

Stress Analysis of Fiber-Reinforced Composite Materials

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Contents

Preface to the Updated Edition xiii

Preface to Original Edition xvii

1	Fiber-Reinforced Composite Materials	1
1.1	Background and Brief Overview	1
1.2	Utilizing the Strength of Fibers	4
1.3	Laminae and Laminates	9
1.4	Fibers	10
1.4.1	Carbon-Based Fibers	10
1.4.2	Glass-Based fibers	20
1.4.3	Polymeric Fibers	23
1.5	Matrices	25
1.5.1	Thermosets	27
1.5.2	Thermoplastics	29
1.6	Fiber Surface Treatments	31
1.6.1	Graphite Fiber Treatment	33
1.6.2	Glass Fiber Treatment	39
1.6.3	Polymeric Fiber Treatment	41
1.7	Summary	42
1.8	Suggested Readings	42
2	Linear Elastic Stress-Strain Characteristics of Fiber-Reinforced Material	43
2.1	Stress and Deformations in Fiber-Reinforced Materials	44
2.2	Maxwell-Betti Reciprocal Theorem	55
2.3	Relationships among Material Properties	57
2.4	Typical Material Properties	64
2.5	Important Interpretation of Stress-Strain Relations	67
2.6	Free Thermal Strains	76

2.7	Stress-Strain Relations, Including the Effects of Free Thermal Strains	80
2.8	Stress-Strain Relations, Including the Effects of Free Moisture Strains	86
2.9	Summary	90
2.10	Suggested Readings	90
3	Prediction of Engineering Properties Using Micromechanics	93
3.1	Background	94
3.2	Finite-Element Results: Square- and Hexagonal-Packed Array Models	95
3.2.1	Material Properties of the Fiber and Matrix	100
3.2.2	Thermal Effects and Determination of Thermal Expansion Coefficients α_1 and α_2	100
3.2.3	Tension in the Fiber Direction and Determination of Extensional Modulus E_1 and Poisson's Ratios ν_{12} and ν_{13}	103
3.2.4	Transverse Tensile Loading and Determination of Extensional Modulus E_2 and Poisson's Ratios ν_{21} and ν_{23}	112
3.2.5	Transverse Shear Loading and Determination of Shear Modulus G_{23}	118
3.3	Theory of Elasticity Results: Concentric Cylinders Model	122
3.3.1	Fiber-Direction Tension	124
3.3.2	Axial Shear	134
3.4	Strength-of-Materials Results	140
3.4.1	Model for E_1 and ν_{12}	140
3.4.2	Models for E_2	146
3.4.3	Models for G_{12}	154
3.4.4	Model for α_1 and α_2	156
3.5	Summary	162
3.6	Suggested Readings	162
4	The Plane-Stress Assumption	165
4.1	Stress-Strain Relations for Plane Stress	169
4.2	Important Interpretation of Stress-Strain Relations Revisited	173
4.3	Numerical Results for the Plane-Stress Condition	173
4.4	Plane-Stress Stress-Strain Relations and the Effects of Free Thermal and Free Moisture Strains	175
4.5	Suggested Readings	177

5	Plane-Stress Stress-Strain Relations in a Global Coordinate System	179
5.1	Transformation Relations	180
5.2	Transformed Reduced Compliances	185
5.3	Transformed Reduced Stiffnesses	201
5.4	Engineering Properties in a Global Coordinate System	212
5.5	Coefficients of Mutual Influence	218
5.6	Free Thermal and Free Moisture Strains	221
5.7	Effects of Free Thermal and Free Moisture Strains	225
5.8	Summary	234
6	Classical Lamination Theory: The Kirchhoff Hypothesis	235
6.1	Laminate Nomenclature	238
6.2	Laminate Strains and Displacements: The Kirchhoff Hypothesis	241
6.3	Implications of the Kirchhoff Hypothesis	245
6.4	Laminate Strains	248
6.5	Laminate Stresses	252
6.6	Stress Distributions through the Thickness	253
6.6.1	CLT Example 1: $[0/90]_S$ Laminate subjected to Known ϵ_x^0	254
6.6.2	CLT Example 2: $[0/90]_S$ Laminate Subjected to Known κ_x^0	262
6.7	Force and Moment Resultants	270
6.8	Further Examples	280
6.8.1	CLT Example 3: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate subjected to Known ϵ_x^0	280
6.8.2	CLT Example 4: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to Known κ_x^0	286
6.8.3	CLT Example 5: $[\pm 30/0]_T$ Laminate Subjected to Known ϵ_x^0	296
6.8.4	A Note on the Kirchhoff Hypothesis	301
6.9	Suggested Readings	306
7	Classical Lamination Theory: Laminate Stiffness Matrix	307
7.1	Formal Definition of Force and Moment Resultants	308
7.2	Laminate Stiffness: The ABD Matrix	310
7.3	Classification of Laminates and Their Effect on the ABD Matrix	330
7.3.1	Symmetric Laminates	331
7.3.2	Balanced Laminates	333
7.3.3	Symmetric Balanced Laminates	333

