



PART III:

Testing adhesives and adhesively bonded joints

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TESTING PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS





About adhesives and adhesively bonded joints*

Adhesive – a polymeric material which, when applied to the surfaces of materials, can join them together and resist separation.

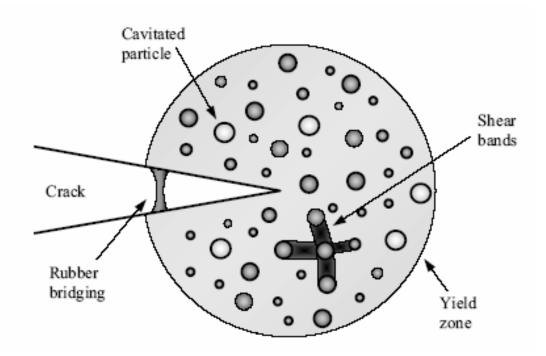
Structural adhesive – an adhesive that, once it is hardened, has a modulus and strength sufficiently high so that load-bearing joints may be constructed (epoxy).

i) *single-part* adhesives, which require heat-curing at elevated temperatures, andii) *two-part* adhesives, that can cure at room temperature.

* Georgiu I., The Fracture of Adhesively-Bonded Aluminium Joints for Automotive Structures PhD, 2003



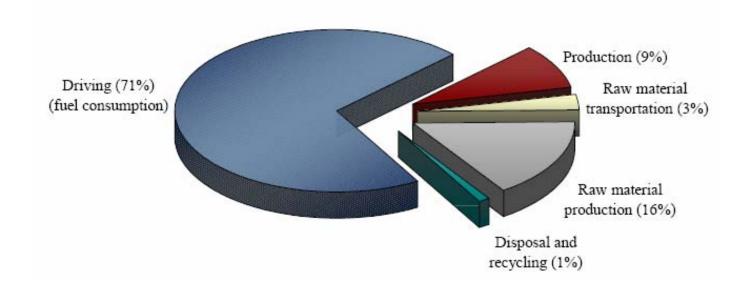
Rubber- toughened epoxies











Energy consumed during the life cycle of a vehicle

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BMW 'X5' with a steel monocoque body structure





Audi 'A2' with an all aluminium-alloy space-frame body structure





Main advantages

- Adhesive bonding offers the possibility to join dissimilar materials; *e.g.* metals, plastics, fibrecomposites, wood, *etc.* Dissimilar metals can be joined in this way, since the adhesive prevents intimate contact, which could otherwise lead to galvanic corrosion.
- Adhesives have the ability to join thin sheet-material efficiently.
- A good joint design will be energy-absorbing, and tend to have good noise and vibration damping properties.
- The adhesive may essentially have a dual purpose since, as well as providing mechanical strength, the adhesive may seal the joint against moisture and debris ingress.
- The smooth appearance of the joints produced using adhesives results in lower stress concentrations at the joint edges. Thus, the load is more evenly distributed and stress concentrations are minimised. As a result, a more effective dynamic-fatigue resistance of the component or structure can be obtained.
- Adhesive bonding is often a convenient and cost-effective technique. Process automation by robot minimises the necessity of any human interaction and, with the increased development of flexible manufacturing systems, adhesive bonding may be an integrated part of the assembly line.





• The surface pre-treatment of the substrates to be joined have a major effect on the strength of the joint, in particular under severe environmental conditions.

• Adhesive bonding has a limited service temperature range compared with the other fastening techniques.

• The strength and toughness of adhesives are typically relatively low compared to metals, and therefore their use is limited to only joining thin sheet metals.

• Commercial techniques for non-destructive testing of adhesively-bonded joints are relatively limited compared to those used with other fastening methods.

• Adhesive joints are inherently weak in peel; and vehicle designs need to take account of this, particularly with regard to crashworthiness.

• There is a lack of information and knowledge concerning the potential failure of bonded joints under impact conditions.





Adhesives in use



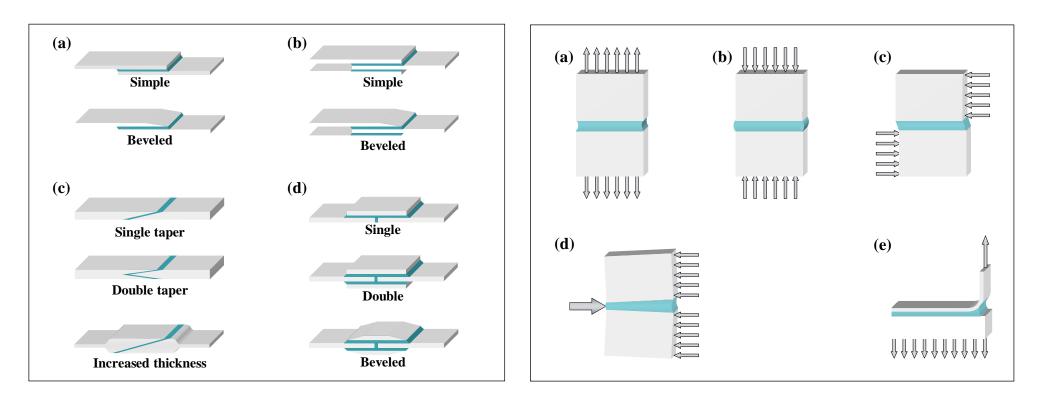
Volvo vehicle joined using adhesives. A Volvo vehicle is joined by adhesives using a proportional adhesive dispenser



