

CASMaT

Villum Center for Advanced Structural and Material Testing

## Material properties of FRP materials and sandwich panels at elevated temperature

*Mohsen Rezaei, Vasileios Karatzas, Christian Berggreen*

1<sup>st</sup> International Symposium on Multi-Scale Experimental Mechanics

DTU Risø Campus, Roskilde, Denmark, 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2016

*<sup>1</sup>Lightweight Structures Group, Department of Mechanical Engineering  
Technical University of Denmark, 2800 Kgs Lyngby, Denmark*

A collage of mathematical symbols and formulas. On the left, the heat conduction equation is shown:  $\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\lambda}{\rho c_p} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2}$ . To its right is an integral  $\int_a^b \epsilon \Theta$ . Further right is a plus sign, a square root  $\sqrt{17}$ , and another integral  $\int \delta e^{i\pi}$ . Below these are the infinity symbol  $\infty$ , the Greek letter chi  $\chi^2$ , the summation symbol  $\Sigma$ , and the number  $\{2.7182818284\}$ . Other symbols include a greater-than sign  $>$ , a comma  $,$ , and a curly brace  $\}$ .

# Outline

- Characteristics of composite materials
- Determination of the mechanical properties at elevated temperatures
  - ✓ Tensile, Compressive and shear Properties of E-glass/epoxy Composite Material
  - ✓ Core Shear and compressive Properties of Sandwich Structure
- Results
- Conclusion

# Characteristics of FRP Composites



*M80 Stiletto – America's Largest Carbon Fiber combat Ship, 2016*

- Lightweight
- High specific strength/stiffness



- Limited performance at elevated temperatures, combustible



# Determination of the mechanical properties at higher properties

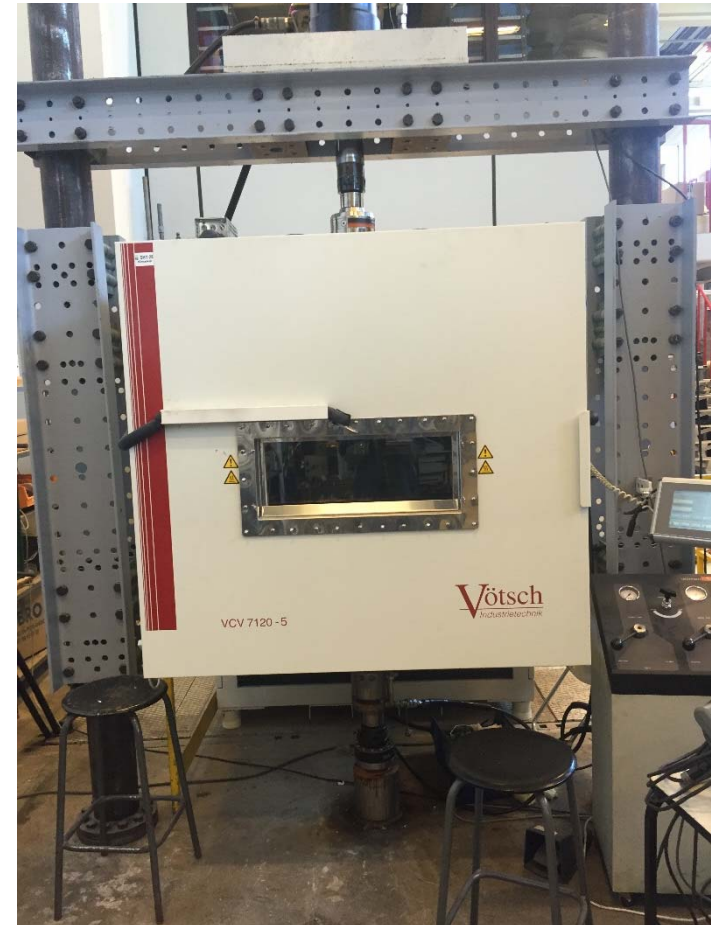
The composite structure was designed using:

- GBX450L-1250 E-glass Stitched
- Fabric fibre orientation of  $0^{\circ}/90^{\circ}$
- Prime 20LV epoxy resin
- Sandwich core PET Divinycell P100 (DIAB)
- Test were performed on an Instron servo-hydraulic testing machine with a 100 kN capacity.
- A circulating air oven was mounted to the testing machine.



