



# **Major Contributors**

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  - Resin Transfer Molding (RTM) Simulation
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  - Bio's Equation for Consolidation by the Homogenization Method
- Dr. S.W. Hsiao
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  - Thermoplastic Molding Simulation by the Homogenization Method
- Ms. Minako Sekiguchi
  - Nissan Motor Corporation, Japan
  - Image Based CAE Approach for Modeling and Analysis



# **Major Objective**

- Establishment of a Material Processing Simulation Method Involving Microstructure and Slow Velocity Fluid Flow with Heat Conduction/Transfer
- Manufacturing : Computer Aided Production Engineering (CAPE)
- Microstructure ( or Mesostructure ) : Application of the Homogenization Method
- Coupled Problem : Solid and Fluid with Heat Transfer
- Large Scale Computating





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Permeability Prediction by the Homogenization Method Flow Simulation Through Porous Crashed Rock Fields



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### **Motivations of this research**

Deep drawing (stamping) of woven-fabric thermoplastic composites is a mass production and precision shaping technology to produce composite components.

### **Objectives of this research**

- Develop a FEM model to analyze this thermoforming process.
- Develop an optimization algorithm based on this FEM model to optimize this forming process.



# **Polymeric Resin Materials**

- Thermosetting Resins, e.g. Epoxy
  - Cross-linked molecular chain
  - Brittle, sensitive to water
  - Low viscosity

• Thermoplastic Resins, e.g. polyetheretherketone (PEEK)

- Linear molecular chain with temporary cross-link
- Toughness, water and environmental resistance
- High viscosity 100~1000 Pa.s

# Why Thermoplastic Composites?

From the manufacturing viewpoints

- Thermosetting Resins
  - Hand layed up into structural fiber preform and impregnation after shaping
  - Need chemical additives to cure after shaping and very long cure cycle time
  - Labor intense
- Thermoplastic Resins
  - Shaping only depends on heat transfer and force without chemistry
  - In a preimpregnated continuous tape form
  - High processing rate
  - Drawback: higher processing viscosity and forming temperature (320~400 C), and higher equipment cost



### Advantages of the composite stamping process

- Deep drawing (stamping) of woven-fabric thermoplastic composites is a mass production technology to produce composite components.
- This stamping process is also a precision shaping process.
- Woven-fabric composites possess a balanced drawability, and can avoid the excessive thinning caused by the transverse intraply shearing.



## **Governing equations for thermoforming process**

1. Momentum and continuity equations

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{ij}^{\epsilon}}{\partial x_{j}} + f_{i}^{\epsilon} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial v_{i}^{\epsilon}}{\partial x_{i}} = 0$$
  
with  $\sigma_{ij}^{\epsilon} = -P^{\epsilon}\delta_{ij} + \mu^{\epsilon}D_{ijkl}\hat{\xi}_{ij}$ 

**E** : Representing material heterogeneity of composites

2. Thermal equation

$$\rho c_p \frac{\partial T^{\varepsilon}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \underbrace{\widetilde{\xi}}_{ij} \frac{\partial T^{\varepsilon}}{\partial x_i} \underbrace{\widetilde{\varphi}}_{ij} + \widetilde{K}^{\varepsilon}$$

3. Viscosity equation

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}^{\varepsilon} = C e^{\frac{b}{T^{\varepsilon}}} \left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{\varepsilon} \right)^{(m-1)}$$



## Assumptions for thermoforming process

- Instantaneously rigid solid fibers suspended in an incompressible viscous matrix fluid at the high forming temperature.
- Fiber intersection angle changed by the macroscopic flow motion.
- Fiber in-extensibility for continuous fiber composites forming.



### Flow rheology of continuous fiber composites

**Constitutive equation for continuous fiber composites** 

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{ij}^{H} = -P\boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij} + F_{ij} + \boldsymbol{\mu}^{0}\boldsymbol{D}_{ijkl}^{H} \boldsymbol{\varkappa}_{kl}^{x}$$

where  $F_{ij}$  is the large fiber tension in the fiber direction.  $D_{ijkl}^{H}$  is the homogenized flow coefficient from local solutions.

