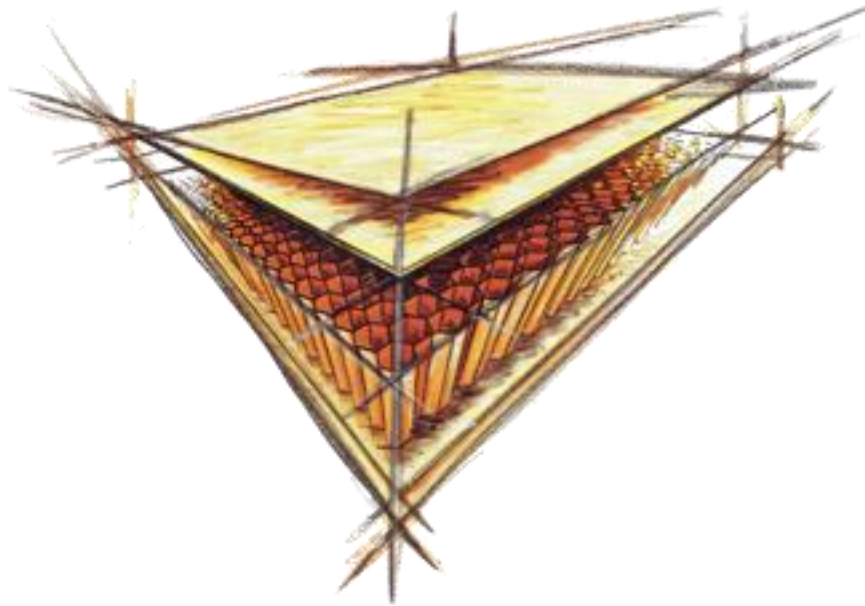




3D Honeycomb for Curved Structure Manufacturing

3D Honeycomb

Agenda:

1. Introduction
2. Goal
3. 3D h/c applications, manufacturing, properties
4. Case studies
5. Demonstrator
6. Conclusion

Introduction

Project Participants:

EURO-COMPOSITES: Martin Pütz
Marco Wittlich

ESTEC: Hermann Fischer
Ugo Lafont
Alexander Ihle

HPS: Paolo Zolla

Goal

The objective of this activity is to:

- Demonstrate the added technological and manufacturing values using 3D honeycomb for curved composite structures
- Demonstrate the manufacturing process with tests on samples, breadboards and a (subscale) demonstrator
- Demonstrate the suitability for space applications

EC Claim:

- Ease of manufacturing of double curved structures
 - No/Less splicing or milling process
 - Lower risk, better surface quality and easier lay-up

3D honeycomb trade-off

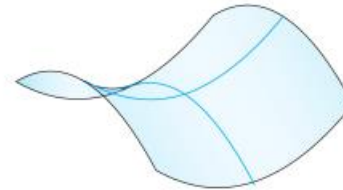
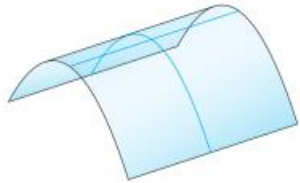
MONOCLASTIC



SYNCLASTIC



ANTICLASTIC



		K1				
		++	+	0	-	--
K2	++	sc	sc	mc	ac	ac
	+	sc	sc	mc	ac	ac
	0	mc	mc	flat	mc	mc
	-	ac	ac	mc	sc	sc
	--	ac	ac	mc	sc	sc

sc

synclastic

mc

monoclastic

ac

anticlastic

++

high pos. Curvature

+

low pos. Curvature

0

no Curvature

-

low neg. Curvature

--

high neg Curvature

3D

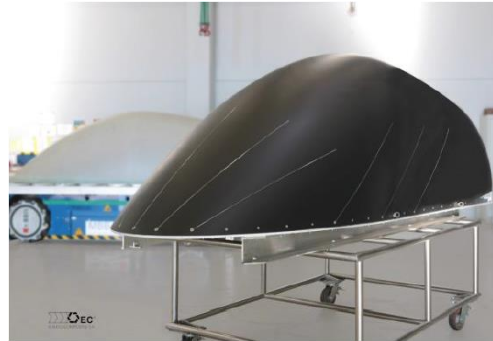
3D or Hex

Hex

Possible 3D honeycomb applications



Business class seats



Radome



Ground antenna



Payload fairing

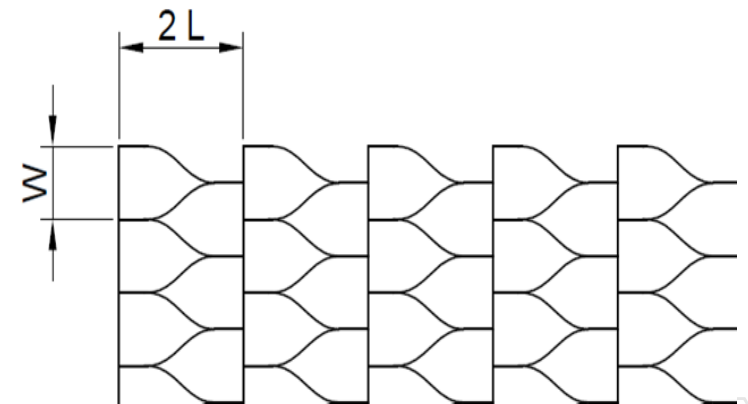
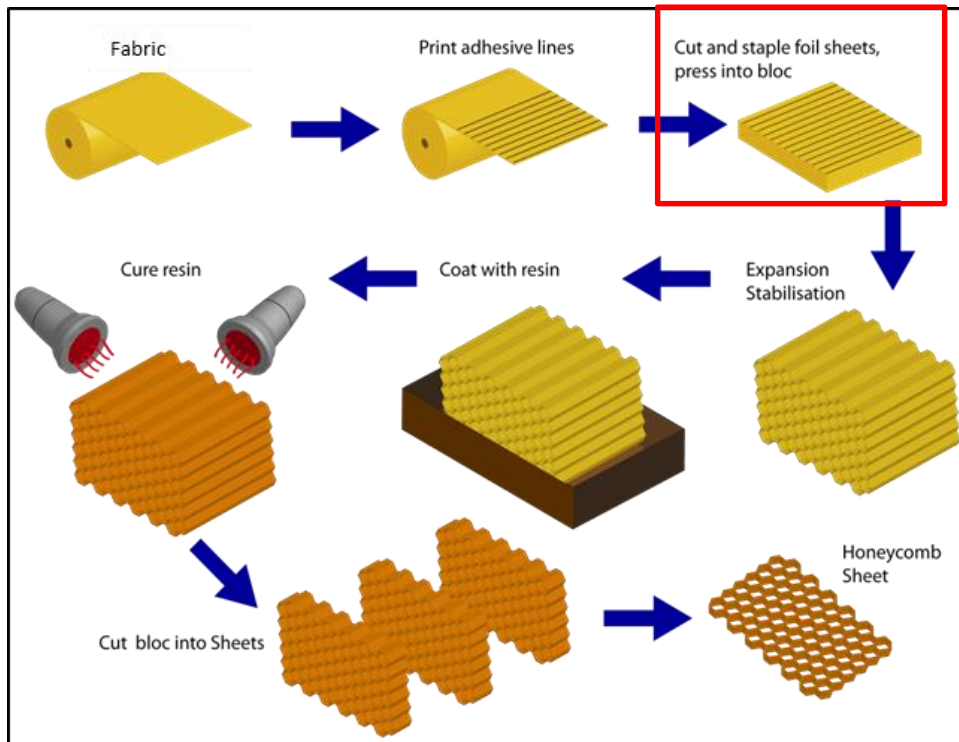


