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ANALYTICAL INVESTIGATION ON BUCKLING STABILITY OF GLASS/CARBON HYBRID ANGLE-PLY COMPOSITE LAMINATES

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Abstract: *This research is focused on the buckling stability of a hybrid Glass/Carbon composite laminated plates, we founded the present investigation on a simpler and efficient refined high order analytical model for predicting the critical mechanical buckling loads, the material properties considered in this study are Carbon's and Glass's, furthermore we used a mathematical approach to predict the performance of the mixture of two types of fibers in the same layer of the laminated composite plate. In view of the fact that everyone of these kinds of fibers excel singularly at least in one mechanical property, the mixture is undeniably to provide the best qualities and eliminate any possible deficiencies in these materials.*

Key words: *Critical buckling load, angle-ply laminates, refined theory, shear stress, Carbon, Glass.*

1. INTRODUCTION

For the moment composite structures draw more and more attentiveness day after day due to their divers mechanical and physical advantages however it is expensive to carry out various experiments in order to predict their characteristics this obstacle drove scientists to adopt a more complex mathematical modeling to represent the actual behavior of composite structures The most important of these advanced analytical theories are those which take into consideration the effect of shear in terms of inferring stresses and strains like the shear deformation theory of first order originated in the mid-forties by Reissner and Mindlin [1] that includes the effect shearing in strains and stresses but this had a huge shortcoming due to its linear shear stresses distribution in the plate's thickness leading to necessity of inclusion of the coefficients shear stress correction [2],[3],[4]. So as to rectify this preceding deficiency a considerable number of higher order theories has been appeared starting with [5],[6],[7],[8],[9]. The refined theories emerged to facilitate the math formulas by decreasing the number of variables [10],[11],[12].

A numerous number of researchers have been considering the behavior of structures with advanced materials [13].

The most interesting characteristic of the refined theories is that they do not include shear correction coefficients and they are highly similar to the Euler Bernoulli's theory in ease of resolution and simplicity

In the present research the investigation of buckling stability of Glass/Carbon hybrid composite plates submitted to mechanical load is conducted using an efficient refined high order model. This theory allows for a distribution in parabolic shape of transversal shear strains and stresses along the plate's thickness and satisfies the condition of shear stress equal to zero at the lower edge ($z=-h/2$) and upper edge the plate ($z=+h/2$) and doesn't include any shear correction coefficients. The equilibrium equations are obtained by using virtual work's principle The plate's buckling loads are deduced thanks to the solution of Navier. In the aim to prove the validity the present model result's accuracy, we compare them against those of other theories from the literature

2. MATERIAL PROPERTIES

The material properties considered in this investigation are those of a hybrid composite laminated plate, where the hybridization is done in each layer of the plate, this means that each layer contains two types of fibers.

In order to calculate the elasticity modulus of the hybrid composite laminates, we exploit the following formula [14]:

$$E_1 = V_f[E_C w_f + E_G(1 - w_f)] + E_E V_E \quad (1)$$

Where E_1 is longitudinal Young's modulus. E_C , E_G and E_E are the Young modulus of the Carbon fiber, the Glass fiber and the matrix respectively. V_C , V_G , and V_E are the fraction's volume of the Carbon fiber, the Glass fiber and the matrix, respectively, where:

$$V_C + V_G + V_E = 1 \quad (2)$$

And w_f is the Carbon's percentage over the total fiber's volume fraction as follows:

$$w_f = \frac{V_C}{V_f} \quad (3)$$

Using the same approach, the Poisson's coefficient is given by

$$\nu_{12} = V_f[\nu_C w_f + \nu_G(1 - w_f)] + \nu_E V_E \quad (4)$$

3. KINEMATICS

The field of displacement in the present investigation is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, y, z) &= u_0(x, y) - z \frac{\partial w_b}{\partial x} - \frac{4z^3}{3h^2} \frac{\partial w_s}{\partial x} \\ v(x, y, z) &= v_0(x, y) - z \frac{\partial w_b}{\partial y} - \frac{4z^3}{3h^2} \frac{\partial w_s}{\partial y} \\ w(x, y, z) &= w_b(x, y) + w_s(x, y) \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Where "u" and "v" are the components of displacements in medium plane of the considered plate in the "x" and "y" directions, respectively; " w_b " is the bending component and " w_s " is the shear component of transversal displacement.

