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Standard Test Method for Hoop Tensile Strength of Continuous Fiber-Reinforced Advanced Ceramic Composite Tubular Test Specimens at Ambient Temperature Using Elastomeric Inserts¹

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1. Scope

- 1.1 This test method covers the determination of the hoop tensile strength including stress-strain response of continuous fiber-reinforced advanced ceramic tubes subjected to an internal pressure produced by the expansion of an elastomeric insert undergoing monotonic uniaxial loading at ambient temperature. This type of test configuration is sometimes referred to as an overhung tube. This test method is specific to tube geometries because flaw populations, fiber architecture, and specimen geometry factors are often distinctly different in composite tubes, as compared to flat plates.
- 1.2 In the test method a composite tube/cylinder with a defined gage section and a known wall thickness is loaded via internal pressurization from the radial expansion of an elastomeric insert (located midway inside the tube) that is longitudinally compressed from either end by pushrods. The elastomeric insert expands under the uniaxial compressive loading of the pushrods and exerts a uniform radial pressure on the inside of the tube. The resulting hoop stress-strain response of the composite tube is recorded until failure of the tube. The hoop tensile strength and the hoop fracture strength are determined from the resulting maximum pressure and the pressure at fracture, respectively. The hoop tensile strains, the hoop proportional limit stress, and the modulus of elasticity in the hoop direction are determined from the stress-strain data. Note that hoop tensile strength as used in this test method refers to the tensile strength in the hoop direction from the induced pressure of a monotonic, uniaxially loaded elastomeric insert, where "monotonic" refers to a continuous, nonstop test rate without reversals from test initiation to final fracture.
- 1.3 This test method applies primarily to advanced ceramic matrix composite tubes with continuous fiber reinforcement: unidirectional (1D, filament wound and tape lay-up), bidirectional (2D, fabric/tape lay-up and weave), and tridirectional
- $^{\rm l}$ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C28 on Advanced Ceramics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C28.07 on Ceramic Matrix Composites.
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- (3D, braid and weave). These types of ceramic matrix composites can be composed of a wide range of ceramic fibers (oxide, graphite, carbide, nitride, and other compositions) in a wide range of crystalline and amorphous ceramic matrix compositions (oxide, carbide, nitride, carbon, graphite, and other compositions).
- 1.4 This test method does not directly address discontinuous fiber-reinforced, whisker-reinforced, or particulate-reinforced ceramics, although the test methods detailed here may be equally applicable to these composites.
- 1.5 The test method is applicable to a range of test specimen tube geometries based on a non-dimensional parameter that includes composite material property and tube radius. Lengths of the composite tube, pushrods, and elastomeric insert are determined from this non-dimensional parameter so as to provide a gage length with uniform internal radial pressure. A wide range of combinations of material properties, tube radii, wall thicknesses, tube lengths, and insert lengths are possible.
- 2–1.5.1 This test method is specific to ambient temperature testing. Elevated temperature testing requires high-temperature furnaces and heating devices with temperature control and measurement systems and temperature-capable grips and loading fixtures, which are not addressed in this test standard.
- 1.6 This test method addresses tubular test specimen geometries, test specimen methods, testing rates (force rate, induced pressure rate, displacement rate, or strain rate), and data collection and reporting procedures in the following sections.

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Section

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- 1.7 Values expressed in this test method are in accordance with the International System of Units (SI) (IEEE/ASTM SI 10).
- 1.8 This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use. Specific hazard statements are given in Section 8 and Note 1.
- 1.9 This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.

