DYNAMICS OF DEFORMABLE MULTIBODY SYSTEMS

By

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Abstract

This thesis presents an investigation of the nonlinear dynamics of arbitrary deformable multibody systems that undergo large translation and rotation movements and small elastic deformations. The objective of this study is to develop an accurate and efficient modeling method to meet the requirements in system design and control.

A general implicit formulation based on the joint coordinate method for arbitrary tree or closed-loop deformable multibody systems (MBS) is developed by defining a new topological matrix. The newly-developed formulation and code have been verified numerically by investigating the total energies and strain energies of two different conservative rigid-flexible systems. The absolute error of the total energy should be several orders smaller than the strain energy to ensure the validity of the small elastic deformations. An experiment study on the dynamic responses of a 3-D test rig with both joint and link flexibility was conducted to verify the simulations. The results of the simulation and experiment show good agreement in both the time and frequency domains.

A simulation comparison amongst the joint coordinate method, Order N method and absolute coordinate method was performed. It was shown that the Order N formulation method may induce chaotic behavior in nonchaotic systems due to the propagation and enlargement of numerical errors. The commercial software ADAMS was used as a representative of the absolute coordinate method. The results demonstrate that the newlydeveloped implicit formulation has some advantages compared with other methods.

Two geometrical nonlinear effects are discussed in this thesis. The simulation and experimental results of the test rig show that the formulation including the foreshortening effect overestimates the nonlinearity. The thesis also presents simulations of modal expression, nonlinear coupling effects and chaos.

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Nomenclature

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a_{j}	acceleration vector of a point on body j
$(a_x, a_y, a_z)^{ij}, (b_x, b_y, b_z)^{ij}$	node coordinates of element <i>j</i> referred to the <i>i</i> th body
	coordinate system
A^i	rotation transformation matrix of <i>i</i> th body
B, B	global velocity and acceleration transformation matrices
B_1^{ij}	transformation matrix represents the connectivity of
	element j of body i
B_2^i	transformation matrix of body i expressing the boundary
	conditions
B_m^i	the modal matrix of the <i>i</i> th body
[<i>C</i>]	damping matrix
$C, D, E, U, \dot{C}, \dot{D}, \dot{E}, \dot{U}$	matrices defined in equation (2.137)
C^{ij},\overline{C}^{ij}	transformation matrices between the <i>j</i> th intermediate element
	coordinate system and the <i>i</i> th body coordinate system
C_d	the viscous damping matrix of the system
$D^{i < j >}$	spatial differential operator
$E^{i < j >}$	elastic coefficient matrix
F_c^i	conservative force vector of the body <i>i</i>
F_l	the <i>l</i> th generalized active force
F_l^*	the <i>l</i> th generalized inertia force
$G^i, \overline{G}^i, \widehat{G}^i$	transformation matrices associated with generalized orientation
	vector ϕ
H_{ij},\dot{H}_{ij}	component block matrices of B and \dot{B}
Ι	identity matrix

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$I^{ij}_arsigma$, I^{ij}_η , I^{ij}_{\etaarsigma}	moment of inertia matrices of the <i>j</i> th unit length element of body
	<i>i</i> with respect to the element coordinate system
$ar{I}^{i < j >}_{\phi \phi}$	moment of inertia matrix (of element j) of body i referred to
	the body coordinate system
$ar{I}_{arphi^{f}}^{i< j>}$	inertia coefficient matrix due to elastic deformation
$J_{n-1}, J_{n0}, J_{(n-1)n}$	component velocity transformation matrices of B ,
	defined in equation (2.164), (2.152), (2.165)
$K_f^{i< j>}$	the stiffness matrix (of the <i>j</i> element) of the <i>i</i> th body with
	respect to the global inertia frame
\overline{K}_{f}^{ij}	element stiffness matrix with respect to the element coordinate
	system
K_{t}	the torsional stiffness matrix of the system
$\overline{K}_{ga},\overline{K}_{gf}$	the nonlinear stiffness matrices due to axial forces
	and foreshortening
l ^{ij}	and foreshortening length of element <i>j</i> of body <i>i</i>
l ^{ij} L ⁱ	·
	length of element <i>j</i> of body <i>i</i>
L ⁱ	length of element <i>j</i> of body <i>i</i> Lagrangian of the <i>i</i> th body
L^i $M, M^{i < j > j}$	length of element <i>j</i> of body <i>i</i> Lagrangian of the <i>i</i> th body inertia matrices of the whole system and (of the <i>j</i> th element)
L^i $M, M^{i < j >}$	length of element <i>j</i> of body <i>i</i> Lagrangian of the <i>i</i> th body inertia matrices of the whole system and (of the <i>j</i> th element) of the <i>i</i> th body
L^{i} $M, M^{i < j >}$ M	length of element <i>j</i> of body <i>i</i> Lagrangian of the <i>i</i> th body inertia matrices of the whole system and (of the <i>j</i> th element) of the <i>i</i> th body inertia mass of a point on body <i>j</i>
L^{i} $M, M^{i < j >}$ m_{j} $m_{rr}^{i < j >}, m_{r\phi}^{i < j >}, m_{rf}^{i < j >}$	length of element <i>j</i> of body <i>i</i> Lagrangian of the <i>i</i> th body inertia matrices of the whole system and (of the <i>j</i> th element) of the <i>i</i> th body inertia mass of a point on body <i>j</i> component inertia matrices of the matrix $M^{i < j >}$
L^{i} $M, M^{i < j >}$ m_{j} $m_{rr}^{i < j >}, m_{r\phi}^{i < j >}, m_{rf}^{i < j >}$ $m_{\phi\phi}^{i < j >}, m_{\phi f}^{i < j >}, m_{ff}^{i < j >}$	length of element <i>j</i> of body <i>i</i> Lagrangian of the <i>i</i> th body inertia matrices of the whole system and (of the <i>j</i> th element) of the <i>i</i> th body inertia mass of a point on body <i>j</i> component inertia matrices of the matrix $M^{i < j >}$ component inertia matrices of the matrix $M^{i < j >}$
L^{i} $M, M^{i < j >}$ m_{j} $m_{rr}^{i < j >}, m_{r\phi}^{i < j >}, m_{rf}^{i < j >}$ $m_{\phi\phi}^{i < j >}, m_{\phi f}^{i < j >}, m_{ff}^{i < j >}$ $M_{11}(q), M_{12}(q)$	length of element j of body i Lagrangian of the i th body inertia matrices of the whole system and (of the j th element) of the i th body inertia mass of a point on body j component inertia matrices of the matrix $M^{i < j >}$ component inertia matrices of the matrix $M^{i < j >}$ generalized inertia matrices
L^{i} $M, M^{i < j >}$ m_{j} $m_{rr}^{i < j >}, m_{r\phi}^{i < j >}, m_{rf}^{i < j >}$ $m_{\phi\phi}^{i < j >}, m_{\phi f}^{i < j >}, m_{ff}^{i < j >}$ $M_{11}(q), M_{12}(q)$ $M_{21}(q), M_{22}(q)$	length of element j of body i Lagrangian of the i th body inertia matrices of the whole system and (of the j th element) of the i th body inertia mass of a point on body j component inertia matrices of the matrix $M^{i < j >}$ component inertia matrices of the matrix $M^{i < j >}$ generalized inertia matrices generalized inertia matrices
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$\widetilde{\overline{N}}_{i}^{i < j >}, \overline{N}^{i < j >}, \overline{N}_{0}^{i < j >}$	constant matrices with respect to the <i>i</i> th body coordinate
	system defined in equation (2.32) and (2.28)
$\overline{N}^{ij}_{\xi}, \overline{N}^{ij}_{\eta}, \overline{N}^{ij}_{\varsigma}$	constant matrices with respect to the <i>i</i> th body coordinate
	system defined in equations (2.49) - (2.51)
$P^{i < j >}, \dot{P}^{i < j >}$	position and velocity vectors of any point on body <i>i</i>
P_{j}	active force vector of a point on body j
$P\overline{S}_{p}^{i}$	constant matrix associated with the shape function of the <i>i</i> th
	body and the position vector of joint definition point p
q,q^i	independent generalized coordinate vectors of the total system
	and the ith body
q_f^i	independent elastic displacement or mode coordinate vector of
	body <i>i</i>
q^i_{fj}	the <i>j</i> th mode coordinate of body <i>i</i>
\overline{q}_{f}^{i}	nodal displacement vector of body i with respect to the body
	frame
q_f^{ij}	the <i>j</i> th element nodal displacement vector of body <i>i</i> referred to
	the body coordinate system
\overline{q}_{f}^{ij}	the <i>j</i> th element nodal displacement vector of body <i>i</i> referred to
	the intermediate element coordinate system
q^i_{fm}	generalized modal coordinates of the <i>i</i> th body
\mathcal{Q}_0^i	generalized nonconservative external force vector of body i
Q_c^i	generalized conservative force vector of body i
Q_{g}	generalized nonlinear force vector
Q_s^i	generalized elastic force vector of body i
$\mathcal{Q}^i_{ u}$	generalized centrifugal and coriolis force vector of body <i>i</i>
\mathcal{Q}_{η}^{ij} , $\mathcal{Q}_{arsigma}^{ij}$	mass moments of element j of the ith body

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$Q_1(q), Q_2(q)$	generalized force vectors
$\overline{S}^{i < j >}$	shape function (of element j) of body i with respect to the body
	coordinate frame
\overline{S}_{j}^{i}	the <i>j</i> th mode shape of body <i>i</i> with respect to the body frame
\widehat{S}^{ij}	the j th element shape function of body i referred to the element
	coordinate system
SS_{pq}^{ij}	constant matrix of element j of body i defined in equation (2.52)
T ⁱ	kinetic energy of the <i>i</i> th body
$\overline{u}^{i < j >}$	position vector of any point (on element j) of body i with
	respect to the body coordinate system under deformation
$\overline{u}_0^{i < j >}$	position vector of any point (on element j) of body i with
	respect to the body coordinate system under undeformation
$\overline{u}_{f}^{i < j >}$	elastic displacement vector of any point (on element j) of body i
	referred to the body coordinate system
u_o^i	position vector of the joint definition point o on body i with
	respect to the global inertia frame
u ₀₋ , u ₀₊	position vectors of the two joint definition points on one joint
	with respect to the global inertia frame
U_{ga} , U_{gf}	the strain energies due to axial forces and foreshortening
V ⁱ	potential energy of body i
v ^{i<j></j>}	volume (of element j) of body i
V_c^i, V_s^i	potential energy of conservative forces and strain forces
$V_h^{\ j}$	the h th translation or rotation axis vector on body j
v_j^{pi}	partial velocity
W ^{ij}	elastic displacement vector of any point on element j of body i
	with respect to the intermediate element frame

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<i>X</i> 1, <i>X</i> 2	nodal vectors of element j of body i referred to the body frame
Y, Y^i	absolute coordinate vectors of the total system and the <i>i</i> th body
<i>y</i> _j	the <i>j</i> th generalized speed
α	the stiffness proportional damping constant
β	the mass proportional damping constant
д	partial differential operator
γ ^j	relative translation displacement of body j
$\varepsilon^{i < j >}$	strain vector
θ_h^j	rotation angle about the h th joint rotation axis of body j
ϑ_R^k	elastic rotation angle of joint definition point R of body k
λ,μ	Lagrange multiplier vectors
ξ_{ij},η_{ij}	components of coefficient matrices defined in equation (2.133)
	and (2.134)
π_{ij}	component of the body path matrix of the system
$ ho^{i < j >} \sigma^{i < j >}$	mass density (of element j) of body i
	stress vector
Σ	summation
$ au_h^{\ j}$	translation displacement along the h th joint axis of body j
φ^{i}	generalized orientation coordinate vector of the <i>i</i> th body
$\phi^{j}, \alpha^{j}, \psi^{j}$	Euler angles of body j
$\mathbf{\Phi}^i_{m{Y}^i}$	constraint Jacobian matrix of body i
χ _{ik}	component of the joint path matrix of the system
$\omega^i, \overline{\omega}^i$	angular velocity vectors of the ith body referred to the inertia
	and the body frames, respectively
Ω^{j}	relative angular velocity of body j

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Superimposed Symbols

	differentiation with respect to time of a variable
~	the skew symmetric matrix of a vector

Right Superscripts

Τ	the transpose of a matrix or a vector
-1	the inverse of a matrix

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Motivation

In recent years, deformable multibody systems (DMBS) have been intensively studied as a result of growing needs for the design of high speed, lightweight, precision systems. Many mechanical and structural systems in the world, such as space structures, robots, vehicles, mechanisms and aircraft which undergo large translation and rotation displacements, are made massive in order to increase rigidity or are driven slowly so that dynamic flexibility is not significant. As a result, more power is needed to drive them and lower work efficiency is achieved. An example is the 15-meter long space shuttle remote manipulator system (SRMS) of NASA which is used in the assembly of space platforms and of large communication systems. It can only move slowly due to its low natural frequency [1]. The use of lightweight materials would reduce the driving power and increase the response speed. However, the lighter members are more flexible. From the design point of view, it is necessary to be able to accurately evaluate the elastic deformations due to large and fast rotational and translational motions of a multibody system.

Simulation is an important tool in mechanical design and in understanding the dynamic behavior of deformable MBS, which are represented by a number of rigid or flexible bodies connected by ideal joints and force elements. The time and money required to evaluate the dynamic responses by numerical modeling are orders of magnitude less than would be required for physical testing. However, some physical tests are still necessary to verify the simulation results to ensure that the numerical modeling is accurate and correct.

Research into the dynamics of deformable MBS plays a central role in both control and simulation. In order to help engineers to design better products and design efficiently, many

researchers continue to search for better ways to describe the dynamic behavior of deformable MBS in an accurate, efficient and simple form. The work presented in this thesis is a contribution to this effort.

1.2 Preliminary Remarks

Any solution scheme for obtaining the highly nonlinear dynamic response of a deformable MBS with complicated topology must incorporate three key procedures; describing the system, deriving the equations of motion and solving the equations.

1.2.1 System Description

Many multibody systems have tree-like structures. If the system graph has closed loops, as shown in Figure 1.1, a tree structure is made by cutting a joint in each independent closed loop. The resulting structure is called a spanning tree.

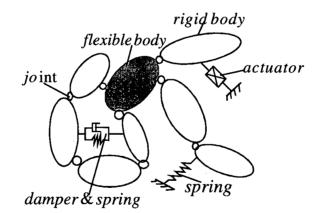


Figure 1.1 A closed-loop deformable multibody system

A methodology should be defined to describe the system topology of a spanning tree in terms of how the bodies and joints are connected with each other. Meanwhile, a set of generalized coordinates is used to express the motion of the rigid MBS. The generalized coordinates can be either absolute coordinates which represent absolute positions and velocities of each body in the system, or relative coordinates (or joint coordinates) which express positions and velocities of degrees-of-freedom of each joint in the system. The number of absolute coordinates is larger than the number of relative coordinates because relative coordinates are independent and represent degrees of freedom of a rigid body system. These two sets of generalized coordinates will induce different formulation methods. The same pair of approaches are used for deformable MBS with the addition of extra degrees of freedom to describe the deformations of the individual bodies. Those deformations can be described by the finite element method using nodal displacements and element shape functions or by the assumed vibration modes method using vibration modes and modal coordinates.

1.2.2 Equations of Motion

The derivation of equations of motion for a flexible MBS is very complicated due to the highly-nonlinear coupling. Although the dynamic principles used in developing MBS formulations are not new, the resulting equations have different forms depending on the system description method and the processing method. The point deserved to be noted is the solutions may be different although the same numerical method and dynamic principle are applied. The formulations can be distinguished by their explicit or implicit form. An explicit method creates equations of motion by explicitly solving some variables numerically and then substituting these solved variables to get equations for other variables.

Consider a nonlinear system being represented by the equations as follows:

$$M_{11}(q)\ddot{q}_1 + M_{12}(q)\ddot{q}_2 = Q_1(q)$$
(1.1)

$$M_{21}(q)\ddot{q}_1 + M_{22}(q)\ddot{q}_2 = Q_2(q) \tag{1.2}$$

where $M_{11}(q)$, $M_{12}(q)$, $M_{21}(q)$ and $M_{22}(q)$ are generalized inertial matrices. $Q_1(q)$ and $Q_2(q)$ are generalized force vectors. And $q = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \end{bmatrix}$ is a generalized displacement vector.

The explicit equations can be derived as:

$$\ddot{q}_{1} = \left[M_{11}(q) - M_{12}(q) M_{22}^{-1}(q) M_{21}(q) \right]^{-1} \left[Q_{1}(q) - M_{12}(q) M_{22}^{-1} Q_{2}(q) \right]$$

$$= M^{-1}(q) \left[Q_{1}(q) - M_{12}(q) M_{22}^{-1} Q_{2}(q) \right]$$
(1.3)

$$\ddot{q}_2 = M_{22}^{-1}(q) \left[Q_2(q) - M_{21}(q) \ddot{q}_1 \right]$$
(1.4)

The implicit equations are developed as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} M_{11}(q) & M_{12}(q) \\ M_{21}(q) & M_{22}(q) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{q}_1 \\ \ddot{q}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Q_1(q) \\ Q_2(q) \end{bmatrix}$$
(1.5)

The explicit and implicit equations are different. The explicit equations are heavily dependent on numerical calculation. The matrices $M^{-1}(q)$ and $M_{22}^{-1}(q)$ in the explicit equations have to be calculated numerically. Their numerical errors could be enlarged and propagated in equation (1.3) since $M_{12}(q)$ and $Q_2(q)$ are the multiplication factors which could be very large. The situation would deteriorate if there are several variables that depended on such recursive relationships or if one of those inverse matrices is ill-conditioned. In an explicit method, an assumption already has been made automatically in the formulation development. That assumption is that the explicitly-solved variables in the equation development are only related to the variables at the previous time step. In contrast, an implicit method builds up equations of motion exactly without intermediate variables being numerically solved. In other words, explicit formulations are approximate due to the dependence on numerical calculation in forming the equations. One question raised here is how much accuracy these equations represent and whether a correct solution can be obtained no matter what kinds of systems are being dealt with. A formulation for flexible MBS should have the following capabilities:

(1) Description of the dynamics of the individual bodies and of the interconnections between them should be straightforward.

(2) The approach should be easily extendible from tree to closed-loop systems.

(3) The results of the formulation should have high accuracy and stability independent of the system being modeled.

(4) The computational efficiency should be high and computer coding easily implemented.

(5) In the case of real time simulation for large scale systems, the formulation should be suitable for parallel computation.

1.2.3 Numerical Solution and Error

The numerical solution of a set of differential equations can use either an explicit or implicit integration solver. Explicit solvers, such as Runge-Kutta, generally require fewer evaluations of the differential equations per time step, but they are conditionally stable and therefore put limitations on the time step that can be used. For nonlinear problems, instabilities are harder to detect [2]. Implicit solvers, such as backward difference formulas (BDF) provide stable solutions independent of the step size, although they are more computationally-intensive per time step than explicit solvers. The time step can be much larger in implicit formulations than in the explicit formulations [2]. The selection of the particular time-history integration solver to be used is dependent on whether equations of motion are expressed explicitly or implicitly and the requirements of speed, accuracy and stability.

The explicit formulation method in MBS requires many inversions of matrices which are based on manipulation of results one by one. The numerical error of one matrix inversion is propagated and enlarged and may cause other matrices to become ill-conditioned or at least inaccurate. The major cause of ill-conditioning is the significant difference in the elements of the coefficient matrix. But ill-conditioning may also arise even when the physical system is stable because of the way the computer operates on the numbers [2]. The uncertain numerical errors (truncation error and rounding error) in the manipulations of numbers in inverse matrices may induce unpredictable responses.

1.2.4 Nonlinear Systems and Chaos

The irregular and unpredictable time evolution of many nonlinear systems is termed chaos. It occurs in mechanical oscillators such as pendula or vibrating objects as well as in other fields such as chemistry, celestial mechanics and electrical circuits [29-31]. Whenever dynamical chaos is found, it is accompanied by nonlinearity. The effect of a nonlinear term often results in a periodic solution unstable for certain parameter choices. Its central characteristic is that the system does not repeat its past behavior. The unique character of chaotic dynamics may be seen most clearly by imagining the system to be started twice, but from slightly different initial conditions. This small initial difference can be thought as resulting from measurement error or computation error. For nonchaotic systems this uncertainty leads only to an error in prediction that grows linearly with time. For chaotic systems, on the other hand, the error grows exponentially in time, so that the state of the system is essentially unknown after a very short time. The possibility of chaotic motion would exist when the first-order governing equations of a system have at least three variables and a nonlinear term [30]. For example, a forced vibration system might be modelled as [30]:

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + \gamma \frac{dy}{dt} + (y^3 - y) = \mu \sin t$$
(1.6)

where the constant coefficients γ, μ represent the dissipative effect and forced vibration magnitude, respectively. The three variables are

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = y \\ x_2 = \frac{dy}{dt} \\ x_3 = t \end{cases}$$
(1.7)

And there is a nonlinear term y^3 . Whether the motion is regular or chaotic depends on the choice of the parameters γ, μ . When $\gamma = 0.6, \mu = 10.0$, the responses y and \dot{y} both have periodic motions, shown in Figure 1.2. The chaotic motions, shown in Figure 1.3, will happen when $\gamma = 0.06, \mu = 10.0$.

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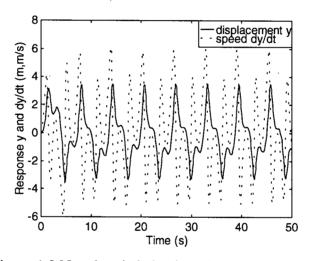


Figure 1.2 Nonchaotic behavior when $\gamma = 0.6$, $\mu = 10.0$

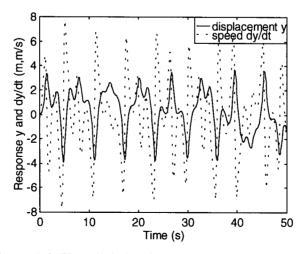


Figure 1.3 Chaotic behavior when $\gamma = 0.06, \mu = 10.0$

There is a high risk of chaotic motion in a deformable MBS since there are many variables and nonlinear terms in the equations of motion. Whether the motion is chaotic or nonchaotic depends on the values of the parameters of the systems. When the numerical errors are uncertainly enlarged due to improper formulation methods, the chaotic motion might be simulated even if the parameters of the system are in the range of nonchaotic motion. The examples given in Chapter Five will give a better demonstration for this.

1.3 Literature Review

In recent years, the issue of deformable MBS has been developing in a tremendous way. The derivation of equations of motion for flexible MBS has been presented in a variety of forms. The mathematical models of such systems have been formulated using generalized Newton-Euler equations, Kane's equation, Lagrange's equations and variation principles amongst others [3-4,11-12,15-18,20,24,62]. Mainly four formulation methods have been proposed to describe the complicated nonlinear coupling between the small elastic deformations and the large rotation and translation displacements. They are the Cartesian coordinate method [3-5,24], relative coordinate method [16-19], recursive or order n method [20,25-28], and joint coordinate method [36-38]. There are different methods to model the flexible bodies, such as lumped masses and springs, finite elements, assumed vibration modes, Rayleigh-Ritz and component mode synthesis [3,16-17,49,61]. The methods of lumped masses and springs and finite elements require a large amount of computation time. Using assumed vibration modes effectively reduces the distributed parameter system to a discrete system. However, the choice of vibration modes is not easy. Whalen [46] showed in an experiment that the vibration frequencies and modes change while the flexible body undergoes large rotation motion. Though the topology of deformable MBS can be very complicated with tree or closed-loop structures, many formulations only deal with some special systems such as chain structures or only consider single degree-of-freedom joints. There are only a few formulations in published papers which deal with spanning tree systems having different numbers of degrees of freedom of joints. Some popular programs for rigid MBS in recent years have been extended to include flexible bodies such as ADAMS and MADYMO. The influence of the small elastic deformations of a body to the large overall motion of the entire MBS is approximated or neglected [63]. Other software such as DISCOS and TREETOPS consider the nonlinear effect. In published papers, few articles demonstrate the validation, either coupling experimentally or numerically, of the software or formulations, especially for the small elastic deformations. Control experiments of the elastic bodies have been developed in a variety of methods [74-76]. But their dynamic models are not explicitly validated. The dynamic equations of the experimental models are mainly derived manually instead of using the formulations of MBS. Moreover, the dynamics of flexible MBS with variable kinematic structures has been studied for the cases where the constraints imposed on a MBS may change in the operating range and result in higher frequency vibration of a flexible structure [67-71]. Nonlinear elastic deformations of flexible structures (geometrical nonlinear) have drawn more and more attention due to the design requirement of high speed and heavy load [52-56]. Although all of these issues have been widely studied, disagreements still exist. The following detailed review, grouped by formulation methods, software, validation methods and geometrical nonlinear, explains why further research is necessary.

1.3.1 Formulation Methods

There are many forms of formulations for deformable MBS. They can generally be divided into four groups, depending on the coordinates used for describing the motions of the system and deriving the equations of motion.

1) Absolute Coordinate Method

The most straightforward approach is to formulate the equations of motion in terms of Cartesian coordinates and elastic coordinates [3-5]. In this formulation, the algebraic constraint equations that describe the mechanical joints are adjoined to the system differential equations of motion using the vector of Lagrange multipliers. This leads to a mixed system of differential and algebraic equations (DAE) requiring little effort to formulate. Some commercial software using this approach are ADAMS and DADS. The formulation can be obtained as:

$$\begin{cases} M\ddot{Y} + \left(\frac{\partial\Phi}{\partial Y}\right)^T \lambda = Q_e + Q_c + Q_v = Q\\ \Phi(t, Y) = 0 \end{cases}$$
(1.8)

where M is an inertia matrix composed of a number of block matrices in diagonal connection where each block represents the inertial matrix of one body. Q_e, Q_c, Q_v are the external applied force vector, conservative (gravity and elasticity) force vector and quadratic velocity (coriolis and centrifugal) force vector, respectively. Y is a displacement vector that includes position, rotation angle and elastic coordinates of each body. Φ is a joint constraint vector and λ is a Lagrange multiplier vector.

The equations of motion can be constructed in a systematic way, easily extended to closedloop systems and amenable to parallel computation. However, this approach leads to a large number of generalized coordinates, constraint equations and differential equations of motion. Therefore, the numerical computation is not efficient, although sparse techniques in matrix manipulation can be used. Also the relative coordinates are not readily available from the Cartesian coordinates since control variables are often relative coordinates (joint displacements or velocities) so that it is difficult to model coupled control and mechanical systems. Another disadvantage of this approach is that the resulting DAE can not be formulated properly as state space equations as are required by numerical solvers. Usually the second derivatives of the algebraic (constraint) equations rather than the algebraic equations themselves are used to construct the final state space equations. The procedure can be described as following:

Differentiation of the joint constraints yields: $\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y}\ddot{Y} = \Delta$ (1.9)

where
$$\Delta = -\frac{\partial \left(\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y}\dot{Y}\right)}{\partial Y}\dot{Y} - 2\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial Y \partial t}\dot{Y} - \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial t^2}$$

$$(1.10)$$

Substitute (1.9) into (1.8):
$$\begin{bmatrix} I & 0 & 0\\ 0 & M & \left(\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y}\right)^T\\ 0 & \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{Y}\\ \dot{Z}\\ \dot{\mu} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Z\\ Q\\ \Delta \end{bmatrix}$$
(1.11)
$$(1.11)$$

where
$$\begin{cases} \lambda = \mu \\ Z = \dot{Y} \end{cases}$$
(1.12)

The solution of such a set of state space equations often drifts away from its constraints [5,6]. Many techniques and methods have been developed to tackle this problem [5-8], for instance Baumgarte's stabilization method [8,9], the mass-orthogonal projection method [5,10-12] and the generalized coordinate partitioning method [5,13,14]. But the accuracy or computational efficiency of these methods are still under investigated. The method of Pradhan et al. [24] essentially belongs to this category although it is a variation on the absolute coordinate method. The absolute coordinates are transferred into a set of generalized coordinates through a velocity transformation. However, the number of the generalized coordinates is the same as the number of absolute coordinates. Lagrange multipliers are incorporated in the dynamic equations for uncut and cut joints.

2) Relative Coordinate Method

The Relative Coordinate Method, was first proposed by Thomas R. Kane [15] based on Kane's equations and was used in the dynamics of spacecraft as rigid MBS. This approach defined some scalars as generalized speeds. The angular and translational velocities of each body could be described by generalized speeds. Some vectors called partial angular and translational velocities were vector functions of the generalized coordinates and time, but not the generalized speeds. The generalized forces were obtained as projections of forces and moments onto the partial angular and translational velocity vectors. The final formulations were state space equations which were represented by generalized speeds. The typical commercial software is TREETOPS.

The procedure can be described as following:

The translational and angular velocities of body i can be expressed as:

$$V_{i} = \sum_{j=1}^{n} v_{j}^{pi} y_{j}$$
(1.13)

where n is the number of DOF of the system, y_j is a generalized speed and v_j^{pi} is a partial velocity.

Kane's equation:
$$F_l + F_l^* = 0$$
 $l = 1, \dots, n$ (1.14)

$$F_{l} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{b}} \int v_{l}^{pj} \cdot dP_{j}$$
(1.15)

$$F_{l}^{*} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{b}} \int \left[v_{l}^{pj} \cdot \left(-a_{j} dm_{j} \right) \right]$$
(1.16)

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} m_{lk} \dot{y}_{k} = Q_{l}(y_{k})$$
(1.17)

where N_b is the number of bodies, P_j, m_j, a_j are the active force vector, inertial mass and acceleration vector of a point on body j, respectively. F_l and F_l^* are the generalized active and inertial forces.

This approach leads to the smallest and most strongly coupled equations of motion. The advantage of using relative coordinates is that only independent variables are included in the final formulations of tree systems so that the equations can be solved efficiently. However, the derivation of the equations of motion is very complicated so that the procedure is very difficult to extend for closed-loop problems except if the constraint equations are kinetic rather than kinematic [18]. Unfortunately, joint constraints are usually kinematic. Also it is difficult to formulate forcing functions [34] and the method is not well suited to parallel computation.

The method later was extended to deformable MBS [16-19]. One technique used in this extension is to treat the flexible bodies as a number of rigid segments and springs [16,17] so that the formulations used in rigid MBS can be directly used without modification. The stiffnesses of the springs are evaluated by the material and the geometry of the deformable body. The other technique is to develop the equations from the beginning using shape functions to describe deformations [18,19]. Only chains with one DOF joints [19] or tree structure systems [18] have been considered due to the complicated coupling. Although Singh et al. [18] have developed kinetic equations for tree-structure systems, the calculation formulations for partial velocities are contradictory because the partial velocities in the beginning were defined as vectors but in the end they became scalars (formulation (26) and (28)). Also in the formulations of the partial velocities, only the deformation of one joint definition point on each body is considered. But the deformation effect of the other joint definition point is not included (equation (28)). These two joint definition points of a joint are the points that are placed on two adjacent bodies and idealized to represent the relative motion of the joint. The situation of only considering the deformation of one joint definition point is a special case, that is one of the boundary conditions of the deformable body is clamped. Moreover, the final dynamic equations in [18] can only be solved by implicit numerical integration since the generalized inertia and the generalized speed are coupled and can not be explicitly separated. The final kinetic equations can not easily to be used since the equations are expressed in vectors and dyadics. There were no simulation examples or validation of the formulations in [18].

3) Recursive or Order N Method

Another popular method is called the Order N (or recursive) method. Commercial software using this method include DISCOS and SIMPACK. Computational efficiency in MBS simulation is an important issue especially for large scale systems. The Order N method was proposed based on the requirement of minimizing computations. Initially, work on the Order N method dealt with rigid robot manipulators [20,21]. For an N-link chain configuration with simple revolute or prismatic joints, the total computational complexity of the joint space inertial matrix and its inverse matrix is $O(N^3)$ according to traditional algorithms. Therefore, the computation cost grows rapidly with N. The Order N method can formulate equations of motion in a way that the number of calculations per integration step increases only linearly with the number of bodies (or degrees of freedom of the system). Instead of inverting an N*N joint space inertial matrix, the Order N method inverts operational space inertial matrices which are always 6*6 for rigid MBS [22]. The comparison of the operation numbers for different recursive algorithms can be found in [22,23]. Based on this significant advantage in operations per integration step, many researchers have been trying to develop Order N (or recursive) formulations for deformable MBS [20, 25-28]. The main idea in the derivation of the Order N method for deformable MBS is to express the kinematic relations of each body one by one from the base body to each tip body and then explicitly solve joint variables and elastic variables by inverting the operational space inertial matrices one by one from each tip body to the base body. The formulations can be obtained as follows [20]:

The absolute velocity vector v_i of body i is related to the absolute velocity vector v_{i-1} of body i-1 and the relative vector v'_i of joint i by

$$v_i = R_{i,i-1}v_{i-1} + T_{ii}v_i' \tag{1.18}$$

Differentiation of the above equation yields $\dot{v}_i = R_{i,i-1}\dot{v}_{i-1} + T_{ii}\dot{v}'_i + b_i$ (1.19)

where
$$b_i = \dot{R}_{i,i-1} v_{i-1} + \dot{T}_{ii} v_i'$$
 (1.20)

The dynamic equations of the system can be obtained as:

$$T_D^T R^T M \dot{\nu} = T_D^T R^T f + T_D^T R^T f^{\Gamma}$$
(1.21)

where f, f^{Γ} represent generalized force vectors due to external forces, the quadratic velocity forces and constraint forces at the cut joints.

