

“Ideas, like ghosts, must be spoken to a little
before they will explain themselves”

Charles Dickens, *Dombey and Son*

A detailed technical line drawing of a nuclear steam plant. The drawing shows a cross-section of a containment building with a large arched opening. Inside, a reactor is visible, connected to a complex network of pipes and vessels. Labels include 'Containment building' at the top, 'Reactor' at the bottom center, and 'Pressure vessel' at the bottom left. The drawing is rendered in a clean, technical style with fine lines and shading to indicate depth and structure.

Containment building

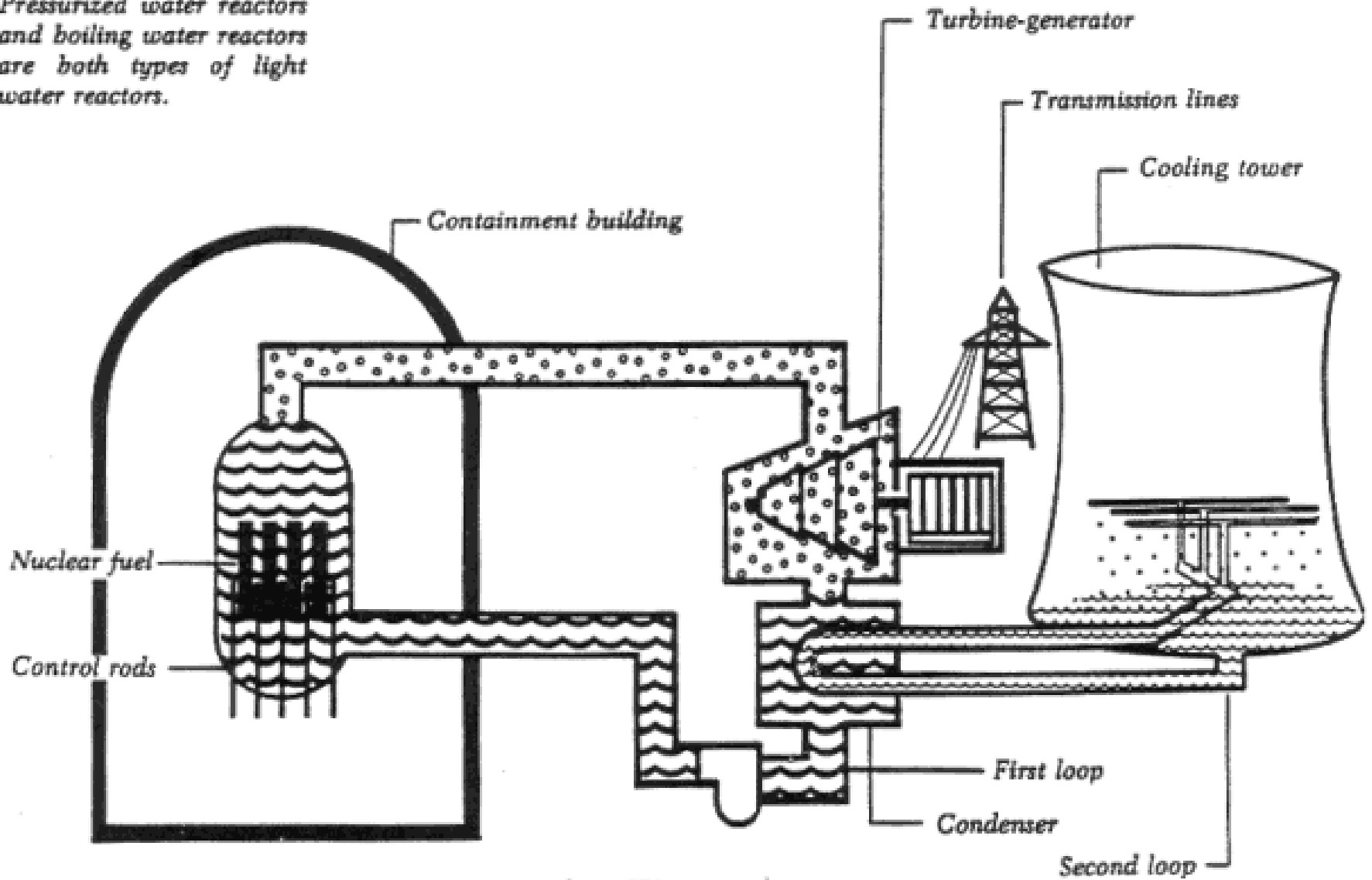
Dynamics of Fluid Loaded Structures
(with application to Loose Parts Monitoring (LPM) in nuclear steam plants)

Richard H. Lyon
MIT Symposium in honor of Ira Dyer
Thursday 14 June, 2007

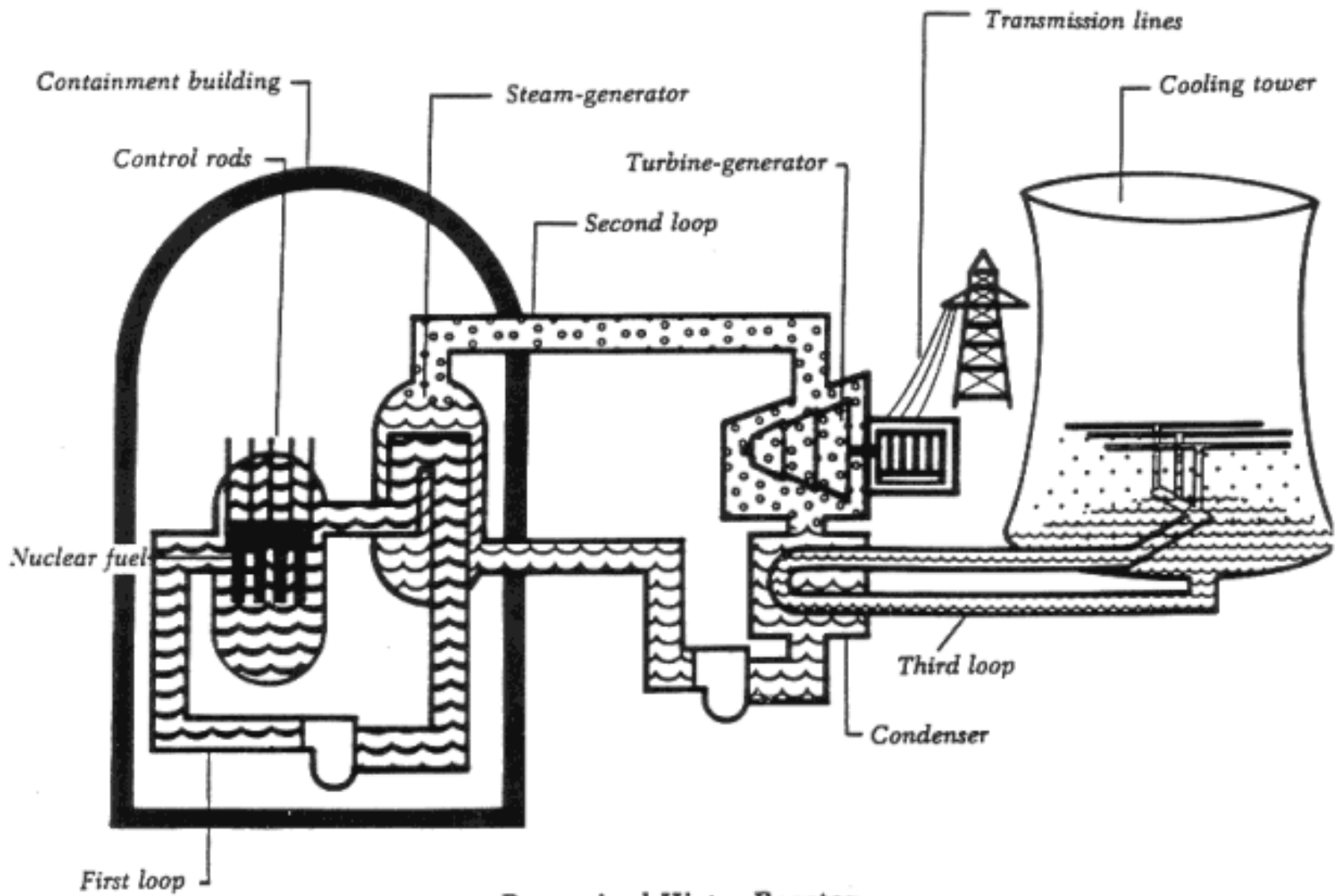
Abstract Parts that come loose in the cooling circuit can endanger the integrity of a nuclear steam plant. Systems to detect the impacts that occur are installed in the plants but they face difficulties in the detection and classification of such impacts because of the noisy vibrations induced by turbulent flow. Optimizing the performance of these LPM systems depends on knowing the “signature” of the induced vibration signals and these signals are affected by the structural acoustics of the plant components that are internally loaded by water. This presentation reviews the acoustics of fluid loaded plate structures and the dynamics of impact collisions for such structures.

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Pressurized water reactors and boiling water reactors are both types of light water reactors.

