Nonlinear wave loads on fixed offshore turbines

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John Grue, Mechanics Division, Department of Mathematics University of Oslo Nonlinear forces on vertical columns exposed to waves, how and why?

There 3 reasons/effects:

- pressure is nonlinear
- free surface condition is nonlinear
- elevation along the column is finite

Eq. of motion

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p - g \mathbf{k}$$

Pressure

$$-\frac{p}{\rho} = \phi_t + \frac{1}{2}\nabla\phi\cdot\nabla\phi + gy$$

Elevation

$$\eta_t = \phi_y - \nabla \phi \cdot \nabla \eta \quad \text{on} \quad y = \eta$$

Free surface condition, dynamic

$$\phi_t + \frac{1}{2}\nabla\phi\cdot\nabla\phi + g\eta = 0$$
 on $y = \eta$

Time derivative of dynamic b.c.

$$\phi_{tt} + \nabla \phi_t \cdot \nabla \phi + g\eta_t = 0 \quad \text{on} \quad y = \eta$$

Free surface condition, kinematic

$$g\eta_t = g\phi_y + \nabla\phi_t \cdot \nabla\phi + \frac{1}{2}\nabla\phi \cdot \nabla|\nabla\phi|^2$$
 on $y = \eta$

Perturbations: $\phi = \phi^{(1)} + \phi^{(2)} + \phi^{(3)} + ...$ where

- first term is proportional to the wave amplitude A,
- 2nd term is proportional to A^2 ,
- third term is proportional to A^3 , etc.

$$\phi_t^{(1)} + g\eta^{(1)} = 0, \quad \eta_t^{(1)} = \phi_y^{(1)} \quad \text{on} \quad y = 0$$

$$\begin{split} \phi_t^{(2)} + g\eta^{(2)} &= -\eta^{(1)}\phi_y^{(1)} - \frac{1}{2}\nabla\phi^{(1)}\cdot\nabla\phi^{(1)} \quad \text{on} \quad y = 0\\ \eta_t^{(2)} &= \phi_y^{(2)} - \nabla\phi^{(1)}\cdot\nabla\eta^{(1)} + \phi_{yy}^{(1)}\eta^{(1)} \quad \text{on} \quad y = 0 \end{split}$$

etc.

Harmonics:

Incoming wave of frequency ω results in a response with frequency ω .

Quadratic products introduce sum frequency $\omega + \omega = 2\omega$ and difference frequency $\omega - \omega = 0 \omega$

Cubic products introduce sum/difference frequencies

-
$$\omega + \omega + \omega = 3\omega$$
, $2\omega + \omega = 3\omega$, and

-
$$\omega + \omega - \omega = \omega$$
, $2\omega - \omega = \omega$

Quartic products introduce sum/difference frequencies

-
$$4\omega$$
, 2ω , 0ω ,

etc.

Incoming Stokes wave in deep water with frequency ω has a velocity field that is a pure sine (up to third order), given by the potential

$$\phi = \mathsf{Re}\Big[\frac{\mathsf{i}gA}{\omega}e^{ky}e^{-\mathsf{i}kx+\mathsf{i}\omega t}\Big] + O((kA)^4),$$

This velocity field implies a force on the column, in the x-direction, composed by harmonics, by

$$F(t) = \mathsf{Re}\Big[F_1e^{\mathbf{i}\omega t} + F_2e^{2\mathbf{i}\omega t} + F_3e^{3\mathbf{i}\omega t} + F_4e^{4\mathbf{i}\omega t} + \dots +\Big]$$

where, asymptotically, when $A \ll 1$, $F_1 \sim A$, $F_2 \sim A^2$, $F_3 \sim A^3$, $F_4 \sim A^4$, etc.

Faltinsen, Newman and Vinje, JFM 289 (1995); slender body wave analysis ($kR \ll 1$) including nonlinearity up to cubic order ($kA \ll 1$; $A \sim R$). Periodic waves. Forces:

$$F_1 = 2\pi\rho g R^2 A \cos\omega t$$

$$\tilde{F}_x = \pi \rho g K R^2 A^2 \sin 2\omega t + \pi \rho g K^2 R^2 A^3 \cos \omega t - 2\pi \rho g K^2 R^2 A^3 \cos 3\omega t$$

$$|F_1/F_3| = (KA)^2$$

 $|F_2/\rho g R A^2| = \pi K R$ $|F_3/\rho g A^3| = 2\pi (K R)^2$

Malenica and Molin, JFM 302 (1995); Perturbation expansion in the wave slope $\epsilon = Ak$; analysis valid asymptotically for Ak << 1, with kR arbitrary:

$$\Phi = \epsilon \phi^{(1)} + \epsilon^2 \phi^{(2)} + \epsilon^3 \phi^{(3)} + O(\epsilon^4)$$

$$\epsilon \phi^{(1)} = \mathbf{Re}[\varphi^{(1)}e^{-\mathbf{i}\omega t}]$$

$$\epsilon^2 \phi^{(2)} = \bar{\varphi}^{(2)} + \mathsf{Re}[\varphi^{(2)}e^{-2\dot{\mathsf{I}}\omega t}]$$

$$\epsilon^{3}\phi^{(3)} = \mathsf{Re}[\bar{\varphi}^{(3)}e^{-\mathsf{i}\omega t} + \varphi^{(3)}e^{-3\mathsf{i}\omega t}]$$

