Thermo-hygral-mechanical approach to self-induced stresses in concrete structures
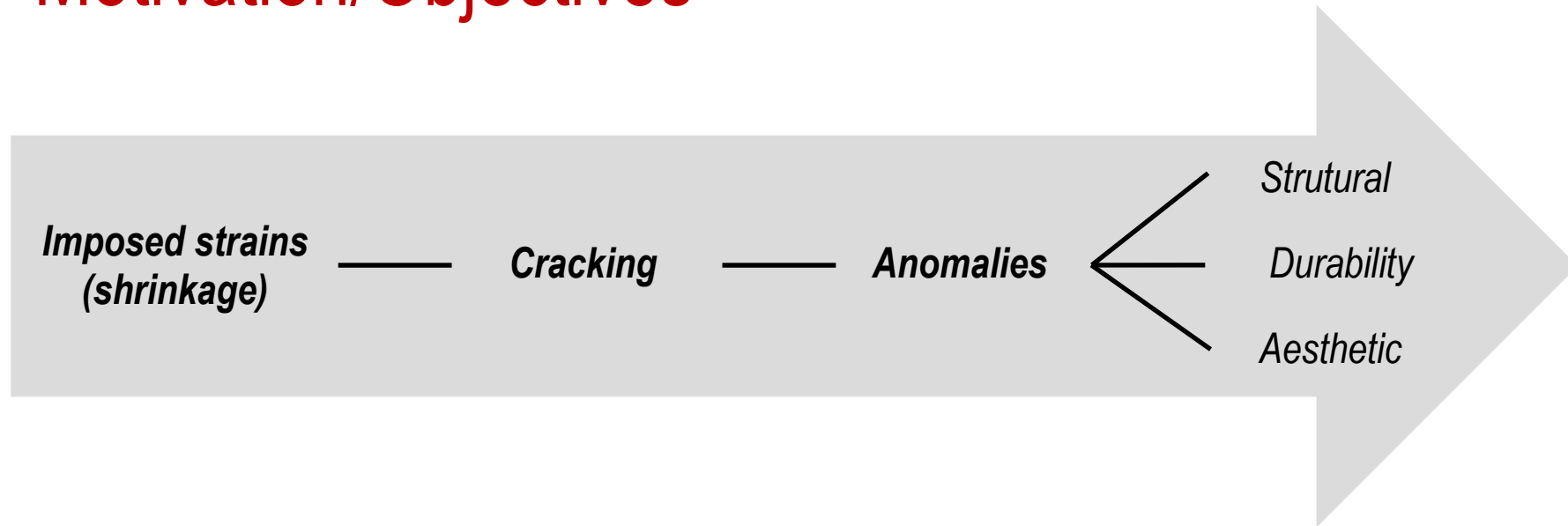
Luís Leitão

Supervisor(s) name(s):
Rui Faria (FEUP) / **Miguel Azenha** (UM)
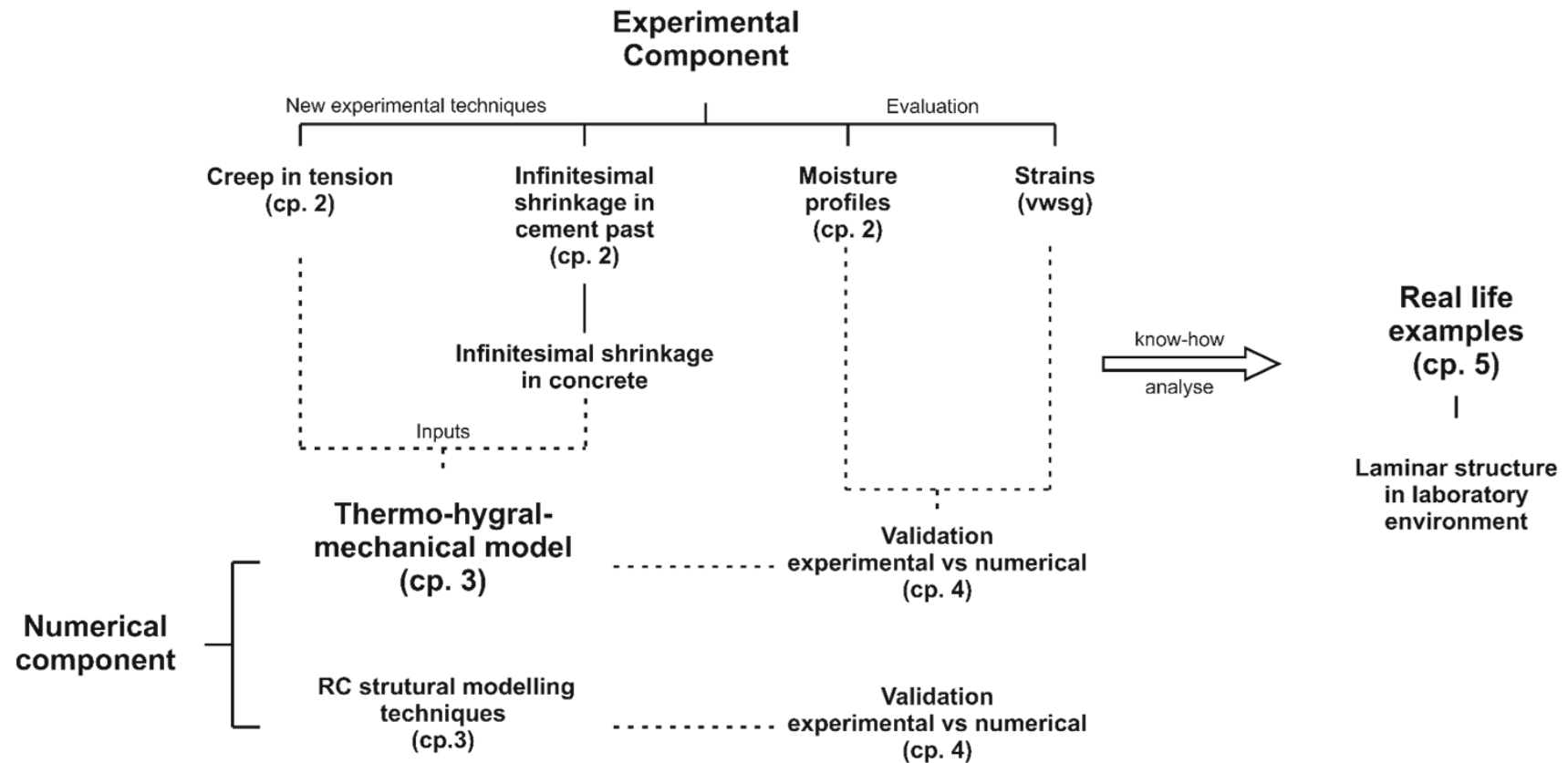
Expected PhD conclusion year: 2016