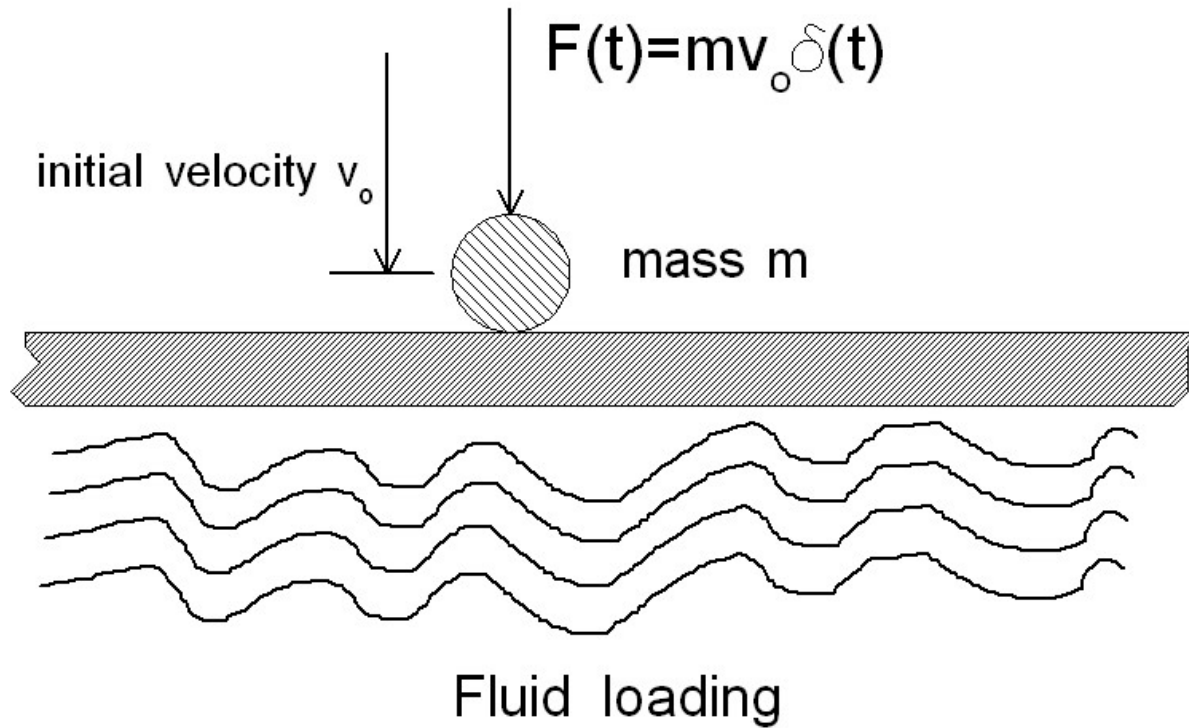


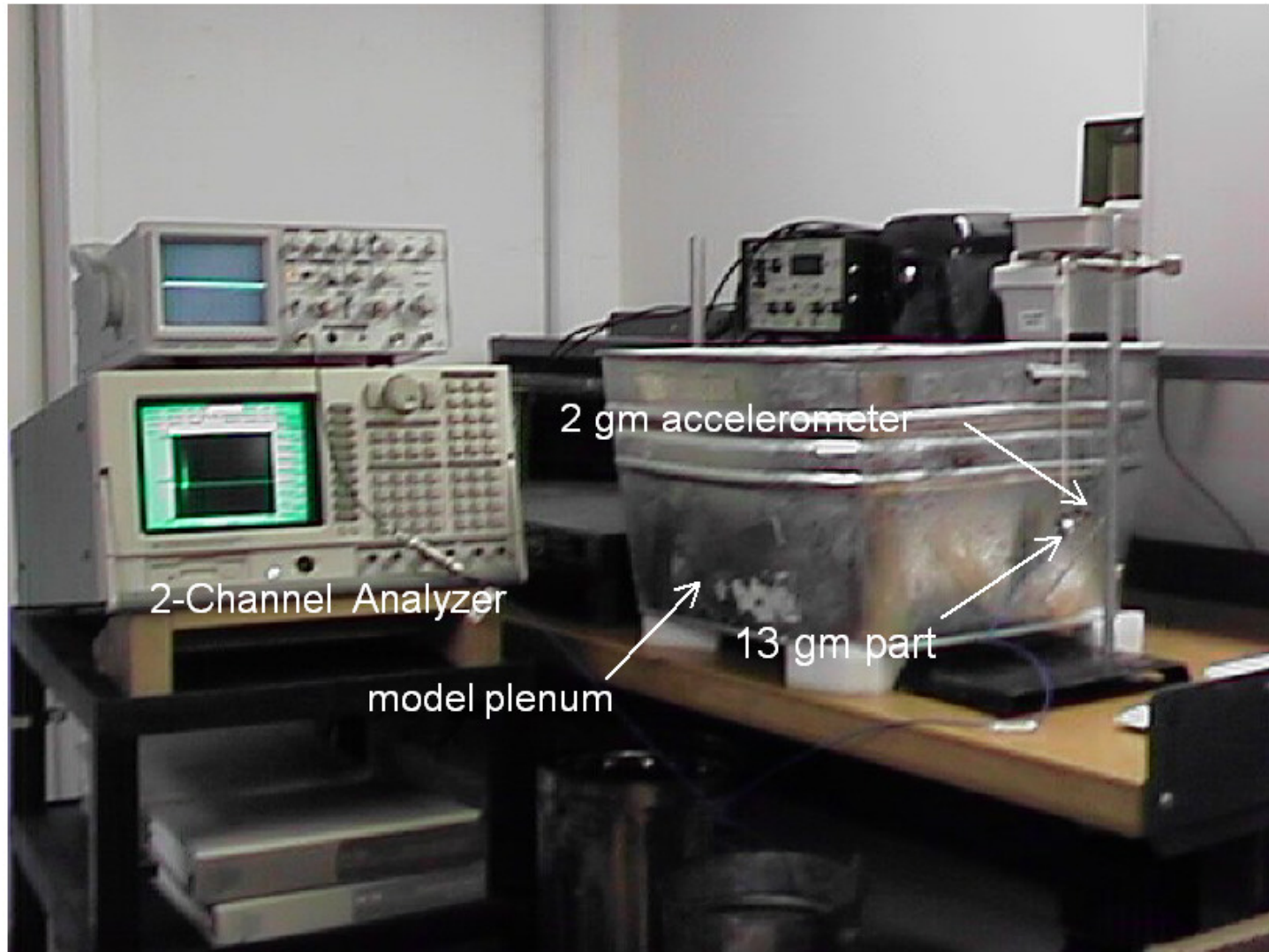
Boiling Water Reactor



Pressurized Water Reactor

Impact dynamics





2-Channel Analyzer

2 gm accelerometer

model plenum

13 gm part

Assumptions made in the structural analysis

- The structure can be modeled as an isotropic flat plate. This primarily means that the stiffening effect of curvature is ignored
- The structural waves of importance are bending waves. Although in-plane dilatation and shear waves are generated, they likely store little energy and have small effect on the measurements of vibration.
- The fluid is assumed incompressible. This should be acceptable as long as the phase speed of the bending waves is small compared to the speed of sound in the fluid.
- The fluid is assumed inviscid. That means that the small amount of damping provided by viscous losses at the wall/fluid interface is incorporated as part of the structural damping.
- Bouncing of the part after collision with the wall does not occur. This is done for convenience, it would be possible to include bouncing in a more elaborate analysis.

Equations governing the structural dynamics of fluid loaded flat plate (phase and group speed and modal density)

