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## Modeling and analysis of delaminated beams with integrated piezoelectric actuators

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### ABSTRACT

In this article, a mathematical model for beams with partially delaminated layers is presented to investigate their behavior by using Euler–Bernoulli beam theory. The principal advantage of the element is that it allows the modeling of delamination anywhere in the structure. The region without delamination is modeled to carry constant peel and shear stresses; while the region with delamination is modeled by assuming that there is no peel and shear stress transfer between the top and bottom layers. Moreover, in the interfaces between the regions with and without delamination, both displacements and forces continuity conditions are imposed. The accuracy of the models is verified by comparing results with previously published data.

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## 1. Introduction

Vibration and shape control using piezoelectric sensors and actuators have attracted significant attention in recent years. The aspect of vibration control of plates by piezoelectric materials was studied by Yang and Huang [1] and Piéfort et al. [2]. These models are based on the classic theory of laminated plates which neglects the effects of the transverse shear. Finite element model to predict the vibrations of the piezoelectric actuators is presented by Taleghani and Campbell [3]. Basic actuator and sensor equations of composite shell structures with piezoelectric layers are presented by Tzou and Gadre [4] and Tzou [5]. In previous studies, the adhesive layers are not modeled and the fundamental assumption is that the piezoelectric layers are perfectly bonded onto the host structures. Lee et al. [6] studied a composite beam with arbitrary lateral and longitudinal multiple delamination. Finite element methods have been developed using the layerwise theory by Kim et al. [7]. An improved analytical model for delamination in composite beams, using a second-order shear-thickness deformation displacement field, was introduced by Hamed et al. [8]. Tan and Tong [9] developed dynamic analytical model for identification of a delamination embedded in a laminated composite beam. It was noted that the piezoelectric sensor can only effectively identify the size and location of a delamination which is beneath the sensor. Mahieddine and Ouali [10] present a finite element formulation based on the first-order theory of Kirchoff to analyze beams with integrated piezoelectric actuators and sensors.

To investigate the effects of delamination of piezoelectric layers on vibration control of beam, a mathematical model based on Euler–Bernoulli beam theory is developed. The delaminated region of the beam is modeled by assuming that there is no stress between the top and bottom layers. Both displacement continuity and force equilibrium conditions are imposed

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### Nomenclature

$A_B, A_T$	Cross-section area of bottom and top layers respectively	$u'_B, u'_T$	First spatial derivatives of $u_B$ and $u_T$ respectively
$b$	Width of the beam	$u''_B, u''_T$	Second spatial derivatives of $u_B$ and $u_T$ respectively
$\mathbf{D}$	Electric displacement matrix	$u'''_B, u'''_T$	Third spatial derivatives of $u_B$ and $u_T$ respectively
$\mathbf{E}$	Electric field matrix	$\ddot{u}_B, \ddot{u}_T$	Second time derivatives of $u_B$ and $u_T$ respectively
$E_z$	Electric field relative to $z$	$w_B, w_T$	Displacements, of bottom and top layers respectively, relative to $z$
$\bar{\mathbf{e}}$	Piezoelectric stress coefficient matrix	$w'_B, w'_T$	First spatial derivatives of $w_B$ and $w_T$ respectively
$\bar{\mathbf{g}}$	Permittivity constant matrix	$w''_B, w''_T$	Second spatial derivatives of $w_B$ and $w_T$ respectively
$h_B, h_T$	Thickness of bottom and top layers respectively	$w'''_B, w'''_T$	Third spatial derivatives of $w_B$ and $w_T$ respectively
$k$	Parameter characterizing the bonding conditions	$w''''_B, w''''_T$	Fourth spatial derivatives of $w_B$ and $w_T$ respectively
$L$	Beam's length	$\ddot{w}_B, \ddot{w}_T$	Second time derivatives of $w_B$ and $w_T$ respectively
$M_B, M_T$	Bending moments of bottom and top layers respectively	$z$	Spatial coordinate
$M'_B, M'_T$	First spatial derivatives of $M_B$ and $M_T$ respectively	$\varepsilon_B, \varepsilon_T$	Strains for bottom and top layers respectively
$P$	Load per unit length	$\nu$	Natural frequency
$Q_B, Q_T$	Transverse shear forces of bottom and top layers respectively	$\sigma$	Peel stress
$Q'_B, Q'_T$	First spatial derivatives of $Q_B$ and $Q_T$ respectively	$\rho_B, \rho_T$	Mass densities of bottom and top layers respectively
$\bar{O}$	Elastic stiffness	$\tau$	Shear stress
$T_B, T_T$	Axial stress resultants of bottom and top layers respectively	$\tau'$	First spatial derivative of $\tau$
$T'_B, T'_T$	First spatial derivatives of $T_B$ and $T_T$ respectively		
$u_B, u_T$	Displacements, of bottom and top layers respectively, relative to $x$		

