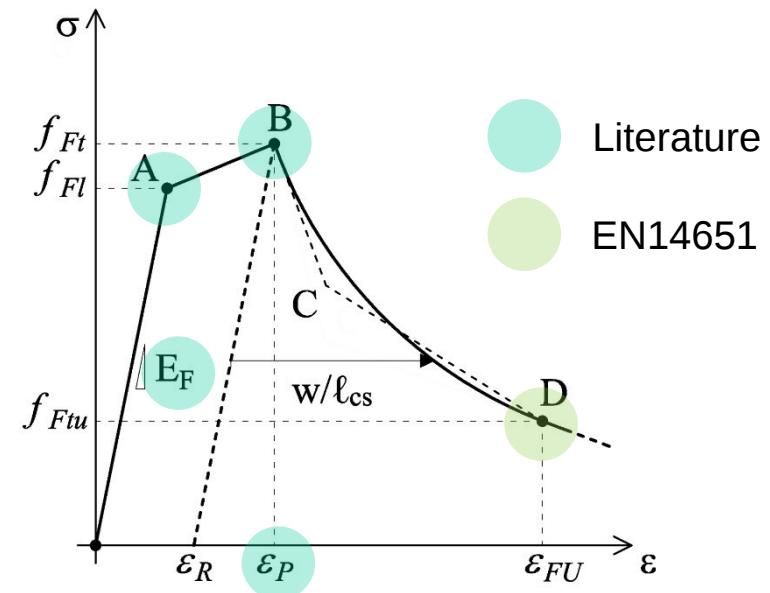
G. Zani, M. di Prisco, Identification of Uniaxial Tensile Laws for UHPFRC Modelling, FRC2023: Fiber Reinforced Concrete: from Design to Structural Application, Joint ACI-fib-RILEM International Workshop | Arizona State University, 18th - 20th September 2023, Tempe, USA

# Parametric study

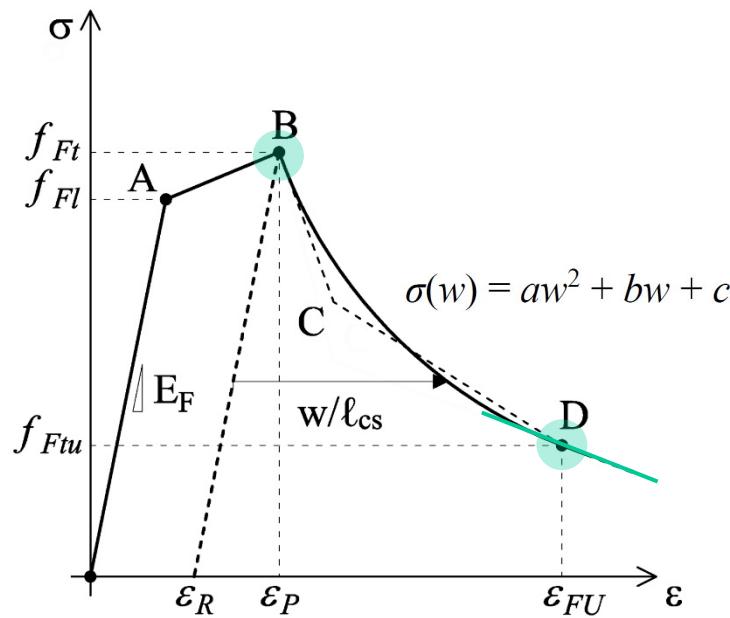
Mechanical properties of the reference material



Parameter	Value
Elastic modulus $E_F$	45 GPa
Cracking tensile strength $f_{Fl}$	8 MPa
Peak tensile strength $f_{Ft}$	9 MPa
Strain at peak tensile strength $\varepsilon_P$	0.38%
Residual strength $f_{R1m}$	23.68 MPa
Residual strength $f_{R3m}$	19.17 MPa



# Recommendations introduced in the fib MC2020



$$\varepsilon_D = \varepsilon_{FU} = 2.5 \text{ mm}/l_{cs}$$

$$w_D = 2.5 \text{ mm} - l_{cs}\varepsilon_R$$

$$f_{Fts} = 0.37f_{R1k}$$

$$f_{Ftu} = f_{Fts} - \frac{w_D - \text{CMOD}_1}{\text{CMOD}_3 - \text{CMOD}_1} (f_{Fts} - 0.57f_{R3k} + 0.26f_{R1k})$$

$$a = \frac{f_{Ft}}{w_D^2} - \frac{\frac{l_f}{2}f_{Ftu}}{w_D^2 \left( \frac{l_f}{2} - w_D \right)}$$

$$b = -2a \cdot w_D - \frac{f_{Ftu}}{\left( \frac{l_f}{2} - w_D \right)}$$

$$c = f_{Ft}$$

where the constants a, b, c can be determined imposing the passage for B and D

$$w = 0 \quad \sigma = f_{Fr}; \quad w = w_D \quad \sigma = f_{Ftu}$$

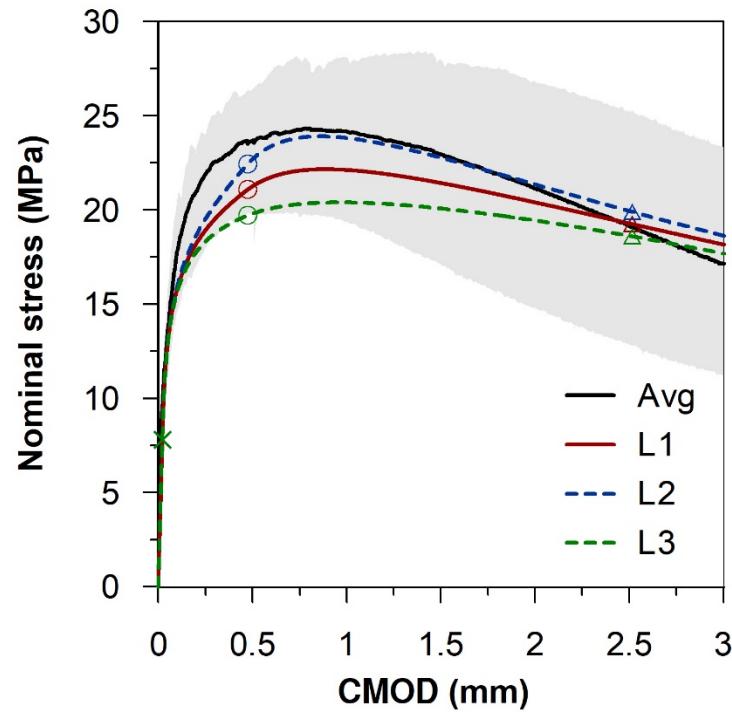
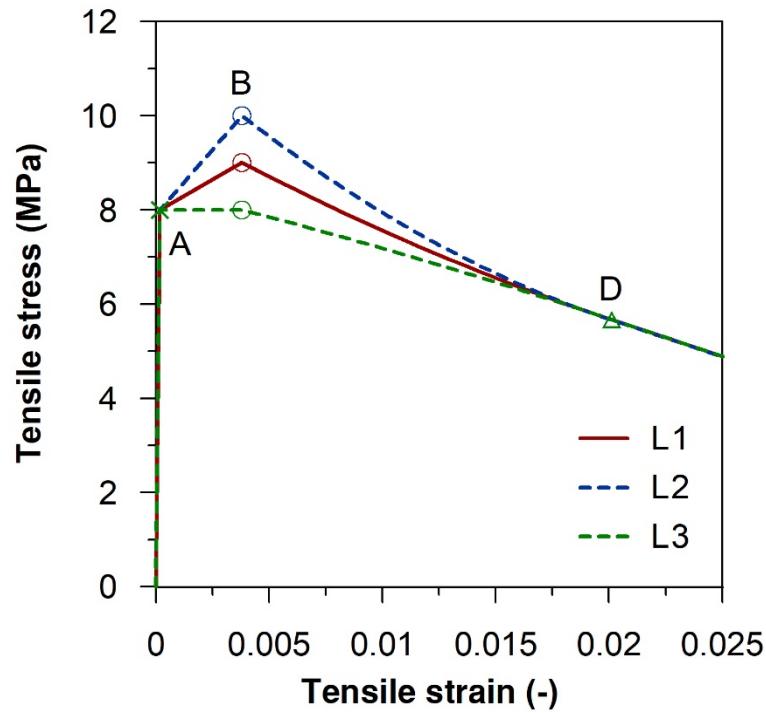
and the condition that:

$$\frac{ds}{dw} = \frac{-f_{Ftu}}{\frac{\alpha f}{\xi^2} - w_D \frac{\ddot{\phi}}{\emptyset}} \quad \text{for } w = w_D$$

(18.4-20)

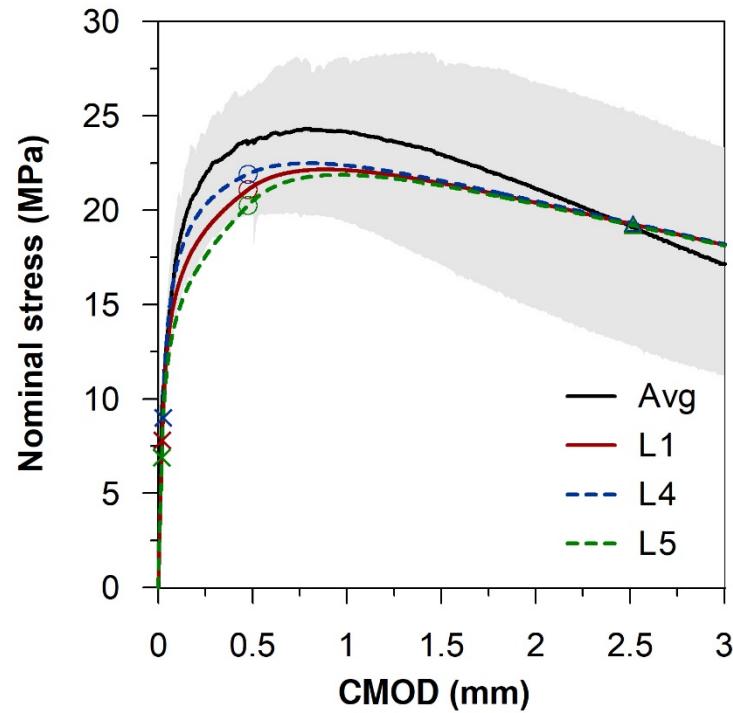
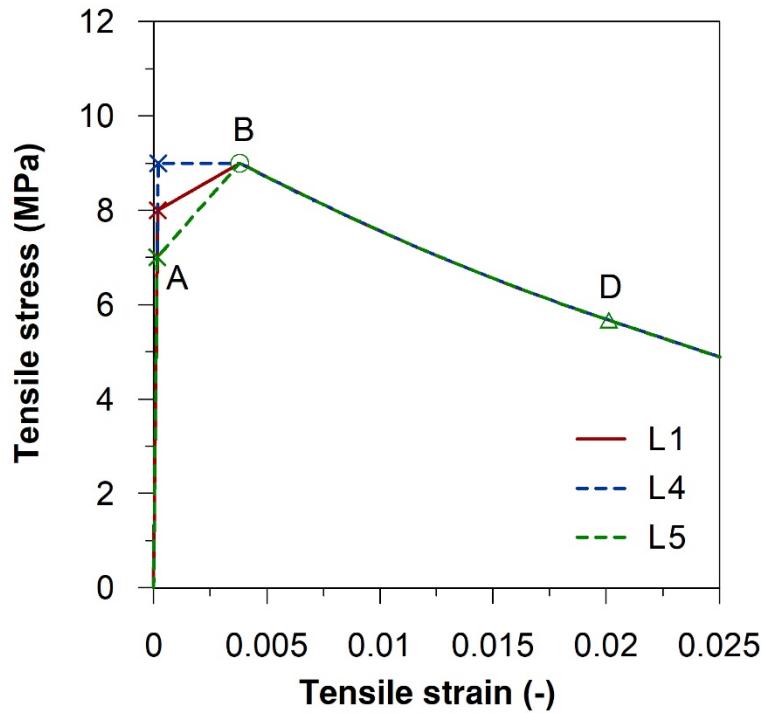
# Parametric study

Plane-section parametric analyses:  $\pm 1$  MPa on the peak stress  $f_{ft}$



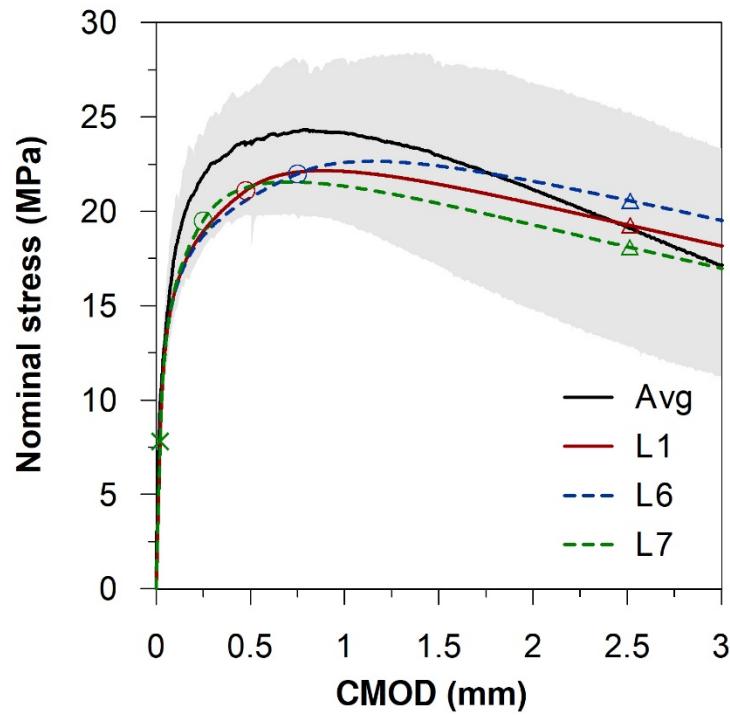
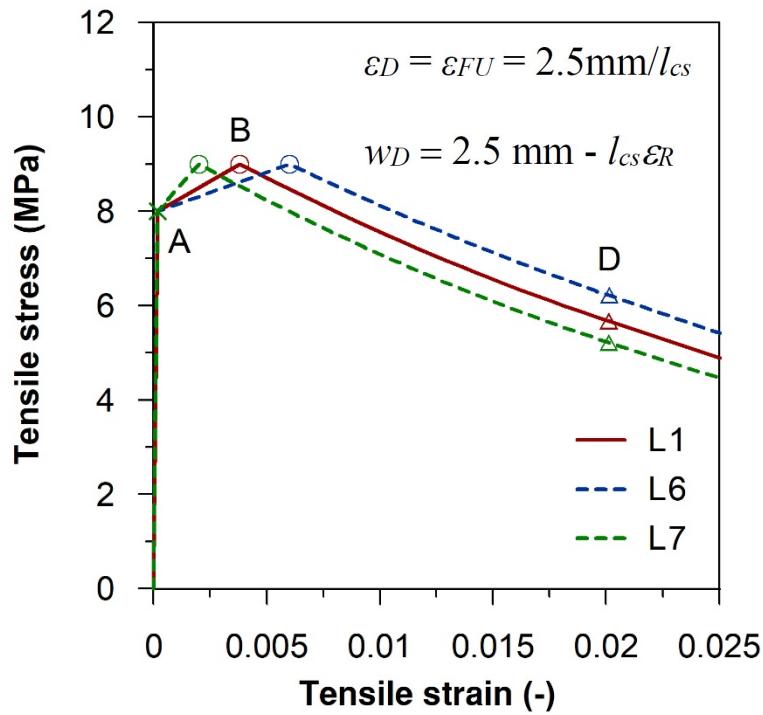
# Parametric study

Plane-section parametric analyses:  $\pm 1$  MPa on the first cracking strength  $f_{fI}$



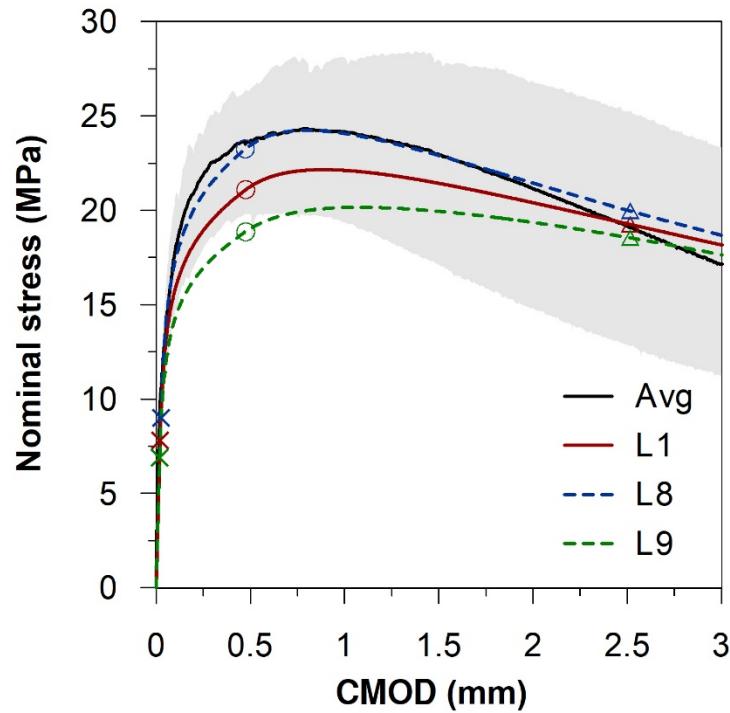
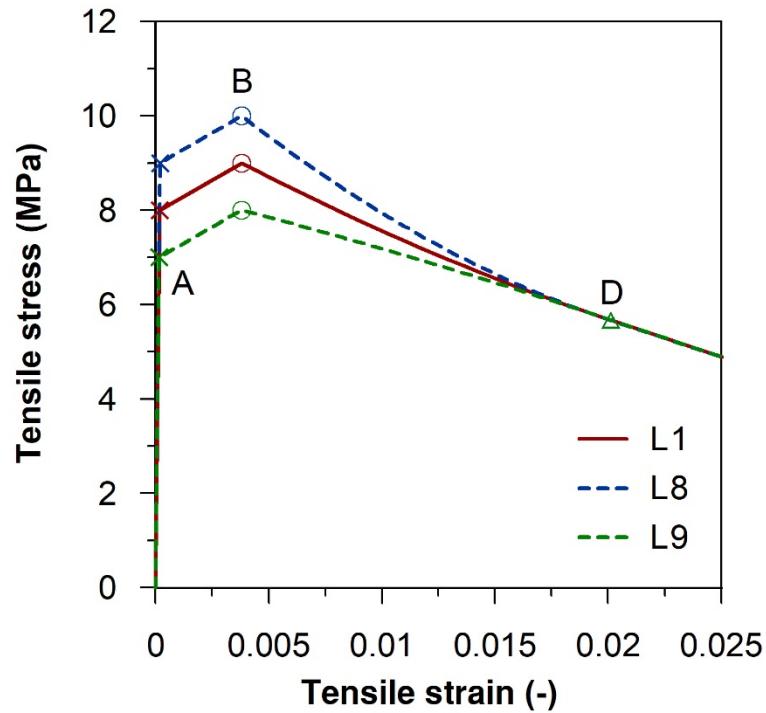
# Parametric study

Plane-section parametric analyses: change in the peak strain  $\varepsilon_P$  (0.20%, 0.38%, 0.60%)



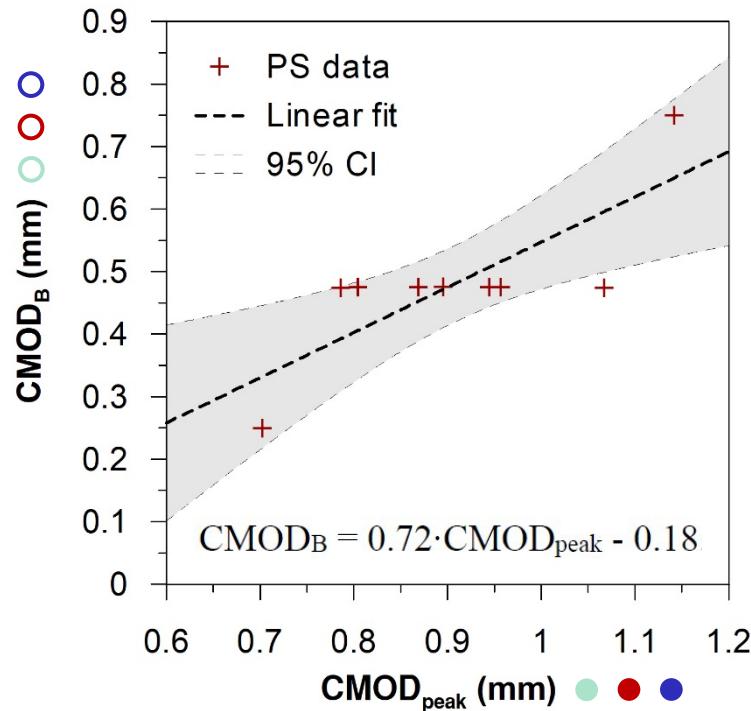
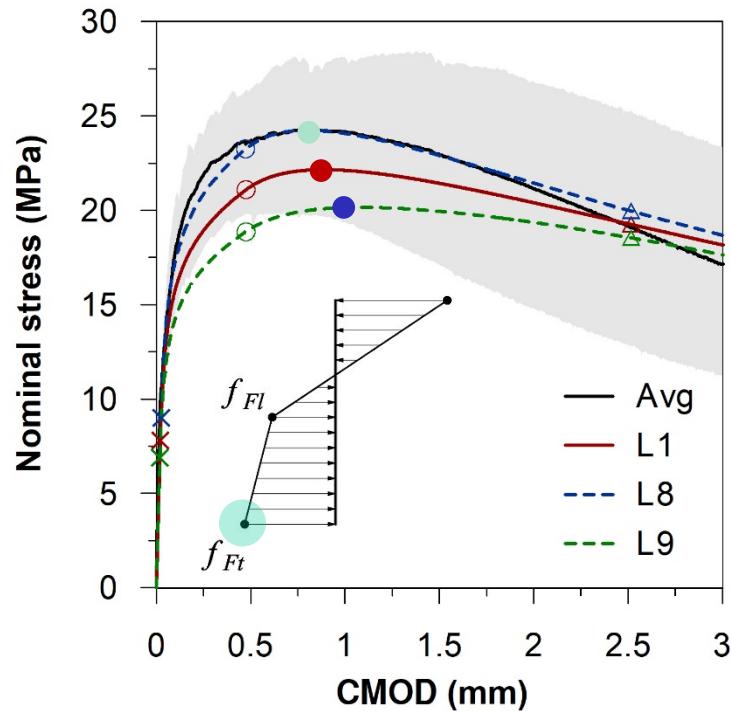
# Parametric study

Plane-section parametric analyses:  $\pm 1$  MPa on both  $f_{fI}$  and  $f_{ft}$  strengths



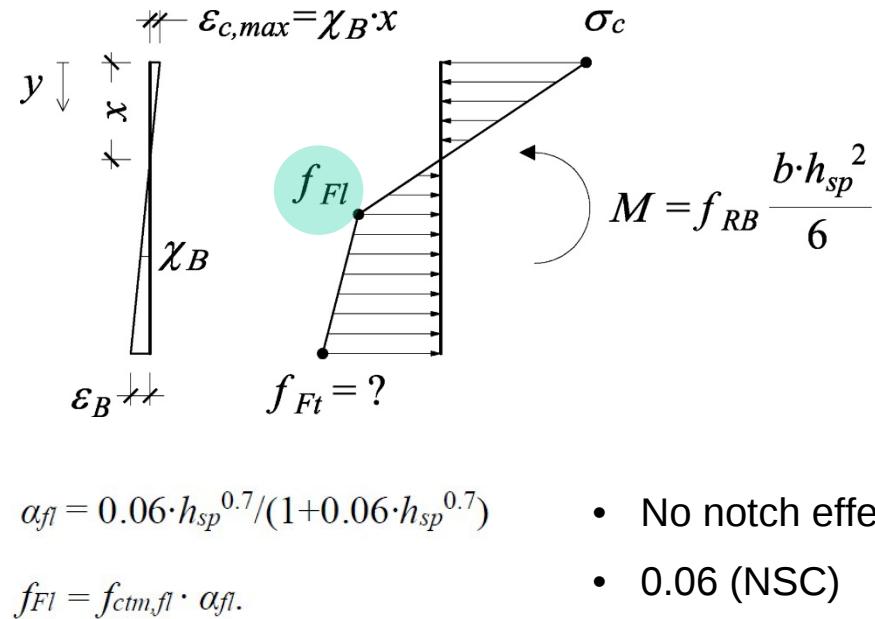
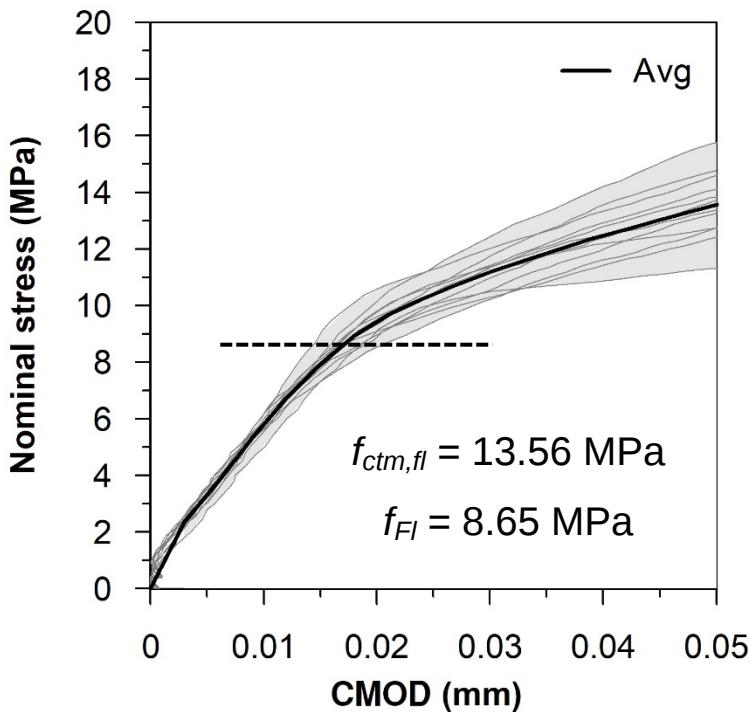
# Back-calculation procedure

Is it possible to fully identify the uniaxial tensile behavior from notched beam data?



# Back-calculation procedure

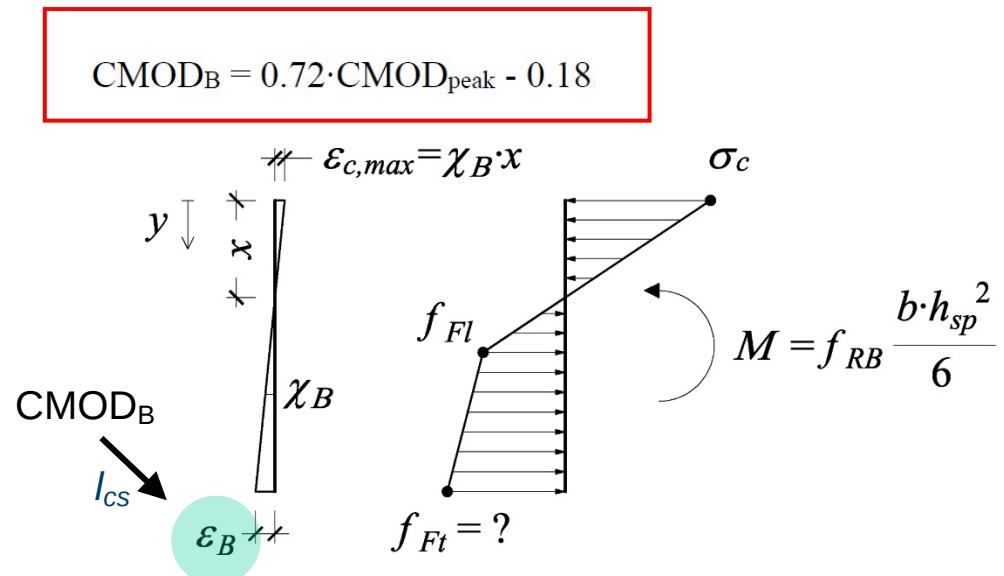
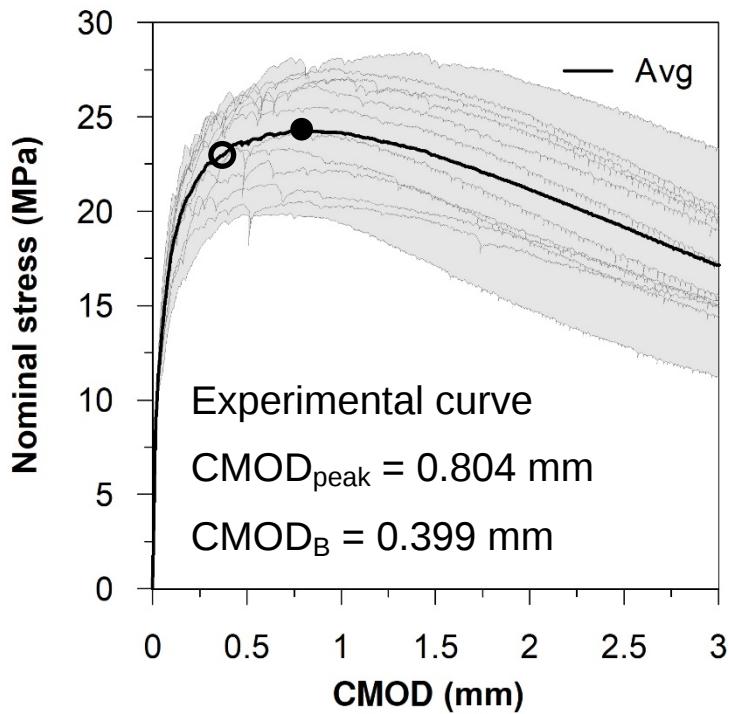
Is it possible to fully identify the uniaxial tensile behavior from notched beam data?



- No notch effect
- 0.06 (NSC)

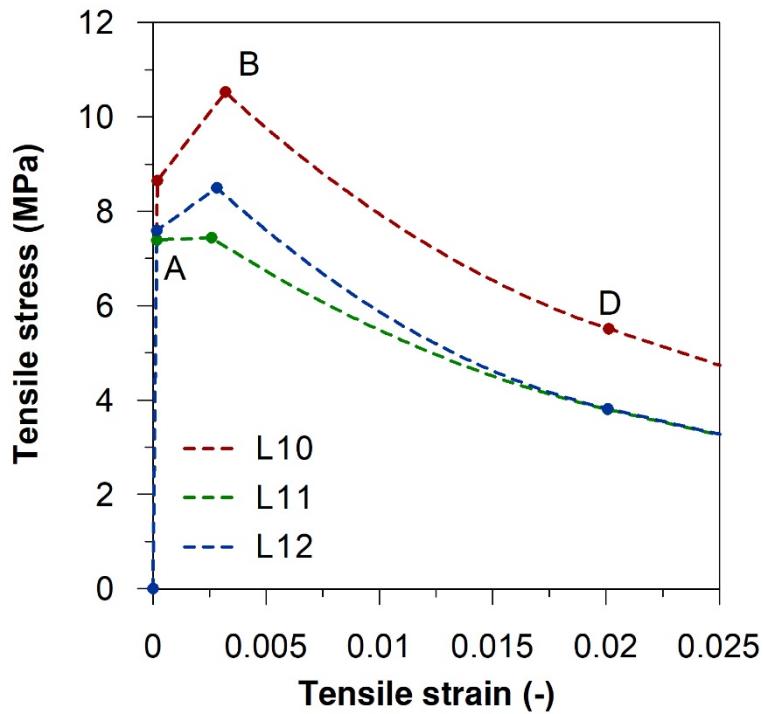
# Back-calculation procedure

Is it possible to fully identify the uniaxial tensile behavior from notched beam data?

