

ON SEEKING BUCKLING MODES OF A CIRCULAR PLATE*

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A construction of the buckling modes of a circular plate is examined by using the solutions of an infinite system of non-linear algebraic equations that appears on substituting their non-trivial solution representable, by assumption, in the form of series, into the non-linear Karman equations. It is shown that an approximation can be found to the solution of the system by using a projection method and a projection-iteration process in the Banach space of sequences whose series from the elements converge absolutely. Results of computations are presented.

1. The axisymmetric deformation of a thin circular elastic plate of constant thickness that is in equilibrium under a uniform compressive load applied along an edge is described by the non-linear Karman equations /1/ that reduce to the following system of equations

$$GQ(r) + \lambda^2(1 - P(r))Q(r) = 0, \quad GP(r) = -\frac{1}{2}Q^2(r), \quad 0 < r < 1 \quad (1.1)$$

$$G = r^{-3}d(r^3d/dr)/dr$$

where r is the dimensionless radius λ^2 is a dimensionless load parameter, Q is the dimensionless derivative of the transverse displacement with respect to the radius, and $(P - 1)$ is the dimensionless radial stress.

The assumption on symmetry and smoothness reduces to the conditions

$$Q'(0) = 0, \quad P'(0) = 0 \quad (1.2)$$

If the edge $r = 1$ of the plate is rigidly clamped, then the additional boundary conditions

$$Q(1) = 0, \quad P(1) = 0 \quad (1.3)$$

should be satisfied.

For any λ the boundary-value problem (1.1)-(1.3) has the trivial solution $Q(r) \equiv 0$, $P(r) \equiv 0$ (the non-buckling mode). Other (non-trivial) real solutions are called buckling modes.

As a result of linearization of problem (1.1)-(1.3) near the non-buckling mode, a linear second-order boundary-value problem is obtained

$$G\bar{Q} + \lambda^2\bar{Q} = 0, \quad 0 < r < 1; \quad \bar{Q}'(0) = \bar{Q}(1) = 0, \quad \bar{P} \equiv 0$$

which, for $\lambda = \lambda_n$ has the non-trivial solutions

$$\bar{Q}_n = r^{-1}J_1(\lambda_n r), \quad J_1(\lambda_n) = 0 \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots)$$

utilized later to construct the plate buckling modes, where λ_n is the n -th zero of the Bessel function J_1 .

It is known that buckling modes exist for $\lambda > \lambda_1$ (see /2/ and the bibliography in /2/, say).

We assume that the non-trivial solution $Q(r)$ and $P(r)$ of problem (1.1)-(1.3) is represented by the series

$$Q(r) = \varepsilon \Sigma_a, \quad P(r) = \varepsilon^2 \Sigma_b; \quad \Sigma_a = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \bar{Q}_n, \quad a_1 = 1, \quad \Sigma_b = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \bar{Q}_n \quad (1.4)$$

where ε belongs to the neighbourhood of the zero of the real line R , $\varepsilon \neq 0$. Then substitution of series (1.4) into the first equation in (1.1) yields

*Prikl. Matem. Mekhan., 54, 1, 75-79, 1990

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n (\lambda^2 - \lambda_n^2) \bar{Q}_n + (\lambda^2 - \lambda_1^2) \bar{Q}_1 - \lambda^2 \varepsilon^2 \Sigma_a \Sigma_b = 0$$

After multiplying this equality by $r^3 \bar{Q}_m(r)$ and integrating between 0 and 1 with respect to r , the following expressions are obtained because of the orthogonality of $\bar{Q}_1, \bar{Q}_2, \dots$:

$$a_n = \frac{\lambda^2 \varepsilon^2 I_n}{(\lambda^2 - \lambda_n^2) \|\bar{Q}_n\|^2} \quad (n = 2, 3, \dots), \quad \lambda^2 = \lambda_1^2 \frac{\|\bar{Q}_1\|^2}{\|\bar{Q}_1\|^2 - \varepsilon^2 I_1} \quad (1.5)$$

$$I_n = \int_0^1 r^3 \Sigma_a \Sigma_b \bar{Q}_n dr, \quad \|\bar{Q}_n\|^2 = \int_0^1 r J_1^2(\lambda_n r) dr = \frac{1}{2} J_0^2(\lambda_n) \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots)$$

Similarly, the expressions

$$b_n = \frac{1}{2\lambda_n^2 \|\bar{Q}_n\|^2} \int_0^1 r^3 \Sigma_a^2 \bar{Q}_n dr \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots) \quad (1.6)$$

are obtained on substituting series (1.4) into the second equation of (1.1).

Expressions (1.5) and (1.6) yield an infinite system of non-linear algebraic equations in a_2, a_3, \dots and b_1, b_2, \dots which will be investigated later. It will be shown here that the system has a solution in a certain right semicircle of the point λ_1 .

