

# Modal Analysis using Hammer or Shaker Excitation

CLASSICAL MODAL ANALYSIS, MOBILITY-BASED MODAL ANALYSIS,  
EXPERIMENTAL MODAL ANALYSIS, MODAL TESTING

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# Contents

1. **Brief overview** of classical modal analysis
2. How to **perform measurements** using impact hammer or shaker excitation
3. Overview of frequently used **excitation signals**
4. **Mode indicator functions**
5. Overview of **modal parameter identification techniques** (curve-fitters)
6. **Validation** of the obtained **modal parameters**
7. **Additional information**
8. **Q&A**

# Classical Modal Analysis (Modal Testing)

To obtain a **mathematical model** of the **dynamic** properties of a structure by **experimental** means using **hammer** or **shaker** excitation (*modal testing*)

## Controlled measurements

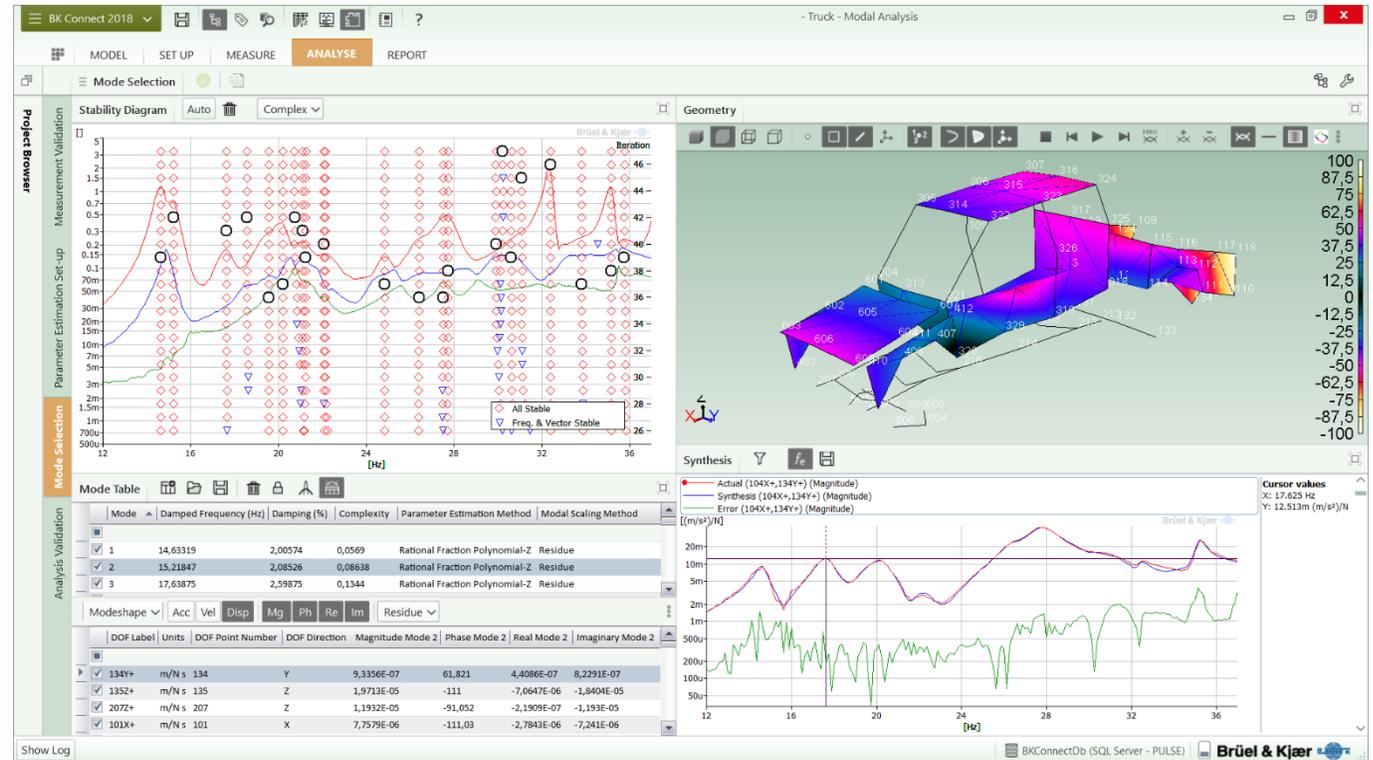
- Boundary conditions
- Excitation signals
- Environmental conditions

## Excitation signals

- Sinusoidal (fixed, sweep, step)
- Random (normal, burst, pseudo ...)
- Transient (impact)
- ...

## Results – Modes each consisting of three with modal parameters

- Natural frequencies
- Modal damping
- Mode shapes

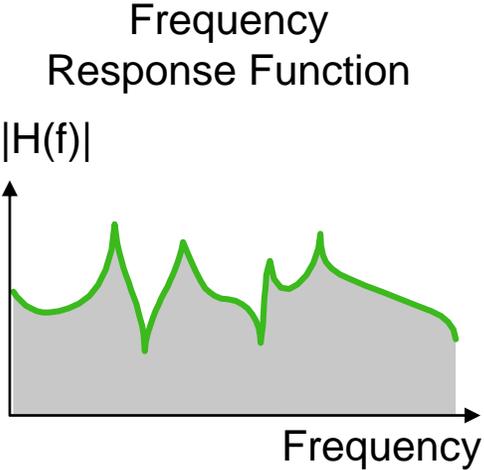
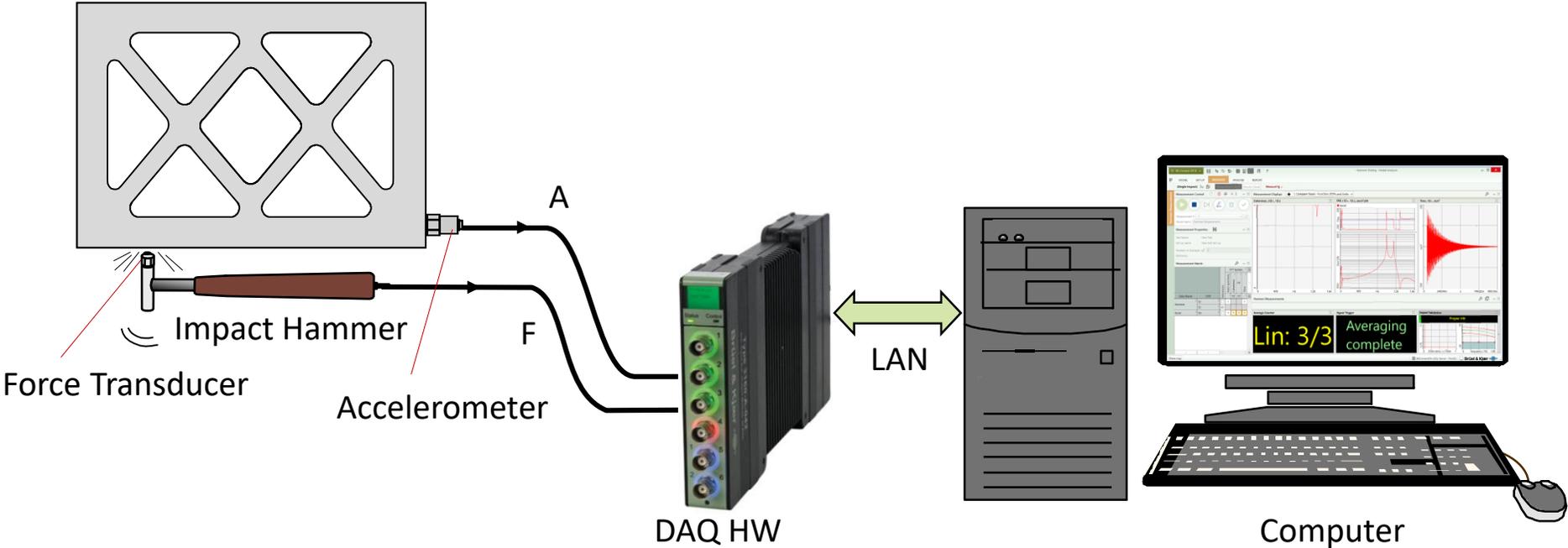


