PLY-THICKNESS EFFECT ON FIBER-MATRIX INTERFACE CRACK GROWTH

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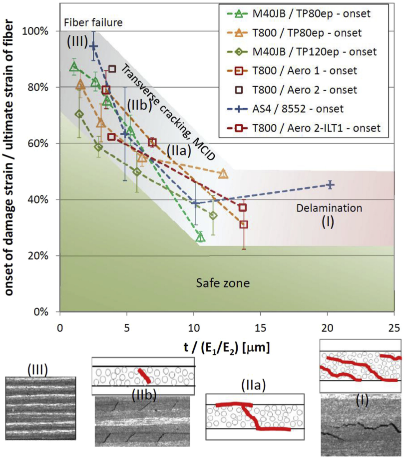
Outline

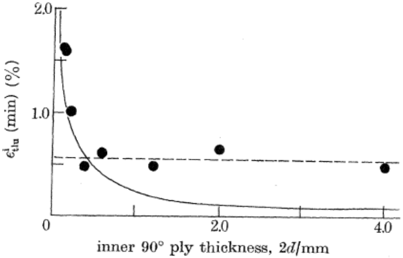
- Initiation of Transverse Cracks in Thin-plies
- Modeling the Fiber-Matrix Interface Crack
- Debond Energy Release Rate
- Conclusions

Initiation of Transverse Cracks in Thin-plies

The Thin-ply "Advantage"

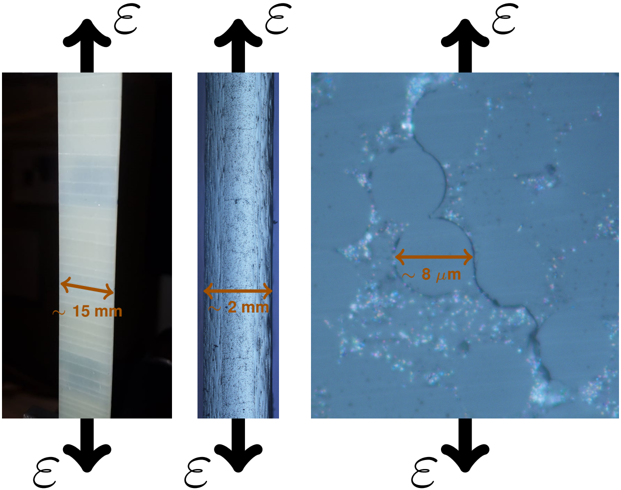


Cugnoni et al., Compos. Sci. Technol. **168**, 2018, p. 467–477.



Bailey et al., P. Roy. Soc. A-Math. Phy. **366** (1727), 1979.

Microscopic Observations



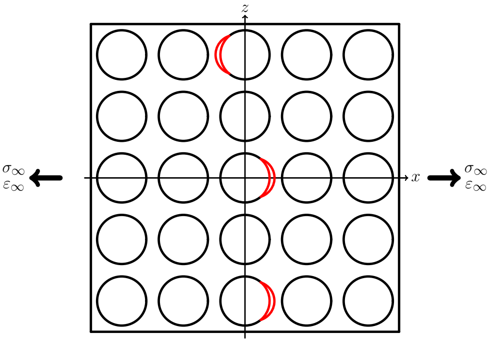
Left:
front view of $[0, 90_2]_S$, visual inspection.

Center:
edge view of $[0, 90]_S$, optical microscope.

Right:
edge view of $[0, 90]_S$, optical microscope.

