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Full-Field Experimental Investigations on Resonant Vibration of Cracked Rectangular Cantilever Plates

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I. Introduction

ELECTRONIC speckle pattern interferometry (ESPI) was proposed in the 1970s¹ as a method of producing interferograms without using a traditional holographic technique.² The main difference between ESPI and holography is the interferometric image processing. The image data are digitized by a video camera and digital signal processor for the ESPI method, which eliminates time-consuming chemical development. Because the interferometric image is recorded and updated by the video camera every $\frac{1}{30}$ s, ESPI is faster in operation and more insensitive to environmental noise than holography. The comparative advantage of operation allows ESPI to extend its application compared with other optical measurement techniques. To increase the visibility of the fringe pattern and to reduce the environmental noise simultaneously, an amplitude-fluctuation ESPI method was proposed by Wang et al.³ for out-of-plane vibration measurement. In the amplitude-fluctuation (AF) ESPI method, the reference frame is recorded in a vibrating state and subtracted from the incoming frame. Ma and Huang⁴ and Huang and Ma⁵ used the AF-ESPI method to investigate the three-dimensional vibrations of piezoelectric rectangular parallelepipeds and cylinders; both the resonant frequencies and the mode shapes were presented and discussed in detail.

The study of the vibration behavior of plates with a crack is a problem of great practical interest. Only a few papers have been published on the vibration analysis of a finite cracked plate. This problem combines the fields of vibration analysis and fracture mechanics. If the cracked plate is in resonance, the crack can propagate either explosively or faster than in the early stage. To avoid the mentioned fracture produced by vibration, it is necessary that the vibration characteristics of the cracked cantilever plate be clarified. Nevertheless, compared with studies in the past, there is little research on the influence of cracks on the vibration behavior of plates.

In this Note, we employ an optical method based on the AF-ESPI to study the resonant properties of rectangular cantilever plates with

cracks. The rectangular cantilever plate is clamped along one edge and free along the other three edges; a straight crack is located along the clamped edge. The advantage of using the AF-ESPI method is that resonant frequencies and the corresponding mode shapes can be obtained simultaneously from the experimental measurement. In addition to the AF-ESPI method, numerical computations based on a finite element package are presented, and good agreement is found in comparison with experimental results for both the resonant frequency and vibration mode shapes. The quantitative magnitudes of the full field vibration displacements are also indicated in the experimental results, which are in the order of a micrometer.

II. Experimental Measurements and Numerical Results

The optical arrangement for out-of-plane vibrating measurement by ESPI is shown schematically in Fig. 1. If the image is taken after the specimen vibrates periodically, the light intensity detected by a charge-coupled device (CCD) camera is indicated as I_1 . The AF-ESPI method is employed in this study by taking two images while the specimen vibrates and assuming that the vibration amplitude of the second image has changed from A to $A + \Delta A$ due to the instability of apparatus. The light intensity of the second image is indicated as I_2 . When these two images (I_1 and I_2) are subtracted and rectified by the image processing system, the resulting image intensity can be expressed as⁴

$$I = I_2 - I_1 = \sqrt{I_A I_B} / 2 |(\cos \phi) \Gamma^2(\Delta A)^2 J_0(\Gamma A)| \quad (1)$$

where I_A is the object light intensity, I_B is the reference light intensity, ϕ is the phase difference between object and reference light, J_0

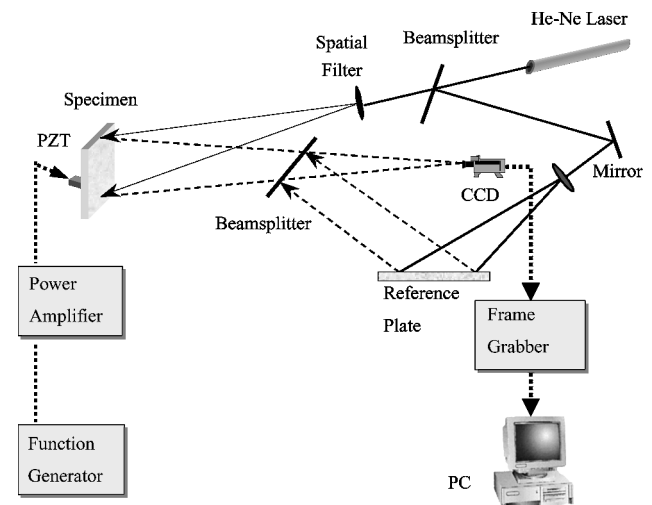


Fig. 1 Schematic diagram of ESPI experimental setup for out-of-plane measurement.

