

## *The Mechanical Behavior of SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC Composites*

Fibers↔matrix interactions:

*non-linear elastic behavior due to damage mechanisms*  
(matrix micro-cracking and matrix-fibers decohesion)

*Two main damage (micro-fissuring) modes exist in CMCs:*

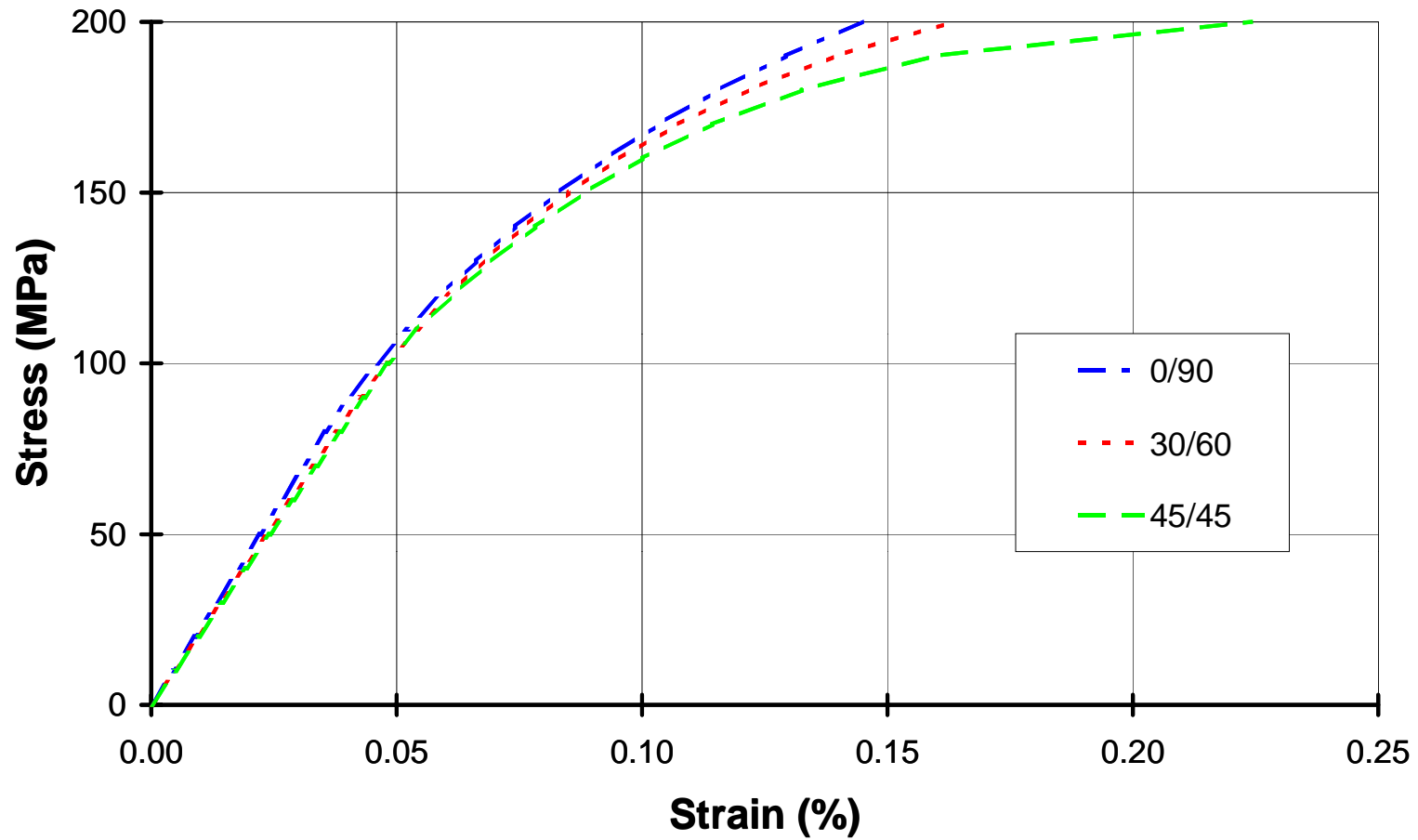
- microcracks whose directions are **related to the fibers' directions** (the axes of initial anisotropy of the material)
- microcracks whose directions are **related to the loading directions**

