

MECH 463 -- 2018 Final Exam

1. (a) Explain in words what is meant by a mode shape. Describe two basic features of a mode shape that are assumed when choosing a suitable trial function for the matrix solution of a vibrating multi-DOF system.

A mode shape describes the relative vibration amplitudes and phase of the individual degrees of freedom of a system vibrating at one of its natural frequencies. For a n -DOF system, there are n distinct mode shapes corresponding to the n natural frequencies.

The two basic features assumed when choosing a suitable trial function for the vibration solution of an undamped multi-DOF system are:

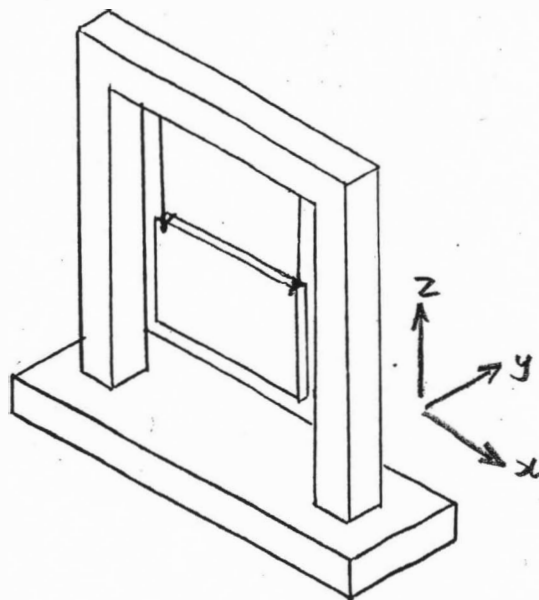
- 1) when vibrating at a given natural frequency, all parts of the system vibrate in phase or exactly out of phase.
- 2) at each natural frequency, there is a definite ratio of the vibration amplitudes of each part of the system (negative ratio for out-of-phase parts). This is the mode shape.

With these features in mind, a suitable trial function is

$$\underline{x} = \underline{X} \cos(\omega t + \phi)$$

where \underline{X} is a vector whose elements describe the mode shape. The constancy of the phase is indicated by the common term $\cos(\omega t + \phi)$

1. (b) An ornamental sign board hangs at the entrance of a garden. It is rectangular in shape and hangs from two non-stretching cables. Identify the number of degrees of freedom, and explain why. Use your experience to suggest realistic mode shapes.

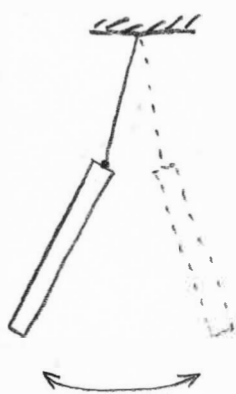


A completely free plate would have six degrees of freedom (3 translations and 3 rotations).

The two non-stretching strings provide constraints that prevent translation in the z direction and rotation around the y axis.

After deducting the two constraints, there remain 4 DOF

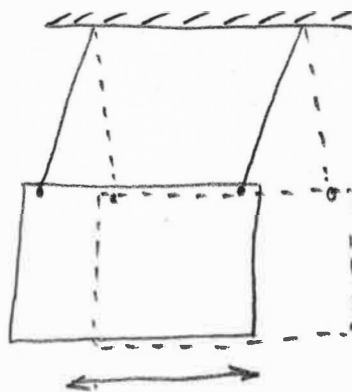
For this symmetrical case, the mode shapes are:



