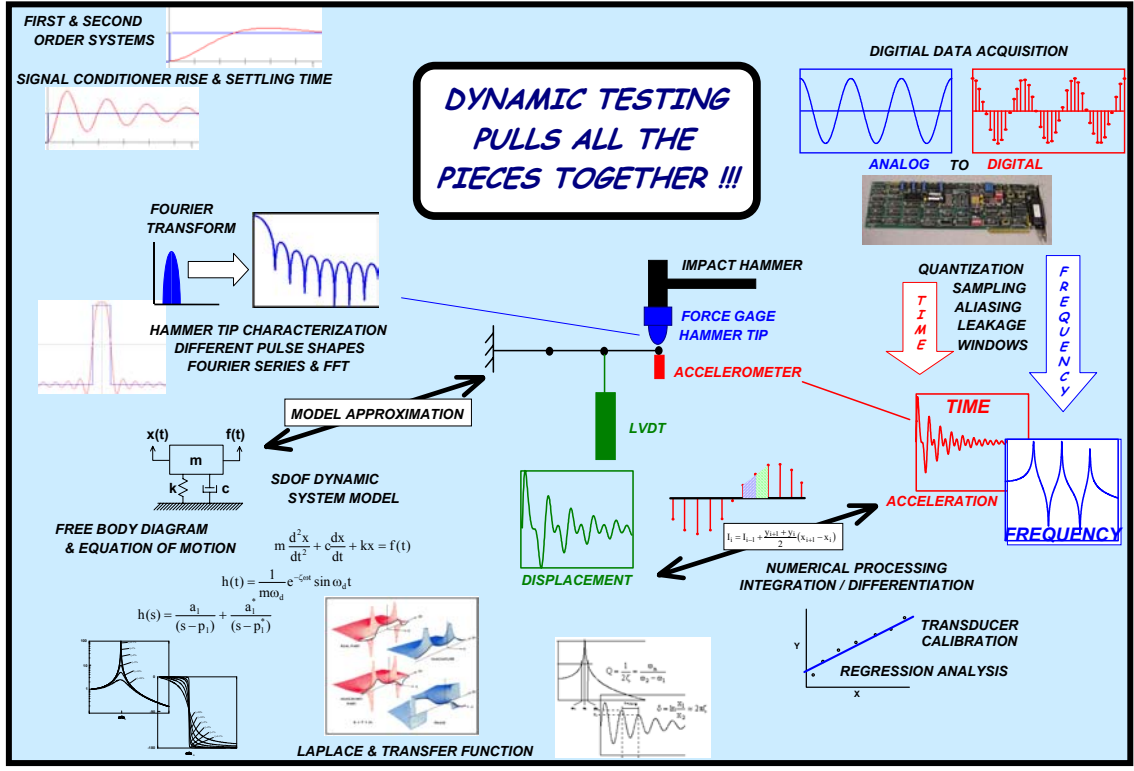




Developing a Multisemester Interwoven Dynamic Systems Project to Foster Learning and Retention of STEM Material



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The Problem

Students generally do not understand how basic STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) material fits into all of their engineering courses

Relationship of basic material to subsequent courses is unclear to the student.

Practical relevance of the material is not clear.

Students hit the "reset button" after each course not realizing the importance of STEM material

Reset





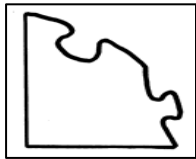
The Problem

Student Comment:

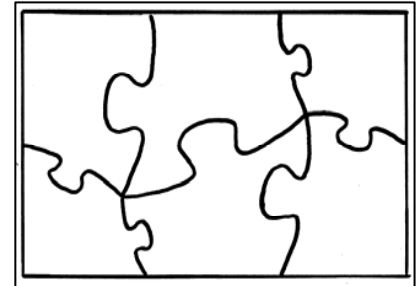
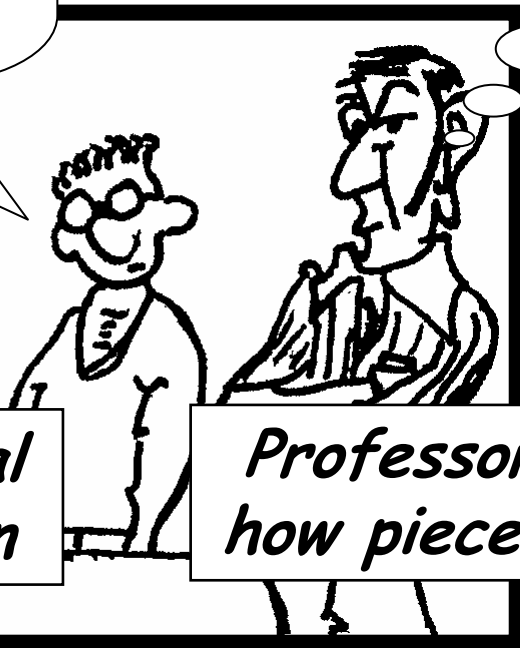
Professor, why didn't you tell us that the material covered in other courses was going to be really important for the work we need to do in this Dynamic Systems course ?

