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Two-scale computational homogenization of transversely loaded sheets

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Introduction

Philips has identified display manufacturing as one of its strategic technologies for the future. Accordingly, there is a strong interest in the research and development of novel displays, including variants of flexible displays. It is important for them to have a procedure for designing fail-safe flexible displays, which can be considered as structured multi-layer shells.

Objective

The objective of this project is to numerically predict the behavior of mechanically loaded thin shell-type structures. For this purpose, a multi-level approach will be pursued via computational homogenization.

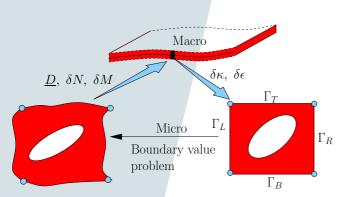


Figure 1 Computational homogenization scheme.

Method

Homogenization scheme

A computational homogenization scheme with shell elements at the macro-level and plane-strain elements at the micro-level is used, figure 1. The macroscopic central layer strain ϵ and the curvature κ are used to define the boundary value problem on a representative volume element (RVE). The generalized stress-strain tangent matrix \underline{D} is obtained from an RVE analysis at each macroscopic integration point according to:

$$\underline{D} = \frac{W}{h} \underline{L}^T \underline{K}^* \underline{L} \quad , \qquad \underline{L} = \exp(\epsilon) \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \kappa & \mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}$$

with W is the RVE width and h the RVE out-of-plane dimension. The reduced stiffness matrix \underline{K}^* is obtained via condensation of the RVE stiffness.

Results

The deformation of a shell with a periodic substructure is studied using both a full-scale model and the proposed multilevel approach. The shell is clamped at the two ends and in the center a vertical load is applied. The material behavior is modeled as elastoplastic with hardening. The results from the full-scale and the multi-scale analysis are shown in figures 2 and 3 (only the left-hand side is shown). The contour plots present the plastic strain.

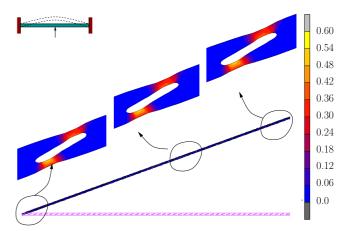


Figure 2 Results from a full-scale analysis.

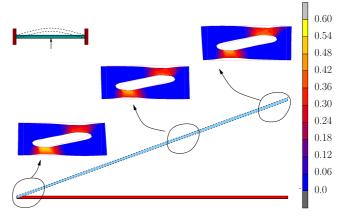


Figure 3 Results from the multi-scale analysis.

Discussion

For periodic shell structure the multi-level approach offers a feasible procedure in case a full-scale analysis would be impossible because of excessive calculation time.

/department of mechanical engineering