

UTILIZATION OF COMSOL MULTIPHYSICS JAVA API FOR  
THE INTEGRATION OF **COMPOSITE MATERIAL** MODULE  
WITH A **CUSTOMIZED USER INTERFACE**

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# INTRODUCTION

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## Composite Materials

- Composites are made up of individual materials referred to as constituent materials
- Two main categories of constituent materials: Matrix and Fiber
- Some Advantages: Light Weight, High Strength, Durability, Strength Related to Weight, Corrosion Resistance and Design Flexibility

## Need to integrate with COMSOL

- COMSOL Multiphysics is capable of modeling and simulation of any physics-based system
- Adding a user-friendly interface to integrate Composite Material properties will further enhance its capabilities
- Use of Composite Materials in various industries such as aircraft, automotive, etc is rapidly getting acceptance
- So, in the process of modeling and simulation, many a times user wants to use Composite Materials properties in the analysis

# METHODOLOGY

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- COMSOL API (Application Programming Interface) which is an interface based on Java, is used to develop custom application based on COMSOL
- An initial GUI is built based on a model of a simple 'Rectangular Block', having a point force acting on the edge
- Final GUI is built based on a model of 'Mechanical Part', having a combination of forces and moments acting on it
- Halpin-Tsai Model, a semi-empirical model chosen based on its accuracy and appropriateness, is used to develop algorithm to calculate Composite Material properties

# HALPIN-TSAI MODEL

Halpin-Tsai equations are the handy forms of Hill's generalized self-consistent model results with engineering approximations to make them suitable for the designing of composite materials.

$$E_1 = E_f V_f + E_m V_m$$

$$\nu_{12} = \nu_f V_f + \nu_m V_m$$

$$\frac{M}{M_m} = \frac{1 + \varepsilon \eta V_f}{1 - \eta V_f}$$

$$\eta = \frac{\frac{M_f}{M_m} - 1}{\frac{M_f}{M_m} + \varepsilon}$$

where,

$M$  = composite material modulus  $E_{22}$ ,  $G_{12}$  or  $\nu_{23}$

$M_f$  = composite material modulus  $E_f$ ,  $G_f$  or  $\nu_f$

$M_m$  = composite material modulus  $E_m$ ,  $G_m$ , or  $\nu_m$

# PROGRAM ARCHITECTURE

```
⊕ import java.awt.BorderLayout;

class RectModelDemo implements ActionListener {
    private JFrame frame;
    private JFrame frame1;
    private Model model;

    private JButton solveButton;
    private JButton calculateButton;

    private NumberFormat percentFormat;
    private JTextField editV;
    private JTextField editE1;
    private JTextField editE2;

    static String[] compProperty = new String[10];
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        RectModelDemo demo = new RectModelDemo();
        demo.init();
        demo.start();
    }
    public void init() {
        ModelUtil.initStandalone(true);
    }
    public void start() {
        lookAndFeel();
        frame= new JFrame("Model taken from COMSOL - GUI");
        frame.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
        frame.setSize(1200,900);
        JPanel mainPanel = new JPanel();
```

← Declaration of Class  
and Parameters

← Basic methods:  
Main, init, start

# PROGRAM ARCHITECTURE

```
frame.setJMenuBar(menubar);  
frame.setVisible(true);  
}
```

```
public void solve(){  
    model.physics("solid").feature("lemm1").set("Evector_mat", "userdef");  
    model.physics("solid").feature("lemm1").set("rho_mat", "userdef");  
    model.physics("solid").feature("lemm1")  
        .set("nuvector", new String[][]{{compProp7}, {compProp8}, {compProp9}});  
    model.physics("solid").feature("lemm1")  
        .set("Gvector", new String[][]{{compProp4}, {compProp5}, {compProp6}});  
    model.physics("solid").feature("lemm1").set("rho", compProp10);  
    model.physics("solid").feature("lemm1")  
        .set("Evector", new String[][]{{compProp1}, {compProp2}, {compProp3}});  
    model.physics("solid").feature("lemm1").set("Gvector_mat", "userdef");  
}
```



'Solve' method to run model

```
        model.result("pg1").set("window", "window1");  
        model.result("pg1").run();  
    }  
});  
}
```



'leftPanel' method for defining fields in input side of GUI

```
private JPanel leftPanel(){  
    MigLayout layout= new MigLayout("wrap 2");  
    JPanel panel = new JPanel(layout);  
    JLabel label = new JLabel("Pre-Processing");  
    panel.add(label,"span, wrap 15px");  
    label.setFont(new Font("Serif", Font.PLAIN, 25));  
    label = new JLabel("Fiber Property:");  
}
```