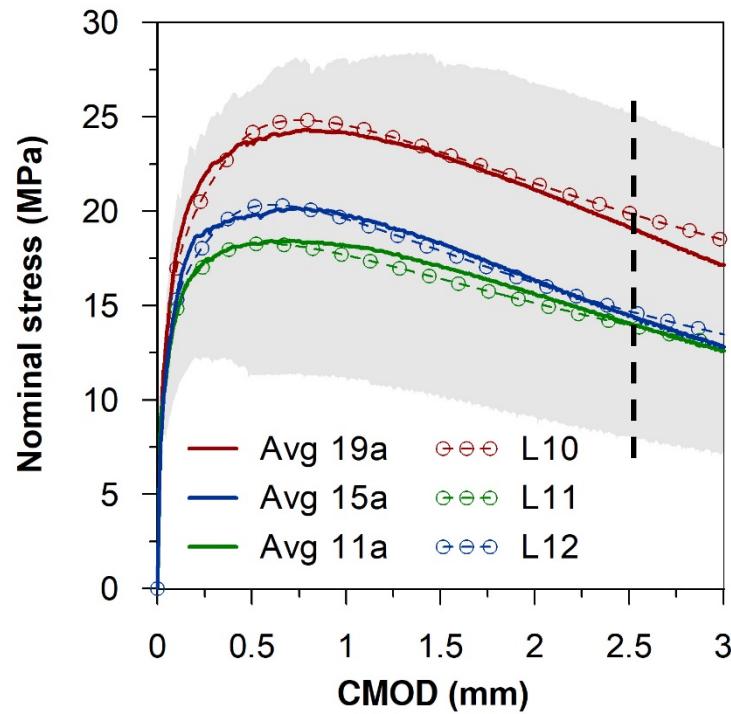


# Results

Simplified plane-section (PS) analyses



- Correct equilibrium at ULS
- Null stress at  $l_f/4$  in place of  $l_f/2$



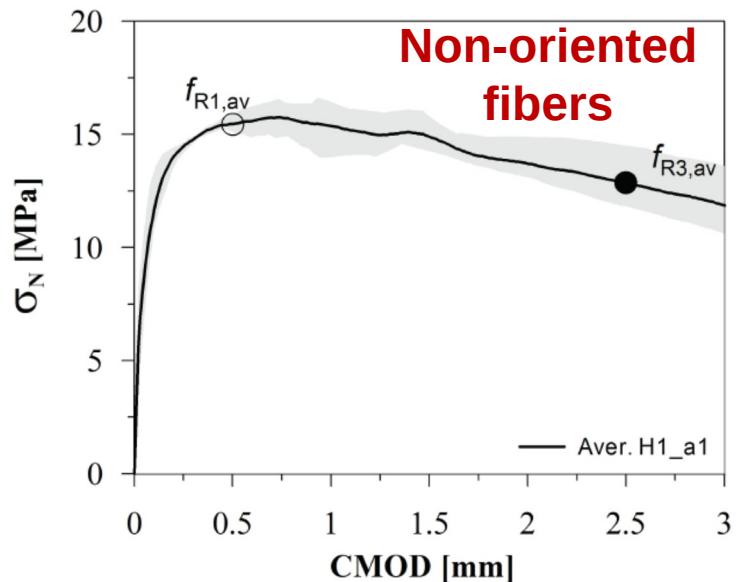
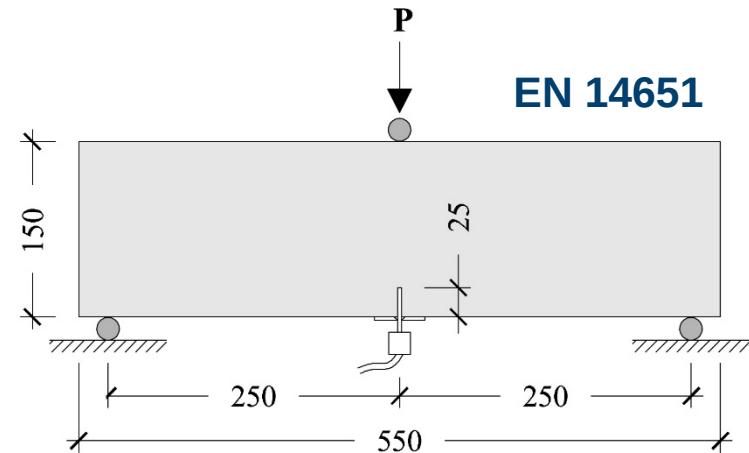
# Material specification

Component	Content
Cement I 52.5	600 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Sand 0 ÷ 2 mm	977 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Water	212.7 l/m <sup>3</sup>
Superplasticizer	33 l/m <sup>3</sup>
Slag	500 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Steel fibers	100 kg/m <sup>3</sup>

w/b=0.19 and SP/c=5.5%

**1.2% by volume** of straight high-carbon steel microfibers

$l_f = 13 \text{ mm}$ ,  $d_f = 0.20 \text{ mm}$ , aspect ratio = 65

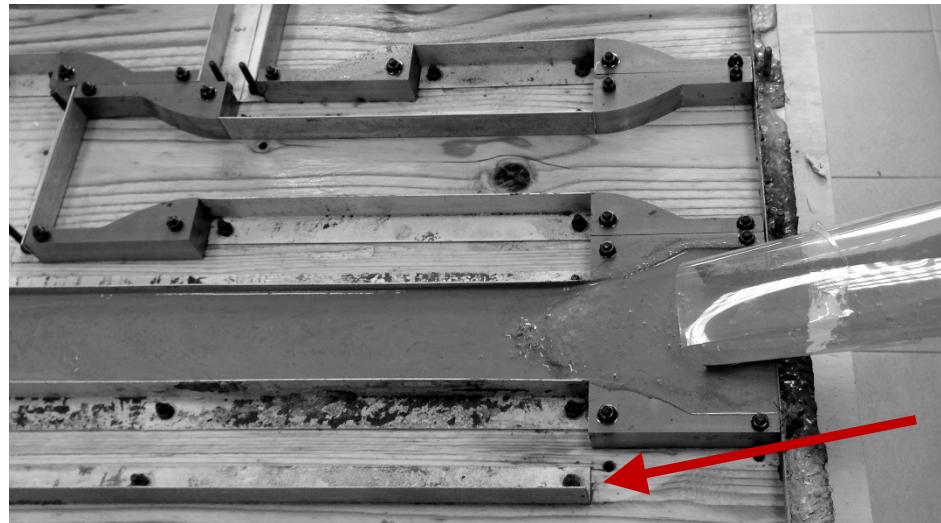


**14a class** fiber-reinforced composite **C120** grade concrete

# Tensile behavior and size effect phenomena



**Rotating-end  
apparatus**



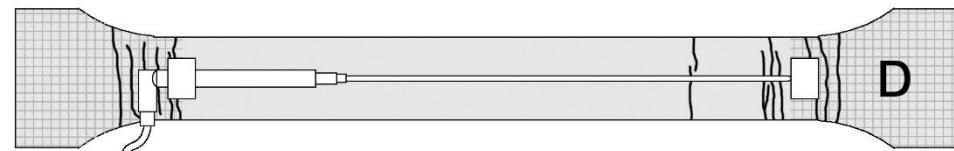
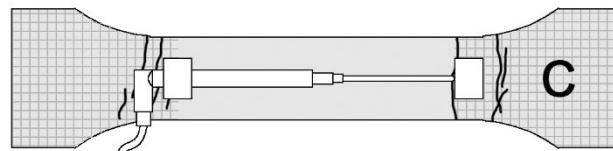
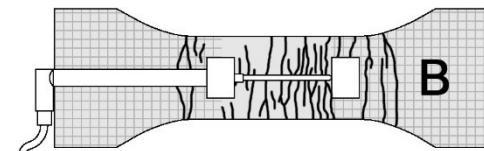
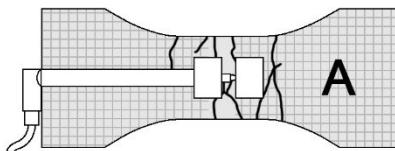
Four gage lengths  $l_0$  (three nominally identical specimens)

- 20 mm
- 80 mm
- 200 mm
- 440 mm

G. Zani, M. Colombo, M. di Prisco, size effect of HPFRCC in uniaxial tension, AFGC-ACI-fib-RILEM Int. Symposium on Ultra-High Performance Fibre-Reinforced Concrete, UHPFRC 2017 – October 2-4, 2017, Montpellier, France

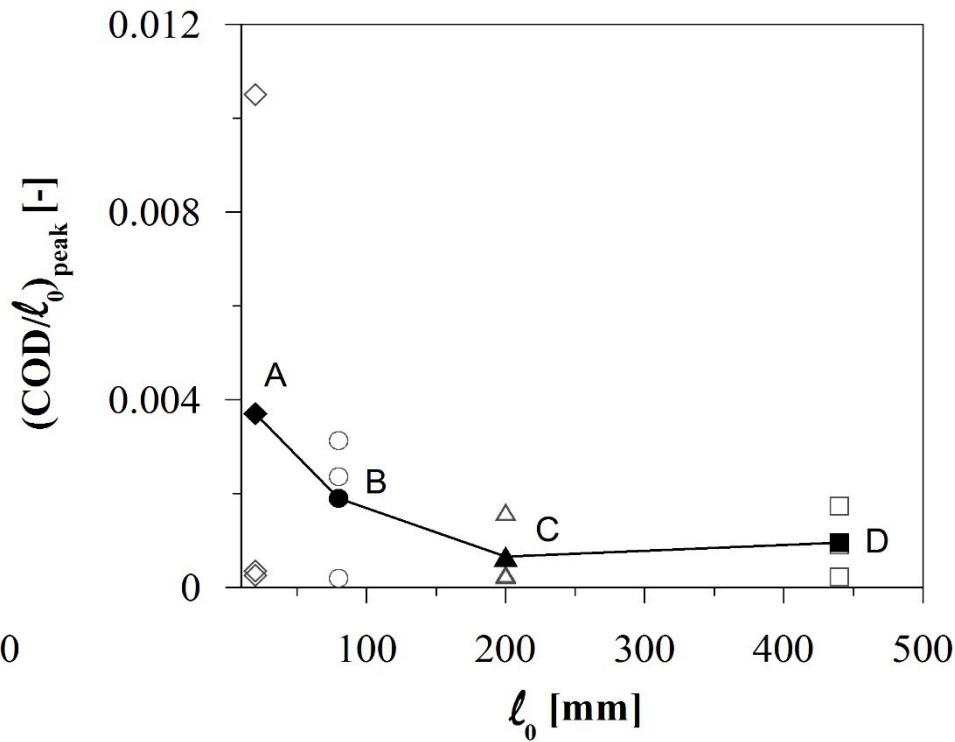
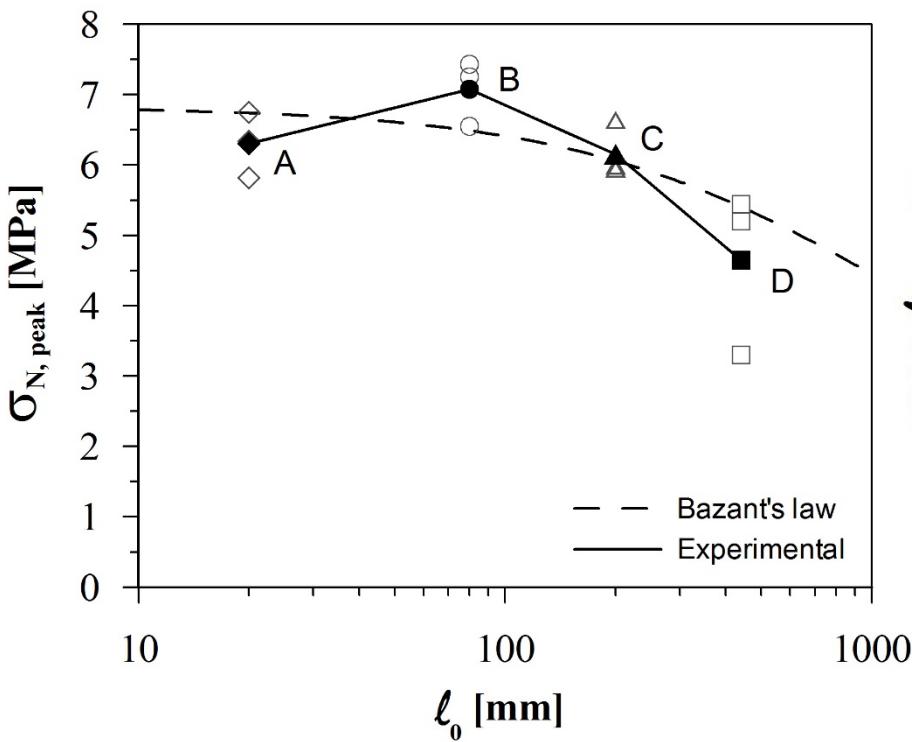
# Tensile behavior and size effect phenomena

Set	$\sigma_{N,peak,av}$ [MPa] (std)	$(COD/\ell_0)_{peak,av}$ [-] (std)
A	6.30 (0.47)	$3.70 \cdot 10^{-3}$ ( $5.89 \cdot 10^{-3}$ )
B	7.08 (0.46)	$1.89 \cdot 10^{-3}$ ( $1.52 \cdot 10^{-3}$ )
C	6.15 (0.39)	$6.55 \cdot 10^{-4}$ ( $7.75 \cdot 10^{-4}$ )
D	4.65 (1.17)	$9.50 \cdot 10^{-4}$ ( $7.56 \cdot 10^{-4}$ )

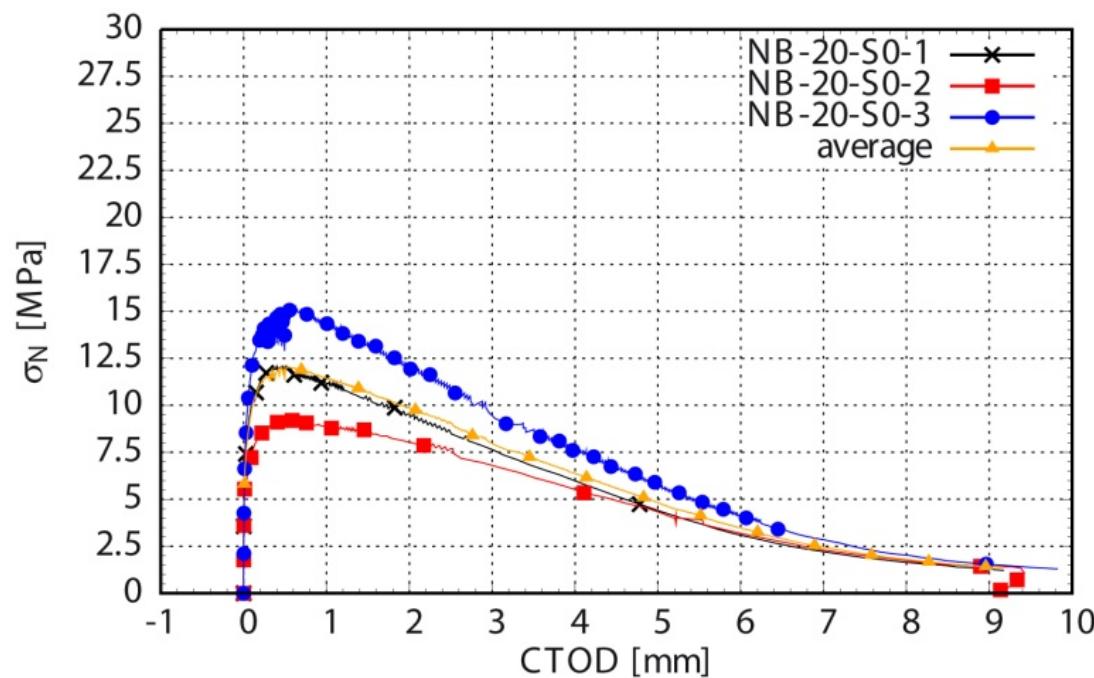
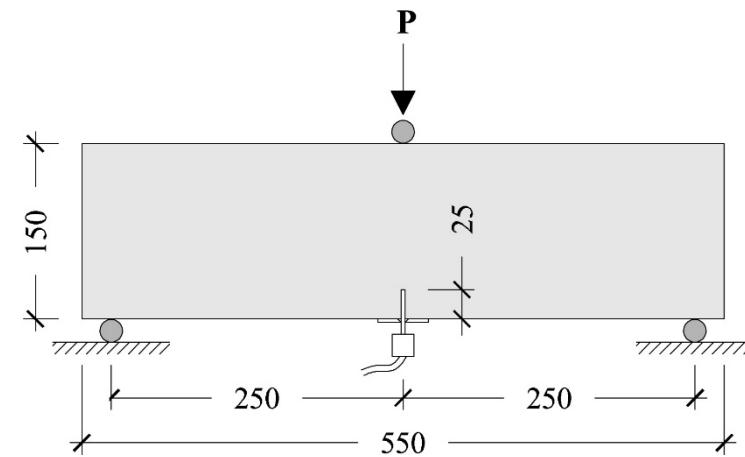


G. Zani, M. Colombo, M. di Prisco, size effect of HPFRCC in uniaxial tension, AFGC-ACI-fib-RILEM Int. Symposium on Ultra-High Performance Fibre-Reinforced Concrete, UHPFRC 2017 – October 2-4, 2017, Montpellier, France

# Tensile behavior and size effect phenomena



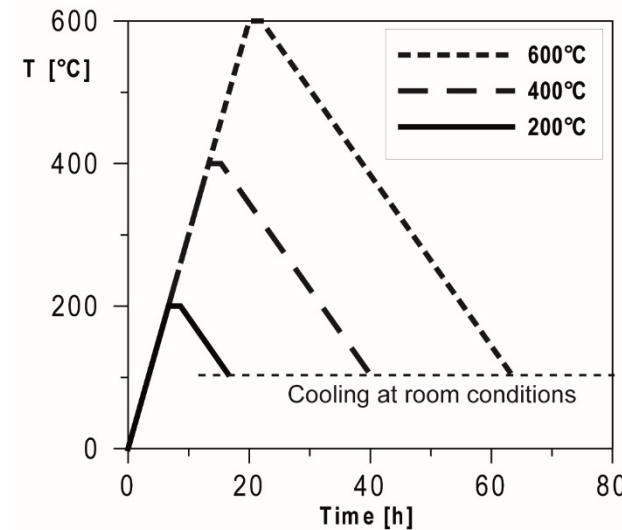
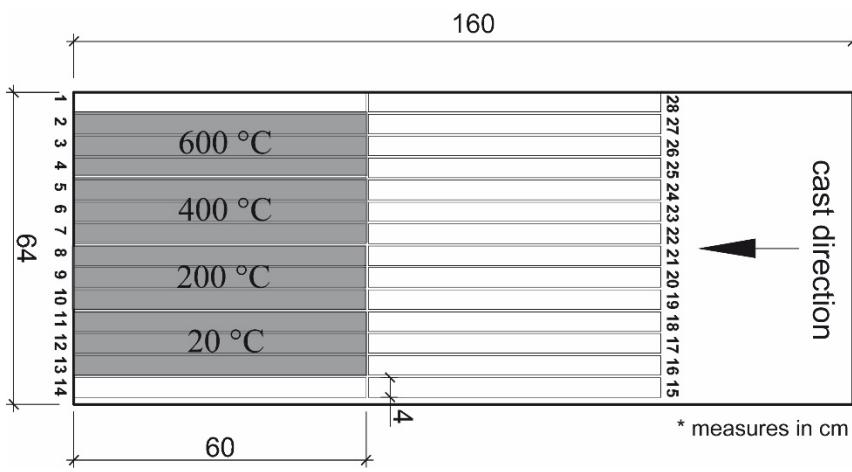
Solid-hatched marks = average responses



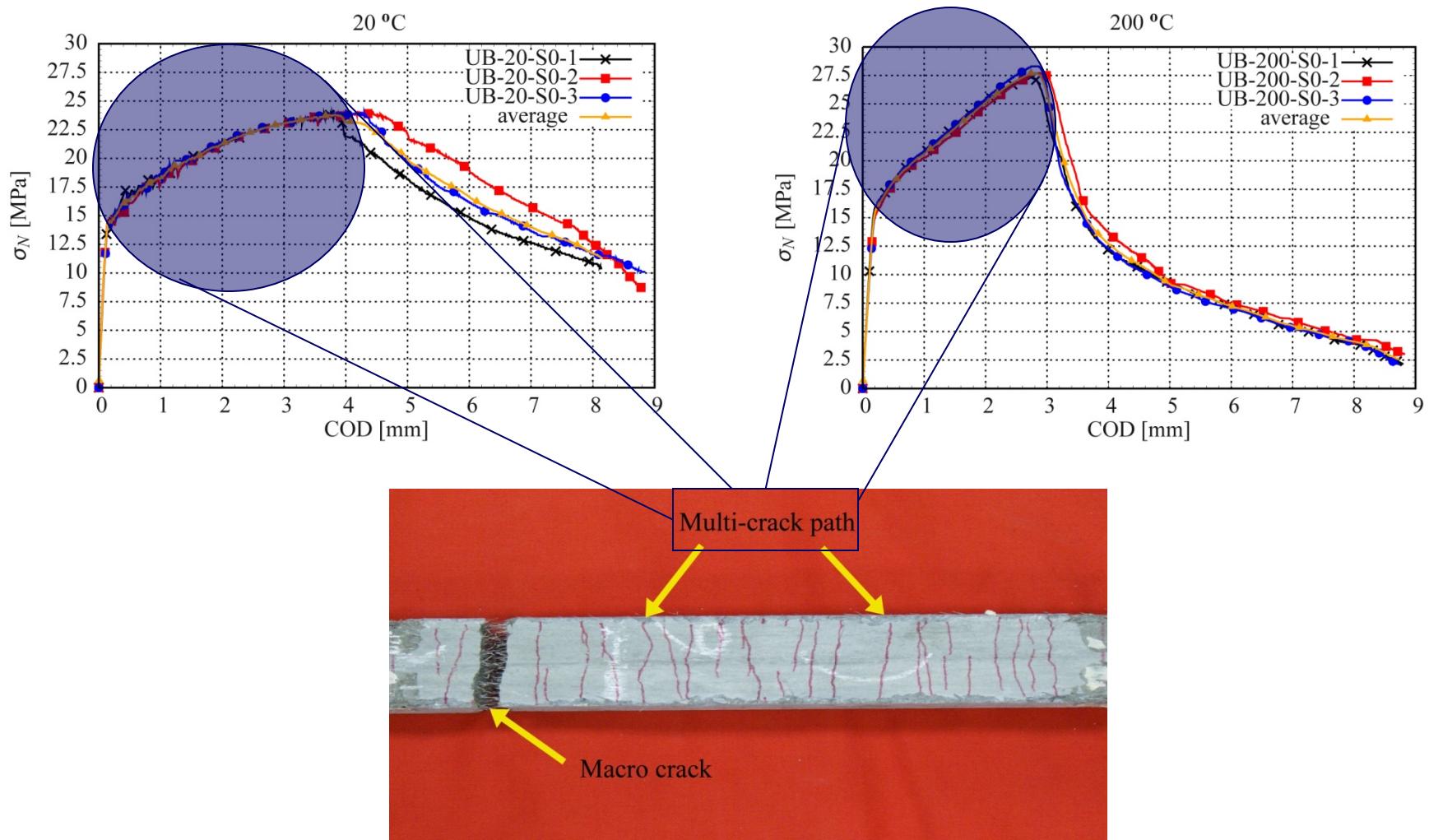
Caverzan, A., Colombo, M., di Prisco, M., Rivolta, B., High performance steel fibre reinforced concrete: residual behaviour at high temperature, (2015) Materials and Structures, 48 (10), pp. 3317-3329.

## HIGH TEMPERATURE BEHAVIOUR

Component	Dosage (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Cement type I 52.5	600
Slag	500
Water	200
Super Plasticizer	33 (l/m <sup>3</sup> )
Sand 0-2 mm	983
Steel fibres ( $l_f = 13 \text{ mm}$ ; $d_f = 0.16 \text{ mm}$ )	100

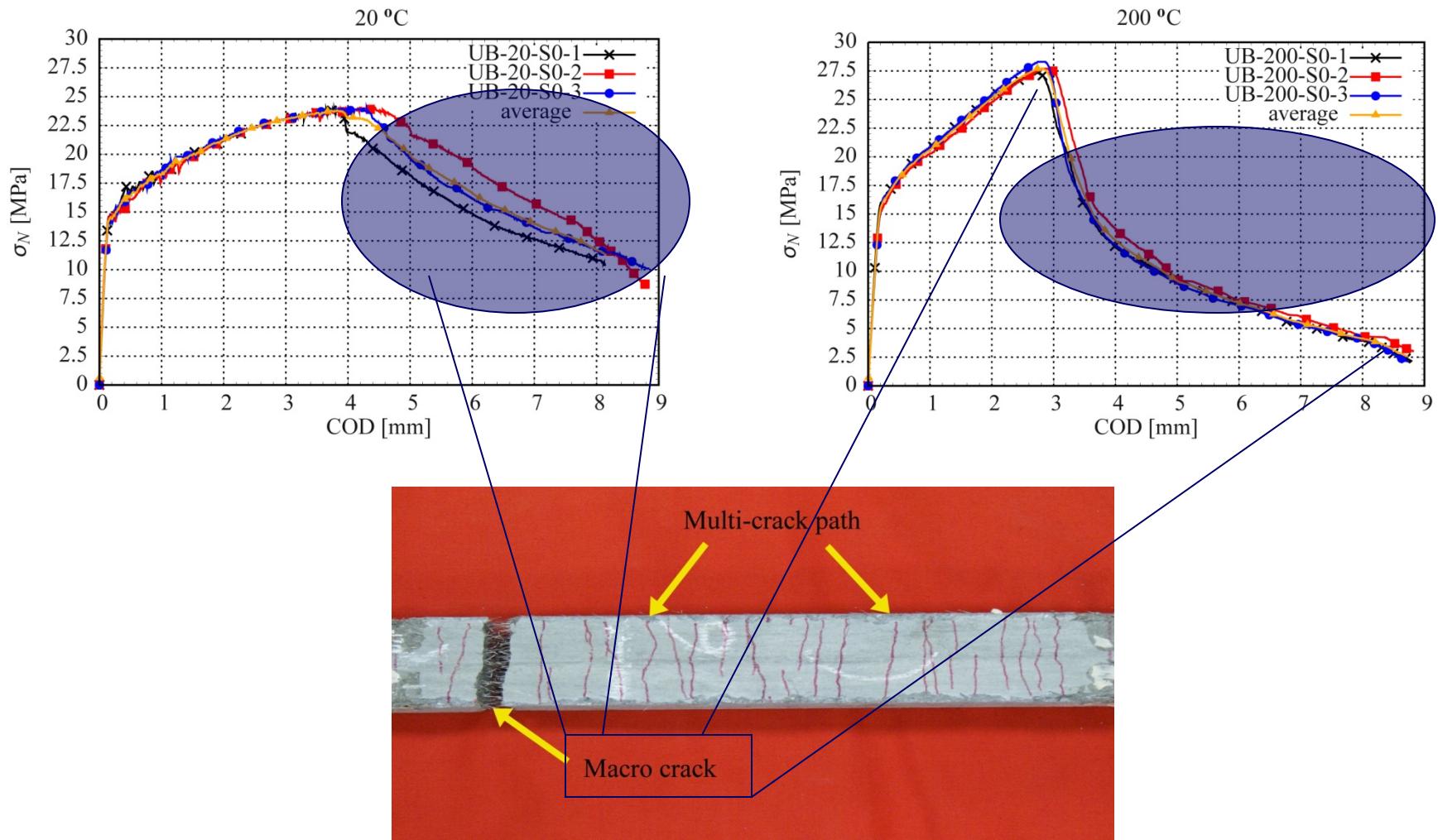


Caverzan, A., Colombo, M., di Prisco, M., Rivolta, B., High performance steel fibre reinforced concrete: residual behaviour at high temperature, (2015) Materials and Structures, 48 (10), pp. 3317-3329.

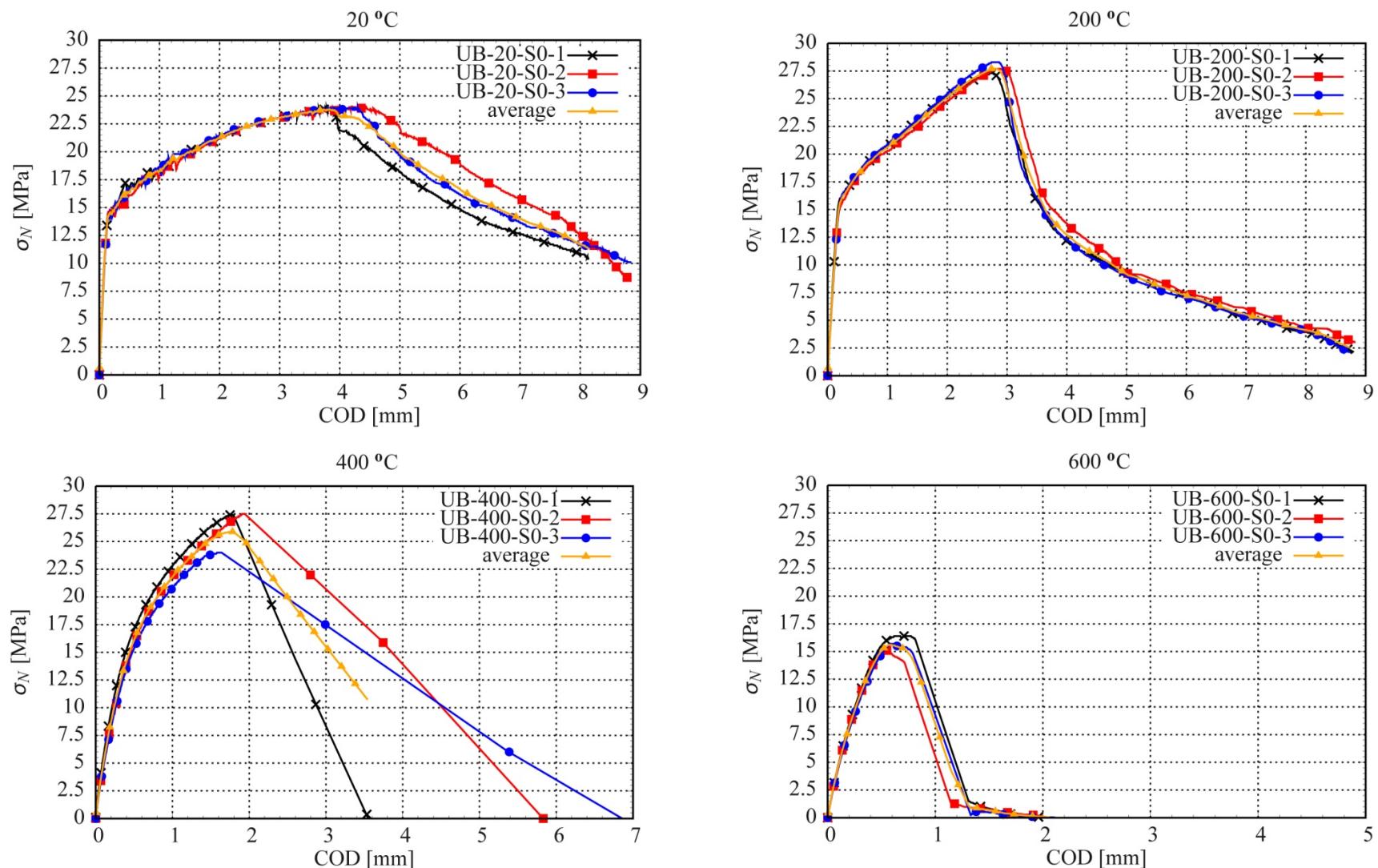


Caverzan, A., Colombo, M., di Prisco, M., Rivolta, B., High performance steel fibre reinforced concrete: residual behaviour at high temperature, (2015) Materials and Structures, 48 (10), pp. 3317-3329.

# UN-NOTCHED BEAMS



Caverzan, A., Colombo, M., di Prisco, M., Rivolta, B., High performance steel fibre reinforced concrete: residual behaviour at high temperature, (2015) Materials and Structures, 48 (10), pp. 3317-3329.



Caverzan, A., Colombo, M., di Prisco, M., Rivolta, B., High performance steel fibre reinforced concrete: residual behaviour at high temperature, (2015) Materials and Structures, 48 (10), pp. 3317-3329.

by G. Jen and C.P. Ostertag, 2016

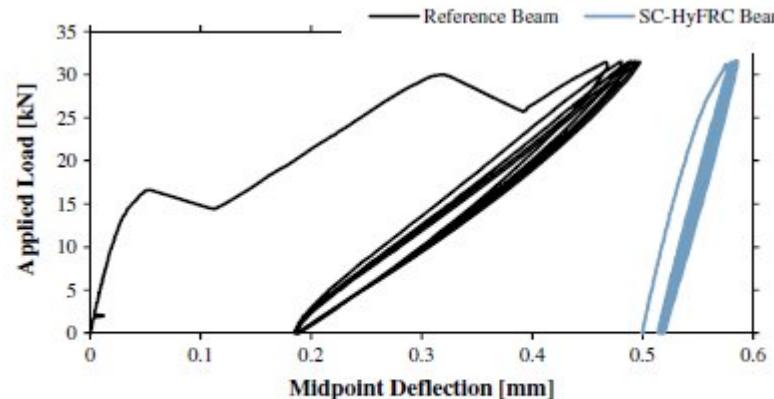


Fig. 2. Load-deflection responses of reference and SC-HyFRC beams to cyclic flexural loading.

