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# Output-only modal parameter identification of systems subjected to various type excitations

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## 10 ABSTRACT

This study presents a novel modal parameter identification method enabling approximation of 11 the mode shapes of linear systems using white noise or earthquake inputs. The majority of well 12 established existing system identification methods perform successfully when the system is excited 13 by broadband white noise excitation. However, they encounter serious limitations when analysing 14 the vibrations triggered by non-stationary earthquake inputs. Thus, the presented technique extends 15 the applicability of system identification and modal based structural health monitoring methods. 16 The method operates in modal space and is based on mode superposition in short windows. The 17 mode shapes are identified using an optimization algorithm minimizing the weighted sum of cross-18 correlation of frequency response spectra. The technique is validated analytically using simulation 19 results of a simple 3D structure representing a simplified model of a real bridge pier structure, which 20 enables exact comparison to known properties. The results show the method provides relatively 21 good identification accuracy of modal parameters of systems excited by white noise and earthquake 22 inputs. The identified modal frequencies showed <1% error, where the mode shape coefficients 23

- were identified within 5% error. The method performs robustly even for high levels of simulated
   sensor noise and can be readily applied to more complex MDOF systems.
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- <sup>27</sup> **Keywords:** modal parameters, output-only modal identification, structural health monitoring

## 28 INTRODUCTION

A number of different structural health monitoring (SHM) methods have been developed to 29 identify damage. Many are vibration-based SHM methods developed to capture changes in modal 30 parameters (Brownjohn et al. 2010; Astroza et al. 2013; Astroza et al. 2016a; Astroza et al. 2016b; 31 Moaveni et al. 2010; Nagarajaiah and Basu 2009; Saaed and Nikolakopoulos 2016). These 32 changes can be represented as a damage index (Doebling et al. 1996; Amezquita-Sanchez and 33 Adeli 2015; Singhal and Kiremidjian 1996; Ren and De Roeck 2002) or used for reconstruction of 34 second order models (Luş et al. 2002; Luş et al. 2004; Hong et al. 2009). They are popular be-35 cause of their use with measured, small ambient vibrations to identify linear responses and systems. 36

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The eigensystem realization algorithm (ERA) (Juang and Pappa 1985) and its combination 38 with natural excitation techniques (NExT/ERA) (Moaveni et al. 2008; Pappa et al. 1998; Moncayo 39 et al. 2010; Caicedo 2011) or the Observer/Kalman Filter Identification (OKID) (Juang et al. 1993; 40 Vicario et al. 2015; Fraraccio et al. 2008) are two of the more commonly used modal parameter 41 identification techniques for linear time-invariant systems subjected to white noise excitations. A 42 number of studies (Astroza et al. 2016a; Moaveni et al. 2010; Brownjohn et al. 2010) used a stochas-43 tic subspace identification (SSI) technique (Vicario et al. 2015) to identify modal parameters of 44 simulated and real life structures. Successful SHM in these conditions has also been implemented 45 using different variations of autoregressive moving average (ARMA) (Carden and Brownjohn 2008; 46 Bodeux and Golinval 2001; da Silva et al. 2008; Sohn and Farrar 2001) and enhanced frequency 47 domain decomposition (EFDD) methods (Brincker et al. 2001; Jacobsen et al. 2008; Moaveni et al. 48 2010; Astroza et al. 2016a). 49

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All these techniques are limited to linear time-invariant systems. Moreover, most perform best when the input loads meet specific characteristics, such as broad band white noise, which is not a typical condition. The ability to easily use ambient vibrations without constraint or knowledge of the input would be more ideal for regular monitoring, requiring an output-only SHM method.

This research presents a new modal parameter identification technique based on mode decom-56 position to perform as an output only identification technique for linear time-invariant systems 57 using relatively long duration response measurements extracted from ambient load or even larger, 58 shorter duration earthquake induced vibrations. The method is not limited to any characteristics 59 of the input load. In addition, for longer, non-linear seismic responses these parameters can be 60 identified within short windows over the event. Finally, the approximated constant mode shapes can 61 be used to decompose the modes, which can be used for reconstruction of single mode dominant 62 hysteresis loops that can be readily analysed for changes or damage using hysteresis loop analysis 63 (HLA) (Zhou et al. 2015; Zhou et al. 2017). 64

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#### 66 METHOD

## 67 Mode decoupling

<sup>68</sup> The equation of motion of a linear multi-degree-of-freedom (MDOF) system is described:

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$$\mathbf{M}\{\ddot{X}\} + \mathbf{C}\{\dot{X}\} + \mathbf{K}\{X\} = \mathbf{M}r\{\ddot{X}_g\}$$
(1)

where **M**, **C**, **K** are the mass, damping and stiffness matrices, *r* is the excitation influence vector,  $\{\ddot{X}\}, \{\dot{X}\}\$  and  $\{X\}$  are the acceleration, velocity and displacement vectors of MDOF system, respectively, and  $\{\ddot{X}_g\}\$  is the ground motion acceleration.

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Assuming the modes shapes are real-valued, the linear MDOF system response can be represented as the weighted, linear sum of individual vibration modes:

$$X(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi_i \cdot \overline{x}_i(t) = \Phi \overline{X}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \phi_{1,1} \cdot \overline{x}_1(t) + \dots + \phi_{1,n} \cdot \overline{x}_n(t) \\ \vdots \\ \phi_{n,1} \cdot \overline{x}_1(t) + \dots + \phi_{n,n} \cdot \overline{x}_n(t) \end{bmatrix}$$
(2)

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<sup>77</sup> where *n* is the number of modes,  $\overline{X}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \overline{x}_1(t) & \overline{x}_2(t) & \cdots & \overline{x}_n(t) \end{bmatrix}^T$  is modal displacement <sup>78</sup> vector of *n* modes at time instant *t*, where each row of  $\overline{X}(t)$  represents each mode,  $\overline{x}_i(t)$ , <sup>79</sup>  $\Phi = \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1 & \phi_2 & \dots & \phi_n \end{bmatrix}$  is the *n* × *n* mode shape matrix calculated by solving an eigenvalue <sup>80</sup> problem, where  $\phi_i$  is *n* × 1 mode shape vector of the *i*<sup>th</sup> mode.