If a_2, a_3, \dots and b_1, b_2, \dots in series (1.4) are solutions of system (1.5) and (1.6), then series (1.4) yield a non-trivial solution (or the buckling mode) of problem (1.1)-(1.3) with load parameter λ^2 obtained on substituting the solution of system (1.5) and (1.6) into the right-hand side of the second formula in (1.5). The solution of problem (1.1)-(1.3) being obtained here formally satisfies (1.1) because the convergence of series (1.4) being obtained, and the series for derivatives of terms of these series are not investigated.

If the boundary-value problem (1.1)-(1.3) is studied in the neighbourhood of the point $\lambda = \lambda_m$ ($m \geq 2$), and not $\lambda = \lambda_1$, then this case is considered analogously, and it is sufficient to take $a_m = 1$ instead of $a_1 = 1$ in (1.4).

2. Let us investigate the infinite system of non-linear algebraic Eqs. (1.5) and (1.6).

Let l_1 be a Banach space of sequences $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$ or real numbers for which the series $|x_1| + |x_2| + \dots$ with the norm $\|x\| = |x_1| + |x_2| + \dots$ converges, and let $D = \{x = (x_1, x_2, \dots) \in l_1: x_1 = 1, |x_2| + |x_3| + \dots \leq C\}$, where C is an arbitrary fixed positive number.

We consider the mapping B from D in the set of sequences that sets the sequence $Bx = ((Bx)_1, (Bx)_2, \dots)$ obtained on substituting elements of the sequence x into the right-hand side of (1.6) in place of a_1, a_2, \dots for $n = 1, 2, \dots$, into correspondence with the element $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots) \in D$. For each $n \geq 1$ we have

$$|(Bx)_n| \leq \left(\frac{1+C}{\lambda_n J_0(\lambda_n)} \right)^2 \int_0^1 |J_1(\lambda_n r)| dr \leq \frac{3^{3/4} (1+C)^2}{2\lambda_n^2 |J_0(\lambda_n)|^{3/2}}$$

because we have $|J_1(t)| \leq 1$ for all $t \geq 0$, which, when the Hölder inequality is utilized, yields

$$\int_0^1 |J_1(\lambda_n r)| dr \leq \int_0^1 r^{-1/4} (r^{1/4} |J_1(\lambda_n r)|^{3/2}) dr \leq \left(\int_0^1 r^{-1/2} dr \right)^{2/3} \left(\int_0^1 r J_1^2(\lambda_n r) dr \right)^{1/3} = \frac{3^{2/3}}{2} |J_0(\lambda_n)|^{1/2}, \quad \forall n$$

Therefore, by virtue of the convergence of the series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n^{-2} |J_0(\lambda_n)|^{-3/2} \quad (2.1)$$

(this series converges because $J_0(\lambda_n) = (2/(\pi\lambda_n))^{1/2} (\cos(\lambda_n - \pi/4) + O(\lambda_n^{-1}))$ and $\lambda_n = (n + 1/4)\pi + O(n^{-1})$ for large values of n , see /3/) $Bx \in l_1$ and a constant $C_1 > 0$, independent of $x \in D$ exists such that $\|Bx\| \leq C_1$.

Furthermore, for all $x, y \in D$ we have

$$|(Bx - By)_n| \leq 2 \frac{1+C}{\lambda_n^2 |J_0(\lambda_n)|} \int_0^1 \left(\sum_{i=2}^{\infty} |(x_i - y_i) J_1(\lambda_i r)| \right) |J_1(\lambda_n r)| dr \leq 3^{1/2} \frac{1+C}{\lambda_n^2 |J_0(\lambda_n)|^{1/2}} \|x - y\|$$

for $n \geq 1$. This means that a constant $C_2 > 0$ exists such that $\|Bx - By\| \leq C_2 \|x - y\|$, $\forall x, y \in D$.

Let $l_1 \times R$ be the Banach space of the pair $(x, t) \in l_1 \times R$, $x \in l_1$ and $t \in R$, with the norm $\|(x, t)\| = \|x\| + |t|$.

We define a real-valued function T that sets a number $T(x, t)$ obtained on substituting elements of the sequences x and Bx in place of a_1, a_2, \dots and b_1, b_2, \dots , respectively, and t in place of ε on the right-hand side of the second formula of (1.5) in correspondence with the element $(x, t) \in D \times R$ ($x \in D$) in $D \times R \subset l_1 \times R$. Positive numbers ε_1, C_3 and C_4 exist such that $|T(x, \varepsilon)| \leq C_3$ and $|T(x, \varepsilon) - T(y, \varepsilon)| \leq C_4 \varepsilon^2 \|x - y\|$ for all $\varepsilon \in [-\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_1]$ and $x, y \in D$.

