

# Plate Design

ME 313: Mechanical Design  
Week 5



## Definition of Plate

- ▶ A flat component that takes the load on its surface
- ▶ The main mechanism of load resistance is bending



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## Plate Governing Equation

- ▶ Much like beam bending, plate bending also has a governing equation

$$\frac{\partial^4 v}{\partial x^4} + \frac{\partial^4 v}{\partial x^2 \partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^4 v}{\partial y^4} = \frac{P}{D}$$

- ▶ where  $v$  (*English letter v*) is the deflection,  $P$  is the load, and  $D$  is the bending rigidity of plate

$$D = \frac{Et^3}{12(1-\nu^2)}$$

- ▶ where  $E$  is the modulus of elasticity,  $t$  is the thickness of the plate, and  $\nu$  (*Greek letter nu*) is the Poisson's ratio



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## Plate Deflection Under Loads

- ▶ Deflection depends on various things
  - ▶ Plate shape: circular or rectangular
  - ▶ Boundary conditions: fixed (clamped) or simple support
- ▶ We will go through the equations for plate deflections for each case

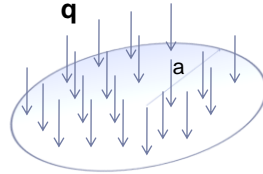


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## Circular Plate with Uniform Load

- ▶ Clamped edges
  - ▶ Maximum deflection

$$v_{\max} = \frac{qa^4}{64D}$$



- ▶ Maximum stress

$$\sigma_{\max} = \frac{3}{4} \frac{qa^2}{t^2}$$

- ▶ where  $q$  is the magnitude of load per area (pressure)

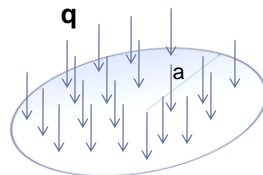


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## Circular Plate with Uniform Load

- ▶ Simply supported edges
  - ▶ Maximum deflection

$$v_{\max} = \frac{(5+\nu)qa^4}{64(1+\nu)D}$$



- ▶ Maximum stress

$$\sigma_{\max} = \frac{3(3+\nu)qa^2}{8t^2}$$

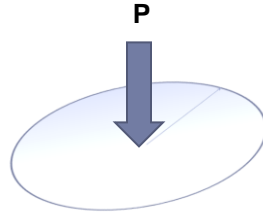


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## Circular Plate Loaded at the Center

- ▶ Clamped edges
  - ▶ Maximum deflection

$$v_{\max} = \frac{Pa^2}{16\pi D}$$



- ▶ Simply supported edges

$$v_{\max} = \frac{(3+\nu)Pa^2}{16\pi(1+\nu)D}$$

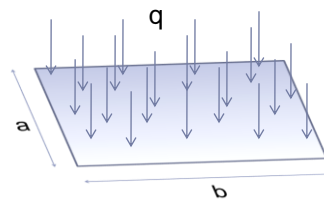


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## Rectangular Plate under Uniform Loading

- ▶ Clamped edges
  - ▶ Maximum deflection

$$v_{\max} = \frac{\alpha qa^4}{D}$$



b/a	$\alpha$
1.0	0.00126
1.5	0.00220
2.0	0.00254

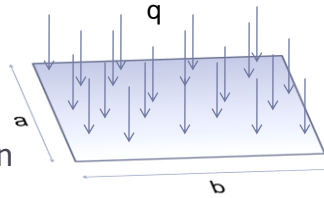


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## Rectangular Plate under Uniform Loading

### ▶ Clamped edges

- ▶ Maximum stress can be calculated from bending moment
- ▶ There are bending moments both in x and y directions



$$\sigma_{\max} = \frac{6M_{\text{bending}}}{t^2}$$

$$M_{\text{bending}} = \beta q a^2$$

b/a	$\beta_x$	$\beta_y$
1.0	-0.0513	-0.0513
1.5	-0.0757	-0.0570
2.0	-0.0829	-0.0571



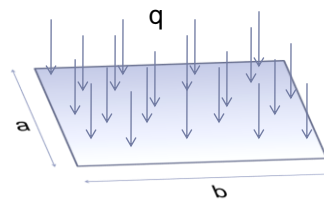
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## Rectangular Plate under Uniform Loading

### ▶ Simply supported edges

- ▶ Maximum deflection

$$v_{\max} = \frac{\alpha q a^4}{D}$$



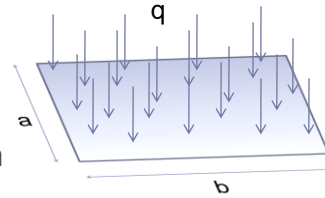
b/a	$\alpha$
1.0	0.00406
1.5	0.00772
2.0	0.01013



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## Rectangular Plate under Uniform Loading

- ▶ Simply supported edges
  - ▶ Maximum stress can be calculated from bending moment
  - ▶ There are bending moment both in x and y directions



$$\sigma_{\max} = \frac{6M_{\text{bending}}}{t^2}$$

$$M_{\text{bending}} = \beta q a^2$$

b/a	$\beta_x$	$\beta_y$
1.0	0.0479	0.0479
1.5	0.0812	0.0498
2.0	0.1017	0.0464

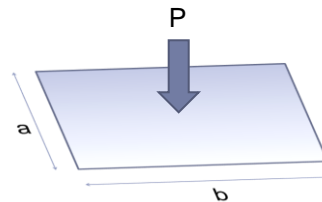


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## Rectangular Plate under Central Load

- ▶ Clamped edges
  - ▶ Maximum deflection

$$v_{\max} = \frac{\alpha P a^2}{D}$$



b/a	$\alpha$
1.0	0.00560
1.5	0.00702
2.0	0.00722

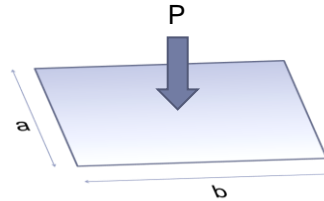


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## Rectangular Plate under Central Load

- ▶ Simply supported edges
- ▶ Maximum deflection

$$v_{\max} = \frac{\alpha P a^2}{D}$$



b/a	$\alpha$
1.0	0.01160
1.5	0.01527
2.0	0.01651



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## Plate Design Conclusion

1. Know the requirements: stress and/or deflection
2. Choose the shapes
3. Determine shape parameters: radius, or length x width
4. Compute maximum deflection/stress
5. Is the design satisfactory?
  - ▶ If not, make appropriate adjustments



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## Shell Design

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## Shell Structures

- ▶ Curved thin component
  - ▶ Thickness must be much smaller than radius of curvature

$$t \ll r$$

- ▶ Used in roofs, walls, containers, ...



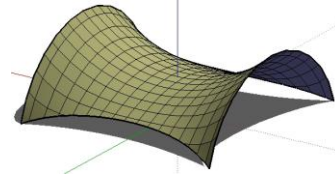
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## Shell Curvature

- Defined by Gaussian curvature

$$K = \frac{1}{R_x} \times \frac{1}{R_y}$$



- $K > 0$
- $K = 0$
- $K < 0$



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## Governing Equation

$$\frac{N_x}{R_x} + \frac{N_y}{R_y} = P$$

- Force per length depends on the radius of curvature
- This is called *membrane equation*



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## Applications of Shell Equation

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- ▶ Spherical pressure vessels
- ▶ Cylindrical pressure vessels



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## Example: Dented Coke Can

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