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**MECHANICS  
OF COMPOSITE MATERIALS**

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THE INFLUENCE OF INTERFACE ON THE MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF NANOCOMPOSITES <i>D. Ciprari, I. Jasiuk, R. Tannenbaum, and K. I. Jacob</i> .....	66
MECHANICAL BEHAVIOR OF PRESTRESSED HOLLOW-CORE SLABS REINFORCED WITH FRP <i>G. Concu, D. Meloni, and M. Valdes</i> .....	68
FAILURE SIMULATION FOR METAL-COMPOSITE JOINTS <i>A. Derewońko</i> .....	69
IDENTIFICATION OF THE MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF A CARBON-EPOXY COMPOSITE BY THE FINITE-ELEMENT METHOD <i>A. Derewońko, K. Kosiuczenko, and R. Gieleta</i> .....	70
DYNAMICAL RESPONSE TO A MOVING LOAD OF A PRESTRAINED SYSTEM COMPRISING A SUBSTRATE AND BOND AND COVERING LAYERS <i>E. Dincsoy, C. Guler, and S. D. Akbarov</i> .....	71
IDENTIFICATION OF THE ELASTIC AND DAMPING PROPERTIES OF LAMINATED PLATES <i>B. Diveviev, I. Butyter, and N. Shcherbyna</i> .....	73
A COMPOSITE MATERIAL WITH ADDITIONS OF NANOPARTICLES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SMART WALL <i>C. Dumiterescu, M. Menicu, I. Cernica, A. Matei, and D. Mihalevschi</i> .....	74
PROPERTIES OF DIFFERENT ASYMPTOTICALLY EQUIVALENT FORMS OF EQUATIONS OF HIGHER ORDER FOR WAVES IN THIN ELASTIC RODS <i>M. E. Eglit</i> .....	75
AN EXPERIMENTAL AND NUMERICAL STUDY ON THE DYNAMIC BUCKLING OF CYLINDRICAL COMPOSITE SHELLS <i>E. Eglītis, K. Kalniņš, O. Ozoliņš, and G. Teters</i> .....	76
DYNAMICAL RESPONSE OF TWO AXIALLY PRESTRAINED SYSTEMS COMPRISING A COVERING LAYER AND A HALF-SPACE TO RECTANGULAR TIME-HARMONIC FORCES <i>I. Emiroglu, F. Tasci, and S. D. Akbarov</i> .....	77
FE SIMULATION OF SANDWICH PANELS WITH A FUNCTIONALLY GRADED CORE - PART I: LOW-VELOCITY IMPACT <i>E. Etemadi and A. Afaghi Khatibi</i> .....	79
FE SIMULATION OF SANDWICH PANELS WITH A FUNCTIONALLY GRADED CORE - PART II: HIGH-VELOCITY IMPACT <i>E. Etemadi and A. Afaghi Khatibi</i> .....	81
THE INFLUENCE OF CNT CONCENTRATION ON THE THERMOPHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF EPOXY/CARBON NANOTUBE COMPOSITES AT LOW TEMPERATURES <i>L. E. Evseeva and S. A. Tanaeva</i> .....	83
THERMOMECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF AN EPOXY/CLAY NANOCOMPOSITE IN RELATION TO FILLER AND MOISTURE CONTENT <i>E. A. Faitelson, T. I. Glaskova, A. N. Aniskevich, and V. P. Korkhov</i> .....	84
THE LIMITING STATE OF A MULTILAYER NONLINEAR ELASTIC ECCENTRIC RING <i>L. Fatullayeva</i> .....	85
NEW METAL COMPOSITE MATERIALS <i>O. Figovsky, S. Usherenko, and J. Usherenko</i> .....	86

## AN EXPERIMENTAL AND NUMERICAL STUDY ON THE DYNAMIC BUCKLING OF CYLINDRICAL COMPOSITE SHELLS

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The present investigation focuses on the dynamic effects associated with load speed versus the buckling behavior of axially compressed cylinders.

Several glass, aramid, and carbon fiber-reinforced plastic cylindrical specimens have been produced for experimental validation. The production method was cylindrical winding with vacuum resin impregnation. All the specimens produced had a length of 850 mm and inner diameter of approximately 300 mm. The production technology required that the testing specimens be slightly conical, so the inner diameter varied along the specimen length. The specimens were loaded quasi-statically up to the post-buckling region (see Fig. 1) to evaluate the buckling load and the post-buckling behavior under static loading. Then, the axial loading was repeated, gradually increasing the loading speed up to 0.15 m/s, with registering the load-shortening curves. A nondestructive vibration testing was performed before and after the loading tests to verify that no damage had occurred.

The numerical part represents the benchmarking of the commercially available

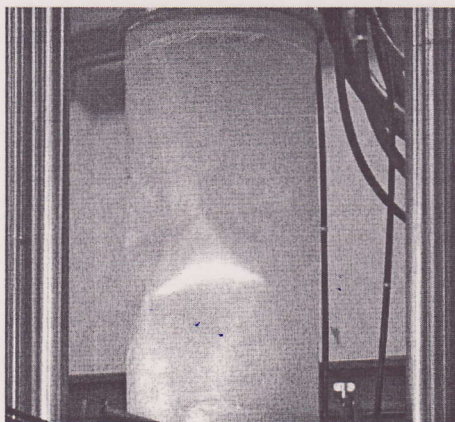


Fig. 1. The post-buckling shape of an axially compressed glass-fiber cylinder.

finite-element analysis software packages ABAQUS and ANSYS/LS-DYNA by using data obtained from the physical experiments. A procedure of optimum design is proposed.

### REFERENCE

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