

23-24 February 2017

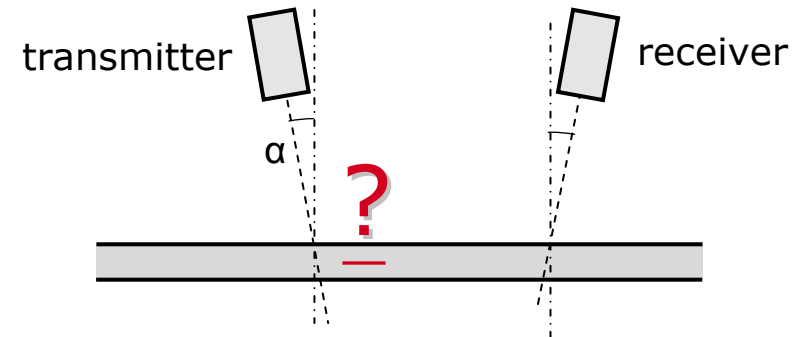
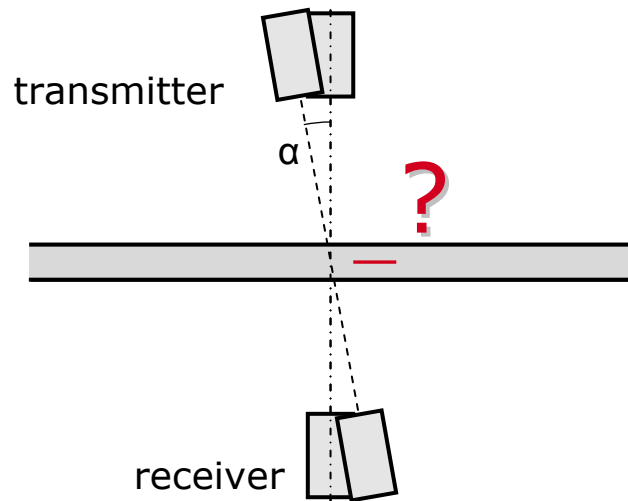
---

# NUMERICAL INVESTIGATIONS FOR AIRBORNE ULTRASONIC INSPECTION OF FIBER-REINFORCED PLASTIC

Mate Gaal, Mathias Diekjakobs, Seyed Mohammad Hossein Hosseini  
Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (BAM), Berlin, Germany

---

# Our motivation: wave propagation in CFRP during air-coupled UT



What happens in the plate?

# Overview



---

Introduction to air-coupled ultrasonic testing

FEM for air-coupled UT on fiber-reinforced plastic

Parameter studies

Summary

---

# Introduction to air-coupled ultrasonic testing (ACUT)

---

## Applications of ACUT



---

### Lightweight materials:

CFRP, GFRP, sandwich structures,  
metal adhesive joints

### Flaws:

delaminations, impact damage,  
pores, ondulation, air pockets,  
missing adhesive



Airbus A350

(Source: reinforcedplastics.com)

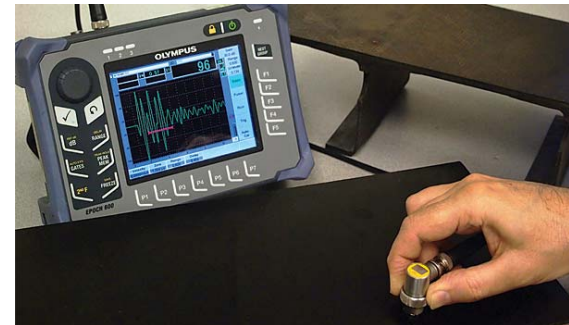
# Benefits of air-coupled versus fluid-coupled UT



---

## Fluid-coupled UT:

- Better impedance match, higher signals



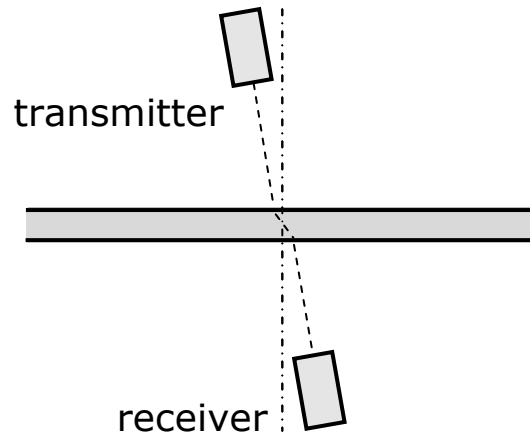
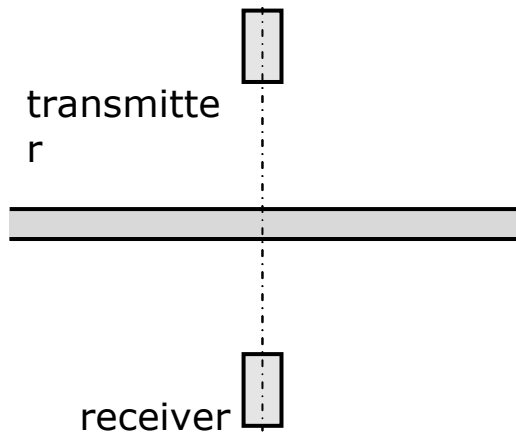
## Air-coupled UT:

- Couplant cannot damage the object
- Easier maintenance
- Uniform coupling



# Common misconceptions

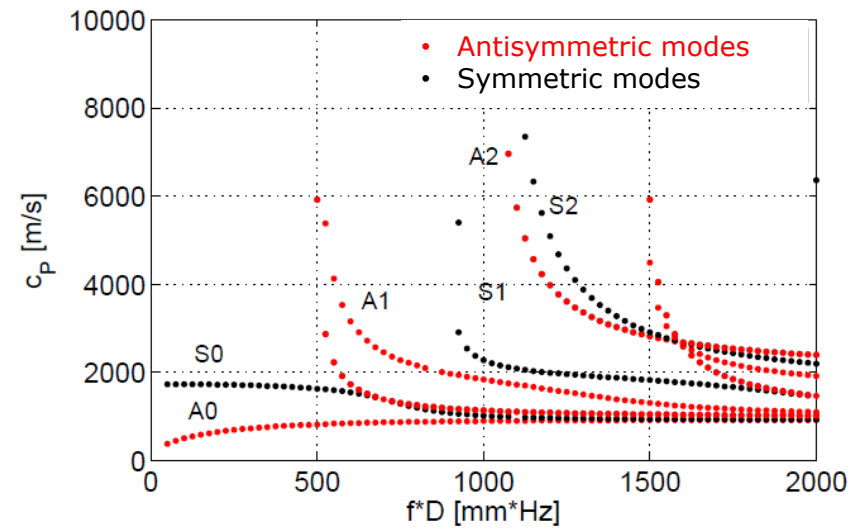
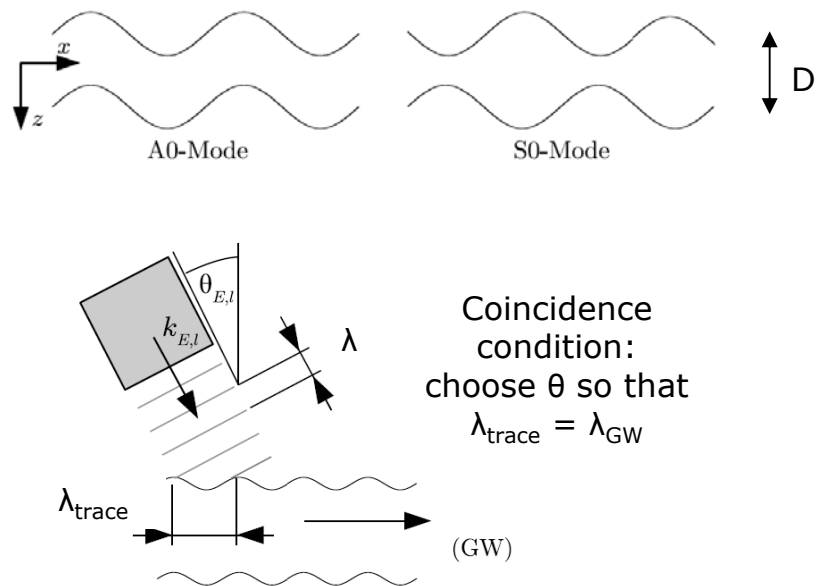
Through transmission: ~~Longitudinal waves~~      Slanted mode transmission: ~~Shear waves~~