Launch vehicle adapter cone



Antenna reflector

3D honeycomb manufacturing



3D honeycomb manufacturing trials

Basic material	E-Glass	Quartz-Glass	carbon fibres	Al 3003	Al 5056	Al 5052
Fabric/ Foil	81/105 gsm	60 gsm	60/68 gsm	60 μm	33 μm	33 μm
Density [kg/m ³]	64	-	-	160 / 105	65	72 / 36
Status	Successful	Failure (expanding)	Failure (expanding)	Successful	Successful	Successful

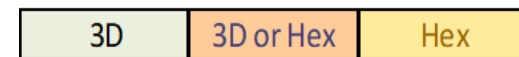


3D honeycomb mechanical properties

Product type*	Cell size (mm)	Density (kg.m ⁻³)	Compression ASTM C365		Plate Shear ASTM C273			
					L-Direction		W-Direction	
			Strength (MPa)	Modulus (MPa)	Strength (MPa)	Modulus (MPa)	Strength (MPa)	Modulus (MPa)
Al 5056	3.2	72	4.83	1276	3.10	483	1.79	262
3D Al 5056	3.0	70	3.80	1187	2.77	462	1.23	147
3D/Hex			-21.3%	-7.0%	-10.6%	-4.3%	-31.3%	-43.9%
E-Glass	4.8	64	4.15	315	1.8	100	1.10	50
3D E-Glass	5.0	64	3.70	374	2.00	123	1.10	48
3D/Hex			-10.8%	18.7%	11.1%	23.0%	0.0%	-4.0%

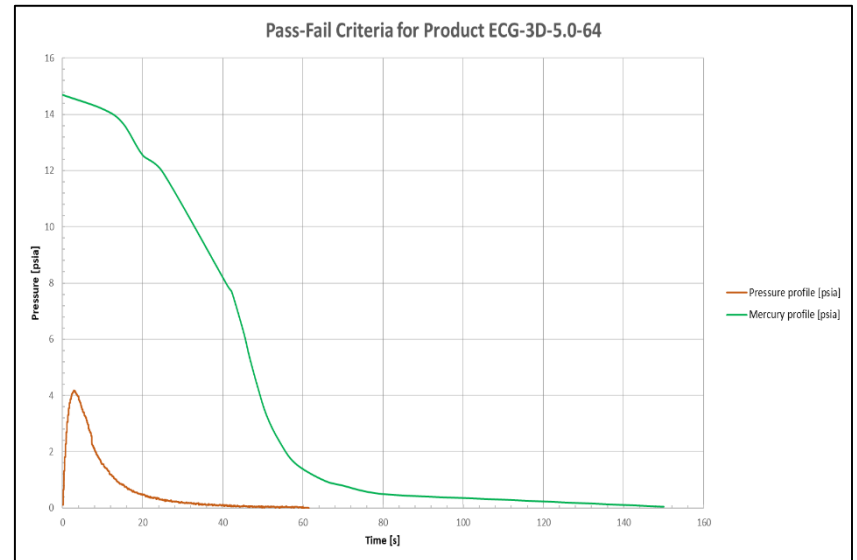
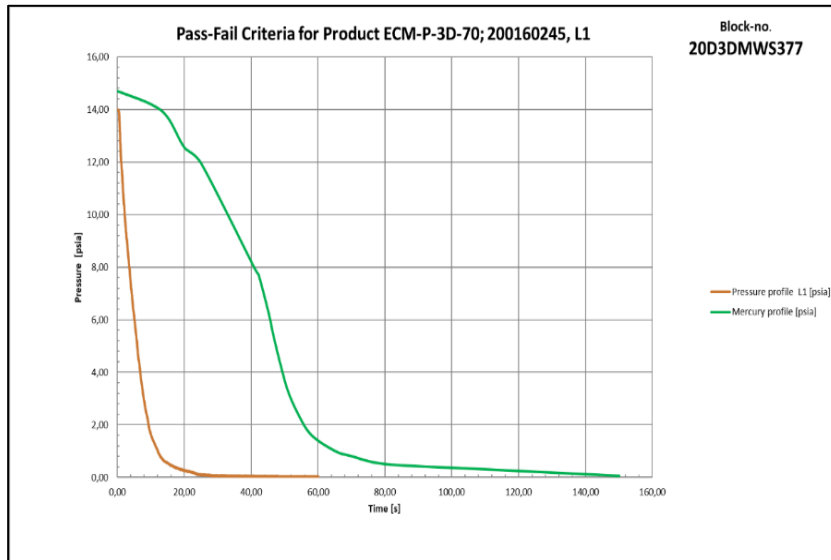
* All data presented are based on tests related to the development phase.

Better mechanical properties



Less Splice/easier manufacturing/less manufacturing costs

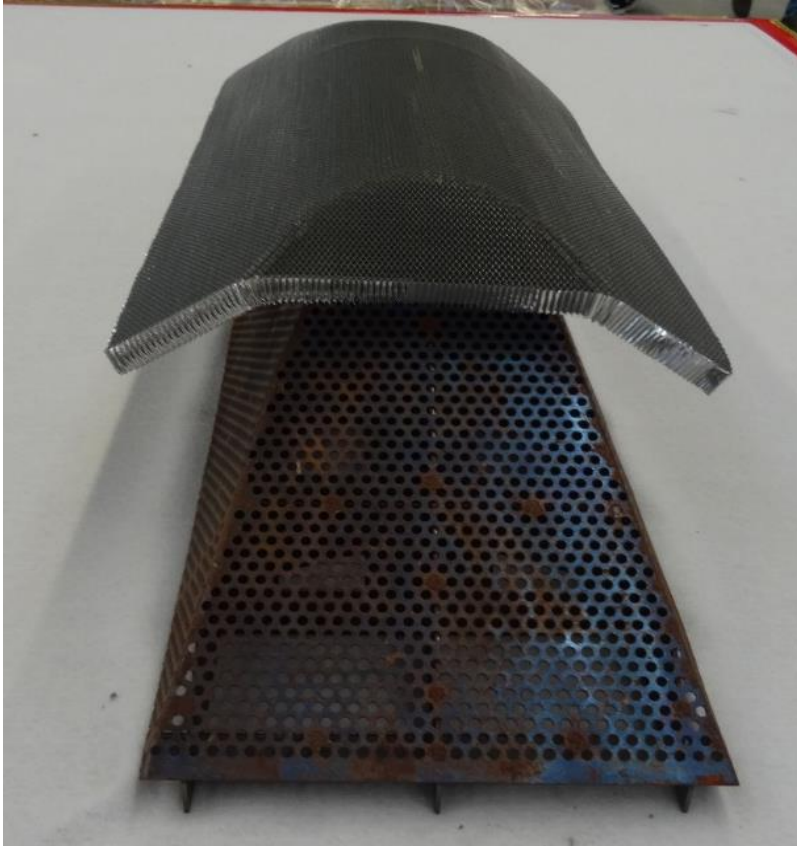
Venting / Outgassing



Honeycomb type	Actual results (mean value)	Acceptance Value *	Actual results (mean value)	Acceptance Value *	Actual results (mean value)	Acceptance Value *
	RML %	RML %	CVCM %	CVCM %	TML %	TML %
ECM-P-3D 3.0-70 (5056)	0,047	< 1,0	0,012	< 0,10	0,081	-
ECG 4.8-64	0,280	< 1,0	0,000	< 0,10	0,799	-

