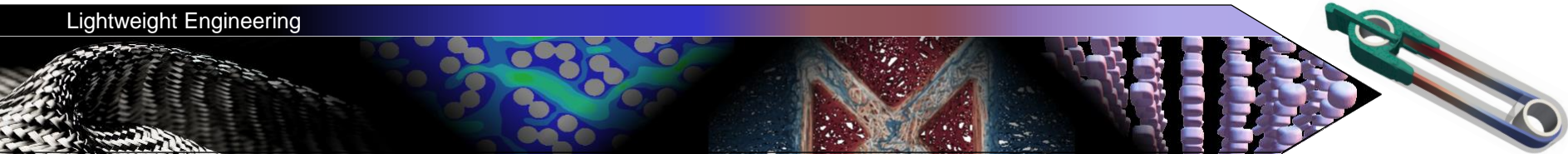


# Overmolding of 3D Skeleton Winding Structures: Process effects and challenges for process modeling

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Lightweight Engineering



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Nantes, France

*Continuous-discontinuous fiber-reinforced polymers (CoDiCoFRP) - II*

# Agenda

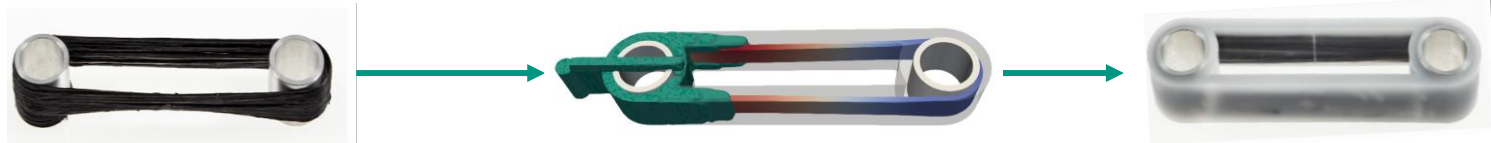
## Overmolding of 3D Skeleton Winding Structures

