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Tomasz Nowak

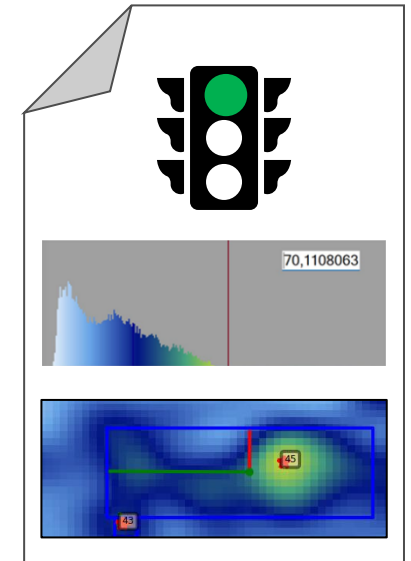
Zastosowanie zautomatyzowanych badań ultradźwiękowych w testowaniu elementów izolacyjnych WN wykonanych z kompozytów wzmacnianych włóknami

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Zastosowanie
zautomatyzowanych
badań ultradźwiękowych w
testowaniu elementów izolacyjnych WN
wykonanych z kompozytów
wzmacnianych włóknami



- ☐ Izolacja stała WN
 - ☐ aplikacje, charakterystyka (zalety / wady)

- ☐ Kompozyty włókniste
 - ☐ własności, aplikacje, produkcja, wady, metody badawcze NDT

- ☐ Technika ultradźwiękowa
 - ☐ zasada działania, podstawowe techniki, skany

- ☐ Beamforming
 - ☐ metody formowania wiązki (PA / TFM), przykłady

- ☐ Aplikacja praktyczna
 - ☐ produkt, stanowisko, automatyka, software,

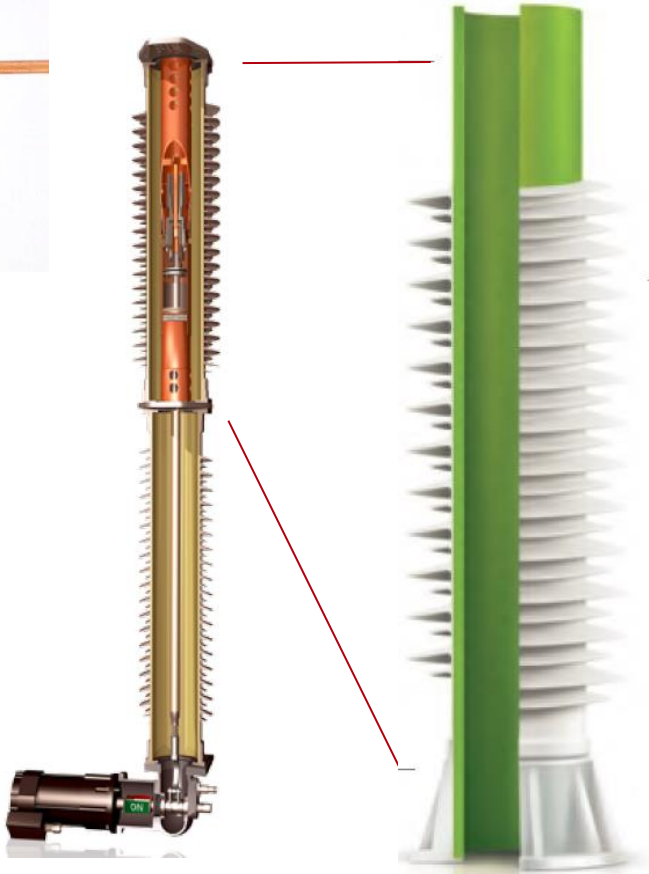
- ☐ Wyniki
 - ☐ porównania, wnioski, co dalej

1. Izolacja stała

Dlaczego izolacja stała?

- zapewnia bezpieczeństwo obsługi
- chroni urządzenie
- jest „stała” więc „nie ucieka” (jak olej, czy gazy)
– nie wymaga serwisu
- jest „sucha” – bezpieczna dla użytkownika / środowiska
- oferuje dużą stabilność własności w okresie użytkowania
- **pełni funkcję strukturalną – przenosi siły mechaniczne i często stanowi sztywną obudowę**
- **pozwała na stosowanie materiałów gradientowych**
- ...







Transformer Bushings



Pole Insulators

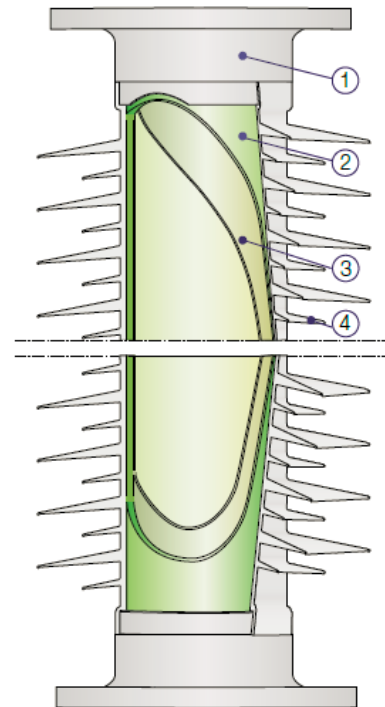
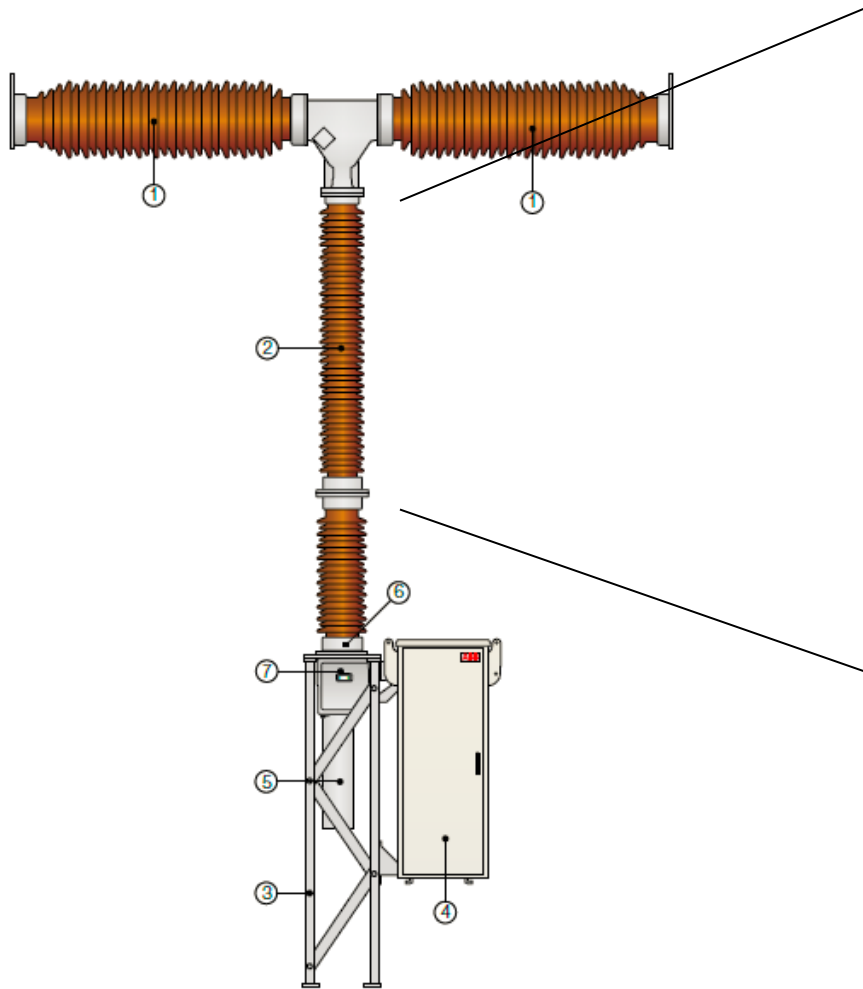


HV Circuit Breakers



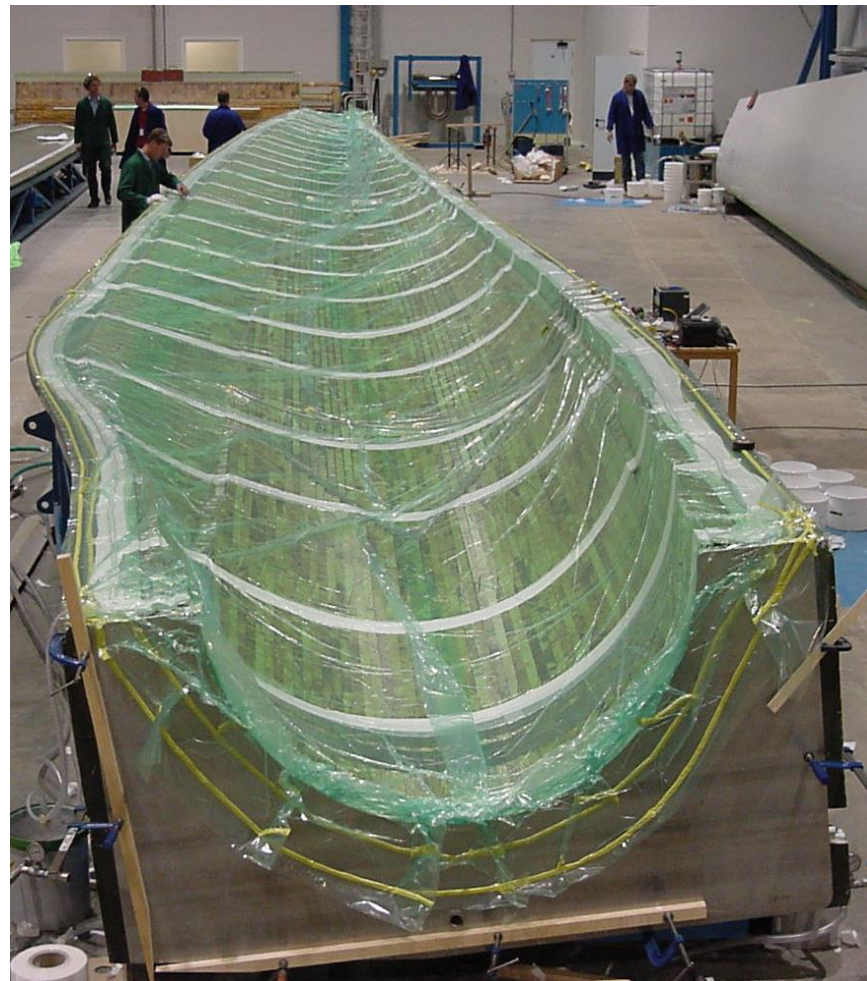
GIS instalations





1. Kołnierz aluminiowy
2. Rura kompozytowa (GFRE)
3. Liner polimerowy
4. Płaszcz z gumy silikonowej





2. Kompozyty włókniste

KOMPOZYT

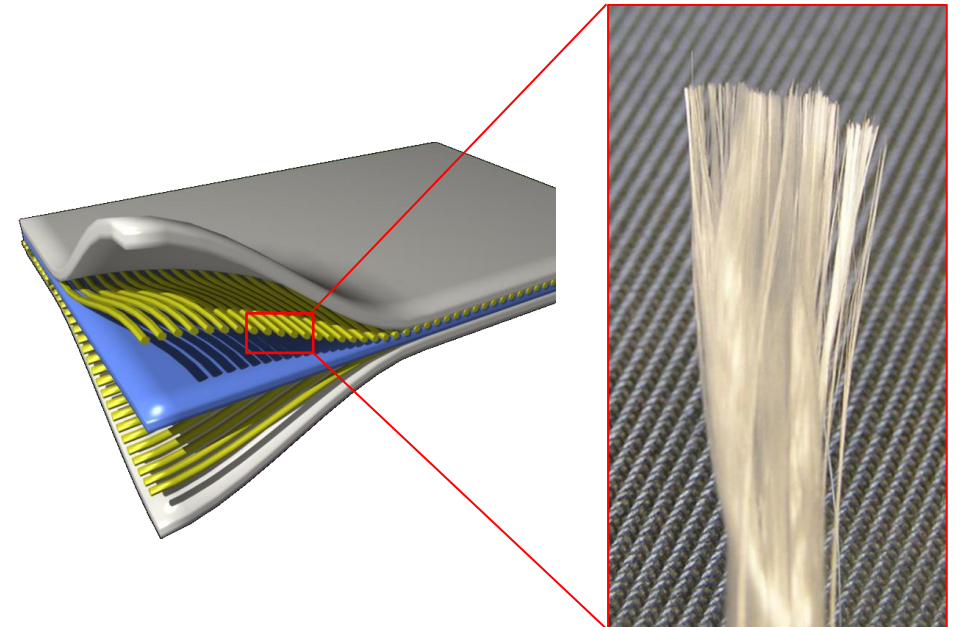
- System składający się z dwóch lub więcej fizycznie odrębnych komponentów (faz), których połączenie powoduje powstanie właściwości materiałowych różniących się (lepszych) od właściwości składników.
1. **Osnowa** (np. polimer, żywica epoksydowa, ...)
 - zapewnia stabilność i ochronę faz przed działaniem środowika, transferuje naprężenia mechaniczne, spowalnia proces starzenia
 2. **Faza wzmacniająca** (np. włókno szklane / węglowe / aramidowe (kevlar) / bazaltowe, a także cząsteczki kwarcu, krzemionki, szkła, ...)
 - znacznie poprawia wymaganą cechę materiałową, np. wytrzymałość

Rodzaje kompozytów

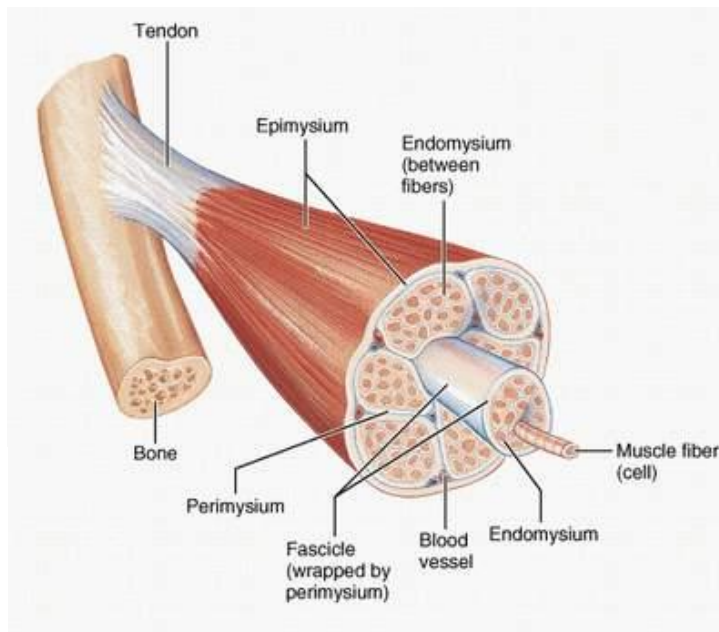
- zbrojone włóknem (włókna długie / krótkie)
- umacniane cząsteczkami (domieszkowawne / dyspersyjne)
- strukturalne (laminaty / „plastry miodu”)

Wady

- Anizotropia własności
- Wytwarzania jest czasochłonne, często ręczne i kosztowe

