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OPTIMUM DESIGN OF RING STIFFENED CYLINDRICAL SHELLS

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## Abstract
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ABSTRACT

This report deals with the optimum structural design of circular cylindrical shells reinforced with identical uniformly spaced T-ring stiffeners, and subjected to external pressure loading. The optimization problems considered are of three types: (1) minimum-weight design, (2) design for maximum separation of the lowest two natural frequencies, and (3) design for maximum separation of the lowest two natural frequencies which have primarily axial content. Gross buckling is precluded by specifying a minimum natural frequency, and additional behavioral constraints preclude yielding or buckling of panels, T-ring stiffeners, and web and flange instabilities within each T-ring. Analysis is based on use of an equivalent orthotropic shell model, and optimization is accomplished through use of a sequential unconstrained minimization technique. Examples indicate that a small increase in weight above optimum (minimum) values can result in relatively large increases in frequency separation, and that maximum frequency separation is obtained when second and third lowest frequencies approach each other.
SYMBOLS

\( t_s \) Thickness of shell skin (in)
\( t_f \) Thickness of frame web (in)
\( t_c \) Thickness of frame flange (in)
\( d_F \) Depth of frame web (in)
\( d_f \) Width of frame flange (in)
\( l_x \) Spacing of frames (in)
\( W \) Normalized mass of structure
\( \rho_s \) Mass density of structural material (slug/in\(^3\) )
\( L \) Total length of structure (in)
\( R \) Radius to mid-surface of skin (in)
\( P \) Hydrostatic pressure (psi)
\( T \) Kinetic energy
\( x, \phi, z \) Shell coordinate system
\( u, v, w \) Midsurface displacements
\( \ddot{u}, \ddot{v}, \ddot{w} \) Displacements of an arbitrary point
\( \{ A \}_i \) Eigenvector of \textit{ith} natural frequency
\( \omega \) Natural frequency
\( n, m \) Wave numbers
\( \tau \) Time (sec)
\( [K] \) Stiffness matrix
\( [K_G] \) Geometric stiffness matrix
\( [M] \) Mass matrix
\( \sigma_y \) Yield stress (psi)
\( \sigma_{f_{cr}} \) Critical flange buckling stress (psi)
\( \sigma_{w_{cr}} \) Critical web buckling stress (psi)
\( F \) Objective function
\( \mathbf{x} \quad \text{Vector of design variables} \)

\( g(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{Design constraint} \)

\( q \quad \text{Number of design variables} \)

\( P_{cr} \quad \text{Critical pressure for buckling of skin (psi) between frames} \)

\( \omega_{\text{min}} \quad \text{Minimum allowable natural frequency of vibration in vacuo (Hz)} \)

\( E \quad \text{Young's modulus} \)

\( \nu \quad \text{Poisson's ratio} \)

\( \ell \quad \text{Unsupported length of shell plating (in)} \)

\( W_{\text{max}} \quad \text{Maximum allowable normalized structural mass} \)

\( \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{Composite objective function} \)

\( \varepsilon \quad \text{Constant for use in computing extended penalty function} \)

\( r \quad \text{Positive scalar quantity} \)

\( s \quad \text{Direction vector for uni-directional search} \)
INTRODUCTION

Although a wealth of literature exists for the static, dynamic and stability analyses of stiffened shells of revolution subjected to various applied loads, with the majority of these studies devoted to cylindrical shells, the work of Schmit and Morrow [1] serves as a pioneering effort toward the introduction of structural optimization concepts into the design of stiffened cylindrical shells. In this reference a cylindrical shell, reinforced with longitudinal and ring stiffeners, each with rectangular cross section, was designed to carry a number of independently applied sets of static loads with minimum structural weight. The shell was constrained against overall (system) buckling, panel and stiffener buckling, and also against material yield. The mathematical model which formed the basis for the stress and buckling analyses was an equivalent homogeneous orthotropic shell; i.e., the discrete stiffeners and skin stiffness properties were incorporated in the orthotropic elastic shell stiffness properties. This theory, a 3rd order Flugge-Lur'e-Byrne type theory, proved adequate provided the stiffener spacing and cross sectional dimensions were sufficiently small to permit the smoothing operation inherent in the orthotropic shell model.

In a more recent study, Pappas and Allentuch [2,3] investigated the minimum-weight design of ring stiffened cylindrical shells, subjected to a number of static applied load conditions. In this study, the ring stiffeners were T-shaped rather than rectangular. The structural analyses of general instability, localized panel instability, and stiffener instabilities were based on buckling formulas contained in Ref. [4], along with the appropriate stress limits.

The subject of this report is, in essence, a structural optimization study which employs both a combination and an extension of the structural
models in Refs. [1-3]. In the present study, three somewhat different structural optimization problems have been formulated. In the first, the minimum-weight design of a ring stiffened cylindrical shell subjected to several applied static loads is considered. The structure is constrained against all of the buckling modes considered in Refs. [2,3] although for some of the modes, the constraint equations differ. Further, the structure is constrained against in vacuo natural vibrations below a specified frequency limit. In the second formulation the shell is designed to maximize the separation between the lowest two in vacuo natural frequencies, while being constrained against buckling and yield behavior as specified in the first design problem, and while having a weight less than a prescribed maximum. The third formulation is similar to the second, with the distinction that the frequencies being separated are the two lowest which have primarily axial content.

