Modal analysis updating with an uncertain computational dynamical model and with experiments

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ABSTRACT A methodology which performs the robust updating of complex uncertain dynamical systems with respect to modal experimental data in the context of structural dynamics is constructed. Since both model uncertainties and data uncertainties must be considered in the computational model, then the uncertain computational model is constructed by using the nonparametric probabilistic approach. An extension to the probabilistic case of the input error methodology for modal analysis introduced by [1] is presented. Such robust updating formulation leads to solve a mono-objective optimization problem in presence of inequality probabilistic constraints. A numerical application is presented.

Introduction

The updating of computational models using experimental data is currently a challenge of interest in structural dynamics. Many updating formulations have been proposed using deterministic computational models (see for instance [1, 2, 3]. Knowing that deterministic computational models are not sufficient to accurately predict the dynamical behaviour of complex structures, the uncertainties have then to be taken into account in the computational models by using probabilistic models as soon as the probability theory can be used. More recently, the terminology of robust updating has been introduced in order to define updating formulations using uncertain computational models. We then can distinguish robust updating with respect to parameter uncertainties [6, 7] (using a parametric probabilistic approach) from robust updating with respect to both model uncertainties and parameter uncertainties [8, 9] (using the non-parametric probabilistic approach [4, 5]). The motivation of this paper is to propose a robust updating methodology with respect to both model uncertainties and parameter uncertainties using modal experimental data by constructing a formulation based on the input errors. Such a methodology is based on the deterministic updating formulation [1]. This paper proposes to extend such a deterministic updating formulation to the probabilistic case. The paper is organized as follows. Section 1 is devoted to the description of the available experimental data (experimental eigenfrequencies and experimental eigenmodes). In Section 2, the deterministic updating methodology [1] is summarized. Section 3 deals with the robust updating formulation. In this robust updating context, there are model uncertainties which are such that the available experimental data can not exactly be reproduced by any computational model. This context does not allow the strategy of deterministic updating to be effective. The main idea is thus to implement the nonparametric probabilistic approach in a mean computational model in order to take into account both model uncertainties and parameter uncertainties. First of all, a modified Craig and Bampton dynamical substructuring method [10, 11] is used in order to construct a mean reduced matrix equation allowing the deterministic residue to be calculated. In a second step, the generalized matrices of this mean reduced equation are replaced by random matrices for which the probability model is explicitly constructed. With such an approach, the uncertainty level of each random matrix is controlled by a dispersion parameter. We then obtain a random residue which is defined as a function of the updating parameters which are the updating mean parameters related to the mean computational model and the dispersion parameters which allow the uncertainty level in the computational model to be controlled. In a third step, the cost function is defined as the second-order moment of the norm of the random residue. Difficulties arise from a conceptual point of view. A straightforward generalization of the deterministic optimization problem which would consist in optimizing the cost function with respect to the admissible set of the updating parameters would yield a deterministic updated computational model which would not be compatible with the existence of model uncertainties in the computational model. The formulation is then modified by adding probabilistic constraints related to the nonreducible gap between the uncertain computational model and the experiments due to the presence of model uncertainties. In Section 4, a numerical example is presented.

Description of the experimental data

The assumptions concerning the available experimental data are given. It is assumed that experimental modal analysis has been carried out on one manufactured dynamical system with free free boundary conditions. Consequently, there are $m = 6$ rigid-body modes associated with 6 zero eigenvalues which are not taken into account in the analysis. The experimental data consists in r experimental elastic eigenvalues denoted by $0 < \underline{\lambda}_1^{exp} < \ldots < \underline{\lambda}_r^{exp}$. The corresponding experimental eigenmodes are measured at n_{obs} observation points. One then denotes by $[\underline{\Phi}^{exp}]$ the $(n_{obs} \times r)$ real modal matrix whose columns are the corresponding experimental eigenmodes $\underline{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_1^{exp}, \ldots, \underline{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_r^{exp}$.

Deterministic modal analysis updating formulation

It is assumed that the manufactured dynamical system can be modeled by a deterministic computational model which is called the mean computational model. The method proposed in [1] is briefly summarized below.

The mean computational model of the dynamical system is constructed using the finite element method and has n DOF (degrees of freedom). It is assumed that the finite element mesh is compatible with the n_{obs} experimental measurement points. Let $\mathbf{s}$ be the $\mathbb{R}^s$-vector of the updating parameters of the mean computational model called the updating mean parameters. Vector $\mathbf{s}$ belongs to an admissible set $\mathcal{S}$ corresponding to a given family of mean computational models. Let $[\underline{M}(\mathbf{s})]$ and $[\underline{K}(\mathbf{s})]$ be the finite element mass and stiffness matrices. Since the dynamical system has free free boundary conditions, matrices $[\underline{M}(\mathbf{s})]$ and $[\underline{K}(\mathbf{s})]$ are $(n \times n)$ positive-definite and positive symmetric real matrices. These matrices are then block decomposed with respect to the $n_1 = n_{obs}$ experimental measurement DOF and the $n_2 = n - n_{obs}$ non measured DOF. The matrix formulation allowing the deterministic updating to be solved consists in modifying the usual generalized eigenvalue problem by introducing the $(n \times 1)$ residue vector $\underline{\mathbb{r}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})$ defined, for $\alpha = 1, \ldots, r$, by