Vehicle manufacture using an epoxy adhesive. Here, vehicle - robotically delivered single-part heat-curable epoxy adhesive



Adhesively bonded joints

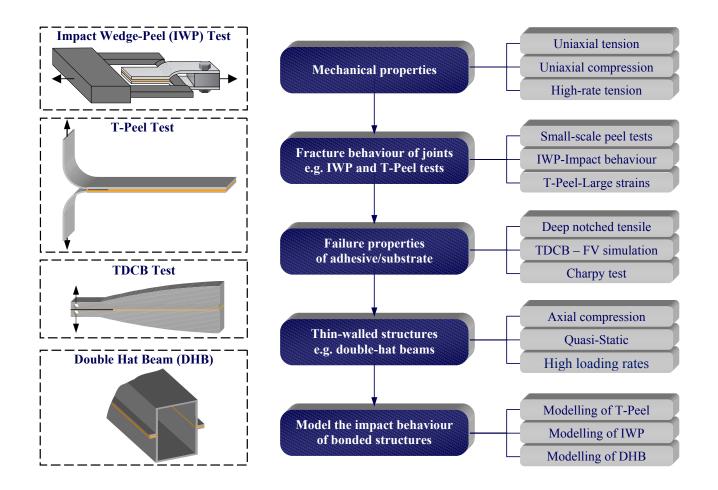


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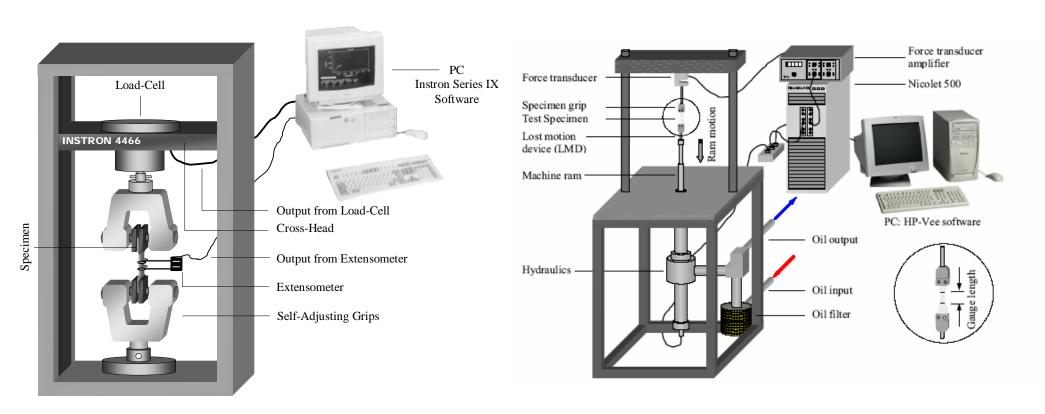


