

1 On large deformation, damage and failure of ductile plates to  
2 blast loading

3 Ye Yuan<sup>1,2</sup>, P.J. Tan<sup>2\*</sup>

4 <sup>1</sup> *Department of Mechanical Engineering, Imperial College London, Exhibition Road,*  
5 *London SW7 2AZ, UK*

6 <sup>2</sup> *Department of Mechanical Engineering, University College London, Torrington Place,*  
7 *London WC1E 7JE, UK*

---

8 **Abstract**

This paper concerns the irreversible deformation and failure of metal plates to brief, but intense, dynamic (impulsive) load encountered in an air-blast. Hitherto, nearly all of the dynamic structural plasticity models of ‘fully-clamped’ plate only calculates its inelastic (mode I) deformation but have largely ignored damage and failure – exemplified by the partial and/or complete detachment (modes II\*, II and III) of a plate from its support through material rupture – that occurs when the blast load is sufficiently intense. An analytical model that captures all three modes of the plate deformation is developed in this paper where emphasis shall be on providing the simplest formulation that contains all the essence of a material and deformation effect needed to quantify the problem. The proposed model adopts an energy density failure criterion of Shen and Jones (1992) to delineate the various inelastic failure modes; employs the constitutive framework of limit analysis for simplicity; accounts for the simultaneous influence of bending, membrane stretch and transverse shear through an interaction yield criterion; and, include the effects of strain rate on the material flow stress through the Cowper-Symonds relation. Accuracy of model predictions for square mild-steel plates are assessed through comparison with experimental data and results from finite element analysis compiled from the literature for a range of impulsive load intensities - they will be shown to be in good general agreement. Design maps delineating the different deformation régimes for different combinations of blast impulse and length versus thickness ratio are constructed for plates of equal mass.

9 *Keywords:* Plates, Damage, Energy density failure criterion, Progressive tearing,  
10 Strain-rate effect

---

\*Corresponding author

*Email addresses:* ye.yuan1@ic.ac.uk (Ye Yuan<sup>1,2</sup>), pj.tan@ucl.ac.uk (P.J. Tan<sup>2</sup> )

## 11 1. Introduction

12 The demand for lighter designs is a continuing trend in structural applications and the con-  
13 sequential need to predict how light-weight components, composed of relatively thin ductile  
14 materials, respond to extreme load cases arising from blast and/or local impact is of in-  
15 creasing importance in design calculations [1–4]. Hitherto, nearly all the dynamic structural  
16 plasticity models of ‘fully-clamped’ ductile plate calculate only its mode I (inelastic) defor-  
17 mation. Here, we develop an analytical model that could predict the mode II, II\* and III  
18 deformations of the ductile plate - these modes of deformation are exemplified by the partial  
19 and complete plate detachment from its support through material rupture.

20 Unlike a simple cantilever, the transverse deformation of a plate involves two spatial coordi-  
21 nates and the effects of large deflection are inevitably linked with in-plane stretching that  
22 soon dominates the development of its plastic deformation. Hence, the coupling between  
23 flexure, stretch and shear follows directly as a consequence of both the plastic flow law and of  
24 large deflections through the equations of motion [5]. In addition, the structural deformation  
25 is also influenced by second-order effects, such as rate dependent material properties. The  
26 emphasis of this paper is on modelling the structural response of a fully-clamped, monolithic  
27 plate rather than the interactions between blast wave and structure such as those modelled  
28 in [6, 7]; and, to reduce the complexity of the analysis by providing the simplest possible  
29 model formulation that contains all the essence of a material and deformation effect needed  
30 to capture the physics of the problem.

### Nomenclature

$a$	half length of square plate
$c$	length of plastic hinge
$d$	distance from plate corner when complete detachment occurs
$h$	plate thickness
$I^*, \hat{I}$	non-dimensional impulse and impulse per unit area
$m = \rho h$	mass per unit area
$M$	bending moment
$M_P = 4\rho a^2 h$	total mass of plate
$M_0, M_d$	static and dynamic fully plastic bending moment
$n$	material hardening coefficient
$N$	membrane force
$N_0, N_d$	static and dynamic fully plastic membrane force
$q, \dot{\epsilon}_0$	material constants for Cowper-Symonds constitutive equation
$Q$	transverse shear force
$Q_0, Q_d$	static and dynamic fully plastic transverse shear force
$t$	time
$T$	kinetic energy of one-quarter plate

$T_f$	residual energy of one-quarter plate
$T_0$	initial kinetic energy of one-quarter plate
$V_0 = \hat{I}/m$	initial velocity
$W$	transverse plate displacement
$W_f$	maximum central deflection
$W_P(t)$	temporal central deflection
$W_S(t)$	temporal plastic shear sliding at support
$\beta$	$\Pi_S^s/(\Pi_S^b + \Pi_S^m + \Pi_S^s)$
$\beta_c$	critical $\beta$ value at the transition from modes II to III'
$\eta = a/h$	half length to thickness ratio
$\Delta$	plate elongation
$\Delta W = W - W_S$	relative displacement
$\epsilon_f$	uniaxial rupture strain
$\dot{\epsilon}_m$	uniaxial mean strain rate
$\phi_i(x, y)$	mode functions
$\Omega$	plastic work absorbed per unit area
$\Omega_A, \Omega_B$	$\Omega$ at point $A$ and $B$
$\Omega_c$	critical plastic work absorbed per unit area
$\bar{\Omega}(\triangleq \Omega/\Omega_c), \omega_s$	state variable for ductile and shear damage
$\Pi$	total potential (strain) energy for one-quarter plate
$\Pi_S, \Pi_P$	strain energy absorbed within plate and at support
$\Pi_S^b, \Pi_S^m, \Pi_S^s$	bending, shear, membrane energy at support
$\rho$	density
$\sigma_0, \sigma_d$	static and dynamic yield strength
$\theta$	relative rotation about a straight hinge line
$\xi$	position of travelling plastic hinge line relative to centre of the plate
$\dot{()}$	$\partial()/\partial t$
$\ddot{()}$	$\partial^2()/\partial t^2$

31

32 A considerable body of experimental work on the blast response of ductile structural com-  
33 ponents already exists. One example is the classical experiment by Menkes and Opat [8]  
34 where it was shown that the deformation of fully-clamped aluminium beams under impulsive  
35 blast load can be delineated into three distinct modes: mode I - large inelastic deformation;  
36 mode II - tensile-tearing and deformation; mode III - shear-band localisation. The same  
37 modes were also reported for circular and square plates by Teeling-Smith and Nurick [9] and  
38 Olson et al. [10], respectively. Unlike beams, however, Olson et al. [10] noted that ‘tensile-  
39 tearing’ in square plates initiates at the mid-point of the plate boundary and detachment  
40 (via material rupture) occurs progressively – the extent of which depends on the applied  
41 impulse – along the boundary towards its corners. This ‘partial tearing’ along parts of the  
42 plate boundary is termed mode II\* by Nurick and Shave [11] and Nurick et al. [12]. The  
43 literature also contains a number of detailed three-dimensional finite element (FE) models

44 of the aforesaid that could simulate the different modes of deformation to varying degrees  
45 of accuracy; for example, by Yuan and Tan [13], Gupta and Nagesh [14], Rudrapatna et al.  
46 [15], Olson et al. [10], Ramajeyathilagam and Vendhan [16], to name a few.

47 Typically, analytical models of plastic deformation in ductile plates to impulsive blast load  
48 were formulated within the constitutive framework of limit analysis where, for the conve-  
49 nience of calculating structural response, it is assumed that the stress resultants on any  
50 section, together with the approximation that plane sections remain plane, are related to  
51 the deformation by a rigid-perfectly plastic constitutive equation. Such a simplification pro-  
52 vides a good approximation for elastic-plastic material with negligible strain hardening since  
53 it is the asymptotic limit for stress resultants as curvature becomes indefinitely large [5].  
54 Previous works by Jones et al. [17] and Yu and Chen [18] adopt the aforesaid approach but  
55 both neglect the influence of transverse shear in their yield condition. The effects of trans-  
56 verse shear on plastic yielding during modes II and III deformation were considered by Shen  
57 and Jones [19] and Yuan et al. [20] for beams and, again, by [21] for circular plates. Despite  
58 the good agreement between the predicted mode I deflection of [21] with the experimental  
59 data of [9, 22], there are considerable discrepancies between the predicted critical impulse  
60 at mode I→II transition and the experimental values of [9].

61 In this paper, an analytical model of a fully-clamped square plate subjected to impulsive  
62 blast load is developed which, for the first time, is able to calculate all the three modes of  
63 its deformation. Results for their experimental counter-part were previously reported by  
64 Teeling-Smith and Nurick [9] and Olson et al. [10]. The analytical model is an extension  
65 of the ones developed in [17, 18] to include the following additional features: (1) effects of  
66 material strain rate sensitivity; (2) large inelastic deformation with catenary actions; (3)  
67 effects of transverse shear force at the support; (4) interactions between bending, membrane  
68 and shear in the yield criterion; and (5) modelling the tear initiation and progressive ductile  
69 fracture along the support through an extension of the energy density criterion of Shen  
70 and Jones [19, 21]. Accuracy of the model predictions will be assessed by comparing to  
71 experimental data and finite-element predictions compiled from the literature.

72 The outline of this paper is as follows: Section 2 presents the formulation of the dynamic  
73 structural plasticity model of a fully-clamped ductile plate; comparisons between predictions  
74 by the current analytical model with experimental and numerical data compiled from the  
75 literature are made in Section 3; and, Section 4 presents design charts constructed using the  
76 analytical model that was developed.

## 77 2. Model formulation

78 In this section, we formulate a dynamic structural plasticity model, within the constitutive  
79 framework of limit analysis, for a ‘fully-clamped’ square plate subject to an impulsive blast  
80 load. For definiteness, *damage* shall refer to a state of deformation during which parts of  
81 the plate become partially detached from its support - this occurs for mode II\* deformation

82 [11, 12]. By contrast, *failure* shall refer to a total loss of load carrying capacity by the plate  
 83 following its complete detachment (or severance) from the support - this occurs for modes  
 84 II and III deformation.