2. Referenced Documents

- 2.1 ASTM Standards:²
- C1145 Terminology of Advanced Ceramics
- C1239 Practice for Reporting Uniaxial Strength Data and Estimating Weibull Distribution Parameters for Advanced Ceramics
- D3878 Terminology for Composite Materials
- E4 Practices for Force Verification of Testing Machines
- E6 Terminology Relating to Methods of Mechanical Testing
- E83 Practice for Verification and Classification of Extensometer Systems
- E177 Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods
- E337 Test Method for Measuring Humidity with a Psychrometer (the Measurement of Wet- and Dry-Bulb Temperatures)
- E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method
- E1012 Practice for Verification of Testing Frame and Specimen Alignment Under Tensile and Compressive Axial Force Application
- IEEE/ASTM SI 10 American National Standard for Metric Practice

3. Terminology

- 3.1 Definitions:
- 3.1.1 The definitions of terms relating to hoop tensile strength testing appearing in Terminology E6 apply to the terms used in this test method. The definitions of terms relating to advanced ceramics appearing in Terminology C1145 apply to the terms used in this test method. The definitions of terms relating to fiber-reinforced composites appearing in Terminology D3878 apply to the terms used in this test method.

- Pertinent definitions as listed in Practice E1012 and Terminologies C1145, D3878, and E6 are shown in the following with the appropriate source given in parentheses. Additional terms used in conjunction with this test method are defined in the following:
- 3.1.2 advanced ceramic, n—a highly engineered, high-performance, predominantly nonmetallic, inorganic, ceramic material having specific functional attributes. (See Terminology C1145.)
- 3.1.3 *breaking force, n*—the force at which fracture occurs. (See Terminology E6.)
- 3.1.4 ceramic matrix composite (CMC), n—a material consisting of two or more materials (insoluble in one another), in which the major, continuous component (matrix component) is a ceramic, while the secondary component/s (reinforcing component) may be ceramic, glass-ceramic, glass, metal, or organic in nature. These components are combined on a macroscale to form a useful engineering material possessing certain properties or behavior not possessed by the individual constituents.
- 3.1.5 continuous fiber-reinforced ceramic matrix composite (CFCC), n—a ceramic matrix composite in which the reinforcing phase consists of a continuous fiber, continuous yarn, or a woven fabric.
- 3.1.6 gage length, n—the original length of that portion of the specimen over which strain or change of length is determined. (See Terminology E6.)
- 3.1.7 hoop tensile strength, n—the maximum tensile component of hoop stress which a material is capable of sustaining. Hoop tensile strength is calculated from the maximum internal pressure induced in a tubular test specimen.
- 3.1.8 *matrix cracking stress*, *n*—the applied tensile stress at which the matrix cracks into a series of roughly parallel blocks normal to the tensile stress.
- 3.1.8.1 *Discussion*—In some cases, the matrix cracking stress may be indicated on the stress-strain curve by deviation from linearity (proportional limit) or incremental drops in the stress with increasing strain. In other cases, especially with materials which do not possess a linear region of the stress-strain curve, the matrix cracking stress may be indicated as the first stress at which a permanent offset strain is detected in the during unloading (elastic limit).
- 3.1.9 *modulus of elasticity, n*—the ratio of stress to corresponding strain below the proportional limit. (See Terminology E6.)
- 3.1.10 modulus of resilience, n—strain energy per unit volume required to elastically stress the material from zero to the proportional limit indicating the ability of the material to absorb energy when deformed elastically and return it when unloaded.
- 3.1.11 *modulus of toughness*, *n*—strain energy per unit volume required to stress the material from zero to final fracture indicating the ability of the material to absorb energy beyond the elastic range (that is, damage tolerance of the material).
 - 3.1.11.1 Discussion—The modulus of toughness can also be

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

referred to as the cumulative damage energy and as such is regarded as an indication of the ability of the material to sustain damage rather than as a material property. Fracture mechanics methods for the characterization of CMCs have not been developed. The determination of the modulus of toughness as provided in this test method for the characterization of the cumulative damage process in CMCs may become obsolete when fracture mechanics methods for CMCs become available.