Testing of adhesives and adhesively bonded joints





Uniaxial tensile tests



Low-rate tests

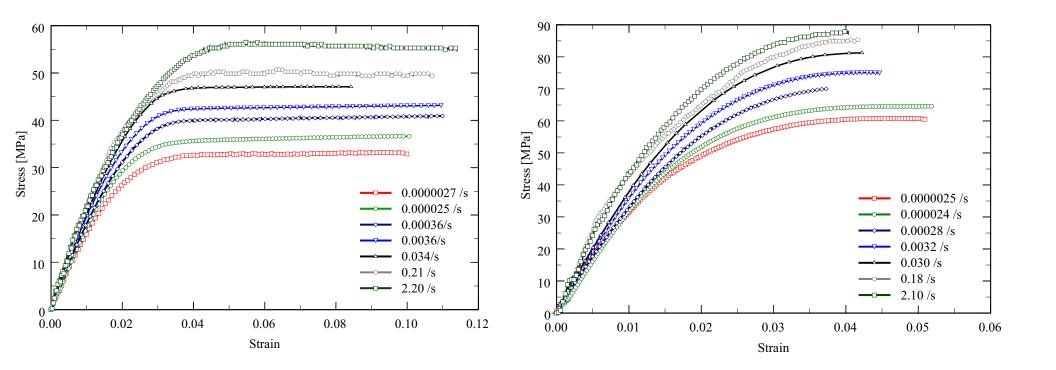
high-rate tests

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Uniaxial tensile tests



HD 1493

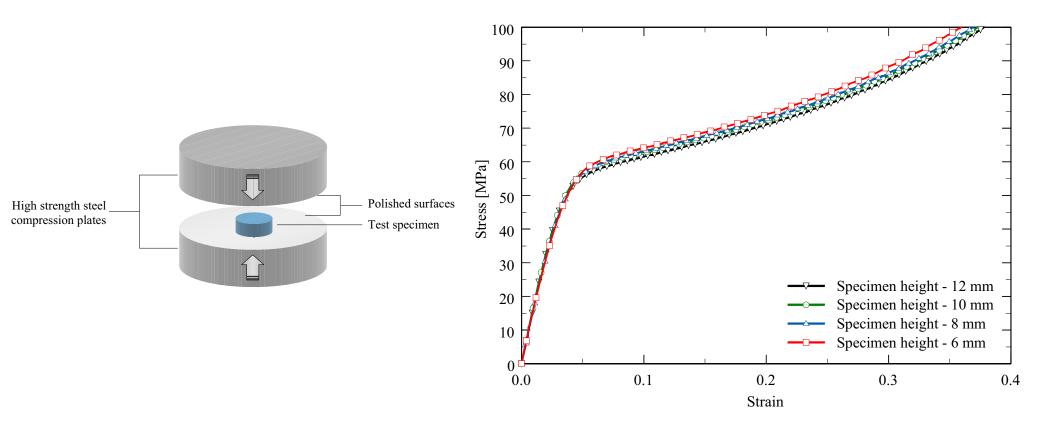
HD 4600

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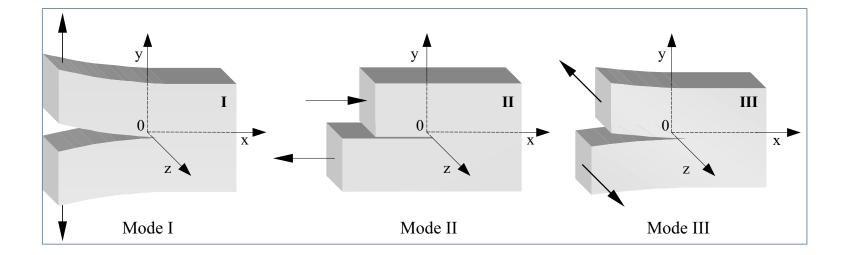




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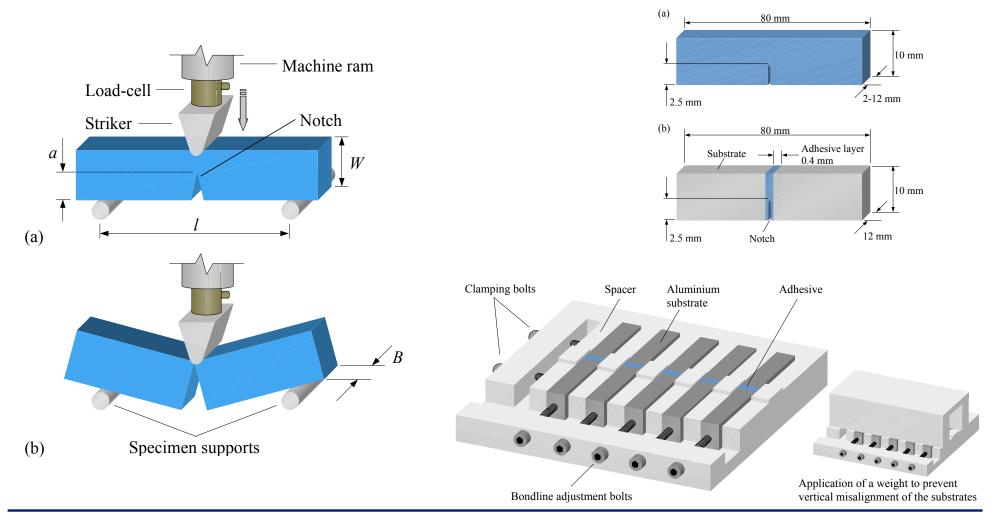




- Mode I tensile opening mode
- Mode II in-plane shear
- Mode III anti-plane shear

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Charpy tests

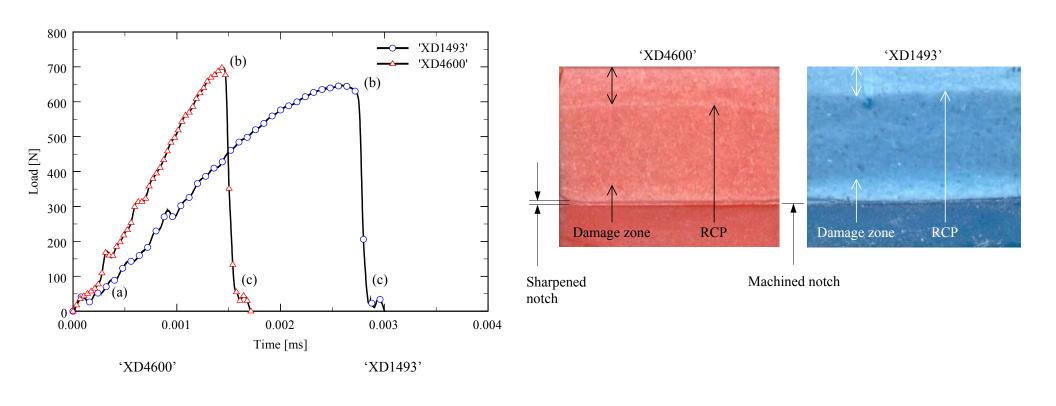


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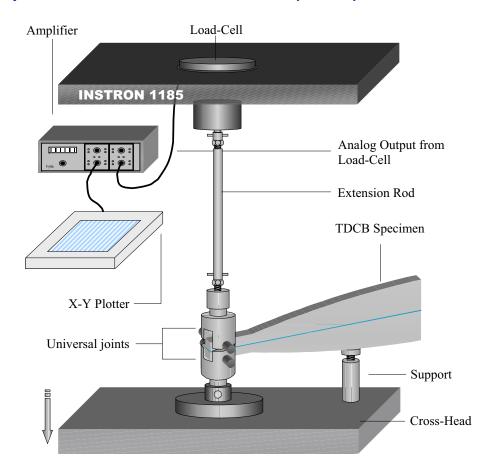
Charpy tests

