# THE EXACT SOLUTIONS FOR THE NATURAL FREQUENCIES AND MODE SHAPES OF NON-UNIFORM BEAMS WITH MULTIPLE SPRING-MASS SYSTEMS 

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#### Abstract

For a beam carrying $n$ spring-mass systems, if the left side and right side of each attaching point and each end of the beam are regarded as nodes, then considering the compatibility of deformations and the equilibrium of forces between the two adjacent beam segments at each attaching point and incorporating with the equation of motion for each spring-mass system, simultaneous equations may be obtained for the $v$ th attaching point, where the unknowns for the simultaneous equations are composed of the integration constants for the eigenfunctions of the $v$ th and $(v+1)$ th beam segments and the associated modal displacements of the $v$ th sprung mass. It is evident that if these unknowns are considered as the nodal displacements, then the coefficient matrix of the simultaneous equations will be equivalent to the element stiffness matrix for the $v$ th attaching point (associated with the $v$ th and $(v+1)$ th beam segments). In view of the last fact, one may use the numerical assembly method (NAM) for the conventional finite element method to obtain the overall simultaneous equations for the overall ( $n$ ) attaching points (associated with the overall ( $n+1$ ) beam segments) by taking into account the boundary conditions of the whole beam. The solutions for the coefficient determinant of the overall simultaneous equations to be equal to zero will give the "exact" natural frequencies of the constrained beam (carrying multiple ( $n$ ) spring-mass systems) and the substitution of each corresponding values of the integration constants into the associated eigenfunctions for each attaching point will determine the corresponding mode shapes. Since no discretization on the continuous beam was made in the present approach (NAM), the natural frequencies and the corresponding mode shapes obtained are the exact ones.


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## 1. INTRODUCTION

For a uniform beam carrying various concentrated elements (such as rigidly attached point masses, elastically mounted lumped masses, linear springs and/or rotational springs), the free vibration problem has been studied by a lot of researchers [1-12]. However, for a non-uniform beam, even without any attachments, the researches on their dynamic behaviors are relatively fewer [13-18]. As to the free vibration analysis of the non-uniform beams carrying multiple concentrated elements [19], the information concerned is rare and this is one of the reasons why the problem in this aspect is studied.

In reference [10], it has been found that the eigenequation for a uniform Euler-Bernoulli beam carrying multiple sprung masses takes the form $[B]\{C\}=0$. Since the order of the overall coefficient matrix $[B]$ is $5 n+4$, where $n$ is the total number of the sprung masses, the order of $[B]$ is 9 for the beam carrying one sprung mass and 14 for the beam carrying two sprung masses. It is evident that the explicit expression for the eigen equation $[B]\{C\}=0$ will become lengthy and intractable for the cases with $n>2$, hence the literature relating to the free vibration analysis of a non-uniform beam carrying more than two concentrated attachments is rare [19]. However, the numerical assembly method (NAM) presented in that paper may easily tackle the cases with any number of concentrated attachments. In reference [12], the NAM was used to perform the free vibration analysis of a uniform Timoshenko beam carrying multiple spring-mass systems and satisfactory results were achieved. To the authors' knowledge, besides the conventional finite element method (FEM), no other effective techniques were presented to solve the title problem, particularly the ones that may provide the exact solutions. For this reason, this paper tries to introduce the NAM to solve the problem.

To realize the effectiveness of the NAM, the lowest five natural frequencies and some of the corresponding mode shapes of a double-tapered beam carrying one, three and five spring-mass systems were calculated respectively. In each case, six boundary conditions were studied: free-clamped, clamped-free, simply supported-clamped, clamped-simply supported, clamped-clamped, and simply supported-simply supported. It has been found that the agreement between the NAM results and the FEM results is excellent.

## 2. EIGENFUNCTIONS FOR THE CONSTRAINED NON-UNIFORM BEAM

Figure 1 shows a non-uniform cantilever beam carrying $n$ spring-mass systems. The whole beam with length $L$ is subdivided into $(n+1)$ segments by the attaching point $v$ located at $x=x_{v}(v=1,2, \ldots, n)$, where ( $O$ ) denotes the $v$ th attaching point and () denotes the $v$ th beam segment. In addition, the left end and the right end of the beam are denoted by $(1)$ and $\circledR$, respectively.

The equation of motion for a bare non-uniform beam is given by [18, 20]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}}\left[E I(x) \frac{\partial^{2} y(x, t)}{\partial x^{2}}\right]+\rho A(x) \frac{\partial^{2} y(x, t)}{\partial t^{2}}=0 \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$



Figure 1. A non-uniform cantilever beam carrying $n$ spring-mass systems.
where $y(x, t)$ is the transverse deflection, $E$ is Young's modulus, $A(x)$ is the cross-sectional area at the position $x, I(x)$ is the moment of inertia of $A(x), \rho$ is the mass density of the beam material and $t$ is time.

If $A(x)$ and $I(x)$ are given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
A(x)=A_{0}\left[(\alpha-1) \frac{x}{L}+1\right]^{2}, \quad I(x)=I_{0}\left[(\alpha-1) \frac{x}{L}+1\right]^{4} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

and free vibration of the beam takes the form

$$
\begin{equation*}
y(x, t)=\bar{Y}(x) \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i} \bar{\omega} t} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

then the substitution of equations (2) and (3) into equation (1) yields

$$
\begin{align*}
& {\left[(\alpha-1) \frac{x}{L}+1\right]^{4} \frac{\mathrm{~d}^{4} \bar{Y}(x)}{\mathrm{d} x^{4}}+8\left[(\alpha-1) \frac{x}{L}+1\right]^{3}\left(\frac{\alpha-1}{L}\right) \frac{\mathrm{d}^{3} \bar{Y}(x)}{\mathrm{d} x^{3}}} \\
& \quad+12\left[(\alpha-1) \frac{x}{L}+1\right]^{2}\left(\frac{\alpha-1}{L}\right)^{2} \frac{\mathrm{~d}^{2} \bar{Y}(x)}{\mathrm{d} x^{2}}-\frac{\rho A_{0} \bar{\omega}^{2}}{E I_{0}}\left[(\alpha-1) \frac{x}{L}+1\right]^{2} \bar{Y}(x)=0 . \tag{4}
\end{align*}
$$

In equation (2), $A_{0}, I_{0}, b_{0}$ and $h_{0}$ are the cross-sectional area, moment of inertia, width and height of the cross-section at $x=0, b_{L}$ and $h_{L}$ are the width and height of the cross-section at $x=L$, respectively, and $\alpha=b_{L} / b_{0}=h_{L} / h_{0}$ is the taper ratio of the beam. In equation (3), $\bar{\omega}$ is the natural frequency of the constrained non-uniform beam and $\bar{Y}(x)$ is the amplitude of $y(x, t)$.

Introducing the non-dimensional coefficient

$$
\begin{equation*}
\xi=(\alpha-1) \frac{x}{L}+1 \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

will render equation (4) to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\xi^{4} Y^{\prime \prime \prime \prime}(\xi)+8 \xi^{3} Y^{\prime \prime \prime}(\xi)+12 \xi^{2} Y^{\prime \prime}(\xi)-\xi^{2}\left[\frac{L \Omega}{(\alpha-1)}\right]^{4} Y(\xi)=0 \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
(\Omega L)^{4}=\frac{\rho A_{0} \bar{\omega}^{2} L^{4}}{E I_{0}}
$$

It is noted that $\xi=1$ at $x=0$ and $\xi=\alpha$ at $x=L$, as one may see from equation (5).
The general solution of equation (6) is given by [20, 21]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\bar{Y}(\xi)=\xi^{-1}\left[C_{1} J_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\xi})+C_{2} Y_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\xi})+C_{3} I_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\xi})+C_{4} K_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\xi})\right] \tag{7a}
\end{equation*}
$$

with

$$
\begin{equation*}
\beta=2 L \Omega /(\alpha-1) \tag{7b}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $C_{i}(i=1-4)$ are the integration constants, $J_{2}$ and $Y_{2}$ are the second order Bessel function of first and second kinds, while $I_{2}$ and $K_{2}$ is the second order modified Bessel function of first and second kinds.

Equation (7a) represents the eigenfunction for the transverse deflection of the constrained beam. Once the natural frequencies $\bar{\omega}_{j}(j=1,2, \ldots)$ and the constants for each attaching point, $C_{i}(i=1-4)$, are determined from the next sections, one may obtain the values of $\bar{Y}_{j}(\xi)$. The latter are the mode shapes of the constrained beam corresponding to the natural frequency $\bar{\omega}_{j}$.