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In this study, a relatively simple tool is proposed to approximate  $\hat{\Phi}$  using the principle of mode superposition. Although the method is limited to systems with real-valued modes, a number of studies (Moaveni et al. 2010; Moaveni et al. 2013; Astroza et al. 2016c) demonstrated that for civil structures the lowest modes are typically real or near real-valued. The modal response,  $\overline{X}$ , of a linear structure can be described, per Equation (2):

$$\overline{X} = \hat{\Phi}^{-1}X = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\phi}_{1,1} & \cdots & \hat{\phi}_{1,n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \hat{\phi}_{n,1} & \cdots & \hat{\phi}_{n,n} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \phi_{1,1} \cdot \overline{x}_1 + \cdots + \phi_{1,n} \cdot \overline{x}_n \\ \vdots \\ \phi_{n,1} \cdot \overline{x}_1 + \cdots + \phi_{n,n} \cdot \overline{x}_n \end{bmatrix}$$
(3)

<sup>88</sup> where *n* is the number of DOFs, and  $\hat{\Phi}$  is an approximate mode shape matrix, where ideally  $\hat{\Phi} = \Phi$ . <sup>89</sup> The hat symbol here is used to denote identified/approximated parameters in this study.

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In real structures, the exact number of modes contributing to the structure's response is often unknown and can be very large, as with suspension bridges (Farrar et al. 1996). For practical reasons only a limited number of DOFs are monitored, making full mode decomposition infeasible. However, partial decomposition can be carried out using limited DOFs, which is still practical for real structures, because higher modes often have negligible response energy. In addition, most civil structure design codes neglect the influence of higher modes, as they contribute less than 10% to the total effective modal mass (CEN 2004).

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For a structure modelled with m = 2 DOFs of *n* total DOFs using Equation (2) for *X*, the esti-

mated modal response  $\overline{X}_{p,m}$ , where *p* in the subscript refers to partial decoupling, can be written:

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{X}_{p,2} = \hat{\Phi}^{-1} X = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\phi}_{1,1} & \hat{\phi}_{1,2} \\ \hat{\phi}_{2,1} & \hat{\phi}_{2,2} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \phi_{1,1} \cdot \overline{x}_1 + \phi_{1,2} \cdot \overline{x}_2 + \dots + \phi_{1,n} \cdot \overline{x}_n \\ \phi_{2,1} \cdot \overline{x}_1 + \phi_{2,2} \cdot \overline{x}_2 + \dots + \phi_{2,n} \cdot \overline{x}_n \end{bmatrix} = \\ = \frac{1}{\det(\hat{\Phi})} \begin{bmatrix} (\hat{\phi}_{2,2} \cdot \phi_{1,1} - \hat{\phi}_{1,2} \cdot \phi_{2,1}) \overline{x}_1 + (\hat{\phi}_{2,2} \cdot \phi_{1,2} - \hat{\phi}_{1,2} \cdot \phi_{2,2}) \overline{x}_2 \\ (-\hat{\phi}_{2,1} \cdot \phi_{1,1} + \hat{\phi}_{1,1} \cdot \phi_{2,1}) \overline{x}_1 + (-\hat{\phi}_{2,1} \cdot \phi_{1,2} + \hat{\phi}_{1,1} \cdot \phi_{2,2}) \overline{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ + \dots + (\hat{\phi}_{2,2} \cdot \phi_{1,n} - \hat{\phi}_{1,2} \cdot \phi_{2,n}) \overline{x}_n \\ + \dots + (-\hat{\phi}_{2,1} \cdot \phi_{1,n} + \hat{\phi}_{1,1} \cdot \phi_{2,n}) \overline{x}_n \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$
(4)

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where  $\phi_{j,i}$  and  $\hat{\phi}_{j,i}$  represent the true and identified mode shape coefficients, respectively. If  $\hat{\phi}_{j,i}$ can be identified exactly, then  $\hat{\phi}_{1,1} = \phi_{1,1}$ ,  $\hat{\phi}_{2,1} = \phi_{2,1}$ ,  $\hat{\phi}_{1,2} = \phi_{1,2}$  and  $\hat{\phi}_{2,2} = \phi_{2,2}$ . From the assumed perfect identification, the result of the decomposition is defined:

$$\overline{X}_{p,2} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \cdot \overline{x}_1 + 0 \cdot \overline{x}_2 + \dots + \frac{(\hat{\phi}_{2,2} \cdot \phi_{1,i} - \hat{\phi}_{1,2} \cdot \phi_{2,i})}{det(\hat{\Phi})} \overline{x}_i + \dots + \frac{(\hat{\phi}_{2,2} \cdot \phi_{1,n} - \hat{\phi}_{1,2} \cdot \phi_{2,n})}{det(\hat{\Phi})} \overline{x}_n \\ 0 \cdot \overline{x}_1 + 1 \cdot \overline{x}_2 + \dots + \frac{(-\hat{\phi}_{2,1} \cdot \phi_{1,i} + \hat{\phi}_{1,1} \cdot \phi_{2,i})}{det(\hat{\Phi})} \overline{x}_i + \dots + \frac{(-\hat{\phi}_{2,1} \cdot \phi_{1,n} + \hat{\phi}_{1,1} \cdot \phi_{2,n})}{det(\hat{\Phi})} \overline{x}_n \end{bmatrix} = \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \cdot \overline{x}_1 + 0 \cdot \overline{x}_2 + \dots + \alpha_{1,i} \cdot \overline{x}_i + \dots + \alpha_{1,n} \cdot \overline{x}_n \\ 0 \cdot \overline{x}_1 + 1 \cdot \overline{x}_2 + \dots + \alpha_{2,i} \cdot \overline{x}_i + \dots + \alpha_{2,n} \cdot \overline{x}_n \end{bmatrix}$$
(5)

where  $\alpha_{1,i}$  and  $\alpha_{2,i}$  are scaling factors that result for each mode.

