Active Control of Multiferroic Composite Shells Using 1-3 Piezoelectric Composites

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Abstract—This article deals with the analysis of active constrained layer damping (ACLD) of smart multiferroic or magneto-electro-elastic doubly curved shells. The kinematics of deformations of the multiferroic doubly curved shell is described by a layer-wise shear deformation theory. A three-dimensional finite element model of multiferroic shells has been developed taking into account the electro-elastic and magneto-elastic couplings. A simple velocity feedback control law is employed to incorporate the active damping. Influence of layer stacking sequence and boundary conditions on the response of the multiferroic doubly curved shell has been studied. In addition, for the different orientation of the fibers of the constraining layer, the performance of the ACLD treatment has been studied.

Keywords—Active constrained layer damping, doubly curved shells, magneto-electro-elastic, multiferroic composite, smart structures.

I. INTRODUCTION

Structures integrated with piezoelectric sensors and actuators possess self-sensing, self-monitoring, and diagnosing capabilities are commonly known as smart structures. It is evident from the open literature that the piezoelectric materials are the best smart materials for the active control of high-performance lightweight flexible structures [1]-[4]. In order to achieve better performance from the piezoelectric materials of low control authority, they are being used as the constraining layer of the ACLD treatment rather than directly bonded to the substrates. Furthermore, the ACLD treatment can also be used as passive constrained layer damping (PCLD) by deactivating the applied control voltages [5]. Thus, the ACLD treatment has been established as an efficient smartness element providing both passive and active damping simultaneously when under operation [6]-[10].

A unique and interesting class of multiphase composites such as multiferroic or magneto-electro-elastic (MEE) composite consisting of ferroelectric/piezoelectric (BaTiO3) and ferromagnetic/ piezomagnetic (CoFe2O4) phases has attracted the interest of researchers over the last few years on account of promising properties of multiferroic composite materials. Multiphase composite structures made of ferroelectric and ferromagnetic layers are subjected to the actions of electro-elastic, magneto-elastic, and electromagnetic coupled fields, which are absent in the individual constituents. The unique property of MEE materials is that they have the ability to convert energy among magnetic, electric and mechanical energies [11]-[16]. These interesting properties attracted the researchers to use the multiferroic materials in the fields of sensors, actuators, transducers, space structures, sonar applications. Most recently, Xin and Hu [17] studied the free vibration of simply supported multilayered MEE plates using the discrete singular convolution algorithm and state space approach. Gou et al. [18] investigated the static deformation of anisotropic four layered MEE plates under surface loading based on the modified couple-stress theory. Liu et al. [19] determined the high order solutions for MEE plates with non-uniform materials. Zhou and Zhu [20] used the third order shear deformation theory to study the vibration and bending analysis of multiferroic plates. Further, nonlinear analysis of MEE plates has attracted the interest of researchers considerably. Chen and Yu [21] developed the geometrically nonlinear multiphysics plate model and analyzed the MEE laminated composites by applying the variational asymptotic method. Shoshtari and Razavi [22] used thin plate theory to investigate a nonlinear free and forced vibration of transversely isotropic rectangular MEE thin plate. Farajpour et al. [23] investigated the nonlinear free vibration of size dependent MEE nanolayers subjected to external electric and magnetic potentials by considering the geometrical nonlinearity.

Since the MEE shell can be a promising smart composite structure and is composed of smart materials, the necessity of using the additional means of smart damping such as the ACLD treatment for the active control of the multiferroic/MEE shell must be investigated. However, to the authors’ best knowledge, the research concerning the control of multiferroic shell is not yet reported. In this paper, three-dimensional analysis of the ACLD of the multiferroic doubly curved shells integrated with the patches of the ACLD treatment has been carried out by the finite element method to investigate the active control vibrations. The effects of various parameters such as the effect of coupling coefficients, boundary conditions, aspect ratio and the variation of the piezoelectric fiber orientation angle in the 1-3 PZC constraining layer on the response of the multiferroic doubly curved shells have been thoroughly investigated.

II. PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

A schematic diagram of a multiferroic doubly curved shell with the ACLD patch at the center of the top surface of the shell is illustrated in Fig. 1 [5]. It may be noted that the results are also obtained by placing two patches of same volume at the edges of the top surface of the shell. The middle layer of the multiferroic shell is made of ferromagnetic...
The transverse displacement assumed for the MEE shells/plates can be represented by:

\[ w(x, y, z, t) = w_0(x, y, t) + z \theta_z(x, y, t) + z^2 \phi_z(x, y, t) \]  

In (1) and (2), \( u_0, v_0 \) and \( w_0 \) are the translational displacements at any point on the mid-plane of the substrate along \( x, y \)- and \( z \)-directions, respectively, whereas, \( \theta_z \) and \( \phi_z \) are the generalized rotational displacements. To facilitate the computation and evaluation, the rotational variables \{ \( \theta_i \) \} are separated from the translational displacement variables \{ \( d_i \) \} and are given by:

\[ \{ d_i \} = \begin{bmatrix} u_0 & v_0 & w_0 \end{bmatrix}^T \]

and

\[ \{ \theta_i \} = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_x & \theta_y & \theta_z \phi_z \end{bmatrix}^T \]  

The states of strain and stress at any point in the overall doubly curved shell are expressed by the strain/stress vector containing in-plane strain/stress and transverse normal strain/stress and the vector of transverse shear strains/stresses can be expressed as in (4a) and (4b):

\[ \{ \varepsilon_s \} = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_x & \varepsilon_y & \varepsilon_z \end{bmatrix}^T \]  

and

\[ \{ \sigma_s \} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_x & \sigma_y & \sigma_z \end{bmatrix}^T \]  

Making use of linear strain-displacement relations and the displacement fields, the strain vectors defining the state of in-plane and transverse normal strains and the transverse shear strains at any point in the substrate, the viscoelastic layer and the piezoelectric actuator layer, respectively, can be expressed as:

\[ \{ \varepsilon_s \} = \varepsilon_s + \left[ z \right] \{ \varepsilon_v \} , \quad \{ \varepsilon_v \} = \varepsilon_v + \left[ z \right] \{ \varepsilon_p \} , \quad \{ \varepsilon_p \} = \varepsilon_p \]  

The superscripts \( s, v \) and \( p \) represent the substrate, the viscoelastic layer and the piezoelectric layer, respectively. The transformation matrices \( [Z_1]-[Z_5] \) and the strain vectors appearing in (5) and (6) have been explicitly presented in the Appendix A.

B. Constitutive Equations

The coupled constitutive relations for the MEE solid substrate are given by:
\[ \{ e_i^s \} = [C_i^s] \{ e_i^s \} - \{ q_i^s \} H_z, \quad \{ \sigma_i^s \} = [C_i^s] \{ e_i^s \} \] (7)

\[ D_z = \{ e_i^b \}^T \{ e_i^s \} + \varepsilon_{33} E_z + d_{33} H_z \] (8)

\[ B_z = \{ q_i^b \}^T \{ e_i^s \} + d_{33} E_z + \mu_{33} H_z \] (9)

where, \( D_e \) and \( B_e \) are the electric displacement and the magnetic induction (i.e., magnetic flux), respectively, along the \( z \)-direction; \( E_z \) and \( H_z \) are the electric field and the magnetic field, respectively, along the \( z \)-direction; \([C_i^s]\) and \([C_i^b]\) are transformed elastic constitutive matrix; \( \varepsilon_{33} \) and \( \mu_{33} \) are the dielectric constant and the magnetic permeability constant, respectively; \( \{ e_i^s \}, \{ q_i^s \} \) and \( d_{33} \) are the piezoelectric coefficient matrix, the magnetostrictive coefficient matrix and the electromagnetic coefficient, respectively. The viscoelastic material used in the present study is assumed to be linearly viscoelastic homogeneous and isotropic. In the complex modulus approach, the shear modulus \( G \) and the Young’s modulus \( E \) of the viscoelastic material are given by:

\[ G = \frac{G'}{1 + i\eta} \quad \text{and} \quad E = 2G(1 + \nu) \] (10)

in which \( G' \) is the storage modulus, \( \nu \) is the Poisson’s ratio, and \( \eta \) is the loss factor at any particular operating temperature and frequency.