$$(EI \nabla^4 - \omega^2 \rho_s) y = EI(k^4 - k_b^4) y = -\omega^2 \rho_f y/k$$

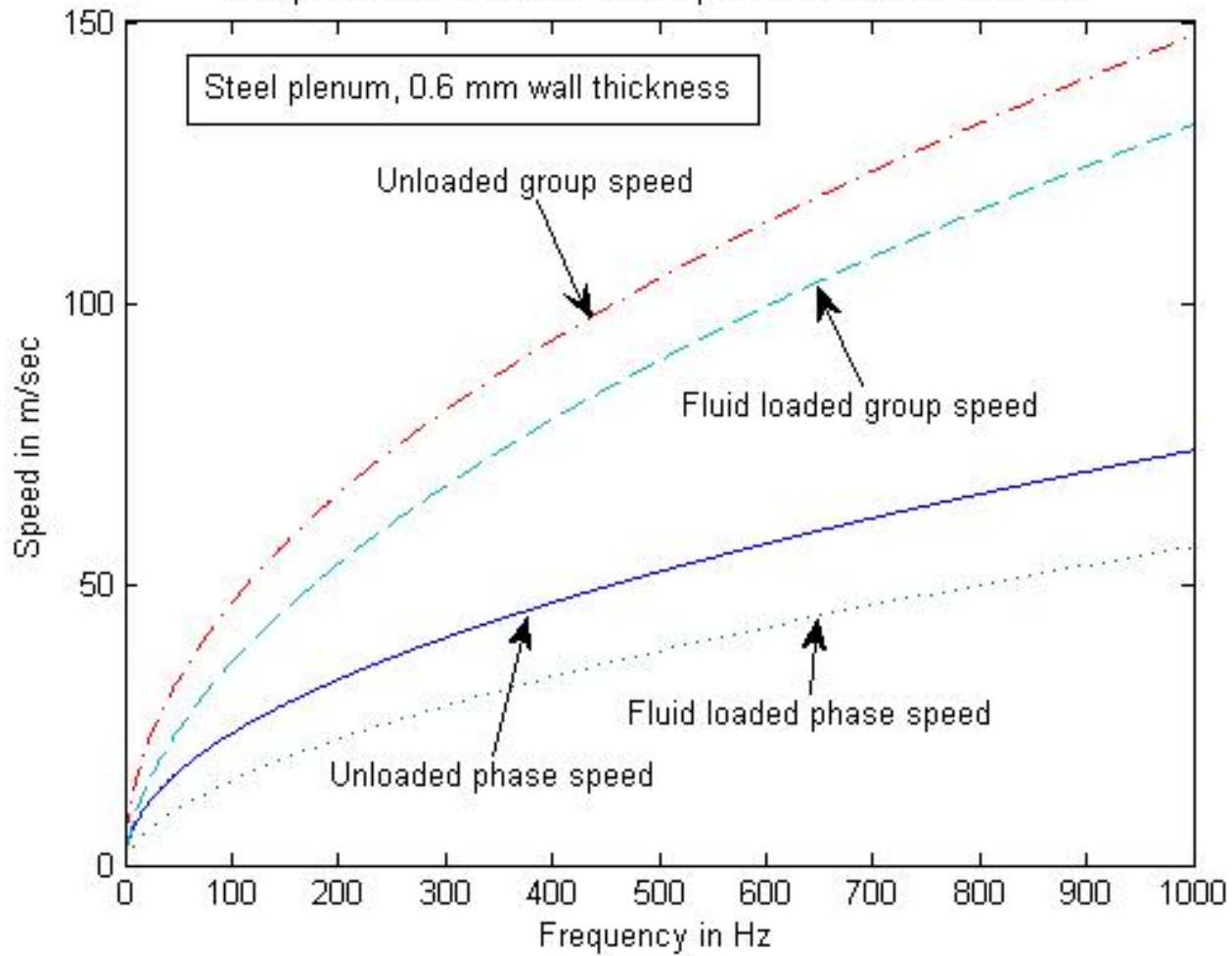
$$k=\omega/c, kb=\omega/cb$$

$$\frac{\rho_f}{\omega \rho_s} c^5 + c^4 - c_b^4 = 0$$

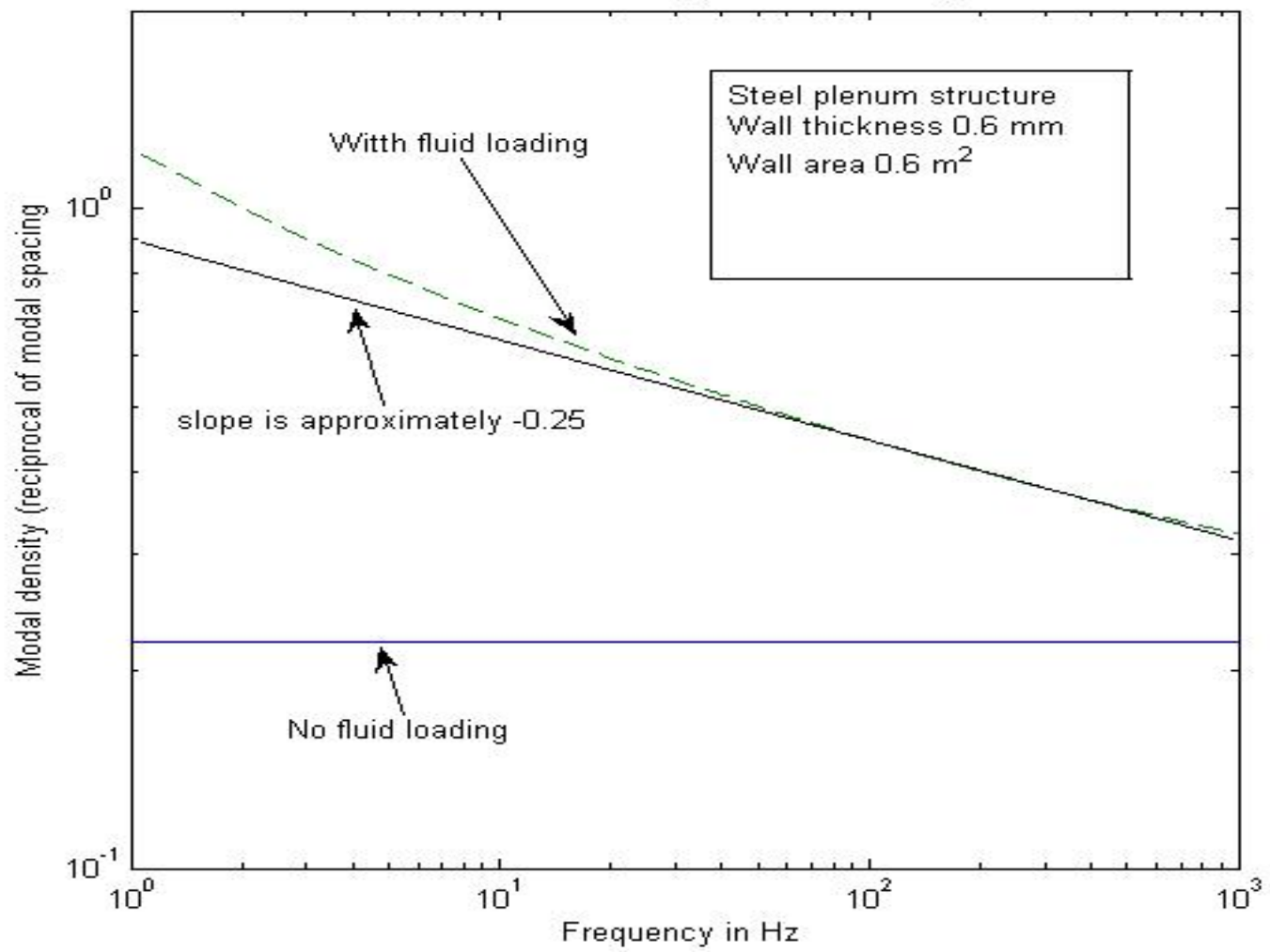
$$c_g = c(1 - d \ln c / d \ln \omega)^{-1}$$

$$n(\omega) = \omega A_p / 2\pi c c_g$$

Comparison of fluid loaded wavespeeds with unloaded values



Effect of fluid loading on modal density



Conductance and Susceptance

$$G(\omega) = \pi n(\omega) / 2M(\omega)$$

$$\frac{\sigma_G^2}{m_G^2} = \frac{1}{2M_o} \frac{\langle \psi_m^4 \rangle_x}{\langle \psi_m^2 \rangle_x^2} = \frac{9}{8M_o}$$

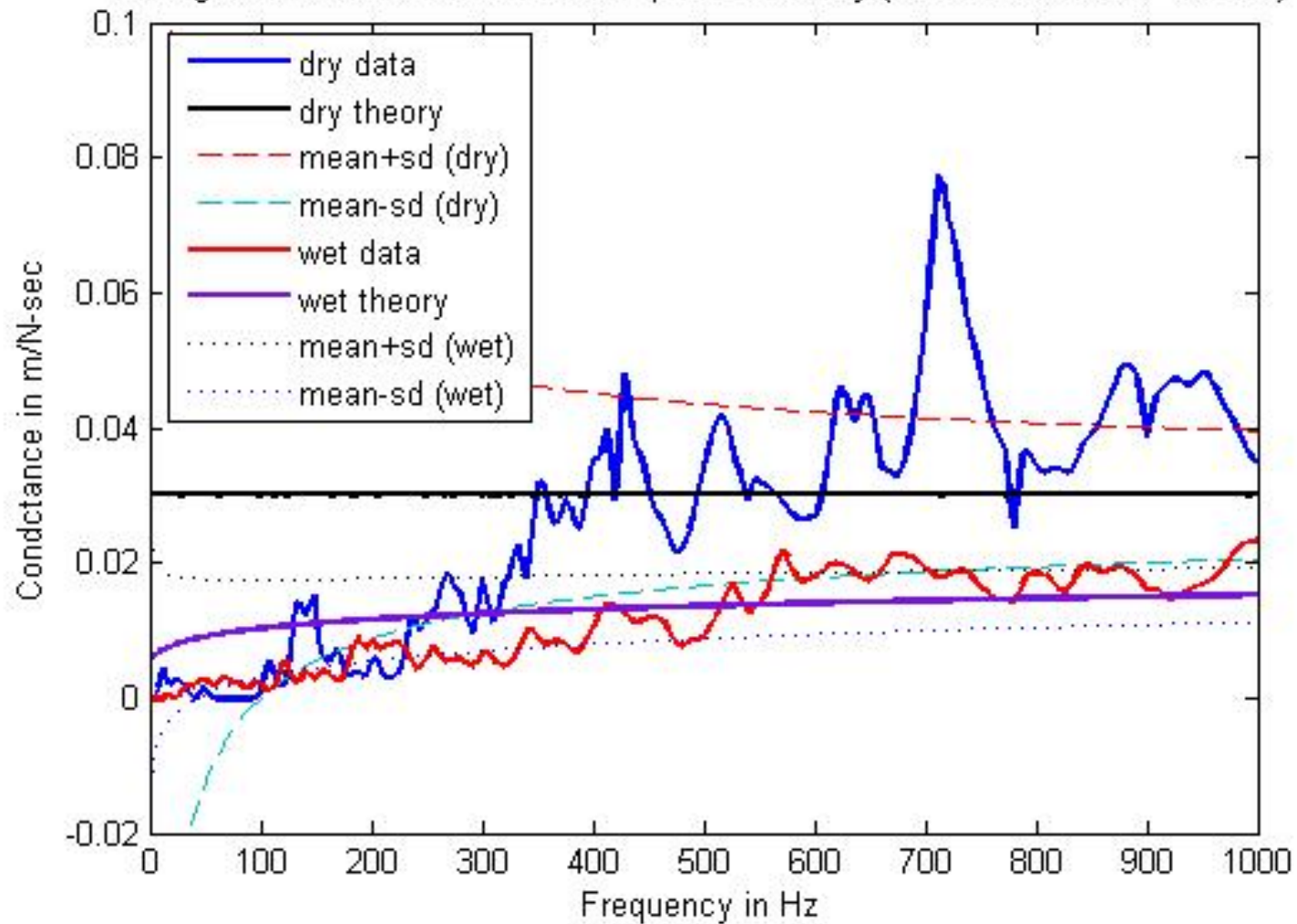
$$n(\omega) \sim \omega p$$

$$Y(\omega) = G(\omega)(1 - j2R / \pi);$$

$$R = 2p / (p^2 - 1)$$



Average measured conductance compared to theory (mean and mean + std dev)

