

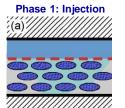
MODELING AND VALIDATION OF COMPRESSION RTM PROCESS USING P4 FABRIC



J. Merotte (MSME), Prof. S.G. Advani, Dr. P. Simacek

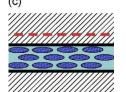
University of Delaware . Center for Composite Materials . Department of Mechanical Engineering

CRTM Phases

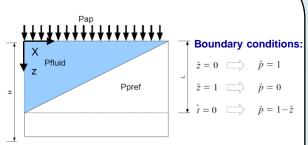


Phase 2: Gap closing

Phase 3: Compaction



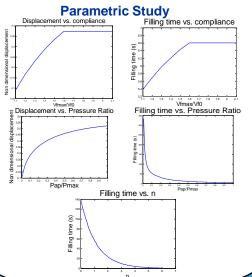
Phase 2 Study



Non dimensional behavior equations:

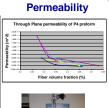
Pressure distribution:
$$\frac{\partial \hat{p}_{fluid}}{\partial \hat{t}} = \alpha \frac{v_f^{2-n}}{v_{f0} \cdot v_f'} \frac{\partial^2 \hat{p}_{fluid}}{\partial \hat{z}^2}$$

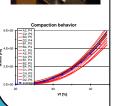
Flow front progression:
$$\frac{\partial \hat{L}}{\partial \hat{t}} = \gamma \; \frac{\partial \; \hat{p}_{fluid}}{\partial \; \hat{z}_{z=L}}$$



Material Characterization

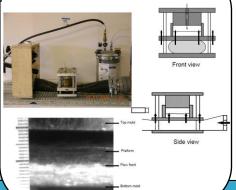








Experimental setup



Experiment / Simulation

| | Experiment | Simulation |
|------------------------|------------|------------|
| Initial thickness (mm) | 12 | 12 |
| Final Thickness (mm) | 8 | 8.3 |
| Filling time (s) | 3.3 | 6.6 |
| FLOW FRONT PROGRESSION | | |

Future Work

Include the phase two behavior in the CRTM code.

Verify the results:

on a larger scale experiment on more complex parts

Conduct a study on injection nodes to increase process speed.

Acknowledgements

This work is supported with funds from the National Science Foundation (NSF) in conjunction with the Department of Energy under Grant DMI-0521789