

STEADY-STATE VIBRATION RESPONSE OF A SIMPLY-SUPPORTED BEAM  
SUBJECTED TO AN APPLIED FORCE WITH SPATIAL VARIATION

Revision F

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The simply-supported beam in Figure 1 is subjected to an applied force with spatial variation.

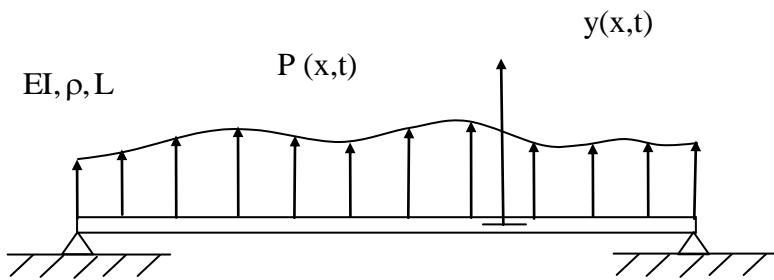


Figure 1.

The following equations are taken from References 1 and 2.

The governing differential equation is

$$EI \frac{\partial^4 y}{\partial x^4} + \rho \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = P(x, t) \quad (1)$$

where

- E is the modulus of elasticity
- I is the area moment of inertia
- L is the length
- $\rho$  is the mass density (mass/length)
- P is the applied force per length

Assume that the pressure field can be represented as

$$P(x, t) = \hat{P}(x)f(t) \quad (2)$$

where  $\hat{P}(x)$  is dimensionless

Assume that the displacement field can be represented as

$$y(x, t) = Y(x)T(t) \quad (3)$$

$$EI \frac{\partial^4}{\partial x^4} Y(x)T(t) + \rho \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} Y(x)T(t) = \hat{P}(x)f(t) \quad (4)$$

$$EI \frac{d^4}{dx^4} Y(x)T(t) + \rho Y(x)\ddot{T}(t) = \hat{P}(x)f(t) \quad (5)$$

The homogeneous equation is

$$EI \frac{d^4}{dx^4} Y(x)T(t) + \rho Y(x)\ddot{T}(t) = 0 \quad (6)$$

$$\rho Y(x)\ddot{T}(t) = -EI \frac{d^4}{dx^4} Y(x)T(t) \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{\ddot{T}(t)}{T(t)} = -\frac{EI}{\rho Y(x)} \frac{d^4}{dx^4} Y(x) = -c^2 \quad (8)$$

Thus

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} T(t) + c^2 T(t) = 0 \quad (9)$$

$$\left\{ \frac{-EI}{\rho} \right\} \frac{\left\{ \frac{d^4}{dx^4} Y(x) \right\}}{Y(x)} = -c^2 \quad (10)$$

$$\frac{d^4}{dx^4} Y(x) - c^2 \left\{ \frac{\rho}{EI} \right\} Y(x) = 0 \quad (11)$$

A solution for equation (11) is

$$Y(x) = a_1 \sinh(\beta x) + a_2 \cosh(\beta x) + a_3 \sin(\beta x) + a_4 \cos(\beta x) \quad (12)$$

Intermediate steps are given in Reference 1.

The natural frequency term  $\omega_n$  is

$$\omega_n = \beta_n^2 \sqrt{\frac{EI}{\rho}} \quad (13)$$

$$\beta_n = \left[ \frac{n\pi}{L} \right] \quad (14)$$

The natural frequency is

$$\omega_n = \left[ \frac{n\pi}{L} \right]^2 \sqrt{\frac{EI}{\rho}}, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (15)$$

$$f_n = \left[ \frac{1}{2\pi} \right] \left[ \frac{n\pi}{L} \right]^2 \sqrt{\frac{EI}{\rho}}, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (16)$$

The mass-normalized mode shapes are

$$Y_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\rho L}} \sin(n\pi x/L) \quad (17)$$

$$Y_n'(x) = \left( \frac{n\pi}{L} \right) \sqrt{\frac{2}{\rho L}} \cos(n\pi x/L) \quad (18)$$

$$Y_n''(x) = -\left( \frac{n\pi}{L} \right)^2 \sqrt{\frac{2}{\rho L}} \sin(n\pi x/L) \quad (19)$$

Recall

$$EI \frac{\partial^4}{\partial x^4} y(x, t) + \rho \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} y(x, t) = \hat{P}(x)f(t) \quad (20)$$

Let

$$y(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n(x) T_n(t) \quad (21)$$

$$EI \frac{\partial^4}{\partial x^4} \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n(x) T_n(t) \right] + \rho \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n(x) T_n(t) \right] = \hat{P}(x)f(t) \quad (22)$$

$$EI \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T_n(t) \frac{\partial^4}{\partial x^4} Y_n(x) \right] + \rho \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n(x) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} T_n(t) \right] = \hat{P}(x)f(t) \quad (23)$$

$$EI \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T_n(t) \frac{d^4}{dx^4} Y_n(x) \right] + \rho \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n(x) \frac{d^2}{dt^2} T_n(t) \right] = \hat{P}(x)f(t) \quad (24)$$

Note that

$$\frac{d^4}{dx^4} Y_n(x) = \beta_n^4 Y_n(x) \quad (25)$$

By substitution,

$$EI \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \beta_n^4 T_n(t) Y_n(x) \right] + \rho \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n(x) \frac{d^2}{dt^2} T_n(t) \right] = \hat{P}(x)f(t) \quad (26)$$

$$EI \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \beta_n^4 T_n(t) Y_n(x) \right] + \rho \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n(x) \frac{d^2}{dt^2} T_n(t) \right] = -\hat{P}(x)f(t) \quad (27)$$

Multiply each term by  $Y_p(x)$ .

$$EI \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \beta_n^4 T_n(t) Y_n(x) Y_p(x) \right] + \rho \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n(x) Y_p(x) \frac{d^2}{dt^2} T_n(t) \right] = Y_p(x) \hat{P}(x) f(t) \quad (28)$$

Integrate with respect to length.

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_0^L \left\{ EI \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \beta_n^4 T_n(t) Y_n(x) Y_p(x) \right] + \rho \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n(x) Y_p(x) \frac{d^2}{dt^2} T_n(t) \right] \right\} dx \\
& = \int_0^L Y_p(x) \hat{P}(x) f(t) dx
\end{aligned} \tag{29}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& EI \int_0^L \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \beta_n^4 T_n(t) Y_n(x) Y_p(x) \right] dx + \rho \int_0^L \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n(x) Y_p(x) \frac{d^2}{dt^2} T_n(t) \right] dx \\
& = f(t) \int_0^L Y_p(x) \hat{P}(x) dx
\end{aligned} \tag{30}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& EI \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \beta_n^4 T_n(t) \int_0^L Y_n(x) Y_p(x) dx \right\} + \rho \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \frac{d^2}{dt^2} T_n(t) \int_0^L Y_n(x) Y_p(x) dx \right\} \\
& = f(t) \int_0^L Y_p(x) \hat{P}(x) dx
\end{aligned} \tag{31}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{EI}{\rho} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \beta_n^4 T_n(t) \int_0^L \rho Y_n(x) Y_p(x) dx \right\} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \frac{d^2}{dt^2} T_n(t) \int_0^L \rho Y_n(x) Y_p(x) dx \right\} \\
& = f(t) \int_0^L Y_p(x) \hat{P}(x) dx
\end{aligned} \tag{32}$$

The eigenvectors are orthogonal such that

$$\int_0^L \rho Y_n(x) Y_p(x) dx = 0 \quad \text{for } n \neq p \tag{33}$$

$$\int_0^L \rho Y_n(x) Y_p(x) dx = 1 \quad \text{for } n = p \tag{34}$$

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2}T_n(t) + \frac{EI\beta_n^4}{\rho}T_n(t) = f(t) \int_0^L Y_n(x)\hat{P}(x)dx \quad (35)$$

$$\omega_n = \beta_n^2 \sqrt{\frac{EI}{\rho}} \quad (36)$$

$$\omega_n^2 = \frac{EI}{\rho} \beta_n^4 \quad (37)$$

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2}T_n(t) + \omega_n^2 T_n(t) = f(t) \int_0^L Y_n(x)\hat{P}(x)dx \quad (38)$$

Add a damping term.

$$\ddot{T}_n(t) + 2\xi_n\omega_n\dot{T}_n(t) + \omega_n^2 T_n(t) = f(t) \int_0^L Y_n(x)\hat{P}(x)dx \quad (39)$$

### Steady-State Solution

Take a Fourier transform of both sides of (39).

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left\{ \ddot{T}_n(t) + 2\xi_n\omega_n\dot{T}_n(t) + \omega_n^2 T_n(t) \right\} \exp(-j\omega t) dt = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \int_0^L Y_n(x)\hat{P}(x)dx dt \quad (40)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \ddot{T}_n(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt + 2\xi_n\omega_n \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dot{T}_n(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt + \omega_n^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} T_n(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt \\ = \left\{ \int_0^L Y_n(x)\hat{P}(x)dx \right\} \left\{ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

Note that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dot{T}_n(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt = j\omega \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} T_n(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt \quad (42)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \ddot{T}_n(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt = -\omega^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} T_n(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt \quad (43)$$

$$\begin{aligned} -\omega^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} T_n(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt + j2\xi_n \omega_n \omega \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} T_n(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt + \omega_n^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} T_n(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt \\ = \left\{ \int_0^L Y_n(x) \hat{P}(x) dx \right\} \left\{ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ (\omega_n^2 - \omega^2) + j2\xi_n \omega_n \omega \right] \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} T_n(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt = \left\{ \int_0^L Y_n(x) \hat{P}(x) dx \right\} \left\{ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

$$\hat{T}_n(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} T_n(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt \quad (46)$$

$$F(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \exp(-j\omega t) dt \quad (47)$$

$$\left[ (\omega_n^2 - \omega^2) + j2\xi_n \omega_n \omega \right] \hat{T}_n(\omega) = \left\{ \int_0^L Y_n(x) \hat{P}(x) dx \right\} F(\omega) \quad (48)$$

$$\hat{T}_n(\omega) = F(\omega) \frac{\int_0^L Y_n(x) \hat{P}(x) dx}{(\omega_n^2 - \omega^2) + j2\xi_n\omega_n\omega} \quad (49)$$

$$Y(x, \omega) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Y_n(x) \hat{T}_n(\omega) \quad (50)$$

The Fourier transform of the displacement is

$$Y(x, \omega) = F(\omega) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{Y_n(x) \int_0^L Y_n(x) \hat{P}(x) dx}{(\omega_n^2 - \omega^2) + j2\xi_n\omega_n\omega} \quad (51)$$

The frequency response function relating the displacement to the distributed force is

$$\frac{Y(x, \omega)}{F(\omega)} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{Y_n(x) \int_0^L Y_n(x) \hat{P}(x) dx}{(\omega_n^2 - \omega^2) + j2\xi_n\omega_n\omega} \quad (52)$$

The bending moment transfer function is

$$\frac{M(x, \omega)}{F(\omega)} = \frac{EI \cdot Y''(x, \omega)}{F(\omega)} = \frac{EI}{\rho} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \frac{\Gamma_n Y_n''(x)}{(\omega_n^2 - \omega^2) + j2\xi_n\omega\omega_n} \right\} \quad (53)$$

The bending stress transfer function is

$$\frac{\sigma(x, \omega)}{F(\omega)} = \left( \frac{c}{I} \right) \frac{M(x, \omega)}{F(\omega)} \quad (54)$$

where  $c$  is the distance from the neutral axis

## References

1. T. Irvine, Bending Frequencies of Beams, Rod, and Pipes, Revision P, Vibrationdata, 2011.
2. T. Irvine, Steady-State Vibration Response of a Cantilever Beam Subjected to Base Excitation, Rev A, Vibrationdata, 2009.

## APPENDIX A

### Special Case

$$\frac{Y(x, \omega)}{F(\omega)} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{Y_n(x) \int_0^L Y_n(x) \hat{P}(x) dx}{\left(\omega_n^2 - \omega^2\right) + j 2 \xi_n \omega_n \omega} \quad (A-1)$$

$$Y_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\rho L}} \sin(n\pi x/L) \quad (A-2)$$

$$\frac{Y(x, \omega)}{F(\omega)} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{\frac{2}{\rho L}} \sin(n\pi x/L) \int_0^L \sqrt{\frac{2}{\rho L}} \sin(n\pi x/L) \hat{P}(x) dx}{\left(\omega_n^2 - \omega^2\right) + j 2 \xi_n \omega_n \omega} \quad (A-3)$$

$$\frac{Y(x, \omega)}{F(\omega)} = \frac{2}{\rho L} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(n\pi x/L) \int_0^L \sin(n\pi x/L) \hat{P}(x) dx}{\left(\omega_n^2 - \omega^2\right) + j 2 \xi_n \omega_n \omega} \quad (A-4)$$

Now assume that

$$\hat{P}(x) = \sin(\pi x/L) \quad (A-5)$$

$$\frac{Y(x, \omega)}{F(\omega)} = \frac{2}{\rho L} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(n\pi x/L) \int_0^L \sin(n\pi x/L) \sin(\pi x/L) dx}{\left(\omega_n^2 - \omega^2\right) + j 2 \xi_n \omega_n \omega} \quad (A-6)$$

For  $n = 1$ ,

$$\int_0^L [\sin(\pi x/L)]^2 dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L [1 - \cos(2\pi x/L)] dx \quad (A-7)$$

$$\int_0^L [\sin(\pi x/L)]^2 dx = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ x - \left( \frac{2\pi}{L} \right) \sin\left( \frac{2\pi x}{L} \right) \right\} \Big|_0^L \quad (A-8)$$

$$\int_0^L [\sin(\pi x/L)]^2 dx = L/2 \quad (A-9)$$

For  $n = 2, 3, 4, \dots$

$$\int_0^L \sin(n\pi x/L) \sin(\pi x/L) dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L [-\cos((n+1)\pi x/L) + \cos((n-1)\pi x/L)] dx \quad (A-10)$$

$$\int_0^L \sin(n\pi x/L) \sin(\pi x/L) dx = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ -\frac{L}{(n+1)\pi} \sin((n+1)\pi x/L) + \frac{L}{(n-1)\pi} \sin((n-1)\pi x/L) \right\} \Big|_0^L \quad (A-11)$$

$$\int_0^L \sin(n\pi x/L) \sin(\pi x/L) dx = 0 \quad (A-12)$$

In summary,

$$\int_0^L \sin(n\pi x/L) \sin(\pi x/L) dx = \begin{cases} L/2, & \text{for } n = 1 \\ 0, & \text{for } n = 2, 3, 4, \dots \end{cases} \quad (A-13)$$

The transfer function is

$$\frac{Y(x, \omega)}{F(\omega)} = \frac{2}{\rho L} \frac{\left(\frac{L}{2}\right) \sin(\pi x / L)}{\left(\omega_1^2 - \omega^2\right) + j 2 \xi_1 \omega_1 \omega} \quad (A-14)$$

$$\frac{Y(x, \omega)}{F(\omega)} = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\sin(\pi x / L)}{\left(\omega_1^2 - \omega^2\right) + j 2 \xi_1 \omega_1 \omega} \quad (A-15)$$

$$\omega_1 = \left[ \frac{\pi}{L} \right]^2 \sqrt{\frac{EI}{\rho}} \quad (A-16)$$

$$\frac{M(x, \omega)}{F(\omega)} = \frac{EI Y''(x, \omega)}{F(\omega)} = - \left( \frac{\pi}{L} \right)^2 \left( \frac{EI}{\rho} \right) \frac{\sin(\pi x / L)}{\left(\omega_1^2 - \omega^2\right) + j 2 \xi_1 \omega_1 \omega} \quad (A-17)$$

## APPENDIX B

### Example

Consider a beam with the following properties:

Cross-Section	Rectangular		
Boundary Conditions	Simply Supported at Each End		
Material	Aluminum		

Thickness	T	=	0.125 inch
Width	W	=	1.0 inch
Length	L	=	27.5 inch
Cross-Section Area	A	=	0.125 in^2
Area Moment of Inertia	I	=	0.000163 in^4
Elastic Modulus	E	=	10E+06 lbf/in^2
Stiffness	EI	=	1.042E+05 lbf/in^2
Mass per Volume	$\rho_v$	=	0.1 lbm / in^3 ( 0.000259 lbf sec^2/in^4 )
Mass per Length	$\rho$	=	0.0125 lbm / in ( 0.00003237 lbf sec^2/in^4 )
Mass	$\rho L$	=	0.3438 lbm ( 0.0008906 lbf sec^2/in )
Viscous Damping Ratio	$\xi$	=	0.05

The normal modes and frequency response function analysis are performed via a Matlab script.

The normal modes results are:

Table B-1. Natural Frequency Results, Beam Simply-Supported at Each End		
Mode	fn (Hz)	Participation Factor
1	14.7	0.02687
2	58.9	0
3	132.5	0.008956
4	235.6	0
5	368.1	0.005373
6	530.1	0

Note that the mode shape and participation factors are considered as dimensionless, but they must be consistent with respect to one another.

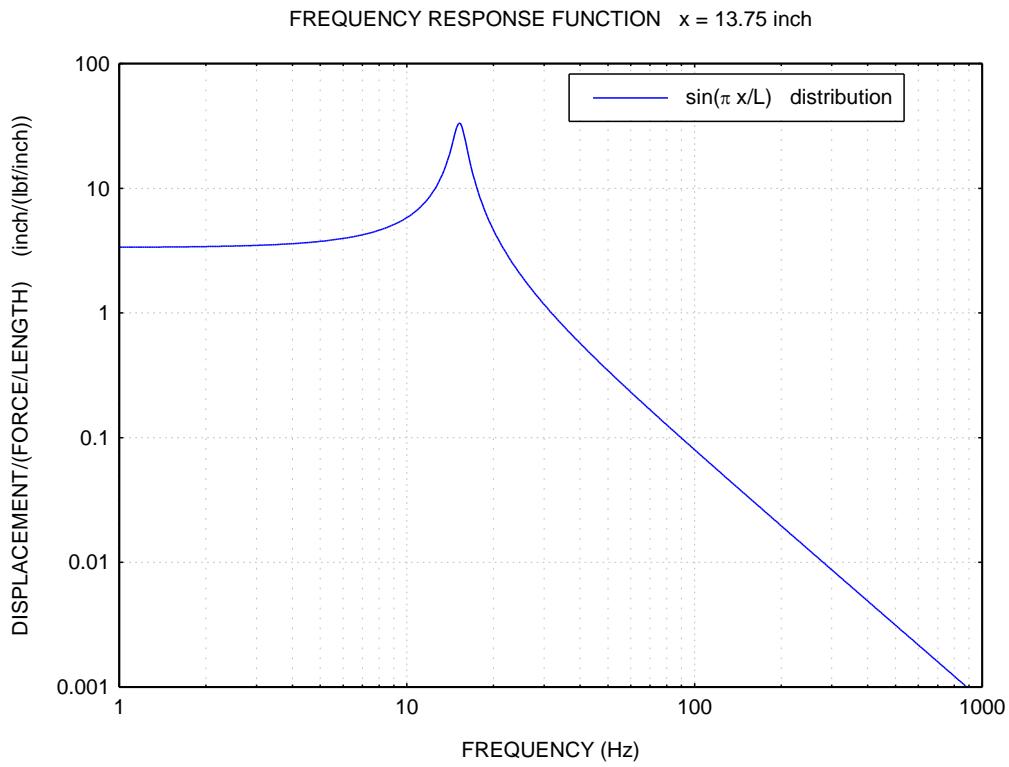


Figure B-1.

Now consider that the pressure field has the spatial distribution:

$$\hat{P}(x) = \sin(\pi x / L) \quad (B-1)$$

The resulting transfer function magnitude is shown in Figure B-1.

The maximum displacement response is: 33.35 [in/(lbf/in)] at 15.32 Hz

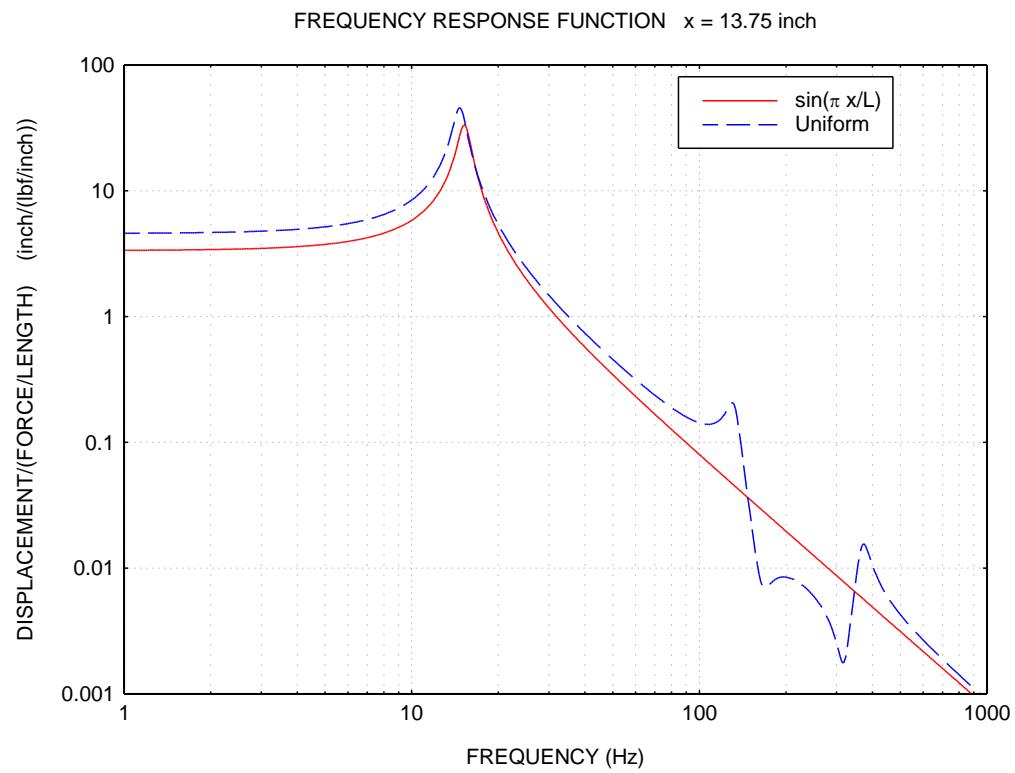


Figure B-2.

The displacement frequency response functions for two pressure distributions are shown in Figure B-2.

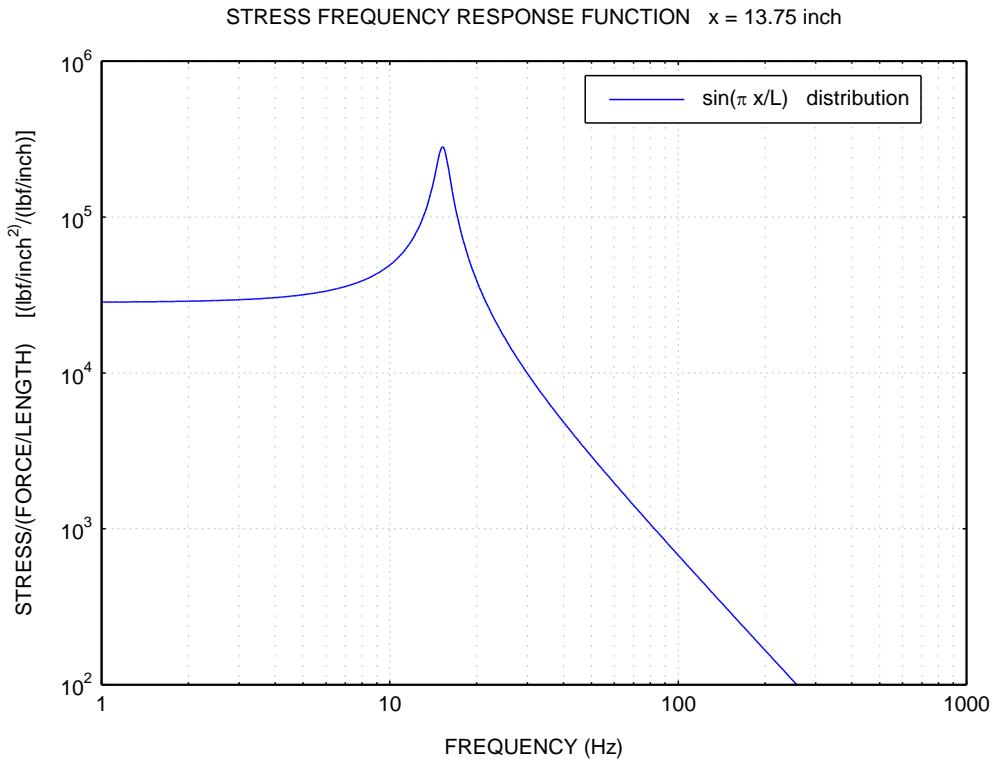


Figure B-3.

The maximum stress response is: 2.822e+05  $[(\text{lbf/in}^2) / (\text{lbf/in})]$  at 15.32 Hz