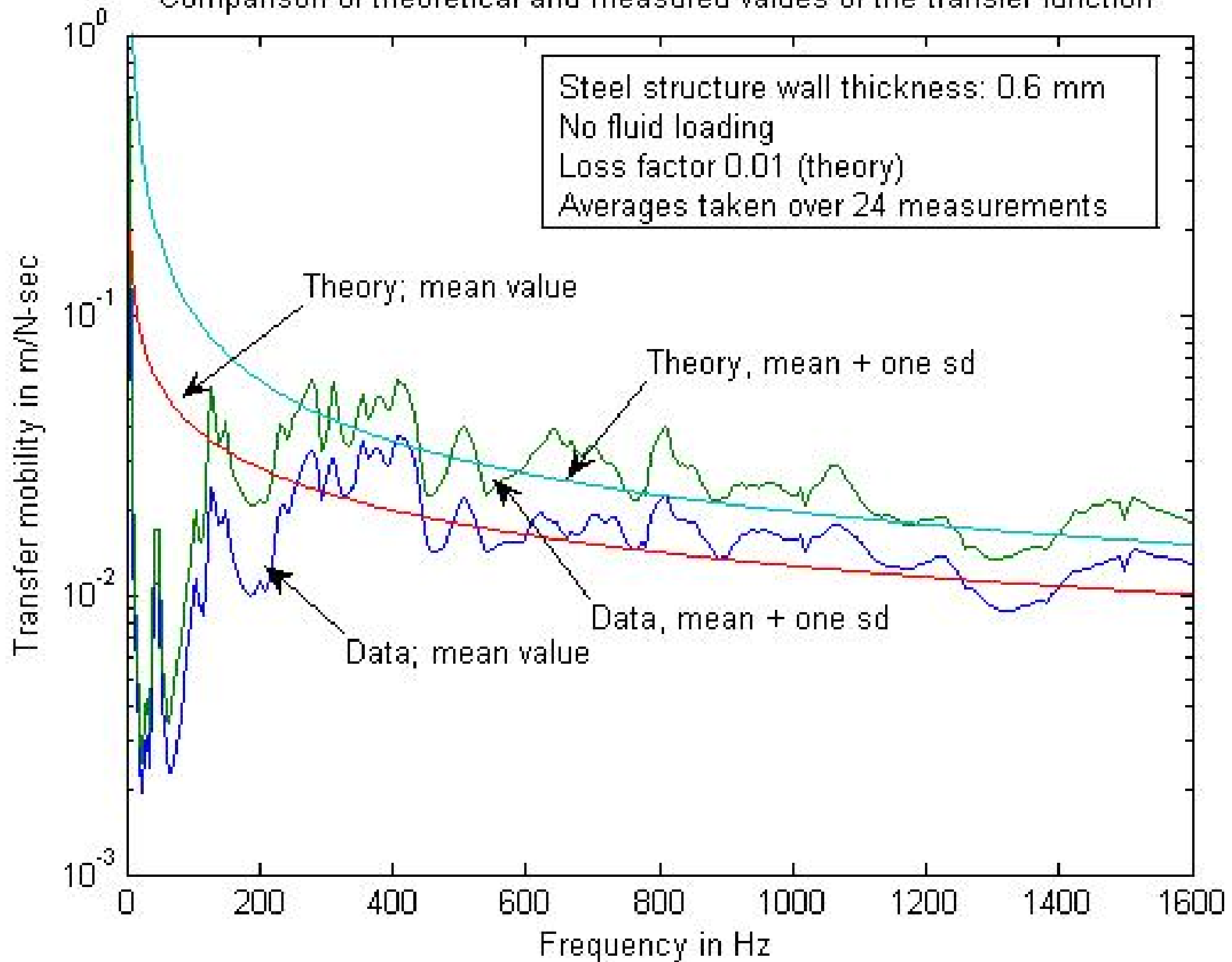


Transfer functions

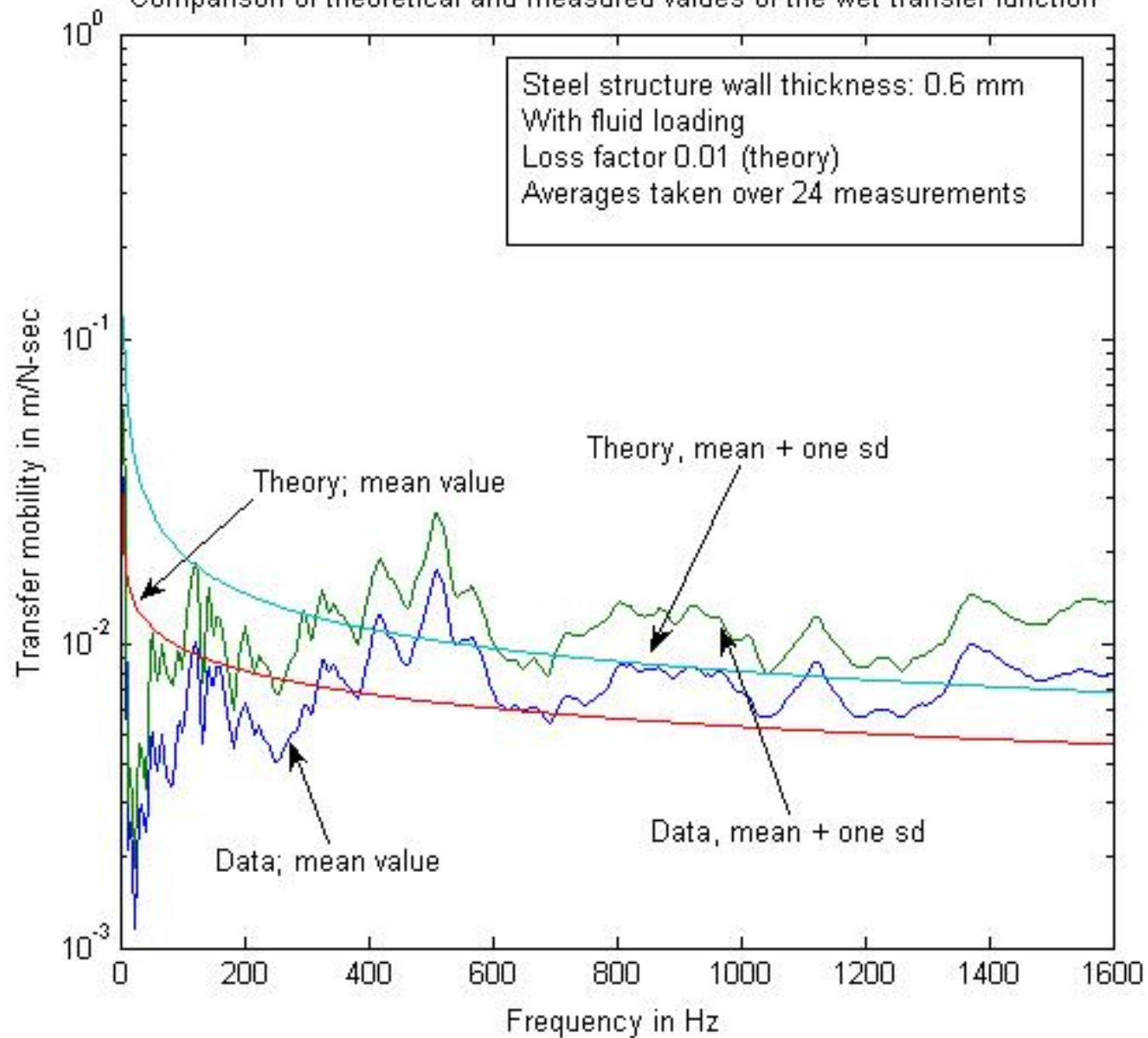
$$\langle f^2 \rangle G(\omega) = \omega \eta M(\omega) \langle v^2 \rangle$$

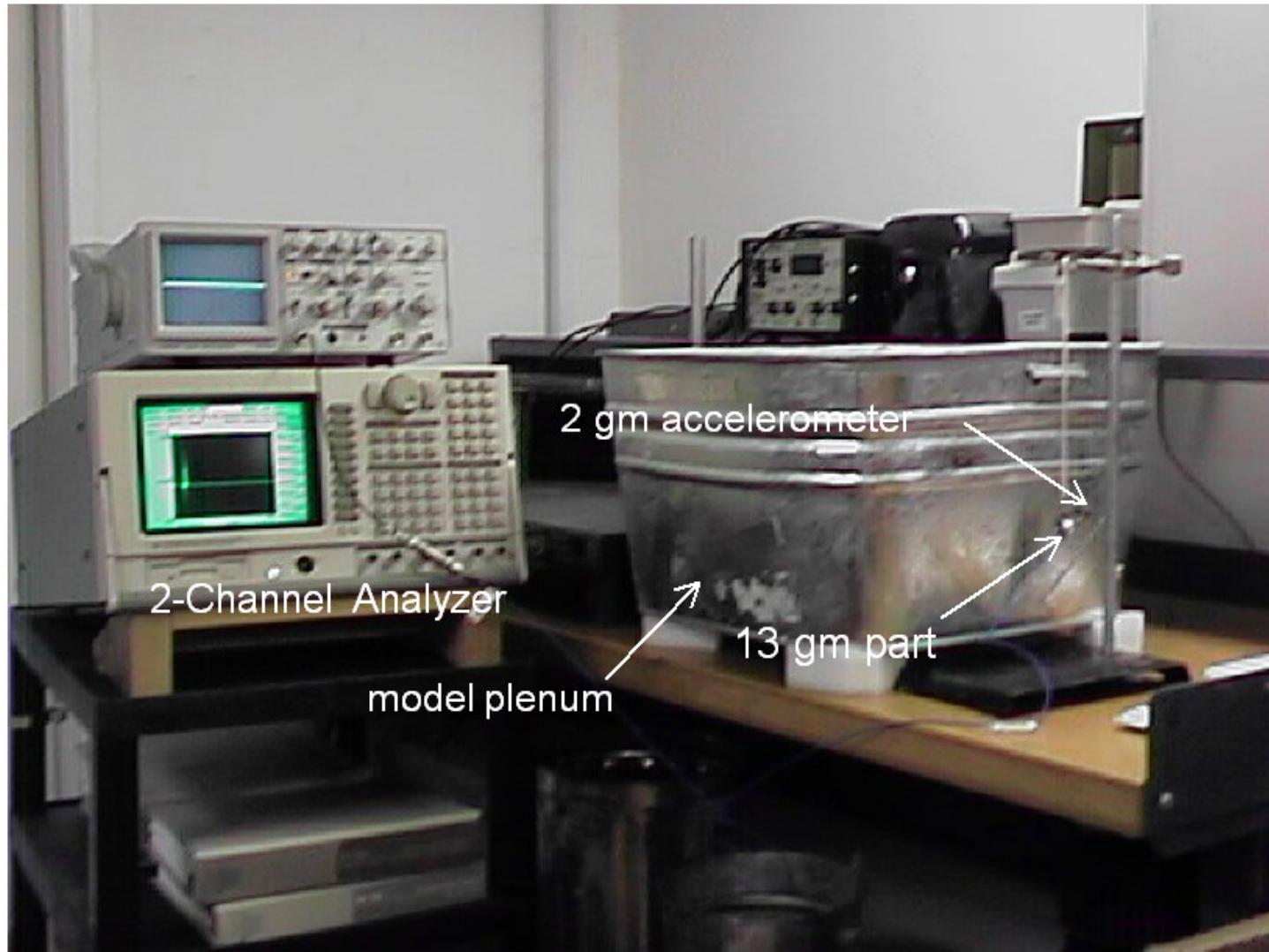
$$\frac{\sigma_{TF}^2}{m_{TF}^2} = 1 + \frac{1}{2M_o} \frac{\langle \psi_m^4 \rangle_x^2}{\langle \psi_m^2 \rangle_x^4} = 1 + \frac{2.5}{M_o}$$