For the $v$ th beam segment, from equation (7a) one has

$$
\begin{equation*}
\bar{Y}_{v}\left(\xi_{v}\right)=\xi_{v}^{-1}\left[C_{v 1} J_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 2} Y_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 3} I_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 4} K_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)\right] \tag{8a}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
\xi_{v}=(\alpha-1) \frac{x_{v}}{L}+1 \tag{8b}
\end{equation*}
$$

The differentiation of $\bar{Y}_{v}\left(\xi_{v}\right)$ with respect to $\xi_{v}$ yields

$$
\begin{align*}
& \bar{Y}_{v}^{\prime}\left(\xi_{v}\right)=-\frac{\beta}{2} \xi_{v}^{-3 / 2}\left[C_{v 1} J_{3}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 2} Y_{3}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-C_{v 3} I_{3}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 4} K_{3}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)\right],  \tag{9}\\
& \bar{Y}_{v}^{\prime \prime}\left(\xi_{v}\right)=\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]^{2} \xi_{v}^{-2}\left[C_{v 1} J_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 2} Y_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 3} I_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 4} K_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)\right],  \tag{10}\\
& \bar{Y}_{v}^{\prime \prime \prime}\left(\xi_{v}\right)=-\left[\frac{\beta}{2}\right]^{3} \xi_{v}^{-5 / 2}\left[C_{v 1} J_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 2} Y_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-C_{v 3} I_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 4} K_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)\right] . \tag{11}
\end{align*}
$$

## 3. COEFFICIENT MATRIX $\left[B_{v}\right]$ FOR THE $v$ TH ATTACHING POINT

Compatibility for the deformations at the attaching point requires that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\bar{Y}_{v}^{L}\left(\xi_{v}\right)=\bar{Y}_{v}^{R}\left(\xi_{v}\right), \quad \bar{Y}_{v}^{\prime L}\left(\xi_{v}\right)=\bar{Y}_{v}^{\prime R}\left(\xi_{v}\right), \quad \bar{Y}_{v}^{\prime \prime L}\left(\xi_{v}\right)=\bar{Y}_{v}^{\prime \prime R}\left(\xi_{v}\right) . \tag{12a-c}
\end{equation*}
$$

For the force equilibrium at the attaching point, one has

$$
\begin{align*}
& 4(\alpha-1)^{3} \xi^{3} \bar{Y}_{v}^{\prime \prime L}\left(\xi_{v}\right)+(\alpha-1)^{3} \xi^{4} \bar{Y}_{v}^{\prime \prime \prime}\left(\xi_{v}\right)+F_{s}  \tag{13}\\
& \quad=4(\alpha-1)^{3} \xi^{3} \bar{Y}_{v}^{\prime \prime R}\left(\xi_{v}\right)+(\alpha-1)^{3} \xi^{4} \bar{Y}_{v}^{\prime \prime \prime R}\left(\xi_{v}\right),
\end{align*}
$$

where $F_{s}$ is the interactive force between the beam and the attached spring-mass system and is given by $[10,23]$

$$
\begin{equation*}
F_{s}=\frac{m_{v} \bar{\omega}^{2}}{1-m_{v} \bar{\omega}^{2} / k_{v}} \cdot \bar{Y}_{v}^{L}\left(x_{v}\right)=\frac{m_{v}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right](\Omega L)^{4}}{1-m_{v}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right](\Omega L)^{4} / k_{v}^{*}} \cdot \bar{Y}_{v}^{L}\left(\xi_{v}\right) . \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

The equation of motion for the $\nu$ th sprung mass is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
m_{v} \ddot{z}_{v}+k_{v}\left(z_{v}-y_{v}\right)=0 \tag{15}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $m_{v}$ and $k_{v}$ are the lumped mass and spring constant of the $v$ th spring-mass system, respectively, $\ddot{z}_{v}$ and $z_{v}$ are the acceleration and displacement of the $v$ th sprung mass and $y_{v}$ is the transverse deflection of the beam at the $v$ th attaching point.

Similar to equation (3), free vibration of the $v$ th sprung mass takes the form

$$
\begin{equation*}
z_{v}=Z_{v}(\xi) \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i} \bar{\omega} t}, \quad v=1,2, \ldots, n \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $Z_{v}(\xi)$ is the amplitude (or modal displacement) of the sprung mass.
Insertion of equations (3) and (16) into equation (15) gives

$$
\begin{equation*}
\bar{Y}_{v}+\left(\gamma_{v}^{2}-1\right) Z_{v}=0 \tag{17a}
\end{equation*}
$$

or

$$
\begin{equation*}
\bar{Y}_{v}+\left\{\frac{m_{v}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right]}{k_{v}^{*}}(\Omega L)^{4}-1\right\} Z_{v}=0 \tag{17b}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{gather*}
\gamma_{v}^{2}=\frac{\bar{\omega}^{2}}{\omega_{v}^{2}}=\frac{(\Omega L)^{4} E I_{0}}{L^{4} \rho A_{0}} \cdot \frac{m_{v}}{k_{v}}=\frac{m_{v}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right]}{k_{v}^{*}} \cdot(\Omega L)^{4},  \tag{18}\\
\omega_{v}=\sqrt{k_{v} / m_{v}}, \quad m_{v}^{*}=\frac{m_{v}}{m_{b}}=\frac{m_{v}}{\rho A_{0} L\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right]},  \tag{19,20}\\
k_{v}^{*}=\frac{k_{v}}{\left(E I_{0} / L^{3}\right)^{2}} \tag{21}
\end{gather*}
$$

where $m_{b}=\rho A_{0} L\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right]$ is the beam mass.
The substitution of equations (8)-(11) into equations (12), (13) and (17) leads to

$$
\begin{align*}
& C_{v 1} J_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 2} Y_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 3} I_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 4} K_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right) \\
& \quad-C_{v+1,1} J_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-C_{v+1,2} Y_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-C_{v+1,3} I_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-C_{v+1,4} K_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)=0 \tag{22a}
\end{align*}
$$

$$
\begin{align*}
& C_{v 1} J_{3}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 2} Y_{3}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-C_{v 3} I_{3}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 4} K_{3}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-C_{v+1,1} J_{3}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right) \\
& \quad-C_{v+1,2} Y_{3}(\beta \sqrt{\xi})+C_{v+1,3} I_{3}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-C_{v+1,4} K_{3}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)=0  \tag{22b}\\
& C_{v 1} J_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 2} Y_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 3} I_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 4} K_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right) \\
& \quad-C_{v+1,1} J_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-C_{v+1,2} Y_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-C_{v+1,3} I_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-C_{v+1,4} K_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)=0 \tag{22c}
\end{align*}
$$

$8 \beta^{2}\left[C_{v 1} J_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 2} Y_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 3} I_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 4} K_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)\right]$

$$
-\beta^{3} \xi_{v}^{1 / 2}\left[C_{v 1} J_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 2} Y_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-C_{v 3} I_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 4} K_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)\right]
$$

$$
\begin{align*}
& +8 \theta_{v} \xi_{v}^{-2}\left[C_{v 1} J_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 2} Y_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 3} I_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 4} K_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)\right] \\
& -8 \beta^{2}\left[C_{v+1,1} J_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v+1,2} Y_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v+1,3} I_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v+1,4} K_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)\right] \\
& +\beta^{3} \xi_{v}^{1 / 2}\left[C_{v+1,1} J_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v+1,2} Y_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-C_{v+1,3} I_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v+1,4} K_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)\right]=0 \tag{22d}
\end{align*}
$$

$\xi_{v}^{-1}\left[C_{v 1} J_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 2} Y_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 3} I_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+C_{v 4} K_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)\right]+\left(\gamma_{v}^{2}-1\right) Z_{v}=0$,
where

$$
\begin{align*}
& \theta_{v}=\left\{\frac{m_{v}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right](\Omega L)^{4}}{1-\left(m_{v}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right](\Omega L)^{4}\right) / k_{v}^{*}} \frac{1}{(\alpha-1)^{3}}\right\}, \\
& \gamma_{v}^{2}=\frac{m_{v}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right]}{k_{v}^{*}} \cdot(\Omega L)^{4} . \tag{22f}
\end{align*}
$$

It is noted that, in equations (12) and (13), the "left side" of the $v$ th attaching point located at $x=x_{v}$ belongs to the segment $(v)$ and the "right side" belongs to the segment $(v+1)$, thus the associated coefficients are represented by $C_{v i}$ and $C_{v+1, i}(i=1-4)$, respectively, as may be seen from equations (22a)-(22e).

