

Interlaminar Stresses in Composite Laminates – A Perturbation Analysis for the Solution of a Generalized  
Plane Strain Problem

Peter Wenhan Hsu\*

NQstar.com

Seattle, WA, USA

\*Founder & CEO

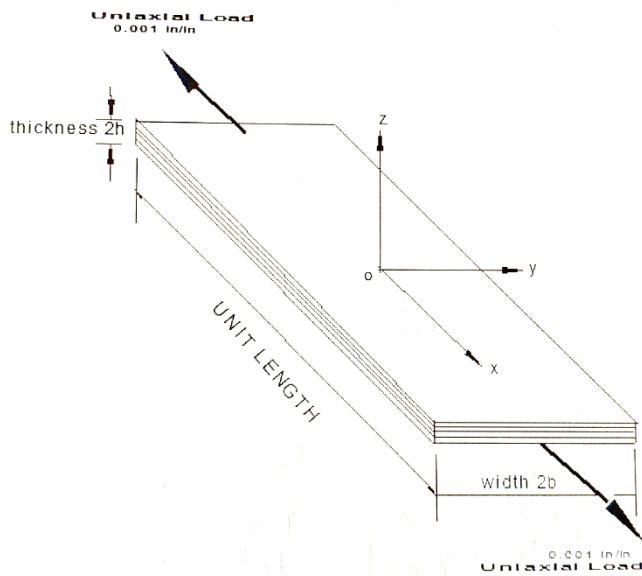


Fig.1 Symmetric, Laminated Composite Plate Geometry and Loading Model

## Abstract

This work is a rigorous treatment of a previous analysis by Peter Wenhan Hsu [1] to determine the solution to an anisotropic problem in the interlaminar stress problem has been a topic of enormous interest due to its significant in the so-called delamination failure in composite laminates under in-plane tensile loadings.

## Introduction

Anisotropic elasticity theory dealing with stress-strain relations in materials has been applied to solve interlaminar stress problems in the area of composite materials and mechanics.