* In accordance to ECSS-Q-ST-70-02C

Preforming trials



Deformation radius 100mm
Sheet thickness: 16 mm

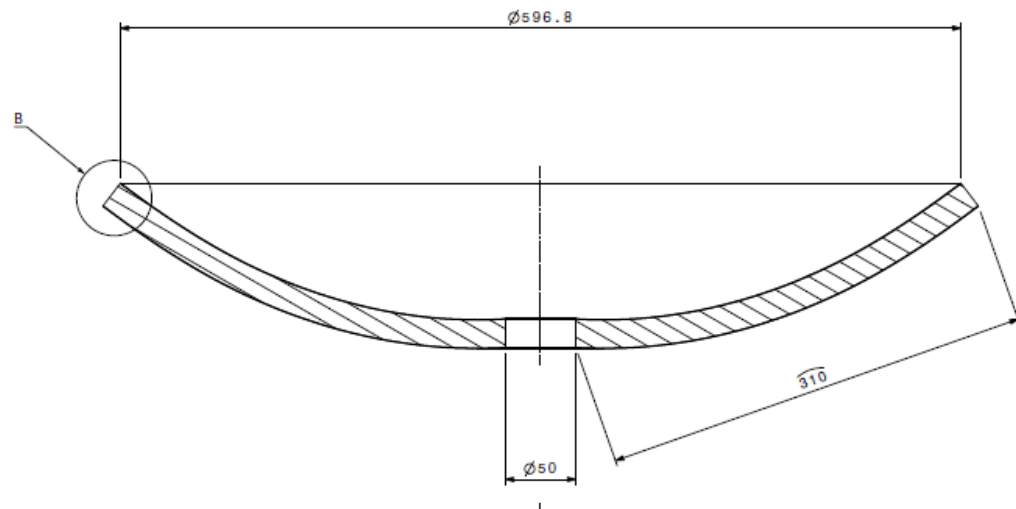
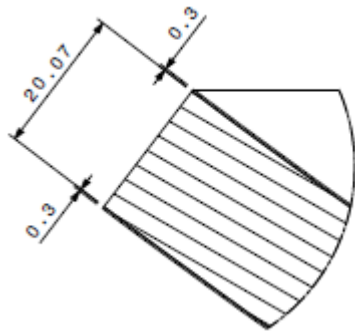
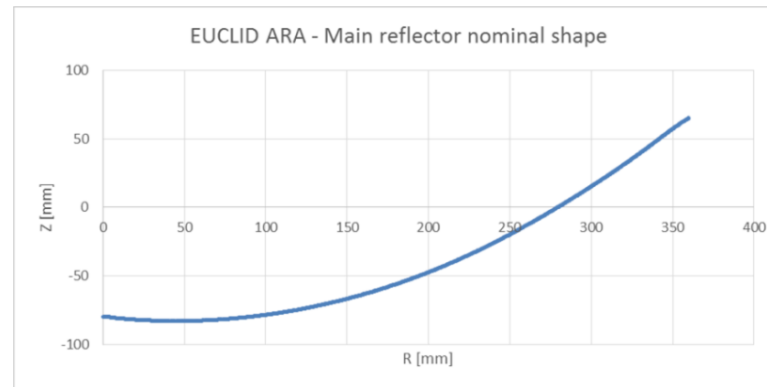


Antenna reflector shape
Sheet thickness: 19 mm

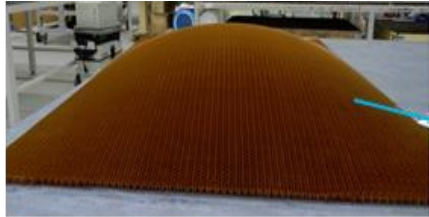


Case study 1 (antenna reflector) input

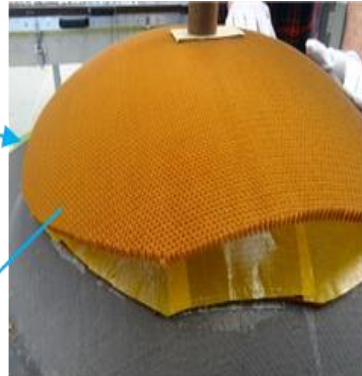
Input by HPS (Munich)



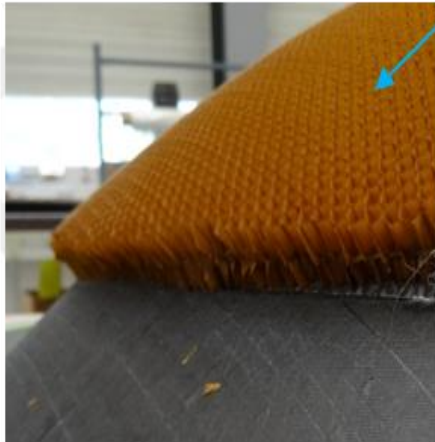
Case study 1 (Antenna reflector)



Heat formed core segment



Trimmed segment on the lay up tool



Formed core after bonding

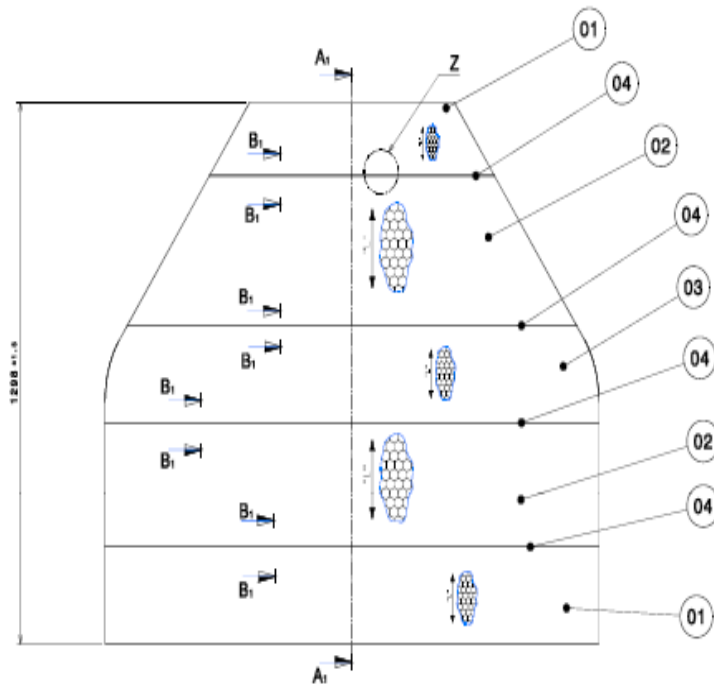
Materials:

- ECG-3D 5.0-64, 3D honeycomb
- UD carbon prepregs
- Epoxy adhesive film

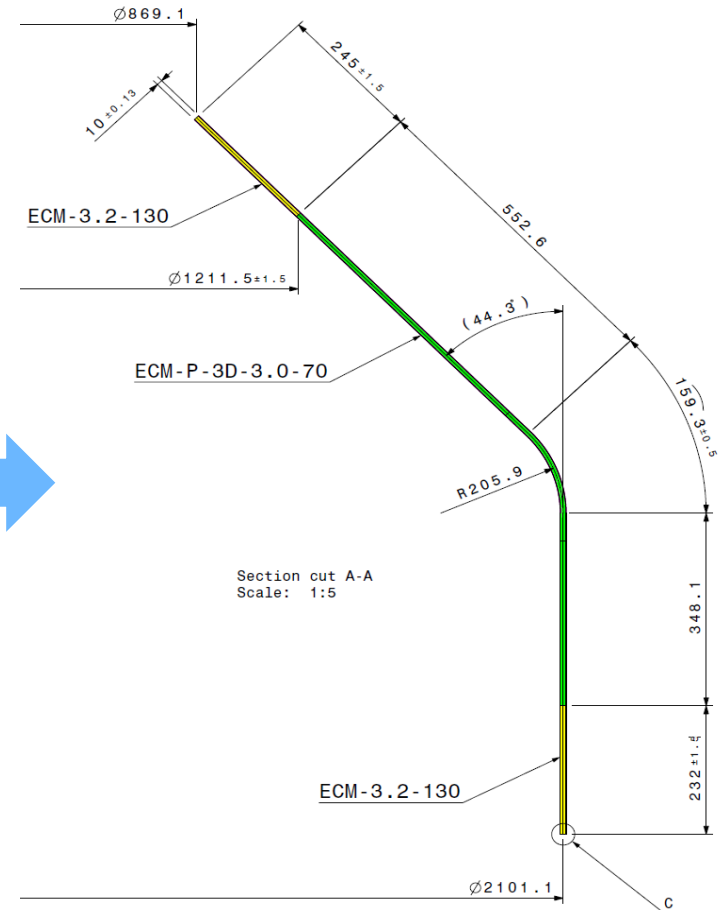
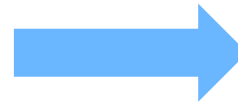


Case study 2 (VESPA) Input

Input by Airbus Madrid



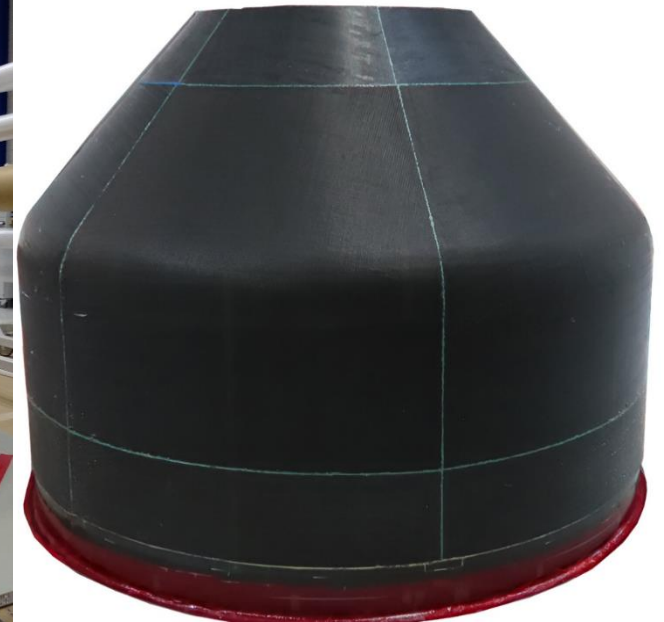
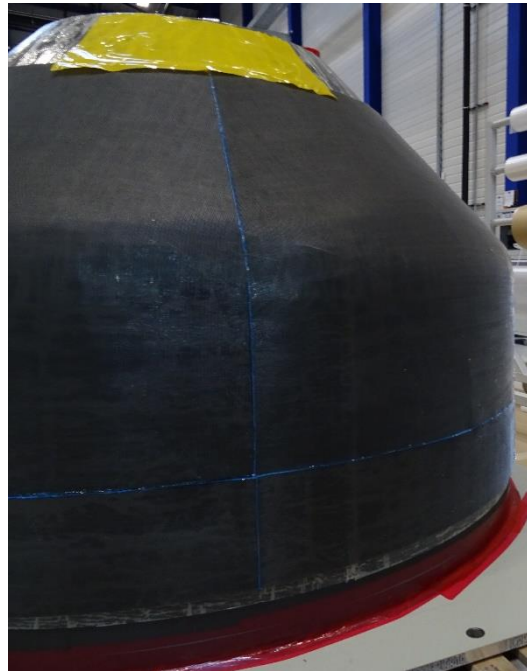
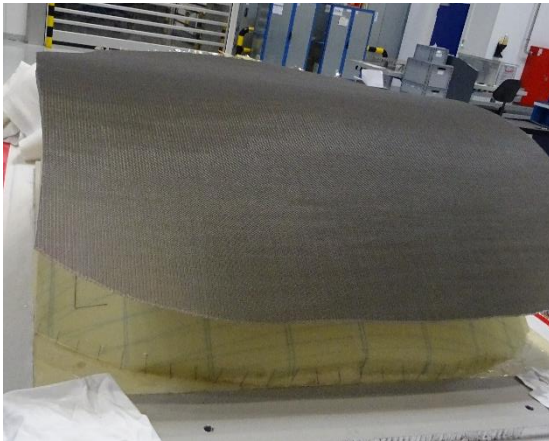
- 1: 130 kg/m³
- 2: 50 kg/m³
- 3: 104 kg/m³



Case study 2 (VESPA)

Materials:

- ECM-P-3D 3.0-70 (5056) , 3D h/c
- UD carbon prepregs
- Epoxy adhesive film



Feedback on case studies

HPS on Antenna Reflector

- If machining can be avoided, this would be a big step to a more robust process
- Core density should be lower
- Splitting of the core introduces complexity
- Fabric prepregs should be used
- HPS using aluminium cores

Airbus on VESPA

- Applicability of 3D aluminium core is unlikely
- For Airbus it's not easy to introduce new material
 - High amount of tests and qualification efforts
- Double curved structure are rather the exception

Case study influences on demonstrator

Case Study 1 -
Antenne
reflector with
Glass fibre 3D
H/C-core

Prepreg:

- Fabric
- Higher resin content

Curing:

- Autoclave

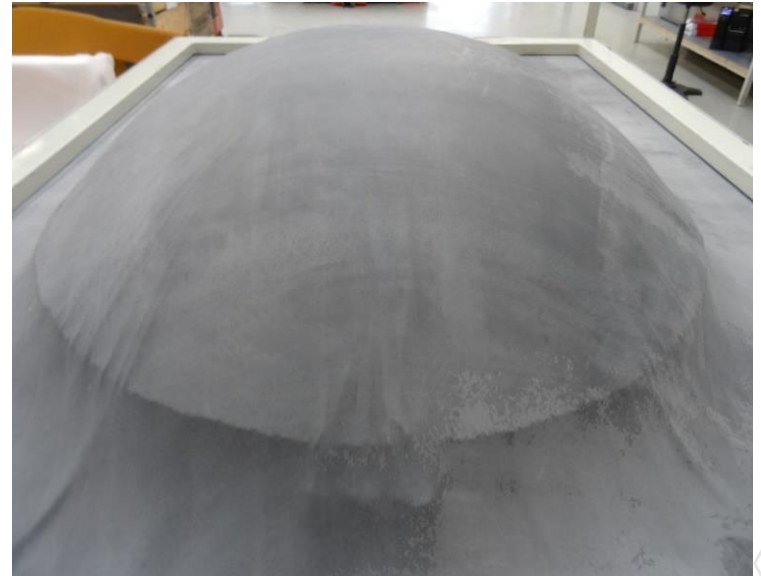
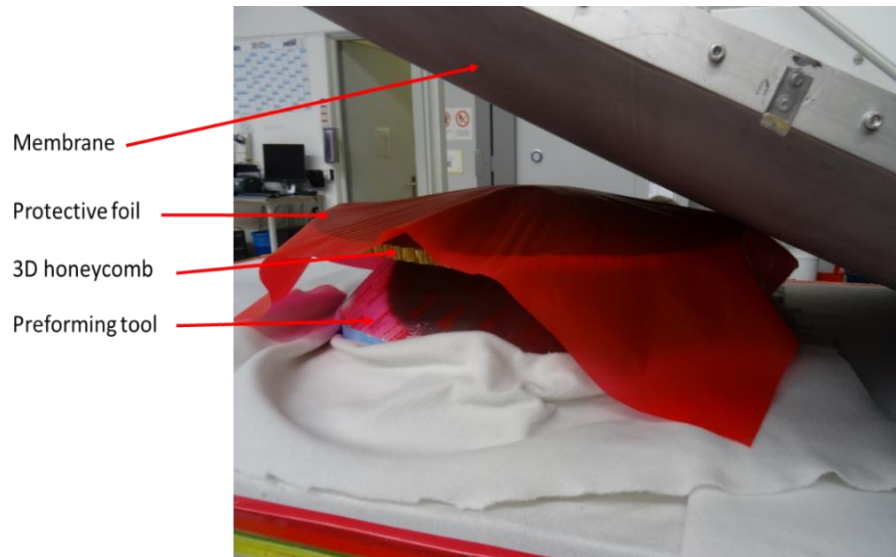
Demonstrator
Antenna
reflector with
Aluminium
3D-H/C core

Case Study 2-
VESPA
structure with
Aluminium 3D-
H/C core

Core:

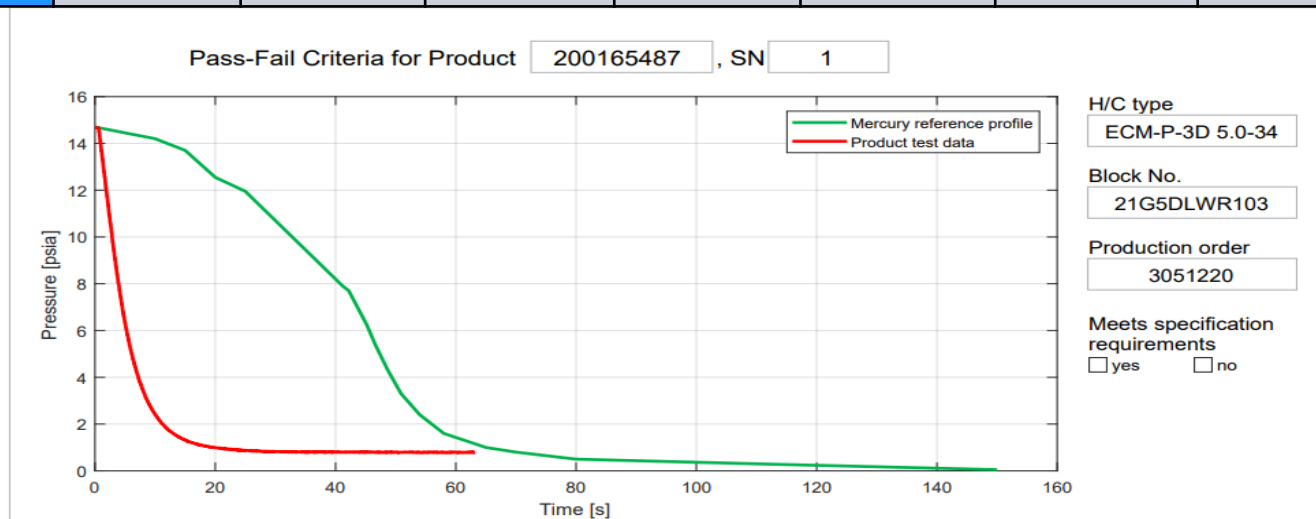
- Aluminium core
- One 20 mm thick sheet
- Full size

Preforming trial



Mechanical properties / Venting

Product type*	Cell size (mm)	Density (kg.m ⁻³)	Compression ASTM C365		Plate Shear ASTM C273			
					L-Direction		W-Direction	
			Strength (MPa)	Modulus (MPa)	Strength (MPa)	Modulus (MPa)	Strength (MPa)	Modulus (MPa)
ECM 4.8-32 5056 PAA-CP	4.8	32	0.93	208	0.92	266	0.52	126
ECM-P-3D 5.0- 34 PAA-CP	5.0	34	0.86	164	0.58	195	0.38	80
3D/Hex			-7.5%	-21.2%	-37.0%	-26.7%	-26.9%	-36.5%



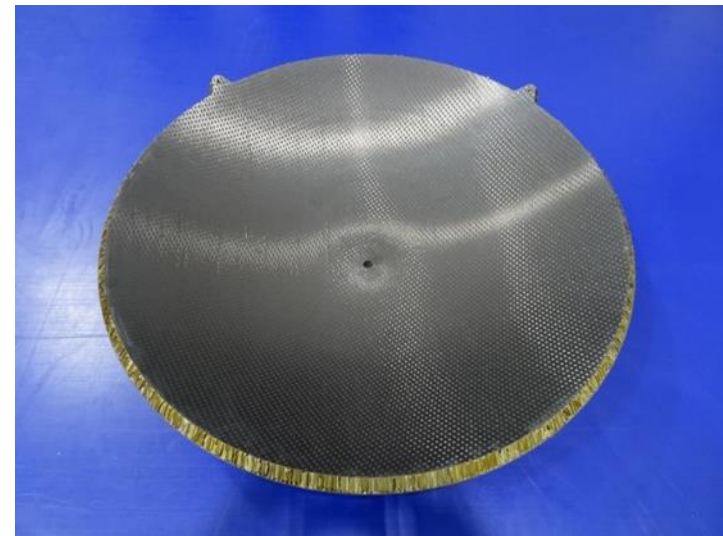
Venting test performed according PCD ECP204-00

Demonstrator (Antenna reflector)



Materials:

- ECM-P-3D 5.0-34 5056 PAA-CP, 3D h/c
- Twill carbon prepregs (0,63mm/side)
- Epoxy adhesive film – Hexbond 319L



