

Time-Dependent Restrained Boundary Condition Simulation

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Abstract

The study of transient forces and displacement is a common topic in the analysis of structural and machinery dynamics. Widely used analysis tools are the MSC/NASTRAN Version 64 Solutions 27, 31, 72, and 99. One limitation of this program is that time-dependent restrained mechanisms can not be directly modelled. In this paper, a method will be described to address this problem.

The latch in a gun barrel recoil system represents a time-dependent restrained boundary condition. The time domain was divided into two parts. In the first, latch reaction forces were computed assuming that the latch was restrained. The output for this case was then used as input for the solution of the second portion of the transient analysis. Here, the latch dynamics were computed assuming that the reaction forces are reset to zero at the time of latch release. The computed restraining forces and the results show that the procedure is a convenient method for analyzing time-dependent restrained boundary conditions.

I Introduction

Enforced motion boundary condition is described in MSC/NASTRAN Theoretical Manual [1] and Application Manual [2]. Automated procedures have been developed that allow the user to easily define time-dependent

displacement, velocity, and acceleration boundary conditions. Enforced motion boundary conditions are widely used and accepted.

In this paper, a procedure is described to extend the use of the enforced motion boundary condition to simulate a time-dependent restrained boundary condition. The focus will be on a procedure that converts a time-dependent restrained condition to a time-dependent force condition which can be solved by MSC/NASTRAN.

The problem to be examined involves the latch mechanism of a gun. A 105 mm 60 caliber gun barrel is latched by a set of sliding pins. The pins have dual functions — one is to guide the barrel during recoil, and the other is to counter the barrel rotation forces generated by the projectile's reaction against the barrel rifling.

Since limited space is available in a recoil system, shorter sliding pins are desirable. The primary goal of the study is to evaluate the effects of the shorter pins on gun performance. The objective of the computer simulation is to determine the maximum angular velocity of the barrel when the latch is released.

II Gun Barrel Rotation Analysis

Figure 1 shows a sketch of the gun barrel and a corresponding beam model. The latch pins, breach block, and recoil mechanisms are located at the left end of the barrel and are modelled as a single lumped mass distributed at the end section of the barrel. Twenty-two beam elements and twenty-three nodes are used to model the barrel structure.

The analysis required two separate runs of MSC/NASTRAN Solution 27, direct transient analysis. The first run generates a reaction force at the latch located at node 1. MSC/NASTRAN bulk data is shown tabulated in Figure 2. Node 1, the latch, is fixed. Transient torque which is caused by the reaction of the projectile against the barrel rifling is applied at the barrel tip (node 23). In Figure 2, the rotation torque is entered in TABLED1-11. The latch reaction torque computed by MSC/NASTRAN are depicted in Figure 3. Figure 4a through 4d are MSC/NASTRAN plots of angular acceleration, velocity, displacement, and torque at various locations, respectively.