Professor Thoughts:

Hmmmmmm...



Student views material in a disjointed fashion



Professor clearly sees how pieces fit together





How to Solve the Problem

DYNAMIC
SYSTEMS

A new multise­mester interwoven dynamic systems project has been initiated

This is to better integrate the material from differential equations, mathematical methods, laboratory measurements and dynamic systems

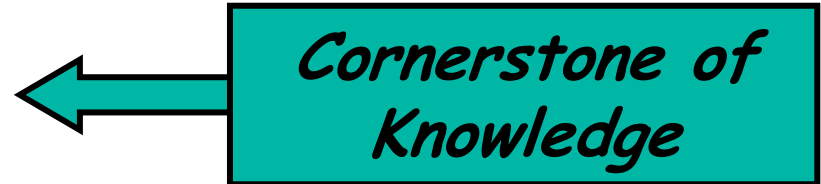
This is done across several semesters/courses to help students better understand the relationship of basic STEM material to an ongoing problem





Goals & Objectives

- *Develop a project which spans across several semesters & courses to interweave related STEM material in a coherent fashion - strongly emphasizing the inter-relationship*
 - *Simple RC Circuit*
 - *Single SDOF System*
- *Suggested for first evaluations*
- *These are generic to all engineering disciplines in that they exemplify 1st and 2nd order systems*





What Needs to be Addressed

Interwoven, multi-semester problem features:

- *Differential equations & numerical processing*
- *Fourier/Laplace transformations*
- *Instrumentation/signal processing/calibration*
- *Analog & digital data acquisition systems*
- *Time & Frequency data*
- *Impulse response & frequency response*
- *Rise time & settling time*





Scope of the Complete Project

Phase 1



Develop analytically oriented material to address the problems and techniques for solving dynamic system problems. The intent is to provide analytical tools but also address the anticipated problems encountered in a real measurement environment

Phase 2

Develop experimentally oriented acquired data that extends the application of previously identified analytical techniques and addresses measurement issues associated with collecting real world data

Phase 3

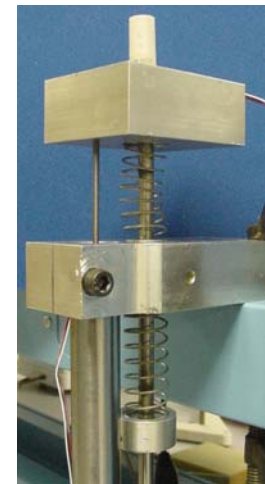
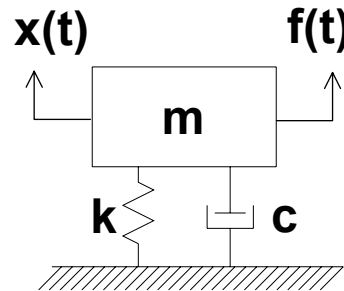
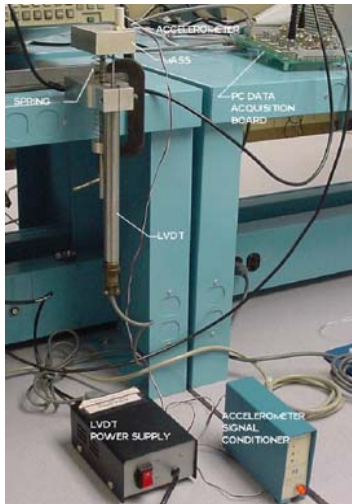
Implement materials generated in another discipline and another institution. Modify and enhance of all materials based on feedback





MCK Measurement System

A simple mass, spring, dashpot system is used to measure displacement and acceleration