Axial shearing viscosity  $\mu_a^c = D_{1212}^H \mu^0$ 

Transverse shearing viscosity  $\mu_t^c = D_{2323}^H \mu^0$ 

#### Homogenized governing equations for thermofoming process

#### $\rightarrow$ Forming analysis

$$\overset{\circ}{\Omega} \overset{O}{} D_{ijkl}^{H} e_{kl}^{x} \frac{\partial w_{i}}{\partial x_{j}} d\Omega + \overset{\circ}{\Omega} F_{ij} \frac{\partial w_{i}}{\partial x_{j}} d\Omega = \overset{\circ}{\Omega} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x_{i}} w_{i} d\Omega + \overset{\circ}{\Omega} f_{i} w_{i} d\Gamma$$

Homogenzed flow coefficients

Large fiber tension due to fiber inextensibility

\_∕ Thermal analysis

$$\underbrace{\partial}_{\Omega} \left( \rho c_{p} \right)^{H} \frac{\partial T^{0}}{\partial t} \tau d\Omega + \underbrace{\partial}_{\Omega} K_{ij}^{H} \frac{\partial T^{0}}{\partial x_{i}} \frac{\partial \tau}{\partial x_{j}} d\Omega = \underbrace{\partial}_{\Omega} \underbrace{K}_{H}^{H} \tau d\Omega + \underbrace{O}_{M}^{H} \underbrace{V}_{M} \nabla d\Omega + \underbrace{O}_{M}^{H} \nabla \partial \Omega + \underbrace{$$



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# Viscous shell with thermal analysis

#### Viscous shell

- Plane stress assumption-- the incompressibility constraint can be achieved by adjusting the thickness of each shell element.
- Large deformation process divided into a series of small time step.
- Complicated geometry, friction and contact considerations.

#### **Coupled thermal analysis**

- Transient heat transfer FEM to solve temperature at each node. At *i-th* time step  $\underline{v}^{(i)} \parallel \overline{\epsilon}^{(i)} \hat{U} \parallel \mu^{(i)} \hat{U} T^{(i)}$  are solved.
- At each step, solve nodal temperature and velocity iteratively until convergence.



## **Fiber Orientation Model**

**Purposes**:

- Update the fiber intersection angle of each global finite element by the global strain increment at every time step.
- Change material properties according to updated fiber orientation.

**Assumptions:** 

- The fiber orientation of all the microstructures in one global finite element is identical.
- The warp yarn and weft yarn of woven-fabric composites can be represented by two unit fiber vectors.



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# **Residual Stress Analysis**

- Three levels of residual stresses are generated during cooling
  - -Microscopic stress: Due to CTE mismatch between matrix and fiber
  - -Macroscopic stress: Due to stacking sequence of laminates
  - -Global stress: Due to thermal history along laminate thickness
- Warpage due to the release of residual stresses after demoulding.
- In this study, homogenization method based on incremental elastic analysis with thermal history is adopted.
- Thermoelastic properties are dependent on temperature and crystallinity from the thermal history.





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# Summary

- The global-local FEM analysis of thermoplastic laminate stamping process is developed to predict macroscopic and microscopic deformation mechanism by using the homogenization method.
- The non-Newtonian composite viscosity with strain-rate and temperature dependency can capture a realistic flow rheology of the carbon fiber/thermoplastic composites at the forming temperature.



# **Possible Future work**

- Simultaneous global-local FEM computation is necessary for large deformation if computer capability is allowed : Application of Parallel Algorithms for Speed of Computation.
- Inter-ply slip modeling should be included during forming.
- Viscoelastic effect is considered in residual stress analysis.
- Analytical or semi-analytical differentiation for design sensitivities is essential.