Probabilistic Oblique Impact Analysis of Functionally Graded Plates – A Multivariate Adaptive Regression Splines Approach

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Abstract

Purpose: To investigate the probabilistic low-velocity impact of functionally graded (FG) plate using the MARS model, considering uncertain system parameters.

Design/methodology/application: The distribution of various material properties throughout FG plate thickness is calculated using power law. For finite element (FE) formulation, isoparametric elements with eight nodes are considered, each component has five degrees of freedom. The combined effect of variability in material properties such as elastic modulus, modulus of rigidity, Poisson's ratio, and mass density are considered. The surrogate model is validated with the FE model represented by the scatter plot and

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the probability density function (PDF) plot based on Monte Carlo simulation (MCS).

Findings: The outcome of the degree of stochasticity, impact angle, impactor's velocity, impactor's mass density, and point of impact on the maximum value of contact force (CF_{max}), plate deformation (PD_{max}), and impactor deformation (ID_{max}) are determined. A convergence study is also performed to determine the optimal number of the constructed MARS model's sample size.

Originality/value: The results illustrate the significant effects of uncertain input parameters on FGM plates' low-velocity impact responses by employing a surrogate-based MARS model.

Keywords: Uncertainty, low-velocity impact, functionally graded materials (FGM), Monte Carlo simulation (MCS), multivariate adaptive regression splines (MARS).

Nomenclature

1 Introduction

FGM are materials with composition and structural variation throughout their volume, with improved mechanical properties like high corrosion and heat resistance. They are an engineering approach to modify the structural or chemical arrangement of materials and elements. The term "functionally graded material "differs from composite materials. As well known, the composite material includes two or more components with different physical and chemical compositions. But FGM may be mono-componential material with gradient caused, for example, by non-uniform (gradient) distribution of residual stresses. The term FGM reflects the functional aspect of materials characterization; on the other hand, the name "composite material" relates to the structural organization. The mechanical and thermal properties of FGM are better than that of the laminated composites. As, in FGM there is no interlaminate joint, internal stresses, delamination, and improper bonding present. In addition, FGM has good thermal resistance provided by ceramic materials, while the metal component is responsible for high mechanical

strength. Due to these enhanced properties, it is used as a thermal barrier and lightweight structure. These materials also find applications in industries like aerospace, computer circuits are developing materials that can withstand very high thermal gradients. Also, in medical implants, graded materials are used for total replacements of the knee and hips. FGMs' advanced mechanical properties such as corrosion resistance, malleability, toughness, and fracture resistance help them to widen their application. Therefore, the present study is focused on FGM.

FGMs have most of the applications in aerospace, civil construction, marine industries. Therefore, they are mostly subjected to dynamic responses. Hence, it is essential to carry out its dynamic analysis for the reliability and safety of such structures. Many works have been carried out on these structures, such as vibration analysis of FGM by Darilmaz (2015), Belkorissat (2015), Atmane (2011). Considering buckling behaviour, some studies were conducted by Fekrar (2012), Chaht (2015), Tebboune (2015). Considering FGM's impact behavior, Singh et al. (2017) studied the effects of low-velocity impact responses using modified Hertzian contact law (MHCL) to characterize functionally graded material properties. Hou et al. (2019) worked on repaired CFRP laminates and analyzed the effects of loading position, while He et al. 2019) determined the influence of the aluminum honeycomb sandwich's structure parameters. Mars et al. (2018) investigate the impact behavior of glass fiber-reinforced polyamide by employing experimental and numerical methods. Shariyat and Jafari (2013a) performed a nonlinear impact analysis of an FGM plate subjected to radial load utilizing a novel refined contact stiffness approach. The gradation of material properties was carried out in both radial and transverse directions. Etemadi et al. (2009) and Apetre et al. (2006) carried out a three-dimensional FEN simulation for impact on a sandwich plate with an FGM core and found various outcomes on the impactor, such as velocity kinetic energy, beam dimensions on the indentation and displacements. Gong et al. (1999) applied the analytical method for analyzing the impact responses on FG shells with single and multiple layers. They evaluated the outcome of the volume fraction of constituents and configuration. Chelu and Librescu (2006) worked on FG circular plate to analyze its impact responses and used the Wavelet-Galerkin scheme, classical lamination plate theory, Hertzian contact law, and determined the contact force and penetration, displacement of the plate. Fu et al. (2016) worked on FG spherical shell. They conducted the numerical analysis for the nonlinear impact behavior in a thermal environment utilizing the Chebyshev collocation method and Newmark scheme. At the same time, Shariyat and Jafari (2013b) applied a