$$\underline{\mathbb{r}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s}) = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\mathbf{r}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s}) \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} = \left(\begin{bmatrix} [\underline{K}_{11}(\mathbf{s})] & [\underline{K}_{12}(\mathbf{s})] \\ [\underline{K}_{12}(\mathbf{s})]^T & [\underline{K}_{22}(\mathbf{s})] \end{bmatrix} - \underline{\lambda}_\alpha^{exp} \begin{bmatrix} [\underline{M}_{11}(\mathbf{s})] & [\underline{M}_{12}(\mathbf{s})] \\ [\underline{M}_{12}(\mathbf{s})]^T & [\underline{M}_{22}(\mathbf{s})] \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_\alpha^{exp} \\ \underline{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_{2,\alpha}(\mathbf{s}) \end{bmatrix} \tag{1}$$

In Eq. (1), for a given updating mean parameter $\mathbf{s}$ belonging to $\mathcal{S}$, the component $\underline{r}_{\alpha,k}(\mathbf{s})$ of vector $\underline{\mathbb{r}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})$ quantifies the residue with respect to the mean computational model which is induced by the experimental elastic eigenvalue and by the eigenmode number α for the DOF number k. Since the information concerning the experimental eigenmodes is only available on a restricted number of DOF corresponding to the experimental measurement points, it is assumed that no errors are induced on the nonmeasured DOF. Equations (1) and (**??**) allow the unknown quantities $\underline{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_{2,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})$ and $\underline{\mathbf{r}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})$ to be calculated under the condition that the matrix $[\underline{B}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})]$ defined by

$$[\underline{B}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})] = [\underline{K}_{22}(\mathbf{s})] - \underline{\lambda}_\alpha^{exp}[\underline{M}_{22}(\mathbf{s})] \quad , \quad \alpha = 1, \ldots, r \quad . \tag{2}$$

is invertible. It is assumed that the number r of experimental eigenvalue/eigenmodes which has to be considered in this deterministic updating is chosen in order to fulfill this condition. The deterministic updating is solved by simultaneously minimizing the residue vectors $\underline{\mathbf{r}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})$ for all α belonging to $\{1, \ldots, r\}$. The cost function is defined as a function of the updating mean parameters $\mathbf{s}$ by

$$\underline{j}(\mathbf{s}) = ||[\underline{\mathcal{R}}(\mathbf{s})]||_F^2 \quad , \tag{3}$$

in which the $(r \times r)$ real matrix $[\underline{\mathcal{R}}(\mathbf{s})]$ is defined by $[\underline{\mathcal{R}}(\mathbf{s})]_{\alpha\beta} = \underline{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_\alpha^{exp,T}\, \underline{\mathbf{r}}_\beta(\mathbf{s})$. In Eq. (3), $||[\underline{X}]||_F^2 = tr([\underline{X}]\,[\underline{X}]^T)$. The solution of this deterministic updating problem is then given by

$$\underline{\mathbf{s}}^{opt} = arg \min_{\mathbf{s} \in \mathcal{S}} \underline{j}(\mathbf{s}) \quad . \tag{4}$$

Robust modal analysis updating formulation

In this Section, it is assumed that the computational model used for modeling the manufactured dynamical system for which experimental modal data are available contains significant model uncertainties. Consequently, the deterministic modal analysis updating formulation presented above can be improved in taking into account the presence of model uncertainties. We then propose to adapt the deterministic modal analysis updating formulation to the robust updating context. Firstly, a mean reduced matrix model (required by the use of the non-parametric probabilistic approach) based on the Craig and Bampton dynamical substructuring method [10, 11] for which the coupling interface is constituted of the n_{obs} measurements DOF is constructed. For brevity, the details of the construction of such a mean reduced matrix model are not given. For a given α belonging to $\{1,\ldots,r\}$, we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\varphi}_\alpha^{exp} \\ \underline{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_{2,\alpha}(\mathbf{s}) \end{bmatrix} = [\underline{H}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})] \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\varphi}_\alpha^{exp} \\ \underline{\mathbf{q}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s}) \end{bmatrix}, \tag{5}$$

in which the matrix $[\underline{H}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})]$ is the projection basis and where $\underline{\mathbf{q}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})$ is the $\mathbb{R}^N$-vector of the generalized coordinates. Let $\mathfrak{n} = N + n_{obs}$. The mean reduced matrix equation which allows $\underline{\mathbf{r}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})$ and $\underline{\mathbf{q}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})$ to be calculated is then written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \underline{\mathbf{r}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s}) \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} = \left([\underline{K}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})] - \underline{\lambda}_\alpha^{exp}\,[\underline{M}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})]\right) \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\varphi}_\alpha^{exp} \\ \underline{\mathbf{q}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s}) \end{bmatrix} \quad , \tag{6}$$

in which the matrices $[\underline{M}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})]$ and $[\underline{K}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})]$ are the $(\mathfrak{n}\times\mathfrak{n})$ positive-definite and positive symmetric real mass and stiffness matrices defined by $[\underline{M}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})] = [\underline{H}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})]^T\,[\underline{M}(\mathbf{s})]\,[\underline{H}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})]$ and $[\underline{K}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})] = [\underline{H}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})]^T\,[\underline{K}(\mathbf{s})]\,[\underline{H}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})]$. In a second step, the nonparametric probabilistic approach [4, 5] is used to model uncertainties in Eq. (6). The method consists in replacing the deterministic matrices $[\underline{M}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})]$ and $[\underline{K}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s})]$ by random matrices $[\mathbf{M}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s},\delta_M)]$ and $[\mathbf{K}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s},\delta_K)]$ for which the details concerning the construction of the probability model of these random matrices can be found in [4, 5]. Let $\boldsymbol{\delta} = (\delta_M,\delta_K)$ be the vector of the dispersion parameters which have to be updated. It can be shown from the construction of the probability model that dispersion parameter $\boldsymbol{\delta}$ must belong to the admissible set $\Delta = \left\{[0\,,\,\sqrt{\frac{\mathfrak{n}+1}{\mathfrak{n}+5}}]\times[0\,,\,\sqrt{\frac{\mathfrak{n}-m+1}{\mathfrak{n}-m+5}}]\right\}$. It should be noted that there exists an algebraic representation useful to the Monte Carlo numerical simulation. The stochastic matrix equation whose unknowns are the random residue vector $\mathbf{R}_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})$ and the random vector $\mathbf{Q}_\alpha(\mathbf{s})$ of the random generalized coordinates is written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} = \left([\mathbf{K}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s},\delta_K)] - \underline{\lambda}_\alpha^{exp}\,[\mathbf{M}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s},\delta_M)]\right) \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\varphi}_\alpha^{exp} \\ \mathbf{Q}_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) \end{bmatrix} \quad , \tag{7}$$

Note that the calculation of random vector $\mathbf{Q}_\alpha$ requires the inversion of the random matrix $[\boldsymbol{\mathcal{B}}_{2,\alpha}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})]$ defined by

$$[\boldsymbol{\mathcal{B}}_{2,\alpha}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})] = [\boldsymbol{\mathcal{K}}_{2,\alpha}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})] - \underline{\lambda}_\alpha^{exp}\;[\boldsymbol{\mathcal{M}}_{2,\alpha}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})] \tag{8}$$

where $[\boldsymbol{\mathcal{M}}_{2,\alpha}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})]$ and $[\boldsymbol{\mathcal{K}}_{2,\alpha}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})]$ are the matrix blocks corresponding to the random generalized coordinates. It is assumed that the number r of experimental eigenvalues is chosen under the assumption that random matrix $[\boldsymbol{\mathcal{B}}_{2,\alpha}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})]$ is invertible almost surely. The robust updating formulation requires to define the cost function from the uncertain computational model as a function of the updating mean parameter $\mathbf{s}$ and of the dispersion parameter $\boldsymbol{\delta}$. In coherence with Eq. (3), the cost function denoted by $j(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})$ is written as

$$j(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) = \mathcal{E}\{|||[\boldsymbol{\mathcal{R}}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})]|||_F^2\} \quad , \quad [\boldsymbol{\mathcal{R}}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})]_{\alpha\beta} = \underline{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_\alpha^{exp,T}\,\mathbf{R}_\beta(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) \quad . \tag{9}$$

Note that the cost function $j(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})$ tends to the cost function $\underline{j}(\mathbf{s})$ as δ_M and δ_K go to zero, which means as the structure tends to be deterministic. The straightforward generalization of Eq. (4) to the random case would yield the solution $(\mathbf{s}^{opt},\boldsymbol{\delta}^{opt})$ to be written as

$$(\mathbf{s}^{opt},\boldsymbol{\delta}^{opt}) = arg\,\min_{\mathbf{s}\in\mathcal{S}} j(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) \quad . \tag{10}$$

The following comment shows that this formulation is not adapted to the robust updating context. If the deterministic updating context assumed that there were no model uncertainties and no parameter uncertainties, then it would mean that the family of deterministic models would be able to exactly reproduce the experimental data. In that case, the deterministic cost function would be zero for the updated solution. In the present context of robust updating, there are model uncertainties which are then taken into account by a class of computational model generated with the nonparametric probabilistic approach. The above formulation for robust updating tends to minimize the model uncertainties ($\boldsymbol{\delta} \to 0$) which means that this formulation is equivalent to the deterministic updating formulation. However, since it is assumed that there are significant model uncertainties, the class of deterministic computational models is not able to reproduce the experiments. Consequently, the cost function is doubtlessly minimized but is nonzero and there still exists an irreducible distance between each eigenvalue /eigenvector of the updated computational model and each experimental eigenvalue / eigenvector. The above formulation for robust updating is then not correct. In order to generate a larger class of uncertain computational models, additional probabilistic constraints involving these distances are added in the formulation of the robust updating optimization problem.

$$\Delta\Lambda(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{r}\sum_{\alpha=1}^{r}\{\Delta\Lambda_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})\}^2} \quad , \quad \Delta\Lambda_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) = \frac{|\Lambda_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) - \underline{\lambda}_\alpha^{exp}|}{\underline{\lambda}_\alpha^{exp}} \quad , \tag{11}$$

$$\Delta\widetilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{r}\sum_{\alpha=1}^{r}\{\Delta\widetilde{\Phi}_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})\}^2} \quad , \quad \Delta\widetilde{\Phi}_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) = \frac{||\widetilde{\boldsymbol{\Phi}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) - \underline{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_\alpha^{exp}||}{||\underline{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_\alpha^{exp}||} \quad . \tag{12}$$

In Eqs. (11) and (12), for each α belonging to $\{1,\ldots,r\}$, the positive-valued random eigenvalue $\Lambda_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})$ and the $\mathbb{R}^{n_{obs}}$-valued random eigenvector $\widetilde{\boldsymbol{\Phi}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})$ restricted to the measurement DOF are defined by the generalized eigenvalue problem related to the uncertain computational model which is written as: find $(\Lambda_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}), \boldsymbol{\Phi}_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}))$

$$\mathbf{0} = \Big([\mathbf{K}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s},\delta_K)] - \Lambda_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta})\,[\mathbf{M}_{red,\alpha}(\mathbf{s},\delta_M)]\Big)\boldsymbol{\Psi}_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) \quad , \alpha = 1,\ldots,r \, , \; \widetilde{\boldsymbol{\Phi}}_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) = [[I] \quad [\mathbb{0}]]\,\boldsymbol{\Psi}_\alpha(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) \, . \tag{13}$$

The following probabilistic constraints are introduced. Let $g_\Lambda(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta};\beta_\Lambda,\varepsilon_\Lambda)$ and $g_{\widetilde{\Phi}}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta};\beta_\Phi,\varepsilon_\Phi)$ be the functions defined by

$$g_\Lambda(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta};\beta_\Lambda,\varepsilon_\Lambda) = \beta_\Lambda - Proba\left(\Delta\Lambda(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) < \varepsilon_\Lambda\right) \tag{14}$$

$$g_{\widetilde{\Phi}}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta};\beta_\Phi,\varepsilon_\Phi) = \beta_\Phi - Proba\left(\Delta\Phi(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) < \varepsilon_\Phi\right) \quad , \tag{15}$$

in which $Proba$ denotes the probability and where ε_Λ, ε_Φ and β_Λ, β_Φ denote a given error level and a given probability level respectively. The robust updating formulation consists in defining, for a given $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_\Lambda,\beta_\Phi)$ belonging to $[0\,,\,1[\times[0\,,\,1[$ and for a given $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = (\epsilon_\Lambda,\epsilon_\Phi)$ belonging to $]0,+\infty[\times]0,+\infty[$, the solution $(\mathbf{s}^{opt},\boldsymbol{\delta}^{opt})$ as

$$(\mathbf{s}^{opt},\boldsymbol{\delta}^{opt}) = arg \min_{\substack{(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) \,\in\, \{\mathcal{S}\times\Delta\} \\ \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta};\boldsymbol{\beta},\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \,<\, \mathbf{0}}} j(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta}) \quad , \tag{16}$$

in which $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta};\boldsymbol{\beta},\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) = (g_\Lambda(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta};\beta_\Lambda,\varepsilon_\Lambda), g_{\widetilde{\Phi}}(\mathbf{s},\boldsymbol{\delta};\beta_\Phi,\varepsilon_\Phi))$. The existence of a solution for this optimization problem cannot be proven in the general case. A specific analysis must be carried out for every application.

Numerical Validation

The numerical validation is carried out using the truss system presented in [1]. This structure is located in the plane $(OX\,,\,OY)$ of a Cartesian coordinate system. The truss is constituted of 4 vertical bars, 4 diagonal bars and 2 horizontal beams. For the non updated truss, all the bars and beams are made up of a homogeneous isotropic elastic material with mass density $\rho_0 = 2\,800\,kg\times m^{-3}$, Poisson ratio $\nu_0 = 0.3$ and Young modulus $E_0 = 0.75\times 10^{11}\,N\times m^{-2}$. The vertical bars have a constant cross-section of $0.6\times 10^{-2}\,m^2$ and a length of $3\,m$. The diagonal bars have a constant cross-section of $0.3\times 10^{-2}\,m^2$ and a length of $5.83\,m$. The horizontal beams have a constant cross-section of $S_0 = 0.4\times 10^{-2}\,m^2$, a constant beam inertia of $0.756\times 10^{-1}\,m^4$ and a length of $15\,m$. The truss has free-free boundary conditions. The mean finite element model of this truss is constituted of 41 bar elements (with two nodes) and 42 beam elements (with two nodes) yielding $n = 166$ DOF. There is only one updating parameter $s = \rho\,S_0$ with ρ the mass density of the upper beam which has to be updated. It should be noted that for this non updated truss, $s_0 = 11.2\,kg/m$. The admissible set $\mathcal{S}$ for the updating parameter s of the mean computational model is taken as $\mathcal{S} = [10\,,\,40]\,kg/m$.

