#### **Post-Buckling**



#### Post-buckled composite stiffened panel under shear

## **Buckling vs Post-buckling**

 in general buckling does not imply failure especially for plates



W<sub>center</sub>

beam post-buckling curve is flat and failure strains are reached at low post-buckling loads

## Buckling vs Post-buckling

• post-buckled (stiffened) skins are significantly lighter but have additional challenges:

– susceptible to skin/stiffener separation failure
 where only resin holds the structure (unless
 fasteners or other means are used to hold it together)

 susceptible to the creation and growth of delamination under fatigue loading especially at high post-buckling factors

skin/stiffener

### **Buckling versus Post-Buckling**

• If a composite structure is allowed to post-buckle, the ratio of final failure load to buckling load (post buckling ratio PB) must be chosen carefully (especially for shear loads)

• Conservative approach (but not very efficient): Do not allow buckling below limit load (i.e. PB=1.5)

• PB>5 great design challenge both under static and fatigue loads



What buckles and when?

What BC's are the different components supposed to simulate?

#### **Post-Buckling Scenarios**

- Skin buckling as a whole (stiffeners only increase the bending stiffness of the skin)
- Skin buckling between the bays (stiffeners act as panel breakers)
- Stiffeners buckle as columns or locally (crippling)
- Frames do not buckle!

#### Post-buckling scenarios

• Most efficient:

 Skin between stiffeners and frames buckles first

 Stiffeners do not buckle and do not move out of plane (depending on cross-section they may rotate => BC implications)

– When required PB value is reached, skin fails in compression and/or stiffeners fail by crippling



stiffeners impose zero deflection and slope

stiffeners impose zero deflection only

#### **Post-Buckling Analysis**

- governing equations: Large deflection von Karman equations
- place moment equilibrium eqn into Fz equilibrium eqn:

$$\frac{\partial^2 M_x}{\partial x^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 M_{xy}}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 M_y}{\partial y^2} + N_x \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + 2N_{xy} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x \partial y} + N_y \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} - p_x \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} - p_y \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} + p_z = 0$$

 $p_x$ ,  $p_y$ ,  $p_z$  distributed loads (force/area)

• use the moment-curvature relations to substitute for the moments

$$M_{x} = -D_{11} \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial x^{2}} - D_{12} \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial y^{2}} \qquad B_{ij} = 0$$
  

$$M_{y} = -D_{12} \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial x^{2}} - D_{22} \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial y^{2}} \qquad D_{16} = D_{26} = 0$$
  

$$M_{xy} = -2D_{66} \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial x \partial y}$$

• to obtain:

$$D_{11}\frac{\partial^4 w}{\partial x^4} + 2(D_{12} + 2D_{66})\frac{\partial^4 w}{\partial x^2 \partial y^2} + D_{22}\frac{\partial^4 w}{\partial y^4} = N_x\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + 2N_{xy}\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x \partial y} + N_y\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} - p_x\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} - p_y\frac{\partial w}{\partial y} + p_z$$

#### 1<sup>st</sup> von Karman equation: Predominantly bending

#### Strain Compatibility



• use (non-linear) strain compatibility



• invert stress-strain eqns to express strains in terms of  $N_x$ ,  $N_y$ ,  $N_{xy}$ 

$$N_{x} = A_{11}\varepsilon_{xo} + A_{12}\varepsilon_{yo}$$

$$S_{xo} = \frac{A_{22}}{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}^{2}}N_{x} - \frac{A_{12}}{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}^{2}}N_{y}$$

$$N_{y} = A_{12}\varepsilon_{xo} + A_{22}\varepsilon_{yo}$$

$$S_{yo} = -\frac{A_{12}}{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}^{2}}N_{x} + \frac{A_{11}}{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}^{2}}N_{y}$$

$$N_{xy} = A_{66}\gamma_{xyo}$$

$$\gamma_{xyo} = \frac{1}{A_{66}}N_{xy}$$

$$A_{16} = A_{26} = 0$$

• substitute in strain compatibility to obtain,

$$\frac{1}{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}^{2}} \left( A_{22} \frac{\partial^{2} N_{x}}{\partial y^{2}} - A_{12} \frac{\partial^{2} N_{y}}{\partial y^{2}} + A_{11} \frac{\partial^{2} N_{y}}{\partial x^{2}} - A_{12} \frac{\partial^{2} N_{x}}{\partial x^{2}} \right) - \frac{1}{A_{66}} \frac{\partial^{2} N_{xy}}{\partial x \partial y} = \left( \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial x \partial y} \right)^{2} - \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial x^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial y^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial x^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial x^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial x^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial x^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial x^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial x^{$$

 introduce Airy stress function and potential V that identically satisfy stress equilibrium:



• to obtain

$$\frac{1}{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}^{2}} \left( A_{22} \frac{\partial^{4} F}{\partial y^{4}} - 2A_{12} \frac{\partial^{4} F}{\partial x^{2} \partial y^{2}} + A_{11} \frac{\partial^{4} F}{\partial x^{4}} \right) + \frac{1}{A_{66}} \frac{\partial^{4} F}{\partial x^{2} \partial y^{2}} = \left( \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial x \partial y} \right)^{2} - \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial x^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2} w}{\partial y^{2}}$$

2<sup>nd</sup> von Karman equation: Predominantly stretching (and non-linear)

## Post-buckling of a square anisotropic plate under compression



simply-supported with three immovable edges:

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w=0 at x=y=0 and x=y=a
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u=0 at x=0

v=0 at y=0 and y=a

u=-C at x=a (constant compressive displacement)

## Solve the two von Karman equations approximately

#### • assume

$$w = w_{11} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{\pi y}{a}$$
$$F = -\frac{P_x}{a} \frac{y^2}{2} - \frac{P_y}{a} \frac{x^2}{2} + K_{20} \cos \frac{2\pi x}{a} + K_{02} \cos \frac{2\pi y}{a}$$

$$w_{11}$$
,  $K_{02}$ ,  $K_{20}$  unknown coefficients

#### • substitute in the 2<sup>nd</sup> von Karman equation

$$\frac{A_{22}}{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}^{2}} K_{02} \frac{16\pi^{4}}{a^{4}} \cos \frac{2\pi y}{a} + \frac{A_{11}}{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}^{2}} K_{20} \frac{16\pi^{4}}{a^{4}} \cos \frac{2\pi x}{a} = w_{11}^{2} \frac{\pi^{4}}{2a^{4}} \cos \frac{2\pi y}{a} + w_{11}^{2} \frac{\pi^{4}}{2a^{4}} \cos \frac{2\pi x}{a}$$

matching coefficients of  $cos(2\pi y/a)$  and  $cos(2\pi x/a)$ 

$$K_{02} = \frac{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}^{2}}{A_{22}} \frac{w_{11}^{2}}{32}$$
$$K_{20} = \frac{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}^{2}}{A_{11}} \frac{w_{11}^{2}}{32}$$

and the 2nd von Karman eqn is identically satisfied

### Solution (cont'd)

•  $P_y$  (as a function of  $P_x$ ) and deflection C are determined by integrating stress-strain eqns and using average BC's on u and v:





from which:



#### Solution (cont'd)

substitute now in the 1<sup>st</sup> von Karman equation

$$D_{11}\frac{\partial^4 w}{\partial x^4} + 2(D_{12} + 2D_{66})\frac{\partial^4 w}{\partial x^2 \partial y^2} + D_{22}\frac{\partial^4 w}{\partial y^4} = \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial y^2}\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} - 2\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x \partial y}\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x^2}\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2}$$

• use the following:

$$\frac{\partial^4 w}{\partial x^4} = \frac{\partial^4 w}{\partial x^2 \partial y^2} = \frac{\partial^4 w}{\partial y^4} = w_{11} \left(\frac{\pi}{a}\right)^4 \sin\frac{\pi x}{a} \sin\frac{\pi y}{a}$$
$$\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} = -w_{11} \left(\frac{\pi}{a}\right)^2 \sin\frac{\pi x}{a} \sin\frac{\pi y}{a}$$
$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x^2} = -\frac{P_y}{a} - \left(\frac{2\pi}{a}\right)^2 \frac{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}}{A_{11}} \frac{w_{11}}{32} \cos\frac{2\pi x}{a}$$
$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial y^2} = -\frac{P_x}{a} - \left(\frac{2\pi}{a}\right)^2 \frac{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}}{A_{22}} \frac{w_{11}}{32} \cos\frac{2\pi y}{a}$$

