

EXPLORING POLYMER MECHANICS OVER MULTIPLE SCALES

Stephen Hall^{1,2}

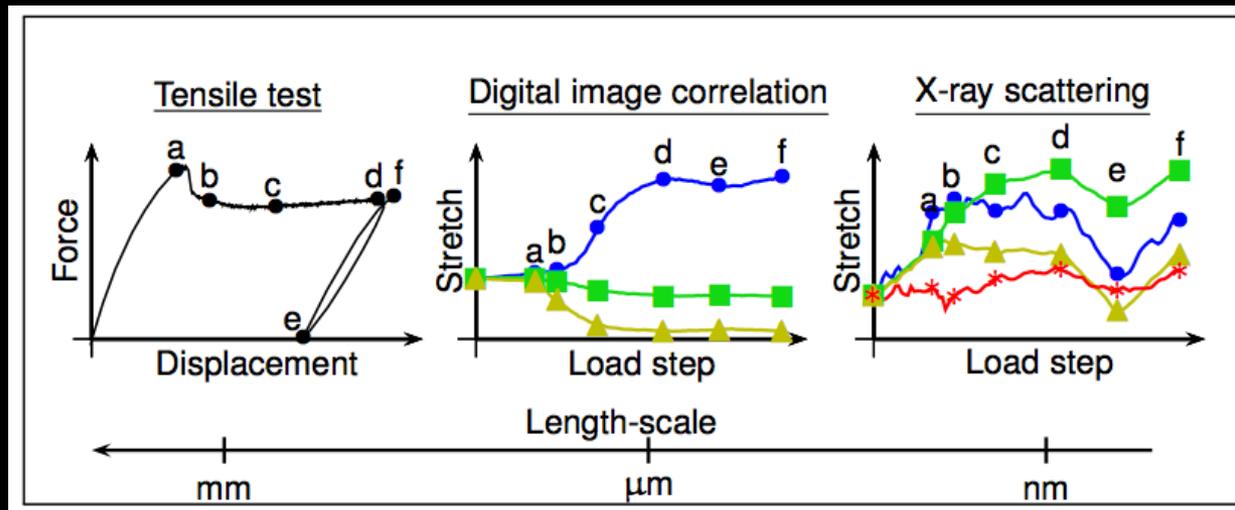
Jonas Engqvist¹, Mathias Wallin¹, Matti Ristinmaa¹

Tomas Plivelic³

¹*Division of Solid Mechanics, Lund University, Sweden &*

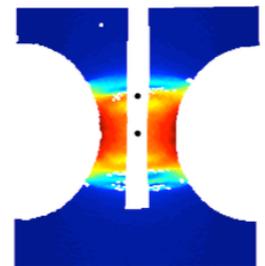
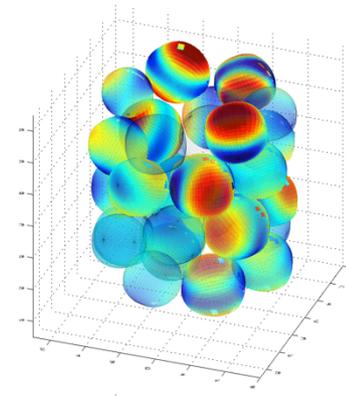
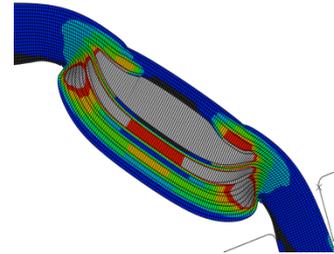
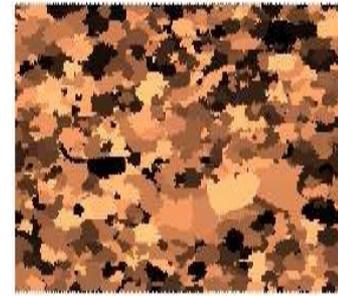
²*Scientific Activities Division, European Spallation Source, Sweden*

³*MAXIV Laboratory, Lund Sweden*



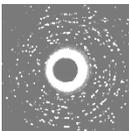
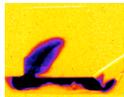
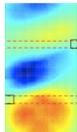
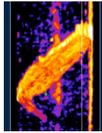
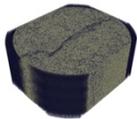
DIVISION OF SOLID MECHANICS @ LTH

- Research areas: constitutive modeling, computational mechanics and experimental mechanics:
 - microstructure mechanics, recrystallization, phase transformations, large strain plasticity, viscoplasticity, texture development, coupled physical phenomena, smart materials, electroactive polymers, geomaterials, diffusion processes and structural optimization...
- Application areas: polymers, metals, granular materials, fibre materials, bio-materials and more
- Experimental mechanics: analysis of mechanical properties including multi-scale and multi-physics couplings and development of full-field measurement methods:
 - DIC, x-ray & neutron imaging & scattering...
 - Close link to model development



GENERAL EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH APPROACH

Investigation of the mechanics of (heterogeneous) **deformation and failure in materials** using **full-field methods** with different **sensitivities** to different physical properties, to characterise different aspects of the **mechanical processes**:



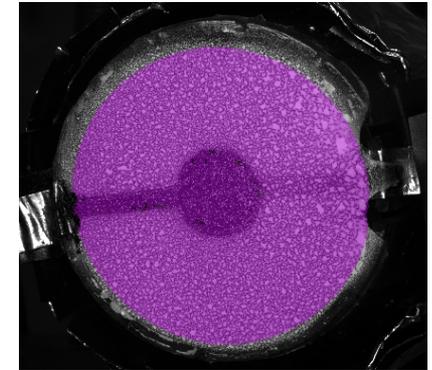
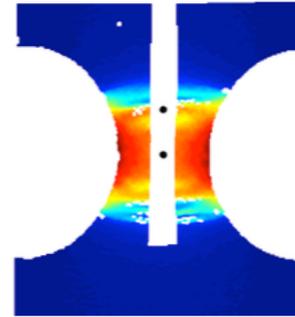
- Digital Image Correlation (DIC)
- X-ray tomography
- Neutron tomography
- 3D Digital image analysis
- Digital Volume Correlation
- Ultrasonic tomography
- Neutron and X-ray Scattering
- Acoustic emissions
- ...

• With a view towards defining the characteristics to include in (enriched) modelling

Experimental Mechanics @Division of Solid Mechanics

Surface DIC systems:

- 29 MPx @ 4 Hz
- 1 Mpx @ 500 Hz
- Correlated solutions VIC3D software
- In-house 2D-DIC code

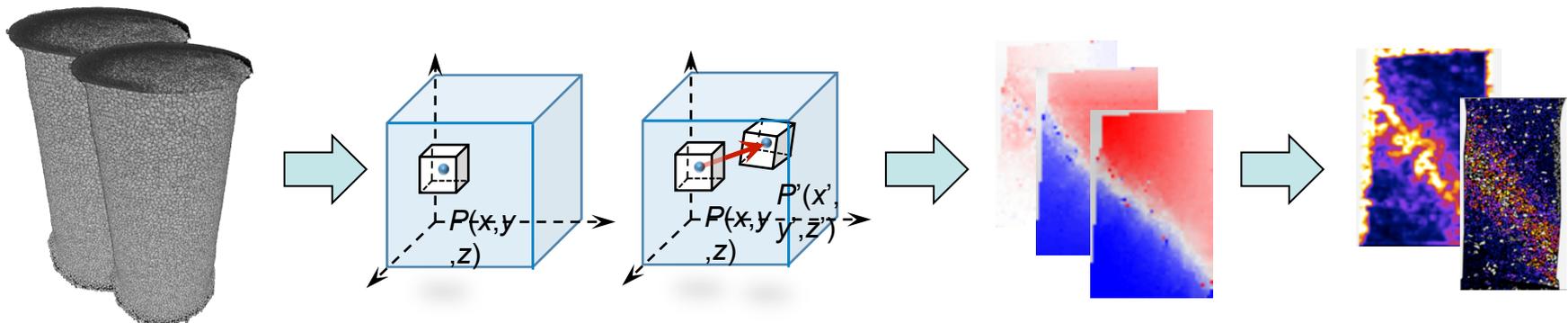
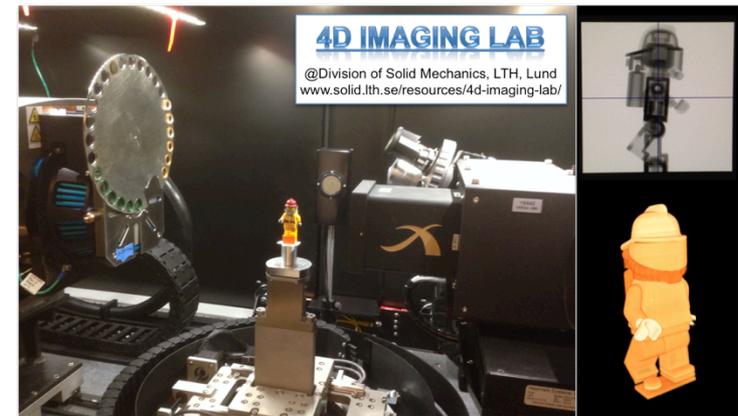


Volume imaging:

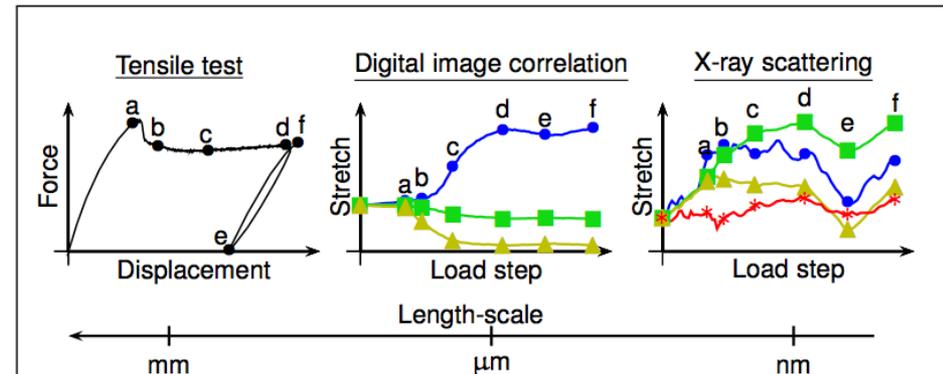
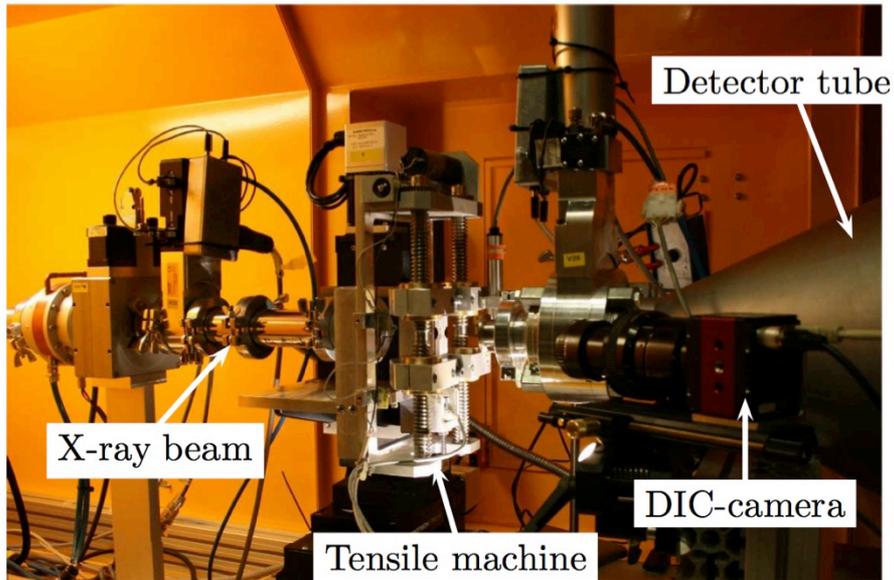
- In-house x-ray tomograph (Zeiss XRM520)
- X-ray and neutron tomography at large-scale facilities

Digital Volume Correlation (DVC)

- In-house DVC code: **TOMOWARP2**



EXPLORING POLYMER MECHANICS OVER MULTIPLE SCALES



EXPLORING POLYMER MECHANICS OVER MULTIPLE SCALES

Objectives

- Investigate the coupling between deformation mechanisms at the molecular-, micro- and macro-scales in polymers
- To develop more accurate, physically-based constitutive models
 - Glassy polycarbonate (PC)
 - Semi-crystalline HDPE
 - Block co-polymers (SEBS)

