INVESTIGATION OF LIMIT CYCLE RESPONSE OF AERODYNAMIC SURFACES WITH STRUCTURAL NONLINEARITIES
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OF AERODYNAMIC SURFACES WITH
STRUCTURAL NONLINEARITIES

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Investigation of Limit Cycle Response of Aerodynamic Surfaces with Structural Nonlinearities

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Aerodynamic surface design must often account for the presence of structural nonlinearities induced by freeplay in the support structure and/or control actuators. During this study, application of asymptotic expansion methods to predict the limit cycle behavior of aerodynamic surfaces with structural nonlinearities was investigated. Two basic types of nonlinearities, freeplay and preload, were introduced at the aero surface support structure and the resulting limit cycle behavior analyzed. The (see reverse side)
The asymptotic expansion method was used to derive a relationship between the parameters characterizing the structural nonlinearity and the amplitude and frequency of the limit cycle response. First and second order perturbation solutions were obtained to model the "effective" or linearized system parameters governing the nonlinear response of the undamped system.

The results of this investigation show that the asymptotic solutions accurately predict the stationary limit cycle behavior when compared with numerical simulation and describing-function analyses for the nonlinearities considered. The influence of higher harmonics on the predicted limit cycle response were also observed when higher order perturbation solutions were obtained.

The aeroelastic response of a baseline aerodynamic surface was investigated using the asymptotic expansion approach. Flutter results were obtained for the effective system for both rigid and flexible representations of the surface. Steady state aerodynamic loading was assumed in computation of the flutter results. These results were then utilized, in conjunction with the asymptotic solutions, to investigate the interrelationship between the magnitude of the nonlinearity, flight condition and the limit cycle response. Examples and results of the application of the developed solutions are presented.

This study demonstrates the applicability of the asymptotic expansion method in accounting for the influence of structural nonlinearities in the limit cycle analysis of aerodynamic surfaces. Understanding the effects of structural nonlinearities on the dynamic response of systems is important when considerations of stability, response and fatigue life influence the design of the surface support structure and/or actuators.
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Defining the flutter and divergence characteristics of aerodynamic surfaces is a basic requirement to assure structural and performance integrity of a given design in its operational environment. For systems which have structural nonlinearities another mode of aeroelastic response, limit cycle oscillation, may be present. A comparison between limit cycle response and classical flutter and divergence is illustrated in Figure 1. The limit cycle response, Figure 1(c), is defined as a constant amplitude steady state oscillation whereas the divergence, Figure 1(a), and flutter, Figure 1(b), are unstable motions with increasing amplitude. The importance of the limit cycle response is the potential of these oscillations to occur within the flutter and divergence flight envelope. Frequently real hardware designs do have nonlinearities in the surface support structure and/or actuators as a result of manufacturing tolerances and/or freeplay. When these nonlinearities exist, the classical assumption of a linear force-displacement relationship is no longer justified and an understanding of the nonlinear effect on the dynamic behavior is required to evaluate the system response. In this study effort analysis procedures were developed to characterize the limit cycle response of aerosurfaces with discrete structural nonlinearities.

The effects of structural nonlinearities on aerodynamic surface response has been studied both analytically and experimentally, Reference 1 through 5. In these studies several nonlinearities that are typically encountered in aerodynamic surface designs were considered. In the analytical studies of References 1 through 4 the method of harmonic balance or describing-function approach was used to characterize the nonlinear behavior of an aerodynamic surface with root freeplay nonlinearities of the type shown in Figure 2. These nonlinearities are representative of a deadband or "slop" in the root support structure with and without a linear preload. The resulting behavior is such that the stiffness and force developed in the adjacent members is a nonlinear function of amplitude. The describing-function approach uses a one term Fourier Series expansion of the force to account for the effect of this nonlinear stiffness on aerosurface response. This method gave satisfactory
Failure modes:

(a) Divergence

(b) Flutter

(c) Limit Cycle Oscillation

FIGURE 1 MODES OF AEROSURFACE AEROELASTIC RESPONSE
FIGURE 2 TYPES OF STRUCTURAL NONLINEARITIES
results when the amplitude of motion was greater than the magnitude of the
freeplay, Figure 2(a), or freeplay plus preload, Figure 2(b). However, it was
pointed out References 1 and 2, that when the amplitude of motion is approxi-
mately equal to the magnitude of the nonlinearity, significant error can occur
as a result of neglecting the higher harmonics in the series expansion of the
force-displacement relationship. The truncation of the higher harmonics is an
inherent drawback of the one-term describing function approach.

An experimental study of the limit cycle response of aerodynamic surfaces
with structural nonlinearities is discussed in Reference 5. During this study
a model was developed with root structural behavior which gave a variety of
nonlinear stiffness characteristics to the aerosurface. Wind tunnel tests
were conducted and data obtained to verify the model's response character-
istics. It was noted by the authors of Reference 5 that there exists a need
for improved analytical tools to accurately describe the nonlinear behavior in
order to better correlate experimental and analytical results.

The objective of the present analytical study was to develop a technique
to predict limit cycle response of aerosurfaces with discrete structural non-
linearities that retains the flexibility and well defined procedures of the
describing-function approach (References 1 and 2) yet provides greater ac-
curacy and generality in modeling the nonlinear system behavior. To meet this
objective an asymptotic expansion method was used to model the nonlinear
force-displacement relationship that results when nonlinearities of the type
shown in Figure 2 are introduced at the aerosurface support. The primary
difference between the asymptotic method and the describing-function method is
the capability of the asymptotic method to include higher harmonics in the
representation of the nonlinearity and obtain successively higher order ap-
proximations to the limit cycle response. Using the asymptotic expansion
technique a broader category of discrete nonlinearities than those shown in
Figure 2 can be modeled.

Specifically, the problem investigated during the present study was the
limit cycle response of an aerodynamic surface in a subsonic airstream, Fig-
ure 3. The nonlinearities shown in Figure 2 were assumed to act at the root
support springs $K_\theta$ and $K_\phi$ shown in Figure 3. This problem is represent
FIGURE 3 AERODYNAMIC SURFACE CONFIGURATION
of a missile control surface with a loose hinge and/or joint slippage in the surface support structure and/or actuator. The aerodynamic forces acting on the surface were modeled using a steady state aerodynamic theory. This theory assumes the lifting force is proportional to and in phase with the torsional motion of the surface which is assumed to be sinusoidal. Simple aerodynamics were used so that the influence of the nonlinearities on the surface response could be evaluated by a much more tractable computational effort. The effects of using a more sophisticated aerodynamic theory for the describing-function approach were investigated and documented in Reference 2. There it was shown that a more sophisticated aerodynamic theory can substantially change the flutter results employed to predict aeroelastic response, but has no impact on modeling the nonlinear behavior. The authors believe that the conclusions presented in Reference 2 are applicable to the present analysis effort as the linear aerodynamic theory does not impact the representations of the structural nonlinearities considered in this study.

