

# Dynamic Analysis for Free Vibrations of Rotating Sandwich Tapered Beams

C. L. Ko\*

*Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan*

**Governing equations for free vibrations of rotating sandwich rectangular and tapered beams are obtained from a previous analysis using the variational method reported by the author. Both Timoshenko's and Euler-Bernoulli's beam models are considered in these formulations. The analysis includes the effects of the variation of the neutral-axis location along the beam due to both the centrifugal effect and a nonsymmetric geometry. This paper presents a pioneer work to determine the vibration characteristics of both symmetrically and nonsymmetrically tapered and rectangular sandwich beams under rotation. Natural frequencies of these beams are determined for various rotating speeds by solving the eigenvalue problems using the finite-difference method. These results indicate that both the asymmetric geometry and the rotating speed can affect the dynamic behavior of a sandwich beam greatly.**

## Introduction

VIBRATION characteristics of rotating beams can be very important in various engineering applications. Structural components such as helicopter rotor blades, propellers, turbomachinery rotor blades, and robot arms are frequently modeled as rotating cantilever beams. The problem of bending vibration of a rotating beam was first solved by Lo and Remberger.<sup>1</sup> Boyce et al.<sup>2</sup> later extended the analysis for various boundary conditions and estimated lower and upper bounds on natural frequencies. The influence of a tip mass on the natural frequencies of a uniform rotating cantilever beam was also investigated extensively by Handelman et al.,<sup>3</sup> Boyce and Handelman,<sup>4</sup> Jones,<sup>5</sup> and Hoa.<sup>6</sup> Recently, Tomar and Jain<sup>7,8</sup> determined the thermal effect on frequencies of pretwisted and wedge-shaped beams. Laurensen<sup>9</sup> investigated the influence of mass representation on the equation of motion for rotating structures. Free vibrations of centrifugally stiffened beams were considered by Wright et al.<sup>10</sup> Bruch and Mitchell<sup>11</sup> also modeled a robot link (arm) as a mass-loaded cantilever Timoshenko beam and determined its natural frequencies. However, the rotational action was not considered in their formulations.

Sandwich constructions have been widely applied for various aerospace applications for weight-saving and strength optimization. Bert<sup>12</sup> presented a brief overview for such applications. Vibration problems for rectangular, symmetric, sandwich beams have been investigated extensively for the past three decades. These include the analyses reported by Kobayashi,<sup>13</sup> Krajcinovic,<sup>14</sup> Kimel et al.,<sup>15</sup> Raville et al.,<sup>16</sup> James,<sup>17</sup> Glaser,<sup>18</sup> Clary and Leadbetter,<sup>19</sup> and Bert et al.<sup>20</sup> However, based on the author's knowledge, formulations for bending vibrations for either tapered sandwich beams or rotating sandwich beams have never been reported in literature, except those developed by the author recently.<sup>21</sup> In Ref. 21, the author derived the governing equations for the dynamic response and flexural behavior of general rotating sandwich beams by applying the energy principle and the variational method. How-

ever, only results for the semistatic flexural behavior were obtained. The objectives of this investigation, therefore, are to formulate the governing equations and to obtain their solutions for free vibrations of both symmetrically and nonsymmetrically tapered rotating sandwich beams. Dynamic response of a symmetric rectangular sandwich beam is also included in this analysis.

As pointed out in Ref. 21, the neutral axis position of a beam does not necessarily coincide with the centroidal axis if the beam is either under rotation or nonsymmetrically constructed. Analyses which included this consideration have never been reported in literature, except by the author. In addition, the flexural rigidity in the core and the shear deformation of the facings were normally neglected in the dynamic analyses of sandwich beams; therefore, their effects upon the determination of natural frequencies have never been considered, to date.<sup>22</sup> Results obtained in this paper are for the first time calculated from an analysis that included all these considerations.

## Descriptions of the Problem

Consider a cantilever sandwich tapered beam, as shown in Fig. 1. The origin of the Cartesian coordinates shown is positioned at the center of the core at the fixed end and the beam is rotating with respect to the  $y$ -axis with a constant angular speed  $\Omega$ . The half-depth of the core is  $h_1$  and the transverse coordinates of the outer edges of the top and the bottom facings are  $-h_2$  and  $h_3$ , respectively. The Young's modulus, shear modulus, and density of the core are given as  $E_1$ ,  $G_1$ , and  $\rho_1$ , respectively; whereas those for the top and bottom facings are denoted as  $E_2$ ,  $G_2$ ,  $\rho_2$  and  $E_3$ ,  $G_3$ ,  $\rho_3$ , respectively. The length and width of the beam are given as  $L$  and  $b$ , respectively.

The general governing equations and boundary conditions for the dynamic and flexural behavior were derived by the author.<sup>21</sup> The centrifugal and nonsymmetric effects on the variation of neutral-axis positions were included in the analysis, using both Euler-Bernoulli's and Timoshenko's model. Solutions of these equations consist of two parts: a time-dependent function and a time-independent function. These two functions correspond to solutions for dynamic response and semistatic behavior of the beam. The time-independent solutions for semistatic (or flexural) behavior were presented in Ref. 21. The present paper treats only the case of dynamic response due to free vibrations.

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\*Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering. Member AIAA.

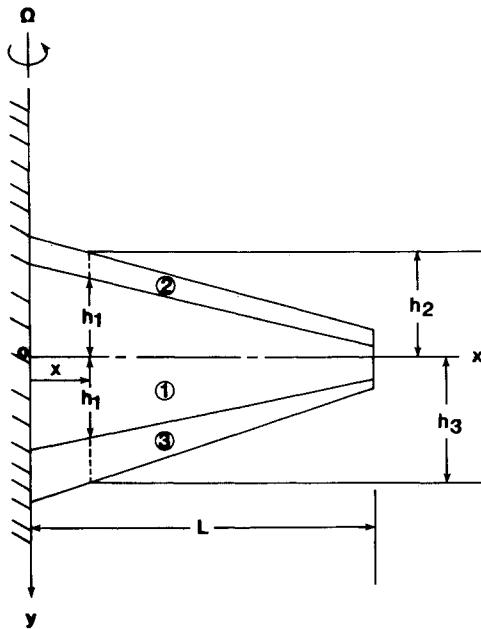


Fig. 1 A rotating sandwich cantilever beam.