Motivation

Process

Simulation  
approach

Conclusion



# Motivation

## 3D Skeleton Winding technology (3DSW)

= robot-based filament winding process

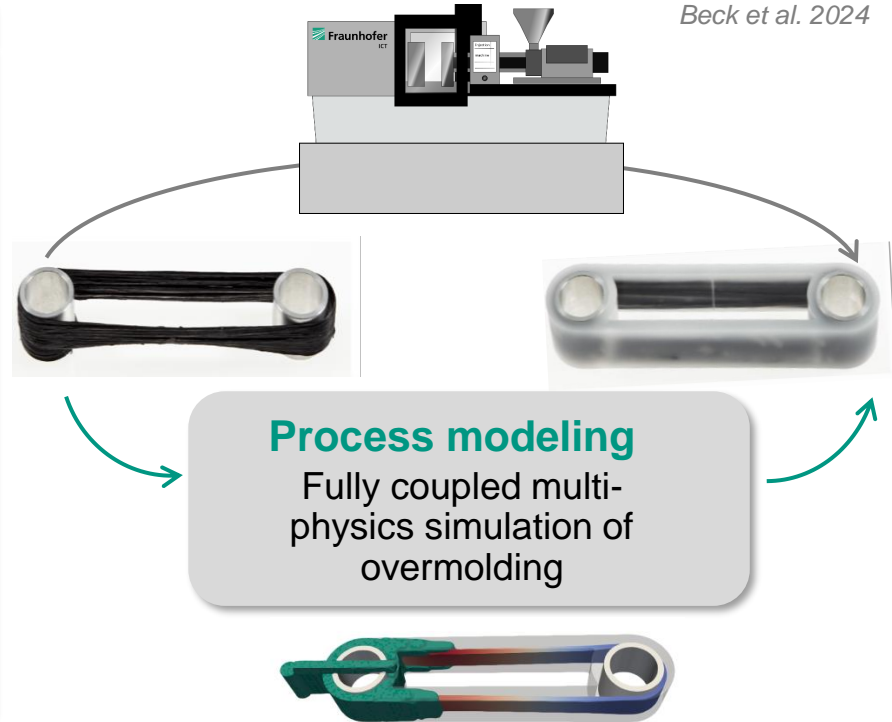
- Local continuous fiber reinforcement

- Flexible positioning of the fibers
- resource-saving
- load path optimized

→ high-performance structural components

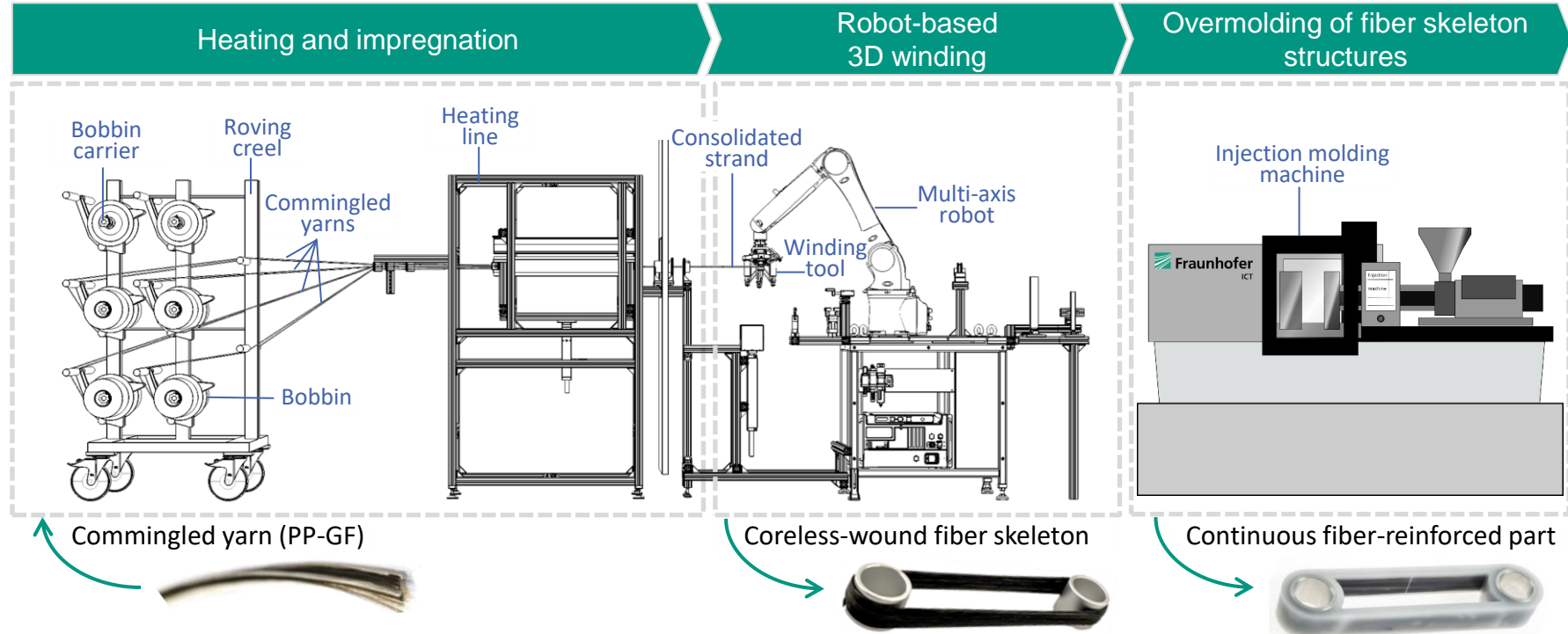
*Beck et al. 2020*  
*Minsch et al. 2019*