Equation (1.20) also can be written as $T_{ii}^T \sum R_{ji}^T M_j \dot{v}_j = T_{ii}^T f_i^* + T_{ii}^T \sum R_{ji}^T f_j^\Gamma$ (1.22) where $f^* = R^T f$ (1.23)

Starting with the final body, i = n, equations (1.19) and (1.22) are

$$\dot{v}_n = R_{n,n-1}\dot{v}_{n-1} + T_{nn}\dot{v}_n' + b_n \tag{1.24}$$

$$T_{nn}^{T}R_{nn}^{T}M_{n}\dot{v}_{n} = T_{nn}^{T}f_{n}^{*} + T_{nn}^{T}R_{nn}^{T}f_{n}^{\Gamma}$$
(1.25)

Substitute (1.24) into (1.25) and solve for \dot{v}'_n as a function of \dot{v}_{n-1} , then substitute this result into (1.24) to obtain an equation for \dot{v}_n as a function of \dot{v}_{n-1} . Thus equation (1.22) is reduced and will not include \dot{v}_n .

The operations are repeated next for the case i = n - 1. Lastly, the results are as follows:

$$\dot{v}'_{i} = A'_{i,i-1}\dot{v}_{i-1} + a'_{i} + N'_{ii}f_{i}^{\Gamma^{*}}$$
(1.26)

$$\dot{v}_i = A_{i,i-1}\dot{v}_{i-1} + a_i + N_{ii}f_i^{\Gamma^*}$$
(1.27)

where $A'_{i,i-1} = -N'_{ii}M^*_iR_{i,i-1}$ (1.28)

$$N'_{ii} = M'_{i}^{-1} T^{T}_{ii}$$
(1.29)

$$M_{i}' = T_{ii}^{T} M_{i}^{*} T_{ii}$$
(1.30)

$$M_{i}^{*} = M_{i} + \sum R_{ji}^{T} M_{j}^{*} A_{ji}$$
(1.31)

.

Though the equations of motion have been formulated using Newton-Euler equations, Lagrange's equations or variation principles, the Order N (or recursive) method is an explicit formulation method which builds up formulations with the help of numerical calculations. The numbers of numerical inversions of inertial matrices $(M_i^{\prime-1})$ may cause some of the matrices to become ill-conditioned which will significantly affect the accuracy of the solutions [2]. From a nonlinear dynamics point of view, chaotic behavior may be induced due to the illconditioning of some matrices [29-31]. Thus, this method may break down in the case of stiff systems, for instance, when dealing with flexible bodies and with control or contact problems [32]. Even if it produces a solution for a stiff system, the solution may not be reliable. Moreover, the explicit method is time step size dependent. Not only accuracy but also stability of the solution is influenced by the time step. The stability conditions can be detected for linear equations using explicit integration solvers. However, it is very difficult to predict stability conditions for such numerical calculation dependent formulations with large nonlinearities. Van Woerkom and Boer [25] have pointed out that the selection of time stepsize is of considerable importance. Although a comparison of operation counts for different formulation methods in rigid MBS shows that the Order N method has fewer operations per integration step, the calculation time in a time period may not be reduced since the time step must be very small for numerical stability. Also the extent of algorithms being applied in parallel computations is limited by the topology of the systems due to the recursive relationships of the bodies.

4) Joint Coordinate Method

A variation on the relative coordinate approach is called the joint coordinate method. The equations of motion for each body are first described in terms of Cartesian coordinates and Lagrange multipliers. The equations are then transformed to represent joint (or relative) coordinates using a global velocity transformation proposed by Jerkovsky [33] and developed

by Kim [34] and Pankiewicz [35]. The formulations in rigid MBS can be obtained as following:

Using Cartesian coordinates, build up the dynamic equations for each body:

$$M^{i}\ddot{Y}^{i} + \left(\frac{\partial\Phi}{\partial Y^{i}}\right)^{T}\lambda = Q_{e}^{i} + Q_{c}^{i} + Q_{v}^{i}$$
(1.32)

The dynamic equations of the system (as in the absolute coordinate method) can be written as:

$$M\ddot{Y} + \left(\frac{\partial\Phi}{\partial Y}\right)^T \lambda = Q_e + Q_c + Q_v \tag{1.33}$$

Define a global velocity transformation: $\dot{Y} = B\dot{q}$ (1.34) Differentiate equation (1.34) to yield $\ddot{Y} = B\ddot{q} + \dot{B}\dot{q}$ (1.35)

Multiply equation (1.33) by B^{T} and substitute equation (1.35) into equation (1.33), then

$$B^{T} M B \ddot{q} + \left(\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y}B\right)^{T} \lambda = B^{T} (Q_{e} + Q_{v} - M \dot{B} \dot{q})$$
(1.36)

For tree-configuration systems, $\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} B = 0$

Therefore equation (1.36) becomes

$$B^T M B \ddot{q} = B^T (Q_e + Q_c + Q_v - M \dot{B} \dot{q})$$
(1.37)

For closed-loop systems, the constraint equations of cut joints $\Phi^*(t, Y) = 0$

Therefore equation (1.36) becomes

$$B^{T} M B \ddot{q} + \left(\frac{\partial \Phi^{*}}{\partial Y} B\right)^{T} \lambda = B^{T} (Q_{e} + Q_{c} + Q_{v} - M \dot{B} \dot{q})$$
(1.38)

The global velocity transformation matrix B and its derivative matrix \dot{B} in a rigid MBS can be developed by two methods proposed by Kim [34] and Pankiewicz [35].

This formulation has some of the advantages of both the relative coordinate and absolute coordinate approaches. It is easy to formulate force elements and constraints for cut joints. The resulting differential equations for tree-structure systems are expressed in terms of a minimum number of variables. Kim demonstrated that this kind of formulation has very high computational efficiency [34]. Moreover, the structure of this formulation can be easily implemented in parallel computers and for closed loop systems. However, the necessary equations have only been developed for a rigid MBS. The coupling between large translation or rotation motions and small elastic motions in a deformable MBS makes the global velocity transformation very difficult to derive. Nikravesh and Ambrosio [36,37] have applied the joint coordinate method to formulate equations of rigid-flexible MBS. The flexible bodies were assumed to have rigid parts that flexible parts can be attached to. The analysis of a partially deformable body is initially approached by treating the rigid and flexible parts as separate bodies. Then the parts are connected by noting that points on the boundary of rigid and flexible parts have the same global displacements. Thus the velocity transformation formulations still can be used as in a rigid MBS. Although Pereira and Proenca [38] have said that it is possible to define a linear transformation between the vector of system generalized velocities and the time derivative of the vector of system relative coordinates, they never showed how it can be obtained. Instead, they only developed recursive velocity and acceleration relations. Thus, the most difficult problem in this approach for deformable MBS is still unsolved.

1.3.2 Software

General purpose MBS software has been developed in different ways and applied in different areas. Some programs are capable of efficiently analyzing large scale complex mechanical systems. For instance, ADAMS (Mechanical Dynamics, Michigan), DADS (University of Iowa), MADYMO (Netherlands) and SIMPACK (Germany) have become popular [39,40] for

dealing with rigid MBS. ADAMS and DADS use the absolute coordinate method to formulate equations of motion. They perform coordinate reduction by generalized coordinate partitioning which is not very efficient in computation. DADS applies four Euler parameters rather than three Euler angles as in ADAMS to describe the orientation of each body. MADYMO and SIMPACK both use the Order N formulation method. Although there have been some popular commercial programs capable of being applied to deformable MBS in recent years, the equations of motion are basically not from recently derived formulations but some assumptions are made in them. For example, a combination of explicit FEM commercial software such as PAM-CRASH or DYNA3D with rigid MBS commercial software such as MADYMO has been developed by the TNO Crash-Safety Research Centre to analyze vehicle occupant safety [41,42]. One method is to discretize flexible bodies as numbers of element nodes by commercial FEA software, then these nodes can be considered as a number of rigid bodies connected by force elements. The stiffness and damping matrices of these force elements are calculated by FEA software. ADAMS uses this method. Another method is to obtain the solution of a rigid MBS first assuming the forces coming from flexible bodies are known from the previous time step. Then the forces at the next time step are solved using explicit FEM software [41]. Not only are these approaches approximate but also the explicit FEM puts limitations on the time step that can be used. The typical time step is in the microsecond level [41]. Thus the computation efficiency is not high. Ho and Herber [43] described another method for dealing with small deformation. The solution of a rigid MBS is obtained first. when the distributed structural flexibilities are taken into consideration, the positions and orientations of the bodies must be perturbed slightly. This method is used in the program ALLFLEX. The programs DISCOS (Order n method) [64,65] and TREETOPS (relative coordinate method) [18] are mainly designed for deformable MBS. They both consider the nonlinear coupling between small deformation and the large rigid body motion.

1.3.3 Validation

Although many formulations for deformable MBS have been developed and published recently, very few of them are verified to be correct either by experiments or by theoretical calculation. Most of them only provide formulations and algorithms. Some of them do give simulation examples to test the formulations [13,19,44] but the correctness of the simulation cannot be judged because no comparison and verification are available. Validation on the basis of total energy balance has been pursued by Caron [28], Grewal [61] and Woerkom [25]. The judgment of correctness is based on whether the ratio of energy absolute error to total energy is small or not. The question raised here is whether this standard can be used for the indication of the validity of deformable MBS formulations or not. Generally, the strain energy in deformable bodies is very small compared to the other components of the total energy. In order to verify the small deformation as well as large translation and rotation displacement, the absolute error of total energy compared with strain energy rather than the ratio of energy absolute error to total energy could give a convincing indication. If the maximum strain energy is several orders of magnitude larger than the level of the maximum absolute error of the total energy, then the small deformable displacements can be trusted. Otherwise, the strain energy is no greater than the noise of numerical calculation and the results cannot be trusted.

Validation on the basis of experiments appears to be rather scarce in the published literature. Modal analysis has been used to identify experimentally vibration modes and frequencies at different angular positions to compare with calculation results [45,46,47]. Also, experiments based on flexible link control have been studied extensively [46-49]. The experimental methods using strain gauges have been introduced to measure the dynamic response of flexible links [50,51]. The dynamic modelling of an experimental rig in 2-D control studies mainly is usually developed manually. The developed formulations for a deformable MBS rarely is verified by experiments in published papers. Thompson and Sorge [62,73] showed experimental verification in 2-D. Nevertheless, the simulation results of derived formulations

for deformable 3-D MBS have not yet been found to be compared with experiments in the published papers to date. Chun, Turner and Frisch [66] designed an experimental validation of the DISCOS software to be carried out at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. A seven-link robot arm was to be tested. The links were rigid bodies. However, the use of an harmonic drive introduces nonlinear stiffness into the joint dynamics. Instead of modeling the harmonic drive flexibility as a nonlinear spring between two rigid bodies, they modelled the driven link and the harmonic drive as one flexible body with one elastic mode [66]. A comparison of the experiment results and simulation results has not been found in recently published papers.

1.3.4 Geometric Nonlinearities

The problem of geometric nonlinearity, another interesting topic in deformable MBS, has been drawing more and more attention recently due to large load and high speed inertia. Different methods have been proposed to tackle this problem accurately and efficiently [52-56,72]. Kane et al. [72] studied the behavior of a cantilever beam built into a rigid body that is performing a specified motion of rotation and translation. The effect of the transverse displacement on the axial displacement is incorporated in the kinematic description of the deformation. The stretch in the beam as well as the transverse displacements are considered as a set of generalized coordinates. Hanagud and Sarkar [52] did not treat the stretch as a generalized coordinate, instead they discretized the axial displacement. The nonlinear straindisplacement relations were then used to derive the equations. Some papers [54-56] use the nonlinear strain-displacement relations to derive a general formulation for a general deformable MBS. A survey and simulation comparison on this topic can be found in [53]. Sharf [53] presents a precise understanding of the existing methods and how they relate to each other through an in-depth review of some publications. The simulation results using different methods show that there are large differences amongst them. However, they have not been compared with any kind of experimental results. No detailed analysis has been made to explain the differences in simulation results. Shabana et al. [54] pointed out that the longitudinal displacement could occur due to two effects; one due to axial forces and the other due to the foreshortening effect as the transverse displacement causes an axial displacement. Most of the published papers [52-56] obtained strain energy with the nonlinear terms of third-order and fourth-order by retaining the nonlinear strain-displacement relation. This results in the controversy over which term can be neglected [54]. The disagreement on which formulation is accurate and efficient remains an open problem. The method using the nonlinear strain-displacement relation could lead to a misunderstanding of the geometrical nonlinear behavior, that is, geometrical nonlinear behavior is caused only by large deformations. However, in actuality geometric nonlinearity arise when deformations are large enough to significantly alter the way load is applied or the way load is resisted by the structure [2]. Large deformation is one important condition. The other important factor is the applied load or the structural constraint. Recognizing this point gives us a better understanding why geometrical nonlinear behavior occurs and which can be neglected for the third-order term or fourth-order term of strain energy.

1.4 Objective and Scope

Based on the above literature review, the objective of this thesis is to pursue an efficient and accurate simulation solution for an arbitrary deformable MBS to meet the simulation requirements in system design and control. This goal will be approached by exploiting the potential of dynamic formalism and numerical computation. Its implementation will be verified experimentally and theoretically. The specific steps to obtain the objective are described as follows:

1) To define a new topology description for an arbitrary deformable MBS to obtain a rigorous mathematic model; then using the joint coordinate method and the new topology description to develop a general implicit formulation which is accurate, efficient, simple

(straightforward), easy to use in closed-loop systems and with high potential for parallel computation. An important point is that the new formulation be stable and able to deal with any kind of stiff system.

2) To implement the implicit formulation as a general purpose program and verify it by numerical calculation. In this part, the verification standard is the combination of absolute error of total energy and strain energy. The simulation of different configurations of systems provides evidence that the software can deal with arbitrary deformable MBS.

3) To design a test rig and verify the software by comparing experiment results and simulation results. The large joint motions and the small elastic motion are measured and calculated. The joint motions simulated by ADAMS software are also compared with the experimental results.

4) To develop an explicit (or Order N) formulation and compare it with the developed implicit (joint coordinate method) formulation. Also the simulation results of the joint coordinate method and the absolute coordinate method (through ADAMS commercial software) are compared.

5) To investigate geometric nonlinear behavior by separating the two nonlinear effects caused by axial forces and foreshortening. To compare the simulation results of the test rig with the experiment results to demonstrate the effects of geometric nonlinear on a real system.

This thesis is composed of seven chapters. In Chapter 2, a detailed formulation development of the joint coordinate method for deformable MBS is presented. A new topology definition is introduced to meet the requirements of the joint coordinate method. Lagrange equations are applied to derive dynamic equations for each body independently. Then two methods are used to develop the global velocity transformation matrix and its derivative matrix. A treeconfiguration system is presented to show the structure of the transformation matrix. The advantages of this formulation are discussed in the end of this chapter.

Chapter 1. Introduction

Chapter 3 and Chapter 4 present the implementation and the validation of the formulation. Chapter 3 describes the capacities and the structure of the software. A two-link 3-D manipulator with one rigid link and one flexible link is used as a test example. The validation also includes using different numbers of elements for the flexible link. In order to show that the software is able to deal with different configuration systems, a three-link manipulator and an eight-link manipulator are tested. Also modal representation and the effect of small elastic deformations on the large rigid motion are investigated.

In Chapter 4, a test rig is described to verify the software experimentally. An overall description of the experimental method and devices is presented. The preliminary experiments which include calibration experiments of the sensors and the parameter identification experiments are discussed. The test rig is tested at two different initial conditions and the simulation results and experiment results are compared. Also the simulation results from ADAMS software are compared with the experiment results.

Chapter 5 involves the formulation comparison. First, an explicit formulation (Order N) is developed and implemented in software. The software is verified numerically using a rigid MBS. Then the simulation results of three approaches, joint coordinate method, Order N method and absolute coordinate method (ADAMS), are compared. The objective is to demonstrate the advantages of the joint coordinate method.

In Chapter 6, two geometric nonlinear effects are investigated and compared with the experiment results of the test rig. The purpose is to illustrate that geometric nonlinear modelling is not a purely mathematical issue. It depends on which geometric nonlinear effects dominate in real applications.

Finally, the conclusions and further research work are presented in Chapter 7.

Chapter 2

New Formulations for Deformable MBS

This chapter presents a detailed development of a general implicit formulation based on the joint coordinate method for deformable MBS. A new topological definition is introduced to describe a deformable system topology. Two methods are used to derive the global velocity transformation matrix and its derivative matrix. The derived new formulation has some advantages which are very important for the dynamic simulation of a complicated deformable multibody system.

2.1 Topological Description

Consider a deformable system of N_b bodies that are interconnected by joints with $1 \sim 6$ DOF as indicated on Figure 2.1.

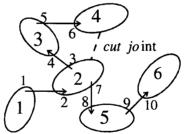


Figure 2.1 Topology of a Spanning Tree

If the system graph has closed loops, a tree structure is made by cutting a joint in each independent loop. The result structure becomes a spanning tree. A method has been reported by Kim and Vanderploeg [34] that selects cuts which minimize the number of generalized coordinates and differential and algebraic equations. A base body is defined as the body fixed to the ground for a grounded system or any of the bodies for a floating system. Let the bodies

of the spanning tree system be labeled from 1 to N_b , starting at the base body or "root" and ended up at tip bodies or "leaves". Then the body path matrix can be defined as [34]

$$\pi_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if body } j \text{ is between the base body and the ith body} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
(2.1)

Usually joints, simplified as two joint definition points connected by ideal joint axes, are also labeled in this way [24]. However, this description can not satisfy the requirement of the joint coordinate method, which needs to distinguish between the two joint definition points due to the possible deformation of one or both joint definition points. Thus, instead of labeling joints, joint definition points are labeled from 1 to N_j in the same numbering order (from root to leaves) and connection directions are described from lower numbered points to higher numbered points. This is the new definition (contribution) made for the requirement of joint coordinate method. Therefore, the joint path matrix is defined as

$$\chi_{ik} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the joint definition point k is directly on the path from the base body} \\ & \text{to the ith body and connects the higher numbered body} \\ -1 & \text{if the joint definition point k is directly on the path from the base body} \\ & \text{to the ith body and connects the lower numbered body} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
(2.2)

For example, the body path matrix and joint path matrix for the system in Figure 2.1 are

$\pi =$	[1	0	0	0	0	0]	۲I	l	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	1	l	0	0	0	0	$\chi = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\ 1\\ 1\\ 1\\ 1\\ 1\\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$	l	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	l	-1	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	
	- 1	1	1	1	0	0	$\chi = _1$	l	-1	1	-1	1	-1	0	0	0	
	1	1	0	0	1	0 1	1	l	-1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	
	[1	1	0	0	1	l	1	l	-1	0	0	0	0	1	-1	1	

The body path matrix and joint path matrix make the system topology unique.

2.2 Background for the Description of Deformable Bodies

A deformable body could be discreted by the Rayleigh-Ritz approach, finite elements, component mode synthesis, lumped rigid segments and springs or assumed vibration modes [61]. However, the Rayleigh-Ritz approach and component mode synthesis are not commonly used in deformable multibody systems due to the difficulty of choosing admissible functions. The lumped rigid segment and spring method divides a deformable body into a number of rigid segments and springs according to the geometric parameters of the body. Then the formulation for rigid multibody systems, which is developed by Kane's equations, is applied. A detailed description is presented by Huston and Wang [17]. This section only deals with the methods which treat the deformable bodies as continuum structures, i.e. finite elements and assumed vibration modes.

The discretization via finite elements makes the solution to the approximate problem converge to that of the real problem as the mesh size is reduced. But, for a complex problem, this results in many elastic degrees of freedom. The large number of degrees of freedom reduces the simulation speed. The assumed vibration mode method can reduce the number of elastic degrees of freedom significantly. However, the admissible functions (vibration modes) satisfy only the geometric boundary conditions but do not, in general, satisfy the natural boundary (force) conditions. The directions of the forces at boundaries are constantly changing for the deformable bodies undertaking large rotational motions. Whalen et al. [46] have done an experiment to investigate the changes in mode shapes under different angular displacements. Usually, the mode shape functions under no rigid motion condition are chosen for the sake of convenience. This certainly results in some approximations.

2.2.1 The Position Description by the Assumed Vibration Modes

Assume the elastic deformation of the deformable body *i* can be described by N_m modal coordinates q_f^i and mode shape functions \overline{S}^i . Two coordinate system frames are applied to

describe the rigid and elastic modes. As shown in Figure 2.2, XYZ is the global inertial frame and $X^{i}Y^{i}Z^{i}$ is the *i*th body coordinate system which is rigidly attached to a point on the undeformed body. This frame is a floating frame which represents large translation and rotation motions.

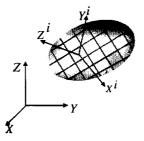


Figure 2.2 Coordinate systems for assumed mode method The elastic displacement of any point \overline{u}_0^i on body *i* referred to the $X^i Y^i Z^i$ is:

$$\overline{u}_{f}^{i} = \overline{S}^{i} q_{f}^{i} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{m}} \overline{S}_{j}^{i} q_{fj}^{i}$$
(2.3)

where \overline{S}_{j}^{i} is the *j*th mode shape of body *i* (a function of \overline{u}_{0}^{i}) and q_{jj}^{i} is the *j*th mode coordinate of body *i*.

The position vector P^i of a point \overline{u}_0^i on body *i* can be obtained as

$$P^{i} = r^{i} + A^{i}\overline{u}^{i} \tag{2.4}$$

in which

$$\overline{u}^{i} = \overline{u}_{0}^{i} + \overline{u}_{f}^{i} = \overline{u}_{0}^{i} + \overline{S}^{i} q_{f}^{i}$$

$$(2.5)$$

where r^i is the position vector of the origin of the *i*th body coordinate system and A^i is the transformation matrix that describes the rotation of the ith body coordinate system with respect to the global inertia frame. \overline{u}^i is the position of any point \overline{u}_0^i on body *i* referred to the *i*th body coordinate system under the deformation condition.

2.2.2 The Position Description by Finite Elements

The position description using finite elements is similar to assumed modes. However, the development is more complicated since the shape functions usually are given with reference to

the element coordinate system rather than referred to the body coordinate systems as in assumed modes. Moreover, the element assembly and the imposition of boundary conditions need to be considered in the finite element method. Thus, a unique shape function with respect to the body coordinate system needs to be developed first.

Assume a deformable body can be divided into N_e elements. Four kinds of coordinate system frames are used to describe joint and elastic motions for deformable bodies [3]. As shown in Figure 2.3, XYZ and $X^iY^iZ^i$ are the global inertia frame and the *i*th body coordinate system, respectively, as in the assumed mode method. In addition, intermediate element coordinate systems $\overline{X}^{ij}\overline{Y}^{ij}\overline{Z}^{ij}$ are rigidly attached to the body coordinate systems to represent the initial orientation of the *j*th element with respect to the body coordinate system. Element coordinates $X^{ij}Y^{ij}Z^{ij}$ are attached to a point on the *j*th element of body *i*.

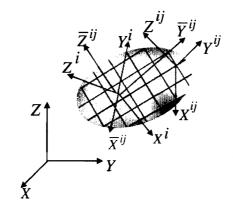


Figure 2.3 Coordinate systems for finite element method

The elastic displacement of any point \overline{u}_0^{ij} on element *j* of body *i* referred to $X^i Y^i Z^i$ can be represented by element nodal displacements through element shape functions. Therefore, the elastic displacement vector \overline{W}^{ij} of a point on element *j* of body *i* with respect to $\overline{X}^{ij} \overline{Y}^{ij} \overline{Z}^{ij}$ is:

$$\overline{W}^{ij} = \widehat{S}^{ij}\overline{q}_f^{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} \widehat{S}_1^T & \widehat{S}_2^T & \widehat{S}_3^T \end{bmatrix}^{ijT} \overline{q}_f^{ij}$$
(2.6)

where \hat{S}^{ij} and \bar{q}_{f}^{ij} are the *j*th element shape function and the node displacement vector of element *j* referred to $\bar{X}^{ij}\bar{Y}^{ij}\bar{Z}^{ij}$.

The elastic displacement vector \overline{u}_{j}^{ij} of any point on element j of body i with respect to $X^{i}Y^{i}Z^{i}$ is then described as:

$$\overline{u}_f^{ij} = C^{ij} \overline{W}^{ij} \tag{2.7}$$

where C^{ij} is a transformation matrix from the intermediate element coordinate system $\overline{X}^{ij}\overline{Y}^{ij}\overline{Z}^{ij}$ to the body coordinate system $X^{i}Y^{i}Z^{i}$.

For beam elements, the transformation matrix can be evaluated as [3]:

$$C^{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} c_x & -\frac{c_x c_y}{\sqrt{c_x^2 + c_z^2}} & -\frac{c_z}{\sqrt{c_x^2 + c_z^2}} \\ c_y & \sqrt{c_x^2 + c_z^2} & 0 \\ c_z & -\frac{c_y c_z}{\sqrt{c_x^2 + c_z^2}} & \frac{c_x}{\sqrt{c_x^2 + c_z^2}} \end{bmatrix}^{ij}$$
(2.8)

where

$$c_{x}^{ij} = \frac{b_{x}^{ij} - a_{x}^{ij}}{l^{ij}} , c_{y}^{ij} = \frac{b_{y}^{ij} - a_{y}^{ij}}{l^{ij}} , c_{z}^{ij} = \frac{b_{z}^{ij} - a_{z}^{ij}}{l^{ij}}$$
(2.9)

$$l^{ij} = \sqrt{(b_x - a_x)^2 + (b_y - a_y)^2 + (b_z - a_z)^2}^{ij}$$
(2.10)

 $(a_x, a_y, a_z)^{ij}$ and $(b_x, b_y, b_z)^{ij}$ are the coordinates of the nodes of beam element j with reference to the body coordinate system $X^i Y^i Z^i$.

Therefore
$$\overline{q}_{f}^{ij} = \overline{C}^{ij} q_{f}^{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} C^{ij} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & C^{ij} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C^{ij} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & C^{ij} \end{bmatrix}^{T} q_{f}^{ij}$$
 (2.11)

where q_f^{ij} is the node elastic displacement vector of element *j* with respect to the body coordinate system $X^i Y^i Z^i$.

The *i*th body coordinate system $X^i Y^i Z^i$ represents a unique standard for all elements on this body. Let \overline{q}_f^i be the total vector of nodal displacement vectors of body *i* resulting from the finite element discretization. The relationship between the nodal displacement vector \overline{q}_f^i of body i and the element nodal displacement vector q_f^{ij} can be written as

$$q_f^{ij} = B_1^{ij} \overline{q}_f^{i} \tag{2.12}$$

where B_1^{ij} is a constant Boolean transformation whose elements are either zeros or ones and serves to express the connectivity of this finite element.

In addition, a set of reference conditions that are consistent with the kinematic constraints on the boundaries of the deformable body are imposed to represent unique deformation fields with respect to $X^i Y^i Z^i$. Let q_f^i be the vector of independent elastic displacements of body *i* and B_2^i be a linear transformation which is also a constant Boolean transformation and serves to express reference conditions. Then

$$\overline{q}_f^i = B_2^i q_f^i \tag{2.13}$$

Therefore the elastic displacement vector of any point on element j of body i with respect to $X^i Y^i Z^i$ is then written as

$$\overline{u}_{f}^{ij} = C^{ij} \widehat{S}^{ij} \overline{C}^{ij} B_{1}^{ij} B_{2}^{i} q_{f}^{i} = \overline{S}^{ij} q_{f}^{i}$$
(2.14)

The position vector P^{ij} of a point \overline{u}_0^{ij} on element j of body i can be obtained as

$$P^{ij} = r^i + A^i \overline{u}^{ij} \tag{2.15}$$

in which
$$\overline{u}^{ij} = \overline{u}_0^{ij} + \overline{u}_f^{ij} = \overline{u}_0^{ij} + \overline{S}^{ij} q_f^i$$
(2.16)

where r^i is the position vector of the origin of the *i*th body coordinate system and A^i is the transformation matrix that describes the rotation of *i*th body coordinate system with respect to the global inertial frame. \overline{u}^{ij} is the position of any point \overline{u}_0^{ij} on the *j*th element of body *i* with reference to the *i*th body coordinate system under the deformation condition.

Equation (2.4) and (2.5) are virtually identical to equation (2.15) and (2.16), so either approach to defining deformed shapes may be applied during the remainder of the development.

2.2.3 The Orientation of the Body Coordinate System

The orientation of the body coordinate system can be represented by a generalized coordinate vector φ . If Euler angles are used, $\varphi = [\phi, \alpha, \psi]^T$, the angular velocity vector of the *i*th body with respect to XYZ and $X^i Y^i Z^i$ is

$$\omega^{i} = G^{i} \dot{\varphi}^{i} = A^{i} \overline{\omega}^{i} \tag{2.17}$$

$$\overline{\omega}^{i} = \overline{G}^{i} \dot{\phi}^{i} \tag{2.18}$$

where ω^i and $\overline{\omega}^i$ are the angular velocity vectors referred to XYZ and $X^i Y^i Z^i$ respectively. A^i, G^i, \overline{G}^i are transformation matrices associated with the generalized orientation vector φ [57] and are given in Appendix A.

2.3 Dynamic Equations for a Single Constrained Deformable Body

The dynamic equations of motion for a single constrained deformable body can be formed using Lagrange's equations. A advantage of using this principle is that it easily allows a total energy balance check. Define Y^i as the absolute coordinate vector of the *i*th body coordinate system augmented with the vector of generalized elastic coordinates,

$$Y^{i} = \left[r^{i}, \varphi^{i}, q_{f}^{i}\right]^{T}$$

$$(2.19)$$

For a deformable body in a MBS, the body usually is connected to other bodies by joints. Those joints limit the motion of the body so that constraint forces are applied to the body, and the generalized coordinates Y^i are not independent of each other. Therefore, the Lagrange equations cannot be represented only by partial differential equations but can be described as [3]

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L^{i}}{\partial \dot{Y}^{i}} \right)^{T} - \left[\frac{\partial L^{i}}{\partial Y^{i}} \right]^{T} + \Phi_{Y^{i}}^{iT} \lambda = Q_{0}^{i}$$
(2.20)

in which the Lagrangian is $L^{i} = T^{i} - V^{i}$ (2.21) where T^{i} is the kinetic energy of the *i*th body; V^{i} is the potential energy including both strain energy and potential energy due to any conservative external forces; $\Phi_{Y^{i}}^{iT} \lambda$ represents the constraint forces expressed by Lagrange multipliers λ and the constraint Jacobian matrix $\Phi_{Y^{i}}^{i}$; Q_{0}^{i} represents generalized nonconservative external forces.

The following equations present in detail the development of the equations of motion for a single constrained deformable body. The formulations are suitable to both assumed modes and finite element discretization. The only difference between the two methods is that there is no assembly in the assumed mode method. To distinguish them, the terms in angle brackets are excluded for the assumed mode method.

First, consider the kinetic energy of body *i*.

