

Analytical solution of nonlinear cylindrical bending for functionally graded plates

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Abstract. This article considers the problems of cylindrical bending of functionally graded plates in which material properties vary through the thickness. The variation of the material properties follows two power-law distributions in terms of the volume fractions of constituents. In addition, this paper considers orthotropic materials rather than isotropic materials. The traction-free condition on the top surface is replaced with the condition of uniform load applied on the top surface. Numerical results are presented to show the effect of the material distribution on the deflections and stresses. Results show that, all other parameters remaining the same, the studied quantities (stress, deflection) of P-FGM and E-FGM plates are always proportional to those of homogeneous isotropic plates. Therefore, one can predict the behaviour of P-FGM and E-FGM plates knowing that of similar homogeneous plates.

Keywords: functionally graded plates; cylindrical bending; stress; elasticity solutions

1. Introduction

In conventional laminated composite materials, there is a high chance that debonding will occur at some extreme loading conditions. On the other hand, gradually varying the volume fraction of the constituents can resolve this problem. Functionally graded materials (FGMs) are composite materials which exhibit a progressive change in composition, structure, and properties as a function of spatial direction within the material. They are widely used in mechanical, aerospace, nuclear, and civil engineering. Understanding static and dynamic behaviour of FG structures is of increasing importance. There has been considerable research (Wetherhold *et al.* 1996, Benatta *et al.* 2008, Fekrar *et al.* 2014, Khalfi *et al.* 2014) on the behavior of structure made of FGMs. These studies are limited to functionally graded materials in which the power-law function is used to describe the volume fractions. However, in the case of adding an FGM of a single power-law function to the multi-layered composite, stress concentrations appear on one of the interfaces where the material is continuous but changes rapidly (Lee and Erdogan 1994, Bao and Wang 1995). Therefore, Chung and Chi (2001) and Sallai *et al.* (2009) defined the volume fraction using two power-law functions (simply called P-FGM and E-FGM) to ensure smooth distribution of stresses among all the interfaces.

The static bending problem is one of the basic and also most studied problems in the analysis of FGM plates. Kadoli *et al.* (2008) studied the static behaviour of functionally graded metal-ceramic

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(FGM) beams under ambient temperature using displacement field based on higher order shear deformation theory. Thai and Vo (2012) examined the bending and free vibration of FG beams using various higher-order shear deformation beam theories. Mantari and Guedes Soares (2012) studied the bending analysis of thick exponentially graded plates using a new trigonometric higher order shear deformation theory. Taj and Choi (2013) investigated a simple first-order shear deformation theory for the bending and free vibration analysis of functionally graded plates. Thai *et al.* (2013) conducted static analysis of FG plates using higher order shear deformation theory. Transverse shear stresses are represented as quadratic through the thickness and hence it requires no shear correction factor. Tounsi *et al.* (2013) presented a refined trigonometric shear deformation theory for thermoelastic bending of functionally graded sandwich plates. Boudarba *et al.* (2013) discussed the thermo-mechanical bending response of FGM thick plates resting on Winkler–Pasternak elastic foundations. Ould Larbi *et al.* (2013) developed an efficient shear deformation beam theory based on neutral surface position for bending and free vibration of FG beams. Ait Amar Meziane *et al.* (2014) examined the buckling and free vibration of exponentially graded sandwich plates under various boundary conditions. Bousahla *et al.* (2014) proposed a novel higher order shear and normal deformation theory based on neutral surface position for bending analysis of FG thick plates. Belabed *et al.* (2014) presented an efficient and simple higher order shear and normal deformation theory for FG plates. Zidi *et al.* (2014) studied the bending analysis of FG plates under hygro-thermo-mechanical loading using a four variable refined plate theory. Hadji *et al.*, (2014) developed a higher order shear deformation theory for static and free vibration of FG beam. Hebali *et al.* (2014) presented the new quasi-3D hyperbolic shear deformation theory for the static and free vibration analysis of functionally graded plates. Zhang (2013) studied the nonlinear bending analysis of FGM beams based on physical neutral surface and high order shear deformation theory.