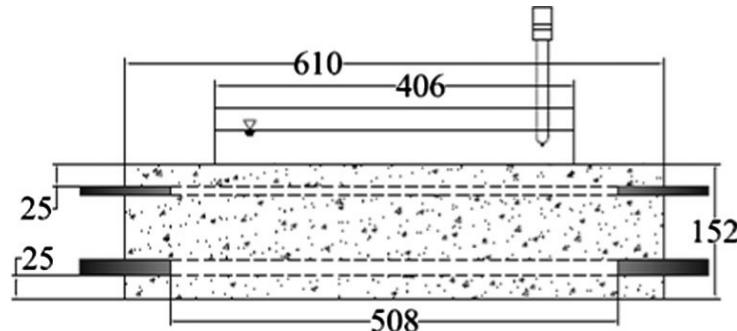


Table 1

Concrete mix proportions ( $\text{kg}/\text{m}^3$ ).

	Portland cement	Class F fly ash	Water	Fine aggregate	Coarse aggregate	PVA fiber	Steel fiber
Reference <sup>1</sup>	397	131	237	1006	497	-	-
SC-HyFRC <sup>1</sup>	397	131	237	1044	418	2.6	102

<sup>1</sup> Chemical admixtures, superplasticizer and viscosity modifying admixture, added to achieve flowable behavior.

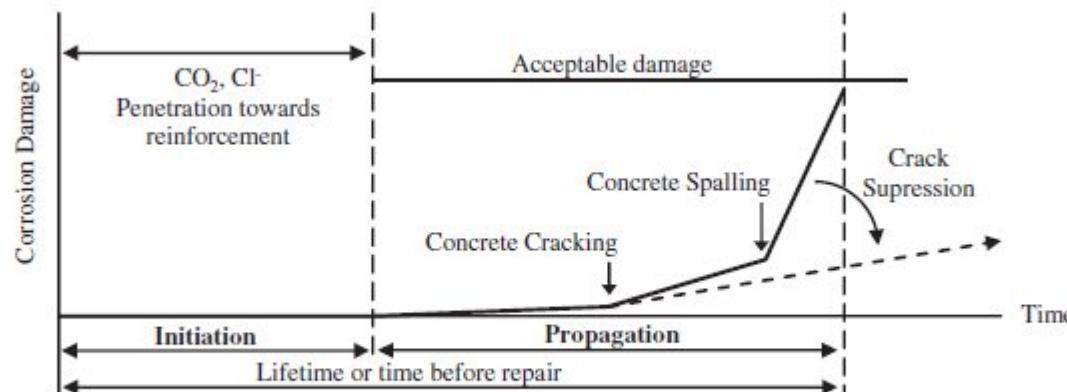
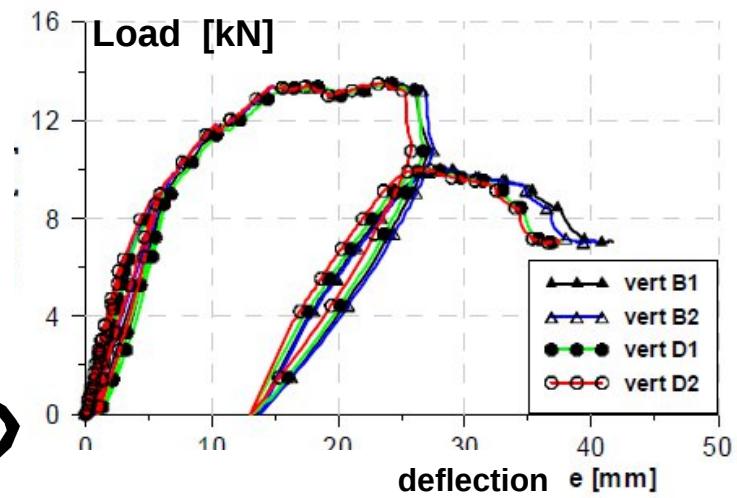
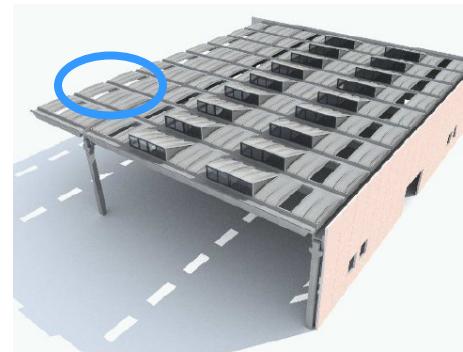
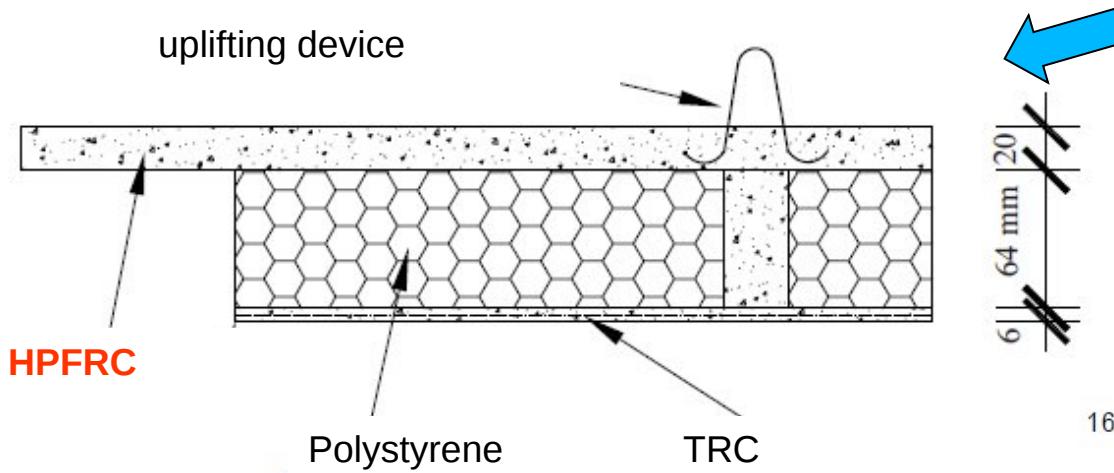


Fig. 9. Corrosion damage model of fib Model Code (2006) for undamaged concrete beams, with suggested crack suppression influence shown in dashed line.



## CASE STUDY: ROOFING ELEMENT

Roof systems are an important component of the building envelope, since they are specifically designed to separate the living spaces from the natural environment. They should ensure:

- adequate mechanical performances;
- energy efficiency;
- sound insulation;
- durability;
- aesthetics.

### HOW CAN WE MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE REVISED NATIONAL CODES?

A retrofitting strategy that might be successfully applied to several precast structures in northern Italy is represented by the substitution of the unsafe tertiary roofing elements with innovative multilayer panels characterized by lightness and remarkable structural performances.

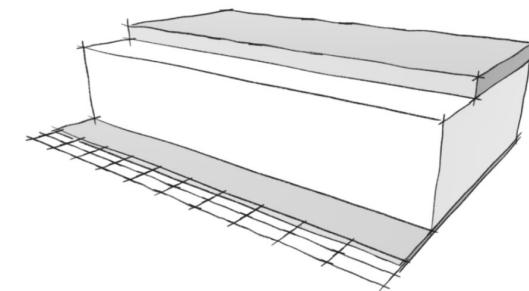


### S.I.N.E.R.G.I.E ATTI.V.E.

SISTEMA INTEGRATO SOSTENIBILE ENERGETICAMENTE ATTIVO PER IL RINNOVO DEGLI EDIFICI INDUSTRIALI ATTRAVERSO COPERTURE COMPOSITE



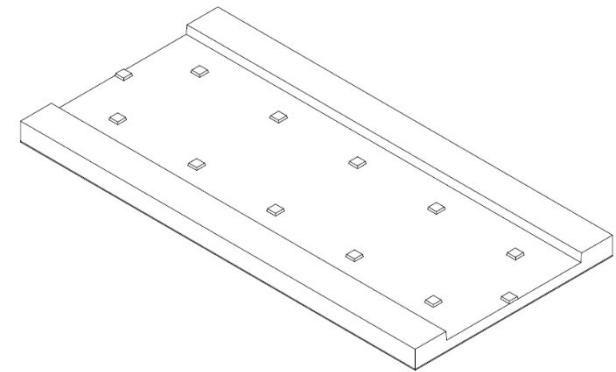
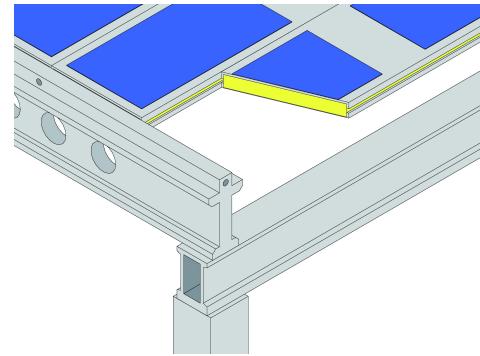
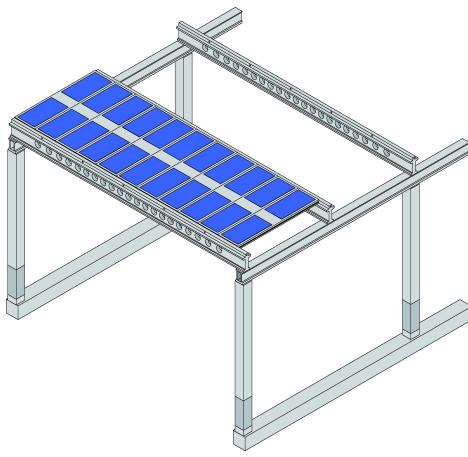
Ministero dell'Istruzione,  
dell'Università e della Ricerca





## HPFRC + INSULATING CORE + TRC

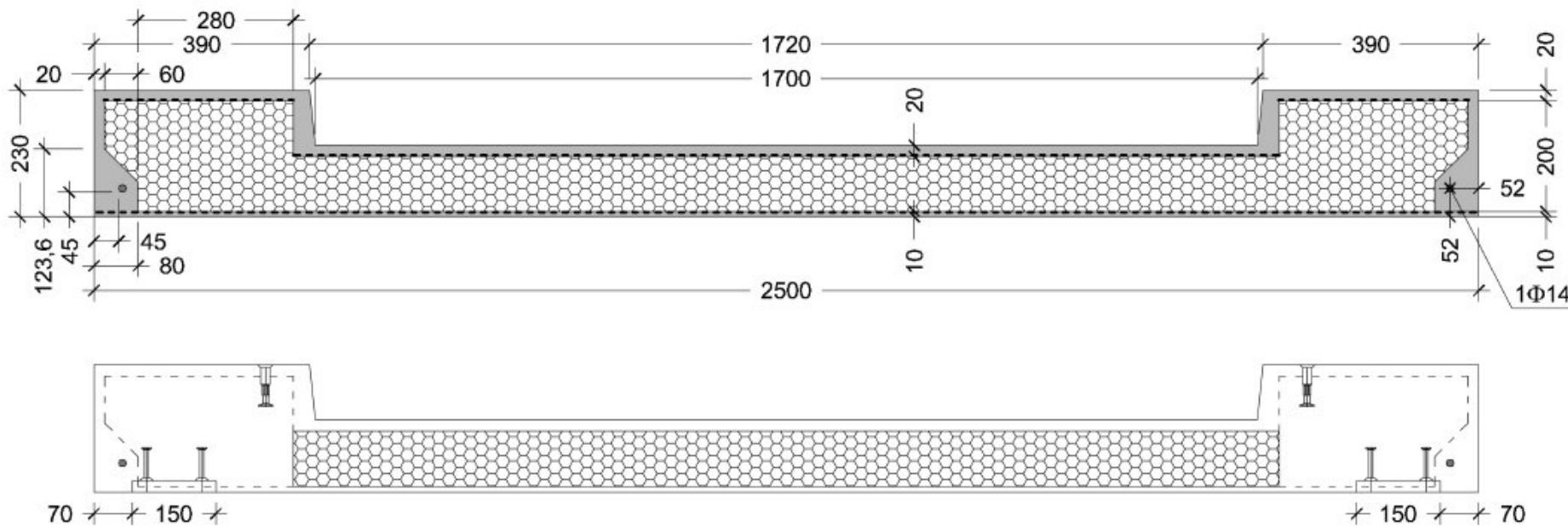
- self-weight reduction to solve seismic requirements;
- fire safety improvement;
- environmental sustainability, relying both on the improvement of the thermal performances and on the design of Building-Integrated Photovoltaics (BIPV) and the use of recycled fibres;
- global cost reduction: no need of waterproofing layer



## The proposal

2.5 m wide and 5 m long secondary prefabricated elements.

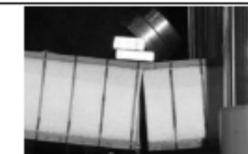
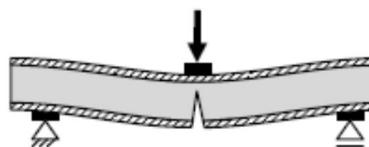
Main features: **lightness** (self-weight of about  $1.2 \text{ kN/m}^2$ ); remarkable **thermal insulation** ( $U = 0.42 \text{ W/m}^2\text{K}$ ), **waterproof quality**, **ease of assembly**, **fire safety** ( $> \text{R30}$ ) and effective **integration of photovoltaic systems**.



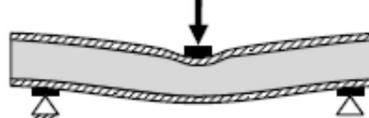
Transverse sections of the proposed composite panel (mid and end section)

## No. Failure mode

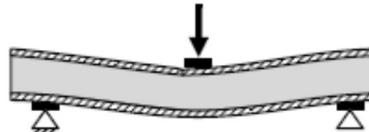
A tension failure of the reinforcement



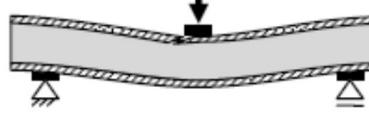
B compression failure of the core at the point of load application



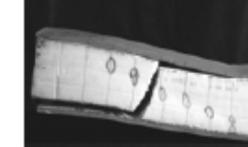
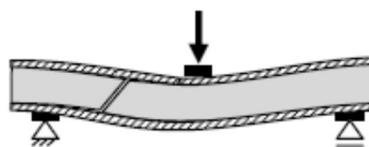
C local bending failure of the upper facing



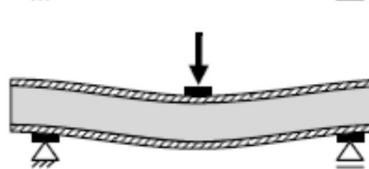
D local shear failure of the upper facing



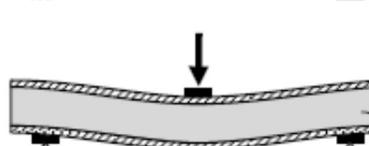
E shear failure of the core and delamination of core and facings

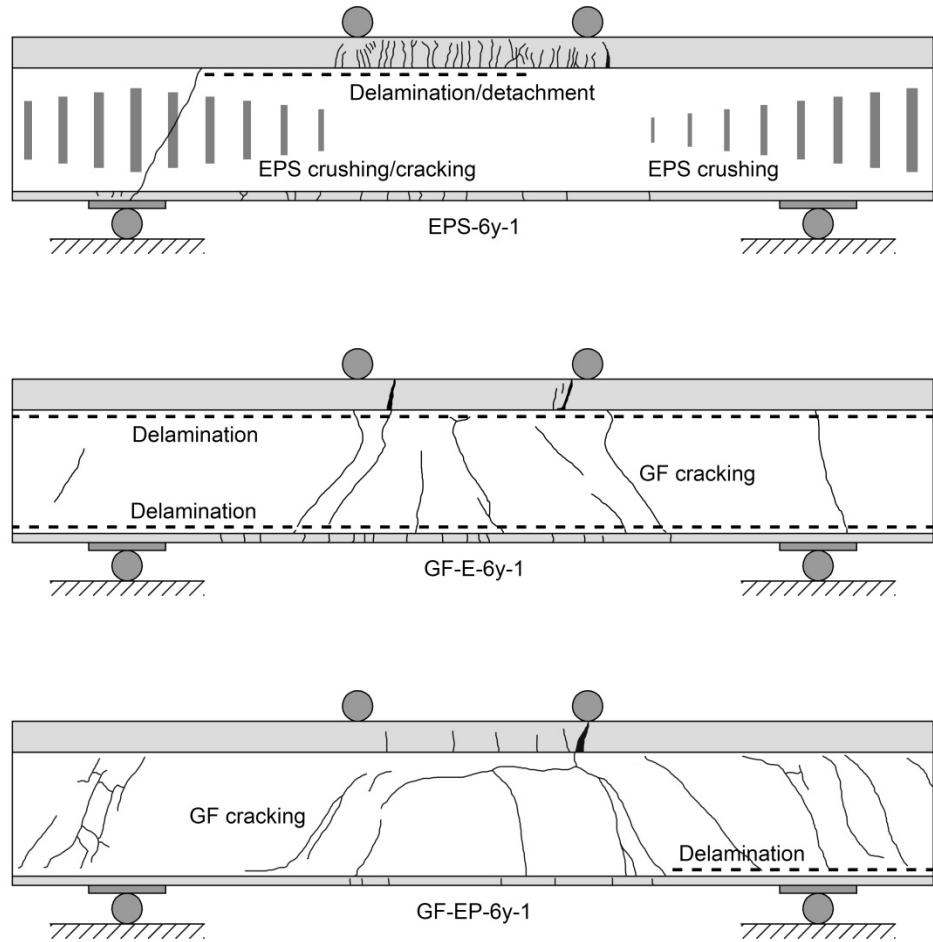
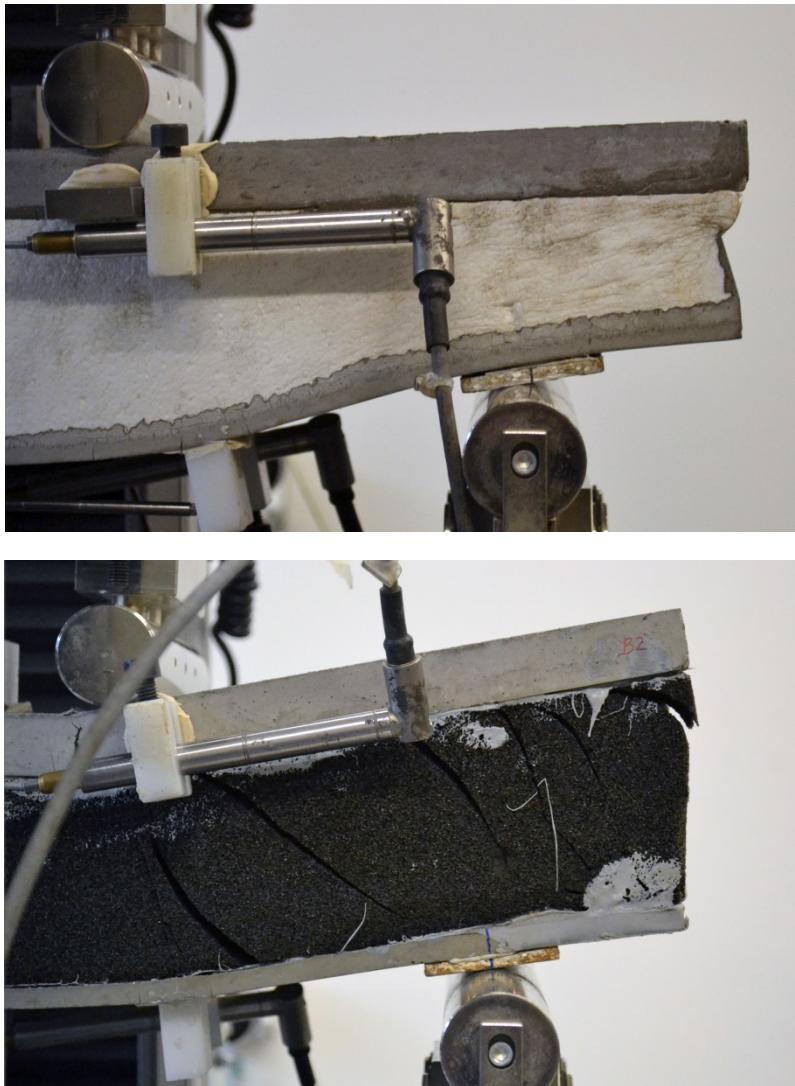


F longitudinal shear failure of the bond between the core and the upper facing (at one or both ends)

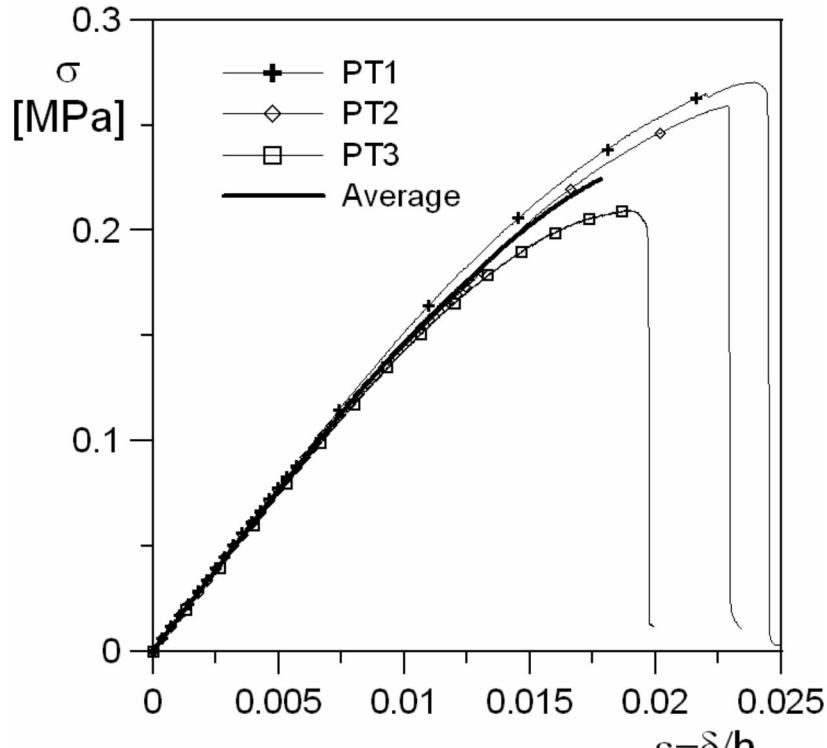


G compression failure of the core at the supports (at one or both ends)

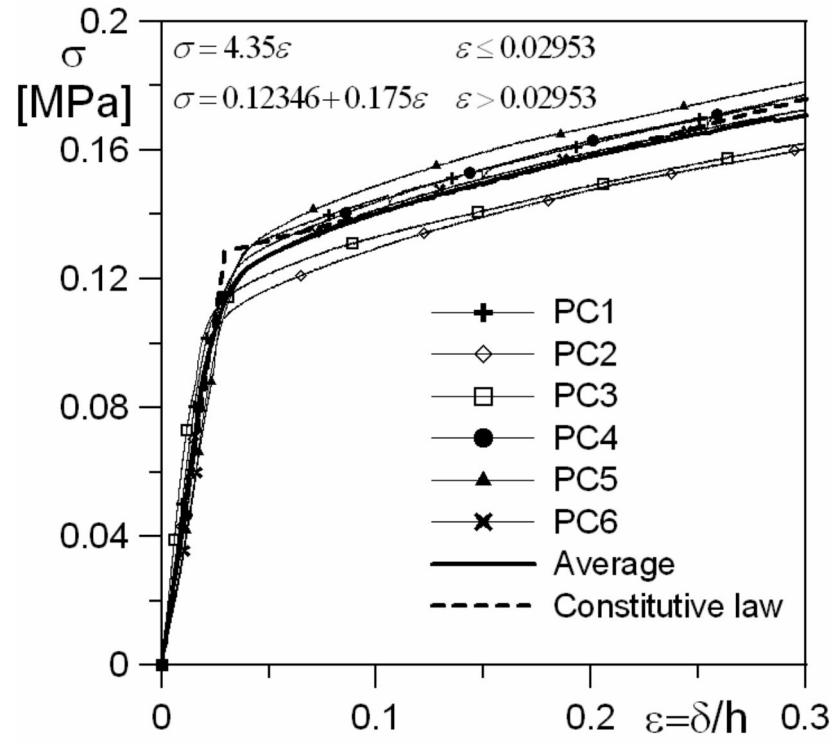




# Mechanical characteristics of polystyrene



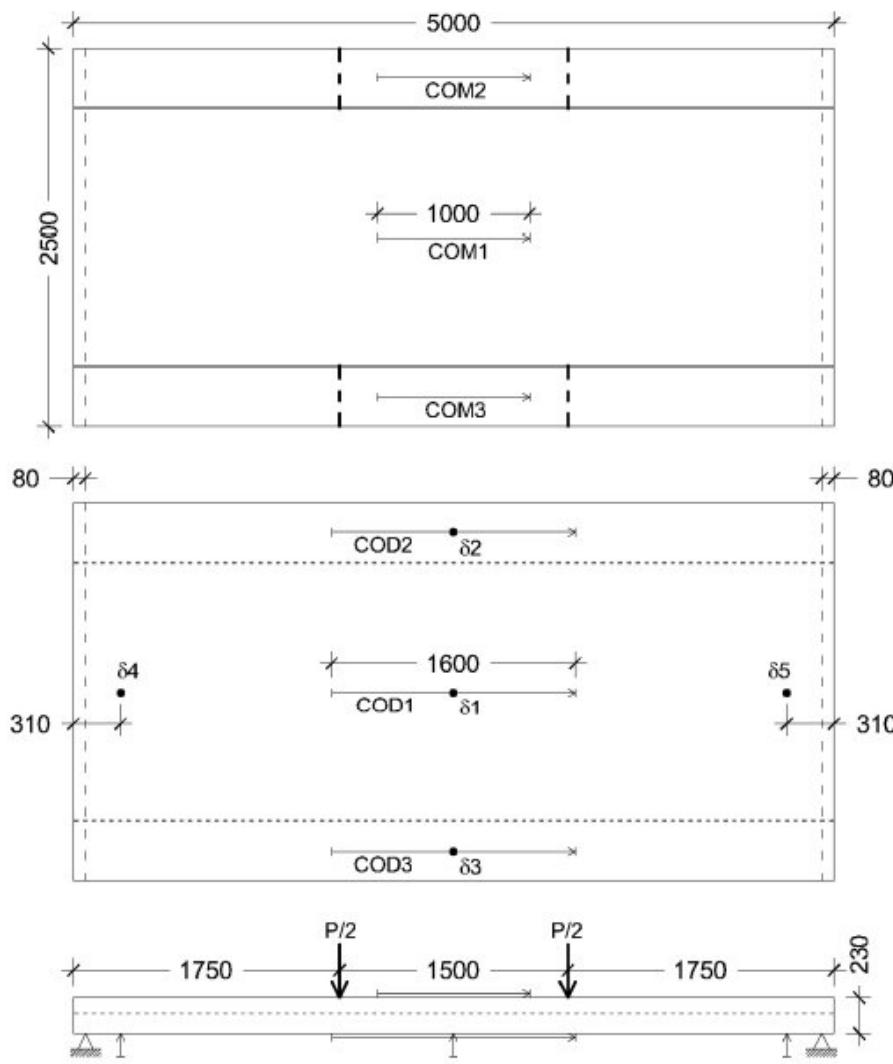
Uniaxial tension



Uniaxial compression

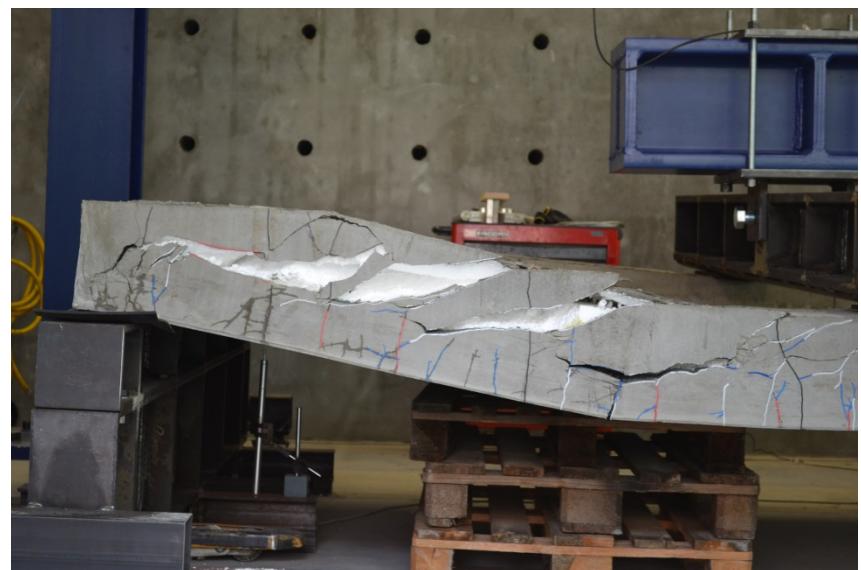
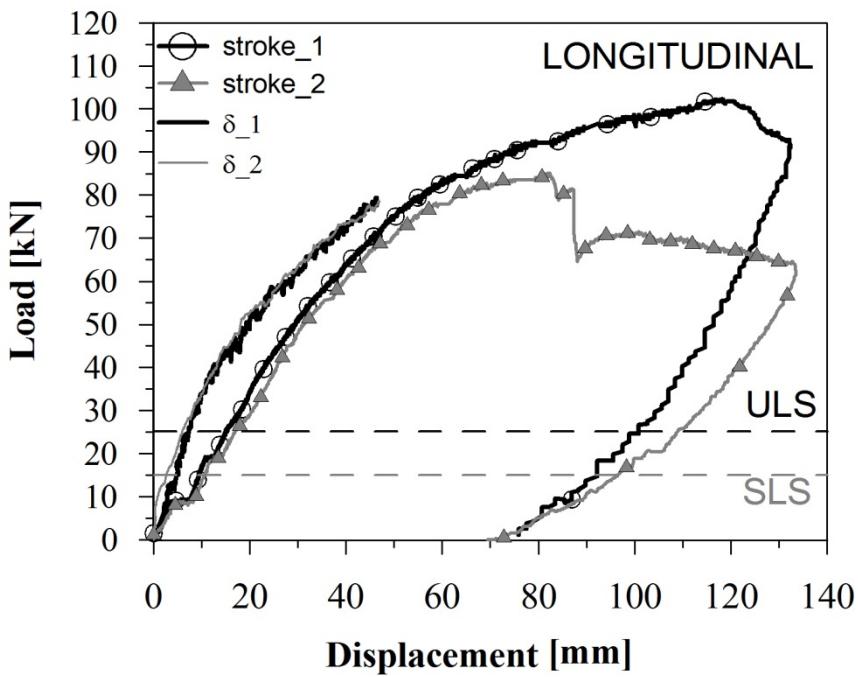
EPS 100

# Longitudinal bending tests - setup

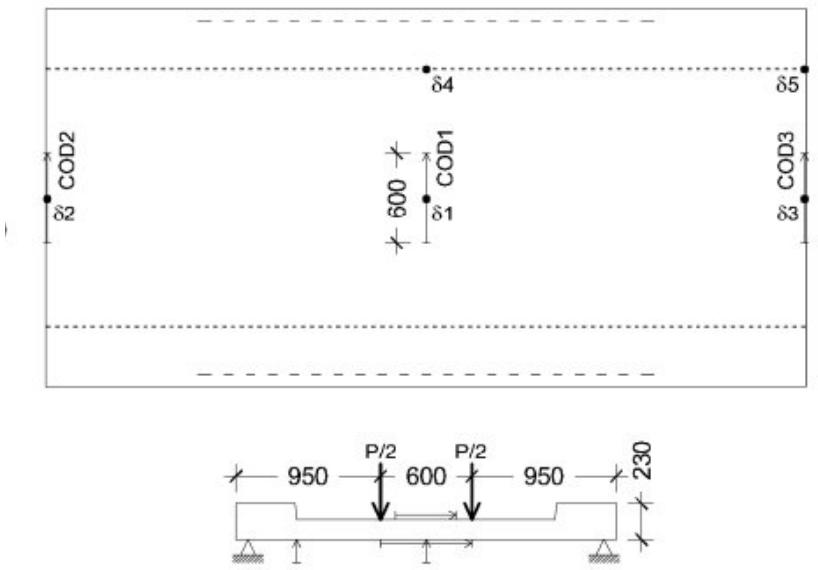
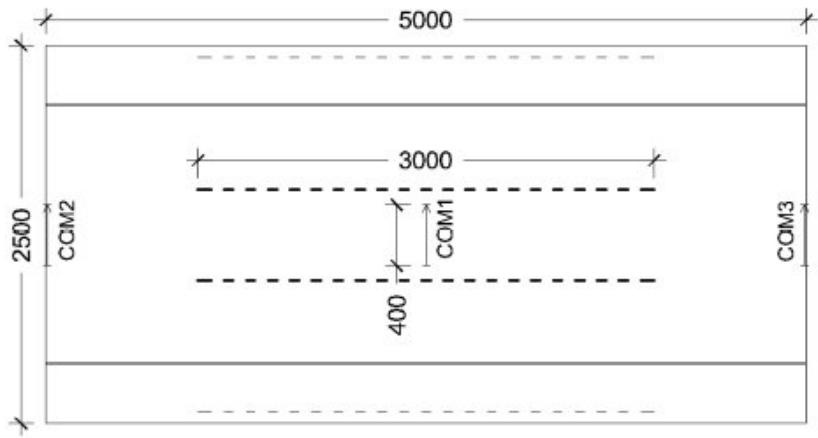


## Longitudinal bending tests

- **Remarkable strength and ductility levels:** peak loads were about **3.5 to 4 times higher** than the one associated to the Ultimate Limit State (ULS).
- Test number 2 was halted right after the widening of some shear cracks, originally developed on an HPFRCC web, probably due to a poor control of the wall thickness and an uneven distribution of the fibrous reinforcement.

