

A Brief Comment on the Dynamical Behavior of a Forced Nonlinear Slewing Beam: 1. Superharmonic Resonance

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This paper describes the dynamical behavior of a nonlinear flexible beam (cubic nonlinearities considered) connected to a dc motor (responsible for the slewing motion) when the angular displacement of the slewing axis and its derivatives are considered to be of a harmonic type and the system is excited near a resonance (present due to the nonlinear contribution).

Keywords: Slewing structure, nonlinear vibrations, resonance, multiple scale method

Introduction

The idea in this paper is to present some analytical results on the investigation about nonlinear mechanical systems composed by (or including) rotating flexible beam-like structures (lightweight robotic manipulators, satellite antennas, solar panels...) harmonically excited. A schematic of the slewing flexible structure studied here is shown in figure 1.

The dynamic analysis developed in this paper considers a nonlinear flexible beam-like structure clamped to an oscillating hub or actuator (harmonically driven), which represents the beam excitation.

The governing equations of motion are presented in the perturbed form (Fenili, 2000); (Fenili 2004a); (Fenili, 2004b). In this case, all the nonlinearities plus the structural damping are considered as small perturbations around a known linear system.

The amplitude and phase equations of the perturbed problem are derived and its steady state behavior investigated in the vicinity of a resonant cases (Hayashi, 1964; Schmidt and Tondl, 1986; Cunningham, 1958; Drazin, 1994).

Governing Equations of Motion: N Modes

Equations (1a), (1b) and (1c) are the nondimensional perturbed governing equations of motion for the nonlinear slewing flexible beam-like structure driven by a dc motor (Fenili, 2000). Equations (1a) and (1b) are the governing equations of the actuator (dc motor): Equation (1a) represents the governing equation for the electric

current and Equation (1b) represents the governing equation for the angular displacement of the motor axis) and Equation (1c) is the governing equation of the time component, q_i , of the transverse displacement of the flexible beam.

$$\dot{i}_a + \left(\frac{R_a T}{L_a} \right) i_a + \dot{\theta} = \left(\frac{R_a T}{L_a} \right) U \quad (1a)$$

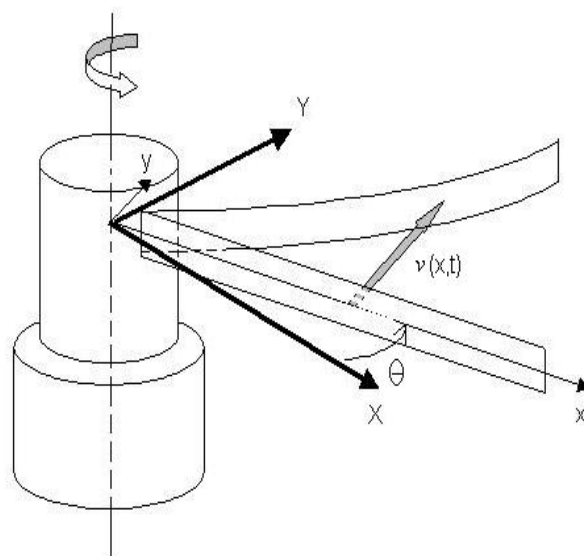


Figure 1. The slewing flexible beam (XY: inertial frame; xy rotating frame).

$$\ddot{\theta} + f_1 \dot{\theta} - f_2 i_a = 0$$

$$f_1 = \left(\frac{c_v T}{I_{\text{shaft}} + I_{\text{motor}}} \right) \tag{1b}$$

$$f_2 = \left(\frac{K_t K_b T^2}{L_a (I_{\text{shaft}} + I_{\text{motor}})} \right)$$

$$\ddot{q}_\ell + w_\ell^2 q_\ell + \alpha_\ell \ddot{\theta} + \epsilon^2 \left[\begin{aligned} &\mu \dot{q}_\ell + \dot{\theta}^2 \sum_{i=1}^N \beta_{i\ell} q_i - \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N (\wp_{ij\ell} \dot{\theta} q_i \dot{q}_j - \lambda_{ij\ell} \ddot{\theta} q_i q_j) + \\ &\sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N \Lambda_{ijk\ell} q_i (\dot{q}_j \dot{q}_k + q_j \ddot{q}_k) + \\ &\sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N \Gamma_{ijk\ell} q_i q_j q_k \end{aligned} \right] = 0 \tag{1c}$$