Recently, Merazi *et al.* (2015) used a new hyperbolic shear deformation plate theory for static analysis of FGM plate based on neutral surface position. Junga and Han (2015) studied the Static and eigenvalue problems of Sigmoid Functionally Graded Materials (S-FGM) micro-scale plates using the modified couple stress theory. Hamidi *et al.* (2015) presented a sinusoidal plate theory with 5-unknowns and stretching effect for thermomechanical bending of functionally graded sandwich plates. Mahi *et al.* (2015) developed a new hyperbolic shear deformation theory for bending and free vibration analysis of isotropic, functionally graded, sandwich and laminated composite plates. Bourada *et al.* (2015) proposed a new simple shear and normal deformations theory for FG beams. Ait Yahia *et al.* (2015) studied the wave propagation in FG plates with porosities using various higher-order shear deformation plate theories. Meradjah *et al.* (2015) presented a new higher order shear and normal deformation theory for FG beams.

In this paper, the elasticity solutions are presented for P-FGM and E-FGM plates in cylindrical bending. Results show that, all other parameters remaining the same, the studied quantities (stress, deflection) of P-FGM and E-FGM plates are always proportional to those of homogeneous isotropic plates. Then, FGM beams behave like homogeneous beams which mean that no special techniques or software needs to be developed for their analysis.

2. Theoretical formulations

2.1 Properties of the FGM constituent materials

The functionally graded material (FGM) can be produced by continuously varying the

constituents of multi-phase materials in a predetermined profile. The most distinct features of an FGM are the non-uniform microstructures with continuously graded macro properties. An FGM can be defined by the variation in the volume fractions. Most researchers use the power-law function or exponential function to describe the volume fractions. However, only a few studies used sigmoid function to describe the volume fractions. Therefore, FGM plates with sigmoid function will be considered in this paper in detail.

Consider an elastic rectangular FGM plate of uniform thickness h , which is made of a ceramic and metal, is considered in this study. The material properties, Young's modulus and the Poisson's ratio, on the upper and lower surfaces are different but are preassigned according to the performance demands. However, the Young's modulus and the Poisson's ratio of the plates vary continuously only in the thickness direction (y -axis) i.e., $E = E(y)$, $\nu = \nu(y)$. Delale and Erdogan (1983) indicated that the effect of Poisson's ratio on the deformation is much less than that of Young's modulus. Thus, Poisson's ratio of the beams is assumed to be constant. However, the Young's modulus in the thickness direction of the FGM plates vary with power-law functions (P-FGM) or with exponential functions (E-FGM).

2.1.1 The material properties of P-FGM plates

The volume fraction of the P-FGM is assumed to obey a power law function

$$g(y) = \left(\frac{y}{h} + \frac{1}{2}\right)^p \quad (1)$$

where p is the material parameter that dictates the material variation profile through the thickness and h is the thickness of the plate. Once the local volume fraction $g(y)$ has been defined, the material properties of a P-FGM can be determined by the rule of mixture

$$E(y) = g(y)E_1 + (1 - g(y))E_2 \quad (2)$$

where E_1 and E_2 are the Young modules of the lowest ($y = h/2$) and top surfaces ($y = -h/2$) of the FGM plate, respectively. The variation of Young's modulus in the thickness direction of the

