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# Stability in parametric resonance of a controlled stay cable with time delay

Jian Peng<sup>1</sup>, Yongyin Zhang<sup>2</sup>, Luxin Li<sup>3</sup>, Hongxin Sun<sup>4</sup>, and Stefano Lenci<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Civil Engineering, Hunan University of Science and Technology, Xiangtan, Hunan 411201, PR China . (Corresponding author, E-mail:pengjian@hnu.edu.cn).

<sup>2</sup>M.S.Student, School of Civil Engineering, Hunan University of Science and Technology, Xiangtan, Hunan 411201, PR China. E-mail:zhangyongyin@mail.hnust.edu.cn.

<sup>3</sup>PhD.Student, State Key Laboratory of Structural Analysis for Industrial Equipment, Department of Engineering Mechanics, Dalian University of Technology, Dalian 116024, China.  
E-mail:liluxin93@163.com.

<sup>4</sup>School of Civil Engineering, Hunan University of Science and Technology, Xiangtan, Hunan 411201, PR China.E-mail: cehxsun@hnu.edu.cn.

<sup>5</sup>Department of Civil and Building Engineering and Architecture, Polytechnic University of Marche, Ancona 60131, Italy. E-mail:lenci@univpm.it

## ABSTRACT

The stability of the parametric resonance of the semiactive control of a stay cable with time delay is investigated. The in-plane nonlinear equations of motion are initially obtained via the Hamilton principle. Then, utilizing the method of multiple scales, the modulation equations that govern the nonlinear dynamics are obtained. These equations are then utilized to investigate the effect of time delays on the amplitude and frequency-response behavior and, subsequently, on the stability of the parametric resonance of the controlled cable, that it is shown to depend on the excitation amplitude and the commensurability of the delayed-response frequency to the excitation frequency. The stability region of the parameteric resonance is shifted, and the effects of control on the cable become worse by increasing time delay. The work plays a guiding role in the parametric design of the control system for stay cables.

## INTRODUCTION

As the main bearing member of long-span structure, the stayed cable is characterized by light weight and small damping, hence it vibrates easily due to external excitation, such as wind, rain, traffic or earthquake (Irvine, 1981; Warminski et al., 2016; Ni et al., 2007). In recent years, large-scale vibrations of the stayed cables of bridges have been observed at low wind speeds, which is generally considered to be the result of a parametric resonance phenomenon (Ni et al., 2007; da Costa et al., 1996). Therefore, it is important to investigate the vibration mechanism of cables.

Hikami and Shiraishi (1988) and Matsumoto et al. (1992) investigated the mechanism of rain-wind induced vibration of cable of cable-stayed bridges and proposed aerodynamic countermeasures to suppress the vibration. Jafari et al. (2020) reviewed the past studies about different types of wind-induced cable vibration. Zhao et al. (2014) discussed the analytical solutions for resonant response of suspended cables subjected to external excitation. Lenci and Ruzziconi (2009) studied nonlinear phenomena in the single-mode dynamics of a cable-supported beam. Gattulli et al. (2019) analyzed the modal interactions in the nonlinear dynamics of a beam-cable-beam. It is worth pointing out that the parametric vibration of the stay cable is one of the main aspects. Wang and Zhao (2009) addressed the large amplitude motion mechanism and the non-planar vibration character of stay cables subject to the support motions. Ying et al. (2006) investigated the parametrically excited instability of a cable under two support motions. Guo and Rega (2021a,b) studied the modal dynamics of boundary-interior coupled structures. Cong and Kang (2019) considered the planar nonlinear dynamic behavior of a cable-stayed bridge under excitation of tower motion. Lu et al. (2020) studied nonlinear parametric vibration with different orders of small parameters for stayed cables.

In parallel the the previous works, that are focused on understanding complex nonlinear phenomena, other studies focused on the vibration control of cables. Fujino and Susumpow (1994) studied active control of in-plane cable vibration by axial support motion via experiments. Wang et al. (2005) investigated optimal design of viscous dampers for multimode vibration control of bridge cables. Ying et al. (2007) studied parametrically excited instability analysis of a semi-

52 actively controlled cable. Dai et al. (2014) addressed an extended nonlinear elastic cable with  
53 an active vibration control strategy. Tehrani and Kalkowski (2016) investigated active control of  
54 parametrically excited systems. Raftoyiannis and Michaltsos (2016) studied movable anchorage  
55 system for vibration control of stay-cables in bridges. Huang et al. (2019) evaluated the perfor-  
56 mances of inerter-based damping devices for structural vibration control of stay cables. Peng et al.  
57 (2020) investigated nonlinear primary resonance in vibration control of cable-stayed beam via time  
58 delayed feedback control.

59 It has been shown (Hu and Wang, 2002; Sipahi et al., 2011) that in the vibration control sys-  
60 tem the time delay is *not* negligible. Cha et al. (2012) studied time delay effects on large-scale  
61 MR damper based semi-active control strategies. Yan et al. (2020) considered energy determin-  
62 ing multiple stability in time-delayed systems. Udwardia et al. (2007) presented principles and  
63 applications of time-delayed control design for active control of structures. Ji and Zhou (2017)  
64 investigated coexistence of two families of sub-harmonic resonances in a time-delayed nonlinear  
65 system at different forcing frequencies. Wang et al. (2017) and Wang and Xu (2017) studied effect  
66 of delay combinations on stability and Hopf bifurcation of an oscillator with acceleration-derivative  
67 feedback and sway reduction of a pendulum on a movable support using a delayed proportional-  
68 derivative or derivative-acceleration feedback. Sun et al. (2018) studied parameter design of a  
69 multi-delayed isolator with asymmetrical nonlinearity. Their results showed that time delay can  
70 affect the damping performance of the control system, and, on the other hand, making good use of  
71 it can provide another control idea and improve control performance.

72 As a matter of fact, very few studies concerned with the time delay effects in nonlinear parametric  
73 resonance of controlled cables, and filling this gap is the main goal of this work. It leads to interesting  
74 and partially unexpected results in terms of performance (or better, loss of performance) of the  
75 considered control.

76 (They should be better underlined the differences with respect to our previous paper (Peng et al.,  
77 2020))

78 The mechanical model of controlled cable under axial excitation is considered. The method of

79 multiple scales is used to analyze the parametric vibration under the influence of time delay. The  
 80 stability of parametric resonance of the controlled stay cable is discussed, and the time delay effect  
 81 of the parametric vibration system is discussed by numerical examples.

## 82 CONTROLLED CABLE MODEL AND EQUATIONS OF MOTION

83 As shown in Fig. 1, a stayed cable subject to a vertical sinusoidal support motion  $Z \sin \omega t$   
 84 (where  $Z$  and  $\omega$  denote the amplitude and frequency, respectively), is considered. A Cartesian  
 85 coordinate system  $O - xy$  is chosen, with the origin  $O$  placed at the left fixed support **A** of the cable.  
 86 The displacements of the points are denoted by  $u(x, t)$  and  $v(x, t)$  along the  $x$  and  $y$  directions,  
 87 respectively.  $a$  is the distance between the **right oscillating boundary B** and the MR damper.

88 The axial Lagrangian strain of the inclined cable can be written as

$$89 \quad \varepsilon(x, t) = u' + y'v' + \frac{v'^2}{2}, \quad (1)$$

90 where prime indicates differentiation with respect to the **spatial** coordinate  $x$  and  $y(x)$  is the static  
 91 configuration of the cable, **that** can be approximately written as  $y(x) = \frac{mg l \cos \theta}{2H} x(1 - x)$ . The  
 92 equations of motions can be obtained by means of the Hamilton principle (**Wang and Zhao, 2009**)

$$93 \quad m\ddot{u} + c_u \dot{u} - \left\{ EA \left[ u' + y'v' + \frac{v'^2}{2} \right] \right\}' = 0, \quad (2)$$

$$94 \quad m\ddot{v} + c_v \dot{v} - \left\{ Hv' + EA(y' + v') \left[ u' + y'v' + \frac{v'^2}{2} \right] \right\}' = 0, \quad (3)$$

96 where dot indicates differentiation with respect to time  $t$ ,  $m$  is the mass per unit length;  $E$  is the  
 97 Young modulus,  $A$  is the area of the cross-section,  $c_u$  and  $c_v$  are the viscous damping coefficients  
 98 per unit length,  $H$  is the axial component of the initial tension ( $H \ll EA$ ) and  $g$  is the **gravity**  
 99 acceleration. The boundary conditions can be written as

$$100 \quad u(0, t) = v(0, t) = 0, \quad u(l, t) = Z \sin \theta \sin(\omega t), \quad v(l, t) = Z \cos \theta \sin(\omega t), \quad (4)$$

101 where  $l$  is the cable span and  $\theta$  is the angle of inclination of the cable (see Fig. 1). It is worth to  
 102 remark that the boundary conditions are nonhomogeneous both in the axial displacement component  
 103  $u(x, t)$  and in-plane transverse displacement component  $v(x, t)$ .

104 Under the quasi-static assumption in the axial direction, i.e, neglecting the acceleration and  
 105 velocity term in Eq. (2), and taking into account the boundary conditions, the displacement  $u(x, t)$   
 106 can be expressed by

$$107 \quad u(x, t) = Z \sin \theta \sin(\omega t) \frac{x}{l} + \frac{x}{l} \int_0^l \left( y' v' + \frac{v'^2}{2} \right) dx - \int_0^x \left( y' v' + \frac{v'^2}{2} \right) dx. \quad (5)$$

108 Inserting Eq. (5) in Eq. (3) it is possible to obtain an equation in the primary unknown  $v(x, t)$ .  
 109 Then, considering the concentrated force at  $x = l - a$  due to the damper (introduced to reduce the  
 110 cable oscillations) and the distributed external load, and proceeding in a manner similar to (Peng  
 111 et al., 2020), the non-dimensional equations of motion can be written as

$$112 \quad \ddot{v} + c_v \dot{v} - v'' - \alpha (y'' + v'') \left\{ z_0 \sin \theta \sin(\Omega t) + \int_0^l \left( y' v' + \frac{v'^2}{2} \right) dx \right\} = F_d \delta(x - (l - a)) + F \cos(\Omega t), \quad (6)$$

113 where  $F_d = -C_{eq} \dot{v}(t - \tau)$  is the control force of the damper,  $\tau$  the time delay of the control  
 114 system,  $F(x)$  the spatial distribution of the distributed force and  $\delta$  is the Dirac delta function. The  
 115 non-dimensional variables are  $x^* = x/l$ ,  $a^* = a/l$ ,  $y^* = y/l$ ,  $z_0 = Z/l$ ,  $v^* = v/l$ ,  $\alpha = EA/H$ ,  
 116  $t^* = t/l\sqrt{H/m}$ ,  $\Omega = \omega l/\sqrt{m/H}$ ,  $c_v^* = c_v l/(m)\sqrt{m/H}$ . Asterisks in Eq. (6) are dropped for  
 117 simplicity.

118 For the nonhomogeneous boundary value problem, it is convenient to introduce a suitable  
 119 chosen particular solution, which satisfies the nonhomogeneous boundary conditions, to transform  
 120 the nonhomogeneous problem to a homogeneous one. Then, the solution of the homogeneous  
 121 problem can be approximated by a time-varying linear combination of known (and fixed) spatial  
 122 functions, which are assumed to be the eigenfunctions of the homogeneous problem. In this study,  
 123 according to the boundary condition of the inclined cable, the non-dimensional displacements

124  $v(x, t)$  is sought after in the form

$$125 \quad v(x, t) = \sum_{i=1}^N \phi_i(x) q_i(t) + x z_0 \cos \theta \sin(\Omega t), \quad (7)$$

126 where  $q_i(t)$  are the generalized displacements, and  $\phi_i(x) = \sqrt{2} \sin(i\pi x)$  the  $i$ th in-plane mode  
127 shapes. Substitution of Eq. (7) into Eq. (6) and application of the Galerkin method yield a set of  
128 nonlinear ordinary differential equations

129 (in the following equation:

- 130 • the term due to the damper (proportional to  $F_d$ ) is missing;
- 131 •  $F$  is missing;
- 132 • if the  $\phi_i(x)$  are the linear normal modes, the linear part (without excitation) should be  
133 decoupled, i.e. the  $\Gamma_{2ij}$  should be 0 for  $i \neq j$ ;
- 134 • the definition of the coefficients  $\Gamma$  is strange/inconsistent: the  $\Gamma_1$  are the time dependent,  
135 while all other not. I suggest to rewrite in such a way that all  $\Gamma$ 's are time independent, and  
136 the harmonic terms appear explicitly in the equation.

137 Please check carefully the previous points)

$$138 \quad \begin{aligned} \ddot{q}_i + 2\omega_i \xi_i \dot{q}_i + \Gamma_{1i} q_i + \sum_{j=1}^N (\Gamma_{2ij} q_j + \Gamma_{3ij} q_j^2 + \Gamma_{4ij} q_j q_i + \Gamma_{5ij} q_j^2 q_i) \\ = \Gamma_{6i} \sin(\Omega t) + \Gamma_{7i} \cos(\Omega t) + \Gamma_{8i} \sin^2(\Omega t), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N, \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

where  $\xi_i$  are the viscous damping ratios,  $\omega_i = \sqrt{\Gamma_{1i} + \Gamma_{2ii}}$  (please check this) the  $i$ th in-plane natural

frequencies, and the other coefficients are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
\Gamma_{1i} &= i^2(1 + \alpha z_0 \sin \theta \sin(\Omega t) + \frac{1}{2}\alpha z_0^2 \cos^2 \theta \sin^2(\Omega t)), \\
\Gamma_{2ij} &= \alpha \int_0^1 y' \phi'_i(x) dx \int_0^1 y' \phi'_j(x) dx, \\
\Gamma_{3ij} &= \frac{\alpha}{2} j^2 \int_0^1 y' \phi'_i(x) dx, \\
\Gamma_{4ij} &= \alpha i^2 \int_0^1 y' \phi'_j(x) dx, \\
\Gamma_{5ij} &= \frac{\alpha}{2} i^2 j^2, \\
\Gamma_{6i} &= z_0 \Omega^2 \cos \theta \int_0^1 x \phi_i(x) dx - \alpha z_0 \sin \theta \int_0^1 y' \phi'_i(x) dx, \\
\Gamma_{7i} &= -2\xi_i i z_0 \Omega \cos \theta \int_0^1 x \phi_i(x) dx, \\
\Gamma_{8i} &= \frac{\alpha}{2} z_0^2 \cos^2 \theta \int_0^1 y'' \phi_i(x) dx.
\end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

139

## LINEAR STABILITY ANALYSIS

140

In this section, the linear stability analysis of the single degree of freedom vibration mode is investigated. Considering only one equation  $i = n$  in Eq. (8), neglecting the nonlinear terms and the external excitation ( $z_0 = 0$ ) the following equation is obtained ( $\mu_n = 2\omega_n \xi_n$ ) (in the following equation  $k_n$  is not defined)

141

142

143

144

$$\ddot{q}_n(t) + \mu_n \dot{q}_n(t) + \omega_n^2 q_n(t) = -k_n \dot{q}_n(t - \tau). \tag{10}$$

145

The solution of Eq. (10) is given by

146

$$q_n = A_n e^{(\xi_n + i\lambda_n)t} \tag{11}$$

147

where  $A_n$ ,  $\xi_n$  and  $\lambda_n$  are amplitude, damping coefficient and response frequency, respectively. All



148 are real numbers. Substituting Eq. (11) in Eq. (10), and separating real and imaginary parts, gives

$$149 \quad \lambda_n (2\xi_n + \mu_n) e^{\xi_n \tau} + k_n [\lambda_n \cos(\lambda_n \tau) - \xi_n \sin(\lambda_n \tau)] = 0 \quad (12)$$

$$150 \quad \left( \lambda_n^2 - \xi_n^2 - \mu_n \xi_n - \omega_n^2 \right) e^{\xi_n \tau} - k_n [\xi_n \cos(\lambda_n \tau) + \lambda_n \sin(\lambda_n \tau)] = 0. \quad (13)$$

152 When  $\xi_n < 0$  the solution (11) converges to 0 for  $t \rightarrow \infty$  and thus is stable, while for  $\xi_n > 0$   
 153 the solution diverges to infinity and thus is unstable. The stability limit is then given by  $\xi_n = 0$ .  
 154 Substituting this value in Eq. (12) and Eq. (13) we obtain

$$155 \quad \cos(\lambda_n \tau) = -\frac{\mu_n}{k_n}, \quad \sin(\lambda_n \tau) = \frac{\lambda_n^2 - \omega_n^2}{k_n \lambda_n}, \quad (14)$$

156 and thus the boundary of linear stability are

$$157 \quad \tau = \frac{1}{\lambda_n} \left[ \tan^{-1} \left( -\frac{\lambda_n^2 - \omega_n^2}{\lambda_n \mu_n} \right) + j\pi \right], j = 0, 1, \dots, \quad k_n = \pm \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_n^2 \mu_n^2 + (\lambda_n^2 - \omega_n^2)^2}}{\lambda_n}. \quad (15)$$

158 The stability regions described by Eq. (15) are shown in Fig. 2, where regions i, ii and iii  
 159 corresponds to a small, medium and large values of time delay, respectively. The figure clearly  
 160 shows that for small values of the delay the system is stable, and thus the control effective, even for  
 161 very large values of the gain  $k_n$ . For medium and large values of  $\tau$ , on the other hand, the stability  
 162 region is a narrow strip around  $k_n = 0$ , namely the system is stable only for very low values of  $k_n$ ,  
 163 giving not good performance because with small values of the gain the damping is low and the  
 164 vibration reduction is ineffective. For quite large values of  $k_n$ , the system is stable for low values of  
 165 the delay, and loses stability for increasing  $\tau$ . This could be very dangerous from a practical point  
 166 of view, because unplanned increasing delay of the control, due for example to the ageing of the  
 167 structure, can destabilize the system, with unwanted phenomena up to collapse.

## 168 STABILITY OF THE PARAMETRICALLY RESONANCE RESPONSE

169 In this section, we continue to consider the single degree of freedom vibration mode, but extend

170 the analysis to the nonlinear regime, utilizing the method of multiple scales (Nayfeh and Mook,  
171 1979).

172 It is convenient to introduce a small bookkeeping parameter  $\varepsilon$  to obtain the solution. The  
173 equation of the motion can be written as ((16) is not consistent with (8): here - correctly from my  
174 point of view - the  $\Gamma$  are not time dependent, see my previous comments just before Eq. (8). Please  
175 check and modify)

$$176 \quad \ddot{q}_n + \omega_n^2 q_n + \varepsilon \Gamma_{1nn} q_n \cos(\Omega t) + \varepsilon \mu \dot{q}_n + \varepsilon (\Gamma_{3nn} + \Gamma_{4nn}) q_n^2 + \varepsilon \Gamma_{5nn} q_n^3 = \quad (16)$$

$$177 \quad -\varepsilon k_n \dot{q}_n(t - \tau) + \varepsilon \Gamma_{6nn} \sin(\Omega t) + \varepsilon \Gamma_{7nn} \cos(\Omega t) + \varepsilon \Gamma_{8nn} \sin^2(\Omega t),$$

177 The solution of Eq. (16) is sought after in the form

$$178 \quad q_n(t; \varepsilon) = q_{n0}(T_0, T_1, \dots) + \varepsilon q_{n1}(T_0, T_1, \dots) + \dots \quad (17)$$

179 where  $T_n = \varepsilon^n t$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . It is further assumed that

$$180 \quad \omega_n = \frac{\Omega}{2} + \varepsilon \omega_1 + \varepsilon^2 \omega_2 + \dots \quad (18)$$

181 Substituting Eq. (17) and Eq. (18) in Eq. (16), and equating the coefficients of  $\varepsilon^0$  and  $\varepsilon^1$  on both  
182 sides, we obtain

$$183 \quad D_0^2 q_{n0} + \frac{\Omega^2}{4} q_{n0} = 0, \quad (19)$$

$$184 \quad D_0^2 q_{n1} + \frac{\Omega^2}{4} q_{n1} = -2D_0 D_1 q_{n0} - \Omega \omega_1 q_{n0} - \Gamma_{1nn} q_{n0} \cos(\Omega t) - \mu D_0 q_{n0} - (\Gamma_{3nn} + \Gamma_{4nn}) q_{n0}^2$$

$$185 \quad -\Gamma_{5nn} q_{n0}^3 - k_n \dot{q}_{n0}(t - \tau) + \Gamma_{6nn} \sin(\Omega t) + \Gamma_{7nn} \cos(\Omega t) + \Gamma_{8nn} \sin^2(\Omega t),$$

186 where  $D_n$  denotes the derivatives with respect to  $T_n$ .

187 The general solution of Eq. (19) can be written as

$$188 \quad q_{n0} = A_n(T_1) \exp\left(\frac{i\Omega T_0}{2}\right) + \bar{A}_n(T_1) \exp\left(\frac{-i\Omega T_0}{2}\right). \quad (21)$$

189 Substituting Eq. (21) in Eq. (20) we obtain (in the following equation  $\sin(\Omega t)$  must be transformed  
 190 in the exponential form. Furthermore, it is convenient to collect terms multiplying the same  
 191 exponential terms (as is has been done for  $\exp\left(\frac{i\Omega T_0}{2}\right)$ ). Please check.)

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_0^2 q_{n1} + \frac{\Omega^2}{4} q_{n1} = & - \left[ i\Omega A'_n + \Omega\omega_1 A_n + \frac{\Gamma_{1mn}}{2} \bar{A}_n + \frac{1}{2} i\mu\Omega A_n + 3\Gamma_{5mn} A_n^2 \bar{A}_n + \frac{1}{2} k_n i\Omega A_n \exp\left(-\frac{i\Omega\tau}{2}\right) \right] \\
 & \exp\left(\frac{i\Omega T_0}{2}\right) - \frac{\Gamma_{1mn}}{2} A_n \exp\left(\frac{3i\Omega T_0}{2}\right) - (\Gamma_{3mn} + \Gamma_{4mn}) A_n^2 \exp(i\Omega T_0) - (\Gamma_{3mn} + \Gamma_{4mn}) \\
 & A_n \bar{A}_n - \Gamma_{5mn} A_n^3 \exp\left(\frac{3i\Omega T_0}{2}\right) + \frac{\Gamma_{7mn}}{2} \exp(i\Omega T_0) + \Gamma_{6mn} \sin(\Omega t) + \Gamma_{8mn} \sin^2(\Omega t) + cc,
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{22}$$

193 where  $cc$  denotes the complex conjugate of the preceding terms. To eliminate secular terms from  
 194  $q_{n1}$  we must put

$$i\Omega A'_n + \Omega\omega_1 A_n + \frac{\Gamma_{1mn}}{2} \bar{A}_n + \frac{1}{2} i\mu\Omega A_n + 3\Gamma_{5mn} A_n^2 \bar{A}_n + \frac{1}{2} k_n i\Omega A_n \exp\left(-\frac{i\Omega\tau}{2}\right) = 0. \tag{23}$$

196 To solve Eq. (23), we write  $A_n$  in the polar form:

$$A_n = \frac{1}{2} a_n \exp(i\beta_n), \tag{24}$$

198 where  $a_n$  and  $\beta_n$  are real functions of  $T_1$ . Substituting Eq. (24) in Eq. (23) and separating real and  
 199 imaginary parts, we have

$$a'_n = -\frac{1}{2} \mu_e a_n + \frac{\Gamma_{1mn} a_n}{2\Omega} \sin 2\beta_n, \tag{25}$$

$$\beta'_n = \omega_1 + \frac{k_n}{2} \sin\left(\frac{\Omega\tau}{2}\right) + \frac{3\Gamma_{5mn}}{4\Omega} a_n^2 + \frac{2\Gamma_{1mn}}{\Omega} \cos 2\beta_n, \tag{26}$$

203 where  $\mu_e = \mu + k_n \cos\left(\frac{\Omega\tau}{2}\right)$ .

204 When  $a'_n = \beta'_n = 0$ , the sought periodic solution is obtained. Considering the nontrivial

205 solutions ( $a_n \neq 0$ ), from Eq. (25) and Eq. (26) we can then obtain

$$206 \quad \sin 2\beta_n = \frac{\Omega\mu_e}{\Gamma_{1nn}} \quad (27)$$

207 Remembering that  $\cos(2\beta_n) = \pm\sqrt{1 - \sin^2(2\beta_n)}$  and substituting Eq. (27) in Eq. (26), we obtain  
 208 the amplitude of the steady solution

$$209 \quad a_n^2 = -\frac{4\Omega}{3\Gamma_{5nn}} \left[ \omega_1 + \frac{k_n}{2} \sin\left(\frac{\Omega\tau}{2}\right) \right] \pm \frac{8\Gamma_{1nn}}{3\Gamma_{5nn}} \sqrt{1 - \frac{\Omega^2\mu_e^2}{\Gamma_{1nn}^2}}, \quad (28)$$

210 which is the frequency-response equation, since the excitation amplitude  $z_0$  is within  $\Gamma_{1nn}$ .

211 It is worth to underline that  $\Gamma_{6nn}$ ,  $\Gamma_{7nn}$  and  $\Gamma_{8nn}$  do not appear in Eq. (28) because we are  
 212 focusing on the parametric excitation (this is reflected in the choice (18)). They would appear if  
 213 one consider the external resonance, i.e.  $\omega_n \approx \Omega$ . This is left for future work.

214 Since  $a_n$  is a real function, from  $a_n^2 > 0$  we obtain first order approximate region of existence  
 215 of the periodic solution

$$216 \quad \omega_1 < -\frac{k_n}{2} \sin\left(\frac{\Omega\tau}{2}\right) \pm \frac{2\Gamma_{1nn}}{\Omega} \sqrt{1 - \frac{\Omega^2\mu_e^2}{\Gamma_{1nn}^2}}. \quad (29)$$

217 Inserting this expression in Eq. (18), and remembering that  $\varepsilon k_n = \hat{k}_n$ ,  $\varepsilon\mu_e = \hat{\mu}_e$  and  $\varepsilon\Gamma_{1nn} = \hat{\Gamma}_{1nn}$ ,  
 218 yields

$$219 \quad \frac{2\omega}{\Omega} < 1 - \frac{\hat{k}_n}{\Omega} \sin\left(\frac{\Omega\tau}{2}\right) \pm \frac{4\hat{\Gamma}_{1nn}}{\Omega^2} \sqrt{1 - \frac{\Omega^2\hat{\mu}_e^2}{\hat{\Gamma}_{1nn}^2}}. \quad (30)$$

220 In the frequency/amplitude parameter space  $(\Omega, z_0)$  the boundary of the existence region, which  
 221 actually coincides with the stability region, is obtained by considering the equality instead of the  
 222 inequality in Eq. (30). It has the classical V-shape with vertex in  $\omega = \Omega/2$  (see for example  
 223 forthcoming Fig. 3).

## 224 NUMERICAL RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

225 A stay cable of the Dongting Lake Bridge, in China, was chosen as an example to verify the

226 spatial motions of the cable. The dimensional parameters and material properties of the sample stay  
227 cable are (Wang and Zhao, 2009): span  $l = 121.9\text{m}$ ; inclination angle  $\theta = 35.2^\circ$ ; cross-sectional  
228 area  $A = 6\,237 \times 10^{-6}\text{m}^2$ ; initial tension  $H = 3\,150\text{kN}$ ; elastic modulus  $E = 2.0 \times 10^5\text{MPa}$ ; mass  
229 per unit length  $m = 51.8\text{kg/m}$ . (It could be helpful for the reader to report the numerical values of  
230 the coefficients appearing in (16))

231 Figures 3-5 show the stability regions Eq. (30) of the controlled cable for different values of  
232 the parameters.

233 The effect of the time delay on the stability of the parametric resonance of the controlled cable  
234 is shown in Fig. 3. It is clear that increasing the delay  $\tau$  the unstable region (that above the  
235 stability boundary) increases in magnitude, confirming the findings of Sect. 3 that the delay has  
236 a destabilizing effect. Actually,  $\tau$  has a strong effect on the minimum values of the curve, while  
237 mildly affects the frequency where this minimum occurs (always in the neighborhood of the perfect  
238 parametric resonance  $\omega = \Omega/2$ ).

239 Figure 4 analyzes the effect of the control gain on the stability of the controlled cable. According  
240 to the common sense, by increasing the absolute value of the feedback control gain  $k_n$ , the unstable  
241 region moves up. The minimum value of the limit curve is almost proportional to  $k_n$ , showing  
242 the effectiveness of control in reducing the parametric resonance instability. The frequency where  
243 the minimum occurs slightly increases, even if this is not expected to be relevant in practical  
244 applications.

245 In the frequency/damping parameter space  $(\Omega, \mu)$  the effect of the amplitude  $z_0$  of the excitation  
246 on the stability of the controlled cable is shown in Fig. 5. As expected, the larger  $z_0$  the larger  
247 is the instability region (now below the reported curves), meaning that a large gain is needed to  
248 control large excitation amplitudes. The case with no control ( $k_1 = 0$ ) is also reported to appreciate  
249 the beneficial effect of control.

250 We now illustrated the effect of control gain (Fig. 6) and control delay (Fig. 7) on the frequency  
251 response curves, which are very important for practical applications and for design. Figure 6 shows  
252 that the frequency response curve shifts to the right when the control gain increases (in absolute

253 value), confirming the beneficial effect of control on increasing the instability threshold of the rest  
254 position. The stable curve occurring for “large” displacements (that experienced by the system after  
255 the loss of the stability of the rest position), on the other hand, is not affected that much by  $k_n$ , apart  
256 from the left Saddle-Node bifurcation where it is born. This curve is instead much more influenced  
257 by the delay  $\tau$ , as shown in Fig. 7, that also confirms that increasing the delay destabilizes the rest  
258 position.

259 Finally, Fig. 8 shows the comparison of the time history of the uncontrolled and controlled  
260 cable with different time delays. Comparing Fig. 8(a) with Fig. 8(b) it can be seen that with a small  
261 delay the control is very effective in reducing the vibration amplitudes of the cable. Increasing the  
262 delay, the destabilizing effect, already illustrated, can be seen also in the time history of Fig. 8(c).  
263 Note that the maximum displacement of Fig. 8(c) is quite similar to that of Fig. 8(a), showing how  
264 the large delay nullifies the effect of control.

265 (I noted that in all simulations the gain  $k_n$  is assumed to be negative. What happens for positive  
266 values?)

## 267 CONCLUSIONS

268 The stability of the parametric resonance of the controlled cable under the influence of time  
269 delay has been investigated both in the linear (with the exact solution) and in the nonlinear (by  
270 using the multi-scale method) regimes.

271 The influence of the control gain, the time delay and the amplitude of the external excitation  
272 on the stability of the controlled region is analyzed. The results show that the unstable region  
273 increases with the time delay and decreases with the increase of the absolute value of the control  
274 gain. These findings have been obtained theoretically analyzing the closed form solutions, and have  
275 been confirmed by numerical simulations.

276 The general conclusion of this paper is that when carrying out control design, especially when  
277 considering active and semi-active control, it is very important to properly take into account the  
278 influence of the time delay.

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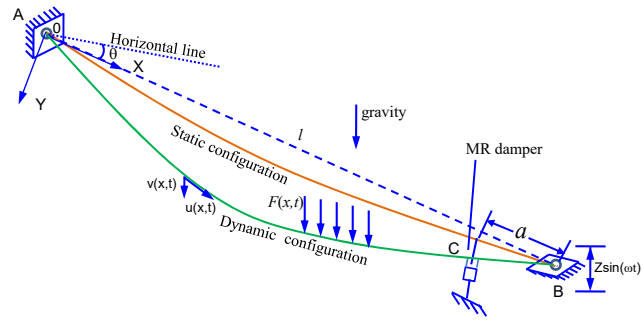
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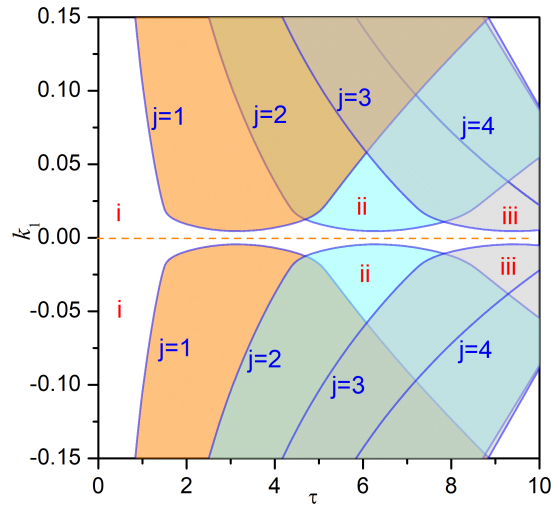
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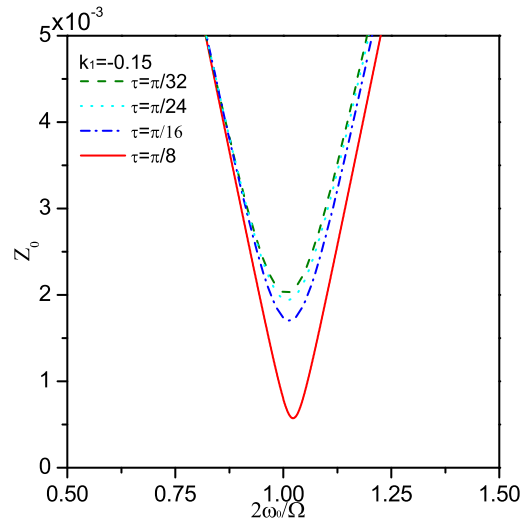
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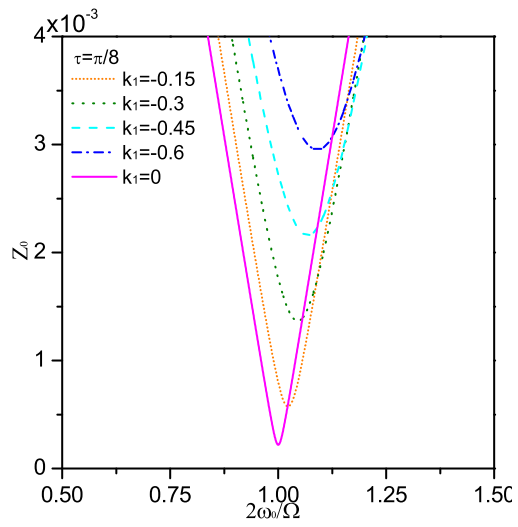
**Fig. 1.** The configuration of the controlled cable model.



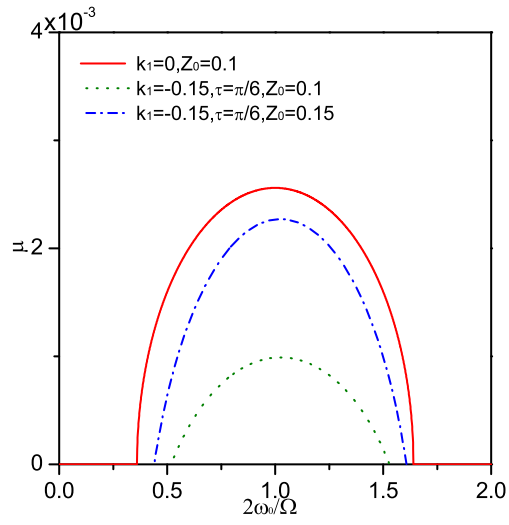
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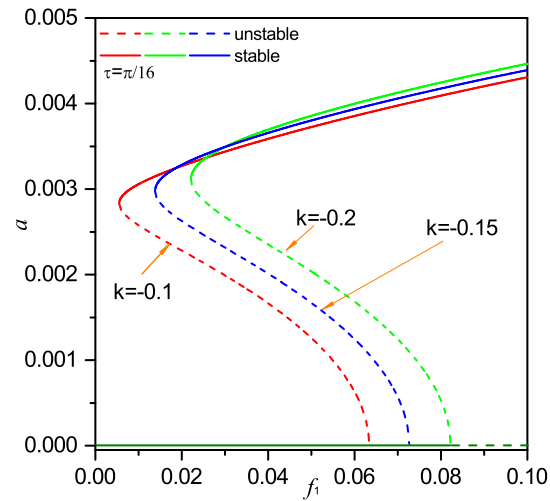


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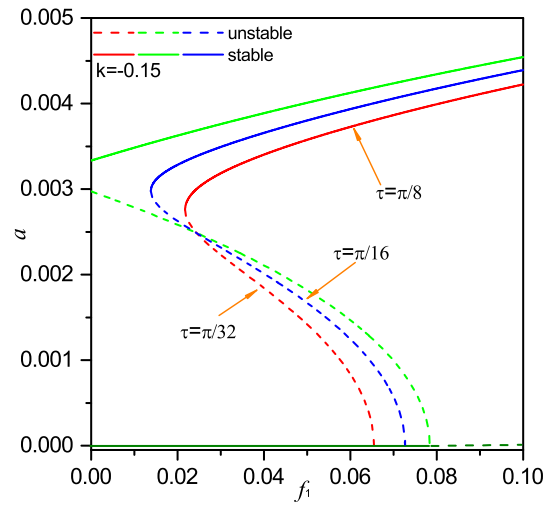


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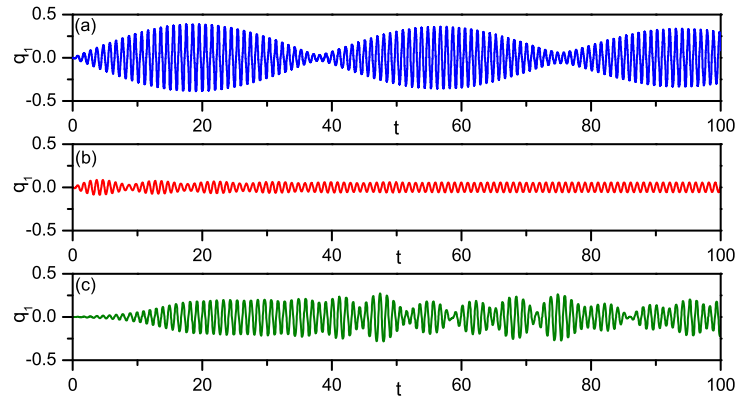




**Fig. 6.** The frequency response curve of the controlled cable with time delay  $\tau = \pi/16$ . (write  $k_1$  instead of  $k$  (as in the previous figures). Write  $a_n$  instead of  $a$  (as reported in the text of the paper). Who is  $f_1$ ? It is equal to  $\Omega/2\pi$ ? This should be said. Report the value of  $z_0$  used in this curves)



**Fig. 7.** The frequency response curve of the controlled cable with control gain  $k_1 = -0.15$ . (The same comments on the previous figure apply. Furthermore, I believe that  $\tau = \pi/32$  refers to the green curve, not to the red one)



**Fig. 8.** Comparison of the time history of the controlled cable. (a) no control; (b)  $k_1 = -1, \tau = \pi/2$ ; (c)  $k_1 = -1, \tau = \pi$ . (report the values of  $\Omega$  and  $z_0$  used for these figures)