EXPLORING POLYMER MECHANICS OVER MULTIPLE SCALES

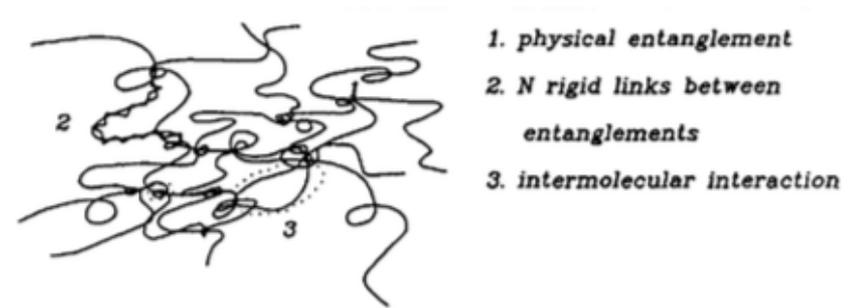
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 - **Glassy polycarbonate (PC)**
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EXPLORING POLYMER MECHANICS OVER MULTIPLE SCALES

Glassy polycarbonate (PC)

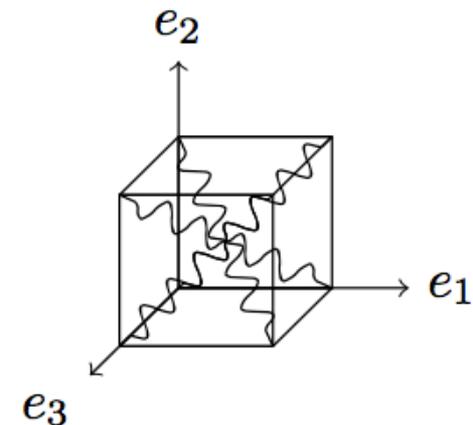
- Amorphous, glassy polymer
- Initially isotropic and homogeneous
- Development of significant heterogeneity (localised deformation) with loading
- Evolving anisotropy
- Multi-scale processes



Boyce et al. Mech. of Materials (1988)

The BPA model

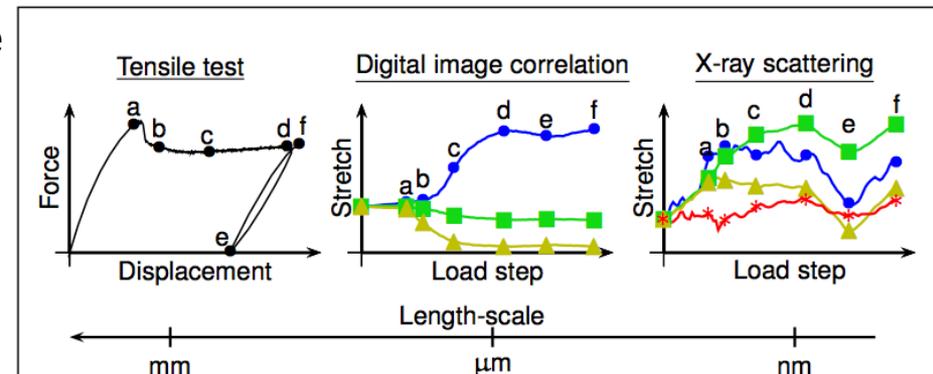
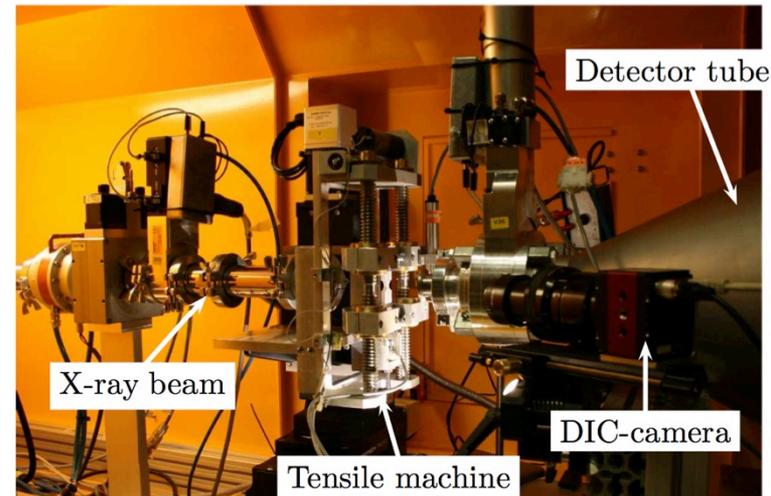
- ▶ Polymer model
- ▶ Proposed by Boyce, Parks and Argon (1988)
- ▶ Idealised chain network consisting of eight chains



EXPLORING POLYMER MECHANICS OVER MULTIPLE SCALES

Methods

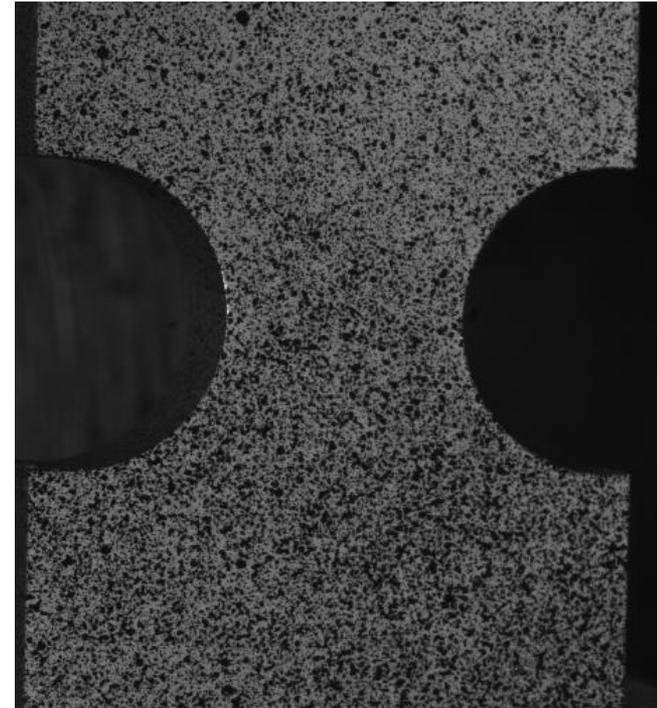
- **Tensile loading**: “averaged” stress-strain response of the sample
- **3D-surface DIC**: local “macroscopic” strain field and sample thickness evolution
- **Small- and Wide-angle scattering** (SAXS/WAXS: structures from about 100 nm down to a few Ångström (with spatial resolution))
- **Simultaneous measurements** to relate measurements across scales (DIC triggered with SAXS/WAXS)
- **Spatial resolution** to capture heterogeneity



EXPLORING POLYMER MECHANICS OVER MULTIPLE SCALES

3D-surface Digital Image Correlation

- Measurement of surface displacement fields
 - In-plane and out of plane displacements
 - Strain fields → strain heterogeneity
 - Local measures of strain to relate to x-ray scattering measurements (macroscopic strain is at best a global average measure)
 - Understanding of meso-scale failure mechanisms (strain localisation)
 - Thickness changes of sample to correct scattering measurements (accounting for varying sample attenuation with change in sample thickness)



EXPLORING POLYMER MECHANICS OVER MULTIPLE SCALES

X-ray scattering

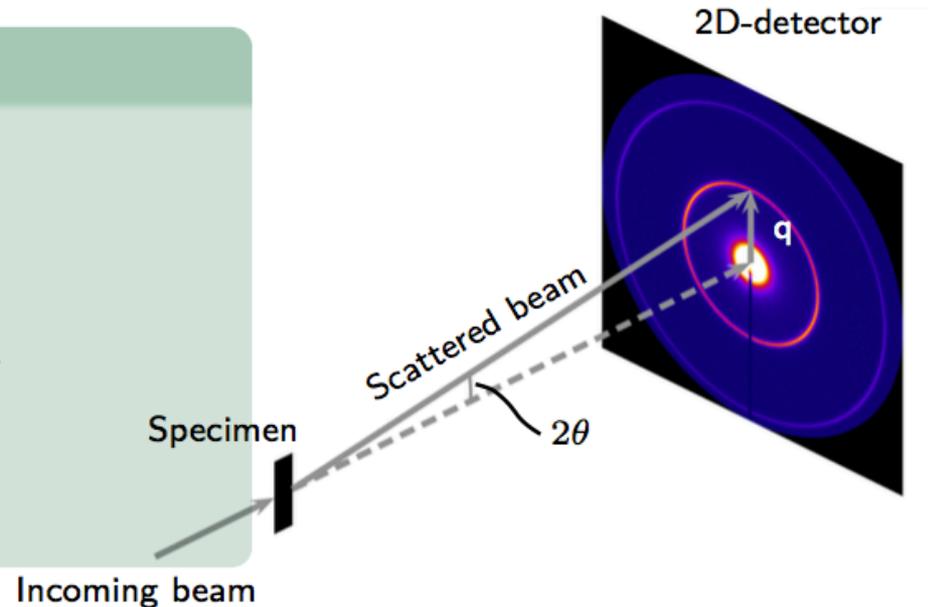
X-ray scattering

Bragg's law

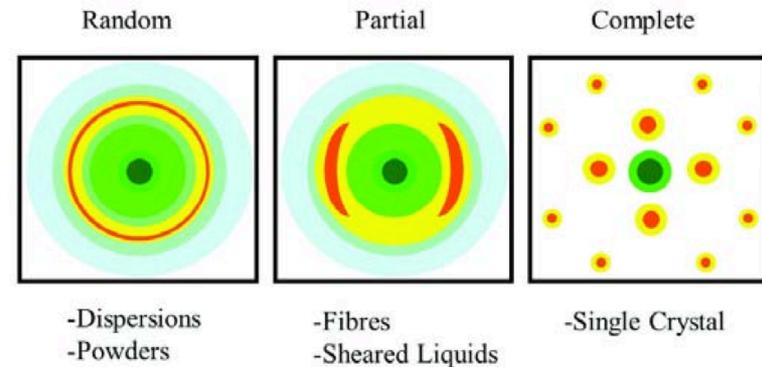
$$n\lambda = 2d \sin \theta$$

Length of the scattering vector

$$q = \frac{2\pi}{d}$$

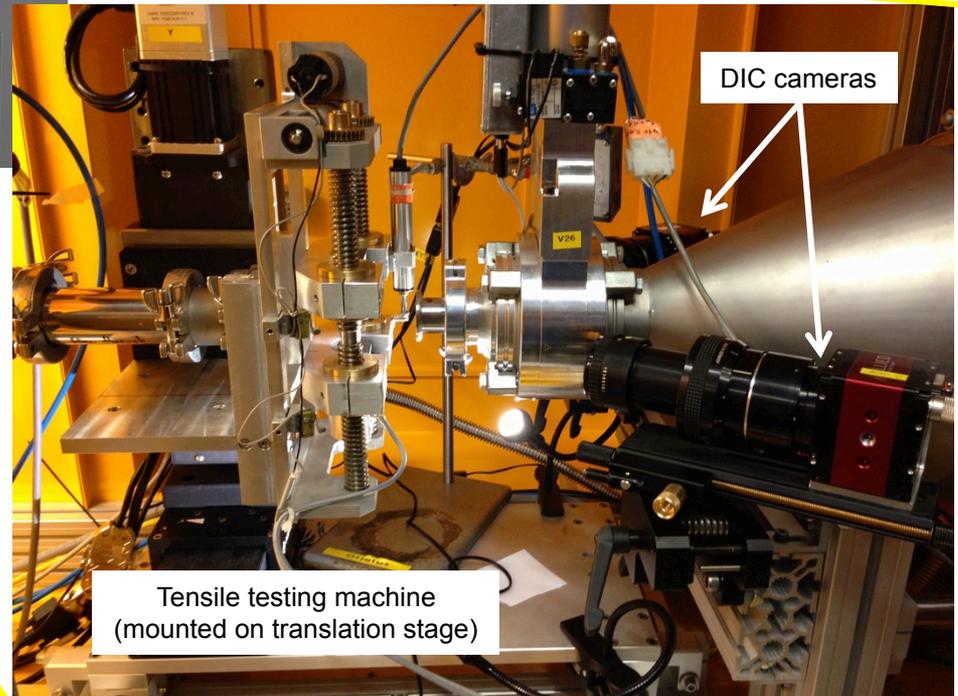
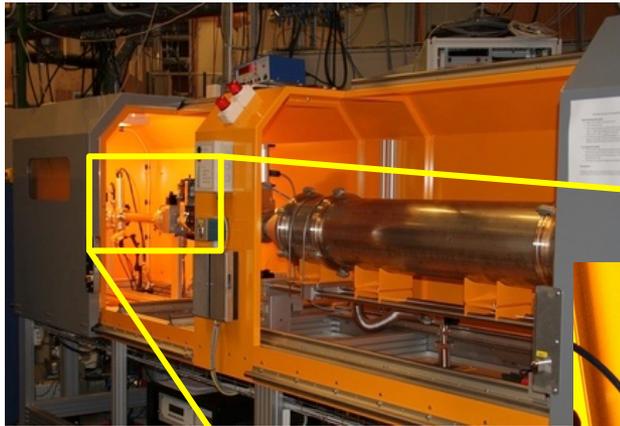