between the regions with and without delamination. The accuracy of the approach is verified by comparing results with previously published data.

## 2. Mathematical formulation

In the present work the delamination is modeled as a crack which separates the beam into a top ( $T$ ) and bottom ( $B$ ) layers. It is assumed that the delamination results in different transverse and axial displacements for the top and bottom layers.

Under these assumptions, the axial ( $U$ ) and transverse ( $W$ ) displacements for the top ( $T$ ) and bottom ( $B$ ) layers are written as

$$U_T(x, z) = u_T(x) - z \cdot w'_T(x) \quad (1)$$

$$U_B(x, z) = u_B(x) - z \cdot w'_B(x) \quad (2)$$

$$W_T(x, z) = W_T(x) \quad (3)$$

$$W_B(x, z) = W_B(x) \quad (4)$$

where a prime denotes differentiation with respect to  $x$ .

The strain relations for a piezoelectric layer (top) and beam (bottom) associated with the displacement field are given by

$$\varepsilon_T = u'_T - z \cdot w''_T \quad (5)$$

$$\varepsilon_B = u'_B - z \cdot w''_B \quad (6)$$

The piezoelectric constitutive equations, which neglect the thermal effects, can be expressed by [11–14]:

$$\sigma = \bar{\mathbf{Q}} \cdot \varepsilon - \bar{\mathbf{e}}^T \cdot \mathbf{E} \quad (7)$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \bar{\mathbf{e}} \cdot \varepsilon + \bar{\mathbf{g}}^T \cdot \mathbf{E} \quad (8)$$

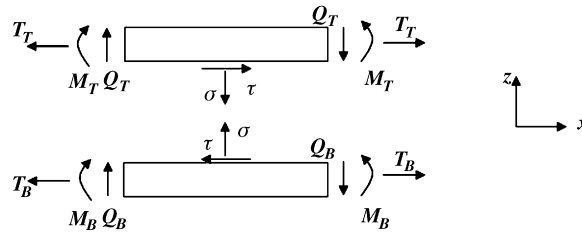


Fig. 1. Free-body diagram of an infinitesimal beam element with top and bottom layers.

For a beam problem, one can use  $\sigma_y = \tau_{yz} = \tau_{xy} = 0$ . The stress in the top and bottom layers is given by

$$\sigma_T = \bar{Q}_{11} \cdot \varepsilon_T - \bar{e}_{31} \cdot E_z \tag{9}$$

$$\sigma_B = \bar{Q}_{11} \cdot \varepsilon_B \tag{10}$$

For the segment including the piezoelectric layer and the beam, the free-body diagram is shown in Fig. 1. From this figure the equation of motion can be derived as follows

$$\rho_T \cdot A_T \cdot \ddot{u}_T = T'_T + b \cdot \tau \tag{11}$$

$$\rho_T \cdot A_T \cdot \ddot{w}_T = Q'_T + b \cdot \sigma + P \tag{12}$$

$$M'_T + \frac{b \cdot h_T}{2} \cdot \tau - Q_T = 0 \tag{13}$$

$$\rho_B \cdot A_B \cdot \ddot{u}_B = T'_B - b \cdot \tau \tag{14}$$

$$\rho_B \cdot A_B \cdot \ddot{w}_B = Q'_B - b \cdot \sigma \tag{15}$$

$$M'_B + \frac{b \cdot h_B}{2} \cdot \tau - Q_B = 0 \tag{16}$$

where  $h_i$  ( $i = T, B$ ) denotes the thickness,  $b$  is the width of the beam,  $\tau$  and  $\sigma$  are the shear and peel stress,  $T$ ,  $Q$  and  $M$  are the axial stress resultant, transverse shear force and bending moment, respectively,  $A_i$  ( $i = T, B$ ) are the cross-section areas,  $P$  is the load per unit length,  $\rho_i$  ( $i = T, B$ ) are the mass densities of the layers.

