Segmentation of individual fibres in a uni-directional composite from 3D X-ray computed tomography data

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MOTIVATION

Wind turbine blades are becoming longer to decrease the cost of energy. They need to stand higher stresses.

PIPELINE AND CHALLENGES

- Low quality scans to avoid a long acquisition time.
- Composite materials with high fibre volume fraction.
- Large data sets.

SEGMENTATION AND TRACKING

1. Glass Fibre Reinforced Polymer (GFRP)
2. Carbon Fibre Reinforced Polymer (CFRP)

FIBRE ORIENTATION

1. GFRP
2. CFRP

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We segment individually uni-directional glass and carbon fibres from tomography data to study the fibre orientation and relate it to the compression strength, a key parameter when designing the blade’s load carrying parts.

* green parts in the blade on the right

For a more precise estimate...

...add the spatial distribution

Individual fibre segmentation from 3D X-ray computed tomography for characterising the fibre orientation in unidirectional composite materials. Emerson et al., under submission.

**Accuracy** measured as correctly found centres in a test image, of size half of a slice.