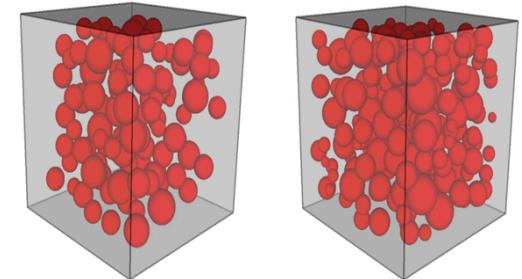


# Micromechanics of Damage in Glass Microballoon Filled Syntactic Foams

Judith A. Brown, Kevin N. Long, Bradley Huddleston, Helena Jin, Jay Carroll



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interest*

ASME IMECE  
November 17, 2016



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



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# Polymeric Syntactic Foams

- Heterogeneous composite materials—hollow particles embedded in matrix material

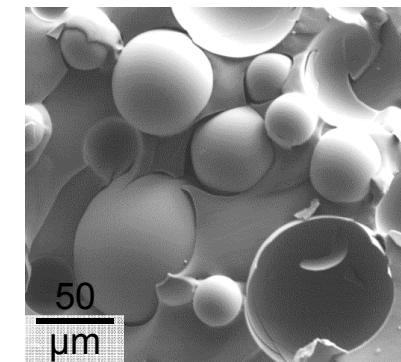


Images: Gupta et. al., JOM, Vol. 66, No. 2, (2014)

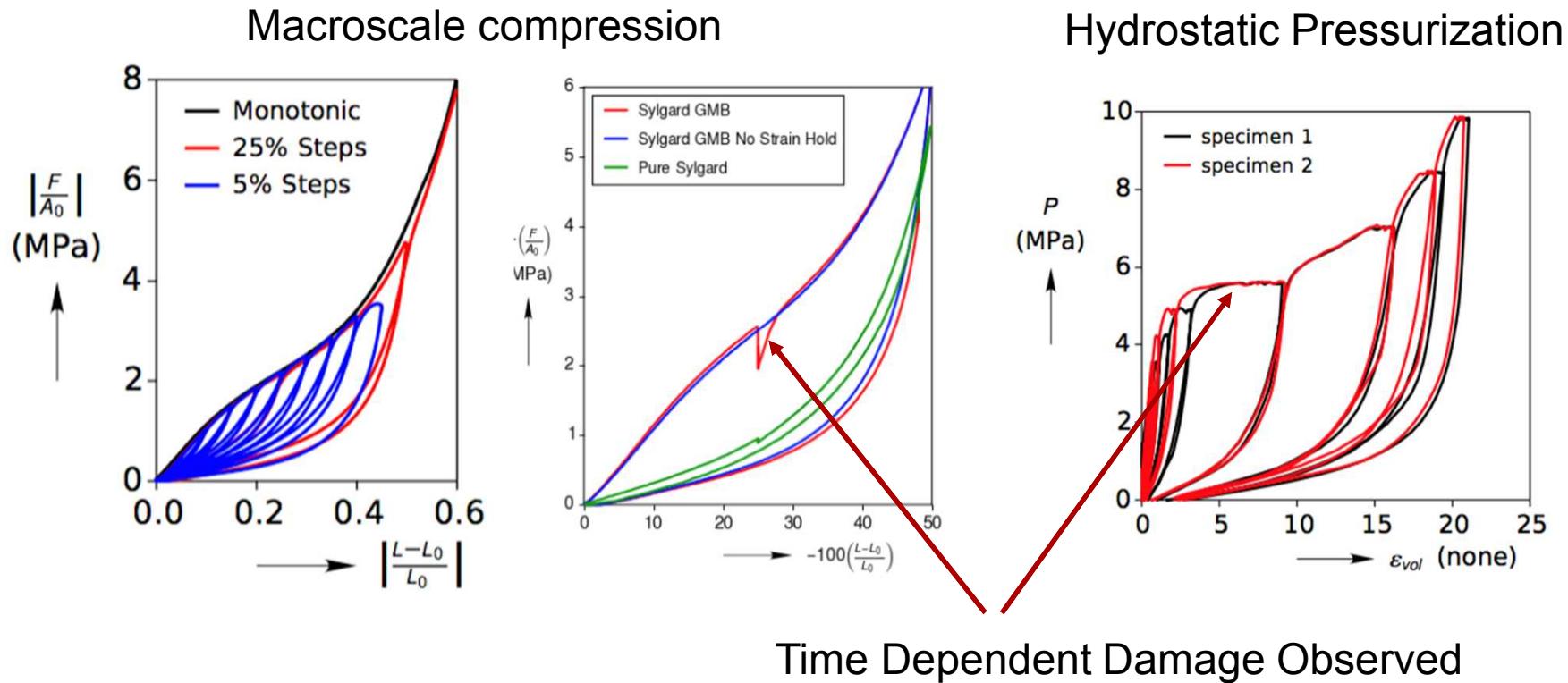
Applications:

- \*Deep sea vehicles
- \*Aircraft radar encapsulation
- \*Blast mitigation
- \*Potting/protective layers

- Sylgard Elastomeric Matrix + Hollow Glass Microballoon Fillers
- Why add Glass Microballoons (GMBs)?
  - Lower thermal expansion coefficient
  - Lower cure shrinkage (mismatch strains)
  - Increase specific modulus
  - Increase energy dissipation



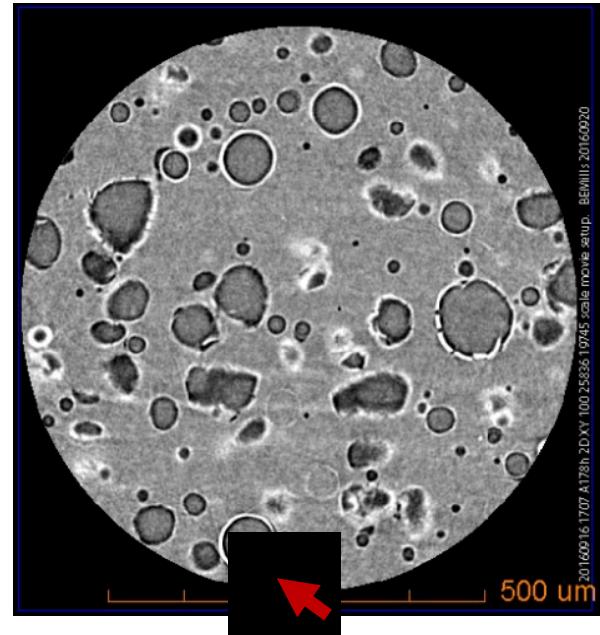
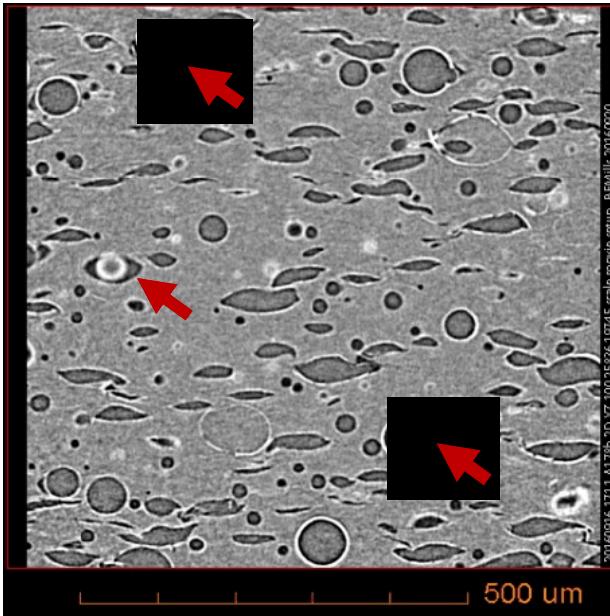
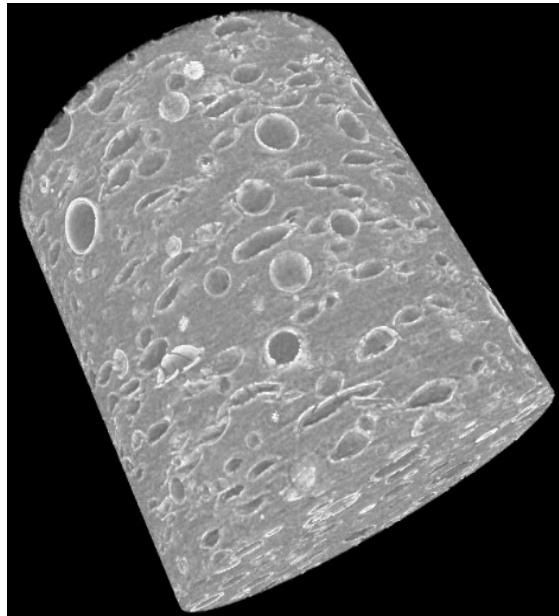
# Macroscale Response of Sylgard/GMB



- Need understanding of microstructure behavior to identify role of damage mechanisms and inform macroscale constitutive model

# Possible Damage Mechanisms

## X-ray CT Images at 25% global compression



(Images courtesy Helena Jin, Jay Carroll)

### Observations:

1. Some GMBs completely crushed, others mostly intact
2. A few GMBs are debonded

# Research Objectives

- What are the **macroscale effects** of each damage mechanism?
  - First order homogenization to study macroscale elastic properties of materials with each type of damage
  - Analytic Composite Theory
- Develop numerical modeling platform that can be used to study microstructural behavior of Polymeric Syntactic Foams
  - Explicitly resolve local stresses in components of the microstructure under various loading conditions
  - Small strain and finite deformation regimes
  - Supplement experimental efforts to understand role of various damage mechanisms
- Use knowledge gained to inform engineering length scale constitutive models

# Approach to Study Microstructure

- How do GMB delamination and breakage affect the macroscale elastic constants?

How to represent various damage states?

