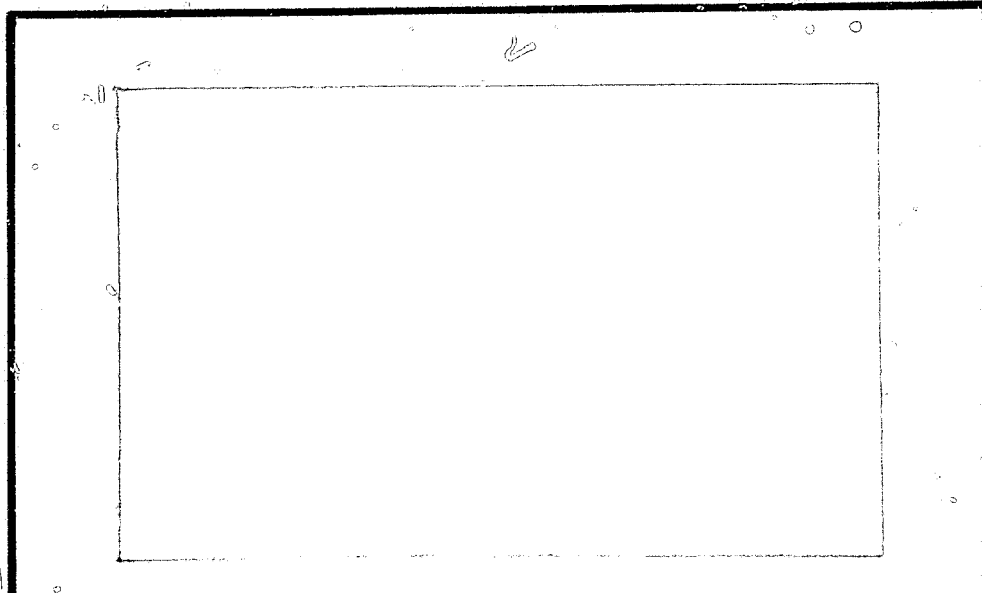


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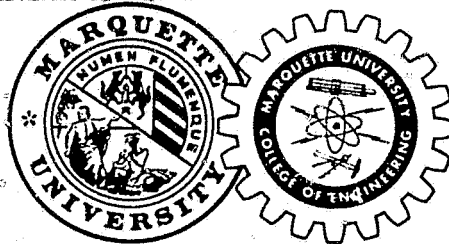
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EFFECT OF WIND GUSTS ON THE MOTION OF  
A BALLOON BORNE OBSERVATION PLATFORM

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Motivation and Relevance of Essay

The balloon system has been employed extensively in the past as a means of conducting research in the earth's atmosphere. The main disadvantage in the use of balloon systems occurs in those experiments where it is necessary to either stabilize the observation platform or use some observer system to predict its attitude as a function of time. Stabilization or prediction is necessary at times in order to process the experimental data collected by various research instruments which are mounted on the observational platform.

Platform stabilization can be accomplished by means of control systems. However, these systems are usually complex and result in increase cost and additional platform weight which reduces platform payload. Another method is to allow the platform to oscillate freely in space and predict its attitude. Thus, it is important that designers of balloon systems have a understanding of the motion of balloon borne observation platforms in order to determine what kinds of auxilliary systems are necessary for accurate and economical data collection.

The motion of balloon borne observation platforms during ascent and decent have been discussed in several papers (Ref. 1,2). In this essay the effect of wind gusts which result in forces acting externally on the ballooon system will be studied. These forces affect the nature of the motion of

the observation platform while the balloon is at float altitude.

### 1.2 Objective of Essay

The objective of this essay is to determine the effect of wind gusts on the magnitude of the pendulation angles of a balloon borne observation platform. A system mathematical model will be developed and the solution of this model (in conjunction with data gathered by NASA during a flight mission) will be used to determine the magnitude of the observation platform pendulation angles.

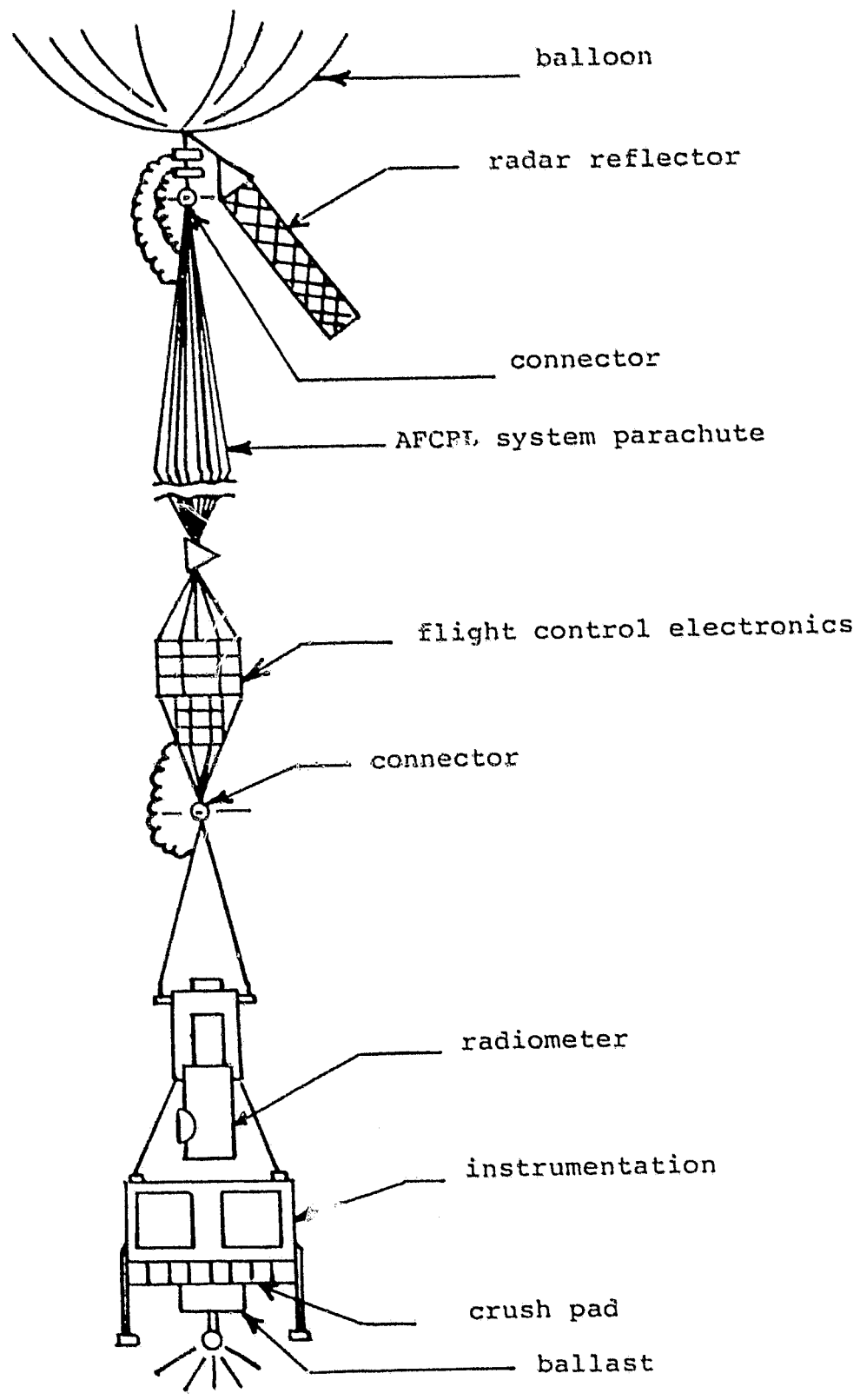


Figure (1) LACATE Balloon System



## CHAPTER II

## DEVELOPMENT OF MATHEMATICAL MODEL

2.1 LACATE Experiment

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration conducted a high altitude balloon experiment called LACATE (Lower Atmosphere Composition and Temperature Experiment). This experiment employed an infrared radiometer to sense remotely, vertical profiles of concentrations of selected atmospheric trace constituents and temperature.

The balloon system used for the mission is shown in Fig. (1). The system consists of the following:

- a. A 39 million cubic feet zero pressure balloon.
- b. Radar reflector.
- c. Recovery parachute.
- d. Flight control electronics.
- e. Radiometer.
- f. A platform containing the research payload.

When the balloon attained float altitude, data was gathered by the various instruments and telemetered to ground control. The radiometer line of sight was scanned vertically across the horizon at approximately  $0.25^\circ$  per second, requiring 30 seconds to acquire a complete radiance profile. At the end of the mission the platform system was separated from the balloon and returned to earth by means of the parachute.

2.2 Idealization of Balloon Platform System

The actual motion of the balloon system once it reaches

float altitude is very complex and involves various types of oscillations, including bounce (vertical oscillations), pendulations (in plane motion), spin (rotation), and horizontal translation.

In previous work (Ref. 3) the LACATE system was idealized as shown in Fig. (2). Each balloon subsystem was treated as an equivalent rigid body. The mass of the entire system was lumped at the center of gravity of the balloon and positions 1, 2, and 3 as shown in Fig. (2). Euler angles can be chosen to measure spin and pendulation in two mutually perpendicular planes. It was shown in (Ref. 4) that by choosing the proper set of Euler angles and assuming small displacements the pendulation motion uncouples in two mutually perpendicular planes, thus simplifying the form of the mathematical model. Details of that development can be found in (Ref. 4).

Since the pendulation motion uncouples, the balloon platform system for this study will be further idealized as shown in Fig. (3) in order to develop the form of the system mathematical model. This model in the mutually perpendicular plane (i.e., y-z plane) is the same, with  $\theta_1 = \psi_1$  and  $\theta_2 = \psi_2$ .

For purpose of this study the following assumptions are made:

1. The distributed balloon subsystem will be lumped into two subsystems and treated as equivalent rigid particles.
2. The cables will be treated as inflexible and inextensible.

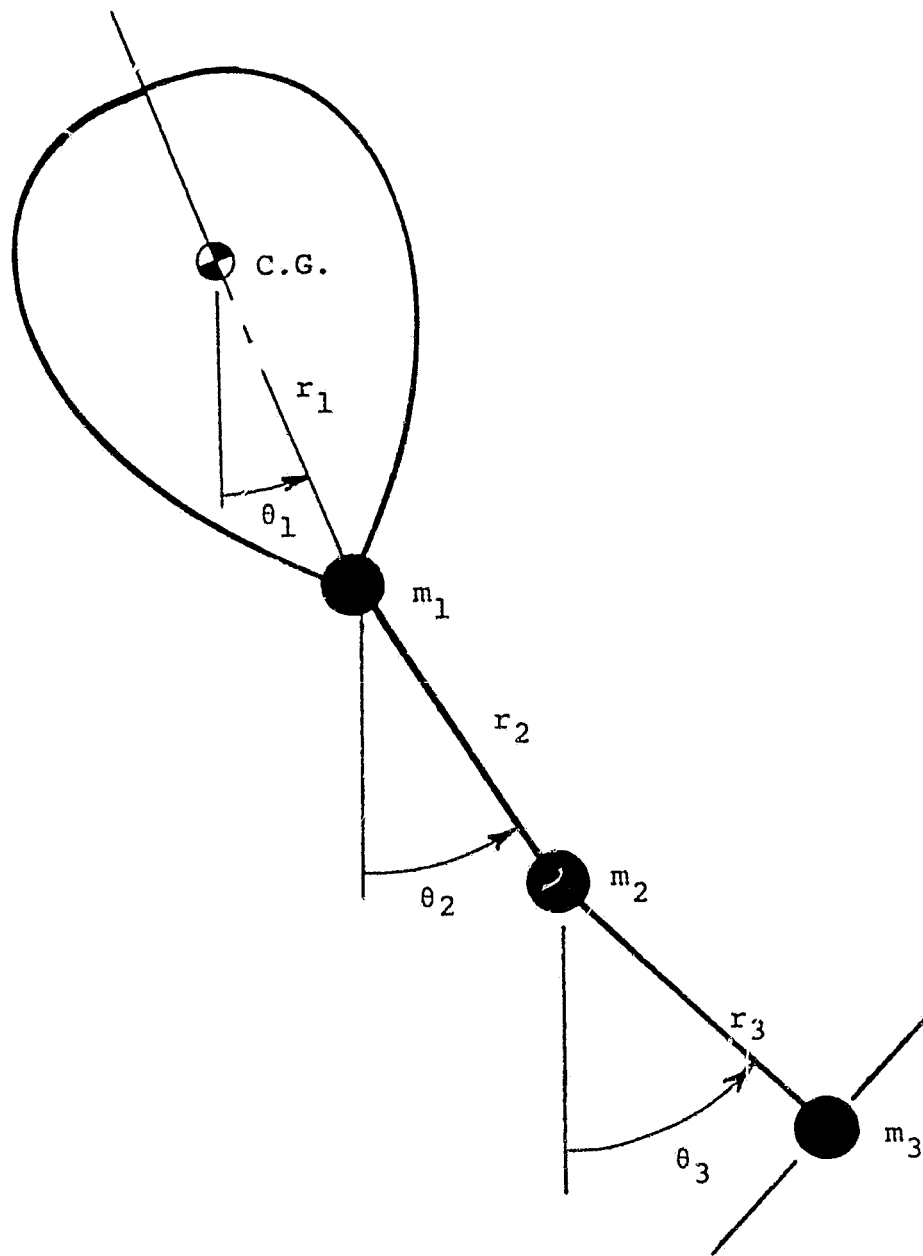


Figure (2) Idealized LACATE System

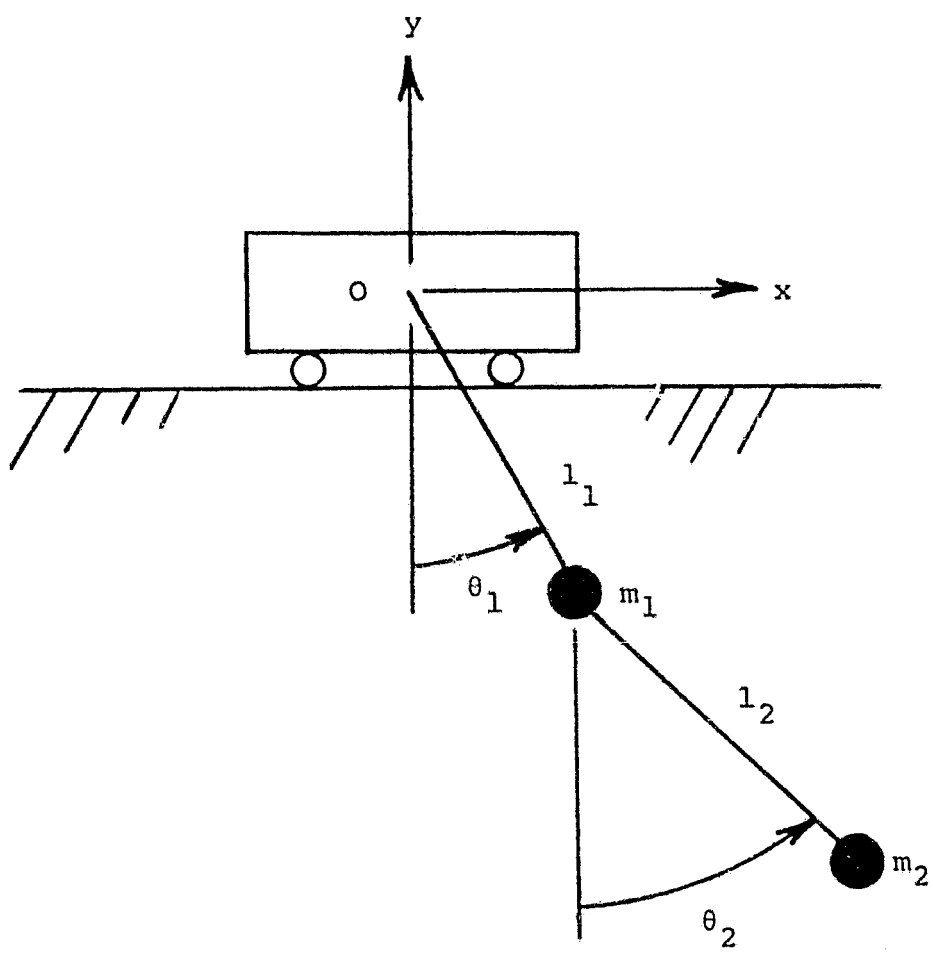


Figure (3) Idealized Balloon Platform System  
in the x-y Plane

3. The altitude of the support point O will assumed to be constant during the entire period of observation; i.e.,  $y = 0$ .
4. The moments of interia of each subsystem about their center of gravity will be neglected.
5. Viscous drag forces, viscous drag torque and support friction will be neglected.

This idealization enables one to treat the balloon system as a double pendulum with a moving (accelerating) support. The acceleration of the support is due to wind gust forces which act on the balloon. These accelerations cause equivalent excitation forces that affect system response. The main purpose of this work is to study the effect of these forces on the angles  $\theta_1$ ,  $\theta_2$ ,  $\psi_1$ , and  $\psi_2$ .

### 2.3 Generalized Coordinates

The generalized coordinates for a given system are those coordinates which are employed to specify the configuration of the system at any instant of time. In any mechanical system the number of degrees of freedom of the system coincides with the minimum number of independent coordinates necessary to describe the system uniquely. In the case of the idealized planar lumped parameter system shown in Fig. (3), two generalized coordinates, angles ( $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  or  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$ ) are necessary to specify the configuration. For this study generalized coordinates will be employed in order to facilitate the use of Lagrange's Equation for developing the mathematical model.

## 2.4 Lagrange's Equation

The differential equations governing the motion of the system shown in Fig. (3) will be developed by employing Lagrange's equation. The form of the equation used in this study is given as follows; i.e.,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_k} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_k} = Q_k, \quad k=1,2,\dots,n \quad (2-1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} L &= T - V = \text{Lagrangian}, & (2-2) \\ T &= \text{kinetic energy of the system}, \\ V &= \text{potential energy of the system}, \\ q_k &= \text{generalized coordinate}, \\ \dot{q}_k &= \text{generalized velocity}, \\ n &= \text{number of generalized coordinates, and} \\ Q_k &= \text{the nonconservative generalized forces.} \end{aligned}$$

Eq. (2-1) represents a set of  $n$  simultaneous differential equations which describe the motion of a holonomic system.

In this study support friction and drag forces are neglected therefore  $Q_k = 0$ .

The two main advantages for using Lagrange's equation are:

1. The internal reaction forces do no work during the motion and therefore can be neglected.
2. The energy terms can be computed in a straightforward manner.

## 2.5 System Lagrangian

The kinetic energy of the system shown in Fig. (3) (assuming small angles) is given as follows; i.e.,

$$T = \frac{1}{2}m_1(\dot{x} + l_1\dot{\theta}_1)^2 + \frac{1}{2}m_2(\dot{x} + l_1\dot{\theta}_1 + l_2\dot{\theta}_2)^2, \quad (2-3)$$

where

- $T$  = kinetic energy of complete system,
- $m_1$  = mass of subsystem 1,
- $m_2$  = mass of subsystem 2,
- $l_1$  = distance from support point O to mass  $m_1$ ,
- $l_2$  = distance from mass  $m_1$  to mass  $m_2$ ,
- $\dot{x}$  = translation velocity of support point O,
- $\dot{\theta}_1$  = angular velocity, and
- $\dot{\theta}_2$  = angular velocity.

The potential energy of the system is given as follows:

$$V = m_1gl_1(1-\cos\theta_1) + m_2g(l_1(1-\cos\theta_1) + l_2(1-\cos\theta_2)) \quad (2-4)$$

where

- $V$  = potential energy fo the complete system, and
- $g$  = acceleration of gravity.