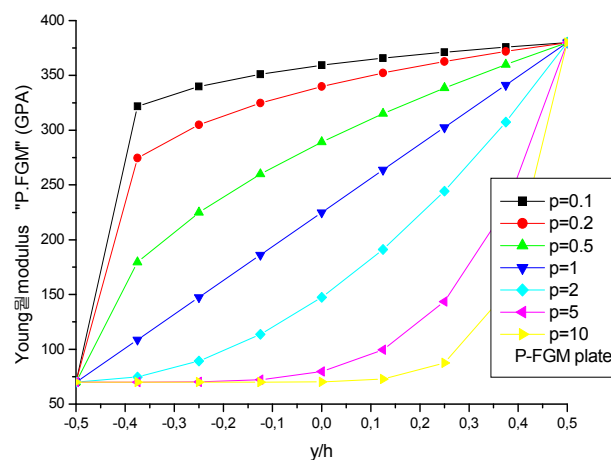


Fig. 1 The variation of Young's modulus in a P-FGM plate

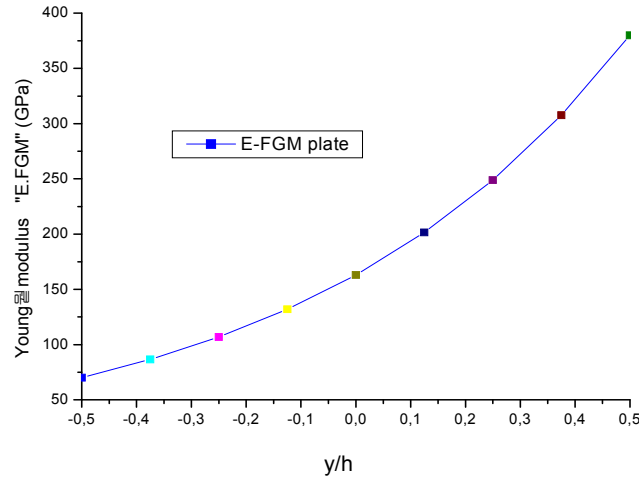


Fig. 2 The variation of Young's modulus in a E-FGM plate

P-FGM plate is depicted in Fig. 1, which shows that the Young's modulus changes rapidly near the lowest surface for $p > 1$, and increases quickly near the top surface for $p < 1$.

2.1.2 The material properties of E-FGM plates

Many researchers used the exponential function to describe the material properties of FGM as follows

$$E(z) = A.e^{B(y+\frac{h}{2})} \quad (3)$$

with

$$A = E_2 \quad \text{and} \quad B = \frac{1}{h} \ln\left(\frac{E_1}{E_2}\right) \quad (4)$$

The material distribution in the thickness direction of the EFGM plates is plotted in Fig. 2.

2.2 Fundamental equations for cylindrical bending of FGM plates

Consider an FGM plate of thickness h and length l , which is made of a ceramic at the upper surface and a metal at the lower surface, is considered in this study. The $x - z$ plane coincident with the mid-plane of the plate, occupying the region of $0 \leq x \leq l$, $-h/2 \leq y \leq h/2$, $-\infty \leq z \leq \infty$. Denote u and w as the displacement components in the x and z directions, respectively, σ_{xx} , τ_{xz} and σ_{zz} as the stress components respectively. The plate is subjected to uniform load on the top surface so that it is in a state of cylindrical bending, for which all displacements and stresses are independent of the coordinate y .

In the absence of body forces, the equations of equilibrium are

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial y} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \sigma_y}{\partial y} = 0 \quad (5)$$

The strain components are given as

$$\varepsilon_x = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \quad \varepsilon_y = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}, \quad \gamma_{xy} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}, \quad (6)$$

u and v denote the displacement components.

The corresponding elastic constitutive law for the FGM plate expressed as

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \sigma_x \\ \sigma_y \\ \tau_{xy} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Q_{11} & Q_{12} & 0 \\ Q_{12} & Q_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Q_{66} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \varepsilon_x \\ \varepsilon_y \\ \gamma_{xy} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

where Q_{ij} are the stiffness of the FGM plate and are given as

$$Q_{11} = Q_{22} = \frac{E(y)}{1-\nu^2}, \quad Q_{12} = \frac{\nu E(y)}{1-\nu^2}, \quad Q_{66} = \frac{E(y)}{2(1+\nu)} \quad (8)$$

We seek the following solutions of Eqs. (5), (6) and (7)

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, y) &= \bar{u}(x) + F\bar{u}_{,xx} + A\bar{v}_{,x} + B\bar{v}_{,xxx} \\ v(x, y) &= \bar{v}(x) + G\bar{u}_{,x} + C\bar{v}_{,xx} + D \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

where $A = A(y)$, $B = B(y)$, $C = C(y)$, $D = D(y)$, $F = F(y)$ and $G = G(y)$ are undetermined functions. $\bar{u}$ and $\bar{v}$ are the mid-plane displacements.