Typical ACUT frequency:  
250 kHz

Bulk waves in epoxy resin:  
 $\lambda_{\text{Long}} = 12 \text{ mm}$

# Excitation of guided waves



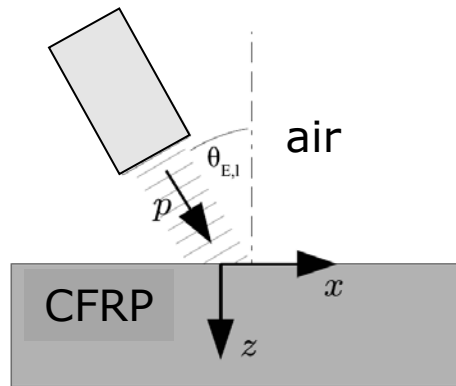


---

## FEM for air-coupled UT on fiber-reinforced plastic

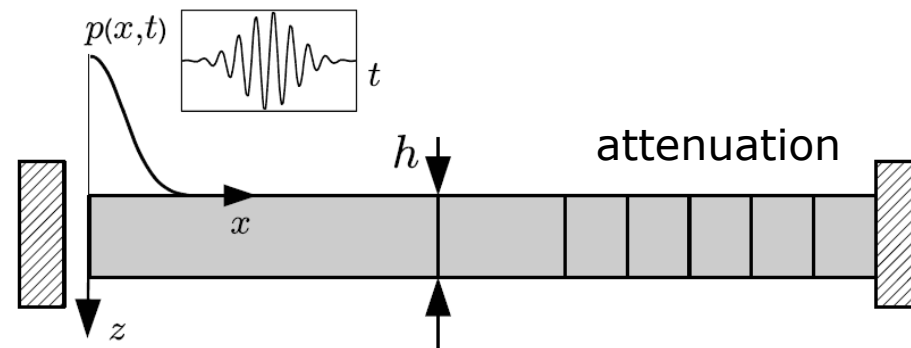
---

## Model for the FEM



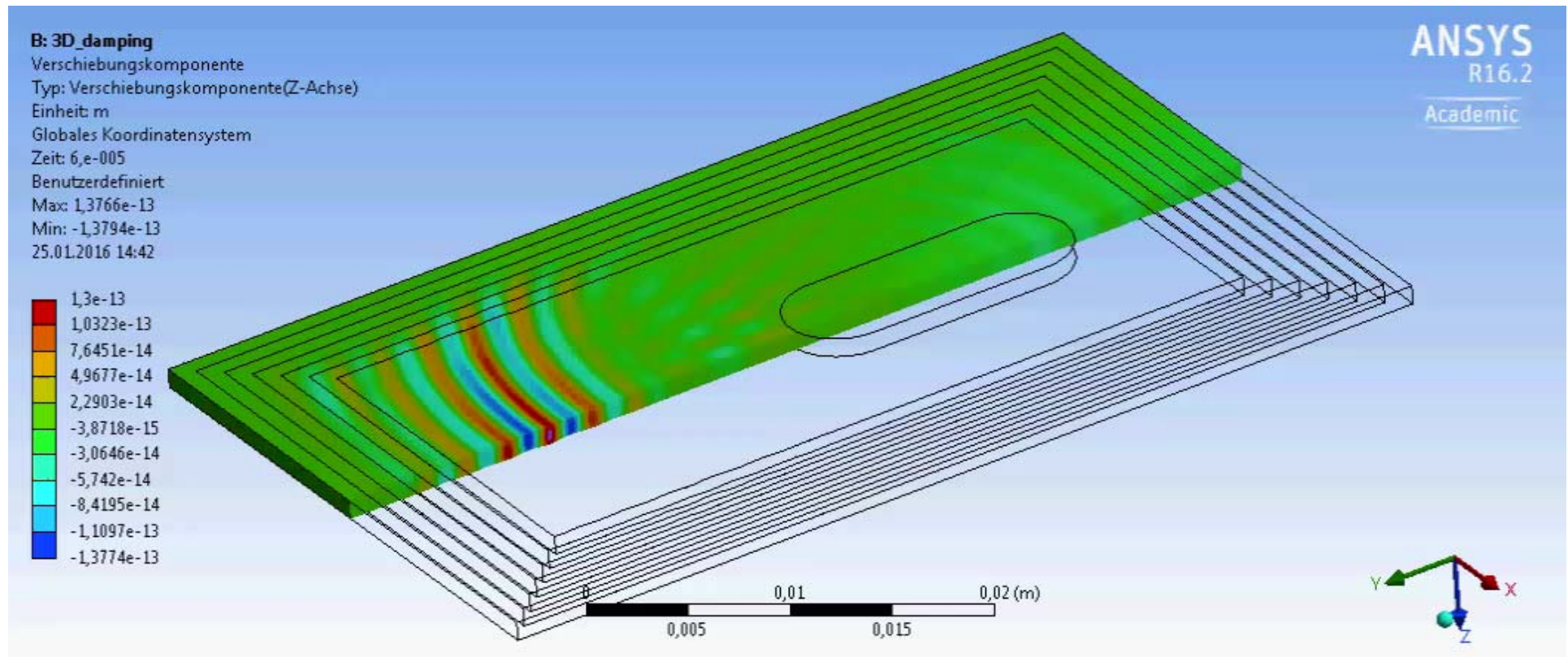
- Cross-ply laminates
- Thickness 4 to 5 mm
- Frequency  $\approx 250$  kHz