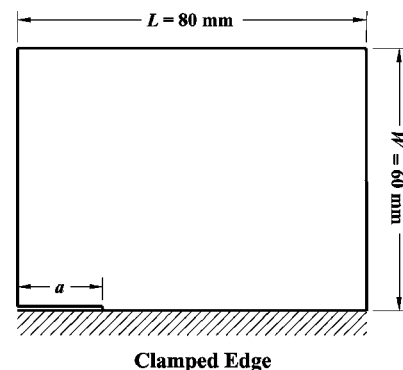


Fig. 2 Geometric dimensions and configuration of cracked rectangular plates: thickness $h = 1$ mm and crack length $a = 20, 35,$ and 50 mm.

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is a zero-order Bessel function of the first kind, and

$$\Gamma = 2\pi(1 + \cos\theta)/\lambda \quad (2)$$

in which λ is the wavelength of laser and θ is the angle between object light and observation direction.

Three cracked rectangular aluminum plates (6061T6) with different crack length (20, 35, and 50 mm) are used in this study for vibration analysis. The rectangular cantilever plate is clamped along one edge and free along the other three edges; a straight crack is located along the clamped edge. The material properties of the plate are mass density $\rho = 2700 \text{ kg/m}^3$, Young's modulus $E = 70.9 \text{ GPa}$ and Poisson's ratio $\nu = 0.33$. The location of crack and the geometric dimension of the cracked rectangular plate is shown in Fig. 2.

A He-Ne laser with 30-mW and wavelength $\lambda = 632.8 \text{ nm}$ is used as the coherent light source. The laser beam is divided into two parts, the reference beam and object beam, by a beamsplitter. The object beam travels to the specimen and then reflects to the CCD camera (Pulnix Company). The reference beam goes directly to the CCD camera via a mirror and a reference plate. The CCD camera convert the intensity distribution of the interference pattern of the object into a corresponding video signal at 30 frames/s. The signal is electronically processed and converted into an image on the video monitor. The interpretation of the fringe image is similar to reading a contour

map of the displacement field. The plate is excited to resonance by a piezostack actuator (PI Company, $2 \times 3 \times 20 \text{ mm}$) that is attached behind the specimen. To achieve the sinusoidal output, a digitally controlled function generator HP33120A (Hewlett-Packard Company) connected to a 4005 power amplifier (NF Corporation) is used.

Numerical results of resonant frequencies and mode shapes are obtained by using the ABAQUS finite element package.⁶ A total number of 1200 elements with eight-node two-dimensional shell elements (S8R5) are used in the analysis. This element approximates the Midlin-type element that accounts for rotary inertia effects and first-order shear deformations through the thickness.

Table 1 shows the experimental and numerical results of the first 10 resonant frequencies for cracked cantilever plates with different crack lengths (20, 35, and 50 mm). The results are quite consistent. Note that all of the experimental measured frequencies are lower than the numerical ones. The main reason is believed to be that the clamped condition of the cracked cantilever plate for the experimental setup is not ideally rigid. Furthermore, the errors for measuring the material properties and the thickness of the plate may also influence the calculated results for resonant frequencies.

