

# GROWTH OF INTERFACE CRACKS ON CONSECUTIVE FIBERS: ON THE SAME OR ON THE OPPOSITE SIDES?

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Education and Culture

Erasmus Mundus

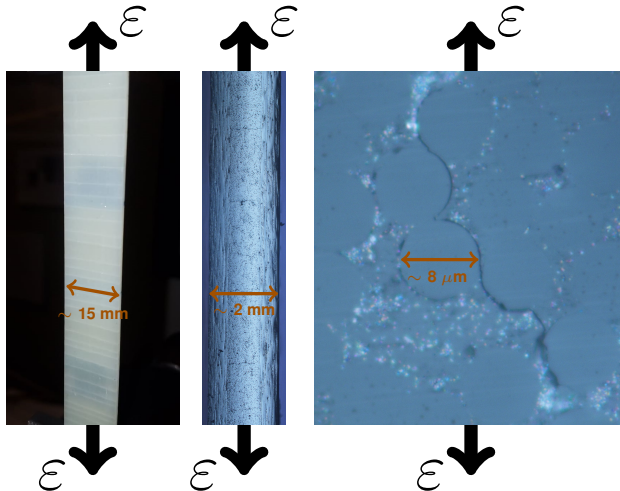


## Outline

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

# INITIATION OF TRANSVERSE CRACKS IN FRPCs

## Microscopic Observations



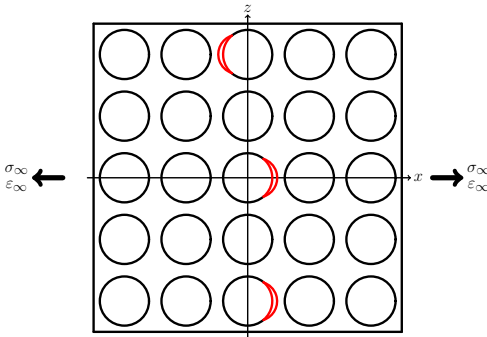
**Left:**  
front view of  $[0, 90_2]_S$ ,  
visual inspection.

