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# Determination of maximum deflection at cross bending parallelogram plates using conformal radius ratio interpolation technique

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# Abstract

In the article the task of cross bending of elastic isotropic plates with simply supported and clamped edge from the action of evenly distributed load is described. It is suggested to use form factor interpolation technique to determine the value of maximum plate deflection; and the ratio of inner conformal radius to the outer as a geometric argument is proposed to be used instead of form factor. Such replacement allows the increase of the technique accuracy.

**Keywords:** parallelogram plates, cross bending, maximum deflection, conformal radius ratio, form factor interpolation technique.

## 1. Introduction

Parallelogram plates are widely used in the building industry, machine construction, aircraft and shipbuilding as structural components accepting cross bending deformation (Harari et al. 2011; Marti 2013; Sadd 2014). The nowadays structural calculation is carried using numerical methods, particularly, the finite element method (FEM) (ANSYS; Zienkiewicz et al. 2014). The last one is the basis for many software packages, such as ANSYS. However, despite the high efficiency of numerical methods, such methods suffer from well-known significant drawbacks which assert in difficulty of analysis of calculating result, inability of estimating qualitative and quantitative assessment of the desired solution during variation of geometric parameters or design shape (plate in our case) (Korobko 1994; Polya, Szego 1951).

## 2. Method

One of the authors of this article has developed an engineering technique for solving twodimensional problem of structural theory – form factor interpolation technique (FFIT) (Korobko 1999). In this method the main geometric argument is the form factor – integral characteristic of design shape (plate in our case), that yields a quantitative estimate of correctness (symmetry) of its shape. Detailed information about the form factor of the region with prominent outline  $K_f$  is given in the monograph (Korobko 1999). In the same monograph, a number of features of the form factor and integral physical characteristic of plates F are proven:

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– plate form factor is a geometric analogue of integral physical characteristic of plates F, particularly, maximum deflection at cross bending  $w_0$ , fundamental plate oscillation frequency in no-load state  $\omega$ , critical load at longitudinal plate bending  $N_0$ , quantitative and qualitative modifications  $K_f$  in direct (or inverse) proportion to quantitative and qualitative F modifications;

- all *F* sets of values for the equivalent elastic isotropic plates with prominent outline and uniform boundary conditions (either simply supported or clamped edge) represented on coordinate axes are doubly bounded: elliptic plates form one of the edges, polygonal plates – the other; all the sides are tangent to a circumference;

- all F sets of values for parallelogram plates are bounded from one side by F values for rectangular plates, from the other side – values F for plates in the form of an isosceles triangle;

- all F sets of values for trapezoidal plates are bounded from one side by F values for rectangular plates, from the other side – values F for plates in the form of an isosceles triangle.

The geometric entity of form factor interpolation technique is in choice of geometric transformation of prefixed plate in which family of plate forms contains at least two plates which solution is known or can be obtained by some methods (reference solutions). In case of parallelogram area, it is always possible to choose transformation (for instance, affine) in which the area is turned into a rectangle or rhomb. If solutions for rectangular and rhombic plate are known, then the solution for prefixed parallelogram plates can be found using the form factor interpolation. So, one needs to know all sets of solutions for rectangular and rhombic plate in case of using the form factor interpolation technique. Scientific and reference literature provides many task solution for rectangular plates under different boundary conditions; it can be possible to plot a curve  $F - K_f$  using these data. Not a lot of decisions are set out for rhombic plate, however, it is possible to plot a curve  $F - K_f$  using the finite element method.

Fig. 1 shows the mentioned curves  $w_0 - 1/K_f$  at evenly distributed action on a plate. In the figure, along the abscissa axis value  $1/K_f$  is plotted, while the ordinate axis - multiplied by  $10^3$  times represents the proportionality constant in bending form

$$w_0 = k_w \frac{qA^2}{D},\tag{1}$$

where  $D = Eh^3/12 \cdot (1-v^2)$  is bending stiffness of plate; *E* is modulus of deflection of material; v is Poisson ratio; *q* is intensity of uniformly distributed load; *h* is thickness of the plate; *A* is plate area,  $k_w$  is deflection function which depends on the boundary conditions and the form factor.



Fig. 1. Maximum deflection of plates in isoperimetric form

As shown in Fig. 1, points 3, 4, and 6 correspond to  $w_0$  values for plates in the form of a regular shape – triangle, tetragon (square), hexagon; point 0 is in keeping with  $w_0$  values for round plate. Ranges of values  $w_0$  that belong to parallelogram plates are shaded in the figure.

