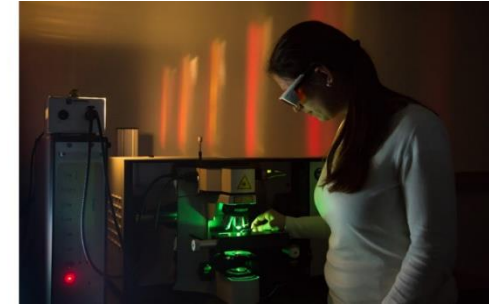
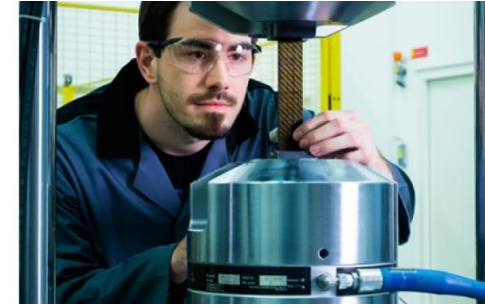




**KUNSTSTOFF  
TECHNIK  
LEOBEN**

WERKSTOFFKUNDE UND  
PRÜFUNG DER KUNSTSTOFFE



# ON THE DETERMINATION OF SHEAR STRENGTH FROM TENSILE TESTS OF $\pm 45^\circ$ FIBER REINFORCED POLYMER LAMINATES

Maria Gfrerrer<sup>1</sup>, Vasco D.C. Pires<sup>2</sup>, Andreas J. Brunner<sup>3</sup>, Clara Schuecker<sup>2</sup> and Gerald Pinter<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Materials Science and Testing of Polymers, Polymer Engineering and Science, Montanuniversitaet Leoben, Austria

<sup>2</sup>Designing Plastics and Composite Materials, Polymer Engineering and Science, Montanuniversitaet Leoben, Austria

<sup>3</sup>*retired from* Laboratory for Mechanical Systems Engineering, Empa, Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology, Dübendorf, Switzerland

**ECCM21 – 21<sup>st</sup> European Conference on Composite Materials**

02–05 July 2024, Nantes, France

# Determination of shear strength $S$

---

- Rail-shear test
- V-notched rail shear test
- $\pm 45^\circ$  tensile test
- Tube torsion test
- Off-axis tensile test
- Iosipescu test
- Shear frame test
- Biaxial tension-compression test

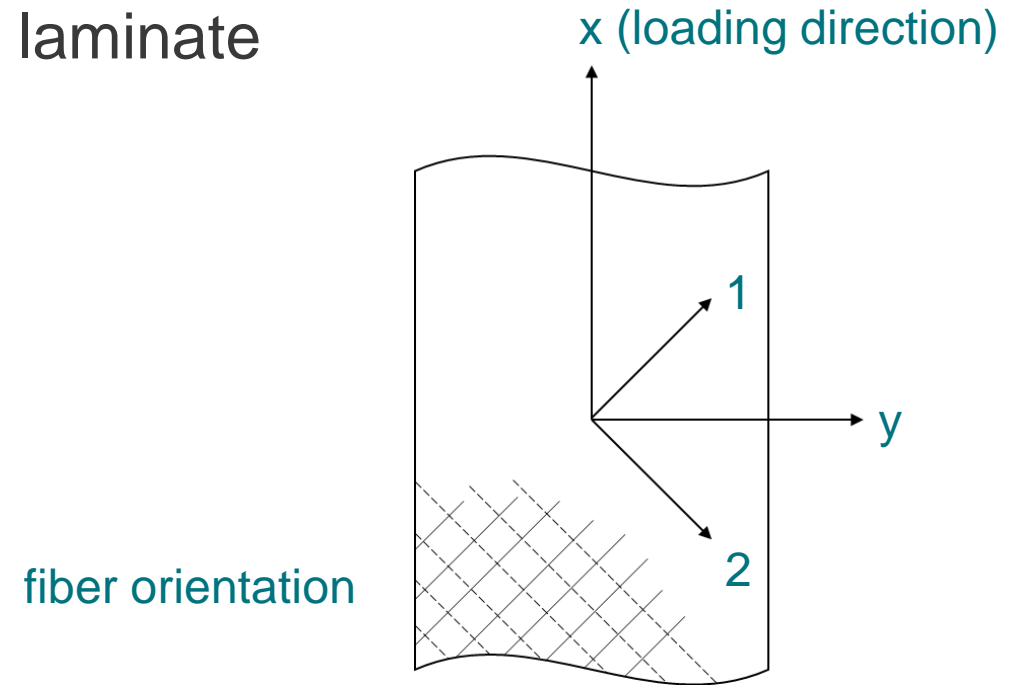


Standardized

→ Different test methods yield different values of  $S$

# $\pm 45^\circ$ tensile test

- Quasi-static tensile test of symmetric  $\pm 45^\circ$  laminate
- **ASTM D3518**, ISO 14129, EN 6031
- Non-linear stress-strain response
- Multi-axial stress state on ply level

