

# Mode Superposition Method

Concept, Discussion

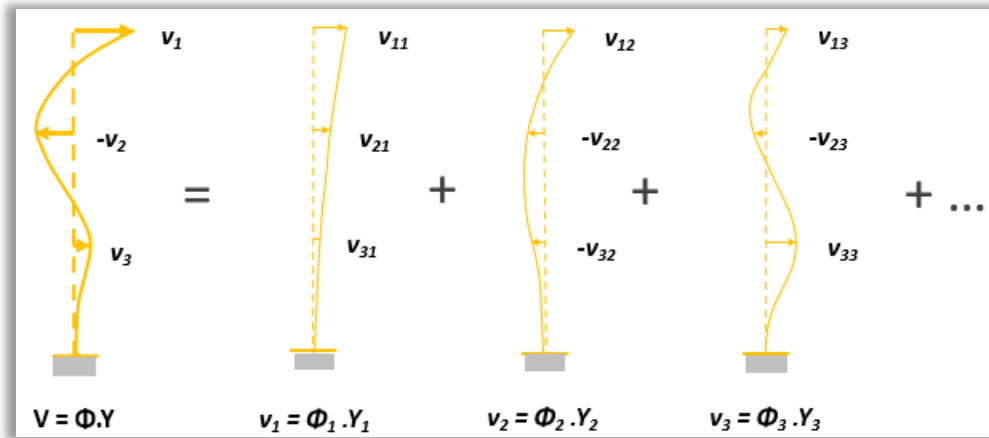
Solid Mechanics III – Methods of Solving Problems

Mode Superposition Method



# Concept of MSUP

- Full Analysis
  - Solve the governing equation directly using the static solver
- Mode Superposition Response Analysis
  - Express the displacement as a linear combination of mode shapes
  - Example: The shape of the curve on the left (which represents a simple beam) can be represented by adding together multiple curves(mode shapes) on the right in varying quantity and magnitude.



Here, the sum of **mode shapes**  $f_1, f_2$  and  $f_3$  approximates the final response.

Since mode shapes are relative, the coefficients  $Y_1, Y_2$  are  $Y_3$  required.

- To achieve more complex shapes and accuracy, more modes are needed.

# / Concept of MSUP

- Understanding the General Concept
- This equation relates the physical DOFs (which are just the nodal displacements) to the modal coordinates.

$$\{v\} = \sum_{i=1}^n \phi_i * \{Y_i\}$$

where  $\{v\}$  = *Displacement Vector (Physical DOFs)*  
 $\{\phi\}$  = *Mode Shape Vector (Eigenvector)*  
 $\{Y\}$  = *Modal Amplitude (Modal Coordinates)*  
 $n$  = *Number of modes used*  
 $i$  = *Mode number*

- First, we must solve a modal analysis to compute the eigenvectors  $\{\phi\}$ .
- It is after we have the eigenvectors that the solver can combine the mode shapes to represent the model deformations
- The Modal Coordinates  $\{Y\}$  can be thought of as scale factors or coefficients for each mode and these are the DOFs we solve for. They are the unknowns.
- Once we have the Modal Coordinates  $\{Y\}$ , and the eigenvectors  $\{\phi\}$ , the displacements  $\{v\}$  can be computed using the above equation.

# / Concept of MSUP

Let's compare the MSUP Harmonic equations with the Full Harmonic equations

$$(-\Omega^2[M] + i\Omega[C] + [K])(\{u_1\} + i\{u_2\}) = (\{F_1\} + i\{F_2\}) \quad \text{Harmonic equation of motion}$$

- Typically, there are two options to solve this equation;
- **The Full method**
  - The unknowns are the real and imaginary nodal displacement vectors  $\{u_1\}$  and  $\{u_2\}$ , and we have multiple DOFs (3 for solids, 6 for shells) per node
  - These unknowns are ***coupled***, meaning there are multiple unknowns per equation
  - To solve the simultaneous set of equations we use a matrix solver which is computationally expensive

This is covered in more detail in the Forced Frequency Response/Harmonic Analysis Section

# / Concept of MSUP

- The MSUP Method

- The equation of motion is converted into modal form (details omitted)

$$(-\Omega^2 + i2\omega_j\Omega\zeta_j + \omega_j^2)y_{jc} = f_{jc}$$

- The unknowns are the modal coordinates  $y_{jc}$  (which we introduced on the prior slide) and the number of DOFs is just equal to the number of modes.
- We solve this ***uncoupled*** equation for each mode  $j$  and later perform a linear combination of orthogonal vectors (mode shapes).
- The key takeaway is that MSUP method has ***fewer DOFs, uncoupled equations***, resulting in a ***computationally less expensive solution***

This is covered in more detail in the Forced Frequency Response/Harmonic Analysis Section

 **Ansys**