85 *2.1. Problem statement*

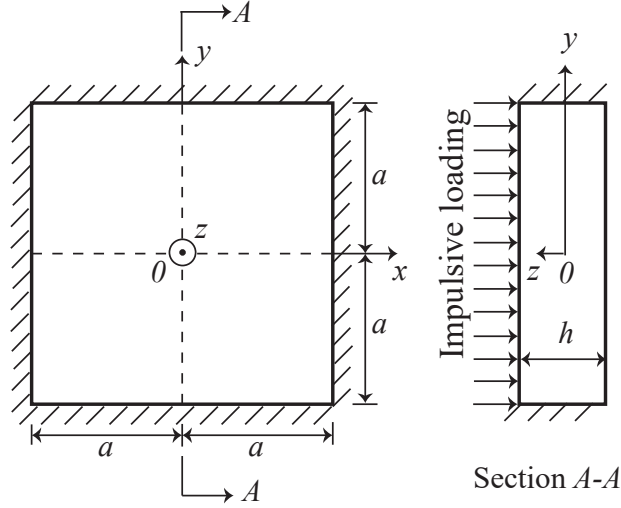


Figure 1: Schematic of a fully clamped square plate (in third-angle projection). Reflectional symmetry exists on two planes: viz.  $(x = 0, -h/2 \leq z \leq h/2)$  and  $(y = 0, -h/2 \leq z \leq h/2)$ .

86 Consider a fully-clamped square plate of side length  $2a$  and uniform thickness  $h$  subjected  
 87 to a uniformly-distributed impulsive load that acts transversely to the  $x$ - $y$  plane, as shown  
 88 schematically in Fig. 1. Symmetry (both loading and geometric) dictates that only one-  
 89 quarter of the full plate needs to be modelled. Following [17–19], a rigid, perfectly-plastic  
 90 material idealisation is also employed here - this simplification of the material constitutive  
 91 law is needed for analytical calculations of structural response to be tractable - where elastic  
 92 deformation of the plate is neglected since its transverse displacement  $W \gg h$ . In accordance  
 93 to the Cowper-Symonds constitutive equation [23], the mean dynamic flow stress of the plate  
 94 can be estimated as

$$\sigma_d = \sigma_0 [1 + (\dot{\epsilon}_m / \dot{\epsilon}_0)^{1/q}] \quad (1)$$

95 where  $\sigma_0$  is the static yield strength;  $\dot{\epsilon}_m$  is the mean uniaxial strain rate; and,  $\dot{\epsilon}_0$  and  
 96  $q$  are material constants. The loading is assumed to be imparted by a blast pulse of a  
 97 much shorter duration compared to the characteristic time needed by the plate to reach  
 98 its maximum transverse displacement, i.e. it is a zero-period *uniform momentum* impulse.  
 99 Hence, the plate acquires an instantaneous velocity given simply by [17–19]

$$V_0 = \hat{I}/m \quad (2)$$

100 where  $\hat{I}$  is the impulse per unit area acting on the plate,  $m = \rho h$  is mass per unit area and  
 101  $\rho$  is the plate density. The zero-period impulse can be non-dimensionalised as follows:

$$I^* = \frac{V_0}{\sqrt{\sigma_0/\rho}}. \quad (3)$$

## 102 2.2. Damage and failure criteria

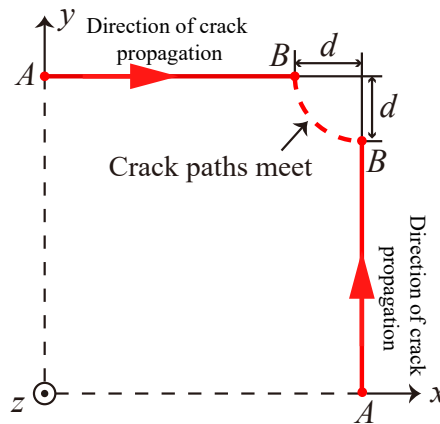


Figure 2: Direction of crack paths propagation along the plate boundary (only one-quarter of the square plate is shown).

103 Experiments by Nurick and Shave [11] showed the following sequence of plate deformation:  
 104 (1) tearing (through material rupture) initiates simultaneously at the mid-point on each  
 105 side of the square plate (points  $A$  in Fig. 2); (2) as the transverse deflection of a plate  
 106 increases, detachment progresses along its boundary, giving rise to two cracks propagating  
 107 in opposite direction on each side; (3) the crack are deflected inwards into the plate to meet  
 108 with the deflected crack from an adjoining side as it reaches a critical distance (points  $B$   
 109 in Fig. 2) to circumvent the corners; and (4) complete plate detachment occurs when the  
 110 two crack paths meet. A recent study by Schiano-Moriello et al. [24] – the detailed results  
 111 will be reported elsewhere – have shown that the inward deflection of the crack path (as it  
 112 approaches a corner) is controlled by the triaxial state of stress: in general, the direction of  
 113 crack propagation follows region(s) with a zero stress triaxiality (i.e. under pure shear). A  
 114 cursory post-mortem examination of the deformed test specimen (see Fig. 12c in Aune et  
 115 al. [2]) shows that  $d = 0.097a$ ; here, it suffices to assume that  $d = a/10$ . To further simplify  
 116 calculations, it is assumed that the time taken for the two cracks to intersect after points  $B$   
 117 (see Fig. 2) is negligibly small compared to the time for a crack to propagate from  $A$  to  $B$ .

118 To quantify the extent and progression of plate detachment, a damage ‘measure’ is proposed  
 119 for each side of the plate – this is based on the energy density damage criterion proposed  
 120 by Shen and Jones [19]. Symmetry of deformation dictates that only one side of the plate

121 (i.e. the side of  $0 \leq x \leq a - d$  and  $y = a$ ) is needed to establish the energy density damage  
 122 criterion which is expressed as

$$\bar{\Omega}(x) \triangleq \frac{\Omega(x)}{\Omega_c} \leq 1 \quad \forall \quad 0 \leq x \leq a - d \quad (4)$$

123 where  $\Omega_c = \sigma_d \epsilon_f h c$  is the critical dissipation of plastic work per unit hinge length and  $\epsilon_f$   
 124 is the uniaxial rupture strain of the plate which may be assumed to be independent of  
 125 the mean uniaxial strain rate  $\dot{\epsilon}_m$ . A similar expression to Eq. 4 can be written for  $\bar{\Omega}(y)$   
 126  $\forall 0 \leq y \leq a - d$ . Here,  $c = \alpha h$  is the width of the plastic hinge (zone) which typically ranges  
 127 between  $0.5 \leq \alpha \leq 1$  [19, 21]. It is clear that the critical impulse at mode I→II transition  
 128 depends on the value of  $\alpha$ . Here, we use an identical  $\alpha = 0.6$  throughout - this was obtained  
 129 through calibration to the critical impulse at mode I→II transition given in [11].

130 According to Eq. 4, initiation of material rupture, points  $A$  in Fig. 2, occurs when

$$\bar{\Omega}_A = \bar{\Omega}(x = 0) = \frac{\Omega(x = 0)}{\Omega_c} = 1 ; \quad (5)$$

131 whilst complete tearing follows almost immediately after the following damage criterion is  
 132 met at a finite distance  $d$  from the plate corner given by

$$\bar{\Omega}_B = \bar{\Omega}(x = a - d) = \frac{\Omega(x = a - d)}{\Omega_c} = 1. \quad (6)$$

133 The mean uniaxial strain rate  $\dot{\epsilon}$  in Eq. 1 is expressed as

$$\dot{\epsilon}_m = \frac{\epsilon_f \bar{\Omega}_B}{t_f} \quad (7)$$

134 where time  $t_f$  corresponds to the instant at either the point of cessation of motion (i.e.  
 135  $\bar{\Omega}_B < 1$ ) or failure (i.e.  $\bar{\Omega}_B = 1$  if complete detachment from the supports occurs).

136 It was noted by Nurick and Shave [11] that, in mode II\* (i.e.  $\bar{\Omega}_A = 1$  and  $\bar{\Omega}_B < 1$ ), the plate  
 137 tears away from the support resulting in ‘pulling-in’ of its mid-side. In the current model,  
 138 however, the effects of ‘pull-in’ on the transverse velocity acting on the plate is neglected  
 139 for simplicity. Furthermore, the model does not account for the degradation of stress resul-  
 140 tants at the support as progressive cracking occurs along the plate boundary. Despite these  
 141 simplifications, which will result in a somewhat under-prediction of the transverse plate de-  
 142 flection, it will be shown later that there is a good correlation between the current analytical  
 143 prediction and existing experimental data.

144 When  $\bar{\Omega}_B$  reaches unity, either a mode II or mode III deformation ensues. Here, we adopt a  
 145 similar criterion to that proposed by Shen and Jones [19, 21] to delineate between a mode II

146 and III deformation. Mode III deformation occurs when the state variable  $\omega_s$  reaches unity,  
 147 i.e.

$$\omega_s = \frac{\beta}{\beta_c} = 1, \quad (8)$$

148 where  $\beta$  is the ratio of the plastic work absorbed through shearing deformation to the total  
 149 plastic work done by all the stress components at the entire support given by

$$\beta = \frac{\Pi_S^s}{\Pi_S^s + \Pi_S^b + \Pi_S^m}, \quad (9)$$

150 where  $\Pi_S^s$ ,  $\Pi_S^b$  and  $\Pi_S^m$  are, respectively, the shear strain energy, bending strain energy and  
 151 membrane strain energy obtained at the support; and,  $\beta_c$  is the critical  $\beta$  value at the  
 152 transition from mode II to III. Note that superscripts  $s$ ,  $b$  and  $m$  denote shear, bending  
 153 and membrane, respectively. It will be shown later that  $\beta$  increases monotonically with the  
 154 dimensionless impulse  $I^*$  and the critical transition – this was obtained through calibration  
 155 to the experimental data by Nurick and Shave [11] – delineating the transition between  
 156 modes II and III deformation is  $\beta_c=0.32$ .