Motivation/Objectives

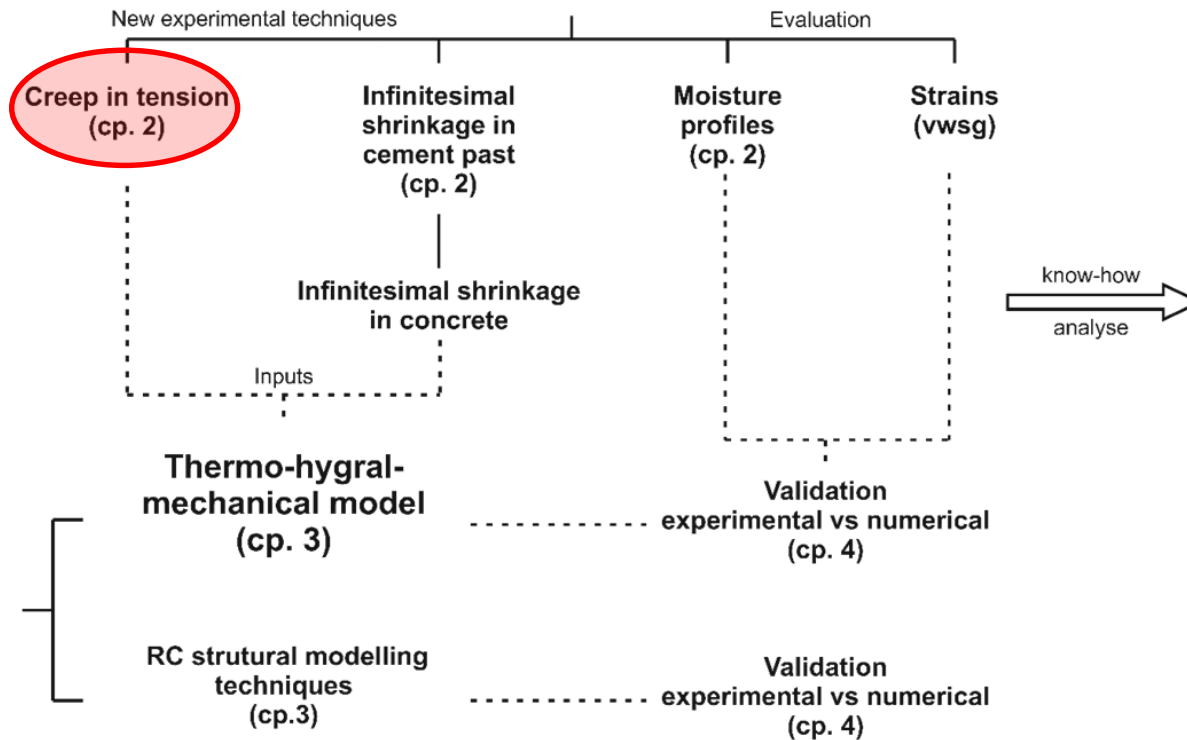**Imposed strains (shrinkage)** —— **Cracking** —— **Anomalies** < *Strutural* / *Durability* / *Aesthetic*

Motivation/Objectives

Thermo-hygral-mechanical
approach to self-induced
stresses in concrete structures

Experimental
Component

New experimental techniques   Evaluation

Creep in tension
(cp. 2)

Infinitesimal
shrinkage in
cement past
(cp. 2)

Moisture
profiles
(cp. 2)

Strains
(vwsg)

Infinitesimal shrinkage
in concrete

Inputs

Real life
examples
(cp. 5)

know-how

analyse

Laminar structure
in laboratory
environment

Thermo-hygral-
mechanical model
(cp. 3)

Validation
experimental vs numerical
(cp. 4)

Numerical
component

RC strutural modelling
techniques
(cp.3)

Validation
experimental vs numerical
(cp. 4)

Creep in tension – VRF system

Thermo-hygral-mechanical approach to self-induced stresses in concrete structures

Experimental Component

New experimental techniques | Evaluation

Creep in tension (cp. 2)

Infinitesimal shrinkage in cement past (cp. 2)

Moisture profiles (cp. 2)

Strains (vwsg)

Infinitesimal shrinkage in concrete

Inputs

know-how

analyse

Real life examples (cp. 5)

Laminar structure in laboratory environment

Numerical component

Thermo-hygral-mechanical model (cp. 3)

Validation experimental vs numerical (cp. 4)

RC strutural modelling techniques (cp.3)

Validation experimental vs numerical (cp. 4)

