

Effect of Gravity, Side Pressure and Direct Force on the Free Vibration Characteristics of Cantilever Plate

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Abstract: This study aims to analyze the vibration characteristics for cantilever plate under pre-stresses. The effect of gravity (self-weight) of cantilever plate, side fluid pressure with different immersed ratios and direct tensile and compressive force are taken into account. The natural frequencies and mode shapes are obtained with and without the pre-stresses. The effect of gravity was studied during (180°) angle of support starting from vertical downward support to vertical upward support. Then the effect of side fluid pressure was studied for fully, partially and non-immersed cases. Also, the effect of direct tensile and compressive forces acting at the tip of the plate in the direction parallel to the plate axis, was studied to find the effect of the force on the natural frequencies. The numerical Finite Element Method (FEM) is used in the analyses by using the ANSYS Workbench Software using the interaction between (structural static) and (modal) analysis. Two plates with different material are used in the study with the same geometry as a uniform rectangular plate to analyses the gravity and side fluid pressure effects and only one plate used to analyses the direct force effect. For the self-weight problem, the tension effect tends to increase the natural frequencies but the compression effect tends to decrease the natural frequencies because of the buckling tendency and in the case of pure bending which means that the tension at the upper surface and compression at the lower surface are equals, the natural frequencies remain the same as in the case of no gravity effect. For the side fluid pressure problem, the contact with fluid tends to decrease the natural frequencies. Then for the direct force cases in the tensile case the natural frequencies were increasing and in the compressive case, the natural frequencies were decreasing. For all cases, the mode shapes still the same with and without pre-stresses. All results compared with the results without pre-stresses.

Key words: Cantilever plate, natural frequencies, pre-stresses effect, gravity, fluid tends, compression

INTRODUCTION

Plates are widely used in engineering structural components, like in cars, ships, pressure vessels, turbines blade and other structural components. Such structures are subjected to various external forces. Among them, pressure, temperature force, self-weight, etc. These quasi-static loads yield initial stress (pre-stress) effects which change the plate characteristics, especially the dynamic (vibration) characteristics. Structural dynamics behavior is widely studied under the effect of the pre-stress, like the direct stress, fluid contact stress, thermal stress, dead weight etc. These studies aim to investigate, improving or controlling the vibration characteristics especially the natural frequencies and mode shapes.

Dynamic vibratory analysis of beam under purely axial pre-stress has attention in the literature (Bokaian, 1988, 1990; Abramovich, 1992), for example. It is known

that the natural frequencies for transverse vibration usually increasing in pure tensile stress and decreasing in pure compressive stress, especially for lower frequencies and these effects are decreasing with high frequencies. For vertical supporting beams under gravity effect where the load purely axial though not constant, some linear analysis can be found by Yokoyama (1990) and Abramovich (1993). The natural frequencies of cantilever beams was investigated for statically deformed beams and compared with the curved beams that have the same initial curved shape without forced deflection which found that each beam has different frequencies and there is not any general relationship between them where there are differences between the natural frequencies of the forced deformed beam and natural frequencies of curved shape beam as by Cornil *et al.* (2007). The exact solution of natural frequencies for cantilever beams with a mass at the tip and slender in the axial direction by Lajimi and Hepler (2012).

The objective of present paper are study the effect of gravity, side pressure due to the contact with fluid and direct tensile and compressive forces on the natural frequencies and mode shapes of thin cantilever plate using the Finite Element Method (FEM) by ANSYS Workbench Software by using the interaction technique between the static structural analysis and modal analysis.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Dynamic analysis of thin cantilever plate using FEM: The thin plate with simple geometry which has two flat surfaces parallel to each other analyzed by classical Kirchhoff's theory which assumed that the displacements are small compared with thickness, the normal stress to the mid-surface of the plate and the transverse shear stresses are negligible, the mid-surface of the plate is neutral surface during bending and normal to the mid-surface before deformation remain straight and normal after deformation. By using the numerical analysis of (FEM) with Kirchhoff's 3D element the plate domain discretization to sub-domains, this sub-domains have rectangular or triangular shapes with some nodes in certain positions, each node have three degrees of freedom, one linear normal to the element (ω) and two angulars (θ_x and θ_y) about x and y-axis, respectively. And due to the bending behavior, the element subjected to three loads type, one shear force in the z-direction and two bending moments in the x and y-direction (Leissa, 1969; Werner, 2004; Seshu, 2012).