Hence, the criteria used here to delineate the different modes of plate deformation in [11]  
 are as follows:

$$\text{Mode I : } \bar{\Omega}_A < 1, \quad \bar{\Omega}_B < 1, \quad \omega_s < 1 \quad (10a)$$

$$\text{Mode II* : } \bar{\Omega}_A = 1, \quad \bar{\Omega}_B < 1, \quad \omega_s < 1 \quad (10b)$$

$$\text{Modes II : } \bar{\Omega}_A = 1, \quad \bar{\Omega}_B = 1, \quad \omega_s < 1 \quad (10c)$$

$$\text{Mode III : } \bar{\Omega}_A = 1, \quad \bar{\Omega}_B = 1, \quad \omega_s \geq 1. \quad (10d)$$

157 Expressions for  $\bar{\Omega}_A$ ,  $\bar{\Omega}_B$  and  $\omega_s$  in Eq. 10 are derived in Section 2.4. An iterative method  
 158 is used to predict the modes of deformation for a fully clamped square plate subjected to a  
 159 non-dimensional impulse of  $I^*$  (or having an initial velocity of  $V_0$ ). For known value of  $\sigma_0$ ,  
 160  $\epsilon_f$ ,  $\rho$ ,  $a$ ,  $h$  and  $V_0$ , and assuming an initial value for  $n_1$ , one can calculate the values of  $\bar{\Omega}_B$   
 161 and  $t_f$  corresponding to the cessation of plate motion (i.e. plate central velocity becomes  
 162 zero), or when complete detachment occurs (i.e.  $\bar{\Omega}_B = 1$ ). This gives a new value of  $n_2$ .  
 163 The above iteration on  $n$  continues until  $n_i \approx n_{i-1}$ . The value of  $n_i$  is then used to calculate  
 164 the final value of  $\bar{\Omega}_A$ ,  $\bar{\Omega}_B$ ,  $\omega_s$  and  $t_f$ .

### 165 2.3. Yield condition

166 Here, an interactive yield condition that combines the bending moment  $M$ , membrane force  
 167  $N$  and the transverse shear force given by  $Q$  [5]

$$\frac{|M|}{M_d} \sqrt{1 - \frac{Q^2}{Q_d^2}} + \frac{N^2}{N_d^2} + \frac{Q}{Q_d} - 1 = 0 \quad (11)$$



168 is employed to describe plastic yielding in the plate, where  $M_d = \sigma_d h^2/4$ ,  $N_0 = \sigma_d h$  and  
 169  $Q_d = \sigma_d h/\sqrt{3}$  are the dynamic fully plastic bending moment, in-plane membrane force and  
 170 transverse shear force, respectively. It is convenient to re-cast Eq. 11 in a non-dimensional  
 171 form as follows:

$$|\bar{M}| \sqrt{1 - \bar{Q}^2} + \bar{N}^2 + \bar{Q}^2 - 1 = 0 \quad (12)$$

172 where  $\bar{M} = M/M_d$ ,  $\bar{N} = N/N_d$  and  $\bar{Q} = Q/Q_d$  are the non-dimensional fully plastic  
 173 generalised stresses.

#### 174 2.4. Equations of motion

175 The transverse velocity at any point  $x, y$  ( $x \geq 0, y \geq 0$ ) of the square plate – note that only  
 176 one-quarter is modelled because of loading and geometric symmetry – may be approximated  
 177 as a sum of  $n$  generalised velocities and mode functions given by [25]

$$\dot{W}(x, y, t) = \sum_{i=1}^n \phi_i(x, y) \dot{W}_i(t) \quad (13)$$

178 where the partial functions  $\phi_i(x, y)$  are admissible mode functions that satisfy the geometric  
 179 boundary conditions and the temporal functions  $\dot{W}_i(t)$  are generalised transverse velocities  
 180 to be determined by the Lagrange equation of the 2nd kind. The corresponding displacement  
 181 field – this also uses the same partial functions – is given by

$$W(x, y, t) = \sum_{i=1}^n \phi_i(x, y) W_i(t). \quad (14)$$

182 The total kinetic energy at time  $t$  may be written as

$$T = \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \frac{1}{2} \int_{V_i} \rho \dot{W}^2(x, y, t) dV_i \quad (15)$$

183 for one-quarter of the square plate which consists of  $n_1$  number of plastic hinge zones. The  
 184 potential (strain) energy is absorbed by the plastic hinge lines that separate the plastic hinge  
 185 zones. Hence, the total strain energy for one-quarter of the square plate with  $n_2$  number of  
 186 plastic hinge lines, each of length  $l_i$ , can be expressed as

$$\Pi = \sum_{i=1}^{n_2} \int_{l_i} (M\theta_i + N\Delta W\theta_i + QW_S) dl_i \quad (16)$$

187 where  $\theta_i$  is the relative rotation across a hinge line;  $W_S(t)$  is plastic shear sliding distance  
 188 at the support; and,  $\Delta W (\triangleq W(x, y, t) - W_S(t))$  is relative displacement.

189 Since the *Lagrangian* of the structural beam system is

$$\mathcal{L} = T + \Pi, \quad (17)$$

190 the differential equations governing  $W_i$  can be obtained by substituting Eqs. 17 and 19 into  
 191 the well-known Lagrange equation of the 2nd kind as follows:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{W}_i} \right) + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial W_i} = Q_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n. \quad (18)$$

192 Since an initial velocity is prescribed to the entire plate for impulse loading condition, the  
 193 potential energy loss  $E^P$  due to the external loading is zero; hence, the generalised force is  
 194 simply

$$Q_i = \frac{\partial E^P}{\partial W_i} = 0. \quad (19)$$

195 The key to obtaining the governing equations of motion in Eq. 18 is the expressions for the  
 196 total kinetic energy  $T$  and strain energy  $\Pi$ , which will be derived later.

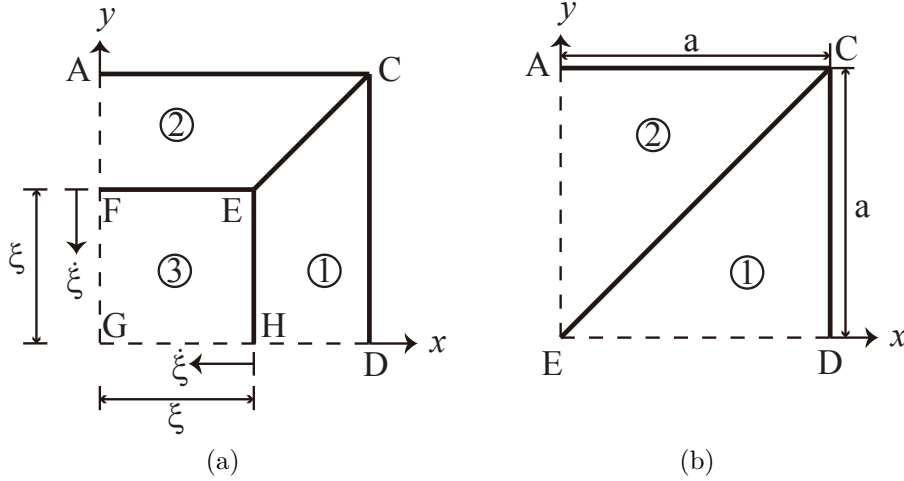


Figure 3: Deformation mechanisms for one-quarter of the square plate depending on the position of travelling plastic hinge lines [18]: (a)  $0 < \xi < a$  and (b)  $\xi = 0$ .

Within the constitutive framework of limit analysis, travelling plastic hinge lines develop in a rigid, perfectly-plastic plate along the principal stress-moment directions [23]. According to the position of the travelling hinge line, there are two stages of deformation for a plate (see Fig. 3): (1) when plastic hinge lines travel towards the centre of the plate; and (2) when the plastic hinge lines reach and coalesce at the centre, leading to a final (and stationary) collapse configuration. Following [17–19, 21], it is assumed that the membrane force  $\bar{N}$  is identical throughout the plastic hinge lines and transverse shear is negligible on the plastic hinge lines located in the plate interior. According to Eq. 11, the yield condition at the support (i.e. hinge lines  $AC$  and  $CD$ ) and in the plate interior (i.e. plastic hinge lines  $CE$ ,  $EF$  and  $EH$ ) are given, respectively, by

$$|\bar{M}_S|(1 - \bar{Q}_S^2) + \bar{N}^2 + \bar{Q}_S^2 = 1, \quad \text{if } |\bar{M}_S| > 0 \quad (20a)$$

$$\bar{N}^2 + \bar{Q}_S^2 = 1, \quad \text{if } |\bar{M}_S| = 0 \quad (20b)$$

197 and

$$\bar{M}_P + \bar{N}^2 = 1. \quad (21)$$

198 Note that subscripts  $S$  and  $P$  are used here to denote support and plate, respectively.

For the deformation mechanism in Fig. 3a, the transverse velocity profiles in zone ①, ② and ③ are given by

$$\dot{W}_1(x, y, t) = \dot{W}_S(t) + [\dot{W}_P(t) - \dot{W}_S(t)](a - x)/[a - \xi(t)], \quad \text{Zone ①} \quad (22a)$$

$$\dot{W}_2(x, y, t) = \dot{W}_S(t) + [\dot{W}_P(t) - \dot{W}_S(t)](a - y)/[a - \xi(t)], \quad \text{Zone ②} \quad (22b)$$

$$\dot{W}_3(x, y, t) = \dot{W}_P(t), \quad \text{Zone ③}. \quad (22c)$$

When the travelling plastic hinge lines reach the centre of the plate (i.e.  $x = 0$  and  $y = 0$ ), the transverse velocity profiles in Fig. 3b become

$$\dot{W}_1(x, y, t) = \dot{W}_S(t) + [\dot{W}_P(t) - \dot{W}_S(t)](a - x)/a, \quad \text{Zone ①} \quad (23a)$$

$$\dot{W}_2(x, y, t) = \dot{W}_S(t) + [\dot{W}_P(t) - \dot{W}_S(t)](a - y)/a, \quad \text{Zone ②}. \quad (23b)$$

199 It is worth highlighting that in Fig. 3a, the central portion of the plate is assumed to travel  
200 at a constant transverse speed [17, 18], i.e.

$$\ddot{W}_P = 0, \quad \dot{W}_P = V_0, \quad (24)$$

201 and its acceleration is solely governed by  $\ddot{W}_S$ ; whereas in Fig. 3b, the motion of the central  
202 portion of the plate is determined by both  $\ddot{W}_P$  and  $\ddot{W}_S$ .