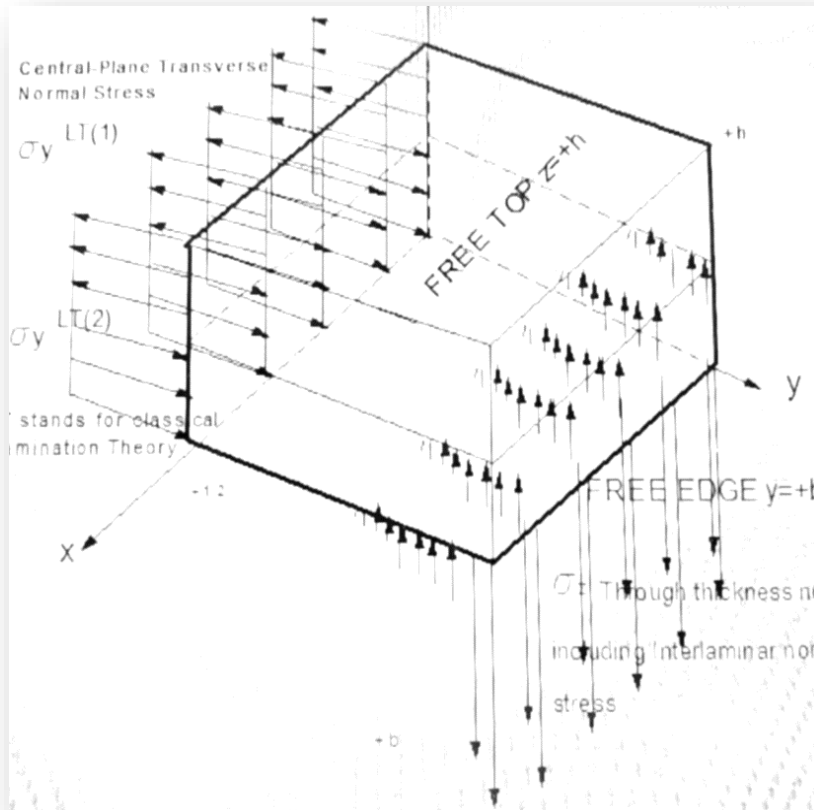


Fig.2 Detailed insight into stress distribution in one-eighth part of section

## Geometric Parameters and Equations

geometric half-width  $b$

geometric half-thickness  $h$

dimensionless coordinate  $Y=y/b$

dimensionless coordinate  $Z=z/h$

thickness-to-width ratio  $\epsilon=h/b$  boundary layer coordinate  $\eta=(b-y)/h=(1-Y)/\epsilon$  relation between coordinates  $y=b-h\eta$  partial derivative relation  $\partial/\partial y=-(1/h)\partial/\partial\eta$  applied uniaxial strain  $\epsilon_x$  superscript 1 denotes outer layers ( $h/2 < z < h$  and  $-h < z < -h/2$ ); superscript 2 denotes inner layers ( $-h/2 < z < 0$  and  $0 < z < h/2$ ) lamination coefficient  $D^{(1)} = D^{(2)} = [-(C_{12}^{(1)} + C_{12}^{(2)}) + C_{23}^{(1)} C_{13}^{(1)}/C_{33}^{(1)} + C_{23}^{(2)} C_{13}^{(2)}/C_{33}^{(2)}] (b \epsilon_x) / [C_{22}^{(1)} + C_{22}^{(2)} - C_{23}^{(1)} C_{23}^{(1)}/C_{33}^{(1)} -$

$C_{23}^{(2)} C_{23}^{(2)}/C_{33}^{(2)}$ ] lamination coefficient  $E^{(1)} = -C_{13}^{(1)}h \epsilon_x / C_{33}^{(1)} - [C_{23}^{(1)} \epsilon C_{33}^{(1)}] D^{(1)}$  lamination coefficient  $E^{(2)} = -C_{13}^{(2)}h \epsilon_x / C_{33}^{(2)} - [C_{23}^{(2)} \epsilon C_{33}^{(2)}] D^{(2)}$

**Layer-wise reduced equilibrium differential equations with negligible body forces (plane strain):**  $\partial \sigma_y / \partial y + \partial \tau_{yz} / \partial z = 0, \partial \tau_{yz} / \partial y + \partial \sigma_z / \partial z = 0$

**Boundary conditions:**  $\sigma_y = \tau_{yz} = 0$  on free edges  $y = +b$  and  $y = -b$  for all  $z$   $\tau_{yz} = \sigma_z = 0$  on top and bottom surfaces  $z = +h$  and  $z = -h$  for all  $y$

**Essential Stress Components for the uniaxially loaded symmetric bidirectional laminate that are closely related to interlaminar interactions.**

$$\tau_{yz}^{(k)} = \left\{ \sum_1^{\infty} [2(k_1b - k_1a) \sin(n\pi/2) (e^{\lambda_1\eta} - e^{\lambda_2\eta})] / (n(1-\beta_1/\beta_2) \sin(n\pi Z)) \right\}^{(k)}$$

$$\sigma_y^{(k)} = \left\{ \sum_1^{\infty} -2(k_1b - k_1a) \sin(n\pi/2) (e^{\lambda_1\eta} - (\beta_1/\beta_2) e^{\lambda_2\eta}) / (n\pi(1-\beta_1/\beta_2)) + 2(k_1b - k_1a) \sin(n\pi/2) / (n\pi) \right\} \cos(n\pi Z) \right\}^{(k)}$$

$$\sigma_z^{(k)} = \left\{ \sum_1^{\infty} [-2(k_1b - k_1a) \sin(n\pi/2) (\beta_1 e^{\lambda_1\eta} - \beta_2 e^{\lambda_2\eta}) / (n\pi(1-\beta_1/\beta_2)) \cos(n\pi Z)] \right\}^{(k)} + G(\eta)^{(k)} \quad \text{where } k=1,2$$

