

# Dynamic Responses of Railway Suspension Bridges Under Moving Trains

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This paper describes a numerical simulation technique that is used to investigate a dynamic train-long suspension bridge interaction. A three-dimensional finite element model is used to represent a long suspension bridge. Each vehicle of the train is modeled by a 27-degrees-of-freedom dynamic system, including two bogies with four wheel-sets. By applying a mode superposition technique to the bridge and taking the measured wheel and track irregularities as known quantities, the degrees of freedom of the bridge-train system are significantly reduced and the coupled equations of motion are efficiently solved. The proposed formulation and the associated computer program are then applied to a real long suspension bridge. The dynamic responses of the bridge and the train vehicles are computed and compared with the limited measured data and the results are satisfactory.

## INTRODUCTION

To meet the needs of modern society for advanced transportation systems, more and more long suspension bridges have been built throughout the world, such as the Minami Bisan Seto suspension bridge in Japan in 1988 [1] and the Tsing Ma suspension bridge in Hong Kong in 1997 [2]. For such long span bridge-train systems, Diana and Cheli [3] pointed out two fundamental aspects to be investigated: One is bridge safety, due to train passage and the other is train runability, including passenger comfort.

In this paper, a three-dimensional model is presented, first, for investigating the dynamic interaction of long suspension bridges with moving trains. The measured irregularities between wheels and track are used to represent their non-linear relationship and are taken as known quantities. The modal superposition technique is applied to the bridge, which further reduces computational effort. This formulation, together with the associated computer program is, then, applied

to a real long suspension bridge carrying a railway within the bridge deck as a case study. Finally, the computed bridge response is compared with the limited measured results to verify the approach, to some extent.

## BASIC DYNAMIC MODELS

### Dynamic Model of Train

The dynamic model of a train consists of several locomotives, passenger coaches or freight cars. Each vehicle is composed of a car body, bogies, wheel-sets and the connections between the components [4]. The following assumptions are used in the modeling of the train in this study (see Figure 1):

1. The car body, bogies and wheel-sets in each vehicle are regarded as rigid components;
2. The connections of car body-bogies and the connections of bogie-wheel-sets are represented by linear springs and viscous dashpots.

With the above assumptions, the  $i$ th vehicle body has five degrees of freedom with which to be concerned. They are designated by the lateral displacement,  $Y_{ci}$ , roll displacement,  $\theta_{ci}$ , yaw displacement,  $\Psi_{ci}$ , vertical displacement,  $Z_{ci}$ , and pitch displacement,  $\varphi_{ci}$ . The  $j$ th bogie in the  $i$ th vehicle has five degrees of freedom:

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$$\mathbf{K}_{t_j t_j i} = \begin{bmatrix} k_{2ij}^h + 2k_{1ij}^h & h_{2i}k_{2ij}^h & 2h_{3i}k_{1ij}^h \\ h_{2i}k_{2ij}^h & 2h_{3i}k_{1ij}^h & h_{2i}^2k_{2ij}^h + b_i^2k_{2ij}^v + 2h_{3i}^2k_{1ij}^h + 2a_i^2k_{1ij}^v \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2d_i^2k_{1ij}^h & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2k_{1ij}^v + k_{2ij}^v & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2d_i^2k_{1ij}^v \end{bmatrix}, \quad (4)$$

$$\mathbf{K}_{ct_1} = \mathbf{K}_{t_1c}^T = \begin{bmatrix} k_{2i1}^h & h_{1i}k_{2i1}^h & s_i k_{2i1}^h \\ h_{2i}k_{2i1}^h & h_{1i}h_{2i}k_{2i1}^h & b_i^2k_{2i1}^v & h_{2i}s_i k_{2i1}^h \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ k_{2i1}^v & s_i k_{2i1}^v \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (5)$$

$$\mathbf{K}_{ct_2} = \mathbf{K}_{t_2c}^T = \begin{bmatrix} k_{2i2}^h & h_{1i}k_{2i2}^h & s_i k_{2i2}^h \\ h_{2i}k_{2i2}^h & h_{1i}h_{2i}k_{2i2}^h & b_i^2k_{2i2}^v & h_{2i}s_i k_{2i2}^h \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ k_{2i2}^v & s_i k_{2i2}^v \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (6)$$

The sub-damping matrix can be obtained by simply replacing “ $k$ ” in the corresponding sub-stiffness matrix by “ $c$ ”.  $\mathbf{v}_i$ ,  $\dot{\mathbf{v}}_i$  and  $\ddot{\mathbf{v}}_i$  are the displacement, velocity and acceleration vectors of the  $i$ th vehicle, respectively.

