

# **Treatment of Nonlinear Stochastic PDE with Fractional Derivative Terms: Iterative Analytical Solution and Monte Carlo Simulations**

Pol D. Spanos<sup>(a)</sup>, Giovanni Malara<sup>(b)</sup>

(a)  Rice University, Houston(TX), USA

(b)  Mediterranea University of Reggio Calabria, Italy

## **Outline of the content**

- Preliminaries on fractional derivative representations
- Nonlinear fractional PDE governing the large deflection of a beam
- Approximate solution via a statistical linearization based procedure
- Monte Carlo simulation: an efficient algorithm for computing the dynamical response in the time domain
- Reliability of the analytical solution: statistical linearization vis-à-vis Monte Carlo data
- References

## Fractional derivative

- Definition of fractional integral of a certain function  $w(t)$  (Podlubny, 1998):

$${}_0 D_t^{-\alpha} w(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^t \frac{w(\tau)}{(t-\tau)^{-\alpha+1}} d\tau; \text{ for } \alpha > 0$$

- $(t-\tau)^{-1+\alpha}$ : power law decay kernel
- $\Gamma(\alpha)$ : gamma function
- $-\alpha$ : order of the fractional integral

- 3 -

## Fractional derivative

- Fractional derivative representation
  - Riemann-Liouville fractional derivative

$${}_0^{RL} D_t^\alpha w(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(m-\alpha)} \frac{d^m}{dt^m} \int_0^t \frac{w(\tau)}{(t-\tau)^{\alpha+1-m}} d\tau; \text{ for } m-1 \leq \alpha < m$$

- Caputo fractional derivative (Caputo, 1967)

$${}_0^C D_t^\alpha w(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(m-\alpha)} \int_0^t \frac{w^{(m)}(\tau)}{(t-\tau)^{\alpha+1-m}} d\tau; \text{ for } m-1 \leq \alpha < m$$

Remark: the Caputo representation accommodates vibration analyses, as the initial conditions involve integer order derivatives.

- 4 -

# Fractional derivative

Integral transforms of a Caputo fractional derivative

- Fourier transform:  $\hat{{}_0D_t^\alpha w(t)} = (i\omega)^\alpha \hat{w(t)}$
- Laplace transform:  $\tilde{{}_0D_t^\alpha w(t)} = s^\alpha \tilde{w(t)} - \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} s^{\alpha-k-1} w^{(k)}(0)$

$w^{(k)}(0)$ : derivative of order  $k \in \mathbb{N}$

- 5 -

## Governing equation

Nonlinear fractional PDE with stochastic forcing function

$$EI \frac{\partial^4 v(x,t)}{\partial x^4} + \rho A \frac{\partial^2 v(x,t)}{\partial t^2} + c {}_0\partial_t^\alpha v(x,t) - N \frac{\partial^2 v(x,t)}{\partial x^2} = q(x,t)$$

$v(x,t)$  = displacement

$E$  = elastic modulus

$I$  = moment of inertia

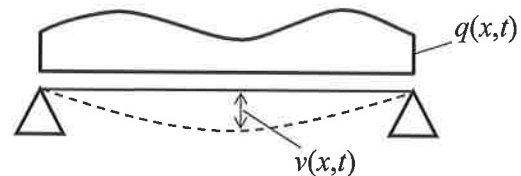
$\rho$  = mass density

$A$  = cross-sectional area

$c$  = damping

$\alpha$  = order of the fractional derivative

$q(x,t)$  = load



Remark: in this context the fractional term can describe the effect of an external damping or the material viscoelastic properties (Bagley and Torvik, 1983).

- 6 -

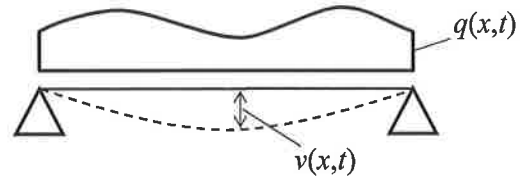
## Governing equation

Nonlinear fractional PDE with stochastic forcing function

$$EI \frac{\partial^4 v(x,t)}{\partial x^4} + \rho A \frac{\partial^2 v(x,t)}{\partial t^2} + c_0 \partial_t^\alpha v(x,t) - N \frac{\partial^2 v(x,t)}{\partial x^2} = q(x,t)$$

Nonlinear term  $N$  arising from the moderately large deflection of the beam

$$N = \frac{EA}{2L} \int_0^L \left( \frac{\partial v(x,t)}{\partial x} \right)^2 dx$$