*Beck et al. 2024*



# 3D Skeleton Winding technology

Schematic illustration of the 3D Skeleton Winding (3DSW) process chain



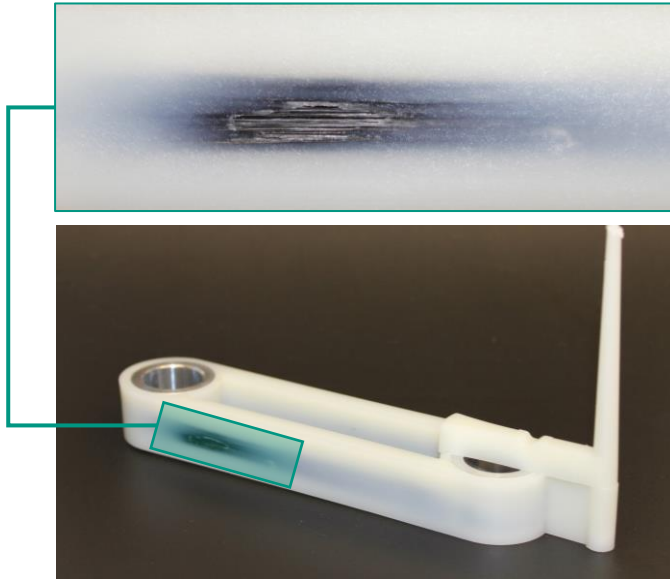
Beck 2023, Beck et al. 2024

# Process effects during overmolding

## Deformation of skeleton fiber structure

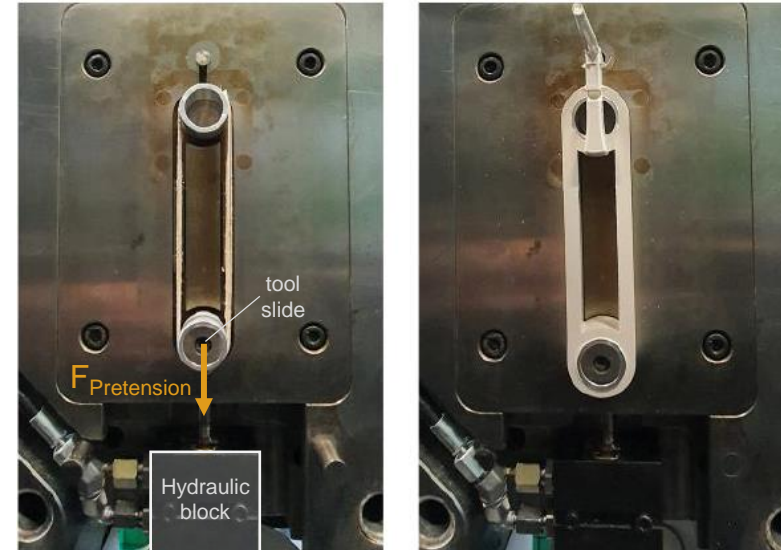
### Fiber positioning due to filling

- Risk of visible fibers at the edge of the cavity



### Specimen production

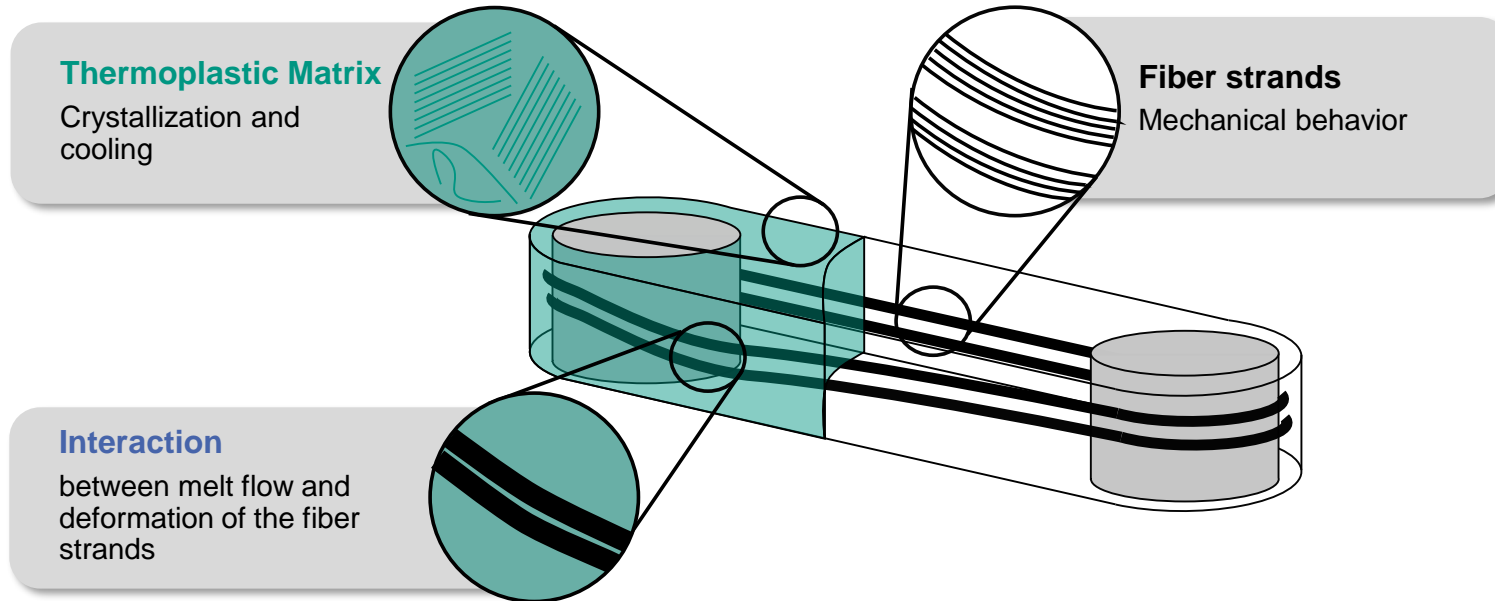
