

UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

STRUCTURAL HEALTH MONITORING AND DAMAGE DETECTION FOR COMPOSITE PANEL STRUCTURES VIA STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

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FK 2015 103



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By

NISREEN N. ALI AL-ADNANI

Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

May 2015

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"وَقُلْ رَبَحٌ لِكْنِي مِلْهُٱ

حَدَقَ اللهُ العَطِّيمُ

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To:

My father's Soul, My beloved AL-IRAQ All those who have contributed to my journey up the ladder of knowledge



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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May 2015

Chairman:Faizal Mustapha, PhD, PEng.Faculty :Engineering

Rectangular panels with or/and without mass loading are widely applied in civil, aerospace and mechanical engineering. Changes such as cracks, corrosion or drilled holes can affect the structure and integrity of components. This study focuses on three (3) parts of experimental works: firstly, to fabricate the three types of composite materials panels; secondly, to assess the mechanical properties, the micro structure and thermal analysis of the materials, and thirdly, to detect the damage by using smart sensor to appraise the Structural Health Monitoring (SHM) technique and damage identification. To do this, aluminium alloy type 6061-T6 and three fabricated composite materials are utilized. These composites are combined with epoxy resin as a matrix mixed individually with Twill Weave 240 g/m² carbon fiber (CFW), Plain Weave 300 g/m² Glass Fiber (GFW) and Chopped Strand Mats 450 g/m² glass fiber [GF (CSM)] as fillers. This study also includes the fabrication procedure of the three types of composite panels by using hand lay-up and vacuum bagging process. Al 6061-T6 is considered as a reference material in order to evaluate the characterizations of the new composite materials. Moreover, each material has a case study and eventually this research has four case studies. The first case (undamaged) is considered as a reference or the baseline standard data. Crack's damages are simulated variedly in the panels to reflect the three damage cases in length such as 10 mm, 15 mm and 20 mm. Piezoelectric ceramic Lead Zirconate Titanate (PZT) transducer as a sensor is used to acquire the real time data. The comparison is carried out for damage detection and identification, based on the natural frequency approach and power spectrum with accuracy performance via signal from smart sensor (PZT). Root Mean Square Deviation (RMSD) index and Frequency Reduction Index (FRI) as statistical analysis methods for damage magnitude are performed to improve the SHM technique. RMSD out coming improves the damages identification, when the crack is increased RMSD is increased as well. Finally, SHM approach using PZT is improved and eventually very noticeable and probable changes in the natural frequency are observed, particularly when the damaged depth is increased in the composites. Meanwhile, the comparison between the CFW reinforced epoxy resin and the two glass fiber reinforced epoxy include the micro structure, thermoplastic analysis and mechanical properties. In general, CFW as a composite improved a higher micro structure, thermal analysis and mechanical properties and higher resistance against the vibration effect which is more than the two types of investigated glass fibers.



Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Doktor Falsafah

PEMANTAUAN KESIHATAN STRUKTUR DAN PENGENALAN KEROSAKAN MELALUI ANALISA STATISTIK UNTUK PANEL KOMPOSIT

Oleh

Nisreen N. ALI AL-ADNANI

Mei 2015

Pengerusi: Faizal Mustapha, PhD, PEng. Fakulti : Kejuruteraan

Panel segiempat tepat dengan / tanpa muatan jisim telah digunakan secara meluas dalam bidang kejuruteraan awam, aeroangkasa dan mekanikal. Perubahan-perubahan seperti retak, kakisan atau lubang yang telah digerudi, boleh menjejaskan struktur dan integriti komponen. Kajian ini bertujuan memberi tumpuan kepada tiga bahagian kerjakerja eksperimen: pertama, untuk memfabrikasi tiga jenis bahan komposit panel, kedua, untuk menilai sifat-sifat bahan mekanik, struktur mikro dan analisis terma bahan dan ketiga, untuk mengesan kerosakan dengan menggunakan sensor bijak untuk menilai teknik Pemantauan Kesihatan Struktur (donation) serta mengenal pasti kerosakan. Oleh itu, Aluminium aloi jenis 6061-T6 dan tiga fabrikasi bahan komposit digunakan. Komposit ini menggabungkan epoksi resin sebagai matriks bercampur secara individu dengan Twill Weave 240 g / m² carbon fiber (CFW), Plain Weave 300 g / m² Glass fiber (GFW) dan Chopped Strand Mats 450 g serat / m² Glass fiber [GF (CSM)] sebagai pengisi. Kajian ini juga termasuk prosedur fabrikasi daripada ketigatiga jenis panel komposit dengan menggunakan proses kaedah sapuan (hand lay-up) dan vacuum bagging . A 6061-T6 dianggap sebagai bahan rujukan untuk menilai pencirian bahan komposit baru. Selain itu, setiap bahan mempunyai kajian kes dan akhirnya kajian ini mempunyai empat kajian kes. Kes pertama (tidak rosak) dijadikan sebagai rujukan atau garis dasar data standard. Manakala, untuk mencerminkan tiga kes kerosakan dalam panel, ditunjukkan perbezaan simulasi berbeza ukuran, seperti 10mm, 15mm dan 20 mm. Piezoelectric ceramic Lead Zirconate Titanate (PZT) transducer sebagai sensor digunakan untuk memperoleh data masa sebenar. Perbandingan ini dijalankan untuk mengenalpasti serta mengesan kerosakan , berdasarkan kepada pendekatan frekuensi semulajadi dan spektrum kuasa dengan ketepatan prestasi melalui isyarat daripada sensor pintar (PZT). Dalam kajian ini, indeks Root Mean Square Deviation (RMSD) dan Frequency Reduction Index (FRI) dijalankan bagi mendapatkan analisis statistik untuk magnitud kerosakan bagi memperbaiki teknik Pemantauan Kesihatan Struktur (SHM) (donation). Didapati Root Mean Square Deviation (RMSD) berfungsi meningkatkan aktiviti kenalpasti kerosakan dan didapati juga apabila keretakan meningkat, Root Mean Square Deviation (RMSD) juga meningkat. Akhir sekali, SHM melalui pendekatan PZT adalah bertambah baik dan telah disedari beberapa perubahan dalam frekuensi semulajadi terutamanya apabila kedalaman kerosakan meningkat di dalam komposit. Apabila kedalaman keretakan meningkat, frekuensi didapati menurun. Sementara itu, perbandingan juga dibuat di antara CFW resin epoksi dengan dua gentian kaca bertetulang epoksi termasuk struktur mikro, analisis termoplastik serta sifat-sifat mekanik bagi ketiga-tiga jenis. Umumnya, CFW sebagai komposit adalah lebih baik dalam struktur mikro, analisis terma dan

sifat-sifat mekanik serta ketahanan yang lebih tinggi terhadap kesan getaran dimana lebih daripada dua jenis gentian kaca telah diujikaji.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Praise is to ALLAH Almighty, the Most Gracious and the Most Merciful: from HIM I got the health, the power and the patience to finish this research. The first word sent from ALLAH to our Prophet Mohammed was "أَفْرُا" [Read]. I believe in the massive meaning for this word and how it is revealed that the knowledge is crucial for our existence.

I would like to gratefully acknowledge my supervisor Assoc. Prof. Ir. Dr. Faizal Mustapha for his excellent technical and generous guidance, valuable assistance and encouragement. Similarly, I would like to spread my thankfulness and acknowledge for my thesis committee members, Professor Ir. Dr. Mohd Sapuan Salit, Assoc. Prof. Ir. Dr. Raizal Saifulnaz Muhammad Rashid and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ahmad Ruzdi Mahmmud for their time, valuable advice and comments. Their incomparable knowledge in their significant fields has helped importantly in the completion of this research and made it possible to be complete.

