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# Dynamic model of large amplitude vibration of a uniform cantilever beam carrying an intermediate lumped mass and rotary inertia

#### Abstract

In this paper, a mathematical model of large amplitude vibration of a uniform cantilever beam arising in the structural engineering is proposed. Two efficient and easy mathematical techniques called variational iteration method and He's variational approach are used to solve the governing differential equation of motion. To assess the accuracy of solutions, we compare the results with the Runge-Kutta 4th order. An excellent agreement of the approximate frequencies and periodic solutions with the numerical results and published results has been demonstrated. The results show that both methods can be easily extended to other nonlinear oscillations and it can be predicted that both methods can be found widely applicable in engineering and physics.

#### Keywords

Large amplitude; Variational Iteration Method; He's Variational Approach; Nonlinear oscillation.

#### **1 INTRODUCTION**

The Structural engineering theory is based upon physical laws and empirical knowledge of the structural performance of different landscapes and materials. Many engineering structures can be modelled as a slender, flexible cantilever beam carrying a lumped mass with rotary inertia at an intermediate point along its span; hence they experience large-amplitude vibration (Wu, 2003; Herisanu and Marinca, 2010; Cveticanin and Kovacic, 2007; Hamdan and Shabaneh, 1997; Hamdan and Dado, 1997).

In general, such problems are not amenable to exact treatment and approximate techniques must be resorted to. So, many new techniques have appeared in the open literature such as: variational iteration method (He, 2007a; Barari et al., 2011), homotopy perturbation method (Torabi and Yaghoobi, 2011; Torabi et al., 2011; Saravi et al., 2013), homotopy analysis method (Liao, 2003; Khan et al., 2012) and some other methods (Nikkar et al., 2012; Ghasempoor et al., 2102; Akbarzade and Khan, 2012; Alinia et al., 2011; Ganji, 2012; Torabi et al., 2012; Sheikholeslami et al.,

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2012a; 2012b; Bayat et al., 2011; Rafieipour et al., 2012; Marinca and Herisanu, 2010; Salehi et al., 2012; Hamidi et al., 2012)

The variational iteration method (VIM) and variational approach (VA) which were introduced by He (He; 2007a;2007b) are very powerful methods in solving non-linear differential equations and studying nonlinear vibration of beams. The Variational Approach which is also called He's variational approach, as well as the variational iteration method, was utilized here to obtain the analytical expression for the following model of nonlinear oscillations in the structural engineering problems:

$$\frac{d^2u}{dt^2} + u + \alpha u^2 \frac{d^2u}{dt^2} + \alpha u \left(\frac{du}{dt}\right)^2 + \beta u^3 = 0$$
(1)

With initial conditions:

$$u(0) = A, \quad \frac{du}{dt}(0) = 0 \tag{2}$$

This system describes the uni-modal large-amplitude free vibrations of a slender inextensible cantilever beam carrying an intermediate mass with a rotary inertia. The third and fourth terms in equation (1) represent inertia-type cubic non-linearity arising from the inextensibility assumption. The last term is a static-type cubic nonlinearity associated with the potential energy stored in bending. The modal constants  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  result from the discretization procedure and they have specific values for each mode as described in (Hamdan and Dado, 1997).

# **2 DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIATIONAL ITERATION METHOD**

To clarify the basic ideas of proposed method consider the following general differential equation,

$$Lu + Nu = g(t) \tag{3}$$

Where, L is a linear operator, and N a nonlinear operator, g(t) an inhomogeneous or forcing term. According to the variational iteration method, we can construct a correct functional as follows:

$$u_{n+1}(t) = u_n(t) + \int_0^t \lambda (Lu_n(\tau) + N\widetilde{u}_n(\tau) - g(\tau)) d\tau$$
(4)

Where  $\lambda$  is a general Lagrange multiplier, which can be identified optimally via the variational theory, the subscript *n* denotes the nth approximation,  $\tilde{u}_n$  is considered as a restricted variation, i.e.  $\delta \tilde{u}_n = 0$ .

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For linear problems, its exact solution can be obtained by only one iteration step due to the fact that the Lagrange multiplier can be exactly identified. In this method, the problems are initially approximated with possible unknowns and it can be applied in non-linear problems without linearization or small parameters. The approximate solutions obtained by the proposed method rapidly converge to the exact solution.