# Damage Models for Ceramic Matrix Composites

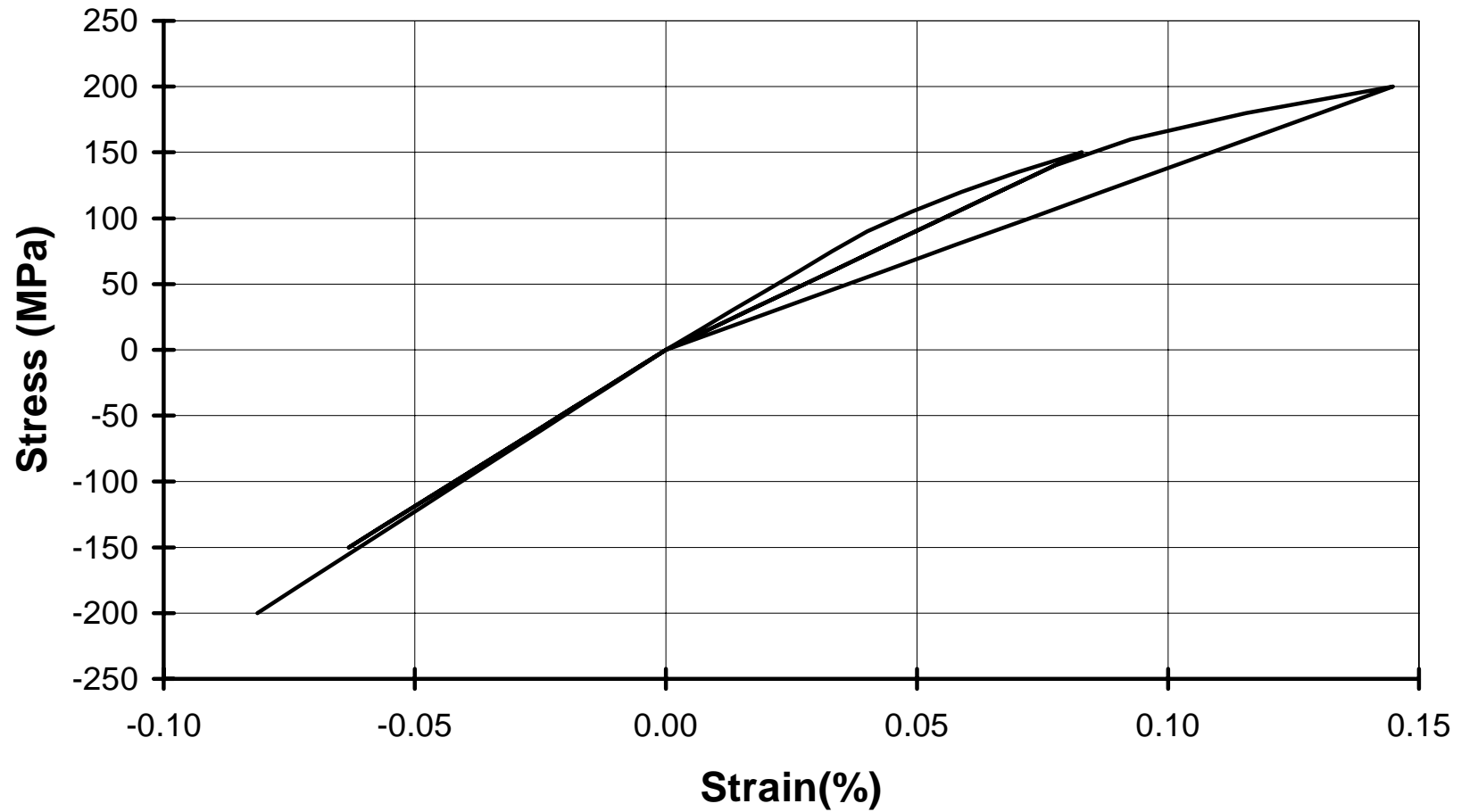
## Framework: Continuous Damage Mechanics

- ✓ Model based on **scalar internal variables** (ONERA)
  - pros:*
    - easy implementation in FEM codes
    - 3D formulation
  - cons:*
    - it is impossible to describe damage effects related to loading directions
    - difficult to identify
  
- ✓ Model based on **vectorial internal variables** (LMT Cachan)
  - pros:*
    - it takes into accounts both types of damage
    - easy to identify
  - cons:*
    - it is difficult to separate the effects of the two types of damage
    - (initial) 2D formulation
  
- ✓ Model based on **vectorial and scalar internal variables** (ONERA)
  - pros:*
    - accurate description of both damage modes
    - 3D formulation
  - cons:*
    - implementation in FEM codes may be complicated by numerical instabilities
    - difficult to identify

