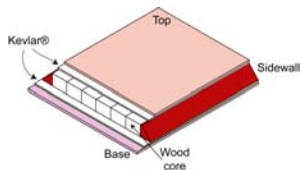


## Class 5 & 6: Composites



PRIME Modules  
Project-based Resources for Introduction to Materials Engineering

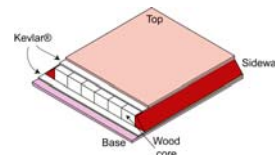
## A composite is a multiphase material engineered to maximize properties of both phases

A composite is any multiphase material that has a significant proportion of the properties of all phases such that a better combination of properties is realized.

The phases must be chemically dissimilar and separated by a distinct interface.

Most composites have been created to improve combinations of mechanical characteristics such as stiffness, toughness, and ambient and high-temperature strength.

Skis and snowboards use a number of composites including wood, Kevlar laminates, and fiberglass.



The Kevlar® fiber in modern skis is sometimes replaced with fiberglass.

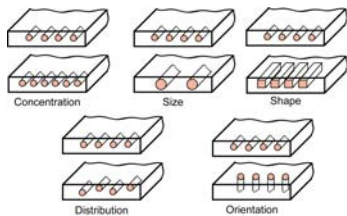
W.D. Callister, *Materials Science and Engineering An Introduction 5/e*, (John Wiley and Sons, New York, 2000).

## Composite properties depend on the matrix and dispersed phase.

Many composites are composed of just two phases.

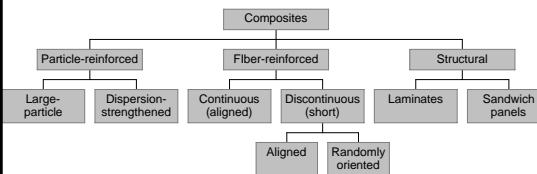
The matrix is continuous and surrounds the other phase, the dispersed phase.

The properties of composites are a function of the properties of the constituent phases, their relative amounts, and the geometry of the dispersed phase.



W.D. Callister, *Materials Science and Engineering An Introduction 5/e*, (John Wiley and Sons, New York, 2000).

## Composite materials are classified on the shape and arrangement of the dispersed phase.



W.D. Callister, *Materials Science and Engineering An Introduction 5/e*, (John Wiley and Sons, New York, 2000).

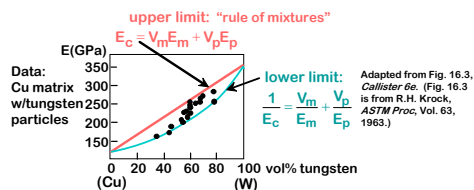
## Cement and tires are examples of particle reinforced composites.

-Spheroidite steel	matrix: ferrite ( $\alpha$ ) (ductile)	particles: cementite ( $\text{Fe}_3\text{C}$ ) (brittle)	Adapted from Fig. 10.10, Callister 6e. (Fig. 10.10 is copyright United States Steel Corporation, 1971.)
-WC/Co cemented carbide	matrix: cobalt (ductile) $V_m$ : 10-15vol%	particles: WC (brittle, hard)	Adapted from Fig. 16.4, Callister 6e. (Fig. 16.4 is courtesy Carbonyl Systems, Department, General Electric Company.)
-Automobile tires	matrix: rubber (compliant)	particles: C (stiffer)	Adapted from Fig. 16.5, Callister 6e. (Fig. 16.5 is courtesy Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company.)

Overhead adapted from Callister

## The Young's modulus in particle reinforced composites is determined by the rule of mixing

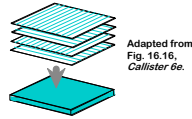
The rule of mixing states the actual Young's modulus in a particle reinforced composite is between and upper and lower bound.



Overhead adapted from Callister

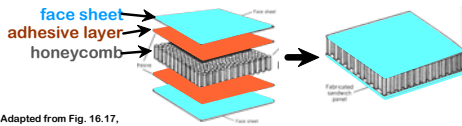
## Structural composites are made up of layers or panels

Ex: Stacked and bonded fiber-reinforced sheets  
 - stacking sequence: e.g., 0/90  
 - benefit: balanced, in-plane stiffness



Adapted from Fig. 16.16, Callister 6e.

Ex: Sandwich panels  
 - low density, honeycomb core  
 - benefit: small weight, large bending stiffness



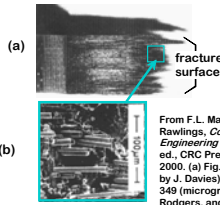
Adapted from Fig. 16.17, Callister 6e. (Fig. 16.17 is from *Engineered Materials Handbook*, Vol. 1, *Composites*, ASM International, Materials Park, OH, 1987.)