## Solution (cont'd)

• to substitute, and match coefficients of  $sin(\pi x/a)sin(\pi y/a)$  to obtain the governing eq for  $w_{11}$ 

$$\frac{\pi^2}{a} \frac{\left(A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}^2\right)A_{11} + 3A_{22}}{16A_{11}A_{22}} w_{11}^3 + \left(\frac{\pi^2}{a}\left(D_{11} + 2(D_{12} + 2D_{66}) + D_{22}\right) - P_x\left(1 + \frac{A_{12}}{A_{11}}\right)\right) w_{11} = 0$$

• which for  $w_{11} \neq 0$  leads to

2<sup>nd</sup> von Karman eq is satisfied approximately!



=P<sub>cr</sub>, buckling load (units of force), exact for square plate

### Solution (end)

• For out-of-plane deflections to be possible, must have

$$\frac{P_x}{P_{cr}} > 1$$

• the applied load  $P_x$  must exceed the plate buckling load

#### **Results-Implications**

#### • use as example,

 $(\pm 45)/(0/90)/(\pm 45)$  square plate of side 25.4 cm Material is plain weave fabric with properties:

$$E_x = E_y = 68.94 \text{ GPa}$$
  
 $v_{xy} = 0.05$   
 $G_{xy} = 5.17 \text{ GPa}$ 

ply thickness = 0.19 mm

#### Load versus center deflection



#### In-plane compression load



the center of the plate sees very little load!

#### Implication

beff

after buckling approximate in-plane load



 there is an effective width b<sub>eff</sub> at the edges of the panel over which the load is concentrated

#### Determination of effective width

 total applied force must equal the force created by the load applied over the effective width:

$$\int N_x dy = 2(N_x \max) b_{eff}$$

$$N_x = \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial y^2} = -\frac{P_x}{a} - \frac{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}^2}{A_{22}} \frac{w_{11}^2}{32} \left(\frac{2\pi}{a}\right)^2 \cos\frac{2\pi y}{a}$$

$$N_x \max = -\frac{P_x}{a} - \frac{A_{11}A_{22} - A_{12}^2}{A_{22}} \frac{w_{11}^2}{32} \left(\frac{2\pi}{a}\right)^2$$

$$\int N_x dy = -P_x$$

#### Solving for b<sub>eff</sub>

$$b_{eff} = a \frac{1}{2\left(1 + 2\left(1 + \frac{A_{12}}{A_{11}}\right)\left(1 - \frac{P_{cr}}{P_x}\right)\frac{A_{11}}{A_{11} + 3A_{22}}\right)}$$

Note that for quasi-isotropic layup,



### Effective width b<sub>eff</sub>



• weak dependence on  $A_{12}/A_{11}$ 

### Significance for design

- b<sub>eff</sub> provides an idea of where failure is expected under compression and where reinforcement may be needed
- For (conservative) failure predictions obtain the maximum compressive stress

$$\sigma_{\max} = \frac{N_{x\max}}{h}$$
 (h is plate thickness)

and compare to allowable ultimate compression stress

 $\sigma_{\max} \leq \sigma_{\textit{ult}}$  for no failure

• plus one more use in crippling of stiffener flanges

## How good is the analysis compared to reality?

- For a meaningful comparison, two conditions must be met:
  - Boundary conditions in the "test case" must be the same as in the model
  - Sufficient number of terms must be included in the solution (as opposed to only one term used here for simplicity)
- As it is hard to find test results with exactly these boundary conditions, FE results are used to validate the analysis
- Two different laminates: (a) 45 degree dominated
   (b) Quasi-isotropic



- Results from R. Kroese MS Thesis TUDelft 2013
- Excellent agreement between FE and Analysis



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#### Boundary conditions discussion

- If the stiffeners in a stiffened panel have very high EI and very low GJ, and one end is attached to a frame with also very high EI and low GJ, this analytical model would be quite accurate
- If not, the model may be conservative or unconservative
- Must also use enough terms in the series and account for rectangular as opposed to square panels