- 3.1.12 *proportional limit stress, n*—the greatest stress that a material is capable of sustaining without any deviation from proportionality of stress to strain (Hooke's law).
- 3.1.12.1 *Discussion*—Many experiments have shown that values observed for the proportional limit vary greatly with the sensitivity and accuracy of the testing equipment, eccentricity of loading, the scale to which the stress-strain diagram is plotted, and other factors. When determination of proportional limit is required, the procedure and sensitivity of the test equipment should be specified. (See Terminology E6.)
- 3.1.13 *slow crack growth, n*—subcritical crack growth (extension) which may result from, but is not restricted to, such mechanisms as environmentally assisted stress corrosion or diffusive crack growth.

4. Summary of Test Method

- 4.1 In the test method a composite tube/cylinder with a defined gage section and a known wall thickness is loaded by the radial expansion an elastomeric insert (located midway inside the tube) that is compressed longitudinally between pushrods. The elastomeric insert expands under the uniaxial compressive loading of the pushrods and exerts a uniform radial pressure on the inside of the tube. The resulting hoop stress-strain response of the composite tube is recorded until failure of the tube. The hoop tensile strength and the hoop fracture strength are determined from the resulting maximum pressure and the pressure at fracture. The hoop tensile strains, the proportional limit hoop stress, and the modulus of elasticity in the hoop direction are determined from the stress-strain data.
- 4.2 Hoop tensile strength as used in this test method refers to the tensile strength in the hoop direction from the induced pressure of a monotonic, uniaxially loaded elastomeric insert, where "monotonic" refers to a continuous test rate with no reversals.
- 4.3 The test method is applicable to a range of test specimen tube geometries based on a non-dimensional parameter that includes composite material property and tube radius. Lengths of the composite tube, pushrods, and elastomeric insert are determined from this non-dimensional parameter so as to provide a gage length with uniform internal radial pressure. A wide range of combinations of material properties, tube radii, wall thicknesses, tube lengths, and insert lengths are possible.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 This test method (also known as overhung tube method) may be used for material development, material comparison, material screening, material down selection, and quality assurance. This test method is not recommended for material

characterization, design data generation, material model verification/validation, or combinations thereof.

- 5.2 Continuous fiber-reinforced ceramic composites (CFCCs) are composed of continuous ceramic-fiber directional (1D, 2D, and 3D) reinforcements in a fine-grain-sized (<50 μm) ceramic matrix with controlled porosity. Often these composites have an engineered thin (0.1 to 10 μm) interface coating on the fibers to produce crack deflection and fiber pull-out.
- 5.3 CFCC components have a distinctive and synergistic combination of material properties, interface coatings, porosity control, composite architecture (1D, 2D, and 3D), and geometric shape that are generally inseparable. Prediction of the mechanical performance of CFCC tubes (particularly with braid and 3D weave architectures) cannot be made by applying measured properties from flat CFCC plates to the design of tubes. In particular, tubular components comprised of CMCs material form a unique synergistic combination of material and geometric shape that are generally inseparable. In other words, prediction of mechanical performance of CMC tubes generally cannot be made by using properties measured from flat plates. Strength tests of internally pressurized CMC tubes provide information on mechanical behavior and strength for a multi-axially stressed material.
- 5.4 Unlike monolithic advanced ceramics which fracture catastrophically from a single dominant flaw, CMCs generally experience "graceful" fracture from a cumulative damage process. Therefore, while the volume of material subjected to a uniform hoop tensile stress for a single uniformly pressurized tube test may be a significant factor for determining matrix cracking stress, this same volume may not be as significant a factor in determining the ultimate strength of a CMC. However, the probabilistic nature of the strength distributions of the brittle matrices of CMCs requires a statistically significant number of test specimens for statistical analysis and design. Studies to determine the exact influence of test specimen volume on strength distributions for CMCs have not been completed. It should be noted that hoop tensile strengths obtained using different recommended test specimens with different volumes of material in the gage sections may be different due to these volume effects.
- 5.5 Hoop tensile strength tests provide information on the strength and deformation of materials under biaxial stresses induced from internal pressurization of tubes. Nonuniform stress states are inherent in these types of tests and subsequent evaluation of any nonlinear stress-strain behavior must take into account the unsymmetric behavior of the CMC under biaxial stressing. This nonlinear behavior may develop as the result of cumulative damage processes (for example, matrix cracking, matrix/fiber debonding, fiber fracture, delamination, etc.) which may be influenced by testing mode, testing rate, processing or alloying effects, or environmental influences. Some of these effects may be consequences of stress corrosion or subcritical (slow) crack growth that can be minimized by testing at sufficiently rapid rates as outlined in this test method.
- 5.6 The results of hoop tensile strength tests of test specimens fabricated to standardized dimensions from a particular