Modal measurement

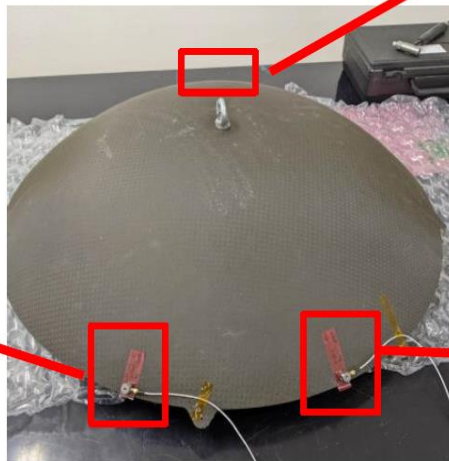
Excitation point
Node 14151
(Not visible in the overall picture)



Accelerometer 1
Node 10720

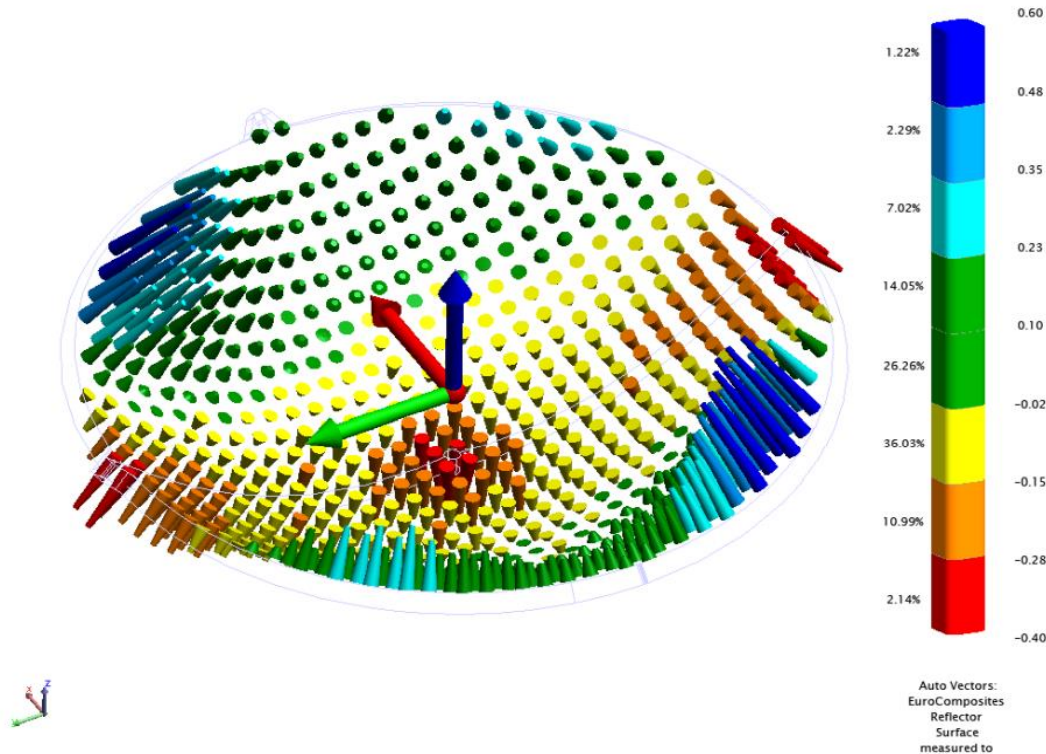


Accelerometer 2
Node 12819



	Measured frequency [Hz]	Predicted frequency [Hz]	Difference
Mode 1	168	158	+6%
Mode 2	323	370	-13%
Mode 3	556	606	-8%
Mode 4	565	691	-18%

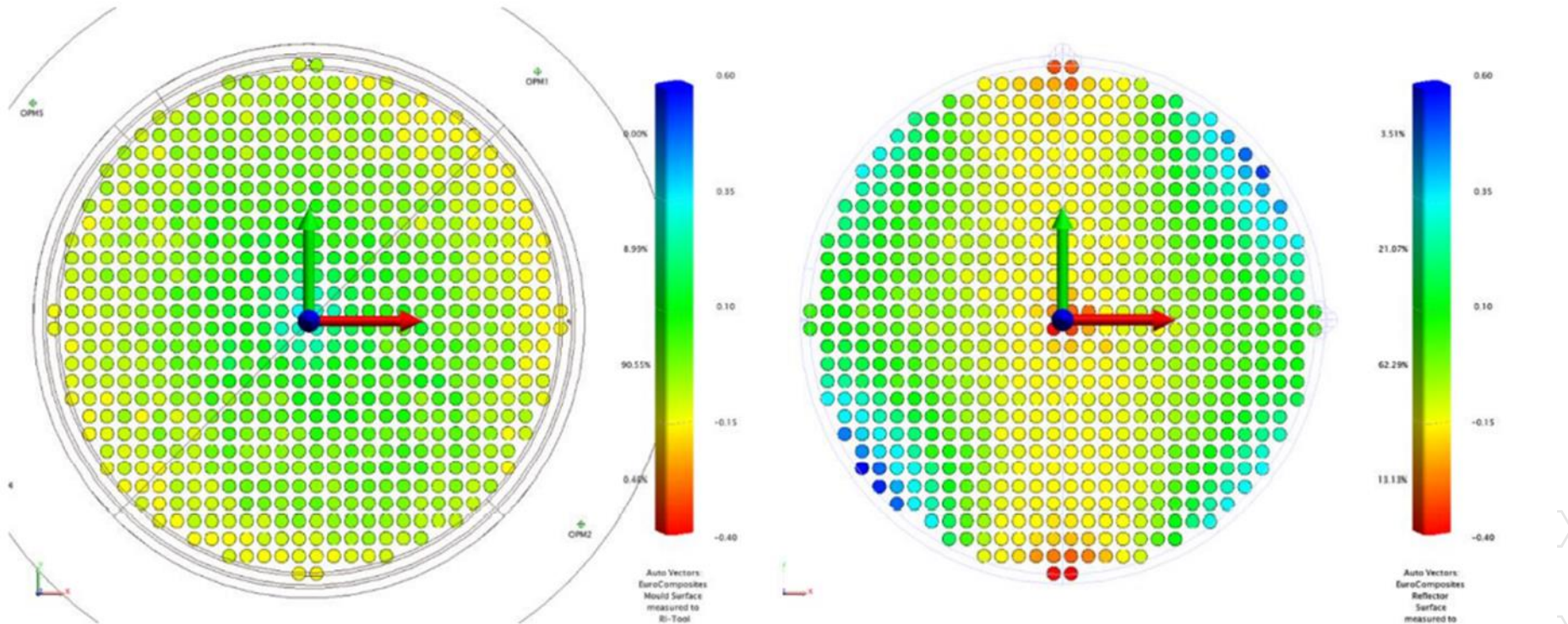
Surface accuracy measurement



	dX [mm]	dY [mm]	dZ [mm]	Mag [mm]
Min	-0.29	-0.26	-0.39	-0.40
Max	0.32	0.25	0.45	0.60
Average	-0.00	0.00	-0.00	0.01
StdDev from Avg	0.07	0.07	0.13	0.16
StdDev from Zero	0.07	0.07	0.13	0.16
RMS	0.07	0.07	0.13	0.16