- Pretension during overmolding



Beck et al. 2024

# Mechanisms during overmolding of fiber skeletons

Process behavior for modeling



# Mechanisms during overmolding of fiber skeletons

Process behavior for modeling

## Thermoplastic Matrix

Crystallization and cooling

Coupled-Eulerian-Lagrangian

## Interaction

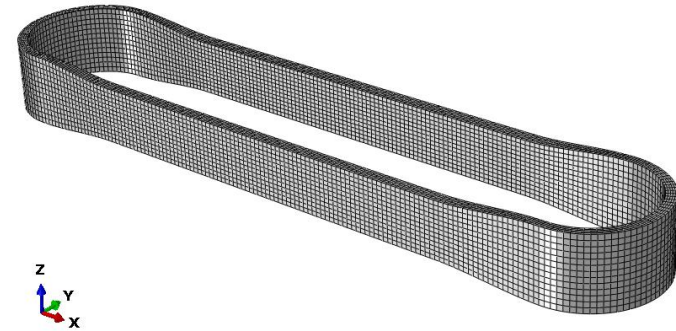
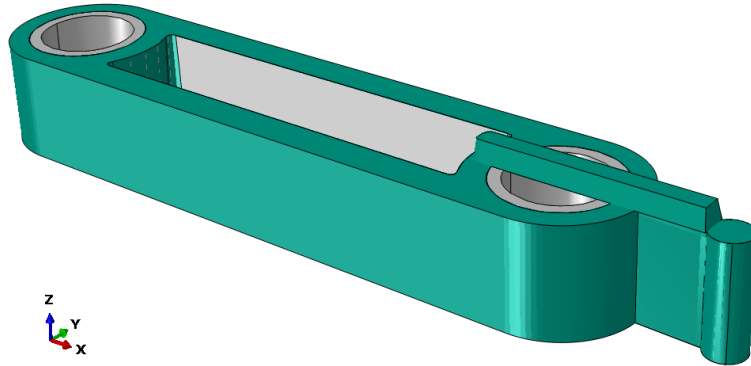
between melt flow and deformation of the fiber strands