- information about the shape and size of macromolecules, characteristic distances of partially ordered materials, pore sizes, and other data.
- structural information of macromolecules between <1 nm and 25 nm, of repeat distances in partially ordered systems of up to 150 nm



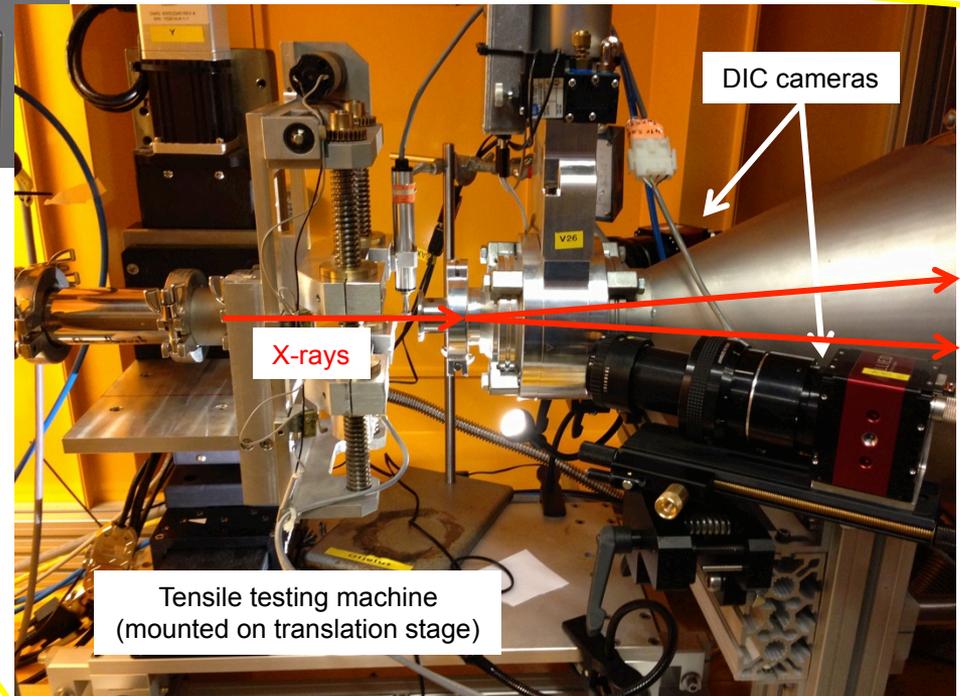
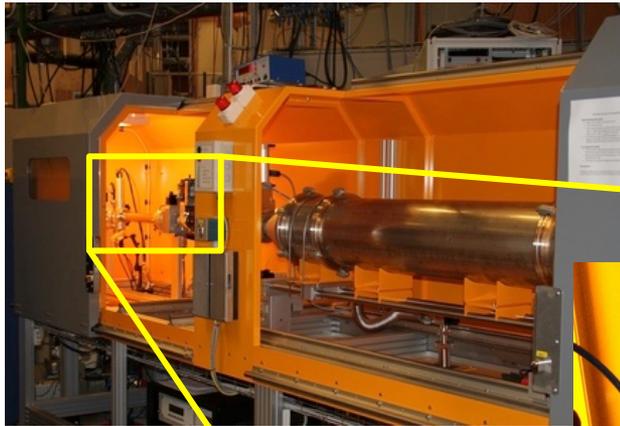
Experiments:

- ▶ I911-SAXS beamline at MAX IV Laboratory, Lund University
- ▶ Custom built uniaxial tensile test machine
- ▶ 29 MPx stereo DIC system

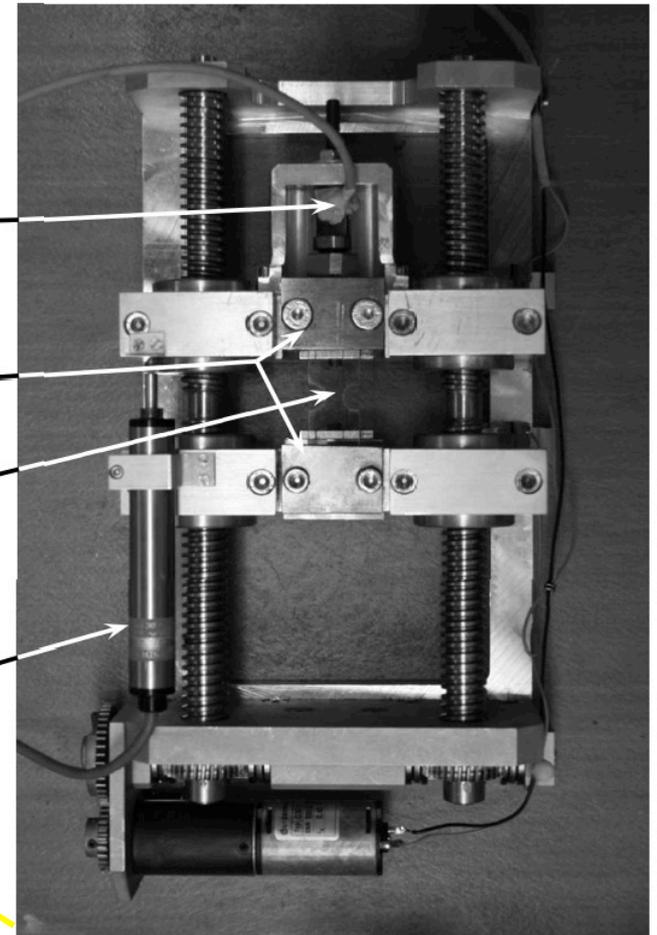
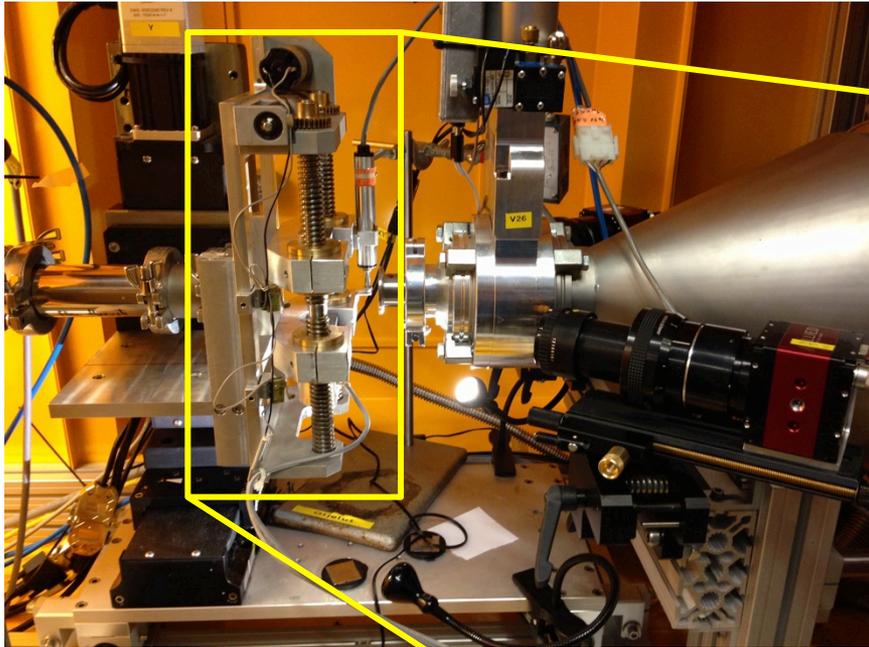


Experiments:

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Experiments: set-up

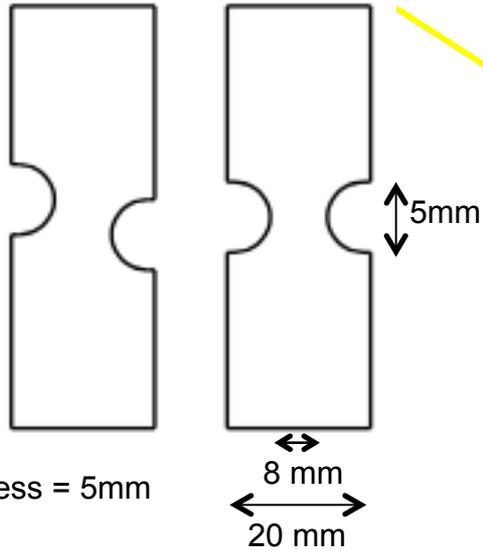


Load Cell

Moving grips

Specimen

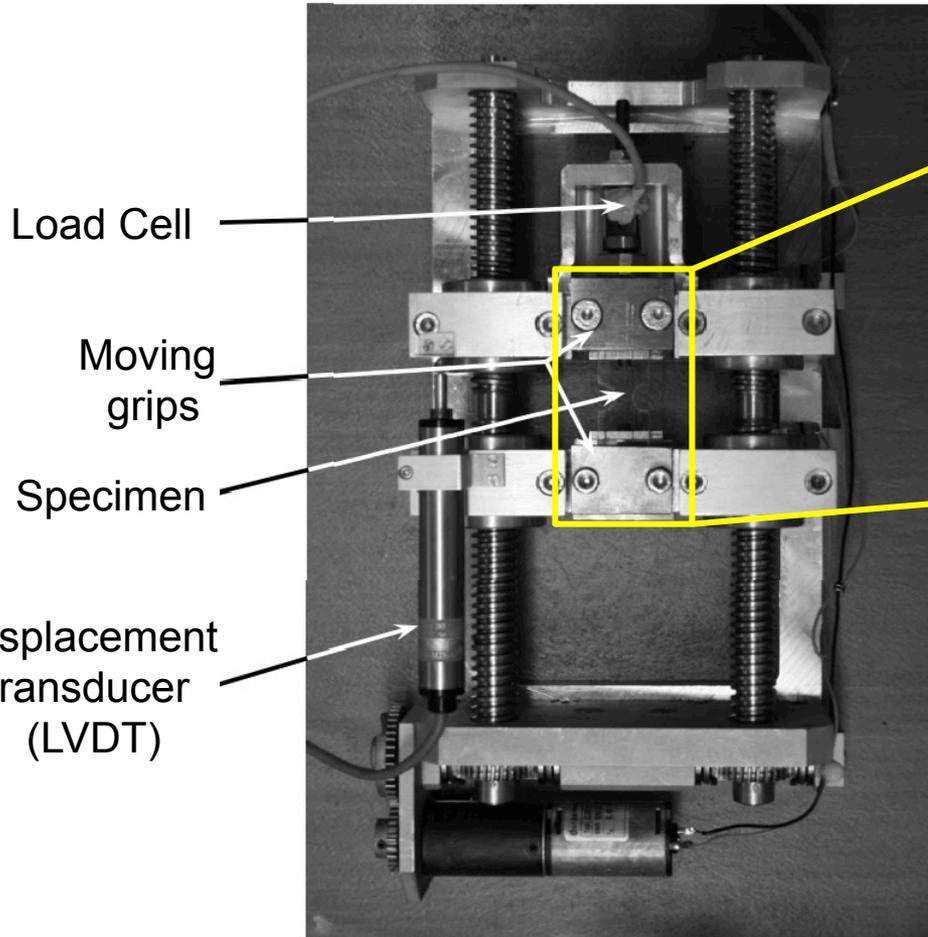
Displacement transducer (LVDT)



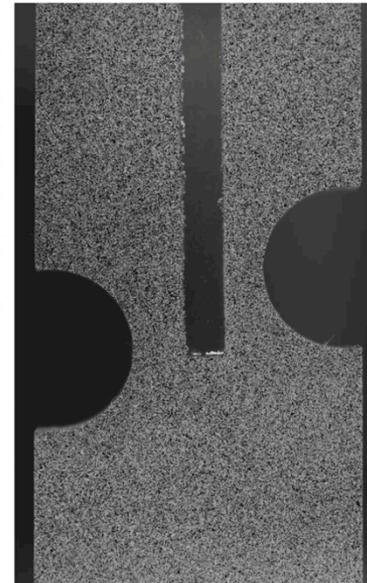
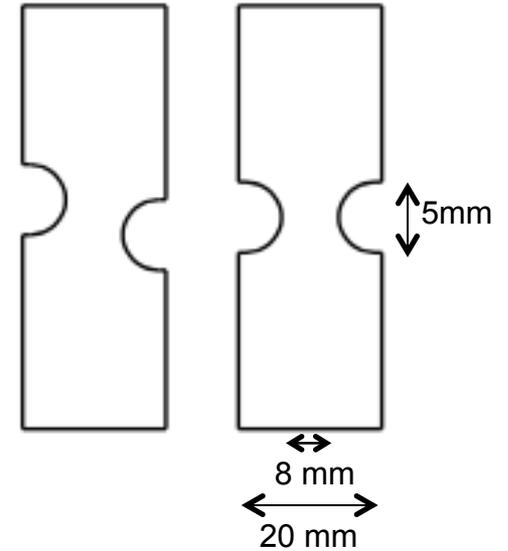
Thickness = 5mm