This optimization study, in either the weight minimization form or the frequency separation forms, represents a considerable advance beyond previous characterizations of the optimization problem. The structural model in this study is based on the equivalent orthotropic shell model of Ref. [1], with dynamic effects added. This representation, although somewhat imprecise in its ability to model a ring stiffened shell, has proved invaluable in providing an economical and yet reasonably complete initial structural representation for use in the optimization studies performed. A more detailed description of the mathematical model, and a summary of the results of this research, are presented in the following sections.
ANALYSIS OF STIFFENED SHELLS

The investigation detailed in this report is concerned with the optimum structural design of circular cylindrical shells with uniformly spaced T-ring stiffeners (Fig. 1) and subjected to several different applied loading conditions typical of submerged vessels, namely (1) specified external pressure (or vessel depth), (2) specified axial compressive loadings, and (3) applied static loads associated with vessel motion. Design variables, shown in Fig. 1, are skin thickness ($t_s$), stiffener web thickness ($t_w$), web depth ($d_w$), spacing ($l_x$), flange width ($d_f$), and flange thickness ($t_f$). Radius ($R$), length ($L$), and the material properties are assumed to be preassigned parameters.

All of the research performed to date has employed the simplified orthotropic shell model given in [1] in the calculation of the natural frequencies of vibration and in the overall (system) buckling analysis. This idealization has offered the advantage of mathematical simplicity and the disadvantage of a somewhat limited modeling capability, but it has provided an economical initial structural representation for use in the optimization studies.

In order to analyze the dynamic response of the cylinder in Fig. 1, it is hypothesized (as in Ref. 1) that the frames and skin act as a unit according to the Bernoulli-Euler deformation assumption as extended through the Flugge-Lur'e-Byrne theory, and that the stiffness and inertia properties of the frames are uniformly distributed over the length of the cylinder. It is then possible to express the kinetic energy of the shell in the form

$$ T = \frac{\rho_s}{2} \int_0^L \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^t (\ddot{u}^2 + \ddot{v}^2 + \ddot{w}^2) \, dz \, d\phi \, dx $$

(1)

*The model gives a very accurate representation of the structural behavior provided the characteristic wavelengths of the modes of vibration (or of the static displacements) are very long compared to both the ring spacing and ring cross-sectional dimensions.
Figure 1. Typical Hull Segment Cross Section (from Ref. 2).
where \( \tilde{u}, \tilde{v} \) and \( \tilde{w} \) are the displacements of an arbitrary point in the structure in the \( x, \phi, \) and \( z \) directions, respectively (Fig. 2), and are given by [1]

\[
\begin{align*}
\tilde{u} &= u - z \frac{\partial \tilde{w}}{\partial x} \\
\tilde{v} &= (1 - \frac{z}{R}) v - \frac{z}{R} \frac{\partial \tilde{w}}{\partial \phi} \\
\tilde{w} &= \tilde{w}
\end{align*}
\]

where \( u, v \) and \( w \) are the displacements of the shell's mid-surface. From the kinetic energy the inertia terms in the appropriate equations of motion are obtained by use of Hamilton's principle. These terms are appended to the equations of static equilibrium for the stiffened shell in [1], which also contain the influence of destabilizing forces.

Assuming that the external loads give rise to circumferential and longitudinal compressive forces per unit length of magnitude \( PR \) and \( PR/2 \), respectively, where \( P \) is hydrostatic pressure, then the combination of inertia, static, and destabilizing forces leads to the following three coupled partial differential equations of motion.

\[
\begin{align*}
N' + \frac{1}{R} \phi' - \frac{P}{R} (u** - Rw') - \frac{PR}{2} u'' &= p_x \\
\frac{1}{R} \phi' + \frac{N'}{R} - \frac{1}{R} \phi' - \frac{1}{R} \phi'' - \frac{P}{R} (v** + w*) - \frac{PR}{2} v'' &= p_y \\
M'' + \frac{1}{R} M' + \frac{1}{R} M'' + \frac{1}{R} \phi' + \frac{1}{R} \phi'' + \frac{P}{R} (v** - \omega**) - \frac{R^2}{2} \omega'' &= p_z
\end{align*}
\]

where

\[
\begin{align*}
p_x &= \rho_s \int_t [\ddot{u} - z \ddot{w}'] (1 - \frac{z}{R}) dz \\
p_y &= \rho_s \int_t [(1 - \frac{z}{R}) \ddot{v} - (1 - \frac{z}{R}) (\frac{z}{R}) \ddot{w}] (1 - \frac{z}{R}) dz \\
p_z &= \rho_s \int_t [\ddot{w} + z \ddot{u}' + (1 - \frac{z}{R}) (\frac{z}{R}) \ddot{v} - (z) \ddot{w}' - (\frac{z}{R})^2 \ddot{w}] (1 - \frac{z}{R}) dz
\end{align*}
\]
Figure 2. Force Resultants and Coordinate System.
and where \( (\cdot) \) denotes \( \frac{\partial (\cdot)}{\partial t} \), \( (\cdot)' \) denotes \( \frac{\partial (\cdot)}{\partial x} \), \( (\cdot)^* \) denotes \( \frac{\partial (\cdot)}{\partial \phi} \) and \( \int_{t}^{t} (\cdot) \, dz \) is the integral through the thickness of the shell and frame. The forces \( M \) and \( N \) may be expressed in terms of the mid-surface displacements \( u \), \( v \) and \( w \) (see Appendix I) so that Eqs. (3) can be expressed in terms of displacements only.

