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FACULTY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND INFORMATICS



DEVELOPMENT OF A MACHINE VISION SYSTEM FOR ANTI-SWAY CONTROL OF OVERHEAD CRANE

PHD THESES

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SUPERVISOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Date: 03.02.2021 Miskolc

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Marouane Hmoumen asked for his admission to the István Sályi Doctoral School in January of 2017 after he had spent the previous semester in Szent István University in Gödöllő. He had no supervisor's support and no subjects to learn in Gödöllő. Therefore he lost one semester out of eight ones. This fact explains why he had to extend his PhD studies.

The topic of machine vision related to mechatronics was offered him to investigate in Miskolc. Since he had a university degree in electrical engineering the topic was close to him. The scientific problems of machine vision were induced in the Robert Bosch Energy and Body Systems Ltd. The company has more than one hundred machine vision applications. One of the hottest problem they was interested is the character recognition in noisy circumstances, i.e., when the letters and numbers are scratched. From the very beginning he made researches in machine vision literatures and he learned to use the OpenCV library. During the last three years he regularly attended the Robert Bosch Energy and Body Systems Ltd. to resolve the problems of character recognitions. In aware of the theory he could find the appropriate parameters which were available in the machine vision systems. Then all the systems recognized the characters correctly without further research development. Therefore his research topic was modified to "Development of a machine vision system for anti-sway control of overhead crane".

After the complex exam, he progressed very well on his modified research topic. The machine vision displacement sensor was successfully developed and built into a model of an experimental overhead crane. In 2019, he participated in a conference in Pécs where he reported on his PhD research and we jointly wrote a Q3 article for the Pollack Periodica journal, which was already published. Unfortunately, his research work came to a temporary halt during the spring due to the COVID-19 emergency.

As for the feasibility of the research plan, we have already prepared an article on overhead crane control, which provides the backbone of his PhD research. He already have submitted a Q2 article to the Journal of Facta Universitatis, Series: Mechanical Engineering and its acceptance is in advanced state.

During his doctoral studies, Marouane Hmoumen proved that he was suitable for independent scientific research in the field of mechatronics. The preparation of his dissertation reflects careful work, the results of the thesis value achieved so far show well his commitment to the topic of mechatronics.

Dr. Tamás Szabó
Associate Professor
Supervisor

LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

SCALAR QUANTITIES

| | | |
|--|--|------------------|
| V_t | Volume of the structure at time t | |
| M | Mass of the payload | Kg |
| g | Gravity acceleration | m/s ² |
| e_{11}^t | Linear strain measured in axial direction at t | [-] |
| \bar{u} | Displacement in axial x local coordinate | [mm] |
| \bar{v} | Displacement in axial y local coordinate | [mm] |
| u | Displacement in axial x Cartesian coordinate | [mm] |
| v | Displacement in axial y Cartesian coordinate | [mm] |
| L^t | Deformed length of the element | |
| I, j | Node numbers | |
| $\bar{u}^e(\xi)$ | Axial displacement along the element e | |
| $\bar{v}^e(\xi)$ | y displacement along the element e | |
| $\bar{u}_i, \bar{u}_j, \bar{v}_i, \bar{v}_j$ | Local nodal displacement increments | |
| u_i, u_j, v_i, v_j | Global Cartesian node displacement increments | |
| $\ddot{u}_i, \ddot{u}_j, \ddot{v}_i, \ddot{v}_j$ | Global nodal accelerations | |
| N^t | Axial force of the truss element | |
| tol | Tolerance prescribed by the user | [-] |
| V_0 | Volume of the structure at time 0 | |
| \ddot{u}_M^t | Acceleration of mass M | |
| σ_{11}^0 | Function of the axial stress at time 0 | |
| R^t | Virtual work of the external force | |
| u | Prescribed position of the trolley (Fig. 3.1) | |
| L | Length of the pendulum | |

LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| | | |
|----------------------|---|----------|
| Θ | Angle of the pendulum | [degree] |
| x_M | Horizontal absolute coordinate of the payload | [mm] |
| x_r | Relative positions of the payload | [mm] |
| T | Kinetic energy of the system | |
| V | Potential energy of the system | |
| Δt | Time step | [s] |
| v | Velocity of the load (Chapter 3) | [m.s] |
| L_g | Lagrangian function | |
| x_T | Target position of the payload | [mm] |
| τ | Time delay | [s] |
| k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4 | Gain parameters | [-] |
| m_L | Mass of the chain | [kg] |
| $F(y)$ | Force in the chain due to gravity | [N] |
| μ | Linear mass density of the chain | [Kg.m] |
| ξ | Local coordinate of element e | [-] |
| L^e | Length of one element (Fig. 3.5) | [mm] |
| x_2 | Lateral displacement of the middle of the chain | |
| N_e | Number of element the chain is subdivided | [-] |
| $y[k]$ | Lateral displacement of the payload | [mm] |
| e_x | Error of the position of the payload | [-] |
| I_2 | Position of the payload in pixel at t+1 | Pixel] |
| I_0 | Position of the payload in pixel at t | Pixel] |

VECTOR QUANTITIES

| | |
|----------------|--|
| \bar{M}_e | Element mass matrix |
| \bar{K}_{Le} | Linear matrix |
| \bar{K}_{Ge} | Geometric element stiffness matrices |
| I | Unit matrix |
| δu_M | 2D vector of the virtual displacements of mass |
| \bar{f}_{Ge} | External load vectors in element local coordinate system |

| | |
|---|---|
| $\bar{\mathbf{f}}_{\sigma e}$ | Internal load vectors in element local coordinate system |
| $\bar{\mathbf{f}}_{\sigma e}$ | Internal load vectors in element local coordinate system |
| $\mathbf{M}^{t+\Delta t}$ | Structural mass matrix |
| ρ^t | Density of the material in the deformed configuration |
| σ_{11}^t | Cauchy stress of the one-dimensional structure at time t |
| $\delta\eta_{11}$ | Variation of the quadratic portion of the nonlinear strain at t |
| ρ_0 | Density of the material at time zero |
| δu_M | Virtual lateral displacements of mass |
| \mathbf{K}_L^t | Structural linear |
| \mathbf{K}_G^t | Structural geometric stiffness matrices |
| $\mathbf{f}_g^{t+\Delta t}$ | Structural column vector of external loads |
| \mathbf{f}_σ^t | Structural column vector of internal loads |
| $\ddot{\mathbf{q}}$ | Structural column vector of nodal accelerations |
| $\Delta\mathbf{q}$ | Structural column vector of the nodal displacements |
| $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$ | Effective load vector at t+Δt |
| $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}[k]$ | Column vector of state variables |
| $\mathbf{A}_D, \mathbf{b}_D, \mathbf{l}_D, c$ | Coefficient matrices |
| $\ddot{\mathbf{u}}^{t+\Delta t}$ | 2D vector of the accelerations at t+Δt |
| $\delta\mathbf{u}$ | 2D vector of the virtual displacements |

OTHER SYMBOL

| | |
|--------|---|
| PLC | Programmable logic controller |
| OpenCV | Open-source computer vision library |
| NCTF | Nominal characteristic trajectory following |
| DPTOC | Double-pendulum-type overhead crane |
| 4DoF | Four degree of freedom |
| IIR | Infinite impulse response |
| FIR | Finite impulse response |

LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|---------|---|
| LQR | Linear quadratic response |
| MPC | Model predictive control |
| NN | Neural network |
| SMC | Sliding model control |
| DoR | Degree of freedom |
| RGB | Red-green-blue |
| HSV | Hue-saturation-value |
| SCL | Serial clock |
| SDA | Serial data |
| CFC | Continuous function chart |
| IDE | Integrated development environment |
| D/A | Digital-analog |
| RAM | Random-access memory |
| CPU | Computer central processing |
| I2C | Inter-integrated circuit |
| SPI | Serial peripheral interface |
| rpm | Revolution per minute |
| I/O | Input/output |
| MP | Megapixel camera |
| Fps | Frames per second |
| PWM | Pulse width modulation |
| ADRC | Active disturbance rejection control |
| PID | Proportional integral derivative |
| PDTSTFC | Proportional derivative Takagi-Sugeno fuzzy control |
| PD | Proportional derivative |
| LQG | Linear quadratic Gaussian |
| GPC | Generalized predictive control |
| FEM | Finite element method |
| ZVDDD | Zero vibration and triple derivative |

LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| DZV | Distributed zero vibration |
| ZV | Zero vibration |
| NC | Network controller |
| PSO | Particle swarm optimization |
| GA | Genetic algorithm |
| RNN | Recurrent neural network |
| HEA | Hybrid evolutionary algorithm |
| LPV | Linear parameter varying |

1. INTRODUCTION

In every level of economic activities, each industrial and commercial, we reach the handling equipment present in the transitional phase of the development cycles of materials and products. Also, they are significantly crucial in transportation [1].

Dealing with loads requires elite lifting gear that works securely, precisely, and safely. The accessibility, unwavering quality, and productivity of this gear are pivotal components whatever the application [1].

Cranes structure is one of the most broadly utilized solutions in the field of dealing with and transshipment. They take numerous forms and are truly versatile to multiple conditions [2].

The substantial development of the transporting tool market increases load volume to be dealt with, forcing progressively strict necessities regarding overhead cranes performance. These performances are expressed in the form of a compromise between the criteria of speed, execution, precision, and operator safety. Therefore, handling gantry crane or overhead cranes requires a lot of involvement from an experienced operator. In general, the computerization of production systems has been one reaction to this trade-off. This automation had a double target: to increase the system efficiency (cost reduction, reliability, accessibility, quality) and improved direct administrator security [3, 4, 5].

Overhead cranes and gantry cranes are handling equipment found mainly in the industry for the movement of loads, the distribution of manufactured materials, and the manufacturing industry for the assembly of equipment [2, 6, 7].

In industry, the smallest delay can be very costly. Speeding up an overhead crane is probably going to energize undesirable load swaying. If the load is swaying during the movement, it may be challenging to follow the desired path or avoid an obstacle. Once the system has reached the desired position, swaying will degrade positioning accuracy and cause a delay in operation. For these effects, the crane control functions must currently manage the load displacement and control the unwanted swaying of the load [8]. In addition, the robustness of the controllers to changes in load and external disturbances must be included [7].

In this work, we design a controller based on a linearized model of overhead cranes.

A simple mathematical model is investigated considering the time delay. The stability domains are expressed by the gain parameters for different time delays, and then a taut string model is also developed extending the pendulum model taking into consideration the vibration of the suspending chain. Its gain parameters are determined by the pole placement method utilizing the results of the simple mathematical pendulum model. An observer is designed based on the extended model to define the state variables related to the vibration of the chain.

In the proposed method, the vibration of the chain suspending the payload and its time delay is considered by an observer, which is programmed in an industrial Programmable Logic Controller (PLC). The motion of the payload is measured by a vision system that uses a Webcam, Visual Studio C++ and OpenCV library. The resulting controller has been verified on a laboratory overhead crane.

1.1 Control methods of the cranes

Cranes are essential for handling equipment in many industrial sectors. Hydraulic power stations, shipbuilding, armaments, cement factories, the iron and steel industry, household waste incineration plants are all examples that testify to the usefulness of these lifting and transshipment means. It moves or transfers a load at any point of a parallelepiped volume. They are designed to meet the needs of medium and heavy industrial lifting. These devices allow handling the most varied loads with the possible help of certain interchangeable accessories such as lifting beams, buckets, rotators, and forks.

Several types of cranes are employed in numerous industrial sectors. These embrace overhead cranes, tower cranes, and boom cranes. These cranes are generally classified into two groups, in line with their structures and motions: overhead cranes Fig. 1.1, boom cranes Fig. 1.2, and tower cranes Fig. 1.3.



Fig.1. 1 Overhead crane.



Fig.1. 2 Boom crane.



Fig.1. 3 Tower crane.

Generally, a crane consists of a hoisting mechanism (hoisting line and a hook) and a support mechanism (trolley). The payload hook cable gathering is attached from a point on the support mechanism. The support moves the payload around the crane workspace. At the same time, the raising system lifts and brings the load down to maintain a strategic distance from impediments in the way and store the payload at the objective point without causing an enormous swing [9].

Many researchers have suggested solutions by designing multiple controls scheme for a crane system to solve the control problems discussed. However, the majority of the current methods are not appropriate for realistic implementation. For that reason, most commercial cranes are not automatic and nevertheless rely on operators, who fail to atone for the swing. This failure can also additionally put the load and the surroundings in danger. Another crane automation problem is the crane surroundings character, which is frequently unstructured in shipyards and manufacturing facility floors. In the following, we focus on reviewing the overall techniques used in the controlling topic.

The crane operation steps automation is feasible, and some research studies have been pointed at this mission [10].

The most consuming task is to move the payload from the initial position to the target position and needs a skillful operator to perform it. Suitable techniques to facilitate moving the payload

fast without inducing large swings are focal of several researchers [6]. An overhead crane basic motion can be described as object hoisting or lowering, trolley travel, and lifting. To increase the production, the crane movements must take place at high speeds without generating undesirable sway of the payload and being safe to the surrounding. There are two main approaches for crane automation: the first is that the operator is retained in the loop, and the payload dynamics are adjusted to make his job more manageable by feeding back the payload sway angle and its ratio [11, 12]. This response provides a different trajectory to that generated by the operator. Another way is to not excite the payload close to its natural frequency by adding a filter to eliminate the undesirable input frequency [13]. This causes a delay between the crane input and the operator action, which may affect the system negatively. Another method is installing a mechanical absorber to the crane structure, which requires a large amount of energy, making it impractical.

The second approach is to take away the operator from the cycle, making the operation fully computerized. Different control methods can be used to achieve the above goal. Numerous researchers have commonly used open-loop control schemes Fig. 1.4, in particular for manipulating the payload swinging. There are different open-loop techniques: The input-shaping crane control method is one of the widely used open-loop methods in the literature [14, 15, 16]. It consists of a sequence of acceleration and deceleration pulses. These sequences are generated such that there is no residual swing at the end of the transfer operation. Cutforth et al. [17] designed an adaptive input shaping based upon flexible mode frequency variations to handle the uncertainties of the parameters. Also, an adaptive discrete-time control was proposed in [18], where the timing of impulses and amplitude are adapted to cater for the system uncertainties.

Vaughan et al. have presented a command shaping algorithm to adapt to the nonlinearities caused by the nonlinear slewing motion of a tower crane [19]. The authors introduce an input shaping control technic to limit the residual vibration. The method was experimentally tested for several cases, and its robustness to variations in suspension cable length and nonlinear effects during slewing was presented.

Another input shaping method was presented based on a distributed delay by Vyhřídál et al. [20] referred to as Distributed Zero Vibration (DZV) shaper, while other input shapers were developed based on a lump type delay. Numerous features of the shaper have been examined and compared with the ZV shaper. However, the DZV shaper offers a slower vibration suppression performance than the classical ZV shaper. The DZV shaper delivers smoother command and superior robustness at the high-frequency range.

Rhim et al. proposed a time-domain adaptive command shaping by a direct method. The desired command shaper coefficients can be estimated directly without getting the system parameters information [21]. The same author presented an adaptive time delay command shaping for multi-mode and single systems in another work [22].

Singhose et al. [23] have studied an input shaping model using an average travel length method for gantry cranes to control the hoisting effect. Other works have included an adaptive input shaping for 3D overhead cranes [24]. The input-shaping method implementation for sway control has been proposed in [25, 26, 27] for gantry cranes, overhead cranes [26] for bridge cranes [28], rotary cranes [28–31], and container cranes [32, 33, 34].

Ahmed et al. developed hybrid control schemes based on NCTF control with IIR low-pass filter techniques for input tracking and sway suppression of a DPTOC for overhead cranes [35], and gantry cranes [36]. Glossiotis et al. proposed a method based on the preprocessing of all the commanded crane inputs by designing a finite impulse response (FIR) filter for a four-degrees-of-freedom (4DoF) model of rotary crane system [37]. An FIR filter was implemented too for the control of the gantry crane. However, investigation results show that the IIR filters have no accurate phase and are frequently hard to control. Yet, the FIR filters have every time a linear stage and are simple to manage.

Command smoothing is another open-loop technique, which can significantly attenuate the vibrations via smoothing the original command [38]. The smoother is aimed to approximate the actual frequency and the amortization ratio of the system. Xie et al. proposed a technique that suppresses vibration in a flexible systems [39]. The method can be more insensitive to modeling error at higher frequencies while compared to the ZVDDD shaper, which has more insensitivity at lower frequencies.

Alghanim et al. [40] introduced a method to produce an optimal discrete-time shaped acceleration profile for concurrent hoist maneuvers and crane travel. The effectiveness of the technique was confirmed using a laboratory model of an overhead crane.

The open-loop techniques are simple to incorporate because there is no need for extra sensors to measure the payload displacement angle, which saves in terms of costs [41].

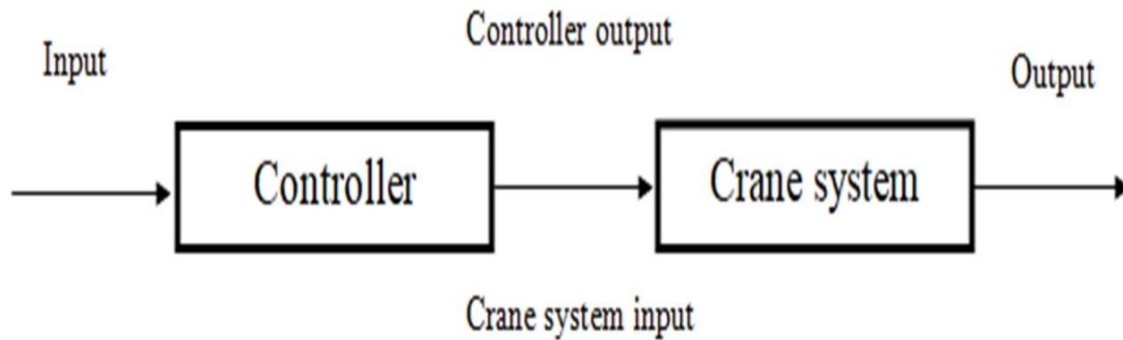


Fig.1. 4 Block diagram of open loop control system for a crane system.

However, this technique negative point is that it is susceptible to parameter variation and to external disturbances negatively affecting its performance [42]. Some of these external factors, as an example, are ocean waves and wind.

The closed-loop technique is a good control scheme that allows the crane system to regulate its performance based upon the preferred output response, see Fig. 1.5. Feedback structures utilize the system states measurement and approximation to decrease the oscillations and achieve precise positioning. Therefore, the closed-loop control schemes are not that sensitive to parameter variations and turbulences [43].

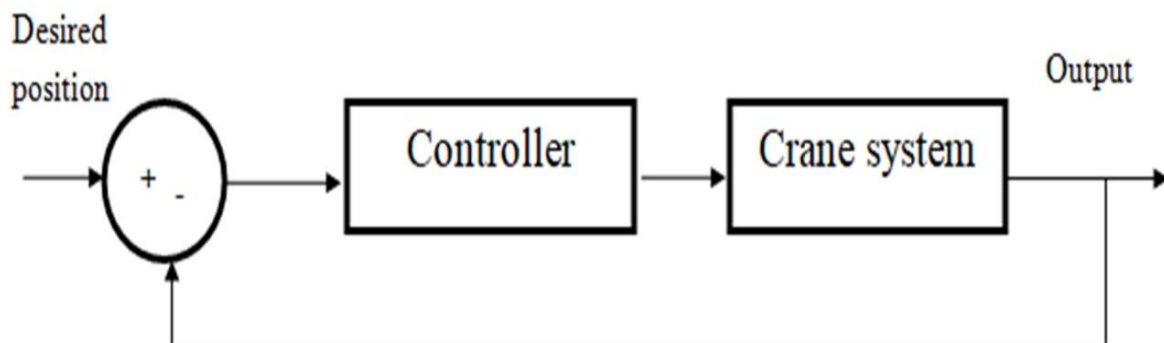


Fig.1. 5 Block diagram of closed loop control system for a crane system.

The optimal control strategy MPC was used for controlling gantry cranes and overhead cranes [44–48]. The adaptive control method was proposed by numerous researchers in [49–54]. Lee et al. [55] proposed a combination of an NN and an SMC to achieve a precise trolley position and eliminate the payload sway angles. Nakazono et al. [56] proposed a three-layered neural network as a controller (NC) with genetic algorithm-based (GA-based) training that was able to control the load swing in both the circumferential and the radial directions, simultaneously for the rotary crane system. Furthermore, the proposed method was efficient and make the controller design simple than a traditional one. Duong et al. [57] proposed a method of controlling an underactuated three-dimensional tower crane system adopting a recurrent neural network (RNN) which is improved by

an evolutionary algorithm. The hybrid evolutionary algorithm (HEA) was developed by implanting the genetic operators of the GA (recombination and mutation) into the particle swarm optimization (PSO) to create an offspring. Simulation results illustrate that the proposed HEA has higher performance comparing with the canonical algorithms and that the control system works efficiently. Li et al. [58] have proposed a combination of an NN and a fuzzy on a special crane system which has combination of industrial arm and crane system worked on the ship. The learning algorithm that was used for the neural fuzzy controller was founded on an ant colony optimization. It displayed a rapid convergence of the performance compared to the back propagation algorithm.

Hilhorst et.al [59] proposed a numerical approach to design reduced-order multi-objective H-infinity controllers for discrete-time linear parameter varying (LPV) systems. The resulting method address any prefixed controller order, permits polynomial parameter dependencies of all system matrices, can consider several design objectives, and offers intuitive guide lines for the selection of an initial controller. The effectiveness of the approach with varying cable length is carried on lab scale overhead crane.