The force vector consists of two parts:

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_{ci} \\ \mathbf{F}_{t_1i} \\ \mathbf{F}_{t_2i} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_{cei} \\ \mathbf{F}_{t_1ei} \\ \mathbf{F}_{t_2ei} \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{F}_{t_1wi} \\ \mathbf{F}_{t_2wi} \end{Bmatrix}. \quad (7)$$

The components in the first part,  $\mathbf{F}_{cei}$ ,  $\mathbf{F}_{t_1ei}$  and  $\mathbf{F}_{t_2ei}$ , are the vectors of external forces (such as wind forces) acting on the car body and the front and rear bogies

of the vehicle, respectively.  $\mathbf{F}_{t_1wi}$  and  $\mathbf{F}_{t_2wi}$  are the vectors of forces transmitted from the wheels through the primary springs and dashpots to the front and rear bogies, respectively. The forces transmitted from all of their wheels to the bogies can be expressed in terms of the displacements and velocities of the wheels.

$$\mathbf{F}_{t_j wi} = \sum_{l=1}^{N_{wij}} \begin{Bmatrix} (k_{1ij}^h Y_{wijl} + c_{1ij}^h \dot{Y}_{wijl}) \\ 2a_i^2 (k_{1ij}^v \theta_{wijl} + c_{1ij}^v \dot{\theta}_{wijl}) & h_{4i} (k_{1ij}^h Y_{wijl} + c_{1ij}^h \dot{Y}_{wijl}) \\ 2\eta_l d_i (k_{1ij}^h Y_{wijl} + c_{1ij}^h \dot{Y}_{wijl}) \\ (k_{1ij}^v Z_{wijl} + c_{1ij}^v \dot{Z}_{wijl}) \\ 2\eta_l d_i (k_{1ij}^v Z_{wijl} + c_{1ij}^v \dot{Z}_{wijl}) \end{Bmatrix}, \quad (8)$$

$j = 1, 2,$

where  $N_{wij}$  is the number of wheel-sets in the  $j$ th bogie of the  $i$ th vehicle.  $\eta_l$  is the sign function, with  $\eta_l = 1$  when the wheel is in the front bogie and  $\eta_l = -1$  when it is in the rear bogie.

### Dynamic Model of Suspension Bridge

A long suspension bridge consists of bridge towers, bridge deck, cables, suspenders and anchorages. This study assumes that there is no relative displacement between the track and bridge deck. Using the finite element method, the equation of motion for the bridge can be expressed, as follows:

$$\mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{X}} + \mathbf{C}\dot{\mathbf{X}} + \mathbf{K}\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{F}, \quad (9)$$

where  $\mathbf{F}$  is the force vector, consisting of two parts,  $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F}_e + \mathbf{F}_w$ .  $\mathbf{F}_e$  is the vector of external forces acting on the nodes of the bridge model and  $\mathbf{F}_w$  is the vector of forces from the wheels of a train on the bridge deck through the track. The displacements of the bridge deck at any section in the finite element analysis are usually identified in terms of the lateral displacement,  $Y_b$ , vertical displacement,  $Z_b$ , and torsional displacement,  $\theta_b$ , at the shear center (or centroid) of the cross section [6]. The lateral, vertical and torsional forces given by the  $l$ th wheel in the  $j$ th bogie of the  $i$ th vehicle, corresponding to the deck displacements, can be expressed, as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{hijl} = & m_{wijl} \ddot{Y}_{wijl} + c_{1ij}^h (\dot{Y}_{t_j i} - 00h_{3i} \dot{\theta}_{t_j i} \\ & + 2\eta_l d_i \dot{\psi}_{t_j i} - \dot{Y}_{wijl}) \\ & + k_{1ij}^h (Y_{t_j i} - h_{3i} \theta_{t_j i} + 2\eta_l d_i \psi_{t_j i} - Y_{wijl}), \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
F_{vijl} &= m_{vijl} \dot{Z}_{vijl} + c_{1ij}^v (\dot{Z}_{tji} + 2\eta_l d_i \dot{\varphi}_{tji} - \dot{Z}_{vijl}) \\
&+ k_{1ij}^v (Z_{tji} + 2\eta_l d_i \varphi_{tji} - Z_{vijl}) + g[m_{vijl} \\
&+ (0.5M_{ci} + M_{tji})/N_{wij}], \\
F_{\theta ij} &= F'_{\theta ij} + h_{4i} F_{hijl} + e_i F_{vijl} = J_{wijl} \ddot{\theta}_{wijl} \\
&+ 2a_{1ij}^2 c_{1ij}^v (\dot{\theta}_{tji} - \dot{\theta}_{wijl}) + 2a_{1ij}^2 k_{1ij}^v (\theta_{tji} - \theta_{wijl}) \\
&+ h_{4i} F_{hijl} + e_i F_{vijl}, \quad (10)
\end{aligned}$$

where  $g$  is the acceleration, due to gravity.

### Wheel Hunting and Track Irregularities

Track irregularity is an important source of self-excitation in the bridge-train system. The track irregularities consist of lateral irregularity,  $Y_s(x)$ , vertical irregularity,  $Z_s(x)$ , and rotational irregularity,  $\theta_s(x)$ . In this study, the measured track irregularities are used so that these functions are regarded as known quantities. In consideration of track irregularities, the relations between the  $l$ th wheel displacements and the bridge deck displacements can be deduced, as follows:

$$\begin{Bmatrix} Y_{wijl} \\ \theta_{wijl} \\ Z_{wijl} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} Y_b(x_{ijl}) + h_{4i} \theta_b(x_{ijl}) + Y_s(x_{ijl}) \\ \theta_b(x_{ijl}) + \theta_s(x_{ijl}) \\ Z_b(x_{ijl}) + e_i \theta_b(x_{ijl}) + Z_s(x_{ijl}) \end{Bmatrix}, \quad (11)$$

where,  $x_{ijl}$  is the coordinate of the  $l$ th wheel of the  $j$ th bogie in the  $i$ th vehicle along the bridge deck.