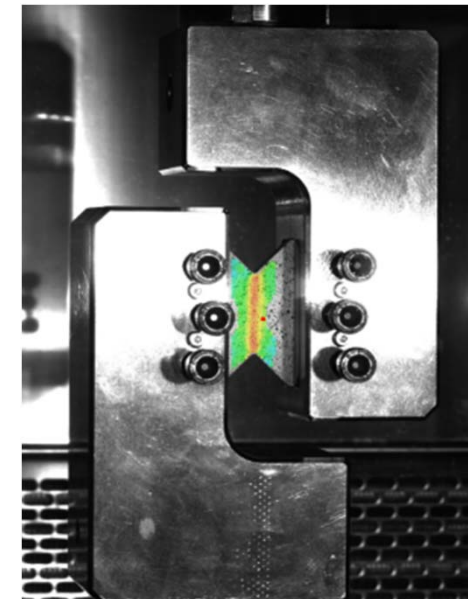
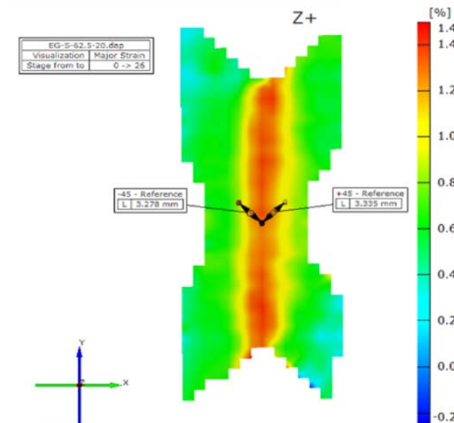
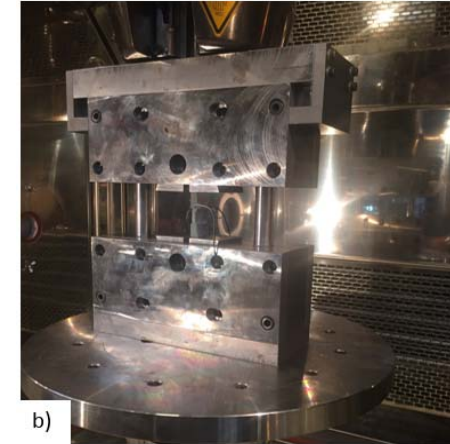
# Determination of the mechanical properties at higher properties

- specimens were exposed at the prescribed temperature up to the point that thermal equilibrium achieved.
- Specimens were tested with intervals of 25°C starting from room temperature to 100°C. Tensile test were continued till 175°C.
- At least 3 specimens were tested for each interval.

