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Thermoelastic Nonlinear Frequency Analysis of CNT Reinforced Functionally Graded Sandwich Structure

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Abstract: The nonlinear eigenfrequency responses of the functionally graded single-walled carbon nanotube reinforced sandwich structure is investigated numerically considering the Green-Lagrange nonlinear strain under uniform thermal environment. The mathematical model of the sandwich plate has been derived using the simple higher-order shear deformable kinematics including the temperature dependent properties of each constituent. The sandwich panel constitutes of graded carbon nanotube face sheets and homogeneous core. The desired nonlinear finite element solutions are obtained via the direct iterative method. Based on the necessary validation and convergence new results are computed for different design related parameters and discussed subsequently.

Keywords: CNT; FEM; HSDT; nonlinear vibration; sandwich plate; uniform thermal environment

1 INTRODUCTION

Carbon nanotubes (CNTs) possesses unique and multi-use features such as excellent specific strength, high aspect ratio with extraordinary thermal and electric properties. This makes CNT to an excellent reinforcement material in the polymer matrix and subsequently forced to replace the conventionally available fiber or reinforcement material in the hybrid composite material [1,

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