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# Exact Solutions and Numerical Simulation of Longitudinal Vibration of the Rayleigh-Love Rods with Variable Cross-Sections

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Abstract—Exact solutions of equations of longitudinal vibration of conical and exponential rod are analyzed for the Rayleigh-Love model. These solutions are used as reference results for

checking accuracy of the method of lines. It is shown that the method of lines generates solutions, which are very close to those that are predicted by the exact theory. It is also shown that the accuracy of the method of lines is improved with increasing the number of intervals on the rod. Reliability of numerical methods is very important for obtaining approximate solutions of physical and technical problems. In the present paper we consider the Rayleigh-Love model of longitudinal vibrations of rods with conical and exponential cross-sections. It is shown that exact solution of the problem of longitudinal vibration of the conical rod is obtained in Legendre spherical functions and the corresponding solution for the rod of exponential cross-section is expressed in the Gauss hypergeometric functions. General solution of these problems is expressed in terms of the Green function. For numerical solution of the problem we use the method of lines. By means of this method the partial differential equations describing the dynamics of the Rayleigh-Love rod are reduced to a system of ordinary differential equations. For checking of accuracy of the numerical solution we chose special initial conditions, namely we assume that initial longitudinal displacements of the rod are proportional to one of eigenfunction of the system and initial velocities are zero. In this case vibrations of every point of the rod are harmonic and their amplitudes are equal to the initial displacements. Periods of these vibrations, obtained by the method of lines, are estimated and compared with the theoretically predicted eigenvalues of the rod, thus giving us estimations of accuracy of the numerical procedures.

Keywords—Longitudinal vibration of rods, variable cross-section, exact solution, method of lines.

# INTRODUCTION

Reliability of numerical methods is very important for obtaining approximate solutions of physical and technical problems. That is why it is necessary to test these solutions whenever it is possible using exact solutions, obtained for some special cases. This is especially important for the class of dynamical problems described by the hyperbolic partial differential equations, which have always been considered as challenging problems for numerical methods. In the present paper we consider the Rayleigh-Love model of longitudinal vibrations of rods with conical and exponential cross-sections. It is shown that exact solution of the problem of longitudinal vibration of the conical rod is obtained in Legendre spherical functions and the corresponding solution for the rod of exponential cross-section is expressed in the Gauss hypergeometric functions. For numerical solution of the problem we use the method of lines. By means of this method the partial differential equations describing the dynamics of the Rayleigh-Love rod are reduced to a system of ordinary differential equations. For checking of accuracy of the numerical solution we chose special initial conditions, namely we assume that initial longitudinal displacements of the rod are proportional to one of eigenfunction of the system and initial velocities are zero. In this case vibrations of every point of the rod are harmonic and their amplitudes are equal to the initial displacements. Periods of these vibrations, obtained by the method of lines are estimated and compared with the theoretically predicted eigenvalues of the rod, thus giving us estimations of accuracy of the numerical procedures.

## EXACT SOLUTION OF EQUATIONS OF THE CONICAL ROD

Let us consider a rod of length  $\mid$  and assume that its physical parameters such as mass density  $\binom{\rho}{}$ , modulus of elasticity  $\binom{E}{}$  and Poisson ratio  $\binom{\eta}{}$  are constant, but radius of cross-section is variable and depends on longitudinal coordinate  $\binom{x}{}$  of the rod:  $\binom{x=r(x)}{}$ . In this case area of cross-section of the rod  $\binom{S=S(x)}{}$  and its polar moment of inertia are also variable. In the case of circular cross-section and  $\binom{S=S(x)}{}$  and  $\binom{S=S(x)}{}$ . Equation of longitudinal vibration [1] for longitudinal displacement  $\binom{U(x,t)}{}$  is as follows:

$$\rho S(x) \frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial t} - \rho \hat{\eta} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[ I_p(x) \frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial t \partial x} \right] \\
- E \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[ S(x) \frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial t} \right] = F(x,t) \tag{1}$$

