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Ninth International Conference on
Computational Structures Technology**

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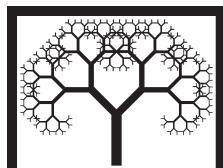
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Computational Structures Technology**

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B.H.V. Topping and M. Papadrakakis



CIVIL-COMP PRESS

© Civil-Comp Ltd, Stirlingshire, Scotland

published 2008 by
Civil-Comp Press
Dun Eaglais, Kippen
Stirlingshire, FK8 3DY, UK

Civil-Comp Press is an imprint of Civil-Comp Ltd

ISBN 978-1-905088-21-8 (Book)
ISBN 978-1-905088-22-5 (CD-Rom)
ISBN 978-1-905088-23-2 (Combined Set)

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Cover Image: mesh created by R. Montenegro and G. Montero based on the “25 Years of Civil-Comp Conferences” logo.

Printed in Great Britain by Bell & Bain Ltd, Glasgow

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Preface

This volume comprises the summaries of contributed papers presented at The Ninth International Conference on Computational Structures Technology (CST 2008) held in Athens, Greece from 2 to 5 September 2008. The full papers from the conference are available on the accompanying CD-ROM. The CST conference series began in Edinburgh during 1991. The 2008 conference was held concurrently with The Sixth International Conference on Engineering Computational Technology (ECT 2008).

The special sessions included in this volume of Proceedings are:

- Modeling and Simulation of Composite and Adaptive Structures
organised by C.M. Mota Soares
- Multi-Scale Numerical Modeling of Engineering Structures
organised by J.Q. Ye and Y. Sheng
- Numerical Design of Protective Structures
organised by N. Gebbeken
- Modelling of Composite Beams
organised by J. Murin
- Mechanics of Composites, Functionally Graded and Piezoelectric Materials
organised by T. Kant
- Spectral and Wave Element Methods for Structural Response Prediction and Damage Detection
organised by J.R. Arruda
- Evolutionary and Non-Deterministic Methods in Structural Optimization
organised by M. Domaszewski
- Stochastic Optimization Methods in Structural Analysis and Optimal Design
organised by K. Marti and G.I. Schuëller
- Soft Computing and Structural Engineering
organised by Y. Tsompanakis and N. Lagaros
- Differential Quadrature, Generalized Methods and Related Discrete Element Analysis Methods
organised by C.N. Chen
- Application of Finite Element Methods for the Analysis and Design of Steel and Concrete Structures
organised by E.S. Mistakidis
- Structural Analysis and Optimization in Acoustics and Vibrations
organised by M. Matos Neves and J.F. Aguilar Madeira
- Probabilistic Approaches and Optimisation for Structural Mechanics
organised by A. Elhami and M. Karama
- Damage Identification
organised by C.A. Papadopoulos
- Computational Tools for Earthquake and Structural Dynamics
organised by S.H. Lo
- Non-Linear Dynamics
organised by M. Amabili

We are particularly grateful to the organisers of these special sessions.

The following sessions are also included in this volume:

- Finite Element Methods
- Finite Elements: Plasticity
- Finite Elements: Modelling and Design
- Boundary Element Methods
- Plate Problems
- Damage and Identification Problems
- Shakedown Analysis and Design
- Analysis of Trusses, Frames and Space Structures
- Structural Optimization
- Shape and Topology Optimization
- Reliability Design
- Reliability Analysis and Modelling
- Probabilistic Engineering Problems
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- Fire Safety Engineering
- Bridge Engineering
- Building Analysis and Design
- Modelling Retrofitted and Repaired Structures
- Composite Structures
- Composites: Damage Modelling
- Composite Materials

Other papers presented at the conferences in 2008 are published as follows:

- *The Invited Lectures from CST 2008 are published in:*

Trends in Computational Structures Technology, B.H.V. Topping and M. Papadrakakis, (Editors), Saxe-Coburg Publications, Stirlingshire, Scotland, 2008.

- *The Invited Lectures from ECT 2008 are published in:*

Trends in Engineering Computational Technology, M. Papadrakakis and B.H.V. Topping, (Editors), Saxe-Coburg Publications, Stirlingshire, Scotland, 2008.

- *The Contributed Papers from ECT 2008 are published in:*

Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference on Engineering Computational Technology, M. Papadrakakis and B.H.V. Topping, (Editor), (Book of Summaries and CD-ROM), Civil-Comp Press, Stirlingshire, Scotland, 2008.

