

# DYNAMIC RESPONSE OF FUNCTIONALLY GRADED SHELL-TYPE STRUCTURES TO EXPLOSIVE BLASTS

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## Abstract

The modeling and dynamic response of doubly curved functionally graded panels exposed to explosive type loads considered in conjunction with an uniform through the wall-thickness temperature field are investigated. Two scenarios, symmetric and antisymmetric, continuous distributions of the two constituent phases, ceramic and metal, are considered, in the sense that in one of them the composition varies gradually from ceramic-to-ceramic, while in the other one, from ceramic-to-metal. The implications of the various types of pressure pulses, volume fraction exponent, panel curvature, temperature amplitude, edge load damping ratio, timehistory transversal deflection are presented, and pertinent conclusions are drawn.

### 1 Introduction

During the last few decades there is a sustained effort toward integrating advanced laminated composites in the construction of aerospace and reusable flight vehicle. However, due their well-known shortcoming materialized in terms of delamination and chemical unstable matrix and lamina adhesives, specially at high temperatures, new structural paradigms, enabling one to overcome these adverse effects, have been prompted. The advances in functionally graded materials (FGMs) prompted in [1], that combine the best properties of metals and ceramics, and their applications in various areas of aerospace structures, see e.g. [2,3], can be viewed as an alternative solution for large classes of aerospace structures exposed to severe thermomechanical environments. In this paper, the foundation of the theory of shallow doubly curved shells made from FGMs is presented, and in addition, the problem of their dynamic response to time-dependent loads induced by an explosion, sonic-boom or a shock wave is addressed.

Their effects, considered in conjunction with those induced considered being uniform in space and time will be presented. Pictorial representations of the thickness variation of the two constituent phases, ceramic and metal, are supplied for the two indicated scenarios in Figs. 1a and 1b.



Figure 1a: Thickness distribution of the two phases according to scenario a)

at  $x_3 = \pm h/2$ , for any k, V = I, and as a result  $P(\pm h/2) \Rightarrow P_c$  and for  $x_3 = 0$ , V = 0 and  $P(0) \Rightarrow P_m$ .

For Case b), the variation of the two phases across the wall thickness is depicted in Fig. 1b. At  $x_3 = h/2$ ,  $P(h/2) \Rightarrow P_m$  and for  $x_3 = -h/2$ ,  $P(-h/2) \Rightarrow P_c$ . At the Midsurface,  $x_3 = 0$ , and



Figure 1b: The counterpart of Fig. 1 for scenario b).

for k=1, 
$$P(0) = \frac{1}{2} (P_c + P_m)$$

2 Modeling of the FGM Shell Theory

The points of the shell mid-surface are referred to the Gaussian coordinates  $x_{\alpha}$ , and the thickness coordinate, positive in the downward direction being denoted as  $x_3$ . Based on a simple rule of mixtures, the following form of the variation of mechanical and thermal properties in the (thickness)  $x_3$  direction is postulated as

$$P(x_3) = (P_{\text{ceramic}} - P_{\text{metal}})V(x_3, k) + P_{\text{metal}}(1)$$

where  $P(x_3)$  denotes a generic property of the material, in an arbitrary point of the wall structure,  $P_{ceramic}$  and  $P_{metal}$  are the specific values of the respective properties for the two phases, ceramic and metal, while V(x<sub>3</sub>, k) represents the volume fraction of the FGM.

Now, the problem is to express the variation of V according to some pre-determined requirements.

Two scenarios of the grading of the two basic component phases, ceramic and metal, through the wall thickness are considered:

> a) In the case of a high temperature field at both upper and bottom faces of the shell, the phases should vary symmetrically through the wall thickness, in the sense of having full ceramic at the outer surfaces of the shell, and tending toward full metal at its mid-surface, and

b) In the case of a high temperature at the surface  $x_3 = -h/2$ , the phases should vary non-symmetrically through the wall thickness, and in this case, there is full ceramic at the outer surface of the shell, and full metal at its inner surface.

In contrast to scenario a) when there is no bending-stretching coupling in the constitutive equations, in the latter one, such coupling exists, and the governing equations become more intricate.