Panuncio et al. [60] proposed a neural PID control that solves large integral and derivative gains in the classical PID, PD control for the anti-swing of the overhead crane. An LQR method was applied to the anti-sway controller design of the overhead crane [61]. To make the designed linear optimal system, a parametric formula method of solutions to LQ inverse problems to get the weighting matrix Q. In [62], a Linear Quadratic Gaussian (LQG) control has been developed for controlling the load swing. In the proposed method, the quadratic derivative of a state variable term was combined with the regular standard performance indexes of the LQG for estimation and control. The extra term provides an additional weighting function to be considered to reduce the given performance indexes. The results showed that the load swinging could be decreased. In [63, 64], the Generalized Predictive Control (GPC) and LQG were well applied and compared for controlling the pendulation of the payload for an offshore crane. Roman et al. [65] proposed fusion control technics of a second-order data-driven Active Disturbance Rejection Control (ADRC) with Proportional-Derivative Takagi-Sugeno Fuzzy Control. The control structure is referred to as ADRC-PDTSFC. The data-driven controller was validated through real-time experiments. The structure improves ADRC-PDTSFC the overall control system performance by compensating for shortcomings of ADRC. An anti-swing crane control method is developed in [66]. The authors built a novel manifold and the corresponding analysis, ensuring that the system state variables would converge to the equilibrium point asymptotically when they were on this manifold.

Shengzeng et al. [67] developed a partially saturated nonlinear controller for under-actuated overhead cranes which is based on passivity. In the proposed approach, a storage function is designed with the desired inertia matrix and potential energy function, which results in a nonlinear coupling controller, thus introducing additional damping terms to the sway angle.

In order to acquire the most realistic model of the crane system, several researchers have included other parameters in their models like damping and elasticity of the structure [68], air resistance, and variable length of cable that hold the payload [69]. It has been known that time delay may produce significant damping of the oscillations [70, 71]. A control technique was founded on time-delayed position feedback of the payload cable angles where the vibration of the payload is reduced by obliging the trolley to follow inertial reference coordinates. The objective of this control technique is to add damping to the system.

The majority of research works are based on the contact detection of the payload sway displacement [72, 73]. The sway angle or the pendulum displacement is measured with different sensors like Hall-effect switches [74], inductive sensors, etc. Machine vision systems are being developed very fast in the last two decades [75]. Researchers start working on the contactless detection of the payload sway performed using machine vision applications [76- 79]. In our system, the vision system is based on a web-camera and a personal laptop as hardware, and for software, a Visual Studio C++ with OpenCV library as a programming tool for image processing.

A delayed reference non-collocated control approach for container cranes was developed by Sano et al. By taking into consideration the delay due to the vision sensor, which usually has a negative impact on the controlling, two novel swing angle observer-based control methods is developed in [80]. The investigated model in this mentioned research is only two degrees of freedom, and the suspending element is a rigid bar. Also, the parameters P and I of these controllers were not given. While in our system, the model has a multi-degree of freedom due to the suspending element, which is a chain.

1.2 Aim of research

The main aim of this research work is to design and implement a robust, fast, and practical controller for overhead cranes. The crane controllers are made to transfer the load from the starting position to the target position without consuming too much time, without overshooting, and to make the swinging of the payload as small as possible during the transfer and to make them completely disappears when the payload reaches its target position.

To target a new two-level hierarchical approach. At the first level, a simple mathematical pendulum model will be analyzed considering the time delay due to the use of a vision system. In the second level, a chain model is developed, extending the previous pendulum model considering the vibration of the suspending chain. The gain parameters associated with the payload are used from the first level model, and the rest of the parameters related to the state variables of the chain are determined by the pole placement method. The unmeasured state-variables will be determined by a collocated observer.

Another aim is to validate the successful use of the web-camera as capturing sensor, Visual Studio C++ with OpenCV library as a programming tool for image processing, and industrial Programmable Logic Controller as a programming tool for crane control on a laboratory overhead crane.

1.3 Dissertation guide

This work is organized as follows:

Chapter 1 is an introduction to crane systems with a literature review of crane automation followed by motivation and objectives.

Chapter 2, a nonlinear and linear dynamical model of an overhead crane with chain, is formulated, analyzed, and compared. In addition to the payload, the inertia and independent DoF of the suspending chain is considered.

Chapter 3 introducing a new two-level hierarchical approach. At the first level, a simple mathematical pendulum model is investigated considering the time delay due to the use of a vision system. D-subdivision method [81] is applied to determine the stability regions expressed by gain parameters for different time delays. In order to design the controller, the gain parameters associated with the state-space variables of the payload are selected within the stability region. In the second level, a chain model is developed, extending the previous pendulum model considering the vibration of the suspending chain. Only the relative displacement of the payload is measure with a vision sensor, The gain parameters associated with the payload are used from the first level model, and the rest of the parameters related to the state variables of the chain are determined by the pole placement method. The unmeasured state-variables will be determined by a collocated observer.. The objective of this approach is to reduce the load swinging as fast as possible.

Chapter 4 machine vision programs are developed to measure the displacement and swinging angle of the payload using a web-camera as capturing sensor and Visual Studio C++ and OpenCV

library as a programming tool for image processing. The layout of the experimental setup is described.

Chapter 5, an overhead crane model is used to test the proposed control technique. The results of the controlling system for different parameters are analyzed and discussed.

Chapter 6 summary

2. LINEAR AND NONLINEAR DYNAMICAL ANALYSIS OF A CRANE MODEL

This chapter deals with the dynamical analysis of a crane model. A nonlinear and linear dynamical model of an overhead crane with chain is formulated, analyzed, and compared. In addition to the payload, the inertia of the independent DoF of the suspending chain is considered. The finite element method is applied for the formulation of the nonlinear and linear models. The flexible suspending chain has no bending stiffness. The nonlinear model can be derived with the help of truss elements, which can transfer only axial force [82] and perform 2D motions. The linear model practically is a taut string [83], which is also discretized with linear two node elements approximating only lateral motions. The solutions of the linear models are compared to the nonlinear counterpart.

2.1 *Equations of motions of the crane models*

The picture of a crane model is shown in Fig. 2.1. It is assumed that the displacements of the two parallel chains are the same; therefore, a single chain with double mass is a good substitution in a dynamical analysis. The chain is regarded as an elastic, one-dimensional structure and can transmit only axial force along its x_1 coordinate. The motion of the structure in a plane (x, y) is investigated with nonlinear and linear approaches.

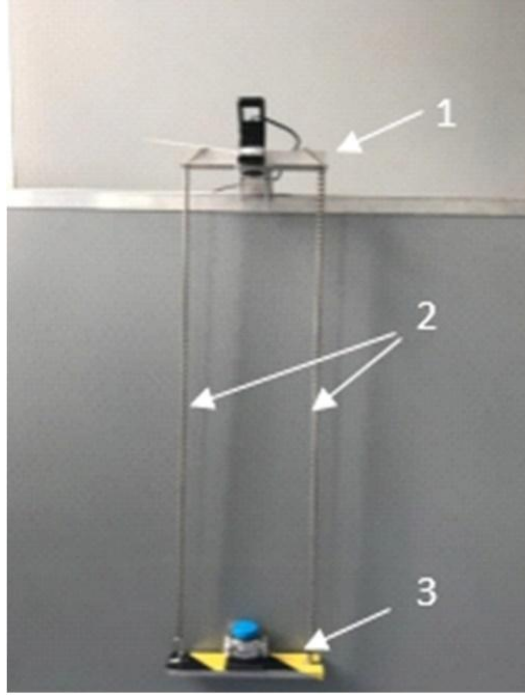


Fig. 2. 1 Part of overhead lab crane model: 1. Trolley; 2. Chains; 3. Payload.

2.1.1 Nonlinear Crane Model

In order to treat the nonlinear model of the overhead crane, an incremental form of the principle of the virtual displacements with updated Lagrangian formulation [82] is used:

$$\int_{V_t} \rho^t \ddot{\mathbf{u}}^{t+\Delta t} \delta \mathbf{u} dV_t + M \ddot{\mathbf{u}}_M^{t+\Delta t} \delta \mathbf{u}_M + \int_{V_t} E e_{11}^t \delta e_{11} dV_t + \int_{V_t} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{11}^t \delta \boldsymbol{\eta}_{11} dV_t = \int_{V_t} \rho^t \mathbf{g} \delta \mathbf{u} dV_t - M \mathbf{g} \delta v_M - \int_{V_t} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{11}^t \delta e_{11} dV_t, \quad (2.1)$$

where ρ^t is the density of the material in the deformed configuration; $\ddot{\mathbf{u}}^{t+\Delta t}$ is a 2D vector of the accelerations at time $t+\Delta t$; $\delta \mathbf{u}$ is the 2D vector of the virtual displacements; V_t is the volume of the structure at time t ; M is the mass of the payload; $\delta \mathbf{u}_M$ is the 2D vector of the virtual displacements of mass M ; \mathbf{g} is the 2D vector of the gravity acceleration; E is the Young modulus; $e_{11}^t = d\bar{u}/dx_1$ is the linear strain measured in the axial direction in deformed configuration at time t ; δe_{11} is the variation of the linear strain at the configuration time t ; $\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{11}^t$ is the Cauchy stress of the one-dimensional structure at time t ; $\delta \boldsymbol{\eta}_{11}$ is the variation of the quadratic portion of the nonlinear strain at the configuration time t . The quadratic portion of the nonlinear strain increment is written as:

$$\delta\eta_{11} = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left[\left(\frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial x_1} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial x_1} \right)^2 \right], \quad (2.2)$$

where \bar{u} and \bar{v} are the increments in displacements in axial x_1 and its perpendicular direction, respectively. It is noted that (2.2) can also be expressed with global Cartesian displacement increments u, v

$$\delta\eta_{11} = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left[\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} \right)^2 \right]. \quad (2.3)$$

Truss elements are used to discretize (2.1). A truss element is a two-node straight line member capable of transferring axial force only. The deformed length of the element is L^t , coordinate ξ measures the distance along with the truss element, positive from node i to node j . The approximations for the axial displacement $\bar{u}^e(\xi)$ and its perpendicular displacement $\bar{v}^e(\xi)$ along the element e are given as:

$$\bar{u}^e(\xi) = \left(1 - \frac{\xi}{L^t} \right) \bar{u}_i + \frac{\xi}{L^t} \bar{u}_j, \quad (2.4)$$

$$\bar{v}^e(\xi) = \left(1 - \frac{\xi}{L^t} \right) \bar{v}_i + \frac{\xi}{L^t} \bar{v}_j. \quad (2.5)$$

where \bar{u}_i, \bar{u}_j and \bar{v}_i, \bar{v}_j are the increments in nodal displacements at element local coordinate system see Fig. 2.2, it is noted that $dx_1 = d\xi$.

The local nodal displacement increments \bar{u}_i, \bar{u}_j and \bar{v}_i, \bar{v}_j can be related to the global Cartesian node displacement increments u_i, u_j and v_i, v_j see Fig. 2.3, via the following transformation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \bar{u}_i \\ \bar{u}_j \\ \bar{v}_i \\ \bar{v}_j \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{x_j - x_i}{L^t} & \frac{y_j - y_i}{L^t} & 0 & 0 \\ -\frac{y_j - y_i}{L^t} & \frac{x_j - x_i}{L^t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{x_j - x_i}{L^t} & \frac{y_j - y_i}{L^t} \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{y_j - y_i}{L^t} & \frac{x_j - x_i}{L^t} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_i \\ u_j \\ v_i \\ v_j \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2.6)$$

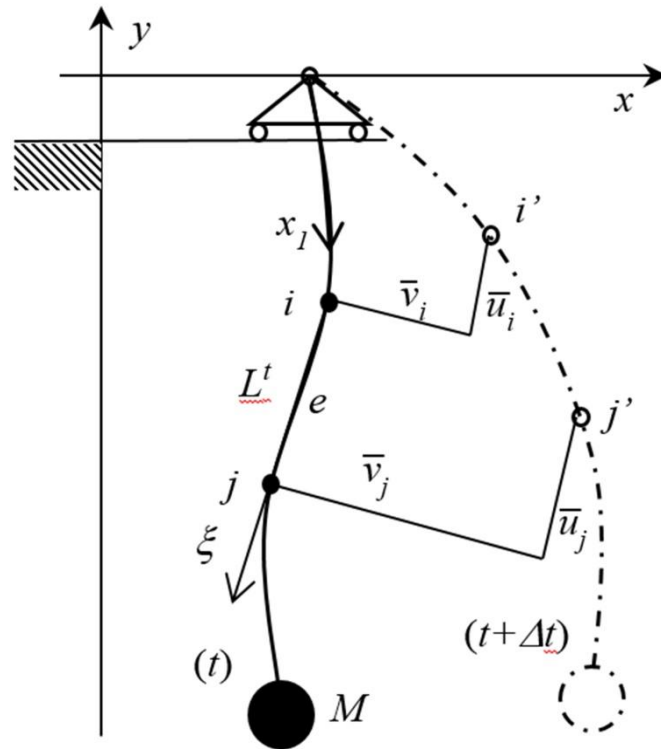


Fig. 2. 2 Increments in nodal displacements of the nonlinear model given by local coordinates.

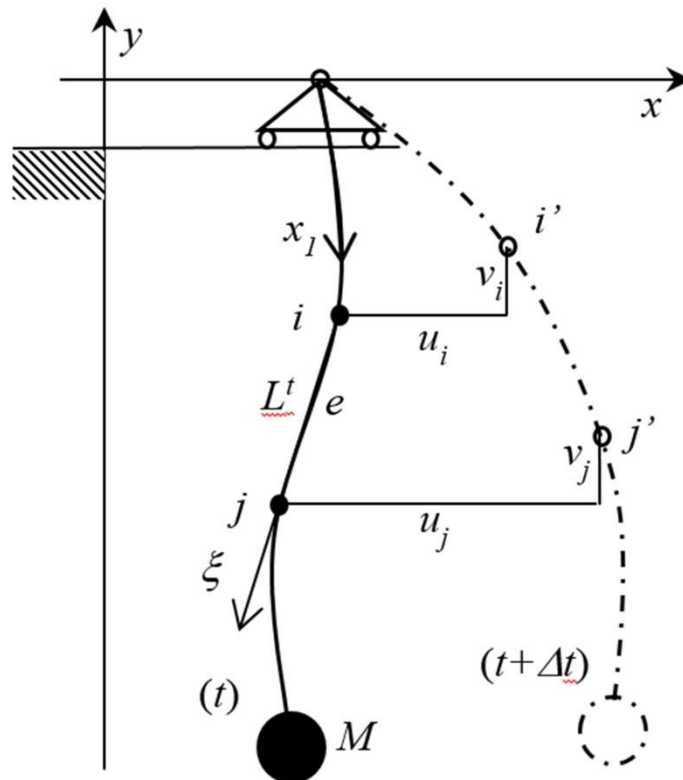


Fig. 2. 3 Increments in nodal displacements of the nonlinear model given by global coordinates.

It is also noted that the relation between the nodal forces in local and global coordinates are expressed similar way as (2.6), only the nodal displacements are replaced with nodal forces. The same transformation is also valid for the nodal accelerations.

The global Cartesian displacements in (2.3) and accelerations in (2.1) are approximated by the same linear interpolation functions as in (2.4) and (2.5):

$$u^e(\xi) = \left(1 - \frac{\xi}{L^t}\right)u_i + \frac{\xi}{L^t}u_j, \quad (2.7)$$

$$v^e(\xi) = \left(1 - \frac{\xi}{L^t}\right)v_i + \frac{\xi}{L^t}v_j, \quad (2.8)$$

$$\ddot{u}^e(\xi) = \left(1 - \frac{\xi}{L^t}\right)\ddot{u}_i + \frac{\xi}{L^t}\ddot{u}_j, \quad (2.9)$$

$$\ddot{v}^e(\xi) = \left(1 - \frac{\xi}{L^t}\right)\ddot{v}_i + \frac{\xi}{L^t}\ddot{v}_j, \quad (2.10)$$

where $\ddot{u}_i, \ddot{u}_j, \ddot{v}_i, \ddot{v}_j$ are nodal accelerations

The coordinates of the vector of displacement variation are $\delta\mathbf{u}$ approximated in the same way as the functions of (2.4), (2.5) and (2.7), (2.8).

Using (2.2)-(2.10) to determine the integrals in (2.1), it provides element mass matrix:

$$\bar{\mathbf{M}}_e = \frac{\rho^t A^t L^t}{6} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2.11)$$

Linear stiffness matrix $\bar{\mathbf{K}}_{Le}$:

$$\bar{\mathbf{K}}_{Le} = \frac{A^t E}{L^t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2.12)$$

Geometric element stiffness matrices $\bar{\mathbf{K}}_{Ge}$:

$$\bar{\mathbf{K}}_{Ge} = \frac{A^t \sigma_{11}}{L^t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2.13)$$

The external and internal load vectors $\bar{\mathbf{f}}_{Ge}$, $\bar{\mathbf{f}}_{\sigma e}$ in element local coordinate system:

$$\bar{\mathbf{f}}_{Ge} = -\frac{g\rho^t A^t L^t}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{y_j - y_i}{L^t} \\ \frac{x_j - x_i}{L^t} \\ \frac{y_j - y_i}{L^t} \\ \frac{x_j - x_i}{L^t} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2.14)$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{f}}_{\sigma e} = A^t \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{11}^t \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2.15)$$

where $A^t \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{11}^t = N^t$ is the axial force of the truss element.

The element matrices are transformed to the global Cartesian coordinate system with the help of (2.6) then assembled according to the usual FEM process. The obtained equation of motion associated to (1) is written in matrix form as follows:

$$\mathbf{M}^{t+\Delta t} \ddot{\mathbf{q}} + (\mathbf{K}_L^t + \mathbf{K}_G^t) \Delta \mathbf{q} = \mathbf{f}_g^{t+\Delta t} - \mathbf{f}_{\sigma}^t, \quad (2.16)$$

where $\mathbf{M}^{t+\Delta t}$ is the structural mass matrix; \mathbf{K}_L^t and \mathbf{K}_G^t are the structural linear and geometric stiffness matrices; $\mathbf{f}_g^{t+\Delta t}$ is the structural column vector of external loads; \mathbf{f}_{σ}^t is the structural column vector of internal loads; $\ddot{\mathbf{q}}$ is the structural column vector of nodal accelerations; $\Delta \mathbf{q}$ is the structural column vector of the increments in nodal displacements. It is noted that the mass matrix is a constant matrix, i.e., it is time-invariant $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}^{t+\Delta t}$, since the mass of the structure does not change in time.

The equation of motion (2.16) can be integrated numerically, e.g., by the Newmark method. The steps of this method [82] are summarized as follows:

I. Initially, the stiffness matrices \mathbf{K}_L^t \mathbf{K}_G^t and the mass matrix \mathbf{M} are formed and set the initial value of the displacements \mathbf{q}^0 , the velocity $\dot{\mathbf{q}}^0$, and the accelerations $\ddot{\mathbf{q}}^0$.

II. Form of the effective stiffness matrix at time t

$$\hat{\mathbf{K}} = \mathbf{K}_L^t + \mathbf{K}_G^t + \frac{4}{\Delta t^2} \mathbf{M}. \quad (2.17)$$

III. Form of the effective load vector $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$ at time $t+\Delta t$

$$\hat{\mathbf{f}} = \mathbf{f}_g^{t+\Delta t} + \mathbf{M} \left(\frac{4}{\Delta t} \mathbf{q}^t + \dot{\mathbf{q}}^t \right) - \mathbf{f}_\sigma^t. \quad (2.18)$$

IV. Solve the linear equation for the displacement increment $\Delta \mathbf{q}_{(0)}$

$$\hat{\mathbf{K}} \Delta \mathbf{q}_{(i)} = \hat{\mathbf{f}}, \quad \text{where } i = 0. \quad (2.19)$$

V. Iteration for dynamic equilibrium

(a) $i = i + 1$

(b) Calculate $(i-1)\Delta t$ approximation to accelerations, velocities, and displacements

$$\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{(i-1)}^{t+\Delta t} = \frac{4}{\Delta t^2} \Delta \mathbf{q}_{(i-1)} - \frac{4}{\Delta t} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^t - \ddot{\mathbf{q}}^t, \quad (2.20)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}}_{(i-1)}^{t+\Delta t} = \frac{4}{\Delta t} \Delta \mathbf{q}_{(i-1)} - \dot{\mathbf{q}}^t, \quad (2.21)$$

$$\mathbf{q}_{(i-1)}^{t+\Delta t} = \Delta \mathbf{q}_{(i-1)} + \mathbf{q}^t. \quad (2.21)$$

(c) Calculate $(i-1)\Delta t$ effective out of balance load vector

$$\hat{\mathbf{f}}_{(i-1)}^{t+\Delta t} = \mathbf{f}_g^{t+\Delta t} - \mathbf{M} \ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{(i-1)}^{t+\Delta t} - \mathbf{f}_\sigma^{t+\Delta t}. \quad (2.23)$$

(d) Solve for the i 'th correction to displacement increment

$$\hat{\mathbf{K}} \Delta \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{(i)} = \hat{\mathbf{f}}_{(i-1)}^{t+\Delta t}. \quad (2.24)$$

(e) Calculate new displacement increments

$$\Delta \mathbf{q}_{(i)} = \Delta \mathbf{q}_{(i-1)} + \Delta \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{(i)}. \quad (2.25)$$

(f) Iteration is terminated if $\frac{\|\Delta \hat{\mathbf{q}}_{(i)}\|_2}{\|\mathbf{q}_{(i)}^{t+\Delta t}\|_2} \leq tol$ otherwise back to step (a). The value of tol is

prescribed by the user. Its magnitude is 10^{-6}

VI. If convergence $\Delta \mathbf{q} = \Delta \mathbf{q}_{(i)}$, then accelerations, velocities, and displacements are determined as:

$$\ddot{\mathbf{q}}^{t+\Delta t} = \frac{4}{\Delta t^2} \Delta \mathbf{q} - \frac{4}{\Delta t} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^t - \ddot{\mathbf{q}}^t, \quad (2.26)$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}}^{t+\Delta t} = \mathbf{q}^t + 0.5 \Delta t \left(\ddot{\mathbf{q}}^t + \ddot{\mathbf{q}}^{t+\Delta t} \right), \quad (2.27)$$

$$\mathbf{q}^{t+\Delta t} = \mathbf{q}^t + \Delta \mathbf{q}. \quad (2.28)$$

Then increase the time with Δt and jump to step II.

2.1.2 Linear crane model

Usually, the linear counterpart of the nonlinear equation of motion is needed in order to design a controller for a dynamic system. The crane model made of chain shown in Fig. 2.4 can be regarded as a taut string, which suffers relatively small lateral displacements. The axial force of the string due to gravity force is calculated in the rest position and assumed to be constant in the course of its motion.