Micromechanics of Initiation

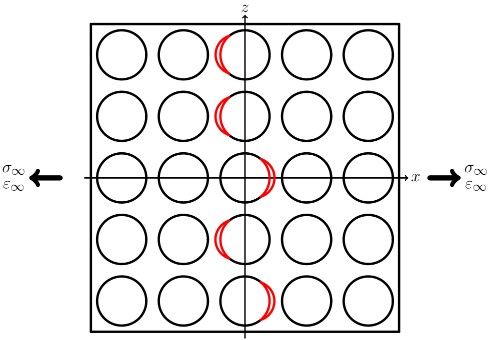
Stage 1: isolated debonds



Zhang, H., Ericson, M. L., Varna, J., Berglund, L.A.; 1997. *Transverse single-fibre test for interfacial debonding in composites: 1. Experimental observations. Compos. Part A-Appl. S.* **28** (4) pp. 309–315.

Micromechanics of Initiation

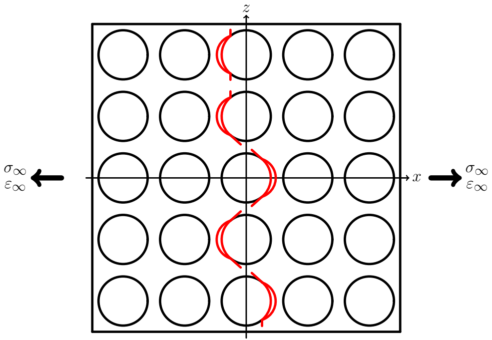
Stage 2: consecutive debonds



Zhang, H., Ericson, M. L., Varna, J., Berglund, L.A.; 1997. *Transverse single-fibre test for interfacial debonding in composites: 1. Experimental observations. Compos. Part A-Appl. S.* **28** (4) pp. 309–315.

Micromechanics of Initiation

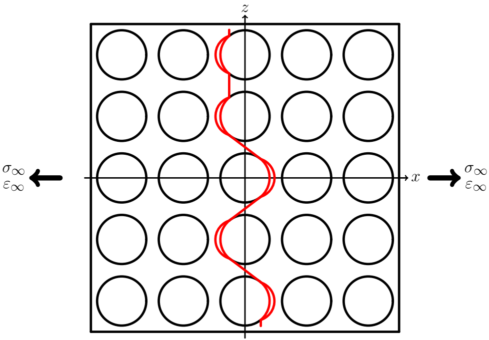
Stage 3: kinking



Zhang, H., Ericson, M. L., Varna, J., Berglund, L.A.; 1997. *Transverse single-fibre test for interfacial debonding in composites: 1. Experimental observations*. *Compos. Part A-Appl. S.* **28** (4) pp. 309–315.

Micromechanics of Initiation

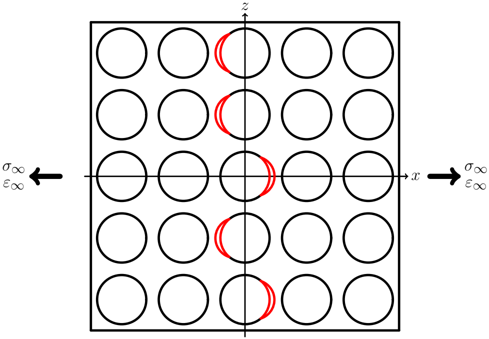
Stage 4: coalescence



Zhang, H., Ericson, M. L., Varna, J., Berglund, L.A.; 1997. *Transverse single-fibre test for interfacial debonding in composites: 1. Experimental observations*. *Compos. Part A-Appl. S.* **28** (4) pp. 309–315.

Objective of the Study

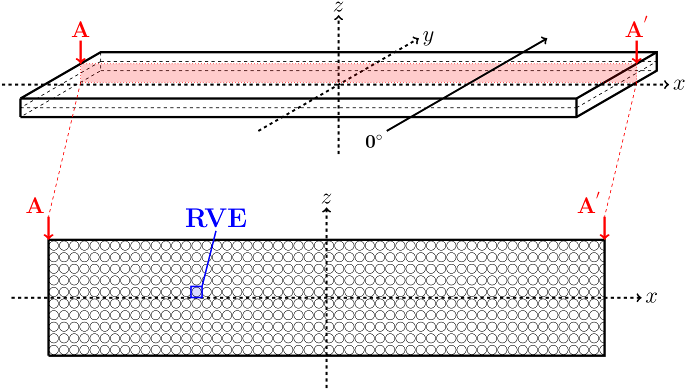
Stage 2: consecutive debonds



- ➔ Effect of debond-fiber interaction?
- ➔ Effect of debond-debond interaction?
- ➔ Effect of relative debond position on consecutive fibers: same or opposite sides?