material or selected portions of a part, or both, may not totally represent the strength and deformation properties of the entire, full-size end product or its in-service behavior in different environments.

- 5.7 For quality control purposes, results derived from standardized tubular hoop tensile strength test specimens may be considered indicative of the response of the material from which they were taken for, given primary processing conditions and post-processing heat treatments.
- 5.8 The hoop tensile stress behavior and strength of a CMC are dependent on its inherent resistance to fracture, the presence of flaws, or damage accumulation processes, or both. Analysis of fracture surfaces and fractography, though beyond the scope of this test method, is highly recommended.

6. Interferences

- 6.1 Test environment (vacuum, inert gas, ambient air, etc.), including moisture content (for example, relative humidity), may have an influence on the measured hoop tensile strength. In particular, the behavior of materials susceptible to slow crack growth fracture will be strongly influenced by test environment and testing rate. Testing to evaluate the maximum strength potential of a material should be conducted in inert environments or at sufficiently rapid testing rates, or both, so as to minimize slow crack growth effects. Conversely, testing can be conducted in environments and testing modes and rates representative of service conditions to evaluate material performance under use conditions. When testing is conducted in uncontrolled ambient air with the intent of evaluating maximum strength potential, relative humidity and temperature must be monitored and reported. Testing at humidity levels >65 % relative humidity (RH) is not recommended and any deviations from this recommendation must be reported.
- 6.2 Surface preparation of test specimens, although normally not considered a major concern in CMCs, can introduce fabrication flaws that may have pronounced effects on hoop tensile stress mechanical properties and behavior (for example, shape and level of the resulting stress-strain curve, hoop tensile strength and strain, proportional limit hoop stress and strain, etc.). Machining damage introduced during test specimen preparation can be either a random interfering factor in the determination of ultimate strength of pristine material (that is, increased frequency of surface-initiated fractures compared to volume-initiated fractures), or an inherent part of the strength characteristics to be measured. Surface preparation can also lead to the introduction of residual stresses. Universal or standardized test methods of surface preparation do not exist. It should be understood that final machining steps may or may not negate machining damage introduced during the initial machining. Thus, test specimen fabrication history may play an important role in the measured strength distributions and should be reported. In addition, the nature of fabrication used for certain composites (for example, chemical vapor infiltration or hot pressing) may require the testing of test specimens in the as-processed condition (that is, it may not be possible to machine the test specimen faces).
- 6.3 Internally pressurized tests of CMC tubes can produce biaxial and triaxial stress distributions with maximum and

- minimum stresses occurring at the test specimen surface, leading to fractures originating at surfaces or near geometrical transitions. In addition, if deformations or strains are measured at surfaces where maximum or minimum stresses occur, bending may introduce over or under measurement of strains depending on the location of the strain-measuring device on the specimen. Similarly, fracture from surface flaws may be accentuated or suppressed by the presence of the nonuniform stresses caused by bending.
- 6.4 Friction between the insert and the rough and/or unlubricated inner surface of tubular test specimen can produce compressive stresses on the inner bore of the tube that will reduce that hoop stress in the tube. In addition, this friction will accentuate axial bending stress.
- 6.5 Fractures that initiate outside the gage section of a test specimen may be due to factors such as stress concentrations or geometrical transitions, extraneous stresses introduced by fixtures/load apparatuses, or strength-limiting features in the microstructure of the specimen. Such non-gage section fractures will usually constitute invalid tests.