The boundary conditions are given by: $\phi_\ell(0) = 0$, $\phi'_\ell(0) = 0$, $\phi''_\ell(1) = 0$ and $\phi'''_\ell(1) = 0$.

In Equations (1a) and (1b), R_a represents the armature resistance, T represents the period of the first natural frequency of the beam, L_a represents the armature inductance, c_v represents the motor internal damping, I_{shaft} represents the inertia of the connecting motor-beam shaft, I_{motor} represents the inertia of the motor, K_t represents the torque constant and K_b represents the back e.m.f. constant. In Equation (1c):

$$R_{ij} = \int_0^1 \phi'_i(\xi) \phi'_j(\xi) d\xi = R_{ji} \tag{1d}$$

$$V_i = -\int_x^1 \phi_i(\xi) d\xi \tag{1e}$$

$$S_{ij} = -\int_x^1 \left[\int_0^1 \phi'_i(\xi) \phi'_j(\xi) d\xi \right] \eta \tag{1f}$$

$$W_{ij} = -\int_x^1 \phi'_i(\xi) \phi_j(\xi) d\xi \tag{1g}$$

$$\alpha_\ell = \int_0^1 x \phi_\ell dx \tag{1h}$$

$$\beta_{i\ell} = \left[\int_0^1 \left(x \phi'_i \phi_\ell + \frac{1}{2} (x^2 - 1) \phi_i'' \phi_\ell \right) dx \right] - 1 \tag{1i}$$

$$\wp_{ij\ell} = \int_0^1 (2R_{ij} \phi_\ell - 2\phi_i'' V_j \phi_\ell - 2\phi_i' \phi_j \phi_\ell) dx \tag{1j}$$

$$\lambda_{ij\ell} = \int_0^1 \left(-\frac{1}{2} R_{ij} \phi_\ell + \phi_i'' V_j \phi_\ell + \phi_i' \phi_j \phi_\ell \right) dx \tag{1k}$$

$$\Lambda_{ijk\ell} = \int_0^1 (S_{jk} \phi_i'' \phi_\ell + R_{jk} \phi_i' \phi_\ell) dx \tag{1l}$$

$$\Gamma_{ijk\ell} = \int_0^1 \left[\begin{aligned} &\frac{3}{1.8780^4} \phi_i' \phi_j'' \phi_k'' \phi_\ell + \\ &\frac{3}{2(1.8780^4)} \phi_i'' \phi_j'' \phi_k'' \phi_\ell + \\ &w_j^2 (\phi_i' \phi_j \phi_k \phi_\ell + W_{ij} \phi_k'' \phi_\ell) \end{aligned} \right] dx \tag{1m}$$

Where E represents the Young modulus, I represents the inertia of the beam cross section around the neutral axis, L represents the beam length, ϕ_ℓ represents each one of the flexural vibration modes of the beam and w_ℓ represents the frequencies associated to these modes.

Governing Equations of Motion: 1 Mode

Consider now that the behavior of the flexible structure can be represented by only one flexural mode (the first). The governing equations given by (1a) to (1c) are reduced to (Fenili et al, 2004a):

$$\dot{i}_a + \left(\frac{R_a T}{L_a} \right) i_a + \dot{\theta} = \left(\frac{R_a T}{L_a} \right) U \tag{2a}$$

$$\ddot{\theta} + f_1 \dot{\theta} - f_2 i_a = 0$$

$$f_1 = \left(\frac{c_v T}{I_{\text{shaft}} + I_{\text{motor}}} \right) \tag{2b}$$