The contours of the resonant mode shapes obtained from the finite element calculation are plotted for comparison with the experimental ones. Figures 3–5 show the first 10 mode shapes of cracked cantilever plates for both experimental measurements and

Table 1 Results of first 10 resonant frequencies obtained from AF-ESPI and finite element method for different crack lengths

Crack length, mm	Method	Frequency (Hz) for mode number:									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20	AF-ESPI	196	397	964	1244	1454	2154	2544	2988	3969	4224
	FE ^a	224	418	1012	1393	1652	2329	2634	3133	4227	4508
35	AF-ESPI	167	322	711	1140	1355	1912	2444	2758	3618	4050
	FE	188	344	754	1220	1558	2025	2564	2852	3842	4278
50	AF-ESPI	124	244	582	1039	1287	1841	2084	2577	3170	3809
	FE	140	268	618	1106	1493	1918	2163	2661	3334	4143

^aFinite element.

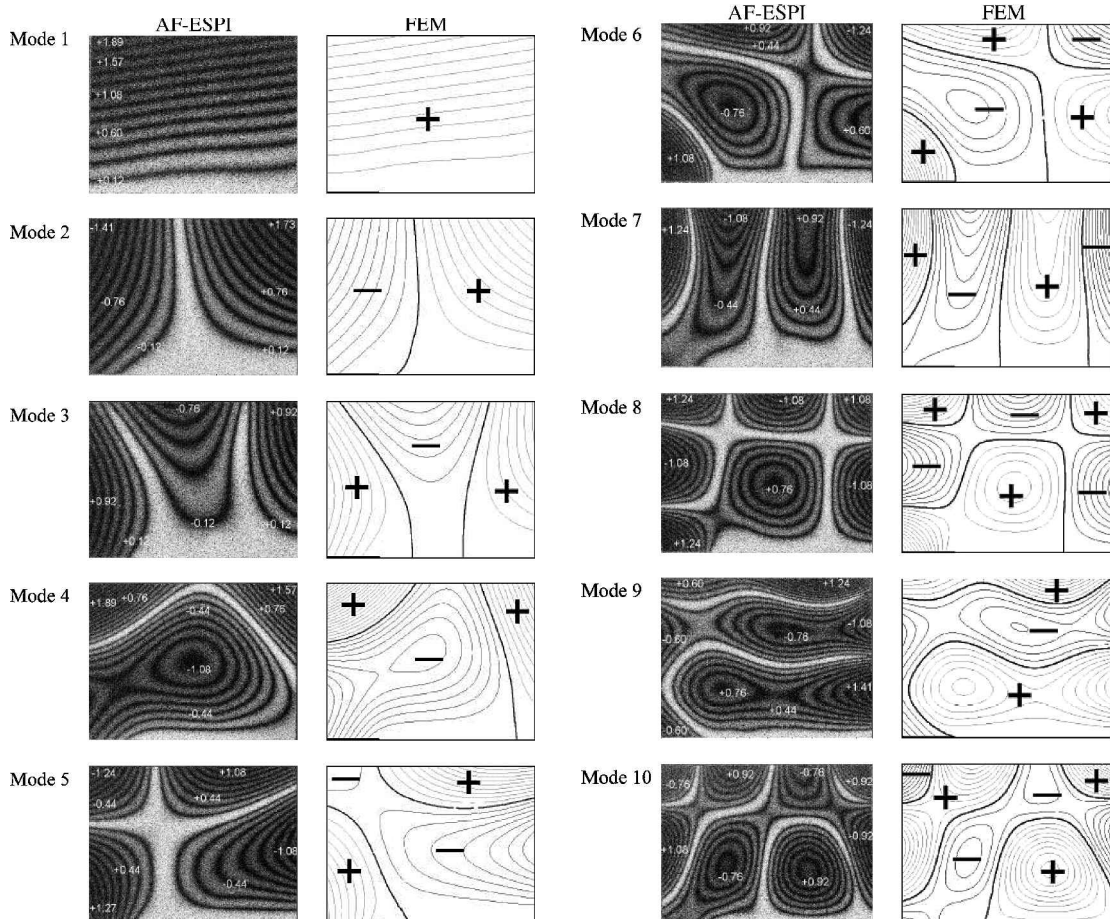


Fig. 3 First 10 mode shapes of the cracked rectangular plate with $a = 20 \text{ mm}$ obtained by AF-ESPI and finite element method (FEM).

