

# Dynamic characteristics of composite tapered tubes

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## 1. Introduction

Due to high specific stiffness and specific strength as the advantageous features of composite materials, composite structures have been widely used. Among application shapes of the composite structures, tapered tubes made of composite materials have been employed in many applications such as a nozzle of a spacecraft, a pressure vessel, a golf club and so forth. In these structures, vibrational characteristics by dynamic loading play important role in designing the structures. To analyze the vibrational characteristics, many design theories have been investigated. [1-5]

In this study, we examined the vibrational characteristics by performing experimental validation to evaluate dynamic features of the composite tapered tubes under free vibration. In particular, we considered effects of fiber orientation errors during wrapping process of preregs on dynamic characteristics. To investigate this, we examined their characteristics with and without fiber orientation errors by comparing with theoretical values as well as.

## 2. Experimental method

The dynamic characteristic evaluation of the composite tapered tubes under free vibration can be categorized into clamped, simply supported, free-free conditions, according to their constraint requirements. In this study, we applied the free-free constraint condition to the structures to measure the natural frequency of the structure. As shown in the Fig 1, we hung the composite tapered tubes by lifting both ends with wires. Then, we applied impact loads with an impact hammer and measured its motion with an acceleration sensor. In Table 1, the shape information and properties of samples used in the experiment are listed. We fabricated composite tapered tubes with unidirectional carbon fiber epoxy preregs (JSN 150, SK Chemicals, Korea) by vacuum bag degassing methods.

## 3. Results and conclusion

Experimental results show that the first natural frequency of the structures measured experimentally is within the 10% error ranges of their theoretical expectation. And we observed fiber orientation errors during wrapping process increased dynamic characteristics of composite tapered tubes.

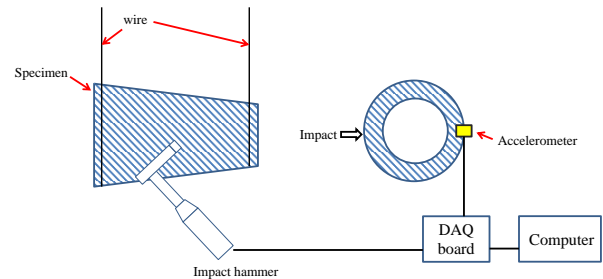


Fig 1. . Schematic figure of impact test for composite tapered tubes

Table 1. Specifications of composite tapered tubes

	Size
$R_1$	10mm
$R_2$	15mm, 25mm, 37.5mm
L	150mm
T	0.125mm
Stacking sequence	$[0]_{5t}$

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