

Reply to 'Comments on "On estimating the Weibull modulus for a brittle material"'

Since it is difficult to carry out uniaxial tensile tests for brittle material, the data used by Trustrum and Jayatilaka [1] were obtained from three-point bending tests for which the Weibull function of specific risk of fracture is not generally applicable, as was pointed out by Kittl and Günther in [2]. However, the data were only used to illustrate the degeneracy of the three-parameter Weibull distribution and the conclusions and results presented in [1] are not affected, since in the case $\sigma_u = 0$ ($\sigma_1 = 0$), recommended for brittle materials, the cumulative probabilities of failure for three-point bending and for uniform loading coincide as, using the notation in [2],

$$\lim_{\sigma_1 \rightarrow 0} F_T(\sigma) = \lim_{\sigma_1 \rightarrow 0} F_K(\sigma).$$

References

1. K. TRUSTRUM and A de S. JAYATILAKA, *J. Mater. Sci.* **14** (1979) 1080.
2. P. KITTL and O. GÜNTHER, *J. Mater. Sci.* **17** (1982) 922.

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