

# THE STEADY-STATE RESPONSE OF A TWO-DEGREE-OF-FREEDOM-SYSTEM TO A SINGLE HARMONIC FORCE

By Tom Irvine

Email: tomirvine@aol.com

May 23, 2011

---

## Two-degree-of-freedom System

The method of generalized coordinates is demonstrated by an example. Consider the system in Figure 1.

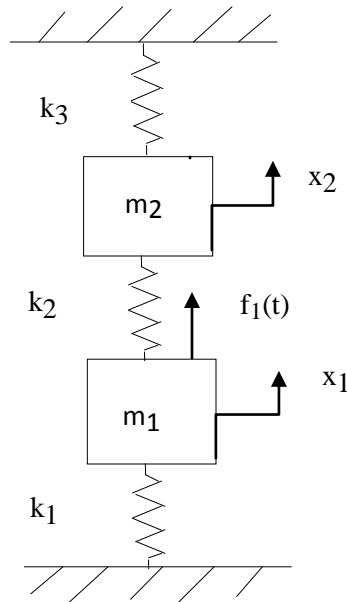


Figure 1.

A free-body diagram of mass 1 is given in Figure 2. A free-body diagram of mass 2 is given in Figure 3.

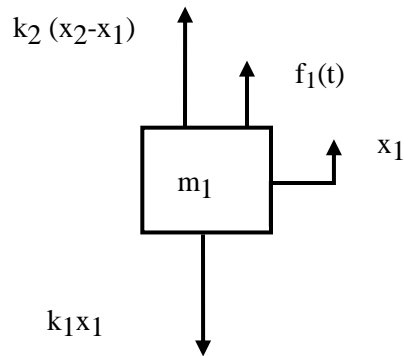


Figure 2.

Determine the equation of motion for mass 1.

$$\sum F = m_1 \ddot{x}_1 \quad (1)$$

$$m_1 \ddot{x}_1 = f_1(t) + k_2(x_2 - x_1) - k_1x_1 \quad (2)$$

$$m_1 \ddot{x}_1 - k_2(x_2 - x_1) + k_1x_1 = f_1(t) \quad (3)$$

$$m_1 \ddot{x}_1 + k_2(-x_2 + x_1) + k_1x_1 = f_1(t) \quad (4)$$

$$m_1 \ddot{x}_1 + (k_1 + k_2)x_1 - k_2x_2 = f_1(t) \quad (5)$$

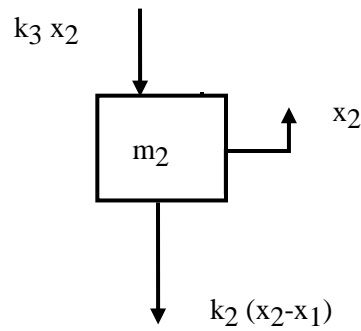


Figure 3.

Derive the equation of motion for mass 2.

$$\sum F = m_2 \ddot{x}_2 \quad (6)$$

$$m_2 \ddot{x}_2 = -k_2(x_2 - x_1) - k_3 x_2 \quad (7)$$

$$m_2 \ddot{x}_2 + k_2(x_2 - x_1) + k_3 x_2 = 0 \quad (8)$$

$$m_2 \ddot{x}_2 + (k_2 + k_3)x_2 - k_2 x_1 = 0 \quad (9)$$

Assemble the equations in matrix form.

$$\begin{bmatrix} m_1 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{x}_1 \\ \ddot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} k_1 + k_2 & -k_2 \\ -k_2 & k_2 + k_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(t) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (10)$$

### Decoupling

Equation (10) is coupled via the stiffness matrix. An intermediate goal is to decouple the equation.

Simplify,

$$\mathbf{M}\ddot{\bar{\mathbf{x}}} + \mathbf{K}\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \bar{\mathbf{F}} \quad (11)$$

where

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} m_1 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (12)$$

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} k_1 + k_2 & -k_2 \\ -k_2 & k_2 + k_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad (13)$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (14)$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{F}} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(t) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (15)$$

Consider the homogeneous form of equation (11).

$$\mathbf{M}\ddot{\bar{\mathbf{x}}} + \mathbf{K}\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \bar{\mathbf{0}} \quad (16)$$

Seek a solution of the form

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \bar{\mathbf{q}} \exp(j\omega t) \quad (17)$$

The  $\mathbf{q}$  vector is the generalized coordinate vector.