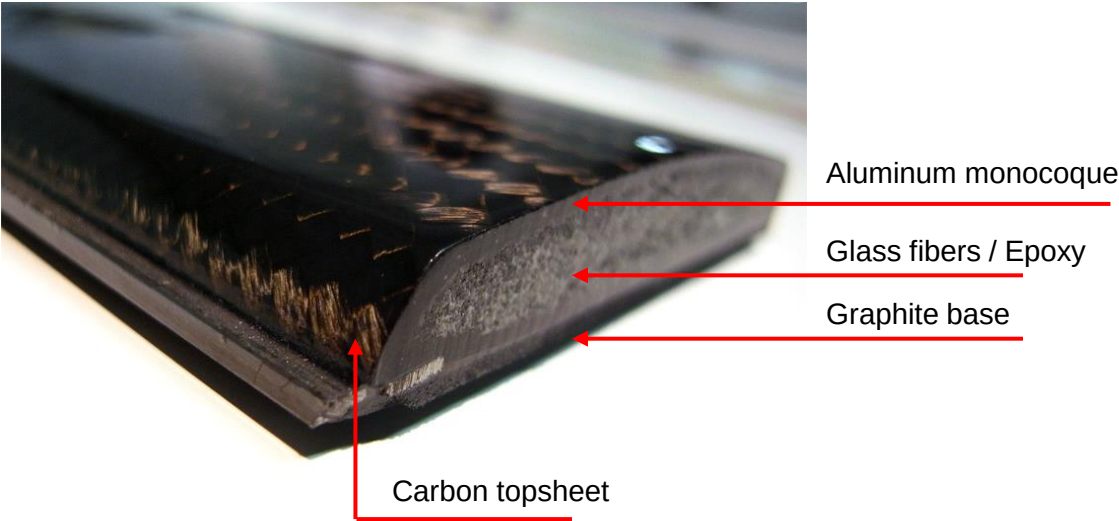


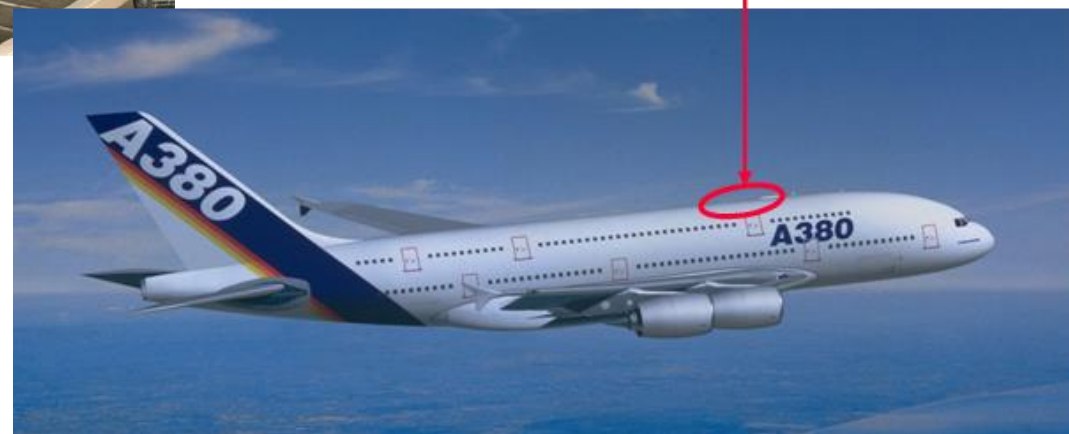
Najbardziej złożony materiał kompozytowy, jaki znamy



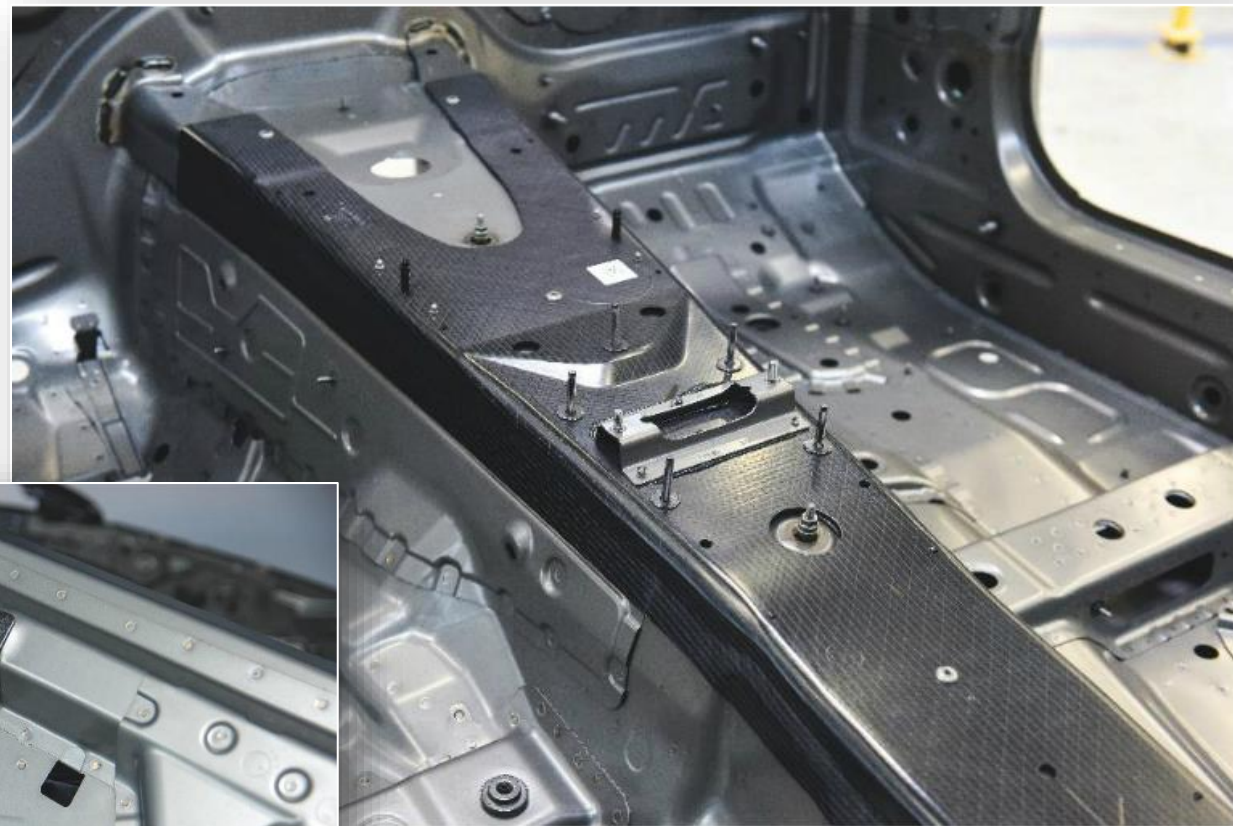
cross section of a bundle
of nerve fibers

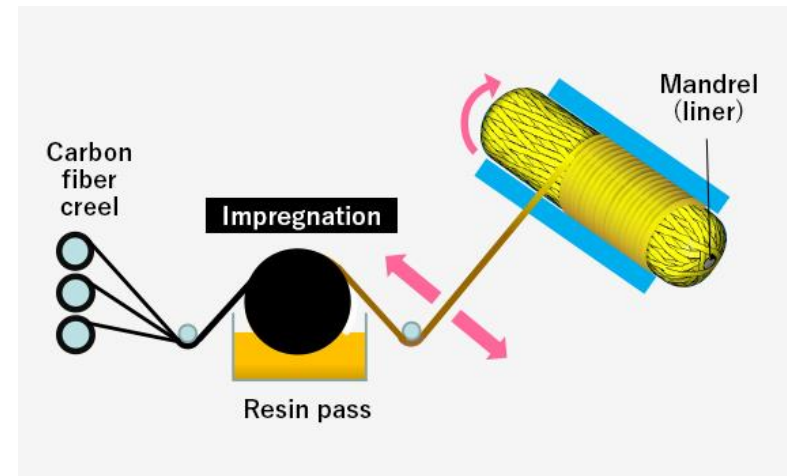
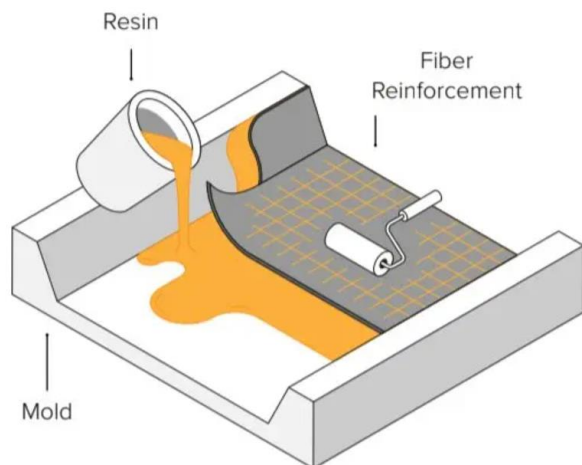
Przekrój narty





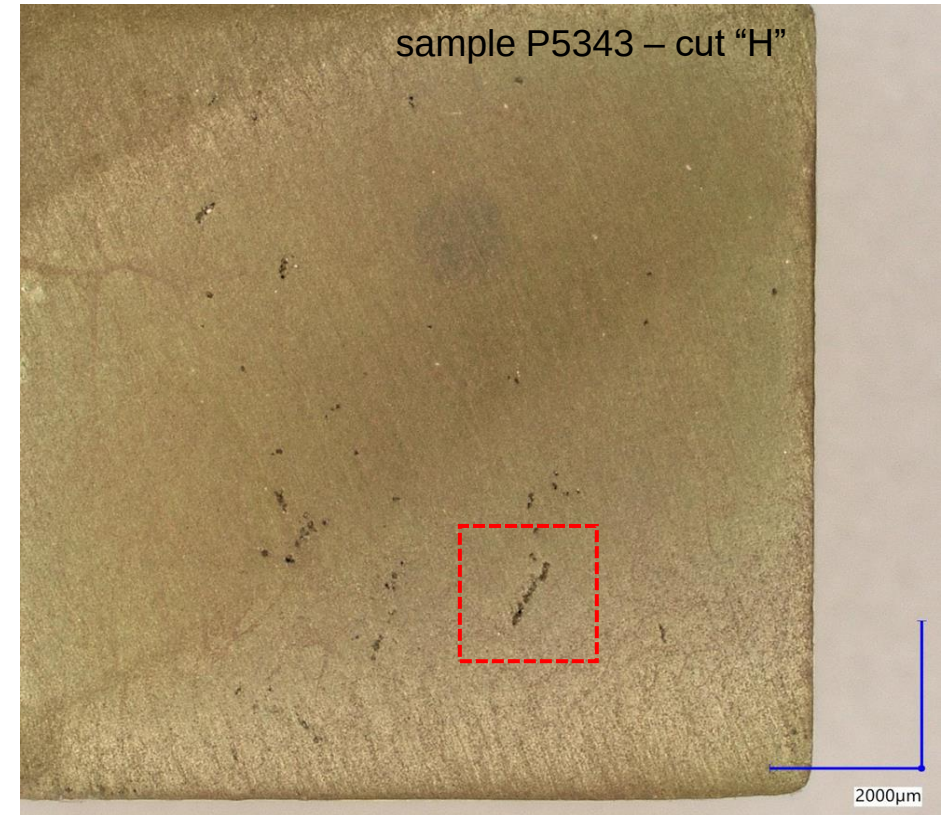
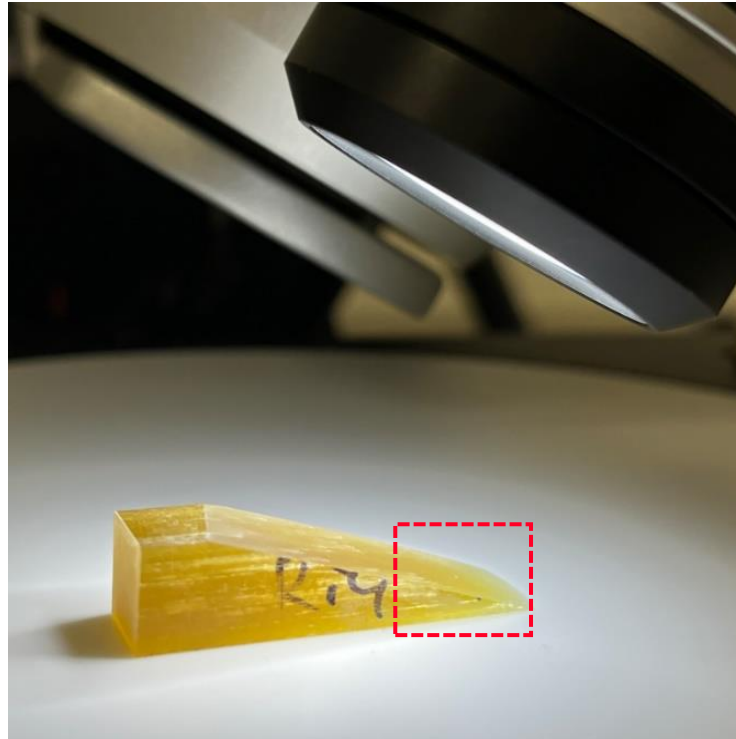
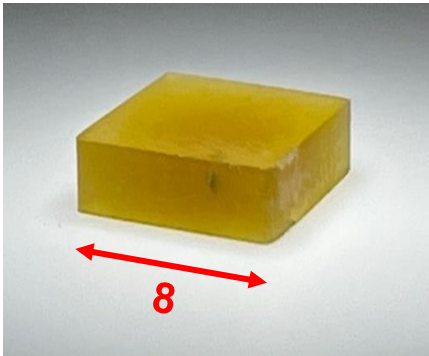
Wzmocnienia elementów strukturalnych





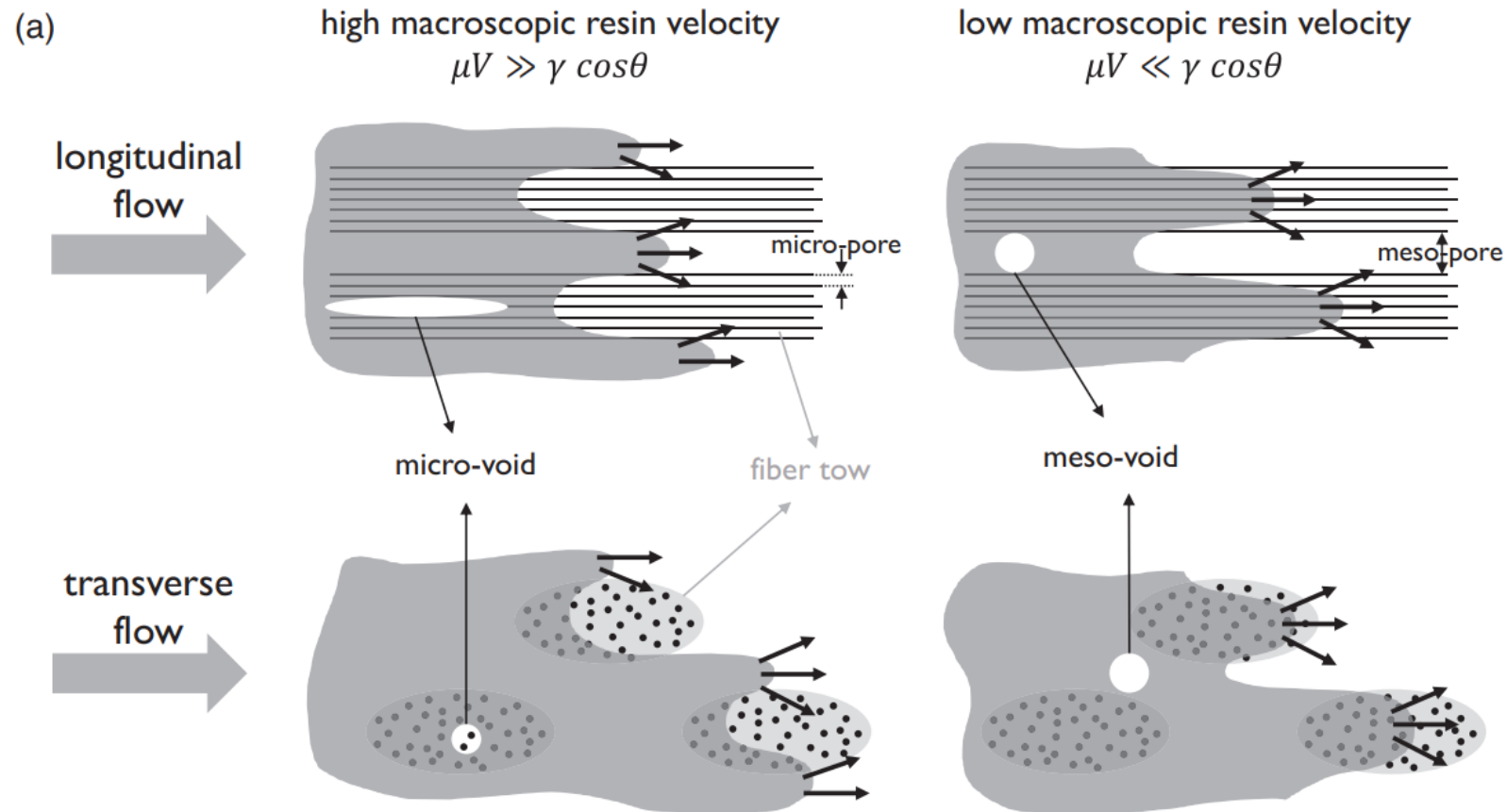
- Microscopic Analysis (destructive testing)
- Computerized Tomography
- Ultrasonic Testing

