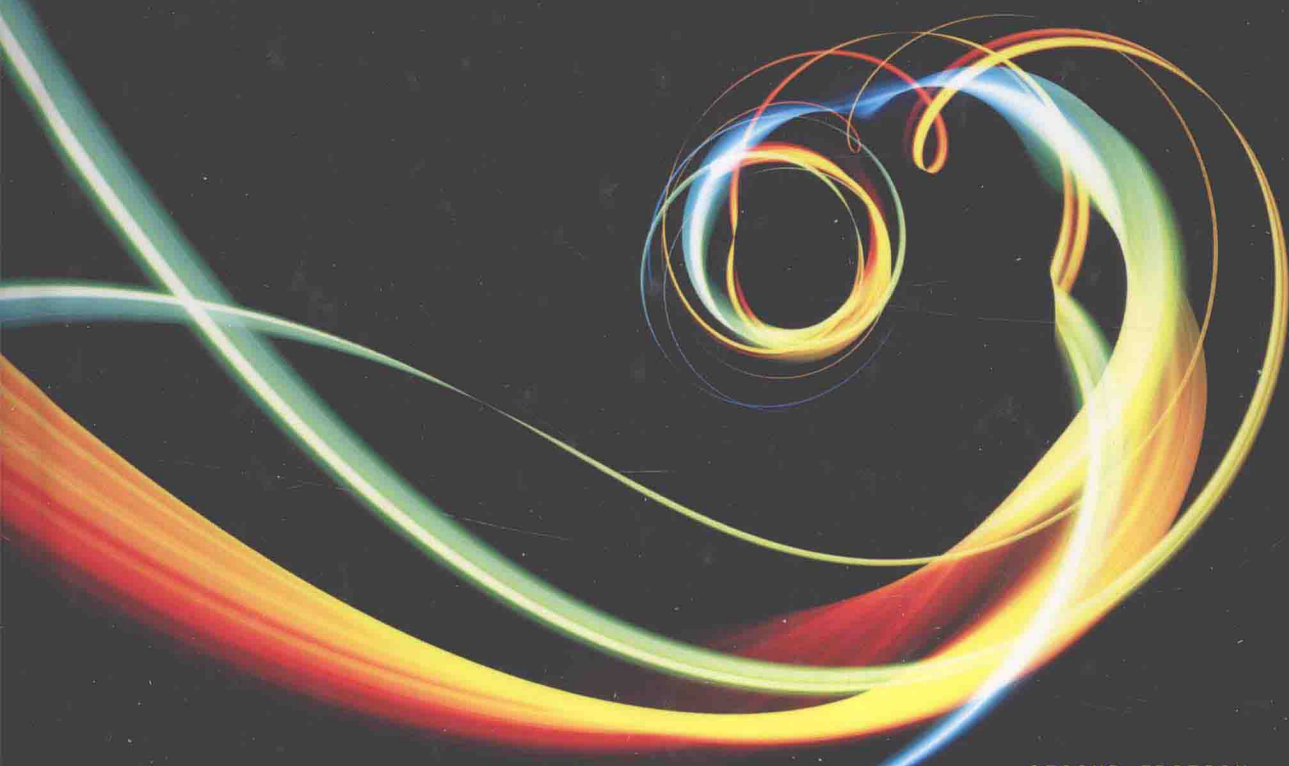


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SECOND EDITION

FLOW-INDUCED VIBRATIONS

CLASSIFICATIONS AND LESSONS
FROM PRACTICAL EXPERIENCES



Flow-Induced Vibrations

Classifications and Lessons from Practical Experiences

Second Edition

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Preface

The soundness of the energy plant system and its peripheral equipment is attracting strong interest not only from people in industry engaged in nuclear power generation, thermal power generation, hydroelectric power generation and chemical plant operation etc., but also from ordinary citizens. In addition, abnormal vibrations and noise that arise in aircraft and automobiles, for example, are also important problems related to reliability.

One of the key factors inhibiting the soundness of the energy plant system and reliability of equipment is flow-induced vibration (FIV), which arises via flow and structural system coupling or flow acoustics and structural system coupling. Research on FIV, ranging from basic research in laboratories to practical research at the prototypical industrial scale in various research institutes around the world, has been widely carried out.

However, the number of incidents due to flow-induced vibration or noise generation leading to structural failure does not show any signs of significant decline. Indeed, there is an increase in the number of incidents, which might lead to loss of confidence from society as well as economic loss. Problems in nuclear power stations are a case in point.