### Timoshenko Beams

The governing equations for the dynamic response of the beam under free vibration can be deduced from Eqs. (55–57) of Ref. 21, as follows:

$$a_1 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} - a_2 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ a_5 \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} \right) - a_4 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} \right] + \Omega^2 \left[ a_2^2 \left( \psi + \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} \right) - a_1 u_o \right] = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$a_3 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} \right) + a_7 \psi - a_2 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ a_5 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} - a_6 \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} \right) \right] + \Omega^2 \left[ a_2 u_o - a_3 \left( \psi + \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} \right) \right] = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$a_1 \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ a_2 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} - a_3 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} \right) \right] + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \left[ a_6 \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} \right) - a_5 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} \right] + \Omega^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ a_3 \left( \psi + \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} \right) - a_2 u_o \right] = 0 \quad (3)$$

where  $u_o$ ,  $w_o$ , and  $\psi$  are the axial displacement of the core midplane, the transverse displacement, and the angle of rotational deformation of the beam, respectively. The coefficients are defined as

$$a_2 \equiv (2\rho_1 - \rho_2 - \rho_3)h_1 + \rho_2 h_2 + h_3$$

$$a_2 \equiv [\rho_2(h_1^2 - h_2^2) + \rho_3(h_3^2 - h_1^2)]/2$$

$$a_3 \equiv [2\rho_1 h_1^3 + \rho_2(h_2^3 - h_1^3) + \rho_3(h_3^3 - h_1^3)]/3$$

$$a_4 \equiv (2E_1 - E_2 - E_3)h_1 + E_2 h_2 + E_3 h_3$$

$$a_5 \equiv [E_2(h_1^2 - h_2^2) + E_3(h_3^2 - h_1^2)]/2$$

$$a_6 \equiv [2E_1 h_1^3 + E_2(h_2^3 - h_1^3) + E_3(h_3^3 - h_1^3)]/3$$

$$a_7 \equiv 2\kappa_1 G_1 h_1 + \kappa_2 G_2(h_2 - h_1) + \kappa_3 G_3(h_3 - h_1)$$

The quantities  $\kappa_1$ ,  $\kappa_2$ , and  $\kappa_3$  are the shear correction factors for the core and the top and bottom facings, respectively. The boundary conditions of the cantilever beam can be deduced from Eqs. (65), (68), (69), and (70) in Ref. 21, as follows:

At the fixed end ( $x = 0$ ):

$$\psi = u_o = w_o = \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} = 0 \quad (4)$$

At the free end ( $x = L$ ):

$$\frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} = 0 \quad (6)$$

$$a_2 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} - a_3 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ a_6 \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} \right) - a_5 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} \right] + \Omega^2 \left[ a_3 \left( \psi + \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} \right) - a_2 u_o \right] = 0 \quad (7)$$

### Euler-Bernoulli Beams

The governing equations for the response of the beam under free vibration can be obtained by simplifying Eqs. (75) and (76) of Ref. 21 as

$$a_1 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} - a_2 \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( a_5 \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} - a_4 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} \right) + \Omega^2 \left( a_2 \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} - a_1 u_o \right) = 0 \quad (8)$$

$$a_1 \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( a_2 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} - a_3 \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} \right) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \left( a_6 \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} - a_5 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} \right) + \Omega^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( a_3 \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} - a_2 u_o \right) = 0 \quad (9)$$

The boundary conditions reduce to the following:

At the fixed end ( $x = 0$ ):

$$u_o = w_o = \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} = 0 \quad (10)$$

At the free end ( $x = L$ ):

$$\frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} = 0 \quad (11)$$

$$a_2 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} - a_3 \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( a_6 \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} - a_5 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} \right) + \Omega^2 \left( a_3 \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} - a_2 u_o \right) = 0 \quad (12)$$

### Free Vibration of a Symmetric Rectangular Sandwich Beam

For the case of a rectangular sandwich beam, the coefficients of the governing equations and boundary conditions are constant. In addition,  $a_2$  and  $a_5$  vanish for a beam with symmetric facings; hence, the axial mode of vibration decouples from the transverse mode and the rotational mode. The axial displacement and transverse displacement can be represented by harmonic functions as

$$u_o = U(x) \sin(\omega_1 t + \theta_1) \quad (13)$$

$$w_o = W(x) \sin(\omega_2 t + \theta_2) \quad (14)$$

where  $\omega_1$  and  $\omega_2$  are natural angular frequencies for the axial and transverse modes, respectively. The quantities  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  are the phase angles for the corresponding modes.

#### Timoshenko Beams

The governing equations, Eqs. (1-3), can be reduced to the following:

$$a_1 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} - a_4 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial x^2} - \Omega^2 a_1 u_o = 0 \quad (15)$$

$$a_3 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} \right) + a_7 \psi - a_6 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x^3} \right) - a_3 \Omega^2 \left( \psi + \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} \right) = 0 \quad (16)$$

$$a_1 \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial t^2} - a_3 \left( \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x \partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^4 w_o}{\partial x^2 \partial t^2} \right) + a_6 \left( \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x^3} + \frac{\partial^4 w_o}{\partial x^4} \right) + a_3 \Omega^2 \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} \right) = 0 \quad (17)$$

The boundary condition at  $x = L$ , Eq. (7), can be simplified to

$$-a_3 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} \right) + a_6 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x^3} \right) + \Omega^2 a_3 \left( \psi + \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} \right) = 0 \quad (18)$$

Assume that the rotational mode  $\psi$  has the same frequency and phase angle as the transverse mode  $w_o$ . The harmonic expression of this mode becomes

$$\psi = \Phi(x) \sin(\omega_2 t + \theta_2) \quad (19)$$

Substituting Eqs. (13), (14), and (19) into Eqs. (15), (16), and (17), one obtains

$$a_4 \frac{d^2 \cup}{dx^2} + a_1(\omega_1^2 + \Omega^2) \cup = 0 \quad (20)$$

$$a_3 \omega_2^2 \left( \Phi + \frac{dW}{dx} \right) - a_7 \Phi + a_6 \left( \frac{d^2 \Phi}{dx^2} + \frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} \right) + a_3 \Omega^2 \left( \Phi + \frac{dW}{dx} \right) = 0 \quad (21)$$

$$a_1 \omega_2^2 W - a_3 \omega_2^2 \left( \frac{d\Phi}{dx} + \frac{d^2 W}{dx^2} \right) - a_6 \left( \frac{d^3 \Phi}{dx^3} + \frac{d^4 W}{dx^4} \right) - a_3 \Omega^2 \left( \frac{d\Phi}{dx} + \frac{d^2 W}{dx^2} \right) = 0 \quad (22)$$

Combining Eqs. (21) and (22), one can obtain

$$\frac{d\Phi}{dx} = \frac{\alpha_1 \omega_2^2}{a_7} W \quad (23)$$

Eq. (22) can then be expressed as follows by utilizing Eq. (23):

$$a_6 a_7 \frac{d^4 W}{dx^4} + \left[ a_3 a_7 (\omega_2^2 + \Omega^2) + a_1 a_6 \omega_2^2 \right] \frac{d^2 W}{dx^2} + \left[ a_1 a_3 \omega_2^2 (\omega_2^2 + \Omega^2) - a_1 a_7 \omega_2^2 \right] W = 0 \quad (24)$$

The boundary conditions can be determined as follows:

At the fixed end ( $x = 0$ ):

$$\Phi = \cup = W = \frac{dW}{dx} = 0 \quad (25)$$

At the free end ( $x = L$ ):

$$\Phi = \frac{d\cup}{dx} = 0 \quad (26)$$

$$\frac{d^2 W}{dx^2} + \delta_1 W = 0 \quad (27)$$

$$\frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} + (\delta_1 + \delta_2) \frac{dW}{dx} = 0 \quad (28)$$

where  $\delta_1 \equiv a_1 \omega_2^2 / a_7$  and  $\delta_2 \equiv a_3 (\omega_2^2 + \Omega^2) / a_6$ .