Let us consider a steady-state vibration  $(i^2 = -1)$ . In this case the corresponding to (1) homogeneous equation is:

$$\rho \partial \left\{ S(x)U(x) - i \frac{d}{dx} \left[ I_{p}(x) \frac{dU(x)}{dx} \right] \right\} \\
+ E \frac{d}{dx} \left[ S(x) \frac{dU(x)}{dx} \right] = 0$$
(2)

If the generatrix of conical surface of the rod is described by equation , where  $\bar{x} = x - x_p$ , then and equation (2) is rewritten as follows:



where  $c = \sqrt{E/\rho}$  - speed of wave propagation in cylindrical rod in accordance with the classical theory, and  $\mu = \frac{\eta k \omega}{c\sqrt{2}}$  is the wavenumber of the conical rod which has dimension  $m^{-1}$ .

Introducing new dimensionless variable  $z=\mu\bar{x}$  and  $V(z)=U\left(\frac{z}{\mu}\right)$  we transform (3) to equation:

which could be further transformed by means of  $V(z) = \frac{W(z)}{z}$  to the form:

or

where  $\sigma = \frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{9}{4} + \frac{2}{\left(nk\right)^2}}$  where equation which has solution . Equation (6) is the Legendre

where  $P_{\sigma}(z)$ ,  $Q_{\sigma}(z)$  are Legendre functions of the first and second kind and  $\overline{C}_{1,2}$  are arbitrary constants. In original variables solution of the problem of the Rayleigh-Love longitudinal vibration of the conical rod is rewritten as follows:

where  $C_{1,2} = \frac{C_{1,2}}{\mu}$ .

EXACT SOLUTION OF EQUATIONS OF THE EXPONENTIAL ROD

Let us now consider the Rayleigh-Love rod with the exponential generatrix so that radius of its cross-section is . In this case area of cross-section is and polar moment of inertia  $I_p(x) = \frac{\pi k^4 e^{4\alpha x}}{2}$ . In this case equation (2) is transformed to the following form:



where  $\chi = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\eta k \omega}{c} \right)^2$ . Exact solution of equation (9) could be obtained by means of it transformation to the Gauss hypergeometric equation in two steps. At the first step we make transformation , where  $^{\sharp}$  is constant, which will be specially selected further. After this transformation equation (9) is rewritten as



At this stage we make a choice of  $\int_{c}^{c}$  so that  $\beta + 2\alpha\beta + \left(\frac{\omega}{c}\right)^{2} = 0$ . Hence,  $\beta = 0$ . Hence, we make an arbitrary choice of the sign, so we assume

At the second step we change variable  $x \rightarrow z$  so that

$$z = \chi e^{2\alpha x}$$
 and introduce function  $W(z) = V \left[ \frac{1}{2\alpha} \ln \left( \frac{z}{\mu} \right) \right]$ . In the new variables equation (10) is represented as follows:

 $\mathcal{A}V(2)$   $[(2\beta)(3\beta)]W(2)$ 

where  $^{\beta}$  is calculated by formula (11).

Equation (12) could be rewritten in the standard Gauss hypergeometric equation form:

where 
$$a = \frac{\beta}{2\alpha} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{\omega^2}{\alpha} \end{bmatrix}$$
,  $b = 2 + \frac{\beta}{2\alpha} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 3 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{\omega^2}{\alpha}} \end{bmatrix}$  and  $c = 1 + \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \begin{bmatrix} 1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{\omega^2}{\alpha}} \end{bmatrix}$ 

Solution of equation (13) is

where z is the Gauss hypergeometric function with parameters  $^{a}$ , b, c and argument z and  $^{c}$  are arbitrary constants.