- Keyence VHX-7000 series (samples cut and polished / 2500 grit)
- Nikon XT H 225 ST
- Olympus OmniScan X3 / 5L64 transducer / immersed TFM

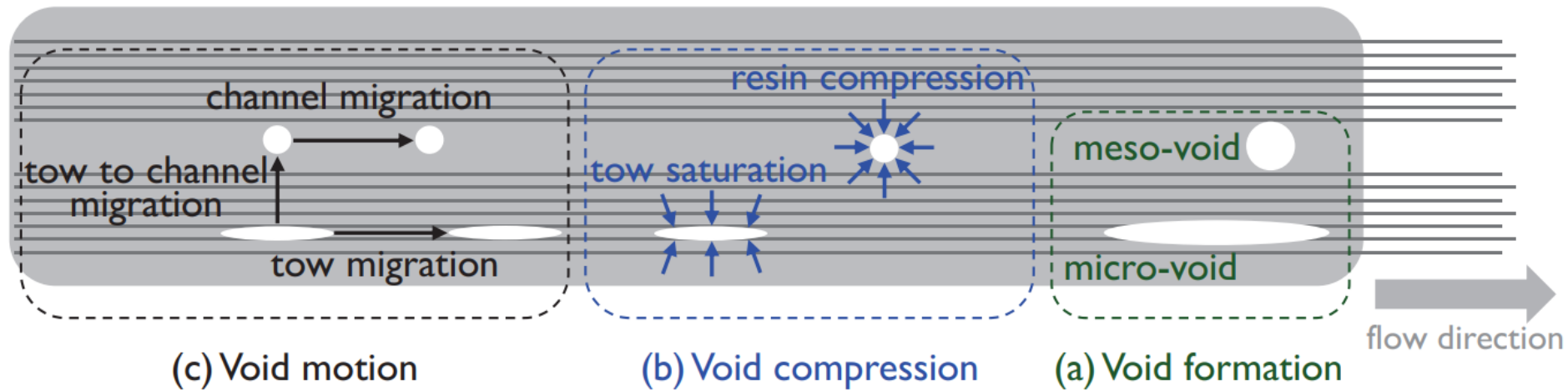




Schemat formowania pustek powietrznych (I)



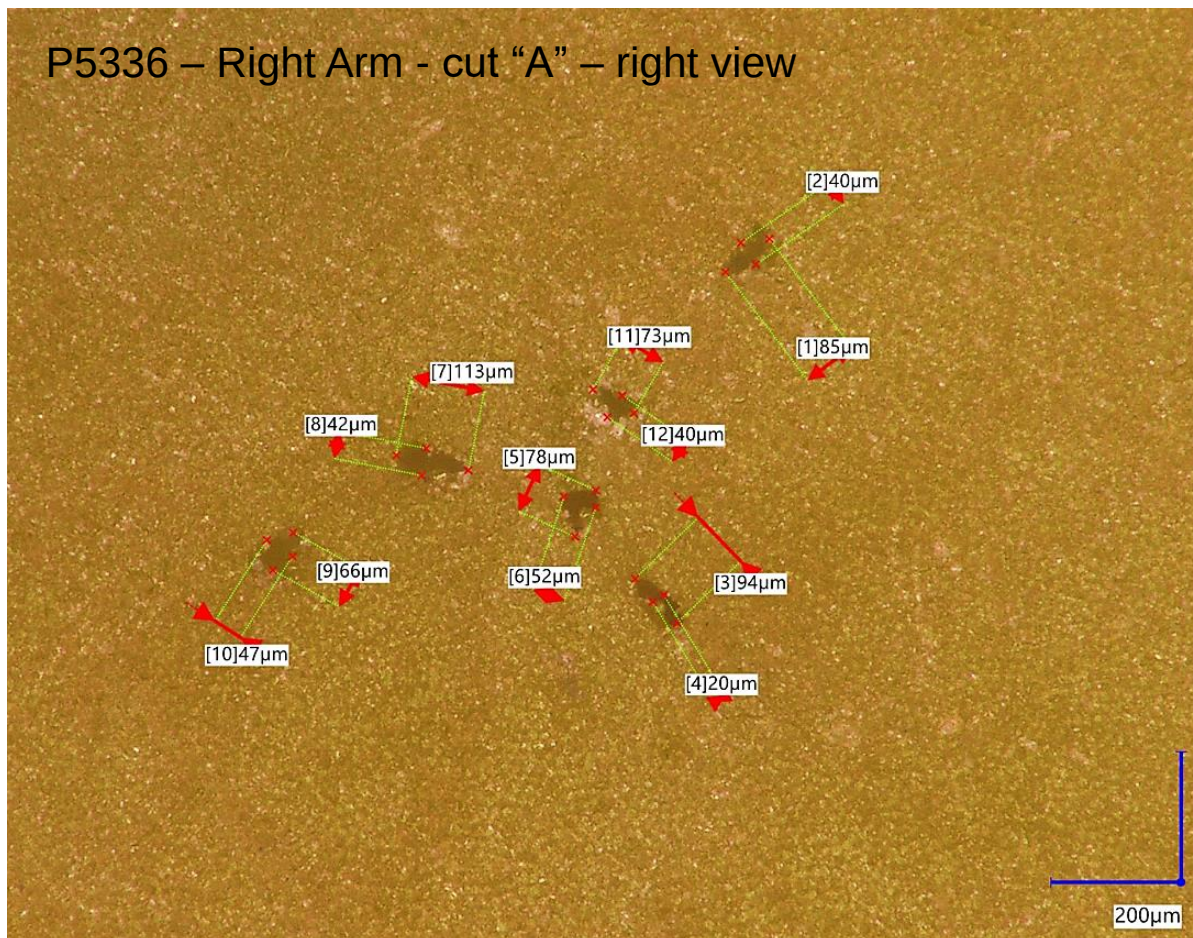
Przepływ wiskotyczny vs. kapilarny



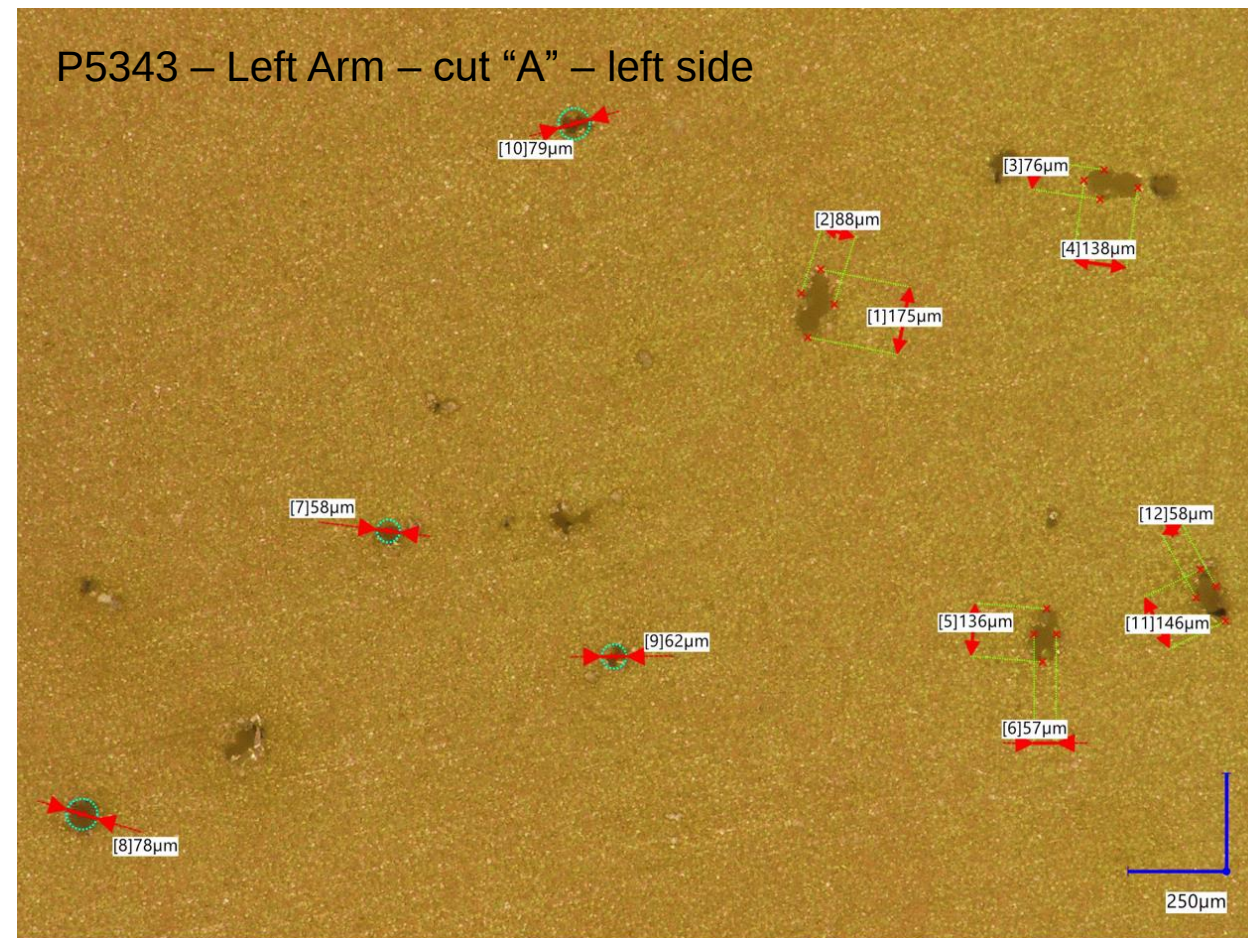
Impregnacja żywicy – 3 fazy tworzenia pustek

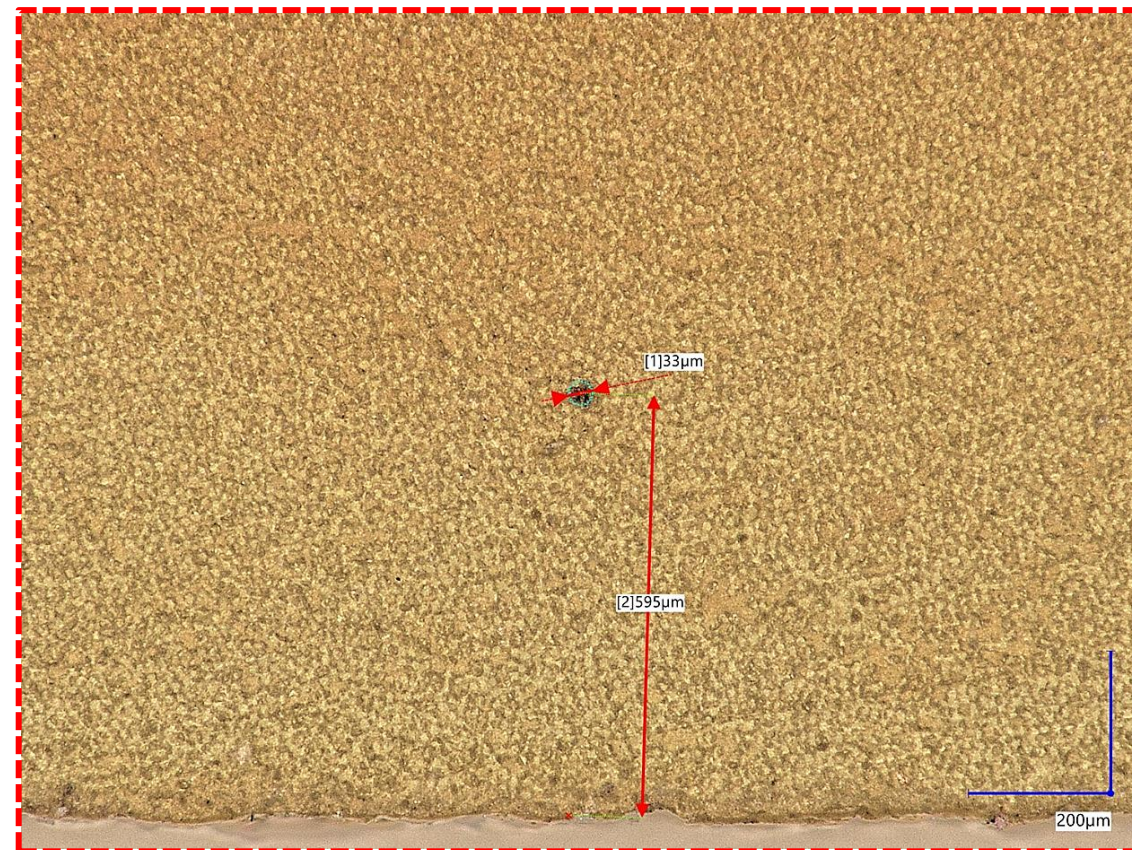
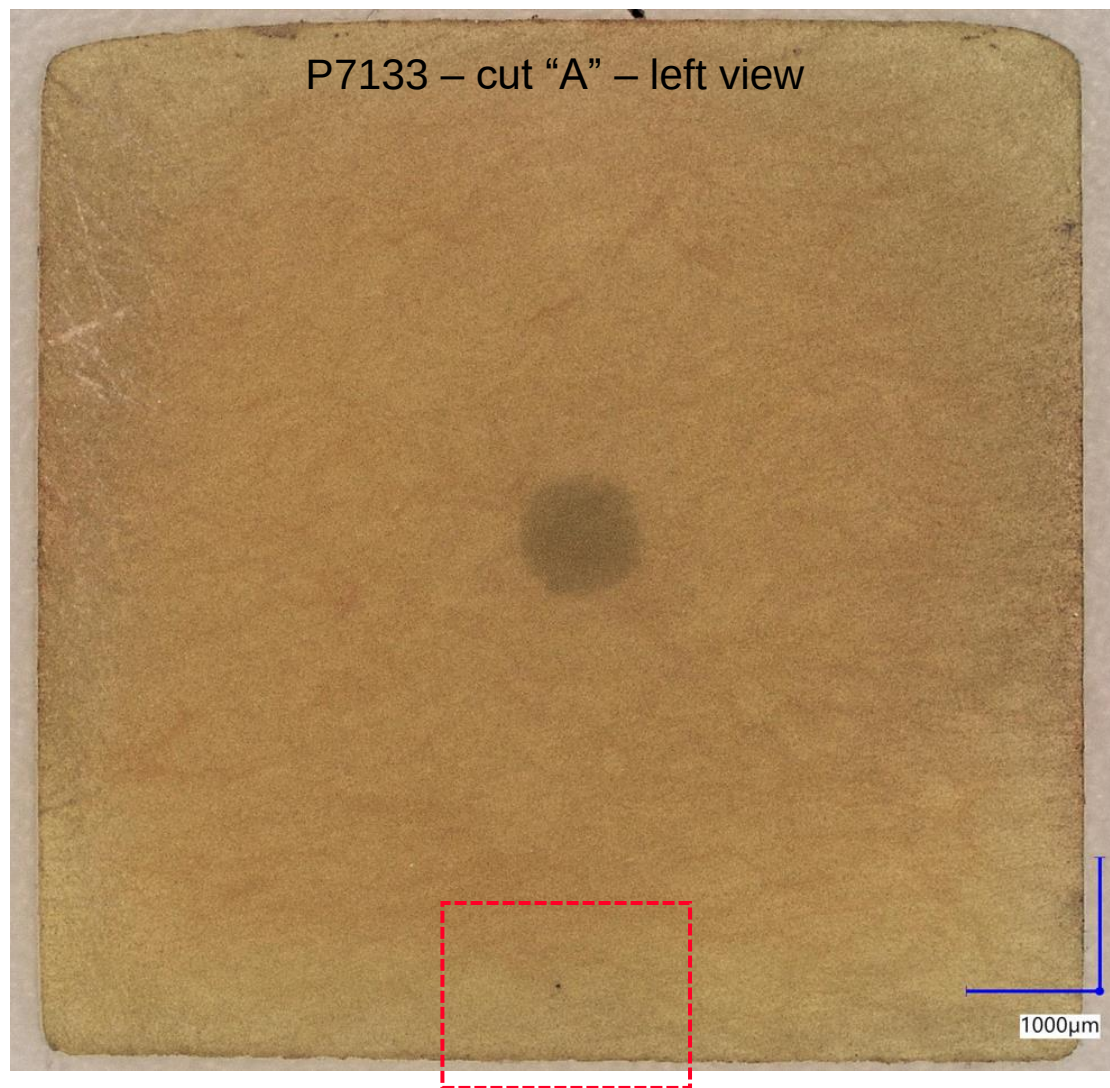
Typowa wielkość pustki <200 um (dla konkretnej grupy produktowej)