#### 3. Results and discussion

In the present work it is suggested to use the ratio of inner  $\dot{r}$  conformal radius to outer  $\bar{r}$  – (Korobko, Chernyaev 2011) instead of the form factor of the region with convex outline. The value of parameters for area forming boundary curves was calculated, and corresponding to them values of  $k_w$  proportionality constant were found using ANSYS software by the partition of area with grid 1/10 of side. For rectangles and rhombs, the exact analytic formulas for conform radius ratio value using gamma function are known. But these formulas are sufficiently cumbersome (Polya, Szego 1951). That is why in this article approximating polynomial functions are plotted with high accuracy based on the previously obtained solution set; these functions can be useful in creating computer programs.

For rhombs, the equation is known as (Polya, Szego 1951):

$$\dot{r} = \frac{\pi^{1/2}}{G\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)G\left(\frac{1-\alpha}{2}\right)}L, \ \bar{r} = \frac{\pi^{1/2}}{8G\left(1-\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)G\left(\frac{1+\alpha}{2}\right)}L;$$
(2)

where *L* is perimeter; G(x) is gamma function. The values of the inner  $(\dot{r})$  and outer  $(\bar{r})$  conformal radiuses to the different  $\alpha$  were obtained (Table 1) using these formulas. According to Table 1 and using MS Excel, approximating function (3) was plotted:

$$\dot{r}/\bar{r} = a + b\alpha + c\alpha^2 + d\alpha^3 + e\alpha^4, \qquad (3)$$

where  $a = 7,0709 \cdot 10-5$ ; b = 0,02219; c = -0,0001678;  $d = 5,2896 \cdot 10-7$ ;  $e = -1,6694 \cdot 10-9$ ; [Alpha] – acute rhomb angle in degrees.

In the work by Polya and Szego (1951) for rectangles with a and b ( $a \ge b$ ) sides, the equations of the inner and outer conformal radiuses take the form:

$$\dot{r} = \frac{2}{\pi} b \left( 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} q^{n^2} \right)^{-2},$$
(4)

where  $q = e^{-\pi a/b}$ ,

$$\begin{cases} \frac{a}{\bar{r}} = \pi \cos^2 \alpha \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{((2k-1)!)^2}{2^{2k} (k+1)! k!} \cos^{2k} \alpha; \\ \frac{b}{\bar{r}} = \pi \sin^2 \alpha \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{((2k-1)!)^2}{2^{2k} (k+1)! k!} \sin^{2k} \alpha. \end{cases}$$
(5)

Here  $\alpha$  is an argument of complex numbers (points of the circle, images of which for conformal mapping are the tops of the rectangle); (-1)!! = 1.

Using these formulas, the inner and outer conformal radius and its ratio  $(\dot{r}/\bar{r})$  to the different *a* and *b* was calculated and presented in Table 2. According to Table 2 and using MS Excel, approximating function (6) was plotted:

$$\dot{r}/\bar{r} = \frac{a+c\lambda+e\lambda^2}{1+b\lambda+d\lambda^2+f\lambda^3},$$
(6)

where a = 0,80307; b = -0,76171; c = -0,92186; d = 0,49197; e = 1,243; f = 0,49981; [lambda] = a/b – ratio of the greater rectangle side to the smaller;

For obtaining the inner and the outer conformal radius of parallelogram expansion of the mapping function  $\omega = f(z)$  was used:

$$\omega = f(z) = z - a + c_2(z - a)^2 + c_3(z - a)^3 + \dots$$
(7)

where  $\omega$ , z are complex variables (points of the complex plane).

Function, which represents the one-to-one conformal transition, was obtained using the Christoffel – Schwartz formula:

$$f(z) = C_1 \int_{z_0}^{z} \prod_{k=1}^{n} (z - a_k)^{\alpha_k - 1} dz + C_2 , \qquad (8)$$

where  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are arbitrary complex constants ( $C_1 \neq 0$ );  $a_k$  are prototypes of the tops of the *a* polygon  $A_i$  on the real axis;  $\alpha_k$  are radian measures of the inner angles of a polygon.

