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ON PERIODIC SOLUTIONS OF A SPECIAL TYPE
OF THE BEAM EQUATION

JAN ŘEHÁČEK

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Summary. The paper deals with the existence of time-periodic solutions to the beam equation, in which terms expressing torsion and damping are also considered. The existence of periodic solutions is proved in the case of time-periodic outer forces by means of an a priori estimate and the Fourier method.

Keywords: Periodic solutions, beam equation, a priori estimate.

AMS Classification: 35B10, 73K12.

In this paper we shall prove the existence of functions u and v which satisfy the equations

$$(1) \quad u_{tt} - cv_{tt} + u_{xxxx} + \alpha u_t - \beta \left(\int_0^\pi u_x^2(\xi, \cdot) d\xi \right) u_{xx} = f^{(1)},$$

$$(2) \quad -cu_{tt} + \gamma v_{tt} + \delta v_{xxxx} + \tilde{\alpha} v_t - \tilde{\beta} v_{xx} = f^{(2)},$$

the boundary conditions

$$(3) \quad u(0, t) = u(\pi, t) = u_{xx}(0, t) = u_{xx}(\pi, t) = 0, \quad t \in \langle 0, \pi \rangle,$$

$$(4) \quad v(0, t) = v(\pi, t) = v_{xx}(0, t) = v_{xx}(\pi, t) = 0, \quad t \in \langle 0, T \rangle,$$

and the periodicity conditions

$$(5) \quad u(\cdot, 0) = u(\cdot, T), \quad v(\cdot, 0) = v(\cdot, T),$$

$$(6) \quad u_t(\cdot, 0) = u_t(\cdot, T), \quad v_t(\cdot, 0) = v_t(\cdot, T),$$

where $T > 0$ is a real constant.

Coefficients $\alpha, \tilde{\alpha}, \beta, \tilde{\beta}, \delta$ are positive constants. We shall suppose $\gamma - c^2 > 0$. The physical meaning of the last inequality, as well as of the system (1), (2), may be

found in Timoshenko [4]. The nonlinear term represents the change in the tension of the beam due to its extensibility.

This problem is connected with the initial-boundary value problem for the nonlinear beam equation that was discussed by De Andrade [1] and Ball [2].

As usual, functions $u, v: \langle 0, \pi \rangle \times \langle 0, T \rangle \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ will be regarded as functions defined on $\langle 0, T \rangle$, whose values belong to some function space on $\langle 0, \pi \rangle$. Let $L^2(0, \pi)$ be the Hilbert space of real valued Lebesgue measurable functions $u = u(x)$ on $\langle 0, \pi \rangle$ with $|u| < \infty$, where $|u|^2 = (u, u)$ and $(u, v) = \int_0^\pi u(x) v(x) dx$. For the sake of simplicity we shall write u, v instead of $u(t), v(t)$, unless we wish to stress the dependence on time. Thus we shall use the notation

$$|u|^2 = |u(t)|^2 = \int_0^\pi u^2(x, t) dx,$$

$$(u, v) = (u(t), v(t)) = \int_0^\pi u(x, t) v(x, t) dx.$$

First of all we shall establish a formal apriori estimate provided we have solutions u, v which are smooth enough.

Multiplying (1), (2) by $u_t + \varepsilon u, v_t + \varepsilon v$, respectively ($\varepsilon > 0$ will be fixed in the course of calculations), and integrating from 0 to π we obtain two equations. Their sum gives

$$(7) \quad \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} N(u, v, u_t, v_t) + M(u, v, u_t, v_t) = (f^{(1)}, u_t + \varepsilon u) + (f^{(2)}, v_t + \varepsilon v),$$

and N, M may be written in the form

$$(8) \quad N(u, v, u_t, v_t) = |u_t|^2 + \gamma |v_t|^2 - 2c(u_t, v_t) + 2\varepsilon((u_t, u) + \gamma(v_t, v) - c(u_t, v) - c(v_t, u)) + \varepsilon\alpha |u|^2 + \varepsilon\tilde{\alpha} |v|^2 + |u_{xx}|^2 + \delta |v_{xx}|^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} |u_x|^4 + \tilde{\beta} |v_x|^2,$$

