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# Experimental and numerical analysis of textile composite draping on a square box. Influence of the weave pattern

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### Abstract

Draping of composite textile reinforcements on a square box was analyzed experimentally and by numerical simulation. This forming is difficult for fabrics with continuous fibers due to the quasi inextensibility of the fibers. It is shown that the feasibility of draping on a square box with a large depth depends on the weave pattern of the textile reinforcement. Simultaneous forming of several plies without defects is also obtained. A simulation approach based on stress resultant shell finite elements gives results in agreement with the experiments, in particular with regard to the development (or not) of wrinkling. This numerical simulations show that the characteristics of tension, in-plane shear and bending of the textile reinforcement take into account the type of weave pattern and have a major role to play in the feasibility of draping. In particular, it is shown that the ratio of in-plane shear stiffness to bending stiffness of a satin weave reinforcement is favorable for draping it over a square box without wrinkling.

**Keywords**: Draping, Square box, Textile composite reinforcements, Weaving pattern, Mechanical properties, Wrinkling.

### **1. Introduction**

The forming of textile reinforcements is often necessary to produce composite parts of complex geometry, generally with double curvatures. This forming, often called draping,

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concerns dry reinforcements (without a matrix) in Liquid Composite Molding (LCM) processes [1-5], thermoset prepregs [6-9] or thermoplastic prepregs [9-14]. Although these processes are different, the forming operation is driven by the textile reinforcement. The mechanical behavior of textile reinforcements during the forming process is very specific due to their fibrous composition, which makes relative slippage of the fibers possible but forces the fibers to be almost inextensible. Consequently, the draping processes are often challenging. The parameters that condition the forming process of a given shape are numerous and include the nature of the textile reinforcement, the efforts on the tools, friction and the manufacturing speed. Numerical simulation of the draping process is an important tool as it makes it possible to determine the feasibility of draping and the optimum parameters and thus avoid costly development of the process through trial and error.

For the analysis of processes, materials, constitutive laws and simulation approaches, different geometries that constitute test cases or benchmarks are considered. Among them, the square box or square cup is a classic shape and corresponds to some industrial parts. It is much used as a test case for ductile metals that can be formed on this geometry thanks to possible axial strains. This geometry was taken as a benchmark at the NUMISHEET 1993 conference and is commonly used for metal forming analysis [15, 16].

When draping textile composite reinforcements, the modes of deformation during forming are different. The fibers are nearly inextensible and the membrane deformations that are necessary to obtain double curved geometries are mainly in-plane shear strains corresponding to angle changes between warp and weft directions. The hemispherical shape is widely used as a test for the analysis of the draping of woven composite reinforcements [17-22] and the forming of non-crimp fabrics [23-26]. The forming on this shape gives rise to significant in-plane shear, but can be performed without defect for a large part of the textile reinforcements when blank holders are used [27]. Other geometries are also used to analyze the draping of

textile reinforcements of composites. The double dome has been proposed as a forming benchmark [28-32]. The tetrahedral shape is interesting because it corresponds to case corner parts [33-36].

Although the square box is a basic geometry which is used for the analysis of deep drawing of metallic materials, limited knowledge exists about the forming of textile reinforcements with continuous fibers on a this shape. Publications and results are rare both from an experimental and simulation point of view. Draping on a square box is sometimes considered impossible when the stamping depth is large. The few forming experiments on a square box presented in articles result in significant wrinkling in the corners of the square box [37,38]. Bae et al. analysed the thermoforming of carbon fiber/epoxy prepregs with a square-cup geometry [39]. They achieved a satisfactory forming for a depth/width ratio equal to 0.2, but a ratio equal to 0.4 leads to significant wrinkling and shrinkage. Some simulations of square box forming have been proposed, but they show wrinkles after forming and are not compared to experiments [20, 40].