For scenario a), the proper expression of  $V(x_3, k)$  is

$$V(x_3,k) = \left(\frac{x_3}{h/2}\right)^k \frac{1 + \operatorname{sgn} x_3}{2} + \left(\frac{x_3}{-h/2}\right)^k \frac{1 - \operatorname{sgn} x_3}{2}$$
(2)

where the signum function is given by sgn(0) = 0, -1 for  $x_3 < 0$ , and +1 for  $x_3 > 0$ ; while k, termed the volume fraction index, provides the material variation profile through the wall thickness,  $(0 \le k \le \infty)$ .

For scenario b), the composite varies from ceramic to metal, this implying that, the variation of V through the wall thickness should be represented as

$$V(x_3,k) = \left[ (h - 2x_3)/2h \right]^k$$
(3)

A proper solution methodology enabling one to determine the structural response due to external loadings that are of an explosive-type will be addressed in this paper. The study will provide also a better understanding of the dynamic response and load carrying capacity of shell-type structures composed of functionally graded materials, with properties varying smoothly and continuously across the structural wall thickness exposed to explosive, shock-wave, and uniform temperature-type loadings. 3 Kinematics and Constitutive Equations

The shell theory considered in this study is a refined one, in the sense of the inclusion of transverse shear effects coupled with those involving consideration of the ceramic-metal FGM materials.

Based on (5a-c), the 3-D strain field is expressed in terms of the 2-D counterpart as

$$\{\varepsilon\} = \{\varepsilon^0\} + x_3\{\kappa\}$$
(4)

where

$$\{ \varepsilon(x_{\alpha}, t) \} = \{ \varepsilon_{11}, \varepsilon_{22}, \gamma_{23}, \gamma_{13}, \gamma_{12} \}^{T} \\ \{ \varepsilon^{0}(x_{\alpha}, t) \} = \{ u_{0,1} - w_{0}/R_{1}, v_{0,2} - w_{0}/R_{2}, \\ w_{0,2} + \psi_{2}, w_{0,1} + \psi_{1}, v_{0,1} + u_{0,2} \}^{T} \\ \{ \kappa(x_{\alpha}, t) \} = \{ \psi_{1,1}, \psi_{2,2}, 0, 0, \psi_{1,2} + \psi_{2,1} \}^{T}$$

$$\{ \kappa(x_{\alpha}, t) \} = \{ \psi_{1,1}, \psi_{2,2}, 0, 0, \psi_{1,2} + \psi_{2,1} \}^{T}$$

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where  $\gamma_{ij} (i \neq j)$  denote the engineering shear strain quantities, and commas denote partial derivatives with respect to the indicated variables.

Using the equations providing the 2-D stress-resultants and stress-moments and assuming for shallow shells that  $x_3 / R_i \ll 1$ , one can get their expressions as

$$\{N\} = [A] \{ \varepsilon^{0} \} + [B] \{\kappa\} - \{N^{T}\} \}$$
  

$$\{N_{\alpha 3}\} = k^{2} [A_{s}] \{\gamma_{\alpha 3}\},$$
  

$$\{M\} = [B] \{ \varepsilon^{0} \} + [D] \{\kappa\} - \{M^{T}\},$$
  
Where,  

$$\{N\}^{T} = \{N_{11}, N_{22}, N_{12}\}, \{N_{\alpha 3}\}^{T} = \{N_{23}, N_{13}\}$$
  
and  

$$\{M\}^{T} = \{M_{11}, M_{22}, M_{12}\} \text{ and } k^{2}$$

is the shear correction factor. (6)

The superscript *T* denotes transpose operation, while  $[A], [A_s], [B]$  and [D] are the stretching,

transverse shear, bending-streaching coupling and bending stiffness matrices, respectively. For FGM,  $E = E(x_3)$ ,  $v = v(x_3)$  and  $\alpha = \alpha(x_3)$ .

As it clearly appears, these constitutive equations are valid for the non-symmetric distribution of constituent phases across the wall thickness. For the symmetric distribution counterpart, the bending-stretching coupling becomes immaterial, this yielding [B] = 0.

