

ENGINEERING TRIPOS PART IIB

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Tuesday 26 April 2005 2.30 to 4

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Module 4C2

DESIGNING WITH COMPOSITES

*Answer not more than three questions.*

*All questions carry the same number of marks.*

*The approximate percentage of marks allocated to each part of a question is indicated in the right margin.*

*Attachment: Module 4C2 datasheet (6 pages).*

**You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed that you may do so by the Invigilator**

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1 A glass fibre-epoxy laminate is loaded as a beam in 3-point bending with a central load  $F$ . The span of the beam between inner and outer supports is  $\ell$ , the width is  $w$  and the thickness is  $t$ .

(a) Identify likely failure modes and corresponding failure locations for a  $[\pm 45]_S$  laminate? Sketch the expected load versus displacement response. Describe how you would calculate the expected failure load. [30%]

(b) A simple approach to design of the beam assumes that the stresses are uniform either side of the beam centre-line, with the top and bottom halves of the beam carrying equal and opposite line loads  $N_x$ , as illustrated in Fig. 1. Show that the line load  $N_x$  at the centre of the beam, using this approach, is given by:

$$N_x = \frac{F\ell}{2tw} \quad [10\%]$$

(c) Find a suitable ply mix and thickness of laminate which minimises the weight of a beam of dimensions  $\ell = 2$  m and  $w = 0.1$  m, carrying a central load  $F = 2$  kN. In addition the beam must have a shear modulus  $G_{xy}$  at least two-thirds of that for a  $[\pm 45]_S$  laminate. Carpet plots for GFRP are given in Fig. 2. [40%]

(d) How might you improve and verify the suitability of your beam design found in part (c)? [20%]

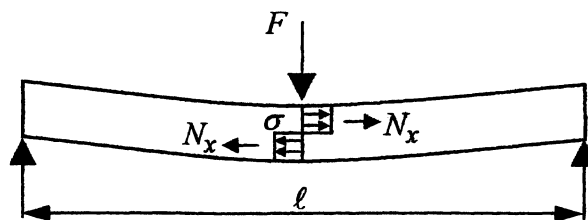
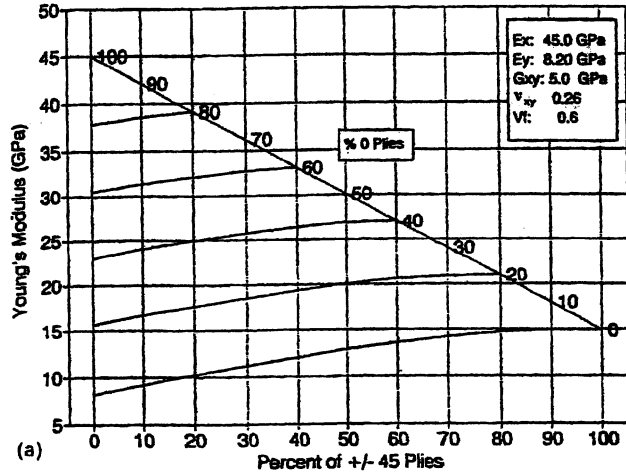
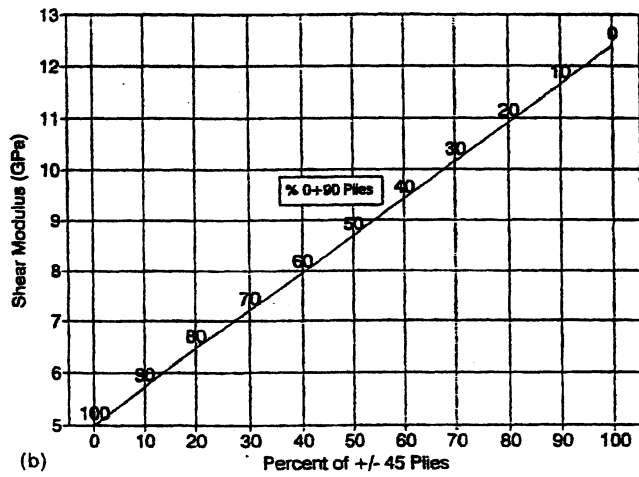