Equations (22a)-(22e) can be written in matrix form as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left[B_{v}\right]\left\{C_{v}\right\}=0, \tag{23}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\left.\begin{array}{rl}
\left\{C_{v}\right\} & =\left\{\begin{array}{lllllll}
C_{v 1} & C_{v 2} & C_{v 3} & C_{v 4} & C_{v+1,1} & C_{v+1,2} & C_{v+1,3}
\end{array} C_{v+1,4} Z_{v}\right.
\end{array}\right\}
$$

and

$$
\begin{align*}
& 4 v-34 v-24 v-14 v \quad 4 v+1 \quad 4 v+24 v+34 v+44 v+5 \\
& {\left[B_{v}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cccccccccc}
J_{2}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & Y_{2}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & I_{2}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & K_{2}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & -J_{2}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & -Y_{2}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & -I_{2}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & -K_{2}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & 0 \\
J_{3}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & Y_{3}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & -I_{3}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & K_{3}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & -J_{3}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & -Y_{3}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & I_{3}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & -K_{3}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & 0 & 5 v-2 \\
J_{4}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & Y_{4}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & I_{4}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & K_{4}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & -J_{4}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & -Y_{4}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & -I_{4}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & -K_{4}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & 0 \\
\Delta_{1 v} & \Delta_{2 v} & \Delta_{3 v} & \Delta_{4 v} & -\Delta_{5 v} & -\Delta_{6 v} & -\Delta_{7 v} & -\Delta_{8 v} & 0 \\
\xi_{v}^{-1} J_{2}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & \xi_{v}^{-1} Y_{2}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & \xi_{v}^{-1} I_{2}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & \xi_{v}^{-1} K_{2}\left(\delta_{v}\right) & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1+\gamma_{v}^{2}
\end{array}\right] \begin{array}{c}
5 v-1 \\
5 v+2 \\
5 v+1 \\
5 v+ \\
5
\end{array}} \tag{24c}
\end{align*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{align*}
\Delta_{1 v} & =8 \beta^{2} J_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{v}^{1 / 2} J_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+8 \theta_{v} \xi_{v}^{-2} J_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right), \\
\delta_{v} & =\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}, \quad \Delta_{2 v}=8 \beta^{2} Y_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{v}^{1 / 2} Y_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+8 \theta_{v} \xi_{v}^{-2} Y_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right) \\
\Delta_{3 v} & =8 \beta^{2} I_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+\beta^{3} \xi_{v}^{1 / 2} I_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+8 \theta_{v} \xi_{v}^{-2} I_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right), \\
\Delta_{4 v} & =8 \beta^{2} K_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{v}^{1 / 2} K_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+8 \theta_{v} \xi_{v}^{-2} K_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right), \\
\Delta_{5 v} & =8 \beta^{2} J_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{v}^{1 / 2} J_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right), \\
\Delta_{6 v} & =8 \beta^{2} Y_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{v}^{1 / 2} Y_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right), \\
\Delta_{7 v} & =8 \beta^{2} I_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)+\beta^{3} \xi_{v}^{1 / 2} I_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right), \\
\Delta_{8 v} & =8 \beta^{2} K_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{v}^{1 / 2} K_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{v}}\right) . \tag{24d}
\end{align*}
$$

## 4. COEFFICIENT MATRIX $\left[B_{L}\right]$ FOR THE LEFT END OF THE BEAM

For a cantilever beam with left end clamped, the boundary conditions are

$$
\begin{equation*}
\bar{Y}(1)=0, \quad \bar{Y}^{\prime}(1)=0 \tag{25a,b}
\end{equation*}
$$

From Figure 1 one sees that the left end of the beam, (L), coincides with the left end of the first beam segment ( $v=1$ ), hence from equations (8), (9), (25a) and (25b) one obtains

$$
\begin{align*}
& J_{2}(\beta) C_{11}+Y_{2}(\beta) C_{12}+I_{2}(\beta) C_{13}+K_{2}(\beta) C_{14}=0  \tag{26a}\\
& J_{3}(\beta) C_{11}+Y_{3}(\beta) C_{12}-I_{3}(\beta) C_{13}+K_{3}(\beta) C_{14}=0 \tag{26b}
\end{align*}
$$

The last two expressions can be written in matrix form as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left[B_{L}\right]\left\{C_{L}\right\}=0, \tag{27}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{align*}
& \begin{array}{llll}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4
\end{array} \\
& {\left[B_{L}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{rrrr}
J_{2}(\beta) & Y_{2}(\beta) & I_{2}(\beta) & K_{2}(\beta) \\
J_{3}(\beta) & Y_{3}(\beta) & -I_{3}(\beta) & K_{3}(\beta)
\end{array}\right] \begin{array}{l}
1 \\
2
\end{array},}  \tag{28}\\
& \left\{C_{L}\right\}=\left\{\begin{array}{llll}
C_{11} & C_{12} & C_{13} & C_{14}
\end{array}\right\}=\left\{\begin{array}{llll}
\bar{C}_{1} & \bar{C}_{2} & \bar{C}_{3} & \bar{C}_{4}
\end{array}\right\}, \tag{29}
\end{align*}
$$

where the [ ] and \{ \} represent the rectangular matrix and the column vector, respectively, and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\bar{C}_{1}=C_{11}, \bar{C}_{2}=C_{12}, \bar{C}_{3}=C_{13}, \bar{C}_{4}=C_{14} . \tag{30}
\end{equation*}
$$

In equation (28) and the subsequent equations, the digits shown on the top side and right side of the matrix represent the identification numbers of degrees of freedom (d.o.f.) for the associated constants $\bar{C}_{i}(i=1,2, \ldots)$.

## 5. COEFFICIENT MATRIX $\left[B_{R}\right]$ FOR THE RIGHT END OF THE BEAM

For a cantilever beam with right end free, the boundary conditions are

$$
\begin{equation*}
\bar{Y}^{\prime \prime}(\alpha)=0, \quad 4 \alpha^{-1} \bar{Y}^{\prime \prime}(\alpha)+\bar{Y}^{\prime \prime \prime}(\alpha)=0 \tag{31a,b}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since the right end of the beam, ${ }^{\circledR}$, coincides with the right end of the $(n+1)$ th segment $(v=n+1)$, as one may see from Figure 1, hence from equations (10), (11), (31a) and (31b) one obtains

$$
\begin{gather*}
J_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) C_{n+1,1}+Y_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) C_{n+1,2}+I_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) C_{n+1,3}+K_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) C_{n+1,4}=0,  \tag{32a}\\
{\left[8 J_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})-\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} J_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right] C_{n+1,1}+\left[8 Y_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})-\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} Y_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right] C_{n+1,2}} \\
+\left[8 I_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})+\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} I_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right] C_{n+1,3}+\left[8 K_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})-\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} K_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right] C_{n+1,4}=0 \tag{32b}
\end{gather*}
$$

Equations (32a) and (32b) can be written in matrix form

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left[B_{R}\right]\left\{C_{R}\right\}=0, \tag{33}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{align*}
& 4 n+1 \quad 4 n+2 \quad 4 n+3 \quad 4 n+4 \\
& {\left[B_{R}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
J_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & Y_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & I_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & K_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) \\
\varepsilon_{1} & \varepsilon_{2} & \varepsilon_{3} & \varepsilon_{4}
\end{array}\right] \begin{array}{l}
p-1 \\
p
\end{array},}  \tag{34a}\\
& \varepsilon_{1}=\left[8 J_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})-\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} J_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right], \quad \varepsilon_{2}=\left[8 Y_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})-\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} Y_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right], \\
& \varepsilon_{3}=\left[8 I_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})+\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} I_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right], \quad \varepsilon_{4}=\left[8 K_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})-\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} K_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right],  \tag{34b}\\
& \left\{C_{R}\right\}=\left\{\begin{array}{llll}
C_{n+1,1} & C_{n+1,2} & C_{n+1,3} & C_{n+1,4}
\end{array}\right\} \\
& =\left\{\begin{array}{llll}
\bar{C}_{4 n+1} & \bar{C}_{4 n+2} & \bar{C}_{4 n+3} & \bar{C}_{4 n+4}
\end{array}\right\},  \tag{35}\\
& \bar{C}_{4 n+1}=C_{n+1,1}, \bar{C}_{4 n+2}=C_{n+1,2}, \bar{C}_{4 n+3}=C_{n+1,3}, \bar{C}_{4 n+4}=C_{n+1,4},  \tag{36}\\
& p=5 n+4 . \tag{37}
\end{align*}
$$