Contact

## Fiber strands

Mechanical behavior

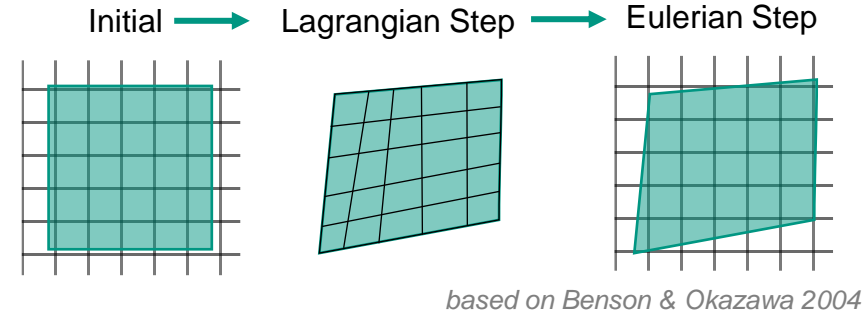
Lagrangian



# Coupled-Eulerian-Lagrangian (CEL) analysis

## Eulerian time integration algorithm - Operator split

- $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \text{div}(\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0$  mass
  - $\frac{\partial(\rho \mathbf{v})}{\partial t} + \text{div}((\rho \mathbf{v}) \otimes \mathbf{v}) = \text{div}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})$  momentum
  - $\frac{\partial(\rho c_p T)}{\partial t} + \text{div}((\rho c_p T) \cdot \mathbf{v}) = -\text{div}(\mathbf{d}) + \boldsymbol{\sigma} : \mathbf{D}$  energy
- $\mathbf{v}$ : Velocity,  $\rho$ : Density,  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ : Cauchy stress,  $c_p$ : Specific heat capacity,  
 $\mathbf{d}$ : Heat flux,  $T$ : Temperature,  $\mathbf{D}$ : Strain rate tensor



### Lagrangian Step

- $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \Big|_L = 0$
- $\frac{\partial(\rho \mathbf{v})}{\partial t} \Big|_L = \text{div}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})$
- $\frac{\partial(\rho c_p T)}{\partial t} \Big|_L = -\text{div}(\mathbf{d}) + \boldsymbol{\sigma} : \mathbf{D}$

### Eulerian Step

- $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \Big|_E + \text{div}(\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0$
- $\frac{\partial(\rho \mathbf{v})}{\partial t} \Big|_E + \text{div}(\rho \mathbf{v} \otimes \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{0}$
- $\frac{\partial(\rho c_p T)}{\partial t} \Big|_E + \text{div}((\rho c_p T) \cdot \mathbf{v}) = 0$

*Benson 1992, 2002, 2004; Meyer 2021*



# Coupled-Eulerian-Lagrangian (CEL) analysis

## Interface reconstruction method

### ■ Volume of fluid (VoF)

- Based on the volume fractions of the material in an element and its neighboring elements the material interfaces are reconstructed

$$EVF \begin{cases} = 0, \text{ void} \\ > 0 \wedge < 1, \text{ partially filled} \\ = 1, \text{ filled} \end{cases}$$

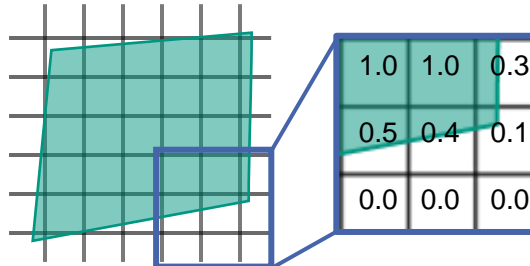
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	1	1	1	0
0	1	1	1	1	1	0
0	1	1	1	1	1	0
0	1	1	1	1	1	0
0	1	1	1	1	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Initial



Eulerian Step

EVF: Eulerian Volume Fraction



Benson 2002  
Peery & Carroll 2000

## Interaction through Eulerian-Lagrangian-Contact

- Based on an enhanced immersed boundary method
- Lagrangian structure occupies void regions inside the Eulerian mesh
- Contact algorithm computes and tracks the interface between the Lagrangian structure and the Eulerian material

→ guarantees that two materials never occupy the same physical domain

Abaqus 2024

# Simple loop structure

## Model

### Material

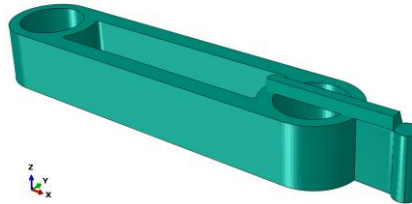
#### ■ Fiber strands: PP-GF

- Density  $10000 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3}$
- Engineering Constants
  - $E_1 = 23963 \text{ MPa}, E_2 = E_3 = 3750 \text{ MPa},$
  - $\nu_{12} = \nu_{23} = 0.32, \nu_{13} = 0.59$
  - $G_{12} = G_{23} = 1225 \text{ MPa}, G_{13} = 1125 \text{ MPa}$



