



Institut de Recherche Dupuy de Lôme  
CNRS FRE 3744

EUROMECH 29/09/2019

# Characterization of the long-term mechanical behavior and the durability of polyamide mooring ropes for floating wind turbines



ANR

ANR-10-IEED-0006-16

**B E X C O**



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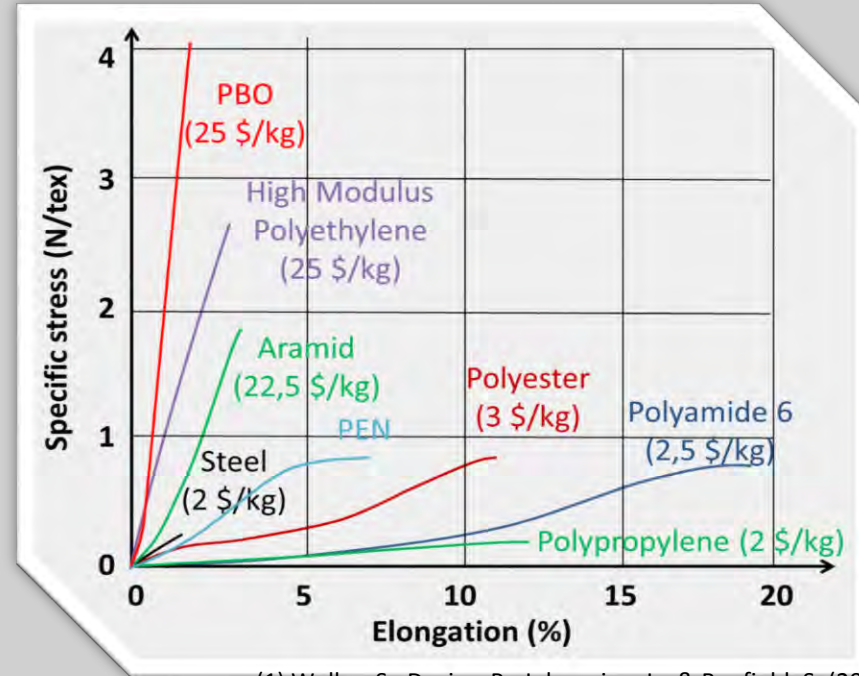
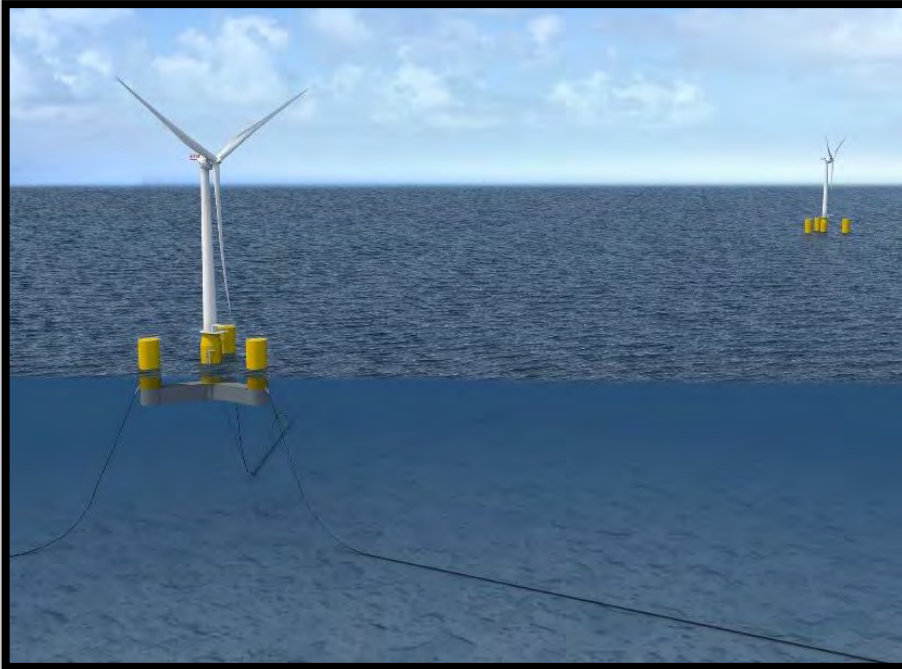
Peter Davies,

