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## Symmetrical Bending of Multicore Circular Sandwich Plates

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### Introduction

SYMMETRICAL bending of single core circular plates was treated by Reissner,<sup>1</sup> Zaid,<sup>2</sup> and Erickson.<sup>3</sup> Unsymmetrical bending was treated by Kao.<sup>4,5</sup> The bending of multicore circular plates with membrane facings was treated by Stickney and Abdulhadi,<sup>6</sup> where the distinct cores were assumed to possess a common shear angle, in a manner similar to that of Liaw and Little<sup>7</sup> for rectangular plates. Kao and Ross<sup>8</sup> have shown, for multicore beams, that the customarily used common shear angle restriction introduces errors when the cores are not identical.

Analysis of multicore plates suitable for thin or thick cores and without the common shear angle restriction, to our knowledge, does not exist. This Note treats the symmetrical bending for such plates. The governing equations for five-layer plates are derived and solved for arbitrary symmetrical loading and boundary conditions.

### Analysis

The facings are distinct, homogeneous and isotropic. The bending and extensional stiffnesses of each facing is taken into account. The facings carry plane stresses while the isotropic cores carry transverse shear stress only. The thickness does not change and the layers do not slip when the plate is loaded.

Let the odd subscripts  $i = 1, 3, 5$  refer to bending layers (facings) and even subscripts  $j = 2, 4$  refer to shear layers (cores) as shown (Fig. 1). The forces and moments per unit length acting on  $i$ th layer are defined as

$$[N_{ir}, N_{i\theta}] = \int [\sigma_{ir}, \sigma_{i\theta}] dz_i \quad [M_{ir}, M_{i\theta}] = \int [\sigma_{ir}, \sigma_{i\theta}] z_i dz_i \quad (1)$$

where  $N_{ir}(M_{ir}), N_{i\theta}(M_{i\theta})$  are radial and tangential forces (moments), respectively, and  $\sigma_{ir}(\sigma_{i\theta})$  is the radial (tangential) stress. The distance  $z_i$  is measured transversely from the center of  $i$ th facing.

Hooke's law is used in Eq. (1) leading to

$$\begin{bmatrix} N_{ir} \\ N_{i\theta} \\ M_{ir} \\ M_{i\theta} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \nu & 0 & 0 \\ \nu & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -\nu \\ 0 & 0 & -\nu & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} k_i u_{i,r} \\ k_i u_{i,\theta}/r \\ D_i w_{,rr} \\ D_i w_{,r}/r \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

$$k_i = E_i T_i / (1 - \nu^2) \quad D_i = E_i T_i^3 / [12(1 - \nu^2)] \quad (2a)$$

where  $\nu$  is common Poisson's ratio,  $u_i(w)$  is radial (transverse) displacement,  $E_i$  is elastic modulus, and  $T_i$  is thickness. Summing moments about the middle of layer five, leads to

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resultant moment equations

$$M_r = -D(w_{,rr} + \nu w_{,r}/r) - \sum_1^3 \delta_{i5} k_i (u_{i,r} + \nu u_{i,\theta}/r) \quad (3)$$

$$M_\theta = -D(\nu w_{,rr} + w_{,r}/r) - \sum_1^3 \delta_{i5} k_i (\nu u_{i,r} + u_{i,\theta}/r) \quad (4)$$

where  $D = D_1 + D_3 + D_5$ , and  $\delta_{i5}$  is the distance between centers of layers five and  $i$ . Since bending only is considered, the resultant forces vanish; that is

$$N_{1r} + N_{3r} + N_{5r} = 0 \quad N_{1\theta} + N_{3\theta} + N_{5\theta} = 0 \quad (5)$$

The equilibrium equations of a differential plate element and Eqs. (3) and (4) are used to obtain an expression for the shear force  $Q_r$ .

$$Q_r = -D(\nabla^2 w)_{,r} - \sum_1^3 \delta_{i5} k_i S(u_i) \quad (6)$$

$$\nabla^2(\ ) = (\ )_{,rr} + (\ )_{,r}/r \quad S(\ ) = \nabla^2(\ ) - (\ )_{,r}/r$$

The core shear stresses  $\tau_{2rz}$  and  $\tau_{4rz}$  are obtained from the equilibrium equations of each facing and Eq. (2)

$$\tau_{2rz} = -k_i S(u_i) \quad \tau_{4rz} = -\sum_1^3 k_i S(u_i) \quad (7)$$

The no-slip conditions between the various layers are

$$u_3 - u_1 = -\delta_{13} w_{,r} + C_2 \tau_{2rz} \quad (8)$$

$$u_5 - u_3 = -\delta_{35} w_{,r} + C_4 \tau_{4rz} \quad (9)$$

where  $C_j = T_j/G_j$  and  $G_j$  is shear modulus of  $j$ th core. The displacement  $u_5$  is related to  $u_1$  and  $u_3$  as

$$k_5 u_5 = -(k_1 u_1 + k_3 u_3) \quad (10)$$

A set of three governing equations are obtained by use of the equilibrium equations of a plate element and Eqs. (6-10).

