

PRELOADED SPRING-MASS SYSTEM SUBJECTED TO BASE EXCITATION

By Tom Irvine

Email: tomirvine@aol.com

November 30, 2011

Derivation

Consider a single-degree-of-freedom system as shown in Figure 1. This is a piecewise-linear system.

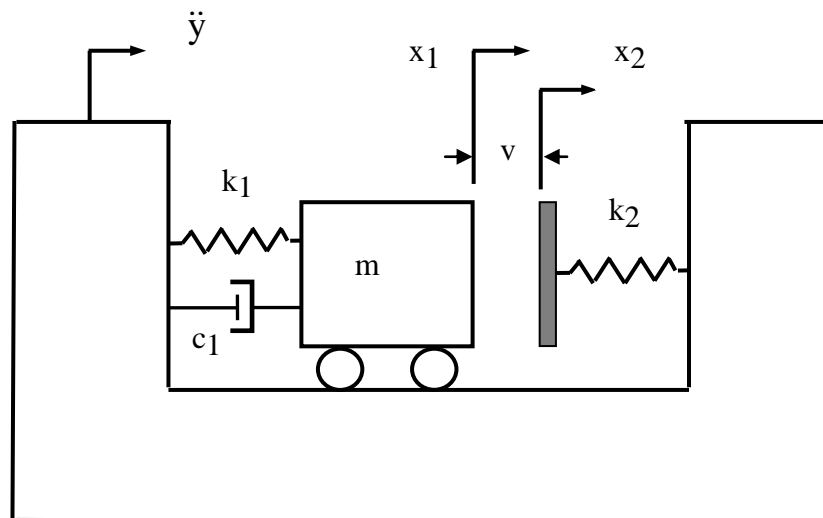


Figure 1.

The variables are

m	=	mass
c_1	=	damping coefficient
k_1, k_2	=	stiffness
\ddot{y}	=	base acceleration

The mass and bumper are initially in contact with a preload P.

The displacements x_1 and x_2 are with respect to the initial preloaded rest condition

The relative displacements are

$$z_1 = x_1 - y \quad (1)$$

$$z_2 = x_2 - y \quad (2)$$

Initially,

$$z_1(0) = z_2(0) \quad (3)$$

The undeflected bumper spring k_2 has a relative displacement

$$u = -P / k_2 \quad (4)$$

Spring-Mass System, Gap Condition

The equation of motion for the spring-mass system subjected to base excitation is

$$m\ddot{x}_1 + c_1\dot{x}_1 + k_1x_1 = c_1\dot{y} + k_1y, \quad \text{for } z_1 < u \quad (5)$$

$$m(\ddot{z}_1 + \ddot{y}) + c_1(\dot{z}_1 + \dot{y}) + k_1(z_1 + y) = c_1\ddot{y} + k_1y \quad (6)$$

$$m\ddot{z}_1 + c_1\dot{z}_1 + k_1z_1 = -m\ddot{y} \quad (7)$$

$$\ddot{z}_1 + \left(\frac{c_1}{m}\right)\dot{z}_1 + \left(\frac{k_1}{m}\right)z_1 = -\ddot{y} \quad (8)$$

Spring-Mass-Bumper System, Contact Condition

The following formula is for the case then the mass and bumper are in contact.

$$\ddot{z}_1 + \left(\frac{c_1}{m}\right)\dot{z}_1 + \left(\frac{k_1 + k_2}{m}\right)z_1 = -\ddot{y} \quad , \quad \text{for } z_1 \geq u \quad (9)$$

In this case,

$$z_2(t) = z_1(t) \quad (10)$$

Solution Method

The ordinary differential equations can then be solved in the time domain for an arbitrary base excitation using the Runge-Kutta fourth order method, or some other numerical method.

Reference

1. T. Irvine, Free Vibration of a Single-degree-of-freedom System, Revision B, Vibrationdata, 2005.

APPENDIX A

Example

The system in Figure 1 has the following parameters.

m	=	0.167 kg
c ₁	=	1.18 N s/m
k ₁	=	840 N/m
k ₂	=	50000 N/m
P	=	5 N

Note that the spring-mass system has 5% damping in the gap condition.

The system is subjected to a 40 G, 11 msec terminal sawtooth pulse.

The results are calculated using the formulas in the main text using Matlab script: `spring_mass_preloaded_base.m`.

The displacement and velocity are shown in Figures A-1 and A-2, respectively.

