Vibration and Flutter of Mistuned Bladed-Disk Assemblies

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VIBRATION AND FLUTTER OF MISTUNED BLADED-DISK ASSEMBLIES

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Abstract
An analytical model for investigating vibration and flutter of mistuned bladed disk assemblies is presented. This model accounts for elastic, inertial and aerodynamic coupling between bending and torsional motions of each individual blade, elastic and inertial couplings between the blades and the disk, and aerodynamic coupling among the blades. The disk is modeled as a circular plate with constant thickness and each blade is represented by a twisted, slender, straight, nonuniform, elastic beam with a symmetric cross section. The elastic axis, inertia axis, and the tension axis are taken to be noncoincident and the structural warping of the section is explicitly considered. The blade aerodynamic loading in the subsonic and supersonic flow regimes is obtained from two-dimensional unsteady, cascade theories. All the possible standing wave modes of the disk and traveling wave modes of the blades are included. The equations of motion are derived by using the energy method in conjunction with the assumed mode shapes for the disk and the blades. Continuities of displacement and slope at the blade-disk junction are maintained. The equations are solved to investigate the effects of blade-disk coupling and blade frequency mistuning on vibration and flutter. Results show that the flexibility of practical disks such as those used for current generation turbfans does not have a significant influence on either the tuned or mistuned flutter characteristics. However, the disk flexibility may have a strong influence on some of the system frequencies and on forced response.

Nomenclature

\( A_j \) torsional mode shape
\( [A] \) aerodynamic matrix
\( a \) elastic axis location
\( a_o \) speed of sound
\( R_1, R_2 \) blade section constants
\( b, \bar{b} \) semichord and reference semichord
\( c_1, c_2 \) warping coefficients
\( C \) blade chord
\( D \) flexural rigidity of the disk
\( E_d, E_m \) Young's modulus of disk and blade materials
\( [E], [E_D] \) transformation matrices
\( e \) mass and elastic axis offset
\( F_1, F_2 \) quantities defined in Eq.(13)
\( f_c \) function defined in Eqs. (9)
\( G \) shear modulus of elasticity of blade material
\( \bar{g}_{arj}, \bar{r}_{arj} \) complex amplitudes of generalized coordinates out of and in the plane of rotation of the \( r^{th} \) interblade phase angle mode
\( \bar{g}_{sji}, \bar{r}_{sji} \) complex amplitudes of generalized coordinates out of and in the plane of rotation of the \( s^{th} \) blade
\( I_{xx}, I_{zz} \) blade bending moment of inertia about the centroidal major and minor axes
\( \sqrt{\xi} \) torsional constant
\( \nu \) reduced frequency, \( \frac{\nu_o b}{\nu_{eff} a_o} \) quantities defined in Eq. (13)
\( k_{1,k_2} \) polar mass radius of gyration about elastic axis
\( k_m \) mass radii of gyration about \( x \) and \( z \) axes
\( k_A \) polar radius of gyration about elastic axis
\( L, L_a \) blade length, \( (R_f - R_h) \)
\( \lambda_{hr}, \lambda_{hor} \) lift per unit blade span
\( \lambda_{ahr}, \lambda_{aor} \) lift coefficients due to plunging and pitching motions in the \( r^{th} \) cascade mode
\( \lambda_{hh}, \lambda_{h2} \) moment coefficients due to plunging and pitching motions in the \( r^{th} \) cascade mode
\( \lambda_{h1}, \lambda_{h2} \) coefficients defined in Eq. (17)
\( M_o \) aerodynamic moment per unit blade span
\( M_r, M_{eff} \) relative and effective Mach numbers

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number of modes retained in bending motions out of and in the plane of rotation and in torsion

$[M]$ inertia matrix

$m$ mass per unit blade length

$N, N_D$ number of blades in cascade and number of nodal diameters of the disk

$n$ integer specifying disk nodal diameter ($= 1, 2, ..., N_D$)

$[P]$ stiffness matrix of the system quantity defined in Eq. (11)

$[Q]$ matrix defined in Eq. (29)

$R(\eta)$ mode shape function of the disk

$R_H, R_T$ disk and blade radii

$r$ radial coordinate and also integer specifying cascade mode ($= 0, 1, 2, ..., N$)

$s$ integer specifying blade ($= 0, 1, 2, ..., N$)