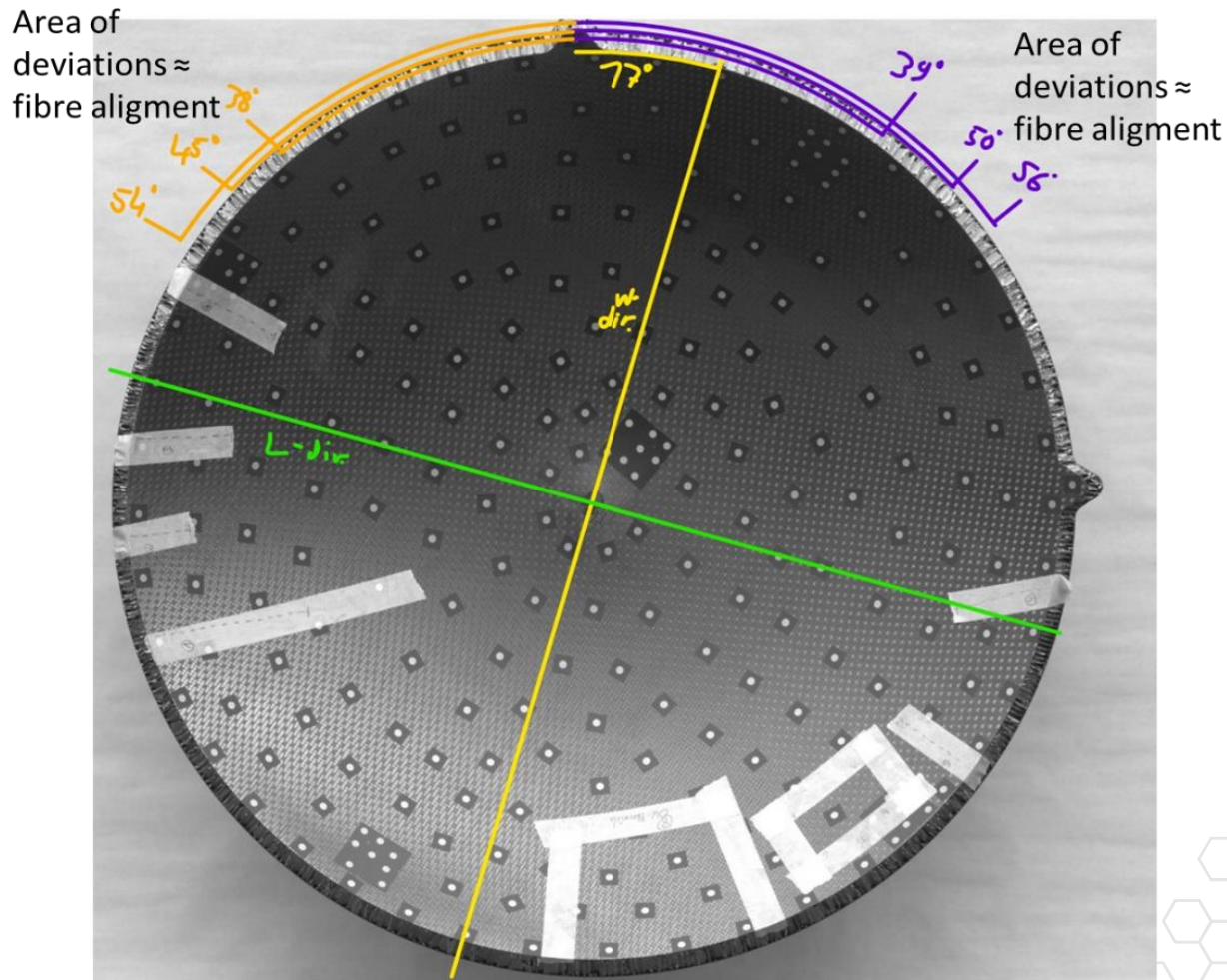
Distance (in mm) between the measurement points and the CAD model of the reflector

Comparison mould (Lay-up tool) vs Antenna reflector

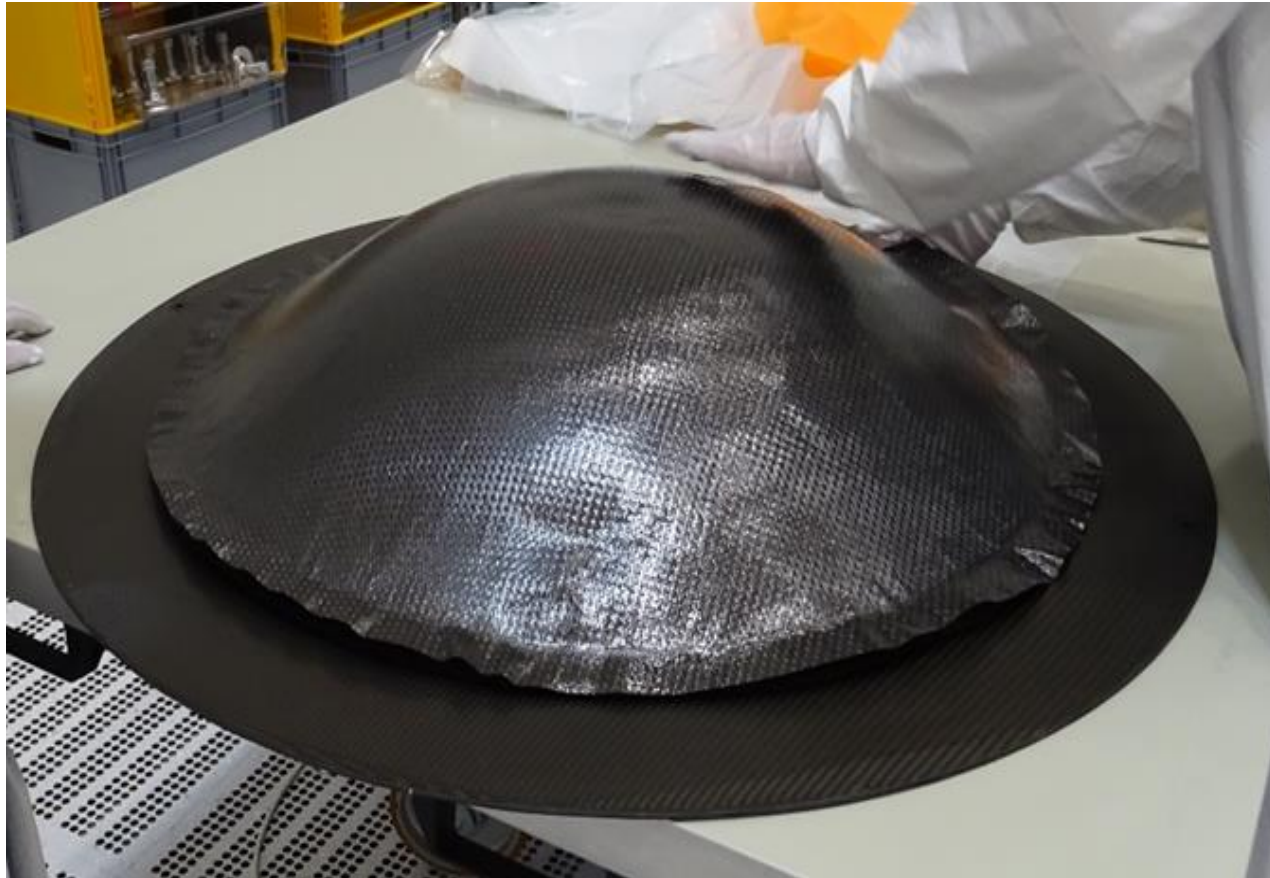


Distance (in mm) between the measurement points and the CAD model of the mould / reflector. The color scale is the same for the two plots