Creep in tension – VRF system

Specimen Concrete + Steel

- **Steel → Hydraulic transmission of force to the concrete**

- **Stress induced field of tension in concrete**

Restrained formwork

Hydraulic cylinders

Steel structure

threaded rods

Creep in tension – VRF system

Specimen Concrete + Steel

- *Steel → Hydraulic transmission of force to the concrete*

- *Stress induced field of tension in concrete*

Restrained formwork

Hydraulic cylinders

Dummy specimen

Steel structure
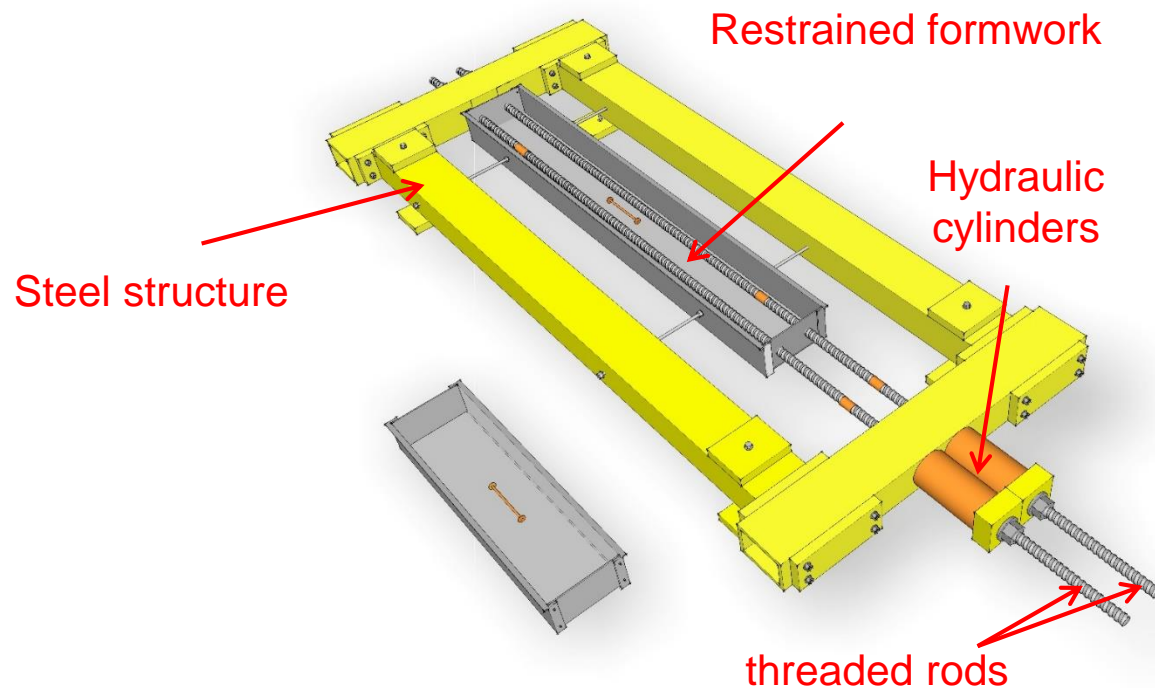
- *Plain concrete*

- *Free shrinkage*
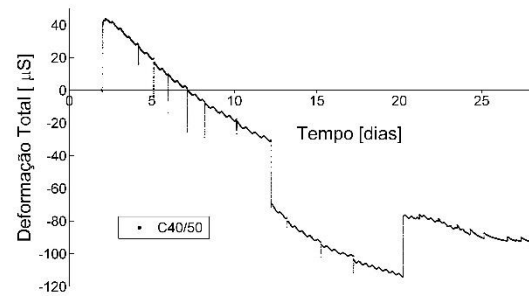
Dummy formwork

threaded rods

Basic principle of VRF system

$\varepsilon_{c,total}$

VW strain gauge

Basic principle of VRF system

$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{c,total}$

$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{c,\Delta T+Sh}$

Electric strain gauges
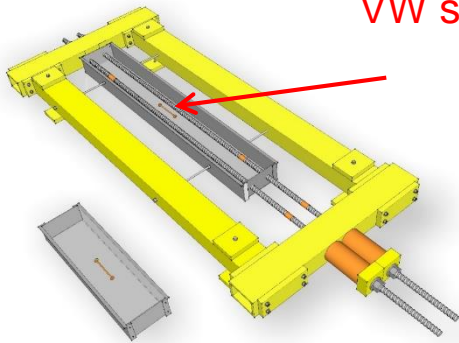
VW strain gauge

Basic principle of VRF system
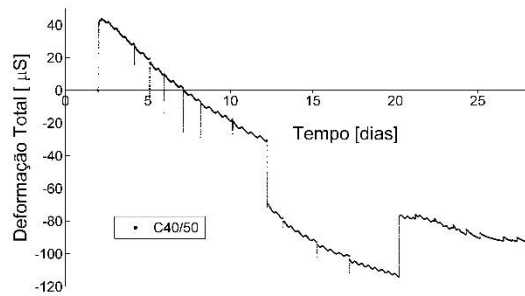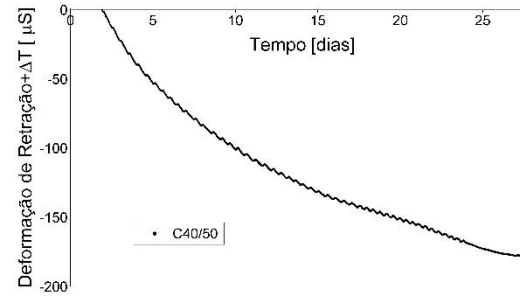
$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{c,total}$		$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{c,\Delta T+Sh}$		$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{c,elastic}$

Electric strain gauges
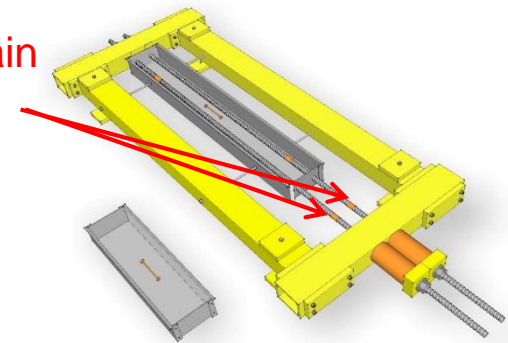
Basic principle of VRF system

$\varepsilon_{c,total}$
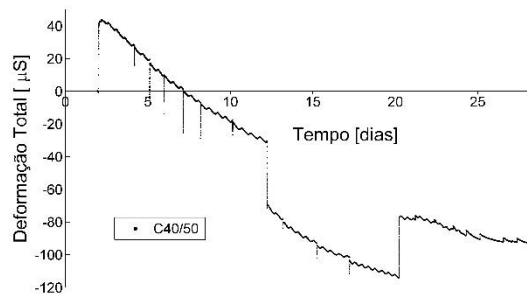
$\varepsilon_{c,\Delta T+Sh}$
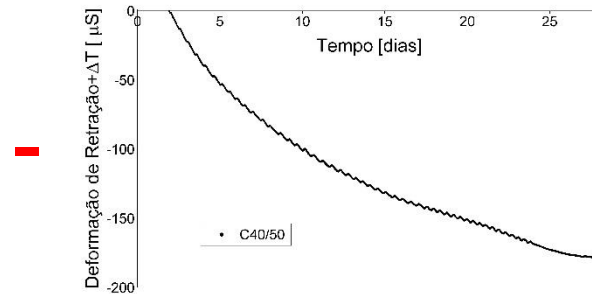
$\varepsilon_{c,elastic}$

−

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=
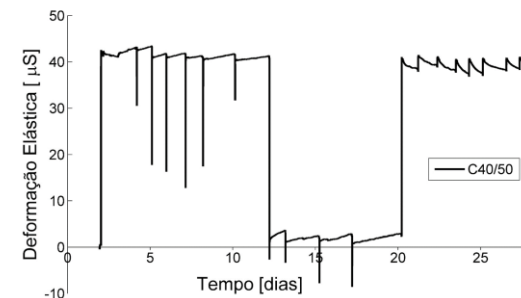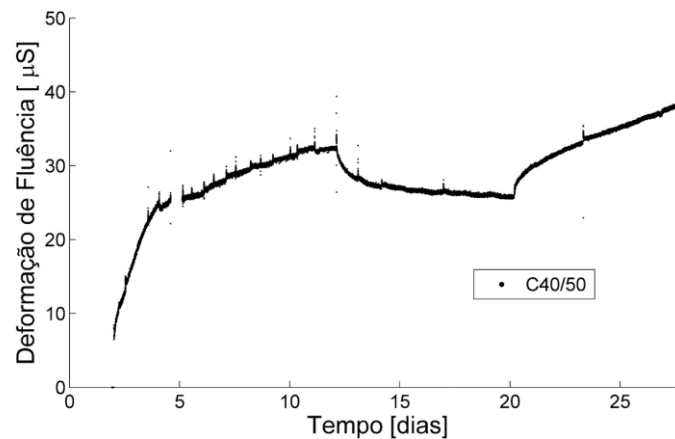
Implemented VRF system / Results

- *VRF after concreting.*
- *Formwork system removed.*

CONSTRUCT
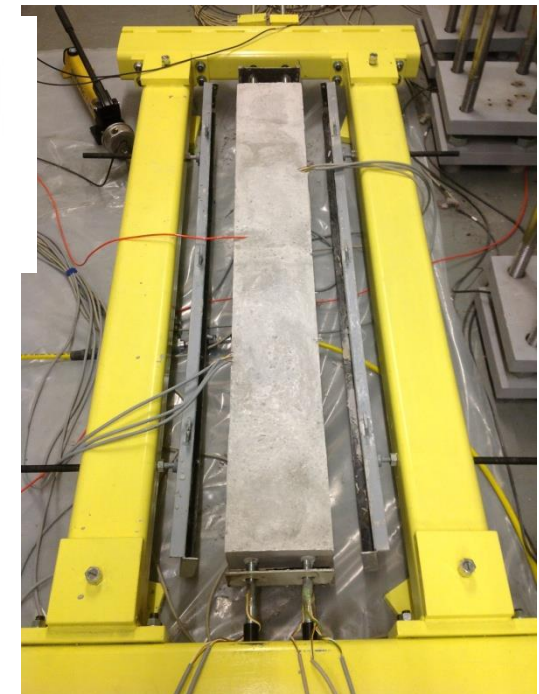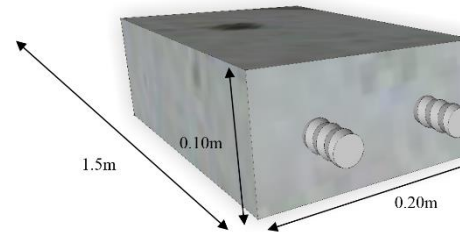
Implemented VRF system / Results