The general solution of Eq. (20) that satisfies the boundary conditions at the fixed end can be shown as

$$\cup = A \sin \alpha x \quad (29)$$

where  $\alpha^2 \equiv a_1 (\omega_1^2 + \Omega^2) / a_4$  and  $A$  is an undetermined constant. The following characteristic equation can be obtained by imposing the boundary conditions at the free end upon the modal shape expressed by Eq. (29):

$$\cos \alpha L = 0 \quad (30)$$

Hence, the natural angular frequencies for the axial modes can be determined by

$$\omega_1^2 = (n - \frac{1}{2})^2 \frac{\pi^2 a_4}{L^2 a_1} - \Omega^2, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (31)$$

The general solution of Eq. (24) can be determined for the following cases:

$$\text{case 1: } a_3 (\omega_2^2 + \Omega^2) > a_7$$

$$W = C_1 \cos \beta_1 x + C_2 \sin \beta_1 x + C_3 \cos \beta_2 x + C_4 \sin \beta_2 x \quad (32)$$

$$\text{case 2: } a_3 (\omega_2^2 + \Omega^2) < a_7$$

$$W = C_1 \cos \beta_1 x + C_2 \sin \beta_1 x + C_3 \cosh \beta_3 x + C_4 \sinh \beta_3 x \quad (33)$$

$$\text{case 3: } a_3 (\omega_2^2 + \Omega^2) = a_7$$

$$W = C_1 \cos \beta_1 x + C_2 \sin \beta_1 x + C_3 + C_4 x \quad (34)$$

where

$$\beta_1 \equiv \sqrt{(\delta_1 + \delta_2 + \delta_3)/2} \quad \beta_2 \equiv \sqrt{(\delta_1 + \delta_2 - \delta_3)/2}$$

$$\beta_3 \equiv \sqrt{(\delta_3 - \delta_1 - \delta_2)/2} \quad \delta_3 \equiv \sqrt{(\delta_2 - \delta_1)^2 + 4\delta_4^2}$$

$$\delta_4^2 \equiv a_1 \omega_2^2 / a_6$$

The boundary conditions can be expressed into the following form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} k_{11} & k_{12} \\ k_{21} & k_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (35)$$

Expressions for  $k_{11}$ ,  $k_{12}$ ,  $k_{21}$ , and  $k_{22}$  for all three cases are summarized in Appendix A. The natural frequencies for the transverse modes,  $\omega_2$ , can then be determined from the following characteristic equation:

$$k_{11} k_{22} - k_{12} k_{21} = 0 \quad (36)$$

#### Euler-Bernoulli Beams

The governing equation, Eq. (8), can be simplified to Eq. (15) and its eigenvalues for axial modes can be determined by

using the same relationship for Timoshenko beams. However, Eq. (9) should reduce to

$$a_1 \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial t^2} - a_3 \frac{\partial^4 w_o}{\partial x^2 \partial t^2} + a_6 \frac{\partial^4 w_o}{\partial x^4} + a_3 \Omega^2 \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} = 0 \quad (37)$$

The boundary condition expressed in Eq. (12) becomes

$$-a_3 \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} + a_6 \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x^3} + \Omega^2 a_3 \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} = 0 \quad (38)$$

Substituting Eqs. (13) and (14) into Eq. (37) yields

$$a_6 \frac{d^4 W}{dx^4} + a_3(\omega^2 + \Omega^2) \frac{d^2 W}{dx^2} - a_1 \omega^2 W = 0 \quad (39)$$

The boundary conditions can be simplified to the following:

At the fixed end ( $x = 0$ ):

$$W = \frac{dW}{dx} = 0 \quad (40)$$

At the free end ( $x = L$ ):

$$\frac{d^2 W}{dx^2} = 0 \quad (41)$$

$$\frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} + \delta_2 \frac{dW}{dx} = 0 \quad (42)$$

The general solution of Eq. (39) can be determined as

$$W = C_1 \cos \mu_1 x + C_2 \sin \mu_1 x + C_3 \cosh \mu_2 x + C_4 \sinh \mu_2 x \quad (43)$$

where

$$\mu_1 \equiv \sqrt{(\delta_2 + \delta_5)/2}, \quad \mu_2 \equiv \sqrt{(\delta_5 - \delta_2)/2}$$

$$\delta_5 \equiv \sqrt{\delta_2^2 + 4\delta_4^2}$$

Again, the boundary conditions reduce to the form expressed in Eq. (35) and the characteristic equation is in the same form as Eq. (36). Expressions for coefficients  $k_{11}$ ,  $k_{12}$ ,  $k_{21}$ , and  $k_{22}$  are listed in Appendix A.

### Free Vibration of a Sandwich Tapered Beam

For a tapered sandwich beam, the depths of the cord and facings vary linearly along the longitudinal axis of the beam. Their edge coordinates can be expressed as

$$h_1 = h_{1o} - s_1 x \quad h_2 = h_{2o} - s_2 x \quad h_3 = h_{3o} - s_3 x \quad (44)$$

where  $s_1 \equiv (h_{1o} - h_{1L})/L$ ,  $s_2 \equiv (h_{2o} - h_{2L})/L$ , and  $s_3 \equiv (h_{3o} - h_{3L})/L$ . The quantities  $h_{1o}$ ,  $h_{2o}$ ,  $h_{3o}$  are the edge dimensions at the fixed end ( $x = 0$ ) of the beam, and  $h_{1L}$ ,  $h_{2L}$ ,  $h_{3L}$  are the corresponding dimensions at the free end ( $x = L$ ).

The coefficients of the governing equations and boundary conditions become functions of  $x$ , as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} a_1 &= c_1 - b_1 x & a_2 &= c_2 - d_1 x + b_2 x^2 \\ a_3 &= c_3 - d_2 x + d_3 x^2 - b_3 x^3 & a_4 &= c_4 - b_4 x \\ a_5 &= c_5 - d_4 x + b_5 x^2 & a_6 &= c_6 - d_5 x + d_6 x^2 - b_6 x^3 \\ a_7 &= c_7 - b_7 x & a_1 &= d_5 - 2d_6 x + 3b_6 x^2 \\ a_2 &= d_2 - 2d_3 x + 3b_3 x^2 & a_3 &= 2b_5 x - d_4 \\ a_4 &= 2b_2 x - d_1 & a_5 &= 3b_6 x - d_6 \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

where the constants  $b$ ,  $c$ , and  $d$  are defined in Appendix B.

