

## SPRING SURGE NATURAL FREQUENCIES

By Tom Irvine  
Email: tomirvine@aol.com

February 6, 2007

---

Assume that the spring is “massive.”

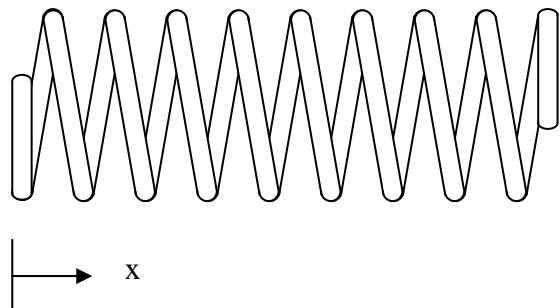
$k$  = spring stiffness

$L$  = undeformed spring length

$m$  = spring’s mass per unit length

$M$  = mass mounted on the end of the spring

### Free-Free

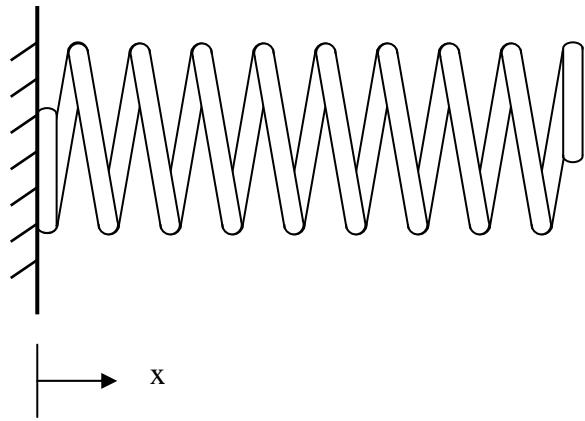


$$f_n = \frac{\lambda_n}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{k}{mL}} , \quad \lambda_n = n\pi, \quad n = 1, 2, 3\dots$$

### Mode Shape

$$\cos(n\pi x / L) , \quad n = 1, 2, 3\dots$$

## Fixed-Free

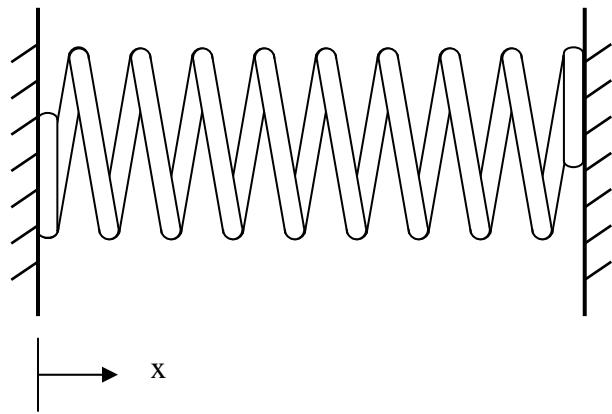


$$f_n = \frac{\lambda_n}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{k}{mL}} , \quad \lambda_n = \left[ \frac{2n-1}{2} \right] \pi, \quad n = 1, 2, 3 \dots$$

Mode Shape

$$\sin \left( (2n-1) \frac{\pi x}{2L} \right), \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

## Fixed-Fixed



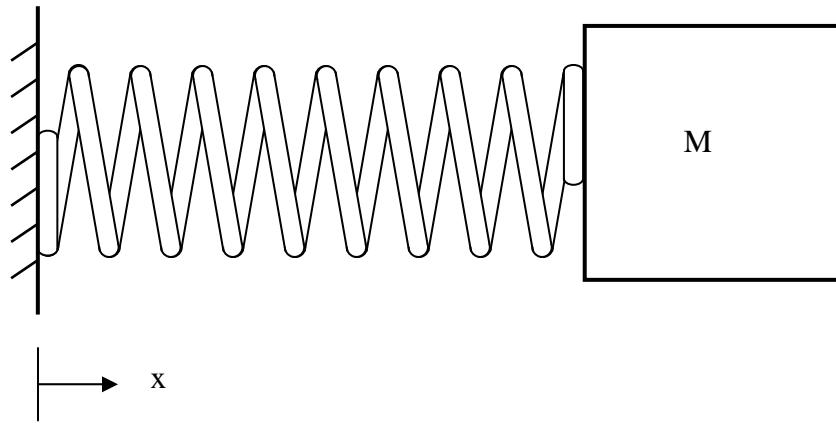
$$f_n = \frac{\lambda_n}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{k}{mL}} , \quad \lambda_n = n\pi, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Mode Shape

$$\sin(n\pi x / L) , \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Note that the Fixed-Fixed and Free-Free cases have the same natural frequency equation.

## Fixed-Mass

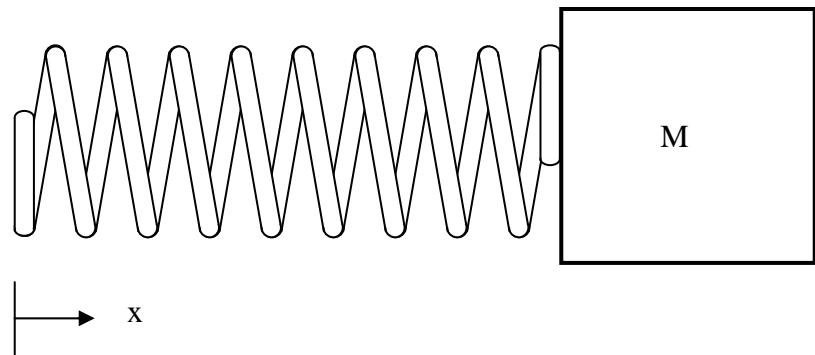


$$f_n = \frac{\lambda_n}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{k}{mL}} , \quad \cot(\lambda_n) = \left[ \frac{M}{mL} \right] \lambda_n , \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Mode Shape

$$\sin(\lambda_n x / L) , \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

## Free-Mass



$$f_n = \frac{\lambda_n}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{k}{mL}} , \quad \tan(\lambda_n) = - \left[ \frac{M}{mL} \right] \lambda_n , \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

## Mode Shape

$$\sin(\lambda_n x / L) , \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

## Reference

1. R. Blevins, Formulas for Natural Frequency and Mode Shapes, R. Krieger, Malabar, Florida, 1979.