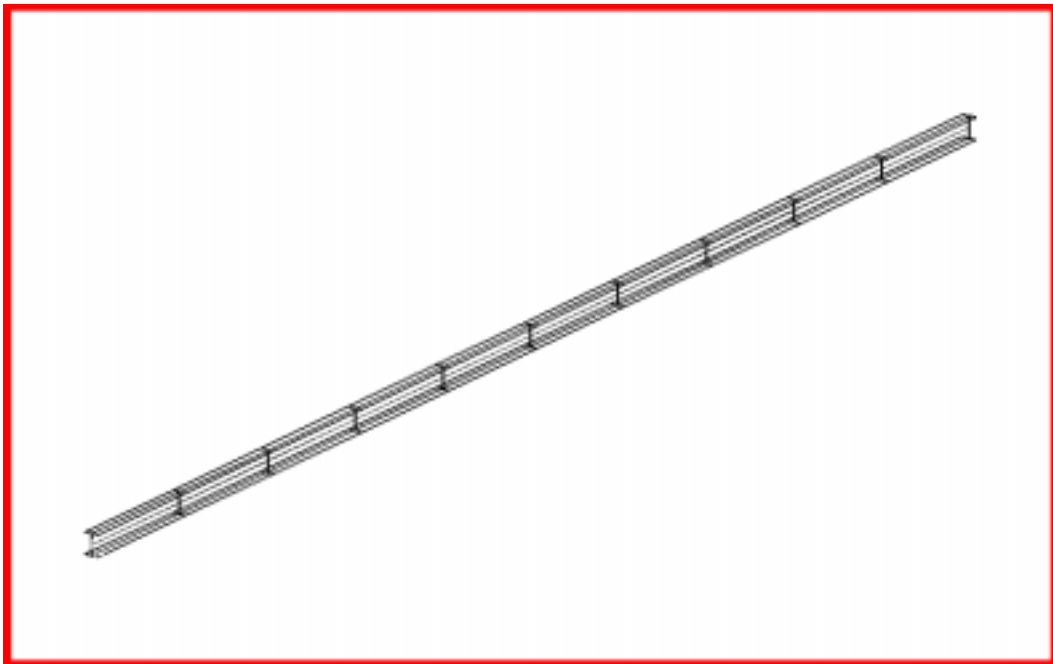


---

## APPENDIX A

# *Modal Analysis of a Beam (SI Units)*



### Objectives

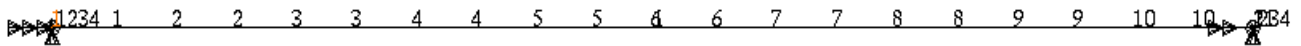
- Perform normal modes analysis of a cantilever beam.
- Submit the file for analysis in MSC/NASTRAN.
- Find the first three natural frequencies and mode shapes of the beam.



**Model Description:**

The goal of this example is to find the first 3 modes of a beam pinned at both ends.

Figure A-a.1 below is a finite element representation of the beam. One end is constrained in all translations and the other is free to move in the X. Both ends are held in the X-rotation.

**Figure A-a.1**Grid Coordinates and Element Connectivities

---

**Table A-a.1**

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Length</b>          | <b><math>1.0 \times 10^3</math> mm</b>                                     |
| <b>Elastic Modulus</b> | <b><math>2.0684 \times 10^5</math> MPa</b>                                 |
| <b>Density</b>         | <b><math>7.8334 \times 10^{-9}</math> N-sec<sup>2</sup>/mm<sup>4</sup></b> |
| <b>Poisson's Ratio</b> | <b>0.32</b>  |
| <b>Area</b>            | <b><math>5 \times 10^3</math> mm<sup>2</sup></b>                           |
| <b>I<sub>1</sub></b>   | <b><math>1.0417 \times 10^6</math> mm<sup>4</sup></b>                      |

Hand Calculations

$$f_n = \frac{K_n}{2\pi} \left[ \frac{EIg}{Wl^4} \right]^{1/2}$$

$$f_n = K_n \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[ \frac{2.0684 \times 10^5 (1.0417 \times 10^6)}{7.8334 \times 10^{-9} (5 \times 10^3) (1.0 \times 10^3)^4} \right]^{1/2} \right)$$

$$f_n = K_n(11.805)$$

From Theory

| Mode     | <b>K<sub>n</sub></b> | <b>f<sub>n</sub></b> |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>9.87</b>          | <b>116.51 Hz</b>     |
| <b>2</b> | <b>39.5</b>          | <b>466.28 Hz</b>     |
| <b>3</b> | <b>88.8</b>          | <b>1048.28 Hz</b>    |

---

## Exercise Procedure:

1. Start up MSC/NASTRAN for Windows 3.0 and begin to create a new model.

Double click on the icon labeled MSC/NASTRAN for Windows V3.0 Model.