- 7 -

## Governing equation

Assumptions on the load  $q(x,t)$ :

- Separable, that is:  $q(x,t) = p(x)f(t)$
- Space-wise deterministic
- Time-wise random:  $f(t)$  is a stationary Gaussian process with power spectral density function  $S(\omega)$  and autocorrelation function

$$\langle f(t - \tau_1) f(t - \tau_2) \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S(\omega) \exp[i\omega(\tau_2 - \tau_1)] d\omega$$

- 8 -

# Statistical Linearization

The solution of the nonlinear fractional PDE is sought via an optimal equivalent linear system. The equivalence is posed in the time domain according to a certain error criterion. Then, the solution of the linear system is readily estimated.

- 9-

# Statistical Linearization

Representation of the solution by the linear modes of vibration of the beam;

$$v(x,t) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} w_m(t) \Phi_m(x)$$

Properties of the modes:

•Compatible with the eq.  $EI \Phi_m^{iv} = \rho A \omega_m^2 \Phi_m$

•Orthogonality:  $\int_0^L \Phi_m \Phi_n dx = L \delta_{mn}$

•Define:  $K_{mn} = K_{nm} = \int_0^L \Phi_m' \Phi_n' dx$  then:  $\int_0^L \Phi_m \Phi_n'' dx = -K_{mn}$

- 10-

## Statistical Linearization

Nonlinear equations associated to the amplitudes  $w_m(t)$ :

$$\ddot{w}_m + \frac{c}{\rho A} D_t^\alpha w_m + \omega_m^2 w_m + \frac{E}{2\rho L^2} \sum_n \sum_i \sum_j w_n w_i w_j K_{ij} K_{mn} = \frac{P_m}{\rho AL} f(t); \text{ for } m=1,2,\dots$$

Equivalent linear equations:

$$\ddot{w}_m + \frac{c}{\rho A} D_t^\alpha w_m + \omega_{eq,m}^2 w_m = \frac{P_m}{\rho AL} f(t); \text{ for } m=1,2,\dots$$

where  $P_m = \int_0^L p(x) \Phi_m(x) dx$

## Statistical Linearization

The equivalent stiffness is estimated by solving the minimization problem:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \omega_{eq,m}^2} \langle \varepsilon_m^2 \rangle = 0; \text{ for } m=1,2,\dots$$

where  $\varepsilon_m$  are errors given by the equations:

$$\varepsilon_m = \omega_{eq,m}^2 w_m - \frac{E}{2\rho L^2} \sum_n \sum_j \sum_i w_n w_i w_j K_{ij} K_{mn} - \omega_m^2 w_m; \text{ for } m=1,2,\dots$$

## Statistical Linearization

After a few algebraic manipulations, it is proven that

$$\omega_{eq,m}^2 = \omega_m^2 + \frac{E}{2\rho L^2} \frac{1}{\langle w_m^2 \rangle} \sum_n \sum_i \sum_j K_{ij} K_{mn} \langle w_m w_n w_i w_j \rangle; \text{ for } m=1,2,\dots$$

The average values are estimated by invoking the linear input-output relationships

$$w_m = \frac{P_m}{\rho AL} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h_m(\tau) f(t-\tau) d\tau; \text{ for } m=1,2,\dots$$

$$h_m(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H_m(\omega) e^{i\omega t} d\omega \quad H_m(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h_m(t) e^{-i\omega t} dt$$

and the transfer function of a fractional linear system

$$H_m(\omega) = \frac{1}{-\omega^2 + \beta(i\omega)^\alpha + \omega_{eq,m}^2}$$

- 13-

## Statistical Linearization

Further, by recalling that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f(t-\tau_1)f(t-\tau_2)f(t-\tau_3)f(t-\tau_4) \rangle &= \\ &= \langle f(t-\tau_1)f(t-\tau_2) \rangle \langle f(t-\tau_3)f(t-\tau_4) \rangle + \\ &+ \langle f(t-\tau_1)f(t-\tau_3) \rangle \langle f(t-\tau_2)f(t-\tau_4) \rangle + \\ &+ \langle f(t-\tau_1)f(t-\tau_4) \rangle \langle f(t-\tau_2)f(t-\tau_3) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

The average values are obtained:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle w_m^2 \rangle &= \left( \frac{P_m}{\rho AL} \right)^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H_m(-\omega) S(\omega) H_m(\omega) d\omega \\ \langle w_m w_n w_j w_i \rangle &= \frac{P_m P_n P_j P_i}{(\rho AL)^4} (S_{mn} S_{ij} + S_{mi} S_{nj} + S_{mj} S_{ni}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where } S_{mn} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H_m(\omega) S(\omega) H_n(-\omega) d\omega$$

