

## EML 4230 Introduction to Composite Materials

### Chapter 3 Micromechanical Analysis of a Lamina Coefficients of Thermal Expansion

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Courtesy of the Textbook  
**Mechanics of Composite Materials by Kaw**



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## Coefficients of Thermal Expansion of Unidirectional Lamina

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{1}{E_1} (\alpha_f E_f V_f + \alpha_m E_m V_m)$$

$$\alpha_2 = (1 + \nu_f) \alpha_f V_f + (1 + \nu_m) \alpha_m V_m - \alpha_1 \nu_{12}$$

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## Derivation of Longitudinal Coefficient of Thermal Expansion, $\alpha_1$

$$F_1 = \sigma_1 A_c = 0 = \sigma_f A_f + \sigma_m A_m$$

$$\sigma_f V_f + \sigma_m V_m = 0$$

$$\sigma_f = E_f (\varepsilon_f - \alpha_f \Delta T)$$

$$\sigma_m = E_m (\varepsilon_m - \alpha_m \Delta T)$$

$$(\varepsilon_f = \varepsilon_m = \varepsilon_1),$$

$$\varepsilon_f = \frac{\alpha_f E_f V_f + \alpha_m E_m V_m}{E_f V_f + E_m V_m} \Delta T$$

$$\varepsilon_1 = \alpha_1 \Delta T$$

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{\alpha_f E_f V_f + \alpha_m E_m V_m}{E_f V_f + E_m V_m}$$

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## Rewriting Longitudinal Thermal Expansion Coefficient Formula

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 &= \frac{\alpha_f E_f V_f + \alpha_m E_m V_m}{E_f V_f + E_m V_m} \\ &= \frac{1}{E_1} (\alpha_f E_f V_f + \alpha_m E_m V_m) \\ &= \left( \frac{\alpha_f E_f}{E_1} \right) V_f + \left( \frac{\alpha_m E_m}{E_1} \right) V_m \end{aligned}$$

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### Derivation of Transverse Thermal Expansion Coefficient, $\alpha_2$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\epsilon_f)_1 &= (\epsilon_m)_1 = \epsilon_1 \\
 (\sigma_f)_1 &= E_f (\epsilon_f)_1 & (\sigma_m)_1 &= E_m (\epsilon_m)_1 \\
 &= E_f (\alpha_1 - \alpha_f) \Delta T & &= E_m (\alpha_m - \alpha_1) \Delta T \\
 (\epsilon_f)_2 &= \alpha_f \Delta T - \frac{\nu_f (\sigma_f)_1}{E_f} & (\epsilon_m)_2 &= \alpha_m \Delta T - \frac{\nu_m (\sigma_m)_1}{E_m} \\
 \epsilon_2 &= (\epsilon_f)_2 V_f + (\epsilon_m)_2 V_m \\
 \epsilon_2 &= \left[ \alpha_f \Delta T - \frac{\nu_f E_f (\alpha_1 - \alpha_f) \Delta T}{E_f} \right] V_f \\
 &+ \left[ \alpha_m \Delta T - \frac{\nu_m E_m (\alpha_m - \alpha_1) \Delta T}{E_m} \right] V_m
 \end{aligned}$$

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### Transverse Thermal Expansion Coefficient

$$\begin{aligned}
 \epsilon_2 &= \alpha_2 \Delta T \\
 \alpha_2 &= [\alpha_f - \nu_f (\alpha_1 - \alpha_f)] V_f + [\alpha_m - \nu_m (\alpha_m - \alpha_1)] V_m \\
 \nu_{12} &= \nu_f V_f + \nu_m V_m \\
 \alpha_2 &= (1 + \nu_f) \alpha_f V_f + (1 + \nu_m) \alpha_m V_m - \alpha_1 \nu_{12}
 \end{aligned}$$

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### Example, Coefficients of Thermal Expansion

Find the coefficients of thermal expansion for a Glass/Epoxy lamina with 70% fiber volume fraction. Use the properties of glass and epoxy from Tables 3.1 and 3.2, respectively.

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_f &= 85 \text{ GPa} & \nu_m &= 0.3 \\
 \nu_f &= 0.2 & \alpha_m &= 63 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m/m/}^\circ\text{C} \\
 \alpha_f &= 5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m/m/}^\circ\text{C} & E_1 &= 60.52 \text{ GPa.} \\
 E_m &= 3.4 \text{ GPa} & \nu_{12} &= 0.2300
 \end{aligned}$$

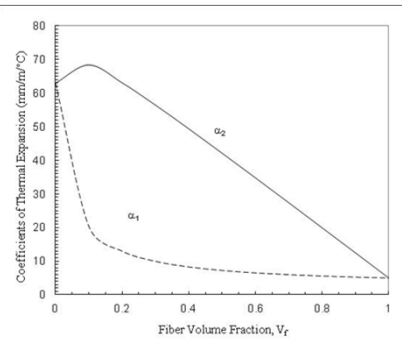
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### Example, Coefficients of Thermal Expansion

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha_1 &= \frac{1}{E_1} (\alpha_f E_f V_f + \alpha_m E_m V_m) \\
 &= \frac{1}{60.52 \times 10^9} [(5 \times 10^{-6}) (85 \times 10^9) (0.7) + (63 \times 10^{-6}) (3.4 \times 10^9) (0.3)] \\
 &= 5.978 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m/m/}^\circ\text{C} \\
 \alpha_2 &= (1 + \nu_f) \alpha_f V_f + (1 + \nu_m) \alpha_m V_m - \alpha_1 \nu_{12} \\
 &= (1 + 0.2) (5.0 \times 10^{-6}) (0.7) + (1 + 0.3) (63 \times 10^{-6}) (0.3) - (5.978 \times 10^{-6}) (0.23) \\
 &= 27.40 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m/m/}^\circ\text{C}
 \end{aligned}$$

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## How Coefficients of Thermal Expansion Vary as a Function of Fiber Volume Fraction

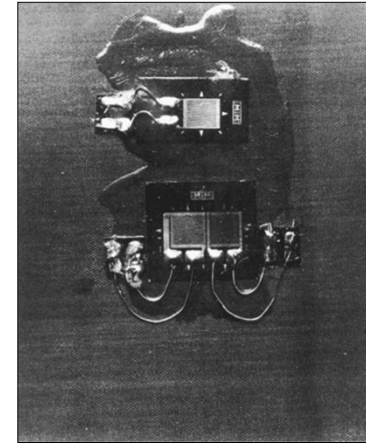


Longitudinal and transverse coefficients of thermal expansion as a function of fiber volume fraction for a glass/epoxy unidirectional lamina.

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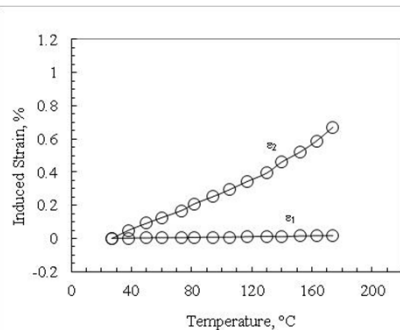
## Experimental Setup to Find Thermal Expansion Coefficient

FIGURE 3.39  
Unidirectional graphite/epoxy specimen with strain gages and temperature sensors for finding coefficients of thermal expansion.



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## Experimental Results for Coefficient of Thermal Expansion



$$\alpha_1 = -1.3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m/m/}^\circ\text{C, and}$$

$$\alpha_2 = 33.9 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m/m/}^\circ\text{C}$$

Induced strain as a function of temperature to find the coefficients of thermal expansion of a unidirectional graphite/epoxy laminate.

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END

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