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FINAL TECHNICAL REPORT

FRACTURE AND FATIGUE OF BI-MATERIALS

F49620-80-C-0010

Period 1 December 1979 to 30 November 1980

MIT OSP 88845

Reported by James W. Mar Jerome C. Hunsaker Professor of Aerospace Education

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breported. Damage initiation site and mode are compared with the analytically reported. Damage initiation site and mode are compared with the analytically predicted three dimensional stress field at mode are compared with the analytically predicted three dimensional stress field and the edge of the hole. The location of the stress dimensional stress field at the edge of the hole. The location of the stress dimensional stress field at the edge of the location of the stress dimensional stress field at the edge of the location of the stress dimension in the angle plys. No well defined relationship could be established however, between specimen fracture and final damage area. Life to first damage and life to compression loads.

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#### SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS

#### Fracture of [0<sub>2</sub>/±θ]<sub>c</sub> Laminates with a 6.35 mm Diameter Hole

- <u>1.1</u> Eight ply [0<sub>2</sub>/±θ]<sub>s</sub> laminates were fabricated into tensile coupons each containing a 6.35 mm diameter hole. The cross-ply angles, each containing a 6.35 mm diameter hole. The cross-ply angles, of the coupon to be coupon to be come to be come to be come to be come to be componed t
- <u>1.3</u> It is seen from Figures 2 and 3 that the laminates [0<sub>2</sub>/±30]<sub>s</sub> exhibit two distinct levels 2 and 3 that the laminates [0<sub>2</sub>/±30]<sub>s</sub> exhibit two distinct levels 2 and 3 that the laminate 5 distinct 2 d
- <u>1.4</u> The stress-strain curves for the specimens with 0 less than 30° are essentially linear to failures for the specimens with 0 greater than 30° the stress-strain curves are essentially linear essentially linear to failure to failure. The specimens of the specimens of linear for the specimens of the specimens of the speciment of the speciment

A. D. BLOSE

Testedical Information Officer

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#### nt in the contract of splits in Uni-directional Laminates with a Hole

- <u>2.1</u> In an earlier investigation the splitting of uni-directional laminates containing a hole caused by the static (one-time) application of tensining a hole caused by the static (one-time) application of tensining a hole caused by the static (one-time) application of tensining a hole caused by the static (one-time) application of tensining a hole caused by the static (one-time) diameter hole tensining a hole caused by the static (one-time) diameter hole tensining a hole caused by the static of the nominal splitting stress of 330 MPa. Three specimes were cycled between 7% and 70%, and four were cycles with a few being continued to 500,000 cycles.
- <u>2.2</u> Typical crack length vs. cycle data is shown in Figure 5. The splits do not initiate symmetrically from the edge of the hole and as indicated in Figure 5, the splits are located relative to the hole in four locations. The curve labeled T is the sum of 3 and 4.

 $2a = A \log N - K$ 

where

2a is the total crack length

N is the number of cycles

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'A' and 'K' are constants that depend upon the cyclic stress 'A' and 'K' are constants that depend upon the cyclic stress levels. This equation was used to extrapolate backwards to N<sub>0</sub>, the number of cycles for crack initiation.

<u>2.4</u> The values of F, K and N<sub>O</sub> for the three cyclic load levels are shown in Trble IV. It should be remembered that the number of specimens for two smallest load levels are quite small.

- 3.1 This research experimentally determined the fracture behavior 3.1 This research experimentally determined the fracture behavior of specimens containing various sized holes in the laminate systems [0/±θ]<sub>s</sub> and [±θ/0]<sub>s</sub> with θ=0, 5, 10 and 15 degrees. Tables V and VI summarize the testing program.
- <a>3.2 The fracture, i.e. failure, stresses for all the specimens are summarized in Tables VII through XVI.</a>
- <a>3.3</a> The effect of hole size on the fracture strength has been correlated against the relation

$$\sigma_f = H_c (2a)^{-m}$$

m



2a is the hole diameter in millimeters

is a parameter analogous to the factor of .5 (the singularity) in linear elastic fracture mechanics. Table XVI summarizes the value of H<sub>c</sub> and m obtained in these

# <br /> IV. Damage Initiation and Propagation During Compressive Fitigue of Flawed Graphite/Epoxy Composites

- <u>4.1</u> Compression-compression fatigue tests of four different graphite/ <u>4.1</u> Compression-compression fatigue tests of four different graphite/ <u>4.1</u> Compression-compression fatigue tests of four different graphite <u>4.1</u> Compression-compression fatigue tests of four <u>4.1</u> Provided tests of the formation of the <u>4.1</u> Provided tests of t
- <u>4.2</u> A comprehensive set of damage progression photographs are presented. These pictures, along with plots of damage area presented. These pictures, along with plots of damage area growth, show that each of the solong with plots of damage area growth, show that each of the four lange is done well defined relationship between specimen fracture and final damage area was observed, however, the rapid growth of damage

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prior to failure usually provided some warning that fracture was
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<u>4.3</u> It is difficult at this time to easily summarize all the results of this investigation. There is included as Appendix A excerpts taken from the fall report.

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### FIG. 1: THE PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE COUPON SPECIMEN

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### **FIGURE 5:** Crack Length vs. Number of Cycles (373)

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| 3- | 3 | 1 | - |
|----|---|---|---|
| 3- | 3 | 1 | - |

#### TABLE I

#### TENSILE FRACTURE SPECIMENS

| LAMINATE                          |                    | HOLE | DIAMETERS<br>mm    | TOTAL NO.<br>OF SPECIMENS |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| [0]8                              |                    |      |                    |                           |
| [0] <sub>6</sub>                  |                    |      |                    | 10                        |
| [0]4                              |                    |      |                    | 5                         |
| [0 <sub>2</sub> /±θ] <sub>s</sub> | 0=0,15,30,45,75,90 |      | 6.35               | 33                        |
| [0/±0] <sub>s</sub>               | €≈0,5,10,15        | 0,3. | 18,6.35,9.53,12.70 | 190                       |
| [±0/0]                            | e≈0,5,10,15        | 0,3. | 18,6.35,9.53,12.70 | 75                        |

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#### TABLE II

#### TENSION-TENSION CYCLICALLY LOADED SPECIMENS

 $[0]_4$  with 3.2 mm holes

| LOADING                       | NO. OF SPECIMENS |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 8% to 80% of splitting stress | 17               |
| 7% to 70% of splitting stress | 3                |
| 6% to 60% of splitting stress | 4                |
|                               |                  |

splitting stress = 333 MPa

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#### TABLE III

#### COMPRESSION-COMPRESSION CYCLICALLY LOADED SPECIMENS

#### Specimens with 12.7 mm Diam. Hole

LAMINATE

NO. OF SPECIMENS\*

| [±45/0] <sub>s</sub> | CYCLED TO FAILURE        | 22 |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----|
| [±45/0] <sub>s</sub> | CYCLED/RESIDUAL STRENGTH | 26 |
| [0/±45] <sub>s</sub> | CYCLED TO FAILURE        | 3  |
| [0/±45] <sub>s</sub> | CYCLED/SECTIONED         | ١  |
| [±30/0] <sub>s</sub> | CYCLED/SECTIONED         | 2  |
| [0/±30] <sub>s</sub> | CYCLED/SECTION           | 2  |
| [0/±30]              | CYCLED/RESIDUAL STRENGTH | ١  |

\*Each specimen has two laminates.

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#### TABLE IV

PARAMETERS FOR GROWTH OF SPLITS UNDER CYCLIC LOADS

| CYCLIC | LOAD LEVEL | NO. OF SPECIMENS | 4  | К  | NO.  |
|--------|------------|------------------|----|----|------|
| 8%     | to 80%     | 17               | 15 | 28 | 65   |
| 7%     | to 70%     | 3                | 9  | 26 | 600  |
| 6%     | to 60%     | 4                | 5  | 20 | 3000 |

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|  |         | ·····                        |                      | ······································ |
|--|---------|------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Specimen<br>Type<br>Nominal<br>Hole Size | (0)6    | (0/ <u>+</u> 5) <sub>s</sub> | (0/±10) <sub>s</sub> | (0/±15) <sub>5</sub>                   |
| No Hole                                  | U6-X    | 5B1-X                        | 10B1-X               | 15B1-X                                 |
| 3.175 mm                                 | U6-H2-X | 5B1-H2-X                     | 10B1-H2-X            | 15B1-H2-X                              |
| 6.35 mm                                  | U6-H4-X | 5B1-H4-X                     | 10B1-H4-X            | 1531-H4-X                              |
| 9.525 mm                                 | U6-H6-X | 5B1-H6-X                     | 1031-H6-X            | 15B1-H6-X                              |
| 12.79 mm                                 | U6-H8-X | 5B1-H8-X                     | 1021-H8-X            | 15В1-Н8-Х                              |

TESTING PROGRAM USED FOR INVESTIGATION

X = Specimen number, 1-10

TABLE V

|--|

| TESTING | PROGRAM | USED | FOR | INVESTIGATION |
|---------|---------|------|-----|---------------|
|         |         |      |     |               |
|         |         |      | 7   |               |

| Specimen<br>Type<br>Nominal<br>Hole Size | ( <u>†</u> 5/0) <sub>s</sub> | ( <u>+1</u> 0/0) <sub>s</sub> | ( <u>†</u> 15/0) <sub>s</sub> |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| No Hole                                  | 54 I - X                     | 1041 <b>-</b> X               | 15A1-X                        |
| 3.175 mm                                 | 5A1-H2-X                     | 10A1-H2-X                     | 15Al-H2-X                     |
| 6.35 mm                                  | 5A1-H4-X                     | 1041-H4-X                     | 15A1-H4-X                     |
| 9.525 mm                                 | 5A1-H6-X                     | 10A1-H6-X                     | 15A1-H6-X                     |
| 12.70 mm                                 | 5A1-H8-X                     | 10A1-H8-X                     | 15A1-H8-X                     |

X = Specimer.number, 1-5

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TABLE VII

FAILURE STRESSES OF UNFLAWED (0)6, (0/±5)3, (0/±10)3, AND (0/±15)3 SPECIMENS

| _      |                        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |                |        |         |         |        |         |         |        |        |        |         |                |
|--------|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|----------------|
|        | $\sigma_{\rm f}$ (MPa) | 1090.6 | 1120.0 | 1142.8 | 1164.0 | 1160,9 | 1151.4 | 1142.7 |        | 1082.2 | 1140.1 ± 31.6  | 1031.7 | 1106.1  | 1161.0  | 1064.2 | 1038.6  | 1.092.4 | 6.779  | 1035.0 | 1068.2 | 1010.2  | 1058.47 ± 52.3 |
| ······ | Specimen               | 10B1-1 | 2-1801 | 10B1-3 | 1011-4 | 10B1-5 | 10B1-6 | 10B1-7 |        | 101-10 | λνεταβε        | 15B1-1 | 1.5B1-2 | 15B1-3  | 15B1-4 | 1.581-5 | 15B1-6  | L5BL-7 | 15B1-8 | 15B1-9 | 15B1-10 | Average        |
|        | $\sigma_{ m f}$ (MPa)  | 1654.0 | 1644.8 | 1766.4 | 1516.2 | 1612.2 | 1754.8 | 1616.3 | 1421.4 | 1818.8 | 1660.9 ± 128.4 | 1285.5 | 1264.2  | 1.255.1 | 1179.2 | 1271.8  | 1221.9  | 1299.6 | 1346.4 | 1416.4 | 1340.5  | 1288.3 ± 67.6  |
|        | Specimen               | 1-91   | U6-2   | U6-3   | U6-4   | U6-5   | u6-6   | U6-7   | 16-8   | 01-910 | Average        | 5B1-1  | 5B1-2   | 5B1-3   | 5B1-4  | 5B1-5   | 5B1-6   | 5B1-7  | 581-8  | 5B1-9  | 511-10  | Average        |