$$(9) \quad M(u, v, u_t, v_t) = \alpha |u_t|^2 + \tilde{\alpha} |v_t|^2 + \varepsilon |u_{xx}|^2 + \varepsilon\delta |v_{xx}|^2 + \varepsilon\beta |u_x|^4 + \varepsilon\tilde{\beta} |v_x|^2 + \varepsilon(2c(u_t, v_t) - |u_t|^2 - \gamma |v_t|^2).$$

We shall omit the terms u_t, v_t in the definition of N, M , if it cannot lead to misunderstanding.

First of all we estimate the term $N(u, v)$.

Lemma 1. *If $u(t), v(t) \in H_0^1(0, \pi) \cap H_2(0, \pi)$, $u_t(t), v_t(t) \in L^2(0, \pi)$ then there exist constants $A, B > 0$ such that*

$$A(|u_t|^2 + |v_t|^2 + |u_{xx}|^2 + |v_{xx}|^2 + |u_x|^4) \leq N(u, v) \leq \leq B(|u_t|^2 + |v_t|^2 + |u_{xx}|^2 + |v_{xx}|^2 + |u_x|^4).$$

Proof. Let us make use of the fact that for $u \in H_0^1(0, \pi) \cap H^2(0, \pi)$, $L(|u|^2 + |u_x|^2) \leq |u_{xx}|^2$ holds for some fixed $L > 0$, and of the Young inequality $2ab \leq \leq a^2/\eta^2 + b^2\eta^2$, $\eta > 0$. Then we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} N(u, v) &\geq |u_t|^2 (1 - c/\eta^2 - \varepsilon(1 + c)) + |v_t|^2 (\gamma - c\eta^2 - \varepsilon(\gamma + c)) + \\ &+ |u|^2 \left(\varepsilon\alpha + \frac{L}{2} - \varepsilon(1 + c) \right) + |v|^2 \left(\varepsilon\tilde{\alpha} + \frac{\delta L}{2} - \varepsilon(\gamma + c) \right) + \frac{1}{2}|u_{xx}|^2 + \\ &+ \frac{\delta}{2}|v_{xx}|^2 + \frac{\beta}{2}|u_x|^4. \end{aligned}$$

As $\gamma > c^2$, there exists $\eta > 0$ such that $c < \eta^2 < \gamma/c$, so that we may choose $\varepsilon > 0$ satisfying

$$(10) \quad \varepsilon < L/(2 + 2c + 2\alpha),$$

$$(11) \quad \varepsilon < \delta L/(2\gamma + 2c + 2\tilde{\alpha}),$$

$$(12) \quad \varepsilon < (1 - c/\eta^2)/(1 + c),$$

$$(13) \quad \varepsilon < (\gamma - c\eta^2)/(\gamma + c),$$

$$(14) \quad \varepsilon < \min \{ \alpha/(1 + c), \tilde{\alpha}/(\gamma + c) \},$$

$$(15) \quad 2\varepsilon^2 < \{ \min (\varepsilon\tilde{\alpha} + \delta + \tilde{\beta}, \gamma(\varepsilon\alpha + 1)) \} / (\gamma + c\sqrt{\gamma}).$$

The first inequality is proved. The inequality (15) is required to be satisfied for a later use in the main theorem. On the other hand, by direct calculation we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} N(u, v) &\leq |u_t|^2 (1 + c) (1 + \varepsilon) + |v_t|^2 (\gamma + c) (1 + \varepsilon) + \\ &+ |u_{xx}|^2 (1 + \varepsilon/L(1 + c + \alpha)) + |u_x|^4 \frac{\beta}{2} + |v_{xx}|^2 (\delta + \varepsilon/L(\gamma + c + \tilde{\alpha})) + \beta/L \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof of Lemma 1.

