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Rain Erosion Laboratory Testing of Glass Fibre Composites

Offshore Energy Conference, DTU Risoe - 22-02-2018

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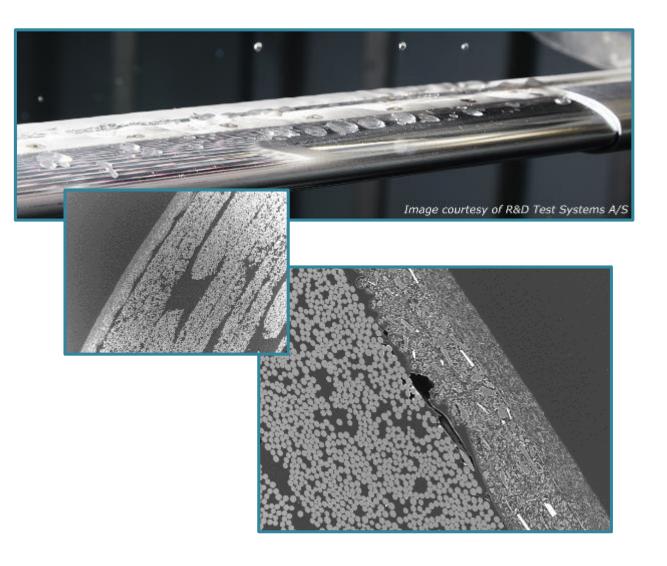
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Agenda

- EROSION project
- WP2 Lab testing and modelling
- Laboratory test equipment
- Test specimen and parameters
- Characterization of erosion
- Project road map



EROSION Wind Turbine Blade Erosion: Reducing the largest uncertainties



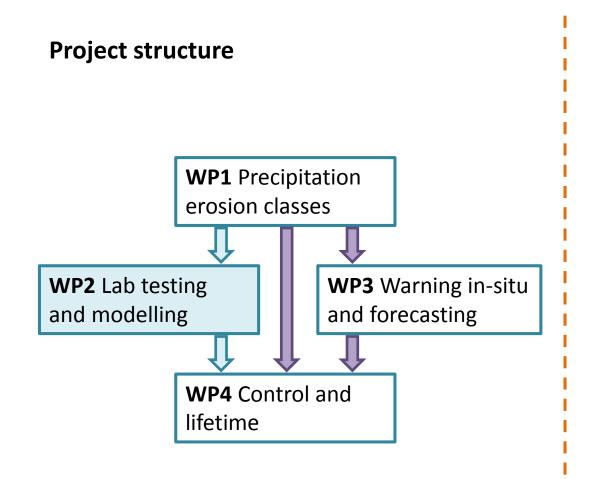
Research hypothesis

 By reducing the tip speed of the blades during rainfall, a significant extension of blade lifetime can be obtained with drastically reduced maintenance cost and minimal loss of production

Specific goals

- 1. Define precipitation erosion classes
- 2. Apply in lab experiments on blade materials
- 3. Develop and demonstrate a cheap prototype for rainfall detection as input for the 'erosion safe mode' control on site
- 4. Demonstrate business case on cost reduction for wind farm developers

EROSION - Work Package 2



Aim

- Rain impact fatigue testing in rain erosion test facilities
- Characterize morphological characteristics in eroded material

Method

- Identification of the microscopic failure mechanisms in the material using optical and electron microscopy and x-ray tomography
- Investigation of the compositional and structural characterization classification results to understand the erosion and damage of the blades



