FREE VIBRATIONS OF CURVED BOX GIRDERS

by

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TO

MY

PARENTS
'There are strings,' said Mr. Tappertit, 'in the human heart that had better not be vibrated.'

- Charles Dickens -
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ABSTRACT

The problem of coupled free vibrations of curved thin walled girders of asymmetric cross-section is examined in this thesis. The general governing differential equations are derived for quadruple coupling between the two flexural, tangential and torsional vibrations.

An approximate solution for the case of triple coupling between the two flexural and the torsional vibrations is given for a simply supported girder, assuming non-deformable cross-sections and uniform specific gravity of the material of the box, accounting for warping but neglecting axial forces and rotary inertia. The frequency equation and eigenfunctions are given with the orthogonality condition satisfied. A parametric study is conducted to investigate the effect of various geometric parameters on the natural frequencies.

An experimental investigation was carried out to compare the behavior of two curved box girder models with theory. The first model had a single cell cross-section symmetric with respect to the vertical axis. The second had an asymmetric two cell section. Reasonable agreement between experimental values of the first four natural frequencies and modal shapes and those predicted by theory was obtained.
**VIBRATIONS LIBRES DE POUTRES EN CAISSON COURBES**

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**RESUMÉ**

Le problème des vibrations libres couplées de poutres courbes à parois minces, et de section transversale asymétrique est examiné dans le présent ouvrage. Les équations différentielles du problème sont dérivées pour un couplage quadruple entre les deux vibrations de flexion, ainsi que celles de torsion et tangentielle.

Une solution approchée est donnée dans le cas d'un couplage triple entre les deux vibrations de flexion et celle de torsion, pour le cas d'une poutre simplement appuyée, en supposant que les sections transversales sont indéformables. Il est tenu compte du voilement des sections transversales, mais les forces axiales et l'inertie de rotation ont été négligées. L'équation aux fréquences et les fonctions propres sont données et la condition d'orthogonalité est satisfaite. Une étude a été réalisée pour évaluer l'influence de divers paramètres géométriques sur les fréquences propres.

Une étude expérimentale a également été conduite pour comparer à la théorie le comportement de deux modèles de poutres en caisson courbes. Le premier modèle consistait en un caisson unique, symétrique par rapport à un axe vertical. Le deuxième modèle consistait en un caisson double et asymétrique.

Les résultats obtenus pour les quatre premières fréquences propres et les modes de vibration correspondants ont confirmé raisonnablement ceux prédits par la théorie.
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NOMENCLATURE

A  Area of the cross-section (material only)
B  Bimoment
E  Modulus of elasticity
Ec  Modulus of elasticity when creep terminates
Ed  Dynamic modulus of elasticity
f  Warping function
G  Shear modulus
H  Twisting moment
Io  Polar moment of inertia with respect to the shear center
Ip  Polar moment of inertia with respect to the centroid
Iw  Warping constant (sectorial moment of inertia)
Ix, Iy  Moments of inertia about the x and y axes respectively
Ixy  Product of inertia about the x and y axes
Kt  St. Venant's torsion constant
ξ  Length of the curved girder along the centroidal axis
Mx, My  Bending moments with respect to the x and y axes respectively
N  Normal force acting through the centroid
Px, Py, Pz, Pφ  Uniformly distributed external loads in the x, y, z, directions and uniformly distributed twisting moment
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$p_i$</td>
<td>State vector of any point on the girder vibrating in the $i$ th mode.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$q$</td>
<td>Indeterminate shear flow in the box</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\hat{q}, \hat{r}, \hat{s}$</td>
<td>Base vectors mutually orthogonal and parallel to the $x, y, z$ axes respectively.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$Q_x, Q_y$</td>
<td>Shear forces acting at the shear center in the $x$ and $y$ directions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$r_x$</td>
<td>$\frac{1}{I_x} \int y^2 x , dA$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$r_y$</td>
<td>$\frac{1}{I_y} \int x^2 y , dA$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$R$</td>
<td>Radius of curvature of the girder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$t$</td>
<td>Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$u, v, w$</td>
<td>Displacements of the shear center in the $x, -y$ and $z_i$ directions respectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$U_i, V_i$</td>
<td>Amplitudes of the $i$ th modal displacements in the $x$ and $-y$ directions respectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$w_s$</td>
<td>Longitudinal displacement of a point on the wall's centerline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\hat{w}$</td>
<td>Sectorial coordinate of a point on the wall's centerline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$w_{iz}$</td>
<td>Amplitude of axial (tangential) displacement of a point located at section $z$ and vibrating in the $i$ th mode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x, y$</td>
<td>Orthogonal centroidal axes, radial in-plane of curvature and normal to the plane of curvature respectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x_0, y_0$</td>
<td>Coordinates of the shear center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
$z, z_1$ Curved axes with origin at the left support, mutually orthogonal to the $x$ and $y$ axes and passing through the centroids and shear centers respectively.

$\alpha$ Correction factor of the calculated frequency to account for the dynamic modulus of elasticity.

$\alpha_i$ Central angle.

$\beta$ \( I_{xy}/I_x \)

$\gamma$ \( I_{xy}/I_y \)

$\delta$ Wall's thickness.

$\delta_x$ \( x_0/R \)

$\delta_y$ \( y_0/R \)

$\delta_{ui}, \delta_{vi}$ Horizontal and vertical displacements of any point located on the wall of the girder's cross-section due to an angle of twist $\phi_i$ in the $i$th mode.

$\delta_{ij}$ The Kronecker delta.

$\eta$ \[ 1 - \frac{1}{R^2 \theta_i^2} \] Mode - Curvature Index.

$\phi$ Angle of twist of the cross-section measured clockwise from the $+y$ direction.

$\phi_i$ Amplitude of angle of twist of a cross-section vibrating in the $i$th mode.

$\mu$ \[ 1 - K_s/I_p \]

$\omega_i$ The $i$th coupled natural frequency of the curved girder.

$\omega_{ui}, \omega_{vi}, \omega_{\phi i}$ Natural frequencies of the $i$th mode of vibration in the $u$, $v$ and $\phi$ directions of an equivalent straight...
girder of length \( \lambda \) and whose cross-section is doubly symmetric

\[ \Omega_j \]

Area enclosed by the wall's center-line of the \( j \)th cell.

\[ \psi \]

\[ 1 - \beta \gamma = 1 - \left( \frac{I_{xy}}{I_x I_y} \right)^2 \]

Symmetry Index

\[ \rho \]

Mass per unit volume of the material used

\[ \rho_x \]

\[ r_x / R \]

\[ \rho_y \]

\[ r_y / R \]

\[ \theta_i \]

\[ \frac{i \pi}{\lambda} \text{ where } i \text{ is the mode number} \]

\( (\cdot)^{'} \)

Differentiation with respect to \( z \)

\( (\cdot)^{\cdot} \)

Differentiation with respect to \( t \)
1-1 Introduction

In recent years thin walled curved beams and girders have been used extensively as structural members in bridges, ships and aircrafts. Thin walled box sections possess relatively high torsional and warping rigidities and as a result are suited for long spans, large curvatures, or where large torsional moments act on a girder.

The theoretical and experimental investigation reported in this work deals with the free vibrations of simply supported curved girders with thin walled asymmetrical cross sections. Solutions to several special cases such as:

i] curved box girders of symmetric cross section with respect to one or two axes,

ii] curved bars of solid section,

iii] curved girders of thin walled open cross section,

iv] straight girders of box or open symmetric or asymmetric section,

can be obtained from the general theory. Analytical solutions for these special cases have been obtained previously, but experimental verification was undertaken to check several simplifying assumptions.

Asymmetry of the cross section with respect to the horizontal axis may arise in bridge design when the upper deck of the section is made wider than the bottom deck to allow for sufficient traffic lanes. If exterior webs are thicker than inner webs due to differences in span,
asymmetry with respect to the vertical axis is introduced.

The free vibrations of a straight doubly symmetric girder in bending and torsion are uncoupled so that the girder may vibrate in either vertical or horizontal flexural modes without vibrating in the torsional mode. In this case the shear center coincides with the centroid of the cross section and in a bending mode inertia forces which are effectively applied at the centroid of the section do not cause twist.

If there is only one axis of symmetry of the cross section then flexural vibrations in the direction of this axis will be independent of other vibrations, and coupling will exist only between torsional vibrations and flexural vibrations in the other direction. Due to a shift in the position of the shear center along the axis of symmetry the bending inertia forces generate a torque as well as bending moments.

If the cross section has no centroidal axes of symmetry, a case of triple coupling arises, i.e. flexural vibrations in one direction are coupled to those in the other direction and to torsional vibrations. In this case the shear center is shifted from the centroidal axes in two directions, and bending inertia forces in both directions cause a twisting moment about the shear center.

It can be seen that coupling of vibrations in straight girders is dependent on the geometric properties of the cross-section. Any change in the properties of the girder along the axis may also result in coupling.
For girders curved in plan with doubly symmetrical cross-section, triple coupling between vibrations normal to the plane of curvature, torsional vibrations and tangential vibrations occurs due to the curvature of the girder's axis. Flexural vibrations in the plane of curvature are independent of the others.

If the cross-section of the curved girders has only one centroidal axis of symmetry normal to the plane of curvature, then a case of quadruple coupling prevails between the torsional, and tangential vibrations and the two flexural modes. Moreover if the cross-section has no centroidal axes of symmetry in any direction, quadruple coupling also occurs. However, coupling between tangential vibrations and components of vibration in other directions is weak for low frequencies and its effect on the lower modes may be negligible. For this reason many investigators do not consider coupling of the tangential vibrations when dealing with out of plane vibrations.

1-2 Review of Previous Work

Extensive research has been performed on the static behaviour of thin walled girders. The work of Vlasov (40)* on thin walled beams is substantial and widely recognized. Of particular interest to the present work are the elastostatistical relationships for curved girders which were developed by Vlasov. However Dabrowski (9) showed that several terms were omitted in Vlasov's derivation which might be significant in some cases. Dabrowski (10, 11) later extended his work to include open and closed thin walled girders and obtained solutions for

* Numbers in brackets refer to References.
different loading conditions.

Several authors have investigated the dynamic response of thin walled girders. Only those dealing with free vibrations of solid or thin walled straight or curved girders are reviewed here.

(a) **Straight thin walled girders** - The first attempt to examine the coupled flexural-torsional vibrations of a simply supported beam was by Timoshenko (37), who solved the case of double coupling of a straight thin walled beam with one axis of symmetry. Federhofer (13) derived and discussed differential equations for the general case of asymmetric cross-section. Vlasov (40) obtained a solution for the case of triple coupling in a simply supported girder with asymmetrical cross-section. Gere and Lin (18) also solved the general case of triple coupling of a straight thin walled girder having an asymmetrical cross-section and determined the natural frequencies of simply supported, fixed end and cantilever beams. An exact solution of the general governing differential equations was given for the case of a simply supported girder only. The Rayleigh-Ritz method was used to derive approximate expressions for other end conditions.

(b) **Curved solid girders and rings** - The problem of free vibrations of curved bars and rings has been studied extensively and only a few major developments are mentioned here. Lamb determined the frequency equation of unconstrained complete elastic rings using the inextensional deflection theory. Love (27) quoted Lamb's work and extended it to find the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions corresponding to torsional and flexural vibrations in and out of the plane of curvature.
Lang (25) derived the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions for free in-plane vibrations of complete and incomplete elastic rings, considering both extensional and inextensional deformation theories. He verified the inextensional theory experimentally. Volterra (41, 42, 43) in a series of papers formulated and solved the equations of motion of a curved solid elastic bar using the so-called "Method of Internal Constraints". Shear deformations and rotary inertia were considered for doubly symmetric cross-sections. Later, Volterra and Morell (44, 45) used the Rayleigh-Ritz method to determine the lowest natural frequency for fixed elastic arcs vibrating out of their plane of curvature. Arcs of various centroidal layouts (circle, cycloid, catenary, and parabola) were analyzed. Reddy (34) used the flexibility matrix method assuming lumped masses to solve the problem of free vibrations of any combination of straight and curved bars.

(c) Thin walled curved girders - Yonezawa (47) analyzed the free vibrations of curved simply supported fan-shaped plates and under static uniform loads. Using the theory of orthotropic plates he formulated the differential equations, gave the exact and an approximate solution, and investigated the effect of several geometric parameters on natural frequencies.

Culver (8) obtained the exact solution for the problem of free vibrations of a simply supported curved girder having doubly symmetric cross-section. He also used the Rayleigh-Ritz method to obtain approximate solutions for the cases of fixed-fixed or fixed-simply supported ends. Tan and Shore (36) investigated the dynamic response of curved
girders of doubly symmetric cross-section under constant moving loads, and examined the case of free vibrations assuming flexural damping.

Christiano (6, 7) investigated the dynamic response of a curved, simply-supported thin walled girder, having a vertical axis of symmetry under sprung moving load. He also solved the problem of free vibrations and examined the effect of some geometric parameters. Oestel (31) obtained a solution to the problem of free and forced vibrations of a two-span curved girder having a doubly symmetric cross-section. Lagrange's equations were used together with Lagrange multipliers to account for constraints at the intermediate support. Komatsu and Nakai (23) solved the general case of triple coupling for a curved girder of asymmetric cross-section. Coordinates were transformed to the principal axes of the cross-section to simplify the elastostatistical equations. Field tests on two bridges excited by a 20-ton truck travelling at various speeds, another bridge excited by a shaker and laboratory tests on a model showed reasonable agreement between theory and experiment according to the authors.

1-3 Scope of the Work

The investigation reported in this work is divided into two parts theoretical and experimental.

The theoretical analysis examines the free vibrations (natural frequencies and modal functions) of simply supported curved girders, having thin walled geometrically asymmetrical cross-section. Solutions for several special cases such as straight or curved girders of thin
walled or solid, open or closed, uni or doubly symmetrical cross-section, can be obtained from the general case. It is assumed that both supports allow warping and that one support permits tangential displacements. Damping, rotary inertia and shear deformations are neglected. The cross-section is assumed to be non-deformable and the center of gravity coincides with the centroid. Local free vibrations of the constituent members or of a part of the span (upper deck, lower deck, torsional vibrations between the diaphragms) are not considered in this study.

In the experimental investigation two curved box girder models were tested under a concentrated dynamic load. The first model was a single box section uni-symmetrical with respect to the vertical centroidal axis, the second model was a two cell section of asymmetric cross-section. Resonant frequencies were isolated by a trial and error procedure based on frequency sweep tests and a series of shaker positions.
CHAPTER 2

THEORETICAL ANALYSIS

2-1 Mathematical Model

The structure under consideration is a single span simply supported circular curved girder having a constant asymmetrical cross-section (Fig.2.1), which can be a multicell box, single cell box, open or solid. The geometry of the cross-section affects only the cross-sectional properties but not the derivations given hereafter.