Under the assumption that the boundary conditions are of the simple support type, then the solution to these equations takes the form

\[
\begin{align*}
  u &= A_1 \sin n\phi \cos \frac{m\pi x}{L} \sin \omega t \\
  v &= A_2 \cos n\phi \sin \frac{m\pi x}{L} \sin \omega t \\
  w &= A_3 \sin n\phi \sin \frac{m\pi x}{L} \sin \omega t
\end{align*}
\]

(5)

where \( n = 0,1,2, \ldots \) and \( m = 1,2, \ldots \).

Substitution of Eqs. (5) into Eqs. (3) gives the algebraic eigenvalue problem

\[
([K] - P[K_G] - \omega^2[M])\{A\} = \{0\}
\]

(6)

where the stiffness, "geometric" stiffness, and mass matrices are \([K]\), \([K_G]\) and \([M]\), respectively, and are given in Appendix I.

It should be noted that the sine and cosine dependencies on the angle \( \phi \), and the similar dependencies on the axial variable \( x \), could have been interchanged without influencing the matrices in Eq. (6) for \( n > 0 \). The \( n = 0 \) case as given in Eq. (6) is actually a combination of the solution form in Eqs. (5) (pure torsion) and the similar form with sine and cosine terms (with argument zero) interchanged (torsionless motion).

Since the algebraic eigenvalue problem for given values of \( m \), \( n \) and \( P \) is of only rank three, its solution for the natural frequencies (eigenvalues) and associated modes (eigenvectors) is accomplished without difficulty.

In the portion of the structural optimization research wherein the structure was designed for the greatest separation of the lowest two axial-type vibratory modes, the modes with \( A_1 = 1 \), and \( A_2, A_3 < 1 \) were termed "axial." In order to prevent any general buckling from occurring, all the frequencies associated with
values \( n = 0, \ldots, 6 \), \( m = 1, \ldots, 6 \) were retained and forced to exceed a prescribed minimum \( \omega_{\text{min}} \).

In addition to this gross buckling, it is necessary to be able to detect the occurrence of several additional modes of "local" failure. These local failure modes consist of panel (inter-ring) yielding or buckling and yielding or buckling of the webs and/or flanges of the stiffener rings.

Panel (skin) yielding will be precluded, according to the Von Mises criterion, provided

\[
(\sigma^2_\phi - \sigma_\phi \sigma_x + \sigma^2_x)^{1/2} \leq \sigma_y
\]

where \( \sigma_y \) = material yield stress in uniaxial loading, and \( \sigma_\phi \) and \( \sigma_x \) are in-plane stresses normal to the surfaces of the element in Fig. 2. From Ref. [4] the maximum bending stresses in the panels due to external pressure are

\[
\sigma_\phi = -\frac{PR}{t_s} [1 + \Gamma(H_n + \nu H_E)]
\]

\[
\sigma_x = -\frac{PR}{t_s} (1/2 + \Gamma H_E)
\]

where \( \Gamma, H_E, \) and \( H_n \) are load factors defined in Appendix II.

A suitable approximate formula [4] for the critical external pressure which will cause panel buckling is

\[
P_{\text{cr}} = 2.42E(t_s/D)^{5/2} \{(1-\nu^2)^{3/4}[(\lambda/D) - 0.45(t_s/D)^{1/2}]\}
\]

where \( \lambda = \ell_x - t_\phi \) is the unsupported length of a panel, and \( D = 2R \).

Again following Ref. [4], the maximum compressive stress in the rings may be taken as

\[
\sigma_c = -PRQ/A
\]

where \( A = t_s \phi \phi + t_\phi \phi + t_f d_f \), and \( Q \) is a load factor defined in Appendix II.

The magnitude of \( \sigma_c \) must be less than the yield stress, \( \sigma_y \), and also less than the critical values of compressive stresses at which the flange or web will
buckle. Assuming that the web and flange are infinitely long rectangular plates, that the web is simply supported along all edges, and that the flange is simply supported along three sides and free on one edge (all conservative assumptions), then the critical stresses for buckling of the flange and web, respectively, are [5]

\[ \sigma_{f_{cr}} = \frac{0.506\pi^2 E}{12(1-\nu^2)} \left( \frac{2t_f}{d_f - t_f} \right)^2 \]  

(11a)

\[ \sigma_{w_{cr}} = \frac{4\pi^2 E}{12(1-\nu^2)} \left( \frac{t_w}{d_w} \right)^2 \]  

(11b)

It should be noted that Eq. (10) neglects any effects of eccentricity in the circularity of the cylinder and of lateral-torsional stiffener buckling on the compressive stress in the rings.
FORMULATION OF OPTIMIZATION PROBLEM

As indicated in the Introduction, the optimization problem takes the following three alternative forms:

I. Find the minimum-weight design of the stiffened cylindrical shell subjected to the applied loads described previously and constrained against overall (system) buckling, panel (inter-ring) buckling, T web and/or flange buckling, panel and/or ring yield. The shell is also required to possess a lowest natural frequency (in vacuo) greater than a specified minimum.