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

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

## Micromechanics of Initiation

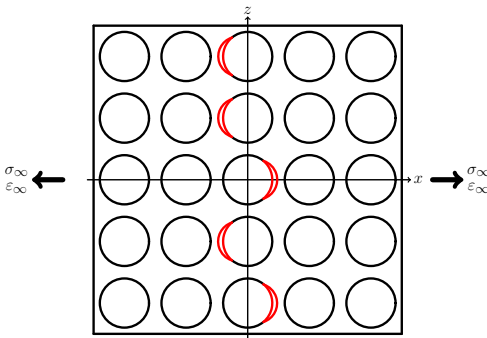
### Stage 1: isolated debonds



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

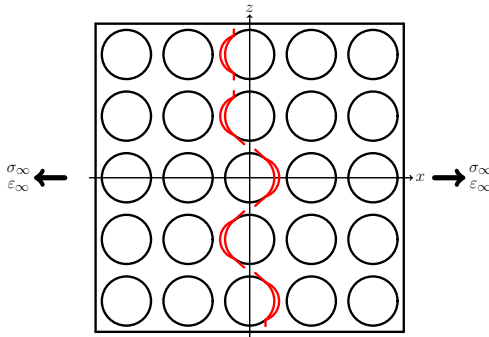
### Stage 2: consecutive debonds



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

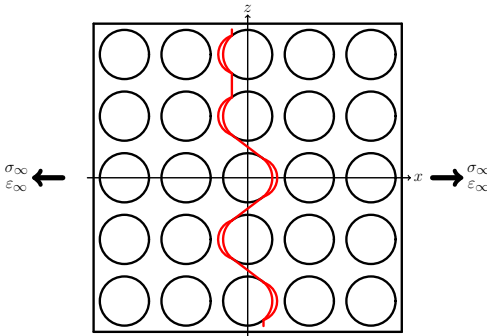
### Stage 3: kinking



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

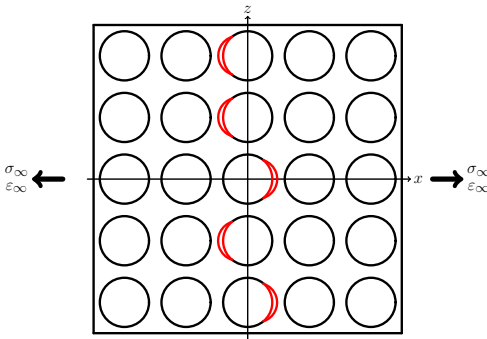


Zhang, H., Ericson, M. L., Varna, J., Berglund, L.A.; 1997. *Transverse single-fibre test for interfacial debonding in composites: 1. Experimental observations. Compos. Part A-Appl. S.* **28** (4) pp. 309–315.



## Objective of the Study

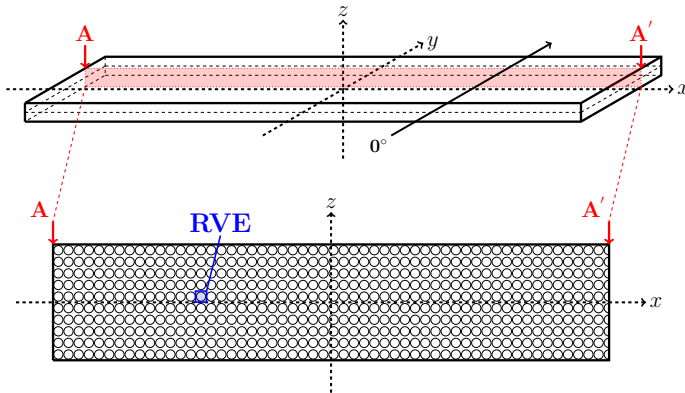
### Stage 2: consecutive debonds



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

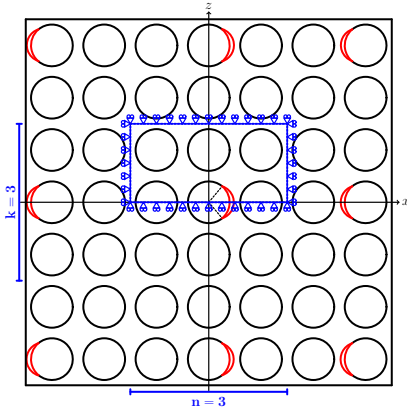
# **MODELING THE FIBER-MATRIX INTERFACE CRACK**

## Geometry

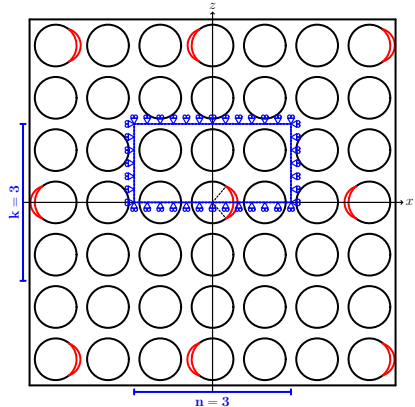


- $L, W \gg t$
- $L, W \rightarrow \infty$
- Square packing
- $L_d \gg \Delta\theta_d$
- 2D RVE