Substituting Eq. (9) into Eqs. (6) and (7) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_x &= (Q_{11} + G'Q_{12})\bar{u}_{,x} + (AQ_{11} + C'Q_{12})\bar{v}_{,xx} + FQ_{11}\bar{u}_{,xxx} + BQ_{11}\bar{v}_{,xxxx} + D'Q_{12}, \\ \sigma_y &= (Q_{12} + G'Q_{22})\bar{u}_{,x} + (AQ_{12} + C'Q_{22})\bar{v}_{,xx} + FQ_{12}\bar{u}_{,xxx} + BQ_{12}\bar{v}_{,xxxx} + D'Q_{22}, \\ \tau_{xy} &= Q_{66}[(A'+1)\bar{v}_{,x} + (F'+G)\bar{u}_{,xx} + (B'+C)\bar{v}_{,xxx}] \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Substitute Eq. (10) into Eq. (5), and set

$$[Q_{66}(A'+1)]' = 0, \quad (11a)$$

$$[Q_{66}(A'+1)]' = 0, \quad (11b)$$

$$Q_{66}(A'+1) + (Q_{12}A + Q_{22}C')' = 0, \quad (11c)$$

$$Q_{11} + Q_{12}G' + [Q_{66}(F'+G)]' = Q_{66}k_1, \quad (11d)$$

$$Q_{11}A + Q_{12}C' + [Q_{66}(B'+C)]' = Q_{66}k_2, \quad (11e)$$

$$\bar{u}_{,xxx} = k_3, \quad (11f)$$

$$\bar{v}_{,xxxx} = k_4. \quad (11g)$$

where the prime denotes the derivative with respect to y , and k_i ($i = 1, 2, 3, 4$) are arbitrary constants. Therefore, Eq. (5) can be simplified as

$$k_1 \bar{u}_{,xx} + k_2 \bar{v}_{,xxx} = 0, \quad (12)$$

$$[Q_{66}(F' + G) + (Q_{12}F)']k_3 + [Q_{66}(B' + C) + (Q_{12}B)']k_4 + (Q_{22}D')' = 0. \quad (13)$$

By virtue of Eqs. (11f), (11g) and (12), we obtain

$$k_1 k_3 + k_2 k_4 = 0. \quad (14)$$

Integrating Eqs. (11g) and (12) yields

$$\bar{v}(x) = \frac{1}{24} k_4 x^4 + \frac{1}{6} C_1 x^3 + \frac{1}{2} C_2 x^2 + C_3 x + C_4 \quad (15)$$

$$\bar{u}(x) = \frac{1}{6} k_3 x^3 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{k_2}{k_1} C_1 x^2 + C_5 x + C \quad (16)$$

where C_i ($i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$) are integral constants which can be completely determined from the boundary conditions at cylindrical edges.

Now consider the boundary conditions on the top and bottom surfaces of the plate. We have $\tau_{xy} = 0$ at $y = \pm h/2$, $\sigma_y = -q$ at $y = -h/2$ and $\sigma_y = 0$ at $y = h/2$, where q is a constant.

By substituting the expressions of σ_y and τ_{xy} into the above boundary conditions at $y = \pm h/2$, we obtain.

$$A'(\pm h/2) + 1 = 0, \quad (17a)$$

$$Q_{12}(\pm h/2) + Q_{22}(\pm h/2) G'(\pm h/2) = 0, \quad (17b)$$

$$F'(\pm h/2) + G(\pm h/2) = 0, \quad (17c)$$

$$B'(\pm h/2) + C(\pm h/2) = 0, \quad (17d)$$

$$Q_{12}(\pm h/2) A(\pm h/2) + Q_{22}(\pm h/2) C'(\pm h/2) = 0, \quad (17e)$$

$$Q_{12}(-h/2)[k_3 F(-h/2) + k_4 B(-h/2)] + Q_{22}(-h/2) D'(-h/2) = -q, \quad (17f)$$

$$Q_{12}(h/2)[k_3 F(h/2) + k_4 B(h/2)] + Q_{22}(h/2) D'(h/2) = 0, \quad (17g)$$

Given that $\bar{u}$ and $\bar{v}$ are the mid-plane displacements, namely, $\bar{u}(x) = u(x, 0)$, $\bar{v}(x) = v(x, 0)$.