$$f_2 = \left(\frac{K_t K_b T^2}{L_a (I_{\text{shaft}} + I_{\text{motor}})} \right)$$

$$\ddot{q}_1 + w_1^2 q_1 + \alpha_1 \ddot{\theta} + \epsilon^2 \left[\begin{aligned} &\mu \dot{q}_1 + \dot{\theta}^2 \beta_{11} q_1 - \wp_{111} \dot{\theta} q_1 \dot{q}_1 - \lambda_{111} \ddot{\theta} q_1^2 + \Lambda_{1111} q_1 \dot{q}_1^2 + \\ &\Gamma_{1111} q_1^3 \ddot{q}_k + \Gamma_{1111} q_1^3 \end{aligned} \right] = 0 \tag{2c}$$

and the same boundary conditions as before.

As can be seen again for the set of Equations (2a) to (2b), the governing equations for the dc motor *does not depend* on the equation for q_1 . In this sense, the behavior of the variable θ (and its derivatives) is known *beforehand*.

In this work, the prescribed angular displacement is considered a harmonic function, with frequency Ω , of the type:

$$\theta = C \sin(\Omega t) = C \frac{1}{2i} \left(e^{i\Omega t} - e^{-i\Omega t} \right) \tag{3}$$

where the amplitude of excitation, C , is considered equal to 1 (Fenili et al, 2003).

Amplitude and Phase Modulation Equations

Equation (2c) is a nonlinear perturbed governing equation of motion and its analytical solution can be found by using some perturbation technique such as the multiple scale method (Nayfeh and Mook, 1979; Nayfeh, 1981; Nayfeh, 1993).

The main idea here is to eliminate all the possible conditions under which the desired analytic solution of Equation (2c) is *unbounded* in time.

The amplitude of vibration increases in time as a direct consequence of the presence of secular and small divisor terms in this solution. Several different cases can be found associated with this unbounded condition of the system solution (in other words, the system resonance's).

There is a pair of modulation equations (amplitude and phase) for each one of the critical cases and they can be studied separately.

Only the particular case $\Omega \approx \frac{1}{3} w_1$ is studied here.

The fixed-point (steady state) solutions are the wanted ones and the focus in this kind of analysis. The original governing equations (2c) are reduced to the ones that represent the system in this desired condition.

After applying the multiple scale methods to Equation (2c) and separating the resulting equation in orders of the small parameter ϵ , the elimination of terms, which yields unbounded solution, is accomplished (Fenili et al, 2003). Thus, taking the $O(0)$ solution

and substituting in the $O(\epsilon^2)$ equation and to bounded solution one has:

$$i \Delta_1 \left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial T_1} \right) + (\Delta_{2a} + i \Delta_{2b}) A + \Delta_3 A \bar{A} + (\Delta_{4a} + i \Delta_{4b}) e^{i \sigma T_1} = 0 \quad (4)$$

where:

$$\begin{aligned} B_R &= \left(\frac{\alpha_1 \Omega^2}{2(w_1^2 - \Omega^2)} \right) \\ B &= -i B_R \\ \Delta_1 &= -2 w_1 \\ \Delta_{2a} &= -\frac{\beta_{11} \Omega^2}{2} + 2\Lambda_{1111} \Omega^2 B_R^2 + 2\Lambda_{1111} w_1^2 B_R^2 + \\ &\quad - 6\Gamma_{1111} B_R^2 + \wp_{111} \Omega^2 B_R \\ \Delta_{2b} &= -\mu w_1 \\ \Delta_3 &= \Lambda_{1111} w_1^2 - 3\Gamma_{1111} \\ \Delta_{4a} &= -\frac{\lambda_{111} \Omega^2 B_R^2}{2} \\ \Delta_{4b} &= \frac{\beta_{11} \Omega^2 B_R}{4} + 2\Lambda_{1111} \Omega^2 B_R^3 - \Gamma_{1111} B_R^3 - \frac{\wp_{111} \Omega^2 B_R^2}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Writing A in Equation (4) in the polar form given by

$$A = \frac{1}{2} a e^{i\beta} \quad (5)$$

and separating the new equation in real and imaginary part, amplitude (a) and phase (β) modulation equations of the system response for the case $\Omega \approx \frac{1}{3} w_1$ (superharmonic resonance) has the form shown in Equations (6).