Kinetic energy:
$$T^{i} = <\sum_{j=1}^{N_{\epsilon}} > T^{i < j >} = \frac{1}{2} < \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\epsilon}} > \int \rho^{i < j > T} \dot{P}^{i < j > T} \dot{P}^{i < j >} dv^{i < j >}$$
 (2.22)

Differentiate (2.4) or (2.15): $\dot{P}^{i < j >} = \dot{r}^{i} + \dot{A}^{i} \overline{u}^{i < j >} + A^{i} \dot{\overline{u}}^{i < j >}$

$$=\dot{r}^{i} + A^{i}(\overline{\omega}^{i} \times \overline{u}^{i < j >}) + A^{i}\overline{S}^{i < j >}\dot{q}_{f}^{i}$$

$$=\dot{r}^{i} - A^{i}\widetilde{\overline{u}}^{i < j >}\overline{G}^{i}\dot{\phi}^{i} + A^{i}\overline{S}^{i < j >}\dot{q}_{f}^{i}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} I - A^{i}\widetilde{\overline{u}}^{i < j >}\overline{G}^{i} & A^{i}\overline{S}^{i < j >} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{r}^{i} \\ \dot{\phi}^{i} \\ \dot{q}_{f}^{i} \end{bmatrix}$$
(2.23)

where the sign ~ over a vector denotes a skew symmetric matrix. I is an identity matrix. Substitute (2.23) into (2.22), get

$$T^{i} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{Y}^{iT} (< \sum_{j=1}^{Ne} M^{i < j >}) \dot{Y}^{i}$$
(2.24)

where $M^{i < j >} = \int \rho^{i < j >} \begin{bmatrix} I & -A^{i} \widetilde{u}^{i < j >} \overline{G}^{i} & A^{i} \overline{S}^{i < j >} \\ \overline{G}^{iT} \widetilde{u}^{i < j > T} \widetilde{u}^{i < j >} \overline{G}^{i} & -\overline{G}^{iT} \widetilde{u}^{i < j > T} \overline{S}^{i < j >} \end{bmatrix} dv^{i < j >}$ $= \begin{bmatrix} m_{rr} & m_{r\varphi} & m_{rf} \\ m_{\varphi\varphi} & m_{\varphi f} \\ symm. & m_{ff} \end{bmatrix}^{i < j >}$ (2.25)

Chapter 2. New Formulations For DMBS

in which
$$m_{rr}^{i} = \int \rho^{i} I dv^{i} = \begin{bmatrix} m & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m \end{bmatrix}^{i}$$
 (2.26)

$$m_{r\varphi}^{i} = -A^i \left(\int \rho^{i} \tilde{\overline{u}}^{i} d\nu^{i} \right) \overline{G}^i = -A^i \widetilde{\overline{N}}_i^{i} \overline{G}^i$$
(2.27)

$$m_{rf}^{i} = \int \rho^{i} A^{i} \overline{S}^{i} dv^{i} = A^{i} \int \rho^{i} \overline{S}^{i} dv^{i} = A^{i} \overline{N}^{i}$$
(2.28)

$$m_{\varphi\varphi}^{i} = \int \rho^{i} \overline{G}^{iT} \widetilde{\overline{u}}^{i} \overline{\overline{u}}^{i} \overline{\overline{G}}^{i} dv^{i} = \overline{G}^{iT} \left(\int \rho^{i} \widetilde{\overline{u}}^{i} \overline{\overline{u}}^{i} dv^{i} \right) \overline{\overline{G}}^{i} = \overline{G}^{iT} \overline{I}_{\varphi\varphi}^{i} \overline{\overline{G}}^{i}$$
(2.29)

$$m_{qf}^{i} = -\overline{G}^{iT} \int \rho^{i} \widetilde{\overline{u}}^{iT} \overline{S}^{i} dv^{i} = \overline{G}^{iT} \int \rho^{i} \widetilde{\overline{u}}^{i} \overline{S}^{i} dv^{i} = \overline{G}^{iT} \overline{I}_{qf}^{i}$$
(2.30)

$$m_{ff}^{i} = \int \rho^{i} \overline{S}^{iT} \overline{S}^{i} dv^{i} = \int \rho^{i} (\overline{S}_1^{iT} \overline{S}_1^{i} + \overline{S}_2^{iT} \overline{S}_2^{i} + \overline{S}_3^{iT} \overline{S}_3^{i}) dv^{i}$$
(2.31)

where
$$\overline{N}_{i}^{i} = \int \rho^{i} \overline{u}^{i} dv^{i} = \int \rho^{i} (\overline{u}_{0}^{i} + \overline{S}^{i} q_{f}^{i}) dv^{i} = \overline{N}_{0}^{i} + \overline{N}^{i} q_{f}^{i}$$
 (2.32)

 $+2\left[\int \rho^{i<j>}\left(\overline{u}_{0l}^{i<j>}\overline{S}_{l}^{i<j>}+\overline{u}_{0m}^{i<j>}\overline{S}_{m}^{i<j>}\right)dv^{i<j>}\right]q_{f}^{i}$

 $+q_f^{iT} \left[\int \rho^{i < j >} \left(\overline{S}_l^{i < j > T} \overline{S}_l^{i < j >} + \overline{S}_m^{i < j >} \overline{S}_m^{i < j >} \right) dv^{i < j >} \right] q_f^i$

 $\bar{I}_{\varphi\varphi}^{i<j>} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{I}_{11} & \bar{I}_{12} & \bar{I}_{13} \\ & \bar{I}_{22} & \bar{I}_{23} \\ symm. & \bar{I}_{33} \end{bmatrix}^{i<j>}$

 $\bar{I}_{kk}^{i<j>} = \int \rho^{i<j>} \left(\overline{u}_{l}^{i<j>2} + \overline{u}_{m}^{i<j>2} \right) dv^{i<j>} = \int \rho^{i<j>} \left(\overline{u}_{0l}^{i<j>2} + \overline{u}_{0m}^{i<j>2} \right) dv^{i<j>}$

$$m_{ff}^{i} = \int \rho^{i} \overline{S}^{iT} \overline{S}^{i} dv^{i} = \int \rho^{i} (\overline{S}_1^{iT} \overline{S}_1^{i} + \overline{S}_2^{iT} \overline{S}_2^{i} + \overline{S}_3^{iT} \overline{S}_3^{i}) dv^{i}$$
(2.31)

$$m_{ff} \quad \mathbf{j} \, \mathbf{p} \quad \mathbf{S} \quad \mathbf{S} \quad \mathbf{u} \, \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{j} \, \mathbf{p} \quad (\mathbf{S}_1 \quad \mathbf{S}_2 \quad \mathbf{S}_2 \quad \mathbf{S}_3 \quad \mathbf{S}_3 \quad \mathbf{s}_3 \quad \mathbf{u} \, \mathbf{v} \quad (2.51)$$

$$\int \rho^{i < j > S} S^{i < j > I} S^{i < j > I} S^{i < j > d} v^{i < j >} = \int \rho^{i < j > (S_1^{i < j > I} S_1^{i < j > I} S_1^{i < j > I} S_2^{i < j > I} S_2^{i < j > I} + S_3^{i < j > I} S_3^{i < j >}) dv^{i < j >}$$
(2.31)

$$\int_{T}^{\langle j \rangle} = \int \rho^{i \langle j \rangle} \overline{S}^{i \langle j \rangle} \overline{S}^{i \langle j \rangle} dv^{i \langle j \rangle} = \int \rho^{i \langle j \rangle} (\overline{S}_{1}^{i \langle j \rangle} \overline{S}_{1}^{i \langle j \rangle} \overline{S}_{1}^{i \langle j \rangle} + \overline{S}_{2}^{i \langle j \rangle} \overline{S}_{2}^{i \langle j \rangle} + \overline{S}_{3}^{i \langle j \rangle} \overline{S}_{3}^{i \langle j \rangle}) dv^{i \langle j \rangle}$$
(2.31)

$$= \int \rho^{i < j > T} \overline{S}^{i < j > T} dv^{i < j >} = \int \rho^{i < j >} (\overline{S}_1^{i < j > T} \overline{S}_1^{i < j > T} \overline{S}_1^{i < j > T} \overline{S}_2^{i < j > T} \overline{S}_3^{i < j >}) dv^{i < j >}$$
(2.3)

(2.33)

(2.34)

 $(k, l, m = 1, 2, 3 \text{ and } k \neq l \neq m)$

$$\bar{I}_{lm}^{i} = -\int \rho^{i} \overline{u}_{l}^{i} \overline{u}_{m}^{i} dv^{i} = -\int \rho^{i} \overline{u}_{0l}^{i} \overline{u}_{0m}^{i} dv^{ij}$$

$$-\int \rho^{i} \left(\overline{u}_{0l}^{i} \overline{S}_{m}^{i} + \overline{u}_{0m}^{i} \overline{S}_{l}^{i}\right) dv^{i} q_{f}^{i}$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} q_{f}^{iT} \left[\int \rho^{i} \left(\overline{S}_{l}^{iT} \overline{S}_{m}^{i} + \overline{S}_{m}^{iT} \overline{S}_{l}^{i}\right) dv^{i} \right] q_{f}^{i} \qquad (2.35)$$

$$(l, m = 1, 2, 3 \text{ and } l \neq m)$$

$$\bar{I}_{\varphi f}^{i < j >} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{I}_{\varphi f1} & \bar{I}_{\varphi f2} & \bar{I}_{\varphi f3} \end{bmatrix}^{i < j > T}$$
(2.36)

$$\bar{I}_{ggk}^{i} = \int \rho^{i} \left(\bar{u}_{0l}^{i} \bar{S}_m^{i} - \bar{u}_{0m}^{i} \bar{S}_l^{i} \right) dv^{i} + q_f^{iT} \int \rho^{i} \left(\bar{S}_l^{iT} \bar{S}_m^{i} - \bar{S}_m^{iT} \bar{S}_l^{i} \right) dv^{i} (2.37)$$

 $(k, l, m = 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \text{ and } k \neq l \neq m$, which means they follow the rotatory rule such that if k = 1, l = 2 and m = 3; if k = 2, l = 3 and m = 1; if k = 3, l = 1 and m = 2)

where $\rho^{i < j>}$, $v^{i < j>}$ and $m^{i < j>}$ are, respectively, the mass density, the volume and the mass of body *i* or of element *j* of body *i*. And $\overline{u}_0^{i < j>} = [\overline{u}_{01} \quad \overline{u}_{02} \quad \overline{u}_{03}]^{i < j>T}$, $\overline{S}^{i < j>} = [\overline{S}_1 \quad \overline{S}_2 \quad \overline{S}_3]^{i < j>T}$. For beam elements, let $X1^{ij} = [a_1 \ a_2 \ a_3]^{ijT}$ and $X2^{ij} = [b_1 \ b_2 \ b_3]^{ijT}$ and define

$$\left[\overline{u}_{01} \ \overline{u}_{02} \ \overline{u}_{03}\right]^{ijT} = \left[a_1 \ a_2 \ a_3\right]^{ijT} + l^{ij}C^{ij}\left[\xi \ \eta \ \varsigma\right]^T = X1^{ij} + l^{ij}C^{ij}\left[\xi \ \eta \ \varsigma\right]^T$$
(2.38)

$$Q_{\eta}^{ij} = \int \rho^{ij} \eta \, da^{ij} \tag{2.39}$$

$$Q_{\varsigma}^{ij} = \int \rho^{ij} \varsigma \, da^{ij} \tag{2.40}$$

$$I_c^{ij} = \int \rho^{ij} \eta^2 da^{ij} \tag{2.41}$$

$$I_n^{ij} = \int \rho^{ij} \varsigma^2 da^{ij} \tag{2.42}$$

$$I_{\eta\varsigma}^{ij} = \int \rho^{ij} \eta\varsigma \, da^{ij} \tag{2.43}$$

in which $\xi^{ij} = \frac{x^{ij}}{l^{ij}}, \quad \eta^{ij} = \frac{y^{ij}}{l^{ij}}, \quad \zeta^{ij} = \frac{z^{ij}}{l^{ij}}$

then
$$\overline{N}_{0}^{ij} = \int \rho^{ij} \overline{u}_{0}^{ij} dv^{ij} = \frac{m^{ij}}{2} [X1 + X2]^{ij}$$
 (2.44)

$$\overline{N}^{ij} = \int \rho^{ij} \overline{S}^{ij} dv^{ij} = C^{ij} \left(\int \rho^{ij} \widehat{S}^{ij} dv^{ij} \right) \overline{C}^{ij} B_1^{ij} B_2^i = C^{ij} \overline{N}_*^{ij} \overline{C}^{ij} B_1^{ij} B_2^i$$
(2.45)

$$\left[\int \rho \left(\overline{u}_{0p}^2 + \overline{u}_{0q}^2\right) dv\right]^{ij} = \sum_{k=p,q} \left[\left(a_k^2 m + la_k m C(k,1) + 2a_k l^2 \left(C(k,2)Q_\eta + C(k,3)Q_\varsigma\right)\right) \right]^{ij}$$
(2.46)

$$+\sum_{k=p,q} \left[l^{3}C(k,1) \left(\frac{1}{3l} mC(k,1) + C(k,2)Q_{\eta} + C(k,3)Q_{\zeta} \right) \right]^{ij} \\ +\sum_{k=p,q} \left[l^{3} \left(C^{2}(k,3)I_{\eta} + C^{2}(k,2)I_{\zeta} + 2C(k,2)C(k,3)I_{\eta\zeta} \right) \right]^{ij}$$

$$\left[\int \rho \overline{u}_{0p} \overline{u}_{0q} dv\right]^{ij} = \left[ma_p a_q + \frac{lm}{2} \left(a_p C(q, 1) + a_q C(p, 1)\right) + \frac{l^2 m}{3} C(p, 1)\right]^{ij}$$
(2.47)

+
$$\left[l^{2}\left(a_{p}C(q,2)+a_{q}C(p,2)\right)Q_{\eta}+l^{2}\left(a_{p}C(q,3)+a_{q}C(p,3)\right)Q_{\zeta}\right]^{ij}$$

$$+ \left[\frac{l^3}{2} (C(p,1)C(q,2) + C(p,2)C(q,1))Q_{\eta} + \frac{l^3}{2} (C(p,1)C(q,3) + C(p,3)C(q,1))Q_{\varsigma} \right]^{ij} \\ + \left[l^3 (C(p,2)C(q,2)I_{\varsigma} + C(p,3)C(q,3)I_{\eta} + C(p,2)C(q,3)I_{\eta\varsigma} + C(p,3)C(q,2)I_{\eta\varsigma} \right]^{ij} \\ (p,q=1,2,3, and p \neq q)$$

let
$$\overline{N}^{ij} = \left[C\int\rho\widehat{S}dv\overline{C}B_1B_2\right]^{ij} = \left[C\overline{N}_*\overline{C}B_1B_2\right]^{ij} = \left[\overline{N}_1^T \ \overline{N}_2^T \ \overline{N}_3^T\right]^{ijT}$$
 (2.48)

Chapter 2. New Formulations For DMBS

$$\overline{N}_{\xi}^{ij} = \left[C\left(\int l\rho\xi \widehat{S}d\nu\right)\overline{C}B_{1}B_{2} \right]^{ij} = \left[Cl\overline{N}_{\xi*}\overline{C}B_{1}B_{2} \right]^{ij} = \left[\overline{N}_{\xi1}^{T} \ \overline{N}_{\xi2}^{T} \ \overline{N}_{\xi3}^{T} \right]^{ijT}$$
(2.49)

$$\overline{N}_{\eta}^{ij} = \left[C\left(\int l\rho\eta \widehat{S}dv\right)\overline{C}B_{1}B_{2} \right]^{ij} = \left[Cl\overline{N}_{\eta*}\overline{C}B_{1}B_{2} \right]^{ij} = \left[\overline{N}_{\eta^{1}}^{T} \ \overline{N}_{\eta^{2}}^{T} \ \overline{N}_{\eta^{3}}^{T} \right]^{ijT}$$
(2.50)

$$\overline{N}_{\varsigma}^{ij} = \left[C\left(\int l\rho\varsigma \widehat{S}d\nu\right)\overline{C}B_{1}B_{2}\right]^{ij} = \left[Cl\overline{N}_{\varsigma*}\overline{C}B_{1}B_{2}\right]^{ij} = \left[\overline{N}_{\varsigma^{1}}^{T} \ \overline{N}_{\varsigma^{2}}^{T} \ \overline{N}_{\varsigma^{3}}^{T}\right]^{ijT}$$
(2.51)

$$NN_{pq}^{ij} = \left[B_2^T B_1^T \overline{C}^T SS_{pq} \overline{C} B_1 B_2\right]^{ij} = \left[B_2^T B_1^T \overline{C}^T \left(\int \rho \widehat{S}_p^T \widehat{S}_q dv\right) \overline{C} B_1 B_2\right]^{ij}$$
(2.52)

then
$$\left[\int \rho \overline{u}_{0p} \overline{S}_q dv\right]^{ij} = a_p \overline{N}_q + C(p,1) \overline{N}_{\xi q} + C(p,2) \overline{N}_{\eta q} + C(p,3) \overline{N}_{\varsigma q}$$
 (2.53)

$$\left[\int \rho S_{p}^{T} \overline{S}_{q} dv\right]^{ij} = \left[\sum_{k=1}^{3} \sum_{r=1}^{3} NN_{kr} C(p,k) C(q,r)\right]^{ij}$$
(2.54)
(p,q=1,2,3)

where the above invariant matrices \overline{N}_{*}^{ij} , $\overline{N}_{\xi*}^{ij}$, $\overline{N}_{\eta*}^{ij}$, $\overline{N}_{\varsigma*}^{ij}$ and SS_{pq}^{ij} (p,q=1,2,3) and the 3-D beam shape function \hat{S}^{ij} will be given in Appendix B [3].

Therefore, Lagrange's equations can be rewritten as:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial T^{i}}{\partial \dot{Y}^{i}} \right)^{T} - \left(\frac{\partial T^{i}}{\partial Y^{i}} \right)^{T} = M^{i} \ddot{Y}^{i} + \dot{M}^{i} \dot{Y}^{i} - \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial Y^{i}} \left(\dot{Y}^{iT} M^{i} \dot{Y}^{i} \right) \right]^{T}$$
(2.55)

Define
$$Q_{\nu}^{i} = -\dot{M}^{i}\dot{Y}^{i} + \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial Y^{i}} \left(\dot{Y}^{iT} M^{i} \dot{Y}^{i} \right) \right]^{T}$$
 (2.56)

which are the centrifugal and coriolis(gyroscopic) force components. They are written as

$$Q_{\nu}^{i} = \begin{bmatrix} Q_{\nu r}^{iT} & Q_{\nu \varphi}^{iT} & Q_{\nu f}^{iT} \end{bmatrix}^{T}$$
(2.57)

where $Q_{vr}^{i} = -\left(\dot{m}_{rr}^{i}\dot{r}^{i} + \dot{m}_{r\phi}^{i}\dot{\phi}^{i} + \dot{m}_{rf}^{i}\dot{q}_{f}^{i}\right)$

$$=\tilde{\omega}^{i}A^{i}\overline{\tilde{N}}_{t}^{i}\overline{\omega}^{i} + A^{i}\overline{\tilde{N}}_{t}^{i}\overline{\tilde{G}}^{i}\dot{\phi}^{i} - \tilde{\omega}^{i}A^{i}\overline{N}^{i}\dot{q}_{f}^{i} + A^{i}\tilde{b}^{i}\overline{G}^{i}\dot{\phi}^{i}$$
(2.58)

$$b^{i} = \overline{N}^{i} \dot{q}^{i}_{f} \tag{2.59}$$

$$\overline{N}_{t}^{i} = <\sum_{j=1} > \overline{N}_{t}^{i < j >}$$
(2.60)

$$\overline{N}^{i} = <\sum_{j=1}^{N_{e}} > \overline{N}^{i < j >}$$
(2.61)

$$Q_{\nu\varphi}^{i} = -\left(\overline{G}^{iT}\overline{I}_{\varphi\varphi}^{i}\overline{G}^{i} + \overline{G}^{iT}\overline{I}_{\varphi\varphi}^{i}\overline{G}^{i}\right)\phi - \overline{G}^{iT}\overline{I}_{\varphi f}^{i}\dot{q}_{f}^{i}$$
(2.62)

$$Q_{vf}^{i} = -\bar{I}_{\varphi f}^{iT} \dot{\bar{G}}^{i} \dot{\phi}^{i} + \frac{1}{2} q_{n}^{i}$$
(2.63)

$$q_n^i = \sum_{k=1}^3 \frac{\partial \bar{l}_{kk}^i}{\partial q_f^i} \left(\overline{\omega}_k^i \right)^2 + \sum_{\substack{l,m=1\\l \neq m}}^3 \frac{\partial \bar{l}_{lm}^i}{\partial q_f^i} \overline{\omega}_l^i \overline{\omega}_m^i$$
(2.64)

$$\bar{I}^{i}_{\varphi\varphi} = <\sum_{j=1}^{Ne} > \bar{I}^{i}_{\varphi\varphi}$$
(2.65)

$$\bar{I}_{qg}^{i} = <\sum_{j=1}^{Ne} > \bar{I}_{qg}^{i}$$
(2.66)

$$\frac{\partial \overline{I}_{kk}^{i}}{\partial q_{f}^{i}} = 2 \left[< \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\star}} > \int \rho^{i < j >} \left(\overline{u}_{0l}^{i < j >} \overline{S}_{l}^{i < j >} + \overline{u}_{0m}^{i < j >} \overline{S}_{m}^{i < j >} \right) dv^{i < j >} \right]^{T} + 2 \left[< \sum_{j=1}^{N_{\star}} > \int \rho^{i < j >} \left(\overline{S}_{l}^{i < j > T} \overline{S}_{l}^{i < j >} + \overline{S}_{m}^{i < j > T} \overline{S}_{m}^{i < j >} \right) dv^{i < j >} \right]^{T} q_{f}^{i}$$

$$(2.67)$$

 $(k, l, m = 1, 2, 3 \text{ and } k \neq l \neq m)$

$$\frac{\partial \overline{I}_{lm}^{i}}{\partial q_{f}^{i}} = -\left[< \sum_{j=1}^{N_{r}} > \int \rho^{i < j >} \left(\overline{u}_{0l}^{i < j >} \overline{S}_{m}^{i < j >} + \overline{u}_{0m}^{i < j >} \overline{S}_{l}^{i < j >} \right) dv^{i < j >} \right]^{T} \\
- \left[< \sum_{j=1}^{N_{r}} > \int \rho^{i < j >} \left(\overline{S}_{l}^{i < j > T} \overline{S}_{m}^{i < j >} + \overline{S}_{m}^{i < j > T} \overline{S}_{l}^{i < j >} \right) dv^{i < j >} \right]^{T} q_{f}^{i} \qquad (2.68)$$

$$(l, m = 1, 2, 3 \text{ and } l \neq m)$$

Potential Energy: $V^{i} = V_{c}^{i} + V_{s}^{i}$ (2.69) where V_{c}^{i} and V_{s}^{i} are the potential energy due to conservative forces and strain forces. They are obtained respectively as following:

- . .

a) Potential energy due to conservative forces

Assume F_c^i is a conservative force vector of the *i*th body which is applied at position $P^{i < j >}$. The generalized force vector Q_c^i is developed by virtual work as

$$\delta w_c^i = F_c^{iT} \delta P^{i < j >} \tag{2.70}$$

$$\delta P^{i < j>} = \delta r^{i} + \delta A^{i} \overline{u}^{i < j>} + A^{i} \overline{S}^{i < j>} \delta q_{f}^{i}$$

$$= \delta r^{i} - \widetilde{u}^{i < j>} G^{i} \delta \varphi^{i} + A^{i} \overline{S}^{i < j>} \delta q_{f}^{i} \qquad (2.71)$$

Substitute equation (2.71) into equation (2.70), to get

$$\delta w_c^i = \begin{bmatrix} F_c^{iT} & -F_c^{iT} \widetilde{u}^{i < j >} G^i & F_c^{iT} A^i \overline{S}^{i < j >} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \delta r^i \\ \delta \varphi^i \\ \delta q_f^i \end{bmatrix}$$
(2.72)

$$Q_c^{iT} = \begin{bmatrix} F_c^{iT} & -F_c^{iT} \widetilde{u}^{i < j >} G^i & F_c^{iT} A^i \overline{S}^{i < j >} \end{bmatrix}$$
(2.73)

where
$$u^{i < j >} = A^i \overline{u}^{i < j >}$$
 (2.74)

Therefore the potential energy due to conservative forces is

$$V_{c}^{i} = -W_{c}^{iT}Y^{i} = -\left[F_{c}^{iT} - F_{c}^{iT}\widetilde{u}^{i < j >}G^{i} - F_{c}^{iT}A^{i}\overline{S}^{i < j >}\right]\begin{bmatrix}r^{i}\\\varphi^{i}\\q^{i}_{f}\end{bmatrix}$$
(2.75)

b) Strain energy

The virtual work due to internal elastic forces can be written as [3]

$$\delta w_s^i = <\sum_{j=1}^{N_e} > \delta w_s^{i < j >} = - <\sum_{j=1}^{N_e} > \int \sigma^{i < j > T} \delta \varepsilon^{i < j >} dv^{i < j >}$$
(2.76)

$$\sigma^{i} = E^{i}\varepsilon^{i} \tag{2.77}$$

where $\sigma^{i < j>}$, $\varepsilon^{i < j>}$ and $E^{i < j>}$ are, respectively, the stress, strain vectors and the matrix of elastic coefficients. The strain displacement relation can be written as

$$\varepsilon^{i\langle j\rangle} = D^{i\langle j\rangle} \overline{u}_{f}^{i\langle j\rangle} = D^{i\langle j\rangle} \overline{S}^{i\langle j\rangle} q_{f}^{i}$$
(2.78)

where $D^{i < j >}$ is a spatial differential operator. In the case of small strains and rotations, the differential operator reduces to

$$D^{i < j>} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 2\frac{\partial}{\partial x} & 0 & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} & 0 \\ 0 & 2\frac{\partial}{\partial y} & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ 0 & 0 & 2\frac{\partial}{\partial z} & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}^{i < j>T}$$
(2.79)

Substitute (2.77) and (2.78) into (2.76),

$$\therefore \, \delta w_s^i = -q_f^{iT} < \sum_{j=1}^{N_e} > \int \left(D^{i < j >} \overline{S}^{i < j >} \right)^T E \left(D^{i < j >} \overline{S}^{i < j >} \right) dv^{i < j >} \delta q_f^i = -q_f^{iT} < \sum_{j=1}^{N_e} > K_f^{i < j >} \delta q_f^i \qquad (2.80)$$

For the finite element method, let $K_f^i = \sum_{j=1}^{Ne} K_f^{ij} = B_2^{iT} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{Ne} B_1^{ijT} \overline{C}^{ijT} \overline{K}_f^{ij} \overline{C}^{ij} B_1^{ij} \right) B_2^i$ (2.81) where \overline{K}_f^{ij} is an element stiffness matrix. Its formulation for beam elements will be given in

where K_{f} is an element stiffness matrix. Its formulation for beam elements will be given in Appendix B.

Thus
$$\delta w_{s}^{i} = -q_{f}^{iT} K_{f}^{i} \delta q_{f}^{i} = -Y^{iT} K^{i} \delta Y^{i} = -\left[r^{iT} \varphi^{iT} q_{f}^{iT}\right] \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_{f}^{i} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \delta r^{i} \\ \delta \varphi^{i} \\ \delta q_{f}^{i} \end{bmatrix}$$
(2.82)

The generalized elastic force vector is

$$Q_{s}^{iT} = -\left[r^{iT} \ \varphi^{iT} \ q_{f}^{iT}\right] \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_{f}^{i} \end{bmatrix}$$
(2.83)

The strain energy $V_s^i = Q_s^{iT} Y^i = -\begin{bmatrix} r^{iT} & \varphi^{iT} & q_f^{iT} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_f^i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} r^i \\ \varphi^i \\ q_f^i \end{bmatrix}$ (2.84)

Therefore the Lagrange's equation (2.20) for one single deformable body with constraints becomes

$$M^{i}\ddot{Y}^{i} + \Phi_{Y^{i}}^{iT}\lambda = Q_{v}^{i} + Q_{c}^{i} + Q_{c}^{i} + Q_{0}^{i}$$
(2.85)

where $Q_0^i = \begin{bmatrix} Q_{0r}^{iT} & Q_{0\phi}^{iT} & Q_{0f}^{iT} \end{bmatrix}^T$ (2.86)

The generalized friction forces or driving forces Q_0^i are formed in the same way that the generalized conservative forces were.

As a result, the dynamic equations for a constrained deformable MBS with N_b bodies can be written as

$$M\ddot{Y} + \Phi_Y^I \mu = Q_v + Q_c + Q_s + Q_0 \tag{2.87}$$

where *M* is a block diagonal inertial matrix comprising the assembly of each body's inertia matrix; $\Phi_{Y}^{T}\mu$ represents the constraint forces amongst bodies.

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} Y^{1T} & Y^{2T} & \cdots & Y^{N_b T} \end{bmatrix}^T$$
(2.88)

$$Q_{\nu} = \begin{bmatrix} Q_{\nu}^{1T} & Q_{\nu}^{2T} & \cdots & Q_{\nu}^{N_{b}T} \end{bmatrix}^{T}$$
(2.89)

2.4 Velocity Transformation for DMBS

This section is a contribution. Consider a deformable MBS with a spanning tree structure, a part of it can be shown in Figure 2.4. On the path from the *l*th body to the *i*th body, the joint definition points are noted as T, S, R, Q, P, O. Attach joint coordinate systems to each joint definition point noted as $X_m^n Y_m^n Z_m^n$ in which m represents the joint definition points $(m = 1, 2, \dots, N_j)$ and n represents the bodies $(n = 1, 2, \dots, N_j)$.

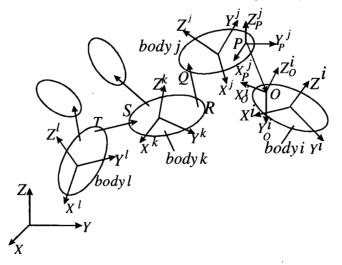


Figure 2.4 Relative motion among bodies

a) Angular Velocity

From Figure 2.4, the angular velocity of the *i*th body coordinate system can be written as:

$$\omega^{i} = \omega^{j} + \omega_{p}^{j} + \Omega_{op} - \omega_{0}^{i} \tag{2.90}$$

where Ω_{op} is joint relative angular velocity which describes the angular velocity of frame $X_o^i Y_o^i Z_o^i$ with respect to frame $X_p^j Y_p^j Z_p^j$. ω_p^j and ω_0^i are the relative angular velocities of the points P & O with reference to $X^j Y^j Z^j \& X^i Y^i Z^i$, they can be expressed in terms of the elastic coordinates of body j and i as follows [11]:

$$\boldsymbol{\omega}_{p}^{j} = A^{j} P \overline{S}_{p}^{j} \dot{\boldsymbol{q}}_{f}^{j} \tag{2.91}$$

$$\omega_0^i = A^i P \overline{S}_0^i \dot{q}_f^i \tag{2.92}$$

in which $P\overline{S}_0^i$ or $P\overline{S}_p^j$ is a constant matrix associated with the shape functions and the position vectors of the joint definition points referred to the *i*th or the *j*th body coordinate systems. The matrix $P\overline{S}$ will be given in Appendix B.

Repeating the procedure of equation (2.90) for body j, k, l, \dots , and the base body,

$$\omega^{j} = \omega^{k} + \omega_{R}^{k} + \Omega_{QR} - \omega_{Q}^{j}$$
(2.93)

$$\omega^{k} = \omega^{l} + \omega_{T}^{l} + \Omega_{ST} - \omega_{S}^{k}$$
(2.94)

Substitute equation (2.93) and (2.94) into (2.90) and repeating this procedure to the base body, yields:

$$\omega^{i} = \sum_{j=1}^{i} \pi_{ij} [\Omega^{j} + \sum_{k=1}^{N_{j}} \chi_{ik} A^{j} P \overline{S}_{k}^{j} \dot{q}_{f}^{j}]$$
(2.95)

where π and χ are the body and joint path matrices, Ω^{j} is defined as the relative angular velocity between bodies which includes the base body, then

$$\Omega^{j} = \begin{cases} \omega^{j} & \text{if body } j \text{ is a floating base body} \\ \sum_{h} \dot{\theta}_{h}^{j} V_{h}^{j} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
(2.96)

where V_h^j and θ_h^j are the *h*th joint rotation axis vector of body *j* and the rotation angle about this axis.

Let \overline{V}_h^j be unit vectors along the rotation axes of body *j* that are rigidly attached to the origin of the intermediate frame $X_m^n Y_m^n Z_m^n (X_R^k Y_R^k Z_R^k$ for body *j* in Figure 2.4) and defined in this frame. Then

$$V_h^j = A^k A_R^k \overline{V}_h^j \tag{2.97}$$

where A_R^k is the transformation matrix that defines the orientation of the intermediate joint coordinate system $X_R^k Y_R^k Z_R^k$ with respect to the coordinate system $X^k Y^k Z^k$ of body k. This transformation matrix can be written in terms of the elastic rotations.

For small rotation [27],
$$A_R^k = I + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\vartheta_3 & \vartheta_2 \\ \vartheta_3 & 0 & -\vartheta_1 \\ -\vartheta_2 & \vartheta_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}_R^k$$
 (2.98)

where I is a 3×3 identity matrix. And

$$\vartheta_R^k = P \overline{S}_R^k q_f^k \tag{2.99}$$

Redefine Ω^{j} as

$$\Omega^{j} = \sum_{h} \dot{\theta}_{h}^{j} V_{h}^{j} \tag{2.100}$$

in which, if body *j* is a floating base body, let

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\theta}_{4}^{j} = \dot{\phi}^{j}, & \dot{\theta}_{5}^{j} = \dot{\alpha}^{j}, & \dot{\theta}_{6}^{j} = \dot{\psi}^{j} \\ V_{4}^{j} = G^{j}\vec{i}, V_{5}^{j} = G^{j}\vec{j}, V_{6}^{j} = G^{j}\vec{k} \end{cases}$$
(2.101)

where $\phi^{j}, \alpha^{j}, \psi^{j}$ are Euler angles of body j; $\vec{i}, \vec{j}, \vec{k}$ are unit vectors representing the orientation of the global inertial frame XYZ.

$$\therefore \quad \omega^{i} = \sum_{j=1}^{i} \pi_{ij} \left[\sum_{h} \dot{\theta}_{h}^{j} V_{h}^{j} + \sum_{k=1}^{N_{j}} \chi_{ik} A^{j} P \overline{S}_{k}^{j} \dot{q}_{f}^{j} \right]$$
(2.102)

Equation (2.17) can be written as

$$\dot{\varphi}^i = \hat{G}^i \omega^i \tag{2.103}$$

where \hat{G}^i is a matrix associated with φ^i and will be given in Appendix A. Substitute (2.102) into (2.103), then

$$\dot{\varphi}^{i} = \sum_{j=1}^{i} \pi_{ij} \widehat{G}^{i} \left[\sum_{h} \dot{\theta}_{h}^{j} V_{h}^{j} + \sum_{k=1}^{N_{j}} \chi_{ik} A^{j} P \overline{S}_{k}^{j} \dot{q}_{f}^{j} \right]$$
(2.104)

b) Translation Velocity

From Figure 2.4, the position vector of the *i*th body coordinate frame can be written as:

$$r^{i} = r^{l} + u_{T}^{l} + TS - u_{S}^{k} + u_{R}^{k} + RQ - u_{Q}^{j} + u_{P}^{j} + PO - u_{O}^{i}$$
(2.105)

Therefore, the translation velocity of the *i*th body coordinate frame can be represented as:

5

$$\dot{r}^{i} = (\dot{r}^{l} + TS + RQ + PO) + (\dot{u}_{T}^{l} - \dot{u}_{S}^{k} + \dot{u}_{R}^{k} - \dot{u}_{Q}^{j} + \dot{u}_{P}^{j} - \dot{u}_{O}^{i})$$
(2.106)

Where
$$u_S^k = A^k \overline{u}_S^k$$
 (2.107)

$$\dot{u}_{S}^{k} = \omega^{k} \times u_{S}^{k} + A^{k} \overline{S}_{S}^{k} \dot{q}_{f}^{k}$$
(2.108)

Repeating the procedure of equations (2.107) & (2.108) for the joint definition points T,R,Q,P,O, and substituting equation (2.90),(2.93),(2.94),(2.95),(2.108), etc. into equation (2.105), and applying the body & joint path matrices, yields:

$$\dot{r}_{i}^{i} = \sum_{j=1}^{i} \pi_{ij} \left\{ \dot{\gamma}^{j} - \left(\sum_{l=j}^{i} \pi_{il} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{j}} \chi_{ik} \widetilde{u}_{k}^{l}\right) \Omega_{j} + \sum_{k=1}^{N_{j}} \chi_{ik} \left[A^{j} \widetilde{S}_{k}^{j} - \left(\sum_{l=l}^{i} \pi_{il} \sum_{m=1}^{N_{j}} \chi_{im} \widetilde{u}_{m}^{l}\right) A^{j} P \overline{S}_{k}^{j} \right] \dot{q}_{j}^{j} \right\}$$
(2.109)

where $l1 = \begin{cases} j+1 & \text{if } \chi_{ik} = 1 \\ j & \text{if } \chi_{ik} = -1 \end{cases}$ (2.110)

 γ^{j} represents the relative translational motion of joint definition points which is defined as:

$$\gamma^{j} = \begin{cases} r^{j} & \text{if } j \text{ is a floating base body} \\ \sum_{h} \tau_{h}^{j} V_{h}^{j} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
(2.111)

where V_h^j and τ_h^j are the *h*th joint translation axis vector and relative displacement along the axis.

