



Faculty of Mechanical Engineering  
Universiti Malaysia Pahang

**BMM4893 Mechanics of Composite Materials**  
**Assignment No.2**

Answer all questions. Important note: This assignment must be *in handwriting*, no MS Word/Latex etc.

1. The engineering constants for an orthotropic material are found to be

$$E_1 = 4 \text{ MPa}, E_2 = 3 \text{ MPa}, E_3 = 3.1 \text{ MPa}$$

$$\nu_{12} = 0.2, \nu_{23} = 0.4, \nu_{31} = 0.6$$

$$G_{12} = 6 \text{ MPa}, G_{23} = 7 \text{ MPa}, G_{31} = 2 \text{ MPa}$$

Find the matrices of  $[C]$  and  $[S]$

2. Consider an orthotropic material with the stiffness matrix given by

$$[C] = \begin{bmatrix} -0.67308 & -1.8269 & -1.0577 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1.8269 & -0.67308 & -1.4423 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1.0577 & -1.4423 & 0.48077 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1.5 \end{bmatrix} \text{ GPa}$$

Find:

- The stresses in the principal directions of symmetry if the strains in the principal directions of symmetry at a point in the material are  $\varepsilon_1 = 1 \mu\text{m/m}$ ,  $\varepsilon_2 = 3 \mu\text{m/m}$ ,  $\varepsilon_3 = 2 \mu\text{m/m}$ ,  $\gamma_{23} = 0$ ,  $\gamma_{31} = 5 \mu\text{m/m}$ ,  $\gamma_{12} = 6 \mu\text{m/m}$ .
- The compliance matrix  $[S]$
- The engineering constants  $E_1, E_2, E_3, \nu_{12}, \nu_{23}, \nu_{31}, G_{12}, G_{23}, G_{31}$
- The strain energy per unit volume at the point where strains are given in part (a).

3. Show that for an orthotropic material  $Q_{11} = C_{11}$ . Explain why? Also, show  $Q_{66} = C_{66}$ . Explain why?
4. The reduced stiffness matrix  $[Q]$  for a UD is given as follows:

$$[Q] = \begin{bmatrix} 5.681 & 0.3164 & 0 \\ 0.3164 & 1.217 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.606 \end{bmatrix} \text{MPa}$$

What are the four engineering constants of the lamina?

5. For a  $55^\circ$  angle lamina of boron/epoxy under stresses in global axes as  $\sigma_x = 4\text{MPa}$ ,  $\sigma_y = 2\text{MPa}$  and  $\tau_{xy} = -3\text{MPa}$ , using the properties of a UD boron/epoxy, find the following
- Global strains
  - Local stresses and strains
  - Principal normal stresses and principal normal strains
  - Maximum shear stress and maximum shear strain

#### Typical Mechanical Properties of an Unidirectional lamina

Property	Symbol	Units	Glass/epoxy	Boron/epoxy	Graphite/epoxy
Fiber volume fraction	$V_f$		0.45	0.5	0.7
Longitudinal elastic modulus	$E_1$	GPa	38.6	204	181
Transverse elastic modulus	$E_2$	GPa	8.27	18.5	10.3
Major Poisson's ratio	$\nu_{12}$		0.26	0.23	0.28
Shear modulus	$G_{12}$	GPa	4.14	5.59	7.17
Ultimate longitudinal tensile strength	$(\sigma_1^T)_{ult}$	MPa	1062	1260	1500
Ultimate longitudinal compressive strength	$(\sigma_1^C)_{ult}$	MPa	610	2500	1500
Ultimate transverse tensile strength	$(\sigma_2^T)_{ult}$	MPa	31	61	40
Ultimate transverse compressive strength	$(\sigma_2^C)_{ult}$	MPa	118	202	246
Ultimate in-plane shear strength	$(\tau_{12})_{ult}$	MPa	72	67	68
Longitudinal coefficient of thermal expansion	$\alpha_1$	$\mu\text{m/m}/^\circ\text{C}$	8.6	6.1	0.02
Transverse coefficient of thermal expansion	$\alpha_2$	$\mu\text{m/m}/^\circ\text{C}$	22.1	30.3	22.5
Longitudinal coefficient of moisture expansion	$\beta_1$	m/m/kg/kg	0	0	0
Transverse coefficient of moisture expansion	$\beta_2$	m/m/kg/kg	0.6	0.6	0.6

Source: Tsai, S.W and Hahn, H.T., Introduction to Composite Materials, CRC Press