The reason why such phenomena arise is because a network for the purpose of transmission of knowledge and information on flow-induced vibration between researchers, designers, builders and operation managers has not been constituted.

Once a vibration problem arises, it must be solved in a short time. To achieve this, investigation of similar past cases is energetically carried out. However, the number of well-documented previous cases with useful information is very limited due to the veil of business secrecy.

It is against this background that the researchers who gathered at the Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers FIV workshops undertook the task of extracting the most useful information from the literature reviewed at the series of workshops over the past 27 years.

The information has been put together in the form of a database in which fundamental knowledge on flow-induced vibration is explained in detail and the information vital for the designer is conveniently compiled and consolidated.

The first edition issued in 2003, which comprises the core part of the database, was composed of six chapters, which are:

1. Introduction, 2. Vibration induced by cross-flow, 3. Vibration induced by external axial flow, 4. Vibrations induced by internal fluid flow, 5. Vibration induced by pressure waves in piping, 6. Acoustic vibration and noise caused by heat (now titled: Heating-related oscillations and noise). In the second edition, two more chapters, i.e., 7. Vibrations in rotary machines and, 8. Vibrations in

fluid—structure interaction systems, are added to complete the systematization of flow-induced vibration analysis, evaluation and research.

We hope this volume will be useful to engineers and students both for the systematic evaluation and understanding of flow-induced vibration and in contributing to the creation of new research topics based on knowledge acquired in the field.

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Introduction

1

1.1 General overview

Vibration and noise problems due to fluid flow occur in many industrial plants. This obstructs smooth plant operation and in serious cases can lead to significant maintenance and repair costs and costly losses in productivity. These flow-related vibration phenomena are generally known as ‘flow-induced vibrations’ (FIV). The term ‘flow-induced vibration and noise’ (FIVN) is used when flow-induced noise is present.

It is fairly evident that the fluid force acting on an obstacle in flow will vary due to the flow unsteadiness and that the varying force, in turn, may cause vibration of the obstacle. In the case of piping connected to reciprocating fluid machines, for example, it is well-known that the oscillating (fluctuating) flow in the piping generates excitation forces causing piping vibration.

However, even for steady flow conditions, vibration problems may be caused by vortex shedding behind obstacles or by other phenomena. The drag direction vibration of the thermocouple well in the fast-breeder reactor at Monju in Japan is an example of a vibration problem caused by the symmetric vortex shedding behind the well. This kind of self-excited FIV occurs even in steady flow, making it much more difficult to determine the underlying mechanism and thus, one of the most difficult problems to deal with at the design stage or during trouble-shooting. Flow-induced acoustic noise is also an important problem in industry.

1.1.1 History of FIV research

Two conferences (Naudascher [1]; Naudascher and Rockwell [2]) on fluid-related vibration were held in 1972 and 1979, on the initiative of Prof. Naudascher of the University of Karlsruhe, Germany. At the 1979 conference, many practical problems related to flow-induced vibration and noise in a wide variety of industrial fields, such as mechanical systems, civil engineering, aircrafts, ships, and nuclear power plants, were presented. The conference included many interesting results that are still pertinent today.

In 1977, Dr. Robert Blevins wrote the first book [3] in the field. The term flow-induced vibration became popular after he used it for the book’s title. In the book and probably for the first time, FIV phenomena were classified based on the

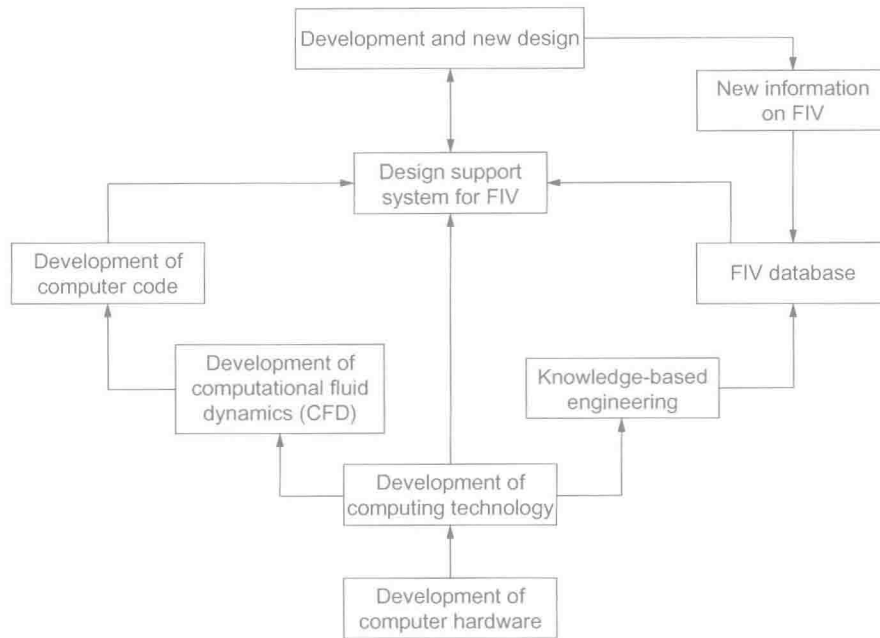
two basic flow types: steady flow induced and unsteady flow related. Blevins went on to publish a handbook [4] focused on the frequencies and the eigenmodes of structural systems and fluid systems related to FIV. A second handbook (Blevins [5]), aimed at designers, gave systematic information for pipe flows, open water channels, separated flow, flow resistance, shear flow, etc. These handbooks contain valuable information on FIV-related problems and the underlying phenomena. The second edition of the book *Flow-Induced Vibration* (Blevins [6]) was published in 1990.