The strain obtained from the displacements in Eq. (5) are:

$$\varepsilon_x = \frac{\partial u_0}{\partial x} - z \frac{\partial^2 w_b}{\partial x^2} - \frac{4z^3}{3h^2} \frac{\partial^2 w_s}{\partial x^2} \quad (6-a)$$

$$\varepsilon_y = \frac{\partial v_0}{\partial y} - z \frac{\partial^2 w_b}{\partial y^2} - \frac{4z^3}{3h^2} \frac{\partial^2 w_s}{\partial y^2} \quad (6-b)$$

$$\gamma_{xy} = \frac{\partial u_0}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_0}{\partial x} - z \frac{\partial^2 w_b}{\partial x \partial y} - \frac{4z^3}{3h^2} \frac{\partial^2 w_s}{\partial x \partial y} \quad (6-c)$$

$$\gamma_{yz} = \left(1 - \frac{4z^2}{h^2}\right) \frac{\partial w_s}{\partial y} \quad (6-d)$$

$$\gamma_{xz} = \left(1 - \frac{4z^2}{h^2}\right) \frac{\partial w_s}{\partial x} \quad (6-e)$$

$$\varepsilon_z = 0 \quad (6-f)$$

4. CONSTITUTIVE EQUATIONS

As the Hybrid composite plates are made of various orthotropic layers with arbitrarily oriented material axes, the equations constitutive of every single layer have to be transformed according to the coordinates of the plate (x, y, z). The strain-stress relations in the plate coordinates of each layer are as follow

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \sigma_x \\ \sigma_y \\ \sigma_{xy} \\ \sigma_{yz} \\ \sigma_{xz} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{Q}_{11} & \bar{Q}_{12} & \bar{Q}_{16} & 0 & 0 \\ \bar{Q}_{12} & \bar{Q}_{22} & \bar{Q}_{26} & 0 & 0 \\ \bar{Q}_{16} & \bar{Q}_{26} & \bar{Q}_{66} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \bar{Q}_{44} & \bar{Q}_{45} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \bar{Q}_{45} & \bar{Q}_{55} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \varepsilon_x \\ \varepsilon_y \\ \gamma_{xy} \\ \gamma_{yz} \\ \gamma_{xz} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

Where \bar{Q}_{ij} are the transformed material constants [10].

5. GOVERNING EQUATIONS

Virtual work principle is used in this study in order to obtain the equilibrium equations appropriate to the displacement field and the constitutive equations. It can be given in the following formula

$$N_x^0 \frac{\partial^2(w_b + w_s)}{\partial x^2} + N_y^0 \frac{\partial^2(w_b + w_s)}{\partial y^2} + 2N_{xy}^0 \frac{\partial^2(w_b + w_s)}{\partial x \partial y} \Big] dx dy = 0 \quad (8)$$

Where N_x^0 , N_y^0 and N_{xy}^0 are in-plane distributed forces.

Substituting Eqs. (7) into Eq. (8) and integrating them by parts, assembling the

coefficients of δu_0 , δv_0 , δw_b and δw_s , the equations of equilibrium for the hybrid laminated plate are given by the formulas:

$$\delta u_0: \frac{\partial N_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial N_{xy}}{\partial y} = 0 \quad (9-a)$$

$$\delta v_0: \frac{\partial N_{xy}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial N_y}{\partial y} = 0 \quad (9-b)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta w_b: & \frac{\partial^2 M_x^b}{\partial x^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 M_{xy}^b}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 M_y^b}{\partial y^2} + \\ & N_x^0 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} [w_b + w_s] + N_y^0 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} [w_b + w_s] + \\ & 2N_{xy}^0 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} [w_b + w_s] = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (9-c)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta w_s: & \frac{\partial^2 M_x^s}{\partial x^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 M_{xy}^s}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 M_y^s}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial Q_{xz}^s}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial Q_{yz}^s}{\partial y} + \\ & N_x^0 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} [w_b + w_s] + N_y^0 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} [w_b + w_s] + \\ & 2N_{xy}^0 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} [w_b + w_s] = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (9-d)$$