### EQUATIONS OF MOTION FOR BRIDGE-TRAIN SYSTEM

This study concerns the dynamic interaction between the suspension bridge and train and no external excitations, such as wind or earthquake, are included. Equations 1 to 11 constitute the basic equations for the coupled bridge-train system. However, the direct integration of these equations in the time domain, to find the dynamic responses of both the bridge and the train, is very cumbersome. The mode superposition method is, therefore, used in this study for the bridge [7,8]. The mode shape between the deck nodes can be determined using the Lagrange interpolation.

Let  $\phi_h^n(x_{ijl})$ ,  $\phi_\theta^n(x_{ijl})$  and  $\phi_v^n(x_{ijl})$  denote the values of the lateral, rotational and vertical components of the  $n$ th bridge mode at the position of the  $l$ th wheel of the  $j$ th bogie in the  $i$ th vehicle, and  $q_n$  the generalized coordinate of the  $n$ th mode. The displacement of the bridge deck at the same position can be expressed, as

follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
Y_b(x_{ijl}) &= \sum_{n=1}^{N_b} q_n \phi_h^n(x_{ijl}), \\
\theta_b(x_{ijl}) &= \sum_{n=1}^{N_b} q_n \phi_\theta^n(x_{ijl}), \\
Z_b(x_{ijl}) &= \sum_{n=1}^{N_b} q_n \phi_v^n(x_{ijl}), \quad (12)
\end{aligned}$$

where  $N_b$  is the number of the mode shapes concerned. If the bridge mode shapes are normalized, as  $\{\phi^n\}^T \mathbf{M} \{\phi^n\} = 1$ , the equation of motion of the bridge deck related to the  $n$ th mode, Equation 9, can be derived, as follows:

$$\ddot{q}_n + 2\xi_n \omega_n \dot{q}_n + \omega_n^2 q_n = F_n, \quad (13)$$

where  $\xi_n$  and  $\omega_n$  are, respectively, the damping ratio and the circular frequency of the  $n$ th mode of the bridge and  $F_n$  is the  $n$ th generalized force.

$$\begin{aligned}
F_n &= \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{l=1}^{N_{wij}} F_{nijl} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{l=1}^{N_{wij}} \phi_h^n(x_{ijl}) F_{hijl} \\
&+ \phi_\theta^n(x_{ijl}) F_{\theta ij} + \phi_v^n(x_{ijl}) F_{vijl}, \quad (14)
\end{aligned}$$

where  $F_{nijl}$  is the  $n$ th generalized force from the  $l$ th wheel of the  $j$ th bogie of the  $i$ th vehicle. Furthermore, in terms of Equation 12, the displacements of the  $l$ th wheel (Equation 11) can be expressed as the function of the generalized coordinate and mode shape of the bridge, as well as the known track irregularities.

$$\begin{aligned}
\begin{Bmatrix} Y_{wijl} \\ \theta_{wijl} \\ Z_{wijl} \end{Bmatrix} &= \sum_{n=1}^{N_b} \begin{Bmatrix} q_n [\phi_h^n(x_{ijl}) + h_{4i} \phi_\theta^n(x_{ijl})] \\ q_n \phi_\theta^n(x_{ijl}) \\ q_n [\phi_v^n(x_{ijl}) + e_i \phi_\theta^n(x_{ijl})] \end{Bmatrix} \\
&+ \begin{Bmatrix} Y_s(x_{ijl}) + Y_h(x_{ijl}) \\ \theta_s(x_{ijl}) \\ Z_s(x_{ijl}) \end{Bmatrix}. \quad (15)
\end{aligned}$$

Clearly, the displacements of the wheel need not be included in the equations of motion for the bridge-train system. This can reduce the computational effort significantly. Combining the above equations and then carrying out some manipulation, one can derive the coupled equations of motion for the bridge-train system as:

$$\begin{aligned}
\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{M}_{vv} & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbf{M}_{bb} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \ddot{\mathbf{X}}_v \\ \ddot{\mathbf{X}}_b \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{vv} & \mathbf{C}_{vb} \\ \mathbf{C}_{bv} & \mathbf{C}_{bb} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{X}}_v \\ \dot{\mathbf{X}}_b \end{Bmatrix} \\
+ \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{vv} & \mathbf{K}_{vb} \\ \mathbf{K}_{bv} & \mathbf{K}_{bb} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{X}_v \\ \mathbf{X}_b \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_v \\ \mathbf{F}_b \end{Bmatrix}, \quad (16)
\end{aligned}$$

