## A Digital Recursive Filtering Method for Calculating the Applied Force for a Measured Response Acceleration

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March 29, 2012

#### Introduction

Consider a single-degree-of-freedom (SDOF) system subjected to an applied force, as shown in Figure 1.

There are certain cases where the response of a system is known, but applied force is unknown. Note that response acceleration is usually easier to measure than applied force. The corresponding force can be calculated via a deconvolution process in the form of a digital recursive filtering relationship.

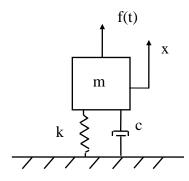


Figure 1.

The variables are

- m is the mass
- c is the viscous damping coefficient
- k is the stiffness
- x is the absolute displacement of the mass
- f(t) is the applied force

Note that the double-dot denotes acceleration.

The free-body diagram is

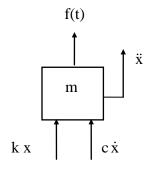


Figure 2.

Summation of forces in the vertical direction

$$\sum \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{m}\ddot{\mathbf{x}} \tag{1}$$

$$m\ddot{x} = -c\dot{x} - kx + f(t) \tag{2}$$

$$m\ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = f(t) \tag{3}$$

Divide through by m,

$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} + \left(\frac{\mathbf{c}}{\mathbf{m}}\right)\dot{\mathbf{x}} + \left(\frac{\mathbf{k}}{\mathbf{m}}\right)\mathbf{x} = \left(\frac{1}{\mathbf{m}}\right)\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{t}) \tag{4}$$

By convention,

 $(c/m) = 2\xi\omega_n \tag{5}$ 

$$(k/m) = \omega_n^2 \tag{6}$$

where

 $\omega_n$  is the natural frequency in (radians/sec)

 $\xi$  is the damping ratio.

By substitution,

$$\ddot{\mathbf{x}} + 2\xi\omega_{n}\dot{\mathbf{x}} + \omega_{n}^{2}\mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{m}\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{t})$$
<sup>(7)</sup>

Equation (7) does not have a closed-form solution for the general case in which f(t) is an arbitrary function. A convolution integral approach must be used to solve the equation.

#### **Absolute Acceleration**

The acceleration response for a unit impulse from Reference 1 is

$$\ddot{y}(t) = \frac{1}{m} \left\{ \delta(t) + \exp\left(-\xi\omega_n t\right) \left[ -2\xi\omega_n \cos(\omega_d t) + \frac{\omega_n^2}{\omega_d} \left[ (2\xi)^2 - 1 \right] \sin(\omega_d t) \right] \right\}$$
(8)

The corresponding Laplace transform for  $H_a(s)$  (acceleration/force) is

$$H_{a}(s) = \frac{1}{m} \left[ \frac{s^{2}}{s^{2} + 2\xi \omega_{n} s + \omega_{n}^{2}} \right]$$
(9)

The corresponding Laplace transform for H<sub>i</sub>(s) (force/acceleration) is

$$H_{i}(s) = m \left[ \frac{s^{2} + 2\xi \omega_{n} s + \omega_{n}^{2}}{s^{2}} \right]$$
(10)

The Z-transform is found using the bilinear transform.

$$s = \frac{2}{T} \frac{z - 1}{z + 1}$$
(11)

$$H_{i}(z) = m \left[ \frac{\left[\frac{2}{T} \frac{z-1}{z+1}\right]^{2} + 2\xi \omega_{n} \left[\frac{2}{T} \frac{z-1}{z+1}\right] + \omega_{n}^{2}}{\left[\frac{2}{T} \frac{z-1}{z+1}\right]^{2}} \right]$$
(12)

$$H_{i}(z) = m \left[ \frac{\left[\frac{2}{T}z - 1\right]^{2} + 2\xi\omega_{n}\left[\frac{2}{T}z - 1\right][z + 1] + \omega_{n}^{2}[z + 1]^{2}}{\left[\frac{2}{T}z - 1\right]^{2}} \right]$$
(13)

$$H_{i}(z) = m \left[ \frac{4 \left[ \frac{1}{T} z - 1 \right]^{2} + 4 \xi \omega_{n} \left[ \frac{1}{T} z - 1 \right] [z + 1] + \omega_{n}^{2} [z + 1]^{2}}{4 \left[ \frac{1}{T} z - 1 \right]^{2}} \right]$$
(14)

$$H_{i}(z) = m \left[ \frac{4[z-1]^{2} + 4\xi \omega_{n} T[z-1][z+1] + \omega_{n}^{2} T^{2}[z+1]^{2}}{4[z-1]^{2}} \right]$$
(15)

$$H_{i}(z) = m \left[ \frac{4(z^{2} - 2z + 1) + 4\xi \omega_{n} T(z^{2} - 1) + \omega_{n}^{2} T^{2}(z^{2} + 2z + 1)}{4(z^{2} - 2z + 1)} \right]$$
(16)

$$H_{i}(z) = m \left[ \frac{4z^{2} - 8z + 4 + 4\xi\omega_{n}Tz^{2} - 4\xi\omega_{n}T + \omega_{n}^{2}T^{2}z^{2} + 2\omega_{n}^{2}T^{2}z + \omega_{n}^{2}T^{2}}{4z^{2} - 8z + 4} \right]$$
(17)

$$H_{i}(z) = m \left[ \frac{\left( 4 + 4\xi \omega_{n} T + \omega_{n}^{2} T^{2} \right) z^{2} + \left( -8 + 2\omega_{n}^{2} T^{2} \right) z + 4 - 4\xi \omega_{n} T + \omega_{n}^{2} T^{2}}{4z^{2} - 8z + 4} \right]$$
(18)

$$H_{i}(z) = m \left[ \frac{\left( 4 + 4\xi \omega_{n} T + \omega_{n}^{2} T^{2} \right) z^{2} + 2\left( -4 + \omega_{n}^{2} T^{2} \right) z + 4 - 4\xi \omega_{n} T + \omega_{n}^{2} T^{2}}{4z^{2} - 8z + 4} \right]$$
(19)