Further, the ratio of it was defined. The results of the different a/h and [Alpha] are shown in Table 3. According to Table 3 and using MS Excel approximating function was plotted (9):

$$\dot{r}/\bar{r} = a + b\lambda^{-1} + c(\ln\alpha) + d\lambda^{-2} + e(\ln\alpha)^2 + f(\ln\alpha)\lambda^{-1} + g\lambda^{-3} + h(\ln\alpha)^3 + i(\ln\alpha)^2\lambda^{-1} + j(\ln\alpha)\lambda^{-2},$$
(9)

where a = -0.3575; b = -8.0875; c = 0.8777; d = -4.2622; e = -0.3624; f = 5.0926; g = 0.04877; h = 0.04177; i = -0.6431; j = 0.7254; [lambda] = a/h – ratio of the greater parallelogram side to the smaller height; [Alpha] – acute angle, formed by the sides, in degrees.

[Alpha]	10°	20°	30°	40°	45°	50°	60°	70°	80°	90°
r, a	0,1066	0,2036	0,2898	0,3643	0,3970	0,4264	0,4754	0,5108	0,5322	0,5394
$\overline{r}, a$	0,5183	0,5348	0,5492	0,5616	0,5670	0,5718	0,5798	0,5855	0,5890	0,5902
<i>.</i>										
r/r	0,2057	0,3807	0,5277	0,6487	0,7002	0,7457	0,8199	0,8724	0,9036	0,9139
Notes: 1. [Alpha] – acute rhomb angle; 2. – rhomb side.										

Table 1. Values of conformal radius and its ratio for rhombs

a/b	1	1,2	1,4	1,6	1,8	2,0	2,5	3,0	5,0	$\rightarrow \infty$
r, a	0,5394	0,4848	0,4332	0,3876	0,3488	0,3159	0,2543	0,2121	0,1273	2b/π
$\overline{r}$ , a	0,5902	0,5406	0,5045	0,4768	0,4551	0,4374	0,4049	0,3826	0,3361	a/4
$\dot{r}/\bar{r}$	0,9139	0,8968	0,8587	0,8129	0,7664	0,7222	0,6281	0,5544	0,3788	0
Note – a and b rectangle side ( $a \ge b$ ).										
6 (-)										

Table 2. Values of conformal radius and its ratio for rectangles

[Alpha]	100	200	300	40°	<b>5</b> 0°	600	70°	80°	90°
a/h	10	20	50		50	00	70		
1	-	-	-	_	_	_	-	-	0,9139
1,25	_	—	—	_	_	0,8191	0,8610	0,8822	0,8885
1,5	—	—	—	—	0,7415	0,7914	0,8185	0,8321	0,8363
1,75	—	—	—	0,6482	0,7136	0,7474	0,7658	0,7751	0,7779
2	—	_	0,5277	0,6302	0,6766	0,7007	0,7137	0,7203	0,7222
2,5	—	—	0,5185	0,5761	0,6022	0,6157	0,6231	0,6268	0,6281
3	-	0,3825	0,4861	0,5220	0,5383	0,5468	0,5514	0,5537	0,5544
4	_	0,3682	0,4173	0,4344	0,4421	0,4461	0,4482	0,4494	0,4498
5	_	0,3335	0,3609	0,3703	0,3747	0,3769	0,3781	0,3787	0,3788

Notes: 1. a/h – ratio of greater parallelogram side to the smaller height ( $a/h \ge 1$ ); 2. [Alpha] – acute parallelogram angle ([Alpha]  $\le 90^\circ$ ); 3. Dash '-' means that this parallelogram already exists in the table.

Table 3. Values of conformal radius ratio for parallelograms

Approximating curves  $k_w$  – are plotted based on the obtained data; curves can be determined by the following analytical dependences:

- for simply supported rhombic plates:

$$k_w = \frac{0,0209 + 6,349(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^2 - 6,184(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^4}{1 - 0,5516(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^2 - 0,4192(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^4};$$
(10)

- for simply supported rectangular plates:

$$k_{w} = \frac{-0.0113 + 2.5758(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^{2} + 14.4157(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^{4}}{1 + 1.4745(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^{2} + 1.1153(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^{4}};$$
(11)

- for clamped rhombic plates:

$$k_{w} = \frac{-0,0044 + 1,5655(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^{2} - 1,1923(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^{4}}{1 - 0,6771243(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^{2} - 1,1923(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^{4}};$$
(12)

- for clamped rectangular plates:

$$k_w = \frac{-0,0077 + 0,7075(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^2}{1 - 1,121(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^2 + 0.5735(\dot{r}/\bar{r})^4}.$$
(13)

Here, the equations 10-13 were obtained from data which are presented in tables 5-8 using MS Excel. The values of the ratio  $\dot{r}/\bar{r}$  where obtained using formula (3). The values of the parameter 1000  $k_w$  were obtained using ANSYS (FEM).