### Boundary conditions (for $\theta=0$ )

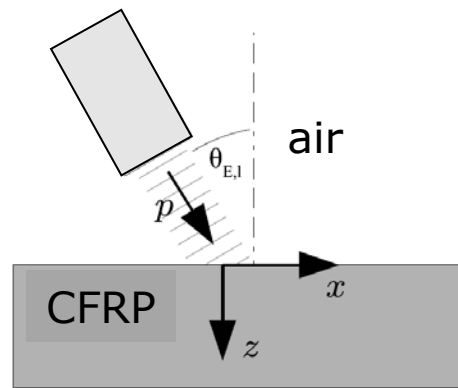


- ANSYS
- Classical laminate theory

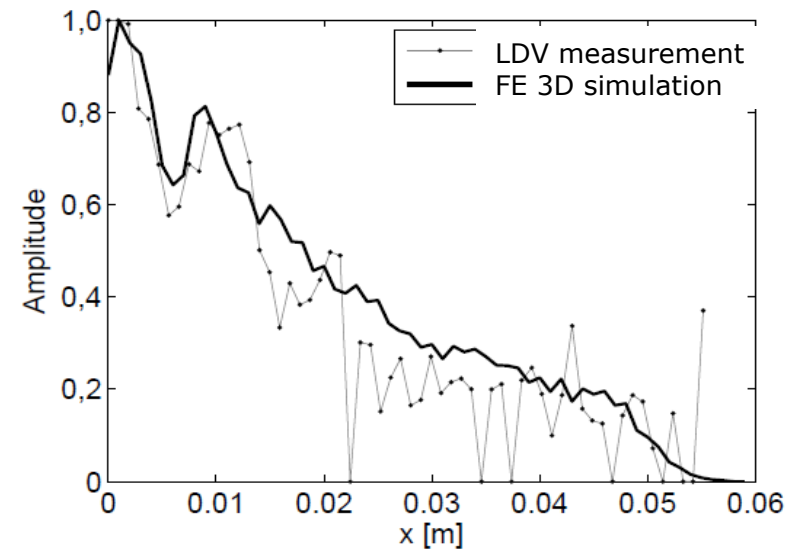
# Video



# Validation using laser Doppler vibrometry

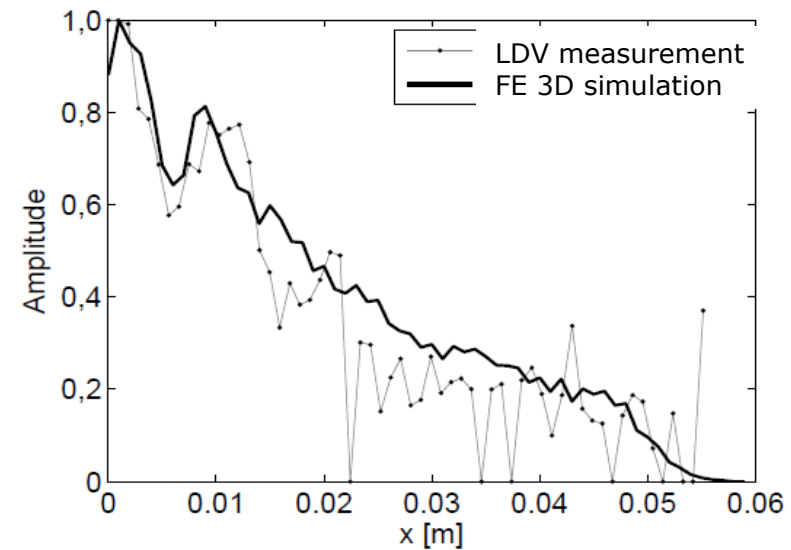
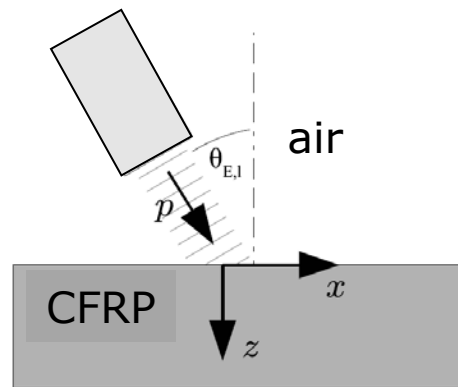


LDV



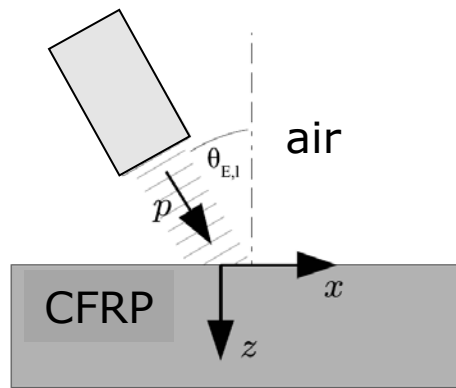
Laser Doppler vibrometer measures the displacement at the lower side