Fibre alignment surface accuracy

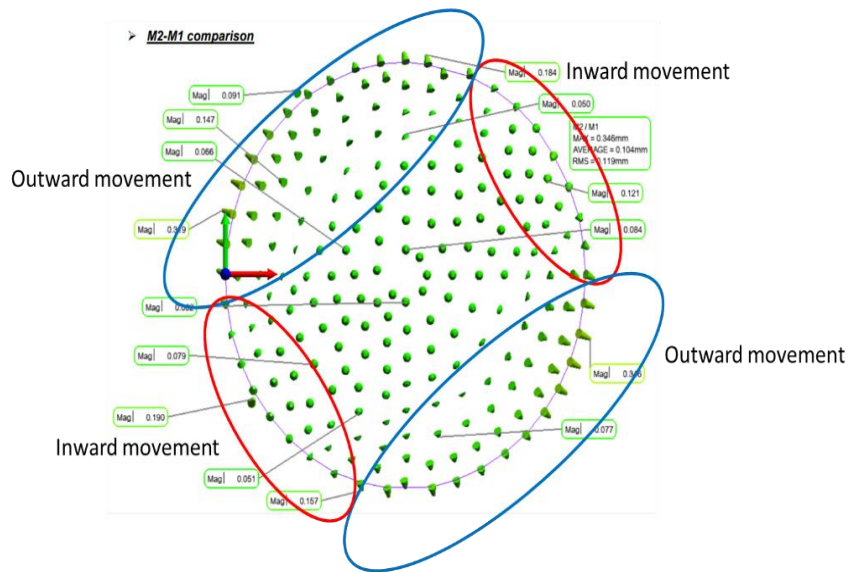


Fibre alignment surface accuracy

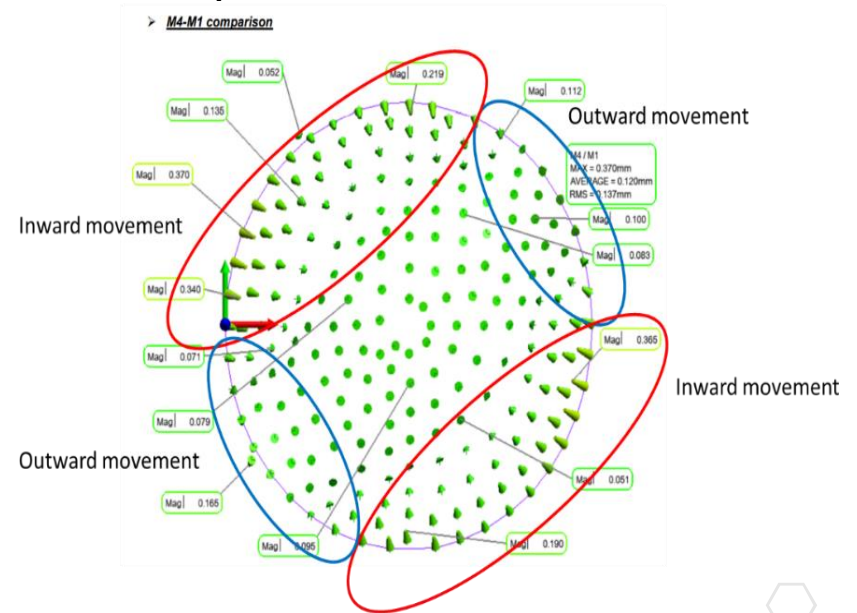


Thermal elastic distortion (TED) test

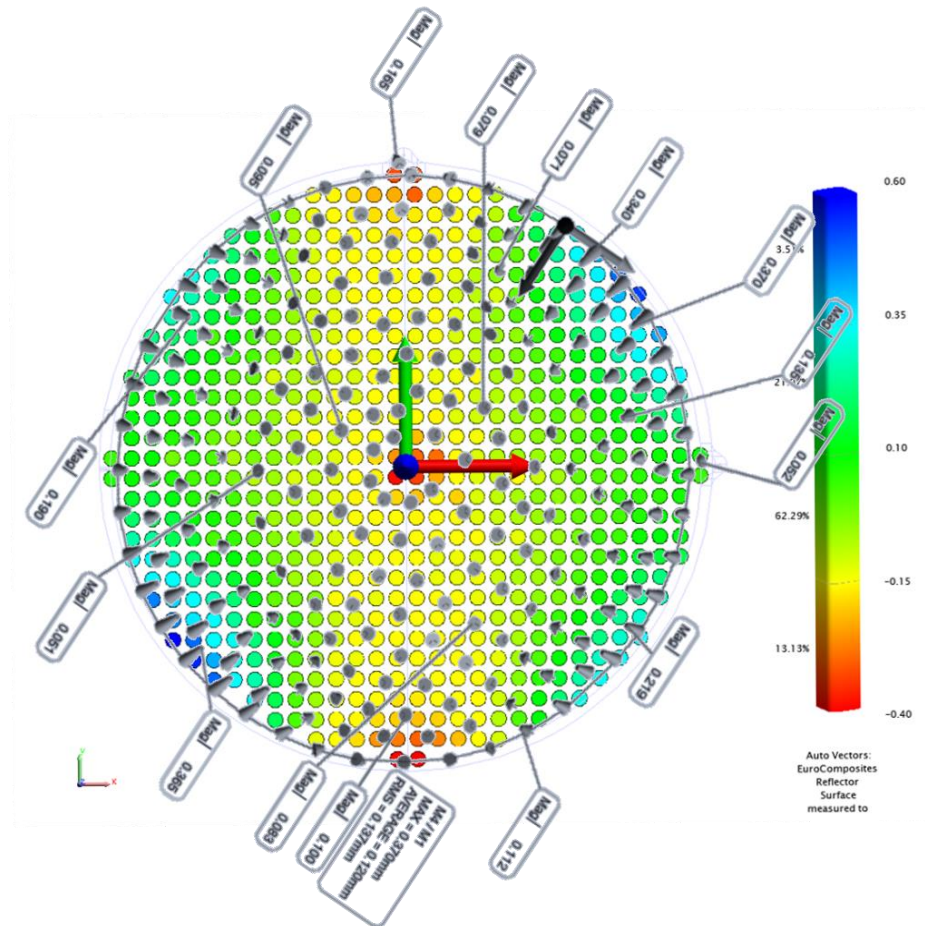
Comparison 100° C/20° C



Comparison -50° C/20° C



Thermal elastic distortion (TED) test



Comparison Surface Accuracy and TED (-50° C/20° C) measurement

Conclusion 3D honeycombs

- Successful double curved structure manufacturing
- High potential to avoid extensive milling and splicing
 - Labor time and cost reduction
- Enables to build parts with:
 - Double curvatures
 - Smaller bending radii

