Dr. Vasileios M. Drakonakis (Dipl. Ing. 2008, Mechanical and Aeronautics Eng; PhD. 2012, Industrial Manufacturing and Systems Eng) has conducted research as an undergrad at the Composite Materials Groups (CMG) (10 /2006 09 / 2007) and the Applied Mechanics Laboratory (AML) (05 /2005 12 / 2006) of University of Patras, under Prof George Papanicolaou and Prof Vassilis Kostopoulos respectively; as a research associate at the Polymeric Composites Laboratory (PCL) in Seattle, WA, USA under Prof James Seferis from 11 / 2007 to present; as a visiting graduate student at the Aeronautics and Astronautics Dept of Massachusetts Institute of Technology under Prof Brian Wardle from 12 / 2008 to 09 / 2010; and as a PhD Candidate at the Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering Dept of University of Cyprus from 06 / 2008 to 01 / 2011 under Prof Charalambos Doumanidis having transferred the PhD candidateship at the Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Dept of University of Texas at Arlington from 06/2011 to 08/2012. His research expertise is in applied mechanics, composite materials processing and manufacturing, nanocomposites, thermal analysis characterization, materials strength and solid mechanics, fracture toughening mechanisms, interlayer enabling techniques and thermal engineering. He has been a member of European Association of Aerospace Students, an association with presence in more than 31 universities around Europe and more than 1,400 members, and elected at the International Board 2006 -2007 and local board 2005-2007 of the association. Additionally, he has also been a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society; He has also been responsible for performing the Young Engineer Satellite 2 (YES2) thermal analysis and design, a project of the European Space Agency (ESA). Furthermore, he was part of the ATLAS1 core team that designed and manufactured a small aircraft made out of carbon fiber reinforced composite materials at University of Patras; his main responsibility was the manufacturing process. The Atlas team was awarded as the winner of the 2009 Young Aerospace Engineer of the Year Technology and Innovation; The Technology and Innovation Award: Aerospace Testing, Design and Manufacturing 2009. His current research under Prof Doumanidis and Prof Seferis on the concept of featherweight composites supported by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) has been awarded as the most innovative AFOSR research project of 2009-2010. Finally, his work so far is well documented in over 15 papers in scientific journals and conferences as well as in 5 national newspapers.