On the *Open Model File* form, select **New Model**.

*Open Model File:*

2. Create a material called **mat**.

From the pulldown menu, select **Model/Material**.

**Model/Material...**

*Title:*

*Youngs Modulus:*

*Poisson's Ratio:*

*Mass Density:*

3. Create a property called **bar** to apply to the members of the beam.

From the pulldown menu, select **Model/Property**.

**Model/Property...**

*Title:*

To select the material, click on the list icon next to the databox and select **mat**.

*Material:*

Change the property type from plate elements (default) to bar elements. The reason why we model it as a bar instead of a beam is because this problem focus on a simple beam.

*Line Element:*  **Bar**

**OK**

Area, A:

**5e3**Moment of Inertia, I<sub>I</sub>:**1.0417e6****OK****Cancel**

4. Create the necessary NASTRAN geometry.

**Mesh/Between...**

Property:

**1..bar**

Mesh Size/ #Nodes:

**11****OK**

|           | X:       | Y:       | Z:       |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Corner 1: | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |

**OK**

|           | X:          | Y:       | Z:       |
|-----------|-------------|----------|----------|
| Corner 2: | <b>1000</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |

**OK**

Now, specify the orientation vector for the bar elements.

|       | X:       | Y:       | Z:       |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|
| Base: | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |
| Tip:  | <b>0</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>0</b> |

**OK**

To fit the display onto the screen, use the Autoscale feature.

**View/Autoscale**

---

5. Create the model constraints.

Before creating the appropriate constraints, a constraint set needs to be created. Do so by performing the following:

**Model/Constraint/Set...**

*Title:*

**constraint**

**OK**

Now define the left end of the model.

**Model/Constraint/Nodal...**

Select **Node 1**.

**OK**

On the *DOF* box, select these boxes.

**TX**  **TY**  **TZ**

**RX**

**OK**

Next, define the right end of the model.

Select **Node 11**.

**OK**

On the *DOF* box, select these boxes.

**TY**  **TZ**

**RX**

**OK**

Finally, define the permanent constraints of the model.

**Select All**

**OK**



On the *DOF* box, select these boxes.

TZ

RX  RY

**OK**

A warning messaging will appear: “Selected Constraints Already Exist. OK to Overwrite (No = Combine)?” Select **No** to combine.

**No**

**Cancel**

6. Now create and submit the analysis file.

**File/Export/Analysis Model...**

*Type:*

**2..Normal Modes/Eigenvalue**

**OK**

Change the directory to **C:\temp**.

*File name:*

**appenA**

**Write**

**Run Analysis**

**Advanced...**

*Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors/  
Number Desired:*

**3**

*Mass:*

**Coupled**

**OK**

*Problem ID:*

**Modal Analysis of a Beam**

**OK**

Under *Output Requests*, unselect all except:

**Displacement**

---

|    |
|----|
| OK |
| OK |

When asked if you wish to save the model, respond **Yes**.

|     |
|-----|
| Yes |
|-----|

*File name:*

|        |
|--------|
| appenA |
|--------|

|      |
|------|
| Save |
|------|

When the MSC/NASTRAN manager is through running, MSC/NASTRAN will be restored on your screen, and the *Message Review* form will appear. To read the messages, you could select **Show Details**. Since the analysis ran smoothly, we will not bother with the details this time.

|          |
|----------|
| Continue |
|----------|

7. List the results of the analysis.

To list the results, select the following:

**List/Output/Query...**

Under *the Output Set* pull down menu, what are the first three modes?

1st = \_\_\_\_\_ Hz

2nd = \_\_\_\_\_ Hz

3rd = \_\_\_\_\_ Hz

The answer is listed at the end of the exercise. Hit Cancel when you are done.

|        |
|--------|
| Cancel |
|--------|

8. Display the deformed plot on the screen.

Finally, you may now display the deformed plot. First, however, you may want to remove the labels and load and boundary constraint markers.

**View/Options...**

**Quick Options...**

**Labels Off**

**Constraint**

**Done**

**OK**

Plot the deformation of the beam.

**View/Select...**

*Deformed Style:*

**Deform**

**Deformed and Contour Data...**

From the *Output Set* pull down menu, select a mode case.

*Output Vectors/Deformation:*

**1..Total Translation**

**OK**

**OK**

When finished, reset the display then exit MSC/NASTRAN for Windows.

**View/Select...**

*Deformed Style:*

**Non-Model Only**

**OK**

**File/Exit**

This concludes this exercise.



|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| <i>Mode 3</i> | 1049.14 Hz |
| <i>Mode 2</i> | 466.09 Hz  |
| <i>Mode 1</i> | 116.51 Hz  |