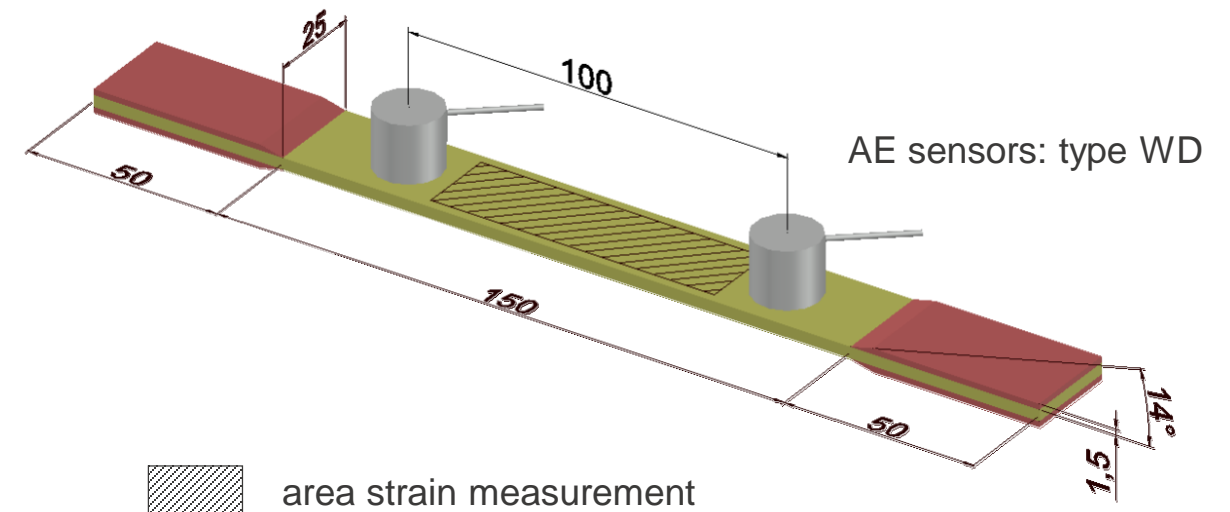


## To be discussed...

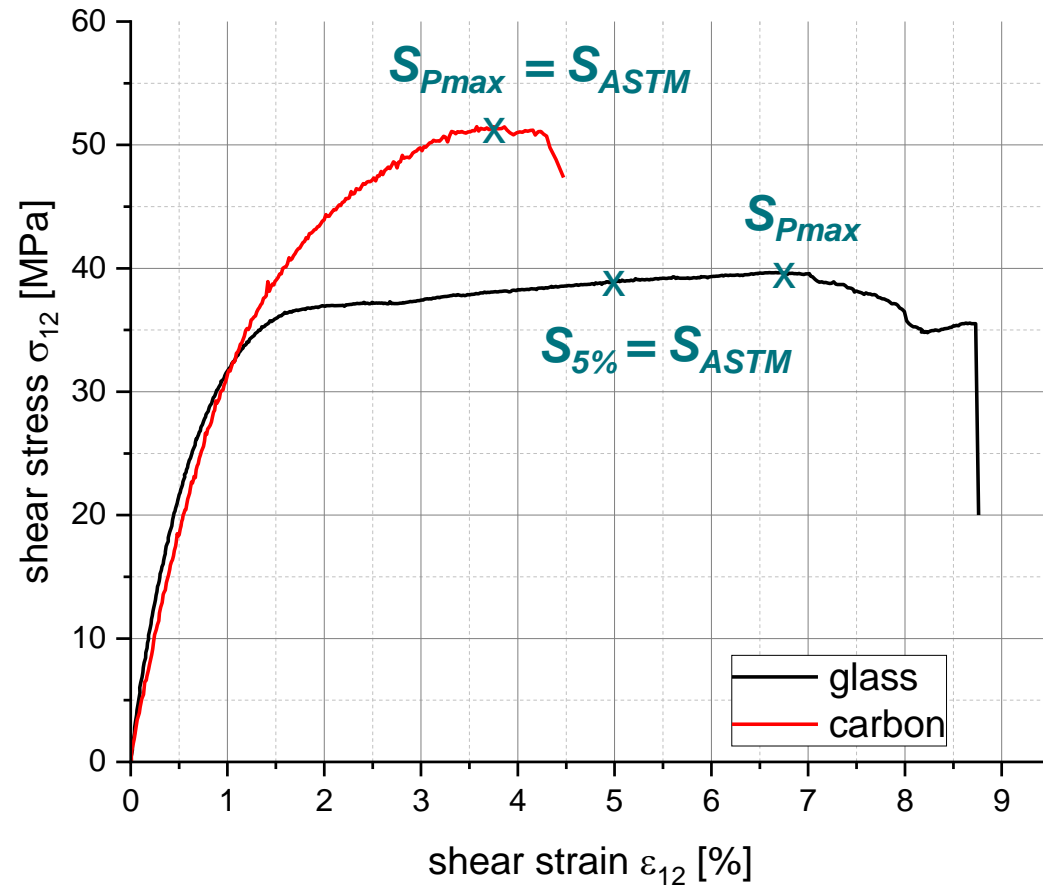
- Does shear strength evaluated according to standards describe first-ply-failure (*FPF*)?
- What is the stress state on ply level? How significant is the influence of other stress components?

# Material

- UD prepregs by Hexcel:
  - glass-epoxy: HexPly® M79-LT/25%/UD1200/G
  - carbon-epoxy: HexPly® M79/35%/UD600+2PES/CHS-50K } same matrix
- $(+45/-45)_s \rightarrow$  vacuum bagging process
  - total thickness:
    - glass-epoxy: 3.08 mm (ply thickness = 0.77 mm)
    - carbon-epoxy: 2.35 mm (ply thickness = 0.59 mm)
  - fiber volume fraction of  $\sim 60\%$
- Quasi-static tensile tests:
  - cross-head speed = 2 mm/min
  - optical strain measurement
- Acoustic emission (AE) analysis
  - Detection of initial failure