7.3.4	Cross Ply Laminates	335
7.3.5	Symmetric Cross-Ply Laminates	335
7.3.6	Single Isotropic Layer	336
7.4	Reference Surface Strains and Curvatures of Example Laminates	338
7.5	Comments	340
7.6	Elastic Couplings	341
7.6.1	Influence of D_{16} and D_{26}	341
7.6.2	Influence of A_{16} and A_{26}	347
7.6.3	Influence of the B_{ij}	355
7.7	Effective Engineering Properties of a Laminate	361
7.8	Summary	365
7.9	Suggested Readings	366
8	Classical Lamination Theory: Additional Examples	367
8.1	CLT Example 6: $[0/90]_S$ Laminate Subjected to Known N_x — Counterpart to CLT Example 1	368
8.2	CLT Example 7: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to Known N_x — Counterpart to CLT Example 3	372
8.3	CLT Example 8: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to Known M_x — Counterpart to CLT Example 4	380
8.4	Summary	386
9	Failure Theories for Fiber-Reinforced Materials: Maximum Stress Criterion	387
9.1	Maximum Stress Failure Criterion	395
9.2	Failure Example 1: Tube with Axial Load — Maximum Stress Criterion	397
9.3	Failure Example 2: Tube in Torsion — Maximum Stress Criterion	405
9.4	Failure Example 3: Tube with Combined Load — Maximum Stress Criterion	411
9.5	Failure Example 4: $[0/90]_S$ Laminate Subjected to N_x — Maximum Stress Criterion	422
9.6	Failure Example 5: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to N_x — Maximum Stress Criterion	424
9.7	Failure Example 6: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to M_x — Maximum Stress Criterion	426
9.8	Summary	428
9.9	Suggested Readings	429
10	Failure Theories for Fiber-Reinforced Materials: The Tsai-Wu Criterion	431
10.1	Determination of the Constants	433
10.2	Failure Example 7: Tube with Axial Load — Tsai-Wu Criterion	444
10.3	Failure Example 8: Tube in Torsion — Tsai-Wu Criterion	449
10.4	Failure Example 9: Tube with Combined Load — Tsai-Wu Criterion	451
10.5	Failure Example 10: $[0/90]_S$ Laminate Subjected to N_x — Tsai-Wu Criterion	459
10.6	Failure Example 11: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to N_x — Tsai-Wu Criterion	462
10.7	Failure Example 12: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate subjected to M_x — Tsai-Wu Criterion	463
10.8	Summary	465
10.9	Suggested Readings	465
11	Environmentally Induced Stresses in Laminates	467
11.1	Laminate Response	467
11.1.1	Displacements and Strains	467
11.1.2	Stresses	469
11.2	Examples of Laminate Response	471
11.2.1	CLT Example 9: $[0/90]_S$ Laminate Subjected to Known ϵ_x^0 and Known ΔT	471
11.2.2	CLT Example 10: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to Known κ_x^0 and Known ΔT	477
11.3	Force and Moment Resultants in Examples	482
11.3.1	Stress Resultant Calculation for CLT Example 9: $[0/90]_S$ Laminate Subjected to Known ϵ_x^0 and Known ΔT	482
11.3.2	Stress Resultant Calculation for CLT Example 10: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to Known κ_x^0 and Known ΔT	484
11.4	Definition of Thermal Force and Moment Resultants	488
11.5	Definitions of Unit Thermal Force and Moment Resultants	494
11.6	The Effect of Laminate Classification on the Unit Thermal Force and Moment Resultants	497
11.6.1	Symmetric Laminates	498
11.6.2	Balanced Laminates	498
11.6.3	Symmetric Balanced Laminates	498
11.6.4	Cross-Ply Laminates	499
11.6.5	Symmetric Cross-Ply Laminates	499
11.6.6	Single Isotropic Layer	499
11.7	Free Thermal Response of Laminates	500

11.7.1	Equations Governing Free Thermal Response of Laminates	500
11.7.2	Laminate Coefficients of Thermal Expansion	500
11.8	Examples of Laminate Free Thermal Response	504
11.8.1	CLT Example 11: $[0/90]_S$ Laminate Subjected to a Known ΔT	504
11.8.2	CLT Example 12: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to a Known ΔT	509
11.8.3	CLT Example 13: $[\pm 30/0]_T$ Laminate Subjected to a Known ΔT	516
11.8.4	CLT Example 14: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to a Known ΔM	519
11.9	Response Due to Stress Resultants and a Temperature Change	523
11.9.1	CLT Example 15: $[0/90]_S$ Laminate Subjected to Known N_x and Known ΔT	525
11.9.2	CLT Example 16: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to Known N_x and Known ΔT	529
11.9.3	CLT Example 17: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to Known M_x and Known ΔT	532
11.9.4	CLT Example 18: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to Known N_x , Known ΔT , and Known ΔM	538
11.10	Influence of Thermal Effects on Failure: The Maximum Stress Criterion	542
11.10.1	Failure Example 13: $[0/90]_S$ Laminate Subjected to N_x and Known ΔT	544
11.10.2	Failure Example 14: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to N_x and Known ΔT	547
11.10.3	Failure Example 15: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to M_x and Known ΔT	549
11.11	Influence of thermal Effects on Failure: The Tsai-Wu Criterion	551
11.11.1	Failure Example 16: $[0/90]_S$ Laminate Subjected to N_x and Known ΔT	551
11.11.2	Failure Example 17: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to N_x and Known ΔT	554
11.11.3	Failure Example 18: $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Laminate Subjected to M_x and Known ΔT	556
11.12	Summary	558
11.13	Suggested Readings	558
12	Through-Thickness Laminate Strains	561
12.1	Thickness Change of a Laminate, No Free Thermal or Moisture Strain Effects	562