On the other side of the Atlantic, Prof. Naudascher in Germany wrote a book [7] on the hydraulic forces acting on dams and gates mainly from the civil engineering and hydraulics point of view. He and Prof. Rockwell co-authored a textbook [8] for designers where the vibration classifications are based on excitation mechanisms. The text is useful for the design of mechanical systems.

Several books focusing on specific phenomena have been written. These include a book [9] on cylindrical structures by Dr. S.S. Chen; a book [10] on the fluid–structure interaction (FSI) of pressure vessels by Dr. Morand and Dr. Ohayon; and two volumes [11] by Prof. Païdoussis dealing extensively with the subject of axial FIV. Païdoussis and Li [12] have written an important paper discussing pipes conveying fluids and the fundamental mechanisms behind the coupled fluid–structure oscillations. In the paper, the pipe conveying fluid problem was introduced as a model problem or paradigm useful for the understanding of the excitation mechanisms underlying FIV. Most recently, Païdoussis, Price and De Langre have published a book [13] dedicated to cross-flow-induced instabilities.

In Japan, a chapter [14] containing a detailed introduction to FIV was published in 1976. However, this formed only a small part of a large handbook on the vibration of fluid machines (including topics such as piping vibration and surging in reciprocating compressors). In 1980, the Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers (JSME) committee on FIV, under the leadership of Prof. Tajima, reviewed the state of the art in FIV, producing a report [15] which included many examples of experiences with flow-induced phenomena in Japanese industry. In 1989, another report [16] focusing on piping system pressure pulsations caused by reciprocating compressors was published under the leadership of Prof. Hayama. Other important papers have also been published on the excitation mechanisms underlying FIV (Iwatsubo [17]) or introducing examples from industrial experience (Fujita [18]).

On the specific topic of FIV in nuclear power plants, the Yayoi Research Seminar has been held since 1990 at the nuclear test facility of the University of Tokyo to introduce research studies and disseminate new information (Madaramé [19]). The leader, Prof. Madaramé, indicated at the first meeting that a FIV design support system such as depicted in Fig. 1.1 was required. The system incorporates analytical tools and a database on FIV. Such systems are already used in other fields. His idea later appeared in the form of published guidelines of the JSME. Examples include the guidelines [20] motivated by the steam generator tube failure in the Mihama nuclear power plant of the Kansai Electric Power Corporation

**FIGURE 1.1**

Design support system for FIV.

or the guidelines [21] developed following the thermocouple well failure in the Monju fast-breeder reactor.

With regard to flow-induced noise, an international conference was held in 1979 (Müller [22]), and a book on the subject was written by Blake [23] in 1986. In Japan, a book on *Examples of Noise & Vibration Resistance Systems* was published in 1990 by the Japanese Noise Control Academy [24]. The book includes many examples of flow-induced noise, making it very useful for designers. A paper (Maruta [25]) introducing the subject of FIV and including a review of recent research papers on noise was also published.

A number of important FIV meetings are held around the world. Within the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), the International Symposium on Fluid–Structure Interactions, Flow–Sound Interaction and Flow-Induced Vibration & Noise (FSI² & FIV+N) is held every 4 years. A FIV symposium is also held every second year at the ASME Pressure Vessel and Piping Conference. The latter is mainly geared toward the investigation of FIV problems in industrial pressure vessels & piping. In Europe, the International Conference on Flow-Induced Vibrations is also held every 4 years. This conference is related to the 1973 Keswick conference in England. The conference has since expanded to many fields. In Japan, a FIV session is held yearly during every JSME conference.