The objective of this article is to analyze and understand draping of textile reinforcements on a square box with a significant depth (Fig. 1). This draping is difficult, but wrinkling-free stamping are achieved are obtained under certain conditions and in particular for some weave patterns. These formings are carried out for a single ply or for stacks of plies of different orientations. The objective is also to show that the deformation of the textile reinforcement and in particular the onset and development of wrinkling can be predicted by a simulation approach based on stress resultant shells. These simulations make it possible to highlight the reasons for the onset of wrinkling or not. They are based on the behavior of tension, in-plane shear and bending of the textile reinforcement. It is shown that these behaviors are relevant to take into account the influence of the weave pattern which leads to draping with or without wrinkling. Although the wrinkle development is a global problem which requires a simulation taking into account all the parameters, this study showed that the ratios between the different stiffnesses have an important role in the formation of wrinkles, in particular the ratio between in-plane shear stiffness and bending stiffness.



Fig. 1. Geometry of the tools for the square box forming.

### 2. Mechanical properties of composite reinforcements.

### 2.1. Presentation of the two studied textile reinforcements

Two textile reinforcements were considered. Fig. 2a displays a glass plain weave and Fig. 2b presents a carbon 5 harness satin. The geometrical characteristics and the areal densities are given in Table 1.

Type of fabric	Plain weave	5 harness satin
Manufacturer	Hexcel	Hexcel
Thickness (mm)	0.12	0.3
Fiber type	Glass	Carbon
	(EC 968)	(HexTow IM7 GP 6 K)
Number of fibers per yarn	1000	6000
Areal density (g/m <sup>2</sup> )	160	290
Number of warp yarns per cm	11.8	6.5
Number of weft yarns per cm	10.7	6.5
Mass distribution of warp yarns (%)	52	50

Table 1. Properties of the two textile fabrics.



Fig. 2. (a) Glass plain weave. (b) Carbon 5 harness satin.

### 2.2. Stress resultant shell approach for textile reinforcements

Given the small or moderate thickness of the textile reinforcements, a shell approach is used to simulate the draping of the textile reinforcement and more specifically a stress resultant shell approach specific to woven fabrics [41]. The tensions  $T^{11}$  and  $T^{22}$  in the warp and weft yarns, the in-plane shear moment  $C_{\gamma}$  and the bending moments  $M^{11}$  and  $M^{22}$  are stress resultants on a woven unit cell (Fig. 3) and represent the stress field in the textile reinforcement. Within the framework of a dynamic approach, the virtual work theorem can, for any virtual displacement, be written on the boundary with prescribed displacements:

$$\delta W_{ext} - \delta W_{int} - \delta W_{acc} = 0 \tag{1}$$

Here,  $\delta W_{ext}$ ,  $\delta W_{int}$ ,  $\delta W_{acc}$ , are the virtual works of external, internal and acceleration quantities.



Fig. 3. Stress resultants on a unit cell.

In stress resultant shell approaches for textile reinforcement, the virtual internal work is composed of the works of tension  $\delta W_i$ , in-plane shear  $\delta W_s$ , and bending  $\delta W_b$  and takes the following form [41]:

$$\frac{\delta W_{\text{int}} = \delta W_t + \delta W_s + \delta W_b}{\sum_{p=1}^{ncell} P \delta \varepsilon_{11} P T^{11P} L_1 + P \delta \varepsilon_{22} P T^{22P} L_2}{\text{Tension}} + \underbrace{\sum_{p=1}^{ncell} P \delta \gamma^P C_{\gamma}}_{\text{In plane shear}} + \underbrace{\sum_{p=1}^{ncell} P \delta \chi_{11} P M^{11P} L_1 + P \delta \chi_{22} P M^{22P} L_2}_{\text{Bending}} \qquad (2)$$