This study was organized into two separate tasks. The first task, discussed in Section 2.0, involved development of the asymptotic approximations for the limit cycle response for each of the two nonlinearities shown in Figure 2. First and second order asymptotic solutions were formulated and compared with the results obtained using the describing-function method of References 1 and 2. The equations for including the higher order harmonics in the time history response calculations were also derived under this task. The second task, discussed in Section 3, involved application of the developed asymptotic solutions to predict the limit cycle response of the baseline aerodynamic surface chosen for this study. This baseline surface design is based on the Harpoon missile control surface and is shown in Appendix A. In Appendix A, representative flutter results for selected root spring configurations are presented. These results are used in the applications discussed in Section 3. Appendix B contains the detailed derivation of the asymptotic solutions. While key equations are presented in the text of Section 2, intermediate steps in the derivations are detailed in Appendix B.
2.0 DEVELOPMENT OF ASYMPTOTIC SOLUTION

Application of the method of asymptotic expansions to model nonlinear behavior of an aerodynamic surface response forms the basis of the procedures developed in this investigation. The asymptotic expansion method used is the Krylov-Bogoliubov-Mitropolski (KBM) technique. This technique is a perturbation method based on a more general approach known as the method of averaging, and is discussed in detail in References 6 and 7. In the method of averaging, the motion is assumed to vary slowly with time and the amplitude and phasing are determined as time dependent functions of the system nonlinearities. The advantage of the method of averaging, and in particular the KBM technique, is the stability of the solutions over sufficiently long intervals of time. This type of solution is necessary for quantitative as well as qualitative analysis of the limit cycle behavior of a nonlinear system. Another advantage of the asymptotic expansion technique is that it provides a more accurate determination of the nonlinear load-displacement relationship than the one-term describing-function approach of References 1 and 2, yet can be used in much the same manner. In both the asymptotic and describing-function techniques, the derived expressions for the load-displacement relationship are used to define an "effective" stiffness for the nonlinear element. This effective stiffness is used in subsequent aeroelastic analyses.

The procedures for investigating the limit cycle response developed in this study require defining the flutter characteristics of the aerodynamic surface. In this study, flutter analysis of both rigid and flexible configurations were analyzed. The flutter analysis is performed using the linearized form of the equations of motion, as was done in the describing-function and other methods, References 1 through 4. This approach assumes that an effective stiffness adequately describes the elastic behavior for the infinitesimal oscillations at flutter onset. The details of the flutter analysis for the baseline surface analyzed in this study are presented in Appendix A.

During this study, the nonlinear aeroelastic system was represented by the second order differential equation

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + \omega_0^2 x = \varepsilon f(x) + Q(x)$$

(1)
In Equation (1), \( f(X) \) represents the nonlinear force acting on the elastic system, \( X \) is the surface root displacement, \( \omega_0 \) is the natural frequency of the linear system \((\varepsilon=0)\) and \( Q(x) \) is the aerodynamic forcing function. The \( f(X) \) term appears in Equation (1) as a result of the nonlinear load-displacement relationship for the root support springs of the surface. It is the nonlinear force term that is used to determine the form of the asymptotic expansions derived to approximate the limit cycle response of the nonlinear system.

In the asymptotic method a perturbation technique is used to expand the contribution of the nonlinearity in terms of a small parameter or gage function, \( \varepsilon \). This expansion takes the form of an asymptotic series comprised of integer powers of \( \varepsilon \). For the system represented by Equation (1) the form of the asymptotic solution defined by the KBM technique is given by

\[
x = A \cos \psi + \sum_{n=1}^{N} \varepsilon^n U_n (A, \psi) + O(\varepsilon^{N+1})
\]

For the freeplay nonlinearity this equation was used directly. For the preload nonlinearity it was modified as will be discussed in Section 2.2. The displacement, \( X \), as defined in Equation (2) consists of a linearly independent combination of periodic functions, the first term being the fundamental harmonic. The remaining terms expanded in powers of \( \varepsilon \) represent the asymptotic approximation of the nonlinear contribution to the response. The functions \( U_n \) are periodic functions comprised of higher harmonics of the phasing parameter \( \psi \) and the surface root amplitude \( A \). \( N \) indicates the order of the asymptotic approximation and the symbol \( O(\varepsilon^{N+1}) \) represents term of order greater than \( N \). \( A \) and \( \psi \) are, in general, functions of time defined by the ordinary differential equations

\[
\frac{dA}{dt} = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \varepsilon^n \alpha_n + O(\varepsilon^{N+1})
\]

\[
\frac{d\psi}{dt} = \omega_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{N} \varepsilon^n \beta_n + O(\varepsilon^{N+1})
\]

The right hand side of Equations (3) and (4) are series expansions of \( \varepsilon \), the gage function, and parameters \( \alpha_n \) and \( \beta_n \). These \( \alpha_n \) and \( \beta_n \) terms are determined by integrating the nonlinear force term \( f(X) \) that appears in Equation (1) over the total period of the oscillation which is defined to be \( 2\pi \). The amplitude
and phasing are thereby time dependent functions of the nonlinear load-displacement relationship defined by Equations (3) and (4).

In the asymptotic method, as in most perturbation methods, the linear system results are approached as \( \varepsilon \) approaches zero. In this case, the amplitude, \( A \), becomes constant and the phasing, \( \psi \), becomes a linear function of time with a constant frequency, Equations (3) and (4). The displacement in Equation (2) then takes the form of simple harmonic motion of linear elastic systems. The basis of the asymptotic solution approach is to determine the solutions of equations (2) through (4) for successively higher orders of \( \varepsilon \). The procedure for determining the asymptotic solutions depend on deriving appropriate functional forms of \( U_n, \alpha_n, \) and \( \beta_n \). This is accomplished by expressing the load developed in the nonlinear root springs by

\[
F(x) = K(x)X
\]

(5)

\( K(X) \) is the nonlinear stiffness associated with the root support spring and \( X \) is the root displacement defined by Equation (2). To determine the \( U_n, \alpha_n, \) and \( \beta_n \) coefficients only the first term of Equation (5) is retained and this term is expanded in the Fourier Series. The functions \( \alpha_n, \beta_n, \) and \( U_n \) are expressed in terms of the coefficients of this Fourier Series and therefore are integrals of the nonlinear force term evaluated over a period of \( 2\pi \). In this manner, the equations defining the asymptotic solutions of Equations (2) through (4) are completely defined. During this study the asymptotic solutions were obtained for first and second order approximations, i.e., terms in Equations (3) and (4) up to \( \varepsilon^2 \). The details of the Fourier Series expansions and the determination of the asymptotic solutions are given in Appendix B. The results of the asymptotic expansion for the two types of nonlinearitys considered in this study are summarized below.

2.1 Freeplay Nonlinearity

The freeplay nonlinearity is illustrated in Figure 2(a). The asymptotic solution for the freeplay nonlinearity is derived directly from the equations
developed in the preceding section. The waveform of the developed load will take one of the two shapes shown in Figure 4, depending on the relationship between the magnitudes of the freeplay, $S$, and the amplitude, $A$, of displacement. For $A$ less than $S$ no load is developed, Figure 4(a). When $A$ is greater than $S$ the load is as shown in Figure 4(b). The nonlinear load is then determined by specifying the freeplay $S$ and the amplitude $A$. The approach used throughout this study is based on derivation of the "effective" stiffness $\bar{K}$ of the nonlinear spring. This effective stiffness is used in Equation (5) to determine the corresponding load. With the effective load substituted in Equation (1), the equivalent linearized system is analyzed by conventional methods. It is the determination of this effective stiffness term that utilizes the asymptotic expansion techniques.

The "effective" stiffness $\bar{K}$ of the nonlinear spring including the influence of freeplay is defined in the asymptotic method as:

$$\bar{K} = K \left( 1 + \varepsilon B_1 + \varepsilon^2 B_2 + \ldots + \varepsilon^N B_N \right)$$

In this expression, the $B_n$ terms are directly related to the $\beta_n$ coefficients of the expansion of Equation (4). The relationship between the $\beta_n$ and $B_n$ terms is derived in Appendix B. Therefore, rather than actually solving Equation (4), once the $\beta_n$ coefficients are determined and therefore the $B_n$'s, the "effective" stiffness is computed from Equation (6) directly. For the free-play nonlinearity all $\alpha_n$ coefficients are zero due to the symmetry of the freeplay nonlinearity and the single valued odd form of the nonlinear load. This implies, from Equation (3), that the amplitude of the limit cycle oscillation is constant.