# Shear stress-strain behavior

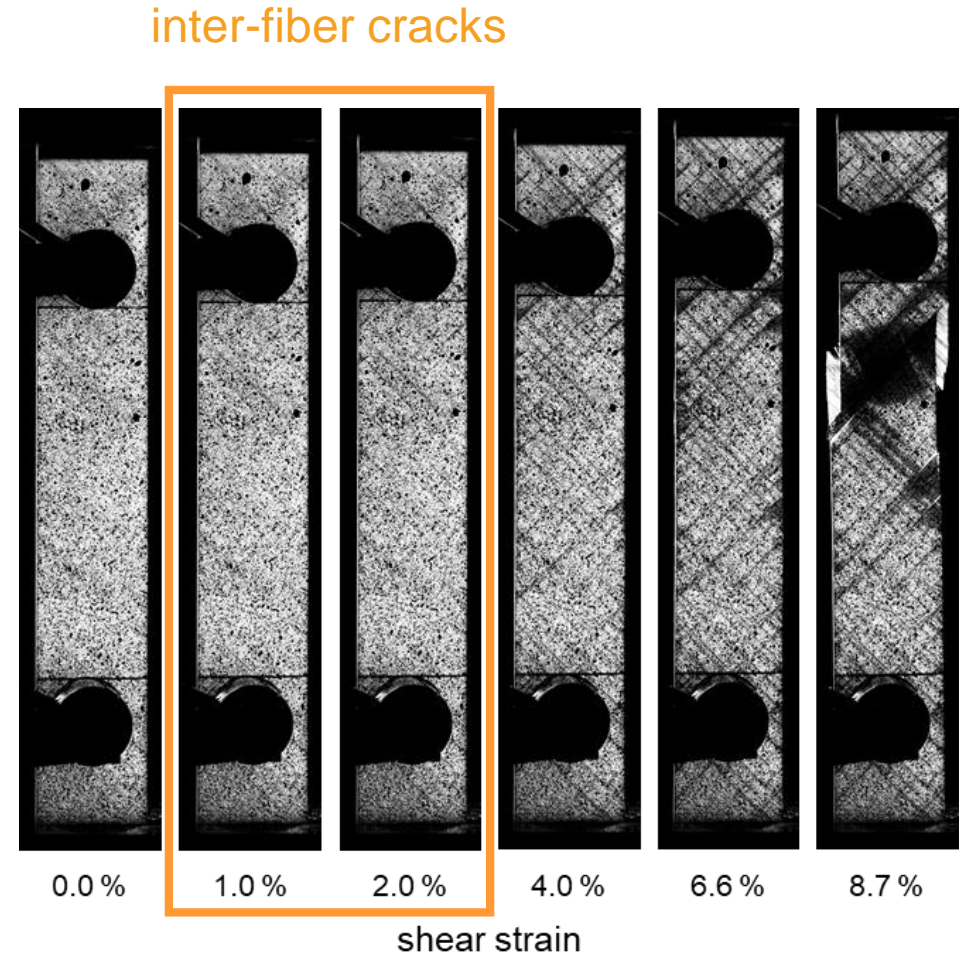
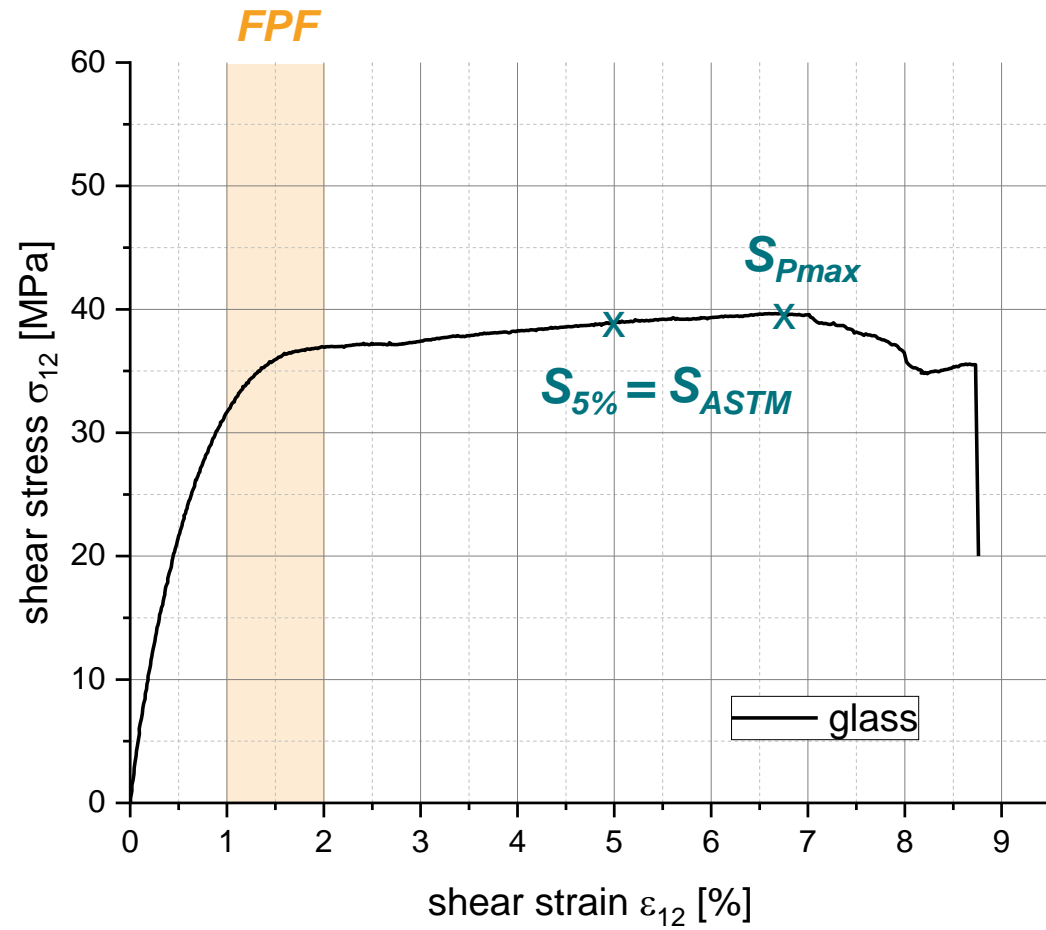


According to ASTM D3518:

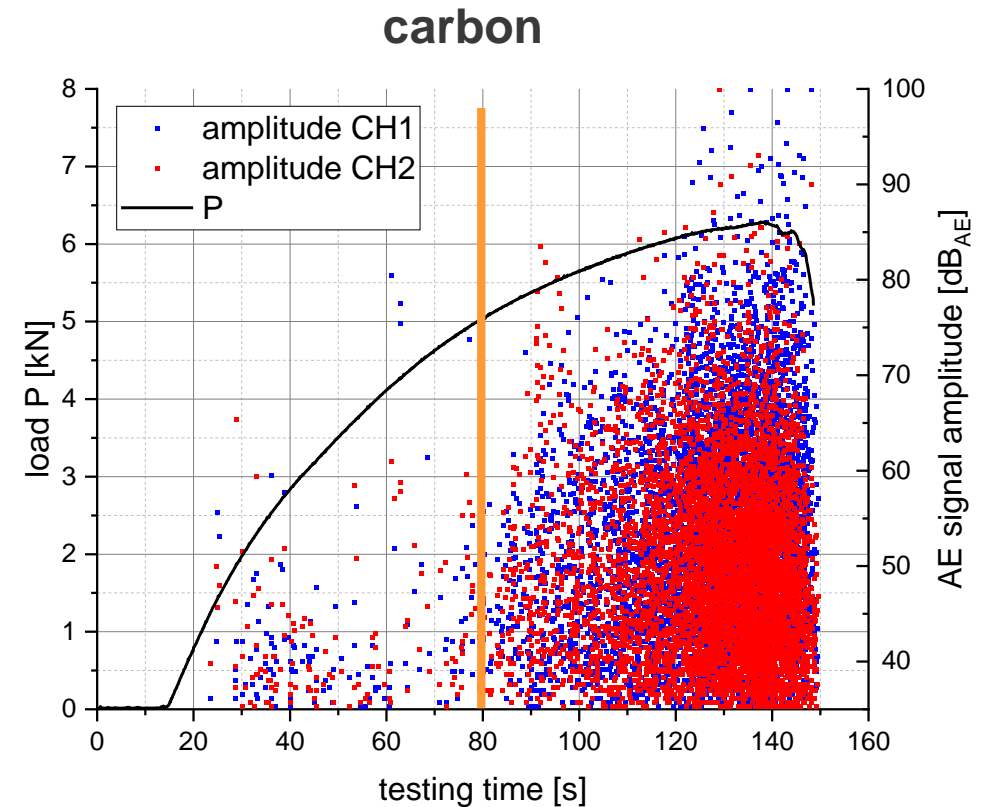
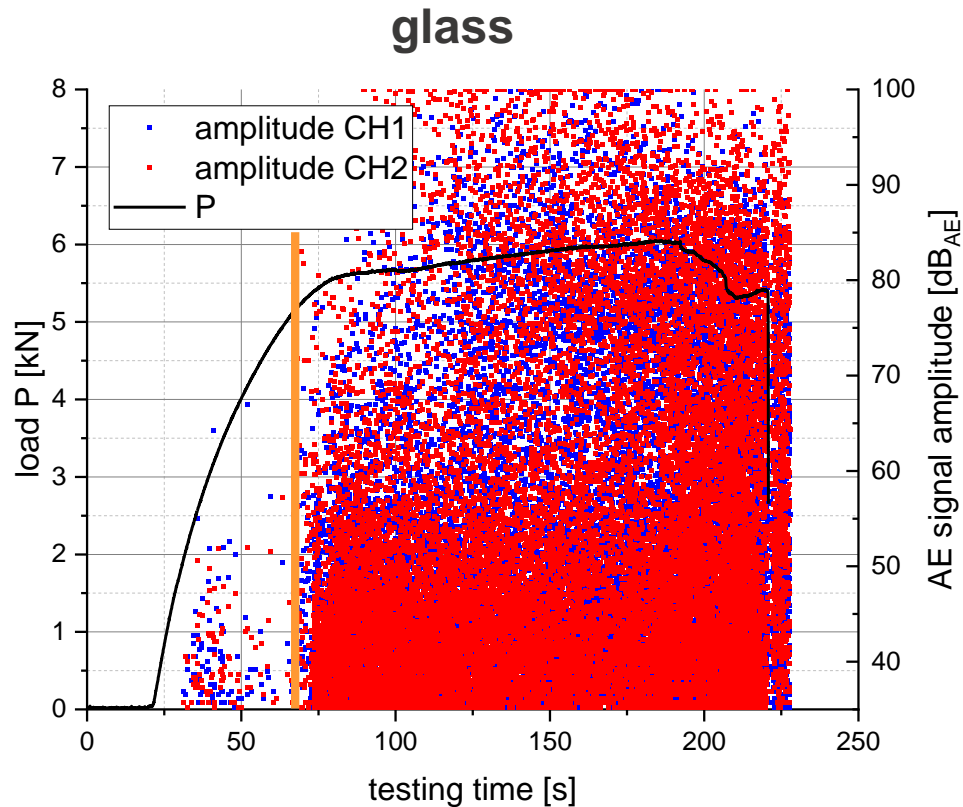
$$S_{ASTM} = \min \begin{cases} \sigma_{12} \text{ at } \varepsilon_{12} = 5\% \\ \sigma_{12} \text{ at } P_{max} \end{cases}$$

→ different stress-strain behavior

# Shear stress-strain behavior

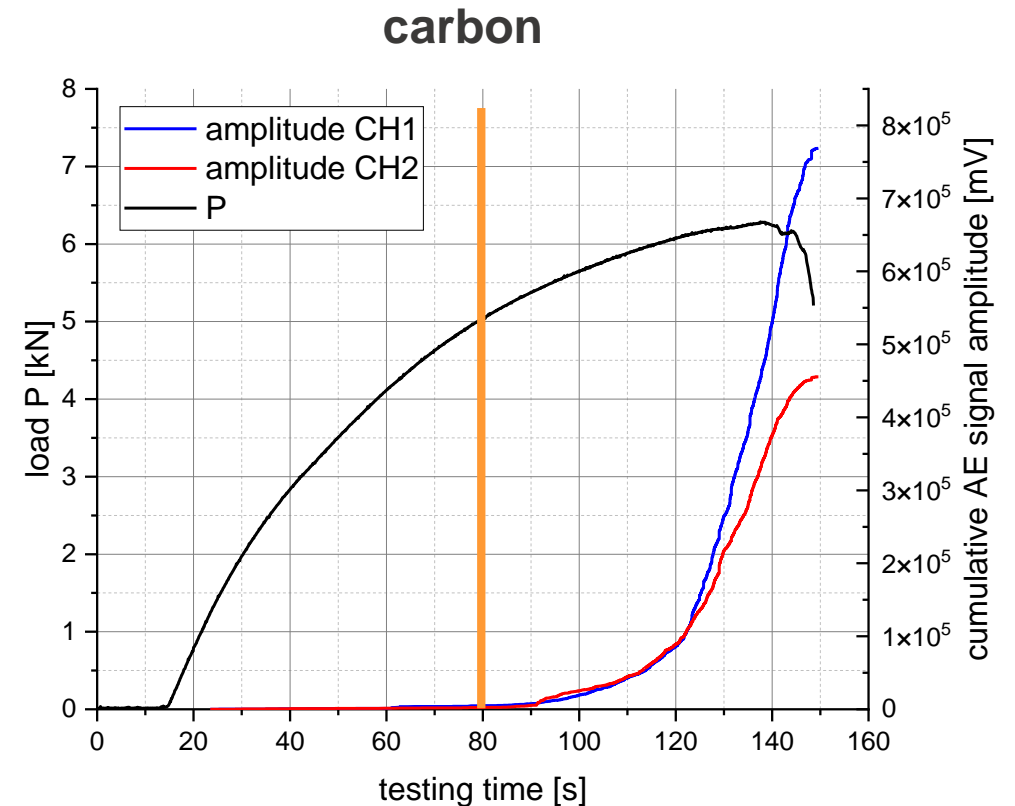
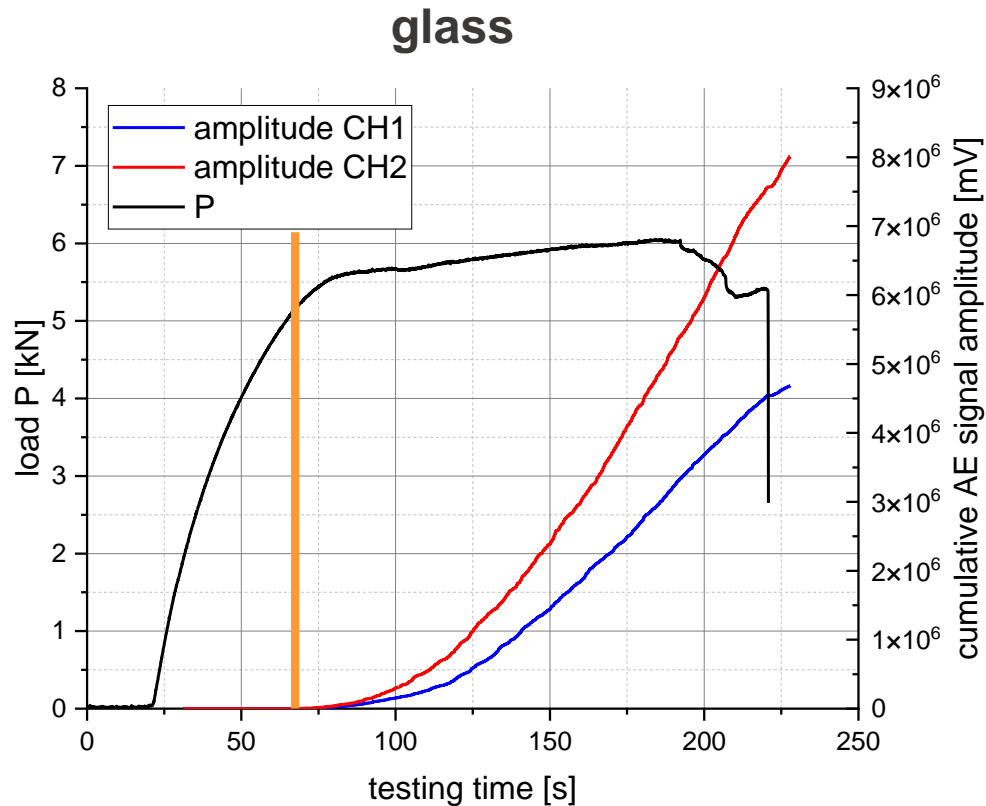