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Figure 1 FGM cantilever plate subjected to impact loading.

micromechanical approach on two-dimensional FGM circular plates. From the discussion in the above paragraph, it can be concluded that mostly the work on FGM subjected to dynamic response is carried out considering a deterministic approach. In real-life situations, many kinds of uncertainties are present, which are unavoidable. So, for the safety and reliability of these structures, these uncertainties should also be considered during analysis. Some researchers worked on FGM considering uncertainties; such as Dey et al. (2015), Dey and Karmakar (2014a), Dey and Karmakar (2014b), Gao et al. (2018), Karsh et al. (2019), worked on FGM and composite structures considering stochastic impact responses. It is observed that limited literature is present considering stochastic impact response. Therefore, the present study focuses on the stochastic impact behavior of the FGM plate.

The most common method for performing stochastic analysis is the Monte Carlo simulation technique. However, this technique is quite a computationally exhaustive process. It requires a minimum of ten thousand simulations to predict the results, resulting in much time consumption accurately. Therefore, to overcome this lacuna, various surrogate models are integrated

with the process, which will make the complete process computationally efficient. Various works have been carried out considering different surrogate models. Utilizing the ANN model, Balokas et al. (2018), Kumar et al. (2017), Lefik et al. 2009), Malik and Arif (2013) analyzed the impact behavior of composites and FGM structures. Various researchers also consider different other surrogates like PNN, SVM, GPR, MARS during stochastic analysis. Dey et al. (2017) have compared various metamodels like MARS, ANN, PNN, MLS, SVR during stochastic dynamic analysis of laminated composites. Karsh et al. (2018) have used the MARS surrogate model for the natural frequency analysis of the FGM plate. In the present paper, the study considers MARS as a surrogate model for stochastic low-velocity impact analysis of FGM plate.

In the present study, the uncertain impact responses analysis of the FG plate (refer to Figure [1\)](#page-4-0) is conducted for determining the outcome of impact angle, impactor's velocity, the mass density of impactor, and point of impact on the impact responses by employing the MARS model. The traditional MCS is conducted to capture the material properties' uncertainty. As already known, MCS requires a large number of simulations leading to higher computational cost ad time. Therefore, to minimize this drawback of MCS, the surrogate-based MARS model is used, reducing the number of simulations and ultimately lowering cost and time.

2 Theoretical Modeling

The equation for dynamic analysis is given by [Dey and Karmakar (2014)]

$$
[M(\hat{\omega})]\{\ddot{\delta}\} + [K(\hat{\omega})]\{\delta\} = \{F\}
$$
\n(1)

The contact force $\{F_C^*\}$ in the impact loading can be represented as

$$
\{F\} = \{0\ 0\ 0\ \dots\ F_C^* \dots\ 0\ 0\ 0\}^T\tag{2}
$$

The equation the impactor motion is given in Equation (3)

$$
m_{(I)}\ddot{\delta}_{(I)} + F_C^* = 0 \tag{3}
$$

Wherein $m_{(I)}$ and $\ddot{\delta}_{(I)}$ denotes impactor's mass and acceleration, respectively. The force when the elastic impactor touches the FGM plate is called the contact force and is determined by employing the modified Hertzian contact (MHC). Here, the impact loading is applied at the middle of the plate,

as shown in Figure [1.](#page-4-0) The contact force (F_C^*) for that is given by [Sun and Chen (1985)]

$$
F_C^* = K_M \psi^{1.5} 0 < \psi \le \psi_{\text{max}} \tag{4}
$$

$$
K_M = \frac{16}{3\pi} \frac{1}{K_P + K_I} \sqrt{\frac{B}{\lambda}}
$$
(5a)