II. Find the structural design which maximizes the separation between the lowest two natural frequencies of vibration (in vacuo) for the stiffened cylindrical shell subjected to the applied loads described previously and constrained against overall (system) buckling, panel (inter-ring) buckling, T web and/or flange buckling, panel and/or ring yield. The shell is also required to possess a lowest natural frequency greater than a specified minimum, and a structural weight less than a prescribed maximum.

III. Find the structural design which maximizes the separation between the lowest two natural frequencies of vibration (in vacuo) which have primarily axial content for the stiffened cylindrical shell subjected to the applied loads described previously and constrained against overall (system) buckling, panel (inter-ring) buckling, T web and/or flange buckling, panel and/or ring yield. The shell is also required to possess a lowest natural frequency greater than a specified minimum and a structural weight less than a prescribed maximum.

Each of these problems has the form of an inequality-constrained optimization problem, which may be solved by any of a number of mathematical programming algorithms. The particular method of solution chosen for this work is the Sequential Unconstrained Minimization Technique (SUMT) in which the optimum
structural design problem (in either form I, II, or III) is converted into a sequence of unconstrained problems [6] by means of so-called "penalty functions."

In this technique, it is required to find a vector \( \mathbf{x}^T = \{x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n\} \equiv \{t_s, t_f, d_s, d_f\} \), the components of which are the design variables, such that a specified function of these variables, \( F(\mathbf{x}) \), is extremized while satisfying a set of constraints of form \( g_k(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0, k = 1, \ldots, s \).

The "objective function," \( F(\mathbf{x}) \), takes one of three forms, depending on the optimization problem being considered. For Problem I, weight minimization,

\[
F(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{2\pi \rho s}{\pi (R + t_s/2)^2 L \rho_w} \left\{ R L t_s + \left(\frac{L}{\pi} \right) \left[ (R - e_\phi t_s d_\phi) + (R - e_\phi t_f d_\phi) \right] \right\} \tag{12}
\]

where parameters \( e_\phi \) and \( e_\phi \) are defined in Appendix I. In Eq. (12) \( F(\mathbf{x}) \) has been normalized by dividing shell mass by the mass of displaced water.

For Problem II, the case of separation of lowest natural frequencies, an inverse formulation is used. The separation is maximized by minimizing the inverse of the separation. For the modes being considered, an ordered list is made giving \( \omega_1 < \omega_2 < \omega_3, \) etc. The objective function is then

\[
F(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\Delta_1}{(\omega_2 - \omega_1)} \tag{13}
\]

where \( \Delta_1 \) is a normalization factor taken as the initial frequency separation.

To separate frequencies having primarily a longitudinal deformation content (Problem III) it is necessary to examine and order frequencies in each primarily axial mode, i.e., the ones having both \( A_2 \) and \( A_3 \) smaller than \( A_1 \). The objective function is then given by

\[
F(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\Delta_1}{(\omega_{L2} - \omega_{L1})} \tag{14}
\]

where the subscript \( L \) has been added to denote the longitudinal character of the shell vibration.
The number of design variables, \( q \), is a maximum of six in this study, but may be less if certain of the design variables are fixed. Also upper and lower limits \( U_i \) and \( L_i \), respectively, are assumed specified for each variable \( x_i \). These upper and lower limit constraints, respectively, are written in the normalized form

\[
g_i(x) = \frac{(U_i - x_i)}{(U_i - L_i)} \geq 0 \quad i = 1, \ldots, q \tag{15}
g_{q+1}(x) = \frac{(x_i - L_i)}{(U_i - L_i)} \geq 0 \tag{16}
\]

It is also necessary to include a geometric admissability constraint which serves to keep the frame flanges from overlapping. This is expressed in the normalized form

\[
g_{2q+1}(x) = 1 - \frac{d_f}{L} \geq 0 \tag{17}
\]

The behavioral constraints may also be normalized. The panel yield constraint is expressed as

\[
g_{2q+2}(x) = 1 - \left( \frac{\sigma_y^2 - \sigma_x \sigma_y + \sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y} \right)^{1/2} \geq 0 \tag{18}
\]

The frame yield, flange buckling, web buckling and skin buckling constraints, respectively, are written as

\[
g_{2q+3}(x) = 1 - \frac{|\sigma_c|}{\sigma_y} \geq 0 \tag{19}
g_{2q+4}(x) = 1 - \frac{|\sigma_c|}{\sigma_{fcr}} \geq 0 \tag{20}
g_{2q+5}(x) = 1 - \frac{|\sigma_c|}{\sigma_{wcr}} \geq 0 \tag{21}
g_{2q+6}(x) = 1 - \frac{P}{P_{cr}} \geq 0 \tag{22}
\]

Finally, to prevent gross buckling the lowest frequency, \( \omega_1 \), should be greater than a specified minimum frequency, \( \omega_{\text{min}} \). This is stated in the form

\[
g_{2q+7}(x) = \frac{(\omega_1 - \omega_{\text{min}})}{\Delta_2} \geq 0 \tag{23}
\]

where \( \Delta_2 \) is the initial value of \( \omega_1 - \omega_{\text{min}} \).
For the minimum-weight design of the shell these are all the constraints required, but in order to separate frequencies two other constraints must be included. It is conceivable that large separations could be achieved, but possibly only at the expense of large increases in weight. It is therefore necessary to establish an upper bound to the mass of the structure, \( W_{\text{max}} \).