Taking into account the deformation mechanisms that develop in the square plate (a quarter), its total kinetic energy (Eq. 15) and strain energy (Eq. 16) are given, respectively, by

$$\begin{aligned} T = \frac{1}{2}m & \left[ \int_{\xi(t)}^a \int_0^{\xi(t)} \dot{W}_1^2(x, y, t) dx dy + \int_{\xi(t)}^a \int_{\xi(t)}^x \dot{W}_1^2(x, y, t) dx dy \right. \\ & \left. + \int_{\xi(t)}^a \int_x^a \dot{W}_2^2(x, y, t) dx dy + \int_0^{\xi(t)} \int_{\xi(t)}^a \dot{W}_2^2(x, y, t) dx dy + \int_0^{\xi(t)} \int_0^{\xi(t)} \dot{W}_3^2(x, y, t) dx dy \right] \quad (25) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi = 2\xi(t) & \left[ M_S \theta_1 + N \Delta W_P \theta_1 + Q_S W_S(t) \right] + 2 \int_{\xi(t)}^a (M_S + N \Delta W_1) \theta_1 + Q_S W_S(t) dx \\ & + \sqrt{2} \int_{\xi(t)}^a [M_S + N \Delta W_1] \theta_3 dx + \xi(t) (2\theta_1 + 2\theta_2) (M_P + N \Delta W_3) \quad (26) \end{aligned}$$

203 where  $\Delta W_P = W_P(t) - W_S(t)$ ,  $\Delta W_1 = W_1(x, y, t) - W_S(t)$  and  $\Delta W_3 = W_3(x, y, t) - W_S(t)$ ;  
204  $\theta_1 = \theta_2 = \Delta W_P/[a - \xi(t)]$  are relative rotations along the outer boundaries (fully clamped)  
205 of plastic zone ① and ② respectively; and  $\theta_3 = \sqrt{2}\theta_1$  is the change in rotation across the  
206 inclined plastic hinges that lie at the intersections of plastic zone ① and ②. Note that the

207 sum of the first two terms in Eq. 26 corresponds to the strain energy dissipated along its  
 208 support, whereas the last term relates to the strain energy absorbed at the plate interior.

209 The parameters  $M_S$ ,  $Q_S$ ,  $N$ ,  $M_P$  and  $\xi(t)$  in Eqs. 25 and 26 are unknowns. Recasting  
 210 them in non-dimensional form, viz.  $\bar{M}_S$ ,  $\bar{Q}_S$ ,  $\bar{N}$ ,  $\bar{M}_P$  and  $\bar{\xi} = \xi(t)/a$ , they are computed as  
 211 described below.

212 The non-dimensional position of the travelling plastic hinge line is

$$\bar{\xi} = \int_0^t \dot{\bar{\xi}} dt \quad (27)$$

213 and  $\dot{\bar{\xi}}$  is the non-dimensional velocity of the travelling plastic hinge line given by

$$\dot{\bar{\xi}} = \frac{(\sigma_d/\rho a^2) \left[ 12(\bar{M}_S + \bar{M}_P) + 24\bar{N}\Delta\bar{W}_P(1 + \bar{\xi}) \right] + (1 - \bar{\xi})^2(1 + \bar{\xi})\ddot{W}_S}{(\bar{\xi} - 1)(1 + 3\bar{\xi})\Delta\dot{W}_P} \quad (28)$$

214 where  $\bar{W}_P = W_P(t)/h$ ,  $\dot{W}_S = \dot{W}_S(t)/h$ ,  $\Delta\bar{W}_P = \Delta W_P/h$  and  $\ddot{W}_S = \ddot{W}_S(t)/h$ . When the  
 215 travelling plastic hinge lines  $EF$  and  $EH$  reach the centre of the plate, they coalesce with  
 216 the plastic hinge line  $CE$  into a single plastic hinge line so that in the subsequent motion,

$$\dot{\bar{\xi}} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{\xi} = 0. \quad (29)$$

The generalised strain rates associated with bending  $\dot{\theta}_S$  and shear  $\dot{\Delta}$  are given by

$$\dot{\theta}_S = \frac{\Delta\dot{W}_P}{\eta(1 - \bar{\xi})} \quad (30a)$$

$$\dot{\Delta} = \frac{\dot{\Delta}}{h} = \frac{\Delta\bar{W}_P\Delta\dot{W}_P}{\eta(1 - \bar{\xi})} \quad (30b)$$

where  $\eta = a/h$ . Normality requirements dictate that [23]

$$\frac{\dot{\Delta}}{\dot{\theta}_S} = \frac{1}{2}\bar{N}\left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{Q}_S^2}}\right) \quad (31a)$$

$$\frac{\dot{W}_S}{\dot{\theta}_S} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}\left(\frac{2\bar{Q}_S}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{Q}_S^2}} - \frac{\bar{Q}_S\bar{M}_S}{1 - \bar{Q}_S^2}\right) \quad (31b)$$

217 if  $\bar{M}_S > 0$ , and

$$\frac{\dot{W}_S}{\dot{\Delta}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}\bar{Q}_S}{\bar{N}} \quad (32)$$

if  $\bar{M}_S = 0$ . Substituting Eqs. 30 into 31 and 32, and re-arranging, gives

$$\bar{N}\left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{Q}_S^2}}\right) = 2\Delta\bar{W}_P \quad (33a)$$

$$\bar{Q}_S\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{1 - \bar{Q}_S^2}} - \frac{\bar{M}_S}{1 - \bar{Q}_S^2}\right) = \frac{\gamma(1 - \bar{\xi})\dot{\bar{W}}_S}{\Delta\dot{\bar{W}}_P} \quad (33b)$$

218 if  $\bar{M}_S > 0$ , and

$$\frac{\bar{Q}_S}{\bar{N}} = \frac{\gamma\dot{\bar{W}}_S(1 - \bar{\xi})}{\Delta\dot{\bar{W}}_P\Delta\bar{W}_P} \quad (34)$$

219 if  $\bar{M}_S = 0$ , where  $\gamma = Q_d a / M_d = 4a / \sqrt{3}h$ .

220 To calculate  $\bar{M}_S$ ,  $\bar{Q}_S$ ,  $\bar{N}$  and  $\bar{M}_P$ , they would need to be expressed as functions of  $\bar{W}_P$ ,  
 221  $\bar{W}_S$ ,  $\dot{\bar{W}}_P$ ,  $\dot{\bar{W}}_S$ ,  $\bar{\xi}$  and  $t$  through Eqs. 20, 21, 28, 33 and 34. The temporal evolution of  
 222 these parameters are obtained by solving the aforementioned equations using the 4th order  
 223 Runge-Kutta method with the initial conditions of  $\bar{W}_P = \bar{W}_S = \dot{\bar{W}}_S = 0$  and  $\dot{\bar{W}}_P = V_0$ .  
 224 When considering the influences of membrane forces and transverse shear forces as well as  
 225 bending moments in the yield condition, the travelling hinge will initiate from a position  
 226 which is near to the support but not from it [19, 21]. Here, an initial plastic hinge line  
 227 position of  $\bar{\xi}|_{t=\Delta t} = 1 - \sqrt{3M_0\Delta t / \rho a^2 h V_0}$  [18] over a small time step  $\Delta t$  is used.

Since the bending, membrane and shear strain energy dissipated at the support are given by

$$\Pi_S^b = 2aM_S\theta_1 \quad (35a)$$

$$\Pi_S^m = 2\xi(t)N\Delta_P\theta_1 + 2\int_{\xi(t)}^a N\Delta W_1\theta_1 dx \quad (35b)$$

$$\Pi_S^s = 2aQ_S W_S(t), \quad (35c)$$

228 the expression for  $\omega_s$  can be written as follows (by substituting Eq. 35 into 8 and re-  
 229 arranging):

$$\omega_s = \frac{\beta}{\beta_c} = \frac{1}{\beta_c} \frac{\gamma\bar{Q}_S\bar{W}_S}{\eta\bar{M}_S\theta_1 + 4\eta\xi\bar{N}\Delta\bar{W}_P\theta_1 + \int_{\xi}^1 4\eta\bar{N}\Delta\bar{W}_1\theta_1 d\bar{x} + \gamma\bar{Q}_S\bar{W}_S} \quad (36)$$

230 where  $\bar{x} = x/a$ .