P5336 – Right Arm - cut “A” – right view



P5343 – Left Arm – cut “A” – left side



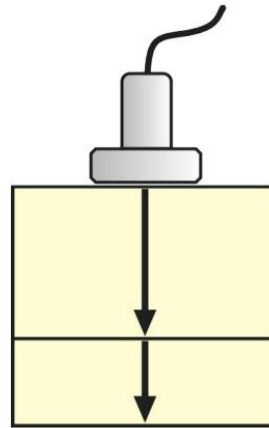


- Wada niewykrywalna przez CT

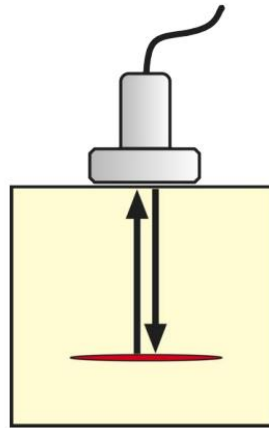
Nieniszczące metody inspekcyjne *

	Visual	Through-transmission	Shearography	Pulse-echo	Velocity	Low frequency	Radiography	Acoustic emission	Thermography
Flaw sought									
Fibre type					●				
Porosity	●	✓		✓	●				
Fibre-matrix bond	●							●	
Matrix properties				●	●				
Fibre misalignment		●				●	●		
Volume fraction		●		✓	●	●	●		
Stacking sequence									
Ply-end discontinuity				●					
Foreign inclusions		●	●	✓			✓		✓
Trans-laminar cracks		●	✓	●			●	✓	●
Fibre breakage								✓	
Delamination	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	●	✓	✓
Moisture ingress					●				
Impact damage	✓		✓						✓
● Application limited ✓ Method has proved ability to detect given flaw									

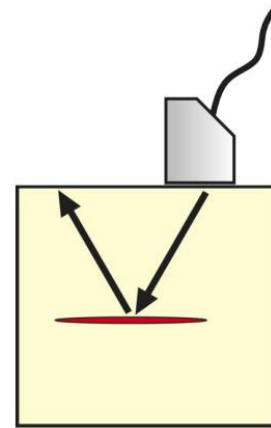
3. Technika ultradźwiękowa



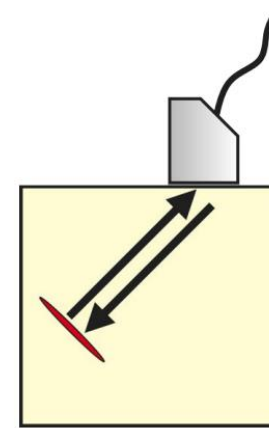
(a) transmission



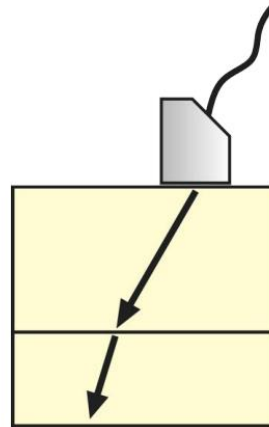
(b) reflection (90°)



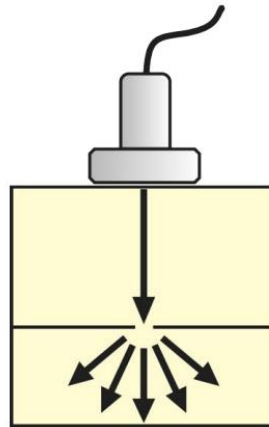
(c) reflection (30°)



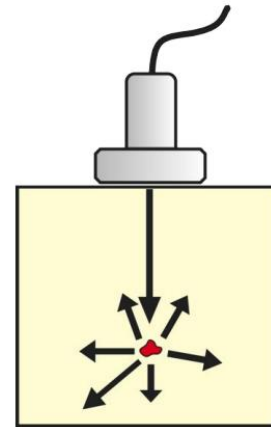
(d) reflection (45°)



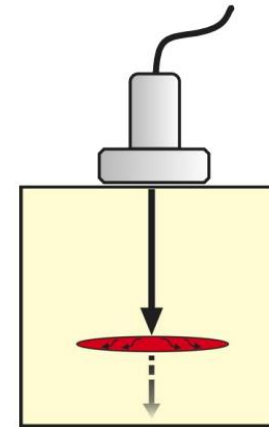
(e) refraction



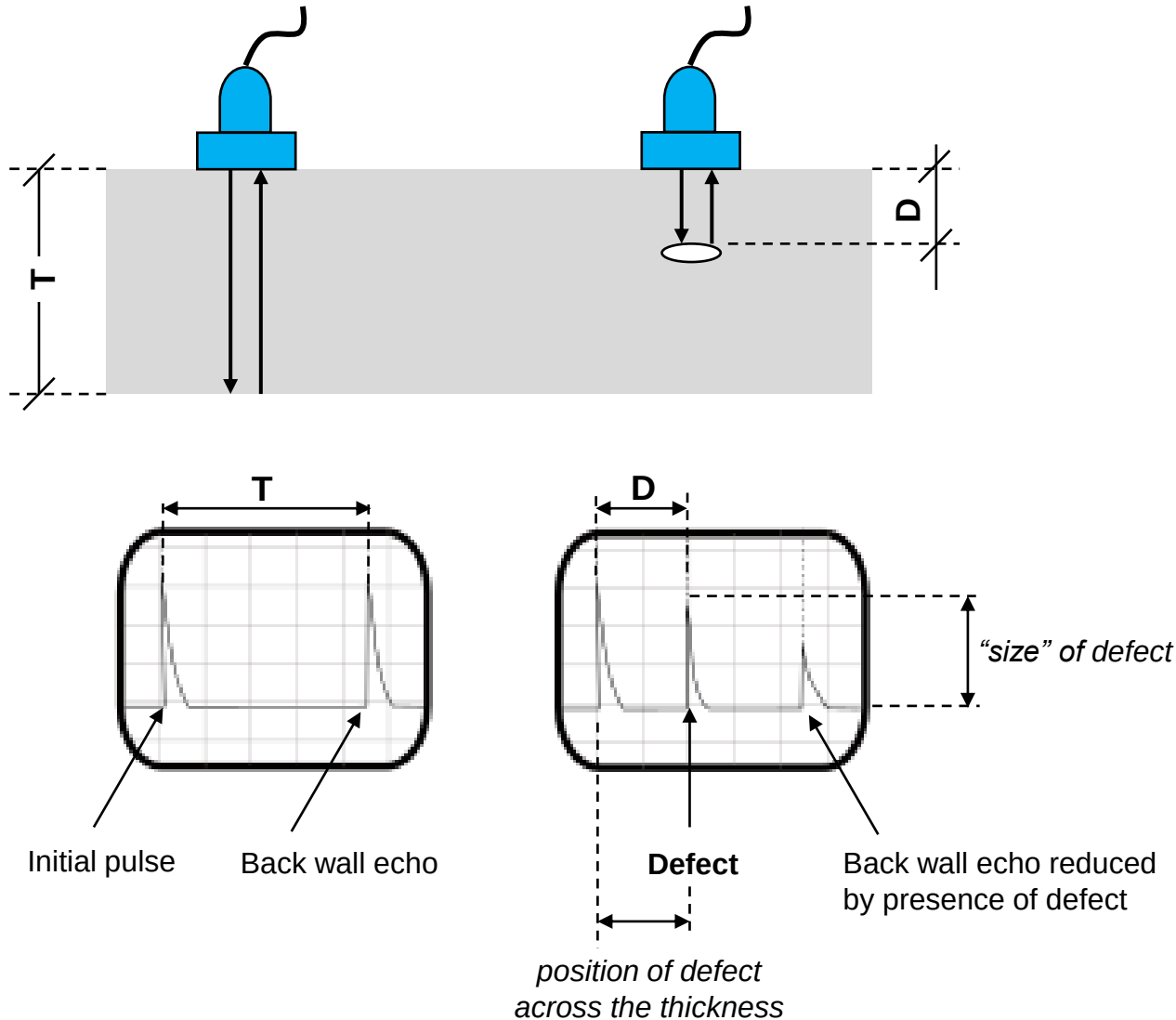
(f) diffraction



(g) scattering



(h) attenuation



A-scan:

display of the ultrasonic signals in which the **one axis** represents **time** and the **second axis** represents **amplitude**

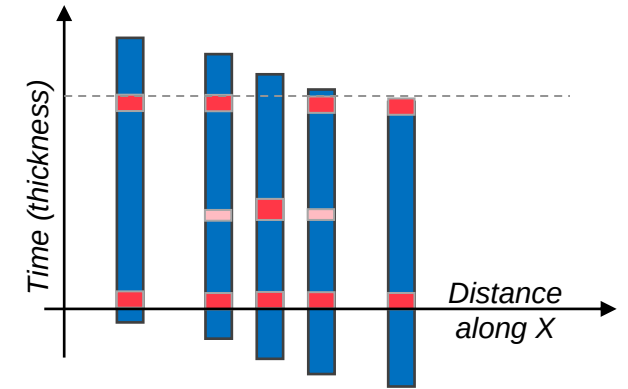
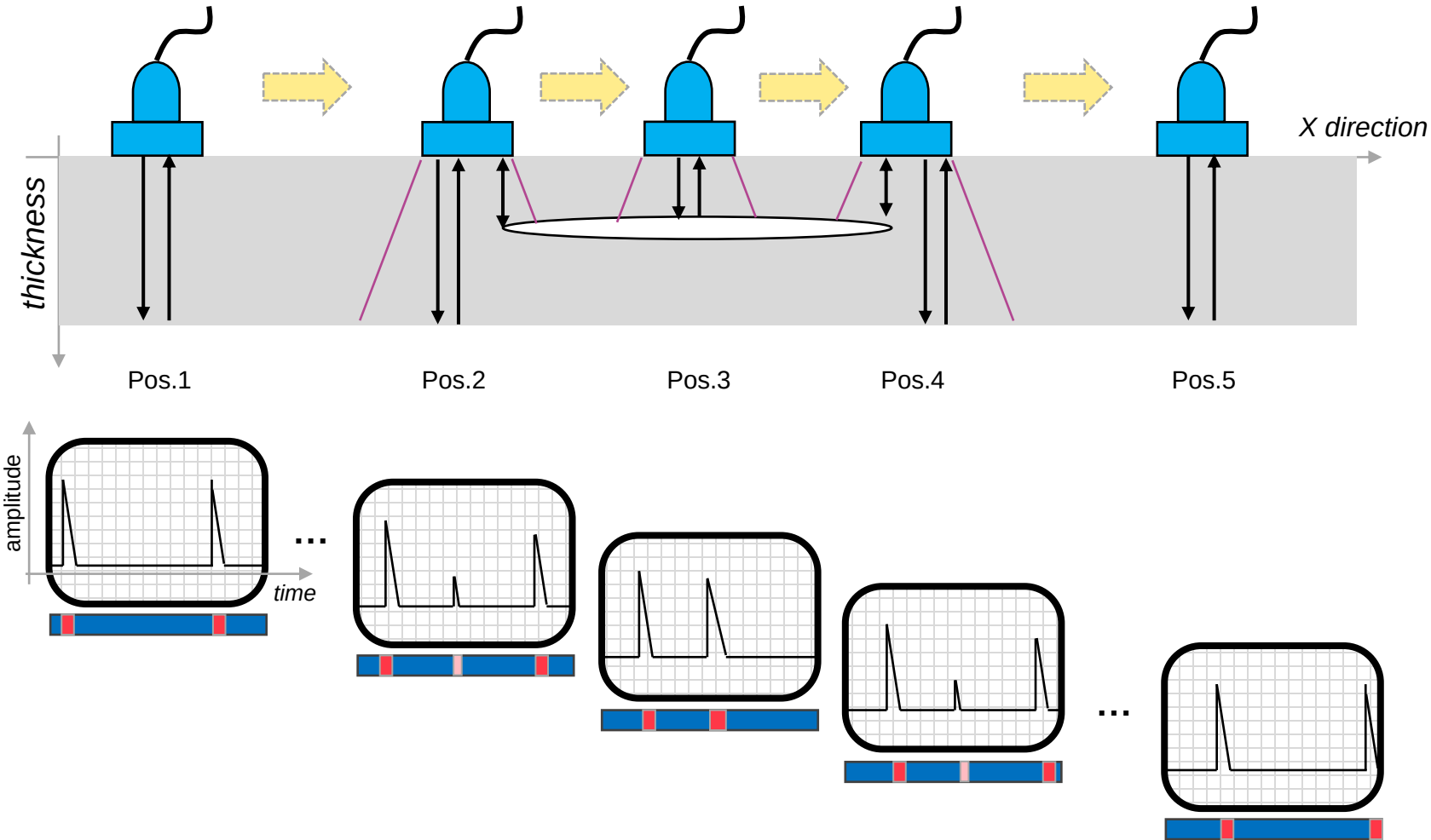
- The **time delay** between the initial pulse and the defect indication defines the relative position of the flaw.

The **depth of the defect** is determined by the ratio D/T

- The **amplitude** (strength) of the signal represents the **intensity of the reflection**.

It can be calibrated to the **"size" of the defect**, using reference holes (with known diameters)

Zasada działania: B-skan

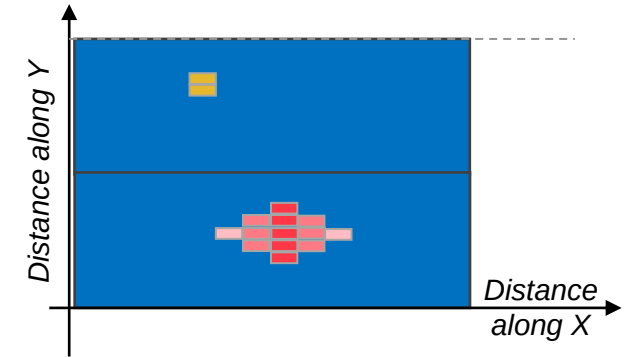
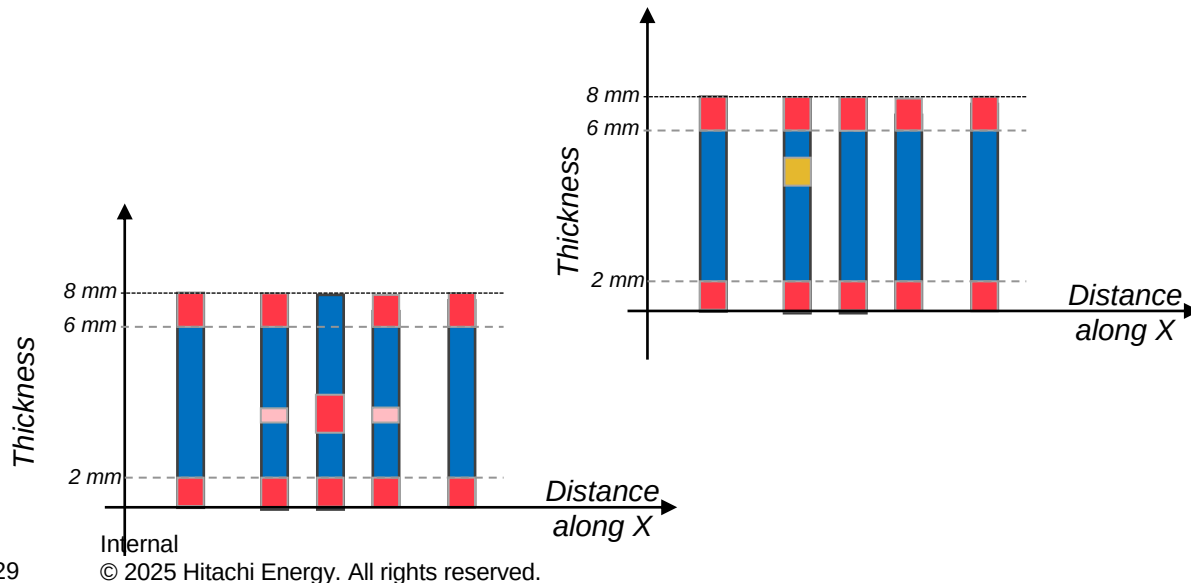
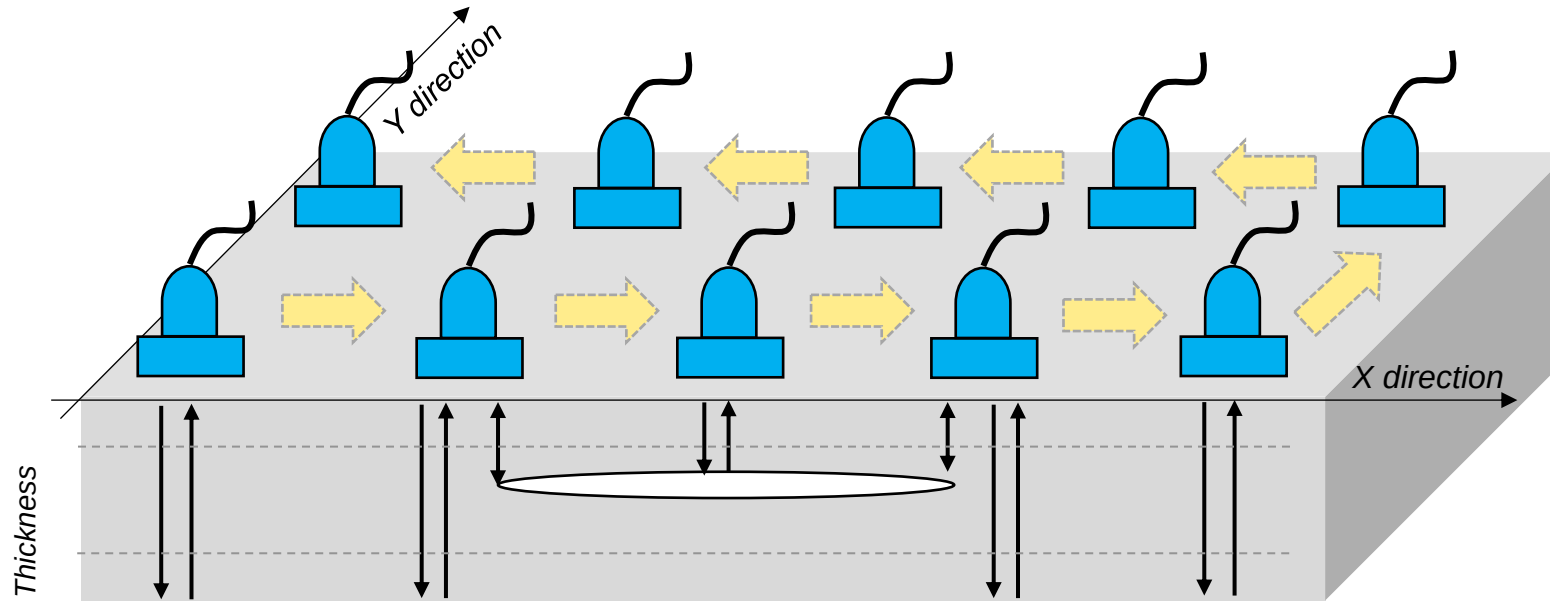