Creep strain
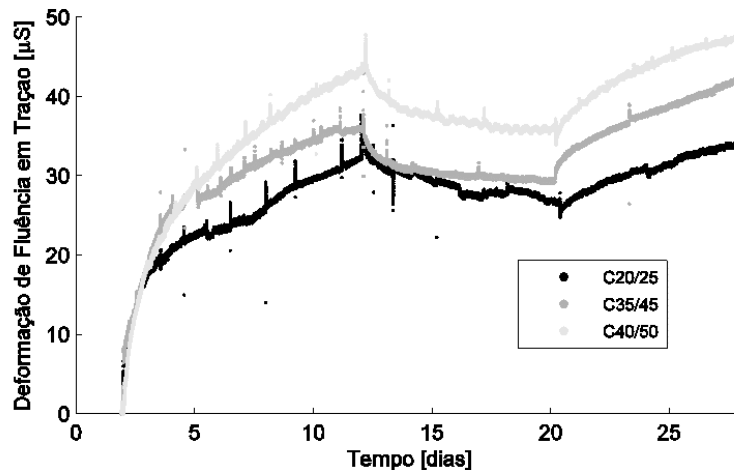
Specific creep
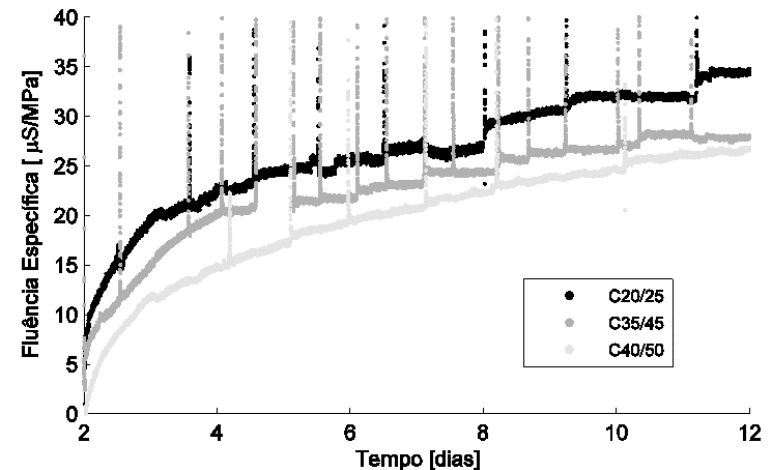
- ***High precision curves – considerable difference compared to the associated literature.***

- ***Lower resistance class of concrete ⇒ higher specific creep.***

Validation THM model
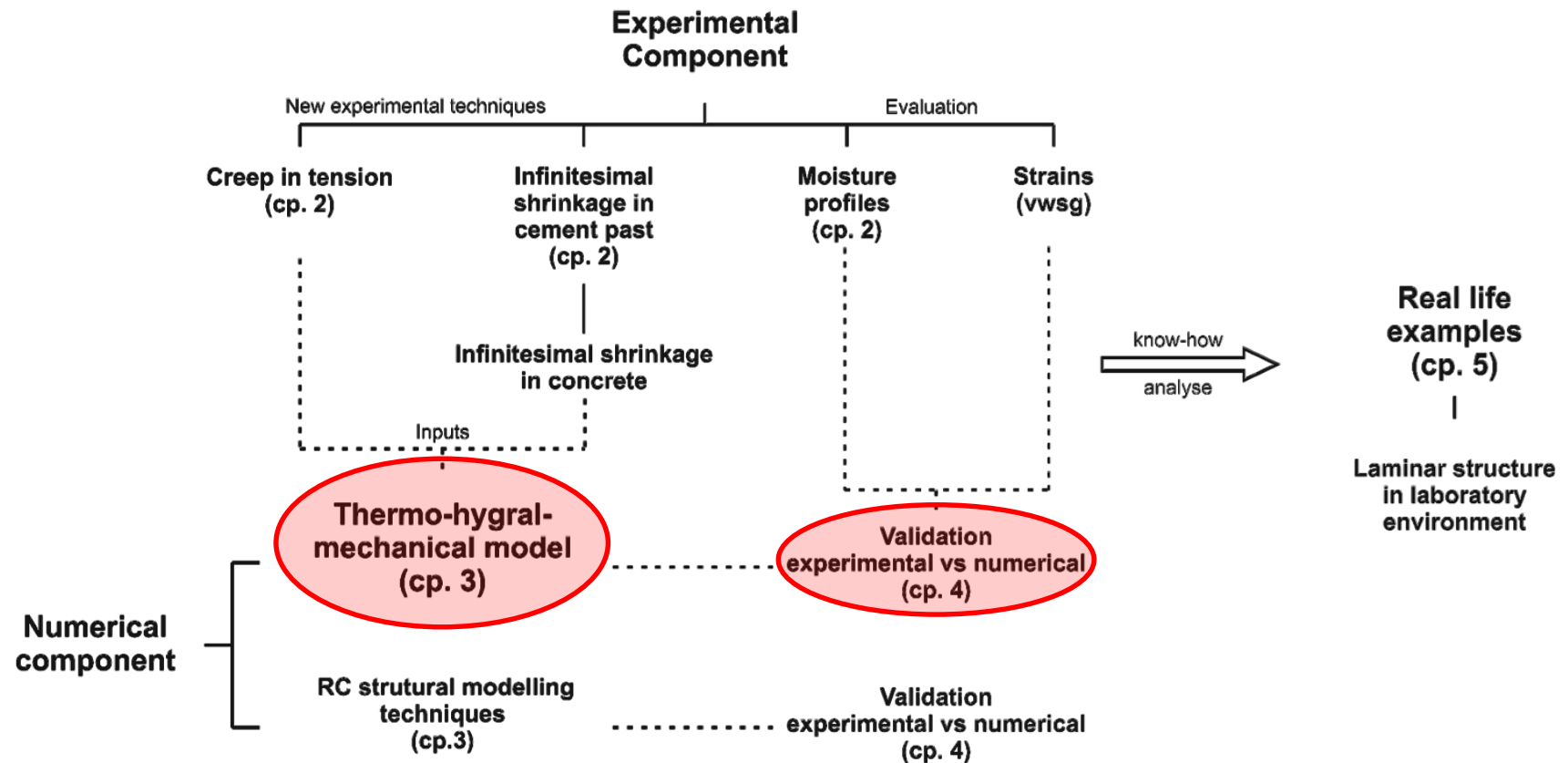
Validation THM model
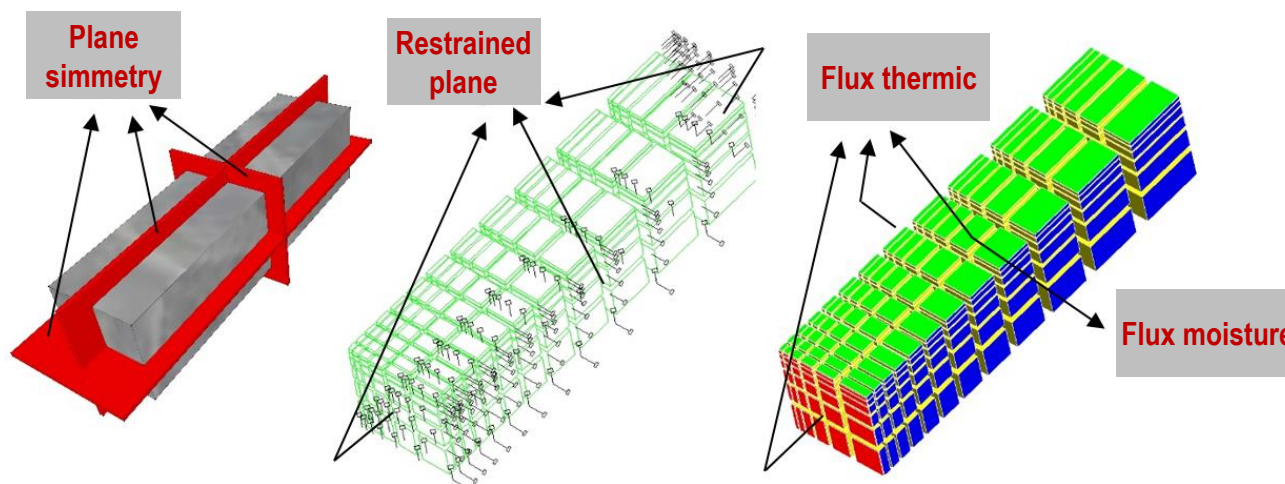
- *Pre-processing of THM model possible in software DIANA.*
- *Refinement of FE mesh in areas with higher thermic and moisture flux*