In the last equations, $p$ represents the total number of equations. From the above derivations one sees that, from each attaching point for a spring-mass system, one may obtain five equations (including three compatibility equations, one force-equilibrium
equation and one governing equation for the sprung mass), and from each boundary ((L) or ${ }^{(R)}$ ) one may obtain two equations. Hence, for a beam carrying $n$ spring-mass systems, the total number of equations that one may obtain for the integration constants $C_{v i}$ and mode displacements $Z_{v}(v=1-n, i=1-4)$ is equal to $5 n+4$, i.e., $p=5 n+4$ as shown by equation (37). Of course, the total number of unknowns ( $C_{v i}$ and $Z_{v}$ ) is also equal to $5 n+4$. From equation (8) one sees that the solution $\bar{Y}_{v}(\xi)$ for each beam segment contains four unknown integration constants $C_{v i}(i=1-4)$ and from equation (17) one sees that the governing equation for each sprung mass contains one additional unknown $Z_{v}$, hence if a beam is carrying $n$ sprung masses, then the total number of the beam segments is $n+1$ and thus the total number of unknowns $\left(C_{v i}\right.$ and $\left.Z_{v}\right)$ is equal to $4(n+1)+n=5 n+4=p$.

## 6. OVERALL COEFFICIENT MATRIX [ $\bar{B}]$ OF THE ENTIRE BEAM AND THE FREQUENCY EQUATION

If all the unknowns $C_{v i}$ and $Z_{v}(v=1-n, i=1-4)$ are replaced by a column vector $\{\bar{C}\}$ with coefficients $\bar{C}_{k}(k=1,2, \ldots, p)$ defined by equations (30), (24b) and (36), then the matrices $\left[B_{L}\right],\left[B_{v}\right]$ and $\left[B_{R}\right]$ are similar to the element property matrices (for the finite element method) with corresponding identification numbers of degrees of freedom (d.o.f.) shown on the top side and right side of the matrices defined by equations (28), (24c) and (34). Basing on the assembly technique for the direct stiffness matrix method, it is easy to arrive at the following coefficient equation for the entire vibrating system:

$$
\begin{equation*}
[\bar{B}]\{\bar{C}\}=0 \tag{38}
\end{equation*}
$$

Non-trivial solution of the last equation requires that

$$
\begin{equation*}
|\bar{B}|=0 \tag{39}
\end{equation*}
$$

which is the frequency equation, and the half-interval technique [23] may be used to solve the eigenvalues $\bar{\omega}_{j}(j=1,2, \ldots)$. To substitute each value of $\bar{\omega}_{j}$ into equation (38), the values of unknowns $\bar{C}_{k}(k=1,2, \ldots, p)$ can be determined. From equation (30), one sees that $\bar{C}_{4 v-3}=C_{v 1}, \bar{C}_{4 v-2}=C_{v 2}, \bar{C}_{4 v-1}=C_{v 3}, \bar{C}_{4 v}=C_{v 4}, v=1-n$, hence the substitution of $C_{v i}(i=1-4)$ into equation (8) will define the corresponding mode shape $\bar{Y}^{(j)}(\xi)$. For a cantilever beam carrying one $(n=1)$ and two ( $n=2$ ) spring-mass systems, the corresponding overall coefficient matrices $[\bar{B}]_{(1)}$ and $[\bar{B}]_{(2)}$ were shown in Appendix A [see equations (A1) and (A2)]. From the lengthy expressions one sees that the existing explicit formulations are not suitable for a beam carrying more than two ( $n>2$ ) spring-mass systems. However, this is not true for the numerical assembly method (NAM) presented in this paper.

## 7. COEFFICIENT MATRICES $\left[B_{L}\right]$ AND $\left[B_{R}\right]$ FOR VARIOUS BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

From the previous sections, it is seen that the form of the coefficient matrix [ $B_{v}$ ] for each attaching point of the spring-mass system has nothing to do with the boundary conditions of the beam. Hence for a "constrained" beam with various supporting conditions, the only thing one should do is to modify the values of the two boundary matrices $\left[B_{L}\right]$ and $\left[B_{R}\right]$ defined by equations (28) and (34), respectively, according to the actual boundary conditions. Thus, the same numerical assembly procedures presented in the last section may be followed. This is one of the predominant advantages of the NAM. The boundary
matrices $\left[B_{L}\right]$ and $\left[B_{R}\right]$ for various boundary conditions are given in Appendix B at the end of this paper.

## 8. NUMERICAL RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The dimensions and physical properties of the non-uniform beam studied in this paper are: beam length $L=40 \mathrm{in}$, Young's modulus $E=3.0 \times 10^{7} \mathrm{psi}$, cross-sectional area at the shallow end of the beam $A_{0}=1.5 \mathrm{in}^{2}$, area moment of inertia at the shallow end of the beam $I_{0}=0.28125 \mathrm{in}^{4}$, mass density of beam material $\rho=0.283 \mathrm{lbm}$, taper ratio of the beam $\alpha=2 \cdot 0$, total mass of the beam $m_{b}=\rho A_{0} L\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right]=29.715 \mathrm{lbm}$ and reference stiffness for the beam $k_{b}=E I_{0} / L^{3}=312 \cdot 5 \mathrm{lbf} / \mathrm{in}$. For convenience, two non-dimensional parameters for each spring-mass system were introduced: $m_{i}^{*}=m_{i} / m_{b}$ and $k_{i}^{*}=k_{i} / k_{b}, i=1,2, \ldots$, besides, the two-letter acronyms FC, CF, SC, CS, CC and SS were used to denote the free-clamped, clamped-free, simply supported-clamped, clamped-simply supported, clamped-clamped, and simply supported-simply supported boundary conditions of the beam respectively.

### 8.1. A NON-UNIFORM BEAM CARRYING ONE SPRING-MASS SYSTEM

For convenience of comparison, the free vibration analysis on the bare (or unconstrained) non-uniform beam which was obtained from the present approach is very close to those obtained from FEM. The FEM model is shown in Figure 2, where the entire non-uniform beam is replaced by a stepped beam composed of 40 uniform beam segments. The cross-sectional area $A_{i}$ and the moment of inertia $I_{i}$ of the $i$ th uniform beam segment are determined from the average cross-sectional dimensions of the corresponding $i$ th non-uniform beam segment, respectively, and the mass per unit length of the $i$ th uniform beam segment is evaluated by $\rho A_{i}$. The length of each uniform beam segment is $l=L / 40=1.0 \mathrm{in}$. Table 1 shows the lowest five natural frequencies with the six types of boundary conditions (i.e., FC, CF, SC, CS, CC and SS) and Figure 3(a)-3(f) show the corresponding mode shapes. From Figure 3 one sees that, for the SC, CS, CC, and SS boundary conditions, the modal displacements near the left end of the beam are larger than those near the right end of the beam. This is a reasonable result, because the stiffness of the left end is much smaller than that of the right end for the non-uniform beam shown in Figure 1.


Figure 2. The finite element model for non-uniform beam: (a) top view and (b) front view.

Table 1
The lowest five natural frequencies $\omega_{j}(j=1-5)$ for the bare non-uniform beam (without carrying any spring-mass system)

| Boundary conditions | Methods | Natural frequencies ( $\mathrm{rad} / \mathrm{s}$ ) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\omega_{1}$ | $\omega_{2}$ | $\omega_{3}$ | $\omega_{4}$ | $\omega_{5}$ |
| FC | NAM ${ }^{\dagger}$ | 25.77532 | 108.93610 | $270 \cdot 72329$ | 511.65966 | 832.52916 |
|  | $\mathrm{FEM}^{\dagger}$ | 25.76465 | 108.87999 | 270.57492 | 511.37488 | 832.06822 |
| CF | NAM | $7 \cdot 23408$ | $73 \cdot 47681$ | 236.81331 | 477.59822 | 798.39106 |
|  | FEM | 7.23856 | $73 \cdot 51321$ | $236 \cdot 92092$ | 477.81289 | 798.75291 |
| SC | NAM | 71.61388 | 212.87668 | 433.85401 | 734.70179 | 1115.57882 |
|  | FEM | 71.59223 | $212 \cdot 80942$ | 433.71599 | 734-47104 | 1115-24149 |
| CS | NAM | 53.77585 | $196 \cdot 23185$ | 417.05549 | 717.82045 | 1098.63870 |
|  | FEM | 53.79692 | 196.30255 | 417.20453 | 718.07951 | $1099 \cdot 04656$ |
| CC | NAM | 91.83540 | 251.75856 | 492.37771 | 813.02661 | 1213.79486 |
|  | FEM | 91.85148 | $251 \cdot 80279$ | 492.46522 | 813.17648 | 1214.03442 |
| SS | NAM | 38.76810 | 162-22786 | $363 \cdot 50517$ | 644.48275 | 1005-41779 |
|  | FEM | 38.76239 | 162.20436 | 363-45241 | 644-39225 | 1005-28683 |

${ }^{\dagger} \mathrm{NAM}=$ numerical assembly method; FEM $=$ finite element method.