B-scan:

display of the ultrasonic signals in which **one axis** represents **time** and the **other axis** represents **distance**, and the **amplitude** of signals is represented by **color**

- **The time delay** between the initial pulse and the defect indication defines the position of the flaw.
- The **amplitude** (strength) of the signal which represents the intensity of the reflection, is coded **as color**.
- Simplified, color-coded A-scans are plotted along the distance

Zasada działania: C-skan



C-scan:

display of the ultrasonic signals in which **both axes** represent **distances** on the scanning surface, where the **amplitude** of the signals **within a defined time window** is represented by **color**

- The **amplitude** (strength) of the signal which represents the intensity of the reflection, is coded **as color**.
- A **defined time window** limits the analyzed thickness of the object (e.g. from 2 to 6 mm).
- Colored B-scans are plotted along the second axis.



Badanie izolacji elektrycznej wymaga wysokiej czułości metody ($< 0.7 \times 0.7 \text{ mm}$)



Duże tłumienie sygnału w materiale kompozytowym → ograniczona głębokość badania



Automatyzacja procesu skanowania / kompensowanie nierówności powierzchni próbki



Procesowanie olbrzymiej ilości (zszumionych) sygnałów / automatyzacja przepływu danych



Lokalizacja wad / wymiarownie / klasyfikowanie → “Go / No Go”

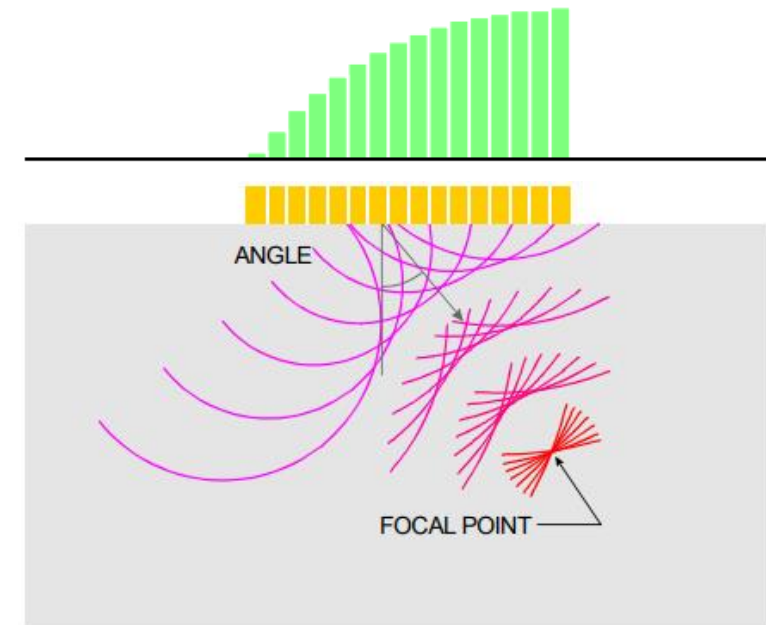
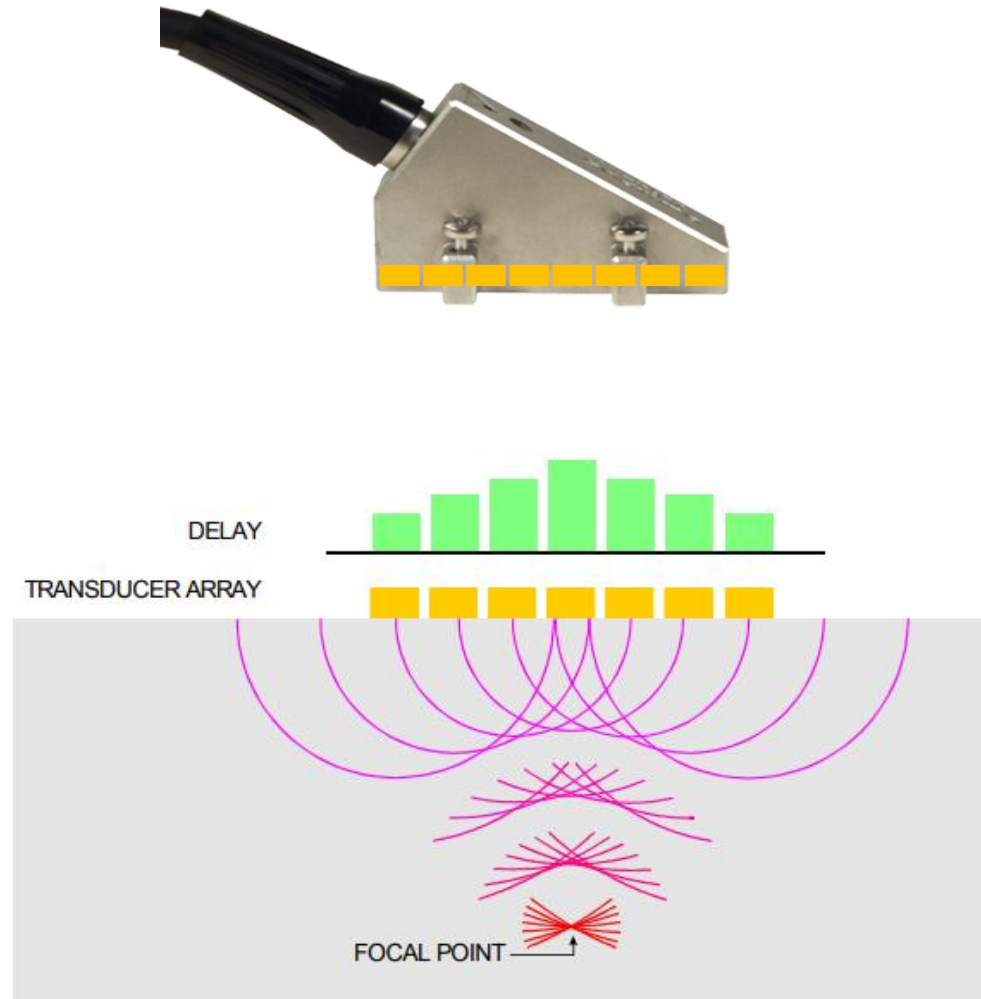


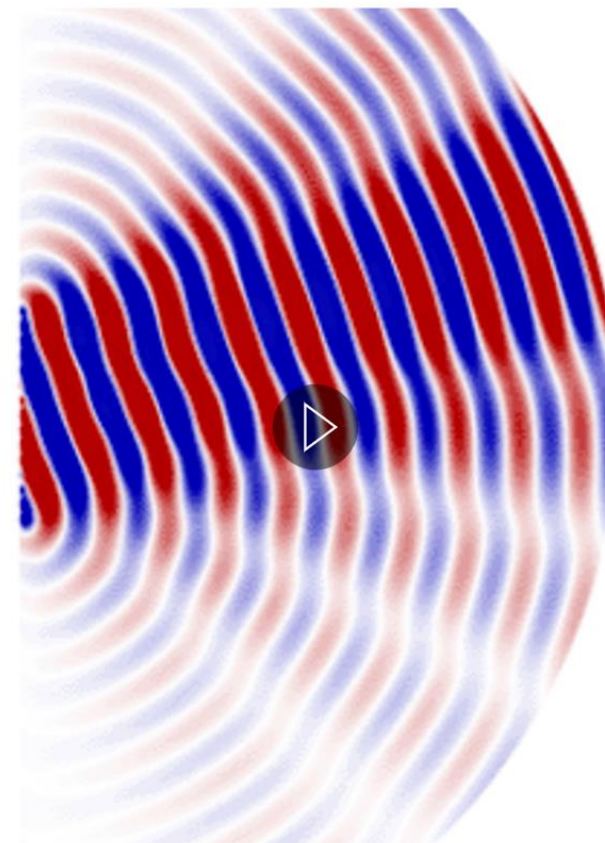
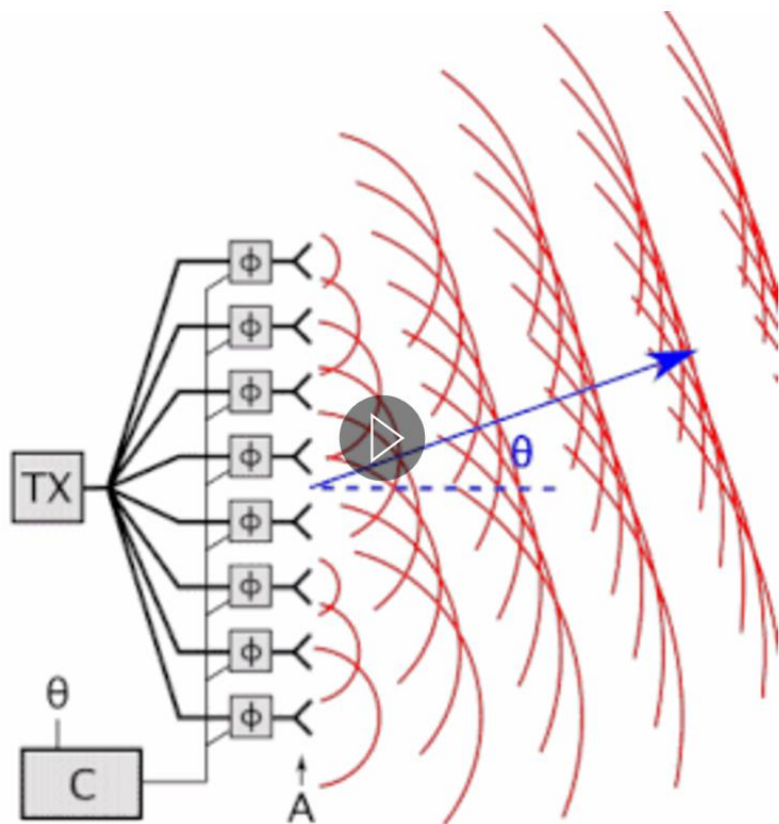
Konieczność stosowania medium sprzęgającego

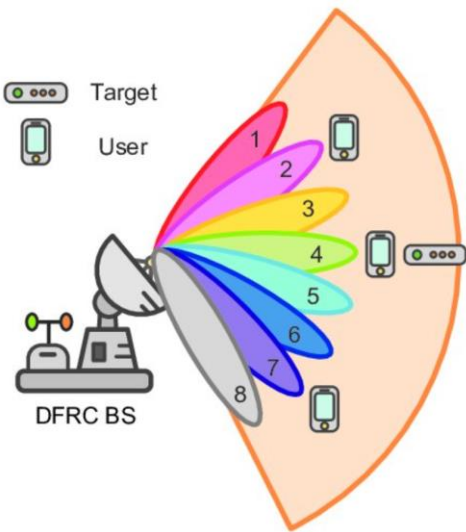
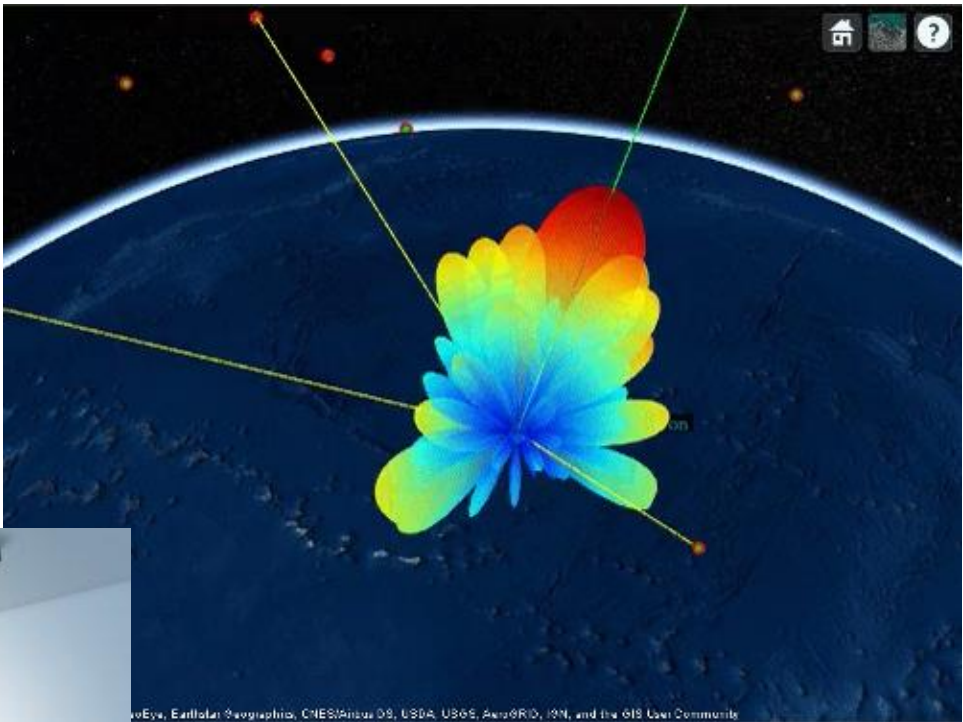
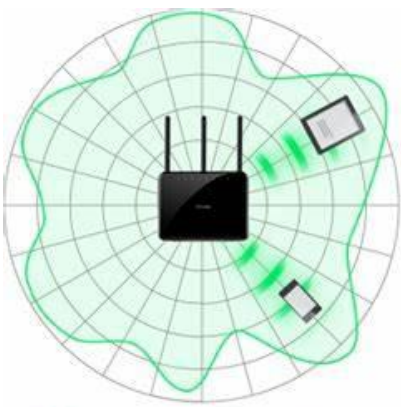
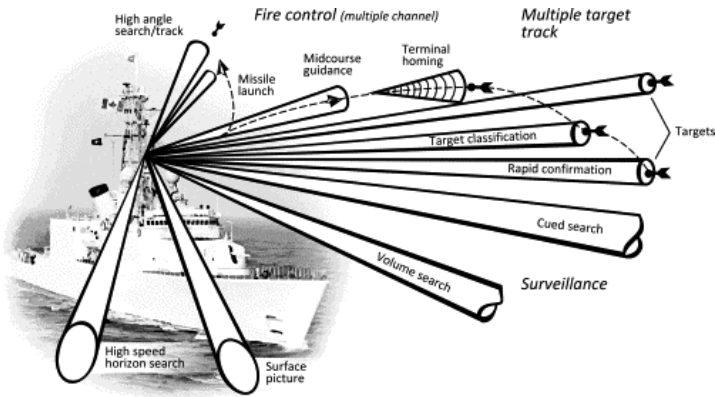
4. Beamforming