In Eq. (2),  ${}^{p}A$  is the quantity A for the woven unit cell number p, *ncell* is the number of woven cells in the textile reinforcement,  $\delta \epsilon_{11}$  and  $\delta \epsilon_{22}$  are respectively the virtual axial strains in the warp and weft directions,  $\delta \gamma$  is the virtual in-plane shear angle and  $\delta \chi_{11}$  and  $\delta \chi_{22}$  are the virtual bending curvatures in the warp and weft directions. The mechanical behavior of the textile reinforcement is given by the tensions  $T^{11}$  and  $T^{22}$  as a function of the axial strains  $\epsilon_{11}$  and  $\epsilon_{22}$ , the in-plane shear moment  $C_{\gamma}$  as a function of the in-plane shear angle  $\gamma$  and the bending moments  $M^{11}$  and  $M^{22}$  as a function of the curvatures  $\chi_{11}$  and  $\chi_{22}$ .

Eq. (2) is a shell approach based on the stress resultants  $T^{11}$  and  $T^{22}$ ,  $C_7$ ,  $M^{11}$  and  $M^{22}$ . It is a simplified approach and, in addition, the coupling between the stiffness of different deformation modes are not taken into account. Although some works have shown that couplings exist, [42-46], the choice was made not to consider them in this study for reasons of simplicity but also because of the difficulty in obtaining experimental data. The approach given in Eq. (2) involves the bending behavior of the textile reinforcement. Simulations of the draping of textile reinforcements based on membrane approaches (no bending stiffness) have been developed [19, 23, 32, 47-49]. However, it has been shown that accounting for the bending stiffness is highly important for the simulation of wrinkling [36, 50-55]. To perform a draping simulation based on Eq. (2), it is necessary to know the tension, plane shear and bending behaviors of the textile reinforcement. As in most shell theories, compaction strains in the thickness are not considered. To analyze the mechanical behavior through the thickness, it would be necessary to carry out simulations based on 3D elements [35, 56-58] or solid-shell elements [59, 60]. A shell approach is relevant for the analysis of the draping on a square box.

### 2.3. Mechanical characteristics of textile reinforcements.

### 2.3.1. In-plane shear properties

In-plane shear properties of the two studied woven fabrics were obtained by a bias extension test (Fig. 4). This test and the picture frame test were the two main experiments for the analysis of the behavior of textile reinforcements in plane shear. They have given rise to numerous researches [61-68].

Fig. 4a shows the geometry of the bias extension test specimen. The yarns of the fabric were oriented at  $\pm 45^{\circ}$  from the tensile direction. The specimen was subjected to in-plane shear and

three constant shear zones developed. The shear angle in the central area of the specimen could be measured by optical measurements or deduced from the elongation of the specimen by assuming the yarns were inextensible.

The shear moment  $C_{\gamma}$  in Eq. (2) is related to the tensile force *F* on the specimen measured for a shear angle  $\gamma$  by stating the equality of the powers developed by the test machine and by the shear of the specimen [64, 65].

$$C_{\gamma}(\gamma) = \frac{FD}{\ell(2D-\ell)} \left( \cos\frac{\gamma}{2} - \sin\frac{\gamma}{2} \right) - \frac{\ell}{2D-\ell} C_{s}\left(\frac{\gamma}{2}\right)$$
(3)





Fig. 4. (a) Bias extension test. (b) Force versus shear angle for the two fabrics.

Dimensions D and  $\ell$  are defined in Fig. 4a. Since it is simple to implement, this bias extension test is frequently used. The curves Fig. 4b show that, although its density is significantly lower, the shear stiffness of glass plain weave is slightly higher than that of carbon satin weave for angles smaller than 25° (although the glass plain weave is only a third of the thickness). For larger angles, the carbon satin is stiffer. The in-plane shear properties used in the simulations carried out in sections 4 to 6 are given in Table 2.