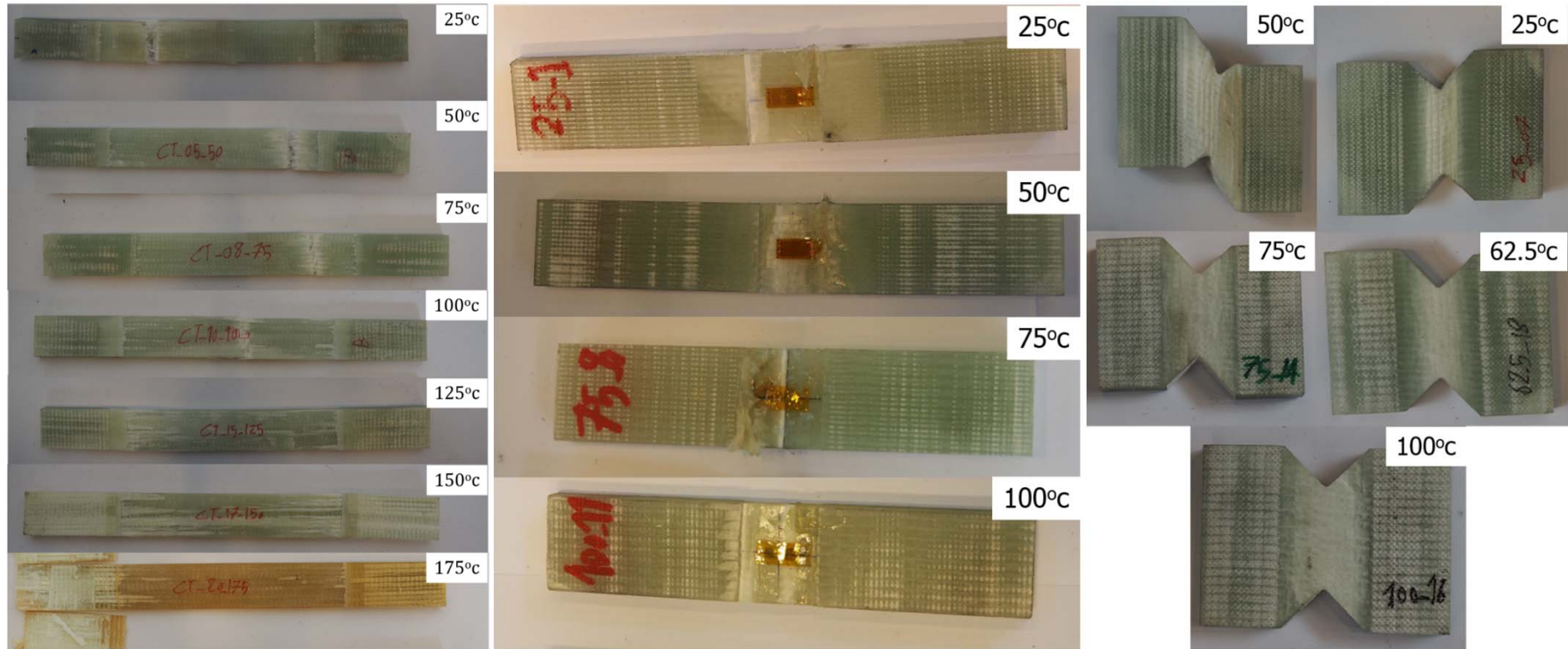


# Material Properties of E-glass/epoxy Composite

- Modulus and ultimate strength in:
  - Tensile (using extensometers)
  - Compression (using strain gauges)
  - Shear (using 12M DIC system)
- According to existing ASTM standards



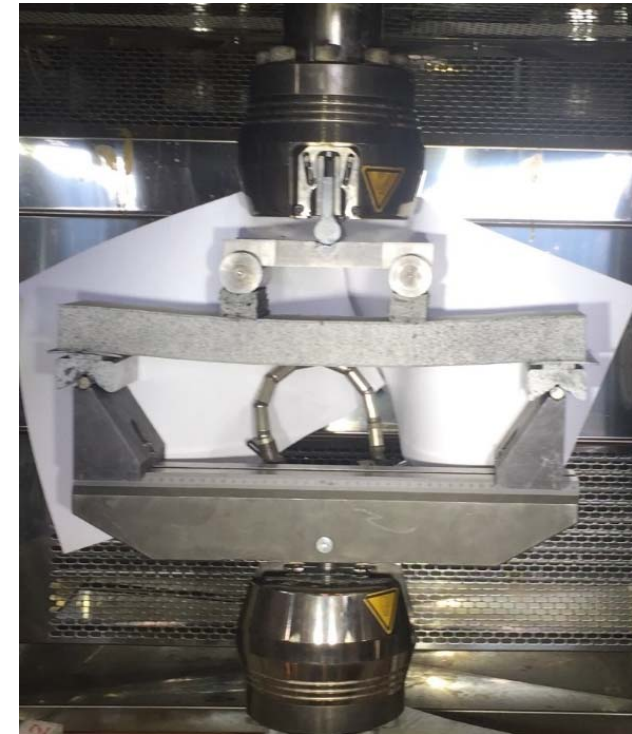
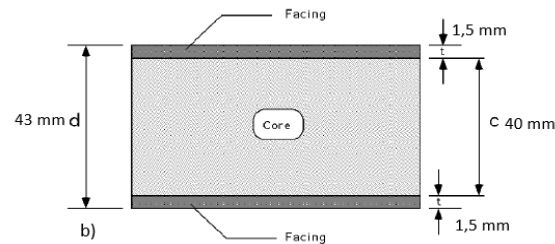
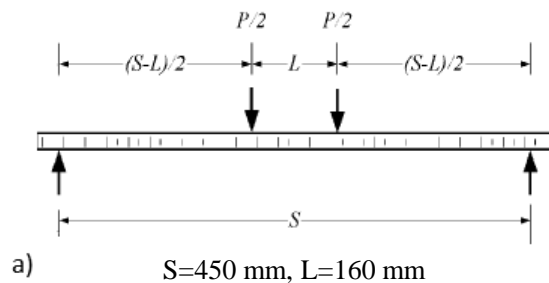
# Material Properties of E-glass/epoxy Composite



Failure surface of specimens after different exposure temperatures in tensile, compression and shear test (one specimen per exposure time)

# Core Shear Properties of Sandwich structure

- According to standard C393/C393M-11  
Test Setup:
- Displacement control mode- 3 mm/min
- Core Shear modulus were measured according to the standard. The beam mid-span deflections were measured using Aramis system.



Experimental setup for four-point bending test of sandwich beams



# Core Shear Properties of Sandwich structure

- Some of the Specimens at room temperature were failed due to core shear failure and some due to indentation. Core shear strength measured at room temperature is equal to 0.88 Mpa.
- All the specimens at elevated temperatures were failed due to indentation. Therefore Considering the effect of temperature on core shear strength is not achieved.