The linear equation (1D model) of motion of the crane can be derived by the help of the virtual displacements written for a taut string

$$\int_{V_0} \rho_0 \ddot{u}^t \delta u dV_0 + M \ddot{u}_M^t \delta u + \int_{V_0} \sigma_{11}^0 \delta \left(\frac{1}{2} u_t^2 \right) dV_0 = R^t, \quad (2.29)$$

where ρ_0 is the density of the material at time zero; \ddot{u}^t is the acceleration function in lateral direction; i.e. in horizontal direction at time t ; δu is the virtual lateral displacement function; V_0 is the volume of the structure at time $t=0$; M is the mass of the payload; \ddot{u}_M^t and δu_M is the acceleration and virtual lateral displacements of mass M ; σ_{11}^0 is the function of the axial stress due to gravity force determined in the rest position of the crane; and R^t is the virtual work of the external force obtained from displacement control.

One dimensional linear line elements are used to discretize (2.29). The horizontal displacement is approximated along an element in local coordinate system:

$$u^e(\xi) = \left(1 - \frac{\xi}{L^0} \right) u_i + \frac{\xi}{L^0} u_j, \quad (2.30)$$

where u_i, u_j are the horizontal nodal displacements of the element e .

The horizontal acceleration along an element is also approximated with the same interpolation functions

$$\ddot{u}^e(\xi) = \left(1 - \frac{\xi}{L^0} \right) \ddot{u}_i + \frac{\xi}{L^0} \ddot{u}_j, \quad (2.31)$$

where \ddot{u}_i, \ddot{u}_j are horizontal nodal accelerations of the element e .

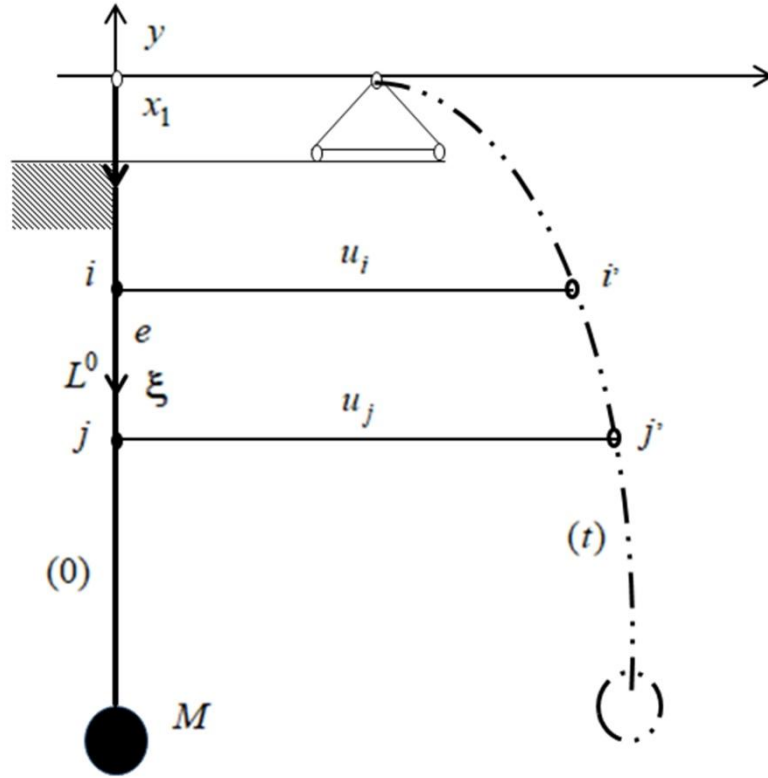


Fig. 2. 4 Nodal displacements of the linear model.

Substituting (2.30) and (2.31) into (2.29) the element mass matrix \mathbf{M}^e and stiffness matrix \mathbf{K}^e can be derived

$$\mathbf{M}^e = \frac{\rho^0 A^0 L^0}{6} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2.32)$$

$$\mathbf{K}^e = A^0 \sigma_{11} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2.33)$$

$$\mathbf{q}^e = \begin{bmatrix} u_i \\ u_j \end{bmatrix}, \quad \ddot{\mathbf{q}}^e = \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{u}_i \\ \ddot{u}_j \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2.34)$$

where \mathbf{q}^e is the element nodal displacement vector and $\ddot{\mathbf{q}}^e$ is the element nodal acceleration vector, which is generated directly by the global Cartesian horizontal displacement approximation; therefore, no transformation is needed before assembling the structural matrices.

The linear equation of motion of the crane model is written as:

$$\mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{q}} + \mathbf{K}\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{f}^t, \quad (2.35)$$

where \mathbf{M} and \mathbf{K} are the structural mass and stiffness matrices, \mathbf{f} is the column vector of the external forces due to displacement control, \mathbf{q} is the structural vector of nodal displacements, $\ddot{\mathbf{q}}$ is the structural vector of nodal accelerations.

The linear differential equation (2.35) can also be given in state-space form introducing new variables $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{x}_1$ and $\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{x}_2$:

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}u, \quad (2.36)$$

where $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \\ -\mathbf{M}^{-1}\mathbf{K} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{b}u = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -\mathbf{M}^{-1}\mathbf{f}^t \end{bmatrix}$, and \mathbf{I} is a unit matrix.

Numerical integration of (2.36) can be performed with a number of standard methods, e.g., Runge-Kutta method or trapezoid rule, using Matlab or Scilab software system.

2.2 Numerical examples

Nonlinear and linear FEM programs have been developed using the above theory. The length of the chains is 0.8 m, and it is subdivided into ten uniform finite elements. The linear version will also be analyzed with an FE mesh of two elements chain models. The mass of the chain is 0.22 kg, and two different payloads are exerted on the crane. The heavy one is 0.42 kg, the light one is 0.07 kg.

In order to compare their performances, a simple crane motion will be simulated. In the beginning, the trolley is moving with constant velocity $v_1 = 0.8\text{m/s}$ along the length $x_1 = 0.8\text{m}$, and then it stops suddenly. After that, the payload and the suspending chain will swing freely.

Motions of the cranes obtained for heavy payload using linear and nonlinear models are displayed in Fig. 2.5 and Fig. 2.6. It is clearly seen that the payload performs only horizontal motions in Fig. 2.6. However, the deformed shapes of the chains for both models are comparable in both Figures.

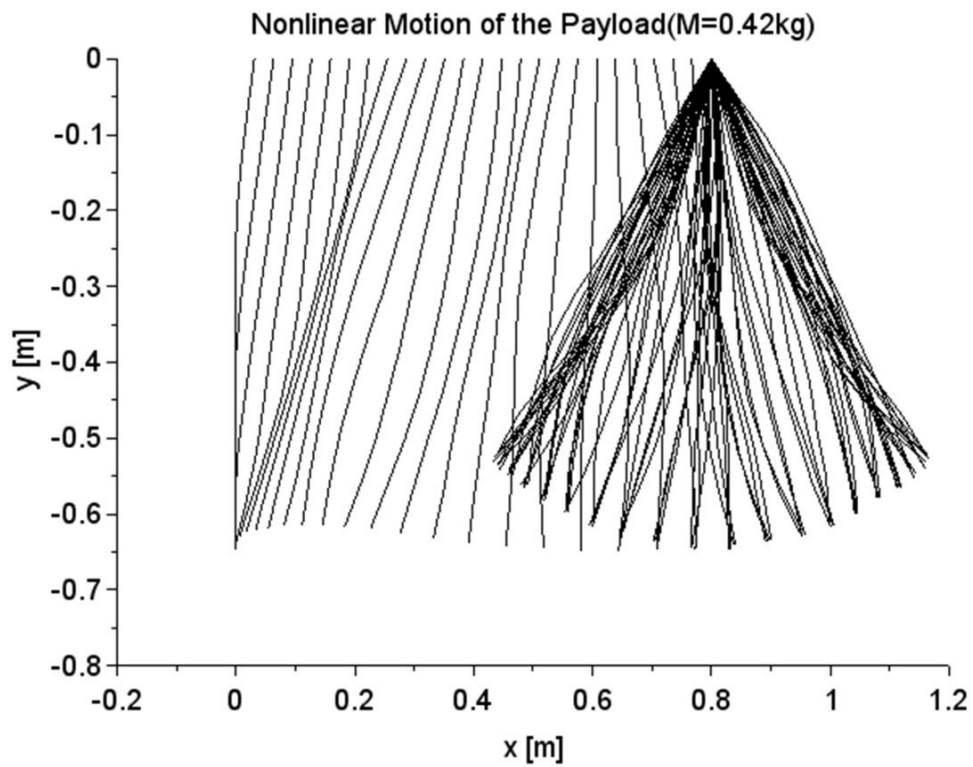


Fig. 2. 5 Position and shape of the chain during the motion for a nonlinear model.

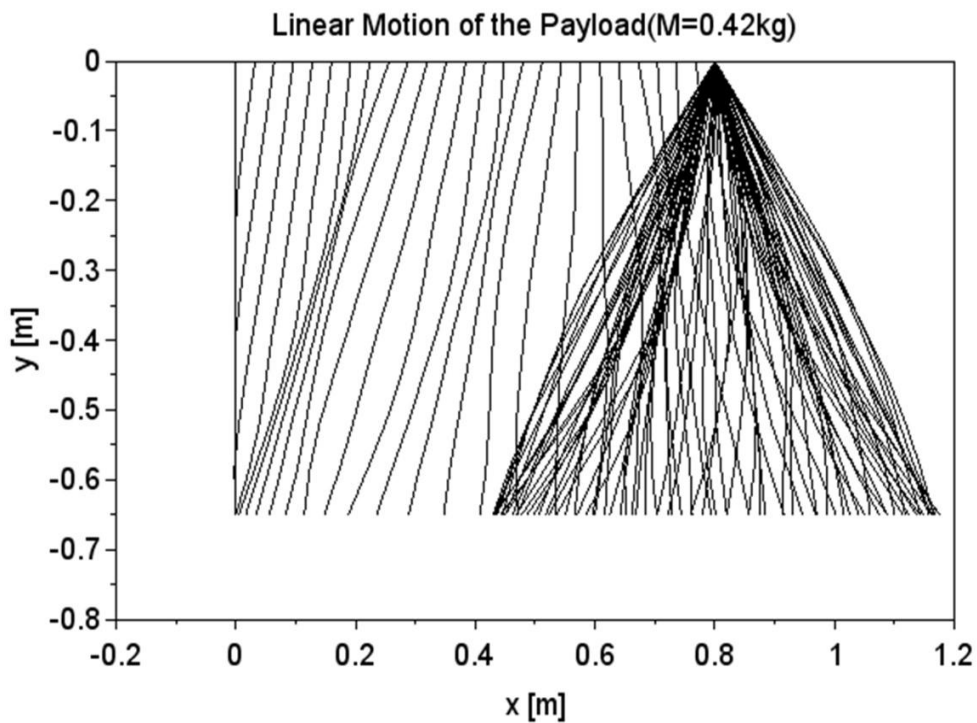


Fig. 2. 6 Position and shape of the chain during the motion of a linear model.

The computations of the next experiment have been performed for heavy and light payloads. The results are given in reference coordinate system and in relative coordinate system attached to the trolley, which is called in the sequel absolute and relative motions, respectively. The absolute and relative motions of the payloads and the relative motions of the middle of the chain are shown in Fig. 2.7 - Fig. 2.12.

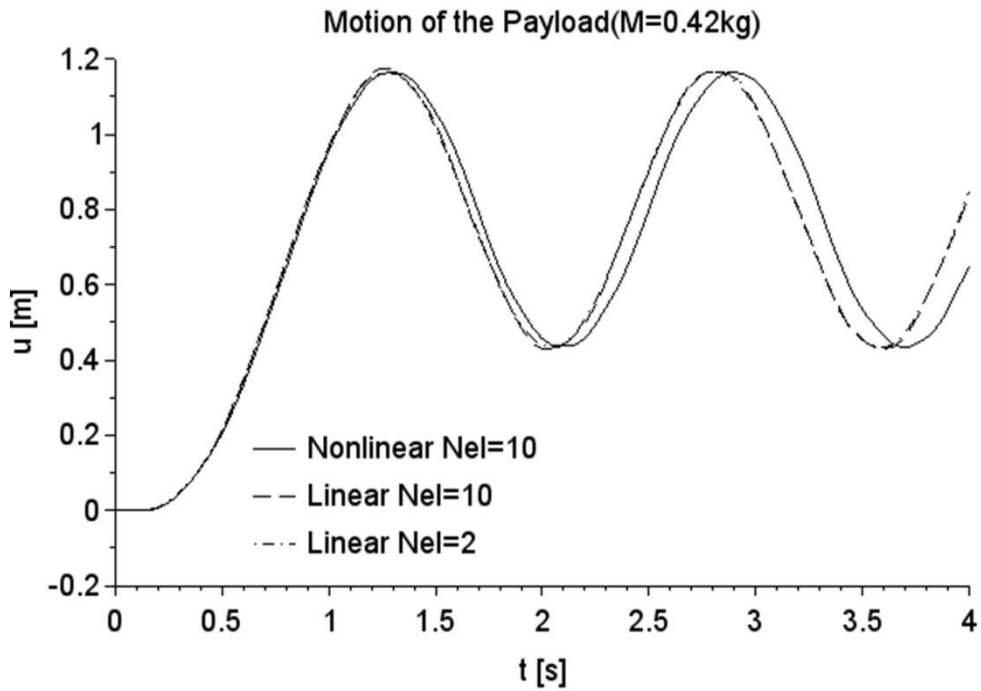


Fig. 2. 7 Absolute motion of heavy payload.

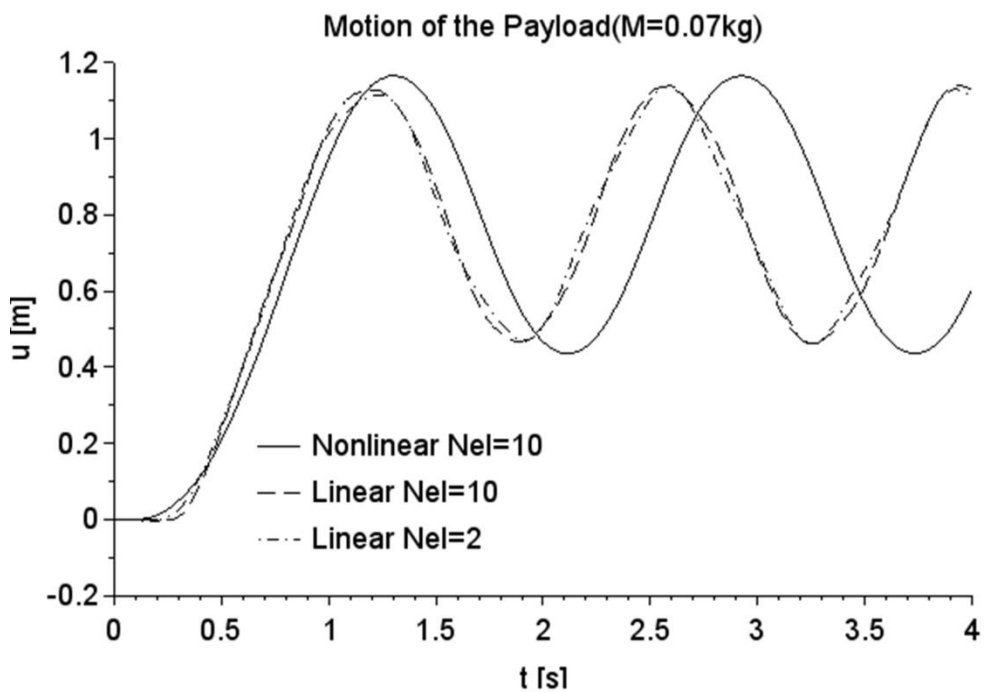


Fig. 2. 8 Absolute motion of light payload.

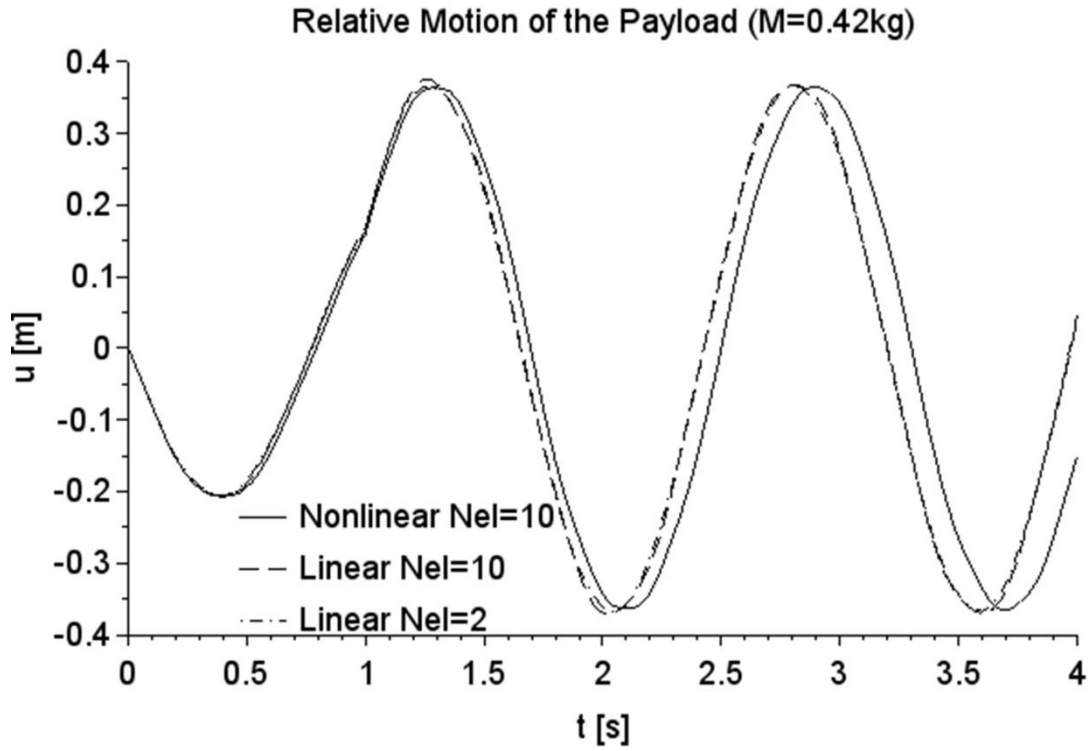


Fig. 2. 9 Relative motion of heavy payload.

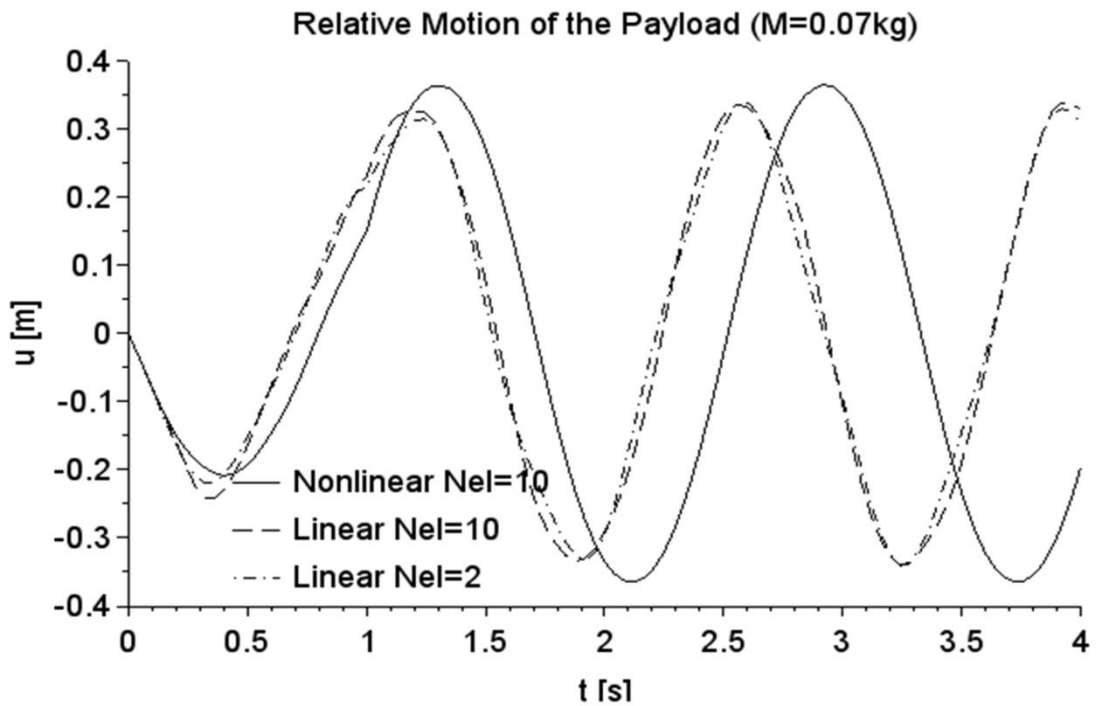


Fig. 2. 10 Relative motion of the light payload.

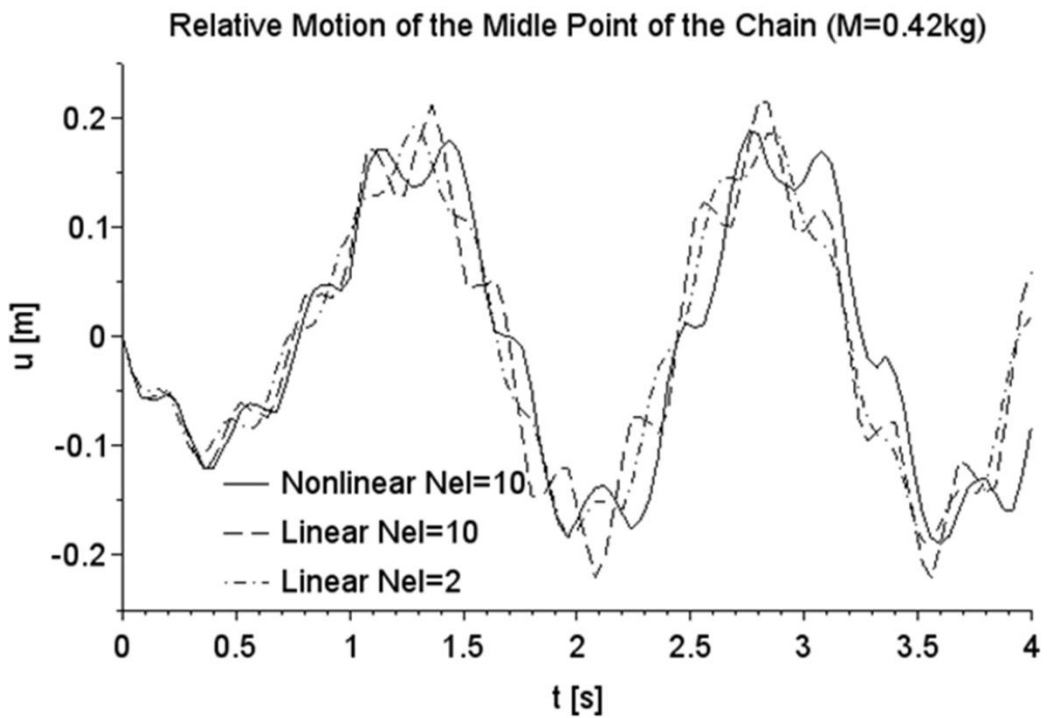


Fig. 2. 11 Relative motions of the middle point of the chain for heavy payload model.