$T, T_d, T_t$ kinetic energy of blade, disk and system

$t, t_m, t_d$ time, thickness of blade and disk

$u, v, w$ strain energy of blade, disk and system

$U_F$ blade foreshortening

$U_d, \overline{U_d}$ deformations of elastic axis

$\bar{u}_{dac0}, \bar{u}_{dacN/2}$ amplitude of disk deflection in zero, $N/2,$ and $n$th nodal cosine and sine modes

$\bar{u}_{dars}, \bar{u}_{dar}$ amplitude of disk deflection in the $r$th traveling mode of the disk, $\bar{u}_{dar} = \bar{u}_{dar}/R_H$

$V_a$ axial velocity

$V_{eff}$ effective velocity, $V_{eff} = \sqrt{V_a^2 + \alpha^2}$

$W_j$ bending mode shape, $j = 1, 2, ...$

$(X_j), (X)$ column matrices

$(Y_{a,*}), (Y)$ column matrices

$\alpha$ twisting deformation positive about the (-y) axis

$\alpha_{s_j}$ complex amplitude of generalized coordinate in torsion of the $s$th blade ($j = 1, 2, ...$

Introduction

Vibration, aeroelastic stability and response of bladed-disk assemblies employed in modern aircraft turbofan engines have been among the most difficult analysis problems encountered. The blades are thin, and can have a considerable amount of built-in pretwist. As a consequence of pretwist and rotation, the blade natural modes involve coupling between the in-plane (plane of rotation) and out-of-plane bending and torsional motions. Another consequence of rotation is that the blades experience steady-state equilibrium loads which in turn require either an explicit or implicit consideration of geometric nonlinear theory of elasticity to adequately model the blade behavior.

Additionally, the individual blades are structurally coupled through the disk and often through a variety of other connecting parts such as shrouds, dampers, and lacing wires. These problems are further compounded by the presence of small differences between the individual blades, known as structural mistuning.
Unlike the case of a fixed-wing, the flow Mach number varies along the blade span and involves unsteady subsonic, transonic, and supersonic flow regimes. The flow field is three-dimensional and also involves aerodynamic interference between adjacent blades within a stage as well as from upstream and downstream stators and rotors. Furthermore, there may be small differences in the flow between the individual blades, known as aerodynamic mistuning.

Because of the complexities mentioned above, the research work in the subject area has been proceeding with simple but progressively refined mathematical models. Vibration of the bladed-disk assemblies with structural coupling have been studied in many publications, for example Refs. 1 to 4. Flutter and response using single degree-of-freedom blade models without structural coupling between blades, including mistuning, are addressed in Refs. 5 to 8. Refs. 9 to 14 have considered flutter of tuned assemblies with rigid disks. A finite element formulation was presented in Ref. 15 to study flutter of bladed-disk systems. Refs. 16 and 17 investigated the effects of mistuning on cascade flutter and response in incompressible, subsonic and supersonic flow regimes with a rigid disk and a typical section model in which each blade has two degrees-of-freedom, one bending and one torsion. Effects of blade mistuning on flutter were also investigated in Refs. 18 to 19. Furthermore, the single degree-of-freedom typical section model used in Ref. 5 was modified in Ref. 20 to include disk flexibility and a subsonic aerodynamic theory was used to investigate flutter. The two degree-of-freedom typical section model used in Refs. 16 and 17 was refined in Ref. 21 to include disk flexibility and to study flutter and response.

The typical section model used in Refs. 16, 17 and 21 was found to be adequate to elicit physical understanding of mistuning effects. Parametric studies indicated that structural mistuning has the potential to significantly raise the flutter speed of an advanced turbofan. This potential may be utilized to eliminate the shrouds which have an adverse effect on aerodynamic performance. To obtain more accurate flutter boundaries, including the effects of mistuning, the typical section model was replaced by a beam model with a rigid disk in Ref. 22. The beam model was further extended in Ref. 23 to include blade sweep in order to investigate the possibility of classical flutter in advanced turboprops.

A logical extension to the present state of the literature is to refine the structural model used in Ref. 22 to include disk flexibility by treating the disk as a circular plate. The purpose of the research in the present paper is to combine such a structural model for the disk with a beam model for each blade in order to study the effects of coupling between disk and blade modes and of blade frequency mistuning on vibration and flutter.