Since no experiment has been carried out on this truss, a numerical experiment is generated to represent the experimental data basis. Note that this experimental data basis cannot be obtained with a deterministic updating of the truss ($\delta_M = \delta_K = 0$) for which the mass density ρ of the upper beam is the updating parameter. The experimental data basis is thus constituted of (1) $r = 3$ elastic experimental eigenfrequencies $\underline{\nu}_1^{exp} = 93\,Hz$,

$\underline{\nu}_2^{exp} = 110\,Hz$ and $\underline{\nu}_3^{exp} = 170\,Hz$ and (2) the translational components corresponding to $n_{obs} = 28$ translational measured DOF and representing the corresponding experimental eigenmodes. In the context of the robust updating, the stochastic equations of the uncertain computational model are solved by using the Monte Carlo numerical simulation. It can be shown that a convergence analysis yield optimal numerical parameters $N = 110$ modes and $n_s = 600$ relizations.

As explained, the robust updating formulation without inequality constraints does not allow the updating to be improved with respect to the presence of model uncertainties. In this subsection, we prove this result by using the numerical example. First, the case for which the level of uncertainty in the structure is assumed to be known is considered with $\delta = \delta^{fix} = 0.3$. The updated uncertain computational model is characterized by updating parameters $(s^{opt}, \delta^{fix}) = (26.2, 0.3)$ for which $j(s^{opt}, \delta^{fix}) = 1.18$. The generalized eigenvalue problem related to the updated uncertain computational model is then solved by using $n_s = 10\,000$ realizations in order to characterize, for each α belonging to $\{1, 2, 3\}$ the probability density functions of the random variables $\Delta\Lambda_\alpha^{opt} = \Delta\Lambda(s^{opt}, \delta^{fix})$ and $\Delta\widetilde{\Phi}_\alpha^{opt} = \Delta\widetilde{\Phi}(s^{opt}, \delta^{fix})$. For each α belonging to $\{1, 2, 3\}$, Table 1 shows the mean values $\mu_{\Delta\lambda_\alpha}$ and $\mu_{\Delta\tilde{\Phi}_\alpha}$, and the standard deviations $\sigma_{\Delta\lambda_\alpha}$ and $\sigma_{\Delta\tilde{\Phi}_\alpha}$ of the random variables $\Delta\Lambda_\alpha^{opt}$ and $\Delta\widetilde{\Phi}_\alpha^{opt}$. Moreover, it can be verified by studying the family of graphs corresponding to the function $\delta \mapsto j(s, \delta)$ for the admissible set $\mathcal{S}$ that if the uncertainty level is unknown, then the robust updating optimization problem goes to the deterministic solution.

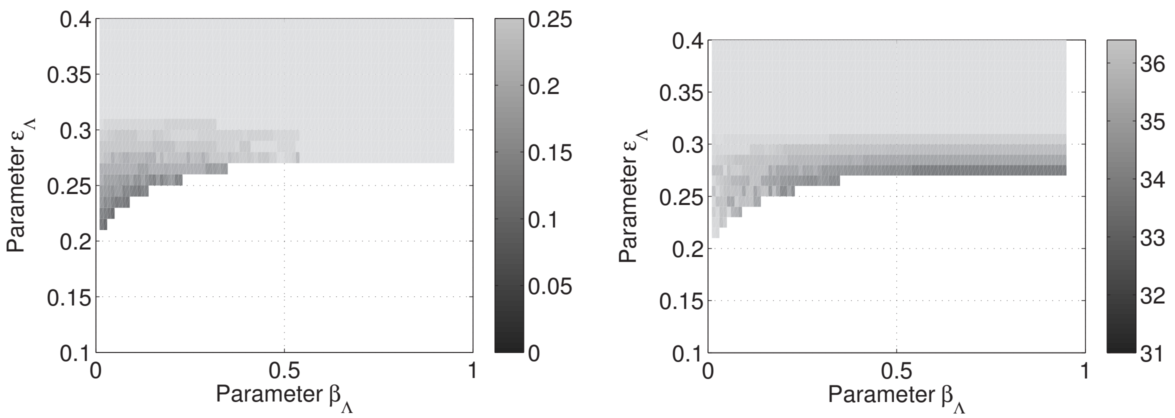

Figure 1: Left figure : graph of δ^{opt} with respect to β_Λ and ε_Λ for $\beta_\Phi = 0$, $\varepsilon_\Phi = +\infty$. Right figure : graph of s^{opt} with respect to β_Λ and ε_Λ for $\beta_\Phi = 0$, $\varepsilon_\Phi = +\infty$.