Classical Modal Analysis answers the question:

*What is the structure's inherent dynamic properties?*

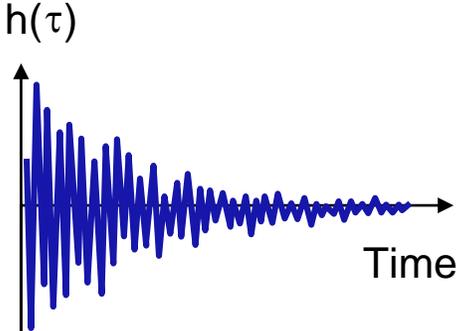
# Mobility Measurements – Frequency Response Functions (FRFs) $H(f)$

## Hammer Testing



Inverse  
FFT

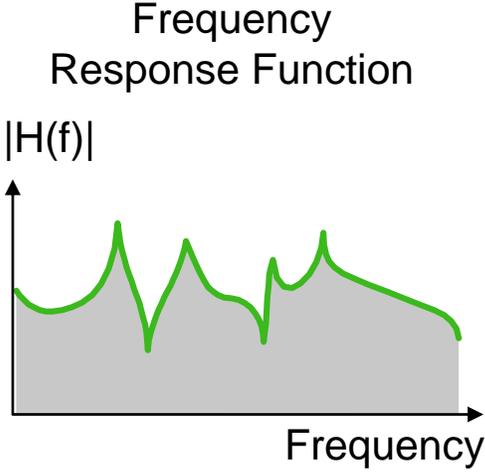
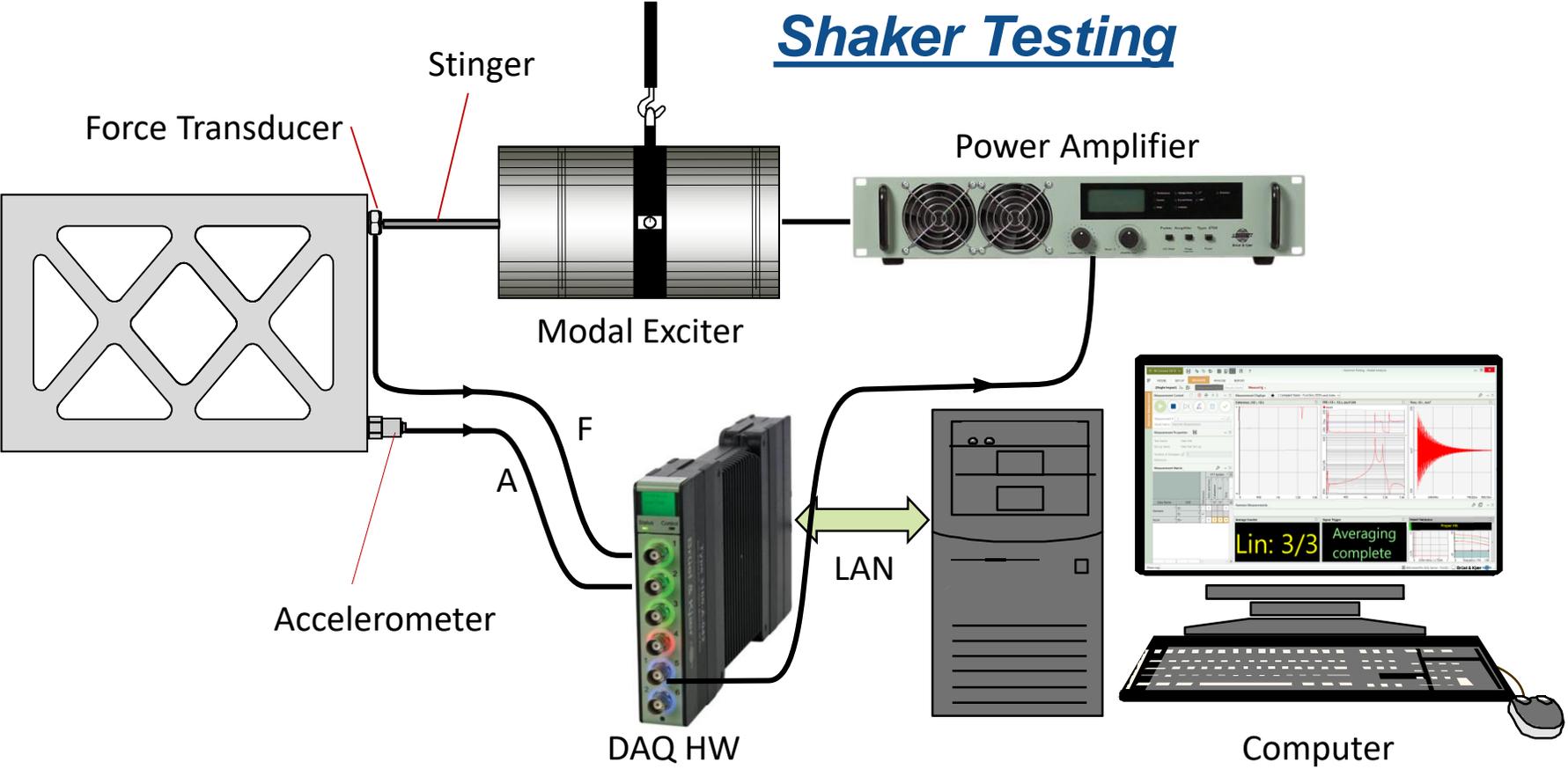
Impulse  
Response Function



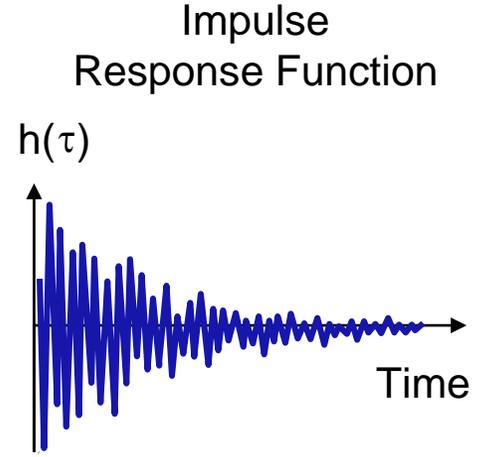
$$H(f) = \frac{\text{Output}}{\text{Input}} = \frac{\text{Vibration}}{\text{Force}} = \frac{\text{Response}}{\text{Excitation}}$$

