

A problem connected with the study of thin elastic shallow shells in the theory of non-linear elasticity is considered. The equilibrium equations are in the form

$$\nabla^4 B_1(x, y) + Eh n^4 B_2(x, y) = 0$$

$$D \nabla^4 B_2(x, y) - n^4 B_1(x, y) = S(x, y)$$

The entire domain of the shell is bounded in  $R^3$

$\nabla^4$  is the biharmonic operator

$$\nabla^4 (---) = \left( \frac{\partial^4}{\partial x^4} + \frac{2\partial^4}{\partial x^2 \partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^4}{\partial y^4} \right)$$

$\Pi^4$  is the pucher's operator

$$\Pi^4 (----) = \frac{\partial^2 f \partial^2}{\partial x^2 \partial y^2} - \frac{2\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 f \partial^2}{\partial x^2 (\partial y^2)}$$

E: Young's modulus of elasticity of the material  $\lambda$

h: the uniform thickness of the shell  $\lambda$

$D = \frac{Eh^3}{12} (1 - \mu^2)^{-1}$  is the flexural rigidity of the material

$\mu$  = Poisson's ratio

$\beta_1(x, y)$  is the stress function

$\beta_2(x, y)$  is the deflection function

$S(x, y)$  is the external force on the projection of the shell  $\lambda$  on xy plane

The entire boundary of the shell in the form  $dn$  is assumed clamped so that the deflection and slopes are zero boundaries

The entire domain of the shell  $\lambda$  is bounded in  $R^3$  having middle surface in Monge's form  $Z = f(x, y)$ . Galerkin's orthogonality conditions are applied to solve the equilibrium equations for stress and deflections. Appropriate forms of orthonormal Fourier's double series are formulated for  $\beta_1(x, y)$  and  $\beta_2(x, y)$  to satisfy the boundary conditions. Finally the existence and the uniqueness of the solutions are established.