# Validation using laser Doppler vibrometry

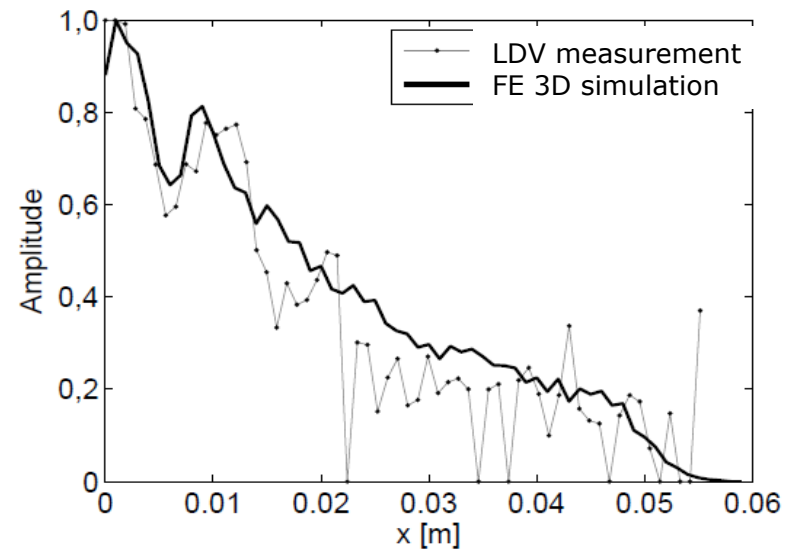


Laser Doppler vibrometer measures the displacement at the lower side

# Validation using laser Doppler vibrometry

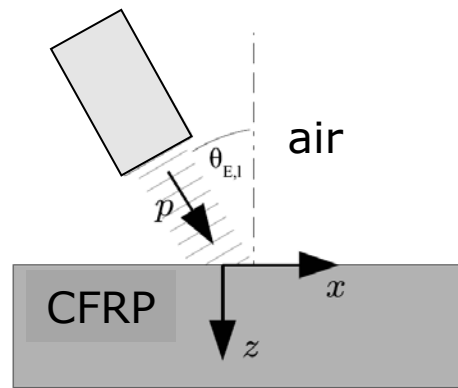


LDV

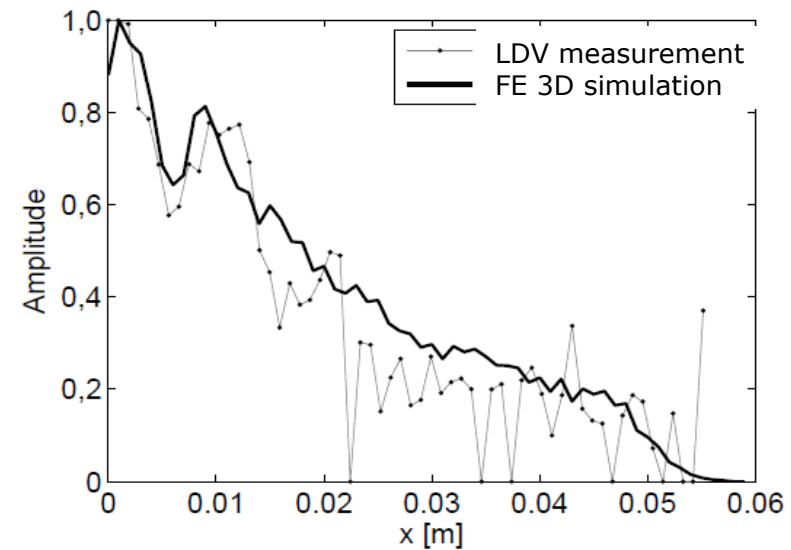


Laser Doppler vibrometer measures the displacement at the lower side

# Validation using laser Doppler vibrometry



LDV

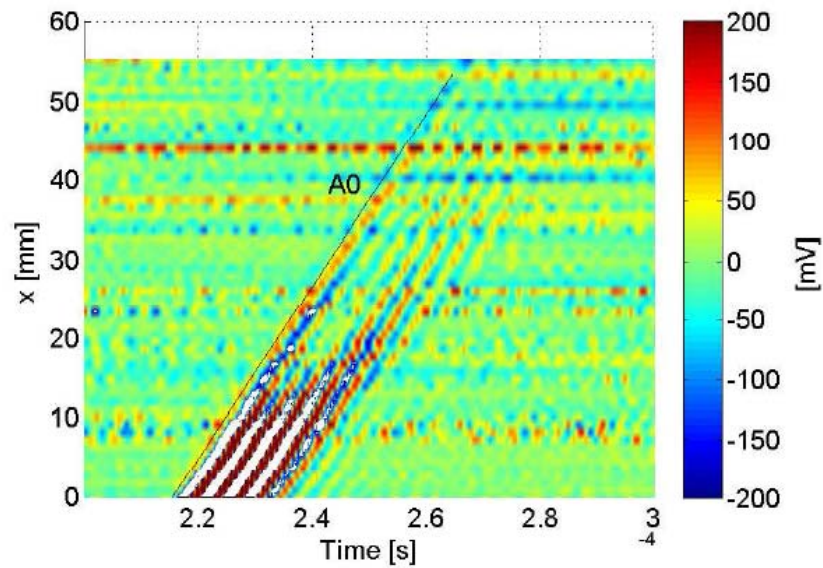


Laser Doppler vibrometer measures the displacement at the lower side

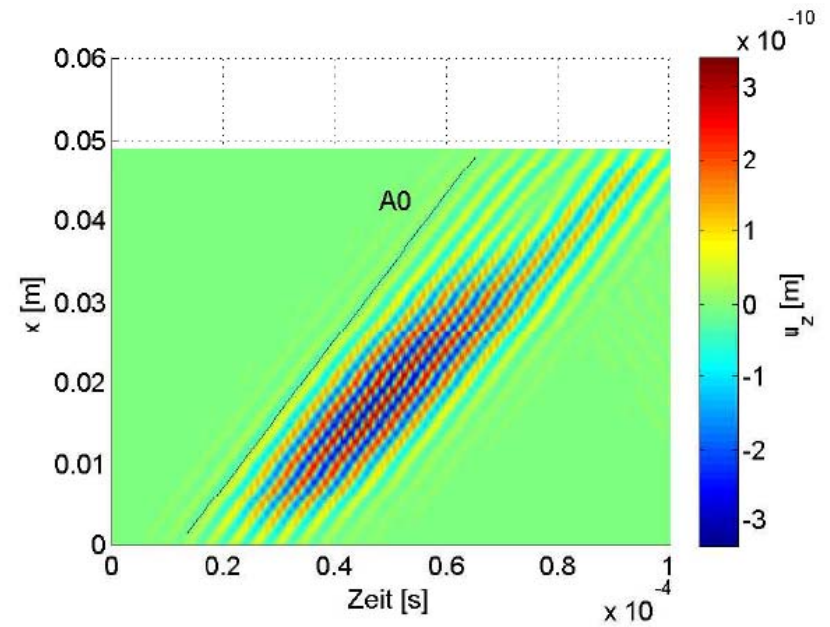
# Validation on isotropic epoxy resin



LDV „B-Scan“



2D FEM





---

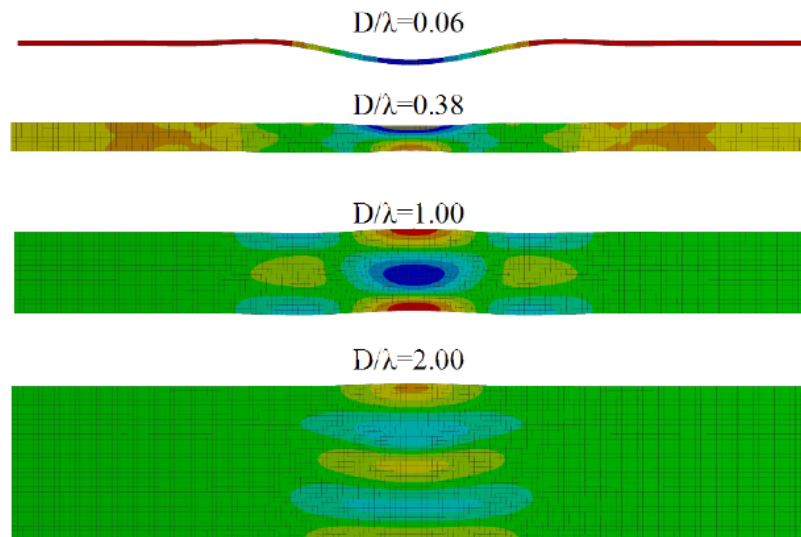
## Parameter studies

---

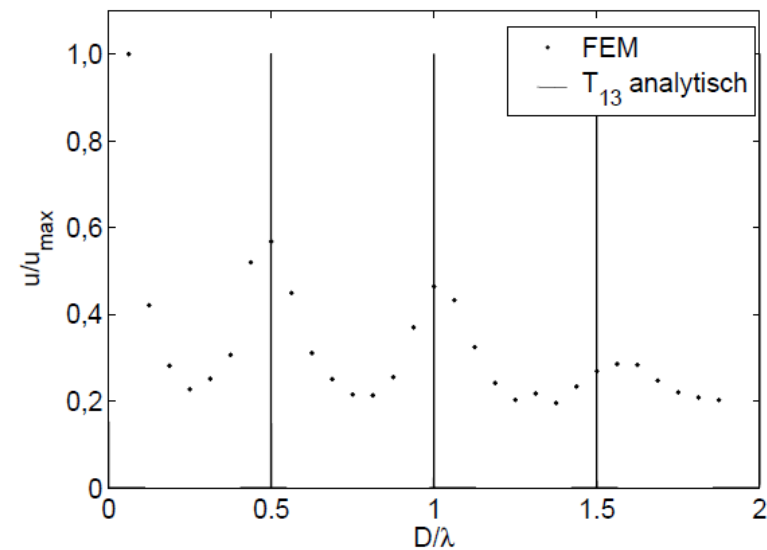
# Through transmission on isotropic epoxy resin



## Varied thickness (2D FEM)



## Displacement at the lower side

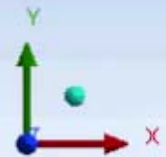
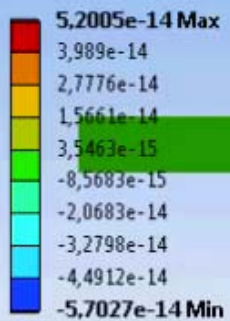


# Through transmission of aluminium plate



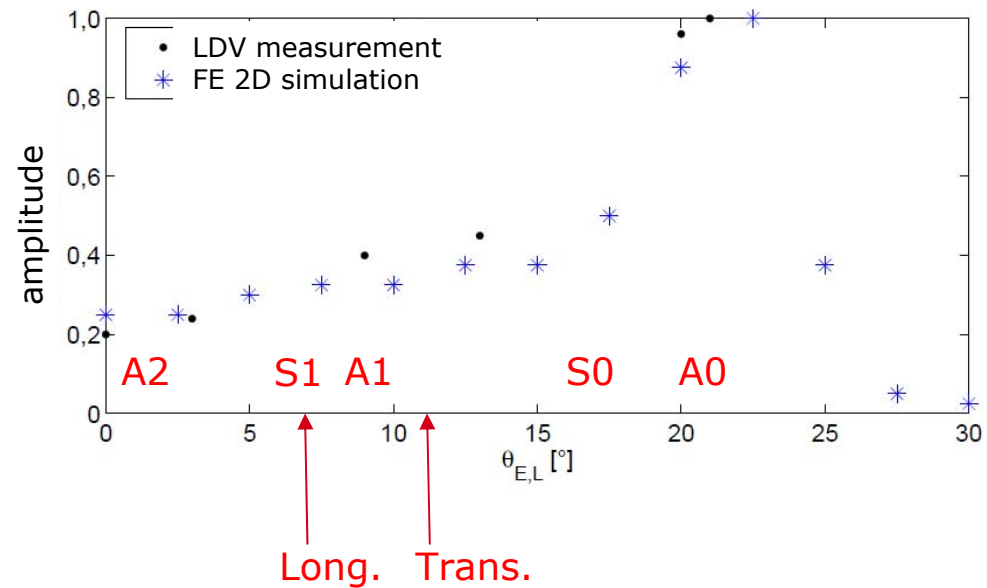
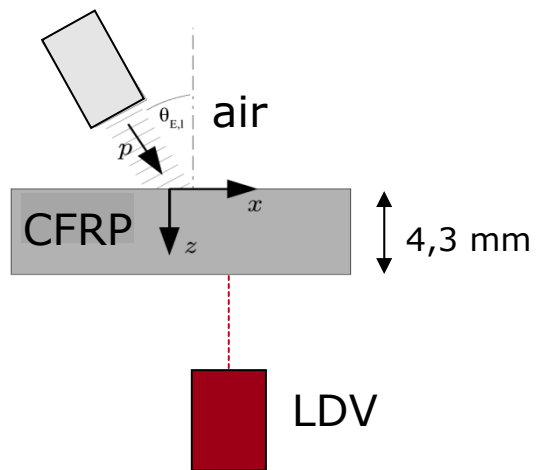
ANSYS  
R16.2  
Academic

**A: plate**  
Verschiebungskomponente  
Typ: Verschiebungskomponente(Y-Achse)  
Einheit: m  
Globales Koordinatensystem  
Zeit: 2,5e-005  
28.01.2016 09:43

