EN40: Dynamics and Vibrations

Homework 6: Forced Vibrations
Due Friday April 5th

School of Engineering
Brown University

1. Springs are used for many different engineering and science applications. Typical shock absorbers for passenger cars have the spring constant approximately 10 to a few hundred kN/m while a physics laboratory slinky has its typical spring constant in the range of 0.1 – 1.0 N/m. As shown in the following chart, the contact-mode atomic force microscope (AFM) cantilever has very soft spring constant which is close to a very soft slinky.

In AFM community, researchers use effective mass $m_{eff}$ to model the vibration of the AFM cantilever for the first mode natural frequency (or resonant frequency) $\omega_n$ to have $\omega_n = \sqrt{k/m_{eff}}$, where $k$ is the spring constant of the cantilever.

Find the effective masses for the three different AFM cantilevers listed below. Use (300kHz, 48N/m) for the short and (190kHz, 40N/m) for the long cantilevers of Dynamic mode / tapping mode AFM, and (28kHz, 0.2N/m) for the short and (12kHz, 0.1N/m) for the long cantilevers of the contact mode AFM. Compare the effective masses to the real mass of the cantilever (density times the volume). The cantilever is made of silicon and the density is 2.65 g/cm$^3$.

**Standard cantilever types for common applications:**

| **Dynamic mode / tapping mode AFM** | **Length:** Typically 125 - 225 µm  
**Width:** Typically 40 µm  
**Thickness:** 4 - 8 µm  
**Resonant Freq:** 190 - 300 KHz  
**Spring Constant:** 40 - 48 N/m |
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<td><strong>Available as a long (225 µm) or short (125 µm) cantilever</strong></td>
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| **Force Modulation mode AFM** | **Length:** Typically 225 µm  
**Width:** Typically 45µm  
**Thickness:** 2.5 µm  
**Resonant Freq:** 60 KHz  
**Spring Constant:** 3 N/m |
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<td><strong>Available as a long (450 µm) or short (225 µm) cantilever</strong></td>
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| **Contact mode AFM** | **Length:** Typically 225 - 450µm  
**Width:** Typically 28-40 µm  
**Thickness:** 1-2 µm  
**Resonant Freq:** 12 - 28 KHz  
**Spring Constant:** 0.1 - 0.2 N/m |
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2. A passenger car has front and rear suspensions composed of identical four spring dashpot shock absorbers, one for each wheel. The weight of the car is 1900kg and the initial sag (shortening of the spring by the weight) of the shock absorber is 14cm.

(1) Find the spring constant of the shock absorber.

(2) In lecture 4, we defined the damping ratio \( \zeta = \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{2km}} \), where \( \lambda \) is the damping coefficient which is measured in a unit of kg/s and sometimes denoted by \( c \) in other text books. It was defined that the damping is critical if the damping ratio \( \zeta = 1 \). For most of passenger cars the shock absorbers are designed under-damped to have a typical value of \( \zeta = 0.56 \). Find the damping coefficient of this passenger car.

3. Here we will see the energy absorption characteristics of the above shock absorber.

(1) Consider an elongation displacement cycle of the shock absorber as shown below.

(1.1) Draw the force - displacement diagram for the force applied to the spring during the displacement cycle. Mark the corresponding points of A, B, C, D and E on the drawing. What is the work dissipated during this cycle?

(1.2) Draw the force - displacement diagram for the force applied to the dashpot during the displacement cycle. Mark the corresponding points of A, B, C, D and E on the drawing. What is the work dissipated during this cycle?

(1.3) Draw the force - displacement diagram for the force applied to the whole shock absorber during the displacement cycle. Mark the corresponding points of A, B, C, D and E on the drawing. What is the work dissipated during this cycle?

(2) Consider an elongation displacement cycle of the shock absorber \( x(t) = C \sin \pi t \) as shown below. Here \( C = 1 \) inch and the time \( t \) is measured in second.
4. A shock absorber is driven by steady-state elongation cycles of $x(t) = C \sin \omega t$, and the corresponding steady-state net force is measured to be $F(t) = A \sin \omega t + B \cos \omega t$. Express the spring constant $k$ and the damping coefficient $\lambda$ in terms of $A$, $B$, $C$ and $\omega$.

5. The 20-kg variable-speed motorized unit is restrained in the horizontal direction by two springs, each of which has a stiffness of 2.1 kN/m. Each of the two dashpots has a viscous damping coefficient $\lambda = 58$ kg/s. In what range of spin speeds $N$ (revolution/sec) can the motor run for which the magnification factor $M$ will not exceed 2?