

EML 4230 Introduction to Composite Materials

Chapter 2 Macromechanical Analysis of a Lamina **Comparison of Failure Theories**

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Courtesy of the Textbook

[Mechanics of Composite Materials by Kaw](#)



Strength Failure Theories of an Angle Lamina

- The failure theories are generally based on the normal and shear strengths of a unidirectional lamina.
- An isotropic material generally has two strength parameters: normal strength and shear strength.
- In the case of a unidirectional lamina, the five strength parameters are:
 - Longitudinal tensile strength $(\sigma_1^T)_{ult}$
 - Longitudinal compressive strength $(\sigma_1^C)_{ult}$
 - Transverse tensile strength $(\sigma_2^T)_{ult}$
 - Transverse compressive strength $(\sigma_2^C)_{ult}$
 - In-plane shear strength $(\tau_{12})_{ult}$

Experimental Results and Failure Theories

- Tsai and Wu compared the results from various failure theories to some experimental results. He considered an angle lamina subjected to a uniaxial load in the x-direction.

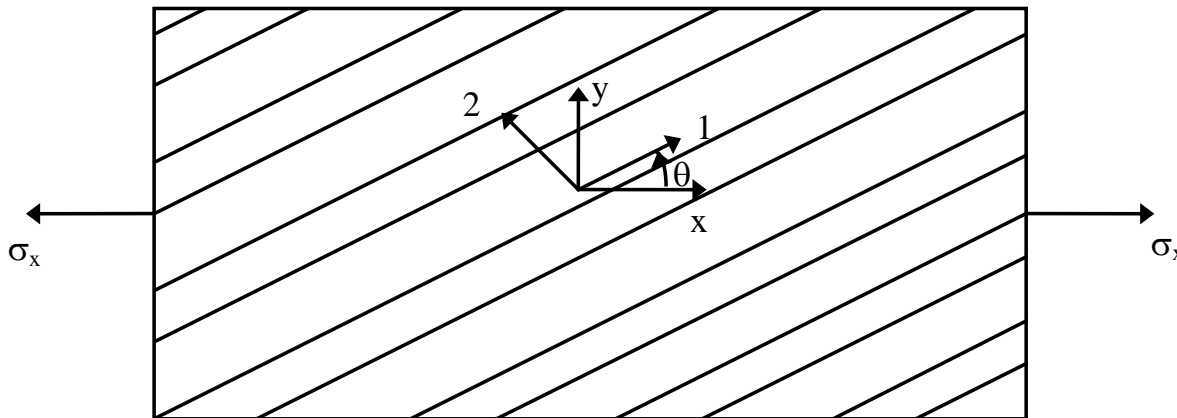


FIGURE 2.33
Off-axis loading in the x-direction

Experimental Results and Maximum Stress Failure Theory

$$-(\sigma_1^C)_{ult} \leq \sigma_1 \leq (\sigma_1^T)_{ult}$$

$$-(\sigma_2^C)_{ult} \leq \sigma_2 \leq (\sigma_2^T)_{ult}$$

$$-(\tau_{12})_{ult} \leq \tau_{12} \leq (\tau_{12})_{ult}$$

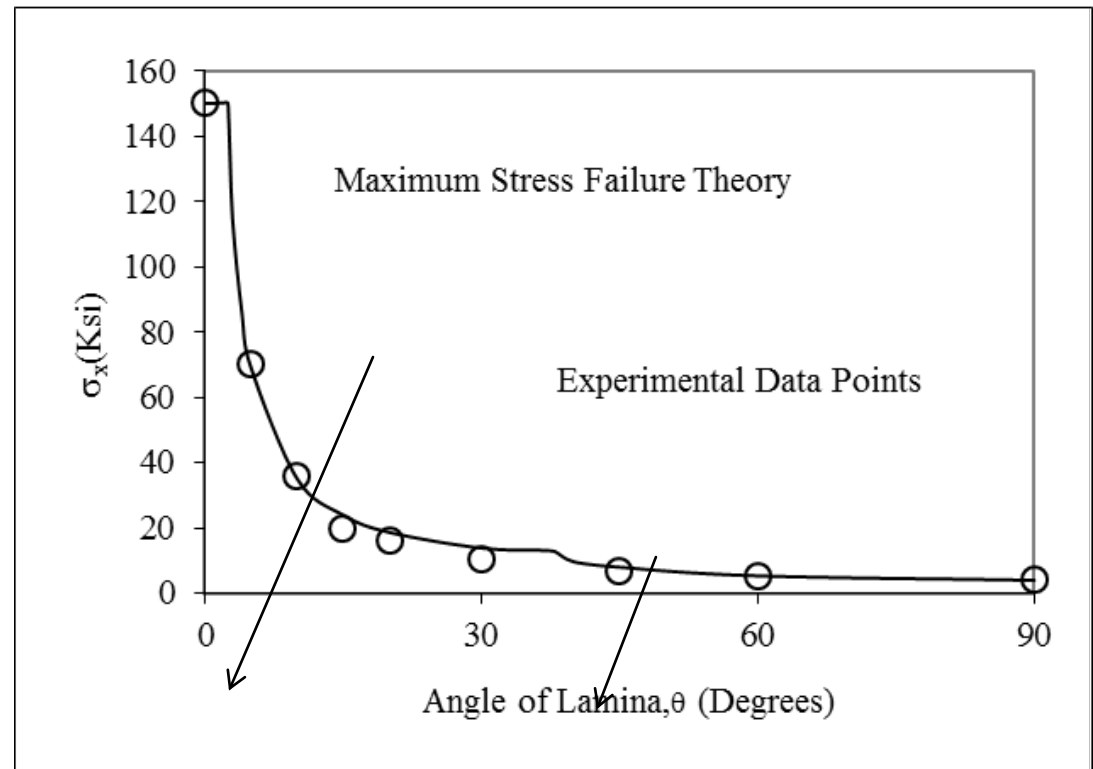
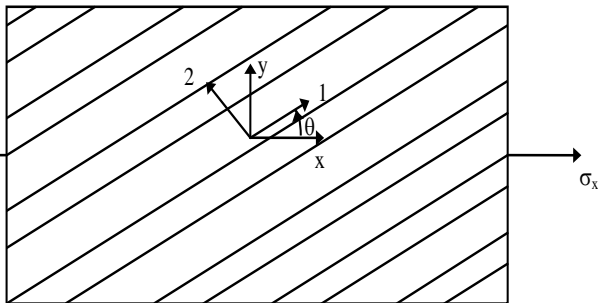


FIGURE 2.34

Maximum normal tensile stress in x-direction as function of angle of lamina using maximum stress failure theory



Experimental Results and Maximum Strain Failure Theory

$$\begin{aligned}
 -(\epsilon_1^C)_{ult} < \epsilon_1 < (\epsilon_1^T)_{ult} \\
 -(\epsilon_2^C)_{ult} < \epsilon_2 < (\epsilon_2^T)_{ult} \\
 -(\gamma_{12})_{ult} < \gamma_{12} < (\gamma_{12})_{ult}
 \end{aligned}$$