We also define the mapping A from $D \times R$ into the set of sequences that sets the sequence $A(x, t) = ((A(x, t))_1, (A(x, t))_2, \dots)$ with $(A(x, t))_1 = 1$ and $(A(x, t))_n$ ($n \geq 2$) obtained by substituting elements of the sequences x and Bx in place of a_1, a_2, \dots and b_1, b_2, \dots , respectively, and the numbers $T(x, t)$ and t in place of λ^2 and ε , respectively, in the right-hand side of (1.5) for $n = 2, 3, \dots$, in correspondence with the element $(x, t) \in D \times R$. Constants $\varepsilon_2 \in (0, \varepsilon_1]$, $C_5 > 0$, $C_6 > 0$, exist such that $A(x, \varepsilon) \in l_1$, $\|A(x, \varepsilon)\| \leq 1 + C_5 \varepsilon^2$ and $\|A(x, \varepsilon) - A(y, \varepsilon)\| \leq C_6 \varepsilon^2 \|x - y\|$ for all $\varepsilon \in [-\varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_2]$ and $x, y \in D$. Therefore, constants $\varepsilon_0 \in (0, \varepsilon_2]$ and $q \in (0, 1)$ exist such that $A(x, \varepsilon) \in D$ and $\|A(x, \varepsilon) - A(y, \varepsilon)\| \leq q \|x - y\|$ for all $\varepsilon \in [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0]$ and $x, y \in D$. And the mapping $A(x, \varepsilon)$ is here continuous in ε in $D \times [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0]$.

We note that explicit expressions can be obtained for the constants C_i ($i = 1, \dots, 6$) in terms of C and the sum of the series (2.1).

Because of the fixed-point principle /4/ a mapping $x_0: [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0] \rightarrow D$ exists such that $A(x_0(\varepsilon), \varepsilon) = x_0(\varepsilon)$ for all $\varepsilon \in [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0]$, where such a mapping is unique and continuous. And for each fixed $\varepsilon \in [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0]$ the element $x_0(\varepsilon)$ is the limit of the sequence $v^{i+1} = A(v^i, \varepsilon)$ ($i = 0, 1, \dots$) with arbitrary $v^0 \in D$. Furthermore, if elements of the sequences $x_0(\varepsilon)$ and $Bx_0(\varepsilon)$ are taken as a_1, a_2, \dots and b_1, b_2, \dots in the series (1.4), then these series yield the solution of the boundary-value problem (1.1)-(1.3) with the load parameter $\lambda^2 = T(x_0(\varepsilon), \varepsilon)$ ($\varepsilon \in [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0]$).

System (1.5) and (1.6) cannot be successfully solved exactly; consequently, approximate methods for solving are considered later.

We fix any $i \geq 2$ and consider the subspace E_i of the space l_1 consisting of the sequences $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots) \in l_1$ with $x_n = 0$ for all $n > i$. We define the linear projection operator $F_i: l_1 \rightarrow E_i$, that sets the element $F_i x = y \equiv (y_1, y_2, \dots)$ with $y_n = x_n$ for $n = 1, \dots, i$ and $y_n = 0$ for $n > i$ in correspondence with the element $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots) \in l_1$. We have $\|F_i x\| \leq \|x\|$, $\forall x \in l_1$.

We introduce the set $D_i = D \cap E_i$ and the mapping $B_i: D \rightarrow E_i$, $B_i x = F_i B(F_i x)$ for $x \in D$.

We define the function $T_i: D \times [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0] \rightarrow R$, that sets the number $T_i(x, t)$ obtained on substituting the elements of the sequences $F_i x$ and $B_i x$ in place of a_1, a_2, \dots and b_1, b_2, \dots , respectively, and t in place of ε in the left-hand side of the second formula in (1.5) in correspondence with the element $(x, t) \in D \times [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0]$. We also define the mapping $A_i: D \times [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0] \rightarrow E_i$ that sets an element $A_i(x, t) = z \equiv (z_1, z_2, \dots) \in E_i$ with $z_1 = 1$ and z_n ($n = 2, \dots, i$) obtained as a result of substituting elements of the sequences $F_i x$ and $B_i x$ in place of a_1, a_2, \dots and b_1, b_2, \dots , and the numbers $T_i(x, t)$ and t in place of λ^2 and ε , respectively, in the right-hand side of the first formula in (1.5) for $n = 2, \dots, i$, in correspondence with the element $(x, t) \in D \times [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0]$. We have $A_i(x, \varepsilon) \in D_i$ and $\|A_i(x, \varepsilon) - A_i(y, \varepsilon)\| \leq q \|x - y\|$ for all $\varepsilon \in [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0]$ and $x, y \in D$, where the number q is the same as above. Therefore, from the theorem in /5/ we obtain the following theorem on the convergence of the sequences of the projection method (i.e., the convergence of $x^i(\varepsilon)$) and the projection-iteration process (i.e., the convergence of $y^i(\varepsilon)$) that combines the projection method and the iteration process in one, to the solution $x_0(\varepsilon)$ of the equation $A(x, \varepsilon) = x$ ($x \in D$).