Substitution of Eqs. (2-3) and (2-4) into Eq. (2-2), expanding and simplifying terms yields the system Lagrangian and is given as follows; i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned}
L = & \frac{1}{2}m_1(\dot{X}^2 + 2L_1\dot{X}\dot{\theta}_1 + L_1^2\dot{\theta}_1^2) + \frac{1}{2}m_2(\dot{X}^2 + 2\dot{X}L_1\dot{\theta}_1 \\
& + 2\dot{X}L_2\dot{\theta}_2 + 2L_1L_2\dot{\theta}_1\dot{\theta}_2 + L_1^2\dot{\theta}_1^2 + L_2^2\dot{\theta}_2^2) - m_1gL_1 \\
& + m_1gL_1\cos\theta_1 - m_2gL_1 + m_2gL_1\cos\theta_1 - m_2gL_2 \\
& + m_2gL_2\cos\theta_2. \tag{2-5}
\end{aligned}$$

## 2.6 Equations of Motion

The differential equations governing the motion of the system shown in Fig. (3) are obtained by substituting Eq. (2-5) into Eq. (2-1) with  $q_1 = \theta_1$  and  $q_2 = \theta_2$ . The results after rearranging terms and assuming small angles are given as follows; i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned}
(m_1L_1^2 + m_2L_1^2)\ddot{\theta}_1 + m_2L_1L_2\ddot{\theta}_2 + (m_1gL_1 + m_2gL_1)\theta_1 = \\
- (m_1L_1 + m_2L_1)\ddot{X}, \text{ and} \tag{2-6}
\end{aligned}$$

$$(m_2L_1L_2)\ddot{\theta}_1 + (m_2L_2^2)\ddot{\theta}_2 + m_2gL_2\theta_2 = -m_2L_2\ddot{X}. \tag{2-7}$$

Eqs. (2-6) and (2-7) are the differential equations governing the motion of the idealized balloon system. The equations of motion in the mutually perpendicular plane are the same, however  $\theta_1 = \psi_1$  and  $\theta_2 = \psi_2$ , these equations can be written as:

$$\begin{aligned}
(m_1L_1^2 + m_2L_1^2)\ddot{\psi}_1 + m_2L_1L_2\ddot{\psi}_2 + (m_1gL_1 + m_2gL_1)\psi_1 = \\
- (m_1L_1 + m_2L_1)\ddot{X}, \text{ and} \tag{2-8}
\end{aligned}$$



$$(m_2 L_1 L_2) \ddot{\psi}_1 + (m_2 L_2^2) \ddot{\psi}_2 + m_2 g L_2 \psi_2 = -m_2 L_2 \ddot{x} \quad (2-9)$$

One method of solving these equations will be discussed in the following chapter.

## CHAPTER III

## RESPONSE OF BALLOON BORN OBSERVATION PLATFORM

3.1 Development of Lumped Parameter Modal Equations

The method of modal analysis can be used to transform the simultaneous coupled differential equations of motion of a lumped system into a set of uncoupled differential equations, (Ref. 5). These resulting equations can easily be solved to obtain the response as a function of various initial conditions and excitations.

The mathematical model for any generally linear lumped parameter mechanical system without damping can be written in matrix form as follows; i.e.,

$$M\ddot{q} + Kq = F, \quad (3-1)$$

where

M = mass matrix,

K = stiffness matrix,

q = vector of generalized coordinates, and

F = forcing function.

To use the method of modal analysis, it is necessary to solve the eigenvalue problem associated with the homogeneous system described by Eq. (3-1). The eigenvalue problem can be expressed as follows; i.e.,

$$\omega_i^2 M u_i = K u_i \quad (3-2)$$

where

$\omega_i^2 = i^{\text{th}}$  eigenvalue, and

$u_i = i^{\text{th}}$  eigenvector.

The eigenvectors can be normalized such that:

$$\tilde{u}_i^T M \tilde{u}_j = \delta_{ij}, \quad (3-3)$$

$$\tilde{u}_i^T K \tilde{u}_j = \omega_i^2 \delta_{ij}, \quad (3-4)$$

where

$\tilde{u}_i = i^{\text{th}}$  normalized eigenvector,

$\tilde{u}_j = j^{\text{th}}$  normalized eigenvector, and

$\delta_{ij} = \text{Kronecker Delta.}$

$$= 1 \quad i=j$$

$$= 0 \quad i \neq j$$

It can be shown that:

$$\tilde{u}_i = C_i u_i, \quad (3-5)$$

where

$$C_i^2 = u_i^T M u_i. \quad (3-6)$$

The resulting modal matrix U is such that:

$$U^T M U = I, \quad (3-7)$$

and

$$U^T K U = \omega^2, \quad (3-8)$$

where

$$U = [\tilde{u}_1 \tilde{u}_2], \quad (3-9)$$

$I$  = identity matrix, and  
 $\omega^2$  = diagonal matrix of the eigenvalues.

The non-homogeneous solution of Eq. (3-1) can now be described as follows; i.e.,

$$q = U\eta, \quad (3-10)$$

where

$\eta$  = column matrix consisting of a set of time dependent generalized coordinates, and  
 $q$  = column matrix of generalized displacements.

Substitution of Eq. (3-10) into Eq. (3-1) yields;

$$M U \ddot{\eta} + K U \eta = F. \quad (3-11)$$

Premultiplying both sides of Eq. (3-11) by  $U^T$  yields the following; i.e.,

$$U^T M U \ddot{\eta} + U^T K U \eta = U^T F \quad (3-12)$$

Introduction of Eqs. (3-7) and (3-8) into Eq. (3-12) gives the following expression; i.e.,

$$\ddot{\eta} + \omega^2 \eta = N, \quad (3-13)$$

where

$$N = U^T F. \quad (3-14)$$

Eq. (3-13) represents a set of  $n$  uncoupled differential equations of the form:

$$\ddot{\eta}_i(t) + \omega_i^2 \eta_i(t) = N_i \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n. \quad (3-15)$$

These equations have the form of the differential equations describing the motion of  $n$ , undamped, uncoupled single degree of freedom systems.

Eq. (3-15) can be solved by means of the Laplace transform method, this yields:

$$\eta_i(t) = \frac{1}{\omega_i} \int_0^t N_i(\tau) \sin \omega_i(t-\tau) d\tau + \eta_i(0) \cos \omega_i t + \eta_i(0) \frac{\sin \omega_i t}{\omega_i} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n. \quad (3-16)$$

Assuming zero initial conditions, Eq. (3-16) can be written as follows; i.e.,

$$\eta_i(t) = \frac{1}{\omega_i} \int_0^t N_i(\tau) \sin \omega_i(t-\tau) d\tau. \quad (3-17)$$

This equation is known as the convolution integral. The response  $q$  can be determined by introducing Eq. (3-17) into Eq. (3-10)

### 3.2 Response of Idealized Balloon System

The Eqs. (2-6), (2-7), (2-8), and (2-9) for the system shown in Fig. (3) can be written as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \begin{bmatrix} m_1 l_1^2 + m_2 l_1^2 & m_2 l_1 l_2 \\ m_2 l_1 l_2 & m_2 l_2^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} \ddot{q}_1 \\ \ddot{q}_2 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} m_1 g l_1 + m_2 g l_1 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 g l_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} q_2 \\ q_2 \end{vmatrix} \\
 & = \begin{vmatrix} -(m_1 l_1 + m_2 l_1) \ddot{x} \\ -(m_2 l_2) \ddot{x} \end{vmatrix}, \tag{3-18}
 \end{aligned}$$

or in abbreviated form as:

$$Mq + Kq = F, \tag{3-19}$$

where

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} m_{11} & m_{12} \\ m_{21} & m_{22} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} k_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & k_{22} \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and}$$

$$F = \begin{vmatrix} -(m_1 l_1 + m_2 l_1) \ddot{x} \\ -(m_2 l_2) \ddot{x} \end{vmatrix}.$$

A non trivial solution of the eigenvalue problem given by Eq. (3-2) will result if and only if the determinant of the coefficients vanish; i.e.,

$$|K - \omega^2 M| = 0. \tag{3-20}$$

Introduction of the proper elements of Eq. (3-19) into Eq. (3-20) yields.

$$\begin{vmatrix} k_{11} - m_1\omega^2 & -m_{12}\omega^2 \\ -m_{21}\omega^2 & k_{22} - m_2\omega^2 \end{vmatrix} = 0. \quad (3-21)$$

Solving Eq. (3-21) for  $\omega^2$  results in two real roots given by the expression:

$$\omega_i^2 = 1/2 \frac{(k_{11}m_{11} + k_{22}m_{11})}{(m_{11}m_{22} - m_{12}m_{21})} \pm 1/2 \sqrt{\frac{(k_{11}m_{22} + k_{22}m_{11})^2}{(m_{11}m_{22} - m_{12}m_{21})^2} - \frac{4k_{11}k_{22}}{(m_{11}m_{22} - m_{12}m_{21})}} \quad (3-22)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_i &= \text{natural frequency, and} \\ i &= 1, 2. \end{aligned}$$

The eigenvectors associated with each natural frequency can now be written as; i.e.,

$$u_1 = \begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{k_{11} - \omega_1^2 m_{11}}{\omega_1^2 m_{12}} \end{vmatrix}, \quad (3-23)$$

and

$$u_2 = \begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{k_{11} - \omega_2^2 m_{11}}{\omega_2^2 m_{12}} \end{vmatrix}, \quad (3-24)$$

where

$u_1$  = eigenvector associated with  $\omega_1$ , and

$u_2$  = eigenvector associated with  $\omega_2$ .

The characteristic vectors  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  are the modal vectors and represent the natural modes of oscillation of the system. Normalization of the modal vectors will produce the normal modes. Computing the values of  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  according to Eq. (3-6) yields the following:

$$C_1 = \sqrt{m_{11} + \frac{(k_{11} - \omega_1^2 m_{11})}{\omega_1^2 m_{12}} (m_{21} + m_{12}) + \frac{(k_{11} - \omega_1^2 m_{11})^2}{(\omega_1^2 m_{12})^2} m_{22}}, \quad (3-25)$$

$$C_2 = \sqrt{m_{11} + \frac{(k_{11} - \omega_2^2 m_{11})}{\omega_2^2 m_{12}} (m_{21} + m_{12}) + \frac{(k_{11} - \omega_2^2 m_{11})^2}{(\omega_2^2 m_{12})^2} m_{22}}. \quad (3-26)$$

The resulting normalized modal vectors become:



$$\tilde{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{k_{11} - \omega_1^2 m_{11}}{\omega_1^2 m_{12}} \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and} \quad (3-27)$$

$$\tilde{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{k_{11} - \omega_2^2 m_{11}}{\omega_2^2 m_{12}} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (3-28)$$

Substituting Eqs. (3-27) and (3-28) into Eq. (3-9) yields the modal matrix U; i.e.,

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{C_1} & \frac{1}{C_2} \\ \frac{k_{11} - \omega_1^2 m_{11}}{C_1 \omega_1^2 m_{12}} & \frac{k_{11} - \omega_2^2 m_{11}}{C_2 \omega_2^2 m_{12}} \end{bmatrix} \quad (3-29)$$

Substitution of the modal matrix U given by Eq. (3-29) into Eq. (3-14) yields the following for the components of vector N; i.e.,

$$N_1 = -(m_1 l_1 + m_2 l_2) \ddot{x}_{u_{11}} - (m_2 l_2) \ddot{x}_{u_{21}}, \text{ and}$$

$$N_2 = -(m_1 l_1 + m_2 l_2) \ddot{x}_{u_{12}} - (m_2 l_2) \ddot{x}_{u_{22}},$$

where

$$u_{ij} = \text{components of modal matrix U.}$$

Introducing the the above components into Eq. (3-17) yields the following set of expressions; i.e.,

$$\eta_1(t) = \frac{1}{\omega_1} \int_0^t N_1(\tau) \sin \omega_1(t-\tau) d\tau, \text{ and} \quad (3-30)$$

$$\eta_2(t) = \frac{1}{\omega_2} \int_0^t N_2(\tau) \sin \omega_2(t-\tau) d\tau. \quad (3-31)$$

The system response given by Eq. (3-10) can now be written as follows:

$$q_1 = \eta_1(t)u_{11} + \eta_2(t)u_{12}, \text{ and} \quad (3-32)$$

$$q_2 = \eta_1(t)u_{21} + \eta_2(t)u_{22}. \quad (3-33)$$

The next chapter will discuss the numerical evaluation of  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  in order to obtain the response of the system shown in Fig. (3).

## CHAPTER IV

### RESULTS AND SUMMARY

#### 4.1 LACATE Mission Data

Fig. (1) illustrates the actual LACATE balloon system and Fig. (3) illustrates the system as it was idealized for this study. The physical properties of the idealized LACATE system are given in Table I. The results of the eigenvalue problem from Eq. (3-2) are presented in Table II. The resulting natural frequencies, periods, and mode shapes are given in Table III.

#### 4.2 Balloon System Horizontal Accelerations

The flight of the LACATE balloon system was tracked by ground radar and the resulting horizontal trajectory is shown in Fig. (4). Two typical segments of the balloon's flight path were analyzed in this study. Flight segment one is taken from the time interval  $0 < t < 500$  seconds, while flight segment two is taken from the time interval  $5889 < t < 6389$  seconds.

The horizontal acceleration components  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  along the balloon's body axis were computed using data from the radar tracking station in conjunction with a numerical differentiation process, (Ref. 4). Figs. (5) and (6) show the body axis acceleration components  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  for the two flight segments studied.

#### 4.3 Response of Balloon Borne Observation Platform

The values of  $\eta_1$  and  $\eta_2$  from Eqs. (3-30) and (3-31)

were determined by numerical integration of the convolution integral using a trapezoidal rule. (Refer to Appendix I for a listing of the computer program.) Fig. (7)-(14) give the response of  $\eta_1$  and  $\eta_2$  (with inputs  $a_1$  and  $a_2$ ) for each flight segment studied.

In order to verify the results of the computer program, the input  $a_1$ , from flight segment one was approximated as a straight line function for the interval  $0 < t < 200$  seconds. The resulting approximation is shown in Fig. (15). Eq. (3-30) was then integrated analytically with this straight line approximation as input for  $\ddot{x}$ . The results are shown plotted in Fig. (16). Eq. (3-30) was also integrated numerically on the computer with the straight line function as input for  $\ddot{x}$ . (Refer to Appendix II for a listing of the computer program.) The results are given in Fig. (17).

The results from Eqs. (3-32) and (3-33) for  $\theta_1$ ,  $\theta_2$ ,  $\psi_1$ , and  $\psi_2$  for flight segment one are presented in Figs. (18)-(23). Figs. (20) and (23, show the comparison of  $\theta_1$ ,  $\theta_2$ , and  $\psi_1$ ,  $\psi_2$  respectively. The system response  $\theta_1$ ,  $\theta_2$ ,  $\psi_1$ , and  $\psi_2$  for flight segment two are presented in Figs. (24)-(29).

#### 4.4 Discussion of Results

The results in Fig. (4) indicate dramatically the presents of wind gusts during the flight of the LACATE balloon system. These gusts were sufficient to cause significant changes in the direction of the balloon's

flight path. Moreover, Figs. (5) and (6) indicate that because of the wind gusts the magnitude of the acceleration  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  varied from  $-0.123 \text{ m/sec}^2$  to  $0.095 \text{ m/sec}^2$  in flight segment one and  $-0.055 \text{ m/sec}^2$  to  $0.10 \text{ m/sec}^2$  in flight segment two.

Figs. (16) and (17) indicate that the results  $\eta_1$  and  $\eta_2$  obtained from the computer program are in close agreement with the results obtained from the analytic method. This fact enables one to have confidence in the computer program and in the numerical integration algorithm. Figs. (7)-(15) show that the response of  $\eta_1$  and  $\eta_2$  is oscillatory in nature. Moreover, the relative magnitude of the oscillation increases or decreases as the input acceleration  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  increases or decreases.

The results in Figs. (20) and (26) indicate that the magnitudes of  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  are approximately equal. This is also true for  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  shown in Figs. (23) and (29). Figs. (30)-(33) show that the period of oscillation is approximately 10 seconds. These facts indicate that the idealized balloon system oscillates primarily in the most fundamental mode.

The results in Figs. (18)-(29) indicate that the system does not oscillate about its vertical axis. These figures show that the relative offset of oscillation is negative when the input is positive and vice versa. The figures indicate also, that the relative swing amplitude increases and decreases as the input acceleration increases

and decreases.

#### 4.5 Summary

In this study the balloon borne observation platform was viewed as a double pendulum with a moving (accelerating) support. The acceleration of the support which is due to the effect of wind gusts acting on the balloon was treated as an idealized source.

The results of this study indicate that the system oscillates primarily in the most fundamental mode. This is significant because, the balloon system can therefore be treated as a single pendulum with a moving (accelerating) support. This will simplify the mathematical model in future idealizations. The results of this study also indicate, that due to the effect of wind gusts the maximum pendulation angle is of the order 1.0 degree. Generally these angles were found to be of the order 0.60 degrees or less. This is important to designers of future balloon systems in order for them to determine what kinds of auxiliary controls and or attitude determination systems are necessary for economical and accurate data collection.

TABLE I

## Idealized LACATE System Properties

$l_1 = 75\text{ft}$  (distance from support point O to mass  $m_1$ )

$l_2 = 15\text{ft}$  (distance from mass  $m_1$  to mass  $m_2$ )

$m_1 = 135\text{lb}_m$  (lumped mass)

$m_2 = 375\text{lb}_m$  (lumped mass)

TABLE II

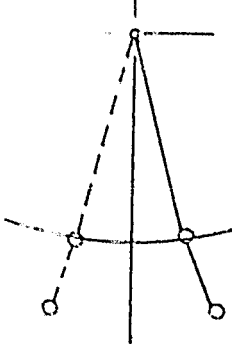
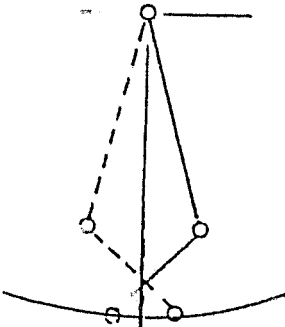
Balloon System Eigenvalues, Natural Frequencies,  
and Corresponding Eigenvectors

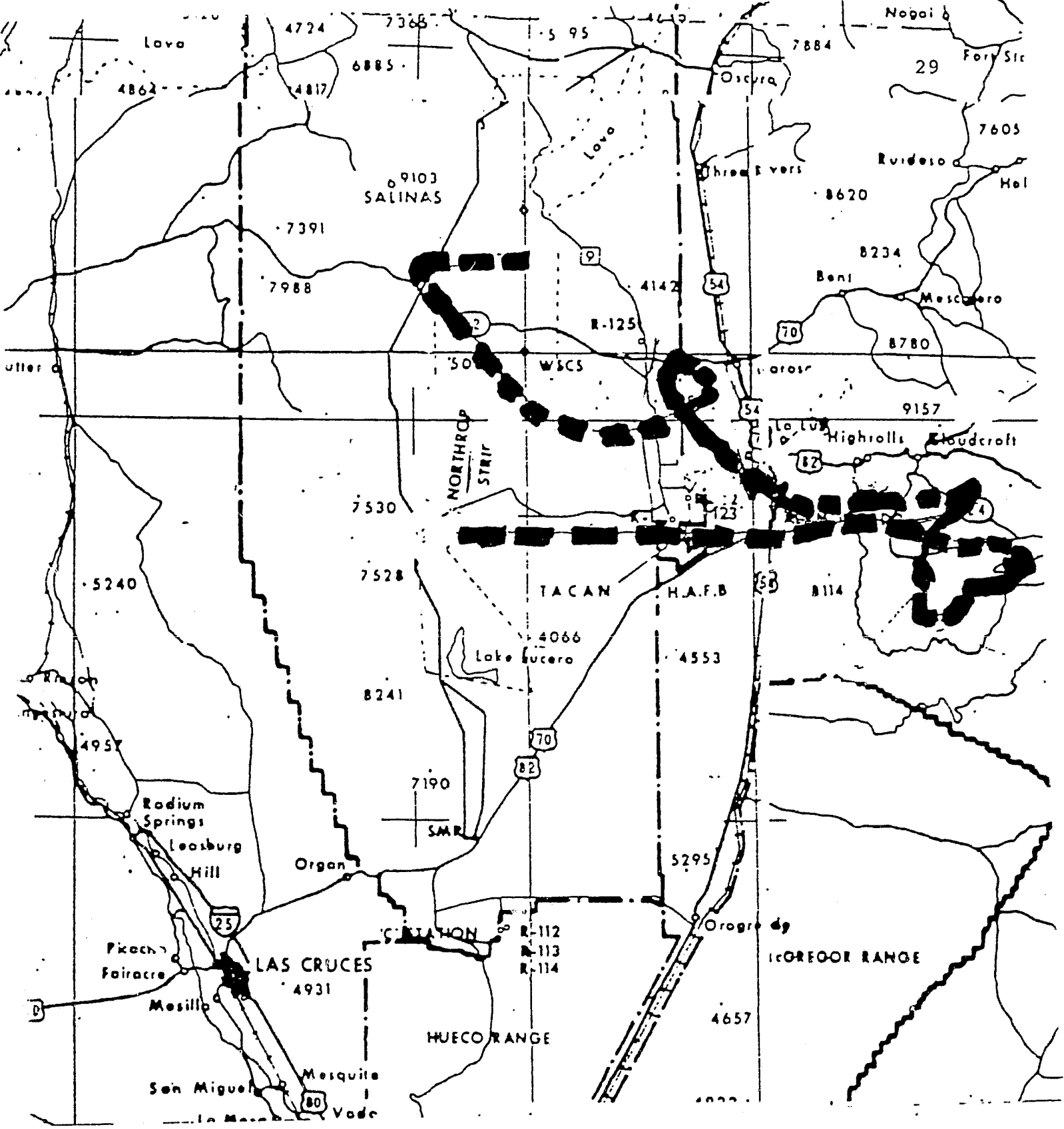
$i$	$\omega_i^2$	$\omega_i$	$u_i$
1	0.3718	0.6098	1.000 1.044
2	9.3782	3.0624	1.000 -6.489