This study has been possible with the support from Research University Grant Scheme no. [RUGS- 9348100], this financial, academic and technical supports are seriously appreciated. In the same time, I would like to appreciate the Graduation and Financial Assistance Section for their support and Fee's payment to publish in the "International Conference on Advances in Structural Health Management and Composite Structures" 2014 in Korea, and in Journal of Intelligent Material Systems and Structures.

A deepest gratitude is due to friend Puan Rosnita Abdul Rashid and my colleagues Mr. Mohammed Mustafa Al-Habshi for all their support throughout my research, for their assistance, encouragement, guidance were invaluable. I would like to acknowledge all the laboratory staffs in Engineering departments: Aerospace, Mechanical, Civil, Agriculture, and Chemical, as well as in UPM-INTROP (Bio-Composite laboratory) and UniKL-MIAT (Composite laboratory). I am very grateful for everyone provided assistance and technical support which played a main roles with regard to this study from the early stages of the composites fabrication process, experimental testing to data collection.

A deepest gratitude must go out to my family. I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to my mother for her love, constant prayers and support, sisters and brothers for their inspiration, great help and support.

Thanks a lot for all those who have supported me during this retro of struggle and without them I would not have been able to accomplish this milestone and that providing an opportunity to realize my vision. Last but not least, I want to express my love and wish peace and prosperity for all Humans, Muslims and my beloved country (AL-IRAQ), and hope that I can help for its development and education of our people. Besides, I would prompt my love and thanks to my second country (MALAYSIA).



I certify that an Examination Committee met on 26th May 2015 to conduct the final examination of Nisreen N. Ali on her thesis entitled "Structural Health Monitoring And Damage Identification Via Statistical Analysis For Composite Panel Structures Using Smart Sensor" in accordance with Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U. (A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the Doctore of Philosophy. Members of the Examination Committee are as follows:

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AE	Acoustic Emission
Al 6061-T6	Aluminium Alloy Type 6061-T6
CFRP	Carbon Fibre Reinforced Plastic
CFW	Twill Weave 240 g/m ² Carbon Fibre
DAQ	Data Acquisition
DMA	Dynamic Mechanical Analysis
DP	Damage Prognosis
DPH	Diamond Pyramid Hardness
EDS	Energy Dispersive Spectrometer
EDX	Energy Dispersive X-Ray
EDXA	Energy Dispersive X-Ray Analysis
EMI	Electro Mechanical Impedance
ESGs	Electric Strain Gauges
FBG	Fiber Bragg Grating
FF	Finite Floment
	Finite Element
FKI CE (CSM)	Channed Strend Mate 450 g/m ² Class Eibra
GF (CSM)	Chopped Strand Mats 450 g/m² Glass Flore
GFW	Plain weave 500 g/m² glass liber
GNIVI	Guangzhou New Television Tower
	Hidden Markov Modeling
	Vickers Hardener
IPN's	Interpenetrating Polymer Networks
MLP	Multi-Layer Perceptron
NDE	Non-Destructive Evaluation
NDT	Non-Destructive Technique
NI	National Instruments
NCF	Non-Crimp Fabric
OA	Outlier Analysis
OFS	Optical Fiber Sensor
PDMS	Polydimethy Siloxane
PWAS	Piezoelectric Wafer Active Sensors
PZT	Piezoelectric ceramic Lead Zirconate Titanate
RC	Reinforced Concrete
RMSD	Root Mean Square Deviation
RPM	Revolution Per Minute
RTD	Room Temperature Density
SDIM	Structural Damage Detection Method
SEM	Scanning Electron Microscopy
SHM	Structural Health Monitoring
SNS	Structural Neural System
TEOS	Tetraethoxysilane
TETA	Triethylene Tetra Amine
TG	Thermo Gravimetry
TGA	Thermo gravimetric analysis
TNEWS	Transient Non-Linear Elastic Wave Spectroscopy
	Thermal Travimetric Analysis
11/1	Therman Travinieuric Analysis

UBC	University of British Columbia
UV	Ultraviolet
VI	Virtual Instrument
XRD	X-Ray Diffraction