Generate Synthetic  
Microstructure  
Model (SVE)

Mesh  
Generation

FEA Analysis for  
suite of  
boundary value  
problems

Elastic  
Constants

Repeat over many SVE Realizations to find  
effective properties

Bonded Intact GMBs:  
→ determine equivalent  
solid sphere properties

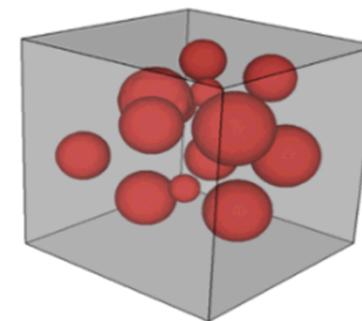
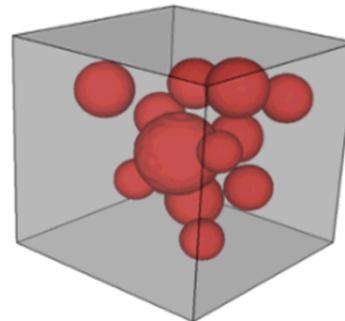
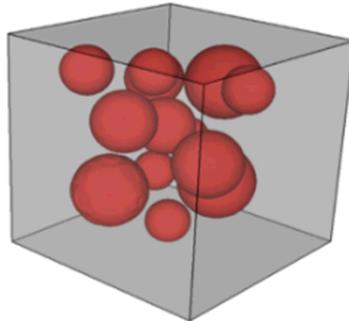
Fully Broken GMBs:  
→ approximate as voids

Christensen  
Micromechanics  
Composite Theory

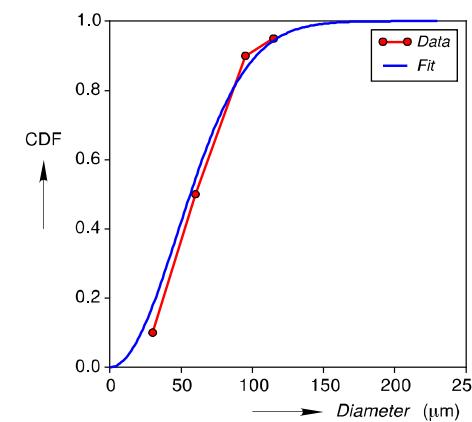
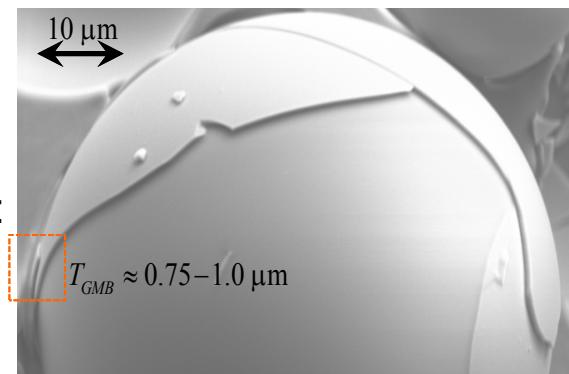
Elastic  
Constants

# Microstructure Model Generation

- Generate Stochastic Volume Element (SVE) models of Sylgard/GMB microstructure
  - GMB Thickness: 1  $\mu\text{m}$
  - Average GMB Diameter: 60  $\mu\text{m}$



Estimate  
Characteristic  
GMB Thickness:

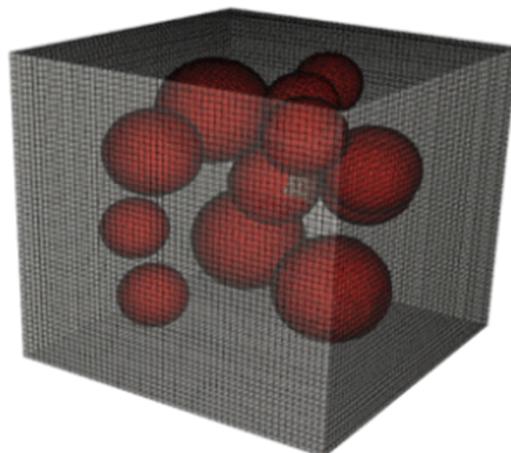


Manufacturer's (3M®)  
Cumulative Distribution  
Data for A16/500 GMB

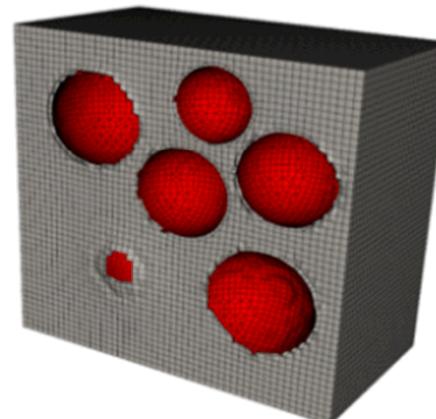
# Microstructure Model Generation

- Automated Meshing with SCULPT mesh tool:
  - Sylgard 184 Matrix: 8-node hexahedral elements
    - Linear viscoelastic material model
    - Adopted from [M. Lewis et al, LA-UR-07-0298, (2007)]
  - Borosilicate glass GMBs: 4-node quadrilateral shell elements
    - Linear Elastic material model
    - Properties estimated from ([http://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/modulus-rigidity-d\\_946.html](http://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/modulus-rigidity-d_946.html))

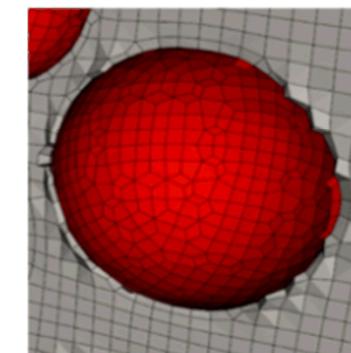
(a)



(b)

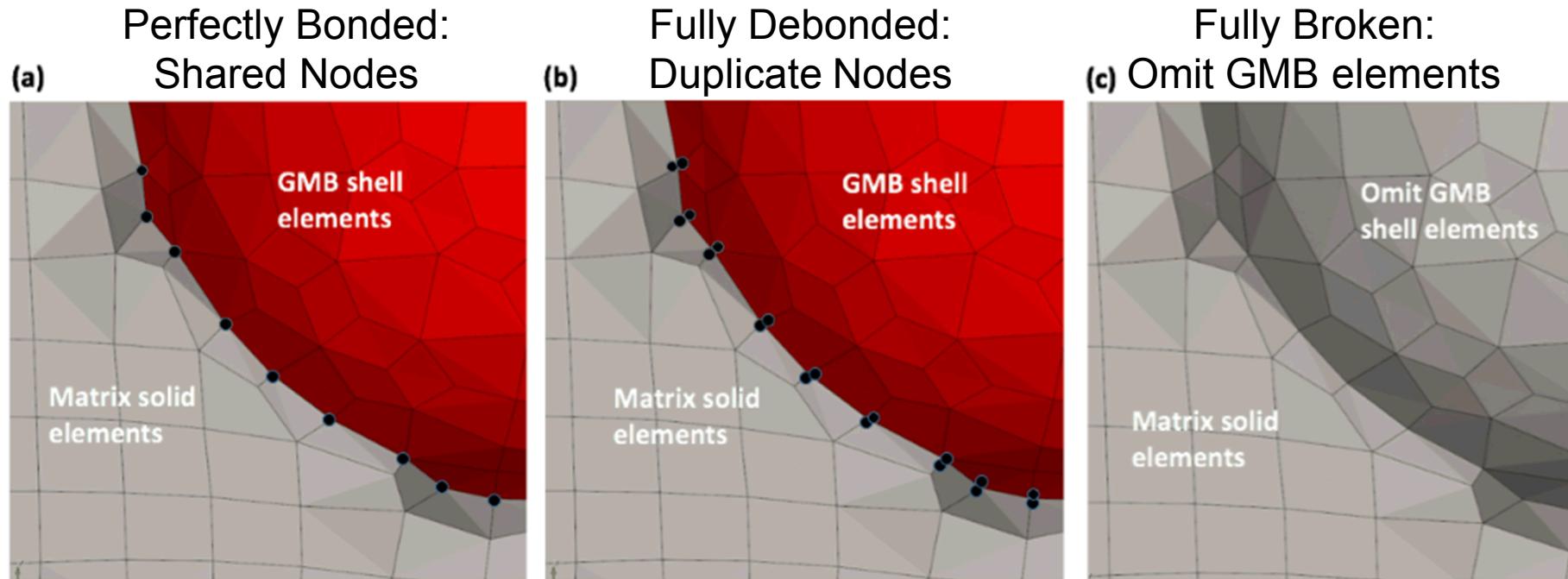


(c)



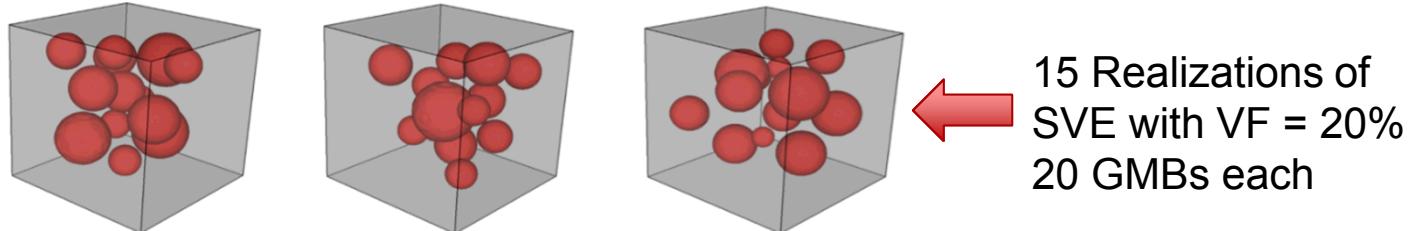
# Mesh Design for GMB/Matrix Interface

- How to represent various damage mechanisms?

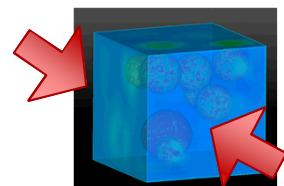


# First Order Homogenization of Elastic Constants

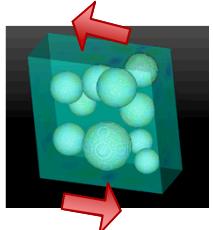
- Generate Stochastic Volume Element (SVE) models of Sylgard/GMB microstructure



- Six Independent Boundary Value Problems to recover elastic stiffness tensor



- KUBC: Specify Displacement BC to achieve known, uniform macroscale strain  $\langle \epsilon \rangle$   $\{u\} = [E]\{x\}$ ,
- Recover volume average stress response from SVE  $\langle \sigma \rangle = \frac{1}{\Omega_v} \int_{\Omega_v} \sigma(x) d\Omega$
- Stiffness Tensor recovered from Hooke's Law  $\langle \sigma \rangle = C\langle \epsilon \rangle$ .
- Sierra Solid Mechanics Finite Element Analysis Software used for all numerical BVP



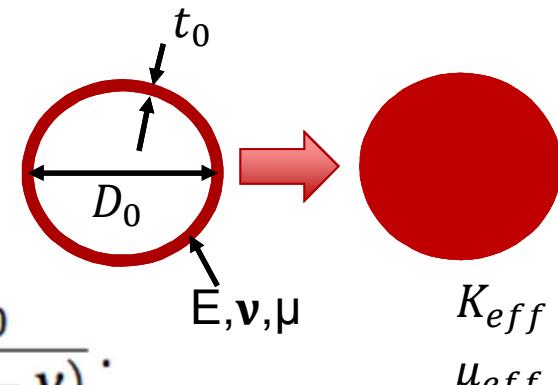
# Analytic Composite Theory for Elastic Constants

