



Experimental Test on Glare Composite of an Aircraft Structure Under Tensile Strength Failure

B. Nagaraj Goud, K. Shiva Shankar, B. Manideep, K. Veeranjanyulu

Abstract: A Glass Aluminum fiber metal laminate GLARE is a set of materials manufactured by strong bonding glass/epoxy layers within the metal layers. The combined set of materials will be providing the better mechanical properties and weight reduction for an aircraft structure. The fiber metal laminate model was fabricated as per ASTM standards 200×30×5mm and then the experimental test under tensile loading test was conducted by using universal testing machine UTM as observed the stress-strain curve as the failure strength of GLARE reaching point and finally obtained results. Also to determine the mechanical properties and material characteristics of the unidirectional loading on E-glass fibers used to assemble GLARE for an aircraft structure.

Keywords: Fiber metal laminate, mechanical properties, universal testing machine, tensile strength, failure.

I. INTRODUCTION

The history of the aerospace industry and aviation, have been conducting intense research work on various types of materials that have been conducted. None of the man made material is flawless or faultless and well as innovative technology progressed, materials would be advanced in terms of safety, the stability of structural material. The latest trend of material like FMLs will be providing the opportunity to use the combined laminate of aluminum with glass/epoxy composite. Aircraft manufacturers from all over the worldwide are incorporating the material in use and evaluating materials performance that can save weight. The significant approach of materials under evaluation for major and minor aircraft structure components are in GLARE laminate, a sandwich material assemble from alternating layers of an aluminum and E- Glass fiber material with the bond layer. According to relevant works of literature, the material takes a joined benefit of the high stiffness and high strength, better yielding properties, better resisting of thermal conducted material and low density form of aluminum panel

sheets and the rupture resistance of the glass fibers. The Glare material has good fiber epoxy adhesion, better curing properties, good fatigue properties, simplicity in formability and machinability.

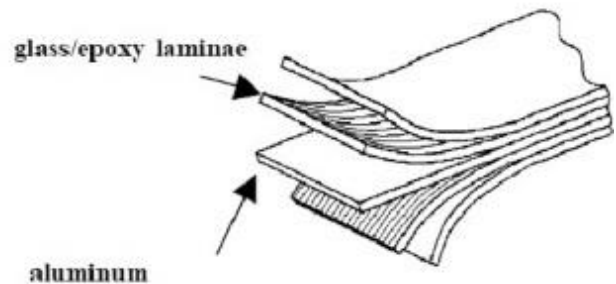


Figure: 1 Glass Laminate Aluminum Reinforced Epoxy GLARE Material

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The reviewed works of a literature study of GLARE composite application in advance aerospace structures domain was extremely focused on the support of research. In the literature the consequence of the volume fraction on the physical properties of fiber/ metallic laminates was explored and its impact in the design properties and performance estimation of aircraft.

The physical properties of Fiber Metal Laminate composites directly depend upon on the mechanical properties and also the various categories of discrete metal and polymer layers (prepregs). Depends on the category and measurable quantity of the suitable materials and the process of layer position (fiber orientation), composites demonstration on different properties (stiffness resistance to shear fatigue resistance, strength,)

In the case of fiber metal laminate, it is essential to identify the material features, the layer considerations and the prepregs that to be estimate the purpose of material properties of the GLARE.

The Metal Volume Fraction (MVF) method is used (Eqn no. 1) for GLARE composite, especially the thickness and the quantity of the Aluminum sheet, which are involved in the metallic stage in the composite.

Wu and Slagter et al.3 had projected a significance test conducting procedure for material delamination of the fiber/metallic laminates, to study of the bearing stresses with the safe design and calculated the outcome of material behavior property of an edge distance ratio.

$$MVF = \frac{\sum t_{al}}{t_{lamin}} \text{----- (1)}$$

In the case of a composite structure applied by the load in the reference parallel to the fiber axis and modulus of elasticity of the composite as calculated in the equation no. 2.