The expression for the first order approximation of the effective stiffness, hereafter referred to as the first order solution, contains only the $B_1$ term in Equation (6). The form of this term (from Appendix B) is given as

$$\varepsilon B_1 = 0 \quad (A<S)$$

$$\varepsilon B_1 = \frac{-1}{\pi} \left( 1 - 2 t_1 + \cos t_1 \sin 2 t_1 \right)$$

$$t_1 = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{S}{A} \right)$$
FIGURE 4 DEVELOPED LOAD FOR FREEPLAY NONLINEARITY
Using Equations (6), (7) and (8) the relationship between the effective stiffness and the linear spring rate for a freeplay nonlinearity may be obtained to the first order.

The form of $B_1$ developed from the asymptotic expansion technique is identical to that developed using the describing-function, References 1 and 2. Since the describing function results, and hence the first order solutions are discussed in detail in References 1 through 4, they will only be summarized here for comparison and the remaining discussion focused on the higher order solutions.

The second order solution is obtained by adding the effect of second order terms to the first order solution. In order to determine the second order approximation of the effective stiffness, it is necessary to derive the expression for the $B_2$ coefficient that appears in Equation (6). Using the procedures for the asymptotic method, the second order correction term for a single degree of freedom with a freeplay nonlinearity is of the form (from Appendix B)

$$e^2 B_2 = 0 \quad (A<S)$$

$$e^2 B_2 = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{n=3,5}^{\infty} \frac{\tau_n}{n^{-1}} \left[ \tau_n - \frac{2}{n} \cos t_1 \sin nt_1 \right]$$

where

$$\tau_n = \left[ \frac{\sin (n-1)t_1}{2 (n-1)} + \frac{\sin (n+1)t_1}{2 (n+1)} \right]$$
and $t_j$ is defined in Equation (8). The second order correction terms of 
Equation (9) contains the coefficients of the fundamental harmonic in the 
Fourier Series expansion of the load and coefficients of all higher order 
harmonics. Therefore the second order solutions are not restricted, as is the 
describing-function approach of References 1 through 4, to a one-term, first 
harmonic approximation. Substituting Equations (7) through (10) into Equa-
tion (6), the relationship between the effective stiffness and the linear 
spring rate for a freeplay nonlinearity may be obtained for the second order 
approximation. This relationship is shown in Figure 5 as a function of the 
amplitude of motion to freeplay ratio, $(A/S)$. For amplitude ratios $(A/S)$ less 
than 1, the effective stiffness is zero. As the amplitude increases, the 
magnitude of $K$ approaches that of linear stiffness $K$. This corresponds physi-
cally to the nonlinearity becoming less and less significant as the $(A/S)$ 
ratio increases and $\epsilon$ approaching zero in Equations (3) and (4).

As shown in Figure 5, there is little difference in the results of the 
first and second order solutions where the nonlinearity is most significant, 
low $(A/S)$ values, and the solutions converge very rapidly as $(A/S)$ increases. 
The implication here is that the stiffness behavior of system with a freeplay 
nonlinearity is dominated almost completely by the fundamental harmonic and 
the second order corrections have little impact on the response. For a single 
degree of freedom system, the effective stiffness value can be expressed in 
terms of an effective frequency of the nonlinear system. For the stiffness 
ratios shown in Figure 5, the corresponding first and second order solutions 
expressed in terms of frequency are shown in Figure 6. In this figure the 
asymptotic solutions are compared with numerical simulation results obtained 
for a single degree of freedom system in Reference 1. As the figure indicates, 
the asymptotic solutions predict frequency ratios very close to those given by 
the numerical simulation.

2.2 Preload Nonlinearity

For the preload nonlinearity shown in Figure 2(b), the asymptotic func-
tions or displacements, defined by Equation 2, were modified to account for the 
non-symmetry of the load displacement relationship. This displacement func-
FIGURE 5 EFFECTIVE STIFFNESS RATIO FOR A FREEPLAY NONLINEARITY
FIGURE 6 COMPARISON OF ASYMPTOTIC AND NUMERICAL SIMULATION RESULTS FOR A FREEPLAY NONLINEARITY
tion was assumed to be of a similar form to that used in Reference 1 and is

\[ x = A_0 + A_1 \cos \psi + \sum_{n=1}^{N} \varepsilon^n U_n (A, \psi) + O (\varepsilon^{N+1}) \]  

(11)

The coefficients \( A_0 \) and \( A_1 \) were defined such that the energy stored in the nonlinear spring is the same for both positive and negative displacements. In addition, it was required that Equation (11) result in a positive amplitude equal to the initial displacement. Thus, the amplitude coefficients that appear in Equation (11) are obtained from

\[ A_1 = A \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{2 PA - P^2} \quad (P < A < P + 2S) \]  

(12)

\[ A_1 = A \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{(A - 2S)^2 + 4PS} \quad (A > P + 2S) \]  

(13)

In both cases, the coefficient \( A_0 \) is obtained from the relationship

\[ A = A_1 + A_0 \]  

(14)

It has been assumed that the influence of a preload nonlinearity is related to positive displacements of the system. When amplitude of motion, \( A \), is less than the preload \( P \), \( A_1 \) equals \( A \) and \( A_0 \) is zero. For this situation, the nonlinear problem is reduced to a linear problem.

The waveform of the developed load in the nonlinear spring will take the shapes shown in Figure 7. As before, these waveforms are dependent on the relationship between the magnitudes of the freeplay, preload and amplitude of motion. Proceeding as was done for the freeplay case, the coefficients of Equation (6) were defined using the load displacement relationship illustrated in Figure 7. The first order approximation to the "effective" stiffness is of the form

\[ \varepsilon B_1 = 1.0 \quad (A < P) \]  

(15)

\[ \varepsilon B_1 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \pi - t_1 + \frac{2}{A_1} (P - A_0) \sin t_1 - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2 t_1 \right] \]  

(16)

\( (P < A < P + 2S) \)

For amplitude of motion \( A > P + 2S \) we have,

\[ \varepsilon B_1 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \pi + t_1 - \frac{2}{A_1} (P + 2S - A_0) \sin t_1 + \frac{2}{A_1} (P - A_0) \sin t_2 + \frac{1}{2} (\sin 2 t_1 - \sin 2 t_2) \right] \]  

(17)
FIGURE 7 DEVELOPED LOAD FOR PRELOAD NONLINEARITY

(a) LOAD ($A>P+2S$)

\[ L(t) = PK \]

\[ L(t) = K(A_0 + A_1 \cos t) \]

(b) LOAD ($A>P+2S$)

\[ L(t) = PK \]

\[ L(t) = K(A_0 + A_1 \cos t - 2S) \]
where
\[ t_1 = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{P-A_0}{A_1} \right) \]  
(18)
\[ t_2 = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{P+2S-A_0}{A_1} \right) \]  
(19)

As was determined for the freeplay case the first order asymptotic solution and the describing-function solution of References 1 and 2 are equivalent. Proceeding to the second order approximation the \( B_2 \) coefficient of Equation (6) is of the form (from Appendix B)

\[ \varepsilon^2 B_2 = \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{\hat{G}_n}{n^2-1} \left[ \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin nt_1 - \hat{G}_n \right] \]  
(20)