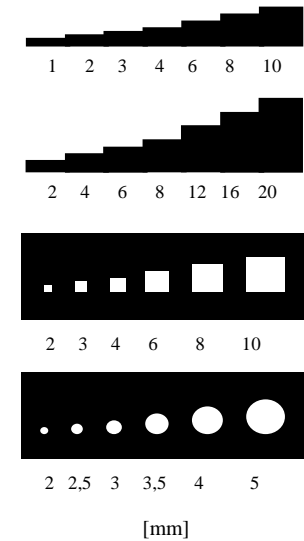
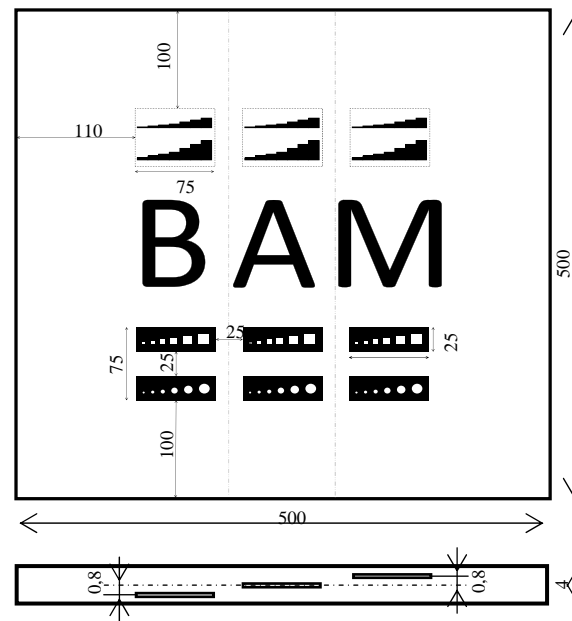
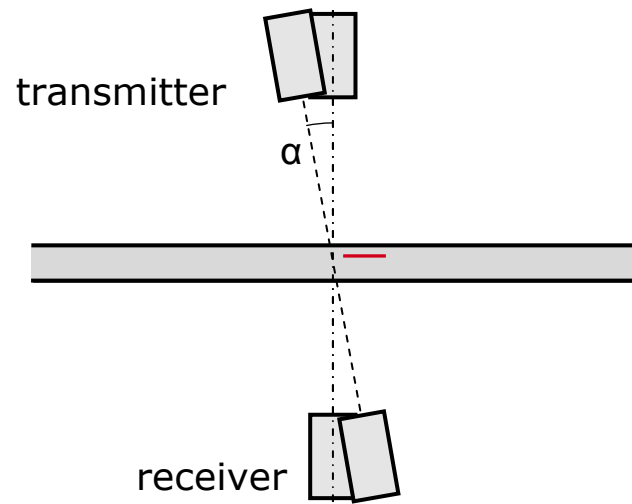


# Through transmission on epoxy resin using planar 240kHz transducer

Varied angle of incidence

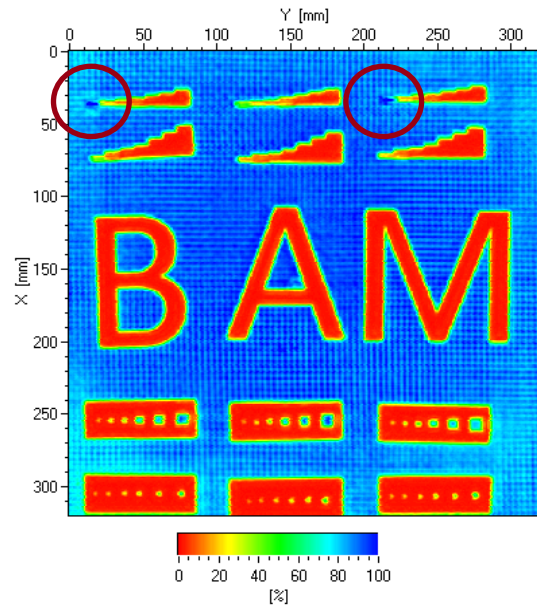


# Case study: Signal increase at some delaminations

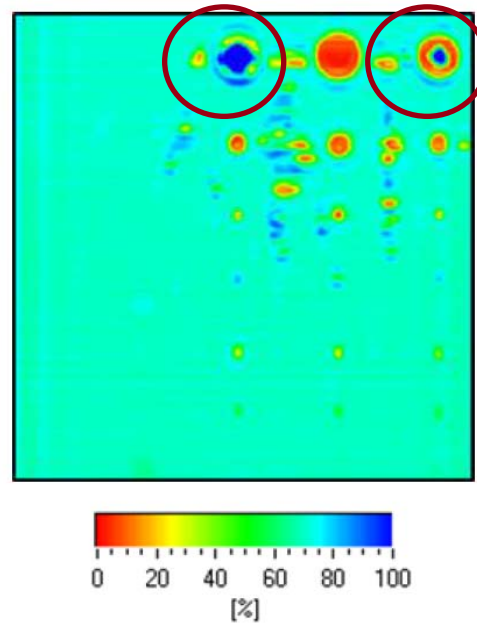


# Case study: Signal increase at some delaminations

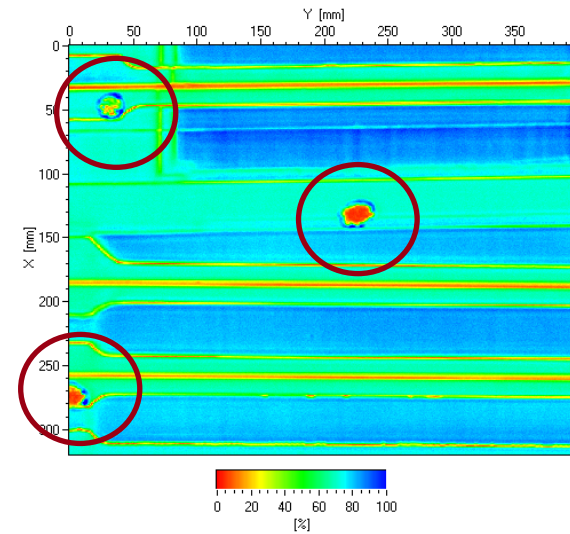
Inserts



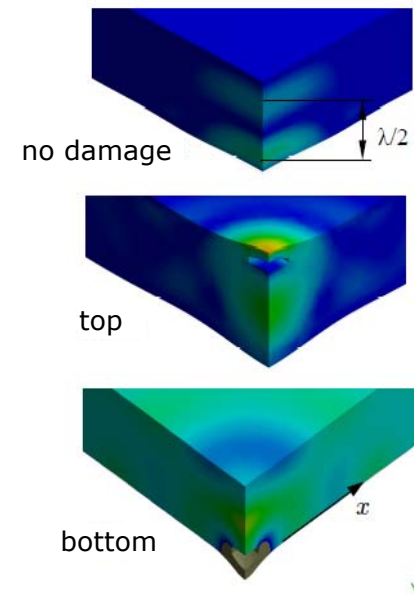
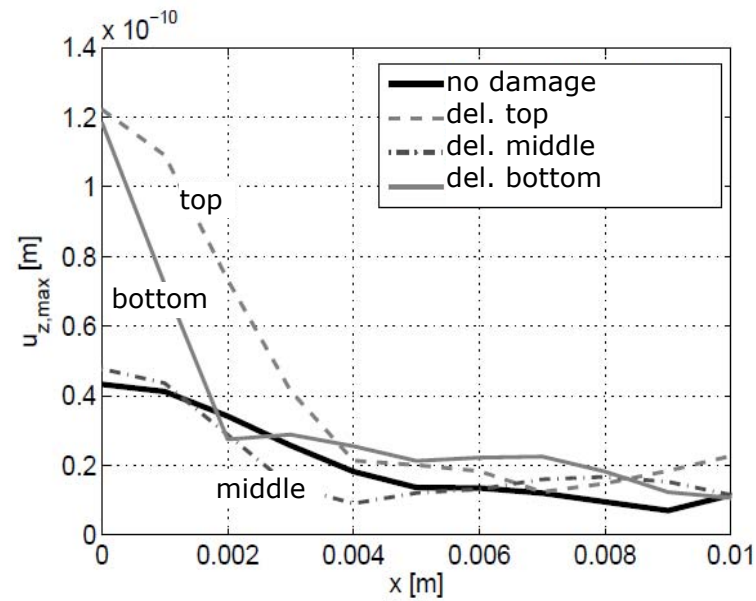
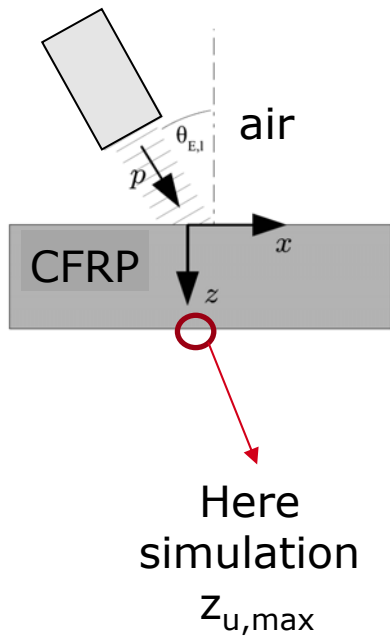
Inserts