Table 2. In-plane shear p	properties of the two fabrics.
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Materials	In-plane shear moment (N mm)	
	$C_{\gamma}(\gamma) = K_1 \gamma + K_2 \gamma^3 + K_3 \gamma^5$	
Plain weave E-Glass	$K_1 = 1.66 \times 10^{-2} \pm 6 \times 10^{-4}, K_2 = 1.46 \times 10^{-2} \pm 7 \times 10^{-4},$	
	$K_3 = -4.19 \times 10^{-3} \pm 5.6 \times 10^{-4}$	
Carbon 5 harness satin	$K_1 = 6.44 \times 10^4 \pm 5.6 \times 10^{-5}, K_2 = 5.95 \times 10^{-2} \pm 5.9 \times 10^{-3},$	
	$K_3 = 1.07 \times 10^{-1} \pm 1.5 \times 10^{-2}$	

2.3.2. Bending properties



Fig. 5. Cantilever bending test. (a) Glass plain weave. (b) Carbon 5 harness satin weave.

The cantilever bending test initiated by Pierce [69] is performed by subjecting a specimen to its own weight [54, 70-72]. Although viscoelastic models of bending behavior have been proposed for fibrous reinforcement bending [73-76], it is assumed here that the bending behavior is elastic. Fig. 5 shows this bending test in the case of the glass plain weave and carbon satin weave. A simple way to analyze the test is to advance the specimen until it touches a plane inclined at 41.5° and measure the distance  $\ell$  along this plane. Assuming a linear relationship between the bending moment M and the curvature  $\chi$ , and denoting w the weight per unit length of the specimen, the bending behavior is given by [69]:

$$M = G\chi \qquad \qquad G = \frac{\ell^3}{8}w \tag{4}$$

The bending properties of the two fabrics are given in Table 3. The satin weave was much stiffer in bending than the plain weave.

Table 3. Bending	stiffness	of the	two	fabrics.
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Materials	Bending stiffness G (N·mm)	
Plain weave E-Glass	$0.102 \pm 0.016$	
Carbon 5 harness satin	$3.42 \pm 0.44$	

### 2.3.3. Tensile properties

The tension stiffnesses of the woven fabrics are large. The behavior is biaxial since the extensions of the fabric in the warp and weft directions were coupled by the weave [77-80]. However, for the sake of simplicity, the tensile behavior was assumed to be linear and decoupled (Table 4).

Materials	Tensile stiffness (N/mm)
Plain weave E-Glass	1440
Carbon 5 harness satin	29300

**Table 4.** Tensile stiffness of the two fabrics.

## 3. Square box draping experiments



Fig. 6. Square box forming of a single ply oriented at 0-90°.(a) Glass plain weave. (b) Carbon satin weave.

The square box forming process, whose tool geometry is shown in Fig. 1., was carried out for both fabrics. The blank holder put a 0.05-MPa pressure on the exterior part of the fabric and the punch moved 75mm at a speed of 45 mm/min. The depth/width ratio is 0.75. The shaping was carried out for a 0-90° orientation (Fig. 6) (yarns parallel to the edges of the square box) and a  $\pm 45^{\circ}$  orientation (Fig. 7).



# Fig. 7. Square box forming of a single ply oriented at ±45°.(a) Glass plain weave. (b) Carbon satin.

Experimental results of the square box forming are shown in Figs. 6a and 7a for the glass plain weave and in Figs. 6b and 7b for the carbon satin. It can be seen that the forming of the satin weave was possible without wrinkling of the reinforcement in this case with a significant depth/width ratio of 0.75. Conversely, the forming of the glass plain weave on the square box led to a significant amount of wrinkles. The square box shape could not be reached with this plain weave reinforcement. These experiments demonstrate that the weaving pattern of textile reinforcement strongly conditioned the possibility of draping.

Some publications claim that satin weave leads to good drapability [81] without this quantity being clearly defined and quantified. In [61, 62, 66, 82-84], the possibility to carry out a forming is related to the in-plane shear characteristics and the locking angle. It will be seen in the following that this is not sufficient and that, in particular, the bending characteristics play an important role.