Laboratory test equipment

R&D Test Systems – Rain Erosion Tester

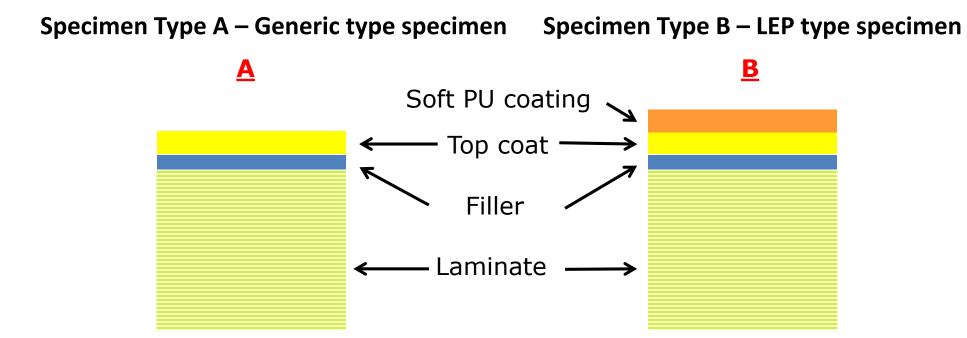
Specification	Unit	Value
Rotor speed	[RPM]	500-1386
Tip speed	[m/s]	63-173
Equivalent amount of rainfall	[mm/hour]	29-56
Droplet diameter with G20	[mm]	≈3.5
Droplet diameter with G27	[mm]	≈2
Free falling height	[mm]	200 - 400
Specimen length	[mm]	450
Exposed specimen length	[mm]	390





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Test specimen and test parameters



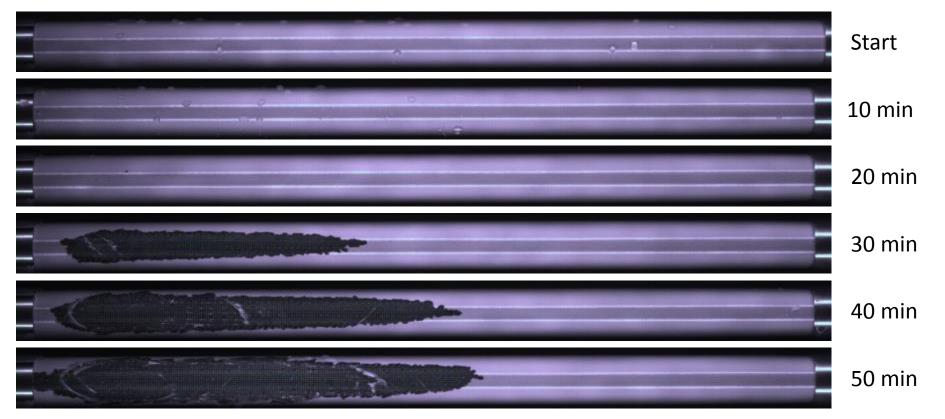
Test parameters

- Droplet size: 2,3 mm and 3,5 mm
- Impact velocity: 83 m/s, 112 m/s, 125 m/s, 141 m/s