The beam model used in Ref. 22 is similar to the one used in Ref. 24, but there the effect of warping was only partially considered in an implicit manner. In Ref. 25, the present authors found that the partial inclusion of warping in calculating uncoupled torsional frequencies and mode shapes of twisted rotating turbofan blades is not adequate and, hence, they modified the model to include all the warping effects. This modified beam model will be used herein. The unsteady, two-dimensional, cascade, aerodynamic loads are calculated by Smith's theory (26) in subsonic flow and Adamczyk and Goldstein's theory (27) in supersonic flow with subsonic leading edge.

The equations of motion are derived by using an energy method in conjunction with assumed mode shapes of the disk and for each blade. Continuity of displacements and slopes at the blade-disk junction is maintained. The resulting equations are cast in the form of a standard complex eigenvalue problem from which the vibration and aeroelastic stability characteristics are determined. A computer program is developed to form and to solve the complex eigenvalue program. In order to have checks at least for some special cases, the equations and the computer program developed in Ref. 22 form special cases of the present ones.

This paper presents an analytical model, the development of the equations of motion and computer program, and some selected results for an advanced fan stage.

### Theory

The motion of a bladed-disk assembly with or without mistuning can be expressed in terms of either a standing or traveling wave form. Since the stability is independent of the wave representation, consideration of either of the representations is adequate to describe the motion. In most of the published literature (9,10,12,22) dealing with blade flutter of turbomachines, the traveling wave modes (also called interblade phase angle modes) are preferred because the unsteady aerodynamic loads are expressed in these modes. This is in contrast to the conventional flutter analysis of nonrotating wings and vibration of disks in which the standing wave modes are used. However, the present formulation uses both types of modes because the development includes both the blade and the disk flexibility and also is based on the development in Ref. 22. Hence, it will be necessary to understand both the traveling and standing wave mode representations and the relation between them.

To understand the traveling wave modes, consider the vibratory bending motion of each blade of an N-bladed rotor with a rigid disk. For illustration purposes, consider only one bending mode for each blade. Then the cascade has N degrees of freedom. The motion of the system can be expressed in terms of traveling wave modes each of which is characterized by the phase angle \( \phi_r \) between the adjacent blades. The angle is commonly called the interblade phase angle. The phase angle is restricted to N discrete values, \( \phi_r = 2\pi r/N \) where the wave number index \( r = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, (N-1) \). In each of these modes, all blades move with the same amplitude and every adjacent pair moves with the same interblade phase angle.

To understand the standing wave modes and the relation between the traveling and standing wave modes, consider the disk bending deflection perpendicular to the plane of the disk in the traveling wave form as.
Theoretically, the wave numbers for an elastic disk can have values up to infinity. However, if \( N \) blades are attached to the disk and if the number of traveling wave modes are restricted to \( N \), then the wave number index is also limited to \( (N-1) \). Thus, the disk with the \( N \) attached blades can be characterized by \( N \) traveling wave modes. Assuming simple harmonic motion, the real part of Eq. (1), can be rearranged to give the disk deflection in the standing wave form as

\[
\bar{u}_d = R(\bar{\eta}_d) [\bar{u}_{daco} + \bar{u}_{dacN/2} \cos \frac{N}{2} \phi ] \\
+ \sum_{n=1}^{N_D} (\bar{u}_{danc} \cos n \phi ) e^{-i \frac{\omega}{\omega_0} \tau} \\
+ \bar{u}_{dasN} \sin \frac{N}{2} \phi ) \]  

where \( N_D = (N-1)/2 \) for odd \( N \) and \( N_D = (N-2)/2 \) for even \( N \), and \( n \) is the nodal diameter index. Thus, the disk with the \( N \) attached blades can be characterized by 0,1,2,..., \( N_D \) and \( N/2 \) nodal diameters. The \( N/2 \) nodal diameter (second term in the square bracket of Eq. (2)) is present only for even \( N \). Comparing Eqs. (1) and (2), it is clear that the traveling wave mode with the zero interblade phase angle, \( \bar{u}_{daco} \), corresponds to the zero nodal diameter mode, \( \bar{u}_{daco} \), that the traveling wave mode (with the interblade phase angle = \( \pi \)), \( \bar{u}_{dacN/2} \), corresponds to the \( N/2 \) nodal diameter mode, and the traveling wave modes \( \bar{u}_{dar} \) and \( \bar{u}_{daco} \) combine to form two standing wave modes, \( \bar{u}_{dacr} \) and \( \bar{u}_{dasr} \).

Thus, either a traveling or a standing wave mode approach can be used to describe the motion of a disk and the same is true of the blade or of the bladed-disk system (see also the discussion in Refs. 14, 16, 22 and 28). The above relationship will be used in deriving the blade aerodynamic loads due to the disk motion.

Coordinate Systems

Coordinate systems employed in deriving the equations of motion of the sth blade are shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The axis system \( X_0, Y_0, Z_0 \) rotates with a constant angular velocity \( \omega \) about the \( X_0 \)-axis. The \( Y_0 \)-axis coincides with the undeformed elastic axis of the blade. The principal axis, \( x \), of the blade cross section at any point on the elastic axis is inclined to the \( X_0 \)-axis by an angle \( \xi \) as shown in Fig. 2. The disk elastic deformation, \( \bar{u}_d \), and the blade deformations, \( u, v, w, \) and \( \alpha \), translate and rotate the \( xyz \) system to the \( x\bar{y}\bar{z}\bar{s} \) system.

Motion of a Tuned Bladed-Disk System

Following common practice in the literature, the disk motion is expressed in standing wave modes and the blade motion is expressed, as in Ref. 22, in traveling wave modes. For the disk, using a single quadratic deflection shape along the radius for all the possible nodal diameter modes, the expression for the motion is given by Eq. (2) with

\[
\bar{R}(\bar{\eta}_d) = \bar{\eta}_d^2 
\]

For the blades, assume the number of modes retained in the plane of rotation, in the plane perpendicular to the plane of rotation, and in torsion are \( M_h, M_g, \) and \( M_a \), respectively. Then, the motion of the sth blade can be represented as

\[
\bar{w} = w/b_R \sum_{j=1}^{M_h} W_j(\bar{\eta}) \bar{\eta}_{sj} e^{i \left( r \bar{R}^* \omega t / \omega_0 t \right)} \\
+ f_c(\bar{\eta}) \bar{u}_d \\
\bar{u} = u/b_R \sum_{j=1}^{M_g} W_j(\bar{\eta}) \bar{\sigma}_{sj} e^{i \left( r \bar{R}^* \omega t / \omega_0 t \right)} \\
+ f_c(\bar{\eta}) \bar{u}_d \\
\bar{\alpha} = \sum_{j=1}^{M_a} A_j(\bar{\eta}) \bar{\alpha}_{sj} e^{i \left( r \bar{R}^* \omega t / \omega_0 t \right)} - \frac{\bar{u}_d}{\omega_0} \\
\bar{\eta}_d = 1 \\
\phi = \phi_s \\
\bar{\eta}_d = 1 \\
\phi = \phi_s \\
\bar{\eta}_d = 1 \\
\phi = \phi_s 
\]
In Eqs. (4) to (6), the complex constants \( \tilde{h}_{s, j}, \tilde{g}_{s, j}, \) and \( \tilde{a}_{s, j} \) which are commonly used in fixed wing and rotary wing aeroelasticity are expressed in terms of the new constants, \( \tilde{h}_{s, j}, \tilde{g}_{s, j}, \) and \( \tilde{a}_{s, j} \) and interblade phase angle since the aerodynamic loads are expressed in terms of the new constants. The total number of degrees of freedom for the bladed disk system is \( N \) times \( (1 + \frac{M_n}{M_n} + \frac{M_g}{M_g} + \frac{M_a}{M_a}) \). The function \( f_c(n) \) in Eq. (5) is determined by enforcing the continuity of displacement and slope at the blade-disk junction point

\[
\begin{align*}
\bar{u}_n &= R_H \bar{u}_d \bigg|_{n=0} = b_R \bar{u}_d \bigg|_{n=1}, \\
\bar{a}_n &= R_H \bar{a}_d \bigg|_{n=0} = b_R \bar{a}_d \bigg|_{n=1}.
\end{align*}
\]

These two conditions are satisfied if

\[
f_c(n) = R_H \frac{L}{b_H} \left[ 1 + 2n \right].
\]  

In Eqs. (4) and (5), the standard nonrotating orthogonal normal modes in bending for a beam with fixed-free boundary conditions are given by

\[
W_j(n) = \cosh(p_jn) - \cos(p_jn)
\]

\[
\left( \cos p_j + \cosh p_j \right) - \left( \sin p_j + \sinh p_j \right) \left[ \sinh(p_jn) - \sin(p_jn) \right],
\]

where \( p_j \) is calculated from

\[
\cos p_j \cosh p_j + 1 = 0
\]