Numerical processing of integration/differential needed to process data



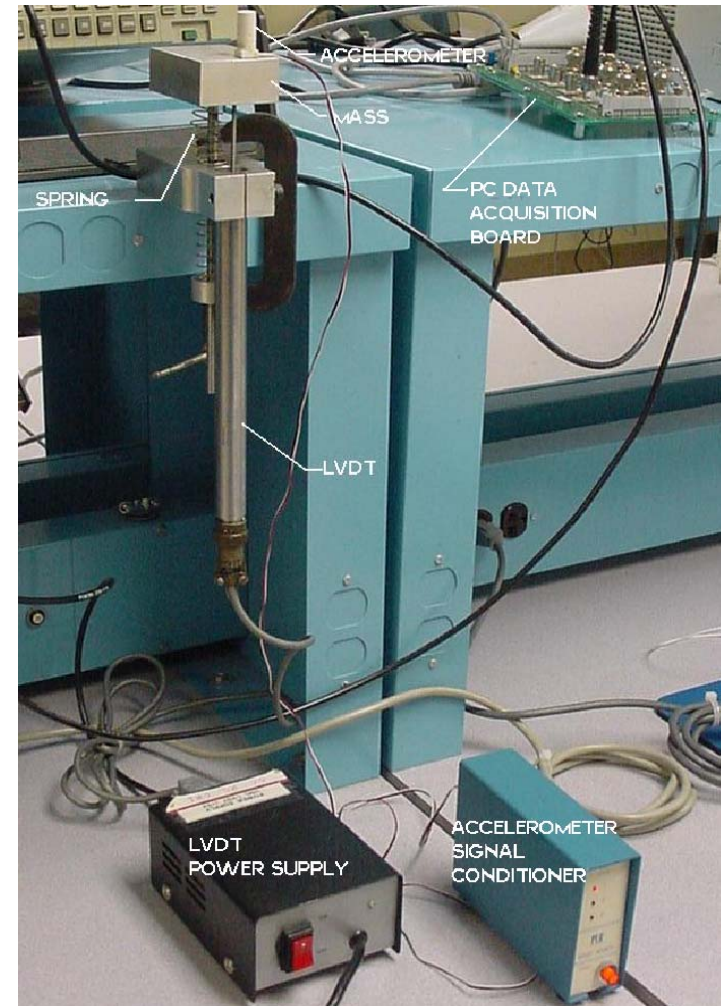


MCK Measurement System

Requires extensive use of a wide variety of different analytical tools.

Significant numerical data manipulation needed.

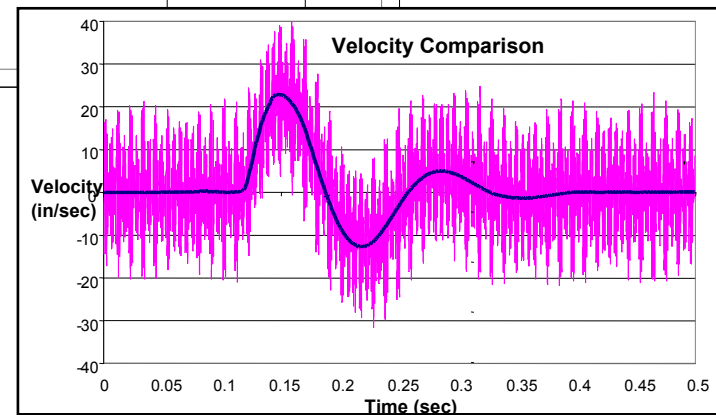
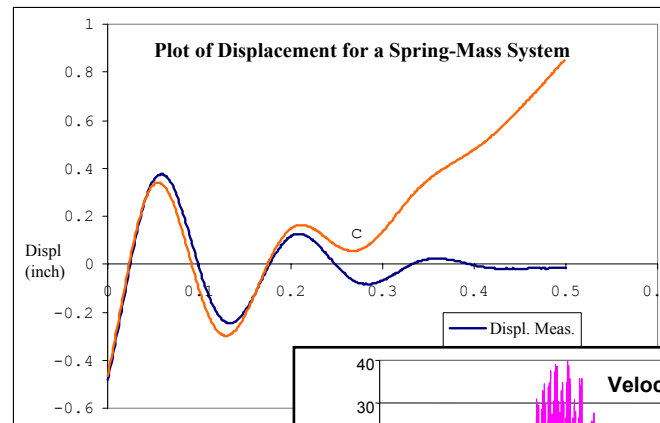
- *Regression Analysis*
- *Data Cleansing*
- *Integration*
- *Differentiation*





The data acquisition system and transducers are intentionally selected such that the majority of possible errors exist in the data