Comparison of theoretical and measured values of the transfer function



Comparison of theoretical and measured values of the wet transfer function





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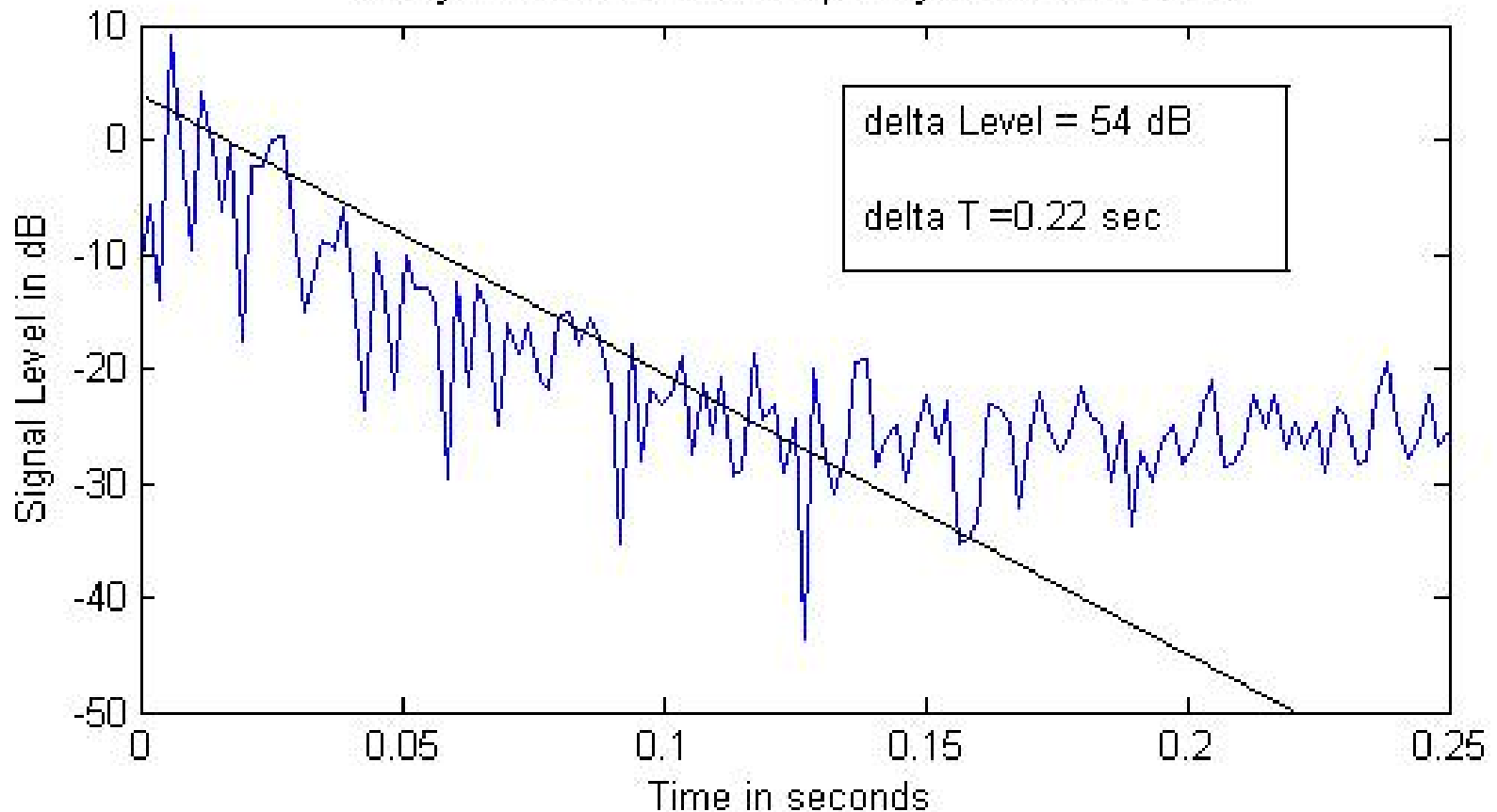
$$e(t) = M \langle v^2 \rangle / 2$$

$$e(t) = E \exp(-\omega \eta t)$$

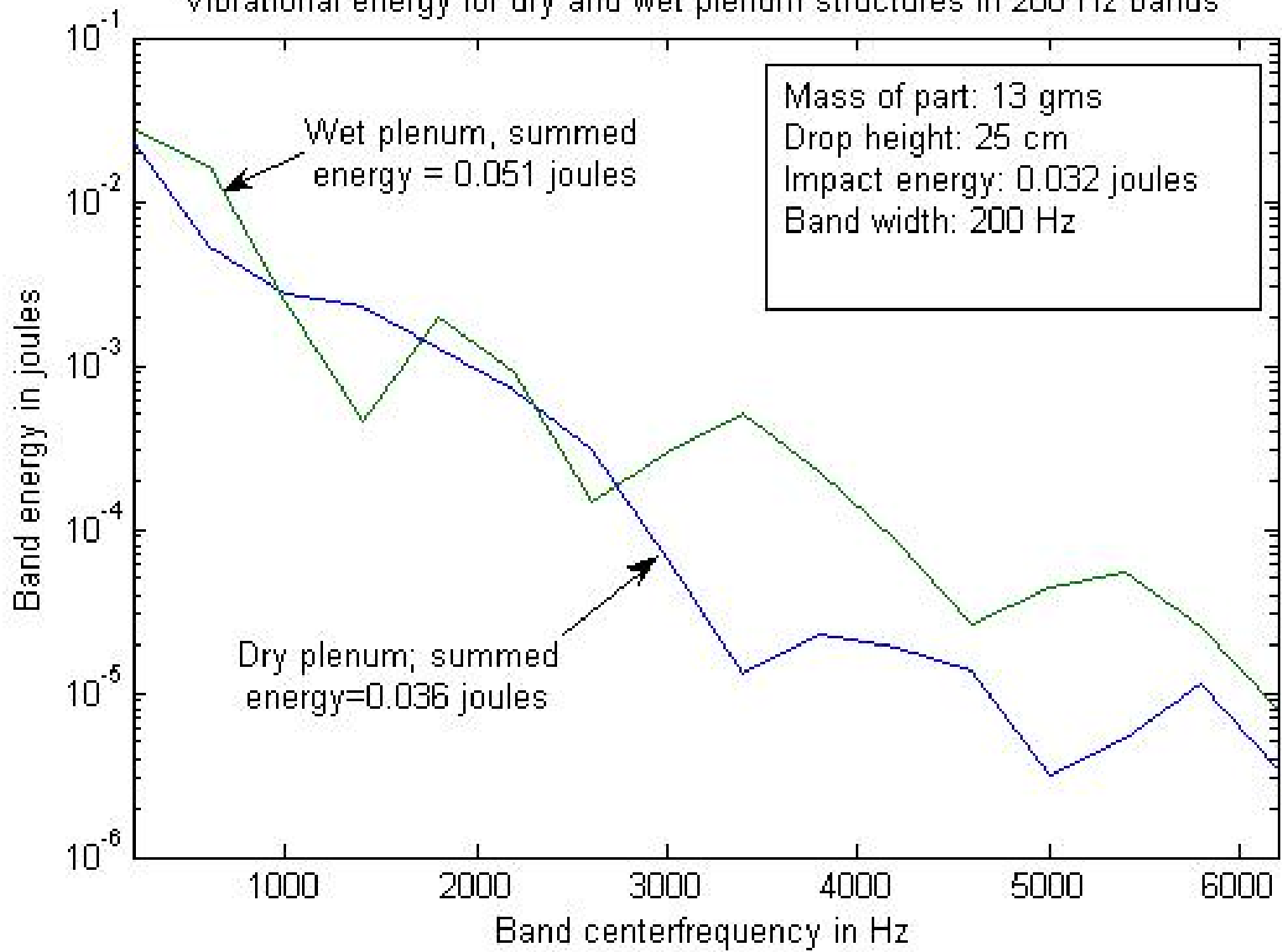
$$S(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} M \int \langle |v|^2 \rangle dt = (\frac{1}{2} M / \omega^2) \int \langle |a|^2 \rangle dt = E / \omega \eta$$

$$E(\omega) = \omega \eta S(\omega)$$

Decay of vibration in the frequency band 400-800 Hz

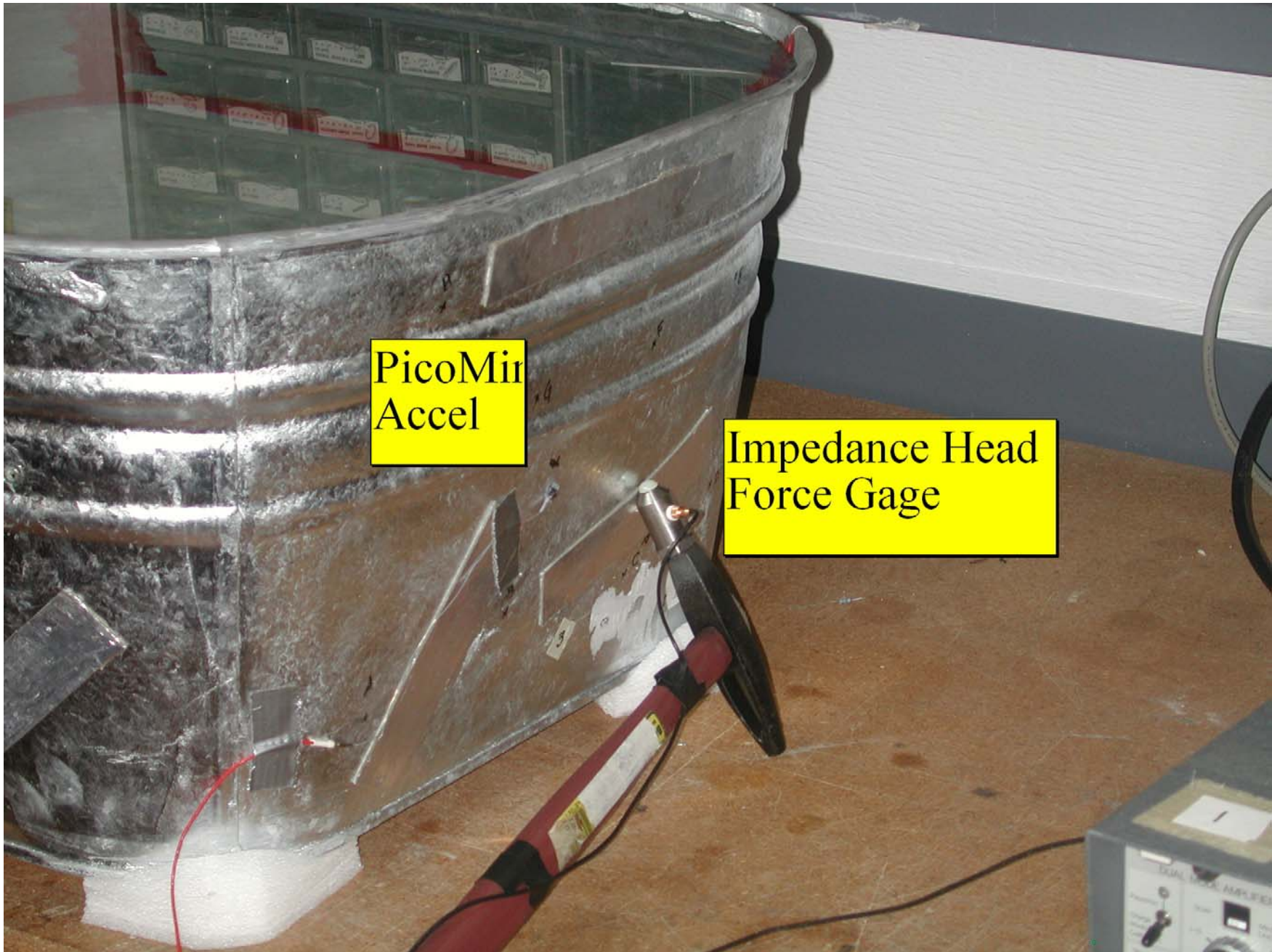


Vibrational energy for dry and wet plenum structures in 200 Hz bands



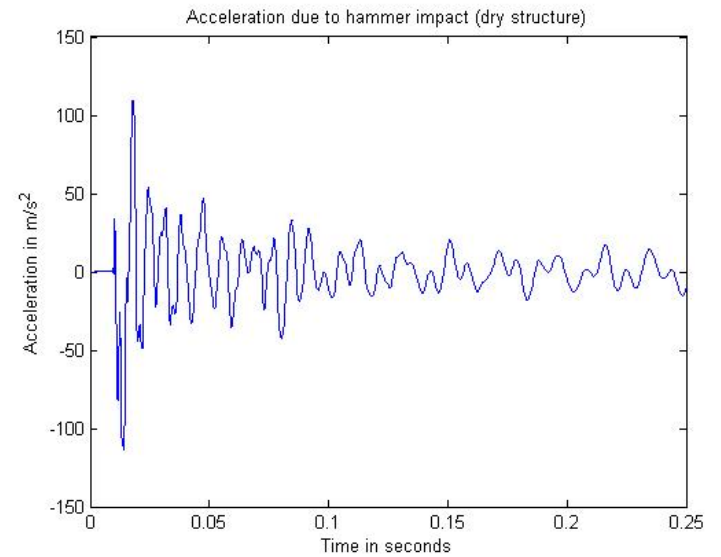
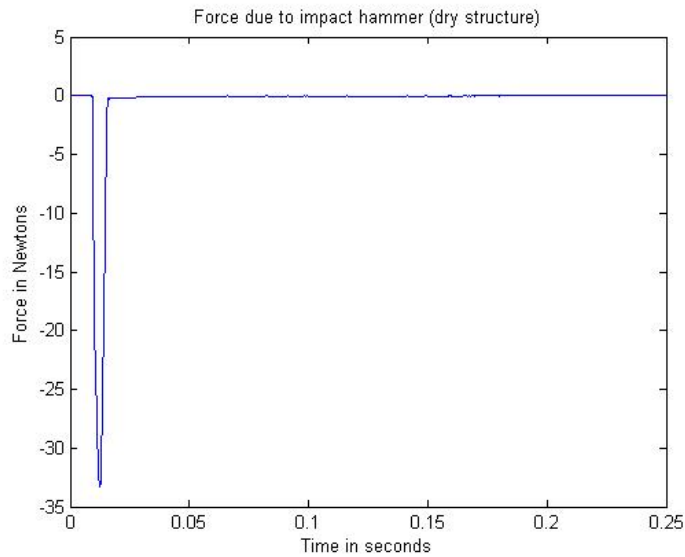
PicoMir
Accel

Impedance Head
Force Gage

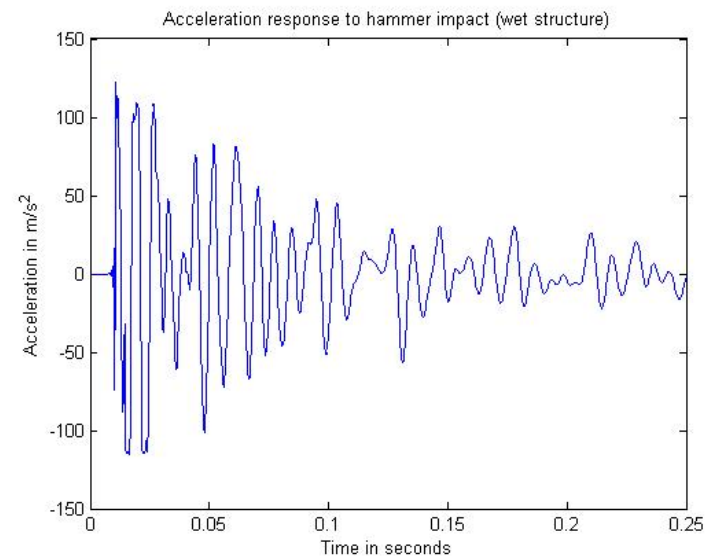
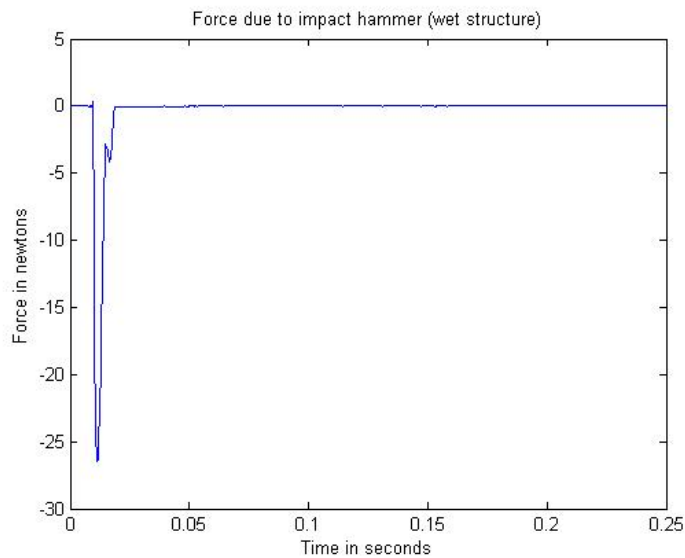


Samples of impact forces and resulting acceleration

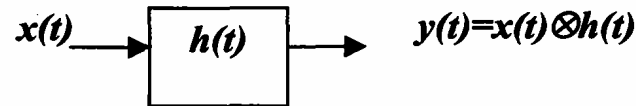
Dry
Structure



Wet
Structure



Modal parameters as noise to be rejected



$$x(t) = \sin(2\pi f_0 t) \exp(-\beta_0 t)$$

parameters: f_0, β_0

$$h(t) = \sum_m \psi_m^s \psi_m^o \sin(2\pi f_m t) \exp(-\beta_m t) \quad m=1,2,\dots$$

