## ارت است کر حبد در مراز در می اکس رانون و نفل

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Solution of Nonconservative Eigenvalue Problem as Applied to a 2 dof System with Masses, Dampers, and Springs

A 2 dof mass-damper-spring mechanical system with two masses, dampers, and springs is shown in Figure 1. The generalized coordinates are  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  measured from the equilibrium position, as shown in the figure. The external forces,  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are as shown.

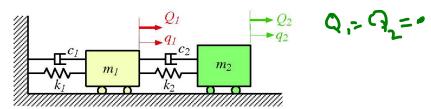


Figure 1: A 2 dof mass-damper-spring system for nonconservative eigenvalue problem. The parameters are:  $m_1 = 1 \, kg$ ,  $m_2 = 2 \, kg$ ,  $c_1 = 24 \, N \cdot s/m$ ,  $c_2 = 20 \, N \cdot s/m$ ,  $k_1 = 3600 \, N/m$ , and  $k_2 = 1600 \, N/m$ .

The equations of motion of the 2 dof system can be derived and arranged in the standard matrix form as that in equation (1) to yield

$$\begin{bmatrix} m_1 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{q}_1 \\ \ddot{q}_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} c_1 + c_2 & -c_2 \\ -c_2 & c_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \dot{q}_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} k_1 + k_2 & -k_2 \\ -k_2 & k_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Q_1 \\ Q_2 \end{bmatrix}$$
(23)

where  $\mathbf{q} = [q_1 \ q_2]^T$  and  $\mathbf{Q} = [Q_1 \ Q_2]^T$ . Note that the mass matrix  $\mathbf{M}$ , damping matrix  $\mathbf{C}$ , and stiffness matrix  $\mathbf{K}$  are symmetric and positive definite. Substituting the following parameters into equation (23):  $m_1 = 1 \, kg$ ,  $m_2 = 2 \, kg$ ,  $c_1 = 24 \, N \cdot s/m$ ,  $c_2 = 20 \, N \cdot s/m$ ,  $k_1 = 3600 \, N/m$ , and  $k_2 = 1600 \, N/m$ , we have

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} 44 & -20 \\ -20 & 20 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} 5200 & -1600 \\ -1600 & 1600 \end{bmatrix}$$
 (24)

Equation (23) can be re-arranged in the form of linear system equation as that in equation (2) with  $\mathbf{x}(t) = [\mathbf{q}(t) \ \dot{\mathbf{q}}(t)]^T = [q_1(t) \ q_2(t) \ \dot{q}_1(t) \ \dot{q}_2(t)]^T$ . The **A** matrix from equation (3) becomes

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -5200 & 1600 & -44 & 20 \\ 800 & -800 & 10 & -10 \end{bmatrix}$$
 (25)

The eigenvalues of A and the corresponding left and right eigenvectors are:

$$\lambda_1 = -24.29 + 69.70i, \quad \lambda_2 = -24.29 - 69.70i, \quad \lambda_3 = -2.709 + 22.83i, \quad \lambda_4 = -2.709 - 22.83i$$
 (26)

$$\mathbf{X} \ = \ \begin{bmatrix} -0.00437598 - 0.0125564i & -0.00437598 + 0.0125564i & -0.000304738 - 0.0142254i & -0.000304738 + 0.0142254i \\ 0.000170542 + 0.00258329i & 0.000170542 - 0.00258329i & -0.00483766 - 0.0407712i & -0.00483766 + 0.0407712i \\ -0.081479 & 0.981479 & 0.325614 + 0.0315797i \\ -0.184198 - 0.0508636i & -0.184198 + 0.0508636i & 0.943976 & 0.943976 \end{bmatrix} \tag{27}$$

$$\mathbf{Y} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.69597 + 37.8769 i & 0.69597 - 37.5769 i & -1.88893 + 2.15385 i & -1.88893 - 2.15385 i \\ 0.13013 - 12.9948 i & 0.13013 + 12.9948 i & 0.725584 + 11.5257 i & 0.725584 - 11.6257 i \\ 0.481512 + 0.149873 i & 0.481512 - 0.149873 i & 0.0858819 + 0.0176721 i & 0.0858819 - 0.0176721 i \\ -0.165201 - 0.106162 i & -0.165201 + 0.106162 i & 0.603159 + 0.083663 i & 0.503159 - 0.0536663 i \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(28)$$

Equations (4) and (5) can be verified with  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  in equations (27) and (28).

Response of  $\mathbf{x}(t)$  to initial conditions: Consider system with no excitation, i.e.,  $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{0}$ . The initial conditions of this system are given as follows:

$$\mathbf{q}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} q_0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \dot{\mathbf{q}}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \tag{29}$$

From equation (11), the response of the system in equation (2) to initial conditions is

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \Phi(t)\,\mathbf{x}(0) = \mathbf{X}\,e^{\mathbf{\Lambda}t}\,\mathbf{Y}^T\,\mathbf{x}(0) \tag{30}$$

where X is given in equation (27) and Y in equation (28), and

$$e^{\mathbf{\Lambda}t} = \begin{bmatrix} e^{(-24.2909+69.7001\,i)\,t} & 0 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & e^{(-24.2909-69.7001\,i)\,t} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 0 & e^{(-2.70905+22.8316\,i)\,t} & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & e^{(-2.70905-22.8316\,i)\,t} \end{bmatrix}$$
(31)

Substituting equations (27), (28), (31), and (29) into equation (30), we obtain

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = g_0 \begin{bmatrix} (0.468788 + 0.173176 \, t) \, e(-24.2909 - 69.7001 \, t) \, t + (0.468785 - 0.173176 \, t) \, e(-24.2909 + 69.7001 \, t) \, t + \\ (-0.0969833 - 0.00820638 \, t) \, e(-24.2909 - 69.7001 \, t) \, t + (-0.0969833 + 0.00820638 \, t) \, e(-24.2909 + 69.7001 \, t) \, t + \\ (0.68308 - 36.881 \, t) \, e(-24.2909 - 69.7001 \, t) \, t + (0.68308 + 36.881 \, t) \, e(-24.2909 + 69.7001 \, t) \, t + \\ (1.7831 + 6.957 \, t) \, e(-24.2909 - 69.7001 \, t) \, t + (1.7831 - 6.957 \, t) \, e(-24.2909 + 69.7001 \, t) \, t + \\ (0.0312181 - 0.0062144 \, t) \, e(-2.79095 - 22.8316 \, t) \, t + (0.0312181 + 0.0262144 \, t) \, e(-2.79095 + 22.8316 \, t) \, t + \\ (0.0969533 - 0.0665943 \, t) \, e(-2.79095 - 22.8316 \, t) \, t + (0.0969533 + 0.0665943 \, t) \, e(-2.79095 + 22.8316 \, t) \, t + \\ (-0.68308 - 0.641673 \, t) \, e(-2.79096 - 22.8316 \, t) \, t + (-0.68308 + 0.641673 \, t) \, e(-2.79096 + 22.8316 \, t) \, t \end{bmatrix}$$

After simplification, we obtain

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = q_0 e^{-2.70905 t} \begin{bmatrix} 0.0624302 \cos(22.8316 t) - 0.0524289 \sin(22.8316 t) \\ 0.193907 \cos(22.8316 t) - 0.133189 \sin(22.8316 t) \\ -1.36616 \cos(22.8316 t) - 1.28335 \sin(22.8316 t) \\ -3.56621 \cos(22.8316 t) - 4.06637 \sin(22.8316 t) \end{bmatrix} +$$

$$q_0 e^{-24.2909 t} \begin{bmatrix} 0.93757 \cos(69.7001 t) + 0.34635 \sin(69.7001 t) \\ -0.193907 \cos(69.7001 t) - 0.0164127 \sin(69.7001 t) \\ 1.36616 \cos(69.7001 t) - 73.7619 \sin(69.7001 t) \\ 3.56621 \cos(69.7001 t) + 13.914 \sin(69.7001 t) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(32)$$

The results of  $\mathbf{x}(t)$  in equation (32) represent the sum of two exponentially decaying curves for  $\mathbf{x}(t) = [q_1(t) \ q_2(t) \ \dot{q}_1(t) \ \dot{q}_2(t)]^T$ . The results can be plotted and are shown in Figures 2 and 3 for the displacements and velocities, respectively. It can be seen that  $q_1$  and  $\dot{q}_1$  settles down more quickly than  $q_2$  and  $\dot{q}_2$ .

Comparison with the Undamped System: If the damping matrix is set to zero, the conservative system will have the following solution of eigenvalue problem.

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} 5200 & -1600 \\ -1600 & 1600 \end{bmatrix}$$
 (33)

where the units for mass is kg and for stiffness  $N \cdot s/m$ . The dynamical matrix is

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3600} & \frac{1}{1800} \\ \frac{13}{3600} & \frac{13}{7200} \end{bmatrix} \tag{34}$$

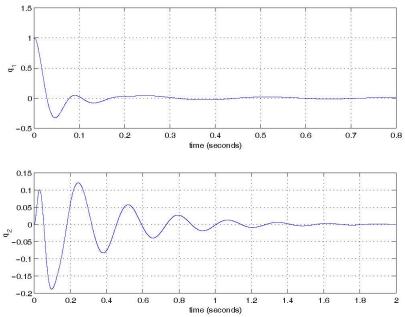


Figure 2: The displacements of  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  for the 2 dof system.

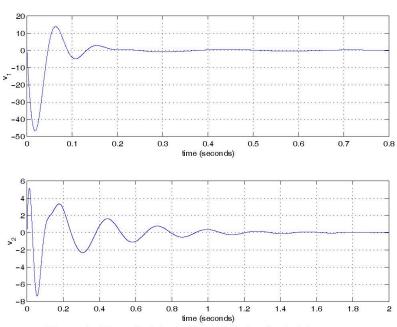


Figure 3: The velocities of  $\dot{q}_1$  and  $\dot{q}_2$  for the 2 dof system.

The eigenvalues of the dynamical matrix  $\mathbf D$  are

$$\lambda_1 = 0.00190065, \quad \lambda_2 = 0.000182686$$
 (35)

with corresponding eigenvectors of

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.323877 \\ -0.946099 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.985666 \\ 0.168711 \end{bmatrix}$$
 (36)

The natural frequencies are

$$\omega_1 = 22.9377 \ rad/sec, \qquad \omega_2 = 73.9856 \ rad/sec$$
 (37)

Comparing with the response in equation (32), we find that the damped frequencies of vibration are  $22.8316 \, rad/sec$  and  $69.7001 \, rad/sec$  which are smaller than the natural frequencies in equation (37), as expected for the damped system.