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More generally, for a system with m modeled DOFs of n total DOFs, the estimated modal

110 response  $\overline{X}_p$  can be written:

$$\overline{X}_{p,m} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \cdot \overline{x}_{1} + 0 \cdot \overline{x}_{2} + \dots + 0 \cdot \overline{x}_{m} + \alpha_{1,m+1} \overline{x}_{m+1} + \dots + \alpha_{1,n} \overline{x}_{n} \\ 0 \cdot \overline{x}_{1} + 1 \cdot \overline{x}_{2} + \dots + 0 \cdot \overline{x}_{m} + \alpha_{2,m+1} \overline{x}_{m+1} + \dots + \alpha_{2,n} \overline{x}_{n} \\ \dots \\ 0 \cdot \overline{x}_{1} + 0 \cdot \overline{x}_{2} + \dots + 1 \cdot \overline{x}_{m} + \alpha_{m,m+1} \overline{x}_{m+1} + \dots + \alpha_{m,n} \overline{x}_{n} \end{bmatrix} = \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \alpha_{1,m+1} & \dots & \alpha_{1,n} \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & \alpha_{2,m+1} & \dots & \alpha_{2,n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & \alpha_{m,m+1} & \dots & \alpha_{m,n} \end{bmatrix} \overline{X} = A\overline{X}$$

$$(6)$$

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where  $\alpha_{m,n}$  is the  $n^{th}$  mode scaling factor and A is a mode scaling matrix defining contribution of omitted modes,  $m + 1 \dots n$ . Thus, the  $i^{th}$  modal response will consist of the  $i^{th}$  mode itself and scaled modes that are omitted by a perfectly approximated ( $\hat{\Phi} = \Phi$ ) mode shape matrix ( $\hat{\Phi}$ ). The contribution of other modes is thus, ideally, equal to zero.

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It can also be shown for the approximated mode shape matrix,  $\hat{\Phi}$ , where modal coefficients are optimized only for the *i*<sup>th</sup> mode (with a goal  $\hat{\phi}_i = \phi_i$ ) using Equation (3), the following mode decomposition and mode scaling matrix, *A*, is obtained:

$$\overline{X}_{p,m} = \hat{\Phi}^{-1} X = \begin{vmatrix} \alpha_{1,1} & \alpha_{1,2} & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & \alpha_{1,n} \\ \alpha_{2,1} & \alpha_{2,2} & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & \alpha_{2,n} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ \alpha_{i,1} & \alpha_{i,2} & \cdots & 1 & \cdots & \alpha_{i,n} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ \alpha_{m,1} & \alpha_{m,2} & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & \alpha_{m,n} \end{vmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} \overline{x}_{1} \\ \overline{x}_{2} \\ \overline{x}_{2} \\ \cdots \\ \overline{x}_{n} \end{vmatrix}$$
(7)

Thus, the modal response of the  $i^{th}$  mode,  $\overline{x}_i$ , is removed from the modal responses of all other modes due to the zeros in the  $i^{th}$  column. This result means the full/partial decomposition per Equation (6) can be achieved by approximating each mode shape individually, thus applying mode-by-mode identification.

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#### 126 Estimating cross-correlation of frequency response spectra

<sup>127</sup> Mode contribution/coupling can be quantified by calculating its energy content in the frequency <sup>128</sup> domain. Ideally, the *i<sup>th</sup>* mode would have very small spectral energy in the other modes if  $\hat{\phi}_i$  is <sup>129</sup> perfectly identified as in Equation (7). Assuming the absolute acceleration is monitored, thus <sup>130</sup>  $\ddot{X}^{abs} = \ddot{X} - r\ddot{X}_g$ , the decomposed modal absolute acceleration,  $\overline{\ddot{X}}$ , can be represented in the <sup>131</sup> frequency domain by carrying out an FFT analysis:

$$\overline{Y}(\hat{\Phi}) = \left| FFT(\overline{X}_{p,m}) \right| = \left| \overline{X}_{p,m} W_{FFT} \right| = \left| \hat{\Phi}^{-1} \overline{X}^{abs} W_{FFT} \right|$$
(8)

where  $W_{FFT}$  is the Fourier transformation matrix defined,  $W_{FFT}(n, k) = W_N^{(n-1)(k-1)}$ , where  $W_N = e^{(-2\pi i)/N}$ , (n = 1...N), N is the discrete length of the monitored signal X, and k = 1...K, where K is the number of frequency bins in the analysis.

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As a result  $\overline{Y}(\hat{\Phi}) = \begin{bmatrix} \overline{y}_1 & \overline{y}_2 & \cdots & \overline{y}_m \end{bmatrix}^T$  is  $m \times K$ , where each row of  $\overline{Y}(\hat{\Phi})$  represents the frequency response spectrum (FRS) of each mode. In the case of perfect identification,  $\hat{\Phi} = \Phi$ , the FRS of each mode,  $\overline{y}_i$ , will represent a Single-Degree-of-Freedom (SDOF) linear time-invariant (LTI) mechanical system, which for the *i*<sup>th</sup> mode response can be described:

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$$\overline{y}_i(\omega) = F(\omega) \cdot H_i(\omega) \tag{9}$$

where  $\overline{F}(\omega)$  is the Fourier transform of an input and  $H_i(\omega)$  is the frequency response function for the *i*<sup>th</sup> mode.

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For perfect identification,  $\hat{\phi}_i = \phi_i$  per Equation (7), the *i*<sup>th</sup> mode response will have zero contribution from other modes. This contribution can be quantified in the frequency domain by calculating the cross-correlation of the *i*<sup>th</sup> mode's frequency response spectrum with respect to the frequency response spectrum of the other modes and expressed as a function of the *i*<sup>th</sup> mode shape,  $\hat{\phi}_i$ , yielding:

$$corr^{iso,i}(\hat{\phi}_i) = \overline{y}_i^{n,iso}(\hat{\phi}_i)\overline{Y}^n(\hat{\phi}_i)^T$$
(10)

where the term *n* in the superscript refers to the normalized FRS,  $\overline{y}_i^n \cdot \overline{y}_i^{nT} = 1$ ,  $\overline{y}_i^{n,iso}$  is the normalized FRS of the *i*<sup>th</sup> mode isolated around the natural frequency,  $\omega_i$ :

$$\overline{y}_i^{iso}(\hat{\Phi}) = \overline{y}_i(\hat{\Phi}) \operatorname{diag}(N_i) \tag{11}$$

where  $N_i$  is a  $K \times 1$  shape vector used to segregate a given mode's FRS to calculate its energy without other modes contributing, where K, again, is the number of frequency bins used for FFT analysis as defined in Equation (8). The term *diag* refers to transformation of a column vector into a diagonal matrix. Shape vector, N, can be formulated using any windowing function, as shown in Figure 1.