 $\sigma_{\rm f}$  = Gross Pallure Stress

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#### TABLE VIII

# FAILURE STRESSES OF UNFLAWED $(\pm 5/0)_{s}$ , $(\pm 10/0)_{s}$ , $(\pm 15/0)_{s}$ SPECIMENS

| Specimen | $(\Gamma_{\rm f} (MPa))$ . |
|----------|----------------------------|
| 5A1-1    | 1104                       |
| 5A1-2    | 1232                       |
| 5A1-3    | <u> </u>                   |
| 5A1-4    | 1289                       |
| 5A1-5    | 1048                       |
| Average  | 1134 ± 122                 |
| 10A1 1   | 1046                       |
| 10A1-2   | 985                        |
| 10A1-3   | 961                        |
| 10A1-4   | <u>987</u>                 |
| 10A1-    | 1103                       |
| Average  | 1016 ± 57                  |
| 1541-1   | 941                        |
| 15A1-2   | 871                        |
| 15A1-3   | 978                        |
| 15A1-4   | 787                        |
| 15A1-5   | 683                        |
| Average  | eși <u>+</u> 73            |

#### TABLE IX

| FAILURE | STRESSES | 0F | (0) | SPECIMENS | WITH | HOLES |
|---------|----------|----|-----|-----------|------|-------|
|         |          |    | 0   |           |      |       |

| Specimen             | σ <sub>f</sub> (MPa) | Specimen             | σ <sub>f</sub> (MPa) |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| U6-H2-1              | 1661.8               | U6-H6-1              | 1546.9               |
| U6-H2-2              | 1576.5               | U6-H6-2              | 1752.6               |
| U6-H2-3              | 1605.6               | U6-H6-3              | 1354.3               |
| U6-H2-4              | 1650.7               | U6-H6-4              | 1553.6               |
| U6-H2-5              | 1670.7               | U6-H6-5              | 1501.9               |
| U6-H2-6              | 1635.7               | U6-H6-6              | 1366.6               |
| U6-H2 <b>-7</b>      | 1551.8               | U6-H6-7              | 1585.8               |
| U6-H2-8              | 1699.6               | U6-H6-8              | 1719.3               |
| U6-H2-9              | 1440.3               | U6-H6-9              | 1561.9               |
| U6-H2-10             | 1652.1               | U6-H6-10             | 1637.9               |
| Average<br>Std. Dev. | 1614.5<br>±75.7      | Average<br>Std. Dev. | 1558.1<br>±130.1     |
| U6-H4-1              | 1777.3               | U6-H8-1              | 1352.7               |
| U6-H4-2              | 1446.7               | U6-H8-2              | 1640.0               |
| U6-H4-3              | 1465.6               | U6-H8-3              | 1461.7               |
| U6-H4-4              | 1446.9               | U6-H8-4              | 1445.3               |
| U6-H4-5              | 1395.6               | U6-H7-5              | 1464.0               |
| U6-H4-6              | 1313.0               | U6-H8-6              | 1618.0               |
| U6-H4.7              | 1723.9               | U6-H8-7              | 1613.4               |
| U6-H4-8              | 1561.9               | U6-H8-8              | 1644.9               |
| U6-H4-9              | 1483.3               | U6-H8-9              | 1538.0               |
| U6-H4-10             | 1513.1               | U6-H8-10             | 1257.4               |
| Average<br>Std. Dev. | 1512.7<br>±142.4     | Average<br>Std. Dev. | 1503.5<br>±131.2     |

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| TABLE | Х |
|-------|---|
|-------|---|

FAILURE STRESSES OF  $(0/\pm 5)_s$  SPECIMENS WITH HOLES

| Specimen             | σ <sub>f</sub> (MPa) | Specimen             | σ <sub>f</sub> (MPA) |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 5B1-H2 <b>-1</b>     | 1014.7               | 5B1-H6-1             | 762.4                |
| 5B1-H2-2             | 987.6                | 5B1-H6-2             | 725.6                |
| 5B1-H2-3             | 984.1                | 5B1-H6-3             | 747.9                |
| 5B1-H2-4             | 1015.9               | 5B1-H6-4             | 729.1                |
| 5B1-H2-5             | 1020.2               | 5B1-H6-5             | 727.2                |
| 5B1-H2-6             | 922.1                | 5B1-H6-6             | 805.3                |
| 5B1-H2-7             | 984.1                | 5B1-H6-7             | 698.9                |
| 5B1-H2-8             | 986.0                | 5B1-H6-8             | 763.0                |
| 5B1-H2-9             | 1049.0               | 5B1-H6-9             | 722.5                |
| 5B1-H2-10            | 921.1                | 5B1-H6-10            | 757.9                |
| Average<br>Std. Dev. | 988.5<br>±40.9       | Average<br>Std. Dev. | 743.9<br>±29.8       |
| 5B1-H4-1             | 917.7                | 5B1-H8-1             | 666.1                |
| 5B1-H4-2             | 811.1                | 5B1-H8-2             | 695.5                |
| 5B1-H4-3             | 811.5                | 5B1-H8-3             | 630.6                |
| 5B1-H4-4             | 824.7                | 5B1-H8-4             | 704.7                |
| 5B1-H4-5             | 1020.5               | 5B1-H8-5             | 712.4                |
| 5B1-H4-6             | 810.0                | 5B1-H8-6             | 719.0                |
| 5B1-H4-7             | 850.9                | 5B1-H8-7             | 639.9                |
| 5B1-H4-8             | 826.2                | 5B1-H8-8             | 666.8                |
| 5B1-H4-9             | 905.3                | 5B1-H8-9             | 735.4                |
| 5B1-H4-10            | 840.6                | 5B1-H8-10            | 700.2                |
| Average<br>Std. Dev. | 861.9<br>±67.7       | Average<br>Std. Dev. | 687.1<br>±34.7       |

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#### TABLE XI

### FAILURE STRESSES OF (0/ $\pm$ 10) SPECIMENS WITH HOLES

| Specimen             | σ <sub>f</sub> (MPa) | Specimen             | σ <sub>f</sub> (MPa)    |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 10B1-H2-1            | 696.6                | 10B1-H6-1            | 581.7                   |
| 10B1-H2-2            | 828.7                | 10B1-H6-2            | 617.7                   |
| 10B1-H2-3            | 831.2                | 10B1-H6-3            | 543.2                   |
| 10B1-H2-4            | 707.6                | 10B1-H6-4            | 635.9                   |
| 10B1-H2-5            | 722.6                | 10B1-H6-5            | 580.0                   |
| 10B1-H2-6            | 762.3                | 10B1-H6-6            | 595.3                   |
| 10B1-H2-7            | 753.8                | 10B1-H6-7            | 526.9                   |
| 10B1-H2-8            | 787.9                | 10B1-H6-8            | 559.6                   |
| 10B1-H2-9            | 885.2                | 10B1-H6-9            | 630.8                   |
| 10B1-H2-10           | 763.9                | 10B1-H6-10           | 511.3                   |
| Average<br>Std. Dev. | 774.0<br>±60.1       | Average<br>Std. Dev. | 578.2<br>±43.0          |
| 10B1-H4-1            | 739.5                | 10B1-H8-1            | 519.4                   |
| 10B1-H4-2            | 650.7                | 10B1-H8-2            | 574.4                   |
| 10B1-H4-3            | 703.8                | 10B1-H8-3            | 493.7                   |
| 10B1-H4-4            | 669.5                | 10B1-H8-4            | 497.9                   |
| 10B1-H4-5            | 707. <b>7</b>        | 10B1-H8-5            | 592.6                   |
| 10B1-H4-6            | 670.8                | 10B1-H8-6            | 579.8                   |
| 10B1-H4-7            | 607.9                | 10B1-H8-7            | 574.1                   |
| 10B1-H4-8            | 803.8                | 10B1-H8-8            | 466.3                   |
| 10B1-H4-9            | 635.3                | 10B1-H8-9            | 510.7                   |
| 10B1-H4-10           | 697.6                | 10B1-H8-10           | 593.3                   |
| Average<br>Std. Dev. | 688.7<br>±55.8       | Average<br>Std. Dev. | 540.2<br>± <b>47.</b> 3 |

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#### TABLE XII

### FAILURE STRESSES OF $(0/\pm15)_s$ SPECIMENS WITH HOLES

| Specimen             | σ <sub>f</sub> (MPa) | Specimen             | $\sigma_{\sf f}({\sf MPa})$ |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 15B1-H2-1            | 613.00               | 15B1-H6-1            | 414.70                      |
| 15B1-H2-2            | 600.20               | 15B1-H6-2            | 453.80                      |
| 15B1-H2-3            | 681.90               | 15B1-H6-3            | 474.60                      |
| 15B1-H2-4            | 544.60               | 15B1-H6-4            | 404.20                      |
| 15B1-H2-5            | 635.10               | 15B1-H6-5            | 440.30                      |
| 15B1-H2-6            | 650.00               | 15B1-H6-6            | 467.80                      |
| 15B1-H2-7            | 670.80               | 15B1-H6-7            | 489.80                      |
| 15B1-H2-8            | 711.50               | 15B1-H6-8            | 451.90                      |
| 15B1-H2-9            | 702.30               | 15B1-H6-9            | 391.10                      |
| 15B1-H2-10           | 646.80               | 15B1-H6-10           | 488.70                      |
| Average<br>Std. Dev. | 645.52<br>±50.49     | Average<br>Std. Dev. | 447.69<br>±34.76            |
| 15B1-H4-1            | 589.60               | 15B1-H8-1            | 401.00                      |
| 15B1-H4-2            | 483.30               | 15B1-H8-2            | 397.40                      |
| 15B1-H4-3            | 604.70               | 15B1-H8-3            | 368.30                      |
| 15B1-H4-4            | 540.00               | 15B1-H8-4            | 362.70                      |
| 15B1-H4-5            | 511.60               | 15B1-H8-5            | 428.20                      |
| 15B1-H4-6            | 539.00               | 15B1-H8-6            | 382.90                      |
| 15B1-H4-7            | 503.90               | 15B1-H8-7            | 353.20                      |
| 15B1-H4-8            | 481.20               | 15B1-H8-8            | 365.00                      |
| 15B1-H4-9            | 539.10               | 15B1-H8-9            | 403.00                      |
| 15B1-H4 <b>-1</b> 0  | 535.50               | 15B1-H8-10           | 398.80                      |
| Average<br>Std. Dev. | 532.79<br>±40.73     | Average<br>Std. Dev. | 386.05<br>±23.50            |

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FAILURE STRESSES OF  $(\pm 5/0)_s$  SPECIMENS WITH HOLES

| Specimen | σ <sub>f</sub> (MPa) |
|----------|----------------------|
| 5A1-H2-1 | 898                  |
| 5A1-H2-2 | 91 5                 |
| 5A1-H2-3 | 970                  |
| 5A1-H2-4 | 927                  |
| 5A1-H2-5 | 998                  |
| Average  | 942 ± 41             |
| 5A1-H4-1 | 936                  |
| 5A1-H4-2 | 849                  |
| 5A1-H4-3 | 774                  |
| 5A1-H4-4 | 751                  |
| 5A1-H4-5 | 870                  |
| Average  | 836 ± 75             |
| 5A1-H6-1 | 843                  |
| 5A1-H6-2 | 830                  |
| 5A1-H6-3 | 830                  |
| 5A1-H6-4 | 841                  |
| 5A1-H6-5 | 665                  |
| Average  | 802 ± 77             |
| 5A1-H8-1 | 664                  |
| 5A1-H8-2 | 745                  |
| 5A1-H8-3 | 713                  |
| 5A1-H8-4 | 671                  |
| 5A1-H8-5 | 681                  |
| Average  | 695 ± 34             |