This constraint is expressed by

\[
S_2 q + 8 C_i > 1 - \frac{W}{W_{\text{max}}} > 0.
\] (24)

The final constraint is not required in the definition of the frequency separation problems, but is convenient for numerical solution when penalty functions are utilized in the Sequential Unconstrained Minimization Technique. The most efficient unconstrained minimization methods require the computation of gradients of the objective function in order to operate. These gradients should be smooth and continuous, but experience shows that, as \( \omega_1 \) and \( \omega_2 \) are separated, \( \omega_2 \) and \( \omega_3 \) approach a common value. Eventually \( \omega_2 \) and \( \omega_3 \) will switch, with the result that the mode which previously represented \( \omega_2 \) now represents \( \omega_3 \) and vice versa. This causes discontinuity in the gradient of the objective function and subsequent difficulties with the numerical algorithm. This difficulty can be overcome simply by requiring that the second and third frequencies never be equal. This requirement is expressed as a "singularity avoidance" constraint in the two cases of frequency separation by

\[
g_{2q+8}(x) = \omega_3 - \omega_2 > 0
\] (25)

or

\[
g_{2q+9}(x) = \omega_{L3} - \omega_{L2} > 0.
\] (26)

In order to apply the methods of unconstrained nonlinear programming, the basic inequality-constrained problem is recast in the form of an interior
penalty function [6], the solution of which requires finding that \( x \) which minimizes
\[
\phi(x) = F(x) + r \sum_{j=1}^{s} P_j(x)
\]  
(27a)
where
\[
P_j(x) = \begin{cases} 
1/g_j(x) & \text{if } g_j(x) \geq \varepsilon \\
(2\varepsilon - g_j(x))/\varepsilon^2 & \text{if } g_j(x) < \varepsilon 
\end{cases}
\]  
(27b)

\( P_j(x) \) is the so-called extended penalty function [7] which allows the use of infeasible designs in the search for an optimal feasible design. The quantities \( \varepsilon \) and \( r \) are small positive scalars and \( s \) is the number of constraints.

Solving this unconstrained minimization problem for successively smaller values of \( r \) gives a series of designs which converge to a local or global optimum of \( F(x) \). This procedure is referred to as the Sequential Unconstrained Minimization Technique (SUMT). Each unconstrained minimization is performed by the Davidon-Fletcher-Powell method [6]. In order to apply this algorithm it is necessary to compute the gradients of the objective function and the constraints with respect to each design variable. The mathematical complexity of this problem makes analytic calculation of partial derivatives impractical and it is found convenient to use a forward difference technique to find the gradients numerically. The success of the unconstrained minimization hinges on the ability to perform an accurate unidirectional minimization. A special hyperbolic interpolation formula was developed [6] for use with the SUMT method. A test for the minimum was developed and incorporated into the minimization algorithm which requires that a measure of normality between the direction vector \( s \), and the gradient, \( \nabla \phi \), be less than 0.001, i.e.,
\[
(s \cdot \nabla \phi)/(|s| \cdot |\nabla \phi|) \leq 0.001 .
\]  
(28)
EXAMPLES

Design examples given in [3] were re-evaluated in this study for optimal performance for situations I, II or III as detailed above. In all of these designs the preassigned parameters were given the following values:

\[ R = 198 \text{ in.}, \quad L = 594 \text{ in.}, \quad E = 30 \times 10^6 \text{ lb/in.}^2, \quad \sigma_y = 60 \times 10^3 \text{ lb/in.}^2, \quad \rho = 7.75 \times 10^{-4} \text{ slug/in.}^3, \quad v = 0.33 \]

and specified pressure associated with depths of water of 1000, 2000 and 3000 ft. The prescribed minimum natural (in vacuo) frequency was taken as 12.0 Hz. Except for the dynamic effects these problems are quite similar to those in [3]. The structure was designed initially for minimum weight (problem I) for the three different operating depths. The results, given in Table 1, indicate normalized minimum weights of 0.13317, 0.22295, and 0.31922 for operating depths of 1000, 2000 and 3000 ft., respectively, values somewhat lower than reported in [3]. This occurrence is due to the fact that in this study the ring spacing was represented by a continuous variable and web and flange thicknesses were included as independent design variables, while in [3] the frame spacing was a discrete parameter and the web and flange thicknesses were linked and required to be not less than \( \frac{1}{18} \) of the web and flange depths. In the designs presented herein the frame webs are very thin and are critically stressed, i.e., on the verge of buckling. Consideration of lateral-torsional buckling and the effects of hull eccentricity may alter this condition, although these effects were excluded in the present work.

One important benefit in obtaining the minimum-weight designs in Table 1, is that they serve as initial, feasible designs for design problems II and III, provided the same minimum frequency constraint is employed and the maximum allowable structural mass is greater than that of the minimum-weight (mass) design for the static load conditions.
**Table 1. Design Problem I - Weight Minimization**

(R = 198 in., L = 594 in., E = $30 \times 10^6$ psi, $\sigma_y = 60,000$ psi)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth</th>
<th>1000 ft.</th>
<th>2000 ft.</th>
<th>3000 ft.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$t_s$, in.</td>
<td>1.2108</td>
<td>2.4856</td>
<td>3.5156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$t_\phi$, in.</td>
<td>0.3765</td>
<td>0.4207</td>
<td>0.4543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$d_\phi$, in.</td>
<td>19.589</td>
<td>19.284</td>
<td>19.915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$z_x$, in.</td>
<td>33.602</td>
<td>51.528</td>
<td>36.195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$d_f$, in.</td>
<td>17.664</td>
<td>14.999</td>
<td>16.991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$t_f$, in.</td>
<td>0.4705</td>
<td>0.4984</td>
<td>0.5453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\omega_1$, Hz.</td>
<td>28.12</td>
<td>26.05</td>
<td>26.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\omega_2$, Hz.</td>
<td>49.39</td>
<td>30.04</td>
<td>35.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\omega_3$, Hz.</td>
<td>52.31</td>
<td>51.98</td>
<td>55.11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Weight$^a$

