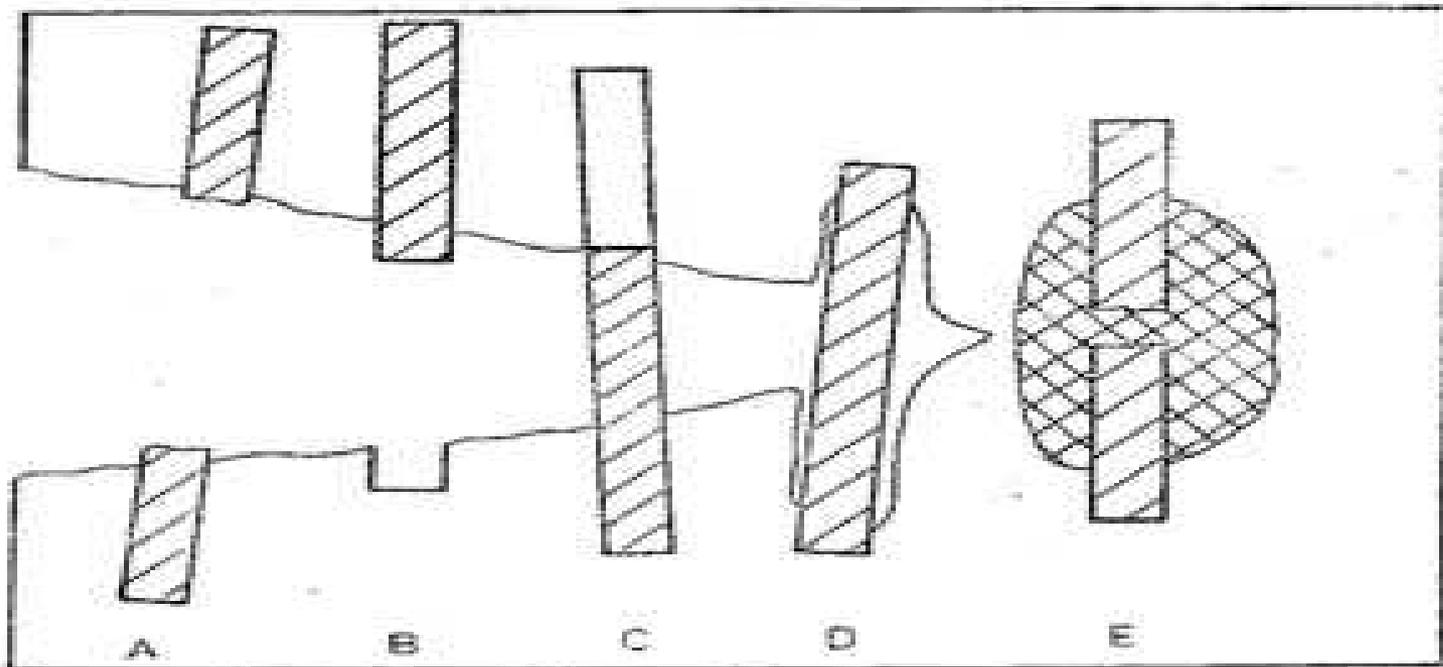


# Tensile strength fibre composite



# Calculation assumptions

We start from the arrangement Voigt's model

All fibers have the same cross-section

All fibers have the same tensile strength

All the fibers are parallel and stretched

The fibers are uniformly distributed over the cross section

Known tensile strength and strain at fracture matrix and dispersion

Models must be distinguished by the ratio of deformation matrix and dispersion by the fracture of composite