TABLE III

Natural Frequencies, Periods, and  
Modal Shapes for Balloon System

i	$\omega_i$	Period $\tau_i$	Modal Shape
1	0.6098	10.303 sec	
2	3.0624	2.051 sec	



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Figure (4) Balloon System Flight Path

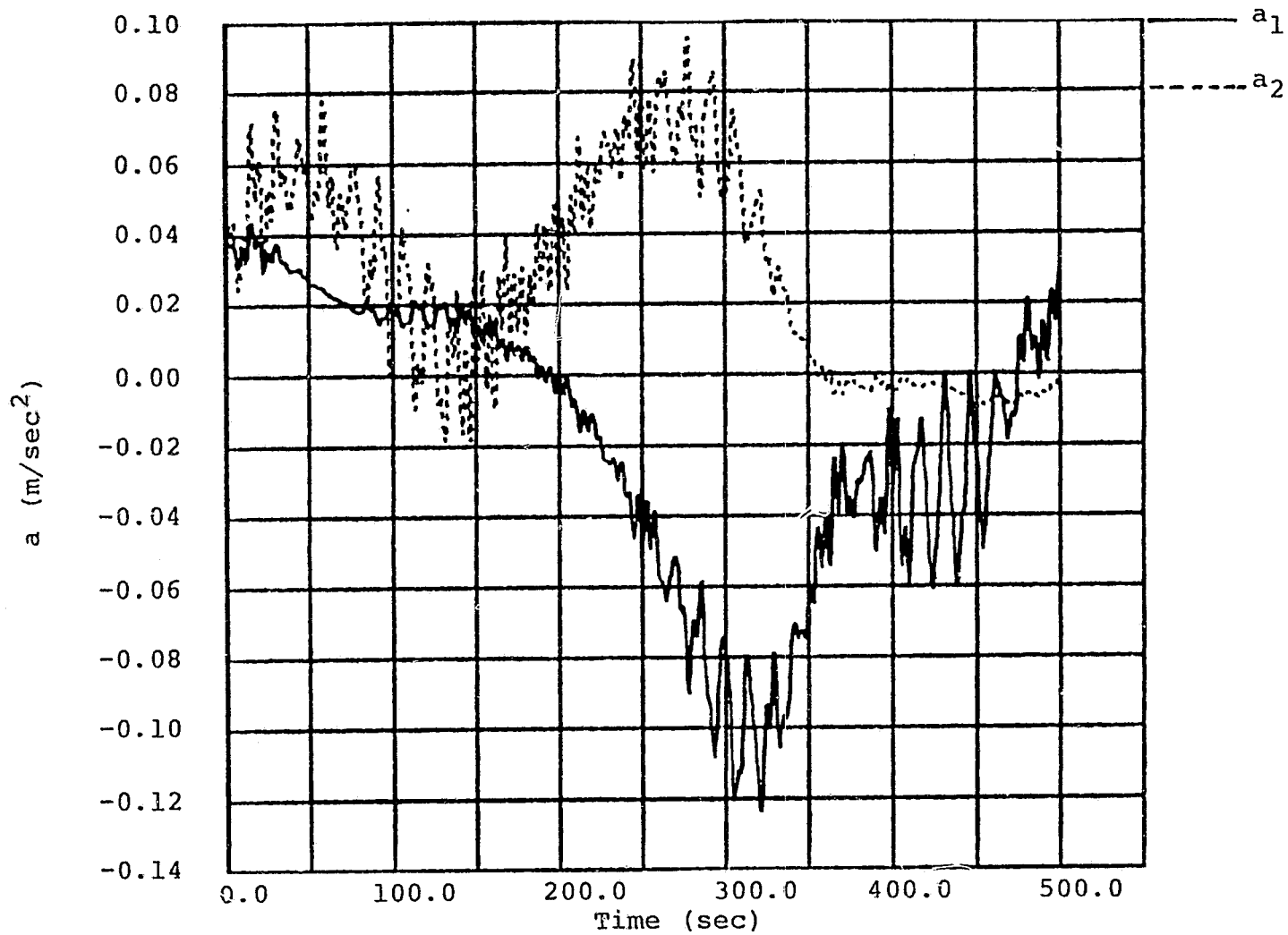
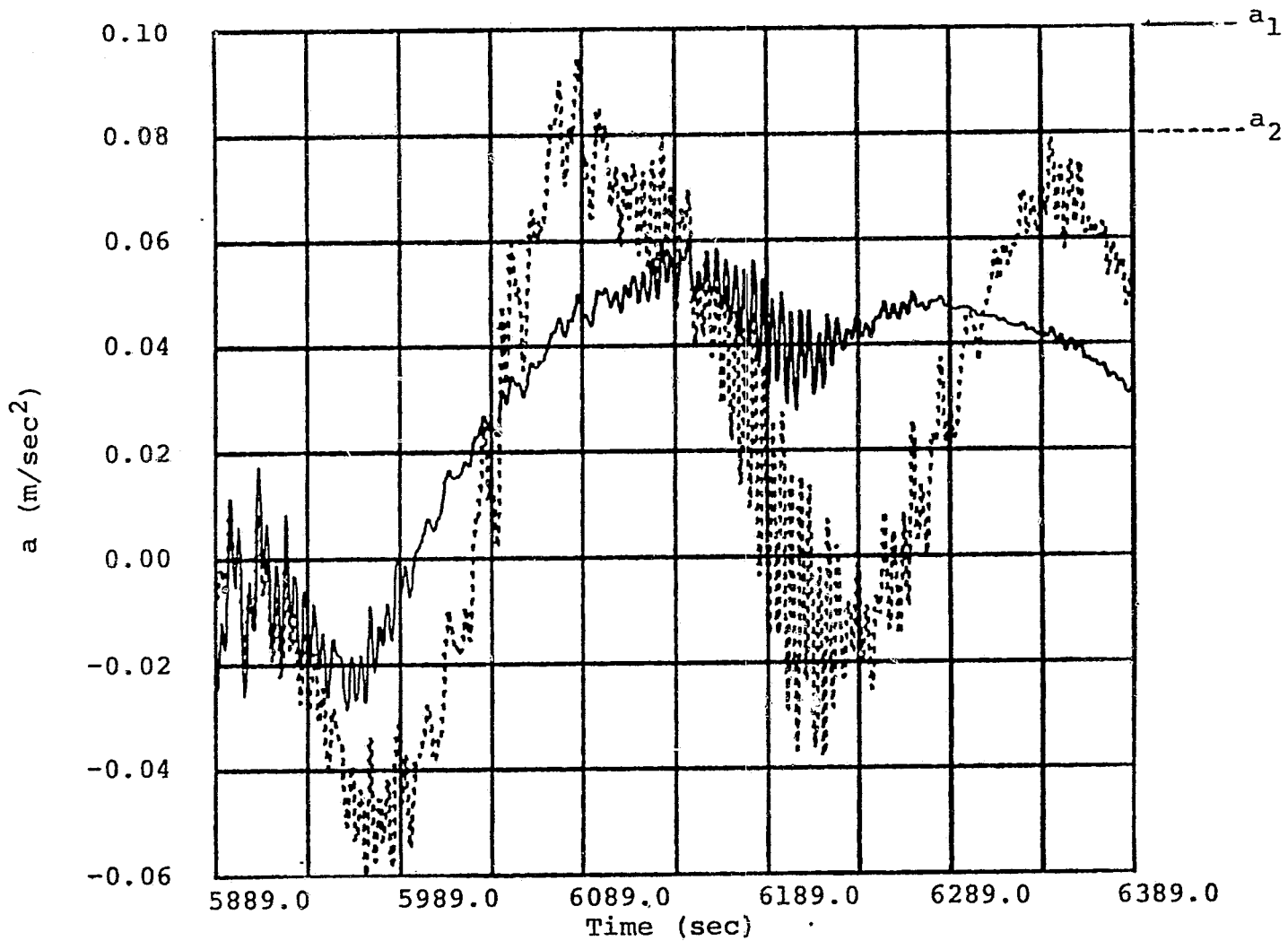


Figure (5) Horizontal Acceleration of Support Point O Along Body Axis (Flight Segment One)

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Figure (6) Horizontal Acceleration of Support Point O Along Body Axis (Flight Segment Two)

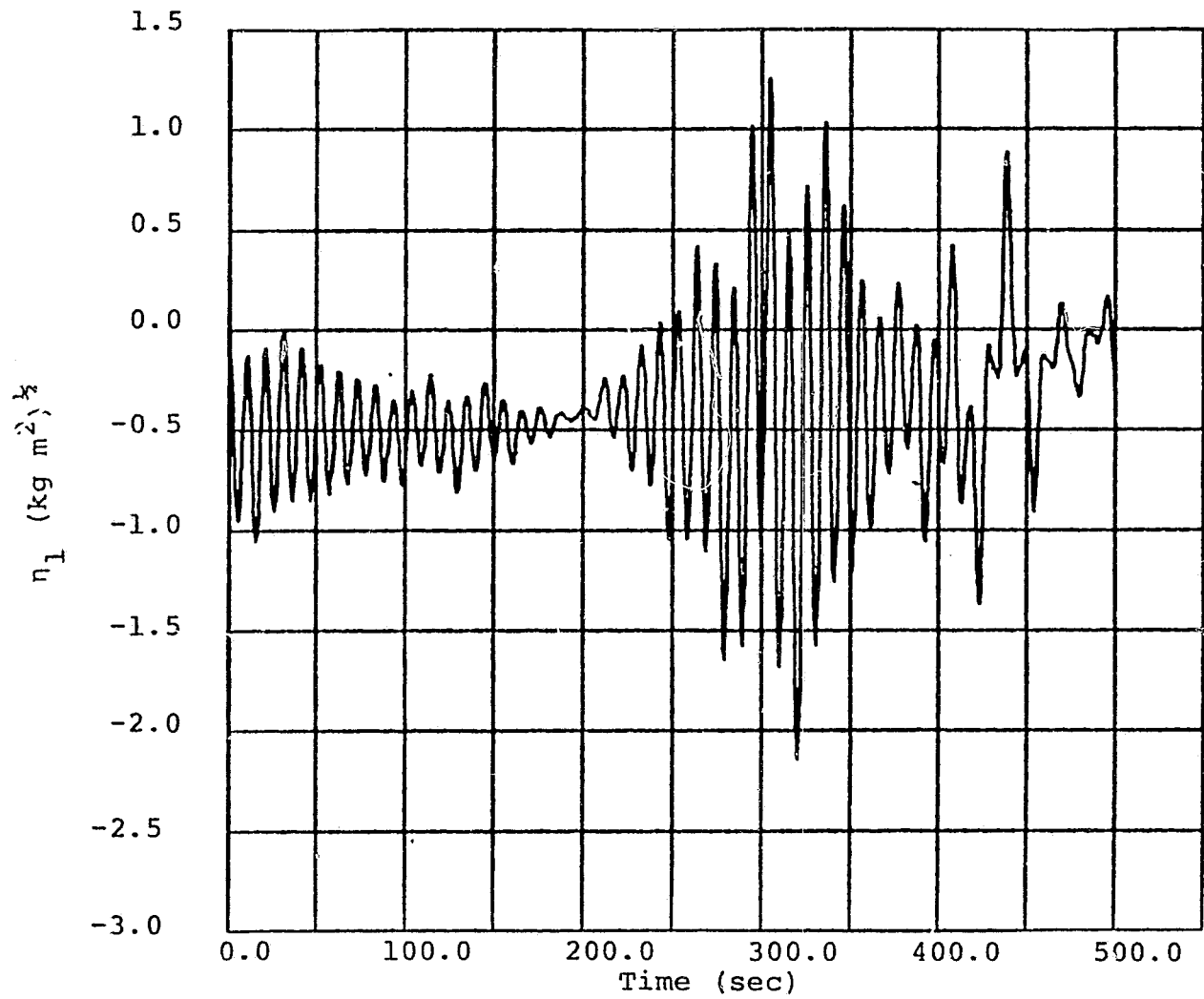


Figure (7) Plot of  $\eta_1$  Values (With Input =  $a_1$ )

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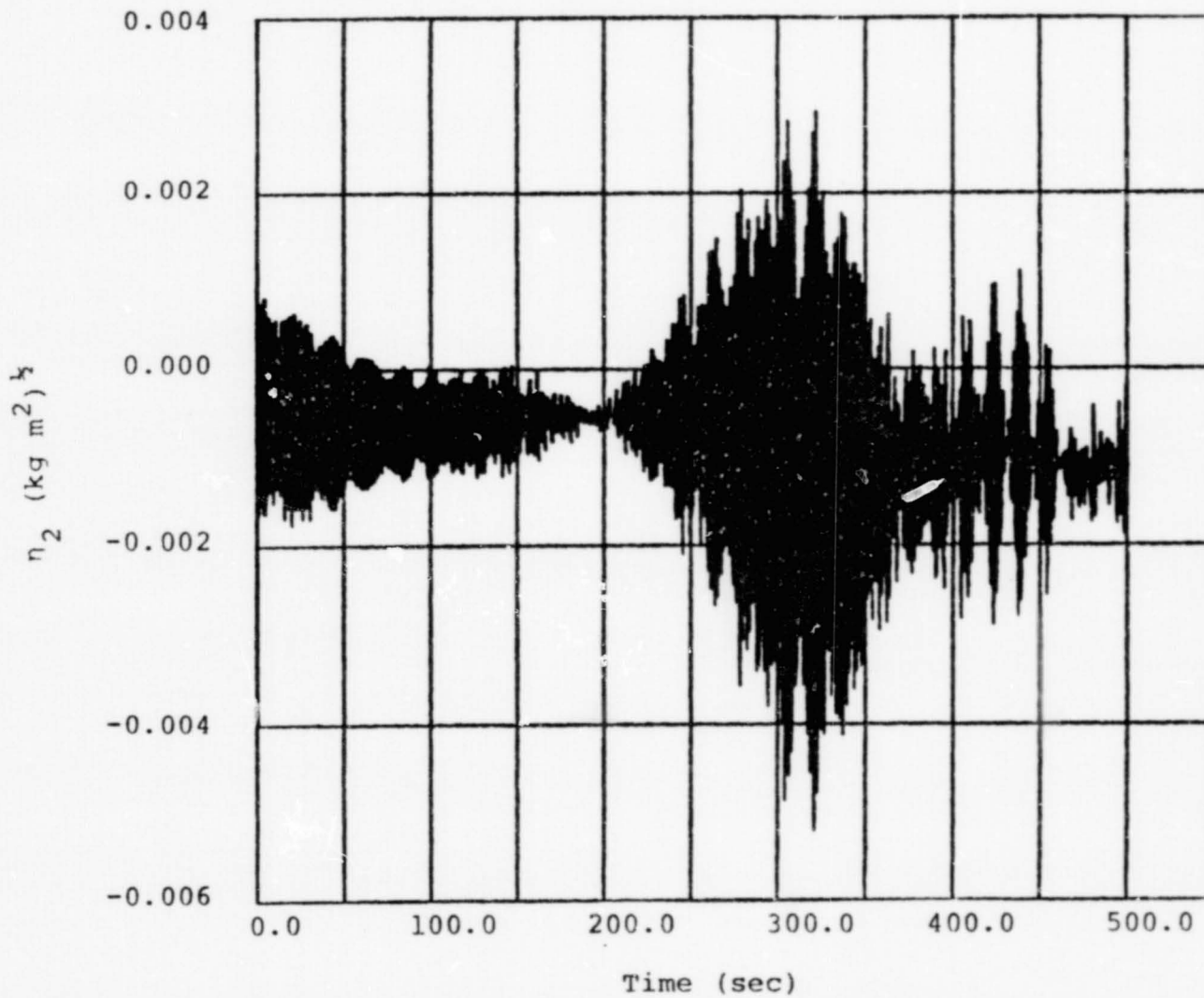


Figure (8) Plot of  $\eta_2$  Values (With Input  $a_1$ )

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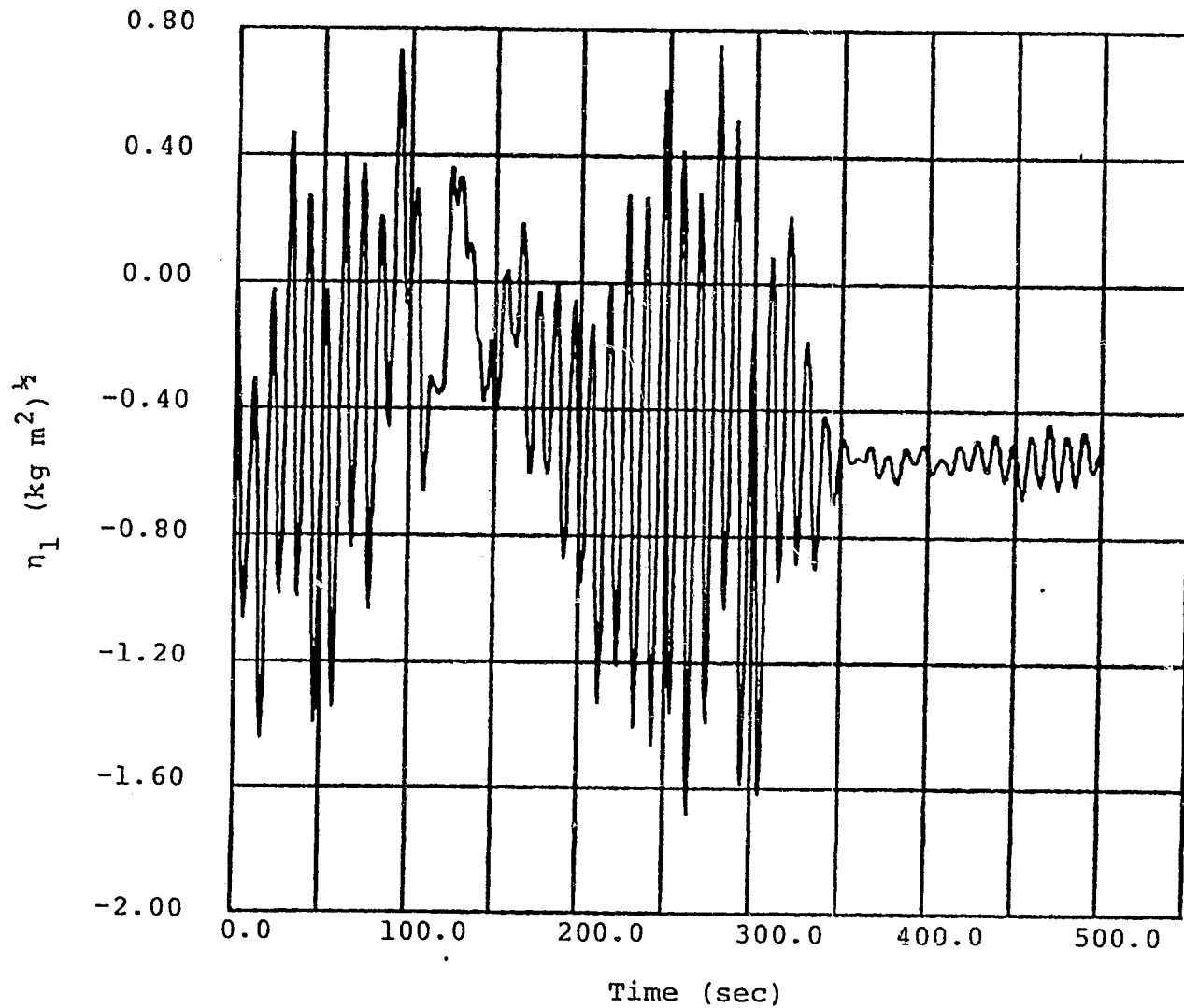