# Mobility Measurements – Frequency Response Functions (FRFs) $H(f)$

## Shaker Testing



Inverse  
FFT



$$H(f) = \frac{\text{Output}}{\text{Input}} = \frac{\text{Vibration}}{\text{Force}} = \frac{\text{Response}}{\text{Excitation}}$$

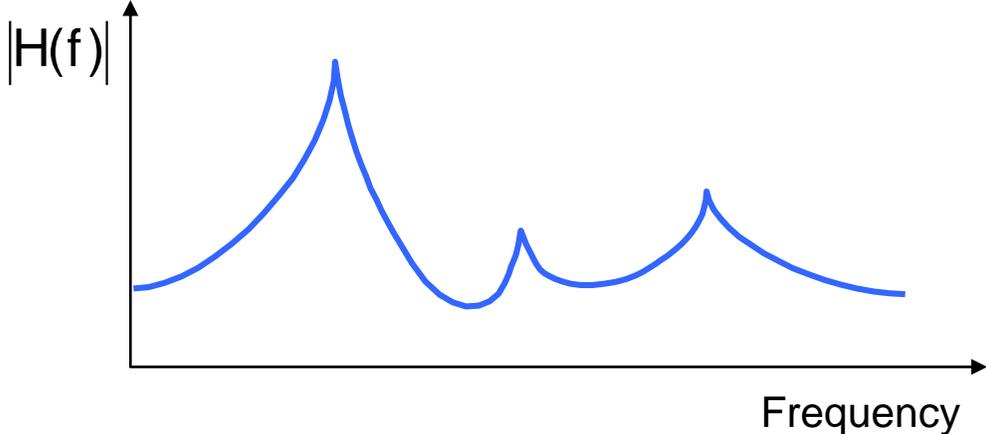
# Mobility-based Modal Analysis (Classical Modal Analysis)

## Measurement

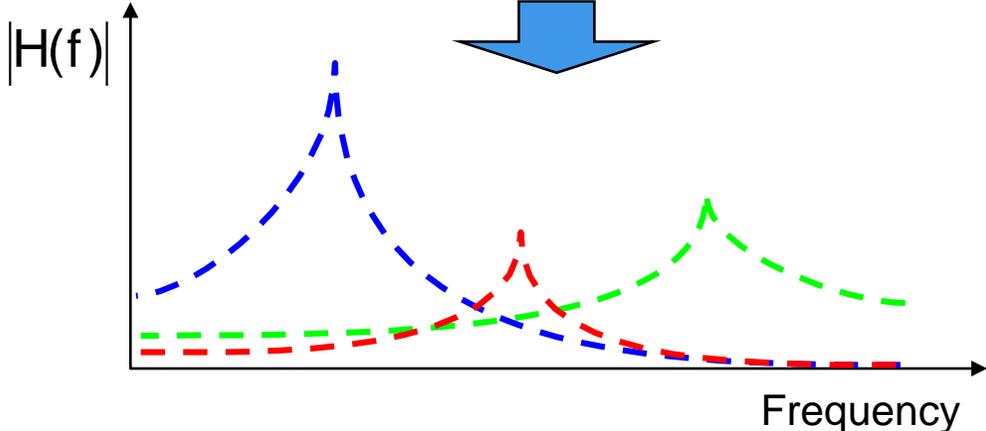


MDOF model =  $\Sigma$ (SDOF models)

## Modal Analysis



Curve-fitting  
(Modal Parameter Extraction)

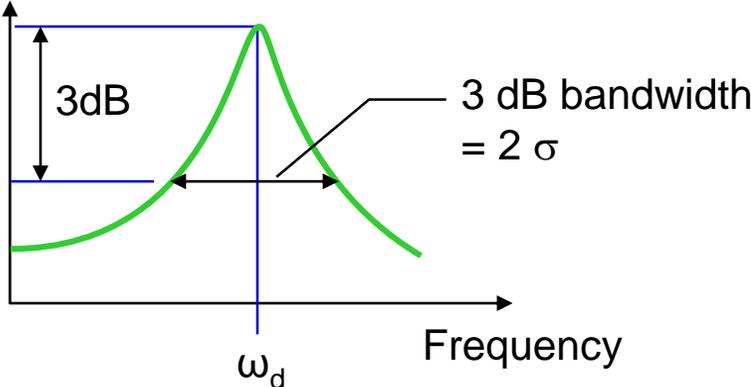


*Global Parameters: Natural Frequency, Modal Damping; Local Parameter: Mode Shape*

# Modal model – Global parameters

Natural Frequency and Modal Damping are characteristic for all DOF's in the dynamic model (**GLOBAL**)

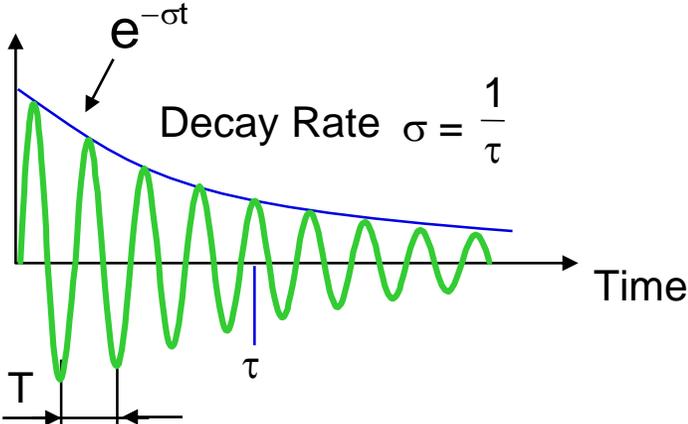
Frequency Domain



Natural Frequency:  $f_d = \frac{\omega_d}{2\pi}$

Damping Ratio:  $\zeta = \frac{\sigma}{\omega_d}$

Time Domain

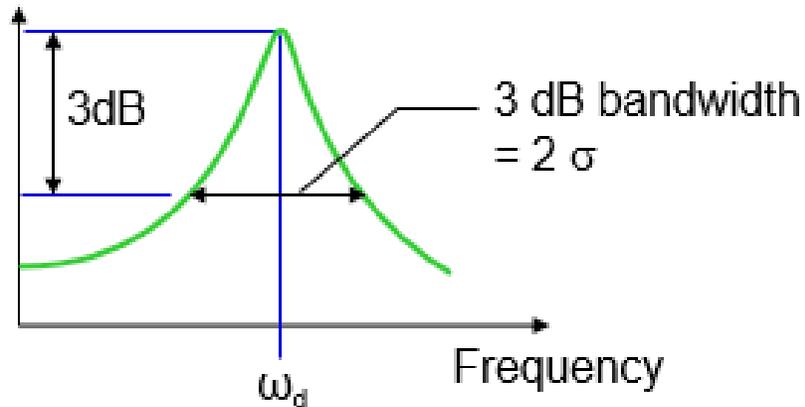


Natural Frequency:  $f_d = \frac{1}{T}$

Damping Ratio:  $\zeta = \frac{\sigma}{\omega_d}$

# Modal model – Local parameter

A residue is characteristic for a single DOF in the dynamic model (**LOCAL**)



$$H(\omega) = \frac{R}{j\omega - p} + \frac{R^*}{j\omega - p^*} \quad \text{where } p = -\sigma + j\omega_d$$