We can deduce from Eq. (9) that

$$A(0) = 0, \quad B(0) = 0, \quad C(0) = 0, \quad D(0) = 0, \quad F(0) = 0, \quad G(0) = 0. \quad (18)$$

Integrating Eqs. (11a)-(11e) and (13) and making use of Eqs. (17)-(18) and (14), functions $A(y)$, $B(y)$, $C(y)$, $D(y)$, $F(y)$, $G(y)$ and the constant k_i ($i = 1, 2, 3, 4$) can be completely determined

2.3 Resultant force, bending moment, shear force and cylindrical boundary conditions

By virtue of Eq. (10) and $A(y) = -y$, the expressions for the resultant force N_x , bending moment M_x and shear force Q_x , can be determined accordingly

$$N_x = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} \sigma_{xx} dy = N_1 \bar{u}_{,x} + N_3 \bar{v}_{,xx} + N_5 \bar{u}_{,xxx} + N_7 \bar{v}_{,xxx} + N_0 \quad (19)$$

$$M_x = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} \sigma_{xx} y dy = M_1 \bar{u}_{,x} + M_3 \bar{v}_{,xx} + M_5 \bar{u}_{,xxx} + M_7 \bar{v}_{,xxx} + M_0 \quad (20)$$

$$Q_x = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} \tau_{xx} dy = Q_1 \bar{u}_{,xx} + Q_2 \bar{v}_{,xxx} \quad (21)$$

where

$$N_1 = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} (Q_{11} + Q_{12} G') dy; \quad M_1 = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} y(Q_{11} + Q_{12} G') dy \quad (22a)$$

$$N_3 = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} (Q_{11} A + c_{12} C') dy; \quad M_3 = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} y(Q_{11} A + Q_{12} C') dy \quad (22b)$$

$$N_5 = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} Q_{11} F dy; \quad M_5 = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} Q_{11} y F dy \quad (22c)$$

$$N_7 = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} Q_{11} B dy; \quad M_7 = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} Q_{11} y B dy \quad (22d)$$

$$N_0 = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} Q_{12} D' dy; \quad M_0 = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} Q_{12} D' y dy \quad (22e)$$

$$Q_1 = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} Q_{66} (F' + G) dy; \quad Q_2 = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} Q_{66} (B' + C) dy \quad (22f)$$

There are four different boundary conditions at the cylindrical edges to be considered here. These include simply supported (S), clamped-1 (C1), clamped-2 (C2), and free (F) conditions, namely

$$S : \quad \bar{u} = 0; \quad \bar{v} = 0; \quad M_x = 0; \quad (23)$$

$$C1 : \quad \bar{u} = 0; \quad \bar{v} = 0; \quad \bar{v}_{,x} = 0; \quad (24)$$

$$C2 : \quad \bar{u} = 0; \quad \bar{v} = 0; \quad \bar{u}_{,z}|_{z=0} = 0; \quad (25)$$

$$F : \quad N_x = 0; \quad M_x = 0; \quad Q_x = 0; \quad (26)$$

3. Numerical results and discussion

3.1 Effect reinforcement

For convenience, the following dimensionless quantities are introduced

$$\bar{W} = \frac{\bar{w}E}{qh}; \quad \bar{\sigma}_x = \frac{\sigma_x}{q}; \quad \bar{\tau}_{yx} = \frac{\tau_{yx}}{q}; \quad (27)$$