### 4. Simulation of the square box forming

### 4.1. Stress resultant shell finite elements

Based on the virtual work theorem (Eqs. (1) and (2)), a stress resultant shell element has been developed in Hamila et al. [41] and was used in the present work. The element is composed of elementary woven cells (Fig. 3) and is rotation free, i.e. without any degree of freedom in rotation. It uses the position of the nodes of the neighboring elements to determine the curvatures and the internal bending forces [85]. The expressions of the nodal tensile, shear and bending loads are briefly presented in Appendix A.

### 4.2 Simulation of the square box forming

The draping processes on a square box presented in Figs. 6 and 7 were simulated using the stress resultant shell finite elements and the mechanical characteristics of the two textile reinforcements identified in section 2.3.



Fig. 8. Simulation of a square box forming.(a) Glass plain weave and (b) carbon satin weave, oriented at 0-90°

Simulation results of the square box forming (Figs. 8 and 9) were consistent with the experiments. Simulations of the draping of the satin weave reinforcement led well to forming without wrinkling for both orientations whereas the simulations of the forming of glass plain weave led to important wrinkles. Fig. 10 show the large shear angles obtained by the simulation of the forming of the carbon satin weave for a 50 mm displacement of the punch.



Fig. 9. Simulation of a square box forming.

(a) Glass plain weave and (b) carbon satin weave, oriented at  $\pm 45^{\circ}$ 



Fig. 10. Shear angles in the simulation of the forming of a carbon satin weave on a square box.

### 5.3. Importance of the weave pattern.

The great difference in drapability of the two studied woven fabrics is linked to their weave pattern which determines the internal geometry of the fabric and influences their mechanical characteristics. These mechanical properties taken into account in the global dynamic equation during forming (Eqs. (1) and (2)) lead to a deformation of the textile reinforcement in its plane or to an out-of-plane displacement i.e. wrinkling. This depends on all process parameters (geometry, boundary conditions, and material characteristics). Among these characteristics, the bending stiffness decreases the tendency to wrinkling while the in-plane shear stiffness increases it. A high ratio of in-plane shear stiffness to bending stiffness increases the tendency to wrinkling. The weave pattern of the textile reinforcement conditions its internal architecture and defines this ratio. For the two textile reinforcements studied, it is significantly lower in the case of satin weave because its bending rigidity is high. In a similar way, a thick 3D composite reinforcement with high bending stiffness has shown its ability to be formed without wrinkling on complex double-curved shapes such as tetrahedral without blank holder [86, 87].

Furthermore, it is not possible to conclude whether or not wrinkling develops only from the shear locking angle (i.e., the shear angle at which wrinkles are assumed to develop) as proposed in some studies [61, 62, 66, 82-84]. The shear angle obtained on the vertical edges of the square box with the satin weave was 69° (experimental) and 67° (numerical). These angle are greater than the shear locking angle of the satin weave. They are obtained without wrinkling because of the tensions imposed by the forming process.

The type of fiber (glass or carbon) is not an essential issue. Fig. 11 shows the square box forming for a carbon plain weave [37]. The properties of this carbon plain weave fabric are given in Table 5. Very severe wrinkles made draping impossible.





Wrinkles

Fig. 11. Square box forming of a carbon plain weave.

Table 5. Properties of the carbon pla	ain weave.
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Type of fabric	Plain weave
Manufacturer	Toho-Tenax
Thickness (mm)	0.1
Fiber type	Carbon
Number of filaments per yarn	12000
Areal density(g/m <sup>2</sup> )	500
Number of warp yarns per cm	5
Number of weft yarns per cm	5
Mass distribution of warp yarns (%)	50

### 5. Simultaneous forming of four plies with different fiber orientations

The square box forming of a stack with four layers with different orientation is carried out experimentally (Fig. 12). Such draping process is known to be difficult. Indeed the displacements and deformations of the differently oriented layers are not the same due to the inextensibility of the fibers which takes place in different directions [19, 88-90]. Substantial slippage between the plies occur and wrinkles were frequently observed. Experimental analysis and simulation are presented here only for the satin weave reinforcement. The draping of the plain weave reinforcement which led to significant wrinkling for one layer (Figs. 6a and 7a) is not possible for several layers of different orientations.