$$H(j\omega) = \frac{R}{j\omega - (-\sigma + j\omega_d)} + \frac{R^*}{j\omega - (-\sigma - j\omega_d)}$$

$$\text{At resonance: } |H(\omega_d)| \approx \frac{R}{\sigma}$$

$$\text{Residue: } R \approx |H(\omega_d)| \cdot \sigma$$

Residue R: The “strength” of the mode

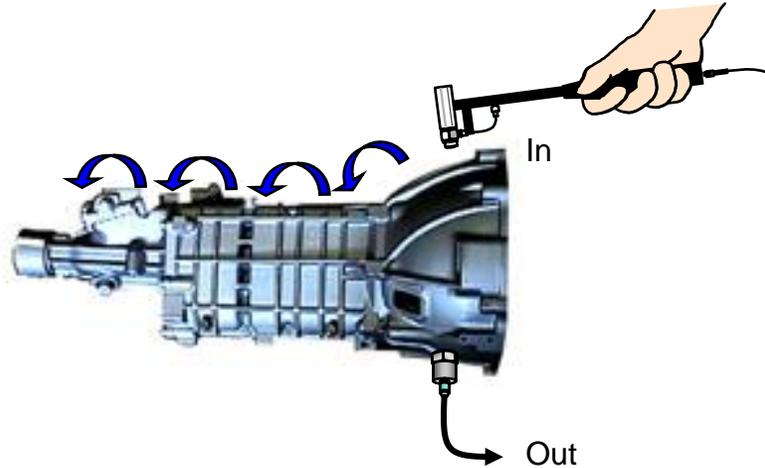
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# Excitation techniques

## Hammer Excitation

Normally roving, but can be fixed

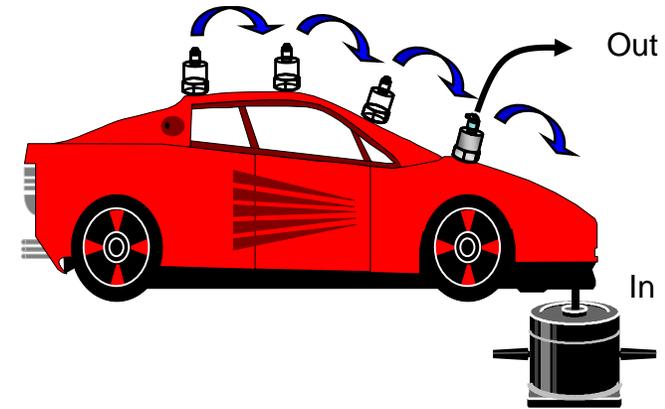


Roving => One Row

$$[H] = \begin{bmatrix} H_{11} & H_{12} & \dots & H_{1n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

## Shaker Excitation

Normally fixed, but can be roving



Fixed => One Column

$$[H] = \begin{bmatrix} H_{11} & \dots & \dots \\ H_{21} & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ H_{n1} & \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

**Multiple rows/columns** can be measured simultaneously by using **multiple accelerometers in hammer testing** or **multiple shakers (MIMO analysis)**

Required to find **repeated roots/closely-coupled modes** and **local modes**

With **MIMO analysis** you get the **excitation energy sufficiently distributed** and can avoid **non-linear behaviour**

# Modal analysis using hammer excitation



## Conclusion

Well-suited for field work and troubleshooting with main focus on ease-of-use

## Advantages

- Fast
- No fixturing
- No variable mass loading
- Portable
- Relative inexpensive

## Disadvantages

- High crest factor<sup>1</sup> might drive structure into non-linear behaviour
- High peak force needed for large structures might cause local damage
- Highly deterministic signal means no linear approximation

1) Crest factor = Peak/RMS.  
A measure of how extreme peaks are in the signal

# Modal analysis using shaker excitation



## Advantages

- Broad range of excitation signals
  - Sine (single, step, swept, multi), Random (continuous, burst, periodic, pseudo), Pulse ...
- Optimization of numerous measurement parameters
  - Dynamic range, Signal-to-Noise ratio, Energy distribution, Crest factor, Linearity, Leakage ...
- Possibility of doing MIMO analysis
- Suitable for fixed large setups

## Disadvantages

- Fixturing of structure, shakers and force transducers
- Potential dynamic loading from shakers and stinger
- Potential mechanical coupling between shakers (MIMO)
- Generally more expensive

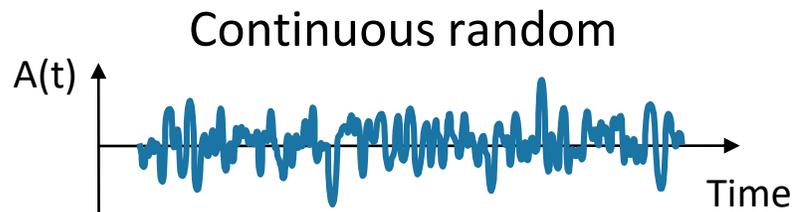
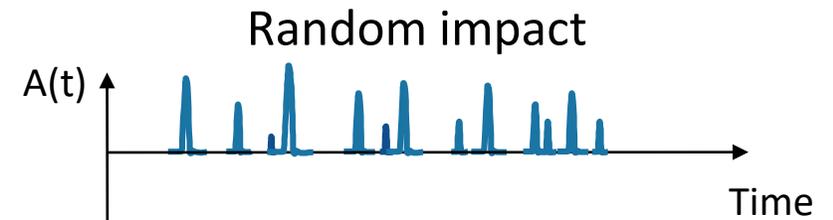
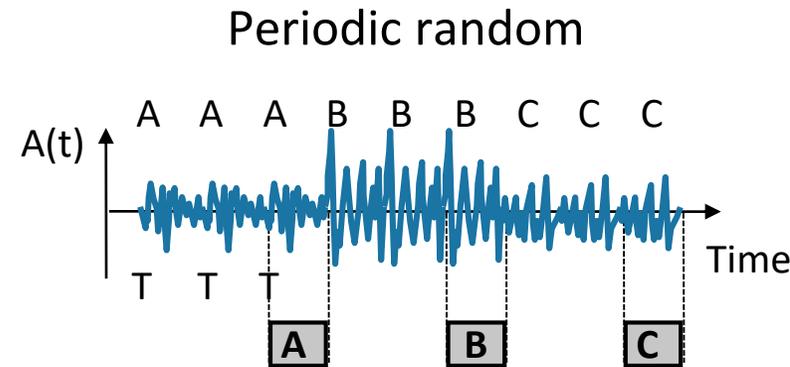
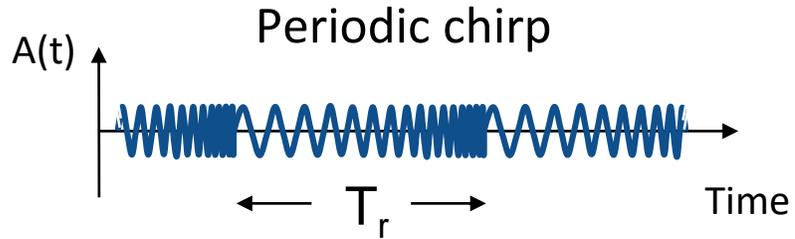
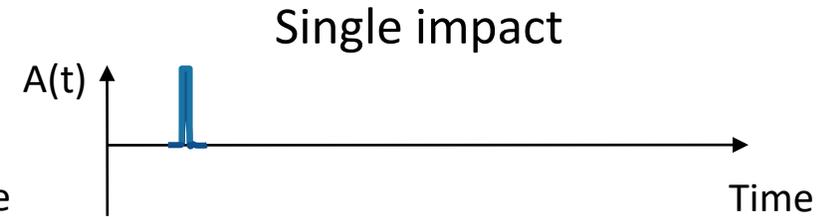
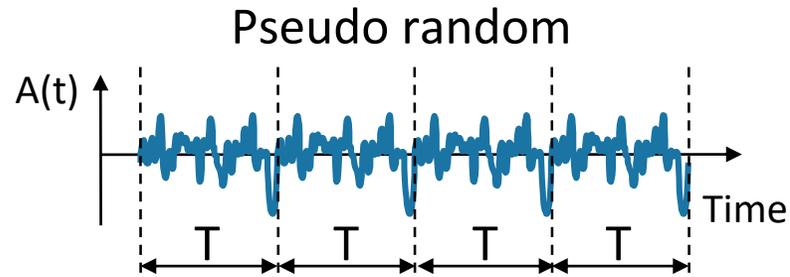
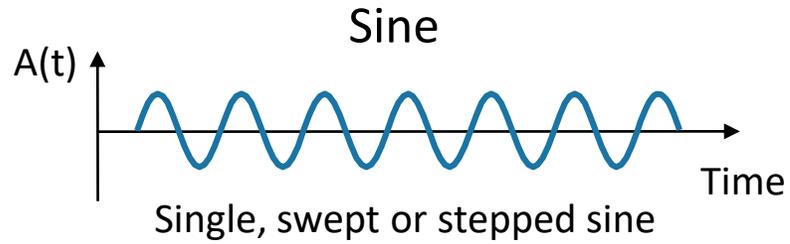
## Conclusion