(Normalized) 0.13317 0.22295 0.31922

$^a$Maximum (upper bound) weights (normalized) are 0.15, 0.25 and 0.35, respectively.
The results of design problem II, optimization for maximum frequency separation are given in Table 2 for the cases of the same three preassigned operating depths. The maximum allowable normalized weight was taken as approximately 10% greater than that for the minimum-weight design for the static load condition, the values being 0.15, 0.25 and 0.35, respectively, for the operating depths of 1000, 2000 and 3000 ft. For the three depth requirements the frequency separation was increased from the minimum-weight design values of 21.27, 3.993 and 9.2418 Hz to 23.59, 24.28 and 25.33 Hz. Of interest is the fact that the first and third solutions (for 1000 ft. and 3000 ft. operating depths) gave frequencies \( \omega_2 = \omega_3 \), i.e., nearly identical second and third frequencies, and that in these two cases the maximum weight constraint was less than critical. It is thus apparent that the major portion of the frequency separation is obtained by bringing the second frequency up to the third frequency, and that little or nothing is to be gained by adding more material to the structure after this is accomplished. In the example with 2000 ft. depth the second and third frequencies were unable to completely approach each other before violating the maximum weight constraint, which became critical in this case. It may be noted that for these designs the frame webs are very thin and the frame flanges are relatively thick. It thus seems that the frequency separation has been achieved by making the moment of inertia of the frames as large as possible.

Three problems of category III were designed to find the maximum frequency separation in primarily longitudinal modes of vibration for the three different operating depths. Results are given in Table 3. For the cases which have operating depths of 1000 ft. and 2000 ft. the algorithm became entrapped in a singularity in the design space. The problem run at 3000 ft. depth was unable to reach the singularity because the maximum weight
Table 2. Design Problem II - Frequency Separation

(R = 198 in., L = 594 in., E = 30 \times 10^6 \text{ psi}, \sigma_y = 60,000 \text{ psi})

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth</th>
<th>1000 ft.</th>
<th>2000 ft.</th>
<th>3000 ft.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$t_s$, in.</td>
<td>1.2216</td>
<td>2.4717</td>
<td>3.3986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$t_\phi$, in.</td>
<td>0.3950</td>
<td>0.3884</td>
<td>0.5168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$d_\phi$, in.</td>
<td>20.722</td>
<td>19.674</td>
<td>23.764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\lambda_x$, in.</td>
<td>33.853</td>
<td>51.417</td>
<td>36.065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$d_f$, in.</td>
<td>17.551</td>
<td>15.075</td>
<td>16.864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$t_f$, in.</td>
<td>0.4653</td>
<td>1.8638</td>
<td>0.9485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\omega_1$, Hz.</td>
<td>28.3711</td>
<td>29.4905</td>
<td>29.7225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\omega_2$, Hz.</td>
<td>51.9638</td>
<td>53.7674</td>
<td>55.0508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\omega_3$, Hz.</td>
<td>51.9640</td>
<td>54.1466</td>
<td>55.0512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight^a (Normalized)</td>
<td>0.1351</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.32928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$(\omega_2-\omega_1)$ Hz.</td>
<td>23.5928</td>
<td>24.2769</td>
<td>25.3283</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^aMaximum (upper bound) weights (normalized) are 0.15, 0.25 and 0.35, respectively.
Table 3. Design Problem III - Longitudinal Frequency Separation
(R = 198 in., L = 594 in., E = 30 x 10^6 psi, σ_y = 60,000 psi)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depth</th>
<th>1000 ft.</th>
<th>2000 ft.</th>
<th>3000 ft.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>t_s, in.</td>
<td>1.5975</td>
<td>2.6720</td>
<td>3.9377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t_φ, in.</td>
<td>0.2500</td>
<td>0.4171</td>
<td>0.4216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d_φ, in.</td>
<td>11.603</td>
<td>17.384</td>
<td>19.817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d_x, in.</td>
<td>38.672</td>
<td>52.232</td>
<td>36.143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d_f, in.</td>
<td>9.1454</td>
<td>13.232</td>
<td>16.907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t_f, in.</td>
<td>0.3826</td>
<td>0.5248</td>
<td>0.4927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ω_1, Hz.</td>
<td>163.0006</td>
<td>163.0640</td>
<td>138.2134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ω_2, Hz.</td>
<td>192.2375</td>
<td>192.7389</td>
<td>162.4559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ω_3, Hz.</td>
<td>222.6656</td>
<td>222.7126</td>
<td>221.6170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>0.14215</td>
<td>0.23559</td>
<td>0.34907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ω_2 - ω_1) Hz.</td>
<td>29.2369</td>
<td>29.6749</td>
<td>24.2425</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>a</sup>Maximum (upper bound) weights (normalized) are 0.15, 0.25, and 0.35, respectively.
constraint had become active. A singularity avoidance constraint could have been developed to enable the algorithm to proceed, however this was not done because in order for the optimization problem to have a significant physical purpose, a better definition of what actually constitutes a longitudinal mode is needed. As may be seen in Table 3 for the 3000 ft. case, the mode having one longitudinal wave and no circumference waves \((m = 1, n = 0)\) has a "longitudinal" frequency of 138.21 Hz, because the \(v\)-component of the associated eigenvector is zero and the \(w\)-component is less than 1.0 (0.977). As the algorithm separates the frequencies, the eigenvector associated with this frequency changes form with the \(w\)-component increasing to a value slightly greater than 1.0. As this occurs, a second eigenvector of this mode's vibratory class \((m = 1, n = 0)\) becomes longitudinal in form, according to the definition currently in use. The result is the situation encountered for the 1000 ft. and 2000 ft. cases, where the \(m = 1, n = 0\) mode has the second lowest frequency. The algorithm becomes entrapped at a frequency separation of 29 Hz as two eigenvectors for the \(m = 1, n = 0\) mode switch back and forth, having \(w\)-components both approximately equal to 1.0. Since the \(m = 1, n = 0\) mode has two frequencies of vibration with almost the same mode shape it is not realistic to call either one the unique longitudinal frequency for that mode.