Failure due to a) core shear failure at room temperature  
b) indentation at elevated temperatures ( 50 °C and above)

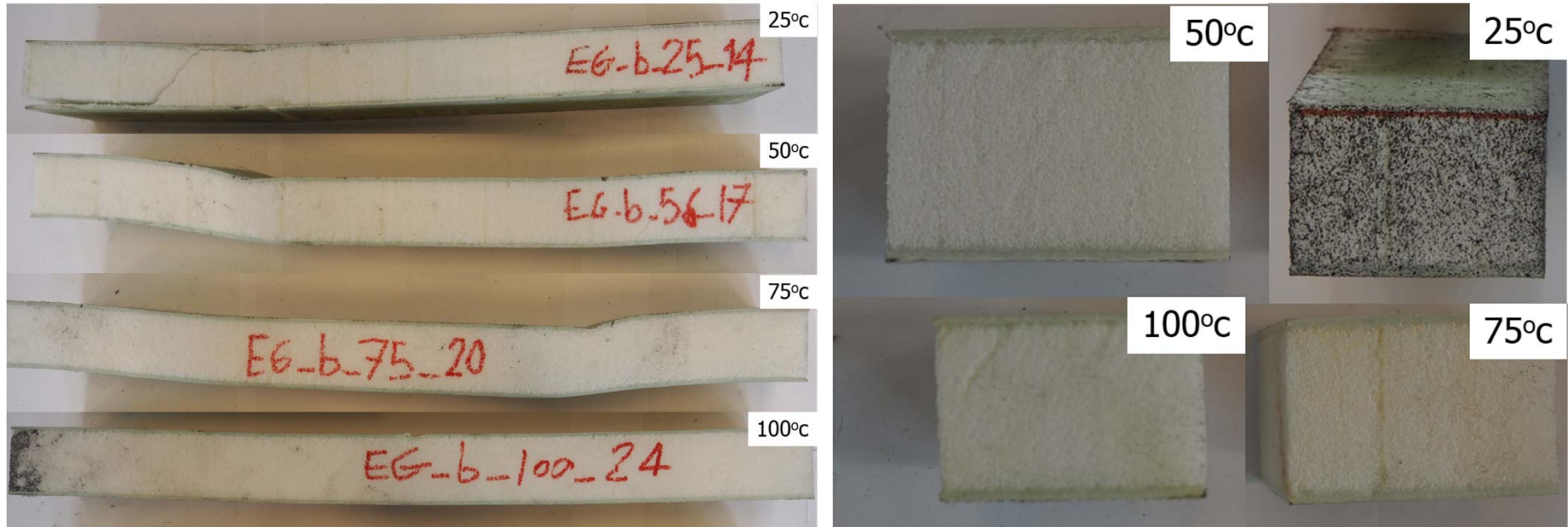
# Core Compressive Properties of Sandwich structure

- According to standard C365/C365M-16 Test Setup:
- Displacement control mode- 0.5 mm/min
- Core Compressive modulus and ultimate Strength were measured followed by standard. (The deflection of the sandwich specimens were measured using Aramis system).
- Panel is cut to the specimens with 60 mm × 60 mm dimensions.



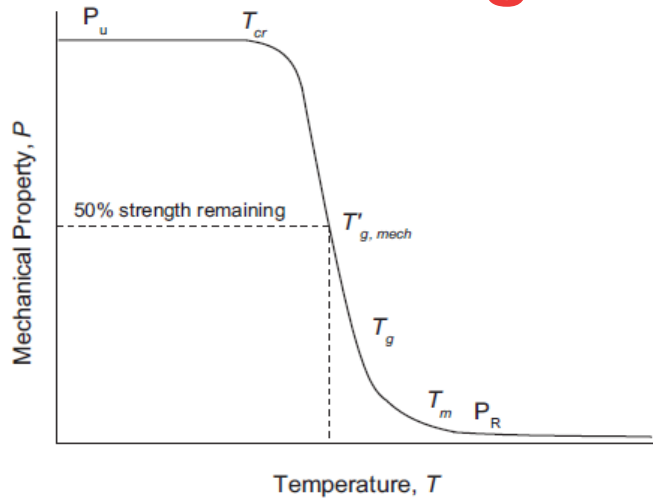
Experimental setup for flatwise compression test of sandwich beams