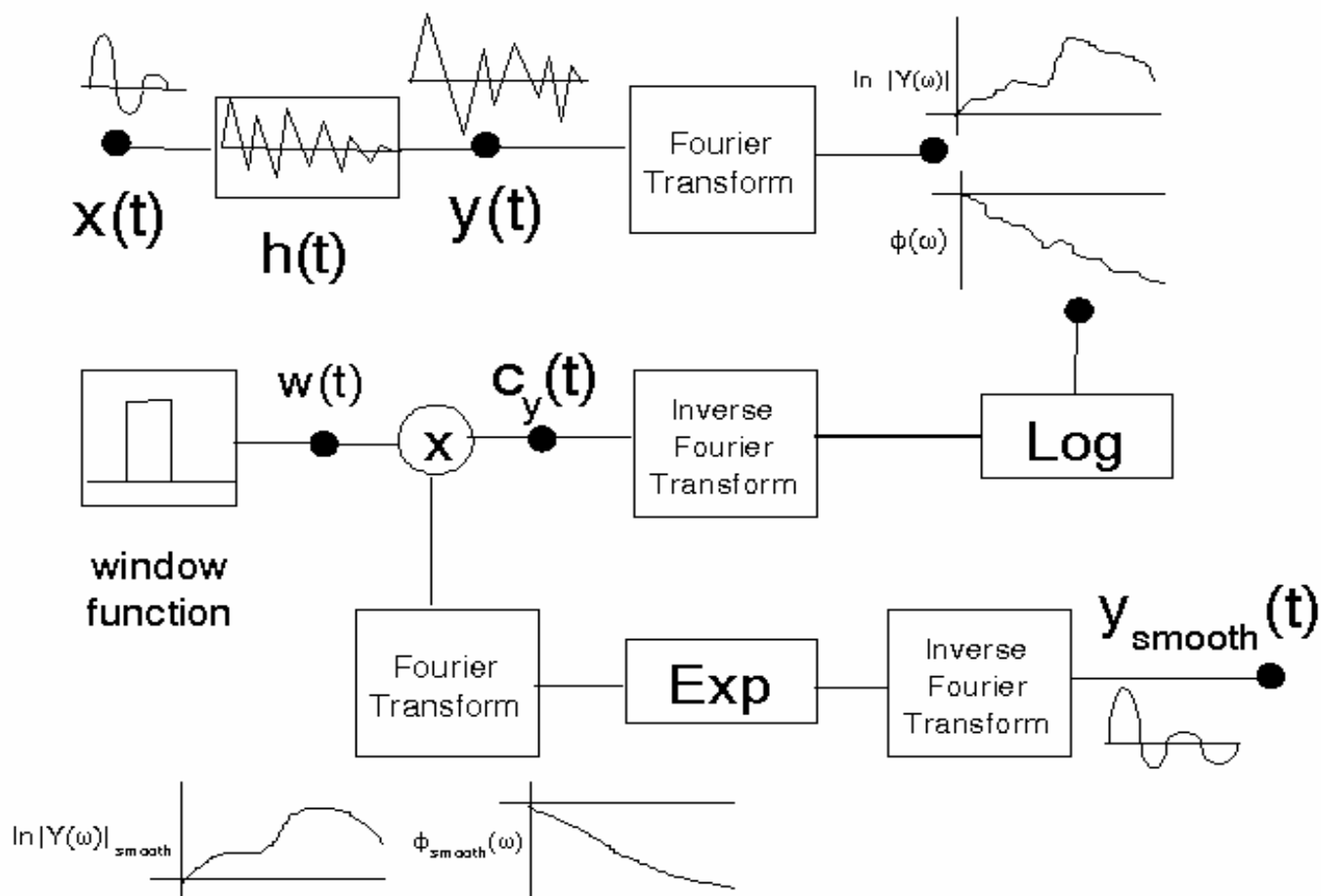
parameters: $f_m, \beta_m, \psi_m^s, \psi_m^o \quad m=1,2,\dots$

Therefore

$y(t)$: parameters: $f_0, \beta_0; f_m, \beta_m, \psi_m^s, \psi_m^o \quad m=1,2,\dots$

Question:

How to get rid of $f_m, \beta_m, \psi_m^s, \psi_m^o \quad m=1,2,\dots$ and retrieve f_0, β_0 ?



Matched Filtering

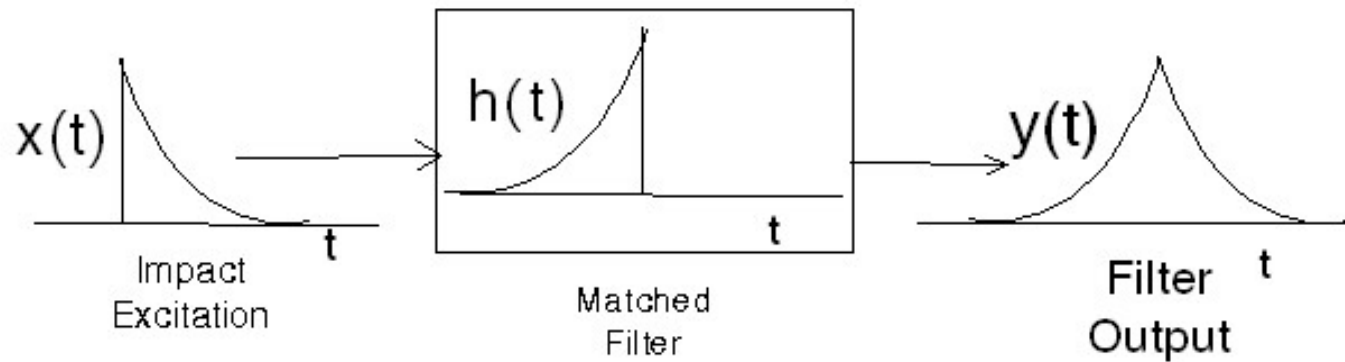
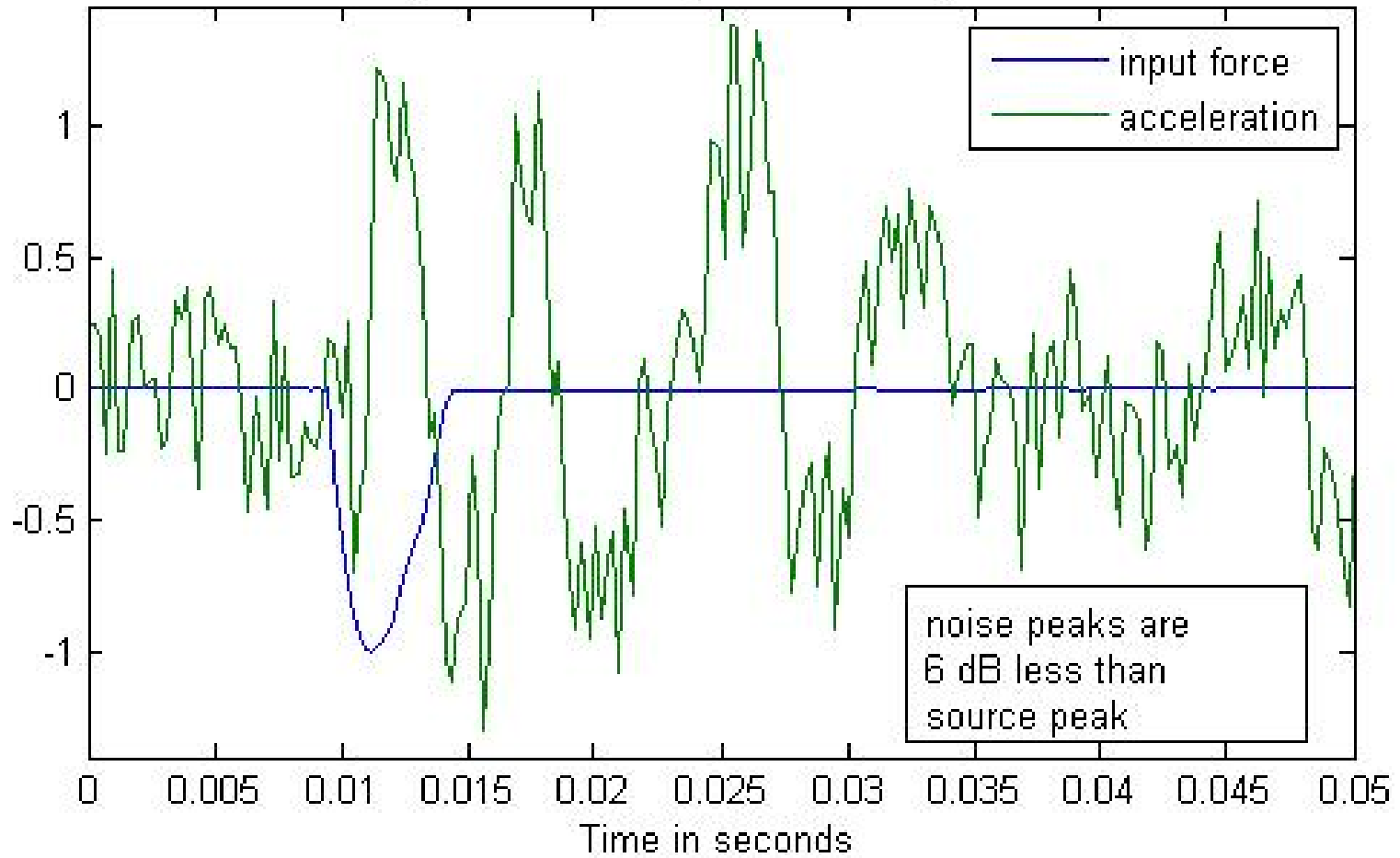
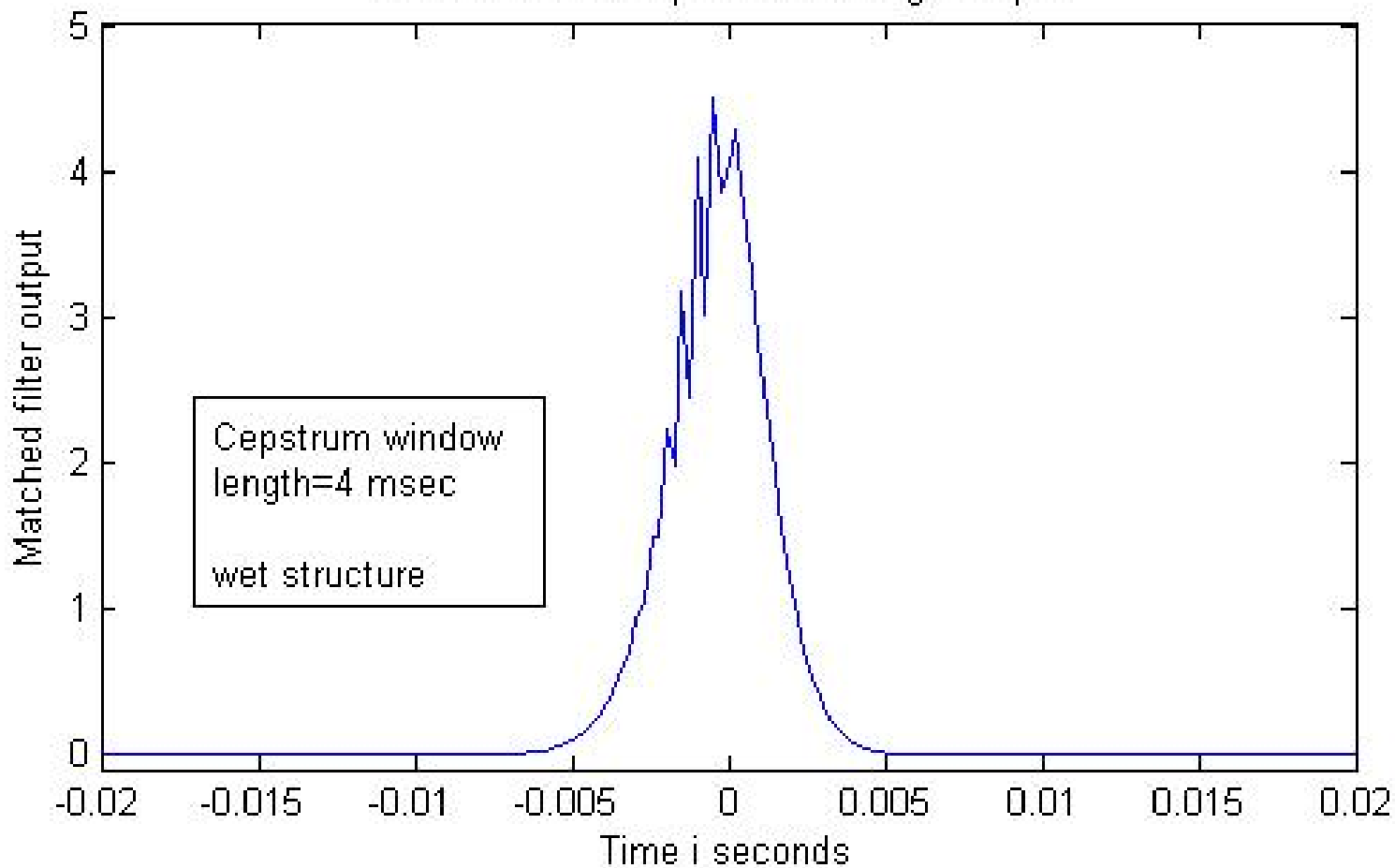


