68. A torque  $T \sim N(1000, 100^2)$  N·m is applied to a welded thin-wall steel tube as shown in the figure. The tube is of round section with a diameter of d = 40 mm. It has a a thickness of t = 5 mm and a length of  $l \sim N(500, 0.1^2)$  mm. The shear modulus is G = 80 GPa. If the allowable anlge of twist is  $\theta_a = 0.05$ , estimate probability of failure using the First Order Second Moment Method. Note that T and  $\theta_a$  are independent.



## Solution

Based on the theory of closed thin-walled tube, the angular twist per unit of length is

$$\theta_1 = \frac{TL_m}{4GA_m^2 t}$$

where  $L_m = \pi(d - t)$  is the section median line and  $A_m$  is the area enclosed by section median line.

$$A_m = \frac{\pi}{4}(d-t)^2$$

Thus the actual angle of twist is

$$\theta = \theta_1 l = \frac{L_m}{4GA_m^2 t} Tl = \frac{\pi (d-t)}{4G\left(\frac{\pi}{4}(d-t)^2\right)^2 t} Tl = \frac{4}{G\pi (d-t)^3 t} Tl$$

The limit-state function is the actual angle of twist subtracted from the allowable one. Failure occurs when Y < 0.

$$Y = g(\mathbf{X}) = \theta_a - \theta = \theta_a - \frac{4}{G\pi(d-t)^3 t} T t$$

where  $\mathbf{X} = (T, l)$ .

Using FOSM, we have

$$\begin{split} \mu_{Y} &= g(\mu_{X}) = \theta_{a} - \frac{4}{G\pi(d-t)^{3}t} \mu_{T} \mu_{l} \\ &= 0.05 - \frac{4}{(80)(10^{9})\pi(40(10^{-3}) - 5(10^{-3}))^{3}8(10^{-3})} 1000(500)(10^{-3})) \\ &= 1.2879(10^{-2}) \\ \sigma_{Y} &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial T}\Big|_{\mu_{X}} \sigma_{T}\right)^{2} + \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial l}\Big|_{\mu_{X}} \sigma_{l}\right)^{2}} \\ &= \sqrt{\left(-\frac{4\mu_{l}}{G\pi(d-t)^{3}t} \sigma_{T}\right)^{2} + \left(-\frac{4\mu_{T}}{G\pi(d-t)^{3}t} \sigma_{l}\right)^{2}} \\ &= \sqrt{\left(-\frac{4(500)(10^{-3})}{(80)(10^{9})\pi(40(10^{-3}) - 5(10^{-3}))^{3}8(10^{-3})} 100\right)^{2}} \\ &= \sqrt{\left(+\frac{4(1000)}{(80)(10^{9})\pi(40(10^{-3}) - 5(10^{-3}))^{3}8(10^{-3})} (0.1)(10^{-3})\right)^{2}} \\ &= 3.7121(10^{-3}) \end{split}$$

The probability of failure is then given by

$$p_f = \Phi\left(\frac{-\mu_Y}{\sigma_Y}\right) = \Phi\left(\frac{-1.2879(10^{-2})}{3.7121(10^{-3})}\right) = 2.61(10^{-4})$$

Ans.