- Adapt composite theory of Christensen to study Sylgard/GMB syntactic foams:  
[R.M. Christensen, *Mechanics of Composite Materials*, (2005)]

- Calculate elastic constants for solid sphere that has same structural response at its outer boundary as hollow GMB
- Assume thin shell description of GMB  $D_0 \gg t_0$

- Equivalent Solid Sphere Bulk Modulus:

$$\frac{d\epsilon_{\text{vol}}}{dp_0} = K_{\text{eff}}^{-1} \rightarrow K_{\text{eff}} = \frac{4Et_0}{3D_0(1-\nu)}.$$



- Equivalent Solid Sphere Shear Modulus:

Danielsson et. al., Mech.of  
Mater., (2004)

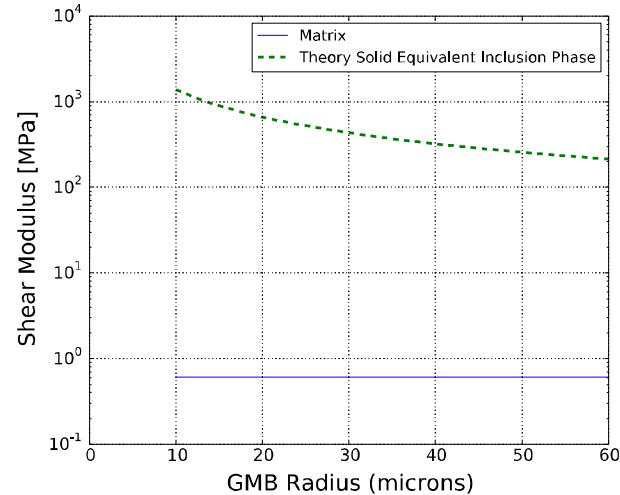
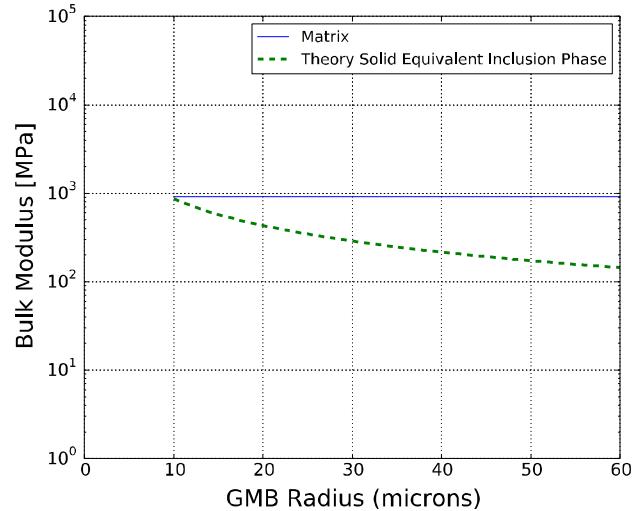
$$\mu_{\text{eff}} = \mu (1 - f_0).$$

# Analytic Composite Theory for Elastic Constants

- Composite Bulk Modulus:
  - Christensen, composite spheres model

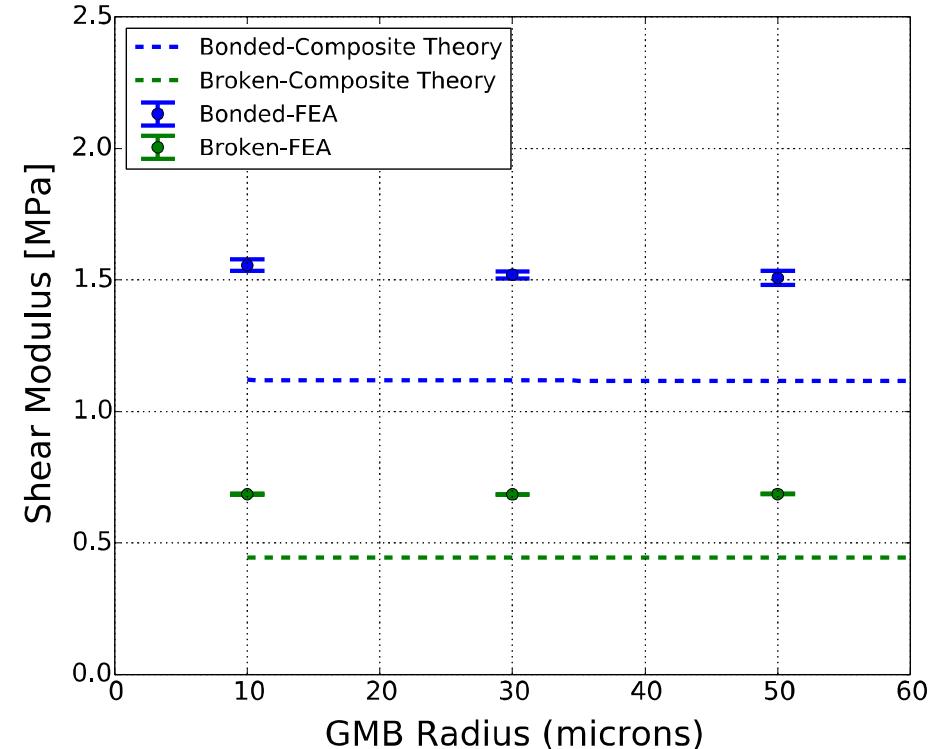
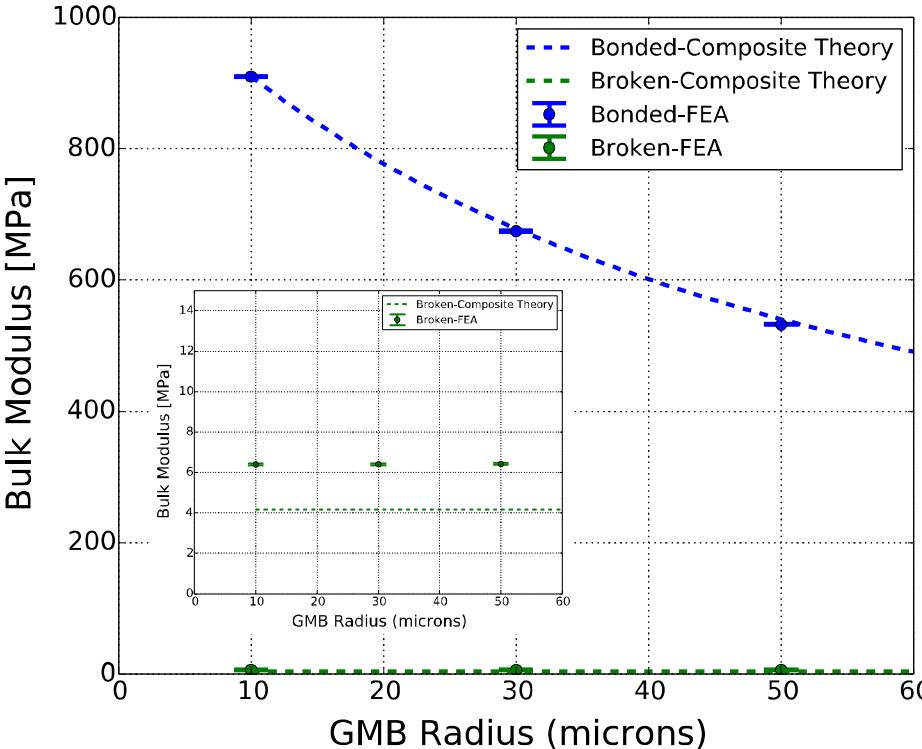
$$K_{\text{composite}} = K_m + \frac{f_i (K_i - K_m)}{1 + (1 - f_i) [(K_i - K_m)/(K_m + 4\mu_m/3)]}.$$

- Composite Shear Modulus:
  - Match energy associated with deforming single matrix/inclusion to equivalent homogeneous medium
  - $A \left( \frac{\mu}{\mu_m} \right)^2 + 2B \left( \frac{\mu}{\mu_m} \right) + C = 0.$
  - A,B,C, are functions of matrix & inclusion properties



# Effect of GMB Radius

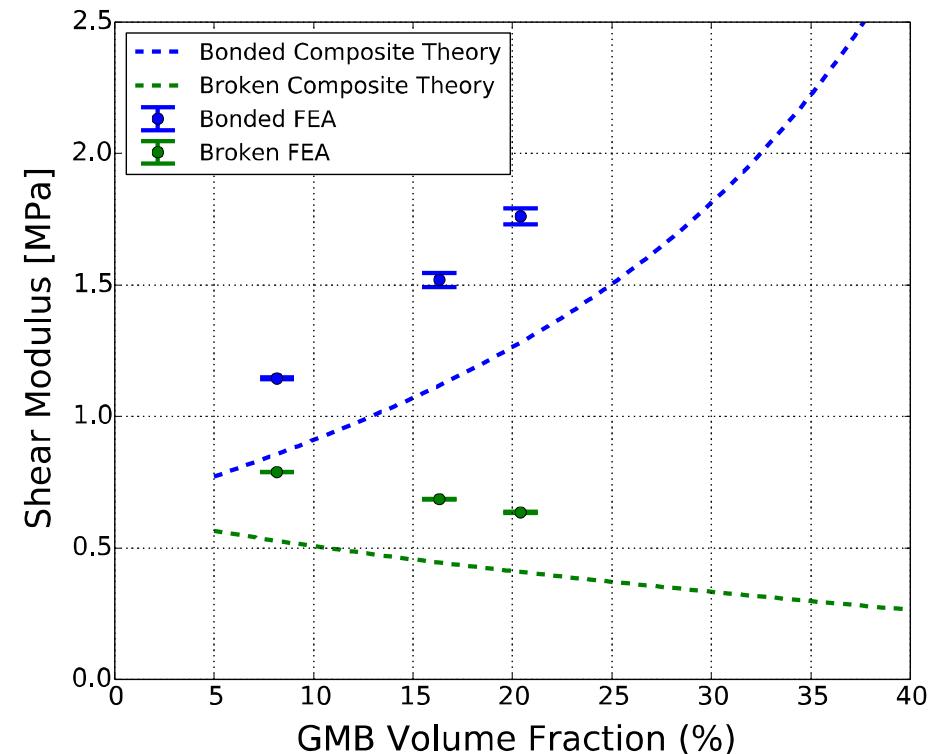
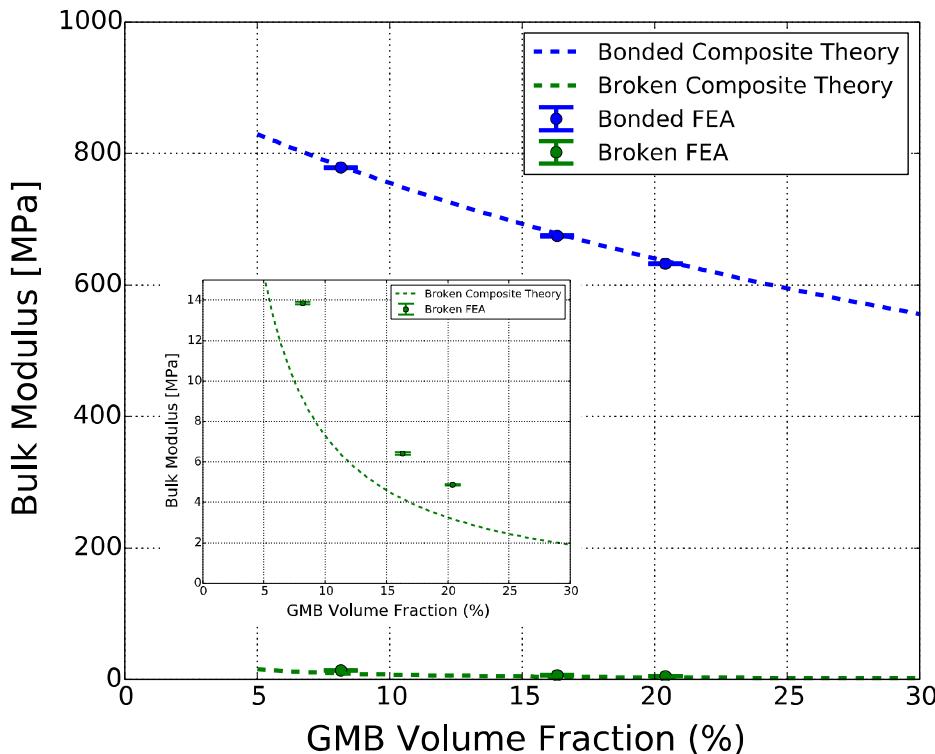
- Uniform distribution of GMBs, mean VF = 20%
- Each FEA point is averaged from 15 SVE microstructure realizations