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LIST OF SYMBOLS

А	cross-sectional area of specimen, mm ² ,
A	the original cross sectional area of specimen through which the
	force is applied,
b	width of beam tested, mm,
d	depth of beam tested, mm,
$d\epsilon_{axial}$	axial strain, positive for axial tension and negative for axial
	compression,
$d\epsilon_{trans}$	transverse strain, negative value for axial tension(stretching) and
	positive for axial compression,
$D_{\rm f}$	maximum deflection of the centre of the beam, mm
E	Young's modulus,
F	the force applied on specimen under tensile,
F _{tu}	ultimate tensile strength, MPa,
L	support span, mm,
Lo	the original length of the specimen,
ΔL	the amount by which the length of the object changes,
M_d	Measured composite density, g/cm ³ .
Р	load at a given point on the load deflection curve, N
Pi	load at <i>i</i> th data point, N,
P _{max}	maximum load before failure, N,
ρ	density,
$\rho_{\rm r}$	density of resin,
$ ho_{ m reinf}$	density of reinforcement
r	resin, weight%,
R	resin in Composite, weight %,
Sp	specific gravity,
T _d	theoretical composite density, g/cm ³ ,
υ	Poisson's ratio,
V	void content, volume %,
W _c	conditioned weight, (g),
W_w	wet weight, (g),
W reinf	reinforcement, weight%,
σ	stress,
σ_{i}	tensile stress at <i>i</i> th data point, MPa,
σ_{o}	stress in the outer fibers at midpoint, MPa,
3	strain, and
εο	strain in the outer surface, mm/mm.

 (\mathbf{C})

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

Civil, aerospace and mechanical structures are the most expensive national assets of any country. These structures have long service life and are very costly to maintain and replace once they are built. In the past few years, Structural Health Monitoring (SHM) technique has been a growing issue, acknowledged as an important consideration and outstanding in its extensive applications. SHM is the implementation and procedure of damage detection to assess, improve and ensure the integrity, safety and reliability of the engineering substructures before they reach a critical state. Once the life of these structures and their substantial usage have started, it becomes crucial to monitor and assess their structural integrity.

Damage detection existences in these structures can enhance the safety, security, and prolong the structures' service life, and reduce the operational and maintenance costs. Early detection of the damage or structural degradation prior to local failure can prevent a catastrophic collapse of those structures. Typical damage in these infrastructures might be due to the development of cracks, degradation of structural connections, bearing wearing and shearing in rotating machinery, or from excessive external loads such as: strong winds, earthquakes, explosions and vehicle impacts. The most important structures include high-rise buildings, bridges, power utilities, nuclear power plants, and dams, in addition to aircraft and mechanical applications (Figure 1.1).



Figure 1.1 Examples of the Greatest Expensive Infrastructures. (Kinematics, 2015)

The goal of SHM is to improve safety and reliability of infrastructure systems by detecting damage before it reaches a critical state and allow rapid post-event assessment. Tall buildings that materialized in the late nineteenth century have developed into a worldwide architectural marvel. Universally, many tall buildings were built especially in Asian countries, such as Japan, Malaysia, Korea and China. Conventionally, the tall buildings development functions have been as commercial office buildings due to rapidly increased or residential, mixed-use, and hotel towers. The construction of tall buildings will continue due to their important economic suitability in dense urban land use. "Tall building development involves various complex factors such as economics, technology, municipal rules, and politics, and economics has been the primary governing factor. The new structures types however, would not have been possible without supporting technologies", (Ali & Moon, 2007).

