

LARGE DEFORMATION STUDIES WITH THIN WALLED STRUCTURES

by

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Applied Mechanics Department

Submitted

in fulfillment of the requirements of the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

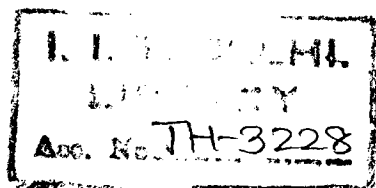
to the



Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

July 2005

1. Introduction Engineering
2. Thin walled structures.

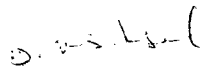


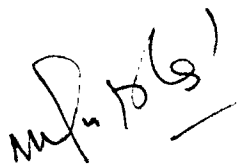
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Certificate

This is to certify that the thesis titled "**Large Deformation Studies with Thin Walled Structures**" being submitted by **Lt Cdr Nagesh** to the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi for the award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy is a record of bonafide research work carried out by him. Lt Cdr Nagesh has worked under our supervision and guidance and has fulfilled the requisites for the submission of this thesis which has reached the requisite standard for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree.

The results contained in this thesis have not been submitted in part or full, to any other University or Institute for the award of any Degree or Diploma.


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Acknowledgement

My special thanks to "Plustu" for such faith and understanding throughout. She has been such a joy to be in company with and an absolute inspiration with her perspective, convictions and sense of commitment. I thank my Parents for elevating us to a level, ingrained with confidence and character, where we could spar with destiny and make little space for ourselves.

My sincere thanks to Professor VK Gupta for those words of encouragement, which became the stimuli and cause for this research endeavor. The work wouldn't have found this magnitude of expression without his able guidance, supervision and illuminating discourses. My sincere thanks to Prof. DK Sehgal for his constant encouragement and guidance throughout this work.

My gratitude for Cdr VK Satyam and Cdr PR Kulkarni at the Naval Construction Wing for their moral support to keep the "hunger and fire" burning against all odds so as to take this initiative to its conclusion. My sincere thanks to all the staff at NCW, IIT Delhi for their support and cooperation.

My heart felt thanks to Dr Sriram Hegde, Prof PC Dumir and Prof PK Sen for their constant encouragement. They have been a great inspiration towards realisation of this research work. I am indeed thankful to Prof V Seshadri, Prof Y Nath, Prof RK Mittal, Prof SN Singh, Prof Puneet Mahajan, Prof RK Pandey, Dr Sanjiv Sanghi and Dr Santosh Kapuria at the Applied Mechanics department for their encouragement.

I sincerely acknowledge with thanks the opportunity granted to me by the Indian Navy in pursuing the PhD. Programme at IIT Delhi. Finally I my humble thanks to Him for the idea of Knowledge and favouring man with Understanding.



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10 July 2005

ABSTRACT

Crashworthy design requires that in the case of a collision, the structural system and structural components are able to absorb designed amount of kinetic energy so that eventually costly equipment and human beings remain safe. The energy absorbing characteristics or the collapse behaviour of involved structural elements or energy absorbing devices therefore should be clearly understood for their proper design.

Tubes Under Quasi Static Axial Compressive Loading

Quasi-static experiments have been conducted on an Zwick / Roelle Universal testing machine of 25 T capacity and the corresponding load versus cross head movement graphs and energy absorption characteristics are obtained using the interface software on the computer. Experiments have been conducted on the cylindrical shells of D/t values ranging between 22 and 35. Finite element simulations have been performed to study their collapse mechanism as well as the load compression and the energy absorption response. Experimental data from various modes of collapse of the specimen were used to validate the numerical models. The deformation process is modeled and simulated in the FE code ANSYS using a quasistatic analysis incorporating both material and geometric nonlinearities. The FE model uses quadratic solid finite elements that permit large displacements, rotations, curvatures and distortions to be simulated accurately, economically and free from numerical instabilities. The model includes surface to surface contact and target elements for modeling support, self and rigid body contacts. Efficient and flexible solution strategies have been employed that permit economic stable and accurate incremental loading using Newton Raphson scheme within an implicit (Newmark - β) scheme of inumerical integration. The nonlinear material model adopted is bilinear isotropic using a Mises yiled criteria and associated flow rule.

Diameter to thickness ratio of the tubes were varied in different simulations to study the load deformation, collapse mechanism and energy absorption response. Convergence studies with respect to FE model parameters like load step size, mesh density and boundary conditions have also been carried out. For the axisymmetric concertina mode of collapse a thin sector model involving only one element with coupling conditions in circumferential direction has been proposed which can be effectively used to represent the large deformation response of the entire structure with drastic savings in CPU resources. Validation and comparison of numerical solution with experimental results for “as received” and “annealed” tube specimens have been carried out. Dependence of deformation characteristics and energy absorption response on geometrical parameter, D/t ratio and material parameters, yield strength and tangent modulus have also been studied. Comparison and validation of the full 360 degree tube numerical model results have been undertaken with experimental results of axial compression tests performed on aluminum round tubes with thickness eccentricity.

Transition of deformation mode shapes of round aluminum tubes from axisymmetric concertina to non-axisymmetric diamond mode have been studied with varying tube wall thickness, boundary conditions and tube shape eccentricities. Quasi static axial compression experiments were carried out on as received aluminum tubes and tubes with wall thickness eccentricity, incorporated by off center machining. The numerical results are validated by comparison with the experimental load compression and energy absorption responses both for axisymmetric concertina and non-axisymmetric diamond collapse modes. Having validated the numerical model with experimental results, it has been used to undertake a systematic study of the load - deformation characteristics, energy absorption response and collapse mode

transition of the tubes in varying configurations of wall thickness, shape and inplane boundary condition eccentricities.

Large Deformation Response Of Plates and Tubes Under Shock Loading

Parametric numerical modeling has been undertaken for circular plates with varying boundary support configurations under uniform single square wave impulsive load using nonlinear transient dynamic FEA in ANSYS. An implicit time integration scheme has been used over multiple load steps at small time increments for the prediction of deflections, stresses, plastic zones and progression of failure. Large strain theory in conjunction with Newton-Raphson iterative solution scheme has been used in the nonlinear FE formulation of the adopted package for analysis. The constitutive model incorporated for the discussed FE analysis is bilinear isotropic with a Mises yield criteria and associated flow rule in conjunction with the Cowper-Symond's model of strain rate sensitivity. The implementation in the FE computational scheme is through an Euler backward scheme to enforce the consistency condition (updated stress, strains and internal variables on the yield surface). The simulation of the tearing phenomenon is through a stiffness reduction scheme under a single frame restart analysis in ANSYS (progressive degradation). The FE modeling is axisymmetric, taking advantage of the plate geometry and uniform transverse impulsive load on the top face, employing 3D plane quadratic axisymmetric elements to model the plate geometry with thickness along the y axis and the plate radius along the x axis. A fine mesh with element aspect ratio of the order 2.5 has been adopted for the discretisation of the plate domain.

Experimental results by Teeling-Smith et al. and Nurick et al. for the prediction of onset of thinning and tearing at the boundary of clamped circular plates subjected to uniformly loaded air blasts have been used to compare and validate the numerical simulation and procedure. The Mode II failure in respect

of clamped circular plates has been simulated using a rupture strain criteria. Mode III failure of plastic shear sliding has been considered using a shear strain failure criteria as proposed by Yu and Chen for beams. A stiffness reduction scheme as discussed above has been proposed to decide on the initiation and progression of tearing in conjunction with suitable failure model under mode II and mode III. The deflections, plastic zones, rupture zones and failure modes under the blast loading conditions are found to be in very good correlation with the experimental results. The validated numerical model has further been used to study the effect of plate thickness on the deformation and tearing response of the circular plates subjected to impulsive loads.

The deformation, tearing and shock absorption response of clamped circular plates under uniform impulsive loads with ring support of varying edge configurations at the boundary have been numerically studied. The response of circular plate tube combinations under increasing square impulsive loads have also been carried out with clamped tube ends far away from the plate. The effect of ring support of varying edge configurations at the tube-plate junction on the axisymmetric deformation and tearing response of such structural combinations have further been studied using nonlinear transient dynamic FEA.

Index

Contents	Page No.
Certificate of the Supervisors	i
Acknowledgement	ii
Abstract	iii
List of Figures and Tables	xi
Notations	xix
1. Introduction	
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Problem Characteristics	3
1.3 Response Parameters	3
1.4 Numerical Solution of the Problem	4
1.5 Literature Survey	5
1.5.1 Quasistatic axial compression of thin walled tubes	5
1.5.2 Thin Walled Structures under Shock Loading	12
1.6 Motivation of Present Work	20
1.7 Present Study: Experimental Setup and Numerical Model ..	21
1.7.1 Quasi-static axial compression of thin walled shells ..	21
1.7.2 Shock load response analysis of thin walled structures.	22
1.8 Organisation of the Thesis	23
2. Experiments and Numerical Procedure	
2.1 Introduction	26
2.2 Experiments	27
2.3 Influence of Wall Thickness Eccentricities	32
2.4 Material Properties	34

Contents	Page No.
2.5 Numerical Solution	36
2.6 Geometric Nonlinearities	36
2.7 Large Strain Theory	36
2.8 Material Nonlinearities	38
2.8.1 The Yield Criteria	38
2.8.2 Flow Rule	39
2.8.3 Hardening Rule	39
2.8.4 Bilinear Isotropic Hardening	40
2.9 Rate Dependent Plasticity : Perzyna Model	40
2.10 Temperature Rise	41
2.11 Plastic Stain Increment	42
2.12 Implementation in a Computational Scheme	43
2.13 Transient Analysis	45
2.14 Conclusions	47
 3. Simulation of Axisymmetric Collapse of Round Tubes	
3.1 Introduction	48
3.2 Numerical modeling of progressive folding of thin walled tubes	48
3.3 Numerical features of the established large deformation simulation	50
3.4 Boundary conditions and convergence studies	51
3.5 Mesh refinement studies	55
3.6 Comparison of Experimental and Numerical Results	56
3.7 Buckling and folding process of thin walled cylindrical tubes	58

Contents	Page No.
3.8 Deformation stages and stress state : FE simulation with end rotation constrained	61
3.9 Variation of deformation and energy absorption response with geometrical parameters	65
3.10 Variation of deformation and energy absorption response with material parameters	67
3.11 Conclusions	69
 4. Collapse Mode Transition of Round Tubes Under Quasistatic Axial Compression	
4.1 Introduction	71
4.2 Experiments	73
4.3 Numerical Simulations and Comparison with Experimental Results	73
4.4 Buckling and Folding Process of the Tube	75
4.5 Tube Imperfections	79
4.6 Collapse mode sensitivity to e/t ratio (thickness eccentricity to wall thickness) with axisymmetric tube end conditions ...	84
4.7 Collapse mode variations with wall thickness eccentricity in multiple sine waves around tube circumference	86
4.8 Collapse mode variations with Tube Shape Deviations from Circular Cross section and a uniform wall thickness ...	103
4.9 Conclusions	105
 5. Shock Response of Circular Plates with Varying Boundary Support Conditions	
5.1 Introduction	108

Contents	Page No.
5.2 Blast Modeling	109
5.3 Failure Criteria and Damage Evolution	109
5.3.1 Mode I : Large plastic deformation	110
5.3.2 Mode II : Tensile tearing	110
5.3.3 Mode III : Shear tearing failure	110
5.3.3.1 Plastic shear sliding :	
Shear strain failure criteria	111
5.4 Numerical Solution Procedure	112
5.5 Validation of Numerical Model	115
5.6 Response with Increasing Plate Thickness (Reducing D/t Ratio)	121
5.7 Response of Clamped Plate with Ring Support at Plate Boundary	123
5.8 Conclusions	128
 6. Response of Plate-Tube Structural Combinations Under Shock Loads	
6.1 Introduction	130
6.2 Blast Modeling	130
6.3 Failure Criteria and Damage Evolution using Finite Element Analysis	131
6.4 Response of Plate-Tube Structure with Ring Support at Plate Boundary	138
6.5 Plate-Tube Structure with Plate at the Tube End	141
6.6 Conclusions	148
 7. Conlusions	150
References	157
Biodata	164