The stress and the resultant moment in Eqs. (11)–(16) are

$$T_T = \bar{A}_T \cdot u'_T - \bar{B}_T \cdot w''_T - E_1 \tag{17}$$

$$M_T = \bar{B}_T \cdot u'_T - \bar{D}_T \cdot w''_T - E_2 \tag{18}$$

$$T_B = \bar{A}_B \cdot u'_B - \bar{B}_B \cdot w''_B \tag{19}$$

$$M_B = \bar{B}_B \cdot u'_B - \bar{D}_B \cdot w''_B \tag{20}$$

with

$$\bar{A}_T = \int_0^{h_2} \bar{Q}_{11} \cdot b \cdot dz; \quad \bar{A}_B = \int_{-h_1}^0 \bar{Q}_{11} \cdot b \cdot dz \tag{21}$$

$$\bar{B}_T = \int_0^{h_2} \bar{Q}_{11} \cdot b \cdot z \cdot dz; \quad \bar{B}_B = \int_{-h_1}^0 \bar{Q}_{11} \cdot b \cdot z \cdot dz \tag{22}$$

$$\bar{D}_T = \int_0^{h_2} \bar{Q}_{11} \cdot b \cdot z^2 \cdot dz; \quad \bar{D}_B = \int_{-h_1}^0 \bar{Q}_{11} \cdot b \cdot z^2 \cdot dz \tag{23}$$

$$E_1 = \int_0^{h_2} \bar{e}_{31} \cdot b \cdot E_z \cdot dz; \quad \bar{E}_2 = \int_{-h_1}^0 \bar{e}_{31} \cdot b \cdot E_z \cdot dz \tag{24}$$

Substituting Eqs. (17)–(20) into (11)–(16), the equation of motion will be

**Table 1**  
Material parameters used in calculations.

$x$ [m]	PZT-5H	Si
$Q_{11}$ [ $10^{10}$ N/m <sup>2</sup> ]	12.6	16.6
$Q_{12}$ [ $10^{10}$ N/m <sup>2</sup> ]	7.95	63.9
$Q_{13}$ [ $10^{10}$ N/m <sup>2</sup> ]	8.41	63.9
$Q_{33}$ [ $10^{10}$ N/m <sup>2</sup> ]	11.7	16.6
$Q_{44}$ [ $10^{10}$ N/m <sup>2</sup> ]	2.3	79.6
$Q_{66}$ [ $10^{10}$ N/m <sup>2</sup> ]	2.35	79.6
$e_{31}$ [C/m <sup>2</sup> ]	−6.5	−
$e_{33}$ [C/m <sup>2</sup> ]	23.3	−
$e_{15}$ [C/m <sup>2</sup> ]	17.0	−
$g_{11}$ [nF/m]	0.1503	0.1045
$g_{22}$ [nF/m]	0.1503	0.1045
$g_{33}$ [nF/m]	0.13	0.1045
$\rho$ [kg/m <sup>2</sup> ]	7500	2330