view in
 x direction



view in
 x direction

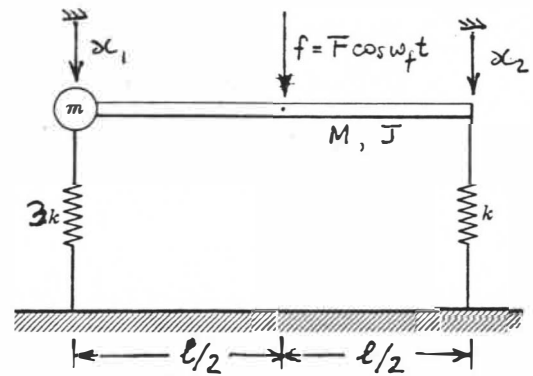


view in
 y direction



view in
 z direction

2. A uniform rod of length ℓ is supported by two springs, one of stiffness k and one of stiffness $3k$. The rod has mass $M = 3m$, and polar moment of inertia about its centre $J = M\ell^2/12$. An additional mass m is attached at the end of the rod that is supported by the spring of stiffness $3k$. An oscillating vertical force $f = F \cos \omega_f t$ is applied at the centre of the rod.



- (a) Formulate the equations of motion of the system using Lagrange's Equations.
 (b) Determine the response amplitudes due to the oscillating excitation force f .
 (c) Comment on and explain your results found in (b).

(a)

At the centre of mass of the rod, displacement = $\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}$

$$\text{rotation} = \frac{x_2 - x_1}{\ell}$$

$$\rightarrow T = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} M \left(\frac{\dot{x}_1 + \dot{x}_2}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} J \left(\frac{\dot{x}_2 - \dot{x}_1}{\ell} \right)^2$$

$$V = \frac{1}{2} 3k x_1^2 + \frac{1}{2} k x_2^2$$

$$R = 0$$

$$Q_1 = f \frac{dy}{dx_1} = f \frac{d}{dx_1} \left(\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2} \right) = \frac{f}{2}$$

$$Q_2 = f \frac{dy}{dx_2} = f \frac{d}{dx_2} \left(\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2} \right) = \frac{f}{2}$$

Let y = displacement at force application point

$$\rightarrow y = \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}$$

Recall Lagrange's Equations :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q_i} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial q_i} + \frac{\partial R}{\partial q_i} = Q_i$$

$$\text{For } i=1 \rightarrow m \ddot{x}_1 + \frac{M}{4} (\ddot{x}_1 + \ddot{x}_2) + \frac{J}{\ell^2} (\ddot{x}_1 - \ddot{x}_2) + 3k x_1 = \frac{f}{2}$$

$$\text{For } i=2 \rightarrow \frac{M}{4} (\ddot{x}_1 + \ddot{x}_2) - \frac{J}{\ell^2} (\ddot{x}_1 - \ddot{x}_2) + k x_2 = \frac{f}{2}$$

In matrix form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} m + \frac{M}{4} + \frac{J}{l^2} & \frac{M}{4} - \frac{J}{l^2} \\ \frac{M}{4} - \frac{J}{l^2} & \frac{M}{4} + \frac{J}{l^2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{x}_1 \\ \ddot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 3k & 0 \\ 0 & k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{F}{2} \\ \frac{F}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Substitute $M = 3m$. $J = \frac{1}{12} M l^2 = \frac{1}{4} m l^2$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2m & \frac{m}{2} \\ \frac{m}{2} & m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{x}_1 \\ \ddot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 3k & 0 \\ 0 & k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{F}{2} \\ \frac{F}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) Try solution $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{bmatrix} \cos \omega_f t$

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3k - 2m\omega_f^2 & -\frac{m}{2}\omega_f^2 \\ -\frac{m}{2}\omega_f^2 & k - m\omega_f^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{bmatrix} \cos \omega_f t = \begin{bmatrix} F/2 \\ F/2 \end{bmatrix} \cos \omega_f t$$