The resulting graphs turned out to be identical to the graphs illustrated in Fig. 1; its comparison enables to conclude that:

1. All the solutions to problems for plates in the form of rhomb, regular polygon, and arbitrary rectangle can be described by the same analytical dependence (formula (10) for simply supported plates, formula (12) for clamped plates).

2. Range of maximum deflection values for quadrangular plates in case of using conformal radius ratio is significantly narrower than it would be if the form factor was used. Therefore, by using ratio  $\dot{r}/\bar{r}$  in the capacity of geometrical argument and applying the form factor interpolation technique in quadrangular plates computing (in particular – parallelogram and trapezoidal), the desired solution is determined with higher accuracy than by using the form factor.

For determination of maximum deflection of parallelogram plates by using the form factor interpolation technique, the ratio  $\dot{r}/\bar{r}$  is as follows.

1. For a given parallelogram plate, which form depends on the ratio of larger side to the smaller height  $\lambda = a/h$  and acute  $\alpha$  angle, «reference» plates and their geometric characteristics are defined by the affine shift along larger side: [Alpha] angle for rhombic plate is determined as  $\alpha = \arcsin(1/\lambda)$ , side ratio (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2. Modeling parallelogram area

2. Ratios  $\dot{r}/\bar{r}$  for the «reference» plates are calculated according to the formulas (3), (6), deflection values  $k_w$  – according to the formulas (10-13).

3. Ratio  $\dot{r}/\bar{r}$  for parallelogram plate is determined by the formula (9).

4. Maximum deflection  $k_w$  of parallelogram plate may be defined using interpolation between the reference solutions.

Two types of interpolation – power and linear – may be used during implementation of the last paragraph:

- at power interpolation:

$$k_{w} = k_{w1} \left( \frac{\dot{r}/\bar{r}}{(\dot{r}/\bar{r})_{1}} \right)^{n}, \quad n = \frac{\ln(k_{w2}/k_{w1})}{\ln((\dot{r}/\bar{r})_{2}/(\dot{r}/\bar{r})_{1})}; \quad (14)$$

- at linear interpolation:

$$k_{w} = k_{w1} + \frac{\dot{r}/\bar{r} - (\dot{r}/\bar{r})_{1}}{(\dot{r}/\bar{r})_{2} - (\dot{r}/\bar{r})_{1}} \cdot (k_{w2} - k_{w1}),$$
(15)

where  $\dot{r}/\bar{r}$  – is conformal radius ratio for the given parallelogram plate;  $(\dot{r}/\bar{r})_1$ ,  $(\dot{r}/\bar{r})_2$  and  $k_{w1}$ ,  $k_{w2}$  – ratio of conformal radiuses and maximum deflection for «reference» plates. Index "1" of formulas (14) and (15) refers to rhombic plate, index "2" – to rectangular one. Graphical interpretation of the analized types of interpolation on formula (14) and (15) is shown in Fig. 3, where curve I is for real curve, curve II is obtained by interpolating function.

Equations (14) and (15) were obtained by Korobko (1999) using graphical presentation of the solutions in the axes  $k_w - \dot{r}/\bar{r}$ . If one substitutes reference solutions "1" and "2", then the solution to the parallelogram plate will lay on curve "I". This curve can be plotted approximately using power function (14) or linear function (15). These functions were obtained from mathematics and functional analysis.



a - linear, b - power

Fig. 3. Interpolation

We did test calculations of multiplicity of parallelogram plates, ratio a/h varied between 1.25 and 5, [alpha] varied between 30° and 80°. Calculations were carried out using the finite element method, conformal radius ratio and ANSYS software package (Table 4).