Based on the derived formulation, a computer program is developed to study the behavior of FGM plates in cylindrical bending. The analysis is performed for pure materials and different values of material parameter, p , for aluminium–alumina FGM. The Young's modulus and Poisson's ratio (Sallai *et al.* 2009) for aluminium are: 70 GPa and 0.3 and for alumina: 380 GPa and 0.3, respectively. Delale and Erdogan (1983) indicated that the effect of Poisson's ratio on the deformation is much less than that of Young's modulus. Thus, Poisson's ratio of the plates is assumed to be constant (Delale and Erdogan 1983, Saidi *et al.* 2013 Houari *et al.* 2013, El Meiche *et al.* 2011, Bourada *et al.* 2012, Bouchafa *et al.* 2015, Benachour *et al.* 2011) and is chosen to be 0.3. Consider an PFGM and EFGM rectangular plate subject to a uniform load on the top surface with an infinite extent in the z -direction. We assume $q = 1 \times 10^6 \text{ N/m}^2$, $l = 1 \text{ m}$ and $h/l = 0.15$. In all cases, the lower surface of the plate is assumed to be metal (aluminium) rich and the upper surface is assumed to be pure ceramic (alumina).

Figs. 3, 5 and 7 shows the distributions of dimensionless normal stress $\bar{\sigma}_x$ along the thickness direction of the PFGM and EFGM plate for different p and $\frac{E_1}{E_2}$ at $x = l/2$. It is found that $\bar{\sigma}_x$ is almost linearly distributed for $p = 0$ and $\frac{E_1}{E_2} = 1$, and the maximum tensile (compressive) stress occurs at $y = h/2$. However, for $p > 0$ and $\frac{E_1}{E_2} > 1$, for which the location of the maximum stiffness is at $y = h/2$, the value of the maximum tensile stress occurs at $y = h/2$ and increases with p and $\frac{E_1}{E_2}$.

Figs. 4, 6 and 8 depicts the distributions of dimensionless shear stress $\bar{\tau}_{yx}$ along the thickness direction of the PFGM and EFGM plate for different values p and $\frac{E_1}{E_2}$ at $x = l/4$. It is found that $\bar{\tau}_{yx}$ has a parabolic distribution for $p = 0$ and $\frac{E_1}{E_2} = 1$, for which the maximum value occurs at $y = 0$ and the curve is also symmetrical about this point. For $p > 0$ and $\frac{E_1}{E_2} > 1$, the point at which the maximum shear stress is reached approaches the bottom surface $y = h/2$ and increases with p and $\frac{E_1}{E_2}$.

Tables 1 and 2 gives the dimensionless deflection $\bar{W}$ of the FGM rectangular plate for seven different kinds of boundary conditions and three different values for p and $\frac{E_1}{E_2}$ at $x=l/2$. It is found that the deflection decreases as p and $\frac{E_1}{E_2}$ increases, regardless of the boundary conditions.

This is simply because the whole rigidity of the FGM plate increases with p and $\frac{E_1}{E_2}$. In addition, the dimensionless deflections of the C2-F and C1-C1 plates are the largest and smallest among the plates, respectively, with the seven different boundary conditions.

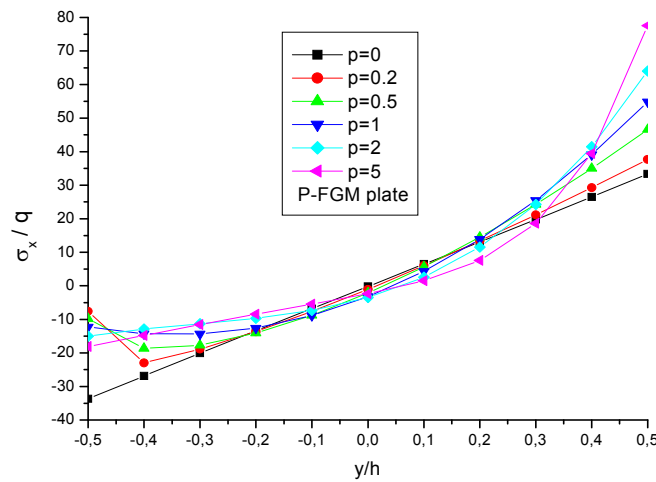


Fig. 3 Dimensionless normal stress of P-FGM plate en $x = L/2$ (b(s-s))