Note that

$$\dot{\bar{\mathbf{x}}} = j\omega \bar{\mathbf{q}} \exp(j\omega t) \quad (18)$$

$$\ddot{\bar{\mathbf{x}}} = -\omega^2 \bar{\mathbf{q}} \exp(j\omega t) \quad (19)$$

Substitute equations (17) through (19) into equation (16).

$$-\omega^2 M \bar{q} \exp(j\omega t) + K \bar{q} \exp(j\omega t) = \bar{0} \quad (20)$$

$$\{-\omega^2 M \bar{q} + K \bar{q}\} \exp(j\omega t) = \bar{0} \quad (21)$$

$$-\omega^2 M \bar{q} + K \bar{q} = \bar{0} \quad (22)$$

$$\{-\omega^2 M + K\} \bar{q} = \bar{0} \quad (23)$$

$$\{K - \omega^2 M\} \bar{q} = \bar{0} \quad (24)$$

Equation (24) is an example of a generalized eigenvalue problem. The eigenvalues can be found by setting the determinant equal to zero.

$$\det\{K - \omega^2 M\} = \bar{0} \quad (25)$$

$$\det\left\{\begin{bmatrix} k_1 + k_2 & -k_2 \\ -k_2 & k_2 + k_3 \end{bmatrix} - \omega^2 \begin{bmatrix} m_1 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 \end{bmatrix}\right\} = 0 \quad (26)$$

$$\det\left\{\begin{bmatrix} (k_1 + k_2) - \omega^2 m_1 & -k_2 \\ -k_2 & (k_2 + k_3) - \omega^2 m_2 \end{bmatrix}\right\} = 0 \quad (27)$$

$$\left[(k_1 + k_2) - \omega^2 m_1\right] \left[(k_2 + k_3) - \omega^2 m_2\right] - k_2^2 = 0 \quad (28)$$

$$(k_1 + k_2)(k_2 + k_3) - \omega^2 m_1(k_2 + k_3) - \omega^2 m_2(k_1 + k_2) + \omega^4 m_1 m_2 - k_2^2 = 0 \quad (29)$$

$$m_1 m_2 \omega^4 + [-m_1(k_2 + k_3) - m_2(k_1 + k_2)]\omega^2 + k_1 k_3 + (k_1 + k_3)k_2 + k_2^2 - k_2^2 = 0 \quad (30)$$

$$m_1 m_2 \omega^4 + [-m_1(k_2 + k_3) - m_2(k_1 + k_2)]\omega^2 + k_1 k_3 + k_1 k_2 + k_2 k_3 = 0 \quad (31)$$

The eigenvalues are the roots of the polynomial.

$$\omega_1^2 = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \quad (32)$$

$$\omega_2^2 = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \quad (33)$$

where

$$a = m_1 m_2 \quad (34)$$

$$b = [-m_1(k_2 + k_3) - m_2(k_1 + k_2)] \quad (35)$$

$$c = k_1 k_2 + k_1 k_3 + k_2 k_3 \quad (36)$$

The eigenvectors are found via the following equations.

$$\{K - \omega_1^2 M\} \bar{q}_1 = \bar{0} \quad (37)$$

$$\{K - \omega_2^2 M\} \bar{q}_2 = \bar{0} \quad (38)$$

where

$$\bar{q}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (39)$$

$$\bar{q}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (40)$$

An eigenvector matrix  $Q$  can be formed. The eigenvectors are inserted in column format.

$$Q = [\bar{q}_1 \quad \bar{q}_2] \quad (41)$$

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & w_1 \\ v_2 & w_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (42)$$

The eigenvectors represent orthogonal mode shapes.

Each eigenvector can be multiplied by an arbitrary scale factor. A mass-normalized eigenvector matrix  $\hat{Q}$  can be obtained such that the following orthogonality relations are obtained.

$$\hat{Q}^T M \hat{Q} = I \quad (43)$$

and

$$\hat{Q}^T K \hat{Q} = \Omega \quad (44)$$

where

$I$  is the identity matrix  
 $\Omega$  is a diagonal matrix of eigenvalues

The superscript  $T$  represents transpose.

