

## Lecture 7 - Physical measurements

Dr. Nicholas Smith

Wichita State University, Department of Aerospace Engineering

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1

### schedule

- Feb 23 - Physical measurements
- Feb 25 - Variational Calculus
- Mar 2 - Variational Calculus
- Mar 4 - Boundary Conditions (HW3 Due)

2

- review
- measuring orientation

## review

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## checking transformations

- Follow the procedure here<sup>1</sup>
- This gives a way to systematically check whether your rotations are correct
- You can check any coordinate transformation as long as you know the unit vectors of your primed coordinate system in the global coordinates

$$x = [Q^T]x'$$

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<sup>1</sup><http://nbviewer.jupyter.org/github/ndaman/multiscale/blob/master/examples/Orientation%20Playground.ipynb>

## common homework errors

- Some people had rotations about an axis with zeros along the diagonal
- This is possible with successive rotations, but for a rotation about one of the three axes, you should always have one term along the diagonal equal to 1
- When calculating stiffness in Problem 2, most students had some un-expected behavior
- All four walls had same  $x_1$  component of fibers, you should have gotten  $C_{11}$  the same for all 4 walls
- $C_{22}$  or  $C_{33}$  should have also been equal to  $C_{11}$ , depending on the wall

## measuring orientation

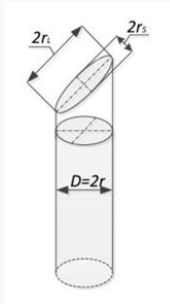
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### measuring orientation

- In micromechanics (and most places where multi-scale modeling would be used), measuring local orientations can be difficult
- For composites, these are some common techniques
  - Microscopy (some ambiguity in orientation tensor)
  - Serial sectioned microscopy (eliminates ambiguity, very expensive)
  - CT-scanning (only gives approximate measure)
  - Micro CT-scanning (only for very small parts)

- Cylindrical fiber intersects cutting plane at some angle
- After cutting and polishing, this leaves an ellipse
- By measuring the ellipse, we can calculate the angle between it and the cutting plane
- Microscopy can also be used to measure volume fraction, void content, and fiber spacing

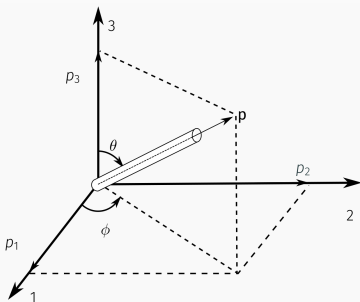
7



**Figure 1:** An image showing the ellipse that results from cutting a cylinder at an angle that isn't perpendicular to the axis.

8

## fiber in spherical coordinates



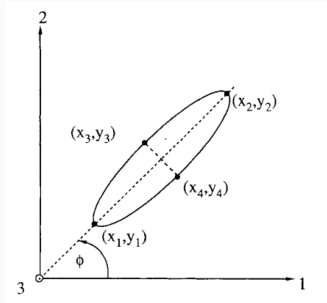
**Figure 2:** Relating the spherical coordinate system to direction vectors to describe fiber orientation

9

## fiber direction components

Component	Definition
$p_1$	$\sin \theta \cos \phi$
$p_2$	$\sin \theta \sin \phi$
$p_3$	$\cos \theta$

10



**Figure 3:** Defining some terms for analyzing the cross-section of an elliptical fiber cut. Phi is the angle between the major axis of the ellipse and the 1 axis,  $x_1, y_1$  mark the bottom left point of the ellipse  $x_2, y_2$  mark the upper right point of the ellipse (the major