# The same ductility of matrix and dispersion

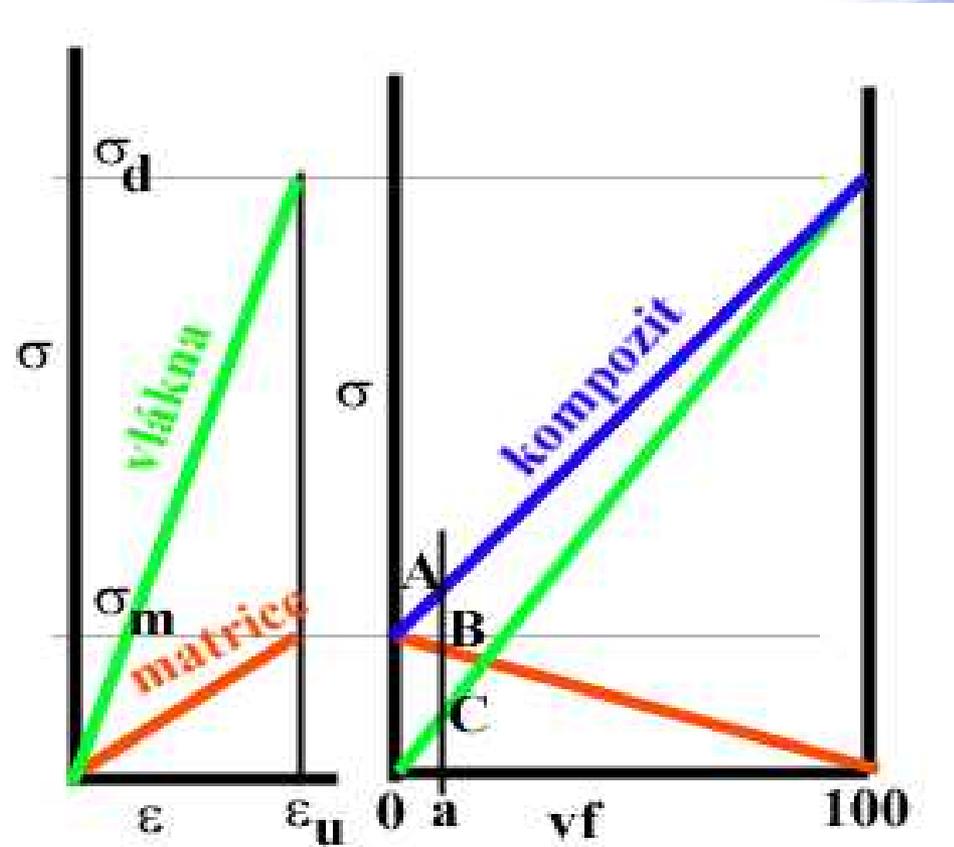
Left - idealized tensile diagrams

$\varepsilon_u$  - deformation by break

$\sigma_d$  resp  $\sigma_m$  - strength of fibers resp matrix

Right - strength of fibers, matrix and composite depending of the amount of fiber.

The amount of fibers  $a$  - by that has composite tensile strength  $A$ , at the same moment stress of fiber  $C$  in and stress of matrix  $B$



# Relevant tensile strength

Relatively rare case of composite.

Approximately valid for the combination:

The glass fibers, epoxy matrix

- Tensile strain at fracture for both 5%

Fiber and matrix rupture simultaneously, for tensile strength relationship applies:

$$R_{ku} = R_{du} * v_d + R_{mu} * (1 - v_d)$$

or :

$$R_{ku} = R_{mu} + v_d * (R_{du} - R_{mu})$$

Tensile strength of composite always greater than that of matrix

# Greater ductility of matrix

Very often - ductility of matrix is greater than of dispersion.

Diagrams left.

First, we achieve the maximum deformation in the fibers - the first thus break fibers.

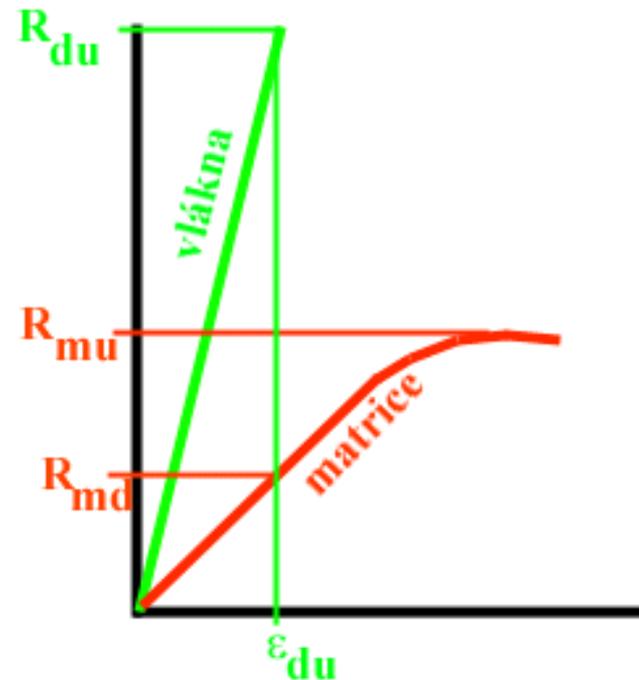
Instead fibers are now in the matrix hole - stress drop in the composite.