# Shear stress-strain behavior – AE analysis



increased AE activity → inter-fiber cracks → *FPF*

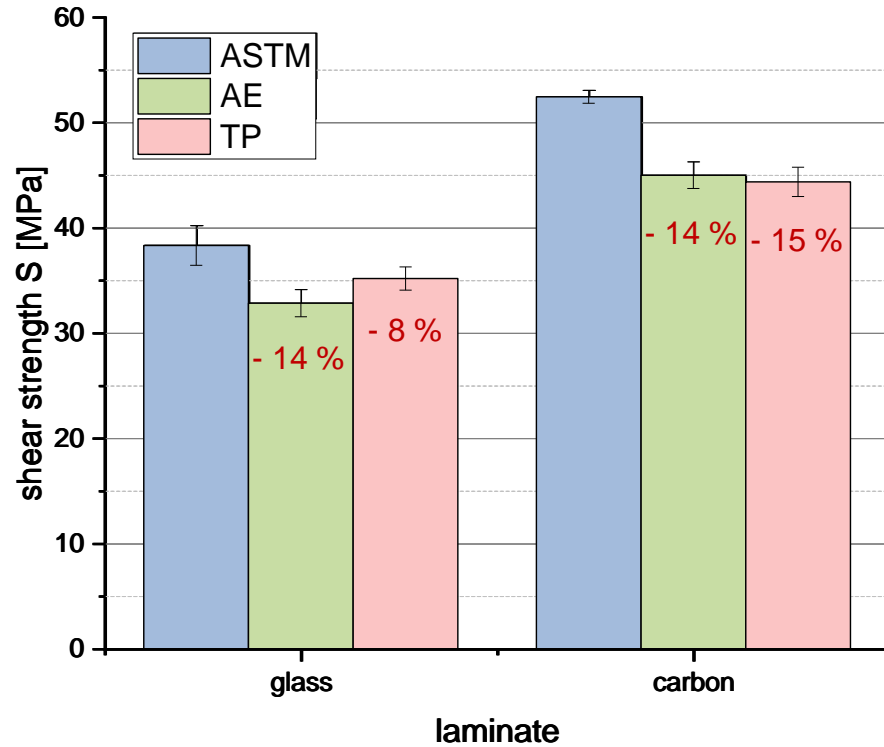
# Shear stress-strain behavior – AE analysis



increased AE activity → inter-fiber cracks → *FPF*



# Evaluation of shear strength $S$



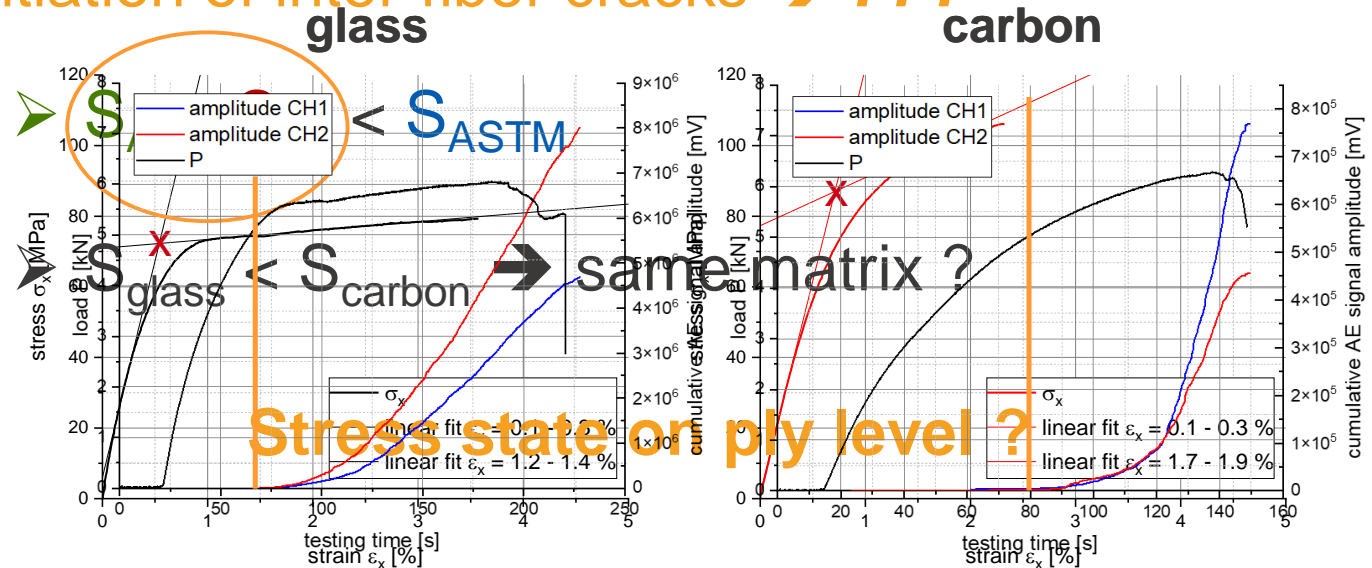
glass: 10 specimens  
carbon: 6 specimens