Theorem. For each $i \geq 2$ a mapping $x^i: [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0] \rightarrow D_i$, exists such that $A_i(x^i(\varepsilon), \varepsilon) = x^i(\varepsilon)$ for all $\varepsilon \in [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0]$, where such a mapping is unique and continuous; the sequence of mappings $x^i(\varepsilon)$ ($i = 2, 3, \dots$) converges uniformly to $x_0(\varepsilon)$ in $[-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0]$; for any mapping $y^1: [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0] \rightarrow D_2$ a sequence of mappings $y^{i+1}(\varepsilon) = A_{i+1}(y^i(\varepsilon), \varepsilon)$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots$) converges uniformly to $x_0(\varepsilon)$ in $[-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0]$.

Remark. For fixed $i \geq 2$ the mapping $x^i(\varepsilon)$ from the theorem can be found by using the iteration process

$$z^{j+1}(\varepsilon) = A_i(z^j(\varepsilon), \varepsilon) \quad (j = 0, 1, \dots)$$

with the arbitrary initial mapping $z^0: [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0] \rightarrow D_i$, where the following estimate of the rate of convergence holds:

$$\|z^j(\varepsilon) - x^i(\varepsilon)\| \leq 2(1+C)q^j/(1-q) \quad (j = 0, 1, \dots)$$

for all $\varepsilon \in [-\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_0]$.

The Theorem and the Remark enable us to seek an approximation to the solution of system (1.5) and (1.6) by which approximations to the buckling mode of problem (1.1)-(1.3) can be constructed.

In conformity with the above discussion, computations were performed using the projection method and the projection-iteration process on ES-1033 and ES-1061 computers with double precision. The results showed that ε_0 is not a small number.

We will present some results obtained by the projection method. In this case the computations were performed for fixed ε in conformity with the Remark. The computation ceased for

$$\max_{n=2, \dots, i} |(z^{j+1}(\varepsilon) - z^j(\varepsilon))_n| \leq \delta$$

where δ is a given accuracy (see $z^j(\varepsilon)$ in the Remark), here an element with $(z^0(\varepsilon))_n = 0$ for $n \geq 2$ was taken as $z^0(\varepsilon) = ((z^0(\varepsilon))_1, (z^0(\varepsilon))_2, \dots) \in D_i$. If m iterations were performed as a result then $z^m(\varepsilon) = (a_1^m, a_2^m, \dots)$ and $B_i z^{m-1}(\varepsilon) = (b_1^{m-1}, b_2^{m-1}, \dots)$ were used to construct approximations to the buckling modes of problem (1.1)-(1.3): approximations to the buckling modes were examined in the form of the sums

$$Q_i = \varepsilon \sum_{n=1}^i a_n^m \bar{Q}_n, \quad P_i = \varepsilon^2 \sum_{n=1}^i b_n^{m-1} \bar{Q}_n \quad (2.2)$$

and the following quantities were calculated:

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_1 &= \max_{k=1, \dots, 49} |GQ_i(r) + \lambda^2(1 - P_i(r))Q_i(r)|_{r=r_k} \\ \gamma_2 &= \max_{k=1, \dots, 49} |GP_i(r) + 1/2 Q_i^2(r)|_{r=r_k} \\ (\lambda^2 &= T_i(z^{m-1}(\varepsilon), \varepsilon), r_k = k/50) \end{aligned}$$

which it is natural to designate as errors because they are obtained on substituting the approximations (2.2) to the buckling modes into (1.1).

Results of computations for $\delta = 10^{-15}$ are presented in the table.

ε	i	γ_1	γ_2	m	λ
0.5	55	1.19·10 ⁻⁵	2.33·10 ⁻⁵	8	3.8493
0.5	60	8.5·10 ⁻⁶	2.1·10 ⁻⁵	8	3.8493
1	60	7.06·10 ⁻⁵	8.55·10 ⁻⁵	11	3.9029
2	5	0.133	9.95·10 ⁻²	20	4.1300
2	20	1.73·10 ⁻²	1.04·10 ⁻²	20	4.1301
2	30	7.1·10 ⁻³	4.26·10 ⁻³	20	4.1301
2	60	6.53·10 ⁻⁴	3.71·10 ⁻⁴	20	4.1301
2.3	60	1.06·10 ⁻³	5.1·10 ⁻⁴	24	4.2343

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