**Table 2**  
Deflections for the clamped-free beam.

$x$ [m]	$w$ [m] from FE	$w$ [m] from present model	Error
0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
0.033333	−2.216622e−4	−2.216622e−4	4.729826e−11
0.066667	−8.378124e−4	−8.378124e−4	4.949883e−11
0.100000	−1.780080e−3	−1.780080e−3	5.182010e−11
0.133333	−2.986606e−3	−2.986606e−3	5.420637e−11
0.166667	−4.402042e−3	−4.402042e−3	5.656910e−11
0.200000	−5.977553e−3	−5.977553e−3	5.876678e−11
0.233333	−7.670813e−3	−7.670813e−3	6.087850e−11
0.266667	−9.446009e−3	−9.446009e−3	6.291718e−11
0.300000	−1.127384e−2	−1.127384e−2	6.488764e−11
0.333333	−1.313152e−2	−1.313152e−2	6.669922e−11
0.366667	−1.500276e−2	−1.500276e−2	6.825461e−11
0.400000	−1.687780e−2	−1.687780e−2	6.941856e−11

$$\rho_T \cdot A_T \cdot \ddot{u}_T - \bar{A}_T \cdot u_T'' + \bar{B}_T \cdot w_T''' = -E_1' + k \cdot (b \cdot \tau) \quad (25)$$

$$\rho_T \cdot A_T \cdot \ddot{w}_T - \bar{B}_T \cdot u_T''' + \bar{D}_T \cdot w_T'''' = -E_2'' + k \cdot \left( \frac{b \cdot h_2}{2} \cdot \tau' + b \cdot \sigma \right) + P \quad (26)$$

$$\rho_B \cdot A_B \cdot \ddot{u}_B - \bar{A}_B \cdot u_B'' + \bar{B}_B \cdot w_B''' = k \cdot (b \cdot \tau) \quad (27)$$

$$\rho_B \cdot A_B \cdot \ddot{w}_B - \bar{B}_B \cdot u_B''' + \bar{D}_B \cdot w_B'''' = k \cdot \left( \frac{b \cdot h_1}{2} \cdot \tau' + b \cdot \sigma \right) \quad (28)$$

$k$  is parameter characterizing the bonding conditions between the piezoelectric layer and the beam:

$k = 0$ : Debonding

$k = 1$ : Perfect bonding

### 3. Numerical results

In order to test the accuracy of the present work, several examples of beams with a piezoelectric actuator bonded as a top layer are considered.

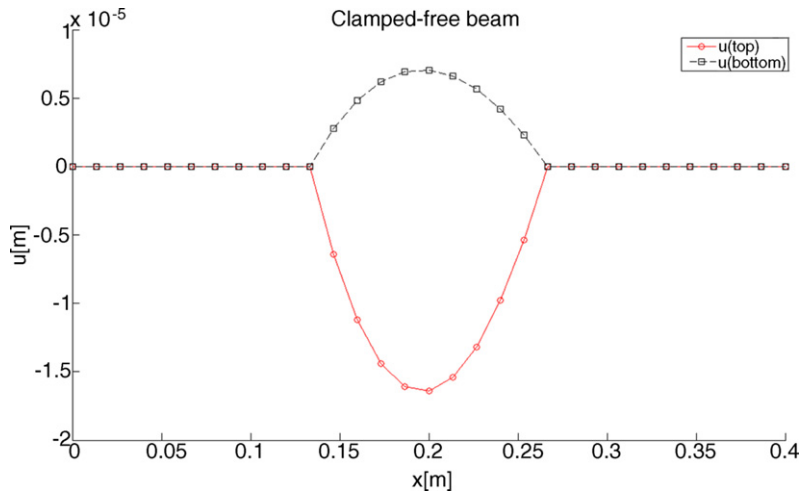
In the first example a beam without delamination was considered and the results are compared to a finite element model [10]. The beam's length, width and thickness are  $L = 0.4$  m,  $b = 0.03$  m, and  $h_B = 0.007$  m, the thickness of the piezoelectric layer is  $h_T = 0.003$  m, a uniformly distributed load of  $10^3$  N m<sup>−2</sup> is applied. The parameters of the beam and piezoelectric elements used in calculations are listed in Table 1.

The deflections for the clamped-free and clamped-clamped beams, as computed using Eqs. (21)–(24), are compared with those obtained by the use of an FE model [10]. In Tables 2 and 3, the results show that the deflections computed with the use of the present model are in good agreement with the finite element (FE) model results.