8 mm
20 mm

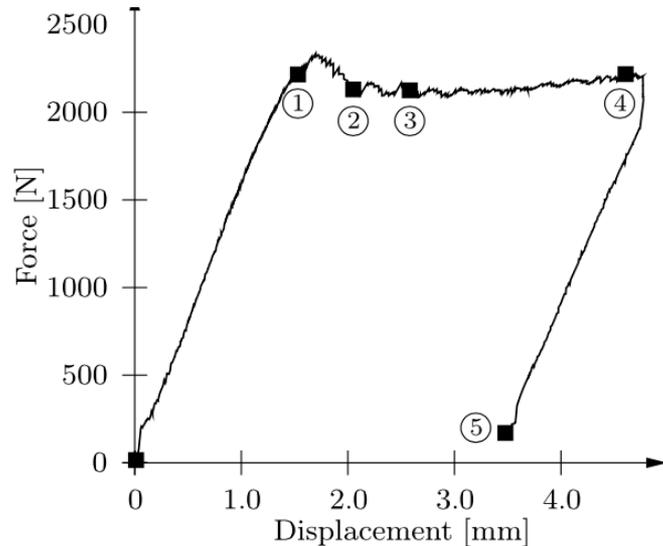
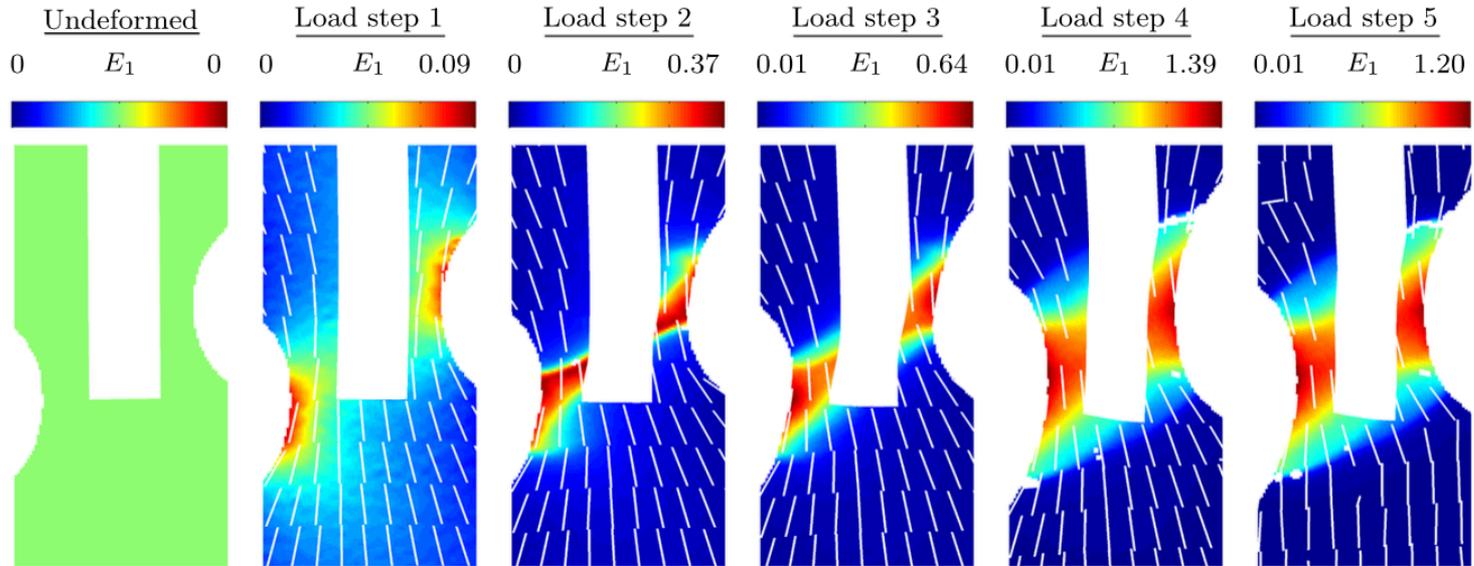
Experiments: set-up



Thickness = 5mm

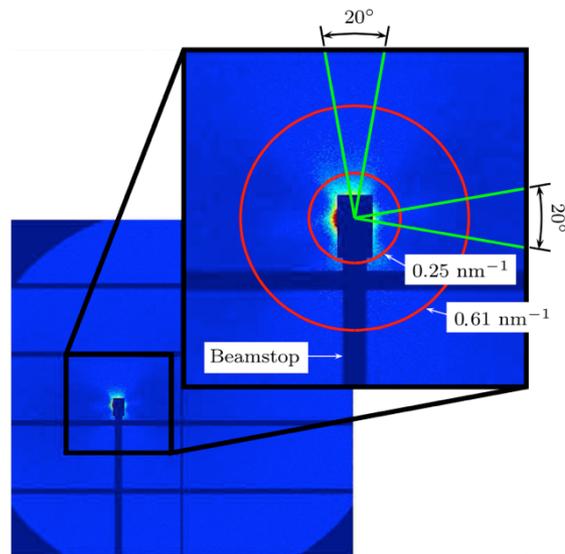
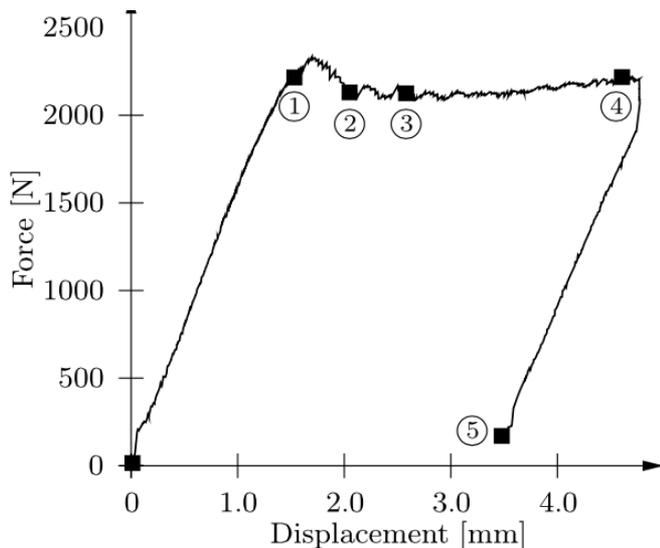


Experiments: DIC + in-situ loading

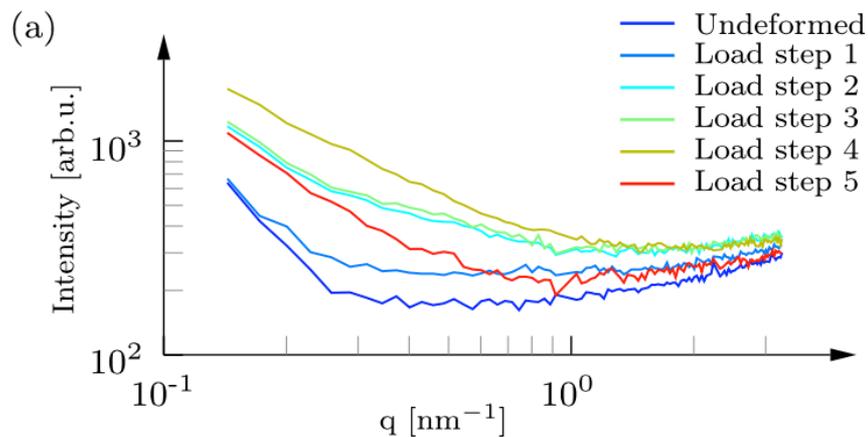


- Colour = DIC strain (ϵ_1)
- White arrows ϵ_1 direction

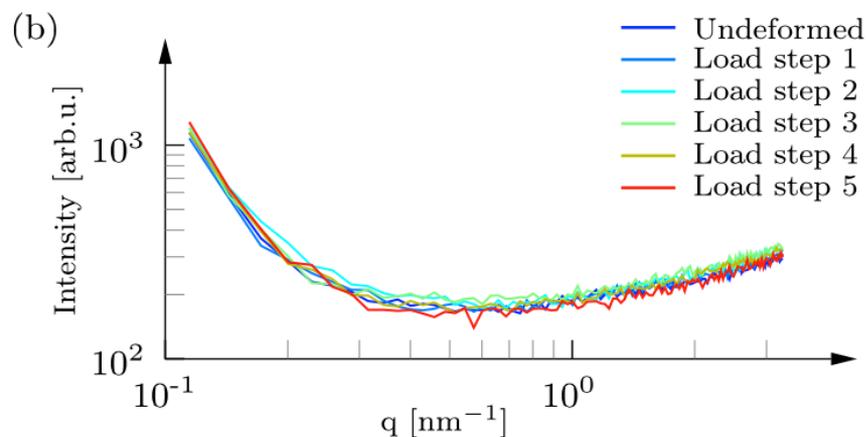
Experiments: SAXS + DIC + in-situ loading



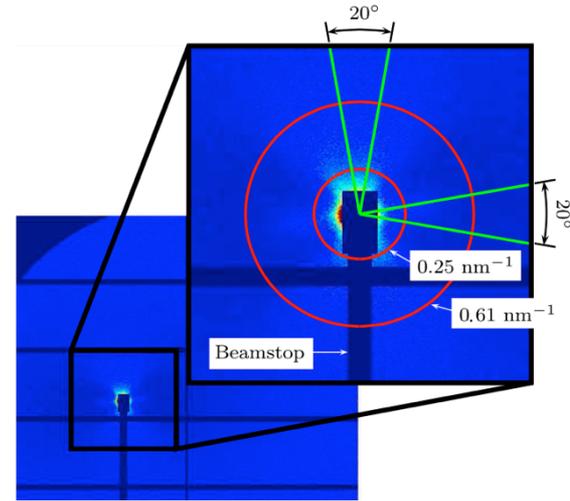
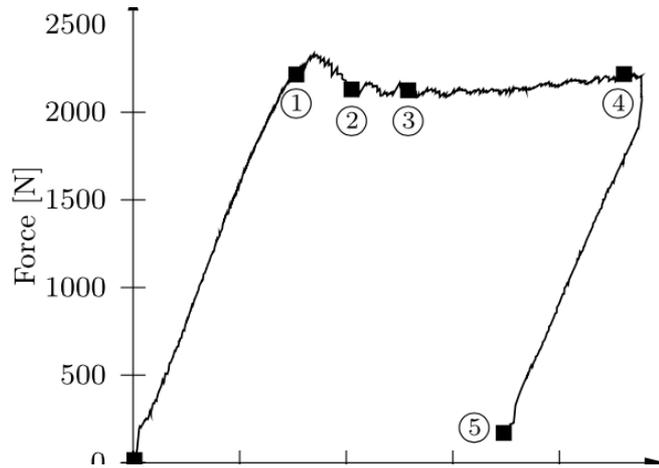
SAXS parallel to loading