6. ANALYTICAL SOLUTION

The Navier solutions can be developed for an antisymmetric simply supported angle-ply hybrid laminated plates, the boundary conditions are satisfied by:

$$\begin{aligned} u_0 &= \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} U_{mn} \sin(\lambda x) \cos(\mu y) \\ v_0 &= \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} V_{mn} \cos(\lambda x) \sin(\mu y) \\ w_b &= \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} W_{bmn} \sin(\lambda x) \sin(\mu y) \\ w_s &= \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} W_{smn} \sin(\lambda x) \sin(\mu y) \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Where U_{mn} , V_{mn} , W_{bmn} and W_{smn} are unknown variables must be determined, $\lambda = \frac{n\pi}{a}$ and $\mu = \frac{m\pi}{b}$.

Substituting Equation (10) into Equation (9), the solution of Navier of the hybrid laminated antisymmetric angle-ply plate can be deduced from the following equation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ a_{13} & a_{23} & a_{33} + k & a_{34} + k \\ a_{14} & a_{24} & a_{34} + k & a_{44} + k \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} U_{mn} \\ V_{mn} \\ W_{bmn} \\ W_{smn} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \quad (11)$$

Where

$$a_{11} = A_{11}\lambda^2 + A_{66}\mu^2 \quad (12-a)$$

$$a_{22} = A_{66}\lambda^2 + A_{22}\mu^2 \quad (12-b)$$

$$a_{12} = \lambda\mu (A_{12} + A_{66}) \quad (12-c)$$

$$a_{13} = -(3B_{16}\lambda^2\mu + B_{26}\mu^3) \quad (12-d)$$

$$a_{14} = -(3B_{16}^s\lambda^2\mu + B_{26}^s\mu^3) \quad (12-e)$$

$$a_{24} = -(B_{16}^s\lambda^3 + 3B_{26}^s\lambda\mu^2) \quad (12-f)$$

$$a_{23} = -(B_{16}\lambda^3 + 3B_{26}\lambda\mu^2) \quad (12-g)$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_{33} &= D_{11}\lambda^4 + 2(D_{12} + 2D_{66})\lambda^2\mu^2 + D_{22}\mu^4 \\ a_{34} &= D_{11}^s\lambda^4 + 2(D_{12}^s + 2D_{66}^s)\lambda^2\mu^2 + D_{22}^s\mu^4 \\ a_{44} &= H_{11}^s\lambda^4 + 2(H_{12}^s + 2H_{66}^s)\lambda^2\mu^2 + H_{22}^s\mu^4 + \\ & A_{55}^s\lambda^2 + A_{44}^s\mu^2 \\ k &= N_x^0\lambda^2 + N_y^0\mu^2 \end{aligned} \quad (12-h)$$

7. VALIDATION AND DISCUSSION OF NUMERICAL RESULTS

An investigation on buckling stability of a Glass/Carbon hybrid laminated composite plate is presented using a refined and efficient shear deformation theory in this study. The critical mechanical buckling loads are obtained by using the solution of Navier. In order to validate the present model, the following mechanical properties of the hybrid composite plate are used [15]: $G_{12} = G_{13} = 0,6E_2$, $G_{23} = 0,5E_2$, $E_1 = 40E_2$, $\nu_{12} = 0,25$

Where, the results obtained by the present model are compared with those of the Ren [16], the Whitney [17] and the Reddy [18] theories.