*IFREMER, Marine Structures Laboratory*

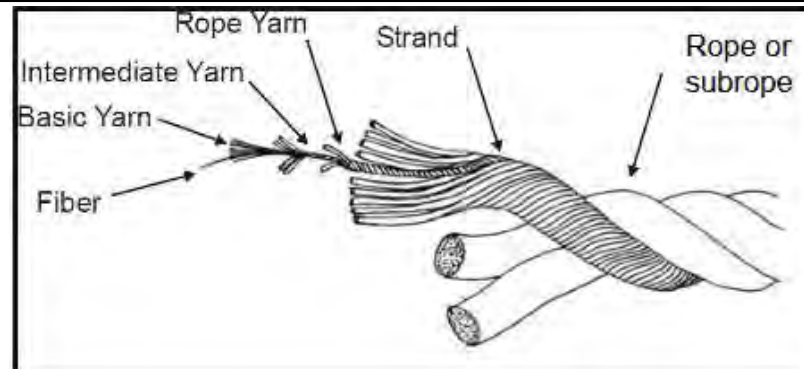
BUREAU  
VERITAS

# Is Polyamide 6 usable for permanent mooring?

Potentially an ideal solution



(1) Weller, S., Davies, P., Johanning, L., & Banfield, S. (2013).



# Issues for polyamide 6 permanent mooring?

## Complex behavior

- Design software for floating wind turbine modeling => elastic laws for PA6.
  - However comporment very elasto-visco-plastic.
- Predict the tension and effect of loading history => characterization.

## Long term behavior

- Very costly to re-tensioning the rope.
- Effect of creep on this rope for long term creep unknown.
- Creep study of one year.

## Fatigue data

- Early studies -> very short fatigue lifetimes (1).
- A few recent data for TTI -> indicate better fatigue performance (2).
- To validate on different rope -> Standard fatigue testing.

(1) Kenney, M. C., Mandell, J. F., & McGarry, F. J. (1985).

(2) Ridge, I. M. L., Banfield, S. J., & Mackay, J. (2010).

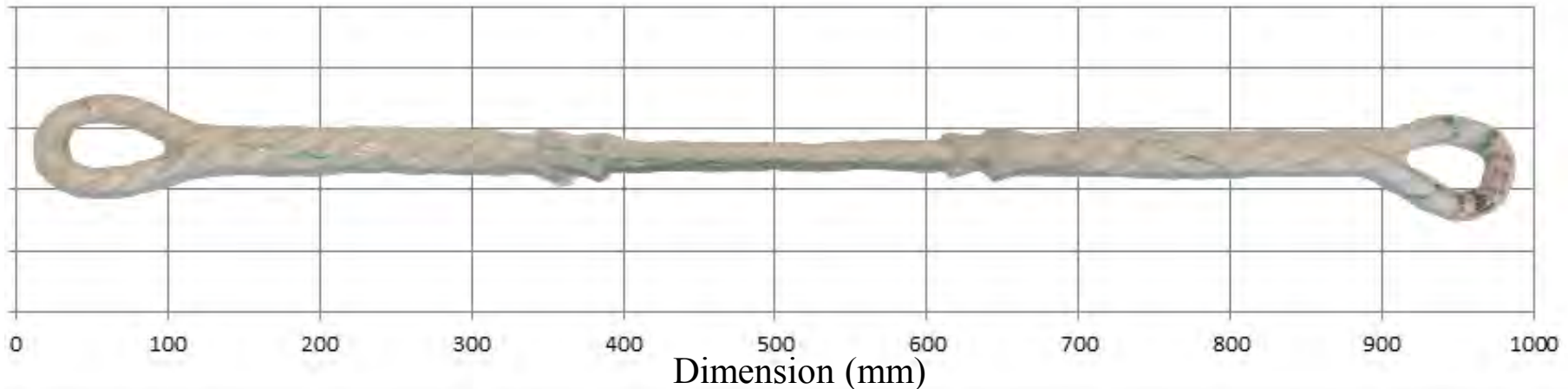
# Specimen difficulties ?