In this study, a peak segregation function,  $N_i$ , is formulated using a Hanning windowing technique. Effective window length is taken as a factor of the estimated frequency bandwidth,  $\Delta \omega$ , determined from the fitted FRF,  $\hat{H}_i(\omega)$ , (from Equation (9)) at the response level of  $|\hat{H}_i|/\sqrt{2}$  as shown in Figure 1. Hence, the shape function can be written:

$$N_{i}(\omega) = 0 \qquad \qquad \omega < \omega_{i} - \frac{W}{2} \cdot \Delta \omega$$
$$= 0.5 \cdot \left(1 - \cos\left(2\pi \frac{n}{N}\right)\right) \qquad \omega_{i} - \frac{W}{2} \cdot \Delta \omega \le \omega \le \omega_{i} + \frac{W}{2} \cdot \Delta \omega \qquad (12)$$
$$= 0 \qquad \qquad \omega > \omega_{i} + \frac{W}{2} \cdot \Delta \omega$$

where  $n = \omega - (\omega_i - \frac{W}{2} \cdot \omega)$ ,  $N = W \cdot \Delta \omega$  where  $\Delta \omega$  is the frequency bandwidth at the response level of  $|\hat{H}_i| / \sqrt{2}$ , and *W* is the assumed effective peak isolation width.

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Thus, the mode segregation function,  $N_i$ , is re-evaluated for each time window after FRF leastsquare fitting is performed. This approach enables identification of time-varying systems. Window segments may be continuous or partially overlapping depending on the resolution of time-varying parameter changes desired. However, it should be noted that windowing function,  $N_i$ , is only used to estimate cross correlation between windowed FRS of  $i^{th}$  mode,  $\overline{y}_i^{iso}$ , and the other mode FRS,  $\overline{Y}$ . 169

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## 170 Optimizing mode shape coefficients

The efficiency of the partial decoupling for mode *i* can thus be estimated by summing all the weighted correlation coefficients ( $j = 1..m, j \neq i$ ), excluding correlation of the mode with itself:

$$Corr^{iso,i}(\hat{\phi}_i) = \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^m w_j^i \cdot corr_j^{iso,i}(\hat{\phi}_i)$$
(13)

where  $w_j^i$  is the weighting coefficient that enforces mode orthogonality or scales the correlation coefficients based on Modal Assurance Criteria (MAC) (Allemang 2003):

$$w_{j}^{i} = \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt{MAC_{i,j}} + \sqrt{MAC_{i,j}^{mirr}}}{2}\right)^{2}$$
$$MAC_{i,j} = \frac{\left|\hat{\phi}_{i}^{T}\hat{M}\hat{\phi}_{j}\right|^{2}}{\left(\hat{\phi}_{i}^{T}\hat{M}\hat{\phi}_{i}\right) \cdot \left(\hat{\phi}_{j}^{T}\hat{M}\hat{\phi}_{j}\right)}$$
$$\left(14\right)$$
$$MAC_{i,j}^{mirr} = \frac{\left|\left(\hat{\phi}_{i}^{mirr}\right)^{T}\hat{M}\hat{\phi}_{i}\right|^{2}}{\left(\left(\hat{\phi}_{i}^{mirr}\right)^{T}\hat{M}\hat{\phi}_{i}^{mirr}\right) \cdot \left(\hat{\phi}_{j}^{T}\hat{M}\hat{\phi}_{j}\right)}$$

where  $\hat{M}$ , is the assumed/approximated mass matrix of the system, which acts as a scaling matrix.

If no priori knowledge is known about the structure to estimate this mass, an identity matrix can be taken.  $MAC_{i,j}$  is the modal assurance criteria coefficient expressing the degree of consistency or orthogonality between the optimized  $i^{th}$  modal vector,  $\hat{\phi}_i$ , and the other estimated mode shape coefficients,  $\hat{\phi}_{j=1...m}$ .  $MAC_{i,j}^{mirr}$  is the coefficient expressing the degree of similarity between optimized mirrored mode shape,  $\hat{\phi}_i^{mirr}$ , and all other estimated mode shape coefficients,  $\hat{\phi}_{j=1...m}$ . The mirrored mode shape vector,  $\hat{\phi}_i^{mirr}$  is the mode shape vector  $\hat{\phi}_i$  mirrored around either of the 182 principal axes, x or y:

 $\hat{\phi}_{i}^{mirr} = \hat{\phi}_{i}^{mirr,x} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\phi}_{i,x} \\ -\hat{\phi}_{i,y} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \hat{\phi}_{i}^{mirr} = \hat{\phi}_{i}^{mirr,y} = \begin{bmatrix} -\hat{\phi}_{i,x} \\ \hat{\phi}_{i,y} \end{bmatrix}$ (15)

<sup>184</sup> where  $\hat{\phi}_{i,x}$  and  $\hat{\phi}_{i,y}$  are the *i*<sup>th</sup> mode shape vector components in *x* and *y* direction, respectively. <sup>185</sup> Thus, the correlation scaling factor provided in Equation (14) will enforce mode shape optimization <sup>186</sup> orthogonalized around the principal axes in case of overlapping or very closely spaces modes.

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Finally, the solution to the optimal  $i^{th}$  mode shape coefficients can be written as the solution to the following optimization problem:

$$(\hat{\phi}_i) = \underset{\hat{\phi}_i}{\arg\min(Corr^{iso,i}(\hat{\phi}_i))}$$
(16)

Once the optimal approximated mode shape coefficients  $\hat{\phi}_i$  for mode *i* are found, the optimization can proceed for the next mode, as shown in Figure 2.

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<sup>194</sup> When mode-by-mode identification is carried out, detection of new modal frequencies or poles <sup>195</sup> becomes an easy task because the modes with high spectral energy are already removed from the <sup>196</sup> FRS of unidentified modes due to the zeros in Equation (7). The optimization problem can be <sup>197</sup> readily solved using the unconstrained non-linear multivariable solver available in MATLAB. A <sup>198</sup> more detailed version of the mode identification routine is shown in the flow chart of Figure 3.