➤ ASTM D3518

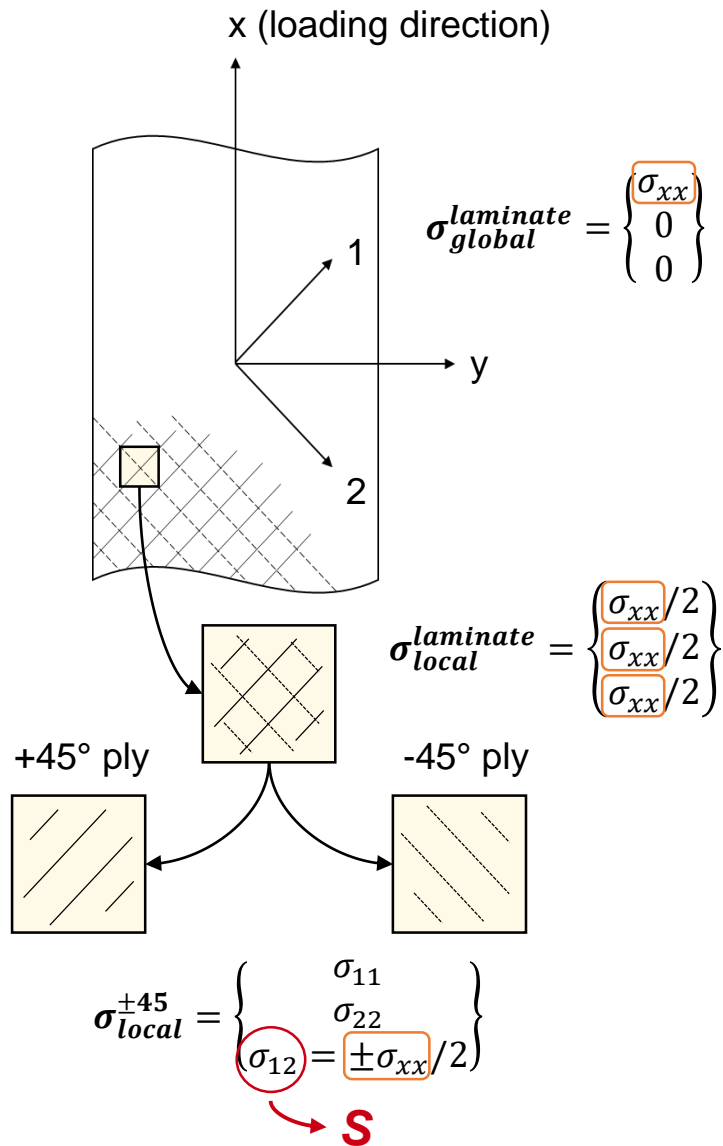
➤ Increased AE activity

➤ Transition point (ASTM D3039)

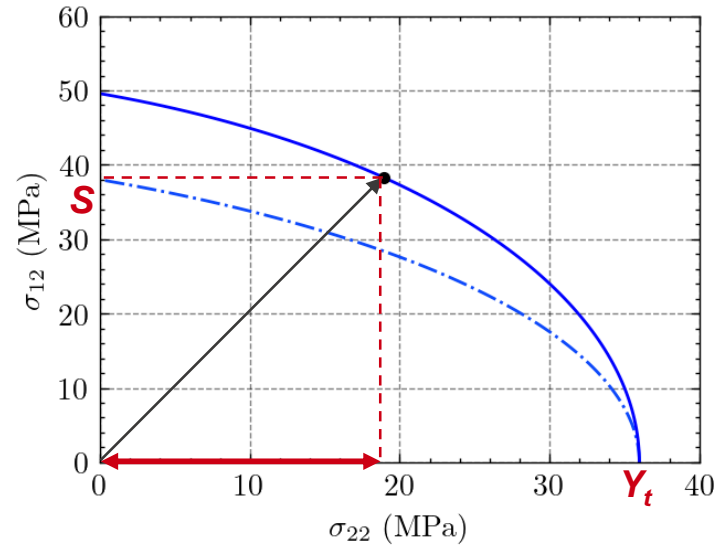
initiation of inter-fiber cracks → *FPF*