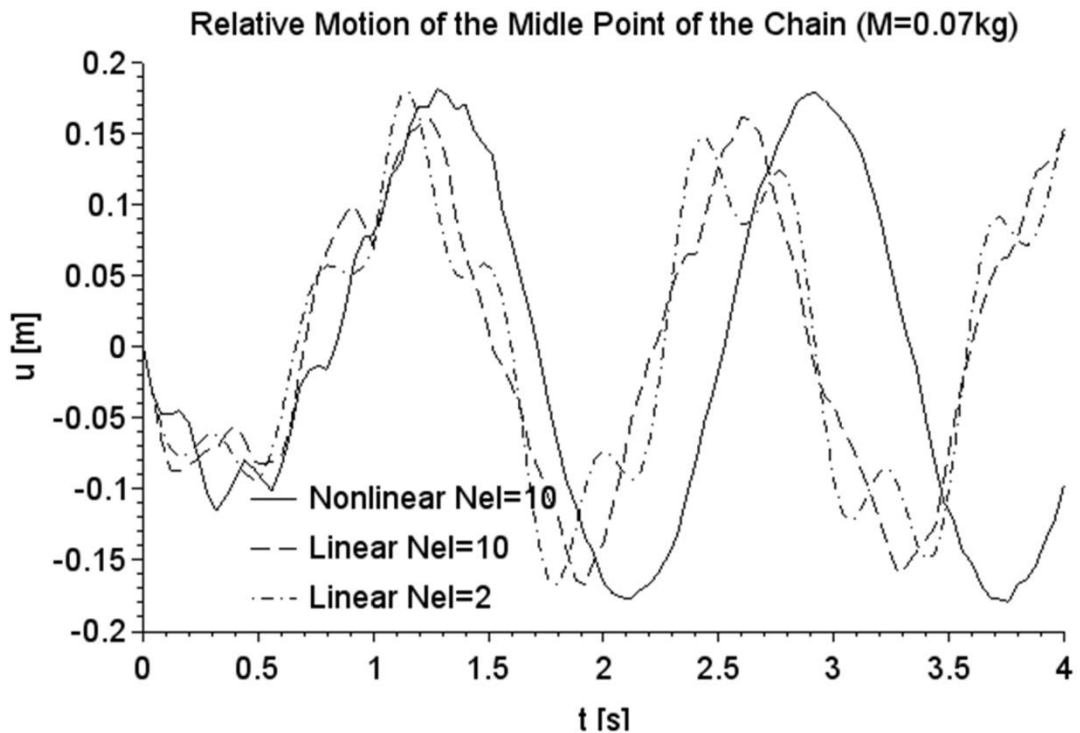


Fig. 2. 12 Relative motions of the middle point of the chain for light payload model.

The displacements of nonlinear and linear models for heavy payload show good agreement in Fig. 2.7 and Fig. 2.9, while the discrepancies are more significant for the light one in Fig. 2.8 and Fig. 2.10.

It is clear from Fig. 2.11 and Fig. 2.12 that the chain vibration is significant. The discrepancies between the nonlinear and linear models are negligible for the heavy payload, in the beginning, see Fig. 2.11, and then only a relatively small shift can be detected later on. Except, in the beginning, the results of chain vibrations are less similar for light payload see Fig. 2.12. However, during the controlling of the crane, the displacement of the payload is enforced to be close to the real motion of the crane. Therefore, a small shift in the solution is not a significant problem. The linear model with two finite elements also provided acceptable results compared to ten element mesh; therefore, it is an excellent candidate to use as an observer.

3. CONTROLLING OF TROLLEY POSITION AND PAYLOAD SWINGING OF AN OVERHEAD CRANE

3.1 *Mathematical pendulum model of the overhead crane*

The model of the first level of the proposed hierarchical controller is described using a simple mathematical pendulum.

The motion of the crane payload in Fig. 3.1 can be written as:

$$x_M = u + x_r \quad (3.1)$$

$$x_M = u + L \sin \theta \quad (3.2)$$

$$y_M = -L \cos \theta \quad (3.3)$$

where u is the prescribed position of the trolley, L , θ are the length and the angle of the pendulum, respectively, x_M, x_r are the horizontal absolute and relative positions of the payload M , respectively.

The Lagrangian approach is used to derive the mathematical model. The kinetic energy T and the potential energy V of the system:

$$T = \frac{1}{2} M v^2 \quad (3.4)$$

$$V = -M g L \cos \theta \quad (3.5)$$

where g is the gravity acceleration, and the velocity v of the load is calculated as:

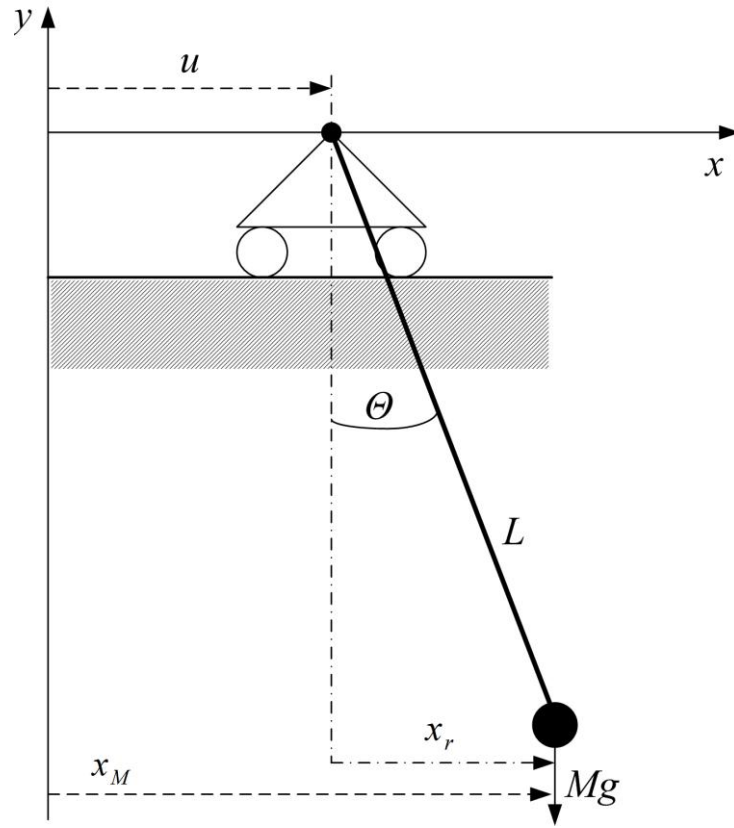


Fig.3. 1 Overhead-crane model ($L=0.8$ m, $M=0.419$ kg).

$$v^2 = \dot{x}_M^2 + \dot{y}_M^2 \quad (3.6)$$

The Lagrangian function L_g is written as:

$$L_g = \frac{1}{2} M \left(L^2 \dot{\theta}^2 + 2\dot{u} L \dot{\theta} \cos \theta + \dot{u}^2 \right) + M g L \cos \theta \quad (3.7)$$

then it is inserted into the Euler-Lagrange's equation of the second kind:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L_g}{\partial \dot{\theta}} \right) - \frac{\partial L_g}{\partial \theta} = 0 \quad (3.8)$$

which gives a nonlinear equation of motion for the overhead crane model:

$$M L^2 \ddot{\theta} + M \dot{u} L \cos \theta + M g L \sin \theta = 0 \quad (3.9)$$

The equation (3.9) can be simplified assuming $\sin \theta \approx \theta$; $\cos \theta \approx 1$:

$$\ddot{\theta} + \frac{g}{L} \theta = -\frac{\dot{u}}{L} \quad (3.10)$$

Since the position of the payload is controlled by the motion u of trolley, the following approximation is substituted in equation (3.10):

$$\theta \cong \sin \theta = \frac{x_r}{L} = \frac{x_M - u}{L} \quad (3.11)$$

The resulting equation of motion is expressed by the position x of the payload

$$\ddot{x}_M + \frac{g}{L} x_M = \frac{g}{L} u \quad (3.12)$$

The main objective is to determine u the position of the trolley in equation (3.12) as a function of time to decrease the oscillation of the pendulum considering the delay of the system.

In order to design anti-swing control of the payload, the state variables must be measured. The experimental setup contains a machine vision system that is mounted on the trolley, and it determines the relative displacement of the payload. The measured data is sent to a PLC via Arduino Nano and D/A converter with a sample rate. The position of the trolley is updated in each time step Δt from the initial to a target position x_T . It means that the state feedback has a delay τ , which must be considered.

The control signal u is defined by the state feedback:

$$u(t) = -k_1 (x_M(t - \tau) - x_T) - k_2 \dot{x}_r(t - \tau) + \dot{x}_T \quad (3.13)$$

Substituting equation (3.13) into equation (3.12) and taking into consideration equation (3.1), the equation of motion with delay is obtained:

$$\ddot{x}_M(t) + \frac{g}{L} x_M(t) + \frac{g}{L} k_1 x_M(t - \tau) + \frac{g}{L} k_2 \dot{x}_M(t - \tau) = \frac{g}{L} [k_2 \dot{u}(t) + (k_1 + 1) x_T]. \quad (3.14)$$

Characteristic of equation (3.14) is written in Laplacian domain:

$$s^2 + \frac{g}{L} + \frac{g}{L} k_1 e^{-s\tau} + \frac{g}{L} k_2 s e^{-s\tau} = 0 \quad (3.15)$$

In order to use D-subdivision method, we substitute $s=(i\omega)$ into equation (3.15), after straightforward manipulations, the gain parameters can be separated and expressed as a functions of ω :

$$k_1 = \left(\frac{L}{g} \omega^2 - 1 \right) \cos(\omega\tau) \quad (3.16)$$

$$k_2 = \left(\frac{L}{g} \omega^2 - 1 \right) \sin(\omega\tau) \quad (3.17)$$

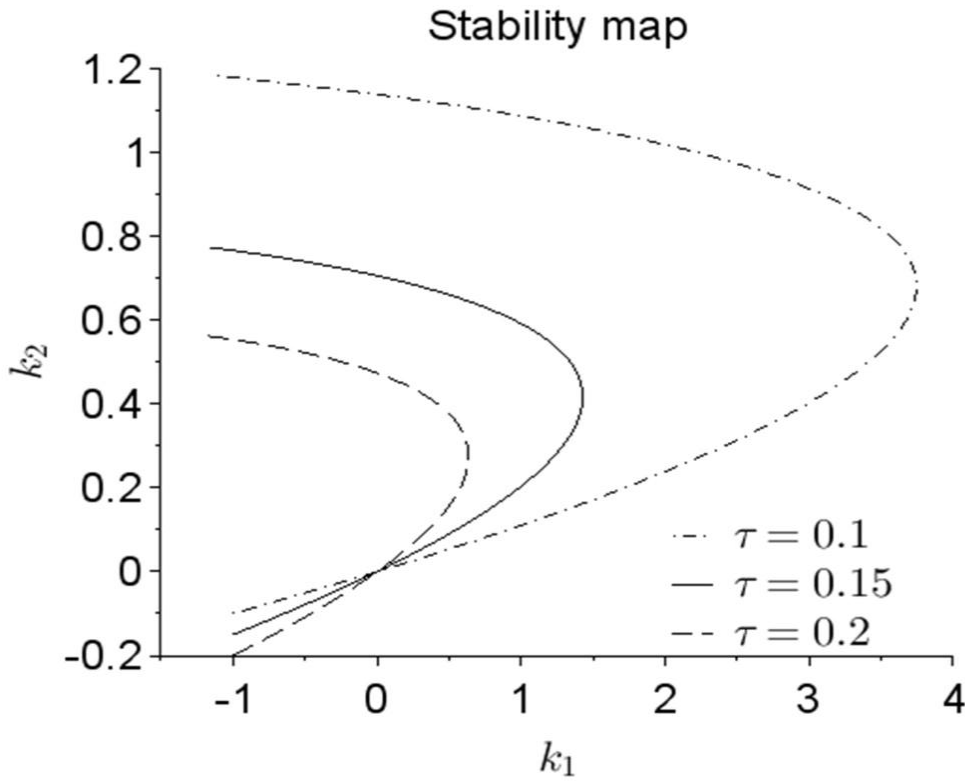


Fig.3. 2 Stability regions for different delays.

The gain parameters in equations (3.16) and (3.17) determine stability regions of the system for different time delays τ (0.1 s; 0.15 s; 0.2 s), as shown in Fig. 3.2. The higher the time delay, the smaller the stability region.

Equation (3.12) can be written also in state space form with state variables $x_1=x$ and $x_2=\dot{x}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{g}{L} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{g}{L} \end{bmatrix} u \quad (3.18)$$

where the gravity acceleration $g=9.81 \text{ m.s}^2$.

It can be seen from Fig. 3.2 that the curves of the stability regions are intersecting each other at points $k_1=0, k_2=0$. The size of the stability region is shrinking as the time delay is increasing. Therefore, choosing the parameters approximately at the vicinity $-2 < K_1 < 0$ and $K_2=0$ will make the system stable and robust since it remains in a stable state with a high range of time delay. The gains of a non-delayed linear system can be determined, e.g., using the pole placement method with MATLAB or Scilab software. According to the control theory, if the poles of the transfer function are located on the left half-space of the complex domain, the linear system is stable. Prescribing the poles as $p_{1,2} = -0.12 \pm i2.5$, it provides gain parameters $k_1 = -0.5, k_2 = 0.02$, which are within the stable region of Fig. 3.2 for different time delays.

This way the stability of the system is granted. Equation (3.18) can be solved with its discrete-time state-space equation with time step Δt , which is proportional with the delay of feedback:

$$\mathbf{x}[n+1] = \mathbf{A}_D \mathbf{x}[n] + \mathbf{b}_D u[n]; \quad \mathbf{y}[n] = \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}[n] \quad (3.19)$$

It is noted that in equation (3.19) the state variables of the feedback are given in time step $n-1$ in order to consider the delay $\tau = \Delta t$.

$$u[n] = -[k_1 (x_M[n-1] - x_T) + k_2 \dot{x}_r[n-1]] + x_T \quad (3.20)$$

$$\text{where } \mathbf{x}[k] = \begin{bmatrix} x_1[k] \\ x_2[k] \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{A}_D = \begin{bmatrix} 0.8651897 & 0.1431969 \\ -1.7559517 & 0.8651897 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{b}_D = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1348103 \\ 1.7559517 \end{bmatrix}$$

are determined using Scilab software with $\Delta t = 0.15$ s.

In the right-hand side of the equation (3.20) the variables are taken in time step $n-1$ instead of n due to time delay $\tau = 0.15$ s. The results obtained for the control $u[n]$ and $x_r[n]$ are shown in Fig. 3.3 and Fig. 3.4. The displacement of the trolley is shown in Fig. 3.3, while the Fig. 3.4 displays the displacement of the payload relative to the trolley. The simulation shows that the proposed controller provides good active damping; the vibration of the payload is suppressed effectively within 5 seconds.

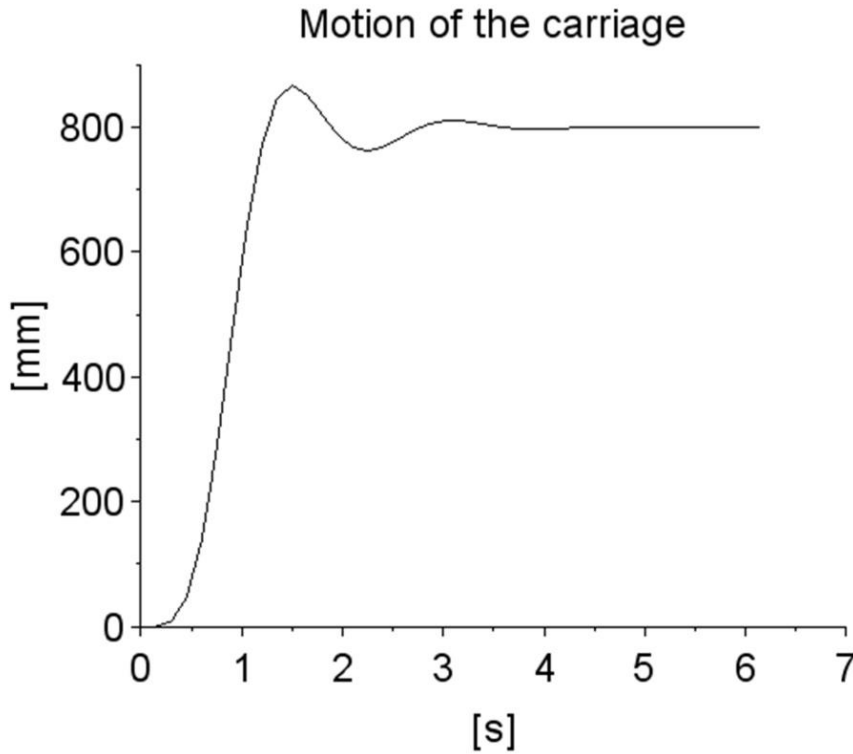


Fig.3. 3 Simulation of anti-swing control of overhead crane model motion of the carriage.

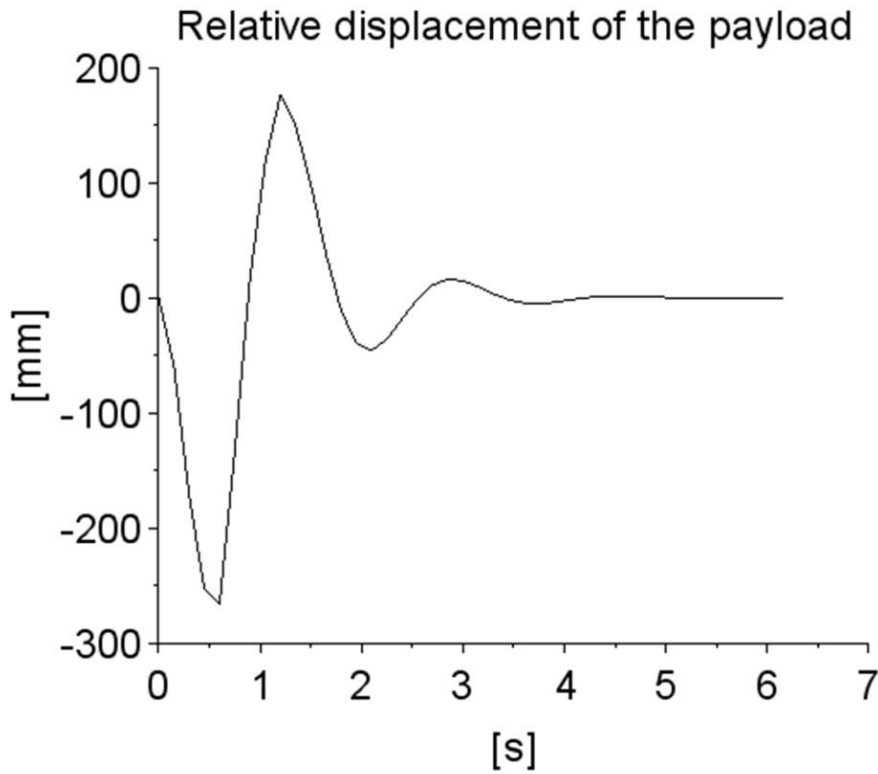


Fig.3. 4 Simulation of anti-swing control of overhead crane model displacement of the payload.

The payload will inevitably be dominant in an extended model, where the suspending chain will be considered in the next section. Therefore, the gain parameters $k_1=-0.5$, $k_2=0.02$ related to the payload state variables will be used in the extended model.

3.2 Formulation of chain model

The second level of the hierarchical approach will be described. In the extended model, the vibrations of the payload and the suspending chains are considered with a linear model of a taut string. The mass of the chain is $m_L=0.22$ kg. It is assumed that the displacement of the payload is negligible in the vertical direction compared to the horizontal one.

The force in the chain due to gravity is calculated as:

$$F(y) = (M + \mu L)g - y\mu g \quad (3.21)$$

where $\mu=m_L.L$ is the linear mass density of the chain, y is the vertical coordinate of the payload.