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#### 200 Modified Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization

As the mode shape coefficients go through the optimization process of Equation (16), it is important to ensure mode orthogonality with respect to the other modes, to allow the solver to converge optimal values. Mode orthogonality can be obtained using the modified Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization process, which generates a set of mode shape coefficients that is orthogonal to

all the subsequent mode shapes. The  $j^{th}$  mode shape can be mass orthogonalized with respect to 205 the  $i^{th}$  mode (Chopra 1995): 206  $\hat{\phi}^{orth}_{j} = \hat{\phi}_{j} - \hat{\phi}_{i} \cdot \frac{\hat{\phi}^{T}_{j} \hat{M} \hat{\phi}_{i}}{\hat{\phi}^{T}_{i} \hat{M} \hat{\phi}_{i}}$ 

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where  $\hat{M}$  is the assumed/approximated mass matrix. If no *a-priori* knowledge about the structure 208 is known, an identity matrix can be used. 209

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Mode orthogonalization can be implemented as a part of the objective function, or as an addi-211 tional step, which would then require an additional convergence loop. Although the mode shape 212 optimization is carried out for the  $i^{th}$  mode, meaning only the  $\hat{\phi}_i^{orth}$  terms are being varied, in fact 213 due to the orthogonalization process of Equation (17), all the terms of  $\hat{\Phi}^{orth}$  are being varied in the 214 optimization loop, as shown in flowchart of Figure 3. However, after each optimization iteration, 215 only the *i*<sup>th</sup> mode and the rest of unidentified modes will be updated, as defined in Step 8 of Figure 216 3. This approach ensures previously identified modes are not being altered. 217

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#### **Damping and frequency estimation** 219

A successful mode shape identification decomposes the response into separate modes. In the 220 frequency domain, this outcome results in a set of single transfer functions, each representing 221 SDOF system without any residuals from adjacent modes, per Equation (6). However, in real life 222 situations, structures often have an infinitely large number of difficult to identify modes with very 223 low energy. As a result, the modal transfer functions will often contain some contribution from 224 residuals due to unidentified or poorly identified modes (Ewins 2000). 225

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Assuming the contribution from the other modes is negligible, the frequency response spectrum, 227  $\overline{y}_i(\omega)$ , of *i*<sup>th</sup> mode can be approximated, per Equation (9): 228

$$\hat{\overline{y}}_{i}(\omega) = \hat{H}_{i}(\omega) \cdot \overline{F}(\omega) = \frac{Q_{i}}{\hat{\omega}_{i}^{2} - \omega^{2} + 2i\hat{\xi}\omega\hat{\omega}_{i}} \cdot \overline{F}(\omega)$$
(18)

(17)

where  $\hat{H}_i(\omega)$  is the fitted FRF function for mode *i*,  $\hat{\omega}_i$  is the identified natural frequency and  $\hat{\xi}_i$  is the identified modal damping ratio. Thus, the modal parameters ( $\hat{\omega}_i$  and  $\hat{\xi}_i$ ) can be identified using curve fitting methods (Jacobsen et al. 2008) assuming the modal parameters do not vary throughout the analyzed time window and assuming the input excitation,  $\overline{F}(\omega)$ , is known or is constant in case of broadband white noise excitation,  $\overline{F}(\omega) = const$ . In this study a least-square-fit is utilized to minimize the error between the approximated,  $\hat{y}_i$ , and calculated,  $\overline{y}_i$ , FRS across the range of modal coordinates.

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## 238 Mode identification process summary

## 239 Initial modal parameter identification

The initial mode shape identification, when no prior knowledge about the structure is known, can be described as a step process and is shown in the flowchart of Figure 3:

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Step 1. Analysis initialization: Choose the time segment, collect  $m \times s$  data matrix,  $X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & \cdots & x_m \end{bmatrix}^T$ , where *m* is the number of measured DOFs and  $s = (t_1 - t_0) \cdot f_s$  is the number of samples,  $t_0$  is the start and  $t_1$  the end of the time window, and  $f_s$  is the sampling frequency. Assign a random orthogonal mode shape matrix,  $\hat{\Phi}^{init}$ , where *init* refers to initial identification guess. Initialize mode number i = 1.

248

Step 2. Selecting the strongest mode: Transform the data into the modal space using Equation (3), and obtain the FRS of each modal response,  $\overline{Y}(\hat{\Phi}^{init}) = \begin{bmatrix} \overline{y}_1 & \overline{y}_2 & \cdots & \overline{y}_m \end{bmatrix}^T$ , by transforming it into the frequency domain using Equation (8). Analyse all FRS for unidentified modes, (from *i* to *m* modes), and find the mode,  $\overline{y}_{e_{max}}$ , with the strongest energy, where  $e_{max}$  is the mode index number. Rearrange the approximated mode shape matrix,  $\hat{\Phi}^{init}$  (:,  $[i \ e_{max}]) = \hat{\Phi}^{init}$  (:,  $[e_{max} \ i])$ and redo the transformation for  $\overline{Y}(\hat{\Phi}^{init})$  using Equation (8).

255

Step 3. Mode/ peak identification: Identify the modal frequency with the strongest energy from

the *i*<sup>th</sup> modes's FRS,  $\overline{y}_i^{abs}(\omega)$ , and create shape function,  $N_i^{mode}$ , using Equation (12) for the *i*<sup>th</sup> mode, which will segregate the FRS around the selected modal frequency. Calculate the isolated FRS for mode *i*,  $\overline{y}_i^{iso}(\hat{\Phi}^{init})$  using Equation (11). Use Equations (10) and (13) to calculate the initial correlation coefficient  $R_{iter=0} = Corr^{iso,i}(\hat{\phi}_i^{init})$ .

261

Step 4. Setting up an optimization problem / objective function: Create optimization matrix,  $\hat{\Phi}^{orth} = \hat{\Phi^k}$ . Define the optimization matrix  $i^{th}$  column as a function of  $\hat{\phi}_i^{orth} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\phi}_{1,i}^{orth} & \hat{\phi}_{2,i}^{orth} & \cdots & \hat{\phi}_{m,i}^{orth} \end{bmatrix}^T$ . Mode shape coefficients for the other modes will be subjected to Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization. Define the correlation coefficient, calculated per Equation (13), as a function of  $\hat{\phi}_i^{orth} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\phi}_{1,i}^{orth} & \hat{\phi}_{2,i}^{orth} & \cdots & \hat{\phi}_{m,i}^{orth} \end{bmatrix}^T$ :

$$Corr^{iso,i}\left(\hat{\phi}_{i}^{orth}\right) = Corr^{iso,i}\left(\begin{bmatrix}\hat{\phi}_{1,i}^{orth} & \hat{\phi}_{2,i}^{orth} & \cdots & \hat{\phi}_{m,i}^{orth}\end{bmatrix}^{T}\right)$$

Step 5. Solving optimization problem: Solve linear unconstrained optimization problem using Equation (16) and obtain the optimized mode shape coefficients for the  $i^{th}$  mode,  $\hat{\phi}_i^{orth}$ .