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where the subscripts “ $v$ ” and “ $b$ ” represent the vehicles and bridge, respectively. Assuming that the number of vehicles on the bridge is  $N_v$  and the number of concerned bridge vibration modes is  $N_b$ , the sub-displacement vectors can be expressed as:

$$\mathbf{X}_v = [\mathbf{X}_{v1} \quad \mathbf{X}_{v2} \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{X}_{vN_v}]^T,$$

$$\mathbf{X}_b = [q_1 \quad q_2 \quad \cdots \quad q_{N_b}]^T, \quad (17)$$

where  $\mathbf{X}_{vi} = [\mathbf{v}_{ci}, \mathbf{v}_{t1i}, \mathbf{v}_{t2i}]^T$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N_v$ . The sub-mass and stiffness matrices of the vehicles are listed, as follows:

$$\mathbf{M}_{vv} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{M}_{v1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbf{M}_{v2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \mathbf{M}_{vN_v} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{K}_{vv} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{v1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbf{K}_{v2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \mathbf{K}_{vN_v} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (18)$$

where:

$$\mathbf{M}_{vi} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{M}_{cci} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbf{M}_{t1t1i} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \mathbf{M}_{t2t2i} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{K}_{vi} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{cci} & \mathbf{K}_{t1ci} & \mathbf{K}_{t2ci} \\ \mathbf{K}_{ct1i} & \mathbf{K}_{t1t1i} & 0 \\ \mathbf{K}_{ct2i} & 0 & \mathbf{K}_{t2t2i} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (19)$$

The sub-damping matrix of the vehicle can be achieved by simply replacing “ $\mathbf{K}$ ” in the stiffness matrix by “ $\mathbf{C}$ ”.

The sub-mass, sub-stiffness and sub-damping matrices of the bridge are deduced, as follows:

$$\mathbf{M}_{bb} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 + M_b^{11} & M_b^{12} & \cdots & M_b^{1N_b} \\ M_b^{21} & 1 + M_b^{22} & \cdots & M_b^{2N_b} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \ddots & \cdots \\ M_b^{N_b1} & M_b^{N_b2} & \cdots & 1 + M_b^{N_bN_b} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{K}_{bb} = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_1^2 + K_b^{11} & K_b^{12} & \cdots & K_b^{1N_b} \\ K_b^{21} & \omega_2^2 + K_b^{22} & \cdots & K_b^{2N_b} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \ddots & \cdots \\ K_b^{N_b1} & K_b^{N_b2} & \cdots & \omega_b^{N_b} + K_b^{N_bN_b} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{M}_b^{nm} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{l=1}^{N_{wij}} (\Phi_{hijl}^{nm} m_{wijl} + \phi_{\theta ij l}^{nm} J_{wijl} + \Phi_{vijl}^{nm} m_{wijl}),$$

$$\mathbf{K}_b^{nm} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{l=1}^{N_{wij}} (\Phi_{hijl}^{nm} k_{1ij}^h + 2\phi_{\theta ij l}^{nm} k_{1ij}^v a_i^2 + \Phi_{vijl}^{nm} k_{1ij}^v),$$

$$\mathbf{C}_{bb} =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2\xi\omega_1 + C_b^{11} & C_b^{12} & \cdots & C_b^{1N_b} \\ C_b^{21} & 2\xi\omega_2 + C_b^{22} & \cdots & C_b^{2N_b} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \ddots & \cdots \\ C_b^{N_b1} & C_b^{N_b2} & \cdots & 2\xi\omega_{N_b} + C_b^{N_bN_b} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{C}_b^{nm} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{l=1}^{N_{wij}} (\Phi_{hijl}^{nm} c_{1ij}^h + 2\phi_{\theta ij l}^{nm} c_{1ij}^v a_i^2 + \Phi_{vijl}^{nm} c_{1ij}^v). \quad (20)$$

The sub-stiffness matrices attributed to the interaction between the bridge and the vehicles can be derived as:

$$\mathbf{K}_{vb} = \{\mathbf{K}_{bv}\}^T = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{vb1} \\ \mathbf{K}_{vb2} \\ \cdots \\ \mathbf{K}_{vbN_v} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{K}_{vbi} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \mathbf{K}_{t1q1}^i & \mathbf{K}_{t1q2}^i & \mathbf{K}_{t1qN_b}^i & \\ \mathbf{K}_{t2q1}^i & \mathbf{K}_{t2q2}^i & \mathbf{K}_{t2qN_b}^i & \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{K}_{t_j q_n}^i = \{\mathbf{K}_{qnt_j}^i\}^T =$$

$$\sum_{l=1}^{N_{wij}} \begin{bmatrix} (\phi_{hijl}^n + h_{4i}\phi_{\theta ij l}^n)k_{1ij}^h \\ 2\phi_{\theta ij l}^n a_i^2 k_{1ij}^v & h_{4i}\phi_{hijl}^n k_{1ij}^h \\ 2\eta d_i \phi_{hijl}^n k_{1ij}^h \\ (\phi_{vijl}^n + e_i \phi_{\theta ij l}^n)k_{1ij}^v \\ 2\eta d_i \phi_{vijl}^n k_{1ij}^v \end{bmatrix}, \quad (21)$$

where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N_v$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots, N_b$  and  $j = 1, 2$ . The sub-damping matrices attributed to the interaction between the bridge and vehicles can be obtained by simply replacing “ $k$ ” in Equation 21 by “ $c$ ”. If the external forces, such as wind and earthquake, are not taken into account, the force vectors can be expressed,