- *Drift*
- *Bias*
- *Offset*
- *Quantization*
- *Noise*

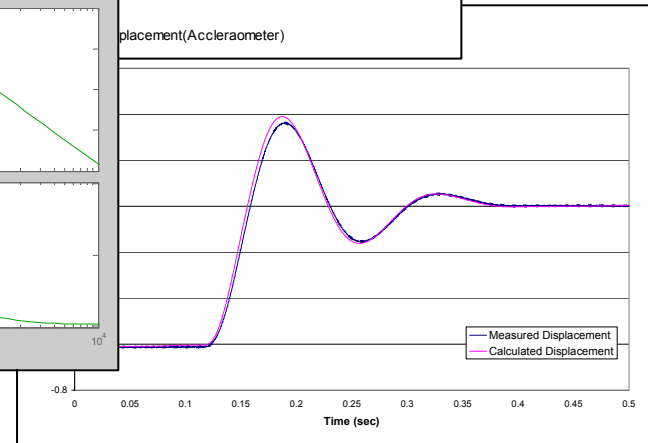
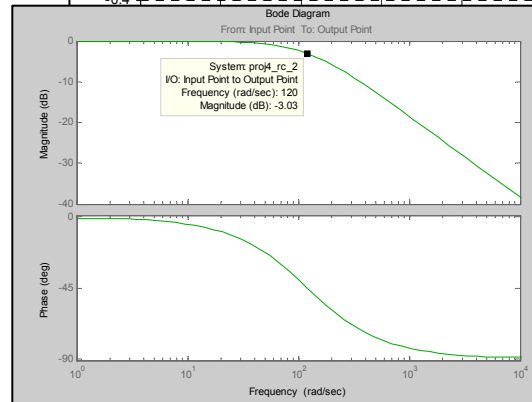
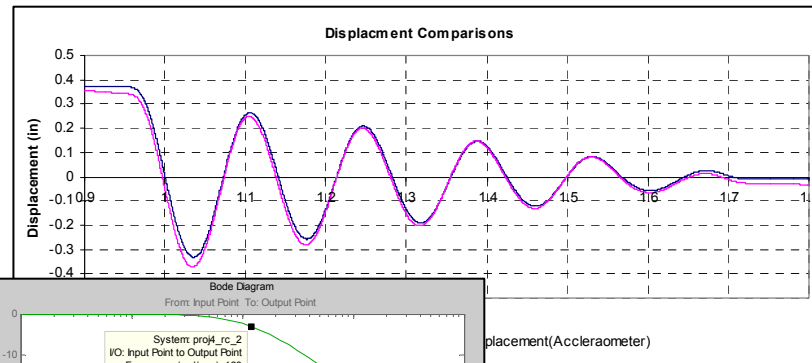




MCK Measurement System

The students are forced to integrate key STEM material and concepts to solve this problem

- *Numerical processing*
- *Filtering*
- *Thinking is required !!!*





What Has Been Addressed To Date

DYNAMIC
SYSTEMS

Several tutorials have been developed related to aspects of dynamic system response evaluation

MATLAB scripts utilizing a simple graphical user interface (GUI) emphasizing the inherent aspects of 1st and 2nd order system response developed

Voice annotated tutorials being developed

LABVIEW modules are also being developed





What Has Been Addressed To Date

Theoretical Aspects of First and Second Order Systems

First Order Systems - Modeling Step Response with ODE and Block Diagram

Second Order Systems - Modeling Step, Impulse, and Initial Condition Responses with ODE and Block Diagrams