The buckling load is obtained in the dimensionless form as follow:

$$\bar{N} = N_{cr} \left(\frac{a^2}{E_2 h^3} \right) \quad (13)$$

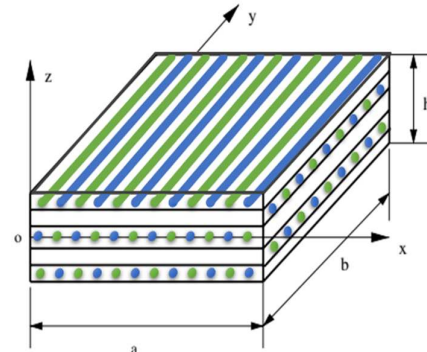


Fig. 1. A hybrid composite plate.

The mechanical characteristics of Carbon fibers, Glass fibers and the Epoxy matrix used in this study are given according to Berthelot [19] in Table 1.

Table 1

Mechanical properties		
Material	Young's modulus (GPa)	Poisson's ratio
Carbon fibers	380	0.33
Glass fibers	86	0.22
Epoxy matrix	3.45	0.3

Table 2

Buckling loads \bar{N} of a square angle-ply ($\theta/-\theta$) laminated composite plate				
Orientation	Theory	a/h		
		4	10	100
(30/-30)	Ren [16]	9.5368	15.7517	20.4793
	Reddy [18]	9.3391	17.2795	20.5040
	Whitney [17]	7.5450	16.6132	20.4944
	Present	9.3518	17.2795	20.5040
(45/-45)	Ren [16]	9.8200	16.4558	21.6384
	Reddy [18]	8.2377	18.1544	21.6576
	Whitney [17]	6.7858	17.5522	21.6576
	Present	8.3963	18.1544	21.6663

Table 2 represents an angle-ply oriented (30°/-30°) and (45°/-45°) square composite plate under mechanical load, where, the results of the various theories are putted in comparison. When compared to different high order theories (Ren [16], Reddy [18] and Whitney [17]), we can easily notice the precision and accuracy of our theory in determining axial buckling load for antisymmetric composite laminated plates.

The volume fraction effect on critical buckling load variation of a Glass/Carbon hybrid antisymmetric simply supported composite plates is showed in Fig 2 and table 3 Where the mechanical buckling load is maximum where the fibers are fully Carbon ($w_f = 100\%$ Carbon) and decrease gradually in accordance with the fibers combination w_f until arriving at its minimum value for the fibers are fully Glass ($w_f = 100\%$ Glass) this variation is caused by the influence of the rigidity of the fibers used in the hybrid plate Also the amount of fibers against the plate's volume fraction has a great impact on the variation of Critical buckling load where it increases gradually in accordance with the volume fraction variation until arriving at its maximum for $V_f = 0.45$.

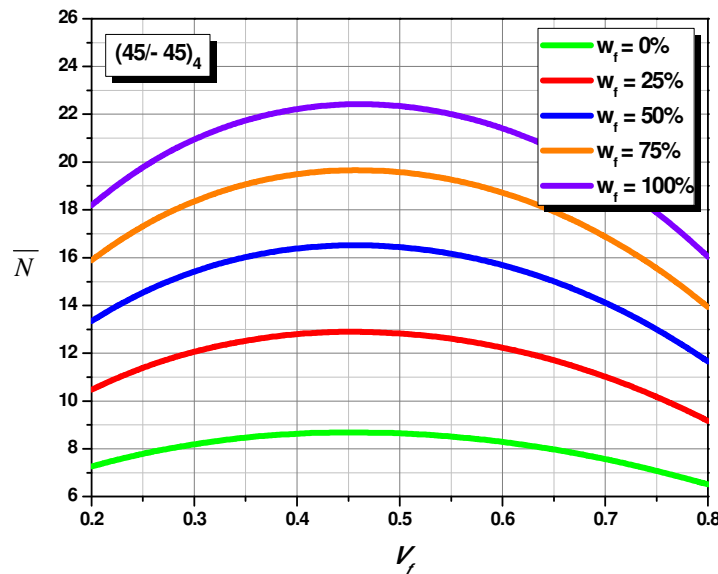


Fig. 2. The volume fraction V_f effect on the mechanical buckling load \bar{N} of a hybrid Glass/Carbon angle ply composite plate

Table 3

The volume fraction V_f effect on the mechanical buckling load \bar{N} of a hybrid Glass/Carbon angle ply composite plate (45/-45)