- 14-

## Statistical Linearization

Thus,

$$\omega_{eq,m}^2 = \omega_m^2 + \frac{E}{2\rho^3 A^2 L^4} \frac{1}{P_m S_{mm}} \sum_n \sum_i \sum_j K_{ij} K_{mn} P_n P_i P_j (S_{mn} S_{ij} + S_{mi} S_{nj} + S_{mj} S_{ni}); \text{ for } m = 1, 2, \dots$$

The equivalent stiffness are calculated iteratively, as  $S_{mn}$  depends on  $\omega_{eq,m}$ . At the first iteration it is posed  $\omega_{eq,m} = \omega_m$ ; for  $m = 1, 2, \dots$

The iteration is performed until convergence is reached.

## Statistical Linearization

Standard deviation of the vertical displacement

$$\sigma^2(x) = \langle v^2(x, t) \rangle = \frac{1}{(\rho AL)^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S(\omega) \sum_m \sum_n \Phi_m(x) \Phi_n(x) P_m P_n H_m(\omega) H_n(-\omega) d\omega$$

Power spectral density of the vertical displacement

$$S_v(x, \omega) = \frac{1}{(\rho AL)^2} S(\omega) \sum_m \sum_n \Phi_m(x) \Phi_n(x) P_m P_n H_m(\omega) H_n(-\omega)$$



## Monte Carlo simulation

The PDE is integrated numerically by the Analog Equation Method (Babouskos and Katsikadelis, 2010; Katsikadelis, G.C. Tsiatas, 2003).

The method is based on the replacement of the original equation by an “analog” equation with certain favorable characteristics. The logic of the AEM is exploited twice: first, the nonlinear fractional PDE is converted to a set of nonlinear fractional ODEs. Then, they are replaced again by a single term fractional differential equations

Given the PDE:  $EI \frac{\partial^4 v(x,t)}{\partial x^4} + \rho A \frac{\partial^2 v(x,t)}{\partial t^2} + c_0 \partial_t^\alpha v(x,t) - N \frac{\partial^2 v(x,t)}{\partial x^2} = q(x,t)$

As it is of the fourth order with respect to  $x$ , it replaced by

$$v_{xxxx} = b(x,t)$$

In this context, the time variable is a parameter.

- 17-

## Monte Carlo simulation

The equation

$$v_{xxxx} = b(x,t)$$

is solved by a Boundary Integral Equation Method (BIEM).

Integral representation of the solution:

$$v = c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 + c_3 x^3 + \int_0^L G(x, \xi) b(\xi, t) d\xi$$

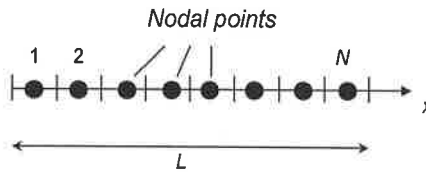
where  $c_i$  are time-dependent coefficients, and  $G(x, \xi)$  is the source function

$$G = \frac{1}{12} |x - \xi| (x - \xi)^2$$

- 18-

# Monte Carlo simulation

Discretization of the beam



Resulting discretized solution

$$v = c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 + c_3 x^3 + \sum_{j=1}^N b(\xi_j, t) \int_j G(x, \xi_j) d\xi$$

By collocating each displacement to the equation of motion we have

$$EIb(x_j, t) + \rho A \sum_{k=1}^N \int_k G(x_j, \xi_k) d\xi \cdot \ddot{b}(\xi_k, t) +$$

$$+ c \sum_{k=1}^N \int_k G(x_j, \xi_k) d\xi \cdot D_t^\alpha b(\xi_k, t) - \frac{EA}{2L} F_j(b, G) = q(x_j, t) \quad \text{for } j=1, \dots, N$$

- 19-

# Monte Carlo simulation

In a matrix notation

$$\rho A \underline{\underline{G}} \cdot \ddot{\underline{b}}(t) + c \underline{\underline{G}} \cdot D_t^\alpha \underline{b}(t) + EI \underline{b}(t) - \frac{EA}{2L} \underline{F}(\underline{b}(t), \underline{\underline{G}}) = \underline{q}(t)$$

$\underline{F}(\underline{b}(t), \underline{\underline{G}})$  = nonlinear vector function encapsulating the nonlinearities.

- 20-

## Monte Carlo simulation

$$\rho A \underline{\underline{G}} \cdot \ddot{\underline{b}}(t) + c \underline{\underline{G}} \cdot {}_0 D_t^\alpha \underline{b}(t) + EI \underline{b}(t) - \frac{EA}{2L} F(\underline{b}(t), \underline{\underline{G}}) = \underline{q}(t)$$

The AEM is used for the second time by replacing this set of nonlinear fractional ODEs by the set of equations (Katsikadelis, 2009)

$$\rho A \underline{\underline{G}} \cdot \underline{p}(t) + c \underline{\underline{G}} \cdot \underline{\bar{p}}(t) + EI \underline{b}(t) - \frac{EA}{2L} F(\underline{b}(t), \underline{\underline{G}}) = \underline{q}(t)$$

$$\ddot{\underline{b}}(t) = \underline{p}(t)$$

$${}_0 D_t^\alpha \underline{b}(t) = \underline{\bar{p}}(t)$$

This set can be converted to a system of nonlinear algebraic equations!

- 21 -

## Monte Carlo simulation

By taking the Laplace transform of the last equations

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{\underline{b}}(t) &= \underline{p}(t) \\ {}_0 D_t^\alpha \underline{b}(t) &= \underline{\bar{p}}(t) \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} \underline{\tilde{b}} &= \frac{1}{s^2} \underline{\tilde{p}} + \frac{1}{s} \underline{b}(0) + \frac{1}{s^2} \underline{\dot{b}}(0) \\ \underline{\tilde{b}} &= \frac{1}{s^\alpha} \underline{\tilde{p}} + \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} s^{-k-1} \frac{d^k}{dt^k} \underline{b}(0) \end{aligned}$$

By taking the inverse Laplace transform of the first one and of the one obtained by equating the right hand sides of both equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{b}(t) &= \underline{b}(0) + t \underline{\dot{b}}(0) + \int_0^t \underline{p}(\tau)(t-\tau) d\tau \\ \underline{\bar{p}}(t) &= [2 - \text{ceil}(\alpha)] \underline{\dot{b}}(0) \frac{t^{1-\alpha}}{\Gamma(2-\alpha)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(2-\alpha)} \int_0^t \underline{p}(\tau)(t-\tau)^{2-\alpha-1} d\tau \end{aligned}$$

- 22 -

## Monte Carlo simulation

The following system of nonlinear algebraic equations is obtained in the time domain:

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \rho A \underline{G} \cdot \underline{p}_n + c \underline{G} \cdot \underline{\bar{p}}_n + EI \underline{b}_n - \frac{EA}{2L} \underline{F}(\underline{b}_n, \underline{G}) &= \underline{q}_n \\ -\frac{1}{4} \Delta t^2 \underline{p}_n + \underline{b}_n &= \underline{b}_0 + t \dot{\underline{b}}_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{\underline{p}_{i-1} + \underline{p}_i}{2} \left( n-i + \frac{1}{2} \right) \Delta t^2 + \frac{1}{4} \Delta t^2 \underline{p}_{n-1} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta t^{2-\alpha}}{(2-\alpha)\Gamma(2-\alpha)} \underline{p}_n + \underline{\bar{p}}_n &= [2 - \text{ceil}(\alpha)] \dot{\underline{b}}_0 \frac{t^{1-\alpha}}{\Gamma(2-\alpha)} + \\ &+ \frac{\Delta t^{2-\alpha}}{(2-\alpha)\Gamma(2-\alpha)} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{\underline{p}_{i-1} + \underline{p}_i}{2} \left[ (n-i+1)^{2-\alpha} - (n-i)^{2-\alpha} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta t^{2-\alpha}}{(2-\alpha)\Gamma(2-\alpha)} \underline{p}_{n-1} \end{aligned} \right.$$

The unknown  $\underline{p}_n, \underline{\bar{p}}_n, \underline{b}_n$  can be found at each time step by standard Newton-Raphson iterations

- 23 -

## Reliability of the analytical solution

Comparison between the response obtained by statistical linearization and Monte Carlo simulations.