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FAILURE STRESSES OF ( $\pm 10/0$ )<sub>s</sub> specimens with holes

| Specimen  | σf       |
|-----------|----------|
| 10A1-H2-1 | 794      |
| 10A1-H2-2 | 880      |
| 10A1-H2-3 | 790      |
| 10A1-H2-4 | 937      |
| 10A1-H2-5 | 857      |
| Average   | 852 ± 62 |
| 10A1-H4-1 | 769      |
| 10A1-H4-2 | 624      |
| 10A1-H4-3 | 655      |
| 10A1-H4-4 | 740      |
| 10A1-H4-5 | 727      |
| Average   | 703 ± 61 |
| 10A1-H6-1 | 427      |
| 10A1-H6-2 | 534      |
| 10A1-H6-3 | 491      |
| 10A1-H6-4 | 608      |
| 10A1-H6-5 | 593      |
| Average   | 525 ± 69 |
| 10A1-H8-1 | 567      |
| 10A1-H8-2 | 617      |
| 10A1-H8-3 | 491      |
| 10A1-H8-4 | 458      |
| 10A1-H8-5 | 478      |
| Average   | 522 ± 67 |

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### TABLE XV

### FAILURE STRESSES OF ( $\pm 15/0$ )<sub>s</sub> specimens with holes

| Specimen  | σ <sub>f</sub> (MPa) |
|-----------|----------------------|
| 15A1-H2-1 | 608                  |
| 15A1-H2-2 | 646                  |
| 15A1-H2-3 | 800                  |
| 15A1-H2-4 | 558                  |
| 15A1-H2-5 | 670                  |
| Average   | 656 ± 90             |
| 15A1-H4-1 | 412                  |
| 15A1-H4-2 | 682                  |
| 15A1-H4-3 | 516                  |
| 15A1-H4-4 | 600                  |
| 15A1-H4-5 | 440                  |
| Average   | 530 ± 112            |
| 15A1-H6-1 | 482                  |
| 15A1-H6-2 | 506                  |
| 15A1-H6-3 | 540                  |
| 15A1-H6-4 | 527                  |
| 15A1-H6-5 | 509                  |
| Average   | 512 ± 22             |
| 15A1-H8-1 | 431                  |
| 15A1-H8-2 | 363                  |
| 15A1-H8-3 | 511                  |
| 15A1-H8-4 | 329                  |
| 15A1-H8-5 | 432                  |
| Average   | 413 ± 70             |

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#### TABLE XVI

 $H_c$ , COMPOSITE TOUGHNESS AND m, SINGULARITY

| LAMINATE             | m**  | Hc <sup>*</sup> |
|----------------------|------|-----------------|
| [0/=5] <sub>s</sub>  | .22  | 1 300           |
| [±5/0] <sub>s</sub>  | .15  | 1140            |
| [0/±10] <sub>s</sub> | .24  | 1060            |
| [±10/0] <sub>s</sub> | . 32 | 1260            |
| [0/±15] <sub>s</sub> | .34  | 990             |
| [±15/0] <sub>s</sub> | .26  | 900             |

\*Dimensions of  $\rm H_{c}$  are MPa (mm)  $^{\rm -M}$ 

\*\*Failure stresses were modified by a finite width correction.

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#### COUPLING ACTIVITIES

 The Principal Investigator, Prof. James W. Mar is a member of

- a) the USAF Scientific Advisory Board,
- NASA Space Systems Technology Advisory Committee,
- c) the National Materials Advisory Board of the NRC Commission on Sociotechnical Systems,
- d) chairman of the F-18 Structural Integrity Panel for the d) chairman of the F-18 Structural Integrity Panel for the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Engineering and Systems, and
- e) in December of 1980 it was announced that Prof. Mar would e) in December of 1980 it was announced that Prof. Mar would also be the new department head effective 1 July 1981 in the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics at M.I.T.

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#### APPENDIX A

DAMAGE INITIATION AND PROPAGATION DURING COMPRESSIVE FATIGUE OF FLAWED GRAPHITE/EPOXY COMPOSITES

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# Chapter I

## INTRODUCTION

Within the past decade graphite/epoxy composite material has matured as a viable alternative to metals for use in high technology structures. Its comparatively low density combined with high strength and stiffness make it particularly suited for aerospace applications, where weight reduction is always a primary concern. Graphite/epoxy's excellent performance as a structural material stems from its orthotropic material properties. In a strength designed composite component, the fibers of individual plys can ideally be oriented to produce a laminate with no excess strength in any direction. An equivalent metallic component. sized to carry a maximum load in the direction of the principal stress, is usually overdesigned when viewed from any other direction. The cost of this unavoidable overdesign, a direct result of metal's isotropic properties, is increased structural weight.

Another benefit resulting from graphite/epoxy's orthotropy is the possibility 'of creating specialized laminate properties by careful selection of ply stacking sequence. Aeroelastically tailored, bending-twisting coupled forward swept wings and near zero coefficient of thermal expansion

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space structures are two of the more sophisticated graphite/epoxy applications currently under study. The success of each of these designs depends upon the employment of unusual laminate properties which can not be economically duplicated using metals technology.

Several aircraft companies have demonstrated substantial manufacturing cost reductions when replacing a metal component with a composite piece. These savings are a result of graphite/epoxy's molded fabrication. Often up to 90% of a billet or forging is turned to scrap chips during the machining of a complicated shape from a metal block. Τn comparison, waste of graphite/epoxy has been shown to be in the 10 to 20 percent range. Metal designs that for manufacturing reasons must consist of several parts fastened by rows of rivets can often be produced as a single composite component. The reduced inventory and simplified assembly resulting from the use of composites tends to lower manufacturing costs. As an additional benefit, the smaller number of part interfaces and fasteners improves structural performance by lowering the number of stress concentrations.

Because graphite/epoxy is a relatively new material, insufficient amounts of statistically significant data and few experimentally proven analytical methods exist. Without these, the aggressive exploitation of its properties is impossible. Commercial airframe manufacturers have been

hesitant to make a major commitment to the material before a more thorough understanding of its long term behavioral characteristics is obtained. In the interim they have limited its use to easily removable, stiffness designed components such as control surfaces, landing gear doors and fairings. One of the major thrusts in composite research, aimed at providing information of the type required for structural life predictions, has been the study of graphite/epoxy's fatigue properties.

Early fatigue work focused on determining the material's response to cyclic tensile stresses. Awerbuch and Hahn's (1) examination of the behavior of unidirectional coupon specimens is typical of these tensile fatigue investigations. In addition to the usual measurement of life to failure and residual static strength over a range of peak stress levels, this study included the effect of a proof load on the fatigue life distribution. A proof load is a large static load applied prior to cycling. It was hoped that this load would indicate some relationship between the static strength distribution of virgin coupons and their fatigue life by eliminating specimens of low static strength. While their program was not able to conclusively show that the strength and life distributions of a population of graphite/epoxy specimens are related, it did serve as an important source of experimental data for statistical fatigue life prediction methods.

Many of these life prediction methods are based on the strength-life equal rank assumption first introduced by Hahn and Kim (15). This hypothesis states that in a group of specimens, the one with the greatest static strength will also have the longest fatigue life. The lowest strength specimen will be the first to fail under fatigue loading. Static strength and fatigue life of any particular specimen will occupy the same position in the two ordered sets of strength and life data. Chou and Wang (5) compiled data from various tensile fatigue experiments and compared several strength degradation and failure models based on the equal rank assumption. None were found to satisfactorily describe every set of experimental data.

One unexpected result of fatigue tests using laminates with circular holes and other flaws was the discovery that static strength often substantially increases during fatigue cycling. Ramani and Williams (28), for example, present data displaying up to 40% increases in residual static strength after 5 million tension-tension cycles. Reifsnider, Stinchcomb, and O'Brien (31) explain this unusual behavior as the simultaneous interaction between a wear-in and wear-out process. Wear-in occurs locally as the multiple damage modes available to a composite laminate erase the stress concentration at the discontinuity. Wear-out consists of a general degradation of the entire laminate by repeated loading. The sum of these two processes first results in a net increase in strength due to wear-in and later a decrease as wear-out becomes dominant.

Of particular importance to the future employment of graphite/epoxy are the studies showing that specimens subjected to cyclic tensile loads often display fatigue limit type behavior when tested at peak loads below approximately 60% of the laminate's static ultimate strength. The fatigue limit is defined as the load below which a structure will survive an infinite (or at least extremely large) number of cycles. Grimes (11), in a paper discussing the significance of these findings, writes, "This behavior is quite different from metals, and better. Graphite/epoxy endurance limits are not only truer in a physical sense, but they are higher in magnitude than those artificially defined values for metals. Structures with nearly unlimited lifetimes appear possible, at least on paper, if the working stresses are kept below the initial fatigue endurance limit stress level."

The inclusion of compressive loads in the fatigue spectrum has been shown to significantly reduce life to specimen failure. In an often quoted report, Ryder and Walker (37) conclusively demonstrate this point by presenting results of tension-tension, tension-compression, and compression-compression fatigue of two different laminates. The slope of both the tension-compression and compression-compression S-N curves is much steeper than the tension-tension curve, with

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the load reversal case being the most critical. This indicates that the introduction of compressive cyclic loads can greatly shorten fatigue life. Rosenfeld and Huang (34) postulate that matrix strength is reduced to a point where fibers can buckle under a compressive load. This tends to produce more damage per cycle than an equivalent tensile load, and accounts for the reduction in life compared to tensile fatigue.

The importance of compressive loads in graphite/epoxy fatigue is directly opposed to previous experience with metals. This behavioral difference can be explained by examining the damage modes available to both. In metal fatigue, crack growth perpendicular to the load direction is the only important form of damage. A tensile load, which produces a theoretically infinite stress concentration at a sharp notch, causes extension by separating crack surfaces. Compressive loads force these opposing surfaces together, and therefore have little tendency to extend metallic cracks. Due to the nonhomogeneous nature of a composite laminate, many other damage modes besides crack extension can exist. Fiber breaks, delamination, matrix cracking and fiber/matrix debonding are all important damage modes, unique to composites, which may be induced by static or cyclic loading. When compressive loads are applied, damage to surface plys locally separated from the bulk of a specimen by delamination can often be accelerated by buckling of these unsupported regions.

A major source of aggravation to the many composite laminate damage modes is the three-dimensional nature of the stress field existing near free edges and cutouts. Interlaminar shear along with out-of-plane shear and normal stress develop to satisfy the stress free boundary condition at unloaded edge surfaces. These stresses, often comparable in magnitude to the average far field applied axial stress. have been shown to exist within a narrow edge region on the order of one laminate thick. Classical laminate theory ignores these out-of-plane stress components, and therefore is unlikely to accurately predict the stress distribution at precisely the location where fatigue is most likely to begin - at a free edge or other flaw in the laminate. When one considers the inherent property scatter, variety of damage modes and complex stress distribution in even a simple graphite/epoxy coupon specimen, it is understandable why past analytical, empirical and experimental attempts at fatigue life prediction have met with limited success.

Recent work by Graves (10) suggested a different approach to the investigation of composite fatigue. Results of this compressive fatigue experiment, conducted using flawed sandwich beam specimens in four point beam bending, indicated that pre-failure damage propagation behavior may be more consistently predictable than cycles to final failure. The data showed that even after developing extensive areas of visible damage, specimens could survive a significant number

of additional fatigue cycles before failure. While the behavior of composite laminates after damage has initiated is extremely important for modern damage tolerant aircraft structural designs, very little of this type of information is available in the current literature.

The research described in this report was conducted to more rigorously investigate the damage initiation and propagation behavior of graphite/epoxy laminates with circular holes during compressive fatigue. Eighty-nine axially loaded, aluminum honeycomb sandwich specimens with graphite/epoxy face sheets of four diffent laminates, (+45/0)s , (0/+45)s , (+30/0)s and (0/+30)s were compressively cycled with a minimum to maximum load ratio of R=10. Fatigue damage initiation and propagation were monitored on both graphite/epoxy faces of each specimen using Moire interferometry, a method of optically producing surface contour lines. These patterns were photographically recorded at intervals for later analysis. Life, residual strength, cycles to damage initiation and damage growth data are reported. Damage initiation site and mode are compared with the analytically predicted three dimensional stress field at the edge of the hole.