SAXS perpendicular to loading

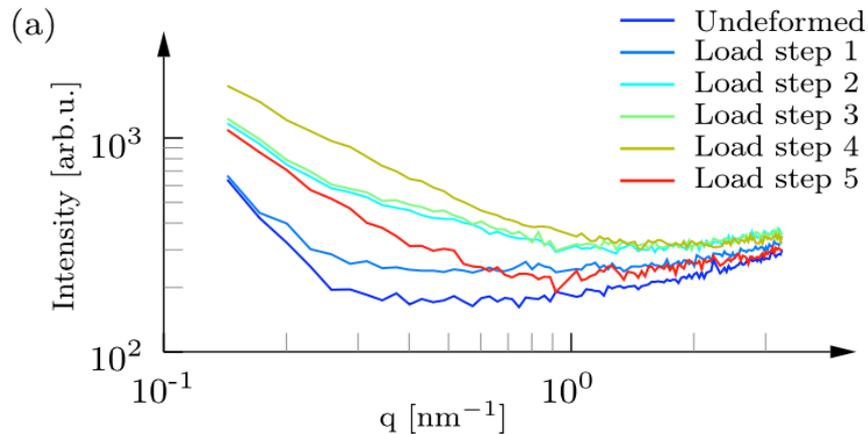


Experiments: SAXS + DIC + in-situ loading

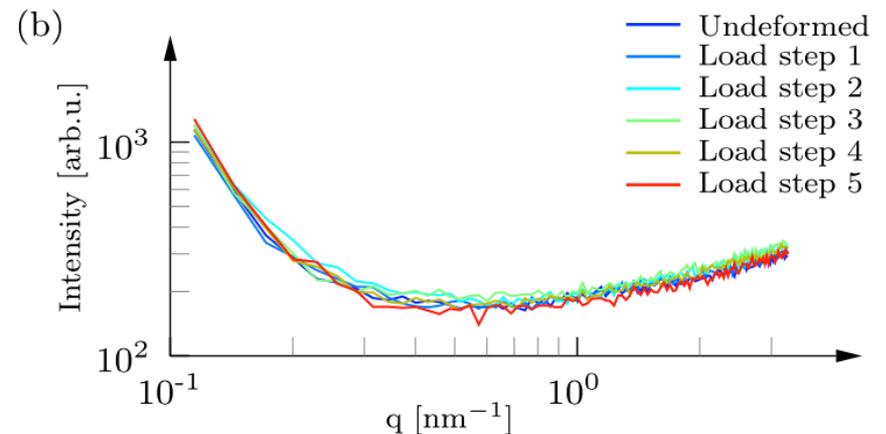


Note: SAXS data corrected for thickness change based on DIC

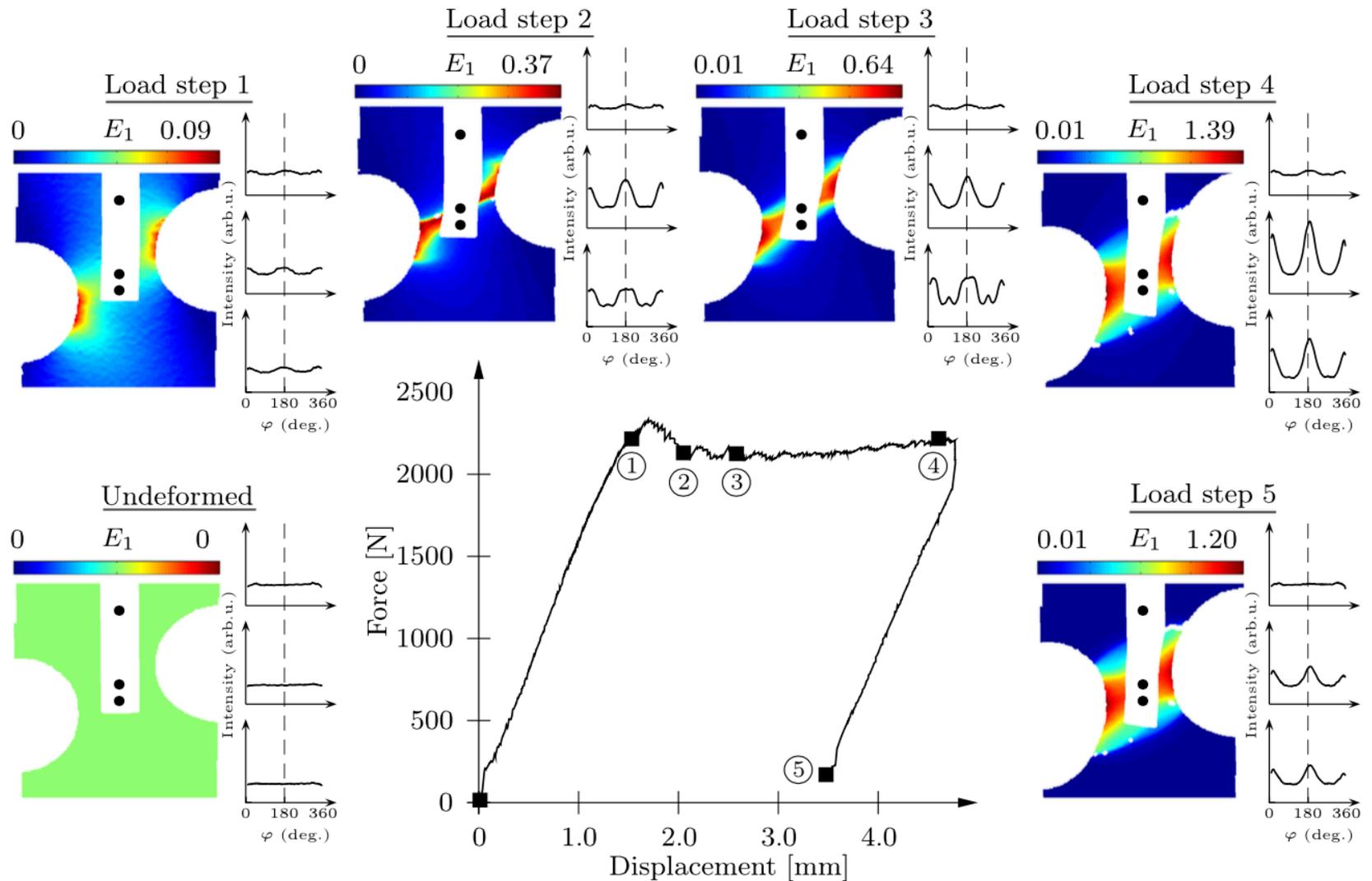
SAXS parallel to loading



SAXS perpendicular to loading



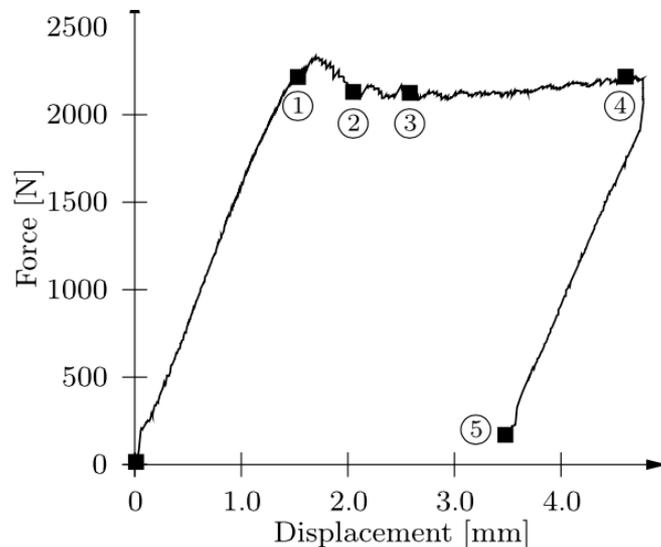
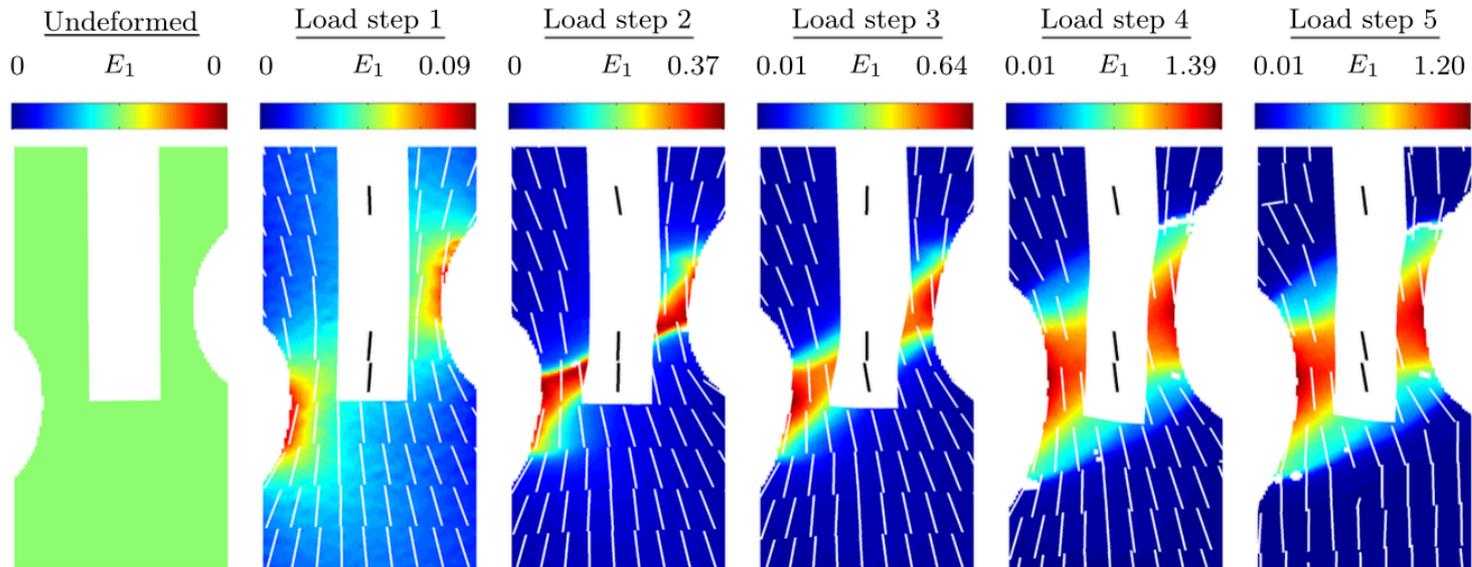
Experiments: SAXS + DIC + in-situ loading



Colour maps = DIC strain (ϵ_1), azimuthal SAXS profiles to right of each plot

Experiments: SAXS + DIC + in-situ loading

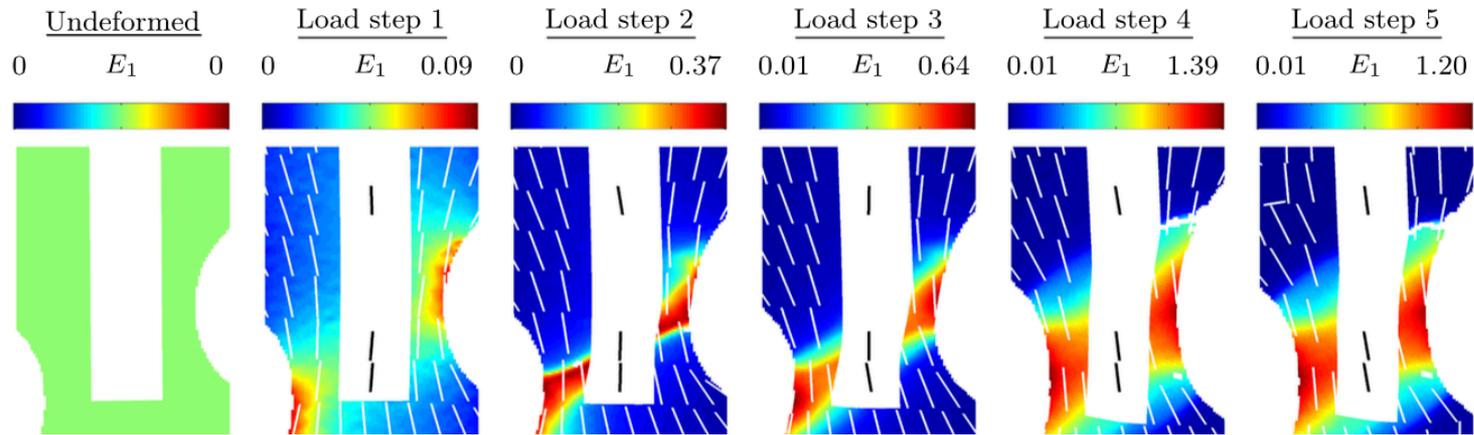
- Strain Anisotropy vs SAXS anisotropy



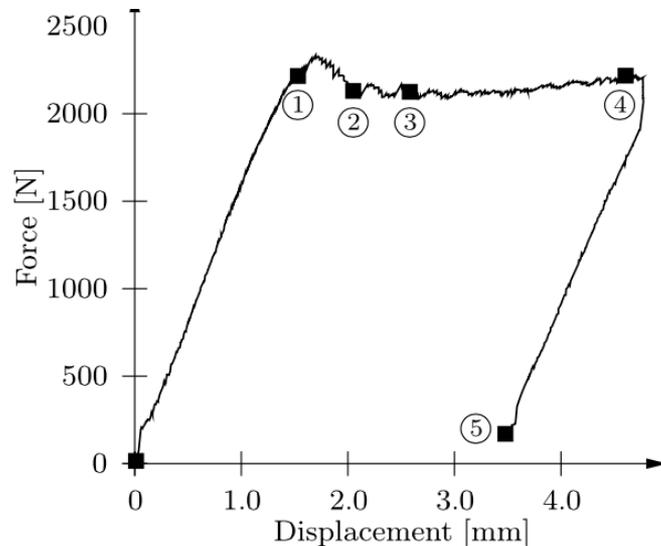
- Colour = DIC strain (ϵ_1)
- White arrows ϵ_1 direction
- Black arrows SAXS principle direction

