2.081J/16.230J Plates and Shells

Homework #4 Due date: class on Monday March 13

Problem 1 Develop an optimal design for a steel and aluminum panel.



The material properties are given the following table:

| | Steel (s) | Aluminum (a) |
|------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| E | $210 \ GPa$ | $70 \ GPa$ |
| σ_y | $300\ MPa$ | $300 \ MPa$ |
| ρ | $7800 \ kg/m^3$ | $2700 \ kg/m^{3}$ |

(a) Calculate the effective width for steel and aluminum panels, $(b_{eff})_s$ and $(b_{eff})_a$.

(b) Determine the number of longitudinal stiffeners for optimal design in each case, N_s and N_a .

(c) Find the maximum total force that the panel can support, $(P_u)_s$ and $(P_u)_a$.

(e) Compute the weight of the steel and aluminum panels, W_s and W_a (without counting the weight of stiffeners).

Note that we know from practice that optimum stiffeners will weigh approximately the same as the plate to which they are attached.



Problem 2 Consider a cold-form steel ($E = 210 \ GPa, \nu = 0.3$) open channel section column.

where $b_1 = 0.1 \ m, \ b_2 = 0.05 \ m, \ l = 3.5 \ m$, and $h = 0.001 \ m$.

(a) Determine the magnitude of the global Euler buckling load, $(P_{cr})_{column}$.

(b) Determine the local plate buckling load, $(P_{cr})_{plate}$.

(c) Replace now the open channel section with a closed rectangular section by adding (welding) additional top plate with the same thickness, h. How much will the global and local buckling load increase?

(d) For the rectangular section, can you come up with an optimal solution in which the local and global buckling loads are the same? Here, keep the length of the flanges $(b_1 \text{ and } b_2)$ unchanged, but change the thickness of the section.

(e) What will be the percentage of weight advantage and possible gain or loss in strength?