

MATHEMATICAL TRIPOS      Part III

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Thursday 30 May 2002   9 to 11

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PAPER 50

MECHANICS OF COMPOSITES

*Attempt **THREE** questions*

*There are **five** questions in total*

*The questions carry equal weight*

You may not start to read the questions  
printed on the subsequent pages until  
instructed to do so by the Invigilator.

**1 (a)** Express the mean value  $\bar{\varepsilon}_{ij}$  of the strain  $\varepsilon_{ij} = \frac{1}{2}(u_{i,j} + u_{j,i})$  over a domain  $\Omega$  as an integral involving the displacement components  $u_i$  over the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ . Express the mean value  $\bar{\sigma}_{ij}$  of the self-equilibrated stress  $\sigma_{ij}$  over  $\Omega$  as an integral involving the traction components  $t_i$  over the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ . Prove that

$$\frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega} \sigma_{ij} \varepsilon_{ij} \, d\mathbf{x} - \bar{\sigma}_{ij} \bar{\varepsilon}_{ij} = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\partial\Omega} (\sigma_{ij} - \bar{\sigma}_{ij}) n_j (u_i - \bar{\varepsilon}_{ik} x_k) \, dS.$$

**(b)** The effective energy density function  $W^{\text{eff}}$  of an inhomogeneous body, with local energy density function  $W(\varepsilon, \mathbf{x})$ , occupying a domain  $\Omega$ , is defined to be

$$W^{\text{eff}}(\bar{\varepsilon}) = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega} W(\varepsilon, \mathbf{x}) \, d\mathbf{x},$$

where  $\varepsilon_{ij}$  is the strain field induced in  $\Omega$  when the boundary condition  $u_i = \bar{\varepsilon}_{ik} x_k$  is applied over  $\partial\Omega$ . Prove that the mean stress and mean strain are related so that

$$\bar{\sigma}_{ij} = \frac{\partial W^{\text{eff}}(\bar{\varepsilon})}{\partial \bar{\varepsilon}_{ij}}. \quad (*)$$

**(c)** In the Voigt approximation,  $\varepsilon_{ij}$  is taken to be uniform and so equal to  $\bar{\varepsilon}_{ij}$ . Prove that the mean stress  $\bar{\sigma}_{ij}$ , calculated directly from this prescription, conforms to (\*), with  $W^{\text{eff}}(\bar{\varepsilon})$  replaced by its Voigt approximation

$$W_V(\bar{\varepsilon}) = \bar{W}(\bar{\varepsilon}) = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega} W(\bar{\varepsilon}, \mathbf{x}) \, d\mathbf{x}.$$

Prove the analogous result for the Reuss approximation

$$W_R(\bar{\varepsilon}) = (\bar{W}^*)^*(\bar{\varepsilon}),$$

which is obtained by taking  $\sigma_{ij} = \bar{\sigma}_{ij}$ .

**2** Give the conditions of continuity that must apply at a perfectly bonded interface with normal  $\mathbf{n}$  between two elastic media.

A laminate is composed of  $N$  different elastic materials, material of type  $r$  having elastic constant tensor  $\mathbf{C}^r$  ( $r = 1, 2, \dots, N$ ). All interfaces have normal  $\mathbf{n}$ . The objective is to construct equilibrium stress and strain fields that take constant values  $\sigma_{ij}^r, \varepsilon_{ij}^r$  in material  $r$ , and to deduce the effective elastic constant tensor  $\mathbf{C}^{\text{eff}}$  that relates their mean values  $\bar{\sigma} = \sum_{r=1}^N c_r \sigma^r$  and  $\bar{\varepsilon} = \sum_{r=1}^N c_r \varepsilon^r$ , where  $c_r$  is the volume fraction of material  $r$ . Introduce an additional, fictitious, material, with elastic constant tensor  $\mathbf{C}^0$ , and suppose that, if this material were also present in the laminate, the stress and strain within it would be  $\sigma^0, \varepsilon^0$ . Explain why it is possible to take

$$\varepsilon_{ij}^r = \varepsilon_{ij}^0 + (\alpha_i^r n_j + \alpha_j^r n_i)/2$$

for some  $\alpha_i^r$ . Deduce the relation

$$\varepsilon^r = [\mathbf{I} - \tilde{\Gamma}^r(\mathbf{n})(\mathbf{C}^r - \mathbf{C}^0)]\varepsilon^0,$$

where

$$\tilde{\Gamma}_{ijkl}^r(\mathbf{n}) = n_i (K^r(\mathbf{n}))_{jk}^{-1} n_l \Big|_{(ij),(kl)}; \quad K_{ik}^r(\mathbf{n}) = C_{ijkl}^r n_j n_l.$$

Prove that

$$\tilde{\Gamma}^r(\mathbf{C}^r - \mathbf{C}^s)\tilde{\Gamma}^s = \tilde{\Gamma}^s - \tilde{\Gamma}^r$$

for any  $r, s$ .