# Material Properties of Sandwich Core



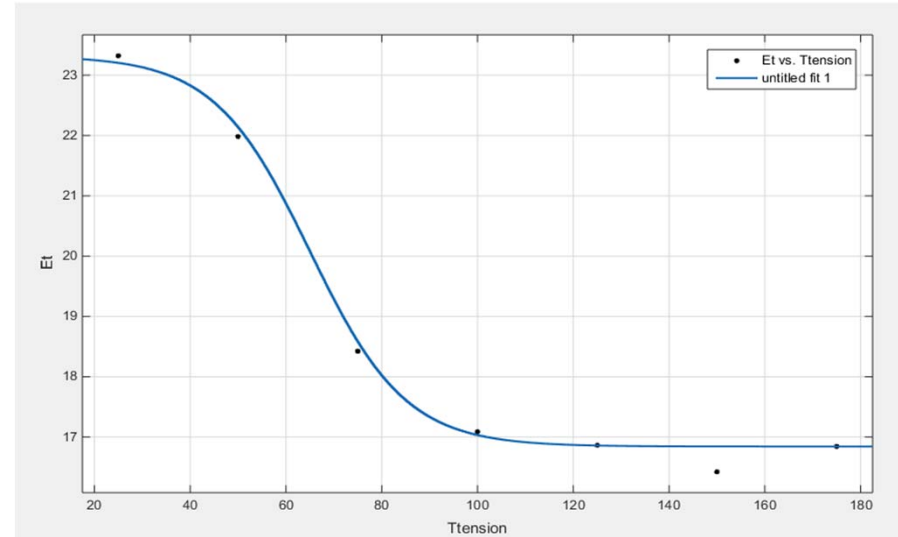
Failure surface of specimens after different exposure temperatures in core compression and core shear test (one specimen per exposure time)

# Curve fittings

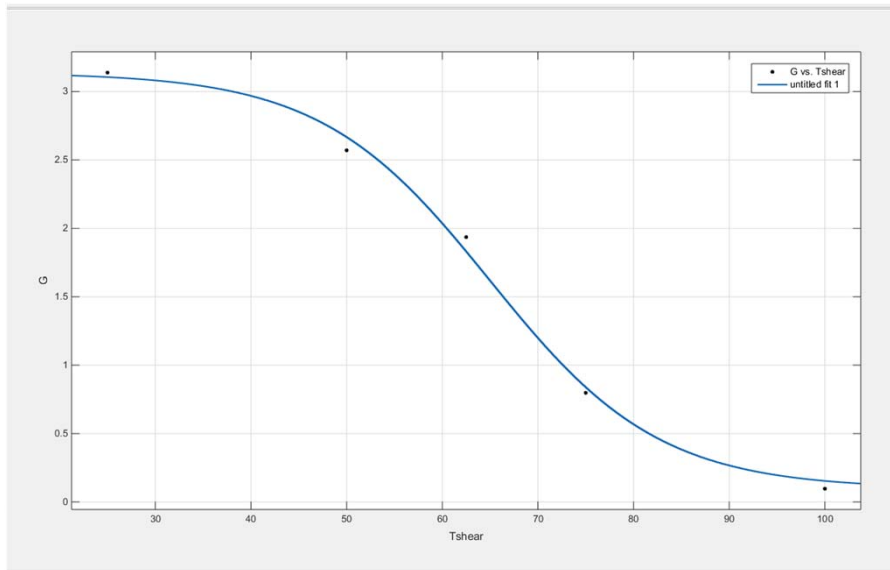


"Fire Properties of polymer composite materials", Mouritz & Gibson, 2006

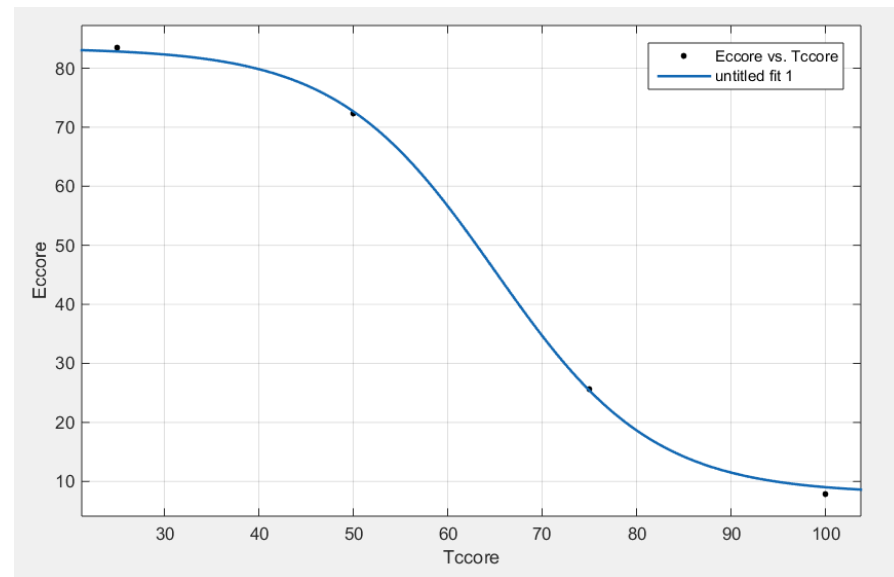
$$P(T) = P_U - \frac{P_U - P_R}{2} (1 + \tanh(k(T - T_{g, mech})))$$