Validation THM model
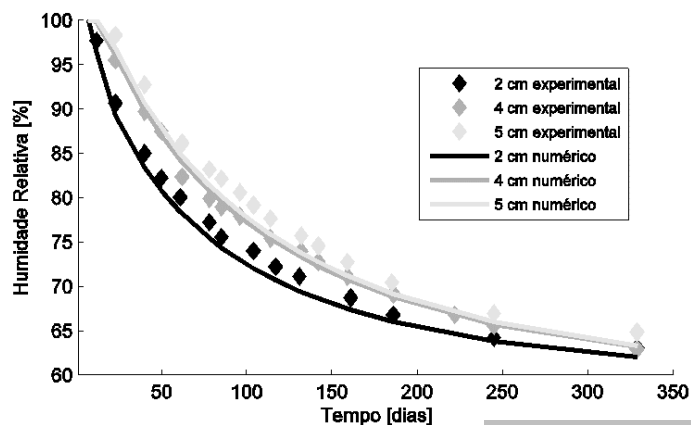
Specimen internal moisture
10x10x40cm³
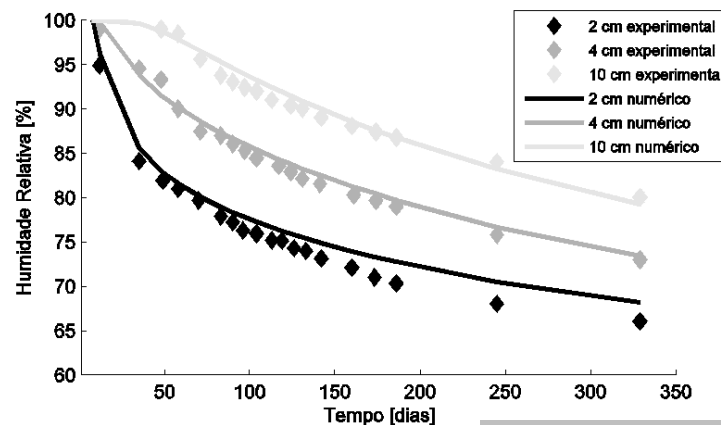
Specimen internal moisture
15x15x60cm³
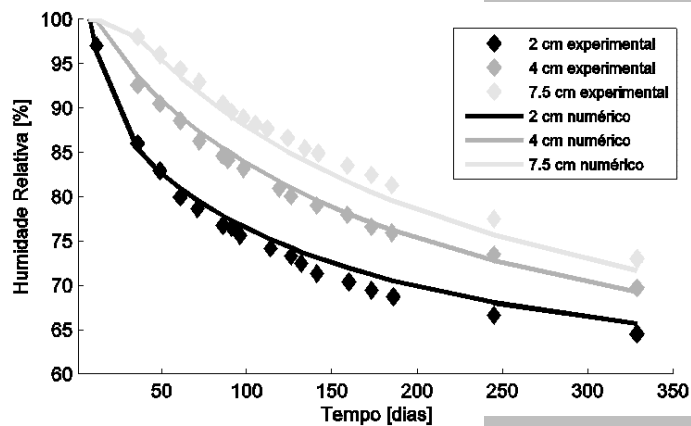
Specimen internal moisture
20x20x60cm³
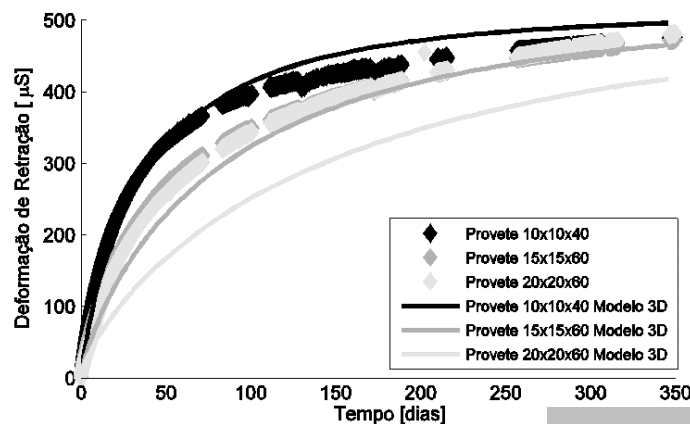
Global strain