Note the mass-normalized forms

$$\hat{\mathbf{Q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{v}_1 & \hat{w}_1 \\ \hat{v}_2 & \hat{w}_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (45)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{Q}}^T = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{v}_1 & \hat{v}_2 \\ \hat{w}_1 & \hat{w}_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (46)$$

Rigorous proof of the orthogonality relationships is beyond the scope of this tutorial.

Further discussion is given in References 1 and 2.

Nevertheless, the orthogonality relationships are demonstrated by an example in this tutorial.

Now define a generalize coordinate  $\eta(t)$  such that

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \hat{\mathbf{Q}} \bar{\boldsymbol{\eta}} \quad (47)$$

Substitute equation (47) into the equation of motion, equation (11).

$$\mathbf{M} \hat{\mathbf{Q}} \bar{\ddot{\boldsymbol{\eta}}} + \mathbf{K} \hat{\mathbf{Q}} \bar{\boldsymbol{\eta}} = \bar{\mathbf{F}} \quad (48)$$

Premultiply by the transpose of the normalized eigenvector matrix.

$$\hat{\mathbf{Q}}^T \mathbf{M} \hat{\mathbf{Q}} \bar{\ddot{\boldsymbol{\eta}}} + \hat{\mathbf{Q}}^T \mathbf{K} \hat{\mathbf{Q}} \bar{\boldsymbol{\eta}} = \hat{\mathbf{Q}}^T \bar{\mathbf{F}} \quad (49)$$

The orthogonality relationships yield

$$\mathbf{I} \bar{\ddot{\boldsymbol{\eta}}} + \boldsymbol{\Omega} \bar{\boldsymbol{\eta}} = \hat{\mathbf{Q}}^T \bar{\mathbf{F}} \quad (50)$$



The equations of motion along with an added damping matrix become

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{\eta}_1 \\ \ddot{\eta}_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2\xi_1\omega_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2\xi_2\omega_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\eta}_1 \\ \dot{\eta}_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \omega_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \omega_2^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \eta_1 \\ \eta_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{v}_1 & \hat{v}_2 \\ \hat{w}_1 & \hat{w}_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_1(t) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (51)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{\eta}_1 \\ \ddot{\eta}_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2\xi_1\omega_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2\xi_2\omega_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\eta}_1 \\ \dot{\eta}_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \omega_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \omega_2^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \eta_1 \\ \eta_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{v}_1 \\ \hat{w}_1 \end{bmatrix} f_1(t) \quad (52)$$

Note that the two equations are decoupled in terms of the generalized coordinate.

Equation (51b) yields two equations

$$\ddot{\eta}_1 + 2\xi_1\omega_1\dot{\eta}_1 + \omega_1^2\eta_1 = \hat{v}_1 f_1(t) \quad (53)$$

$$\ddot{\eta}_2 + 2\xi_2\omega_2\dot{\eta}_2 + \omega_2^2\eta_2 = \hat{w}_1 f_1(t) \quad (54)$$

### Harmonic Force

Now consider the special case of harmonic forcing functions

$$f_1(t) = B \exp(j\omega t) \quad (55)$$

Thus,

$$\ddot{\eta}_1 + 2\xi_1\omega_1\dot{\eta}_1 + \omega_1^2\eta_1 = \hat{v}_1 B \exp(j\omega t) \quad (56)$$

$$\ddot{\eta}_2 + 2\xi_2\omega_2\dot{\eta}_2 + \omega_2^2\eta_2 = \hat{w}_1 B \exp(j\omega t) \quad (57)$$

Assume response functions

$$\eta_1 = N_1 \exp(j\omega t) \quad (58)$$

$$\eta_2 = N_2 \exp(j\omega t) \quad (59)$$

$$\left\{ -\omega^2 + j2\xi_1\omega\omega_1 + \omega_1^2 \right\} N_1 \exp(j\omega t) = \hat{v}_1 B \exp(j\omega t) \quad (60)$$

$$\left\{ -\omega^2 + j2\xi_2\omega\omega_2 + \omega_2^2 \right\} N_2 \exp(j\omega t) = \hat{w}_1 B \exp(j\omega t) \quad (61)$$

$$\left\{ \omega_1^2 - \omega^2 + j2\xi_1\omega\omega_1 \right\} N_1 \exp(j\omega t) = \hat{v}_1 B \exp(j\omega t) \quad (62)$$

$$\left\{ \omega_2^2 - \omega^2 + j2\xi_2\omega\omega_2 \right\} N_2 \exp(j\omega t) = \hat{w}_1 B \exp(j\omega t) \quad (63)$$