$$a' = \frac{\Delta_{2b}}{\Delta_1} a - \frac{2\Delta_{4a}}{\Delta_1} \text{sen}(\sigma e_1 - \beta) - \frac{2\Delta_{4b}}{\Delta_1} \text{cos}(\sigma e_1 - \beta) \quad (6a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} a\beta' &= \frac{\Delta_{2a}}{\Delta_1} a + \frac{\Delta_3}{4\Delta_1} a^3 + \frac{2\Delta_{4a}}{\Delta_1} \text{cos}(\sigma e_1 - \beta) + \\ &\quad - \frac{2\Delta_{4b}}{\Delta_1} \text{sen}(\sigma e_1 - \beta) \end{aligned} \quad (6b)$$

or, in autonomous form:

$$a' = \frac{\Delta_{2b}}{\Delta_1} a - \frac{2\Delta_{4a}}{\Delta_1} \text{sen} \gamma - \frac{2\Delta_{4b}}{\Delta_1} \text{cos} \gamma \quad (7a)$$

$$a\gamma' = \sigma a - \frac{\Delta_{2a}}{\Delta_1} a - \frac{\Delta_3}{4\Delta_1} a^3 - \frac{2\Delta_{4a}}{\Delta_1} \text{cos} \gamma + \frac{2\Delta_{4b}}{\Delta_1} \text{sen} \gamma \quad (7b)$$

where

$$\gamma = \sigma T_1 - \beta \quad (8)$$

Frequency Response Function

Squaring both sides of Equations (9a) and (9b) and adding them one obtains:

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[\frac{\Delta_3^2}{16\Delta_1^2} \right] a^6 + \left[\frac{\Delta_{2a}\Delta_3}{2\Delta_1^2} - \sigma \frac{\Delta_3}{2\Delta_1} \right] a^4 + \\ &+ \left[\sigma^2 - \sigma \frac{2\Delta_{2a}}{\Delta_1} + \frac{\Delta_{2a}^2}{\Delta_1^2} + \frac{\Delta_{2b}^2}{\Delta_1^2} \right] a^2 - \left[\frac{4(\Delta_{4a}^2 + \Delta_{4b}^2)}{\Delta_1^2} \right] = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

which represents the damped frequency response function for the case $\Omega \approx \frac{1}{3} w_1$. The parameter a in equation (10) represents the steady state amplitudes of the system response.

Some Numerical Results in the Resonant Region Around $\frac{1}{3} w_1$

Figures 2 to 4 illustrate the steady state vibration amplitudes for different values of the excitation frequency (Ω) in the neighborhood of $\frac{1}{3} w_1$.

In these figures, the broken lines represent unstable solutions and the full line represents stable steady state solutions. The stable solutions are the ones the real system will realize (maintain).

The values of the parameters used in the numerical simulations are given in Table 1.

In Figure 2, the length of the beam is varied and the frequency response curve is plotted for each one of the cases.

Figure 3 shows the influence of the beam structural damping, μ , over the amplitude of vibration of the beam in steady state.

The higher the value of this parameter the closer the behavior of the frequency response curve for the perturbed system is to the linear frequency response curve obtained by doing $\epsilon = 0$. It is evident that the damping can act in the sense of killing all the nonlinear effects on the system.

Figure 4 shows the upward jump, obtained by increasing the frequency of excitation, and the backward jump, obtained by decreasing the frequency of excitation.

The type of jump that will occur depends on the direction one goes over the curve. *This jump phenomenon is an as signature of a nonlinear system.*

Table 1. Parameter values used in the simulations(young Modulus(aluminum-beam) and density(aluminium): beam.