The Lagrangian of the whole structure is written as:

$$L_g = T - V = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{-L} \mu \left[\frac{\partial x(y,t)}{\partial t} \right]^2 dy + \frac{1}{2} M \dot{x}_M^2 - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{-L} F(y) \left[\frac{\partial x(y,t)}{\partial y} \right]^2 dy \quad (3.22)$$

The chain in Fig. 3.5 can be discretized with two-node linear line elements. The lateral displacement is approximated with the following linear interpolation:

$$x^e(\xi) = \left(1 - \frac{\xi}{L^e}\right)x_i^e + \frac{\xi}{L^e}x_j^e \quad (3.23)$$

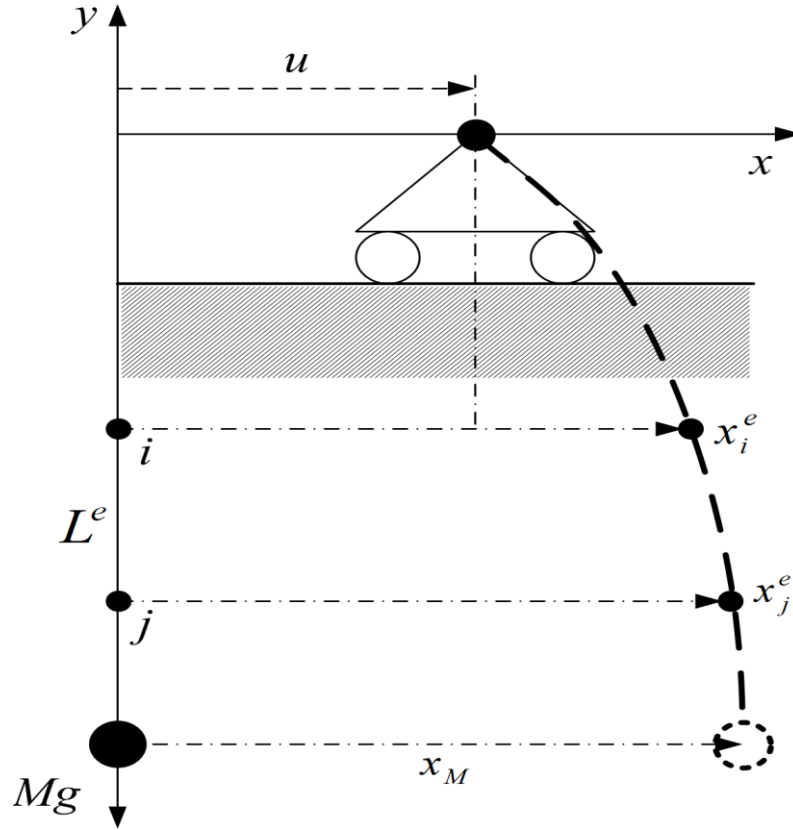


Fig.3. 5 Overhead-crane model ($L=0.8$ m, $M=0.419$ kg, $m_2=0.22$ kg).

The chain where ξ is a local coordinate of element e , L^e is the length of one element, x_i^e , x_j^e are its lateral nodal displacements. It is noted that the local coordinate ξ is measured in direction y and their elementary lengths are equal $d\xi = dy$.

Substituting equation (3.23) into equation (3.22), the Lagrangian can be expressed with finite element matrices:

$$\begin{aligned} L_g &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{e=1}^{Ne} \int_0^{L^e} \mu \left[\frac{\partial x^e(\xi, t)}{\partial t} \right]^2 d\xi + \frac{1}{2} M \dot{x}_M^2 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{e=1}^{Ne} \int_0^{L^e} F^e(\xi) \left[\frac{\partial x(\xi, t)}{\partial \xi} \right]^2 d\xi \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{e=1}^{Ne} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^{eT} \mathbf{M}^e \dot{\mathbf{q}}^e + \frac{1}{2} M \dot{x}_M^2 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{e=1}^{Ne} \mathbf{q}^{eT} \mathbf{K}^e \mathbf{q}^e \end{aligned} \quad (3.24)$$

where \mathbf{q}^e is the vector of element nodal displacement, \mathbf{M}^e is the element mass matrix, and \mathbf{K}^e is the element stiffness matrix:

$$\mathbf{q}^e = \begin{bmatrix} x_i \\ x_j \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{M}^e = \mu L^e \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{K}^e = \frac{F^e}{L^e} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.25)$$

The chain is subdivided into elements $N_e=2$; therefore, $x_M=x_3$, $x_1=u$, and x_2 denote the lateral displacement of the middle of the chain. Performing the Finite Element Method assembly for the two finite elements and for the payload, the Lagrangian is obtained in matrix form:

$$L_g = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{M} \dot{\mathbf{q}} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{K} \mathbf{q} \quad (3.26)$$

$$\text{where } \mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \dot{\mathbf{q}} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{u} \\ \dot{x}_2 \\ \dot{x}_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Substituting equation (3.24) to Lagrange equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L_g}{\partial \dot{x}_i} \right) - \frac{\partial L_g}{\partial x_i} = 0 \quad i = 2, 3 \quad (3.27)$$

The following equation of motion is obtained in matrix form

$$\bar{\mathbf{M}} \ddot{\mathbf{q}} + \bar{\mathbf{K}} \mathbf{q} = \mathbf{b}_1 u + \mathbf{b}_2 \ddot{u} \quad (3.28)$$

$$\text{where } \bar{\mathbf{M}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2\mu L^e}{3} & \frac{\mu L^e}{6} \\ \frac{\mu L^e}{6} & \frac{\mu L^e}{3} + M \end{bmatrix}; \quad \bar{\mathbf{K}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{F^1 + F^2}{L^e} & -\frac{F^1}{L^e} \\ -\frac{F^2}{L^e} & \frac{F^2}{L^e} \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{b}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{F^1}{L^e} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{b}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{\mu L^e}{6} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

For the sake of simplicity, the consistent mass matrix in equation (3.28) can be replaced by a so-called lumped mass matrix, which is a diagonal matrix:

$$\bar{\mathbf{M}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mu L^e & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\mu L^e}{2} + M \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{b}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.29)$$

In control theory, the state space form of the differential equation (3.28) is preferred, which is shown as:

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b} u \quad (3.30)$$

$$\text{where } \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \\ -\bar{\mathbf{M}}^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{K}} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \bar{\mathbf{M}}^{-1} \mathbf{b}_1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{q} \\ \dot{\mathbf{q}} \end{bmatrix}.$$

In this model, the state vector contains four state variables.

The objective of controlling the motion of the trolley is to damp the excessive swing of the payload within a short time. To achieve this, the following state feedback is used:

$$u = -\left[\hat{k}_1(x_2 - x_T) + \hat{k}_2(x_M - x_T) + \hat{k}_3\dot{x}_2 + \hat{k}_4\dot{x}_M\right] + x_T \quad (3.31)$$

where $\hat{k}_1, \hat{k}_2, \dots, \hat{k}_4$ are gain parameters, which can be represented in a row vector $\mathbf{k}_D^T = [\hat{k}_1 \quad \hat{k}_2 \quad \hat{k}_3 \quad \hat{k}_4]$.

The payload parameters \hat{k}_2 and \hat{k}_4 in (3.31) have the same role as k_1 and k_2 in equation (3.13), respectively. Therefore, the values $\hat{k}_2 = -0.5$, $\hat{k}_4 = 0.02$ are also used in this controller. Using pole placement function of Scilab 6.0.2 software and prescribing different stable poles and gain parameters, with the condition of keeping the previous values of \hat{k}_2 and \hat{k}_4 , the rest of the parameters \hat{k}_1 and \hat{k}_3 are associated to the chain vibration and they could be determined: $\hat{k}_1 = -0.07$, $\hat{k}_2 = -0.5$, $\hat{k}_3 = 0.003$, $\hat{k}_4 = 0.02$ by these poles $p_1 = -0.0878902 + 2.3587906i$; $p_2 = -0.0878902 - 2.3587906i$; $p_3 = 0.2896223 + 16.901392i$; $p_4 = -0.2896223 - 16.901392i$.

3.3 Controller design

The observer determines the unknown state variables of the middle of the chain: position and velocity. Only the lateral displacement of the payload is measured by the vision system. The rest of the state variables are determined by the observer in every time step Δt . The equation of the observer is a discrete-time state-space model, which is determined by the help of equation (3.30) and (3.31)

$$\mathbf{x}[k+1] = \mathbf{A}_D \mathbf{x}[k] + \mathbf{b}_D u[k] + \mathbf{l}_D (y[k] - \tilde{y}[k]); \quad \tilde{y}[k] = \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{x}[k] \quad (3.32)$$

where $y[k] = x_M[k]$ denotes the lateral displacement of the payload, is the column vector of state variables, the term e_x is the error of the position of the payload, and the output matrix $\mathbf{c}^T = [0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0]$, the coefficient matrices are calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} u[k] &= -\left[k_1(x_2[k-1] - x_T) + k_2(x_M[k-1] - x_T) + k_3\dot{x}_2[k-1] + k_4\dot{x}_M[k-1]\right] + x_T \\ &= -\left[k_1(x_2[k-1] - x_T) + k_2 e_x + k_3\dot{x}_2[k-1] + k_4\dot{x}_M[k-1]\right] + x_T \end{aligned} \quad (3.34)$$

$$\mathbf{A}_D = e^{\mathbf{A}\Delta t} \quad (3.34)$$

$$\mathbf{b}_D = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \left[e^{\mathbf{A}\Delta t} - \mathbf{I} \right] \mathbf{b} \quad (3.35)$$

$$\mathbf{l}_D = \mathbf{A}^{-T} \left[e^{\mathbf{A}^T \Delta t} - \mathbf{I} \right] \quad (3.36)$$

A uniform time step Δt is used in equations (3.32) and (3.33). It is noted that in equation (3.33), the state variables of the feedback are given in time step $k-1$ in order to consider the delay $\tau = \Delta t$.

The anti-swing control scheme of the crane model is illustrated in Fig. 3.6. The desired position of the trolley is given in equation (3.33). The measured position of the trolley is slightly different from the desired one. This difference is gradually decreased in the controlling process.

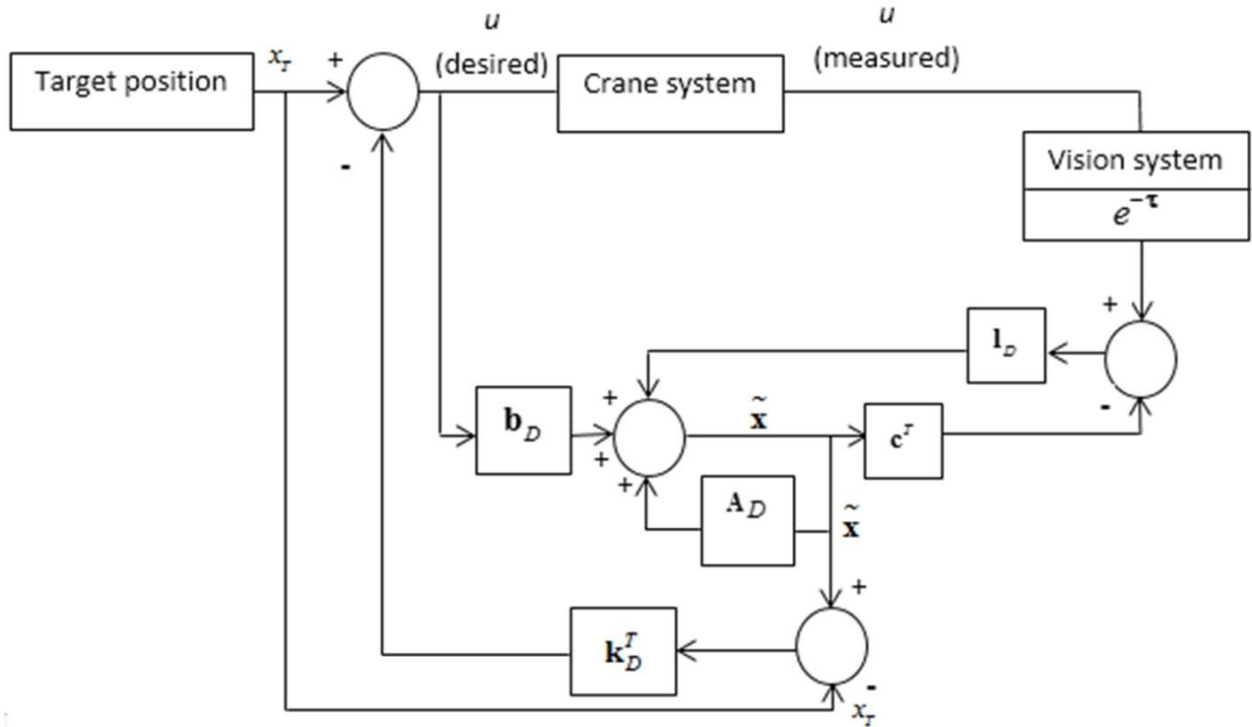


Fig.3. 6 Control scheme of the overhead crane model.

4. MACHINE VISION SYSTEM FOR AN OVERHEAD CRANE MODEL

The main goal of this chapter is to describe a position/angle measurement system of a payload using an image processing system to detect without contact the sway of a payload. In the proposed technique, the camera will capture images in a real-time environment. They will proceed to detect an object with a specified color by using the open-source computer vision library OpenCV with Visual Studio C++. The vision system measures the displacement/angle of a colored object set in the middle of the payload. By having a minimum of two frames of the desired object and the chain length, the payload swing can be estimated.

4.1 Model of a laboratory overhead crane

The scheme of the model is shown in Fig. 4.1. The model consists of :

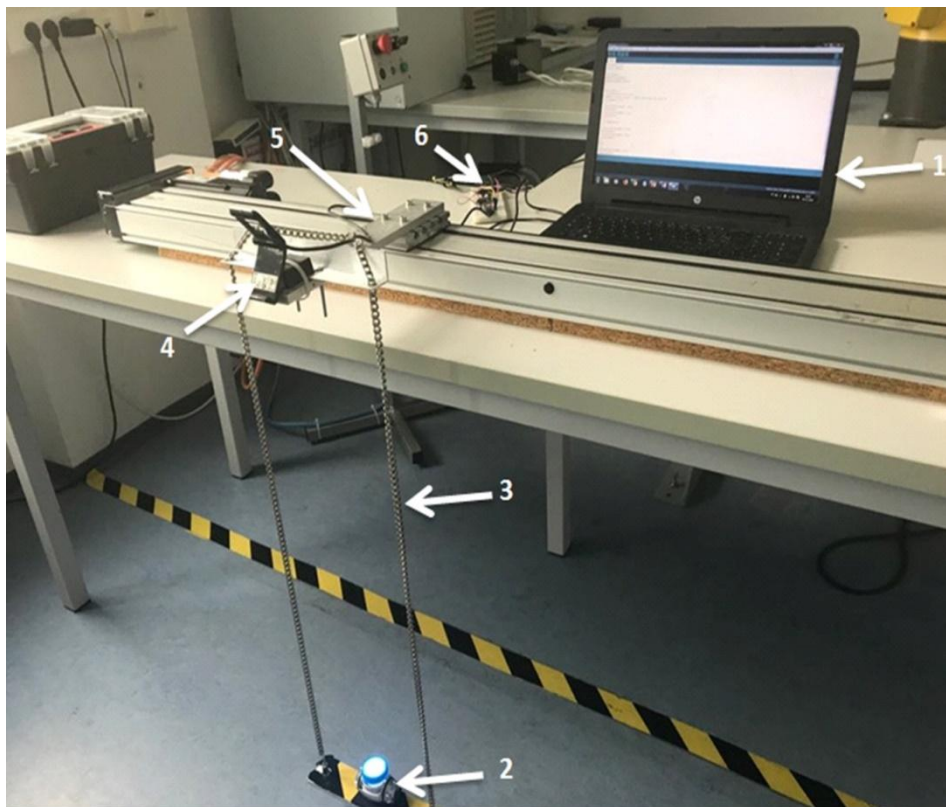


Fig.4. 1 System description: 1. Laptop, 2. Payload with blue light, 3. Chain, 4. Camera, 5. Trolley, 6. Arduino and converter.

-Trolley,

-Compact module CKK with servo motor by Rexroth see Fig. 4.2. It is a precision, ready to install linear motion system characterized by its high performance, aluminum profile, and compact design.

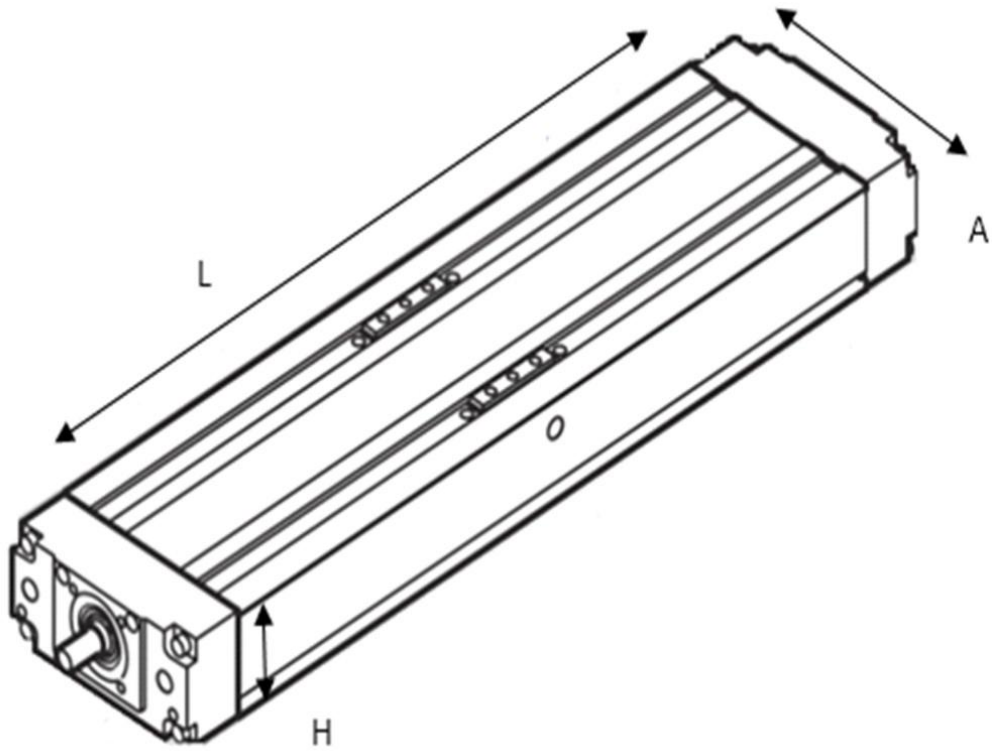


Fig.4. 2 . Compact module.

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Compact module | CKK 15-110 |
| Dimension A x H x L | 110 x 50 x 1500 mm |
| Dynamic load capacity | 15600 N |
| Ball screw $d_0 \times P$ | 16 x 10 |
| Max velocity V | 45 m.min |

Table 4. 1 Compact module characteristics.

-Personal Laptop,

| | |
|------------|------------------|
| CPU | I3 4005U 1.70GHz |
| Ram | 4 GB |
| Hard drive | 250GB 5400 rpm |

Table 4. 2 Laptop characteristics.

-Web-camera,

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Lens aperture | F:2.6 |
| Lens view angle | 50° |
| Resolution | 1.3 MP |
| Frame rate | 30 fps |

Table 4. 3 web-camera characteristics.

- Visual software studio C++,

-The OpenCV (Open Source Computer Vision Library) is an open-source computer vision and machine learning software library. It has more than 2500 optimized algorithms, which includes a comprehensive set of both classic and state-of-the-art computer vision and machine learning algorithms [84]. It has C++, Python, Java, and MATLAB interfaces and supports Windows, Linux, Android, and Mac OS.

-Payload with lighting,

-Chains,

-Arduino Uno, see Fig.4.3, is an open-source platform. It comports of a programmable circuit board (often referred to as a microcontroller) founded on the Atmega328P and software, or IDE (Integrated Development Environment) see Fig. 4.4, made to upload and write a computer program to the board [85].

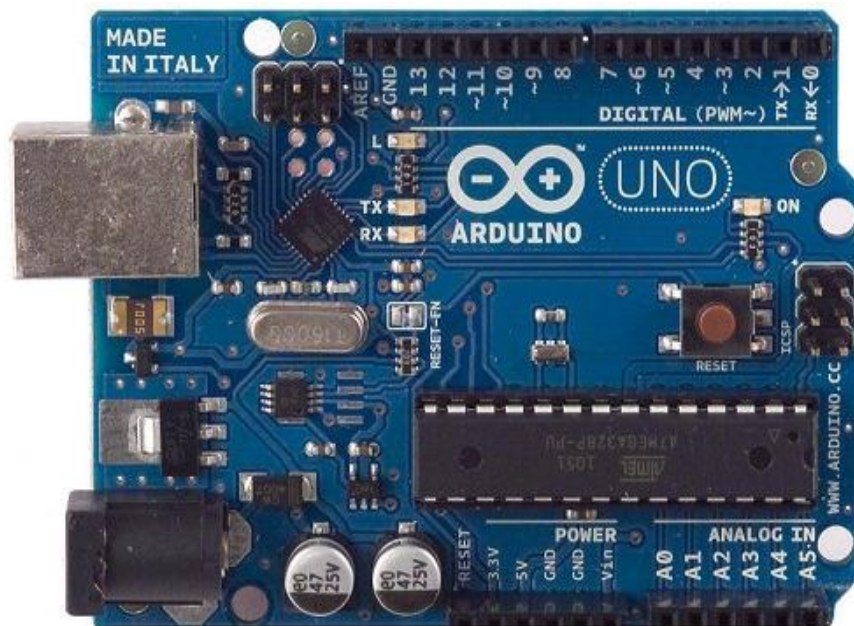


Fig.4. 3 Arduino Uno.

| General characteristics | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| CPU | ATMega328 |
| Flash memory | 32 Ko |
| SRAM | 2 Ko |
| EEPROM | 1 Ko |
| Clock speed | 16 MHz |
| Input.Output | |

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Input voltage | 7-12 V |
| USB-B | For programing |
| Digital I.O Pins | 14 (of which 6 provide PWM output) |
| Analog Input Pins | 6 |
| Other I.O | Serie, I2C, SPI |

Table 4. 4 Characteristics of Arduino Uno [85].