7. Apparatus

7.1 Testing Machines—Machines used for applying uniaxial forces to elastomeric inserts for hoop tensile strength testing shall conform to the requirements of Practices E4. The axial force used in inducing the internal pressure shall be accurate within ± 1 % at any force within the selected force range of the testing machine as defined in Practices E4. A schematic showing pertinent features of the hoop tensile strength testing apparatus is shown in Fig. 1.

7.2 Fixtures:

- 7.2.1 General—Compression loading fixtures are generally composed of two parts: (1) basic steel test machine grips (for example, hydraulically loaded V-grips) attached to the test machine, and (2) pushrods that are held rigidly in the test machine grips and act as the interface between the grips and elastomeric insert. A schematic drawing of such a fixture and a test specimen is shown in Fig. 2. A figure showing an actual test setup is shown in Fig. 3. Another variation of the compression loading fixture can use (1) compression platens attached to the test machine, and (2) pushrods that are held against the platens in the test machine and act as the interface between the platens and elastomeric insert.
- 7.2.2 With insert testing, the only 'connection' between the pressurizing 'machinery' and the tube under test is a trapped film of high-pressure lubricant (Fig. 2). Tests have shown that this lubricant film retains a constant thickness during testing to the maximum pressure (1).³ The objective is to transmit the applied force from the pushrod through the lubricant film to the inner wall of the tube under test. However, evidence indicates that the insert behaves as a hydraulic fluid also up to longitudinal compressions of at least 5 % strain.
- 7.2.3 *Inserts*—Typically, commercial insert materials are used because of the wide range of hardnesses available. The

³ The boldface numbers in parentheses refer to the list of references at the end of this standard.

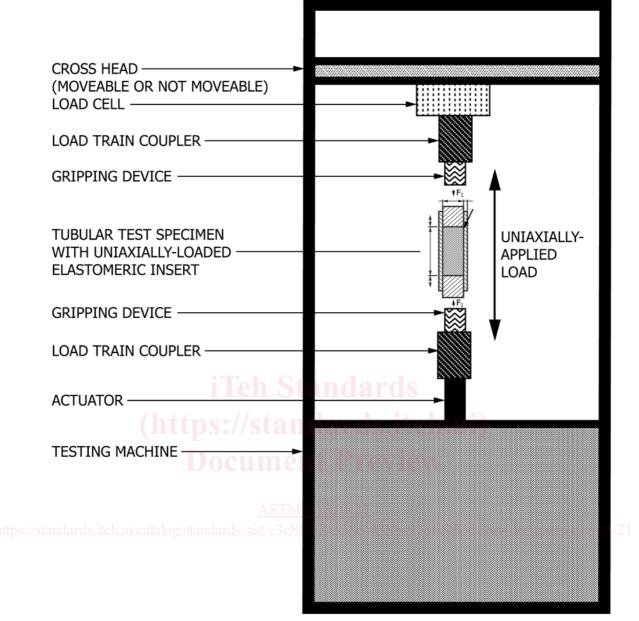


FIG. 1 Schematic Diagram of One Possible Apparatus for Applying a Uniaxial Force to an Elastomeric Insert for Conducting an Internally Pressurized Hoop Strength Test of a CMC Tube

"correct" hardness is chosen by determining the insert force and related pressure at failure of the CMC tubular test specimen.

Note 1—Common insert materials include urethane (such as Du Pont Adiprene) or neoprene (1) mainly because of the wide range of hardnesses commercially available. Other inert materials successfully employed included silicon rubber such as Dow Corning Silastic.

7.2.3.1 Inserts can be machined from a pre-cast block or cast "in place" (that is, inside the tubular test specimen).

However, a final grinding to finished size on diameter and length is essential so that end surfaces are perpendicular to diameter.