231 The density of plastic energy dissipation at any location  $0 \leq x \leq a$  on one side of the  
 232 boundary is given by

$$\Omega(x) = \begin{cases} M_S\theta_1 + N\theta_1\Delta W_P + Q_S W_S(t), & 0 \leq x \leq \xi(t) \\ M_S\theta_1 + N\theta_1\Delta W_1 + Q_S W_S(t), & \xi(t) \leq x \leq a \end{cases} \quad (37)$$

233 Therefore the damage variables  $\bar{\Omega}_A$  (in Eq. 5) and  $\bar{\Omega}_B$  (in Eq. 6) become

$$\bar{\Omega}_A = \frac{\bar{M}_S \theta_1 + 4\bar{N} \theta_1 \Delta \bar{W}_P + \gamma / \eta \bar{Q}_S \bar{W}_S}{4\epsilon_f \alpha} \quad (38)$$

and

$$\bar{\Omega}_B = \bar{\Omega}_A, \quad \bar{\xi} \geq \bar{d} \quad (39a)$$

$$\bar{\Omega}_B = \frac{\bar{M}_S \theta_1 + 4\bar{N} \theta_1 \Delta \bar{W}_P (1 - \bar{d}) / (1 - \bar{\xi}) + \gamma / \eta \bar{Q}_S \bar{W}_S}{4\epsilon_f \alpha}, \quad \bar{\xi} < \bar{d}. \quad (39b)$$

234 Plate deformation ends at time  $t = t_f$  if the motion of the plate ceases, i.e.

$$\dot{\bar{W}}_P = 0. \quad (40)$$

235 If the damage variable  $\bar{\Omega}_B < 1$  when this occurs, the plate is said to deform in either mode  
236 I or II\*. Otherwise, a mode II or III deformation would develop if  $\bar{\Omega}_B = 1$ .

237 If the plate fails before all its initial kinetic energy is expended, then it would acquire a  
238 residual kinetic energy at the point of severance from the support. Parts of this are absorbed  
239 through further plastic deformation as the plate continues to deform until it reaches a rigid  
240 permanent set whilst the remaining as translational kinetic energy. In the current model,  
241 the energy that is absorbed post severance from the support is not considered. The residual  
242 energy of the plate (one quarter) at the instant of plate severance is

$$T_f = T(t = t_f) \quad (41)$$

243 or, in non-dimensional form, as

$$\bar{T}_f = \frac{T_f}{T_0} \quad (42)$$

244 where  $T_0 = \rho a^2 h V_0^2 / 2$  is the initial kinetic energy for a quarter of the square plate.

### 245 3. Results and discussion

246 In this section, the analytical predictions are validated against the experimental data of  
247 Nurick and Shave [11] for fully-clamped square plates. It is worth emphasizing that the  
248 blast loadings in [11] may be idealised as zero-period impulses [13, 15]. The square mild-  
249 steel plates used in [11] have dimensions of  $0.089 (2a) \times 0.089 (2a) \times 0.0016 (h)$ , and their  
250 material properties are listed in Table 2. A flow-chart of the numerical implementation is  
251 shown in Fig. 4.

252 Figure 5 compares the predicted central deflection ( $\bar{W}_f$ ) of the plate to its corresponding  
253 experimental data. Numerical predictions by Yuan and Tan [13] and Rudrapatna et al.  
254 [15] were also included in the same figure for comparison. In general, there is an excellent

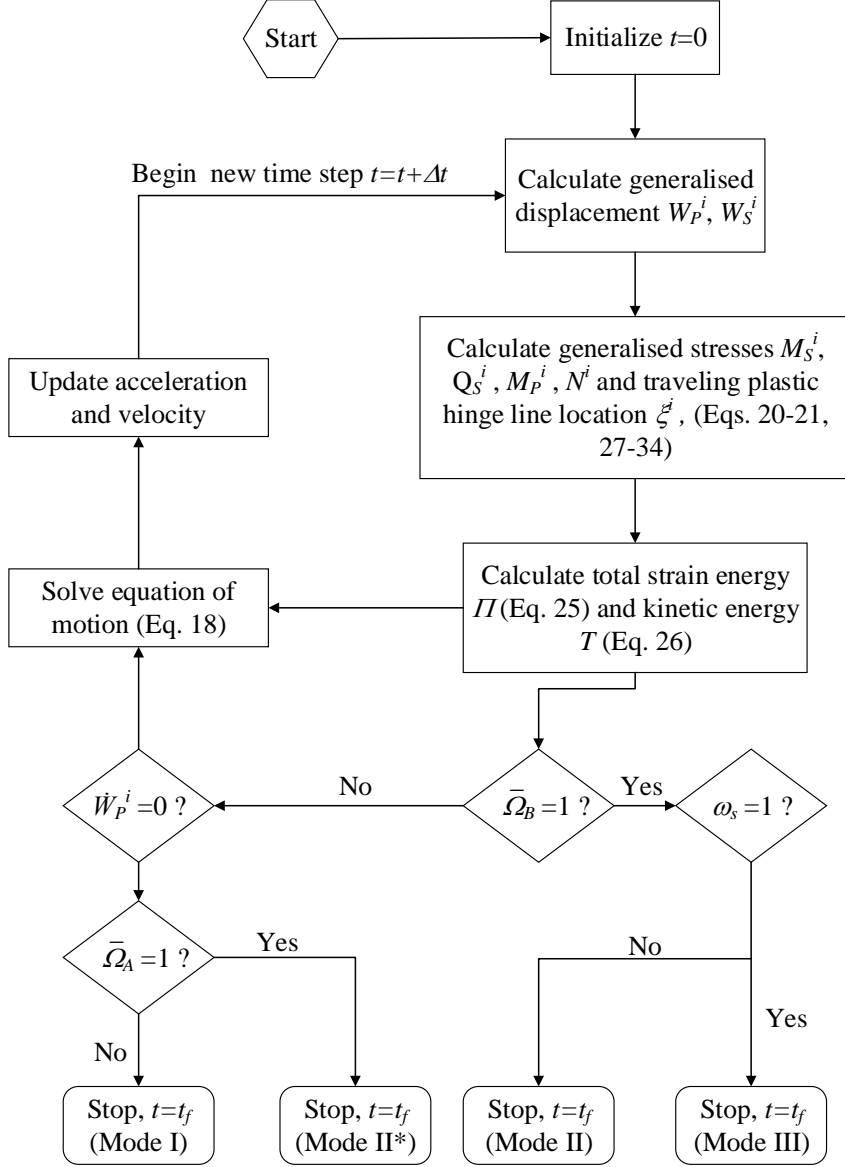


Figure 4: Flow-chart of numerical implementation for solving the analytical model described in Section 2.

255 agreement, between the current analytical predictions and experimental data, for plates  
 256 deforming in modes I and II\*. By contrast, the numerical predictions in [13, 15] tend to  
 257 over-predict the mode I and II\* deflections. This is clearly evident in Fig 6 where the  
 258 analytical prediction of the temporal central plate deflection and the numerical prediction  
 259 by [15] were compared to the experimental data of [11].

260 Figure 5 shows that the current analytical model correctly estimate a reduction in  $\bar{W}_f$  with

Table 2: Material properties for the mild-steel plate [11]

Density $\rho$ (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Static yield stress $\sigma_0$ (MPa)	Rupture strain $\epsilon_f$	Material constant $\dot{\epsilon}_0$	Material constant $q$
7830	237	0.31	40.4	5

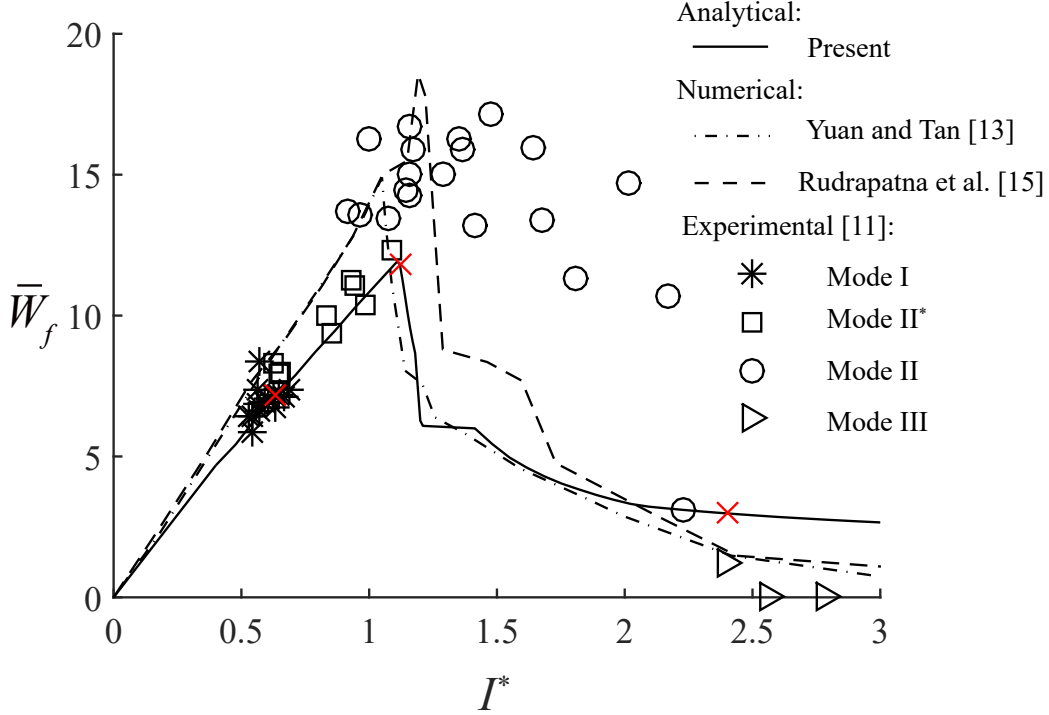


Figure 5: Comparison of the analytical central (maximum) deflection with numerical and experimental data at different levels of  $I^*$ . Each red cross indicates a transition in deformation mode predicted by the current analytical model.

261 increasing  $I^*$  in mode II; in addition, they are also in excellent agreement with the predictions  
 262 by Yuan and Tan [13]. The discrepancy between analytical predictions and experimental  
 263 data in mode II can be attributed to the fact that the former records the central deflection  
 264 just before complete detachment from the support occurs unlike in the latter. The current  
 265 model over-predicts the central deflection in mode III since it assumes a constant length of  
 266 plastic hinge  $c = \alpha h$  following the approach of [20, 26, 27]. Unlike in [19], if  $\alpha$  is obtained  
 267 by calibration to the experimental data (mode III deflection), a better correlation between  
 268 the analytical prediction and its experimental counterpart, and a monotonically decreasing  
 269 of  $\alpha$  with  $I^*$ , can be expected.