The tension in the matrix increases further to its tensile strength, the matrix breaks

Green ... fibers, red ... matrix  
 $R_{du}$ ,  $R_{mu}$  – tensile strength of fibers, resp matrix

$\epsilon_{du}$  – deformation of fibers by break

$R_{md}$  – stress in matrix by break of fibers



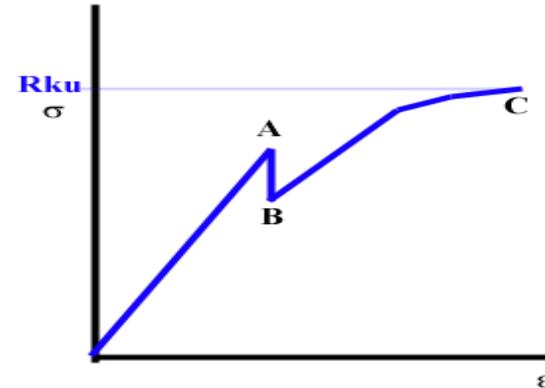
# Dependence on the amount of fiber

In point A break fibers.

This reduces the overall stress in the composite to point B, because now the load is only in matrix.

Further stress increases until point C is reached the tensile strength of residual matrix (with voids).

For a small number of fibers (under  $v_{fkrit}$  - can be calculated) determines the strength of the composite matrix with holes on broken fibers.



$$R_{ku} = R_{mu} * (1 - v_f)$$

Tensile strength of composite is less than tensile strength of matrix

# Tensile strength

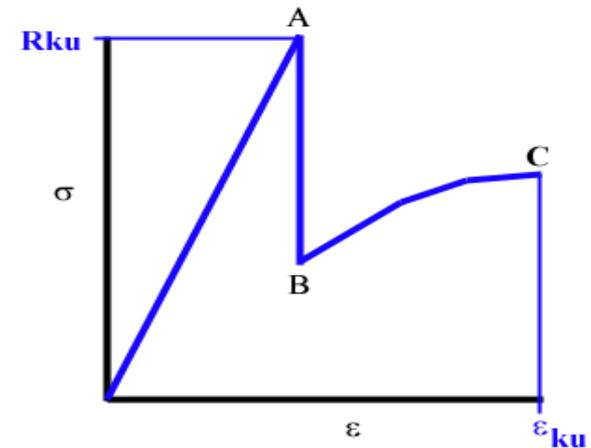
In point A break fibers.

This reduces the overall stress in the composite from point A to point B, because now the tension is only in matrix (with threaded holes)

Further stress increases until point C is reached where the matrix fracture occurs.

Tensile strength of the composite is determined by the fiber at the point A

Fracture occurs but in point C.



**We need to distinguish ultimate tensile strength (point A) and fracture of composite (point C)!**

# Tensile strength

Tensile strength of the composite is determined by the break of fibers.

Tensile strength is not the same as stress by break of composite - composite can still far beyond the tensile strength to remain intact, but with reduced stiffness and stress.

For the tensile strength, the basic relationship

$$R_{ku} = R_{du} * v_d + R_{md} * (1 - v_d)$$

Tensile strength of composite is greater, the greater the tensile strength of the fibers and they are more.

Since the amount of fiber  $v_{\min}$  is tensile strength of composite greater than tensile strength of matrix itself. Smaller amounts of fiber does not make sense

# Critical volume of fibers

By  $v_{\min}$  must both relations for tensile strength give the same value

$$R_{mu} * (1 - v_d) = R_{du} * v_d + R_{md} * (1 - v_d)$$

From that

$$v_{\min} = (R_{mu} - R_{md}) / (R_{du} + R_{mu} - R_{md})$$

It is obvious that it is most important the ratio of the strength of fibers and matrix, the greater is, the smaller  $v_{\min}$ .

If  $R_{du} \gg R_{mu}$ , approximately

$$v_{\min} = (R_{mu} - R_{md}) / R_{du}$$

# Value $R_{md}$

Constant  $R_{md}$ , stress in matrix by break of fibers, is very important. As can be seen, it determines value of  $v_{min}$  and tensile strength of composite. Therefore, it must be at least estimated.

If we know tensile strain diagram of matrix, it is possible to deduce the value of  $R_{md}$  from that diagram for deformation  $\epsilon_{du}$

If the matrix material is ductile enough and has a substantially greater elongation than the fibers, it can be used as an estimate for the  $R_{md}$  **yield strength of the matrix**

# Examples $v_{\min}$

from yield strength - approximately

material	$R_{pt}$ MPa	$R_{kt}$ MPa	$\epsilon_u$ %
Epoxy	60	20	5
steell	320	200	10
C-fiber	2000	---	0,4