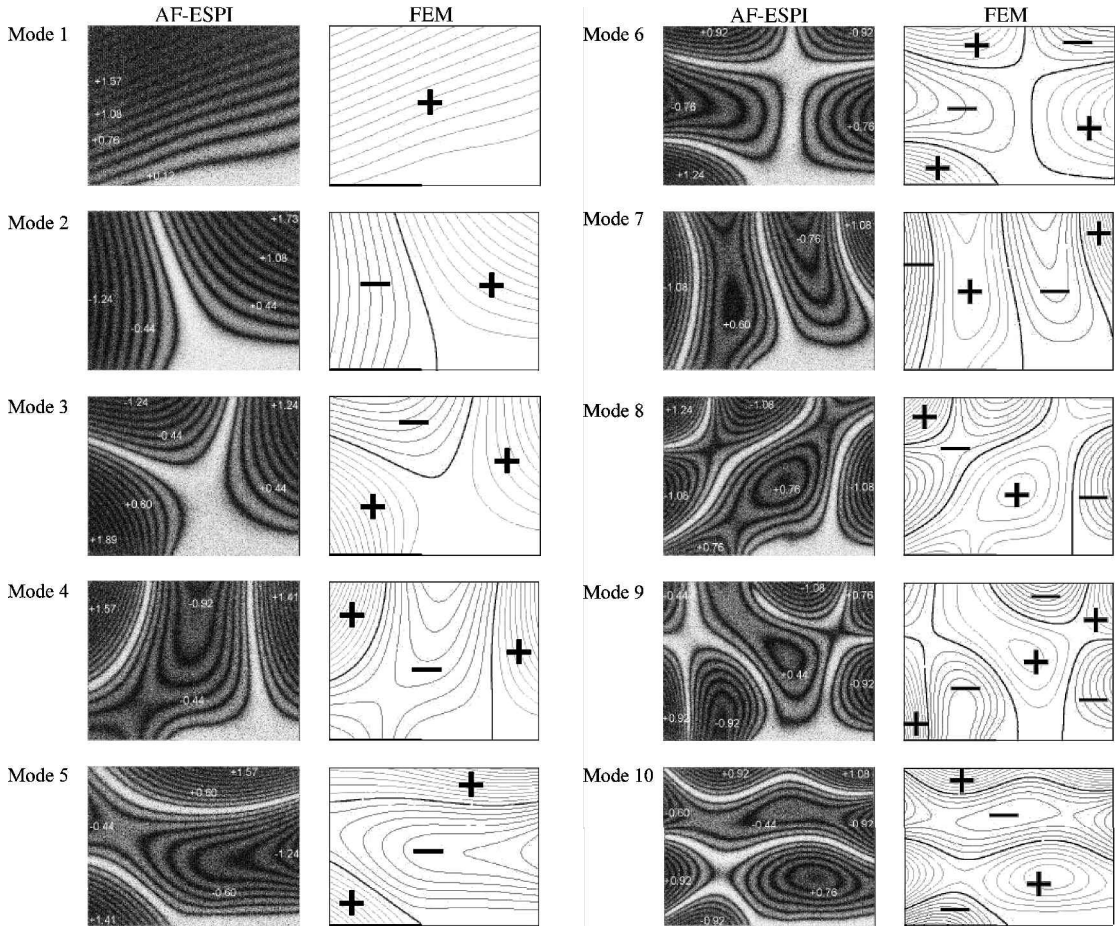


Fig. 4 First 10 mode shapes of the cracked rectangular plate with $a = 30$ mm obtained by AF-ESPI and FEM.