Figure (9) Plot of  $\eta_1$  Values (With Input =  $a_2$ )

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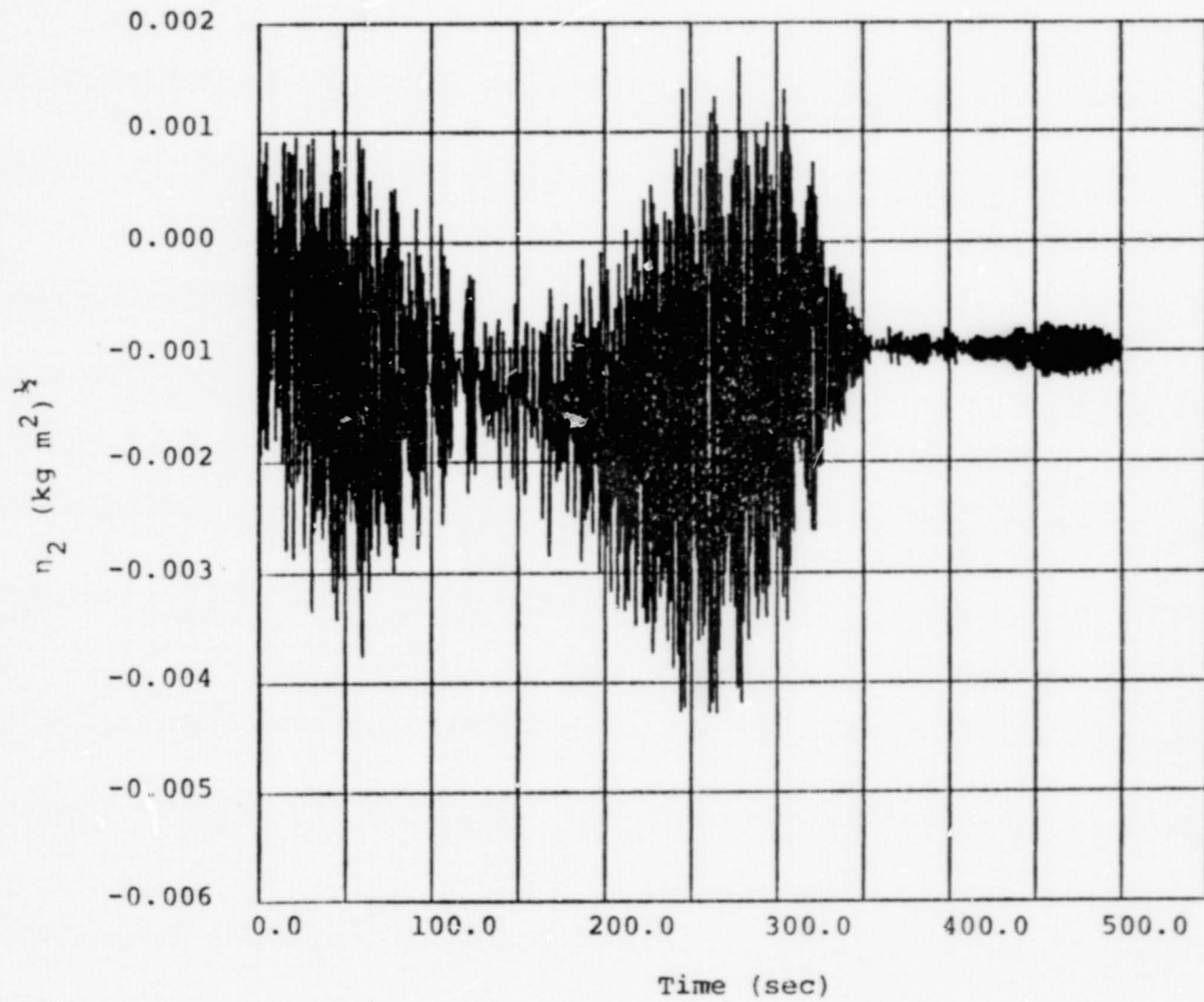


Figure (10) Plot of  $n_2$  Values (With Input =  $a_2$ )

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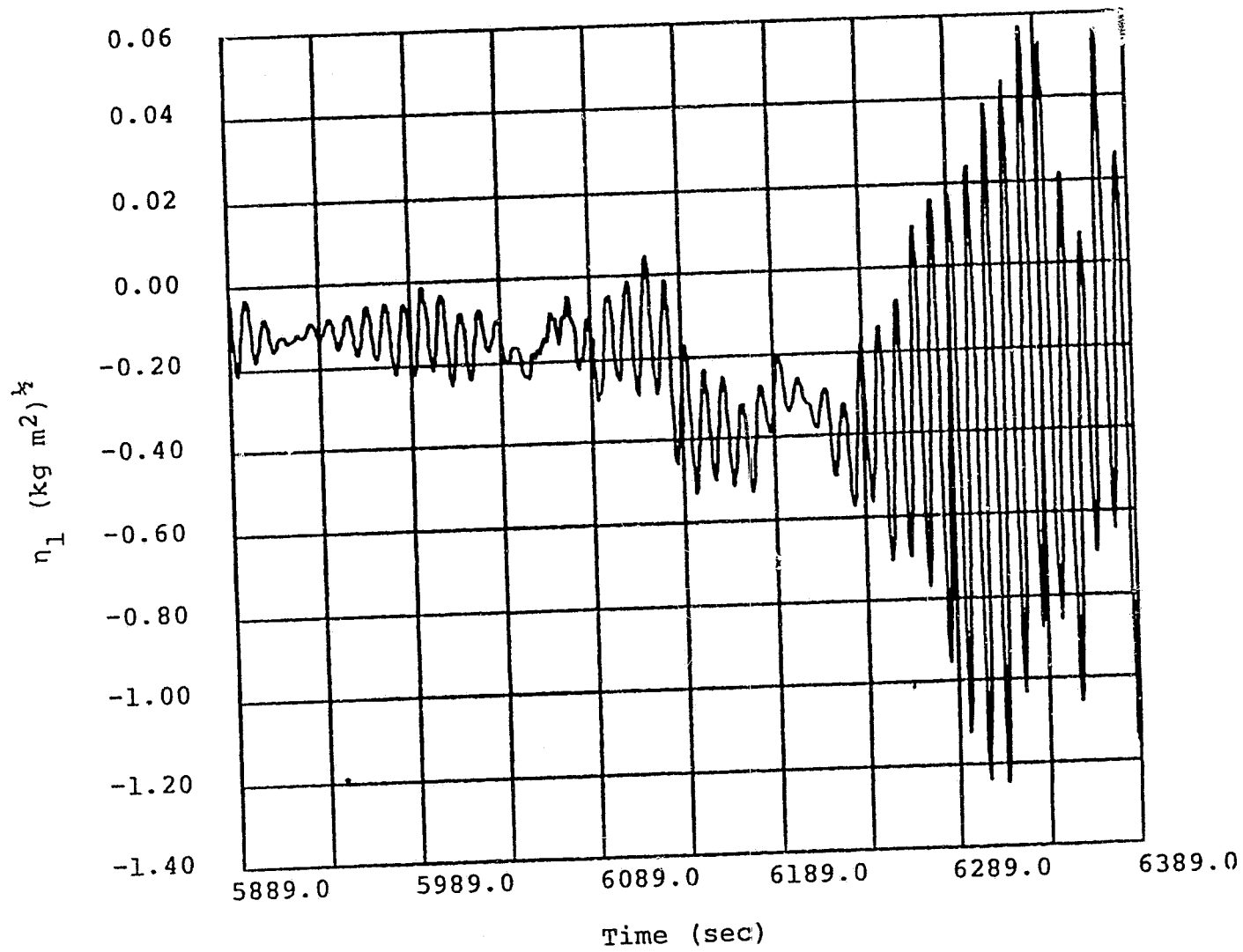


Figure (11) Plot of  $\eta_1$  Values (With Input =  $a_1$ )

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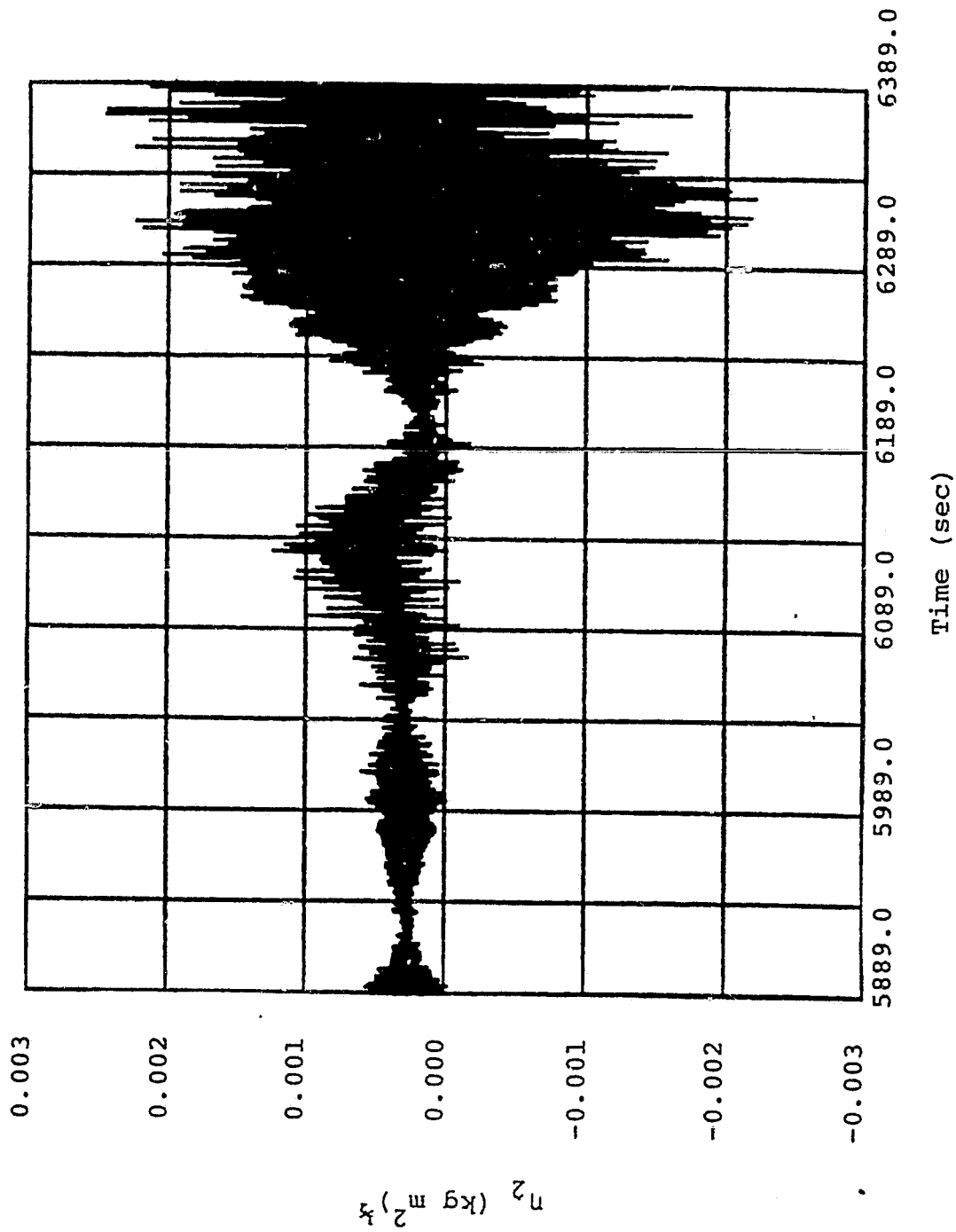


Figure (12) Plot of  $n_2$  Values (With Input =  $a_1$ )

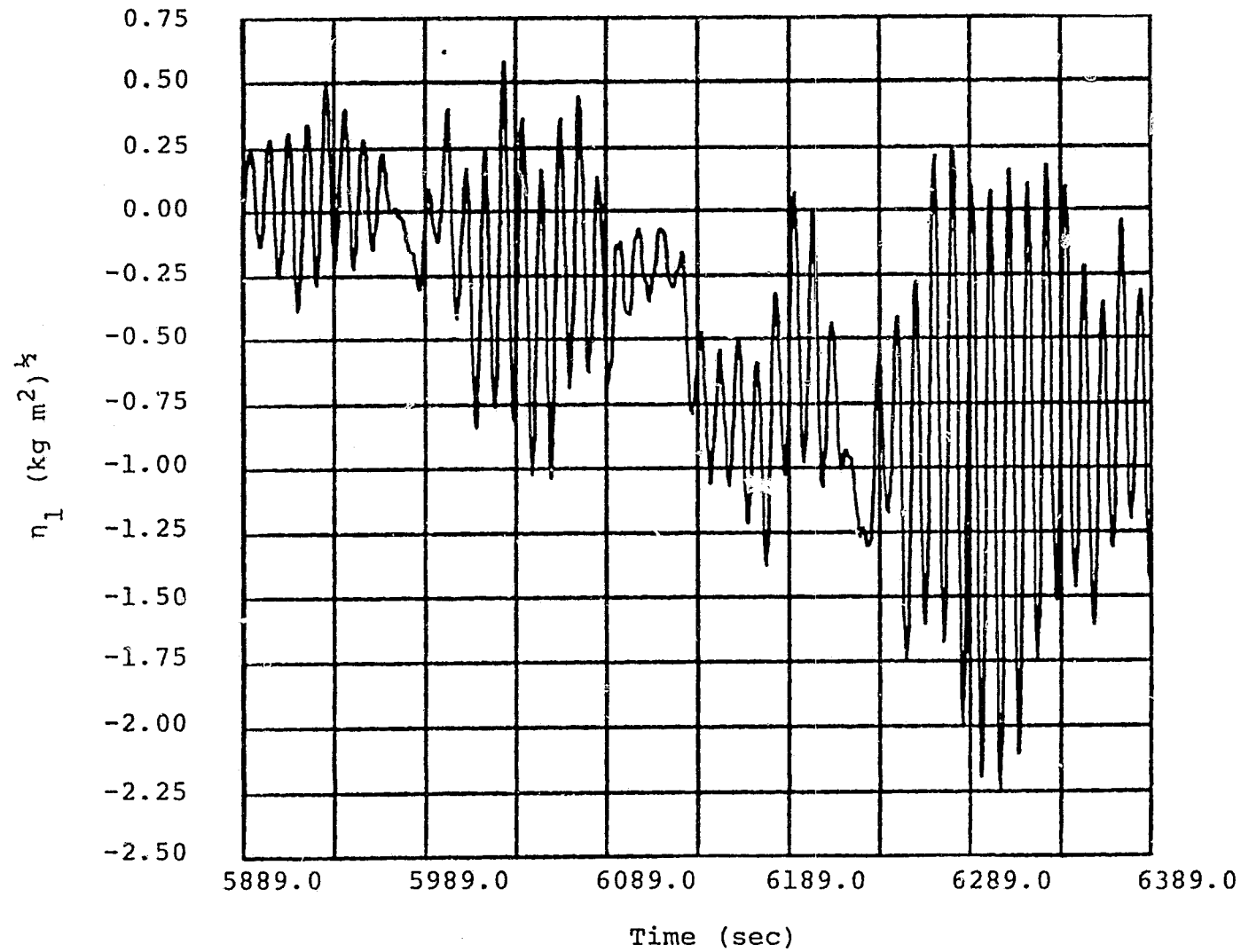


Figure (13) Plot of  $\eta_1$  Values (With Input =  $a_2$ )

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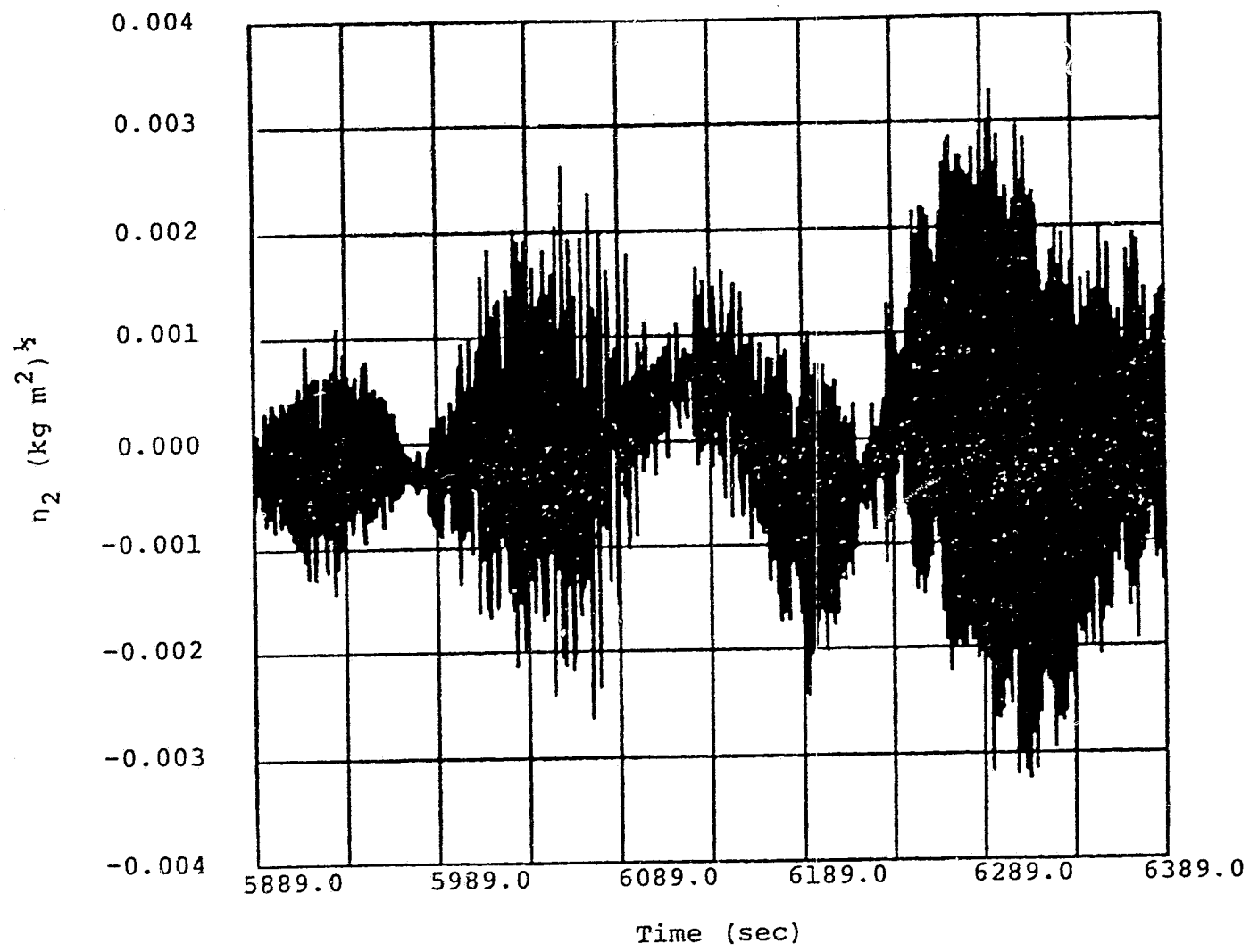


Figure (14) Plot of  $\eta_2$  Values (With Input =  $a_2$ )