A simple application of Lemma 1 provides

$$\begin{aligned} M(u, v) &\geq |u_t|^2 (\alpha - \varepsilon(1 + c)) + |v_t|^2 (\tilde{\alpha} - \varepsilon(\gamma + c)) + \\ &+ \varepsilon|u_{xx}|^2 + \varepsilon|\delta v_{xx}|^2 + \varepsilon|\beta u_x|^4 \geq K N(u, v) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(16) \quad K = B^{-1} \min \{ \alpha - \varepsilon(1 + c), \tilde{\alpha} - \varepsilon(\gamma + c), \varepsilon, \varepsilon\delta, \varepsilon\beta \}.$$

Hence, by (7), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} N(u, v) + K N(u, v) &\leq \frac{\xi^2}{2} (|f^{(1)}|^2 + |f^{(2)}|^2) + \frac{1}{2\xi^2} \left(|u_t|^2 + |v_t|^2 + \frac{\varepsilon}{L} |u_{xx}|^2 + \right. \\ &\left. + \frac{\varepsilon}{L} |v_{xx}|^2 \right) \leq \frac{\xi^2}{2} (|f^{(1)}|^2 + |f^{(2)}|^2) + \frac{1}{2} K N(u, v) \end{aligned}$$

where $\xi > 0$ satisfies $\xi^2 = (1/AK) \max(1, \varepsilon/L)$. If we denote $\tilde{\varphi} = \xi^2(f^{(1)})^2 + |f^{(2)}|^2$ we can finally write

$$(17) \quad \frac{d}{dt} N(u, v)(t) + K N(u, v)(t) \leq \tilde{\varphi}(t).$$

In the proof of the main theorem we shall make use of the following lemma (see Ball [2]).

Lemma 2. *Let X be a Banach space. If $f \in L^2(0, T; X)$ and $\dot{f} \in L^2(0, T; X)$ then f , possibly after changing it on a set of measure zero, is continuous from $\langle 0, T \rangle$ into X .*

Indeed, for almost every $s, t \in \langle 0, T \rangle$:

$$f(t) - f(s) = \int_s^t \dot{f}(\sigma) d\sigma.$$

Now we can establish the main theorem. Let us denote $S = H^2(0, \pi) \cap H_0^1(0, \pi)$. For $u \in S'$ and $v \in S$ we shall write $\langle u, v \rangle$ instead of $u(v)$.

Theorem. *Let $f^{(1)}, f^{(2)} \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2(0, \pi))$. Then there exist $u, v \in L^\infty(0, T; S)$ such that $u_t, v_t \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2(0, \pi))$, $u_{tt}, v_{tt} \in L^\infty(0, T; S')$ and both u and v satisfy the periodicity conditions (5), (6) and the equations (1), (2) in the weak sense:*

$$(18) \quad \langle u_{tt}, w \rangle - c(v_{tt}, w) + \langle u_{xx}, w_{xx} \rangle + \alpha \langle u_t, w \rangle - \beta |u_x|^2 \langle u_{xx}, w \rangle = \langle f^{(1)}, w \rangle,$$

$$(19) \quad -c(u_{tt}, w) + \gamma \langle v_{tt}, w \rangle + \delta \langle v_{xx}, w_{xx} \rangle + \tilde{\alpha} \langle v_t, w \rangle - \tilde{\beta} \langle v_{xx}, w \rangle = \langle f^{(2)}, w \rangle$$

for all $w \in S$.

Remark. The boundary conditions (3) and (4) are included in the formulation of the weak solution.

Proof. System $\{\sin kx\}_{k=1}^\infty$ is a basis of S . Let us denote $V_n = \text{lin} \{\sin kx\}_{k=1}^n$. Now we shall try to find $u^m, v^m: \langle 0, T \rangle \rightarrow V_m$,

$$u^m(t) = \sum_{k=1}^m g_k^m(t) \sin kx,$$

$$v^m(t) = \sum_{k=1}^m h_k^m(t) \sin kx,$$

satisfying (18), (19) for all $w \in V_m$.