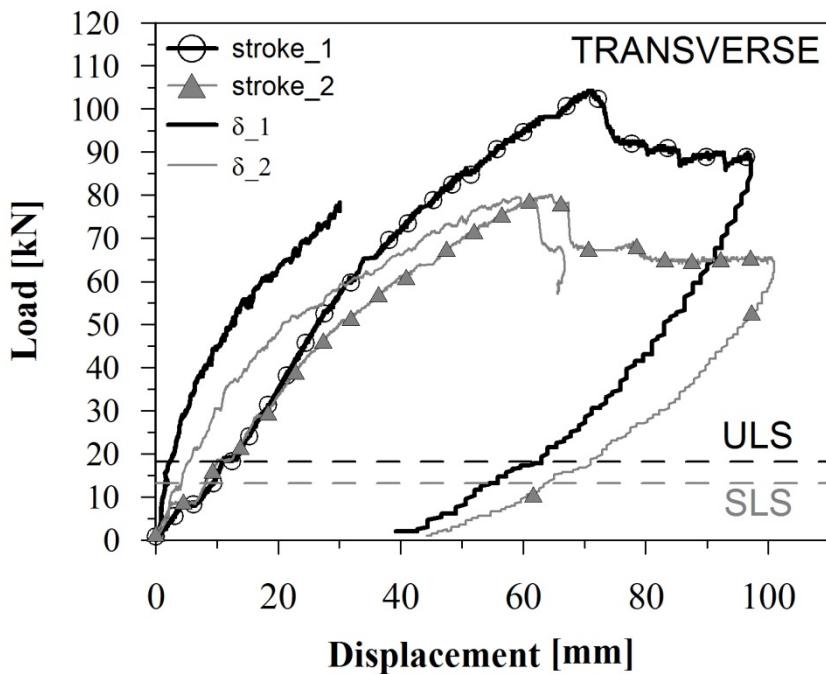


# Transverse bending tests - setup



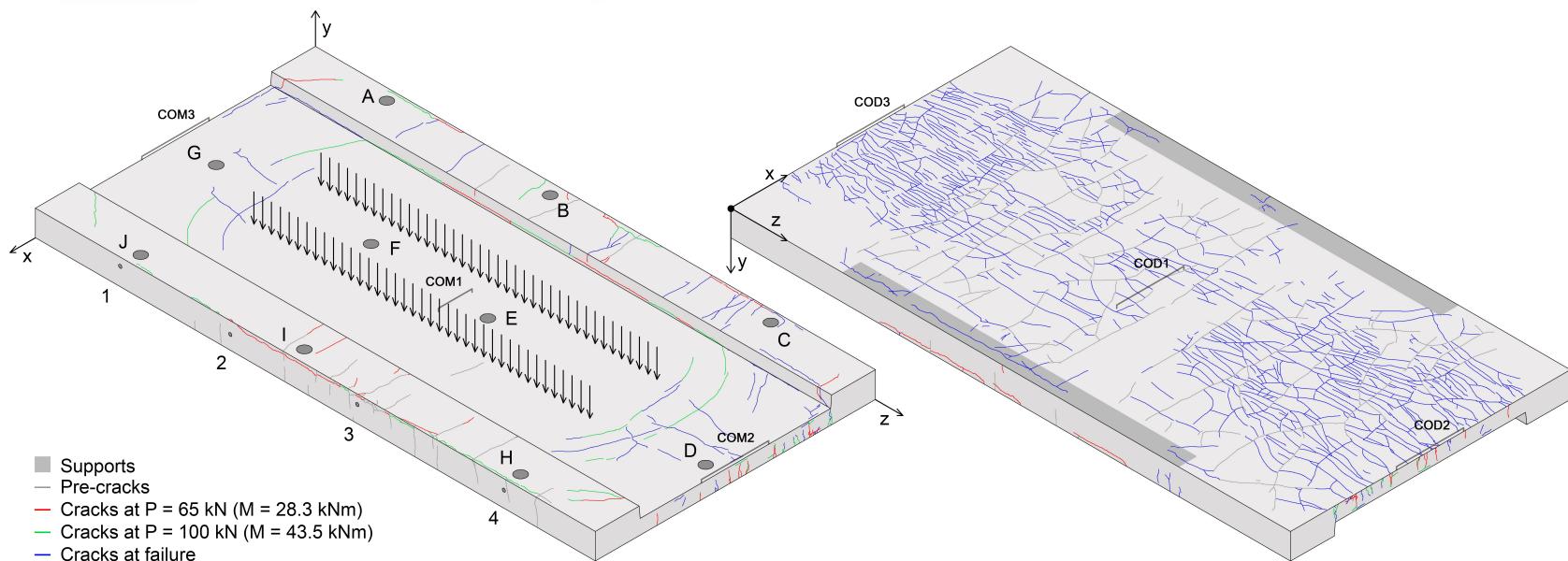
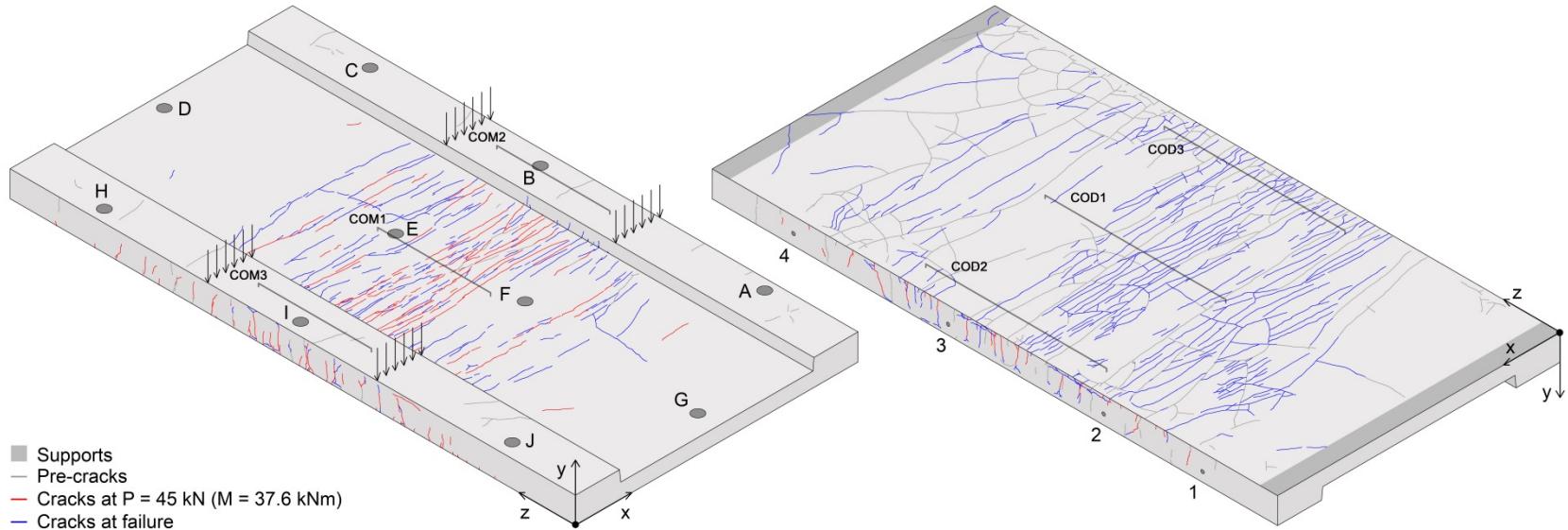
## Transverse bending tests

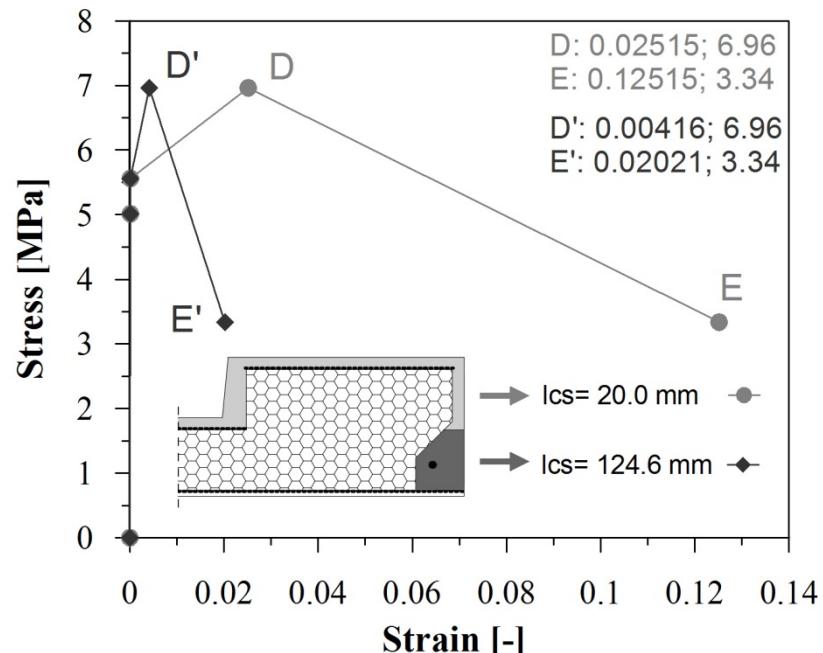
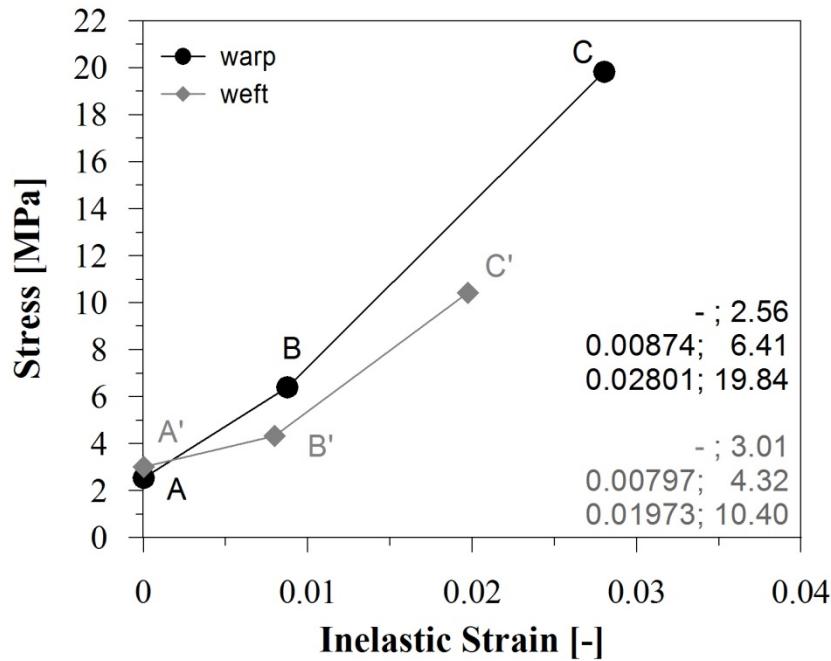
- ✓ Ultimate loads about **4 to 4.5 times higher** than the ULS design one.
- ✓ Peak load of test number 1 corresponded to the localization of a flexural crack,
- ✓ Test number 2 an early failure occurred due to the delamination of the TRC bottom layer (caused by the introduction of an alternative production procedure).



# Cement-based composites

79





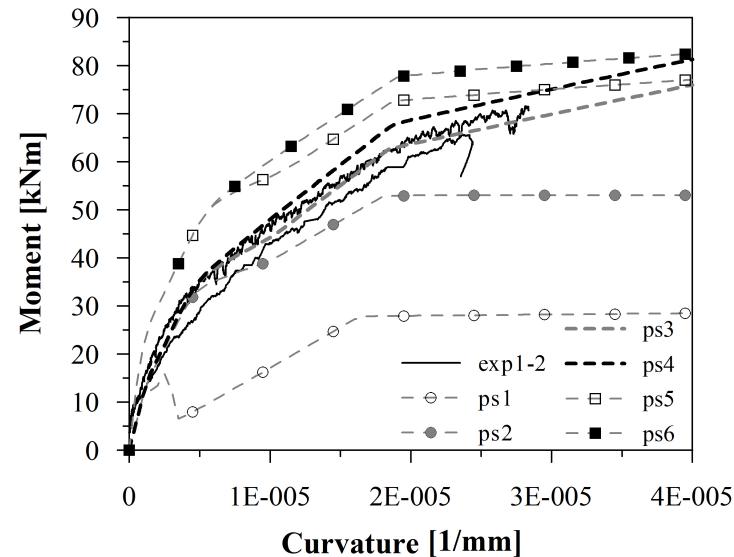
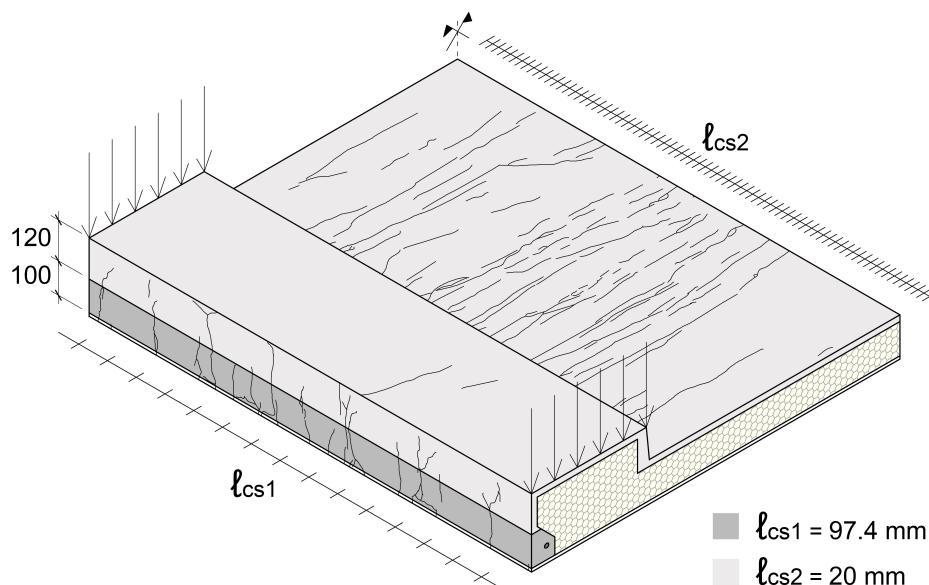
TRC and HPFRCC piecewise-linear constitutive laws

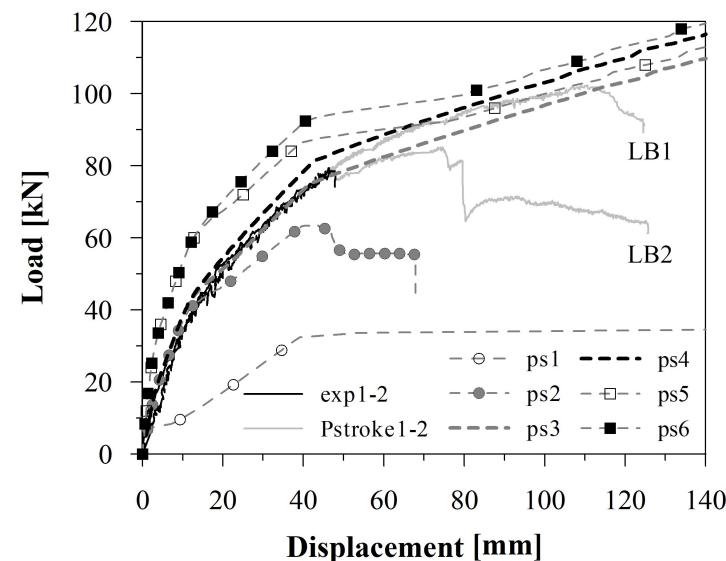
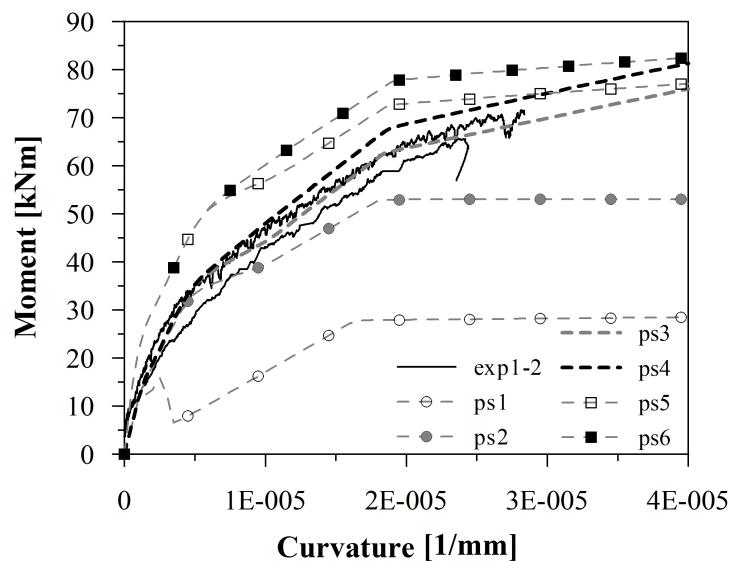
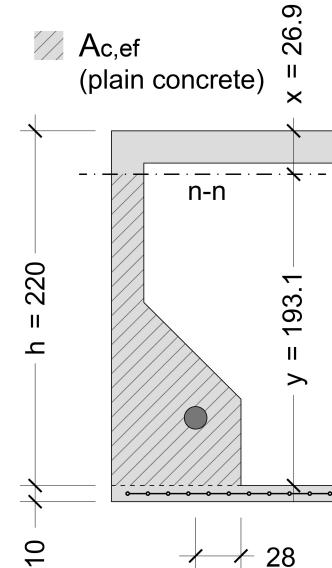
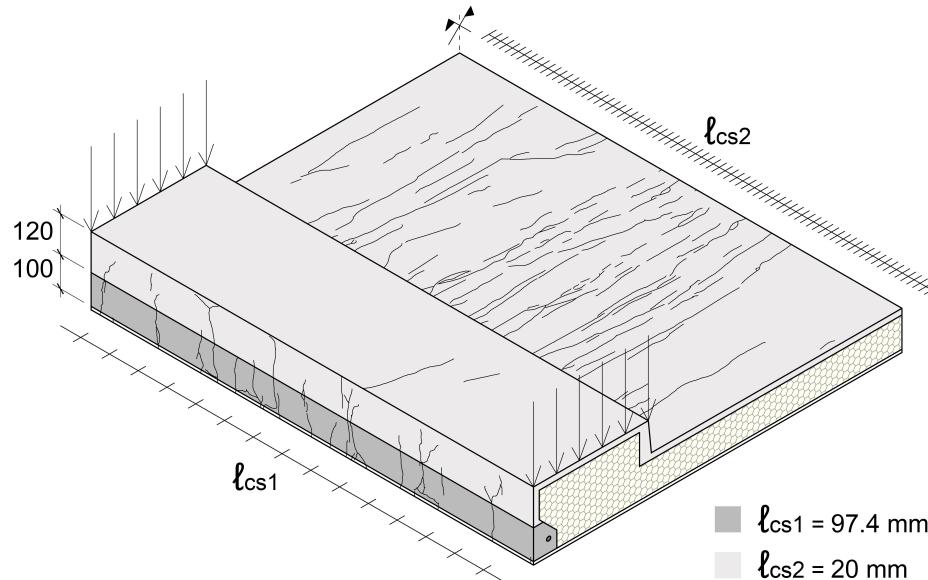
Zani, G., Rampini M.C., Colombo M., di Prisco M., (2019) Bending behaviour of cement-based multi-layered roof elements, *Engineering Structures*, 101-115

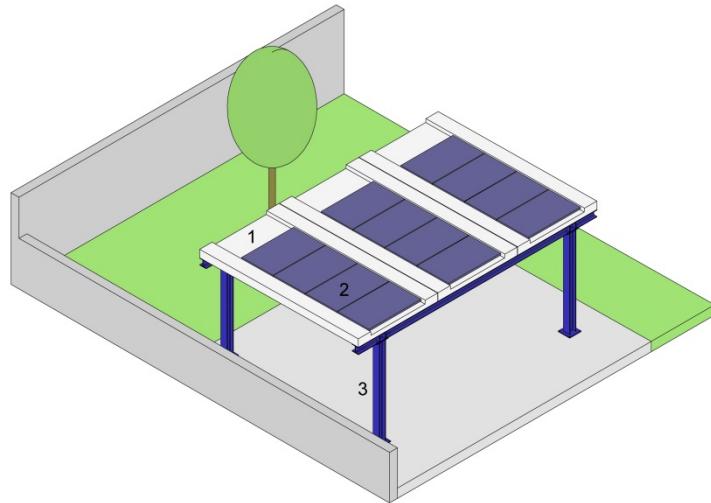
**Table 7**

Summary of the performed plane-section analyses. Peak curvatures of analyses ps1 and ps2 are omitted, being associated to failure mechanisms different from the ones observed on the full-scale panels.

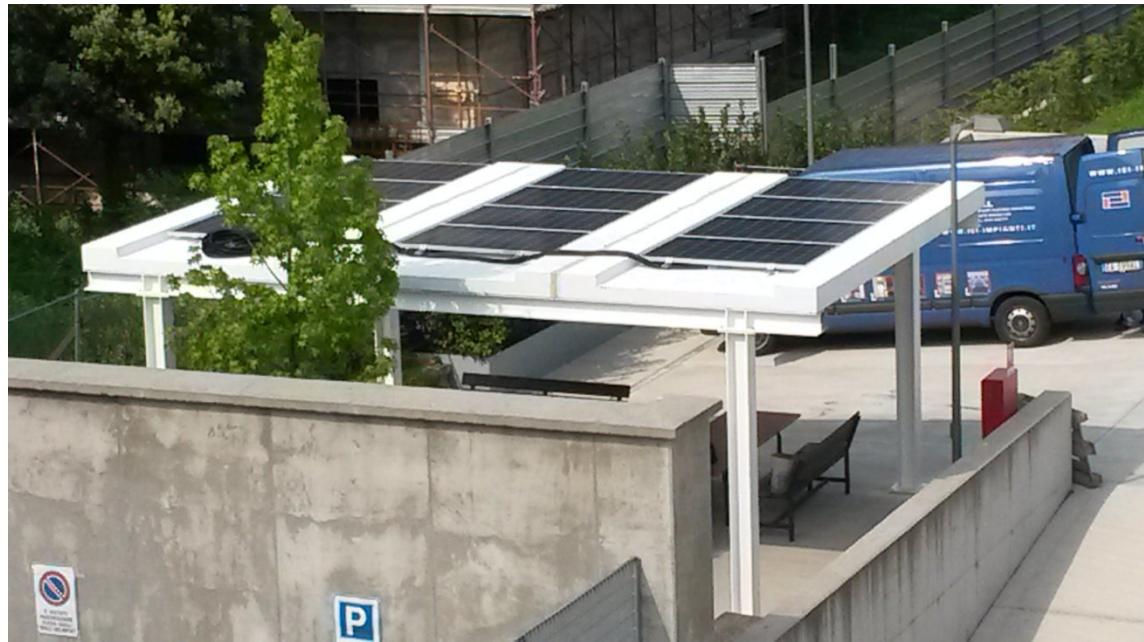
Analysis	Intrados	Extrados	$\theta_{peak,PS}$ [1/mm]	$M_{peak,PS}$ [kNm]	$\frac{M_{peak,PS}}{M_{peak,LB1}}$	$\frac{M_{peak,PS}}{M_{peak,LB2}}$
ps1	-	plain concrete ( $f_{ct} = 0$ )	-	29.50	0.35	0.41
ps2	-	non-oriented, $\ell_{cs1}$ + non-oriented, $\ell_{cs2}$	-	53.00	0.62	0.75
ps3	fabric	non-oriented, $\ell_{cs1}$ + non-oriented, $\ell_{cs2}$	9.37e-5	109.00	1.28	1.53
ps4	fabric	non-oriented, $\ell_{cs1}$ + oriented, $\ell_{cs2}$	9.47e-5	115.00	1.35	1.62
ps5	TRC	non-oriented, $\ell_{cs1}$ + non-oriented, $\ell_{cs2}$	9.42e-5	110.00	1.29	1.55
ps6	TRC	non-oriented, $\ell_{cs1}$ + oriented, $\ell_{cs2}$	9.52e-5	116.00	1.36	1.63



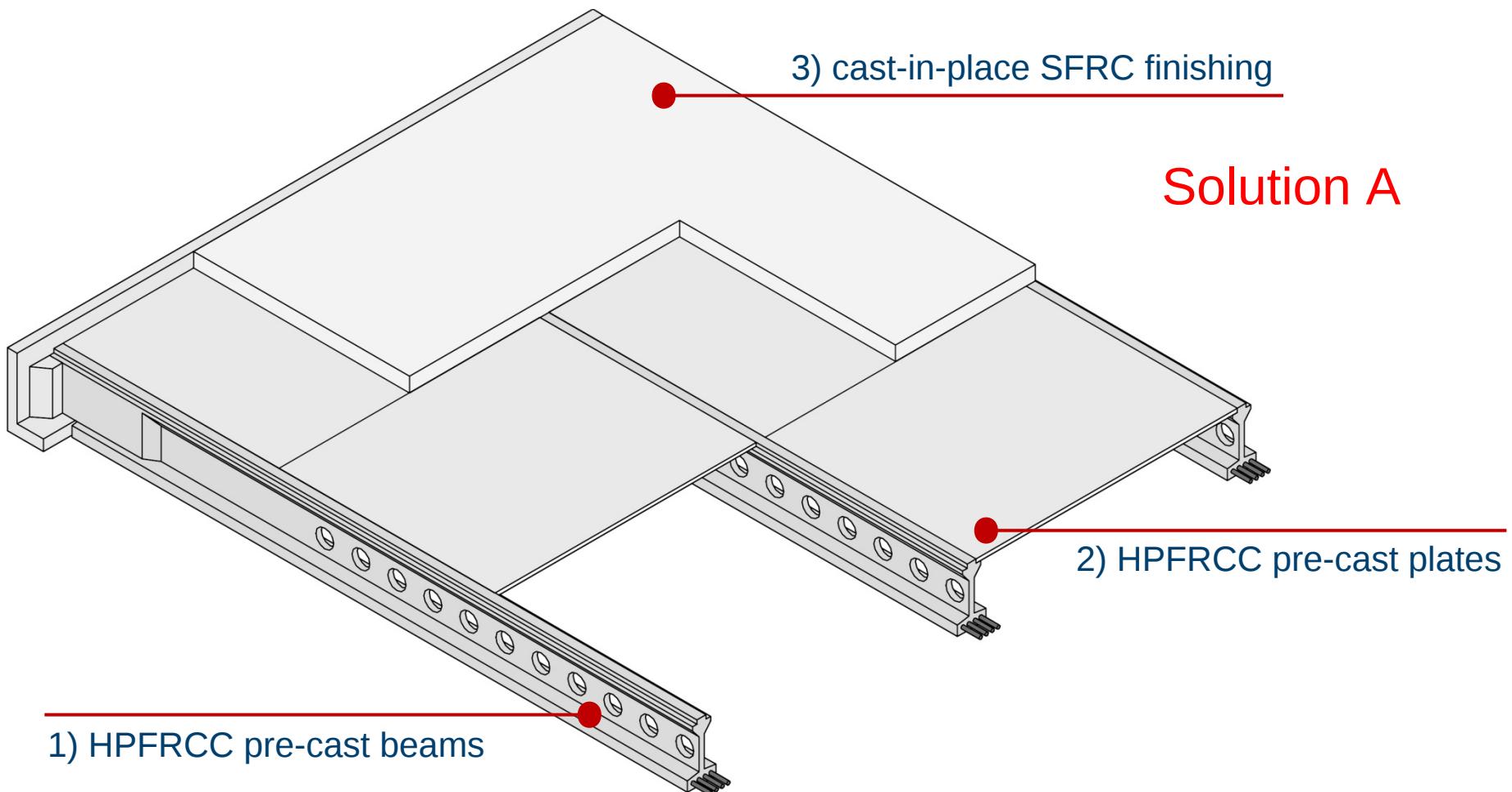




## Lecco Campus



## Unidirectional elevated slab: preliminary design



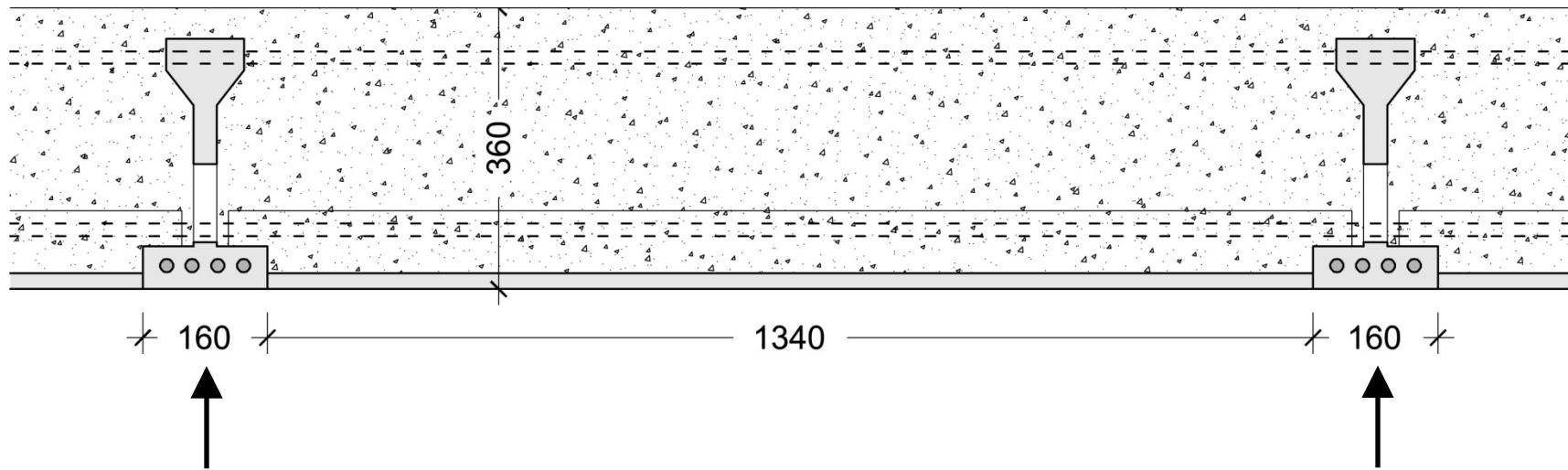
## Bidirectional elevated slab: preliminary design