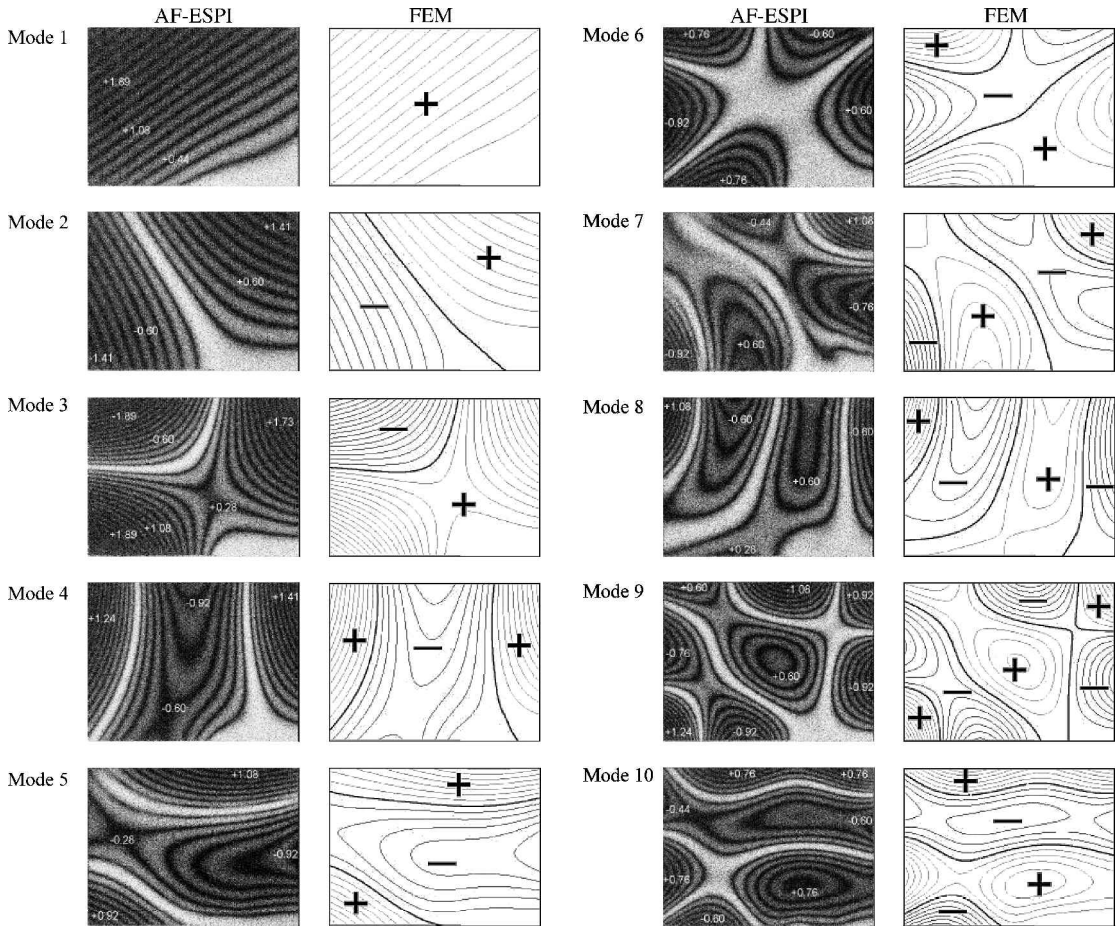


Fig. 5 First 10 mode shapes of the cracked rectangular plate with $a = 50$ mm obtained by AF-ESPI and FEM.

numerical simulations. The excellent quality of the interferometric fringe patterns obtained from the AF-ESPI method is demonstrated. In Figs. 3–5, we indicate the phase of displacement in finite element results with a + or – sign. The regions of the same sign have in-phase motion, and nodal lines (thick black lines) are also shown in Figs. 3–5. The brightest fringes on the experimental results represent the nodal lines of the vibrating cracked plate at resonant frequencies. The rest of the fringes are contours of constant displacement. It can be seen that the vibration mode shapes obtained experimentally agree very well with those obtained from the finite element method.