12.2	Through-Thickness Laminate Poisson's Ratios	564
12.3	Thickness Change of a Laminate Due to Free Thermal Strain Effects	569
12.4	Through-Thickness Laminate Coefficient of Thermal Expansion	571
12.5	Summary	574
12.6	Suggested Readings	574
13	Introduction to Fiber-Reinforced Laminated Plates	575
13.1	Equations Governing Plate Behavior	576
13.2	Governing Conditions in Terms of Displacements	589
13.3	Simplifications to the Governing Equations	596
13.3.1	Symmetric Laminates	597
13.3.2	Symmetric Balanced Laminates	600
13.3.3	Symmetric Cross-Ply Laminates	602
13.3.4	Isotropic Plates	605
13.4	Plate Example 1: A Long $[0/90]_S$ Plate	608
13.4.1	Solution of Governing Differential Equations	608
13.4.2	Application of Boundary Conditions	610
13.5	Plate Example 2: A Long $[0_2/90_2]_T$ Plate	616
13.5.1	Solution of Governing Differential Equations	616
13.5.2	Application of Boundary Conditions	618
13.6	Plate Example 3: A Long $[\pm 30/0]_S$ Plate	623
13.7	Numerical Results for Plate Examples 1, 2, and 3	625
13.7.1	Cross-Ply Plates	625
13.7.2	$[\pm 30/0]_S$ Plate	630
13.8	Plate Example 4: A Rectangular, Uniformly Loaded, Cross-Ply Plate	632
13.9	Summary	643
13.10	Suggested Readings	645
14	Appendix: Manufacturing Composite Laminates	647
14.1	Background and Overview	647
14.2	Fabrication	648
14.2.1	Tooling and Specialty Materials	648
14.2.2	Hand Lay-up	653
14.3	Processing	664
14.3.1	Overall Considerations	664
14.3.2	Autoclave Curing	667
14.4	Manufacturing by Other Methods	669
14.4.1	Fiber-Only Preforms	669
14.4.2	Other Combined Fiber-Matrix Preforms	671
14.5	Forming Structural Shapes	673
14.5.1	Wet Lay-up and Spray-up	673

14.5.2 Filament Winding	674
14.5.3 Pultrusion	678
14.5.4 Resin Transfer Molding	681
14.6 Nonautoclave curing	682
14.6.1 Oven Curing	682
14.6.2 Hot Pressing	683
14.7 Manufacturing Defects	683
14.8 Suggested Readings	685
Index	687

Preface to the Updated Edition

This updated edition of *Stress Analysis of Fiber Reinforced Composite Materials* contains the same material as the original, with important exceptions. Typographical errors, identified by readers and reviewers, have been corrected. Changes were made to a number of figures to increase their clarity. Equations were modified to increase consistency throughout the text, and wording in many of the Exercises was edited to clarify what is being asked.

The book is intended as an introductory text for upper level undergraduate engineering students or first year graduate students. However, the book has proven to be useful for practicing engineers who find it necessary to understand the behavior of composite materials. The book emphasizes the mechanics of a stress and deformation analysis of fiber-reinforced materials as opposed to, for example, a materials science viewpoint. Exercises, including computer oriented exercises, are included within most chapters.

One key feature of the book, and one that sets it apart from other books on the subject, remains the series of example problems that are discussed throughout the text, starting with rather simple problems in Ch.4 that are then expanded upon in subsequent chapters. This series of problems uses the same material properties throughout so the impact of the elastic and thermal expansion properties for a single layer of fiber-reinforced material, in this case graphite-epoxy, on the stress, strains, elastic properties, thermal expansion, and failure stresses of cross-ply and angle-ply symmetric and unsymmetric laminates can be evaluated. Furthermore, calculations for various steps of the stress and deformation analysis of a laminate discussed in later chapters require combining simpler calculations from previous chapters, so using the same material properties throughout allows the example problems to conveniently build upon each other as the chapters progress and illustrate how concepts are linked. To provide examples of the unique and sometimes complicated deformation properties of fiber-reinforced materials, examples are sometimes reworked using the properties of aluminum, and the stresses and deformations of aluminum compared with those of graphite-epoxy. Users of the text have commented on how much they like the number and style of the example problems.