In the original variables solution (14) could be rewritten as follows:

(11) 
$$U(x) = C_1 \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{4} \left[ \frac{\omega}{\alpha} \right]^2 x}$$

$$V(x) = C_1 \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{4} \left[ \frac{\omega}{\alpha} \right]^2 x}$$

$$V(x) = C_1 \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{4} \left[ \frac{\omega}{\alpha} \right]^2 x}$$

$$+ C_2 \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{4} \left[ \frac{\omega}{\alpha} \right]^2 x}$$

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$$V(x) = C_1 \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{4}$$

where  $C_1 = \overline{C}_1$  and  $C_2 = \chi^{1-c} \cdot \overline{C}_1$  are new arbitrary constants.

COMPUTATIONAL SCHEME OF THE METHOD OF LINES FOR THE ROD WITH VARIABLE CROSS-SECTION

Let us return to equation (1) and rewrite it as follows:

Next we divide the rod in N+1 equal intervals, so that  $x_0 = 0$ ,  $x_{N+1} = l$ , and compose an approximate finite difference scheme for x – differentiation at an arbitrary inner point  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ :

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \approx \frac{u_{k+1} - u_{k-1}}{2 \cdot \Delta x},$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \approx \frac{u_{k-1} - 2 u_{k+1} + u_{k+1}}{\Delta x}$$
(17)

where  $\Delta x = \frac{l}{N+1}$  is length of the intervals of the rod.

Substituting (17) in (16) and regrouping terms we obtain the system of N ordinary differential equations:

where 
$$J_k^{(1)} = \frac{\eta^2 \cdot dI_k}{2 \cdot S_k \cdot \Delta x}$$
,  $J_k^{(2)} = \frac{\eta^2 \cdot I_k}{S_k \cdot \Delta x^2}$ ,  $J_k^{(3)} = \frac{E \cdot dS_k}{2 \cdot \rho \cdot S_k \cdot \Delta x}$ 

$$J_{k}^{(4)} = \frac{E}{\rho \cdot \Delta x^{2}}, \quad \mathcal{S}_{k} = \mathcal{S}(x_{k}), \quad I_{k} = I_{p}(x_{k}), \quad d\mathcal{S}_{k} = \frac{d\mathcal{S}(x)}{dx} \bigg|_{x = x_{k}}$$

$$dI_{k} = \frac{dI_{p}(x)}{dx} \bigg|_{x = x_{k}} \quad \text{and} \quad f_{k}(t) = \frac{1}{\rho \mathcal{S}_{k}} H(t, x_{k}).$$

For the conical rod the pole of the cone),

$$J_{k}^{(4)} = \frac{E}{\rho \cdot \Delta x^{2}}$$

For the exponential rod  $S = ke^{-k}$ ,  $I_{k} = \mathcal{F}_{k}^{*}$ ,  $I_{k} = \mathcal{F}_{k}^{*} = \frac{\partial^{2} \mathcal{R} \cdot \partial^{2} \mathcal{R}}{\Delta x}$ ,  $J_{k}^{(3)} = \frac{7 \cdot k^{2} \cdot e^{2\alpha x_{k}}}{2 \cdot \Delta x^{2}} \quad J_{k}^{(3)} = \frac{E \cdot \alpha}{\rho \cdot \Delta x} \quad J_{k}^{(4)} = \frac{E}{\rho \cdot \Delta x^{2}}$ 

Unknowns u=(t,0) and u=(t,1) are defined from the boundary conditions. For example, for fixed ends  $u_{\text{AH}} = \underbrace{\left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|_{x=0}}_{\text{and}} = \underbrace{\left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|_{x=0}}_{\text{and}} = 0$ . Derivatives at the end points are approximated as follows [4, 5]:

$$\frac{\partial t}{\partial t_{x+0}} \approx \frac{3t+4t-it}{2\Delta x} \frac{\partial t}{\partial t_{x+1}} \approx \frac{2\Delta x}{2\Delta x}$$
(19)