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as follows:

$$\mathbf{F}_v = [\mathbf{F}_{v1} \quad \mathbf{F}_{v2} \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{F}_{vN_b}]^T,$$

$$\mathbf{F}_b = [\mathbf{F}_{b1} \quad \mathbf{F}_{b2} \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{F}_{bN_b}]^T,$$

$$\mathbf{F}_{vi} = [0 \quad \mathbf{F}_{vi}^{t_1} \quad \mathbf{F}_{vi}^{t_2}]^T,$$

$$\mathbf{F}_{vi}^{t_j} = \sum_{l=1}^{N_{wij}} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} k_{1ij}^h [Y_s(x_{ijl}) + Y_h(x_{ijl})] \\ + c_{1ij}^h [\dot{Y}_s(x_{ijl}) + \dot{Y}_h(x_{ijl})] \\ 2a_i^2 [k_{1ij}^v \theta_s(x_{ijl}) + c_{1ij}^v \dot{\theta}_s(x_{ijl})] \\ h_{4i} [k_{1ij}^h Y_s(x_{ijl}) + c_{1ij}^h \dot{Y}_s(x_{ijl})] \\ 2\eta d_i [k_{1ij}^h Y_s(x_{ijl}) + c_{1ij}^h \dot{Y}_s(x_{ijl})] \\ k_{1ij}^v Z_s(x_{ijl}) + c_{1ij}^v \dot{Z}_s(x_{ijl}) \\ 2\eta d_i [k_{1ij}^v Z_s(x_{ijl}) + c_{1ij}^v \dot{Z}_s(x_{ijl})] \end{array} \right\},$$

$$(i = 1, 2, \dots, N_v; j = 1, 2),$$

$$\begin{aligned} F_{bn} = & \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{l=1}^{N_{wij}} \{ [( \phi_{hijl}^n + h_{3i} \phi_{hijl}^n ) k_{1ij}^h Y_s(x_{ijl}) \\ & + 2\phi_{\theta ij l}^n k_{1ij}^v a_i^2 \theta_s(x_{ijl}) + \phi_{vijl}^n k_{1ij}^v Z_s(x_{ijl})] \\ & + \phi_{vijl}^n g [m_{wij} + (0.5M_{ci} + M_{tij})/N_{wij}] \}, \quad (22) \end{aligned}$$

where:

$$\Phi_{hijl}^{nm} = (\phi_{hijl}^n + h_{4i} \phi_{\theta ij l}^n)(\phi_{hijl}^m + h_{4i} \phi_{\theta ij l}^m),$$

$$\phi_{\theta ij l}^{nm} = \phi_{\theta ij l}^n \phi_{\theta ij l}^m,$$

$$\Phi_{vijl}^{nm} = (\phi_{vijl}^n + e_i \phi_{\theta ij l}^n)(\phi_{vijl}^m + e_i \phi_{\theta ij l}^m).$$

Since the coefficients,  $\phi$  and  $\Phi$ , are the functions of

the positions of the wheels, they are always changing when the train is running on the bridge. The elements in the mass, damping and stiffness matrices are, thus, time-dependent. The dynamic equations of the vehicle-bridge system are actually second-order linear non-homogeneous differential equations with time-varying coefficients. These equations are solved, using the Newmark implicit integral algorithm with  $\beta = 1/4$ , in this study.

## CASE STUDY

A computer program is written, based on the formulation derived above and is used to perform a case study. The case study concerns a long suspension bridge carrying a railway inside the bridge deck (see Figures 2 and 3). The main span of the bridge is 1377 m and the height of the tower is 206 m, measured from the base level to the tower saddle. The two main cables of 36 m apart in the north and south are accommodated by the four saddles located at the top of the tower legs in the main span. A three-dimensional finite element model of the bridge was established and the natural frequencies and mode shapes were computed [9].

The train concerned in the case study consists of 8 passenger coaches. The main parameters of the coach used in the case study are listed in Table 1.

The track vertical, lateral and torsional irregularities are taken into consideration by using the measured data from one of the main railways in China. The length of the measured data is 2500 m and the samples, of a length of 600 m, are plotted in Figure 4 for lateral and vertical irregularities.