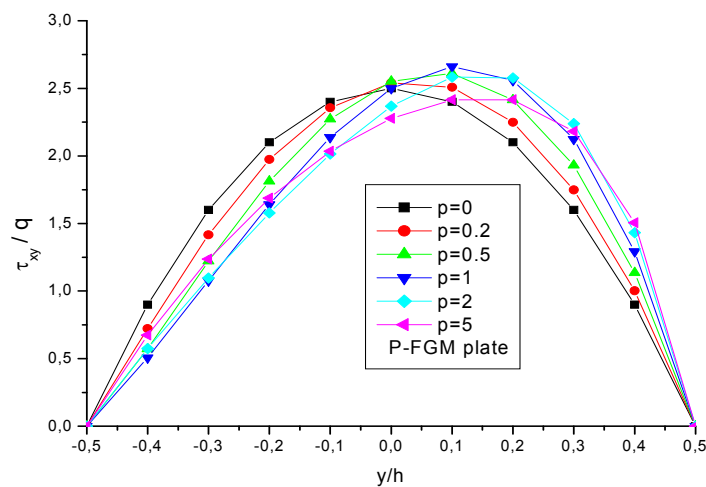
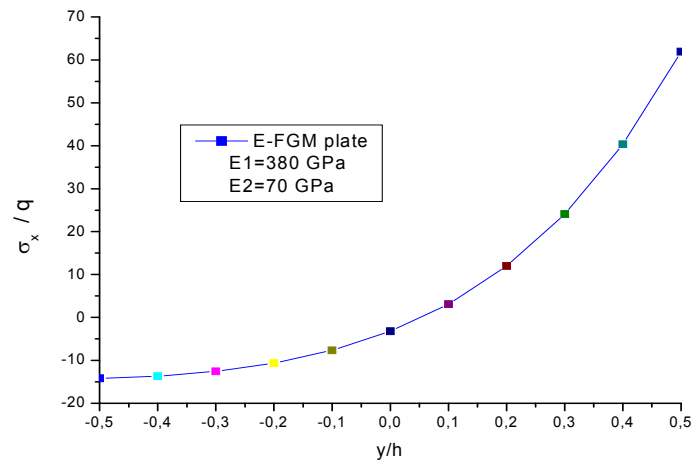
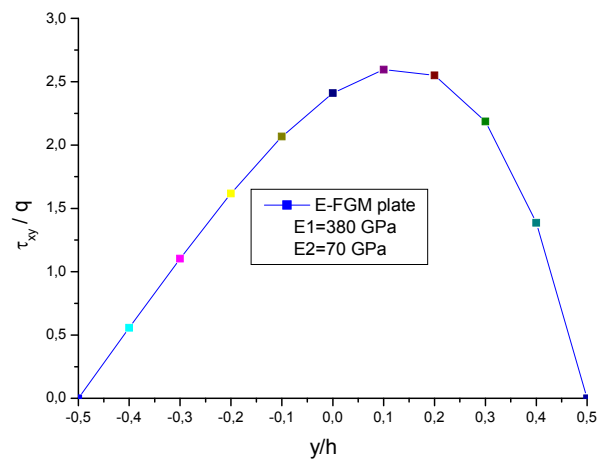
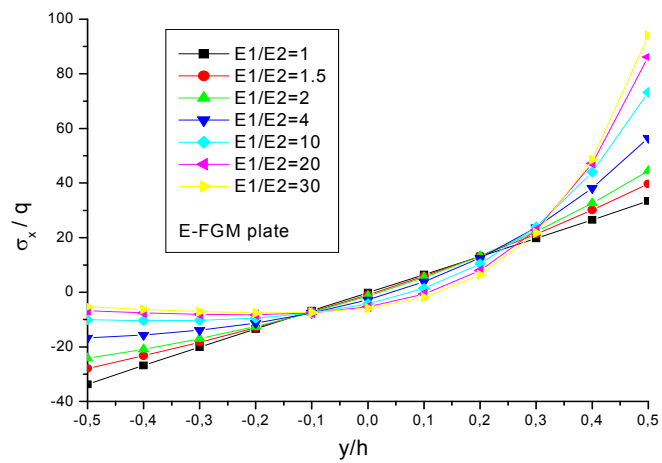
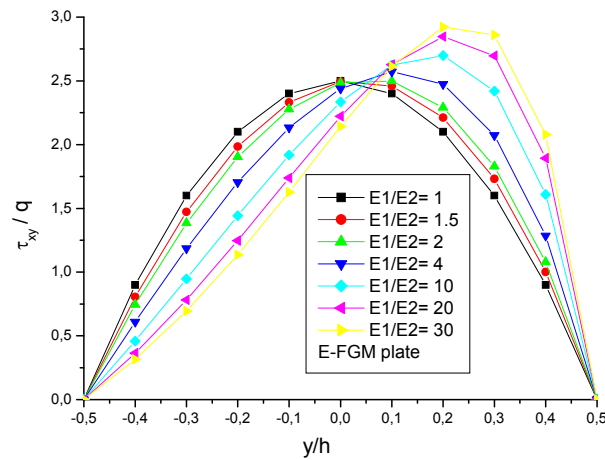