270 Table 3 compares the range of non-dimensional impulse  $I^*$  predicted by the current model  
 271 for each mode of deformation with those from [11, 13, 15]. It is clear that there are overlaps  
 272 in the non-dimensional  $I^*$  between mode I and mode II\* and between mode II\* and mode



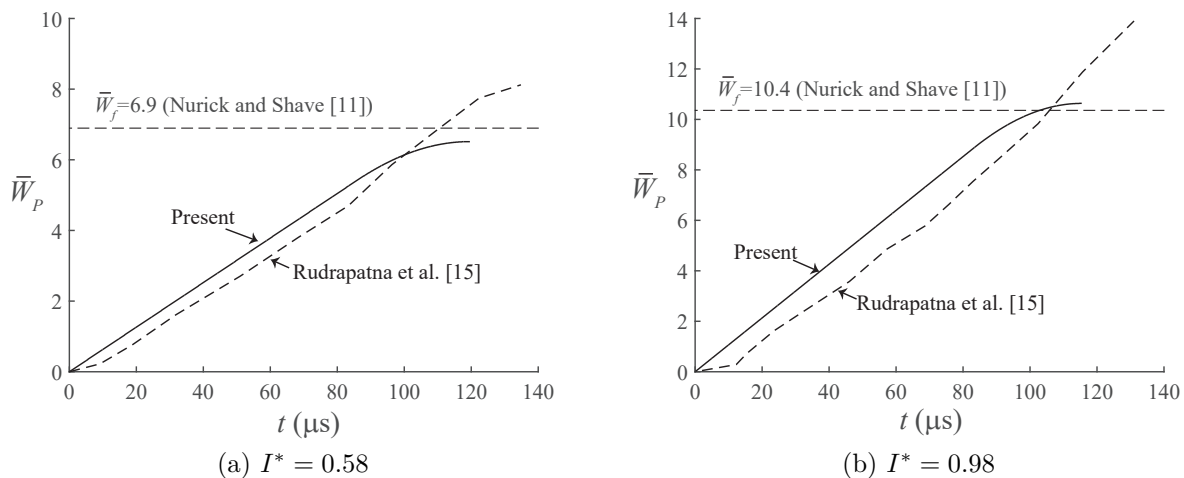


Figure 6: Time history for non-dimensional central deflection of plates deforming in (a) mode I and (b) mode II\* [11].

Table 3: Range of non-dimensional impulse  $I^*$  for each mode of deformation considered in the different studies.

Mode	Current model	Yuan and Tan [13]	Rudrapatna et al. [15]	Nurick and Shave [11]
I	0-0.62	0-0.75	0-0.97	0.53-0.64
II*	0.62-1.12	0.75-0.98	0.97-1.02	0.62-1.09
II	1.12-2.39	0.98-2.45	1.02-2.32	0.92-2.39

273 II in the experimental data of Nurick and Shave [11]. In general, the current analytical  
 274 model better predicts the range of  $I^*$  corresponding to the different modes of deformation  
 275 than the numerical ones in literature; the predicted  $I^*$  in mode II also agrees well with the  
 276 experimental data.

277 The ‘post-detached’ residual energy  $\bar{T}_f$  for fully-severed square plates is plotted in Fig.  
 278 7. There is a good general agreement between the current analytical predictions and the  
 279 numerical predictions by [15]. However both are considerably higher than the experimental  
 280 data. The reason is that the loss of kinetic energy due to further plastic deformation (after  
 281 complete detachment has occurred) is neglected in both the current and the numerical model  
 282 of [15]. It is also evident from the figure that, beyond the transition from mode II\*  $\rightarrow$  II, the  
 283 residual energy rises sharply, and monotonically, with increasing  $I^*$ . Consequently, even  
 284 though a large impulse is generally needed to induce mode III damage during impulsive  
 285 loading conditions, a significant amount of residual kinetic energy remains in the plate after  
 286 it is severed.

287 The components of plastic work absorbed at the support through bending, membrane and

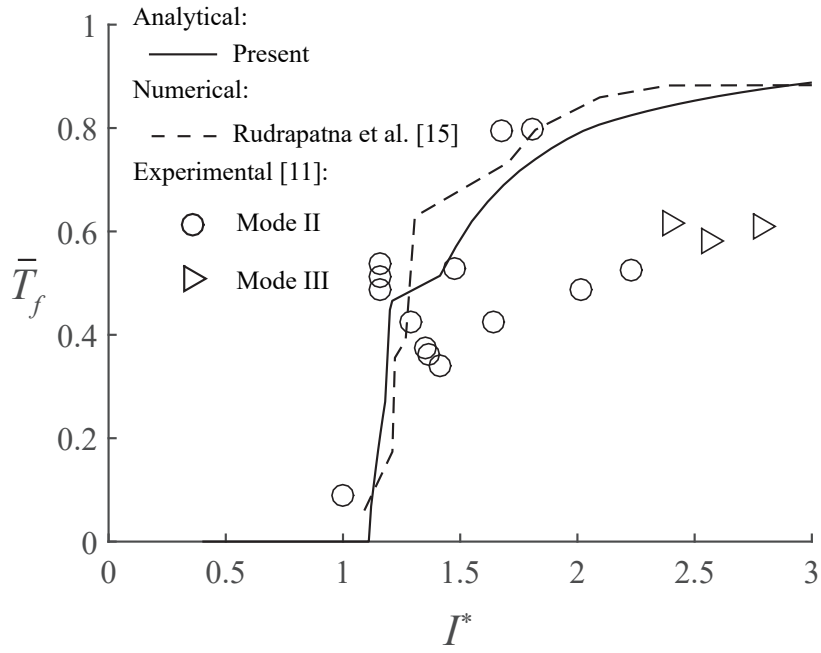


Figure 7: Non-dimensional residual energy of the fully-severed square plate.

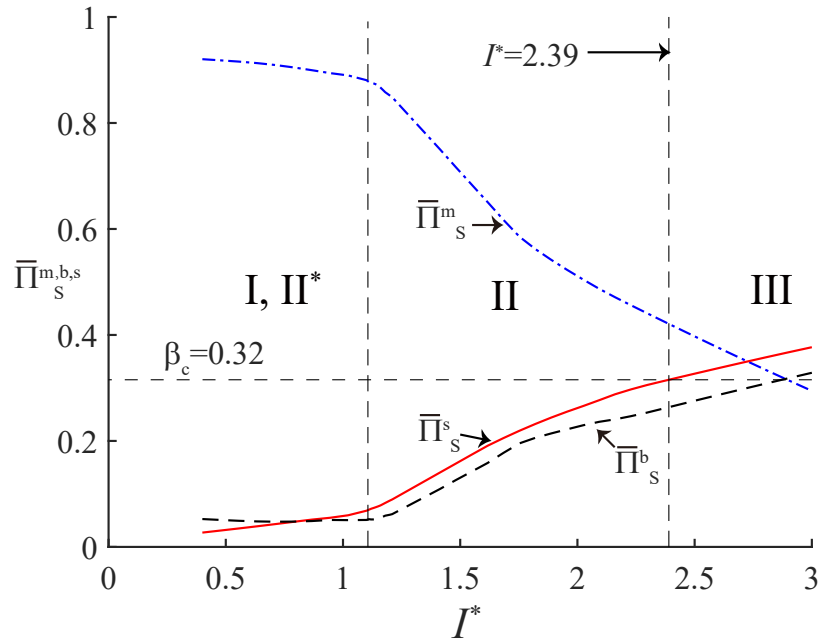


Figure 8: Components of the plastic work absorbed through bending, membrane and shear deformation at the supports.

288 shear deformation can be non-dimensionalised as follows:

$$\bar{\Pi}_S^b = \frac{\Pi_S^b}{\Pi_S^s + \Pi_S^b + \Pi_S^m}, \quad \bar{\Pi}_S^m = \frac{\Pi_S^m}{\Pi_S^s + \Pi_S^b + \Pi_S^m}, \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{\Pi}_S^s = \beta = \frac{\Pi_S^s}{\Pi_S^s + \Pi_S^b + \Pi_S^m} \quad (43)$$

289 where  $\bar{\Pi}_S^b + \bar{\Pi}_S^m + \bar{\Pi}_S^s = 1$ . Figure 8 plots the aforesaid components of plastic work as a  
 290 function of  $I^*$  at the point of cessation of beam motion or when it is fully severed from the  
 291 support. The fact that  $\bar{\Pi}_S^s$  or  $\beta$  increases monotonically with  $I^*$  suggests that the damage  
 292 criterion (Eq. 9) introduced by Shen and Jones [19] is applicable to distinguish between a  
 293 mode II and III damage for a three-dimensional structural member. It is worth emphasizing  
 294 that the critical  $\beta$  value ( $\beta_c = 0.32$ ) is obtained by calibration to the experimental data in  
 295 [11] as mentioned in Section 2.2. With increasing  $I^*$ , deformation by shear and bending plays  
 296 increasing important roles at the support, whilst the influence of membrane deformation on  
 297 plastic work absorbed at the support reduces. Nonetheless, the majority of the plastic work  
 298 dissipated at the support is by membrane deformation, apart for when  $I^* > 0.84$  in mode  
 299 III where  $\bar{\Pi}_S^m$  is smaller than either  $\bar{\Pi}_S^b$  or  $\bar{\Pi}_S^s$ . In general, mode III deformation is governed  
 300 by the combined effects of bending, membrane and transverse shear.