Where K_M , ψ , and ψ_{max} , represent modified contact stiffness, local indentation, and maximum indentation, respectively [Larson (2006)]. λ is the constant, and for the present study, $\lambda = 2$ is considered. B is also a constant, which depends on the curvature of the impactor and target plate.

$$
\frac{1}{B} = \frac{1}{R^{imp}} + \frac{1}{R^{plt}}\tag{5b}
$$

where R^{imp} and R^{plt} is the radius of curvature of the impactor and plate, respectively. The local indentation can be obtained by

$$
\psi(t) = \delta_I(t)Cos\theta - \delta_P(x_c, y_c, t)Cos\phi
$$
\n(6)

Where δ_I is impactor deformation and δ_P is plate deformations, at point of loading (x_c, y_c) in the z-direction, while θ is oblique impact angle and ϕ is twist angle. At the loading point, the contact force components are

$$
F_{ix} = 0, \quad F_{iy} = 0, \quad F_{iz} = F_C^*
$$
 (7)

The transient nature of the contact force (F_C^*) can be observed with Δt time intervals. Here, Newmark's integration scheme is employed for evaluating time-dependent equations. By applying the Newmark's integration scheme in Equations (1) and (3), succeeding equations at $(t + \Delta t)$ time can be obtained as

$$
[\tilde{K}_P]\{\delta\}^{t+\Delta t} = \{\tilde{F}_C^*\}^{t+\Delta t} \tag{8}
$$

$$
[\tilde{K}_I] \{\delta_I\}^{t + \Delta t} = {\tilde{F}_C^*}^{t + \Delta t} \tag{9}
$$

Where effective stiffness matrix for target plate is $[\tilde{K}_P]$ and for impactor is $[\tilde{K}_I]$ and is represented as

$$
[\tilde{K}_P] = [K(\bar{\omega})] + [K_{\sigma}] + c_0[M(\bar{\omega})]
$$
\n(10)

$$
[\tilde{K}_I] = c_0 m_I \tag{11}
$$

For $t + \Delta t$, the impact responses such as plate and impactor deformations are determined by

$$
\{\bar{F}\}^{t+\Delta t} = \{F\} + \{F_C^*\}^{t+\Delta t} + [M(\bar{\omega})](c_0\{\delta_P\}^t + c_1\{\dot{\delta}_P\}^t + c_2\{\ddot{\delta}_P\}^t) \tag{12}
$$

$$
\delta_I = \frac{\bar{F}_I^{t + \Delta t}}{m_I} \tag{13}
$$

where,

$$
\bar{F}_I^{t + \Delta t} = m_I (c_0 \delta_I^t + c_1 \dot{\delta}_I^t + c_2 \ddot{\delta}_I^t) - F_C^{*t}
$$
\n(14)

Plate and impactor's acceleration and velocity can be calculated as

$$
F_{ix} = 0, F_{iy} = 0, F_{iz} = F_C^*
$$
\n(15)

$$
\{\ddot{\delta}_P\}^{t+\Delta t} = c_0 \left(\{\delta_P\}^{t+\Delta t} - \{\delta_P\}^t\right) - c_1 \{\dot{\delta}_P\}^t - c_2 \{\ddot{\delta}_P\}^t \tag{16}
$$

$$
\ddot{\delta}_I^{t+\Delta t} = c_0(\delta_I^{t+\Delta t} - \delta_I^t) - c_1 \dot{\delta}_I^t - c_2 \ddot{\delta}_I^t \tag{17}
$$

$$
\{\dot{\delta}_P\}^{t+\Delta t} = \{\dot{\delta}_P\}^t + c_3 \{\ddot{\delta}_P\}^t + c_4 \{\ddot{\delta}_P\}^{t+\Delta t}
$$
 (18)

$$
\dot{\delta}_I^{t+\Delta t} = \dot{\delta}_I^{t\Delta t} + c_3 \ddot{\delta}_I^t + c_4 \ddot{\delta}_I^{t+\Delta t} \tag{19}
$$