Therefore,
$$\dot{\gamma}^{j} = \begin{cases} \dot{r}^{j} & \text{if } j \text{ is a floating base body} \\ \sum_{h} (\dot{\tau}_{h}^{j} V_{h}^{j} + \tau_{h}^{j} \dot{V}_{h}^{j}) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 (2.112)

Redefine
$$\dot{\gamma}^{j}$$
 as $\dot{\gamma}^{j} = \sum_{h} (\dot{\tau}_{h}^{j} V_{h}^{j} + \tau_{h}^{j} \dot{V}_{h}^{j})$ (2.113)

Where if body j is a floating base body, let

$$\begin{cases} V_1^{\ j} = \vec{i}, V_2^{\ j} = \vec{j}, V_3^{\ j} = \vec{k} \\ \tau_1^{\ j} = \tau_2^{\ j} = \tau_3^{\ j} = 0 \\ \tau_1^{\ j} = \dot{x}^{\ j}, \tau_2^{\ j} = \dot{y}^{\ j}, \dot{\tau}_3^{\ j} = \dot{z}^{\ j} \end{cases}$$
(2.114)

where \dot{x}^{j} , \dot{y}^{j} , \dot{z}^{j} are the absolute velocity components of the floating base body with respect to the global inertial frame.

Again, let V_h^j be unit vectors along the translational axes of the joints that are rigidly attached to the origin of the intermediate frame $X_R^k Y_R^k Z_R^k$ and defined in this frame, then according to equation (2.97),

$$\dot{V}_h^j = \dot{A}^k A_R^k \overline{V}_h^j + A^k \dot{A}_R^k \overline{V}_h^j$$
(2.115)

where
$$A^k \dot{A}^k_R \overline{V}^j_h = A^k \widetilde{\overline{\omega}}^k_R A^k_R \overline{V}^j_h = A^k \widetilde{\overline{\omega}}^k_R (A^k)^{-1} A^k A^k_R \overline{V}^j_h$$
 (2.116)

Then according to [39],
$$A^k \widetilde{\overline{\omega}}_R^k (A^k)^{-1} = \widetilde{\omega}_R^k$$
 (2.117)

equation (2.116) becomes
$$A^k \dot{A}_R^k \overline{V}_h^j = \omega_R^k \times V_h^j$$
 (2.118)

Therefore $\dot{V}_h^j = (\omega^k + \omega_R^k) \times V_h^j$ (2.119)

Substituting equation (2.93) into the above equation, yields

$$\dot{V}_h^j = -\tilde{V}_h^j (\omega^j + \omega_K^j - \Omega^j)$$
(2.120)

where K is the number of the joint definition points on body j which makes $\chi_{iK} = -1$. Then

$$\boldsymbol{\omega}_{K}^{j} = A^{j} P \overline{S}_{K}^{j} \dot{q}_{f}^{j} \tag{2.121}$$

from (2.102), get
$$\omega^{j} = \sum_{n=1}^{j} \pi_{jn} \left[\Omega^{n} + \sum_{k=1}^{N_{j}} \chi_{jk} A^{n} P \overline{S}_{k}^{n} \dot{q}_{f}^{n} \right]$$
 (2.122)

Substituting equation (2.113),(2.120),(2.121),(2.122) into equation (2.109), equation (2.109) can be written as:

$$\dot{r}^{i} = \sum_{j=1}^{i} \pi_{ij} \left\{ \sum_{h} \dot{\tau}_{h}^{j} V_{h}^{j} + \xi_{ij} (\sum_{h} \dot{\theta}_{h}^{j} V_{h}^{j}) + \eta_{ij} \dot{q}_{f}^{j} \right\}$$
(2.123)

$$\xi_{ij} = \sum_{h} \tau_h^j \widetilde{V}_h^j - \sum_{l=j}^i \pi_{il} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{N_j} \chi_{ik} \widetilde{u}_k^l + \sum_{h} \tau_h^l \widetilde{V}_h^l \right)$$
(2.124)

$$\eta_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{N_j} \chi_{ik} (A^j \overline{S}_k^j - \sum_{l=l_1}^i \pi_{il} (\sum_{m=1}^{N_j} \chi_{im} \widetilde{u}_m^l + \sum_h \tau_h^l \widetilde{V}_h^l) A^j P \overline{S}_k^j) - (\sum_h \tau_h^j \widetilde{V}_h^j) A^j P \overline{S}_k^j$$
(2.125)

c) Velocity Transformation

In general, it is difficult to develop dynamic equations in terms of independent generalized coordinates for deformable multibody systems. Dynamic equations in terms of Cartesian coordinates can easily be obtained. The joint coordinate method transforms Cartesian coordinates to independent generalized coordinates based on a global velocity transformation. The vector of Cartesian velocities of the system with N_b bodies is written as

$$\dot{Y} = \left[\dot{Y}^{1T}, \dot{Y}^{2T}, \cdots, \dot{Y}^{N_b T}\right]^T$$
(2.126)

A vector of independent generalized coordinates of the *i*th body, q^i , is defined by the joint relative coordinates and elastic coordinates. That is:

$$\dot{q}^{i} = \left[\dot{\tau}^{iT}, \dot{\theta}^{iT}, \dot{q}^{iT}_{f}\right]^{T}$$
(2.127)

The vector of independent generalized coordinates for the system is written as

$$\dot{q} = \left[\dot{q}^{1T}, \dot{q}^{2T}, \dots, \dot{q}^{N}b^{T}\right]^{T}$$
 (2.128)

Therefore the global velocity transformation matrix B expresses the relationship between \dot{Y} and \dot{q} . That is

$$Y = B(q)\dot{q} \tag{2.129}$$

The time derivative of equation (2.129) yields an acceleration transformation equation.

$$\ddot{Y} = B(q)\ddot{q} + \dot{B}(q,\dot{q})\dot{q}$$
(2.130)

The matrices B and \dot{B} are derived from equation (2.104) and (2.123).

For example, a 6-body system is shown in Figure 2.1, the structures of matrix B and \dot{B} are expressed as

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} H_{ij} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} H_{11} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ H_{21} & H_{22} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ H_{31} & H_{32} & H_{33} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ H_{41} & H_{42} & H_{43} & H_{44} & 0 & 0 \\ H_{51} & H_{52} & 0 & 0 & H_{55} & 0 \\ H_{61} & H_{62} & 0 & 0 & H_{65} & H_{66} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \qquad \dot{B} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{H}_{ij} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{H}_{11} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \dot{H}_{21} & \dot{H}_{22} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \dot{H}_{31} & \dot{H}_{32} & \dot{H}_{33} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \dot{H}_{41} & \dot{H}_{42} & \dot{H}_{43} & \dot{H}_{44} & 0 & 0 \\ \dot{H}_{51} & \dot{H}_{52} & 0 & 0 & \dot{H}_{55} & 0 \\ \dot{H}_{61} & \dot{H}_{62} & 0 & 0 & \dot{H}_{65} & \dot{H}_{66} \end{bmatrix}$$

In which

$$H_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} V_{1i}^{j} \cdots V_{hi}^{j} & \xi_{ij} V_{1r}^{j} \cdots \xi_{ij} V_{lr}^{j} & \eta_{ij} \\ 0 & \hat{G}^{i} V_{1r}^{j} \cdots \hat{G}^{i} V_{lr}^{j} & \hat{G}^{i} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{j}} \lambda_{ik} D_{k}^{j} \\ 0 & 0 & R \end{bmatrix} , \text{ where } \begin{cases} R = I & \text{when } i = j \\ R = 0 & \text{when } i \neq j \end{cases}$$
(2.131)

$$\dot{H}_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{V}_{1t}^{j} \cdots \dot{V}_{ht}^{j} & \left(\xi_{ij} \dot{V}_{1r}^{j} + \xi_{ij} V_{1r}^{j}\right) \cdots \left(\xi_{ij} \dot{V}_{lr}^{j} + \xi_{ij} V_{lr}^{j}\right) & \dot{\eta}_{ij} \\ 0 & \left(\hat{G}^{i} \dot{V}_{1r}^{j} + \dot{G}^{i} V_{1r}^{j}\right) \cdots \left(\hat{G}^{i} \dot{V}_{lr}^{j} \cdots \dot{G}^{i} V_{lr}^{j}\right) & \dot{G}^{i} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{j}} \chi_{ik} D_{k}^{j} + \hat{G}^{i} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{j}} \chi_{ik} \dot{D}_{k}^{j} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
(2.132)

where
$$\xi_{ij} = -\sum_{l=j}^{i} \pi_{il} \sum_{k=1}^{N_j} \chi_{ik} U_k^l - \sum_{n=j+1}^{i} \pi_{in} C^n$$
 (2.133)

$$\eta_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{N_j} \chi_{ik} \Big[E_k^j - (\xi_{il1} - C^n) D_k^j - C^j D_k^j \Big]$$
(2.134)

$$\dot{\xi}_{ij} = -\sum_{l=j}^{i} \pi_{il} \sum_{k=1}^{N_j} \chi_{ik} \dot{U}_k^l - \sum_{n=j+1}^{i} \pi_{in} \dot{C}^n$$
(2.135)

$$\dot{\eta}_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{N_j} \chi_{ik} \left[\dot{E}_k^j - \left(\dot{\xi}_{il1} - \dot{C}^{l1} \right) D_k^j - \left(\xi_{il1} - C^{l1} \right) \dot{D}_k^j - \dot{C}^j D_K^j - C^j \dot{D}_K^j \right]$$
(2.136)

l1 is defined in equation (2.110).

$$U = \tilde{u} \qquad \dot{U} = \tilde{u}$$

$$C = \sum_{h} \tau_{h} \tilde{V}_{ht} \qquad \dot{C} = \sum_{h} \dot{\tau}_{h} \tilde{V}_{ht} + \tau_{h} \tilde{V}_{ht}$$

$$D = A \cdot P\overline{S} \qquad \dot{D} = \dot{A} \cdot P\overline{S}$$

$$E = A \cdot \overline{S} \qquad \dot{E} = \dot{A} \cdot \overline{S}$$

$$(2.137)$$

The superscripts of matrices U, C, D, E (or $\dot{U}, \dot{C}, \dot{D}, \dot{E}$) represent body numbers, the subscripts of matrices U, D, E (or $\dot{U}, \dot{D}, \dot{E}$) represent the joint definition points.

Note that the formulation can be simply applied to rigid multibody systems by eliminating matrices D and E and their derivative matrices.

For higher computational efficiency, the formulation can be further developed as the following recursive algorithm:

$$\xi_{ij+1} = \xi_{ij} + \pi_{ij} \sum_{k=1}^{N_j} \chi_{ik} U_k^{j} + \pi_{ij+1} C^{j+1}$$
(2.138)

2.5 Dynamic Equations for DMBS

 $\xi_{i+1j} = \xi_{ij} - \left(\sum_{k=1}^{N_j} \chi_{ik} U_k^{i+1} + C^{i+1}\right)$

For the whole system, the dynamic equations can be written as equation (2.84). Substitution of equation (2.124) and (2.125) into equation (2.84), yields

$$B^{T} M B \ddot{q} + (\Phi_{Y} B)^{T} \mu = B^{T} (Q_{v} + Q_{c} + Q_{s} + Q_{0} - M \dot{B} \dot{q})$$
(2.140)

For the constraint equations:

$$\delta\Phi(t,Y) = 0 \tag{2.141}$$

$$\Phi_Y \delta Y = 0 \implies \Phi_Y B \delta q = 0 \tag{2.142}$$

For a tree configuration system, q is an independent vector. Thus

$$\Phi_Y B = 0 \tag{2.143}$$

The dynamic equation for a spanning tree system is:

$$\therefore \quad B^T M B \ddot{q} = B^T \left(Q_v + Q_c + Q_s + Q_0 - M \dot{B} \dot{q} \right) \tag{2.144}$$

(2.139)

Equation (2.144) is a pure differential equation. It can be easily solved by any of a number of different numerical methods.

For a closed loop system, the constraint equations for cut joints can be written as

$$\Phi^*(t,Y) = 0 \tag{2.145}$$

$$\delta \Phi^* = \Phi^*_{\gamma} \delta Y = \Phi^*_{\gamma} B \delta q = 0 \tag{2.146}$$

The dynamic equation for a closed-loop system is:

$$\therefore \begin{cases} B^{T} M B \ddot{q} + (\Phi_{Y}^{*} B)^{T} \mu = B^{T} (Q_{v} + Q_{c} + Q_{s} + Q_{0} - M \dot{B} \dot{q}) \\ \Phi^{*}(t, Y) = 0 \end{cases}$$
(2.147)

Equation (2.147) is a differential-algebraic equation. For closed-loop systems, the dynamic equations will always be differential-algebraic equations as we found in the absolute coordinate method. Unlike the absolute coordinate method, only algebraic equations for each cut joint are needed to be constructed. The reduced number of algebraic equations will certainly lead to higher computational efficiency.

2.6 An Alternative Method for Deriving the Velocity Transformation

The velocity transformation can be obtained in an alternative way which is described in paper [35] for rigid MBS. This section extends and completes the method for deformable MBS.

The part of the topology description of the spanning tree system is still expressed by the body path matrix and bodies are labeled from "root to leaf". Each joint is labeled in the same way so that it agrees with the body number. In addition, the position vectors of the two joint definition points of each joint with reference to the body coordinate system are noted as $\overline{u}_{0+}(j)$ and $\overline{u}_{0-}(j)$ in which j is the number of the body or the joint. $\overline{u}_{0+}(j)$ and $\overline{u}_{0-}(j)$ are

represented whether the two points are connected with high or low numbered body respectively. A branch of a tree system is shown in Figure 2.5.

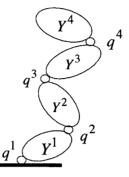


Figure 2.5 A branch of a tree system

Assume $q^{i} = \begin{bmatrix} \tau^{iT} & \theta^{iT} & q_{f}^{iT} \end{bmatrix}^{T}$ and $Y^{i} = \begin{bmatrix} r^{iT} & \varphi^{iT} & q_{f}^{iT} \end{bmatrix}^{T}$ are the relative and absolute vectors of the *i*th body. The absolute velocity of the base body can be written as:

$$\dot{Y}^{1} = J_{10}\dot{q}^{1} = J_{10}\dot{q}_{01} \tag{2.148}$$

For the second body, the absolute velocity can be expressed as the combination of the absolute velocity of the first body and the relative velocity between the first body and the second body, i.e.

$$\dot{Y}^2 = J_1 \dot{Y}^1 + J_{12} \dot{q}^2 \tag{2.149}$$

Substituting equation (2.148) into equation (2.149), yields

$$\dot{Y}^{2} = J_{1}J_{10}\dot{q}^{1} + J_{12}\dot{q}^{2}$$

$$= J_{1}J_{10}\dot{q}^{1} + J_{12}\dot{q}^{2} = \begin{bmatrix} J_{1}J_{10} & J_{12} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}^{1} \\ \dot{q}^{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} J_{1}J_{10} & J_{12} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_{01} \\ \dot{q}^{2} \end{bmatrix} = J_{20}\dot{q}_{02} \qquad (2.150)$$

.....

In the same way, the absolute velocities of the rest of the bodies are

$$\dot{Y}^{3} = \begin{bmatrix} J_{2} J_{20} & J_{23} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_{02} \\ \dot{q}^{3} \end{bmatrix} = J_{30} \dot{q}_{03}$$
(2.151)

with
$$J_{n0} = \begin{bmatrix} J_{n-1} J_{(n-1)0} & J_{(n-1)n} \end{bmatrix}$$
 (2.152)

Therefore, the velocity transformation matrix *B* for a tree-configured system is obtained by assembling J_{n0} ($n = 1, \dots, N_b$) according to the body path matrix. For example, for the system shown in Figure 2.1, the *B* matrix is

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} J_{10} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ J_{20} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ J_{30} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ J_{40} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \overline{J}_{50} & 0 & 0 & \overline{J}_{50} & 0 \\ \overline{J}_{60} & 0 & 0 & \overline{J}_{60} \end{bmatrix}$$
(2.153)

where $J_{50} = [\overline{J}_{50} \ \overline{\overline{J}}_{50}]$ and $J_{60} = [\overline{J}_{60} \ \overline{\overline{J}}_{60}]$ are partitioned into two parts which are associated with the DOF of the first two bodies and the rest of the bodies. Differentiation of equation (2.152) yields

$$\dot{J}_{n0} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{J}_{n-1} J_{(n-1)0} + J_{n-1} \dot{J}_{(n-1)0} & \dot{J}_{(n-1)n} \end{bmatrix}$$
(2.154)

Thus the derivative of matrix *B* also can be obtained by assembling \dot{J}_{n0} according to the body path matrix in the same way that matrix *B* was.

The matrix J_{n0} is composed of three matrices shown in equation (2.152). The first one J_{n-1} represents the motion due to the inboard directly-connected body; The second one $J_{(n-1)0}$ represents the motion due to the other inboard bodies from the base body to the inboard directly-connected body. This matrix is obtained recursively. The third one $J_{(n-1)n}$ reflects the motion due to the joint between two connected bodies. They can be developed as follows. Consider the two connected bodies shown in Figure 2.6.

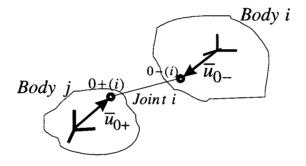


Figure 2.6 Two adjoining bodies

The position vector of the *i*th body coordinate system is

$$r^{i} = r^{j} + A^{j}(\overline{u}_{0+}^{j} + \overline{S}_{0+}q_{f}^{j}) - A^{i}(\overline{u}_{0-}^{i} + \overline{S}_{0-}q_{f}^{i}) + \tau^{i}$$
(2.155)

Differentiation of the above equation and substitution into equation (2.113) yields

$$\dot{r}^{i} = \dot{r}^{j} + \tilde{u}_{0-}(i)\omega^{i} - \tilde{u}_{0+}(i)\omega^{j} + A^{j}\overline{S}_{0+}\dot{q}_{f}^{j} - A^{i}\overline{S}_{0-}\dot{q}_{f}^{i} + \sum_{h}(\dot{\tau}_{h}^{i}V_{h}^{i} + \tau_{h}^{i}\dot{V}_{h}^{i})$$
(2.156)

Also, the angular velocity can be written as

$$\omega^{i} = \omega^{j} + \Omega^{i} + A^{j} P \overline{S}_{0+} \dot{q}_{f}^{j} - A^{i} P \overline{S}_{0-} \dot{q}_{f}^{i}$$

$$(2.157)$$

Substitute equation (2.157) into (2.156), then

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$$\dot{r}^{i} = \dot{r}^{j} + (\tilde{u}_{0-} - \tilde{u}_{0+})\omega^{j} + \tilde{u}_{0-}\Omega^{i} + (\tilde{u}_{0-}A^{j}P\overline{S}_{0+} + A^{j}\overline{S}_{0+})\dot{q}_{f}^{j}$$

$$-(\tilde{u}_{0-}A^{i}P\bar{S}_{0-}^{i}+A^{i}\bar{S}_{0-}^{i})\dot{q}_{f}^{i}+\sum_{h}\dot{\tau}_{h}^{i}V_{h}^{i}+\sum_{h}\tau_{h}^{i}\dot{V}_{h}^{i}$$
(2.158)

According to equation (2.120), $\dot{V}_{h}^{i} = -\tilde{V}_{h}^{i}(\omega^{i} + \omega_{0-}^{i} - \Omega^{i})$ (2.159)

Substitution of equation (2.157) into (2.159) yields

$$\dot{V}_{h}^{i} = -\widetilde{V}_{h}^{i}(\omega^{j} + A^{j}P\overline{S}_{0+}\dot{q}_{f}^{j})$$
(2.160)

Substitute (2.17), (2.100), (2.103), (2.160) into (2.157) and (2.158), then

$$\dot{r}^{i} = \dot{r}^{j} + \left(\tilde{u}_{0-} - \tilde{u}_{0+} - \sum_{h} \tau_{h}^{i} \tilde{V}_{h}^{i}\right) G^{j} \dot{\phi}^{j} + \tilde{u}_{0-} \sum_{h} V_{h}^{i} \dot{\theta}_{h}^{i} + \sum_{h} V_{h}^{i} \dot{\tau}_{h}^{i}$$
$$+ \left[\left(\tilde{u}_{0-} - \sum_{h} \tau_{hi}^{i} \tilde{V}_{h}^{i}\right) A^{j} P \overline{S}_{0+} + A^{j} \overline{S}_{0+}\right] \dot{q}_{f}^{j} - \left(\tilde{u}_{0-} A^{i} P \overline{S}_{0-} + A^{i} \overline{S}_{0-}\right) \dot{q}_{f}^{i} \qquad (2.161)$$

and $\dot{\phi}^{i} = \hat{G}^{i}(G^{j}\dot{\phi}^{j} + \sum_{h} V_{hr}^{i}\dot{\theta}^{i} + A^{j}P\overline{S}_{0+}\dot{q}_{f}^{j} - A^{i}P\overline{S}_{0-}\dot{q}_{f}^{i})$ (2.162)

Therefore

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{r}^{i} \\ \dot{\phi}^{i} \\ \dot{q}^{i}_{f} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I & \left(\widetilde{u}_{0-} - \widetilde{u}_{0+} - \sum_{h} \tau^{i}_{h} \widetilde{V}^{i}_{hi} \right) G^{j} & \left(\widetilde{u}_{0-} - \sum_{h} \tau^{i}_{h} \widetilde{V}^{i}_{hi} \right) A^{j} P \overline{S}_{0+} + A^{j} \overline{S}_{0+} \\ 0 & \widehat{G}^{i} G^{j} & A^{j} P \overline{S}_{0+} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{r}^{j} \\ \dot{\phi}^{j} \\ \dot{q}^{j}_{f} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$+ \begin{bmatrix} V_{it}^{i} \cdots V_{ht}^{i} & \widetilde{u}_{0-} V_{1r}^{i} \cdots \widetilde{u}_{0-} V_{hr}^{i} & -\widetilde{u}_{0-} A^{i} P \overline{S}_{0-} - A^{i} \overline{S}_{0-} \\ 0 & \widehat{G}^{i} V_{1r}^{i} \cdots \widetilde{G}^{i} V_{hr}^{i} & -\widehat{G}^{i} A^{i} P \overline{S}_{0-} \\ 0 & 0 & I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\tau}^{i} \\ \dot{\theta}^{i} \\ \dot{q}_{f}^{i} \end{bmatrix}$$
(2.163)

Let i = n, j = n - 1 $(n = 2, \dots, N_b)$, then

$$J_{n-1} = \begin{bmatrix} I & \left(\widetilde{u}_{0-} - \widetilde{u}_{0+} - \sum_{h} \tau_{h}^{n} \widetilde{V}_{ht}^{n} \right) G^{n-1} & \left(\widetilde{u}_{0-} - \sum_{h} \tau_{h}^{n} \widetilde{V}_{ht}^{n} \right) A^{n-1} P \overline{S}_{0+} + A^{n-1} \overline{S}_{0+} \\ 0 & \widehat{G}^{n} \overline{G}^{n-1} & A^{n-1} P \overline{S}_{0+} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
(2.164)

$$J_{(n-1)n} = \begin{bmatrix} V_{it}^{n} \cdots V_{ht}^{n} & \tilde{u}_{0-} V_{1r}^{n} \cdots \tilde{u}_{0-} V_{lr}^{n} & -\tilde{u}_{0-} A^{n} P \overline{S}_{0-} - A^{n} \overline{S}_{0-} \\ 0 & \hat{G}^{n} V_{1r}^{n} \cdots \tilde{G}^{n} V_{lr}^{n} & -\hat{G}^{n} A^{n} P \overline{S}_{0-} \\ 0 & 0 & I \end{bmatrix}$$
(2.165)

For a system with a grounded base body n = 1, $J_{10} = J_{01}$ which can be evaluated from equation (2.165). For a system with a floating base body n = 1, J_{10} can be developed from equation (2.100), (2.103) and (2.113). Thus

$$J_{10} = \begin{bmatrix} V_{1t}^{1} \cdots V_{3t}^{1} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & \hat{G}^{1} V_{1t}^{1} \cdots \hat{G}^{1} V_{3t}^{1} & 0\\ 0 & 0 & I \end{bmatrix}$$
(2.166)

where V_{ht}^1 and V_{hr}^1 are defined in equation (2.114) and (2.101).

2.7 Discussions

The joint coordinate method developed above has been shown clearly to have some advantages. First, the final dynamic equations are expressed by independent generalized coordinates so that the computation is efficient compared with other methods expressed by redundant generalized coordinates. Second, the use of both absolute and relative coordinates makes the modelling of all kinds of force elements, control elements and joint constraints very convenient. Moreover, the inertial matrices, the centrifugal and coriolis (gyroscopic) force vectors, elastic force vectors and external generalized force vectors associated with absolute coordinates are formed in a systematic way independently for each body. Thus they are capable of being applied in a parallel computation implementation for large-scale system simulations. The velocity transformation matrix developed in section 2.4 can be constructed recursively from two different directions. This again makes the parallel computation implementation of velocity transformation feasible. The formulation method also allows us to extend the formulations easily into closed-loop configuration systems. Although there are some dependent generalized coordinates in the final dynamic equations for closed-loop systems, the number of dependent generalized coordinates is very small compared with the absolute coordinate method. And the joint coordinate method does not need to model joint constraints and solve differential-algebraic equations for tree topology MBS. The last but not the least is the formulations developed by joint coordinate method are implicit. This will ensure the numerical stability no matter what kinds of systems are dealt with, whether stiff or nonstiff systems. Deformable MBS do need this security to get accurate and efficient solutions.

The velocity transformation matrix developed in section 2.4 has been decomposed into the terms that are associated with the properties of joint definition points and joints. The properties of joint definition points and joints which are reflected in matrices U,C,D,E or $\dot{U},\dot{C},\dot{D},\dot{E}$ are able to be evaluated independently for each joint and joint definition point. The velocity transformation is then obtained by manipulating those matrices according to the body path matrix and joint path matrix. This not only makes it possible to implement parallel computation to a great extent but also reduces the possibility of redundant calculations. The velocity transformation matrix developed in section 2.6 also has the capability of being implemented in parallel computation because matrices J_{n-1} and $J_{(n-1)n}$ can be calculated independently for each body and joint. Although J_{n-1} and $J_{(n-1)n}$ have simple forms and the

topology description seems to be compact, the computation time for constructing velocity transformation matrices may not be less than that of the formulations in section 2.4 due to the numbers of factors for forming J_{n0} and its assembly procedure. An absolute comparison between these two velocity transformation matrices is beyond the scope of this thesis.

The main contribution in this chapter is the development of global velocity transformation which is described in section 2.4 and 2.6. The new topology definition or joint path matrix makes the derivation of section 2.4 feasible.

Chapter 3

Numerical Validation of the General Purpose Software

3.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the capacities and the structure of the developed general purpose software. In order to verify the software, a two-link 3-D manipulator with one link rigid and the other link flexible is used as a test example. The tracked variation of the total energy of the system is compared to the strain energy to demonstrate that the strain energy is much larger than the numerical noise level of the total energy. The validation also includes using different numbers of elements for the flexible link. A three-link manipulator and an eight-link manipulator are tested to show that the software is able to deal with different configuration systems. Moreover, a modal representation of the flexible link and the effect of the small elastic deformations on the large rigid motion are investigated.

3.2 Software Implementation

A general purpose program for time-domain simulation of deformable MBS based on the joint coordinate method developed in section 2.4 has been programmed into FORTRAN. The program deals with arbitrary configuration systems with 1-6 DOF ideal joints and with rigid or deformable bodies. Internal force elements such as springs and dampers, and external driving force elements such as PD controllers, concentrated forces and moments are also included in the software. The constraints for spherical joints, universal joints, cylindrical joints, revolute joints and translational joints are modelled to meet the requirement of dealing with closed-loop systems. This code is not designed to solve constraint drifting problems which may occur in closed-loop systems although it does handle closed-loop systems. The input parameters include body and joint path matrices, the properties of each rigid or elastic body (although

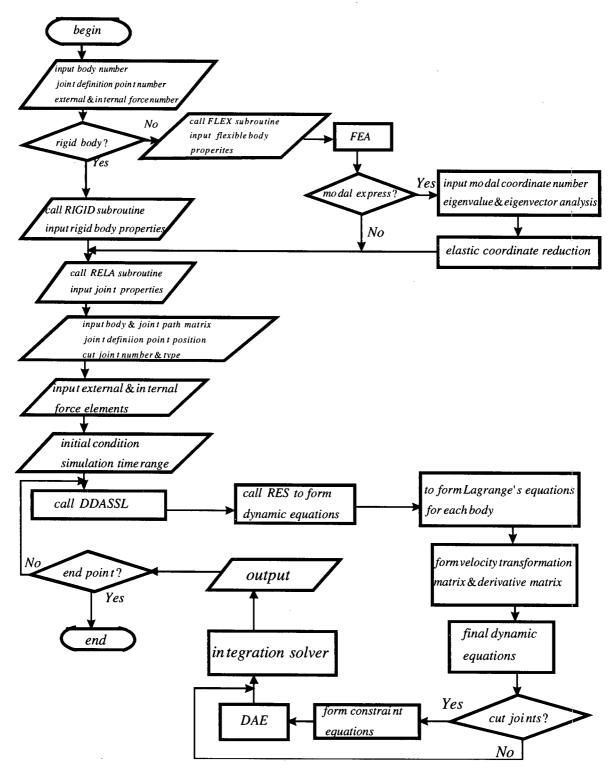


Figure 3.1 Flow chart of the developed software

only beam elements are included currently), the positions of the joint definition points, the directions and number of DOFs of each joint, the positions and the types of internal and external force elements, initial conditions, etc.. The eigenvalue and eigenvector analysis of each elastic body is also incorporated. The eigenvalue analysis can be used for elastic coordinate reduction to increase computational efficiency. Users may choose how many modal coordinates they want according to the application. The numerical integration solver used is the code DDASSL which is the most widely-used solver in commercial MBS simulation software. DDASSL, which is based on backward difference formulas, is designed to be used for the solution of differential equations and differential-algebraic equations. A detailed introduction of DDASSL can be found in [58]. The total code includes more than 5000 lines excluding the DDASSL code. A flow chart of this program is shown in Figure 3.1.

3.3 Total Energy Validation for Two Different Examples

This section presents a basic validation of the formulations and the code. The software and the dynamic formulations are general. The total system energy is tracked for a simple system. The system shown in Figure 3.2 is a two-link manipulator with one link rigid and the other one flexible. The kinematic parameters of the two links are listed in Table 3.1. The joint inertia has been included in the moment of inertia in y direction of link 1.

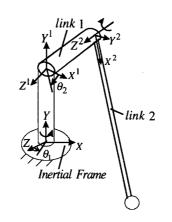


Figure 3.2 A two-link manipulator

Link 1 (rigid)	Link 2 (flexible)
steel, mass = 2.067 kg, length = 0.231 m	aluminum, mass = 0.2007 kg, length = 1.02 m
mass center: $x_c = 0.0m, y_c = 0.0m, z_c = -0.1155m$	density $\rho = 2770 kg / m^3$, $A = 7.104 \times 10^{-5} m^2$
moment of inertia: $I_{xx} = 0.04022 kgm^2$	square tube 12.7mm×12.7mm×1.6mm
$I_{yy} = 0.08884 kgm^2$	modulus of elasticity $E = 0.69 \times 10^{11} Pa$
$I_{zz} = 3.752 \times 10^{-4} kgm^2$	modulus of rigidity $G = 0.26 \times 10^{11} Pa$

Table 3.1 The parameters of the two links

The joints are both revolute joints and are regarded as rigid. No control torques or friction is applied at either joint. At the tip of the second link, a concentrated mass $m_t = 0.5 kg$ is attached. The initial conditions are $\theta_1(0) = 1.5 rad$ and $\theta_2(0) = -1.0 rad$ with no initial deformation or velocity. The finite element method is used for modelling the flexible link as a Bernoulli-Euler beam with clamped-free boundary conditions. The elastic link is expressed by one beam element in this simulation. Thus the system has eight degrees of freedom in total, two rigid joint variables and six elastic variables. The six elastic variables are the translational and rotational deformations of the link tip. The system is a grounded chain system with three joint definition points. The body path matrix and joint path matrix are

$$\pi = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \qquad \chi = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The expected motion of the two joints would be harmonic if the second link were rigid and the motions were small. The use of an elastic link should not significantly affect the motion of two joints. The total energy of the system is set to be zero at the rest position. Small structural damping is considered in the elastic link. The structural damping is usually modelled as Rayleigh or proportional damping to form a damping matrix [C] which is a linear combination of the stiffness and mass matrices, that is [59]

$$[C] = \alpha [K] + \beta [M] \tag{3.1}$$

where α and β are, respectively, the stiffness and mass proportional damping constants. For structures that may have rigid-body motion, it is important that the mass-proportional damping not be excessive [59]. Assume β is negligible, then

$$[C] = \alpha[K] \tag{3.2}$$

The generalized structural damping force is

$$Q_d = -\alpha \, K \dot{q}_f \tag{3.3}$$

The followings are the simulation results with structural damping $\alpha = 0.0003$ and without structural damping. Their differences can not be distinguished in some figures due to the small value of the structural damping.