Curve fitting for tensile modulus,  $T_{g, mech} = 65^\circ\text{C}$



Curve fitting for shear modulus,  $T_{g, mech} = 65^\circ\text{C}$

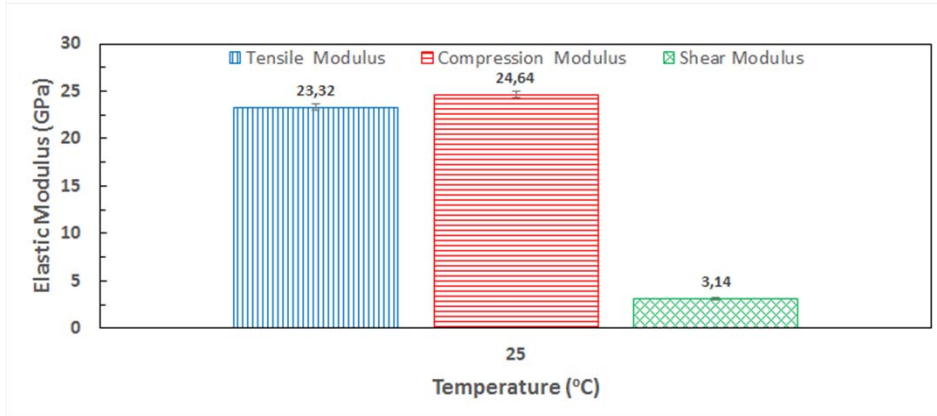


curve fitting for core compressive modulus,  $T_{g, mech} = 65^\circ\text{C}$

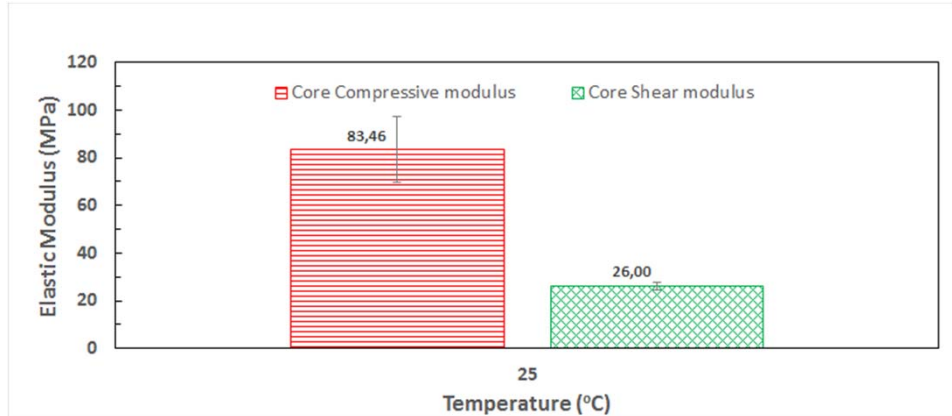


# Results: Material Properties at room temperature

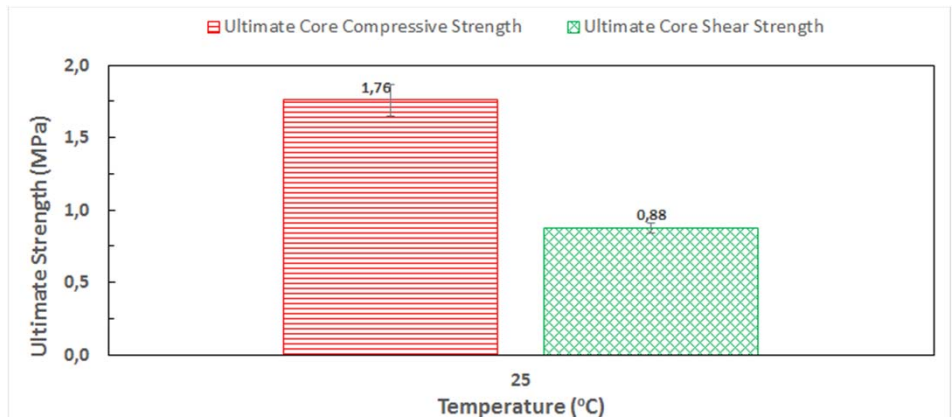
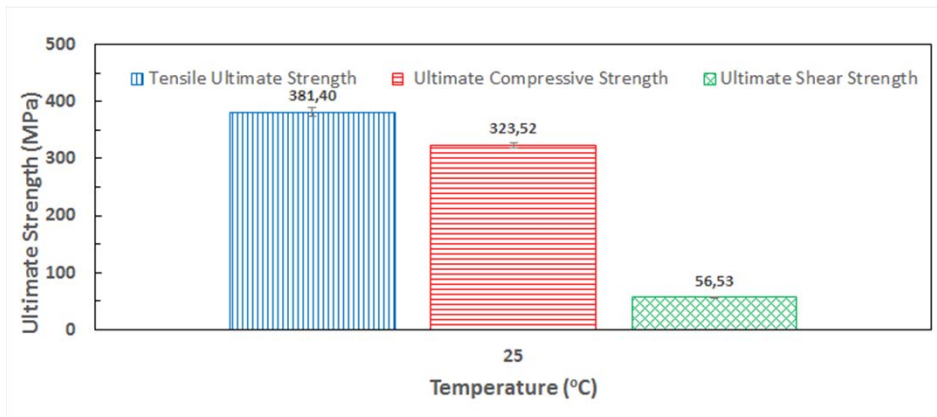
Modulus: (G/E Composite)