RC strutural modelling techniques

Thermo-hygral-mechanical approach to self-induced stresses in concrete structures
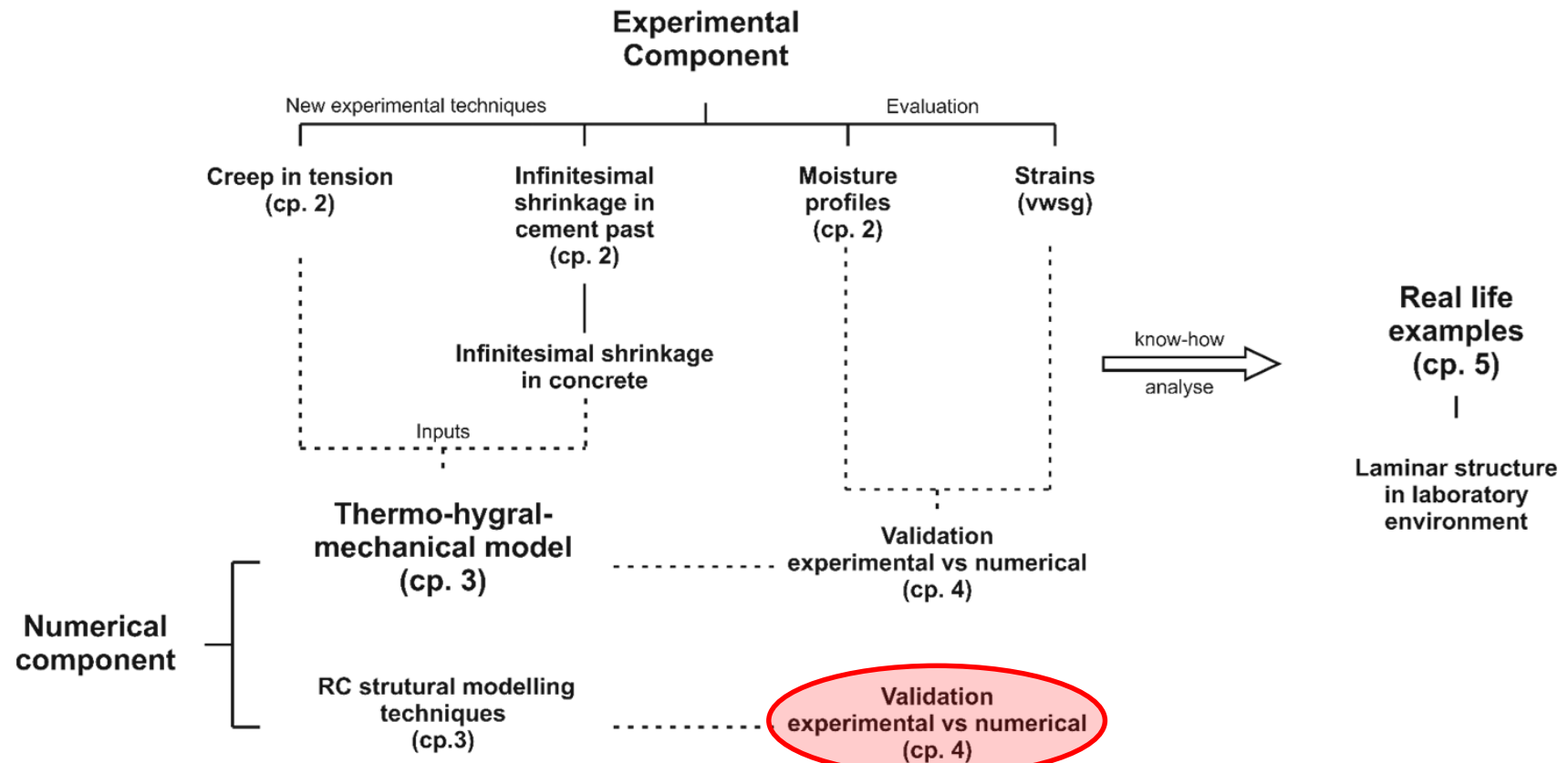
RC strutural modelling techniques
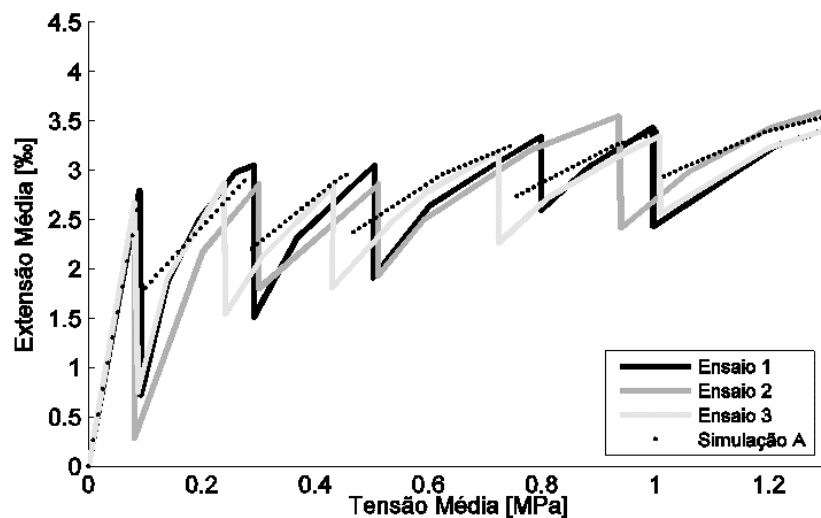
Experimental vs numerical results
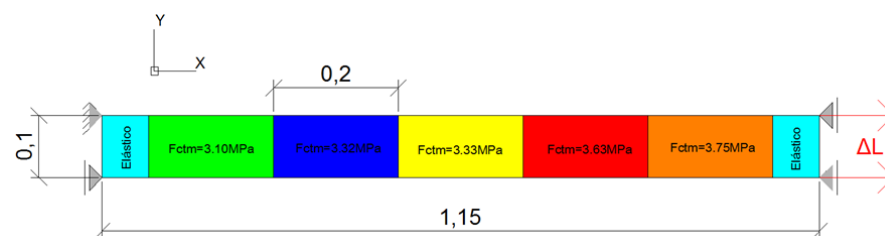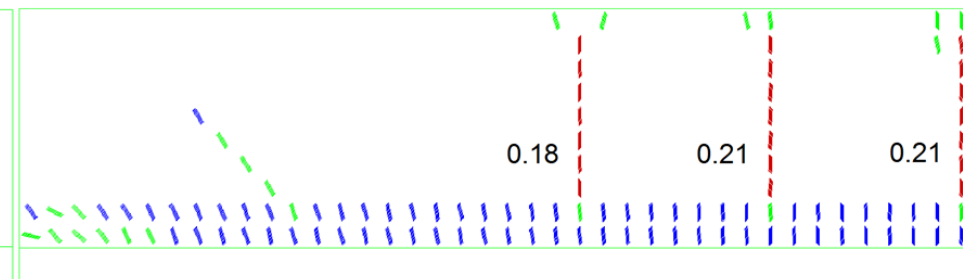