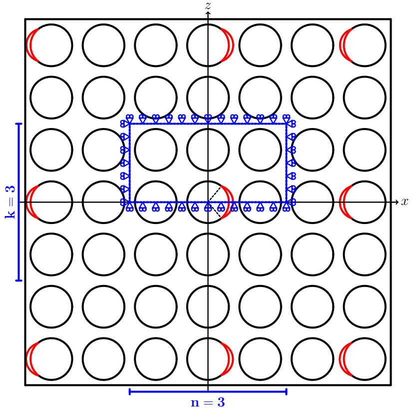
↘ Modeling the Fiber-Matrix Interface Crack

Geometry

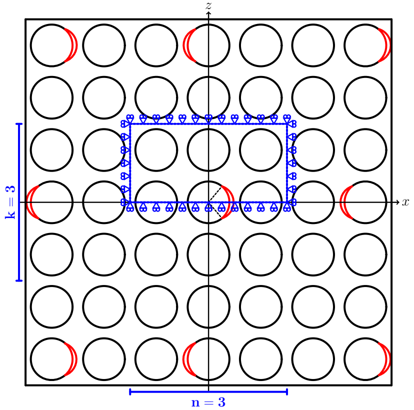


- ➔ $L, W >> t$
- ➔ $L, W \to \infty$
- ➔ Square packing
- ➔ $L_d >> \Delta\theta_d$
- ➔ 2D RVE

Representative Volume Elements

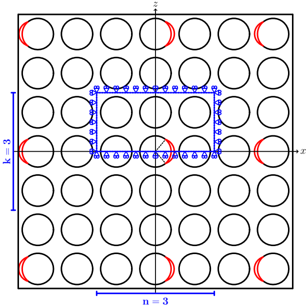


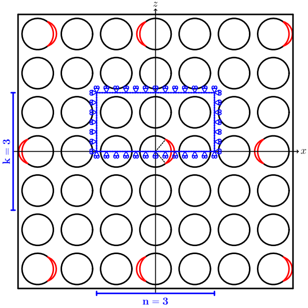
$n \times k - coupling$



$n \times k - asymm$

Equivalent Boundary Conditions





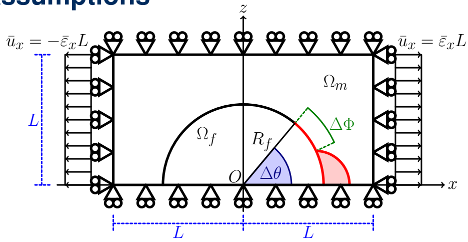
Symmetric Coupling

$$u_z(x, h) = u_z^{\nu}$$

Anti-symmetric Coupling

$$u_z(x, h) - u_z(0, h) = -(u_z(-x, h) - u_z(0, h))$$
$$u_x(x, h) = -u_x(-x, h)$$

Assumptions

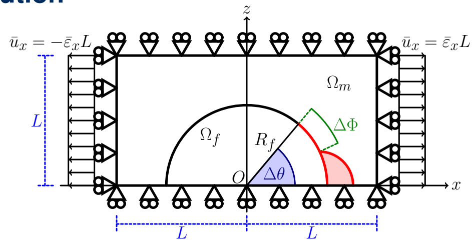


$$R_f = 1 \;\; [\mu m] \qquad L = \frac{R_f}{2}\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{V_f}}$$