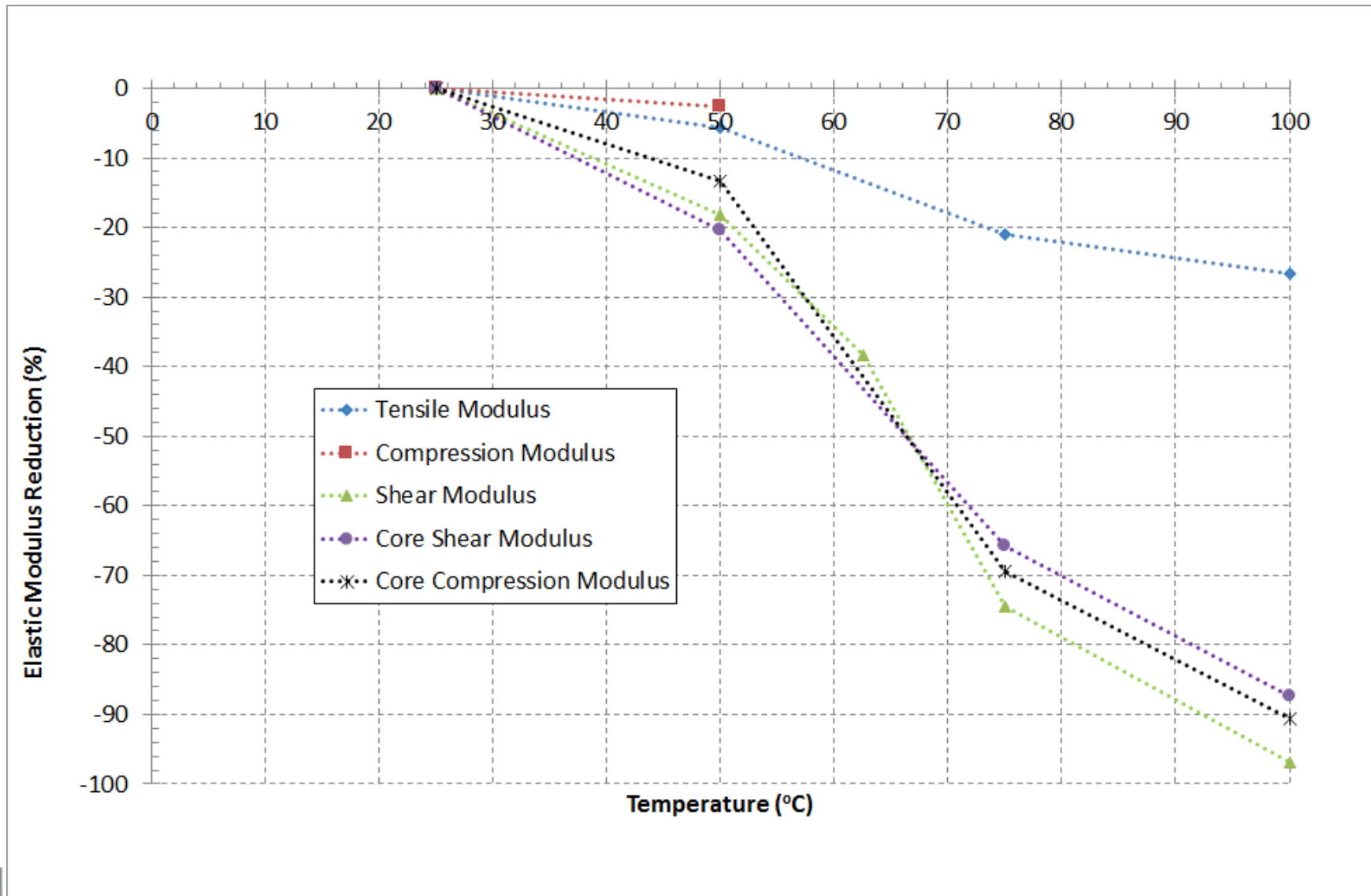
(Sandwich Core)