Phased Array method (physical beamforming)

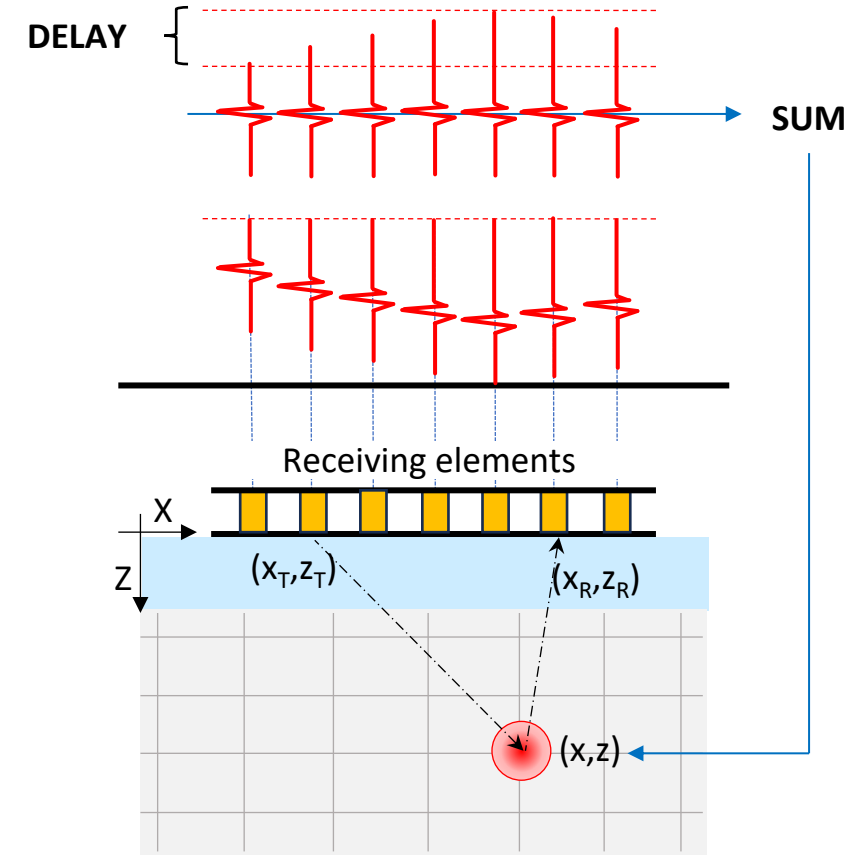
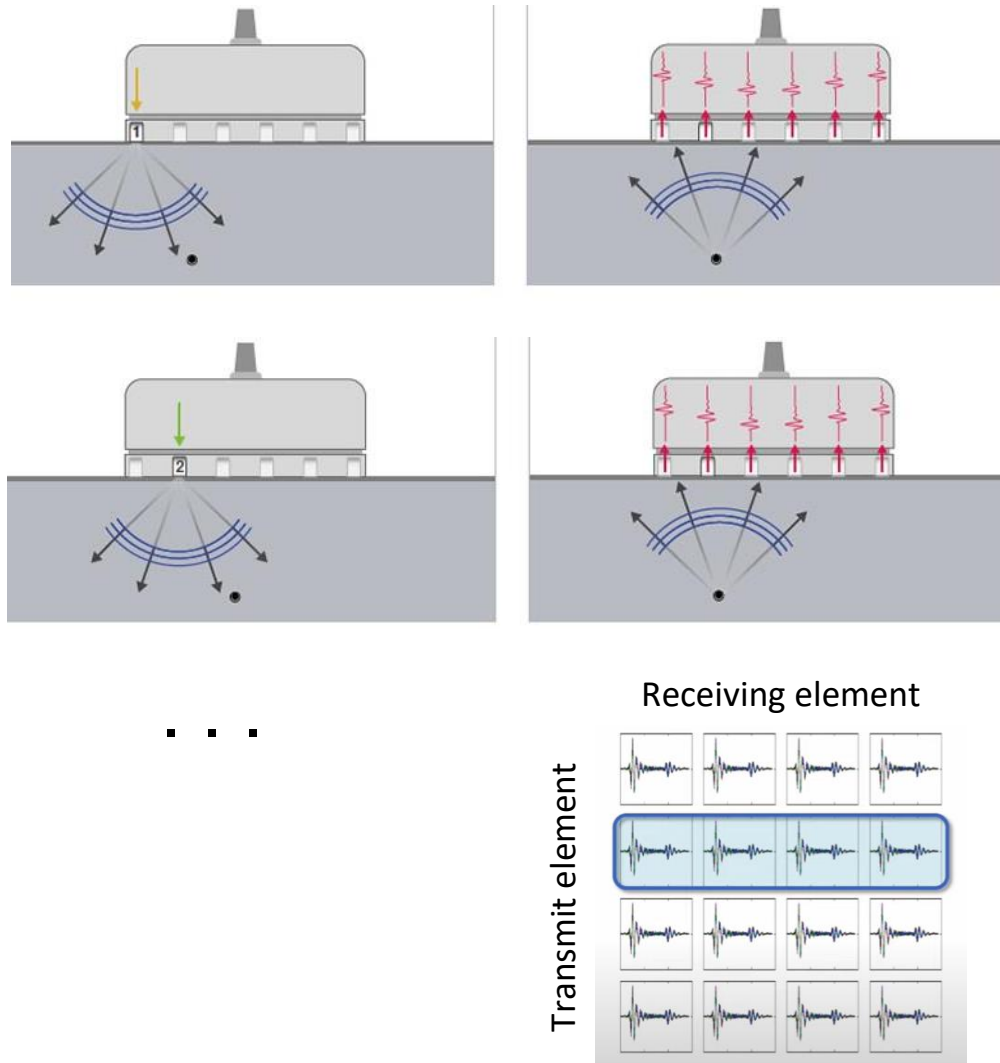
- multi-element probe
- phase shift
- physical beam-forming
- one focal point





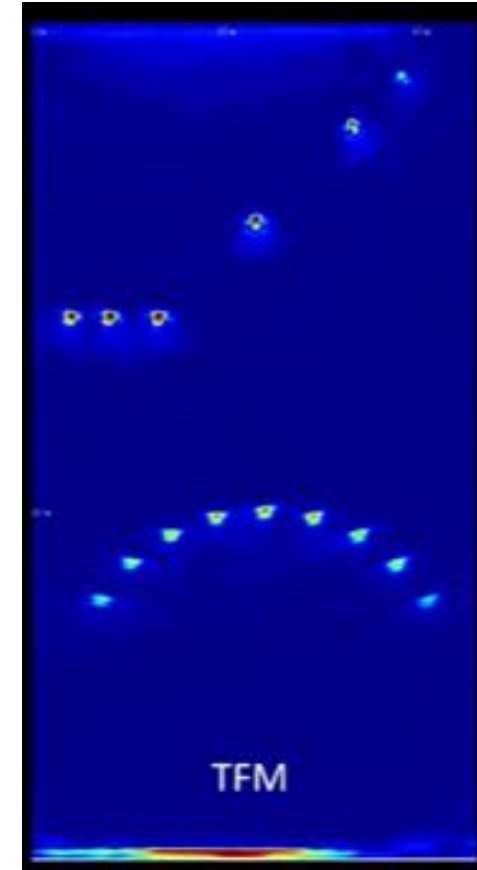
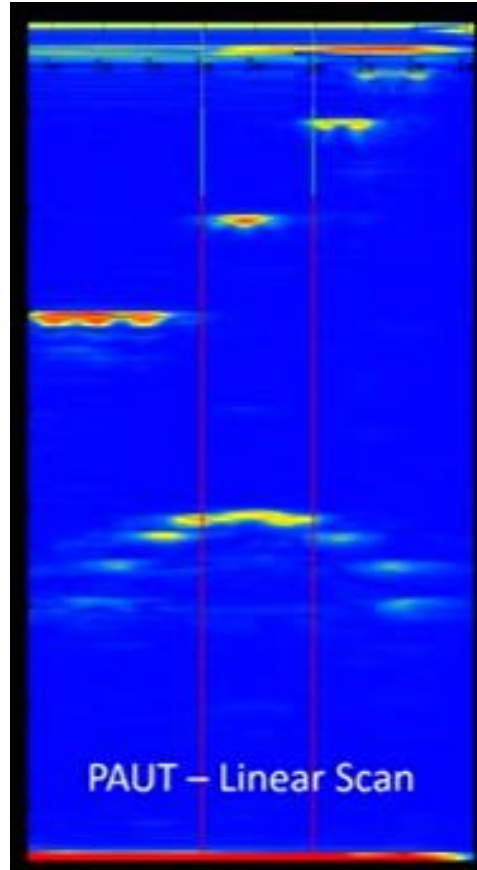
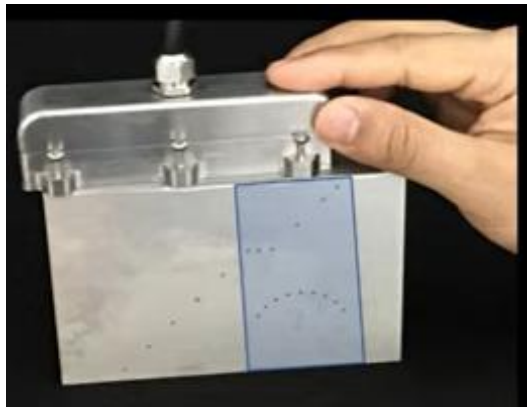


Total Focusing Method (digital beamforming)



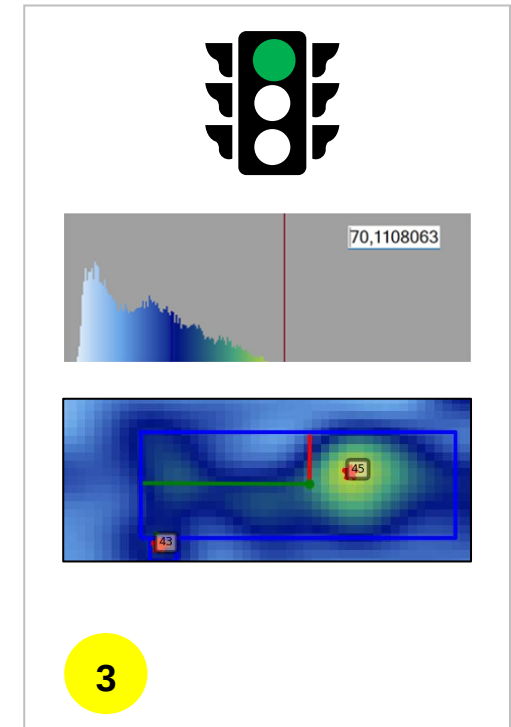
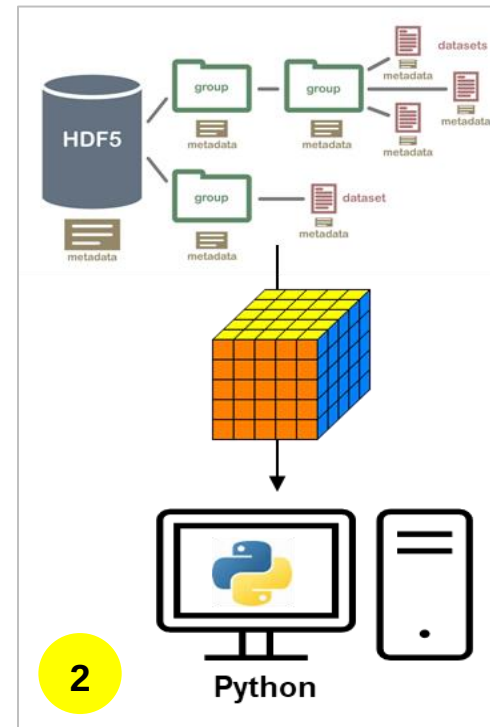
$$I(x, z) = \left| \sum h_{t_x, r_x} \left(\frac{\sqrt{(x_t - x)^2 + z^2} + \sqrt{(x_r - x)^2 + z^2}}{c_1} \right) \right|$$