4 Governing Equations

Toward getting the governing equations we will use Hamilton's principle formulated as (see e.g.

$$\delta J = \delta \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \left( U - W - T \right) dt = 0 \tag{6}$$

where  $t_0$  and  $t_1$  are two arbitrary instants of time, U, W and T denoting the strain energy, the work done by the surface tractions, edge loads and body forces, and the kinetic energy, respectively, while  $\delta$  the variation operation. As the result of its application from (6) one obtains, consistently with Eq. (5), a tenth order governing systems of partially differential equations, expressed in a compact as,

$$L_{ij}v_j = p_i \quad \left(i, j = \overline{1,5}\right) \tag{7}$$

where  $L_{ij} = L_{ji}$  are 2-D differential operators, whose expressions are not supplied here.  $v_j = \{u_0, v_0, w_0, \psi_1, \psi_2\}^T$  is the displacement vector, while  $p_i(t)$  is the thermomechanical load vector. Consistent with the FSDT (First Order Shear Deformation Theory, the distribution of the 3-D displacement quantities through the wall thickness is postulated as: [3]

$$U_{1}(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}t) = u_{0}(x_{1}, x_{2}, t) + x_{3} \quad \psi_{1}(x_{1}, x_{2}, t),$$
  

$$U_{2}(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}t) = v_{0}(x_{1}, x_{2}, t) + x_{3} \quad \psi_{2}(x_{1}, x_{2}, t),$$
  

$$U_{3}(x_{1}, x_{2}, t) = w_{0}(x_{1}, x_{2}, t).$$
  
(8a-c)

In these equations  $U_i$  are the 3-D displacement components along the  $x_i$  directions;  $u_0$ ,  $v_0$ , and  $w_0$  are the 2-D displacement quantities of the points of the mid-surface,  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  are the rotations about axes  $x_2$  and  $x_1$ , respectively, and *t* is the time variable.

$$p_{i}^{T} = \left\{ \partial N_{11}^{T} / \partial x_{1}, \partial N_{22}^{T} / \partial x_{2}, \partial M_{11}^{T} / \partial x_{1}, \\ \partial M_{22}^{T} / \partial x_{2}, -N_{11}^{T} / R_{1} - N_{22}^{T} / R_{2} + p_{3}(t) \right\}$$
(9)

where the superscript *T* within the barckets identifies the stress-resultant and stress-couples generated by the time-independent temperature

field.  $p_i^T$  denotes the transpose of  $p_i$  while  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  denote the radii of curvature.

#### 4 Thermal Blast Loads

The thermal field  $\Delta T$  measured from a stress-free reference temperature  $T_0$  is considered to be time and space independent.

Consistent with the Navier Solution to be adopted in the solution of the present boundary-value problem, we represent  $\Delta T$  as

$$\Delta T = \sum_{m,n=1}^{\infty} T_{mn} \sin \lambda_m x_1 \sin \mu_n x_2$$

which from one obtains that

$$T_{mn} = \frac{4(1 - (-1)^m)(1 - (-1)^n)}{mn\pi^2} =$$

$$T_{mn} = \frac{16\Delta T}{mn\pi^2} \qquad (m_1 n = 1, 3, 5....).$$
(10)

For the thermal stress-results  $N^T$  and stress couples  $M^T$  associated with the FGM, one can use the same representation as for  $\Delta T$ , that is

$$N^{T} = \sum_{n,m=1}^{\infty} N_{mn}^{T} \sin \lambda_{m}, x_{1}, \sin \mu_{n}, n_{2}$$

$$M^{T} = \sum_{n,m=1}^{\infty} M_{mn}^{T} \sin \lambda_{m}, x_{1}, \sin \mu_{n}, x_{2}$$
(11)

Using the definition of  $N^T$  and  $M^T$  one gets the expressions of their amplitudes as

$$\left(N_{mn}^{T}, M_{mn}^{T}\right) = T_{1} \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} E(x_{3}) \alpha(x_{3})(1, x_{3}) dx_{3} \quad (12)$$

where 
$$T_1 = \frac{16\Delta I}{mn\pi^2(1-\nu)}$$
 (m,n=1,3,5....).