This effect was only recently encountered and must be given additional study. When successfully resolved, the result will be a capability for generating optimum solutions to design problems I, II and III. For the future, research should be directed toward incorporating more sophisticated structural models, with more design flexibility, in anticipation of obtaining even more efficient structural configurations from both the standpoint of minimum-weight and maximum frequency separation.
REFERENCES


APPENDIX I: DYNAMIC ANALYSIS

The forces on the cylindrical shell are as shown in Fig. 2. The forces are expressed in terms of displacements as:

\[ N_x = Hu' + ( Hv/R) v^* - ( Hv/R) w + (D/R) w'' \]

\[ N_\phi = Hv u' + [ (H+HC+HF)/R ] v^* - [ H+HC(1+e_\phi/R) + HF(1+e_f/R) ] w/R \]

\[- [D/R+HC(e_\phi+\rho_\phi^2/R) + HF(e_f+\rho_f^2/R)] \frac{1}{R^2} w'' \]

\[ N_x, \phi = (S/R) u^* + Sv + (K/R^2) w^* \]

\[ M_x = - (D/R) u' - (Dv/R^2) v^* - Dw'' - (Dv/R^2) w'' \]

\[ M_\phi = (H(\rho_\phi^2+\rho_f^2)/R) v^* - [D/R + HC(e_\phi+\rho_\phi^2/R) + HF(e_f+\rho_f^2/R)] w/R \]

\[ - D\nu w'' - [D + HC(\rho_\phi^2+\rho_f^3/R) + HF(\rho_\phi^2+\rho_f^3/R)] w'/R \]

\[ M_x, \phi = - (2K/R)(v'+w'*) \]

\[ M_{x, \phi} = (K/R^2) u^* - (K/R)v' - (2K+Q) w^*/R \]

\[ (\phi) = \frac{3(\phi)}{\partial x}, \quad (\phi)' = \frac{3(\phi)}{\partial x} \]

The matrices \([K],[K_\phi]\) and \([M]\) of equation (6) are:

\[
[K] = \begin{bmatrix}
k_{11} & k_{12} & k_{13} \\
k_{12} & k_{22} & k_{23} \\
k_{13} & k_{23} & k_{33}
\end{bmatrix}
\]

\[ k_{11} = - H\lambda^2 - (S/R^2) n^2 \]

\[ k_{12} = - (Hv+S) \lambda n/R \]

\[ k_{13} = - [Hv\lambda+D\lambda^3 - (K/R^2) \lambda n^2]/R \]

\[ k_{22} = - (S+2K/R^2) \lambda^2 - [H+HC(1-e_\phi/R) + HF(1-e_f/R)] n^2/R^2 \]
\[ k_{23} = -(3K+D\nu)\lambda^2 n/R^2 \]
\[ + [D/R^2-H+HC(\rho_\phi^2/R^2-1)+HF(\rho_x^2/R^2-1)]n/R^2 \]
\[ - [HC(\alpha^3/R^2-e_\phi)+HF(\alpha_x^3/R^2-e_x)]n^3/R^3 \]

\[ k_{33} = -(H+HC(1+e_\phi/R)+HF(1+e_f/R))/R^2 \]
\[ + 2[D/R+HC(e_\phi+\rho_\phi^2/R)+HF(e_x+\rho_x^2/R)]n^2/R^3 \]
\[ - D\lambda^4 - [2D\nu+4K+Q](\lambda n/R)^2 \]
\[ - [D+HC(\rho_\phi^2+\alpha^3/\phi/R)+HF(\rho_x^2+\alpha_x^3/R)](n/R)^4 \]

\[ [K_G] = \begin{bmatrix} k_{G11} & 0 & k_{G13} \\ 0 & k_{G22} & k_{G23} \\ k_{G13} & k_{G23} & k_{G33} \end{bmatrix} \]

\[ k_{G11} = -(n^2+\lambda^2/2)/R \quad k_{G23} = n/R \]

\[ k_{G13} = -\lambda \quad k_{G33} = -(n^2+\lambda^2/2)/R \]

\[ k_{G22} = -(n^2+\lambda^2/2)/R \]