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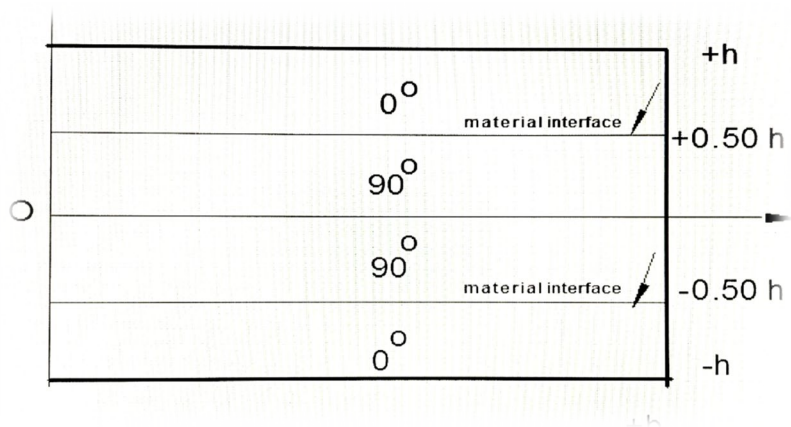
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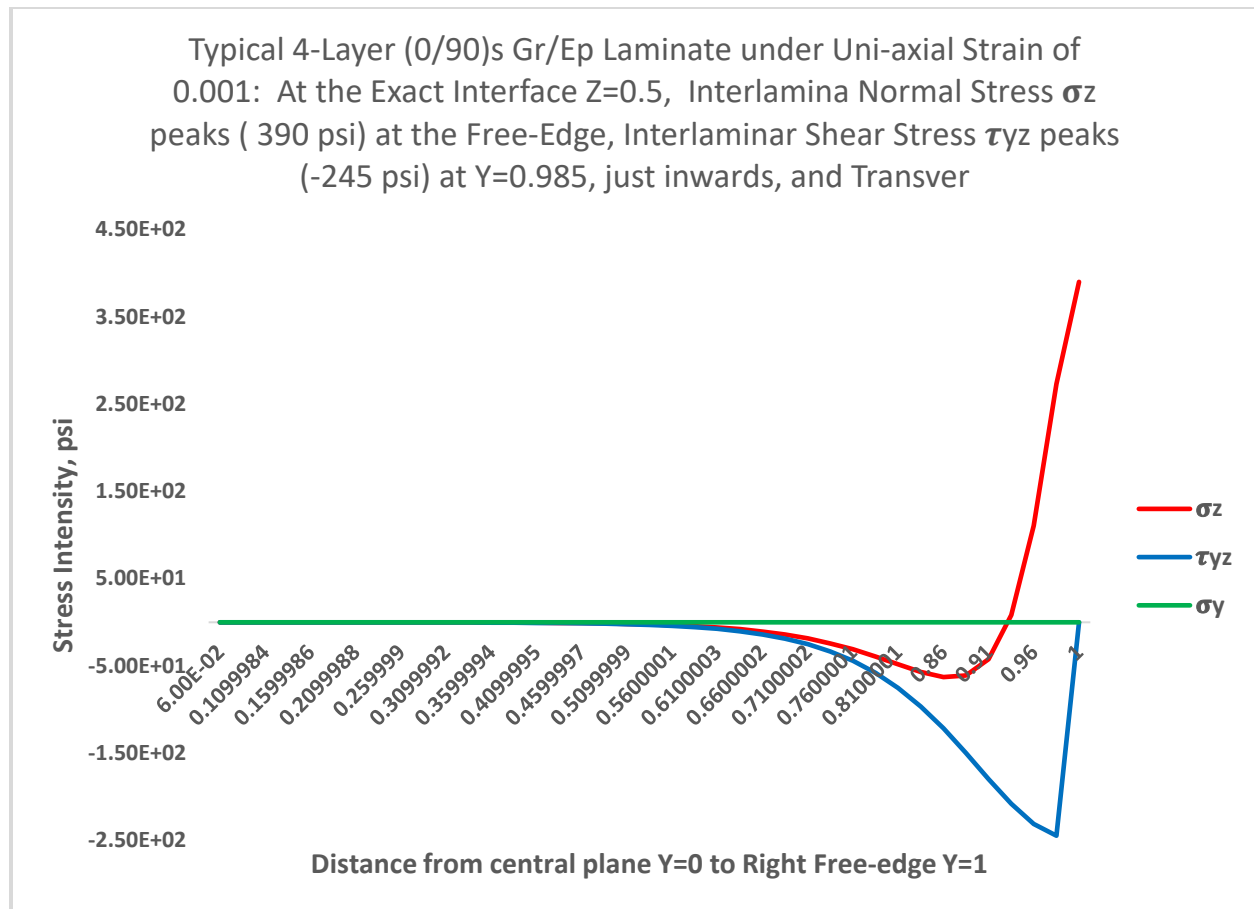