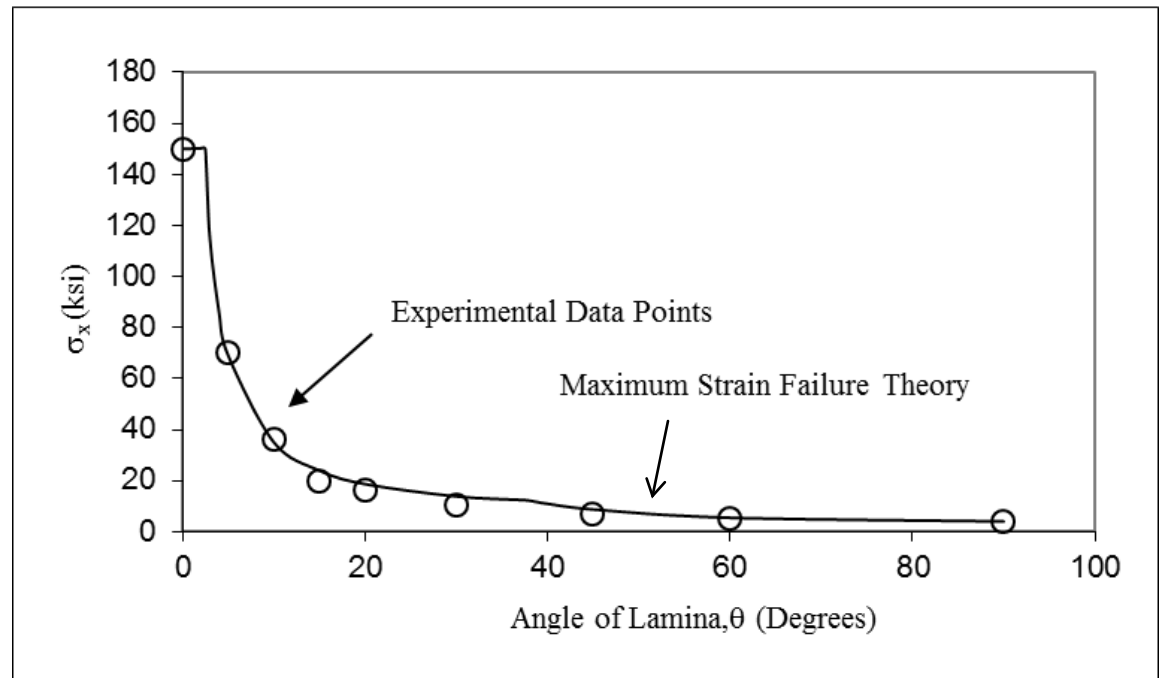
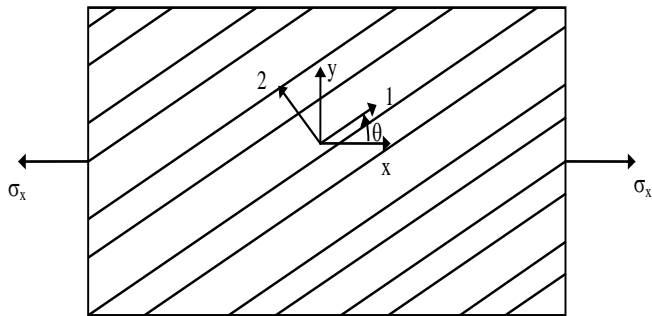


FIGURE 2.35

Maximum normal tensile stress in x-direction as function of angle of lamina using maximum Strain failure theory

Experimental Results and Tsai-Hill Failure Theory

$$\left[\frac{\sigma_1}{(\sigma_1^T)_{ult}} \right]^2 - \left[\frac{\sigma_1 \sigma_2}{(\sigma_1^T)_{ult}^2} \right] + \left[\frac{\sigma_2}{(\sigma_2^T)_{ult}} \right]^2 + \left[\frac{\tau_{12}}{(\tau_{12})_{ult}} \right]^2 < 1$$