### Timoshenko Beams

The governing equations, Eqs. (1–3), can be simplified to the following for a nonsymmetrical tapered beam:

$$\begin{aligned} a_1 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} - a_2 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} \right) + a_5 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x^3} \right) \\ + \alpha_3 \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} \right) - a_4 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial x^2} + b_4 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} \\ + \Omega^2 \left[ a_2 \left( \psi + \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} \right) - a_1 u_o \right] = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_3 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} \right) + a_7 \psi - a_2 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} + a_5 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial x^2} + \alpha_3 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} \\ - a_6 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x^3} \right) + \alpha_1 \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} \right) + \Omega^2 a_2 u_o \\ - a_3 \Omega^2 \left( \psi + \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} \right) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_1 \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial t^2} + a_2 \frac{\partial^3 u_o}{\partial t^2 \partial x} + \alpha_4 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} - a_3 \left( \frac{\partial^4 w_o}{\partial x^2 \partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x \partial t^2} \right) \\ + \alpha_2 \left( \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} \right) + a_6 \left( \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x^3} + \frac{\partial^4 w_o}{\partial x^4} \right) \\ - 2\alpha_1 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x^3} \right) - 2\alpha_5 \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} \right) - a_5 \frac{\partial^3 u_o}{\partial x^3} \\ - 2\alpha_3 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial x^2} - 2b_5 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} + \Omega^2 a_3 \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} \right) \\ - \alpha_2 \Omega^2 \left( \psi + \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} \right) - a_2 \Omega^2 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} - \alpha_4 \Omega^2 u_o = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

Combining Eq. (47) and Eq. (48), one obtains

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = \frac{b_7}{a_7} \psi - \frac{a_1}{a_7} \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial t^2} \quad (49)$$

The displacement functions can be assumed as follows for harmonic vibration:

$$u_o = U \sin(\omega t + \theta) \quad (50)$$

$$w_o = W \sin(\omega t + \theta) \quad (51)$$

$$\psi = \Phi \sin(\omega t + \theta) \quad (52)$$

where  $U$  is the angular frequencies and  $\theta$  is the phase angle for all three modes. Substituting these functions into Eqs. (46–49), one can eliminate  $\Phi$  and reduce the governing equations to

$$\begin{aligned} (a_5 D_1 + a_4 D_4) \frac{d^2 U}{dx^2} + (a_3 D_1 - b_4 D_4) \frac{d U}{dx} \\ + (\Omega^2 + \omega^2)(a_2 D_1 + a_1 D_4) U - (a_6 D_1 + a_5 D_4) \frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} \\ + (\alpha_1 D_1 - \alpha_3 D_4) \frac{d^2 W}{dx^2} + (D_1 D_5 - D_2 D_4) \frac{d W}{dx} \\ + (D_1 D_6 - D_3 D_4) W = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ 2D_4(b_4 a_5 + \alpha_3 a_4) - a_5(a_5 D_7 - a_4 D_{12}) \right] \frac{d^2 U}{dx^2} \\ - \left[ a_1 a_5 D_4(\omega^2 + \Omega^2) + a_4 D_4 D_8 + \alpha_3(a_5 D_7 - a_4 D_{12}) \right] \frac{d U}{dx} \\ + \left[ D_4(b_1 a_5 + \alpha_4 a_4)(\omega^2 + \Omega^2) + a_2(a_4 D_{12} - a_5 D_7)(\omega^2 + \Omega^2) \right] U \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + D_4(a_5^2 - a_4 a_6) \frac{d^4 W}{dx^4} + \left[ 2D_4(\alpha_3 D_5 + \alpha_1 a_4) \right. \\
& + a_6(a_5 D_7 - a_4 D_{12}) \left. \right] \frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} + \left[ D_4(a_5 D_{13} - a_4 D_9) \right. \\
& + \alpha_1(a_4 D_{12} - a_5 D_7) \left. \right] \frac{d^2 W}{dx^2} + \left[ D_4(a_5 D_{14} - a_4 D_{10}) \right. \\
& + D_5(a_4 D_{12} - a_5 D_7) \left. \right] \frac{dW}{dx} + \left[ D_4(a_5 D_{15} - a_4 D_{11}) \right. \\
& \left. - D_6(a_5 D_7 - a_4 D_{12}) \right] W = 0
\end{aligned} \tag{54}$$

where the functions  $D$  are defined in Appendix B.

The boundary conditions at the fixed end ( $x = 0$ ) are identical to those given in Eq. (25). In addition to Eq. (26), boundary conditions at the free end ( $x = L$ ) include the following two relations, which can be reduced from Eqs. (6) and (7):

$$a_1 \omega^2 W + a_7 \frac{d^2 W}{dx^2} = 0 \tag{55}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& - (\Omega^2 + \omega^2) a_2 \mathbb{U} - a_5 \frac{d^2 \mathbb{U}}{dx^2} + a_6 \frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} + \left[ a_3(\omega^2 + \Omega^2) + \frac{a_6 a_1}{a_7} \omega^2 \right] \\
& \times \frac{dW}{dx} + a_6 \left( \frac{2b_7 a_1}{a_7^2} - \frac{b_1}{a_7} \right) \omega^2 W = 0
\end{aligned} \tag{56}$$

Approximate techniques, such as the finite-difference method, should be used to solve the eigenvalue problem, since the coefficients of the governing equations and boundary conditions are not constant and consequently obtaining the exact form of the corresponding characteristic equation becomes practically infeasible.

For a symmetrically tapered beam, Eqs. (46–48) reduce to

$$a_1 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} - a_4 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial x^2} + b_4 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} - a_1 \Omega^2 u_o = 0 \tag{57}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& a_3 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x^2 \partial t^2} \right) + a_7 \psi - a_6 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x^3} \right) \\
& + \alpha_1 \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} \right) - a_3 \Omega^2 \left( \psi + \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} \right) = 0
\end{aligned} \tag{58}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& a_1 \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial t^2} - a_3 \left( \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x \partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^4 w_o}{\partial x^2 \partial t^2} \right) + \alpha_2 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} \right) \\
& + a_6 \left( \frac{\partial^3 \psi}{\partial x^3} + \frac{\partial^4 w_o}{\partial x^4} \right) - 2\alpha_1 \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x^3} \right) \\
& - 2\alpha_5 \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} \right) + \Omega^2 a_3 \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} \right) \\
& - \alpha_2 \Omega^2 \left( \psi + \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} \right) = 0
\end{aligned} \tag{59}$$

Since the axial mode decouples from the other two modes, the natural frequencies of this mode may not be the same as those of the other modes in general. Hence, displacement functions should be assumed in the forms of Eqs. (13), (14), and (19). The governing equations then can be simplified to the following by eliminating  $\psi$  from Eqs. (55) and (56):

$$a_4 \frac{d^2 \mathbb{U}}{dx^2} - b_4 \frac{d \mathbb{U}}{dx} + a_1(\omega_1^2 + \Omega^2) \mathbb{U} = 0 \tag{60}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& a_6 D_4 \frac{d^4 W}{dx^4} + (a_6 D_7 - 2\alpha_1 D_4) \frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} + (D_4 D_9 - \alpha_1 D_7) \frac{d^2 W}{dx^2} \\
& + (D_4 D_{10} - D_5 D_7) \frac{dW}{dx} + (D_4 D_{11} - D_6 D_7) W = 0
\end{aligned} \tag{61}$$