We should like to thank the members of the CST 2008 Conference Editorial Board for their help before and during the conference: Prof. H. Adeli, USA; Prof. S. Adhikari, UK; Prof. J.F. Aguilar Madeira, Portugal; Prof. M. Amabili, Italy; Prof. T. Aoki, Japan; Dr R. Ardito, Italy; Prof. A.J. Aref, USA; Prof. F. Armero, USA; Prof. J.R. Arruda, Brazil; Dr A.F. Ashour, UK; Prof. H. Askes, UK; Prof. N.O. Attoh-Okine, USA; Dr C.E. Augarde, UK; Prof. J. Awrejcewicz, Poland; Dr A. Bahreininejad, Iran; Prof. C.C. Baniotopoulos, Greece; Prof. A. Baratta, Italy; Prof. H.J.C. Barbosa, Brazil; Assoc. Prof. E. Barkanov, Latvia; Prof. R.C. Barros, Portugal; Prof. K.J. Bathe, USA; Prof. Z.P. Bazant, USA; Prof. A.A. Becker, UK; Prof. T. Belytschko, USA; Prof. A. Benjeddou, France; Prof. N. Bicanic, UK; Prof. M.L. Bittencourt, Brazil; Prof. Z. Bittnar, Czech Republic; Dr J. Blachut, UK; Prof. D. Boffi, Italy; Prof. P. Boisse, France; Prof. M. Bonnet, France; Prof. F. Bontempi, Italy; Assoc. Prof. B. Boroomand, Iran; Prof. Ph. Bouillard, Belgium; Prof. M.A. Bradford, Australia; Dr M. Brunig, Germany; Dr J.W. Bull, UK; Dr C. Butenweg, Germany; Prof. F. Buyle-Bodin, France; Prof. D. Camotim, Portugal; Prof. E. Carrera, Italy; Prof. F. Casciati, Italy; Prof. G. Cederbaum, Israel; Prof. J.M.A. Cesar de Sa, Portugal; Prof. A.H.C. Chan, UK; Dr S. Chandra, India; Prof. C.-N. Chen, Taiwan; Prof. W.F. Chen, USA; Prof. G.D. Cheng, China; Prof. R.C. Cheng, USA; Prof. G. Chiandussi, Italy; Prof. C. Cinquini, Italy; Prof. H.B. Coda, Brazil; Prof. J.Y. Cognard, France; Prof. G.J. Creus, Brazil; Prof. M. Cuomo, Italy; Prof. V.D. da Silva, Portugal; Prof. S. De, USA; Prof. R. de Borst, Netherlands; Prof. J.A.T. de Freitas, Portugal; Prof. G. De Roeck, Belgium; Prof. G. de Saxca'e, France; Dr Z. Dimitrovová, Portugal Prof. I. Doltsinis, Germany; Prof. M. Domaszewski, France; Dr J. Dominguez, Spain; Prof. J. Duane, USA; Prof. L. Dunai, Hungary; Prof. J. Eberhardsteiner, Austria; Prof. A. El-Hami, France; Prof. A. Eriksson, Sweden; Dr D. Eyheramendy, France; Dr P. Fanning, Ireland; Prof. C.A. Felippa, USA; Prof. M. Fivel, France; Prof. D.M. Frangopol, USA; Prof. M.I. Friswell, UK; Prof. G. Gambolati, Italy; Prof. L. Gastaldi, Italy; Prof. V. Gattulli, Italy; Prof. Dr-Ing. N. Gebbeken, Germany; Prof. J.-C. Gelin, France; Prof. R.G. Ghanem, USA; Prof. R.I. Gilbert, Australia; Prof. D. Givoli, Israel; Prof. P. Gosling, UK; Prof. R.V. Grandhi, USA; Prof. D.E. Grierson, Canada; Prof. A.A. Groenwold, South Africa; Dr Z.W. Guan, UK; Prof. R.M. Guedes, Portugal; Prof. I. Hagiwara, Japan; Prof. P. Hajela, USA; Prof. P. Hamelin, France; Prof. H.-J. Hardtke, Germany; Prof. R. Harte, Germany; Prof. G.R. Heppler, USA; Prof. G. Hofstetter, Austria; Prof. O.S. Hopperstad, Norway; Prof. T.J.R. Hughes, USA; Dr L. Iannucci, UK; Prof. A. Ibrahimbegovic, France; Prof. N. Inoue, Japan; Dr I. Iskhakov, Israel; Prof. A. Ivankovic, Ireland; Dr P. Ivanyi, Hungary; Prof. B.A. Izzuddin, UK; Prof. M. Jirasek, Czech Republic; Prof. M. Kaliske, Germany; Dr E.S. Kameshki, Bahrain; Dr M. Kaminski, Poland; Prof. T. Kant, India; Prof. J.D. Kaplunov, UK; Prof. D.L. Karabalis, Greece; Prof. M. Karama, France; Prof. J.T. Katsikadelis, Greece; Prof. A. Kaveh, Iran; Dr D. Kennedy, UK; Dr A.I. Khan, Australia; Prof. P.H. Kirkegaard, Denmark; Prof. U. Kirsch, Israel; Prof. M. Kleiber, Poland; Prof. L.Yu. Kossovich, Russia; Prof. M.D. Kotsovos, Greece; Prof. W.B. Kraetzig, Germany; Dr J. Kruis, Czech Republic; Prof. H.G. Kwak, Korea; Dr A.S.K. Kwan, UK; Prof. Y.W. Kwon, USA; Prof. R. Lackner, Germany; Prof. P. Ladeveze, France; Dr N. Lagaros, Greece; Prof. K.L. Lawrence, USA; Prof. D. Le Houédec, France; Dr C.K. Lee, Singapore; Dr C.J. Leo,

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Finally, we are grateful to Jelle Muylle for designing these conference proceedings and for all his administrative and organisational skills in organising these conferences. We also wish to thank Dawn Sewell (Civil-Comp Press) and Jenny Mitsoura (National Technical University of Athens) for their administrative support before and during the conference.

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