Well-suited for laboratory work with main focus on flexibility and accuracy

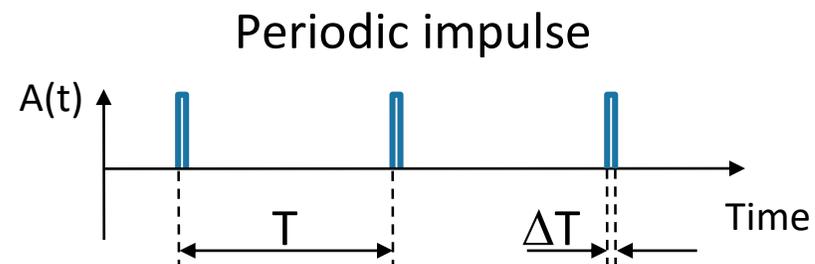
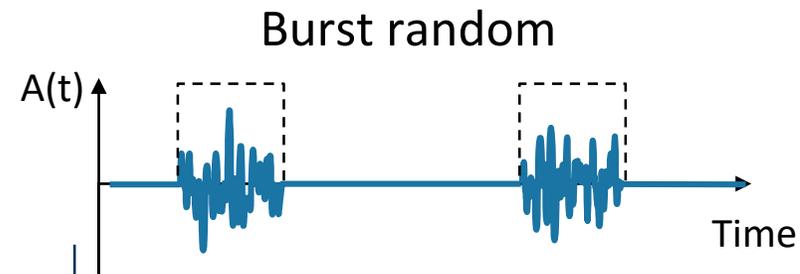
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# Examples of excitation signals



*User-defined waveforms*



# Choice of excitation technique

The optimum excitation technique depends on

- Application
  - For example, are we taking about a complete modal analysis or just resonance testing?
- Non-linearities
  - Is the purpose to study the non-linearity or should the best linear approximation be obtained?
- Speed of test
  - Can we accept the compromise on accuracy, if test time is limited?
- Dynamic range and signal-to-noise ratio
  - Is it large enough to avoid overload and under-range situations?
- Leakage<sup>1</sup> (analysis)
  - How important is leakage for the structure being tested?
- Crest factor<sup>2</sup>
  - Can a high crest factor damage the system or excite non-linearities?
- Noise at input and/or output
  - Can the amount and effect of measurement noise be significantly reduced?
- Equipment available
  - Does the test system provide a sufficient range of excitation signals?
  - Can user-defined waveforms be generated and played-back?

1) In FFT analysis, leakage appears when the signal is not periodic within the used time blocks. Leakage causes the signal levels to be reduced and redistributed over a broad frequency range. Use of time windowing can mitigate the effects of leakage by smoothing a signal in the start and end of the time blocks before performing the FFT.

2) Crest factor = Peak/RMS.  
A measure of how extreme peaks are in the signal

# Guidelines for choice of excitation technique

- For study of non-linearities:  Single, swept or stepped sine excitation
- For slightly non-linear system:  Random (continuous or burst) excitation
- For perfectly linear system:  Pseudo random excitation
- For field measurements:  Single impact excitation
- For high-resolution field measurements:  
(Low frequency range)  Random impact excitation

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# Mode Indicator Functions (MIFs)

Tools for identification of **modes**, their **frequencies** and **density**

- MIFs are (normally) **real-value** frequency domain functions exhibiting a local **minima** or **maxima** at the **natural frequencies** of the modes
- Some MIFs only show a single function
  - Can only indicate separated modes
- Some MIFs show one function per reference
  - Can also indicate repeated roots and closely-coupled modes

- Available MIFs in BK Connect Modal Analysis
  - **Power** Mode Indicator Function (PMIF)
  - **Normal** Mode Indicator Function (NMIF)
  - **Complex** Mode Indicator Function (CMIF)
  - **Multivariate** Mode Indicator Function (MMIF)

	Single Function	Multiple Functions	Mode Identification
Response-based	<b>PMIF</b>	<b>CMIF</b>	Maxima (peaks)
Normalized	<b>NMIF</b>	<b>MMIF</b>	Minima (valleys)

- Frequency Response Functions (FRFs) can be used as **simple MIFs**

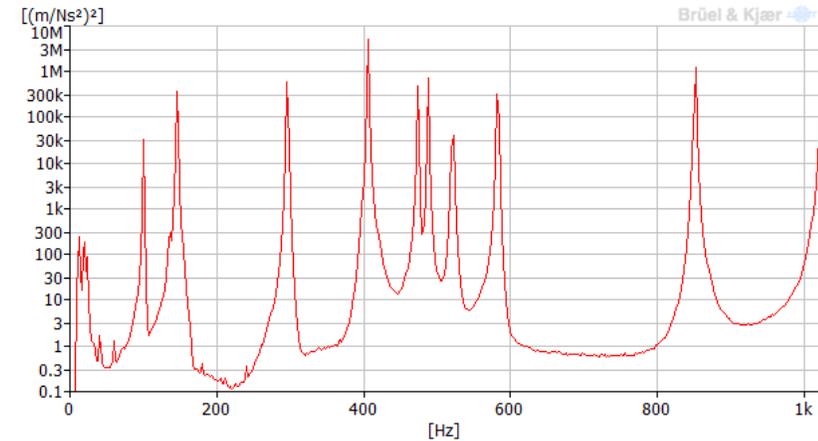
# MIFs – Single Functions

- **PMIF (Power MIF)**

- Sum of Squared FRFs values (Real, Imag, Mag)