- Bulk Modulus is only sensitive to inhomogeneity size when GMBs are in virgin, bonded state
- Shear modulus is not sensitive to inhomogeneity size for either bonded or broken state

# Effect of GMB Volume Fraction

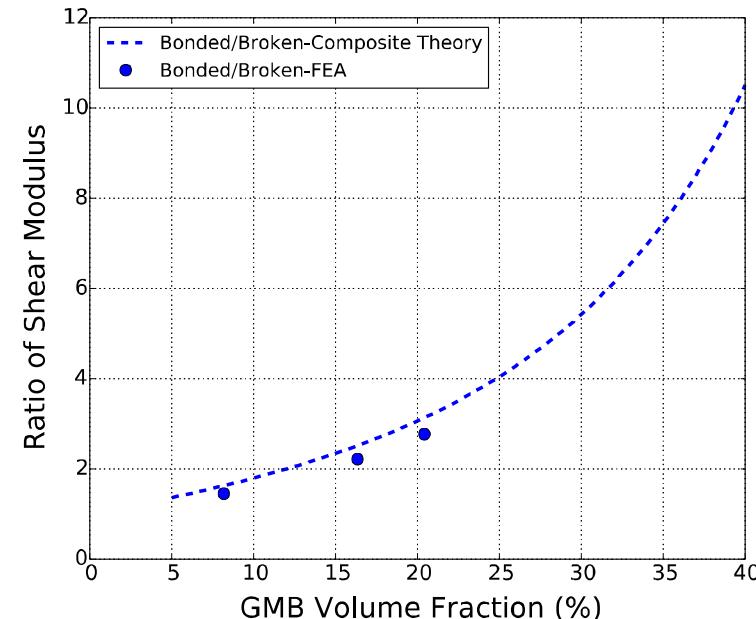
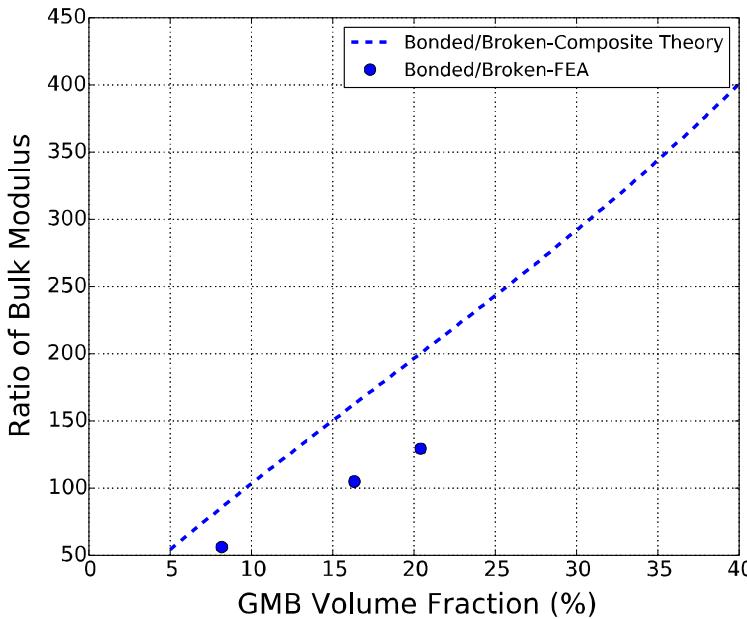
- Uniform distribution of GMBs, mean radius =  $30\mu\text{m}$
- Each FEA point is averaged from 15 SVE microstructure realizations



- Bulk Modulus AND Shear modulus in both virgin state (bonded GMBs) and fully damaged states (broken GMBs) are sensitive to GMB volume fraction
- Excellent agreement between Composite Theory and FEA

# Effect of Broken GMBs

- Uniform distribution of GMBs, mean radius =  $30\mu\text{m}$
- Each FEA point is averaged from 15 SVE microstructure realizations



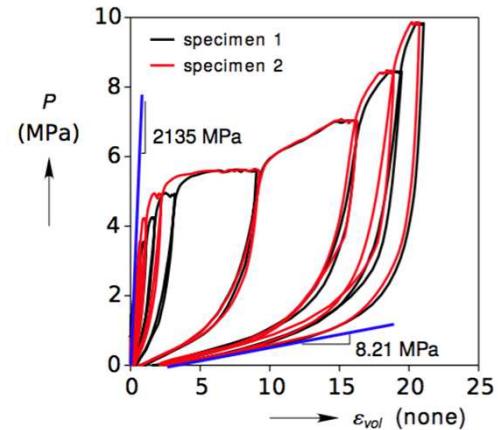
- Good agreement between Composite Theory and FEA

# Comparison with Macroscale Data

## Bulk Modulus (MPa)

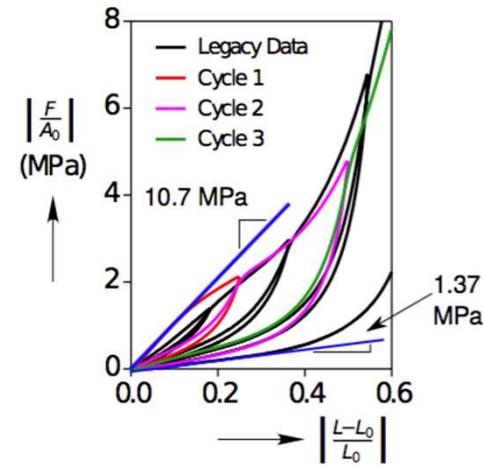
	Comopposite Theory	Macroscale Experiment
Virgin State	508	2135
Fully Damaged	1.39	8.21
<b>Ratio</b>	<b>366.1</b>	<b>260.0</b>

GMB VF = 37%



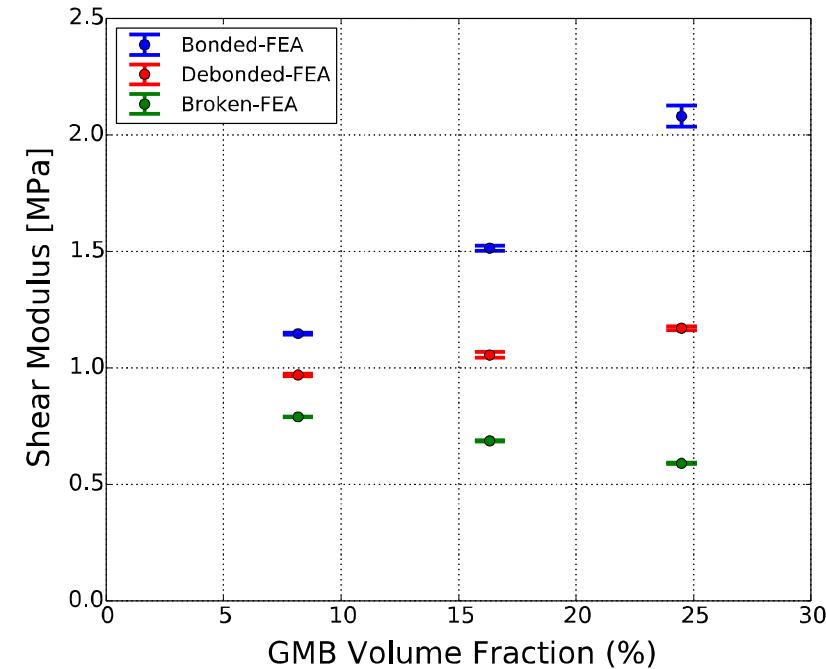
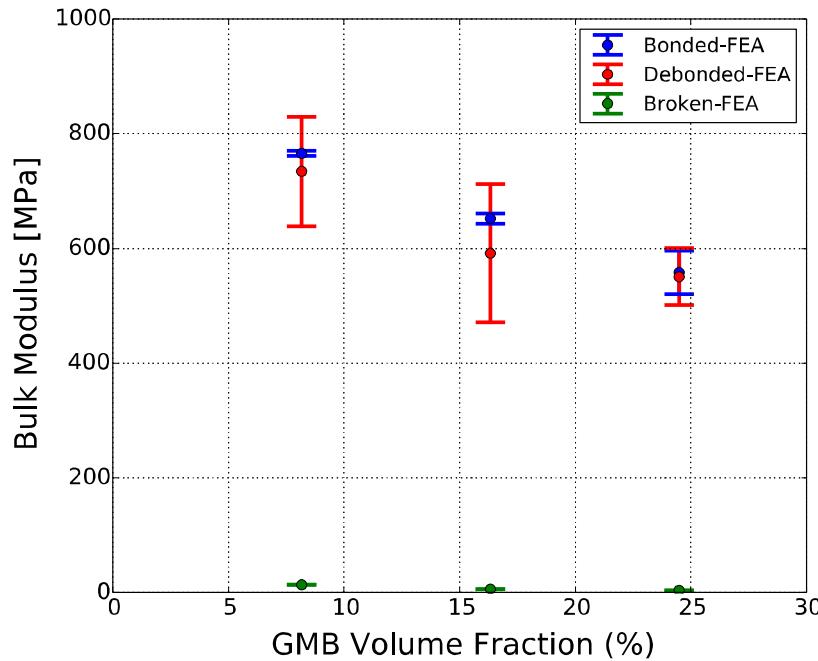
## Young's Modulus (MPa)