\( \hat{G}_n \) is defined by Equation (10), \( t_1 \) by Equation (16) and \( B_1 \) is given by Equation (15). For the amplitudes \( A \geq P+2S \)

\[ \varepsilon^2 B_2 = \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{\sigma_n}{n^2-1} \left[ \frac{1}{n\pi} \left( \frac{A_0-P}{A_1} \right) \left( \sin nt_1 - \sin nt_2 \right) \right] \]  
(21)

\[ - \left( 2 \cos t_1 \sin nt_1 + \sigma_n \right) \]

\( B_1 \) and \( t_2 \) are defined by Equations (17) and (19) and

\[ \sigma_n = \left[ \frac{\sin (n-1)t_2 - \sin (n-1)t_1}{2 (n-1)} + \frac{\sin (n+1)t_2 - \sin (n+1)t_1}{2 (n+1)} \right] \]  
(22)

The first and second order solutions for the stiffness ratio is plotted in Figure 8 as a function of the amplitude of motion to freeplay ratio for a freeplay to preload ratio \( (S/P) \) of one. For amplitudes of motion less than the preload \( P \) the frequency ratio is one and the response is linear. As the amplitudes of motion increases, the stiffness, and in turn, the frequency decreases. This softening response is due to the deadspace in the spring causing the effective stiffness to be less than the linear value. As the amplitude increases well beyond the nonlinear region, the influence of the nonlinearity becomes small and the magnitude of frequency coefficient approaches one.
**FIGURE 8** EFFECTIVE STIFFNESS RATIO FOR A PRELOAD NONLINEARITY
While both first and second order solutions shown in Figure 8 exhibit the same trends, the second order solution predicts a significantly greater reduction in stiffness for amplitudes of motion near $P+2S$ where the nonlinearity is most significant. At higher values of the amplitude, the first and second order solutions converge and asymptotically approach the linear solution. The difference in the two solutions near the nonlinear region is directly a result of including higher harmonics in the second order approximation. These harmonics are seen to influence the response most when the amplitudes of motion fall within the deadband region of the load displacement curve, Figure 7.

A comparison between the asymptotic solutions and numerical solutions are shown in Figure 9. The numerical solutions, Reference 1, were obtained by directly integrating the single degree of freedom equations of motion. Figure 9 shows that the first order approximation (describing-function) is unconservative in predicting the effective frequency behavior when compared to the numerical results for amplitudes near the preload-plus-freeplay region, ($A/S=3$). On the other hand, the second order solution tends to be conservative in predicting the effective stiffness. At amplitudes of motion near or greater than twice the preload-plus-freeplay values, there is little difference between the numerical and first or second order solutions. Based on these comparisons, it is apparent that the higher harmonics contribute significantly to the response at amplitudes of motion near the nonlinear region of the load-displacement relationship for the preload nonlinearity.

2.3 Time History Results

In addition to the computation of the effective stiffness of the nonlinear system, the asymptotic method provides a means of obtaining higher order approximations to the response time history. The time dependent motion of the nonlinear system as defined in the asymptotic method is given by Equation (2). In this expression, the functions $U_n$ contain the contributions of higher harmonics in the response and exclude any contribution of the fundamental harmonic. Application of the asymptotic method consists of determining the appropriate expression for $U_n$ based on the order of the asymptotic approximation and the number of harmonics desired. The general form for the expression for each type of nonlinearity considered in this study is given below.
FIGURE 9 COMPARISON OF ASYMPTOTIC AND NUMERICAL SIMULATION RESULTS FOR A PRELOAD NONLINEARITY
2.3.1 Freeplay Nonlinearity

For the freeplay nonlinearity the form of the \( U \) function is determined using the coefficients of the Fourier Series expansion of the load displacement relationship. From the results of Appendix B to the second order

\[
U_1 = -\frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{n=3,5}^\infty \left[ \Gamma_n - \frac{2}{n} \cos t_1 \sin nt_1 \right] \cos \bar{\omega} t
\]  
\[(23)\]

\( N \) is odd, \( \Gamma_n \) is defined in Equation (10) and \( \bar{\omega} \) is the effective frequency.

The time history results for the freeplay nonlinearity are shown in Figures 10 and 11. In Figure 10, the time history response, defined by Equation (2), is plotted for an A/S ratio of 3 and an initial amplitude of 0.20. The limit cycle motion shown in Figure 10 exhibits a very regular periodic motion with an almost constant amplitude and frequency corresponding to effective stiffness value determined by the relationship defined in Paragraph 2.1. The period of the time history indicates that the response is controlled almost entirely by the fundamental harmonic, the first term of Equation (2). The time history of the second term of Equation (2), corresponding to the contribution of higher harmonics, is shown in Figure 11. Terms up to the eleventh harmonic were included in Equation (23) in the determination of \( U \). Note that although the frequency of \( U \) is higher, the amplitude is significantly lower than that of fundamental harmonic. These results are consistent with the comparisons between the first and second order solutions discussed in Paragraph 2.1. The results show the first order solution utilizing a one term Fourier Series expansion of the load is sufficient for the freeplay nonlinearity and the higher harmonics of the second order solutions have little impact on the system response.

2.3.2 Preload Nonlinearity

For the preload nonlinearity the form of the \( U \) function is determined in the same manner as was done for the freeplay case. From the results of Appendix B the second order solutions for amplitudes of motion in the range \( P \leq A \leq P + 2S \) is defined as

\[
U_1 = -\frac{1}{\tau} \left[ 2 \left( \frac{P}{A_t} \right) t_1 + (2\pi - t_1) \frac{A_0}{A_t} - 2 \sin t_1 \right] \\
-\frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{n=2}^\infty \cos \bar{\omega} t \left[ \frac{1}{n\pi} \left( (P-A_0) \sin nt_1 - \Gamma_n \right) \right] 
\]  
\[(24)\]

22
FIGURE 10 LIMIT CYCLE TIME HISTORY: FUNDAMENTAL PLUS HIGHER HARMONICS - FREEPLAY NONLINEARITY
FIGURE 11 TIME HISTORY: HIGHER HARMONIC - FREEPLAY NONLINEARITY
\( \Gamma_n \) and \( t_1 \) are given in Equations (10) and (16). For amplitudes of motion \( A \geq P + 2S \)

\[
U_1 = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{A_0}{A_1} (t_1 + \pi - t_2) + (\sin t_1 - \sin t_2) + \frac{P}{A_1} (t_2 - t_1) \right. \\
- 2 \left( \frac{S}{A_1} \right) t_1 - \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{\cos n\omega t}{n^2 - 1} \left. \left( \frac{A_0 - P}{A_1} \right) (\sin nt_1 \\
- \sin nt_2) \right] - 2 \cos t_1 \sin nt_1 + \sigma_n
\]

(25)

t_1, t_2 and \( \sigma_n \) are defined by Equations (18), (19) and (22).