Displayed in Figure 5a is the time history of the lateral displacement responses of the bridge at the middle main-span. The train speed in calculation is 70 km/h. It is seen that, when the train runs on the left side span, the bridge responses at the middle main-span are quite small; when the train travels on the main span, the bridge response becomes large. As the

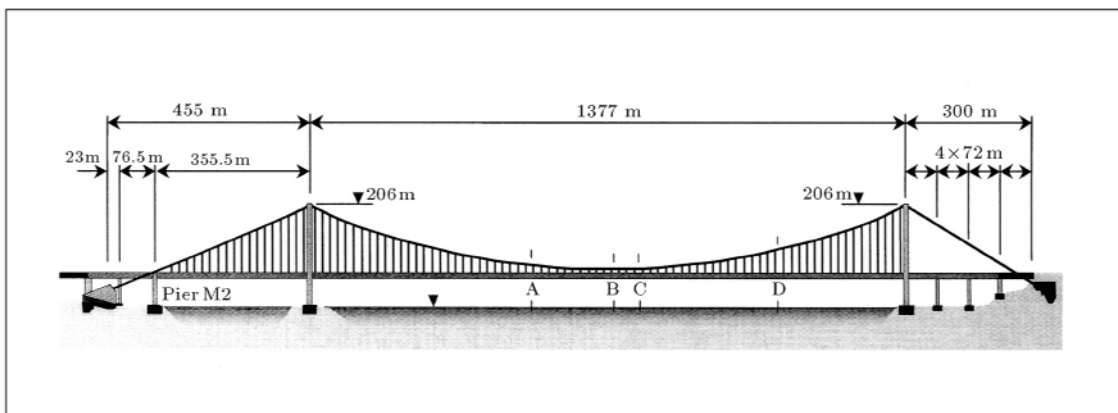


Figure 2. Configuration of the suspension bridge used in the case study.

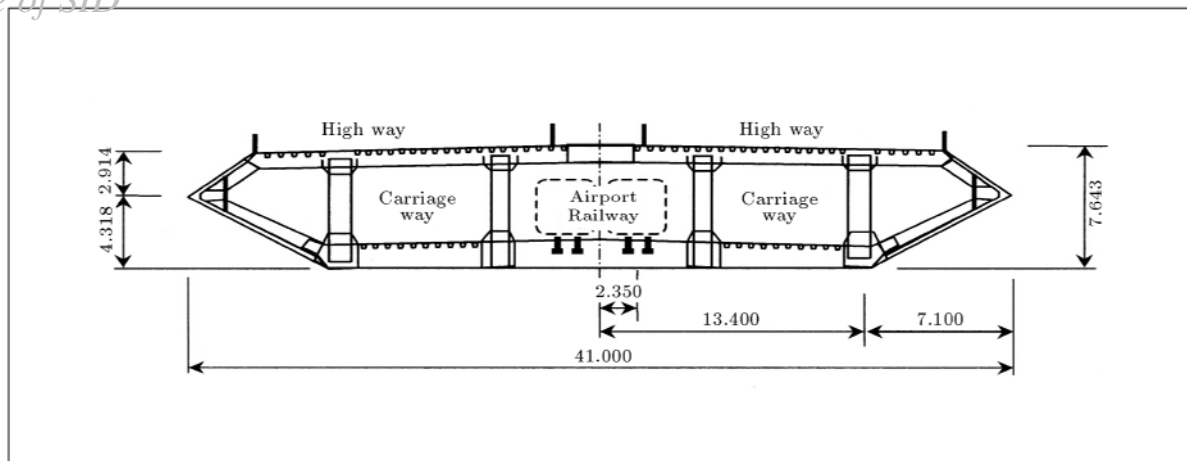


Figure 3. Cross section of bridge deck.

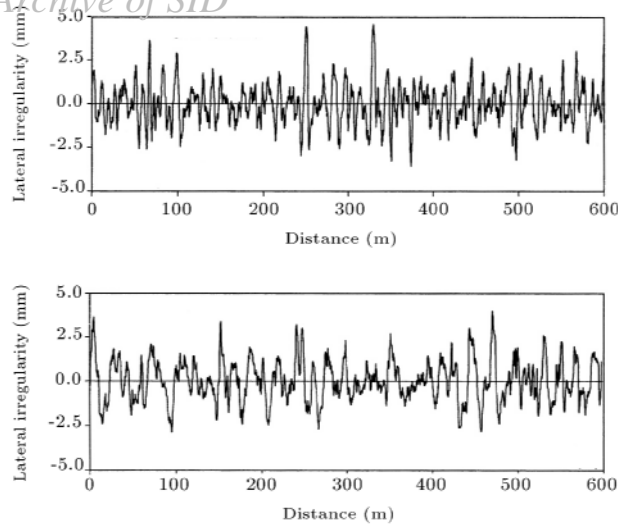
Table 1. Main parameters of the vehicle used in the case study.

