



PART II:

Testing polymeric materials and products

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TESTING PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS





About polymeric materials and products

Large organic molecule formed by combining many smaller molecules (monomers) in a regular pattern

Thermoplastic resins - when heated during processing, soften and flow as viscous liquids; when cooled, they solidify. The heating/cooling cycle can be repeated many times with little loss in properties.

Thermosetting resins - liquefy when heated and solidify with continued heating; the polymer undergoes permanent cross-linking and retains its shape during subsequent cooling/heating cycles.







About polymeric materials and products

Major benefits:

- Low production and maintenance costs
- Low weight (=easy transport)
- Very good hydraulic characteristics
- Chemicaly resistant (=do not corrode)
- Relatively small modulus of elasticity (=flexibility) with high ductility (deformations up to 20% without loss of bearing capacity)





Properties and Standard Methods of Measurements¹⁾

Property	ASTM method	ISO method
Physical properties		
Density, g/mL	D792	1183
Flammability	$UL94^a$	
Oxygen index (LOI), %	D2863	4589
Refractive index	D542	489
Yellowness index (YI)	D1925	
Water absorption (24 h, 23°C)		
Electrical properties		
Dielectric constant (1 MHz)	D150	
Dielectric strength (1 mm), kV/mm	D149	
Dissipation factor (1 kHz)	D150	
Volume resistivity (23°C, dry), Ω·cm	D150	

¹⁾ Encyclopedia of Polymer Science and Technology



Testing polymeric materials and products

Thermal properties Glass-transition temperature (Tg), °C Melting temperature (Tm), °C		
Heat-deflection temperature (HDT) at 0.45 or 1.8 MPa, °C	D648	75
Specific heat capacity J/(kg·K)		
Thermal conductivity (23°C), W/(m·K)	C177	
Thermal expansion coefficient, K ⁻¹	D696	
Upper working temperature, °C		
Mechanical properties		
Elastic modulus, GPa ^b	D638	527
Tensile strength, MPa ^c	D638	527
Flexural modulus, GPa ^b	D790	178
Flexural strength, MPa ^c	D790	178
Compressive strength, MPa ^c	D638	527
Elongation at break, %	D638	527
Notched Izod impact resistance (3.2 mm), J/m ^d	D256	180
Hardness (Rockwell M or R)	D785	2039
Friction coefficient	D1894	8295
Rheological properties		
Intrinsic viscosity, Pa-s		
Melt-flow index, g/10 min	D1238	1133





Testing polymeric materials and products

NDT methods - classes¹⁾

Class	Methods (examples)	Remarks	
Mechanical	E-modulus measurement Vibration analysis Modal analysis Scanning probe microscopy	Mostly indirect indications of defects	
Optical	Visual inspection Optical microscopy Brillouin scattering Photoelasticity Projection moiré Shearography	Using visible part of electromagnetic spectrum (wavelength roughly between 400 and 700 nm)	
Penetrating radiation	Optical holography X-ray radiography X-ray tomography γ-ray radiography Neutron radiography Neutron scattering Electron microscopy	Electromagnetic (wavelengths below about 1 nm) and particle radiation	



Testing polymeric materials and products

Electromagnetic	Dielectric spectroscopy Resistance measurement Eddy-current testing	X-ray and γ-ray classified among penetrating radiation
Sonic/ultrasonic	Tap testing	
	Acoustic emission	
	Acousto-ultrasonics	
	Ultrasonics	
	Acoustic microscopy	
Thermal/infrared	Thermography	Infrared spectrometry is classified among chemical/analytical
Chemical/analytical	Infrared spectrometry	
-	Raman spectrometry	
	Ultraviolet spectrometry	
	X-ray spectrometry	
	Magnetic resonance imaging	





Mechanical testing

Tensile tests (steady-state, high strain-rate, ...)

Compression tests

Impact tests (impact resistance)

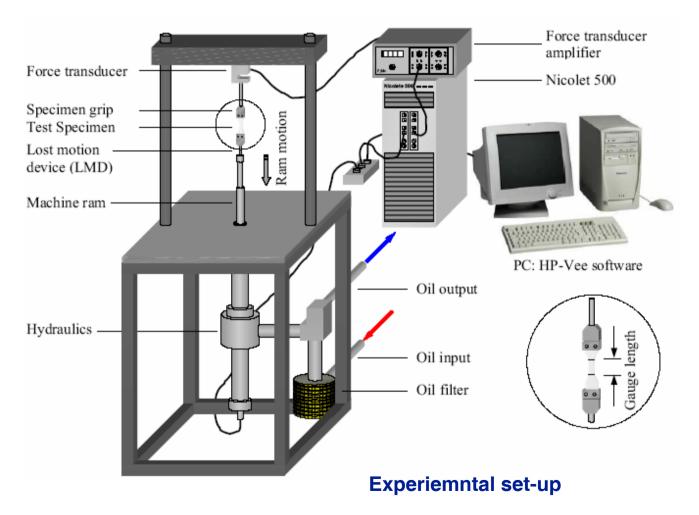
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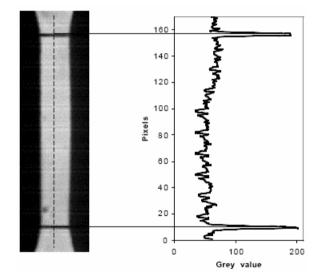
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Testing polymeric materials and products

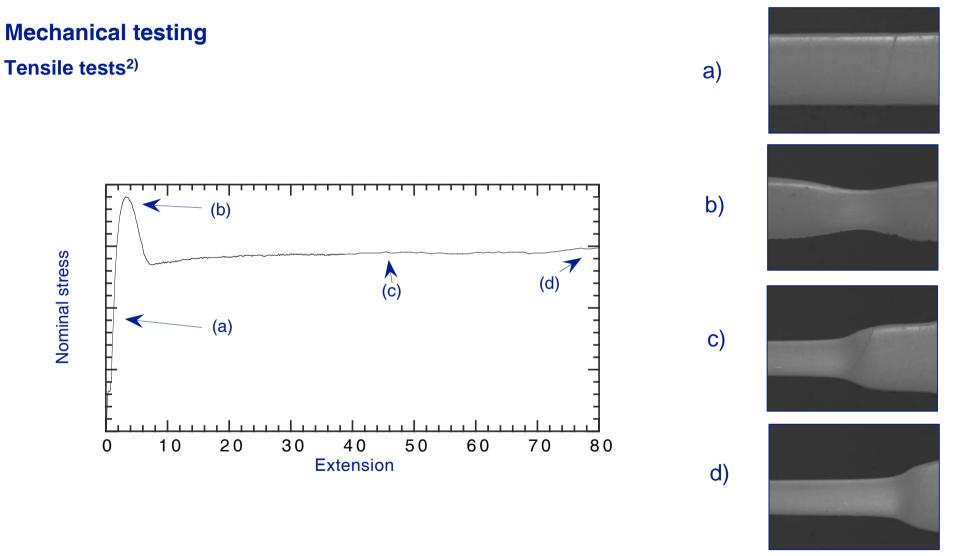
Mechanical testing





Testing polymeric materials and products





Engineering curve

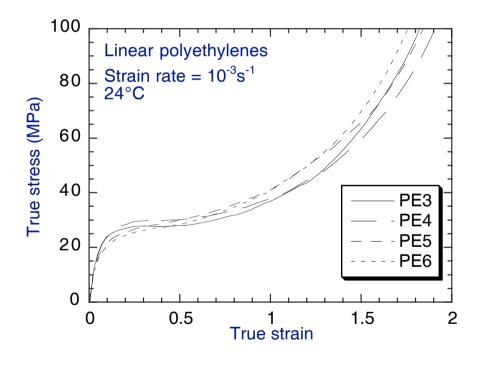
²⁾Hillmansen S., Large strain bulk deformation and brittle-tough transitions in polyethylene, PhD, 2001

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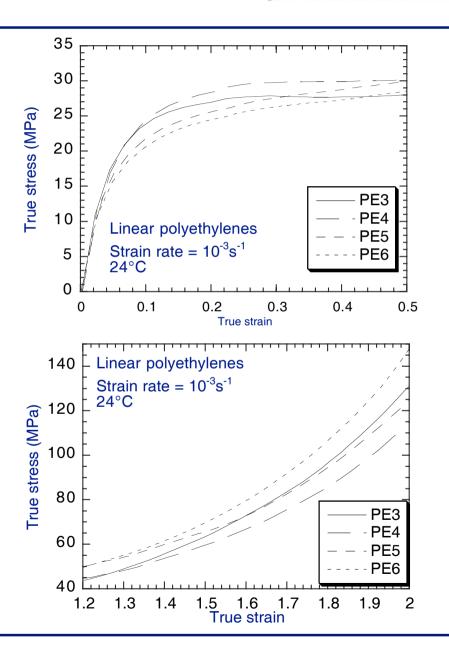
Testing polymeric materials and products