# PROGRAM ARCHITECTURE

```
        model.result("pg4").set("window", "window1");
        model.result("pg4").run();
    }
});
return panel;
}
}
private JButton solveButton(){
    solveButton = new JButton("Simulate");
    model= RectModel.run();
    solveButton.addActionListener(new ActionListener() {
        public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
            solve();
        }
    });
    return solveButton;
}
```



'Solve Button' which calls 'solve' method

```
private void sPlot(){
    model.result().dataset("cpl1")
        .set("genpoints", new String[][]{{xs1Coord, ys1Coord, zs1Coord}, {xs2Coord, ys2Co
        model.result().dataset("cpl1").set("planetype", "general");
    model.result("pg6").set("window", "window1");
    model.result("pg6").run();
}
```



'Calculate Button' method calculates composite properties

```
private JButton calculateButton(){
    calculateButton = new JButton("Calculate Composite Properties");
    calculateButton.addActionListener(new ActionListener() {
        public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
            String fiberPer = editFC.getText();
            double fibPercent = Double.parseDouble(fiberPer);
            String matrixPer = editMC.getText();
        }
    });
    return calculateButton;
}
```

# PROGRAM ARCHITECTURE

```
public static void fiberProp(){
    try {

        FileInputStream fiberProperty = new FileInputStream(new File("D:\\Ri:
        HSSFWorkbook workbook = new HSSFWorkbook(fiberProperty);
        for(int i=0; i<13; i++){
            HSSFSheet fiber = workbook.getSheetAt(i);
            Iterator<Row> rowIterator = fiber.iterator();
            int row_index=0;
            while(rowIterator.hasNext()) {
                Row row = rowIterator.next();
```

← 'fiberProp' method for defining fiber properties

```
public static void matrixProp(){
    try {

        FileInputStream matrixProperty = new FileInputStream(new File("D:\\Rishabh
        HSSFWorkbook workbook = new HSSFWorkbook(matrixProperty);
        for(int i=0; i<13; i++){
            HSSFSheet matrix= workbook.getSheetAt(i);
            Iterator<Row> rowIterator = matrix.iterator();
            int mat_index=0;
            while(rowIterator.hasNext()) {
                Row row = rowIterator.next();
```

← 'matrixProp' method for defining matrix properties



# PROGRAM ARCHITECTURE

```
private JPanel rightPanel() {
    MigLayout layout = new MigLayout("wrap 6");
    final JPanel panell = new JPanel(layout);
    JLabel label = new JLabel("Post-Processing");
    panell.add(label,"span, wrap 15px");
    label.setFont(new Font("Serif", Font.PLAIN, 25));
    label = new JLabel("Contour Plot:");
    panell.add(label,"span, wrap 10px");
    label.setFont(new Font("Serif", Font.PLAIN, 17));
    String[] contourType = {"Select Contour Type", "Lines", "Filled"};
```



'rightPanel' method for defining fields in output side of GUI

```
private JButton linePlot(){
    JButton linePlot = new JButton("Line Plot");
    linePlot.addActionListener(new ActionListener() {
        public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
            x1Coord = editX1.getText();
            y1Coord = editY1.getText();
            z1Coord = editZ1.getText();
            x2Coord = editX2.getText();
            y2Coord = editY2.getText();
            z2Coord = editZ2.getText();
```



'linePlot' method for plotting Line Plot

# PROGRAM ARCHITECTURE

```
private void plot(){
    model.result().dataset("c1n1")
        .set("genpoints", new String[][]{{x1Coord, y1Coord, z1Coord},
            {x2Coord, y2Coord, z2Coord}});
    model.result("pg2").set("window", "window1");
    model.result("pg2").run();
}
```

```
private JButton surfacePlot(){
    JButton surfacePlot = new JButton("Surface Plot");
    surfacePlot.addActionListener(new ActionListener() {
        public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
            xs1Coord = editXs1.getText();
            ys1Coord = editYs1.getText();
        }
    });
}
```

```
private JMenuBar menu() {
    JMenuBar menubar = new JMenuBar();
    JMenu menu = new JMenu("File");
    menubar.add(menu);
    JMenuItem item = new JMenuItem("Open");
    menu.add(item);
    item = new JMenuItem("Exit");
    item.setActionCommand("exit");
    item.addActionListener(this);
}
```