## Length

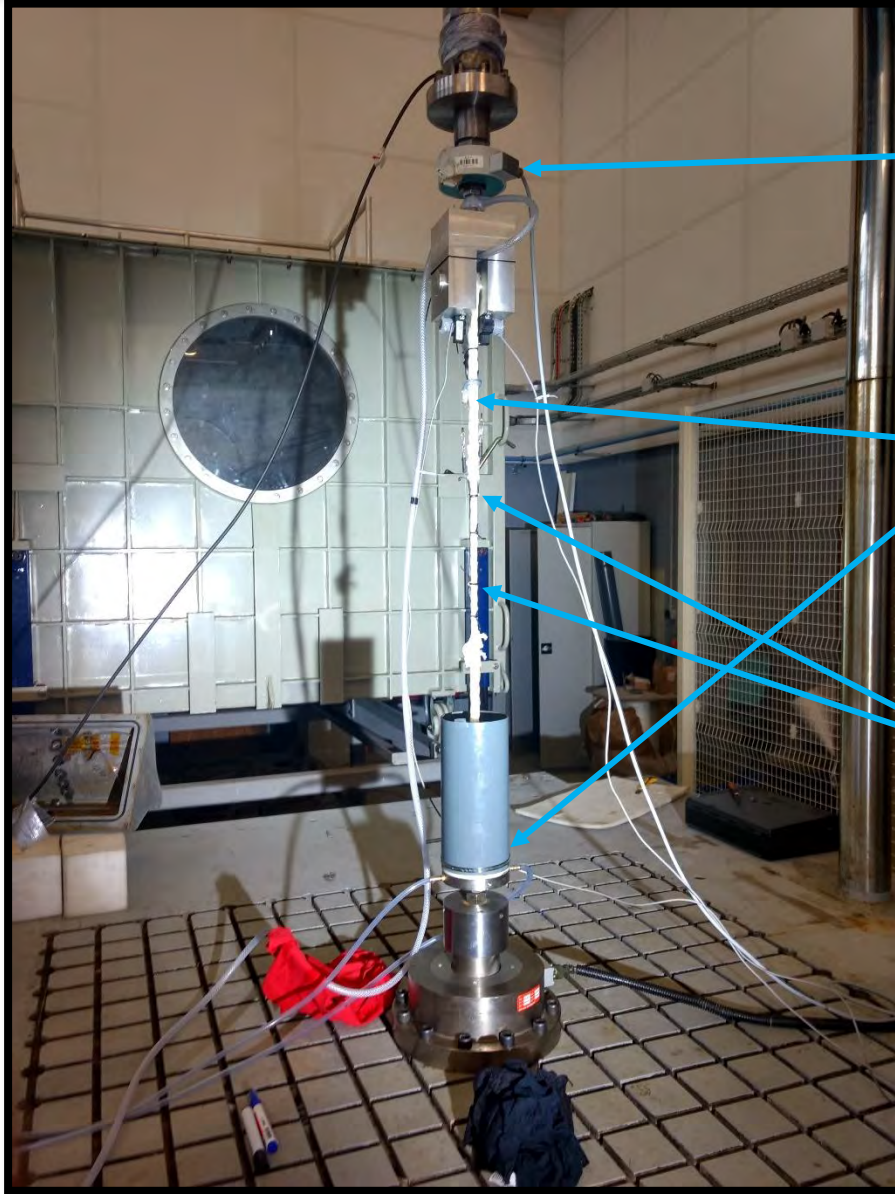
Termination

Lay length

Termination



# How the characterization tests are done?



Load sensor

Water system

Wire sensor system

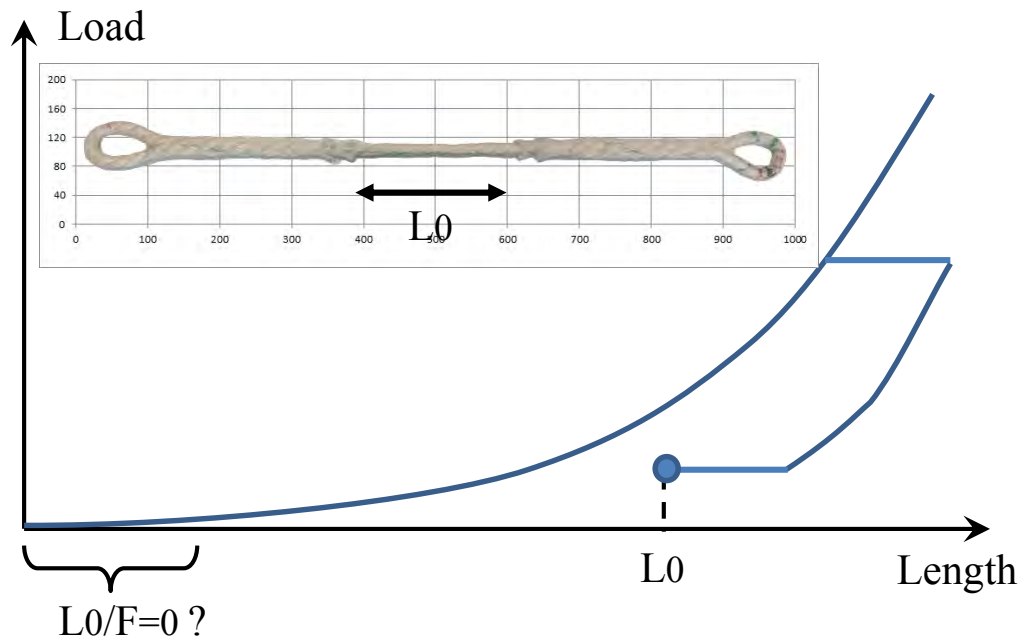
Camera



# Reference length for tests ?

## Bedding in (pre-stretching)

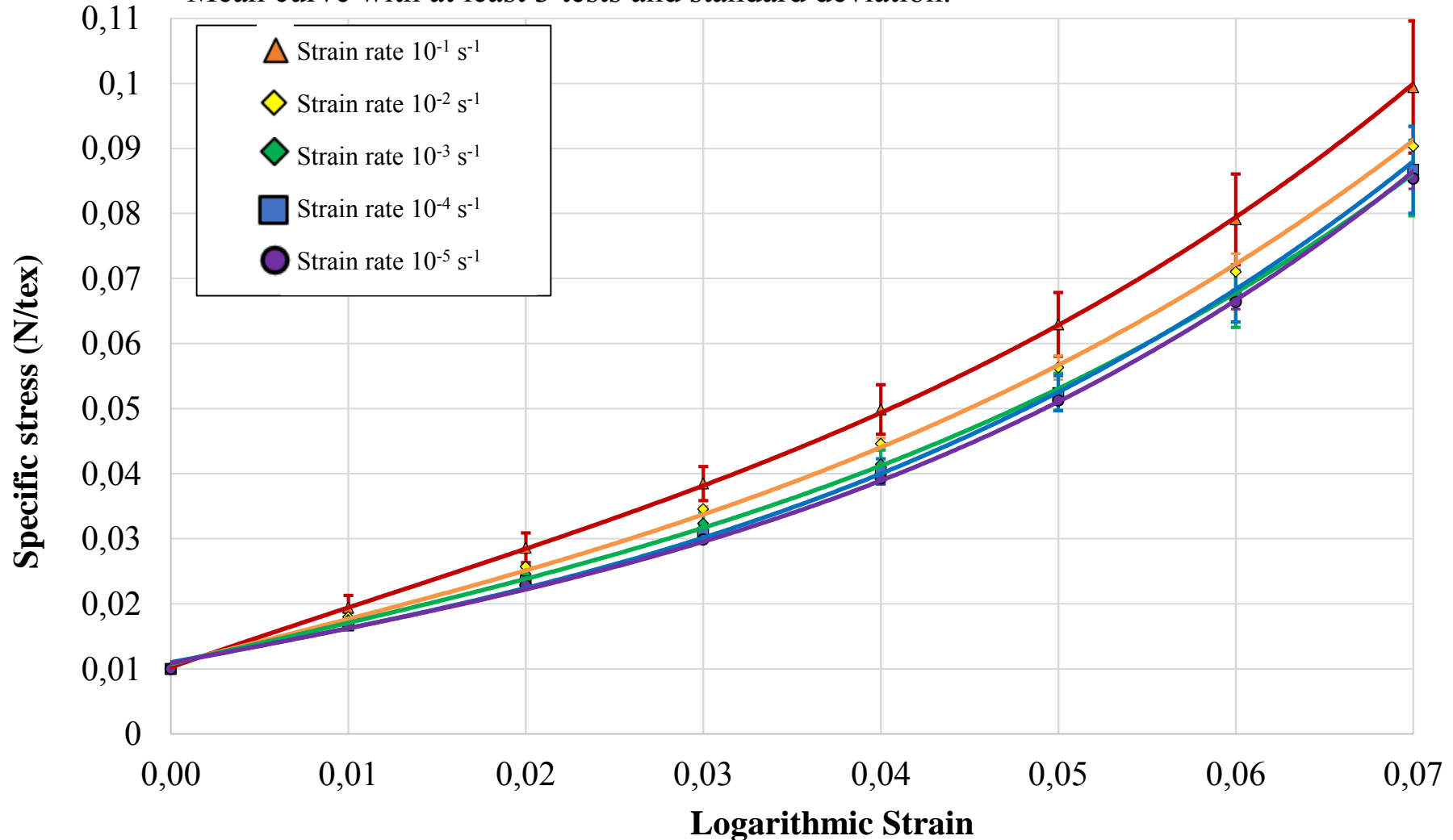
- Procedure used with synthetic mooring system.
- Two objectives:
  - Set up the rope structure and behavior.
  - Stabilize the length of the rope under tension, to reduce re-tensioning operation.
- Reference point for the strain equal 0% after our bedding in.



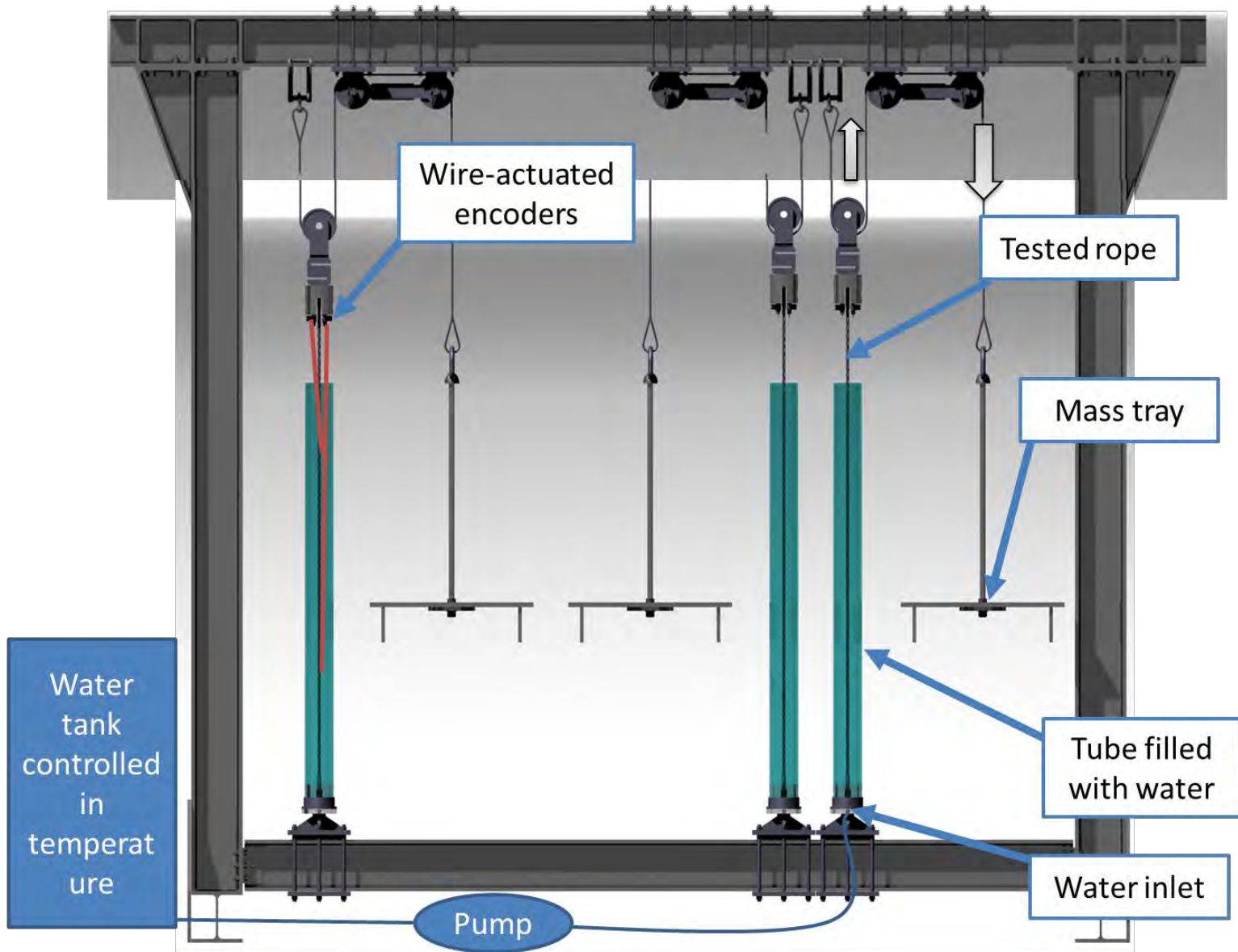
# Sensitivity of stress to strain rate ?

