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# VIBRATIONS OF THREE-LAYER BEAMS

THEORY OF ELASTICITY

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**Abstract**

**Full Text**

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**THEORY OF ELASTICITY**

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## **VIBRATIONS OF THREE-LAYER BEAMS**

*(Presented by Academician L. I. Sedov on 6 IV 1966)*

§ 1. The problem of flexural vibrations of a three-layer beam, under certain assumptions, reduces <sup>(1,2)</sup> to the solution of a single partial differential equation for the displacement function  $\chi(x, t)$

$$(1 - \vartheta k \nabla^2) \nabla^2 \nabla^2 \chi(x, t) + \frac{\Omega l^4}{D} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} (1 - k \nabla^2) \chi(x, t) = 0, \quad (1,1)$$

where  $\nabla^2 = \partial^2 / \partial x^2$ ;  $\vartheta, k, \Omega, D$  are constants depending on the elastic, geometric, and mass characteristics of the three-layer bar <sup>(1)</sup>;  $\chi(x, t)$  is a dimensionless displacement function of the longitudinal coordinate  $x$  and time  $t$ , related to the deflection  $w(x, t)$  by the formula

$$w(x, t) = l(1 - k \nabla^2) \chi(x, t) \quad (1,2)$$

( $l$  is some linear quantity, for example the length of the bar).

We shall seek a solution of the linear differential equation (1,1) in the form

$$\chi(x, t) = \chi(x) e^{i\omega t}, \quad (1,3)$$

where the amplitude  $\chi(x)$ , in the general case, is a complex function of the real variable  $x$ ;  $\omega$  is the vibration frequency. Substituting (1,3) into (1,1), we find

$$(1 - \vartheta k \nabla^2) \nabla^2 \nabla^2 \chi(x) - \omega_*^2 (1 - k \nabla^2) \chi(x) = 0, \quad (1,4)$$

where  $\nabla^2 = \frac{d^2}{dx^2}$ ;  $\omega_*^2 = \frac{\Omega l^4}{D} \omega^2$  is the dimensionless frequency.

Represent the particular solution of (1,4) in the form

$$\chi(x) = e^{\alpha x}. \quad (1,5)$$

Substituting (1,5) into (1,4), and canceling  $e^{\alpha x} \neq 0$ , we obtain

$$y^3 + a_4 y^2 + a_2 y + a_0 = 0, \quad (1,6)$$

where  $y = \alpha^2$ ;  $a_4 = -1/\vartheta k$ ;  $a_2 = \omega_*^2/\vartheta$ ;  $a_0 = -\omega_*^2/\vartheta k$ .

It can be shown that the cubic equation (1,6) has three real roots: one negative ( $y_1 = -\lambda^2$ ) and two positive ( $y_2 = \mu^2$ ,  $y_3 = \nu^2$ ), related by

$$\omega_*^2 = \lambda^4 \frac{1 + \vartheta k \lambda^2}{1 + k \lambda^2}; \quad y_{2,3} = \frac{1 + \vartheta k \lambda^2}{2\vartheta k} \left( 1 \mp \sqrt{1 - \frac{4\vartheta k \lambda^2}{(1 + \vartheta k \lambda^2)(1 + k \lambda^2)}} \right). \quad (1,7)$$

For  $4\vartheta k/(1 + \vartheta k \lambda^2)(1 + k \lambda^2) \ll 1$ , the estimates

$$y_2 \geq \frac{\lambda^2}{1 + k \lambda^2}, \quad y_3 \leq \frac{1}{\vartheta k} + \frac{k \lambda^2}{1 + k \lambda^2}. \quad (1,8)$$

are valid.

The general solution of equation (1,4) can be represented in the form

$$\begin{aligned} \chi(x) = \sum_{i=1}^6 \bar{C}_i e^{\alpha_i x} = C_1 \sin \lambda x + C_2 \cos \lambda x + C_3 \operatorname{sh} \mu x + C_4 \operatorname{ch} \mu x \\ + C_5 \operatorname{sh} \nu x + C_6 \operatorname{ch} \nu x \end{aligned} \quad (1,9)$$

(where  $\bar{C}_i, C_i$  are constants).

§ 2. Let us consider a number of boundary-value problems.

**A. Hinged edges.** The boundary conditions at  $x = 0$ ,  $x = 1$  will be

$$\chi = \nabla^2 \chi = \nabla^2 \nabla^2 \chi = 0. \quad (2,1)$$

Substituting (1,9) into (2,1), we arrive at a homogeneous system of linear algebraic equations for the coefficients  $C_i$  ( $\bar{C}_i$ ). The condition for a nonzero solution has the form

$$\Delta = \operatorname{sh} a_1 \operatorname{sh} a_3 \operatorname{sh} a_5, \quad (2,2)$$

where  $\Delta$  is the determinant composed of the coefficients of  $\bar{C}_i$  in the indicated system.

Consequently, one of the roots is  $a_1 = in\pi$ .

**Fig. 1.** Variation of the dimensionless vibration frequency  $\omega_*$  as a function of the shear parameter  $k$  for hinged support of the ends without diaphragms

Fig. 1 and Fig. 2

Figure 1: Fig. 1 and Fig. 2

(a) and with absolutely rigid diaphragms at the ends (b); the first five modes;  $\vartheta = 0.01$

**Fig. 2.** Variation of the first mode shape of a three-layer beam as a function of the shear parameter  $k$  for hinged ends (a) (diaphragms absent); one end clamped and the other hinged (b)

Substituting  $a_1$  into (1,7), we obtain an explicit expression for the vibration frequency (Fig. 1)

$$\omega_*^2 = n^4 \pi^4 \frac{1 + \vartheta k n^2 \pi^2}{1 + k n^2 \pi^2}. \quad (2,3)$$

To calculate the vibration modes we shall use the first five relations (2,1). We obtain a system of linear algebraic equations for the coefficients  $C_i$ . Solving it, we find

$$C_1 = 1, \quad C_i = 0 \quad (i = 2, 3, \dots, 6). \quad (2,4)$$

As a result the dimensionless deflection  $w(x)$  is equal to (see Fig. 2a)

$$w(x) = (1 + k n^2 \pi^2) \sin n \pi x. \quad (2,5)$$

**B. Hinged edges.** At the edges there are diaphragms, absolutely flexible out of their plane and absolutely rigid in shear in their plane (Fig. 1, 3). The boundary conditions for  $x = 0$ ,  $x = 1$  take the form

$$(\nabla^2 \chi)_{,x} = \nabla^2 (1 - \vartheta k \nabla^2) \chi = (1 - k \nabla^2) \chi = 0. \quad (2,6)$$

The determinant  $\Delta$  in this case will be

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\vartheta, k, \omega_*) = & \sum_{i,j,k} (\alpha_k^2 - \alpha_i^2)(\alpha_j^2 - \alpha_i^2) \alpha_j^3 \alpha_k^3 \alpha [1 - \vartheta k(\alpha_k^2 + \alpha_i^2) + \vartheta k^2 \alpha_i^2 \alpha_k^2] \times \\ & \times [1 - \vartheta k(\alpha_j^2 + \alpha_i^2) + \alpha_i^2 \alpha_j^2] \operatorname{sh} \alpha_i (1 - \operatorname{ch} \alpha_j \operatorname{ch} \alpha_k) + \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{sh} \alpha_1 \operatorname{sh} \alpha_3 \operatorname{sh} \alpha_5 \sum_{i,j,k} (\alpha_k^2 - \alpha_j^2) \alpha_j^6 [1 - \vartheta k(\alpha_k^2 + \alpha_j^2) + \vartheta k^2 \alpha_j^2 \alpha_k^2] = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (2,7)$$

where the indices  $i, j, k$  (1, 3, 5) are permuted cyclically three times in the sums. Joint solution of (1.6) and (2.6) makes it possible to determine the dependence

of the vibration frequency  $\omega_*$  on the parameters  $\vartheta$ ,  $k$ . The results of the calculations are presented in Fig. 1. The vibration modes are calculated by the method indicated above. In this case all the coefficients  $C_i$  are different from zero.

**Fig. 3.** Dependence of the roots  $\alpha_i$  of the frequency equation on the shear parameter  $k$  for hinged support of the edges with absolutely rigid diaphragms: first six modes;  $\vartheta = 0.01$

**Fig. 4.** Variation of the dimensionless vibration frequency  $\omega_*$  as a function of the shear parameter  $k$ ; both ends of the beam are freely clamped; first eight modes;  $\vartheta = 0.01$

**C. Free clamping along the edges  $x = 0$ ,  $x = 1$**  (Fig. 4). The boundary conditions are

$$(1 - k\nabla^2)\chi = \chi_{,xx} = (\nabla^2\chi)_{,xx} = 0. \quad (2.8)$$

The determinant  $\Delta$  is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\vartheta, k, \omega_*) = & \sum_{i,j,k} \alpha_i^2 \alpha_j \alpha_k (\alpha_k^2 - \alpha_i^2) (\alpha_j^2 - \alpha_i^2) \times \\ & \times [1 - k(\alpha_k^2 + \alpha_j^2) + k^2 \alpha_j^2 \alpha_k^2] \operatorname{sh} \alpha_i (1 - \operatorname{ch} \alpha_j \operatorname{ch} \alpha_k) + \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{sh} \alpha_1 \operatorname{sh} \alpha_3 \operatorname{sh} \alpha_5 \sum_{i,j,k} \alpha_i^2 \alpha_k^2 (\alpha_k^2 - \alpha_i^2)^2 (1 - k\alpha_j^2)^2 \end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

( $i, j, k$  –threefold cyclic permutation).

**7. Free clamping along the edge  $x = 0$  and hinged support along the edge  $x = 1$ .** The boundary conditions are

$$\chi_{,xx} = (\nabla^2\chi)_{,xx} = (1 - k\nabla^2)\chi = 0 \quad (x = 0); \quad (2.10)$$

$$\chi = \nabla^2\chi = \nabla^2\nabla^2\chi = 0 \quad (x = 1). \quad (2.11)$$

The conditions for determining the vibration frequencies have the form

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\vartheta, k, \omega_*) = & \sum_{i,j,k} \alpha_k \alpha_j (\alpha_k^2 - \alpha_j^2)^2 (\alpha_k^2 - \alpha_i^2) (\alpha_j^2 - \alpha_i^2) (1 - k\alpha_i^2) \times \\ & \times \operatorname{sh} \alpha_i \operatorname{ch} \alpha_j \operatorname{ch} \alpha_k = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

(where the indices  $i, j, k$  (1, 3, 5) are cyclically permuted three times). For the coefficients  $C_i$  of the vibration modes, compact expressions in terms of the roots  $\alpha_i$  are obtained in this case (Fig. 2b).

**D. Free clamping along the edge  $x = 0$ ; the edge  $x = 1$  is free.** The boundary conditions are

$$(1 - k\nabla^2)\chi = \chi_{,xx} = (\nabla^2\chi)_{,xx} = 0 \quad (x = 0); \quad (2.13)$$

$$\nabla^2\chi = \nabla^2\nabla^2\chi = (1 - \vartheta k\nabla^2)\nabla^2\chi_{,xx} = 0 \quad (x = 1). \quad (2.14)$$

The condition for determining the vibration frequencies takes the form

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\vartheta, k, \omega_*) &= \sum_{i,j,k} \alpha_i^2(\alpha_i^2 - \alpha_j^2)(\alpha_k^2 - \alpha_i^2)\alpha_i\alpha_j\alpha_k \times \\ &\times [\alpha_j^4(1 - \vartheta k\alpha_j^2)(1 - k\alpha_k^2) + \alpha_k^4(1 - \vartheta k\alpha_k^2)(1 - k\alpha_j^2)] \operatorname{ch} \alpha_i + \\ &+ \sum_{i,j,k} \alpha_i^2(\alpha_i^2 - \alpha_j^2)(\alpha_k^2 - \alpha_i^2)\alpha_i\alpha_j\alpha_k \times \end{aligned} \quad (2.15)$$

$$\times [\alpha_j^4(1 - \vartheta k\alpha_j^2)(1 - k\alpha_k^2) + \alpha_k^4(1 - \vartheta k\alpha_k^2)(1 - k\alpha_j^2)] \operatorname{ch} \alpha_i \operatorname{sh} \alpha_j \operatorname{sh} \alpha_k +$$

$$+ \alpha_1^3\alpha_3^3\alpha_5^3 \operatorname{ch} \alpha_1 \operatorname{ch} \alpha_3 \operatorname{ch} \alpha_5 \sum_{i,j,k} (\alpha_i^2 - \alpha_j^2)(1 - \vartheta k\alpha_k^2)(1 - k\alpha_k^2) = 0$$

(the indices  $i, j, k$  (1, 3, 5) are cyclically permuted three times).

**E. Free clamping along the edge  $x = 0$ ; on the free edge  $x = 1$  there is a diaphragm, absolutely flexible out of its plane and absolutely rigid in shear in its plane.** The edge conditions will be

$$(1 - k\nabla^2)\chi = \chi_{,xx} = (\nabla^2\chi) = 0 \quad (x = 0); \quad (2.16)$$

$$\nabla^2\chi_{,xx} = \nabla^2(1 - \vartheta k\nabla^2)\chi = \nabla^2\nabla^2\chi_{,xx} = 0 \quad (x = 1). \quad (2.17)$$

The determinant is equal to

$$\Delta(\vartheta, k, \omega_*) = \sum_{i,j,k} \alpha_i^3(\alpha_j^3 - \alpha_i^2)(\alpha_k^2 - \alpha_i^2)\alpha_i\alpha_j\alpha_k \times$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \times [\alpha_j^4(1 - \vartheta k \alpha_j^2)(1 - k \alpha_k^2) + \alpha_k^4(1 - \vartheta k \alpha_k^2)(1 - k \alpha_j^2)] \operatorname{sh} \alpha_i + \\
 & + \sum_{i,j,k} \alpha_i(\alpha_i^2 - \alpha_j^2)(\alpha_k^2 - \alpha_i^2) \alpha_i^3 \alpha_j^3 \alpha_k^3 \times \\
 & \times [(1 - \vartheta k \alpha_j^2)(1 - k \alpha_k^2) + (1 - \vartheta k \alpha_k^2)(1 - k \alpha_j^2)] \operatorname{sh} \alpha_i \operatorname{ch} \alpha_j \operatorname{ch} \alpha_k + \\
 & + \alpha_1^2 \alpha_3^2 \alpha_5^2 \operatorname{sh} \alpha_1 \operatorname{sh} \alpha_3 \operatorname{sh} \alpha_5 \sum_{i,j,k} \alpha_i^2 \alpha_j^2 (\alpha_i^2 - \alpha_j^2)^2 (1 - \vartheta k \alpha_k^2)(1 - k \alpha_k^2) = 0 \quad (2.18)
 \end{aligned}$$

(the indices  $i, j, k$  (1, 3, 5) are cyclically permuted under the summation signs three times).

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