In Eq. (6) the orthogonal nonrotating modes in torsion for a uniform twisted beam with fixed-free boundary conditions are obtained from Ref. 25 and are

\[
A_j(n) = \left( \sinh k_1n - \frac{k_1}{k_2} \sin k_2n \right)
\]

\[
\left( \frac{k_1^2 \sinh k_1 + k_1k_2 \sin k_2}{k_1 \cosh k_1 + k_2 \cos k_2} \right) \left( \cosh k_1n - \cos k_2n \right),
\]

where

\[
k_1 = \left( \frac{c^2}{(F_1/F_2)^{1/2}} + \frac{1}{F_2} \right)^{1/2}
\]

\[
k_2 = \left( \frac{F_1}{(1 + 2F_2)} \right)^{1/2} \frac{1}{F_2}
\]

\[
F_1 = \frac{24}{1 + \frac{c^2}{\left( \frac{c}{t} \right)^2}} \frac{c^2}{\left( \frac{c}{t} \right)^2} \frac{c}{t}
\]

The nonrotating frequency, \( \omega_{NR} \) for each mode is obtained from

\[
2F_2 + (2F_2 + F_2^2) \cos k_2 \cosh k_2 + F_1 \sqrt{2F_2} \sin k_2 \sin hK_1 = 0
\]

In calculating the mode shapes and frequencies, average values of actual blade shape are used for \( l/c, c/t \) and \( \frac{c}{t} \) in Eq. (13).

**Motion of Mistuned Bladed-Disk System**

In the present formulation we consider mistuning only due to nonidentical structural properties of the blades, since the disk thickness is assumed to be uniform. Because of the mistuning there will be coupling between various traveling wave modes or equivalently between the various standing wave modes. However, the general motion of an arbitrarily mistuned, system can be expressed as a linear combination of the motions in either traveling or standing wave modes. The disk motion in Eq. (2) is already expressed in terms of the possible nodal diameter modes. The motion of the \( st \)th blade is obtained by simply superposing the blade deflections (in Eqs. (4) to (6)) in the \( r \)th traveling mode from \( r = 0 \) to \( r = N-1 \).

**Aerodynamic Model**

For a rigid disk, the motion dependent aerodynamic lift and moment per unit blade span are expressed in Ref. 22 in terms of four coefficients \( h_{H, r}, h_{A, r}, k_{H, r}, \) and \( k_{A, r} \) which are written in a traveling form. These coefficients were calculated by using Smith's theory in subsonic flow and Adamczyk and Goldstein's theory in supersonic flow with a subsonic leading edge. At any radial station, the relative Mach number is a function of inflow conditions and the rotor speed. Most current fan designs have supersonic flow at the blade tip and subsonic flow at the blade root. Consequently, some region of the blade encounters transonic flow. Since the above theories are not valid in the transonic region, the subsonic theory with \( M_{eff} = 0.9 \) for stations in the range \( 0.9 < M_{eff} < 1 \) and the supersonic theory with \( M_{eff} = 1.1 \) for stations in the range \( 1.0 < M_{eff} < 1.1 \) were used.

For a flexible disk, the lift and moment expressions can be divided conveniently into two parts: one due to blade motion and the other due to disk motion. The first part directly flows...
from Ref. 22. The second part can be obtained in two steps. First, express the lift and moment due to disk motion in the traveling wave form represented by Eq. (1) in terms of the four coefficients, mentioned earlier. Second, by taking the real part of the resulting expressions, by re-arranging terms, and by assuming simple harmonic motion, derive the expressions for lift and moment per unit span due to disk motion represented by Eqs. (2) and (3) (see also refs. 14 and 28). Combining these two parts, the lift and moment expressions per unit span of the sth blade can be derived and are

\[
L_a = - \frac{\pi a R^2}{2} \left( \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} \chi_{hr} \left( \frac{b}{R} \right)^2 \left[ \cos \xi \sum_{j=1}^{M_h} W_j(\eta) h_{a r j} + \sin \xi \sum_{j=1}^{M_h} W_j(\eta) g_{a r j} \right] + \frac{\pi_a b R^2}{2} \left[ \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} \chi_{ahr} \left( \frac{b}{R} \right)^3 \cos \xi \sum_{j=1}^{M_h} W_j(\eta) h_{a r j} + \sin \xi \sum_{j=1}^{M_h} W_j(\eta) g_{a r j} \right] \right) + \frac{1}{2} \chi_{hr} \left( \frac{b}{R} \right)^3 \sum_{j=1}^{M_h} A_j(\eta) a_{r j} e^{i \frac{u_0}{u_0} \pi + \phi_0} + f_c(\eta) \sin \xi \left( \frac{b}{R} \right) e^{i \frac{u_0}{u_0} \pi + \phi_0} + \frac{\chi_{hr} N \cos \frac{\pi}{2} \phi_s \phi_s}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{N_0} \left[ \chi_{a h n} \bar{u}_{d a c n} + \chi_{a h 2 n} \bar{u}_{d a s n} \right] \cos \psi_s - \left( \chi_{a h 2 n} \bar{u}_{d a c n} + \chi_{a h n} \bar{u}_{d a s n} \right) \sin \psi_s \right) e^{i \frac{u_0}{u_0} \pi} \right) \right) \right) \right) \right) \right) \right) \right) \right)
\]

The coefficients \( \chi_{hr}, \chi_{hr}, \chi_{ahr}, \chi_{ahr} \), and \( \chi_{ahr} \) are calculated for each value of \( r \) for specified values of Mach number, reduced frequency, \( s/c, \xi, \) and \( a \). Then, the corresponding coefficients \( \chi_{a h n}, \chi_{a h 2 n}, \ldots, \chi_{a a 2 n} \) for each value of the nodal diameter index \( n \) are obtained from Eq. (17). Note that the subscripts \( r \) and \( n \) represent the interblade phase angle and nodal diameter number, respectively.
Structural Model

The bladed-disk system is idealized as a uniform circular disk with constant thickness to which the blades are rigidly attached. Only the disk out of plane bending motion is considered. The blade model is the same as that used in Ref. 22 except for the fact that the warping of the blade cross sections is explicitly considered herein. Continuity and slope at the blade-disk junction is enforced as described in the previous section.

Equations of Motion

The strain energy expression for a circular disk is

\[
U_d = 2\pi \int_0^{R_H} \int_0^R \left[ \frac{u_d^2}{2} \left( \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} \right)^2 + \frac{u^2}{2} \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial \theta} \right)^2 \right] r \, dr \, d\theta
\]

and are

\[
s_{\varphi} = \frac{N}{2\pi R_H \rho_d} \int_{R_H}^{R_T} \int_0^R m_\varphi \alpha^2 r \, dr \, d\psi
\]

The strain energy of the \(s\)th blade follows from Ref. 22 and is

\[
U = \frac{1}{2} \int_{R_H}^{R_T} \left[ E_m \left( C_1 \alpha^2 + I_{xx} \left( u^2 \sin^2 \xi + \alpha^2 \cos^2 \xi \right. \right. \right. \\
+ 2 u \alpha \sin \xi \cos \xi \right) + I_{zz} \left( u^2 \cos^2 \xi + \alpha^2 \right) \\
- 2 u \alpha \sin \xi \cos \xi + B_1 \alpha^2 \xi \right. \\
+ 2 B_2 \left( u \cos \xi + \alpha \cos \xi \right) \\
\left. + 2 B_3 \left( u \cos \xi - \alpha \cos \xi \right) \right] \, dr
\]

The kinetic energy of the disk is

\[
T_d = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^R \rho_d \alpha^2 r \, dr \, d\psi
\]

The kinetic energy of the \(s\)th blade also follows from Ref. 22 and is

\[
T_s = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^R \rho_\varphi \alpha^2 \alpha \, dr \, d\psi
\]
The Coriolis and the inertial warping terms are considered to be small and are neglected.