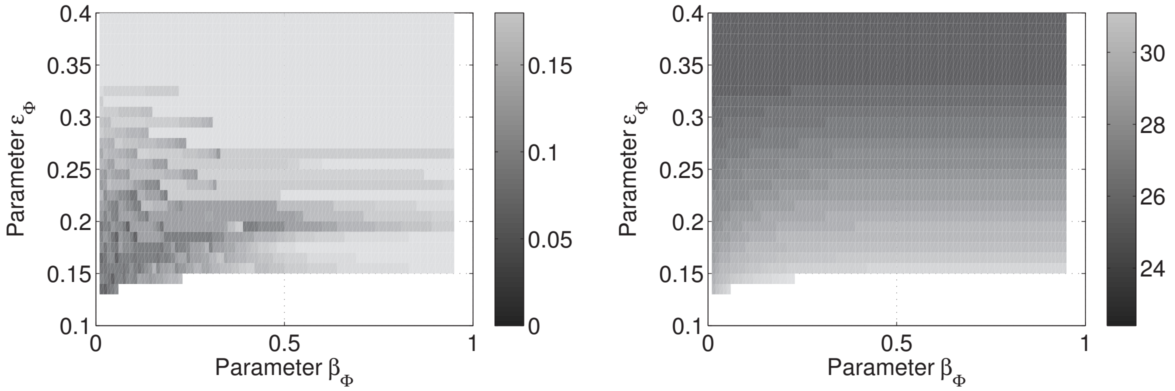

Figure 2: Left figure : graph of δ^{opt} with respect to β_Φ and ε_Φ for $\beta_\Lambda = 0$, $\varepsilon_\Lambda = +\infty$. Right figure : graph of s^{opt} with respect to β_Φ and ε_Φ for $\beta_\Lambda = 0$, $\varepsilon_\Lambda = +\infty$.

We now present the results concerning the robust updating formulation in presence of inequality constraints obtained with Eq. (16). The updated mean parameter s^{opt} and the updated parameter δ^{opt} are analyzed as a function of the probability level and of the error level. Two cases are considered : (1) the case for which there is only one probabilistic constraint for the eigenvalue corresponding to $\beta_\Phi = 0$ and $\varepsilon_\Phi = +\infty$. We then study the function $(\beta_\Lambda, \varepsilon_\Lambda) \mapsto \delta^{opt}$ defined from the domain $\mathcal{D}_{\Lambda,\delta}$ into the set $\mathcal{F}_{\Lambda,\delta}$ and the function $(\beta_\Lambda, \varepsilon_\Lambda) \mapsto s^{opt}$ defined from the domain $\mathcal{D}_{\Lambda,s}$ into the set $\mathcal{F}_{\Lambda,s}$; (2) the case for which there is one probabilistic constraint for the eigenvector corresponding to $\beta_\Lambda = 0$ and $\varepsilon_\Lambda = +\infty$. We then study the function $(\beta_\Phi, \varepsilon_\Phi) \mapsto \delta^{opt}$ defined from the domain $\mathcal{D}_{\Phi,\delta}$ into the set $\mathcal{F}_{\Phi,\delta}$ and the function $(\beta_\Phi, \varepsilon_\Phi) \mapsto s^{opt}$ defined from the domain $\mathcal{D}_{\Phi,s}$ into the set $\mathcal{F}_{\Phi,s}$. The Figure 2 shows a bi-dimensional representation of the graph of the functions $(\beta_\Lambda, \varepsilon_\Lambda) \mapsto \delta^{opt}$ and $(\beta_\Lambda, \varepsilon_\Lambda) \mapsto s^{opt}$ (case 1). Figure 3 shows the graph of the functions $(\beta_\Phi, \varepsilon_\Phi) \mapsto \delta^{opt}$ and $(\beta_\Phi, \varepsilon_\Phi) \mapsto s^{opt}$ (case 2). In these figures, the blank zone corresponds to the values of the probability level and of the error level for which the optimization problem defined by Eq. (16) has no solution. By comparing figures 2 and 3, it can be seen that $\mathcal{D}_{\Lambda,\delta} \subset \mathcal{D}_{\Phi,\delta}$ and that $\mathcal{D}_{\Lambda,s} \subset \mathcal{D}_{\Phi,s}$ which means that the robust updating methodology allows the random eigenvectors to be better updated than the random eigenvalues. In addition, Figure 2 shows that significant model uncertainties ($\delta^{opt} > 0.1$) are obtained for small values of probability level ($\beta < 0.2$). In opposite, Figure 3 shows that significant model uncertainties on the eigenvectors ($\delta^{opt} > 0.1$) are obtained for large values of the probability level ($\beta < 0.6$). These results are coherent because we have introduced in the experimental data model errors only on the eigenvalues. The figures 2 and 3 show that $\mathcal{F}_{\Lambda,\delta} = [0\,,0.25]$, $\mathcal{F}_{\Phi,\delta} = [0\,,0.18]$, and $\mathcal{F}_{\Lambda,s} = [31\,,36.4]$, $\mathcal{F}_{\Phi,s} = [22.4\,,31.1]$. Clearly, the sets $\mathcal{F}_{\Lambda,s}$ and $\mathcal{F}_{\Phi,s}$ are almost disjoint which means that the optimal uncertain computational model strongly depends on the nature of the constraints used in the robust updating formulation. It can also be seen that the updated uncertain computational model related to the eigenvector probabilistic constraint is more sensitive to the updated mean parameter s^{opt} than to the updated dispersion parameter δ^{opt} whereas the contrary is observed when using the robust updating formulation related to the eigenvalue probabilistic constraint. Moreover, it can be seen that $\mathcal{F}_{\Phi,\delta} \subset \mathcal{F}_{\Lambda,\delta}$.