Figure 1. Matched filter applied to simple pulse waveform

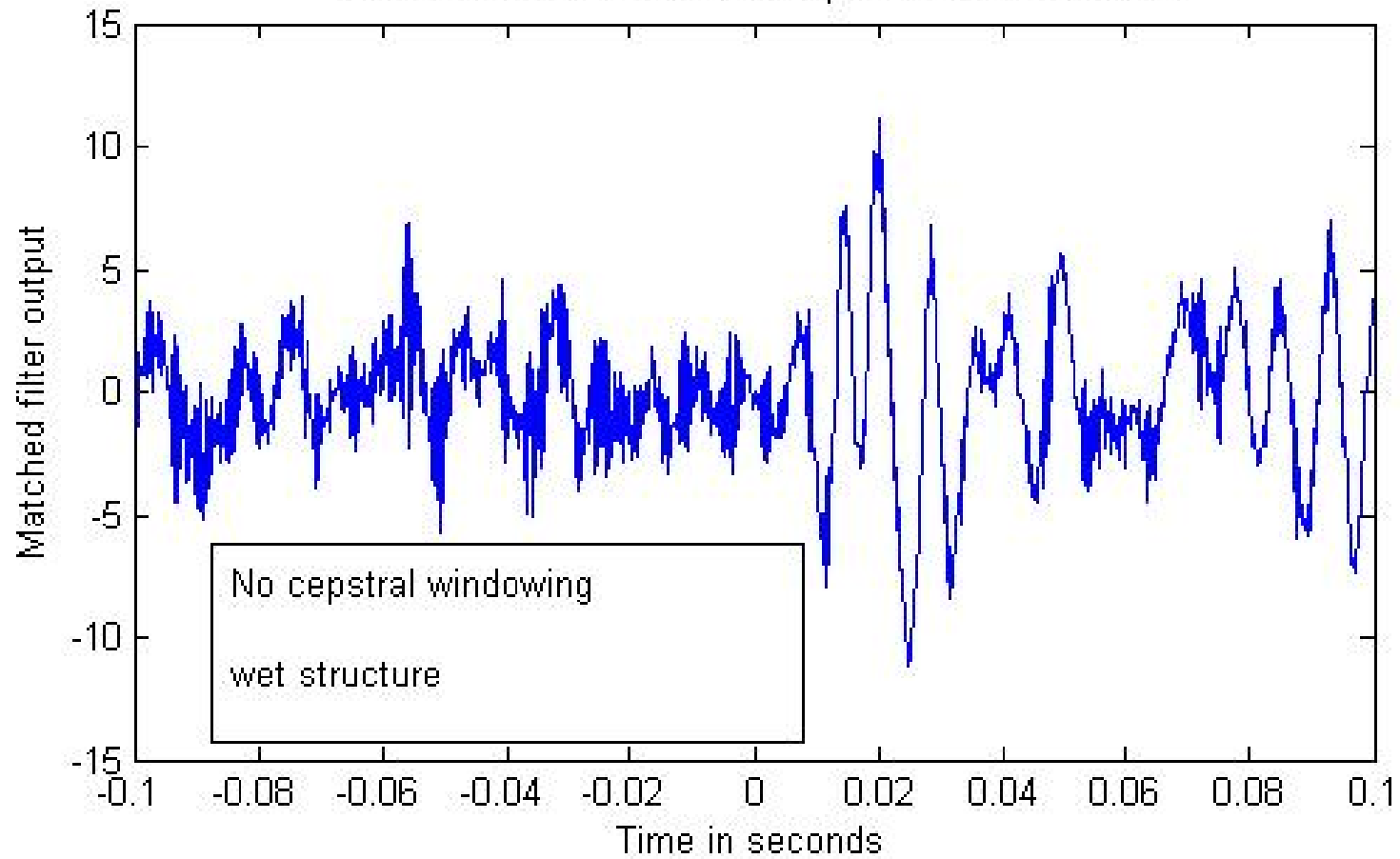
input force and early structural response



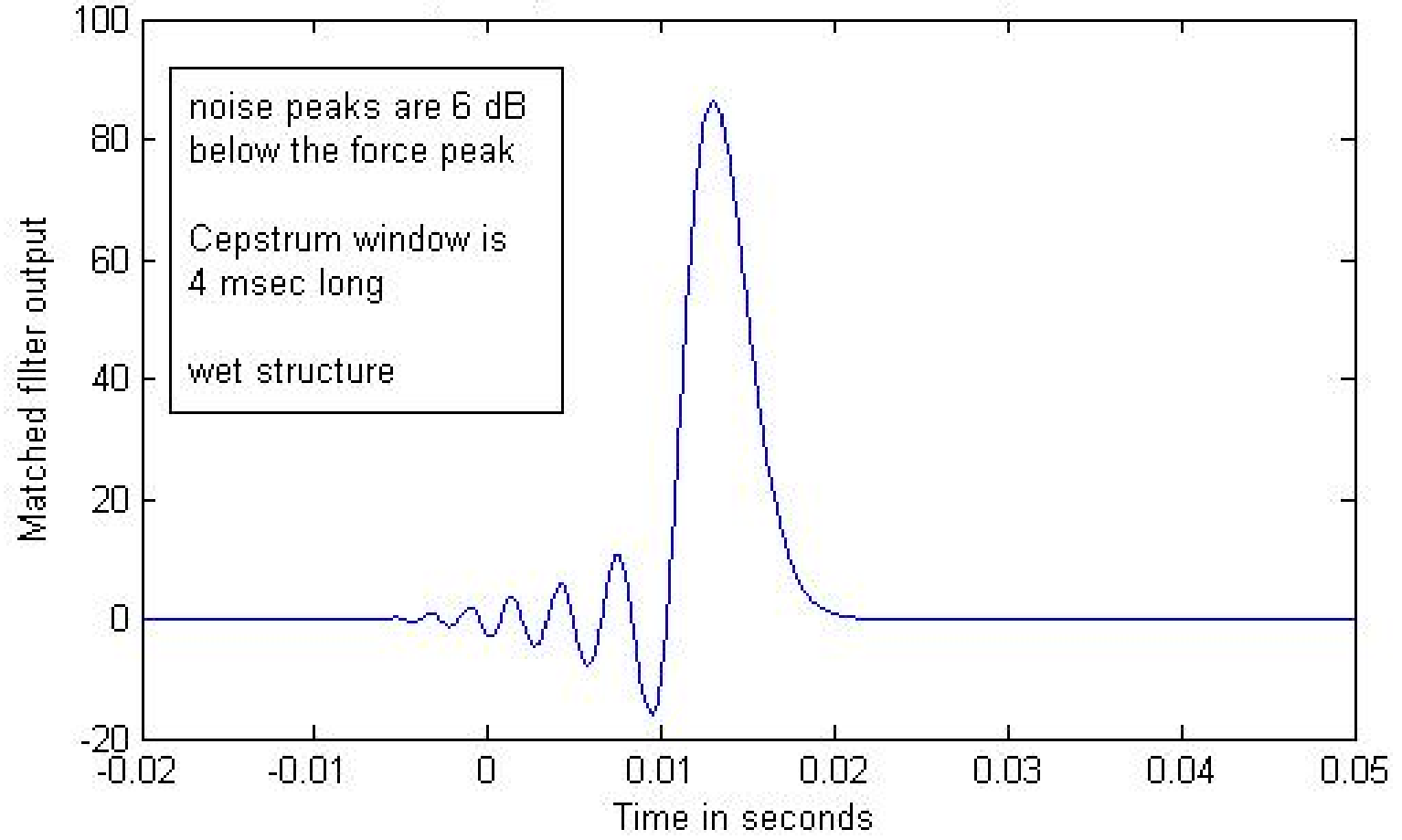
Matched filter output for force signal input



Unwindowed matched filter response to acceleration



Cepstrally windowed matched filter response



Windowed matched filter response to noise