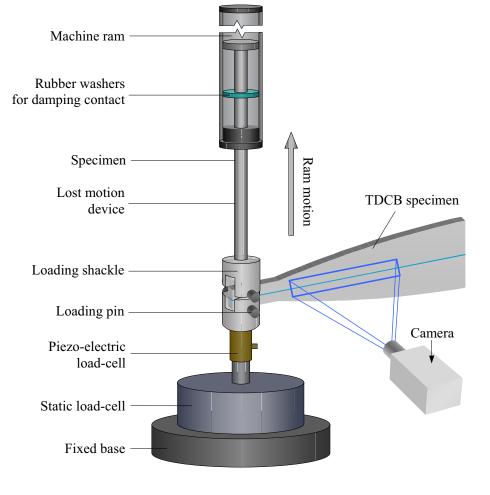


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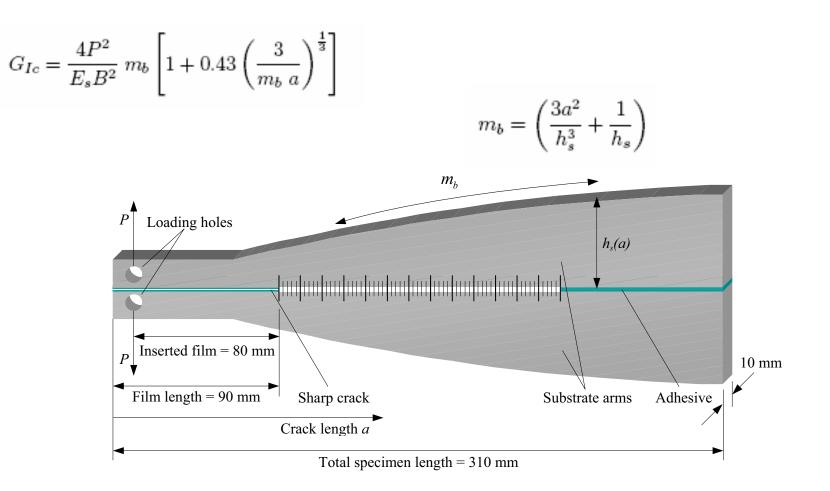
high-rate tests