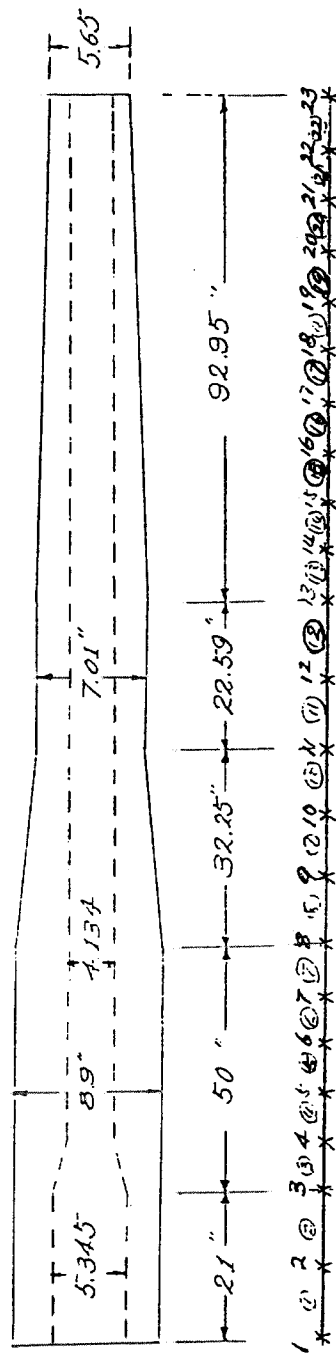
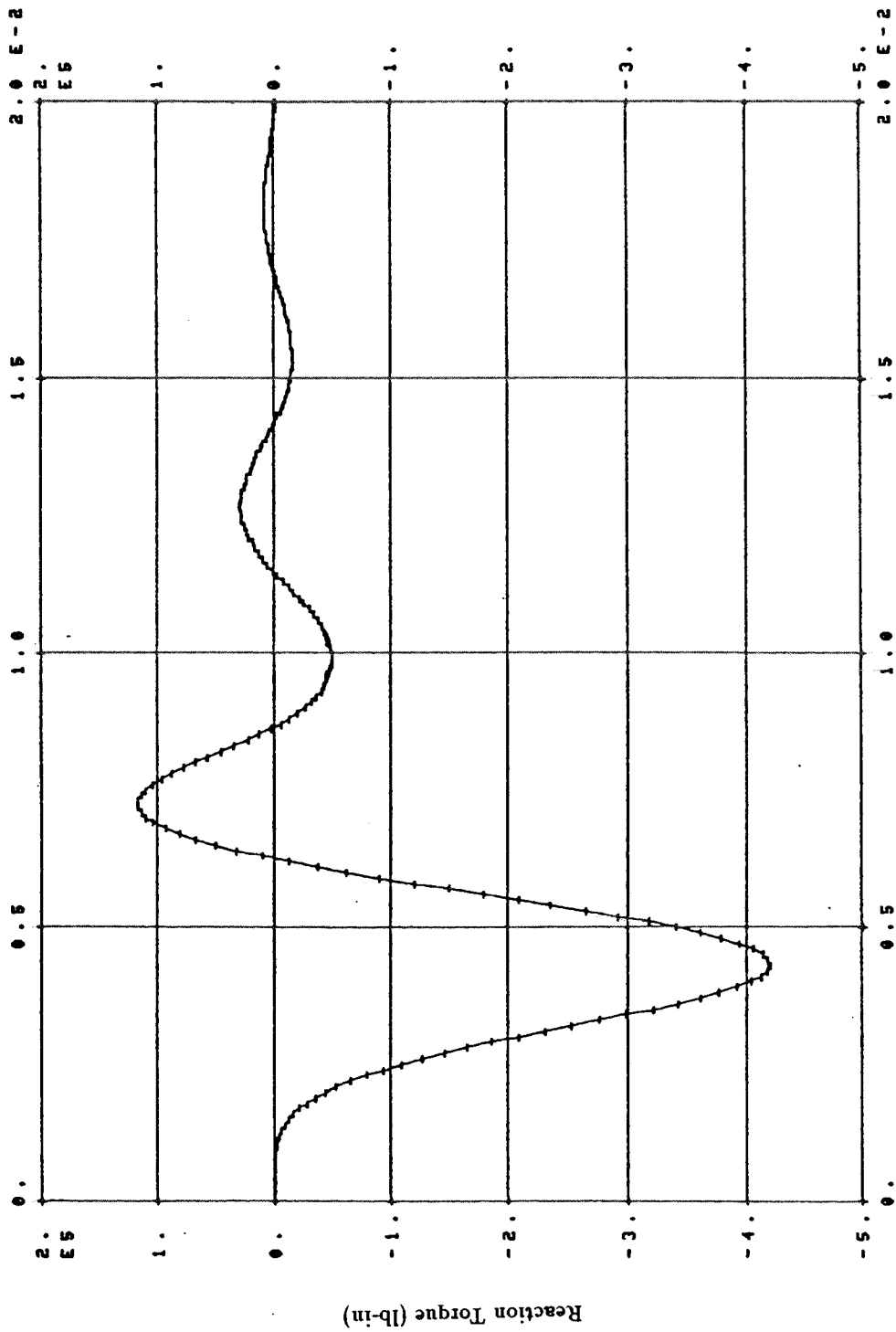