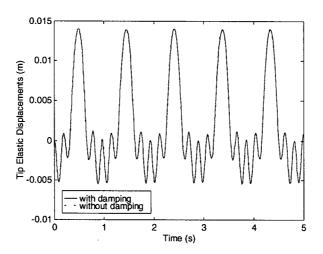


Figure 3.3 Elastic displacement along the axis direction of joint two (Z^2)

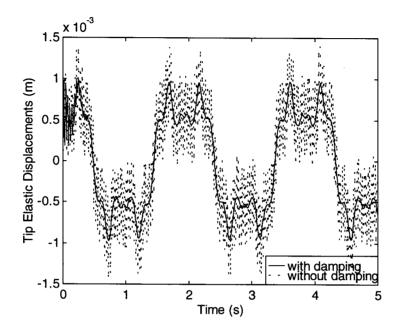


Figure 3.4 Elastic displacement perpendicular to the axis direction of joint two (Y^2)

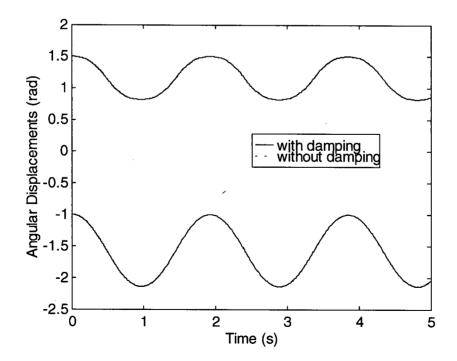


Figure 3.5 Angular displacements of both joints (upper-joint 1; lower-joint 2)

1

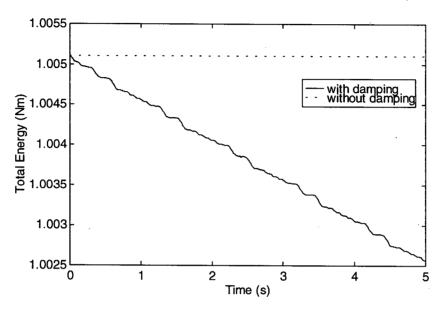


Figure 3.6 Total energy

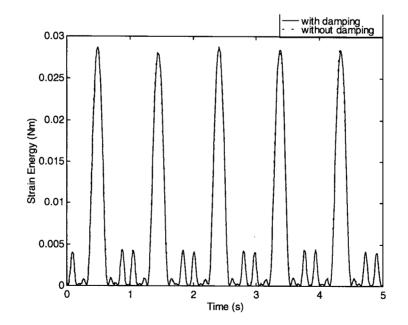


Figure 3.7 Strain energy

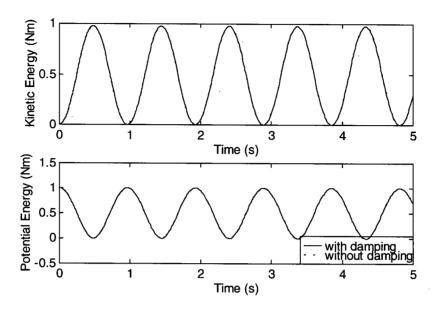


Figure 3.8 Kinetic and potential energy

The above simulation results show that the motions of the joints are as expected. The total energy in the conservative system (without damping) is a constant. The maximum absolute error of the total energy is about 3×10^{-6} Nm. The maximum strain energy is around 0.028 Nm, which is much larger than the maximum absolute error of the total energy. Comparing these two values lends credence to the accuracy of the simulation. The relative error of total energy should not be a standard to evaluate the accuracy of the simulation results although reference [25,28] both showed very small relative error.

The total energy in the nonconservative system (with damping) shows that it indeed continues to decrease due to structural damping. The addition of structural damping makes the high frequency vibration die out (shown in Figure 3.4). Thus the numerical stability is improved. All the results show that the simulations are stable.

Another check on the validity of the software is to replace the one beam element of the elastic link with 5 beam elements. The comparison of energies for the case of one element and

five elements are illustrated in Figure 3.9~3.11. The differences are hardly discernible in Figure 3.10 and 3.11. However, Figure 3.9 does show a small difference which indicates that the total energy for the one element case is larger than the total energy for the five elements case. This is consistent with the energy being a minimum for the exact solution since the five-element representation is more accurate than the one element representation.

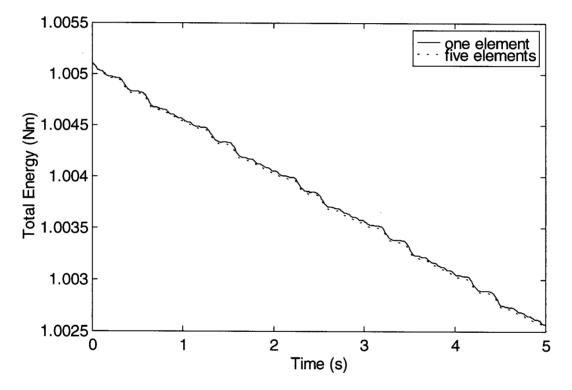


Figure 3.9 Total energy comparison

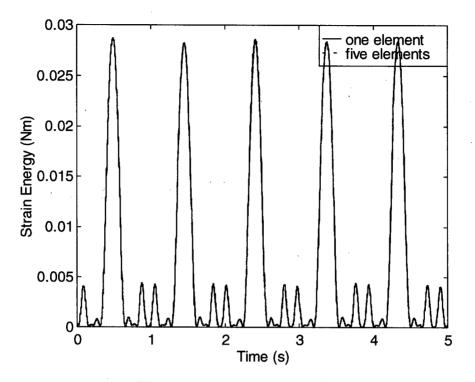


Figure 3.10 Strain energy comparison

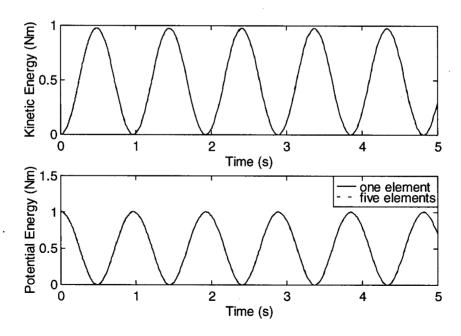


Figure 3.11 Kinetic and potential energy comparison

Another example is a three-link manipulator with two revolute joints and one translational joint, two rigid links and one flexible link, shown in Figure 3.12. The properties of the links are listed in Table 3.2.

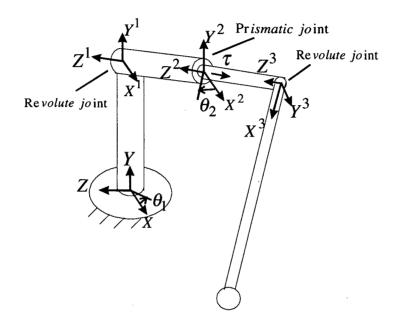


Figure 3.12 A three-link manipulator

Link 1 (rigid)	Link 2 (rigid)	Link 3 (flexible)		
steel, mass = 2.067 kg	steel, mass = 2.067 kg	aluminum, mass = 0.2007 kg		
length = 0.231 m	length = 0.462 m	length = 1.02m		
mass center:	mass center:	density: $\rho = 2770 kg / m^3$		
$x_c = 0.0m, y_c = 0.0m, z_c = -0.1155m$	$x_c = 0.0m, y_c = 0.0m, z_c = -0.231m$	area: $A = 7.104 \times 10^{-5} m^2$		
moment of inertia:	moment of inertia:	square tube:		
$I_{xx} = 0.04022 kgm^2$	$I_{xx} = 0.04022 kgm^2$	12.7mm×12.7mm×1.6mm		
$I_{yy} = 0.08884 kgm^2$	$I_{yy} = 0.08884 kgm^2$	modulus of elasticity $E = 0.69 \times 10^{11} P_{c}$		
$I_{zz} = 3.752 \times 10^{-4} kgm^2$	$I_{zz} = 3.752 \times 10^{-4} kgm^2$	modulus of rigidity $G = 0.26 \times 10^{11} Pa$		

Table 3.2 The parameters of the three links

There are no control torques, friction or flexibility at the joints. A mass $m_t = 0.5kg$ is attached to the tip of the elastic link. The structural damping $\alpha = 0.0003$ is included in the flexible link. The initial conditions are $\theta_1 = 1.5 rad$, $\tau_1 = 0.0 m$, $\theta_2 = -1.0 rad$ with all other variables equal to zero. The simulation results are shown in Figure 3.13 ~ 3.17. The energy check and the responses show that the results are reasonable.

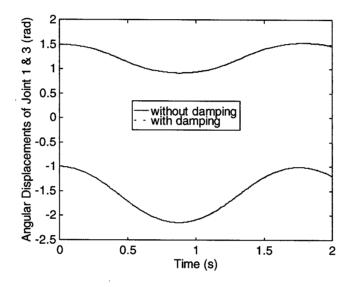


Figure 3.13 Angular displacements of joint 1 and joint 3 (upper-joint 1; lower-joint 2)

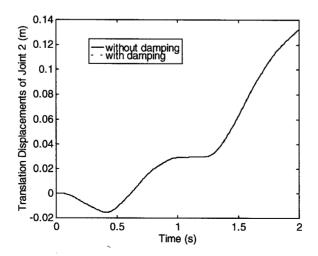


Figure 3.14 Translation displacement of joint 2

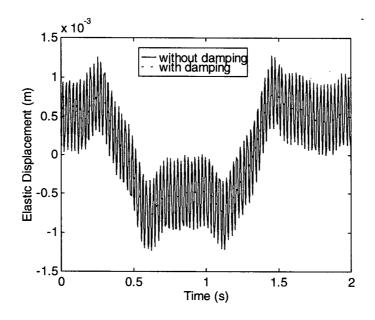


Figure 3.15 Elastic displacement of link 3 (perpendicular to the axis direction of joint 2)

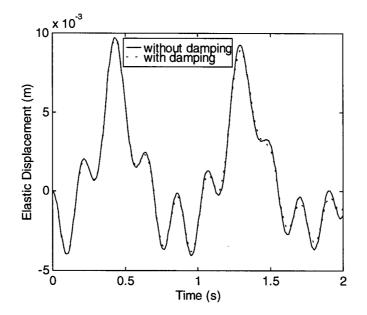


Figure 3.16 Elastic displacement of link 3 tip (parallel to the axis direction of joint 2)

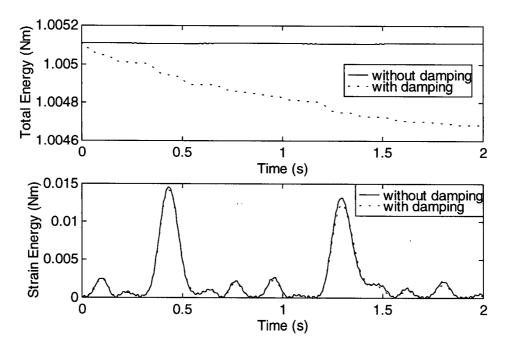


Figure 3.17 Total energy and strain energy

The software can handle tree topology systems as easily as chain topology systems. The following example demonstrates the program applied to a system with PD control of a tree-configured MBS.

An eight-link manipulator, shown in Figure 3.18, is operated under a PD control law to reach a new configuration. The manipulator is composed of two flexible links and six rigid links. Six revolute joints, one translational joint and one spherical joint interconnect the links. The parameters of the links are given in Table 3.3. All the motors and PD control gains are the same. The motors have inertias of 2.0 kgm^2 / rad each. The motors have mechanical and electrical resistances of 0.5 $kgm^2 / rad / s$. The gear ratios are all 1.0. The proportional and derivative gains are 100 Nm/rad and 30 Nm/(rad/s), respectively. The initial joint positions and final required joint positions are given in Table 3.4. The structural damping coefficient for the two flexible links is 0.00025. The simulation results are shown in Figure 3.19 ~ 3.24.

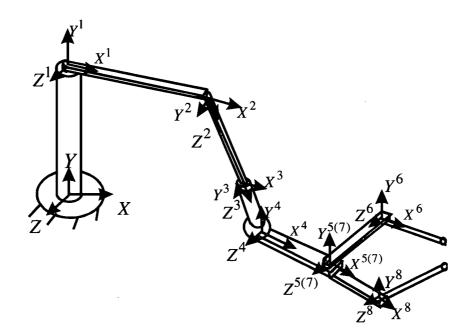


Figure 3.18 An eight-link manipulator

Link 1 & 2 (flexible)	Link-3~8.(rigid)
aluminum, length = 1.0m	steel, mass = 0.06125 kg, length = 0.1 m
density $\rho = 2770 kg / m^3$, $A = 7.104 \times 10^{-5} m^2$	mass center: $x = 0.05m$, $y = 0.0m$, $z = 0.0m$
square tube 12.7mm×12.7mm×1.6mm	moment of inertia: $I_{xx} = 7.6563 \times 10^{-7} kgm$
modulus of elasticity $E = 0.69 \times 10^{11} Pa$	$I_{yy} = 2.0455 \times 10^{-4} kgm$
modulus of rigidity $G = 0.26 \times 10^{11} Pa$	$I_{zz} = 2.0455 \times 10^{-4} kgm$

Table 3.3 The parameters of the eight-link manipulator

	joint 1	joint 2	joint 3	joint 4	joint 5	joint 6	joint 7	joint 8
	(rad)	(rad)	(m)	(rad)	(rad)	(rad)	(rad)	(rad)
initial	1.3	0.4	0.0	0.0,0.0,0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0
final	0.4	0.6	-0.02	0.5,0.5,0.5	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.4

Table 3.4 The initial and final positions of the joints

:

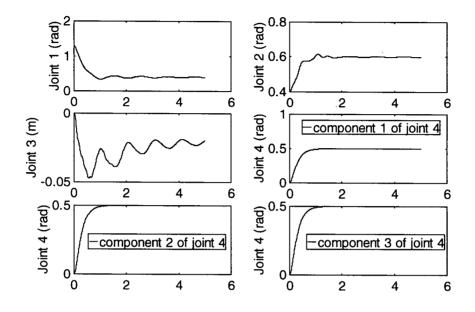


Figure 3.19 Displacements of joint 1 ~ 4 vs time (s)

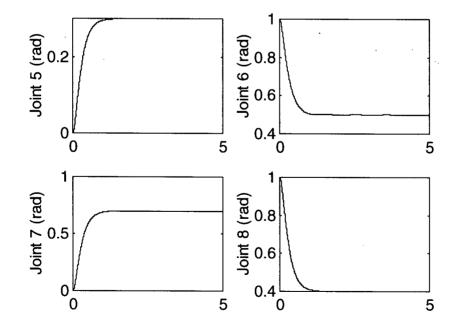


Figure 3.20 Displacements of joint 5 ~ 8 vs time (s)

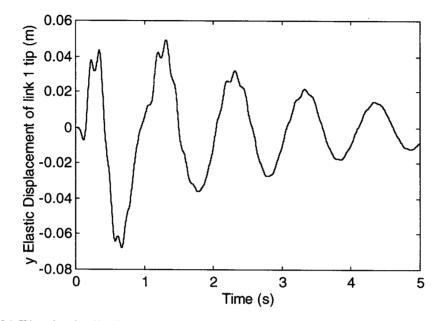


Figure 3.21 Tip elastic displacement of link 1 in the y direction of the body coordinate system

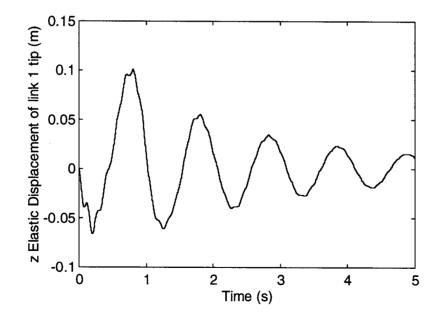


Figure 3.22 Tip elastic displacement of link 1 in the z direction of the body coordinate system

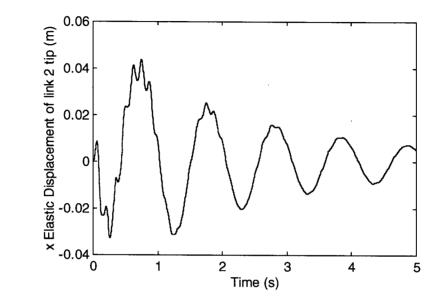


Figure 3.23 Tip elastic displacement of link 2 in the x direction of the body coordinate system

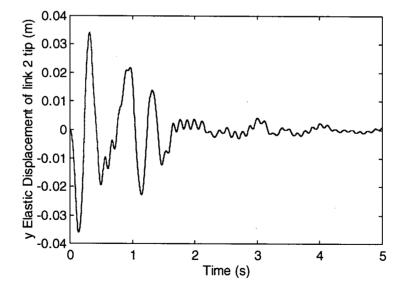


Figure 3.24 Tip elastic displacement of link 2 in the y direction of the body coordinate system

7

The results show that the elastic deformations of the two flexible links not only affect the tip positions of the manipulator but also affect the control of the joint positions. An effective control method needs to be provided to reach accurate positions.

3.4 Modal Representation

The finite element method requires a large number of elastic coordinates. In many applications, the number of elastic coordinates is much larger than the number of joint degrees of freedom. In order to reduce the number of elastic degrees of freedom, the modal representation method can been employed. A few of the lowest frequency normal vibration modes and modal coordinates are used to represent the elastic deformations. This approach may lead to some errors due to the inability of normal vibration modes to account for local deformation effects induced by concentrated loads or constraint forces [38]. However, this method may have enough accuracy for some applications and significantly decreases the number of degree of freedom required.

In the method presented below, the elastic deformation of a flexible body i is represented by a linear combination of the component modes B_m^i multiplied by time-dependent generalized modal coordinates q_{fm}^i , i.e.

$$q_f^i = B_m^i q_{fm}^i \tag{3.4}$$

The modal matrix B_m^i whose columns consist of linearly independent deformation modes is obtained by solving the eigenvalue problem of each deformable body only once.

If the body i is assumed to vibrate freely about a reference configuration, then

$$m_{ff}^{i}\ddot{q}_{f}^{i} + K_{f}^{i}q_{f}^{i} = 0 \tag{3.5}$$

Define $q_f^i = a^i e^{j\omega t}$ in order to solve the eigenvalue problem for equation (3.5).

$$\left[K_f^i - \omega^2 m_{ff}^i\right]a^i = 0 \tag{3.6}$$

Solving the eigenvalue problem yields the eigenvalues $(\omega_k^i)^2$ and eigenvectors a_k^i ($k = 1, ..., n_f$), where n_f is the number of DOFs of the elastic coordinates of body i.

Let n_m be the lowest frequency modes, which are more likely to be excited, and discard the other higher modes, then

$$q_f^i \approx \left[a_1 \ a_2 \cdots a_{n_m}\right]^i q_{fm}^i = B_m^i q_{fm}^i \tag{3.7}$$

If $n_m \ll n_f$, the number of elastic coordinates are reduced significantly.

The implementation of this coordinate reduction in the software requires little change in the formulations. The only change in the formulations is \overline{S}^{ik} of equation (2.14), i.e.

$$\overline{S}^{ik} = C^{ik} \widehat{S}^{ik} \overline{C}^{ik} B_1^{ik} B_2^i B_m^i$$
(3.8)

and the final values for elastic deformations are modal coordinates.

For the previously-introduced case of the two-link manipulator with one link rigid and the other link flexible, the pre-processing of the software gives six eigenvalues and eigenvectors for the second link represented by one beam element. The frequencies and the modes respectively are shown in Table 3.5.

The first two frequencies and modes in Table 3.3 indicate that two first-order bending modes in two perpendicular planes. Previous simulation results (section 3.2) show that only the first order mode is excited for the case of a two-link manipulator. Therefore, retaining only two modal coordinates should be sufficient to represent accurately the elastic deformation of the second link. The simulation results demonstrate that although the solutions are slightly

Freq. (Hz)	3.39	3.39	58.8	58.8	440.5	6604.4
Modes	0	0	0	0	1	0
	-0.6653	0	0	0.0484	0	0
	0	0.6653	0.0484	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	1
	0	-1	1	0	0	0
	-1	0	0	-1	0	0

Table 3.5 Eigenvalues and eigenvectors of a two-link manipulator

different numerically for the six elastic coordinate case compared with the two modal coordinate case, their joint motions exactly agree with each other, as shown in Figure 3.25. In other words, the modal representation method can reduce the number of elastic coordinates for more efficient computations while maintaining high accuracy in some applications.

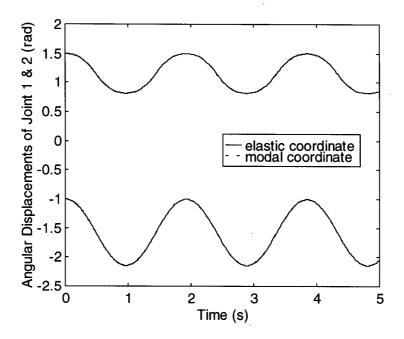


Figure 3.25 Comparison of the six elastic coordinate case and the two modal coordinate case

3.5 Flexibility Coupling Effects

Coupling between the large rigid body displacements and the small elastic deformations exists as the result of the finite rotations. This coupling is represented by non-linear terms in the mass matrix and the coriolis and centrifugal force components. The inertia tensor of the deformable body defined in the body coordinate system is not a constant matrix since it depends on the body deformation. The deformation may have a large effect on joint motions. This section gives a quantitative impression of the importance of this coupling effect through an example.

The two-link manipulator discussed in section 3.3 is employed for this purpose. The response of the manipulator to an initial disturbance is compared between two cases; the one discussed previously in section 3.3 and a second one in which both links are treated as rigid. The comparison of simulation results for the two cases demonstrates the flexibility effect on the joint motions. The simulation results under the same initial condition as section 3.3 are shown in Figure 3.26 and 3.27.

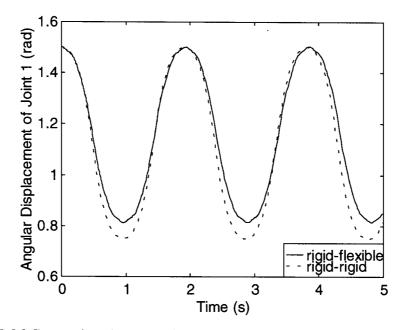


Figure 3.26 Comparison between rigid-rigid and rigid-flexible manipulator (joint 1)

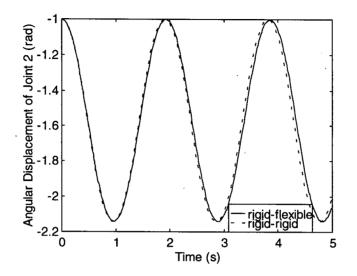


Figure 3.27 Comparison between rigid-rigid and rigid-flexible manipulator (joint 2)

The deformation effect on the joint motions is most clearly revealed in Figure 3.26. The magnitude difference indicates that a part of the system total energy has been used for overcoming elastic deformation. The magnitude of the difference depends on the magnitude of deformation of the flexible link. The small difference in Figure 3.27 shows that the deformation in the perpendicular direction of joint 2 is very small due to the rigid motion in this direction. Moreover, Figure 3.26 and 3.27 show that the frequency is shifted. The small difference in frequency is caused by the effect of small elastic deformation on the inertia matrix, gyroscopic and centrifugal forces. The comparison results show that the elastic deformations have a large effect on the joint motions and ignoring elastic deformations results in modelling errors.

3.6 Summary

Numerous examples of flexible MBS simulations have been presented, based on the formulation developed in Chapter Two. Two flexible manipulators were used for the

validation of the newly developed formulations and the program. The absolute errors in total energy and the strain energy were compared to ensure that the small elastic deformations are not buried within the numerical noise. The results for the two manipulators show that the total energies are conserved within the simulations and the strain energies are several orders larger than the absolute errors of the total energies. These demonstrations support the accuracy of the formulations and the code. One and five element FEA discretization of a flexible link within a MBS have been compared. The example of the eight-link manipulator under PD control has demonstrated that the program can deal with tree-configured systems. Modal reduction was discussed and comparisons presented. The results show that modal reduction is able to reduce the number of elastic coordinates without compromising accuracy. The effect of elastic deformations on the joint motions is investigated numerically. The simulation results show that the magnitudes and the frequencies of joint motions are affected by the elastic deformations.

Chapter 4

Experimental Validation

4.1 Introduction

The validity of any numerical modelling is greatly strengthened when compared and confirmed against experimental data. Several experiments in 2-D DMBS have been conducted [62,73]. Unfortunately, no 3-D experiments to verify the simulation modelling of deformable MBS have been found in the published literature. This chapter covers the description of an experimental apparatus, a series of experiments performed with that apparatus and comparisons with the numerical simulations performed with the numerical modelling previously described.

4.2 Physical Description

The experimental apparatus is shown in Figure 4.1. It corresponds to one of the numerical models described in the previous chapter. The test rig consists of two links, joined by a revolute joint and attached to the ground by another revolute joint. The revolute joint which attaches the first link to the ground is implemented through a pair of precision ball bearings mounted one above the other. The first link, made of a solid steel rod, is constrained to rotate in a horizontal plane by the first joint. The second joint is also implemented through another pair of precision ball bearings aligned with the axis of the first link. The second link is constrained to rotate in a vertical plane, perpendicular to the axis of the first link. The second link is a hollow, square, aluminum tube of sufficiently small bending stiffness to permit significant flexible movement. A mass (0.604kg) is attached to the tip of the flexible link. The objective of the design was to produce enough strain at the jointed end of the flexible link to be measurable. The resolution of strain gauges is on the order of one micro m/m.

level of a good circuit is around ten micros. Therefore the strain signal needs to be at least one hundred micros. Simulation calculations were performed using the above-described software to check the strain level. The link parameters are shown in Table 3.1.

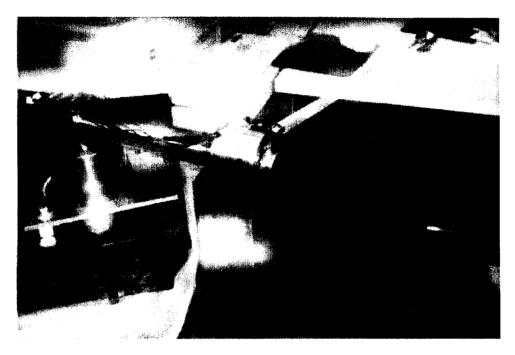


Figure 4.1 The test rig

4.3 Instrumentation

Two high precision potentiometers (PRECISION MIL STYLE RV4 with 7/8" long shaft standard bushing linear taper and $5K\Omega$, manufactured by Electrosonic) were mounted at the joints to measure the angular motions of the rigid link relative to ground and of the flexible link relative to the rigid link. The four precision strain gauge compacts (CEA-13-062UT-350, manufactured by Micro-Measurements), each of which consists of two mutually perpendicular strain gauges, are mounted on four sides of the flexible link near the second joint. The four strain gauge compacts are wired to form two full bridges (8-Channel Strain Gauge Signal Conditioning SC-2043-SG, manufactured by National Instruments) to measure the strain

signals and hence the beam curvature in two different directions. The wiring of one direction is shown in Figure 4.2. The SC-2043-SG is a signal conditioning board with amplifier gain of 10 that interfaces a National Instruments Data Acquisition Board (DAQ) directly to the strain gauge transducers. The potentiometers share the DC power with the strain gauges. Together, the signals from the potentiometers and strain gauges are connected to the DAQ card (Lab-PC-1200, manufactured by National Instruments), which in turn is read by the computer (486DX33) through the code programed by my supervisor, Dr. Dunwoody. The sampling rate is 200 Hz. The whole system is shown in Figure 4.3.

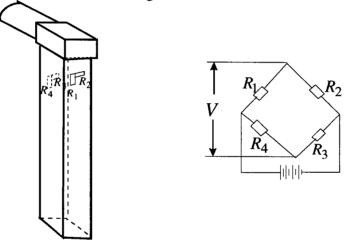


Figure 4.2 Strain gauge wiring

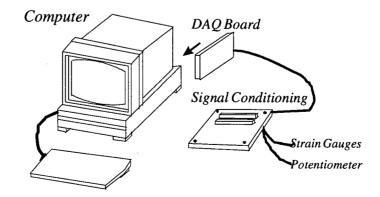


Figure 4.3 Test devices

4.4 Calibration Experiments

Before any experiments could proceed, the potentiometers and strain gauges were calibrated. Both potentiometers use the same calibration method. Take potentiometer 1 as an example. A line was drawn on the ground and the rigid link respectively to form two datum lines. When the two datum lines meet, the relative angle was noted as zero degree and the voltage was recorded. Different lines which represent -60° , -30° , 30° and 60° angles relative to the datum line of the ground also were drawn on the ground. The voltages were recorded when the datum line of the rigid link meet those angular lines. The following are the results of the calibrations. The stars represent experiment data points and the straight line is a least-squares linear interpolation.

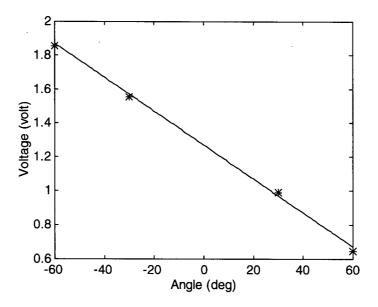


Figure 4.4 The calibration of potentiometer 1

The calibration equation for potentiometer 1 is $\theta_1 = (1.27 - V_1) * 100.0 \text{ deg}$. Where V_1 is the recorded voltage in volts.

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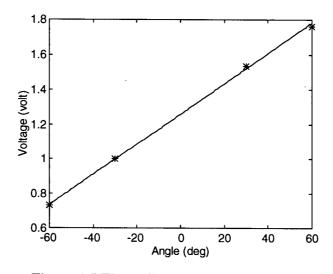


Figure 4.5 The calibration of potentiometer 2

The calibration equation for potentiometer 2 is $\theta_2 = (V_2 - 1.26) * 115.0 \text{ deg}$. Where V_2 is the recorded voltage in volts.

The strain gauges were calibrated using the following method. The flexible link was placed horizontally and clamped at the end on which the strain gauges were mounted. Different forces were applied at the other end. The magnitudes of the strains caused by the forces were calculated and the voltages were recorded.

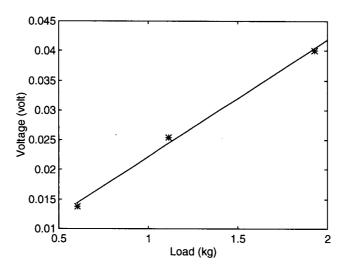


Figure 4.6 The calibration of strain gauges

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The calibration equation for the strain gauges is st = v/36.7 - 0.00007 m/m. where v is the recorded voltage in volts.

In addition, the structural damping of the flexible link was evaluated experimentally. One end of the flexible link was clamped and an accelerometer was attached onto the tip of the other end of the link. The tip was given an initial displacement 0.02m, then released. The method is demonstrated in Figure 4.7 and the test result is shown in Figure 4.8.

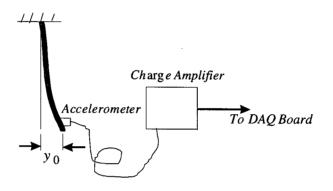


Figure 4.7 Damping measurement method

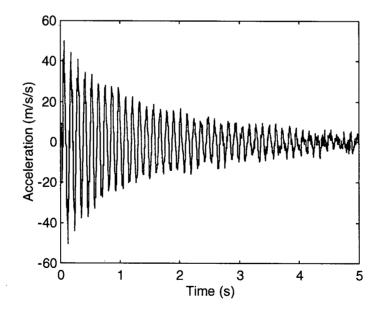


Figure 4.8 Tip acceleration of the experiment

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As demonstrated in equation 3.2, the structural damping matrix is equal to the damping coefficient times the stiffness matrix. Therefore, the governing equation for the vibration of the flexible link with one end fixed is:

$$[M]{\ddot{Y}} + \alpha[K]{\dot{Y}} + [K]{Y} = \{0\}$$
(4.1)

The flexible link was discretized into three beam elements. The flexible link was given an initial displacement of 0.02m and released. The resulting tip acceleration is shown in Figure 4.8. The same conditions were simulated using different values of α until the simulated response matched the measured response. The damping coefficient α was found to be 0.00025.

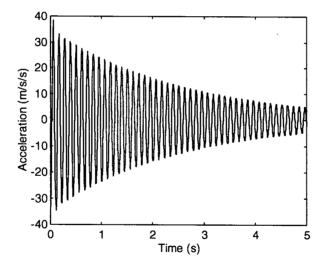


Figure 4.9 Tip acceleration of the simulation

4.5 Comparison Between Experiment and Simulation Results

This section covers the experiments performed with the test rig under different initial conditions, the modelling of the test rig and the comparison between the experimental and simulated results.

4.5.1 The Modelling of the Test Rig

The test rig is similar to a manipulator without control motors at the joints. For many manipulators in the physical world, joint flexibility is significant. In addition to the torsional flexibility of the gears, joint flexibility is caused by effects such as shaft windup and bearing deformation [60]. In this test rig, bearing deformation is the main cause of joint flexibility. Torsional springs are used to represent the joint flexibilities of the two joints. Moreover, damping forces exist at the two joints in the real test rig. They can be better modelled as viscous dampers. The relationship between joint definition points, torsional spring and damper is illustrated in Figure 4.10.

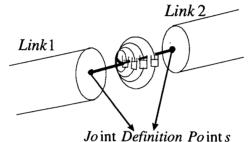


Figure 4.10 Joint damping and flexibility

Therefore, the test rig can be modelled as two bodies with one rigid and the other one flexible, connected by two revolute joints with two rotational springs and dampers. The tip mass can be considered as a point mass attached at the tip of the flexible link. The test rig can be modelled as:

$$B^{T} M B \ddot{q} + C_{d} \dot{q} + K_{t} q = B^{T} (Q_{v} + Q_{c} + Q_{s} + Q_{0} - M \dot{B} \dot{q})$$
(4.2)

where C_d and K_t are the viscous damping and torsional stiffness matrices. Most of their elements are zeros except the elements that represent the damping and stiffness corresponding to the joints. The viscous damping and torsional stiffness were determined by trial and error. Values were chosen to ensure that the trajectories of the modelled joints agreed with the experimental results under one test condition ($\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0$) as closely as possible. For this test rig, the damping and stiffness were found to be:

$$C_d^1 = C_d^2 = 0.098 Nm / (rad / s), K_t^1 = K_t^2 = 0.1 Nm / rad$$
.