Mechanical testing

Tensile tests²⁾



True-stress-true strain curve

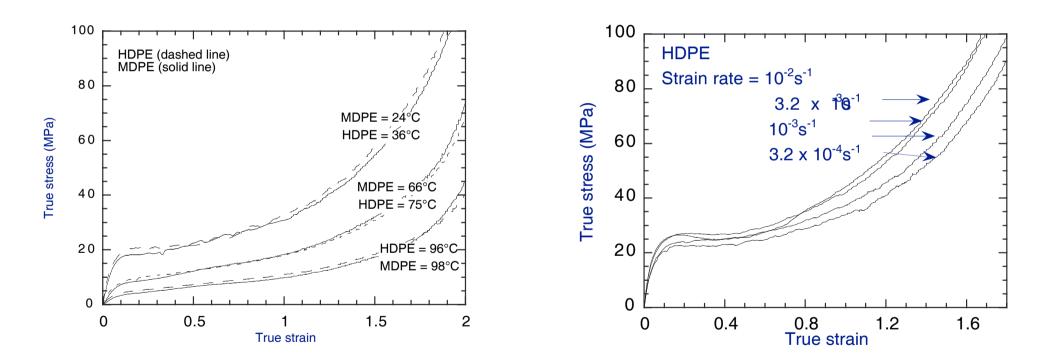




Testing polymeric materials and products

Mechanical testing

Tensile tests²⁾

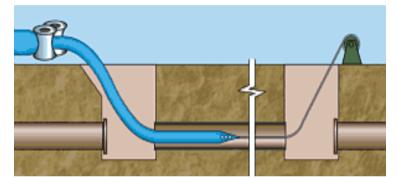


Temperature and stran-rate effects

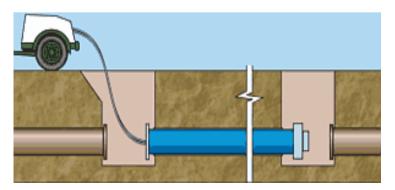




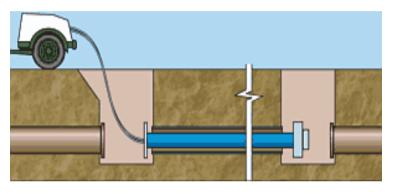
Roll-down process



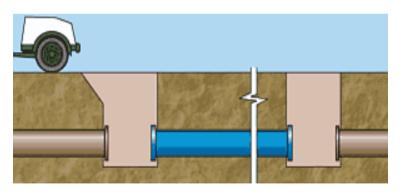
(a)



(c)



(b)



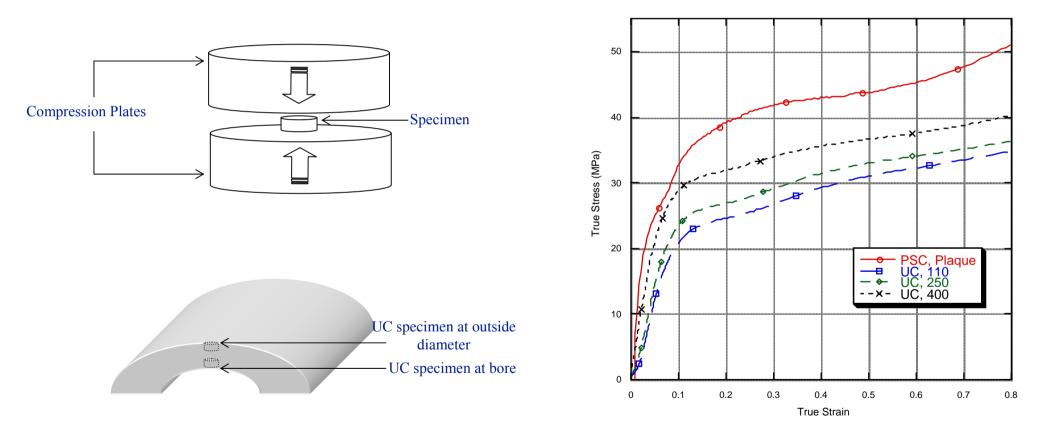
(d)



Testing polymeric materials and products

Mechanical testing



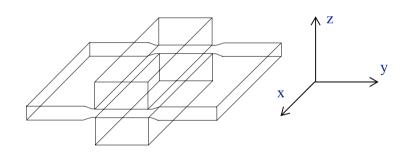


³⁾ Paizis A., Orientation and Strain Cycle Effects on the RCP Resistance of Polyethylene Resins, PhD, 2003

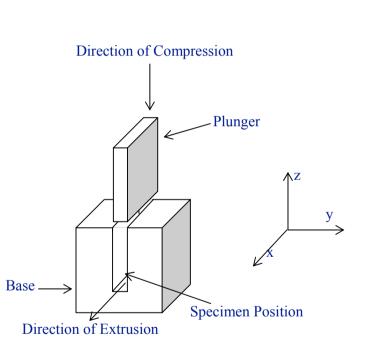


Mechanical testing





Plane strain compression rig employed by Williams

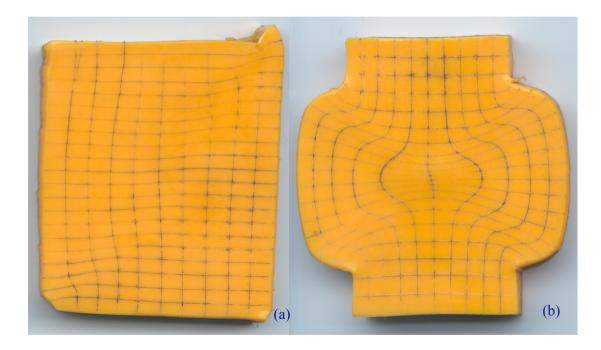


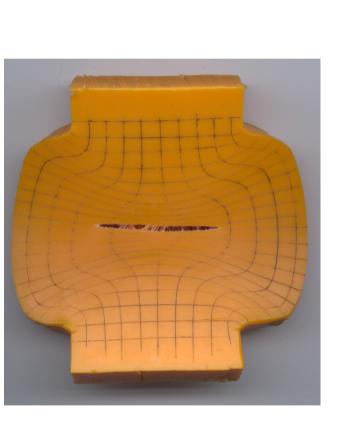
Experimental set-up of the channel die (plane strain) compression rig





Mechanical testing Plain-strain compression tests³⁾





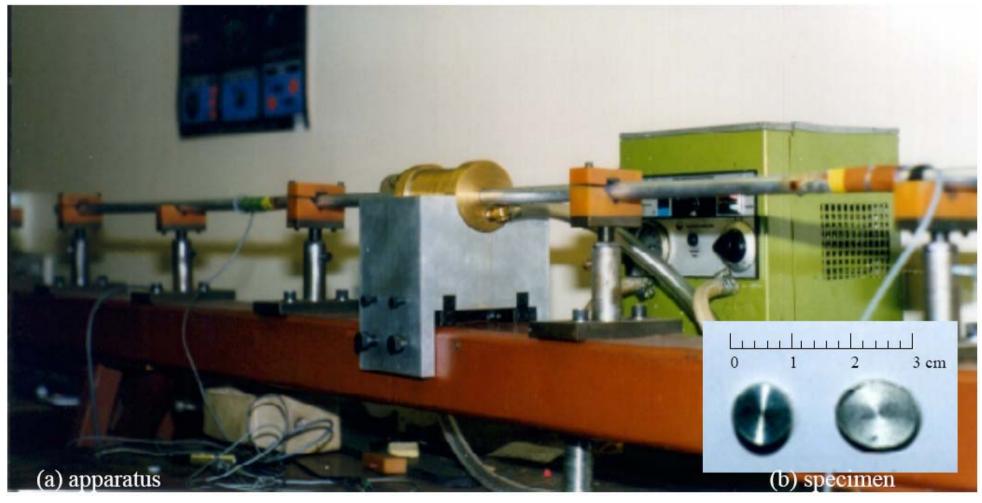






Mechanical testing – high strain-rate tests⁴⁾

Split – Hopkinson pressure bar at ICL

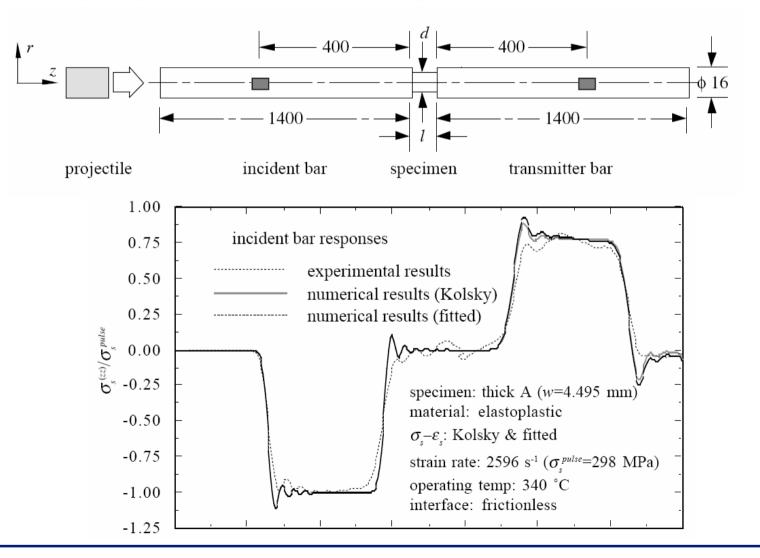


⁴⁾ Maneeratana K.., Development of the finite volume method for non-linear structural applications, PhD, 2000





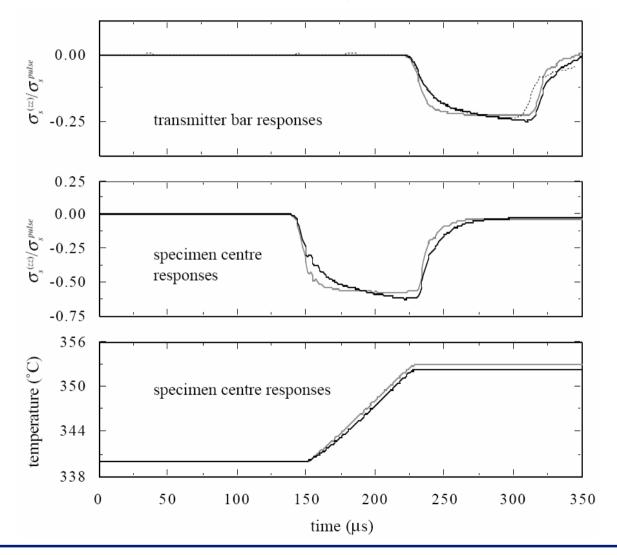
Mechanical testing – high strain-rate tests (SHPB)⁴⁾







Mechanical testing – high strain-rate tests (SHPB)⁴⁾







Impact resistance¹⁾

Impact resistance is a measure of the ability of a material, specimen, or structure to withstand a sudden load without failure.