← 'plot' method and  
'surfacePlot' method for  
plotting surface Plot

← 'menu' method for menu  
bar at the top of GUI

# USER INTERFACE...

INPUT INTERFACE →

**Pre-Processing**

Fiber Property:

% Fiber Content:

Matrix Property:

% Matrix Content:

E11:

E22:

E33:

G12:

G23:

G31:

Nu12:

Nu23:

Nu31:

Density:

AS4 Graphite

Select Fiber Property

- Boron
- Kevlar 49
- AS4 Graphite
- E-Glass 21 x K43 Gevetex
- E-GLASS
- High Mod Graphite
- HTS150

8551-7 Epoxy

Select Matrix Property

- Polyester
- Vinylester
- 3501-6 Epoxy
- 5250-4 RTM
- 5505 Epoxy
- 8551-7 Epoxy
- BSL914C Epoxy

# ...USER INTERFACE

## INTERFACE FOR POST-PROCESSING OF RESULTS

**Line Graph:**

Plot

Enter First Point:

X:  Y:  Z:

Enter Second Point:

X:  Y:  Z:

**Max/Min Line Plot:**

Select Plot

**Surface Plot:**

Plot

Enter First Point:

X:  Y:  Z:

Enter Second Point:

X:  Y:  Z:

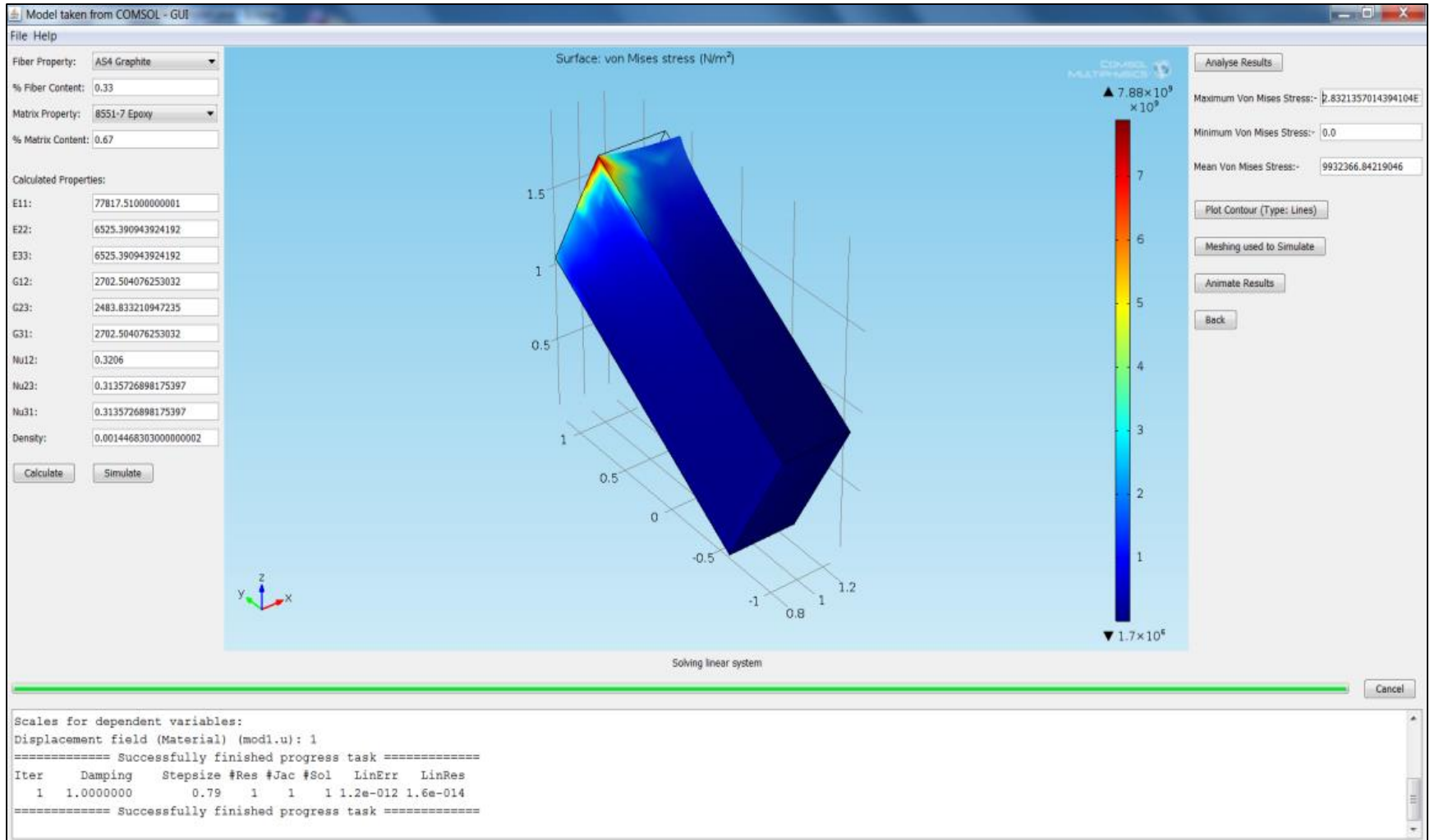
Enter Third Point:

X:  Y:  Z:

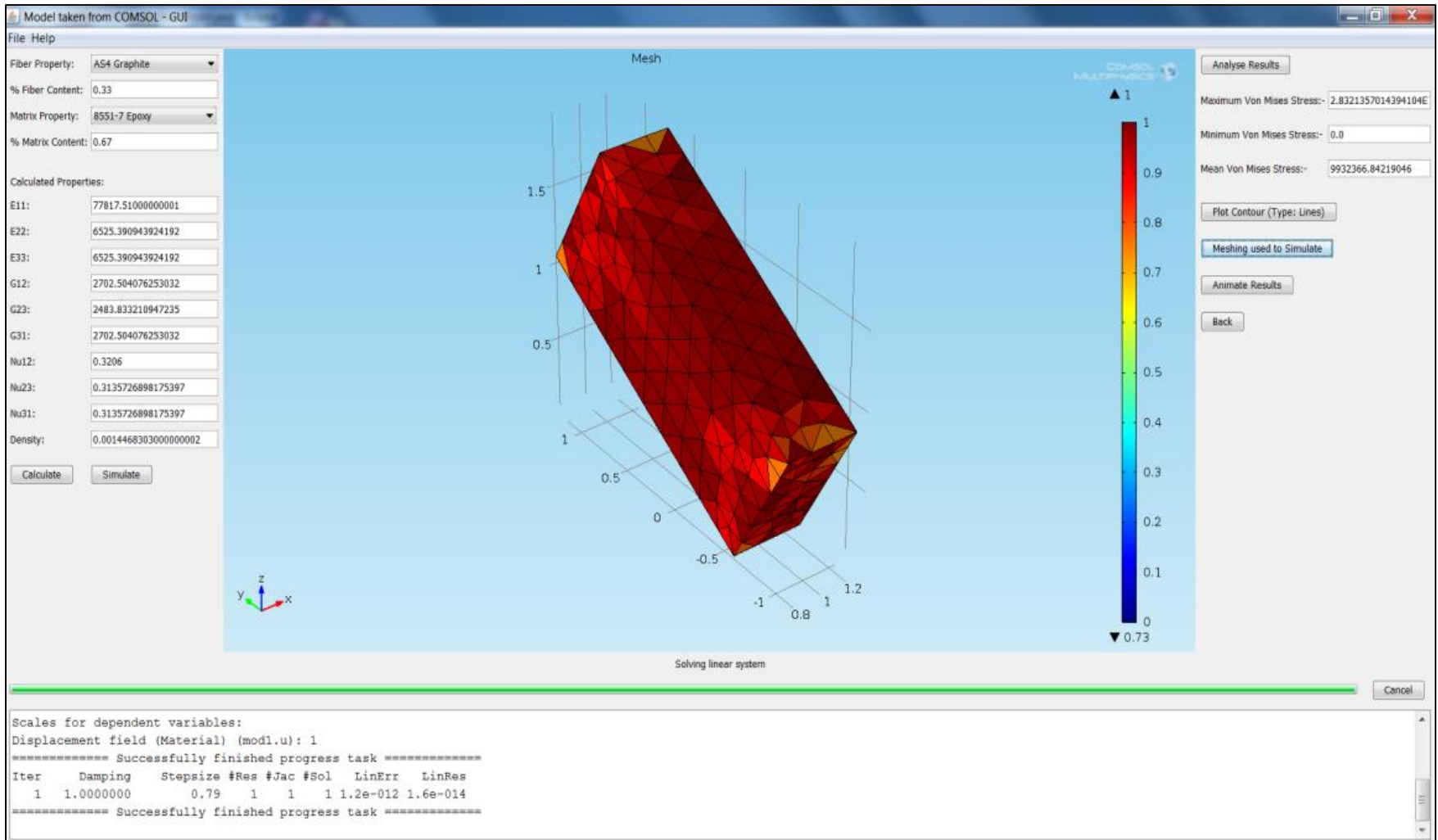
**Contour Plot:**

Select Contour Type

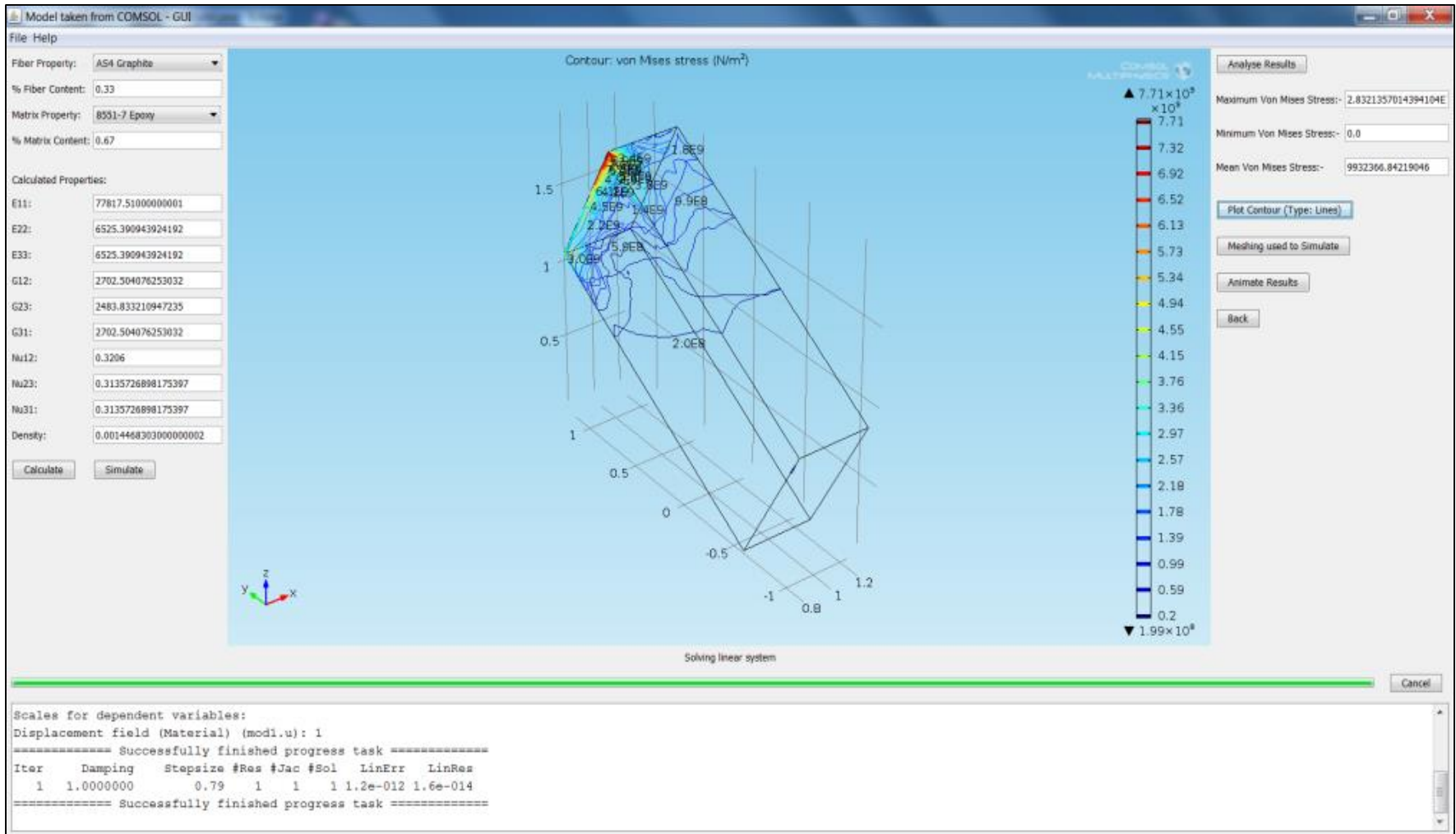
# RESULTS



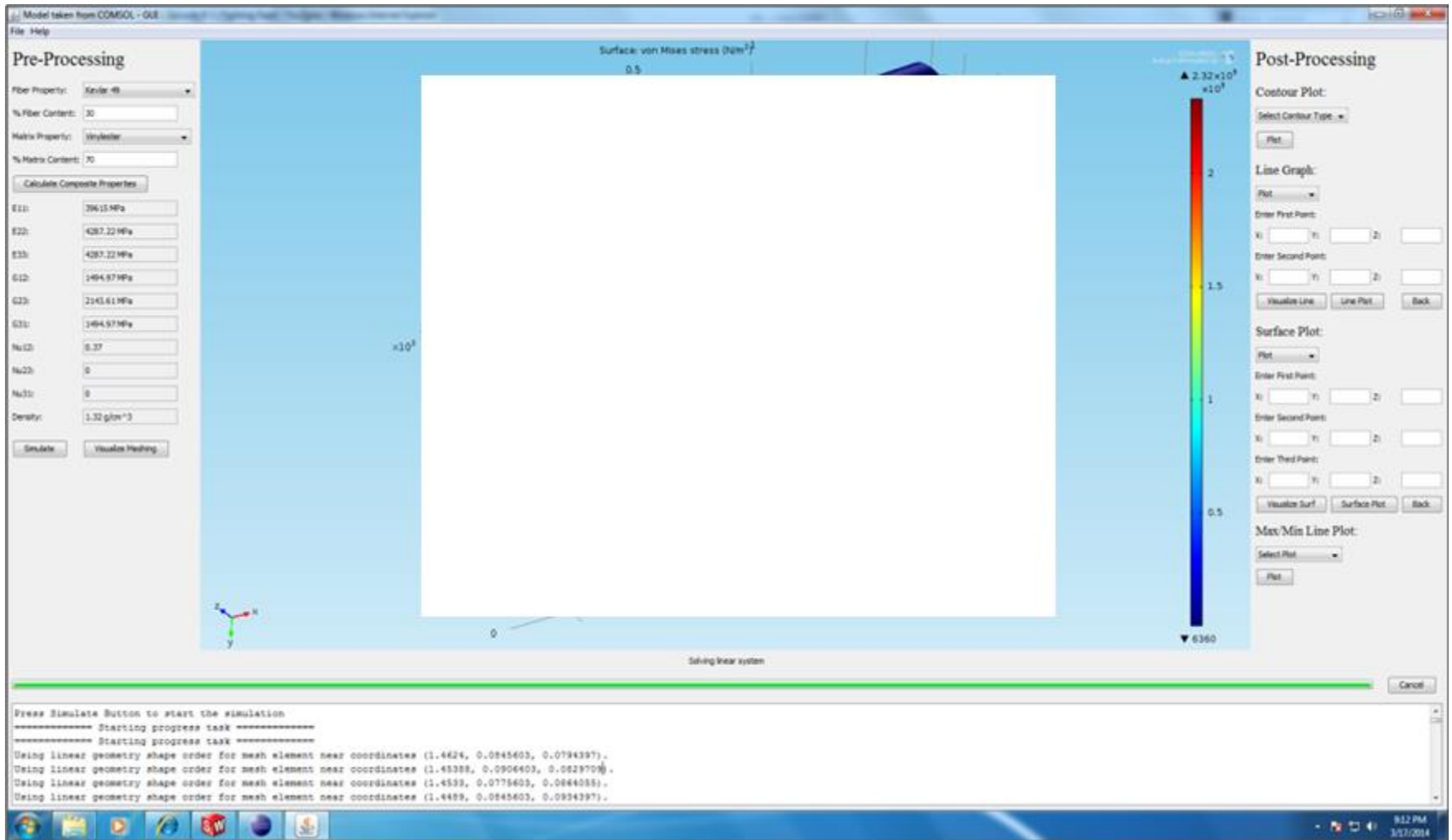
# RESULTS



# RESULTS

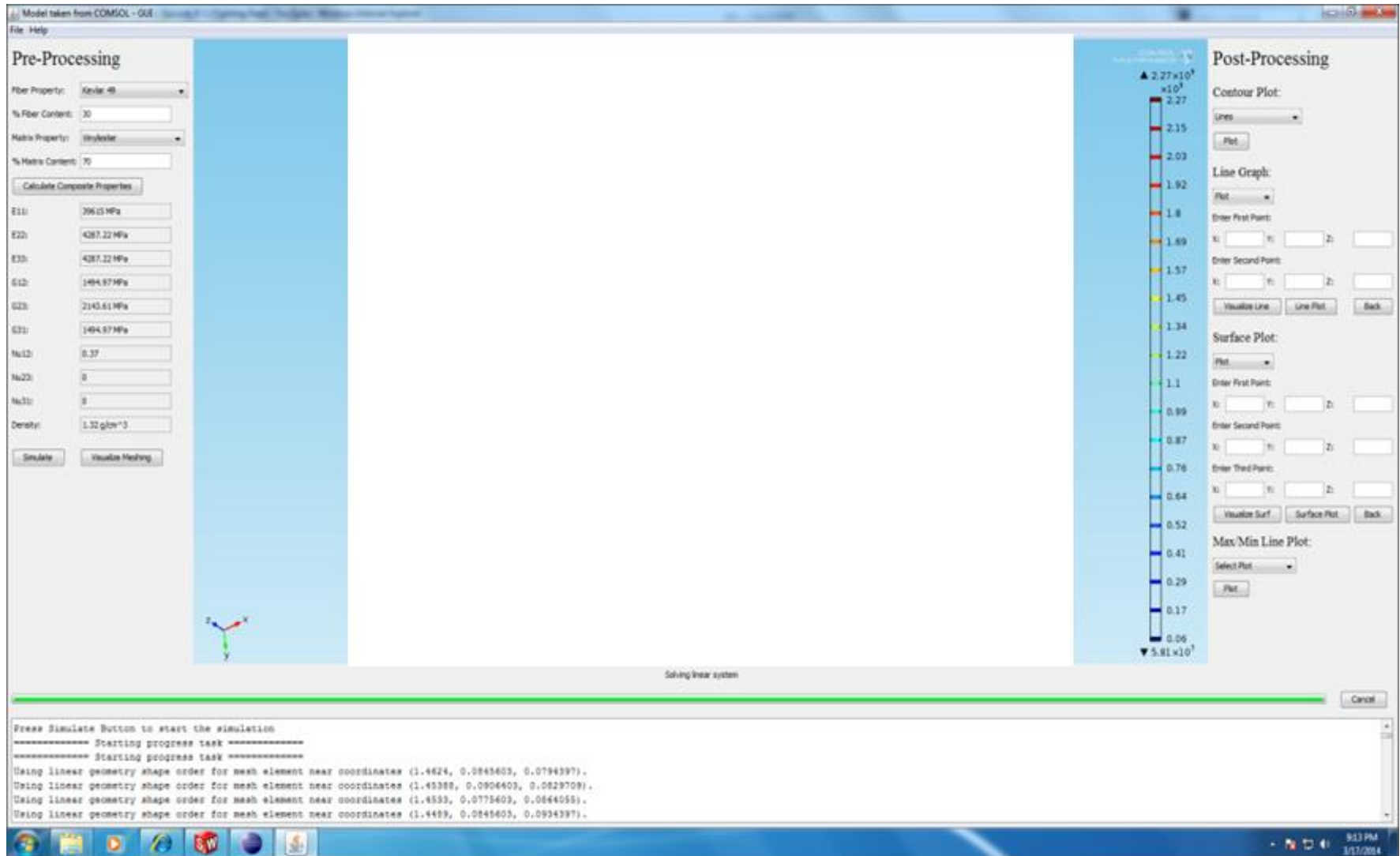


# RESULTS





# RESULTS



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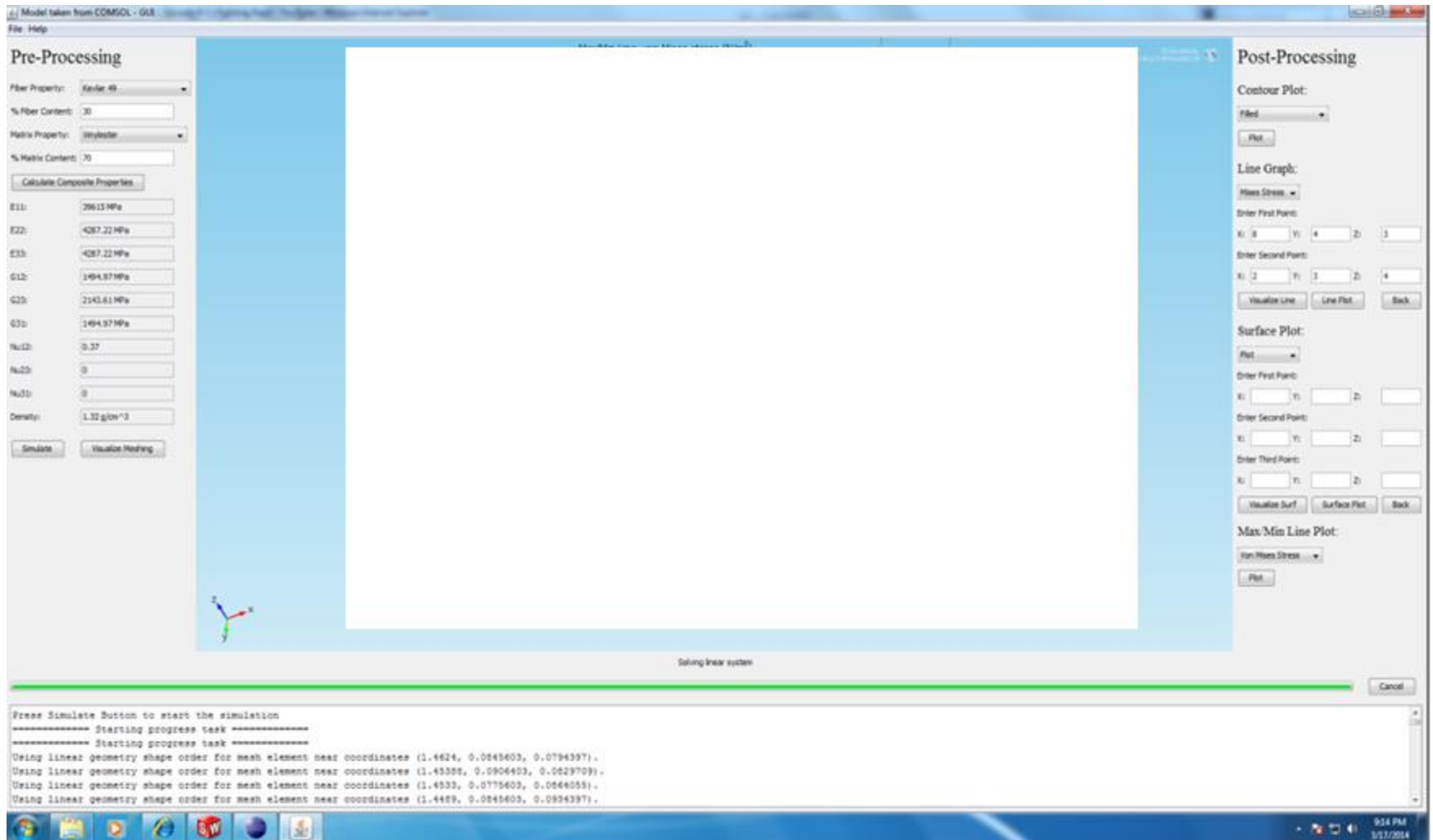
## CONTOUR PLOT

# RESULTS

The screenshot displays the COMSOL Multiphysics software interface. The main window is titled "Model taken from COMSOL - GUI". The interface is divided into several sections:

- Pre-Processing:** Located on the left, it includes fields for "Fiber Property" (Kevlar 49), "% Fiber Content" (30), "Matrix Property" (Urethane), and "% Matrix Content" (70). Below these are material properties for E11, E22, E33, G12, G23, G31, Nu12, Nu23, Nu31, and Density (1.32 g/cm<sup>3</sup>). Buttons for "Simulate" and "Visualize Meshing" are present.
- Post-Processing:** Located on the right, it includes sections for "Contour Plot", "Line Graph", "Surface Plot", and "Max/Min Line Plot". The "Line Graph" section is currently selected, showing "Max Stress" as the variable to plot. It has input fields for "Enter First Point" (X: 8, Y: 4, Z: 3) and "Enter Second Point" (X: 2, Y: 3, Z: 4). Buttons for "Visualize Line", "Line Plot", and "Back" are available.
- Central Area:** A large white area with a blue border, currently displaying a 3D coordinate system (x, y, z) and the text "Solving linear system".
- Bottom Panel:** A command window showing simulation progress and messages such as "Press Simulate Button to start the simulation" and "Using linear geometry shape order for mesh element near coordinates (1.4624, 0.0845603, 0.0794397)".

# RESULTS



# LIMITATIONS AND CHALLENGES

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- Integrating failure criteria's for composite materials is not possible in an user interface
- Selecting points in the 3-D model is not possible by using mouse events on graphics panel
- Meshing of an complex model is difficult to perform in an user interface

# CONCLUSION

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- Composite Material properties were successfully integrated with COMSOL Multiphysics in a user-friendly interface
- GUI created is compatible to be used for any model for the purpose of performing simulation with Composite Material properties
- GUI can also be used to perform some of the important Post-Processing which can be cumbersome to do in COMSOL Multiphysics GUI for an inexperienced user

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION