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# INFLUENCE OF BENDING-TWISTING COUPLING ON COMPRESSION BUCKLING STRENGTH.

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### **PRESENTATION CONTENTS**

- Stacking sequence listings are derived for *Bending-Twisting* coupled laminates with up to 21 plies.
- The common design rule of <u>balanced and symmetric stacking sequences</u> will be shown to predominantly give rise to *Bending-Twisting* coupling; all exceptions are presented in *Journal of Aircraft*, 2009, 46 (4) pp. 1114-25.
- The symmetry rule will be shown to be a constraint that serves only to restrict the number of possible configurations to a very small proportion of the total design space.
- Dimensionless parameters will be presented from which the laminate properties are readily calculated.
- Expressions relating the dimensionless parameters to the well-known lamination parameters are also given, together with graphical representations of the design space.
- Finally, bounds on buckling performance under compression will be presented with specific reference to the lamination parameter design space.

#### **CHARACTERIZATION**

Composite laminate materials are typically characterized in terms of their response to mechanical or thermal loading, which is generally associated with a description of the coupling behavior, described by the **ABD** relation:

$$\begin{cases} N_x \\ N_y \\ N_{xy} \end{cases} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{16} \\ A_{22} & A_{26} \\ Sym. & A_{66} \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} \varepsilon_x \\ \varepsilon_y \\ \gamma_{xy} \end{cases} + \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} & B_{16} \\ B_{22} & B_{26} \\ Sym. & B_{66} \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} \kappa_x \\ \kappa_y \\ \kappa_{xy} \end{cases}$$
$$\begin{cases} M_x \\ M_y \\ M_{xy} \end{cases} = \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} & B_{16} \\ B_{22} & B_{26} \\ Sym. & B_{66} \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} \varepsilon_x \\ \varepsilon_y \\ \gamma_{xy} \end{cases} + \begin{bmatrix} D_{11} & D_{12} & D_{16} \\ D_{22} & D_{26} \\ Sym. & D_{66} \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} \kappa_x \\ \kappa_y \\ \kappa_{xy} \end{cases}$$

Couplings generally exist between:

- in-plane (extension or membrane) and out-of-plane (bending or flexure) actions, when  $B_{ij} \neq 0$ ,
- shear and extension, when  $A_{16} = A_{26} \neq 0$ , and
- bending and twisting, when  $D_{16} = D_{26} \neq 0$ .

<u>Balanced and symmetric stacking sequences</u>, may or may not possess *Bending-Twisting* coupling, and are therefore characterized, respectively, by the designations:

#### $\mathbf{A}_{\mathrm{S}}\mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{0}}\mathbf{D}_{\mathrm{F}}$ or $\mathbf{A}_{\mathrm{S}}\mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{0}}\mathbf{D}_{\mathrm{S}}$

signifying, in both cases, that the elements of the extensional stiffness matrix (A) are <u>Simple</u> or orthotropic in nature, i.e.:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & 0 \\ & A_{22} & 0 \\ Sym. & A_{66} \end{bmatrix}$$

the (bending-extension) coupling matrix (**B**) is null, whilst all elements of the bending stiffness matrix (**D**) are either <u>**F**</u>inite, i.e.:

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_{11} & D_{12} & D_{16} \\ & D_{22} & D_{26} \\ \\ Sym. & D_{66} \end{bmatrix}$$

or of the same *Simple* or orthotropic form as the extensional stiffness matrix.

Table 1 – Unrestrained thermal (contraction) response of square, initially flat, composite laminates. Stacking sequence configurations containing angle- and cross-ply sub-sequences are a representative sample from the minimum ply number grouping of each class of laminate. Note that cross-ply laminates with stacking sequences  $[O/O]_T$  also represent the minimum ply number grouping for designation  $A_s B_0 D_s$ , but such configurations are not considered in this study.

Uncoupled in	Extension (A <sub>S</sub> )	<b>Extension-Shearing</b> $(\mathbf{A}_{\mathrm{F}})$					
Uncoupled in Bending (D <sub>S</sub> )	Bending-Twisting (D <sub>F</sub> )	Bending-Twisting (D <sub>F</sub> )	Uncoupled in Bending (D <sub>S</sub> )				
$\mathbf{A}_{\mathrm{S}}\mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{O}}\mathbf{D}_{\mathrm{S}}$ $[+/-2/\mathbf{O}/+2/-]_{\mathrm{T}}$	$\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{S}}\mathbf{B}_{0}\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{F}}$	$\mathbf{A}_{\mathrm{F}}\mathbf{B}_{0}\mathbf{D}_{\mathrm{F}}$ $[+/+]_{\mathrm{T}}$	$\mathbf{A}_{\mathrm{F}}\mathbf{B}_{0}\mathbf{D}_{\mathrm{S}}$ $[+/O/-/O/-2/O/-2/O/+]_{\mathrm{T}}$	Un			
				ncoupled (B <sub>0</sub> )			
Simple laminate	<u>B-T</u>	<u>E-S;B-T</u>	<u>E-S</u>				

### ARRANGEMENT AND FORM OF STACKING SEQUENCE DATA

Stacking sequences are characterized by sub-sequence symmetries using a **double prefix** notation:

the first character relates to the form of the angle-ply sub-sequence and

the second character to the cross-ply sub-sequence.

The double prefix contains combinations of the following characters:

A to indicate <u>Anti-symmetric</u> form;

*N* for **<u>N</u>on-symmetric**; and

*S* for <u>Symmetric</u>.

Additionally, for cross-ply sub-sequence only,

*C* is used to indicate <u>Cross-symmetric</u> form.

To avoid the trivial solution of a stacking sequences with cross plies only, the first ply in every sequence is an angle-ply (+).

Fully uncoupled laminates have the following forms of sub-sequence symmetries:

Form (Number of stacking sequences):	Example stacking sequence:
<b>AC</b> (210)	$[+/O/\bullet/-/-/\bullet/O/\bullet/\bullet/O/+/+/O/\bullet/-]_T$
<b>AN</b> (14,532)	$[+/O/\bullet/-/-/\bullet/\bullet/\bullet/O/\bullet/+/+/O/\bullet/-]_{T}$
<b>AS</b> (21,609)	$[+/-/\bullet/-/\bullet/+/\bullet/+/-]_T$
+ <i>NN</i> + (5,498)	$[+/-/-/O/+/O/-/+/+/+/-/-/O/+]_T$
<b>_</b> <i>NN</i> _ (15,188)	$[+/-/ \bullet / +/-/ \bullet / \bullet / \bullet / -/-/ +/+/-/ +/+/ \bullet / \bullet / -]_T$
$NN_{o} = NN_{o} (10,041)$	$[+/-/\bullet/O/O/\bullet/-/+/O/-/\bullet/+/+/\bullet/-/O]_T$
+ <b>NS</b> + (220)	$[+/-/-/+/+/+/+/-/-/+/-/+/-]_{\mathrm{T}}$
<b>→</b> <i>NS</i> <sup>-</sup> (296)	$[+/ \bullet / - / + / - / - / + / + / - / + / + / - / + / +$
<b>SC</b> (12)	$[+/-/O/-/\bullet/+/\bullet/\bullet/O/O/+/O/-/\bullet/-/+]_{T}$
<b>SN</b> (192)	$[+/-/\bullet/O/-/\bullet/\bullet/+/\bullet/+/O/O/-/\bullet/\bullet/-/+]_{\mathrm{T}}$
<b>SS</b> (1,029)	$[+/-/-) \bullet / + / \bullet / \bullet / + / \bullet / - / - / +]_{\mathrm{T}}$

Influence of Bending–Twisting coupling on compression buckling strength.

n	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Σ%
AC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.7	3.3	4.6	-	2.7
AN	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.7	-	12.7	8.2	8.8
AS	-	-	-	100	100	100	100	100	84.0	100	86.4	80.0	74.4	54.7	58.3	61.8
NN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.6	11.9	24.0	24.6	20.5
NS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.6	0.7	1.5	0.9
SC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.6	0.2	-	0.1
SN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.5	0.4
SS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16.0	-	13.6	1.1	9.2	2.7	6.9	4.9
$\Sigma n$	0	0	0	2	1	6	6	24	25	84	<b>88</b>	360	360	1,832	1,603	4,391

Design space (%) comparisons for each sub-symmetric grouping:

Fully uncoupled  $(\mathbf{A}_{S}\mathbf{B}_{0}\mathbf{D}_{S})$  or *Simple* laminates

*Bending-Twisting* coupled  $(\mathbf{A}_{S}\mathbf{B}_{0}\mathbf{D}_{F})$  laminates

n	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Σ%
NC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	0.1
NN	-	-	-	-	-	16.7	-	35.8	20.0	52.1	32.0	68.0	54.0	79.9	69.5	72.4
NS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.5	6.2	10.8	11.2	10.5	11.8	8.0	10.3	9.4
SC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.8	2.8	0.9	-	0.9	1.1	0.3	-	0.3
SN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.8	4.8	4.3	4.0	3.8	4.7	4.2
SS	100	100	100	100	100	83.3	100	52.8	71.0	31.4	52.0	16.3	29.1	7.9	15.5	13.7
$\Sigma n$	1	2	4	8	15	36	56	212	290	1,336	1,500	9,666	10,210	75,540	73,068	171,944

#### **DEVELOPMENT OF NON-DIMENSIONAL PARAMETERS**

The derivation of non-dimensional bending stiffness parameters is readily demonstrated for the 9-ply *NN* 5 laminate, with stacking sequence  $[+/-/O_2/+/-_2/O/+]_T$ , where the bending stiffness terms,

$$\mathbf{D}_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \quad \mathbf{Q'}_{ij}(z_{k}^{3} - z_{k-1}^{3})/3$$

may be written in sequence order as:

$$D_{ij} = \{Q'_{ij+}((-7t/2)^3 - (-9t/2)^3) + Q'_{ij-}((-5t/2)^3 - (-7t/2)^3) + Q'_{ij0}((-3t/2)^3) - (-5t/2)^3) + Q'_{ij0}((-t/2)^3 - (-3t/2)^3) + Q'_{ij+}((t/2)^3 - (-t/2)^3) + Q'_{ij-}((3t/2)^3) - (-t/2)^3) + Q'_{ij-}((-t/2)^3) + Q'_{ij0}((-t/2)^3 - (-t/2)^3) + Q'_{ij0}((-t/2)^3 - ($$

where subscripts i, j = 1, 2, 6.

The bending stiffness contributions from the different ply orientations are:

$$D_{ij+} = 96.75t^{3}/3 \times Q'_{ij+} = \zeta_{+}t^{3}/12 \times Q'_{ij+}$$

$$D_{ij-} = 42.75t^{3}/3 \times Q'_{ij-} = \zeta_{-}t^{3}/12 \times Q'_{ij-}$$

$$D_{ij_{0}} = 42.75t^{3}/3 \times Q'_{ij_{0}} = \zeta_{0}t^{3}/12 \times Q'_{ij_{0}}$$



$$\xi_{+} = 387$$
  
 $\xi_{-} = 171$   
 $\xi_{0} = 171$   
 $\xi_{+} + \xi_{-} + \xi_{0} = n^{3} = 729$ 

### **CALCULATION OF THE LAMINATE BENDING STIFFNESS**

Calculation of the bending (**D**) stiffness matrix, follows from the dimensionless parameters using:

$$D_{ij} = \{\zeta_{+}Q'_{ij+} + \zeta_{-}Q'_{ij-} + \zeta_{0}Q'_{ij0} + \zeta_{0}Q'_{ij0}\} \times t^{3}/12$$
(1)

The transformed reduced stiffness terms in Eqs. (1) are given by:

$$Q'_{11} = Q_{11}\cos^{4}\theta + 2(Q_{12} + 2Q_{66})\cos^{2}\theta\sin^{2}\theta + Q_{22}\sin^{4}\theta$$

$$Q'_{12} = Q'_{21} = (Q_{11} + Q_{22} - 4Q_{66})\cos^{2}\theta\sin^{2}\theta + Q_{12}(\cos^{4}\theta + \sin^{4}\theta)$$

$$Q'_{16} = Q'_{61} = \{(Q_{11} - Q_{12} - 2Q_{66})\cos^{2}\theta + (Q_{12} - Q_{22} + 2Q_{66})\sin^{2}\theta\}\cos\theta\sin\theta$$

$$Q'_{22} = Q_{11}\sin^{4}\theta + 2(Q_{12} + 2Q_{66})\cos^{2}\theta\sin^{2}\theta + Q_{22}\cos^{4}\theta$$

$$Q'_{26} = Q'_{62} = \{(Q_{11} - Q_{12} - 2Q_{66})\sin^{2}\theta + (Q_{12} - Q_{22} + 2Q_{66})\cos^{2}\theta\}\cos\theta\sin\theta$$

$$Q'_{66} = (Q_{11} + Q_{22} - 2Q_{12} - 2Q_{66})\cos^{2}\theta\sin^{2}\theta + Q_{66}(\cos^{4}\theta + \sin^{4}\theta)$$
(2)

and the reduced stiffness terms by:

$$Q_{11} = E_1/(1 - v_{12}v_{21}) \qquad Q_{12} = v_{12}E_2/(1 - v_{12}v_{21}) \qquad Q_{22} = E_2/(1 - v_{12}v_{21}) \qquad Q_{66} = G_{12}$$
(3)

 $\mathsf{P} \mathsf{A} \mathsf{G} \mathsf{E} \mid \mathbf{10}$ 

#### **LAMINATION PARAMETERS**

For optimum design of laminates with angle- and cross-ply orientations, lamination parameters are often preferred, since these allow the stiffness terms to be expressed as linear design variables.

$$\xi_{9} = \xi_{1}^{D} = \{\zeta_{+}\cos(2\theta_{+}) + \zeta_{-}\cos(2\theta_{-}) + \zeta_{0}\cos(2\theta_{0}) + \zeta_{\bullet}\cos(2\theta_{\bullet})\}/n^{3}$$
  

$$\xi_{10} = \xi_{2}^{D} = \{\zeta_{+}\cos(4\theta_{+}) + \zeta_{-}\cos(4\theta_{-}) + \zeta_{0}\cos(4\theta_{0}) + \zeta_{\bullet}\cos(4\theta_{\bullet})\}/n^{3}$$
  

$$\xi_{11} = \xi_{3}^{D} = \{\zeta_{+}\sin(2\theta_{+}) + \zeta_{-}\sin(2\theta_{-}) + \zeta_{0}\sin(2\theta_{0}) + \zeta_{\bullet}\sin(2\theta_{\bullet})\}/n^{3}$$
  

$$\xi_{12} = \xi_{4}^{D} = \{\zeta_{+}\sin(4\theta_{+}) + \zeta_{-}\sin(4\theta_{-}) + \zeta_{0}\sin(4\theta_{0}) + \zeta_{\bullet}\sin(4\theta_{\bullet})\}/n^{3}$$
(4)

Calculation of the bending (**D**) stiffness matrix, follows from the dimensionless parameters using:

$\mathbf{D}_{11} = \{U_1 + \xi_9 U_2 + \xi_{10} U_3\} \times H^3 / 12$	$U_1 = \{3Q_{11} + 3Q_{22} + 2Q_{12} + 4Q_{66}\}/8$
$D_{12} = D_{21} = \{ U_4 - \xi_{10} U_3 \} \times H^3 / 12$	$U_2 = \{Q_{11} - Q_{22}\}/2$
$D_{16} = D_{61} = \{\xi_{11}U_2/2 + \xi_{12}U_3\} \times H^3/12$	$U_3 = \{Q_{11} + Q_{22} - 2Q_{12} - 4Q_{66}\}/8$
$\mathbf{D}_{22} = \{U_1 - \xi_9 U_2 + \xi_{10} U_3\} \times H^3 / 12$	$U_4 = \{Q_{11} + Q_{22} + 6Q_{12} - 4Q_{66}\}/8$
$D_{26} = D_{62} = \{\xi_{11}U_2/2 - \xi_{12}U_3\} \times H^3/12$	$U_5 = \{Q_{11} + Q_{22} - 2Q_{12} + 4Q_{66}\}/8$
$D_{66} = \{-\xi_{10}U_3 + U_5\} \times H^3/12 $ (5)	(6)

 $H (= n \times t)$  is the laminate thickness.



Figure 7 – Bending lamination parameter ( $\xi_9$ ,  $\xi_{10}$ ,  $\xi_{11}$ ) design space for symmetric (*SS*) laminates with up to 18 plies, representing 23,470 configurations. Note that  $\xi_{12} = 0$  for  $\theta = \pm 45^{\circ}$ .

#### **BUCKLING STRENGTH ASSESSMENTS**

Numerous closed form solutions have been proposed in the literature. The most recent being:

$$k_{x,\infty} = 2(1 - 4\delta\gamma - 3\delta^4 + 2\delta^2\beta)^{1/2} + 2(\beta - 3\delta^2)$$

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involving non-dimensional parameters, consisting of an orthotropic parameter,  $\beta$ , and two anisotropic parameters,  $\gamma$  and  $\delta$ .

$$\beta = (D_{12} + 2D_{66})/(D_{11}D_{22})^{1/2}$$
$$\gamma = D_{16}/(D_{11}^{3}D_{22})^{1/4}$$
$$\delta = D_{26}/(D_{11}D_{22}^{3})^{1/4}$$

However, results for the fully uncoupled laminate ( $\gamma = \delta = 0$ ) do not match the relative buckling load,  $N_{x,\infty}$  (with half-wavelength  $\lambda$ ), across the lamination parameter design space due to normalization with respect to  $(D_{11}D_{22})^{1/2}$ , i.e.:

$$k_{x,\infty} = N_x b^2 / \pi^2 (D_{11} D_{22})^{1/2} \text{ with } N_{x,\infty} = \pi^2 \left[ D_{11} \left[ \frac{1}{\lambda} \right]^2 + 2 \left( D_{12} + 2D_{66} \right) \frac{1}{b^2} + D_{22} \left[ \frac{1}{b^4} \right] \lambda^2 \right]$$

 $\mathsf{P} \mathsf{A} \mathsf{G} \mathsf{E} \mid \mathbf{13}$ 

An alternative assessment of the buckling strength between fully uncoupled (or *Simple*) laminates and *Bending-Twisting* coupled laminates is now considered. Here, a mapping to the lamination parameter design space is developed.

An 18-ply quasi-homogeneous laminate configuration ( $\mathbf{A}_{S}\mathbf{B}_{0}\mathbf{D}_{S}$ ) was chosen to check for convergence of the buckling strength predictions of an exact infinite strip method, VICONOPT<sup>1</sup>, since it represents the simplest form of laminate, i.e.:

$$D_{ij} = A_{ij}H^2/12$$
 (7)

Additionally, this laminate becomes a fully isotropic ( $\pi/3$ ) laminate when angle plies (+/-) are changed from +45/-45 to +60/-60. This is used as a datum case.

$$[+/-/-/O/O/O/+/+/O/-/+/+/-/-/O/O/+]_{T}$$
 (A<sub>S</sub>B<sub>0</sub>D<sub>S</sub>), (A<sub>I</sub>B<sub>0</sub>D<sub>I</sub>)

Buckling factor results have been normalised against  $D_{Iso}$ , representing the equivalent isotopic composite bending stiffness, where

$$D_{\rm Iso} = E_{\rm Iso} H^3 / (1 - v_{\rm Iso}^2) = U_1 H^3 / 12$$
 (8)

$$E_{Iso} = 2(1 + v_{Iso})G_{Iso} = U_1(1 - v_{Iso}^2)$$
(9)

$$v_{\rm Iso} = U_4/U_1 \tag{10}$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Williams FW, Kennedy D, Butler R, Anderson MS. VICONOPT: program for exact vibration and buckling analysis or design of prismatic plate assemblies. AIAA J 1991;29:1927–8.



Figure 1 – Compression buckling contours,  $k_x (= N_x b^2 / \pi^2 D_{Iso})$ , for fully uncoupled laminates, i.e.  $\xi_{11} = 0$ .

The closed form buckling solution, representing an infinitely long, simply supported plate, and from which the contours are subsequently plotted, can be derived from 15 lamination parameter points, giving:

$$k_{x,\infty} = 4.000 - 1.049\xi_{10} - 1.217\xi_9^2 + 0.340\xi_{10}\xi_9^2 - 0.360\xi_9^4 - 0.340\xi_{10}^2\xi_9^2$$



Figure 2 – Compression buckling factor contours,  $k_x (= N_x b^2 / \pi^2 D_{Iso})$ , for  $\xi_{11} = 0.5$ , representing *Bending-Twisting* coupled laminates, demonstrating *increasing* asymmetry. When  $\xi_{11} = 1.0$ , the design space degenerates to a single point with  $k_x = 2.19$ .

For  $\xi_{11} = 0.5$ , the new closed form buckling solution for the infinitely long plate can be stated as:

$$k_{x,ortho,\infty} = 3.374 - 0.329\xi_9 - 1.06\xi_{10} - 1.742\xi_9^2 - 0.012\xi_{10}^2 + 0.145\xi_{10}\xi_9 - 0.598\xi_9^3 - 0.001\xi_{10}^3 - 0.014\xi_{10}^2\xi_9 + 0.671\xi_{10}\xi_9^2 - 1.456\xi_9^4 - 0.003\xi_{10}^3\xi_9 - 0.083\xi_{10}^2\xi_9^2 - 0.008\xi_{10}\xi_9^3$$

 $PAGE \mid 16$ 



Figure 3 –Compression buckling factor curves for:

(a) quasihomogeneous, quasiisotropic laminates with  $(\xi_9, \xi_{10}) = (0,0)$ and  $0 \le \xi_{11} \le 0.5$  and;

(b) angle-ply laminates with  $(\xi_9, \xi_{10}) = (0,-1)$ and  $0.0 \le \xi_{11} \le 1.0$ .

Asymptotes represent  $k_{x,\infty}$  for the infinitely long plate, and reveal bounds on buckling strength reductions of 16% for the quasihomogeneous, quasiisotropic laminates and 57% for angle-ply laminates.

3

 $\mathsf{P} \mathsf{A} \mathsf{G} \mathsf{E} \mid \mathbf{17}$ 

Results for isotropic skew plates – mode shape analogy.



**FIG. 6.** Case 1-2 Design Curves for  $\alpha =:$  (a) 15°; (b) 30°; (c) 45° with Skew-Transverse Edges Elastically Restrained against Rotation and Longitudinal Edges Simply Supported. Discrete Results [Mizusawa and Kajita (1986)] shown ( $\kappa = 0, 0.1, 1, 2, 5, 10, 100$  and  $\infty$ ) for Comparison

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# **CONSIDERATIONS FOR FML**

#### Initial buckling strength.

Material properties of FML are essentially isotropic.

 $[Al/\underline{+45/-45}/Al/\underline{-45/+45}/Al]_T$  gives the highest magnitude of *Bending-Twisting* coupling, but the buckling curves have no diminishing cusps, as seen previously in the Uni-Directional (UD) CFRP designs. The buckling strength of this design increased in comparison to equivalent design with 'isotropic' fibre layers, since  $\xi_{10} < 0$ ; see trends in buckling factor contours in Figs. (1) and (2).

#### **Delamination buckling**

Favourable designs were found to be dominated by anti-symmetric UD laminate designs. The use of woven cloth or Non-Crimp Fabric (NCF) designs using thin ply technologies may improve isotropic characteristics and potentially improve damage tolerance.

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#### Woven Cloth Mateial.

Application to FML using Aluminium and Boron- or Carbon-Fibre epoxy woven cloth (TeXtreme<sup>TM</sup>) layers, involving thin ply laminate technology with areal weights of 50g/m<sup>2</sup>, compared to standard materials with 250g/m<sup>2</sup>, allows the possibility of designing isotropic layers, e.g.

 $[\alpha/\beta/\alpha/\beta_3/\alpha_3/\beta/\alpha/\beta]_T$ 

with  $\alpha = \beta + \pi/4$ , possessing similar moduli to Aluminium, and within the thickness constraints found in standard FML, such as Glare, e.g.:

```
[A1./\alpha/\beta/\alpha/\beta_3/\alpha_3/\beta/\alpha/\beta/A1./\alpha/\beta/\alpha/\beta_3/\alpha_3/\beta/\alpha/\beta/A1.]_T.
```

Titanium may be required to avoid galvanic corrosion between Aluminium and Carbon-Fibre material.

#### **Non-Crimp Fabric (C-Ply)**

The <u>four</u> design freedoms associated with the stacking sequences for standard UD laminate manufacture, with ply orientations 0, 90 and  $\pm 45^{\circ}$ , are increased to <u>eight</u> using <u>0/45</u> and <u>0/-45</u> bi-angle NCF: by flipping (<u>-45/0</u> and <u>45/0</u>), rotating (<u>90/-45</u> and <u>90/45</u>) or both (<u>45/90</u> and <u>-45/90</u>). The underlining helps to differentiate between <u>0/45</u> and <u>0/-45</u> plies.

A comparable isotropic sub-laminate to the TeXtreme design is given by:

```
[\underline{135/90}/\underline{0/45}/\underline{0/45}/\underline{90/45}/\underline{-45/0}/\underline{135/90}/\underline{135/90}/\underline{45/90}/\underline{0/-45}/\underline{0/45}/\underline{0/45}/\underline{135/90}]_{\mathrm{T}}
```

### **Addendum: Matching of Stiffness and Thermal properties in FML**

Table 2 - Engineering constants, thermal expansion coefficients and specific gravity of typical unidirectional composites together with equivalent Isotropic laminate properties.

Туре	$E_1(E_{Iso})$	E <sub>2</sub>	v <sub>12</sub>	G <sub>12</sub>	$\alpha_1, \alpha_2$	ρ
[Material]		(E <sub>Iso</sub> )	$(v_{Iso})$	(G <sub>Iso</sub> )	$(\alpha_{\rm Iso})$	-
	(GPa)	(GPa)		(GPa)	(µm/m)/K	$(g/cm^3)$
T300/5208	181	10.3	0.28	7.17	0.02, 22.5	1.6
[Graphite/Epoxy]	(69.7)	(69.7)	(0.30)	(26.9)	(11.3)	
B(4)/5505	204	18.5	0.23	5.59	6.1, 30.3	2.0
[Boron/Epoxy]	(78.5)	(78.5)	(0.32)	(29.7)	(18.2)	
AS/3501	138	8.96	0.30	7.1	-0.3, 28.1	1.6
[Graphite/Epoxy]	(54.8)	(54.8)	(0.28)	(21.4)	(13.9)	
Scotchply 1002	38.6	8.27	0.26	4.14	8.6, 22.1	1.8
[Glass/Epoxy]	(18.97)	(18.97)	(0.27)	(7.47)	(15.3)	
Kevlar 49/Epoxy	76	5.5	0.34	2.3	-4.0, 79.0	1.46
[Aramid/Epoxy]	(29)	(29)	(0.32)	(10.95)	(37.5)	
Aluminium	-	73	0 33	28	23.0	27
2014-T4		5	0.55	20	23.0	2.1
Titanium	1	14	0.33	43	9.5	4.4

## CONCLUSIONS

- Definitive listings of *Bending-Twisting* coupled laminates demonstrate that the vast majority of the stacking sequences are non-symmetric.
- Symmetric laminates with up to 18 plies occupy less than 7% of the total design space for *Bending-Twisting* coupled laminates.
- Interrogation of these feasible design spaces has facilitated the calculation of bounds on the buckling strength of infinitely long simply supported plates.
- Buckling strength comparisons for infinitely long laminated plates have revealed bounds on buckling strength reductions between fully uncoupled and *Bending-Twisting* coupled laminates of 16% for the quasi-homogeneous, quasi-isotropic laminates and 57% for angle-ply laminates.
- FML designs possess buckling behaviour consistent with the equivalent isotropic laminate, despite the presence of *Bending-Twisting* coupling in the fibre reinforcement.
  - The potential for improvements in delamination buckling strength (i.e., compression strength after impact) remains to be explored....