Mathematical Modeling Considerations

Simulink and MATLAB Primer Materials

Miscellaneous Materials

Some examples are illustrated on the following sheets



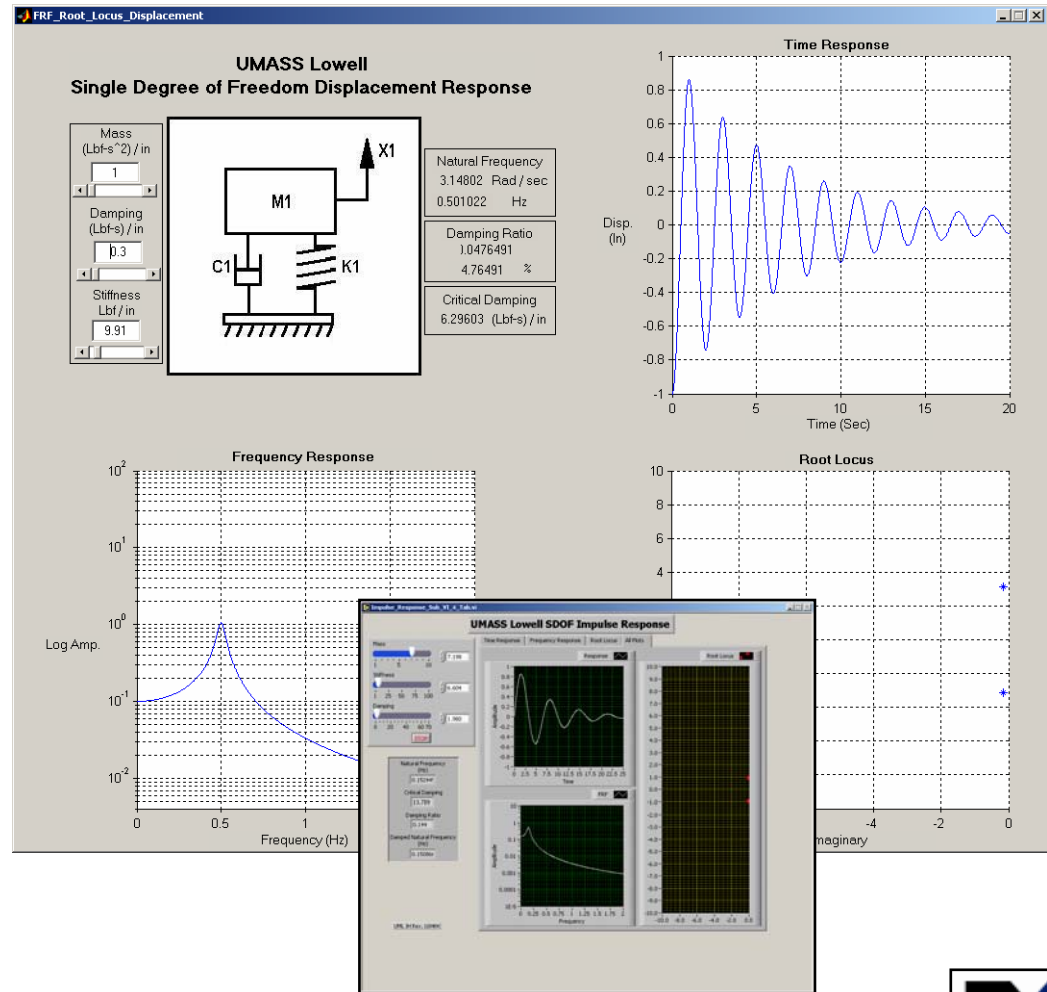


2nd Order System Initial Condition GUI

User enters M , C , K and natural frequency, critical damping and damping are reported.

User can vary the physical parameters with slide bars.

The frequency response function magnitude is displayed root locus and time response.



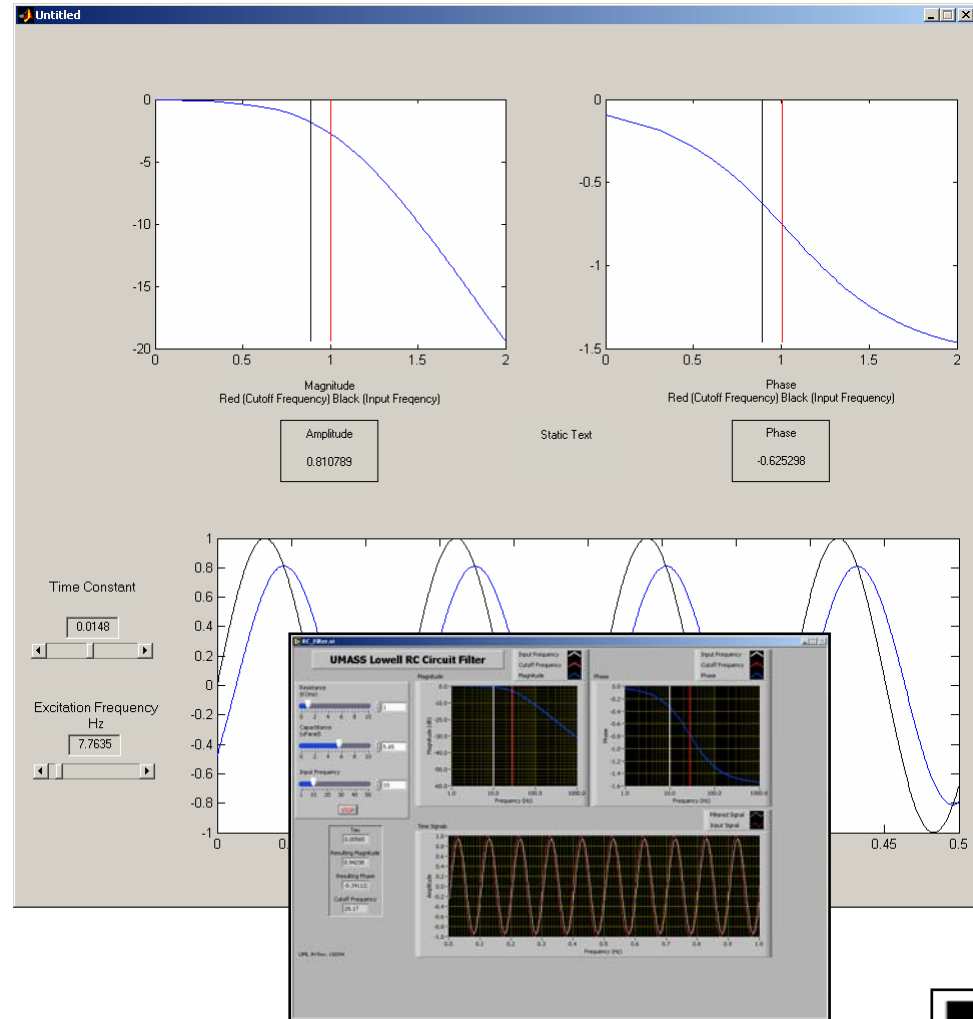


First Order Low Pass Filter GUI

User enters time constant and sinusoidal frequency.