Standard tests

Test	Designation	Description
Brittleness temperature	ASTM D746	The temperature is determined at which plastics and elastomers exhibit brittle failure under impact.
Falling weight	ASTM D3029	Impact resistance indicated by energy to break or crack rigid plastics by means of a falling weight (tup); constant drop height and variable weight (tup) ^b are recommended.
Falling weight	ASTM D1709	Similar to D3029 but for measuring impact resistance of polyethylene film by free-falling round-headed dart.
Falling weight	ASTM D2444	For impact resistance of thermoplastic pipe and fittings by falling weight (tup). ^b

Testing polymeric materials and products

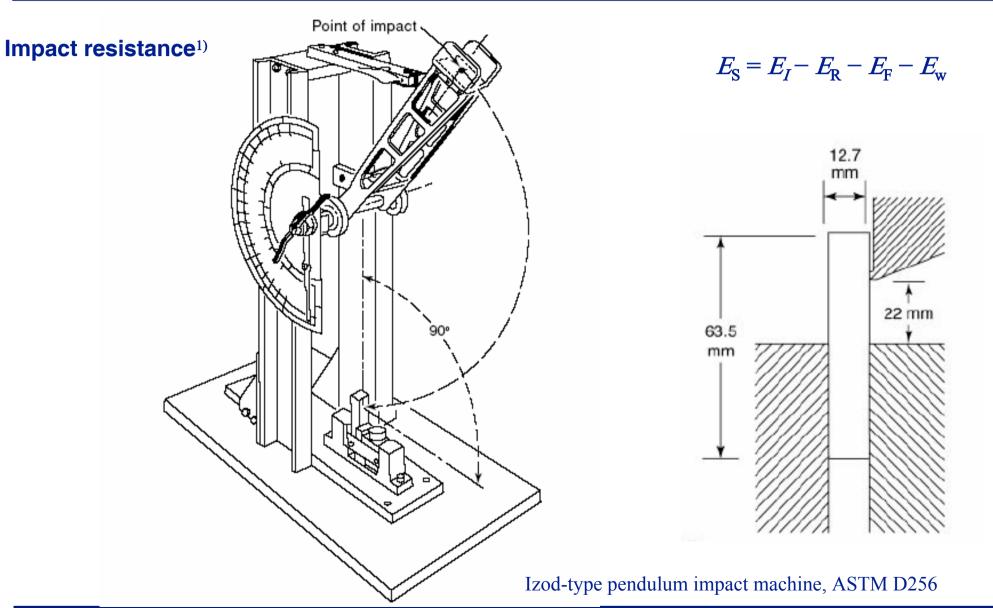
Impact resistance¹⁾

Fracture toughness High rate stress/ strain (tension)	ASTM D5045 ASTM D2289	For plane-strain fracture toughness. Area under stress–strain curve measures impact resistance at testing speeds up to 254 m/min.
Izod impact	ASTM D256°	Energy to break a notched cantilever beam specimen upon impact by a pendulum. Notch tends to promote brittle failure. Unnotched impact strength is obtained by reversing the notched specimen in the vise. Notch sensitivity can be determined by using Method D.
Charpy impact	ASTM D6110 (also, Research Report D20-1034)	Similar to Izod impact test. Notched specimen is supported on two ends and struck by a pendulum in the middle, a three-point-bend setting.
Tensile impact	ASTM D1822	Recommended for plastic materials too flexible, too thin, or too rigid to be tested by ASTM D256. Measures energy to break by "shock in tension" imparted by a swinging pendulum.