7.2.3.2 Insert length is chosen based on tubular test specimen dimensions and test material properties. The insert takes up only the central portion of the tube for two reasons: (1) tube ends act a guide for the pushrods and (2) when correctly dimensioned per the requirement of this test method, the

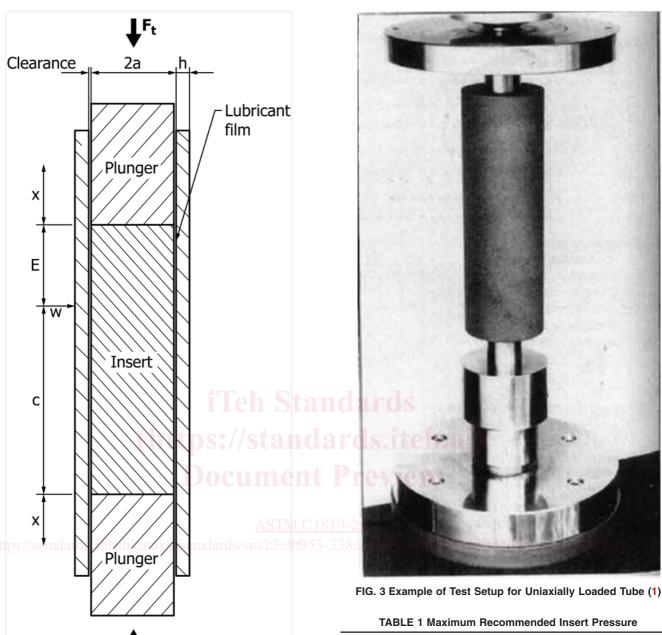


FIG. 2 Schematic of Uniaxially Loaded Insert (1)

Maximum Recommended Pressure $(MPa = N/mm^2)$
12
50
~130

unpressurized tube ends can be made such that the stresses in the end surfaces during testing are negligible.

7.2.3.3 Previous studies (1) have shown that pressurized length of the tube, L, and hence initial length of the insert should be:

$$L \ge 9/\beta$$
and
$$\beta = \sqrt[4]{\frac{3(1-v^2)}{(r_t^{tube})^2 t^2}}$$
(1)

where:

= Poisson's ratio of test material,

 r_i^{tube} = inner radius of tubular test specimen in units of mm, and

t = wall thickness of tubular test specimen in units of mm.

Note 2—Example of a commercial CMC ($\nu=0.15$) tube with outer diameter of 100 mm and wall and tube wall thickness of 2 mm. In this case

$$\beta = \sqrt[4]{\frac{3(1-\nu^2)}{(r_i^{\it rube})^2 r^2}} = \sqrt[4]{\frac{3(1-0.15^2)}{(\lceil 100-2\ (2)\rceil/2)^2 2^2}} = 0.133\ 1/mm \ such \ that \\ L = 9/\beta = 9/0.133 = 67.38\ mm.$$

7.2.4 Pushrods—Pushrods are made from any material with sufficient compressive strength to prevent yielding of the pushrod and sufficient stiffness to prevent buckling. Final grinding of the pushrod diameters and pushrod ends is required to meet the requirements for wall clearance, face flatness, and perpendicularity/straightness as shown in Fig. 4.

7.2.4.1 Clearance between the pushrod and tube wall of the test specimen shall fall within the following limits:

$$0.04 \text{ mm} \le c = \left(r_i^{tube} - r_o^{pushrod}\right) \le \max \begin{cases} 0.04 \text{ mm} \\ 0.05*\left(2r_0^{pushrod}\right) \end{cases}$$
 (2)

7.2.4.2 Concentricity of the pushrod over the entire length shall be 0.005 mm. Flatness of the pushrod end shall be 0.005 mm. Perpendicularity of the pushrod end shall be 0.005 mm with a run-out of 0.024 mm per 24 mm.