	$\mu_{\Delta\lambda_1}$	$\mu_{\Delta\lambda_2}$	$\mu_{\Delta\lambda_3}$	$\sigma_{\Delta\lambda_1}$	$\sigma_{\Delta\lambda_2}$	$\sigma_{\Delta\lambda_3}$
constraint on eigenvalue	7.7%	22.7%	15.2%	2.1%	2.8%	2%
constraint on eigenvector	1%	33%	11%	0.7%	1.2%	0.8%
no constraint , $\delta^{fix} = 0.3$	4.7%	28.2%	18.2%	3.3%	6.1%	3.8%
	$\mu_{\Delta\tilde{\Phi}_1}$	$\mu_{\Delta\tilde{\Phi}_2}$	$\mu_{\Delta\tilde{\Phi}_3}$	$\sigma_{\Delta\tilde{\Phi}_1}$	$\sigma_{\Delta\tilde{\Phi}_2}$	$\sigma_{\Delta\tilde{\Phi}_3}$
constraint on eigenvalue	16%	27.5%	15.1%	1.7%	3%	2.6%
constraint on eigenvector	12.2%	19.9%	11.3%	0.7%	1.2%	1%
no constraint , $\delta^{fix} = 0.3$	11.8%	18.4%	15.2%	3.2%	5.5%	4.2%

Table 1: Quantification of the errors induced by the updated computational model with respect to the experimental data.

	s^{opt}	δ^{opt}	$j(s^{opt},\delta^{opt})$	$-g_\Lambda(s^{opt},\delta^{opt},0.25,0.1)$	$-g_{\tilde{\Phi}}(s^{opt},\delta^{opt},0.25,0.1)$
constraint on eigenvalue	32.2	0.15	1.06	0.014	< 0
constraint on eigenvector	28.6	0.06	1.03	< 0	0.024
no constraint , $\delta^{fix} = 0.3$	26.2	0.3	1.18	< 0	0.27

Table 2: Characteristics of the updated computational model for each case.

In order to analyze more precisely the results presented in the Fig. 2 and 3, we reanalyze the three cases for an error level equal to 0.25 with a probability level equal to 0.1. For α belonging to $\{1,2,3\}$, let $\mu_{\Delta\Lambda_\alpha}$, $\mu_{\Delta\tilde{\Phi}_\alpha}$ and $\sigma_{\Delta\Lambda_\alpha}$, $\sigma_{\Delta\tilde{\Phi}_\alpha}$ be the mean value and the standard deviation of random variable $\Delta\Lambda_\alpha$ and $\Delta\widetilde{\Phi}_\alpha$ defined by Eqs. (11) and (12). For each case, the main characteristics of the updated uncertain computational model are summarized in Tables 1 and 2. In order to characterize the efficiency of the proposed robust updating methodology, Figs. 4 and 5 show the probability density functions of the random variables $\Delta\Lambda_\alpha^{opt}$ and $\Delta\widetilde{\Phi}_\alpha^{opt}$ for the two cases. These figures show that the updating is improved in the probabilistic context because the value of the error is smaller than for the non updated mean computational model. It can be seen that if only one constraint is considered, then the other one is not verified which means that there can remain an important error (for instance $\mu_{\Delta\Lambda_\alpha} = 0.33$ for case 2 for which there is only one eigenvector probability constraint).