### Chapter II

#### EXPERIMENTAL METHOD

#### 2.1 SPECIMEN SELECTION

One of the major difficulties of compressive testing is the introduction of high compressive loads into a specimen without inducing buckling. Three test method and specimen configuration combinations, designed to minimize buckling problems, were considered for use in this program- (1) externally supported coupons, (2) sandwich beam in four point bending, and (3) axially loaded sandwich columns.

A preliminary investigation using full and partial external coupon supports modeled after those described by Ryder and Walker of Lockheed (37) was conducted. Resulting failure mode and location seemed to be highly dependent on support configuration, probably due to the thinness (less than 1mm) of the six ply laminates. The further complication of support compatiblity with nondestructive inspection (NDI) methods led to the rejection of supported coupon specimens. Four point bending sandwich beams of the type employed by Graves (10) were also rejected. It was felt that the concave curvature of the compressive face would accelerate the expected delamination failure mode by increasing the tendency of the outer plys to buckle away from the laminate after initial damage.

Axially loaded sandwich columns were selected for use in this program for several reasons. The outer surfaces of the specimen were free of supports and thus accessable to NDI, while general buckling of the 2.5mm thick sandwich was negligible at loads up to the specimen's static failure load (See Section 4.1). Both graphite/epoxy faces simultaneously experienced the same load history; two sets of initiation and propagation data were therefore generated with each test run.

### 2.2 SANDWICH COLUMN FABRICATION

A total of one hundred sandwich beam specimens, some of which were used in the development of test methods and will not be further mentioned, were fabricated. Forty-four 30.5cm. square, six-ply laminates of four different orientations were constructed from 30.5cm. wide AS1/5208-6 graphite/epoxy tape. Laminates were cured in batches of two to six using the standardized autoclave/vacuum bag/tooling procedures and cycles developed at MIT (90). Cured laminates were cut into five 5x30cm. coupons with a water cooled diamond wheel mounted on an automatically fed milling machine. The two resulting 2.5cm. wide edge strips were discarded. The centrally located 1.25cm. diameter hole in each coupon was made using a water cooled diamond drill. Punch through damage to the bottom ply of the coupons during the hole drilling operation was minimized by backing up the piece being drilled with graphite/epoxy scrap.

The core of the sandwich specimens was composed of three separate pieces of 6cm. wide American Cyanamid Aluminum Honeycomb. A central 17.5cm. long 72kg/m3 (4.51b/ft3) test section was bounded by two 6.25cm. long, 354kg/m3 (22.11b/ft3) pieces. The heavier density core was required near the specimen's ends to withstand the 2.07 to 3.45 MPa (300 to 500 psi) normal load applied by the testing machine's hydraulic grips.

Actual assembly of the specimens was carried out in two separate operations. Graphite/epoxy face sheets were bonded to the three core pieces, which had first been cleaned in MEK, using American Cyanamid FM-123 film adhesive. Another American Cyanimid adhesive, FM-37-2, was used to bond the individual core pieces during the same operation. Four 7.5x6.25cm.  $(0_2/90_2)$ s fiberglass loading tabs were later bonded, with a 1.25cm. overlap of the core splice, to the graphite/epoxy face sheets using FM-123 (see Figure 1). All bonding operations were conducted using a hot press.

#### 2.3 NONDESTRUCTIVE INSPECTION BY MOIRE INTERFEROMETRY

Choice of a suitable nondestructive inspection method was of fundamental importance to the successful completion of this experimental investigation. Required NDI characteristics included in situ application, long term stability, repeatability, low cost, passive operation and sensitivity to expected damage modes. A survey of methods indicated that Moire interferometry best met the above criteria.

Moire interferometry uses the interference pattern formed by the relative motion of two sets of fine parallel lines to visually provide a map of surface displacement. Although not actually used for this experiment, the physics of this method can most easily be explained by examining the more commonly employed case of in-plane interferometry for measurement of in-plane strains. Typically, a grill of evenly spaced, parallel black lines and equal width clear spaces is in some manner fixed to the undeformed surface to be examined. This grill will deform with the specimen surface (Figure 2a). An identical reference grill applied to a glass plate is then placed near the prepared specimen. No interference pattern will develop if the reference grill is arranged to have each of its lines lie directly on top of a specimen line (Figure 2b). When the rigid reference glass is moved the width of one line in a direction perpendicular to the lines, each black line of the reference grill will fall directly above a clear space on the specimen, and viceversa. The result is completely destructive interference. or a uniformly dark pattern (Figure 2c). By stretching the specimen, however, the attached grill can be made to contain fewer lines/unit length than the reference grill. This creates a gradual change from a totally dark to totally clear pattern. Each of the resulting bright or dark lines is termed a fringe. The distance between two equal intensity fringes is related to the known grill line spacing; relative

displacement of points on the surface can therefore be calculated by simply counting fringes between points (Figure 2d).

Delamination was the primary damage mode exhibited by the composite specimens in this experiment. When the compressive force applied during each loading cycle reached some critical value, delaminated areas developed during fatigue cycling would buckle. A modification of the in-plane measurement technique described in the preceding paragraph was employed to produce a visual indication of these small outof-plane surface deformations (Figure 3). To measure outof-plane displacements with this technique, the reference grill is positioned close to and parallel with the initially planar column face to be inspected. A collimated light source, placed at an angle of between 40 and 70 degrees with the surface, is used to illuminate the specimen. Since the grill is located between the light source and specimen, shadows of each of its lines are cast on the sandwich column. For a reasonably parallel beam of light, these shadow lines reproduce the reference grill pattern and take the place of the physically applied grill used for in-plane measurements.

When a portion of the surface undergoes out-of-plane displacement due to local buckling, the shadow lines in that region are distorted. This results in the formation of interference patterns by a process similar to the one previously described. It can be shown that the resulting patterns actually are surface contour lines. The difference in height between two successive fringes can be calculated using:

#### **Δ**z =1/n tanθ

where  $\Delta z$  is change in height between two successive fringes, n is the density of the grill in lines per unit length and  $\Theta$ is the angle between the light beam and the specimen's surface perpendicular.

In a setup repeated on both sides of the column, a 100 line/inch grill was mounted on a six degree of freedom holder and positioned less than 0.25cm. from the specimen (Figure 4). Photoelastic, Inc.'s Tens-Lac Type U-10-A Brittle Lacquer Undercoating, a silver colored spray, was used to paint the sandwich column faces for increased Moire pattern contrast. Thirty-five millimeter slide projectors angled 50 degrees from the specimen served as light sources. Zoom lenses with knife edge slits mounted in front of their outer elements provided adequately collimated beams (Figure 5). From equation 1, the resulting Az between adjoining fringes can be shown to be 0.021cm. Since it was usually possible to discern 1/4 fringe intensity changes, out-ofplane motion of approximately 0.005cm. could normally be sensed.

One difficulty arising early in the test program was the formation of an interference pattern between the reference grill lines and the peel-ply textured surface of the graphite/epoxy. It was found that the visibility of this secondary pattern could be greatly reduced by slightly rotating the reference grill such that its originally vertical lines were tilted approximately 10 degrees. This action produced no visible change in the observed damage patterns.

## 2.4 TEST PROCEDURE

All testing was conducted on a 100,000lb Material Test Systems Model 810 testing machine operated in the 10,0001b range. To prevent slippage, specimens were held in MTS hydraulic grips adjusted to apply a 2.07 to 3.45 MPa (300 to 500 psi) normal load to the fiberglass loading tabs. The net section static compressive strength of all four laminate types was established using axially loaded columns identical in design to the fatigue specimens. Two back to back 6.35 mm BLH Type FAE-25-12-S3 strain gauges, one on each column face of most static specimens (Figure 1), were monitored during loading using BLH 1000 digital strain indicators. Besides allowing the calculation of laminate modulus of elasticity, the linearity of the strain data confirmed that no generalized specimen buckling occurred before static failure (Figure 6). Stroke controlled tests were run at a strain rate of 0.0006 per minute. When possible, load was

released after failure of just one graphite/epoxy column face.

Fatigue tests of the axially loaded column specimens were conducted on the same MTS testing machine. Test loads were chosen to span the range between static failure and the fatigue limit with a fairly uniform distribution of data points. Monitoring of the maximum and minimum compressive loads while cyling at 20 Hz and R=10 revealed some difficulty in following the commanded sinusoidal program. Slight reduction of the cyclic frequency eliminated this system resonsance problem; thus, the majority of fatigue testing was performed at 19 Hz. Other workers (32) have reported that high cycling rates during a fatigue test can induce temperature rises that alter matrix properties. 19 Hz. was chosen as a compromise between the minimization of this temperature effect and the reduction of test time. In some tests, frequency was gradually increased from 0.1Hz to 19Hz during the first 400 cycles to reduce the likelihood of startup failures. - This practice proved to be unnecessary and was discontinued early in the program. Cycling was periodically halted for between 2 and 5 seconds to permit Moire pattern photographs to be taken. A static force of slightly more than half the maximum compressive load was maintained during this period. The increment between successive pictures was varied to produce approximately even spacing on a log(cycles) plot. Maximum exposure rate followed the schedule below:

|                 | CYCLES    | MAXIMUM   | TIME BETWEEN        |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
|                 | BETWEEN   | NUMBER OF | EXPOSURES (MINUTES) |
| RANGE(CYCLES)   | EXPOSURES | EXPOSURES | <u>AT 19 HZ</u>     |
|                 |           |           |                     |
| • - 1000        | 200       | 6         | 0.175               |
| 1250 - 4000     | 250       | 12        | 0.219               |
| 4500 - 10000    | 500       | 12        | 0.439               |
| 11000 - 20000   | 1000      | 10        | 0.877               |
| 22500 - 45000   | 2500      | 10        | 2.193               |
| 50000 - 120000  | 5000      | 15        | 4.386               |
| 130000 - 300000 | 10000     | 18        | 8.772               |
| 320000 - 600000 | 20000     | 15        | 17.544              |

A-20

Many of the low cycle pictures were skipped during low stress level tests when experience indicated damage would not initiate early in the specimen's life.

If fracture did not occur by 600,000 cycles, standard protedure was to immediately conduct a residual strength test by gradually increasing compressive load until static failure was induced. Fatigue loading of a few specimens was extended, with two specimens tested to one million cycles. Ten specimens were removed from the testing machine before final failure. Microscopic examination of cross sections taken near the edge of the hole allowed comparison of Moire patterns with actual laminate damage. Pseudo-random specimen and test condition selection was employed to prevent data biasing. Whenever possible, specimens manufactured from laminates cured in the same autoclave batch were distributed over a range of load conditions. The test program's history can be reconstructed from the chronologically sequenced run numbers listed in Tables 1 and 2.

### 2.5 PHOTOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUE

The intensity difference between light and dark fringes of Moire patterns is normally low. Because a major objective of the investigation was the producion of a photographic record of damage initiation and propagation, care was taken to increase the pattern contrast whenever possible. The selection of a 100 line/inch grill was driven mainly by this concern. Measurement sensitivity could be increased by employing a grill of higher line density, but only at the expense of pattern visibility.

Moire pattern photographs were taken with two 35mm cameras; a motor driven Nikon F2A equiped with a Nikon 100mm Micro lens was mounted behind the specimen and an Olympus OM-1 with a Vivitar 90mm Macro lens in the front. Kodak PLUS-X black and white film was used throughout the experiment. By intentionally underexposing by 2 f/stops and doubling normal development time, contrast on the negative was increased to the point where pattern visibility was not a problem during measurement and printing of the images.