The boundary conditions are identical to those for the nonsymmetrical case except that Eq. (56) can be reduced to:

$$\begin{aligned}
& a_6 \frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} + \left[ a_3(\omega^2 + \Omega^2) + \frac{a_1 a_6}{a_7} \omega^2 \right] \frac{dW}{dx} \\
& + a_6 \left( \frac{2a_1 b_7}{a_7^2} - \frac{b_1}{a_7} \right) \omega^2 W = 0
\end{aligned} \tag{62}$$

### Euler-Bernoulli Beams

The governing equations, Eqs. (8) and (9), reduce to the following for a nonsymmetrical tapered beam:

$$\begin{aligned}
& a_1 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} - a_4 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial x^2} + b_4 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} - a_1 \Omega^2 u_o - a_2 \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} \\
& + a_5 \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x^3} + \alpha_3 \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} + \Omega^2 a_2 \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} = 0
\end{aligned} \tag{63}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& a_1 \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial t^2} - a_3 \frac{\partial^4 w_o}{\partial x^2 \partial t^2} + \alpha_2 \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} + a_6 \frac{\partial^4 w_o}{\partial x^4} \\
& - 2\alpha_1 \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x^3} + (\Omega^2 a_3 - 2\alpha_5) \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} - \alpha_2 \Omega^2 \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} \\
& + a_2 \frac{\partial^3 u_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} + \alpha_4 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} - a_5 \frac{\partial^3 u_o}{\partial x^3} - 2\alpha_3 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial x^2} \\
& - (a_2 \Omega^2 + 2b_5) \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} - \alpha_4 \Omega^2 u_o = 0
\end{aligned} \tag{64}$$

The displacement functions expressed in Eqs. (50) and (51) can be utilized to simplify Eqs. (63) and (64) to

$$\begin{aligned}
& a_4 \frac{d^2 \mathbb{U}}{dx^2} - b_4 \frac{d \mathbb{U}}{dx} + a_1(\omega^2 + \Omega^2) \mathbb{U} - a_5 \frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} \\
& - \alpha_3 \frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} - a_2(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) \frac{dW}{dx} = 0
\end{aligned} \tag{65}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& (a_4 a_6 - a_5^2) \frac{d^4 W}{dx^4} - 2(\alpha_1 a_4 + \alpha_3 a_5) \frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} \\
& + \left[ (a_3 a_4 - a_2 a_5)(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) - 2(\alpha_5 a_4 + b_5 a_5) \right] \frac{d^2 W}{dx^2} \\
& - \left[ (\alpha_2 a_4 + \alpha_4 a_5)(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) \right] \frac{dW}{dx} - a_1 a_4 \omega^2 W \\
& - 2(\alpha_3 a_4 + b_4 a_5) \frac{d^2 \mathbb{U}}{dx^2} + \left[ (a_1 a_5 - a_2 a_4)(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) \right. \\
& \left. - 2b_5 a_4 \right] \frac{d \mathbb{U}}{dx} - (\alpha_4 a_4 + b_1 a_5)(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) \mathbb{U} = 0
\end{aligned} \tag{66}$$

The boundary conditions can be deduced from Eqs. (10), (11), and (12) as

At the fixed end ( $x = 0$ ):

$$\mathbb{U} = W = \frac{dW}{dx} = 0 \tag{67}$$

At the free end ( $x = L$ ):

$$\frac{d \mathbb{U}}{dx} = \frac{d^2 W}{dx^2} = 0 \tag{68}$$

$$a_6 \frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} + a_3(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) \frac{dW}{dx} - a_5 \frac{d^2 \mathbb{U}}{dx^2} - a_2(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) \mathbb{U} = 0 \tag{69}$$

For a symmetrically tapered beam, Eqs. (63) and (64) reduce to

$$a_1 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial t^2} - a_4 \frac{\partial^2 u_o}{\partial x^2} + b_4 \frac{\partial u_o}{\partial x} - a_1 \Omega^2 u_o = 0 \tag{70}$$

**Table 1** Natural frequencies of the longitudinal ( $\omega_1$ ) and the transverse ( $\omega_2$ ) vibrations of symmetric sandwich beams at various rotating speeds ( $\Omega$ )

Mode number	$\Omega$ (Hertz)	Beam A (rectangular)				Beam C (tapered)			
		$\omega_1$ (Hertz)		$\omega_2$ (Hertz)		$\omega_1$ (Hertz)		$\omega_2$ (Hertz)	
		TBM & EBM	TBM	EBM	TBM & EBM	TBM	EBM		
1	0	421.9	27.12	27.09	444.2	26.64	26.55		
	50	419.0	26.94	26.91	441.3	26.54	26.44		
	100	409.9	26.41	26.37	432.8	26.22	26.12		
	200	371.5	24.11	24.07	396.6	24.90	24.80		
	300	296.7	19.53	19.47	327.5	22.50	22.40		
	400	134.3	9.18	9.14	193.1	18.54	18.43		
	420	40.4	3.38	3.36	144.5	17.46	17.36		
	500	—	—	—	—	11.29	11.21		
	540	—	—	—	—	4.96	4.93		
	600	—	—	—	—	—	—		
2	0	1266	165.2	167.8	1274	139.4	140.3		
	50	1265	165.0	167.7	1273	139.2	140.2		
	100	1262	164.5	167.1	1270	138.9	139.8		
	200	1250	162.2	164.7	1258	137.5	138.4		
	300	1230	158.4	160.7	1238	135.1	135.9		
	400	1201	152.8	154.9	1210	131.7	132.4		
	500	1163	145.4	147.1	1172	127.2	127.8		
	700	1115	135.6	137.1	1124	121.5	121.9		
	0	2110	439.6	461.8	2114	358.8	369.2		
3	50	2109	439.5	461.6	2113	358.7	369.1		
	100	2107	439.1	461.1	2112	358.4	368.8		
	200	2100	437.4	459.2	2105	357.2	367.4		
	300	2088	434.6	455.9	2093	355.2	365.2		
	400	2071	430.1	451.3	2076	352.4	362.1		
	500	2050	425.5	445.3	2054	348.7	358.0		
	600	2023	419.1	437.9	2027	344.2	352.9		

$$a_1 \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial t^2} - a_3 \frac{\partial^4 w_o}{\partial x^2 \partial t^2} + \alpha_2 \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x \partial t^2} + a_6 \frac{\partial^4 w_o}{\partial x^4} - 2\alpha_1 \frac{\partial^3 w_o}{\partial x^3} + (\Omega^2 a_3 - 2\alpha_5) \frac{\partial^2 w_o}{\partial x^2} - \alpha_2 \Omega^2 \frac{\partial w_o}{\partial x} = 0 \quad (71)$$