Fig. 1

YOUNG'S MODULUS: E-GLASS FIBRE/EPOXY-RESIN



SHEAR MODULUS: E-GLASS FIBRE/EPOXY-RESIN



POISSON'S RATIO: E-GLASS FIBRE/EPOXY-RESIN

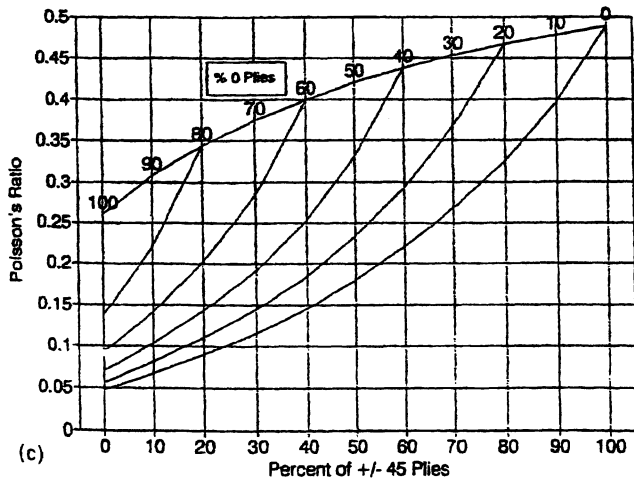


Fig. 2

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2 The hollow shaft of a canoe paddle is to be made from a  $[\pm 30]_S$  glass fibre-epoxy pre-preg laminate, with elastic properties  $E_2 = 0.2E_1$ ,  $G_{12} = 0.2E_1$  and  $\nu_{12} = 0.2$ . Each ply is of thickness  $t$ .

(a) Obtain expressions for the laminate extensional matrix  $[A]$  and the laminate coupling stiffness  $[B]$  for the laminate in terms of the material properties. [65%]

(b) The  $[\pm 30]_S$  laminate is made into a circular tube of mean diameter  $D$ , and wall thickness  $4t$ .

(i) Calculate the axial strain and hoop strain in the tube wall due to an axial force  $P$ . [20%]

(ii) Calculate the twist per unit length of the tube due to a torque  $Q$ . [15%]

3 A  $[0/90/0]$  cross-ply laminate is made from three plies, each of thickness 0.125 mm, of AS/3501 carbon fibre epoxy material (material data on the data sheet). The  $[Q]$  matrix for a  $0^\circ$  lamina of this material is given by:

$$[Q] = \begin{bmatrix} 139 & 2.7 & 0 \\ 2.7 & 9.0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 6.9 \end{bmatrix} \text{ GPa}$$

(a) The laminate is subjected to biaxial line loading  $N_y = 0.1 N_x$ , where the  $x$  axis coincides with the  $0^\circ$  direction.

(i) Use the Tsai-Hill failure criterion to estimate the line load  $N_x$  at first ply failure. What would you expect the failure mode to be? [65%]

(ii) Estimate the percentage reduction in the laminate stiffnesses  $E_x$  and  $E_y$  associated with first ply failure. [15%]

(b) Briefly describe how you might develop a micromechanical model to estimate the spacing of transverse cracks in the  $90^\circ$  ply. [20%]

4 (a) Explain briefly what is meant by “the simultaneous design of (i) an engineering composite structure and (ii) the configuration of the composite laminate from which it is to be made”. [25%]

(b) Why are the majority of design problems associated with composite laminates attributed to their poor “secondary material properties”? Give three examples of design problems associated with these properties. [25%]

(c) Briefly describe one method of manufacturing large integrated composite structures for the automotive industry, identifying any additional requirements of this method, as compared with conventional methods using steel. [25%]

(d) A single section of fuselage of the new Boeing 7E7 Dreamliner aircraft is 7 m long, 6 m wide, and contains a door and windows. Propose a suitable composite *material system* from which to manufacture this part, giving your reasons. Outline a *manufacturing route* for making this part, and give an example of a critical issue involved in the manufacturing process. [25%]

**END OF PAPER**



## ENGINEERING TRIPOS PART II B

### Module 4C2 – Designing with Composites

#### DATA SHEET

The in-plane compliance matrix [S] for a transversely isotropic lamina is defined by