This is true for all $t \rightarrow \cos \omega_f t \neq 0$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3k - 2m\omega_f^2 & -\frac{m}{2}\omega_f^2 \\ -\frac{m}{2}\omega_f^2 & k - m\omega_f^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F/2 \\ F/2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving by Cramer's rule:

$$X_1 = \frac{F/2 (k - m\omega_f^2 + \frac{m}{2}\omega_f^2)}{(3k - 2m\omega_f^2)(k - m\omega_f^2) - (\frac{m}{2}\omega_f^2)^2}$$

$$= \frac{F/2 (k - \frac{m}{2}\omega_f^2)}{3k^2 - 5mk\omega_f^2 + \frac{7}{4}m^2\omega_f^4}$$

$$= \frac{F/2 (k - \frac{m}{2}\omega_f^2)}{(k - \frac{m}{2}\omega_f^2)(3k - \frac{7}{2}m\omega_f^2)}$$

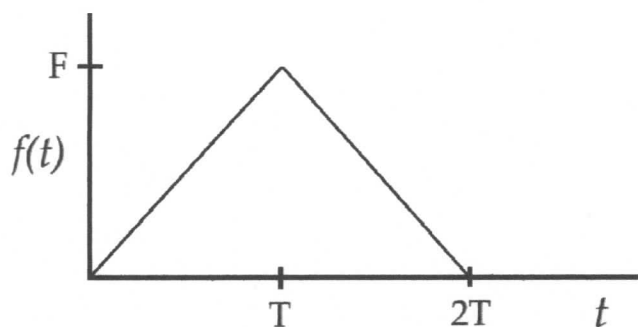
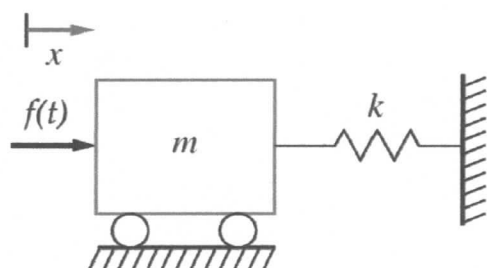
$$= \frac{F}{(6k - 7m\omega_f^2)}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} X_2 &= \frac{F/2 (3k - 2m\omega_f^2 + \frac{m}{2}\omega_f^2)}{(3k - 2m\omega_f^2)(k - m\omega_f^2) - (\frac{m}{2}\omega_f^2)^2} \\ &= \frac{3F/2 (k - \frac{m}{2}\omega_f^2)}{(k - \frac{m}{2}\omega_f^2)(3k - \frac{7}{2}m\omega_f^2)} = \frac{3F}{(6k - 7m\omega_f^2)} = 3X_1 \end{aligned}$$

- (c) The denominator equals zero and hence the responses X_1 and X_2 become unbounded when $\omega_f^2 = \frac{6}{7} k/m$. This value of ω_f^2 corresponds to one of the two natural frequencies of the system. There is no unbounded response at the second natural frequency, $\omega_f^2 = 2k/m$ because the excitation force f is applied at the nodal point of this mode. The second mode can therefore not be excited.

3. (a) A force $f = f(t)$ acts on a simple mass-spring system. Determine the response of the system for zero initial conditions, given $f(t) = at$.
- (b) Starting from the solution to (a), determine the response of the system to the ramp-pulse excitation shown in the diagram for times $t > 2T$.



$f(t)$
 \rightarrow
 $\leftarrow kx$
 $m\ddot{x}$

$$m\ddot{x} + kx = f(t)$$

(a) For $f(t) = at \rightarrow m\ddot{x} + kx = at$

Complementary solution: $x = A\cos\omega t - B\sin\omega t$

For particular solution, try $x = Ct$ (same form as RHS)

Substituting: $0 + kCt = at \rightarrow C = \frac{a}{k}$

\rightarrow General solution is $x = A\cos\omega t - B\sin\omega t + \frac{at}{k}$

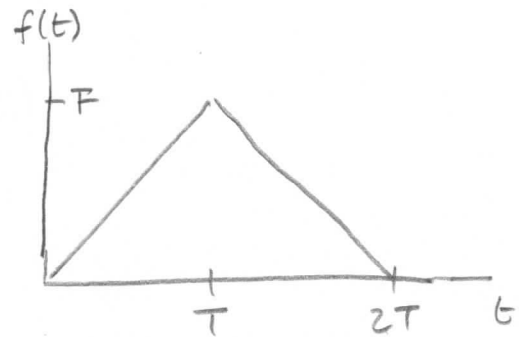
Initial conditions. $x(0) = A - 0 + 0 = 0 \rightarrow A = 0$