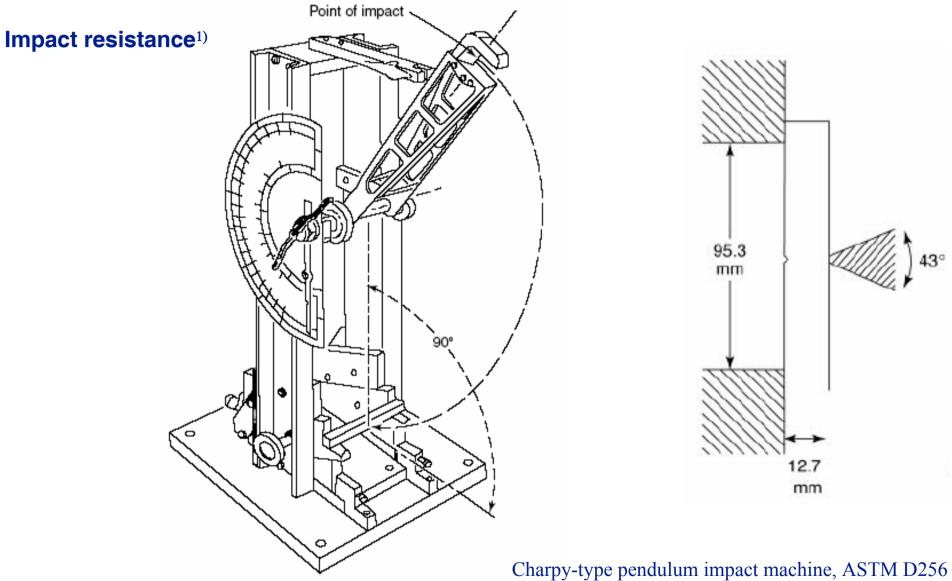






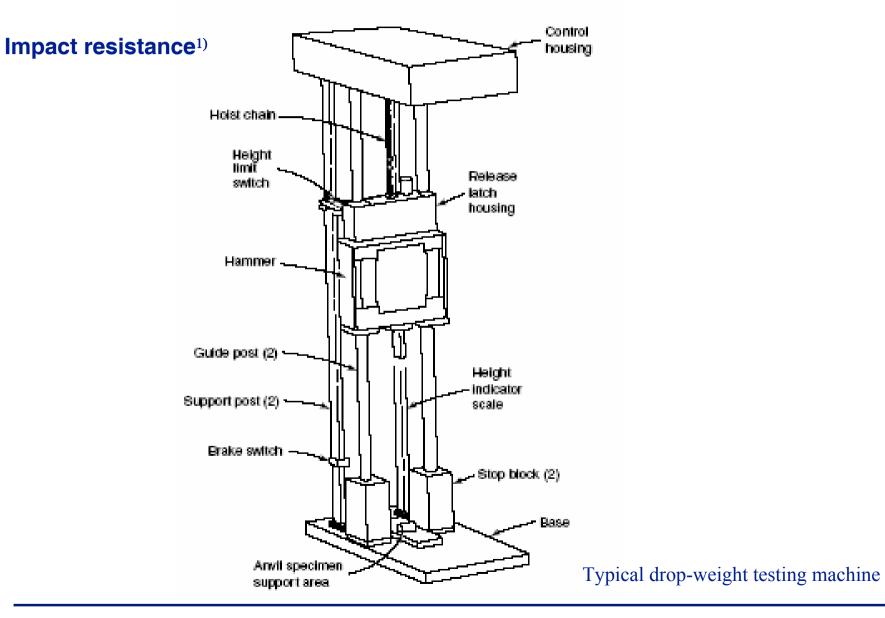


43°







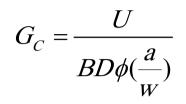


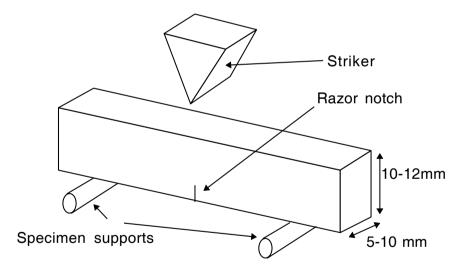


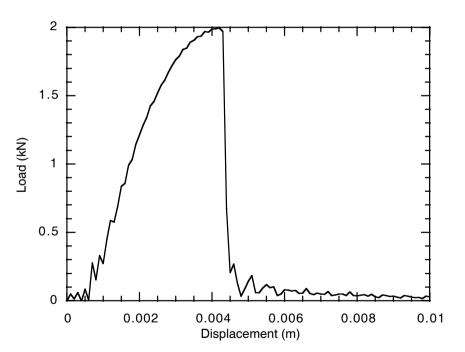
Three-point-bend testing²⁾

Conventional Charpy test







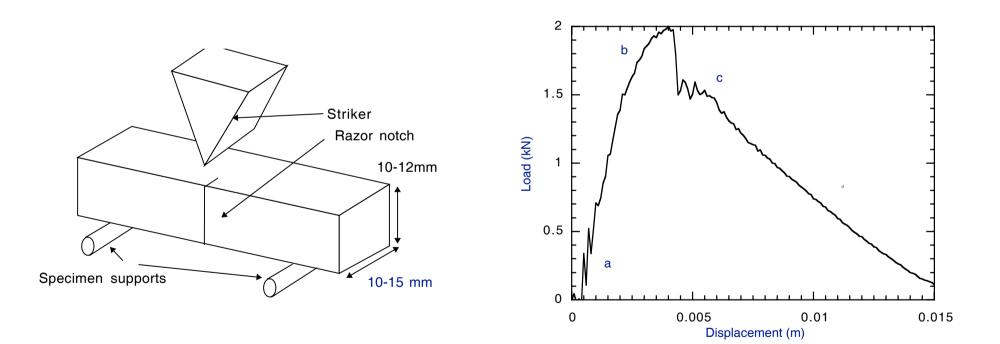






Three-point-bend testing²⁾

Side-notched Charpy test

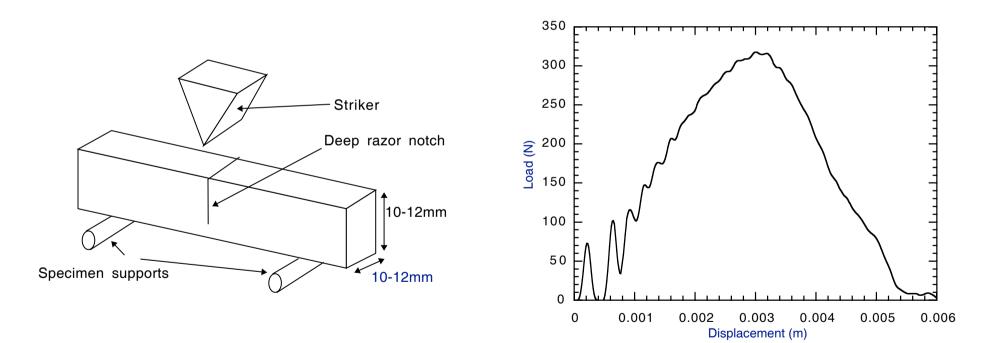






Three-point-bend testing²⁾

Inverted Charpy test



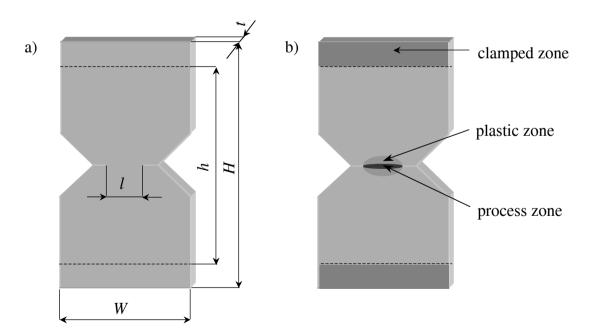




Measuring fracture toughness for thin plastic sheets

Concept of Essential Work of Fracture (EWF) method

Specimen



Basic equations

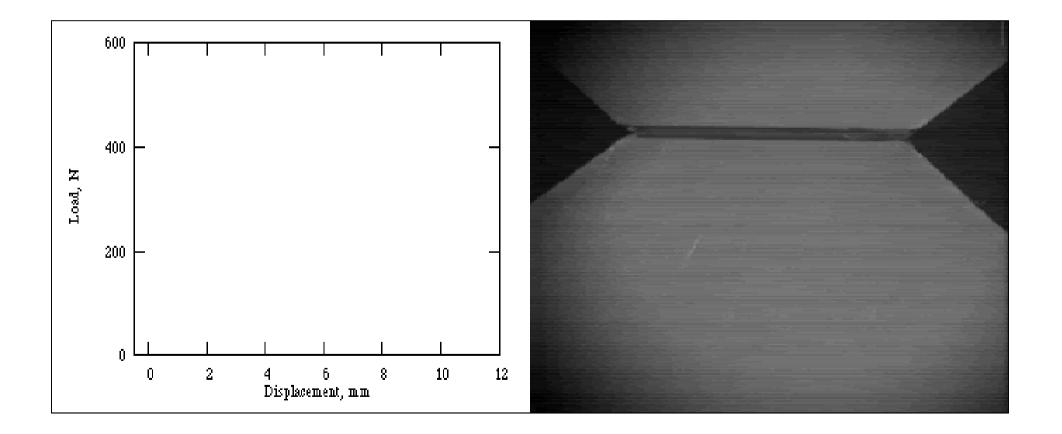
 $W_f = W_e lt + W_p \beta l^2 t$

 $W_f = \left(\frac{W_f}{lt}\right) = W_e + W_p \beta l$



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HM5411EA - test speed 1 mm/s