Figure 1. Gun Barrel Model



REACTION FORCE AT 01
 105 MM 60 CALIBER SPC SIMULATION (FIX 01)
 Time (sec)

Figure 3. Reaction Torque at Latch

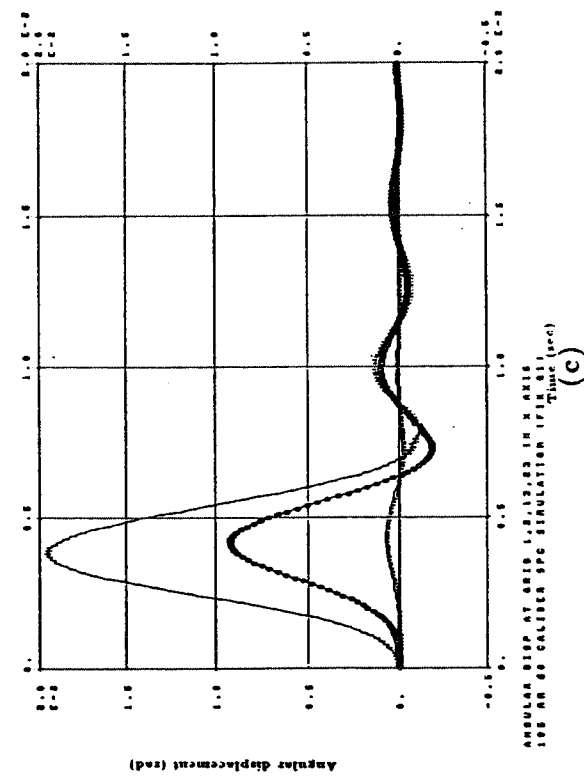
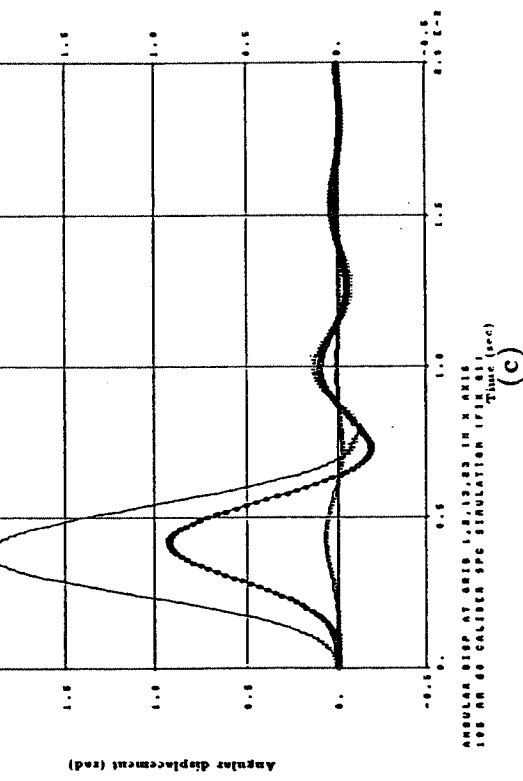
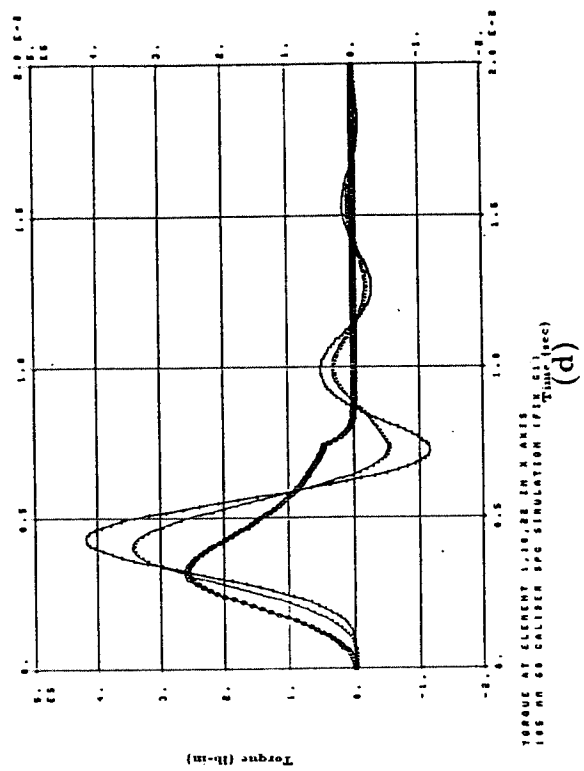
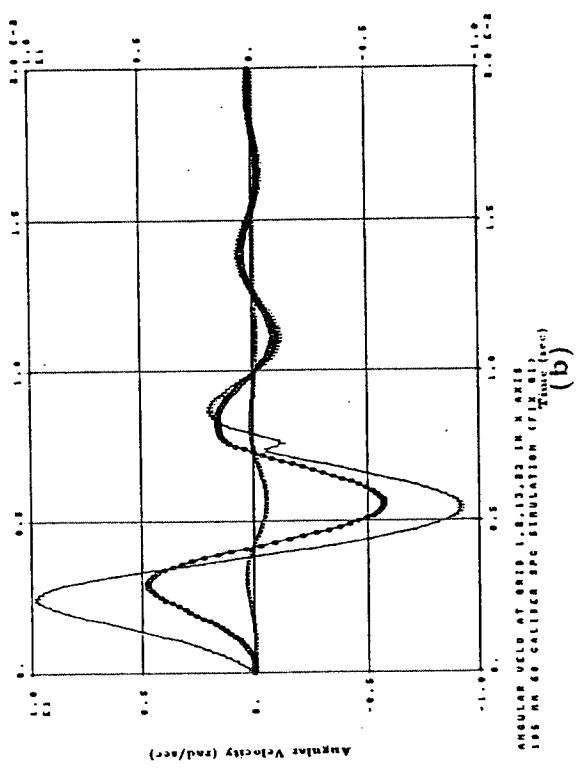


