



## THE STABILITY OF SYSTEMS WITH DISTRIBUTED PARAMETERS AND LUMPED FORCES†

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The Lyapunov-function method is used to investigate the stability of systems with distributed parameters and lumped forces described by linear partial differential equations (for example, elastic structures with lumped masses, dampers, elastic aircraft with rigid control rudders, etc.). By introducing additional variables, the initial equations of high order are represented by a system of evolution equations and constraint equations, which are first-order partial differential equations. At the points where the lumped forces are applied, certain phase functions experience a discontinuity of the first kind and matching conditions are satisfied. A method for stability investigation is developed for these systems. The change to first-order equations helps to construct the Lyapunov functionals. As an example, the stability of torsional vibrations of an elastic aerofoil with a suspended engine is considered. © 2002 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

### 1. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Consider a system of first-order partial differential equations

$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} = A \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} + B \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + A_0 \varphi + B_0 \psi, \quad C \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} + D \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + C_0 \varphi + D_0 \psi = 0 \quad (1.1)$$

$$x \in (0, 1) \quad x_i \neq 0, \quad i = \overline{1, f}, \quad t \in I = [0, \infty)$$

where  $\varphi = \varphi(x, t)$  is an  $n$ -dimensional vector of phase functions,  $\psi = \psi(x, t)$  is an  $s$ -dimensional vector of phase functions whose time derivatives do not occur in system (1.1),  $A(x)$ ,  $B(x)$ ,  $C(x)$  and  $D(x)$  are matrices whose elements are bounded measurable functions together with their first derivatives, and  $A_0(x)$ ,  $B_0(x)$ ,

$C_0(x)$  and  $D_0(x)$  are matrices whose elements are bounded measurable functions.

Any linear partial differential equation of arbitrary order, or system of such equations, may be reduced to the form of (1.1) by introducing additional variables [1, 2]. The second equation of (1.1) appears not only because the order of the partial derivatives is reduced, but also owing to those equations without time derivatives that may occur in the initial system. An example is the equation of continuity when describing incompressible fluid flow, etc.

The following homogeneous boundary conditions are given at  $x = 0$  and  $x = 1$

$$\Gamma_1 \varphi(0, t) + \Gamma_2 \psi(0, t) = 0, \quad \Gamma_3 \varphi(1, t) + \Gamma_4 \psi(1, t) = 0 \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_4$  are matrices of constants.

Suppose at points  $x = x_i (i = \overline{1, f})$  the system is subject to lumped forces, which depend on the phase functions and, in the case of forces of inertia, also on the first time derivatives of the phase functions. At these points some of the phase functions experience a discontinuity of the first kind and one has the following matching conditions.

$$\chi'(x, t) = \chi''(x_i, t) + K_{1i} \chi''(x_i, t) + K_{2i} \frac{d\varphi''(x_i, t)}{dt}, \quad i = \overline{1, f} \quad (1.3)$$

where

$$\chi(x, t) = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi(x, t) \\ \psi(x, t) \end{pmatrix}; \quad \varphi'(x_i, t), \quad \varphi''(x_i, t)$$

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$\chi'(x_i, t)$ ,  $\varphi''(x_i, t)$  and  $\chi'(x_i, t)$ ,  $\chi''(x_i, t)$  are the limits of the functions  $\varphi(x, t)$  and  $\chi(x, t)$  as  $x \rightarrow x_i$  from the left and right, respectively, and  $K_{1i}$  and  $K_{2i}$  ( $i = \overline{1, f}$ ) are  $(n + s) \times (n + s)$  constant coefficient matrices, which depend on the form of the applied forces.

The solution of system (1.1)–(1.3) in the intervals between the points  $x_i$  with given initial data  $\varphi_0(x, t)$  is considered in the class of functions which are continuously differentiable with respect to  $t$  and continuous and differentiable almost everywhere with respect to  $x$ ; at the points of discontinuity  $x_i$ , Eqs (1.1) are replaced by the matching conditions (1.3) [3]. The trivial solution  $\varphi = \psi = 0$  corresponds to the unperturbed state.