The time history results for the preload cases are shown in Figures 12 and 13. In Figure 12 the displacement time history for a preload nonlinearity with an initial amplitude of 0.20 is shown. In this figure the two distinguishing features of the preload time history is the offset of the response from zero and the presence of higher harmonics in the response. The offset is due to the presence of the preload and the unsymmetric nature of the nonlinear load-displacement relationship. The higher harmonics in the amplitude are due to the contribution of terms appearing in \( U \). The time history plot of the higher harmonics in the \( U \) coefficient is shown in Figure 13. In Figure 13 the offset in the response is also present. Also note that comparing the magnitude of the time histories in Figures 12 and 13 shows that the \( U \) terms are greater than forty percent of the total amplitude. This indicates that a significant amount of the strain energy developed in the root support springs cycles with a frequency greater than the frequency of the fundamental harmonic. Based on these observations, the influence of higher harmonics is seen to be significant in the prediction of both the effective frequency and limit cycle response of the system response for a preload nonlinearity.
FIGURE 12 LIMIT CYCLE TIME HISTORY: FUNDAMENTAL PLUS HIGHER HARMONICS - PRELOAD NONLINEARITY
FIGURE 13 TIME HISTORY: HIGHER HARMONIC - PRELOAD NONLINEARITY
3.0 DETERMINATION OF AERODYNAMIC SURFACE LIMIT CYCLE RESPONSE

In this section the equations and techniques developed in Section 2.0 for the freeplay and preload nonlinearities are applied to predict the limit cycle response of the baseline aerodynamic surface. The frequency and dynamic pressure at which the limit cycle oscillations are sustained were determined as a function of the amplitude of motion and magnitude of the nonlinearity. The aeroelastic data used was based on linear flutter results obtained for the effective system where the nonlinear terms in the equations of motion were replaced by the corresponding effective stiffness calculated by the asymptotic methods. The flutter results for both a rigid and flexible representation of the baseline aerodynamic surface were determined using standard eigenanalysis procedures and are presented in Appendix A.

The geometry and physical characteristics of the baseline control surface are also presented in Appendix A. The results of this section and Appendix A are for a specific aerodynamic surface using a simplified aerodynamic theory. However, the application of the developed procedure is not restricted to these conditions. The procedures are applicable to a variety of surface geometries, aerodynamic theories or flutter analysis techniques.

Application of the asymptotic expansion results to predict the limit cycle response of the baseline aerodynamic surface follows the same procedure as developed in References 1 and 2. The effective uncoupled frequency was calculated from the asymptotic solutions for each nonlinearity and corresponding degree of freedom. The dynamic pressure defined by Equation 26, at which the limit cycle oscillation is sustained, was then determined from the data in Appendix A.

\[ q = \frac{1}{2} \rho U^2 \]  \hspace{1cm} (26)

The results for the freeplay and preload nonlinearities considered in this study follow.
3.1 FREEPLAY NONLINEARITY

The procedure followed to determine the limit cycle response of the aero-
dynamic surface with root freeplay structural nonlinearities is shown in Fig-
ure 14. This figure shows the step-by-step procedure for introducing the
nonlinear effects in either or both root pitch and root roll degrees of free-
dom.

Results for the rigid baseline control surface with a freeplay nonlinear-
earity in the root pitch degree of freedom are shown in Figure 15. These
results are for a freeplay nonlinearity in the root pitch degree of freedom,
$S_\theta$ of 0.2 degrees and an uncoupled root pitch frequency of 215Hz. The data
indicates the variation in the effective dynamic pressure at which limit cycle
oscillations will be sustained as a function of the amplitude-to-freeplay
ratios in the root pitch degree of freedom. This figure shows the influence
of the freeplay nonlinearity is most pronounced for amplitudes of motion near
the freeplay value. For successively larger amplitudes of motion, the effec-
tive stiffness approaches the uncoupled stiffness value and the critical dy-
namic pressure approaches that of the linear system.

The results obtained using the first and second order asymptotic solu-
tions to predict the limit cycle behavior are compared in Figure 15. They
indicate, as was found in Section 2.0, that the first and second order solu-
tions differ only slightly for the freeplay case. Again, this behavior is
attributed to the dominance of the fundamental harmonic in the response.

Results for freeplay nonlinearities in root roll and for two freeplay
nonlinearities were found to differ only slightly from those of References 1 and 2.
The results for these cases are not repeated here and the reader is referred
to References 1 and 2 for more details on the influence of freeplay
nonlinearities on the limit cycle behavior.
FIGURE 14 COMPUTATIONAL PROCEDURE FOR A FREEPLAY NONLINEARITY
FIGURE 15 DYNAMIC PRESSURE TO SUSTAIN LIMIT CYCLE OSCILLATION; RIGID SURFACE WITH ROOT PITCH FREEPLAY NONLINEARITY
3.2 PRELOAD NONLINEARITY

The procedure used for predicting the limit cycle response of the rigid baseline control surface with a preload nonlinearity is very similar to that presented in the preceding section for the freeplay nonlinearity. The computational steps to be followed to predict the limit cycle response are shown in Figure 16. Linear system flutter analyses are conducted for variations in the effective stiffness parameter. These flutter results are then modified to account for the presence of the structural nonlinearities.

Using the second order asymptotic solutions, the results shown in Figure 17 were obtained for a rigid control surface having a single root roll preload nonlinearity. This figure shows the change in the dynamic pressure as a function of root roll amplitude of motion to freeplay ratio, A/S, for varying freeplay-to-preload, S/P, ratios. For amplitudes of motion less than the preload, the critical dynamic pressure equals the flutter dynamic pressure of the linear system. As the amplitude of motion increases, the influence of the freeplay is reflected in the rise of the dynamic pressure. This occurs as a result of the softening effect on the effective root roll stiffness which results in a higher dynamic pressure for this particular aerodynamic surface. As the amplitude of motion continues to increase, the influence of the nonlinearity decreases and the results again approach those of the linear system.

In Figure 18 the results obtained for both first and second order asymptotic solutions are shown for a preload nonlinearity in the root pitch degree of freedom for a rigid control surface. From this figure the influence of the higher harmonics is apparent. While the trends are basically the same, the second order solution predicts a lower value of critical dynamic pressure to sustain the limit cycle oscillation than does the first order solution for amplitudes of motion near the P+2S value. This is directly related to the effective stiffness behavior predicted for this amplitude range as was discussed in Section 2.0 and illustrated in Figure 8.

First and second order solutions for the rigid baseline control surface having preload nonlinearities in both root degrees of freedom are shown in
FIGURE 16 COMPUTATIONAL PROCEDURE FOR A PRELOAD NONLINEARITY
FIGURE 17 DYNAMIC PRESSURE TO SUSTAIN LIMIT CYCLE OSCILLATION; RIGID SURFACE WITH ROOT ROLL PRELOAD NONLINEARITY
Figure 19. The results presented are for a 0.2 degree freeplay region in both degrees of freedom and a freeplay-to-preload, S/P, ratio of two. The two pair of curves shown in this figure are for two different values of the amplitude-to-freeplay ratio, S/A. The effective stiffness of the preload nonlinearity is a double-valued function as illustrated in Figure 8. Therefore, the results shown in Figure 19 are for double-valued amplitude of motion ratios. The larger S/A values correspond to amplitudes less than the quantity P+2S, whereas the lower ratios correspond to amplitudes in excess of this value.

As for the case of a single nonlinearity, the presence of the higher harmonics can substantially change the prediction of the limit cycle response. In both Figures 18 and 19, the nonlinearity in root pitch is more critical in terms of initiating a limit cycle response. For root pitch nonlinearities the results indicate that the limit cycle response amplitude can be several times greater than the magnitude of the freeplay and can be sustained at dynamic pressures well below the flutter critical value.

A flexible control surface having a preload nonlinearities in both root degrees of freedom was also studied. The results for a 0.2 degree freeplay in both root degrees of freedom and a freeplay-to-preload ratio, S/P, of two are shown in Figure 20. As with the rigid control surface studies of Figures 18 and 19, the amplitude ratios are double valued.