The cross-section is assumed to be non-deformable, which implies that there is a sufficient number of diaphragms, infinitely rigid in their own plane but flexible out of their plane. The girder is assumed to be supported at two point supports, the left one is a hinge and the right one is a roller. The material is assumed elastic and homogeneous. Damping is neglected since its effect on natural frequencies and modal shapes is generally small.

The notation adopted is that of Christiano (6) while the sign conventions are identical to those of Dabrowski (11). The position of any point in the girder is defined with respect to an orthogonal set of axes, x, y, z as shown on Fig.2.1, with the origin of the z axis at the centroid of the lefthand support. Axes x and y are sliding axes with origin at the z axis, in plane and normal to the plane of curvature respectively.

The hinge at the left support will allow warping of the cross-section and rotation about the x and y axes, but prevents movement
in the $x$, $y$ and $z$ directions at the shear center or twist $\phi$ of the whole cross-section. The roller at the right support provides similar constraints except that movement in the $z$ direction is permitted.

For an asymmetrical cross-section, the shear center has coordinates $x_0$, $y_0$ measured from the center of gravity of the cross-section (Fig. 2.2). The centroid and center of gravity of any section are assumed coincidental. The displacements of the shear center are defined as $u$, $v$, $w$ in the $x$, $-y$, $z$ directions respectively. An angle of twist $\phi$ measured clockwise from the $y$ axis is also defined. The center of twist is assumed coincident with the shear center.

The external distributed loads are $P_x$, $P_y$, $P_z$, in the $x$, $y$, $z$ directions plus a distributed torque $P_\phi$, all applied along the axis of the shear centers $z_1$. The internal stress resultants are the shear forces $Q_x$, $Q_y$, and twisting moment $H$ applied along the axis $z_1$, as well as a normal force $N$ and bending moments $M_x$, $M_y$ applied along the centroidal $z$ axis. Forces acting on an infinitesimal element $dz$ of radius of curvature $R$ are shown in Fig. 2.2. The bimoment $B$ which is statically equivalent to zero is not shown.

The cross-section which is generally asymmetric has moments of inertia $I_x$, $I_y$ with respect to the $x$ and $y$ axes, a product of inertia $I_{xy}$, a polar moment of inertia $I_p$ with respect to the centroid, cross-sectional area $A$, a St.Venant's torsion constant $K_t$, and a warping constant $I_w$. 
2-2 Equilibrium Equations

Consider the equilibrium of an infinitesimal element of length \( dz = R \, d\alpha \), with \( \sin \alpha = \frac{dz}{R} \).

Summation of forces in the \( x \), \( y \) and \( z \) directions yields:

\[
Q_x' + \frac{N}{R} + p_x = 0 \quad (1-a)
\]

\[
Q_y' + p_y = 0 \quad (1-b)
\]

\[
N' - \frac{Q_x}{R} + p_z = 0 \quad (1-c)
\]

respectively, where primes imply differentiation with respect to \( z \).

Summation of moments about the \( x \), \( y \) and \( z \) axes give:

\[
M_x' + \frac{1}{R} (H + Q_x y_0) - Q_y - p_z y_0 = 0 \quad (1-d)
\]

\[
M_y' - Q_x + p_z x_0 = 0 \quad (1-e)
\]

\[
H' - \frac{M_x}{R} + \frac{N}{R} y_0 + p_\phi = 0 \quad (1-f)
\]

respectively. Only quantities of the first order are included in Eqs.(1).
From Eq. (1-e):

\[ Q_x = p_z x_o + M_y \]  \hspace{1cm} (1-g)

Differentiation of Eq. (1-d) yields:

\[ M_x'' + \frac{1}{R} (H' + Q_x y_o) - Q_y' - p_z y_o = 0 \]  \hspace{1cm} (1-h)

Eqs. (1-a) and (1-b) lead to:

\[ Q_x' = \frac{-N}{R} - p_x \hspace{1cm} Q_y' = -p_y \]

which when substituted into Eq. (1-h) yields:

\[ M_x'' + \frac{1}{R} (H' - \frac{N}{R} y_o - p_x y_o - p_z y_o) + p_y - p_z y_o = 0 \]

Substituting \( Q_x \) from Eq. (1-g) into Eqs. (1-a), (1-c) and (1-f):

\[ p_z x_o + M_y' + N + p_x = 0 \]

\[ N' - \frac{1}{R} (p_z x_o + M_y') + p_z = 0 \]

\[ H' - \frac{M_x}{R} + \frac{N}{R} y_o + p_\phi = 0 \]

Finally the six basic equilibrium equations are reduced to the following four equations:
This set of four differential equations describes the equilibrium of an element dz. Eq. (2-a) represents equilibrium in the z-direction.

2-3 Elasto-Statical Relationships

Dabrowski (11) gives the following force-deformation relationships for a curved girder of asymmetric section:

\[ M_x = -E \left[ I_x (v'' - \psi) - I_{xy} (u'' + \frac{u}{R}) + (I_{xy} y_o - \int y^2 x dA) \frac{\psi}{R^2} \right] \]  

(3-a)

\[ M_y = -E \left[ I_y (u'' + \frac{u}{R^2}) - I_{xy} (v'' - \frac{\psi}{R}) - (I_y y_o - \int x^2 y dA) \frac{\psi}{R^2} \right] \]  

(3-b)

\[ N = EA \left( w' - \frac{u - \phi y_o}{R} \right) - EI_{xy} \frac{\phi}{R^{\frac{3}{2}}} \]  

(3-c)

\[ H = \frac{-1}{\mu} (E_{I_w} f'' - \mu G_{K_w} f') \]  

(3-d)

\[ B = -E I_{w} f'' \]  

(3-e)
The warping function \( f = f(z) \) is defined by \( W_s = -f \hat{w} \)
where \( W_s \) is the longitudinal displacement of a point on the wall's center-line and \( \hat{w} \) is the sectorial coordinate of the point considered.

By definition:

\[
\mu = 1 - \left( \frac{K_t}{I_p} \right) \quad (4-a)
\]

As measures of the asymmetry of cross-section, the parameters \( r_x \) and \( r_y \) can be defined as:

\[
\begin{align*}
  r_x &= \frac{1}{I_x} \int y^2 x \, dA \\
  r_y &= \frac{1}{I_y} \int x^2 y \, dA 
\end{align*} \quad (4-b) \quad (4-c)
\]

where \( r_x = 0 \) in case of symmetry about the y-axis and \( r_y = 0 \) in case of symmetry about the x-axis.

Substituting Eqs.(3-a), (3-b), (3-c), (3-d) and Eqs.(4-b), (4-c) into Eqs.(2-a), (2-b), (2-c), (2-d) yields:
\[
\begin{align*}
\left[ \frac{E_I}{R} u''' + \frac{E_I}{R^2} u' + \frac{E_A}{R^3} u \right] &- \frac{E_{Ix}}{R} \phi' + \left[ \frac{y_o}{R} - \frac{y_o}{R^3} + \frac{r}{y_r^3} \phi \right] \\
+ EAw'' + p_x (1 - \frac{x_o}{R}) = 0
\end{align*}
\]

(5-a)

\[
\begin{align*}
\left[ \frac{E_{Ix}}{R^2} \phi'' - \frac{E_{Ixy}}{R^3} - \frac{E_{Ixy}}{R^2} \phi \right] - \frac{1}{\mu R} (E_i f^i - \mu G_k f^r) - \frac{y_o}{R^2} w' - p_x \frac{y_o}{R} \\
- p_z y_o + p_y = 0
\end{align*}
\]

(5-b)

\[
\begin{align*}
\left[ \frac{E_I}{R} (u'' + \frac{u''}{R^2}) + \frac{E_A}{R^2} u \right] &- \frac{E_{Ixy}}{R^3} \phi' + \left[ \frac{y_o}{R} - \frac{y_o}{R^2} + \frac{r}{y_r^2} \phi \right] \\
+ \left( \frac{E_{Ixy}}{R^3} - \frac{E_{Ixy}}{R^2} \phi \right) &- \frac{E_A}{R} w' - p_z \frac{y_o}{R} - p_x = 0
\end{align*}
\]

(5-c)

\[
\begin{align*}
\left[ \frac{E_{Ixy}}{R} (u'' + \frac{u''}{R^2}) - \frac{y_o}{R^2} u \right] &+ \frac{E_{Ix}}{R} \phi'' - \left[ \frac{E_{Ixy}}{R^3} - \frac{E_{Ixy}}{R^2} \phi \right] \\
+ E_{Ixy} \frac{y_o}{R^3} - E_{Ixy} \frac{r}{y_r^2} \phi \right] - \frac{1}{\mu R} (E_i f^i - \mu G_k f^r) + \frac{E_A}{R} w' + p_\phi = 0
\end{align*}
\]

(5-d)

Eqs. (5) are the governing differential equations of equilibrium of a general curved thin walled girder element subjected to any loading.
system acting along the axis of the shear center.

2-4 **Inertia Forces**

When the girder undergoes free vibrations, the external loads are equal to the inertia forces resulting from accelerations $\ddot{u}$, $\ddot{v}$, $\ddot{\phi}$, and $\ddot{u}$. The inertia forces $p_x$, $p_y$, $p_z$ act through the section's centroid, giving rise to a twisting moment about the shear center axis $z_1$ as shown in Fig.2.3-a.

Using D'Alembert's principle one can write:

\[
p_x = -\rho A \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} (u - y_0 \phi) \quad (6-a)
\]

\[
p_y = -\rho A \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} (v - x_0 \phi) \quad (6-b)
\]

\[
p_z = -\rho A \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial t^2} \quad (6-c)
\]

\[
p_\phi = -\rho I_p \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2} + \rho A y_0 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} (u - y_0 \phi) + \rho A x_0 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} (v - x_0 \phi) \quad (6-d)
\]

where $\rho$ - is the mass per unit volume of the material used.

$I_p$ - is the polar moment of inertia about the centroid.

* If rotary inertia is to be considered for a more refined analysis, then it should be included at this stage.
Substituting Eqs. (6) into Eqs. (5):

\[
\begin{align*}
\left[ \frac{EI_y}{R} u'' + \frac{EI_y}{R^3} u' - \frac{EA}{R} u' \right] &- \frac{EI_{xy}}{R} v'' + \left[ \frac{y^O}{R} - \frac{y^O}{R^3} + \frac{r_y}{R^2} \phi \right] \\
\left[ \frac{E}{R^2} \right] + \left[ \frac{E}{R^2} \right] &- \frac{\rho A}{R^2} = 0 \\
\end{align*}
\]

(7-a)

\[
\begin{align*}
\left[ \frac{EI_{xy}}{R} (u^{iv} + \frac{u''}{R^2}) + \frac{EA}{R^3} u' \right] &- \frac{EI_{xy}}{R} v^{iv} + \left[ \frac{E}{R^2} \right] + \left[ \frac{E}{R^2} \right] - \frac{E}{R^2} \phi'' \\
+ \left( -\frac{y^O}{R^2} \phi \right) &+ \left[ \frac{\rho A}{R^2} \phi'' \right] - \frac{y^O}{R^2} = 0 \\
\end{align*}
\]

(7-b)

\[
\begin{align*}
\left[ \frac{EI}{R} (u^{iv} + \frac{u''}{R^2}) + \frac{EA}{R^3} u' \right] &- \frac{EI_{xy}}{R} v^{iv} + \left[ \frac{E}{R^2} \right] + \left[ \frac{E}{R^2} \right] - \frac{y^O}{R^2} = 0 \\
+ \left( -\frac{E}{R^2} \phi \right) &+ \frac{E}{R^2} \phi'' + \frac{E}{R^2} \phi'' = 0 \\
\end{align*}
\]

(7-c)

\[
\begin{align*}
\left[ \frac{EI_{xy}}{R} (u'' + \frac{u''}{R^2}) - \frac{EA}{R^2} u' \right] &+ \frac{EI_{xy}}{R} v'' + \left[ \frac{E}{R^2} \right] + \left[ \frac{E}{R^2} \right] - \frac{y^O}{R^2} = 0 \\
- \left[ \frac{1}{E} \phi + \mu G K \phi'' \right] &+ \frac{y^O}{R} w' + \rho A \phi + \rho A \phi + \rho A \phi = 0 \\
\end{align*}
\]

(7-d)

where the dot superscript (·) represents partial derivative with respect to time \( t \), and \( I_O = I_p + A(x_o^2 + y_o^2) \) is the polar moment of inertia about the shear center.
2-5 The Warping Function \( f \)

The warping function \( f = f(z) \) as defined by Dabrowski (11) is given in section 2-3. In the general case of restrained warping, \( f \) can be assumed to have the form \( f = au + bv + c\phi + dw \), where \( a, b, c, d \) are operators. However, Dabrowski (11) has shown that in the case of unrestrained warping, \( f \) will have the form:

\[
f = \frac{v}{R} + \phi \quad (7-e)
\]

Eq. (7-e) was assumed by Christiano (6, 7) in the analysis of dynamic response of curved girders of open thin walled sections (where warping is more important) and is adopted here.

Substituting Eq. (7-e) into Eqs. (7-a), (7-b), (7-c), (7-d):

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{\text{EI}_y}{R} \left( u'' + \frac{u'}{R} - \frac{EA}{R} u^{'} \right) - \frac{\text{EI}_{xy} v''}{R} + \left[ \frac{y_0}{R} - \frac{y_0}{R^3} + \frac{R y_0^3}{R^3} \right] \\
+ \left[ E_A w'' - \rho A (1 - \frac{x'_0}{R}) w \right] &= 0 \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\left[ \frac{\text{EI}_{xy} (u' v' + u' v)}{R^2} + \frac{y_0}{R^3} u \right] + \left[ - \frac{\text{EI}_x v''}{R^2} v'' + \frac{G K t}{R^2} v'' \right] \\
+ \left[ - \frac{\text{EI}_y w'}{R} v + \left( \frac{\text{EI}_x}{R} + \frac{G K t}{R} \right) v' + \frac{\text{EI}_{xy} x}{R^2} \phi + \left( \frac{\text{EI}_{xy}}{R^2} y_0' \right)'' \right] \\
+ \left[ - \frac{y_0}{R^2} w' + \rho A (\ddot{u} - y_0') + \rho A \frac{\ddot{w}}{R^2} - \rho A (\ddot{v} - x_0') \right] &= 0 \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
(8-a) \\
(8-b)
\end{align*}
\]
These four coupled partial differential equations with constant coefficients are of order 4 in \( u, v, \phi \) and order 2 in \( w \) for the variable \( z \), and of order 2 in \( u, v, \phi \) and \( w \) for the variable \( t \).