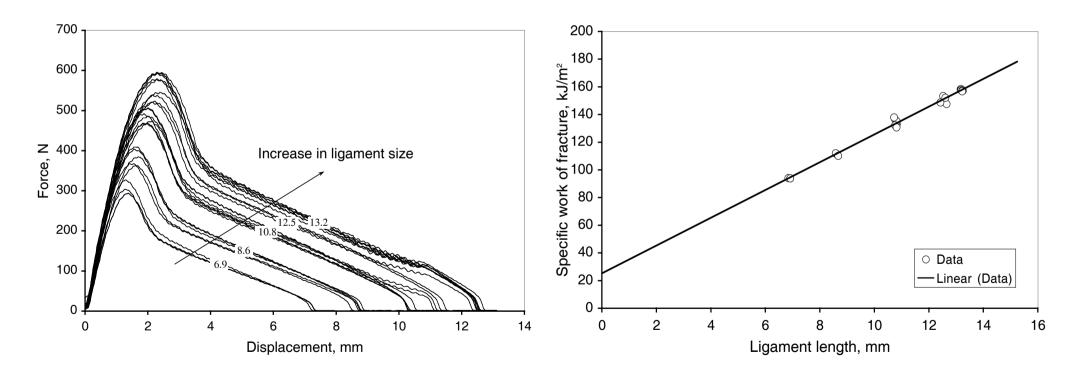




Testing polymeric materials and products

HM5411EA -test speed mm/s

Determination of fracture toughness

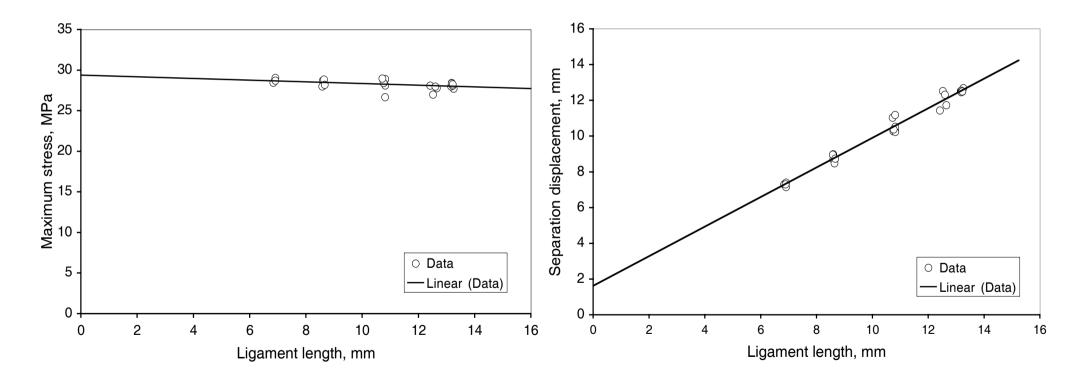






HM5411EA - test speed 1 mm/s

Determination of Cohesive Zone parameters – maximum displacement method

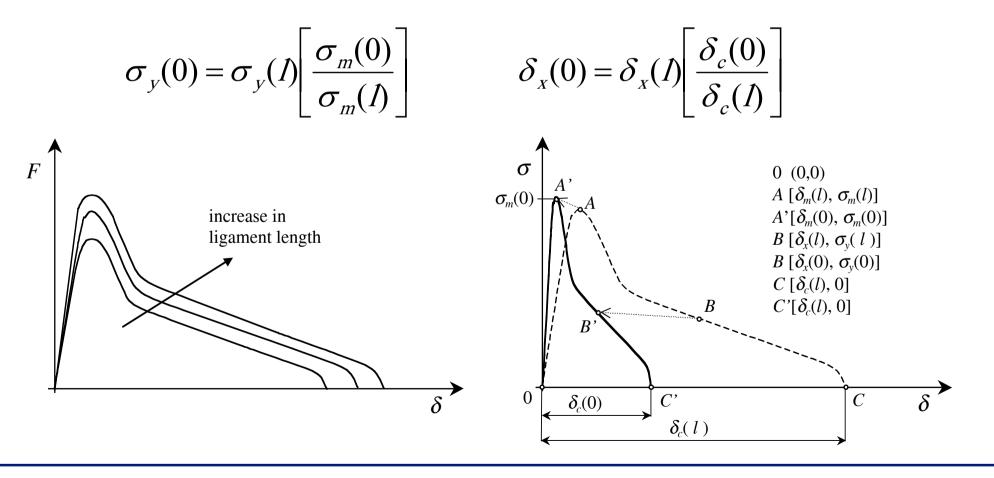






HM5411EA – test speed 1 mm/s

Determination of Cohesive Zone parameters - maximum displacement method

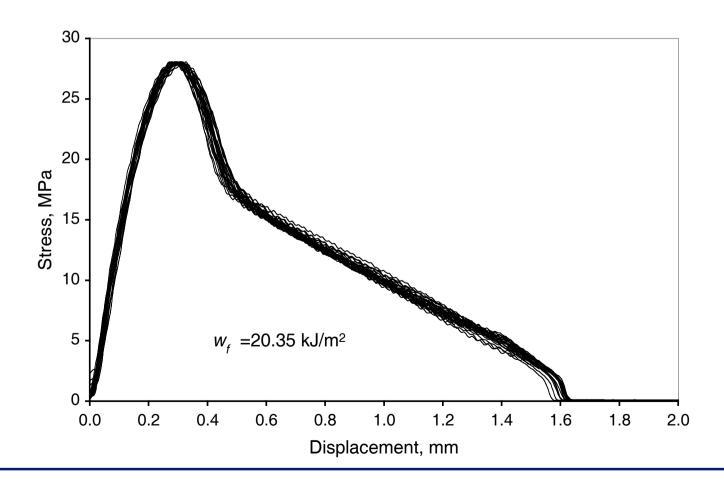






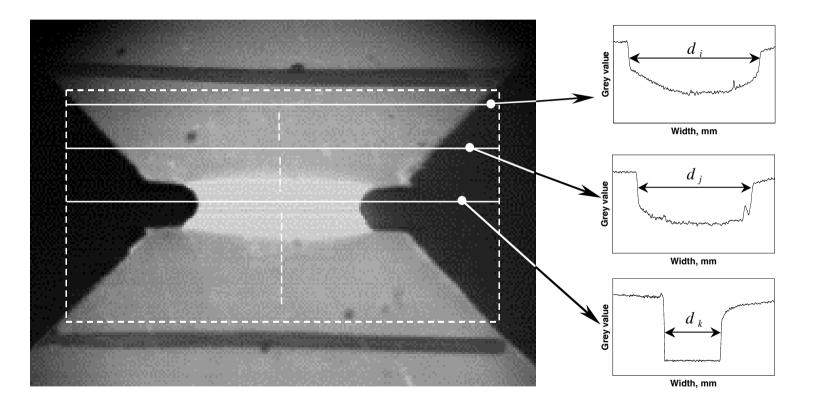
HM5411EA - test speed 1 mm/s

Determination of Cohesive Zone parameters – maximum displacement method





Profile analysis of deformation zone



minimum width = min (d_i) , i – line index in a ROI

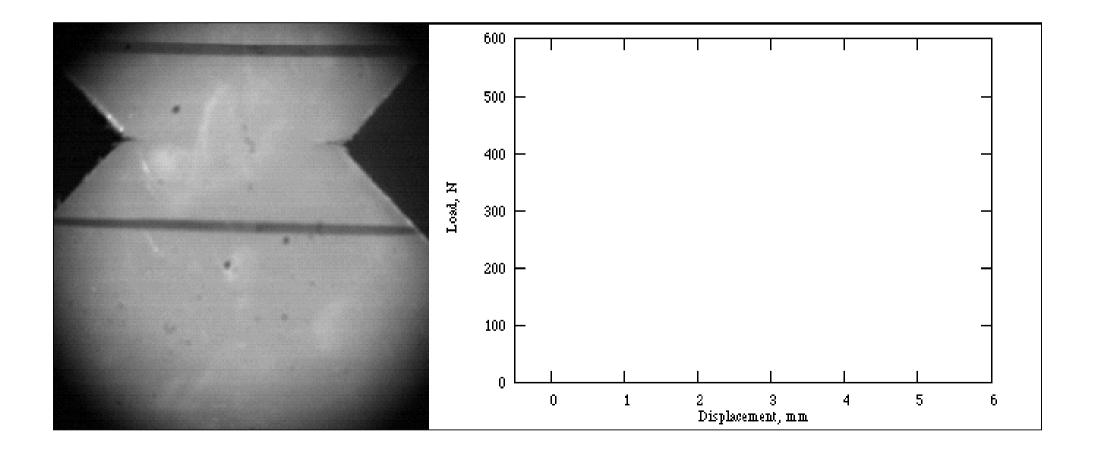
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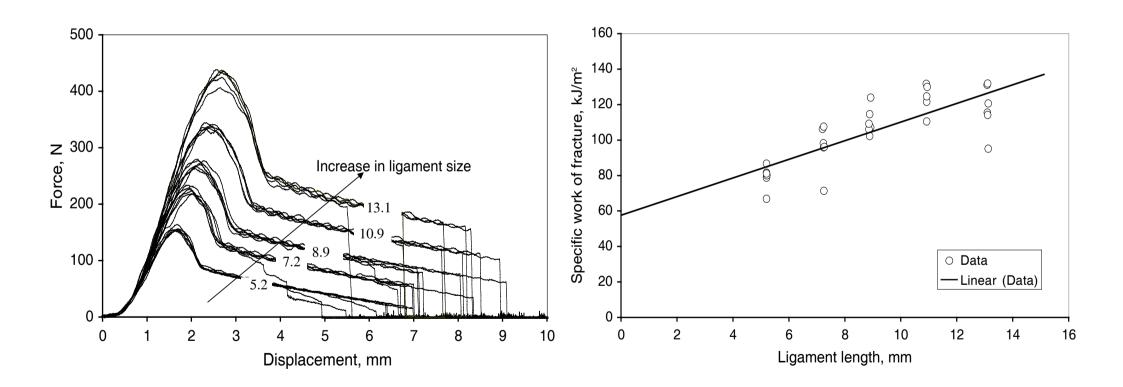
HD5502XA – test speed 20 mm/s







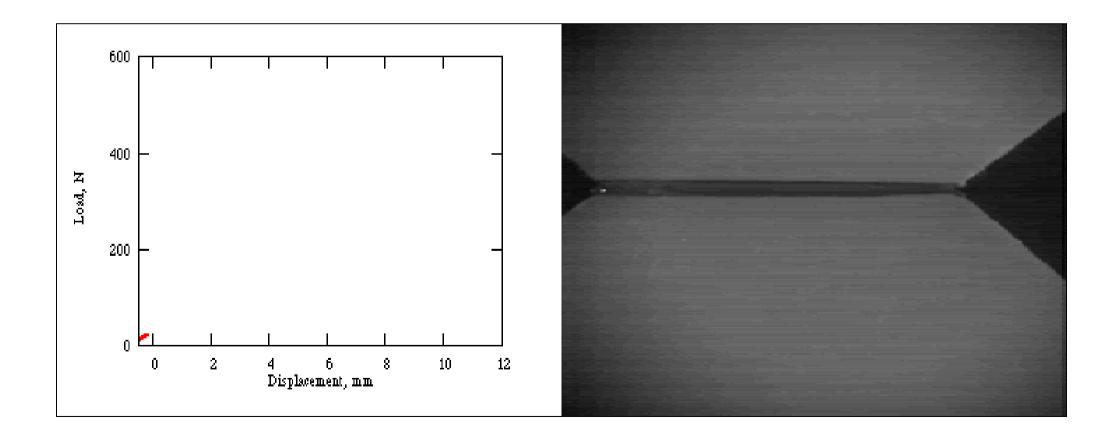
HD5502XA – test speed 20 mm/s







HD5411EA – test speed 1 m/s







- From sixties intensive use of polymeric materials in pipe production (conveying gases and fluids) in Europe PE and PVC
- Problems with potential catastrophic accidents
- Use of HDPE and MDPE materials PE-63, PE-80, PE-100





Technical programme (ISO): TC 138/SC 5

ISO/DIS(CD) 1167 (1-4)	Resistance to internal pressure	
ISO/DIS 2505	Longitudinal reversion	
ISO/DIS 7686	Determination of opacity	
ISO/CD 11673.2	Determination of the fracture toughness properties	
ISO/CD 13477	Determination of resistance to rapid crack propagation	
ISO/CD 13478	Determination of resistance to rapid crack propagation (RCP)	
	- Full-scale test (FST)	
ISO/AWI 13968	Determination of ring flexibility	
ISO/DIS 17454, 17455, 17456	Multilayer pipe systems – various tests	

Commonly used standards

ISO 3126:1974, 3127:1994, 11173:1994, 4433:1997, 6259:1997, 7361:1991, 9854:1994, 1167:1996



Determination of resistance to RCP

- High propagation speed with potential catastrophic consequences
- Type of tests (chronologically)
 - Full-scale (FT) test ISO 13478 British Gas
 - Pipe length up to 20 m, 50 bar
 - First 2 m cooled to -70°C, the rest 0°C
 - Crack propagates more than 90% of length, pressure is above critical
 - Extremely slow and expensive testing
 - $\sqrt[n]{}$ Modified Robertson's test Belgium standard 1981
 - S4 test ISO 13477 Imperial College London 1987
 - Possible parametric analysis due to low costs (temperature, pressure, material)
 - Determination of critical pressure and temperature