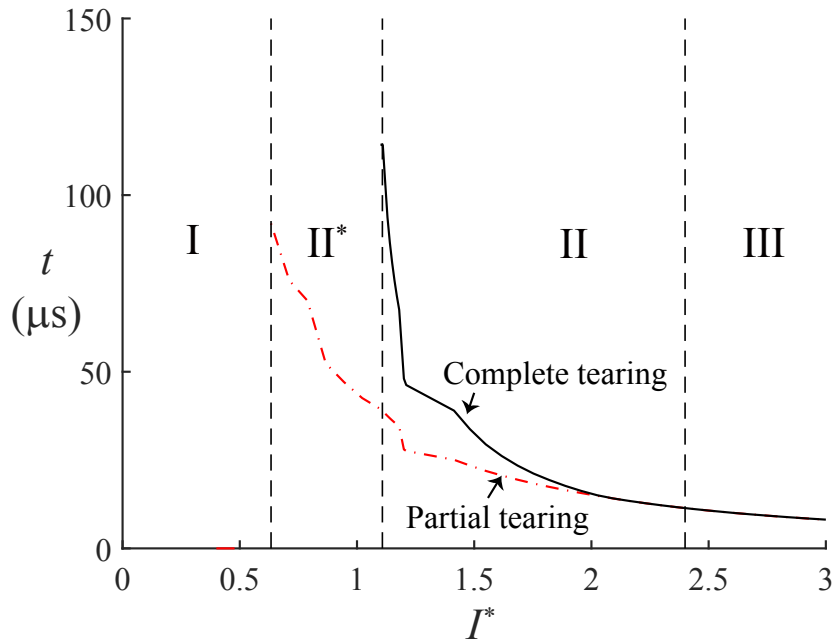


Figure 9: Time taken for partial and complete tearing against non-dimensional impulse  $I^*$ .

301 Figure 9 shows the time taken  $t$  versus  $I^*$  for partial tearing and complete detachment to  
 302 occur. Notice that there is a monotonic decrease in  $t$  for both curves with increasing  $I^*$ . The  
 303 difference in time between the two curves after the transition from mode II\*  $\rightarrow$  II corresponds  
 304 to the passage of time needed for tearing to progress from mid-point (points A in Fig. 2)  
 305 at the support to the vicinity of boundary corner (points B in Fig. 2). This time difference  
 306 is greatest at the transition between mode II\*  $\rightarrow$  II, after which it decreases monotonically  
 307 with  $I^*$ . It is interesting to note that somewhere in mode II ( $I^* > 2.0$ ) where the impulsive  
 308 load becomes sufficiently intense, the two curves overlap, indicating instantaneous tearing  
 309 along support. This agrees with the numerical prediction by Rudrapatna et al. [15].

310 To gain some insight into the differences in the damage of the plate for each mode of defor-

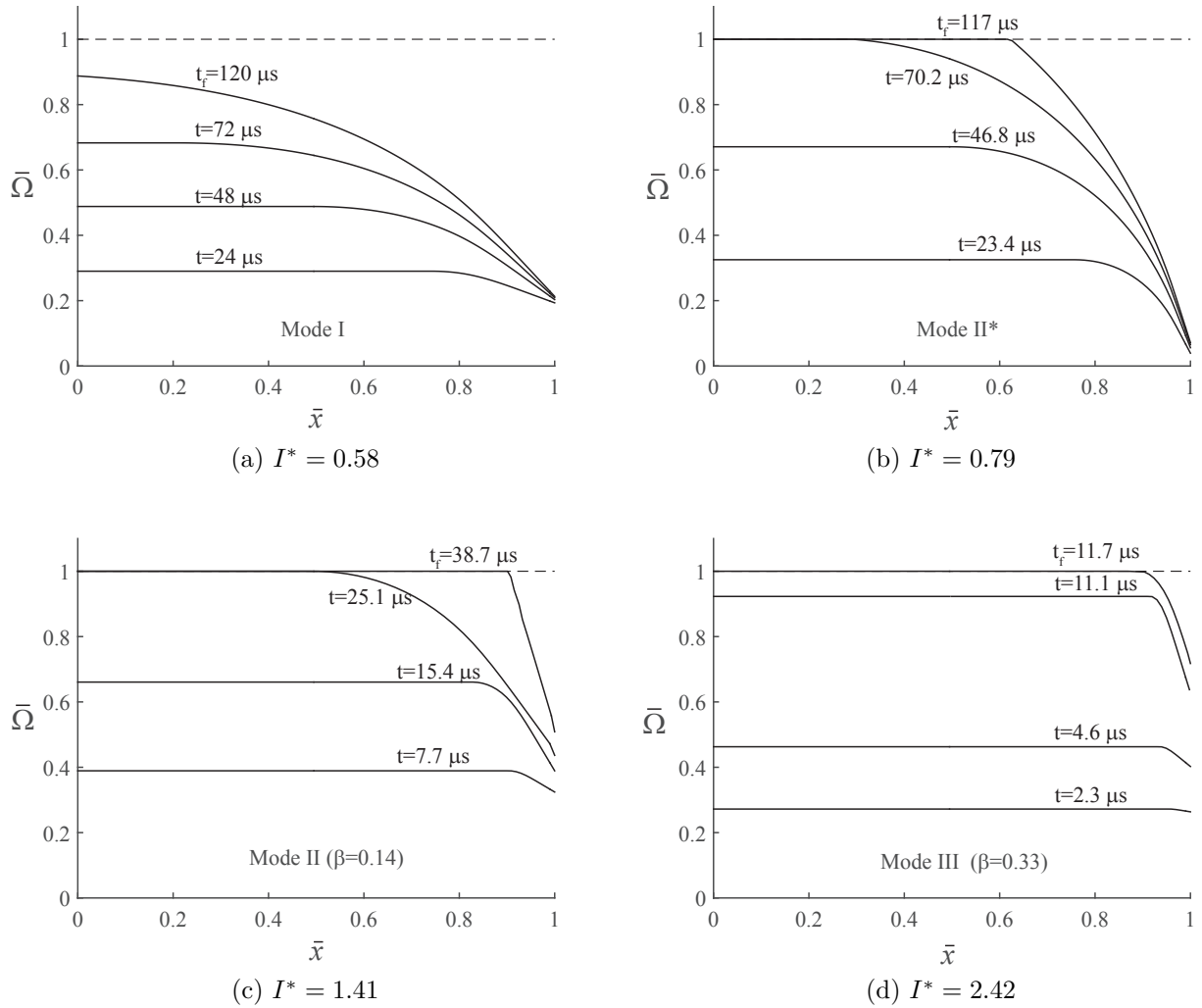


Figure 10: Temporal variation of damage variable  $\bar{\Omega}(x)$  along one side of the square plate at time  $t_f$ : (a) mode I; (2) mode II\*; (3) mode II; and (4) mode III.

311 mation, temporal variations of the non-dimensionalised density of plastic work dissipation  
 312 are plotted in Figs. 10a-10d for modes I, II\*, II and III respectively. It is evident in Fig.  
 313 10a that  $\bar{\Omega}$  is greatest at the mid-point of the support and drops monotonically with  $\bar{x}$  in  
 314 mode I. Figures 10b and 10c show that in modes II\* and II tearing will progress from the  
 315 central portion of the plate towards its corner where  $\bar{\Omega}$  is below unity. Figure 10d shows  
 316 an example of instantaneous tearing (i.e. damage criterion is met at both point  $A$  and  $B$   
 317 simultaneously) when complete detachment occurs when the impulsive load is greater than  
 318 a critical value.

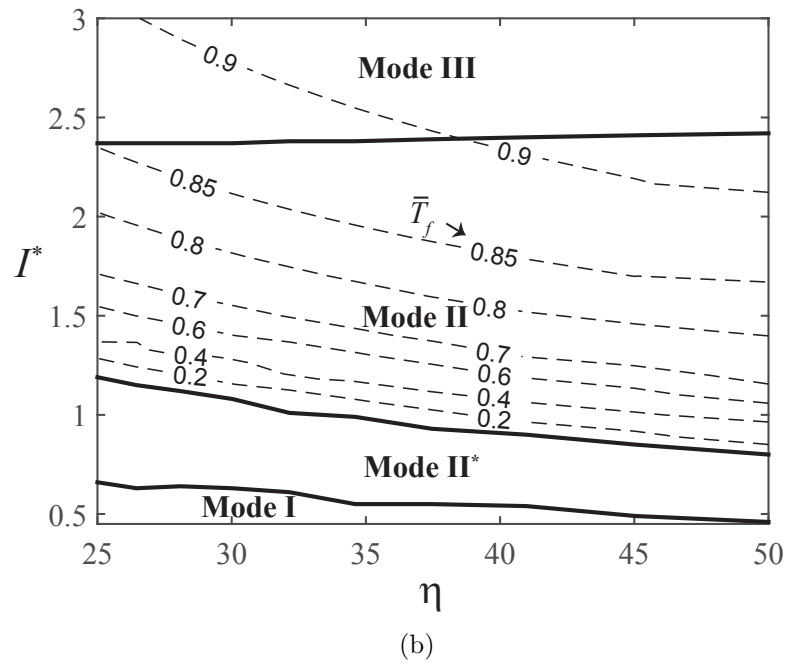
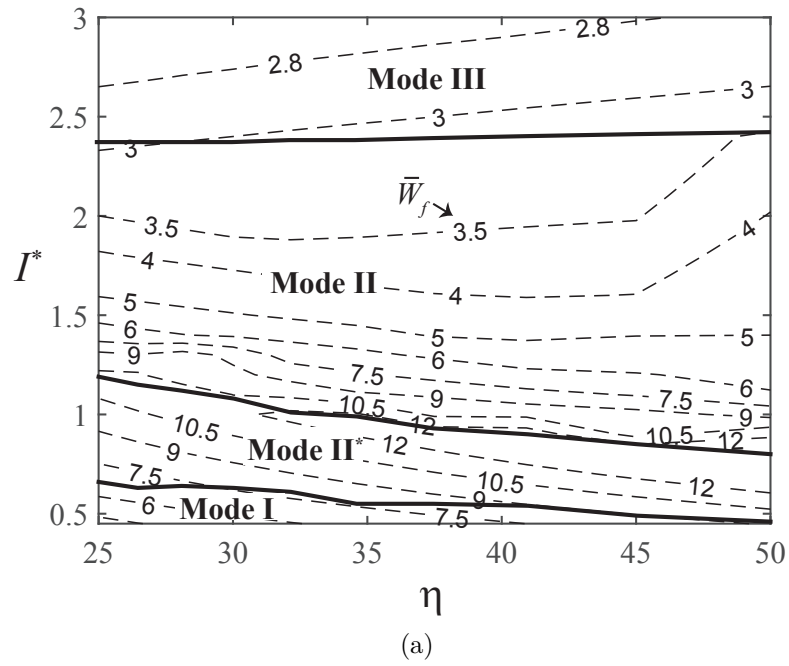


Figure 11: Design maps for square mild-steel plates (with a mass of  $M_P = 0.0992$  kg) where isolines correspond to a constant non-dimensional (a) transverse central deflection and (b) residual kinetic energy.