Take the Fourier transform of each side.

$$\left\{ \omega_1^2 - \omega^2 + j2\xi_1\omega\omega_1 \right\} \hat{\eta}_1(\omega) = \hat{v}_1 \hat{B}(\omega) \quad (64)$$

$$\left\{ \omega_2^2 - \omega^2 + j2\xi_2\omega\omega_2 \right\} \hat{\eta}_2(\omega) = \hat{w}_1 \hat{B}(\omega) \quad (65)$$

$$\hat{\eta}_1(\omega) = \left\{ \frac{\hat{v}_1}{\omega_1^2 - \omega^2 + j2\xi_1\omega\omega_1} \right\} \hat{B}(\omega) \quad (66)$$

$$\hat{\eta}_2(\omega) = \left\{ \frac{\hat{w}_1}{\omega_2^2 - \omega^2 + j2\xi_2\omega\omega_2} \right\} \hat{B}(\omega) \quad (67)$$

The Fourier transforms of the physical displacements are found via

$$\bar{\mathbf{X}} = \hat{\mathbf{Q}} \bar{\boldsymbol{\eta}} \quad (68)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{Q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{v}_1 & \hat{w}_1 \\ \hat{v}_2 & \hat{w}_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (69)$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{v}_1 & \hat{w}_1 \\ \hat{v}_2 & \hat{w}_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\hat{v}_1}{\omega_1^2 - \omega^2 + j2\xi_1\omega\omega_1} \\ \frac{\hat{w}_1}{\omega_2^2 - \omega^2 + j2\xi_2\omega\omega_2} \end{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{B}}(\omega) \quad (70)$$

$$\mathbf{X}_1(\omega) = \left\{ \frac{\hat{v}_1^2}{\omega_1^2 - \omega^2 + j2\xi_1\omega\omega_1} + \frac{\hat{w}_1^2}{\omega_2^2 - \omega^2 + j2\xi_2\omega\omega_2} \right\} \hat{\mathbf{B}}(\omega) \quad (71)$$

$$\mathbf{X}_2(\omega) = \left\{ \frac{\hat{v}_1\hat{v}_2}{\omega_1^2 - \omega^2 + j2\xi_1\omega\omega_1} + \frac{\hat{w}_1\hat{w}_2}{\omega_2^2 - \omega^2 + j2\xi_2\omega\omega_2} \right\} \hat{\mathbf{B}}(\omega) \quad (72)$$

## References

1. Bathe, Finite Element Procedures in Engineering Analysis, Prentice-Hall, New Jersey, 1982. Section 12.3.1.
2. Weaver and Johnston, Structural Dynamics by Finite Elements, Prentice-Hall, New Jersey, 1987. Chapter 4.
3. T. Irvine, Table of Laplace Transforms, Vibrationdata, 2000.
4. T. Irvine, Partial Fraction Expansion, Rev F, Vibrationdata, 2010.

## APPENDIX A

### Example

Consider the system in Figure 1 with the values in Table 2.

Assume 5% damping for each mode. Assume zero initial conditions.

Table 1. Parameters		
Variable	Value	Unit
$m_1$	3.0	lbf sec <sup>2</sup> /in
$m_2$	2.0	lbf sec <sup>2</sup> /in
$k_1$	400,000	lbf/in
$k_2$	300,000	lbf/in
$k_3$	100,000	lbf/in
$B_1$	100	lbf
$B_2$	200	lbf
$\alpha$	55	Hz
$\beta$	100	Hz

The mass matrix is

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} m_1 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{A-1})$$

The stiffness matrix is

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} k_1 + k_2 & -k_2 \\ -k_2 & k_2 + k_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 700,000 & -300,000 \\ -300,000 & 400,000 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{A-2})$$

The analysis is performed using a Matlab script.

```
>> two_dof_force_steady
```

two\_dof\_force\_steady.m ver 1.0 May 20, 2011

by Tom Irvine Email: tomirvine@aol.com

This program finds the eigenvalues and eigenvectors for a two-degree-of-freedom system.