Since governing equations become decoupled, the displacement functions should be assumed in the forms of Eqs. (13) and (14). Equations (70) and (71), therefore, become

$$a_4 \frac{d^2 U}{dx^2} - b_4 \frac{d U}{dx} + a_1 (\Omega^2 + \omega_1^2) U = 0 \quad (72)$$

$$a_6 \frac{d^4 W}{dx^4} - 2\alpha_1 \frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} + [a_3 (\Omega^2 + \omega_2^2) - 2\alpha_5] \frac{d^2 W}{dx^2} - \alpha_2 (\Omega^2 + \omega_2^2) \frac{d W}{dx} - a_1 \omega_2^2 W = 0 \quad (73)$$

The boundary condition at  $x=L$  expressed in Eq. (69) becomes

$$a_6 \frac{d^3 W}{dx^3} + a_3 (\Omega^2 + \omega_2^2) \frac{d W}{dx} = 0 \quad (74)$$

Since the coefficients  $a$  and  $\alpha$  are functions of  $x$ , numerical techniques should be employed to solve these eigenvalue problems.

### Numerical Examples

Four cantilever sandwich rotating beams are considered for numerical computations: a symmetric rectangular beam (beam A), a nonsymmetric rectangular beam (beam B), a symmetrically tapered beam (beam C), and a nonsymmetrically tapered beam (beam D). Aluminum core with steel facings are modeled for the sandwich construction. Hence, the material properties are selected, as follows:

$$E_1 = 6.89 \times 10^{10} \text{ Pa} (10 \times 10^6 \text{ psi})$$

$$E_2 = E_3 = 2.07 \times 10^{11} \text{ Pa} (30 \times 10^6 \text{ psi})$$

$$G_1 = 2.62 \times 10^{10} \text{ Pa} (3.80 \times 10^6 \text{ psi})$$

$$G_2 = G_3 = 8.00 \times 10^{10} \text{ Pa} (11.5 \times 10^6 \text{ psi})$$

$$\rho_1 = 2643 \text{ kg/m}^3 (165 \text{ lbm/ft}^3)$$

$$\rho_2 = \rho_3 = 7770 \text{ kg/m}^3 (485 \text{ lbm/ft}^3)$$

The shear correction factors are chosen to be 0.850 for both materials by following Cowper's formulation<sup>23</sup> for rectangular cross sections. The beam lengths of these beams are chosen to be 3.05 m (10 ft). The half-thickness of the core ( $h_1$ ) is selected as 0.0762 m (3 in.) for rectangular beams (beams A and B). A uniform thickness of 0.0508 m (2 in.) is selected for both facings of beam A, whereas the thickness of the bottom facing of beam B is changed to 0.0762 m (3 in.) to model its nonsymmetric behavior. The core thickness of beams C and D are tapered from 0.0762 m (3 in.) at the fixed end to 0.0254 m (1 in.) at the free end. Both facings of these beams have uniform thickness. Beam C has a symmetric geometry with a 0.0508 m (2 in.) facing thickness on both sides, whereas the thickness of the bottom facing of beam D is changed to 0.0762 m (3 in.) to model its nonsymmetric characteristic.

Governing equations for both Timoshenko's beam model (TBM) and Euler-Bernoulli's model (EBM) were solved by the finite-difference method, except those of beam A. Nonsymmetric beams (beams B and D) and the symmetrically tapered beam (beam C) were divided into 25 and 50 segments, respectively. The eigenvalue problems were solved by evaluating determinants with an order of  $50 \times 50$ .

Table 1 shows the natural frequencies of the first three modes for both the transverse and the longitudinal vibrations of the symmetric beams (beams A and C). Results for beam A were obtained from the solutions listed in Appendix A. The values of natural frequencies for both the transverse and the extensional modes decrease with increasing rotating speed. The fundamental frequencies disappear at a high speed of rotation. Table 2 shows the natural frequencies of the first three modes for nonsymmetric beams (beams B and D). The

Table 2 Natural frequencies in Hertz for coupled vibrations of nonsymmetric sandwich beams at various rotating speeds ( $\Omega$ )

Mode number	$\Omega$ (Hertz)	Beam B (rectangular)		Beam D (tapered)	
		TBM	EBM	TBM	EBM
1	0	29.30	29.26	28.54	28.50
	50	29.11	29.07	28.42	28.39
	100	28.53	28.49	28.07	28.03
	200	36.06	26.00	26.59	26.54
	300	21.10	21.08	23.87	23.81
	400	9.92	9.86	19.28	19.21
	420	3.62	3.60	17.97	17.91
	500	—	—	10.65	10.60
	530	—	—	4.51	4.49
	600	—	—	—	—
2	0	176.8	180.0	150.7	152.4
	50	176.6	179.8	150.6	152.3
	100	176.0	179.2	150.2	151.9
	200	173.6	176.6	148.7	150.3
	300	169.5	172.3	146.0	147.5
	400	163.6	166.1	142.3	143.6
	500	155.6	157.7	137.3	138.4
	600	145.1	146.9	130.8	131.7
3	0	464.1	490.4	386.0	400.2
	50	463.9	490.2	385.9	400.1
	100	463.5	489.7	385.6	399.7
	200	461.8	487.6	384.3	398.2
	300	458.8	484.1	382.1	395.8
	400	454.7	479.2	379.0	392.3
	500	449.3	472.8	375.1	387.8
	600	442.5	464.9	370.1	382.2

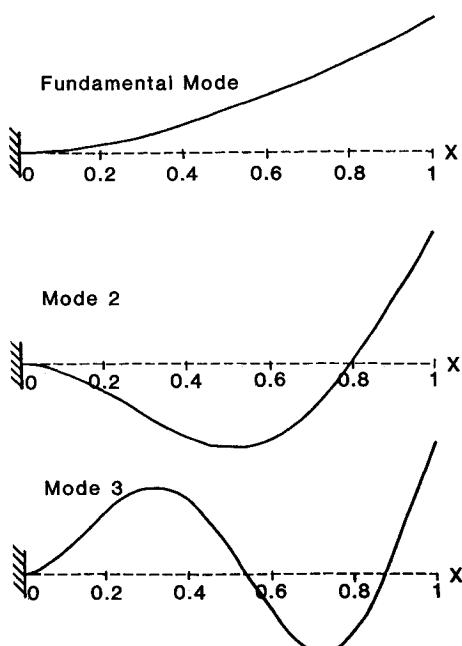


Fig. 2 Modal shapes for the transverse vibration of a rotating sandwich cantilever beam.

transverse and the extensional oscillations are coupled into one mode with a single frequency for these cases. Their values vary with the rotating speed in the same way as those of symmetric beams. For most cases, the EBM predicted higher frequencies than those calculated by TBM for higher modes; however, the opposite trend can also be observed for fundamental modes. The effect of beam geometry indicated by these results is inconclusive, also. However, for most cases, rectangular beams have higher frequencies for transverse or coupled vibrations and lower frequencies for longitudinal vibrations than their tapered counterparts. Typical modal shapes of the transverse and the longitudinal vibrations of a nonsymmetric sandwich beam are shown in Figs. 2 and 3, respectively. Those for sym-