At initial boundary condition

$$
\{\delta_P\} = \{\dot{\delta}_P\} = \{\ddot{\delta}_P\} = 0
$$
 (20)

$$
\delta_I = \ddot{\delta}_I = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{\delta}_I = V \tag{21}
$$

where V is the initial velocity of the impactor. The value of constants of integration can be obtained by

$$
c_0 = \frac{1}{X\Delta t^2}, \quad c_1 = \frac{1}{X\Delta t}, \quad c_2 = \frac{1}{2X} - 1,
$$

$$
c_3 = (1 - Y)\Delta t, \quad c_4 = Y\Delta t
$$
 (22)

where $X = 0.5$ and $Y = 0.25$. Here, we have considered an isoparametric quadratic element for the FE formulation having eight nodes (refer to Figure [2\)](#page-8-0). The expression for shape function \hat{S}_i can be shown as

$$
\hat{S}_i = \frac{(1 + \vartheta \vartheta_i)(1 + \varepsilon \varepsilon_i)(\varepsilon \varepsilon_i + \vartheta \vartheta_i - 1)}{4} \quad \text{(for } i = 1, 2, 3, 4)
$$
 (23)

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Figure 2 FE discretization of FG plate into 64 elements.

$$
\hat{S}_i = \frac{(1 - \vartheta^2)(1 + \varepsilon \varepsilon_i)}{2} \quad \text{(for } i = 5, 7\text{)}\tag{24}
$$

$$
\hat{S}_i = \frac{(1 - \varepsilon^2)(1 + \vartheta \vartheta_i)}{2} \quad \text{(for } i = 6, 8\text{)}\tag{25}
$$

Where for element, the local natural coordinates are represented by ε and ϑ . In the case of FGM, the material properties gradation takes place following different laws. Here, we have considered power law, which is given as [21]

$$
E(\hat{\omega}) = E_{Al} + (E_{Zr} - E_{Al}) \left[\frac{z}{t} + \frac{1}{2}\right]^p \tag{26}
$$

$$
\mu(\hat{\omega}) = \mu_{Al} + (\mu_{Zr} - \mu_{Al}) \left[\frac{z}{t} + \frac{1}{2}\right]^p \tag{27}
$$

$$
\rho(\hat{\omega}) = \rho_{Al} + (\rho_{Zr} - \rho_{Al}) \left[\frac{z}{t} + \frac{1}{2} \right]^p \tag{28}
$$

Where E_{Al} , E_{Zr} , μ_{Al} , μ_{Zr} , and ρ_{Al} , ρ_{Zr} are the elastic modulus, Poisson's ratio, and mass density of aluminium and zirconia, respectively. '*p*' shows the power-law index and 'h' is the plate thickness, while $(\hat{\omega})$ represents the degree of stochasticity.

3 Multivariate Adaptive Regression Splines (MARS)

MARS is the nonparametric regression statistical approach that is iterative, like a machine learning model [Friedman (1999)]. There is no relationship between response and predictor variable. In the MARS model, training data sets are first divided into splines (linear segments) with different slops called basic functions. Each collection of training data have a separate regression model. The regression lines are connected by using the knots. The MARS model searches for the best location for the knots having the pair of basic functions [Zhang and Goh (2016)]. The basic functions are increased continuously until the number of basic functions reached the maximum level. The MARS algorithm's second step removes the insignificant redundant basic function [Dey et al. (2016)]. The MARS model $f(x)$ with basic function and interaction can be written as

$$
f(x) = \gamma_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{M} \gamma_n \beta_n^f(z_i)
$$
 (29)

where γ is the constant-coefficient and β_n is the basic function which can be shown as

$$
\beta_n^f(z_i) = \prod_{i=1}^{i_n} [Y_{i,n}(z_{j(i,n)} - q_{i,n})]_T^g
$$
\n(30)

where i_n denotes the interaction order $Y_{i,n} = \pm 1$, $z_{j(i,n)}$ represents the jth variable, $1 \leq j(i, n) \leq m$, and $q_{i,n}$ is the knot position of corresponding variables. '*T*' means a truncated power function. The basic function may be in the following shapes

$$
[Y_{i,n}(z_{j(i,n)} - q_{i,n})]_T^g = [Y_{i,n}(z_{j(i,n)} - q_{i,n})]^g \text{ for } [Y_{i,n}(z_{j(i,n)} - q_{i,n})] < 0
$$
\n(31)

$$
[Y_{i,n}(z_{j(i,n)} - q_{i,n})] = 0, \quad \text{Otherwise}
$$
\n(32)