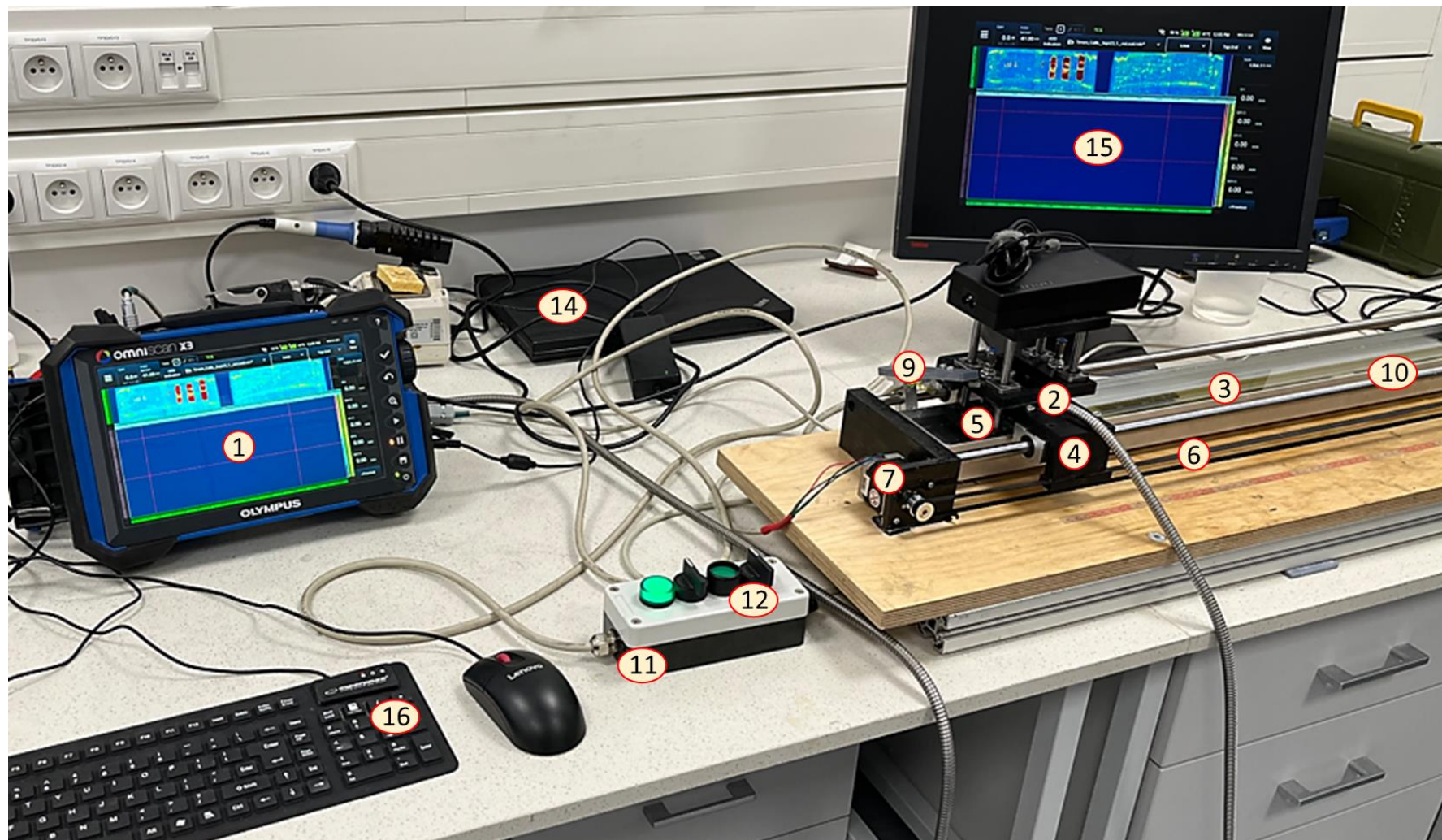
Phased Array vs. Total Focusing Method



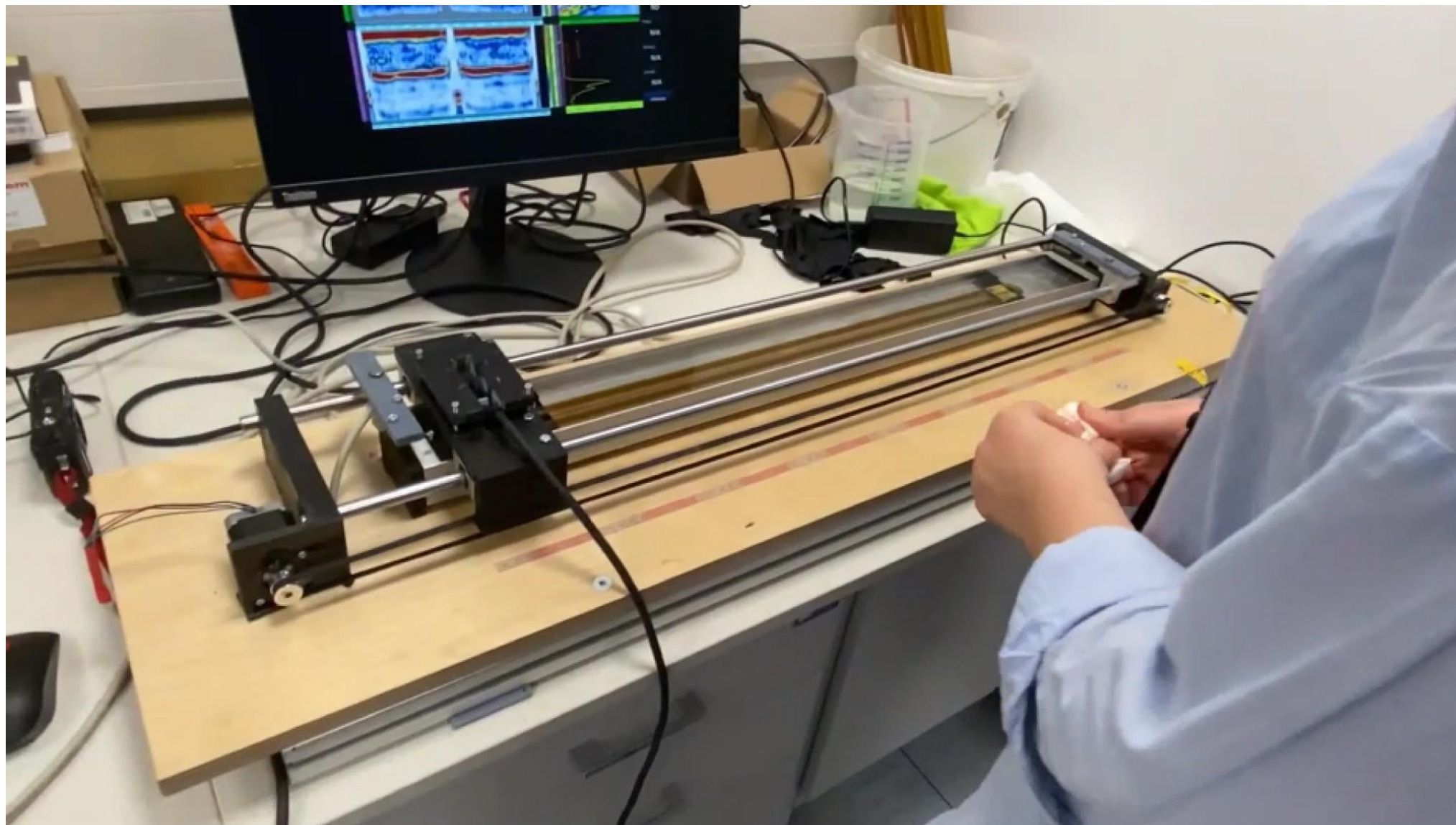
5. Aplikacja praktyczna

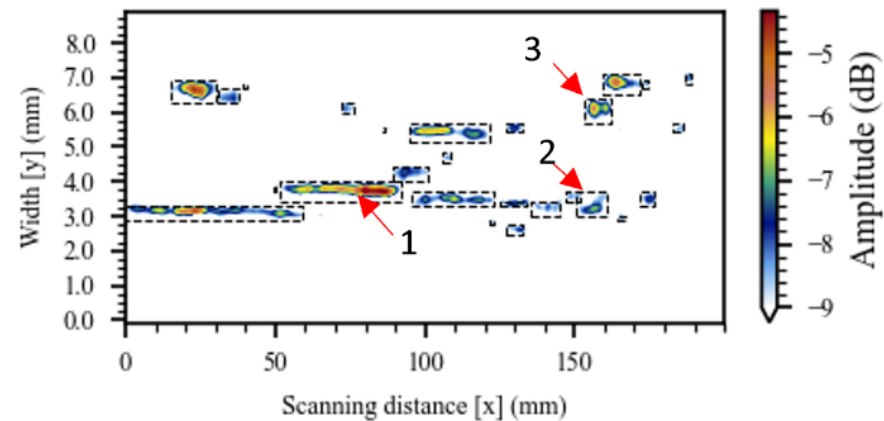
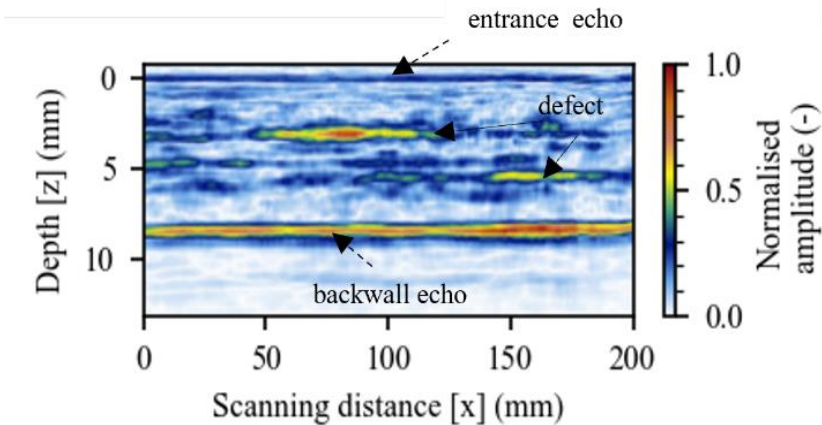
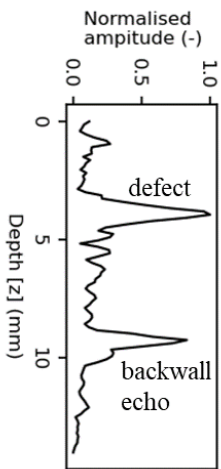
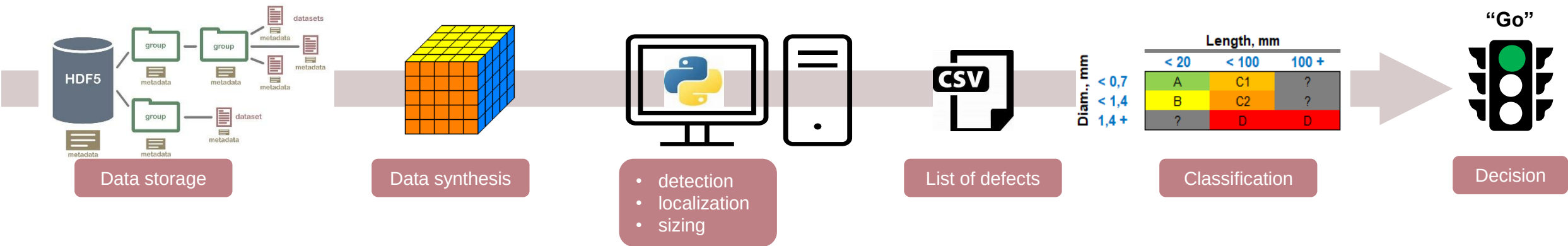
1. Rozwiązanie hardwarowe – szybkie skanowanie badanego obiektu (*water-immersed TFM*)
2. Rozwiązanie programistyczne – automatyczny procesing sygnałów ultradźwiękowych
3. Klasyfikacja produktu na podstawie liczby i wielkości zidentyfikowanych wad.





- 1 Flaw detector
- 2 Transducer
- 3 Tested loop
- 4 Bridge
- 5 Spacers
- 6 Drive belt
- 7 Stepper motor
- 8 Encoder
- 9 End position sensors
- 10 Water tank
- 11 Automation controller
- 12 Direction selector
- 13 Data storage disk
- 14 PC with analysis software
- 15 Monitor (optional)
- 16 Keyboard & mouse (optional)

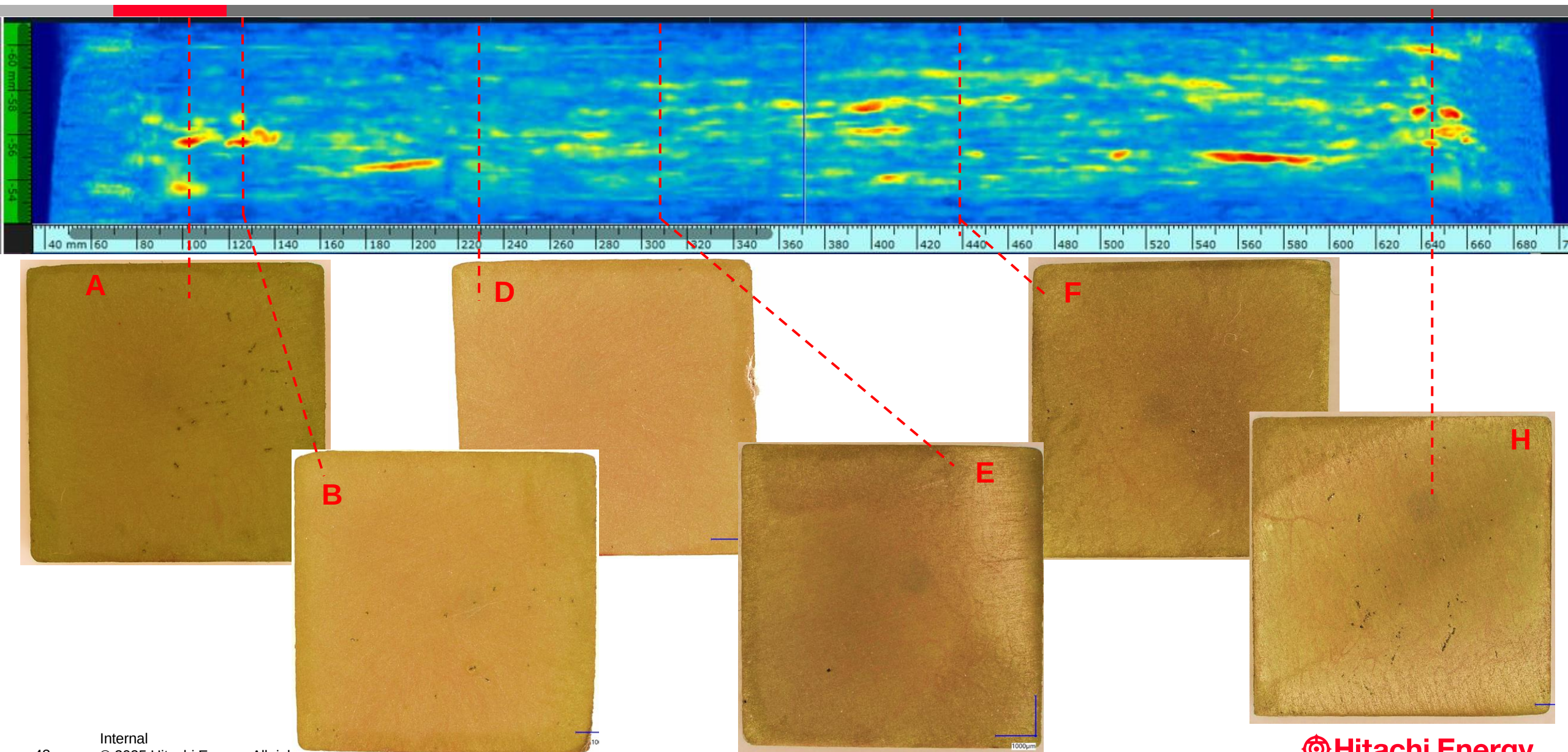


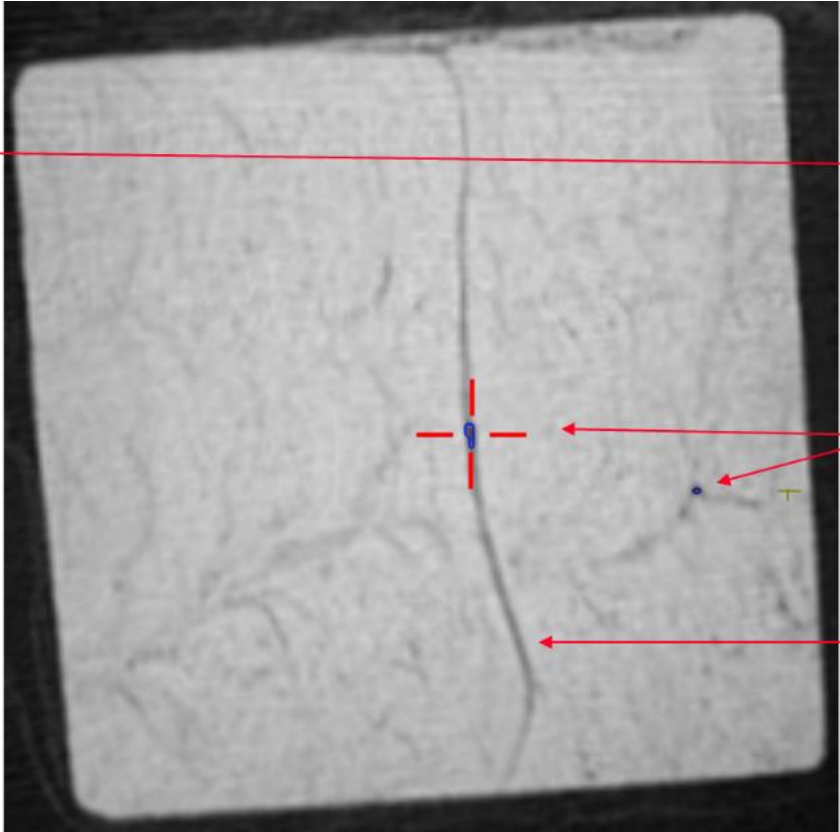
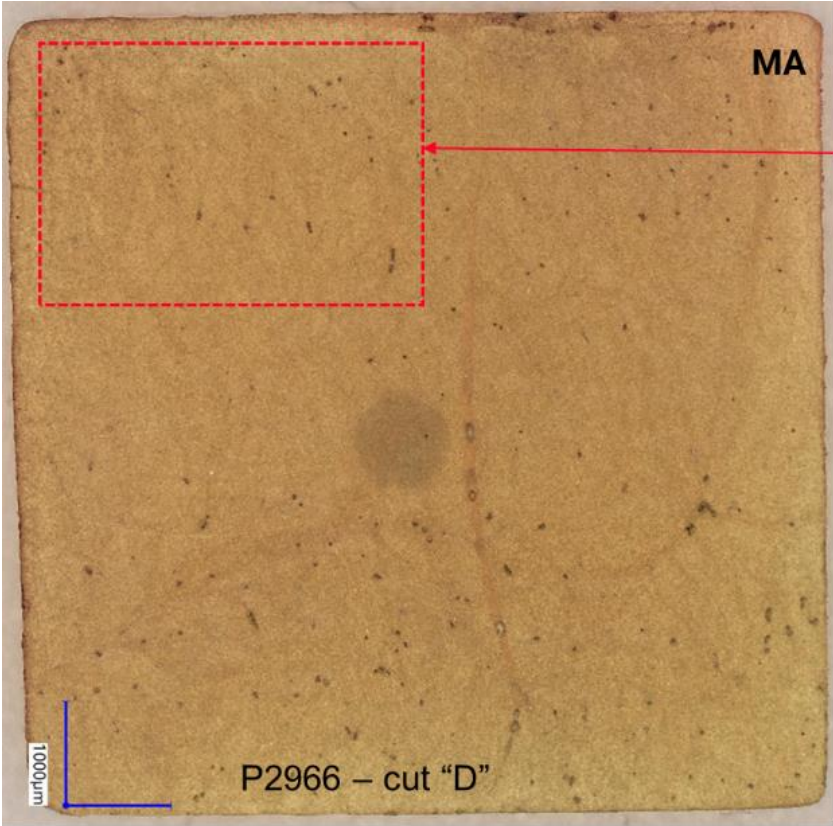