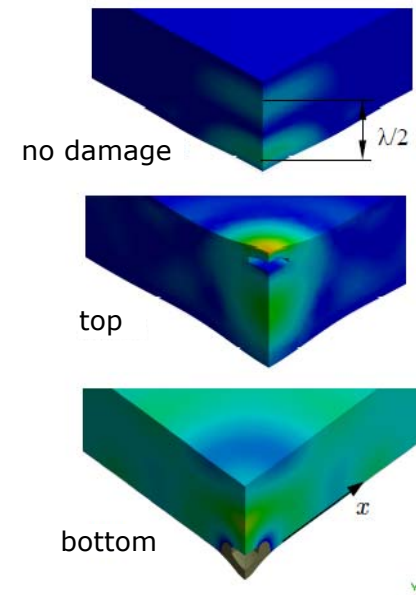
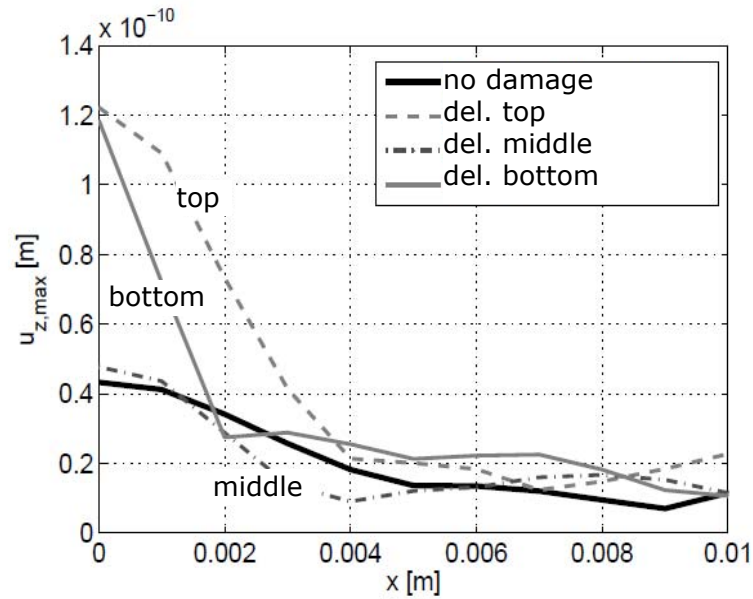
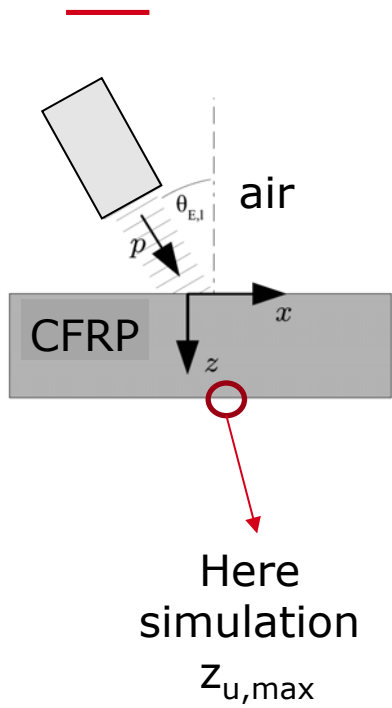
Impact damage



# Case study: Signal increase at some delaminations

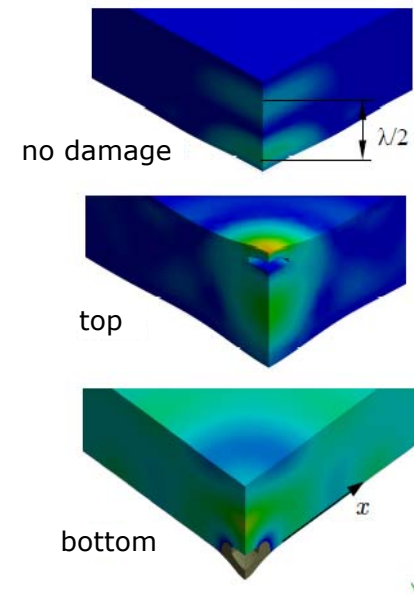
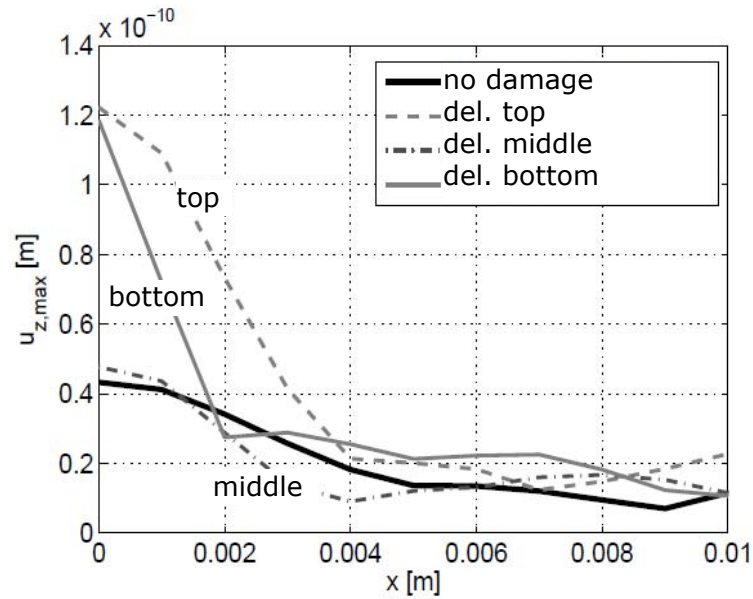
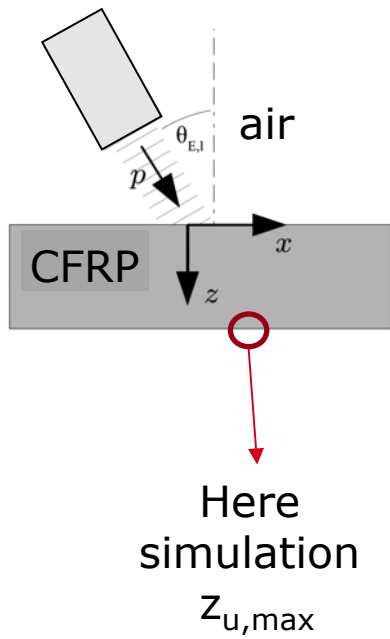