## Representative Volume Elements

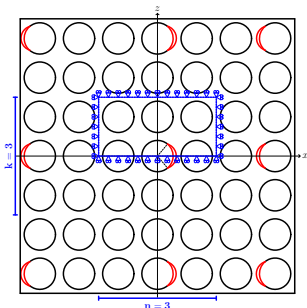


$n \times k - \text{coupling}$



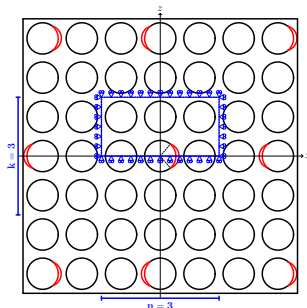
$n \times k - \text{asymm}$

## Equivalent Boundary Conditions



Symmetric Coupling

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

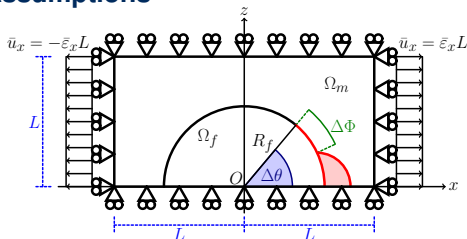


Anti-symmetric Coupling

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

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

## Assumptions



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

Material	E	$\nu$
glass fiber	70.0	0.2
epoxy	3.5	0.4

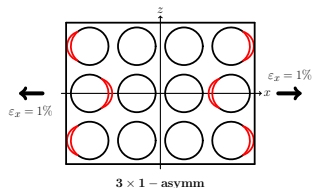
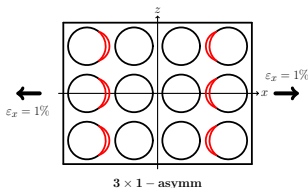
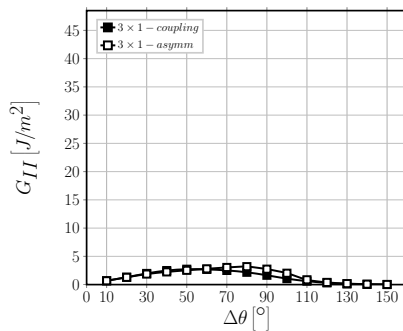
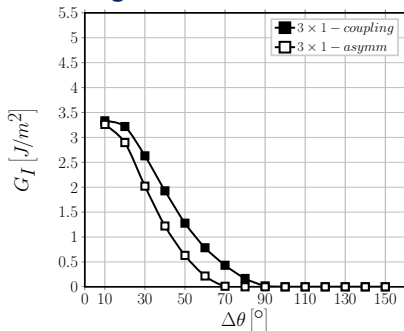
- Linear elastic, homogeneous and isotropic materials
- Plane strain
- Frictionless contact interaction
- Symmetric w.r.t. x-axis
- Coupling of x-displacements on left and right side (repeating unit cell)
- Applied uniaxial tensile strain  $\bar{\epsilon}_x = 1\%$
- $V_f = 60\%$



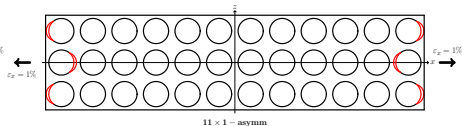
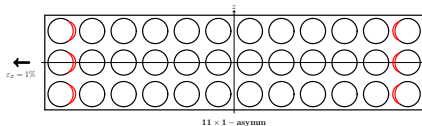
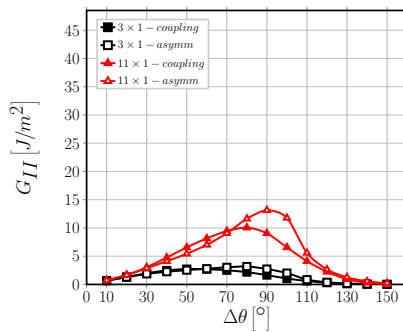
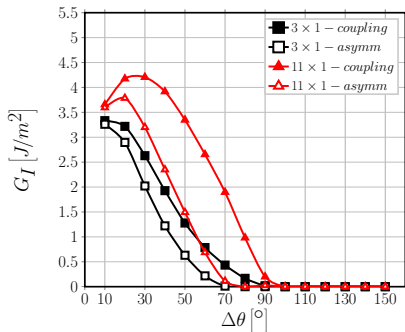
# **DEBOND ENERGY RELEASE RATE**