Fiber's percentages (%)		V_f								
Carbon	Glass	0.3	0.35	0.4	0.45	0.5	0.55	0.6	0.65	0.7
0	100	6.5407	6.6619	6.7308	6.7520	6.7287	6.6628	6.6556	6.4069	6.2156
10	90	7.2737	7.4262	7.5133	7.5401	7.5106	7.4276	7.2929	7.1071	6.8695
20	80	7.9578	8.1424	8.2482	8.2811	8.2459	8.1460	7.9839	7.7612	7.4777
30	70	8.6131	8.8303	8.9552	8.9943	8.9533	8.8363	8.6466	8.3865	8.0565
40	60	9.2410	9.5003	9.6445	9.6899	9.6431	9.5088	9.2911	8.9930	8.6159
50	50	9.8746	10.1583	10.3219	10.3739	10.3210	10.1693	9.2933	9.5868	9.1621
60	40	10.4905	10.8078	10.9911	11.0495	10.9907	10.8213	10.5468	10.1716	9.6988
70	30	11.0999	11.4512	11.6542	11.7190	11.6542	11.4671	11.1639	10.7498	10.2285
80	20	11.7047	12.0899	12.3127	12.3840	12.313	12.1082	11.7762	11.3229	10.7529
90	10	12.3057	12.7245	12.9677	13.0456	12.9686	12.7458	12.3848	11.8922	11.2731
100	0	12.9037	13.3572	13.6199	13.7043	13.6213	13.3805	12.9905	12.4584	11.7902

Table 4

The thickness ratio a/h effect on the critical load \bar{N} of a hybrid Glass/Carbon angle ply composite plate (45/-45)₄

Fiber's percentages (%)		a/h				
Carbon	Glass	5	10	20	50	100
0	100	4.8304	6.1425	6.5932	6.7318	6.7520
10	90	5.2423	6.7962	7.3449	7.5151	7.5401
20	80	5.6154	7.4027	8.0491	8.2514	8.2811
30	70	5.9608	7.9783	8.7244	8.9597	8.9943
40	60	6.2849	8.5321	9.3806	9.6502	9.6899
50	50	6.5917	9.0691	10.0234	10.3287	10.3739
60	40	6.8838	9.5926	10.6560	10.9987	11.0495
70	30	7.1630	10.1045	11.2807	11.6623	11.7190
80	20	7.4307	10.6063	11.8989	12.3212	12.3840
90	10	7.6880	11.0989	12.5117	12.9763	13.0456
100	0	7.9357	11.5833	13.1197	13.6283	13.7043

Table 5

The stacking effect on the mechanical buckling load \bar{N} of a hybrid Glass/Carbon angle ply composite plate (45/-45)₄

Number of layers	a/h	Fiber's Combination			
		100% Glass	25% Carbon + 75% Glass	50% Carbon + 50% Glass	100% Carbon
(45/-45) ₁	5	4.8304	5.7911	6.5917	7.9357
	10	6.1425	7.6937	9.0691	11.5838
	20	6.5932	8.3896	10.0234	13.1197
	100	6.7520	8.6404	10.3739	13.70423
(45/-45) ₂	5	5.8998	7.5817	8.7707	10.3561
	10	8.1776	11.8736	15.0825	20.3913

	20	9.0574	13.8536	18.4450	27.0834
	100	9.3807	14.6366	19.8673	30.2802
$(45/-45)_4$	5	6.1890	8.0564	9.3506	11.0414
	10	8.6898	12.8980	16.5212	22.4226
	20	9.6737	15.2078	20.5126	30.4501
	100	10.0381	16.1350	22.2387	30.4170
$(45/-45)_8$	5	6.26360	8.1710	9.5034	11.2272
	10	8.8187	13.1555	16.8828	22.9341
	20	9.8280	15.5465	21.0295	31.2908
	100	10.2024	16.5097	22.8315	35.4511
$(45/-45)_{16}$	5	6.2824	8.2112	9.5422	11.2747
	10	8.8510	13.2110	16.9734	23.0624
	20	9.8666	15.6313	21.1588	31.5010
	100	10.2435	16.6033	22.9797	35.7096

The tables 4 and 5 also figure 3 represent the effects of geometry side to thickness and piling on the variation of mechanical buckling loads for a Glass/Carbon hybrid composite plate. For each case of fibers combination of Glass and Carbon fibers this critical load accretes with the

increase of the layer's number and the decrease of the plate's thickness, this variation is in a good agreement with the fact that the diminution of the thickness for the same amount of layers leads to a concentration of the fibers and consequently an increase of the plate's rigidity.