$$(1/r)(d/dr)rS(Dw_{,r} + \delta_{13} k_1 u_1 + \delta_{35} k_3 u_3) = p(r) \quad (11)$$

$$\delta_{13} w_{,r} + C_2 k_1 S(u_1) - u_1 + u_3 = 0 \quad (12)$$

$$\delta_{35} k_5 w_{,r} + (C_4 k_1 k_5 S - k_1) u_1 + (C_4 \tau_{35} S - k_3 - k_5) u_3 = 0 \quad (13)$$

where  $p(r)$  is an arbitrary symmetric load per unit area.

Equations (11-13) are uncoupled to eliminate  $u_3$  and reduce the number of equations to two. The uncoupling process leads to

$$e \frac{dw}{dr} = -f u_1 + b \frac{d}{dr} \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} (r u_1) + F(p, r) + \frac{A_1 r}{2} \left( \log r - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \frac{A_2 r}{2} + \frac{A_3}{r} \quad (14)$$

$$\left( \nabla^2 - \frac{1}{r^2} - \lambda^2 \right) \left( \nabla^2 - \frac{1}{r^2} - \beta^2 \right) u_1 = \left[ \alpha F(p, r) - \frac{\eta}{r} \int r p dr \right] + (\alpha A_3 - \eta A_1) \frac{1}{r} + \frac{\alpha A_1 r}{2} \left( \log r - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \frac{\alpha A_2 r}{2} \quad (15)$$

where

$$e = D - \delta_{13} \delta_{35} k_3 \quad f = \delta_{15} k_1 + \delta_{35} k_3 \quad (15a)$$

$$\alpha = (\delta_{15} k_1 + \delta_{13} k_3) / DC_2 C_4 k_1 k_3 k_5 \quad \eta = \delta_{13} / C_2 k_1 D \quad (15b)$$

$$F(p, r) = \frac{1}{r} \int r dr \int \frac{dr}{r} \int r p dr \quad b = \delta_{35} C_2 k_1 k_3 \quad (15c)$$

$$\lambda^2 = \frac{A}{2} - \frac{1}{2} (A^2 - 4B)^{1/2} \quad (15d)$$

$$\beta^2 = \frac{A}{2} + \frac{1}{2} (A^2 - 4B)^{1/2}$$

$$A = \frac{C_4 D k_5 (k_1 + k_3) + C_2 D k_1 (k_3 + k_5) + k_1 k_3 k_5 (C_4 \delta_{13}^2 + C_2 \delta_{35}^2)}{D C_2 C_3 k_1 k_3 k_5} \quad (15e)$$

$$B = [D(k_1 + k_3 + k_5) + \delta_{15}^2 k_1 k_5 + \delta_{35}^2 k_3 k_5 + \delta_{13}^2 k_1 k_3] / D C_2 C_4 k_1 k_3 k_5 \quad (15f)$$

The complete solutions of Eqs. (14) and (15) are

$$u_1 = \frac{H_1}{r} + H_2 r + H_3 r \log r + \phi_2 + A_4 I_1(x) + A_5 I_1(y) + A_7 K_1(y) \quad (16)$$

$$w = \frac{1}{e} \int (F - f\phi_2) dr + \frac{b}{e} \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} (r\phi_2) + L_1 + L_2 \log r + L_3 r^2 + L_4 r^2 \log r + L_5 I_0(x) + L_6 K_0(x) + L_7 I_0(y) + L_8 K_0(y) \quad (17)$$

where

$$x = \lambda r; \quad y = \beta r \quad (17a)$$

$$H_1 = \alpha A_3 / \lambda^2 \beta^2 + (A_1 / \lambda^2 \beta^2) [\alpha (\lambda^2 + \beta^2) / \lambda^2 \beta^2 - \eta] \quad (17b)$$

$$H_2 = \alpha (2A_2 - A_1) / 4 \lambda^2 \beta^2 \quad H_3 = \alpha A_1 / 2 \lambda^2 \beta^2 \quad (17c)$$

$$L_1 = b(2H_2 + H_3) / e + A_8 \quad L_2 = (A_3 - fH_1 + 2bH_3) / e \quad (17d)$$

$$L_3 = (A_2 - A_1 + fH_3 - 2fH_2) / 4e \quad (17e)$$

$$L_4 = (A_1 - 2fH_3) / 4e$$

$$L_5 = A_4(b\lambda^2 - f) / e\lambda \quad L_6 = A_5(-b\lambda^2 + f) / e\lambda \quad (17f)$$

$$L_7 = A_6(b\beta^2 - f) / e\beta \quad L_8 = A_7(-b\beta^2 + f) / e\beta \quad (17g)$$

The terms  $I$  and  $K$  are the modified Bessel functions of the first and second kind, respectively. The function  $\phi_2$  is the particular solution of Eq. (15) due to the terms between the brackets. This particular solution can be found by the power series method when the load  $p(r)$  is specified.