Figure 4. MSC/NASTRAN X-Y Plot, With Restrained Latch

Four symbols are used in each graph to represent different barrel locations corresponding to nodes or elements.

The second run applies the latch restraining forces computed in the first run to the latch location along with the rotation torque at the barrel tip. However, the restraining force is reset to zero when the latch is scheduled to release. Two release times are assumed — 0.011 and 0.013 sec. TABLED1-12, in Figure 2, contains the restraining force input data for the case where the latch is released at 0.011 sec. A three time step advance is included in the restraining force which was recorded in the first run. The time advance is required to compensate for a time lag created by the MSC/NASTRAN automatic procedure [2].

Figures 5 and 6 depict MSC/NASTRAN solutions for the latch release at 0.011 sec. and 0.013 sec., respectively.

III Conclusions

The principle steps in the analytic procedure developed for time dependent restrained boundary conditions are summarized below:

1. Calculate the reaction forces with restrained boundary conditions.
2. Replaced the restrained boundary condition with an enforced boundary condition calculated from step 1. The enforced condition is modified to account for the release of the restrained condition.

Acceleration, velocity, and displacement solutions obtained with the restrained boundary condition and those corresponding to the enforced boundary condition were in good agreement during the restrained period. Minor discrepancies are caused by numerical truncation error and time step size.

A three time steps advance for the enforced condition is required to compensate for the time lag in the records generated by the MSC/NASTRAN's automated procedures.

In conclusion, this two step procedure can be easily utilized with the MSC/NASTRAN to analyze time-dependent restrained boundaries.