# Case study: Signal increase at some delaminations

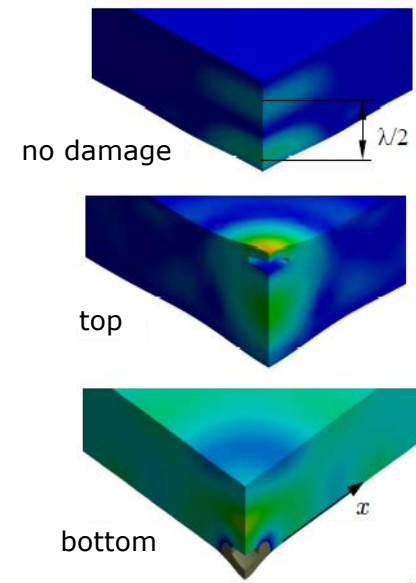
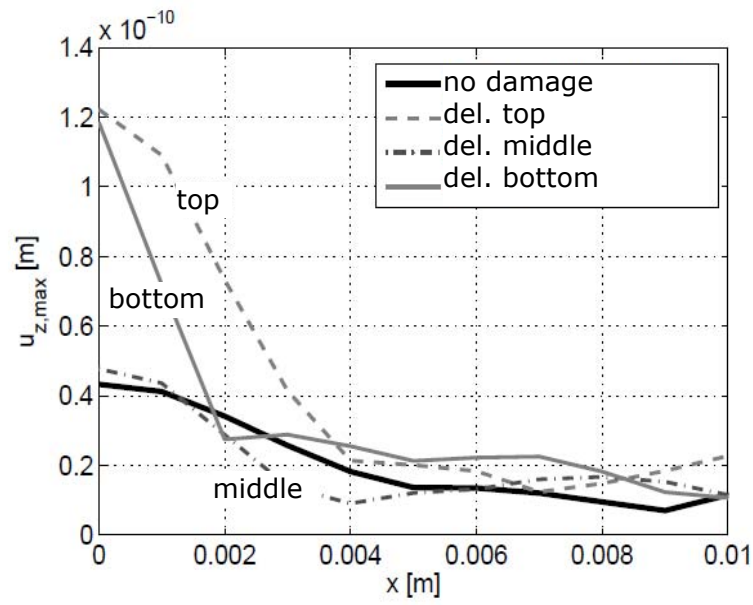
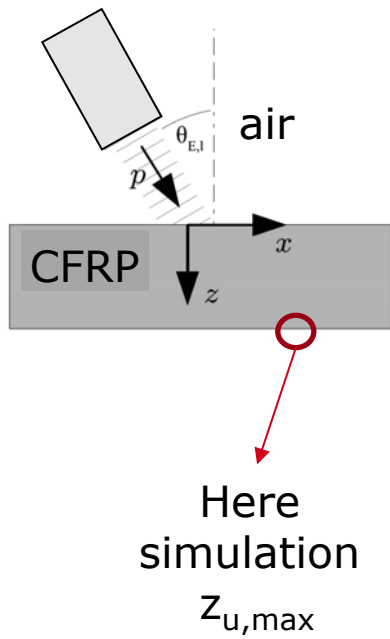




# Case study: Signal increase at some delaminations



# Case study: Signal increase at some delaminations



---

## Summary and outlook

---

# Summary



---

## FEM tool

- Air-coupled excitation
- Guided waves
- Fiber-reinforced plastic

## Results

- Validated on interaction with delaminations
- Air-coupled through transmission of plates  
allways involves guided waves
- Signal increases on delamination edges

---

**Thank you for your attention!**

---

# Main challenge of ACUT

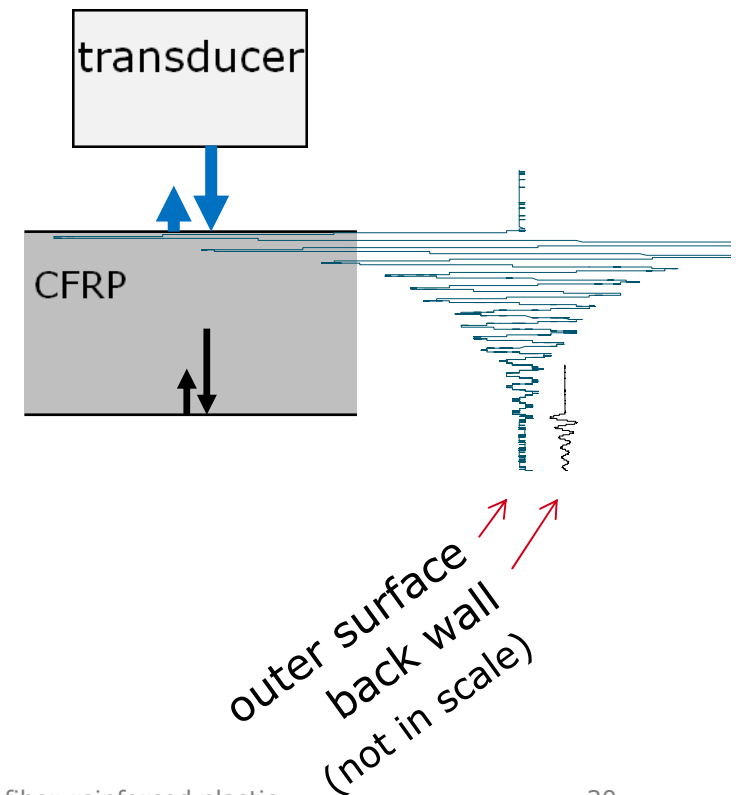


## Impedance mismatch

- specific acoustic impedance of some materials:
  - air  $4.1 \times 10^2 \text{ Ns/m}^3$
  - CFRP  $4.5 \times 10^6 \text{ Ns/m}^3$

## Pulse-echo practically impossible, very long dead zone

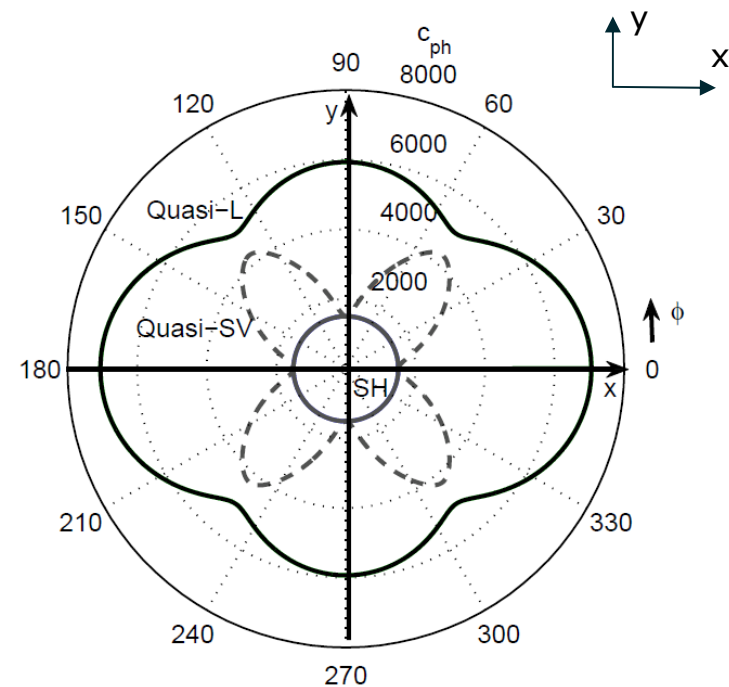
- freq. 250 kHz  $\rightarrow \lambda = 12 \text{ mm}$