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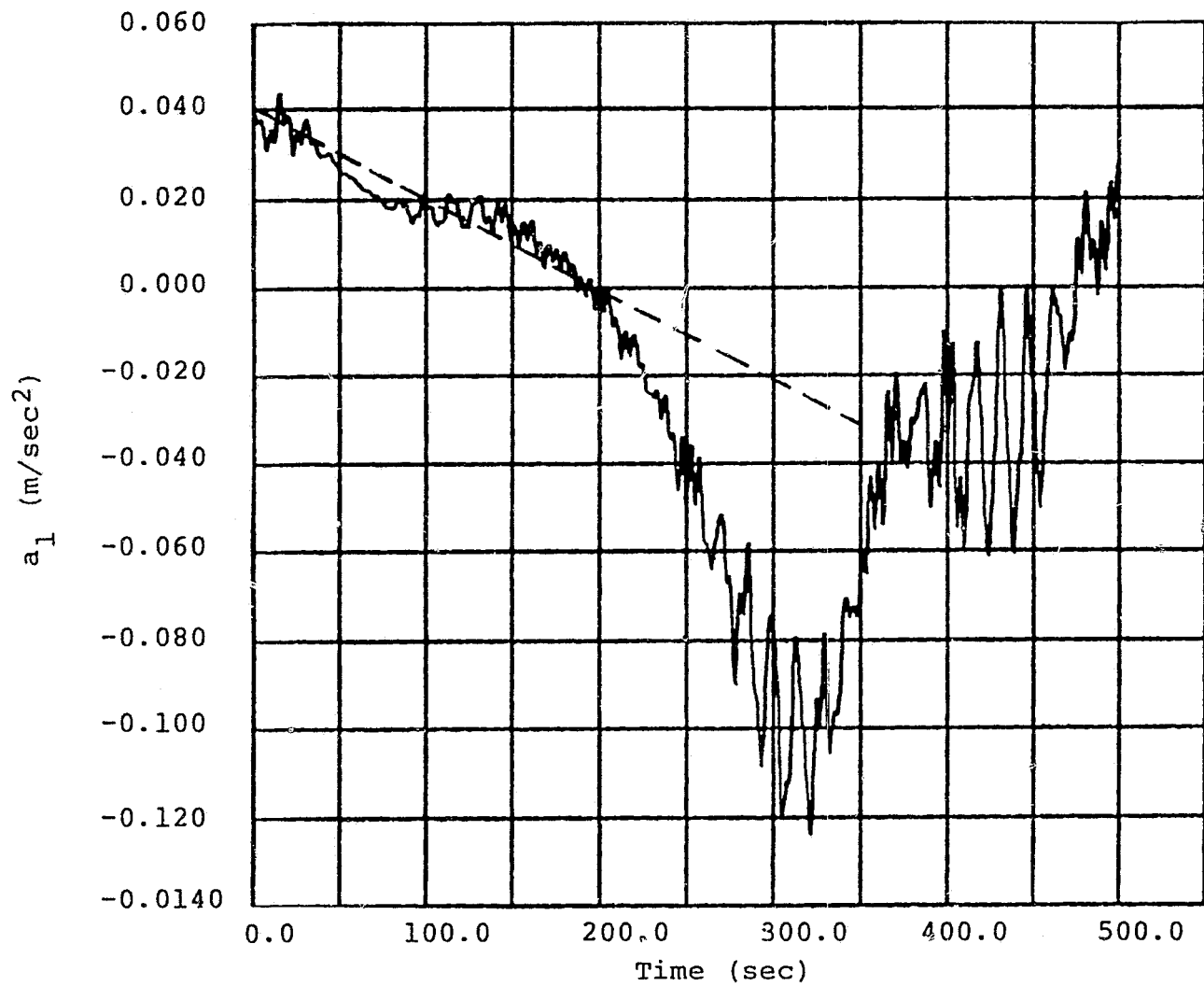


Figure (15) Plot of Straight Line Approximation  
Flight Segment One

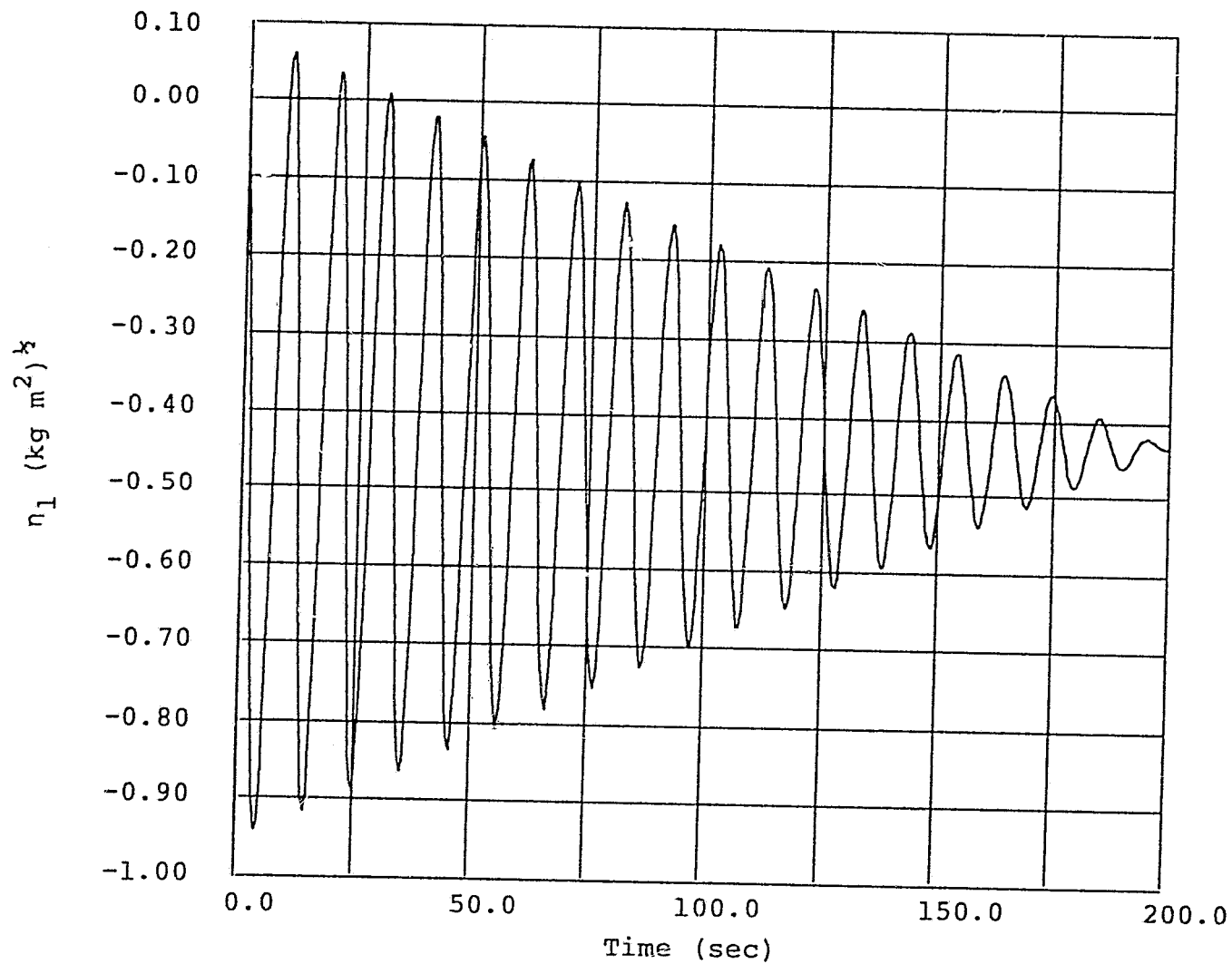


Figure (16)  $\eta_1$  Values Computed Analytically (With  
Input = Straight Line Function)

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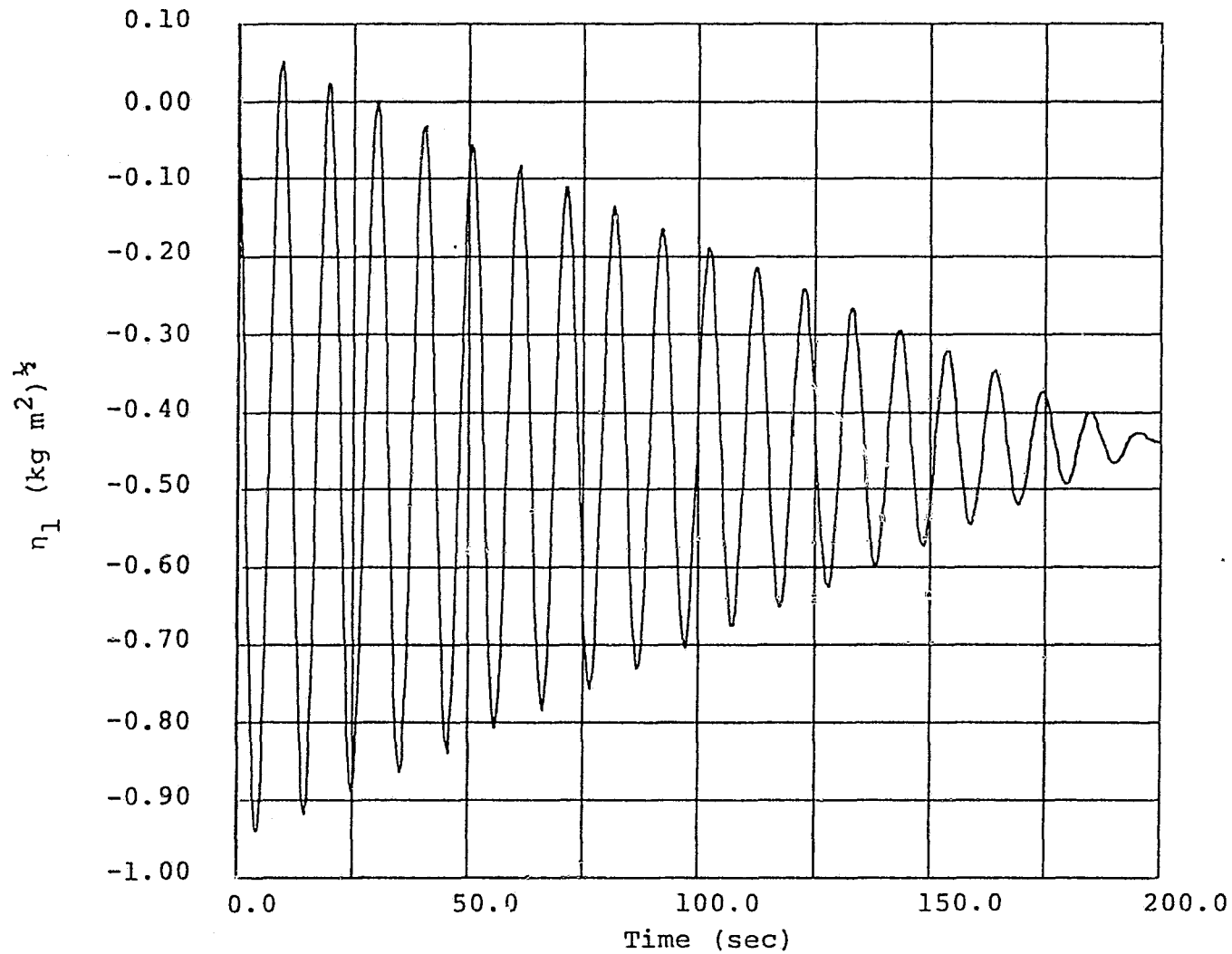


Figure ( 17)  $\eta_1$  Values Computed Numerically (With  
 Input = Straight Line Function)

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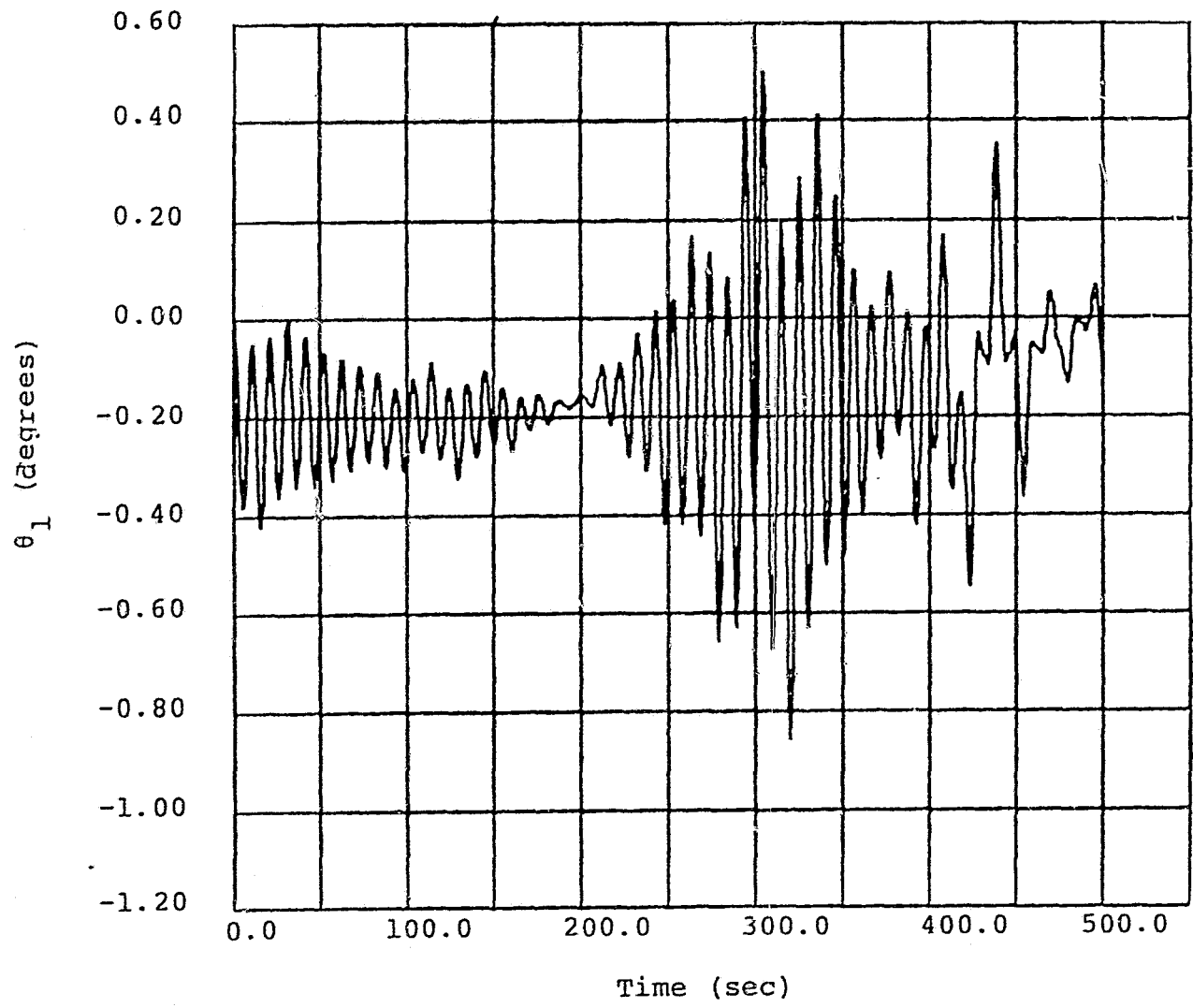


Figure (18) System Response (With Input =  $a_1$ )

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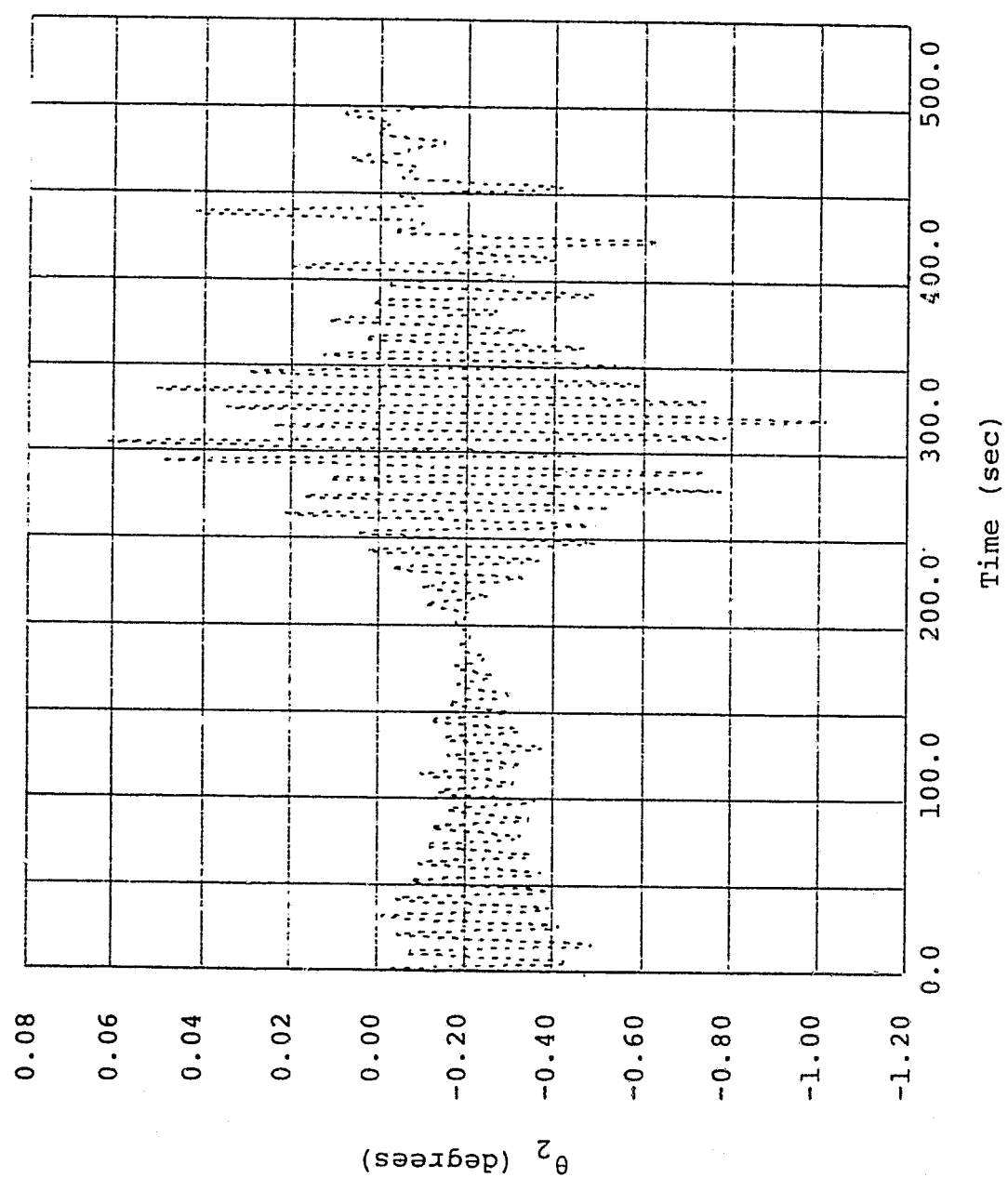


Figure (19) System Response (With Input =  $a_1$ )

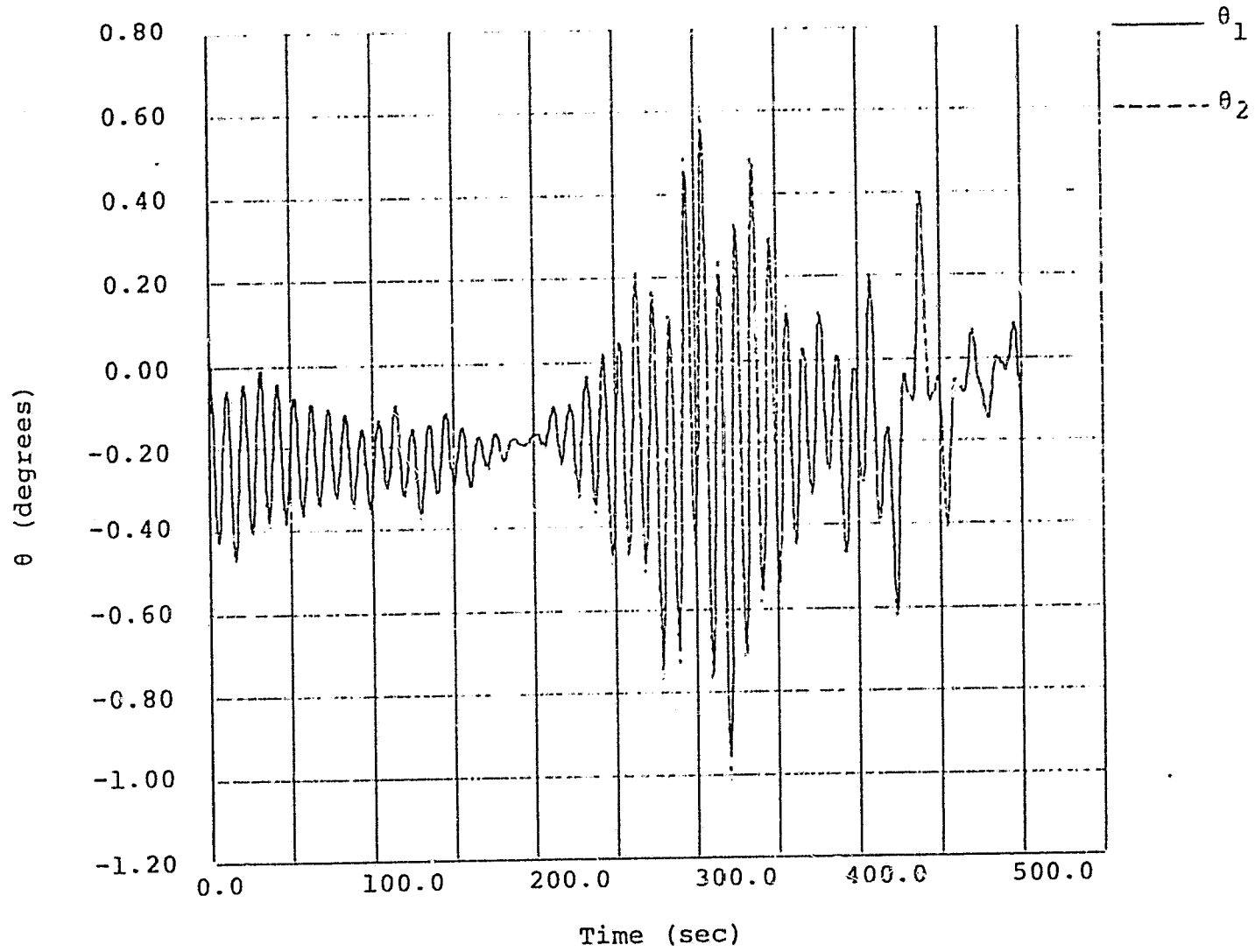


Figure (20) System Response (With Input =  $a_1$ )