Material	E	ν
glass fiber	70.0	0.2
epoxy	3.5	0.4

- ➔ Linear elastic, homogeneous and isotropic materials
- ➔ Plane strain
- ➔ Frictionless contact interaction
- ➔ Symmetric w.r.t. x-axis
- ➔ Coupling of x-displacements on left and right side (repeating unit cell)
- ➔ Applied uniaxial tensile strain $\bar{\varepsilon}_x = 1\%$
- ➔ $V_f = 60\%$

Solution



in Ω_f, Ω_m :

$$\frac{\partial^2 \varepsilon_{xx}}{\partial z^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \varepsilon_{zz}}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \gamma_{zx}}{\partial x \partial z}$$

$$\varepsilon_y = \gamma_{xy} = \gamma_{yz} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{xx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{zx}}{\partial z} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \tau_{zx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{zz}}{\partial z} = 0$$

$$\sigma_{yy} = \nu \left(\sigma_{xx} + \sigma_{zz}\right)$$

for $0^\circ \leq \alpha \leq \Delta\theta$:

$$\left(\vec{u}_m\left(R_f, \alpha\right) - \vec{u}_f\left(R_f, \alpha\right)\right) \cdot \vec{n}_\alpha \geq 0$$

for $\Delta\theta \leq \alpha \leq 180^\circ$:

$$\vec{u}_m\left(R_f, \alpha\right) - \vec{u}_f\left(R_f, \alpha\right) = 0$$

$$\sigma_{ij} = E_{ijkl}\varepsilon_{kl}$$

$$+ BC$$

➔ Oscillating singularity

$$\sigma \sim r^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sin\left(\varepsilon \log r\right), \quad V_f \to 0$$

$$\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2\pi} \log\left(\frac{1-\beta}{1+\beta}\right)$$

$$\beta = \frac{\mu_2\left(\kappa_1 - 1\right) - \mu_1\left(\kappa_2 - 1\right)}{\mu_2\left(\kappa_1 + 1\right) + \mu_1\left(\kappa_2 + 1\right)}$$

➔ Finite Element Method (FEM) in Abaqus™

➔ 2^{nd} order shape functions

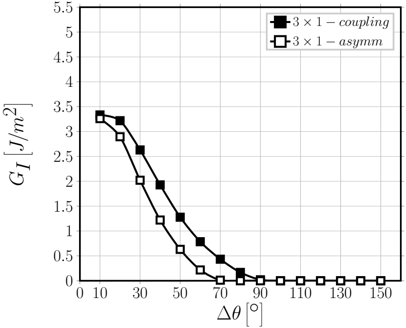
➔ 6-nodes triangles & 8-nodes quadrilaterals

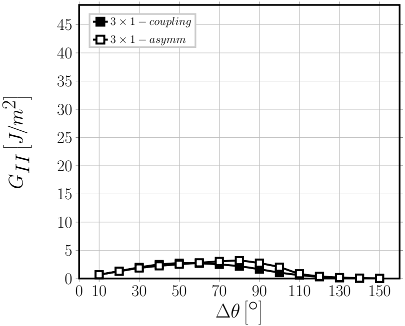
➔ regular mesh of quadrilaterals at the crack tip:

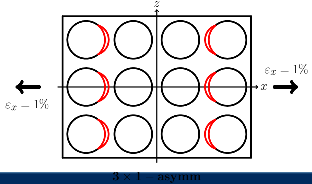
- $AR \sim 1$
- $\delta = 0.05^\circ$

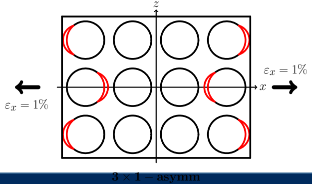
↘ DEBOND ENERGY RELEASE RATE

Strain Magnification









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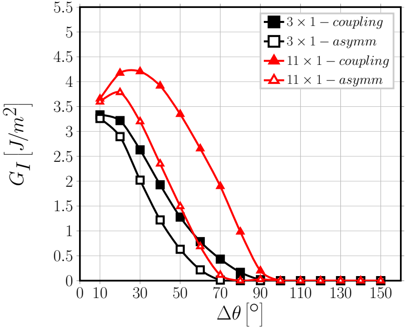