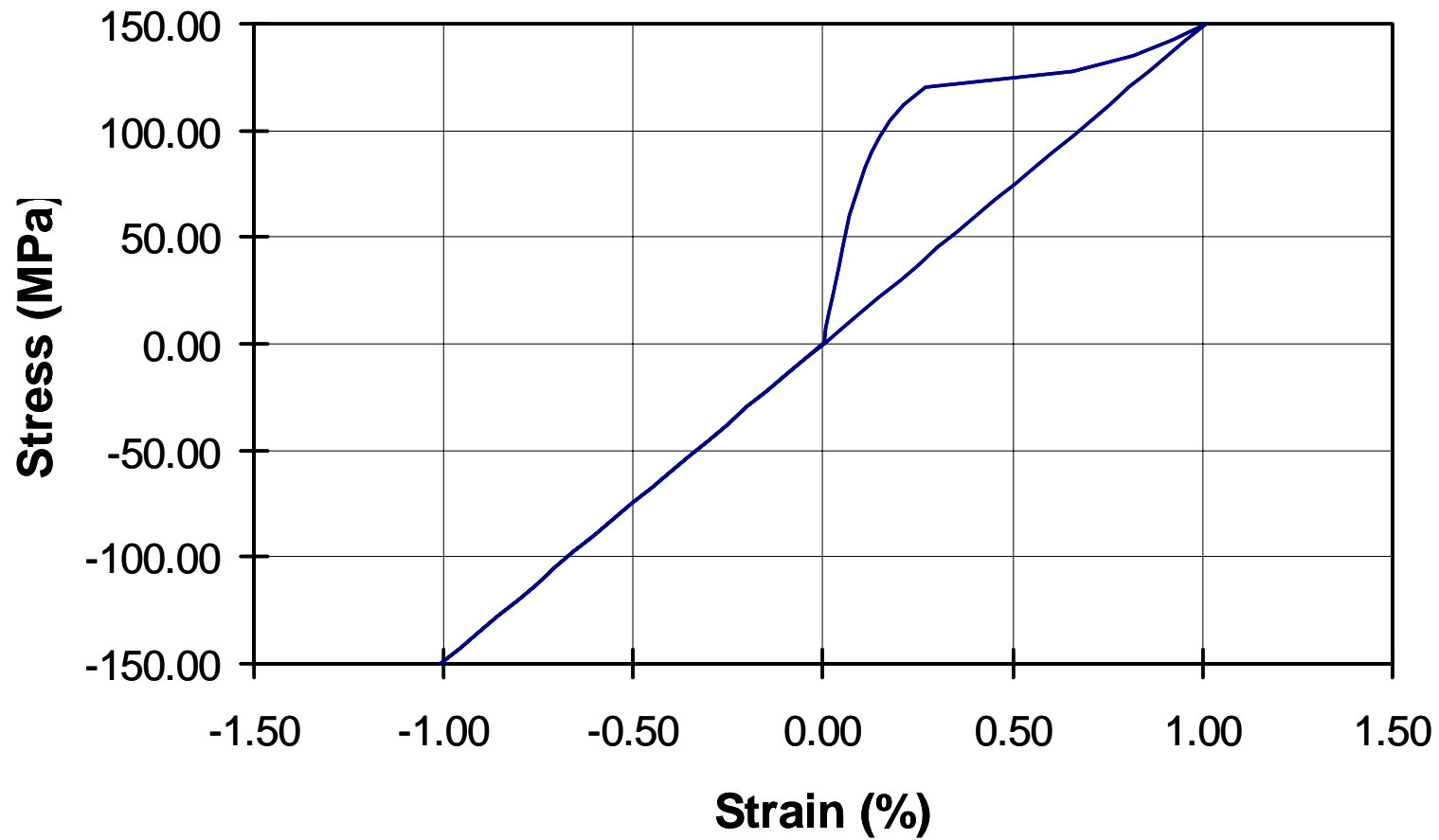
## Simulation of Tension Tests for Different Fibers Inclinations



## *Simulation of Incremental Tension-Compression Test at 0°*



### *Simulation of Shear Test at 0°*



## *Mechanical Tests Needed to Identify the Model(s)*

- Tension test on 0/90 specimen (with measurement of  $\varepsilon_1$  and  $\varepsilon_2$ ).
- Tension test on a +/- 45 specimen (with measurement of  $\varepsilon_1$  and  $\varepsilon_2$ ).
- Incremental tension-compression test on 0/90 specimen (with measurement of  $\varepsilon_1$  and  $\varepsilon_2$ ).
- Compression test on a 0/90 specimen (with measurement of  $\varepsilon_1$  and  $\varepsilon_2$ ).
- Tension test through the thickness.
- Compression test through the thickness

*Further mechanical tests are anyway necessary to validate the model*

## Resistance Criteria

*CMCs present different strengths depending on the loading direction.  
Also tensile and compression strengths strongly differ.*

- ☞ **Stresses in plane** have been evaluated using the Von Mises criterion.
  - ☞ **Limits:** 145 MPa for tensile stresses (correspondingly roughly to the beginning of microcracks opening, elastic limit is 110 MPa)  
580 MPa for compressive stresses (rupture limit - CERASEP N2-1).
  