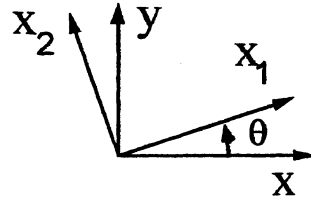
$$\begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_{11} \\ \varepsilon_{22} \\ \gamma_{12} \end{pmatrix} = [S] \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11} \\ \sigma_{22} \\ \sigma_{12} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{where } [S] = \begin{bmatrix} 1/E_1 & -\nu_{21}/E_2 & 0 \\ -\nu_{12}/E_1 & 1/E_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/G_{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

[S] is symmetric, giving  $\nu_{12}/E_1 = \nu_{21}/E_2$ . The compliance relation can be inverted to give

$$\begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11} \\ \sigma_{22} \\ \sigma_{12} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Q_{11} & Q_{12} & 0 \\ Q_{12} & Q_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Q_{66} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_{11} \\ \varepsilon_{22} \\ \gamma_{12} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{where } \begin{aligned} Q_{11} &= E_1/(1-\nu_{12}\nu_{21}) \\ Q_{22} &= E_2/(1-\nu_{12}\nu_{21}) \\ Q_{12} &= \nu_{12}E_2/(1-\nu_{12}\nu_{21}) \\ Q_{66} &= G_{12} \end{aligned}$$

#### Rotation of co-ordinates

Assume the principal material directions  $(x_1, x_2)$  are rotated anti-clockwise by an angle  $\theta$ , with respect to the  $(x, y)$  axes.



$$\text{Then, } \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11} \\ \sigma_{22} \\ \sigma_{12} \end{pmatrix} = [T] \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{xx} \\ \sigma_{yy} \\ \sigma_{xy} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and } \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_{11} \\ \varepsilon_{22} \\ \gamma_{12} \end{pmatrix} = [T]^{-T} \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_{xx} \\ \varepsilon_{yy} \\ \gamma_{xy} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{where } [T] = \begin{bmatrix} \cos^2 \theta & \sin^2 \theta & 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta \\ \sin^2 \theta & \cos^2 \theta & -2 \sin \theta \cos \theta \\ -\sin \theta \cos \theta & \sin \theta \cos \theta & \cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{and } [T]^{-T} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos^2 \theta & \sin^2 \theta & \sin \theta \cos \theta \\ \sin^2 \theta & \cos^2 \theta & -\sin \theta \cos \theta \\ -2 \sin \theta \cos \theta & 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta & (\cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

The stiffness matrix  $[Q]$  transforms in a related manner to the matrix  $[\bar{Q}]$  when the axes are rotated from  $(x_1, x_2)$  to  $(x, y)$ .

$$[\bar{Q}] = [T]^{-1} [Q] [T]^T$$

In component form,

$$[\bar{Q}] = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{Q}_{11} & \bar{Q}_{12} & \bar{Q}_{16} \\ \bar{Q}_{12} & \bar{Q}_{22} & \bar{Q}_{26} \\ \bar{Q}_{16} & \bar{Q}_{26} & \bar{Q}_{66} \end{bmatrix} \text{ where}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{Q}_{11} &= Q_{11}C^4 + Q_{22}S^4 + 2(Q_{12} + 2Q_{66})S^2C^2 \\ \bar{Q}_{12} &= (Q_{11} + Q_{22} - 4Q_{66})S^2C^2 + Q_{12}(C^4 + S^4) \\ \bar{Q}_{22} &= Q_{11}S^4 + Q_{22}C^4 + 2(Q_{12} + 2Q_{66})S^2C^2 \\ \bar{Q}_{16} &= (Q_{11} - Q_{12} - 2Q_{66})SC^3 - (Q_{22} - Q_{12} - 2Q_{66})S^3C \\ \bar{Q}_{26} &= (Q_{11} - Q_{12} - 2Q_{66})S^3C - (Q_{22} - Q_{12} - 2Q_{66})SC^3 \\ \bar{Q}_{66} &= (Q_{11} + Q_{22} - 2Q_{12} - 2Q_{66})S^2C^2 + Q_{66}(S^4 + C^4) \end{aligned}$$

with  $C = \cos \theta$  and  $S = \sin \theta$ .