Thus, all basic function can be written as

$$
A = \{ [Y_{i,n}(z_{j(i,n)} - q_{i,n})]_T^g \}, \quad q \in \{z_{1j}, z_{2j}, \dots, z_{Mj} \}
$$
(33)

Here, uncertainty in all four material properties is considered. The value for which is considered as $\pm 10\%$. The complete methodology for the present work is represented in Figure [3.](#page-10-0) The outcomes of the oblique impact angle,

Figure 3 Flowchart representing the present study complete methodology.

the impactor's velocity, the impactor's mass density, and the point of impact on the impact responses are determined.

The stochastic input variables are following:

1. Compound effect of source uncertainties

$$
\psi\{E(\omega), G(\omega), \mu(\omega), \rho(\omega)\}\
$$

= $\Phi[\{E(z)\}(\omega), \{G(z)\}(\omega), \{\mu(z)\}(\omega), \{\rho(z)\}(\omega)]$

2. For impact angle (ϕ)

$$
\Psi(\phi) = \Phi[\phi, \{E(z)\}(\omega), \{G(z)\}(\omega), \{\rho(z)\}(\omega), \{\mu(z)\}(\omega)]
$$

3. For the velocity of the impactor (V)

$$
\Psi(V) = \Phi[V, \{E(z)\}(\omega), \{G(z)\}(\omega), \{\rho(z)\}(\omega), \{\mu(z)\}(\omega)]
$$

4. For the mass density of the impactor

$$
\Psi(\rho) = \Phi[\rho, \{E(z)\}(\omega), \{G(z)\}(\omega), \{\rho(z)\}(\omega), \{\mu(z)\}(\omega)]
$$

5. For the point of impact loading

 $\Psi(l) = \Phi[l, \{E(z)\}(\omega), \{G(z)\}(\omega), \{\rho(z)\}(\omega), \{\mu(z)\}(\omega)]$

Where, Φ is the MCS operator, while *l* is the point of impact loading. In the past, some works on the stochastic analysis of layered structures by using the MCS were performed [Karsh et al. (2018a), (2018b), Mukhopadhyay et al. (2018), Kumar et al. (2019)] using different surrogate models such as ANN, PNN. It was found by using the surrogate; we can significantly reduce the sample size without compromising the accuracy of the results.

4 Results and Discussion

The various material properties considered are as $E_{Al} = 70$ Gpa, $E_{Zr} = 151$ Gpa, $v_{Al} = 0.25$, $v_{Zr} = 0.30$, $\rho_{Al} = 2707$ Kg/m³, $\rho_{Zr} = 3000$ Kg/m³ [Karsh et al. (2018)]. The material properties gradation is done utilizing the power-law considering the power-law index as 1. The dimensions of the FGM plate are considered as $L = b = 1$ m, $h = 0.002$ m subjected to impact loading at point 2 (refer Figure [8\(](#page-14-0)d)). If otherwise mentioned, consider $p = 1$, $V = 5$ m/sec, $\phi = 0^{\circ}$, T = 300 K, $h = 0.002$ m, $\rho_{imp} = 85 \times 10^{-4} N - s^2/cm^4$. For the FE formulation, the discretization is done considering (8×8) mesh size having 64 elements having eight nodes, wherein each node having five degree of freedom (dof), as shown in Figure [2.](#page-8-0) The present study's validation is carried out by comparing results with those already present in literature [Kiani et al. (2013)], as shown in Figure 4. The validation graph shows that the present result is approximately similar to that of the past results. The tabulated values of validation are presented in Table [1.](#page-1-0) This paper performs the low-velocity impact analysis of the FGM cantilever plate using the deterministic and stochastic approaches. The results of the deterministic approach are shown in Figures [5](#page-12-0) to [8.](#page-14-0) Figure [5](#page-12-0) illustrates the outcome of impact angle in which contact force and plate deformation decrease with an increase in the impact angle. In contrast,

α and boundary condition as inclinioned in Figure $\pm(\alpha)$								
Contact Force (N)	Kiani et al. (2013)	Present Study	$%$ Error					
Min value		θ						
Max value	1019	1037	1.766					
Mean value	517.1	523.8	1.295					
Standard Deviation	330.2	320.6	-2.907					