The Bode plot is displayed with the cutoff frequency and the sinusoidal frequency applied.

The initial sinusoidal signal and "filtered" time signal are also displayed.





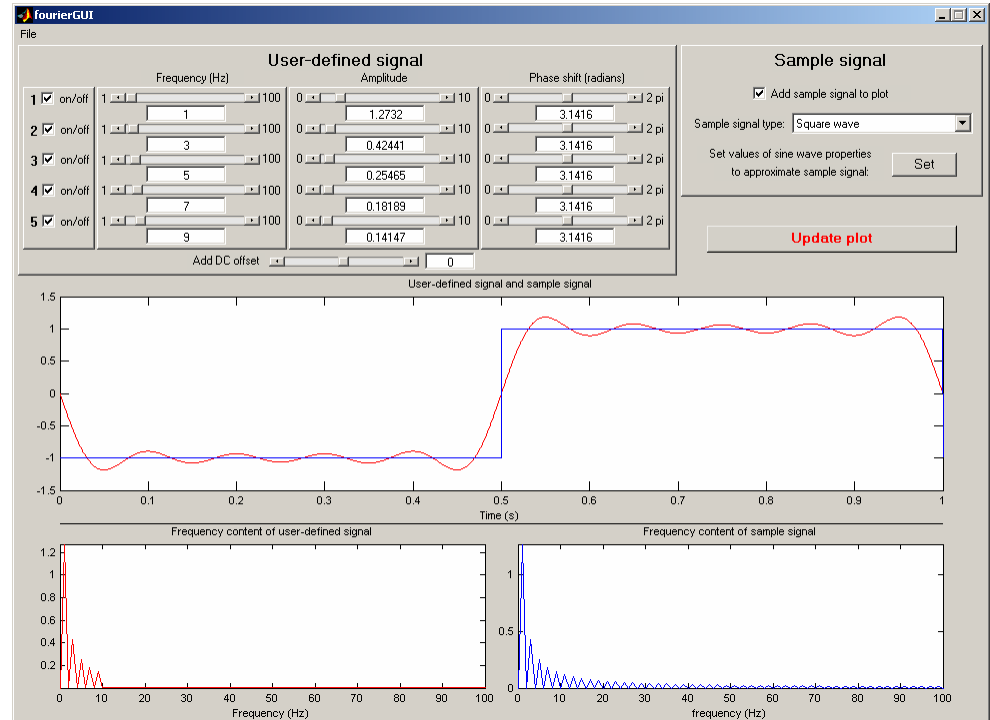
Fourier Series Signal Generation GUI



User enters frequency, amplitude and phase components of a user defined signal to display the resulting signal.

The user can also select sample signals such as square, triangle, etc and the pre-determined fourier coefficients are applied to the user-defined signal.

The time signal as well as the corresponding frequency component is displayed.





Virtual Measurement System GUI

DYNAMIC SYSTEMS

User enters M , C , K system. User enters the amount of experimental distortion on the accel. (sensitivity, bias, drift) and displacement LVDT (sensitivity, bias, noise) and the low pass filter characteristics to virtually "simulate" the measurement environment.

Data can be exported with ability to select which outputs and what effects are included on the measurement.

The screenshot shows the 'basic_system' GUI with the following sections:

- System characteristics:** Mass (kg), m : 0.001 to 100 (59.9999); Damping (kg/sec), c : 5 to 100 (5); Stiffness (N/m), k : 0 to 10,000 (1050).
- Accelerometer:** Sensitivity ($\sqrt{\text{V per m/sec}^2}$), a_s : 0.003; Bias (V), a_b : -2 to 2 (0.04); Slope of drift (V/sec), a_d : -0.1 to 0.1 (-0.002); Add random noise: ; Peak noise amplitude (V), a_n : 1e-100 to 1 (0.001).
- Initial condition and forcing functions:** Initial displacement (m), i_d : 0.01; Impulse height, i_h : 0; Step height, s_h : 0.
- LVDT:** LVDT sensitivity (V/m), L_s : 400; LVDT bias (V), L_b : -10 to 10 (0.4); LVDT sinusoidal noise amplitude (V), L_{na} : 0 to 1 (0.01); LVDT sinusoidal noise frequency (Hz), L_{nf} : 1 to 150 (60).
- RC Circuit Low-Pass Filter on LVDT:** RC value, RC: 1e-5 to 1 (0.025).