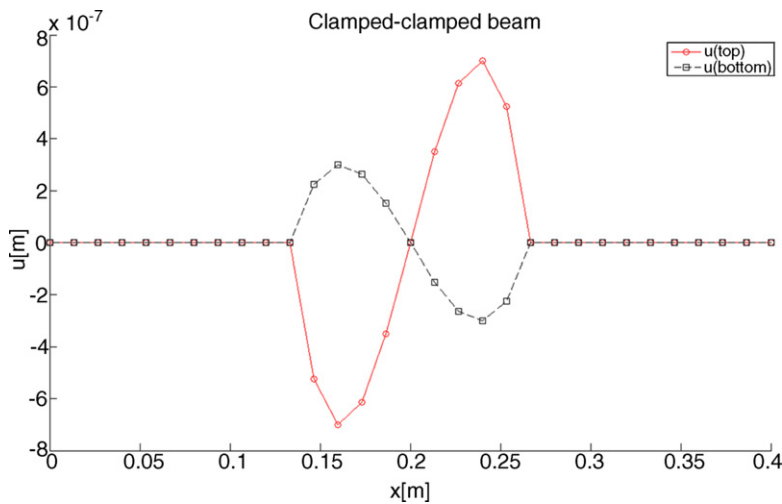
In the second example a beam with delamination between the top and bottom layers was considered. Figs. 2 and 3 show the axial displacement for the clamped-free and clamped-clamped beams, respectively.

**Table 3**  
Deflections for the clamped-clamped beam.

$x$ [m]	$w$ [m] from FE	$w$ [m] from present model	Error
0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
0.033333	-3.282879e-5	-3.282879e-5	3.075542e-12
0.066667	-1.085249e-4	-1.085249e-4	3.009594e-12
0.100000	-1.977867e-4	-1.977867e-4	2.905288e-12
0.133333	-2.778238e-4	-2.778238e-4	2.692712e-12
0.166667	-3.323576e-4	-3.323576e-4	2.446617e-12
0.200000	-3.516208e-4	-3.516208e-4	2.281747e-12
0.233333	-3.323576e-4	-3.323576e-4	2.234577e-12
0.266667	-2.778238e-4	-2.778238e-4	2.243927e-12
0.300000	-1.977867e-4	-1.977867e-4	2.288599e-12
0.333333	-1.085249e-4	-1.085249e-4	2.260317e-12
0.366667	-3.282879e-5	-3.282879e-5	2.332458e-12
0.400000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000



**Fig. 2.** Axial displacement for the clamped-free beam.



**Fig. 3.** Axial displacement for the clamped-clamped beam.

Figs. 4 and 5 show the axial displacement of the clamped-free beam for the top and bottom layers, respectively. It can be seen that their displacements increase with the thicknesses of the layers.

An electric voltage is applied to the actuator bonded on the top surface of host beam. The results of deflections for clamped-free beam are compared to those obtained for a beam without electric voltage application in Fig. 6. The results

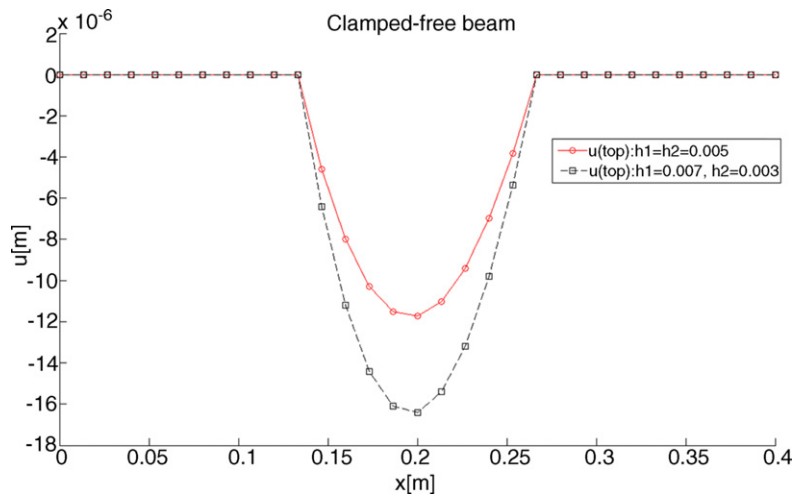


Fig. 4. Axial displacement of top layer.