\[ E_z = -\frac{\partial \phi^s}{\partial z}, \quad E_z^b = -\frac{\partial \phi^b}{\partial z} \quad \text{and} \quad H_z = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} \] (11)

in which \( \phi^s \) and \( \phi^b \) are the electric potential functions in the top and the bottom piezoelectric layer, respectively. It is assumed that the interfaces between the piezoelectric layer and the magnetostrictive layer are suitably grounded. Also, since the thicknesses of the layers of the substrate are very small, linear variations of the electric potential and the magnetic potential functions can be assumed across the thickness of the layers. Thus, the electric potential functions \( \phi^s \), \( \phi^b \) and the magnetic potential distribution field \( \psi \) in the magnetostrictive layer can be expressed as:

\[ \phi^s = \frac{z - z_s}{h} \phi_1, \quad \phi^b = \frac{z - h_b}{h} \phi_b \quad \text{and} \quad \psi = \frac{z - h_s}{h} \psi \] (12)

\[ \text{D. Finite Element Formulation of Shell} \]

The overall magneto-electro-elastic shell integrated with the ACLD patches is discretized by eight nodged iso-parametric quadrilateral elements. In accordance with (3), the generalized displacement vectors \( \{ d_i^s \} \) and \( \{ d_i^b \} \) associated with the \( i \)-th \((i = 1, 2, 3, \ldots, 8)\) node of the element can be written as:

\[ \{ d_i^s \} = [u_i, v_i, w_i]^T \quad \text{and} \quad \{ d_i^b \} = [\theta_{si}, \theta_{bi}, \phi_{si}, \phi_{bi}, \gamma_{si}, \gamma_{bi}]^T \] (13)

The generalized displacement vectors, the electric potential vector \( \{ \phi \} \), and the magnetic potential \( \{ \psi \} \) at any point within the element can be expressed in terms of the nodal generalized displacement vectors \( \{ d_i^s \} \) and \( \{ d_i^b \} \), the nodal electric potential vector \( \{ \phi \} \), and the nodal magnetic potential \( \{ \psi \} \), respectively, in (14a):

\[ \{ d_i \} = [N_i] [d_i^s], \quad \{ d_i \} = [N_i] [d_i^b], \quad \{ \phi \} = [N_i \psi_{\phi}] [\phi], \quad \{ \psi \} = [N_i \psi_{\psi}] [\psi] \] (14a)

in which,

\[ [N_i] = \begin{bmatrix} n_1 & n_2 & 0 & \ldots & n_s & 0 \\ 0 & n_1 & n_2 & \ldots & 0 & n_s \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \ldots & 0 & n_1 & n_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad [N_{\psi}] = \begin{bmatrix} N_{\psi_1} & N_{\psi_2} & \ldots & N_{\psi_8} \end{bmatrix}, \quad N_n = n_I, \quad \text{and} \quad N_n = n_I. \] (14b)

where \([N_i]\), \([N_{\psi}]\), \([N_{\psi}]\), and \([N_{\psi}]\) are the \((3 \times 24), (8 \times 64), (2 \times 16), \text{and} (1 \times 8)\) shape function matrices, respectively.
The control voltage $V_i$ of the constraining layer of each ACLD patch is supplied according to a simple derivative control law. Thus, the control voltage for each patch can be expressed in terms of derivatives of the global nodal degrees of freedom as given in (15):

$$V_i = -K_i \omega_i = -K_i \{U_i\}\{X\}$$  \hspace{1cm} (15)$$

where $K_i$ is the control gains of the $i^{th}$ ACLD patch, $[U_i]$ is the unit vectors. Using the first variation of the total potential energy of the typical element integrated with the ACLD treatment, the final coupled equations of motion governing the closed loop dynamics of the MEE doubly curved shell integrated with the ACLD patches is expressed in (16):

$$[M]\{\ddot{X}\} + [K_u]\{X\} + [K_p]\{X\} + [K_{\phi p}]\{\phi\} + [K_{\psi}]\{\psi\} + \sum_{j=1}^{a} \{F_{p,j}\} = \{F\}$$

in which, the global augmented matrices are given by:

$$[K_i] = [K_r] - [K_d][K_d]^T [K_d]^T,$$

$$\{F_p\} = [K_d][F_d]^T - \{F_{p,j}\}.$$

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section deals with the analysis of the frequency responses of the multiferroic/MEE doubly curved shell integrated with the ACLD treatment computed by the finite element model derived in the preceding section. In order to validate the results of the simply supported MEE, doubly curved shell with infinite radii of curvature ($R_1 = \infty$, $R_2 = R_3$) is considered for the comparison with the results reported by Moita et al. [16] with the identical dimensions (sides $a = b = 1$ m and the thickness $H = 0.3$ m). Table II demonstrates the some of the lower natural frequencies of MEE shell ($R_1 = \infty$, $R_2 = R_3$) for the P/M/P and the M/P/M stacking sequences. It may be observed from this table that the present results are in good agreement with those reported in [16] for both the stacking sequences of the MEE plates. However, as expected, it is noticed that some acceptable discrepancies exist in the result. This is attributed to the consideration of transverse normal strain $\varepsilon_z$ in the present model which is neglected in [16]. Figs. 2 and 3 illustrate the comparison of frequency response functions for the transverse displacement of the active damping of a simply supported P/M/P and M/P/M multiferroic doubly curved shell, respectively, with $(K_d \neq 0$, active damping) and without $(K_d = 0$, passive damping) activating the ACLD patches when located at the center of the top surface and two patches placed at the edges. Figs. 4 and 5 illustrate the corresponding control voltages. It may be observed from these figures that the active ACLD treatment appreciably improves the damping characteristics and has considerable effect on the control of the transverse displacement of the shell over the passive damping with nominal control voltage. It may also be noticed that the performance of a single patch located at the center of the shell is better than the two patches located at the edges of the multiferroic doubly curved shell. Figs. 6 and 7 depict the frequency response functions for the transverse displacement of the active damping of the clamped-clamped P/M/P and...
M/P/M doubly curved shells whereas Fig. 8 depicts the corresponding control voltages. It may be observed from these figures that the trend is analogous to the simply supported multiferroic shell.

**Fig. 2** Frequency response functions for the transverse displacement $w(a/2, b/4, H/2)$ of a simply supported P/M/P multiferroic doubly curved shell ($a = 200H, R_1=10a; R_2=10R_1$)

**Fig. 3** Frequency response functions for the transverse displacement $w(a/2, b/4, H/2)$ of a simply supported M/P/M multiferroic doubly curved shell ($a = 200H, R_1=10a; R_2=10R_1$)

**Fig. 4** Comparison of the control voltage for active damping of the simply supported multiferroic doubly curved shell when two patches placed at edges of the shell

**Fig. 5** Comparison of the control voltage for active damping of the simply supported multiferroic doubly curved shell when a single ACLD patch is located at center of the shell

**Fig. 9** depicts the influence of piezoelectric fiber orientation angle ($\lambda$) on the responses of multiferroic shell for the P/M/P stacking sequence in the xz-plane. It is evident from this figure that the best control of amplitude of multiferroic shells is achieved by the of vertically reinforced 1-3 PZC layer ($\lambda = 0^\circ$). It may also be noted that performance of obliquely reinforced 1-3.

**Fig. 6** Frequency response functions for the transverse displacement $w(a/2, b/4, H/2)$ of a clamped-clamped P/M/P multiferroic doubly curved shell with patches at the edges ($a = 200H, R_1=10a; R_2=10R_1$)