Fig. 4 Dimensionless shear stress of P-FGM plate en $x = l/4$ (b(s-s))

Fig. 5 Dimensionless normal stress of E-FGM plate en $x = l/2$ ($\backslash b(s-s)$)Fig. 6 Dimensionless shear stress of E-FGM plate en $x = l/4$ ($\backslash b(s-s)$)Fig. 7 Dimensionless normal stress of E-FGM plate en $x = l/2$ ($\backslash b(s-s)$) for different ratio of E_1/E_2

Fig. 8 Dimensionless shear stress of E-FGM plate en $x = l/4$ ($\backslash(b(s-s))$) for different ratio of E_1/E_2 Table 1 Dimensionless deflection $\bar{W}$ of the PFGM rectangular plate for seven different kinds of boundary conditions and three different values for p at $x = l/2$

Boundary conditions	$P = 0$	$P = 0.5$	$P = 5$
S-S	324.47	358.12	176.168
C1-C1	60.74	25.08	13.16
C2-C2	82.494	58.46	23.31
C1-S	125.90	71.31	38.72
C2-S	147.41	93.52	58.55
C1-F	1811.08	2143.08	1129.13
C2-F	1893.98	2227.26	1205.15

Table 2 Dimensionless deflection $\bar{W}$ of the EFGM rectangular plate for seven different kinds of boundary conditions and three different values for $\frac{E_1}{E_2}$ at $x = l/2$

Boundary conditions	$\frac{E_1}{E_2} = 1$	$\frac{E_1}{E_2} = 2$	$\frac{E_1}{E_2} = 10$
S-S	324.47	223.72	79.21
C1-C1	60.74	43.18	19.90
C2-C2	82.494	55.51	23.99
C1-S	125.90	56.28	24.30
C2-S	147.41	70.30	25.62
C1-F	1811.08	1303.73	607.77
C2-F	1893.98	1350.48	624.32

4. Conclusions

The elasticity solutions for functionally graded plates in cylindrical bending are obtained by extending the FGM plate theory suggested by Mian and Spencer. The material coefficients can vary arbitrarily with the thickness-coordinate. The numerical results show that boundary conditions and material inhomogeneity have obvious effects on the response of the FGM rectangular plates in cylindrical bending. Especially, it is easy to cause stress concentration near the location of the maximum stiffness when the material inhomogeneity change greatly. Therefore, the mechanical behavior of FGM rectangular plates in cylindrical bending can be optimized by properly adjusting the factors mentioned above in engineering applications.

Because no simplifying hypotheses about the stress and displacement fields are introduced, the proposed elasticity solution can serve as a benchmark for accessing validity of various approximate plate theories or numerical methods that may be used in the analysis of such plates.

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