Solve for the filter coefficients using the method in Reference 1.

$$\frac{c_0 z^2 + c_1 z + c_2}{z^2 + a_1 z + a_2} = m \left[ \frac{\left( 4 + 4\xi \omega_n T + \omega_n^2 T^2 \right) z^2 + 2\left( -4 + \omega_n^2 T^2 \right) z + 4 - 4\xi \omega_n T + \omega_n^2 T^2}{4z^2 - 8z + 4} \right]$$
(20)

$$\frac{c_0 z^2 + c_1 z + c_2}{z^2 + a_1 z + a_2} = \frac{m}{4} \left[ \frac{\left( 4 + 4\xi \omega_n T + \omega_n^2 T^2 \right) z^2 + 2\left( -4 + \omega_n^2 T^2 \right) z + 4 - 4\xi \omega_n T + \omega_n^2 T^2}{z^2 - 2z + 1} \right]$$

Solve for a<sub>1</sub>.

 $a_1 = -2$  (22)

Solve for a<sub>2</sub>.

$$a_2 = 1$$
 (23)

Solve for  $c_0$ .

$$c_{0} = \frac{m}{4} \left( 4 + 4\xi \omega_{n} T + \omega_{n}^{2} T^{2} \right)$$
(24)

Solve for  $c_1$ .

$$c_{1} = \frac{m}{2} \left( -4 + \omega_{n}^{2} T^{2} \right)$$
(25)

Solve for  $c_2$ .

$$c_2 = \frac{m}{4} \left( 4 - 4\xi \omega_n T + \omega_n^2 T^2 \right)$$
(26)

The digital recursive filtering relationship is

$$f_{i} = -a_{1} f_{i-1} - a_{2} f_{i-2} + c_{0} \ddot{x}_{i} + c_{1} \ddot{x}_{i-1} + c_{2} \ddot{x}_{i-2}$$
(27)

The digital recursive filtering relationship is

$$f_{i} = +2f_{i-1} - f_{i-2} + \frac{m}{4} \left( 4 + 4\xi \omega_{n} T + \omega_{n}^{2} T^{2} \right) \ddot{x}_{i} + \frac{m}{2} \left( -4 + \omega_{n}^{2} T^{2} \right) \ddot{x}_{i-1} + \frac{m}{4} \left( 4 - 4\xi \omega_{n} T + \omega_{n}^{2} \right) \ddot{x}_{i-2}$$
(28)

**References** 

- 1. T. Irvine, The Time-Domain Response of a Single-degree-of-freedom System Subjected to an Impulse Force, Revision B, Vibrationdata, 2012.
- 2. T. Irvine, An Introduction to the Shock Response Spectrum, Revision R, Vibrationdata, 2010.
- 3. T. Irvine, Modal Transient Analysis of a System Subjected to an Applied Force via a Ramp Invariant Digital Recursive Filtering Relationship, Revision J, Vibrationdata, 2012

### APPENDIX A

# Example

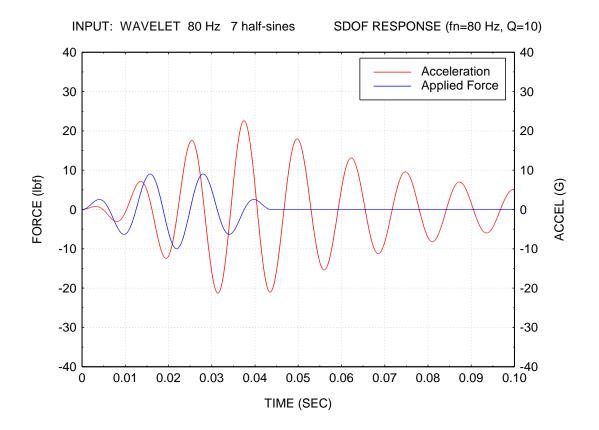


Figure A-1.

An SDOF system is subjected to an applied force in the form of a wavelet pulse. Both the input and response are shown in Figure A-1.

The response is calculated via Reference 3.

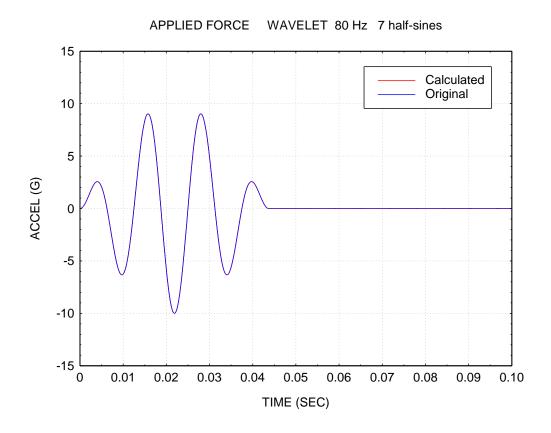


Figure A-2.

The Original and Calculated Applied Force curves are nearly identical.

The calculation was performed via equation (28) given the response in Figure A-1.