Overhead adapted from Callister

## Fiber reinforced composites can be continuous or discontinuous

### Aligned Continuous fibers

Ex: Glass w/SiC fibers  
 $E_{\text{Glass}} = 76 \text{ GPa}$ ;  $E_{\text{SiC}} = 400 \text{ GPa}$ .

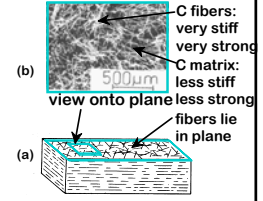


(a)

From F.L. Matthews and R.L. Rawlings, *Composite Materials; Engineering and Science*, Reprint ed., CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL, 2000. (a) Fig. 4.22, p. 145 (photo by J. Davies); (b) Fig. 11.20, p. 349 (micrograph by H.S. Kim, P.S. Rodgers, and R.D. Rawlings). Used with permission of CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL.

### Discontinuous, random 2D fibers

Ex: C fibers in a C matrix



(b)

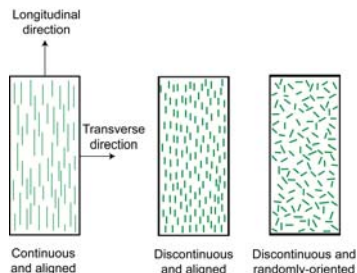
Adapted from F.L. Matthews and R.L. Rawlings, *Composite Materials; Engineering and Science*, Reprint ed., CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL, 2000. (a) Fig. 4.24(a), p. 151; (b) Fig. 4.24(b), p. 151. (Courtesy I.J. Davies). Reproduced with permission of CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL.

Overhead adapted from Callister

## Fiber Orientation influences the mechanical strength of the composite.

Continuous fibers are normally aligned, whereas discontinuous fibers may be aligned, randomly oriented, or partially oriented.

Better overall composite properties are realized when the fiber distribution is uniform.

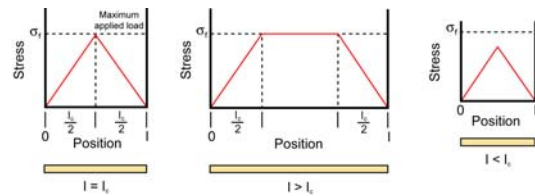


W.D. Callister, *Materials Science and Engineering An Introduction 5/e*, (John Wiley and Sons, New York, 2000).

## Fibers below a critical fiber length do not support the load applied to it.

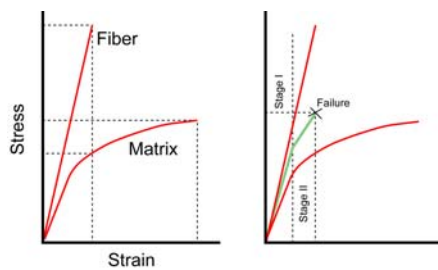
Some critical fiber length is necessary for effective strengthening and stiffening of the composite material.

$$l_c = \frac{\sigma_f * d}{2\tau_c}$$



W.D. Callister, *Materials Science and Engineering An Introduction 5/e*, (John Wiley and Sons, New York, 2000).

## The stress strain properties of the composite depend on both the fiber and the matrix



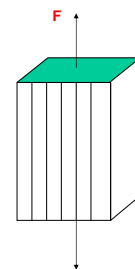
W.D. Callister, *Materials Science and Engineering An Introduction 5/e*, (John Wiley and Sons, New York, 2000).

## Composites are classified by the shape and arrangement of the dispersed phase

The dispersed phase is defined by the shape  
 particle  
 structural  
 fiber

The mechanical properties of each composite are influenced by the amount and arrangement of the dispersed phase

Fiber reinforced polymer for civil infrastructures use continuous fibers in a polymer matrix. We are going to be focusing on this type of composite



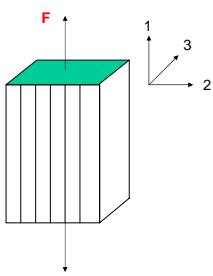
In continuous fibers strain is constant for the fiber and matrix and stress is the sum

In aligned continuous fibers, the strain of the overall composite, the fiber, and the matrix are all equal.

$$\epsilon_C = \epsilon_F = \epsilon_M$$

The stress supported by the composite is the sum of the stress supported by the fiber and matrix

$$F_C = F_F + F_M$$

$$\sigma_C = \sigma_F + \sigma_M$$


In longitudinal loading, the modulus of elasticity of the composite is the weighted sum of the fiber and matrix.

In aligned, continuous fibers, when the force is applied in the direction of the fiber (1, longitudinal loading)

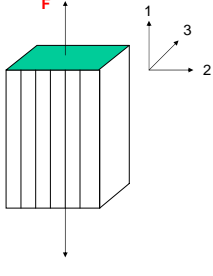
$$\sigma_C = \sigma_M V_M + \sigma_F V_F$$

Volume fraction

$$\frac{\sigma_C}{\epsilon_C} = \frac{\sigma_M}{\epsilon_M} V_M + \frac{\sigma_F}{\epsilon_F} V_F$$

$$E_{C,L} = E_{C,1} = E_M V_M + E_F V_F = E_{max}$$

This only applies in the range when both components are behaving elastically



In transverse loading, the modulus of elasticity of the composite is limited by the lower of the components.