A table below the parameters shows simulation results for two runs:

	m	c	k	i_d	s_h	i_h	a_s	a_b	a_d	a_n	L_s	L_b	L_{na}	L_{nf}	RC
Run1	50.0	5.0	50	0.010	0.00	0.00	0.003	0.04	-0.00	0.00	400	0.40	0.010	60.0	0.025
Run2	60.0	5.0	1050	0.010	0.00	0.00	0.003	0.04	-0.00	0.00	400	0.40	0.010	60.0	0.025

The simulation output window shows a graph of displacement (m) vs time (s) for Run1 (blue) and Run2 (green). Run1 shows a smooth sinusoidal wave, while Run2 shows a noisy sinusoidal wave.



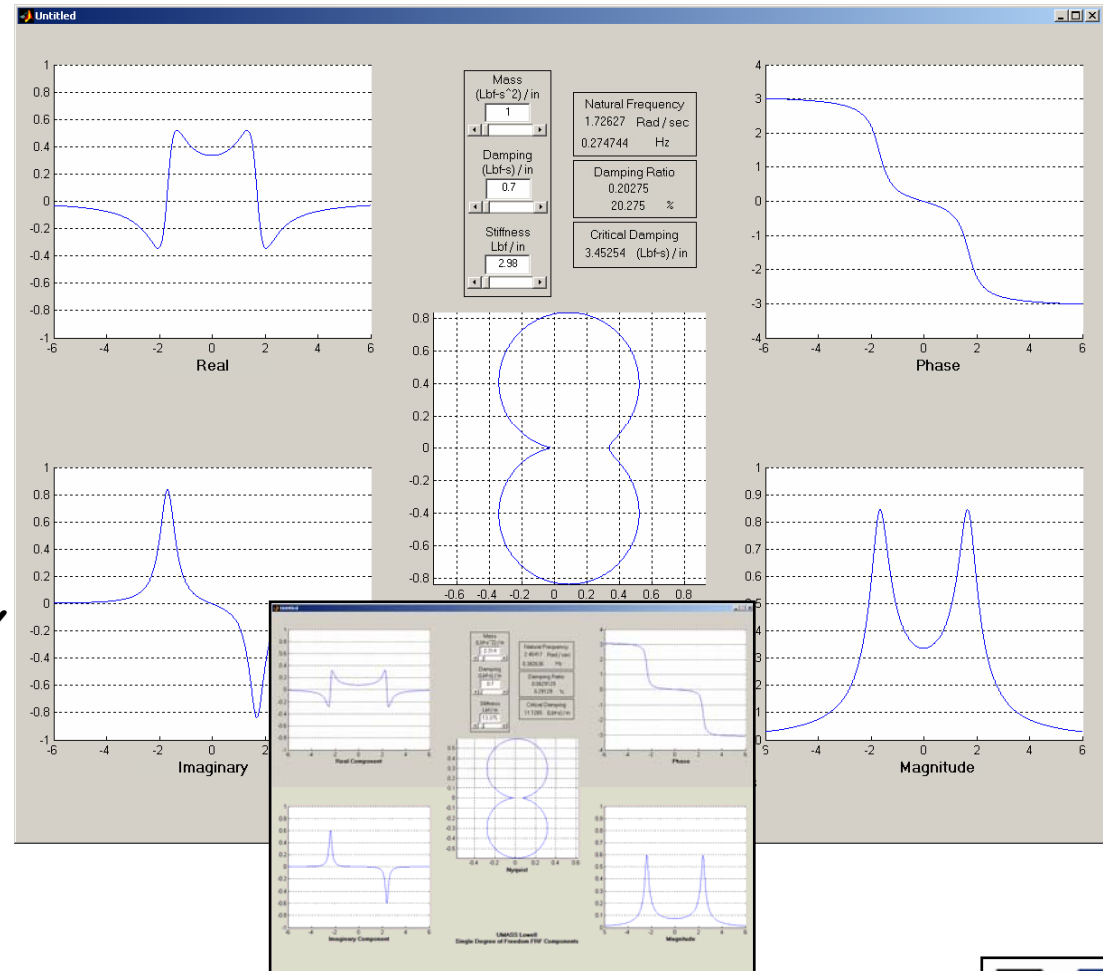


Single DOF Complex FRF Plot GUI

User enters M , C , K and natural frequency, critical damping and damping are reported.

User can vary the physical parameters with slide bars.

The complex frequency response function is displayed simultaneously as real, imaginary, magnitude, phase and nyquist plots.