and hence, for free boundary conditions where  $J_k^{(1)} = \frac{\eta^2 \cdot dI_k}{2 \cdot S_k \cdot \Delta x}$ ,  $J_k^{(2)} = \frac{\eta^2 \cdot I_k}{S_k \cdot \Delta x^2}$ ,  $J_k^{(3)} = \frac{E \cdot dS_k}{2 \cdot \rho \cdot S_k \cdot \Delta x}$ , where  $J_k^{(4)} = \frac{E}{\rho \cdot \Delta x^2}$ ,  $J_k^{(2)} = \frac{\eta^2 \cdot I_k}{S_k \cdot \Delta x^2}$ ,  $J_k^{(3)} = \frac{E \cdot dS_k}{2 \cdot \rho \cdot S_k \cdot \Delta x}$ ,  $J_k^{(4)} = \frac{E}{\rho \cdot \Delta x^2}$ ,  $J_k^{(4)} = \frac{E}{\rho \cdot \Delta x^2}$ ,  $J_k^{(4)} = \frac{dS_k}{dx}$ , and hence,  $J_k^{(4)} = \frac{dJ_k}{dx}$ , and hence,  $J_k^{(4)} = \frac{dJ_k}{dx}$ , and  $J_k^{(4)} = \frac{dJ_k}{dx}$ , and hence,  $J_k^{(4)} = \frac{dJ_k}{dx}$ , and hence,  $J_k^{(4)} = \frac{dJ_k}{dx}$ , and hence,  $J_k^{(4)} = \frac{dJ_k}{dx}$ , and  $J_k^{(4)} = \frac{dJ_k}{dx}$ , and J). For different boundary conditions the corresponding values  $\mathbf{I}_{+}$ ,  $\mathbf{I}_{N+1}$  and  $\mathbf{I}_{-}$ ,  $\mathbf{I}_{N+1}$  could be estimated similarly.

### **EXAMPLES**

For the conical Rayleigh-Love rod with fixed ends we obtain the following characteristic system of equations (see (8)):

$$D(\omega) = \det \begin{bmatrix} P_{\sigma} \left[ \frac{\eta k \omega}{\sigma \sqrt{2}} x_{p} \right] & Q_{\sigma} \left[ \frac{\eta k \omega}{\sigma \sqrt{2}} x_{p} \right] \\ \left( -x_{p} \right) & \left( -x_{p} \right) \\ P_{\sigma} \left[ \frac{\eta k \omega}{\sigma \sqrt{2}} (l - x_{p}) \right] & Q_{\sigma} \left[ \frac{\eta k \omega}{\sigma \sqrt{2}} (l - x_{p}) \right] \\ \left( l - x_{p} \right) & \left( l - x_{p} \right) \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$(20)$$

From this equation we calculate eigenvalues and eigenfunctions:

Let us consider the conical rod with slope k=0.1. Its left end is fixed and located at  $x_0 = 0$  m, right end is also fixed and located at  $x_{NA1} = 1$ m. The pole of the rod is located at  $x_p = -0.5$  m. Modulus of elasticity of the rod is  $x_p = -0.5$  m. Modulus of elasticity of the rod is  $x_p = 0.35$  m. Modulus of elasticity of the rod is  $x_p = 0.35$  m. Modulus of elasticity of the rod is  $x_p = 0.35$  m. Modulus of elasticity of the rod is  $x_p = 0.35$  m. Modulus of elasticity of the rod is located at  $x_p = 0.35$  m. Modulus of elasticity of the rod is located at  $x_p = 0.35$  m. Modulus of elasticity of the rod is located at  $x_p = 0.35$  m. Modulus of elasticity of the rod is located at  $x_p = 0.35$  m. Modulus of elasticity of the rod is  $x_p = 0.35$  m.

value is very close to integer value  $\sigma$  , which substantially simplified calculations of the Legendre functions  $P_{\sigma}(z)$  and  $Q_{\sigma}(z)$ ). Simulation of the problem was performed in MATHCAD14 which has the built-in function  $P_{\sigma}(z)$  with integer  $\sigma$ . Function  $P_{\sigma}(z)$  with integer  $\sigma$  calculated as follows [4, 5]:

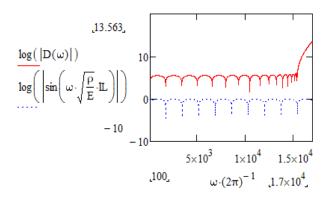


Figure 1. Eigenvalues of the Rayleigh Love (solid red line) and classical (dotted blue line) conical rods.



