

Integrating the NASA Lewis Method for Mass Loaded Panels Into AutoSEA2

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> Spacecraft & Launch Vehicle Dynamics Environments Workshop June, 2001

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Overview

- Mass-loaded honeycomb panels
- NASA Lewis method
- AutoSEA2 scripting
- NASA Lewis method in AutoSEA2
- Results
- Conclusions



Mass-loaded Honeycomb Panels

- Unreinforced honeycomb panels with a significant amount of attachments
- Total mass can be 5-100 times the mass of the panel
- For example, instrument panels





Typical Mock-up of a Mass-loaded Panel



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Photo courtesy NASA Image Exchange



Analysis of Mass-loaded Panels

- Analytical panel response and radiation (Maidanik 1962, Leppington 1982)
- Non-structural mass method (??)
- NASA Lewis method (McNelis 1989)
- Detailed investigation of panel response with complex attachments (Conlon 2000)
- Detailed modeling of mass interaction with simplified panels (Atalla 2001)



Non-Structural Mass Method

- Assumes that added mass does not effect the energy distribution throughout the model
- The added mass does effect the relationship between the energy and velocity of a mass loaded panel

$$E = (m_s + m_{ns})v^2$$

- In VAPEPS, the ASMS parameter adds non-structural mass
- In AutoSEA2, the "Energy to Engineering Units Conversion" term is used to add non-structural mass



NASA Lewis Method

- Equivalent mass loaded panel conserve important panel properties:
 - Total mass
 - Longitudinal phase speed
 - Critical frequency
- Empirical radiation efficiency

 $\sigma = \begin{cases} \frac{f^2}{f_c^2}; & f < f_c \\ 1; & f \ge f_c \end{cases} \text{ for flat panels} \end{cases}$

Reference: McNelis, NASA Tech Memo #101467



Spacecraft Panel (40"x40"x1") with added mass to panel mass ratio of 23:1



From McNelis, NASA Technical Memorandum #101467

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AutoSEA2 QuickScript

- Basic language syntax
- Full access to the AutoSEA2 computation engine
- Accessible from AutoSEA2 graphical interface
- Ideal method for implementing new mathematical models



NASA Lewis Method in AutoSEA2

- 1. Equivalent isotropic panel calculation
- 2. Mechanism for adding mass
- 3. NASA Lewis CLF model



Step 1: Equivalent Isotropic Panel

- Assume the important structural properties are conserved:
 - Total mass
 - Flexural wave speed
 - Critical frequency
- Uses average bending wavenumber from AutoSEA2
- Creates a new material property in the database and assigns it to the selected panel



Step 2: Add Mass Loading

- Inputs
 - Total added mass
 - Structural/Non-Structural distribution
- Adjusts two parameters
 - Density for structural mass
 - Equivalent mass ("Engineering Units Conversion") for non-structural mass

$$E = (m_s + m_{ns})v^2$$



Step 3: NASA Lewis Radiation Model

- Finds acoustic junctions associated with selected panel
- Calculates ring and coincidence frequencies
- Calculates radiation efficiency
- Calculates coupling loss factor (CLF)
- Inserts CLF into database and sets CLF of selected junctions











Conclusions

- Implemented NASA Lewis method for unreinforced mass loaded honeycomb panels
- Scripting provides for a tool for automating specialized analysis