## 319 4. Blast resistant design

320 The validated analytical model is employed here to construct design maps in  $\eta$ - $I^*$ -space for  
321 practical ranges of  $25 \leq \eta \leq 50$  and  $0.45 \leq I^* \leq 3$ . To ensure that the maps corresponds  
322 to plates of identical mass  $M_P$ , their half length to thickness ratio ( $\eta$ ) are varied according  
323 to  $a = (M_P \eta / 4 \rho)^{1/3}$  and  $h = (M_P \eta / 4 \rho)^{1/3} / \eta$ . In this manner, the mass of the plate ( $M_P =$   
324  $0.0992$  kg) remains a constant for different half length to thickness ratio  $\eta$ .

325 Figure 11a presents a map for square plates subjected to zero-period impulsive loading. It  
326 can be seen that the critical non-dimensional impulses at mode I $\rightarrow$ II\* and II\* $\rightarrow$ II transi-  
327 tions decreases monotonically with  $\eta$ . However, the critical  $I^*$  needed to induce mode III  
328 deformation is insensitive to  $\eta$ . This agrees with the numerical results of [13] where it is  
329 suggested that the non-dimensional impulse at II $\rightarrow$ III transition does not vary with plate  
330 geometries and is essentially a material-related parameter. Isolines connecting constant val-  
331 ues of transverse central plate deflection  $\bar{W}_f$  within that particular mode of deformation  
332 are also inserted into the map. This gives a map which is useful to designers. Any pair  
333 of values of  $\eta$  and  $I^*$  now locates a point on the map. From the map, one can determine  
334 the deformation mode the plate deforms in and its mid-point deflection. Alternatively, it  
335 allows a designer to determine the critical non-dimensional impulsive  $I^*$  delineating different  
336 modes of deformation and the corresponding central plate deflection, at a given half length  
337 to thickness ratio  $\eta$ . Another design map with isolines of non-dimensional residual kinetic  
338 energy for a fully-severed is plotted in Fig. 11b.

## 339 5. Conclusions

340 An analytical model is developed, and validated against experimental data and numeri-  
341 cal predictions from existing literature, which is capable of predicting the deformation and  
342 damage associated with a fully clamped square mild-steel plate subjected to a wide range of  
343 impulsive loadings. Through the incorporation of an energy density damage criterion, the  
344 model is able to account for the combined effects of bending, membrane and transverse shear  
345 on ductile damage, and to capture partial and/or complete tearing at the support. Predic-  
346 tions by the analytical model is shown to be in good agreement with existing experimental  
347 results.

348 The analytical predictions offer the following insights: (1) Post-severance residual kinetic  
349 energy increases dramatically during mode II deformation and is considerable under a sub-  
350 stantial zero-period impulse; (2) Membrane effects dominate the plate response in modes I,  
351 II\* and II, whereas in mode III, bending, membrane and shear all play important roles; and  
352 (3) the time taken for both partial and complete tearing decreases monotonically with  $I^*$ ,  
353 after a certain value of which they overlap, indicating instantaneous tearing along the entire  
354 support.

355 It was shown that a thicker plate is able withstand higher impulses before the onset of partial  
356 and complete tearing, and the critical impulse needed to induce mode III deformation is  
357 insensitive to its length versus thickness ratio.

## 358 Acknowledgment

359 PJ Tan acknowledges the financial support by QinetiQ (Mr Robert Ball - Structures &  
360 Survivability, Platform Design and Life Support IDT).

## 361 References

- 362 [1] Yuen, S. C. K., Nurick, G. N., Langdon, G. S., Iyer, Y., [Deformation of thin plates subjected to](#)  
363 [impulsive load: Part iii: an update 25 years on](#), *Int. J. Impact Eng.* 107 (2017) 108–117.
- 364 [2] Aune, V., Fagerholt, E., Hauge, K., Langseth, M., Borvik, T., [Experimental study on the response of](#)  
365 [thin aluminium and steel plates subjected to airblast loading](#), *Int. J. Impact Eng.* 90 (2016) 106 – 121.
- 366 [3] Aune, V., Valsamos, G., Casadei, F., Larcher, M., Langseth, M., Borvik, T., [Numerical study on the](#)  
367 [structural response of blast-loaded thin aluminium and steel plates](#), *Int. J. Impact Eng.* 99 (2017) 131  
368 – 144.
- 369 [4] Yuen, S. C. K., Butler, A., Bornstein, H., Cholet, A., [The influence of orientation of blast loading on](#)  
370 [quadrangular plates](#), *Thin-Walled Structures* 131 (2018) 827–837.
- 371 [5] Stronge, W. J., Yu, T. X., *Dynamic Models for Structural Plasticity*, Springer, 1993.
- 372 [6] Yuan, Y., Tan, P. J., Shojaei, K. A., Wrobel, P., [The influence of deformation limits on fluid–structure](#)  
373 [interactions in underwater blasts](#), *Int. J. Impact Eng.* 101 (2017) 9–23.
- 374 [7] Yuan, Y., Tan, P. J., Shojaei, K. A., Wrobel, P., [On momentum transfer and external work done to](#)  
375 [clamped elasto-plastic beams in an air blast](#), *Int. J. Mech. Sci.* 146-147 (2018) 377–385.
- 376 [8] Menkes, S. B., Opat, H. J., [Broken beams](#), *Exp. Mech.* 13 (11) (1973) 480–486.
- 377 [9] Teeling-Smith, R., Nurick, G., [The deformation and tearing of thin circular plates subjected to impulsive](#)  
378 [loads](#), *Int. J. Impact Eng.* 11 (1) (1991) 77 – 91.
- 379 [10] Olson, M., Nurick, G., Fagnan, J., [Deformation and rupture of blast loaded square plates: predictions](#)  
380 [and experiments](#), *Int. J. Impact Eng.* 13 (2) (1993) 279 – 291.
- 381 [11] Nurick, G. N., Shave, G. C., [The deformation and tearing of thin square plates subjected to impulsive](#)  
382 [loads an experimental study](#), *Int. J. Impact Eng.* 18 (1) (1996) 99 – 116.
- 383 [12] Nurick, G., Gelman, M., Marshall, N., [Tearing of blast loaded plates with clamped boundary conditions](#),  
384 *Int. J. Impact Eng.* 18 (7) (1996) 803 – 827.
- 385 [13] Yuan, Y., Tan, P. J., [Deformation and failure of rectangular plates subjected to impulsive loadings](#),  
386 *Int. J. Impact Eng.* 59 (2013) 46 – 59.
- 387 [14] Gupta, N., Nagesh, [Deformation and tearing of circular plates with varying support conditions under](#)  
388 [uniform impulsive loads](#), *Int. J. Impact Eng.* 34 (1) (2007) 42 – 59, international Conference on Impact  
389 Loading of Lightweight Structures.
- 390 [15] Rudrapatna, N., Vaziri, R., Olson, M., [Deformation and failure of blast-loaded square plates](#), *Int. J.*  
391 *Impact Eng.* 22 (4) (1999) 449 – 467.
- 392 [16] Ramajeyathilagam, K., Vendhan, C., [Deformation and rupture of thin rectangular plates subjected to](#)  
393 [underwater shock](#), *Int. J. Impact Eng.* 30 (6) (2004) 699 – 719.
- 394 [17] Jones, N., [A theoretical study of the dynamic plastic behavior of beams and plates with finite-](#)  
395 [deflections](#), *Int. J. Solids Struct.* 7 (8) (1971) 1007 – 1029.
- 396 [18] Yu, T. X., Chen, F. L., [The large deflection dynamic plastic response of rectangular plates](#), *Int. J.*  
397 *Impact Eng.* 12 (1992) 605–616.

- 398 [19] Shen, W. Q., Jones, N., [A failure criterion for beams under impulsive loading](#), *Int. J. Impact Eng.*  
399 12 (1) (1992) 101 – 121.
- 400 [20] Yuan, Y., Tan, P. J., Shojaei, K. A., Wrobel, P., [Large deformation, damage evolution and failure of](#)  
401 [ductile structures to pulse-pressure loading](#), *Int. J. Solids Struct.* 96 (2016) 320 – 339.
- 402 [21] Shen, W. Q., Jones, N., [Dynamic response and failure of fully clamped circular plates under impulsive](#)  
403 [loading](#), *Int. J. Impact Eng.* 13 (2) (1993) 259 – 278.
- 404 [22] Bodner, S. R., Symonds, P. S., Experiments on viscoplastic response of circular plates to impulsive  
405 loading, *J. Mech. Phys. Solids* 27 (1979) 91–113.
- 406 [23] Jones, N., *Structural Impact*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989.
- 407 [24] Schiano-Moriello, D., Torii, R., Tan, P. J., On the post-blast residual length of a rectangular plate after  
408 severance, under preparation.
- 409 [25] Williams, J. H., *Fundamentals of applied dynamic*, New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1996.
- 410 [26] Wen, H. M., [Deformation and tearing of clamped work-hardening beams subjected to impulsive loading](#),  
411 *Int. J. Impact Eng.* 18 (4) (1996) 425 – 433.
- 412 [27] Alves, M., Jones, N., [Impact failure of beams using damage mechanics: Part i: analytical model](#), *Int.*  
413 *J. Impact Eng.* 27 (8) (2002) 837 – 861.