- ☞ **Stresses through the thickness** have been separately investigated:
  - ☞ **Normal stress limits:** 110 MPa for tensile stresses (no data available).  
420 MPa for compressive stresses  
(rupture limit - CERASEP N2-1)
  - ☞ **Shear stress limit:** 44 MPa (SEP data)

## Resistance Criterion for Plane Stresses

$$\left(\frac{\langle \sigma_1 \rangle^+}{\langle \sigma_0 \rangle^+}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\langle \sigma_1 \rangle^-}{\langle \sigma_0 \rangle^-}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\langle \sigma_2 \rangle^+}{\langle \sigma_0 \rangle^+}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\langle \sigma_2 \rangle^-}{\langle \sigma_0 \rangle^-}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{\langle \sigma_1 \rangle^- \langle \sigma_2 \rangle^-}{\langle \sigma_0 \rangle^- \langle \sigma_0 \rangle^-}\right) - \left(\frac{\langle \sigma_1 \rangle^+ \langle \sigma_2 \rangle^+}{\langle \sigma_0 \rangle^+ \langle \sigma_0 \rangle^+}\right) - \left(\frac{\langle \sigma_1 \rangle^- \langle \sigma_2 \rangle^+}{\langle \sigma_0 \rangle^- \langle \sigma_0 \rangle^+}\right) - \left(\frac{\langle \sigma_1 \rangle^+ \langle \sigma_2 \rangle^-}{\langle \sigma_0 \rangle^+ \langle \sigma_0 \rangle^-}\right) = 1$$

where:

$\sigma_1, \sigma_2$  are the **principal stresses**




$\langle \rangle^-$  and  $\langle \rangle^+$  represent respectively the **positive and the negative values of the quantity**

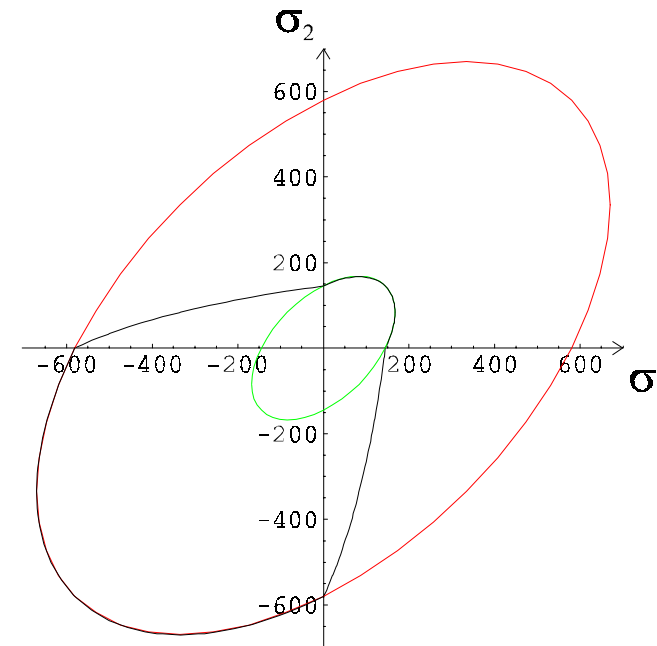
$\langle \sigma_0 \rangle^-$  and  $\langle \sigma_0 \rangle^+$  represent respectively the assumed **resistance limit under compression and under tension.**

*This criterion is isotropic, but capable to account for the different resistance limits under tension and compression*



## Resistance Criterion for Plane Stresses

-  Von Mises criterion,  $\sigma_{lim} = 145 \text{ Mpa}$
-  Von Mises criterion,  $\sigma_{lim} = 580 \text{ MPa}$
-  Criterion adopted for plane stresses,  $\sigma^+ = 145 \text{ MPa}$ ,  $\sigma^- = 580 \text{ Mpa}$



Tests needed to determine the resistance limits:

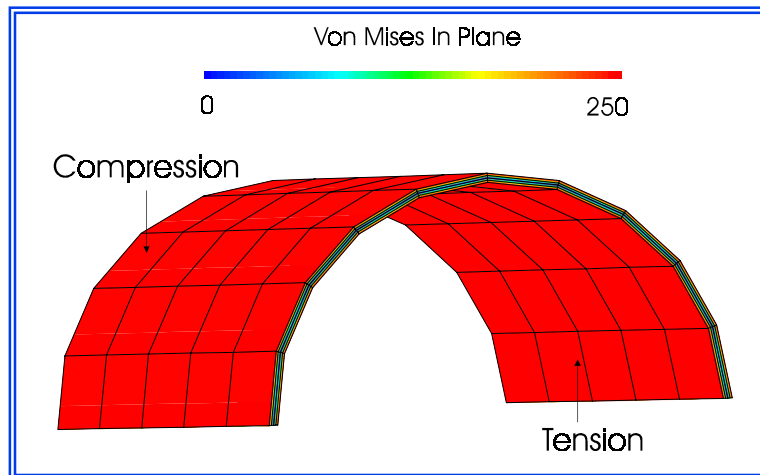
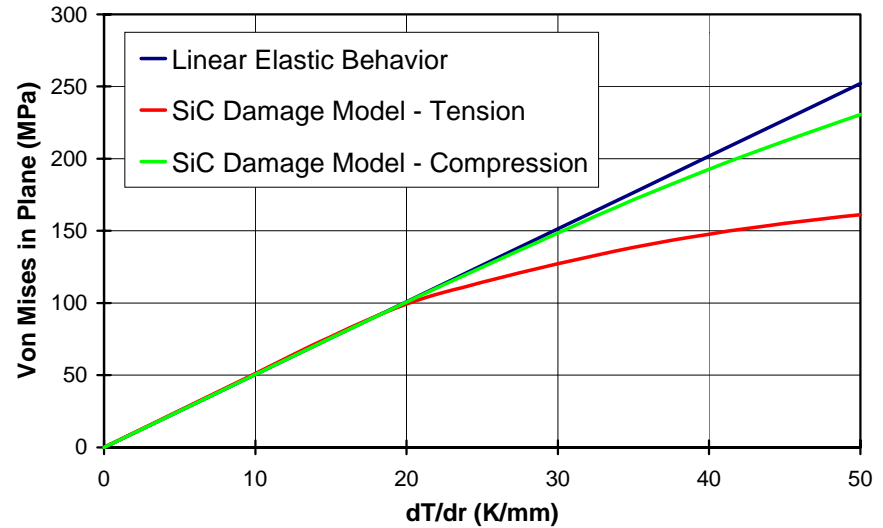
tension and compression tests at  $0^\circ$  (up to rupture)

The same tests are needed to determine the resistance limits through the thickness

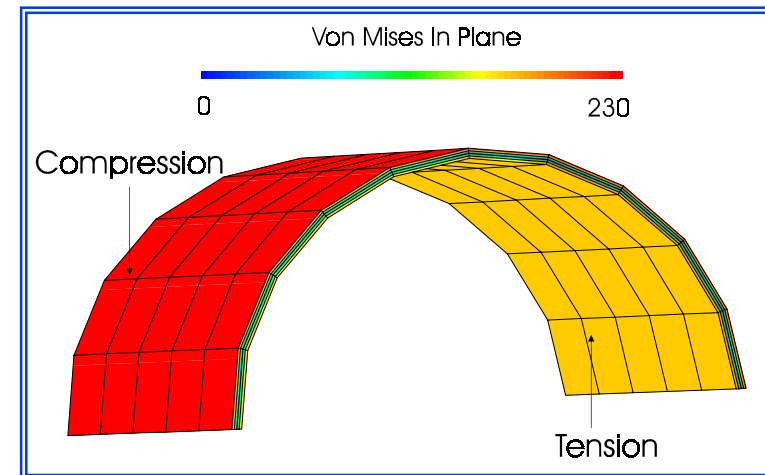
## Thermal Load

Case studied: 10mm-thick tube with a constant temperature gradient through the thickness

- ☞ Stress distribution is not symmetric.
- ☞ Differences increase with the thermal gradient.



Linear Elastic Behavior



SiC/SiC Damage Model

## Conclusions

- SiC<sub>f</sub>/SiC composites have a strong **non-linear mechanical behavior** that has to be taken into account in thermo-mechanical analyses.
  - ↳ Specific **damage models** have been identified and **implemented in FEM codes** (CASTEM 2000)
- **Appropriate design criteria** are also needed to correctly assess the material's resistance limits.
  - ↳ A **new criterion** has been introduced and used in the latest analyses

*Mechanical tests needed to identify both the model and the criterion are classical tension/compression tests*

## Thermal Load: Influence of the New Criterion