7.2.4.3 Length of each pushrod should include the unpressurized length of the tube, plus the length of the pushrod inserted into the grip, plus the length of the tube required to take up the compression of the insert during testing. Too long of a pushrod could contribute to buckling during testing. Too short of a pushrod could lead to interference of the test specimen with the test machine/grip during testing. A recommended (1) pushrod length is half minimum unpressurized length of the tubular test specimen plus the grip length of the pushrod, such that:

$$L_{pushrod} \ge = (3.5/\beta) + grip \ length$$
 and
$$X = 3.5/\beta$$
 = minimum unpressurized half length (3)

of tubular test specimen

Note 3—Example of a commercial CMC (v = 0.15) tube with outer diameter of 100 mm and wall and tube wall thickness of 2 mm. In this case

$$\beta = \sqrt[4]{\frac{3(1-v^2)}{(r_i^{tube})^2 t^2}} = \sqrt[4]{\frac{3(1-0.15^2)}{([100-2(2)]/2)^2 2^2}} = 0.133 \text{ 1/mm such that}$$
 X = 3.5/\beta = 3.5/0.133 = 26.2 in $L_{pushrod}$ = 26.2 + L_{grip} mm.

7.3 Strain Measurement—Strain should be determined by means of either a suitable diametral or circumferential extensometers, strain gages, or appropriate optical methods. If Poisson's ratio is to be determined, the tubular test specimen must be instrumented to measure strain in both longitudinal and lateral directions.

7.3.1 Diametral or circumferential extensometers used for testing of CMC tubular test specimens shall satisfy Practice E83, Class B-1 requirements and are recommended to be used in place of strain gages for test specimens with gage lengths of ≥25 mm and shall be used for high-performance tests beyond the range of strain gage applications. Extensometers shall be calibrated periodically in accordance with Practice E83. For extensometers mechanically attached to the test specimen, the attachment should be such as to cause no damage to the specimen surface.

7.3.2 Alternatively, strain can also be determined directly from strain gages. Ideally, to eliminate the effect of misaligned uniaxial strain gages, three-element rosette strain gages should be mounted to determine maximum principal strain which should be in the hoop direction. Unless it can be shown that strain gage readings are not unduly influenced by localized strain events such as fiber crossovers, strain gages should not be less than 9 to 12 mm in length for the longitudinal direction and not less than 6 mm in length for the transverse direction. Note that larger strain gages than those recommended here may be required for fabric reinforcements to average the localized strain effects of the fiber crossovers. The strain gages, surface preparation, and bonding agents should be chosen to provide adequate performance on the subject materials and suitable strain recording equipment should be employed. Note that many CMCs may exhibit high degrees of porosity and surface roughness and therefore require surface preparation, including surface filling, before the strain gages can be applied.

7.4 Data Acquisition—At the minimum, autographic record of applied load and gage section elongation or strain versus time should be obtained. Either analog chart recorders or digital data acquisition systems can be used for this purpose, although a digital record is recommended for ease of later data analysis. Ideally, an analog chart recorder or plotter should be used in conjunction with the digital data acquisition system to provide an immediate record of the test as a supplement to the digital record. Recording devices shall be accurate to within ±0.1 % for the entire testing system including readout unit as specified in Practices E4 and shall have a minimum data acquisition rate of 10 Hz, with a response of 50 Hz deemed more than sufficient.

7.4.1 Strain or elongation of the gage section, or both, should be recorded either similarly to the force or as independent variables of force. Crosshead displacement of the test machine may also be recorded but should not be used to define displacement or strain in the gage section.

7.5 Dimension-Measuring Devices—Micrometers and other devices used for measuring linear dimensions should be accurate and precise to at least one half the smallest unit to which the individual dimension is required to be measured. For the purposes of this test method, cross-sectional dimensions

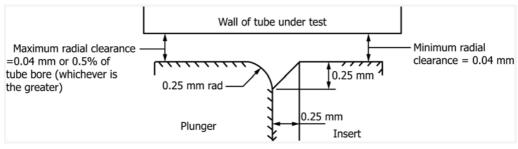


FIG. 4 Details of Interface Between Pushrod and Insert