The compliance matrix  $[S] \equiv [Q]^{-1}$  transforms to  $[\bar{S}] \equiv [\bar{Q}]^{-1}$  under a rotation of co-ordinates by  $\theta$  from  $(x_1, x_2)$  to  $(x, y)$ , as

$$[\bar{S}] = [T]^T [S] [T]$$

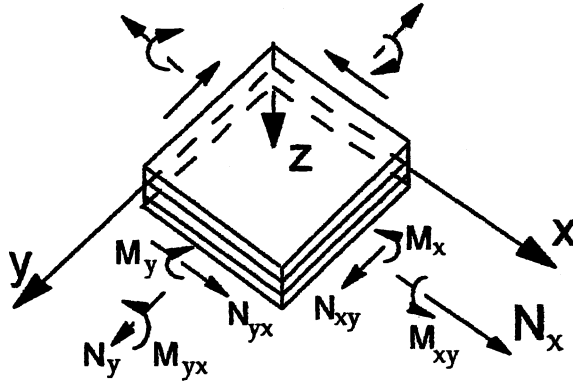
and in component form,

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{S}_{11} &= S_{11}C^4 + S_{22}S^4 + (2S_{12} + S_{66})S^2C^2 \\ \bar{S}_{12} &= S_{12}(C^4 + S^4) + (S_{11} + S_{22} - S_{66})S^2C^2 \\ \bar{S}_{22} &= S_{11}S^4 + S_{22}C^4 + (2S_{12} + S_{66})S^2C^2 \\ \bar{S}_{16} &= (2S_{11} - 2S_{12} - S_{66})SC^3 - (2S_{22} - 2S_{12} - S_{66})S^3C \\ \bar{S}_{26} &= (2S_{11} - 2S_{12} - S_{66})S^3C - (2S_{22} - 2S_{12} - S_{66})SC^3 \\ \bar{S}_{66} &= (4S_{11} + 4S_{22} - 8S_{12} - 2S_{66})S^2C^2 + S_{66}(C^4 + S^4) \end{aligned}$$

with  $C = \cos \theta$ ,  $S = \sin \theta$



## Laminate Plate Theory



Consider a plate subjected to stretching of the mid-plane by  $(\varepsilon_x^0, \varepsilon_y^0, \varepsilon_{xy}^0)^T$  and to a curvature  $(\kappa_x, \kappa_y, \kappa_{xy})^T$ . The stress resultants  $(N_x, N_y, N_{xy})^T$  and bending moment per unit length  $(M_x, M_y, M_{xy})^T$  are given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} N \\ \dots \\ M \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & \vdots & B \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ B & \vdots & D \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon^0 \\ \dots \\ \kappa \end{pmatrix}$$

In component form, we have,

$$\begin{pmatrix} N_x \\ N_y \\ N_{xy} \\ M_x \\ M_y \\ M_{xy} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{16} & B_{11} & B_{12} & B_{16} \\ A_{12} & A_{22} & A_{26} & B_{12} & B_{22} & B_{26} \\ A_{16} & A_{26} & A_{66} & B_{16} & B_{26} & B_{66} \\ B_{11} & B_{12} & B_{16} & D_{11} & D_{12} & D_{16} \\ B_{12} & B_{22} & B_{26} & D_{12} & D_{22} & D_{26} \\ B_{16} & B_{26} & B_{66} & D_{16} & D_{26} & D_{66} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_x^0 \\ \varepsilon_y^0 \\ \gamma_{xy}^0 \\ \kappa_x \\ \kappa_y \\ \kappa_{xy} \end{pmatrix}$$

where the laminate extensional stiffness,  $A_{ij}$ , is given by:

$$A_{ij} = \int_{-t/2}^{t/2} (\bar{Q}_{ij})_k dz = \sum_{k=1}^N (\bar{Q}_{ij})_k (z_k - z_{k-1})$$

the laminate coupling stiffnesses is given by

$$B_{ij} = \int_{-t/2}^{t/2} (\bar{Q}_{ij})_k z dz = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^N (\bar{Q}_{ij})_k (z_k^2 - z_{k-1}^2)$$

and the laminate bending stiffness are given by:

$$D_{ij} = \int_{-t/2}^{t/2} (\bar{Q}_{ij})_k z^2 dz = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{k=1}^N (\bar{Q}_{ij})_k (z_k^3 - z_{k-1}^3)$$

with the subscripts  $i, j = 1, 2$  or  $6$ .