## Chapter III

## ANALYSIS

#### 3.1 THREE DIMENSIONAL STRESS FIELD PREDICTION

Experimental evidence has indicated that stacking sequence does affect both the fatigue life and pre-failure behavior of G/E laminates. In a more complete analysis of a laminate's stress field, Pipes and Pagano (85) used a finite difference technique to show that large interlaminar stresses can be developed in a narrow region near the straight free edge of a coupon specimen. Furthermore, it was found that reversing the stacking sequence of those simple laminates changed the orientation of the out-of-plane normal stress from tension to compression. Since the laminate found to have a tensile interlaminar stress corresponds with stacking sequence experimentally shown to have a shorter fatigue life (22), it has been hypothesized that tensile interlaminar normal forces shorten life by accelerating propagation of fatigue induced delaminations.

A special laminated plate traction-free edge finite element was developed by Harris (62) for analysis of more complicated geometries than straight free edges. While this element requires the use of far fewer degrees of freedom than would normally be necessry if non-specialized elements

were employed to calculate the laminate's three dimensional stress field, the amount of computer storage and time needed to analyze even relatively thin laminates is still very large. Also, the oscillatory nature of some of its predicted stress components reduces confidence in the ability of its forth order polynomial approximation of element stress to accurately predict behavior.

A more elegant method for prediction of the three dimensional stress field in composite laminates is currently under development by Bar-Yoseph (52). By applying the well established fluid dynamics technique of matched asymptotic expansion to the equilibrium equations, the problem was separated into an inner region decribed by simple laminate theory and an outer region whose mathematical description included all six stress components. Asymptotic series descriptions of the stress field in powers of the small parameter, h/l, the ply thickness nondimensionalized by some characteristic length, were substituted into the two equation sets. The stress free edge boundary conditions were satisfied exactly by imposing the condition that the sum of the inner and outer solutions of certain components must be zero at the free edge. Other charateristics of the series were determined from matching of equal order terms, using the fact that at some intermediate region the solutions must agree. With only terms of the first order in h/l retained for this preliminary application of his analysis, Bar-Yoseph

developed assumed expressions for the stress components of the boundary layer solution of symmetric laminates in terms of just four exponentially decaying position dependent constants per laminate ply. Solution of the 3-D stress distribution around a hole was therefore reduced to determining just 4n-2 constants, where n is half the number of plys in a symmetric laminate. Note that two constants are determined from symmetry conditions. Substitution of these expressions into a complementary energy variational formulation resulted in a set of fourth order differential equations. By casting these in the form of an eigenvalue problem, standard solution techniques could be used to determine the unknown constants in the stress functions. With these constants known, the calculation of a stress at any point in the laminate simply requires substitution of the coordinates into the appropriate equation.

## Chapter IV

## DATA REDUCTION

## 4.1 APPLIED STRESS DETERMINATION

The axially loaded sandwich column specimens used in this test program did not buckle at loads below the ultimate compressive strength of the graphite/epoxy laminates. Therefore, the strain experienced by each of the two face sheets should be equal. If the axial modulus of each laminate is also assumed to be equal then the applied stress can be estimated by simply dividing the applied load by the total of the two face sheet's cross sectional areas. With the exception of the far field stress used in laminate modulus calculations, all stresses in this report are average net section stresses based on the cross sectional area at the hole.

The graphite/epoxy manufacturer's nominal thickness of 0.8001mm for a 6 ply laminate was used for all area determinations. Actual measured laminate thickness averaged about 10% higher. Microscopic examination of laminates revealed the source of this discrepancy to be a thin textured layer of epoxy on both outer laminate surfaces. These layers formed when excess resin material hardened in the finely woven fiberglass cloth peel-ply which surrounded the graphite/epoxy during curing.

When the peel-ply was removed, an imprint of the fabric's texture was left on the laminate's surface. The total top and bottom thickness of these resin layers almost exactly corresponds to the difference between measured and nominal thickness. Because the resin rich surface layers are essentially unloaded, it was decided to ignore their contribution to total laminate thickness for all stress calculations in this report.

## 4.2 LAMINATE MODULUS DETERMINATION

Ten strain gauged specimens were statically tested to determine the longitudinal modulus of the four laminate types used in this program. Strains, recorded every 2001bs. during loading, were plotted versus the far field stress. Modulus was calculated by finding the slope of the best line through this data using linear regression analysis. The correlation coefficient, an indication of the linearity of the 30 to 40 data points used for modulus calculations, was also determined for each laminate (Table 1).

## 4.3 DAMAGE INITIATION MEASUREMENTS

Determination of the number of cycles of fatigue loading endured by the graphite/epoxy column faces before the onset of detectable damage was a primary objective of this test program. Negatives of the Moire pattern photographs, taken at intervals during fatigue testing, were compared with the

O cycle photograph under 10x magnification. By starting from a point where damage was clearly visible and tracing backwards through the negatives, it was possible to locate the earliest frame where damage could be seen. The number of load cycles corresponding to this frame was recorded as the laminate's life to first detectable damage. The circumferential location of the damage initiation site was found by projection of the frame containing first damage onto a piece of polar graph paper. Positive angles were defined as being counterclockwise from the load direction, with the top of the specimen as tested defined as zero.

Choice of the negative containing the onset of fatigue damage was not always obvious, especially in laminates where it occurred after several hundred thousand load cycles. In some cases where damage developed very slowly, an uncertainty in cycles to initiation of one or two negatives was possible. This corresponds to a possible error of  $\pm 400$  to 40,000 cycles, depending on when in the laminates life the damage initiated. This error is relatively small when compared to the order of magnitude scatter typical of fatigue life data.

#### 4.4 DAMAGE AREA MEASUREMENT

In order to quantify the damage propagation behavior in graphite/epoxy laminates after initiation, the surface area bounded by the outermost Moire fringe lines was measured for

a succession of individual frames. Every laminate that demonstrated significant growth prior to failure or test termination was measured. Selected negatives were projected from the rear onto a large ground glass table top; the resulting image was enlarged to approximately ten times life size to facilitate measurement. A planimeter was then used to mechanically calculate the area contained inside the Moire pattern. By also measuring the area of the projected hole, a simple ratio could be used to determine the actual damage area existing on the specimen.

## Chapter V

## RESULTS

#### 5.1 STATIC TEST DATA

Seventeen specimens, all containing 1.25 cm. diameter holes, were statically loaded to failure in axial compression. Laminate moduli and ultimate net section compressive strengths determined from these tests are listed in Tables la and 1b. Of particular note are the high values of R, the linear correlation coefficient, found for those static tests conducted using strain gauges. Since R=1 implies perfectly linear data, these numbers indicate that generalized buckling of the axially loaded column specimens did not occur prior to compressive failure (Figure 5). Table 1b shows an unusual result of the ultimate strength measurements. Although intuition would indicate otherwise, specimens with the angle plys at 45 degrees were found to fail at higher average compressive loads than those with 20 degree angle plys. This observation has also been reported by Graves (10). Since such a limited amount of static data is presented, it is possible that this effect is just a manifestation of the scatter normally found in composite properties.

During the tests, popping sounds beginning at loads larger than about 90% of the ultimate static load often warned

that catastrophic failure of the specimen was imminent. Fractures were usually perpendicular to the loading direction and always through the hole. Because most tests were run in load control, testing machine motion after failure caused extensive damage to the fracture surface. Testing some specimens under stroke control eliminated this postfailure damage and resulted in some clean, sharp cracks across the specimen. This indicates delamination was probably not a primary mode of static failure, although Moire observation of the surface of two specimens prior to failure did indicate some local delamination at the hole edge.

## 5.2 FATIGUE LIFE DATA

Figure 7, plotted from data in Tables 2a through 2d, illustrates the fatigue life behavior of the four laminate types investigated in this program. Results of the static tests, plotted close to the vertical axis and represented by the smaller symbols, are also presented. A majority of tests were conducted with  $(\pm 45/0)$ s specimens 21 cycled to failure and 26 stopped prior to failure. None of the  $(\pm 45/0)$ s specimens suffered a fatigue failure when tested at a maximum compressive load less than 300 MPa. Samples tested at lower loads survived a minimum of 600,000 cycles, with two tests extended to one million cycles with no failure.

A smaller amount of data, 16 points in all, represent the fatigue failures of the three other laminate types tested. The data from the  $(0/\pm45)$ s fatigue tests are particularly interesting. While the static strength of this layup was found to be nearly identical to the  $(\pm45/0)$ s laminate's, the fatigue life was significantly lower. One specimen tested at 276.1 MPa failed after only 40,000 cycles. This, along with the rest of the data for this laminate, indicates that a stacking sequence effect exists for the flawed laminate when subjected to cyclic, but not to static, loads.

No stacking sequence effect can be observed in the limited amount of  $(\pm 30/0)$ s and  $(0/\pm 30)$ s data. When tested at the same load levels, failures of both laminate types were intermixed within a comparatively small life range.

## 5.3 RESIDUAL STRENGTH DATA

The residual strengths for 17 of the  $(\pm 45/0)$ s specimens which survived cyclic loading are listed in Table 2b. These data points, along with the static strength data for this layup, are plotted in Figure 8. Later sections of this report will show that many of these specimens had developed extensive areas of delamination prior to the residual strength test. Even with this visible damage, however, only a slight reduction in load carrying ability from the static strength distribution can be seen after fatigue.

5.4 DAMAGE INITIATION DATA

Measurement of life to first observable fatigue damage was a major objective of this test program. The results of damage initiation measurements are listed in Tables 2a through 2d, with initiation data for all four laminate types consolidated in Figure 9. The 92 points from (±45/0)s tests seem to demonstrate a bilinear behavior behavior on this semi-log plot. Points for damage beginning before 20,000 cycles follow a negatively sloping line down to approximately 280 MPa, while later initiation data is almost flat. No damage was found on any specimen tested below 260 MPa, in two cases even after 1,000,000 cycles.

Damage initiation in the  $(\pm 30/0)$ s laminates falls within the the scatter of the  $(\pm 45/0)$ s data. Both laminates with the unidirectional plys on the outside, however, show signs of damage significantly sooner than the average time to initiation for the corresponding laminate with the angle plys on the outside.

In every specimen showing signs of damage, initiation occurred at the free edge of the hole. Figure 10, using data from Tables 2a through 2d, plots the angular position of the initiation site measured counterclockwise from the loading direction. Data for each laminate type is plotted on one of the concentric circles representing the hole edge. Three of the laminates, (0/+30)s, (0/+45)s, and (+30/0)s tended to

initiate damage within a 10 degree sector counterclockwise from the perpendicular to the load direction. The  $(\pm 45/0)$ s laminate, however, behaved differently. In all but a few cases, initiation for this layup was within  $\pm 10$  degrees of an intersection between lines  $\pm 45$  degrees from the load direction and the hole edge. Damage initiation behavior has thus been experimentally shown to depend both on ply orientation and stacking sequence.

## 5.5 DAMAGE PROPAGATION PHOTOGRAPHS

As described in section 2.3, Moire interferometry was used to observe damage initiation and propagation during fatigue cycling. As many as 150 photographs of the Moire patterns on each sandwich column face were taken as a specimen was tested. Appendix A presents a set of between 3 and 16 individual pictures selected to illustrate the progression of damage for every laminate face which showed a significant amount or growth.

The figures in the appendix have been grouped by laminate type, and within each laminate type are ordered chronologically as tested. Labels below each picture indicate the number of fatigue cycles experienced by the specimen at the time of the photograph. The first picture of a group is always at 0 cycles. It shows the background pattern resulting from a slight misalignment between the reference grill and the specimen, as well as some interference caused by the

interaction of the peel-ply textured graphite/epoxy surface and the grill lines. The second picture is a print from the negative showing the first sign of damage when examined at 10x magnification. The last of a series is always the final exposure made prior to failure or the cessation of fatigue loading. In addition, some sets include a few illustrations of damage growth during statically applied loads of the residual strength tests.