$$\sum (H_{\text{Re}}^2) \quad \sum (H_{\text{Im}}^2) \quad \sum (|H|^2)$$

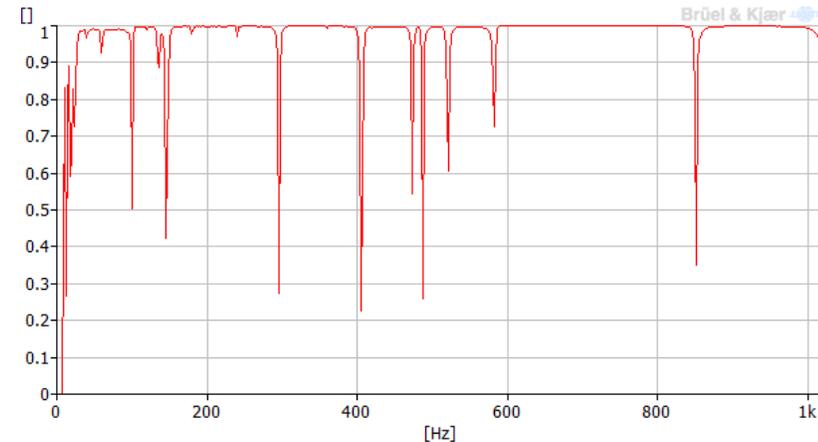
- For better selectivity use Imag. Part for Acceleration FRFs (A/F)



- **NMIF (Normal MIF)**

- Minima found from zero-crossing of the real part at resonances
- Scaled from 0 to 1

$$\frac{\sum |\text{Re}(H)| |H|}{\sum (|H|^2)}$$



*Sum over one or more references (use Function Selector)*

# MIFs – Multiple Functions

- **CMIF (Complex MIF)**

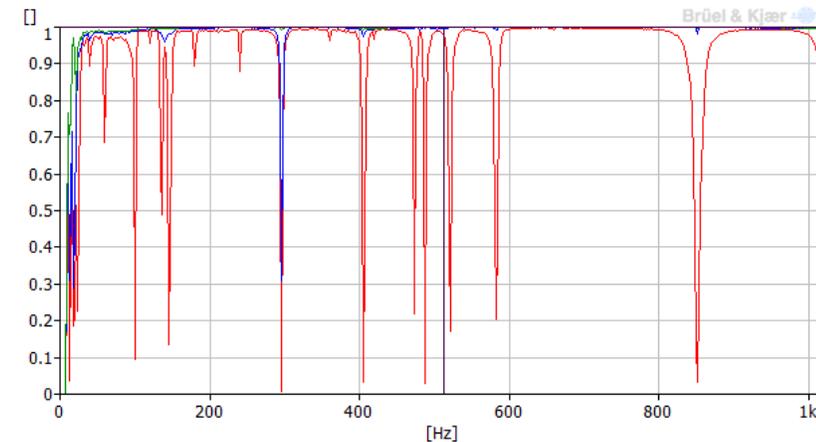
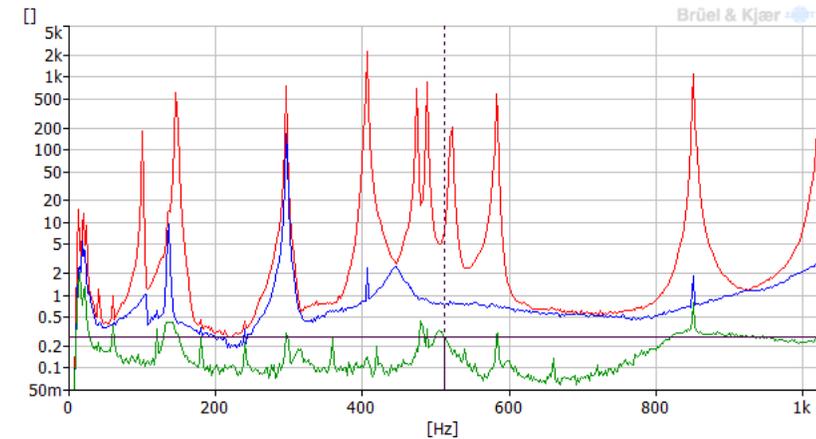
- Plots the singular values from a Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) of the FRF matrix

$$[H(\omega)] = [U(\omega)][\Sigma(\omega)][V(\omega)]^H$$

- One function for each reference
- For better selectivity use Imag. Part for Acceleration FRFs (A/F)

- **MMIF (Multivariate MIF)**

- Minimization of real part of response compared to total response (Corresponds to identification of normal modes)
- Scaled from 0 to 1
- One function for each reference



*Select number of references to be used from the Function Selector*

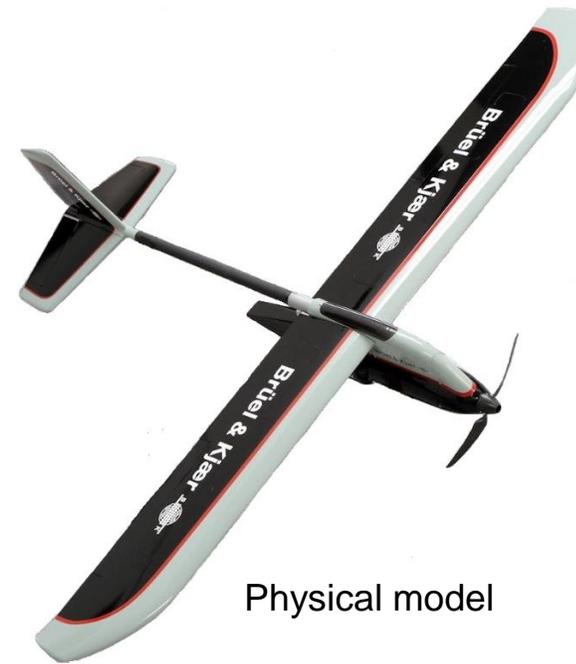
# Example - Demo of MIFs

## Aircraft:

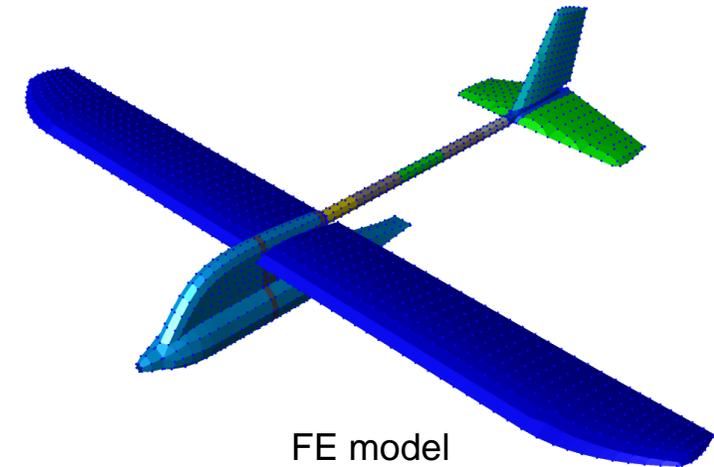
- Wingspan: 3m
- Length: 2m
- Weight: 17 kg (37 lb)
- Composite material
- Assembled by clicking 7 parts together