Experiments: SAXS + DIC + in-situ loading

- Strain Anisotropy vs SAXS anisotropy



Correlation between micro- and meso-scale anisotropies



- Colour = DIC strain (ϵ_1)
- White arrows ϵ_1 direction
- Black arrows SAXS principle direction

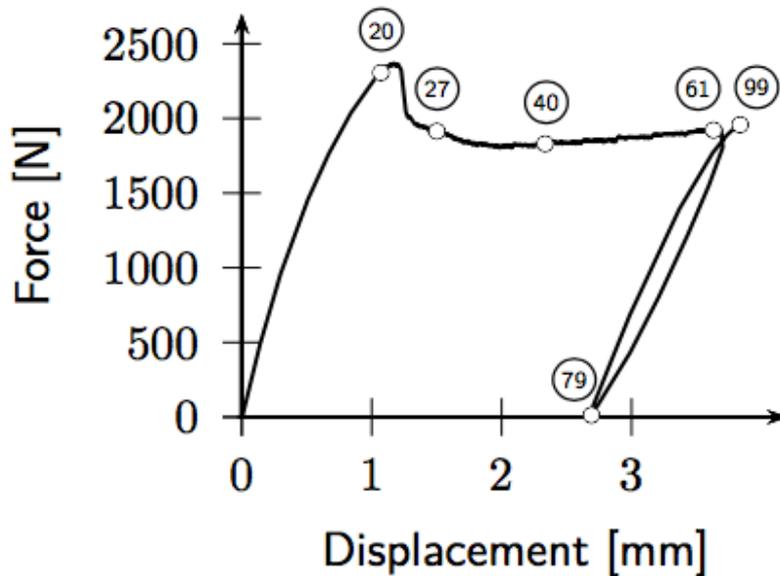
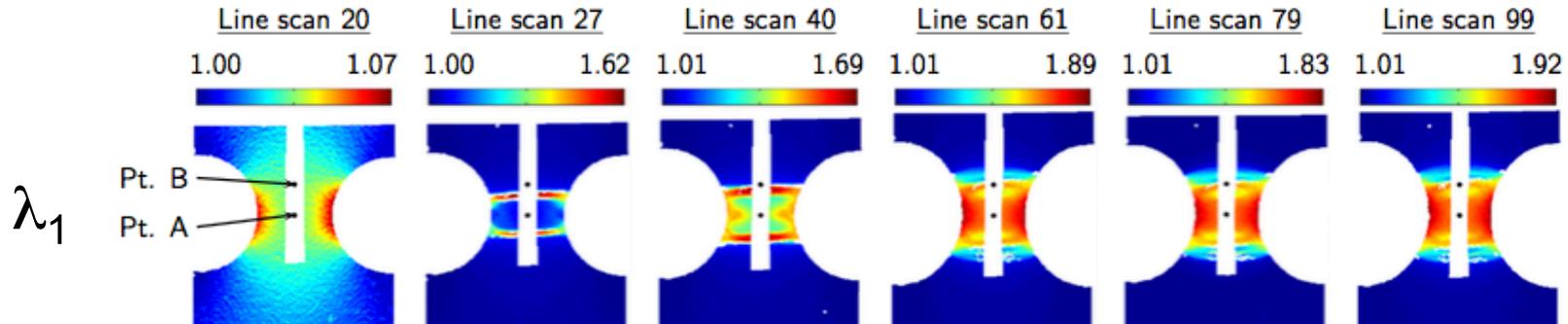
Experiments: WAXS + DIC + in-situ loading

Engqvist et al., 2015, submitted

Experiments: DIC + in-situ loading

Engqvist et al., 2015, submitted

Principal stretches

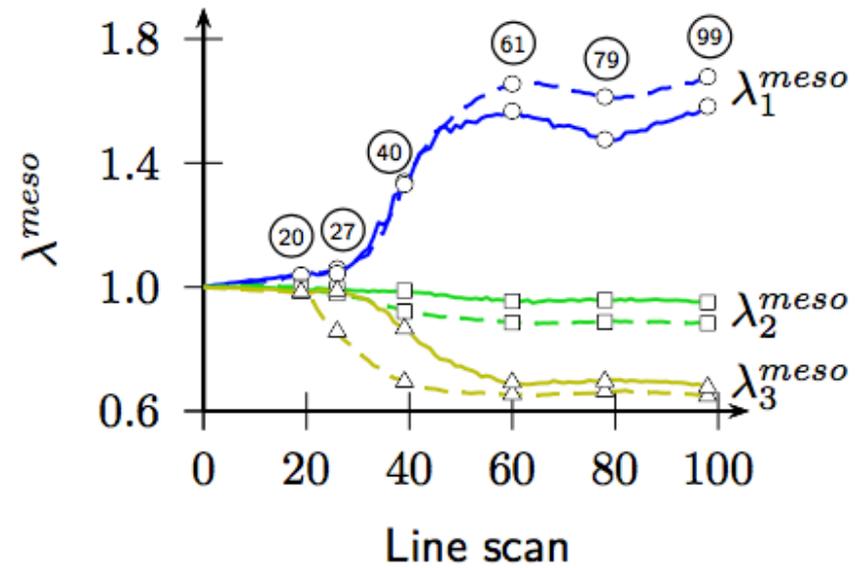
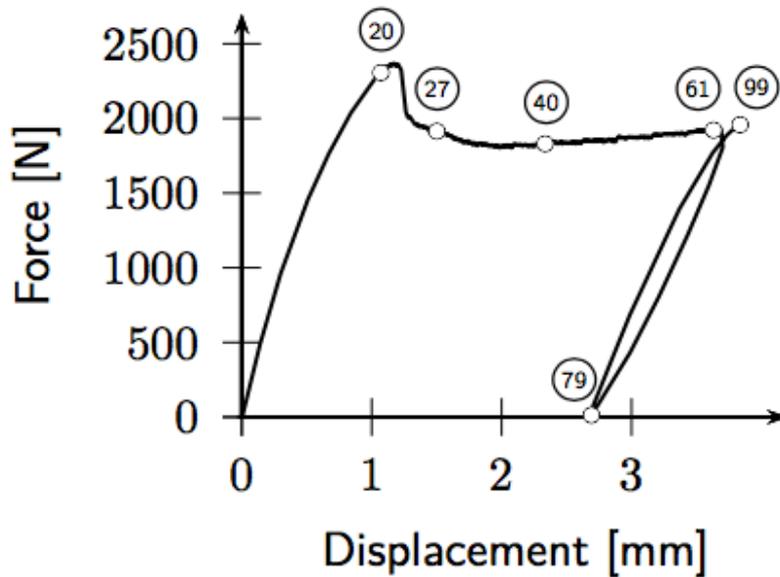
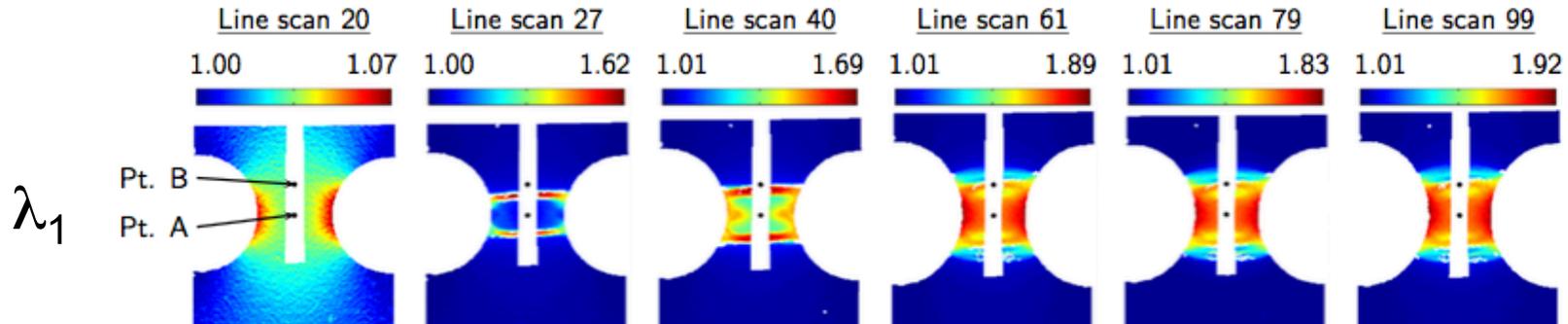


$\lambda_{1\text{meso}}$ is dominated by longitudinal in-plane deformation,
 $\lambda_{2\text{meso}}$ meso - transverse in-plane deformation,
 $\lambda_{3\text{meso}}$ - out-of-plane deformation

Experiments: DIC + in-situ loading

Engqvist et al., 2015, submitted

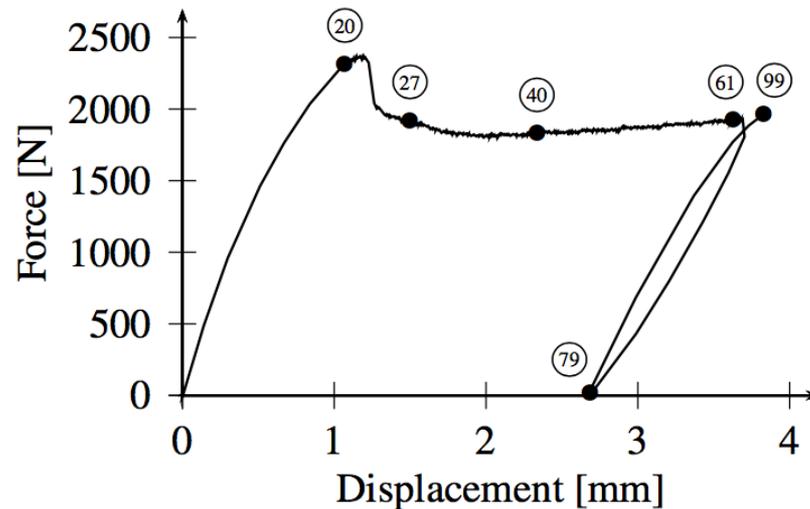
Principal stretches



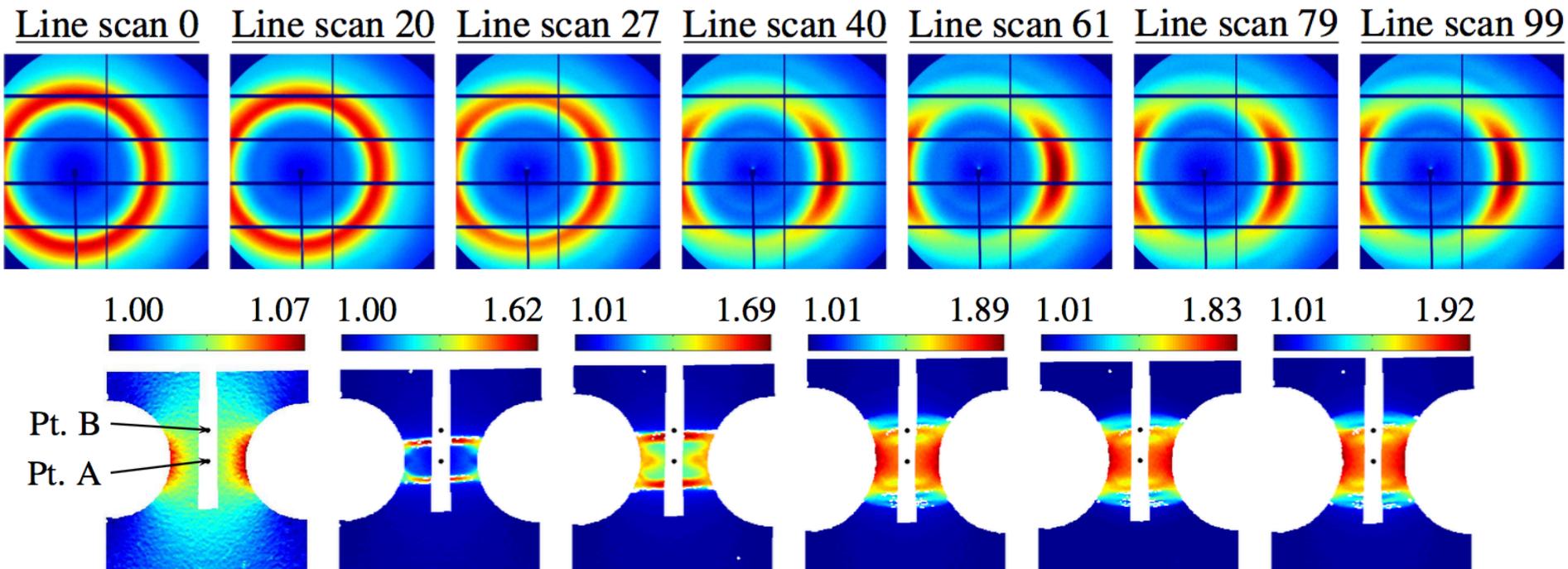
- Dashed lines – point A
- Solid lines – point B