	Comopposite Theory	Macroscale Experiment
Virgin State	7.26	10.7
Fully Damaged	0.80	1.37
<b>Ratio</b>	<b>9.09</b>	<b>7.81</b>



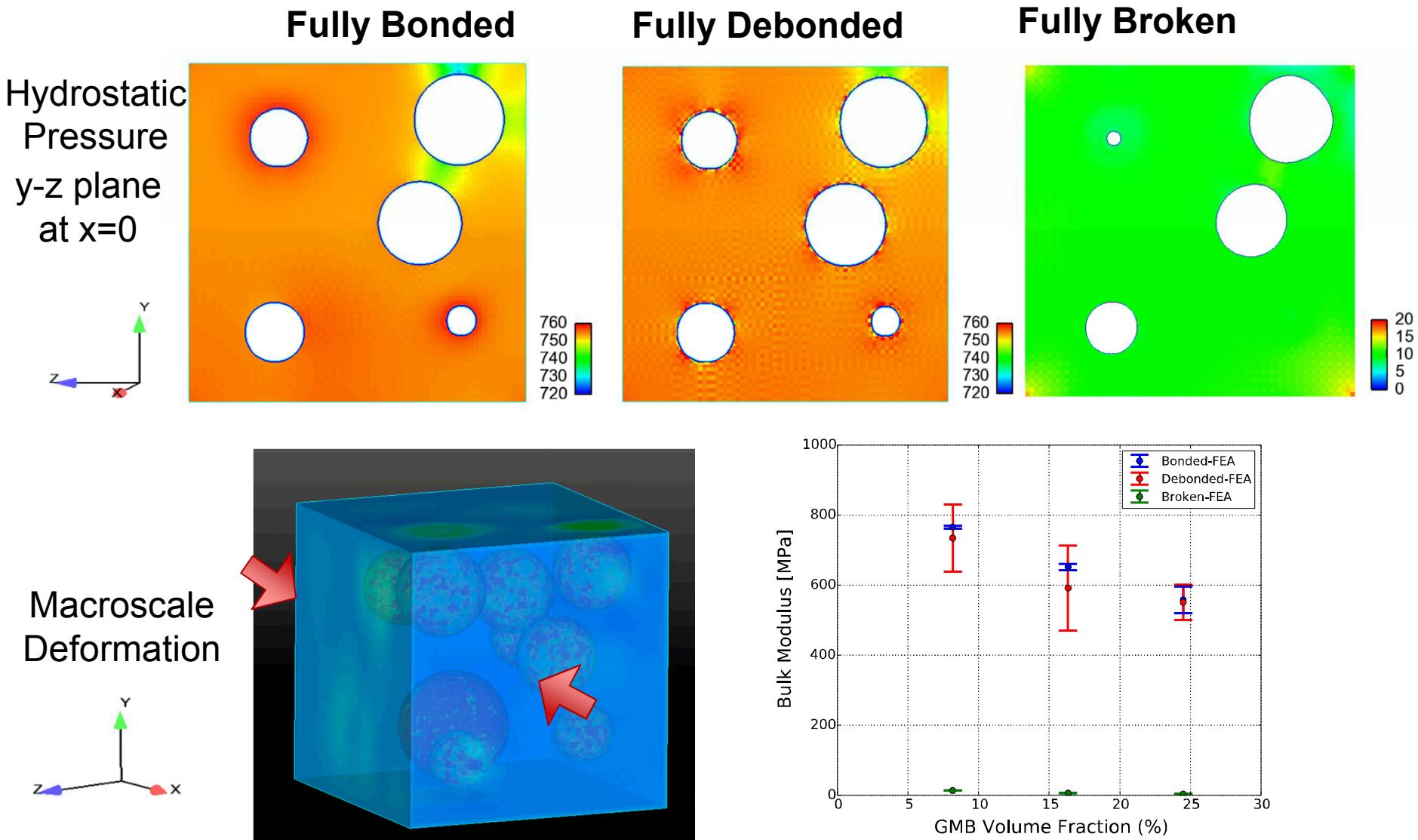
# Effects of GMB Debonding

- Weibull distribution of GMBs, mean radius =  $30\mu\text{m}$
- Each FEA point is averaged from 15 SVE microstructure realizations



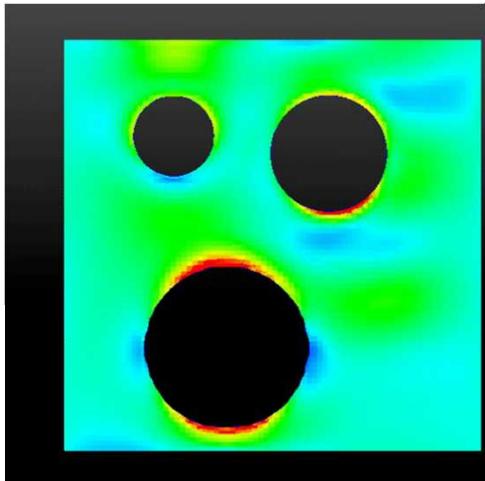
- Bulk Modulus not sensitive to debonded GMBs but greatly reduced by broken GMBs
- Shear Modulus noticeably reduced by debonded GMBs and broken GMBs

# Local Matrix Pressures: Uniaxial Strain

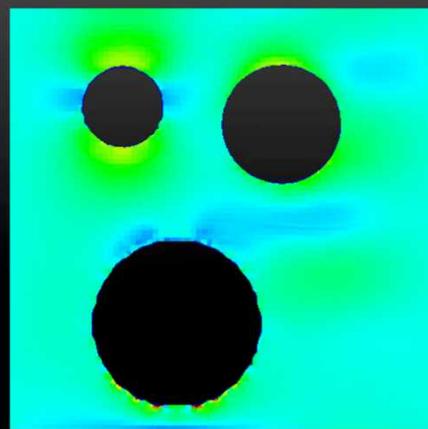


# Local Matrix Stresses: Shear Strain

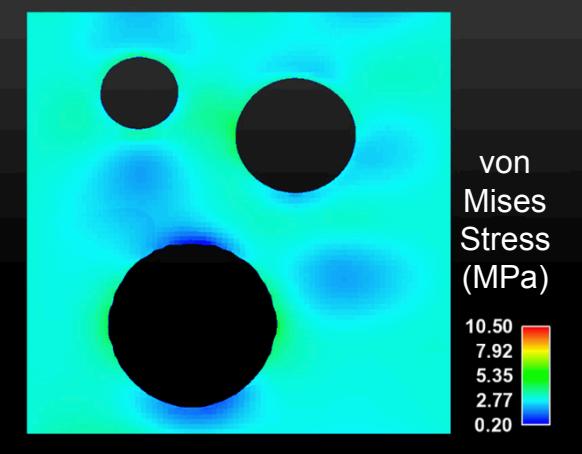
Fully Bonded



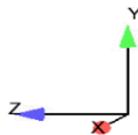
Fully Debonded



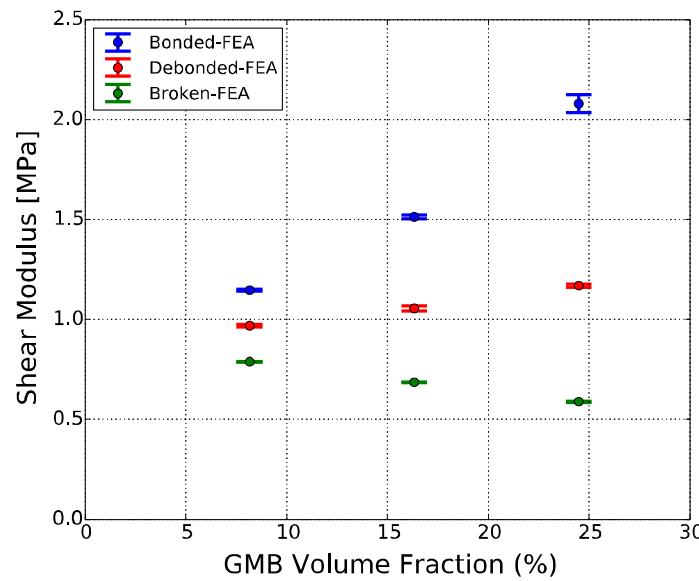
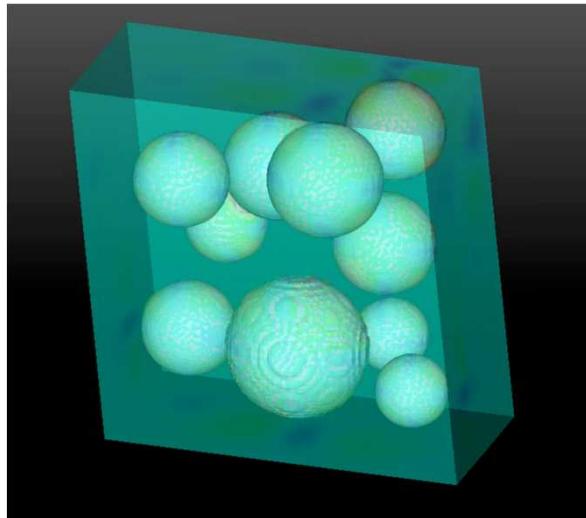
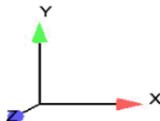
Fully Broken