We shall consider the stability of the solution  $\varphi = \psi = 0$  of system (1.1)–(1.3) with respect to two measures [4]

$$\rho = \int_0^1 \varphi^T \varphi dx, \quad \rho_0 = \int_0^1 \varphi^T(x, t) \varphi(x, t) dx + \sum_{i=1}^f \varphi''^T(x_i, t) \varphi''(x_i, t)$$

where  $\rho_0$  and  $\rho$  constrain the actual and initial perturbations, respectively.

## 2. INVESTIGATION OF STABILITY

To solve the problem formulated above, we shall construct a Lyapunov function in the form

$$V = \sum_{i=1}^{f+1} \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \varphi^T v_i(x) \varphi dx + \sum_{i=1}^f \varphi''^T(x_i, t) \omega_i \varphi''(x_i, t) \quad (2.1)$$

Where  $v_i(x)$  ( $i = \overline{1, f+1}$ ),  $\omega_i$  ( $i = \overline{1, f}$ ) are  $n \times n$  symmetric matrices; the elements of the matrices  $v_i(x)$  ( $i = \overline{1, f+1}$ ) are continuous functions, differentiable almost everywhere with respect to  $x$  for  $x \in (x_{i-1}, x_i)$ ;  $x_0 = 0, x_{f+1} = 1$ .

Using the technique introduced in [2], we find the derivative of the functional  $V$  along trajectories of the first equation of (1.1), which is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dV}{dt} = & \sum_{i=1}^{f+1} \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \left\{ \varphi^T v_i \left( A \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} + B \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \right) + \left( \frac{\partial \varphi^T}{\partial x} A^T + \frac{\partial \psi^T}{\partial x} B^T \right) v_i \varphi + \varphi^T (v_i A_0 + A_0^T v_i) \varphi + \right. \\ & \left. + \varphi^T v_i B_0 \psi + \psi^T B_0^T v_i \varphi \right\} dx + \sum_{i=1}^f 2 \varphi''^T(x_i, t) \omega_i \frac{d\varphi''(x_i, t)}{dt} \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

Following the method of Lagrange multipliers, we add to this derivative the expression

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^{f+1} \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} (\varphi^T P_{1i} + \psi^T P_{2i}) \left\{ \left( C \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} + D \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \right) + C_0 \varphi + D_0 \psi \right\} dx + \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^{f+1} \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \left\{ \left( \frac{\partial \varphi^T}{\partial x} C^T + \frac{\partial \psi^T}{\partial x} D^T \right) + \varphi^T C_0^T + \psi^T D_0^T \right\} (P_{1i}^T \varphi + P_{2i}^T \psi) dx \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

which vanishes by virtue of the second equation of (1.1). Here  $P_{1i} = P_{1i}(x)$  and  $P_{2i} = P_{2i}(x)$  ( $i = \overline{1, f+1}$ ) are as yet arbitrary  $n \times n'$  and  $s \times s'$  matrices whose elements are functions that are continuous and differentiable almost everywhere with respect to  $x$ . The expressions  $(\varphi^T P_{1i} + \psi^T P_{2i})$  and  $(P_{1i}^T \varphi + P_{2i}^T \psi)$  ( $i = \overline{1, f+1}$ ) in parentheses in (2.3) play the role of Lagrange multipliers.