First we solve the initial-boundary value problem for (18), (19) and then we show that the initial conditions may be chosen in such a way that u^m and v^m satisfy the periodicity conditions.

We take the following initial conditions for u, v :

$$(20) \quad u^m(0) = \sum_{k=1}^m \alpha_k \sin kx,$$

$$(21) \quad v^m(0) = \sum_{k=1}^m \beta_k \sin kx,$$

$$(22) \quad u_t^m(0) = \sum_{k=1}^m \tilde{\alpha}_k \sin kx,$$

$$(23) \quad v_t^m(0) = \sum_{k=1}^m \tilde{\beta}_k \sin kx.$$

If we substitute w for $\sin kx$, $k = 1, \dots, m$, in (18), (19) we obtain a system of $2m$ non-linear ordinary differential equations for $g_k^m(t)$, $h_k^m(t)$, $k = 1, \dots, m$ (for the sake of simplicity we omit the index m):

$$(24) \quad \ddot{g}_k - c\dot{h}_k + k^4 g_k + \alpha \dot{g}_k + \frac{4\beta}{\pi} \left(\sum_{j=1}^m g_j^2 j^2 \right) k^2 g_k = f_k^{(1)},$$

$$(25) \quad -c\dot{g}_k + \gamma \dot{h}_k + \delta k^4 h_k + \alpha \dot{h}_k + \tilde{\beta} k^2 h_k = f_k^{(2)}.$$

These equations may be transformed into $4m$ equations of the first order and written in the form

$$\dot{x} = R(x) + S(t),$$

where $R(x)$ is a polynomial and $S(t) \in L^1(0, T)$. According to the Carathéodory theory (see Kurzweil [3]), the system (24), (25) with the initial conditions (derived from (20)–(23))

$$(26) \quad g_i(0) = \alpha_i, \quad h_i(0) = \beta_i, \quad \dot{g}_i(0) = \tilde{\alpha}_i, \quad \dot{h}_i(0) = \tilde{\beta}_i$$

has a unique solution on $\langle 0, t_m \rangle$, $t_m > 0$.

Multiplying (24), (25) by $\dot{g}_k + \varepsilon g_k$, $\dot{h}_k + \varepsilon h_k$, respectively, we obtain an a priori estimate for u^m, v^m , which is of the same form as (17) where we substitute u^m, v^m for u, v . Thus

$$(27) \quad \frac{d}{dt} N(u^m, v^m)(t) + KN(u^m, v^m)(t) \leq \tilde{\varphi}(t).$$

Multiplying by e^{Kt} and integrating from 0 to t we obtain

$$(28) \quad N(u^m, v^m)(t) \leq N(u^m, v^m)(0) e^{-Kt} + \int_0^t e^{K(s-t)} \tilde{\varphi}(s) ds.$$

It shows among other that $t_m = T$. So we have functions g_k, h_k on $\langle 0, T \rangle$ with \dot{g}_k, \dot{h}_k absolutely continuous on $\langle 0, T \rangle$. Then there exist \check{g}_k, \check{h}_k almost everywhere. Hence we have the solutions u^m, v^m , satisfying the initial conditions (20)–(23).

In order to find solutions satisfying (5), (6) we define a mapping

$$\varkappa: \mathbb{R}^{4m} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{4m}$$

by

$$\varkappa: (\alpha_k, \beta_k, \tilde{\alpha}_k, \tilde{\beta}_k) \rightarrow (g_k(T), h_k(T), \dot{g}_k(T), \dot{h}_k(T))$$

where $g_k, h_k, \dot{g}_k, \dot{h}_k$ are solutions of the system (24), (25) with the initial conditions (26). If $N(u^m, v^m, u_t^m, v_t^m)(0) < R$ then

$$(29) \quad N(u^m, v^m, u_t^m, v_t^m)(T) \leq R e^{-KT} + Q,$$

where

$$Q = \int_0^T \tilde{\varphi}(s) ds.$$

We shall denote

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \sum_1^m \alpha_k \sin kx, & v &= \sum_1^m \beta_k \sin kx, \\ w &= \sum_1^m \tilde{\alpha}_k \sin kx, & z &= \sum_1^m \tilde{\beta}_k \sin kx, \end{aligned}$$

$$P_R = \{(\alpha_k, \beta_k, \tilde{\alpha}_k, \tilde{\beta}_k) \in \mathbb{R}^{4m}, \quad k = 1, \dots, m; \quad N(u, v, w, z) \leq R\}.$$