- Illustration on monotonous tensile tests at different strain rate

Mean curve with at least 3 tests and standard deviation.



# How to get long term creep data on rope?





# How to get long term creep data on rope?



Introduction  
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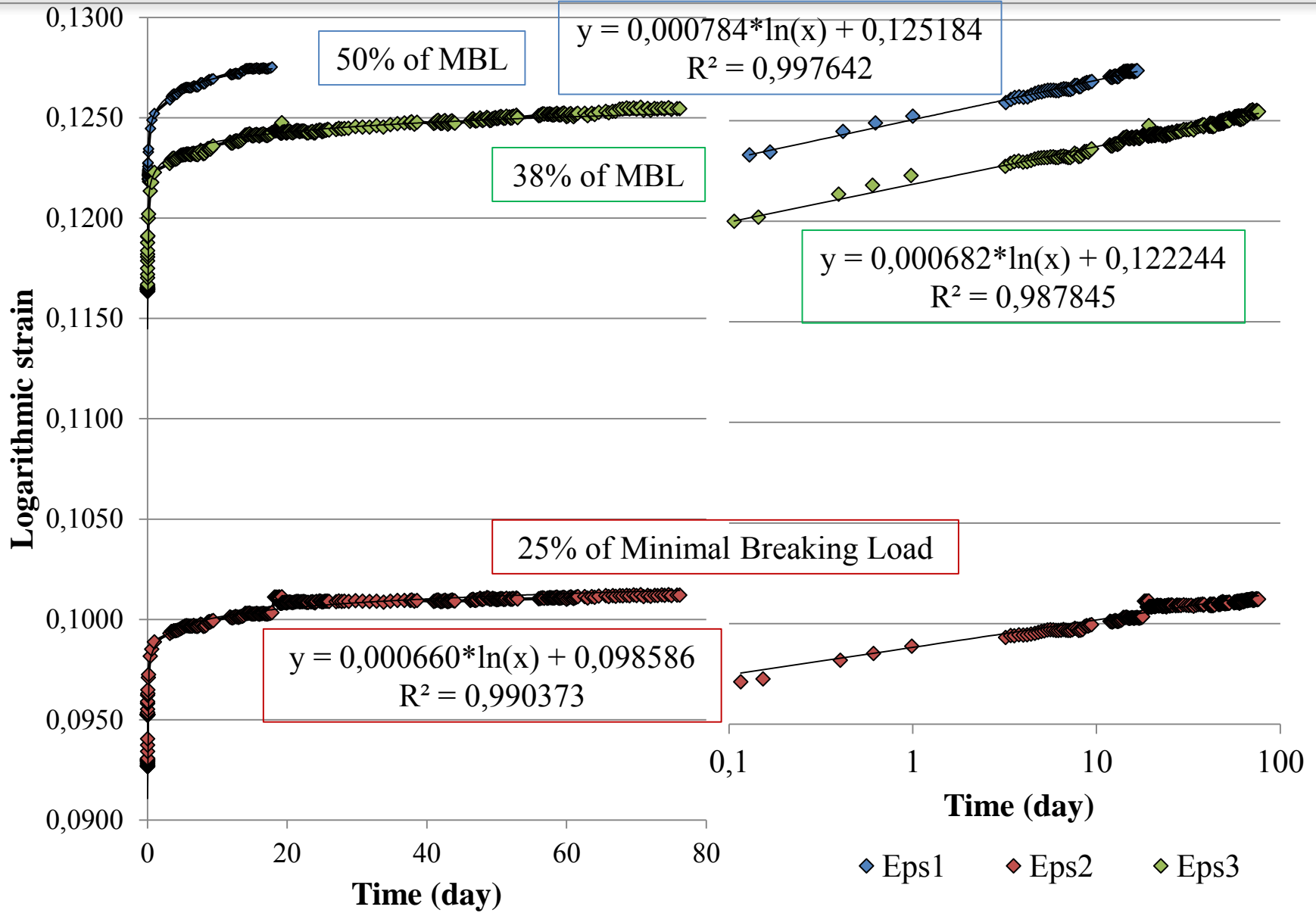
Complex behavior  
○ ○ ○ ○