FE mesh model A
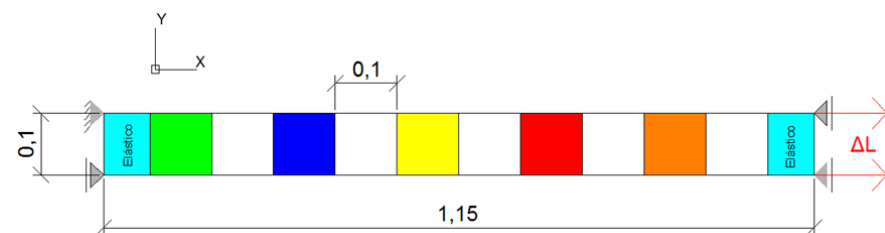
FE mesh model B

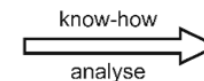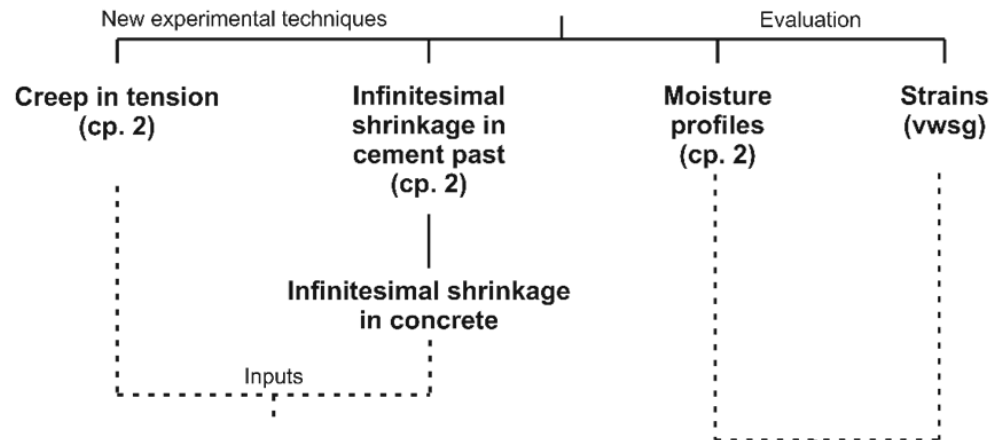Numerical model

RC strutural modelling techniques

Model A

Model B

Laminar Structure in Lab. Environment

Laminar Structure in Lab. Environment
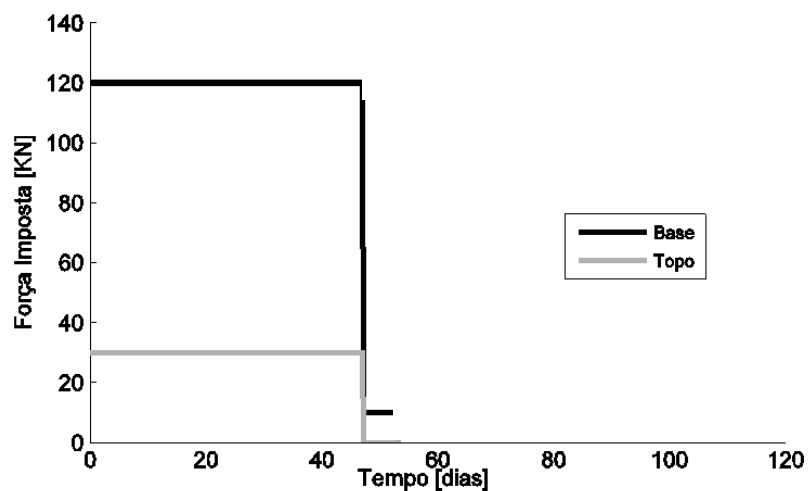
VW straing gauges

Laminar structure

Concreting 1st stage

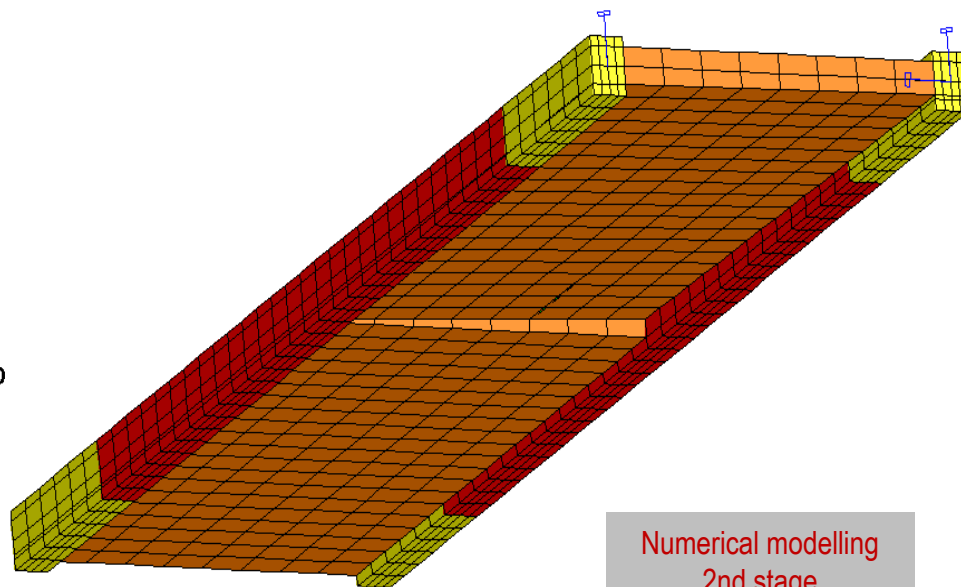Restriction imposed by hydraulic pumps
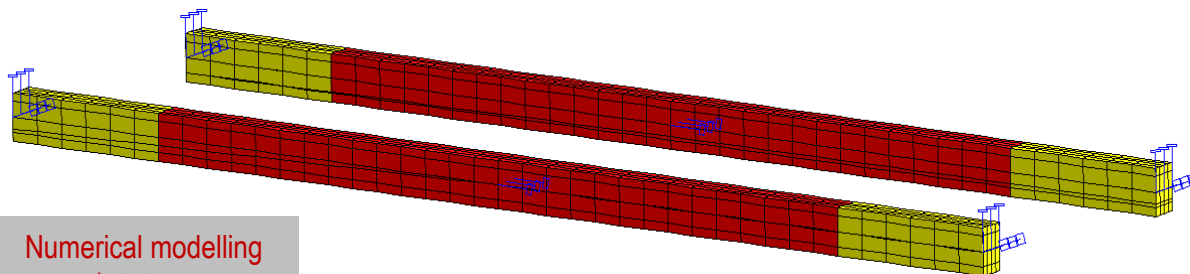
Manual restriction imposed