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Composite material is loaded in the direction at right angles to fiber orientation, the modulus of elasticity was estimated by the equation no. 3

$$E_c = (1 - V_f) E_m + V_f E_f \text{-----(2)}$$

$$E_c = \frac{E_m V_f}{(1 - V_f) E_m + V_f E_f} \text{-----(3)}$$

The elastic behavior properties of GLARE was direction dependent and Kawai et al4 conducted elaborate studies on numerous stresses values of GLARE. Viscoelastic material properties and their resistance to the environmental effect upon fibre glass/aluminum laminate epoxy was explored . The GLARE composites materials are prepared by a woven process such as cloth. This woven roving has been made with the coarse fabric in which constant roving the material woven in the direction of two mutually perpendicular. Woven cloth has arranged the fiber using one place over another continuous fiber. That fiber continuous provides biaxial directional properties



Figure:2 Aluminum sheet

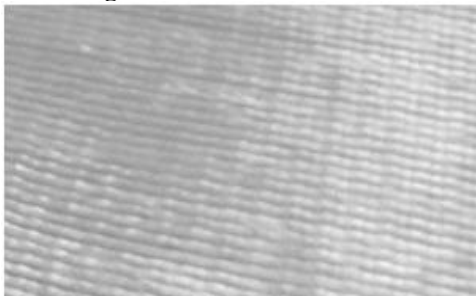


Figure: 3 E-Glass Fiber

The glare fiber provides the strength, fibers glass even tougher when it combines with aluminum sheet material and with these two materials are assembled together with an epoxy resin.

For Airbus, A380 design provides better fuel consumption so GLARE is the perfect combination of high strength to weigh ratio and it is 25% lighter than aluminum

III. MATERIAL AND DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS

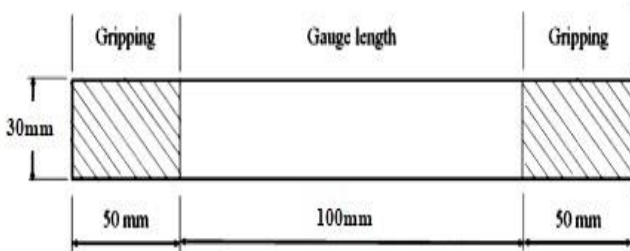


Figure: 4 GLARE specimen

Table- I: Geometry specification

| S.No | Rectangular laminate | Fiber orientation: 0° angle | Fiber orientation: 45° angle |
|------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | Area | 155.250 mm ² | 120.750 mm ² |
| 2. | Width | 30.5 mm | 30.5 mm |
| 3. | Thickness of the laminate | 4.50 mm | 3.50 mm |
| 4. | Gauge Length | 100 mm | 100 mm |
| 5. | Final Gauge Length | 111 mm | 110 mm |
| 6. | Final Area | 140 mm ² | 85.25 mm ² |

IV. EXPERIMENTAL TESTS

The tensile test was conducted in digitalized servo Universal Testing Machine. The holder was designed in the manner to provide grip at the upper and middle cross heads of the test specimen. The same was done for conducting compressing and bending test. When a material undergoes a uniaxial tensile test where the load is applied through the centroid, fundamental properties such as the stress/strain behavior can be obtained and plotted from the force/deflection response.

A total of two glass/epoxy specimens was tensile tested after tension test. Each metal layer is 0.8 mm thick

Table- II: Mechanical properties of glass/epoxy and its applications in aerospace

| Glass type | Density kg/m ³ | Poiss on's ratio, 1/m | Modu lus of Elasti city (GN/ m ²) | Maximum Tensile stresses (MN/m ²) | Application areas |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---|---|---|
| E-glass | 2550 | 0.22 | 72-80 | 2000 | Small passenger aircraft interior components , radomes, solid rocket casing |
| S-glass | 2490 | 0.22 | 85-95 | 4750 | Heavy loaded components in thr small type of aircrafts. |
| Alum inium 2024-T4 | 2780 | 0.33 | 73-80 | 1950 | Components such as skin of an aircraft, rocket casings and cylinders. |