Deduce that

$$\mathbf{C}^{\text{eff}} = \left\langle \mathbf{C}[\mathbf{I} + \tilde{\Gamma}^0(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{C}^0)]^{-1} \right\rangle \left\langle [\mathbf{I} + \tilde{\Gamma}^0(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{C}^0)]^{-1} \right\rangle^{-1},$$

where  $\langle f \rangle \equiv \bar{f} = \sum_{r=1}^N c_r f^r$ . Show that this expression is independent of the choice of  $\mathbf{C}^0$ .

3 Specialize the general representation

$$\mathbf{\Gamma}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{-1}{8\pi^2} \int_{|\xi|=1} \tilde{\mathbf{\Gamma}}(\xi) \delta''(\xi \cdot \mathbf{x}) dS,$$

where  $\tilde{\Gamma}_{ijkl}(\xi) = \xi_i (K^{-1}(\xi))_{jk} \xi_l |_{(ij),(kl)}$  with  $K_{ik}(\xi) = C_{ijkl}^0 \xi_j \xi_l$ , to the case of an isotropic tensor  $\mathbf{C}^0$ , characterized by bulk modulus  $\kappa^0$  and shear modulus  $\mu^0$ :

$$C_{ijkl}^0 = \kappa^0 \delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} + \mu^0 (\delta_{ik} \delta_{jl} + \delta_{il} \delta_{jk} - 2\delta_{ij} \delta_{kl}/3).$$

Calculate  $\Gamma_{ijkk}(\mathbf{x})$  explicitly and deduce that

$$\Gamma_{ikk}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\kappa^0 + 4\mu^0/3} \delta(\mathbf{x}),$$

where  $\delta(\mathbf{x})$  is the three-dimensional Dirac delta.

An infinite isotropic matrix with bulk modulus  $\kappa^0$  and shear modulus  $\mu^0$  contains a bounded region  $V$  within which the bulk modulus is  $\kappa(\mathbf{x})$  but the shear modulus remains  $\mu^0$ . The matrix is loaded in such a way that, if  $\kappa(\mathbf{x})$  were equal to  $\kappa^0$  throughout  $V$ , the strain field would be  $\varepsilon^0(\mathbf{x})$ . Using the matrix as comparison material, show that the polarization within  $V$  has the form  $\tau_{ij}(\mathbf{x}) = \tau(\mathbf{x})\delta_{ij}$  for some scalar  $\tau(\mathbf{x})$ . Deduce that, within  $V$ ,

$$\varepsilon_{kk}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{3\kappa^0 + 4\mu^0}{3\kappa(\mathbf{x}) + 4\mu^0} \varepsilon_{kk}^0(\mathbf{x}),$$

and

$$\varepsilon_{ij}(\mathbf{x}) = \varepsilon_{ij}^0(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \int_V \frac{3(\kappa(\mathbf{x}') - \kappa^0)}{3\kappa(\mathbf{x}') + 4\mu^0} \frac{\varepsilon_{kk}^0(\mathbf{x}')}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|} d\mathbf{x}'.$$

4 The Hashin–Shtrikman variational approximation  $\mathbf{C}^{HS}$  for the effective conductivity tensor of a polycrystal is given by

$$\mathbf{C}^{HS} = \langle [\mathbf{I} + (\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{C}^0)\mathbf{P}]^{-1} \rangle^{-1} \langle [\mathbf{I} + (\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{C}^0)\mathbf{P}]^{-1} \mathbf{C} \rangle,$$

where  $\langle \rangle$  denotes an average over all crystal orientations.

In two dimensions, the tensor  $\mathbf{C}$  ( $= C_{ij}$ ) has principal values  $C_1$ , and  $C_2$ , and  $\mathbf{P} = \frac{1}{2C^0}\mathbf{I}$ , with  $\mathbf{C}^0 = C^0\mathbf{I}$ , where  $\mathbf{I}$  the two-dimensional identity tensor. Given that all orientations occur with equal frequency, prove that

$$\mathbf{C}^{HS} = \frac{2C_1C_2 + C^0(C_1 + C_2)}{C_1 + C_2 + 2C^0} \mathbf{I}.$$

Deduce the Hashin–Shtrikman lower and upper bounds ( $C_l$ ,  $C_u$  respectively) and show that the self-consistent approximation is

$$\mathbf{C}_{SC} = C_{SC}\mathbf{I}; \quad C_{SC} = (C_1C_2)^{1/2}.$$

Prove that  $C_l \leq C_{SC} \leq C_u$ .