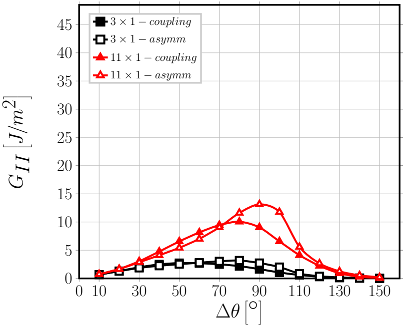

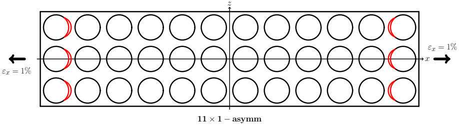

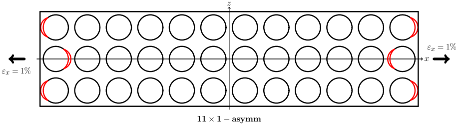

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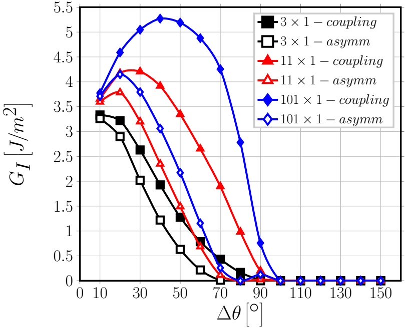

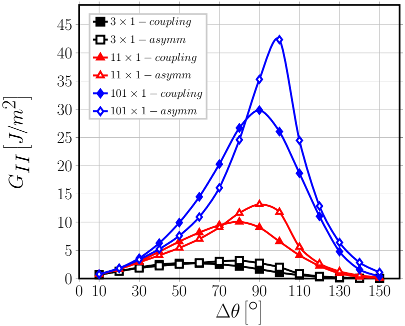

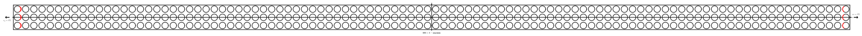

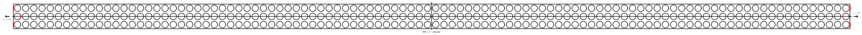

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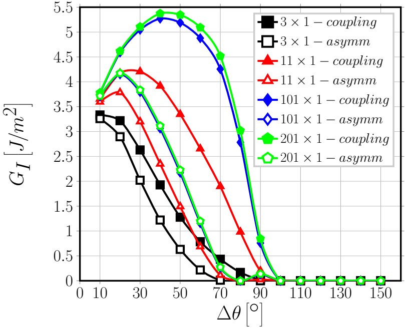
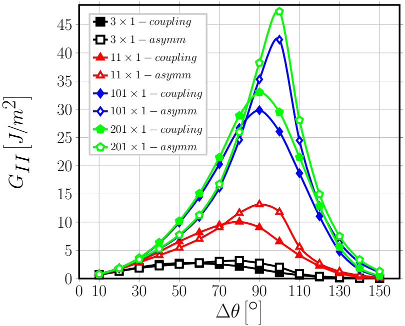
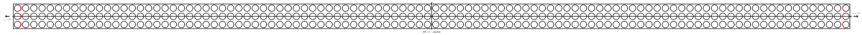
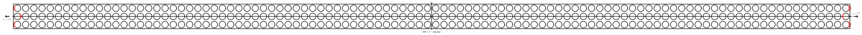
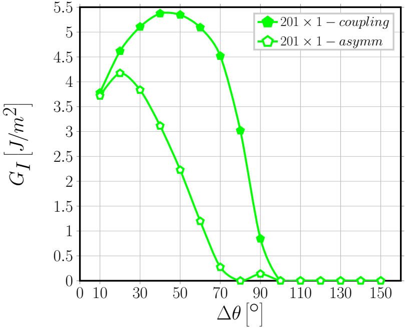