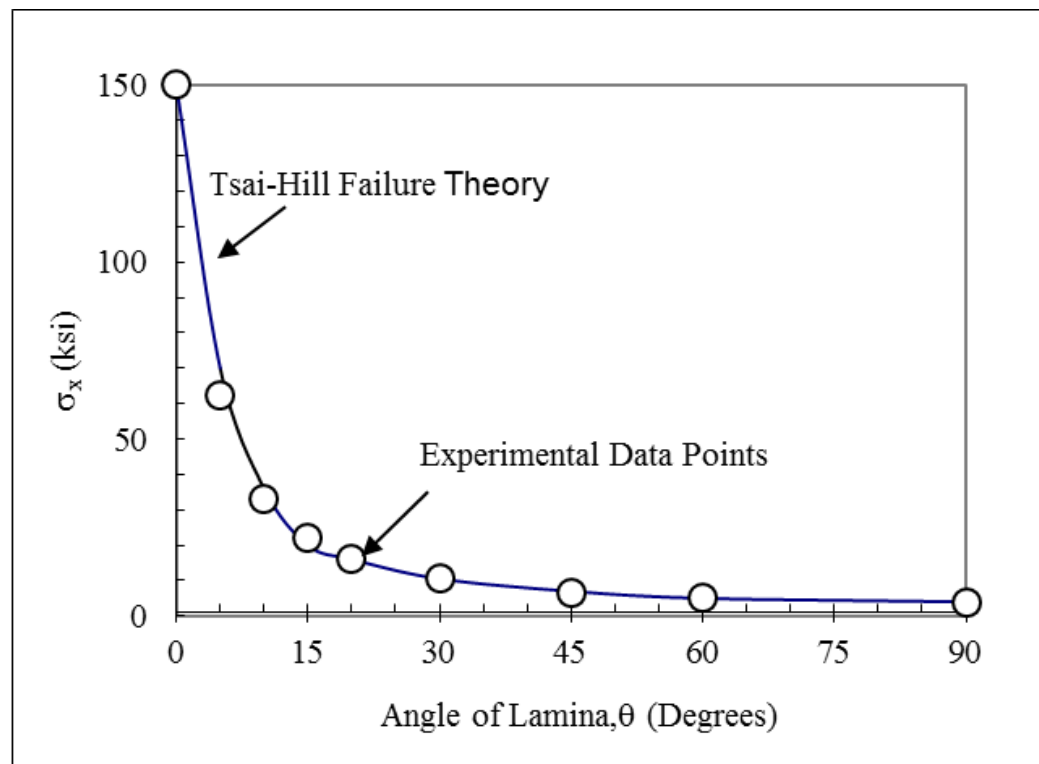
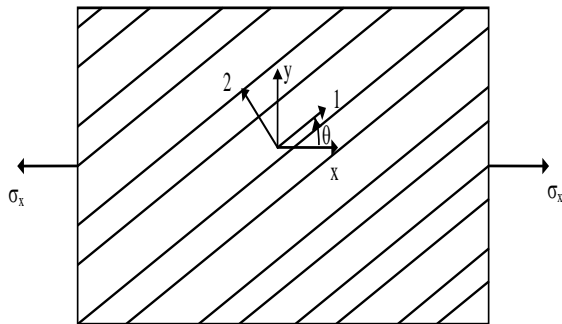


FIGURE 2.36

Maximum normal tensile stress in x-direction as function of angle of lamina using Tsai-Hill failure theory

Experimental Results and Tsai-Wu Failure Theory

$$H_1\sigma_1 + H_2\sigma_2 + H_6\tau_{12} + H_{11}\sigma_1^2 + H_{22}\sigma_2^2 + H_{66}\tau_{12}^2 + 2H_{12}\sigma_1\sigma_2 < 1$$