If $\Delta \omega=\omega_{j}-\omega_{j-1}(j=1-5)$ denotes the difference between any two adjacent natural frequencies and $N_{j}$ denotes the node number of $j$ th mode shape, then from Table 1 it is seen that the minimum values of $\Delta \omega$ for the $\mathrm{FC}, \mathrm{CF}, \mathrm{SC}, \mathrm{CS}, \mathrm{CC}$ and SS beams are approximately equal to $83,66,141,142,160$ and $123 \mathrm{rad} / \mathrm{s}$, respectively. Furthermore, from Figure 3(a)-3(f), it is found that $N_{j}=j-1$, i.e., the "node' number $N_{j}$ is always less than the "mode" number $j$ by 1 , for the bare non-uniform beam with the six boundary conditions. However, this is not true for the constrained non-uniform beam as shown in Figure 4(a)-4(f): either the values of $\bar{\omega}$ or those of $\Delta \bar{\omega}$ for the constrained non-uniform beam decrease significantly as may be seen from Table 2.

The percentage differences between $\bar{\omega}_{j N A M}$ and $\bar{\omega}_{j F E M}$ shown in the parentheses ( ) of Table 2 were calculated using the formula: $\Delta_{j}=\left(\bar{\omega}_{j N A M}-\bar{\omega}_{j F E M}\right) \times 100 \% / \bar{\omega}_{j N A M}$, where $\bar{\omega}_{j N A M}$ and $\bar{\omega}_{j F E M}$ denote the $j$ th natural frequencies of the constrained non-uniform beam obtained from the presented NAM and the conventional FEM, respectively. From Table 2 one finds that the maximum value of $\Delta_{j}$ is $\Delta_{5}=0.0006 \%$ (for the FC boundary condition), hence the accuracy of the NAM is excellent.

From the mode shapes of the beam with six types of boundary conditions as shown in Figure 4(a)-4(f), one sees that the first mode shapes $\bar{Y}_{1}(\xi)$ are very close to the second ones $\bar{Y}_{2}(\xi)$, but this does not mean that the corresponding 1st natural frequencies ( $\bar{\omega}_{1}$ ) are approximately equal to the 2 nd ones $\left(\bar{\omega}_{2}\right)$ as shown in Table 2, besides, the relationship between the node number $N_{j}$ and the mode number $j$ is given as $N_{j}=j-2$ ( $j \geqslant 2$ ).

### 8.2. A NON-UNIFORM BEAM CARRYING THREE SPRING-MASS SYSTEMS

If all the situations are exactly the same as the last example and the only difference is that the one spring-mass system was replaced by the three spring-mass systems with locations $(x / L)$, magnitudes of point masses $\left(m_{i}^{*}=m_{i} / m_{b}\right)$ and spring constants $\left(k_{i}^{*}=k_{i} / k_{b}\right)$ as shown


Figure 3. The lowest five mode shapes $Y_{j}(\xi)(j=1-5)$ for the bare non-uniform beam (without carrying any spring-mass system) with the support conditions: (a) FC, (b) CF, (c) SC, (d) CS, (e) CC and (f) SS.
in Table 3, then the lowest five natural frequencies $\bar{\omega}_{j}(j=1-5)$ and the corresponding mode shapes $\bar{Y}_{j}(\xi)(j=1-5)$ for the six boundary conditions are shown in Table 4 and Figure $5(\mathrm{a})-5(\mathrm{f})$, respectively.

A comparison between Tables 2 and 4 reveals that the natural frequencies of the tapered beam carrying three spring-mass systems are much lower than the corresponding ones of the tapered beam carrying one spring-mass system. For this reason, the corresponding mode shapes for the tapered beam carrying three spring-mass systems [see Figure 5(a)-5(f)]


Figure 4. The lowest five mode shapes $\bar{Y}_{j}(\xi)(j=1-5)$ for the non-uniform beam carrying one spring-mass system with non-dimensional point mass $m_{1}^{*}=m_{1} / m_{b}=0.2$ and non-dimensional spring constant $k_{1}^{*}=k_{1} / k_{b}=3.0$ located at $x_{1} / L=0.5$ with the support conditions: (a) FC, (b) CF, (c) SC, (d) CS, (e) CC and (f) SS.
are very different from those for the tapered beam carrying one spring-mass system [see Figure 4(a)-4(f)].

From Table 4, one finds that the maximum value of percentage differences between $\bar{\omega}_{j N A M}$ and $\bar{\omega}_{j F E M}(j=1-5)$ is $\Delta_{5}=0 \cdot 0005 \%$ (for the FC and CF boundary conditions), i.e., the accuracy of the NAM is not affected by the total number of the attached spring-mass systems.

Table 2
The lowest five natural frequencies $\bar{\omega}_{j}(j=1-5)$ for the non-uniform beam carrying one spring-mass system (located at $x_{1} / L=0.5$ with $k_{1}^{*}=k_{1} / k_{b}=3.0$ and $m_{1}^{*}=m_{1} / m_{b}=0.2$ )

| Boundary conditions | Methods | Natural frequencies (rad/s) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\bar{\omega}_{1}$ | $\bar{\omega}_{2}$ | $\bar{\omega}_{3}$ | $\bar{\omega}_{4}$ | $\bar{\omega}_{5}$ |
| FC | NAM | $\begin{array}{r} 7.02596 \\ (0.000004 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 25 \cdot 89419 \\ (0 \cdot 0004 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 109 \cdot 03110 \\ & (0 \cdot 0005 \%) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 270.72514 \\ & (0.0005 \%) \end{aligned}$ | $511 \cdot 67660$ $(0.0006 \%)$ |
|  | FEM | 7.02593 | 25.88356 | 108.97503 | $270 \cdot 57671$ | 511.39183 |
| CF | NAM | $\begin{array}{r} 6 \cdot 19333 \\ (-0.0003 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 8.23570 \\ (-0.0003 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 73 \cdot 61888 \\ (-0.0005 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 236 \cdot 81448 \\ (-0.0005 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 477.61686 \\ (-0.0005 \%) \end{array}$ |
|  | FEM | 6.19545 | 8.23798 | 73.65525 | $236 \cdot 92211$ | 477.83184 |
| SC | NAM | $\begin{array}{r} 7.04981 \\ (0.000001 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 71 \cdot 75787 \\ (0.0003 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 212 \cdot 89407 \\ & (0.0003 \%) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 433 \cdot 86578 \\ & (0.0003 \%) \end{aligned}$ | $734 \cdot 71042$ (0•0003\%) |
|  | FEM | 7.04980 | $71 \cdot 73625$ | $212 \cdot 82678$ | $433 \cdot 72766$ | 734.47976 |
| CS | NAM | $7.03733$ | $53 \cdot 98203$ | $196 \cdot 23381$ | $417 \cdot 08009$ | $717 \cdot 82045$ |
|  | FEM | $\begin{array}{r} (-0.000002 \%) \\ 7.03735 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} (-0.0004 \%) \\ 54 \cdot 00303 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} (-0.0004 \%) \\ 196 \cdot 30450 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} (-0.0004 \%) \\ 417.22917 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} (-0.0004 \%) \\ 718.07978 \end{array}$ |
| CC | NAM | 7.08395 | 91.97187 | 251.76321 | 492.39393 | 813.03060 |
|  |  | (0.0000\%) | ( - 0.0002\%) | ( $-0.0002 \%$ ) | ( $-0.0002 \%$ ) | ( $-0.0002 \%$ ) |
|  | FEM | 7.05395 | 91.98794 | $251 \cdot 80735$ | $492 \cdot 48155$ | $813 \cdot 18046$ |
| SS | NAM | 7.01473 | $39 \cdot 04175$ | 162.22841 | $363 \cdot 53090$ | $644 \cdot 48598$ |
|  |  | (0.000003\%) | (0.0001\%) | (0.0001\%) | (0.0001\%) | (0.0001\%) |
|  | FEM | 7.01471 | $39 \cdot 03607$ | 162-20488 | $363 \cdot 47824$ | 644.39528 |

Note: The percentage differences between $\bar{\omega}_{j N A M}$ and $\bar{\omega}_{j F E M}$ shown in the parentheses ( ) were determined using the formula: $\Delta_{j}=\left(\bar{\omega}_{\text {jNAM }}-\bar{\omega}_{\text {jFEM }}\right) \times 100 \% / \bar{\omega}_{\text {jNAM }}$.