To use the (FEM) there are some different elements using to discretization the plate domain, a rectangular element with corner nodes, a rectangular element with corner and mid-line nodes, a triangular element with corner nodes and triangular element with corner mid-line nodes. By expressing the strain (ϵ) and stress (σ) at any point in terms of nodal displacements and shape functions as shown in the Eq. 1:

$$\epsilon = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_x \\ \epsilon_y \\ \gamma_{xy} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_x \\ \sigma_y \\ \tau_{xy} \end{bmatrix} \tag{1}$$

The total potential energy equal to:

$$X = U - W = \frac{1}{2} \delta^t \left[\iiint B^t . D . B . dx dy dz \right] \delta - \delta^t F \tag{2}$$

Where:

- U = The strain energy and
- W = The internal force energy

For the isotropic, linear strain and homogeneous materials the D equal to:

$$D = \frac{E}{1-\nu^2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \nu & 0 \\ \nu & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1-\nu}{2} \end{bmatrix} \tag{3}$$

By using the minimization of X, the stiffness matrix can be expressed as:

$$[K] = \iint B^t . D . B . dx dy \tag{4}$$

And from dynamics equations of the structure the mass matrix can be expressed as:

$$[M] = \iint \rho . N . N^t . N . dx dy \tag{5}$$

where, (N) is the shape functions matrix for each element. For each element the stiffness and mass matrices must be formulated and to solve the dynamics plate problems its need to summation the discretization element by adding the contact nodes matrices between each neighboring elements, then the overall matrices using in the general equation of dynamic behavior as shown in the Eq. 6:

$$\{ [K] - \omega^2 [M] \} \{ \delta \} = \{ 0 \} \tag{6}$$

Where:

- [K] = The global stiffness matrix
- [M] = The global mass matrix
- {M} = The vectors containing the nodes behavior
- {\delta} = The natural frequency

Pre-stresses plate simulation using FEM: When the plate subjects to a pre-stress due to certain effects like gravity, pressure or force, then the finite element matrices was changing by adding the pre-stress effect on the matrices. These effects were adding to the mass matrix as adding mass matrix [m]. The adding mass matrix can be forming as a lumped mass matrix, pressure matrix or force matrix. Then the Eq. 7 of motion became as:

$$\{ [K] - \omega^2 [M + m] \} \{ \delta \} = \{ 0 \} \tag{7}$$

In general, the size of these matrices is large and the solving of the problem is very difficult by hand, especially when taking the external effect in the account. Therefore, the using of the computer software is very important to reduce the racket and time to solve the problems.