Determination of resistance to RCP



Full-scale test



before



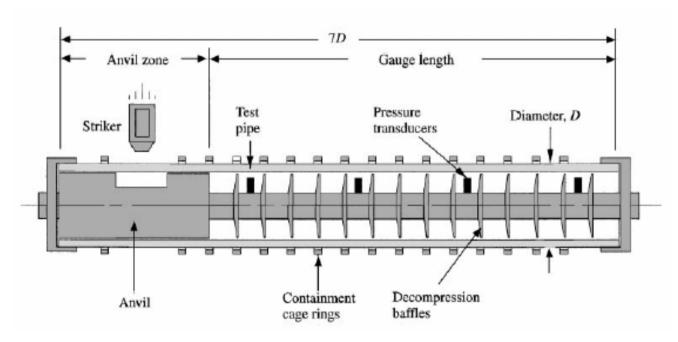
after

TESTING PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

Testing polymeric materials and products

Testing plastic pipes

Determination of resistance to RCP



Small-scale steady-state (S4) test



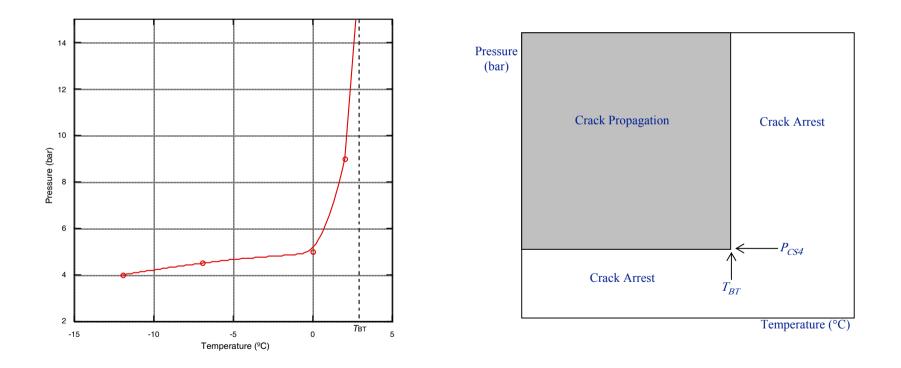
Video: A. Paizis, A. Karac







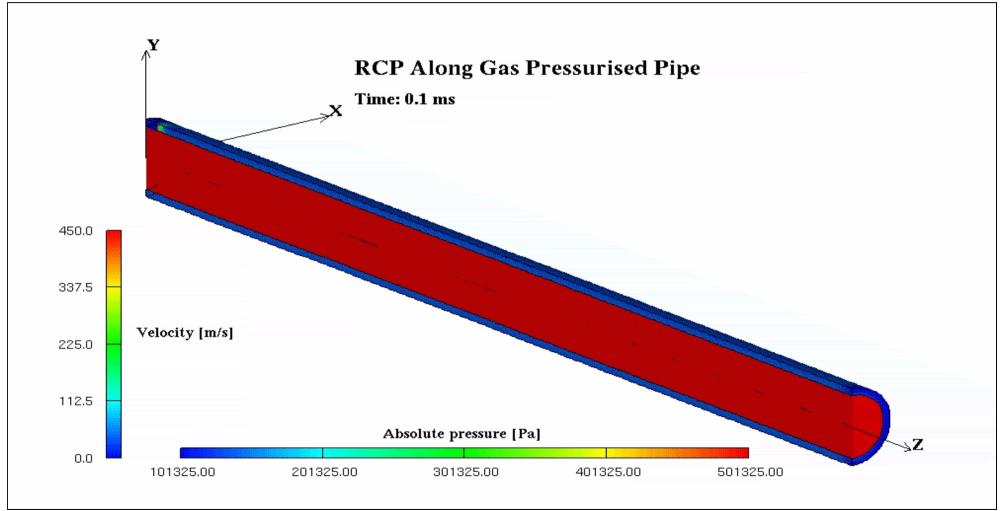
Determination of critical pressure and brittle-to-tough transition temperature







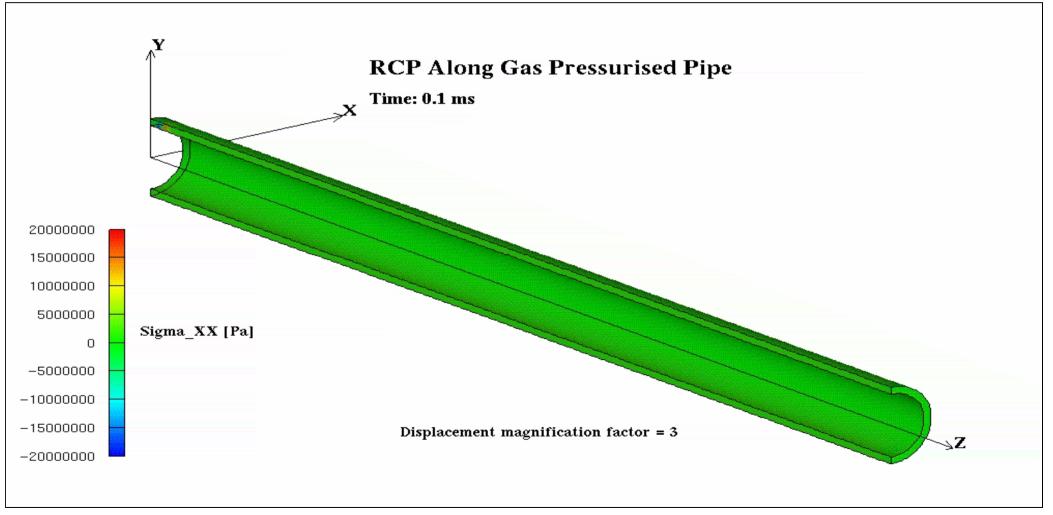
OpenFOAM simulation







OpenFOAM simulation

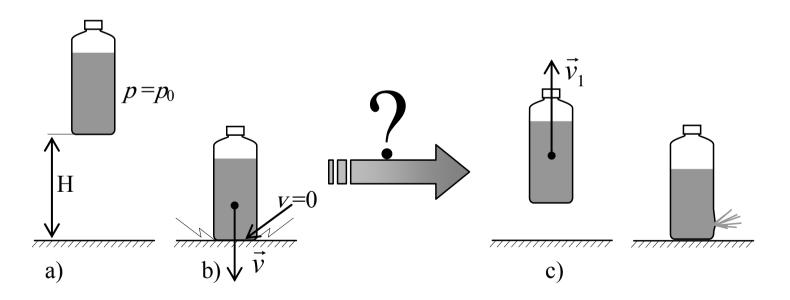






ASTM D2463-95

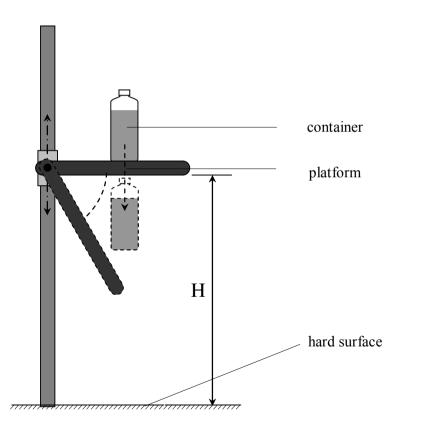
"Provides measures of the drop impact resistance of blow-moulded thermoplastic containers as a summation of the effects of material, manufacturing conditions, container design, and perhaps other factors."



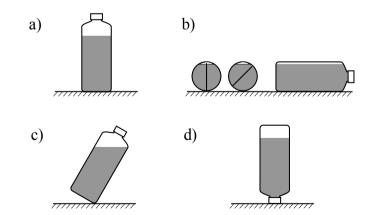




Standard tests



- Static drop height method
- Bruceton staircase (up-and-down) method







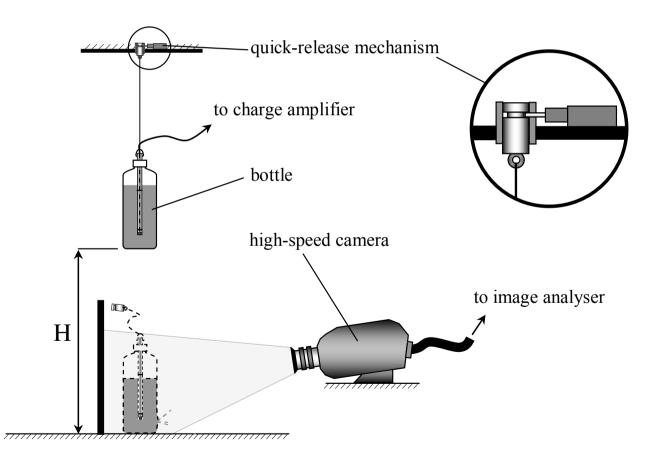
Standard tests







Modified standard tests







non-failure



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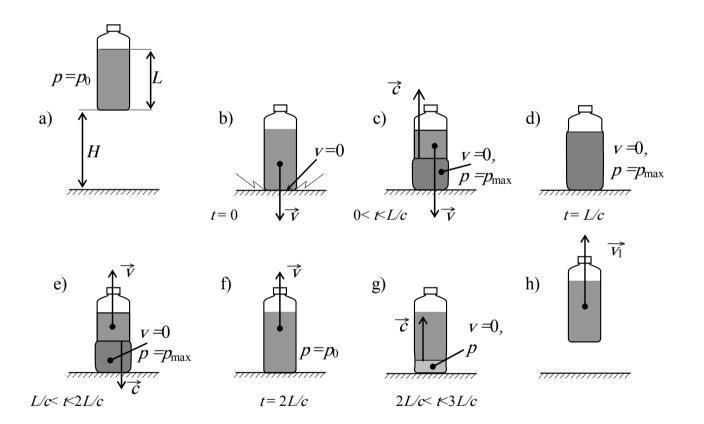
failure



