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International Journal of Solids and Structures 43 (2006) 7628-7643

www.elsevier.com/locate/ijsolstr

## A decoupled modal analysis for nonlinear dynamics of an orthotropic thin laminate in a simply supported boundary condition subject to thermal mechanical loading

Xiaoling He \*

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 3200 N. Cramer Street, P.O. Box 784, Milwaukee, WI 53201, United States

Received 2 August 2005 Available online 11 May 2006

## Abstract

In this paper, we analyze the nonlinear dynamic response of an orthotropic laminate in a simply supported boundary condition subject to thermal and mechanical loading. The equation of motion for the laminate's deflection is obtained in a decoupled Duffing equation by means of a Galerkin-type method without Berger's approximations. The Duffing equation incorporates an arbitrary thermal field, with both the in-plane and transverse temperature variations in a steady-state and a transient state. The formulation indicates that the transverse temperature variation produces an additional pressure load, while the in-plane temperature variation affects the system frequency. The equation allows for characterization of the laminate behaviors in nonlinear thermal buckling, thermal vibration and thermal mechanical response. © 2006 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Keywords: Laminate nonlinear dynamics; Nonlinear thermal buckling and vibration; Chaos; Duffing equation

## 1. Introduction

Thermal field with a temperature variation can cause the nonlinear deformation of a thin laminated structure, similar to a mechanical load does. This is particularly true for a thin laminate used as a micro-electromechanical structure (MEMS), such as a circuit board that is in a dynamic motion subject to a thermal electric field. The MEMS structure is usually composed of conduction and insulation layers; as such, the electro-thermal coupling effect generates non-uniform temperatures in each lamina plane and through the laminate thickness. The deformation and stresses of each lamina differ from one another due to the differences in their thermal and mechanical properties.

The nonlinear analysis of a laminate subject to mechanical loading has been based on the governing equations of motion developed by Whitney and Leissa with nonlinear strain fields (Whitney and Leissa, 1969). Extensive investigation on the laminate nonlinear vibration and buckling behaviors has been completed (Chia,

\* Fax: +1 441 229 6958.

E-mail address: xiaoling@uwm.edu

## Nomenclature

- A stiffness matrix of the laminate
- $A^*$ inverse matrix of A
- elements of  $A^*$  $A_{ii}^*$
- B coupling rigidity matrix of the laminate
- Cstiffness matrix of the laminate for constitutive equation of stress and strain
- $C_0$ constant
- coefficient of the stiffness matrix  $C_{ii}$
- $E^{(k)}$ kth lamina Young's Modulus

F(x, y, t) Airy's stress function

- $\widetilde{F}(x, y, t)$  Airy's stress function with complementary function
- $\tilde{I}$ , I,  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$  inertia of the laminate
- applied moment vector M
- $M^{\mathrm{T}}$ thermal moment vector
- N(w)function operator for in-plane forces and deflection
- Ν in-plane force vector
- $N^{\mathrm{T}}$ in-plane thermal force vector
- $Q_{mn}$ external pressure load on the laminate
- $T_0(x, y)$  in-plane temperature variation
- $T_1(x, y)$  temperature variation through the thickness of the laminate
- $T_{mn}^0$ ,  $T_{mn}^1$  Fourier series coefficients for  $T_0(x, y)$ ,  $T_1(x, y)$  and  $T_c(x, y)$ , respectively
- laminate length in xа
- h laminate length in v
- Lyapunov exponent  $l_i(\vec{x}_0)$

 $m^*, p^*, r^*, s^*$  stiffness coefficients

- $a^{\mathrm{T}}$ transverse thermal load
- Duffing equation forcing function due to pressure load q
- u(y, y) in-plane deformation of laminate in x direction
- v(x, y) in-plane deformation of laminate in y direction
- $v^{(1)}$ ,  $v^{(2)}$  elements of Lyapunov exponent
- w(x, y, t) transverse deflection function
- $\ddot{w}(x, y, t)$  transverse deflection acceleration function
- $\hat{w}(x, y, t)$  transverse deflection approximating function
- $|W(t)|, |\ddot{W}(t)|$  transverse deflection and acceleration, respectively
- $|W_0|$  finite deflection  $\alpha_x^{(k)}, \alpha_y^{(k)}, \alpha_{xy}^{(k)}$  kth lamina coefficient of thermal expansion
- mth mode dimension in x $\alpha_m$
- *n*th mode dimension in *y*  $\beta_n$
- $\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_{ij}, \gamma_{ij}$  strain components
- strain invariants  $e_i$
- thermal conductivity κ
- ŷ geometric aspect ratio
- aspect ratio γmn
- kth lamina material density  $\rho_i$
- coefficient for thermal force  $N^{\rm T}$ η
- ξ coefficient for thermal moment  $M^{T}$
- excitation frequency ω
- natural frequency  $\omega_{0_{mn}}$
- system frequency with thermal effect  $\omega_{mn}$

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