Distribution of eigenvalues of the problem (equation (20)) is shown in Fig. 1 (solid line) where it is compared with the eigenvalues distribution of the rod with the same geometric and physical properties but considered in the frames of the classical theory (dotted line).

One can see that eigenvalues of the conical rod calculated according to the Rayleigh-Love theory are lower than the corresponding eigenvalues calculated according to the classical theory. Furthermore the eigenvalues considered in the frames

of the Rayleigh-Love theory have the limiting point which in this case is approximately equal to 15.438 kHz. First two eigenvalues of the Rayleigh-Love conical rod are approximately equal to the corresponding eigenvalues of the classical rod. First five eigenvalues of the Rayleigh-Love conical rod are (in the brackets we give corresponding eigenvalues of the classical conical rod):  $f_1$ =1.709 kHz (1.715 kHz),  $f_2$ =3388 kHz (3.430 kHz),  $f_3$ =5008 kHz (5.145 kHz),  $f_4$ =6546 kHz (6.860 kHz), ),  $f_4$ =7.981 kHz (8.575 kHz). Eigenfunctions corresponding to the first five eigenvalues are shown in Fig. 2. These eigenfunctions were plotted using exact solution (8).

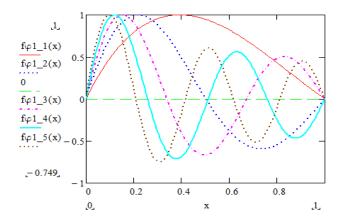
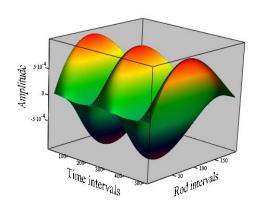


Figure 2. First five eigenfunctions of the Rayleigh-Love conical rod.

#### Surface Plot of Rod' Vibration



U

Figure 3. Free vibrations of the Rayleigh-Love conical rod at the first mode.

Let us consider free vibrations of the Rayleigh-Love conical rod at F(x,t)=0, corresponding to initial conditions

 $\frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = 0$ 

performed by means of expressions (20) - (21) and by means of the method of lines in which the conical rod was divided in equal intervals and numerical integration of the system of ordinary differential equations was performed by the Adams-backward differentiation formula method with tolerance  $10^{-15}$ . All solutions gave the similar results which are shown in Fig. 3 – 7. In Fig. 3 we assumed that initial condition is proportional to the first eigenfunction

(see Fig. 2), the time integration was performed in interval  $T_1 = \frac{2\pi}{\omega_1}$  seconds, where and  $T_1 = \frac{2\pi}{\omega_1}$  is the first eigenvalue.

Surface Plot of Rod' Vibration

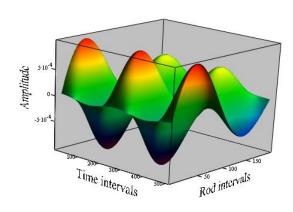


Figure 4. Free vibrations of the Rayleigh-Love conical rod at the second mode.

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Surface Plot of Rod' Vibration

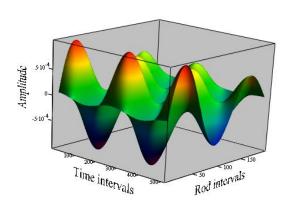


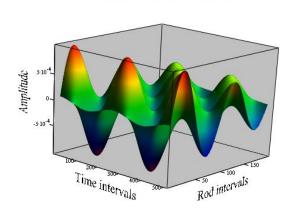
Figure 5. Free vibrations of the Rayleigh-Love

conical rod at the third mode.