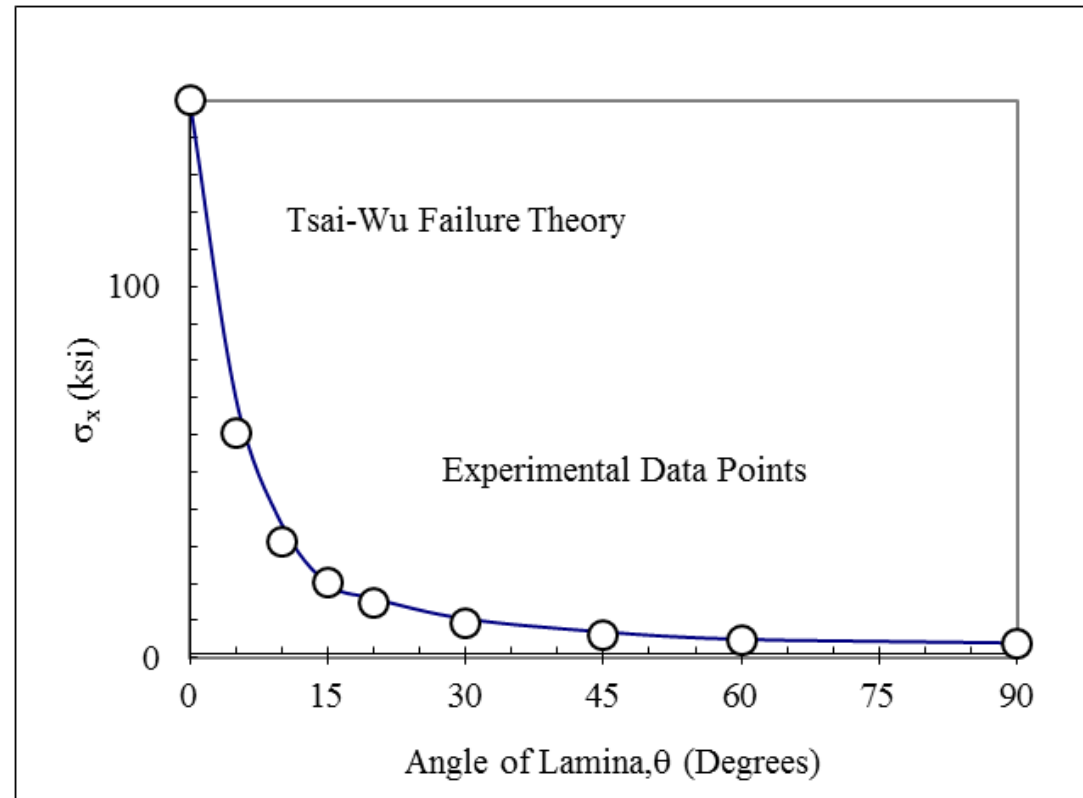
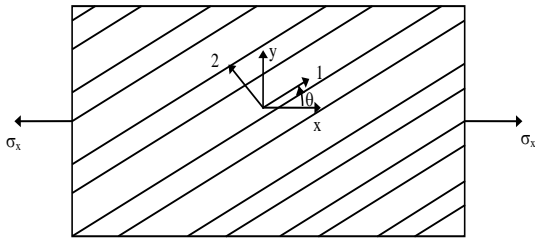
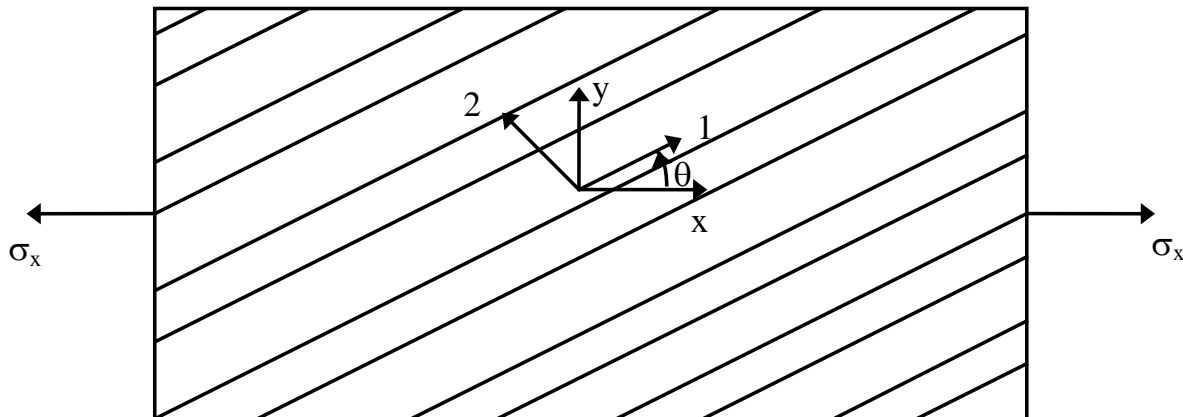


FIGURE 2.37

Maximum normal tensile stress in x-direction as function of angle of lamina using Tsai-Wu failure theory

Comparison of Strength Ratios

- $S = 16.33$ (Maximum Stress failure theory),
- $= 16.33$ (Maximum Strain failure theory),
- $= 10.94$ (Tsai-Hill failure theory),
- $= 16.06$ (Modified Tsai-Hill failure theory),
- $= 22.39$ (Tsai-Wu failure theory)



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