Vectors from P satisfy the relation

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{k=1}^m \{ \tilde{\alpha}_k^2 + \gamma \tilde{\beta}_k^2 - 2c \tilde{\alpha}_k \tilde{\beta}_k + 2\varepsilon(\alpha_k \tilde{\alpha}_k + \gamma \beta_k \tilde{\beta}_k - c \beta_k \tilde{\alpha}_k - c \alpha_k \tilde{\beta}_k) + \\ &+ \alpha_k^2(\varepsilon\alpha + k^4) + \beta_k^2(\varepsilon\tilde{\alpha} + \delta k^4 + \beta k^2) \} + \frac{\pi\beta}{4} \left(\sum_{k=1}^m k^2 \alpha_k^2 \right)^2 \leq R. \end{aligned}$$

Using the transformation in the form

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_k &= \sqrt{(\gamma)} (a_k + b_k), \\ \beta_k &= a_k - b_k, \\ \tilde{\alpha}_k &= \sqrt{(\gamma)} (\tilde{a}_k + \tilde{b}_k), \\ \tilde{\beta}_k &= \tilde{a}_k - \tilde{b}_k \end{aligned}$$

and the assumption on ε given by (15), we can prove, after some calculations, that P_R is a convex set. As P_R is also closed and bounded, we can take advantage of the Brouwer theorem. From (29) it is easy to see that for $R > Q \setminus (1 - \exp(-KT))$ we have $\varkappa(P_R) \subset P_R$. So there exists a fixed point of the mapping \varkappa and thus $g_k(0) = g_k(T)$, $h_k(0) = h_k(T)$ and $\dot{g}_k(0) = \dot{g}_k(T)$, $\dot{h}_k(0) = \dot{h}_k(T)$. Consequently, the corresponding u^m, v^m satisfy the periodicity conditions (5), (6).

Inequality (29) also gives $N(u^m, v^m)(t) \leq \tilde{C}$, $\tilde{C} > 0$ for $t \in \langle 0, T \rangle$. From Lemma 1 we can see that

$$|u_t^m(t)|, |u_x^m(t)|, |u_{xx}^m(t)|, |u^m(t)| \leq C,$$

where C is independent of m, t , and analogously for v . This implies that $\{u^m\}, \{v^m\}$ are bounded in $L^\infty(0, T; S)$ and $\{u_t^m\}, \{v_t^m\}, \{u_{xx}^m\}, \{v_{xx}^m\}$ and $\{|u_x^m|^2 u_{xx}^m\}$ are bounded in $L^\infty(0, T; L^2(0, \pi))$.

We can choose subsequences with the following properties (we write m instead of m_n):

$$\begin{aligned} u^m &\rightharpoonup u, \quad v^m \rightharpoonup v && \text{weakly* in } L^\infty(0, T; S), \\ u_t^m &\rightharpoonup u_t, \quad u_{xx}^m \rightharpoonup u_{xx} && \text{weakly* in } L^\infty(0, T; L^2(0, \pi)), \\ v_t^m &\rightharpoonup v_t, \quad v_{xx}^m \rightharpoonup v_{xx} && \text{weakly* in } L^\infty(0, T; L^2(0, \pi)), \\ |u_x^m|^2 u_{xx}^m &\rightharpoonup \varphi && \text{weakly* in } L^\infty(0, T; L^2(0, \pi)). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, as the injection $H^1((0, \pi) \times (0, T)) \rightarrow L^2((0, \pi) \times (0, T))$ is compact, $u^{m^k} \rightarrow u, v^{m^k} \rightarrow v$ a.e. in $L^2((0, \pi) \times (0, T))$. In the sequel we shall write u^m instead of u^{m^k} . The next step is to show that $\varphi = |u_x|^2 u_{xx}$.