#### ■ Matrix: PP

- Density  $10000 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3}$
- Viscosity 1000 Pas
- Equation of state
  - Mie-Grüneisen
 
$$C_0 = 1000 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}, s = 0, T_0 = 0$$



*Haas et al. 2021, 2022*

### Boundary Conditions

#### ■ Inlet

- Constant volumetric flow  $75 \frac{\text{cm}^3}{\text{s}}$
- Inlet velocity  $v_0 = 2 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$

#### ■ Walls

- No slip  $v_1 = v_2 = v_3 = 0 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$

### Software



2023.HF4

Explicit

*Simulia*

### Interaction: General contact

#### ■ Contact between Matrix and Walls

- Tangential Behavior: Rough
- Normal Behavior: "Hard" contact

#### ■ Contact between Fiber strands and Matrix

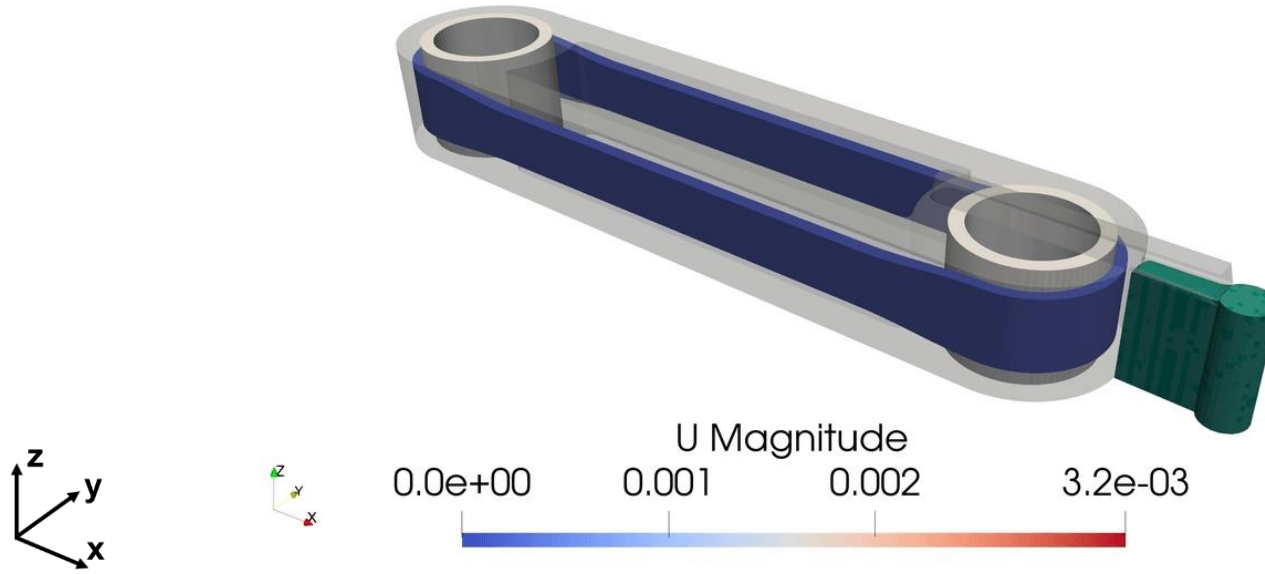
- Tangential Behavior: Frictionless
- Normal Behavior: "Hard" contact