$\dot{x}(t) = -\omega A\sin\omega t - \omega B\cos\omega t + \frac{a}{k}$

$\dot{x}(0) = 0 - \omega B + \frac{a}{k} = 0 \rightarrow B = \frac{a}{\omega k}$

$\rightarrow \underline{x = \frac{a}{\omega k} (\omega t - \sin\omega t)}$

- (b) Using the principle of superposition, the triangular pulse can be considered as the sum of three ramp functions, as shown.



For $t > 2T$ (where $a = \frac{F}{T}$)

$$x = \frac{F}{\omega k T} \left[\omega t - \sin \omega t - 2\omega(t-T) + 2\sin \omega(t-T) + \omega(t-2T) - \sin \omega(t-2T) \right]$$

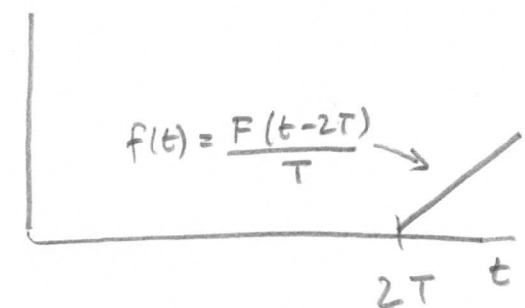
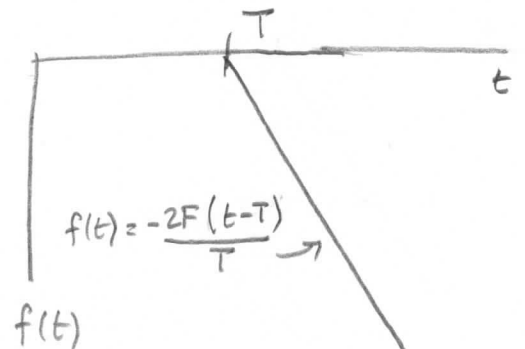
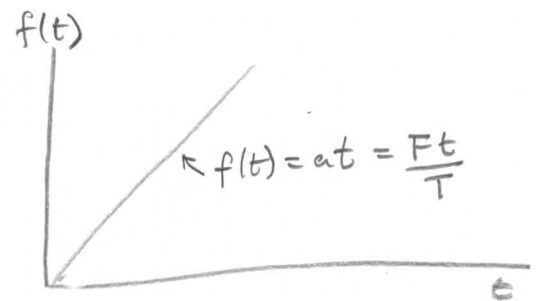
$$x = \frac{F}{\omega k T} \left[\omega t - 2\omega t + 2\omega T + \omega t - 2\omega T - \sin \omega t + 2\sin \omega t \cos \omega T - 2\cos \omega t \sin \omega T - \sin \omega t \cos 2\omega T + \cos \omega t \sin 2\omega T \right]$$

$$x = \frac{F}{\omega k T} \left[\sin \omega t (2\cos \omega T - 1 - \cos 2\omega T) + \cos \omega t (\sin 2\omega T - 2\sin \omega T) \right]$$

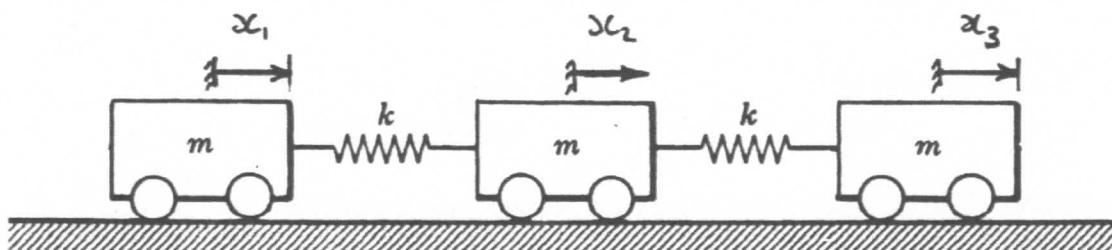
$$x = \frac{F}{\omega k T} \left[\sin \omega t (2\cos \omega T - 2\cos^2 \omega T) + \cos \omega t (2\sin \omega T \cos \omega T - 2\sin \omega T) \right]$$