Recently, extensive research work in civil and aerospace applications has been extended by using fibre-reinforced plastic composite materials. Composite materials are increasingly being used in substructure applications such as reinforcement in structural shapes, various hybrid structures, pre-stressing for new concrete structures, strengthening for existing concrete as well as for bridge decks. These materials contain strong and continuous fibres bound together by a continuous matrix of polymer resin. The development of composite materials has been enhanced rapidly because of improvements in process technology and economic benefits. Significant mechanical properties results of composite materials have great advantages ranging from increased strength and durability features to weight reduction and lower petroleum ingesting compared with conventional and competitive materials. Structural vibration control along with smart materials is gradually being used for flexible structures and it has achieved impressive development. This is apparently in response to the high demand for safer structures and lower costs. For rational structural health monitoring applications, the large size of host structures may require innovative sensing technologies and use of appropriate software and hardware systems for data acquisition or reduction. Novel smart sensors and actuators, such as Piezoelectric Ceramic Lead Zirconate Titanate (PZT) transducers have been identified as the method of structural health monitoring requests. PZT materials are utilized as a powerful and innovative tool for local damage detection of various structures.

National Instrument and LabVIEW software is a graphical programming environment for developing refined measurement, test, and control systems by using intuitive graphical icons and wires that resemble a flowchart. LabVIEW software provides a small, simple, and affordable system for making vibration measurements in the lab and field. LabVIEW offers unrivalled integration with thousands of hardware devices, including NI-DAQ, (LabVIEWTM SinalExpress). It provides hundreds of built-in libraries for advanced analysis and data visualization as well as analyze data in real time, and creates custom reports using the industry standard tool. In general, a typical SHM system includes four major components (Dong et al., 2010):

- 1. Structure prototype,
- 2. A sensor system,
- 3. A data processing system including: data acquisition, program, and storage, and
- 4. A health evaluation system: including diagnostic information and organization.

1.2 Problem Statement

The maintenance and inspection infrastructures are very critical, and necessary to minimize the time period that the structures are out of service. Via SHM, the inspection, maintenance time and cost can be reduced. In addition, "SHM systems give online details about the structural safety" (Alexopoulos et al., 2010). A robust SHM scheme requires the unique characterization of the presence, location and severity of the damage. All structures in civil, aerospace and mechanics age and deteriorate with time. Vibration effects on structures are due to seismic or/and traffic, and this research considers the effect of traffic vibration.

The most common failures in material plate as a component are cracks and it is extensively found in civil, aerospace, shipbuilding, and additional productions. Quantitative indication of crack size and its location is of principal importance for damage identification in order to improve and maintain its life prediction. Frequency measurement is used to detect damage located at districts of low stress which might be undependable otherwise a shift in natural frequency might provide sufficient information for integrity monitoring when the damage is in a significant load bearing member (Salawu, 1997).

In structures, one of the critical portions is the mid-span and its up loading which creates the maximum bending moment. In a beam with a pin or a roller which supports at both ends, the moment is zero, while its maximum is at the load point and in this

 \bigcirc

case it is the mid span (Sozen & Ichinose, 2008). At the higher load, the moment will be distributed to the mid span as shown in Figure 1.2. More attention must be paid to this portion to study the crack and negative effects especially in tall buildings. Several investigators have contributed to the study of crack detection and identification in various structure materials.



Figure 1.2. Simply Supported Beam under Uniformly Distributed Load. (Sozen & Ichinose, 2008)

This research included an evaluation of the mechanical properties, micro structure and thermal analysis of the different fabricated composite panels as new materials to assess their characterizations. SHM was adopted in this research as a non-destructive technique to detect the damage via experimental procedures analysis to identify different cases of damages.

Real time monitoring for damage detection and identification of structures utilizing simple technique, and inexpensive available hardware connected with active and smart sensors is a great challenge. Nevertheless, to the best of the researcher's knowledge, no results have been published on the subject of SHM for damage identification regarding the same specification of these composite structures and selected damage parameters using smart sensor (PZT) and National Instrument LabVIEW SignalExpress software under the effect of mechanical vibration exciter.