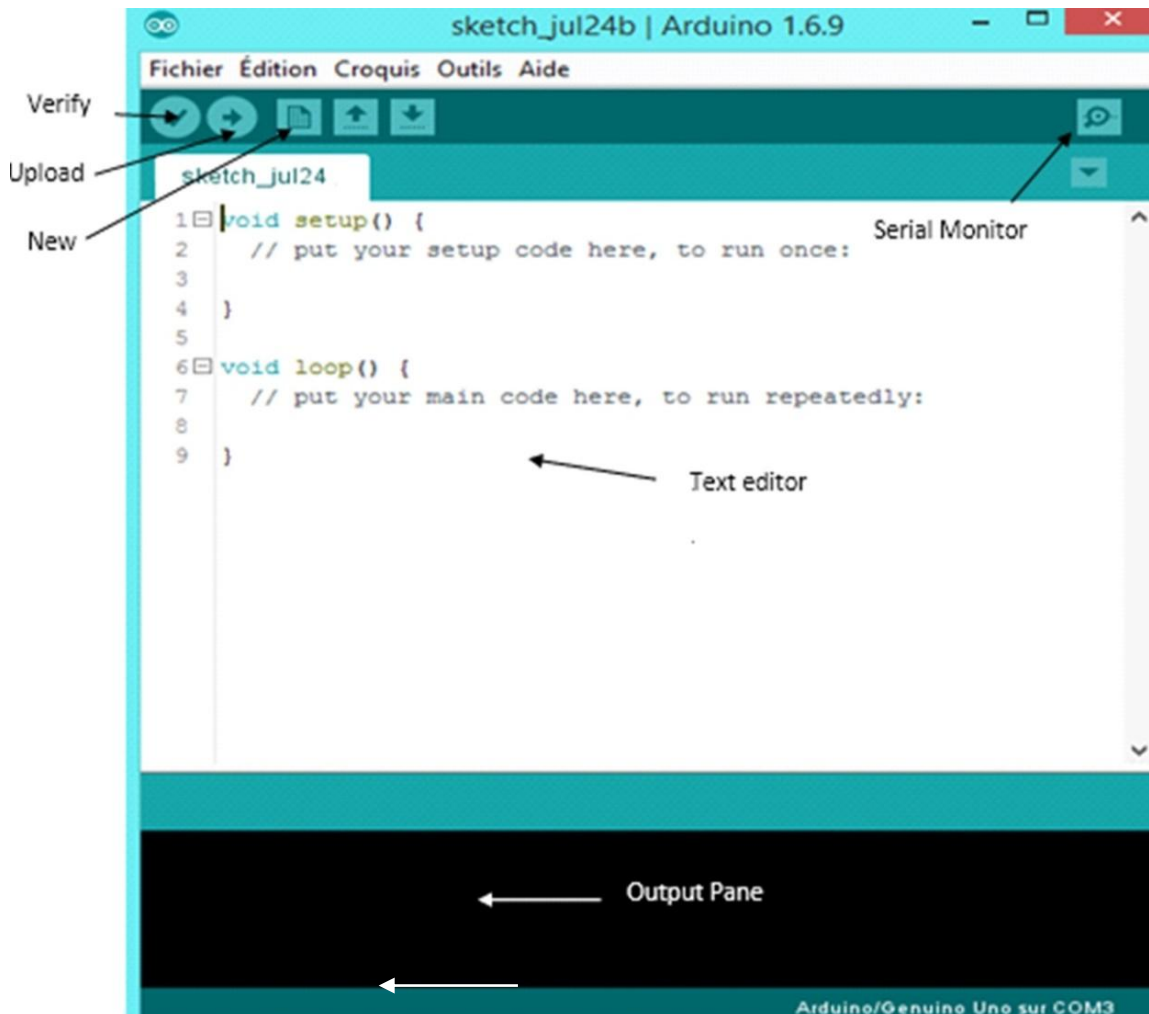


Fig.4. 4 Arduino Uno IDE interface.

The Integrated Development Environment or IDE consists of two main parts: Editor and Compiler, where the former is utilized for writing the appropriate code and then used to compile and upload it into the Arduino Module. This environment accepts both C++ and C languages. The compiler contains two parts: *void setup ()* and the *void loop ()* instructions section. The instructions written in the former part of the program will run only once after booting the microcontroller, while in the second one, the instructions will be executed in an infinite cycle. The primary code, also called a sketch, build on the IDE platform, will create a Hex File, which is sent and uploaded to the board controller.

-D/A converter PCF8591 see Fig. 4.5. The module is with a four-channel converter analog-digital (A/D). It also has one output of the digital-analog (D/A) converter with 8-bit precision, which allows only 256 steps in the analog output value or the digital output value. It works with voltage from 2.5 V to 6.0 V; it communicates via the I2C interface. Onboard are also: pulling up resistors, bus lines of 10 kΩ and potentiometer, a photoresistor, and the thermistor connected to input channels using configurable jumpers.

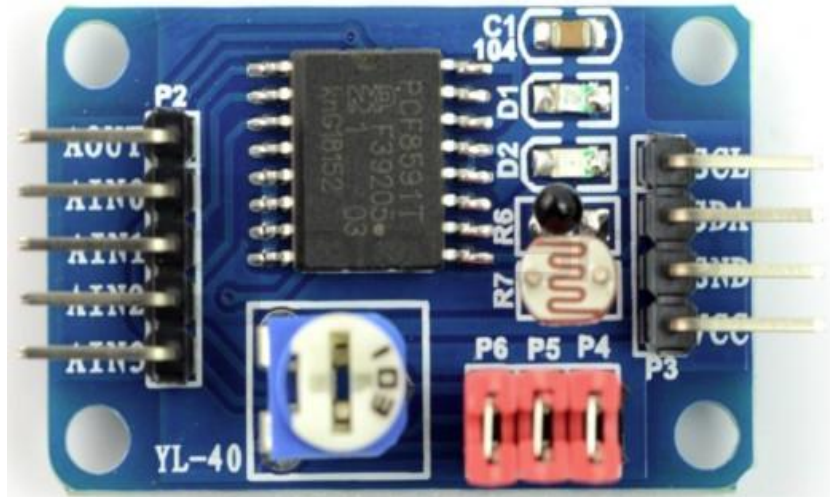


Fig.4. 5 A/D and D/A converter.

-PLC CSH01.1C type Bosch-Rexroth IndraMotion MLD.

The trolley travelling over a girder of 800 mm length. The trolley is moved via a compact module driven by an electric servo motor, mounted on the girder. The software for the image analysis of the presented vision-based sway system was developed under Visual Studio 2017 using C++ language in addition to the use of open-source computer vision library OpenCV. The hardware of the vision system is a web-camera see Table.4.3, and a personal laptop see Table. 4.2, which contains the vision program. The camera was mounted on the crane trolley in a perpendicular position, a blue light was also mounted on the middle of the payload, and its motion is within the field of view of the desktop camera.

The measured displacement of the payload is sent to an Arduino UNO, which transmits the data to a Rexroth Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) by a D/A converter. The Arduino platform is wired to the laptop by Mini-B USB cable.

4.2 Machine vision program and conversion process

The aim of the vision software is to detect and track the payload in each frame. The payload is characterized by a blue light as shown in Fig. 4.1. Each frame is analyzed and filtered to detect all the edges and then find the payload and calculate the payload displacement. The steps of the

payload detection are camera calibration, filtering and detecting the object, payload displacement calculation, and the last step is to send the data to the Arduino Uno.

-Camera calibration:

The web camera that is used in this experiment introduces distortion to images. Therefore a camera calibration should be made. This calibration is nothing but approximating the parameters of a camera to get an accurate relationship between a 3D point in the real world and its corresponding 2D projection (pixel) in the image captured by that calibrated camera. The parameters are distortion coefficients and camera matrix. The steps of camera calibration are [86].

1. Define real-world coordinates of 3D points using a checkerboard pattern of known size.
2. Capture the images of the checkerboard from different viewpoints.
3. Use *findChessboardCorners* method in OpenCV to find the pixel coordinates for each 3D point in different images.
4. Find camera parameters using *calibrateCamera* method in OpenCV, the 3D points, and the pixel coordinates.

The Camera matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 9.1714031297051474e+02 & 0 & 3.2230623256829608e+02 \\ 0 & 9.1820061593023615e+02 & 2.7172433858333937e+02 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Distortion coefficients:

$$[-1.78807e-01 \quad 2.06882e+00 \quad 1.18571e-03 \quad 3.17260e-03 \quad -7.223233e+00]$$

The next step is to use in the main program the camera matrix and distortion coefficient with the OpenCV function *initUndistortRectifyMap* once since it is an expensive method and the parameters of the camera are fixed and to call the function *remap* of openCV on each frame [86]. Using this way will improve the performance of the program significantly see Fig. 4.6.

```

Mat cameraMatrix = (Mat_1d(3, 3) << 8.4934882687830418e+02, 0., 3.0533519545834918e+02,
0., 8.4552604109224899e+02, 2.7226934023759043e+02,
0., 0., 1.);
Mat distortionCoefficients = (Mat_1d(1, 5) << -2.4659367461769788e-01, 2.2388409002544090e+00,
-3.2064569929815363e-03, -6.5504274270249377e-05, -6.9838556726560199e+00);
Mat imgOriginal, map1, map2;
int i = 0, bb = 0;

//arduino.is Connected (inside while)
while (1)
{
    cap >> image_frame1; // get a new frame from the camera

    if (bb == 0)
    {
        initUndistortRectifyMap(cameraMatrix, distortionCoefficients, cv::Mat(), cv::Mat(),
            image_frame1.size(), CV_16SC2, map1, map2);
        bb = bb + 1;
    }
    cv::remap(image_frame1, image_frame1, map1, map2, cv::INTER_LINEAR, cv::BORDER_CONSTANT);
    cv::flip(image_frame1, image_frame1, 1); // flipping a camera to get mirror effect
    if (image_frame1.empty()) break;
}

```

Fig.4. 6 Camera calibration program.

-Filtering and detecting:

After the calibration of the image, the image is converted from RGB color to HSV using the function *cvtColor*, which is included in the OpenCV library. The reason for this is that HSV separate color components from the intensity, unlike RGB, the advantages of this is its robustness to light changes and removing shadows. The so-called *inRange* function is used to filtrate with a minimum (0, 0, 255) and maximum (81, 54, 255) threshold value, which is set and then using a combination of morphological operations like erode and dilate for blurring and noise reduction to make the payload visible for positions estimation as shown in Fig. 4.7. After noise reduction, a round contour (payload) with the specified area is searched using a *findContours* and *drawContours* functions to obtain the coordinates x and y of the payload. Then the position of the center of mass (centroid) of the payload is calculated and detected using the as seen in Fig. 4.8, a portion of the C++ program of filtering and detection is shown in Fig. 4.9. The implementation of blue light on top of the payload will allows the system to measure the displacement/angle in different environment lights

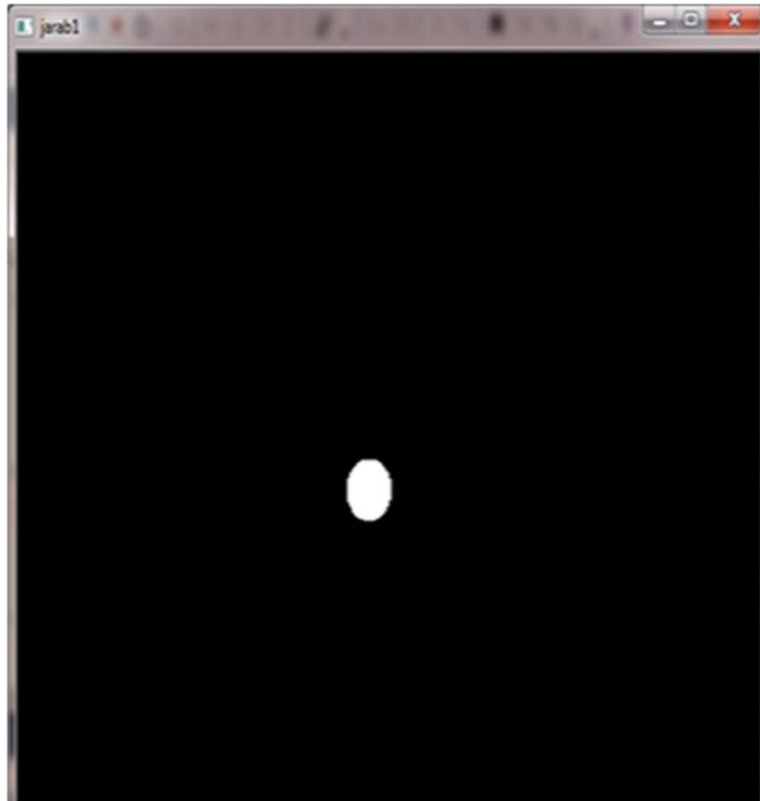


Fig.4. 7 Colour threshold and noise removal.

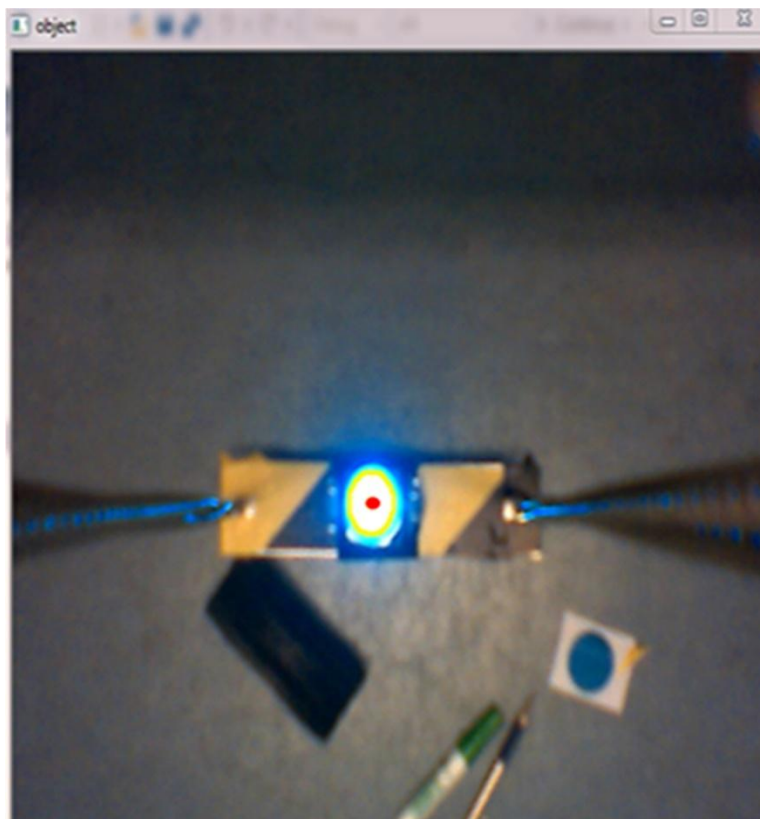


Fig.4. 8 Centroid location of the payload.

```

cv::cvtColor(image_frame1, image_HSV, CV_BGR2HSV);
cv::inRange(image_HSV, cv::Scalar(0, 0, 255), cv::Scalar(81, 54, 255), image_Color2);

erode(image_Color2, image_Color2, getStructuringElement(MORPH_ELLIPSE, Size(5, 5)));
dilate(image_Color2, image_Color2, getStructuringElement(MORPH_ELLIPSE, Size(5, 5)));
dilate(image_Color2, image_Color2, getStructuringElement(MORPH_ELLIPSE, Size(5, 5)));
erode(image_Color2, image_Color2, getStructuringElement(MORPH_ELLIPSE, Size(5, 5)));

findContours(image_Color2, contours_2, hierarchy_2, CV_RETR_EXTERNAL, CV_CHAIN_APPROX_SIMPLE,
             Point(0, 0));
vector<Moments> mu_2(contours_2.size()); //init V.M called mu, V size the Nbr of contours
for (int i = 0; i < contours_2.size(); i++)
{
    mu_2[i] = moments(contours_2[i], false);
}
vector<Point2f> mc_2(contours_2.size()); //vector to store all the center points of the contours
for (int i = 0; i < contours_2.size(); i++)
{
    mc_2[i] = cv::Point2f(mu_2[i].m10 / mu_2[i].m00, mu_2[i].m01 / mu_2[i].m00);
}
for (int i = 0; i < contours_2.size(); i++)
{
    if (mu_2[i].m00 > 1000) {
        center_2 = mc_2[i];
        drawContours(image_frame1, contours_2, i, color_2, 2, 8, hierarchy_2, 0, cv::Point());
        circle(image_frame1, center_2, 4, color_2, -1, 8, 0);
        line(image_frame1, center_2, Point(324, 291), color_2, 4, 8, 0);    }
}

```

Fig.4. 9 Filtring and detection program.

-Payload displacement calculation:

The principal of payload displacement estimating in the individual step is shown in Fig. 4.10. Before starting, an assumption is made that in a specified time interval, the chain length is constant, and the swing of the payload is relatively small. Taking into account those conditions, the movement of the payload is not performed as an arc. The study of the geometry shape of the given measurement system shows a right triangle, where i_0 - i_2 movement is the payload displacement in pixel, and the i_2 -a distance is the hypotenuse see Fig. 4.11. Finally, we can approximate the payload displacement in pixel by having a minimum of two frames of the payload and substituting their coordinates. In aware of the base position, the length of the chain and using the Pythagoras theorem, we can get the sway of the payload:

$$Displacement = i_0 - i_2 \quad (3.1)$$

$$\tan \beta = \frac{Displacement}{Chain legth} \quad (3.2)$$

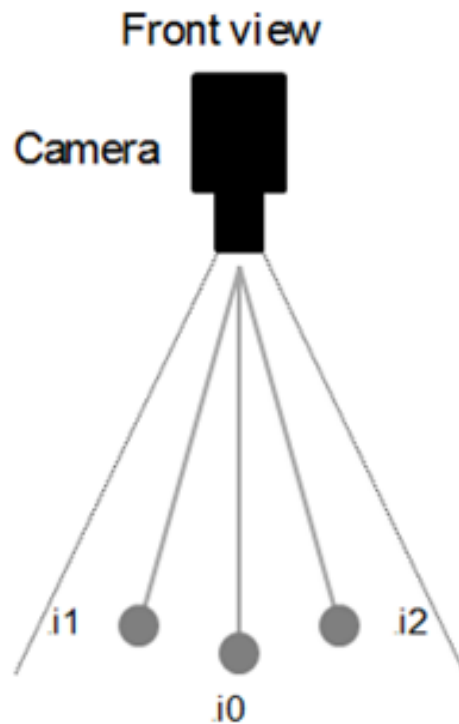


Fig.4. 10 Payload position measurement system.

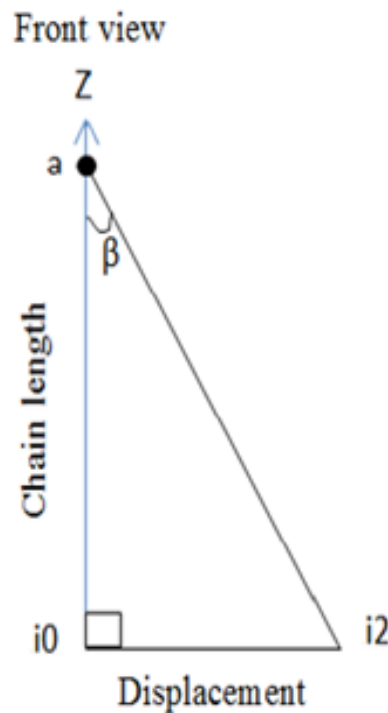


Fig.4. 11 The geometry of the payload displacement measurement system.

Fig. 4.12 shows the displacement equation implementation to the main program, which is multiplied by the size of the pixel in cm. To distinguish the swinging of the payload is right or left, we multiplied the displacement result by a positive value +1 in case the payload is on the right side of the initial axial position; otherwise, multiply it by negative value -1. Then displacement is

multiplied by (& 0xff) to effectively masks the variable, so it leaves only the value in the last 8 bits and ignores all the rest of the bits. The final step is to send the measured value to the Arduino UNO via *Arduino.writeSerialPort()*.

```
int data = (sqrt(pow((324.0 - center_2.x), 2))*0.06031);
if (center_2.x >= 324)
{
    data = data * 1;
}
else
{
    data = data*(-1);
}
std::cout << " Point y " << center_2.y << " Point x " << center_2.x << " Distance :" << data << " cm " << '\n';
data = data + 122;
char LSB;
LSB = data & 0xff;
char *charArray = &LSB;
arduino.writeSerialPort(charArray, 1);
delete[] charArray;
```

Fig.4. 12 Arduino UNO program.

The vision system was optimized to give 20 measurements per one second. The measured data will be sent to the PLC for analysis via Arduino UNO and D/A converter. Between the Arduino UNO and the D/A converter, the I²C communication protocol is performed by SDA (Serial Data) and SCL (Serial Clock) pins, and the output voltage is 5 V. A program code was written in Arduino IDE software, a portion of the code shown in Fig. 4.13.

```
#include "Wire.h"
#include "EEPROM.h"
#define PCF8591 (0x90 >> 1)
int MSBLSB;
char info;
int voltage;
int ledPin = 6;
//int seged=0;
void setup() {
  Serial.begin(9600);
  Wire.begin(); }
void loop() {
  if (Serial.available ()>0) {
    info = Serial.read(); }
  MSBLSB= info & 0xFF;
  voltage=MSBLSB*(200./245.)+10;
  Wire.beginTransmission(PCF8591);
  Wire.write(0x40);
  Wire.write(voltage);
  Wire.endTransmission();
}
```

Fig.4. 13 Arduino UNO program.

5. RESULTS OF SIMULATIONS AND EXPERIMENTS

The displacement of the lighted payload is detected by a web camera using a machine vision system based on Visual Studio C++ and OpenCV library. The measured data of the displacements are transferred to a PLC (CSH01.1C type Bosch-Rexroth IndraMotion MLD) via Arduino Nano and a D/A converter with a frequency of 20 Hz.

The positioning of the trolley can be prescribed by four parameters: relative distance, velocity, acceleration, and deceleration. Those are the input parameters of a PLC function that controls the position of the trolley. In general, the execution process of the function consists of three subsequent phases: acceleration, constant velocity and deceleration, written by the following equations, respectively:

$$v_{i+1} = v_i + a_i \Delta t_i, \quad s_{i+1} = s_i + v_i \Delta t_i + \frac{1}{2} a_i (\Delta t_i)^2 \quad (5.1)$$

$$v_{i+2} = v_{i+1}, \quad s_{i+2} = s_{i+1} + v_{i+1} \Delta t_{i+1} \quad (5.2)$$

$$v_{i+3} = v_{i+2} - a_{i+1} \Delta t_{i+2}, \quad s_{i+3} = s_{i+2} + v_{i+2} \Delta t_{i+2} - \frac{1}{2} a_{i+1} (\Delta t_{i+2})^2 \quad (5.3)$$

Only the first phase given in (5.1) will be allowed to be performed by recalling the PLC position controller at every Δt_i to achieve the desired motion of the trolley.

The positioning of the payload can be considered as a tracking problem with minimizing the swing of the payload. The proposed closed-loop control system integrates an observer, which is integrated into the PLC program.

The main PLC program is written in Sequential Function Charts (SFC) see Fig. 5.1. It has five steps. The first step is related to the initialization of the parameters, and the second is to position the trolley to the desired starting point. The third contains the Continuous Function Chart (CFC) program of the controlling and observer of the system Fig. 5.2. The last one is to stop after the swinging of the payload is removed.