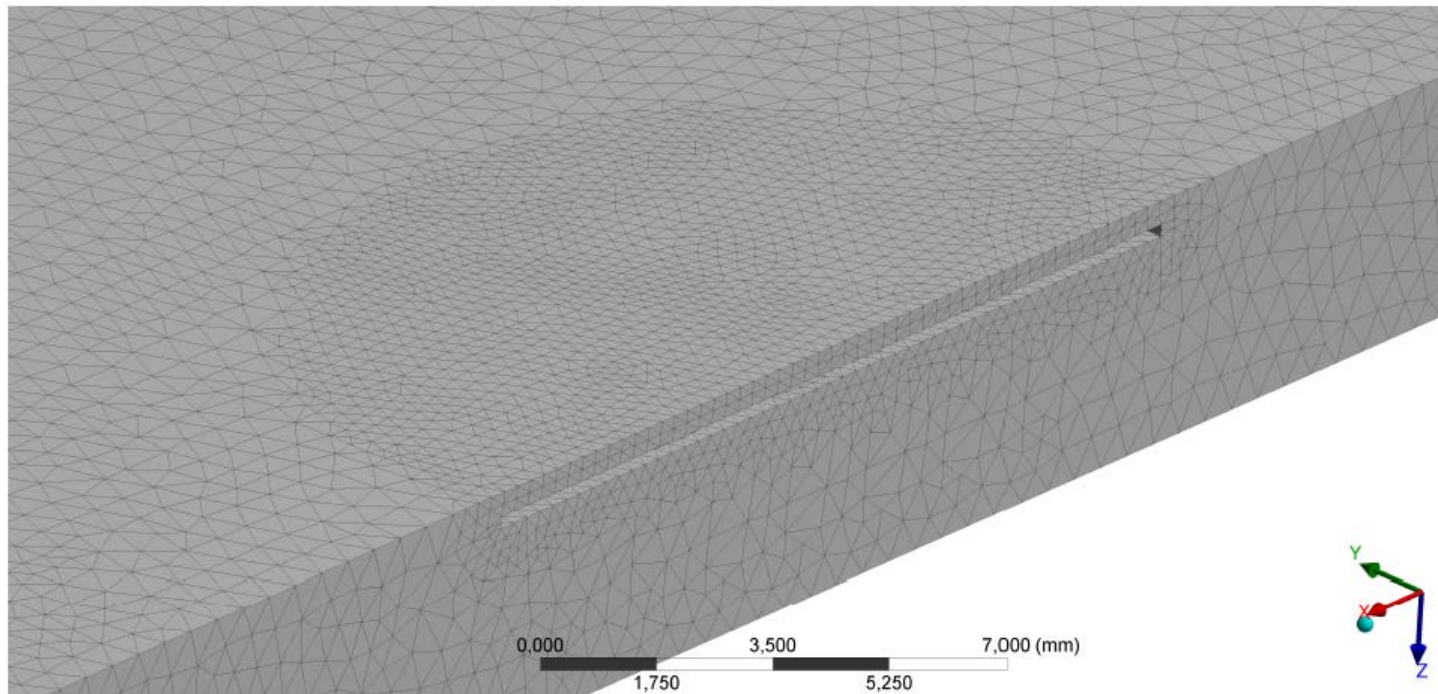
# Anisotropy of CFRP with cross-ply laminates

Phase velocities of various GW modes for  $[0,90]_5s$

- Quasi-L (quasi-longitudinal): S0
- Quasi-SV (quasi-shear vertical): A0
- Quasi-SH (quasi-shear horizontal)

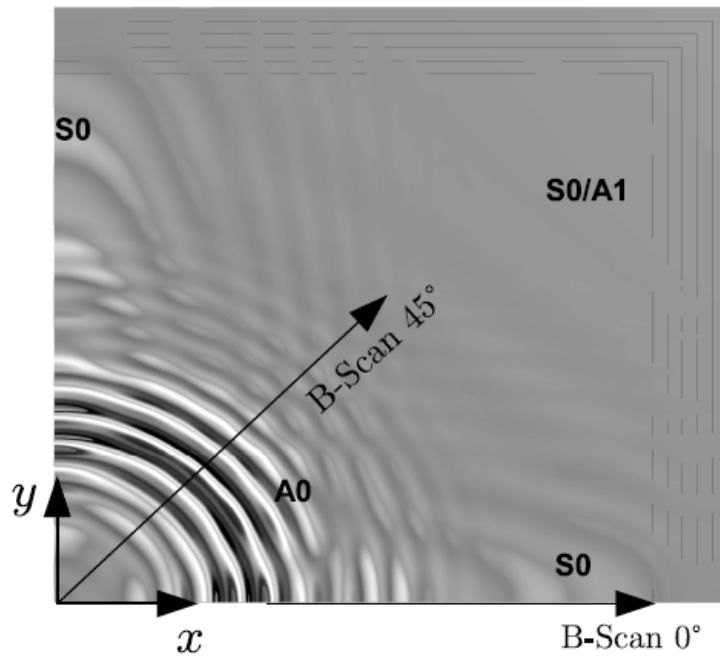


# Mash





# Through transmission of cross-ply CFRP

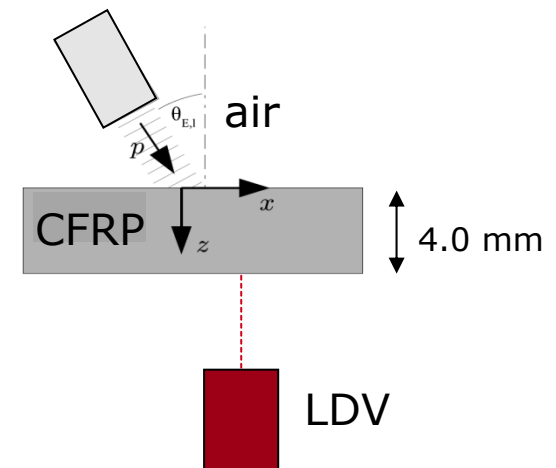
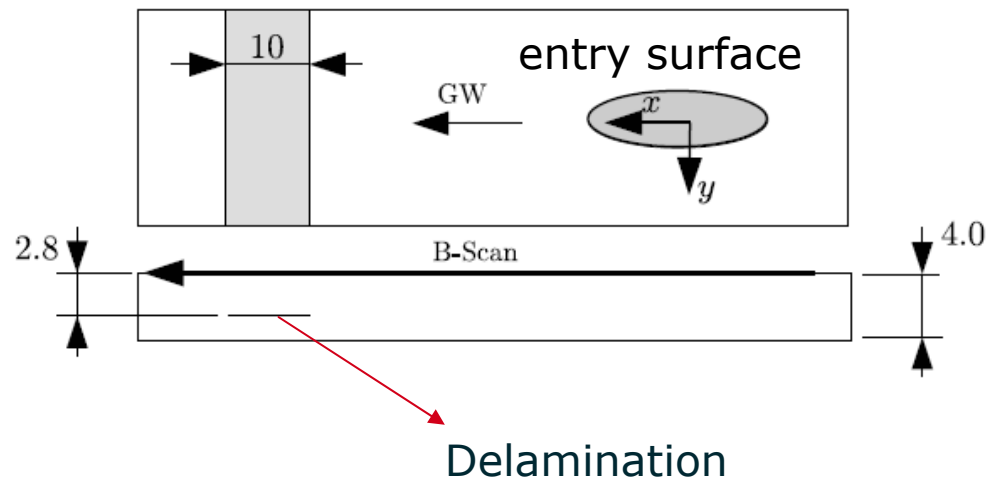


Normal incidence with 270kHz planar transducer

Cross-ply CFRP  $[0^\circ, 90^\circ]_5s$  with thickness ??? mm

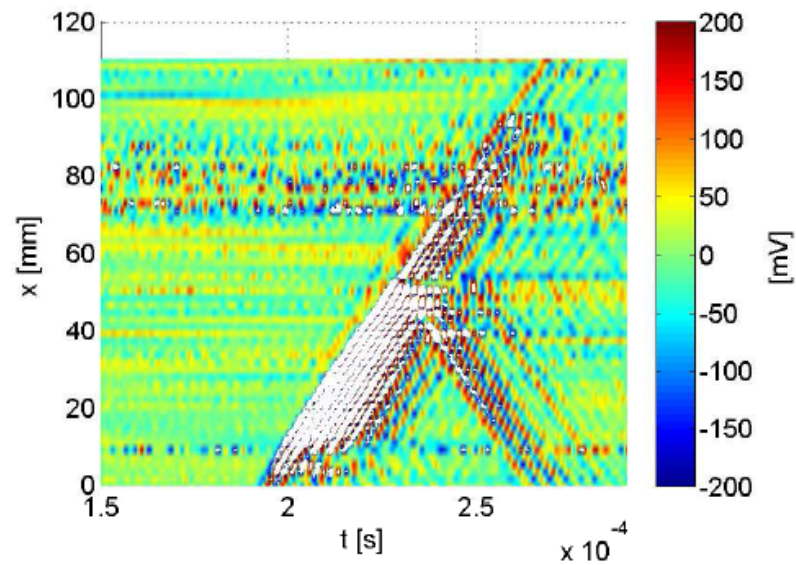
3D FEM, snap-shot of the lower side

# Pitch-catch of cross-ply CFRP



# Through transmission of cross-ply CFRP

Measurement with LDV



Simulation (3D FEM)