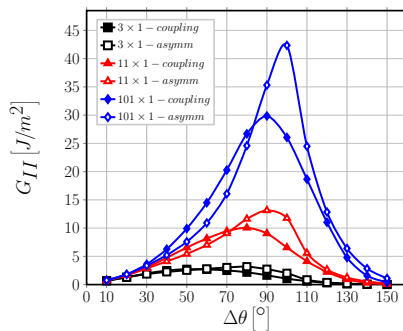
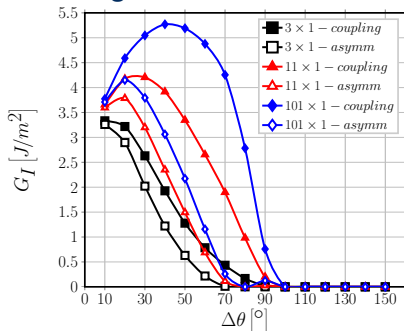
## Strain Magnification



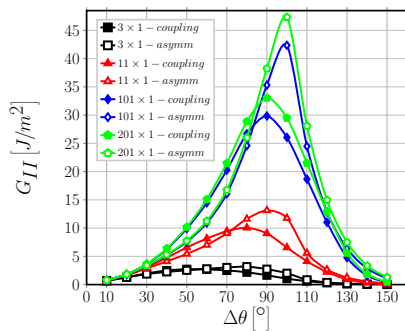
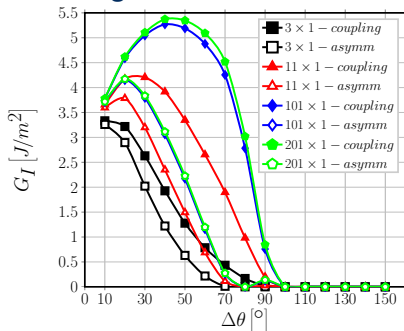
## Strain Magnification



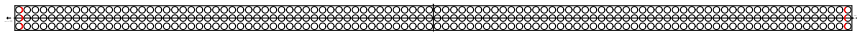
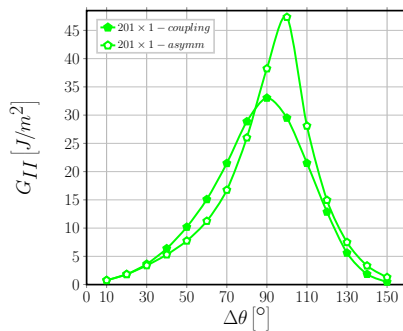
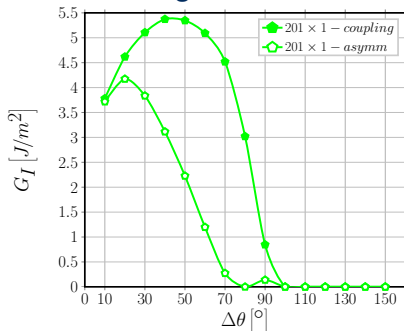
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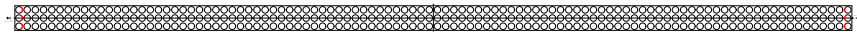
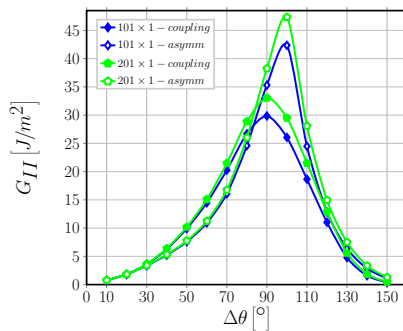
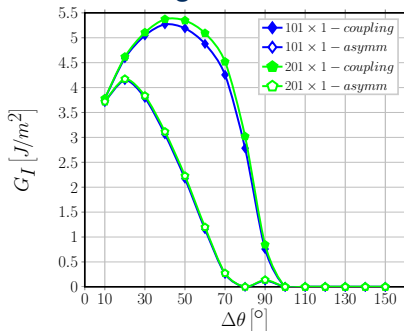
## Strain Magnification