Defect id	Location x [mm]	Location y [mm]	Location z [mm]	Length x [mm]	Length y [mm]
1	80	3.8	3.7	69	0.6
2	156	6.0	7.2	16	0.7
3	156.5	3.2	3.9	30	0.4

6. Wyniki

Walidacja metody: Analiza mikroskopowa vs. UT (P5343)





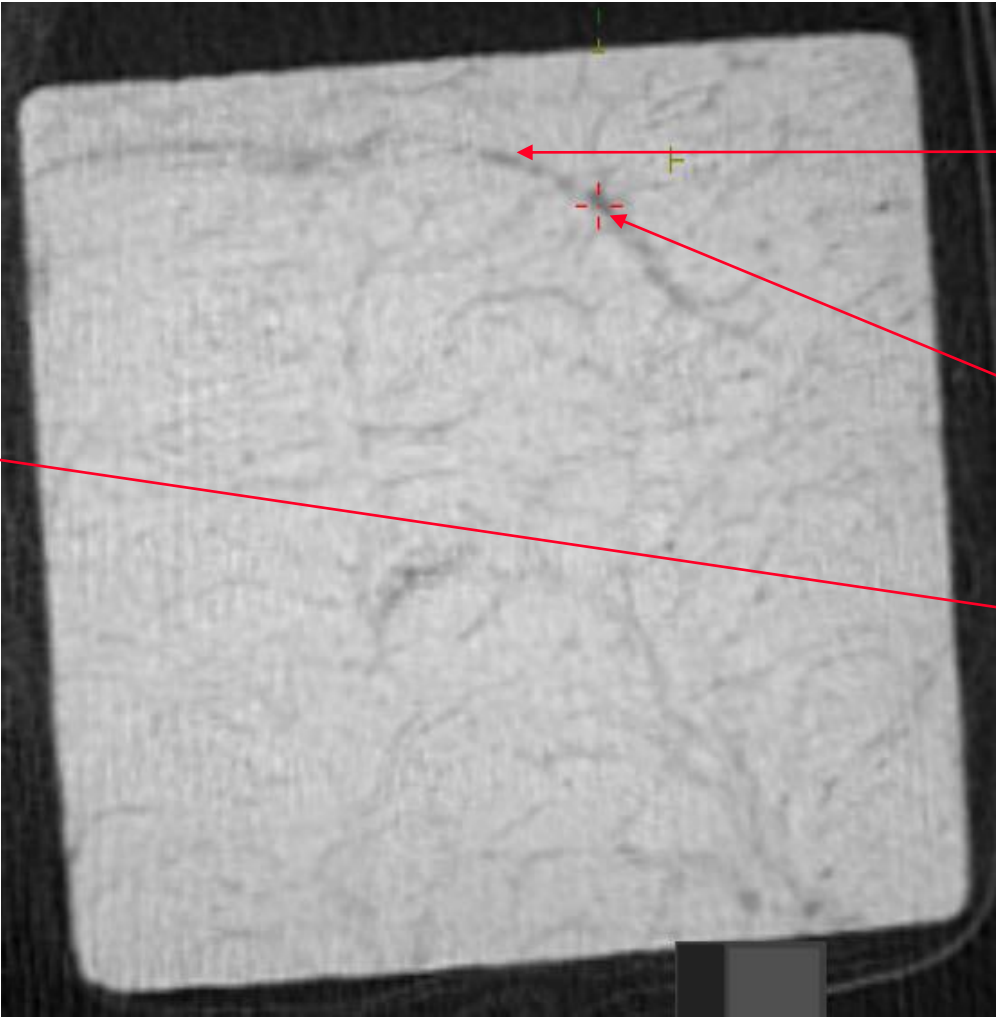
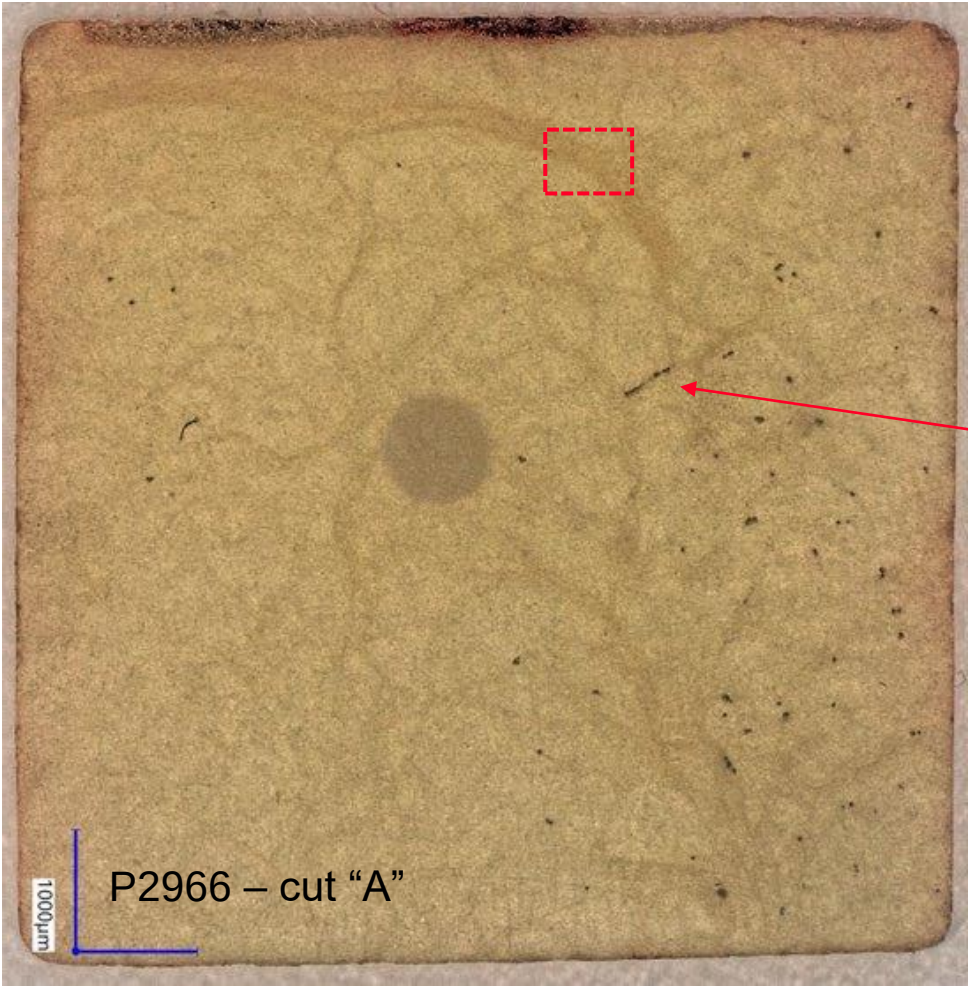
CT

Smaller defects not identified

Two biggest defects detected

Fiber roving recognized well

MA vs. CT: Fiber roving identified, but wrong defect detection



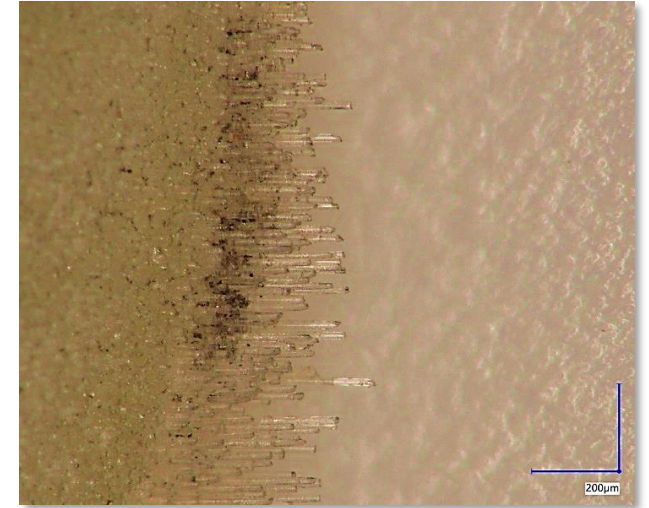
Fiber roving detected

A non-existent defect found

Real defects not identified

Wnioski końcowe:

- Drobne wady materiałowe są nieuchronnym elementem procesu produkcyjnego.
- Zaproponowana metoda zautomatyzowanego skanowania ultradźwiękowego (*water-immersed TFM*) pozwala skutecznie monitorować jakość produkcji kompozytowych elementów izolacyjnych WN.
- Skuteczność zaproponowanej technologii ultradźwiękowej jest porównywalna do tomografii komputerowej, przy koszcie stanowiącym 10% kosztu referencyjnego.
- Analiza mikroskopowa (niszcząca) ujawniła, że rzeczywista jakość komponentów izolacyjnych jest znacznie lepsza niż zakładane limity jakościowe.



Uwagi ogólne:

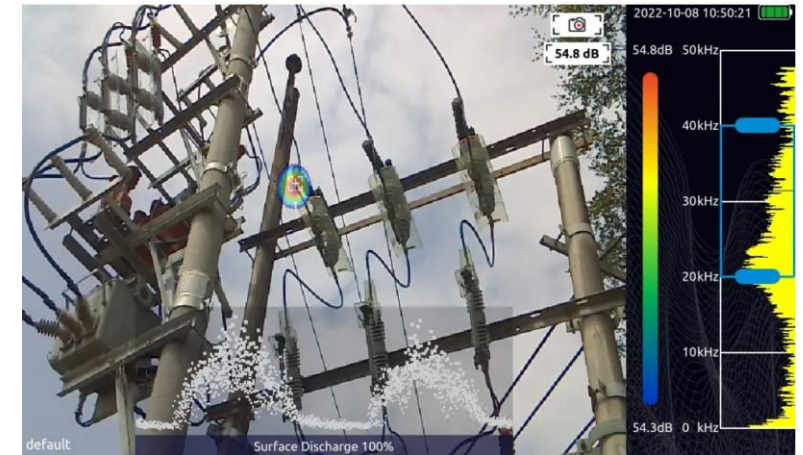
- Te same pomysły (np. *beamforming*) są wykorzystywane w bardzo różnych segmentach przemysłu. Warto się rozglądać (zaczynać od aplikacji militarnych).
- Rozwiązanie programistyczne (np. *digital beamforming*) pozwala znacznie poprawić rozwiązanie sprzętowe (*physical beamforming*). Warto uzupełniać i łączyć.

Szczegóły techniczne prezentowanego rozwiązania:

- *Ultrasonic testing of glass fiber-reinforced polymer composites used in high voltage insulating components*, by Ziaja-Sujdak, Nowak, Ho, and Bobrowski
IEEE Transactions on Dielectrics and Electrical Insulation; 2024, [10.1109/TDEI.2024.3478132](https://doi.org/10.1109/TDEI.2024.3478132)

Co dalej?

- Kamera akustyczna CRY2624 / CRY8124
- Kamera montowana do drona CRY2626G



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Ultrasonic testing of glass fiber-reinforced polymer composites used in high voltage insulating components.

Aleksandra Ziaja-Sujdak, Tomasz Nowak, Chau Hon Ho and Pawel Bobrowski

Abstract — Due to their high strength-to-weight ratio and good dielectric properties fiber-reinforced polymers have gained significant interest in different industrial fields including the automotive, aerospace, and energy sectors. Despite this attention, the evaluation of the properties of polymer-based composite components, both as part of a post manufacturing quality assurance checks as well as for remaining service life estimation, remains challenging. In this paper, Ultrasonic Testing is investigated as a nondestructive approach for quality evaluation of High Voltage composite insulators. Classical Phase Array Ultrasonic Testing is compared with the Total Focusing Method. The results are validated using Computer Tomography and a destructive testing approach, which revealed microcracks and small voids.

Index Terms — ultrasonic testing, fiber-reinforced composites, high voltage insulating components.

I. INTRODUCTION

Due to the complexity of the production process of composite insulating materials, and in particular elements made of glass fiber-reinforced polymer composites, the formation of voids seems inevitable. Since these types of material defects can cause partial discharges (PD) and thus, in the longer run, affect the service life of high-voltage electrical equipment, it is important to monitor insulating elements for their material quality and proactively prevent potential PD problems, early in the

according to their scale into *micro-voids* (formed in-between the fibers), *meso-voids* (in-between the tows), and *macro-voids* (larger zones, observable with the naked eye, not impregnated by macroscopic resin flow). Despite systematic analysis of void formation which began approximately 40 years ago (in 1980s), the details of the formation processes and all physical mechanisms are not yet fully understood. However, it can be shortly summarized that during the formation of *micro-* and *meso-voids* the resin viscous flow between the tows is driven by hydrodynamic forces, while between the fibers the capillary pressure (surface tension) becomes a dominant factor to drive the resin flow. Both effects can be quantified by a capillary number [2]. In addition, fiber volume fraction, macroscopic and tow permeabilities (as a function of saturation), flow direction, and geometrical anisotropy have been found to be important in void formation processes [2]. After voids are generated, they may be compressed by or dissolved (diffused) into the resin. Some initial voids disappear, others shrink or expand – depending on whether the resin is undersaturated or supersaturated with gas. Some voids, especially those between tows (*meso-voids*) can move easily with the resin flow, while *micro-voids* are more difficult to remove and often remain where they were formed. It must be therefore pointed out, that producing a fully defect-free composite element is problematic, highly (often too) expensive, and practically often not even necessary. A more pragmatic approach assumes that voids and other manufacturing defects can exist in the material, if they are

methods.

B. Experimental setup

To compare the capabilities of ultrasonic testing with physical and synthetic beamforming on a fiberglass reinforced composite material, the *pulse-echo* inspection configuration depicted in Fig. 3 was used to obtain PAUT and TFM images.

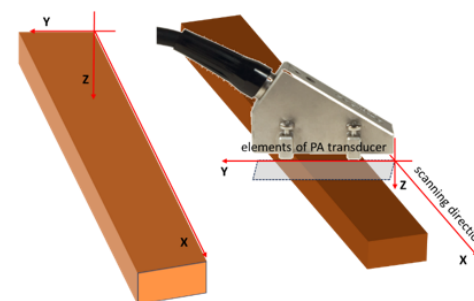


Fig. 3. Schematics of inspection configuration used for water immersion ultrasonic testing

A beamlike structure with rectangular cross-section was inspected using commercial Olympus OmniScan X3 Phase Array and TFM Flaw Detector. A standard commercial 2.25 MHz and 5 MHz Olympus Linear Phased Array Probe with 64 elements (38.4 x 10 mm Total Active Aperture, 0.60 mm Pitch) were used for PA and TFM respectively. The scanning process was fully automated, as schematically shown in Fig. 4. The measurement setup consisted of: 1 – flaw detector, 2 – transducer, 3 – tested object, 4 – supporting elements, 5 – moving platform, 6 – sliders, 7 – drive belt, 8 – stepper motor with encoder, 9 – water tank. The scanning process was realized with a resolution in the x-direction of 0.5 mm.

material was estimated to be 3500 m/s. Signal excitation and data acquisition was implemented in the OmniScan flaw detector. Additionally, the Time-Corrected Gain (TCG) flaw detector built-in function was used to reduce the effect of material damping on the detected signature. For TCG, three artificial defects (flat-bottom holes) with diameters of 1.2 mm were introduced by drilling (Fig. 5). The ultrasonic data, in the form of a three-dimensional matrix with *A-scan* envelopes from all focal points, were further post-processed using the Python programming language to obtain ultrasonic images and perform automatic quality assessment.

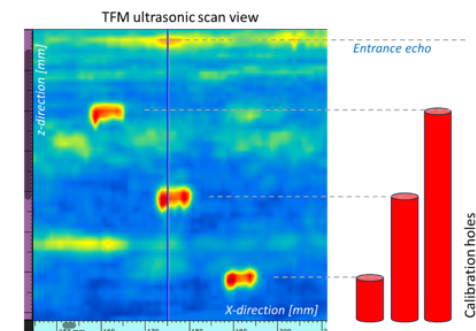


Fig. 5. TCG calibration with introduced flat-bottom holes $\phi 1.2$ mm as artificial defects. Colors in the ultrasonic view correspond to signal amplitude.

C. Ultrasonic images

Different ultrasonic images can be defined to help structural integrity assessment, with the most important ones being *C-scan*, *B-scan*, and *D-scan*. Following the nomenclature