**Long term behavior**  
● ○

Durability  
○ ○

Summary  
○

# Evolution of strain rate in time ? Stabilization ?



# Standard fatigue test protocol

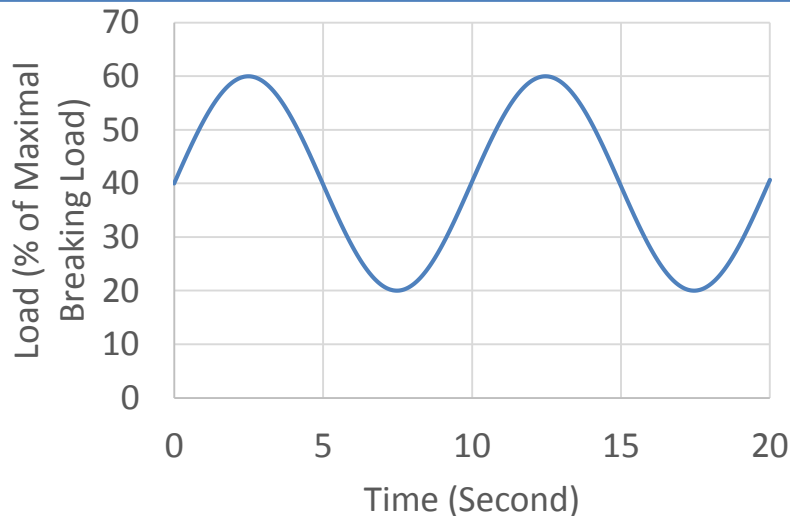
(1)

## Rope characteristics

- Three stranded rope
- 6 meters long (pin to pin)
- Maximal break load 75 kN

## Test method

- Rope maintained wet during the test
- Mean-load of 40% of nominal break load
- Frequency of 0.1 Hz.



(1) Weller, S., Davies, P., Johanning, L., & Banfield, S. (2013).