Live load: 4 kN/m<sup>2</sup>

Slab spans: 7.5 m x 7.5 m

Solution B

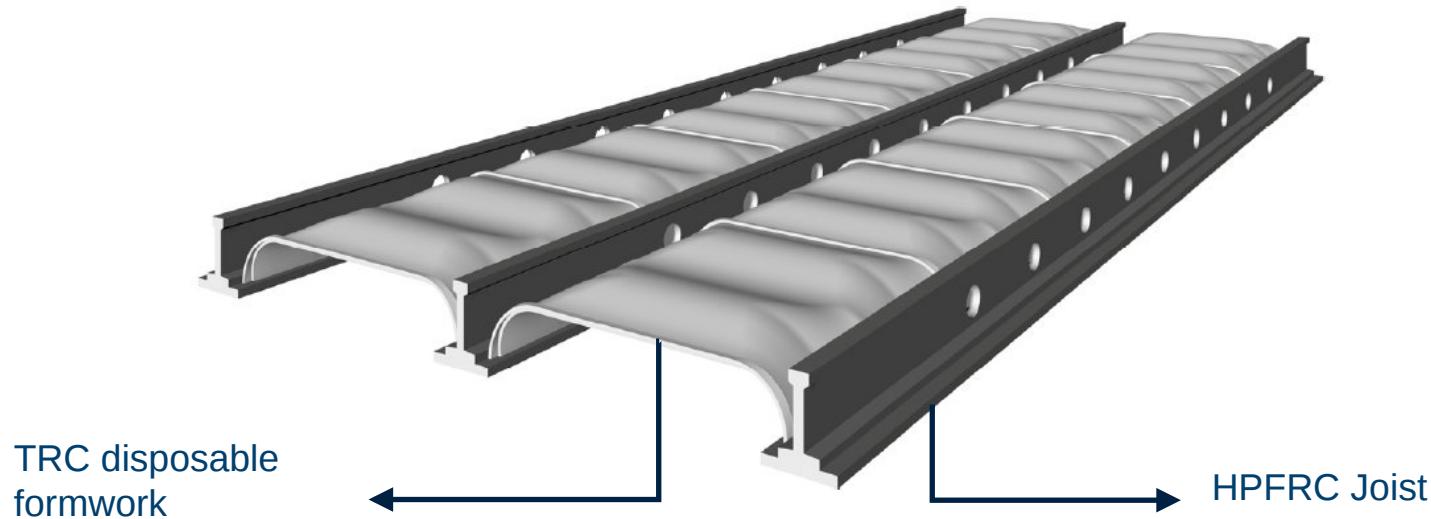
HPFRCC pre-cast beams (shored up in the SFRC casting phase) + HPFRCC pre-cast plates (with integrated steel bars) + additional steel reinforcement + SFRC finishing casting



# Engineering framework

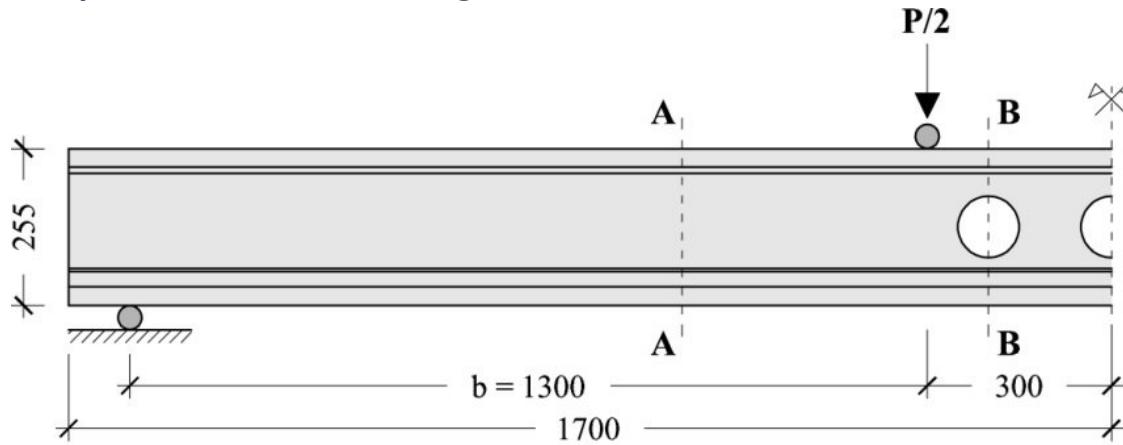
## Solution C

- Research project started in 2012 between Politecnico di Milano and Mangiavacchi Pedercini S.p.a. for the development of new design solutions for producing **light floors partially prefabricated**

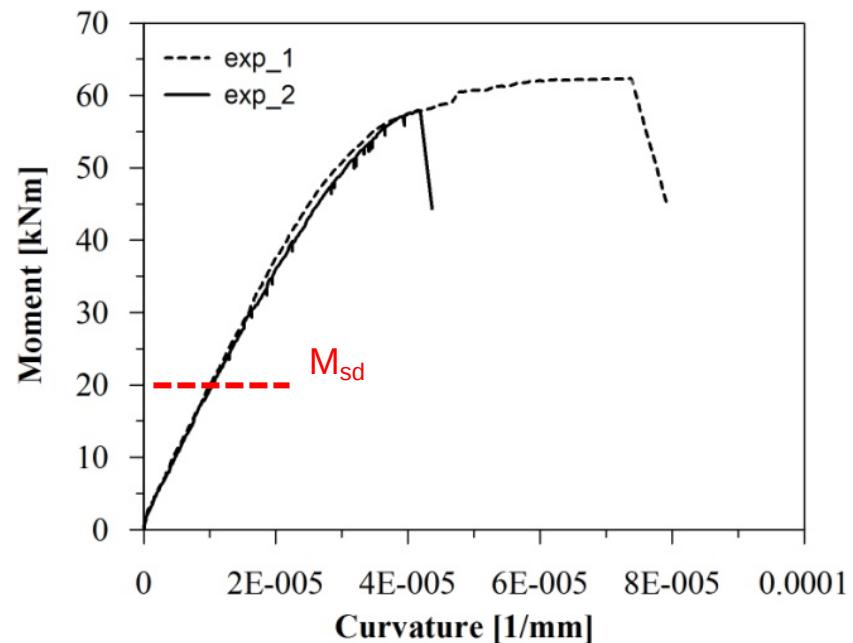
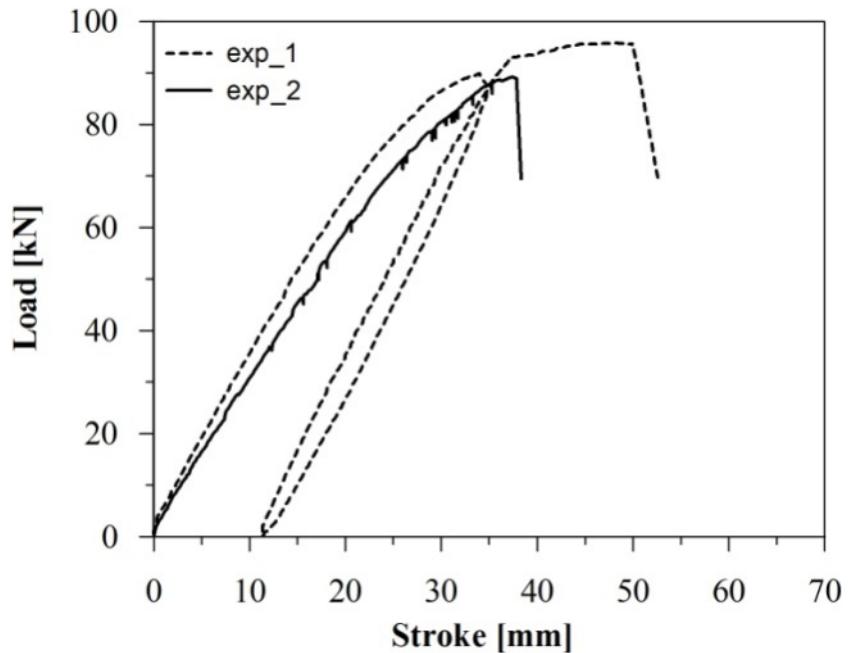


**POLITECNICO**  
MILANO 1863





4PB tests on 3.4 m long beams



3P shear tests on 1 m long beams extracted from the ones  
tested in bending

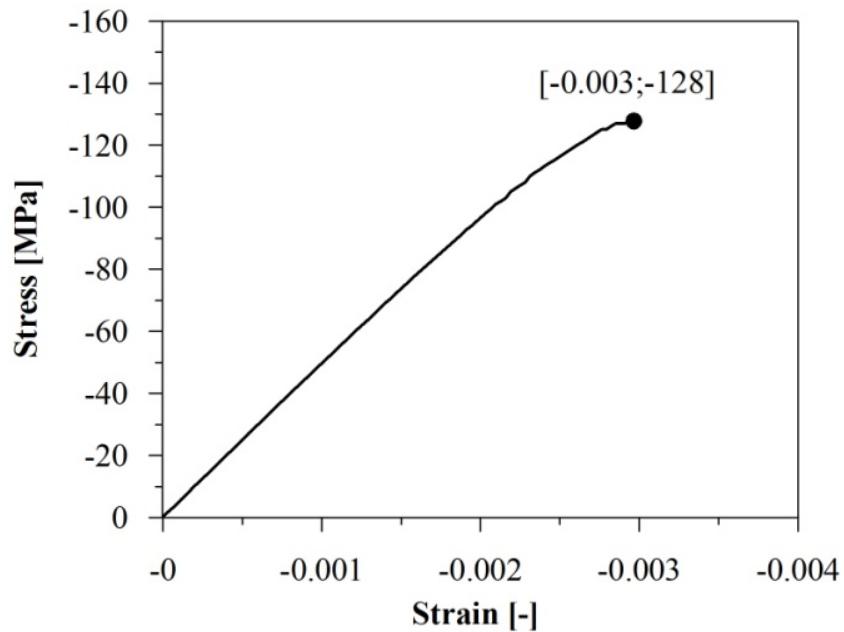
without the holes in the web!



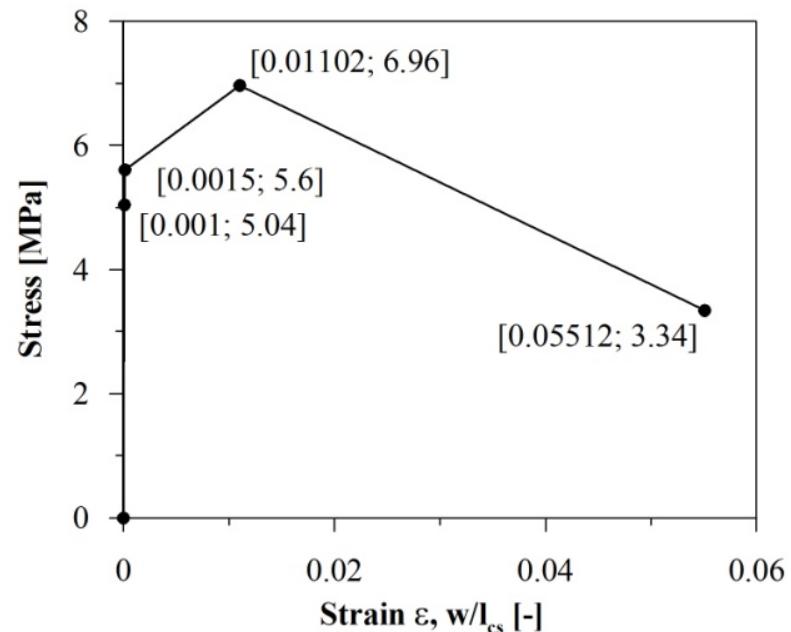
$$\ell_d = \ell_{sd} + f_{Ftud}/f_{cd} = 0.33 + 0.02 = 0.35$$

## HPFRCC beam: resistance previsions

### BENDING RESISTANCE: plane-section approach

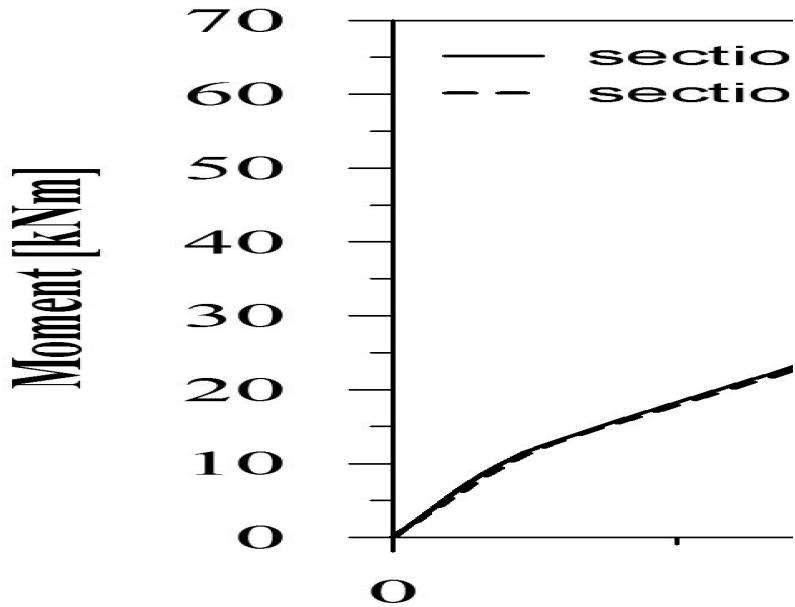


HPFRCC average law in compression

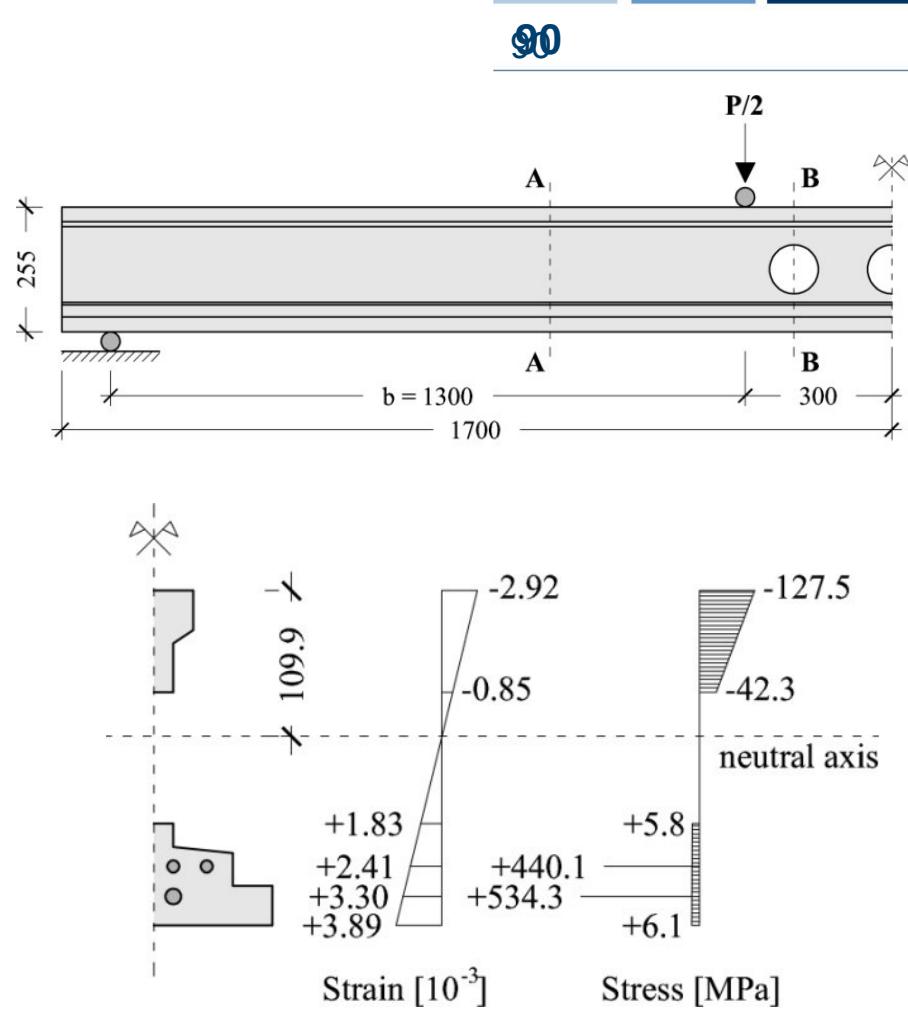


HPFRCC average law in tension

## HPFRCC beam: resistance previsions

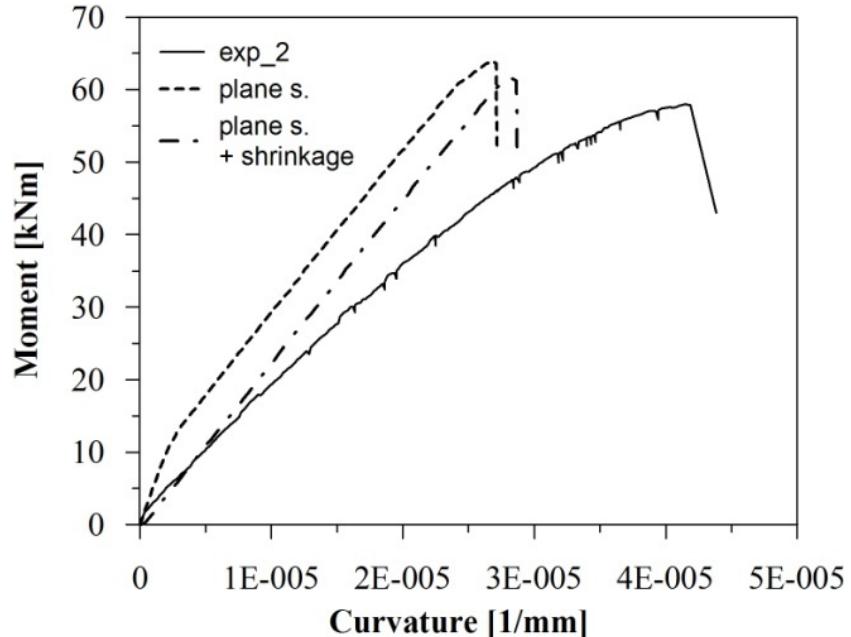
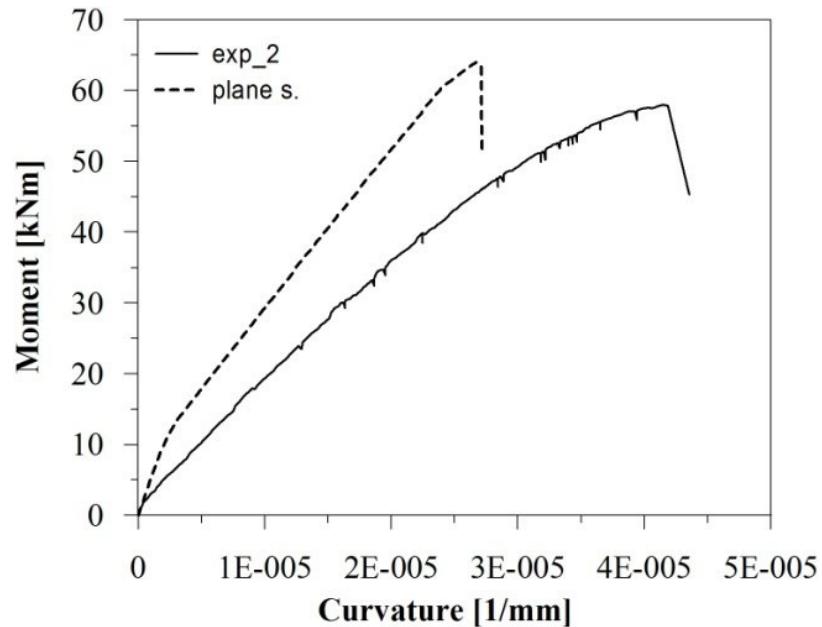


Ultimate bending moment  
 $M_{u,av}$  (B-B section): 64 kNm



B-B 'hole' section  
 distributions at the response peak  
 (failure due to concrete compression)

## HPFRCC beam: experimental investigation



This model does not take into account shear deformability!



## HPFRCC beam: resistance previsions

### SHEAR RESISTANCE: Model Code 2010 formulation

$$V_{Rm} = \left\{ 0.18 \cdot k \cdot \left[ 100 \cdot \rho_l \cdot \left( 1 + 7.5 \cdot \frac{f_{Ftu}}{f_{ct}} \right) \cdot f_{cm} \right]^{1/3} \right\} \cdot b_w \cdot d$$

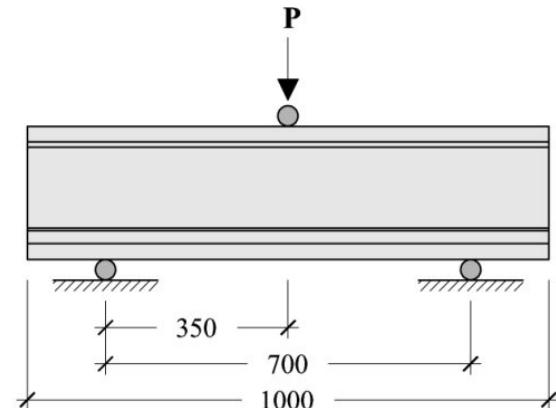
$f_{Ftum}$  ( $w = 1.5\text{mm}$ ) = 5.15

MPa

Av. shear resistance

$$V_{Rm} = 48.1 \text{ kN}$$

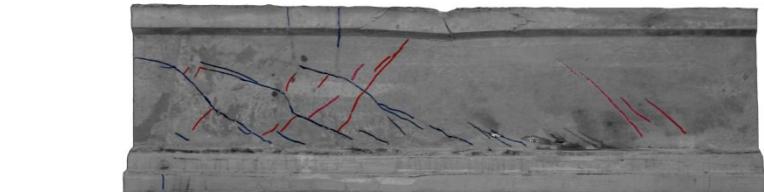
Specimen	$P_{max}$ [kN]
1A	99.20
1B	77.68
2A	74.16
2B	66.47



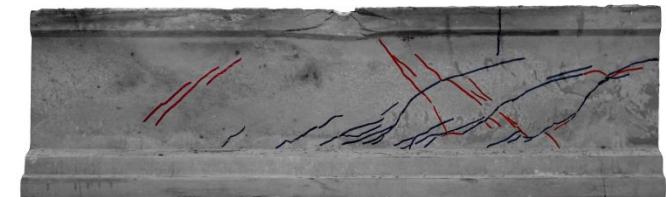
$$V_{sd} = 13.8 \text{ kN}$$



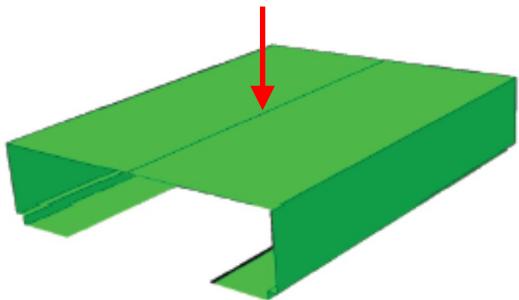
2A



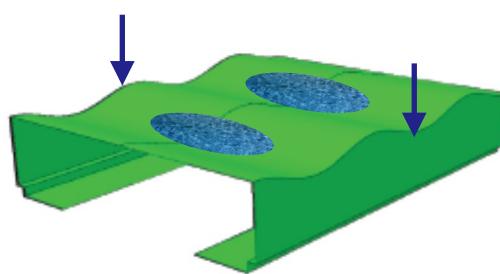
2B



# Disposable formwork evolution



- too-high central deflections



- water accumulations
- right angles between decking and joist web

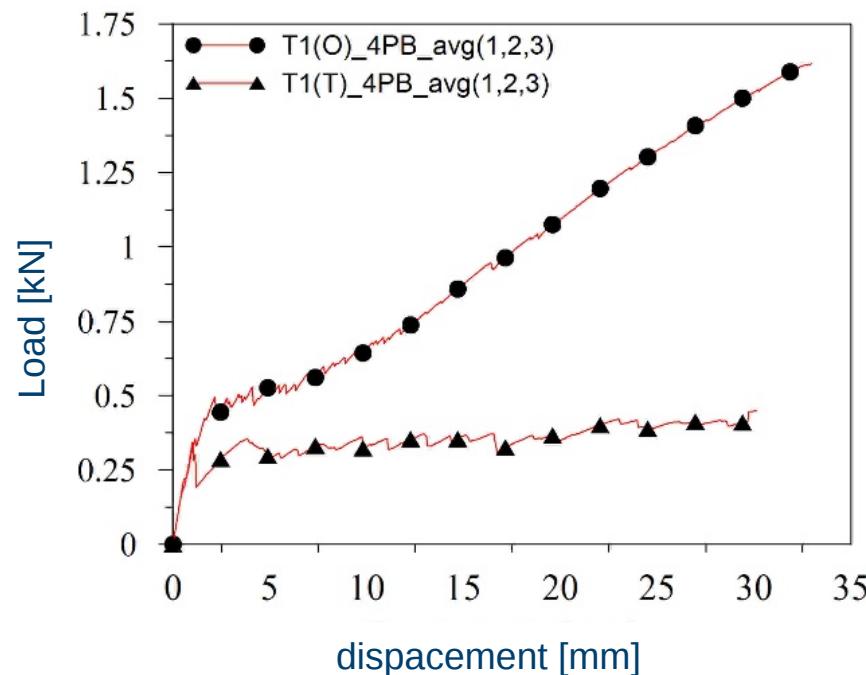


- definitive geometry



## TRC Characterization (6)

### Bending tests (4PB) – comparisons and observations



warp

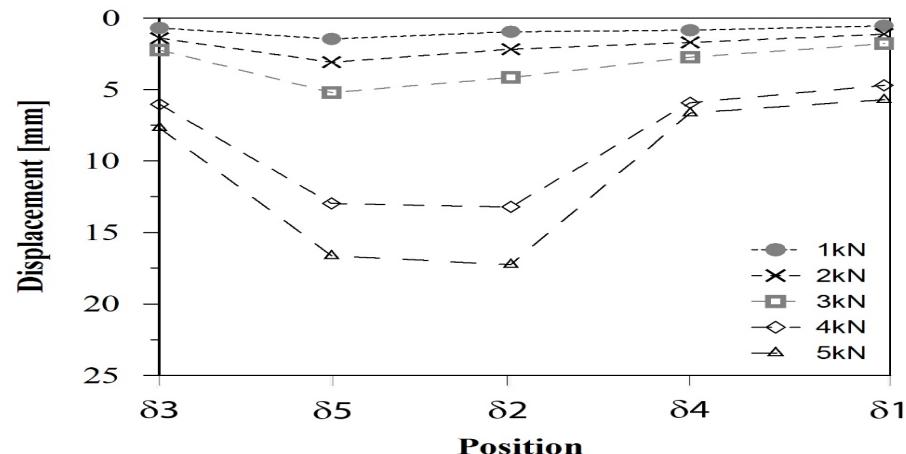
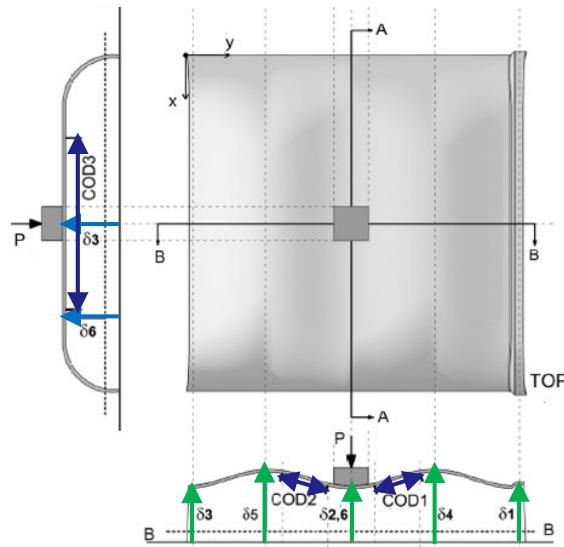
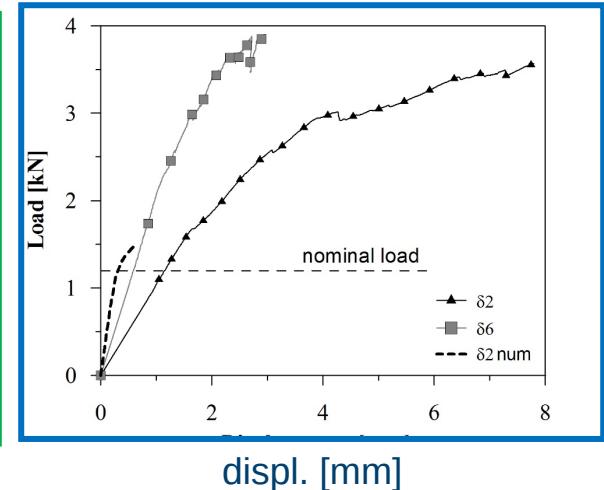
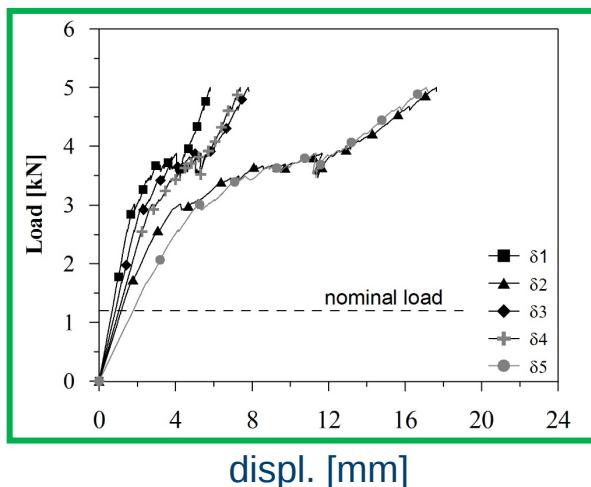
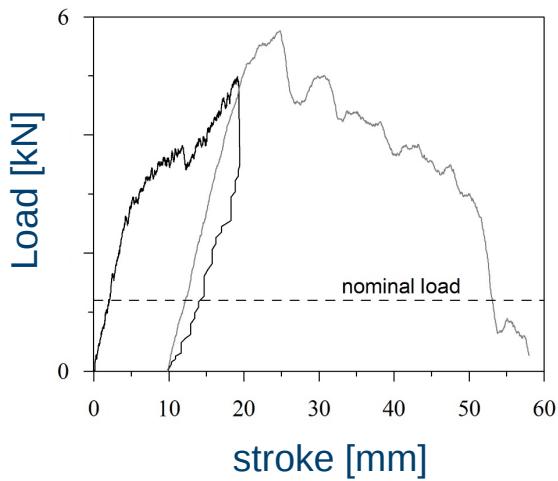


weft



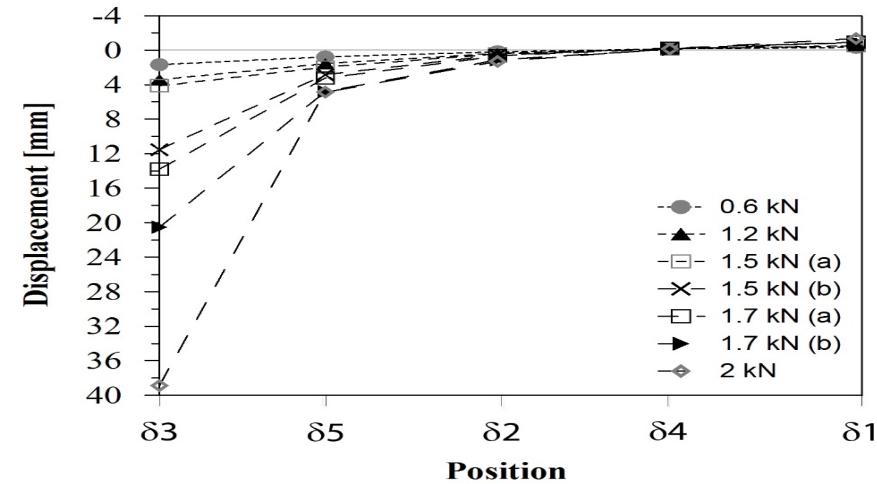
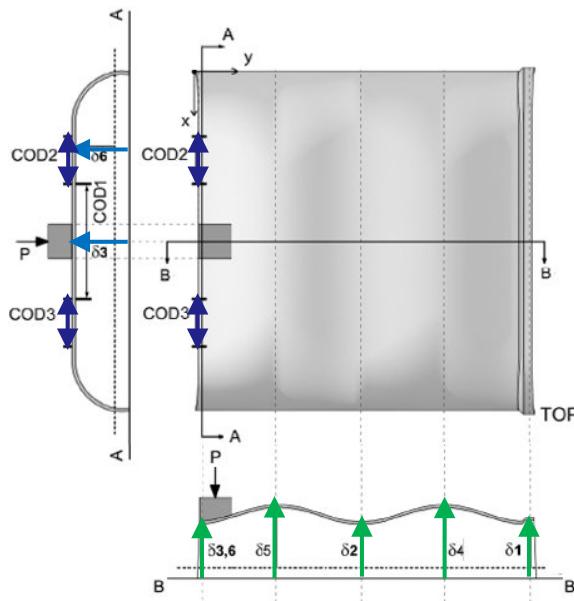
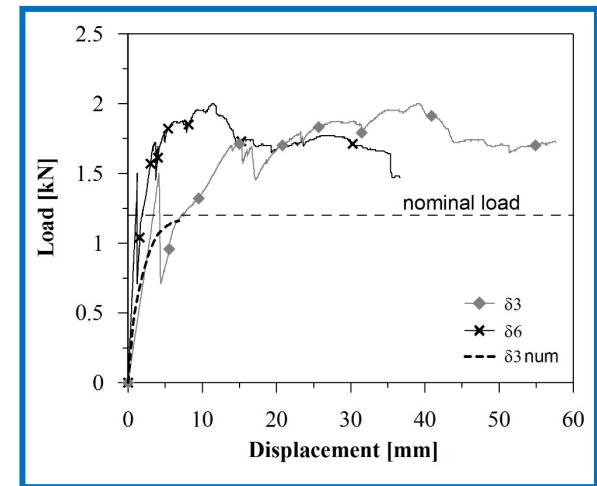
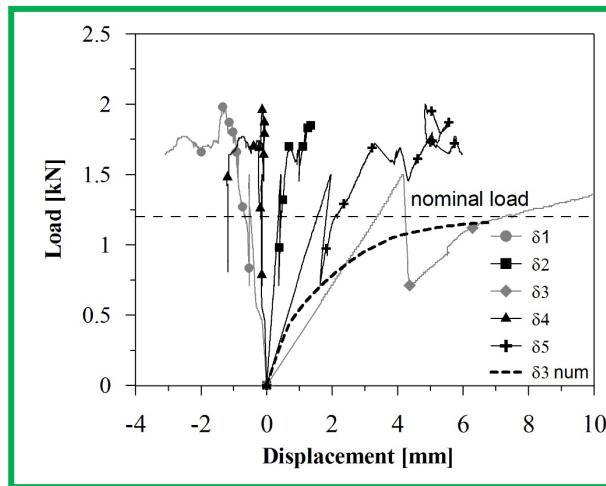
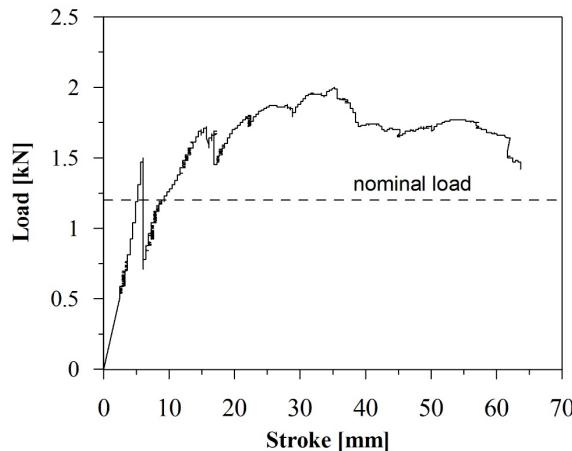
## Full-size tests (2)