## Test configuration:

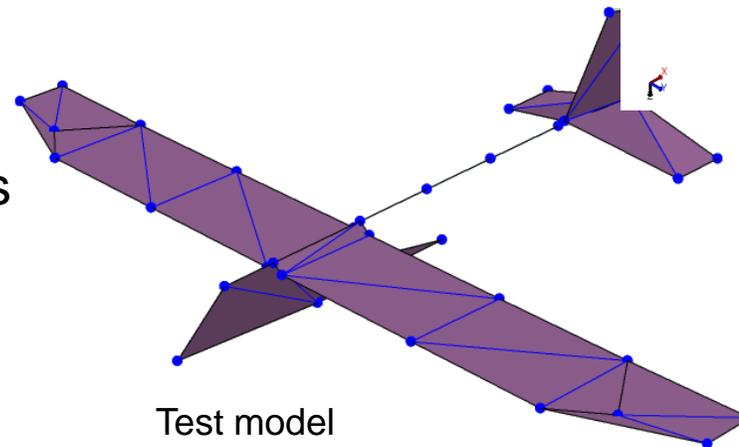
- Geometry
  - 36 nodes; 32 elements
- 2 shakers close to the wing tips
- 17 uniaxial and 26 triaxial accelerometers
- 95 DOFs and 190 FRFs
- Freq. range: 0-50 Hz



Physical model



FE model



Test model

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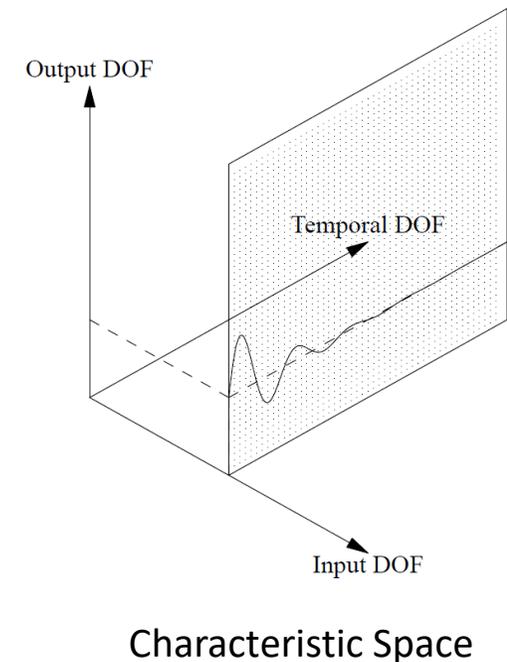
# Modal parameter estimation – Curve-fitting

Identification of a **system model** described by the **modal parameters** (*natural frequencies, damping ratios and mode shapes*) obtained from **measurements**

**Curve-fitting is a large data reduction process. Consequently, no single ideal curve-fitter exists!**

- **Over-determined problem** (more data than independent equations)
- The challenge is to properly reduce the data (spatial and temporal information) to a certain subspace containing one (or preferable more) planes in the **Characteristic Space**

*The particular subspace measured and the weighting of the data within the subspace are the main differences between the various modal parameter estimation techniques developed!*



# Classification of curve-fitters (1..3)

Curve-fitters can be classified according to the following parameters

- **Single Reference**
  - Can only solve for **one row/column** in the FRF matrix
  - For example, fixed single shaker test or roving hammer test with single response accelerometer
  - Only for structures with separated modes
- **Poly-reference**
  - Can solve for **multiple rows/columns** in the FRF matrix
  - For example, fixed multiple shaker test or roving hammer test with multiple response accelerometers
  - Also for structures with repeated roots and closely-spaced modes
- **Frequency Domain**
  - Based on Frequency Response Functions (FRFs)
- **Time Domain**
  - Based on Impulse Response Functions (IRFs)

# Classification of curve-fitters (2..3)

- **Single Degree-of-Freedom (SDOF)**
  - One mode estimated at a time
  - Only for structures lightly to medium damped and with separated modes
- **Multiple Degree-of-Freedom (MDOF)**
  - Multiple modes estimated simultaneously (using a band cursor)
  - Also for heavily damped structures and structures with repeated roots/closely-spaced modes
- **Global Solve**
  - For curve-fitting of **consistent FRF data**
  - Pole location (frequency and damping) estimated in a least squares sense from **all the measurements** in the data set
  - The **global pole location** values are then used to fit the residue (~ mode shape) for each individual measurement
- **Local Solve**
  - For curve-fitting of **inconsistent FRF data**, for example, due to variable mass loading
  - Pole locations are estimated from **one** or a **few measurements** and then averaged across all local fits to provide a single estimate for each mode
  - Residues fitted for each **individual pole position**

# Classification of curve-fitters (3..3)

General formulation using Matrix Coefficient Polynomial model

$$H(s) = \frac{\beta_n(s)^n + \beta_{n-1}(s)^{n-1} + \dots + \beta_0}{\alpha_m(s)^m + \alpha_{m-1}(s)^{m-1} + \dots + \alpha_0}$$

**Natural Frequencies and Damping Ratios** (poles) from

$$\left[ \alpha_m \right] s^m + \left[ \alpha_{m-1} \right] s^{m-1} + \dots + \left[ \alpha_0 \right] = 0 \quad \text{Frequency Domain}$$

$$\left[ \alpha_m \right] z^m + \left[ \alpha_{m-1} \right] z^{m-1} + \dots + \left[ \alpha_0 \right] = 0 \quad \text{Time Domain}$$

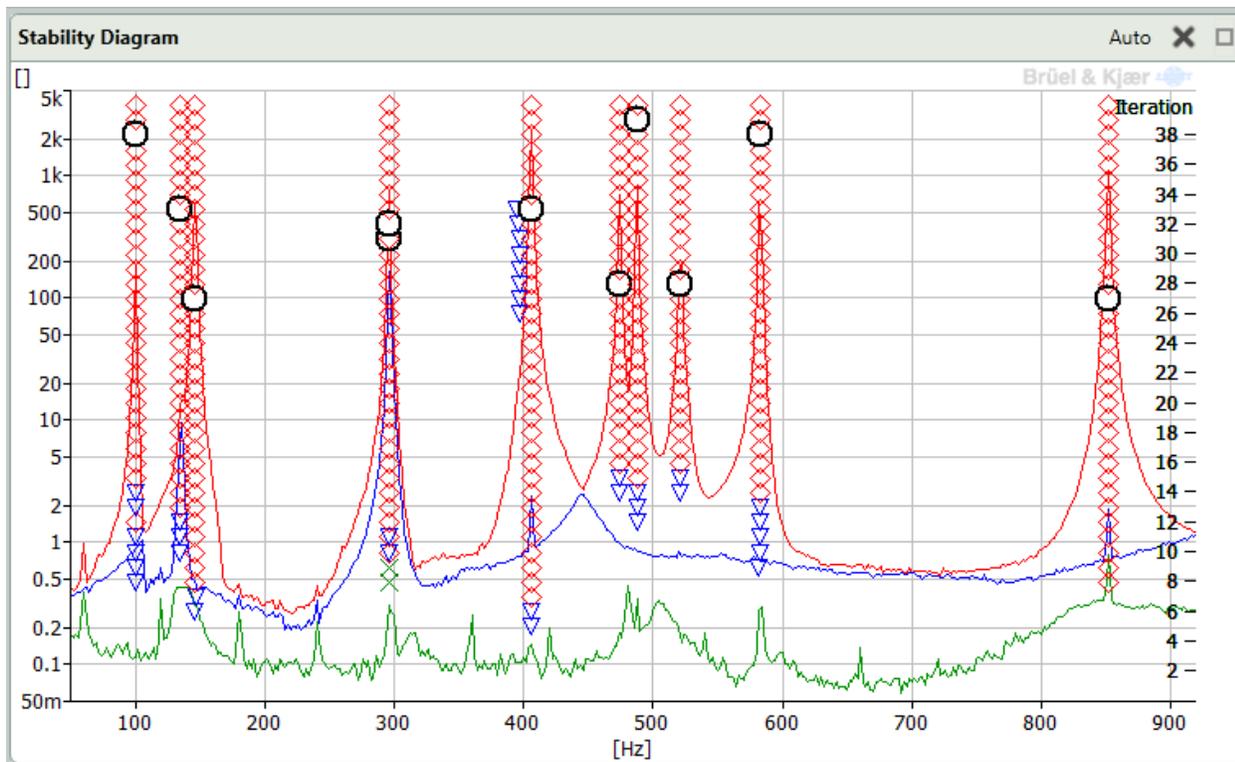
Number of poles given by order of m and size of  $[\alpha]$  (spacial dimension)