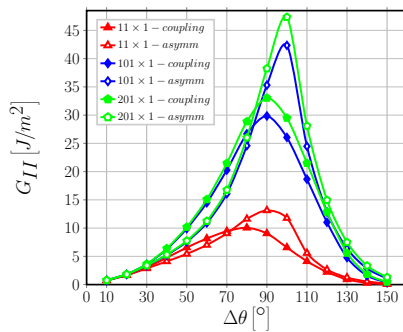
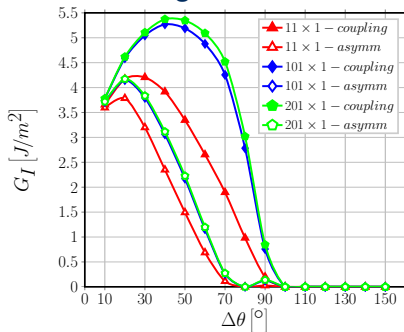
## Crack Shielding



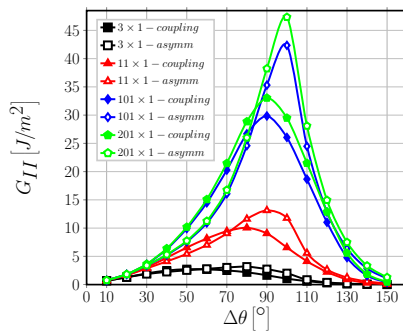
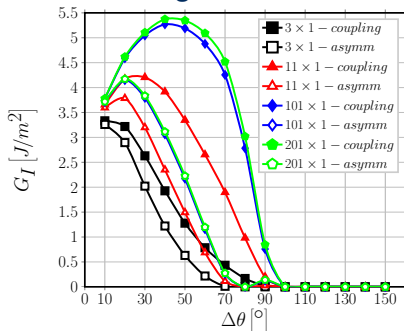
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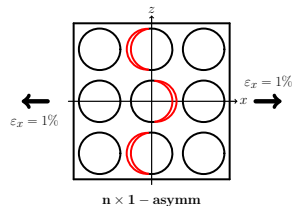
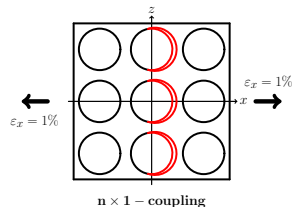
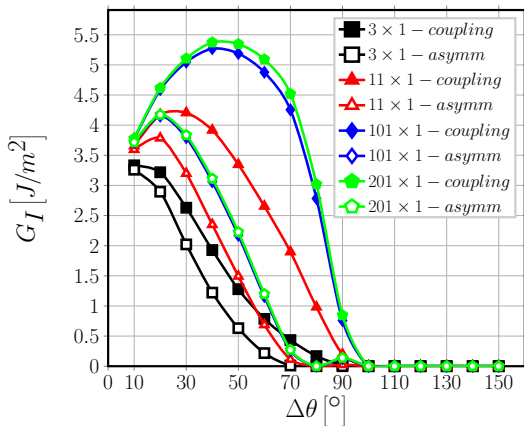


## Crack Shielding

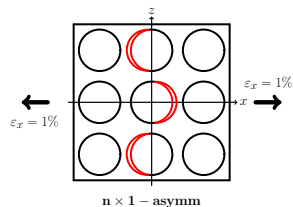
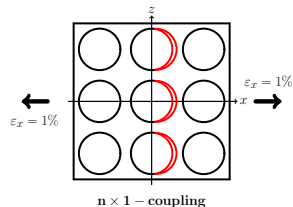
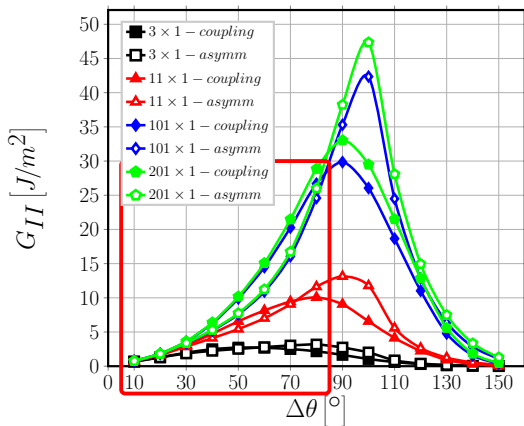