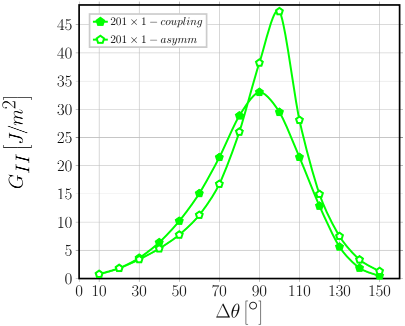


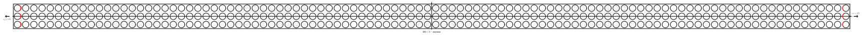


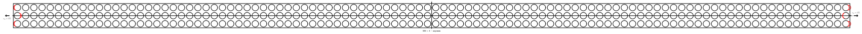


Crack Shielding









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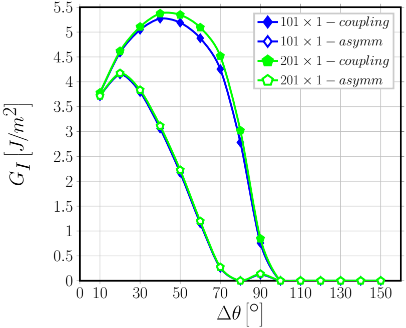

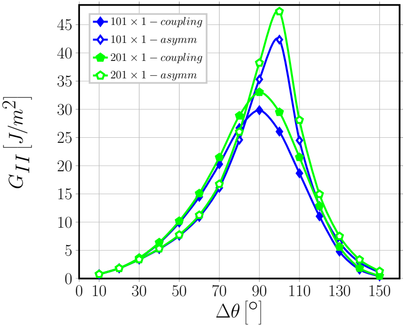

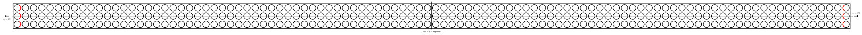

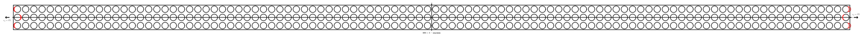

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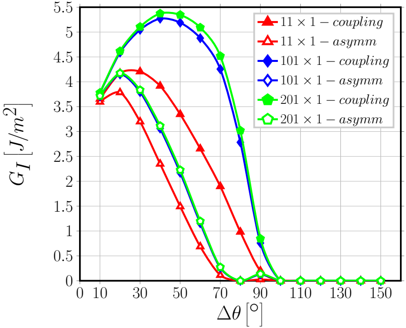