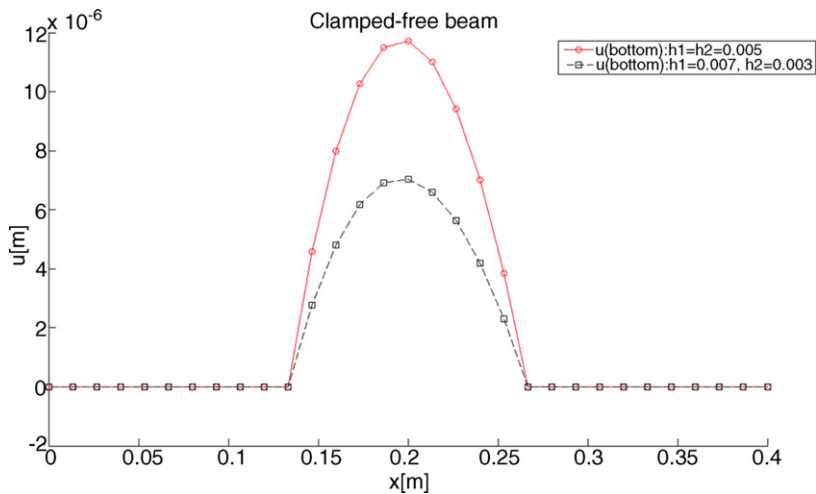


Fig. 5. Axial displacement of bottom layer.

**Table 4**  
Natural frequencies for the clamped-free beam.

Mode	$\nu$ (s <sup>-1</sup> ) FE	$\nu$ (s <sup>-1</sup> ) present model	Error (%)
1	48.9255786	48.9243002	0.00
2	306.633498	306.352539	0.00
3	858.669041	856.666434	0.02
4	1682.55496	1675.51232	0.07
5	2781.36637	2762.91361	0.18
6	4154.88062	4114.91146	0.39

show that the behavior of the beam is affected by the delamination when a voltage input is applied to the piezoelectric layer.

The lowest 6 order natural frequencies computed with the present model are compared with the exact frequencies as shown in Table 4. The material and geometric characteristics are the same as in the previous example problems. The differences of the 1st- to the 6th-order natural frequencies are less than 0.4%.

#### 4. Conclusion

A model of beams with delamination using Euler–Bernoulli beam theory is developed in this paper. Numerical results are presented to study the influence of delamination. The differences between the deflections computed from present model and previously computed data show that the results agree very closely. It is shown that the axial displacement increases

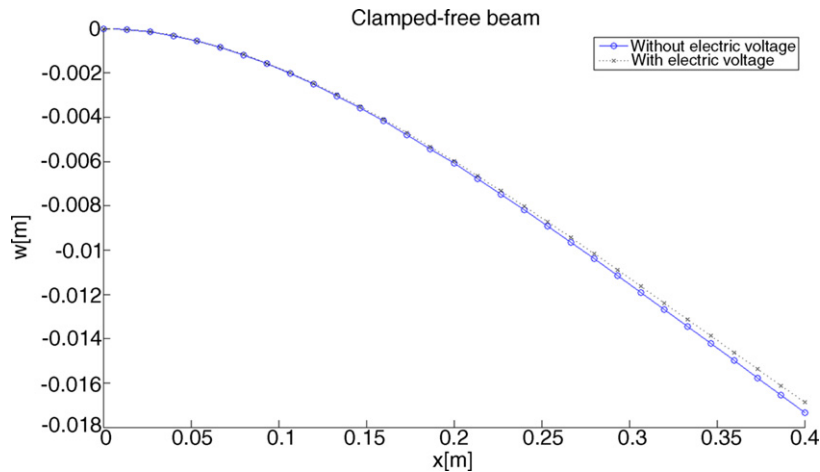


Fig. 6. Comparison of deflections with and without electric charge applied.

with the increasing of the thickness of layers. The frequencies computed with the model based on the formulation presented in this Note are in good agreement with the exact results. This shows the validity of the assumptions adopted in the present article.

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