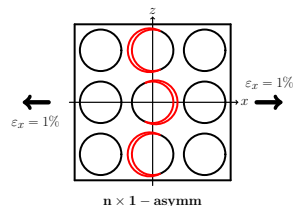
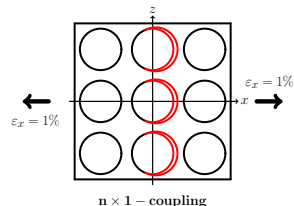
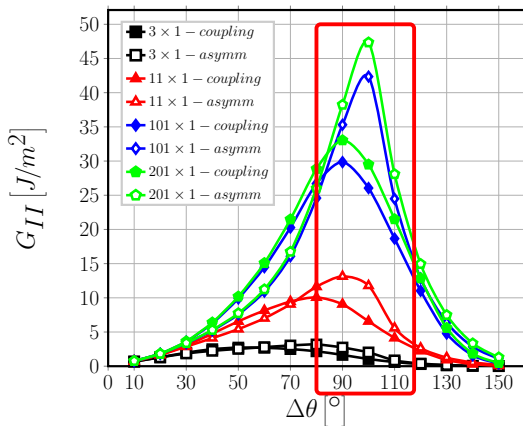
## Consecutive Debonds: Mode I



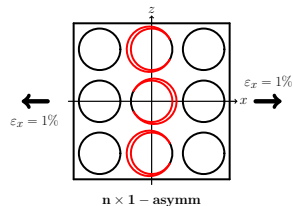
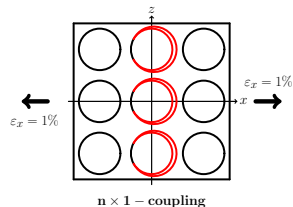
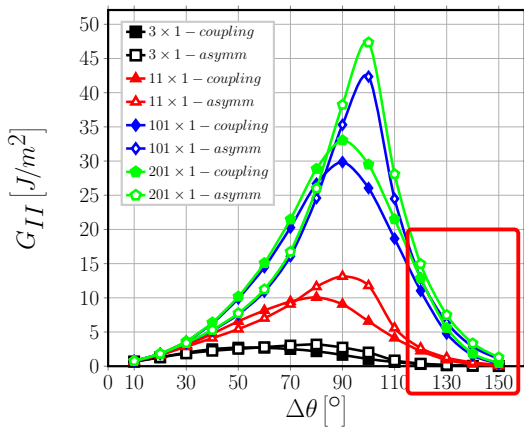
## Consecutive Debonds: Mode II



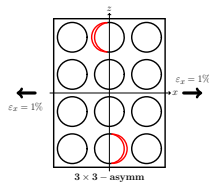
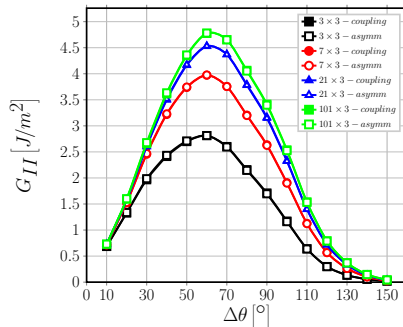
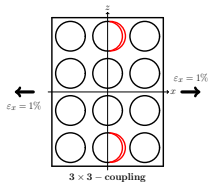
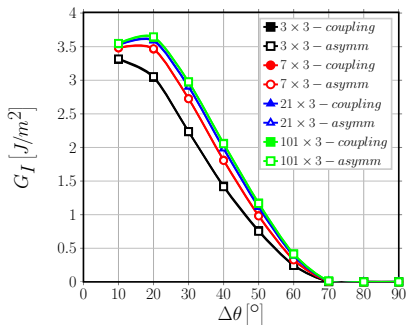
## Consecutive Debonds: Mode II



## Consecutive Debonds: Mode II



## Non-Consecutive Debonds



## 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.