Table 1 Validation of present results with previously published results [Kiani et al. (2013)] considering the boundary condition as mentioned in Figure 4(i)

Figure 4(i) Validation of present results with previous published results [Kiani et al. (2013)], Time history of contact force for Silicon Nitride and Stainless Steel FGM beam clammed at both end considering time step $\Delta T = 1.0 \mu$ -sec. length (L) = 135 mm, width (b) = 15 mm, thickness (h) = 10 mm, impactor mass = 0.01 Kg, radius of impactor = 12.7 mm, and initial velocity of impactor $= 1.0$ m/s.

Figure 4(ii) Time histories of impact responses at centre of FGM cantilever plate with considering L = b = 1 m, h = 0.002 m, p = 1, V = 5 m/sec, $\phi = 0^{\circ}$, T = 300K, h = 0.002 m, $\rho_{imp} = 85 \times 10^{-4} N - s^2/cm^4.$

impactor deformation increases with an increase in the impact angle from 0° to 45 $^{\circ}$.

The outcome of the impactor's velocity is shown in Figure [6.](#page-13-0) It was found that all impact responses are increased with an increase in the impactor's

Figure 5 Influence of impact angle on transient impact responses considering consider $p = 1, V = 5$ m/sec, T = 300K, h = 0.002 m, $\rho_{imp} = 85 \times 10^{-4} N - s^2 / cm^4$ at location 2 (Figure [8\(](#page-14-0)d)).

Figure 6 Influence of velocity of impactor on transient impact responses considering $p = 1$, $\phi = 0^{\circ}$, T = 300K, h = 0.002 m, $\rho_{imp} = 85 \times 10^{-4} N - s^2 / cm^4$ at location 2 (Figure [8\(](#page-14-0)d)).

Figure 7 Influence of mass of impactor on transient impact responses considering $p = 1$, $V = 5$ m/sec, $\phi = 0^{\circ}$, T = 300K, h = 0.002 m.

Figure 8 Influence of point of impact (refer figure 8(d)) on transient impact responses considering p = 1, V = 5 m/sec, $\phi = 0^{\circ}$, T = 300K, h = 0.002 m, $\rho_{imp} = 85 \times$ $10^{-4}N - s^2/cm^4$.

	Convergence study of the sample size of MARS model Table 2					
Impact		Sample				Standard
Responses	Method	Size	Maximum	Minimum	Mean	Deviation
Peak	MCS	2100	620.4906	598.8708	611.4041	3.2759
Contact	MARS	128	624.1848	597.0768	611.2439	4.1419
force (N)		256	625.6470	599.5029	612.4050	3.8861
		512	621.7845	601.2292	611.8448	3.2606
Peak	MCS	2100	0.1072	0.1012	0.1044	860.72×10^{-6}
Plate	MARS	128	0.1082	0.1008	0.1044	0.0011
deformation		256	0.1077	0.1014	0.1043	934.34×10^{-6}
(m)		512	0.1073	0.1017	0.1044	861.76×10^{-6}
Peak	MCS	2100	0.0002522	0.0002428	0.0002481	1.3015×10^{-6}
Impactor	MARS	128	0.0002542	0.0002421	0.0002481	1.8186×10^{-6}
deformation		256	0.0002566	0.0002406	0.0002480	1.8257×10^{-6}
(m)		512	0.0002522	0.0002438	0.0002810	1.3920×10^{-6}

Table 3 Parametric study on the effect of different parameters on impact responses

velocity due to the rise in the impactor's kinetic energy. Figure [7](#page-14-1) presents the outcome of the impactor's mass density on the impact responses and found that all impact responses increase with an increase in the impactor's mass density. Figure [8](#page-14-0) shows the outcome of the point of impact loading (refer to Figure $8(d)$) it was found that contact force is maximum at point 1, while the minimum for point 2.