Each picture shows an area surrounding the hole in one of a specimen's graphite/epoxy face sheets, viewed from a point along the surface perpendicular located with its origin at the center of the hole. The horizontal dimension of the print approximately covers the width of the specimen, about 5cm. The vertical dimension, corresponding to the direction of the applied load, varies from set to set. Exact dimensions can be determined by using the hole's known diameter of 1.25cm. to scale any measurements. The test number indicated on each figure corresponds to the same number in Tables 2a through 2d, with the letter designating which specimen face is illustrated. Figures with the same number but lettered a and b are the two sides of the same column.

Interpretation of the Moire patterns is simplfied if one recalls that each fringe line shows an increment of out-ofplane motion, and each picture represents a contour map of surface displacement in the z direction. Continuous contour

lines indicate subsurface delaminations. Discontinuities in the contour lines occur at locations where through cracks have developed. The pattern visible inside the hole itself resulted from the deformation of the underlying film adhesive into the core's honeycomb cells during beam bonding.

Inspection of the figures of Appendix A reveals several interesting facts. As described in the previous dicussion of Figure 10, the damage initiation site is extremely consistent within a laminate type. Furthermore, the pictures show that each laminate type propagates damage in some characteristic pattern early in its life. For the (+45/0)s laminates, shown in Figures A1a through A41b, damage tends to develop in a four leaf clover shape. Moire patterns indicate that splitting, defined as through the thickness ply failures in the fiber direction, does not usually occur for some time after initiation. Contrast this behavior with that of the (+30/0)s laminates, shown in Figures A44a through A48b. With this layup the small initial area of delamination, located approximately 90 degrees from the load direction, quickly developed splits in the direction of the outer fibers.

Tests of the two laminates with 0 degree plys on the outside, Figures A42a through A43b for the  $(0/\pm45)$ s's and Figures A49a through A54b for the  $(0/\pm30)$ s's showed they initially behaved in a manner similar to that of the (+30/0)s

layup. Once splitting in the load direction began, however, the damage progressed much differently. Splits divided the surface ply of each laminate into narrow regions which buckled to form small arches, each arch having a length of approximately one hole diameter. Continued fatigue cycling caused the  $(0/\pm 30)$ s specimens to develop a stairstep pattern of these arches which propagated in the direction of the angle ply closest to the surface. Since only a few  $(\pm 45/0)$ s specimens were tested, no conclusive statement regarding this laminates behavior after initiation can be made.

Graves (10) has also published data describing damage progression during compressive fatigue of the same four laminates studied in the current program. Surface damage observed during periodic visual inspections was sketched. Similarities between these sketches and the Moire patterns of this report can be seen, particularly during the early stages of development. Later in the specimen's life, however, the results of the two tests show drastically different behaviors. Graves shows propagation along the specimen length, often extending from one end to the other. Damage during the current investigation restricted itself to the immediate vicinity of the hole.

Two possible explanations for this difference are proposed. The sandwich specimens used by Graves contained 0.635cm. diameter holes, half the size of those used in this

program. It is possible that the change in hole size, by reducing the difference between the net section and far field stress, caused visible damage to develop in both regions. Graves far field and net section stresses differ by only 15%. At the net section stress level of his tests, 337 to 358 MPa, his far field stress was above the load found in the current program to produce no damage.

The methods used to introduce the compressive load into the specimens are a second possible source of the observed differences in propagation behavior. The current program employed axially loaded specimens, while Graves used a four point bending technique. By producing a compressive load in this manner, an unwanted curvature is introduced into the test section. The rate and direction of delamination is undoubtably influenced by the concave deformation of the compressive face.

## 5.6 DAMAGE AREA DATA

For every picture in Appendix A, the area bounded by the outermost fringe line of the Moire pattern was measured by the method described in Section 4.4. The damage areas for all specimens showing a significant amount of propagation have been plotted in Figures 11 through 19, with areas larger than the limit of the scale indicated by an arrow at 4.75cm. Individual data points for each specimen have been

tified by the symbol plotted at the location of the last data point measured. In most cases data for both sides of a specimen are presented. It should be remembered that in these load controlled tests, fracture of just one of its sides resulted in the complete destruction of a specimen. When the behavior of the two sides of a specimen are compared, it often seems obvious which side was responsible for the final failure. The assumption that failure was caused by the side with the most rapidly growing damage or the greatest area was not experimentally tested for or verified.

Figures 11 through 13 show data for (+45/0)s specimens that failed during fatigue cycling. Each figure contains the data for a small, arbitrarilly chosen, range of maximum compressive stresses. Most of the (+45/0)s curves can be divided into three regions. Region 1, the nearly horizontal portion, is characterized by the initiation and slow growth of damage. Region 2, represented by a curved transitional section, is an zone of increasingly rapid propagation. The end of this region often corresponds to the onset of major splitting or the coalesence of two smaller damage areas, as shown in Appendix A. Region 3, the nearly vertical section of the curve, usually lasts for a relatively small portion of the specimens life but contains a large percentage of the total damage accumulated during fatigue cycling.

No correlation between damage plots for the two sides of the same specimen can be identified. Sometimes the two curves follow each other closely. At other times damage on one face grows rapidly while little or none developes on the other. Occasionally the two curves cross each other one or more times before failure. The appearence of all three behaviors suggests that no significant interaction between the two faces of a specimen occurred, and each pair of initiation and propagation data can be regarded as coming from two separate tests.

Plots which do not follow the main body of data, those of Tests 52b, 58b, 77a, and 82b for example, begin Region 3 type behavior early in their lives. Some of these same tests are responsible for initiation sites in Figure 10 that lie outside the four leaf clover pattern. This indicates that initiation in these tests probably occurred normally but individual areas had already joined by the time a photograph was taken.

Examination of Figures 11 through 13 shows that maximum damage area does not always correlate with fatigue life or maximum compressive cyclic load. Early failure does not necessarily imply a small final damage area or a high maximum load, as evidenced by test 58b on Figure 13. The trend, though, is definitely toward larger amounts of damage developing on the longest lasting specimens, with relatively small amounts of damage found on those that failed soonest.
The above descriptions also apply to the next two graphs, Figures 15 and 16, which show damage progression in the  $(\pm 45/0)$ s tests stopped prior to fatigue failure. Figure 15 contains data for specimens loaded in the maximum compressive load range which had produced fatigue failures in some tests. Notice that several curves on this plot indicate Region 3 type behavior and suggest specimens which are probably nearing failure. In particular, note the damage area of Test 63a, listed as 10.045cm. in Table 2b. The pictures of Appendix A, Figure A30a, show that damage on this specimen had actually propagated to the left edge of the coupon without producing a fatigue failure.

Each of the last three plots of this group, Figure 17 through 19, contain propagation data for both the failed and unfailed specimens of one particular laminate type. Figure 17, showing the  $(0/\pm45)$ s data, indicates only one specimen had developed sufficient damage to be plotted. Others either failed with very small damage areas or were removed from testing soon after damage was observed. The single plot shown does indicate Region 3 behavior occurred immediately after initiation.

The  $(\pm 30/0)$ s data in Figure 18 shows this laminate's behavior is very different from the  $(\pm 45/0)$ s's. After a short period of slow damage growth, rapid propagation develops with almost no transitional period. Fatigue failures,

indicated by the check marks next to the individual run numbers, occurred with relatively little observable damage.

Contrast the  $(\pm 30/0)$ s behavior with that of the  $(0/\pm 30)$ s specimens plotted in Figure 19. These laminates, with their zero degree plys on the surface, show the same three regions of damage propagation observed in the  $(\pm 45/0)$ s specimens. Region 3 growth is very steep, a result of the stairstep nature of the damage development (see Figures A49a through A87b). Damage areas at failure were similar to those of the  $(\pm 45/0)$ s's, and much greater than damage found in the  $(\pm 30/0)$ s tests.

## 5.7 MICROSCOPIC CROSS SECTION EXAMINATION

Specimens from ten fatigue tests were removed from the testing machine with various amounts of visible damage, and cross sections of their laminates observed under 250x magnification. Three different forms of damage were seen. Tight vertical cracks extending from one ply interface to an adjacent interface, probably a result of minor matrix failures, were the most numerous form. Horizontal spacing of these vertical cracks varied from only a few in the entire cross section to as many as 10 per millimeter in areas of heavily damaged laminates. One laminate that showed no indication of damage using Moire interferometry contained four of these vertical cracks in a 2cm. long cross section taken 1mm. from the hole.

A second form of damage, generally corresponding to areas where Moire patterns were seen during testing, was delamination. This type of damage propagated along ply interfaces, and occasionally jumped from one interface to another through a vertical crack. Parallel growth of two delaminations, one above the other, was only seen in specimens with large amounts of damage. Major concentrations of the one ply long vertical matrix cracks had at least one of their ends extending from delaminations.

Through cracks, major intraply failures visible as splits upon reaching the surface, were the least common type of damage. In all cases these were associated with delaminated areas below the surface.

Damage in (<u>+</u>45/0)s laminates was most concentrated in the top two surface plys. Delamination usually propagated along ply interfaces, but was ocassionally seen to drift into intraply regions for short distances. In specimens with large amounts of damage, delamination and vertical cracks did develop in the plys near the core, but damage to the film adhesive layer between the graphite/epoxy and honeycomb was never seen. It is important to note that some of these laminates had splits through the zero degree plys, indicating that locally massive fiber reakage in the main load carrying ply could be sustained by a specimen without failure.

Observation of laminates with their angle plys at the center of the specimen showed that very shortly after initiation, damage existed only in these interior plys. A vertical split located at the mininmum net section was found in a specimen that had not yet developed the stairstep damage to the surface zero degree plys.

Figures 20 through 22 contain 50x micrographs of cross sections from three different ( $\pm$ 45/0)s specimens. The location of these cross sections corresponds to a cut along a vertical line 0.5mm. to the right of the hole. Because both the contrast and the magnification of these pictures are low, much of the minor damage observable during visual inspection can not be recorded photographically. Sketches of observed damage, drawn during a slow ply by ply scan of the 2cm. long sections at 250x, are therefore also presented. Recall that while only three samples will be described in detail, 20 laminates, each sectioned at two or three locations, were inspected in this manner to provide the background for the previous discussion of damage types.

Figure 20 shows damage sustained by the laminate of Figure A12a after 300,000 cycles. The numbers from -10 to 10 found at the top of the sketch indicate longitudinal position, measured in millimeters, above or below the hole center line. Many fine vertical matrix cracks are seen to have developed in both the inner and outer angle ply pairs, but

delamination, indicated schematically by the heavy areas along ply interfaces, has only occurred in the surface pair. The wide vertical lines in the sketch indicate splits through the thickness of a ply, a more severe form of damage than the much more common matrix cracks. Two such splits were found at this cross section. The photograph shows one of these splits, at location -5 on the sketch, and illustrates a jump of delamination propagation from one interface to another. A similar small split, not yet through to the surface, can be seen forming at the upper right.

The damage seen at this cross section was relatively minor in comparison to laminates showing more growth in their Moire patterns. The approximately 1mm. long delamination located at 0 in the sketch is not visible in the Moire picture of Figure A12a, while the 2.5mm. delamination at -5 can be associated with the small spot on the lower right edge of the hole. This information gives some indication of the minimum delamination size detectable by the Moire interferometry method of inspection as applied in this investigation.

Figure 21 is a cross section of Test 63b, Figure A30b, taken at 1,000,000 cycles. As both the sketch and the Moire pattern indicate, much more damage has developed close to the hole in this specimen than in the previous example. Many vertical cracks, some as closely spaced as 10 per mil-

limeter, were found. Delamination between the upper -45 and 0 degree plys nearly spans the cross section. A shorter delamination between the top  $\pm$ 45 interface also exists. Vertical cracks are most numerous in the -45 degree ply, and connect the parallel delaminations. Two major splits have propagated to the surface, but more importantly, a local failure of the zero degree plys has occurred. This split, located at 3 in the sketch, meets a delamination at the inner -45 ply interface.