Figure 20 shows that at higher uncoupled roll frequencies, the second order solutions predict a somewhat higher critical dynamic pressure than does the first order solution at the same amplitude-to-freeplay ratio. This behavior is a direct result of the linear flutter data, as the trends in the effective stiffness are the same for both the rigid and flexible cases.
FIGURE 18  DYNAMIC PRESSURE TO SUSTAIN LIMIT CYCLE OSCILLATION; RIGID SURFACE WITH ROOT PITCH PRELOAD NONLINEARITY
FIGURE 19 DYNAMIC PRESSURE TO SUSTAIN LIMIT CYCLE OSCILLATION; RIGID SURFACE WITH PRELOAD NONLINEARITIES IN ROOT PITCH AND ROLL
FIGURE 20  DYNAMIC PRESSURE TO SUSTAIN LIMIT CYCLE OSCILLATION; FLEXIBLE SURFACE WITH PRELOAD NONLINEARITIES IN ROOT PITCH AND ROLL
3.3 CORRELATION WITH NUMERICAL RESULTS

The asymptotic solutions obtained in the preceding paragraph were briefly compared with the numerical simulation results of Reference 1. The objective here was to compare the results of the describing-function (first order) solutions and the asymptotic (second order) solutions with the "exact" numerical solutions in the accuracy critical regions. From the results of Reference 1 it was concluded that the worst correlation between the describing-function results and simulation results was observed for the case of a flexible control surface with two preload nonlinearities. The authors of Reference 1 attributed this discrepancy to the influence of higher harmonics neglected in the describing-function approach. For this reason this configuration was used to compare the three solution approaches.

The aeroelastic response results for the flexible baseline control surface with two preload nonlinearities is shown in Figure 21. The dynamic pressure required to sustain the limit cycle oscillation is plotted as a function of the freeplay-to-amplitude ratio, S/A. The curves are for a system with uncoupled pitch and roll frequencies of 215Hz and 140 Hz, respectively. In Figure 21(a), the root roll motion is shown, and in Figure 22(b) the root pitch motion is shown. The results of these comparisons show a better correlation between the second order asymptotic solution and the numerical simulations than was obtained using the first order solutions. This supports the conclusions of Reference 1 that the source of the error in the one term describing-function approach is a result of the higher harmonics not being included in modeling the nonlinear behavior.
FIGURE 21 COMPARISON OF PREDICTED AND SIMULATION RESULTS FOR A FLEXIBLE CONTROL SURFACE WITH A PRELOAD NONLINEARITY IN PITCH AND ROLL.
4.0 CONCLUSION

The presence of structural nonlinearities can adversely affect the aeroelastic response of aerodynamic surfaces. Of particular concern is the occurrence of a sustained limit cycle response which may lead to structural damage of the aerodynamic surface, support structure and equipment components such as control actuators. The results obtained during this study show that aerodynamic surfaces with structural nonlinearities can become susceptible to limit cycle behavior at dynamic pressures below the linear flutter value. The nature of the limit cycle response was found to be a constant amplitude motion with a steady state frequency expressed as a function of the magnitude of the nonlinearity and the amplitude of the oscillation.

The objective of the present study was to develop an analysis procedure to predict aerosurface limit cycle response that retains the flexibility and well defined procedures of the describing-function approach, yet provides greater accuracy and generality in modeling the nonlinear system behavior. This was accomplished by using an asymptotic expansion technique to derive a relationship between the parameters characterizing the structural nonlinearity and the amplitude and frequency of the limit cycle response.

The overall conclusion from this investigation is that the use of the asymptotic expansion method results in an accurate prediction of the aerodynamic surface limit cycle response. The procedure described in this study was used to investigate the interrelationship between the magnitude of the nonlinearities, flight conditions and the nature of the resulting limit cycle response. First and second order asymptotic solutions were developed for a freeplay type nonlinearity with and without a linear preload in the root support structure. The asymptotic solutions, which contain the contribution of higher harmonics, were compared with the describing-function approach which contains only the first harmonic. It was shown that the first order asymptotic solutions and the describing-function approach were identical and the higher order asymptotic solutions could be used to account for the contribution of higher harmonics in the limit cycle response.
The significance of the higher harmonics in predicting the nature of the limit cycle response was found to depend on the particular nonlinearity studied. During the development of the second order asymptotic solutions for the freeplay nonlinearity it was concluded that the higher harmonics had small effect on the results. Even for amplitudes near the freeplay magnitudes, where the nonlinear effect is strongest, the higher harmonics were found to have little influence. These results are reasonable when one considers the exceptionally good correlation demonstrated between the first order, single term solution and the exact numerical solution. It is concluded that little is gained in the prediction of limit cycle response by including the higher order solutions for the freeplay nonlinearity.

In the case of the preload nonlinearity the influence of higher harmonics was found to have a definite impact on the predicted limit cycle response. When the first and second order solutions were compared for this nonlinearity, the latter predicted a considerably greater reduction in the effective stiffness at amplitudes near the freeplay region of the load-displacement curve. This behavior was observed to be consistent with the numerical simulation results presented in Reference 1. As the amplitude of motion became larger than the preload-plus-freeplay magnitude, the first and second order asymptotic approximations of the effective stiffness converged. As amplitudes increased further both solutions approach the linear solution results. In addition to the influence on the effective stiffness values the higher harmonics were also seen to contribute to the form of the expressions to determine the limit cycle time history response. Variations of amplitude in the computed waveform for the limit cycle response could be attributed directly to these higher order harmonics. It was concluded from these results that for the preload type nonlinearity the second order asymptotic solutions should be used to accurately predict the nature of the limit cycle response.

This study has shown the applicability of the asymptotic expansion approach to account for the influence of structural nonlinearities in the limit cycle response analysis of aerodynamic surfaces. The method developed employs the asymptotic solutions to determine the effective system parameters governing the
nonlinear response. The ability to include the influence of higher harmonics in the nonlinear load-displacement relationship and obtain solution accuracies to any desired order have been demonstrated. The methods were applied to two simple nonlinear systems and the potential influence of higher order solutions on the limit cycle response was investigated. The applicability of the asymptotic methods, however, is not restricted to these nonlinearities or undamped systems. Investigations of the asymptotic solutions for systems with other types of nonlinearities, including nonlinear damping dependent on the displacement and/or its derivatives, are feasible using this approach.
5.0 REFERENCES


# LIST OF SYMBOLS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Amplitude of motion at surface root support</td>
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<td>$a_i$</td>
<td>Fourier series coefficient</td>
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<td>$B_1, B_2$</td>
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**Subscripts**

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APPENDIX A
Flutter Analysis of Baseline Aerodynamic Surface

The aeroelastic analysis performed in this study utilized the flutter results for the effective or linearized representation of the baseline aerodynamic surface. The physical description of the baseline surface and the flutter results for both rigid and flexible cases are discussed below.

Properties of the Harpoon missile control surface were used to define the baseline surface configuration which was used throughout the study. The geometric configuration of the control surface is shown in Figure A-1. The structural nonlinearities that were investigated are associated with the root support. Presented in Figure A-2 are the inertia properties of the control surface. The first two rows and the columns of the inertia matrix are associated with rigid root roll and pitch motions while the last two diagonal elements are the generalized masses of the control surface modes. The off-diagonal terms, the PF quantities, represent the inertia coupling between rigid and flexible motions. The mode shapes associated with the first two control surface cantilever modes are given in Figure A-3. These modal data were used when investigating a flexible control surface configuration.