### Concentrated load applied to the centre (2)

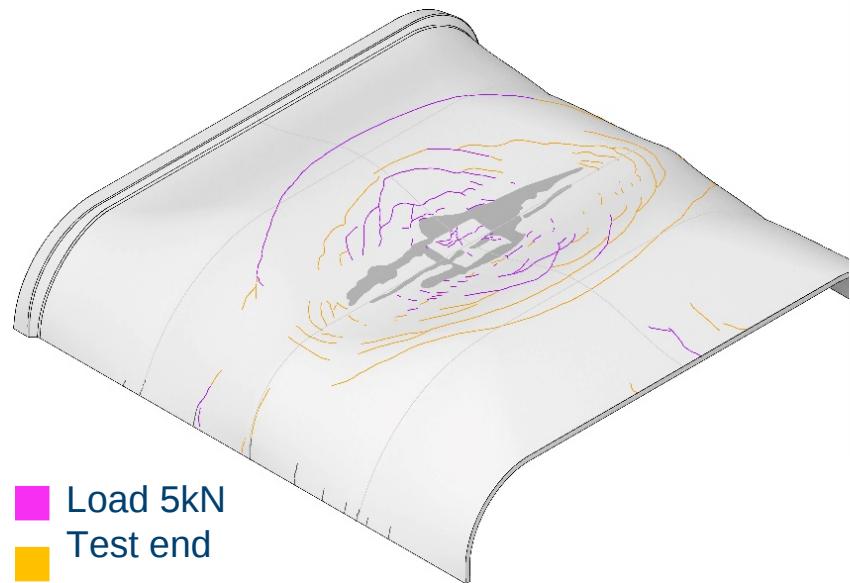


## Full-size tests (5)

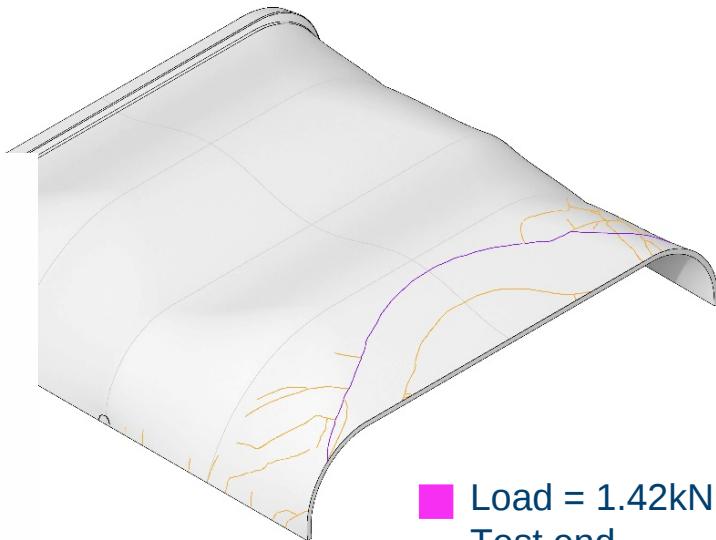
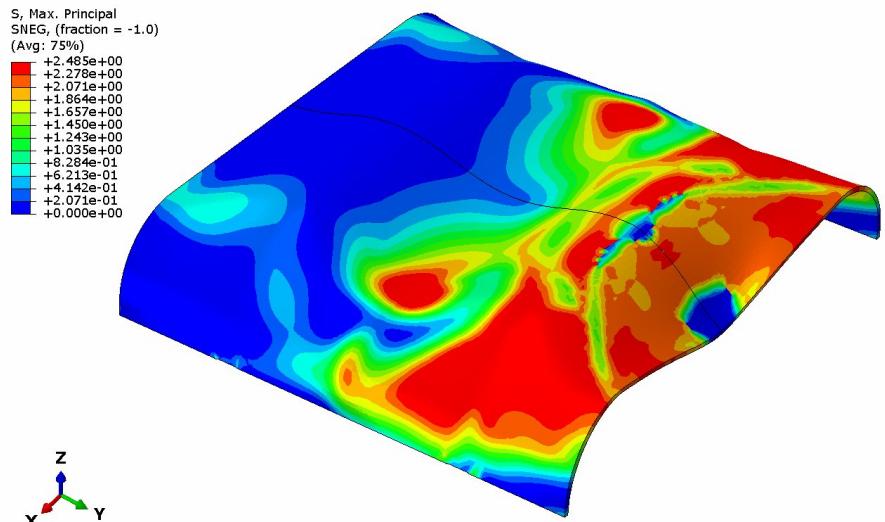
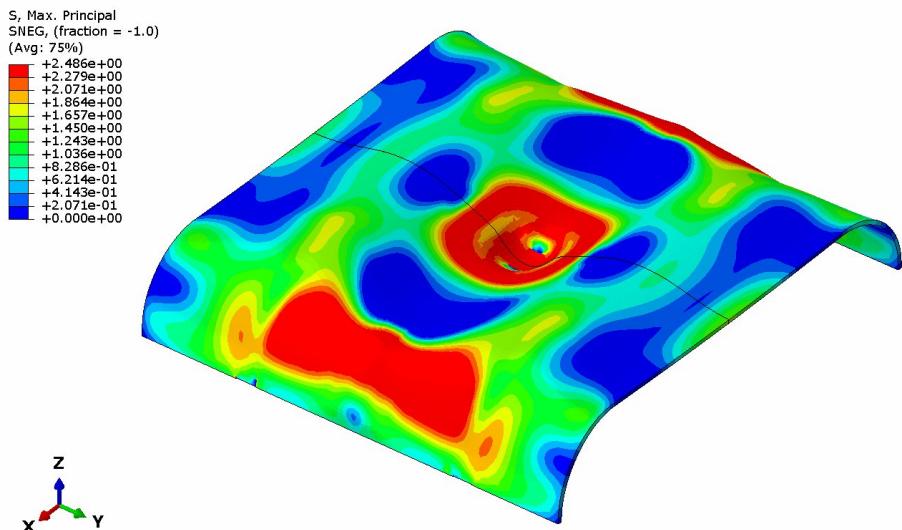
### Concentrated load applied to the border (2)



# Tests end



■ Load 5kN  
■ Test end



■ Load = 1.42kN  
■ Test end

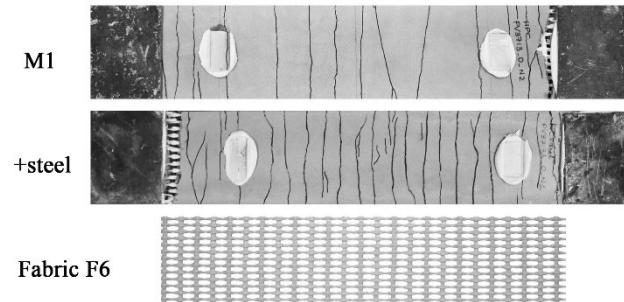
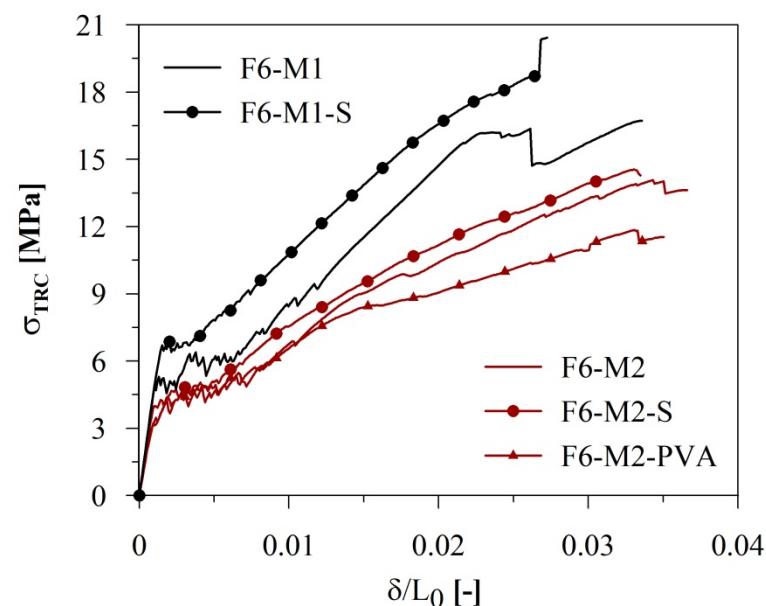
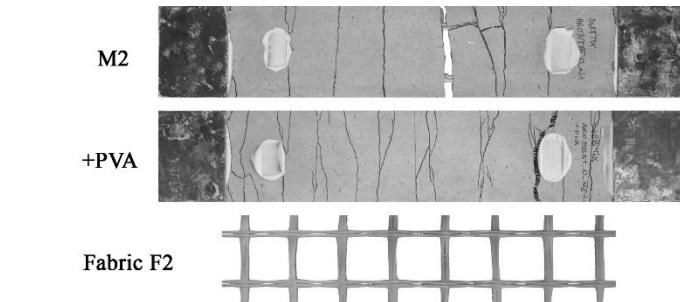
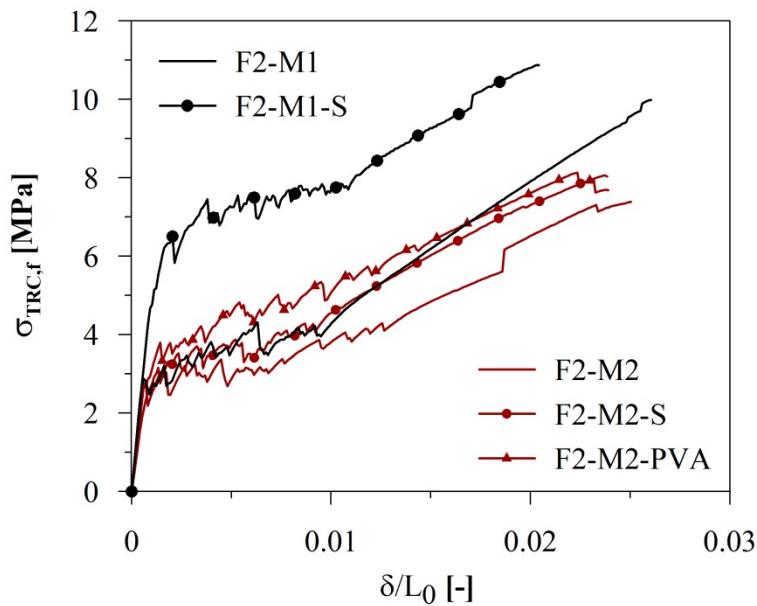
# Characterization and optimization of FRCM composite systems

## Effect of addition of dispersed short fibers (1% fraction volume)

**Fibers:** • High Alkali resistance **PVA** fibers  
Φ 0.16-0.24 mm, l 18mm, aspect ratio

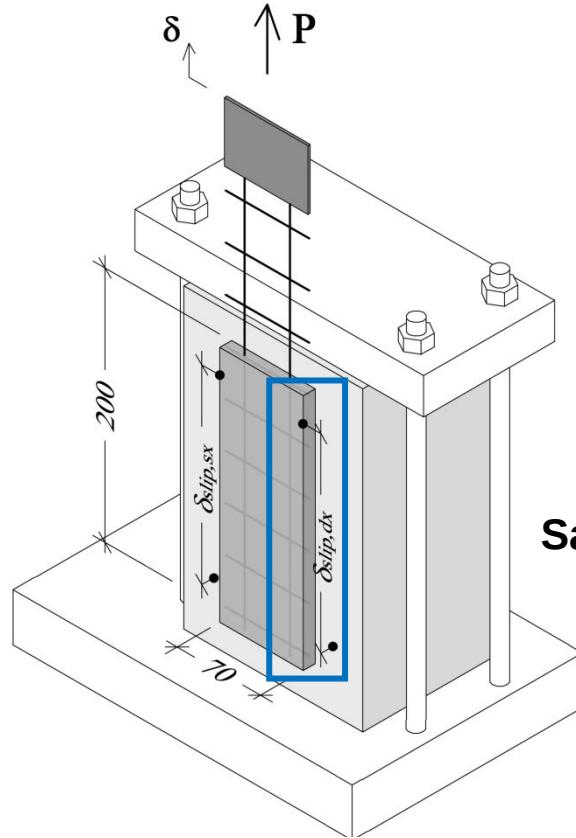
• Straight high-carbon **steel** microfibers  
Φ 0.21mm, l 13mm, aspect ratio 62  
tensile strength 2750 MPa

90  
yield strength 790-1160 MPa



# Bond-slip characterization: single lap shear tests

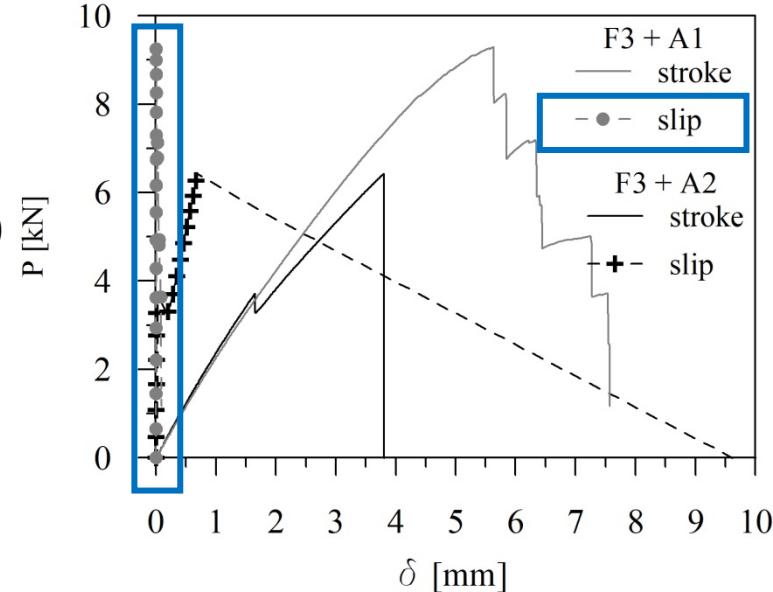
(30 specimens, 4 fabrics, 3 matrices, 2 types of fibers)



**significant role of the roughness on the overall response**

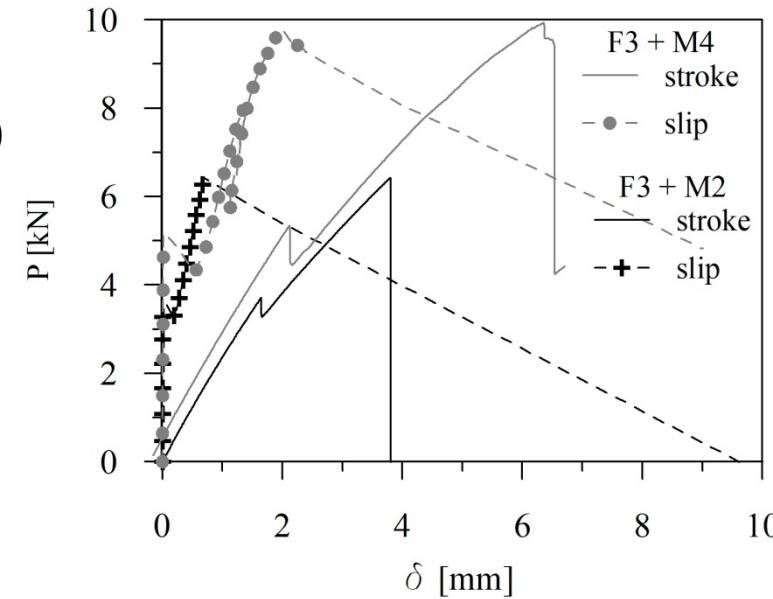
## Concrete substrate:

- cement-based mortar;
- surface machining:
  - hydro-scarification (A1)
  - sandblasting (A2)



## Sand-blasted substrate:

- cement-based mortar (M2)
- polymer-modified mortar (M4)



## Laser measurement setup



## Positioning of the specimen

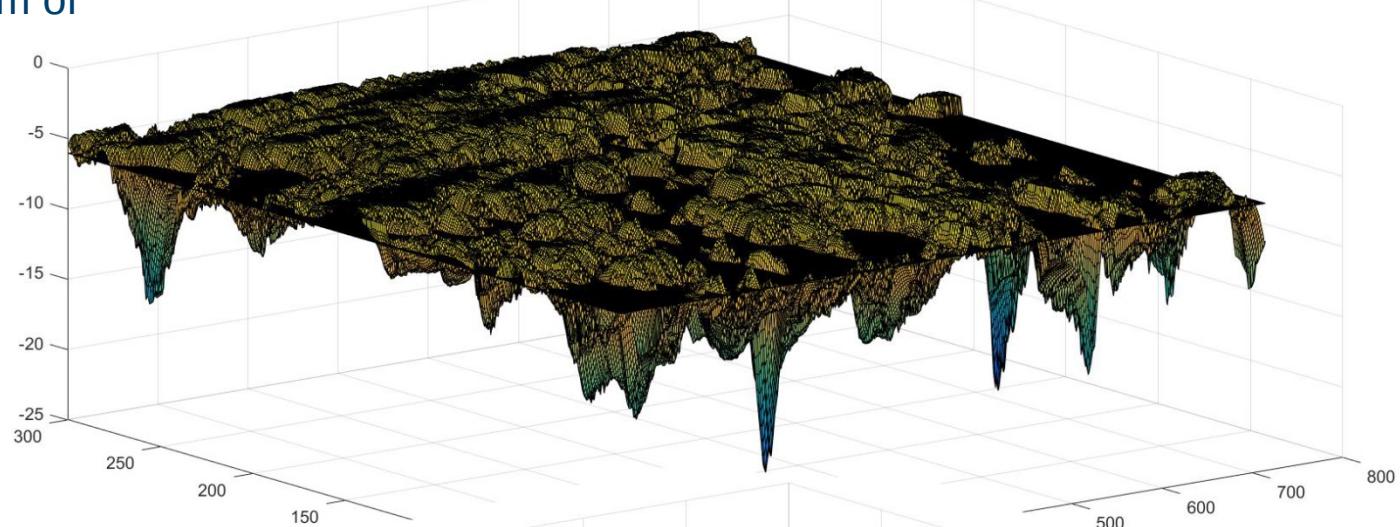


Specimen	Hydro-scarification pressure [atm]
1A-1B	200
2A-2B	500
3A-3B	1000
4A-4B	1500
5A-5B	2000**

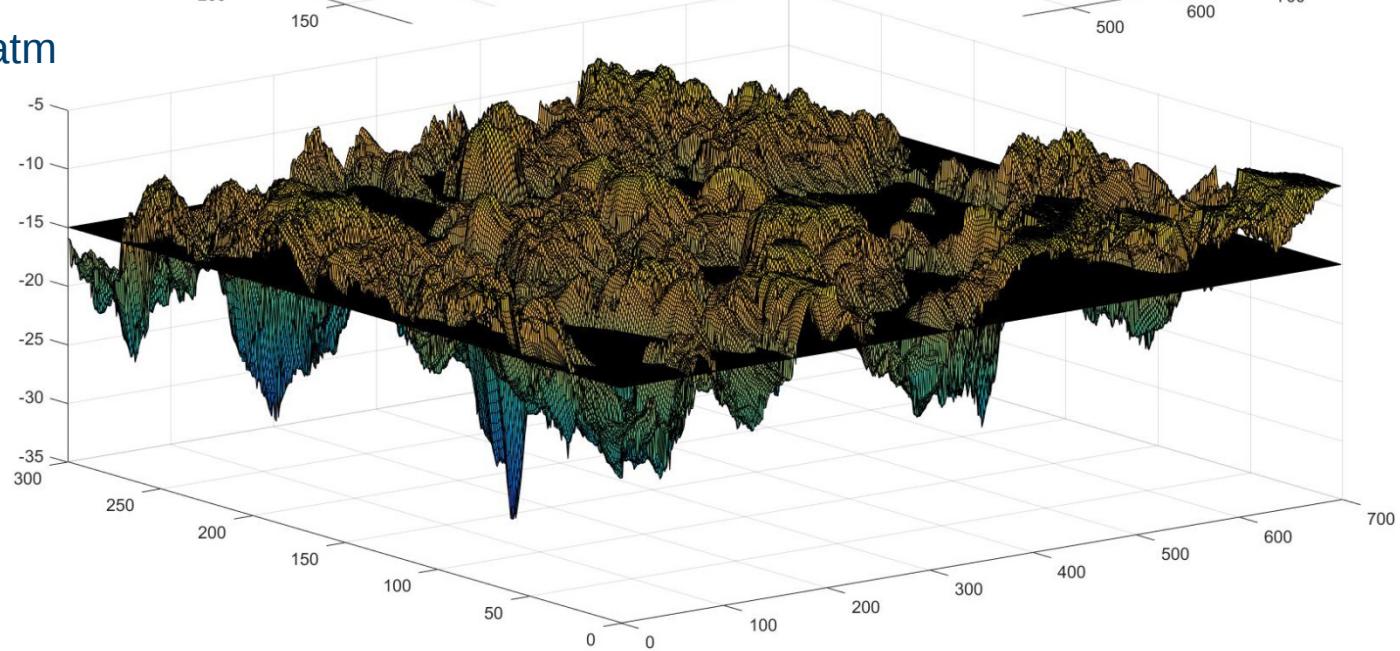
## Roughness measurements

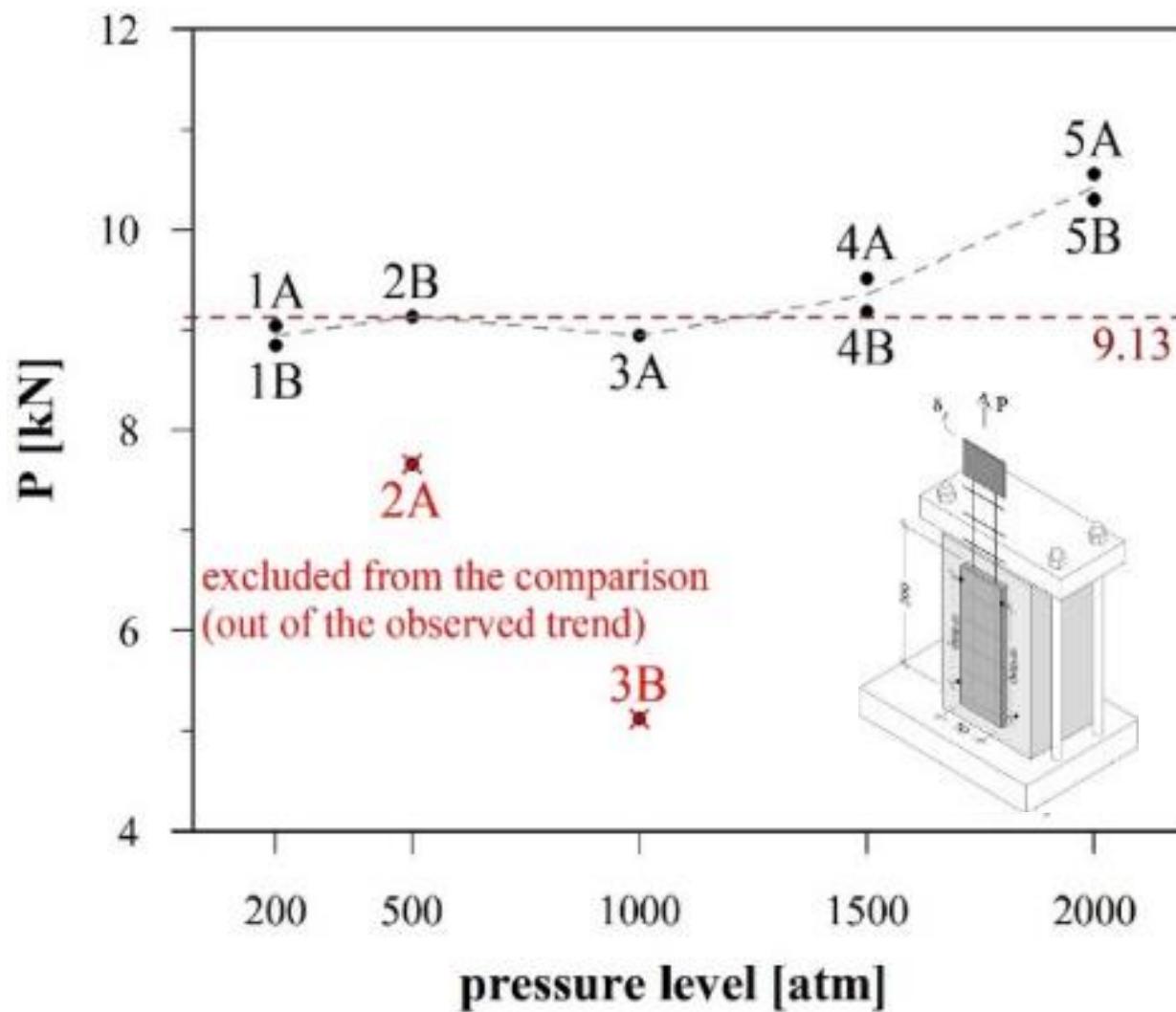


2B surface: 500 atm of water pressure



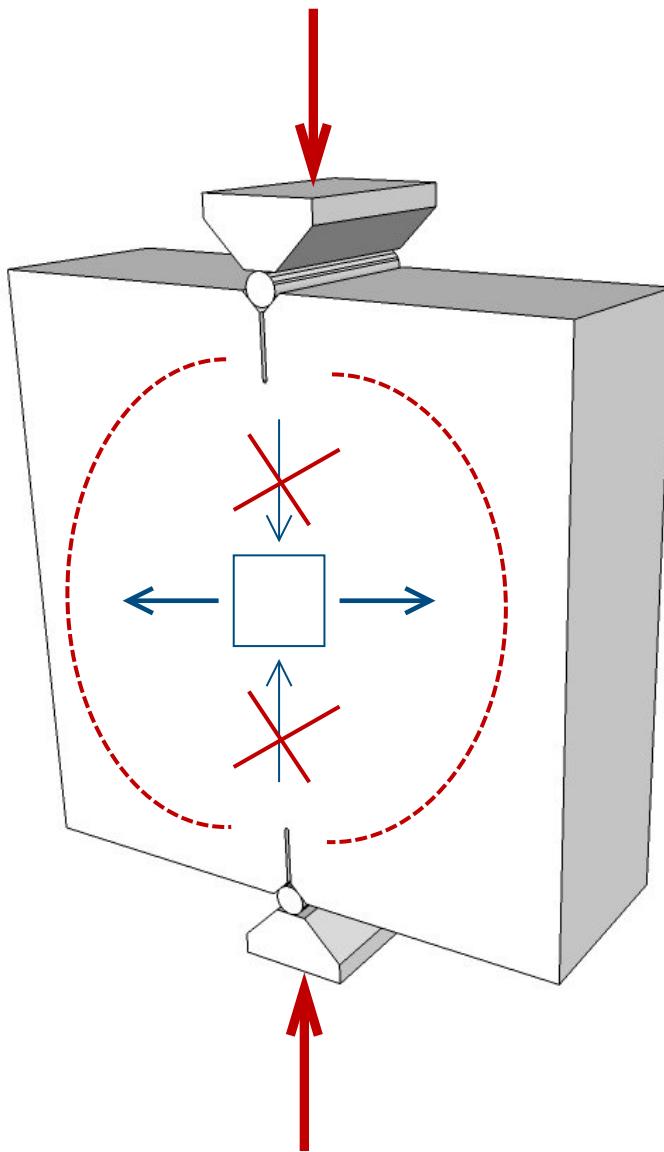
5A surface: 2000 atm water pressure





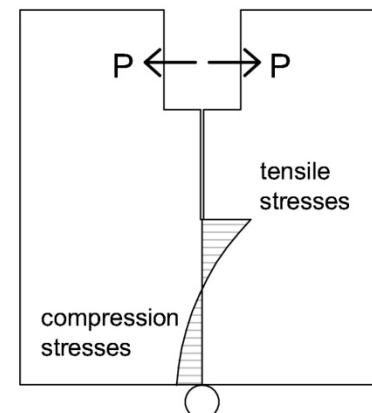
# DEWS technique

di Prisco et al. 2010

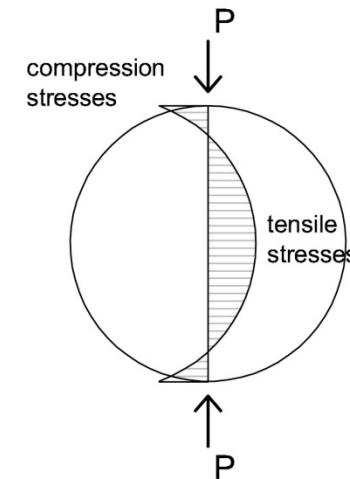


Specimen loaded in pure tension without any crosswise compressive stresses.