When a concentric hole is present, the unknown constants are  $A_1, \dots, A_8$ . If no hole is present, the various displacements and moments must be finite at the center, that is,  $A_1 = A_3 = A_5 = A_7 = 0$  and, consequently,  $H_1 = H_3 = L_2 = L_4 = L_6 = L_8 = 0$ . All moments, forces, stresses, strains,  $u_3$ , and  $u_5$  may be obtained since they are all expressed in terms of  $u_1, w$ , and their derivatives. The boundary conditions at an edge  $r = R$  for various supports are given as:

a) Simply supported edge

$$w = 0 \quad (18)$$

$$u_{1,r} + \nu u_1 / r = 0 \quad \left( \frac{d}{dr} + \frac{\nu}{r} \right) S(u_1) = 0 \quad (19)$$

$$\left( \frac{d}{dr} + \frac{\nu}{r} \right) F(p, r) + \frac{1 + \nu}{2} (A_1 \log r + A_2) + \frac{1 - \nu}{4r^2} (A_1 r^2 - 4A_3) = 0 \quad (20)$$

b) Free edge, Eqs. (19), (20), and  $A_1 + \int p r dr = 0$ .

c) Clamped edge

$$w = 0; \quad u_1 = 0; \quad S(u_1) = 0 \quad (21)$$

$$F(p, r) + (A_1 r / 2) (\log r - \frac{1}{2}) + A_2 r / 2 + A_3 / r = 0 \quad (22)$$

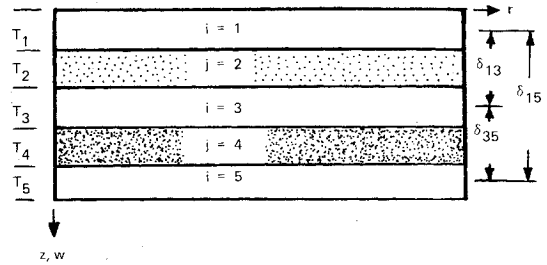


Fig. 1 Section of plate element.

### Example

A simply supported plate of radius  $R$  is subject to the uniform load  $p(r) = q$ . The particular solution  $\phi_2$  is found by the power series method as

$$\phi_2 = H_4 r + H_5 r^3 \quad (23)$$

$$H_4 = -\eta q / 2 \lambda^2 \beta^2 + \alpha q (\lambda^2 + \beta^2) / 2 \lambda^4 \beta^4 \quad (23a)$$

$$H_5 = \alpha q / 16 \lambda^2 \beta^2$$

Using Eqs. (16–20), (23), the given load  $q$ , and the fact that there is no hole in the plate leads to the complete solution for the displacements

$$u_1 = (H_2 + H_4) r + H_3 r^3 + A_4 I_1(x) + A_5 I_1(y) \quad (24)$$

$$w = L_1 + \frac{2bH_4}{e} + \frac{r^2}{2e} (2eL_3 - fH_4 + 8bH_5) + \frac{r^4}{64e} (q - 16fH_5) + L_5 I_0(x) + L_7 I_0(y) \quad (25)$$

where

$$x_0 = \lambda R \quad y_0 = \beta R \quad (25a)$$

$$A_2 = \frac{-(3 + \nu)qR^2}{8(1 + \nu)} \quad A_4 = \frac{-\beta^3 \mathcal{L} A_6 - 8(1 + \nu)H_5}{\lambda^3 \psi} \quad (25b)$$

$$A_6 = \frac{-8(1 + \nu)H_5 + \lambda^2(3 + \nu)H_5 R^2 + \lambda^2(1 + \nu)(H_2 + H_4)}{\mathcal{L} \beta (\beta^2 - \lambda^2)} \quad (25c)$$

$$A_8 = \frac{b\alpha A_2}{e\lambda^2 \beta^2} - \frac{2bH_4}{e} + \frac{R^2}{4e} \left[ 2fH_4 - 16bH_5 + A_2 \left( \frac{\alpha f}{\lambda^2 \beta^2} - 1 \right) \right] + \frac{R^4}{64e} (16fH_5 - q) + \frac{A_4}{e\lambda} (f - b\lambda^2) I_0(x_0) + \frac{A_6}{e\beta} (f - b\beta^2) I_0(y_0) \quad (25d)$$

$$\psi = I_0(x_0) - \frac{1}{x_0} (1 - \nu) I_1(x_0) \quad (25e)$$

$$\mathcal{L} = I_0(y_0) - \frac{1}{y_0} (1 - \nu) I_1(y_0)$$

### Conclusions

The system of equations derived may be easily applied for the symmetrical bending of circular sandwich plates of various boundary conditions. Once the particular solution  $\phi_2$  is obtained for the specified load, the evaluation of the unknown constants becomes a simple algebraic operation.