\[ M = \begin{bmatrix} m_{11} & 0 & m_{13} \\ 0 & m_{22} & m_{23} \\ m_{13} & m_{23} & m_{33} \end{bmatrix} \]

\[ m_{11} = t_s + A(1-e_\phi/R) + B(1-e_f/R) \]

\[ m_{13} = [t_s^3/(12R) + A(-e_\phi+\rho_\phi^2/R) + B(-e_x+\rho_x^2/R)]\lambda \]

\[ m_{22} = t_s(1 + \frac{t_s^2}{4R^2}) + A(1-3e_\phi/R+3\rho_\phi^2/R^2-\alpha^3_\phi/R^3) \]
\[ + B(1-3e_x/R+3\rho_x^2/R^2-\alpha_x^3/R^3) \]
\[ m_{23} = \frac{t_s^3}{(6R^2)} + A(-e_\phi/R + 2\rho_\phi^2/R^2 - \alpha_\phi^3/R^3) \]
\[ + B\left(\frac{e_\phi}{R+2\rho_\phi^2/R^2 - \alpha_\phi^3/R^3}\right) \]
\[ m_{33} = t_s + (\lambda^2 + n^2/R^2) t_s^3/12 + A[1-e_\phi/R + (\lambda^2 + n^2/R^2)(\rho_\phi^2 - \alpha_\phi^3/R)] \]
\[ + B[1-e_\phi/R+(\lambda^2 + n^2/R^2)(\rho_\phi^2 - \alpha_\phi^3/R)] \]

The section properties are defined as follows:

- \( H = E t_s / (1-\nu^2) \)
- \( D = E t_s^3 / [12(1-\nu^2)] \)
- \( A = t_f d_f / \ell_x \)
- \( B = t_f d_f / \ell_x \)
- \( HC = EA \)
- \( HF = EB \)
- \( G = E/[2(1+\nu)] \)
- \( t_t = t_s + 2d_\phi \)
- \( S = G t_s \)
- \( K = G t_s^3 / 12 \)
- \( Q = G(J_\phi + J_f) \ell_x \)
- \( J_\phi = c_\phi d_\phi t_\phi^3 \)
- \( c_\phi = -0.285 e \left(0.49 \frac{d_\phi}{t_\phi}\right) + 0.316 \)
- \( J_f = c_f d_f t_f^3 \)
- \( c_f = -0.285 e \left(0.49 \frac{d_f}{t_f}\right) + 0.316 \)
- \( e_\phi = \frac{1}{2}(d_\phi + t_s) \)
- \( e_f = \frac{1}{2}(d_f + t_s) \)
- \( \rho_\phi^2 = \frac{1}{3}d_\phi^2 + \frac{1}{2}t_\phi d_\phi + \frac{1}{4}t_\phi^2 \)
- \( \rho_f^2 = \frac{1}{3}d_f^2 + \frac{1}{2}t_f d_f + \frac{1}{4}t_f^2 \)
- \( \alpha_\phi^3 = \frac{1}{4}d_\phi^3 + \frac{1}{2}t_\phi d_\phi^2 + \frac{3}{8}t_\phi^2 d_\phi + \frac{1}{8}t_\phi^3 \)
- \( \alpha_f^3 = \frac{1}{4}d_f^3 + \frac{1}{2}t_f d_f^2 + \frac{3}{8}t_f^2 d_f + \frac{1}{8}t_f^3 \)
APPENDIX II: STATIC STRENGTH ANALYSIS

The critical compressive stresses in the skin are assumed to occur on the outer surface at mid panel. The stresses there are

$$\sigma_\phi = - \frac{PR}{t_s} \left[ 1 + \Gamma (H_n + \nu H_E) \right]$$

$$\sigma_x = - \frac{PR}{t_s} \left[ \frac{1}{2} + \Gamma H_E \right]$$

where the various parameters are given as:

- $-\frac{PR}{t_s}$ = hoop stress
- $R$ = radius to mid plane of shell
- $\Gamma = \frac{[1-\nu/2-B]}{(1+\beta)}$
- $B$ = ratio of shell area under frame web to total frame area = $t_s t_{t\phi}/A$
- $A = t_s t_{t\phi} + t_{t\phi} t_{ff} + t_{t\phi} t_{ff}$
- $\beta = 2N\left[1/[3(1-\nu^2)]\right]^{1/4}\left(\frac{R t_s}{3}\right)^{1/2}/A$
- $N = (\cosh\theta-\cos\theta)/(\sinh\theta+\sin\theta)$
- $\theta = \lambda[3(1-\nu^2)/(R t_s)^2]^{1/4}$
- $\lambda$ = unsupported length of shell = $l_x - t_{t\phi}$
- $H_n = - 2[\sinh(\theta/2)\cos(\theta/2) + \cosh(\theta/2)\sin(\theta/2)]/(\sinh\theta+\sin\theta)$
- $H_E = - 2[3(1-\nu^2)]^{1/2}[\sinh(\theta/2)\cos(\theta/2) - \cosh(\theta/2)\sin(\theta/2)]/(\sinh\theta+\sin\theta)$

The hoop compressive stress in the frame is

$$\sigma_c = \frac{PV}{A}$$

where $V$ is a load factor given as:

$$V = t_{t\phi} [1+(1-\nu/2)\beta/B]/(1+\beta)$$
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