Experiments: WAXS + DIC + in-situ loading

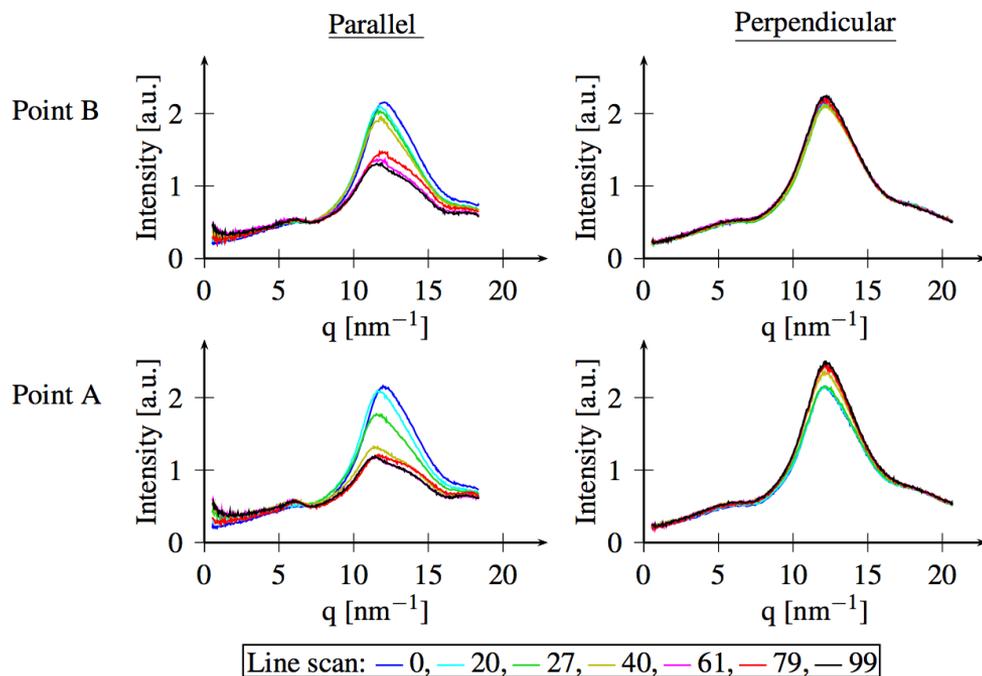
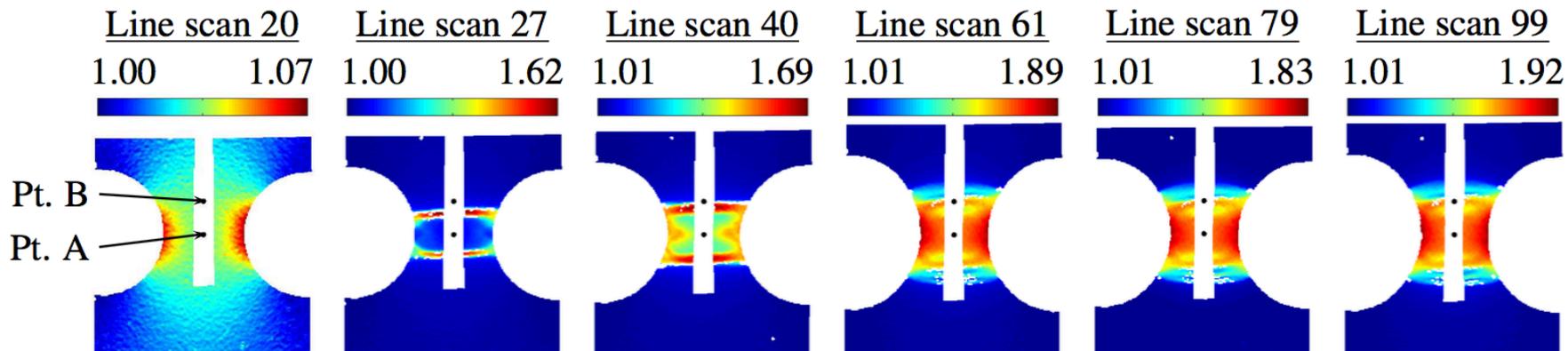
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WAXS: point A

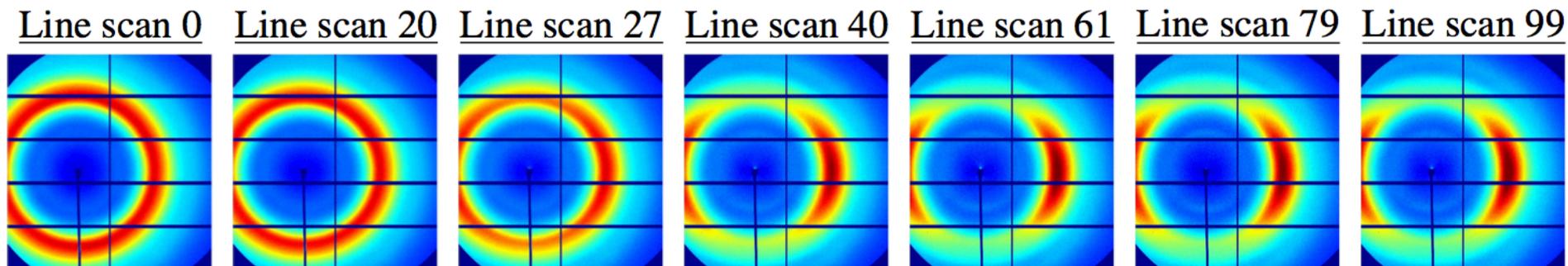


Experiments: WAXS + DIC + in-situ loading

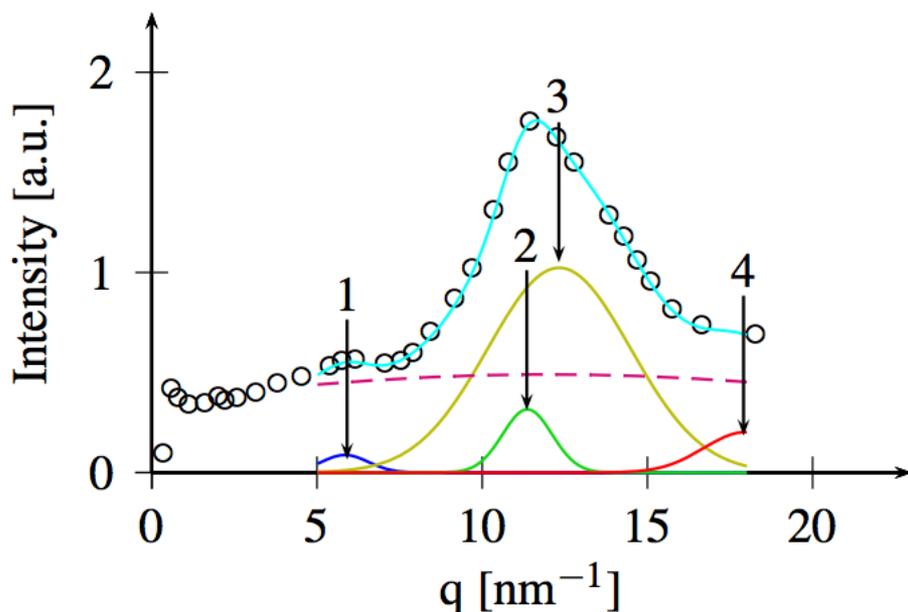


Experiments: WAXS + DIC + in-situ loading

WAXS: point A



Peak fitting



Peak 1: correlations between consecutive carbonate groups along the chain

- ($q = 6.2 \text{ nm}^{-1}$, $d = 1.0 \text{ nm}$);

Peak 2: correlations between neighbour chains

- ($q = 11.8 \text{ nm}^{-1}$, $d = 0.53 \text{ nm}$);

Peak 3: correlations between closely positioned entities along the chain

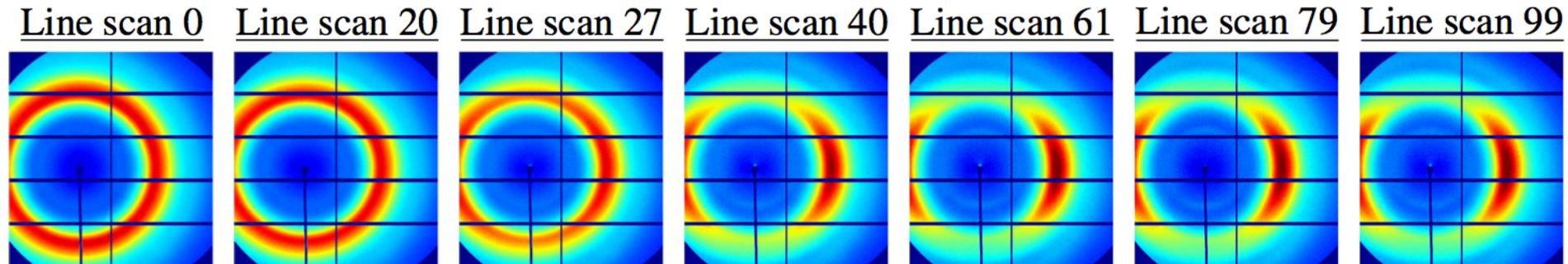
- ($q = 12.7 \text{ nm}^{-1}$, $d = 0.49 \text{ nm}$);

Peak 4: a mixture of inter- and intramolecular correlations

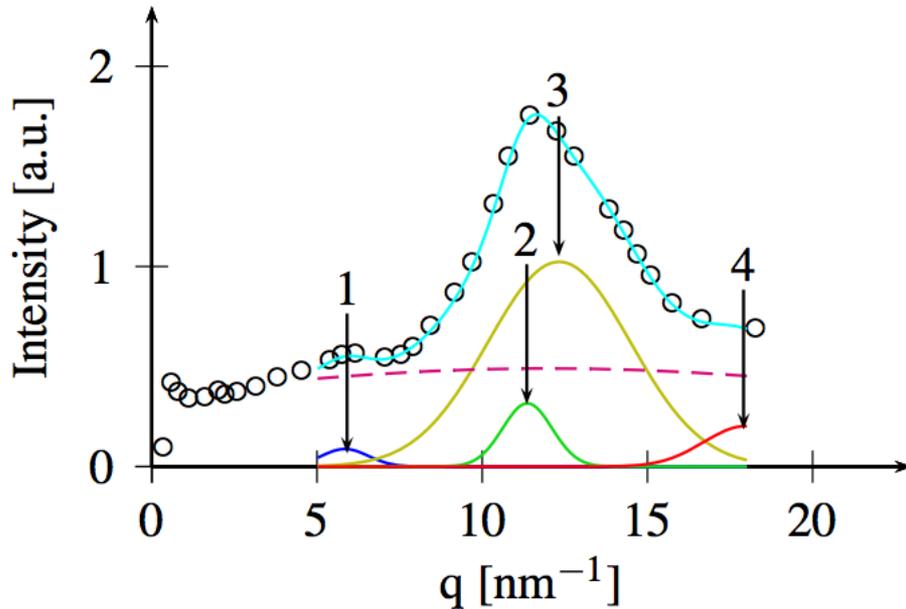
- ($q = 18 \text{ nm}^{-1}$, $d = 0.35 \text{ nm}$).