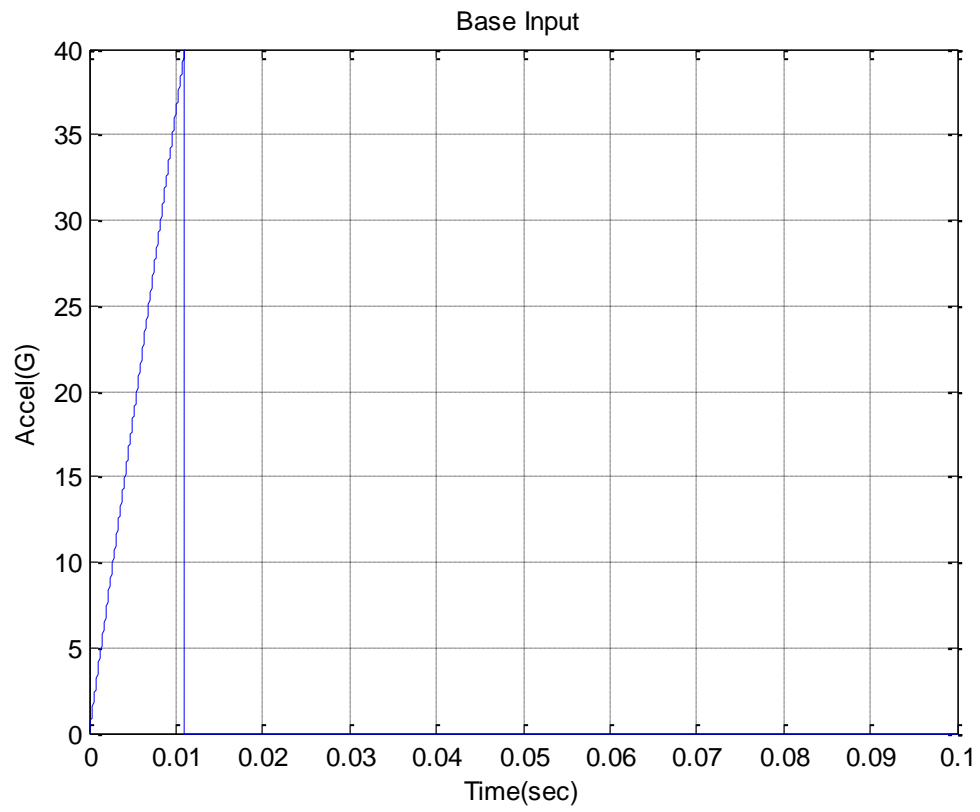


Figure A-1.

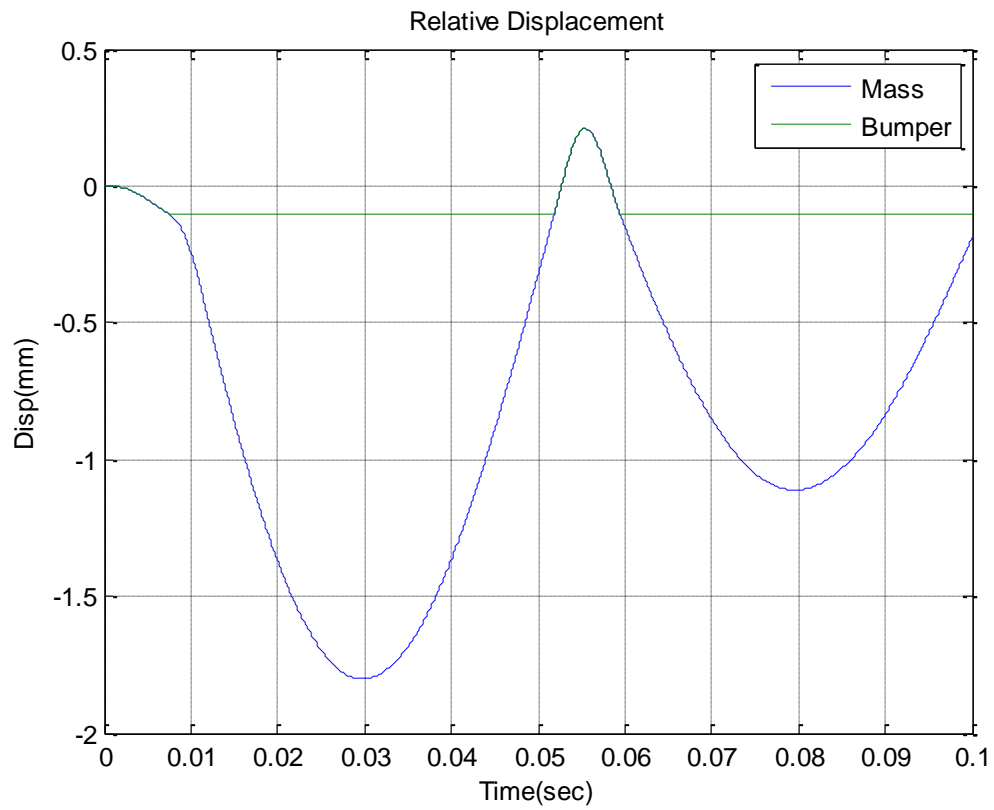


Figure A-2.

The initial deflection of spring 2 = - 0.1 mm.

The mass and bumper are in contact when the curves coincide.