# **3 IMPLEMENTATION OF VARIATIONAL ITERATION METHOD**

Now, we can solve the following equation:

$$\ddot{u} + u + \alpha u^2 \ddot{u} + \alpha u \dot{u}^2 + \beta u^3 = 0 \tag{5}$$

with initial conditions:

$$u(0) = A, \quad \dot{u}(0) = 0 \tag{6}$$

Assume that the circular frequency of the system (5) is  $\omega$ , we have the following linearized equation:

$$\ddot{u} + \omega^2 u = 0 \tag{7}$$

So we can rewrite Eq. (5) in the form:

$$\ddot{u} + \omega^2 u + f(u) = 0 \tag{8}$$

Where  $f(u) = (1 - \omega^2)u + \alpha u^2 \ddot{u} + \alpha u \dot{u}^2 + \beta u^3 = 0$ Applying the proposed method, the following iterative formula is formed as:

$$u_{n+1}(t) = u_n(t) + \int_0^t \lambda(\ddot{u}_n(\tau) + \omega^2 u_n(\tau) + f(u(\tau))d\tau$$
(9)

Its stationary conditions can be obtained as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \lambda' \big|_{\tau=t} &= 0, \\ \lambda \big|_{\tau=t} &= 0, \\ \lambda'' + \omega^2 \lambda \big|_{\tau=t} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$
(10)

The Lagrange multiplier, therefore, can be identified as;

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{\omega} \sin \omega (\tau - t) \tag{11}$$

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Substituting the identified multiplier into Eq. (9) results in the following iteration formula:

$$u_{n+1}(t) = u_n(t) + \frac{1}{\omega} \int_0^t \sin \omega (\tau - t) (\ddot{u}_n(\tau) + u_n(\tau) + \alpha u_n(\tau)^2 \ddot{u}_n(\tau) + \alpha u_n(\tau) \dot{u}_n^2(\tau) + \beta u_n(\tau)^3) d\tau$$
(12)

Assuming its initial approximate solution has the form:

$$u_0(t) = A\cos(\omega t) \tag{13}$$

And substituting Eq. (13) into Eq. (5) leads to the following residual:

$$R_{0}(t) = -A\omega^{2}\cos(\omega t) + A\cos(\omega t) - 2\alpha A^{3}\omega^{2}\cos^{3}(\omega t) + \alpha A^{3}\omega^{2}\cos(\omega t) + \beta A^{3}\cos^{3}(\omega t)$$
$$= \cos(\omega t)[A + \frac{3}{4}\beta A^{3} - \omega^{2}(A + \frac{1}{2}\alpha A^{3})] + \cos(3\omega t)[\frac{1}{4}\beta A^{3} - \frac{1}{2}\alpha A^{3}\omega^{2}]$$
(14)

By the formulation (12), we can obtain

$$u_{1}(t) = u_{0}(t) + \frac{1}{\omega} \int_{0}^{t} \sin \omega (\tau - t) (R_{0}(\tau)) d\tau$$
(15)

In the same manner, the rest of the components of the iteration formula can be obtained. In order to ensure that no secular terms appear in  $u_1$ , resonance must be avoided. To do so, the coefficient of  $\cos(\omega t)$  in Eq. (14) requires being zero, i.e.,

$$\omega_{VIM} = \sqrt{\frac{3\beta A^2 + 4}{2\alpha A^2 + 4}} \tag{16}$$

#### **4 DESCRIPTION OF THE HE'S VARIATIONAL APPROACH**

In 2007, the variational approach was proposed by He (He, 2007b). In this method, a variational principle for the nonlinear oscillations is established, then a Hamiltonian is constructed, from which the angular frequency can be obtained by a lacation method. To explain the method precisely, consider the following generalized nonlinear oscillations without forced terms:

$$u'' + \omega^2 u + \mathcal{E} f(u) = 0, \qquad u(0) = A, \qquad u'(0) = 0$$
 (17)

where f is a nonlinear function of u, u' and u''.