# Results Simulation Approach

## Simple Loop structure

### Overmolding

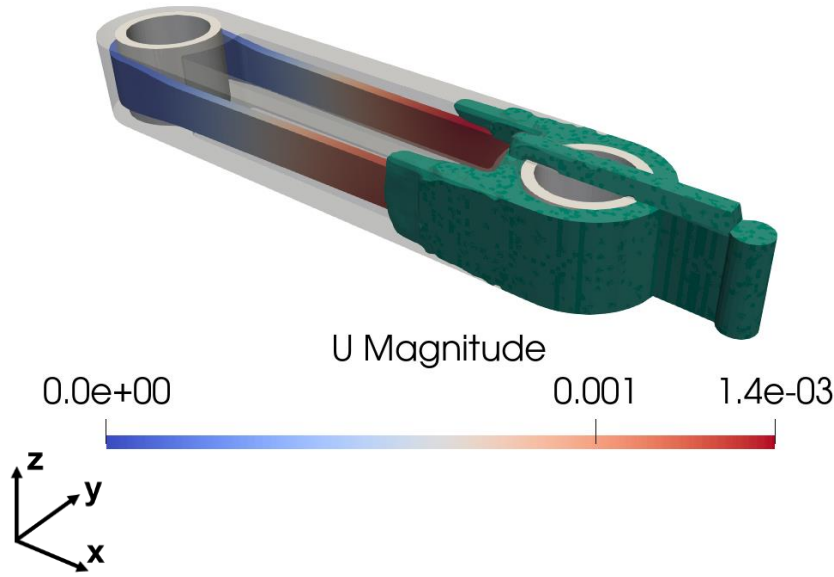
Time: 0.0000



# Results Simulation Approach

## Simple Loop structure

### Overmolding



### Numerical Challenges

- Explicit analysis
  - Explicit procedure integrates through time by using many small time increments
    - Stable time increment scales with the smallest element size

$$\Delta t \approx \frac{L_{\min}}{c_d}$$

$L_{\min}$ : smallest element dimension  
 $c_d$ : dilatational wave speed

- Number of increments required scales by simulated time period

$$n = \frac{T}{\Delta t}$$

→ High computational cost

- Use mass scaling for Lagrangian parts
- Contact algorithm

*Abaqus 2024*

# Conclusion and outlook

## Overmolding of 3D Skeleton Winding Structures

### It was motivated that ...

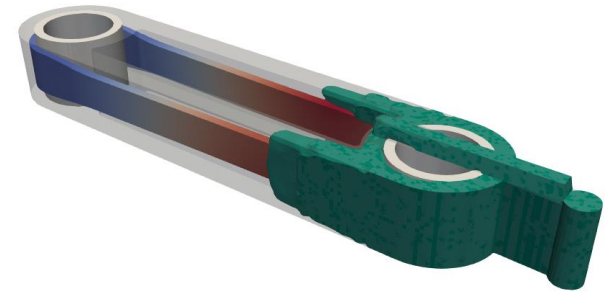
- 3DSW allows to reinforce complex structural components
- Process modeling requires a fully coupled thermomechanical analysis for the fluid flow and the deformation of the fiber bundles

### It was show that ...

- Coupled-Eulerian-Lagrangian (CEL) approach is suitable to capture the fluid-structure-interaction
  - Fluid phase is modeled as Eulerian elements while fiber strands are described by Lagrangian solid elements
  - Numerical difficulties

### Outlook

- Extend the considered material behavior to a more realistic material model
- Extend the simulation approach with temperature dependencies
- Validation of the simulation approach to experimental results



Thank you for your attention.

**Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)**  
**FAST** Institute of Vehicle System Technology  
**LB** Lightweight Engineering

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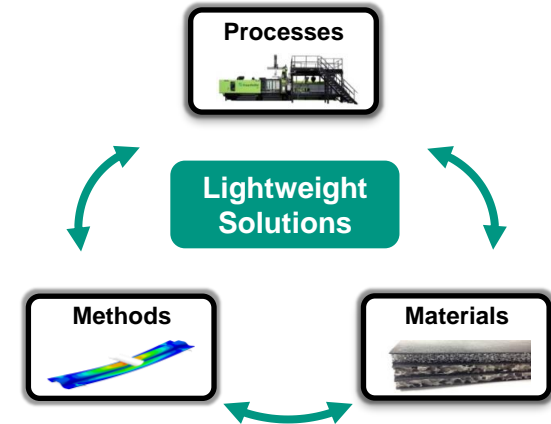
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*“Process simulation of the overmolding of three-dimensional skeleton winding structures to improve the manufacturing process of highly stressed structural Components”*

### Lightweight Design Network



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