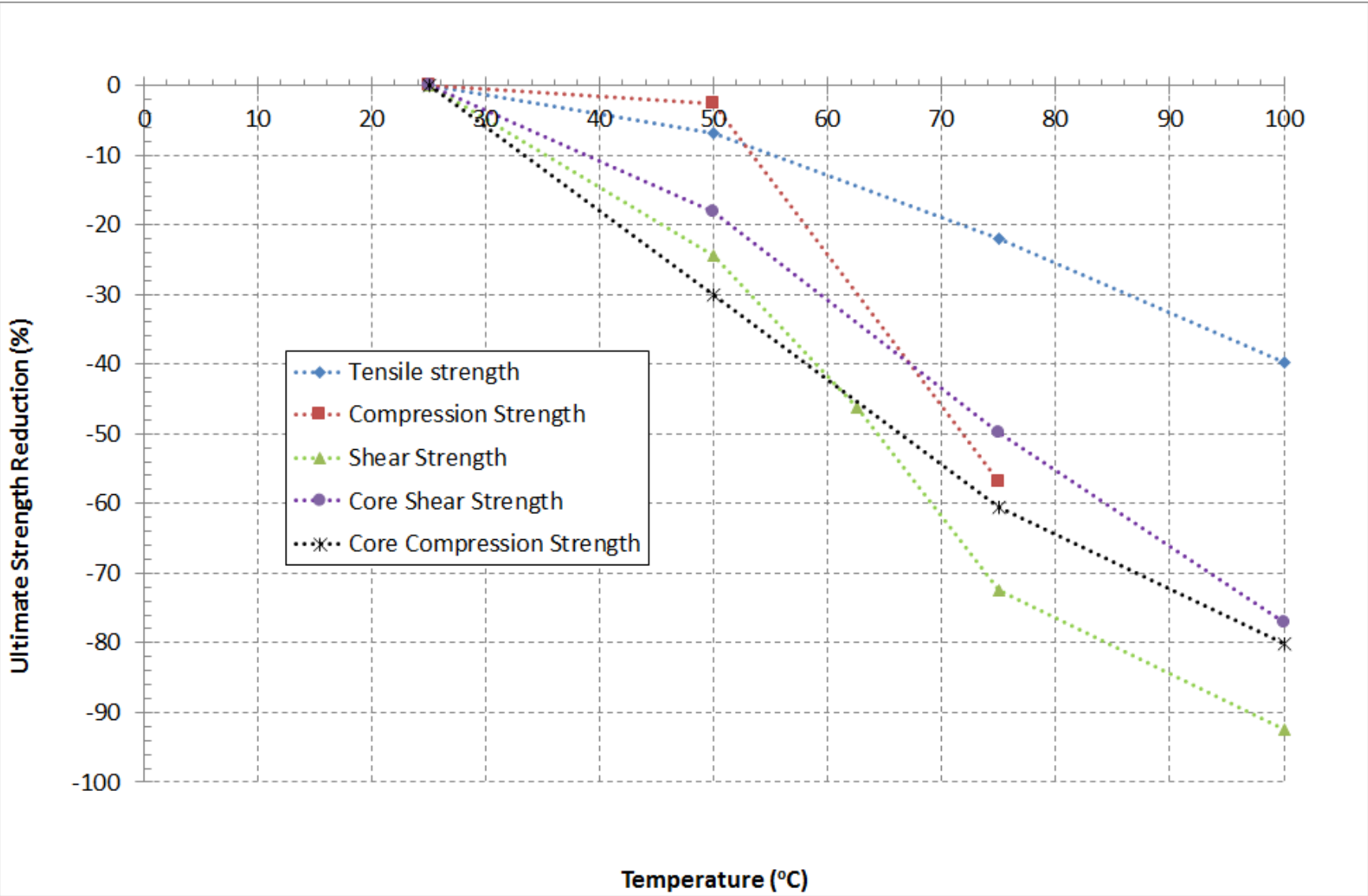
Ultimate Strength:



# Results



# Results



# Conclusion

- General reduction for both modulus and strength  $f(t)$
- Compression and shear – matrix dominated – more susceptible
- Curve fitting function applied to the test results, all had good agreement with the tanh equation.
- $T_{g,mech}$  for most of the tests observed at 65°C.

# Remarks

- New materials (fire retardant resins, additives etc.)
- Versatility and complexity
- Experiments are necessary for the understanding of material system, lead to optimised design.



# Thank you