RT6 container

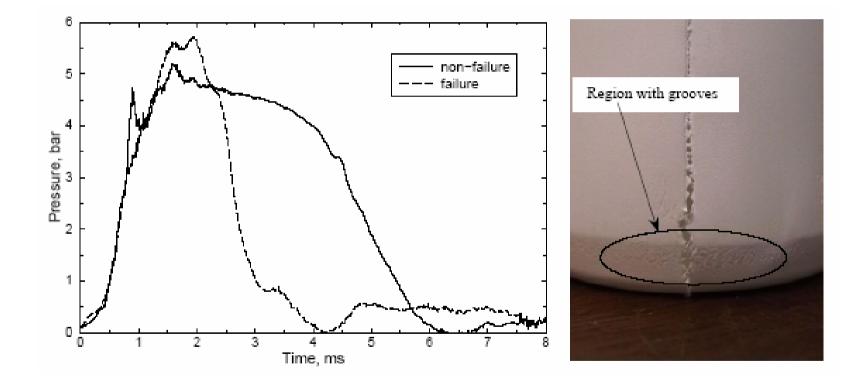








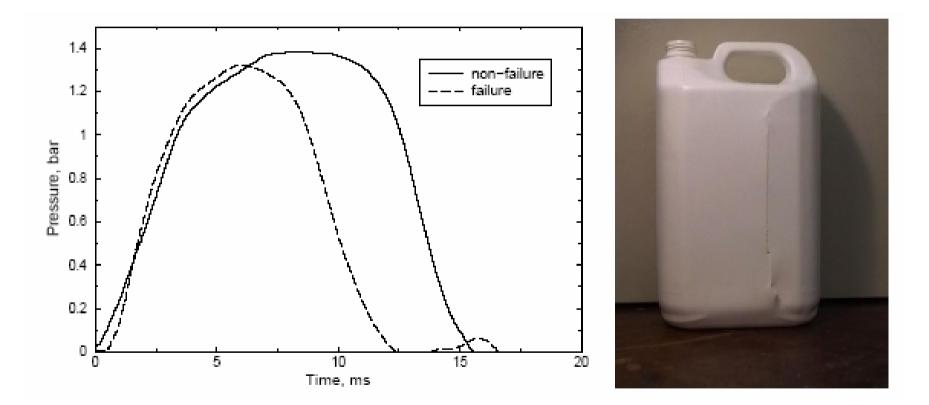




SR1 container



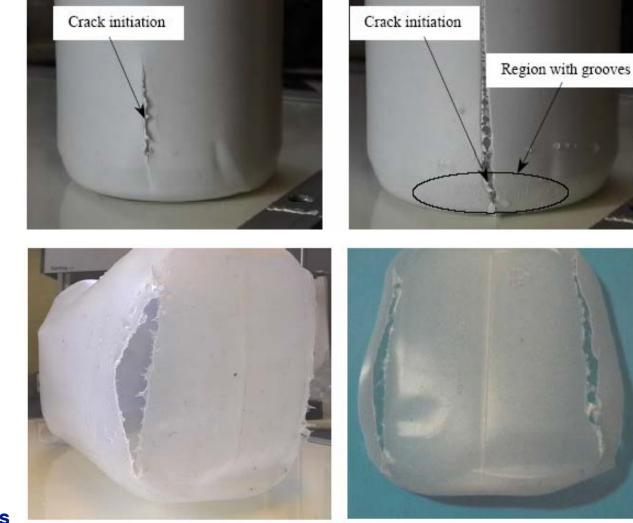




RT6 container



SR1



RT6

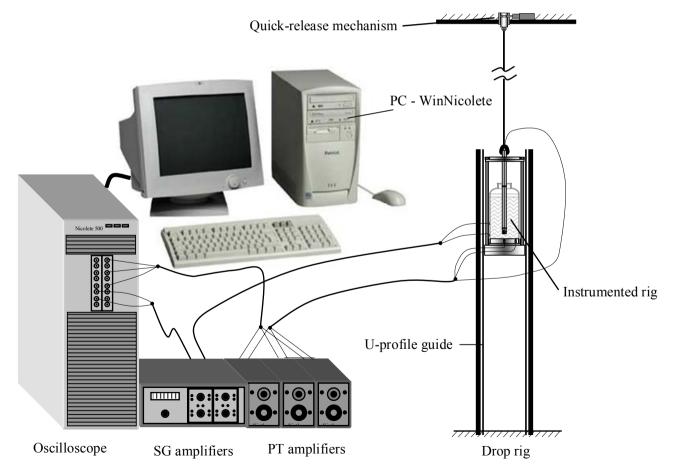
Fractures containers





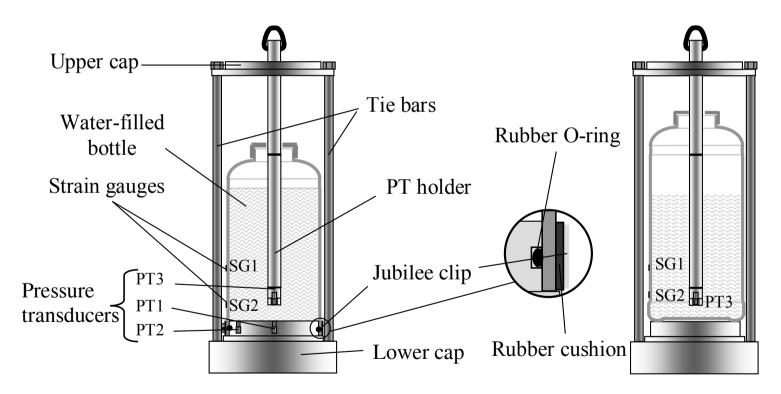


Experimental set-up





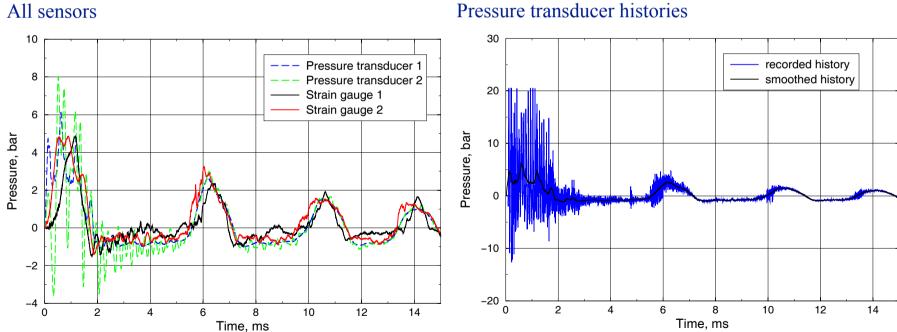
Instrumented rig







Pressure histories

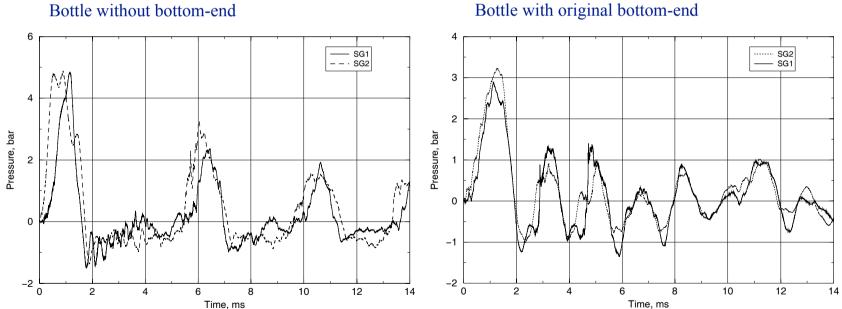


Pressure transducer histories





Strain histories

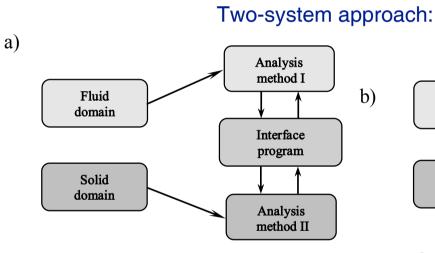


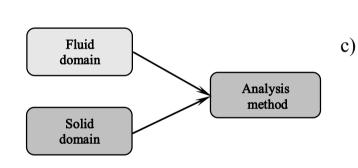
Bottle with original bottom-end



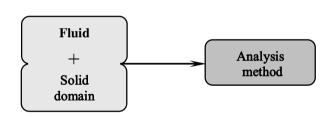


Numerical procedures





One-system approach:



Strongly coupled - interacting

Solids relatively flexible: plastic pipelines, containers, tanks/reservoir sloshing, airbags, cardiovascular flows

Fully coupled – coupled

Solid-fluid phase transformations: material processing/forming (moulding, casting, extrusion, welding, ...)





Testing	plastic	bottles
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Two-system approach:

START OF TIME STEP

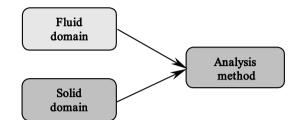
1. Solve fluid domain (or 3.)

2. Pass infromation from the fluid to solid domain (or 4.)

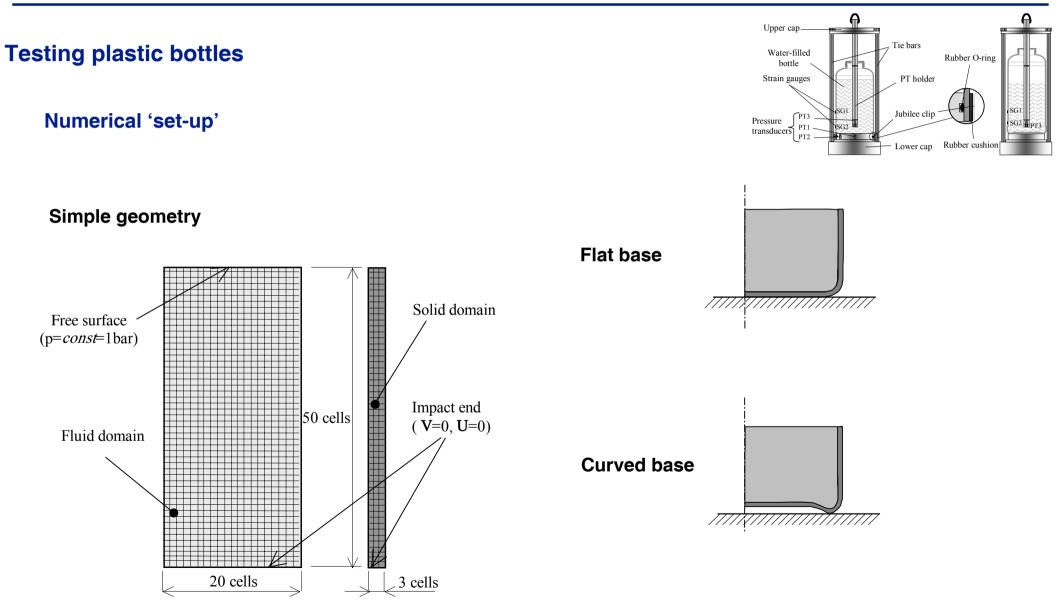
- 3. Solve structure domain (or 1.)
- 4. Pass infromation from the solid to fluid domain (or 2.)