If coupling due to axial vibrations in the \( z \)-direction is to be considered, Eqs.\((8)\) must be solved. However, coupling between axial vibrations in the \( w \)-direction and those in the \( u, v, \) and \( \phi \) is weak, as can be witnessed from Eq.\((5)\) where the terms containing \( p_z, p_z' \) are of second order. On the other hand, the uncoupled axial natural frequencies of an equivalent straight girder are much larger than those of flexural and torsional vibrations. Hence it can be concluded that the coupling effect of axial vibrations on the lower modes will be small and one can neglect terms containing \( p_z \) and \( p_z' \), and assume that the normal force \( N \) at any section is negligible.
With this assumption Eq.(8-a), which represents equilibrium of axial forces in the z-direction is uncoupled from the other three equations. With the assumption of \( N = 0 \), Eq.(3-c) reduces to:

\[
w' = \frac{u}{R} + \left( \frac{I_{xy}}{AR^2} - \frac{y_0}{R} \right) \phi
\]  

(9-a)

The axial displacement \( w \) of a point on the shear center located at a distance \( z \) from the origin is:

\[
w = \frac{1}{R} \int_0^z u \, dz + \left( \frac{I_{xy}}{AR^2} - \frac{y_0}{R} \right) \int_0^z \phi \, dz
\]  

(9-b)

Substituting Eq.(9-a) into Eqs.(8-b), (8-c), (8-d) and rearranging one obtains:

\[
\begin{align*}
\left[ EI_{xy} (u'' + u) + R \phi \right] + \left[ - (EI_x + \frac{EI_y}{2}) v^iv + \frac{GK_t}{R^2} v'' - PA_v \right] \\
+ \left[ - \frac{EI_w}{\mu R} v^iv + \left( \frac{EI_x}{R} + \frac{GK_t}{R} + EI_{xy} \frac{r_x}{R^2} - EI_{xy} \frac{y_0}{R^2} \phi'' - \left( \frac{PA}{R} \frac{y_0}{R} - \frac{PA}{R} \right) \right] = 0
\end{align*}
\]  

(10-a)

\[
\begin{align*}
\left[ EI_{yy} (v'' + \frac{v}{R^2}) \right] - EI_{xy} v^iv + \left[ \left( \frac{EI_{xy}}{R} - EI_{yy} \frac{r_x}{R^2} + EI_{yy} \frac{r_y}{R^2} \phi'' \right.ight.
\left. \left. - \rho A y'' \right) \right] = 0
\end{align*}
\]  

(10-b)

\[
\begin{align*}
\left[ - \frac{EI_{xy}}{R} (u'' + \frac{u}{R^2}) + \rho A v'' u \right] + \left[ - \frac{EI_{xy}}{\mu R} v^iv + \left( \frac{EI_x}{R} + \frac{GK_t}{R} \right) v'' + \frac{PA}{R} \right] \\
+ \left[ - \frac{EI_w}{\mu R} \phi'' + \left( \frac{EI_x}{R} + \frac{GK_t}{R} \frac{r_x}{R^2} - EI_{xy} \frac{y_0}{R^2} \phi'' \right) \right] = 0
\end{align*}
\]  

(10-c)
It can be seen that the assumption of $N = 0$ was used to uncouple the axial displacement $w$ from $u$, $v$, and $\phi$. Eqs. (10) are three coupled partial differential equations with three unknown displacement functions $u$, $v$, and $\phi$ of the fourth and second order differentials with respect to the variables $z$ and $t$.

2-6 Displacement Functions and Boundary Conditions

To permit a separation of variables in solving Eqs. (10), the displacement functions can be separated into two functions, a function of location $z$ and a function of time $t$. In the general case of vibration, the displacement function can be taken as a Fourier Series over an infinite number of natural modes, i.e.:

\begin{align*}
  u(z, t) &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \tilde{u}_i(t) \tilde{u}_i(z) \quad (11-a) \\
  v(z, t) &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \tilde{v}_i(t) \tilde{v}_i(z) \quad (11-b) \\
  \phi(z, t) &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \tilde{\phi}_i(t) \tilde{\phi}_i(z) \quad (11-c)
\end{align*}

For the particular case of free vibrations, only one mode is excited and there is no need to sum all components of other modes. Hence in any pure modal vibration:
\[ u_i(z, t) = \ddot{u}_i(t) \ddot{u}_i(z) \quad (12-a) \]
\[ v_i(z, t) = \ddot{v}_i(t) \ddot{v}_i(z) \quad (12-b) \]
\[ \phi_i(z, t) = \dddot{\phi}_i(t) \dddot{\phi}_i(z) \quad (12-c) \]

In accordance with the conventional procedure for finding natural frequencies the time functions are taken in the form:

\[ \ddot{u}_i(t) = \sin \omega_i t \quad (13-a) \]
\[ \ddot{v}_i(t) = \sin \omega_i t \quad (13-b) \]
\[ \dddot{\phi}_i(t) = \sin \omega_i t \quad (13-c) \]

Since Eqs.(10) contain derivatives of \( u, v \) and \( \phi \) with respect to \( z \) of the fourth order, four boundary conditions on each displacement function are required. Under the assumed support conditions, transverse displacements \( u, v \) and twist \( \phi \) are prevented at both supports, i.e.:
Since bending moments $M_x$, $M_y$ vanish at both supports:

\[
\begin{align*}
\ddot{u}(0, t) &= u(\ell, t) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \dddot{u}_i(0) = \dddot{u}_i(\ell) = 0 \\
\ddot{v}(0, t) &= v(\ell, t) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \dddot{v}_i(0) = \dddot{v}_i(\ell) = 0 \\
\ddot{\phi}(0, t) &= \phi(\ell, t) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \dddot{\phi}_i(0) = \dddot{\phi}_i(\ell) = 0 \\
\end{align*}
\]

(14-a) (14-b) (14-c)

From Eqs.(3-a), (3-b).

The cross-sections at both supports are free to warp and so the axial stress $\sigma$ due to bimoment $B$

\[
\sigma = \frac{B}{I_w} \hat{w} \tag{14-f}
\]

must vanish. Eq.(14-f) implies that $B$ must vanish as well at the supports. From (3-e) and (7-e)

\[
B = -EI_w \left( \phi'' + \frac{v''}{R} \right)
\]

Recalling (14-e), it can be concluded that
\[ \phi'(0, t) = \phi'(l, t) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \phi''(0) = \phi''(l) = 0 \]  
\hspace{1cm} (14-g)

Displacement \( w \) in the axial direction is prevented at \( z = 0 \) and permitted at \( z = l \)

\[ w(0, t) = w(l, t) = 0 \]  
\hspace{1cm} (14-h)

All of conditions (14-a), (14-b), (14-c), (14-d), (14-e), (14-g), (14-h) together with Eq.(9-b) can be met by selecting

\[ \tilde{u}_i(z) = U_i \sin \theta_i z \]  
\hspace{1cm} (14-i)

\[ \tilde{v}_i(z) = V_i \sin \theta_i z \]  
\hspace{1cm} (14-j)

\[ \tilde{\phi}_i(z) = \phi_i \sin \theta_i z \]  
\hspace{1cm} (14-k)

where

\[ \theta_i = \frac{i\pi}{\ell} \]  
\hspace{1cm} (14-l)

and \( U_i, V_i, \phi_i \), are amplitudes of vibration of the \( i^{th} \) mode in the \( x, -y \) and \( \phi \) directions respectively.

Substituting Eqs.(13) and (14-i), (14-j), (14-k) into Eqs.(12)

\[ u_i(z, t) = U_i \sin \omega_i t \sin \theta_i z \]  
\hspace{1cm} (15-a)

\[ v_i(z, t) = V_i \sin \omega_i t \sin \theta_i z \]  
\hspace{1cm} (15-b)
\[ \phi_i(z, t) = \phi_i \sin \omega_i t \sin \theta_i z \quad (15-c) \]

Substituting Eqs. (15) into Eqs. (10) one obtains

\[ \left[ EI_y \left( \theta_i^2 - \frac{1}{R^2} \right) \theta_i^2 - \rho A \omega_i^2 \right] U_i + \left[ \frac{EI_y}{u R^2} \theta_i^2 \right] U_i + \left[ \frac{EI_y}{u R^2} \theta_i^2 \right] U_i - \left( EI_x + \frac{EI_y}{u R^2} \right) \theta_i^2 \theta_i^2 + \frac{GK_t}{R^2} \theta_i^2 \theta_i^2 \]

\[ + \rho A \omega_i^2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{R^2} \right) \rho A \omega_i^2 \phi_i = 0 \quad (16-a) \]

\[ \left[ EI_y \left( \theta_i^2 - \frac{1}{R^2} \right) \theta_i^2 - \rho A \omega_i^2 \right] U_i - EI_y \theta_i \theta_i^2 V_i - \left[ \frac{EI_y}{u R^2} - EI_y \theta_i \theta_i^2 + EI \frac{y_0}{u R^2} \right] \theta_i^2 \]

\[ - \rho A \omega_i^2 \phi_i = 0 \quad (16-b) \]

\[ \left[ EI_y \left( \theta_i^2 - \frac{1}{R^2} \right) \theta_i^2 - \rho A \omega_i^2 \right] U_i \left[ EI_y \theta_i^2 + \left( EI_x + GK_t \right) \theta_i^2 + \rho A \omega_i^2 \right] V_i \]

\[ + \left[ EI_y \theta_i \theta_i^2 + \left( EI_x \frac{r_x}{R^2} + EI_y \frac{y_0}{u R^2} \right) \rho A \omega_i^2 \phi_i = 0 \quad (16-c) \]

2-7 The Frequency Equation

Let us now introduce the expressions of natural frequencies \( \omega_{u_i}, \omega_{v_i}, \omega_{\phi_i} \) of an equivalent straight girder of length \( L \) whose
geometry does not lead to modal coupling. Gere and Lin (19) give the following expressions, which are valid for any boundary conditions:

\[
\begin{align*}
\omega_{u_i}^2 &= \frac{EI_y}{\rho A} \int_0^L \left( \frac{d^2 u_i}{dz^2} \right)^2 dz \\
\omega_{v_i}^2 &= \frac{EI_x}{\rho A} \int_0^L \left( \frac{d^2 v_i}{dz^2} \right)^2 dz \\
\omega_{\phi_i}^2 &= \frac{EI_w}{\mu I_o} \int_0^L \left( \frac{d^2 \phi_i}{dz^2} \right)^2 dz + \mu G K_t \int_0^L \left( \frac{d\phi_i}{dz} \right)^2 dz
\end{align*}
\]

Substituting Eqs. (14-i), (14-j), (14-k), (14-l) into the previous expressions yields:

\[
\begin{align*}
\omega_{u_i}^2 &= \frac{EI_y}{\rho A} \theta_i^4 \quad (17-a) \\
\omega_{v_i}^2 &= \frac{EI_x}{\rho A} \theta_i^4 \quad (17-b) \\
\omega_{\phi_i}^2 &= \frac{EI_w}{\mu I_o} \theta_i^4 + \mu G K_t \theta_i^2 \quad (17-c)
\end{align*}
\]
Let us introduce the dimensionless quantities $\beta$ and $\gamma$:

$$\beta = \frac{I_{xy}}{I_x}, \quad \gamma = \frac{I_{xy}}{I_y} \quad (18)$$

Equations (16) can be written in matrix form as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} L_{11} & L_{12} & L_{13} \\ L_{21} & L_{22} & L_{23} \\ L_{31} & L_{32} & L_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U_i \\ V_i \\ \phi_i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (19)$$

Where $L_{ij}$ can be written after substituting (17-a), (17-b), (17-c) and (18) as:

$$L_{11} = \beta(1 - \frac{1}{R^2 \theta_i^2}) - \frac{y_o}{R} \left(\frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{Vi}}\right)^2$$

$$L_{12} = -1 - \frac{I_o}{AR} \frac{(\omega_i)}{\omega_{Vi}}^2 + \left(\frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{Vi}}\right)^2$$

$$L_{13} = -\frac{I_o}{AR} \frac{(\omega_i)}{\omega_{Vi}}^2 - \frac{1}{R \theta_i^2} (1 + \frac{r_x}{R}) + \frac{\beta y_o}{R^2 \theta_i^2} + \frac{y_o^2}{R^2} - \frac{x_o}{R} \left(\frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{Vi}}\right)^2$$

$$L_{21} = (1 - \frac{1}{R^2 \theta_i^2}) \left(\frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{Vi}}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{Vi}}\right)^2$$

$$L_{22} = -\gamma \left(\frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{Vi}}\right)^2$$
For a non-trivial solution of Eq.(19), the determinant of $[L]$ must vanish, or:

$$\det [L] = 0$$

(21)

A symmetry index $\psi$ can be defined by:

$$\psi = 1 - \beta \gamma = 1 - \frac{I_{xy}^2}{I_x I_y}$$

(22-a)

and is a measure of symmetry of the moments of inertia with respect to the $x$ and $y$ axes. Obviously $\psi = 1$ in the case of single or double symmetry of the cross-section. Another useful measure, a mode-curvature index $\eta$ can be defined by:

$$\eta = 1 - \frac{1}{R \theta_i^2}$$

(22-b)

The mode-curvature index $\eta$ is dependent upon the mode number $i$ and radius of curvature $R$, with $\eta = 1$ for straight girders. To non-dimensionalize the frequency equation the parameters $\rho_x$, $\rho_y$, $\delta_x$, and
\[ \delta_y, \text{ can be defined by:} \]

\[
\rho_x = \frac{r_x}{R} \quad \rho_y = \frac{r_y}{R} \quad (22-c)
\]

\[
\delta_x = \frac{x_0}{R} \quad \delta_y = \frac{y_0}{R} \quad (22-d)
\]