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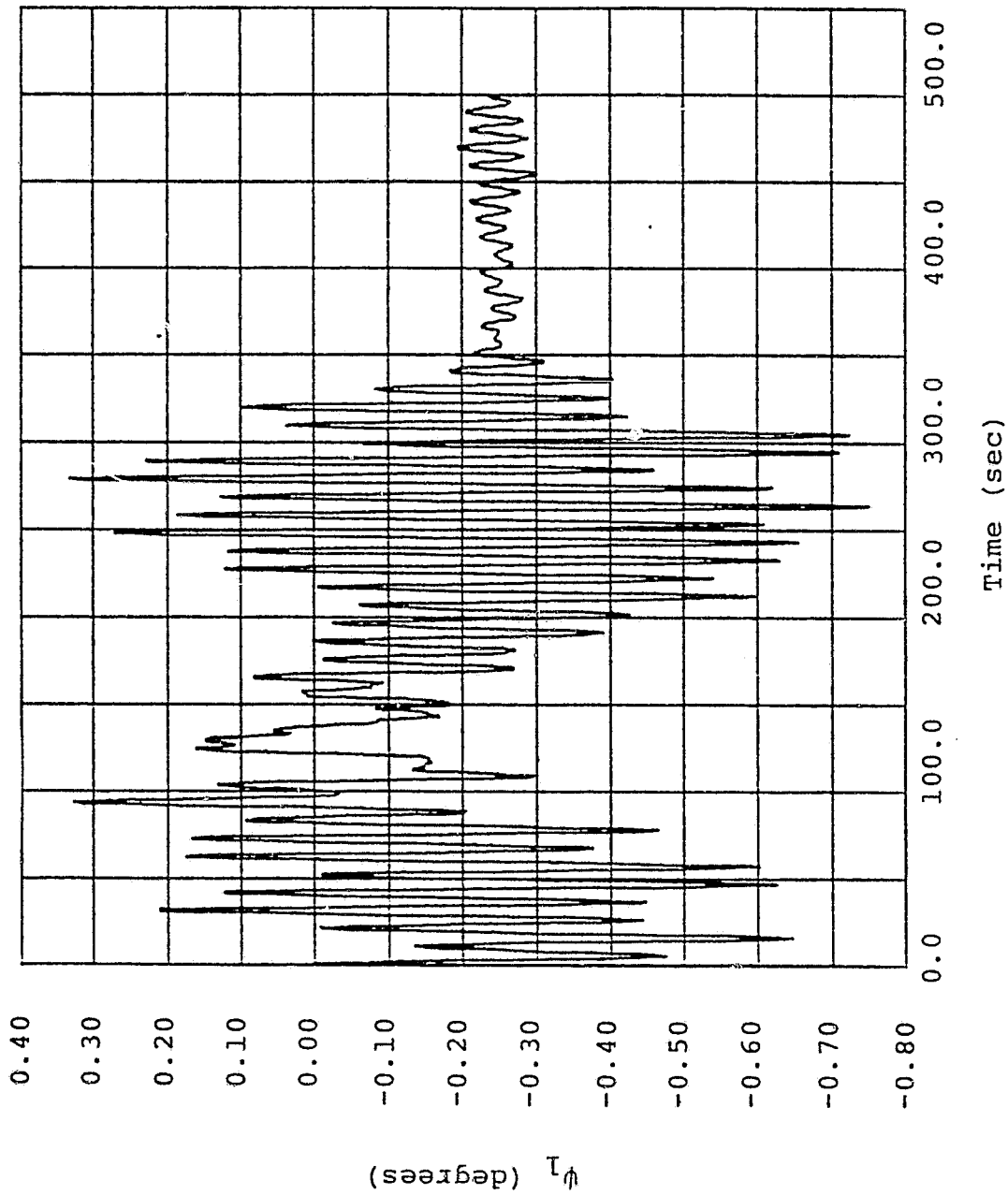


Figure (21) System Response (With Input =  $a_2$ )

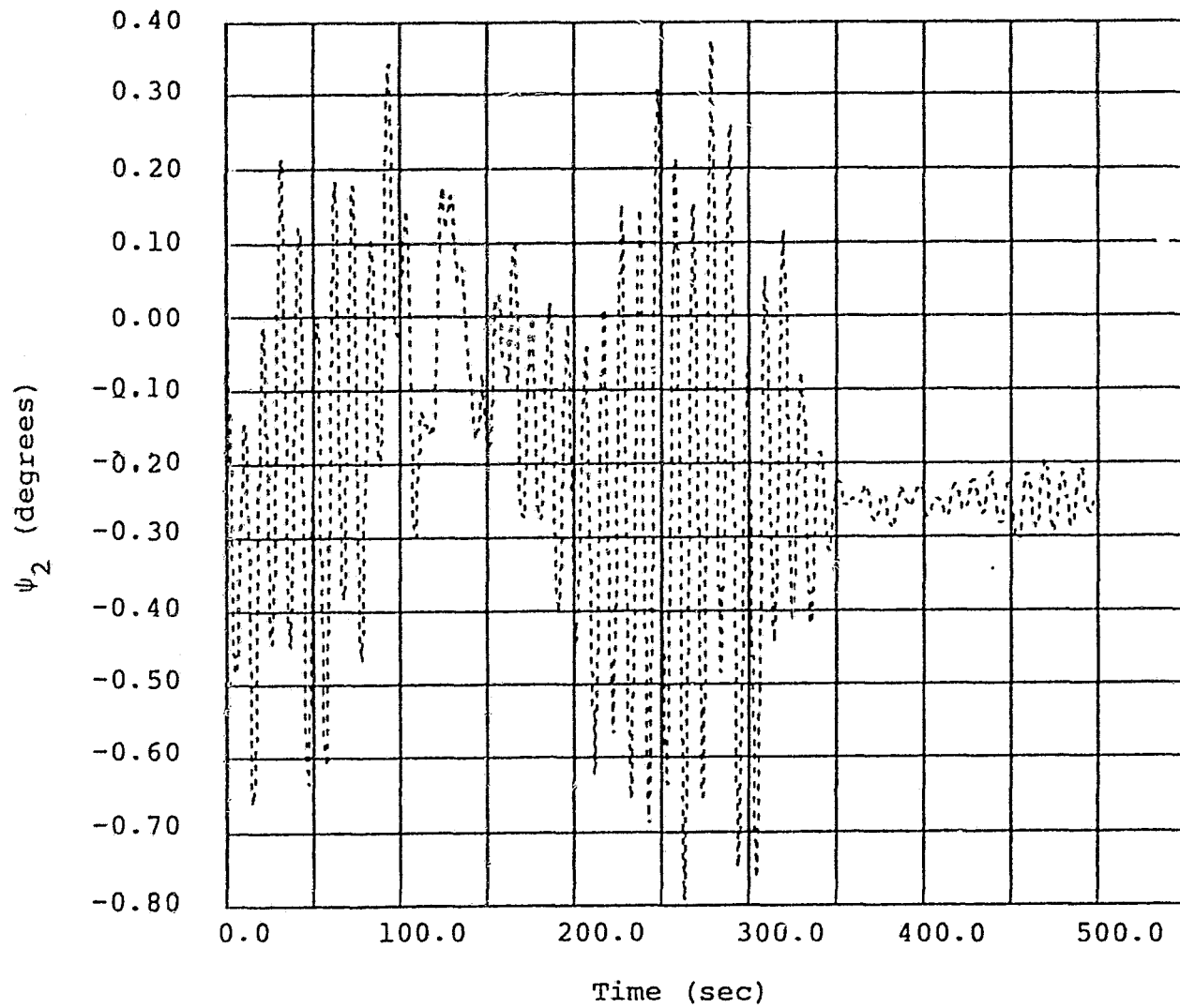


Figure (22) System Response (With Input =  $a_2$ )

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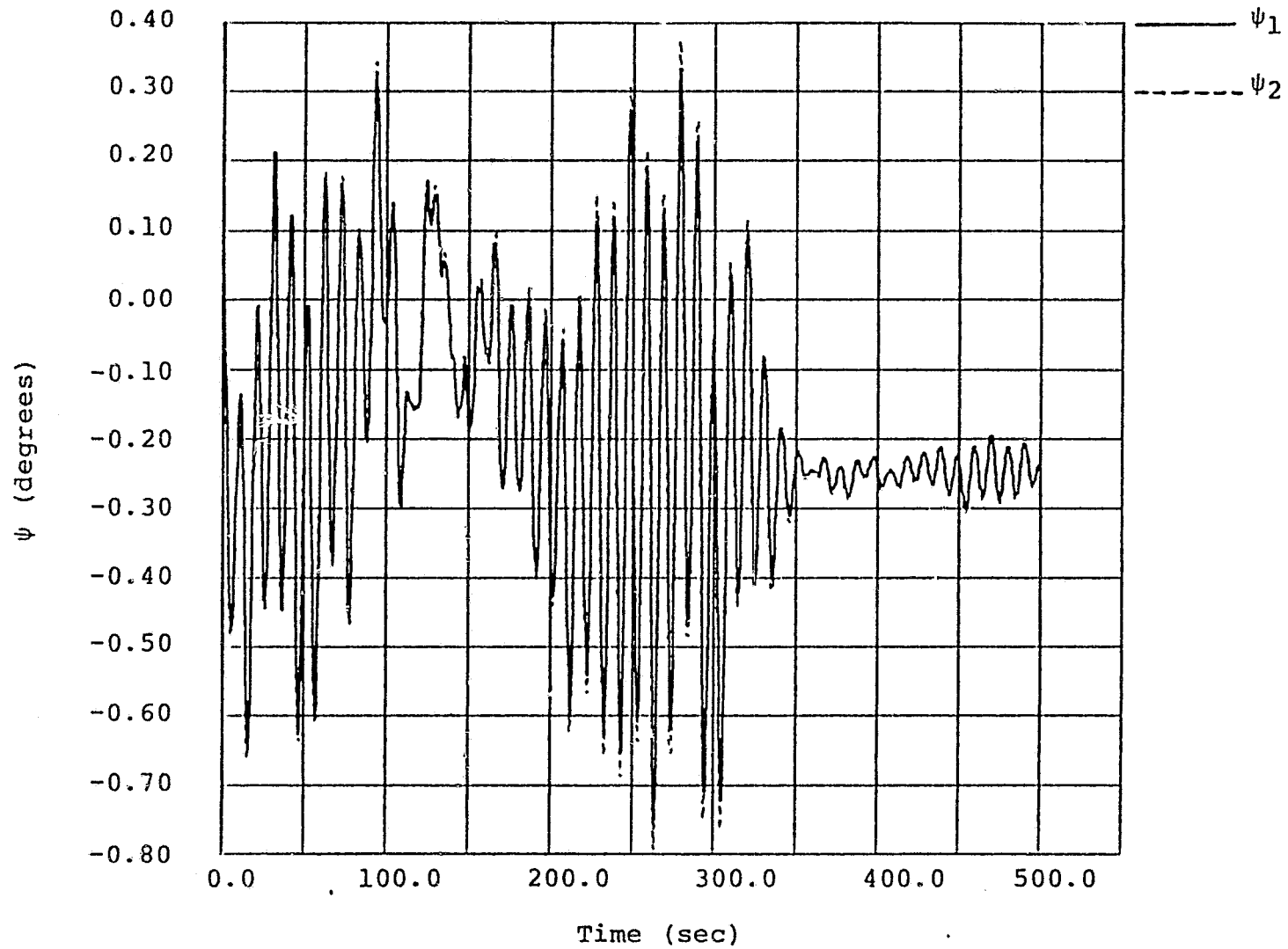


Figure (23) System Response (With Input =  $a_2$ )

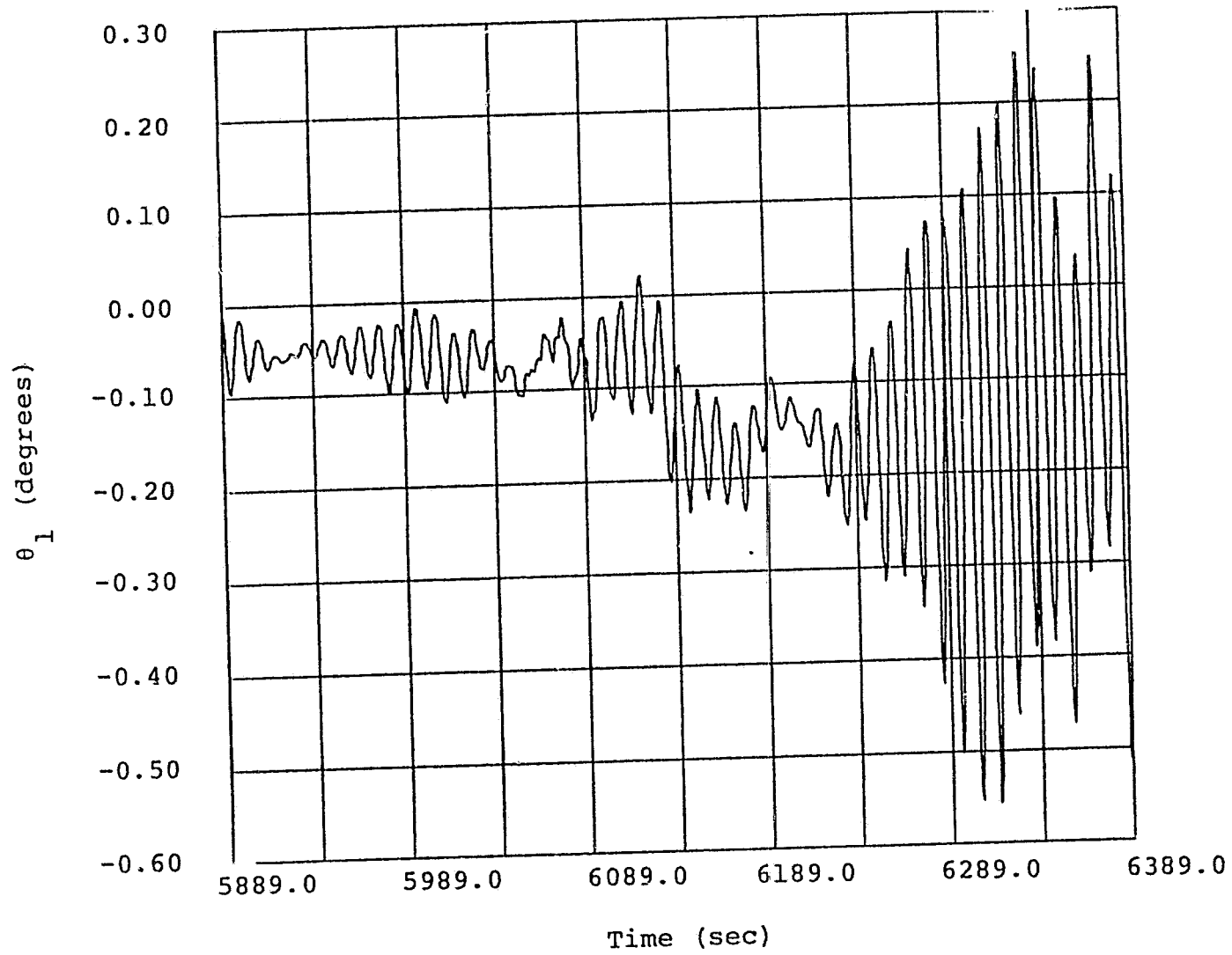


Figure (24) System Response (With Input =  $a_1$ )

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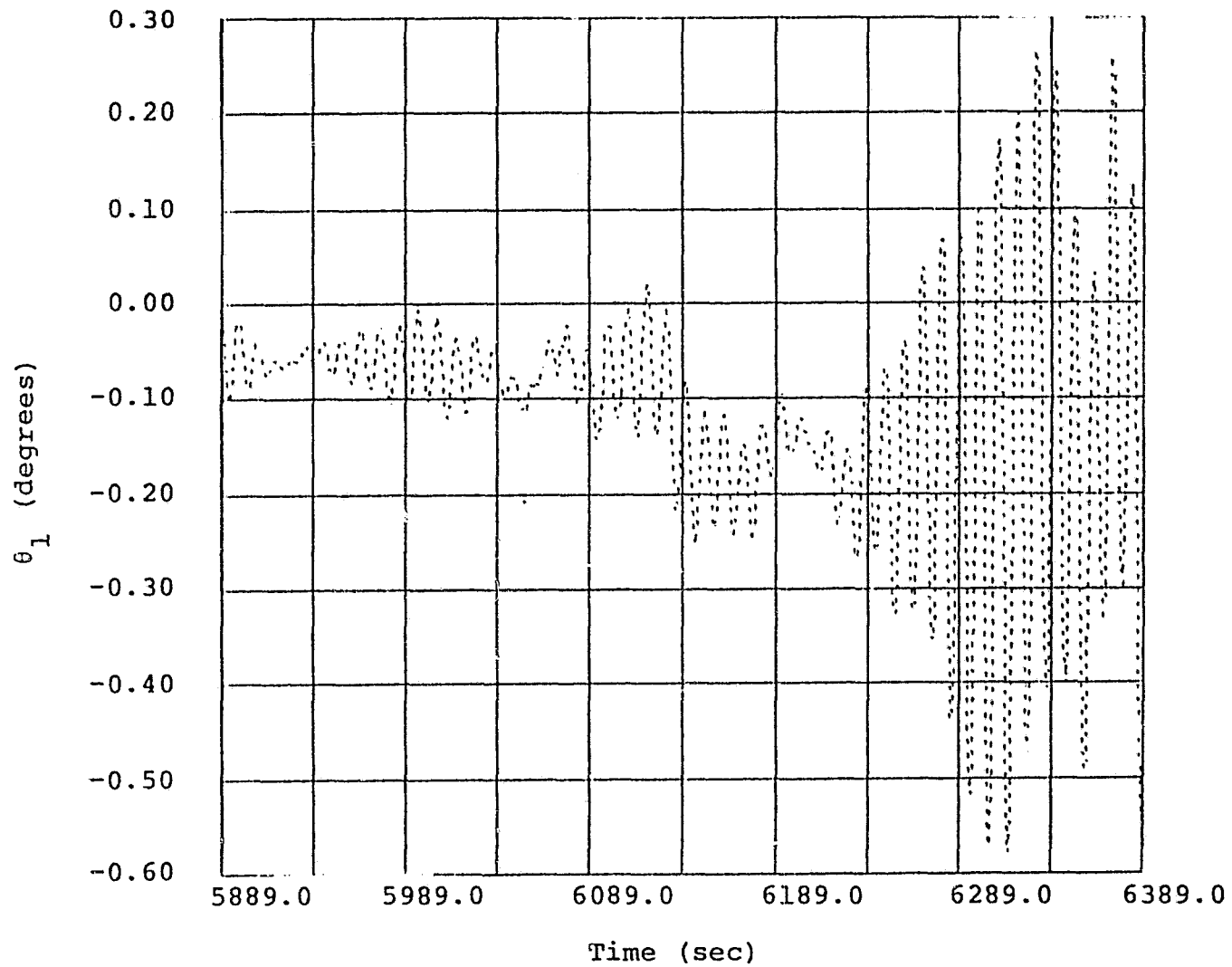