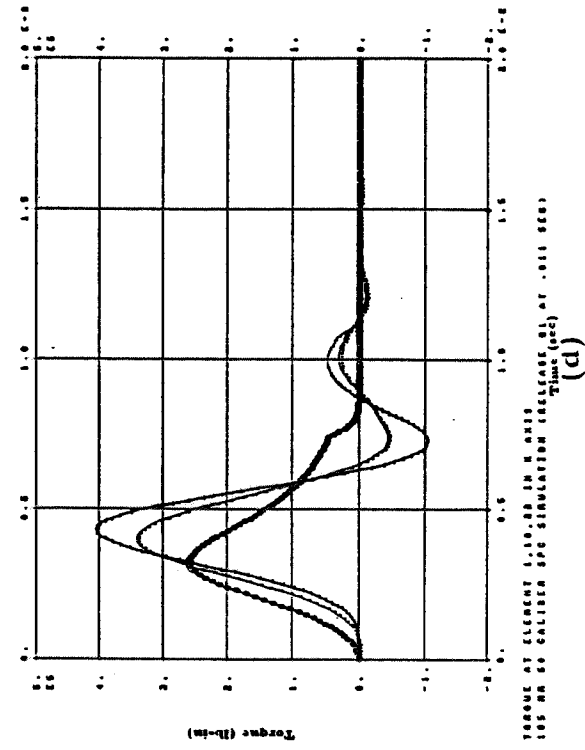
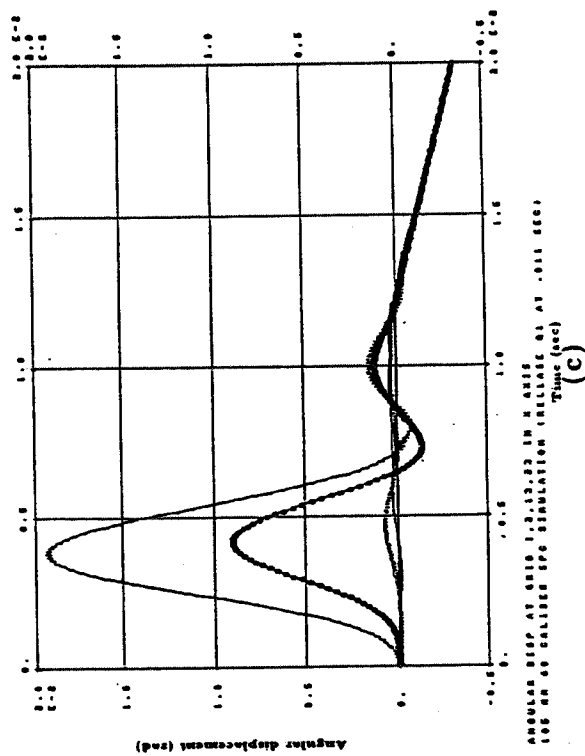
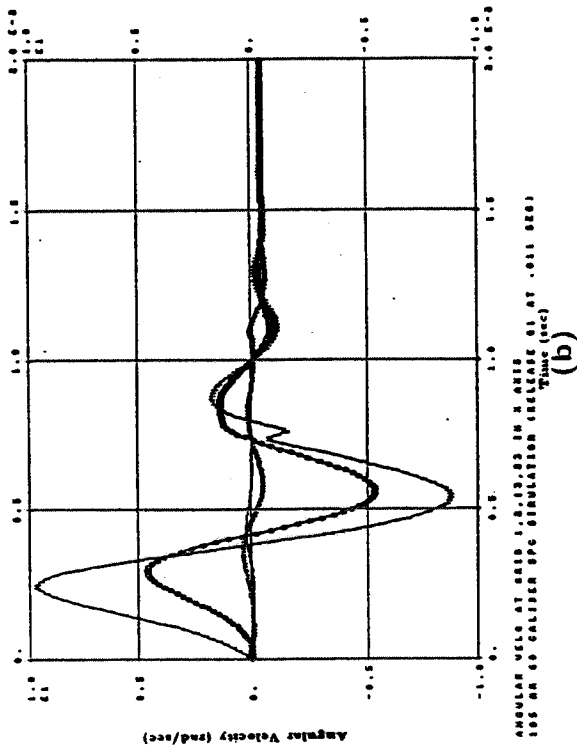
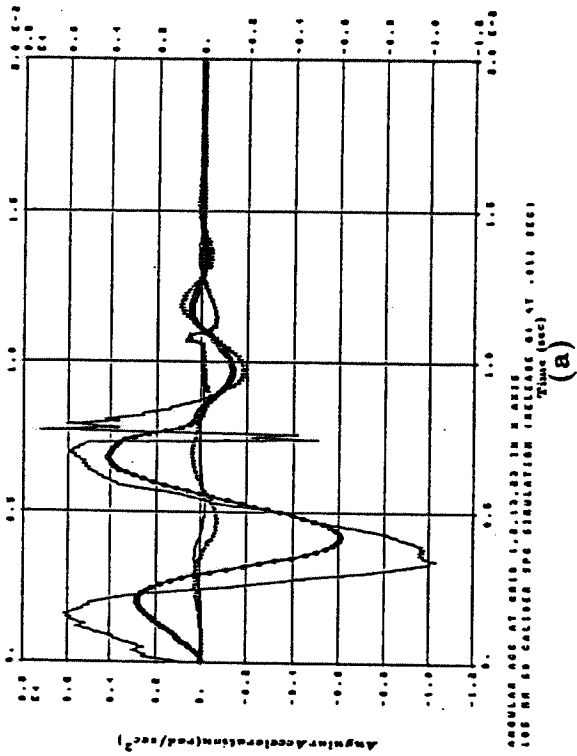
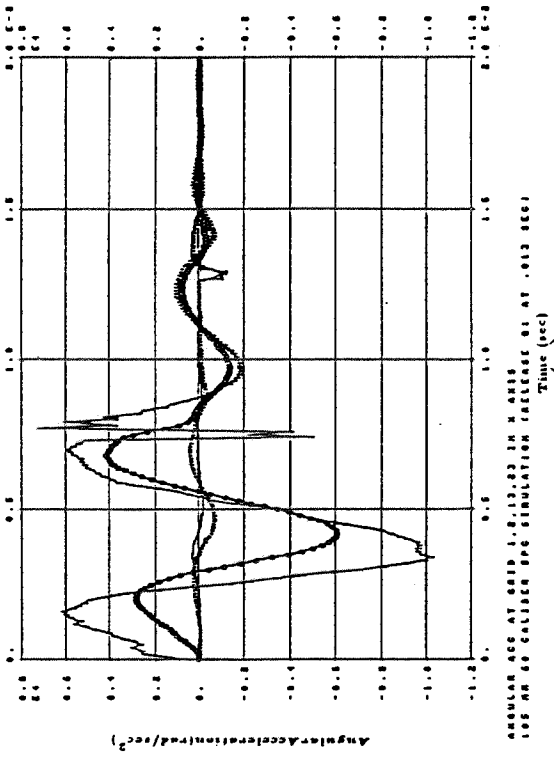
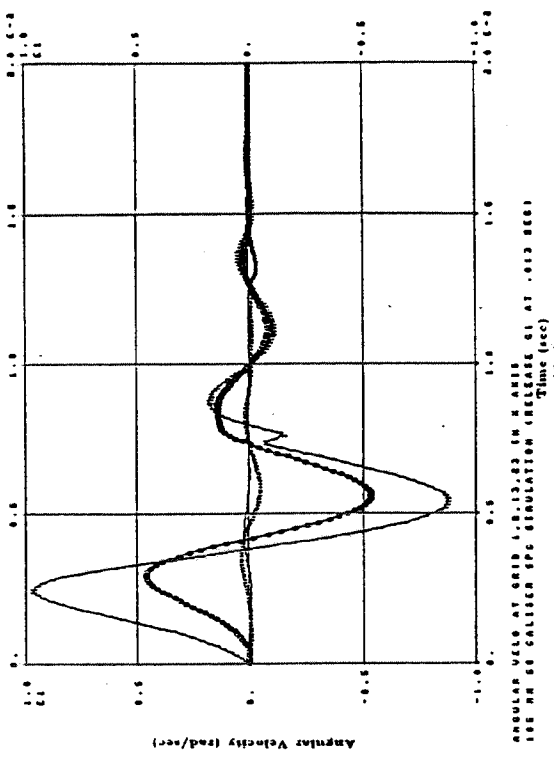