y-z plane  
at  $x=0$



Macroscale  
Deformation

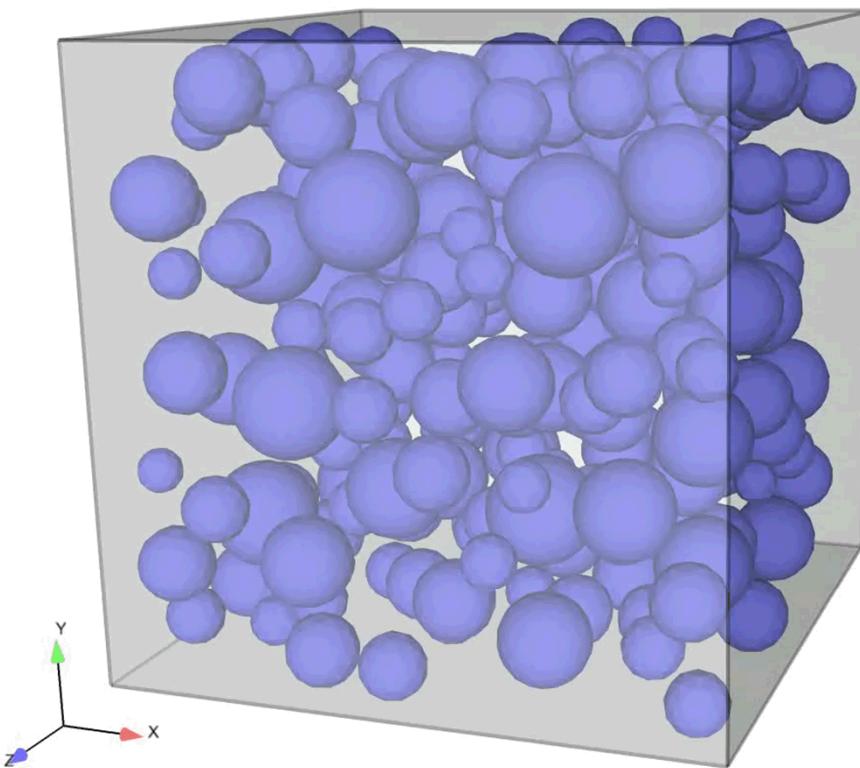


# Conclusions

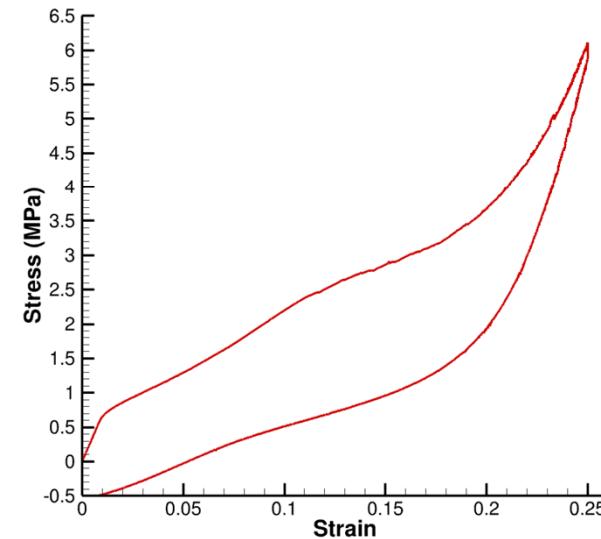
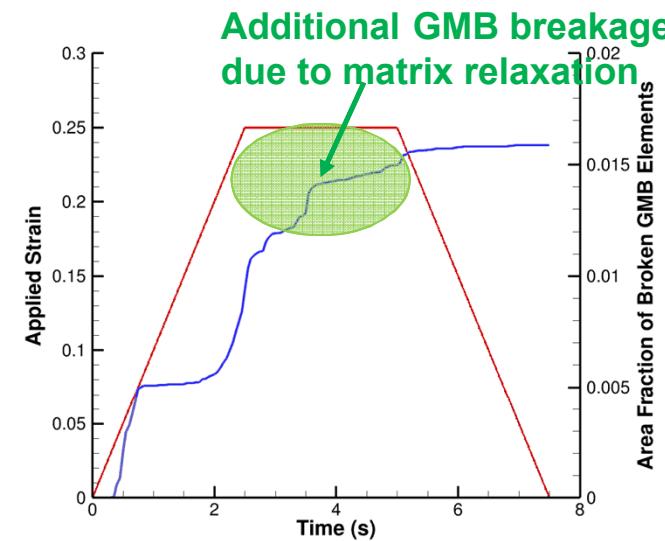
- Balloon Breakage vs. Delamination Affect Macroscale Elastic Constants in Different Ways:
  - The bulk modulus **is greatly reduced** by Broken GMBs but **not by debonding**
  - Both damage mechanisms reduce the shear modulus
- Analytic Composite Theory and FEA homogenization agree
- Future Work: Damage Mechanisms and Time Dependence under large deformations

# Finite Deformation: Uniaxial Strain

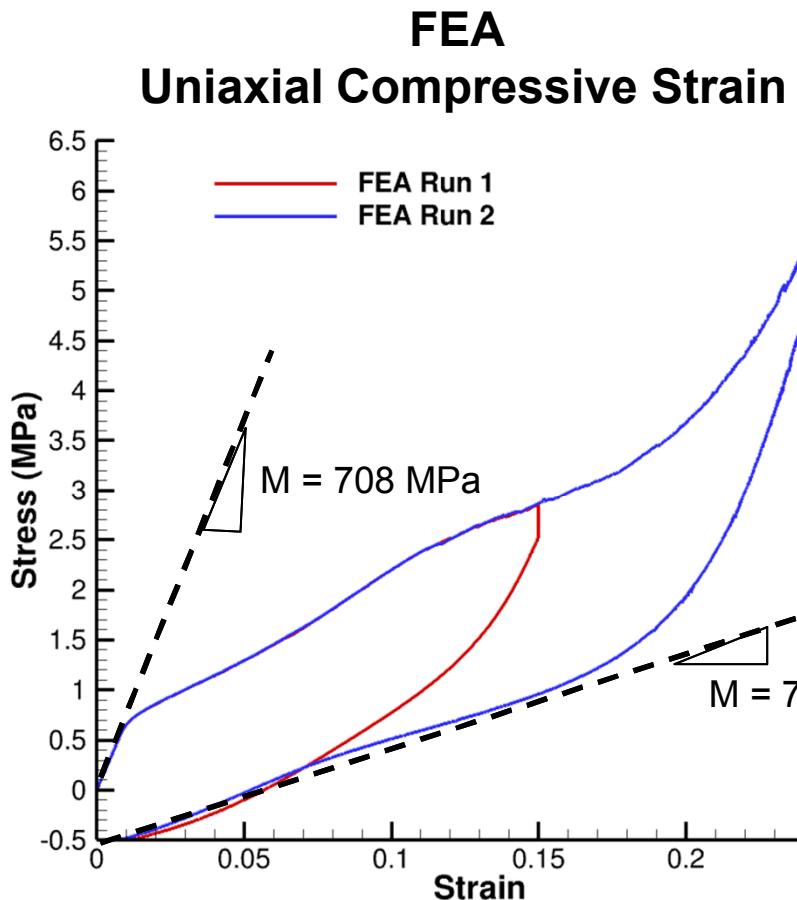
- Uniaxial strain to 25%



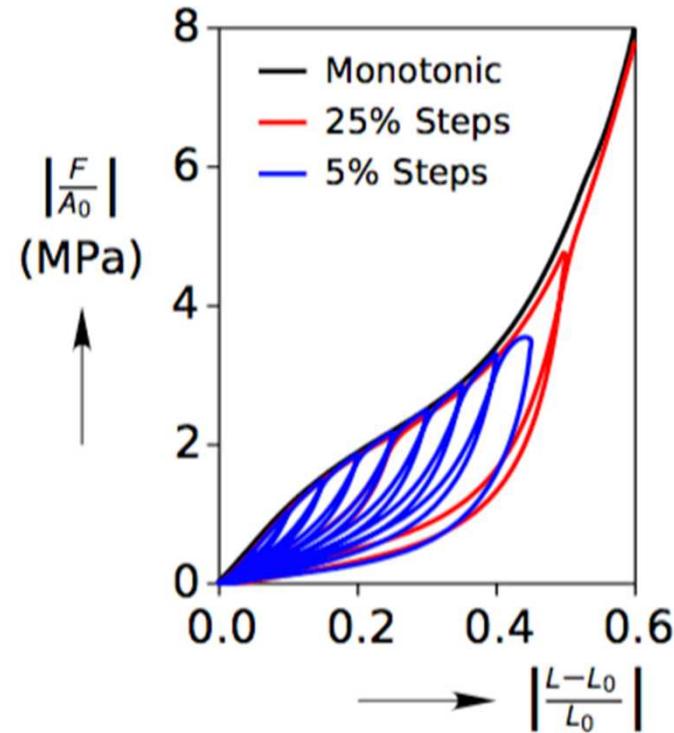
GMB Failure Criteria: Max Principal Stress  
Matrix Properties: Linear Viscoelastic  
Sylgard 184



# Finite Deformation: Uniaxial Strain



**Experiment**  
**Uniaxial Compression**



- **Qualitative Similarity to Macroscale Experimental Response**
- Time-dependent breakage of GMBs as viscoelastic matrix relaxes locally

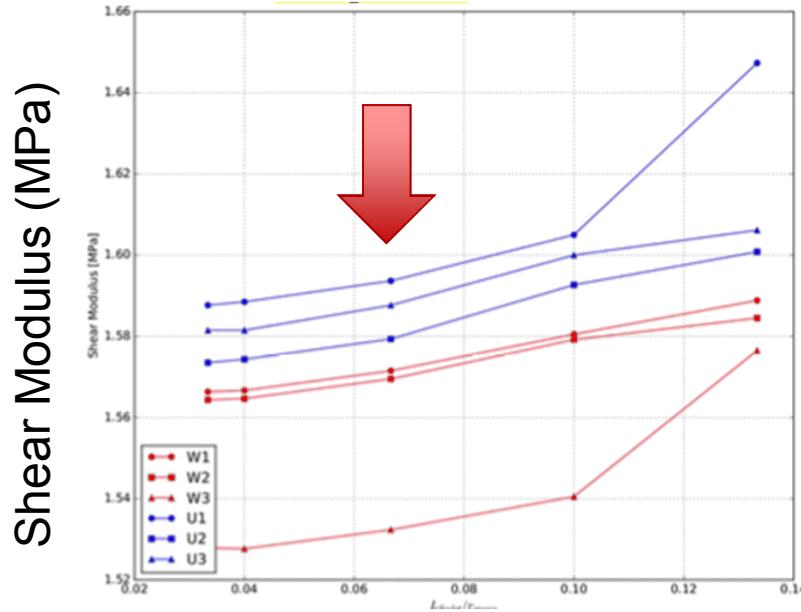
# Thank You!