When the program start and the base position is reached, a timer TON_1 starts counting up to a specified value. After the controlling process start and the condition of the process to be complete is the trolley reaches the desired position without swinging. An emergency stop is available in the program where we can stop it anytime. The controlling portion of the program is a PLC program is developed using Continuous Function Chart (CFC) to perform experiments. Due to the size of the program, the block diagram is subdivided into initialization and the main control blocks. The

initialization of the CFC code is shown in Fig. 5.2, and the blocks of the main control code are displayed in Fig. 5.3.

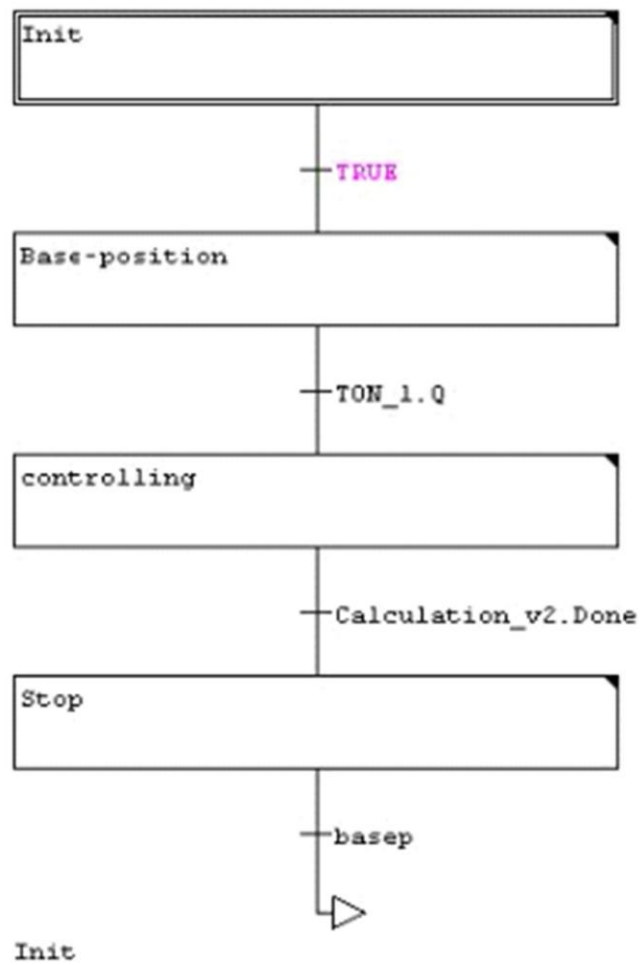


Fig.5. 1 Main PLC program.

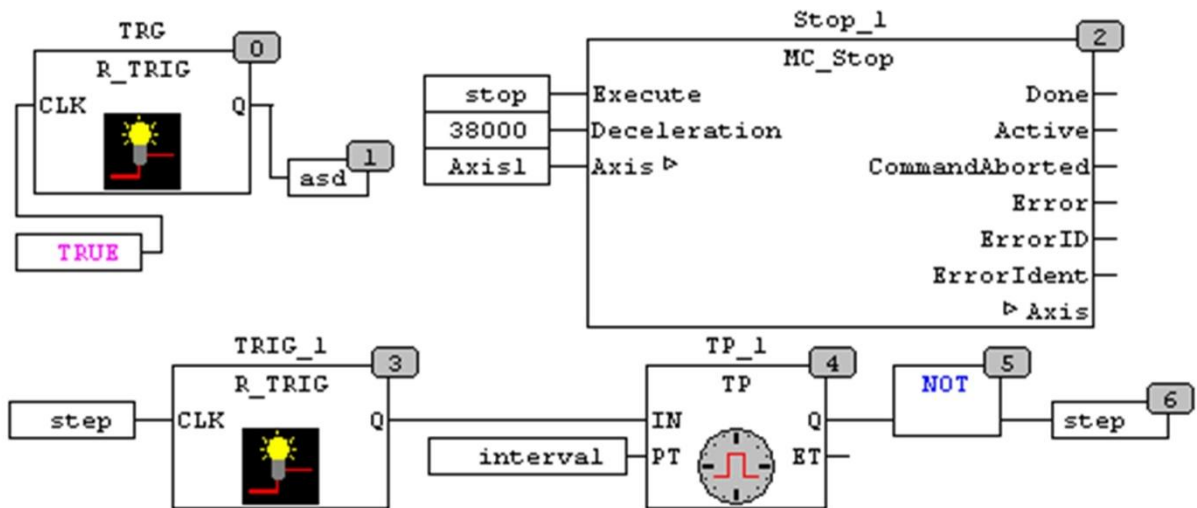


Fig.5. 2 Initialization of the controlling code.

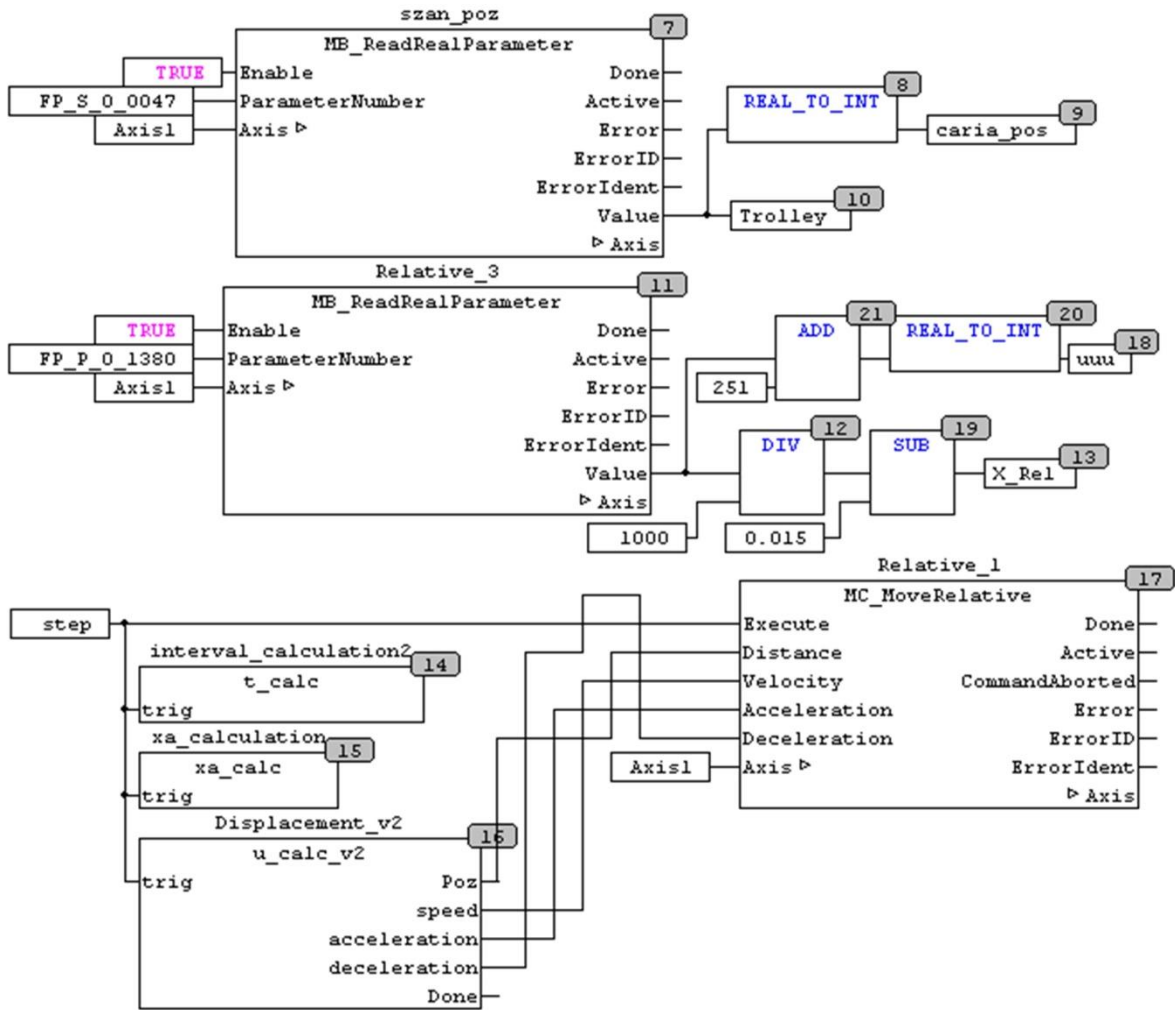


Fig.5. 3 Controlling step of the main PLC program.

The PLC program contains blocks numbered from 0 to 21 at the upper right corners. The blocks 0 to 2 are responsible for the start/stop of the system. The sampling time dt is generated in blocks from 3 to 6. Blocks from 7 to 10 determine the position u (measured) of the trolley. The relative position x_r of the payload is given by the blocks from 11 to 13. The observer and the execution of the position u (desired) are given in blocks from 14 to 17. The rest of the blocks perform only data conversion.

-First experiment: the vision system without controlling will be tested:

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Controlling | No |
| Chain length | 71 mm |
| Payload weight | 0,419 kg |
| Trajectory length | 800 mm |

| | |
|---------------|---------|
| Trolley speed | 0.8 m.s |
|---------------|---------|

Table 5. 1 Experiment parameters.

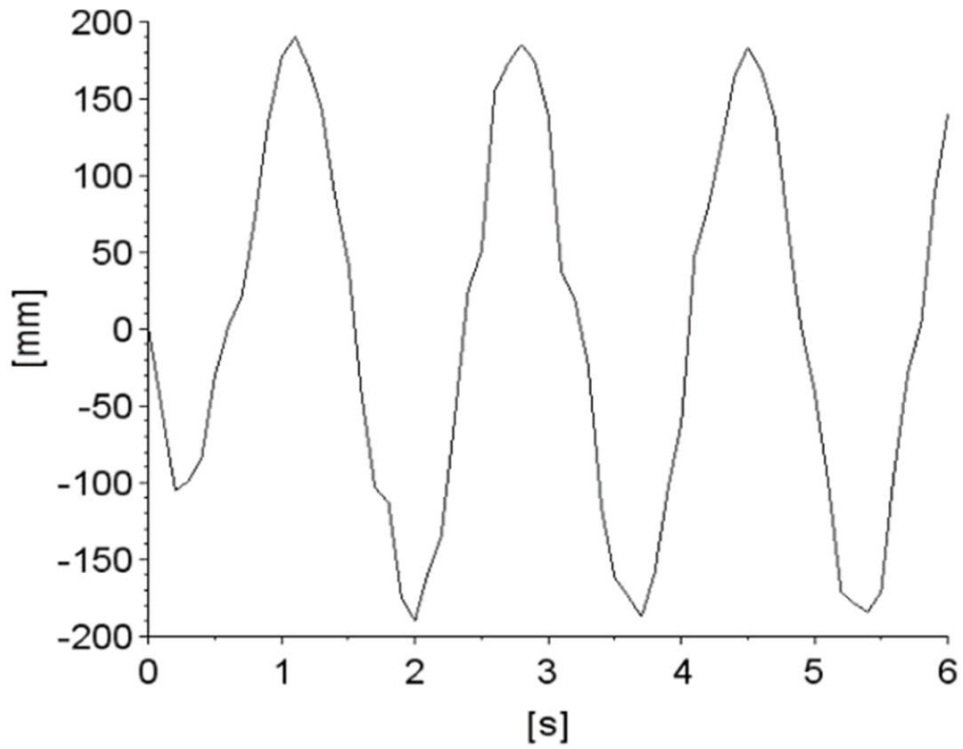


Fig.5. 4 Displacement of the payload in x direction.

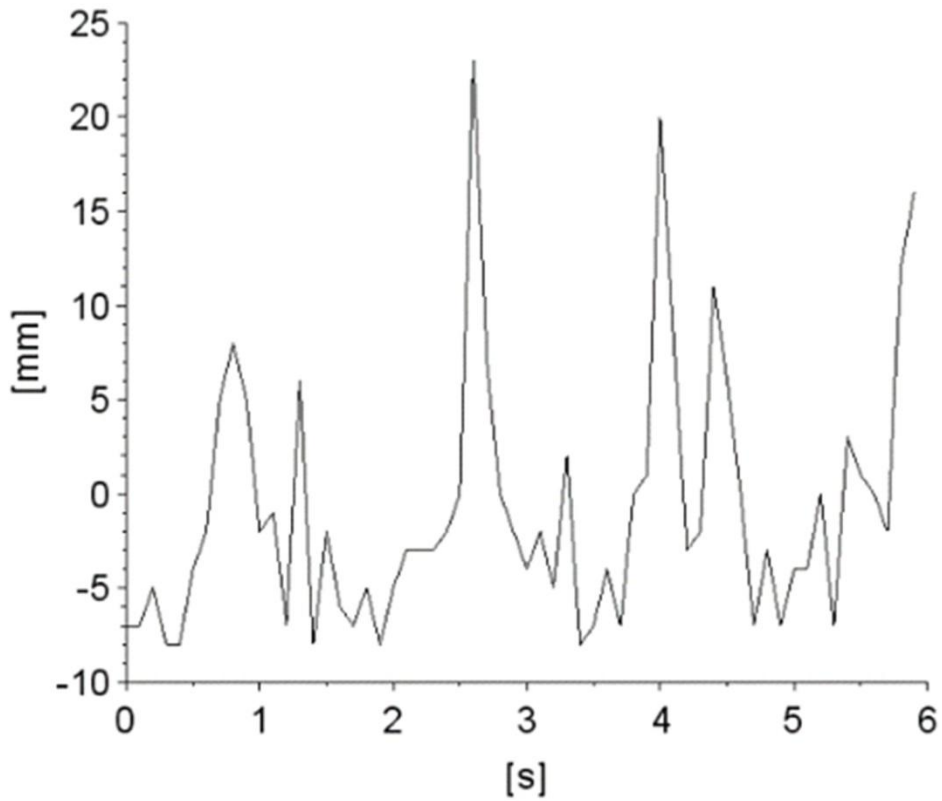


Fig.5. 5 Displacement of the payload in y direction.

The results in Fig. 5.1 and Fig. 5.2 demonstrate that the proposed vision system for payload displacement measurement under daylight condition can provide coordinates with relatively small sampling time. One of the advantages of this solution is that only one camera is used, and it can measure the displacement of the payload in both directions, x and y .

In the next experiment for controlling validation, only the displacement in x direction will be considered due to its high magnitude compared to the displacement in y direction.

-Second experiment:

The parameters of the experiment are the same as the first one, but this time with controlling is on. The time increment dt is equal to 0.15 s and for the controlling the gain parameters and the matrixes of the observer are as follows:

$$\hat{k}_1 = -0.07, \hat{k}_2 = -0.5, \hat{k}_3 = 0.003, \hat{k}_4 = 0.02$$

$$\mathbf{A}_D(\Delta t = 0.15s) = \begin{bmatrix} -0.7371381 & 0.7629382 & 0.036768 & 0.0506495 \\ 0.1479837 & 0.7887384 & 0.0098243 & 0.1380671 \\ -8.9574487 & 3.4067666 & -0.7460993 & 0.7663399 \\ 0.6607952 & -2.1439156 & 0.1486435 & 0.7865806 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{b}_D(\Delta t = 0.15s) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.9741999 \\ 0.0632779 \\ 5.5506821 \\ 1.4831203 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{l}_D(\Delta t = 0.15s) = \begin{bmatrix} -0.4415241 \\ -0.010011 \\ 25.405014 \\ -3.4306935 \end{bmatrix}$$

A simulation program has been developed under Scilab 6.0.2 software based on equations (3.32)-(3.36). The results of the simulation and the experiment in Fig. 5.6 and Fig. 5.7 show a good agreement of the trolley motions.

The simulation model correlates with the experimental results closely. However, results obtained for the relative motion of the payload display higher discrepancies in the beginning, but after four seconds, the results are converging. A very small fluctuation is seen after four seconds can be explained by the digital circuit employed in the experimental setup. The overshooting for the experiment and the model for trolley motion are 87 mm and 98 mm, respectively. The relative motions of the payload converge to 0 between 5-6 seconds.

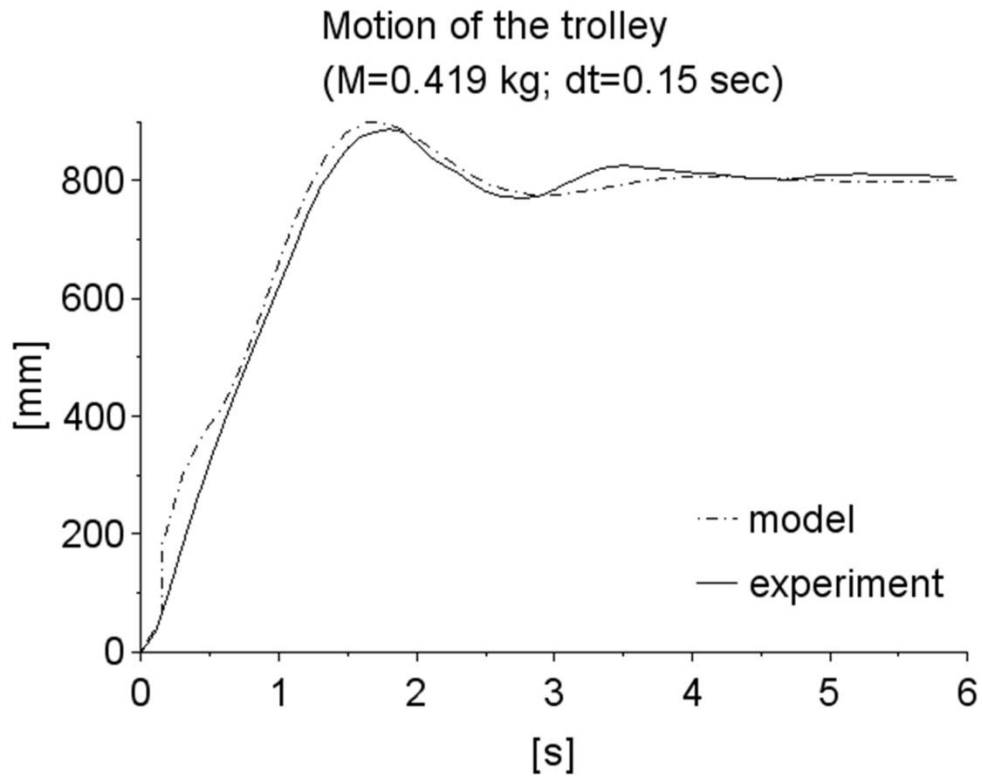


Fig.5. 6 Comparison of the trolley motion simulation model and the experimental.

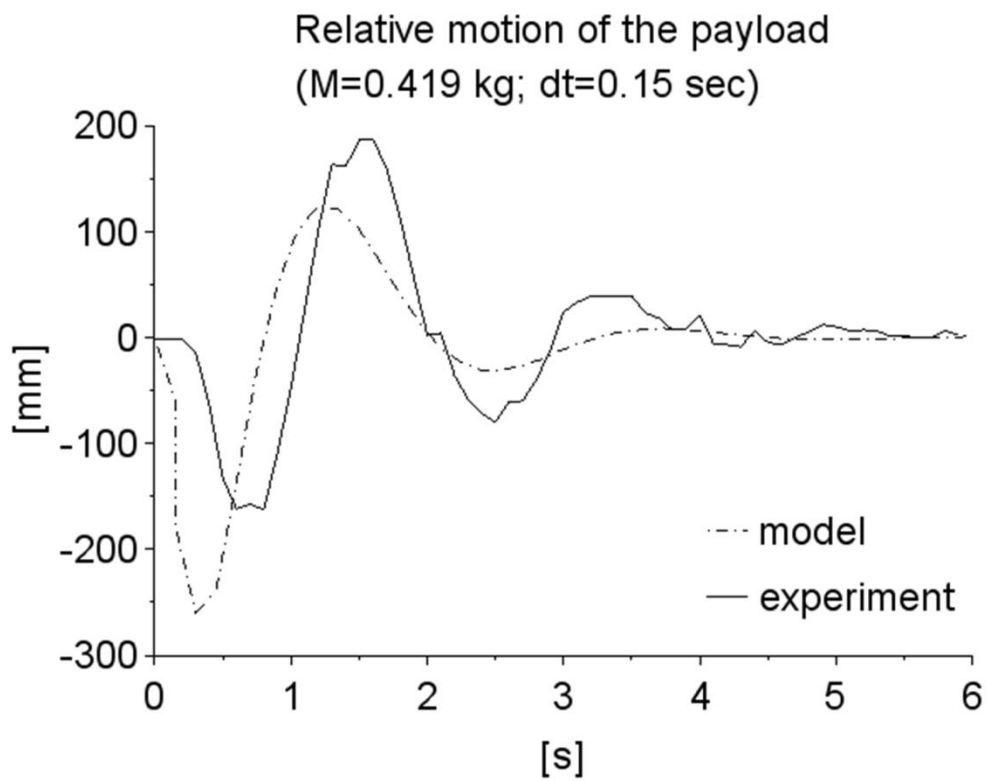


Fig.5. 7 Comparison of the relative motion of the payload simulation model and the experimental.

-Second experiment:

The responses of the proposed controller have been tested for different gain parameters of the payload \hat{k}_2, \hat{k}_4 , with time step $dt=0.15$ s. The previous gain parameters \hat{k}_1, \hat{k}_3 will be maintained.

The parameter $\hat{k}_4 = 0.02$ is constant while different values \hat{k}_2 were tested, as shown in Fig. 5.8 and Fig. 5.9. The experimental results show that the trolley movement is not sensitive to the parameter change while the payload is a little bit more.