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Low-rate tests

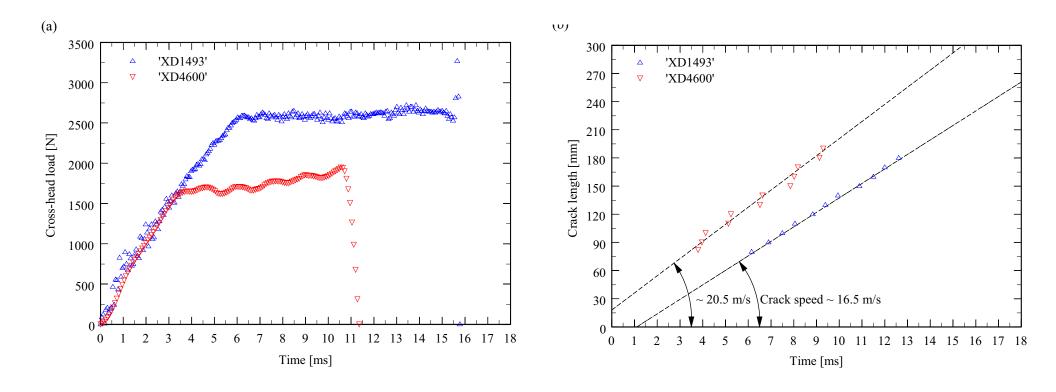






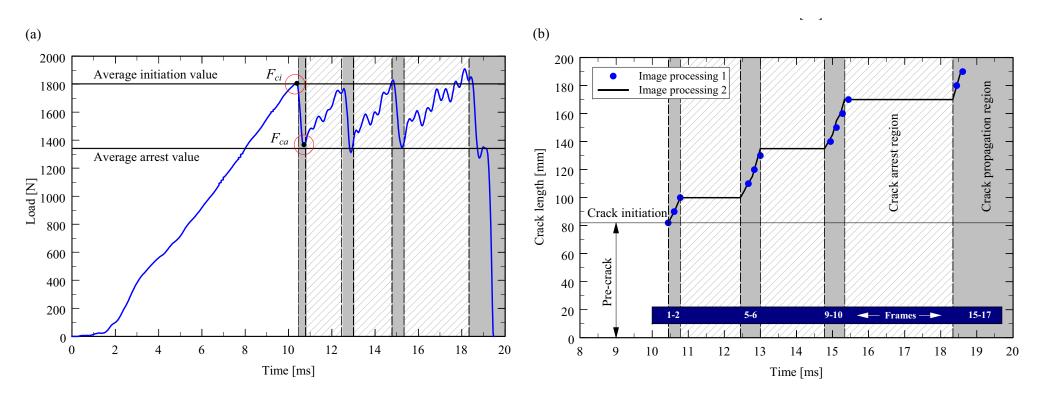






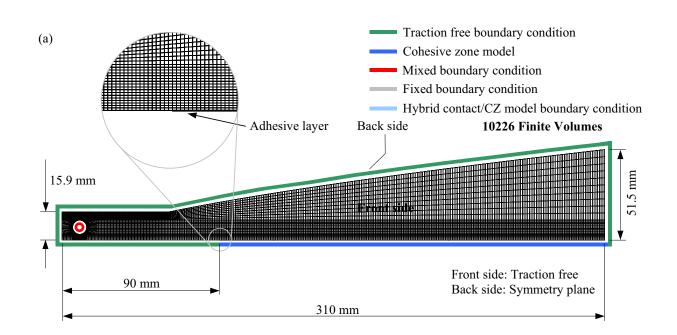








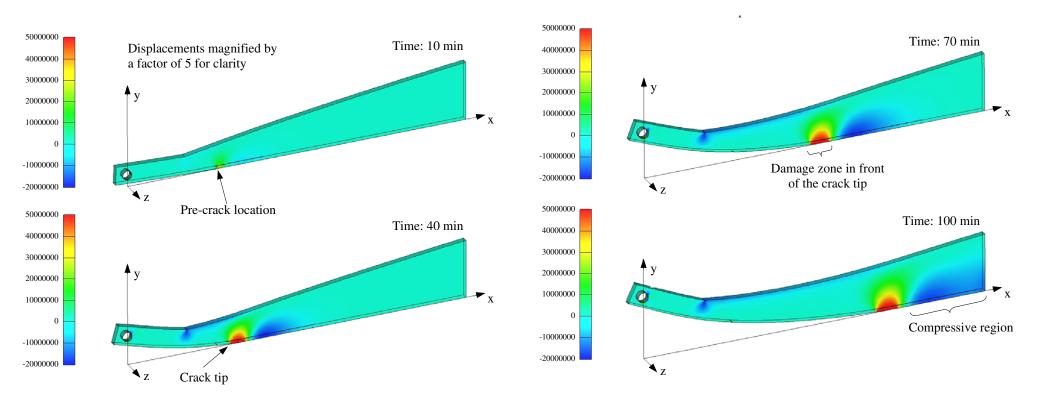




Numerical simulation

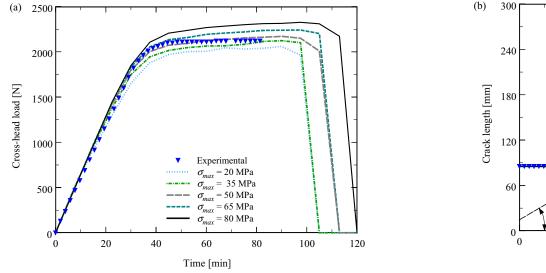


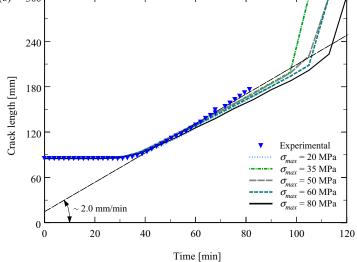










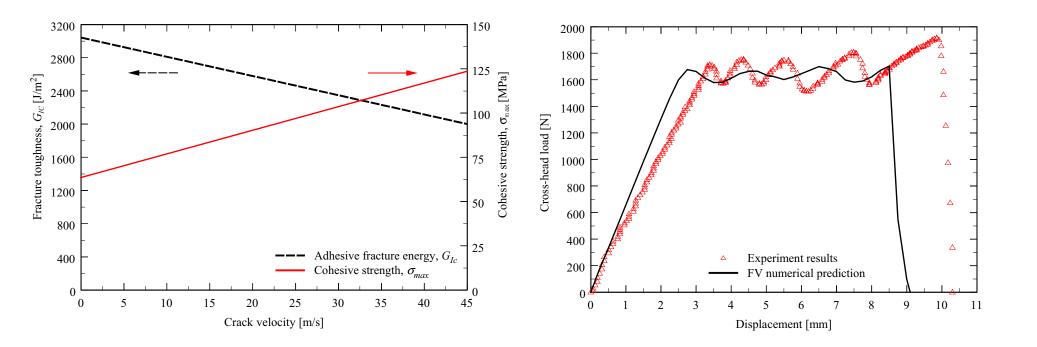


CZM calibration

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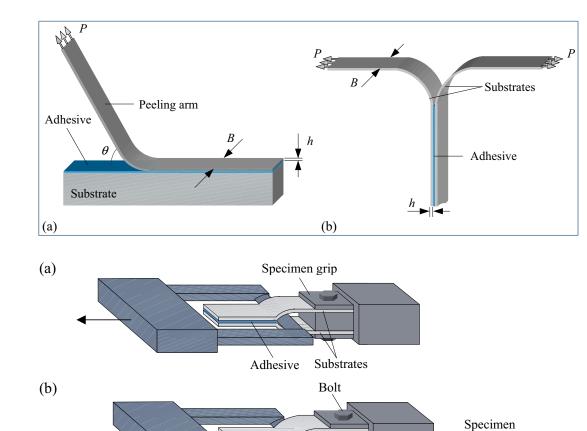