Introduction



Complex behavior



Long term behavior



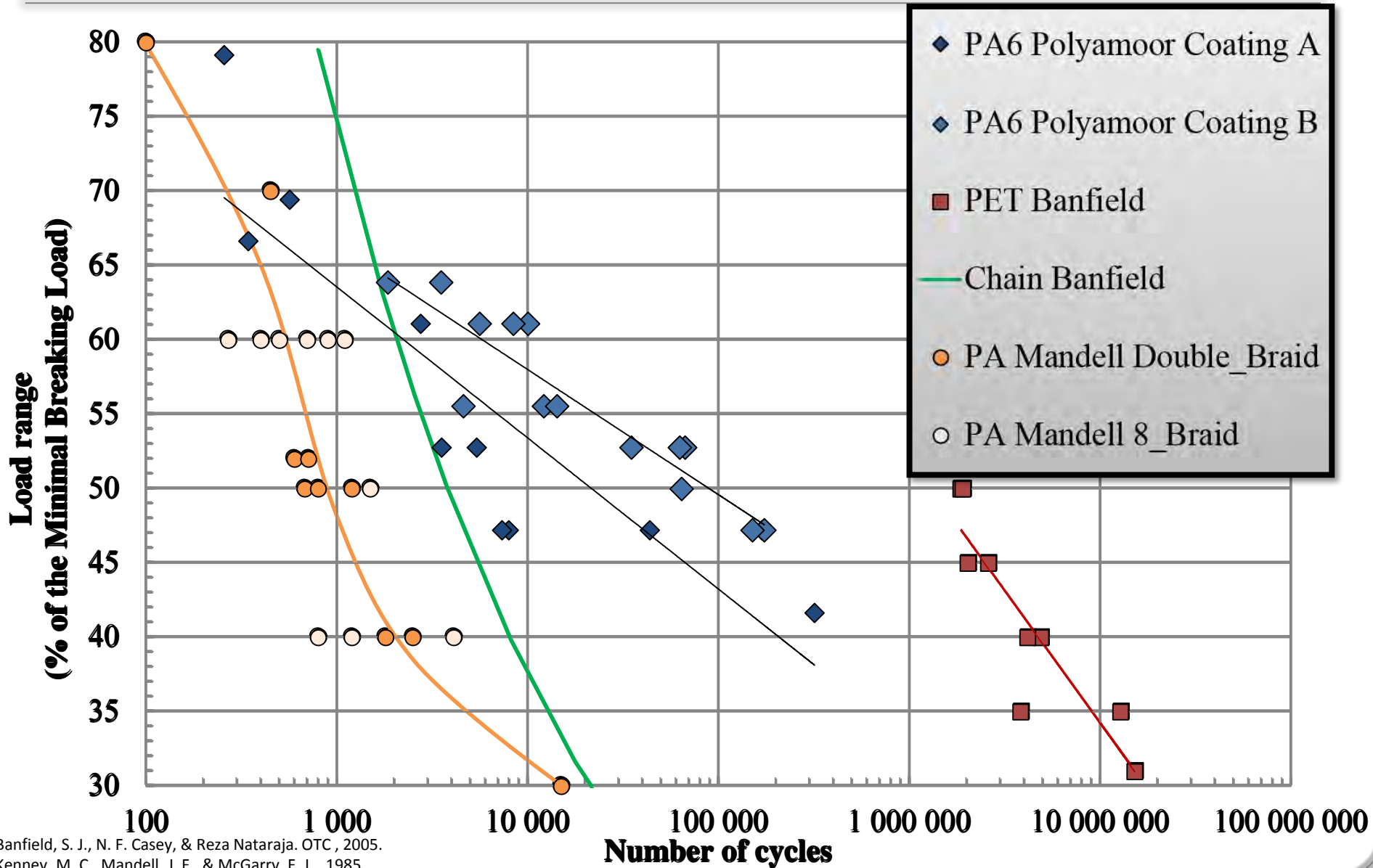
**Durability**



Summary



# Standard fatigue results compared to previous result



Banfield, S. J., N. F. Casey, & Reza Nataraja. OTC, 2005.  
 Kenney, M. C., Mandell, J. F., & McGarry, F. J., 1985.  
 Norme ISO 18692, 2007.

Introduction



Complex behavior



Long term behavior



Durability



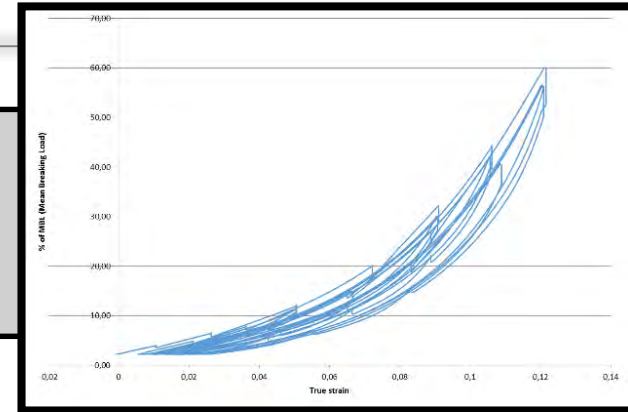
Summary



# Summary

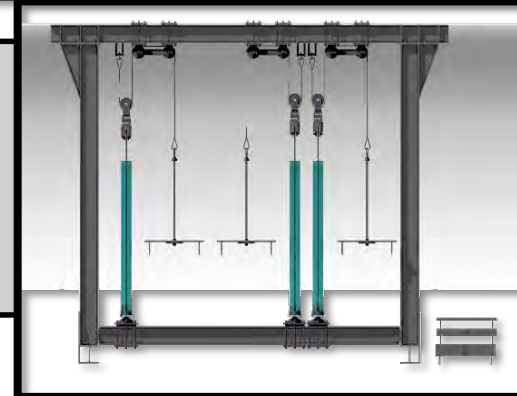
## Short term behavior

- Characterization completed
- Identification on the way



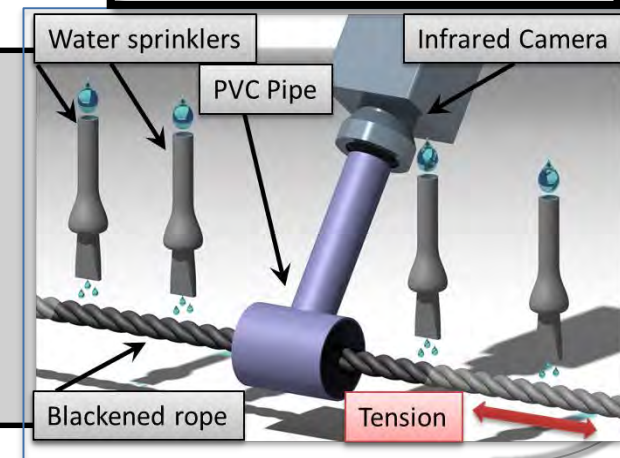
## Long term behavior

- Logarithmic evolution of the strain.
- Test planned to continue for up to 1 year.



## Fatigue tests

- Fatigue properties of this nylon rope are lower than polyester rope but better than chain.
- Lifetime seems sufficient for our application.
- Accelerated procedure tested : heat build-up





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Thank you for your attention

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