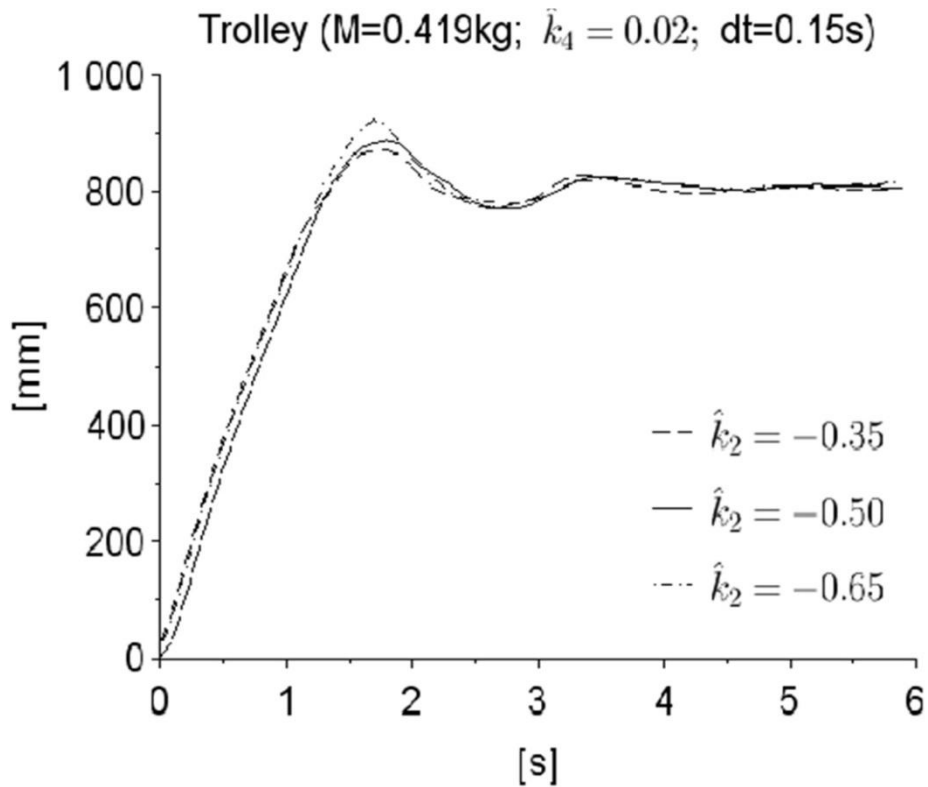


Fig.5. 8 Comparison of the trolley motion of anti-swing control for different \hat{k}_2 parameters.

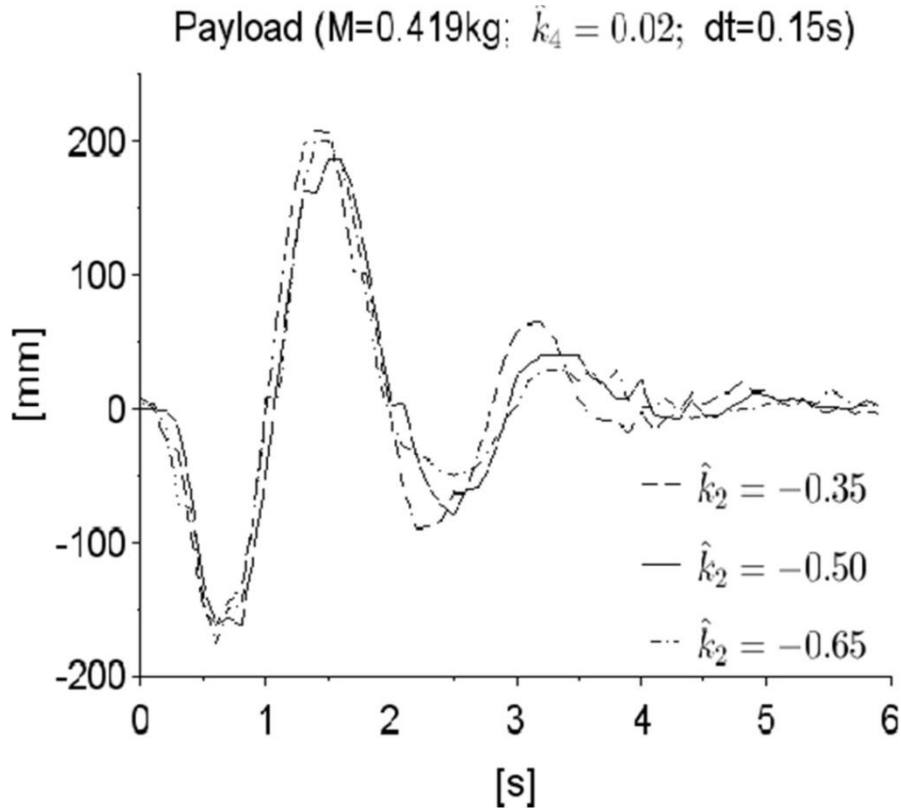


Fig.5. 9 Comparison of the payload results of anti-swing control for different \hat{k}_2 parameters.

-Third experiment:

In the following experiment, the parameter $\hat{k}_2 = -0.5$ is constant while different values \hat{k}_4 were tested, as shown in Fig. 5.10 and Fig. 5.11.

The experimental results in Fig. 5.10 and Fig. 5.11 show that the motion of the system is more sensitive to the changes of this gain parameter compared to \hat{k}_2 .

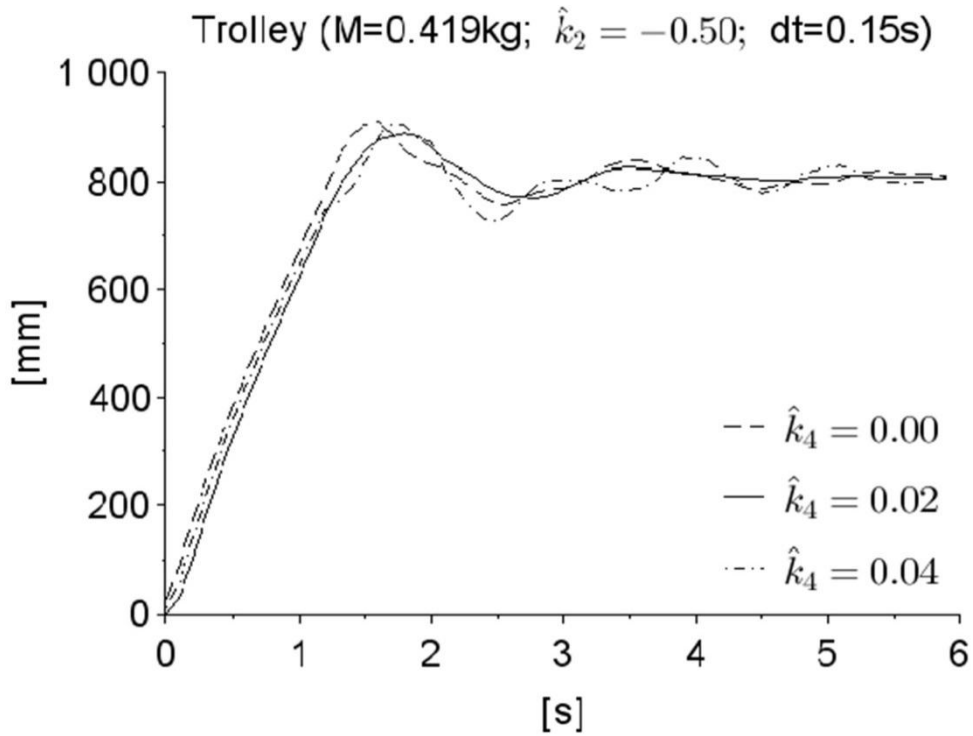


Fig.5. 10 Comparison of the trolley motion of anti-swing control for different \hat{k}_4 parameters.

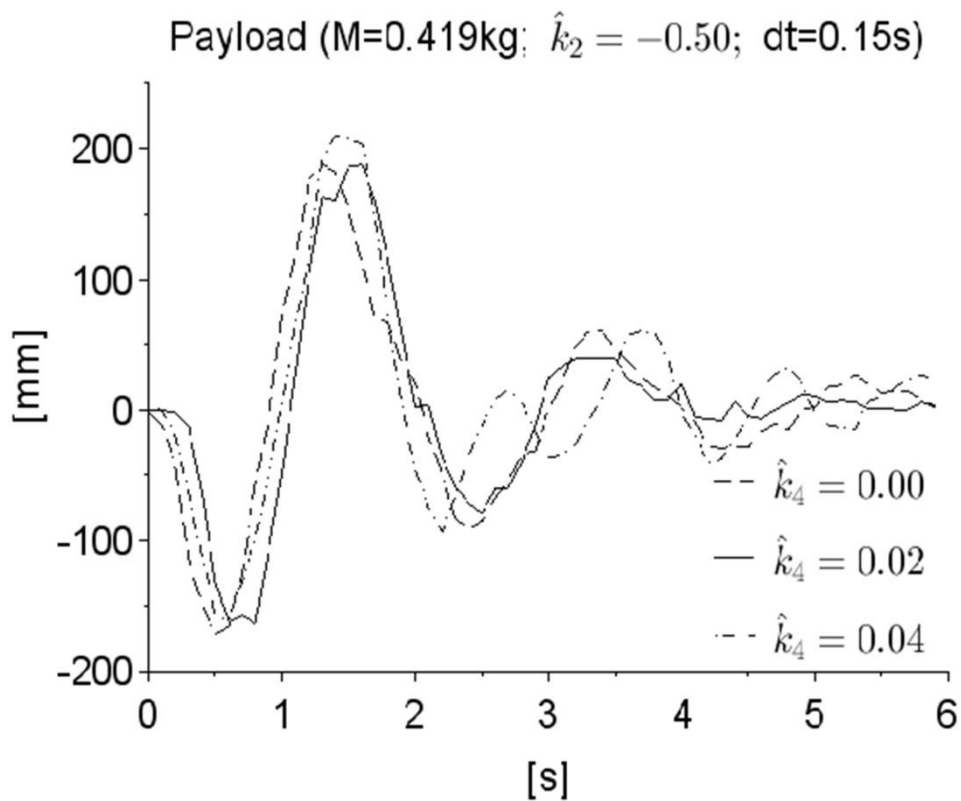


Fig.5. 11 Comparison of the payload results of anti-swing control for different \hat{k}_4 parameters.

-Fourth experiment:

Finally different time increments Δt [0.10 s; 0.15 s; 0.20 s] have been tested.

The matrices of the observers are given as follows:

$$\mathbf{A}_D(\Delta t = 0.10s) = \begin{bmatrix} -0.0742061 & 0.4830562 & 0.0591938 & 0.0184559 \\ 0.0936962 & 0.8919063 & 0.0035798 & 0.0961056 \\ -15.968022 & 7.0318315 & -0.0901801 & 0.4900862 \\ 1.3639328 & -1.9043587 & 0.0950598 & 0.8899923 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{b}_D(\Delta t = 0.10s) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5911499 \\ 0.0143975 \\ 8.9361901 \\ 0.5404258 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{I}_D(\Delta t = 0.10s) = \begin{bmatrix} -0.7987121 \\ 0.0580099 \\ 16.063697 \\ -2.2193061 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{A}_D(\Delta t = 0.20s) = \begin{bmatrix} -0.869268 & 0.7760892 & -0.006247 & 0.0904905 \\ 0.1505345 & 0.6829104 & 0.017552 & 0.1747341 \\ 3.9522234 & -3.0091483 & -0.8653151 & 0.773071 \\ -0.583671 & -2.0660731 & 0.1499491 & 0.6808269 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{b}_D(\Delta t = 0.20s) = \begin{bmatrix} 1.0931789 \\ 0.166555 \\ -0.9430665 \\ 2.6497433 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{I}_D(\Delta t = 0.20s) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1984911 \\ -0.1208698 \\ 26.689188 \\ -3.8673205 \end{bmatrix}$$

The experimental results are displayed in Fig. 5.12 and Fig. 5.13. For the time increments Δt equal to 0.15s and 0.20s, the solutions convergent. However, for $\Delta t=0.10s$ it gives undesirable oscillations at the vicinity of the target position.

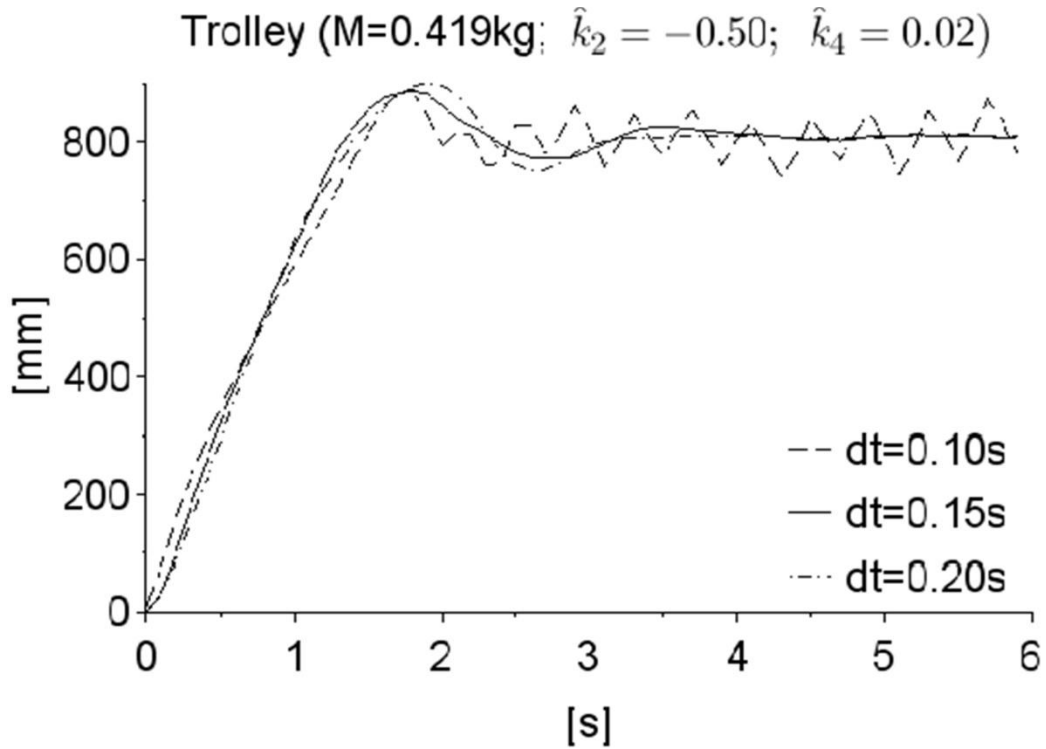


Fig.5. 12 Comparison of the trolley motion results of anti-swing control for different time steps.

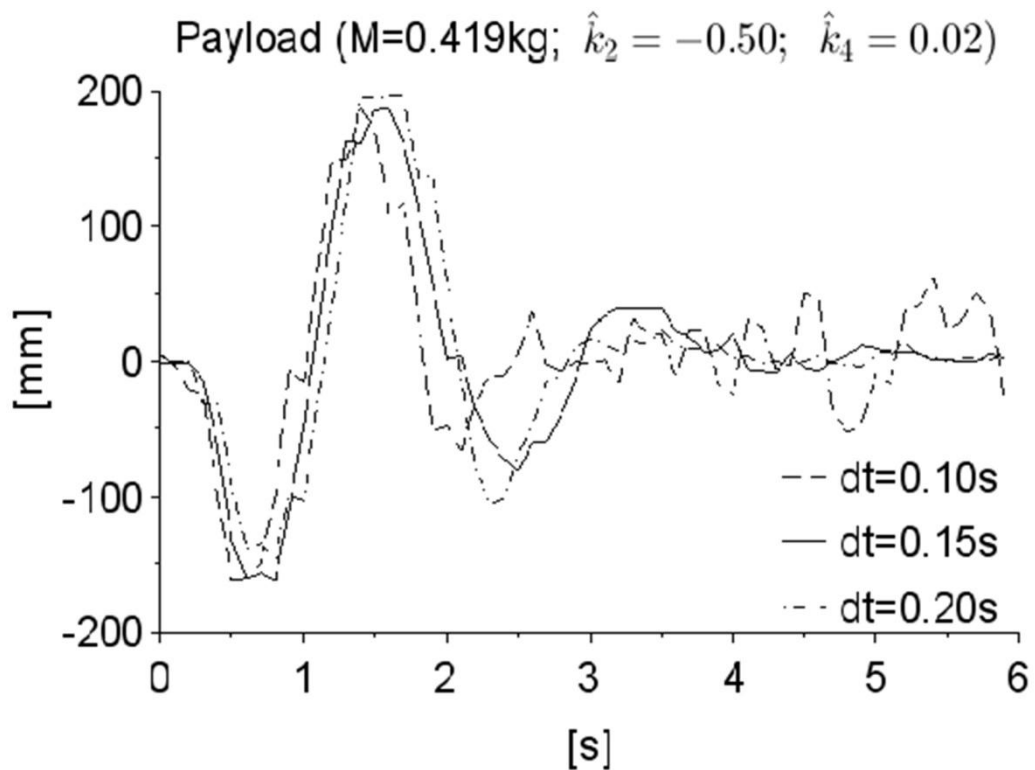


Fig.5. 13 Comparison of the payload results of anti-swing control for different time steps.

The simulation results show that the displacement of the trolley and the swinging of the payload can be damped in approximately 4 to 6 seconds. The trolley quickly arrives at its target position

within 2 seconds with no excessive overshooting. Then an additional 2 to 3 seconds are needed to damp the vibration of the payload thoroughly.

The results of the newly proposed method could be compared with the paper [80]. However, the presented experimental setup is slightly bigger in sizes and weights, and the suspending element of the payload is a chain instead of a straight, rigid bar in this paper. Also, the investigated model in this paper has multi-degrees freedoms, while in the previously mentioned paper, the model has only two degrees. Also, the trolley reaches the target position much slower than in the presented work. Though this fact, the swinging of the payload was damped around at the same time.

6. THESES – NEW SCIENTIFIC RESULTS

- T1. A linear and nonlinear model of the overhead crane has been developed considering the vibration of the payload and also the suspending chain. The simulation results of both models, linear and nonlinear, show a good agreement, making the linear model a good candidate to be used as an observer in order to provide the non-measurable state-variables for the feedback. Related publication: [S2]
- T2. It is assumed that the mass of the payload is significantly higher than the suspending chain of the crane system. The stability region of the dynamic system has been expressed by two gain parameters using a D-subdivision method of the simple pendulum model. The drawn curves of the stability regions are shrinking as the time delay is increasing (see Fig. 3.2). The boundary curves are intersecting each other at point $k_1=0$, $k_2=0$. Therefore, choosing the parameters within the interval of $(-2 < k_1 < 0)$ at the vicinity of $k_2=0$, will make the system stable and robust, since it remains in always in stable state with a high range of time delay. Related publication: [S4]
- T3. A non-contact position measurement system for the payload of the overhead crane was developed. In the proposed technique a web-camera is used as an image sensor for real-time measurement of the displacement/angle of the payload. Visual Studio C++ with open-source computer vision library OpenCV is used for image analysis and calculations. The measurement system is robust due to the implementation of blue light source on top of the payload, which allows the system to measure the displacement/angle in different light circumstances. The vision system is optimized to give 20 measurements per one second. The experimental results proved the effectiveness of the developed vision system. Related publication: [S1, S3]
- T4. The newly designed controller is based on a two-level hierarchical approach. At the first level, the time delay due to the vision system is considered by the use of the D-subdivision method of T2, which provides the gain parameters associated with the state-variables of the payload. In the second level, the extended model is also considering the vibration of the suspending

chain, and its gain parameters are determined with the use of pole placement method. The anti-swing control of the overhead crane system is performed by a PLC program, which contains the collocated observer of T1. The robustness of the proposed controller has been validated by experimental measurements and it proved to be competitive with other methods published in literatures.

Related publication: [S4]

7. SUMMARY

The aim of this work was to design a controller for an overhead crane i.e. robust, quick, and feasible. The controller could quickly transfer the payload from the start point until the target position and without excessive overshooting of the payload and the trolley. A vision system is developed for the measurement of the relative displacement payload. The delay due to the vision system is considered in the design of the controller. Furthermore, the vibration of the chain is also included. An observer was developed to determine the unmeasured state variables.

To reach our objective, we have formulated a linear and a nonlinear mathematical model of an overhead crane using a finite element method. In addition to the payload, the inertia and independent degree of freedom (DoF) of the suspending chains are also considered. The full linear and nonlinear equations are utilized in the computer simulations. A simple crane motion is simulated to compare the two models. The solution of the linear model shows a good agreement with the nonlinear one. Therefore we decided to use the linear model as an observer.

A new designed controller is proposed, which is based on a two-level hierarchical approach. Due to the domination of the payload on the motion of the crane system, a simple pendulum model was analyzed in the first level and a more complex model considering the chain vibration in the second level. At the first level, a D-subdivision method is applied for the simple mathematical pendulum model, which considers the time delay due to the use of a vision system to determine the stability regions expressed by gain parameters. In order to design the controller, the gain parameters associated with the state-space variables of the payload are selected within the stability region. In the second level, the extended model considering the vibration of the suspending chain. The previous gain parameters related to the relative displacement of the payload are maintained, and by using a pole placement method, the rest of the gain parameters associated with the chain vibration are determined. The rest of the unmeasured state variables are determined by the observer in every time step. The positioning of the trolley is prescribed by four parameters, relative distance, velocity, acceleration, and deceleration.

A position measurement system of the payload using an image processing system to detect without contact the swinging of the payload. In the proposed technique, the camera will capture

images in a real-time environment, and they will proceed to detect an object with a specified color by using the open-source computer vision library OpenCV with Visual Studio C++. The results will be sent to a Programmable logic controller via an Arduino Uno.

The computer simulations show that the designed controller using the two-level hierarchical approach effectively transfers the payload from the starting point until the target position without residual oscillations and without excessive overshooting. The proposed controller provides good active damping, the vibration of the payload is suppressed effectively within a short time.

The effectiveness of the proposed controller is also verified experimentally on a laboratory test bench. The designed controller displayed good results in the computer simulations. The robustness of the designed controller was tested for different gain parameters and sampling times. The designed anti-swing controller with the tracking controller effectively reduces payload oscillations in a reasonable time, and its performance is comparable to the results of a theoretical model. The presented method is competitive with the existing methods.

FUTURE WORK

The designed controller could be improved by adding a cut-off function for the acceleration of the trolley to make the swinging of the payload at the beginning of the transfer minimum. It can also be optimized to work with different cable lengths and different load sizes. The model can be extended to work with three dimensional.

The vision system can be improved to include smart functions, where it can detect obstacles, distance and height and change the trajectory to reach the target position successfully.

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DEDICATION

To:

My parents,

My sisters and wife,

And for everyone who was on my side.

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