Integrating by parts, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dV}{dt} = & \sum_{i=1}^{f+1} \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \left\{ -\varphi^T w_i \varphi + \psi^T \left( P_{2i} D_0 + D_0^T P_{2i}^T - \frac{\partial P_{2i} D}{\partial x} \right) \psi + \right. \\ & + \varphi^T \left[ P_{1i} D_0 + C_0^T P_{2i}^T + v_i B_0 - \frac{\partial (\vartheta_i B + P_{1i} D)}{\partial x} \right] \psi + \\ & \left. + \psi^T \left[ D_0^T P_{1i}^T + P_{2i} C_0 + B_0^T v_i - \frac{\partial (B^T v_i + D^T P_{1i}^T)}{\partial x} \right] \varphi + \right. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \frac{\partial \varphi^T}{\partial x} (A^T v_i + C^T P_{1i}^T - v_i A - P_{1i} C) \varphi + \frac{\partial \psi^T}{\partial x} (D^T P_{2i}^T - P_{2i} D) \psi + \\
 & + \frac{\partial \varphi^T}{\partial x} (C^T P_{2i}^T - v_i B - P_{1i} D) \psi + \psi^T (P_{2i} C - B^T v_i - D^T P_{1i}^T) \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \Big\} dx + \\
 & + \sum_{i=1}^f 2\varphi^{*T}(x_i, t) \omega_i \frac{d\varphi^{*T}(x_i, t)}{dt} + \\
 & + \sum_{i=1}^{f+1} [\chi^{*T}(x_i, t) Q_i(x_i, t) \chi'(x_i, t) - \chi^{*T}(x_{i-1}, t) Q_i(x_{i-1}, t) \chi''(x_{i-1}, t)] \tag{2.4}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$Q_i(x) = \begin{vmatrix} v_i(x)A(x) + P_{1i}(x)C(x) & v_i(x)B(x) + P_{1i}(x)D(x) \\ B^T(x)v_i(x) + D^T(x)P_{1i}^T(x) & P_{2i}(x)D(x) \end{vmatrix}, \quad i = \overline{1, f+1}$$

$$w_i = \frac{\partial(v_i A + P_{1i} C)}{\partial x} - v_i A_0 - A_0^T v_i - P_{1i} C_0 - C_0^T P_{1i}^T, \quad i = \overline{1, f+1}$$

Suppose the matrices  $v_i$ ,  $P_{1i}$  and  $P_{2i}$  satisfy the equations

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_i A + P_{1i} C &= A^T v_i + C^T P_{1i}^T, & P_{2i} D &= D^T P_{2i}^T \\
 v_i B + P_{1i} D &= C^T P_{2i}^T, & P_{2i} D_0 + D_0^T P_{2i}^T &= \frac{\partial P_{2i} D}{\partial x} \\
 v_i B_0 + P_{1i} D_0 + C_0^T P_{2i}^T &= \frac{\partial(v_i B + P_{1i} D)}{\partial x}; & x &\in (x_{i-1}, x_i), \quad i = \overline{1, f+1} \\
 K_{2i} Q_i(x_i) K_{2i} &= 0, & i &= \overline{1, f}
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.5}$$

and boundary conditions

$$\chi^T(x_0, t) Q_1(x_0, t) \chi(x_0, t) = 0, \quad \chi^T(x_{f+1}, t) Q_{f+1}(x_{f+1}, t) \chi(x_{f+1}, t) = 0 \tag{2.6}$$

Substituting  $\chi'(x_i, t)$  from Eq. (1.3) and  $d\varphi''(x_i, t)/dt$  from the first of equations (1.1) into relation (2.4), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dV}{dt} &= - \sum_{i=1}^{f+1} \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \varphi^T(x, t) w_i \varphi(x, t) dx - \sum_{i=1}^f \chi^{*T}(x_i, t) h_i \chi''(x_i, t) + \\
 & + 2 \sum_{i=1}^f \chi^{*T}(x_i, t) \| R_i A \quad R_i B \| \frac{\partial \chi^{*T}(x_i, t)}{\partial x} \Big|_{x \rightarrow x_i + 0} \tag{2.7} \\
 R_i &= \left\| \begin{matrix} \omega_i \\ 0 \end{matrix} \right\| + (K_{1i}^T + E) Q_i(x_i) \left\| \begin{matrix} K_{2i} \\ 0 \end{matrix} \right\| \\
 h_i &= - \| R_i A_0 \quad R_i B_0 \| - \left\| \begin{matrix} A_0^T R_i^T \\ B_0^T R_i^T \end{matrix} \right\| - K_{1i}^T Q_i(x_i, t) - K_{1i}^T Q_i(x_i, t) K_{1i} - Q_i(x_i, t) K_{1i} - \\
 & - Q_i(x_i, t) + Q_{i+1}(x_i, t)
 \end{aligned}$$

( $E$  is the identity matrix).