Figure: 5 Tensile failure of a GLARE Specimen in UTM

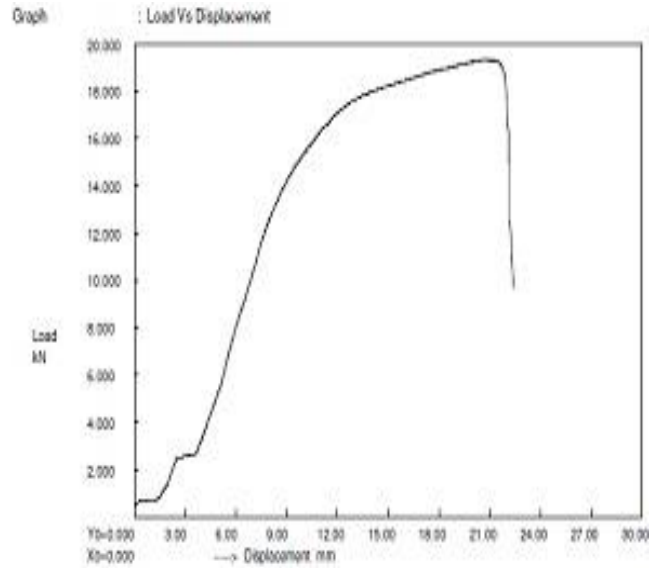


Figure:8 Load vs Displacement Curve



Figure:6 Delimitation of GLARE at 0 degree



Figure:9 Tensile failure of a GLARE specimen in UTM

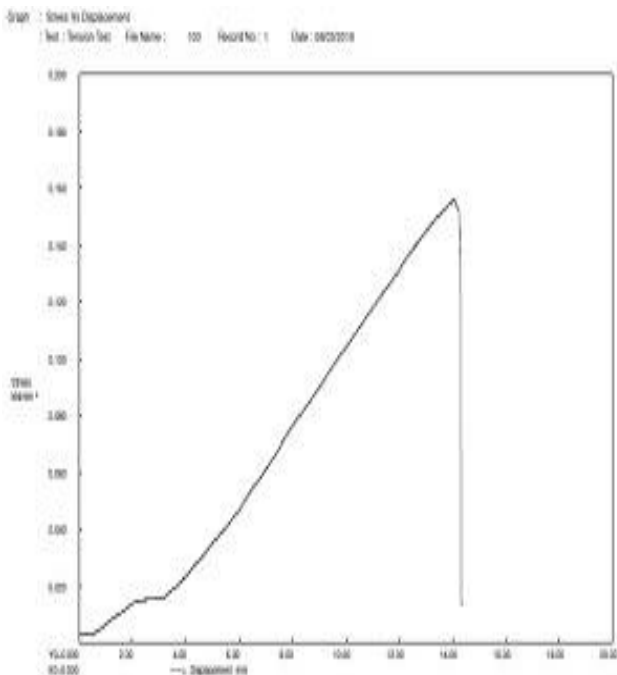


Figure:7 stress vs strain curve



Figure:10 Delamination of GLARE. at 45 degree after tension test. Each metal layer is 0.6 mm thick

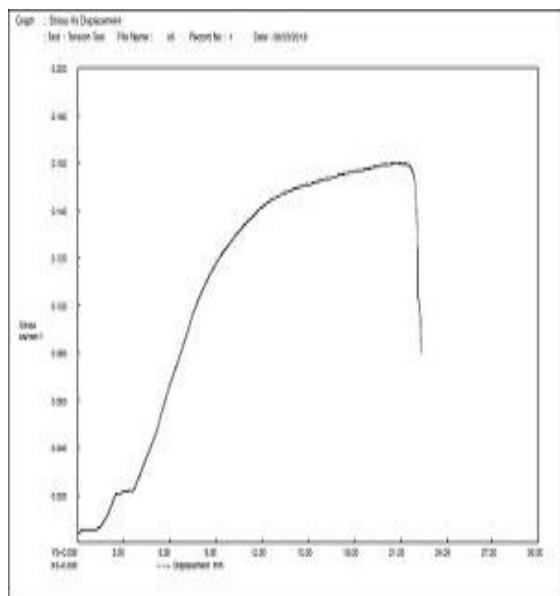


Figure:11 stress vs displacement

V. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

Table III. Comparison results of Fiber orientation at 0° and 45° angle:

| Failure parameters | Fiber orientation: 0° angle | Fiber orientation: 45° angle |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Maximum Force (Fm) | 19.360 kN | 24.220 kN |
| Disp. at Fm | 20.750 mm | 14.050 mm |
| Max. Disp | 22.390 mm | 14.360 mm |
| Tensile Strength (Rm) | 0.160 kN/mm ² | 0.156 kN/mm ² |
| Elongation | 10.000 % | 11.000 % |
| Reduction in Area (Z) | 29.400 % | 9.823 % |

VI. CONCLUSION

From the investigation of the fibre metal laminates FMLs had improved more consideration to researchers who perceive exceptional changes in the material improvements in the pure composites. The material layer in the fibre metal laminates leads to changes in complete strength of the entire laminate. The results extracted from our theoretical and experimental studies provide the major mechanical properties of E-glass fiber laminate quantitatively. The GLARE material reinforced and its carried out by the two specimens. The results obtained from the Universal Testing Machine UTM it is observed that when the GLARE material is reinforced in between the plates, the Ultimate Load of 24.2kN for 45° angle fiber orientation is displaced by 14.3mm and the Ultimate Tensile Stress by 0.156 kN/mm². The reinforced composite material engages the strain energy which is responsible for crack propagation along the composite plates leading to structural failure.

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