Table 3
The locations and magnitudes of the three spring-mass systems on the non-uniform beam

| $\begin{gathered} \text { Locations } \\ x_{i} / L \end{gathered}$ |  |  | Magnitudes of spring constants$k_{i}^{*}=k_{i} / k_{b}$ |  |  | Magnitudes of point masses$m_{i}^{*}=m_{i} / m_{b}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $x_{1} / L$ | $x_{2} / L$ | $x_{3} / L$ | $k_{1}^{*}$ | $k_{2}^{*}$ | $k_{3}^{*}$ | $m_{1}^{*}$ | $m_{2}^{*}$ | $m_{3}^{*}$ |
| $0 \cdot 1$ | $0 \cdot 5$ | 0.9 | $3 \cdot 0$ | 4.5 | 6.0 | $0 \cdot 2$ | 0.5 | 1.0 |

### 8.3. A NON-UNIFORM BEAM CARRYING FIVE SPRING-MASS SYSTEMS

The present example is also the same as the last one except that the three spring-mass systems were replaced by five ones. The locations $\left(x_{i} / L\right)$ and the magnitudes of the five attachments $\left(m_{i}^{*}=m_{i} / m_{b}\right.$ and $\left.k_{i}^{*}=k_{i} / k_{b}, i=1-5\right)$ are shown in Table 5. The lowest five natural frequencies $\bar{\omega}_{j}(j=1-5)$ and the corresponding mode shapes $\bar{Y}_{j}(\xi)(j=1-5)$ are shown in Table 6 and Figure 6(a)-6(f), respectively, for the six boundary conditions (FC, CF, SC, CS, CC and SS).

Table 6 shows that $\bar{\omega}_{1} \cong 4 \cdot 4, \bar{\omega}_{2} \cong 5 \cdot 0, \bar{\omega}_{3} \cong 5 \cdot 4, \bar{\omega}_{4} \cong 6 \cdot 1$ and $\bar{\omega}_{5} \cong 6 \cdot 8 \mathrm{rad} / \mathrm{s}$ for all the six boundary conditions except that $\bar{\omega}_{1} \cong 2.9 \mathrm{rad} / \mathrm{s}$ for the CF beam. In other words, for

Table 4
The lowest five natural frequencies $\bar{\omega}_{j}(j=1-5)$ for the non-uniform beam carrying three spring-mass systems with parameters as shown in Table 3

| Boundary conditions | Methods | Natural frequencies (rad/s) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\bar{\omega}_{1}$ | $\bar{\omega}_{2}$ | $\bar{\omega}_{3}$ | $\bar{\omega}_{4}$ | $\bar{\omega}_{5}$ |
| FC | NAM | $\begin{array}{r} 4.46793 \\ (0.0000 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5.42430 \\ (0.000006 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6.77941 \\ (0.00002 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 27 \cdot 02954 \\ (0 \cdot 0004 \%) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 109 \cdot 20376 \\ & (0.0005 \%) \end{aligned}$ |
|  | FEM | $4 \cdot 46793$ | $5 \cdot 42427$ | 6.77929 | 27.01896 | $109 \cdot 14758$ |
| CF | NAM | $\begin{array}{r} 3.14514 \\ (-0.0003 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5.34475 \\ (-0.00002 \%)(- \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 7 \cdot 06218 \\ 0 \cdot 000003 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 10.48115 \\ (-0.0003 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 73.77557 \\ (-0.0005 \%) \end{array}$ |
|  | FEM | 3.14604 | $5 \cdot 34485$ | 7.06220 | 10.48446 | 73.81192 |
| SC | NAM | $\begin{array}{r} 4.46797 \\ (0.0000 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5.45499 \\ (0.000002 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 7.05721 \\ (0.0000 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 71 \cdot 87890 \\ (0.0003 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 212 \cdot 95655 \\ & (0.0003 \%) \end{aligned}$ |
|  | FEM | 4.46797 | 5.45498 | 7.05721 | 71.85733 | 212.88931 |
| CS | NAM | $4 \cdot 46453$ | $5 \cdot 44082$ | 7.06285 | $54 \cdot 12206$ | 196.26949 |
|  |  | (0.0000\%)( | -0.000006\%)( | 0.000001\%) | ( $-0.0004 \%$ ) | ( $-0.0004 \%$ ) |
|  | FEM | $4 \cdot 46453$ | 5.44085 | 7.06286 | 54.14301 | 196.34007 |
| CC | NAM | $4 \cdot 46798$ | $5 \cdot 45977$ | 7.06313 | 92.04866 | 251.78398 |
|  |  | (0.0000\%) | (0.0000\%)( | 0.000001\%) | ( - 0.0002\%) | ( $-0.0002 \%$ ) |
|  | FEM | 4.46798 | $5 \cdot 45977$ | 7.06314 | 92.06470 | 251.82793 |
| SS | NAM | $4 \cdot 46300$ | 5.41537 | 7.05322 | 39.25189 | 162.30375 |
|  |  | (0.000002\%) | (0.000004\%) | (0.0000\%) | (0.0003\%) | (0.0001\%) |
|  | FEM | $4 \cdot 46299$ | $5 \cdot 41535$ | 7.05322 | $39 \cdot 24623$ | 162-28025 |

Note: The percentage differences between $\bar{\omega}_{j N A M}$ and $\bar{\omega}_{j F E M}$ shown in the parentheses ( ) were determined using the formula: $\Delta_{j}=\left(\bar{\omega}_{j N A M}-\bar{\omega}_{j F E M}\right) \times 100 \% / \bar{\omega}_{j N A M}$.
a tapered beam carrying five spring-mass systems with locations and magnitudes as shown in Table 5, the lowest five natural frequencies $\bar{\omega}_{j}(j=1-5)$ are almost independent of the boundary conditions of the beam. This may be the reason why the lowest five mode shapes for the SS beam resemble like those for the CC, SC or CS beam. It is noted that all the lowest five mode shapes do not have any node as shown in Figure 6(a)-6(f). From Table 6, we can see that the maximum value of percentage differences between $\bar{\omega}_{j \text { NAM }}$ and $\bar{\omega}_{j F E M}$ $(j=1-5)$ is $\Delta_{1}=-0.0003 \%$ (CF beam), hence the accuracy of the NAM is also excellent for the present case.

## 9. CONCLUSIONS

(1) For a double-tapered beam with various boundary conditions and carrying any number of spring-mass systems, the exact solutions for the natural frequencies and the corresponding mode shapes are easily obtained by using with the numerical assembly method (NAM). It has been found that the locations and magnitudes of the attached spring-mass systems significantly affect the free vibration responses of the beam.
(2) For an unconstrained non-uniform beam, if the stiffness of the left part is much smaller than that of the right part, then, for the SC, CS, CC, and SS boundary


Figure 5. The lowest five mode shapes $\bar{Y}_{j}(\xi)(j=1-5)$ for the non-uniform beam carrying three spring-mass systems with locations and magnitudes as shown in Table 3 with the support conditions: (a) FC, (b) CF, (c) SC, (d) CS, (e) CC and (f) SS.
conditions, the modal displacements near the left end are larger than the corresponding ones near the right end of the beam.
(3) For the non-uniform beam with six boundary conditions studied in this paper, the attachment of the spring-mass system(s) reduces the lowest five natural frequencies of the beam significantly. For this reason, the configuration of the corresponding mode shapes also varies predominantly compared with those of the associated bare beam.