The total strain and kinetic energies of the system are

\[ U_t = U_d + \sum_{s=0}^{N-1} U \]

\[ T_t = T_d + \sum_{s=0}^{N-1} T \]

(26)

The generalized aerodynamic forces are calculated from the following virtual work expression

\[ \delta W = \sum_{s=0}^{N-1} \int_{R_H}^{R_T} (-L_a \sin \xi s u - L_a \cos \xi \delta w + M_a \delta a) \, \delta r \]

(27)

By substituting Eqs. (26) and (27) into Lagrange's equation, the equations of motion of the system are obtained. The final equations are nondimensionalized and cast in a standard eigenvalue form as

\[ [P] \{X\} = \gamma \{Q\} \{X\} \]

(28)

where

\[ \gamma = \left( \frac{\omega}{\omega_0} \right)^2 \]

\[ [Q] = [M] + [ED] \left[ A \right] [ED]^{-1} \]

\[ [X] = [ED] \{Y\} \]

\[ \{X_0\} \quad \{Y_0\} \]

\[ \{X_1\} \quad \{Y_1\} \]

\[ \vdots \quad \vdots \]

\[ \{X_{N-1}\} \quad \{Y_{N-1}\} \]

\[ [ED] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & [E] \end{bmatrix} \]

(29)

The matrices \([P]\), \([M]\) and \([A]\) are the stiffness, mass and aerodynamic matrices of the system. The matrix \([E]\) is defined in Ref. 22.

Results and Discussion

Solution

The flutter boundaries are obtained by solving the standard complex eigenvalue problem, Eq. (28). The relation between the frequency \( \omega \) and \( \gamma \) is

\[ \frac{\omega}{\omega_0} = i \sqrt{\gamma - \mu + i\nu} \]

(30)

Flutter occurs when \( \bar{\mu} > 0 \). Vibration characteristics are obtained by setting the aerodynamic matrix \([A]\) to zero.

A computer program was written to assemble and solve the generalized eigenvalue problem. As mentioned earlier, the formulation and the program have very wide scope for investigating the effects of disk flexibility and blade frequency mistuning on both vibration and flutter of bladed disk assemblies. Because of space limitations, only selected results are presented.

Vibration

An advanced unshrouded fan stage (aspect ratio = 3.3) representative of a next-generation fan was chosen for analysis. This fan was analyzed in Ref. 22 by treating the disk as rigid. The disk of this fan consists of a thick hub, a thinner web and a short thick rim to house the blades. Accordingly, a disk model which consists of three concentric connected nonuniform annuli would be required for accurate modeling. However, to reduce the complexity of the model, the disk of the fan is idealized as a circular disk with uniform thickness. To investigate the effects of disk flexibility and blade frequency mistuning on both vibration and flutter, four values for disk thickness are considered. For descriptive purposes, the disk with thicknesses 1.891, 0.1891, 0.0946 and 0.0473 m are designated as very rigid, rigid, flexible, and very flexible disks, respectively. The equivalent thickness for a real practical fan may lie between the values for the rigid and flexible disk. The other properties of the
The advanced fan stage analyzed for vibrations is again considered to investigate flutter behavior including disk flexibility. The solution technique used herein to calculate the flutter boundary is the same as that described in Ref. 22. The correctness of the program was checked by comparing the flutter speed for the case with $t_d = 1.891 \text{ m}$ with that for the rigid disk case in Ref. 22 including all the warping effects. Next, the effect of disk flexibility on flutter speed is illustrated in Fig. 6. The fan stage is stable if the operating point is to the left of the boundary. For a disk with $t_d = 0.1891 \text{ m}$ the flutter boundary coincides with that for the tuned rigid disk ($t_d = 1.891 \text{ m}$), indicating that this amount of disk flexibility does not have any influence on flutter. For a disk thickness $t_d = 0.0946 \text{ m}$, the flutter speed is very slightly reduced. The reduction in flutter speed is more significant when the disk thickness is reduced to $0.0473 \text{ m}$. This degradation in flutter speed is expected because the coupling between disk and blade becomes very strong and reduces blade frequencies (see Fig. 5). Additionally, the flutter mode is changed from a predominantly torsional mode for the rigid disk to a predominantly bending mode for a very flexible disk. It should be mentioned that there is no blade bending-torsional coupling inherent in the blades themselves. The center of gravity of the blades dictates the elastic axis of any blade are coincident. However, coupling between bending and torsional modes does occur because of the disk flexibility.

Furthermore, there is aerodynamic coupling between bending and torsional motions. Thus, flutter involving a predominantly bending mode is not surprising (see also Ref. 16).

Flutter of a Mistuned Bladed-Disk

Previous publications (16, 17, 22) have shown that mistuning could have a significant stabilizing effect on flutter. The effect of mistuning is further investigated herein with the flexible disk model and some selected results are presented in Fig. 6. Alternate blade torsional frequency mistuning of approximately 7 percent has significantly increased the flutter speed for the cases with $t_d = 1.891 \text{ m}$ and $0.0946 \text{ m}$. This finding is in agreement with that in Ref. 22. Again, this amounts to saying that the disk flexibility does not have any influence on the flutter speed even in the presence of mistuning. Contrary to these two cases, there is no appreciable im-
Improvement on flutter speed due to torsional frequency mistuning for the very flexible disk. This might be expected because the predominant motion in the flutter mode is bending rather than torsion. Next it is natural to ask whether an alternate bending frequency mistuning has any influence on flutter speed. To investigate this, the bending stiffness $E_{m}$ of the odd numbered blades was increased by 10 percent and that of the even numbered blades was decreased by 10 percent from that of a tuned blade. The result is a frequency variation of approximately 2.6 percent. With this mistuning the flutter boundaries for the very flexible disk is shown again in Fig. 6. Evidently, there is a small increase in flutter speed. However, this increase in flutter speed is not as great as that due to alternate torsional mistuning for the rigid disk. Again, it is concluded that mistuning has potential to increase the flutter speed even in the presence of mechanical coupling between blades introduced by disk flexibility. Qualitatively, these findings are in agreement with the corresponding ones in Ref. 21 where a modified typical section model was used. However, it should be emphasized that the flexibility of the disks which are employed for the current generation turboprop does not have a significant effect on flutter speed. Still, the flexibility effects should be included in calculating forced response which is sensitive to small changes in system frequencies.

Concluding Remarks

An analytical model and an associated computer program to investigate the effects of disk flexibility on vibration and flutter characteristics of both tuned and mistuned bladed-disk assemblies are developed. From the parametric studies the following conclusions are reached.

1. The flexibility of the disks which are employed for the current generation turboprop does not have much influence on either tuned or mistuned bladed-disk system flutter characteristics. Still, its effect may be significant on forced response which is sensitive to small changes in system frequencies.

2. The flexibility of a very thin disk reduces flutter speed and changes the predominant character of the flutter mode from torsion to bending.

3. Because of the blade pretwist, chordwise motion of the blades is more strongly coupled to the disk motion than is the blade flatwise motion. This is contrary to assumptions often made in the published literature dealing with bladed-disk vibrations.

4. A moderate amount of blade frequency mistuning has significant potential to increase the flutter speed, even in the presence of the mechanical coupling between blades that is introduced by disk flexibility.

References


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Figure 1. Blade coordinate systems before and after deformation.

Figure 2. Coordinate systems of blade cross section.
Figure 3. - Frequencies of bladed-disk system.

- 28 BLADES
  - \( t_d = 0.1891 \text{ m} \)
  - \( \omega_0 = 200 \text{ Hz} \)
  - \( \Omega = 4267 \text{ rpm} \)

Figure 4. - Frequencies of bladed-disk system.

- 28 BLADES
  - \( t_d = 0.0946 \text{ m} \)
  - \( \omega_0 = 200 \text{ Hz} \)
  - \( \Omega = 4267 \text{ rpm} \)
Figure 5. - Frequencies of bladed-disk system.

Figure 6. - Effect of disk flexibility on tuned and mistuned bladed-disk system.
Vibration and Flutter of Mistuned Bladed-Disk Assemblies

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An analytical model for investigating vibration and flutter of mistuned bladed disk assemblies is presented. This model accounts for elastic, inertial and aero-dynamic coupling between bending and torsional motions of each individual blade, elastic and inertial couplings between the blades and the disk, and aerodynamic coupling among the blades. The disk is modeled as a circular plate with constant thickness and each blade is represented by a twisted, slender, straight, non-uniform, elastic beam with a symmetric cross section. The elastic axis, inertia axis, and the tension axis are taken to be noncoincident and the structural warping of the section is explicitly considered. The blade aerodynamic loading in the subsonic and supersonic flow regimes is obtained from two-dimensional unsteady, cascade theories. All the possible standing wave modes of the disk and traveling wave modes of the blades are included. The equations of motion are derived by using the energy method in conjunction with the assumed mode shapes for the disk and the blades. Continuities of displacement and slope at the blade-disk junction are maintained. The equations are solved to investigate the effects of blade-disk coupling and blade frequency mistuning on vibration and flutter. Results show that the flexibility of practical disks such as those used for current generation turbofans does not have a significant influence on either the tuned or mistuned flutter characteristics. However, the disk flexibility may have a strong influence on some of the system frequencies and on forced response.