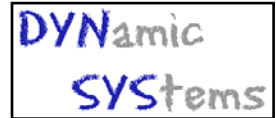


[Start MATLAB GUI](#)





Webpage --- *dynsys.uml.edu*



NSF Dynamic Systems - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Address <http://dynsys.uml.edu/>

Multi-Semester Interwoven Project for Teaching Basic Core STEM Material Critical for Solving Dynamic Systems Problems

Tutorials

Tutorials exist on several different topics which are grouped as:

- [Simulink Materials](#)
- [First Order Systems](#)
- [Second Order Systems](#)
- [Fourier Series](#)
- [Regression Analysis](#)
- [Virtual Measurements](#)
- [Integration and Differentiation](#)
- [Miscellaneous](#)

Each tutorial has material that consists of a PDF file with an explanation of the theory and/or specific steps of the tutorial. Some tutorials are stand-alone while others have additional files that contain a MATLAB, Simulink or Labview module that provides a graphical user interface (GUI) to complement the tutorial material; in many cases, a voice annotate multimedia overview to complement the tutorial is included.

[Home](#) | [Overview](#) | [Papers](#) | [Tutorials](#) | [Acquisition](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Acknowledgements](#) | [People](#)





Summary

DYNAMIC
SYSTEMS

A new multise­mester interwoven dynamic systems project was described.

Several tutorials and modules developed were presented.





Summary

The salient feature of the project is that material from various courses such as differential equations, mathematical methods, laboratory measurements and dynamic systems is integrated in a fashion that helps the students understand the need for basic STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) material.





Acknowledgements

A special thanks to the students who have really been the driving force in making all this happen

*Jeffrey Hodgkins, Tracy Van Zandt
Mechanical Engineering Department
University of Massachusetts Lowell*

I could not have done any of this without their dedication and devotion to making this all happen

I have the pleasure of working with them and having them contribute to this effort

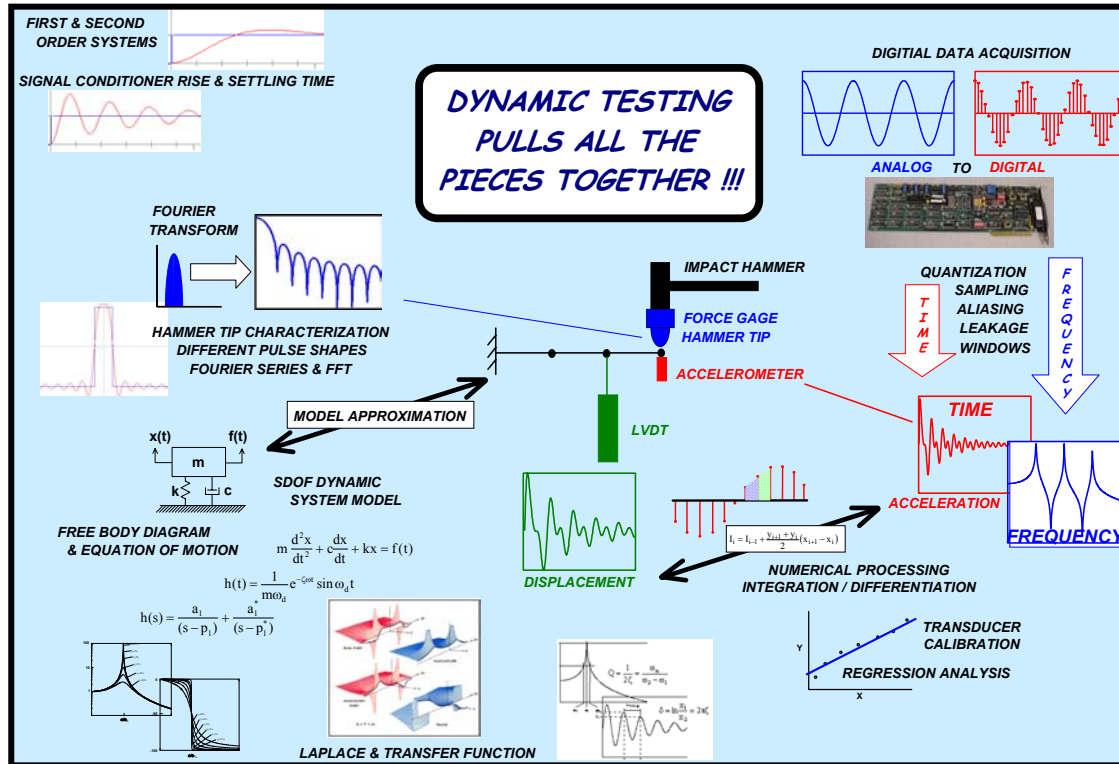




Acknowledgements

This project is partially supported by NSF Engineering Education Division Grant EEC-0314875

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