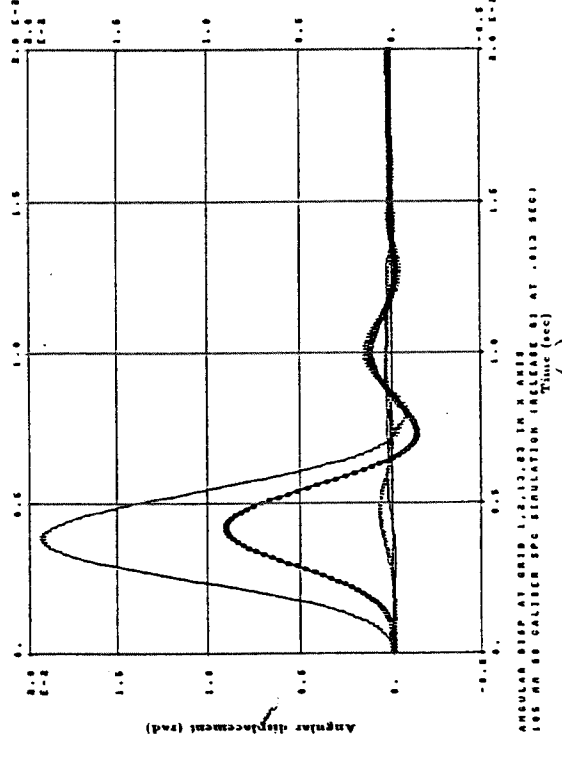
Figure 5. MSC/NASTRAN X-Y Plot, Latch Release at .011 sec



