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# Quenching friction-induced oscillations in multibody-systems by the use of high-frequency excitation

Simon Keller<sup>1,\*</sup> and Wolfgang Seemann<sup>1</sup><sup>1</sup> Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Institute of Engineering Mechanics, Kaiserstraße 10, 76131 Karlsruhe, Germany

Dry friction can be a cause of undesired self-excited oscillations. One way to suppress this underlying mechanism is the superposition of high-frequency vibrations whereby the effective friction characteristics is changed and a quasi-equilibrium can be stabilized. This damping effect is analyzed in detail for single-degree-of-freedom systems [1] and experiments and simulations show a good accordance [2]. In this work, the analytical approach from [1] is used to analyze the stabilizing effect of superposed oscillations for a two-degree-of-freedom system subject to friction.

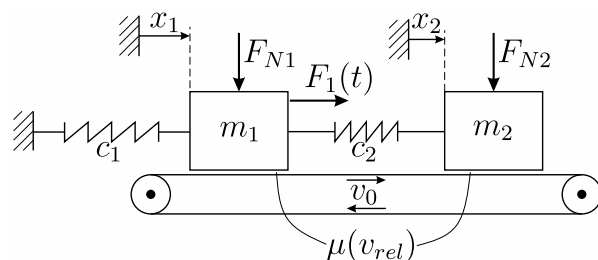
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## 1 Introduction

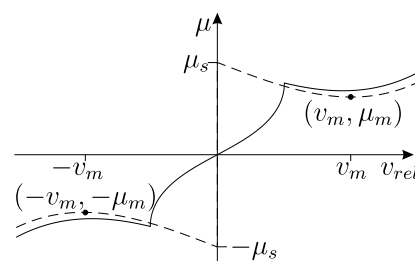
Friction-induced oscillations are often investigated by an elastically mounted mass on a moving belt. The discontinuous friction function and the decay of the friction force at small relative velocities can cause a destabilization of the equilibrium point and self-excited oscillations can occur. High-frequency excitation influences the system dynamics in such way, that the effective friction characteristic is no longer discontinuous and has a positive slope at small relative velocities [1]. This has a damping effect on the system, which is why a new, stable quasi-equilibrium can exist.

## 2 Investigated system

To investigate the suppression of friction-induced oscillations in multibody-systems, the system in figure 1 is considered. It consists of two masses, which are linked by linear springs. The first mass is additionally linked to the environment. Both masses lie on a revolving belt, which moves at a constant velocity  $v_0$ . The normal forces  $F_{N1}$  and  $F_{N2}$  act vertically on the masses and the friction coefficient between mass and belt is assumed as a function of the relative velocity in the contact, respectively. The first mass is excited by the force  $F_1(t) = A\Omega^2 \sin \Omega t$ .



**Fig. 1:** Model of two masses on a moving belt.



**Fig. 2:** Friction coefficient as a function of the relative velocity: discontinuous (---) and averaged (—)

The dimensionless equations of motion in matrix form are given by

$$\ddot{\underline{x}} + \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \dot{\underline{x}} = \underline{a}\omega^2 \sin \omega\tau + \underline{f}(v_{rel}), \quad (1)$$

where  $m_1 = m_2$ ,  $c_1 = c_2$ ,  $F_{N1} = F_{N2}$  for simplicity reasons. The dimensionless parameters are  $\underline{x} = (x_1, x_2)^\top$ ,  $\eta^2 = \frac{c_1}{m_1}$ ,  $\tau = \eta t$ ,  $(\cdot)' = \frac{d}{d\tau}$ ,  $\omega = \frac{\Omega}{\eta}$ ,  $\underline{a} = (a, 0)^\top$  with  $a = \frac{A}{m_1}$ ,  $v_0 = \frac{v_0}{\eta}$ ,  $v_{rel,i} = x'_i - v_0$ ,  $f_{Ni} = \frac{F_{Ni}}{c_1}$ . It is  $\omega \gg 1$ ,  $a \ll 1$  and  $a\omega = \mathcal{O}(1)$ . The friction force is given by  $r_i(v_{rel,i}) = f_{Ni}\mu(v_{rel,i})$ , where the friction coefficient is given by the function

$$\mu(v_{rel}) = \mu_s \operatorname{sgn}(v_{rel}) - \frac{3}{2}(\mu_s - \mu_m) \left( \frac{v_{rel}}{v_m} - \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{v_{rel}}{v_m} \right)^3 \right), \quad (2)$$

which is shown in figure 2. The function is discontinuous at  $v_{rel} = 0$ , has a negative slope at  $|v_{rel}| < v_m$  where the absolute value has a local minimum at  $(v_m, \mu_m)$ . To investigate the system dynamics, the method of multiple scales is applied. The

\* Corresponding author: e-mail [simon.keller@kit.edu](mailto:simon.keller@kit.edu), phone +49 721 608 42660, fax +49 721 608 46070