Here,

$t$  = laminate thickness

$z_{k-1}$  = distance from middle surface to the inner surface of the  $k$ -th lamina

$z_k$  = distance from middle surface to the outer surface of the  $k$ -th lamina

### Quadratic failure criteria

For plane stress with  $\sigma_3 = 0$ , failure is predicted when

**Tsai-Hill:** 
$$\frac{\sigma_1^2}{s_L^2} - \frac{\sigma_1 \sigma_2}{s_L^2} + \frac{\sigma_2^2}{s_T^2} + \frac{\tau_{12}^2}{s_{LT}^2} \geq 1$$

**Tsai-Wu:** 
$$F_{11}\sigma_1^2 + F_{22}\sigma_2^2 + F_{66}\tau_{12}^2 + F_1\sigma_1 + F_2\sigma_2 + 2F_{12}\sigma_1\sigma_2 \geq 1$$

where  $F_{11} = \frac{1}{s_L^+ s_L^-}$ ,  $F_{22} = \frac{1}{s_T^+ s_T^-}$ ,  $F_1 = \frac{1}{s_L^+} - \frac{1}{s_L^-}$ ,  $F_2 = \frac{1}{s_T^+} - \frac{1}{s_T^-}$ ,  $F_{66} = \frac{1}{s_{LT}^2}$

$F_{12}$  should ideally be optimised using appropriate strength data. In the absence of such data, a default value which should be used is

$$F_{12} = -\frac{(F_{11}F_{22})^{1/2}}{2}$$

## Fracture mechanics

Consider an orthotropic solid with principal material directions  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ . Define two effective elastic moduli  $E'_A$  and  $E'_B$  as

$$\frac{1}{E'_A} = \left( \frac{S_{11}S_{22}}{2} \right)^{1/2} \left( \left( \frac{S_{22}}{S_{11}} \right)^{1/2} \left( 1 + \frac{2S_{12} + S_{66}}{2\sqrt{S_{11}S_{22}}} \right) \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\frac{1}{E'_B} = \left( \frac{S_{11}S_{22}}{2} \right)^{1/2} \left( \left( \frac{S_{11}}{S_{22}} \right)^{1/2} \left( 1 + \frac{2S_{12} + S_{66}}{2\sqrt{S_{11}S_{22}}} \right) \right)^{1/2}$$

where  $S_{11}$  etc. are the compliances.

Then  $G$  and  $K$  are related for plane stress conditions by:

$$\text{crack running in } x_1 \text{ direction: } G_I E'_A = K_I^2; G_{II} E'_B = K_{II}^2$$

$$\text{crack running in } x_2 \text{ direction: } G_I E'_B = K_I^2; G_{II} E'_A = K_{II}^2.$$

For mixed mode problems, the total strain energy release rate  $G$  is given by

$$G = G_I + G_{II}$$

Approximate design data

	Steel	Aluminium	CFRP	GFRP	Kevlar
Cost C (£/kg)	1	2	100	5	25
$E_1$ (GPa)	210	70	140	45	80
$G$ (GPa)	80	26	≈35	≈11	≈20
$\rho$ (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	7800	2700	1500	1900	1400
$e^+$ (%)	0.1-0.8	0.1-0.8	0.4	0.3	0.5
$e^-$ (%)	0.1-0.8	0.1-0.8	0.5	0.7	0.1
$e_{LT}$ (%)	0.15-1	0.15-1	0.5	0.5	0.3

Table 1. Material data for preliminary or conceptual design. Costs are very approximate.

	Aluminium	Carbon/epoxy (AS/3501)	Kevlar/epoxy (Kevlar 49/934)	E-glass/epoxy (Scotchply/1002)
Cost (£/kg)	2	100	25	5
Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	2700	1500	1400	1900
$E_1$ (GPa)	70	138	76	39
$E_2$ (GPa)	70	9.0	5.5	8.3
$\nu_{12}$	0.33	0.3	0.34	0.26
$G_{12}$ (GPa)	26	6.9	2.3	4.1
$s_L^+$ (MPa)	300 (yield)	1448	1379	1103
$s_L^-$ (MPa)	300	1172	276	621
$s_T^+$ (MPa)	300	48.3	27.6	27.6
$s_T^-$ (MPa)	300	248	64.8	138
$s_{LT}$ (MPa)	300	62.1	60.0	82.7

Table 2. Material data for detailed design calculations. Costs are very approximate.

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October 2002