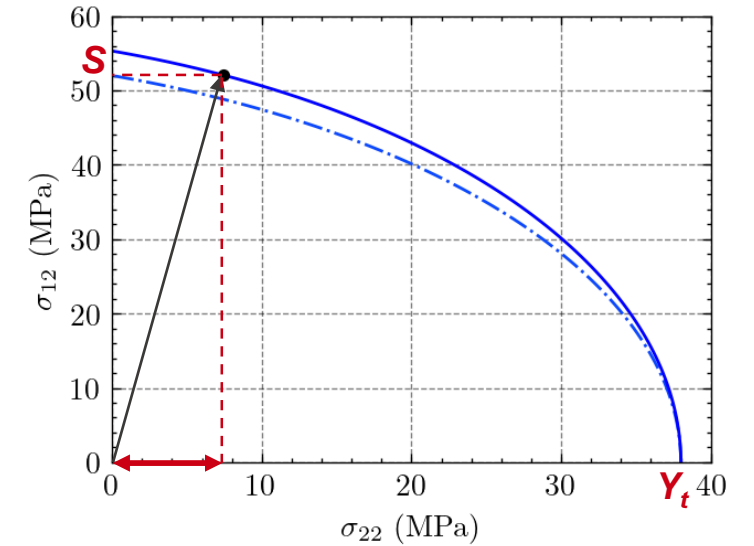
# Stress state on ply level



Puck's criteria for GFRP



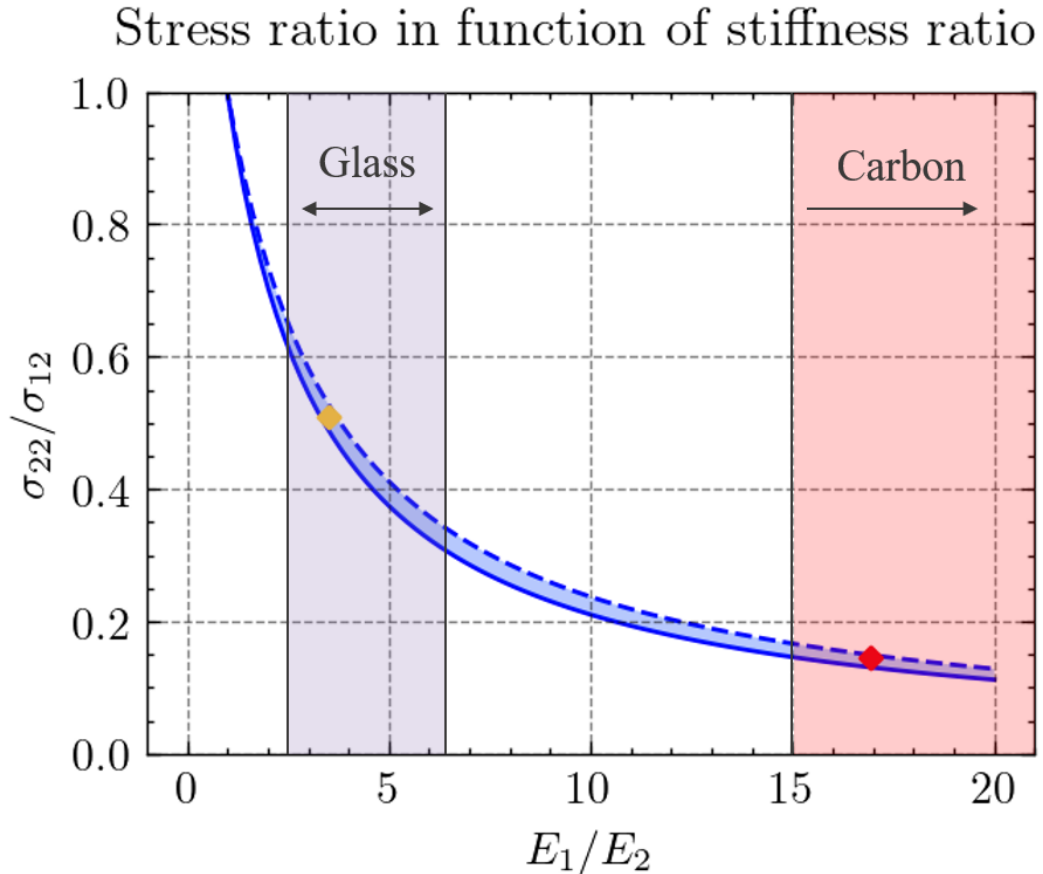
Puck's criteria for CFRP



— — — Uncorrected

$$\frac{\sigma_{22}}{\sigma_{12_{glass}}} > \frac{\sigma_{22}}{\sigma_{12_{carbon}}}$$

# Why are the stress ratios so different?



Laminate theory:

$$\frac{\sigma_{22}}{\sigma_{12}} = 2 \cdot \frac{1 + \nu_{12}}{\frac{E_1}{E_2} + 1 + 2\nu_{12}}$$

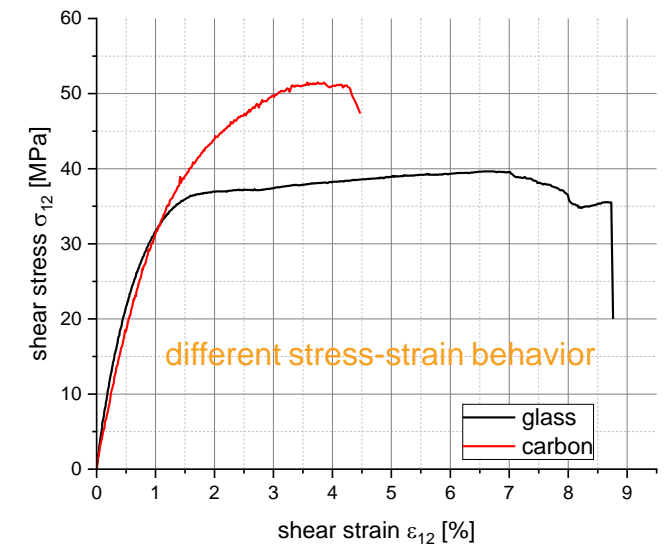
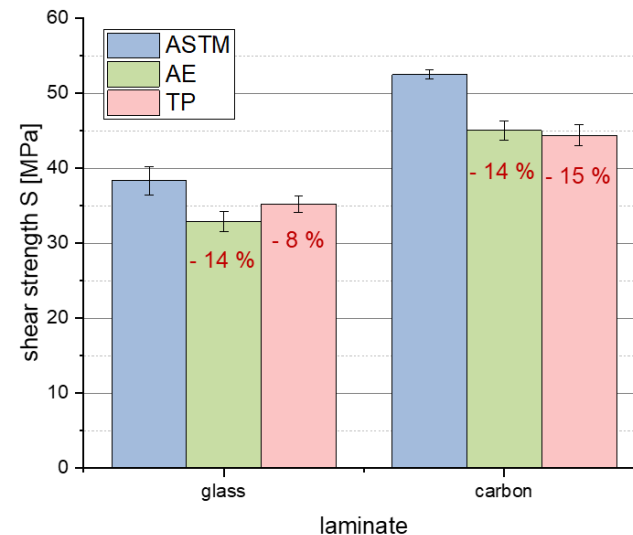
Hexcel laminate	$\frac{E_1}{E_2}$	$\frac{\sigma_{22}}{\sigma_{12}}$	$\nu_{12}$
glass	3.524	0.526	0.296
carbon	16.917	0.145	0.351

**Stress state on ply level mainly depends on ratio  $E_1/E_2$**

Quasi-static tensile tests

# Conclusion

- Quasi-static tensile tests on  $\pm 45^\circ$  laminates (ASTM D3518)  $\rightarrow S$ 
  - glass-epoxy
  - carbon-epoxy
- Does shear strength evaluated according to standards describe first-ply-failure (FPF)?
  - $S_{ASTM} \neq FPF$  (initiation of inter-fiber cracks)  $\rightarrow S_{AE} / S_{TP}$
  - $S_{glass} < S_{carbon} \rightarrow$  same matrix ?