The equation of motion is:  $M (d^2x/dt^2) + K x = 0$

The program also find the transfer functions for a harmonic force applied at mass 1

Enter units

1=English 2=metric

1

Enter mass unit

1=lbm 2=lbf sec^2/in

2

Assume symmetric mass and stiffness matrices.

Mass unit is lbf sec^2/in

Enter m11

3

Enter m12

0

Enter m22

2

Stiffness unit is lbf/in

Enter k11

700000

Enter k12

-300000

Enter k22

400000

The mass matrix is

m =

3	0
0	2

The stiffness matrix is

k =

700000	-300000
--------	---------

-300000      400000

Natural Frequencies

No.	f (Hz)
1.	48.552
2.	92.839

Modes Shapes (column format)

ModeShapes =

0.3797	-0.4349
0.5326	0.4651

Participation Factors =

2.204
-0.3746

Effective Modal Mass =

4.86
0.1403

Total Modal Mass =      5.0000

Enter the damping ratio for mode 1  
0.05

Enter the damping ratio for mode 2  
0.05

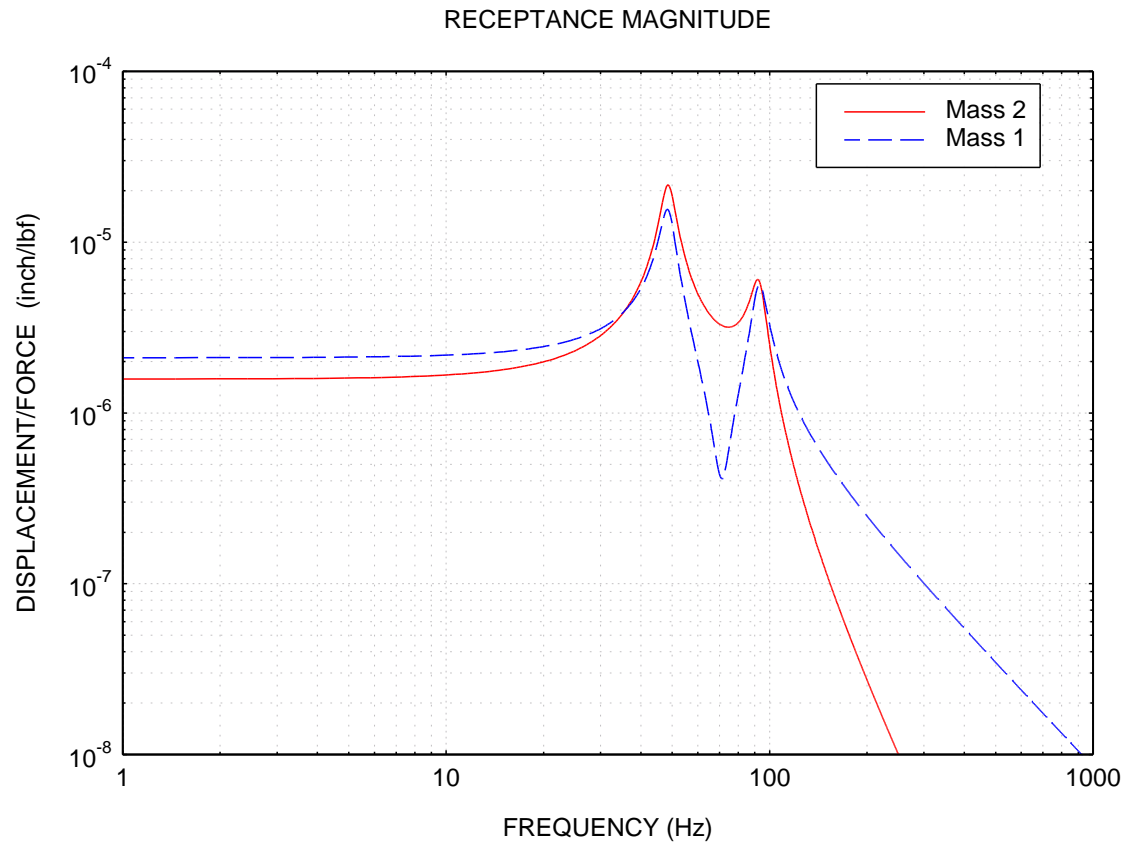


Figure A-1.

The curves represent the response of each mass to a unit harmonic force at mass 1.