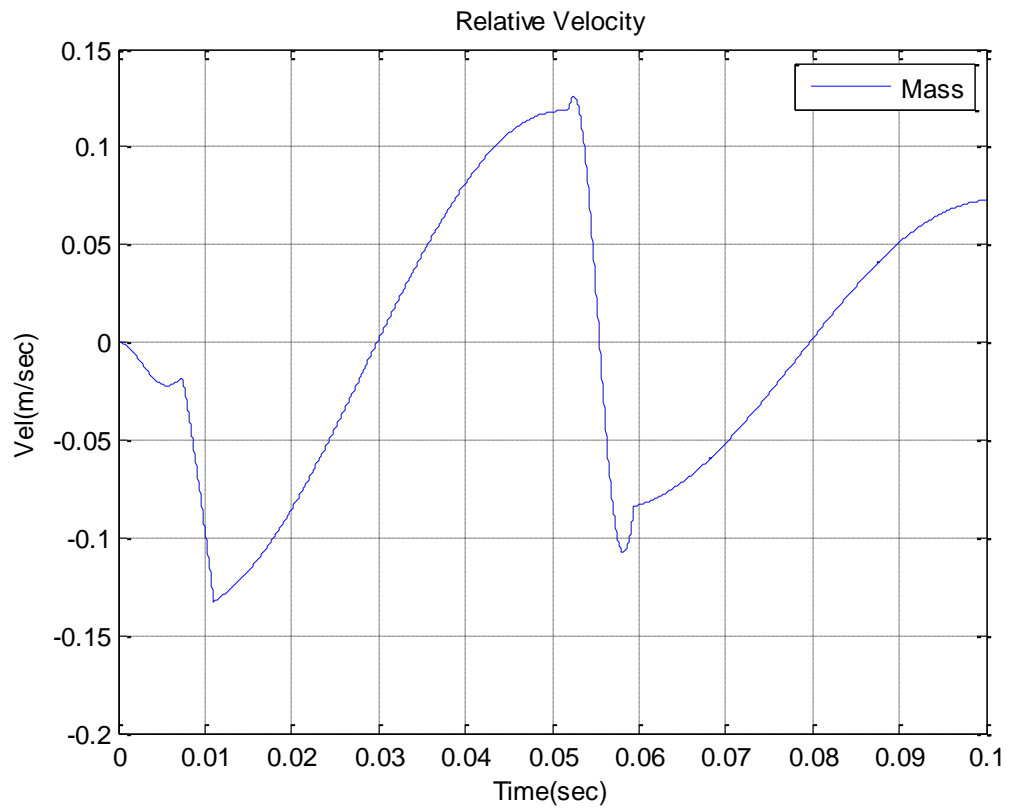


Figure A-3.

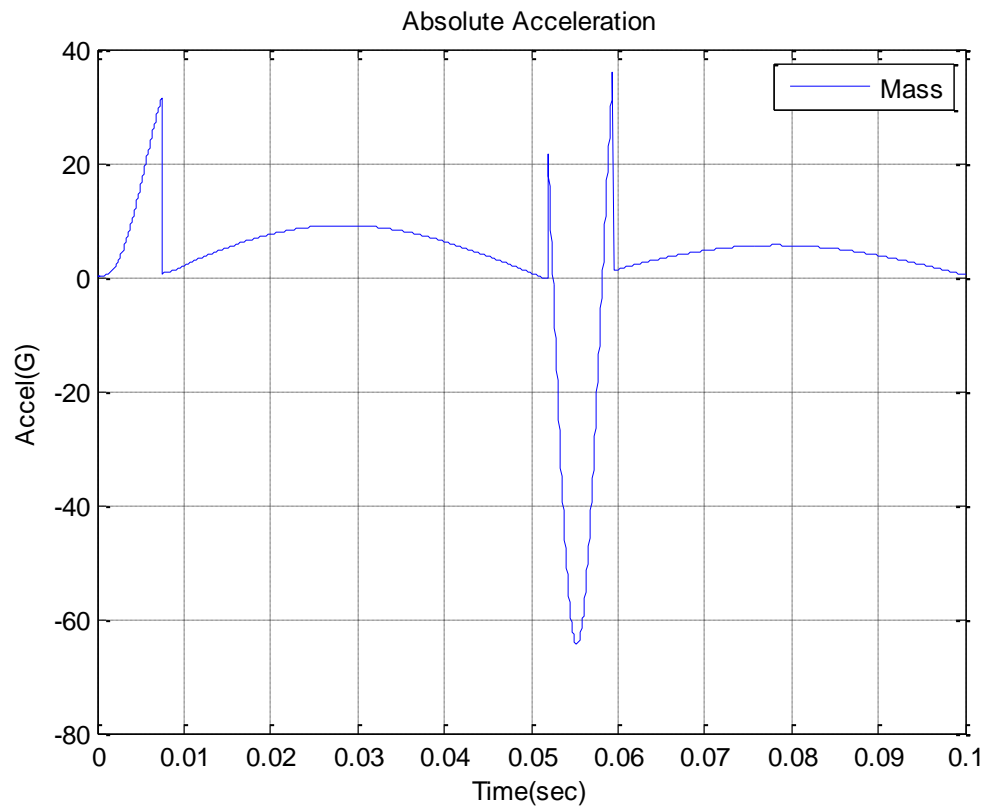


Figure A-4.

The re-contact shock pulse occurs between 0.05 and 0.06 seconds.