**High Order** methods (using order of polynomial, m)

**Low Order** methods (using spacial dimension,  $[\alpha]$  – virtual DOFs)

# Stability diagram

- Plots stability symbols for iteration (model order) vs. frequency. Mode indicator function as background
- Stable modes appear as vertical lines
- Modes selected manually by double-clicking on symbols or automatically by pushing a single button



Stability Symbols configuration panel:

- All Stable:  Diamond
- Freq. & Vector Stable:  Inverted Triangle
- Freq. & Damp. Stable:  Asterisk
- Frequency Stable:  Cross
- New:  Plus
- Computational:  Square
- Selected:  Circle
- Pole Legend:
- Load Symbol Set: BK Symbols
- Save Symbols: Save

Symbol selection dropdown menu:

- All Stable:  Diamond
- Plus
- Diamond
- Cross
- Inverted Triangle
- Asterisk
- Square
- Letter s

# Curve-fitters in BK Connect Modal Analysis

Single Degree-of-Freedom (SDOF) Curve-fitters

▲ Quadrature (peak-picking); Least Squares Global Partial Fraction

Multiple Degree-of-Freedom (MDOF) and Global Solve Polyreference Curve-fitters

Order	Domain	
	Time	Frequency
Low	<i>Eigensystem Realization (ERA)</i>	<i>Polyreference Frequency (PFD)</i>
High	<i>Polyreference Time (PTD)</i>	<i>Rational Fraction Polynomial-Z (RFP-Z)</i>

Our implementation adds **Enhanced Mode Solution** for very clear stability diagrams for the **PTD** and **RFP-Z** curve-fitters

**Automated Mode Selection available for all MDOF curve-fitters!**

**Local solve available for the PTD and RFP-Z curve-fitters!**

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# Analysis validation tools

## Tools for Validation of the obtained Modal Analysis Results

- **Synthesis**
  - Comparison of synthesised to measured FRFs (or MIFs)
  - Investigation of effects of removing modes from the mode table
- **Mode Shape Animation**
  - Single, Side-by-Side, Top-Bottom, Overlaid, Difference ...
  - Wireframe, Surfaces, Contour, Deformed/Undeformed, Max. Deformation ...
- **Complexity Plot and Mode Normalization**
  - Validation of the complexity of modes
  - Normalization of the modes using an "angle indicator"
- **AutoMAC and CrossMAC** (MAC: Modal Assurance Criterion)
  - Comparison of the linearity of mode shape pairs for one set (AutoMAC) or two sets (CrossMAC) of mode shapes
  - Normalized between 0 and 1 (1: exact same shape; 0: completely different shapes)
- **CoMAC** (CoMAC: Coordinate MAC)
  - Comparison of two sets of mode shapes on a *DOF basis*
  - The method seeks to identify the parts of the structure that are responsible for low degrees of correlation (shown on geometry display)

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# Further Information - Brüel & Kjær

## ▲ Knowledge Centre ([www.bksv.com/Knowledge-center](http://www.bksv.com/Knowledge-center))

- Case Studies, Application Notes, Technical Reviews, Conference Papers, Primers and Handbooks

## ▲ Training ([www.bksv.com/Training](http://www.bksv.com/Training))

- Courses, Webinars, Customized Training, Video Tutorials
  - Includes 3-day course on Classical Modal Analysis and 2-day course on Operational Modal Analysis

## ▲ Structural Dynamics - Product and Application pages

- Operational Modal Analysis, Classical Modal Analysis, ODS Analysis, Structural Health Monitoring, Test-FEA Integration ...
- Software, hardware, transducers, modal exciters, impact hammers ...
- [www.bksv.com/Applications/product-vibration/structural-dynamics](http://www.bksv.com/Applications/product-vibration/structural-dynamics)
- [www.bksv.com/products/Analysis-software/structural-dynamics-software](http://www.bksv.com/products/Analysis-software/structural-dynamics-software)
- [www.bksv.com/products/data-acquisition-systems-and-hardware/LAN-XI-data-acquisition-hardware](http://www.bksv.com/products/data-acquisition-systems-and-hardware/LAN-XI-data-acquisition-hardware)
- [www.bksv.com/products/transducers/vibration](http://www.bksv.com/products/transducers/vibration)
- [www.bksv.com/products/shakers-and-exciters/modal-exciters](http://www.bksv.com/products/shakers-and-exciters/modal-exciters)
- [www.bksv.com/products/transducers/vibration/Vibration-transducers/impact-hammers](http://www.bksv.com/products/transducers/vibration/Vibration-transducers/impact-hammers)

## ▲ YouTube videos on Structural Dynamics

- Applications & solutions: ([https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJiMDKQQaTpBFsa2kJ2KIMbgRzd\\_s7GYF](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJiMDKQQaTpBFsa2kJ2KIMbgRzd_s7GYF))
- Tutorials: (<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJiMDKQQaTpAxJ-II200XRvV8RUMJHx3I>)

## ▲ 4-week free trial software for structural dynamics

- <http://www.bksv.com/products/Analysis-software/structural-dynamics-software>

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[www.bksv.com](http://www.bksv.com)

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# Previous 1-hour webinars on structural dynamics

February 19, 2020

## ▲ Introduction to Structural Dynamics – Measurements and Analysis

- Recording: <https://www.hbm.com/en/8722/introduction-to-structural-dynamics-measurement-and-analysis/>

February 20, 2020

## ▲ Operating Deflection Shapes Analysis – Determination of Vibration Patterns under Operating Conditions

- Recording: <https://www.hbm.com/en/8740/ods-vibration-patterns-under-operating-conditions/>

November 20, 2019

## ▲ Operational Modal Analysis – Modal Parameter Identification under Operating Conditions

- Recording: <https://www.hbm.com/en/8507/webinar-operational-modal-analysis-modal-parameter-identification-under-operating-conditions/>

Q&A

# Thank You

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