Substituting \( L_{ij} \) from Eq.(20) into Eq.(21) and taking into account (22-a), (22-b), (22-c), (22-d) the frequency equation becomes:

\[
\left(\frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}}\right)^2 + \left[ \gamma \delta_y \left( \frac{I_o}{I_p} - \frac{AR^2}{R^2} \delta_y^2 \right) + \frac{AR^2}{I_p} \delta_x \delta_y (1 + \frac{1}{R^2 \theta_i^2}) - \frac{AR^2}{I_p} \delta_x \delta_y \right]
\]

\[
\left( \delta_y - \frac{\rho_y}{R^2 \theta_i^2} \right) + \frac{Ay}{I_p \theta_i} \delta_y - \frac{A}{I_p \theta_i} \delta_y (\delta_y - \rho_y) - \eta \left( \frac{I_o}{I_p} - \frac{AR^2}{I_p} \delta_x \delta_y \right)
\]

\[
\left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right) - \frac{I_o}{I_p} \left[ 1 + 2 \delta_x + \frac{I_o}{AR^2} \delta_y \left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right) + \left\{ \frac{AR^2}{I_p} \beta \delta_x \delta_y \right. \right]
\]

\[
- \left( \frac{I_o}{I_p} - \frac{AR^2}{I_p} \delta_y^2 \right) - \frac{A}{I_p \theta_i} \left[ -\beta \delta_x + 2 \delta_x + \frac{1}{R^2 \theta_i^2} + \rho_x (\delta_x + \frac{1}{R^2 \theta_i^2}) \right]
\]

\[
\left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right)^2 + \left[ \frac{I_o}{I_p} \eta \psi + \frac{zA}{I_p \theta_i} (\delta_x \eta + \delta_y \gamma) + \frac{A}{I_p \theta_i} \gamma \eta \delta_x \delta_y - \frac{A}{I_p \theta_i} \beta \eta \delta_y \right.
\]

\[
\left( \delta_x + \frac{1}{R^2 \theta_i^2} \right) - \frac{A}{I_p \theta_i} \left( 1 + \eta \psi + \frac{\psi^2}{R^2 \theta_i^2} + \gamma \beta \right) + \frac{A}{I_p \theta_i} \delta_y \delta_y (1 + \frac{1}{R^2 \theta_i^2})
\]

\[
+ \frac{A}{I_p R^2 \theta_i^4} \eta \psi + \frac{A}{I_p \theta_i} \rho_x n (\delta_x + \frac{1}{R^2 \theta_i^2}) \left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right)^2 + \left[ \frac{I_o}{I_p} \eta (1 + \beta \delta_y) \right.
\]

\[
- \frac{I_o}{I_p} \frac{n}{R^2 \theta_i^2} (\rho_x - \beta \delta_y) \left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right)^2 + \left[ \frac{I_o}{I_p} \eta (2 \delta_x - \delta_y) - \frac{I_o}{I_p} (\frac{I_o}{AR^2} + 1) \right] \left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right)^2
\]

\[
\left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right)^2 + \left[ \frac{\rho_x n}{R^2 \theta_i^2} - \frac{\beta \rho_x n}{R^2 \theta_i^2} - \eta \psi \right] \left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_{vi}} \right)^2 = 0 \quad (23)
\]
Eq. (23) is the frequency equation. It is cubic in the unknown \( \omega_i^2 \) and can be solved to furnish a set of three positive roots corresponding to a given mode number \( i \). A set of three such roots represent different coupling patterns between \( U_i, V_i, \) and \( \phi_i \), but they all have the same longitudinal distribution, which is sinusoidal as given by Eqs. (15).

A computer program for solving Eq. (23) is given in Appendix II. Further details and numerical examples are given in Chapter 4.

2-8 Eigen Functions

Having found the eigenvalues \( \omega_i \), from the roots of the frequency Equation (23), one can obtain the relative values of the amplitudes of vibration \( U_i, V_i, \) and \( \phi_i \) from Eq. (19). Since Eq. (19) represents a set of three homogeneous dependent linear equations, it is only possible to get relative values of modal displacements. For ease of computations unit amplitude can be assigned to one modal amplitude such as \( V_i \), and the amplitudes of \( U_i, \) and \( \phi_i \) computed.

From the first and second rows in Eq. (19), one can write:

\[
\phi_i = \left( \frac{L_{11} L_{22} - L_{12} L_{21}}{L_{21} L_{11} - L_{12} L_{23}} \right) V_i \tag{24}
\]

\[
U_i = -\frac{L_{22} V_i + L_{23} \phi_i}{L_{23}} \tag{25}
\]

Recalling that the axial displacement \( w \) of a point on the shear
center located at a distance \( z \) from the origin is given by Eq.(9-b):

\[
w = \frac{1}{R} \int_0^z u \, dz + \left( \frac{I x y}{AR^2} - \frac{y_0}{R} \right) \int_0^z \phi \, dz \tag{9-b}
\]

and substituting for \( u, \phi \) from Eqs.(15):

\[
w = \frac{U_1}{R} \sin \omega_1 t \int_0^z \sin \theta_1 z \, dz + \left( \frac{I x y}{AR^2} - \frac{y_0}{R} \right) \phi_1 \sin \omega_1 t \int_0^z \sin \theta_1 z \, dz \tag{26}
\]

\[
= - \left[ \frac{U_1}{R} - \left( \frac{I x y}{AR^2} - \frac{y_0}{R} \right) \phi_1 \right] \frac{\sin \omega_1 t}{\theta_1} \cos \theta_1 z
\]

At the R-H support \( z = \xi, \cos \theta_1 \xi = 1 \)

\[
w_\xi = \left[ - \frac{U_1}{R} + \left( \frac{I x y}{AR^2} - \frac{y_0}{R} \right) \phi_1 \right] \frac{\sin \omega_1 t}{\theta_1}
\]

re-writing \( w \) in the form:

\[
w = W_1 \sin \omega_1 t \cos \theta_1 z \tag{27}
\]

then

\[
w_\xi = W_{1\xi} \sin \omega_1 t
\]

where

\[
W_{1\xi} = \left[ - \frac{U_1}{\theta_1 R} + \left( \frac{I x y}{AR^2} - \frac{y_0}{R} \right) \phi_1 \right] \tag{28}
\]
Eq.(28) describes the tangential vibration of the right support which is in phase with other components of vibration of the $i$ th mode, and has an amplitude of $W_{il}$.

2-9 Orthogonality of Eigenfunctions

Any point $M$ of coordinates $(x, y)$ located on the wall of the cross-section will undergo horizontal and vertical displacements $\delta u_i$, $\delta v_i$ with respect to the shear center $(x_0, y_0)$ as the cross-section rotates by an angle of twist $\phi_i$ around the shear center, Fig.2.3-b.

The values of $\delta u_i$, $\delta v_i$, are:

$$\delta u_i = (x - x_0)(\cos \phi_i - 1) + (y - y_0) \sin \phi_i$$

$$\delta v_i = (x - x_0) \sin \phi_i + (y - y_0)(1 - \cos \phi_i)$$

However, since analysis is limited to small vibrations only, then one can assume $\cos \phi_i = 1$, $\sin \phi_i = \phi_i$ hence:

$$\delta u_i = (y - y_0)\phi_i$$  \hspace{1cm} (29-a)$$

$$\delta v_i = (x - x_0)\phi_i$$  \hspace{1cm} (29-b)$$

The position of any point $M$ on the wall of the girder vibrating in mode $i$ at any section $z$ with respect to the oxyz axes
can be obtained from the state vector:

\[ \mathbf{p}_i = \mathbf{\bar{u}}_i + \mathbf{\bar{v}}_i + \mathbf{\bar{w}}_i \]

\[ = (u_i + \delta u_i) \mathbf{\bar{q}} + (v_i + \delta v_i) \mathbf{\bar{r}} + w_i \mathbf{\bar{s}} \quad (30) \]

where \( u_i, v_i, w_i \) are the displacements of the shear center at the same longitudinal location \( z \) as that of point \( M \). \( \mathbf{\bar{q}}, \mathbf{\bar{r}}, \mathbf{\bar{s}} \) are three base vectors mutually orthogonal and parallel to the \( x, y, \) and \( z \) axes respectively.

The orthogonality condition of modes \( i \) and \( j \) can be written as:

\[ \int \mathbf{p}_i \cdot \mathbf{p}_j Q \, dD = c \delta_{ij} \quad (31) \]

where the integral is taken over a domain \( D \), \( Q \) is a weighting function, \( \delta_{ij} \) is the Kronecker delta and \( c \) is a constant.

Substituting \( \mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_j \) from Eq.(30) into Eq.(31) one obtains:

\[ \int \mathbf{p}_i \cdot \mathbf{p}_j Q \, dD = \int \left[ (u_i + \delta u_i) \mathbf{\bar{q}} + (v_i + \delta v_i) \mathbf{\bar{r}} + w_i \mathbf{\bar{s}} \right] \left[ (u_j + \delta u_j) \mathbf{\bar{q}} + (v_j + \delta v_j) \mathbf{\bar{r}} + w_j \mathbf{\bar{s}} \right] Q \, dD \quad (32) \]

The mixed terms containing \( \mathbf{\bar{q}} \cdot \mathbf{\bar{r}}, \mathbf{\bar{q}} \cdot \mathbf{\bar{s}}, \) or \( \mathbf{\bar{r}} \cdot \mathbf{\bar{s}} \) will vanish because base vectors are orthogonal. Then Eq.(32) will reduce to the product
of like terms of base vectors, \( \dot{q}.\dot{q}, \dot{r}.\dot{r}, \dot{s}.\dot{s} \), or:

\[
\int P_i P_j Q \, dz = \int \left[ (u_i + \delta u_i)(u_j + \delta u_j) + (v_i + \delta v_i)(v_j + \delta v_j) 
\right.
\]
\[
+ w_i w_j \right] Q \, dz \quad (33)
\]

Recalling Eq.(15), Eqs.(29-a), (29-b) and Eq.(27), and substituting back into Eq.(33):

\[
\int P_i P_j Q \, dz = \int \left[ U_i U_j + (y - y_o)U_i \phi_j + (y - y_o)U_j \phi_i + (y - y_o)^2 \right.
\]
\[
\left. \phi_i \phi_j \right] + \left[ V_i V_j + (x - x_o)V_i \phi_j + (x - x_o)V_j \phi_i + (x - x_o)^2 \phi_i \phi_j \right]
\]
\[
\sin \omega_i t \sin \omega_j t \sin \theta_i \sin \theta_j \, Q \, dz + w_i w_j \sin \omega_i t \sin \omega_j t
\]
\[
\int \cos \theta_i \cos \theta_j \, Q \, dz \quad (34)
\]

it can be seen that the righthand side of Eqs.(31) and (34) are identical.

2-10 Special Cases

Governing frequency equation for the following special cases can be determined from the general case of Eq.(23).

(a) Curved girder with cross-section having single symmetry with
respect to the y axis. Christiano (6, 7).

\[ I_{xy} = 0 \quad r_x = x_0 = 0 \]
\[ \beta = \gamma = \rho_x = \delta_x = 0 \quad \psi = 1 \]

Triple coupling between \( u, v \), and \( \phi \) exists under such conditions.

(b) Curved girder with cross-section having single symmetry with respect to the x axis.

\[ I_{xy} = 0 \quad r_y = y_0 = 0 \]
\[ \beta = \gamma = \rho_y = \delta_y = 0 \quad \psi = 1 \]

Double coupling between \( v \) and \( \phi \) exists but \( u \) is independent.

(c) Curved girder with cross-section doubly symmetric with respect to \( x \) and \( y \). Culver (8)

\[ I_{xy} = 0 \quad r_x = r_y = x_0 = y_0 = 0 \]
\[ \beta = \gamma = \rho_x = \rho_y = \delta_x = \delta_y = 0 \quad \psi = 1 \]

Double coupling between \( v \) and \( \phi \) exists, \( u \) is independent.
(d) Straight girder with asymmetrical cross-section. Gere and Lin (18), Vlasov (40) and Federhofer (13).

\[ R \to \infty \quad \eta = 1 \]

Triple coupling between \( u \), \( v \) and \( \phi \) prevails.

(e) Straight girder with cross-section having single symmetry with respect to \( x \). Timoshenko (37).

\[ R \to \infty \quad I_{xy} = 0 \quad r_y = y_o = 0 \]

\[ \beta = \gamma = \rho_y = \delta_y = 0 \quad \eta = 1 \quad \psi = 1 \]

Double coupling exists between \( v \) and \( \phi \) but \( u \) is independent.

(f) Straight girder with cross-section doubly symmetric with respect to \( x \) and \( y \).

\[ R \to \infty \quad I_{xy} = 0 \quad r_x = r_y = x_o = y_o = 0 \]

\[ \beta = \gamma = \rho_x = \rho_y = \delta_x = \delta_y = 0 \quad \eta = 1 \quad \psi = 1 \]

No coupling exists and the girder can vibrate in either the \( u \) or \( v \) or \( \phi \) directions independently.
2-11 Parametric Study

It can be seen from Eq.(23) that the following non-dimensional parameters define the required frequencies of coupled vibrations:

\[ \beta = \frac{I_{xy}}{I_x}, \quad \gamma = \frac{I_{xy}}{I_y}, \quad \rho_x = \frac{r_x}{R}, \quad \rho_y = \frac{r_y}{R}, \]

\[ \delta_x = \frac{x_o}{R}, \quad \delta_y = \frac{y_o}{R}, \quad \frac{AR^2}{I_p}, \]

\[ R^2\theta_i^2 = (i\pi\alpha_1)^2, \quad \left(\frac{\omega_1}{\omega_{vi}}\right)^2 = \frac{I_y}{I_x}, \quad \left(\frac{\omega_2}{\omega_{vi}}\right)^2 \]

All the other non-dimensional parameters in Eq.(23) can be obtained from a proper combination of these parameters. These parameters are not absolutely independent but related through the geometry of the cross-section. A number of cases were examined, with uni-symmetrical, doubly-symmetrical, and asymmetrical sections with both positive and negative asymmetry included. Only high asymmetry was considered to clarify its effect on natural frequency. The basic parameters used in analysis are shown in Table 2-1.

The ratio \( \frac{AR^2}{I_p} \) was assumed to take on one of the following values (100, 500, 1000, 5000, 10000). A range of values for \( \frac{\omega_\phi}{\omega_v} \) from 0 to 5 was chosen. Given a set of the parameters from Table 2-1, a value of \( \frac{AR^2}{I_p} \) and another for \( \frac{\omega_\phi}{\omega_v} \) were selected and three roots for each of the ratios \( \frac{\omega_1}{\omega_{vi}} \) and \( \frac{\omega_2}{\omega_{vi}} \) were calculated from Eq.(23).
By repeating the procedure for other combinations of $\frac{AR^2}{I_p}$, $\omega_\phi$, $\omega_1$, $\omega_2$, with one set of parameters from Table 2-1, plots of the variation of $\omega_\phi$ with $\omega_v$ and $\frac{AR^2}{I_p}$ were obtained. These plots are shown in Figs. 2.4, 2.5, ..., 2.13.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$\alpha$</th>
<th>$\frac{\omega_u}{\omega_v}$</th>
<th>$\beta$</th>
<th>$\gamma$</th>
<th>$\rho_x$</th>
<th>$\rho_y$</th>
<th>$\delta_x$</th>
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<td>DS</td>
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<td>0.0005</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>0.001</td>
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<td>0.01</td>
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<td>-0.0005</td>
<td>-0.001</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>0.0005</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>0.01</td>
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<td>ASP</td>
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<td>-0.0005</td>
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<td>-0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>ASN</td>
<td>2.13</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

DS - Doubly Symmetric section; USY - Unisymmetric with respect to y-axis; ASP - Positively Asymmetric Section; ASN - Negatively Asymmetric Section (x-direction only)
Upon examining these Figures the following observations can be made:

(a) In comparison to an equivalent straight girder, coupling between three (or less) different frequencies decreases the lowest and increases the highest of these frequencies, (Figs. 2.4, 2.10, 2.13), while the intermediate frequency might increase or decrease depending upon the geometry (Fig. 2.10(a)). The effects of coupling decrease as the mode number increases (Figs. 2.11(a) and (b)).

(b) When \( \frac{AR^2}{Ip} \) increases with \( \alpha_1 \) fixed (i.e. the length of the girder increases) the upper and lower roots of the coupled frequencies diverge. Figs. 2.5(a) and (b).

(c) For doubly symmetric sections, the horizontal frequency will be uncoupled (Figs. 2.4, 2.5, 2.9 and 2.11). This frequency is always less than the uncoupled frequency of an equivalent straight girder, and will converge to it when the central angle \( \alpha_1 \) approaches zero and \( \frac{AR^2}{Ip} \) becomes very large.

(d) For sections uni-symmetrical with respect to the vertical axis, triple coupling arises. The effect on the first and second modes as compared to the case of double coupling is to couple the horizontal vibration and slightly decrease coupling (i.e. to increase the lower and decrease the higher frequencies) between the previously coupled vertical and torsional vibrations. Figs. 2.5 and 2.6.

(e) The effect of increasing the lateral moment of inertia with respect to the vertical one is to cause a slight diversion of the upper and lower roots of the coupled frequencies. Figs. 2.4 and 2.5(a). The diversion will
be greater for small values of \( \frac{AR^2}{I_p} \).

(f) The effect on the first mode of positive asymmetry of the cross-section compared to the doubly symmetrical one is to couple the horizontal vibration and decrease coupling slightly between the previously coupled vertical and torsional vibrations. Figs. 2.5(a) and 2.7(a), also Figs. 2.11(a) and 2.12(a).

(g) The effect on the second mode of positive asymmetry of the cross-section compared to the doubly symmetrical one is to couple the horizontal vibration and increase coupling (i.e. increase the higher and decrease the lower frequencies) slightly between the previously coupled vertical and torsional vibrations. Figs. 2.11(b) and 2.12(b), also Figs. 2.5(b) and 2.7(b).

(h) The effect on the first mode of negative asymmetry of the cross-section compared to the doubly symmetrical one is to couple the horizontal vibration and decrease coupling - more than in (f) - between the previously coupled vertical and torsional vibrations. Figs. 2.5(a) and 2.8(a), also Figs. 2.11(a) and 2.13(a).

(i) The effect on the second mode of negative asymmetry of the cross-section compared to the doubly symmetrical one is to couple the horizontal vibration and decrease coupling between the previously coupled vertical and torsional vibrations for all or low \( \omega_\psi/\omega_v \) ratios and increase coupling between the same two components for higher \( \omega_\psi/\omega_v \) values. Figs. 2.5(b) and 2.8(b), also Figs. 2.11(b) and 2.13(b).

(j) For asymmetrical cross-sections the increase in the highest frequency for any modal number can be very
large, particularly for higher values of $\frac{AR^2}{I_p}$ while the decrease of the lowest value is less sensitive.
Laboratory tests were conducted to obtain the natural frequencies and estimate the modal shapes of the first few modes of two plexiglas models. The first model was a simply supported curved girder of single cell section symmetric with respect to the vertical centroidal axis, and the second model was also a simply supported curved girder but had a two cell asymmetric section.

The models were excited by a single shaker with a controllable frequency. Response was measured at different points in the vertical direction by six displacement transducers. A trial and error procedure was used to converge to the optimum position and orientation of the shaker. A set of resonance criteria was used to identify the modes sought.

3-1 Design, Description and Fabrication of Models

Two models denoted A and B were designed to meet the requirements of both static and dynamic tests. Both models were constructed of plexiglas with a central angle $\alpha_1$ of $90^\circ$, and a length along the center line of the upper deck $L$ of 80.2 inch. Model A had a symmetric cross-section with respect to the vertical axis, while Model B had an asymmetric cross-section. Model B was obtained by adding an eccentric web to model A. Plan and cross-sectional dimen-
sions of models A and B are given in Figs. 3.1, 3.2 respectively. A general view of model B is shown in Fig. 3.3.

3-1-1 Description of the models

Both models were simply supported, with the whole section extended 1 inch beyond the line of supports on each end. The line of supports consisted of two or three point supports for models A and B respectively. Point supports were located on a radial line directly under the webs.

The left-hand support was essentially a hinge since it prevented twist $\phi$, vertical displacement $v$ or horizontal displacements, $u$, $w$, but allowed rotation with respect to the $x$ and $y$ axes and warping of the cross-section. This was achieved by using one fixed point support and one or two roller point supports. (Fig. 3.4). The right-hand support was essentially a roller, since it prevented twist $\phi$, vertical displacements $v$ or horizontal displacement $u$, but allowed rotation with respect to the $x$ and $y$ axes, and warping of the cross-section as well as horizontal axial displacement $w$. (Fig. 3.5).

The roller point support consisted of a plexiglass cap machined from a 1 inch thick block to a spherical surface to provide point support to the model. A soft piece of rubber was placed on top of the cap to prevent vibration of the support. The lower face of the cap was machined to a concave surface to accommodate a 1/4 inch hard nylon ball. The ball itself was mounted on top of a concave
surface machined into a supporting cylindrical bar 1 inch in diameter. (Fig. 3.7). The bar was 3.25 inch long and made of plexiglas. The lower 3/4 inch was threaded and screwed into another plexiglas block 1 inch thick. These threads allow for relative adjustment of point support elevation and inclination. The lower block rested on two small cylindrical plexiglas bars 1/8 inch diameter to allow for motion in the direction desired. A concentric hole of 1/8 inch was drilled to accommodate a prestressing wire which was a flexible high strength steel wire, 1/12 inch soldered on top to a penny. A rubber pad was placed between the penny and model. The lower end of the prestressing wire was hooked to a 15 lb. hanging weight. The fixed point support was similar to the roller type except that the rollers were omitted and the bottom block fixed to the supporting beam, and a cantilever bar fixed to the supporting beam was placed in contact with the end section of the girder to restrain warping at the desired point. (Fig. 3.8).

Both models had a curvature \( \frac{1}{R} \) of 0.0196, a central angle of 90°, a width of upper deck of 18 inch, a ratio of upper deck width to radius of 18/51 = 0.353, and a width of lower deck of 12 inch. All webs are 2.5 inch deep. Model A was provided with two webs located symmetrically on the cross-section at radii \( r_1 = 45.125 \) inch, \( r_2 = 56.875 \) inch as shown in Fig. 3.1. Four diaphragms 1/4 inch thick were located symmetrically along the span. Model B was obtained from Model A by adding an extra web located at a radius of \( r_3 = 52.00 \) inch. Six diaphragms 1/4 inch thick were located at sections 0°, 15°, 35°, 55°, 75° and 90° as shown in Fig. 3.2.
In order to facilitate modification of the cross-section, the two webs of Model A were glued to the upper deck, while screws were used to attach the lower deck. This design permitted addition of new webs and new diaphragms. In both models machine screws #4-40, 0.5 inch long were used to connect the diaphragms to the decks and webs.

3-1-2 Material properties

Plexiglas G of Rohm and Haas Co. was used in both models. It is well known that plastics creep under sustained loads due to their molecular structure. Moreover, the modulus of elasticity of plastics under dynamic loads is frequency dependent.

Three series of tests were performed to measure material properties. The first test was a standard tension coupon test. Eight coupons were cut from different points of the plexiglas sheets used and tested at a low strain rate of 3000 μ strains/min. up to failure. Test results are summarized in Table 3-1. The average value of Young's modulus was $E = 421$ Ksi.
Table (3-1)
Test Results of Tension Coupons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Thickness inch</th>
<th>Ultimate Stress Ksi</th>
<th>Initial E Ksi</th>
<th>Average Tangent E at = 2.2 Ksi</th>
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</tr>
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<tr>
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<td>394</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The second test was a static creep test under sustained loads. A simply supported plexiglas beam of span 11.00 inch, width 0.84 and height 0.252 was cut from the same sheet and tested under two equal concentrated loads located at 3.5 inch from the supports. Strains in the longitudinal and transverse directions on the compression face were measured at midspan by a TML-Rosette type pc-10. Deflections and strains were measured 0, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 minutes after load application. The loads were then removed and the beam allowed to recover for 3-4 hours, another set of loads were applied and the procedure repeated. A stress-strain diagram after 0, 5, 15 and 40 minutes of load application is given in Fig.3.9.

This graph shows that the material exhibits slight non-linearity. Results can be approximated by two linear regions with the second region
beginning at a stress level of 800 psi. Creep effectively terminates after applying the load for 40 minutes i.e. $E_C = E_{40}$ regardless of the stress level. Poisson's ratio was calculated using the transverse strain and found to increase slightly with creep from 0.358 to 0.373 after 40 minutes for all stress levels.

The objective of the third series of tests was to establish the relationship between the dynamic modulus of elasticity $E_d$ and the loading frequency $\omega$. Since in dynamic loading of polymers, creep does not occur, a value of $E_d$ higher than $E_C$ is to be expected.

Robinson (35) utilized the resonance properties of a cantilever beam to study the dynamic mechanical properties of polymers over a wide temperature range. The same concept was used for a simply supported beam without variation in temperature. The frequency range examined was $10 - 110$ cps at a temperature of approximately $70^\circ$ F.

The $n$th resonant angular frequency of a simply supported beam is given by:

$$\omega_n = A_n \sqrt{\frac{E I}{\rho A \ell^3}} \text{ rad/sec.}$$

where

$\rho$ = mass per unit volume of the material used.

$A$ = cross-sectional area.

$\ell$ = span of the beam.

$A_n$ = coefficient of the $n$th mode.

$A_1 = 9.87$, $A_2 = 39.5$, $A_3 = 88.9$
If $\omega_{nc}$ is the $n$th resonant angular frequency with $E = E_c$, then:

$$\omega_{nc} = A_n \sqrt{\frac{E_c I}{\rho A_b}}$$

(35)

If $\omega$ is the $n$th resonant angular frequency assuming $E = E_d$, the dynamic modulus of elasticity then:

$$\omega_{nd} = A_n \sqrt{\frac{E_d I}{\rho A_b}}$$

(36)

from Eqs. (35) and (36)

$$\frac{\omega_{nd}}{\omega_{nc}} = (\frac{E_d}{E_c})^{1/2}$$

(37)

$$\alpha = \frac{E_d}{E_c} = \frac{(\frac{\omega_{nd}}{\omega_{nc}})^2}{\omega_{nc}}$$

(38)

If $\omega_{nd}$ is measured experimentally, and $\omega_{nc}$ evaluated from Eq.(35), $\alpha$ can be calculated directly from Eq.(38). Eq.(37) implies that theoretical frequencies calculated from $E = E_c$ should be adjusted to account for the difference between $E_c$ and $E_d$ at that frequency. The adjusted frequency can be obtained directly from Eq.(37) as:

$$\omega_{nd} = \alpha^{1/2} \omega_{nc}$$

(39)

To evaluate $\alpha$ for the plexiglas used, a simply supported beam of width 0.73 inch and depth = 0.195 inch was tested with different spans (7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24 inch). The same testing procedure
used for models A and B and described in Section 3-2-5 was used to
determine the natural frequencies of these beams. The values of the
correction factor $\alpha$ were calculated as described above and are shown
in Fig.3.10 plotted against frequency.

The $(\alpha, \omega)$ curve is a characteristic of the material and indi­
cates that $\alpha$ decreases rapidly as the frequency $\omega$ increases from 10
to 30 cps, and then decreases very slowly up to $\omega = 110$ cps.

3-1-3 Fabrication of the models

The upper deck and the webs were cut from a 4 x 8 ft. plexi­
glas sheet 1/4 inch thick and the bottom deck was cut from another
4 x 8 ft. sheet 3/16 inch thick. The webs were mounted on a mold hav­ng the required curvature and heated in a special oven up to $350^\circ F$
until they deflected under their own weight and assumed the required
curvature. They were then clamped to the mold and cooled gradually.
Forming of the webs was performed by Hickey Plastics Company of Montreal.

Special aluminum frameworks were prepared to hold the webs
and give them the required curvature. (Fig.3.11.) Flat wooden studs
were glued to the lower face of the upper deck along the line of the
webs, to permit accurate alignment of the webs. The masking paper was
then stripped and taken off along the line of the webs. (Fig.3.12.)
Glue Jaybond GC-18, a polymerizable cement consisting of a base, a
catalyst and a promoter purchased from Johnston Industrial Plastics of
Montreal, was brushed on the contact area of the upper deck and the
webs, the framework of the webs was separated and the webs clamped to
the deck. The clamps were loosened slowly after setting. The dia-
phragms were then attached to the webs and upper deck by screws.

The lower deck was then clamped to the upper deck and the
webs, and holes (drill #39) were drilled through the lower deck and
the webs manually, 4 inch apart, and threaded. Machine screws
(#4-40) 0.5 inch long were installed. The 4 inch spacing provided
satisfactory binding and stiffness for the whole model, and prevented
crackling during dynamic tests. The actual diameter of screws
#4-40 is .108 inch, thus leaving a cover of 0.142 inch in the 1/4 inch
webs. Since the shearing capacity of these screws is approximately
90 lb., they can sustain a shearing stress at the joint of approxi-
mately 100 psi. A similar procedure was used in static tests of box
bridge models by Macias and Van Horn (28), who reported reliable
experimental results.

3-2 Dynamic Model Tests

A continuum has an infinite number of degrees of freedom
and hence an infinite number of natural frequencies and modal shapes.
At resonance the response of any complicated structure can be simul-
ated by a single degree of freedom system (16).

Consider a damped single degree of freedom system, subjected
to a harmonic excitation \( F \sin \omega t \).

\[
\ddot{u} + c \dot{u} + ku = F \sin \omega t
\]  
(40)
As \( \omega \) approaches the natural frequency \( \omega_i \), the particular solution of Eq.(40) (i.e. the natural mode) dominates. Gauzy (16) showed that in this case there is balance between the terms of Eq.(40) such that:

\[
m\ddot{u} + Ku = 0
\]

\[
cu - F\sin\omega_i t = 0
\]

which implies that the exciting force \( F\sin\omega t \) will be in balance with the damping force \( cu \), and the system behaves exactly like a conservative system, i.e. it oscillates under inertia force \( m\ddot{u} \) and a restoring spring force \( Ku \).

Recalling the case of a continuum, one can draw a parallel with a one degree of freedom system and say that to excite a natural mode one needs an infinite number of synchronized exciters oscillating at the natural frequency and oriented such as to coincide with the modal displacement and having amplitudes large enough to feed energy at each point of the system equal to that dissipated by damping.

However, practical experience shows that satisfactory results can be obtained using a relatively small number of exciters (16), arranged such that they are:

(a) placed at points where there are important sources of energy dissipation.

(b) placed so as to feed a maximum amount of energy into the modal shape desired, and a minimum amount of
energy into the neighbouring modes. This is usually accomplished by installing the exciters at peak points of the modal shape sought and the nodes of the neighbouring modes,

(c) directed in space in such a way as to produce all components of the desired modal shape with the right proportion, and not to hinder any such component.

It is worth mentioning that the circuitry and equipment necessary to operate and control a large number of shakers is extremely complicated. Lewis and Wrisley (26) in 1950 developed a system able to operate and control 24 shakers, which was used for ground vibration testing of aircrafts.

Due to equipment limitations, only one shaker was used in the experiment reported here. One shaker is sufficient to excite the first few modes (21) but this sufficiency decreases as the mode number increases. Hence discrepancies from pure modal shapes are to be expected in the higher modes.

The experimental setup consists of an exciting system, pick-ups system and a display system. Fig.3.13 shows a block diagram of the experimental setup.

3-2-1 The exciting system

The single shaker used in the experiment was an electromagnet of low impedance, manufactured by Ling Electronics, special model V50 Mk.1. It can provide a peak thrust of 48 lb. when loaded by 2.5 lb.
at 100 cps and cooled with an air blower. The maximum stroke is 0.7 inch. The shaker was mounted on a rigid base and can rotate with respect to a horizontal axis. (Fig.3.14).

The circuitry consisted of a function generator (oscillator), model HP-200 CD, which generates a sinusoidal wave of frequency range 5-600000 cps with gain control. The sinusoidal signal is amplified by a power amplifier manufactured by Ling Electronics, Model TP-300 which also has a gain control. The output signal of the amplifier drives the shaker, the frequency being controlled by the oscillator and the amplitude by the gain of the oscillator and of the amplifier.

The moving part of the shaker was connected to the model through a special attachment consisting of a load cell and a two-piece core and socket connected to a light frame surrounding the cross-section of the model. (Fig.3.6).

A description of the load cell is given in Section 3-2-2. The load cell was screwed onto the moving part of the shaker and the core of the aluminum socket tightened to the top of the load cell. This core fitted into a hollow aluminum socket, the upper part of which was solid and provided with a deep groove. (Fig.3.14). This socket was also provided with two sets of screws to tighten the core to the socket. The groove in the upper part of the socket would accommodate an aluminum blade 1/8 inch thick. A hole was also drilled in this part of the socket to match with several holes drilled in the blade at different lateral positions. A connecting screw was tightened between the socket and the blade forming a hinge-like connection. The blade was fastened
to a light aluminum framework by several screws. The framework is made of 1/2 x 1/2 aluminum angles connected together with screws, and wrap the cross-section tight in the radial direction.

3-2-2 Pickup system

Three kinds of pickups were used - displacement transducers to measure displacements of the model, an accelerometer to control displacement of the shaker, and a load cell attached to the shaker head to measure the force supplied by the shaker.

Six HP 7CDCT - 1000 displacement transducers denoted by T-1, T-2, . . . , T-6 were used. They were held in place by clamps mounted on magnetic stands. Given a certain input DC voltage the transducers produce a signal linearly proportional to the displacement of the core, due to change of electric flux around the core. The transducers are able to measure displacements in the range of ±1.00 inch with input voltage 4-6 volts and a maximum frequency of linear response of 114 cps. These transducers were calibrated together with the oscilloscope and the UV recorder. A typical calibration graph is shown in Fig.3.16. Calibration graphs were nearly linear for all input voltages.

One accelerometer manufactured by Clevite - Model 25D21 was mounted on a screw attached to the load cell as in Fig.3.14. A charge amplifier - Model 566 (Kistler Instrument Corp.) was used to provide the necessary signal amplification.

The aluminum load cell was designed to measure small dynamic
loads from 1-2 lb. up to 25 lb. The sensitive central part of the cell was 1.0 inch in length, 0.35 inch in diameter and with a wall thickness of approximately 0.02 inch. The end sections were 0.5 inch in diameter, 0.75 inch in length and threaded from within to fit end connections. Two dynamic strain gages, type ED-DY-500 BH-350 of MicroMeasurement were attached to the wall of the central section and connected to a bridge circuit as shown in Fig.3.15. The load cell was calibrated with the oscilloscope as shown in Fig.3.17.

3-2-3 Display system

The display system, Figs.3.18, 19, consisted of two oscilloscopes used for mode probing and a U.V. Recorder to record the signal when resonance was reached. One HP-140A Scope and another HP-141A Memoscope were used to display the signals and compare their phase angles. The U.V. Recorder model S.E. 2800 is provided with 12 channels, 8 inch wide recording paper, paper speed range of 1.25 - 2000 mm./sec., and time signals for grid lines at 0.01 - 10 sec. The Galvanometers used have a limit of linear response of 160 cps. The useful frequency range of the entire experimental setup is limited by the maximum frequency of linear response of the transducers which was 114 cps.

3-2-4 The resonance criteria

Recalling the single degree of freedom system (section 3-2), if a frequency sweep test is performed then it can be shown (15, 16, 21, 26) that the response at a natural frequency will be marked by the
following phenomena:

(a) The amplitude of response per unit exciting force will reach a maximum compared to neighboring frequencies.

(b) The phase angle between the exciting force and the response will be \( \pm \pi/2 \).

(c) The rate of change of this phase angle is rapid near the natural frequency.

The effect of damping is to reduce the amplitude of response in (a) and to reduce the rate of change of the phase angle in (c).

A continuum behaves like a single D.O.F. system near resonance with the generalization that the response of all points of the continuum will be exactly in or out of phase and orthogonal to the exciting force. However, in a complicated structure such as a box girder, secondary vibrations will arise, which in effect are local vibrations and resonances of parts of the structure such as the upper or lower deck.

Although such secondary vibrations were observed, they are beyond the scope of the present work. The use of a light frame around the cross-section of the model at the excitation station, reduced local vibrations in the vicinity of the frame. Moreover the response was measured at the junction of the webs and the upper deck since such points are nodal points in a mode of local upper deck vibrations.
3-2-5 *Experimental procedure*

A trial and error procedure was followed to isolate the natural frequencies of the models in the light of the resonance criteria given in section 3-2-4. The procedure began with a probe for the natural modes. If there was evidence of a natural mode, an attempt was made to purify the modal shape until a modal shape was isolated as much as possible.

The probing of natural modes began by selecting a position and orientation of the exciting force guided by the theoretical modal shape. Knowing the amplitudes of vibrations at all points the angle to the vertical of the exciting force could be calculated from simple geometry for a given transverse point of application. The longitudinal location of the point of application of the load was taken as the station of peak amplitudes as mentioned in section 3-2.

A frequency sweep test was performed for a variety of positions of the shaker. The frequency was increased gradually from 5 to 120 cps while the force signal and a displacement signal (from one of the transducers mounted on the model to measure vertical displacements at various locations) were displayed on the oscilloscope. The chop position on the oscilloscope permitted display of two simultaneous signals and a measure of their relative phase angle. The signal of the exciting force was taken as reference and signals from all the displacement transducers were compared with it simultaneously all over the range of frequency sweep. Fig.3.20b shows two signals perfectly in phase.
Another method of displaying the relative phase angle of two signals (of the same frequency) on the scope is to use Lissajous figures (3), which are the loci of the motion of a particle subjected to two orthogonal harmonic motions of the same frequency but different amplitudes and phase angles. These figures can be seen easily on the scope in the chop position by plugging one signal in the horizontal axis, and the other one in the vertical axis. Fig.3.20a shows Lissajous' figure in the general case where amplitudes and phase angles are unequal.

The frequencies at which there is a $\pm \pi/2$ phase difference between the exciting force and the displacements were recorded. Records for all the transducers for a single load position provided bands of frequencies which might include a natural frequency. A record on the U.V. recorder was taken within each frequency range to examine the shape of the dynamic response.

It is very important to note that if the excitation is not correct the criteria of section 3-2-4 do not apply for all points of the structure at the same frequency, i.e. it will not be possible to get a phase difference of $\pm \pi$ between responses of various points and a phase difference of $\pm \pi/2$ between the exciting force and response of different points.

Examination of these records provided a clue as to what the modal shape is likely to be. The next step was then to move the shaker to a new position and give it an orientation in space guided by the previous modal shapes obtained, and by the rules given in section 3-2. In general the band of frequencies was narrower in the second
trial frequency sweep. This trial and error procedure was repeated until the band-width of the frequency scatter was narrow enough to enable expedient usage of the amplitude criterion of resonance. A very careful frequency sweep was then carried out in that narrow range and the amplitudes of response were measured. Whenever the natural frequency was reached, the amplitude of responses increased rapidly for a constant exciting force. If all the resonance criteria of section 3-2-4 were satisfied at this frequency, a correct natural frequency and pure modal shape is obtained.

The preceding procedure can be used with no knowledge of the modal shapes, which be the case for complicated multi-element structures such as aircrafts. However, in the present case analytical results could be used as a guide. For example, it is clear that the optimum position to excite the first mode (which is approximately a half sine wave) is located somewhere along the midspan cross-section, but the orientation of the force is unknown due to coupling. However the modal shapes obtained from the theoretical analysis served as a check on the appropriate load position and orientation.

It was found experimentally that pure modes other than the first could not be isolated and a unique natural frequency could not be obtained with the limited facilities used. However sharply defined regions around the natural frequencies were obtained.

The displacement transducers were used to measure only the vertical amplitudes of vibration of the upper deck since measuring the horizontal amplitudes of vibration proved to be experimentally awkward.
due to the coupled vertical vibrations which are perpendicular to the core of the transducers. The measurement of vertical amplitudes of two points located on the same radius of the curved girder permits a comparison of the combined vertical and torsional displacements with those predicted by the analysis given in Chapter 2, as will be seen in section 4-2.

3-2-6 Experimental results

The technique described in section 3-2-5 was used to measure the first four natural frequencies of models A and B. These frequencies fall in the range of 5-115 cps as shown in Table 3-2.

Table 3-2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Natural Frequency (cps) of Mode No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>12.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Table 3-2 the modes were numbered such that the lower mode has a lower frequency but not necessarily less halfsine waves of vibration. For example modes 1, 2 and 4 correspond to one halfsine wave, while mode 3 has two halfsine waves.
The simple procedure of dropping a mass on the structure to excite the first mode was attempted with a mass of 1/2 lb. dropped from one inch at the midspan section of model B. The measured frequency was 12.7 cps.

A typical record of the forced vibration taken on the U-V recorder near the fourth mode is shown in Fig.3.20.c. Amplitudes of modal shapes measured experimentally are given in section 4-2.
4-1-1 Geometric properties of models

It can be clearly seen that solving Eq.(23) and finding the modal shapes is an easy task provided that all geometric and cross-sectional properties are known. However, it is known that calculating some of these parameters \( K_t, I_w, X_0, Y_0 \) for asymmetric box sections is tedious and usually done longhand. It is unfortunate that there are no published empirical formulae to calculate these parameters explicitly for most asymmetric cross-sectional shapes [Bleich (4) gives some such formulae for angles, channels, tees, z, and uni-symmetric I-section]. The basic definition formulae will be given here, and References (22, 24, 30, 40, 48) can be consulted for more details.

For a single-cell box with \( n \) fan-like extensions, the following formulae can be used:

\[
K_t = \frac{4}{3} \frac{\omega^2}{\Omega} \delta_i + \frac{1}{3} \sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i \delta_i^3 \quad (41-a)
\]

or

\[
K_t = 4 \Omega q + \frac{1}{3} \sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i \delta_i^3 \quad (41-b)
\]
where \( \Omega \) = the area enclosed by the centerline of the box's walls.

\( \delta_i \) = thickness of segment \( i \) of the box's wall or of the extension.

\( b_i \) = length of extension \( i \) of the wall.

\( q \) = indeterminate shear flow in the box.

The first term of Eqs. (41-a), (41-b) represents the contribution of the box type of behavior to the torsional constant, while the second term represents the contribution of ordinary type of torsion in the extensions. In case of an open section, only the second term is applicable.

The coordinates of the shear center \((x_0, y_0)\) and the warping moment of inertia \( I_w \) can be calculated from the following formulae:

\[
\int \hat{w} x \, dA = 0 \quad (42-a)
\]

\[
\int \hat{w} y \, dA = 0 \quad (42-b)
\]

\[
I_w = \int \hat{w}^2 \, dA \quad (42-c)
\]

where \( \hat{w} \) = the sectorial coordinate of any point on the cross-section as defined by Vlasov (40). The origin of the sectorial coordinates can be obtained from the following condition:
\[ \int_A \hat{w} \, dA = u \]  

\( \hat{w} \) can be expressed generally as:

\[
\hat{w} = \int_0^S h \, ds - 2 \int_0^S \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \gamma} \, ds = \int_0^S h \, ds - 2q \int_0^S ds
\] (44)

where \( h \) = offset of the tangent to the wall at point \( s \), measured from sectorial pole (shear center).

The first term in Eq.(44) represents warping at point \( s \) relative to that of the origin of sectorial coordinates, the second term represents the reduction of warping caused by the indeterminate shear flow \( q \) in the box. In the case of an open thin-walled section only the first term applies.

Figs. 3.1 and 3.2 give the average cross-sectional dimensions and thicknesses for models A and B respectively. The physical properties of both models were calculated as described before and listed in Table 4-1. The warping displacement diagram (sectorial coordinates) for cross-sections of models A and B is given in Fig.4.1 as obtained from Eq.(44). A discussion of warping in the overhangs is given in Appendix I.

4-1-2 Mechanical properties

It was shown in section 3-1-2 that the value \( E_c \) is different for pure tension and flexure. On the other hand, the box behavior under loads results in a combination of in-plane stresses and flexural...
Table 4-1
Properties of Models A and B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Model A</th>
<th>Model B</th>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Model A</th>
<th>Model B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>8.01409 in²</td>
<td>8.61620 in²</td>
<td>x₀</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.02515 in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iₓ</td>
<td>12.330796 in⁴</td>
<td>12.747827 in⁴</td>
<td>y₀</td>
<td>-0.26594 in.</td>
<td>-0.24039 in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iᵧ</td>
<td>188.845212 in⁴</td>
<td>190.736361 in⁴</td>
<td>Kₜ</td>
<td>31.699226 in⁴</td>
<td>31.708682 in⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iₓᵧ</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.232158 in⁴</td>
<td>Iₗ</td>
<td>67.727584 in⁶</td>
<td>60.701714 in⁶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rₓ</td>
<td>0.49292 in.</td>
<td>0.400655 in.</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>51.00 in.</td>
<td>51.075 in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rᵧ</td>
<td>0.039188 in.</td>
<td>0.039188 in.</td>
<td>α₁</td>
<td>90°</td>
<td>90°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iₚ</td>
<td>201.176008 in⁴</td>
<td>203.484188 in⁴</td>
<td>ρ</td>
<td>0.000114 lb·sec²/in.</td>
<td>0.000114 lb·sec²/in.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
stresses, hence it can be concluded that the chosen $E_c$ value should be somewhere in between.

Static analysis of curved boxes under various loading conditions (12) indicate that the ratio between major in-plane stresses and flexural stresses varies appreciably with the location and with the loading condition. It seemed logical to compare with the case of distributed loads and take the average of the in-plane modulus of elasticity (421 KSI) and the flexure one (460 KSI) hence $E_c = 440$ KSI.

Poisson's ratio $\nu = 0.36$ is taken as an average of the experimental values obtained in section 3-1-2.

4-2 Natural Frequencies and Modal Shapes

Natural frequencies can be calculated directly from Eq.(23), given the numerical data of section 4-1. The relative amplitudes of modal shapes can be calculated from Eqs.(24), (25) and (28) in terms of the vertical amplitude, which is assigned a unit value.

The program given in Appendix II was used to calculate the coupled natural frequencies of the curved girder and the natural frequencies of an equivalent straight girder with no coupling. The relative amplitudes of modal functions in the $u$, $v$ and $\phi$ directions and the tangential movement of the roller support are given in Tables 4-2, A and B for models A and B respectively. Since the modulus of elasticity after creep $E_c$ was used in calculating the frequencies of Tables 4-2, these values must be corrected to account for the
Table 4-2, A

ANALYSIS OF MUPEL A

THE COUPLED NATURAL FREQUENCIES AND AMPLITUDES OF MODAL FUNCTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODE</th>
<th>FREQUENCY CPS</th>
<th>VERT. AMPL.</th>
<th>HORIZ. AMPL.</th>
<th>TORS. AMPL.</th>
<th>R.S AXIAL DISPL.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>63.82949</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>122.26070</td>
<td>0.70411</td>
<td>61.03673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>106.77053</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-0.68661</td>
<td>1.23520</td>
<td>-0.50755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>12.43012</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-0.00883</td>
<td>-0.03229</td>
<td>-0.00012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>198.64483</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>0.32415</td>
<td>0.93661</td>
<td>0.01877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>286.79655</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-66.36014</td>
<td>1.33777</td>
<td>-16.67898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>67.29398</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-0.00293</td>
<td>-0.04239</td>
<td>-0.00209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>300.13488</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>0.07247</td>
<td>0.73861</td>
<td>0.01966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>656.28884</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-120.57751</td>
<td>1.59996</td>
<td>-20.16717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>158.78499</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-0.00213</td>
<td>-0.05382</td>
<td>0.00203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>411.62312</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>0.02637</td>
<td>0.51532</td>
<td>-0.01383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1173.71697</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-143.59556</td>
<td>1.71838</td>
<td>-18.00657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>284.71107</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-0.00228</td>
<td>-0.07717</td>
<td>0.00228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>541.86423</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>0.00966</td>
<td>0.28618</td>
<td>-0.00664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1838.99027</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-155.20311</td>
<td>1.77940</td>
<td>-15.56763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>437.53220</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-0.00335</td>
<td>-0.13897</td>
<td>0.00336</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE UNCOUPLED NATURAL FREQUENCIES OF AN EQUIVALENT STRAIGHT BRIDGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODE</th>
<th>HORIZ. FREQ. CPS</th>
<th>VERT. FREQ. CPS</th>
<th>TORS. FREQ. CPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.738140 02</td>
<td>0.188620 02</td>
<td>0.935460 02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.295260 03</td>
<td>0.754470 02</td>
<td>0.189180 03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.664330 03</td>
<td>0.109760 03</td>
<td>0.288900 03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.118100 04</td>
<td>0.301790 03</td>
<td>0.394600 03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.184560 04</td>
<td>0.471540 03</td>
<td>0.507940 03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 4-2, B

ANALYSIS OF MODEL B

THE COUPLED NATURAL FREQUENCIES AND AMPLITUDES OF MODAL FUNCTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODE</th>
<th>FREQUENCY CPS</th>
<th>VERT. AMPL.</th>
<th>HORIZ. AMPL.</th>
<th>TORS. AMPL.</th>
<th>R.S AXIAL DISPL.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>61.69741</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>146.95978</td>
<td>0.79470</td>
<td>73.38416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>106.37042</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-0.60848</td>
<td>1.26658</td>
<td>-0.45609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>12.10491</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-0.00656</td>
<td>-0.03257</td>
<td>0.00064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>197.28017</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>0.93461</td>
<td>0.96011</td>
<td>0.02583</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>297.38043</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>0.07301</td>
<td>0.76874</td>
<td>-0.01838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-106.47690</td>
<td>1.38355</td>
<td>-17.80191</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>406.77876</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>0.02737</td>
<td>0.53571</td>
<td>-0.01271</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>1134.05745</td>
<td>1.00000</td>
<td>-124.73648</td>
<td>1.45132</td>
<td>-15.63577</td>
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<tr>
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<td>-0.00081</td>
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<td>-0.00181</td>
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<td>0.00317</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE UNCOUPLED NATURAL FREQUENCIES OF AN EQUIVALENT STRAIGHT BRIDGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODE</th>
<th>HORIZ. FREQ. CPS</th>
<th>VERT. FREQ. CPS</th>
<th>TORS. FREQ. CPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.713340 D02</td>
<td>0.184420 D02</td>
<td>0.92870D D02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.285340 D03</td>
<td>0.737660 D02</td>
<td>0.18760D D03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.64201D D03</td>
<td>0.165970 D03</td>
<td>0.28598D D03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.11413D D04</td>
<td>0.29506D D03</td>
<td>0.38969D D03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.17833D D04</td>
<td>0.46104D D03</td>
<td>0.50027D D03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
dynamic modulus of elasticity \( E_d \).

Recalling Eqs.(17) for natural frequencies of a straight simply supported beam with uncoupled vibrations, it can be seen that the frequency \( \omega \) is proportional to the square root of \( E \). However, in the general case of coupled vibrations, this relationship is not identical as can be seen from Eq.(23). Nevertheless, the preceding approximation is probably adequate for the relatively small corrections involved. Eq.(39) is used, with \( \alpha \) taken from Fig.3.10, to correct the frequencies of Tables 4-2, A and B.

Table 4-3
Corrected Theoretical Natural Frequencies vs. Experimental Values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Mode No.</th>
<th>Calculated Frequency</th>
<th>( \frac{1}{2} \alpha )</th>
<th>Frequency cps.</th>
<th>Error %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Theoretical</td>
<td>Experimental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12.43</td>
<td>1.107</td>
<td>13.55</td>
<td>12.7</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>63.83</td>
<td>1.025</td>
<td>65.20</td>
<td>59.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>67.24</td>
<td>1.023</td>
<td>68.90</td>
<td>63.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>106.77</td>
<td>1.020</td>
<td>108.8</td>
<td>114.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12.10</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>61.70</td>
<td>1.026</td>
<td>63.20</td>
<td>58.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>65.64</td>
<td>1.024</td>
<td>67.10</td>
<td>60.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>106.37</td>
<td>1.02</td>
<td>108.30</td>
<td>115.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4-3 shows the calculated frequencies obtained from Tables 4-2, A and B, the corresponding correction factors, the corrected
theoretical frequencies, the corresponding experimental values and the percentage of error.

Figs. 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 show a perspective view of the first four modal shapes for the upper deck of model B as predicted by Eqs. (24), (25) and (28) with the amplitudes taken from Table 4-2, B. Vertical component of the modal shape of the exterior edge $V_1$ and interior edge $V_2$ of the upper deck are also shown with the corresponding experimental results. These Figures also show two positions of the cross-section at maximum amplitudes and the optimum location and orientation of the exciting force.
5-1 Limitations of the Results

Experimental frequencies are within a margin of ±5-9% of calculated values. Some possible sources of error can be identified as follows:

(a) Theoretical solutions

(i) The value of $E_c$ used in calculating the natural frequencies, though reasonable, is not necessarily correct. The exact $E_c$ value for plexiglas is hard to predict as was shown in section 3-1-2.

(ii) The theoretical values obtained from Eq.(23) were based on the assumption of a beam-like behavior and thin walled cross-sectional dimensions. In fact the width/diameter ratio of the model ($18/51$), and the width/span ratio ($18/80$) are both relatively large for a reliable application of thin walled beam theory.

(iii) The curvature of both models ($1/51$) is relatively high compared to real curved highway bridges. For very large curvatures the shift in the position of the neutral axis of the beam towards the center of curvature should be considered.

(iv) The effects of diaphragms used in both models are not accounted for in the thin walled beam theory. Such diaphragms change the torsional stiffness of
the box, and so the natural frequencies.

(b) Experimental results

(i) As mentioned previously (section 3-2) an infinite number of synchronized shakers is needed to excite a pure mode of a continuum. The smaller the number of shakers used the more error can be expected in natural frequencies and modal shapes.

(ii) For a given number of shakers (one in our case), discrepancies from the correct modes will increase as the number of halfsine waves of the mode increases. This was experienced in the test results. For mode 3, which consists of two halfsine waves, it was found that there is a small amplitude of vibration at the theoretical nodal line located at midspan (Fig.4.3) in addition to incomplete symmetry of the modal shapes.

(iii) Force orientation was considered taking into account the \( u, v \) and \( \phi \) but not the \( w \) displacements. For mode 2 where the axial or tangential vibrations are significant, one might expect more error than in modes 1 and 4.

5-2 Summary

The objectives of this work were to obtain a solution to the general case of coupled free vibrations of curved simply-supported box girders of any cross-section, and to carry out laboratory tests to compare with theoretical natural frequencies and modal shapes.
An idealized model was developed in Chapter 2. The basic differential equations of motion of a curved thin walled beam element were derived for quadruple coupling between the radial, vertical, torsional and tangential vibrations. The cross-section was assumed non-deformable while damping, rotary inertia and shear deformations were neglected. It is important to state that this analysis cannot predict local vibrations of various parts of the girder. By neglecting axial inertia forces and assuming the axial force equal to zero, quadruple coupling was reduced to triple coupling between radial, vertical and torsional vibrations. The case of a simply-supported curved girder was solved assuming sinusoidal modal functions. Amplitudes of modal functions were determined relative to the vertical one and the amplitude of tangential motion of the roller support was calculated. The orthogonality condition of the coupled modal functions was established and satisfied for small amplitudes of vibration. A parametric study was performed to investigate the effect of various geometric parameters on coupled natural frequencies. The results of the parameter study are given in section 2-11.

Two simply-supported curved box girder models made of plexiglas were tested experimentally. The first model had a single cell section symmetric with respect to the vertical axis. The second model had a two-cell asymmetric cross-section. Both models have a central angle of 90°, radius of 51 inches, upper deck width of 18 inches, depth of 2.7 inches.
The models were excited by one concentrated dynamic force whose position, orientation, frequency and amplitude can be controlled. Probing of natural modes was done by a trial and error procedure until a nearly pure modal shape satisfying resonance criteria involving phase and amplitude was obtained. Vertical response at several points on the upper deck were measured for the first four modes. Reasonable agreement between the theoretical and experimental frequencies and modal shapes was obtained.

5-3 **Conclusions**

It can be concluded that thin walled beam theory, which is the basis of the given theoretical analysis, together with the other simplifying assumptions, can be used to estimate the natural modes and frequencies of a curved simply-supported girder of asymmetric multi-cell section, even in cases of high curvature, width/radius, width/ span ratios.
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Idealized model of a simply supported curved asymmetric box girder

Fig. 2.1

Fig. 2.2 Forces acting on an element of a curved girder
Vertical \( (v - \phi x_0) \)

Horizontal \( (u - \phi y_0) \)

(a) Net centroidal displacements

\[
\delta u = (x - x_0)(\cos\phi - 1) + (y - y_0)\sin\phi \\
\delta v = (x - x_0)\sin\phi + (y - y_0)(1 - \cos\phi)
\]

(b) Net displacement of a point on the wall \( M \) due to an angle of twist \( \phi \) only.

Fig.2.3
Fig. 2.4 First Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of a Symmetric Cross-Section
(Double Coupling between \( v \) and \( \phi \))
Fig. 2.5(a) First Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of a symmetric Cross-section (Double Coupling between v and φ)
Fig. 2.5(b) Second Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of a symmetric Cross-Section (Double Coupling between v and φ)
Fig. 2.6(a) First Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of an Asymmetric Cross-Section (Triple Coupling between $u$, $v$ and $\phi$)
Fig. 2.6(b) Second Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of an Asymmetric Cross-Section (Triple Coupling between $u$, $v$ and $\phi$)
Fig. 2.7(a) First Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of an Asymmetric Cross-Section
(Triple Coupling between \( u \), \( v \) and \( \phi \))
Fig. 2.7(b) Second Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of an Asymmetric Cross-Section (Triple Coupling between $u$, $v$, and $\phi$)
Fig. 2.8(a) First Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of an Asymmetric Cross-Section (Triple Coupling)
Fig. 2.8(b) Second Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of an Asymmetric Cross-Section
(Triple Coupling between u, v and ϕ)
Fig. 2.9(a) First Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of a symmetric Cross-Section (Double Coupling between v and ϕ)
Fig. 2.9(b) Second Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girder of a Symmetric Cross-Section (Double Coupling between \( v \) and \( \phi \))
Fig. 2.10(a) First Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of an Asymmetric Cross-Section (Triple Coupling between $u$, $v$, and $\phi$)
Fig. 2.10(b) Second Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of an Asymmetric Cross-Section (Triple Coupling between u, v and θ)
Fig. 2.11(a) First Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of a Symmetric Cross-Section (Double Coupling between $v$ and $\phi$)
Fig. 2.11(b) Second Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of a Symmetric Cross-Section (Double Coupling between $v$ and $\phi$)
Fig. 2.12(a) First Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of an Asymmetric Cross-Section (Triple Coupling between $u$, $v$ and $\phi$)
Fig. 2.12(b) Second Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of an Asymmetric Cross-Section (Triple Coupling between $u$, $v$ and $\phi$)
Fig. 2.13(a) First Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of an Asymmetric Cross-Section (Triple Coupling between \( u \), \( v \) and \( \phi \))
Fig. 2.13(b) Second Mode Natural Frequencies of Curved Girders of an Asymmetric Cross-Section (Triple Coupling between u, v and $\phi$)
Fig. 3.1 General plan and cross-sectional dimensions (in inches) of Model A.
Fig. 3.2 General plan and cross-sectional dimensions (in inches) of Model B.
Fig. 3.3 General View of Model B

Fig. 3.4 Left support of Model B.
Two Roller Point Support and One Hinge Point Support.
Fig. 3.3  General View of Model B

Fig. 3.4  Left support of Model B.
Two Roller Point Support and
One Hinge Point Support.
Fig. 3.5  Right Support of Model B.
Three Roller Point Support.

Fig. 3.6  Shaker Head and Attachment to the Model.
Showing also Accelerometer and Load Cell.
Fig. 3.5  Right Support of Model B.
Three Roller Point Support.

Fig. 3.6  Shaker Head and Attachment to the Model.
Showing also Accelerometer and Load Cell
Fig. 3.7 Roller point support

Fig. 3.8 Fixed point support
Fig. 3.9 Stress strain creep diagrams of plexiglas.
Graph obtained from free vibrations of a simply supported beam, first mode only.

Temperature = 70°F

Fig.3.10 Correction factor $\alpha$ of the modulus of elasticity vs. frequency for plexiglas.
Fig. 3.11  Curved Webs mounted on Special Aluminum Frameworks

Fig. 3.12  Curved Webs glued to the Upper Deck. Wooden Studs used for Web Alignment
Fig. 3.11 Curved Webs mounted on Special Aluminum Frameworks

Fig. 3.12 Curved Webs glued to the Upper Deck. Wooden Studs used for Web Alignment
Fig. 3-13 - Block Diagram of Experimental Setup
Fig. 3.14 The shaker and its attachment to the model.

Fig. 3.15 Circuitry of load cell.
Fig. 3.16 Calibration of Transducer T-3 with Channel 6 of the U-V Recorder
Fig. 3.17 Load cell calibration graph.

External Amplification = 100
Input Voltage = 10 v.
Fig. 3.18 Top left to right, Oscillator, DC Power Supply, Shaker's Power Amplifier, Oscilloscope, Load Cell's Bridge and Amplifier.

Fig. 3.19 Display System U.V. Recorder and Memoscope
Fig. 3.18  Top left to right, Oscillator, DC Power Supply, Shaker's Power Amplifier, Oscilloscope, Load Cell's Bridge and Amplifier.

Fig. 3.19  Display System U.V. Recorder and Memoscope
Fig. 3.20 (a) Lissajous Figure, signals not in phase.
(b) Two signals perfectly in phase.
(c) Typical Forced Vibration record, near 4th mode of Model B
\[ \omega = 110 \text{ cps.} \]
Fig. 3.20 (a) Lissajous Figure, signals not in phase.
(b) Two signals perfectly in phase.
(c) Typical Forced Vibration record, near 4th mode of Model B.
$\omega = 110$ cps.
Fig. 3.20  
(a) Lissajous Figure, signals not in phase.  
(b) Two signals perfectly in phase.  
(c) Typical Forced Vibration record, near 4th mode of Model B  
\( \omega = 110 \text{ cps} \).
Fig. 4.1 Warping displacement diagrams (sectorial coordinates) of box models.
Fig. 4.2 First Modal Shape of the upper deck of model B.

$U_1 = -0.00656 \quad V_1 = 1.0 \quad \omega_1 = 13.3 \text{ cps Theory}$

$\phi_1 = -0.03256 \text{ rad.} \quad W_{rs} = 0.00064 \quad \omega_1 = 12.5 \text{ cps Experiment}$
position & direction of optimum excitation

$u_2 = 146.96$ $v_2 = 1.0$

$\phi_2 = 0.79 \text{ rad.}$ $w_{rs} = 73.38$

$\omega_2 = 63.2 \text{ cps Theory}$

$\omega_2 = 58.65 \text{ cps Experiment}$

Fig. 4.3 Second Modal Shape of the upper deck of model B.
position & direction of optimum excitation

--- static

--- vibrating (theory)

△ experiment

\[
U_3 = -0.00138 \quad V_3 = 1.0
\]

\[
\phi_3 = -0.0429 \text{ rad.} \quad W_{rs} = 0.00224
\]

\[
\omega_3 = 67.10 \text{ cps Theory}
\]

\[
\omega_3 = 60.50 \text{ cps Experiment}
\]

Fig. 4.4 Third Modal Shape of the upper deck of model B.
Fig. 4.5 Fourth Modal Shape of the upper deck of model B
Engineering beam theory assumes that plane sections remain plane when the beam deforms under loads. Although this assumption leads to reliable prediction of the behavior of solid girders, nevertheless, it is not adequate for thin walled beams, (30, 40, 48). The longitudinal displacement in the x-direction (Fig.1.a) caused by a torque and/or (for cases where there is coupling between the bending and twisting moments) bending moments or bimoments is defined as the warping displacement. Vlasov (40) introduced the concept of the bimoment which consists of two parallel, equal and opposite moments about one axis acting a distance apart to describe the warping phenomenon. The effects of such bimoments can be superimposed on the results of engineering beam theory to obtain the total behavior.

The distribution of warping displacements in the overhangs as obtained from Eq.(44) and shown in Fig.4.1 is open to question. Dabrowski (11) reported almost the same distribution for a single cell box with two overhangs similar to the cross-section of model A. It is not obvious that the absolute value of warping displacement should decrease in magnitude between the joint with the web and the free end of the overhang. If the overhang is thought of as an extension fixed to the upper deck, warping should increase as one proceeds away from
the center of twist. It follows that one might expect an increase of the absolute value of the warping displacement as one proceeds towards the free end of the upper deck.

A three-dimensional finite element program (38) which assumes six degrees of freedom at each node (three displacements and three rotations) and takes into account both bending and in plane stresses, was used to analyze the warping behavior of a box with overhangs. A straight girder with cross-section similar to that of model A was idealized as shown in Fig.I.a. The end conditions were such that sec-1 was completely free in all directions, sec-3 was constrained at the nodes against x and z displacements, and no rotations with respect to the y and z axes were permitted. No relative movements along the sides connecting two adjacent nodes were allowed.

Two loading conditions were used - the first a torque applied at the free end 'sec-1' Fig.I.b, and the second a bimoment idealized as four equal forces acting as shown in Fig.I.e at sec-1 as well.

Warping displacements in the x-direction obtained from the program are shown for both loading conditions at two sections 1 and 2 in Figs.I.c, I-d, I-f, I-g. It can be seen that the absolute values of warping displacements in the overhangs are always greater than those at the joint with the box, for both sections under both loading conditions.
This difference in distribution of the warping displacements in the overhangs should not significantly affect the girder's natural frequencies and modal shapes, since the effect of warping in boxes is generally small as compared to other effects. However, in some cases such as restrained warping the inadequacy of the theory might cause some undesirable results. It can be concluded that a re-examination of thin walled beam theory as given by Vlasov (40) is indicated in this case.
Fig. I  Finite Element Analysis of warping displacements (in the x-direction) in a box girder with overhangs.
APPENDIX II

COMPUTER PROGRAM

FREE VIBRATIONS OF CURVED THIN WALLED GIRDERS

PURPOSE - CALCULATES NATURAL FREQUENCIES AND AMPLITUDES OF MODAL FUNCTIONS FOR A CIRCULARLY CURVED SIMPLY SUPPORTED GIRDER. THE CROSS SECTION CAN BE SOLID OR THIN WALLED ASYMMETRICAL UNISYMMETRICAL OR DOUBLY SYMMETRICAL W.R.T. CENTROIDAL AXES X & Y.

ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF PARAMETERS

A = CROSS SECTIONAL AREA
ALFA = CENTRAL ANGLE IN DEGREES
BPROP = ISM'S SSP PACKAGE SUBROUTINE, FINDS ROOTS OF A POLYNOMIAL
E = MODULUS OF ELASTICITY
I = MODE NUMBER OR NUMBER OF SINE WAVES LONGITUIONALLY
M = NUMBER OF MODES DESIRED
DI = POLAR MOMENT OF INERTIA W.R.T. SHEAR CENTER
PHI = TORSIONAL AMPLITUDE OF MODAL FUNCTION
PI = POLAR MOMENT OF INERTIA W.R.T. CENTROID
PIE = 3.1415926535898
POIS = POISON'S RATIO
R = RADIUS OF CURVATURE MEASURED TO CENTROID
RD = MASS PER UNIT VOLUME OF MATERIAL IN USE
RSW = AMPLITUDE OF RIGHT SUPPORT MOTION
RX = X/Y*(Y**2)*DA/YI
RY = Y*(X**2)*DA/YI
TX = ST-VENANT'S TORSION CONSTANT
UU = HORIZONTAL AMPLITUDE OF MODAL FUNCTION
VE = VERTICAL AMPLITUDE OF MODAL FUNCTION
JW,J) = ROOT J OF THE J-TH COUPLED NATURAL FREQUENCIES IN CYCLES PER SECOND
WI = WARPING MOMENT OF INERTIA
WT = UNCOUPLED TORSIONAL NATURAL FREQUENCY OF AN EQUIVALENT STRAIGHT GIRDER
WU = UNCOUPLED HORIZONTAL NATURAL FREQUENCY OF AN EQUIVALENT STRAIGHT GIRDER
WV = UNCOUPLED VERTICAL NATURAL FREQUENCY OF AN EQUIVALENT STRAIGHT GIRDER
XI = MOMENT OF INERTIA W.R.T. A HORIZONTAL CENTROIDAL AXIS
XO = X-COORDINATE OF SHEAR CENTER
XY = PRODUCT OF INERTIA W.R.T. AXES X&Y
YI = MOMENT OF INERTIA W.R.T. A VERTICAL CENTROIDAL AXIS
YO = Y-COORDINATE OF SHEAR CENTER

IMPLICIT REAL(4)(A-H,O-Z)
DATA PIE/3.1415926535898/
READ(5,130)
READ(5,140),E,RD,POIS
READ(5,140),ALFA
READ(5,140),X,YI,XYI
READ(5,140)X0,Y0,RX,RY
READ(5,140)WI,TK,PI
WRITE(6,138)X0,Y0,RX,RY
WRITE(6,138)WI,TK,PI
WRITE(6,137)ALFA
WRITE(6,136)X0,Y0,RX,RY
WRITE(6,137)ALFA
DPIE=2.*PIE
G=EXP(2.*(1.+PD15))
SL=ALFA*PIE*EXP(1./180.)
C0=PI*ALFA*(X0*Y0+Y0*Y0)
C1=1.*TK/PI
C2=1.*XYI/XI
C3=1.*RX/R
C4=1.*RY/R
C5=1.*XO/R
C6=1.*YO/R
C7=(1.+C7)/PI
C8=1.*C7+5*C5+C6*C6
DO 40 I=1,M
WSU(I)=0.
WSV(I)=0.
DO 40 J=1,N
W(I,J)=0.
40 CONTINUE
PRINT 132
PRINT 200
DO 90 I=1,M
C9=((DFLOAT(I))*PIE)/SL**2
C10=1./(R0*C9)
C11=1.-C10
C12=1.-C11*C2
C13=C7*C10
WSU(I)=C9*W0*W1/((RD+PI))
WSV(I)=C9*W0*W1/((RD+PI))
WTS(I)=C9*W0*W1/((RD+PI))
RA1=WUS(I)/WSV(I)
RA2=WTS(I)/WSV(I)
COF(1)=C8*C11*C10*(C3*C10-C11*C4+C11*C12)*RA1+RA2
COF21=C6*C11+C12+2.*C13+C14+C15*C11+C12+C13+C14*C15+C11+C12+C13*C14*C15
COF22=C6*C11+C12+2.*C13*C14*C15+C11+C12+C13*C14*C15+C11+C12+C13*C14*C15
COF31=C6*C15+C20+C21.*C3+C4*C5+C6*C7+C8*C9
COF32=C6*C15+C20+C21.*C3+C4*C5*C6*C7+C8*C9
COF33=C7*C6*C8*C9
CALL DPARD(COF,4,WSU,Z,V,3,IER)
DO 80 J=1,3

W(I,J) = (DSORT(WUS(J)) - WUS(I)) / DPIE

C CALCULATION OF AMPLITUDES OF MODAL FUNCTIONS

C

D1 = C1*CU - C6*US(J)
D2 = -1*(C8/C7)*RA2*US(J)
D3 = R*((C8/C7)*RA2*C10*(C6+C9)-US(J))
D4 = C11*RA1 - US(J)
D5 = C2*RA1
D6 = R*(-C2+C6-C4)*US(J)
D7 = R*(C10+C11-CUS(J))
D8 = R*(C8/C7)*US(J)
D9 = (C8/C7)*(RA2-US(J)) - C10*(C6+C9)
VE = 1.

PHI = VE*(D31*D32-D33*D21)/(D21*D33-D31*D23)
UW = (-D22*VE-D23)*PHI/D21
C14 = 1./(DSORT(C9))
RSW = UW*C14/R - PHI*C14*CXY/CA*R*R
WRITE(6,210) I, WCI, J, VE, UW, PHI, RSW

80 CONTINUE
DO 85 K = 1, 4
DO 85 K = 1, 4

85 CONTINUE
CONTINUE
PRINT 220
WRITE(*,250) I, WCI, J, VE, UX, UY, UZ, WUX, WUX, WUX

100 CONTINUE
STOP
END