264

Step 6. Performing orthogonalization: Orthogonalize all mode shape coefficients with respect to identified mode shape coefficients,  $\hat{\phi}_i^{orth}$ , using the modified Gram-Schmidt method, of Equation (17). Mode orthogonalization can be implemented inside the objective function or after optimization, by creating an additional convergence loop.

269

272

Step 7. Checking the convergence: Calculate the total correlation coefficient,  $R_{iter} = Corr^{iso,i} \left( \hat{\phi}_i^{init} \right)$ per Equation (13), and check the convergence:

$$Conv_{iter} = \frac{R_{iter-1} - R_{iter}}{R_{iter-1}}$$
(19)

Step 8. Updating the mode shape matrix: Update the approximated mode shape matrix's  $i^{th}$ mode shape and the rest of unidentified modes (uidm)  $\hat{\Phi}^{init}(:, [i uidm]) = \hat{\Phi}^{orth}(:, [i uidm])$ . If 275 276 the convergence value is greater than  $Conv_{iter} > 1e^{-6}$ , return to **Step 4**.

- Step 9. Mode shape verification: Verify the newly identified mode by evaluating it's FRS. In case of successful identification, the pole will be clearly visible, whereas the same peak will be removed from other mode's FRS,  $\overline{y}_i(\hat{\Phi}^{init})$ , or in other words the rest of the modes will contain no residuals from the newly identified mode, which acts as a noise. This result means if the whole identification loop process is re-iterated from Step 3, by setting *i* = 1, thus starting from mode 1, the identification will yield more accurate mode shapes.
- 283

Step 10. Stepping back to look for new modes / poles: Step to the next mode, i = i + 1, and return to Step 2.

286

#### 287 METHOD VALIDATION AND ANALYSES

#### **Test structure**

The proposed method is validated analytically using a 3D FE model representing a simplified 289 model of a bridge pier structure shown in Figure 4. It is a 7.3m long circular 1.2m diameter rein-290 forced concrete column rigidly connected to the footing. Concrete blocks are attached to the top of 291 the cantilever column, which represents the mass of the bridge deck. The structure is simplified into 292 a 4 degrees-of-freedom (DOF) system, with 2 DOFs in each direction, as shown in Figure 4. More 293 details on the test structure are provided in (Schoettler et al. 2012). The estimated effective second 294 moment of area around both axis is  $I_x = I_y = 0.1m^4$ , the modulus of elasticity of the concrete is 295 E = 22.9GPa. 296

297

The estimated translational mass in x and y directions is  $M_x = M_y = 2.7 \cdot 10^5 kg$ , whereas the rotational masses around x and y directions are different resulting in  $M_{\phi_x} = 0.68 \cdot 10^6 kg$  and  $M_{\phi_y} = 1.16 \cdot 10^6 kg$ . The following stiffness matrix and diagonal mass matrix are obtained for a

linear 4 DOF system: 301

 $K = \begin{bmatrix} 0.088 & 0.322 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.322 & 1.565 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.088 & -0.322 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.322 & 1.565 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^9 \qquad M = \begin{bmatrix} 0.24 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1.16 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.24 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.24 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.68 \end{bmatrix} \cdot 10^6$ 

Rayleigh proportional damping,  $C = \alpha_0 M + \alpha_1 K$ , is assumed with estimated proportionality 303 constants  $\alpha_0 = 0.24$  and  $\alpha_1 = 0.002$ , which provide  $\xi_1 = 3\%$  and  $\xi_3 = 4\%$  critical damping for 304 the first and the third modes, respectively. Calculated modal frequencies and equivalent damping 305 ratios for all modes are shown in Table 1 306

#### 307

302

#### Initial modal parameter identification

The initial modal parameter identification is carried out assuming no a priori knowledge about 308 the structure is known. The identification is implemented assuming the input ground excitation is 309 not known (output only method). Thus, the objective function is formulated using Equation (13). 310

311

Two different input ground motions are selected to simulate the response of a linear structure: a) 312 2 minute long broadband 2.5% g RMS white noise excitation with constant frequency distribution; 313 and b) Landers 1992 earthquake excitation with peak ground acceleration (PGA) of 0.17g. Time 314 histories of the selected ground input motions are shown in Figure 5. The identification is based 315 on the recorded time series of the whole response (120s for WN and 50s for EQ event). The mass 316 matrix is assumed to be calculated with 30% error, thus  $M_{ident} = Z \cdot M$ , where the assumed scaling 317 matrix is  $Z = diag \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0.7 & 1.3 & 0.7 \end{bmatrix} \right)$ . The effective peak isolation width used in Equation (12) 318 is W = 5. 319

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION** 320

#### Initial modal parameter identification 321

#### Identification based on white noise excitation 322

The initial modal parameter identification is carried out using 30 of the 120 seconds white 323 noise excitation response data. It is assumed no input ground acceleration is recorded. Thus, 324

(20)

identification is based only on the measured acceleration response data. Identification is carried out
for 3 different RMS added signal noise levels (0%, 5% and 20%) where the RMS noise is a random
normal distribution of the square root of the average of the clean (no noise) simulated measurement
with 99.7% of random values within the defined noise level. Identification results are shown in
Tables 2 to 4.

330

The identified modal frequencies presented in Table 2 demonstrate very good agreement for all the noise levels and the discrepancies,  $\Delta f$ , are lower than 1%. The identified equivalent modal damping ratios, presented Table 3 demonstrate poorer consistency compared to identified modal frequencies. The maximum captured error is  $\Delta \xi_1 = 16.3\%$ , for the largest 20% RMS noise. Large discrepancies can be associated to the relatively short 30 seconds window chosen and low sensitivity of the damping ratio with respect to least squares cost function.