A second cross section, taken approximately 0.5cm. to the right of the hole edge, shows much less damage. All forms, including matrix cracking, have been restricted to the top two plys. The two major splits shown in the the cross section closest to the hole are seen to have propagated along the fibers to this location.

The photograph, taken at the cross section nearest the hole, shows the area between 10 and 13 in the sketch. A zero degree fiber break is at the far right, while a major surface split is at the upper left. The complete delamination of the top two 45 degree plys is obvious.

Figure 22 illustrates the laminate of Test 44a, Figure A21a. Moire patterns show damage in this specimen at 400,000 cycles falls somewhere between the two previous examples. Microscopic examination confirmed this observation. This specimen was unusual in that a delamination runs

the length of the cross section between the inner 0 and -45 degree plys. More typical upper ply delaminations, along with a share of matrix cracks and splits, also exist. Failure in the zero degree plys is again indicated, both in the sketch and the photograph. Note that a section of honeycomb core can be seen in the lower left of this picture.

To prevent any false conclusions from being drawn, it should be stated that of the many cross sections examined, only two, both taken very close to the hole, contained zero degree failures. As mentioned above, difficulty in photographically recording the damage in a cross section forced pictures only of laminates with large, easily visible damage areas to be taken. The zero degree breaks were both interesting and obvious, thus accounting for their disproportionate share of the above damage photographs.

## 5.8 ANALYTICAL STRESS FIELD PREDICTION

A modified version of a computer program developed by Bar-Yoseph (52) was used to calculate the three dimensional stress field near a circular hole in  $(\pm 45/0)$ s and  $(0/\pm 45)$ s laminates. A second program was written to plot the results of the above analysis in an easily interpretable form. It had been hoped that Bar-Yoseph's analysis, which implicitly assumes individual plys to be composed of homogeneous, orthotropic material, would be useful in predicting the experimentally measured damage initiation sites of the laminates used in this test program. Unfortunately, as observation of the resulting stress field plots will show, gradients in the region very close to the hole are extremely steep, with large changes predicted to occur in a distance corresponding to the diameter of a graphite fiber (0.0076 mm.).

Two important points must be recalled (1) On the scale of this analysis graphite/epoxy is a highly nonhomogeneous material, and (2) the macroscopic stress field near the hole is undoubtedly altered by the microscopic matrix cracks observed to develop prior to and away from the initiation sites of Figure 10. Considering those facts, it is not surprising that observed damage initiation sites did not correspond to the peak stress locations predicted by theory.

The results of this most recent development in the analysis of composite laminate edge layers are none the less of interest to researchers in several related areas, and therefore have been included as Appendix B. Figures B1 through B120 are contour plots of individual stress components calculated on various horizontal planes. These figures present a top view of each plane. Shown is 180 degree sector of the specimen, cut through the hole along a line parallel to the load direction. An area from the hole edge to a radial location just one ply thickness away has been included in the plot. Observation of Figure 20 shows that these plots

span a distance of less than 20 fiber diameters. The increment between stress contours was chosen to produce 10 contour levels per plot. Results are presented for calculations performed at five through the thickness locations. Z=1 and Z=2 are ply interfaces, while Z=0.5, 1.5, and 2.5 are ply midplanes.

The 60 individual figures for each of the two laminates analyzed have been divided into two sets. In the first set of 30, stresses, nondimensionalized by the average far field axial laminate stress, are presented in the cylindrical coordinates employed by the analytical method. Figure titles indicate which stress component is being plotted, with F used in place of the more traditional 0 as an abbreviation for stress. R, T, and Z of course denote radial, tangential and out-of-plane directions. Note that at the hole edge the stress free boundary conditions have been satisfied exactly.

The second set of 30 shows the same data rotated into the local ply coordinates; 1 is the local fiber direction, 2 is normal to the fibers and 3 is out of the laminate plane. FZZ, which is not changed by this transformation, is contained only in the first set. An additional plot, labelled as COMB in the figures, shows the result of taking the square root of the sum of the squares of F12, F23, and F31. This value was calculated in an unsuccessful attempt, loosely based on the Tsai-Hill failure theory (67), to find some combination of stresses that would have its maximum at a damage initiation site.

## Chapter VI CONCLUSIONS

The location of first observable damage in four different graphite/epoxy laminates has been shown to be an experimentally repeatable layup characteristic. Most of the 92  $(\pm 45/0)$ s laminates that developed damage during fatigue testing first showed signs of initiation in one of four symmetrically arranged locations around the hole's perimeter. Damage in the other three laminates began within a 10 degree sector measured counterclockwise from the perpendicular to the load direction.

The progression of the damage after initiation was also consistent within a laminate type. Appendix A shows that damage tended to develop in patterns that can be associated with a particular layup. Damage area versus cycle plots for three of the layups can easily be distinguished, one from the other, by their unique individual behaviors in the three regions of growth described by the text. (Insufficient data for  $(0/\pm45)$ s specimens was obtained to include them in this statement). All three laminate types showed a nearly horizontal region of damage growth (see Figures 11-19) early in their lives. The  $(\pm45/0)$ s specimens tended to gradually increase their rate of damage growth in a second region.

This transition zone was much less visible on the plots of the two laminate types with 30 degree angle plys. A third period in the damage progression for all three laminates was the region of very rapid propagation shortly before failure. The damage area at failure of the  $(\pm 30/0)$ s's was significantly smaller than that of the other two laminate types.

An important experimental result was the lack of correlation, in all but the broadest sense, between final damage area and either maximum fatigue load or life. In all four laminates tested, a majority of the compressive load was carried by the zero degree plys. Post-fatigue inspection showed damage concentrated mainly in the angle plys. This suggests that better correlation between damage area and load may be found in tests of laminates that initiate and propagate damage in their load carrying plys.

Many specimens showed a rapid growth of damage area immediately prior to failure. This result suggests that some warning of imminent specimen fracture may be obtained by the periodic monitoring of fatigue damage, with emphasis placed on the rate of change of damage growth rather than its physical size.

for this type of laminate has been developed from these observations. Initial damage in a ply takes the form of vertical matrix cracks which originate either from high static loads (first cycle damage) or fatigue cycling. These cracks, which almost always stop at ply interfaces, act as nucleation sites for delamination by perturbing the already large interlaminar stresses that occur at these locations. Delaminations then grow to a size where a ply, weakened by the combination of wear-out type fatigue damage and lack of support from adjoining plys, can no longer carry the maximum applied load and splits along the fibers. The load carried in the split ply must be transfered to other lamina, further accelerating damage propagation and producing the Region 3 type behavior described in the previous section.

Moire interferometry proved to be a simple, quick and effective method for the detection of subsurface damage in a composite material. Microscopic examination of damaged specimens showed that delaminations with a length of approximately 2mm. could be routinely detected in the top few plys of the laminate. The method was less useful in the detection of cracks and splits, since these forms of damage do not tend to produce out-of-plane thickness changes. Since the patterns produced are, visible to the naked eye, real time observation of damage propagation is possible. This characteristic of Moire interferometry gives it an obvious advantage over many of the more commonly employed composite inspection methods, especially in experiments of this type.

An analysis of the three dimensional stress field near the hole was unable to predict the damage initiation sites of two of the laminates tested. Because graphite/epoxy is highly nonhomogeneous on the scale of the analysis, its failure was not surprising. It seems that an even more complicated approach, taking into account the material's inherent inhomogeneity, will be required to accurately predict initiation sites in an arbitrarily stacked laminate.

| TYPE               | NET SECTION<br>COMPRESSIVE<br>ULTIMATE<br>(MPa) | LAMINA<br>MODUL<br>(GPa<br>Face A | TE<br>US<br>Face B | LINEAR REC<br>CORREL<br>COFFLC<br>Face A | CRESSION<br>ATION<br>IENT<br>Face B |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
|                    |   |                                   |                    |  |                                     |
| (+45/0)s           | 480.6   | ł                                 | I                  | ı  | ı                                   |
| (145/0)s           | ,493.8  | I                                 | ł                  | ,  | ١                                   |
| (115/0)s           | 430.8   | ı                                 | I                  | ı  | 1                                   |
| (1112)s            | 465.6   | ı                                 | ı                  | ;  | ı                                   |
| (0/51+)            | 1   | 56.0                              | ı                  | 7997.                                    | l                                   |
| (1210)s            | I   | 52.5                              | I                  | .9996                                    | ı                                   |
| (115/0)s           | 1   | 54.8                              | I                  | .9996                                    | ı                                   |
| $(+45/0)_{s}$      | 496.6   | 55.6                              | 56.2               | .9996                                    | .9997                               |
| 745/0)s            | 434.2   | 55.7                              | 57.7               | 6666.                                    | .9999                               |
| ( <u>+</u> #5/0)s  | 385.7   | 51.6                              | 51.4               | 7666.                                    | .9998                               |
| s(2++10)           | 469.1   | ١                                 | 61.8               | 1  | .9998                               |
| 0/745)s            | 417.8   | ł                                 | 53.2               | 1  | .9998                               |
| 0/+45)s            | 473.3   | i                                 | 56.7               | 1  | .9998                               |
| +30/0)s            | 104.7   | 81.6                              | 75.6               | .9999                                    | .9999                               |
| ( <u>+</u> 30/0)s  | 446.2   | 89.9                              | 81.1               | .9998                                    | .9999                               |
| 0/+30)s<br>0/+30)s | 405.5<br>399.1                                  | 81.5<br>80.3                      | 80.7<br>80.5       | 6666.<br>6666.                           | 6666.<br>6666.                      |
|                    | I   | not mea                           | sured              |  |                                     |

STATIC TEST DATA

TABLE 1a

| TEST | = | NET SECTION<br>STRESS(MPa) | CYCLES TO<br>FAILURE | CYCLE   | S 10   | FIN<br>DAMA  | AL<br>GE | ITINI | AGE<br>ATION |
|------|---|----------------------------|----------------------|---------|--------|--------------|----------|-------|--------------|
|      |   |                            |                      | Face A  | Face B | Face A       | Face B   | Face  | Face         |
| 10   |   | 400.4                      | 2280                 | 800     | 300    | .916         | .381     | 60    | 120          |
| 12   |   | 397.1                      | 19800                | 800     | 200    | 1.077        | 1.923    | 131   | 230          |
| 15   |   | 394.8                      | <b>.</b>             | I       | ١      | t            | 1        | ł     | ,            |
| Ś    |   | 387.5                      | 4640                 | 500     | 500    | .974         | .703     | 236   | 313          |
| 2    |   | 385.5                      | 98250                | 500     | 500    | 2.948        | 2.361    | 130   | 138          |
| 13   |   | 385.0                      | • 63530              | 1250    | 2000   | 2.168        | .845     | 231   | 227          |
| ð    |   | 384.4                      | 109180               | 1400    | 400    | 1.800        | 6.619    | 138   | 225          |
| 16   |   | 383.7                      | 4180                 | 1000    | 400    | .361         | .761     | 229   | 53           |
| 6    |   | 382.4                      | 195990               | 1600    | 400    | 3.826        | 3.519    | 145   | 305          |
| 40   |   | 366.9                      | 16850                | 4500    | 1250   | .542         | .813     | 325   | 290          |
| 82   |   | 365.7                      | 18540                | 1500    | 800    | 1.135        | 3.046    | 45    | 75           |
| 41   |   | 363.5                      | 5690                 | 1250    | 5500   | .373         | ١        | 255   | 225          |
| 86   |   | 358.3                      | 137790               | 1500    | 400    | 1.187        | 1.748    | 50    | 310          |
| 14   |   | 350.6                      | 211530               | 4500    | 2500   | 5.581        | . 484    | 42    | 46           |
| 83   |   | 344.5                      | 516400               | 4500    | 3000   | 4.084        | 2.794    | 257   | 230          |
| 75   |   | 341.6                      | 00081.               | 3000    | 1000   | . 877        | .613     | 48    | 45           |
| 39   |   | 336.0                      | 691140               | 0057    | 9500   | 7.760        | 1.322    | 220   | 125          |
| 38   |   | 335.5                      | 197390               | 8000    | 6500   | 2.314        | 1.443    | 120   | 310          |
| 77   |   | 330.8                      | 39620                | 6000    | 200    | 3.084        | .626     | 316   | 47           |
| 58   |   | 317.6                      | 80330                | 5000    | 1750   | 1.071        | 4.581    | 216   | 80           |
| 52   |   | 316.6                      | 182620               | 17000   | 7000   | <b>π66</b> . | 3.378    | 43    | 120          |
| 61   |   | 299.8                      | 592950               | 130000  | 7000   | . 432        | 2.645    | 0 †1  | 325          |
|      |   |                            |                      | pennad  |        |              | -        |       |              |
|      |   |                            |                      | 70 - 70 |        |              |          |       |              |

