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Nonlinear dynamics, continuation, and stability analysis of a shaft-bearing assembly

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Presentation outline

- Introduction and motivation**
- System formulation and numerical methods**
- Linear analysis**
- Nonlinear analysis**
- Nonlinear system with asymmetry**
- Conclusions**

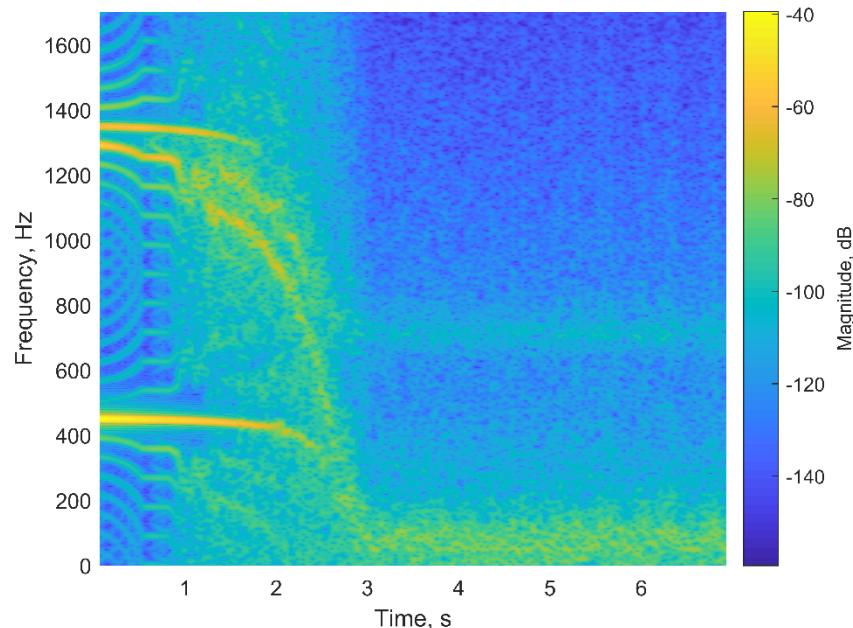
Introduction and motivation

□ Bearing-mounted shaft structures are common in mechanical engineering systems

- Can be subject to various nonlinear phenomena: large deformations, friction, intermittent contact, etc.
- Micro-clearances within the bearings can lead to contact/impact nonlinearities
- Other factors can cause shock or vibration effects: base excitations, unbalance, gear dynamics, ...

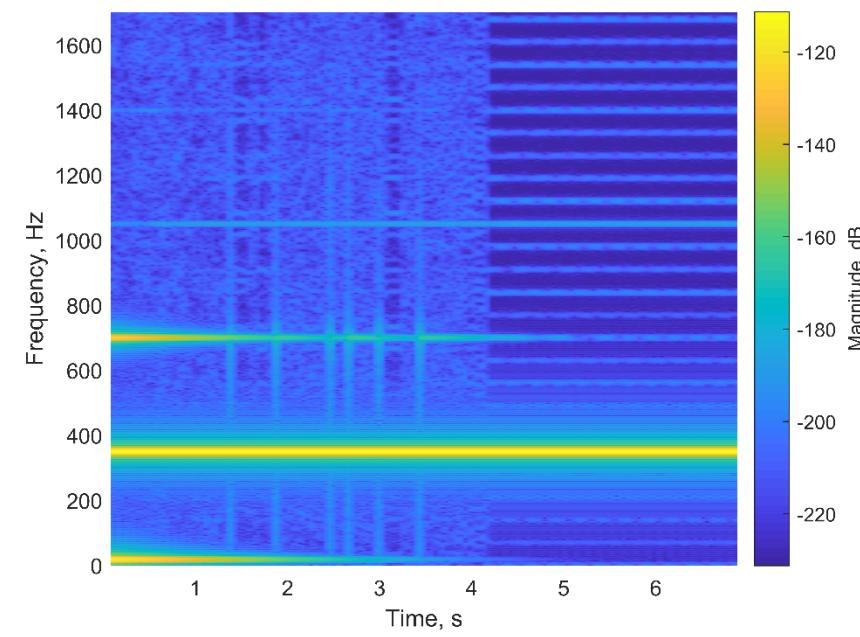
□ Shock environments

- High amplitude, short time duration
- Often activates broadband frequency content
- Decays to rest after the shock event
- Energy can transfer between modes



□ Vibrational environments

- Low amplitude, long time duration
- Often activates isolated frequency content (resonances)
- Steady, non-decaying oscillation
- Energy can transfer between modes



Introduction and motivation

□ System of interest:

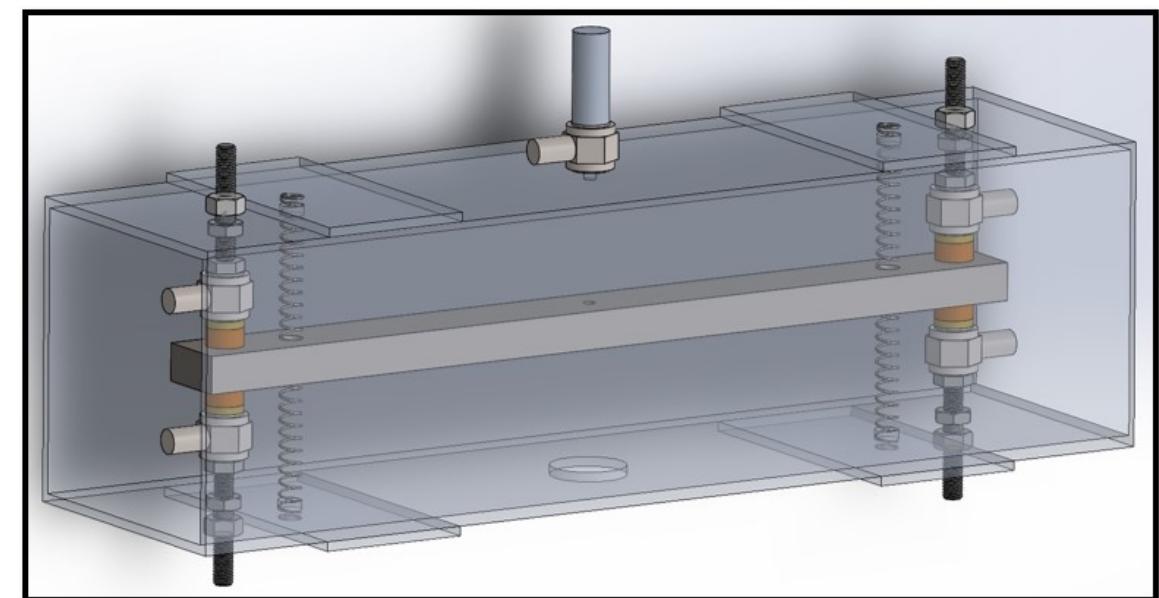
- Goldberg et al. studied a non-rotating shaft-bearing assembly, both numerically and experimentally
- Transient ringdown and nonlinear modal analysis showed interesting behavior

□ Questions:

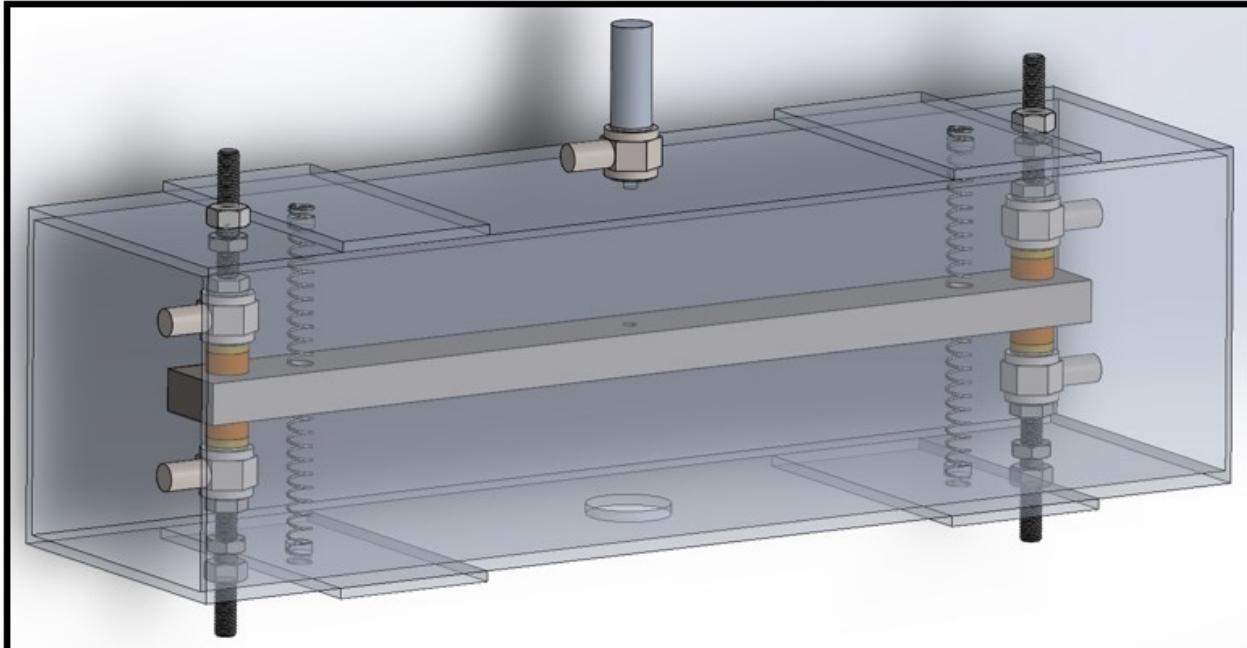
- What types of behavior can we see in the system under a vibrations environment? Chaos? Nonlinear resonances? Isolas?
- Explore the effects of asymmetries in the system, such as unequal stiffnesses or gap sizes

□ Goals of this work:

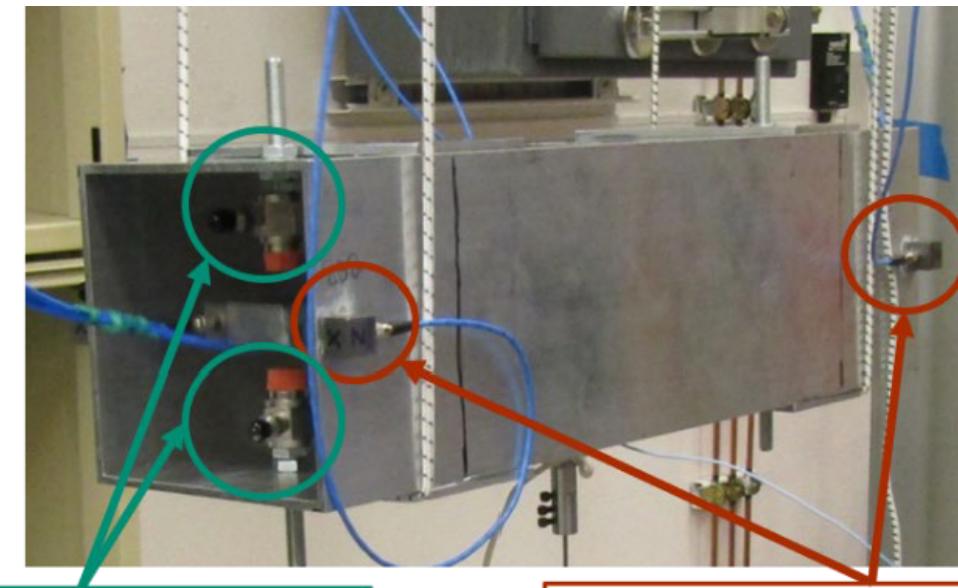
- Characterize the complex nonlinear dynamics in a non-rotating shaft-bearing assembly subject to forced vibration
- Inform and design further experiments



□ Shaft-bearing assembly



- This assembly is a simplified physical model of a non-rotating, bearing-mounted shaft with micro-clearances
- The system can be excited by an impact hammer or a shaker
- Adjustable contact heads—soft, medium, hard
- Adjustable contact gaps via threaded rods
- Interchangeable springs



Impact load cells (mirrored on the other end)

Accelerometers on the box tube (mirrored on the opposite side)

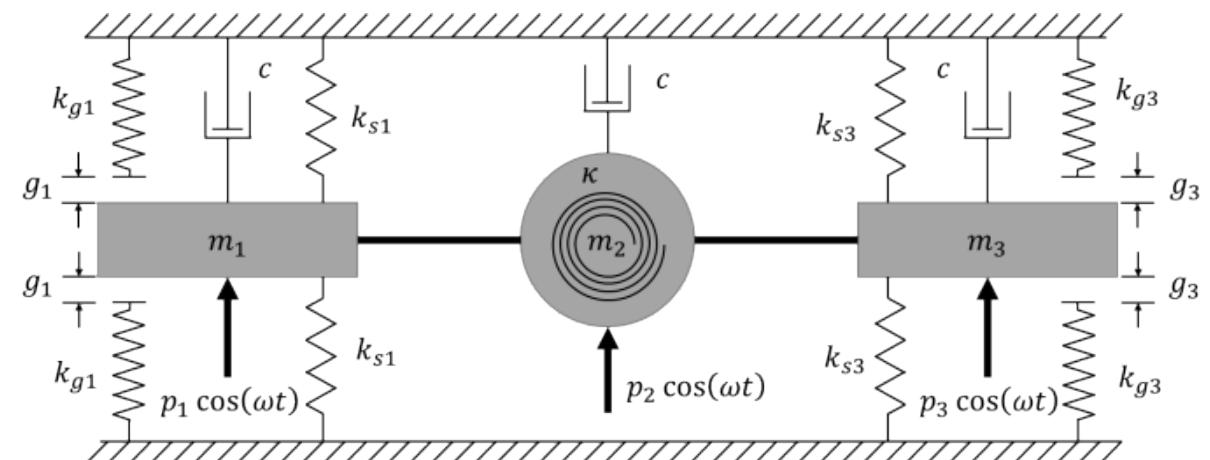
□ 3 DOF simplified model equations of motion

$$\begin{bmatrix} m_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{x}_1 \\ \ddot{x}_2 \\ \ddot{x}_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} c & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \\ \dot{x}_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2k_{s1} + \frac{\kappa}{L^2} & \frac{-2\kappa}{L^2} & \frac{\kappa}{L^2} \\ \frac{-2\kappa}{L^2} & \frac{4\kappa}{L^2} & \frac{-2\kappa}{L^2} \\ \frac{\kappa}{L^2} & \frac{-2\kappa}{L^2} & 2k_{s3} + \frac{\kappa}{L^2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} f_{g1}(x_1) \\ 0 \\ f_{g3}(x_3) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \\ p_3 \end{bmatrix} \cos(\omega t),$$

$$f_{gi}(x_i) = \begin{cases} k_{gi}(x_i + g_i), & x_i < -g_i \\ 0, & -g_i \leq x_i \leq g_i, \\ k_{gi}(x_i - g_i), & x_i > g_i \end{cases} \quad i = 1, 3$$

Assumptions:

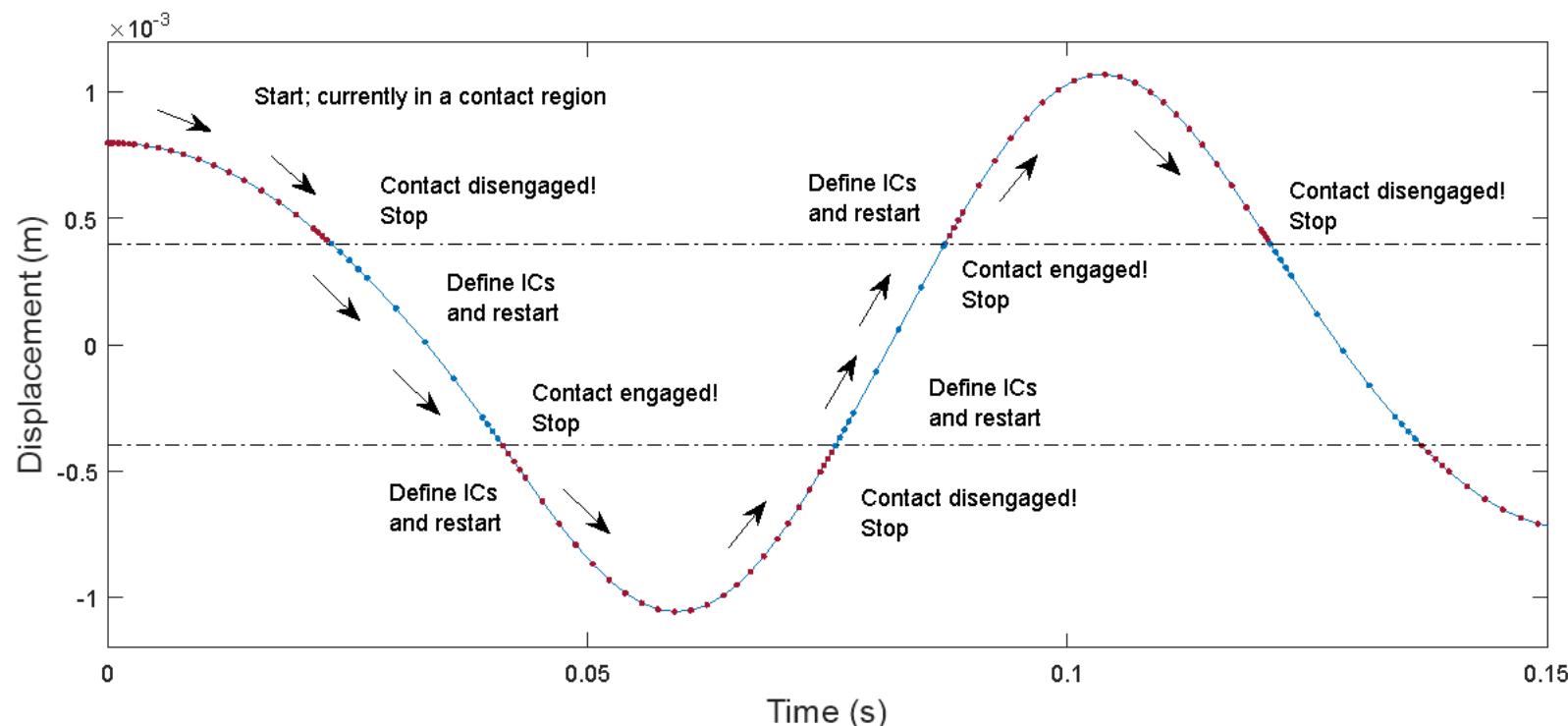
- Penalty stiffness contact law
- Frictionless, undamped contacts
- Equal linear viscous damping
- Gravity ignored



System formulation and numerical methods

❑ Simulations are done using Matlab® `ode45` with *Event Location*

- Piecewise time integration, which prevents accumulating roundoff error
- A timestep is always forced at every instance of contact to ensure accuracy
- Past validation has shown good results



□ Additional simulations using a multi-harmonic balance method (MHB)

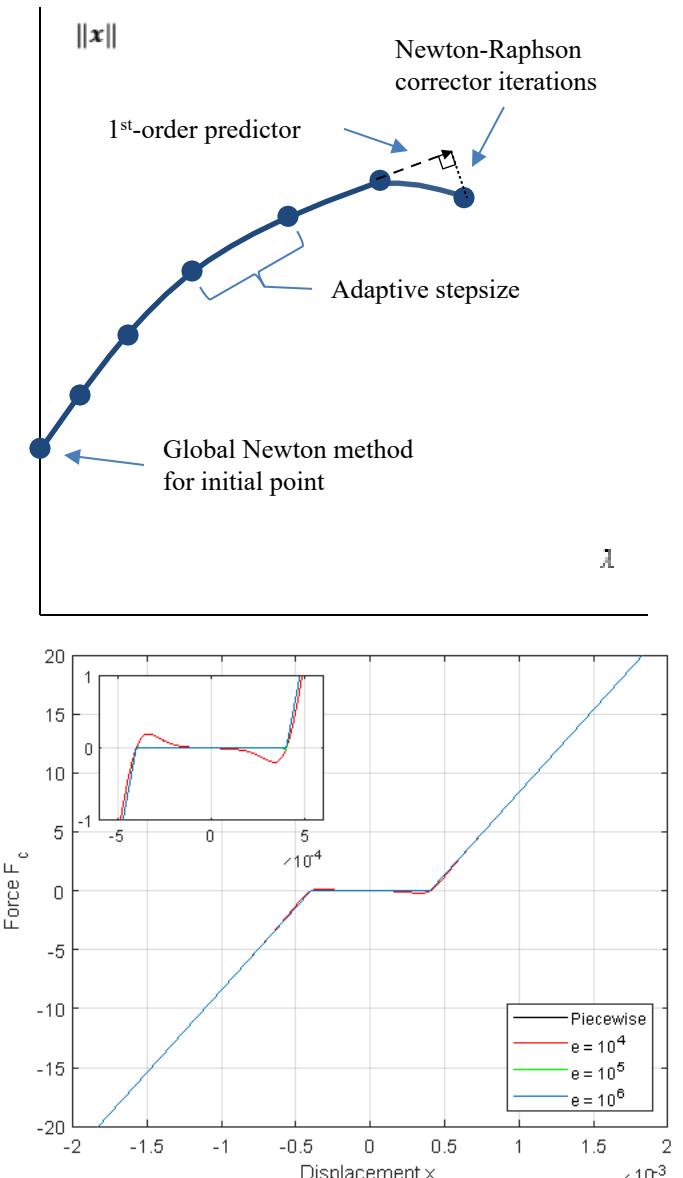
- The form of the solution is assumed to be a Fourier series:

$$\mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{C}\dot{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{K}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{f}_{nl}(\mathbf{x}, \dot{\mathbf{x}}) = \mathbf{f}_{ext}(t),$$

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \frac{\mathbf{c}_0^x}{\sqrt{2}} + \sum_{k=1}^{N_h} [\mathbf{s}_k^x \sin(k\omega t) + \mathbf{c}_k^x \cos(k\omega t)]$$

- This solution form is combined with pseudo-arc length continuation to then trace out solution branches
- The freeplay force is approximated with a fully smooth (regularized) function:

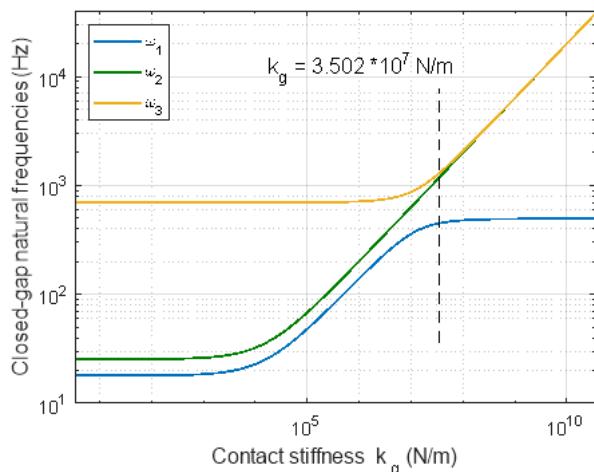
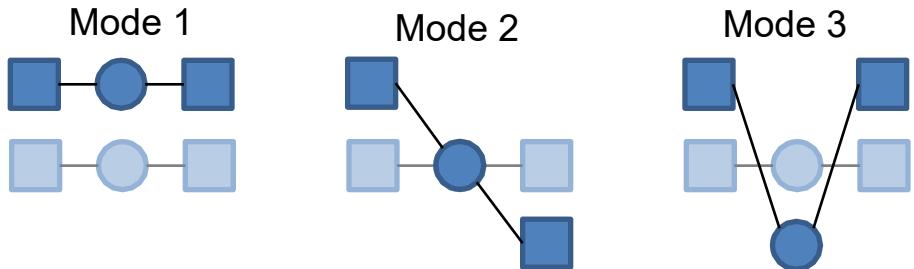
$$F_c = K_c \left(\frac{1}{2} \left[1 - \tanh(\varepsilon(x + j_1)) \right] (x + j_1) + \frac{1}{2} \left[1 + \tanh(\varepsilon(x - j_2)) \right] (x - j_2) \right)$$



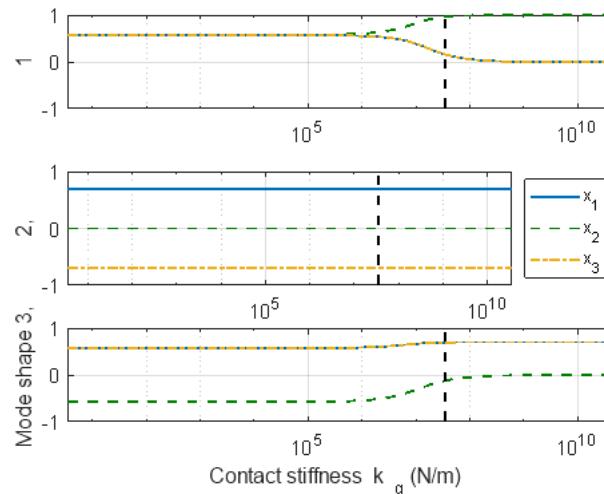
Linear analysis

□ Linear modal analysis

- Symmetric open-gap mode shapes:

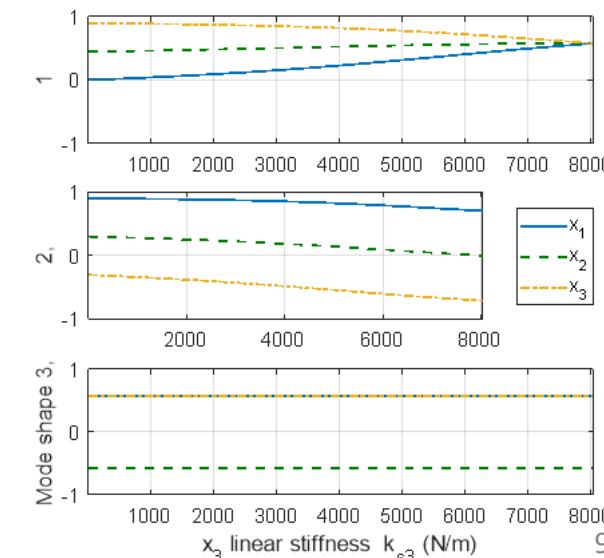
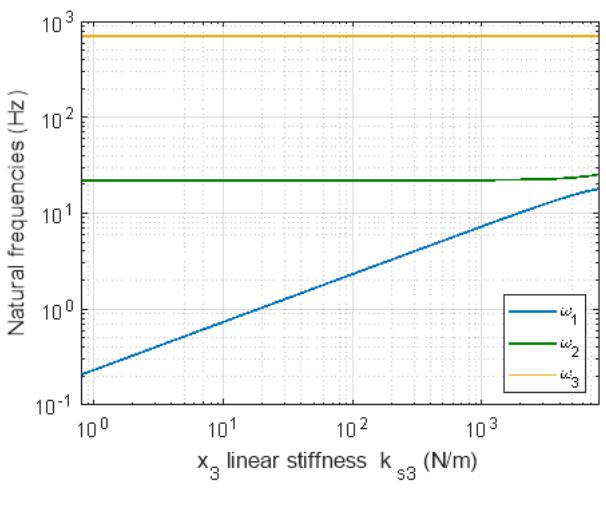


Closed-gap effects ($g = 0$)



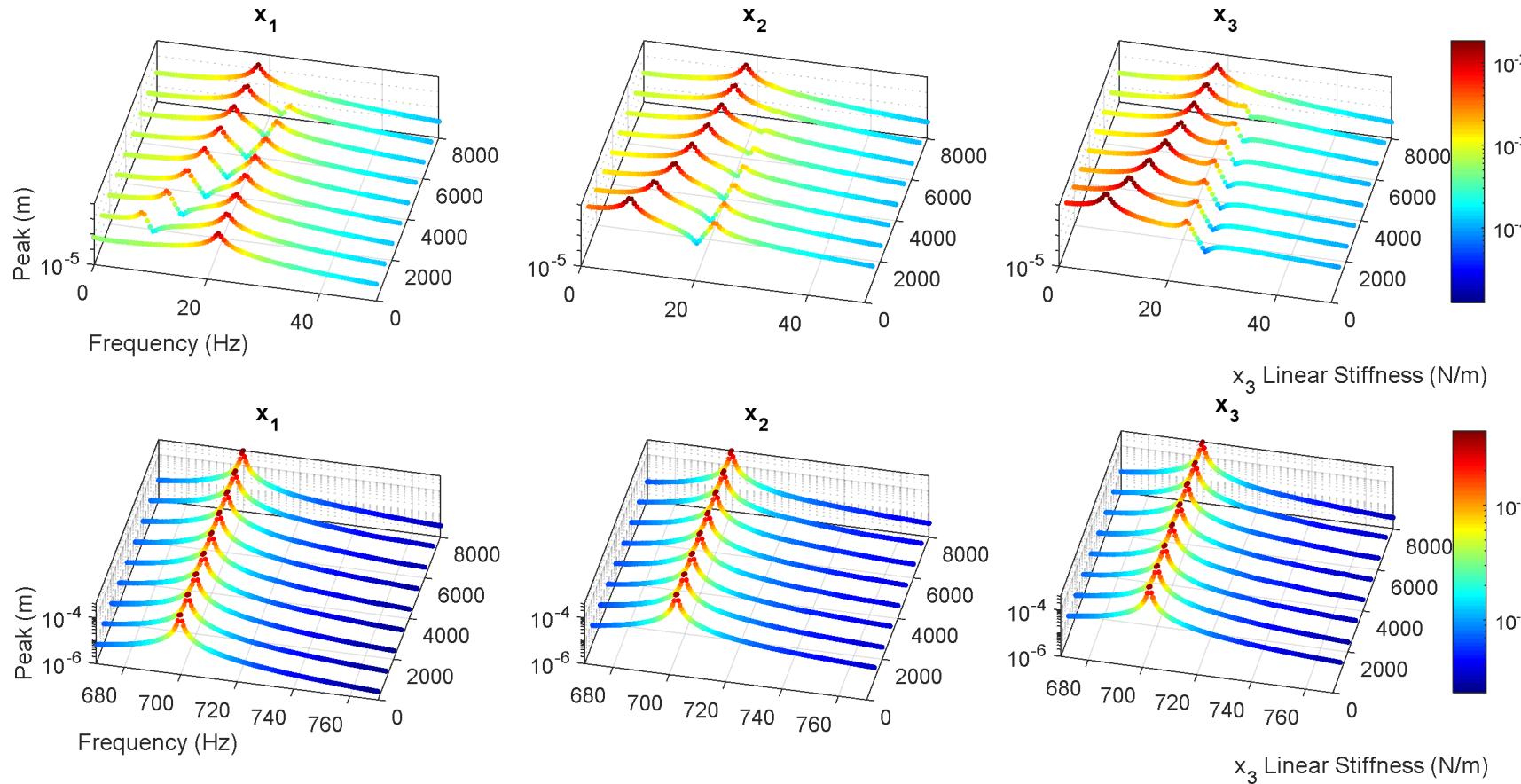
Linear asymmetry effects ($k_{s3} \neq k_{s1}$)

Description	Symbol	Value
Suspension spring stiffness	k_s	$8.03e3 \text{ N/m}$
Torsional spring stiffness	κ	$79161 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m/rad}$
Gap spring stiffness	k_g	$3.502e7 \text{ N/m}$
Half-length	L	0.1614 m
Gap	g	$2.54e-4 \text{ m}$
Left mass	m_1	0.629 kg
Middle mass	m_2	1.258 kg
Right mass	m_3	0.629 kg
Damping coefficient	c	$4 \text{ N} \cdot \text{s/m}$



Linear analysis

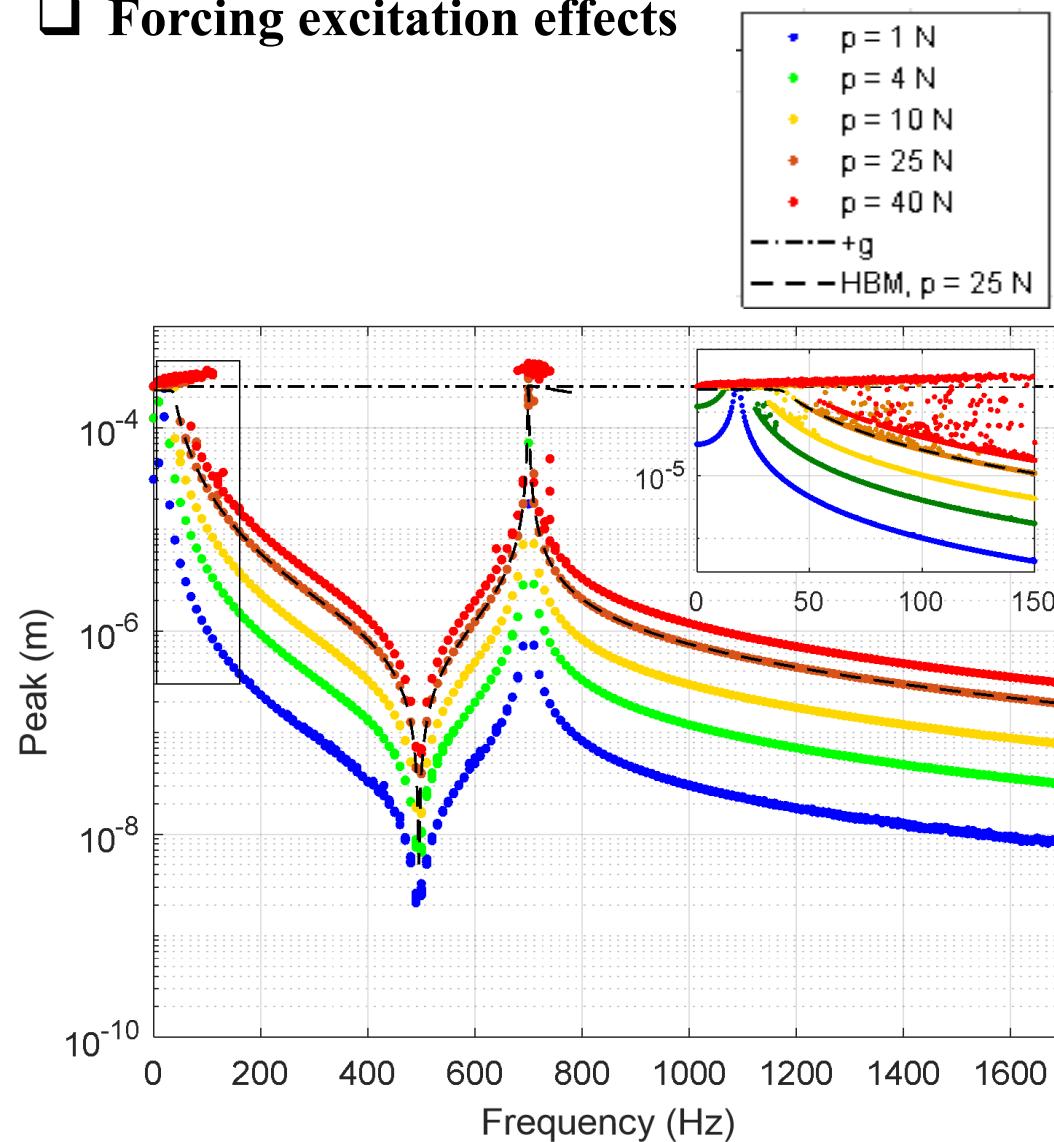
□ Linear modal analysis



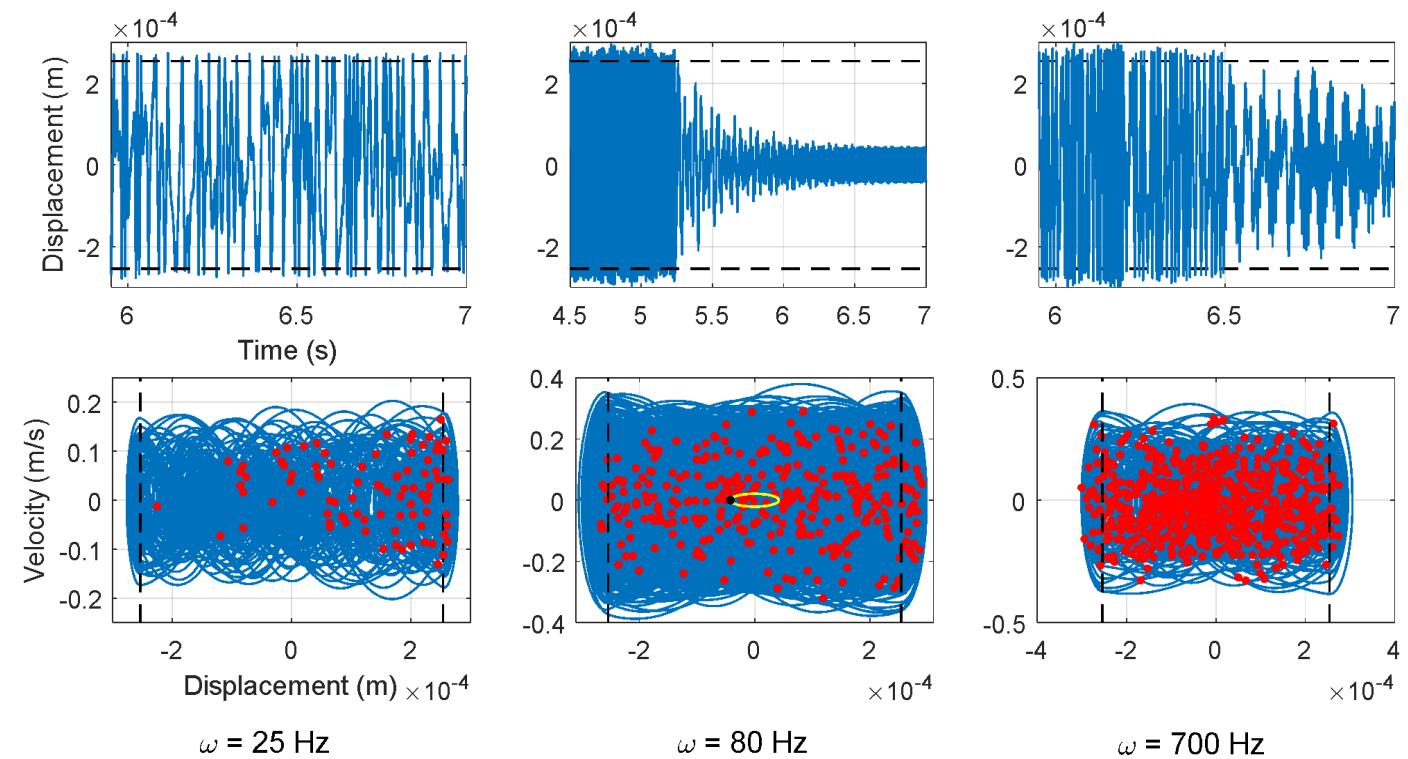
- Frequency response curves as linear stiffness becomes asymmetric
- The inherent symmetry and forcing location both contribute to the presence or absence of the second resonance peak

Nonlinear analysis

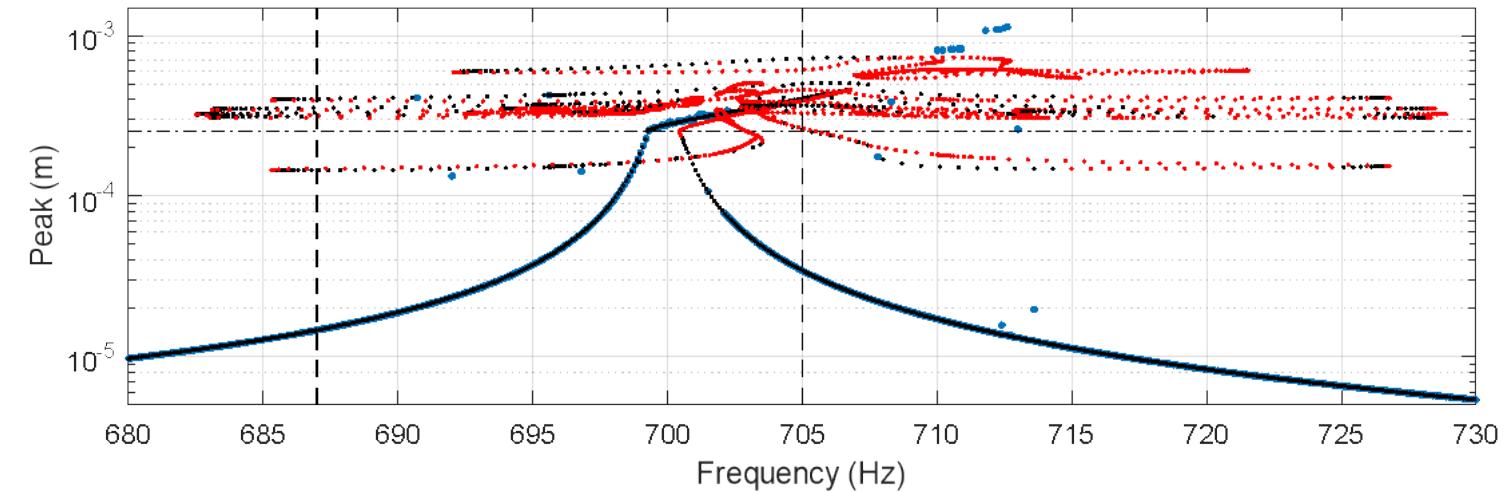
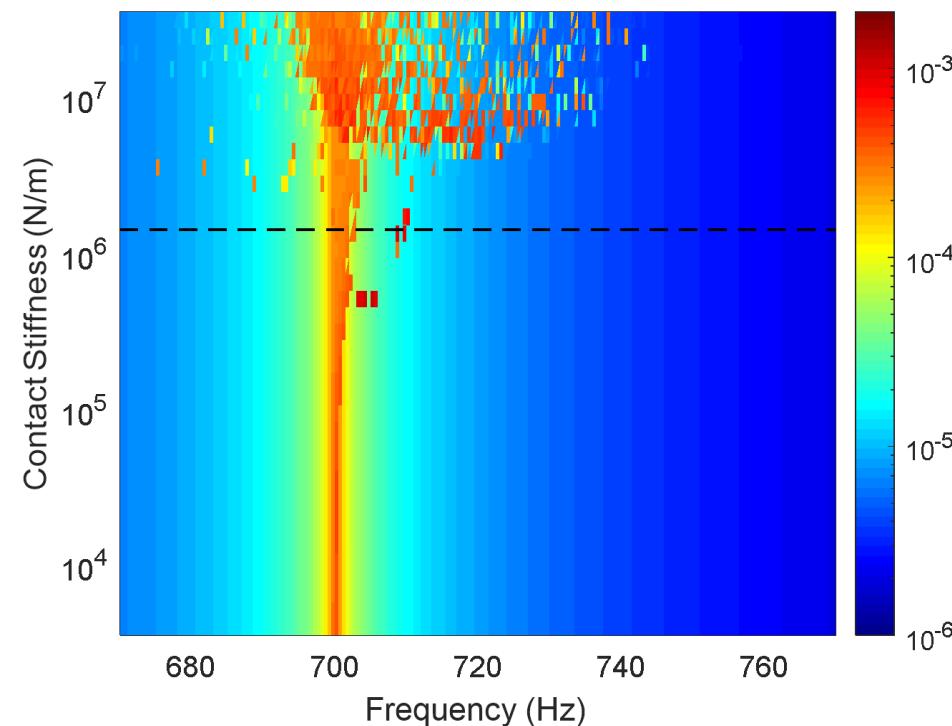
Forcing excitation effects



- Significant challenges due to hard contact
- Time integration shows chaos surrounding resonance peaks
- Solution jumping due to sensitivity
- MHB shows flat-top response without classical jump behavior

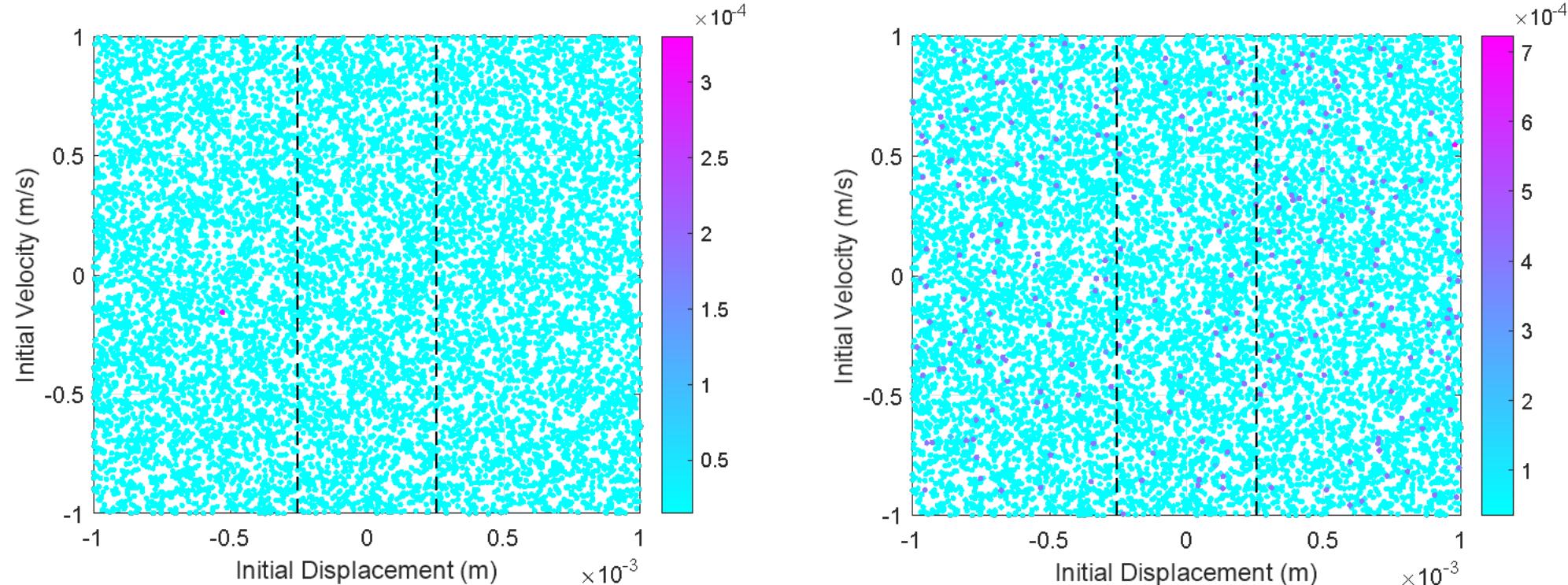


□ Nonlinear behavior due to contact stiffness—high frequency



- Time integration shows a few isolas around the third resonance peak
- MHB shows *many* isolas are present
- Period-5, period-7, up to period-13
- The majority of each isola is unstable
- Quasiperiodic isolas cannot be traced out by the MHB

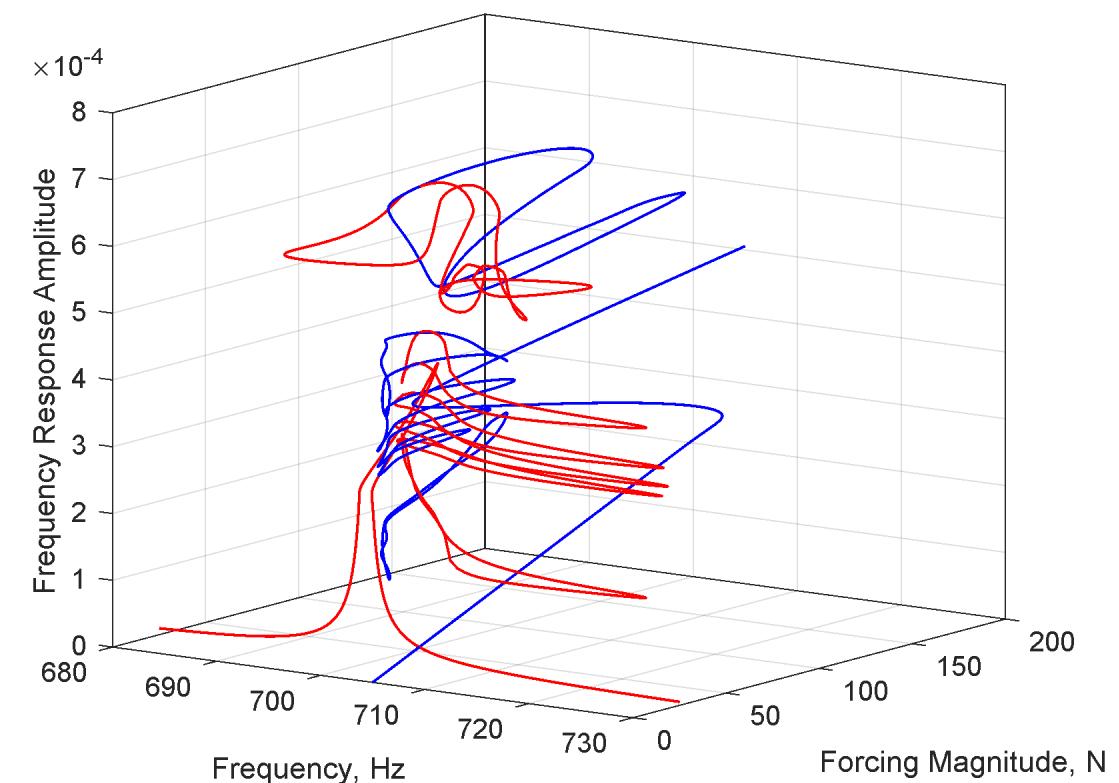
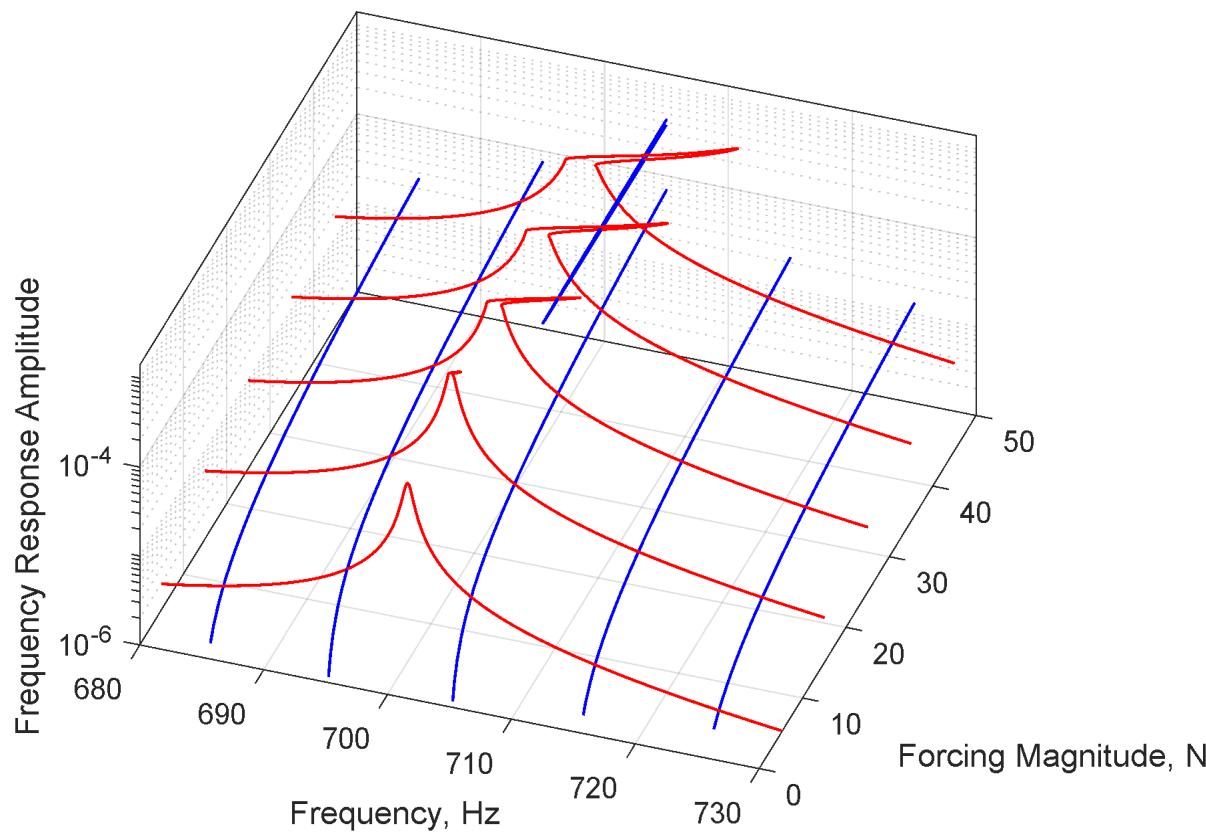
□ Nonlinear behavior due to contact stiffness – high frequency



- Basins of attraction at two frequencies
- Left: 687 Hz. Right: 705 Hz. Both cut through several isolas
- The low-amplitude attractor on the main branch is dominant
- Low likelihood of the system settling onto an isolas here

□ Perform continuation with respect to the forcing magnitude

- These “S-curves” show the response at a fixed frequency
- Reveal the minimum forcing level required for various nonlinear phenomena
- Below: **NLFRs** and **S-curves** for main solution branches and some isolas near the high-frequency resonance

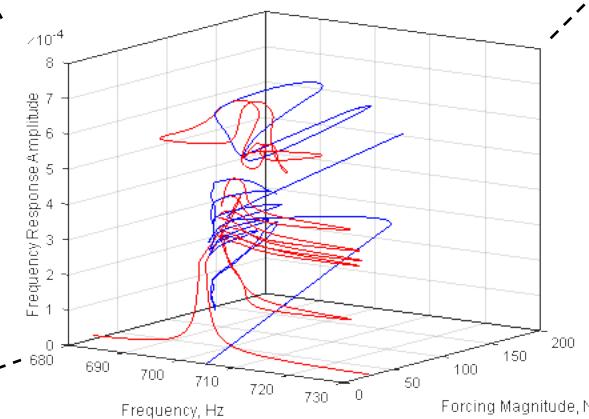
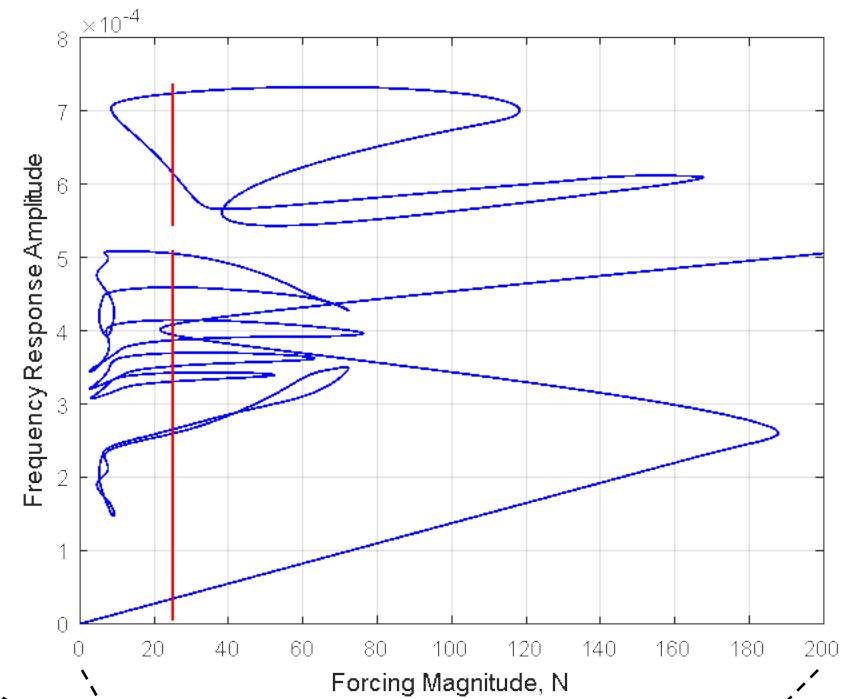
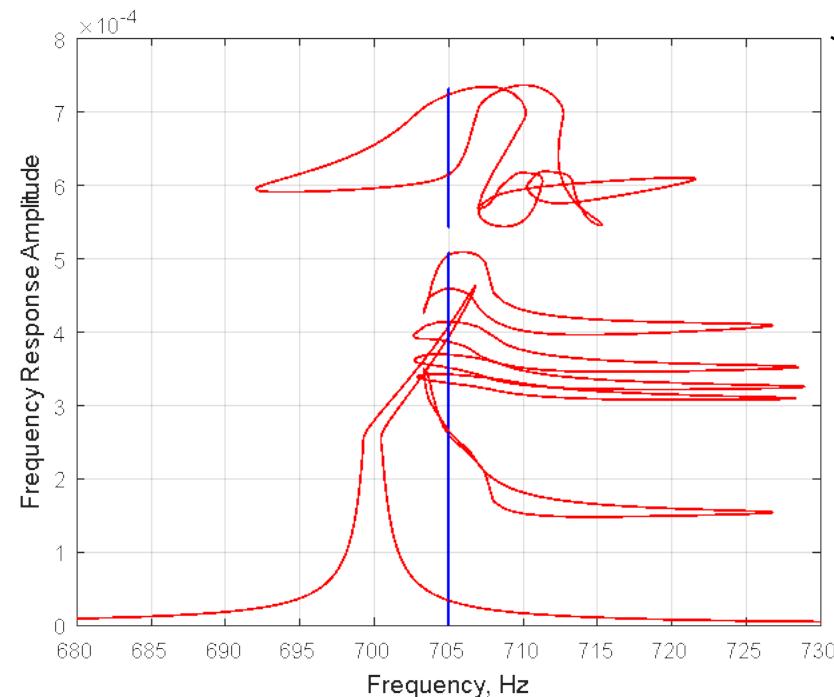


Nonlinear analysis

□ NLFRs and S-curves of isolas

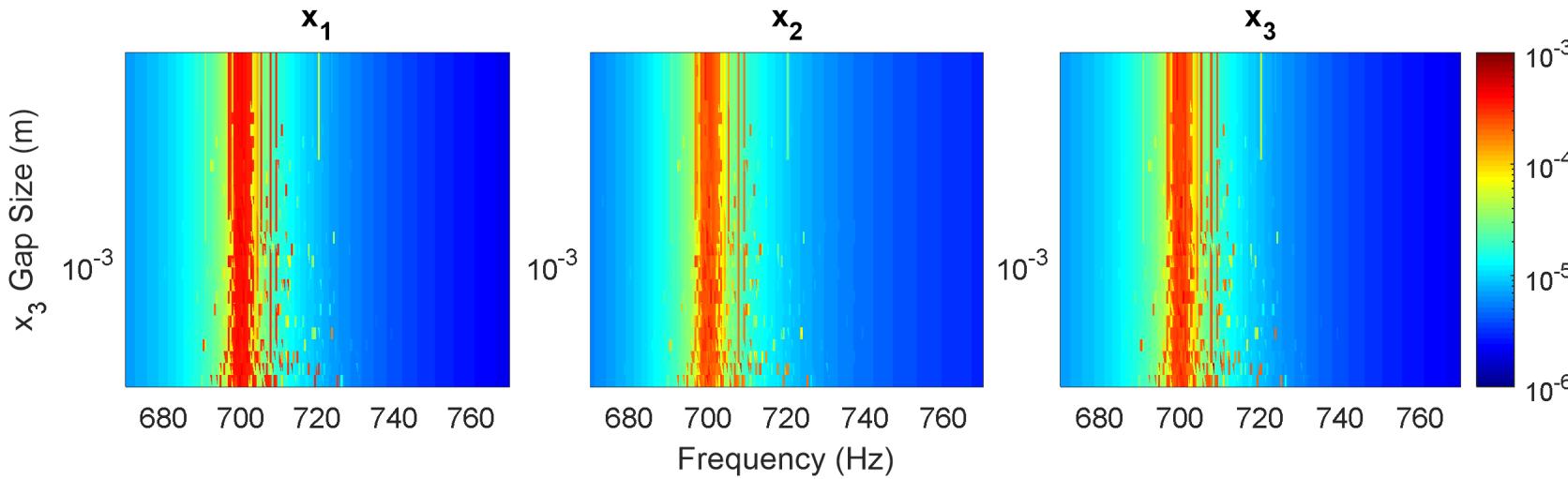
- NLFRs at $p = 25 N$, S-curves at $\omega = 705 Hz$
- NLFRs: some isolas intersect the main solution branch
- S-curves: some isolas also intersect the main branch
- Main S-curve does not intersect NLFR isolas
- Isolas can form with as little as $\approx 2.25 N$ forcing

NLFRs
S-curves



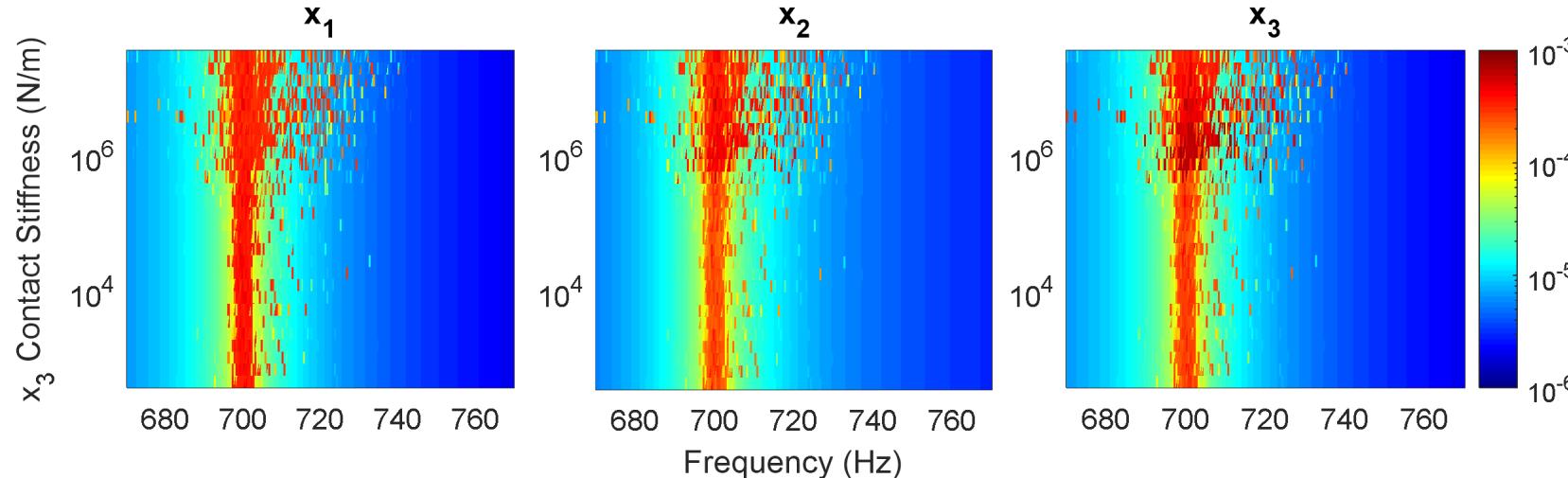
Nonlinear system with asymmetry

□ Existence of asymmetry—gap size and contact stiffness



$$k_{g1} = k_{g3} = 3.502 * 10^7 \frac{N}{m},$$
$$g_1 = 2.54 * 10^{-4} m$$

- All three resonance peaks present for largest gap size
- Isolas may occur at high frequency



$$k_{g1} = 3.502 * 10^7 \frac{N}{m},$$
$$g_1 = g_3 = 2.54 * 10^{-4} m$$

- All three resonance peaks present for softest contact stiffness
- Isolas do occur at high frequency

Conclusions

- The nonlinear frequency responses and characteristics of an idealized shaft-bearing assembly have been investigated
- Several complex nonlinear dynamical behaviors were observed and characterized using both time integration and harmonic balance methods
- Chaos near primary resonances grows with larger forcing and disappears with softer contact stiffnesses
- A cloud of many isolas forms at high frequency for softer contact
- Isolas can form for forces as low as 2.25 N
- Asymmetric system configurations showed similar presence of resonances and isolas
- The experimental setup is likely robust to small discrepancies in spring stiffnesses, gap sizes, etc.

Future work

- Vibrational experiments on the simplified physical system to complement past shock experiments
- More certain representation of the damping in the system, along with the influence of any contact damping
- Improved research on combining harmonic balance and continuation principles for quasiperiodic motions, especially for isolas
- How to capture chatter behavior efficiently

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**Thank you for your attention!
Please ask any questions**

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