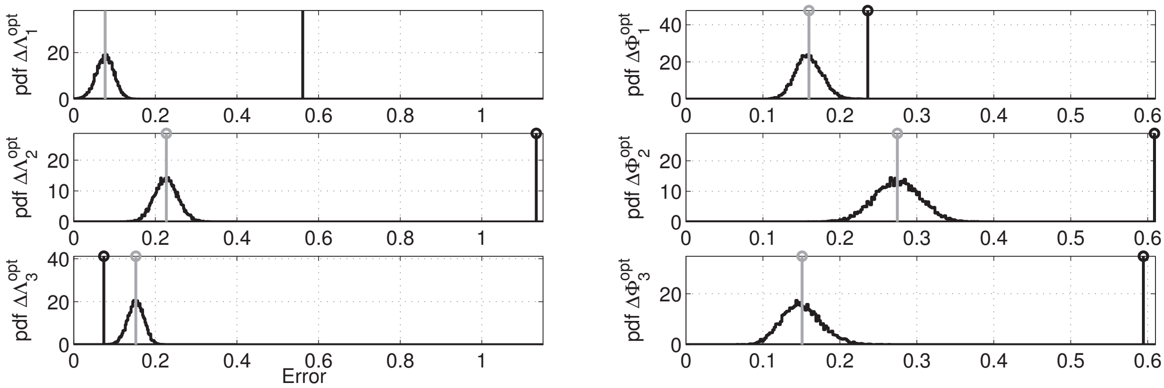

Figure 3: Updated uncertain computational model corresponding to $\beta_\Phi = 0$, $\epsilon_\Phi = +\infty$, $\beta_\Lambda = 0.1$, $\epsilon_\Lambda = 0.25$ and yielding $(s^{opt}, \delta^{opt}) = (32.2, 0.15)$. Left figure : graph of the probability density functions $\Delta\Lambda_\alpha^{opt}$ (black line), of its first order moment $\mathcal{E}\{\Delta\Lambda_\alpha^{opt}\}$ (vertical gray line), of $\Delta\underline{\lambda}_\alpha^{ini}$ (vertical black line) for $\alpha = 1$ (upper graph), $\alpha = 2$ (middle graph), $\alpha = 3$ (lower graph). Right figure : graph of the probability density functions $\Delta\widetilde{\Phi}_\alpha^{opt}$ (black line), of its first order moment $\mathcal{E}\{\Delta\widetilde{\Phi}_\alpha^{opt}\}$ (vertical gray line), of $\Delta\underline{\tilde{\phi}}_\alpha^{ini}$ (vertical black line) for $\alpha = 1$ (upper graph), $\alpha = 2$ (middle graph), $\alpha = 3$ (lower graph).

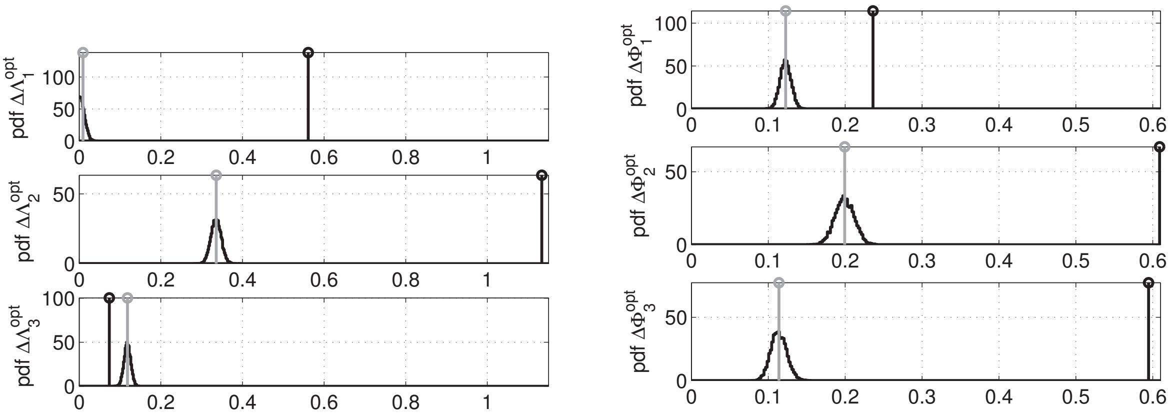

Figure 4: Updated uncertain computational model corresponding to $\beta_\Lambda = 0$, $\epsilon_\Lambda = +\infty$, $\beta_\Phi = 0.1$, $\epsilon_\Phi = 0.25$ and yielding $(s^{opt}, \delta^{opt}) = (28.6, 0.06)$. Left figure : graph of the probability density functions $\Delta\Lambda_\alpha^{opt}$ (black line), of its first order moment $\mathcal{E}\{\Delta\Lambda_\alpha^{opt}\}$ (vertical gray line), of $\Delta\underline{\lambda}_\alpha^{ini}$ (vertical black line) for $\alpha = 1$ (upper graph), $\alpha = 2$ (middle graph), $\alpha = 3$ (lower graph). Right figure : graph of the probability density functions $\Delta\widetilde{\Phi}_\alpha^{opt}$ (black line), of its first order moment $\mathcal{E}\{\Delta\widetilde{\Phi}_\alpha^{opt}\}$ (vertical gray line), of $\Delta\underline{\tilde{\phi}}_\alpha^{ini}$ (vertical black line) for $\alpha = 1$ (upper graph), $\alpha = 2$ (middle graph), $\alpha = 3$ (lower graph).

Conclusions

A not straightforward methodology to perform the robust updating of complex uncertain dynamical systems with respect to modal experimental data in the context of structural dynamics has been presented. The present formulation based on an input error methodology adapted to the deterministic updating problem has been extended to the robust updating context required in presence of model uncertainties in the computational model. The robust updating formulation leads a mono-objective optimization problem to be solved in presence of inequality probabilistic constraints. An application is presented in order to validate the proposed approach.

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