Representative flutter results for the baseline control surface take the form illustrated in Figures A-4 and A-5. The results given in Figure A-4 are for a rigid fin while those for the flexible fin are given in Figure A-5. These two figures show the variation in the flutter critical dynamic pressure as a function of the effective root roll frequency for various values of the effective root roll frequency.
Figure A-1 Control surface geometry

\[ \begin{bmatrix}
I_\theta & I_{\theta \phi} & PF_{\theta 1} & PF_{\theta 2} \\
I_{\phi} & PF_{\phi 1} & PF_{\phi 2} \\
m_1 & 0 & m_2
\end{bmatrix} \]

(a) Form of inertia matrix

\[ I_\theta = 0.1667 \text{ lb-sec}^2/\text{in.} \quad PF_{\theta 1} = -7.227 \times 10^{-3} \text{ lb-sec}^2/\text{in.} \]
\[ I_{\phi} = 0.071 \text{ lb-sec}^2/\text{in.} \quad PF_{\phi 2} = -1.014 \times 10^{-3} \text{ lb-sec}^2/\text{in.} \]
\[ I_{\theta \phi} = 0.058 \text{ lb-sec}^2/\text{in.} \quad PF_{\theta 2} = -3.212 \times 10^{-3} \text{ lb-sec}^2/\text{in.} \]
\[ m_1 = 4.220 \times 10^{-4} \text{ lb-sec}^2/\text{in.} \quad PF_{\phi 1} = 2.134 \times 10^{-4} \text{ lb-sec}^2/\text{in.} \]
\[ m_2 = 4.295 \times 10^{-4} \text{ lb-sec}^2/\text{in.} \]

(b) Specific inertia terms

Figure A-2 Control surface inertia properties
FIGURE A-3  CONTROL SURFACE CANTILEVER MODES
FIGURE A-4 EFFECTIVE SYSTEM RIGID CONTROL SURFACE FLUTTER RESULTS
FIGURE A-5 EFFECTIVE SYSTEM FLEXIBLE CONTROL SURFACE FLUTTER RESULTS
APPENDIX B
DETAILED DEVELOPMENT OF THE ASYMPTOTIC SOLUTIONS

In the discussions of the asymptotic solutions presented in Section 2.0, the first and second order approximations to the limit cycle response were presented. The details of the computational steps are given here for the freeplay and preload nonlinearities.

As discussed in Section 2.0 the nonlinear equations of motion for the system considered in this study can be written as

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \omega_0^2 x = \varepsilon f(x) + Q(x) \quad (B1)$$

In the asymptotic expansion methods, the solution of Equation (B1) is assumed to be of the form

$$x = A \cos \psi + \sum_{n=1}^{N} \varepsilon^n U_n (A, \psi) + O (\varepsilon^{N+1}) \quad (B2)$$

The amplitude $A$, and phasing parameter $\psi$ are determined from

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \varepsilon^n a_n + O (\varepsilon^{N+1}) \quad (B3)$$

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} = \omega_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{N} \varepsilon^n b_n + O (\varepsilon^{N+1}) \quad (B4)$$

The term $N$ indicates the order of the asymptotic approximation. For this study solutions up to the second order ($N=2$) were determined. The $\beta_n$ and $B_n$ terms of Equations (B3) and (B1) are functions that satisfy Equation (B1) and are expressed in terms of coefficients obtained from the Fourier Series expansion of the nonlinear function $f(x)$ in Equation (B1).

*In Appendix B, the number in the second bracket identifies identical equations from Section 2.0. As equations (B-1), (B-2), (B-3) and (B-4) were discussed in detail in Section 2.0 they will just be presented here. Refer to Section 2.0 for a complete description of these equations.
The first step in the solution procedure is to determine functions $\alpha_1$, $\alpha_2$, $\beta_1$, $\beta_2$, and $U_1$. These functions can be derived by expanding the nonlinear function $f(\psi)$ in a Fourier Series, substituting Equations 82 through 84 into Equation 81 and equating coefficients of $\sin \psi$ and $\cos \psi$. These functions are given by the following relations,

$$a_1 = -\frac{1}{2\pi \omega_0} \int_0^{2\pi} f(A \cos \psi) \sin \psi d\psi$$  \hspace{1cm} (B5)

$$\beta_1 = -\frac{1}{2\pi A} \int_0^{2\pi} f(A \cos \psi) \cos \psi d\psi$$  \hspace{1cm} (B6)

$$U_1 = \frac{g_0}{\omega_0^2} - \frac{1}{\omega_0^2} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{g_n \cos n\psi + h_n \sin n\psi}{n^2 - 1}$$  \hspace{1cm} (B7)

where

$$g_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(A \cos \psi) \cos n\psi d\psi$$  \hspace{1cm} (B8)

$$h_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(A \cos \psi) \sin n\psi d\psi$$  \hspace{1cm} (B9)

The terms $\alpha_1$, $\beta_1$, $g_n$ and $h_n$ are the coefficients of the Fourier Series expansion of the nonlinear force $f(X)$ acting on the system. The second order coefficients $\alpha_2$ and $\beta_2$ can be expressed in terms of Equations (B5) through (B7) and the derivative of $f(X)$ as

$$a_2 = -\frac{1}{2\omega} \left\{ 2 a_1 \beta_1 + a_1 A \frac{d^2 \beta_1}{dA^2} \right\} - \frac{1}{2\pi \omega} \int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{\chi} \sin \psi d\psi$$  \hspace{1cm} (B10)

$$\beta_2 = \frac{1}{2\omega} \left\{ 2 a_1^2 - \frac{a_1}{A} \frac{da_1}{dA} - \frac{1}{2\pi \omega A} \int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{\chi} \cos \psi d\psi \right\}$$  \hspace{1cm} (B11)

$$\tilde{\chi} = \left[ U_1 f_X(A \cos \psi) + (a_1 \cos \psi - A \beta_1 \sin \psi + \omega \frac{dU_1}{d\psi}) f'_X \right]$$  \hspace{1cm} (B12)
By computing the terms in Equations (B5) through (B12), substituting into Equations (B3) and (B4) and integrating, the amplitude $A$ and phasing parameter, $\psi$, approximated to the second order, are obtained.

Equations (B5) through (B12) are for the general case. For the two nonlinearities considered in this study, these equations can be reduced to a much simpler form. First, the form of $f(X)$ for the freeplay and preload nonlinearities is such that all $a_n$ and $h_n$ terms in Equations (B5), (B10), and (B9) are identically zero. For this case, Equations (B3) and (B4) yield

$$A = \text{const}$$

$$\psi = \bar{\omega} t = \left(\bar{\omega}_0 + \varepsilon \bar{B}_1 + \varepsilon^2 \bar{B}_2\right) t + \text{const.}$$

or

$$\bar{\omega} = \left(\bar{\omega}_0 + \varepsilon \bar{B}_1 + \varepsilon^2 \bar{B}_2\right)$$

where $\bar{\omega}$ is the effective frequency approximated to the second order. Equations (B7) and (B1) then become

$$U_1 = \frac{g_0(\alpha)}{\omega_0^2} - \frac{1}{2\omega_0^2} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{g_n \cos \psi}{n^2-1}$$

$$B_2 = -\frac{\varepsilon_1^2}{2\omega} - \frac{1}{2\pi \omega_0 A} \int_0^{2\pi} \bar{\phi} \cos \psi d\psi$$

The computational effort of this study was centered on determining $U_1$, $B_1$ and $B_2$ given by Equations (B6), (B16) and (B17), respectively.

The form of the effective stiffness to the second order given by Equation (4) is

$$K = K \left(1 + \varepsilon B_1 + \varepsilon^2 B_2 + \ldots + \varepsilon^N B_N\right)$$
This expression can be obtained from Equation (B15) by squaring both sides and retaining term up to $\varepsilon^2$. This yields,

$$\frac{\omega^2}{\omega_0^2} = 1 + \frac{2\varepsilon}{\omega_0^2} \beta_1 + \frac{\varepsilon^2}{\omega_0^2} (\beta_1^2 + 2\beta_2 \omega_0)$$  \hspace{1cm} (B19)

Substituting Equations (B6) and (B17) for $\beta_1$ and $\beta_2$ into Equation (B19) and simplifying yields

$$\omega^2 = \omega_0 \left[ 1 + \varepsilon (\beta_1 + \varepsilon^2 \beta_2) \right]$$  \hspace{1cm} (B20)

The relationship between $\beta_1$ and $\beta_2$ and $\beta_1$ is defined as

$$\beta_1 = 2 \frac{\beta_1}{\omega_0}$$  \hspace{1cm} (B21)

$$\beta_1 = \frac{1}{\pi \omega_0} \int_0^{2\pi} f(A \cos \psi) \cos \psi d\psi$$  \hspace{1cm} (B22)

where $\phi$ is defined by equation B-12.