Perturbation expansions; free surface condition; $\varphi^{(3)}$

$$-9\nu\varphi^{(3)} + \frac{\partial\varphi^{(3)}}{\partial y} = \frac{3\mathrm{i}\omega}{g}\nabla\varphi^{(2)}\cdot\nabla\varphi^{(1)}$$
$$-\frac{\mathrm{i}\omega}{2g}\Big[\varphi^{(1)}\Big(\frac{\partial^2\varphi^{(2)}}{\partial y^2} - 4\nu\frac{\partial\varphi^{(2)}}{\partial y}\Big) + 2\varphi^{(2)}\Big(\frac{\partial^2\varphi^{(1)}}{\partial y^2} - \nu\frac{\partial\varphi^{(1)}}{\partial y}\Big)\Big]$$
$$-\frac{1}{8g}\nabla\varphi^{(1)}\cdot\nabla(\nabla\varphi^{(1)}\cdot\nabla\varphi^{(1)}) - \frac{\nu}{g}\varphi^{(1)}\nabla\varphi^{(1)}\cdot\nabla\frac{\partial\varphi^{(1)}}{\partial y}$$
$$+\frac{1}{4g}\Big(\nu\varphi^{(1)}\frac{\partial\varphi^{(1)}}{\partial y} + \frac{1}{2}\nabla\varphi^{(1)}\cdot\nabla\varphi^{(1)}\Big)\Big(\frac{\partial^2\varphi^{(1)}}{\partial y^2} - \nu\frac{\partial\varphi^{(1)}}{\partial y}\Big)$$

(∇ - horizontal gradient; $\nu = \omega^2/g$)

Forces:

$$F = \epsilon F^{(1)} + \epsilon^2 F^{(2)} + \epsilon^3 F^{(3)} + O(\epsilon^4)$$

= $\operatorname{Re}[F^{(1)}e^{-i\omega t}]$
+ $\bar{F}^{(2)} + \operatorname{Re}[F^{(2)}e^{-2i\omega t}]$
+ $\operatorname{Re}[\bar{F}^{(3)}e^{-i\omega t} + F^{(3)}e^{-3i\omega t}] + O(\epsilon^4)$

$$F^{(3)} = \int_{SB0} \left(3i\omega\rho\varphi^{(3)} - \frac{1}{2}\rho\nabla\varphi^{(1)} \cdot \nabla\varphi^{(2)} \right) \mathbf{n} dS + \frac{1}{2}\rho g \int_{CB0} \eta^{(1)} (\eta^{(2)} - \frac{1}{4}\eta^{(1)}\eta^{(1)}) \mathbf{n} dC$$







Malenica & Molin, JFM 302 (1995)





Note, for example for kR = 0.11, we find from M&M

$$\frac{F_3}{\rho g A^3} \simeq \mathsf{Re}[(0.1, 0.0)e^{-3\mathbf{i}\omega t}] = 0.1\cos 3\omega t$$

while FNV gives

$$\frac{F_3}{\rho g A^3} = -2\pi (KR)^2 \cos 3\omega t \simeq -0.076 \cos 3\omega t$$

where the most important difference is that the latter is 180 degrees out of phase with the former.

M&M argued that FNV is valid only for very small KR, i.e. up to about 0.05. However, the FNV-analysis is a beautiful exercise in matched asymptotics and application of Bessel function theory!



Wave tank experiment, sketch; Huseby & Grue, JFM 414 (2000)



Cylinder and force gauges; Huseby & Grue, JFM 414 (2000)



Wave and force series; wave - curve with greater excursion; Huseby & Grue, JFM 414 (2000)

Wave elevation, Stokes waves

$$\eta = A\cos(-kx + \omega t) + \frac{1}{2}kA^2\cos 2(-kx + \omega t) + a_{free}\cos(-4kx + 2\omega t + \delta) + \dots$$

The free 2nd harmonic wave is generated at the wave paddle, by nonlinear effects, and is a parasittic wave

However, it moves with half the speed of the Stokes wave and therefore there is a time window without this parasittic wave.









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First harmonic force



kR=0.166

2nd harmonic force

3rd harmonic force

Fourth harmonic force

Fifth harmonic force

6th harmonic force

7th harmonic force

Comparison, forces for Ak = 0.2 and kR = 0.166:

$$\frac{|F_1|}{\rho g A R^2} \simeq 6.4$$
$$\frac{|F_2|}{\rho g A^2 R} \simeq 0.3$$
$$\frac{|F_3|}{\rho g A^3} \simeq 0.1$$
$$\frac{|F_4|}{\rho g A^4 R^{-1}} \simeq 0.1$$

(1)

This describes the force picture in regular waves, in deep water.

Perturbation methods obtain the harmonic forces, in perturbation sense.

Fully nonlinear computations are performed up to $Ak \sim 0.15$ (Ferrant, 1998). Challenges with local breaking at the column's water line. This must be circumvented in order to calculate the motion beyond this wave slope, where calculations with $Ak \sim 0.2$ are an important challenge.

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