**Fig. 7** Frequency response functions for the transverse displacement $w(a/2, b/4, H/2)$ of a clamped-clamped M/P/M Multiferroic doubly curved shell with patches at the edges ($a = 200H, R_1=10a; R_2=10R_1$)
In this paper, a three-dimensional finite element analysis has been carried out to investigate the active damping of the multiferroic doubly curved shells integrated with the patches of the ACLD treatment. The numerical results reveal that the ACLD patches significantly improve the damping characteristics of the multiferroic composite shell. The performance of the ACLD patches is influenced by the edge boundary conditions and the variation of fiber orientation angle (λ). The best performance of the patches is achieved when the orientation angle (λ) of the fibers is 0° for both simply supported and clamped-clamped multiferroic composite shells. Further, performance of single ACLD patch/treatment is better when placed at the center of the multiferroic shell than the two patches of same volume placed at the edges. The electro-elastic and magneto-elastic couplings cause marginal increase in stiffening of the multiferroic shell. These couplings improve the performance of the ACLD patches for attenuating the fundamental mode of vibration of the multiferroic shell.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, a three-dimensional finite element analysis has been carried out to investigate the active damping of the multiferroic doubly curved shells integrated with the patches of the ACLD treatment. The numerical results reveal that the ACLD patches significantly improve the damping characteristics of the multiferroic composite shell. The performance of the ACLD patches is influenced by the edge boundary conditions and the variation of fiber orientation angle (λ). The best performance of the patches is achieved when the orientation angle (λ) of the fibers is 0° for both simply supported and clamped-clamped multiferroic composite shells. Further, performance of single ACLD patch/treatment is better when placed at the center of the multiferroic shell than the two patches of same volume placed at the edges. The electro-elastic and magneto-elastic couplings cause marginal increase in stiffening of the multiferroic shell. These couplings improve the performance of the ACLD patches for attenuating the fundamental mode of vibration of the multiferroic shell.

APPENDIX

A. Transformation Matrices

The transformation matrices \([z_1], [z_2], [z_3], [z_4]\) and \([z_5]\) appearing in (5) and (6) are given by:

\[
[z_1] = [Z_{11} \tilde{O} \tilde{O}], \quad [z_2] = [Z_{21} h_1 \tilde{I} \tilde{I}] = \left( z - \frac{h_1}{2} \right) \tilde{I} \tilde{I},
\]

\[
[Z_3] = [T \tilde{O} \tilde{O} Z_{3}], \quad [Z_4] = [\tilde{O} \tilde{T} \tilde{T} Z_{3}],
\]

where,

\[
Z_1 = \begin{bmatrix}
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 2z \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0
\end{bmatrix}, \quad Z_2 = \begin{bmatrix}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{4}{h}
\end{bmatrix},
\]

\[
Z_3 = \begin{bmatrix}
z & 0 & z^2 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & z & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0
\end{bmatrix}, \quad Z_4 = Z_3 = Z_3.
\]

B. Strain Vectors

\[
\{\varepsilon_n\} = \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{\partial w_n}{\partial x} + \frac{w}{R_1} \frac{\partial v_n}{\partial y} + \frac{w}{R_2} \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_n}{\partial x} \\
0
\end{bmatrix}^T,
\]

\[
\{\varepsilon_n\} = \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{\partial w_n}{\partial x} - \frac{u_n}{R_1} \frac{\partial v_n}{\partial y} - \frac{v_n}{R_2} \\
\frac{\partial \theta_n}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \phi_n}{\partial y}
\end{bmatrix}^T,
\]

\[
\{\varepsilon_n\} = \begin{bmatrix}
\theta_x & \theta_y & \phi_x & \phi_y & \gamma_x & \gamma_y & \frac{\partial \theta_x}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial \theta_y}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial \phi_x}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial \phi_y}{\partial y}
\end{bmatrix}^T.
\]
\[
\{E_{16}\} = \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{\partial^2\theta}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial x^2} & \frac{\partial^2\theta}{\partial x\partial y} + \frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial x\partial y} & \frac{\partial^2\theta}{\partial x\partial z} + \frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial x\partial z} \\
\frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial y^2} & \frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial y\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial y\partial x} & \frac{\partial^2\phi}{\partial y\partial z} + \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial y\partial z} \\
\frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial z^2} + \frac{\partial^2\beta}{\partial z^2} & \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial z\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2\beta}{\partial z\partial x} & \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial z\partial y} + \frac{\partial^2\beta}{\partial z\partial y}
\end{bmatrix}
\]

**Table I**

Comparison of Natural Frequencies (rad/s) of MEE Plate (Effect of Coupled Fields on the Natural Frequencies of the Plates, pp.1684-1691.

**Table II**

Effect of Coupled Fields on the Natural Frequencies of the P/M/P Multiferroic Shell (A= 200H, R1= 10A, R2= 10R1)

**Table III**

Effect of Coupled Fields on the Natural Frequencies of the P/M/P Multiferroic Shell (A= 200H, R1= 10A, R2= 10R1)

**References**