In aligned, continuous fibers, when the force is applied perpendicular to the fiber (2, transverse loading)

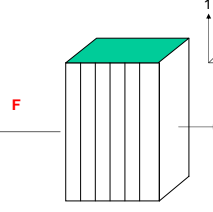
$$\sigma_C = \sigma_M = \sigma_F$$

$$\epsilon_C = \epsilon_M V_M + \epsilon_F V_F$$

$$\frac{\sigma}{E_{C,T}} = \frac{\sigma}{E_M} V_M + \frac{\sigma}{E_F} V_F$$

$$E_{C,T} = E_{C,2} = \frac{E_M E_F}{V_M E_F + V_F E_M}$$

This only applies in the range when both components are behaving elastically



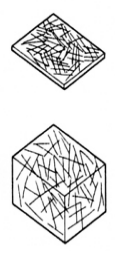
When the fibers are not aligned, the modulus is a fraction of the aligned value

Random-in-the-plane

$$E_{C,1} = E_{C,2} \approx \frac{3}{8} E_{max}$$

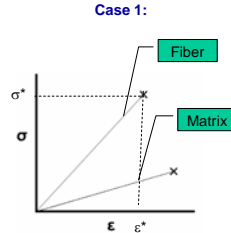
Aligned, longitudinal value

Random in 3 dimensions

$$E_{C,1} = E_{C,2} = E_{C,3} \approx \frac{1}{5} E_{max}$$


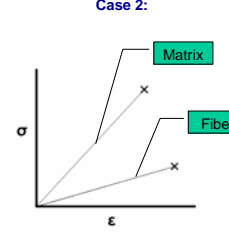
In longitudinal loading, the overall strain is limited by the component with the least strain at failure

Case 1:



Fibers Fail First

Case 2:



Matrix Fails First

In case 1, the composite fails when the fiber fails if there is a significant amount of fiber

Case 1:

At low  $V_F$ :

$$\sigma_1^* = V_M \sigma_M^*$$

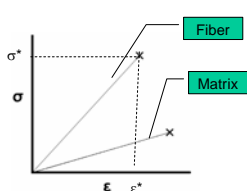
Matrix carries the load beyond fiber failure

At high  $V_F$ :

$$\sigma_1^* = V_F \sigma_F^* + V_M \sigma_M^*$$

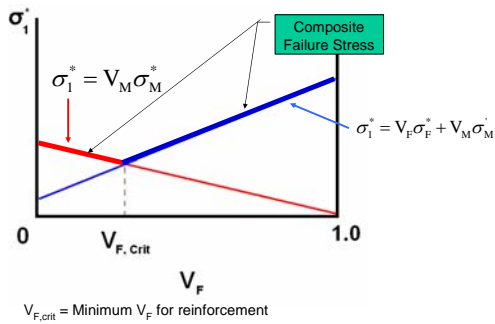
Stress in matrix when fibers fail

Composite failure when fiber fails



The critical volume of fiber for reinforcement depends on comparing the 2  $\sigma_1^*$  values

Case 1



In case 2, the composite fails when the matrix fails unless there is a significant amount of fiber

Case 2:  
At low  $V_F$ :

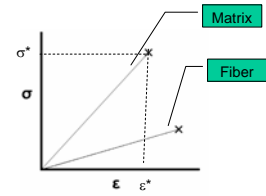
$$\sigma_1^* = V_F \sigma_F^* + V_M \sigma_M^*$$

Composite fails when matrix fails

At high  $V_F$ :

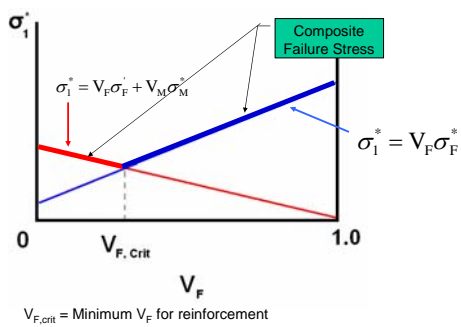
$$\sigma_1^* = V_F \sigma_F^*$$

Fiber carries the load beyond matrix failure



The critical volume of fiber for reinforcement depends on comparing the 2  $\sigma_1^*$  values

Case 2



In summary, the mechanical properties of the composite depend on the type and arrangement of the reinforcement

In particle reinforced composites, the modulus of elasticity has upper and lower bounds determined by the rule of mixing

In fiber reinforced composites, the modulus of elasticity, tensile strength, and strain at fracture depend on whether the fibers are continuous and how they are aligned relative to the applied force