In order that the derivative  $dV/dt$  (2.7) should not contain terms with a derivative with respect to  $x$ , we choose matrices  $\omega_i$  ( $i = \overline{1, f}$ ) subject to the condition

$$R_i A(x_i) = R_i B(x_i) = 0, \quad i = \overline{1, f} \tag{2.8}$$

By the Lyapunov function method [5], the trivial solution of system (1.1)–(1.3) will be asymptotically stable with respect to the two measures  $\rho$  and  $\rho_0$  if the functional  $V$  (2.1) is continuous with respect to  $\rho_0$  and positive-definite with respect to  $\rho$ , and its derivative  $dV/dt$  is negative-definite with respect to  $\rho$ .

The continuity of the functional  $V$  (2.1) with respect to  $\rho_0$  follows directly from the continuity and therefore boundedness of the elements of the matrix  $v_i(x)$  for  $x \in (x_{i-1}, x_i)$  ( $i = \overline{1, f+1}$ ). The remaining conditions of this assertion will be satisfied if the matrices  $\omega_i$  and  $h_i$  are non-negative, and the matrices  $v_i(x)$  and  $w_i(x)$  are positive-definite for any  $x \in (x_{i-1}, x_i)$ , that is

$$\omega_i \geq 0, h_i \geq 0, i = \overline{1, f}; v_i(x) > 0, w_i(x) > 0, x \in (x_{i-1}, x_i), i = \overline{1, f+1} \tag{2.9}$$

*Example.* Let us consider the stability of torsional vibrations of an aerofoil with a suspended engine, as described by the following equation and boundary conditions in dimensionless form

$$J \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( GI \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \right) - M_1 y - M_2 \frac{\partial y}{\partial x}, x \in (0, 1), x \neq x_*, \tag{2.10}$$

$$y(0, t) = \frac{\partial y(x, t)}{\partial t} \Big|_{x=1} = 0, \lim_{x \rightarrow x_* - 0} y(x, t) = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_* + 0} y(x, t) - J_* \frac{d^2 y(x_*, t)}{dt^2}$$

where

$$t = t_0 \sqrt{\frac{g}{l}}, x = \frac{z}{l}, x_* = x_1 = \frac{z_*}{l}, GI = \frac{G_0 I_0}{m_k g l^2}, J = \frac{J_0}{m_k l^2}$$

$$M_1 = \frac{M_{10}}{m_k g}, M_2 = \frac{M_{20}}{m_k g}, J_* = \frac{J_{*0}}{m_k l^2}$$

$t_0$  is the time,  $l$  is the length of the aerofoil panel,  $z$  are the coordinates of the aerofoil points,  $z_*$  is the coordinate of the place at which the engine is attached,  $y = y(x, t)$  is the torsion angle of the aerofoil section with coordinate  $x$ ,  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity,  $G_0 I_0 = G_0 I_0(x)$  is the torsional stiffness of the aerofoil,  $m_k$  is the mass of the aerofoil  $M_{10} = M_{10}(x)$  is the coefficient of the linear moment of aerodynamic forces,  $M_{20} = M_{20}(x)$  is the coefficient of aerodynamic damping,  $J_{*0}$  is the moment of inertia of the engine relative to the stiffness axis of the aerofoil and  $J_0 = J_0(x)$  is the distributed moment of inertia of the aerofoil about the stiffness axis.