Assumptions:

- uniform load  $p(x)=p$
- spectrum of the excitation: coloured white noise with expression

$$\hat{S}(w) = \frac{C w^4}{[(w^2 - k_1)^2 + (c_1 w)^2][(w^2 - k_2)^2 + (c_2 w)^2]}$$

- simply supported beam, in which:

$$\Phi_m = \sqrt{2} \sin(\pi m x / L) \quad K_{mn} = \frac{\pi^2 m^2}{L} \delta_{mn} \quad P_m = p \frac{\sqrt{2} L}{m \pi} [1 - (-1)^m]$$

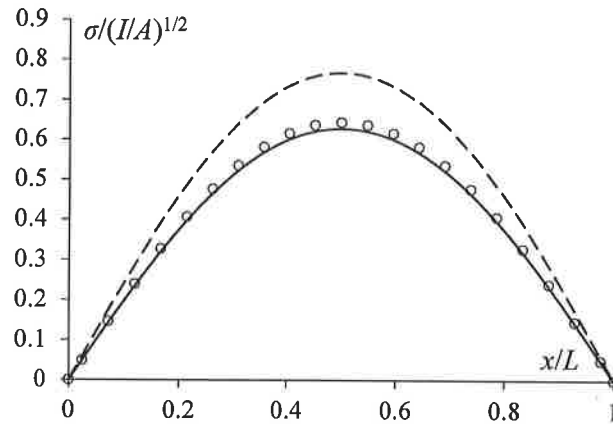
- order of the derivative:

$$\alpha = 0.5$$

- 24 -

## Reliability of the analytical solution

Standard deviation of the response

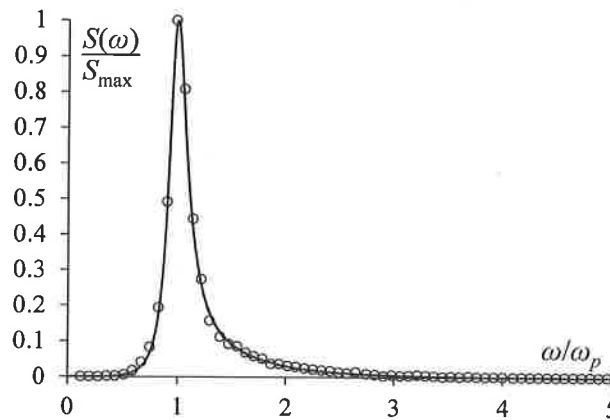


Statistical linearization (continuous line), Monte Carlo data (circles), linear solution obtained by neglecting the nonlinear term (dotted line)

- 25 -

## Reliability of the analytical solution

Power spectral density of the response at the mid-span of the beam



Statistical linearization (continuous line), Monte Carlo data (circles), linear solution obtained by neglecting the nonlinear term (dotted line)

- 26 -

# References

- Babouskos N.G., J.T. Katsikadelis, Nonlinear Vibrations of Viscoelastic Plates of Fractional Derivative Type: An AEM Solution, The open mechanics journal, 4 (2010) 8-20.
- Bagley R.L., P.J. Torvik, A Theoretical Basis for the Application of Fractional Calculus to Viscoelasticity, Journal of Rheology, 27 (1983) 201-210.
- Caputo M., Linear Models of Dissipation whose Q is almost Frequency Independent—II, Geophysical Journal International, 13 (1967) 529-539.
- Katsikadelis J.T., Numerical solution of multi-term fractional differential equations, ZAMM - Journal of Applied Mathematics and Mechanics / Zeitschrift für Angewandte Mathematik und Mechanik, 89 (2009) 593-608
- Katsikadelis J.T., G.C. Tsiatas, Large deflection analysis of beams with variable stiffness, Acta Mechanica, 164 (2003) 1-13.
- Podlubny I., Fractional Differential Equations: An Introduction to Fractional Derivatives, Fractional Differential Equations, to Methods of Their Solution and Some of Their Applications, Elsevier Science, 1998.
- Monte Carlo Treatment of Random Fields: A Broad Perspective, (with B.A. Zeldin), Applied Mechanics Reviews, ASME, Vol. 51, No. 3, pp. 219-237, 3/98.
- Y.K.Lin: Probabilistic Theory of Structural Dynamics, Krieger Publishing Company, New York, 1976
- J.B.Roberts and P.D.Spanos :Random Vibration and Statistical Linearization, Dover Publications, New York, 1999
- R.G .Ghanem and P.D .Spanos:Stochastic Finite Elements: a Spectral Approach, Dover Publications, New York, 2003

# Closure

- An approximate method has been developed for determining the solution of nonlinear partial differential equations and endowed with fractional derivative terms and stochastic forcing terms
- The method has been based on the concept of “an equivalent linear” PDE the parameters of which have been determined iteratively
- The lateral vibrations of a nonlinear beam have been considered as a paradigm problem
- A reliability of the proposed method has been assessed by extensive Monte Carlo simulations
- A challenging mathematical problem can be the derivation of a priori error estimates of the proposed procedure