

Design and FEA Simulation of Omega Type Coriolis Mass Flow Sensor

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ABSTRACT

The main objective of this research article is to investigate omegatype, Coriolis Mass Flow Sensor (CMFS) for evaluating resonant frequency. Modelling of CMFS can be split into two domains- structural and fluid. The omega shaped tube, forming the structural part and the fluid flowing through it, being modeled as a string and composing the fluid domain. Omega tube is clamped at both ends and vibrates in the $x-z$ plane on its fundamental natural frequency. The measuring characteristic of the mass flow rate is phase shift, which is experienced in the motion of sensing points that are located symmetrically at the two limbs of the tube. Frequency response of omega type CMFS resonant frequency with water was investigated. Simulation of CMFS has been done using Ansys 14.5. Copper is selected as omega tube material and water as working fluid.

Keywords: Coriolis Effect, Sensor, Natural Frequency, Excitation, FEA.

1. INTRODUCTION

Artificial Neural Network (ANN) is new field of engineering analysis. Now days it has been applied for different engineering problems [1-3]. In this research article, fluid carrying tube with omega shape has been analysed. Tube vibrates at its fundamental frequency. Flowing fluid inside tube apply forces on tube walls due to this mode shape changes [4]. Advanced coriolis mass flow sensors are independent of viscosity and density of flowing fluids. During flow inside tube generated velocity profile and obtained Reynolds number of the flow does not affect the flow meter as compared to others conventional flow meters based on volume measurements [5]. Coriolis flowmeter is also used for measuring fluid density by measuring change in natural frequency [6]. Many Authors have numerically investigated working method of Coriolis flow meters. In coriolis flow meters there are no moving parts only fluid carrying flow tube vibrates with small amplitude [7-11].

Artificial Neural Network (ANN) based model was developed for copper type CMFS [14]. The developed model has been found in agreement with experimental setup model. Modelling of CMFS using Adaptive neuro-fuzzy inference system (ANFIS) has been studied [15] to check the influence of material. The input parameters are tube material, drive frequency, sensor location and height of tube. Using various parameters performance of mass flow sensor has been predicted. Material influence is an important criterion to check the structural rigidity and performance. Material based free vibration analysis was performed for transmission system using FEA [16]. [21, 24 & 25] Author has used Fuzzy interference system tools for comparison of texture and CMFS study. Coriolis effect and new straight coriolis flow meter has been investigated by researcher [22 & 23] for further development.

2. EXPERIMENTAL ARRANGEMENTS

Using theory of Coriolis phenomenon an experimental setup was prepared. Simulation and experimental investigation of coriolis mass flow sensor (CMFS) is required for direct mass

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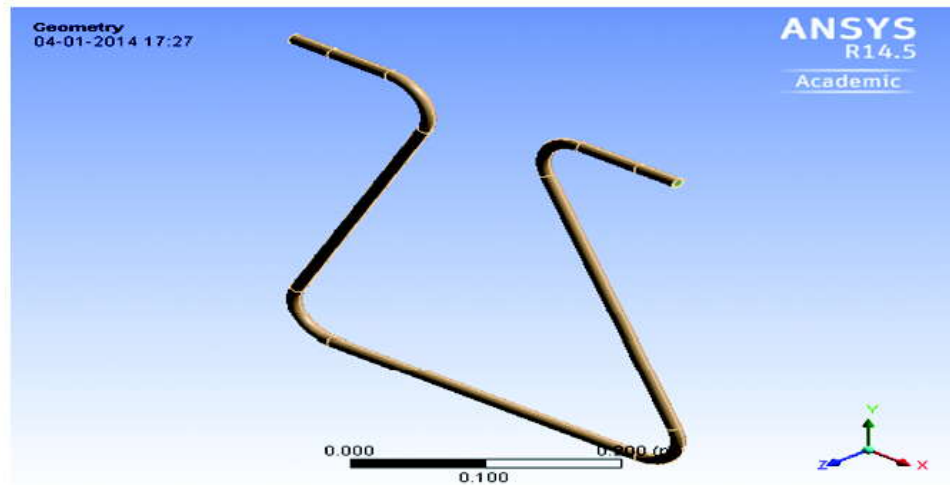


Figure1: Copper Omega tube model.