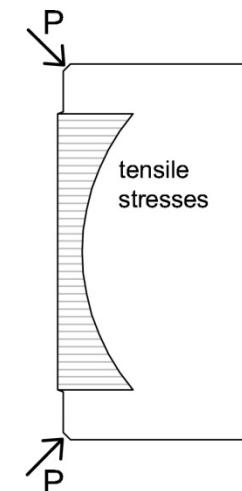
WEDGE SPLITTING TEST



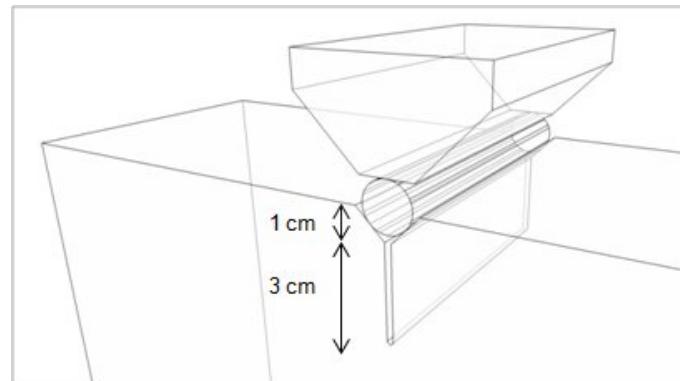
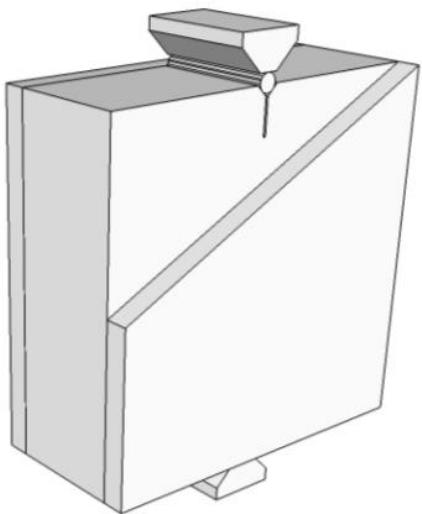
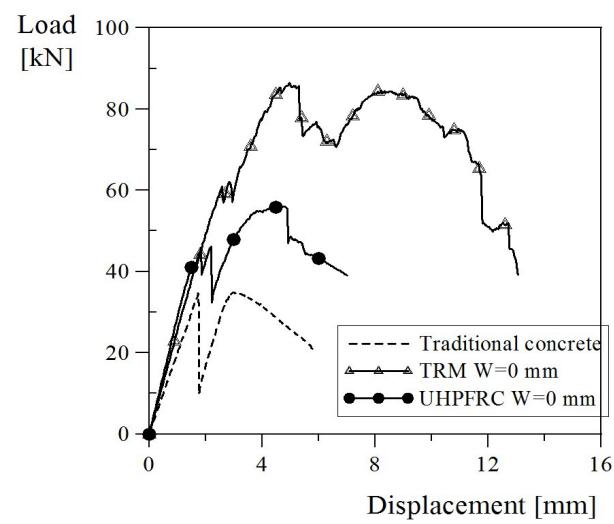
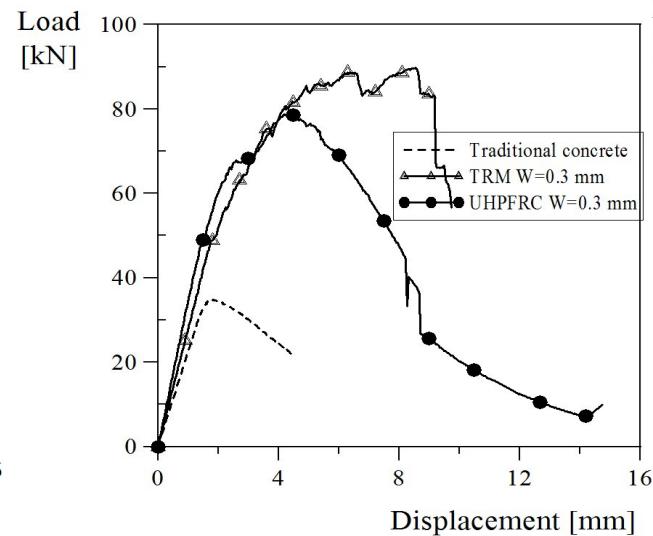
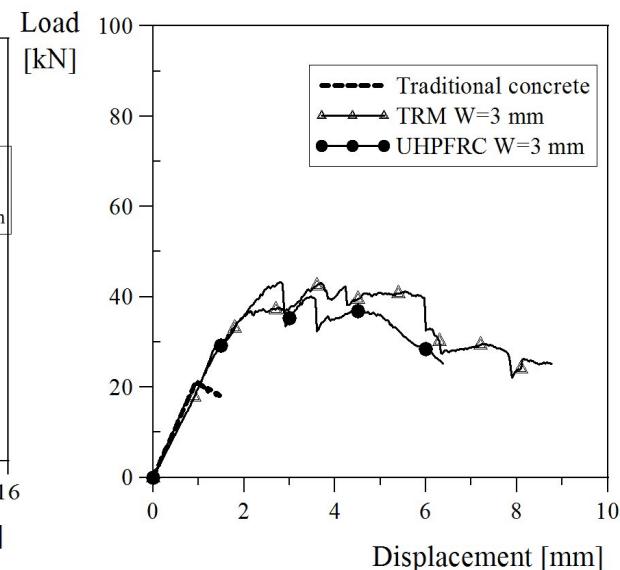
BRAZILIAN TEST



DEWS TEST

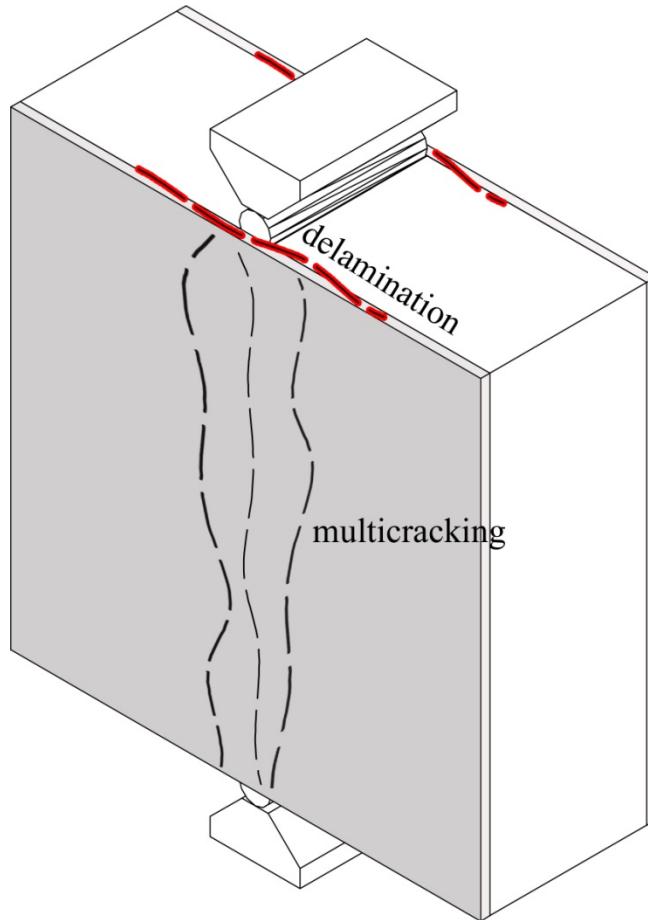


## DEWS TEST

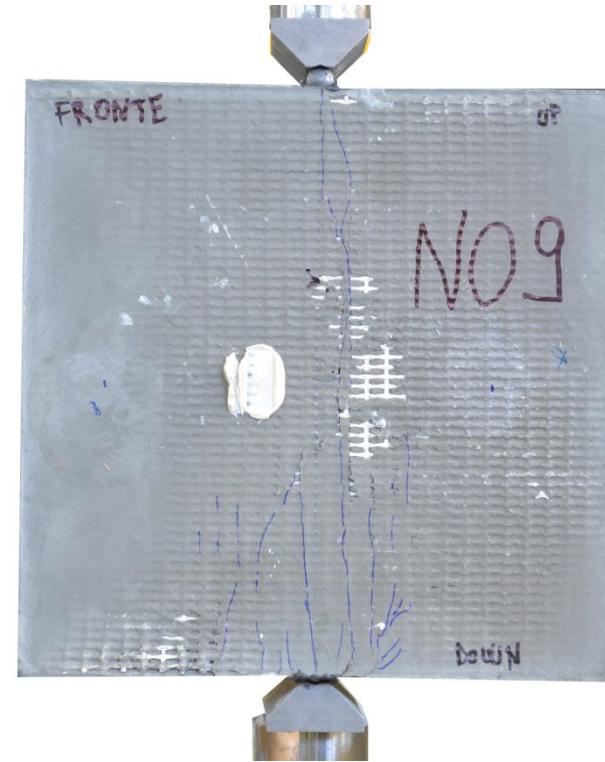
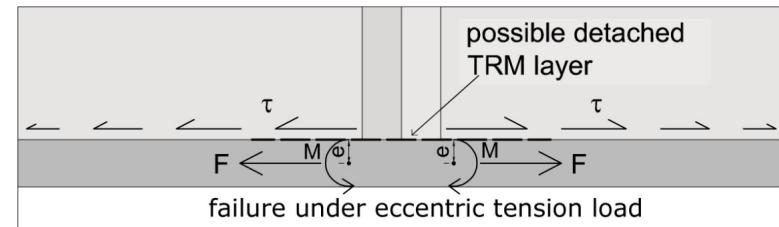
 $W = 0 \text{ mm}$  $W = 0.3 \text{ mm}$  $W = 3 \text{ mm}$ 

## DEWS - TRC failure mechanism

Multicracking phenomenon guaranteed by the AR glass fabric.

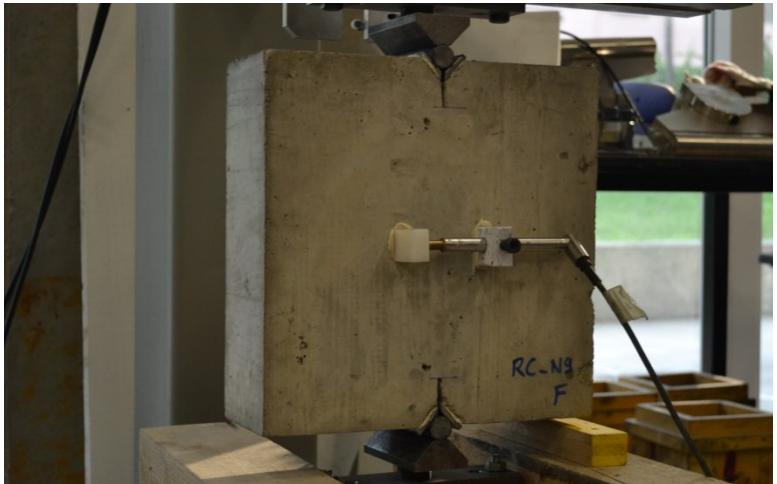


Detachment of matrix pieces

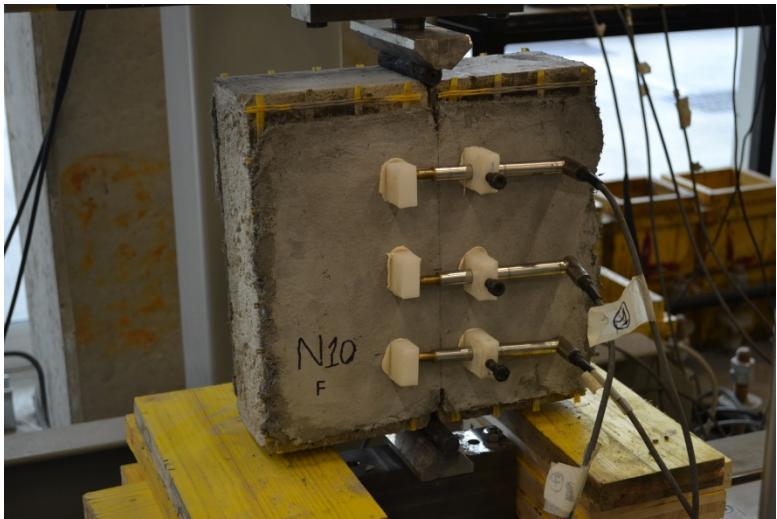


# Double Edge Wedge Splitting test (DEWS): test preparation

## Pre-cracking tests



Retrofitted specimen



## FRCM application (variable orientation)

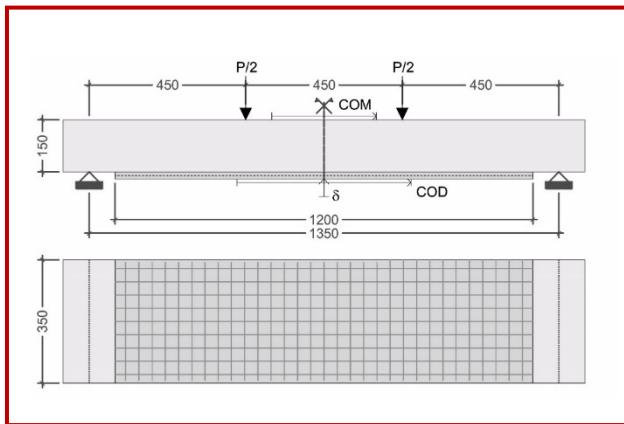


Ultrasonic measurements

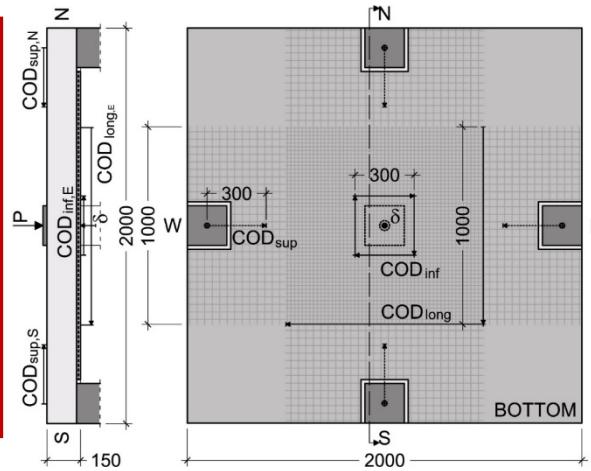


## Investigated RC elements:

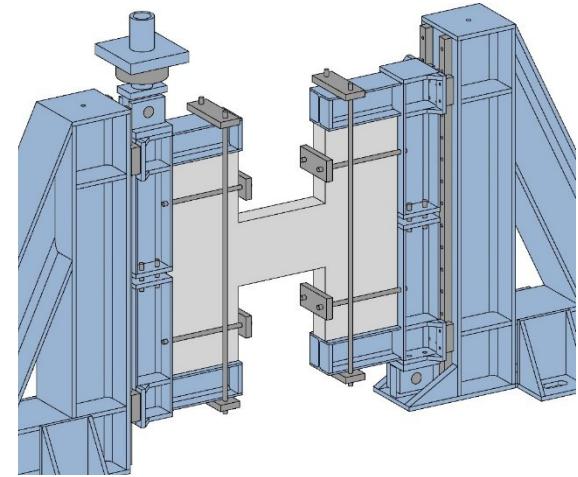
Beams and slabs (out-of-plane loads)



Presented at Ferro13



Coupling beams (in-plane loads)



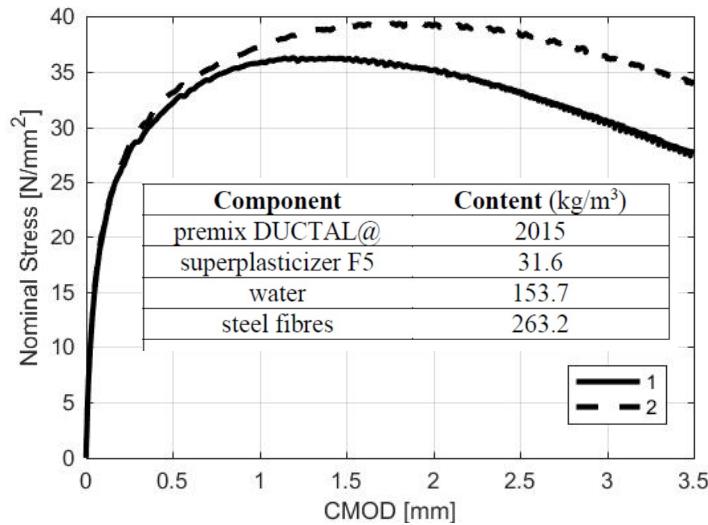
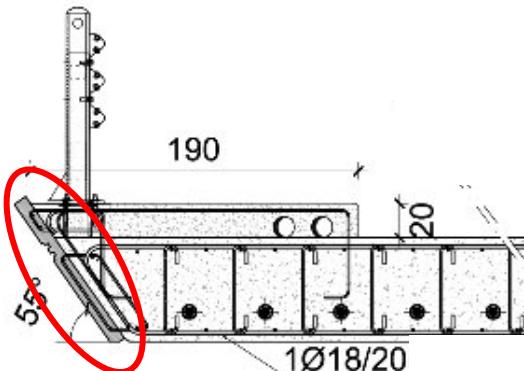
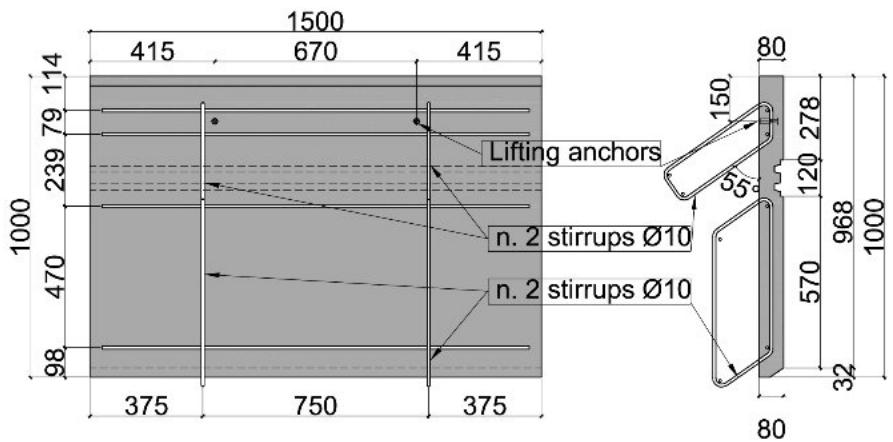
## General procedure to assess the FRCM strengthening potential:

### A) Preliminary steps:

Material level → FRCM to substrate interface → Meso-scale level

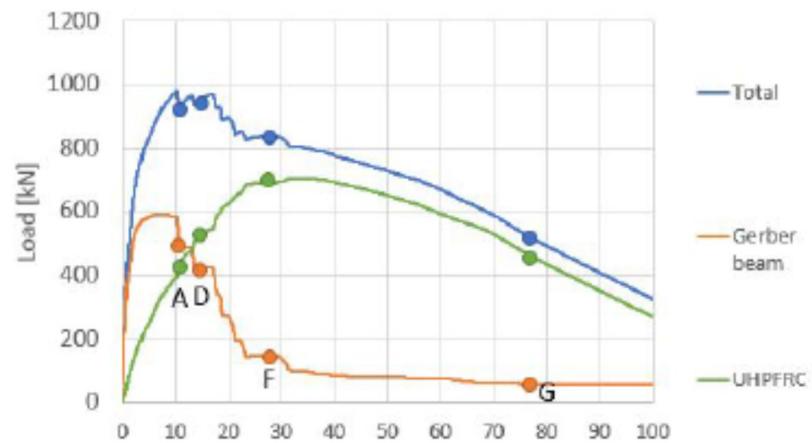
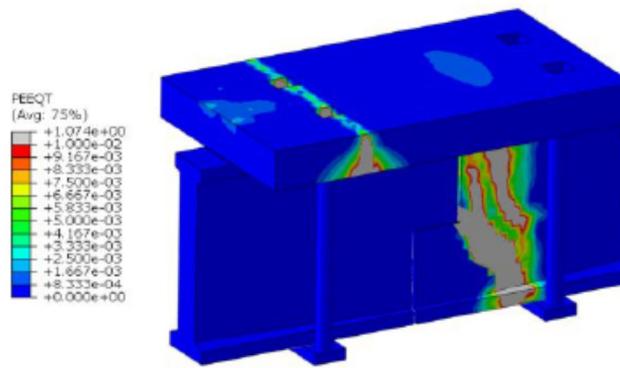
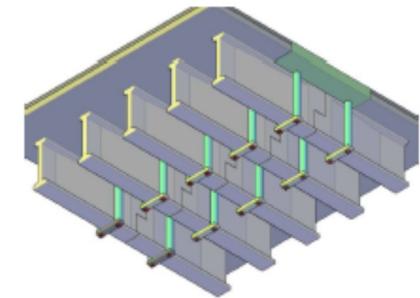
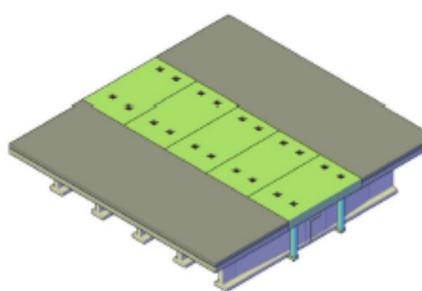
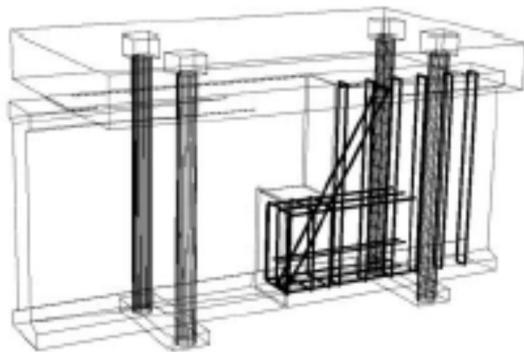
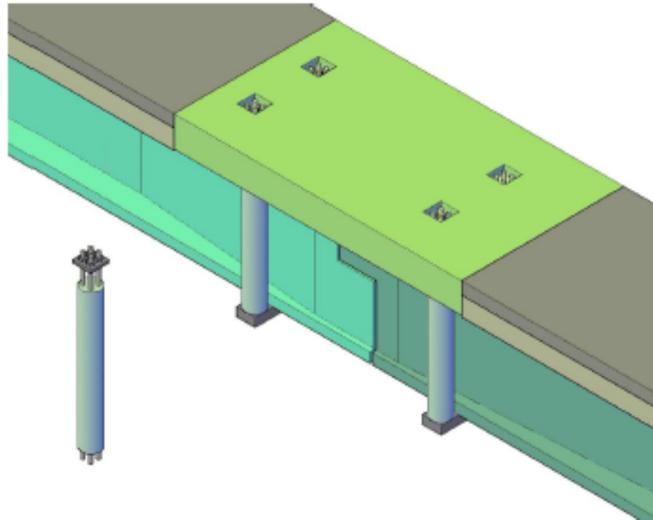
### B) Structural elements investigation:

Full-scale tests → Interpretation of the results by means of simplified and numerical analyses → Design recommendations and tools



# UHPFRC to strengthen half-joints

Research in progress ...





## A.C.C.I.D.E.N.T

Funded by INTERREG

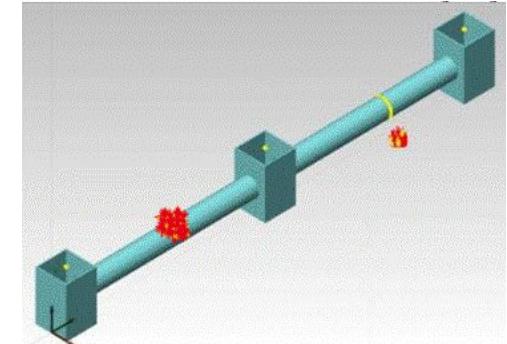


**Advanced Cementitious  
Composites In DEsign and  
coNstruction of safe Tunnel**

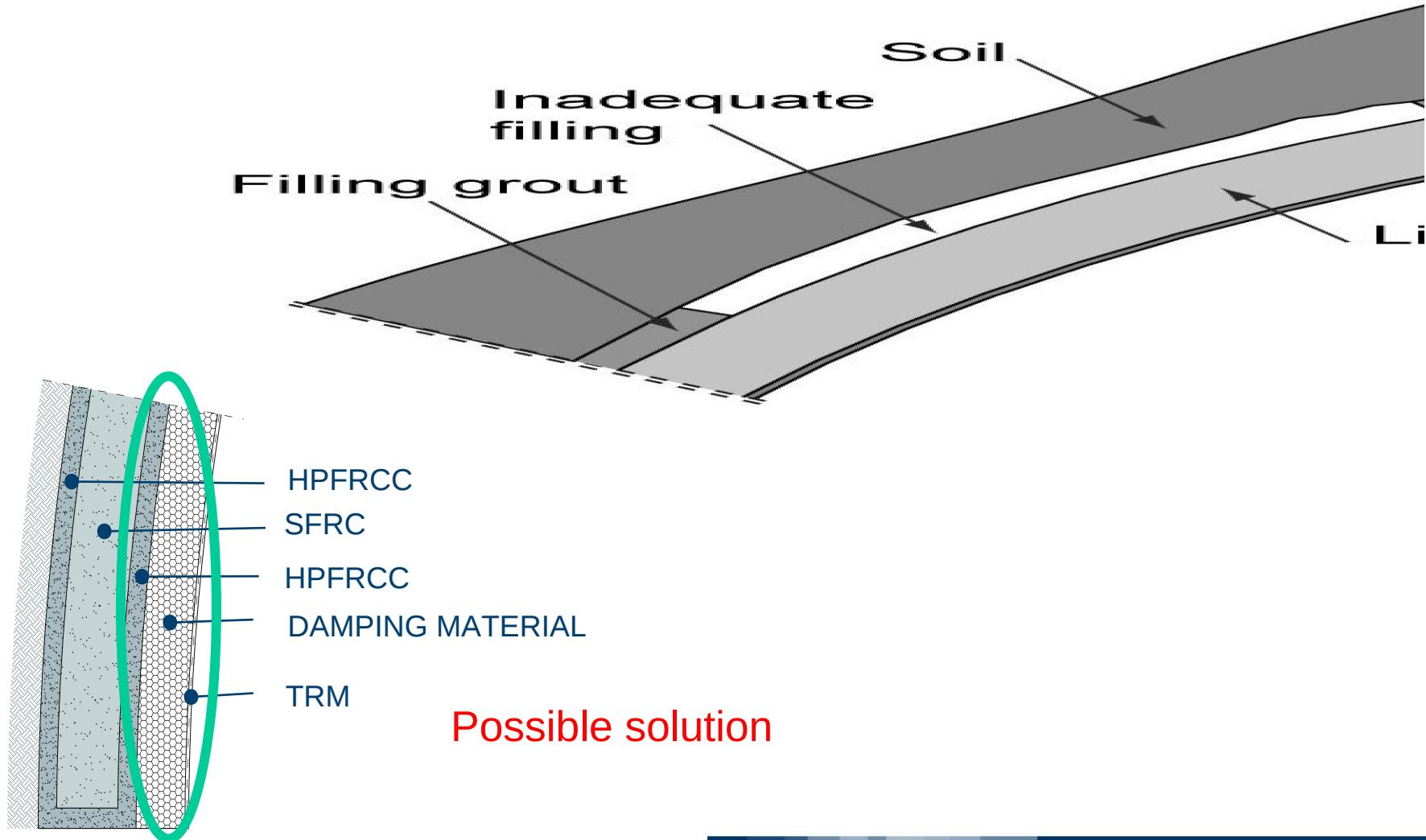


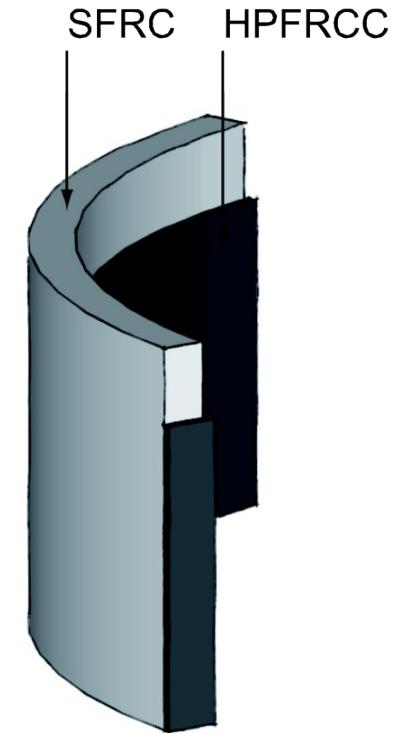
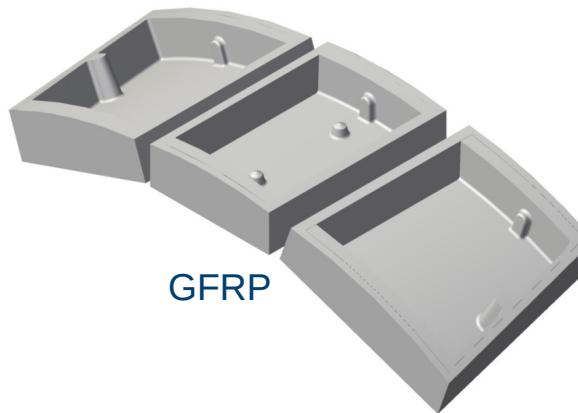
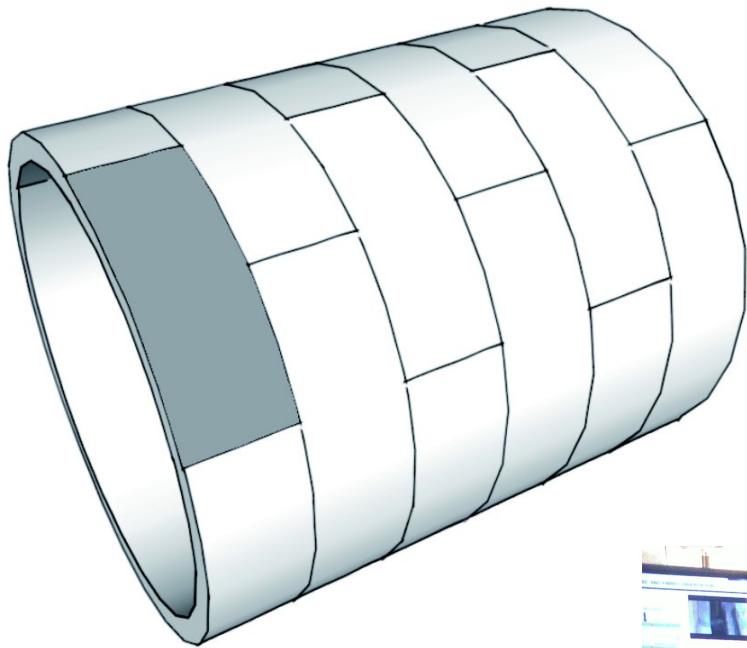
**SUPSI**

University of Applied Sciences  
of Southern Switzerland



Response of a tunnel portion when inadequate mortar filling between the lining and the excavated surface takes place

