Dynamic Parameters Tuning Using Structural Dynamic Modification

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Abstract: Significant vibration of construction components are unwanted and dangerous problems in the modern engineering. Nevertheless, undesirable levels of vibration can occur in already existing constructions. Therefore, additional modal and spectral parameter modification, to reach the desired vibration reducing, is required. This work presents structural dynamic modification methodology that allows the modal properties of a structure to be effectively changed. As the demonstration of this method, the example of a cantilever beam structure modified by aluminium foam layer elements was chosen. This example represents inertial, stiffness and damping modification aimed to tuning of modal and spectral parameters of the original structure.

Keywords: *dynamic parameters tuning; structural dynamic modification; aluminium foam.*

1. Introduction

Dynamic parameters tuning is a required operation when significant vibration of a construction component is expected. Dynamic parameters tuning using structural dynamic modification represents modal-spectral parameters changes by adding substructures to the original to avoid resonances and reduce the level of vibration. Those substructures, which influent mass, stiffness and damping matrices of the original system, can increase or decrease natural frequencies and influents corresponding mode shapes according to the desire behaviour of the structure. Additional tuning of dynamic parameters performed by structural dynamic modification is a useful operation to adapt the structure to changed operation conditions. Modal and spectral parameters of the modified structure can be determined by analytical approach using structural coefficient matrices of modifying substructures and modal parameters of the original structure, that can be obtained experimentally.

2. Structural modification

This chapter is aimed to the modal synthesis explanation of the original structure and substructures to determine modal parameters of the resulting system. The original structure is represented by the proportionally damped system whose eigenvalue solution has the following form.

$$(\mathbf{K}_0 - \mathbf{M}_0 \omega_{0j}^2) \mathbf{v}_{0j} = \mathbf{0} \quad (1)$$

Where stiffness and mass parameters are represented by coefficient matrices $\mathbf{K}_0$ and $\mathbf{M}_0$ and j^{th} eigen mode and natural frequency for this mode by symbols $\mathbf{v}_{0j}$ and ω_{0j} .

Following equations describe conditions for orthonormality.

$$\begin{aligned} V_0^T K_0 V_0 &= \Omega_0^2, \\ V_0^T M_0 V_0 &= I, \\ V_0^T B_0 V_0 &= 2\Delta = 2(\alpha I + \beta \Omega_0^2) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Where Ω_0 is the diagonal spectral matrix that includes natural frequencies ω_{0j} , V_0 is the modal matrix including eigen modes v_{0j} , B_0 is the damping matrix and Δ represents the matrix of constant decay elements δ_{ji} , which are expressed by the following equation

$$\delta_j = 2\xi \omega_{0j} \quad (3)$$

The symbol ξ introduce the comparative damping of the structure.

Because modifying substructures are not located evenly along the original structure, the resulting structure can be interpreted as a disproportionally damped system of $2n$ dimensional space represented by the coefficient matrices N and P . The vibration of this system can be described by the following second order differential equation, where

$$N\ddot{x} - Px = r \quad (4)$$

Where coefficient matrices are represented by K ,

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} K & 0 \\ 0 & M \end{bmatrix}, N = \begin{bmatrix} B & M \\ M & 0 \end{bmatrix}, x = \begin{bmatrix} q \\ \dot{q} \end{bmatrix}, r = \begin{bmatrix} f \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

M and B and the variables q, f express generalised displacement vector and the excitation force.

Eigenvalue problem solution for this system:

$$(P - s_j N)w_j = 0, \quad (K + s_j B + s_j^2 M)v_j = 0 \quad (6)$$

Where v_j interpret j th eigen mode and imaginary part of its eigenvalue s_j express the angular frequency of damped system ω_{dj} .

The following equations represents conditions for orthonormality.

$$\begin{aligned} W^T P W &= S W^T \\ W^T N W &= I \\ S V^T M V S - V^T K V &= S \\ V^T B V + V^T M V S + S V^T M V &= I \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Where W and V are modal matrices and S represents the spectral matrix. These matrices can be expressed by relations:

$$W = \{w_j\} = \begin{bmatrix} V \\ V S \end{bmatrix}, \quad V = \{v_j\}, \quad S = \text{diag}(s_j) \quad (8)$$

Relations (7) and (8) can be used to determine modal-spectral parameters of the resulting structure using original structure modal matrices V_0 , Ω_0 , 2Δ and coefficient matrices of the modifying structure M_N , B_N , K_N . Because dimensions of original structure matrices are usually different then coefficient matrices of the modifying structure, reduction methods as Guyan method or SEREP and zero elements expansions are required [1 – 3]. This process represents the modification of added substructure matrices M_N , B_N , K_N through M_R , B_R , K_R to M_A , B_A , K_A , which can be graphically described as:

Fig. 1: Principal of modal synthesis.