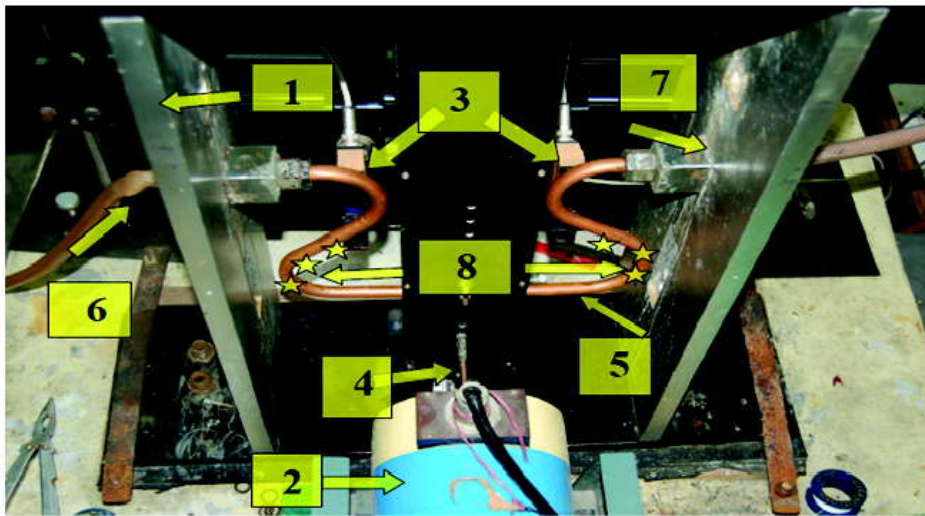


Figure 2: Experimental test rig of Copper omega tube.

measurement. The operating test conditions are finalized and listed along with the identification of natural mode shapes for various tube configurations and materials using finite element code ANSYS [12]. Figure 1 shows the geometry model of omega tube. Geometry of omega tube is prepared using hollow tubes with specific dimensions. FEA meshed model of Cu tube consists of 6497 nodes and 1080 elements.

Figure 2 shows experimental set up which was designed using Pro-E [13]. The actual photographs of the experimental test rig are shown in figure 2. It consists of the functional elements like, Hydraulic bench (It provides continuous water supply to flow meter), test bench (supporting element-used for tubes support). Mechanical excitation was provided to the flow meter using excitation system. An excitation system consists of shaker, CU (control units), Accelerometer and Vibration Meter. Optical Sensors were used for motion sensing. It eliminates the surroundings disturbance and humidity, oil. Working fluid (Water) mechanical properties are Density 1000 Kg/m^3 , Young's Modulus $1.32 \times 10^{11} \text{ Pa}$, Poisson's Ratio 0.499, Bulk Modulus $2.2 \times 10^9 \text{ Pa}$ and Shear Modulus 4.4029×10^6 . Omega copper tube Properties are Density 8950 Kg/m^3 , Young's Modulus $1.1 \times 10^{11} \text{ Pa}$, Poisson's Ratio 0.34, Bulk Modulus $1.145 \times 10^{11} \text{ Pa}$ and Shear Modulus 4.1045×10^{10} . Omega tube of Coriolis mass flow sensors has dual functions that impose conflicting requirements.

3. FEA SIMULATION RESULTS

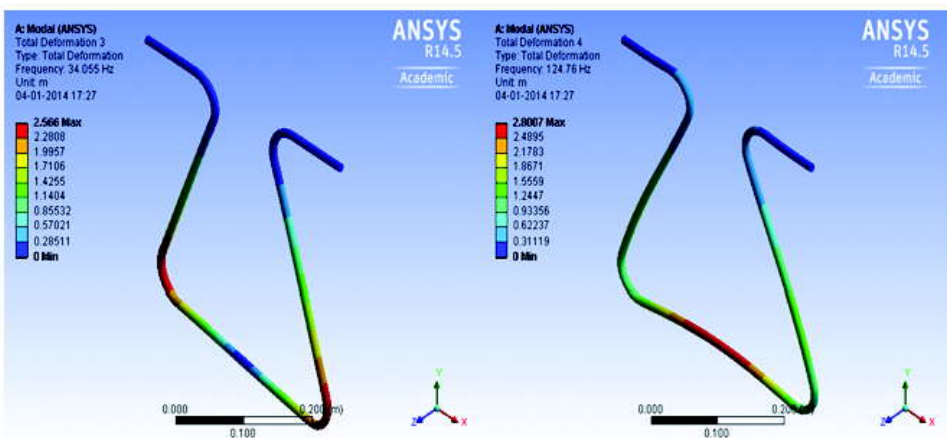
In this research article Modal analysis serve as starting point for detailed dynamic analysis of CMFS. In dynamic harmonic or transient analysis can be performed on omega type CMFS. The output of Modal analysis is modal frequency (natural frequency) and mode shapes. These two parameters serve as important criteria in design of structure subjected to dynamic loading conditions. Varieties of tube designs are currently available like U tube flow meters. In this research article omega tube type CMFS was designed and analysed. Table 1 shows the frequency variation for omega tube Coriolis mass flow sensor.

Table 1
Natural Frequencies for Omega Tube Configurations

<i>Mode</i>	<i>Cu Omega Tube Frequency Variation (Hz)</i>	<i>Frequency</i>
1		16.756
2		21.415
3		34.055
4		124.76
5		129.84
6		148.19



Mode 1 $f_1=16.756$ Hz Mode 2 $f_2=21.415$ Hz



Mode 3 $f_3=34.055$ Hz Mode 4 $f_4=124.76$ Hz

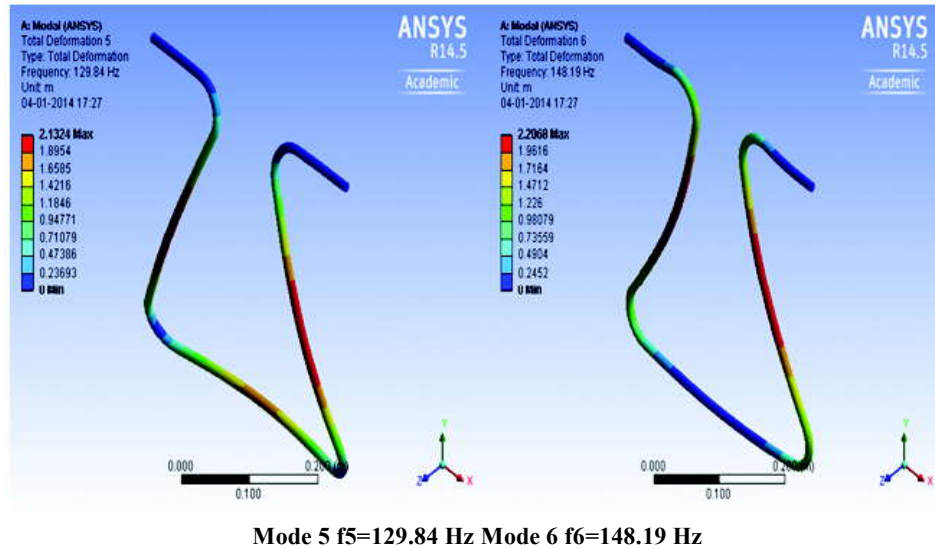


Figure 3: Frequency and mode shape variation for omega type CMFS with fluid

Table 1 shows the frequency variation for omega tube CMFS with fluid condition. Figure 3 shows frequency and mode shape representation. Using mode shapes in different condition, deformations level can be predicted. The fundamental frequency is 16.756 Hz.

4. CONCLUSIONS

FEA based modal analysis of omega type CMFS was performed for fluid and without fluid condition. The aim of the research work has been achieved by measuring resonant frequency. The resonant frequency is 16.756 Hz. Other natural frequencies are 21.415 Hz, 34.055 Hz, 124.76 Hz, 129.84 Hz and 148.19 Hz. Obtained fundamental frequency will be used for excitation of CMFS. In future this research work can be extended for experimental analysis of vibration pattern for omega type Coriolis mass flow sensor under resonant frequency.

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