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Peel tests

- (a) single-arm peel test
- (b) T-peel test



Wedge

Spacer



(a) symmetric

(b) asymmetric

Applied displacement

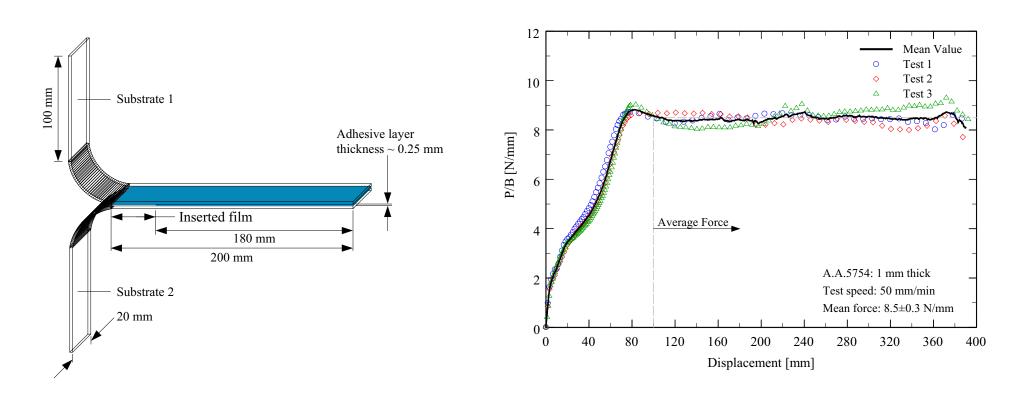
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support

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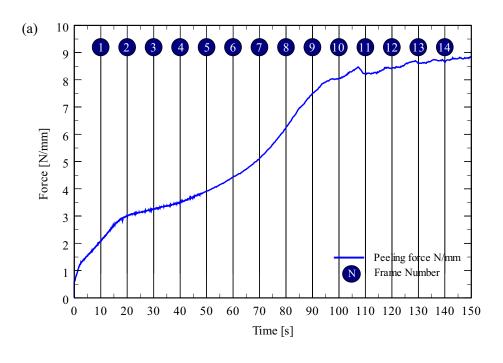


T-peel tests

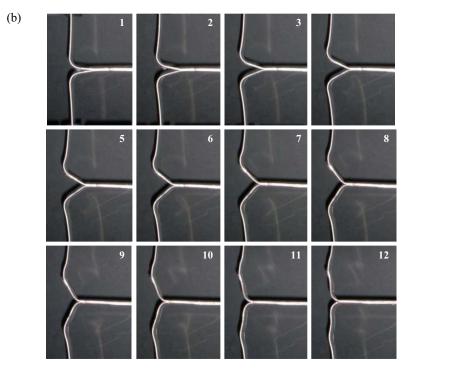




T-peel tests

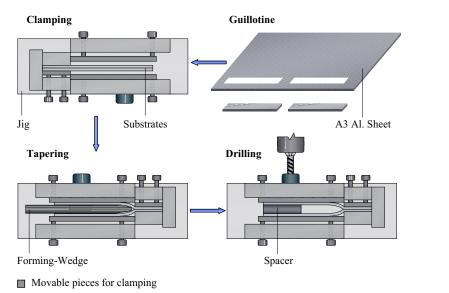


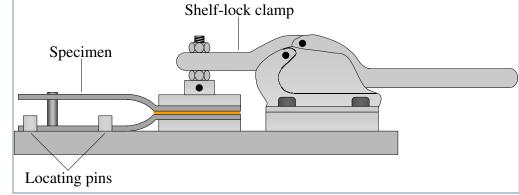
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Specimen preparation

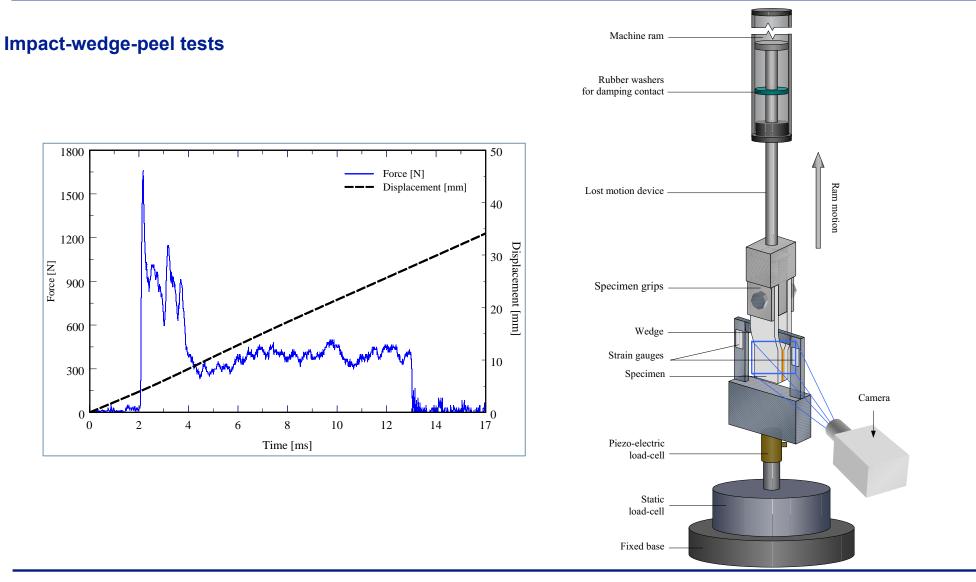
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□ Fixed pieces

