

## PREDICTION OF POST-ELASTIC SEISMIC RESPONSE OF STRUCTURES BY A MODE SUPERPOSITION TECHNIQUE

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### SYNOPSIS:

For the determination of the dynamic response of a structural system to earthquake ground motion the mode superposition technique offers an alternative approach to the well established direct integration method. Whereas the principle of modal superposition is encountered commonly in elastic analyses, the response of a yielding structure is predicted almost universally by direct integration of the equation of motion.

In this paper the principles of modal superposition are extended into the post-elastic domain. Among the advantages which accrue from the modal based transformation are a potential reduction in the number of dynamic degrees-of-freedom considered in the solution, and a new insight into the structure response provided by the instantaneous dynamic properties of the structure.

### INTRODUCTION:

The development of numerical methods for the non-linear vibration response analysis of structures has attracted much attention. The almost universally accepted approach, utilizing the finite element method, has been to cast the second order equation of dynamic equilibrium into incremental form and solve for the displacements using direct step-by-step integration techniques. Efficient computer codes have been derived on the basis of this model and the results have been successfully interpreted in the design situation. The step-by-step direct integration method is well documented (1 - 7).

Mode superposition is a widely utilized approach in determining the dynamic response analysis of linear systems (e.g. Clough (8), Carmignani et al (9), Bathe and Wilson (10)). Although often used in linear analysis the method has seldom been applied in non-linear problems. Most of the arguments presented for discarding the technique are related to the level of computer effort required to solve the free vibration eigenproblem. The frequencies and mode shapes (eigenvalues and eigenvectors) are fundamental parameters in the mode superposition approach.

In linear response analysis, the mode shapes and frequencies need to be determined once only as their functional dependence on the mass and stiffness matrices is non-varying with time. The response characteristics are determined from the solution of a set of uncoupled (with appropriate bounds on the damping representation) generalized equations.

In contrast, the non-linear problem may be idealized as the solution of a series of linear problems. Morris (11) described the application of modal superposition methods to four simplified problems, three of which were geometrically

non-linear. The fourth problem considered the elasto-plastic analysis of a single-storey single-bay three-dimensional frame. The results indicated the validity of the approach. However, the example analysed was too simplistic to highlight the computation advantages associated with this technique. Nickell (12) also demonstrated the application of the principle of local mode superposition but again the examples were somewhat narrow in scope in that they were restricted to geometrically non-linear problems. The comment was made that no difficulty could be expected in analysing problems of an elasto-plastic nature. Clough (8) suggested that it would often be worthwhile to evaluate the response of a complex structure by direct step-by-step integration of a limited set of normal-coordinate equations of motion even though the equations could become coupled as soon as any significant non-linearity developed in the response. Stricklin and Haisler (13) presented the rudiments of the modal analysis formulation and recommended the approach using the initial elastic eigenvectors as the basis for the transformation matrix. An alternative procedure utilizes the incremental formulation and computes the eigenvectors as a function of the instantaneous displacements. Stricklin concluded this alternative approach offered little promise except for studies of vibrations about a deformed position as found in panel flutter.

Nakao and Takano (14) described the analysis by mode superposition of elasto-plastic frame structures. The examples considered again were very simplistic - however, they concluded the method was effective for analysing the elasto-plastic seismic response of framed structures.

Bathe (15) recognized the generality of the mode superposition formulation and suggested the approach when the response may be modelled by relatively few coordinates.

Little research effort has been directed towards the application of modal superposition techniques to the dynamic time-history response determination of

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typical multi-storey frame structures subjected to earthquake ground motion when the member deformations are extended beyond the elastic limit.

In this paper, the solution of the non-linear structural vibration problem by mode superposition is outlined. In the theory presented the mass matrix,  $M$ , is assumed to be constant. A lumped mass rather than a consistent mass formulation is adopted. The concepts developed apply to a displacement dependent mass matrix, however the lumped mass representation enables some economy in the solution of the set of dynamic equilibrium equations. The stiffness matrix,  $K$ , is assumed to be displacement dependent, however geometric non-linearity effects have been neglected. Since the eigenproblem is a function of the stiffness matrix, as well as the mass matrix, a change in the stiffness properties implies a change also in the corresponding eigenproperties. In the step-by-step response prediction, during periods of material yielding, the eigenproblem may require solution many times. An efficient algorithm for the eigenproblem solution is fundamental to the successful implementations of the proposed solution strategy.

There is one fundamental difference between the solution of the dynamic equilibrium equations by direct integration and by mode superposition. In direct integration, the equations of dynamic equilibrium are integrated directly in the original finite element basis whereas before solving the equilibrium equations, the mode superposition method requires a transformation to a new basis. A large proportion of the computational effort in the mode superposition approach is directed towards the derivation of a set of vectors which together form a suitable transformation basis. Generally, the eigenvectors are the most suitable set of vectors, however, as discussed in detail subsequently, an alternative set of vectors may sometimes be computationally more efficient.

#### LINEAR MODE SUPERPOSITION:

The equation of dynamic equilibrium in the finite element coordinate system may be written in terms of a structural mass matrix  $M$ , a damping matrix  $C$ , and a stiffness matrix  $K$  as

$$M\ddot{x} + C\dot{x} + Kx = F(t) \quad (1)$$

The displacements,  $x$ , and related velocities,  $\dot{x}$ , and accelerations,  $\ddot{x}$ , may be expressed in terms of a new coordinate system by means of a transformation of the form:

$$x = (T)y \quad (2)$$

$\{x\}$  is an  $n$ -dimensional vector of displacements in the finite element coordinate system  
 $(T)$  is a transformation matrix of order  $n \times p$   
 $\{x\}$  is a  $p$ -dimensional vector of displacements in the generalized coordinate system.

By substituting for  $x$ , the equation of equilibrium may also be transformed to the new coordinate system and, after

premultiplying by  $T^T$ , the new form of the equilibrium statement is:

$$T^T M T \ddot{y} + T^T C T \dot{y} + T^T K T y = T^T F(t) \quad (3)$$

The displacements derived in the new system may be related to those in the original system by means of equation (2).

So far no comment has been made on the form of the matrix  $(T)$ . There is a limitless choice of coordinate transformations which could be applied as in equation (2). The effectiveness of the mode superposition approach lies in the choice of the column vectors for the transformation matrix,  $T$ . The eigenvectors corresponding to the  $n$ -free vibration modes of the above system provide an eminently suitable basis. The matrix  $T$  is constructed as a square matrix of order  $n$  with the columns comprising the  $n$  individual eigenvectors. A typical element  $t_{ij}$  represents the  $i$ th component of the  $j$ th eigenvector.

For linear elastic studies, rewriting the transformation matrix in more familiar form as:

$$(T) = (\phi) \quad (4)$$

$(\phi_1 \ \phi_2 \ \dots \ \phi_n)$ , a square matrix of order  $n$

$\phi_1$  is an  $n$ -dimensional vector corresponding to the  $i$ th mode shape leads to an equation of the form:

$$\phi^T M \phi \ddot{y} + \phi^T C \phi \dot{y} + \phi^T K \phi y = \phi^T F(t) \quad (5)$$

The orthonormality properties:

$$\phi^T M \phi = I \quad (6a)$$

and

$$\phi^T K \phi = \Omega^2 \quad (6b)$$

$I = e_i, i = 1, \dots, n$  a unit diagonal matrix

$\Omega^2 = \omega_{ii}^2, i = 1, \dots, n$  a diagonal

matrix of natural frequencies squared

$$I \ddot{y} + \phi^T C \phi \dot{y} + \Omega^2 y = \phi^T F(t) \quad (7)$$

If the viscous damping matrix representation,  $C$ , is chosen such that the same transformation as uncouples the mass and stiffness matrices also uncouples the damping matrix, the  $n$  equations of motion become fully uncoupled and their solutions may be calculated independently.

Damping which satisfies the above criteria is commonly referred to as orthogonal, classical, or proportional damping. The final form of the equilibrium expression is then set of  $n$  equations represented by:

$$\ddot{y}_i + 2\epsilon_i \omega_i \dot{y}_i + \omega_i^2 y_i = \phi_i^T F(t) \quad (8)$$

where

$\epsilon_i$  represents the damping ratio for mode 1

$\omega_i$  is the natural frequency of mode 1

Following the transformation to an uncoupled system, the displacement response may be computed by a variety of techniques including the direct integration approach. One immediate benefit resulting from the uncoupled system is the matrix manipulation steps involved in the solution of each of the  $n$  equations are reduced to trivial calculations.

The selection of an appropriate integrations time step length is inherent in the development of the direct integration method. A time step formula, based on the highest participating frequency, (6) is commonly adopted:

$$0.01 \leq \frac{t}{T_p} \leq 0.1 \quad (9)$$

where

$t$  is the integration time-step length (seconds)

$T_p$  is the period of the highest frequency mode assumed participating (seconds).

The cost of solution using direct integration may be reduced by using a varying time step related to the mode frequency. A coarse step may be adequate for the first few modes (or low frequency modes) and the step-length further subdivided for the higher modes. The overall response is then approximated by superimposing the solutions when the time intervals coincide. The appropriate length of time step is now related to the accuracy with which it is desired to track the selected earthquake ground motion record in each coordinate.

When transformed to generalized form as in equation (8) the equations may be solved using an integration operator based on the Duhamel integral. The advantage of the Duhamel-based operator is that it is precise - it has no artificial damping or phase velocity error. A precise operator based on Duhamel's integral has been presented by Dunham, Nickell and Stickler (2). A particularly effective recursive relationship, based on the approach due to Cronin (16), has been presented by Dempsey and Irvine (17).

#### PROBLEM CONDENSATION:

Benefits which accrue in rewriting the equations of dynamic equilibrium in terms of generalized coordinates result in the first instance from the simplification of the matrix operations in the solution schemes and in the second from the increase in scope in selection of the particular numerical integration scheme. If these were the only advantages, mode superposition schemes in general would be computationally inferior to the efficient direct integration schemes when applied to non-linear analysis.

When the contribution of each uncoupled system to the gross response of the structure is examined, a major potential of the modal transformation approach - a reduction

in the number-of-degrees participating in the response - is identified. For the frame structure typical of a multi-storey building, the response is almost fully described by the first few lateral displacement modes.

For the structures considered in this study the first  $p$  modes are assumed significant in contributing to the response. The transformation matrix,  $(\bar{\Phi})$ , is a matrix of order  $n \times p$ , the columns comprising the first  $p$  eigenvectors. The generalized equation of dynamic equilibrium as in equation (7) may be rewritten:

$$\bar{I}\ddot{y} + \bar{\Phi}^T C \bar{\Phi} \dot{y} + \bar{\Omega}^2 y = \bar{\Phi}^T F(t) \quad (10)$$

$\bar{\Phi} = (\phi_1 \phi_2 \dots \phi_p)$ , a transformation matrix of order  $n \times p$

$\bar{I} = e_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, p$ , a unit diagonal matrix

$\bar{\Omega}^2 = \omega_{ii}^2$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, p$ , a diagonal matrix of frequencies squared

The displacement response is computed by solving  $p$  equations rather than  $n$  as in the complete solution. The efficiency of the reduced scheme is a function of the ratio of  $p$  to  $n$  - the greater the difference the more attractive will be the mode superposition approach.

In the discussion thus far it is assumed that the transformation matrix,  $(T)$ , is constructed from the first  $p$  eigenvectors of the mathematical model of the structure. The transformation matrix is then written as  $(\bar{\Phi})$ . The only mathematical restriction placed on the selection of the transformation matrix is that the order of the matrix must be compatible with that of the mass, damping and stiffness matrices to ensure the triple matrix products are valid. A poor choice results in an inadequate representation of the distribution of inertia loads. A large number of vectors would be necessary to achieve an accurate prediction of the dynamic response of the structure.

Whilst it is desirable to use the eigenvectors as a basis for the transformations of the equations of motion, they do not always provide the most efficient basis. If a set of vectors are available which, although not the exact eigenvectors for the structural system, nevertheless are a close approximation to the true eigenvectors, then these vectors may provide a satisfactory basis for the transformation matrix. It is logical that any set of displaced shapes which approximate the correct mode shapes will provide a reasonable prediction of the distribution of the inertia loads. The set of vectors so derived retain one property of the eigenvector basis as mentioned previously. The inertia loading may be adequately represented by a small number of vectors and thus the order of the generalized set of equations is kept to a minimum.

However the vectors generally do not

satisfy the orthonormality relationships of equations (6a) and (6b). Since the system of transformed equations are no longer diagonalized by the selected basis, the system of equations are coupled. The numerical effort required to solve the transformed set of equations is increased when compared with the uncoupled system. The choice of integration scheme suitable for computing the displacement response is restricted since some schemes are specifically developed for an uncoupled set of equations. The response may still be determined efficiently since the order of the generalized set of equations,  $p$ , is less than  $n$ , the order of the structural system as initially described.

The situation where an approximate set of eigenvectors is a more efficient transformation basis than the exact eigenvectors is outlined in the following section.

#### NON-LINEAR SYSTEMS:

The principles presented above may be applied equally to the solution of non-linear problems. The solution may be considered as equivalent to the solution of a series of linear problems. Two alternative formulations are discussed.

The equation of dynamic equilibrium is written in incremental form, to give:

$$M\Delta\ddot{x} + C_t \Delta\dot{x} + K_t \Delta x = \Delta F(t) \quad (11)$$

where  $C_t$  = damping matrix at time  $t$

and  $K_t$  = tangent stiffness matrix at time  $t$

The lumped mass approach is assumed in the formation of the mass matrix ( $M$ ), hence ( $M$ ) is considered time invariant. The modal transformation to be outlined applied equally to the instance where the mass matrix is also time dependent. Such a case may arise where the "consistent" mass representation is adopted.

The first solution approach is to use the same basis for the transformation matrix as is used in linear elastic analysis. The columns in matrix ( $T$ ) comprise the first  $p$  eigenvectors of the undamped elastic vibration problem:

$$T = (\phi_1 \ \phi_2 \ \dots \ \phi_p) \quad (12)$$

The basis will be acceptable provided the non-linearities are confined to a local section of the structure such that the displaced configuration, allowing for yielding of members, resembles the elastic displaced shape; on substituting

$$T^T M T \ddot{\Delta y} + T^T C_t T \dot{\Delta y} + T^T K_t T \Delta y = T^T \Delta F(t) \quad (13)$$

defining

$$\bar{C}_t^* \equiv T^T C_t T$$

$$\bar{K}_t^* \equiv T^T K_t T$$

and recognizing

$$I = T^T M T$$

leads to:

$$\ddot{\Delta y} + \bar{C}_t^* \dot{\Delta y} + \bar{K}_t^* \Delta y = T^T \Delta F(t) \quad (14)$$

The  $p$  resulting equations no longer correspond to uncoupled generalized coordinate representations. A high level of coupling may be displayed in the matrix representation - the generalized matrices  $\bar{K}_t^*$  and  $\bar{C}_t^*$  are full rather than diagonal as in the elastic case. The solution of the coupled set of equations is not intractable and may be efficiently computed by direct integration procedures. Although an uncoupled set of equations is not derived, the order of the system is reduced from  $n$  to  $p$ , enabling a reduction in computer effort in solving for the displacements.

The reason for considering a mathematically approximate eigenvector basis is that the eigenproblem, which represents a high proportion of the computer demand, is solved once only. Where considerable local yielding is incurred the elastic configuration may provide a very poor representation of the distribution of inertia forces.

An alternative solution is derived by solving the instantaneous eigenproblem and reformulating the transformation matrix ( $T_t$ ) for each change in stiffness.

$$(T_t = \phi_{t1} \ \phi_{t2} \ \dots \ \phi_{tp}) \quad (15)$$

where  $\phi_{ti}$  are column vectors comprising the first  $p$  eigenvectors of the problem

$$K_t \phi_t = \lambda_t M \phi_t$$

The repeated solution of the eigenproblem considerably increases the computer demand. Some economy should be possible from knowledge of the eigenproperties immediately prior to the current stiffness state. In this regard, the subspace iteration algorithm (10) is a suitable choice of algorithm since the previously calculated eigenvectors may be used as a first approximation to the solution of the current eigenproblem. For small variations in stiffness, the eigensolution should converge in few cycles.

The transformed equation of equilibrium is now given by:

$$T_t^T M T_t \ddot{\Delta y} + T_t^T C_t T_t \dot{\Delta y} + T_t^T K_t T_t \Delta y = T_t^T \Delta F(t) \quad (16)$$

defining

$$C_t^* = T_t^T C_t T_t$$

$$\text{and } K_t^* = T_t^T K_t T_t = \begin{pmatrix} \Omega_t^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{where } \begin{pmatrix} \Omega_t^2 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ \omega_{tii} \end{pmatrix} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, p$$

and  $\omega_{tii}$  represents the instantaneous natural frequency of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  mode again

$$I \equiv T_t^T M T_t$$

hence

$$\Delta \ddot{Y} + C_t^* \Delta \dot{Y} + K_t^* \Delta Y = T_t^T \Delta F(t) \quad (17)$$

The transformed set of equations represented by expression (17) may be coupled or uncoupled depending on the form of the damping matrix  $C_t^*$ . Viscous damping effects are modelled by a Rayleigh-type representation (18,19) which relies on three parameters for its description.

$$C_t = \alpha M + \beta K_t + \beta_0 K_0 \quad (18)$$

$K_t$  = current tangent stiffness matrix

$K_0$  = original elastic stiffness matrix

If  $\beta_0$  is specified equal to zero, the instantaneous eigenvectors will be orthogonal to  $C_t$  and thus:

$$T_t^T C_t T_t^T \equiv (2\omega_{ti} \epsilon_i) \quad (19)$$

A series of  $p$  uncoupled equations remain for solution. During yield excursions,  $(K_t)$  may be very low in comparison to  $(K_0)$ . The damping represented by  $\beta_0 K_0$  type is that it retains a high value throughout yielding phases. Damping of the former type may lead to numerical instabilities in the solution phase. The damping matrix  $C_t^*$  is not generally of uncoupled form when represented by equation (18). An uncoupled set of equations is desirable to simplify the solution procedure. With a low level of coupling it may be acceptable to neglect the off-diagonal terms in  $C_t^*$ . An estimate of the error associated with diagonalization has been presented by Warburton and Soni (20). From a study of several simple multi degree-of-freedom systems subjected to harmonic, random, or aperiodic excitation a limiting condition for the modal damping ratio of the dominant mode or modes (more than one mode must be considered for structures with closely spaced antural frequencies) was proposed in terms of natural frequencies and the elements  $c_{ij}$  of  $(C_t^*)$ . For the  $r^{th}$  mode the relationship was written in the form:

$$\epsilon_r \leq D_r \quad (20)$$

where

$$D_r = \epsilon \left[ \frac{C_{rr}}{2C_{rs}} \left[ \frac{\omega_r^2}{\omega_s^2} - 1 \right] \right] \min s$$

$C_{rr}$  corresponds to  $r^{th}$  diagonal element in  $(C_t^*)$

$C_{rs}$  corresponds to the element in the  $r^{th}$  row of the  $s^{th}$  column of  $(C_t^*)$

$\omega_r, \omega_s$  correspond to the natural frequency

of the  $r^{th}$  and  $s^{th}$  modes.

The minimum of the expression [...] with respect to  $s$  is taken over the range  $s = 1, 2, 3, \dots, r-1, r+1, \dots, n$ .

For the maximum errors in the major response quantities to be of the order of 10 per cent  $\epsilon$  was chosen as 0.05.

The alternative approach is to use a direct integration procedure and include the coupled matrix  $(C_t^*)$ . The analyst is required to select the number of modal coordinates which will adequately represent the coupled, damped response. Studies indicate that this number is similar to the number required in a standard mode superposition analysis where no modal coupling exists (21).

In the preceding discussion two alternative approaches for the solution of the dynamic equilibrium equations by mode superposition are presented. The first uses a transformation basis derived from the initial undamped eigenvectors of the structural system. The second uses a time varying set of eigenvectors derived from the current stiffness properties of the system allowing for material yielding. This second approach requires the eigenproblem to be resolved each time the stiffness characteristics of one, or more, elements are altered.

An engineering approach suggests a third alternative could offer the most computationally efficient solution. As has been stated previously an approximate set of eigenvectors can provide a mathematically acceptable transformation basis. The third approach establishes a transformation matrix using the initial undamped elastic structure configuration to derive the eigenvector basis. The step-by-step integration of the dynamic equilibrium equations is initiated incorporating this basis. During the integration, depending on the component element yield strength compared with the intensity of the earthquake ground motion, at the end of a particular time increment some element forces may reach their yield limit. The stiffness matrix is modified to account for the change in element properties. Providing that yield is restricted to a local region the influence of the local yielding may be considered insignificant when compared with the overall stiffness characteristics of the system. In this case the set of eigenvectors derived from the initial structure configuration still provides an accurate description of the distribution of inertia forces in the structure. The initial transformation basis is retained for the subsequent time increments, leading to the set of equations:

$$T_0^T M T_0 \Delta \ddot{Y} + T_0^T C_t T_0 \Delta \dot{Y} + T_0^T K_t T_0 = T_0^T \Delta F(t) \quad (21)$$

$(T_0)$  is the transformation matrix of order  $n \times p$  derived from the eigenproblem  $K_0 \phi = M \phi \Lambda$

$(K_t)$  is the tangent stiffness matrix at time  $t$

$(K_0)$  is the initial elastic structure stiff matrix

The generalized stiffness matrix  $(T_0^T K_t T_0)$  is a full matrix of order,  $p$ , because the eigenvector basis is not orthogonal to  $(K_t)$  when

$$K_t \neq K_0$$

The generalized damping matrix  $(\bar{C}_{t0})$  is a full matrix also.

The transformed set of equations in (21) may be solved by direct integration. A further simplification can be introduced to the solution if the assumption is made that the influence of the off-diagonal coupling terms is insignificant and the system is solved as an uncoupled set of equations.

When the system of generalized equations exhibits strong coupling, signified by large off-diagonal terms in the generalized stiffness matrix, then the eigenproblem is resolved and a new basis is generated. The generalized equation of equilibrium is then written as:

$$T_t^T M T_t \Delta \ddot{y} + T_t^T C_t T_t \Delta \dot{y} + T_t^T K_t T_t \Delta y = T_t^T \Delta F(t) \quad (22)$$

$(T_t)$  is the transformation matrix of order  $n \times p$  derived from the eigenproblem

$$K_t \phi = M \phi \lambda$$

$(K_t)$  is the tangent stiffness matrix at time  $t$

A byproduct of the scheme whereby the solution of the instantaneous eigenproblem is considered is that the analyst now has access to the instantaneous frequencies and mode shapes. The instantaneous periods are of interest because they represent the dynamic effects resulting from fluctuations in the tangent stiffness during periods of strong shaking.

Studies (22) have indicated there does not seem to be any simple criterion by which the earthquake damage potential may be correlated to a particular structure configuration. These studies have been restricted to displacement related comparisons associated with a range of earthquake ground motion records. It would be advantageous to attempt a correlation on a dynamic basis. Utilizing the above calculated values, the structure instantaneous frequency spectrum can be compared with the earthquake ground motion spectra. Resulting from these studies, the sensitivity of a structure to a particular earthquake motion may be clarified.

The solution strategies discussed in this paper have been incorporated into a general three-dimensional frame analysis computer code. In Table 1 the program structure is demonstrated in block form. For a more complete description the reader is directed to the source document (30).

#### EXAMPLE PROBLEM:

To demonstrate the implementation of the mode superposition scheme, and to enable a comparison to be made with the results predicted by direct integration, the analysis of a reinforced concrete frame structure is now presented. The test structure was derived from the proportions and strength levels of the six-storey plane frame analysed by Jury (29). The frame has been designed to comply with the earthquake lateral loading provisions of the current New Zealand Loadings Code (28). The frame geometry is shown in Figure 1, and other relevant parameters used in the dynamic analysis are presented in Table 2. The lumped modal masses and equivalent gravity loads are given in Table 3.

The columns were assumed to have no limit to their elastic characteristics, yielding being thus confined to the ends of the beams. This is in accordance with the 'strong column-weak beam' design philosophy promoted by Code recommendations. Prior to the non-linear analyses, the structure was analysed elastically to evaluate the individual mode contributions. The displacement response predicted by the alternative direct integration scheme, which included all the dynamic degrees-of-freedom, served as a benchmark for the comparisons.

The structure was subjected to the first five seconds of the North-South component of the El Centro earthquake, 18 May, 1940.

The undamped, free vibration, lateral displacement profiles of the first six modes of the test structure are shown in Figure 2.

Figure 3 depicts the elastic lateral displacement time-history of level 6 of the structure for two cases as indicated on the diagram. The response determined by integrating the first mode alone is compared with the response predicted by the direct integration of the system of equations written in the finite element coordinate system. A comparison of the results indicates that, for an elastic material status, the structure responds in a first mode dominated displacement profile. Inclusion of additional modes had no significant influence on the displacement time-history. The structure response indicates an effective first mode period of approximately 0.9 secs. which can be compared with the undamped free vibration period of 0.8 secs.

In Figure 4, the non-linear lateral displacement time-history of Level 6 is plotted. Curve (c) is used as the benchmark for the comparisons and corresponds to the inelastic displacement response resulting from the direct integration by the constant average acceleration technique of the system as modelled in the finite element coordinate system. Curves (a) and (b) were derived by integrating the system as expressed in the generalised coordinate system, using the tangent modal properties as the basis of the coordinate transformation. Curve (a) corresponds

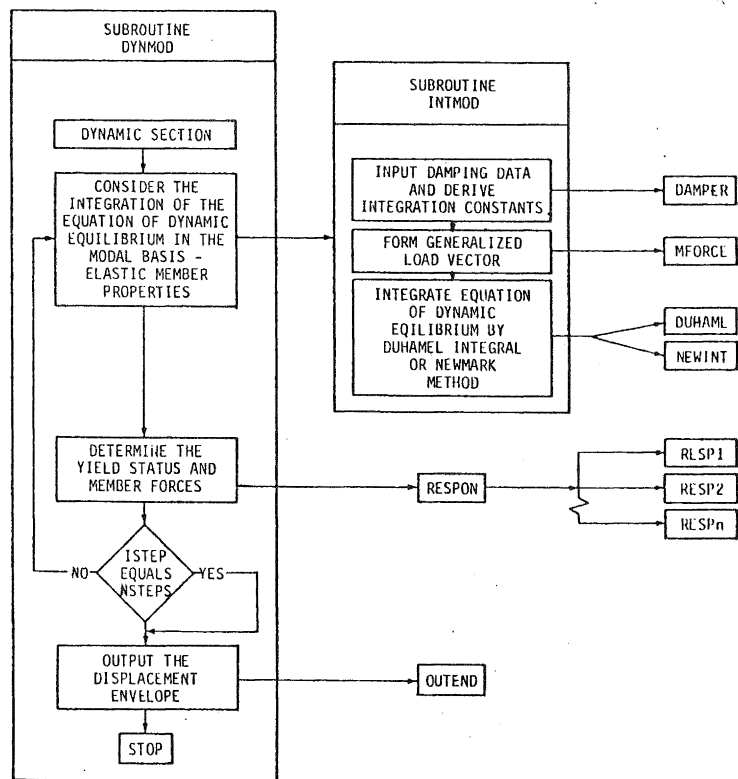


TABLE 1(a) - SCHEMATIC SUMMARY OF THE ELASTIC DYNAMIC MODAL INTEGRATION OPTION IN THE PROGRAM DYNMOD

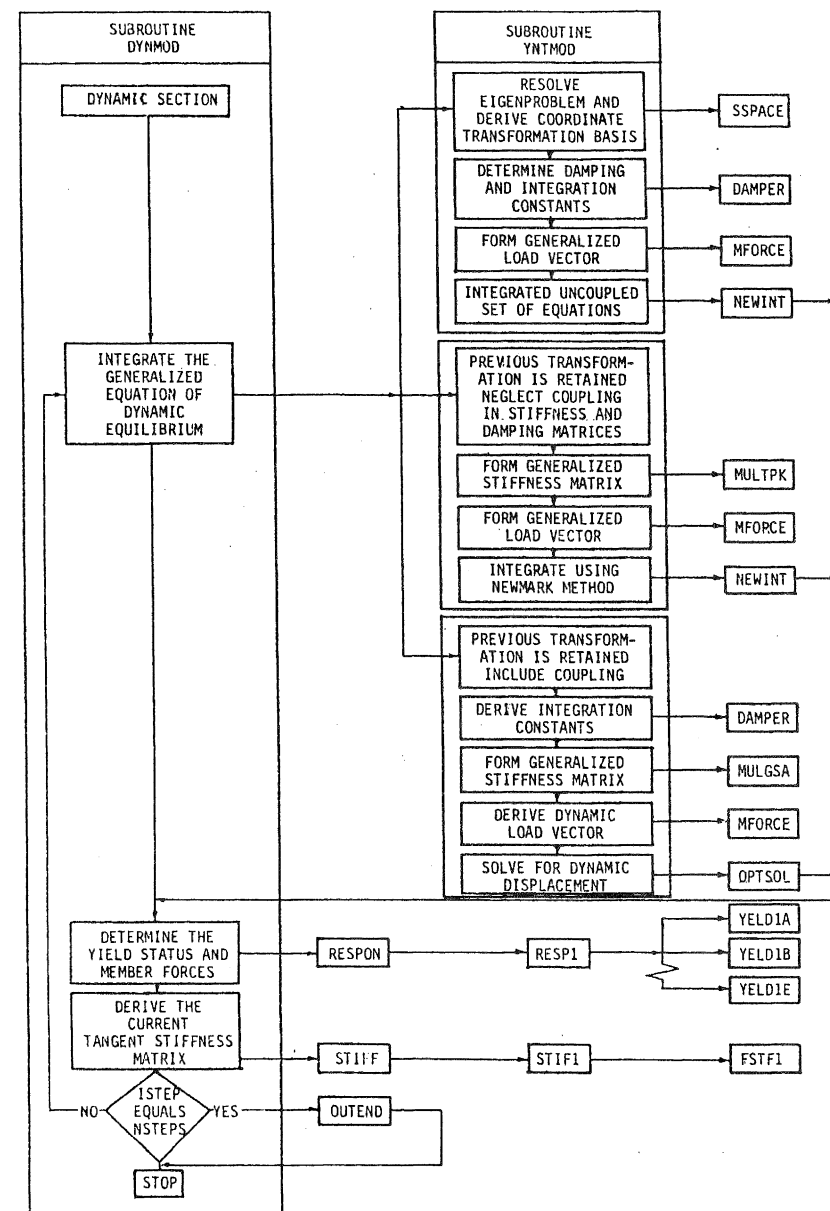


TABLE 1(b) - SCHEMATIC SUMMARY OF THE POST-ELASTIC DYNAMIC MODAL INTEGRATION OPTION IN THE PROGRAM DYNMOD

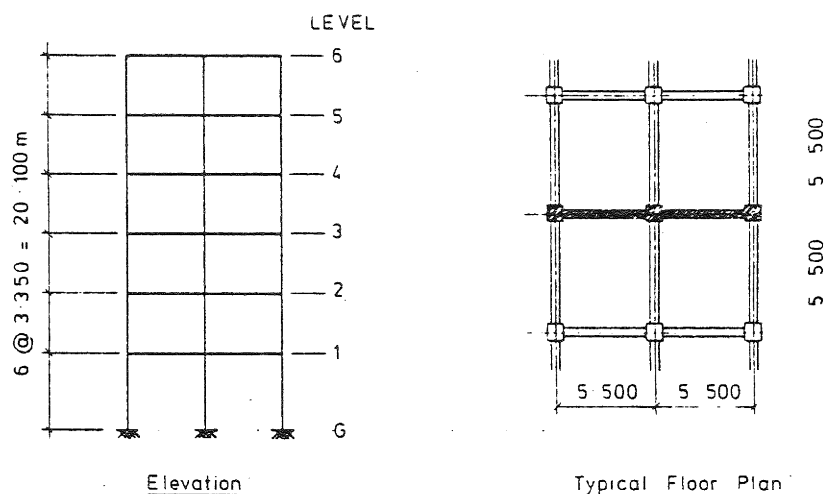


FIG.1 – SIX STOREY TEST STRUCTURE GEOMETRY

		AXIAL AREA	MOMENT OF INERTIA	PLASTIC HINGE LENGTH	RIGID END BLOCK	E	G	FIXED END MOMENT	FIXED END SHEAR
LEVEL	MEMBER	m <sup>2</sup>	× 10 <sup>3</sup> m <sup>4</sup>	m	m	× 10 <sup>7</sup> kPa	× 10 <sup>7</sup> kPa	kN - m	kN
0 - 3	EXT COL	0.1125	3.518		0.250	2.5	1.04		
	INT COL	0.1513	5.719		0.275	2.5	1.04		
	BEAM	0.1050	5.900	0.410	0.300	2.5	1.04	40.00	48.33
3 - 6	EXT COL	0.1013	2.565		0.225	2.5	1.04		
	INT COL	0.1250	3.908		0.250	2.5	1.04		
	BEAM	0.1015	5.370	0.375		2.5	1.04	40.00	47.33

LEVEL	MEMBER	HINGE LENGTHS		YIELD MOMENTS END (I)		YIELD MOMENTS END (J)	
		END (I) m	END (J) m	POSITIVE kN - m	NEGATIVE kN - m	POSITIVE kN - m	NEGATIVE kN - m
1 - 3	BEAM	0.410	0.410	208.0	-208.0	190.0	-190.0
4	BEAM	0.375	0.375	160.0	-131.0	115.0	-137.0
5 - 6	BEAM	0.375	0.375	115.0	-115.0	115.0	-115.0

TABLE 2 – MEMBER PROPERTIES FOR THE TEST STRUCTURE

LEVEL	LUMPED NODAL MASS	
	EXTERNAL NOOE kN	INTERNAL NOOE kN
1	134.0	219.0
2	134.0	219.0
3	133.0	217.0
4	129.0	211.0
5	129.0	211.0
6	120.0	200.0

TABLE 3 – NODAL MASSES



to a first mode response only, whereas in curve (b) the first six modes are assumed to participate in the response. The response profile predicted by integration of the first three modes, indicated by the plotted points in Figure 4, is in close agreement with the benchmark test.

A contributing factor leading to the incongruous result whereby the inclusion of additional modes indicates a non-convergent prediction of the system response relative to the benchmark analysis, is apparent when the modal frequency spectrum is considered. The additional modal coordinates which participate in the response are drawn from the high frequency region of the spectrum. The periods of these higher modes approach the length of the time-step interval, 0.01 secs., used in the step-by-step integration, resulting in an inaccurate prediction of the response in the upper modes. The benchmark response is derived using the same time-step and thus should not be interpreted as representing the precise response time-history.

Integration of the first mode alone, curve (a), results in an overestimate of the structure displacements. When an allowance is made for member yielding, the higher modes participate more significantly in the overall structure response than in the elastic case. The shape of the displacement curve is similar to the first mode case, however the effect of the higher modes becomes apparent when the applied earthquake inertia loads cause a reversal in the direction of the structure displacements.

In the process of deriving the transformation basis appropriate to the current structure yield status, it was necessary to resolve the eigenproblem. The mode periods thus derived are indicative of the instantaneous free vibration frequencies of the system. The true period of the system is the time taken by a reference point in the system to complete one cycle of vibration, however this parameter can be difficult to define in response time-histories which include a significant duration of post-elastic yield excursions. The instantaneous periods for the first and second modes are plotted with respect to earthquake duration in Figure 5. The instantaneous period is shown to increase threefold compared to the undamped, elastic, free-vibration period. During the periods of intense ground motion the structure responds as a longer period, or less stiff, structure than is the case where the structure is constrained to remain in the linear elastic stress state.

This observation assumes some significance when a comparison is made with the elastic response spectrum philosophy. An acceleration response spectrum for a particular earthquake record is generated by determining the peak acceleration response of a single degree-of-freedom oscillator over a full range of vibration frequencies, assuming a specified level of damping in the resonator. The response is assumed to remain in the elastic range. Design spectra generate lateral force distributions considerably less than the forces developed from spectral response

curves of moderate earthquakes such as El Centro 1940. The discrepancy is attributed to the fact that the response of the structure is assumed to be elastic, whereas code designed structures respond with deformations which may exceed the elastic limit of some members. A member ductility factor is defined as being equal to the ratio of the force developed in purely elastic response to the member yield force. For El Centro a ductility factor of approximately four relates the code design spectrum to the earthquake generated response spectrum.

Access to the instantaneous mode period suggests an alternative rationale, in place of the ductility factor concept. The six-storey test structure has a first mode period under elastic conditions of 0.8 secs., and, in the yielded state, of the order of 3.0 secs. An earthquake response spectrum indicates the peak response only for a particular resonator, giving no information on the elapsed time within a particular record at which this peak occurs. Elastic time-history analyses carried out for two resonators with periods of 0.8 secs, and 3.0 secs., respectively, using the El Centro earthquake record, showed that the peak response of both resonators occurred at a similar elapsed time. This enables some direct comparisons to be made using the response spectrum ordinates. The response spectrum at the 5% damping level for the North-South component of El Centro is given in Figure 6. The acceleration response peaks for three resonators of differing periods are as follows:

$T_1$	= 0.8 secs.	$S_a$	= 0.55 g
$T_2$	= 2.5 secs.	$S_a$	= 0.16 g
$T_3$	= 3.0 secs.	$S_a$	= 0.12 g

where the spectral values,  $S_a$ , are given as a proportion of  $g$ , the acceleration due to gravity. The peak accelerations vary by a factor in the range 3.5 to 4.5.

This simple example demonstrates that the effect of the increase in instantaneous mode periods during intervals of strong ground motion can be sufficient to limit the earthquake inertia loading to close to the code design spectrum level based on the elastic properties of the structure. Adequate ductility capability must be achieved through the member detailing to permit the member hinges to form and to rotate without any secondary failures in the structure.

#### CONCLUSIONS:

In this paper the principle of mode superposition, which is encountered commonly in elastic response time-history determination, is extended into the post-elastic domain. Previous investigators have tended to dismiss the approach as being impractical, however, it is submitted that with some reconstitution of the coordinate transformations fundamental to the approach, modal superposition can be successfully extended beyond the elastic limit and the resultant scheme is competitive with the direct integration

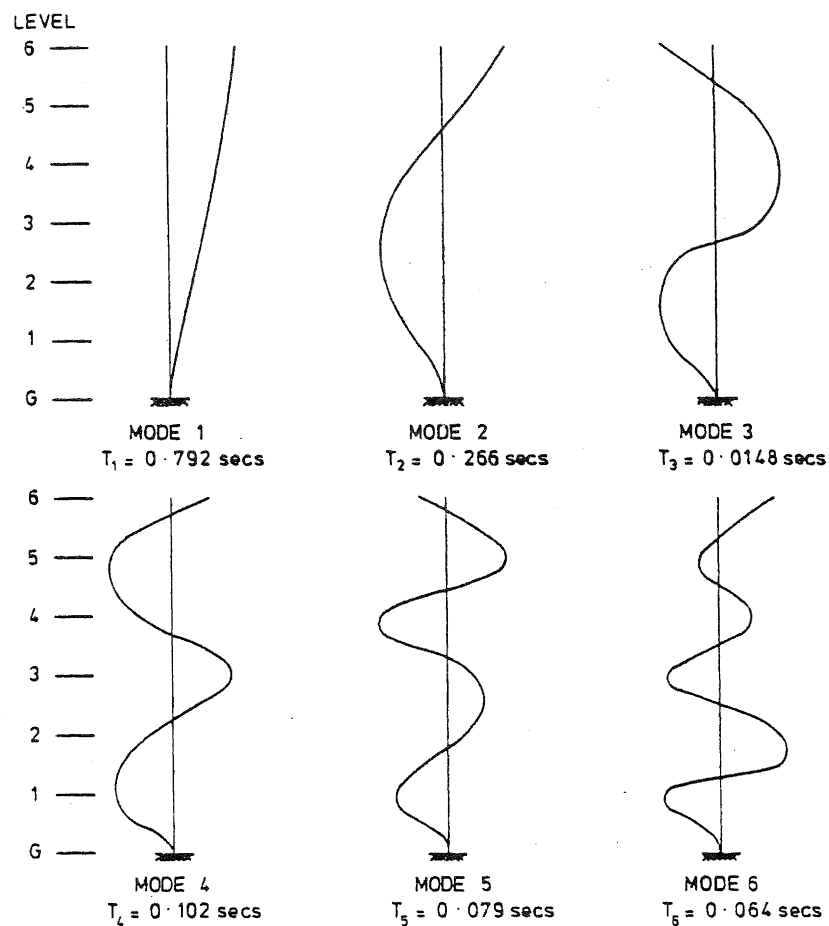


FIG. 2 — ELASTIC UNDAMPED FREE-VIBRATION MODE SHAPES FOR SIX-STOREY TEST STRUCTURE

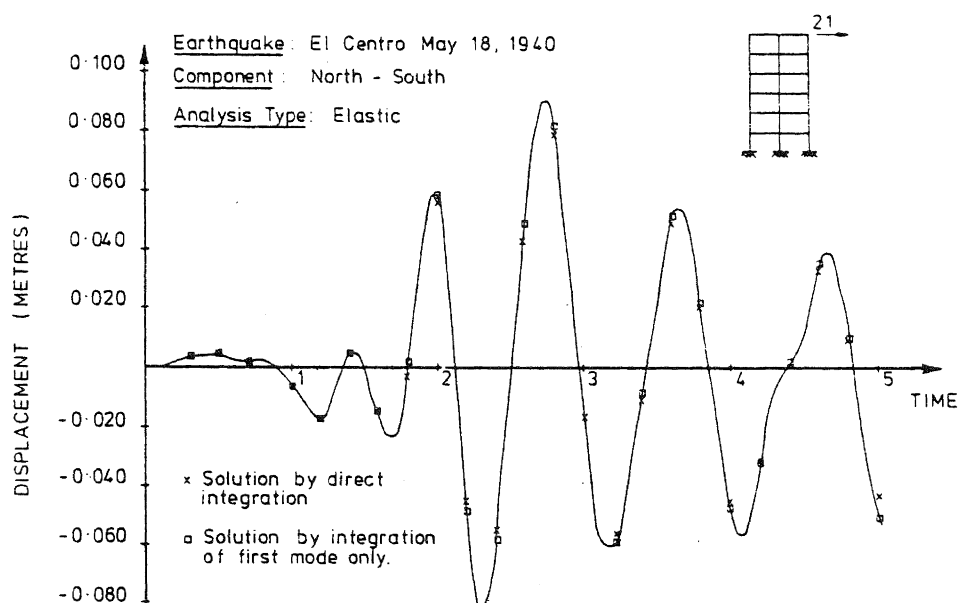


FIG. 3 — ELASTIC LATERAL DISPLACEMENT RESPONSE OF LEVEL 6 (NODE 21)

approach (30). Providing the transformation basis is rederived for each change in element yield status and accepting some bounds on the viscous damping specifications, the equilibrium statement in the generalized coordinate system is given by a set of uncoupled equations equal in order to the number of generalized coordinates assumed to participate in the response.

One advantage of this formulation is that the response can be derived by the integration of a selected number of generalized coordinates. The integration stability limits are related to each individual mode rather than to the single highest frequency mode in the system, with the consequence that the linear acceleration integration scheme becomes a viable algorithm. It is possible to vary the time-step used in the integration of each coordinate, superimposing the contributions when the time-steps coincide. The time-step used for the lowest frequency, or longest period, mode can be more coarse than that used in the higher modes, with negligible loss in accuracy.

An additional benefit of the modal approach is provided by the time-history of the dynamic properties of the system which is produced in this scheme. Access to the instantaneous frequencies and mode shapes of the structure provides a record of its dynamic sensitivity to a particular earthquake ground motion record. From the analysis of a six-storey planar frame it was possible to relate its observed peak non-linear displacement response to the displacement envelope predicted by the elastic response spectrum of the earthquake. The traditional approach in this comparison has been to relate the peak elastic spectral response, based on the initial elastic stiffness properties of the system to the maximum observed non-linear response through a structure 'displacement ductility factor' which is generally of the order of 3 to 4. As a result of the single analysis undertaken in this study a less subjective explanation is suggested. Because of the influence of element yield on the dynamic properties of the structure, the effective modal periods are lengthened during cycles of yield. A structure designed for ductile yielding during a moderate earthquake response does not experience the peak elastic spectral response because the influence of yielding displaces the effective period band to the reduced ordinate zone of the spectrum. The structure's non-linear spectrum tends to a flat curve, rather than a peaked curve which is characteristic of fully elastic response. When the shift in the effective modal period during yield excursions is taken into consideration, the non-linear displacement envelope can be directly related to the earthquake response spectrum without recourse to the concept of a displacement ductility factor.

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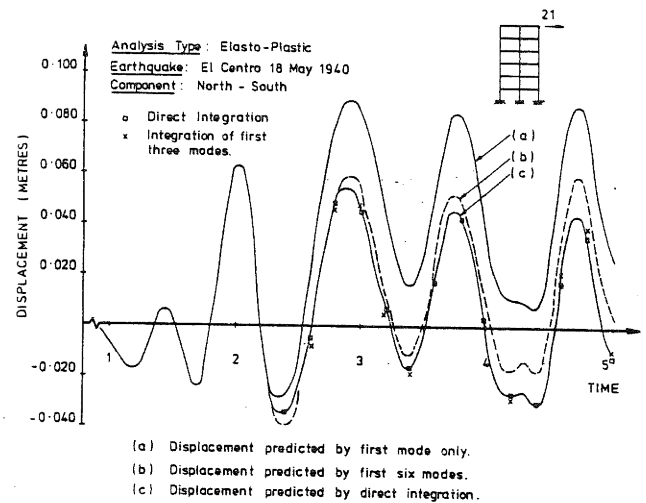


FIG. 4 — COMPARISON OF THE TOP FLOOR LATERAL DISPLACEMENT PREDICTED BY INTEGRATING SELECTED MODE COMPONENTS

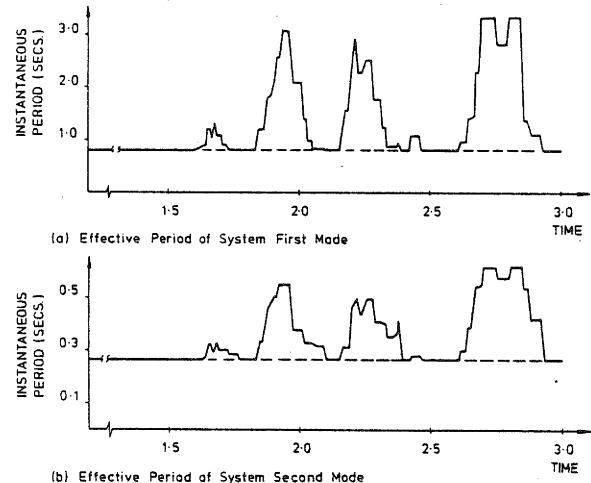


FIG. 5 — VARIATION OF EFFECTIVE MODAL PERIODS DURING INELASTIC RESPONSE TO THE NORTH-SOUTH COMPONENT OF EL CENTRO

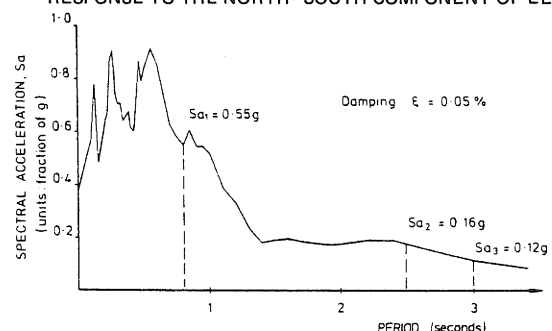


FIG. 6 — ACCELERATION RESPONSE SPECTRUM FOR THE NORTH-SOUTH COMPONENT OF THE EL CENTRO EARTHQUAKE