(<u>+</u>45/0)<sub>s</sub> fatigue test data - failed specimens

TABLE 2a

A-56

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| TEST # | NET SECTION<br>STRESS(MPa) | CYCLES TO<br>END OF<br>FATIGUE | CYCLE<br>DAM                            | ZES TO<br>NGE<br>VITION | PIN<br>DAMA<br>AREA( | AL<br>GE<br>CM2)<br>F220 | INITIA<br>SITE (DEU | GE<br>TION<br>GREES)<br>E 200 R | RESIDUAL<br>STATIC<br>STRENGTH |
|--------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|        |                            | NTAVOT                         |   |                         |                      |                          |                     |                                 |                                |
| 9      | 348.4                      | 300000                         | 1000                                    | 2500                    | 0.529                | 2.755                    | 230                 | 225                             | 444.1                          |
| -      | 346.1                      | 300000                         | 200                                     | pu                      | 2.595                | pu                       | 45                  | pu                              | 408.7                          |
| 81     | 324.4                      | 600000                         | 3250                                    | 2000                    | 0.871                | 1.555                    | 130                 | μŢ                              | 481.2                          |
| 63     | 323.5                      | 1000000                        | 14000                                   | 9000                    | 10.045               | 4.374                    | 42                  | 310                             | *                              |
| 79     | 310.3                      | 600000                         | 6000                                    | 60000                   | 0.742                | 0.884                    | 48                  | 230                             | 471.9                          |
| 36     | 306.7                      | 420000                         | 6500                                    | pu                      | 0.942                | pu                       | 45                  | pu                              | *                              |
| 35     | 305.9                      | 660000                         | 120000                                  | 35000                   | 0.632                | 1.077                    | 318                 | 51                              | *                              |
| 34     | 303.7                      | 300000                         | 32500                                   | 19000                   | 0.761                | 1.239                    | 48                  | 225                             | *                              |
| 37     | 298.8                      | 600000                         | 85000                                   | 140000                  | 0.510                | 0.516                    | 41                  | 120                             | 457.5                          |
| 45     | 292.6                      | 600000                         | 220000                                  | pu                      | 0.097                | pu                       | 325                 | pu                              | 379.9                          |
| E tr   | 292.1                      | 600000                         | 20000                                   | 380000                  | 1.058                | 0.190                    | 304                 | 220                             | 427.7                          |
| 1.11   | -291.1                     | 600000                         | 42500                                   | 50000                   | 0.097                | .120                     | 320                 | 295                             | 427.1                          |
| 46     | 284.4                      | 600000                         | 340000                                  | 14000                   | 0.535                | .556                     | 310                 | 210                             | 447.8                          |
| 78     | 282.8                      | 600000                         | 6000                                    | 11000                   | 1.548                | 1.155                    | 153                 | 226                             | 366.7                          |
| 4 4    | 282.7                      | 401210                         | 20000                                   | 45000                   | 2.058                | .788                     | 237                 | 43                              | *                              |
| 69     | 282.6                      | 420000                         | 95000                                   | 35000                   | шu                   | .120                     | 315                 | 223                             | *                              |
| 48     | 276.4                      | 600000                         | pu                                      | 40000                   | pu                   | มน                       | pu                  | 40                              | *                              |
| 80     | 275.9                      | 000009                         | 50000                                   | 80000                   | 0.890                | 0.232                    | 146                 | 40                              | 377.7                          |
| 50     | 275.7                      | 600000                         | pu                                      | pu                      | pu                   | pu                       | þu                  | pu                              | 462.0                          |
| 51     | 274.0                      | 600000                         | 270000                                  | 170000                  | 0.284                | шu                       | 129                 | 218                             | 420.1                          |
| 49     | 265.0                      | 600000                         | pu                                      | 190000                  | pu                   | ши                       | pu                  | 310                             | 403.3                          |
| 11     | 262.1                      | 600000                         | 115000                                  | 320000                  | шu                   | шu                       | 230                 | 130                             | *                              |
| 53     | 261.3                      | 600000                         | pu                                      | 230000                  | pu                   | .056                     | pu                  | 45                              | 442.0                          |
| 54     | 254.1                      | 600000                         | pu                                      | pu                      | pu                   | pu                       | pu                  | pu                              | 427.6                          |
| 59     | 249.7                      | 600000                         | pu                                      | pu                      | pu                   | pu                       | pu                  | pu                              | 375.0                          |
| 42     | 249.5                      | 1000000                        | pu                                      | pu                      | pu                   | pu                       | pu                  | pu                              | 398.5                          |
| t u    | no vicíhla                 |                                |   |                         |                      |                          |                     |                                 |                                |
|        | damage are                 | a not measi                    | hed                                     |                         |                      |                          |                     |                                 |                                |
| *      | superimen r                | eserved for                    | r micro:                                | sconic e                | xaminat.i            | 20                       |                     |                                 |                                |
|        | · :>:*>>/                  |                                | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, | ., ,                    |                      |                          |                     |                                 |                                |

TABLE 2b (±45/0)s FATIGUE TEST DATA - UNFAILED SPECIMENS

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| <u>TYPE</u>  | TEST#                | NET SECTION<br>STRESS(MPa)                | EAILURE<br>FAILURE                      | CYCLI<br>DAM<br>Face A | ES TO<br>AGE<br>Face B   | FIN<br>DAMA<br>AREA(<br>Face A | AL<br>GE<br>Face B      | DAM<br>SITE(D<br>Face A  | AGE<br>ATION<br>EGREES)<br>Face B |
|--|----------------------|---|---|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (0/+45)s<br>(0/+45)s<br>(0/+45)s                         | 64<br>65<br>70       | 3,14.7<br>323.6<br>276.1                  | 910<br>6040<br>40059                    | 2000<br>37500          | 2250<br>5000             | nd<br>016<br>mm                | nd<br>0.226<br>2.387    | nd<br>100<br>282         | nd<br>105<br>95                   |
| (+30/0)s<br>(+30/0)s<br>(+30/0)s<br>(+30/0)s<br>(+30/0)s | 55<br>56<br>57<br>58 | 398.8<br>311.6<br>289.8<br>286.4<br>276.6 | 1<br>59310<br>71590<br>227960<br>476550 | 37500<br>nd<br>140000  | 25000<br>25000<br>170000 | .574<br>nd<br>0.587<br>.232    | .084<br>.813<br>.477    | 282<br>282<br>275<br>100 | 280<br>274<br>274<br>280          |
| $(0/\pm 30)s$<br>$(0/\pm 30)s$<br>$(0/\pm 30)s$          | 73<br>60<br>67       | 290.0<br>275.8<br>275.7                   | 478090<br>155250<br>464140              | 1250<br>26000<br>22500 | 4500<br>13000<br>25000   | 3.187<br>.111<br>7.039         | 0.065<br>2.329<br>1.419 | 271<br>91<br>92          | 275<br>95<br>273                  |
| шu   | no v<br>dama         | isiblc damage<br>ge area not me           | easured                                 |                        |                          |                                |                         |                          |                                   |
|  | TABLE                | 2c (0/±45) <sub>s</sub>                   | , ( <u>+</u> 30/0) <sub>s</sub>         | , and (0,              | /±30)s FA                | <b>TIGUE FA</b>                | ILURE D                 | ATA                      |                                   |

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| TION<br>Face B                            | 280      | 91<br>mu         | 275<br>270<br>275                            |                             |            |
|---|----------|------------------|--|-----------------------------|------------|
| DAMA<br>INITIA<br>SITE(DE<br>Face A       | pu       | 95<br>233        | 06<br>06                                     |                             |            |
| ACC B                                     | .232     | .129<br>nm       | nm<br>.219<br>1.258                          |                             | ß          |
| FINA<br>DAMAG<br>AREA(C<br>Face A         | pu       | .581<br>nm       | חח<br>חח<br>2.032                            |                             | 372.2 MP   |
| E ace B                                   | 15000    | 37500<br>220000  | 11000<br>10000<br>2250                       |                             | ength =    |
| CYCLE<br>DAMA<br>Face A                   | pu       | 120000<br>65000  | 12000<br>2750<br>9000                        | ed                          | tic Str    |
| CYCLES TO<br>END OF<br>FATIGUE<br>LOADING | 15000    | 170000<br>220000 | 15000<br>100000<br>680000                    | lamage<br>not measur        | ctol Cubic |
| NET SECTION<br>STRESS(MPa)                | 262.2    | 282.4<br>282.6   | 282.6<br>282.4<br>276.0                      | no visíble d<br>damage area |            |
| TEST#                                     | ጸና       | 41<br>41<br>80   | - 81<br>- 84<br>72                           | рu                          |            |
| LAMINATE                                  | >(317/0) | (+30/0)s         | (0/+30)s<br>(0/+30)s<br>(0/+30)s<br>(0/+30)s |                             |            |

Test 72 Residual Static Strength = 372.2 MPa Specimens for all other tests sectioned and microscopically examined.

OTHER  $(0/\pm 45)s$ ,  $(\pm 30/0)s$  and  $(0/\pm 30)s$  FATIGUE TEST DATA TABLE 2d

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FOR IN-PLANE STRAIN MEASUREMENT MOIRE TECHNIQUE FIGURE 2





- A) TESTING MACHINE HYDRAULIC GRIPS
- B) SIX DEGREE OF FREEDOM MOUNT
- C) IOO LINE/INCH MOIRE GRILL
- D) TEST SPECIMEN
- E) VIBRATION ISOLATION MOUNTING

FIGURE 4 MOIRE GRILL MOUNTED NEAR SPECIMEN

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- A) HYDRAULIC GRIPS
- B) 500 WATT SLIDE PROJECTOR
- C) ZOOM LENS WITH KNIFE EDGE SLIT
- D) CAMERA
- E) VIBRATION ISOLATION MOUNTING
- F) SPECIMEN AND MOIRE GRILL

## FIGURE 5 EXPERIMENTAL SETUP





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FIGURE IO DAMAGE INITIATION SITES ON HOLE EDGE







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| A-/0 | A- | 7 | 8 |
|------|----|---|---|
|------|----|---|---|



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Longitudinal Cut 0.5 mm. from Right Edge of Hole

## FIGURE 20 FATIGUE DAMAGE IN A CROSS SECTION FROM TEST 34A



(±45/0)<sub>s</sub> Cross Section at 1.5





Longitudinal Cut 0.5 cm. from Right Edge of Hole

## FIGURE 21 FATIGUE DAMAGE IN CROSS SECTIONS FROM TEST 63B

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FIGURE 22 FATIGUE DAMAGE IN A CROSS SECTION FROM TEST 44A

