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S. No | Authors | Paper Title | Abstract | Keywords | References |
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2 | Daniel N. Njoroge | Characterization of Single Walled Carbon Nanotubes using Comparative Laser Technique | This study was based on characterization of single walled carbon nanotubes (SWNTs) with Raman spectroscopy. The SWNTs samples were subjected to Raman scattering with lasers of 532 nm and 633 nm. The study outlines use of Raman spectroscope, preparation of samples under investigation, obtaining and finally analyzing the Raman spectra. In this study, the samples were prepared for Raman spectroscopy inspection, sampling parameters optimized to obtain good spectra and Raman spectra analyzed. Raman spectroscopy is an important material testing tool. It can be used to sort materials which have been mixed since every material has unique chemical structure which translates to a unique spectrum. Most importantly, it can also be used to identify defects in a sample. | Keywords: Carbon nanotubes, Raman spectroscopy. | References: 1. Hollas, M.J., Modern Spectroscopy, Fourth Edition ed. 2004: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. 2. Vandenberghele, P., Practical Raman Spectroscopy: An Introduction, 2013: John Wiley & Sons Ltd. 3. Larkin, P., Infrared and Raman Spectroscopy: Principles and Spectra Interpretation. 2011: Elsevier. 4. Jorio, et al., Characterizing carbon nanotube samples with resonance Raman scattering. New Journal of Physics, 2003. 5: p. 139.1-139.17). 5. Sergei M. Bachilo, et al., Structure-Assign Optical Spectra of Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes, Science, 2002. 298: p. 2361-2366. |

3 | Monica Wairimu Chonge | A Study on the Performance Improvement Measures for Contractors in Kenya | Performance of the contractors in the construction industry in Kenya as in many other parts of the world has been faulted and blamed as one of the reasons as to why they fail to secure major construction projects in the country. This has led to a number of studies aimed at finding out the factors affecting the performance of contractors in the various construction industries of the world, with the aim of finding ways of improving on it. This study therefore sought to find out the performance improvement measures that are specific to the construction industry in Kenya and that can be adopted in a bid to improve on the performance of contractors in the country. The study employed the qualitative strategy as well as the cross-sectional research design. Qualitative data was collected through the use of structured questionnaires with an open ended question which were administered to local contractors of category NCA 1, 2 and 3. The contractors were sampled using the stratified random sampling and the systematic random sampling techniques. The method used for data analysis was thematic analysis. Four themes stood out as measures that can be adopted to improve on the performance of contractors in the country. These were: financial, managerial, technical and external measures. | Keywords: Performance, Improvement, Contractors, Kenya. | References: |
Keywords: Performance improvement measures, Construction industry, Contractors performance

References:

Authors: Cengiz POLAT

Paper Title: An Enhanced Solid-Shell Element Formulation with Co-Rotational Approach

Abstract: An enhanced eight node solid-shell element formulation is demonstrated. The enhanced strain method is used to alleviate the locking problems. A co-rotational formulation is adopted in the formulation, thus geometric nonlinearity is taken into account by the rotation of the local coordinate system. Several benchmark problems are studied to demonstrate the efficiency of the element.

Keywords: Co-rotational formulation, solid-shell element, the enhanced strain method.

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Methods in Engineering 21, 553-570.