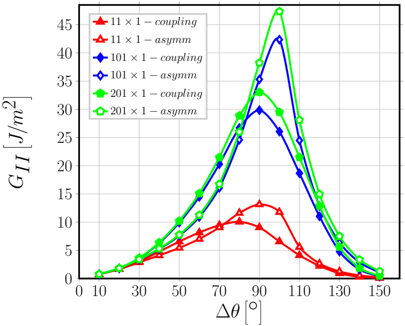

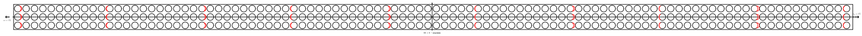

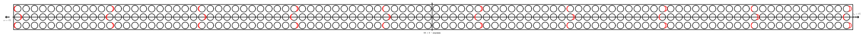

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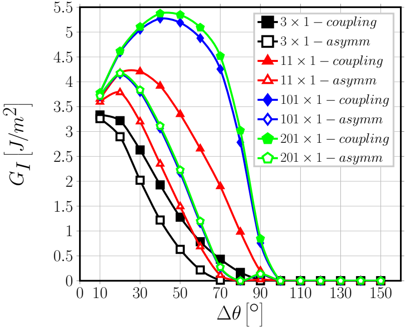
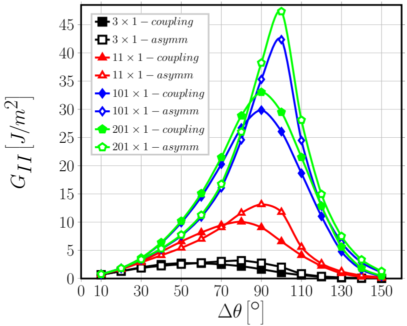
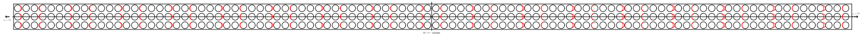
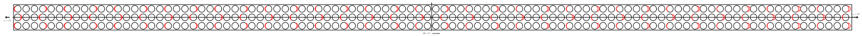
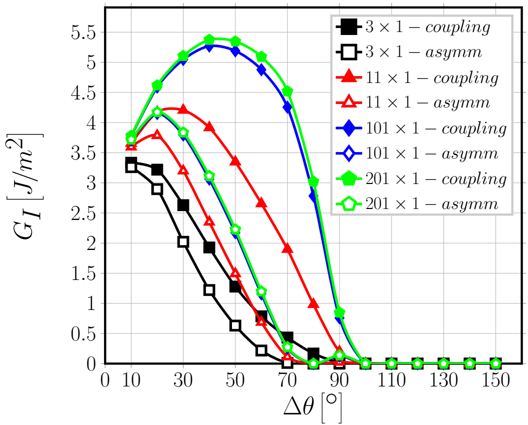