The same procedure may be followed for the treatment of a sandwich construction containing more than five layers. However, the number of governing equations will increase depending on the number of additional layers. When a large enough number of layers are present, an equivalent homogeneous analysis would be adequate to calculate the deflection pattern. Hence, the technique developed in this Note is of

primary importance when the number of layers is relatively small. This analysis can be easily reduced to treat plates with two distinct facings and a single core. This analysis is applicable for sandwich plates with thick or thin cores provided the facings are not so thick as to introduce appreciable transverse shear deformation in addition to that of the cores.

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## Transonic Flows by Coordinate Transformation

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NUMERICAL solutions of transonic flows about two-dimensional airfoils have been obtained by Murman and Cole<sup>1</sup> by integration of the transonic small disturbance equation in a finite domain around the airfoil. The far field boundary conditions are derived analytically but they have to be periodically recalculated during the computation.

This problem is avoided if the infinite domain around the airfoil is transformed into a finite one by a transformation of the independent variables  $x, y$  to the variables suggested by Sills,<sup>2</sup> e.g., the variables  $\xi = \tanh \alpha x$  and  $\eta = 1 - e^{-\beta y}$ .

In the new coordinate system, the domain being defined by  $-1 \leq \xi \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq \eta \leq 1$ , the small disturbance equation becomes

$$\alpha^2(1 - \xi^2)[(1 - \xi^2)\phi_{\xi\xi} - 2\xi\phi_{\xi}] + \beta^2(1 - \eta)(1 - \eta) \times \\ (\gamma + 1)\alpha M_\infty^2(1 - \xi^2)\phi_\eta + \beta^2(1 - \eta)(1 - \eta) \times \\ \phi_{\eta\eta} - \phi_\eta = 0 \quad (1)$$

and the exact boundary condition on the boundaries  $\xi = \pm 1$  and  $\eta = 1$  is  $\phi = 0$ . Along the axis,  $\eta = 0$ , the boundary condition is given, e.g., by  $\phi_\eta = 0$ , fore and aft of the airfoil, and by  $\phi_\eta = F'(\xi)/\beta$  along the airfoil;  $F(\xi)$  being the airfoil shape. Thus, the numerical process is reduced to seeking a

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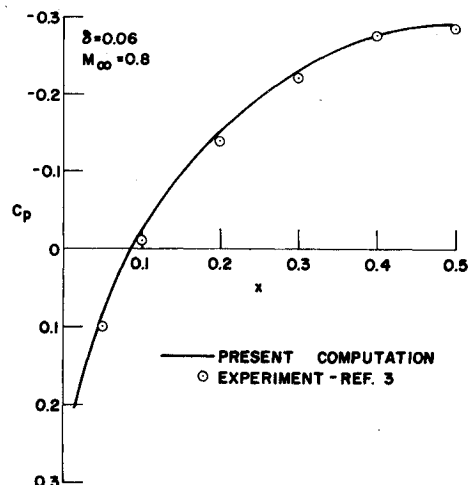


Fig. 1 Pressure coefficient along nonlifting circular arc airfoil.

relaxation solution in the finite domain, without the need of computing the far field values.

A typical numerical solution of Eq. (1) for a nonlifting circular arc airfoil of thickness  $\delta = 0.06$ , at a freestream Mach number of 0.8, is presented here for illustrative purposes. The calculation employs a coarse mesh  $\Delta\eta \approx \Delta\xi = 0.05$  with  $\alpha = \beta = 1$  and a point relaxation technique; the result is shown in Fig. 1 and compared with the experimental data of Knechtel.<sup>3</sup>

The computation has been repeated by using the approach of Murman and Cole. For comparable accuracy it has been found that the transformation affords considerable savings in computational time.

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## Aerodynamic Characteristics of Slender Wedge-Wings in Hypersonic Strong Interaction Flows

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THE purpose of this Note is to apply the results obtained by the present authors in Ref. 1 to predict the aerodynamic characteristics of slender two-dimensional wedge-wings in hypersonic strong interaction flow. In Ref. 1 the hypersonic strong-interaction flow over an inclined surface was analyzed using an asymptotic expansion in inverse powers of the inter-

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