For simplicity, if function f depends on u only, its variational functional can be obtained as:

$$J(u) = \int_0^t \left\{ -\frac{u'}{2} + \omega^2 \frac{u^2}{2} + \varepsilon F(u) \right\} dt$$
(18)

where F is the potential, dF / du = f. Its Hamiltonian reads

$$H = -\frac{u'}{2} + \omega^2 \frac{u^2}{2} + \varepsilon F(u) \tag{19}$$

which should be an invariant during the oscillation. With the invariant, we can apply the location method to identify the frequency by suitable choice of trial functions (He, 2006). If, by chance, the exact solution had been chosen as the trial function, then it would be possible to make the residual zero for all values of t by appropriate choice of  $\omega$ . From this point of view, He's variational method is completely different from the classical variational methods, but has little likeness to Ritz method. Because, Ritz method is only valid for fixed domain, but in He's variational method, the integral boundary is not fixed. So He's functional formulation can be called as variational functional with movable domain. Therefore, He's variational approach is quite different from the classic Ritz method in calculus of variation. Following the approach adopted by the (Öziş and Yildirim, 2006) in a previous publication, He's method has been used to determine the periodic solutions and the periods of strongly nonlinear systems given below in subsequent three examples (Öziş and Yildirim, 2006). More recently, He's method also adopted by D'Acunto for self-excited systems (D'Acunto, 2006a; 2006b).

### **5 IMPLEMENTATION OF HE'S VARIATIONAL APPROACH**

The governing equation of the system is:

$$\ddot{u} + u + \alpha u^2 \ddot{u} + \alpha u \dot{u}^2 + \beta u^3 = 0, \quad u(0) = A, \ \dot{u}(0) = 0$$
<sup>(20)</sup>

We can, now, easily obtain the following variational formulation:

$$J(u) = \int_0^T \left\{ -\frac{\dot{u}}{2} + \frac{u^2}{2} - \frac{\alpha u^2 \dot{u}^2}{2} + \frac{\beta u^4}{4} \right\} dt$$
(21)

Assume that its approximate solution can be expressed as:

$$u(t) = A\cos(\omega t) \tag{22}$$

Where  $\omega$  is the frequency to be determined and A is the amplitude of oscillation. Substituting Eq. (22) into Eq. (21) results in

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$$J(u) = \frac{A^2 \pi}{\omega} \left(-\frac{\omega^2}{8} - \frac{\alpha A^2 \omega^2}{32} + \frac{3\beta A^2}{64} + \frac{1}{8}\right).$$
(23)

Making J stationary with respect to A, according to He's method (He, 2007b), we obtain:

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial A} = \frac{2\pi A \left(-\frac{\omega^2}{8} - \frac{\alpha A^2 \omega^2}{32} + \frac{3\beta A^2}{64} + \frac{1}{8}\right) + A^2 \pi \left(\frac{-\alpha A \omega^2}{16} + \frac{3\beta A}{32}\right)}{\omega} = 0$$
(24)

So the frequency can be approximated as:

$$\omega_{VA} = \sqrt{\frac{3\beta A^2 + 4}{2\alpha A^2 + 4}} \tag{25}$$

and zero-order approximate solution from Eq.(22) is:

$$u(t) = A\cos(\sqrt{\frac{3\beta A^{2} + 4}{2\alpha A^{2} + 4}}t)$$
(26)

## 6 RESULTS AND DISSCUSIONS

A mathematical model describing the process of large amplitude vibration of a uniform cantilever beam arising in the structural engineering is proposed. Two different analytical methods are applied to solve the dynamic model of the large amplitude non-linear oscillation equation. In order to verify the precision of the methods, current results were compared with Runge-Kutta 4th order method in Tables 1 and 2. It is observable that our results are in excellent agreement with the results provided by Runge-Kutta 4th order. The behavior of u(A,t) obtained by VIM and VA at  $a=\pi$  and  $\beta=0.15$  is shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The comparison of the displacement versus time for results obtained from VIM, VA and Runge-Kutta 4th order has been depicted in Figs. 3 and 4 for  $a=\pi$ ,  $\beta=0.15$  and A=5.

Table 1 Comparison between VIM & VA with time marching solution for the motion equation (5), when t = 0.5(s),  $\alpha = \pi$  and  $\beta = 0.15$ 

А	VIM	$\mathbf{VA}$	RKF	ERROR(VIM)	ERROR(VA)
1	0.9463927620	0.9463927619	0.9649139805	0.0185212185	0.0185212186
2	1.9504339180	1.9504339180	1.9703577348	0.0199238168	0.0199238168
3	2.9502813520	2.9502813520	2.9697956251	0.0195142731	0.0195142731
4	3.9465468350	3.9465468350	3.9667529060	0.0202060710	0.0202060710
5	4.9409455720	4.9409455720	4.9625929831	0.0216474111	0.0216474111
10	9.9032905460	9.9032905460	9.9364326547	0.0331421087	0.0331421087

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Α	VIM	VA	RKF	ERROR(VIM)	ERROR(VA)
1	0.8576769447	0.8576769447	0.8750048474	0.0173279026	0.0173279026
2	1.6758236550	1.6758236550	1.7464536880	0.0706300330	0.0706300330
3	2.4869219110	2.4869219120	2.6177613293	0.1308394183	0.1308394173
4	3.2992513900	3.2992513900	3.4892642069	0.1900128169	0.1900128169
5	4.1131785860	4.1131785860	4.3609001902	0.2477216042	0.2477216042
10	8.1943718270	8.1943718250	8.7198747164	0.5255028894	0.5255028914

Table 2 Comparison between VIM & VA with time marching solution for the motion equation (5), when t = 0.5(s),  $\alpha = \beta = 1$ 

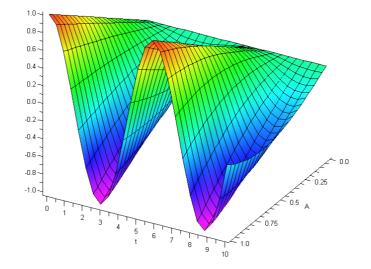


Figure 2 VIM deflection at  $\alpha = \pi$  and  $\beta = 0.15$ 

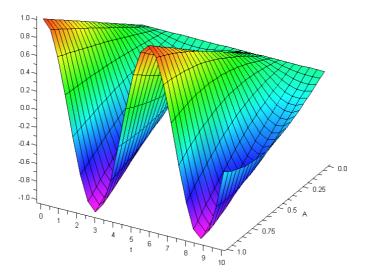


Figure 3 VA deflection at  $\alpha = \pi$  and  $\beta = 0.15$ 

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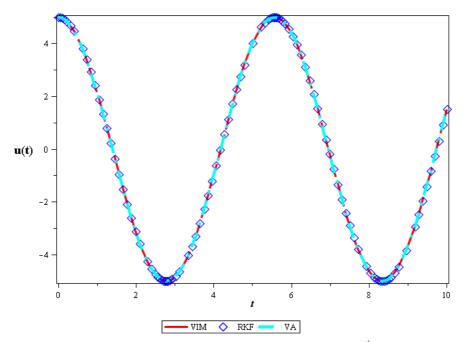


Figure 4 Comparison between VIM and VA periodic solutions versus time with Runge-Kutta 4<sup>th</sup> order for  $\alpha=\beta=0.1$  and A = 5.

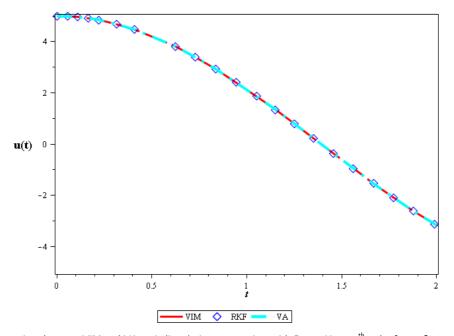


Figure 5 Comparison between VIM and VA periodic solutions versus time with Runge-Kutta 4<sup>th</sup> order for  $\alpha = \beta = 0.1$  and A = 5.

# **7 CONCLUSIONS**

In this study, a mathematical model describing the process of large amplitude vibration of a uniform cantilever beam arising in the structural engineering is proposed. Variational approach and efficient approximate method (VIM) is employed to derive the nonlinear vibration of a uniform cantilever beam. The frequency of both methods is exactly the same. Comparing with numerical

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Results, it is shown that the approximate analytical solutions are in very good agreement with the corresponding solutions.

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