Figure (25) System Response (With Input =  $a_1$ )

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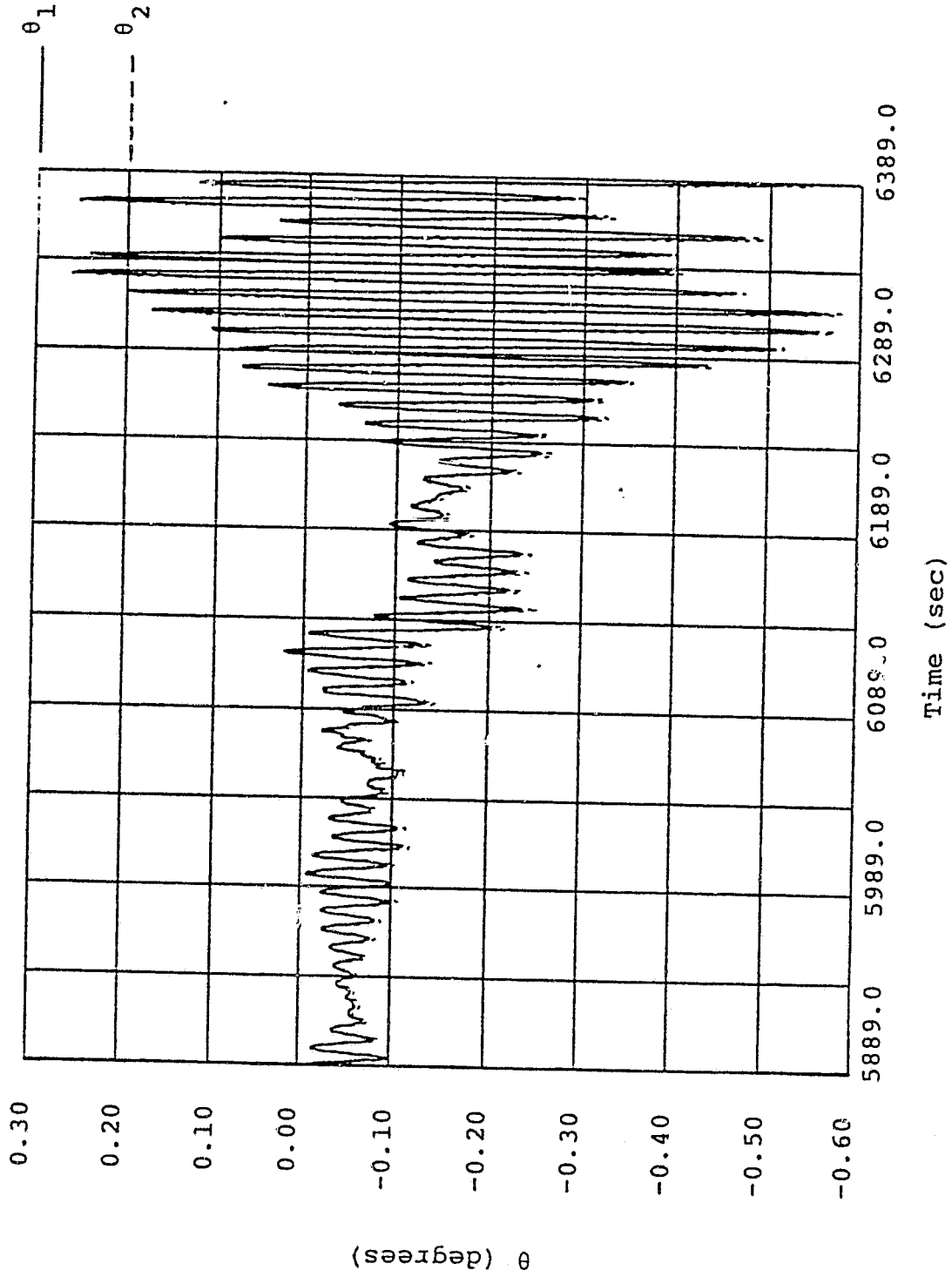


Figure (26) System Response (With Input =  $a_1$ )



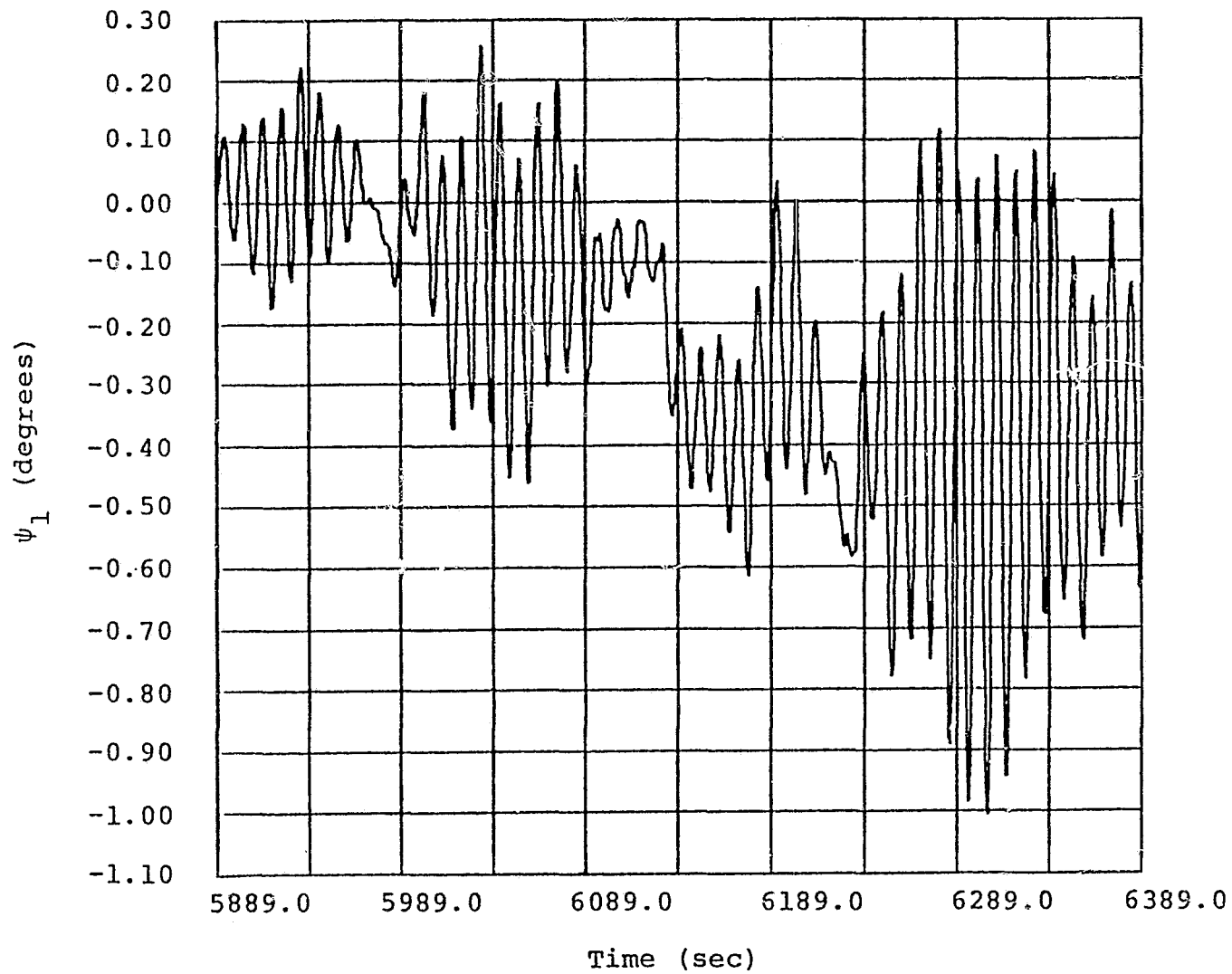


Figure (27) System Response (With Input =  $a_2$ )

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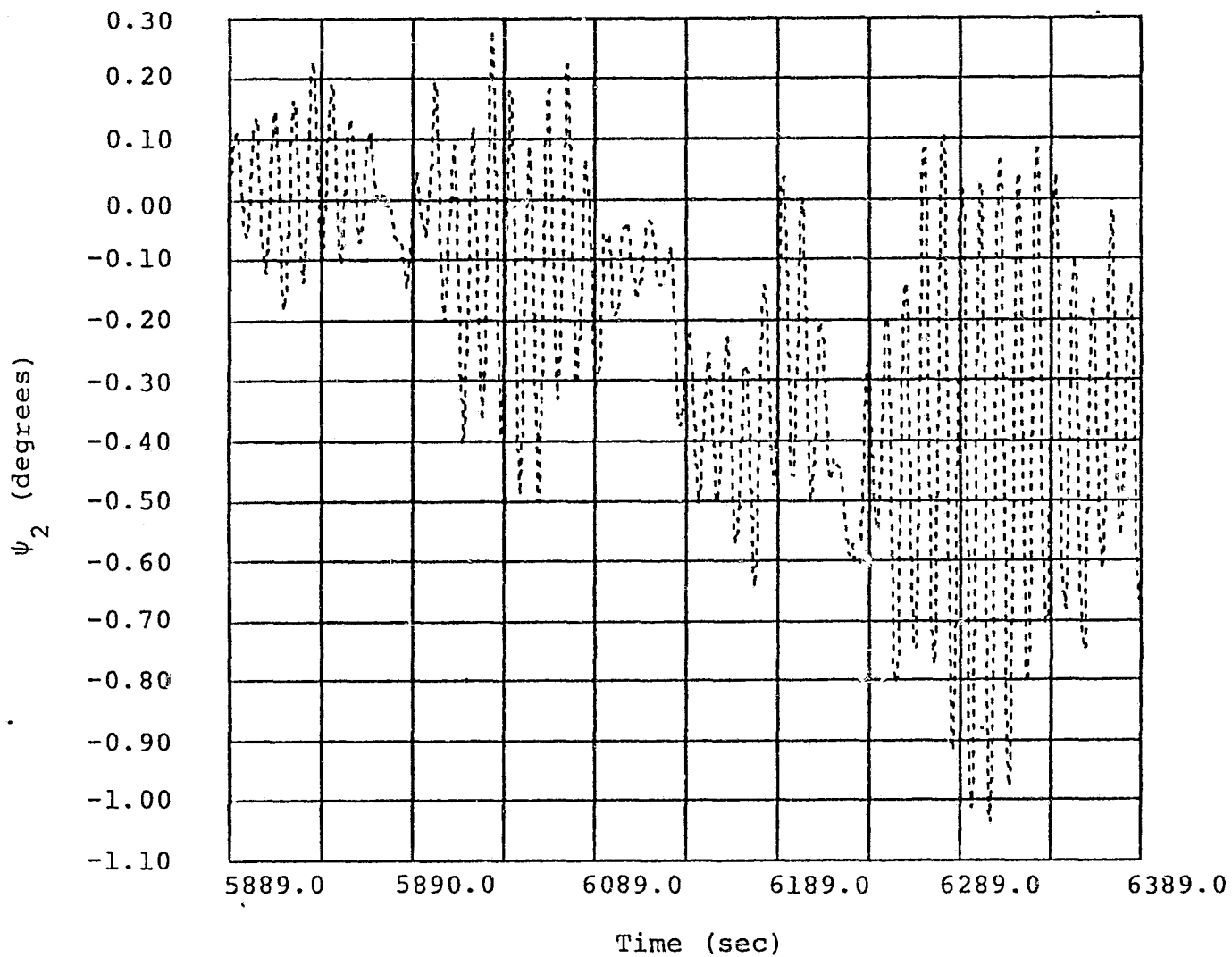


Figure (28) System Response (With Input =  $a_2$ )

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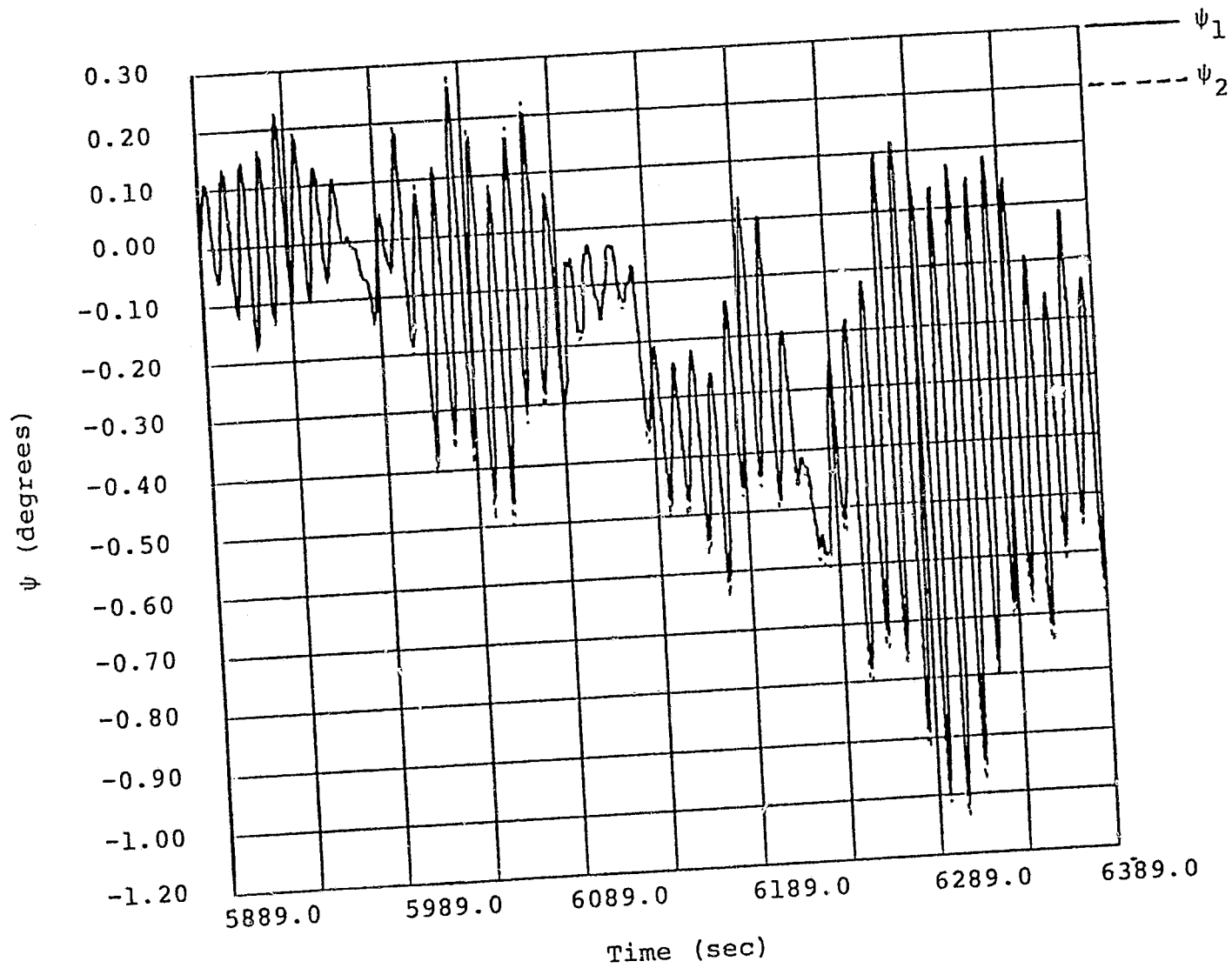


Figure (29) System Response (With Input =  $a_2$ )

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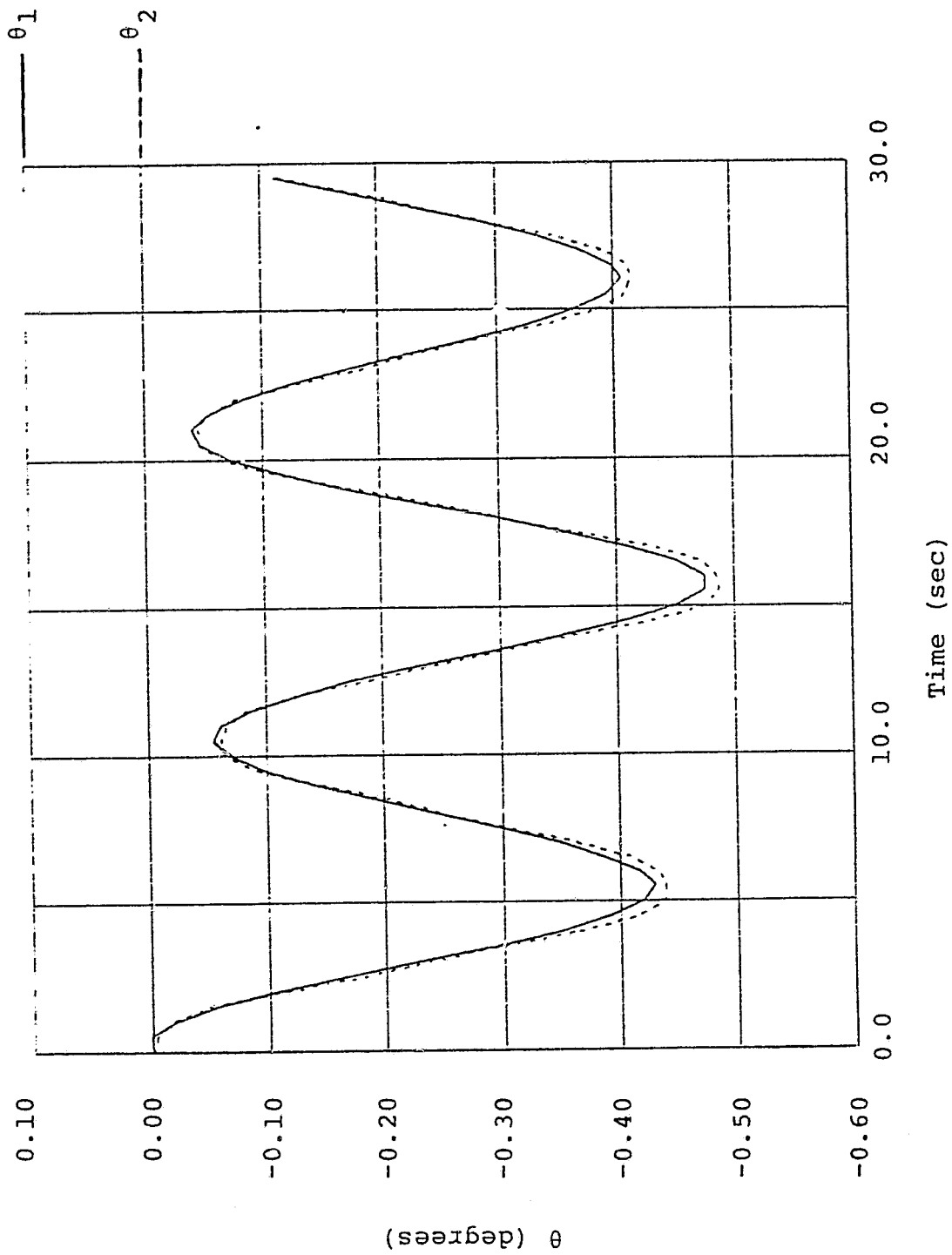


Figure (30) System Response (With Input =  $a_1$ )