337

Table 4 shows the identified mode shape coefficients ,  $\hat{\phi}$ . The method yields accurate mode shape coefficient identification even for high signal noise levels. The maximum captured relative error is  $\Delta \xi = 4.52\%$ , for the 20% added RMS noise case.

341

## 342 Identification based on earthquake excitation

Initial modal parameter identification based on the earthquake response is carried out using 50 seconds of recorded absolute acceleration response data. It is assumed no input ground acceleration is recorded. Thus, identification is based only on the measured response data. As for the white noise excitation data, the identification is carried out for 3 different added signal noise levels. The identified modal frequencies shown in Table 5 demonstrate very good agreement for all the noise levels and the discrepancies,  $\Delta f$ , are lower than 1%.

349

The identified equivalent damping ratios,  $\hat{\xi}$ , shown in Table 6, demonstrate smaller errors compared to identification results based on WN excitation. More accurate values can be explained by the longer analysed response time history used for identification. The maximum recorded relative error is  $\Delta \xi = 7.0\%$  corresponding to 20% added RMS noise.

354

Table 7 shows the identified mode shape coefficients ,  $\hat{\phi}$ . The method yields accurate mode shape coefficient identification for all the noise levels. The maximum captured relative error is  $\Delta \phi = 6.85\%$ , for the 5% signal noise levels.

358

The results show the proposed method is capable of accurate identification of modal parame-359 ters. The initial parameter identification for a 4 DOF system is carried out using only the measured 360 response assuming the system is time-invariant. The identified modal frequencies and mode shape 361 coefficients demonstrate very good consistency with the simulated model for all the noise levels. 362 In contrast, identification of the equivalent modal damping ratios tend to yield lower accuracy. 363 Similar findings have been obtained in a number of studies (Luş et al. 2002; Moaveni et al. 364 2010; Hong et al. 2009), where the identified damping ratios demonstrated larger deviations than 365 the frequencies. The method yields equally accurate identification for both white noise and earth-366 quake induced ground motion, again, assuming the input is unknown and using output only method. 367

368

#### 369 Limitations

The proposed method operates in the modal space and is based on mode decomposition. Thus 370 a linear time-invariant system (LTI) is assumed throughout the analyzed time window. However, 371 strong ground motions can trigger inelastic behaviour, meaning the principle of mode superposition 372 will no longer be valid. However, most of structures exhibit non-linear behaviour only for a very 373 short time period and the non-linear part comprises a relatively small part of the time history 374 response. In such cases, the method can be applied to shorter time windows, meaning the time 375 windows containing inelastic structural response will be approximated by average mode shape co-376 efficient values providing the best mode decoupling. Tracking their evolution over time can provide 377 a good measure of non-linear monitoring. 378

The method also requires user judgement, especially in situations where the signal noise appears in the form of poles in the frequency spectrum. These poles might falsely be misinterpreted as modal poles, thus yielding incorrect identification results. However, the results presented here show excellent robustness to white noise and accuracy for ambient or more common smaller seismic inputs, which are the dominant events seen.

385

<sup>386</sup> User input is also important to prevent error propagation as the identification is carried out se-<sup>387</sup> quentially. Poor modal parameter identification might affect the identification of the other modes. <sup>388</sup> The main pivot point of the method is solving the unconstrained optimization problem. Therefore, <sup>389</sup> there is a risk of solver reaching a local solution instead of global solution. Moreover, optimization <sup>390</sup> might become a difficult task in situations where a large number of DOFs are monitored. It should <sup>391</sup> also be noted that the current method is limited to real-valued modes as it solely relies on modal <sup>392</sup> decomposition.

393

#### 394 CONCLUSIONS

This study presents a novel output only modal parameter estimation technique, capable of iden-395 tifying of modal parameters in brief time windows. The method is based on the principle of mode 396 superposition and assumes that the system is linear time-invariant and the modes are real-valued. 397 The method is an output-only modal parameter identification technique and is thus not limited to 398 any type of input loading. This feature is important, since many other system identification methods 399 rely on assumptions about the input loading, such as that it is broad band white noise. Thus, the 400 approach presented can provide a better insight into structures subjected to strong ground motion 401 events, assuming the structure does not exhibit strong non-linearities. 402

403

The method is validated using a simulated data for a 4 DOF time-invariant system, which represents a simplified version of a bridge pier and provides excellent validation since the truth is

379

known. The results show the method is capable of identifying modal parameters within 7% relative 406 error in the presence of 20% RMS noise added. 407

408

Finally, the presented general mode identification procedure can be easily implemented into 409 more complex MDOF systems as it does not need to rely on any of physical parameters. 410

- 411

#### DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT 412

Some or all data, models, or code generated or used during the study are available from the 413 corresponding author by request. The following items can be provided: input earthquake excitation 414 dataset, numerical simulation and system identification codes written in MATALB. 415

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419

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Mode	1	2	3	4
Modal frequency, f (Hz)	1.39	1.45	6.46	8.1
Modal damping, $\xi(\%)$	3.00	2.94	4.00	4.80

**TABLE 1.** Calculated modal parameters of a 4 DOF system

Mode	$f_{model}, Hz$	$\hat{f}_{id,0}, Hz$	$\Delta f, \%$	$\hat{f}_{id,5\%}, Hz$	$\Delta f, \%$	$\hat{f}_{id,20\%}, Hz$	$\Delta f, \%$
Mode 1	1.392	1.396	0.29	1.396	0.27	1.394	0.14
Mode 2	1.449	1.459	0.68	1.459	0.68	1.459	0.67
Mode 3	6.457	6.440	-0.27	6.439	-0.29	6.448	-0.14
Mode 4	8.103	8.074	-0.36	8.074	-0.37	8.061	-0.52

**TABLE 2.** Identified modal frequencies for different signal noise levels

Mode	$\xi_{model}$	$\hat{\xi}_{id,0}$	$\Delta \xi, \%$	$\hat{\xi}_{id,5\%}$	$\Delta \xi, \%$	$\hat{\xi}_{id,20\%}$	$\Delta \xi, \%$
Mode 1	0.030	0.035	15.7	0.034	14.3	0.035	16.33
Mode 2	0.029	0.026	-10.2	0.026	-10.2	0.026	-10.88
Mode 3	0.040	0.042	6.0	0.042	5.7	0.041	3.25
Mode 4	0.048	0.049	1.7	0.049	1.5	0.049	2.08