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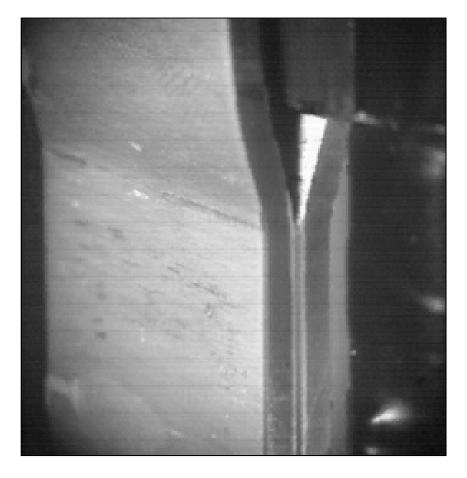
Testing adhesives and adhesively bonded joints

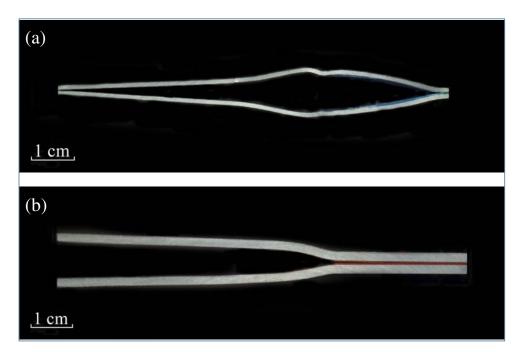


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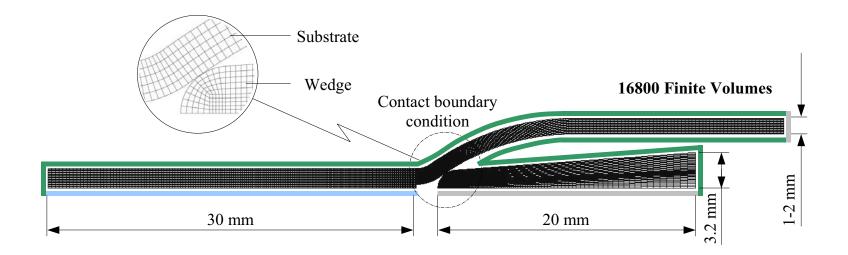


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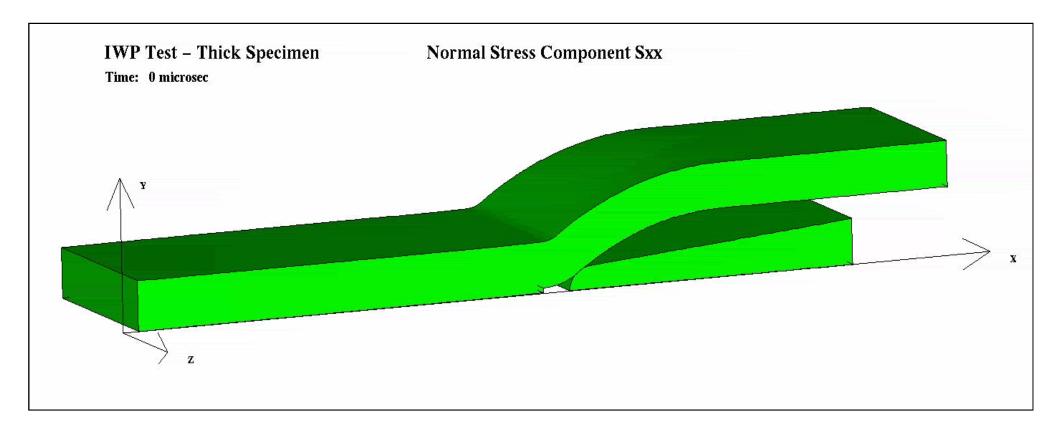
Impact-wedge-peel tests







Impact-wedge-peel tests

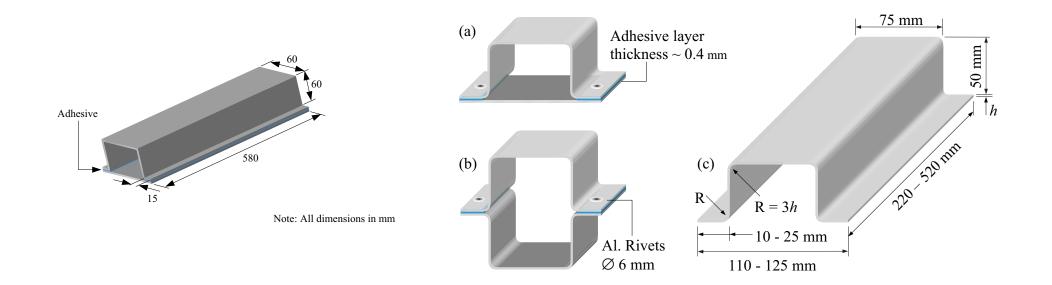


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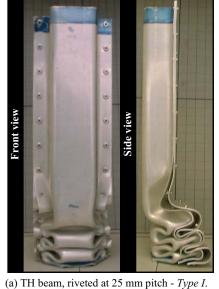