Parameter	Unit	Value	Parameter	Unit	Value
Full length of a coach $L$	M	22.5	Secondary vertical spring stiffness $k_2^v$	kN/m	1060
Distance between bogies $2s$	M	15.6	Secondary lateral spring stiffness $k_2^h$	kN/m	460
Distance between wheel-sets $2d$	m	2.5	Primary vertical dashpot $c_1^v$	kNs/m	15
Mass of car body $M_c$	t	50.99	Primary lateral dashpot $c_1^h$	kNs/m	15
Car body roll mass moment $J_{c\theta}$	t-m <sup>2</sup>	154.83	Secondary vertical dashpot $c_2^v$	kNs/m	30
Car body pitch mass moment of $J_{c\varphi}$	t-m <sup>2</sup>	1958.7	Secondary lateral dashpot $c_2^h$	kNs/m	30
Car body yaw mass moment $J_{c\psi}$	t-m <sup>2</sup>	1875.3	Distance $h_1$	M	0.98
Mass of bogie $M_t$	t	4.36	Distance $h_2$	M	0.36
Roll mass moment of bogie $J_{c\theta}$	t-m <sup>2</sup>	1.47	Distance $h_3$	M	0.07
Pitch mass moment of bogie $J_{c\varphi}$	t-m <sup>2</sup>	3.43	Distance $h_4$	m	1.25
Yaw mass moment of bogie $J_{c\psi}$	t-m <sup>2</sup>	5.07	Distance $a$	m	0.98
Mass of wheel-set $m_w$	t	1.77	Distance $b$	m	1.12
Roll mass moment of wheel-set $J_w$	t-m <sup>2</sup>	0.92	Distance $B$	m	1.435
Primary vertical spring stiffness $k_1^v$	kN/m	2976	Distance $e$	m	2.05
Primary lateral spring stiffness $k_1^h$	kN/m	20000			

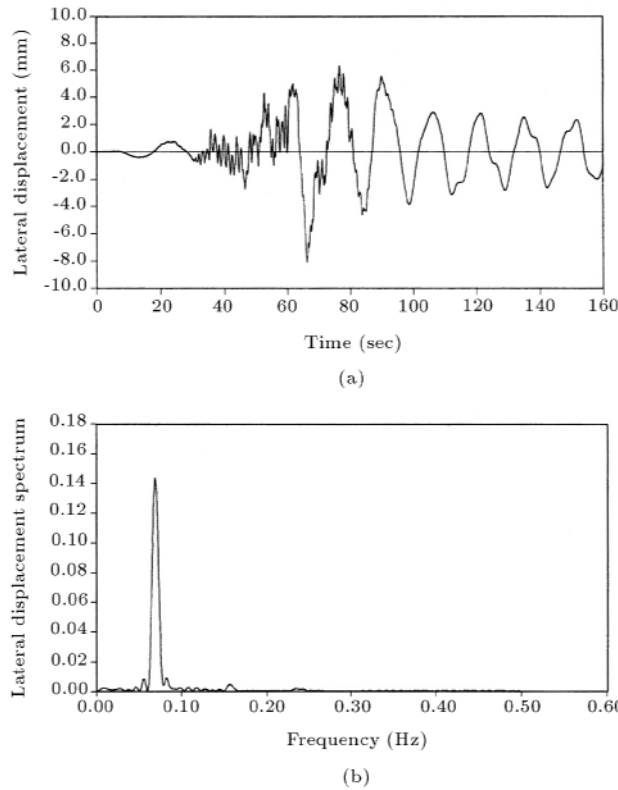
train travels on the right side span, the bridge response decreases. The bridge, then, has a free vibration when the train leaves from the bridge. Figure 5b shows the corresponding response spectrum. There is a peak in the displacement response spectrum around 0.068 Hz, indicating that the first lateral vibration mode dominates the lateral displacement response. Nevertheless, the lateral displacement responses are quite small. In consideration of the fact that the track irregularities are the only excitation source to the

bridge from the train, it can be, thus, concluded that the bridge lateral responses, due to track irregularities, are not significant.

Figure 6a shows the vertical displacement response of the bridge at four different positions. The distances of points A, B, C and D from the left abutment of the bridge are, respectively, 1012.5 m, 1138.0 m, 1174.0 m and 1498.5 m. The maximum vertical displacement response at each point occurs almost when the train runs around that point. The pattern of