Time interval  $2 \cdot T_1$  is subdivided into 1000 subintervals. The Fourier analysis of the time realization shown that absolute difference between the exact eigenvalue and eigenvalue calculated by the method of lines is  $\mathcal{A} = 000$  Hz which corresponds to . For intervals the results of solution of the system of  $\mathcal{A} = 000$  ordinary differential equation are  $\mathcal{A} = 000$  Hz and . In Fig. 4 the initial condition were taken proportional to the second eigenfunction  $\mathcal{A} = 000$  (Fig. 2), the time integration was performed

in interval seconds, where  $T_2 = \frac{2\pi}{\omega_2}$  and 0 is the second eigenvalue. Results of the Fourier analysis of the time realization shown that absolute

#### Surface Plot of Rod' Vibration



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Figure 6. Free vibrations of the Rayleigh-Love conical rod at the fourth mode.

#### Surface Plot of Rod' Vibration

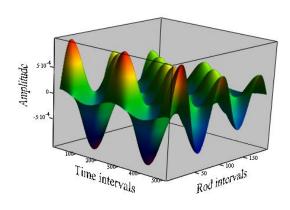


Figure 7. Free vibrations of the Rayleigh-Love conical rod at the fourth mode.

difference between the exact eigenvalue and eigenvalue

U

calculated by the method of lines is 452 = 0.54 Hz which corresponds to intervals the results of solution of the system of N=200 ordinary differential equation are 452=0135 Hz and . In Fig. 5 the initial condition were taken proportional to the second eigenfunction (Fig. 2), the time integration was performed in the time interval telozistics seconds, where and <sup>0</sup> is the third eigenvalue. Results of the Fourier analysis of the time realization shown that absolute difference between the exact eigenvalue and eigenvalue calculated by the method of lines is  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{1.75}$  Hz which corresponds to For NEC intervals the results of solution of the system of N=30 ordinary differential equation are Hz and . In Fig. 6 the initial condition were taken proportional to the second eigenfunction (Fig. 2), the time integration was performed in the time interval teleparty seconds, where and 0 is the fourth eigenvalue. Results of the

Fourier analysis of the time realization shown that absolute difference between the exact eigenvalue and eigenvalue calculated by the method of lines is 4 = 392 Hz which corresponds to intervals the results of solution of the system of N=200 ordinary differential equation are 45 Hz and In Fig. 7 the initial condition were taken proportional to the second eigenfunction (see Fig. 2), the time integration was performed in the time interval teleparty seconds, where and  $^{\emptyset}$  is the fifth eigenvalue. Results of the Fourier analysis of the time realization shown that absolute difference between the exact eigenvalue and eigenvalue calculated by the method of lines is 45 = 7.15 Hz which corresponds to intervals the results of solution of the system of N=30 ordinary differential equation are 45=1.77 Hz and 

One can see that the results of numerical simulation by the method of lines are very close to the theoretically predicted results. Accuracy of estimations is increasing with increasing of the number of intervals of the rod's length. Hence, we can conclude that the method of line is a reliable numerical method of simulation of partial differential equations with mixed time-spatial derivatives.

# **CONCLUSIONS**

Two exact solutions of equations of motion were derived for the case of longitudinal vibrations of the Rayleigh-Love rod. The first exact solution was obtained for the conical rod and expressed in the Legendre functions. The second exact solution was obtained for the exponential rod and expressed in the Gauss hypergeometric functions. The general solutions of the problem are formulated in terms of two alternative Green functions. The computational scheme of the method of lines was formulated for the case of the Rayleigh-Love rod with

variable cross-section. Solutions obtained using the method of lines for the conical rod are compared with the exact solutions of the problem. It was shown that the method of lines produces results which are very close to the corresponding exact solutions. It was also shown that the accuracy of the method of lines is increasing with increasing of number of intervals on the rod. The conclusion was formulated that the method of lines generates reliable and accurate results for partial differential equations with mixed time-spatial derivatives.

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