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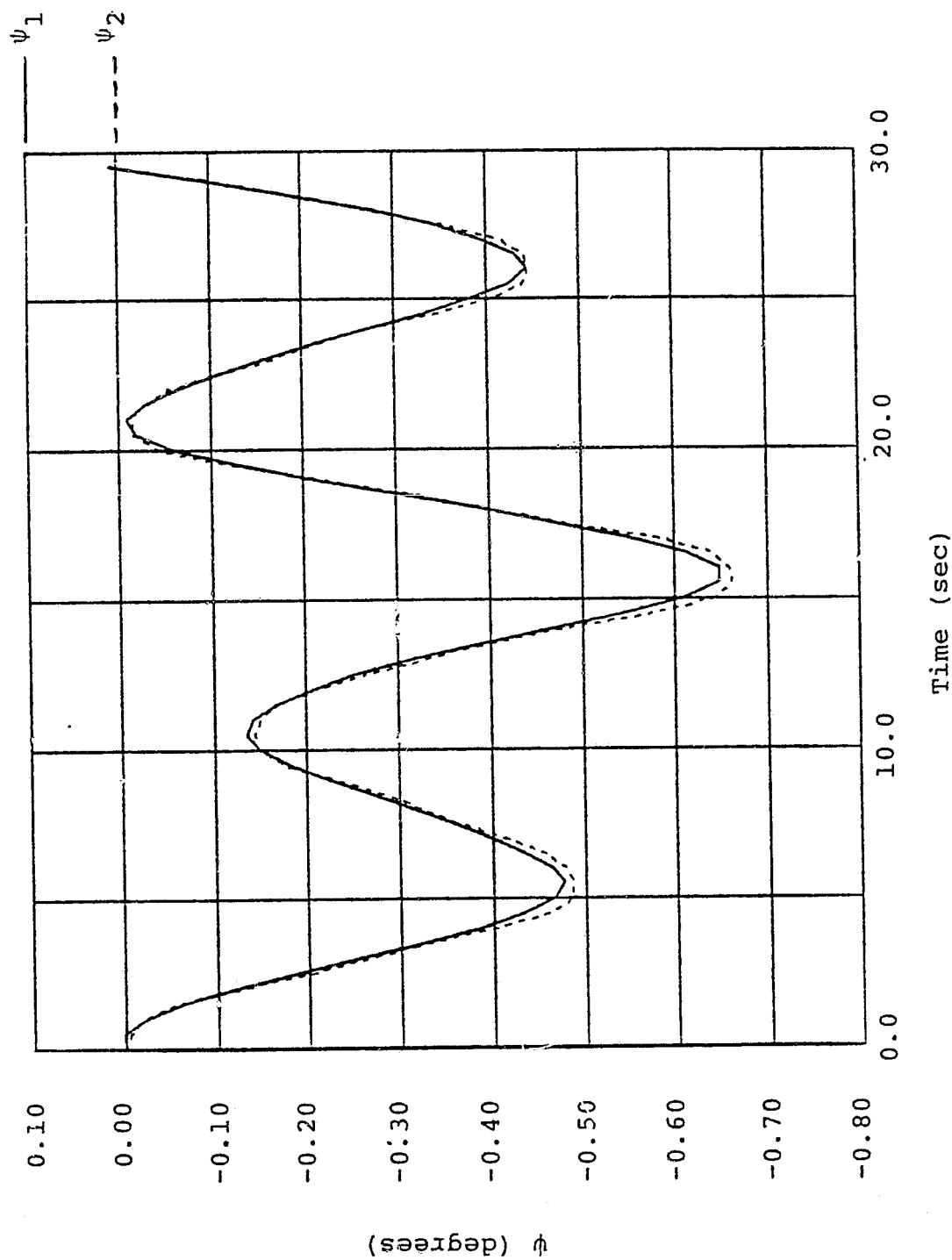


Figure (31) System Response (With Input =  $a_2$ )

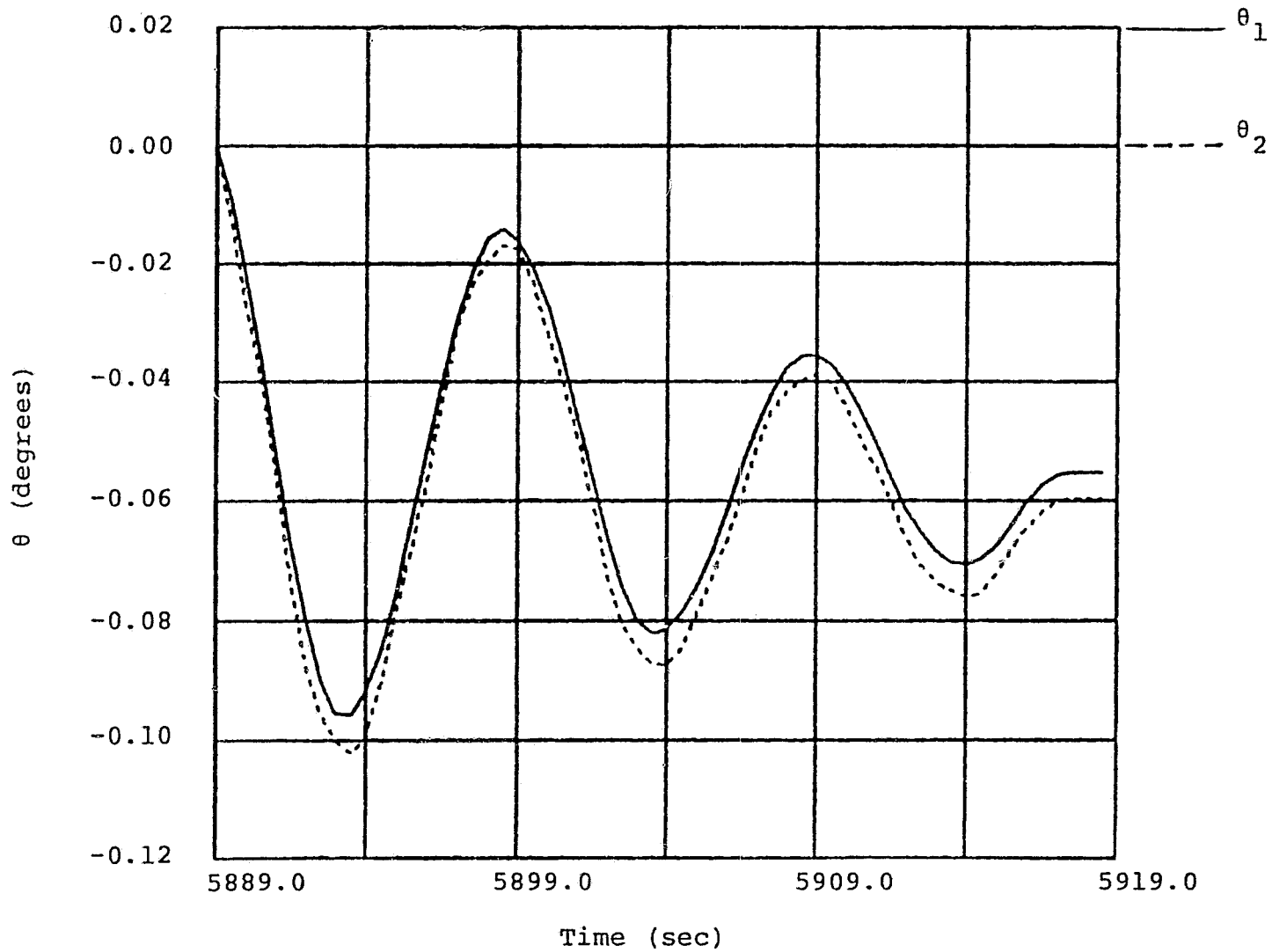


Figure (32) System Response (With Input =  $a_1$ )

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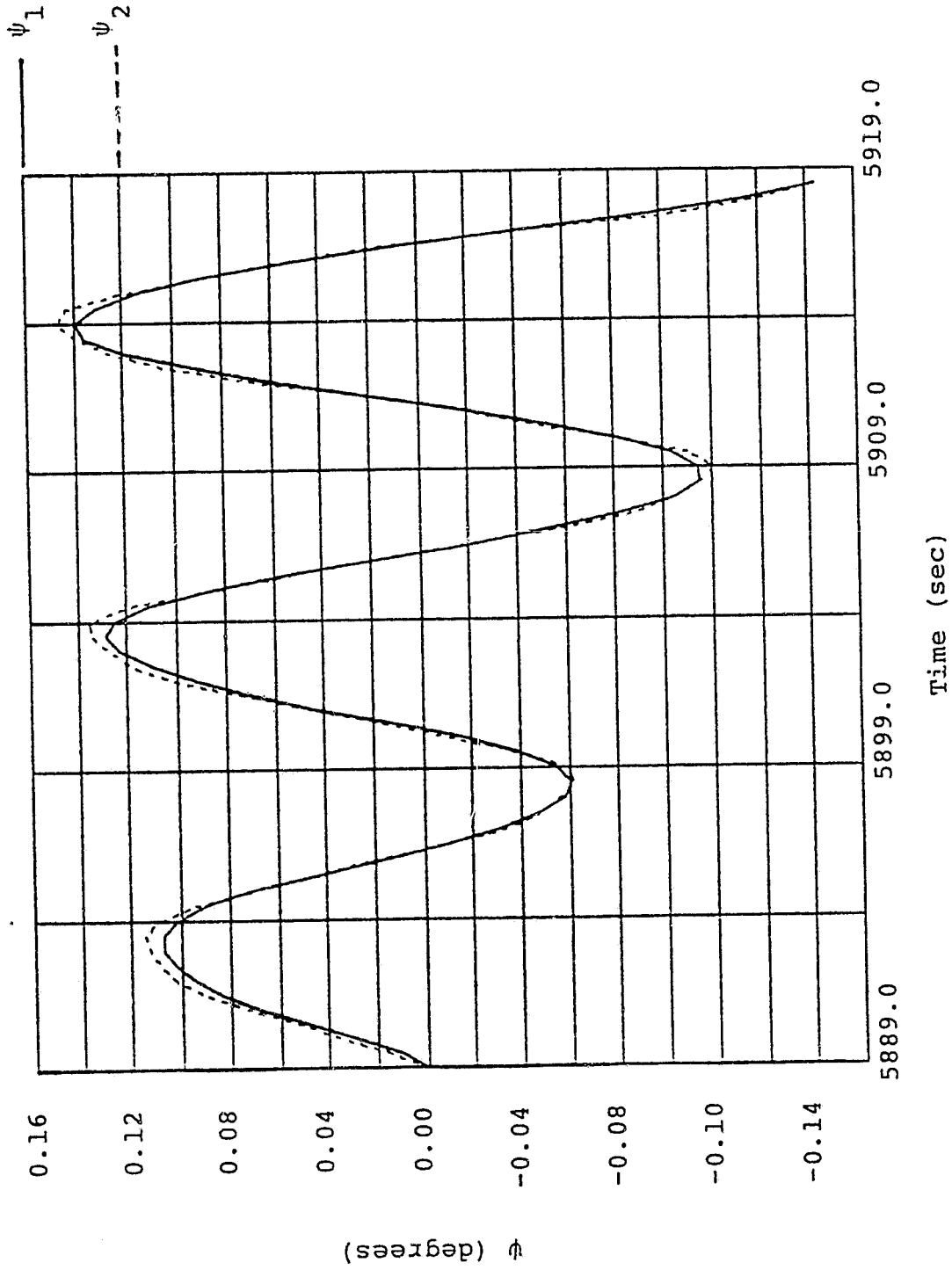


Figure (33) System Response (With Input =  $a_2$ )

## APPENDIX I

COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR CALCULATING THE FOLLOWING

$$\bar{u}_i, \omega_i, u_{ij}, \eta_i, \theta_i, \psi_i$$



```

1.000 DIMENSION TIME(1005), F11(1005), F21(1005), X(1001), Y(1001), Z(100
2.000 DIMENSION FUY11(1005), F111(1005), XDDOT1(1005), XDDOT2(1005)
3.000 DIMENSION F222(1005), X111(1005), Z111(1005), X222(1005), Z222(100
4.000 DIMENSION Y1(1005), X2(1005), THETA1(1005), THETA2(1005)
5.000 DATA NDIM/1001/
6.000 OUTPUT 'INTEGRATION END'
7.000 INPUT T
8.000 OUTPUT 'INPUT WEIGHT 1 (LB)'
9.000 INPUT WEIGHT1
10.000 OUTPUT 'INPUT WEIGHT 2 (LB)'
11.000 INPUT WEIGHT2
12.000 OUTPUT 'CABLE LENGTH 1 (FT)'
13.000 INPUT CABLEN1
14.000 OUTPUT 'CABLE LENGTH 2 (FT)'
15.000 INPUT CABLEN2
16.000 SM1=(WEIGHT1*.4536)/(32.174*.3048)
17.000 SM2=(WEIGHT2*.4536)/(32.174*.3048)
18.000 SL1=CABLEN1*.3048
19.000 SL2=CABLEN2*.3048
20.000 SM11=SL1*SL1*(SM1+SM2)
21.000 SM12=SM2*SL1*SL2
22.000 SM21=SM12
23.000 SM22=SM2*SL2**2
24.000 SK11=32.174*.3048*SL1*(SM1+SM2)
25.000 SK22=32.174*.3048*SM2*SL2
26.000 AAA=.5*(SK11*SM22+SK22*SM11)/(SM11*SM22-SM12*SM21)
27.000 BRR=.5*((SK11*SM22+SK22*SM11)**2)/(SM11*SM22-SM12
28.000 *SM21)**2-4*SK11*SK22/(SM11*SM22-SM12*SM21)**.5
29.000 W1SQ=AAA-BRR
30.000 W2SQ=AAA+BRR
31.000 W1=(W1SQ)**.5
32.000 W2=(W2SQ)**.5
33.000 WRITE(101,20)W1,W2
34.000 20 FORMAT(2E14.6)
35.000 CONS1=(SM11+(SK11-W1SQ*SM11)*(SM21+SM12)/(W1SQ*SM12)
36.000 +(SK11-W1SQ*SM11)**2*SM22/(W1SQ*SM12)**2)**.5
37.000 CONS2=(SM11+(SK11-W2SQ*SM11)*(SM21+SM12)/(W2SQ*SM12)
38.000 +(SK11-W2SQ*SM11)**2*SM22/(W2SQ*SM12)**2)**.5
39.000 C CALCULATE EIGENVECTORS
40.000 FIGV11=1.
41.000 FIGV12=1.
42.000 FIGV21=(SK11-W1SQ*SM11)/(W1SQ*SM12)
43.000 FIGV22=(SK11-W2SQ*SM11)/(W2SQ*SM12)
44.000 WRITE(102,30)FIGV11,FIGV12,FIGV21,FIGV22
45.000 30 FORMAT(4E14.6)
46.000 C CALCULATION OF MODAL MATRIX COMPONENTS NUMERICAL VALUES
47.000 U11=1.0/CONS1
48.000 U12=1.0/CONS2
49.000 U21=(SK11-W1SQ*SM11)/(W1SQ*SM12*CONS1)
50.000 U22=(SK11-W2SQ*SM11)/(W2SQ*SM12*CONS2)

```

```

51.000      WRITE(105,40)U11,U12,U11,U22
52.000      40  FORMAT(4E14.6)
53.000  C    INPUT DATA FILE
54.000      DO 55 J=1,1001
55.000      55  READ(103,150)      TIME(J),XDDOT1(J),XDDOT2(J)
56.000      150  FORMAT(3E14.6)
57.000      DO 70 I=1,1001
58.000      F11(I)=- (SM1*SL1+SM2*SL1)*XDDOT1(I)
59.000      F21(I)=-SM2*SL2*XDDOT1(I)
60.000      70  CONTINUE
61.000      DO 50 J=1,1001
62.000      F111(J)=F11(J)*U11+F21(J)*U21
63.000      F222(J)=F11(J)*U12+F21(J)*U22
64.000  C    CALCULATE PMA VALUES INPUT(A1)
65.000      50  CONTINUE
66.000      DO 80 J=1,1001
67.000      FUN11(J)=SIN(W1*(T-TIME(J)))*F111(J)/W1
68.000      Y(J)=FUN11(J)
69.000      X(J)=TIME(J)
70.000      80  CONTINUE
71.000      CALL TPZY(X,Y,Z,NDIM)
72.000      DO 140 J=1,1001
73.000      X111(J)=X(J)
74.000      Z111(J)=Z(J)
75.000      140  WRITE(106,141)X111(J),Z111(J)
76.000      141  FORMAT(2E14.6)
77.000      DO 180 J=1,1001
78.000      FUN11(J)=SIN(W2*(T-TIME(J)))*F222(J)/W2
79.000      Y(J)=FUN11(J)
80.000      X(J)=TIME(J)
81.000      180  CONTINUE
82.000      CALL TPZY(X,Y,Z,NDIM)
83.000      DO 145 J=1,1001
84.000      X222(J)=X(J)
85.000      Z222(J)=Z(J)
86.000      145  WRITE(104,146)X222(J),Z222(J)
87.000      146  FORMAT(2E14.6)
88.000  C    CALCULATE SYSTEM RESPONSE INPUT (A1)
89.000      DO 210 I=1,1001
90.000      X1(I)=U11*Z111(I)+U12*Z222(I)
91.000      X2(I)=U21*Z111(I)+U22*Z222(I)
92.000      WRITE(109,200)TIME(I),X1(I),X2(I)
93.000      200  FORMAT(3E14.6)
94.000      210  CONTINUE
95.000      DO 310 I=1,1001
96.000      THETA1(I)=180.0*X1(I)/3.14159265
97.000      THETA2(I)=180.0*X2(I)/3.14159265
98.000      WRITE(112,320)TIME(I),THETA1(I),THETA2(I)
99.000      320  FORMAT(3E14.6)
100.000     310  CONTINUE
101.000     DO 71 I=1,1001
102.000     F11(I)=- (SM1*SL1+SM2*SL1)*XDDOT2(I)

```

```
103.000      R21(I)=-GM2*CLC*YDDOT2(I)
104.000      71 CONTINUE
105.000      DO 51 J=1,1001
106.000      R111(J)=R11(J)*U11+R21(J)*U21
107.000      R222(J)=R11(J)*U12+R21(J)*U22
108.000      51 CONTINUE
109.000      C CALCULATE ETA VALUES INPUT (A2)
110.000      DO 81 J=1,1001
111.000      FUN11(J)=SIN(W1*(T-TIME(J)))*R111(J)/W1
112.000      Y(J)=FUN11(J)
113.000      X(J)=TIME(J)
114.000      81 CONTINUE
115.000      CALL MPZYX(Y,Y,Z,NDIM)
116.000      DO 143 J=1,1001
117.000      X111(J)=X(J)
118.000      Z111(J)=Z(J)
119.000      143 WRITE(107,142)Y111(J),Z111(J)
120.000      142 FORMAT(2E14.6)
121.000      DO 181 J=1,1001
122.000      FUN11(J)=SIN(W2*(T-TIME(J)))*R222(J)/W2
123.000      Y(J)=FUN11(J)
124.000      X(J)=TIME(J)
125.000      181 CONTINUE
126.000      CALL MPZYX(Y,Y,Z,NDIM)
127.000      DO 148 J=1,1001
128.000      X222(J)=Y(J)
129.000      Z222(J)=Z(J)
130.000      148 WRITE(111,140)Y222(J),Z222(J)
131.000      140 FORMAT(2E14.6)
132.000      C CALCULATE SYSTEM RESPONSE INPUT (A2)
133.000      DO 211 I=1,1001
134.000      X1(I)=U11*Z111(I)+U12*Z222(I)
135.000      X2(I)=U21*Z111(I)+U22*Z222(I)
136.000      WRITE(110,300)TIME(I),X1(I),X2(I)
137.000      300 FORMAT(3E14.6)
138.000      211 CONTINUE
139.000      DO 400 I=1,1001
140.000      THETA1(I)=180.0*X1(I)/3.14159265
141.000      THETA2(I)=180.0*X2(I)/3.14159265
142.000      WRITE(113,420)TIME(I),THETA1(I),THETA2(I)
143.000      420 FORMAT(3E14.6)
144.000      400 CONTINUE
145.000      STOP
146.000      END
```

\*

APPENDIX II  
COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR CALCULATING  
VALUES OF  $\eta_1$  FROM ANALYTICALLY  
INTEGRATED EQUATION

```

1.000    DIMENSION FUN(2000), T(2000)
2.000    T1=200
3.000    P=4.8467
4.000    T(1)=0
5.000    W1=.60003
6.000    DO 50 I=1,400
7.000    FUN(I)=.0002*P*T(I)*COS(W1*(T1-T(I)))/W1**2
8.000    .+.0002*P*SIN(W1*(T1-T(I)))/W1**3
9.000    .-.0002*P*SIN(W1*T1)/W1**3
10.000   .-.04*P*COS(W1*(T1-T(I)))/W1**2
11.000   .+.04*P*COS(W1*T1)/W1**2
12.000   50 T(I+1)=T(I)+.5
13.000   DO 10 I=1,400
14.000   10 WRITE(103,100) T(I), FUN(I)
15.000   100 FORMAT(2E14.6)
16.000   STOP
17.000   END

```

\*

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