

EGT3  
ENGINEERING TRIPOS PART IIB

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Wednesday 26 April 2023      2.00 to 3.40

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**Module 4C7**

**RANDOM AND NON-LINEAR VIBRATIONS**

*Answer not more than **three** questions.*

*All questions carry the same number of marks.*

*The **approximate** percentage of marks allocated to each part of a question is indicated in the right margin.*

*Write your candidate number **not** your name on the cover sheet.*

**STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**

Single-sided script paper

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED FOR THIS EXAM**

CUED approved calculator allowed

Attachment: 4C7 Random and Non-linear Vibrations data sheet (4 pages).

Engineering Data Book

**10 minutes reading time is allowed for this paper at the start of the exam.**

**You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed to do so.**

**You may not remove any stationary from the examination room.**

1 The linear oscillator in Fig. 1 has a mass  $m$ , supported by a spring of stiffness  $k$  and light damping  $c$ . The displacement of the oscillator at time  $t$  is  $y(t)$ . The oscillator can be excited by force  $f(t)$  or by displacement of its base  $x(t)$ .

(a) If the displacement input is zero and the force input is white noise, with spectral density:

$$S_{ff}(\omega) = S_0 \quad -\infty < \omega < \infty,$$

calculate the mean square displacement of the mass  $E[y^2]$ . Hence show that the *mean square bandwidth*  $\Delta\omega$  is given by:

$$\Delta\omega = \pi\zeta\omega_n$$

where  $\zeta$  is the damping ratio and  $\omega_n$  is the undamped natural frequency of the oscillator. [30%]

The input force is now set to zero and the base is excited by a displacement  $x(t)$  with spectral density

$$S_{xx}(\omega) = \frac{S_1}{1 + (\omega/\omega_0)^2} \quad -\infty < \omega < \infty,$$

where  $S_1$  and  $\omega_0$  are positive, real-valued constants. Since the damping is light, it may be assumed that the response of the oscillator is essentially in a narrow-band of frequencies close to the natural frequency  $\omega_n$ .

(b) Starting with the Rayleigh distribution for the probability of peaks of a narrow band process exceeding level  $a$ , where  $a \geq 0$ :

$$p_p(a) = \frac{a}{\sigma_y^2} \exp\left\{-\frac{a^2}{2\sigma_y^2}\right\}, \quad a \geq 0$$

show that the probability of a peak exceeding level  $a$  is:

$$\text{Pr ob}(y > a) = \exp\left\{-\frac{a^2}{2\sigma_y^2}\right\}, \quad a \geq 0$$

[20%]

(c) Use the *mean square bandwidth* to estimate the mean square velocity  $E[\dot{y}^2]$ . [30%]

(d) Using the results of (b) and (c), derive an approximate expression for the amount of viscous damping  $c$  required in order to achieve a given value  $p$  for the probability that a peak in the velocity  $\dot{y}(t)$  exceeds a given level  $v$ . [20%]

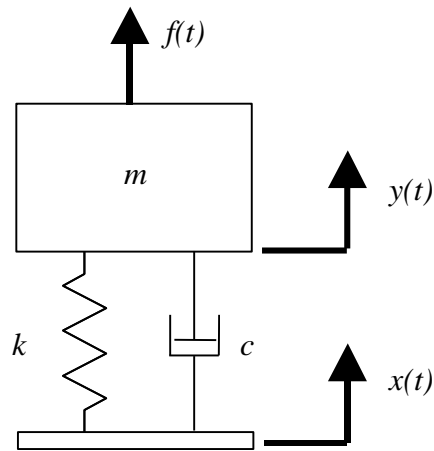


Fig. 1

2 Figure 2 shows a simple single degree-of-freedom model of a vehicle which is moving at constant speed over a rough road surface. Point P in the tyre follows displacement profile  $y(t)$ . The vehicle has mass  $m$  and suspension of linear stiffness  $k$  and viscous damping  $c$ . The displacement of the vehicle body is  $z(t)$ .