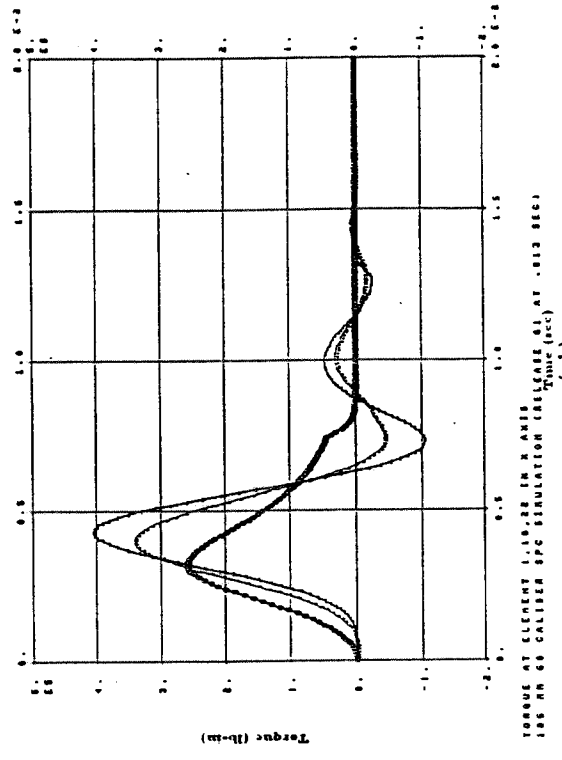
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Figure 6. MSC/NASTRAN X-Y Plot, Latch Release at .013 sec

References

- [1] Joseph, J. A., Editor, "NASTRAN Theoretical Manual", The MacNeal-Schwendler Corporation, Los Angeles, CA, September 1973, Sections 11,12.
- [2] Joseph, J. A., Editor, "NASTRAN Application Manual" The MacNeal-Schwendler Corporation, Los Angeles, CA, September 1987, Section 2.7.