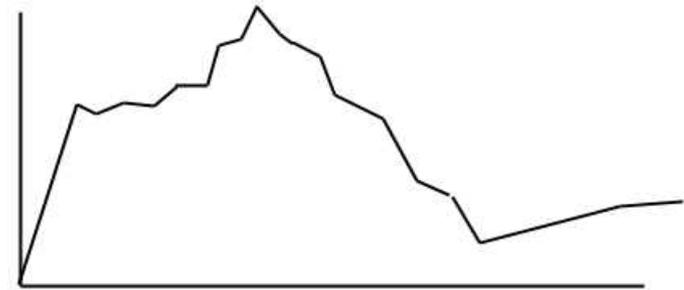
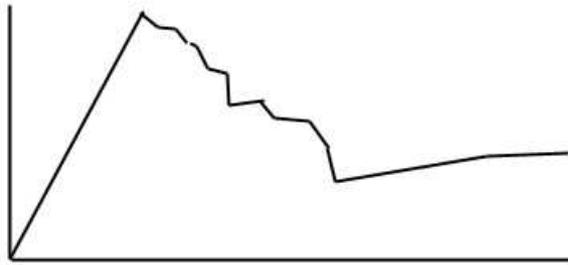
For C fiber in epoxy :

$$v_{\min} = (60-20)/(60+2000-20) = 1,96 \%$$

For C fiber in steel :

$$v_{\min} = (320-200)/(320+2000-200) = 5,7 \%$$

# Influence of dispersion properties of fibers



The fibers typically have large scattering properties.

Break not by one stress in one, but break gradually, so that the real work diagram looks as shown on the top left, and with a large scattering properties as shown on the top right.

# Greater ductility of fibers

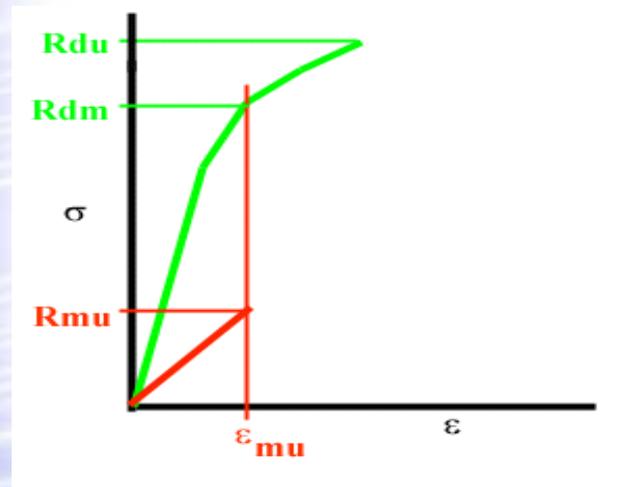
Green ... fibers,  
red ... matrix

$R_{du}$ ,  $R_{mu}$

– tensile strength  
of fibers, matrix

$\epsilon_{mu}$  – deformation of  
matrix by break

$R_{dm}$  – stress in fibers by  
break of matrix



Often – ductility of matrix is less  
than of dispersion.

Diagrams right.

First, we achieve the maximum  
deformation in the matrix - the  
first thus break matrix.

Fibers begin to stretch  
even in places where there is  
matrix corrupted.

The matrix may break  
on fibers repeatedly

Tension in the fibers grows up  
their tensile strength, when the  
fibers break.

# Breaking of composite

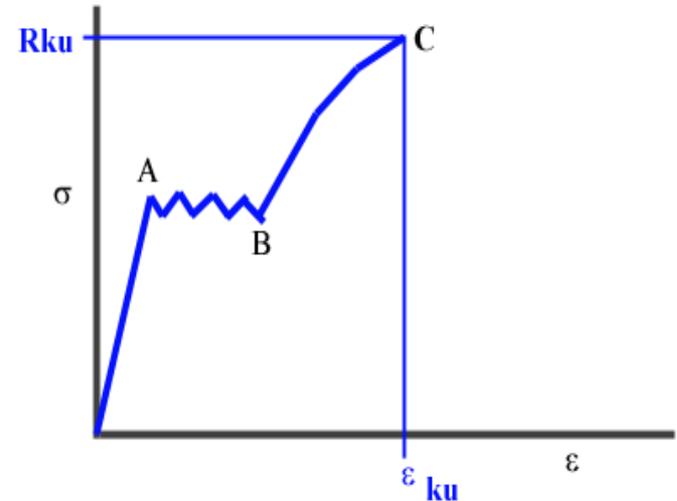
At point A, the matrix breaks.

The fibers stretch and strain in the composite decreases to point B.

A further growth of the stress again break the matrix

This process continues until the entire matrix cracks into slices strung on fibers.

The tension in the fibers in the composite is growing up at point C is broken fibers.



# Tensile strength

Tensile strength is determined only by the volume concentration and tensile strength of fibers

The properties of the matrix matter only an apparent yield stress of composite.

For the yield strength we have relation

$$R_{ku} = R_{du} * v_d$$

The matrix is broken down into a series of plates joined with fibers.