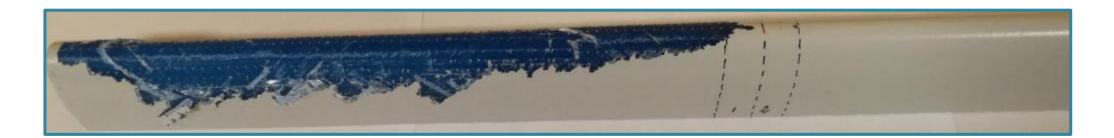
Characterization of erosion

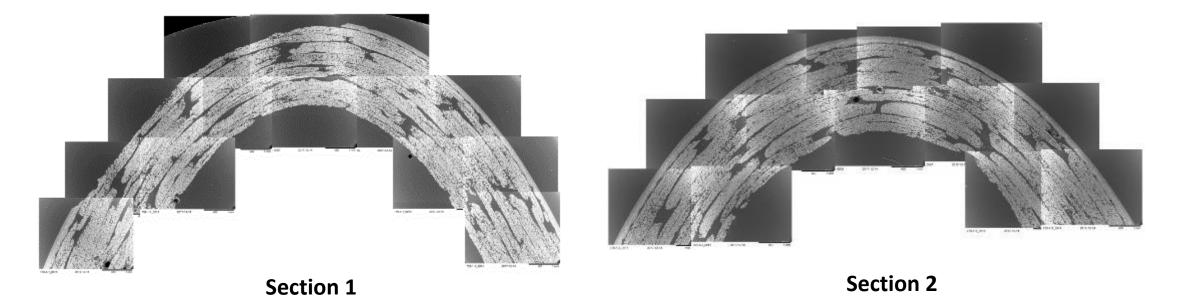
Erosion development

Type A specimen – Tested @ 1065 RPM with 3.5 mm droplets



Characterization of erosion

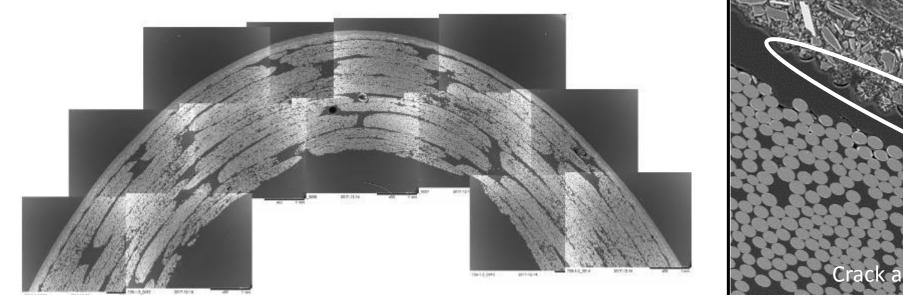


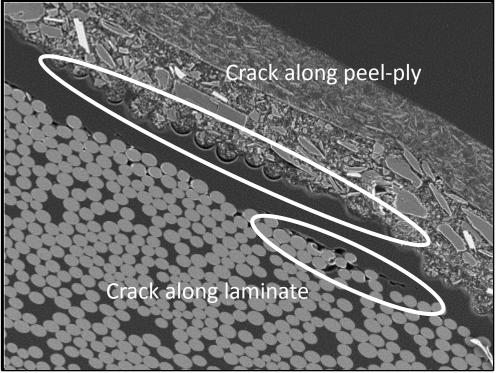


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Characterization of erosion

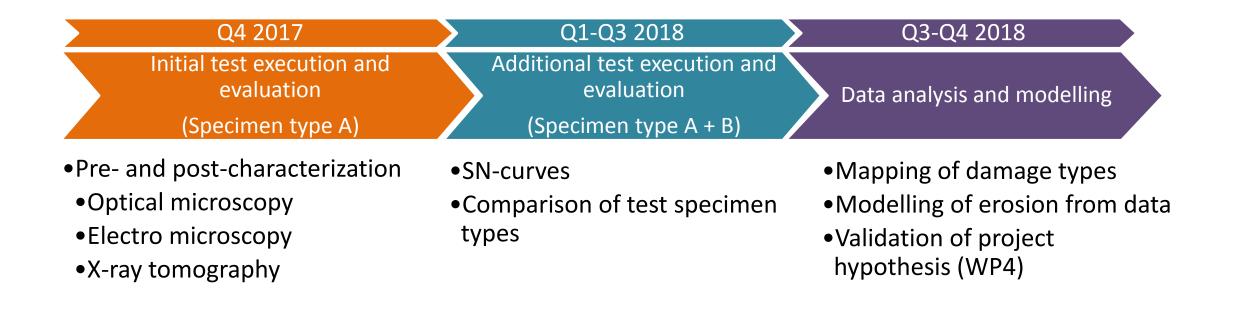






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Project road map





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- Jakob Ilsted, DTU

Contact details:

- Work Package Leader: *Martin Madsen*, R&D mbm@rdas.dk
- Project Manager: *Charlotte Bay Hasager*, DTU cbha@dtu.dk

Further information and project dissemination: www.rain-erosion.dk

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