The modelling parameters for the links of the test rig is listed in Table 3.1. The equivalent principal moments of inertia for link one not only include the inertia of the link itself but also the inertia of the two joints. The tip mass is 0.604 kg.

4.5.2 Experiments Performed and Comparison with Simulations

The experiments were performed starting with two different initial conditions. No forces were applied after release in either case. In the first experiment, the joint angles were given initial values of $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0$. The joint displacements and flexible link strain of the simulation and the experiment are shown in Figure 4.11 ~ 4.13. They have demonstrated a very good agreement between simulation and experiment results. There appears to be a small zero-shift problem with the experimental results of the joints, shown in Figure 4.12. The friction of the potentiometers or the joints is probably the main cause of this problem.

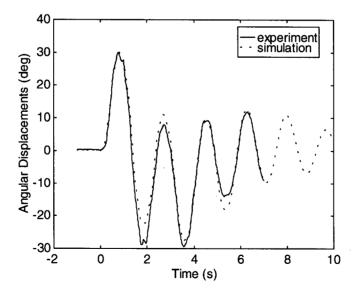


Figure 4.11 Response of joint 1 at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0$

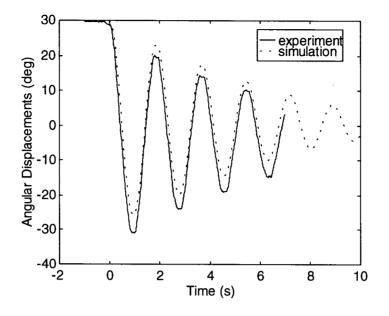


Figure 4.12 Response of joint 2 at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0$

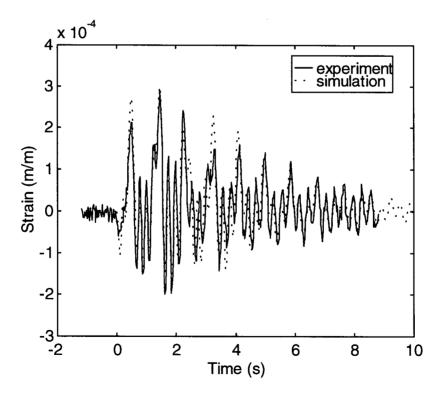


Figure 4.13 Jointed-end strain of the second link at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0 (Z^2)$

A frequency domain comparison of the strain signal between the simulation and the experiment is illustrated in Figure 4.14 and Figure 4.15. From Figure 4.14 and Figure 4.15, we can clearly see that there are several principal frequencies in the bending response of the elastic link. They are scattered around 1.1 Hz, 2.2 Hz, 4.0 Hz shifting to 3.4 Hz, and 5.5 Hz. The essential reason for this behavior is the resultant of the nonlinear coupling between the large joint motions and the small elastic deformations. A detailed explanation can be given with the help of the study of a nonlinear vibration system, a single degree of freedom pendulum with a large angular displacement. Hagedorn [77] showed that the frequency of free oscillation of this pendulum is not a constant as with linear vibration but is a function of the amplitude. Also, in the forced oscillation case, an essential difference between linear and nonlinear systems is the fact that the latter present not only periodic oscillation with the excitation frequency but also periodic oscillations with other frequencies [77]. Superharmonic oscillations, oscillations with the frequencies being multiples of the excitation frequency, or subharmonic oscillations, oscillations with the frequencies being fractions of the excitation frequency, often can be observed. The test rig is much more complicated than that pendulum. However, the mechanisms are similar. The motion of the flexible link of the test rig can be deemed as a nonlinear pendulum. The action of the first link on the flexible link can be thought as a forced vibration, background oscillation. The excitation frequency which can be found in Figure 4.11 or 4.12 is about 0.55Hz. Therefore, according to the forced vibration result of Hagedorn [77], the superharmonic vibrations could be found at the frequencies 1.1 Hz, 2.2 Hz and 5.5 Hz. Moreover, the free vibration frequency of the flexible link depends on the angular amplitude of the flexible link. The angular amplitude of the flexible link decreases with time due to the joint friction. Thus, the free vibration frequency shifts from 4.0 Hz to 3.4 Hz in which 3.4 Hz is the free vibration frequency of the flexible link under no large angular displacement. This also indicates that the assumed vibration mode modelling method has some approximation and may cause errors in the final responses. The conclusion can be drawn that the responses agree very well also in frequency domain after comparing Figure 4.14 with Figure 4.15.

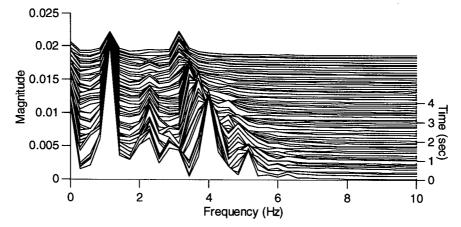


Figure 4.14 Spectrum of strain simulation response at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0$

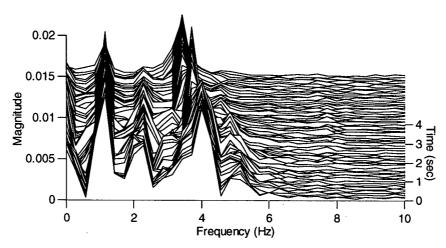


Figure 4.15 Spectrum of strain experiment response at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0$

The second experiment used initial conditions of $\theta_1 = 0^\circ$, $\theta_2 = 45^\circ$. The time and frequency domain comparisons between experiment and simulation are shown in Figure 4.16~4.20.

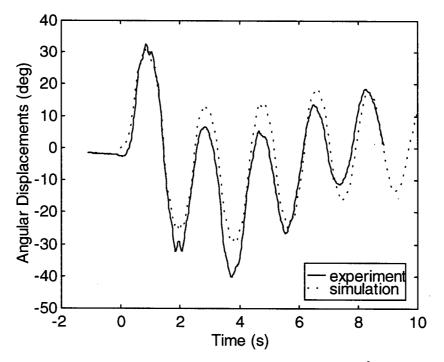


Figure 4.16 Response of joint 1 at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 45^0$

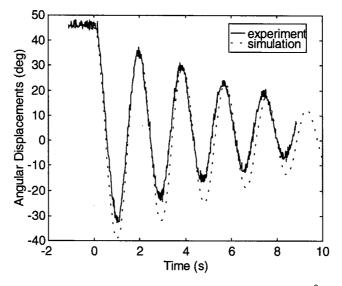


Figure 4.17 Response of joint 2 at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 45^0$

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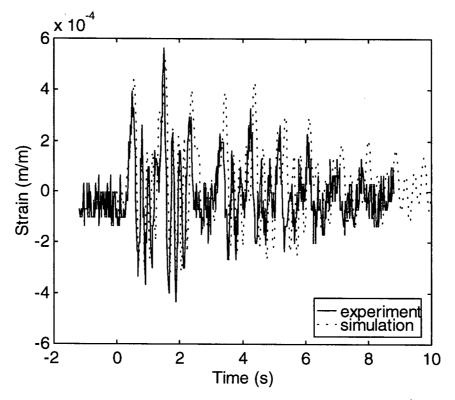


Figure 4.18 Jointed-end strain of the flexible link at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 45^0 (Z^2)$

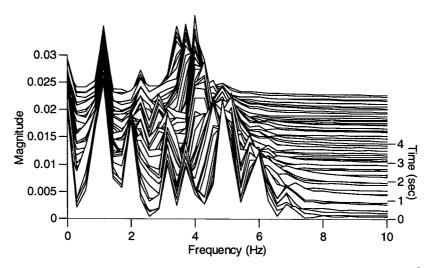


Figure 4.19 Spectrum of strain simulation response at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 45^0$

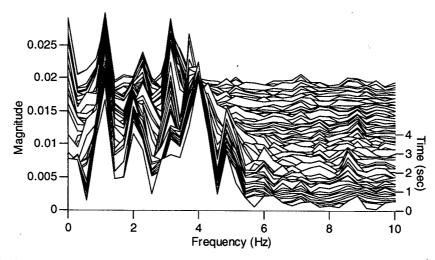


Figure 4.20 Spectrum of strain experiment response at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 45^0$

From Figure 4.18, digitization noise was present in the strain signal of the second experiment result but not of the first experiment. This was because the gain of DAQ was chosen differently. From Figure 4.16 ~ 4.20, we can see that the experiment and simulation results do not agree with each other very well, especially in Figure 4.19 and 4.20. The angular displacement error of the second joint which may be caused by the calibration experiment or not enough initial angle probably is the reason. Figure 4.20 ~ 4.24 give the comparisons of the experiment results under the initial conditions of $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 45^0$ and the simulation results under the initial conditions of $\theta_2 = 40^0$. They show good agreement. The regularity in the frequency domain still can be explained as in the first case (initial conditions $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0$).

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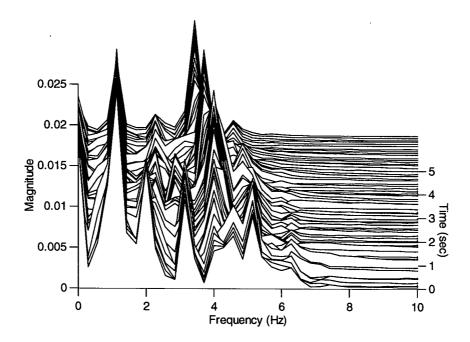


Figure 4.21 Spectrum of strain simulation response at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 40^0$

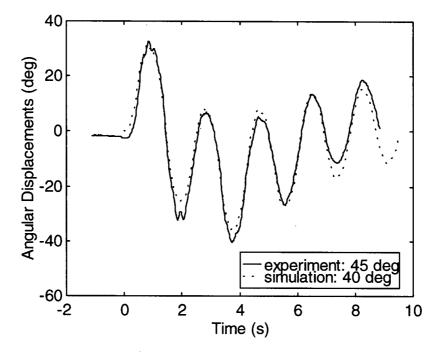


Figure 4.22 Response of joint 1

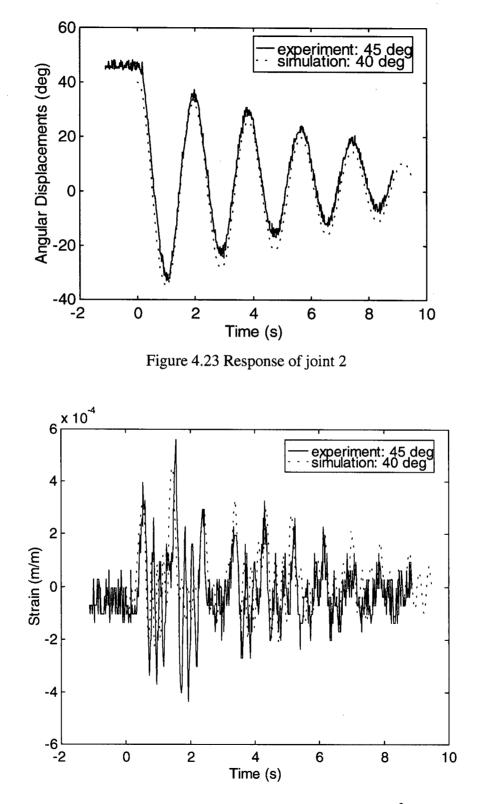


Figure 4.24 Joint-end strain of the flexible link (Z^2)

4.6 Comparison with the Simulation Results of ADAMS

The test rig was also modelled by using the commercial software program ADAMS (version 8.2). The rigid link, the two revolute joints and the two rotational springs and dampers were easily built up by creating bodies, constraints and force elements. Flexible bodies can be modelled by incorporating FEA or by importing some matrices of the modal representation. For simple shape flexible bodies, ADAMS designs force elements, such as BEAM and FIELD elements, to represent elastic deformations and structural damping. These force elements are massless. Therefore, the inertias of the flexible bodies are considered as the rigid inertias. This means that ADAMS ignores the elastic coupling effect in inertia matrices and deems the inertias of the flexible bodies to be constants. The flexible link was modelled by a BEAM element. The tip mass was modelled as a point mass connected to the flexible link by a spherical joint. The joint simulation results of ADAMS under the same initial conditions were also compared with the experiment results, shown in Figure 4.25 ~ Figure 4.28.

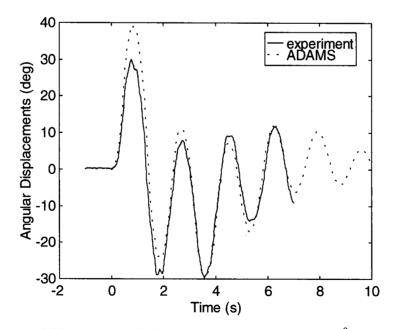


Figure 4.25 Response of joint 1 at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0$

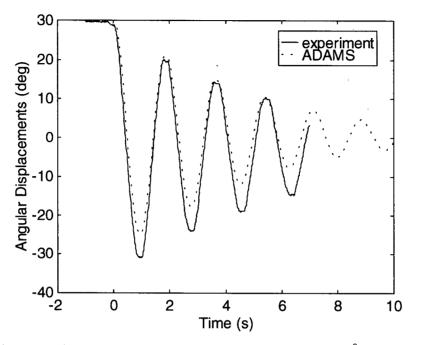


Figure 4.26 Response of joint 2 at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0$

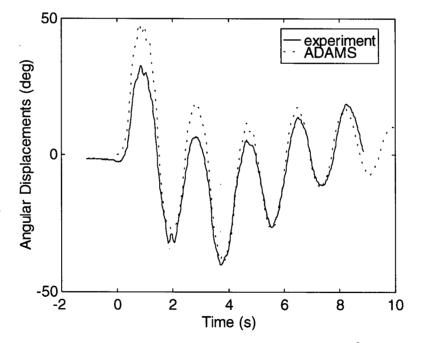


Figure 4.27 Response of joint 1 at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 45^0$

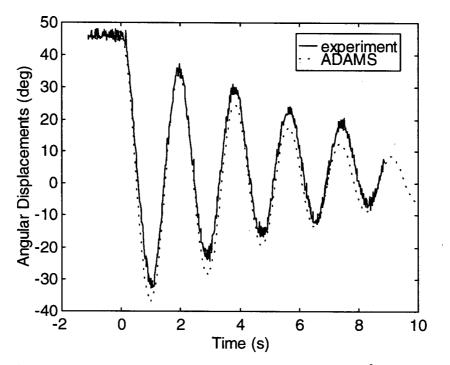


Figure 4.28 Response of joint 2 at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 45^0$

Compare Figure 4.11~4.12 and Figure 4.16~4.17 with Figure 4.25~4.28, we can see that the joint displacements of the developed program and ADAMS are different. The first peak of the angular displacement of joint 1 obtained by ADAMS is almost 10 degree larger than that of the experiment and that of the developed program. The modelling difference between ADAMS and the developed program is the cause of this. ADAMS uses a lumped mass method and ignores the inertia coupling between rigid and elastic motion.

The elastic deformations obtained by ADAMS can not be compared with the experimental results directly because strain signals were measured in the experiments but elastic displacements were obtained from ADAMS. An indirect method is to use the elastic translational and rotational deformations obtained from ADAMS to get strain signals. Figure 4.29 and Figure 4.30 show the comparison results under the two initial conditions.

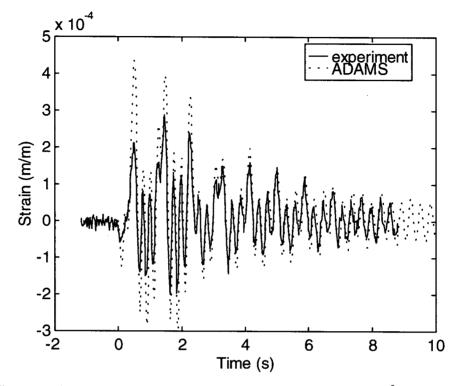


Figure 4.29 Strain signal comparison at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0$

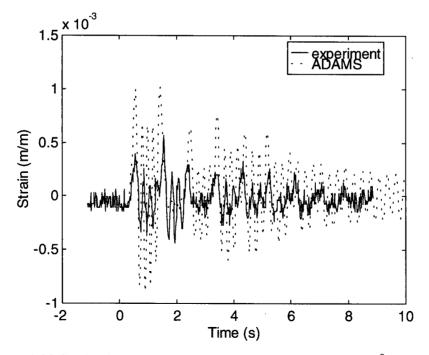


Figure 4.30 Strain signal comparison at initial condition $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 45^0$

The above results show that the strain achieved by ADAMS is larger than that by the experiment. Also, Figure $4.31 \sim 4.34$ show the frequency domain results of ADAMS and the experiment under the two initial conditions. There are also differences in the frequency components and magnitudes due to the modelling method and experiment errors.

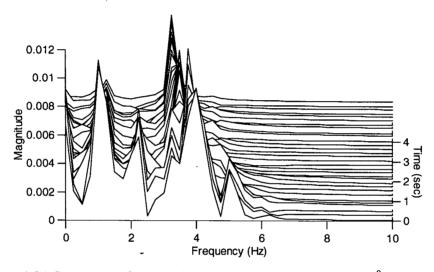


Figure 4.31 Spectrum of the strain signal by ADAMS at $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0$

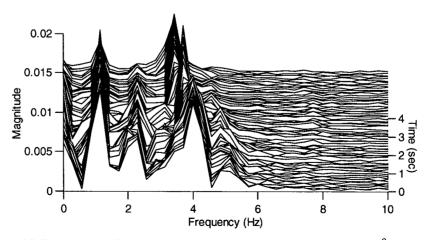


Figure 4.32 Spectrum of the strain signal by experiment at $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0$

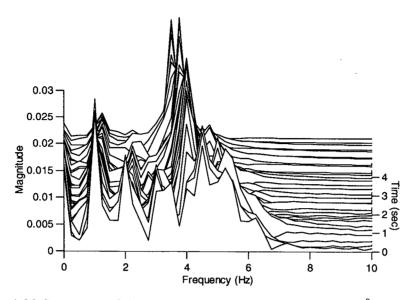


Figure 4.33 Spectrum of the strain signal by ADAMS at $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 45^0$

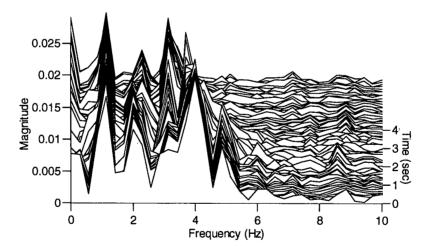


Figure 4.34 Spectrum of the strain signal by experiment at $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 45^0$

4.7 Summary

The experiment and simulation results have been compared under two test conditions for a test rig. The angular displacements of the two joints and strain signal of the flexible link were

measured and simulated. The good agreements in both time and frequency domain demonstrate that the formulations are accurate. The frequency domain responses also illustrate that the elastic vibration frequencies of the elastic link change with the amplitude of the motion of the flexible link. The nonlinear coupling between the joint motions and the elastic motions is displayed distinctly in the frequency domain. The angular displacements and the strain signal of the test rig as simulated by the commercial program ADAMS are also compared with the experiment results.

Chapter 5

Simulation Comparison of Different Formulation Methods

5.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the simulation comparison between different formulation methods. An Order N formulation is developed and implemented in software according to the method Keat [20] proposed. The accuracy and efficiency of the Order N method are compared with that of the joint coordinate method developed in Chapter 2. Moreover, the simulation results of the joint coordinate method and the absolute coordinate method (ADAMS) are also compared. The chaotic behavior of nonlinear systems is illustrated.

5.2 Recursive or Order N Formulations

In recent years, most of the dynamic equations for deformable MBS have been derived by recursive or Order N method due to the its low operation count per time step [20-22,24,26,27]. Although the Order N method is regarded as the most efficient method when comparing the number of operation per time step, the Order N method is essentially an explicit method which needs very small time steps to ensure the stability for flexible MBS. Therefore, it may not be faster than other methods which are implicit when the comparison is a fixed period of time to simulate. Moreover, the numerical truncation error and round-off error from inverting the inertia matrix of each body will be enlarged and propagated to the next body. The numerical errors may become significant when large systems are involved or poorly conditioned inertia matrices exist. The first task in this chapter is to demonstrate a detailed formulation of the recursive or Order N method using finite elements. In order to compare both formulations in the same conditions, the developed velocity transformation matrix and its

derivative matrix are used to derive a new recursive or Order N formulation as was done by Keat [20].

The main idea of the Order N method is to evaluate the relative and elastic variables explicitly by inverting the inertial matrix for each body sequentially [22]. In section 2.4 of Chapter 2, it has been shown that the velocity transformation matrix B and its derivative matrix \dot{B} are always lower triangular matrices which are composed of many block matrices H_{ij} and \dot{H}_{ij} no matter what kind of topology the system has. That is

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} H_{ij} \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \dot{B} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{H}_{ij} \end{bmatrix}$$
 (5.1)

Then from equation (2.87)
$$M\ddot{Y} + \Phi_Y^T \lambda = \Gamma$$
 (5.2)

where $\Gamma = Q_v + Q_c + Q_s + Q_0$ (5.3)

Multiplying equation (5.2) by B^{T} and combining equation (2.130) and (2.143) for tree systems yields

$$\begin{cases} B^T M \ddot{Y} = B^T \Gamma \\ \ddot{Y} = B \ddot{q} + B \dot{q} \end{cases}$$
(5.4)

$$\begin{cases} \sum_{j=i}^{Nb} H_{ji}^{T} M^{j} \ddot{Y}^{j} = \sum_{j=i}^{Nb} H_{ji}^{T} \Gamma^{j} \\ \ddot{Y} = \sum_{j=1}^{i} H_{ij} \ddot{q}^{j} + \sum_{j=1}^{i} \dot{H}_{ij} \dot{q}^{j} \end{cases}$$
(5.5)

or

In order to explicitly solve for the relative and elastic variables, start with the final body, $i = N_b$, i.e.,

$$H_{NbNb}^{T} M^{Nb} \ddot{Y}^{Nb} = H_{NbNb}^{T} \Gamma^{Nb}$$
(5.6)

$$\ddot{Y}^{Nb} = \sum_{j=1}^{Nb} H_{Nbj} \ddot{q}^{j} + \sum_{j=1}^{Nb} \dot{H}_{Nbj} \dot{q}^{j}$$
(5.7)

Equation (5.7) may be substituted into equation (5.6) to solve for \ddot{q}^{Nb} ,

$$\ddot{q}^{Nb} = \left(H_{NbNb}^{T} M^{Nb} H_{NbNb}\right)^{-1} \left[H_{NbNb}^{T} \Gamma^{Nb} - H_{NbNb}^{T} M^{Nb} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{Nb-1} H_{Nbj} \ddot{q}^{j} + \sum_{j=1}^{Nb} \dot{H}_{Nbj} \dot{q}^{j}\right)\right]$$
(5.8)

Therefore, \ddot{q}^{Nb} is a function of \ddot{q}^{Nb-1} , \ddot{q}^{Nb-2} ,..., \ddot{q}^1 . Substitution of equation (5.8) into (5.7) reveals that \ddot{Y}^{Nb} is also a function of \ddot{q}^{Nb-1} , \ddot{q}^{Nb-2} ,..., \ddot{q}^1 .

$$\ddot{Y}^{Nb} = H_{NbNb} \left(H_{NbNb}^{T} M^{Nb} H_{NbNb} \right)^{-1} H_{NbNb}^{T} \Gamma^{Nb} + \left[I - H_{NbNb} \left(H_{NbNb}^{T} M^{Nb} H_{NbNb} \right)^{-1} H_{NbNb}^{T} M^{Nb} \right] \left[\sum_{j=1}^{Nb-1} H_{Nbj} \ddot{q}^{j} + \sum_{j=1}^{Nb} \dot{H}_{Nbj} \dot{q}^{j} \right]$$
(5.9)

The same procedure may be repeated in turn for every other body, ending with the root body. Finally, the general equations can be obtained as

$$M_{i}^{*}\ddot{q}^{i} = F_{i} + \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} T_{ik}\ddot{q}^{k} + \sum_{k=1}^{Nb} P_{ik}\dot{q}^{k}$$
(5.10)

where

$$M_{i}^{*} = \sum_{j=i}^{Nb} H_{ji}^{T} M^{j} H_{ji} - \sum_{j=i+1}^{Nb} (J_{ji})^{T} (M_{j}^{*})^{-1} J_{ji}$$
(5.11)

$$J_{ji} = \sum_{k=j}^{Nb} H_{kj}^{T} M^{k} H_{ki} - \sum_{k=j+1}^{Nb} (J_{kj})^{T} (M_{k}^{*})^{-1} J_{ki}$$
(5.12)

$$F_i = \sum_{j=i}^{Nb} H_{ji}^T \Gamma_j - f_i$$
(5.13)

$$f_{i} = \sum_{j=i+1}^{Nb} J_{ji}^{T} \left(M_{j}^{*} \right)^{-1} F_{j}$$
(5.14)

$$T_{ik} = -\left(\sum_{j=i}^{Nb} H_{ji}^{T} M^{j} H_{jk} + t_{ik}\right)$$
(5.15)

$$t_{ik} = \sum_{j=i+1}^{Nb} J_{ji}^{T} \left(M_{j}^{*} \right)^{-1} T_{jk}$$
(5.16)

$$P_{ik} = -\left(\sum_{j=i}^{Nb} H_{ji}^{T} M^{j} \dot{H}_{jk} + p_{ik}\right)$$
(5.17)

$$p_{ik} = \sum_{j=i+1}^{Nb} J_{ji}^{T} \left(M_{j}^{*} \right)^{-1} p_{jk}$$
(5.18)

To solve for the joint accelerations, equation $(5.11) \sim (5.18)$ must be solved in order from $i = N_b$ to i = 1. Then equation (5.10) is computed sequentially from i = 1 to $i = N_b$. The procedure is analogous to inverting a matrix by LU decomposition, but without pivotting. From equation $(5.11) \sim (5.18)$, we can see that many inertia matrices (M_j^*) need to be inverted and the inverse matrices are multiplied by other matrices to form other inertia matrices from one body to the next. This is a common characteristic of Order N or recursive methods. As stated previously, the accuracy of the solution may suffer as a result of the repeated inversions.

5.3 Simulation Comparison

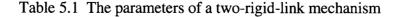
The following comparison is to demonstrate problems in explicit formulation methods when numerical simulation proceeds.

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5.3.1 Numerical Validation of Derived Order N Formulations

The Order N formulation was subjected to similar validation procedures as the previous implicit formulation. The matrices H_{ji} , \dot{H}_{ji} , M^{j} , Γ^{j} are the same matrices as in the implicit formulation. If the system has only one body, the Order N and implicit formulations are same. Therefore, the simulation results should be same if the same implicit numerical integration software (DDASSL) is used. A rigid link with tip mass attached was tested. The two formulations produced identical results. Next, a two-rigid-link mechanism with two revolute joints similar to the example described in Chapter Three was tested. The properties of the mechanism are listed in Table 5.1. The initial conditions were $\theta_1 = 1.5 rad$, $\theta_2 = -1.0 rad$. The tip mass on the second link was 0.5kg. The results of the Order N formulation compared with the implicit formulation are shown below. The implicit numerical integration solver DDASSL was used in both implicit and Order N formulation simulations.

Link 1 (rigid)	Link 2'(rigid)
mass =1.76 kg	mass =0.49 kg
length = 0.2 m	length = 0.2 m
mass center:	mass center:
$x_c = 0.1m$	$x_c = 0.1m$
$y_c = 0.0m$	$y_c = 0.0m$
$z_{c} = 0.0m$	$z_{c} = 0.0m$
moment of inertial:	moment of inertial:
$I_{xx} = 3.92 \times 10^{-4} kgm^2$	$I_{xx} = 2.45 \times 10^{-5} kgm^2$
$I_{yy} = 0.0236 kgm^2$	$I_{yy} = 0.0065 kgm^2$
$I_{zz} = 0.0236 kgm^2$	$I_{zz} = 0.0065 kgm^2$



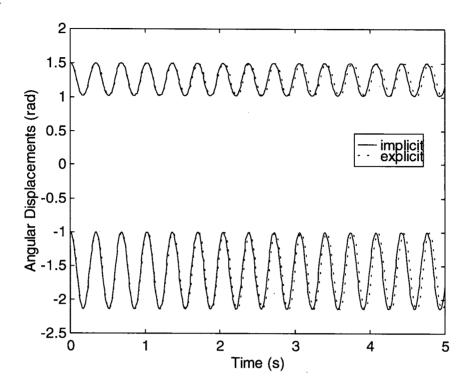


Figure 5.1 Angular displacements of the two joints (upper-joint 1; lower-joint 2)

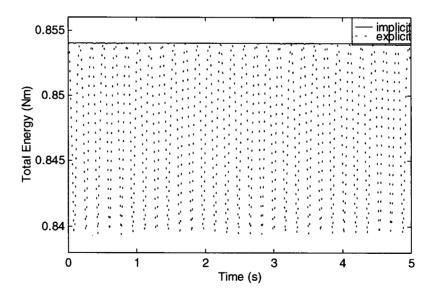


Figure 5.2 Total energy

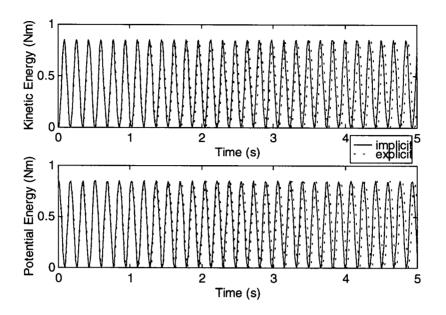


Figure 5.3 Kinetic and potential energies

The main reason for the small differences between the results of the Order N and implicit formulations is the error propagation from matrix inversion, which can be indirectly proved using two different inversion methods, as demonstrated in the next section. In this case, the differences are very small compared with the kinetic and potential energies. These tests indicate that the coding of the Order N formulation does not contain errors. The formulation of equation (5.10) ~ (5.18) do not distinguish between rigid and deformable systems. Therefore, no separate tests are required using a deformable system.

5.3.2 Numerical Comparison

The comparison between explicit and implicit formulations proceeds under the same conditions (properties and initial conditions) as in Chapter 3 with the structural damping of the flexible link being $\alpha = 0.0003$. The simulations were conducted using three different combinations. One was the implicit formulation developed in Chapter 2 combined with the implicit numerical integration solver DDASSL. These results are abbreviated as Im-Im; The

second one was the Order N formulation derived in this chapter combined with the implicit numerical integration solver DDASSL. These results are noted as Ex-Im. The final one was the Order N formulation combined with the explicit numerical integration solver DIVPRK. These results are labeled as Ex-Ex. DIVPRK is a Runge-Kutta-Verner fifth-order & sixth-order explicit integrator. The step size was 1×10^{-6} second in this case. DDASSL is a variable -step-size solver based on the backward difference formulas. In this case, the step size changed from 1×10^{-6} to 0.01 second. The three combinations were simulated at the same accuracy requirements, which were an absolute error limit atol = 10^{-7} and a relative error limit rtol = 10^{-4} . The results are shown below.

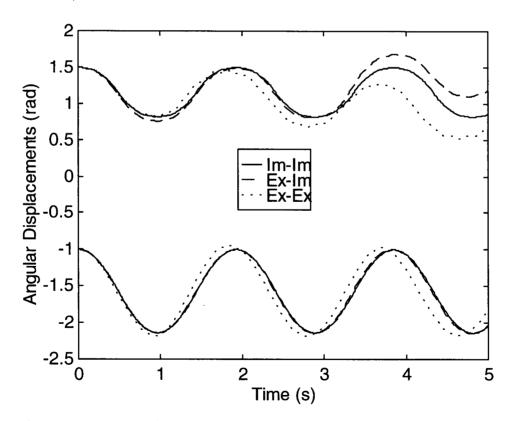


Figure 5.4 Angular displacements of the two joints (upper-joint 1; lower-joint 2)

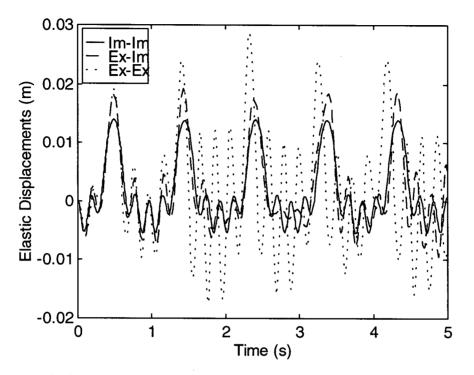


Figure 5.5 Elastic displacements of second link tip along the axis direction of joint 2.

