

Week 12: Composites

22.4. 2015

This week we will learn about composites.

The agenda: <http://academy.cba.mit.edu/classes/composites/index.html>

Composites: <http://academy.cba.mit.edu/classes/composites/composites.png>

materials

- compression vs tension
 - epoxy + carbon fiber
 - concrete + rebar
 - fiberglass
 - FR1, FR4
 - tire
 - adobe
 - wood

fiber

- chopped, filament, tape, fabric
- glass
- carbon
- aramid, Kevlar
- natural: cotton, silk, bamboo, wood, linen, burlap, ...

matrix

- epoxy
- polyester
- phenolic
- urethane
- wax
- cement
- natural: plant resins, sugars, ...

laminate

vendors

- West System
- AeroMarine
- Jamestown Distributors
- Fiberglass Supply
- Entropy Resins
- Smooth-On
- Aremco
- Ashland
- DuPont
- US Composites
- Hexcel
- Exel
- Gurit
- Toray

design

- plies
- radius of curvature
- cores
- spar, rib, skin
- digital

processes

- compaction, infusion, volume fraction
- open, closed mold
- wet lay-up, pre-preg, RTM, VARTM
- compression molding

- vacuum bagging
- mold, release, laminate, core, peel ply, bleeder, breather,
- bag, sealant tape, pump
- autoclave
- pultrusion
- clear coat
- molds
- machined
- folded
- skinned
- safety
- particles, inhalation, rashes
- respirators, goggles, gloves
- fumes, ventilation
- net-shape

Assignment:

Design and make a 3D mold (~ft²), and produce a fiber composite part in it.

Class:

Materials:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/pub?key=0At1lZyLn99e6dGRleUJTY043a3FucUhfUVVBYTdxS3c&single=true&gid=0&output=html>

compression vs tension

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Lay up a fabric

Fiber glass used in boatbuilding

Stay away from glass fiber and carbon fiber – respirators needed and body protection, ventialation

Aramid – for armour and bulletproof vest

100 yrad roll, LA linen 15-inch Natural Jute Burlap Roll

Naturally sourced

The body can break this down

It makes high performance structures

Matrix – epoxy – West Marine: <http://www.westmarine.com/>

Polyester –

Resins – Super Sap 100 (Entropy Resins) – Protection and ventilation.

Laminate: <http://www.fablabbcn.org/2012/05/fab-lab-skate/>

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Design of the part

Single ply of the fabric, imbued with the resins that is not a composite. You need multiple plies. Radius of curvature, difference of the pathlength. Tension builds up on the top layer that prevents it from bending. How you orient the fibers is of essence.

Common thing to do is to have a few plies + core + Aluminum honeycomb, used in aerospace.

Wings – joining of composites is a weakness

Loops of fiber, linking them into a structure.
Digital composites.

Processes

Compaction and infusion
Common beginner mistakes – spread and layers being too close.
Core is needed for the resins to get through them.
Close together, but not touching.
Fibers as close together as their size.
Better to have less resin.

Roughly equal volume fiber and resins. Compaction and infusion.
Tooling – standard way is:

Open – versus closed tools (more control, better finish)

We then need to introduce the resin.
Open: Lay a ply of fabric onto the tool, manually spreading fiber and resin.

Closed tool – inject the resin into the tool, needs to be strong.

Wet layout –

Two sided mould – and then squiz it. Couple of ways to do it.
Mill the foam tooling, put a layer on top - Jorgensen tool clamp set

Hyperstatic moulding – to do compression moulding

Vacum bagging – generated larger forces than vacuum molding:
<http://www.westsystem.com/ss/assets/HowTo-Publications/Vacuum-Bagging-Techniques.pdf>

mold, release, laminate, core, peel ply, bleeder, breather, bag,
sealant tape, pump

autoclave

pultrusion

clear coat –

Milling the foam – make a rubber mould from that and then a concrete
mold. Smart mold that can heat as well as squiz.

Machining the mould – laser cut

Industrial shrink wrap – TRO-TECT

Don't do your part in one go. Number of ways to make tooling.
Don't waste much time on the first piece.
Make a cupon – used in industry, make test parts.

100% linen – finer weave than the burlap

Warner 250 tool Wall covering Perforator

Morning Glory Great Glory – batter

50 pack space saver vacuum storage bags – jumbo size
Shock vacuum. Zip lock on the side.

Mann release spray

Spreaders

Brake Bleeder and Vacum ...

Shop vacuum – not designed the run continuously, to be used with the
disposable bags

Molds

Machined: <http://academy.cba.mit.edu/classes/composites/machine.jpg>

Folded: <http://academy.cba.mit.edu/classes/composites/fold.png>

Skinned: <http://www.shrinkwrapcontainments.com/>

Safety

Particles, inhalation, rashes
Respirators, goggles, gloves
Fumes, ventilation
Net-shape:

Assignment:

Design and make a 3D mold (1 sqft) and produce a fiber composite part in it

Start with proces, coupon, test parts, make the whole thing

Good week to play with 3D tooling

Gesso – painters use it to prime canvasses

Close tooling – compression tooling

Burlap (Strigi)

Modelled a bowl shape in Rhino

Saved the bottom and top parts in a .stl file format

The files are opened in Partworks 3D

Make mm cm -

Check that top is selected on the model

Thickness – 100 mm

Under material size and margins

Under Material size move selection to lower left corner (from center)

Z zero sets the location where it starts calculating all the cutting from

Click Symmetrical

Click model silhouette – Apply

Depth of Model below Surface (to be adjusted only when you want a nice finish on top)

Cut Plane Position – not changed

Roughing toolpath

Chose 0.5 inch endmill

Edit parameters – click

Pass depth – set to 0.78 Inch (or the depth that the tool will cut in one go)

The stepover was set to 0.2 – 40%

Spindle speed – set to 12000 (default setting – judging according to the material – qualities

Feed rate – 3.0
Plunge rate – 3.0

Tool Number – 1.0 (no change – for automatic tool changing, not relevant here)

Toolpath parameters

Rapid clearance gap – distance that the tool clears off the top of the milling action) – 5.00 mm – In relation to the limits of the machine (20 cm +)

Machining allowance (damages to the material have to be accounted for) – 1.0 mm

Strategy

Z level – Raster X

Side displayed...

Top clicked

Calculate

S

Explanation –

Finishing toolpath

Ball Nose 0,25 inch selected

Spindle Speed 12000

Feed Rate 6.0

Plunge Rate 6.0

Rapid clearance gap 5.0 mm

Raster Angle – 135 degrees (does not matter for this design what to use.

Cut out toolpath – skipped

Preview Machining

Preview – no change

Post Processor – Shopbot TC (MM)

Roughing Toolpath Save

Finishing Toolpath Svve

Shopbotting

Shopbot wiki: http://shopbotwiki.com/index.php?title=Main_Page

See instructions on using the shopbot:

Techniques: <http://shopbotwiki.com/index.php?title=TechniquesMain>

Materials: <http://shopbotwiki.com/index.php?title=Materia>
http://wiki.fablab.is/wiki/Shopbot_fr%C3%A6siv%C3%A9llMain

Finnfoam – material used for the shopbotting of mould:
<http://www.finnfoam.com/>

Guidelines on compositing:
fabacademy.org/archives/2014/students/zitek.scott/week11.html