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JOURNAL OF SOUND AND VIBRATION

Journal of Sound and Vibration 280 (2005) 1149-1150

www.elsevier.com/locate/jsvi

Discussion

Comments on "A variable order approach to improve differential quadrature accuracy in dynamic analysis"

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Received 22 October 2003; accepted 9 January 2004

Available online 13 September 2004

Dr. Zong is to be congratulated for his thorough analysis of the sources of numerical instability in the DQ method and his proposal of a variable order approach that consists of applying different DQ schemes to the grid points near the boundaries and grid points located rather far from them [1]. Of particular importance is his treatment of scalar combustion models and his analysis of a forced vibrations situation.

On the other hand and concerning this last problem, it would have been of great interest if the author had computed stress resultants, e.g. bending moments, since this requires obtaining second-order derivatives of the displacement function, and comparing them with the exact solution as it was done in Ref. [2]. In this way, one could analyze the relative accuracy of the derivatives of the displacement function.

The writers feel that the differential quadrature method first proposed by Bellman and coworkers and to which Professor Charles Bert and associates have greatly contributed may lead to other highly important investigations such as the one performed by Z. Zong.

Research on structural dynamics is sponsored at the Institute of Applied Mechanics by Secretaría General de Ciencia y Tecnología of Universidad Nacional del Sur and by CONICET.

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