Introducing new variables, we write Eqs (2.10) in the form of system (1.1)–(1.3), where

$$\varphi_1 = y(x, t), \varphi_2 = \frac{\partial y(x, t)}{\partial t}, \varphi_3 = GI \frac{\partial y(x, t)}{\partial x}$$

$$A = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/J \\ 0 & GI & 0 \end{vmatrix}, A_0 = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -M_1/J & -M_2/J & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}, K_{21} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -J_* & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$C = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}, C_0 = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1/GI \end{vmatrix}, \Gamma_1 = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}, \Gamma_3 = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

and  $B, B_0, D, D_0, \Gamma_2, \Gamma_4$  and  $K_{11}$  are zero matrices. Using Eqs (2.4)–(2.8), we construct matrices  $v_i(x), f_i(x)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ),  $\omega$  and  $h$  with the following elements

$$v_i^{(11)} = M_2 + M_1 c_2, v_i^{(21)} = v_i^{(12)} = J(x), v_i^{(31)} = v_i^{(13)} = (i-2)J_*(GIc_2)$$

$$v_i^{(22)} = J(x)c_2, v_i^{(32)} = v_i^{(23)} = 2(i-1)(1-x)\tilde{J}_*J(x)/(GI), v_i^{(33)} = c_2/(GI)$$

$$f_i^{(11)} = 2M_1, f_i^{(22)} = 2M_2c_2 - 2J(x) + (i-1)\tilde{J}_*d((1-x)J(x))/dx$$

$$f_i^{(13)} = 2(i-1)(1-x)\tilde{J}_*M_1, f_i^{(23)} = 2(i-1)(1-x)\tilde{J}_*M_2/(GI)$$

$$f_i^{(33)} = 2/(GI) + 2(i-1)\tilde{J}_*d((1-x)/(GI))/dx, x \in (x_{i-1}, x_i), i = 1, 2$$

$$\tilde{J}_* = J_* / ((1-x_1)J(x_1)); \omega^{(11)} = J_* / c_2, \omega^{(12)} = J_*, \omega^{(22)} = J_*c_2$$

$$h^{(33)} = 2J_*/(GI(x_1)J(x_1))$$

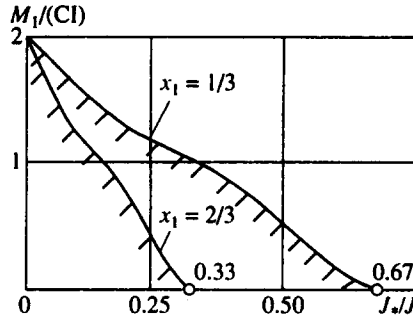


Fig. 1

where  $f_i^{(kj)}$ ,  $v_i^{(kj)}$ ,  $\omega^{(kj)}$  and  $h^{(kj)}$  are the elements of the matrices  $f_i$ ,  $v_i$ ,  $\omega$  and  $h$ , respectively. The remaining elements of  $f_i$ ,  $v_i$ ,  $\omega$  and  $h$  are zero.

Using the inequality [2]

$$2 \int_0^1 \varphi_1^2 dx \leq \int_0^1 \left( \frac{\varphi_3}{GI} \right)^2 dx \leq \frac{1}{\min_x GI} \int_0^1 \frac{\varphi_3^2}{GI} dx$$

and taking into account that the constant  $c_2$  was chosen arbitrarily, we obtain from relations (2.9) following conditions for asymptotic stability of torsional vibrations of the aerofoil

$$\min_x M_2 > 0, \quad 1 + \bar{J}_* \xi > 0$$

$$\min_x M_1 + 4 \min_x (GI)(1 + \bar{J}_* \xi) / (1 + \sqrt{1 + 16J_* / J(x)}) > 0$$

$$\xi = \min_{x_1 < x < 1} [GI d((1-x)/(GI)) / dx] > 0$$

For an aerofoil of constant profile ( $GI, J, M_1, M_2 = \text{const}$ ), the stability conditions are

$$M_2 > 0, \quad 1 - \bar{J}_* > 0, \quad M_1 + 4GI(1 - \bar{J}_*) / (1 + \sqrt{1 + 16J_* / J(x)}) > 0$$

The figure shows the stability domain defined by these inequalities in the domain of the parameters  $M_1/(GI)$  and  $J_*/J(x_1)$  for different values of  $x_1$ . The hatching is done in the direction of the stability domain. It can be seen that if the moment of inertia of the engine and the distance  $x_1$  from the point of suspension of the engine to cross-section adjacent to the fuselage are increased, the stability domain of the aerofoil will be reduced.

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