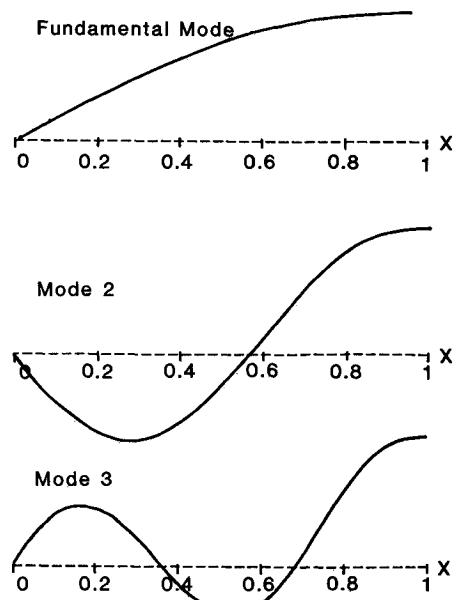


Fig. 3 Modal shapes for the longitudinal vibration of a rotating sandwich cantilever beam.

metric beams do not differ qualitatively from those shown in these figures. Rotational speed also has little effect on the qualitative characteristics of these modal shapes, except that lower frequency modes vanish at an extremely high rotating speed.

The natural frequencies of a nonrotating homogeneous beam can be determined by treating it as a special case of a sandwich beam. For a nonrotating rectangular homogeneous beam, Eq. (31) reduces to the expression of natural frequencies for longitudinal vibration of a cantilever beam, given by Den Hartog.<sup>24</sup> For a steel beam with the same geometry as beam A, the frequencies of the first three modes can be determined as 423.3 Hz, 1270 Hz, and 2116 Hz, which are slightly higher

**Table 3 Comparison of the first three natural frequencies in Hertz for transverse vibration of a homogeneous nonrotating steel cantilever beam (length = 10 ft, depth = 10 in.) calculated by using the present models and the classical Euler-Bernoulli's model (Ref. 24)**

Mode	Present models		
	TBM	EBM	Classical EBM
1	22.78	22.77	22.82
2	140.0	141.6	142.6
3	377.5	391.4	400.1

than those of beam A. This is reasonable because beam A is less stiff than the homogeneous steel beam. Comparison of the frequencies for transverse vibrations of this homogeneous steel beam calculated by the present models with those calculated by the formula given by Den Hartog<sup>24</sup> is shown in Table 3. Both EBM and TBM predict slightly lower values than those calculated by the classical method. These results indicate that the formulation, by including the neutral axis variation, predicts lower frequencies than those calculated by the classical method. The effect of this neutral-axis variation is not very significant for low-frequency modes due to the homogeneous and nonrotating characteristics of the beam.

### Conclusions

The governing equations for the free vibration of a rotating sandwich beam have been solved numerically and reasonable results have been obtained. These equations include the effect of the variation of the neutral axis position along the beam. This effect can be very significant for a rotating sandwich beam, due to both the centrifugal force and a nonsymmetric distribution of property or geometry.

The natural frequencies of a rotating beam have been shown to vary with the rotating speed. In addition, at a high speed, the lower frequency modes or the fundamental mode can vanish. This indicates that the dynamic behavior of a rotating sandwich beam can differ drastically from that of a nonrotating sandwich beam.

### Appendix A: Coefficients of the Characteristic Equation for the Transverse Response of a Symmetric Rectangular Sandwich Beam

Coefficients of the characteristic equation, Eq. (36), are defined as shown below:

#### Timoshenko Beams

*Case 1:*  $a_3(\omega_2^2 + \Omega^2) > a_7$

$$\kappa_{11} \equiv (\beta_2^2 - \delta_1) \cos \beta_2 L + (\delta_1 - \beta_1^2) \cos \beta_1 L$$

$$\kappa_{12} \equiv (\delta_1 \beta_1^2) \sin \beta_1 L + \left( \beta_1 \beta_2 - \frac{\delta_1 \beta_1}{\beta_2} \right) \sin \beta_2 L$$

$$\kappa_{21} \equiv \beta_1 (\beta_1^2 - \delta_1 - \delta_2) \sin \beta_1 L + \beta_2 (\delta_1 + \delta_2 - \beta_2^2) \sin \beta_2 L$$

$$\kappa_{22} \equiv \beta_1 (\delta_1 + \delta_2 - \beta_1^2) \cos \beta_1 L + \beta_1 (\beta_2^2 - \delta_1 - \delta_2) \cos \beta_2 L$$

*Case 2:*  $a_3(\omega_2^2 + \Omega^2) < a_7$

$$\kappa_{11} \equiv (\delta_1 - \beta_1^2) \cos \beta_1 L - (\delta_1 + \beta_3^2) \cosh \beta_3 L$$

$$\kappa_{12} \equiv (\delta_1 - \beta_1^2) \sin \beta_1 L - \frac{\beta_1}{\beta_3} (\delta_1 + \beta_3^2) \sinh \beta_3 L$$

$$\kappa_{21} \equiv \beta_1 (\beta_1^2 - \delta_1 - \delta_2) \sin \beta_1 L - \beta_3 (\delta_1 + \delta_2 + \beta_3^2) \sinh \beta_3 L$$

$$\kappa_{22} \equiv \beta_1 (\delta_1 + \delta_2 - \beta_1^2) \cos \beta_1 L - \beta_1 (\delta_1 + \delta_2 + \beta_3^2) \cosh \beta_3 L$$

*Case 3:*  $a_3(\omega_2^2 + \Omega^2) = a_7$

$$\kappa_{11} \equiv (\delta_1 - \beta_1^2) \cos \beta_1 L - \delta_1$$

$$\kappa_{12} \equiv (\delta_1 - \beta_1^2) \sin \beta_1 L - \beta_1 L$$

$$\kappa_{21} \equiv \beta_1 (\beta_1^2 - \delta_1 - \delta_2) \sin \beta_1 L$$

$$\kappa_{22} \equiv \beta_1 (\delta_1 + \delta_2 - \beta_1^2) \cos \beta_1 L - \beta_1 (\delta_1 + \delta_2)$$

#### Euler-Bernoulli Beams

$$\kappa_{11} \equiv \mu_1^2 \cos \mu_1 L + \mu_2^2 \cosh \mu_2 L$$

$$\kappa_{12} \equiv \mu_1^2 \sin \mu_1 L + \mu_1 \mu_2 \sinh \mu_2 L$$

$$\kappa_{21} \equiv \mu_1 (\mu_1^2 - \delta_2) \sin \mu_1 L - \mu_2 (\mu_2^2 + \delta_2) \sinh \mu_2 L$$

$$\kappa_{22} \equiv \mu_1 (\delta_2 - \mu_1^2) \cos \mu_1 L - \mu_1 (\mu_2^2 + \delta_2) \cosh \mu_2 L$$