In the stochastic approach, Monte Carlo simulation along with the MARS model is employed. The MCS required thousands of iterations which makes the process exhaustive. So, to overcome this disadvantage of MCS, a surrogate-based MARS model is applied to reduce the number of simulations with reasonable accuracy. The MARS model is used to determine the impact responses such as maximum contact force, impactor, and plate deformation. First, a convergence study of the MARS model's sample size is carried out as shown in Table [2,](#page-15-0) in which, with increasing the sample size, results of the MARS model are closer to the MCS. From the convergence study, it is confirmed that sample size 512 gives better results with significant accuracy. Further, to verify this statement, we have plotted the scatter plots shown in Figure [9.](#page-17-0) Considering the sample size 512, from the plot, there is a minimum deviation between the results of surrogate and MCS. In addition to it, PDF plots also presented showcasing the MARS results (for different sample sizes) and are compared with MCS results for all impact responses, as shown in Figure [10.](#page-18-0) For the sample size 512, the plot is nearer to the MCS. This indicates that the MARS model is well fitted with MCS. After achieving the required sample size, a further probabilistic investigation is carried out. Figure [11](#page-19-0) illustrates the influence of the different degrees of stochasticity ($C \pm 5\%$, 10%, 20%) in all the material properties of FGM on the transient impact responses. It was found that on incrementing the degree of stochasticity, the area of bound increases. The outcome of impact angle is shown in Figure [12,](#page-20-0) wherein contact force and plate deformation decreased with an increase in impact angle from 0° to 45°, while impactor deformation increase with the rise in impact angle.

Figure [13](#page-21-0) illustrates probability density function plots to show the impactor's velocity (V) effect. All the responses significantly increase with the impactor's velocity due to increased impactor's kinetic energy. The probability density function plots showing the effects of mass density are illustrated in Figure [14,](#page-22-0) wherein all impact responses increase with an increase in the impactor's mass density. The effects of point of impact loading are shown in Figure [15,](#page-23-0) wherein contact force is minimum at point 2.

Figure 9 Scatter plots between original FE model and MARS model for impact responses (max. contact force, max. plate deformation, and max. impactor deformation) with considering sample size $(N) = 512$.

Figure 10 PDF plots between original FE model and MARS model for impact responses (max. contact force, max. plate deformation, and max. impactor deformation) with different sample size (*N*).

(c)

Figure 11 Influence of the degree of stochasticity (C) considering compound effect of source uncertainties.

Figure 12 Influence of impact angle on stochastic transient impact responses considering consider $p = 1$, $V = 5$ m/sec, T = 300K, $h = 0.002$ m, $\rho_{imp} = 85 \times 10^{-4} N - s^2/cm^4$ at location 2 (Figure [8\(](#page-14-0)d)).

Figure 13 Influence of velocity of impactor (V) on stochastic transient impact responses considering $p = 1$, $\phi = 0^{\circ}$, T = 300K, $h = 0.002$ m, $\rho_{imp} = 85 \times 10^{-4} N - s^2/cm^4$ at location 2 (Figure [8\(](#page-14-0)d)).

Figure 14 Influence of mass of impactor (ρ) on stochastic transient impact responses considering $p = 1$, $V = 5$ m/sec, $\phi = 0^{\circ}$, T = 300K, $h = 0.002$ m.

Figure 15 Influence of point of impact (refer Figure [8\(](#page-14-0)d)) on stochastic transient impact responses considering $p = 1$, $V = 5$ m/sec, $\phi = 0^{\circ}$, T = 300K, $h = 0.002$ m, $\rho_{imp} = 85 \times$ $10^{-4}N - s^2/cm^4$.

5 Conclusions

The novelty of the present study includes the deterministic and stochastic low-velocity impact responses analysis of the FGM cantilever plate by employing the surrogate-based MARS model. The combined effects of stochasticity in the FGM plate's material properties are considered random input parameters. The modified contact law and NTI approaches are utilized to determine the stochastic transient impact responses. The FE code is developed for the present analysis. MARS model is integrated with the MCS for constructing an efficient computational framework. The convergence study is carried out to obtain the optimum sample size of the MARS model. The parametric study finds the response of various input parameters on the stochastic transient low-velocity impact responses. The results illustrate that all the parameters such as impact angle, the mass density of impactor, and initial velocity of impactor significantly affect the impact responses. In the future, the employed framework can be utilized for the other dynamic analysis of layered structures.

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