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time is separated in a slow time  $\tau$  and a fast time  $\theta = \omega\tau$ , the coordinates are separated in a big, slow motion and a fast, small motion:  $\underline{x}(\tau) = \underline{z}(\tau) + \frac{1}{\omega}\underline{\varphi}(\tau, \theta)$ . Executing the derivatives and applying equation 1 yields

$$\left( \frac{\partial^2 \underline{z}}{\partial \tau^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 \underline{\varphi}}{\partial \tau \partial \theta} + \frac{1}{\omega} \frac{\partial^2 \underline{\varphi}}{\partial \tau^2} + \omega \frac{\partial^2 \underline{\varphi}}{\partial \theta^2} \right) + \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \left( \underline{z} + \frac{1}{\omega} \underline{\varphi} \right) = \underline{a}\omega^2 \sin \theta + \underline{r}(v_{rel}). \tag{3}$$

The order  $\mathcal{O}(\omega^1)$  in equation 3 delivers the equation for the fast motion  $\frac{\partial^2 \underline{\varphi}}{\partial \theta^2} = \underline{a}\omega \sin \theta$  which leads to  $\underline{\varphi}(\tau, \theta) = -\underline{a}\omega \sin \theta + \underline{h}_1(\tau)\theta + \underline{h}_2(\tau)$ , where  $\underline{h}_1(\tau)$  and  $\underline{h}_2(\tau)$  have to vanish, because it is claimed that the fast motion has zero mean and is bounded in the fast time. The order  $\mathcal{O}(\omega^0)$  yields the equation for the slow motion, which is averaged over one period of the fast time  $\theta$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \underline{z}}{\partial \tau^2} + \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \underline{z} = \langle \underline{r}(v_{rel}) \rangle, \tag{4}$$

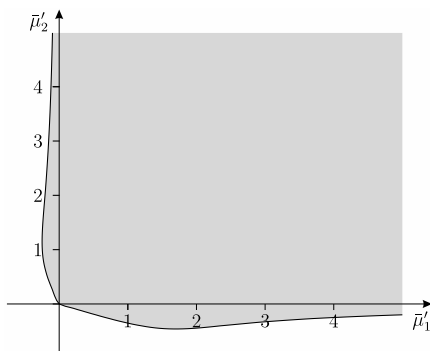
with  $\langle \underline{r}(v_{rel}) \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \underline{r}(v_{rel}) d\theta$ . By applying equation 2, this integral can be solved analytically in dependence of the macroscopic relative velocity  $V_{rel,i} = \frac{\partial z_i}{\partial \tau} - v_0$ , which is shown in figure 2. Following this, equation 4 can be linearized about its equilibrium point  $\underline{z}_0$ , which yields

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Delta \underline{z}}{\partial \tau^2} + \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\mu}'_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{\mu}'_2 \end{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \Delta \underline{z}}{\partial \tau} + \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Delta \underline{z} = \underline{0}, \tag{5}$$

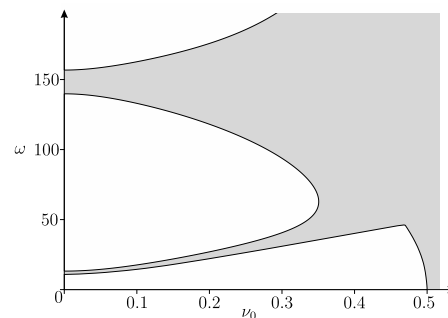
while  $\bar{\mu}'_i$  describes the slope of the effective friction characteristics of mass  $i$  at the quasi-equilibrium. Using an exponential ansatz for equation 5 leads to the characteristic polynomial of order 4, which allows statements concerning the stability of  $\underline{z}_0$  using HURWITZ-criteria.

### 3 Results

In figure 2, the effective friction characteristics of excited mass 1 (–) and not excited mass 2 (– –) is displayed. For small relative velocities, the friction force at mass 1 has a positive slope, while mass 2 has a negative slope. Figure 3 shows the values of the slopes, for which the quasi-equilibrium  $\underline{z}_0$  is stable. In fact, the excitation of only mass 1 can suppress friction-induced vibrations in the whole system. Figure 4 shows the values of excitation frequency  $\omega$  and belt velocity  $v_0$ , for which the system is stable. For this map, the values of the discontinuous friction coefficient in equation 2 and its analytically averaged values for high-frequency excitation are inserted.



**Fig. 3:** Stable area (gray) in dependence of friction coefficient slopes. Parameters:  $\mu_s = 0.4, \mu_m = 0.25, v_m = 0.5, a = 0.01$ .



**Fig. 4:** Stable area (gray) using equation 2 in dependence of  $\omega$  and  $v_0$ .

### 4 Conclusions

The influence of high-frequency excitation on a simple two-body-system subjected to friction is analyzed using multiple scales. It is shown that friction-induced oscillations can be suppressed by exciting only one mass. Caused by the excitation, a quasi-equilibrium exists, where the system oscillates at a high frequency at small amplitudes, while the velocity of the slow, big coordinate is zero. This equilibrium can be stable, in dependence of the slopes of the effective friction characteristics.

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