# QUESTIONS?

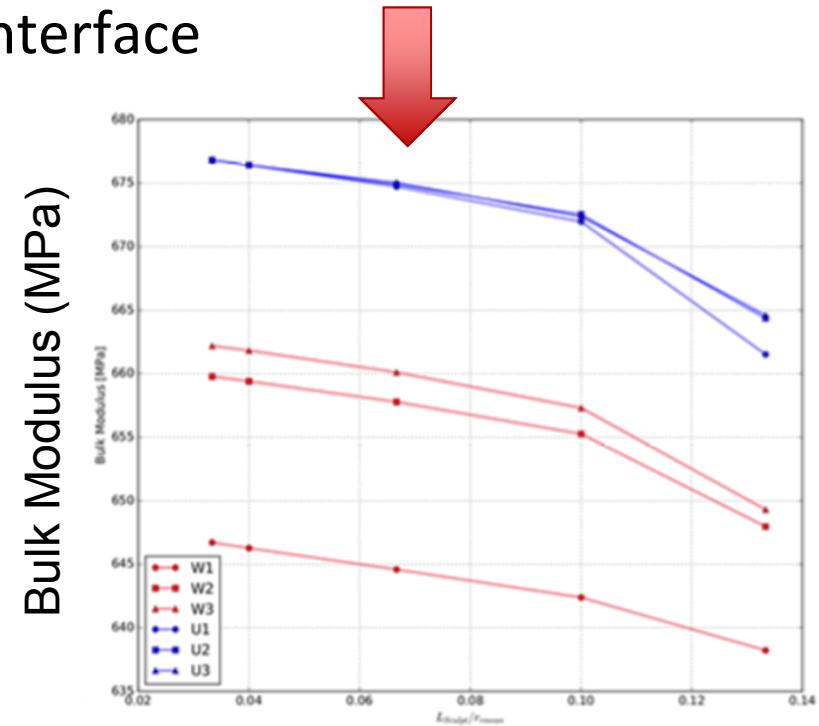
We would also like to acknowledge Dr. Joe Bishop for his help with FEA homogenization methods.

# Mesh Convergence Study

- Governing features:
  - How well are GMBs resolved?
  - How many elements between GMBs?
- Results for Fully Bonded GMB Interface



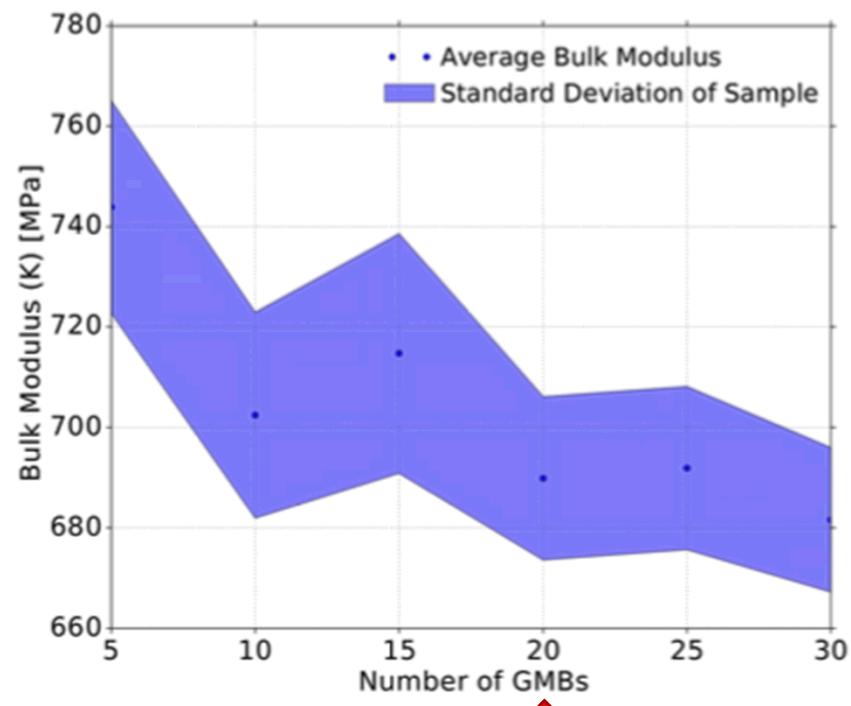
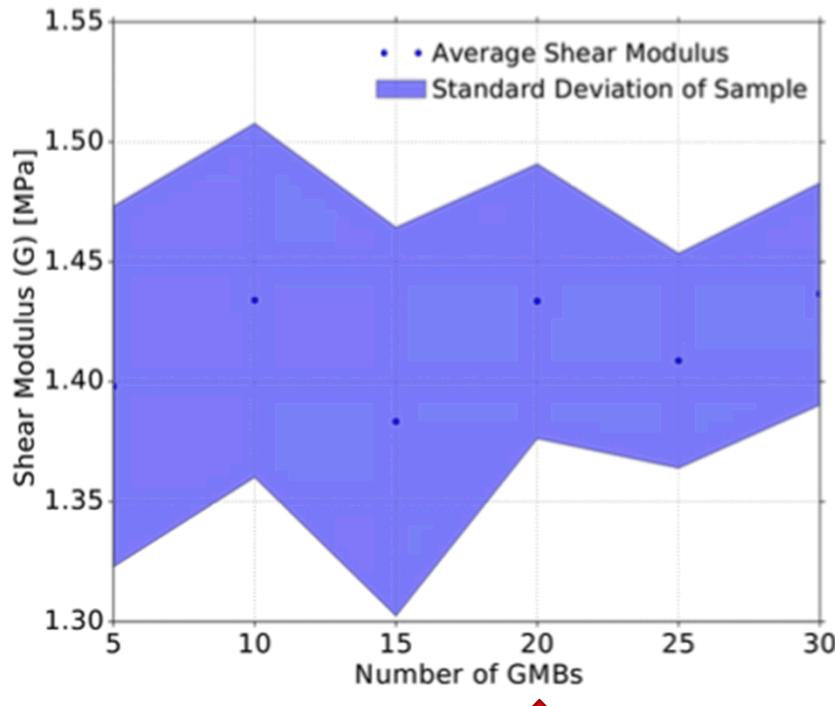
$$\frac{\text{Nominal Element Size}}{\text{GMB radius}} = 0.066$$



$$\frac{\text{Nominal Element Size}}{\text{GMB radius}}$$

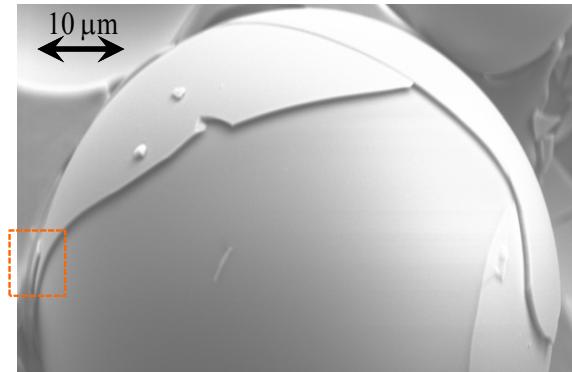
# Representative Volume Element Size

- GMB VF = 20%, Weibull distribution of GMBs, mean GMB radius =  $30\mu\text{m}$
- Average over 5 realizations at each SVE size (5 – 30 GMBs)



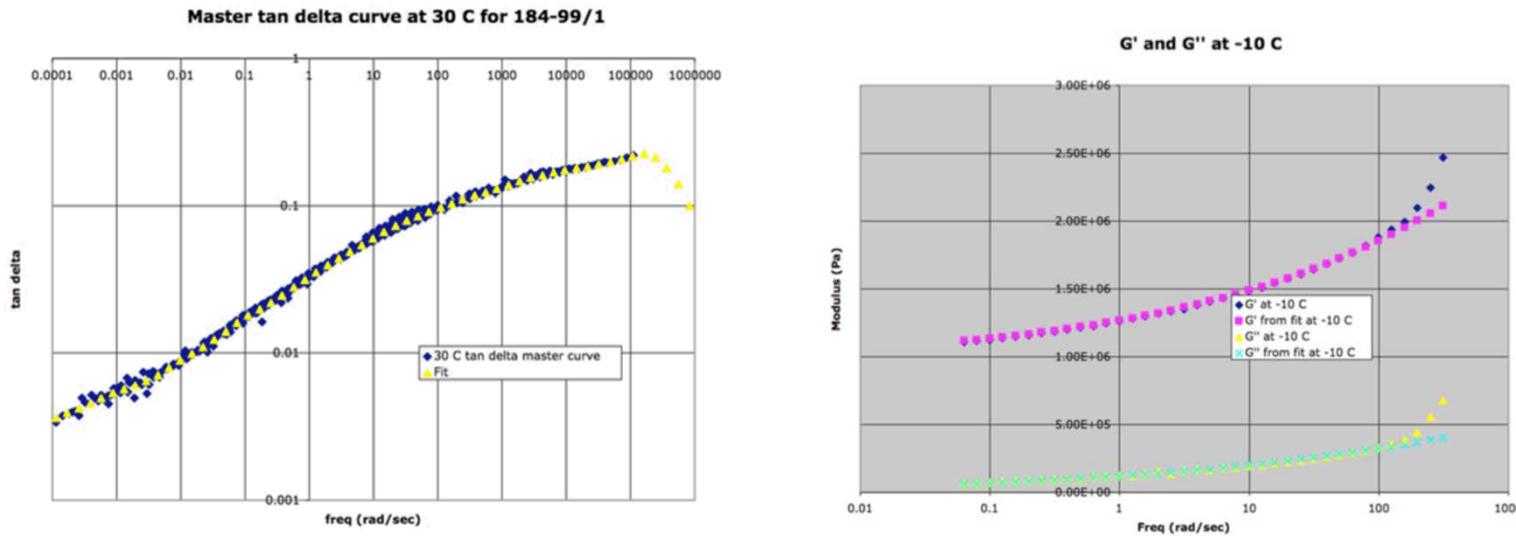
# Constituent Material Properties: Borosilicate Glass

- Glass microballoons (GMBs): Borosilicate Glass
  - Young's modulus  $E_{\text{glass}} = 10.2 \text{ GPa}$
  - Shear modulus  $\mu_{\text{glass}} = 4.2 \text{ GPa}$
  - Max principal stress at failure (estimated) = 100 Mpa
  - Properties estimated from  
([http://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/modulus-rigidity-d\\_946.html](http://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/modulus-rigidity-d_946.html))



# Constituent Material Properties: Sylgard 184

- Linear Viscoelastic Material Model used in FEA



- Prony series fit (22 terms) and detailed material properties available in [M. Lewis et al, LA-UR-07-0298, (2007)]]
- Elastic Properties used for composite theory:
  - Young's Modulus = 1.84 MPa
  - Shear Modulus = 0.61 MPa

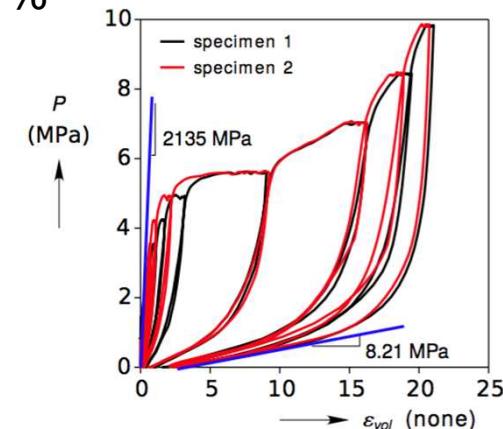
# Comparison with Macroscale Data

## Bulk Modulus (MPa)

GMB VF = 24.5%

GMB VF = 37%

	Composite Theory	FEA Homogenization	Macroscale Experiment
Virgin State	599	558	2135
Fully Damaged	2.513	3.858	8.21
<b>Ratio</b>	<b>238.4</b>	<b>144.6</b>	<b>260.0</b>