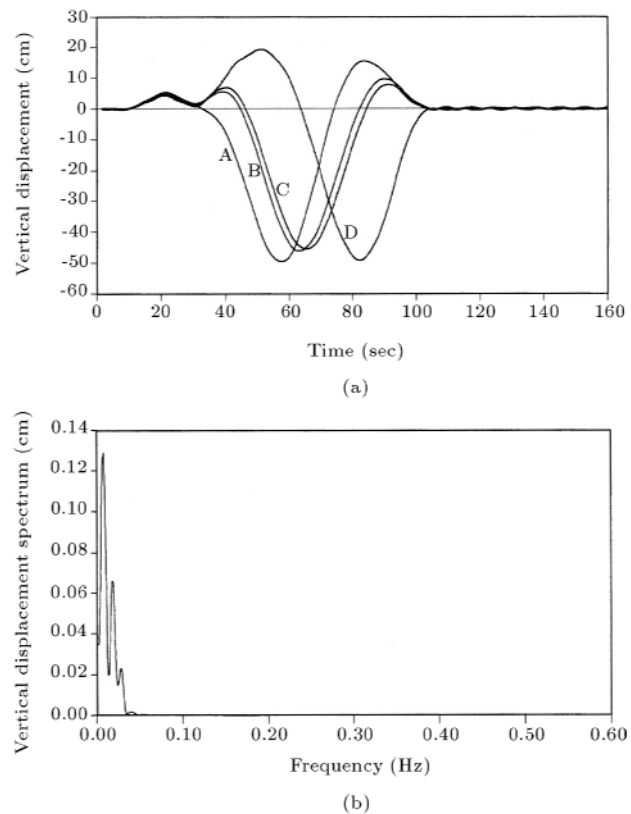


**Figure 4.** Measured track irregularity curves used in the case study.



**Figure 5.** Lateral bridge responses.

the displacement response, however, depends on the position concerned. For instance, the displacement response curves of points A and D are clearly different from those at positions B and C. It is also seen that the maximum response at point D is larger than that at point C, which may be because the first vertical mode of vibration of the bridge is almost anti-symmetrical. Although the maximum vertical displacement response



**Figure 6.** Vertical bridge responses.

at point C reaches 0.5 m, it is still very small compared with the main span of 1377 m long.

The bridge and train responses are computed for the train running at different speeds. The maximum lateral and vertical displacement and acceleration responses of the bridge are listed in Table 2. It is seen that the maximum vertical displacement response, the maximum lateral acceleration response and the maximum vertical acceleration response of the bridge increase with the increasing train speed, but, the maximum lateral displacement response decreases with the increasing train speed.

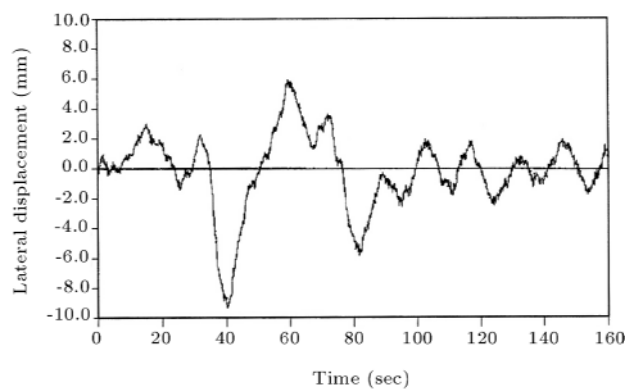
The maximum responses of the vehicle acceleration, wheel derail factor and offload factor are also listed in Table 2. It is seen that the train responses increase significantly with the increasing train speed.

To investigate the traffic-induced vibration of the bridge, two dynamic displacement transducers were installed on the bridge deck at the middle main span near the edge of the bridge deck. The measurement time was 45 minutes and the traffic on the bridge during the measurement included both highway and railway vehicles. Since the used dynamic displacement transducer could not measure the bridge response of very low frequency, due to the passage of the train, the direct comparison of the vertical dynamic displacement response between the measurement and the prediction could not be made. Figure 7 shows the measured



**Table 2.** Maximum responses of bridge and vehicles.

Types of Response	Unit	$U = 20$ km/h	$U = 40$ km/h	$U = 70$ km/h	$U = 120$ km/h
Deck vertical displacement	cm	49.39	49.52	51.29	54.04
Deck vertical acceleration	$\text{cm/s}^2$	0.0845	0.332	0.878	3.156
Deck lateral displacement	mm	15.07	10.83	8.058	4.686
Deck lateral acceleration	$\text{cm/s}^2$	0.931	1.097	1.298	2.234
Vehicle vertical acceleration	$\text{cm/s}^2$	12.96	31.85	48.29	74.31
Vehicle lateral acceleration	$\text{cm/s}^2$	19.01	38.19	40.05	51.92
Derail factor	$Q/P$	0.247	0.287	0.306	0.413
Offload factor	$\Delta P/P$	0.380	0.381	0.393	0.410

**Figure 7.** Measured bridge lateral displacement.

lateral dynamic displacement response of the bridge at the middle main span during the passage of the train. It is seen that the predicted vibration pattern and the amplitude of the lateral displacement response (Figure 7) are similar to those from the measurement, although they are not exactly the same. Both lateral response curves also exhibit a kind of random vibration nature.

## CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, a formulation has been developed for investigating the dynamic interaction of a long suspension bridge under running trains. Each railway vehicle was modeled as a 27 degrees-of-freedom dynamic system and a three-dimensional dynamic finite element model was developed to represent the suspension bridge. To reduce the degrees of freedom of the coupled bridge-train system, due to track irregularities and contact forces between the wheels and track, this study took the measured track irregularities as known quantities and applied the mode superposition technique for the analysis of the bridge. A real long suspension bridge carrying a train inside the bridge deck was taken as a case study. The dynamic response

of the bridge-train system and the derail factor and the offload factor related to the running safety of the train were computed. The calculated lateral displacement response of the bridge was also compared with the measured data. The results showed that the formulation presented in this paper could well predict the dynamic behaviors of both the bridge and train with reasonable computation effort. It was also found that the dynamic responses of the long suspension bridge under the running train are relatively small and the effects of bridge motion on the runability of the railway vehicles are insignificant.

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