Fig. 12. Square box forming of four plies  $[0^{\circ}/90^{\circ}, -45^{\circ}/45^{\circ}]_2$ . (a) Experiment. (b) Simulation.

Fig. 12 displays the result of the experimental forming and the corresponding simulation. It can be seen that the forming of the four plies of satin weave with different orientation it gives a satisfactory result without wrinkling. This is well achieved by the simulation. In these

multilayer drapings, the differing orientation of the plies leads to significant slippage between the layers, which can be clearly seen in Fig. 12.

## 6. Experiments and simulations of hemispherical formings.

This article mainly concerns the forming of textile reinforcements on a square box. However, it is interesting to see if the conclusions obtained for the square box, in particular the influence of the weave pattern, are also valid for a classical shape such as the hemisphere. The hemisphere is a simple shape but clearly double curved and requires large in-plane shear deformations to be achieved.



Fig. 13. Hemispherical forming of plain weave and satin weave textile reinforcements.



Fig. 14. Simulation of a single ply hemispherical forming.

Both plain weave and satin weave single layers are formed without wrinkling (Fig. 13) [91]. The simulations are in good agreement with experiments both in terms of the absence of wrinkles and the values of the shear angles (Fig. 14). The deformations obtained for the two reinforcements are almost identical.

Forming four plies with different orientations leads to wrinkling in the case of plane weave fabric Fig. 15a. On the contrary, Fig. 15b illustrates that the simultaneous forming of four carbon satin plies could be done wrinkle-free. This example confirms the greater drapability of carbon satin weave. The simulations are in good agreement and show the wrinkling for plain weave and their absence in the case of satin weave (Fig. 16).





(a)



Fig. 15. Hemispherical forming of four plies [0°/90°, -45°/45°]<sub>2</sub>.
(a) Glass plain weave. (b) Carbon satin weave.



Fig. 16. Simulation of the hemispherical forming of four plies [0°/90°, -45°/45°]<sub>2</sub>.
(a) Glass plain weave. (b) Carbon satin weave.

In brief, while it is possible to form a single plain weave ply on a hemisphere, draping remains more difficult for the plain weave, which leads to wrinkles when forming four plies of different orientation. Satin weave, on the other hand, makes it possible to form such shapes without defects. Simulations predict in a relevant way whether or not wrinkling will occur.

### 7. Conclusion

Draping textile reinforcements with continuous fibers on a square box with a large depth is difficult and often leads to wrinkling. In the present work, in the case of one and several satin weave plies, draping processes on a square box was carried out without wrinkling. The weaving pattern of the satin fabric leads to mechanical characteristics with a low in-plane shear stiffness/bending stiffness ratio. A high in-plane shear stiffness favours the development of wrinkles, whereas a high bending stiffness tends to keep the fabric in its plane and avoid wrinkling. It has been shown that modelling based on stress resultant shells makes it possible to simulate drapings on a square box and to predict the development or not of wrinkling in agreement with experiments.

The study presented concerns two textile reinforcements. It will be necessary to carry out draping on square boxes with textile reinforcements with different weave patterns and to check if the in-plane shear stiffness/bending stiffness ratio is indeed determining in the development of the wrinkling. The onset and development of wrinkling during forming is a global problem that depends on geometry, boundary conditions and material characteristics. Predicting the wrinkling requires an overall simulation of the process. Nevertheless, for all other things being equal, the in-plane shear stiffness/bending stiffness/bending stiffness ratio can be an indicator of the drapability of the textile reinforcement.

### **Declaration of Competing Interest**

The authors report no declarations of interest.