# Conclusion

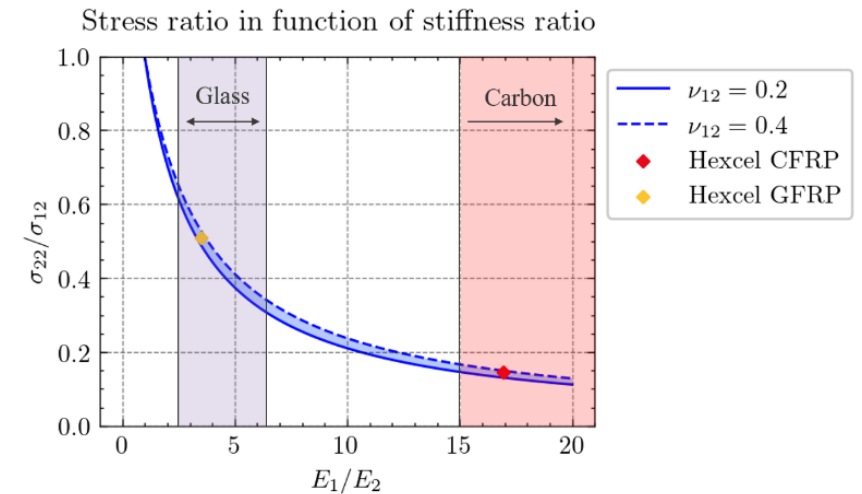
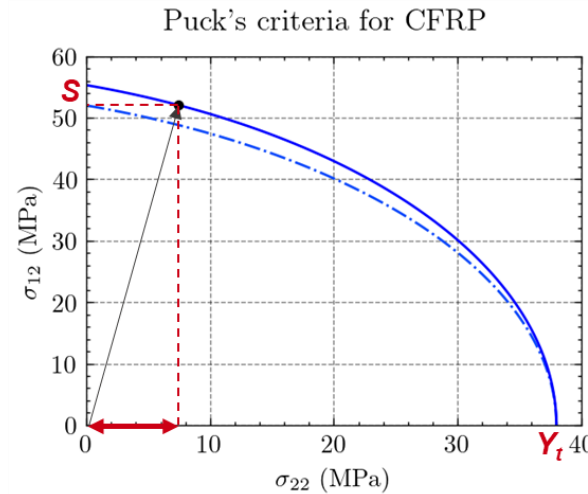
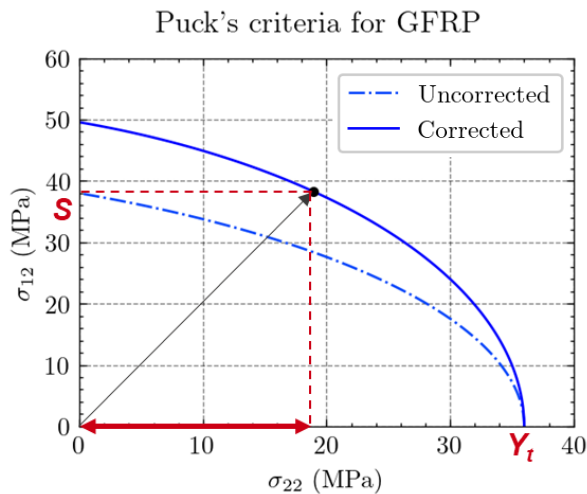
- Quasi-static tensile tests on  $\pm 45^\circ$  laminates (ASTM D3518)  $\rightarrow$  **S**

- glass-epoxy
- carbon-epoxy

- What is the stress state on ply level? How significant is the influence of other stress components?

- Shear  $\sigma_{12}$  + transverse tension  $\sigma_{22}$  (glass > carbon)
- Stress state on ply level mainly depends on ratio  $E_1/E_2$

$\rightarrow$  different stress-strain behavior,  
 $S_{glass} < S_{carbon}$



Part of this work has been performed within the COMET-project *Consideration of local microstructure in the lifetime assessment of long and continuous fibre reinforced polymers* (project-no.: VII-3.03) at the Polymer Competence Center Leoben GmbH (PCCL, Austria) within the framework of the COMET program of the Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology and the Federal Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs with contributions by Montanuniversität Leoben (Chair of Designing Plastics and Composite Materials, Chair of Materials Science and Testing of Polymers) and MAGNA Powertrain Engineering Center Steyr GmbH CO KG. The PCCL is funded by the Austrian Government and the State Governments of Styria, Lower Austria and Upper Austria.

**Thank you for your attention!**

---

# Why are the stress ratios so different?

$$\begin{Bmatrix} n \\ m \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ B & D \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \varepsilon_0 \\ \kappa_0 \end{Bmatrix} \longrightarrow \mathbf{n} = \begin{Bmatrix} n_x \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{matrix} \mathbf{B} = [0] \\ \varepsilon_0 = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{n} \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{local}^k &= \begin{Bmatrix} \sigma_{11} \\ \sigma_{22} \\ \sigma_{12} \end{Bmatrix} = [\mathbf{T}]_k^{-1} \sigma_{global}^k \\ \varepsilon_{local}^k &= [\mathbf{R}] \cdot [\mathbf{T}]_k \cdot [\mathbf{R}]^{-1} \varepsilon_{global}^k \end{aligned}$$

Transformation  
from global to local

Ply k:

$$\sigma_{global}^k = \begin{Bmatrix} \sigma_{xx} \\ \sigma_{yy} \\ \sigma_{xy} \end{Bmatrix} = [\bar{\mathbf{Q}}]_k \cdot \varepsilon_0$$

→ Closed form equations for the +45° layer:

$$\sigma_{local}^{+45^\circ} = \begin{Bmatrix} \sigma_{11} \\ \sigma_{22} \\ \sigma_{12} \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$\sigma_{22} = \frac{n_x}{4t} \cdot \frac{1 + \nu_{12}}{\frac{E_1}{E_2} + 1 + 2\nu_{12}} \quad \left| \quad \sigma_{12} = \frac{n_x}{8t}$$

$t$  ply thickness