Consistent with the distribution of the material properties in the FGM, one obtains, with Scenario a):

$$N_{mn}^{T} = T_{1} \Big[ E_{cm} \alpha_{cm} \Big( I_{12}^{s} + I_{22}^{s} \Big) + \big( E_{m} \alpha_{cm} + E_{cm} \alpha_{m} \big) \\ \times \Big( I_{32}^{s} + I_{42}^{s} \Big) \Big]$$
$$M_{mn}^{T} = 0$$
(13a)

while for Scenario b):

$$N_{mn}^{T} = T_{1} \Big[ E_{cm} \alpha_{cm} I_{12}^{a} + (E_{m} \alpha_{m} + E_{m} \alpha_{cm}) I_{21}^{a} \\ + E_{cm} \alpha_{m} h \Big]$$
  
$$M_{mn}^{T} = T_{1} \Big[ E_{cm} \alpha_{cm} I_{12}^{a} + (E_{m} \alpha_{m} + E_{m} \alpha_{cm}) I_{22}^{a} \Big]$$
(13b)

where,  $E_{cm} = E_c - E_m$ ,  $\alpha_{cm} = \alpha_c - \alpha_m$ , while the coefficients  $I_{ij}^s$  and  $I_{ij}^a$  are geometrical quantities associated with the symmetrical or the asymmetrical shells.

As concerns the blast loads, these can be generated by an explosion or by shock-wave disturbances produced by an aircraft flying at supersonic speeds, or by any supersonic projectile, rocket or missile operating in its vicinity.

In the latter case, the blast pulse is referred to as sonic-boom. Its time-history is described as an *N*-shape pulse, featuring both a positive and a negative phase. Having in view the large blast front generated by the explosion as compared to the relatively small dimensions of the panel, one assumes with sufficient accuracy that the pressure is uniform over the entire panel that is impacted at normal incidence.

The sonic-boom overpressure can be expressed as follows (see e.g. Librescu and Nosier (1990)),

$$p_{3}(t) = \begin{cases} P_{0}(1-t/t_{p}) & \text{for } 0 < t < rt_{p} \\ 0 & \text{for } t < 0 \text{ and } t > rt_{p} \end{cases}$$
(14)

where  $P_0$  denotes the peak reflected pressure in excess to the ambient one,  $t_p$  denotes the positive phase duration of the pulse measured from the time of impact of the structure, and *r* denotes the shock pulse length factor.

For r = 1, the sonic-boom degenerates into a triangular explosive pulse, for r = 2, a symmetric sonic-boom pulse is obtained while  $r \neq 2$  corresponds to a nonsymmetric *N*-pulse. When r = 1 and  $t_p \rightarrow \infty$ , in Eq. (14) the *N*-pulse degenerates in a step pulse.

A more complete expression of the explosive blast pulse as compared to the triangular one is described by the Friedländer exponential decay equation as

$$p_{3}(t) = P_{0}\left(1 - \frac{t}{t_{p}}\right)e^{-a't/t_{p}}.$$
 (15)

where the negative phase of the blast is included. In Eq. (15) a' denotes a decay parameter which has to be adjusted to approximate the pressure curve from the blast test. As it could be inferred, the triangular explosive load may be viewed as a limiting case of Eq. (18), that is for  $a'/t_n \rightarrow 0$ .

Having in view that Laplace transform method will be used to determine the dynamic response, it is appropriate to express Eq. (16) equivalently (see Marzocca et al. (2001), as

$$p_3(t) = P_0 \left( 1 - \frac{t}{t_p} \right) \left[ H(t) - H(t - rt_p) \right], \qquad (16)$$

where H(t) denotes the Heaviside step function. As special cases of Eq. (16), the rectangular and step pressure pulses can be obtained. In the former case

$$p_{3}(t) = P_{0}\left\{H(t) - H(t - t_{p})\right\}, \qquad (17a)$$

while for the latter one

$$p_3(t) = P_0 \text{ for } \forall t > 0.$$
 (17b)

The sine pulse that will also be considered in the numerical simulations, is represented as

$$p_{3}(t) \begin{cases} P_{0} \sin \pi t / t_{p} & 0 \le t \le t_{p} \\ 0 & t > t_{p} \end{cases}$$
(18)

Finally, in the case of an air-blast traveling in the tangential direction to the panel span, case that will also be considered, the pressure timehistory is represented as

$$p_3(t) = P_0 e^{-\eta(ct-x_1)} H(ct-x_1), \qquad (19)$$

where *c* is the wave speed in the medium surrounding the structure, while  $\eta$  is an exponent determining the character of the blast decay.

For a recent study regarding the modeling of gun blast pressure pulses, the reader is referred to Kim and Han (2006).