and express by equations:

$$M_A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & M_R & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, K_A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_R & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, B_A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & B_R & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (9)$$

orthogonality conditions for disproportionally damped system:

$$\begin{aligned} [V_0^T S V_L^T] \begin{bmatrix} -(K_P + K_A) & 0 \\ 0 & M_P + M_A \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V \\ V S \end{bmatrix} &= S \\ [V_0^T S V_L^T] \begin{bmatrix} -(B_P + B_A) & M_P + M_A \\ M_P + M_A & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V \\ V S \end{bmatrix} &= I \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

substitution using transformation matrix T_L :

$$V_L = V_0 T_L \quad (11)$$

condition for orthogonality then can be formed as:

$$\begin{aligned} [T_L^T S T_L^T] \begin{bmatrix} -(\Omega_{00}^2 + V_0^T K_A V_0) & 0 \\ 0 & I + V_0^T M_A V_0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_L \\ T_L S \end{bmatrix} &= S \\ [T_L^T S T_L^T] \begin{bmatrix} 2\Delta_P + V_0^T B_A V_0 & I + V_0^T M_A V_0 \\ I + V_0^T M_A V_0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_L \\ T_L S \end{bmatrix} &= I \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Matrix S can be determined by the solution of following eigenvalue problem:

$$(P_T - s_j N_T) w_{Tj} = 0 \quad (13)$$

The transformation matrix and then the modal matrix can be figured out from equations (12) and (11).

In conclusion, the method of modal synthesis provides mode shapes and natural frequencies prediction of the resulting structure that consist of the original structure interpreted as a proportionally damped system and the modifying substructure described by its modal parameters obtained experimentally [3 – 5].

3. Modal synthesis of the non-proportionately damped layered beam

The above mentioned modal synthesis method can be used also in determining the modal and spectral properties of beam structures with added layers of vibroinsulation at specific points. A very simple illustration of such a system can be explained on an existing cantilever beam with a connected (added) beam which creates the modified beam. The presented method can be automated and used for the parameter optimization of vibroinsulating layers (orientation, geometry, material properties,

etc...). The schematic representation of optimizing position a and thickness h of the vibroinsulating layer with respect to the maximum ratio of damping ξ in the second Eigen mode is shown in Figure 2. (c).

Fig. 2: Hierarchy (a – c) for the optimization of position “a” and thickness “h” of the vibro-insulating layer.

It is obvious from dependence shown in Figure 2. (c) that by increasing the thickness of the isolating layer, the ratio of damping also gradually increases. More complex characteristics have values of proportional damping dependent on the location of the isolating layer, which directly depends on the corresponding eigen modes in the presented system. Figure 3. depicts the dependence of proportional damping of the 3rd and 4th modes

and the position of the vibroinsulating layer. The steel beam with an aluminium foam layer was considered [6 – 8].

Fig. 3: Dependence of the proportional damping (3rd and 4th modes) on the position of the vibroinsulating layer.

From the presented properties, it can be seen how it is possible to achieve the desired damping of some Eigen modes by choosing the appropriate position and thickness of the vibroinsulating layer. Therefore, on the basis of modal synthesis it is possible, without any time-consuming calculations, to determine how effective the chosen parameters of the vibroinsulating layer are and in what manner do the dynamic properties of the modifies structure change.

4. Numerical solution of modal-spectral parameters tuning of the modified structure

Structural modification of the beam by aluminium foam layers causes the change of dynamic parameters of the original structure, which is known as well as structural dynamic modification. Modal analysis of the one-meter long cantilever beam was chosen to show dynamic parameters change using a structural dynamic modification, where first three modes of bending oscillation were analysed. Modifying structures, aluminium foam layers, were added to anti-node locations of the original structure to influent its stiffness matrix, which leads to increasing of natural frequencies (beam stiffening). This change of natural frequencies is used to avoid resonances and to decrease oscillation displacements. The first three mode shapes of the original beam and of its modifications with their natural frequencies are illustrated in the figure below (Fig. 4).

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The glue bond damage cause even the decreasing of natural frequencies, e.g. beam softening, which is an undesirable phenomenon.

5. Conclusions

The structural dynamic modification methodology presented in this work allows the desired dynamic parameters tuning of already made constructions by adding substructures. This method, which is based on modal synthesis, can be used in the case of combining the measured modal properties of the original system and final element model of

Fig. 4: Structural dynamic modification of the cantilever beam.

Fig. 5: Effect of the damaged glue layer.

the added substructure components. The work describes the application of the mentioned method to the situation of a cantilever beam modified with added aluminum foam layers. This paper also includes the final element model of the cantilever beam structure to express changes of modal

parameters by adding aluminum substructures to the appropriate places to reach the stiffening of the beam. This article also examines the potential risk of using the structural modification by adding the substructures. There can occur a situation when glue bonds are damaged due to unsuitable conditions,

which can lead to the reducing of the reinforcement effect or even to the softening of the original beam structure.

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