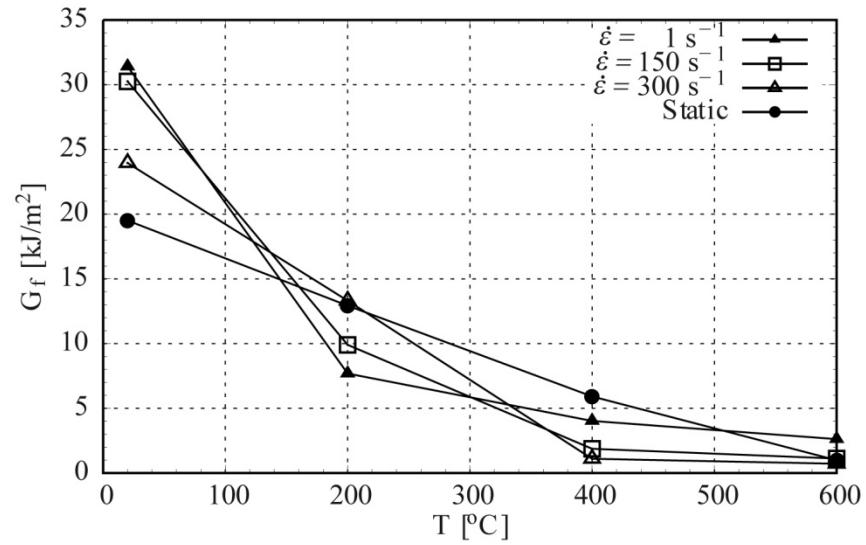
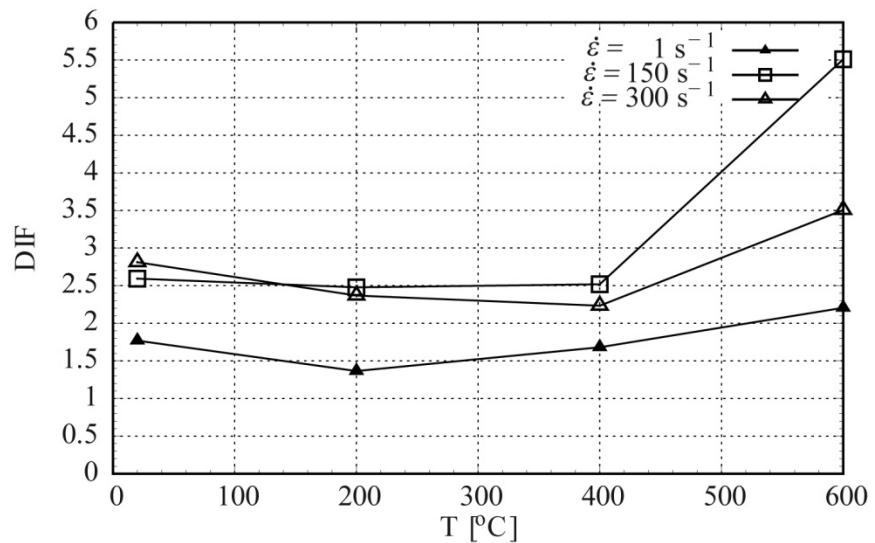
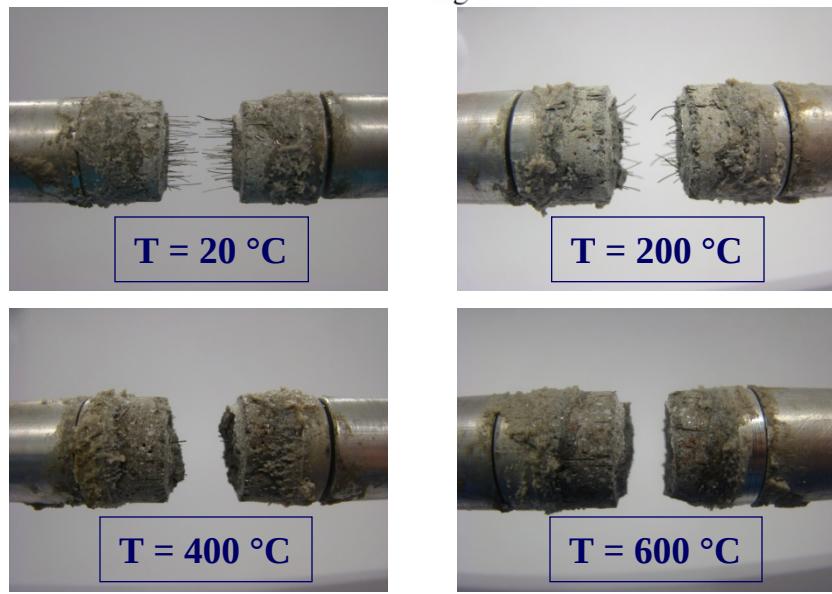
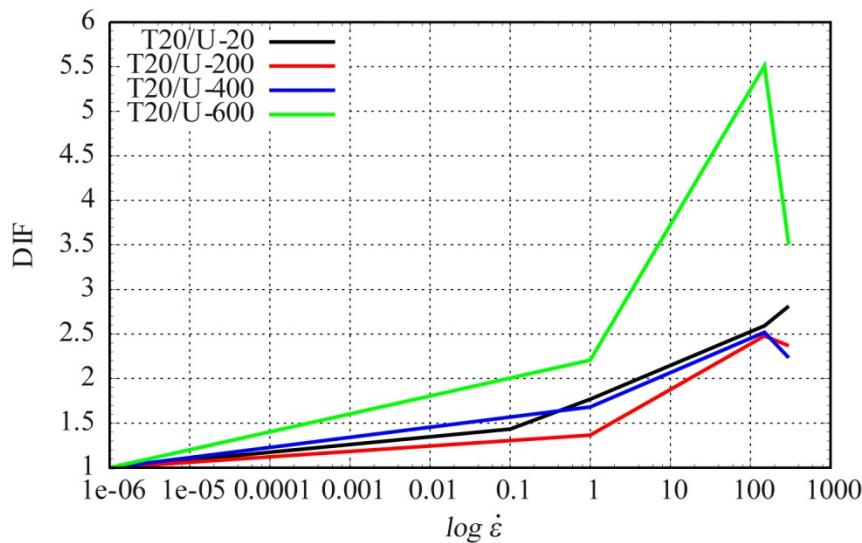


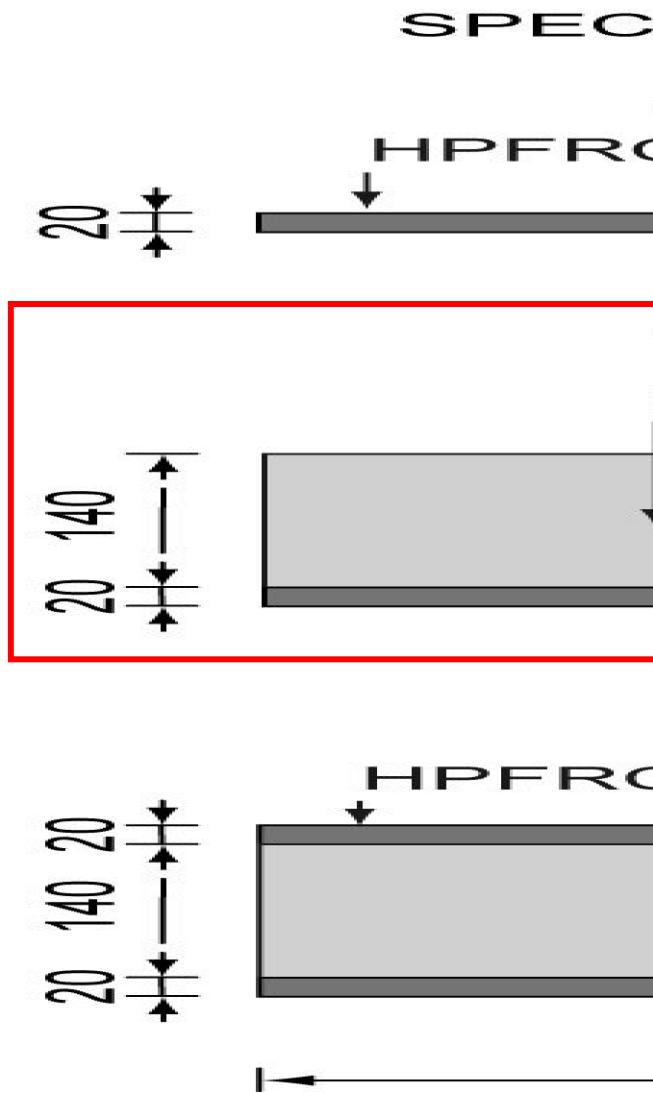


Final  
solution:  
2 layers

# EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM: SYNOPSIS

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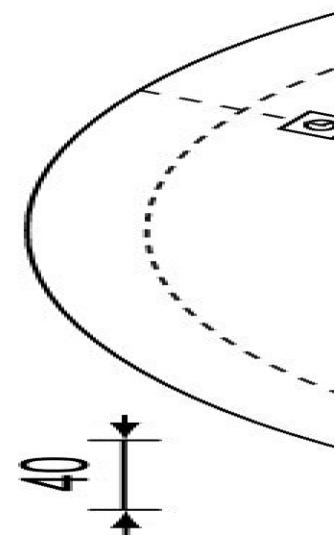
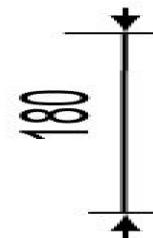
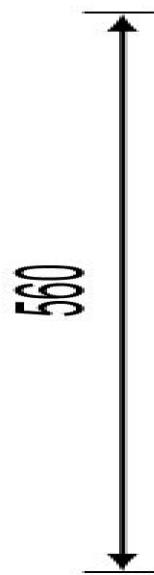
1 Layer (1L)

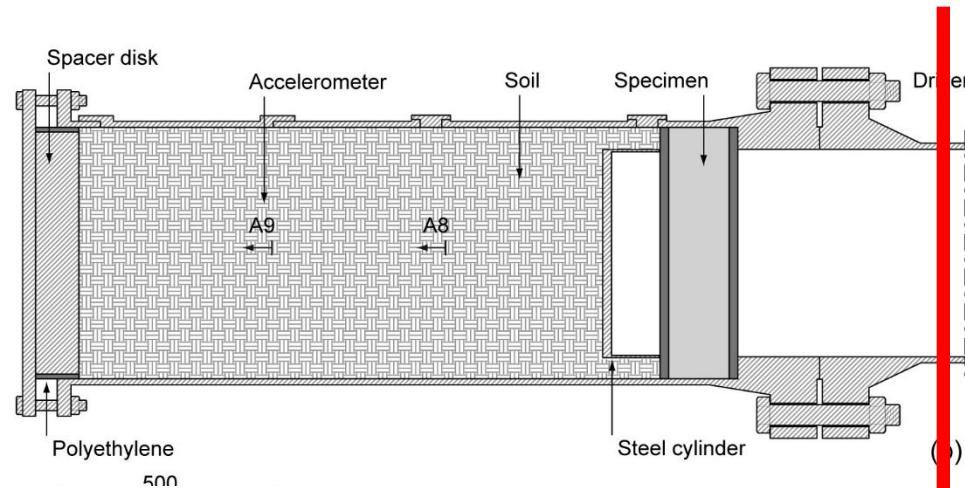
2 Layer (2L)

3 Layer (3L)

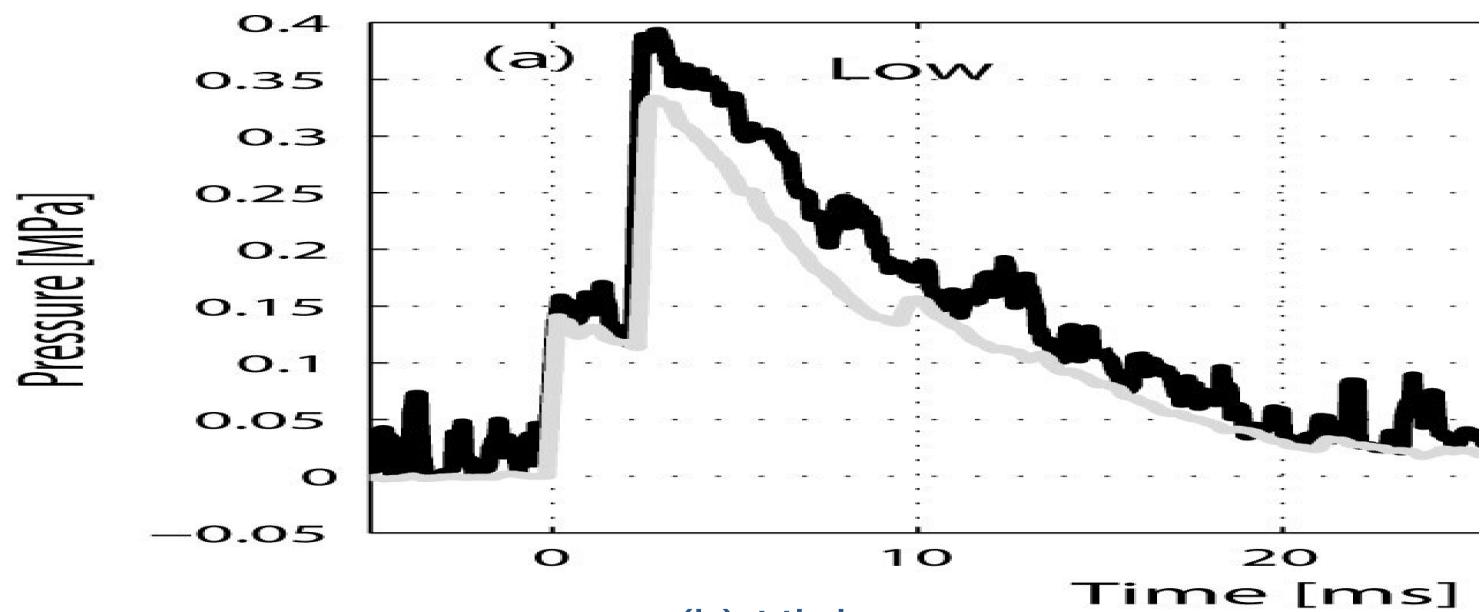
### Legend

A = accelerometro  
 $\delta$  = displacement





Pressure  
measurement cross  
section



(a) Low pressure

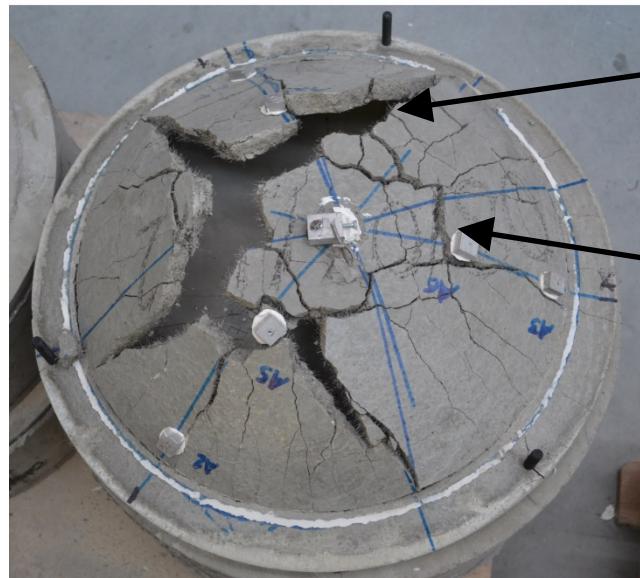
(b) High pressure



Lateral view

Plastic hinge at the support

(a)

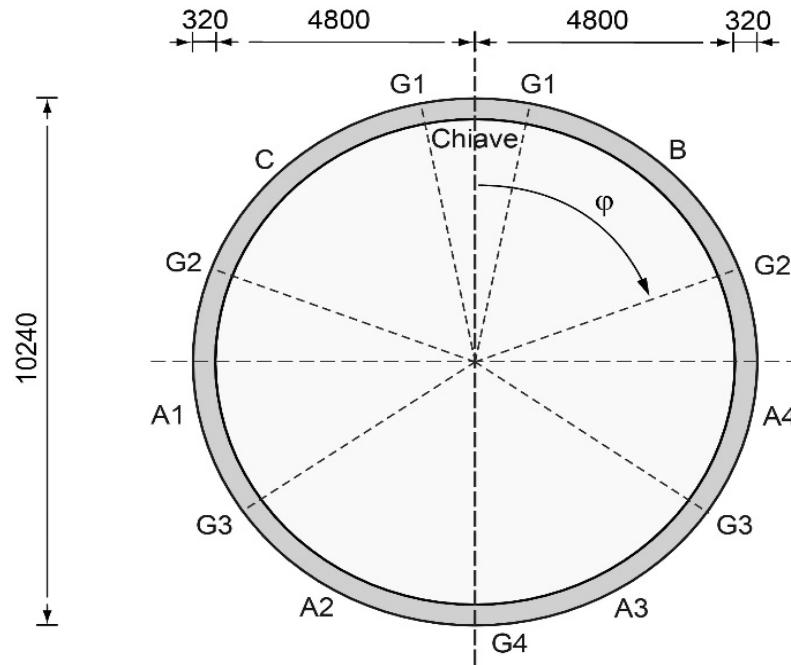
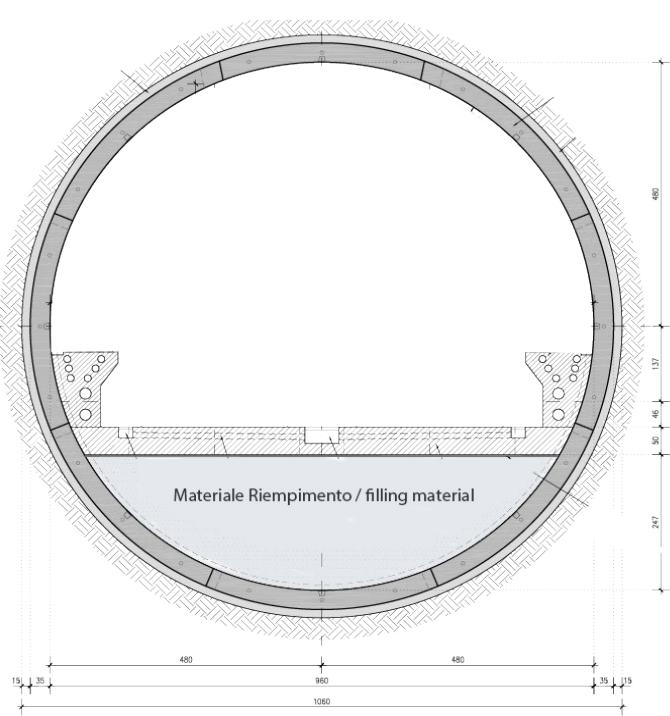


Unloaded face view

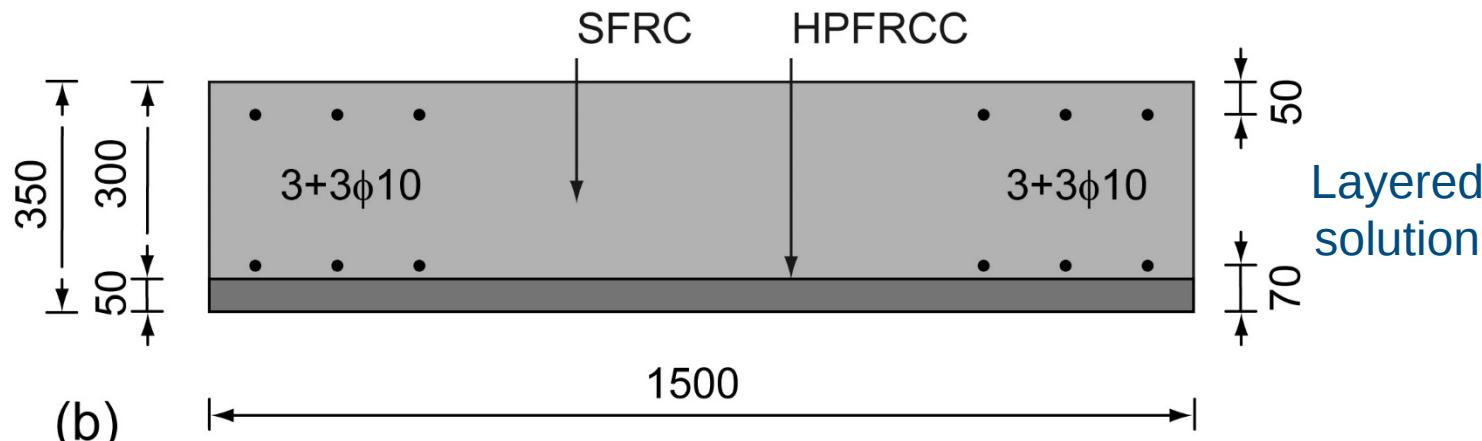
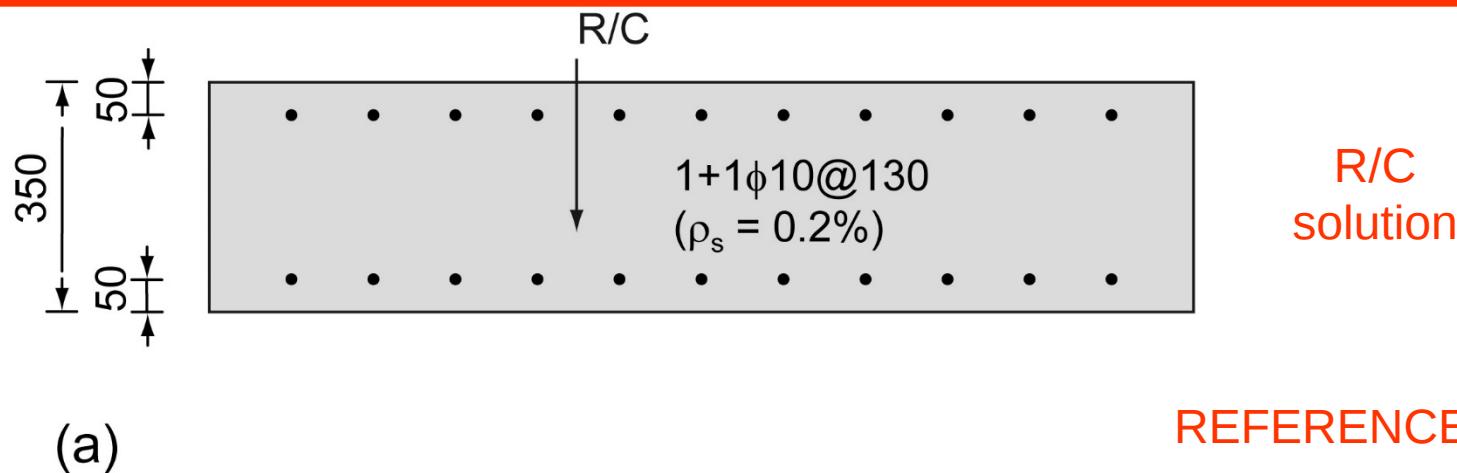
Radial crack

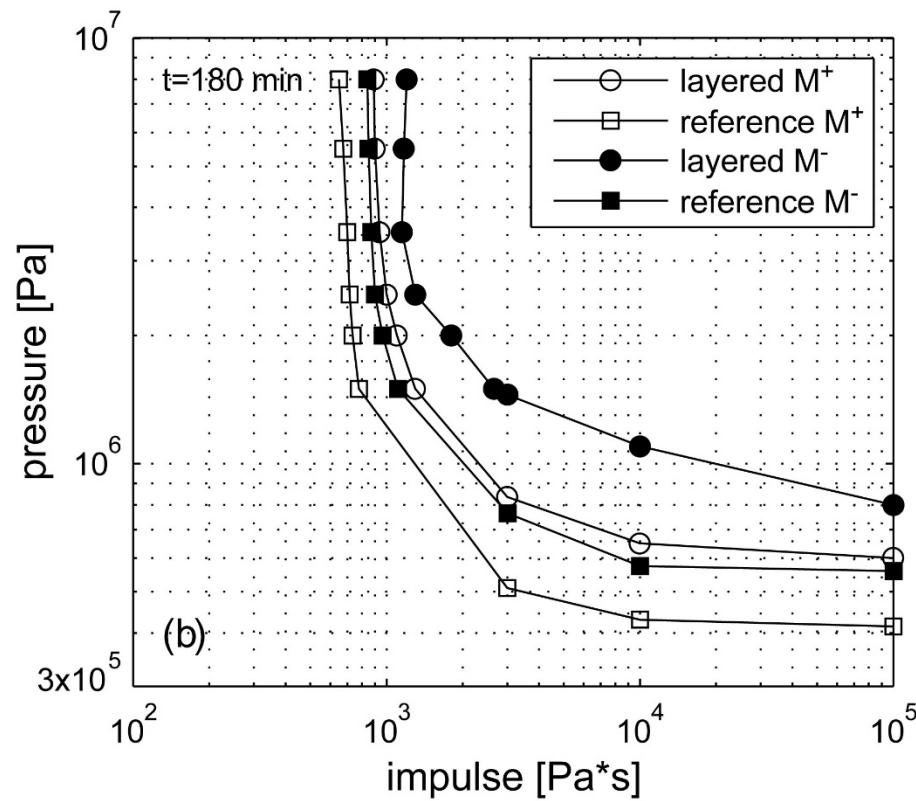
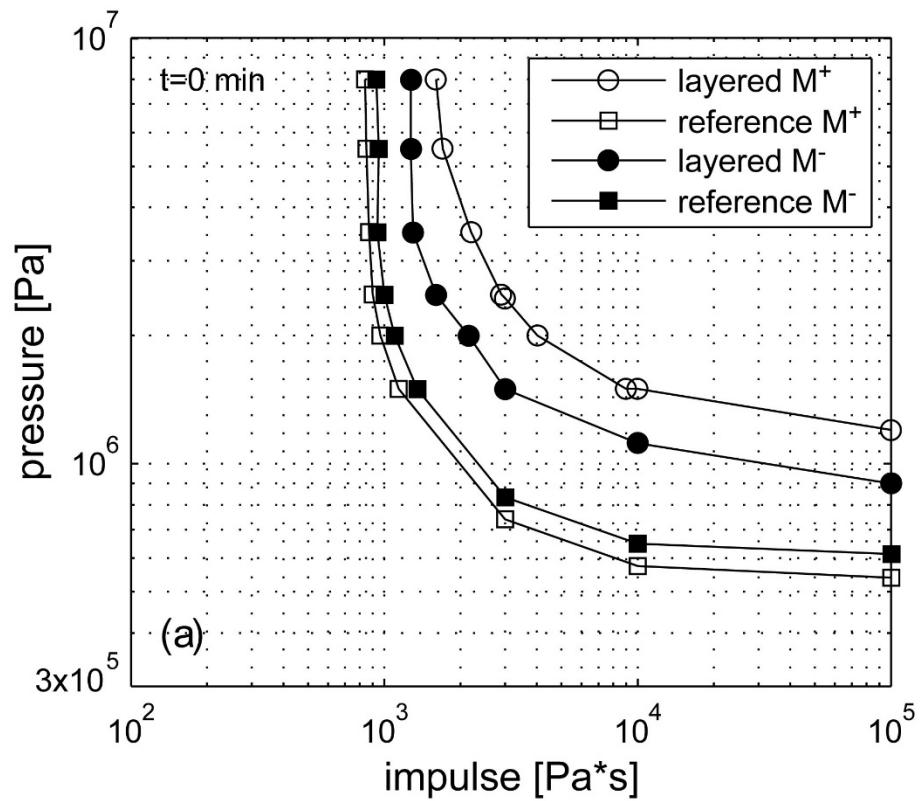
Circumferential crack

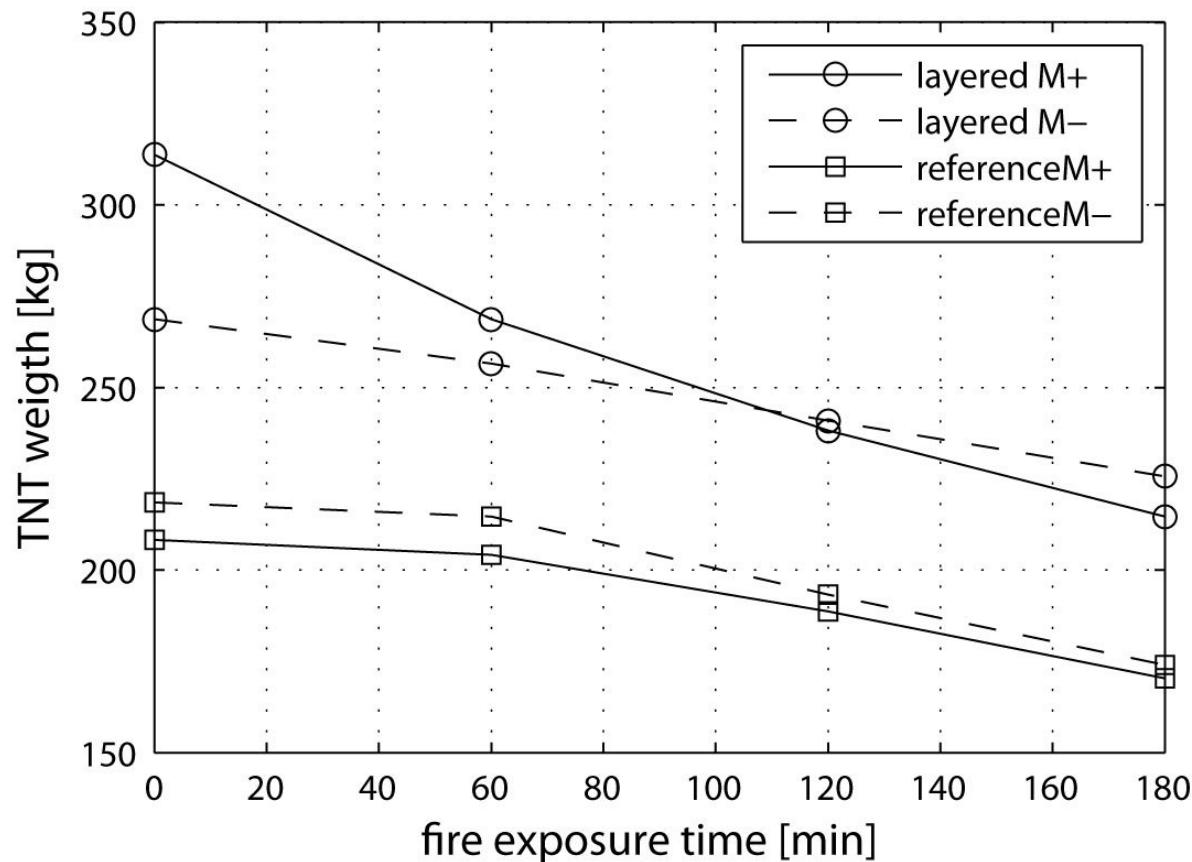
(b)



- 6+1 segments
- Concrete C50/60
- Steel rebar + fibres
- FRC class 4c



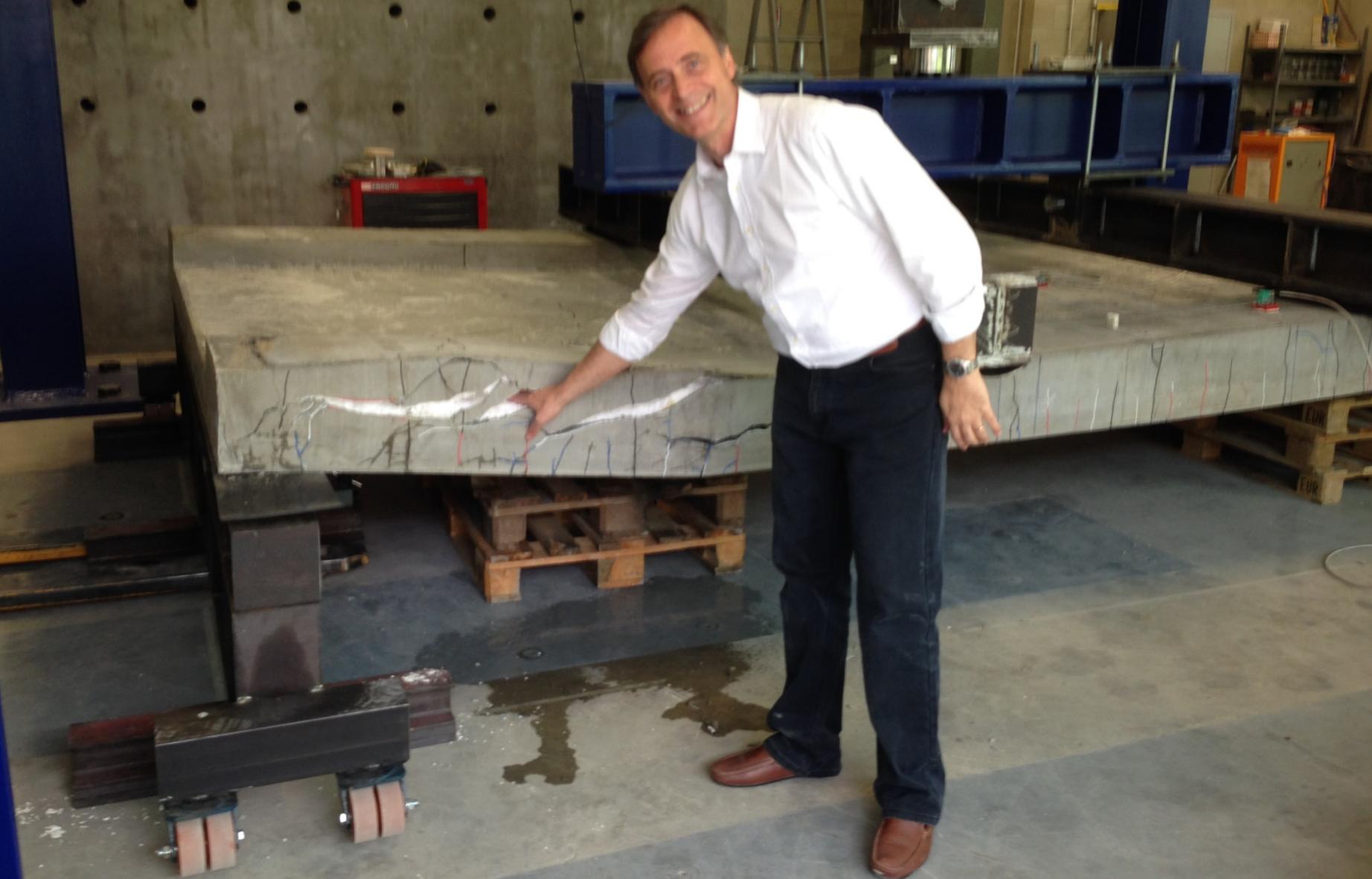




# Concluding remarks (i)

- ✓ HPFRC optimized members can be regarded as a sustainable solutions mainly because of material weight reduction
- ✓ 4 point bending tests have exhibited how a fabric located in the thickness could play a very significant role from a structural point of view.
- ✓ Roof element proposed can solve at the same time seismic, energy performance and fire requirements
- ✓ Plane section approach for extremely thin-walled member can only be regarded as a rough approximation because it does not take into account the member deformability of the cross section
- ✓ F.E. modelling and design by testing can better approximate the experimental behaviour
- ✓ Also production process has to be improved to favour the industrialization and reduce the tolerances and the fibre distribution

Thank you for your attention!



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