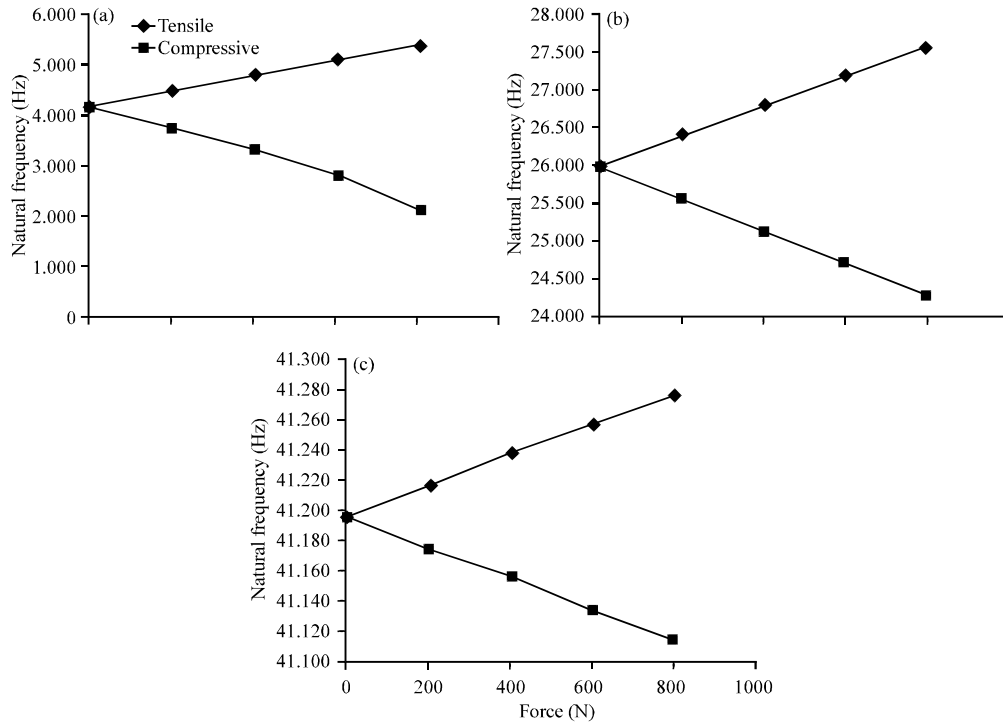


Fig. 7: Changing of natural frequencies with force; a-c) First-third frequencies changing with force

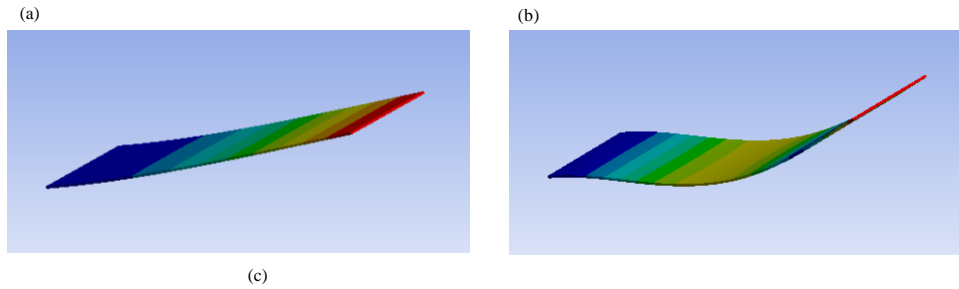


Fig. 8: First three modes for both plates; a) 1st mode bending; b) 2nd mode bending and c) 3rd mode twisting

CONCLUSION

This paper studies the vibration behavior of the elastic cantilever plate under pre-stresses. Three types of pre-stresses are studied, pre-stress due to gravity, side fluid pressure and direct tensile and compressive forces. For the gravity effect, the cantilever plate supported with different angle started from vertical downward and ended

to vertical upward. For side fluid pressure effect, the cantilever plate supported vertically downward in different immersed ratios in water. And for direct tensile and compressive forces effect, direct forces applied at the tip and parallel to the plate axis with different values. For all cases, the first three natural frequencies and mode shapes of the cantilever plate were investigated. Some of the conclusions can be summarized as follows.

There are clear effects of the pre-stressed on the cantilever plate natural frequencies, especially on the low natural frequencies and bending modes where in some cases in torsion mode the natural frequency still constant during some changing interval. For all cases studied in this study, the natural frequencies were changed under the effect of the pre-stresses but the mode shapes still the same with and without the pre-stresses effect.

In order to take the gravity effect into account in the modal analysis of cantilever plate, the effect of pure tensile and pure compressive stresses is approximately closed. It is found that the pure tensile increased the first three natural frequencies and the pure compressive decreased the first three naturals. Where in the case of pure compressive the plate tends to buckle which cause to vibrate the plate early in frequency less than that without stress. In the case of pure bending, i.e., the tensile in the outer layer and compressive in the inner layer of the plate are equal, the frequencies still constant with and without the gravity effect. In bending behavior, if the tensile on the outer layer is more than the compressive in the inner layer of the plate, the frequencies were increased and vice versa is true.

It is found that the immersed in fluid decrease the natural frequencies, especially for the low frequency with increasing the immersed ratio. The effect of immersed in fluid change the torsion frequency more than the bending frequency. The direct force changes the frequencies. The direct tensile force (tensile stress) increasing the frequencies and the direct compressive force (compressive stress) decreasing the frequencies, especially in low frequencies and bending modes. The effect of direct compressive is more than the direct tensile stress where the compressive stress tends to buckle the

plate which causing to vibrate the plate early. For all pre-stresses cases, the mode shapes still the same with and without pre-stresses.

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