1.1.2 Origin of this book

The FIV seminar, which is held by the JSME, began in 1984 under the leadership of Profs. Hara (Science University of Tokyo) and Iwatsubo¹ (Kobe University at the time). The aim of the seminar is to collect and analyze worldwide information on FIV in the field of mechanical engineering, and to communicate this information to participants and Japanese researchers. More than 100 young researchers have attended this seminar. Its first-phase activities ended in February 1999. From April 1999, Prof. Kaneko took up the leadership of the second phase, to study and come up with the best method to use the information accumulated over more than 10 years of activities. The most important objective was to develop collaborations for future research and development using the technical information.

The main activity of the first phase was to gather information from around the world and present it to Japanese engineers and researchers. Reports on FIV problems and research papers from outside Japan were organized and translated into Japanese language summaries, which currently number more than 400. These organized files are considered to be of high quality because almost all Japanese specialists and researchers in FIV were involved. However, the information has, to date, not been compiled into a comprehensive document. This book is therefore intended to be an adequate reference documenting the present worldwide activities on FIV, but useful not only as an information source, but also as a resource for the creation of new knowledge.

FIV can be roughly divided into five fields. Similarly, the FIV seminar consists of five working groups who contributed to this book:

1. Vibration induced by cross-flow (Leader: Tomomichi Nakamura).
2. Vibration induced by parallel flow (Leader: Fumio Inada).
3. Vibration of piping conveying fluid, pressure fluctuation, and thermal excitation (Leader: Minoru Kato).
4. Vibrations in rotating structures in flow (Leader: Kunihiro Ishihara).
5. Vibrations in fluid–structure interaction systems (Leader: Takashi Nishihara).

The first edition of this book presented, as the first step, the results of work on the first three fields (above). In this second edition, material on these fields has been updated or revised and two new chapters have been added covering the final two subjects. Throughout the book, an effort has been made to include examples from actual practical experience to the extent possible. The description of a practical problem is followed by presentation of the evaluation method, the vibration mechanisms, and finally, practical hints for vibration prevention.

As outlined above, depending on the FIV problem, different evaluation methods are required. The different types of FIV problems are presented and explained in detail beginning in Chapter 2. It is recommended, however, to start by reading

¹Currently at Nagahama corporation.

Sections 1.2 and 1.3 later in this chapter, where information on modeling and general basic mathematical methods that can be used, are first presented.

1.2 Modeling approaches

1.2.1 The importance of modeling

Figure 1.2 shows a semi circular pillar. The pillar is only lightly supported in the vertical and horizontal directions. How will the pillar respond when subjected to (wind) flow from left to right, as depicted in the figure?

A designer or technician with sufficient engineering knowledge would likely answer that the pillar will vibrate. We guess that the majority of engineers would answer that the pillar would vibrate in the direction transverse to the wind direction. Most, when asked to explain the cause of the vibration, are likely to suggest that vortex shedding behind the pillar is the source of the additional energy responsible for the vibrations.

For vortex-induced vibration (VIV), the typical analysis and resolution procedure is as depicted on the left in Fig. 1.3. This means proceeding as follows:

1. Determine the frequency of the vortex shedding responsible for the vibration excitation.
2. Measure the resonant frequency of the pillar.
3. Separate the structural frequency from the vortex shedding frequency as a countermeasure.

Changing the structural resonance frequency by changing the support conditions is more easily achievable than changing the vortex shedding frequency.

For the present problem though, the vortex excitation countermeasure presented in Fig. 1.3 would not work at all. It turns out that the pillar vibrates at a frequency far above the vortex shedding frequency. Thus, countermeasures based

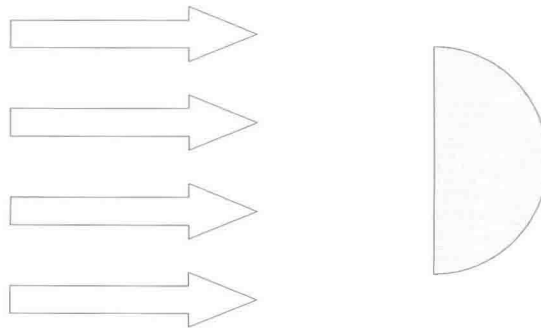


FIGURE 1.2

How will this half cylinder respond to wind flow?