**TABLE 3.** Identified equivalent modal damping for different signal noise levels

Mode		$\phi_{model}$	$\hat{\phi}_{id,0}$	$\Delta \phi, \%$	$\hat{\phi}_{id,5\%}$	$\Delta \phi, \%$	$\hat{\phi}_{id,20\%}$	$\Delta \phi, \%$
	$\hat{\phi}_{1,1}$	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
Mada 1	$\hat{\phi}_{2,1}$	-0.22	-0.22	2.62	-0.23	3.31	-0.22	2.02
Mode 1	$\hat{\phi}_{3,1}$	0.00	0.00	-0.33	0.00	-0.35	0.00	-0.34
	$\hat{\phi}_{4,1}$	0.00	0.01	1.03	0.01	1.06	0.01	1.04
	$\hat{\phi}_{1,2}$	0.00	0.01	0.60	0.01	0.61	0.01	0.58
Mode 2	$\hat{\phi}_{2,2}$	0.00	0.01	0.80	0.01	0.80	0.01	0.77
Mode 2	$\hat{\phi}_{3,2}$	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
	$\hat{\phi}_{4,2}$	0.21	0.21	-0.14	0.21	-0.09	0.21	0.00
	$\hat{\phi}_{1,3}$	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
Mode 3	$\hat{\phi}_{2,3}$	0.93	0.93	-0.44	0.93	-0.57	0.92	-1.08
Widde 3	$\hat{\phi}_{3,3}$	0.00	0.02	2.11	0.02	1.99	0.02	2.42
	$\hat{\phi}_{4,3}$	0.00	-0.04	-4.44	-0.04	-4.45	-0.05	-4.52
	$\hat{\phi}_{1,4}$	0.00	0.00	-0.09	0.00	-0.13	0.00	0.02
Mode 4	$\hat{\phi}_{2,4}$	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00
Mode 4	$\hat{\phi}_{3,4}$	-0.61	-0.62	0.23	-0.62	0.41	-0.61	-0.65
	$\hat{\phi}_{4,4}$	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00

**TABLE 4.** Identified mode shape coefficients for different levels of signal noise

Mode	f <sub>model</sub> , Hz	$\hat{f}_{id,0}, Hz$	$\Delta f, \%$	$\hat{f}_{id,5\%}, Hz$	$\Delta f, \%$	$\hat{f}_{id,20\%}, Hz$	$\Delta f, \%$
Mode 1	1.392	1.397	0.32	1.396	0.31	1.397	0.34
Mode 2	1.449	1.451	0.11	1.451	0.11	1.451	0.12
Mode 3	6.457	6.433	-0.37	6.434	-0.37	6.435	-0.35
Mode 4	8.103	8.032	-0.88	8.033	-0.87	8.033	-0.87

**TABLE 5.** Identified modal frequencies for different signal noise levels based on earthquake response data

Mode	ξmodel	$\hat{\xi}_{id,0}$	$\Delta \xi, \%$	$\hat{\xi}_{id,5\%}$	$\Delta \xi, \%$	$\hat{\xi}_{id,20\%}$	$\Delta \xi, \%$
Mode 1	0.030	0.028	-6.7	0.028	-7.0	0.028	-7.00
Mode 2	0.029	0.028	-3.4	0.028	-3.7	0.028	-3.40
Mode 3	0.040	0.039	-1.8	0.039	-1.8	0.039	-1.75
Mode 4	0.048	0.046	-4.6	0.046	-5.0	0.046	-4.79

**TABLE 6.** Equivalent modal damping for different signal noise levels identified from response to earthquake excitation

**TABLE 7.** Identified mode shape coefficients for different levels of signal noise based on the response to earthquake excitation

Mode		$\phi_{model}$	$\hat{\phi}_{id,0}$	$\Delta \phi, \%$	$\hat{\phi}_{id,5\%}$	$\Delta \phi, \%$	$\hat{\phi}_{id,20\%}$	$\Delta \phi, \%$
Mode 1	$\hat{\phi}_{1,1}$	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
	$\hat{\phi}_{2,1}$	-0.22	-0.21	-2.07	-0.21	-1.88	-0.21	-2.25
	$\hat{\phi}_{3,1}$	0.00	0.00	-0.04	0.00	-0.03	0.00	-0.03
	$\hat{\phi}_{4,1}$	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.09
Mode 2	$\hat{\phi}_{1,2}$	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.07
	$\hat{\phi}_{2,2}$	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.09
	$\hat{\phi}_{3,2}$	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
	$\hat{\phi}_{4,2}$	0.21	0.20	-4.13	0.20	-4.17	0.20	-4.13
	$\hat{\phi}_{1,3}$	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
Mode 3	$\hat{\phi}_{2,3}$	0.93	0.93	-0.10	0.93	0.04	0.94	0.58
Wode 5	$\hat{\phi}_{3,3}$	0.00	0.05	4.50	0.05	4.53	0.04	3.89
	$\hat{\phi}_{4,3}$	0.00	-0.07	-6.79	-0.07	-6.85	-0.07	-6.83
Mode 4	$\hat{\phi}_{1,4}$	0.00	0.00	-0.15	0.00	-0.17	0.00	-0.01
	$\hat{\phi}_{2,4}$	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.00
	$\hat{\phi}_{3,4}$	-0.61	-0.62	0.39	-0.61	-0.21	-0.61	0.10
	$\hat{\phi}_{4,4}$	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00

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**Fig. 1.** (a) FRF fitting, frequency bandwidth and shape function estimation (b) Shape function,  $N_i$ , overlapped with  $i^{th}$  mode FRS,  $\overline{y}_i(\omega)$ , to obtain isolated FRS,  $\overline{y}_i^{iso}$ 



**Fig. 2.** Mode-by-mode optimization example for a 3 DOF system. The term *abs* in the subscript of  $corr_i^{iso,abs,i}$  and  $\overline{y}_i^{abs}$  refers to the calculations based on the absolute measurements.



Fig. 3. Flow chart for initial mode-by-mode optimization for any given time window



Fig. 4. A simplified 4 DOF model of a bridge pier test structure



Fig. 5. Input ground motion time histories and frequency spectra for (a) white noise 2.5%g RMS and (b) selected earthquake ground motions

Figure 1a

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Figure 1b

Click here to access/download;Figure;Figure1b\_PeakIsol

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