$$x = \frac{F}{\omega k T} \left[2\sin \omega t \cos \omega T (1 - \cos \omega T) - 2\cos \omega t \sin \omega T (1 - \cos \omega T) \right]$$

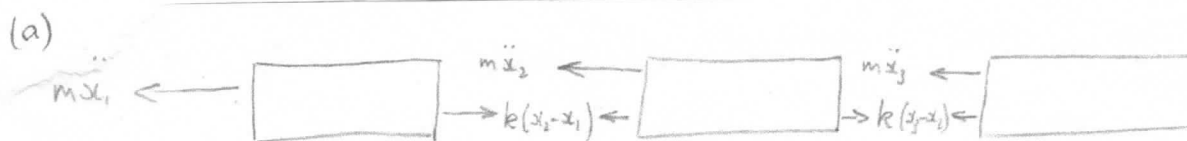
$$x = \frac{2F}{\omega k T} (1 - \cos \omega T) \sin \omega(t - T)$$



4. Three train cars are on a level track. The cars each have mass m and are connected together by couplings of stiffness k , as shown in the diagram.



- Formulate the equations of motion and identify the mass and stiffness matrices.
- Based on physical features of the arrangement of train cars, identify two of the three vibration mode shapes of the system by inspection. Explain the reasoning for your identification.
- Use mode shape orthogonality to identify the third mode shape.
- Use the Rayleigh method to evaluate the natural frequencies corresponding to the three vibration mode shapes identified above.
- Give simple physical explanations for the three natural frequencies found.



From free body diagrams

$$m\ddot{x}_1 - k(x_2 - x_1) = 0$$

$$m\ddot{x}_2 + k(x_2 - x_1) - k(x_3 - x_2) = 0$$

$$m\ddot{x}_3 + k(x_3 - x_2) = 0$$

In matrix form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} m & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{x}_1 \\ \ddot{x}_2 \\ \ddot{x}_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} k & -k & 0 \\ -k & 2k & -k \\ 0 & -k & k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

\uparrow
 M

\uparrow
 K

(b) System is semi-definite, so one vibration mode corresponds to a rigid body motion $\rightarrow \underline{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

System is symmetrical, so a second vibration mode involves opposing motions of the outer two masses, with the centre one remaining still $\rightarrow \underline{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$

(c) The third mode is orthogonal to the other two.
Say $\underline{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$ where α and β are to be determined.

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m & & \\ & m & \\ & & m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = 0 \rightarrow m(1 + \alpha + \beta) = 0$$

$$\text{and } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m & & \\ & m & \\ & & m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = 0 \rightarrow m(1 - \beta) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \alpha = -2, \beta = 1 \rightarrow \underline{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(d) Rayleigh Quotient

$$\omega_R^2 = \frac{\underline{v}^T \underline{K} \underline{v}}{\underline{v}^T \underline{M} \underline{v}} = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} k & -k & 0 \\ -k & 2k & -k \\ 0 & -k & k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m & & \\ & m & \\ & & m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}} = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m \\ m \\ m \end{bmatrix}} = 0$$

as expected for a rigid body motion

For second mode

$$\omega_R^2 = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} k & -k & 0 \\ -k & 2k & -k \\ 0 & -k & k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}}{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m & & \\ & m & \\ & & m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}} = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} k \\ 0 \\ -k \end{bmatrix}}{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m \\ 0 \\ -m \end{bmatrix}} = \frac{k}{m}$$

