

# Bandwidth increase of positioning tables

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## **BANDWIDTH INCREASE OF POSITIONING TABLES**

## Cornelis A.M. Verbaan<sup>1</sup>, Petrus C.J.N. Rosielle<sup>1</sup>, and Maarten Steinbuch<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>Department of Mechanical Engineering Eindhoven University of Technology Eindhoven, The Netherlands

## **HIGH-END MOTION SYSTEMS**

In the industry of high-end manufacturing, for instance in the semiconductor market, various processing and measurement steps take place on positioning tables or stages. In these types of high-tech motion systems, the finite stiffness of mechanical components usually limits the bandwidth of the control system [1]. This can be counteracted by increasing the controller complexity, for instance by using notch filters [2]. The resonance frequencies of the non-rigid body dynamics and the amount of damping significantly affect the achievable bandwidth.

## **POSITIONING TABLES**

The dynamical behavior of relatively flat positioning tables is mainly characterized by mode shapes with large out-of-plane displacements. These mode shapes are dominant in the transfer function in z-direction and limit the achievable control bandwidth in that direction. A square plate is used as an abstracted stage model. The plate's mode shapes are exported from FEM and a state space model is generated.

## **ADDING DAMPERS**

A method is investigated to add damping to the out-of-plane flexible behavior of this square plate model, using tuned mass-dampers [3], also called harmonic absorbers. Very high local damping is applied to these dampers. The connections between the plate and the dampers are determined at the plate corners because

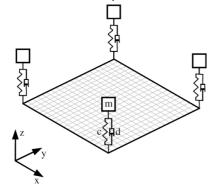


Figure 1: Model of a square plate with 4 dampers added on the corners. The DoF of the dampers is in z-direction. The four dampers have the same mass, damping and stiffness.

these locations have relatively large vibration amplitudes. See Figure 1. The mass-springdamper system uses the plate's displacement and velocity as input and generates a damping force that acts on the plate. The damper model is also created in state space description and a superseding model is calculated for the plate with four dampers added [4].

## MODAL DAMPING INCREASE

The main result is that a significant modal damping increase is achieved over a broad band of resonances, with only a small number of dampers added. This implies a small mass increase of the overall system. Decoupled transfer functions are calculated by applying a geometrical decoupling procedure. The damper parameters are tuned to suppress the bandwidth limiting resonances and therefore achieve an as high as possible bandwidth.

## BANDWIDTH IMPROVEMENT

The damping increase primarily results in a control bandwidth improvement of over 150%, with the same stability margins applied during controller design. See Figure 2. A higher controller gain can be applied. This higher open-loop gain leads to a disturbance suppression increase of over 10 times for both force and displacement disturbances.

## REFERENCES

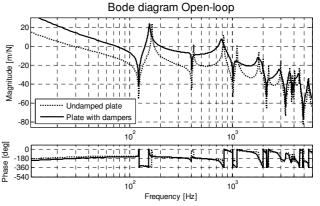


Figure 2: The dotted line represents the Bode diagram of the undamped plate and the solid line represents the transfer function of the plate with dampers.

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