#### 5 Solution Methodology

An exact solution that can be viewed as an extenion of the Navier type solution will be adopted. It corresponds to the case of the simply supported SSI type boundary condition implying that on  $x_1 = 0$ ,  $L_1$ :  $v_0 = 0$ ;  $w_0 = 0$ ;  $\psi_2 = 0$ ;  $N_{11} = M_{11} = 0$  and on  $x_2 = 0$ ,  $l_2 u_0 = 0$ ;  $w_0 = 0$ ;  $\psi_1 = 0$ ,  $N_{22} = M_{22} = 0$ . As is clearly seen, the SS1-type involves completely moveable edges in the tangential direction.

The solution associated with each displacement unknown is represented as the superposition of two parts a quasi-static and a small dynamic part expressed as

$$V(x_1, x_2, t) = V^s(x_1, x_2) + V^d(x_1, x_2, t)$$
(20)

where *V* denotes a generic displacement quantity.

The boundary conditions are identically fulfilled by expressing the displacement quantities as

$$u_{0}(x_{1}, x_{2}, t) = \sum_{m,n=1}^{\infty} u_{mn}(t) \cos \lambda_{m} x_{1} \sin \mu_{n} x_{2},$$

$$v_{0}(x_{1}, x_{2}, t) = \sum_{m,n=1}^{\infty} v_{mn}(t) \sin \lambda_{m} x_{1} \cos \mu_{n} x_{2},$$

$$\psi_{1}(x_{1}, x_{2}, t) = \sum_{m,n=1}^{\infty} \psi_{1mn}(t) \cos \lambda_{m} x_{1} \sin \mu_{n} x_{2} \quad (21)$$

$$\psi_{2}(x_{1}, x_{2}, t) = \sum_{m,n=1}^{\infty} \psi_{2mn}(t) \sin \lambda_{m} x_{1} \cos \mu_{n} x_{2},$$

$$w_{0}(x_{1}, x_{2}, t) = \sum_{m,n=1}^{\infty} w_{mn}(t) \sin \lambda_{m} x_{1} \sin \mu_{n} x_{2}.$$

Consistent with the previous Navier-type representations, we express

$$p_3(t) = \sum_{m,n=1}^{\infty} Q_{mn}(t) \sin \lambda_m x_1 \sin \mu_n x_2$$

where from one gets

$$Q_{mn} = \frac{16}{mn\pi^2} p_3(t) \qquad (m, n = 1, 3, 5, ...)$$
(22)

where  $p_3(t)$  corresponds to the particular case of blast. Whereas  $V^s$  can be determined by using the representation of Eqs. (21) of displacement quantities in the governing equations specialized for the case of zero inertia and a zero transversal load term related with the explosive load. Similiarly,  $V^d$  can be determined from the governing equations by keeping the damping and inertia terms as well as the transversal dynamic load term, and discarding in the boundary conditions the thermal terms.

## 6 Numerical Simulations

The following data for the panel geometry and material properties of constituent material phases are considered in the numerical simulations

Table 1. Material Properties		
	Metal	Ceramic
	(Aluminum)	(Alumina)
E, Modulus (GPa)	70	393
υ, Poisson's Ratio (Unitless)	0.3	0.25
ρ, Density (Kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	2707	3970
α, Coeff. of Thermal Exp. (/ $^{\circ}$ C)	$23 \times 10^{-6}$	$8.8 \times 10^{-6}$
<i>Cv</i> , Specific Heat (J/Kg-°K)	900	268
kT, Thermal Cond. (W/m-K)	204	10.4
κ, Thermal Diffusivity ( $m^2/s$ )	$8.373\times10^{\text{-5}}$	$9.783  imes 10^{-6}$

 $(L_1 = L_2 = 0.2m, h = 0.004m)$ 

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Fig. 1. Center deflection time-history of a FGM spherical cap subjected to an explosive blast, for various values of k.



Fig. 2. Counterpart of Fig. 1 for the case of a traveling shock wave.



Fig. 3. Effects of the symmetry/asymmetry of phase distribution on the dynamic deflection time-history of a flat panel subjected to a triangular explosive blast.



Fig. 4. Effects of the symmetry/asymmetry of phase distribution on the dynamic deflection time-history of a flat panel subjected to an explosive blast and of a uniform temperature ( $\Delta T = 1500^{\circ}C$ ).



Fig. 5. Effects of the volume fraction exponent on the dynamic response of circular cylindrical panel subjected to an explosive blast, a uniform temperature field ( $\Delta T = 1500^{\circ}C$ ) and a compressive edge load.