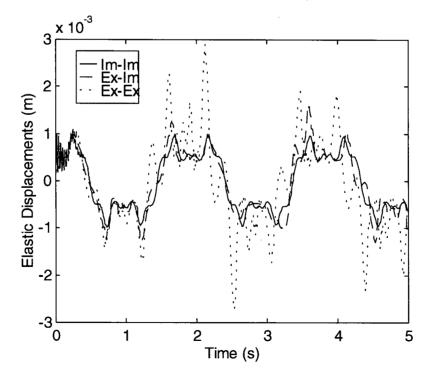


Figure 5.6 Elastic displacements of second tip perpendicular to the axis direction of joint 2

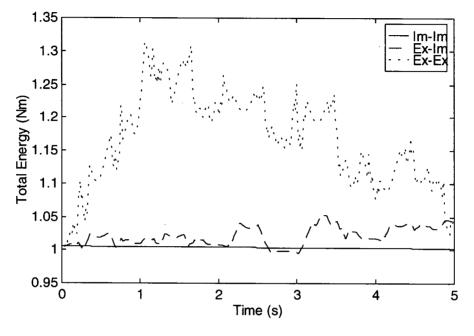


Figure 5.7 Total energy

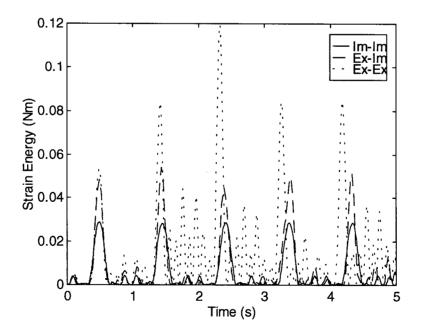


Figure 5.8 Strain energy

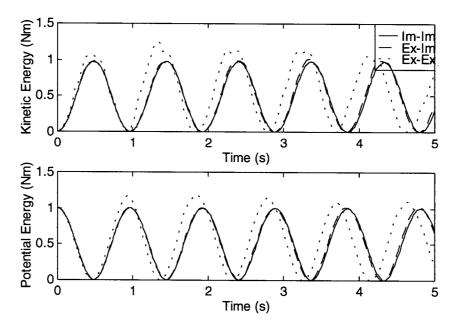
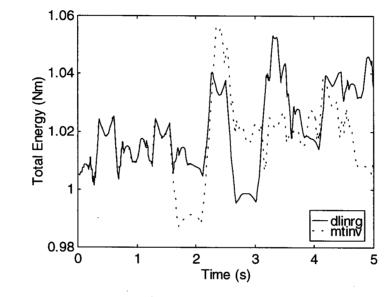


Figure 5.9 Kinetic and potential energies

The above results (Figure 5.4 ~ 5.6) show large differences not only in elastic displacements but also in rigid-body motions. The total energy and energy component check give us a clear picture which one is the most accurate. The tested system is nearly a conservative system since the energy absorbed by structural damping is very small. The total energy shown in Figure 5.7 for the Ex-Im and Ex-Ex cases do not show conservation of total energy. The maximum deviations in total energy for both Ex-Im and Ex-Ex results are of the same order of magnitude as the maximum strain energy shown in Figure 5.8. Therefore, the elastic displacements of both Ex-Im and Ex-Ex formulations are suspect because they are within the noise levels of these formulations. Moreover, the computational times for these three combinations were diverse. The Im-Im simulation took less than ten minutes on a PC to simulate the dynamic responses for the first 5 seconds compared with more than two hours for the Ex-Im simulation and nearly thirty hours for the Ex-Ex simulation. The Order N formulation did save calculate time per time step. The Ex-Im simulation needed many iterations per step and the Ex-Ex simulation needed a very small time step (about 1×10^{-6} second in this case). The Im-Im simulation calculated less than 4000 points to reach 5 seconds but the Ex-Im simulation calculated more than 16000 points and the Ex-Ex simulation calculated 5 millions points. From the above simulation results using the Ex-Im combination, we can see that the Order N formulation has convergence problems as shown by the many iterations required. Inaccuracies in the matrix inversions could be the cause. The coupling between the large joint motions and very small elastic motions may result in the matrices M_i^* being ill conditioned. The inversion of matrices M_i^* can cause roundoff errors which are enlarged by J_{ji} and propagated to M_i^* . The main danger of ill-conditioning is not that the solution may fail, but that it may succeed yet produce a solution whose errors are serious but not large enough to make it obvious that something is wrong [59]. The Order N formulation method is very sensitive to errors in matrix inversion. Different inversion methods or different software can produce different truncation errors and roundoff errors. These errors are enlarged step by step so that the dynamic responses can become significantly different.

The following example demonstrates the large differences which can be caused by different inversion software. The physical modal is still a two-link manipulator whose parameters are described in Chapter 3. The initial conditions are the same as the above example. The Order N formulation method with the implicit numerical integration solver DDASSL is investigated using two different inversion methods, DLINRG and MTINV. Both methods use double precision. DLINRG computes an LU factorization of the coefficient matrix and the inverse matrices of L and U respectively. Then the final inverse matrix can be represented by the multiplication of the inverse matrices of U and L. MTINV employs GAUSS elimination to compute the inverse matrix. All the simulation conditions are the same except for the two different inversion methods. The simulation results are shown in Figure 5.10-5.12. The large differences between these two cases indicate that the Order N formulation method is sensitive to the method of inverting matrices. In other words, small numerical errors of inverse matrices induces large differences in the solutions. The same test was done with the implicit



formulation using DLINRG and MTINV. The results show that there is no difference in the figures of the two cases.

Figure 5.10 Total energy

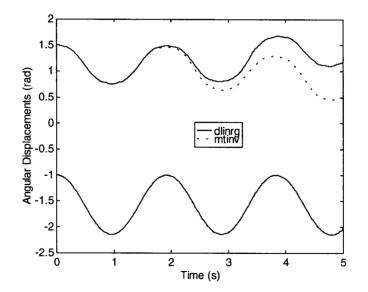


Figure 5.11 Angular displacements of the two joints (upper-joint 1; lower-joint 2)

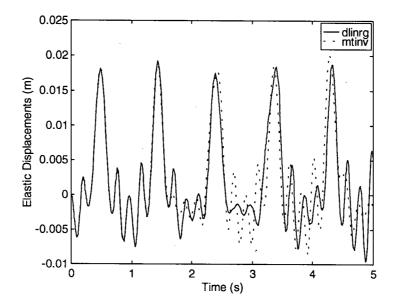


Figure 5.12 Elastic displacement of second link tip along the axis direction of joint 2.

5.3.3 Comparison with ADAMS

The simulation results of the test rig obtained by ADAMS have been compared with the experiments and the results of the developed program in Chapter Four. However, the differences in dynamic responses was not clearly illustrated due to the flexibility and damping of the joints of the test rig. This section covers a comparison of the simulation of the test rig without joint flexibility or damping achieved by the developed program and ADAMS. The purpose is to analysis the difference.

The simulations of the above model were under the initial condiction $\theta_1 = 0^0$ and $\theta_2 = 30^0$. The results are shown in Figure 5.13~5.16. The legend "simulation" on the figures indicates the results obtained by the developed program.

The results show that there are large amplitude differences not only between elastic displacements but also between joint angular displacements. However, the frequencies are the same. The reason can be understood by comparing the modelling and formulation methods.

ADAMS uses the absolute coordinate formulation method with generalized coordinate partitioning to eliminate the redundant variables and produce pure differential equations containing only independent generalized coordinates. The method was described by Shabana [3]. The algebraic equations of all joints in the system are constructed and equations and variables are partitioned into two parts, one of which has the number of the degree of freedom of the system. The partitioning method calculates the determinant of the coefficient matrix to find a set of independent coordinates. The efficiency is a problem when large systems involved. Moreover, the implicit fomulation becomes an explicit formulation after the dependent coordinates are represented by independent coordinates since the terms involved dependent coordinates are explicitly expressed by independent coordinates. However, the formulation is different from the Order N formulation because the inertia matrix for the entire system is inverted once rather than for one body at a time as in the Order N method. Therefore, the numerical inverse errors do not propagate from one body to the next. But the numerical instability can be seen in Figure 5.15 which shows the elastic displacement amplitude changes a little. ADAMS models the flexible link through a force element, which is a massless beam element in this case. The inertia of the flexible link is considered to be the inertia of a rigid beam, ignoring the elastic inertia and rigid-elastic coupling inertia. The flexible link is considered to have a lumped inertia. The elastic and damping forces represented by the beam force element are applied directly to the lumped inertia. This is the main factor that causes the difference between the displacement magnitudes.

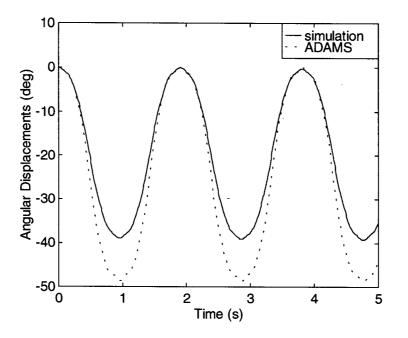


Figure 5.13 Angular displacement of joint 1

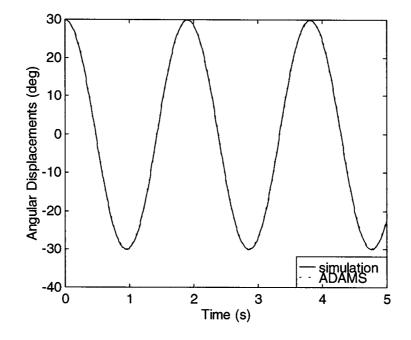


Figure 5.14 Angular displacement of joint 2

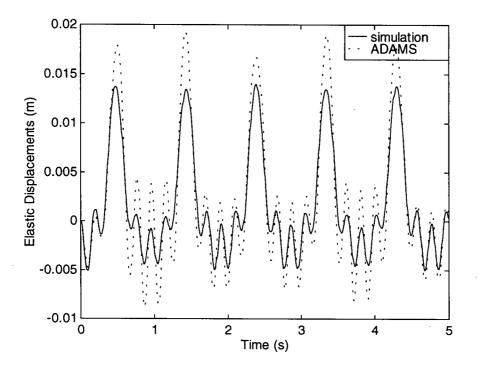


Figure 5.15 Tip elastic displacement along the axis direction of joint 2

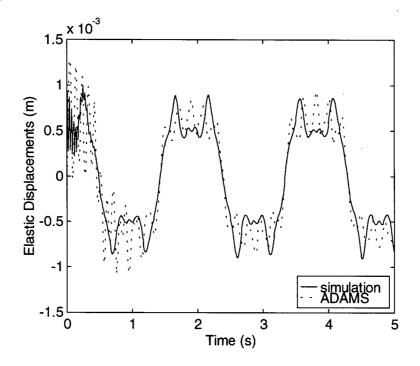


Figure 5.16 Tip elastic displacement perpendicular to the axis direction of Joint 2

5.4 The Chaotic Behavior in Simulation Results due to the Formulation Method

The simulation of the Order N formulation method may become chaotic due to the propagated and enlarged numerical error. The unique character of chaotic dynamics may be seen most clearly by imagining the system to be started twice, but from slightly different initial conditions. If one chaotic mechanical system is started at initial conditions x and $x + \varepsilon$ respectively, where ε is a very small quantity, their dynamic responses will diverge from each other very quickly. This phenomenon, which occurs only when the governing equations are nonlinear, is known as sensitivity to initial conditions. The simulations have been rerun with slightly different initial conditions, $\theta_1 = 1.5 rad$ and $\theta_2 = -1.02 rad$, to test the implicit and Order N formulations. The Im-Im case shows that the differences in responses between the two simulations can hardly be seen in the graphs. The response differences for the Ex-Im case are much larger as shown in Figure 5.17 \sim 5.20. The irregular divergence in elastic displacement (Figure 5.18) and total energy (Figure 5.19) show that chaotic behavior does exist in the Ex-Im case. Usually, if governing equations which have at least three independent variables are nonlinear, the possibility of chaotic behavior exists. The condition for chaos to occur depends on the parameters of the system. For the system with the parameters we investigated above, the dynamic responses are not chaotic since the implicit formulation simulation has not shown any irregular or unpredictable motion. Chaotic behavior occurred with the explicit formulation method, demonstrating that the explicit formulation method has a problem.

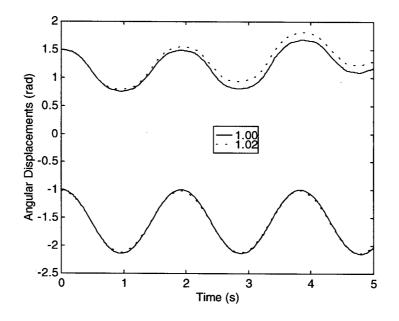


Figure 5.17 Angular displacements of the two joints (upper-joint 1; lower-joint 2)

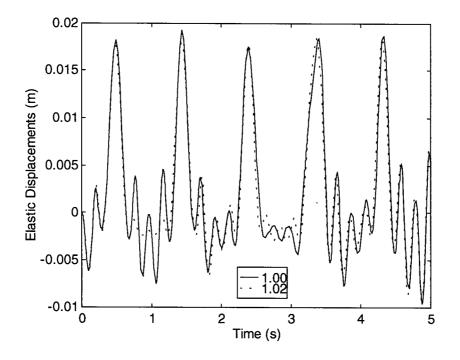


Figure 5.18 Elastic displacement of the flexible link tip

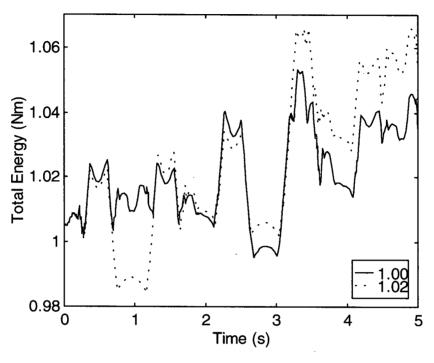


Figure 5.19 Total energy

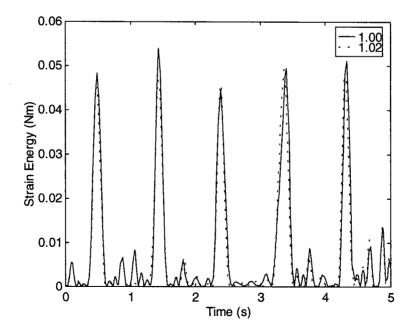


Figure 5.20 Strain energy

5.5 Summary

A detailed Order N formulation has been developed based on the approach of Keat [20]. The newly developed explicit formulation was programmed and verified using two conservative rigid systems. The simulation of a rigid-flexible system was compared between the joint coordinate method and the Order N method. The results show that the joint coordinate method is more accurate and efficient. The Order N method is an explicit formulation method requiring very small time steps in a flexible MBS to ensure numerical stability. Moreover, the error caused by inversion of the equivalent inertia matrix of each body is enlarged and propagated to the equivalent inertia matrices of the other bodies. The resulting errors may make the calculations of the small elastic deformations unreliable, especially for large-scale systems. A simulation comparison was also made between the joint coordinate method and the absolute coordinate method incorporating coordinate partitioning through the commercial software package ADAMS. The frequencies of the responses were the same, but the magnitudes of the joint displacements and the elastic displacements were different. The most probable explanation is the simplified modelling of the flexible bodies within ADAMS. A simulation using the Order N formulation displayed chaotic behavior for a nonchaotic system.

Chapter 6

Geometrical Nonlinearities

6.1 Preliminary Remarks

In many mechanical system applications, geometric nonlinearities may have a negligible effect on the dynamic response of the system, while in some other applications, where lightweight mechanical systems operate at high speeds and under heavy loads, the effect of geometric nonlinearities can not be ignored [54]. The issue of geometric stiffening has been a topic of many recent publications dealing with deformable MBS [53]. The controversy over the nature of geometric stiffening, the debate on the correct approach to model it, and the seeming incongruity between existing methods has motivated some review papers [53,54]. These papers strive to provide a better understanding of how geometric stiffening is incorporated and what approximations are made in its derivation. Although simulation results have been compared for different methods, no conclusions have been drawn as to which method or approximation is the most reasonable. In this section, the two most common geometric nonlinearities are discussed. The two nonlinear effects are compared with experiment results from the test rig.

6.2 The Two Geometric Nonlinear Effects

Geometric nonlinearities arise when deformations are large enough to significantly alter the way load is applied to or the way load is resisted by the structure. Two effects have been discussed. The first is due to axial forces such as externally applied forces or inertial and centrifugal forces due to large rotational and translational movements during high speed operation. The other one is a foreshortening effect due to a transverse displacement which

gives rise to an axial deformation. The most common approach to incorporate geometric nonlinearity is to retain nonlinear higher-order terms in the strain-displacement relationship [53,55,56]. Green-Lagrange strain defines a strain measure as:

$$\varepsilon_{x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)^{2} + \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right)^{2} + \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \right)^{2} \right]$$
(6.1)

$$\varepsilon_{y} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right)^{2} + \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right)^{2} + \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right)^{2} \right]$$
(6.2)

$$\varepsilon_{z} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} + \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right)^{2} + \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \right)^{2} + \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right)^{2} \right]$$
(6.3)

$$\gamma_{xy} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right)$$
(6.4)

$$\gamma_{xz} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right)$$
(6.5)

$$\gamma_{yz} = \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial v}{\partial z} + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial w}{\partial y} + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}\frac{\partial v}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y}\frac{\partial w}{\partial z}\right)$$
(6.6)

where u, v, w are the elastic displacements in three orthogonal directions. The initial terms in equations (6.1) ~ (6.6) are the customary engineering definitions of normal and shear strain. The added terms, in parentheses, become significant if displacement gradients are not small. Compared with the initial terms, the terms in parentheses for $\varepsilon_y, \varepsilon_z, \gamma_{xy}, \gamma_{xz}, \gamma_{yz}$ are higher-order of magnitude and can be neglected in beam applications. Usually $\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}$ is several orders

smaller than $\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$ or $\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}$ but may be the same order as $(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x})^2$ and $(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x})^2$. Equations (6.1) ~ (6.6) can be expressed as

$$\varepsilon = D\hat{u}_f + D_* q_f^T N_* q_f \tag{6.7}$$

where
$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_x & \varepsilon_y & \varepsilon_z & \gamma_{xy} & \gamma_{xz} & \gamma_{yz} \end{bmatrix}^T$$

$$D = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 2\frac{\partial}{\partial x} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & 2\frac{\partial}{\partial y} & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 2\frac{\partial}{\partial z}\\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & 0\\ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\\ 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}$$
(6.9)

$$D_* = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T$$
(6.10)

$$\hat{u}_{f} = \begin{bmatrix} u & v & w \end{bmatrix}^{T} = \begin{bmatrix} \widehat{S}_{1}^{T} & \widehat{S}_{2}^{T} & \widehat{S}_{3}^{T} \end{bmatrix}^{T} \overline{C} B_{1} B_{2} q_{f} = \begin{bmatrix} \widehat{N}_{1}^{T} & \widehat{N}_{2}^{T} & \widehat{N}_{3}^{T} \end{bmatrix}^{T} q_{f} = \widehat{N} q_{f}$$
(6.11)

$$N_{*} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\frac{\partial \hat{N}_{2}}{\partial x} \right)^{T} \left(\frac{\partial \hat{N}_{2}}{\partial x} \right) + \left(\frac{\partial \hat{N}_{3}}{\partial x} \right)^{T} \left(\frac{\partial \hat{N}_{3}}{\partial x} \right) \right]$$
(6.12)

 \overline{C} , B_1 , B_2 , q_f are defined in Chapter 2.

Thus the strain energy can be expressed as

(6.8)

$$\begin{aligned} U &= \frac{1}{2} \int \varepsilon^{T} E \varepsilon \ dV \\ &= \frac{1}{2} q_{I}^{T} \int \left(D \hat{N} + D_{*} q_{I}^{T} N_{*} \right)^{T} E \left(D \hat{N} + D_{*} q_{I}^{T} N_{*} \right) q_{I} dV \\ &= \frac{1}{2} q_{I}^{T} \left[\int \left(D \hat{N} \right)^{T} E \left(D \hat{N} \right) dV \right] q_{I} + \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} q_{I}^{T} \int \left[\left(D \hat{N} \right)^{T} E \left(D_{*} q_{I}^{T} N_{*} \right) + \left(D_{*} q_{I}^{T} N_{*} \right)^{T} E \left(D \hat{N} \right) \right] dV q_{I} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} q_{I}^{T} \int \left[\left(D \hat{N} \right)^{T} E \left(D_{*} q_{I}^{T} N_{*} \right) + \left(D_{*} q_{I}^{T} N_{*} \right)^{T} E \left(D \hat{N} \right) \right] dV q_{I} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} q_{I}^{T} \int \left[\int \left(D \hat{N} \right)^{T} E \left(D_{*} q_{I}^{T} N_{*} \right) dV \right] q_{I} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} q_{I}^{T} \int \left[\frac{\partial \hat{N}_{I}^{T}}{\partial x} q_{I}^{T} N_{*} + N_{*} q_{I} \frac{\partial \hat{N}_{I}}{\partial x} \right] dV q_{I} \\ &+ \frac{e}{2} q_{I}^{T} \int \left[\frac{\partial \hat{N}_{I}^{T}}{\partial x} q_{I}^{T} N_{*} + N_{*} q_{I} \frac{\partial \hat{N}_{I}}{\partial x} \right] dV q_{I} \\ &+ \frac{e}{2} q_{I}^{T} \int \left[\int \left(N_{*} q_{I} \right) \left(N_{*} q_{I} \right)^{T} dV \right] q_{I} \end{aligned} \tag{6.13} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} q_{I}^{T} B_{I}^{T} B_{I}^{T} \overline{C}^{T} \left(\overline{K}_{I} + \overline{K}_{ga} + \overline{K}_{gI} \right) \overline{C} B_{I} B_{2} q_{I} \end{aligned}$$

where e is Young's modulus.

The first term in equation (6.13) comes from the linear components of the straindisplacement relationship and will produce the linear stiffness matrix. The second and third terms are the strain energies caused by axial forces and foreshortening effects respectively.

6.2.1 Nonlinear Effect Induced by Axial Forces

Consider a one-dimensional plane beam undergoing transverse vibrations while subject to an axial force, as shown in Figure 6.1. The total strain energy includes not only the strain energy due to axial extension and transverse bending but also the strain energy due to axial forces. Large transverse bending results in shortening in the direction of the axis. If there is no axial forces, no extra axial strains are produced. Large axial forces resist the shortening in the direction of the axis and cause axial strains. The strain energy produced by the axial force P is equal to the negative of the work done by the axial force at the axial displacement.

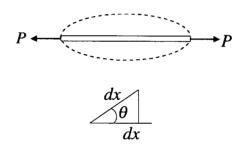


Figure 6.1 Beam vibration under axial forces

From Figure 6.1,

$$d\Delta = dx - \cos\theta \, dx = \frac{1}{2}\sin^2\theta \, dx \approx \frac{1}{2}\theta^2 dx = \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}\right)^2 dx \tag{6.15}$$

$$P\Delta = -\frac{1}{2} \int P\left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}\right)^2 dx \tag{6.16}$$

Note that
$$P = eA \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$$
, thus
strain energy $= U_{ga} = -P\Delta = \frac{eA}{2} \int \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}\right)^2 dx$ (6.17)

which is the same form as the second term of equation (6.13) when applied to one dimensional problems.

6.2.2 Foreshortening Nonlinear Effect

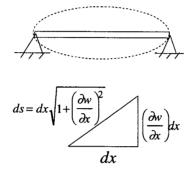


Figure 6.2 Foreshortening effect

Consider a one-dimensional plane beam simply supported at both ends, as shown in Figure 6.2. When it vibrates, axial strain is induced since the two ends are fixed. Let a small lateral displacement w = w(x) take place. Each differential length dx is increased to a new length ds because the distance between supports is not allowed to change. From Figure 6.2,

$$ds = dx \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}\right)^2} \tag{6.18}$$

if
$$\delta = \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}\right)^2$$
 is very small, then

$$(1+\delta)^{1/2} = 1 + \frac{1}{2}\delta - \frac{1}{8}\delta^2 + \cdots$$
(6.19)

$$ds \approx dx \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \right)^2 \right)$$
(6.20)

The strain due to the foreshortening is

$$\varepsilon_x = \frac{ds - dx}{dx} \approx \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}\right)^2 \tag{6.21}$$

Thus the strain energy due to the foreshortening is

$$U_{gf} = \frac{1}{2} \int eA\varepsilon^2 dx = \frac{eA}{8} \int \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}\right)^4 dx$$
(6.22)

6.3 Comparison of Simulation and Experiment Results

The two different types of geometric nonlinearities in MBS are the third-order nonlinear term and the fourth-order nonlinear term in the strain energy equation 6.13. To date, only simulation results have been used in discussions about which formulation or approximation should be used. This section gives a comparison between the simulation results of the two derived formulations and experimental results using the test rig.

The nonlinear stiffness matrix \overline{K}_{ga} due to axial forces is expressed as

$$\overline{K}_{gu} = \frac{e}{2} \int \left[\frac{\partial \widehat{S}_{1}^{T}}{\partial x} q_{f}^{T} B_{2}^{T} B_{1}^{T} \overline{C}^{T} \left(\frac{\partial \widehat{S}_{2}^{T}}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_{2}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_{3}^{T}}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_{3}}{\partial x} \right) + \left(\frac{\partial \widehat{S}_{2}^{T}}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_{2}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_{3}^{T}}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_{3}}{\partial x} \right) \overline{C} B_{1} B_{2} q_{f} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_{1}}{\partial x} \right] dV$$
(6.23)

The terms $\frac{\partial \hat{S}_1^T}{\partial x} q_f^T B_2^T B_1^T \overline{C}^T$ and $\overline{C} B_1 B_2 q_f \frac{\partial \hat{S}_1}{\partial x}$ express the strain induced by axial forces.

Usually, this strain term is very small compared with other deformation terms. For simplicity, the average strain $\frac{u_2 - u_1}{l}$ (with axial end displacements u_1 and u_2) is used to develop the stiffness matrix. Thus \overline{K}_{ga} is simplified as

$$\overline{K}_{ga} = \frac{e}{l} \left(u_2 - u_1 \right) \int \left(\frac{\partial \widehat{S}_2^T}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_2}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_3^T}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_3}{\partial x} \right) dV$$
(6.24)

 \overline{K}_{ga} will be given in Appendix C.

The nonlinear stiffness matrix \overline{K}_{gf} which involves the foreshortening effect is defined as

$$\overline{K}_{gf} = \frac{e}{4} \int \left\{ \left[\Lambda_1 \ \Lambda_2 \ \cdots \ \Lambda_{12} \left[\frac{\partial \widehat{S}_2^T}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_2}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_3^T}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_3}{\partial x} \right] \right\}^T \left\{ \left[\Lambda_1 \ \Lambda_2 \ \cdots \ \Lambda_{12} \left(\frac{\partial \widehat{S}_2^T}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_2}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_3^T}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_3}{\partial x} \right) \right\}^d V$$
(6.25)

where $\left[\Lambda_{1} \ \Lambda_{2} \cdots \Lambda_{12}\right] = q_{f}^{T} B_{2}^{T} B_{1}^{T} \overline{C}^{T}$

 \overline{K}_{gf} will be given in Appendix D.

From equation 6.14,

$$\left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial q_f}\right)^T = B_2^T B_1^T \overline{C}^T \left(\overline{K}_f + \overline{K}_{ga} + \overline{K}_{gf}\right) \overline{C} B_1 B_2 q_f + Q_{gv}$$
(6.26)

where
$$Q_{gv} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} q_f^T B_2^T B_1^T \overline{C}^T \left(\frac{\partial \overline{K}_{gf}}{\partial q_{f1}} \right) \overline{C} B_1 B_2 q_f \\ \vdots \\ q_f^T B_2^T B_1^T \overline{C}^T \left(\frac{\partial \overline{K}_{gf}}{\partial q_{fn}} \right) \overline{C} B_1 B_2 q_f \end{bmatrix}$$
 (6.27)

in which the derivatives of \overline{K}_{ga} with respect to the elastic coordinates are neglected.

Then the equation (2.144) becomes

$$B^{T} M B \ddot{q} = B^{T} \left(Q_{v} + Q_{c} + Q_{s} + Q_{0} + Q_{g} - M \dot{B} \dot{q} \right)$$
(6.28)

where
$$Q_{g}^{i} = -\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_{fg}^{i} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} r^{i} \\ \varphi_{gv}^{i} \\ q_{f}^{i} \end{bmatrix} + Q_{gv}^{i}$$
 (6.29)

$$K_{fg}^{i} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{e}} K_{fg}^{ij} = B_{2}^{iT} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{N_{e}} B_{1}^{ijT} \overline{C}^{ijT} \left(\overline{K}_{ga}^{ij} + \overline{K}_{gf}^{ij} \right) \overline{C}^{ij} B_{1}^{ij} \right) B_{2}^{i}$$

$$(6.30)$$

In order to compare with experiment results, simulations were performed under the same conditions as the experiments conducted in Chapter 4. Figure 6.3 ~ 6.6 show the simulation differences in bending strain between the formulations with only linear stiffness and including the geometric nonlinear due to axial forces or the geometric nonlinearity due to the foreshortening effect and axial forces. Figure 6.7 ~ 6.10 show the comparisons between the experimental results and the simulations including either the geometrical nonlinearity due to axial forces. The responses were investigated using two different initial conditions $\theta_2 = 30^0$ and $\theta_2 = 45^0$.

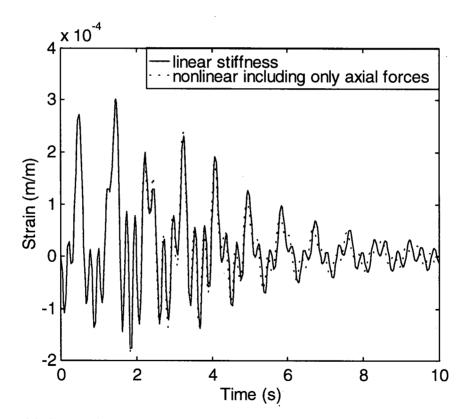


Figure 6.3 Comparison between nonlinear and linear under initial condition $\theta_2 = 30^0$

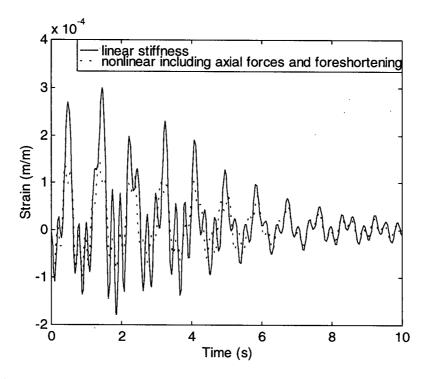


Figure 6.4 Comparison between nonlinear and linear under initial condition $\theta_2 = 30^0$

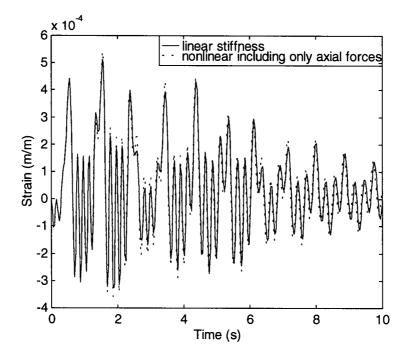


Figure 6.5 Comparison between nonlinear and linear under initial condition $\theta_2 = 45^0$

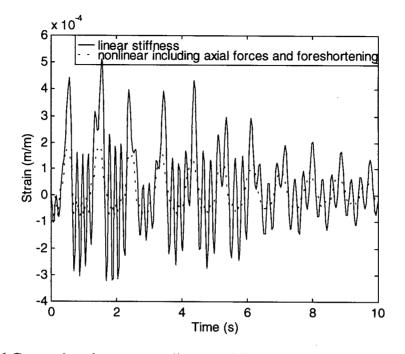


Figure 6.6 Comparison between nonlinear and linear under initial condition $\theta_2 = 45^0$

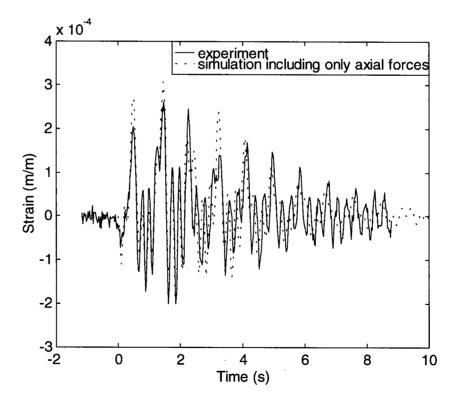


Figure 6.7 Comparison of experiment and simulation including only axial forces $\theta_2 = 30^0$

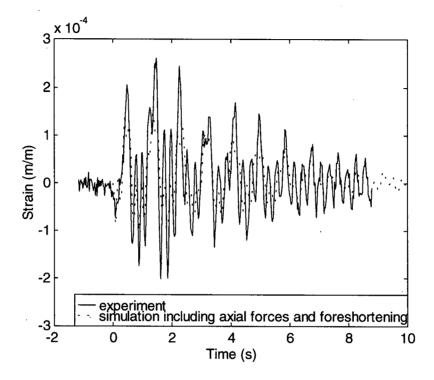


Figure 6.8 Comparison of experiment and simulation including both nonlinearities $\theta_2 = 30^0$

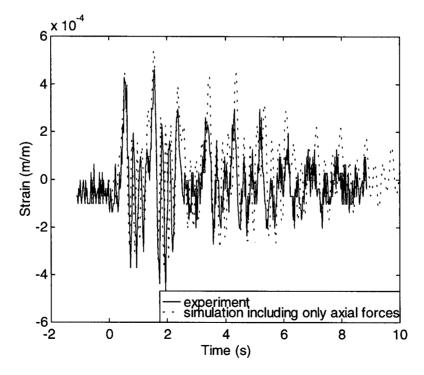


Figure 6.9 Comparison of experiment and simulation including only axial forces $\theta_2 = 45^0$

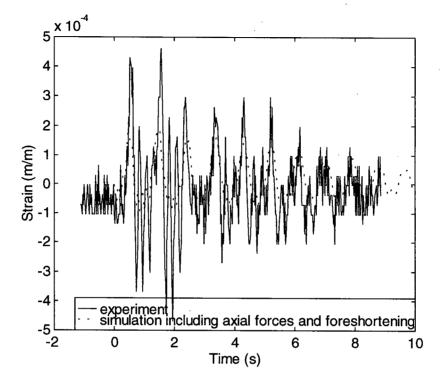


Figure 6.10 Comparison of experiment and simulation including both nonlinearities $\theta_2 = 45^{0}$

The above simulation results show that there are large differences between the results using the two different geometrical nonlinearities. The comparisons of experiment and simulation results demonstrate that the strain response is better described by the geometric nonlinearity due to axial forces than due to foreshortening. The geometric nonlinearity due to foreshortening overestimates the nonlinear effect. The reason is that in this application both ends of the flexible link are not fixed but are free to move. However, if a large tip mass were used that limited the movement of the flexible link, then the foreshortening effect might have been significant. The selection of which kind formulation of geometrical nonlinear depends on the applications themselves. Moreover, the nonlinear simulation results including axial forces only were not significantly better than the linear simulation results compared with the experimental results in the case of the test rig.