Table 5
The locations and magnitudes of the five spring-mass systems on the non-uniform beam

| $\begin{gathered} \text { Locations } \\ x_{i} / L \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  | Magnitudes of spring constants$k_{i}^{*}=k_{i} / k_{b}$ |  |  |  |  | Magnitudes of point masses$m_{i}^{*}=m_{i} / m_{b}$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $x_{1} / L$ | $x_{2} / L$ | $x_{3} / L$ | $x_{4} / L$ | $x_{5} / L$ | $k_{1}^{*}$ | $k_{2}^{*}$ | $k_{3}^{*}$ | $k_{4}^{*}$ | $k_{5}^{*}$ | $m_{1}^{*}$ | $m_{2}^{*}$ | $m_{3}^{*}$ | $m_{4}^{*}$ |  |
| 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 3.0 | 3.5 | 4.5 | 5.0 | 6.0 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.5 |  | 1.0 |

Table 6
The lowest five natural frequencies $\bar{\omega}_{j}(j=1-5)$ for the non-uniform beam carrying five spring-mass systems with parameters as shown in Table 5

| Boundary conditions | Methods | Natural frequencies (rad/s) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\bar{\omega}_{1}$ | $\bar{\omega}_{2}$ | $\bar{\omega}_{3}$ | $\bar{\omega}_{4}$ | $\bar{\omega}_{5}$ |
| FC | NAM | $\begin{array}{r} 4 \cdot 46792 \\ (0.00000 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5.04896 \\ (0.000002 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5 \cdot 41877 \\ (0.000007 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6 \cdot 08576 \\ (0.00001 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6 \cdot 82670 \\ (0.00001 \%) \end{array}$ |
|  | FEM | $4 \cdot 46792$ | 5.04895 | $5 \cdot 41873$ | 6.08569 | 6.82663 |
| CF | NAM | $\begin{array}{r} 2.96451 \\ (-0.0003 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 4.87707 \\ (-0.00001 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5.39880 \\ (-0.00001 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6.19975 \\ (-0.00001 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 7.06252 \\ (-0.00001 \%) \end{array}$ |
|  | FEM | $2 \cdot 96548$ | $4 \cdot 87713$ | 5-39884 | 6-19980 | $7 \cdot 06253$ |
| SC | NAM | $\begin{array}{r} 4.46796 \\ (0.0000 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5.05364 \\ (0.0000 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5.45487 \\ (0.000004 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6 \cdot 20894 \\ (0.000002 \%) \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 7.05738 \\ (0.0000 \%) \end{array}$ |
|  | FEM | $4 \cdot 46796$ | 5.05364 | 5-45485 | $6 \cdot 20893$ | 7.05738 |
| CS | NAM | $\begin{gathered} 4 \cdot 46442 \\ (0 \cdot 0000 \%)( \\ 4 \cdot 46442 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5 \cdot 03691 \\ (-0 \cdot 000002 \%)( \end{array}$ | $5 \cdot 44194$ | 6.21220 | 7.06288 |
|  |  |  |  | -0.000004\%) |  | -0.000001\%) |
|  | FEM |  | 5.03692 | $5 \cdot 44196$ | $6 \cdot 21223$ | 7.06289 |
| CC | NAM | $\begin{array}{r} 4.46798 \\ (0.0000 \%) \\ 4.46798 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5.05449 \\ (0.0000 \%) \\ 5.05449 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 5.45977 \\ (0.0000 \%)( \\ 5.45978 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6 \cdot 21903 \\ -0.000002 \%)( \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 7.06314 \\ -0.000001 \%) \end{array}$ |
|  | FEM |  |  |  | - 6.21904 | 7.06315 |
| SS | NAM | $\begin{array}{r} 4.46270 \\ (0.0000 \%) \\ 4.46270 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5.02262 \\ (0.000004 \%) \\ 5.02260 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5 \cdot 41794 \\ (0.000004 \%) \\ 5.41792 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6 \cdot 18725 \\ (0.000002 \%) \\ 6 \cdot 18724 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 7.05394 \\ (0.000001 \%) \\ 7.05393 \end{array}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | FEM |  |  |  |  |  |

Note: The percentage differences between $\bar{\omega}_{j \text { jAM }}$ and $\bar{\omega}_{j F E M}$ shown in the parentheses () were determined using the formula: $\Delta_{j}=\left(\bar{\omega}_{j N A M}-\bar{\omega}_{j F E M}\right) \times 100 \% / \bar{\omega}_{j N A M}$.
(4) In addition to the spring-mass systems studied in this paper, the presented NAM is also available for a beam (either uniform or non-uniform) carrying any number of the other concentrated attachments, such as rigidly attached point masses, linear springs and/or rotational springs. One of the main advantages of the NAM being superior to the FEM is that the NAM solutions are exact and the FEM solutions are approximate. It is believed that the availability of the NAM to the plate or shell problems should be definite and worthy of further studies.


Figure 6. The lowest five mode shapes $\bar{Y}_{j}(\xi)(j=1-5)$ for the non-uniform beam carrying five spring-mass systems with locations and magnitudes as shown in Table 5 with the support conditions: (a) FC, (b) CF, (c) SC, (d) CS, (e) CC and (f) SS.

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## APPENDIX A

The overall coefficient matrix for a non-uniform cantilever beam carrying one spring-mass system, $[B]_{(1)}$, and that carrying two spring-mass systems, $[B]_{(2)}$, are given in their explicit forms by equations (A1) and (A2) respectively.
\([B]_{(1)}=\left[\begin{array}{cccccccccc}\bar{C}_{1} \& \bar{C}_{2} \& \bar{C}_{3} \& \bar{C}_{4} \& \bar{C}_{5} \& \bar{C}_{6} \& \bar{C}_{7} \& \bar{C}_{8} \& \bar{C}_{9} <br>
J_{2}(\beta) \& Y_{2}(\beta) \& I_{2}(\beta) \& K_{2}(\beta) \& 0 \& 0 \& 0 \& 0 \& 0 \& <br>
J_{3}(\beta) \& Y_{3}(\beta) \& -I_{3}(\beta) \& K_{3}(\beta) \& 0 \& 0 \& 0 \& 0 \& 0 \& 2 <br>
J_{2}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& Y_{2}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& I_{2}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& K_{2}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& -J_{2}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& -Y_{2}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& -I_{2}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& -K_{2}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& 0 \& 3 <br>
J_{3}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& Y_{3}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& -I_{3}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& K_{3}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& -J_{3}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& -Y_{3}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& I_{3}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& -K_{3}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& 0 \& 4 <br>
J_{4}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& Y_{4}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& I_{4}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& K_{4}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& -J_{4}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& -Y_{4}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& -I_{4}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& -K_{4}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& 0 \& 5 <br>
\Delta_{11} \& \Delta_{21} \& \Delta_{31} \& \Delta_{41} \& -\Delta_{51} \& -\Delta_{61} \& -\Delta_{71} \& -\Delta_{81} \& 0 \& 6 <br>
\xi_{1}^{-1} J_{2}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& \xi_{1}^{-1} Y_{2}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& \xi_{1}^{-1} I_{2}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& \xi_{1}^{-1} K_{2}\left(\delta_{1}\right) \& 0 \& 0 \& 0 \& 0 \& -1+\gamma_{1}^{2} <br>
0 \& 0 \& 0 \& 0 \& J_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) \& Y_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) \& I_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) \& K_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) \& 0 \& 7 <br>

0 \& 0 \& 0 \& 0 \& \varepsilon_{1} \& \varepsilon_{2} \& \varepsilon_{3} \& \varepsilon_{4} \& 0 \& 7\end{array}\right]\)| 9 |
| :---: |