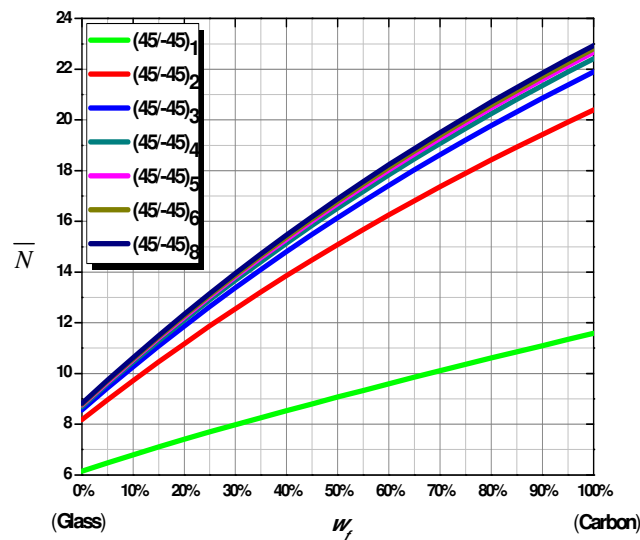


Fig. 3. The stacking effect on the mechanical buckling load \bar{N} of a hybrid Glass/Carbon angle ply composite plate

8. CONCLUSION

An investigation of the Buckling stability of a hybrid Glass/Carbon composite plates was successfully conducted based on an accurate and precise simple refined high order shear theory.

The present model has been well proved of being accurate and efficient for buckling stability of angle ply antisymmetric hybrid composite plates.

This analytical investigation allows us to describe the behavior of hybrid Glass/Carbon composite plates by predicting the critical mechanical buckling loads in a neat way, which subrogates the costly experimental methods.

The main reason of using the Glass fiber and Carbon fiber in this investigation is that Carbon fibers provide a high rigidity, knowing that these qualities are very costly, in contrast glass fibers are cheaper accompanied with a poor mechanical quality, this is why it is the most used type of fibers in industrial sector.

This association of these kinds of fibers allow industrials to combine in an intelligent manner between their interesting and required qualities, in the first side, we benefit from the high rigidity assured by the Carbon fibers, and in the second side, the glass fibers assures economic materials by designing cheaply, where incorporating a slight quantity of glass fibers to the hybrid composite structures decreases undeniably the composite's production cost only sacrificing a small percentage in terms of rigidity.

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INVESTIGAȚIE ANALITICĂ ASUPRA STABILITAȚII LA FLAMBAJ A STICLII/CARBONULUI PLACI COMPOZITE HIBRIDE CU STRATURI UNGHIULARE

Rezumat: Această cercetare se axează pe stabilitatea la flambaj a unei plăci compozite hibride din sticlă/carbon, prezenta investigație se bazează pe un model analitic de deformare prin forfecare rafinat simplu și eficient, proprietățile materialului adoptat în acest studiu sunt ale carbonului și sticlei, de asemenea. am folosit o abordare matematică pentru a prezice performanța combinației a două tipuri de fibre în același strat al plăcii compozite laminate. Având în vedere faptul că fiecare dintre aceste tipuri excelează în mod singular cel puțin într-o proprietate mecanică, amestecul este incontestabil să ofere cele mai bune calități și să elimine eventualele deficiențe ale acestor materiale.

Cuvinte cheie: sarcină critică de flambaj, laminate cu straturi unghiulare, teorie rafinată, efort de forfecare, carbon, sticlă.

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