	Parallelogram plate	Deflection values 1000 $k_w$ in the form of (1)								
N	characteristics	(FEM) ANSY S	$\dot{r}/\bar{r}$ interpolation	Δ, %	<i>K<sub>f</sub></i> interpolatio n (FFIT)	Δ, %				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
	Simply supported plates									
1	a/h = 1,25; [Alpha] = 80°	3,808	3,795	-0,36	3,797	-0,29				
2	a/h = 1,5; [Alpha] = 75°	3,364	3,358	-0,17	3,343	-0,63				
3	<i>a/h</i> = 1,75; [Alpha] = 70°	2,893	2,901	0,28	2,866	-0,95				
4	a/h = 2; [Alpha] = 65°	2,461	2,483	0,87	2,436	-1,03				
5	<i>a/h</i> = 2,25; [Alpha] = 60°	2,094	2,116	1,06	2,067	-1,28				
6	a/h = 2,5; [Alpha] = 55°	1,786	1,801	0,83	1,755	-1,75				
7	$a/h = 3$ ; [Alpha] = $45^{\circ}$	1,314	1,309	-0,35	1,274	-3,02				
8	a/h = 3,5; [Alpha] = 40°	1,006	0,988	-1,87	0,964	-4,18				
9	a/h = 4; [Alpha] = 35°	0,787	0,766	-2,69	0,747	-5,07				
1 0	a/h = 5; [Alpha] = 30°	0,514	0,507	-1,32	0,491	-4,46				
Ma	ximum deviation			-2,69		-5,07				
Av	erage deviation (by absolu	te value)	0,91		2,28					
	Clamped plates									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
1	$a/h = 1,25; [Alpha] = 80^{\circ}$	1,150	1,147	-0,24	1,147	-0,2				
2	a/h = 1,5; [Alpha] = 75°	0,957	0,959	0,21	0,954	-0,32				

3	<i>a/h</i> = 1,75; [Alpha] = 70°	0,774	0,777	0,43	0,768	-0,75			
4	a/h = 2; [Alpha] = 65°	0,622	0,629	1,24	0,619	-0,45			
5	$a/h = 2,25;$ [Alpha] = $60^{\circ}$	0,505	0,516	2,22	0,506	0,2			
6	a/h = 2,5; [Alpha] = 55°	0,413	0,415	0,34	0,407	-1,62			
7	$a/h = 3$ ; [Alpha] = $45^{\circ}$	0,287	0,283	-1,26	0,278	-3,1			
8	a/h = 3,5; [Alpha] = 40°	0,211	0,207	-1,94	0,204	-3,6			
9	a/h = 4; [Alpha] = 35°	0,161	0,158	-2,29	0,155	-4,09			
1 0	a/h = 5; [Alpha] = 30°	0,102	0,102	-0,78	0,099	-3,62			
Ma	aximum deviation		-2,29		-4,09				
Av	erage deviation (by absolu	te value)	1,08		1,89				
No	Note: $\Delta$ – difference between $k_w$ values in columns 3 and 2, 5 and 2.								

**Table 4.**  $w_0$  values association for parallelogram plates obtained by conformal radius ratiointerpolation, the form factor interpolation technique (FFIT) and the finite element method(FEM) in ANSYS software package.

## 4. Summary

1 Using the form factor interpolation technique and geometric argument  $\dot{r}/\bar{r}$  instead of form factor  $K_f$  for maximum deflection of parallelogram plates allows for the double increase of the analytical solutions accuracy.

2 Results, obtained by power and linear interpolation of reference solutions, are not significantly different. However, for the higher simplicity and naturalness it is recommended to use power interpolation.

3 The main advantage of the presented method for determination of maximum plate deflection is the obtained results representation that allows to exactly determine the place of found solution for all sets (in discussing set) of parallelogram plates. Among the plethora of known approximate approaches for solving considered problems, only interpolation technique on the form factor  $K_f$ and conformal radiuses ratio  $\dot{r}/\bar{r}$  gives such opportunity.

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#### Извод

# Одређивање максималне дефлексије код попречно савијених плоча у облику паралелограма употребом интерполационе технике односа конформалног радијуса

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#### Резиме

У раду се описује попречно савијање еластичних просто ослоњених изотропних плоча и плоча са укљештеном ивицом при равномерно распоређеном оптерећењу. Предлаже се употреба технике интерполације фактора облика како би се одредила вредност максималне дефлексије плоче; и однос унутрашњег и спољашњег конформалног радијуса као геометријског аргумента јер се предлаже да се геометријски аргумент употреби уместо фактора облика. Оваква замена омогућава већу тачност.

**Кључне речи**: плоче у облику паралелограма, попречно савијање, максимална дефлексија, однос конформалног радијуса, техника интерполације фактора облика.

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