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#### Appendix A. Nodal internal loads of the stress resultant shell element

The three-node shell element based on Eq. (2) uses standard linear interpolation functions. The material coordinates  $r^{1}$  and  $r^{2}$  are defined along the warp and weft yarns. From these coordinates, the material vectors  $k_{1}$  and  $k_{2}$  are defined:

$$\underline{k}_1 = \frac{\partial \underline{x}}{\partial r^1} \quad \underline{k}_2 = \frac{\partial \underline{x}}{\partial r^2} \tag{A1}$$

The elementary nodal loads respectively of tension, in plane shear and bending, are defined by the virtual works of tension, in-plane shear and bending in the element  $\delta W_t^e$ ,  $\delta W_s^e$ ,  $\delta W_b^e$ :

$$\delta W_t^e = \delta u^{eT} F_t^e \qquad \delta W_s^e = \delta u^{eT} F_s^e \qquad \delta W_b^e = \delta u^{eT} F_b^e \tag{A2}$$

Here,  $\delta u^{e}$  is the virtual nodal displacement. Given the form of  $\delta W_{t}$ ,  $dW_{s}$ ,  $dW_{b}$  in Eq. (2), the components of the nodal interior loads are:

Tension: 
$$(F_t^e)_{ij} = ncelle \left( B_{1ij} T^{11} \frac{L_1}{\|\underline{k}_1\|^2} + B_{2ij} T^{22} \frac{L_2}{\|\underline{k}_2\|^2} \right)$$
 (A3)

In-plane shear: 
$$(F_s^e)_{ij} = ncelle B_{\gamma ij} M^s(\gamma)$$
 (A4)

Bending: 
$$(F_b^e)_{km} = ncelle \left( Bb_{1km} M^{11} \frac{L_1}{\|\underline{k}_1\|^2} + Bb_{2km} M^{22} \frac{L_2}{\|\underline{k}_2\|^2} \right)$$
 (A5)

*i* and *j* are the indexes of the direction (*i*=1 to 3)and of the node in the element (*j*=1 to 3). *ncelle* is the number of unit cell in the element. The components of the strain interpolation  $B_{1ij}$  and  $B_{2ij}$  are constant because of the linear interpolation. They are given in Table A1. The in-plane shear interpolation  $B_{\gamma ij}$  is:

$$B_{\gamma i j} = B_{1 i j} \frac{\underline{k}^{l}}{\|\underline{k}_{l}\|} \cdot \frac{\underline{k}^{2}}{\|\underline{k}^{2}\|} + B_{3 i j} \frac{\|\underline{k}^{2}\|}{\|\underline{k}_{l}\|} + B_{4 i j} \frac{\|\underline{k}^{1}\|}{\|\underline{k}_{2}\|} + B_{2 i j} \frac{\underline{k}^{2}}{\|\underline{k}_{2}\|} \cdot \frac{\underline{k}^{l}}{\|\underline{k}_{2}\|}$$
(A6)

 $B_{3ij}$  and  $B_{4ij}$  are given in Table A1.

The curvatures ate given in function of the position of the nodes of the element and its neighbors.

$$\delta \chi_{\alpha\alpha} = B b_{\alpha km} \delta u_{km} \tag{A7}$$

The details of the calculations of the curvature interpolation are given in [41].

**Table A1**: Membrane strain interpolation components. a and b are the lengths of the element

 in warp and weft directions

$B_{1i1} = (a - 1)k_{1i}$	$B_{1i2} = k_{1i}$	$B_{1i3} = -ak_{1i}$
$B_{2i1} = (b - 1)k_{2i}$	$B_{2i2} = -bk_{2i}$	$B_{2i3} = k_{2i}$
$B_{3i1} = (b-1)k_{1i}$	$B_{3i2} = -bk_{1i}$	$B_{3i3} = k_{1i}$
$B_{4i1} = (a \text{-} 1)k_{2i}$	$B_{4i2} = k_{2i}$	$B_{4i3} = -ak_{2i}$

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