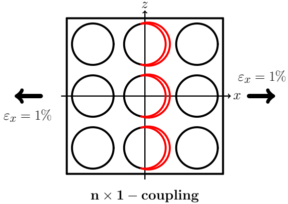


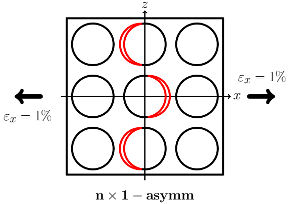




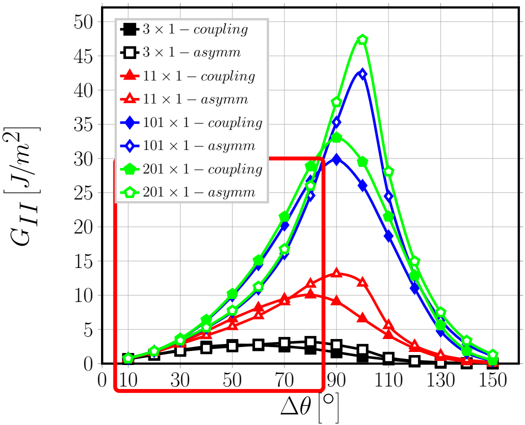
Consecutive Debonds: Mode I

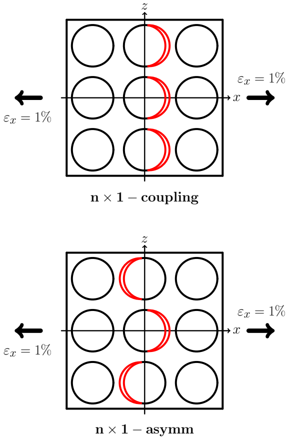




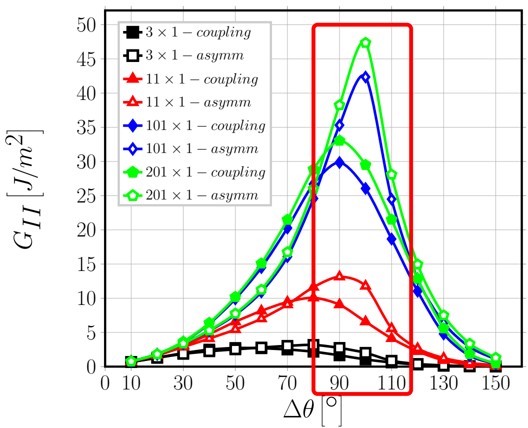


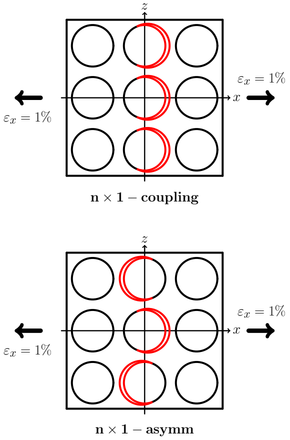
Consecutive Debonds: Mode II



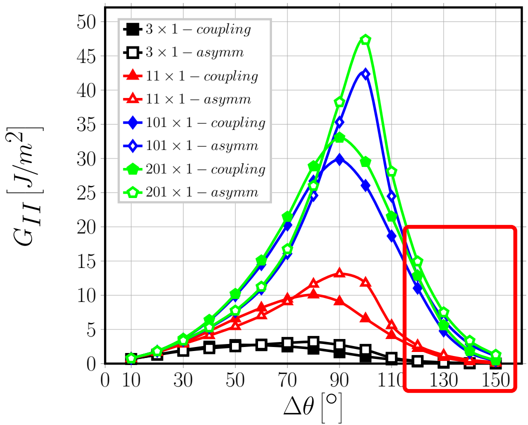


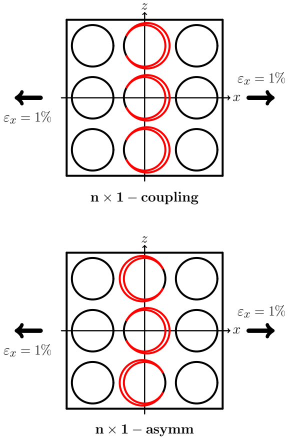
Consecutive Debonds: Mode II



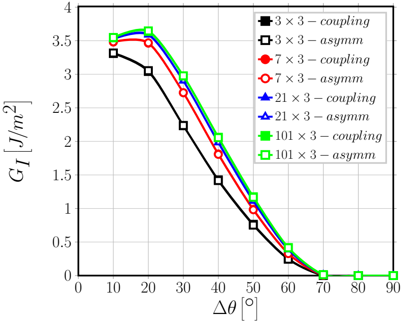


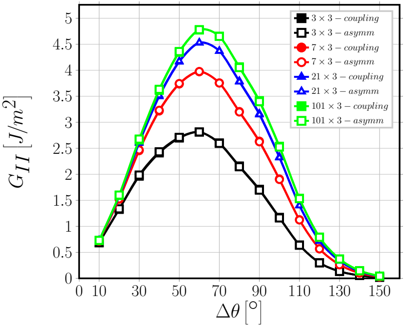
Consecutive Debonds: Mode II

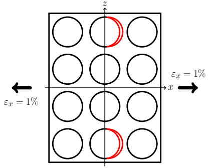




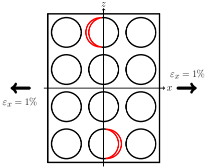
Non-Consecutive Debonds







$3\times3-$coupling



$3\times3-$asymm

Conclusions

Conclusions

- ➔ Debond-debond interaction in the through-the-thickness direction is extremely localized: with only a couple of undamaged fibers in between, no effect can be seen!
- ➔ For debonds on consecutive vertically-aligned fibers, G_I is higher and contact zone onset delayed if debonds are on the same side of their respective fiber.
- ➔ No significant difference in G_{II} observed, except in the range $80^\circ - 100^\circ$.
- ➔ In the range $80^\circ - 100^\circ$, G_{II} is higher when debonds are located on opposite sides of consecutive vertically-aligned fibers.

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