Note that here it is implied that

$$\beta_2 = - \frac{1}{\pi \omega_0} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\varepsilon}{A} \cos \psi d\psi$$  \hspace{1cm} (B23)

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{\omega^2}{\omega_0^2} = \omega_0^2$$  \hspace{1cm} (B24)

Using the relationship between the effective stiffness and natural frequency, Equation (B18) is obtained directly from (B20).

Summarizing the computational procedure, the first step is to compute $\omega$ for the linear system. Then the term $\beta_1$ is obtained from Equation (B6). Next coefficients $\beta_1$ and $\beta_2$ can be determined using Equations (B12), (B21) and (B22). At this point the second order correction to the effective stiffness is obtained from Equation (B18). The computation of the time domain solution then requires solution of Equations (B8), (B14) and (B16). The form of these relationships are presented below for the two nonlinearities considered in this study.
FREEPLAY NONLINEARITY

In order to compute the coefficients of the asymptotic approximations, the initial step is to expand the load relationships, \( L(t) \) in a Fourier Series. This load relationship is shown in Figure 4 of the text and is expressed as

\[
L(t) = \begin{cases} 
0 & \text{for } 0 < t < t_1 \\
K[A \sin t - S] & \text{for } t_1 < t < 2\pi
\end{cases}
\]  

(B25)

This load is in the form of the function \( F(A\cos \omega) \) in Equation (B21) so the first Fourier coefficient corresponds to the \( B_1 \) term in Equation (B20). Since the load function \( L(t) \) is a single-valued odd function its Fourier Series representation is of the form

\[
L(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \cos nt
\]

(B26)

\[
b_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{0}^{2\pi} L(t) \cos nt
\]

(B27)

As mentioned above the \( b_1 \) term of Equation (B27) and \( B_1 \) in Equation (B20) are related by the expression

\[
B_1 = -\left( \frac{1}{A\omega_o} b_1 - 1 \right)
\]

(B28)

The form of the \( b_1 \) term for the load of Equation (B25) is,

\[
b_1 = \frac{A\omega_o^2}{2\pi} \left( \pi - 2t_1 - \sin 2t_1 \right)
\]

(B29)

Computation of the \( B_2 \) term of Equation (B23) requires the coefficients of the higher harmonics of Equation (B26). A general expression for these higher harmonics is determined as

\[
b_n = 0 \quad (n = 2, 4, \ldots)
\]

(B30)

\[
b_n = \frac{\omega_o A}{\pi} \left[ \Gamma_n - \frac{S_n}{n} \sin nt_1 \right] \quad (n = 1, 3, 5, \ldots)
\]

(B31)
\[
\tau_n = \left[ \frac{\sin (n-1)t_1}{2(n-1)} + \frac{\sin (n+1)t_1}{2(n+1)} \right]
\]  
(B32)

By successive substitution of Equation (B30) into Equations (B16), (B12) and (B23) the \(B_2\) coefficient of Equation (B18) is obtained. The form for the freeplay nonlinearity is given in Equation (B33).

\[
B_2 = -\frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n=3.5}^{\infty} \frac{\tau_n}{n-1} \left[ \tau_n - \frac{2}{n} \cos t_1 \sin nt_1 \right]
\]  
(B33)

**PRELOAD NONLINEARITY**

The procedure for deriving the coefficients of the asymptotic approximation of Equation (B18) for the preload nonlinearity follows the same procedure used for the freeplay nonlinearity. The load-displacement relation for the preload nonlinearity is shown in Figure 7 and is defined as

\[
L(t) = \begin{cases} 
(A_0 + A_1 \cos t - 2S)K & \text{for } 0 < t < t_1 \\
PK & \text{for } t_1 < t < t_2 \\
(A_0 + A_1 \cos t)K & \text{for } t_2 < t < 2\pi - t_2 \\
PK & \text{for } 2\pi - t_2 < t < 2\pi - t_1 \\
(A_0 + A_1 \cos t - 2S)K & \text{for } 2\pi - t_1 < t < 2\pi 
\end{cases}
\]  
(B34)

where

\[
t_1 = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{P + 2S - A_0}{A_1} \right)
\]  
(B35)

\[
t_2 = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{P - A_0}{A_1} \right)
\]  
(B36)

The Fourier Series expansion of the load relationship is defined as

\[
L(t) = \frac{b_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \cos nt + a_n \sin nt
\]  
(B37)

\[
b_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{0}^{2\pi} L(t) \, dt
\]  
(B38)

\(b_n\) is given by Equation (B27) and all \(a_n\) coefficients are zero for the function given by Equation (B34).
The $b_n$ coefficients of Equation (B35) for the preload nonlinearity where $P < A \leq P+2S$ are

\[ b_0 = \frac{\omega_0^2 A_1}{\pi} \left[ 2 A_0 \left( \pi - t_1 \right) + 2 Pt_1 - 2 A_1 \sin t_1 \right] \quad (B39) \]

\[ b_1 = \frac{\omega_0^2 A_1}{\pi} \left[ \pi - t_1 + \frac{2}{A_1} \left( P - A_0 \right) \sin t_1 - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2 t_1 \right] \quad (B40) \]

\[ b_n = \frac{\omega_0^2 A_1}{\pi n} \left[ 2 \left( P - A_0 \right) \sin nt_1 - \Gamma_n \right] \quad (B41) \]

$t_1$ is defined in Equation (B35) and $\Gamma_n$ is defined in Equation (B32). For $A > P+2S$

\[ b_0 = \frac{\omega_0^2 A}{\pi} \left[ \frac{A_0}{A_1} \left( 2t_2 + \pi - t_1 \right) + \left( \sin t_2 - \sin t_1 \right) + \frac{P}{A_1} \left( t_2 - t_1 - \frac{2S}{A_1} t_2 \right) \right] \quad (B42) \]

\[ b_1 = \frac{\omega_0^2 A}{\pi} \left[ \pi + t_2 - t_1 - \frac{2}{A_1} \left( P+2S - A_0 \right) \sin t_2 \\
+ \frac{2}{A_1} \left( P - A_0 \right) \sin t_1 + \frac{1}{2} \left( \sin 2 t_2 - \sin 2 t_1 \right) \right] \quad (B43) \]

\[ b_n = \frac{\omega_0^2 A}{\pi} \left[ \frac{2}{n} \left( A_0 - P \right) \left( \sin nt_2 - \sin nt_1 \right) - 2S \left( \sin nt_1 \right) + \sigma_n \right] \quad (B44) \]

$t_1$ and $t_2$ are defined by Equations (B35) and (B36) and $\sigma_n$ is defined as

\[ \sigma_n = \left[ \sin \left( n-1 \right) t_2 - \sin \left( n-1 \right) t_1 \right] + \left[ \sin \left( n+1 \right) t_2 - \sin \left( n+1 \right) t_1 \right] \]

The detailed derivation of the asymptotic solutions for both the freeplay and preload nonlinearities have been presented here. These derivations were included to supplement the discussions of section 2.0 and should be referenced when more detail is required.