1.3 Research Objectives

The aim of this research is damage detection and identification to incorporate a robust Structural Health Monitoring (SHM) scheme. This technique is applied on an aluminum alloy and composite materials that emulate three-storey structures through an application by using smart materials technology such as PZT sensor. This sensor is used to capture natural frequency and power spectrum responses to distinguish structural status. The objectives of this research are as follows:

- 1. To fabricate a three-storey aluminium frame to be the structure (prototype) for the four case studies. Also added is a definition for the materials, sensor and data acquisition with suitable software.
- To compute the mechanical properties, micro structure and thermo plastic analysis of the new fabricated composites as a new material's components. Based on these characterization's results, these new composites can be evaluated then compared with the Al 6061-T6 alloy properties.

- 3. To acquire the real time signals for crack's damage using a smart system. This research consists of four material's panels in four cases: undamaged as a 1st case and considered as a reference, in addition to three cracks formed with lengths of 10 mm, 15 mm and 20 mm to simulate 2nd, 3rd and 4th cases, respectively.
- 4. To evaluate and assess the vibration effects on composite structures and to provide the significance and efficiency of the SHM system for damage detection and identification for composite panels. Statistical analysis according to RMSD and FRI equations was performed the results compared to the three composites with an Al 6061-T6 panel's results.

1.4 Research Scope

This research scope included:

- 1. **Design and Construction:** An aluminum frame designed to be the base for the structure's prototype.
- 2. **Composites Fabrication:** Three fibre/epoxy composites fabricated involving three types of fibres mixed individually with epoxy resin as a matrix.
- 3. **Operational Evaluation**: Evaluate the new composite materials by computing the mechanical properties, micro structure and thermo plastic analysis.
- 4. Data Acquisition and Feature Extraction to Identify the Damage: Acquire data via SHM technique using PZT sensor and NI LabVIEW SignalExpress software. Observation and evaluation of the natural frequency distinction as one of the dynamic properties of structures via the specimen's excitation and from the large set of data acquisition.
- 5. **Statistical Pattern Recognition:** To predict the structures integrity, Frequency Reduction Index (FRI) and Root Mean Square Deviation (RMSD) index were employed to evaluate the collected data.

1.5 Thesis Layout

This thesis organized into seven chapters which can be summarized as follows:

Chapter 1: This chapter introduces the background of structural health monitoring technique and damage detection in structures, composite materials as a part of future work in construction materials, and National Instrument and LabView SignalExpress related with smart sensor (PZT) to acquire vibration data. The problem statement, objectives, scope of the study, and thesis layout are also explained briefly.

Chapter 2: This chapter comprises the literature review of previous research related to the subject area including: SHM technique and damage detection contributed in monitoring structures, composite materials development and fabrication process, sensors types and PZT as a smart sensor and National Instrument and LabView SignalExpress as a part of SHM monitoring system to acquire the data.

Chapter 3: Chapter 3 illustrates the flow chart of the research work. In this chapter all details of experimental work are presented such as: the composite materials fabrication design, tests to measure the mechanical properties, the micro structural and thermo plastic analysis of these new composite materials. The application of the proposed SHM technique to detect the damage in the proposed structures is presented as: national instrument, data acquisition, and software which is used for damage identification. Four study cases are used to detect damage in each selected material

using aluminum alloy as reference to compare the results with the three fabricated composite materials.

This chapter presents the composite materials fabrication by using new technique and process to control the thickness of the product and use of different types of reinforced composite fibre to improve the best fibres/resin ratio with suitable number of the fibres reinforced layers.

Chapter 4: This chapter illuminates the computed results such as: mechanical properties, micro structure, thermo plastic analysis for the new fabricated composite materials. The properties of aluminum alloy type 6061-T6 are also illustrated.

Chapter 5: Chapter 5 presents the captured signals via NI USB-9234 DAQ device and LabVIEW Signal Process software, damage detection and the data collection. Four case studies (undamaged, crack length 10mm, crack length 15 mm and crack length 20mm) in four different structure materials are statistically analyzed in this chapter based on Root Mean Square Deviation (RMSD) index and Frequency Reduction Index (FRI) to realize the damage magnitude.

Chapter 6: The main identification findings of this research are presented in this chapter, while the contribution to scientific knowledge is also presented. Moreover, recommendations for future work are provided in this chapter.



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