The related amplitude A_i , $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$, for the i th fringe in the experimental results can be quantitatively calculated by the roots R_i of $J_0(\Gamma A_i) = 0$. The first 10 roots R_i for $J_0(R_i) = 0$ are 2.4, 5.52, 8.65, 11.79, 14.93, 18.07, 21.21, 24.35, 27.49, and 30.63. The correspondent amplitude A_i of the out-of-plane displacement can be evaluated by the following equation:

$$A_i = \frac{\lambda R_i}{2\pi(1 + \cos\theta)} \quad (3)$$

We use $\theta = 10$ deg for the experimental setup and $\lambda = 632.8$ nm; the related amplitudes for the first 10 dark fringes are A_i , $i = 1 \sim 10$, = 0.12, 0.28, 0.44, 0.6, 0.76, 0.92, 1.08, 1.24, 1.41, and $1.57 \mu\text{m}$. The maximum value of the vibration displacement and related amplitudes of some fringes in the experimental results are indicated in Figs. 3–5. Note that the vibration displacements obtained in this study are in the order of a micrometer.

Because the crack will introduce a new free boundary of the cantilever plate, the mode shape of a cracked plate is complicated and quite different from that of a plate without a crack. A complete discussion of out-of-plane vibration mode shapes for different boundary conditions of isotropic plates without cracks was presented by Huang and Ma.⁷ The vibrating mode shapes of the first and the second modes shown in Figs. 3–5 are pure bending and torsion modes, respectively. The mode shapes for long cracks (Figs. 4 and 5; $a = 35$ and 50 mm) are similar, but they are quite different if compared with mode shapes for the short crack (Fig. 3; $a = 20$ mm). Note that the displacements along the crack surface for the first 10 modes are all in-phase for the short crack and that the nodal lines will not pass the crack surface. However, the nodal lines of modes 7 and 9 for long cracks are terminated at the crack surface.

III. Conclusions

Investigation of the vibration problem by employing the ESPI method has the advantages of real-time and noncontact measurement, submicron sensitivity, digital image processing, and so on. In this Note, a self-arranged AF-ESPI optical setup with good fringe visibility and noise reduction was established to obtain the resonant frequencies and corresponding mode shapes of cantilever cracked plates at the same time. Compared with the spectrum analysis method or modal analysis method, AF-ESPI is more convenient in experimental measurement, and excellent quality of the interferometric fringe patterns are obtained. Numerical calculations of resonant frequencies and mode shapes based on a finite element package are also performed, and good agreement is obtained in comparison with experimental measurements. The influence of the crack length on the vibration behavior of the cantilever cracked plate is discussed in detail. Note that frequencies obtained experimentally are typically lower than theoretical ones because one cannot get the perfectly rigid clamping condition.

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Static and Dynamic Validations of a Refined Thin-Walled Composite Beam Model

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I. Introduction

THE increasing need for weight saving and structural efficiency of aerospace vehicles has prompted wide use of thin-walled beam structures.¹ At the same time, due to the increased importance of composite materials in the design of aerospace vehicles, the concept of anisotropic thin-walled beam model has reached special prominence in the last two decades.^{1,2} However, in contrast to the metallic structures, the composite structures exhibit significant nonclassical effects such as transverse shear, warping restraint, three-dimensional strain effect, and contourwise shear stiffness variations. Toward a reliable design, these effects should be accounted for and assessed even in the predesign process. In fact, in the past years, a number of analytical models of anisotropic thin-walled beams have been proposed and validated either numerically or in light of the experimental evidence.² On the other hand, although a refined thin-walled beam theory originally developed by Song³ and Librescu and Song¹ has been extensively used for the study, among others, of dynamic response/structural feedback control^{3–10} and static aeroelasticity,^{3,7,11,12} no validations of it against the experimental, analytical, or numerical predictions obtained within other thin-walled beam models are available in literature. Within the frame of this refined model, some effects such as the three-dimensional strain effect^{13,14} and nonuniformity effect of contourwise shear stiffness, that are also usually significant for the laminated composite beams^{2,13–15} and were not formerly accounted for, are further incorporated, and the model hereby developed is investigated against the available data from experiments, finite element method, and other analytical models.

II. Theory

A single-cell, closed cross section, fiber-reinforced composite thin-walled beam is considered. The coordinate system that is

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