Parameter	Value	Unit
Beam length	1.0	m
Beam cross section	0.0008 X 0.0100	m (X m)
Young modulus	0.7 10 ¹¹	N/m
Density: beam	2700	kg/m ³
Small parameter: ϵ	2.3704 10 ⁻⁸	-

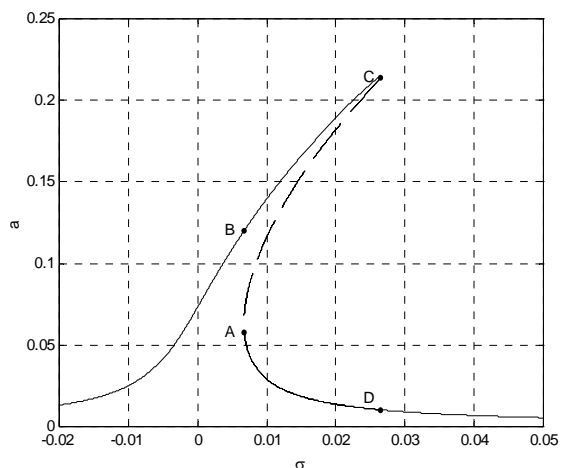


Figure 2. Frequency response curves for different values of the beam length, L. (dimensional $\mu = 0.0010 \text{ Kg/s}$).

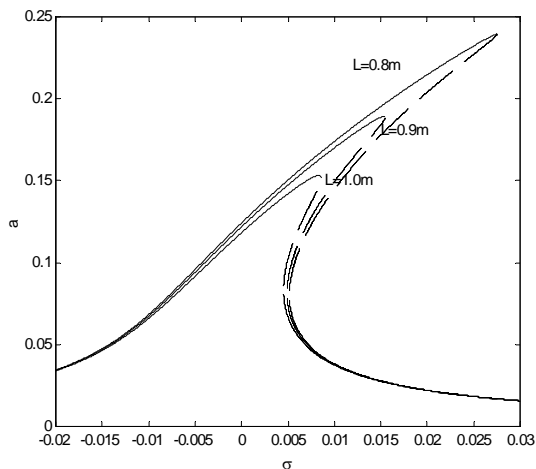


Figure 3. Frequency response curves for $\Omega \approx \frac{1}{3} w_1$ and $L=1.0 \text{ m}$. The values of μ considered here are.

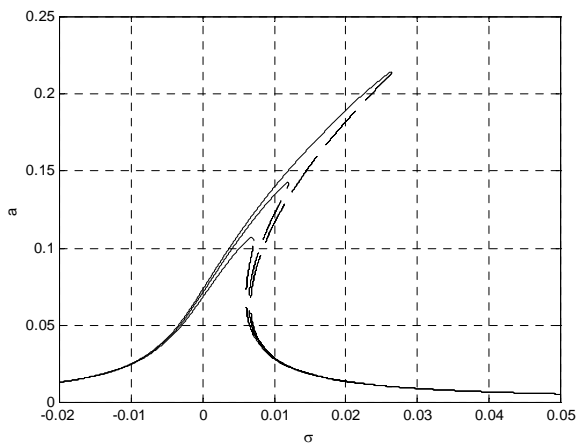


Figure 4. Backward jump (A \rightarrow B) and forward jump (C \rightarrow D) for $\mu = 0.00010 \text{ Kg/s}$.

Conclusions

The numerical simulations presented in this work discuss the dynamical behavior of a nonlinear flexible beam when clamped to the axis of a dc motor and excited near a *superharmonic resonance* by a prescribed harmonic angular displacement θ .

The influence of the structural damping of the beam over the frequency response curves is also investigated.

By increasing the value of this parameter one brings the peak of the frequency response curves to the origin of the adopted reference frame and the shape of the curve approximates the one for linear case. It was also verified that the same behavior obtained with the increasing of μ could be verified for increasing values of L, the beam length. In future works we will discuss another resonance's. This is the first work of a series of them.

An extension to another resonances will be done in next future.

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