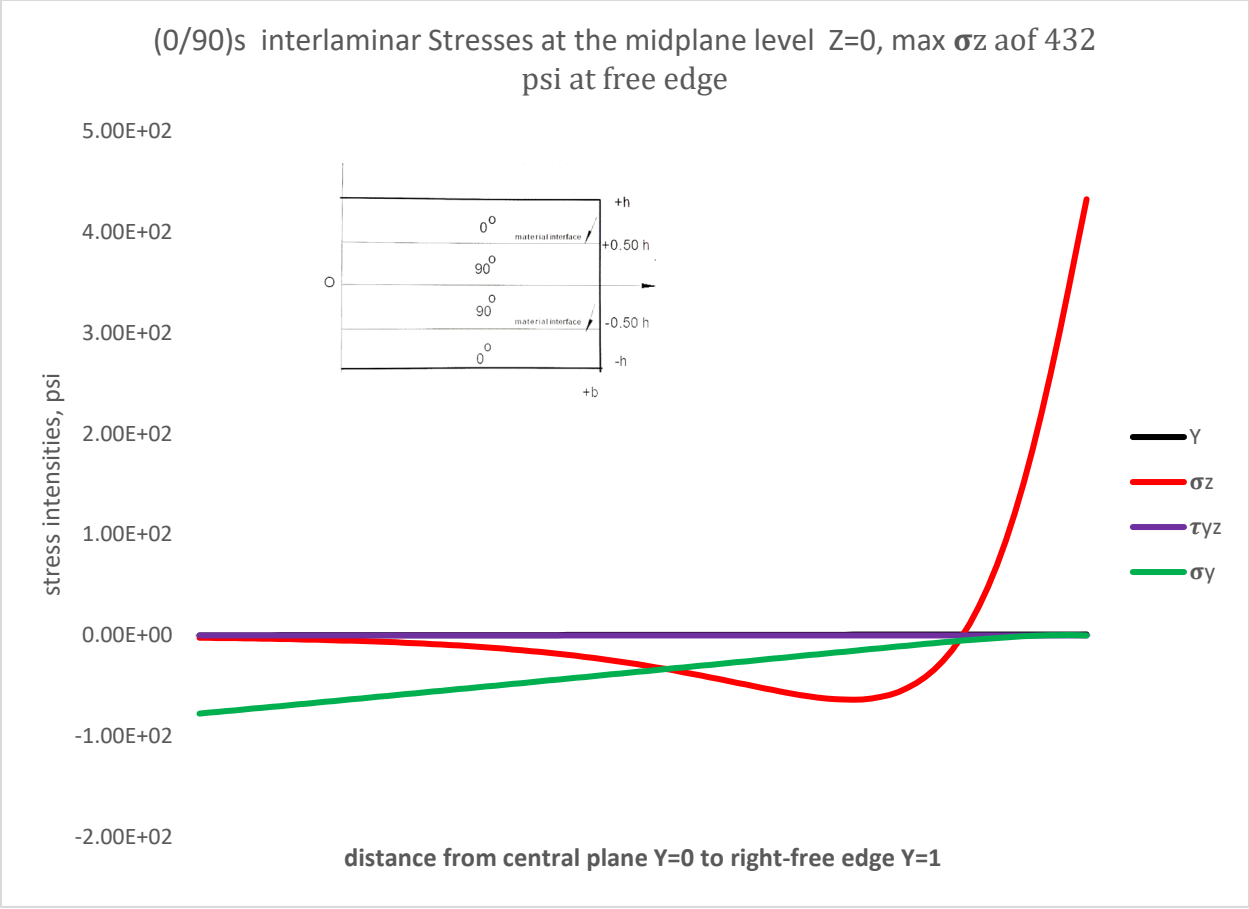


Fig.3 Right-half of central plane (x=0) cross sectional view of 4-layer Laminate



$\sigma_z$  from Y=0.75 to Right-Free Edge Y=1.0, peaking at Midplane Z=0.0