Experiments: WAXS + DIC + in-situ loading

WAXS: point A

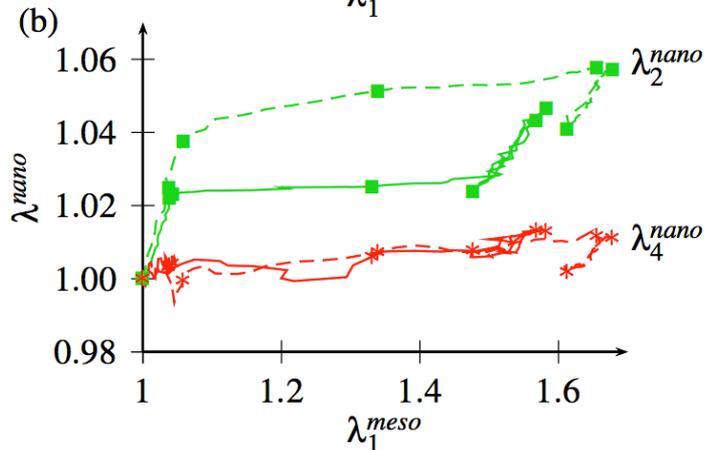
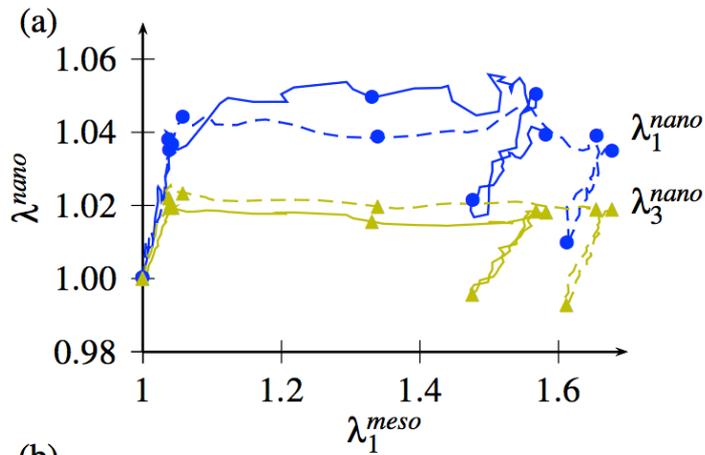
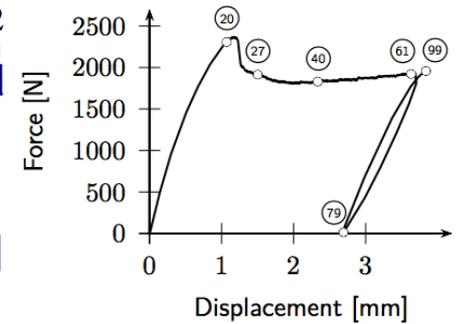
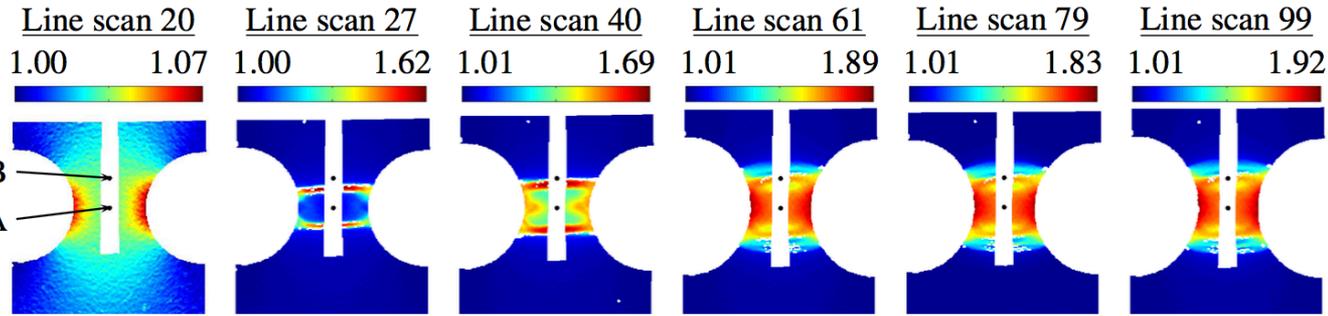


Peak fitting



- Peak positions → strain
- Peak intensities → number of scatterers, anisotropy
- Peak width → spread of q values

Multi-scale strain measurements: WAXS + DIC



λ_{meso} “meso-scopic” (local) strain from DIC

Peak 1: correlations between consecutive carbonate groups along the chain

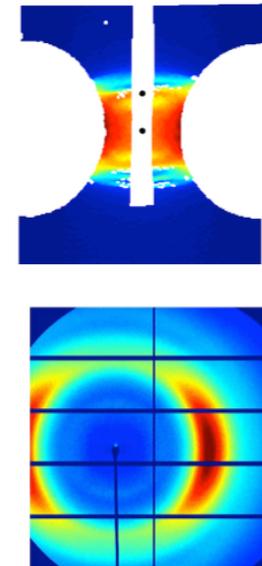
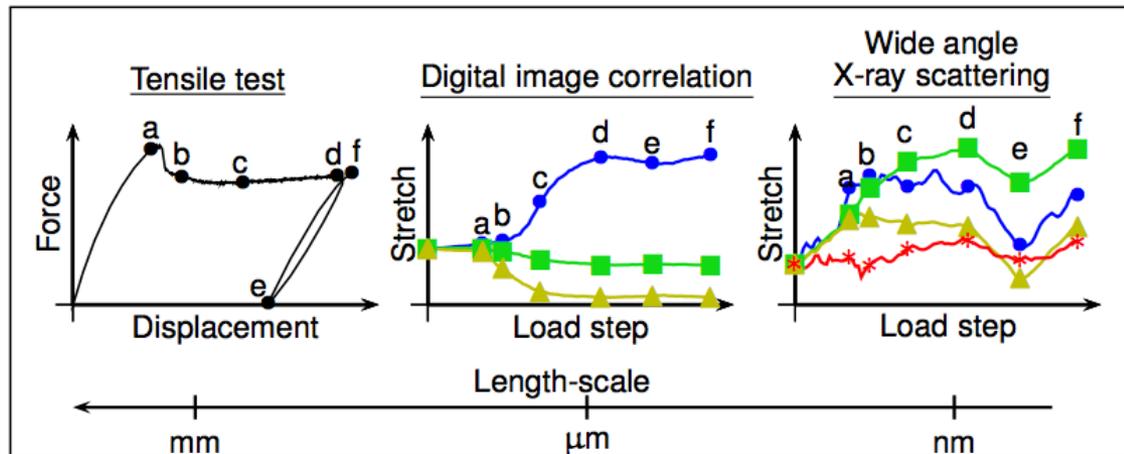
Peak 3: correlations between closely positioned entities along the chain

Peak 2: correlations between neighbouring chains

Peak 4: a mixture of inter- and intramolecular correlations

- Dashed lines – point A
- Solid lines – point B

Multi-scale Deformation of Polycarbonate Using X-ray Scattering with In-situ Loading and Digital Image Correlation



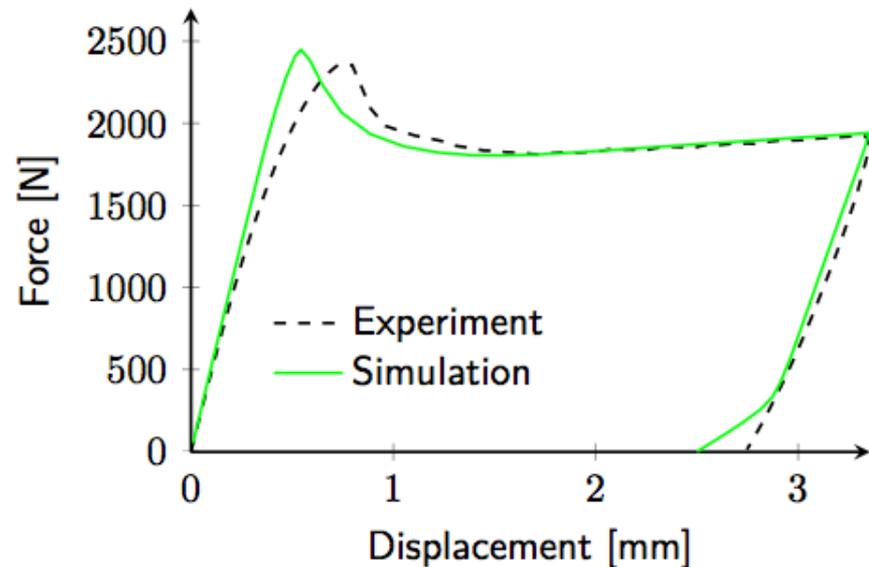
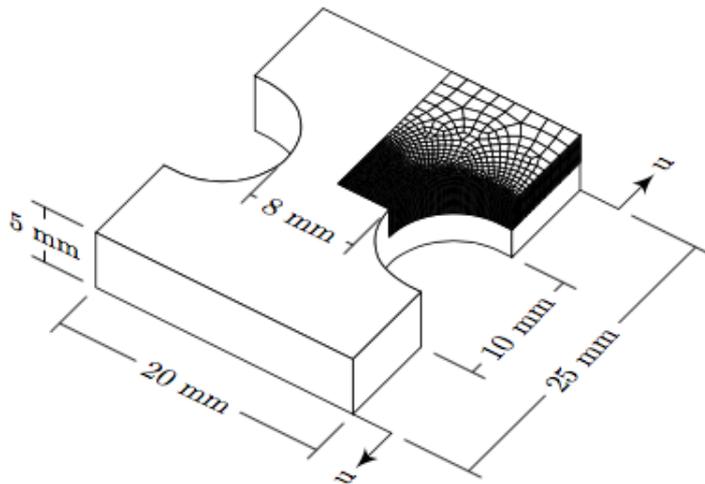
- Tensile loading: “averaged” stress-strain response of the sample
- DIC: local “macroscopic” strain field
- SAXS and WAXS: structures from about 100 nm to a few Ångström
 - Scanning to get spatial resolution

NEW MODEL FOR AMORPHOUS POLYMERS

- Elasto-plastic model with inclusion of evolving orientation-distribution function
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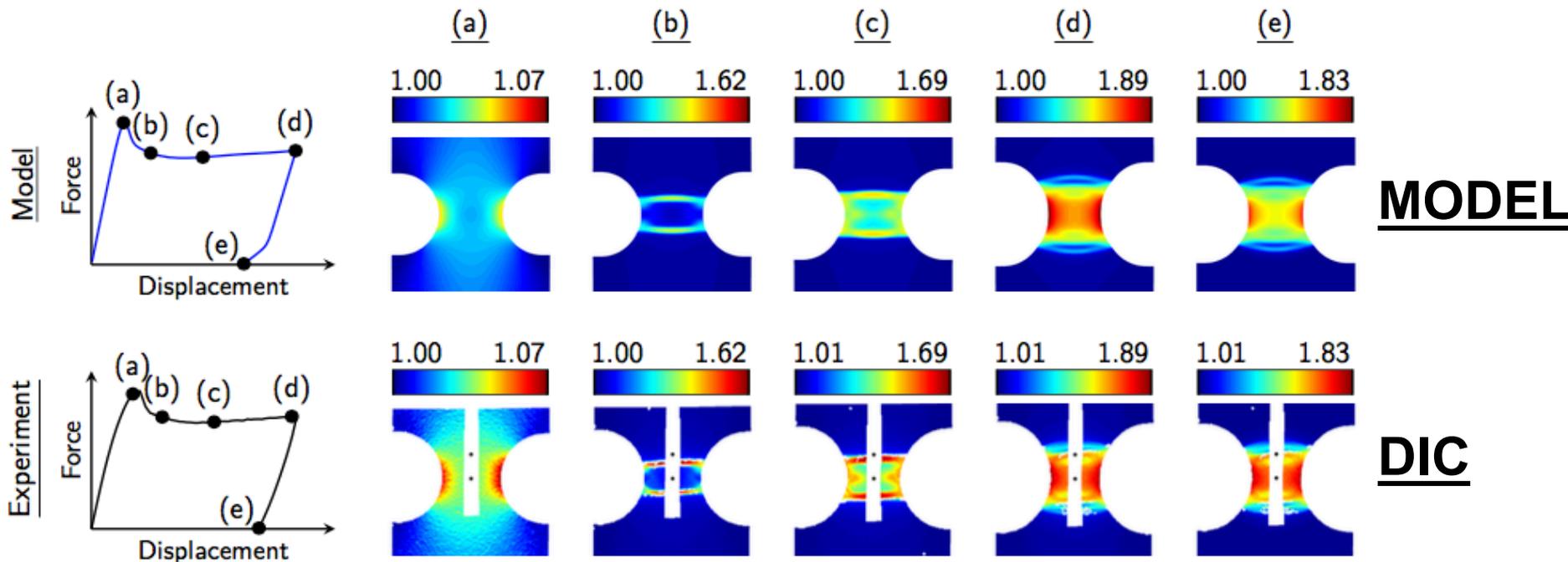
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- Simulation of experiments:

Stretch fields



SUMMARY

- Spatially-resolved measurements are essential to capture material and process heterogeneity
- Different measurement approaches can provide different details on the material behaviour
- In this case
 - DIC has been used to characterise local strains and strain heterogeneity)
 - Also provides essential information on sample thickness changes
 - X-ray scattering allows nano/micro-structural length scale evolution to be captured
 - Essential to have spatial resolution
 - Essential to also have appropriate local strain measures
- Next steps include enhancing link to modelling (beyond qualitative verification)