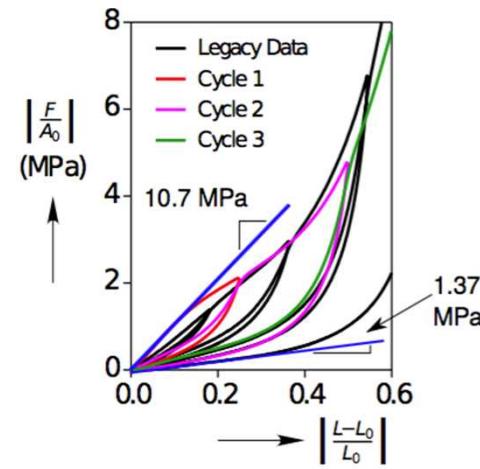


## Young's Modulus (MPa)

GMB VF = 24.5%

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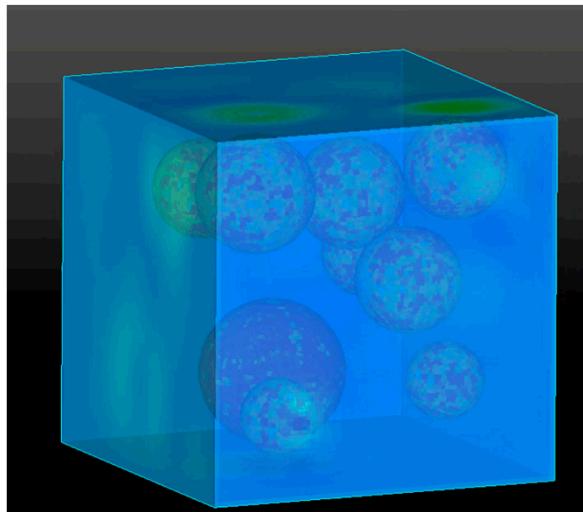
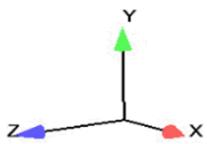
	Composite Theory	FEA Homogenization	Macroscale Experiment
Virgin State	4.424	6.229	10.7
Fully Damaged	1.072	1.681	1.37
<b>Ratio</b>	<b>4.127</b>	<b>3.705</b>	<b>7.81</b>



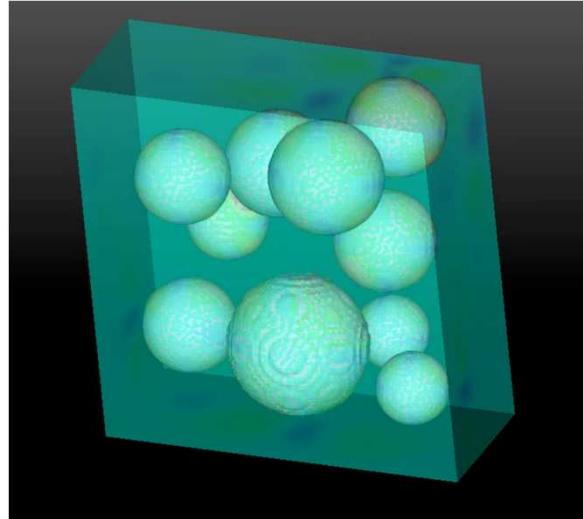
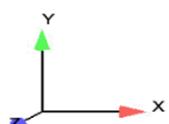
# Local Stresses: Bonded GMBs

Matrix von Mises Stress--Macroscale

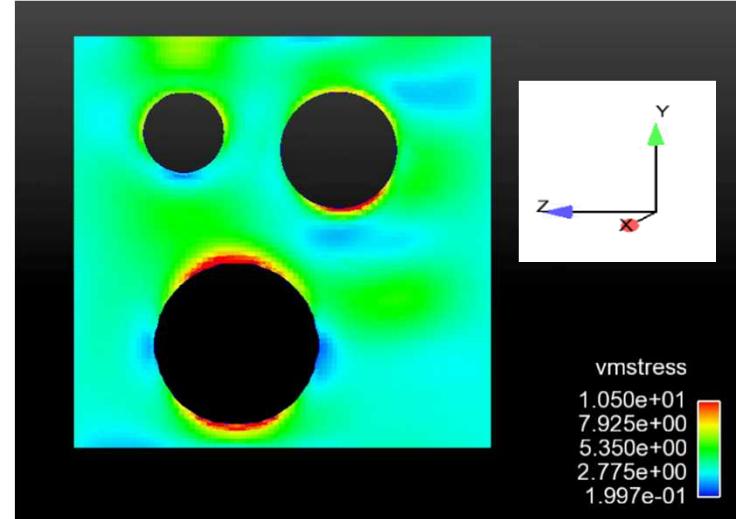
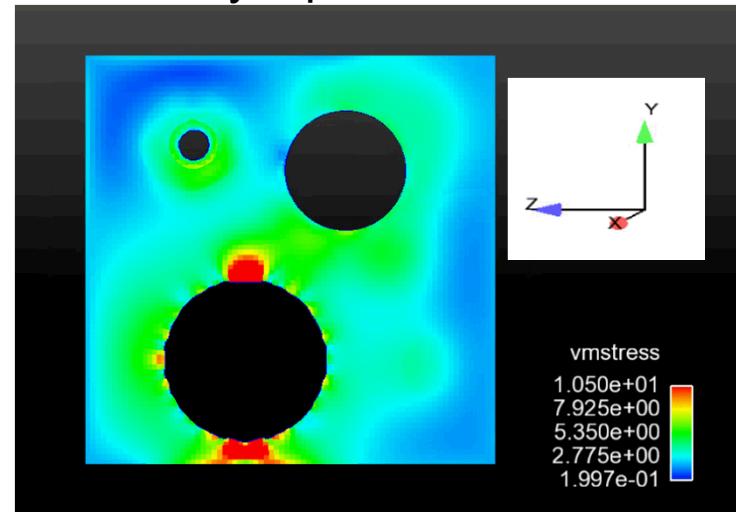
Uniaxial  
Strain in x-  
Direction



Shear in x-y  
Plane

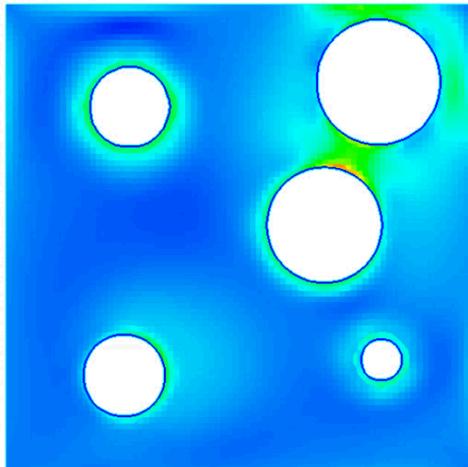


Matrix von Mises stress in  
y-z plane at x=0

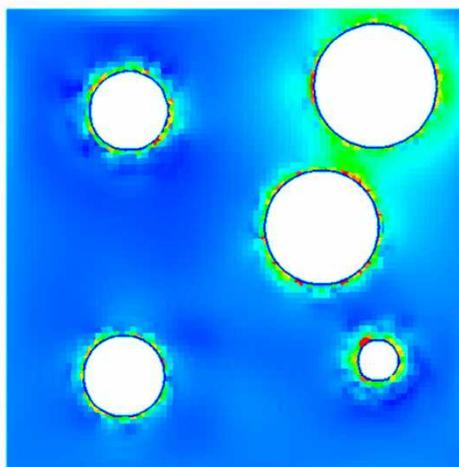


# Local Matrix Stresses: Uniaxial Strain

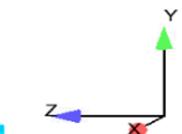
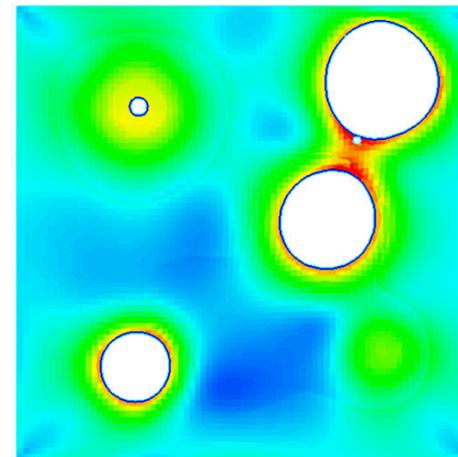
Fully Bonded



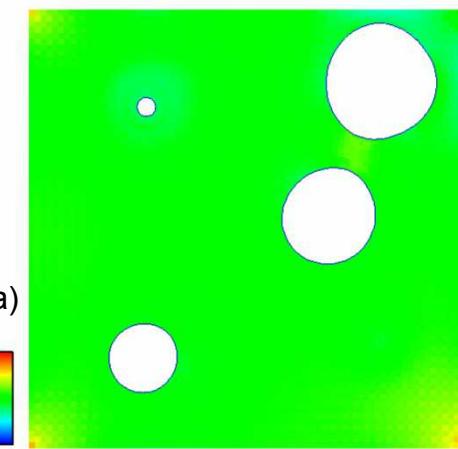
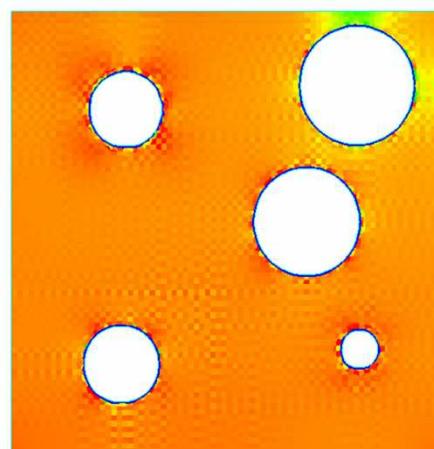
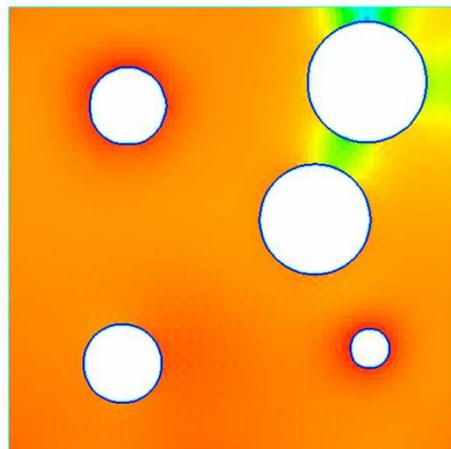
Fully Debonded



Fully Broken



**von Mises  
Stress**



Deformed shapes amplified by  $5 \times 10^4$  for visualization