Laminar Structure in Lab. Environment

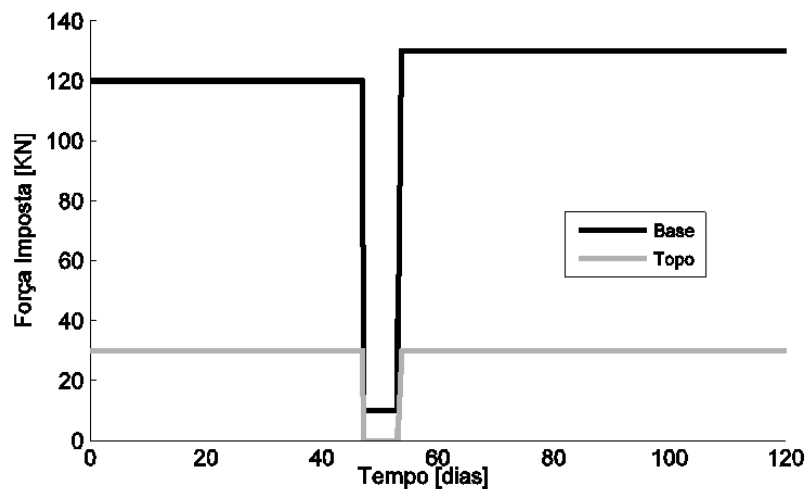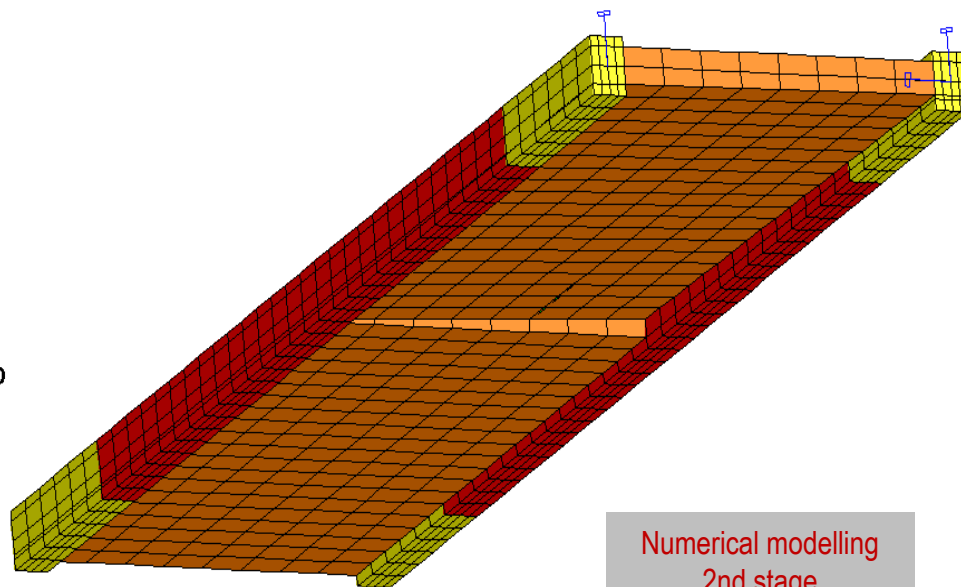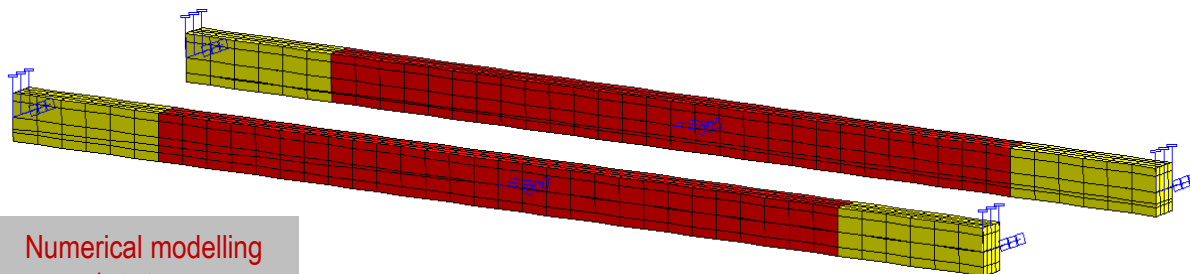Load evolution in restricted areas

Numerical modelling 2nd stage

Numerical modelling 1st stage

Laminar Structure in Lab. Environment

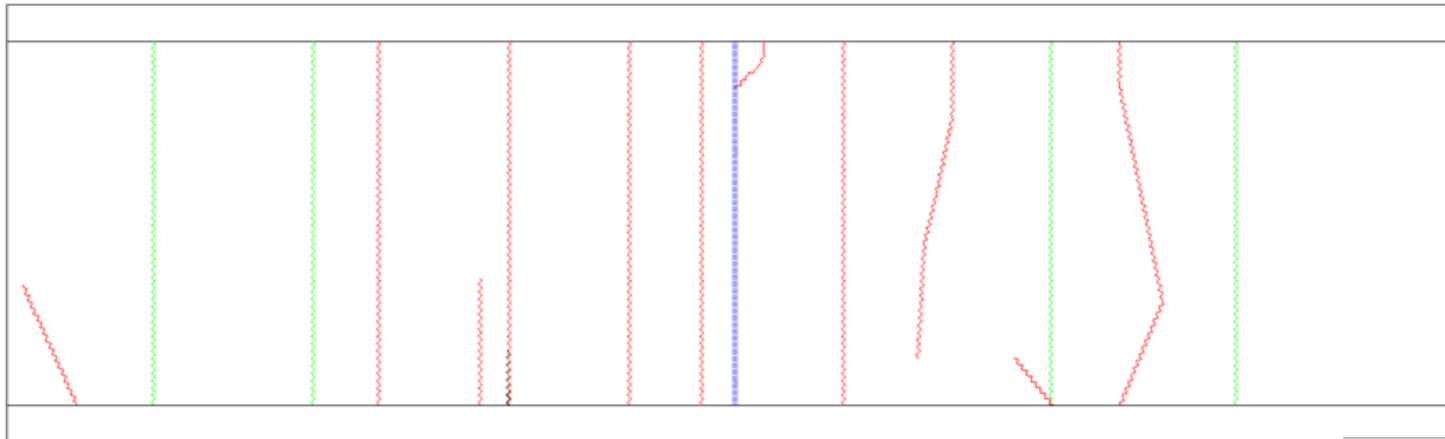Load evolution in restricted areas

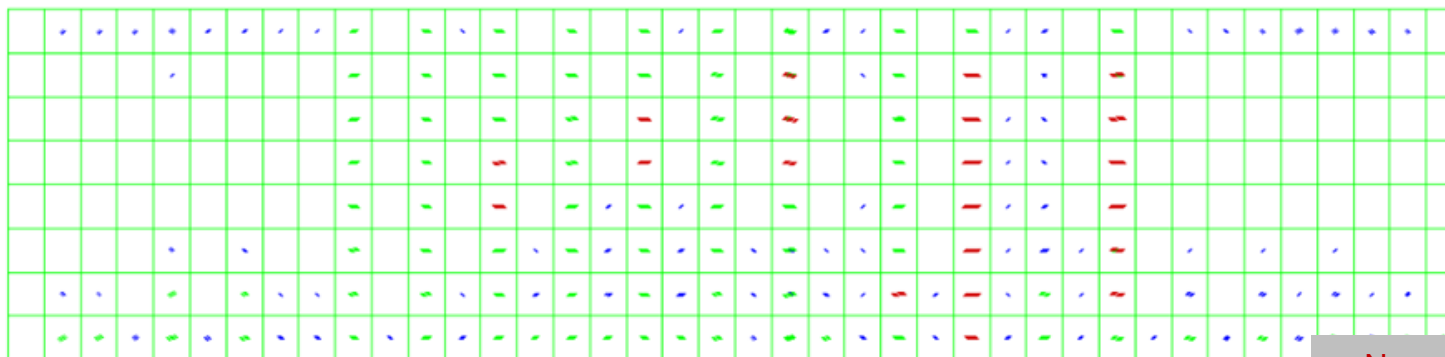Numerical modelling 2nd stage

Numerical modelling 1st stage

Laminar Structure in Lab. Environment

Real cracking pattern:
120 days

Numerical cracking
pattern: 120 days