6.4 Summary

A detailed formulation of the geometric nonlinearities has been derived using nonlinear strain-displacement relations. The resulting strain energy includes a second-order term, a third-order term and a fourth-order term. The second-order term yields the linear stiffness term. The third-order and fourth-order terms corresponds with the two different nonlinear effects; the nonlinear effect caused by axial forces and by the foreshortening effect. The simulation and experimental results using the test rig under two different initial conditions show that the fourth-order nonlinear term in the strain energy expression overestimates the nonlinearity. The experimental results show that there is little foreshortening effect because the ends of the flexible link are not constrained. The nonlinear simulation results compared with the experimental results.

Chapter 7

Summary and Conclusions

A general and efficient implicit formulation for arbitrary deformable MBS has been developed. The derivation of the new formulation is based on the joint coordinate method through defining a new topological matrix. The new formulation has the following advantages: (i) The formulation is implicit so can ensure stability for any stiff systems; (ii) The formulation has a minimum number of variables and equations for high computational efficiency; (iii) The formulation is constructed independent of the numerical solution technique so that it can have high accuracy and numerical stability; (iv) It can be easily extended from tree-configured systems to closed-loop systems; (v) The dynamic equations of the individual bodies are formed independently and the global velocity transformation matrix and its derivative matrix can be constructed in different directions so that the equations can be easily solved using parallel computation for the simulation of large-scale systems.

The new formulation has been incorporated into a general time-domain simulation program. The total energy has been verified for a 3-D two-link manipulator with one link rigid and the other one flexible and a three-link manipulator. The importance of strain energy within the total energy balance has been stressed. The strain energy must be several orders of magnitude higher than the absolute error of total energy. Otherwise, the small elastic displacements can not be trusted. The finite element analysis part of the program was verified by comparing results while using one element and five element models of the flexible link. An eight-link tree-like manipulator connected by six revolute joints, one translational joint and one spherical joint was employed as a test example to demonstrate that the formulation and the code can deal with tree-configured MBS systems. A modal representation was also proved to be effective in reducing the number of elastic coordinates.

The effect of small elastic deformations on the joint motions was found to be significant. Not only the amplitudes of the joint motions but also the frequencies were different for a two-link manipulator when one of the links was considered as rigid rather than flexible. Nonlinear coupling was identified between the joint motion and the elastic motion. A 3-D two-link test rig with one link rigid and the other one flexible was designed to verify the formulation. The experimental results of the joint motion and small elastic displacements were found to be in good agreement with the simulation results. The results were compared in the time domain and in the frequency domain. The frequency of the flexible link vibration mode was found to change with the amplitude of the joint motions. For the test rig, joint flexibility needed to be considered as well as structural flexibility. The experiment results were also compared with the simulation results showed that the magnitudes of the joint displacements obtained by ADAMS were larger than that of the experiments. The comparison of the strain signal between ADAMS and the experiments also indicated that the strain signal was larger than the experimental results.

An Order N formulation was derived following Keat [20] for further comparison. The Order N formulation was very efficient in a single time step but was much slower when simulating a given time interval because of the much smaller time steps required. The Order N formulation required sequential inversion of a numbers of inertial matrices. Numerical errors from one inversion may be propagated and enlarged by subsequent inversions. As a results, reducing the time step may not be helpful for increasing the accuracy. In deformable MBS, the coupling between small elastic displacements and large rotation and translation displacements may induce matrices to be ill-conditioning resulting in chaotic behavior through error propagation. A simulation comparison using the Order N method using two slightly different initial conditions demonstrated chaotic responses for a nonchaotic system.

The developed joint coordinate formulation was also compared with the absolute coordinate formulation incorporated coordinate partitioning through the commercial software ADAMS. The simulation results showed that the frequencies were same but the magnitudes of the joint motions and the elastic displacements were different. The results achieved by ADAMS were larger. The reason for this is probably due to the approximation method that ADAMS uses to model flexible bodies. ADAMS models flexible bodies by discretizing the flexible bodies into lumped inertias and uses force elements to represent the elastic stiffness and the damping forces. The force elements are applied directly to the lumped inertias. The numerical instability caused by coordinate partitioning can be seen from the simulation results of the elastic displacements.

Geometric nonlinear behavior was investigated to demonstrate the nonlinear capabilities of the formulation. Two different nonlinear effects produced by axial forces and foreshortening were examined. The simulation results were compared with experiment results and it was found that the formulation that includes foreshortening overestimated the nonlinear effect for this test rig. The reason is that the flexible link is assumed to be fixed at each end when calculating foreshortening, which was not the case in the test rig. The controversy over which one should be neglected is not a mathematic problem. It depends on what kind of application is being investigated.

The main contributions of this thesis can be summarized as follows:

(i) A general and implicit formulation of deformable MBS based on the joint coordinate method has been successfully developed and implemented into a program. The formulation is consistent across rigid and flexible bodies. No approximations are required for modelling flexible bodies beyond those used in finite element applications. The newly-developed formulation has some advantages compared with other methods.

(ii) The numerical and experimental verification of the newly-developed formulation for the 3-D rigid-flexible MBS has been conducted. The importance of strain energy was stressed in the numerical validation. Good agreement in the time domain and the frequency domain between the simulation and experimental results supports the correctness of the formulation.

(iii) A simulation comparison has been conducted between the joint coordinate method, the Order N method and the absolute coordinate method (ADAMS) to investigate accuracy and efficiency. The results show that the Order N method is neither efficient nor accurate for deformable MBS due to the very small time step required and the propagation of numerical errors. The study demonstrates that Order N method may induce chaotic behavior for an unchaotic system. The comparison also shows that numerical instability and inefficiency may occur in ADAMS. Also, ADAMS has larger joint and elastic motions due to the approximate modelling method of flexible bodies.

(iv) Geometrical nonlinear effects for deformable MBS have been investigated. Two nonlinear effects caused by axial forces and the foreshortening effect were distinguished and compared to each others and to the experiment results. The results show that which effect should be considered depends on the application being investigated.

Further research should concentrate on the following aspects:

(i) To conduct more experimental work to verify the two geometrical nonlinear effects.

(ii) To investigate an efficient method to solve the constraint drift problem for closed-loop MBS.

(iii) To study effective and reliable control methods for the control of flexible MBS.

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Appendix A

The Orientation Transformation Matrices

The transformation matrices $A^i, G^i, \overline{G}^i, \widehat{G}^i$ of body i used in equation (2.17),(2.18),(2.103) are expressed by the generalized orientation vector (Euler angles) $\varphi^i = [\phi \ \alpha \ \psi]^{iT}$ as followings respectively:

$$A^{i} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\phi\cos\psi - \sin\phi\cos\theta\sin\psi & -\cos\phi\sin\psi - \sin\phi\cos\theta\cos\psi & \sin\phi\sin\theta \\ \sin\phi\cos\psi + \cos\phi\cos\theta\sin\psi & -\sin\phi\sin\psi + \cos\phi\cos\theta\cos\psi & -\cos\phi\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta\sin\psi & \sin\theta\sin\psi & \cos\psi & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix}^{i}$$
(A.1)
$$G^{i} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \cos\phi & \sin\theta\sin\phi \\ 0 & \sin\phi & -\sin\theta\cos\phi \\ 1 & 0 & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix}^{i}$$
(A.2)
$$\overline{G}^{i} = \begin{bmatrix} \sin\theta\sin\psi & \cos\psi & 0 \\ \sin\theta\cos\psi & -\sin\psi & 0 \\ \cos\theta & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{i}$$
(A.3)

$$\hat{G}^{i} = \frac{1}{\sin\theta} \begin{bmatrix} -\cos\theta\sin\phi & \cos\theta\cos\phi & \sin\theta\\ \cos\phi\sin\theta & \sin\theta\sin\phi & 0\\ \sin\phi & -\cos\phi & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{i}$$
(A.4)

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Appendix B

The Invariant Matrices in Finite Element Method

The shape function \overline{S}^{ij} and other invariants \overline{N}_{*}^{ij} , $\overline{N}_{\xi^*}^{ij}$, $\overline{N}_{\eta^*}^{ij}$, $\overline{N}_{\varsigma^*}^{ij}$, SS_{pq}^{ij} (p,q = 1,2,3), $P\overline{S}^{ij}$ and \overline{K}_{f}^{ij} used in equation (2.48)~(2.52), equation (2.81) and equation (2.91) for a 3-D beam element j of body i are expressed as followings:

$$\bar{S}^{ijT} = \begin{bmatrix} 1-\xi & 0 & 0 \\ 6(\xi-\xi^2)\eta & 1-3\xi^2+2\xi^3 & 0 \\ 6(\xi-\xi^2)\varsigma & 0 & 1-3\xi^2+2\xi^3 \\ 0 & -(1-\xi)l\varsigma & (1-\xi)l\eta \\ (1-4\xi+3\xi^2)l\varsigma & 0 & (-\xi+2\xi^2-\xi^3)l \\ (-1+4\xi-3\xi^2)l\eta & (\xi-2\xi^2+\xi^3)l & 0 \\ \xi & 0 & 0 \\ 6(-\xi+\xi^2)\eta & 3\xi^2-2\xi^3 & 0 \\ 6(-\xi+\xi^2)\varsigma & 0 & 3\xi^2-2\xi^3 \\ 0 & -l\xi\varsigma & l\xi\eta \\ (-2\xi+3\xi^2)l\varsigma & 0 & (\xi^2-\xi^3)l \\ (2\xi-3\xi^2)l\eta & (-\xi^2+\xi^3)l & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
(B.1)

$$P\overline{S}^{ijT} = B_2^{iT} B_1^{ijT} \overline{C}^{ijT} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 12(-\xi + \xi^2)/l \\ 0 & 12(\xi - \xi^2)/l & 0 \\ 2(1 - \xi) & \eta & \zeta \\ 0 & 2(1 - 4\xi + 3\xi^2) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2(1 - 4\xi + 3\xi^2) \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 12(\xi - \xi^2)/l \\ 0 & 12(-\xi + \xi^2)/l & 0 \\ 2\xi & -\eta & -\zeta \\ 0 & 2(-2\xi + 3\xi^2) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2(-2\xi + 3\xi^2) \\ 0 & 0 & 2(-2\xi + 3\xi^2) \\ \end{pmatrix}$$
(B.2)

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$$\overline{N}_{\star}^{ij} = \left(\int \rho \widehat{S} d\nu\right)^{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{m}{2} \ lQ_{\eta} \ lQ_{\varsigma} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{m}{2} \ -lQ_{\eta} \ -lQ_{\varsigma} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{m}{2} & 0 & -\frac{l^{2}}{2}Q_{\varsigma} & 0 & \frac{ml}{12} & 0 & \frac{m}{2} & 0 & -\frac{l^{2}}{2}Q_{\varsigma} & 0 & -\frac{ml}{12} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{m}{2} & \frac{l^{2}}{2}Q_{\eta} & -\frac{ml}{12} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{m}{2} & \frac{l^{2}}{2}Q_{\eta} & \frac{ml}{12} & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{ij}$$
(B.3)

$$\overline{N}_{\xi^{\star}}^{ij} = \left(\int \rho\xi \widehat{S}dv\right)^{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{m}{6} & \frac{lQ_{\eta}}{2} & \frac{lQ_{\zeta}}{2} & 0 & -\frac{l^2Q_{\zeta}}{12} & \frac{l^2Q_{\eta}}{12} & \frac{m}{3} & -\frac{lQ_{\eta}}{2} & -\frac{lQ_{\zeta}}{2} & 0 & \frac{l^2Q_{\zeta}}{12} & -\frac{l^2Q_{\eta}}{12} \end{bmatrix}^{ij} \\ 0 & \frac{3m}{20} & 0 & -\frac{l^2Q_{\zeta}}{6} & 0 & \frac{ml}{30} & 0 & \frac{7m}{20} & 0 & -\frac{l^2Q_{\zeta}}{3} & 0 & -\frac{ml}{20} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{3m}{20} & \frac{l^2Q_{\eta}}{6} & -\frac{ml}{30} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{7m}{20} & \frac{l^2Q_{\eta}}{3} & \frac{ml}{20} & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{ij}$$
(B.4)

$$\overline{N}_{\eta^{\star}}^{ij} = \left(\int \rho \eta \widehat{S} d\nu\right)^{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{lQ_{\eta}}{2} & lI_{\varsigma} & lI_{\eta\varsigma} & 0 & 0 & \frac{lQ_{\eta}}{2} & -lI_{\varsigma} & -lI_{\eta\varsigma} & 0 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & \frac{lQ_{\eta}}{2} & 0 & -\frac{l^2 I_{\eta\varsigma}}{2} & 0 & \frac{l^2 Q_{\eta}}{12} & 0 & \frac{lQ_{\eta}}{2} & 0 & -\frac{l^2 I_{\eta\varsigma}}{2} & 0 & -\frac{l^2 Q_{\eta}}{12} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{lQ_{\eta}}{2} & \frac{l^2 I_{\varsigma}}{2} & -\frac{l^2 Q_{\eta}}{12} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{lQ_{\eta}}{2} & \frac{l^2 I_{\varsigma}}{2} & \frac{l^2 Q_{\eta}}{12} & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{ij}$$
(B.5)

$$\overline{N}_{\varsigma^{\bullet}}^{ij} = \left(\int \rho \varsigma \widehat{S} d\nu\right)^{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{lQ_{\varsigma}}{2} & lI_{\eta\varsigma} & lI_{\eta} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{lQ_{\varsigma}}{2} & -lI_{\eta\varsigma} & -lI_{\eta} & 0 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & \frac{lQ_{\varsigma}}{2} & 0 & -\frac{l^2 I_{\eta}}{2} & 0 & \frac{l^2 Q_{\varsigma}}{12} & 0 & \frac{lQ_{\varsigma}}{2} & 0 & -\frac{l^2 I_{\eta}}{2} & 0 & -\frac{l^2 Q_{\varsigma}}{12} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{lQ_{\varsigma}}{2} & \frac{l^2 I_{\eta\varsigma}}{2} & -\frac{l^2 Q_{\varsigma}}{12} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{lQ_{\varsigma}}{2} & \frac{l^2 I_{\eta\varsigma}}{2} & \frac{l^2 Q_{\varsigma}}{12} & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{ij}$$
(B.6)

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$$SS_{11}^{y} = \left(\int \rho \hat{S}_{1}^{z} \hat{S}_{1} d\nu\right)^{y}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{m}{3} & & & & & & \\ \frac{Q_{n}l}{2} & \frac{6I_{n}l}{5} & \frac{6I_{n}l}{5} & & & & \\ \frac{Q_{c}l}{2} & \frac{6I_{n}cl}{5} & \frac{6I_{n}l}{5} & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & & & \\ \frac{Q_{c}l^{2}}{12} & -\frac{I_{n}l^{2}}{10} & -\frac{I_{n}l^{2}}{10} & 0 & \frac{2I_{n}l^{3}}{15} & & \\ -\frac{Q_{c}l^{2}}{12} & \frac{I_{c}l^{2}}{10} & \frac{I_{n}cl^{2}}{10} & 0 & -\frac{2I_{n}cl^{3}}{12} & \frac{2I_{c}l^{3}}{15} & \\ -\frac{Q_{n}l}{6} & \frac{Q_{n}l}{2} & \frac{Q_{c}l}{2} & 0 & -\frac{Q_{c}l^{2}}{12} & \frac{Q_{n}l^{2}}{12} & \frac{m}{3} & \\ -\frac{Q_{n}l}{2} & -\frac{6I_{c}l}{5} & -\frac{6I_{n}c}{5} & 0 & \frac{I_{n}l^{2}}{10} & -\frac{I_{c}l^{2}}{12} & -\frac{Q_{n}l}{2} & \frac{6I_{c}l}{5} & \\ -\frac{Q_{c}l}{2} & -\frac{6I_{n}c}{5} & 0 & \frac{I_{n}l^{2}}{10} & -\frac{I_{n}l^{2}}{10} & -\frac{Q_{c}l}{12} & \frac{6I_{n}cl}{5} & \frac{6I_{n}l}{5} & \\ -\frac{Q_{c}l^{2}}{2} & -\frac{6I_{n}c}{5} & 0 & \frac{I_{n}l^{2}}{10} & -\frac{I_{n}l^{2}}{10} & -\frac{I_{n}c^{2}}{10} & -\frac{Q_{c}l}{12} & \frac{6I_{n}c}{10} & 0 & 0 & \\ -\frac{Q_{c}l^{2}}{2} & -\frac{6I_{n}c}{5} & 0 & \frac{I_{n}l^{2}}{10} & -\frac{I_{n}l^{2}}{10} & -\frac{I_{n}c^{2}}{12} & \frac{6I_{n}c}{10} & 0 & 0 & \\ -\frac{Q_{c}l^{2}}{2} & -\frac{6I_{n}c}{5} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\frac{Q_{c}l^{2}}{12} & -\frac{I_{n}c^{2}}{10} & 0 & -\frac{I_{n}l^{3}}{30} & \frac{I_{n}c^{2}}{30} & -\frac{Q_{c}l^{2}}{12} & \frac{6I_{n}c}{10} & 0 & \frac{2I_{n}l^{3}}{15} \\ -\frac{Q_{n}l^{2}}{12} & \frac{I_{n}c^{2}}{10} & 0 & \frac{I_{n}c^{2}}{15} & \frac{Q_{n}l^{2}}{15} & \frac{I_{n}c^{2}}{15} \end{bmatrix}$$
(B.7)

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(B.8)

(B.9)

$$SS_{22}^{ij} = \left(\int \rho S_2^T S_2 d\nu\right)^{ij}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & & & & \\ 0 & \frac{13m}{35} & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & & \\ 0 & -\frac{7l^2 Q_{\varsigma}}{20} & 0 & \frac{l^3 I_{\eta}}{3} & & symmetric & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & & \\ 0 & \frac{11ml}{210} & 0 & -\frac{l^3 Q_{\varsigma}}{20} & 0 & \frac{ml^2}{105} & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & & \\ 0 & \frac{9m}{70} & 0 & -\frac{3l^2 Q_{\varsigma}}{20} & 0 & \frac{13ml}{420} & 0 & \frac{13m}{35} & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & & 0 & & \\ 0 & -\frac{3l^2 Q_{\varsigma}}{20} & 0 & \frac{l^3 I_{\eta}}{6} & 0 & -\frac{l^3 Q_{\varsigma}}{30} & 0 & -\frac{7l^2 Q_{\varsigma}}{20} & 0 & \frac{l^3 I_{\eta}}{3} & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & \\ 0 & -\frac{13ml}{420} & 0 & \frac{l^3 Q_{\varsigma}}{30} & 0 & -\frac{ml^2}{140} & 0 & -\frac{11ml}{210} & 0 & \frac{l^3 Q_{\varsigma}}{20} & 0 & \frac{ml^2}{105} \end{bmatrix}$$
(B.10)

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$$\vec{K}_{f}^{g} = \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{ea}{l} & & & & & & \\
0 & \frac{12eI_{\tau}}{l\rho} & & & & & \\
0 & 0 & \frac{12eI_{\eta}}{l\rho} & & & & & \\
0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{GI}{l} & & & & \\
0 & 0 & -\frac{6eI_{\eta}}{\rho} & 0 & \frac{4eII_{\eta}}{\rho} & & \\
0 & \frac{6eI_{\varsigma}}{\rho} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{4eII_{\varsigma}}{\rho} & & \\
-\frac{ea}{l} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{ea}{l} & & \\
0 & -\frac{12eI_{\varsigma}}{l\rho} & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{6eI_{\varsigma}}{\rho} & 0 & \frac{12eI_{\varsigma}}{l\rho} & \\
0 & 0 & -\frac{12eI_{\eta}}{l\rho} & 0 & \frac{6eI_{\eta}}{\rho} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{12eI_{\eta}}{l\rho} & \\
0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{GI_{l}}{l\rho} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{12eI_{\eta}}{l\rho} & \\
0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{6eI_{\eta}}{\rho} & 0 & \frac{2eII_{\eta}}{\rho} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{6eI_{\eta}}{\rho} & 0 & \frac{4eII_{\eta}}{\rho} & \\
0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{6eI_{\varsigma}}{\rho} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{6eI_{\varsigma}}{\rho} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{4eII_{\eta}}{\rho} & \\
0 & \frac{6eI_{\varsigma}}{\rho} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{2eII_{\varsigma}}{\rho} & 0 & -\frac{6eI_{\varsigma}}{\rho} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{4eII_{\eta}}{\rho} & \\
\end{bmatrix}$$
(B.13)

where ρ^{ij} , l^{ij} , a^{ij} are the mass density, length, and cross sectional area of the element j of body i. e^{ij} and G^{ij} are the modulus of elasticity and the modulus of rigidity of the element j of body i. Q_{η}^{ij} , Q_{ς}^{ij} , I_{η}^{ij} , I_{ς}^{ij} , $I_{\eta\varsigma}^{ij}$ are defined in equation (2.39)~(2.43). J^{ij} is the polar moment of inertia of the cross section.

Appendix C

The Nonlinear Stiffness Matrix Due to Axial Forces

The geometric nonlinear stiffness matrix \overline{K}_{ga}^{ij} of the element j of body i due to axial forces is expressed as

Appendix D

The Nonlinear Stiffness Matrix Due to Foreshortening

The geometric nonlinear stiffness matrix \overline{K}_{gf}^{ij} of the element j of body i due to foreshortening is expressed as

$$\overline{K}_{gf}^{ij} = \frac{e^{ij}}{4} \int \left\{ \left[\Lambda_1 \ \Lambda_2 \ \cdots \ \Lambda_{12} \right] \left(\frac{\partial \widehat{S}_2^T}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_2}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_3^T}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_3}{\partial x} \right) \right\}^{ijT} \left\{ \left[\Lambda_1 \ \Lambda_2 \ \cdots \ \Lambda_{12} \right] \left(\frac{\partial \widehat{S}_2^T}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_2}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_3^T}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \widehat{S}_3}{\partial x} \right) \right\}^{ijT} dV^{ij}$$

$$= \frac{e^{ij}}{4(l^{ij})^4} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & & & & & & & & \\ 0 & k_{22} & & & & & & \\ 0 & k_{32} & k_{33} & & & & & & & \\ 0 & k_{42} & k_{43} & k_{44} & & & & & \\ 0 & k_{52} & k_{53} & k_{54} & k_{55} & & & & & \\ 0 & k_{62} & k_{63} & k_{64} & k_{65} & k_{66} & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \\ 0 & -k_{22} & -k_{32} & -k_{42} & -k_{52} & -k_{62} & 0 & -k_{82} & & \\ 0 & -k_{32} & -k_{33} & -k_{43} & -k_{53} & -k_{63} & 0 & -k_{92} & -k_{93} & & \\ 0 & -k_{42} & -k_{43} & -k_{44} & -k_{54} & -k_{64} & 0 & -k_{102} & -k_{103} & -k_{104} & & \\ 0 & k_{112} & k_{113} & k_{114} & k_{115} & k_{116} & 0 & -k_{112} & -k_{113} & -k_{114} & k_{1111} & & \\ 0 & k_{122} & k_{123} & k_{124} & k_{125} & k_{126} & 0 & -k_{122} & -k_{123} & -k_{124} & k_{1211} & k_{1212} \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$k_{22} = \frac{72al}{35} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)^2 + \frac{18al^2}{35} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8) (\Lambda_6 + \Lambda_{12}) + \frac{3al^3}{35} (\Lambda_{12}^2 - 2\Lambda_6^2) + \frac{6I_{\eta}l^2}{5\rho} (\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10})^2$$

$$k_{32} = \frac{72al}{35} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8) (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9) + \frac{9al^2}{35} [(\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9) (\Lambda_6 + \Lambda_{12}) - (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8) (\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11})] + \frac{3al^3}{35} (2\Lambda_5 \Lambda_6 - \Lambda_{11} \Lambda_{12})$$

$$k_{42} = \frac{6(2I_{\eta} + I_{\varsigma})l^{3}}{5\rho} (\Lambda_{2} - \Lambda_{8})(\Lambda_{4} - \Lambda_{10}) + \frac{(2I_{\eta} + I_{\varsigma})l^{4}}{10\rho} (\Lambda_{4} - \Lambda_{10})(\Lambda_{6} + \Lambda_{12})$$

$$\begin{split} k_{52} &= \frac{9al^2}{35} (\Lambda_8 - \Lambda_2) (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9) + \frac{6al^3}{35} [(\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)\Lambda_6 + (\Lambda_8 - \Lambda_2)\Lambda_5] + \frac{al^4}{140} (\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11}) (\Lambda_6 + \Lambda_{12}) \\ k_{62} &= \frac{9al^2}{35} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)^2 - \frac{12al^3}{35} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)\Lambda_6 + \frac{al^4}{140} (\Lambda_6 + \Lambda_{12})^2 \\ k_{82} &= -\frac{72al}{35} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)^2 - \frac{18al^2}{35} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8) (\Lambda_6 + \Lambda_{12}) + \frac{3al^3}{35} (2\Lambda_6^2 + \Lambda_{12}^2) - \frac{6l_nl^2}{5\rho} (\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10})^2 \\ k_{112} &= -\frac{9al^2}{35} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8) (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9) + \frac{3al^3}{35} [(\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)\Lambda_{11} - 2(\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)\Lambda_{12}] + \frac{al^4}{140} [(\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11})\Lambda_6 + (\Lambda_5 - \Lambda_{11})\Lambda_{12}] \\ k_{122} &= \frac{9al^2}{35} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)^2 + \frac{6al^3}{35} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)\Lambda_{12} + \frac{al^4}{140} [(\Lambda_6 + \Lambda_{12})\Lambda_6 + (\Lambda_6 - \Lambda_{12})\Lambda_{12}] + \frac{l_nl^4}{10\rho} (\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10})^2 \\ k_{33} &= \frac{72al}{35} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)^2 - \frac{18al^2}{35} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9) (\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11}) + \frac{3al^3}{35} (\Lambda_{11}^2 - 2\Lambda_3^2) + \frac{6l_sl^2}{5\rho} (\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10})^2 \\ k_{43} &= \frac{6(l_n + 2l_s)l^3}{5\rho} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9) (\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10}) - \frac{(l_n + 2l_s)l^4}{10\rho} (\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10}) (\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11}) \\ k_{53} &= \frac{9al^2}{35} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)^2 - \frac{al^4}{140} (\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11})^2 \\ k_{63} &= \frac{9al^2}{35} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)^2 - \frac{al^4}{140} (\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11})^2 \\ k_{113} &= -\frac{9al^2}{35} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)^2 + \frac{9al^3}{35} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)\Lambda_{11} - \frac{al^4}{140} [(\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11})\Lambda_5 + (\Lambda_5 - \Lambda_{11})\Lambda_{11}] - \frac{l_sl^4}{10\rho} (\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10})^2 \\ k_{123} &= \frac{9al^2}{35} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)^2 + \frac{9al^3}{35} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)\Lambda_{11} - \frac{al^4}{140} [(\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11})\Lambda_5 + (\Lambda_5 - \Lambda_{11})\Lambda_{11}] - \frac{l_sl^4}{10\rho} (\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10})^2 \\ k_{133} &= \frac{9al^2}{35} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)(\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8) + \frac{3al^3}{35} [(\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)\Lambda_8 - 2(\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)\Lambda_8] - \frac{al^4}{140} (\Lambda_6 + \Lambda_{12})(\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11}) \\ k_{133} &= -\frac{9al^2}{35} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)(\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8) + \frac{3al^3}{35} [(\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)\Lambda_8 - 2(\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)\Lambda_8] - \frac{al^4}{140} [(\Lambda_8 + \Lambda_{12})\Lambda_8 + (\Lambda_8 - \Lambda_{12})\Lambda_8$$

Appendix D. The Nonlinear Stiffness Matrix Due to Foreshortening

$$k_{44} = \frac{6I_{\eta}l^{3}}{5\rho}(\Lambda_{2} - \Lambda_{8})^{2} + \frac{l^{4}}{5\rho}\Big[I_{\eta}(\Lambda_{2} - \Lambda_{8})(\Lambda_{6} + \Lambda_{12}) - I_{\varsigma}(\Lambda_{3} - \Lambda_{9})(\Lambda_{5} + \Lambda_{11})\Big] + \frac{6I_{\varsigma}l^{3}}{5\rho}(\Lambda_{3} - \Lambda_{9})^{2} + \frac{l^{5}}{30\rho}\Big[4(I_{\varsigma}\Lambda_{5}^{2} + I_{\eta}\Lambda_{6}^{2}) - (I_{\varsigma}\Lambda_{5}\Lambda_{11} + I_{\eta}\Lambda_{6}\Lambda_{12})\Big]$$

$$k_{54} = -\frac{(2I_{\varsigma} + I_{\eta})l^{4}}{10\rho}(\Lambda_{3} - \Lambda_{9})(\Lambda_{4} - \Lambda_{10}) + \frac{(I_{\eta} + 2I_{\varsigma})l^{5}}{30\rho}(\Lambda_{4} - \Lambda_{10})(4\Lambda_{5} - \Lambda_{11})$$

$$k_{64} = \frac{\left(2I_{\eta} + I_{\varsigma}\right)l^{4}}{10\rho} (\Lambda_{2} - \Lambda_{8})(\Lambda_{4} - \Lambda_{10}) + \frac{\left(2I_{\eta} + I_{\varsigma}\right)l^{5}}{30\rho} (\Lambda_{4} - \Lambda_{10})(4\Lambda_{6} - \Lambda_{12})$$

$$k_{114} = -\frac{(I_{\eta} + 2I_{\varsigma})l^{4}}{10\rho}(\Lambda_{3} - \Lambda_{9})(\Lambda_{4} - \Lambda_{10}) - \frac{(I_{\eta} + 2I_{\varsigma})l^{5}}{30\rho}(\Lambda_{4} - \Lambda_{10})(4\Lambda_{11} - \Lambda_{5})$$

$$k_{124} = \frac{(2I_{\eta} + I_{\varsigma})l^{4}}{10\rho} (\Lambda_{2} - \Lambda_{8})(\Lambda_{4} - \Lambda_{10}) + \frac{(2I_{\eta} + I_{\varsigma})l^{5}}{30\rho} (\Lambda_{4} - \Lambda_{10})(4\Lambda_{12} - \Lambda_{6})$$

$$k_{55} = \frac{6al^3}{35} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)^2 - \frac{al^4}{70} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9) (\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11}) + \frac{2I_c l^5}{15\rho} (\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10})^2 + \frac{al^5}{70} (4\Lambda_5^2 + \frac{1}{3}\Lambda_{11}^2 - \Lambda_5\Lambda_{11})$$

$$k_{65} = -\frac{6al^3}{35}(\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)(\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8) + \frac{al^4}{140}[(\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)(\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11}) - (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)(\Lambda_6 + \Lambda_{12})] + \frac{al^5}{210}(12\Lambda_5\Lambda_6 - 2\Lambda_5\Lambda_{12} - 2\Lambda_6\Lambda_{11} + \Lambda_{11}\Lambda_{12})$$

$$k_{115} = -\frac{al^4}{70} \left(\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9\right) \left(\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11}\right) - \frac{I_{\varsigma} l^5}{30\rho} \left(\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10}\right)^2 + \frac{al^5}{210} \left(\Lambda_{11}^2 + 2\Lambda_5 \Lambda_{11} - \Lambda_5^2\right)$$

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$$k_{125} = \frac{al^4}{140} \Big[(\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8) (\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11}) - (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9) (\Lambda_6 + \Lambda_{12}) \Big] + \frac{al^5}{210} \Big(\Lambda_{11} \Lambda_{12} + \Lambda_6 \Lambda_{11} + \Lambda_5 \Lambda_{12} - \frac{3}{2} \Lambda_5 \Lambda_6 \Big) \quad .$$

$$k_{66} = \frac{6al^3}{35} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)^2 + \frac{al^4}{70} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8) (\Lambda_6 + \Lambda_{12}) + \frac{2I_{\eta}l^5}{15\rho} (\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10})^2 + \frac{al^5}{210} (12\Lambda_6^2 + \Lambda_{12}^2 - 2\Lambda_6\Lambda_{12})$$

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$$k_{116} = \frac{al^4}{140} \left[(\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)(\Lambda_5 + \Lambda_{11}) - (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)(\Lambda_6 + \Lambda_{12}) \right] + \frac{al^5}{210} \left(\Lambda_{11}\Lambda_{12} + \Lambda_5\Lambda_{12} + \Lambda_6\Lambda_{11} - \frac{3}{2}\Lambda_5\Lambda_6 \right)$$

$$k_{126} = \frac{al^4}{70} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)(\Lambda_6 + \Lambda_{12}) - \frac{l_n l^5}{30\rho} (\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10})^2 + \frac{al^5}{210} \left(\Lambda_{12}^2 + 2\Lambda_6\Lambda_{12} - \frac{3}{2}\Lambda_6^2 \right)$$

$$k_{1111} = \frac{3al^3}{35} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)^2 - \frac{al^4}{70} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)(\Lambda_5 - \Lambda_{11}) + \frac{2l_s l^5}{15\rho} (\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10})^2 + \frac{al^5}{210} (\Lambda_5^2 + 12\Lambda_{11}^2 + 2\Lambda_5\Lambda_{11})$$

$$k_{1211} = -\frac{3al^3}{35} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)(\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8) - \frac{al^4}{140} (\Lambda_3 - \Lambda_9)(\Lambda_6 - \Lambda_{12}) + \frac{al^5}{210} (\Lambda_5^2 + \Lambda_5\Lambda_{12} + \Lambda_6\Lambda_{11} + \Lambda_{11}\Lambda_{12})$$

$$k_{1212} = \frac{3al^3}{35} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)^2 + \frac{al^4}{70} (\Lambda_2 - \Lambda_8)(\Lambda_6 - \Lambda_{12}) + \frac{2l_n l^5}{15\rho} (\Lambda_4 - \Lambda_{10})^2 + \frac{al^5}{210} (\Lambda_6^2 + 2\Lambda_6\Lambda_{12} + 12\Lambda_{12}^2)$$