### Appendix B: Definitions of Coefficients of the Governing Equations for a Rotating Tapered Sandwich Beam

$$c_1 \equiv 2\rho_1 h_{1o} + \rho_2 (h_{2o} - h_{1o}) + \rho_3 (h_{3o} - h_{1o})$$

$$c_2 \equiv [\rho_2 (h_{1o}^2 - h_{2o}^2) + \rho_3 (h_{3o}^2 - h_{1o}^2)]/2$$

$$c_3 \equiv [2\rho_1 h_{1o}^3 + \rho_2 (h_{2o}^3 - h_{1o}^3) + \rho_3 (h_{3o}^3 - h_{1o}^3)]/3$$

$$c_4 \equiv 2E_1 h_{1o} + E_2 (h_{2o} - h_{1o}) + E_3 (h_{3o} - h_{1o})$$

$$c_5 \equiv [E_2 (h_{1o}^2 - h_{2o}^2) + E_3 (h_{3o}^2 - h_{1o}^2)]/2$$

$$c_6 \equiv [2E_1 h_{1o}^3 + E_2 (h_{2o}^3 - h_{1o}^3) + E_3 (h_{3o}^3 - h_{1o}^3)]/3$$

$$c_7 \equiv 2k_1 G_1 h_{1o} + k_2 G_2 (h_{2o} - h_{1o}) + k_3 G_3 (h_{3o} - h_{1o})$$

$$b_1 \equiv 2\rho_1 s_1 + \rho_2 (s_2 - s_1) + \rho_3 (s_3 - s_1)$$

$$b_2 \equiv [\rho_2 (s_1^2 - s_2^2) + \rho_3 (s_3^2 - s_1^2)]/2$$

$$b_3 \equiv [2\rho_1 s_1^3 + \rho_2 (s_2^3 - s_1^3) + \rho_3 (s_3^3 - s_1^3)]/3$$

$$b_4 \equiv 2E_1 s_1 + E_2 (s_2 - s_1) + E_3 (s_3 - s_1)$$

$$b_5 \equiv [E_2 (s_1^2 - s_2^2) + E_3 (s_3^2 - s_1^2)]/2$$

$$b_6 \equiv [2E_1 s_1^3 + E_2 (s_2^3 - s_1^3) + E_3 (s_3^3 - s_1^3)]/3$$

$$b_7 \equiv 2k_1 G_1 s_1 + k_2 G_2 (s_2 - s_1) + k_3 G_3 (s_3 - s_1)$$

$$d_1 \equiv \rho_2 (s_1 h_{1o} - s_2 h_{2o}) + \rho_3 (s_3 h_{3o} - s_1 h_{1o})$$

$$d_2 \equiv 2\rho_1 s_1 h_{1o}^2 + \rho_2 (s_2 h_{2o}^2 - s_1 h_{1o}^2) + \rho_3 (s_3 h_{3o}^2 - s_1 h_{1o}^2)$$

$$d_3 \equiv 2\rho_1 s_1^2 h_{1o} + \rho_2 (s_2^2 h_{2o} - s_1^2 h_{1o}) + \rho_3 (s_3^2 h_{3o} - s_1^2 h_{1o})$$

$$d_4 \equiv E_2 (s_1 h_{1o} - s_2 h_{2o}) + E_3 (s_3 h_{3o} - s_1 h_{1o})$$

$$d_5 \equiv 2E_1 s_1 h_{1o}^2 + E_2 (s_2 h_{2o}^2 - s_1 h_{1o}^2) + E_3 (s_3 h_{3o}^2 - s_1 h_{1o}^2)$$

$$d_6 \equiv 2E_1 s_1^2 h_{1o} + E_2 (s_2^2 h_{2o} - s_1^2 h_{1o}) + E_3 (s_3^2 h_{3o} - s_1^2 h_{1o})$$

$$D_1 \equiv a_2 (\Omega^2 + \omega^2) + \frac{2a_5 b_7^2}{a_7^2} + \frac{\alpha_3 b_7}{a_7}$$

$$D_2 \equiv a_2 (\Omega^2 + \omega^2) + \frac{a_1 a_5 \omega^2}{a_7}$$

$$D_3 \equiv \frac{\omega^2}{a_7} \left( \frac{2a_1 a_5 b_7}{a_7} + a_1 \alpha_3 - a_5 b_1 \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
D_4 &\equiv a_7 + \frac{b_7\alpha_1}{a_7} - \frac{2a_6b_7}{a_7^2} - a_3(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) \\
D_5 &\equiv -a_3(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) - \frac{a_1a_6\omega^2}{a_7} \\
D_6 &\equiv \frac{\omega^2}{a_7} \left( a_6b_1 + \alpha_1a_1 - \frac{2a_1a_6b_7}{a_7} \right) \\
D_7 &\equiv \frac{b_7a_3(\Omega^2 + \omega^2)}{a_7} + \frac{6a_6b_7^3}{a_7^3} - \frac{4\alpha_1b_7^2}{a_7^2} - \frac{2b_7\alpha_5}{a_7} \\
&\quad - \alpha_2(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) \\
D_8 &\equiv 2b_5 + a_2(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) \\
D_9 &\equiv a_3(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) + \frac{a_1a_6\omega^2}{a_7} \\
D_{10} &\equiv \frac{3a_1a_6b_7\omega^2}{a_7^2} - \frac{2a_1\alpha_1\omega^2}{a_7} - \frac{2a_6b_1\omega^2}{a_7} - \alpha_2(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) \\
D_{11} &\equiv \omega^2 \left[ \frac{6a_1a_6b_7}{a_7^3} - \frac{b_7}{a_7^2} (3b_1a_6 + 4a_1\alpha_1) + \frac{2}{a_7} (b_1\alpha_1 - a_1\alpha_5) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{a_1a_3}{a_7} (\Omega^2 + \omega^2) - a_1 \right] \\
D_{12} &\equiv (\Omega^2 + \omega^2) \left( \alpha_4 + \frac{a_2b_7}{a_7} \right) + \frac{2b_7}{a_7} \left( b_5 + \frac{2b_7\alpha_3}{a_7} + \frac{3b_7^2a_5}{a_7^2} \right) \\
D_{13} &\equiv 2b_5 + D_2 \\
D_{14} &\equiv \alpha_4(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) + \frac{\omega^2}{a_7} \left( 2a_1\alpha_3 - 2b_1a_5 + \frac{3a_1a_5b_7}{a_7} \right) \\
D_{15} &\equiv \frac{\omega^2}{a_7} \left[ \frac{b_7}{a_7} \left( \frac{6a_1a_5b_7}{a_7} + 4a_1\alpha_3 - 3a_5b_1 \right) + a_1a_2(\Omega^2 + \omega^2) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + 2a_1b_5 - 2b_1\alpha_3 \right]
\end{aligned}$$

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