11

## calculations

- We find the major ( $M$ ) and minor ( $m$ ) axes using

$$m = \sqrt{(x_3 - x_4)^2 + (y_3 - y_4)^2}$$

$$X = x_1 - x_2$$

$$Y = y_1 - y_2$$

$$M = \sqrt{X^2 - Y^2}$$

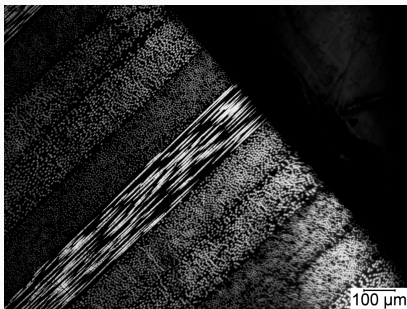
12

- We can now calculate angles using

$$\sin \phi = \frac{Y}{M} \cos \phi = \frac{X}{M} \cos \theta = \frac{m}{M} \sin \theta = \sqrt{1 - \frac{m^2}{M^2}}$$

13

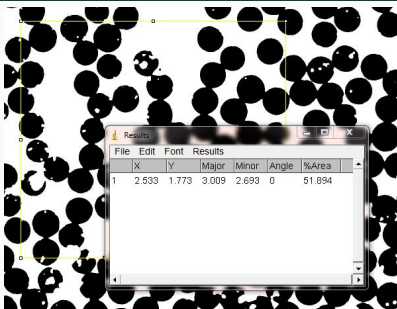
## microscopy



**Figure 4:** A microscopic image of a composite laminate, showing plies at different angles

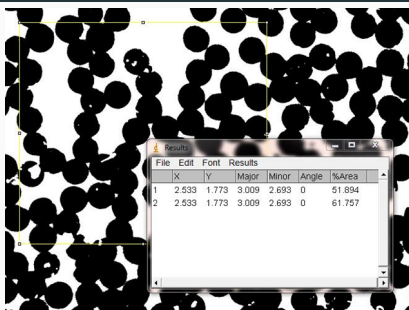
14





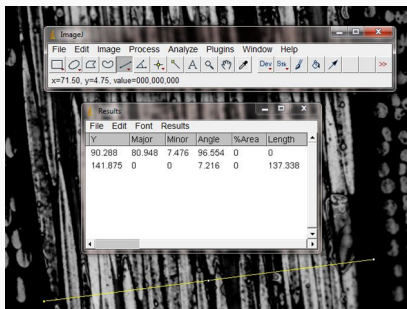
**Figure 5:** An image from some analysis to find the volume fraction of fibers in an image.

15



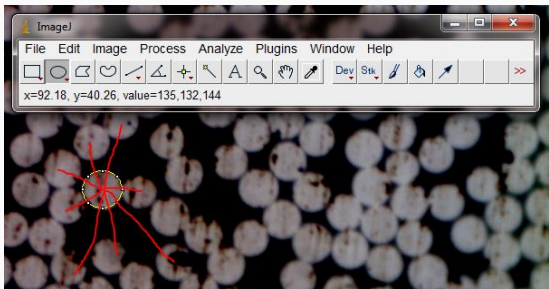
**Figure 6:** A demonstration that choosing the correct threshold value to convert greyscale images to only black and white is essential to correctly determining the volume fraction.

16



**Figure 7:** Ply thickness can be measured from a microscopic image

17



**Figure 8:** It can also be useful sometimes to measure the distance between a fiber and its nearest neighbors.

18

- If you have to do a lot of microscopy measurements, contact Dr. Sharma, he wrote an automated measurement tool
- Otherwise you can use imageJ<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup><https://imagej.nih.gov/ij/download.html>

## microscopy

- Need to account for bias in measurement (more likely to see fibers coming out of plane)
- There is some ambiguity in fiber angle
- Fiber at  $(\phi, \theta)$  is not distinguishable from  $(\phi + \pi, \theta)$
- In the second-order orientation tensor, this affects  $a_{23}$  and  $a_{13}$

- Serial sectioning is a method where you continually polish a specimen after photographing it
- After photograph you grind and polish, then photograph and repeat
- Gives the full 3D state of orientation, but is difficult

21

## CT Scanning

- Even if a CT Scan cannot resolve down to fiber resolution, the gradient information can give an idea of fiber orientation
- This method is not very precise
- But it can view the full-field and detect many forms of damage without destroying a part
- At the micro-scale full orientation can be obtained, but this is not practical for large parts

22