5 Prove the minimum energy principle in the form

$$\int_{\Omega} (W(\varepsilon) - \sigma_0 \varepsilon) d\mathbf{x} \leq \int_{\Omega} (W(\varepsilon') - \sigma_0 \varepsilon') d\mathbf{x},$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is the actual strain field within an elastic solid occupying the domain  $\Omega$ , and  $\varepsilon'$  is any candidate strain field, associated with a displacement that satisfies any displacement boundary conditions that may be specified on the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ . The energy density function  $W$  is convex and  $\sigma_0$  is any stress field that satisfies the equilibrium equations (with the given body force  $\mathbf{f}$ ) and any prescribed traction boundary conditions on  $\partial\Omega$ .

The effective energy density function  $W^{\text{eff}}(\bar{\varepsilon})$  of a composite with local energy function  $W(\varepsilon, \mathbf{x})$ , occupying a domain  $\Omega$  (whose volume is normalized to 1) is defined as

$$W^{\text{eff}}(\bar{\varepsilon}) = \inf_{\varepsilon \in K} \int_{\Omega} W(\varepsilon, \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x},$$

where  $K$  denotes the set of strains compatible with the displacement boundary condition  $u_i = \bar{\varepsilon}_{ik} x_k$  on  $\partial\Omega$ . Prove that, for any choice of  $\tau(\mathbf{x})$  (with components  $\tau_{ij}$ ) and any function  $W_0(\varepsilon)$ ,

$$W^{\text{eff}}(\bar{\varepsilon}) \leq \inf_{\varepsilon \in K} \int_{\Omega} [\tau_{ij} \varepsilon_{ij} + W_0(\varepsilon) - (W - W_0)_*(\tau, \mathbf{x})] d\mathbf{x},$$

where

$$(W - W_0)_*(\tau, \mathbf{x}) = \inf_{\varepsilon} \{\tau_{ij} \varepsilon_{ij} - (W - W_0)(\varepsilon, \mathbf{x})\}.$$

Suppose that the composite has  $n$  constituents, so that

$$W(\varepsilon, \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{r=1}^n W_r(\varepsilon) \chi_r(\mathbf{x}),$$

where  $\chi_r(\mathbf{x})$  is the characteristic function of the region occupied by material  $r$ . Choosing  $W_0(\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon \mathbf{C}^0 \varepsilon$  and

$$\tau(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{r=1}^n \tau^r \chi_r(\mathbf{x}),$$

deduce the bound

$$W^{\text{eff}}(\bar{\varepsilon}) \leq \frac{1}{2} \bar{\varepsilon} \mathbf{C}^0 \bar{\varepsilon} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_r c_r \tau_{ij}^r (\varepsilon_{ij} - \varepsilon_{ij}^r) + \sum_r c_r (W - W_0)_{**}(\varepsilon^r),$$

where  $\varepsilon^r = (W_r - W_0)'(\tau^r)$  so that  $(W_r - W_0)'(\tau^r) + (W_r - W_0)_{**}(\varepsilon^r) = \tau_{ij}^r \varepsilon_{ij}^r$ ,

$$c_r \varepsilon^r + \sum_s \mathbf{A}_{rs} \tau^s = c_r \bar{\varepsilon}$$

and

$$c_r = \int_{\Omega} \chi_r(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{A}_{rs} = \int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{x} \int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{x}' (\chi_r(\mathbf{x}) - c_r) \mathbf{\Gamma}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') (\chi_s(\mathbf{x}') - c_s).$$

[Recall that the operator  $\mathbf{\Gamma}$  is such that  $\varepsilon(\mathbf{x}) = - \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{\Gamma}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \tau(\mathbf{x}') d\mathbf{x}'$  is associated with a displacement field  $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$  for which

$$C_{ijkl}^0 u_{k,lj} + \tau_{ij,j} = 0 \text{ in } \Omega, \quad u_i(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega.$$

The properties  $\int_{\Omega} \mathbf{\Gamma} d\mathbf{x} = 0$ ,  $\mathbf{\Gamma} \mathbf{C}^0 \mathbf{\Gamma} = \mathbf{\Gamma}$ ,  $\Gamma_{ijkl}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \Gamma_{klij}(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{x})$  may be assumed.]