For $\psi \in L^1(0, T; L^2)$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^T (\varphi - |u_x|^2 u_{xx}, \psi) dt = \int_0^T (\varphi - |u_x^m|^2 u_{xx}^m, \psi) dt + \\ &+ \int_0^T |u_x|^2 (u_{xx}^m - u_{xx}, \psi) dt + \int_0^T (|u_x^m|^2 - |u_x|^2) (u_{xx}^m, \psi) dt. \end{aligned}$$

But

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \int_0^T (|u_x^m|^2 - |u_x|^2) (u_{xx}^m, \psi) dt \right| \leq c \left| \int_0^T (u^m - u, u_{xx}^m + u_{xx}) dt \right| \leq \\ &\leq C \left(\int_0^T |u^m - u|^2 dt \right)^{1/2} \rightarrow 0, \quad m \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

The other integrals also tend to zero and the arbitrariness of ψ implies that $\varphi = |u_x|^2 u_{xx}$.

Now let $k \in N$ be fixed. Then

$$\begin{aligned} (u_{xx}^m, \sin kx) &\rightarrow (u_{xx}, \sin kx) && \text{weakly* in } L^\infty(0, T) \\ (u_t^m, \sin kx) &\rightarrow (u_t, \sin kx) && \text{weakly* in } L^\infty(0, T) \\ (u_{tt}^m, \sin kx) &\rightarrow (u_{tt}, \sin kx) && \text{weakly* in } D'(0, T), \end{aligned}$$

and analogously for v . Hence the equations (18), (19) hold for $w = \sin kx$ and thus for all $w \in S$. Moreover, equations (18), (19) after some calculations give $(u_{tt}^m, w) \rightarrow (u_{tt}, w)$ weakly in $L^\infty(0, T)$ for all $w \in S$ and thus $(u_{tt}, w) \in L^\infty(0, T)$. That implies $u_{tt} \in L^\infty(0, T; S')$.

Finally, we must show that u, v satisfy conditions (5), (6). As $u^m \rightarrow u$ and $u_t^m \rightarrow u_t$ weakly* in $L^\infty(0, T; L^2)$, according to Lemma 2 we obtain, after a redefinition if necessary, $(u^m(0), \varphi) \rightarrow (u(0), \varphi)$ and $(u^m(T), \varphi) \rightarrow (u(T), \varphi)$ for all $\varphi \in L^2(0, \pi)$. Since $U^m(0) = u^m(T)$, we can see that $u(0) = u(T)$.

From (18), (19) we have for $w \in S$, $(u_{tt}^m, w) \rightarrow (u_{tt}, w)$ weakly in $L^\infty(0, T)$, thus from Lemma 2 we have $(u_t^m(0), w) \rightarrow (u_t(0), w)$, $w \in S$, and since $u_t^m(0) = u_t^m(T)$ we may again conclude that $u_t(0) = u_t(T)$ and analogously for v . This completes the proof.

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Souhrn

O PERIODICKÝCH ŘEŠENÍCH SPECIÁLNÍHO TYPU ROVNICE TYČE

JAN ŘEHÁČEK

Tento článek se zabývá existencí periodických řešení rovnic pro kmitání nosníku, ve kterých se uvažuje i ohýbání nosníku a tlumení kmitů. Za předpokladu časově periodických vnějších sil je ukázána existence periodických řešení pomocí apriorního odhadu a Fourierovy metody.

Резюме

O ПЕРИОДИЧЕСКИХ РЕШЕНИЯХ УРАВНЕНИЙ УПРУГИХ КОЛЕБАНИЙ

JAN ŘEHÁČEK

В статье изучается существование периодических решений системы дифференциальных уравнений для упругих колебаний, в которых рассматривается также скручиваемость и гашение колебаний. В случае периодических внешних сил доказывается существование решений путем априорной оценки решений и методом Фурье.

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