END OF TIME STEP

(implicit scheme only)

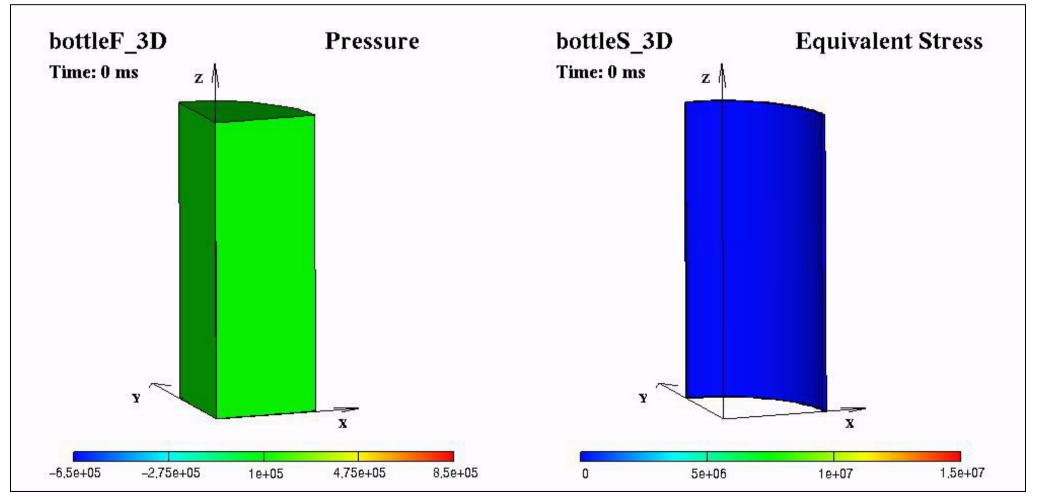








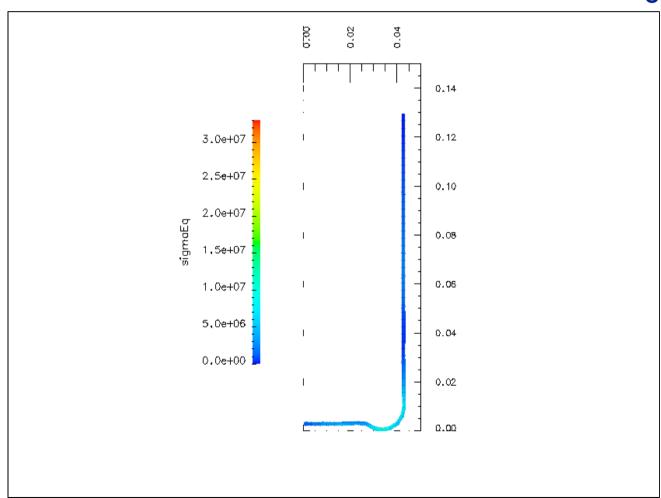
OpenFOAM simulation – simple geometry









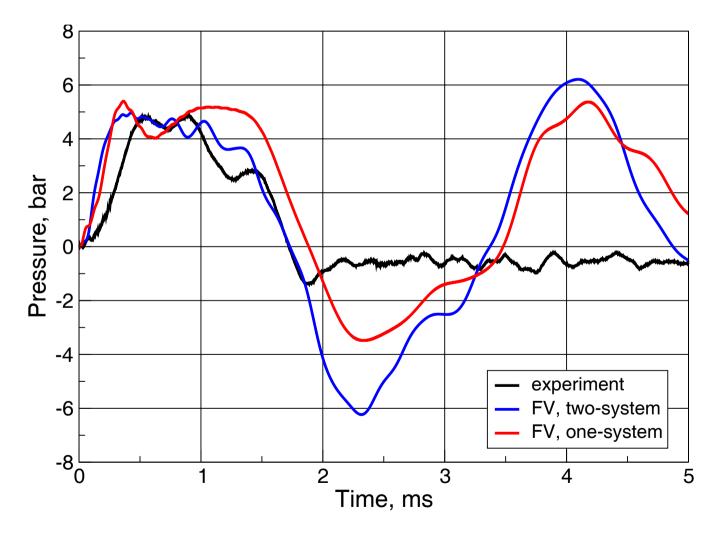


OpenFOAM simulation – base shape effect



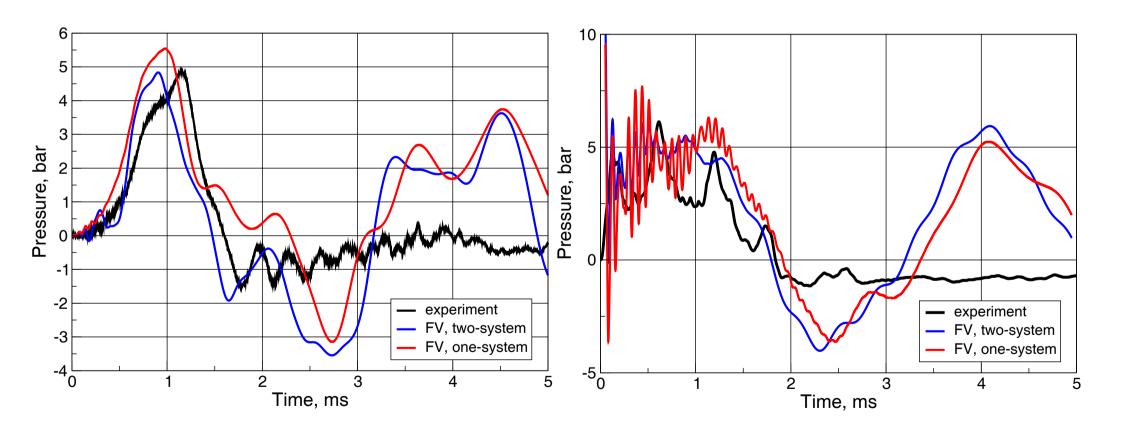


Some quantitative results





Some quantitative results

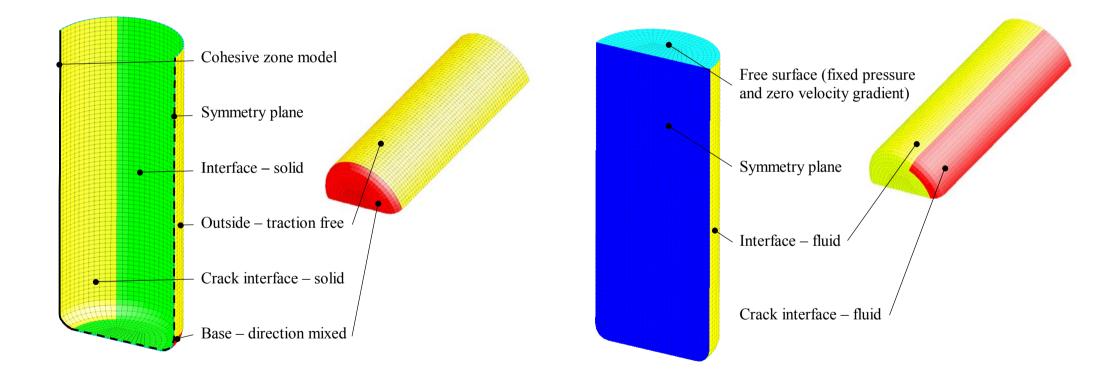








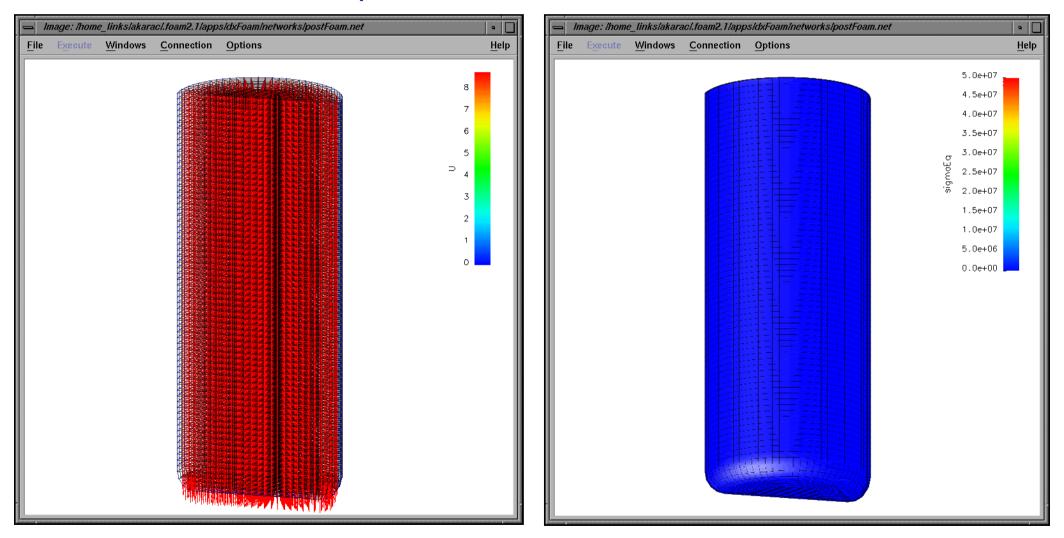
Simulations with fracture – numerical domains







Simulations with fracture – OpenFOAM simulation

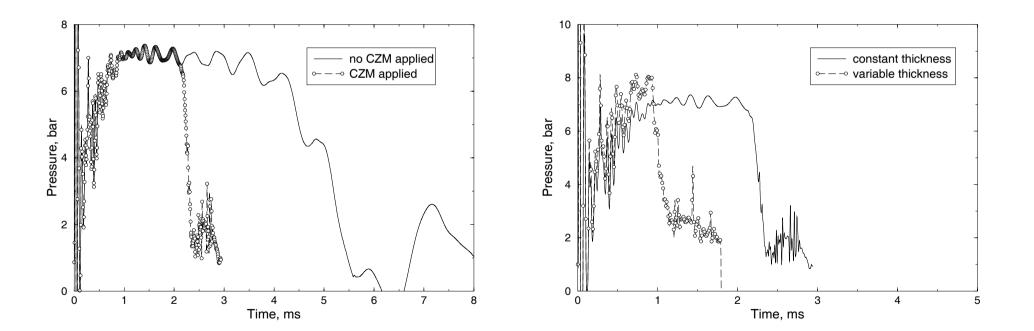






Simulations with fracture – OpenFOAM simulation

Pressure histories







PART III:

Testing adhesives and adhesively bonded joints

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TESTING PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS