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## Effect of Thermal Gradient on Frequencies of a Wedge-Shaped Rotating Beam

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### Introduction

SUFFICIENT work is available on vibrations of rotating beams<sup>1-5</sup> but none of them have considered the thermal effect on frequencies of bending vibrations. It is well known<sup>6</sup> that in the presence of a constant thermal gradient the elastic coefficients of homogeneous materials become functions of the space variables. Fanconneau and Marangoni<sup>7</sup> have investigated the effect of the nonhomogeneity caused by a thermal gradient on the natural frequencies of simply supported plates of uniform thickness.

The analysis presented in this Note considers bending vibrations of a wedge-shaped beam that could represent a turbine blade of simple geometry. The beam is attached to a disk of radius  $r$  as indicated in Fig. 1; the disk rotates with angular velocity  $\Omega$ . It is restricted to the analysis of pure bending. Furthermore, the beam is subjected to one-dimensional temperature distribution along the length. Because the beam is wedge shaped, the area of cross section varies linearly. Consequently,  $I(x)$ ,  $b(x)$ , and  $A(x)$  are functions of  $x$ .

### Analysis and Equation of Motion

The governing differential equation of transverse motion of a rotating beam of variable cross section, according to Schilhansl,<sup>1</sup> is

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \left[ EI(x) \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} \right] + A(x) \rho \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial^2 M}{\partial x^2} \quad (1)$$

where, using  $\delta = [I - A(L)/A(0)]$

$$A(x) = A(0) \left( 1 - \delta \frac{x}{L} \right)$$

$$I(x) = \frac{A(0)}{12} \left[ b^2(0) \left( 1 - \delta \frac{x}{L} \right)^3 + \left( 1 - \delta \frac{x}{L} \right) t_1^2 \right]$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 M}{\partial x^2} = & \rho A(0) \Omega^2 \left[ \left\langle r(L-x) + \left( 1 - \delta \frac{r}{L} \right) \frac{L^2 - x^2}{2} \right. \right. \\ & - \delta \frac{(L^3 - x^3)}{3L} \left. \right\rangle \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} - \left\langle r + \left( 1 - \delta \frac{r}{L} \right) x \right. \\ & \left. \left. - \delta \frac{x^2}{L} \right\rangle \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + \left( 1 - \delta \frac{x}{L} \right) \sin^2 \Psi V \right] \end{aligned}$$

Equation (1), when put in terms of dimensionless variable  $\xi = x/L$ , takes the form

$$\begin{aligned} D \frac{\partial^4 V}{\partial \xi^4} + 2D_{,\xi} \frac{\partial^3 V}{\partial \xi^3} + D_{,\xi\xi} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \xi^2} + L^4 \rho A(0) (1 - \delta \xi) \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial t^2} \\ = L^4 \rho A(0) \Omega^2 \left[ \left\langle \frac{r}{L} (1 - \xi) + \frac{(1 - \xi^2)}{2} \left( 1 - \delta \frac{r}{L} \right) \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. - \frac{\delta}{3} (1 - \xi^3) \right\rangle \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \xi^2} - \left\langle \frac{r}{L} + \left( 1 - \delta \frac{r}{L} \right) \xi - \delta \xi^2 \right\rangle \frac{\partial V}{\partial \xi} \right. \\ \left. + (1 - \delta \xi) \sin^2 \Psi V \right] \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$D = \frac{EA(0)}{12} [b^2(0) (1 - \delta \xi)^3 + (1 - \delta \xi) t_1^2] \quad (3)$$

The comma followed by a subscript denotes partial differentiation with respect to the variable.

It is assumed that the beam is subjected to a steady one-dimensional temperature distributed along the length, i.e., in the  $x$  direction

$$T = T_0 (1 - \xi) \quad (4)$$

where  $T$  denotes the temperature excess above the reference temperature at any point at a distance  $\xi = x/L$  and  $T_0$  denotes the temperature excess above the reference temperature at the end  $x = L$  or  $\xi = 1$ .

The temperature dependence of the modulus of elasticity for most of the engineering material is

$$E(T) = E_l (1 - PT) \quad (5)$$

where  $E_l$  is the value of the modulus of reference temperature, i.e., at  $T = 0$  along the  $x$  direction.

Taking the temperature at the end of the beam as the reference temperature, i.e., at  $\xi = 1$ , the modulus variation becomes

$$E(\xi) = E_l [1 - \alpha(1 - \xi)] \quad (6)$$

where

$$\alpha = PT_0 \quad (0 \leq \alpha \leq 1)$$

Substitution of Eq. (6) in Eq. (3) gives

$$D = E_l [1 - \alpha(1 - \xi)] \left\{ \frac{A(0)}{12} [b^2(0) (1 - \delta \xi)^3 + t_1^2 (1 - \delta \xi)] \right\} \quad (7)$$

### Determination of the Frequency Parameter

The solution of Eq. (2) can be assumed to be of the form

$$V(\xi, t) = A_l f(\xi) e^{i\omega t} \quad (8)$$

where  $A_1$  is a constant. The function  $f(\xi)$  satisfies the geometrical as well as dynamical boundary conditions of the beam which are as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} f = \frac{df}{d\xi} = 0 & \quad \text{at } \xi = 0 \\ \frac{d^2f}{d\xi^2} = \frac{d^3f}{d\xi^3} = 0 & \quad \text{at } \xi = 1 \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Substitution of Eqs. (7) and (8) in Eq. (2) and using  $\beta = E_1/12\rho L^2$ , the governing differential equation becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{L^2} \langle [1 - \alpha(1 - \xi)] [b^2(0)(1 - \delta\xi)^3 + t_1^2(1 - \delta\xi)] \rangle \frac{d^4f}{d\xi^4} \\ & - \frac{1}{L^2} \langle (2\delta) [1 - \alpha(1 - \xi)] [3b^2(0)(1 - \delta\xi)^2 + t_1^2] \rangle \frac{d^3f}{d\xi^3} \\ & - 2\alpha [b^2(0)(1 - \delta\xi)^3 + t_1^2(1 - \delta\xi)] \frac{d^3f}{d\xi^3} \\ & + \frac{1}{L^2} \langle \delta^2 [1 - \alpha(1 - \xi)] [6b^2(0)(1 - \delta\xi)] \rangle \frac{d^2f}{d\xi^2} \\ & - 2\alpha\delta [3b^2(0)(1 - \delta\xi)^2 + t_1^2] \frac{d^2f}{d\xi^2} \\ & - \frac{\Omega^2}{\beta} \left[ \left\langle \frac{r}{L} (1 - \xi) + \left(1 - \delta \frac{r}{L}\right) \left(\frac{1 - \xi^2}{2}\right) - \frac{\delta}{3} (1 - \xi^3) \right\rangle \frac{d^2f}{d\xi^2} \right. \\ & \left. - \left\langle \frac{r}{L} + \left(1 - \delta \frac{r}{L}\right) \xi - \delta \xi^2 \right\rangle \frac{df}{d\xi} + (1 - \delta\xi) \sin^2 \psi f \right] \\ & = \lambda(1 - \delta\xi)f \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where

$$\lambda = 12\omega^2 L^2 \rho / E_1 \quad (11)$$

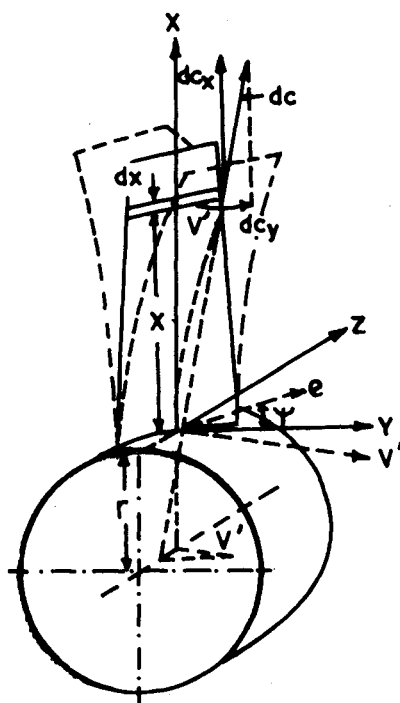


Fig. 1 Wedge-shaped beam attached to a circular disk.

is a frequency parameter. For an approximate determination of frequency parameter  $\lambda$ ,  $f(\xi)$  is chosen as the shape function for the different modes of bending vibrations of a uniform cantilever beam. These shape functions satisfy boundary conditions (9) and are

$$f_n(\xi) = \cosh \lambda_n \xi - \cos \lambda_n \xi - \sigma_n (\sinh \lambda_n \xi - \sin \lambda_n \xi) \quad (12)$$

where  $\lambda_n$  and  $\sigma_n$  are constants corresponding to the  $n$ th mode of vibrations. The values of these constants for the first three modes of vibrations are taken as given in Ref. 8. Equation (10) can be solved approximately for the frequency parameter  $\lambda$  by application of the method described in Ref. 9. We multiply Eq. (10) by  $f_n(\xi)$  and integrate with respect to  $\xi$  from 0 to 1 to obtain the familiar Rayleigh quotient as

Table 1 Frequency vs angular speed for  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $\delta = 0$ , and  $r/L = 0$

$\Omega$	Our values	$\gamma^{1/2}$ Ref. 4, Table 2	Exact values Ref. 4, Table 2
0	3.51600	3.51602	3.51602
1	3.68171	3.68163	3.68165
2	4.13739	4.13710	4.13732
3	4.79736	4.79644	4.79728
4	5.58509	5.58316	5.58500
5	6.44964	6.44650	6.44954
6	7.36049	7.35614	7.36037
7	8.29977	8.29440	8.29964
8	9.25699	9.25085	9.25684
9	10.22586	10.21920	10.22570
10	11.20248	11.19560	11.20230
11	12.18449	12.17750	12.18430
12	13.17040	13.1634	13.17020

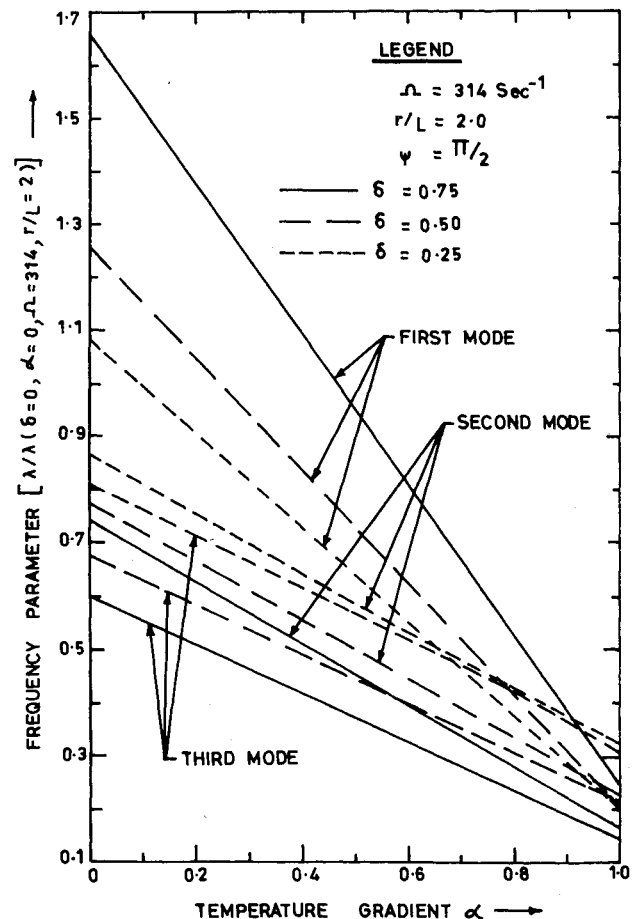


Fig. 2 Frequency parameter  $\lambda$  vs temperature gradient  $\alpha$  for three different values of cross-sectional variation.

discussed by Collatz,<sup>10</sup> an equation of the form

$$a_1 - a_2 + a_3 + a_4 - a_5 - \lambda a_6 = 0 \quad (13)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} a_1 &= \frac{1}{L^2} \int_0^1 [1 - \alpha(1 - \xi)] [b^2(0)(1 - \delta\xi)^3 \\ &\quad + t_1^2(1 - \delta\xi)] \frac{d^4 f_n}{d\xi^4} f_n d\xi \\ a_2 &= \frac{1}{L^2} \int_0^1 \langle 2\delta[1 - \alpha(1 - \xi)] [3b^2(0)(1 - \delta\xi)^2 + t_1^2] \\ &\quad - 2\alpha[b^2(0)(1 - \delta\xi)^3 + t_1^2(1 - \delta\xi)] \rangle \frac{d^3 f_n}{d\xi^3} f_n d\xi \\ a_3 &= \frac{\delta}{L^2} \int_0^1 \langle \delta[1 - \alpha(1 - \xi)] [6b^2(0)(1 - \delta\xi)] \\ &\quad - 2\alpha[3b^2(0)(1 - \delta\xi)^2 + t_1^2] \rangle \frac{d^2 f_n}{d\xi^2} f_n d\xi \\ &\quad - \frac{\Omega^2}{\beta} \int_0^1 \left\langle \frac{r}{L}(1 - \xi) + \left(1 - \delta\frac{r}{L}\right) \left(\frac{1 - \xi^2}{2}\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{\delta}{3}(1 - \xi^3) \right\rangle \frac{d^2 f_n}{d\xi^2} f_n d\xi \\ a_4 &= \frac{\Omega^2}{\beta} \int_0^1 \left\langle \frac{r}{L} + \left(1 - \delta\frac{r}{L}\right) \xi - \delta\xi^2 \right\rangle \frac{df_n}{d\xi} f_n d\xi \\ a_5 &= \frac{\Omega^2}{\beta} \sin^2 \Psi \int_0^1 (1 - \delta\xi) f_n^2 d\xi \\ a_6 &= \int_0^1 (1 - \delta\xi) f_n^2 d\xi \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

The solution thus obtained would be an upper bound for the frequency parameter  $\lambda$  corresponding to the  $n$ th mode of vibration.

### Results and Conclusions

The frequency parameter corresponding to first three modes of vibrations for various values of  $\alpha$  and three different values of cross section variation (i.e.,  $\delta = 0.25, 0.50, 0.75$ ) are plotted in Fig. 2. Here the values of  $r/L$  and  $\Omega$  are taken to be constant, equal to 2.0 and  $314 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , respectively, for a setting angle  $\Psi = \pi/2$ . The other physical constants are taken from Carnegie<sup>11</sup> and Rao.<sup>12</sup> It is observed that the frequencies decrease with an increase in  $\alpha$ , while the frequencies increase with the increase in  $\delta$  for the first mode and decrease for the second and third modes.

In order to justify the accuracy of the method employed, the results for the smallest eigenvalues have been compared with those of Ref. 4 after obtaining the frequencies from Eq. (13) using  $\alpha = 0, \delta = 0, r/L = 0$  and computing

$$\gamma^{1/2} = \sqrt{[12\rho L^4/E_1(b^2(0) + t_1^2)](\omega^2 + \Omega^2 \sin^2 \Psi)}$$

and

$$\bar{\Omega} = \Omega \sqrt{12\rho L^4/E_1[b^2(0) + t_1^2]}$$

Obviously, our results agree with the exact results quite well.

Further, the parameter  $\bar{\Omega}$  corresponding to the rotational angular velocity  $\Omega = 314 \text{ s}^{-1}$  is less than 1, the maximum error in frequency of vibrations of a rotating beam without thermal effect comes out to be 0.002% from Table 1. Also, as the

frequency of vibrations of the rotating beam decreases with the increasing values of  $\alpha$ , i.e., thermal gradient, the error will always be less than 0.002% when thermal effect is included.

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## Thermal Postbuckling of Columns

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THE post-buckling behavior of columns subjected to thermal loads can be described by an eigenvalue problem. The governing matrix equation is given by

$$[K]\{\delta\} - \lambda_{NL}[G]\{\delta\} = 0 \quad (1)$$

The assembled nonlinear elastic stiffness matrix  $[K]$  is obtained from the element elastic stiffness matrices which are obtained from the strain energy with nonlinear strain-displacement relations of the finite elements into which the column is discretized.  $[G]$  is the assembled geometric stiffness matrix obtained from the work done by the thermal loads on each of the finite elements. Cubic polynomials in the axial coordinate are assumed for the axial and transverse displacements in evaluating the element stiffness and geometric stiffness matrices.  $\{\delta\}$  is the eigenvector and  $\lambda_{NL}$

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