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \varepsilon_{1}=\left[8 J_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})-\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} J_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right], \quad \varepsilon_{2}=\left[8 Y_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})-\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} Y_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right], \\
& \varepsilon_{3}=\left[8 I_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})+\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} I_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right], \quad \varepsilon_{4}=\left[8 K_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})-\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} K_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right] \\
& \beta=2 L \Omega /(\alpha-1), \quad \Delta_{11}=8 \beta^{2} J_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} J_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)+8 \theta_{1} \xi_{1}^{-2} J_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \\
& \delta_{1}=\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}, \quad \Delta_{21}=8 \beta^{2} Y_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} Y_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)+8 \theta_{1} \xi_{v}^{-2} Y_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{31}=8 \beta^{2} I_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)+\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} I_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)+8 \theta_{1} \xi_{1}^{-2} I_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{41}=8 \beta^{2} K_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} K_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)+8 \theta_{1} \xi_{1}^{-2} K_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{51}=8 \beta^{2} J_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} J_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \quad \Delta_{61}=8 \beta^{2} Y_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} Y_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right) \\
& \Delta_{71}=8 \beta^{2} I_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)+\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} I_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \quad \Delta_{81}=8 \beta^{2} K_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} K_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right) \\
& \theta_{1}=\left\{\frac{m_{1}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right](\Omega L)^{4}}{1-m_{1}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right](\Omega L)^{4} / k_{1}^{*}} \frac{1}{(\alpha-1)^{3}}\right\}, \\
& \gamma_{1}^{2}=\frac{m_{1}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right]}{k_{1}^{*}} \cdot(\Omega L)^{4}
\end{aligned}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \varepsilon_{1}=\left[8 J_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})-\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} J_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right], \quad \varepsilon_{2}=\left[8 Y_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})-\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} Y_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right], \\
& \varepsilon_{3}=\left[8 I_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})+\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} I_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right], \quad \varepsilon_{4}=\left[8 K_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})-\beta \alpha^{1 / 2} K_{5}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})\right], \\
& \beta=\frac{2 L \Omega}{(\alpha-1)}, \\
& \Delta_{11}=8 \beta^{2} J_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} J_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)+8 \theta_{1} \xi_{1}^{-2} J_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \quad \delta_{1}=\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}, \\
& \Delta_{21}=8 \beta^{2} Y_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} Y_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)+8 \theta_{1} \xi_{1}^{-2} Y_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{31}=8 \beta^{2} I_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)+\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} I_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)+8 \theta_{1} \xi_{1}^{-2} I_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{41}=8 \beta^{2} K_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} K_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)+8 \theta_{1} \xi_{1}^{-2} K_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{51}=8 \beta^{2} J_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} J_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{61}=8 \beta^{2} Y_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} Y_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{71}=8 \beta^{2} I_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)+\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} I_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{81}=8 \beta^{2} K_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{1}^{1 / 2} K_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{1}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{12}=8 \beta^{2} J_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{2}^{1 / 2} J_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right)+8 \theta_{1} \xi_{2}^{-2} J_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right), \\
& \delta_{2}=\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}, \\
& \Delta_{22}=8 \beta^{2} Y_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{2}^{1 / 2} Y_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right)+8 \theta_{2} \xi_{2}^{-2} Y_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{32}=8 \beta^{2} I_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right)+\beta^{3} \xi_{2}^{1 / 2} I_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right)+8 \theta_{2} \xi_{2}^{-2} I_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{42}=8 \beta^{2} K_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{2}^{1 / 2} K_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right)+8 \theta_{2} \xi_{2}^{-2} K_{2}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{52}=8 \beta^{2} J_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{2}^{1 / 2} J_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{62}=8 \beta^{2} Y_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{2}^{1 / 2} Y_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right), \\
& \Delta_{72}=8 \beta^{2} I_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right)+\beta^{3} \xi_{2}^{1 / 2} I_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right),
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Delta_{82}=8 \beta^{2} K_{4}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right)-\beta^{3} \xi_{2}^{1 / 2} K_{5}\left(\beta \sqrt{\xi_{2}}\right), \\
& \theta_{1}=\left\{\frac{m_{1}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right](\Omega L)^{4}}{1-m_{1}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right](\Omega L)^{4} / k_{1}^{*}} \frac{1}{(\alpha-1)^{3}}\right\}, \\
& \gamma_{1}^{2}=\frac{m_{1}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right]}{k_{1}^{*}} \cdot(\Omega L)^{4}, \\
& \theta_{2}=\left\{\frac{m_{2}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right](\Omega L)^{4}}{1-m_{2}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right](\Omega L)^{4} / k_{2}^{*}} \frac{1}{(\alpha-1)^{3}}\right\}, \\
& \gamma_{2}^{2}=\frac{m_{2}^{*}\left[\frac{1}{3}(\alpha-1)^{2}+(\alpha-1)+1\right]}{k_{2}^{*}} \cdot(\Omega L)^{4}
\end{aligned}
$$

## APPENDIX B

The coefficient matrices for the left end of the beam, $\left[B_{L}\right]$, and those for the right end of the beam, $\left[B_{R}\right]$, with the FC, SC, CS, CC and SS boundary conditions were given below.
(1) Free-clamped beam

$$
\begin{align*}
& \begin{array}{llll}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4
\end{array} \\
& {\left[B_{R}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
J_{4}(\beta) & Y_{4}(\beta) & I_{4}(\beta) & K_{4}(\beta) \\
8 J_{4}(\beta)-\beta J_{5}(\beta) & 8 Y_{4}(\beta)-\beta Y_{5}(\beta) & 8 I_{4}(\beta)+\beta I_{5}(\beta) & 8 K_{4}(\beta)-\beta K_{5}(\beta)
\end{array}\right] \begin{array}{l}
1 \\
2
\end{array},}  \tag{B1}\\
& 4 n+1 \quad 4 n+2 \quad 4 n+3 \quad 4 n+4 \\
& {\left[B_{L}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
J_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & Y_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & I_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & K_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) \\
J_{3}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & Y_{3}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & -I_{3}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & K_{3}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})
\end{array}\right] p-1,}
\end{align*}
$$

where

$$
p=5 n+4
$$

(2) Simply supported-clamped beam

$$
\begin{align*}
& {\left[B_{R}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\
J_{2}(\beta) & Y_{2}(\beta) & I_{2}(\beta) & K_{2}(\beta) \\
J_{4}(\beta) & Y_{4}(\beta) & I_{4}(\beta) & K_{4}(\beta)
\end{array}\right] \begin{array}{l}
1 \\
2
\end{array},}  \tag{B3}\\
& 4 n+1 \quad 4 n+2 \quad 4 n+3 \quad 4 n+4 \\
& {\left[B_{L}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
J_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & Y_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & I_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & K_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) \\
J_{3}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & Y_{3}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & -I_{3}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & K_{3}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})
\end{array}\right] p-1 .} \tag{B4}
\end{align*}
$$

(3) Clamped-simply supported

$$
\left[B_{R}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4  \tag{B5}\\
J_{2}(\beta) & Y_{2}(\beta) & I_{2}(\beta) & K_{2}(\beta) \\
J_{3}(\beta) & Y_{3}(\beta) & -I_{3}(\beta) & K_{3}(\beta)
\end{array}\right] \begin{aligned}
& 1 \\
& 2
\end{aligned},
$$

$$
4 n+1 \quad 4 n+2 \quad 4 n+3 \quad 4 n+4
$$

$$
\left[B_{L}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{llll}
J_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & Y_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & I_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & K_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})  \tag{B6}\\
J_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & Y_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & I_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & K_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})
\end{array}\right] p-1
$$

(4) Clamped-clamped
(5) Simply supported-simply supported beam

$$
\begin{align*}
& \begin{array}{llll}
1 & 2 & 3 & 4
\end{array} \\
& {\left[B_{R}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{llll}
J_{2}(\beta) & Y_{2}(\beta) & I_{2}(\beta) & K_{2}(\beta) \\
J_{4}(\beta) & Y_{4}(\beta) & I_{4}(\beta) & K_{4}(\beta)
\end{array}\right], 1,}  \tag{B9}\\
& 4 n+1 \quad 4 n+2 \quad 4 n+3 \quad 4 n+4 \\
& {\left[B_{L}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{llll}
J_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & Y_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & I_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & K_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) \\
J_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & Y_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & I_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & K_{4}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})
\end{array}\right] p-1 .} \tag{B10}
\end{align*}
$$

$$
\begin{align*}
& \begin{array}{c}
1 \\
{\left[B_{R}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
J_{2}(\beta) & Y_{2}(\beta) & I_{2}(\beta) & K_{2}(\beta) \\
J_{3}(\beta) & Y_{3}(\beta) & -I_{3}(\beta) & K_{3}(\beta)
\end{array}\right] \begin{array}{l}
1 \\
2
\end{array}, ~}
\end{array}  \tag{B7}\\
& 4 n+1 \quad 4 n+2 \quad 4 n+3 \quad 4 n+4 \\
& {\left[B_{L}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
J_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & Y_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & I_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & K_{2}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) \\
J_{3}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & Y_{3}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & -I_{3}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha}) & K_{3}(\beta \sqrt{\alpha})
\end{array}\right] p-1 .} \tag{B8}
\end{align*}
$$