(a) The autocorrelation function of the road profile is measured to be

$$R_{yy}(\tau) = Ae^{-b|\tau|} \quad -\infty < \tau < \infty$$

where  $A$  and  $b$  are constants. Show that the road profile spectral density observed by the moving vehicle is

$$S_{yy}(\omega) = \left(\frac{A}{b\pi}\right) \left(\frac{1}{1+(\omega/b)^2}\right) \quad [40\%]$$

(b) Calculate the spectral density  $S_{ff}(\omega)$  of the dynamic tyre force (the force in the spring and damper). [20%]

(c) Assuming the dynamic tyre force is a narrow-band process, estimate its mean square value. [20%]

(d) Write an expression for the probability that a peak in the dynamic tyre force exceeds the value  $f_l$ . [20%]

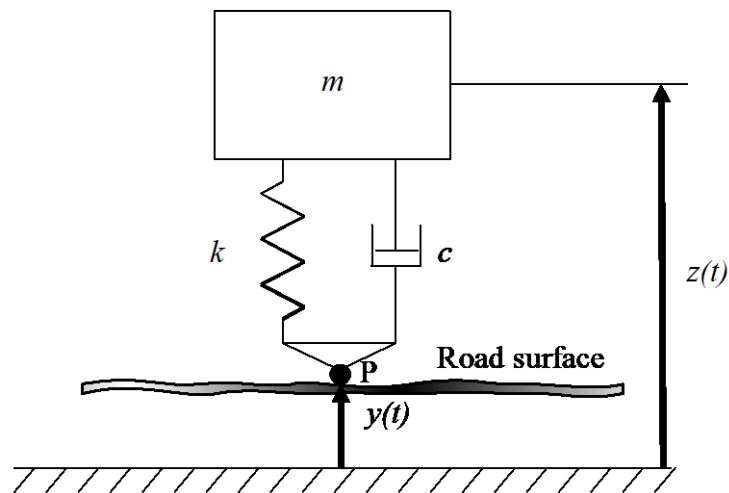


Fig. 2

3 A nonlinear undamped single degree-of-freedom vibratory system of mass  $m$  has a symmetrical force-displacement backlash characteristic of width  $2b$  and linear response sections of slope  $\kappa$  as shown in Fig. 3. The system is sinusoidally driven at an angular frequency  $\omega$  and the response amplitude is  $a$ .

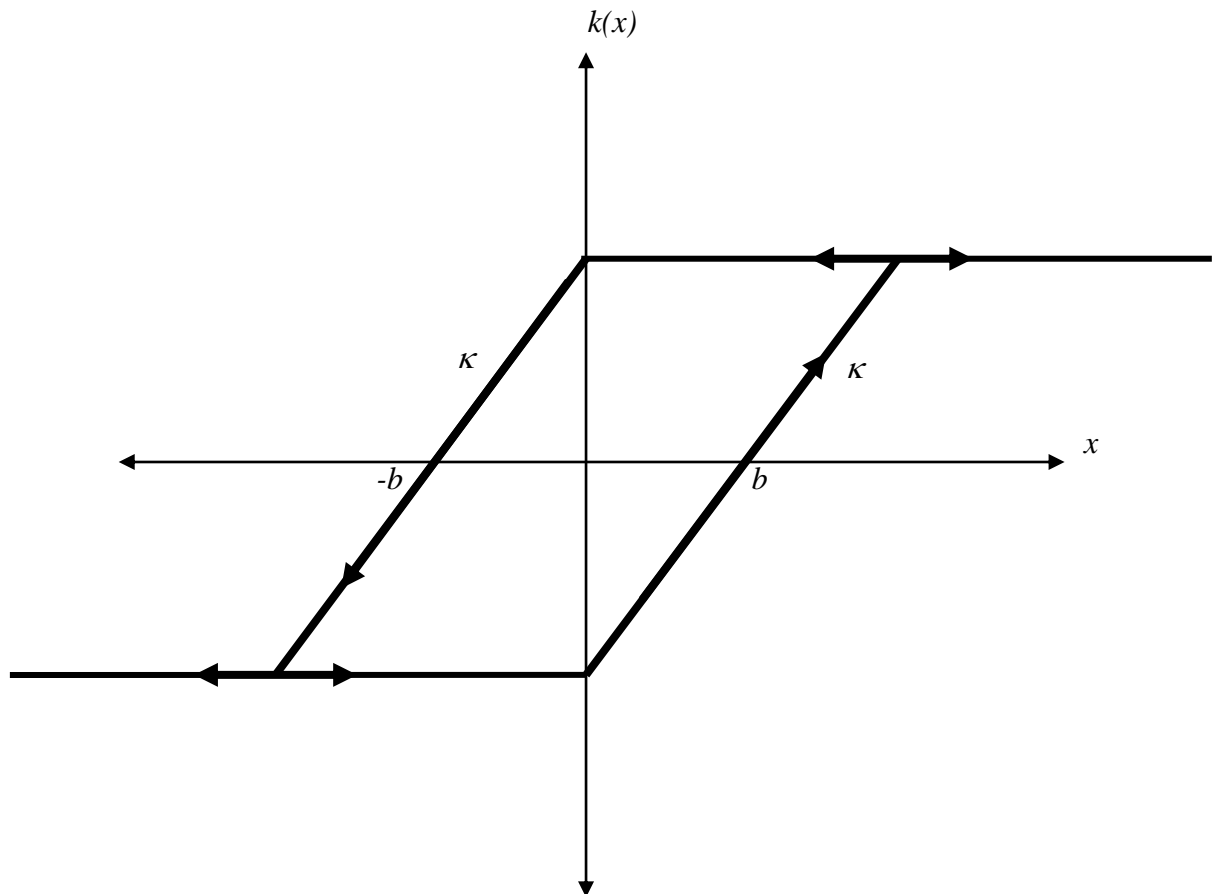


Fig. 3

- (a) Determine the maximum value of the restoring force in terms of the parameters shown. [10%]
- (b) Sketch the input and output waveforms when the system is sinusoidally driven at an angular frequency  $\omega$  with a response amplitude  $a > 2b$ . [30%]
- (c) Determine the Describing Function for a sinusoidal input corresponding to a response amplitude  $a > 2b$ . [60%]

4 A nonlinear system is characterised by the equation below where  $\varepsilon$  can be considered a small positive parameter ( $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$ ):

$$\ddot{x} - \varepsilon(\dot{x} - \dot{x}^3) + x = 0.$$

- (a) Show that the origin is an equilibrium point and determine its type and stability. [20%]
- (b) Sketch the behaviour of the system in the phase plane showing the limit cycle. [20%]
- (c) Use the method of perturbation to obtain an estimate of the steady-state amplitude of the limit cycle response to first order in  $\varepsilon$ . [60%]

**END OF PAPER**

**PART IIB Module 4C7**  
**Random and Non-linear Vibrations Data Sheet**

**Part One: Random Vibration**

Gaussian Probability Distribution

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\}$$

$$p(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_x\sigma_y\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{\sigma_y^2(x-\mu_x)^2 + \sigma_x^2(y-\mu_y)^2 - 2\rho\sigma_x\sigma_y(x-\mu_x)(y-\mu_y)}{2\sigma_x^2\sigma_y^2(1-\rho^2)}\right\}$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x^2/(2\sigma^2)} dx = \sigma\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}}, \quad \int_0^{\infty} xe^{-x^2/(2\sigma^2)} dx = \sigma^2, \quad \int_0^{\infty} x^2 e^{-x^2/(2\sigma^2)} dx = \sigma^3\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}}$$

Crossing rates: general case

$$\nu_b^+ = \int_0^{\infty} \dot{x} p(b, \dot{x}) d\dot{x}$$

Crossing rates: Gaussian case

$$\nu_b^+ = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left(\frac{\sigma_{\dot{x}}}{\sigma_x}\right) \exp\left\{-\frac{b^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\}$$

Peak distribution for a narrow band process: general case

$$P(b) = 1 - \frac{\nu_b^+}{\nu_0^+}, \quad p(b) = -\frac{d}{db} \left(\frac{\nu_b^+}{\nu_0^+}\right)$$

Peak distribution for a narrow band process: Gaussian case

$$p(b) = \frac{b}{\sigma_x^2} \exp\left\{-\frac{b^2}{2\sigma_x^2}\right\}$$

Probability of failure after duration  $T$

$$P_f = 1 - \exp\{-\nu_b^+ T\}$$

## Spectral relations

$$S_{xx}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_{xx}(\tau) e^{-i\omega\tau} d\tau, \quad R_{xx}(\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_{xx}(\omega) e^{i\omega\tau} d\omega$$

## Input-output relations

$$S_{xx}(\omega) = |H(\omega)|^2 S_{FF}(\omega)$$

$$S_{x_i x_j}(\omega) = \sum_r \sum_s H_{ir}^*(\omega) H_{js}(\omega) S_{F_r F_s}(\omega)$$

## Calculation of mean-square response integrals

$$I_n = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |H_n(i\omega)|^2 d\omega$$

$$\text{where } H_n(i\omega) = \frac{B_0 + (i\omega)B_1 + \dots + (i\omega)^{n-1} B_{n-1}}{A_0 + (i\omega)A_1 + \dots + (i\omega)^n A_n},$$

and the roots  $\lambda$  of the characteristic equation  $(A_0 + \lambda A_1 + \lambda^2 A_2 + \dots + \lambda^n A_n = 0)$  all have negative real parts, takes the values:

$$I_1 = \pi \frac{B_0^2}{A_0 A_1} \quad I_2 = \pi \frac{A_0 B_1^2 + A_2 B_0^2}{A_0 A_1 A_2}$$

$$I_3 = \pi \frac{A_0 A_1 B_2^2 + A_2 A_3 B_0^2 + A_0 A_3 (B_1^2 - 2B_0 B_2)}{A_0 A_3 (A_1 A_2 - A_0 A_3)}.$$

## White noise input: standard form

$$m\ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = G, \quad S_{GG}(\omega) = S_0 \text{ (double sided)}$$

$$\sigma_x^2 = \frac{\pi S_0}{ck}, \quad \sigma_{\dot{x}}^2 = \frac{\pi S_0}{cm}$$

## White noise input: scaled form

$$\ddot{x} + 2\beta\omega_n \dot{x} + \omega_n^2 x = F, \quad S_{FF}(\omega) = S_0 \text{ (double sided)}$$

$$\sigma_x^2 = \frac{\pi S_0}{2\beta\omega_n^3}, \quad \sigma_{\dot{x}}^2 = \frac{\pi S_0}{2\beta\omega_n}$$

## Fatigue Damage

$E[D] = E[1/N(S)] \nu_0^+ T$  where  $S$  is proportional to the peak height  $b$

**End of Part One**



## Part Two: Nonlinear Vibration

### Describing functions

System described by the undamped Duffing equation subject to harmonic forcing:

$$\ddot{x} + p^2 x + \mu x^3 = a \cos \omega t$$

$$x \approx \alpha \cos \omega t$$

$$\text{Describing Function} = \frac{\text{output}}{\text{input}} = \frac{3\mu\alpha^2}{4}$$

### Classification of equilibrium or singular points

(nonlinear system) 
$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = f(x, y) \\ \dot{y} = g(x, y) \end{cases}$$

(linearised about singular point (0,0)) 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

Eigenvalues of matrix A	Type of singular point
Both real and positive	Unstable node
Both real and negative	Stable node
Both real but opposite sign	Saddle point
Both complex with real part = 0	Centre
Both complex with real part > 0	Unstable focus
Both complex with real part < 0	Stable focus

$T = \text{tr}(\mathbf{A})$  and  $D = \det(\mathbf{A})$

Conditions on T and D	Type of singular point
$D < 0$	Saddle point
$D > 0, T = 0$	Centre
$D > 0, -2\sqrt{D} < T < 0$	Stable focus
$D > 0, 0 < T < 2\sqrt{D}$	Unstable focus
$D > 0, T > 2\sqrt{D}$	Unstable node
$D > 0, T < -2\sqrt{D}$	Stable node

**Classification of equilibrium or singular points for conservative systems:**

(nonlinear system)  $\frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}^2 + V(x) = E$

<b>Sign of <math>V''(x)</math></b>	<b>Type of singular point</b>
positive	Centre
negative	Saddle point

**End of Part Two**

RSL/AAS/DC  
December 2020