N O T A T I O N S

Unless otherwise stated, the following notations have been used in this thesis.

W = deflection normal to the middle surface

u, v = in-plane displacements

E, E_{11}, E_{22} = Young's moduli

ρ = density of the Plate or Shell material

h = thickness

$\alpha_t, \beta_{11}, \beta_{22}$ = Co-efficients of thermal expansion

∇^2 = Laplacian operator

ν = Poisson's ratio

a, R = radii

$F(t)$ = function of time t

C_{ij} = elastic constants

T^* = nonlinear time-period

T = linear time-period

A = amplitude

(x,y) = Cartesian Co-ordinates

$D = \dfrac{Eh^3}{12(1-\nu^2)}$ = flexural rigidity

r = radial co-ordinate

$\in$ = error function

$(z, \bar{z})$ = complex co-ordinates

M_T = thermal moment defined after eqn. (2)

N_T = thermal stress resultant

$C_0, C_1, C_2, C_3, \lambda, \chi$
$\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, K, \lambda$ = Constants.