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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

Vibration of thermally postbuckled sandwich plates with

nanotube-reinforced composite face sheets resting on elastic foundations

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**Abstract** 

This paper investigates the small- and large-amplitude vibrations of thermally postbuckled

sandwich plates with carbon nanotube-reinforced composite (CNTRC) face sheets resting on

elastic foundations. Two types of CNTRC face sheets, namely, uniformly distributed (UD)

and functionally graded (FG) reinforcements, are considered. The material properties of

FG-CNTRCs are assumed to be graded in the thickness direction, and are estimated through a

micromechanical model. The material properties of both CNTRC face sheets and

homogeneous core layer are assumed to be temperature-dependent. The motion equations are

derived based on a higher order shear deformation plate theory. The nonlinearity effect is

taken into account in the sense of von Kármán nonlinear kinematic assumption. The

plate-foundation interaction and the initial deflection caused by thermal postbuckling are also

included. The numerical illustrations concern small- and large-amplitude vibration

characteristics of thermally postbuckled sandwich plates with CNTRC face sheets under

uniform temperature field. The effects of CNT volume fraction and distribution pattern of

face sheets, the core-to-face sheet thickness ratio as well as foundation stiffness on the

vibration characteristics of sandwich plates are examined in detail.

Keywords:

Nanocomposites; Functionally graded materials; Temperature-dependent

properties; Plates; Vibration

1. Introduction

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