Box-beam components





Box-beam components



Front view

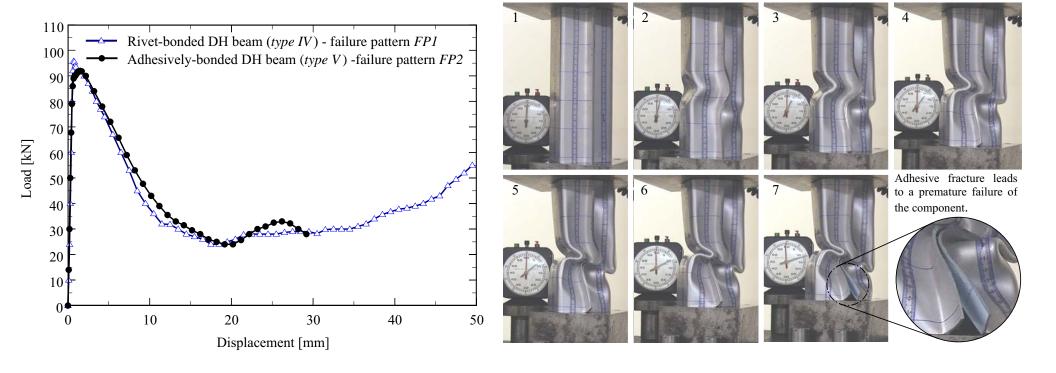


 e I. (b) Rivet bonded TH beam joint using the `XD4600' adhesive and a pair of end rivets - Type IV.



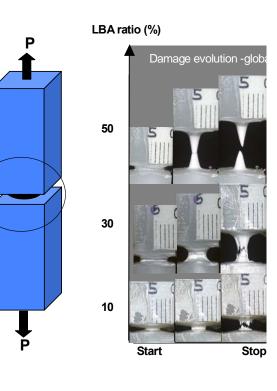


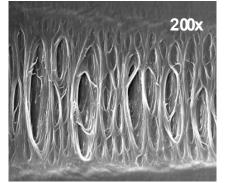
Box-beam components

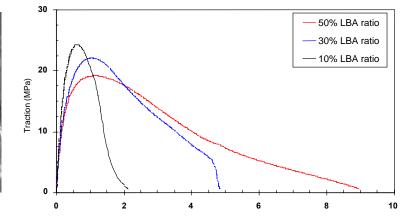


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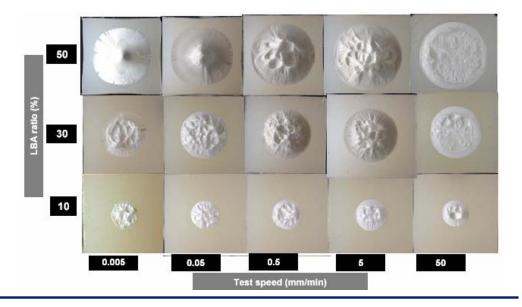
Deep-notched tensile tests







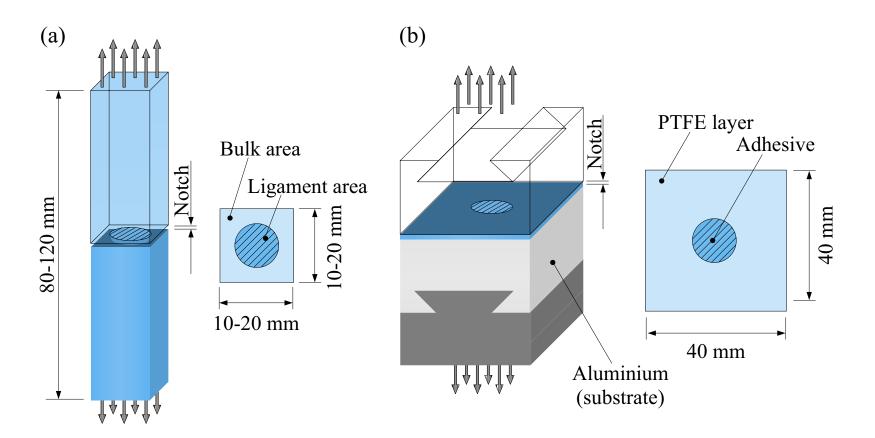
Separation (mm)





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Deep-notched tensile tests



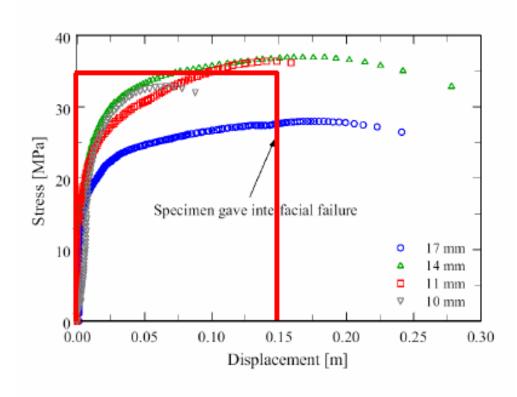
Adhesive DNT specimen; (b) Adhesive/substrate DNT specimen

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Deep-notched tensile tests



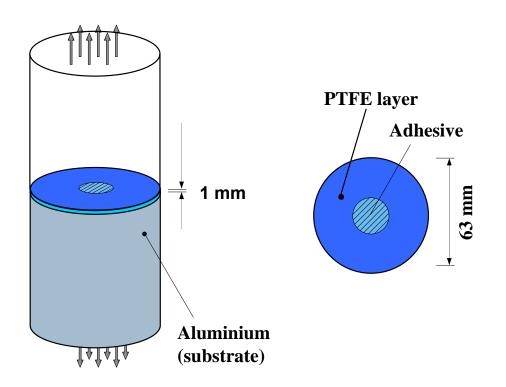




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PART IV:

Testing wood and wood products, crash tests ...

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