

# **A simulation study on the optimal control of buffeting displacement for the Sutong Bridge with multiple tuned mass dampers**

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**Keywords:** Long-span cable-stayed bridge; Buffeting response; Vibration control; Multiple Tuned Mass Dampers (MTMD); Control efficiency

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# Engineering Background

## Sutong Cable-stayed Bridge

- Cable-stayed Bridge
- Length of span: 1088m
- Height of tower: 300.4m
- Longest cable: 577m

**It was the longest cable-stayed bridge in the world when it was open to traffic in 2008.**



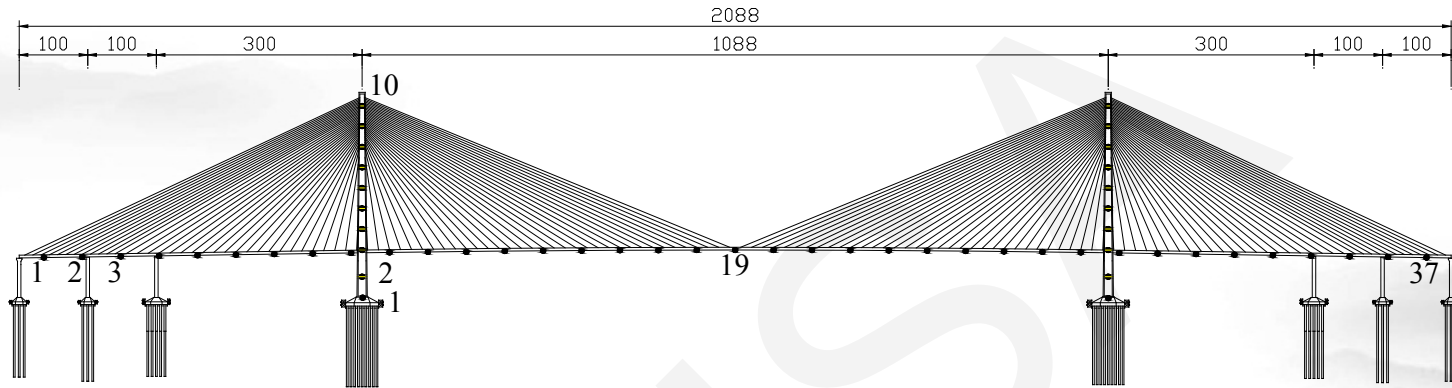
## Geographic location

- Located in the lower reach of the Yangtze River

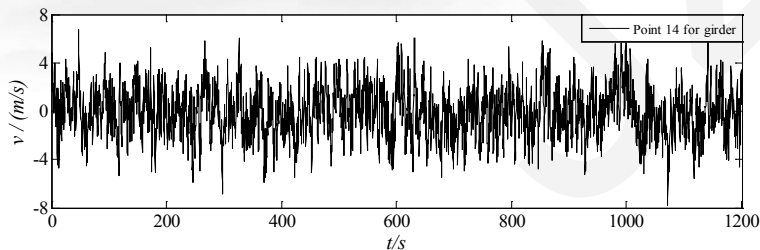
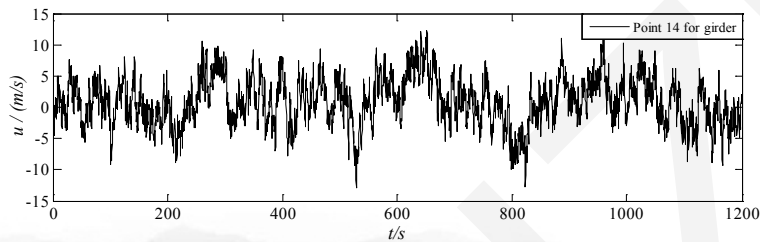
## Climate feature

- Typhoon in summer
- Strong north wind in winter

# Simulation of Fluctuating Wind Field

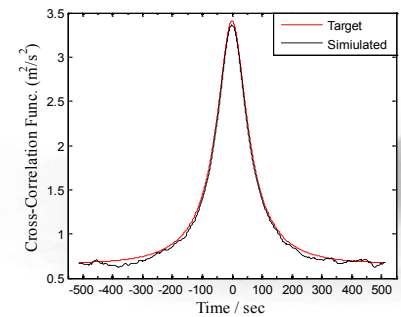
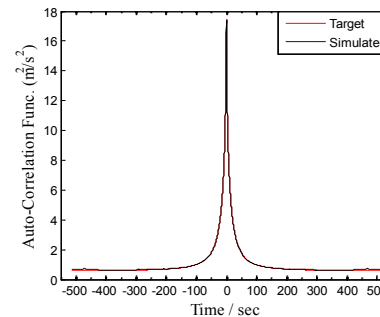
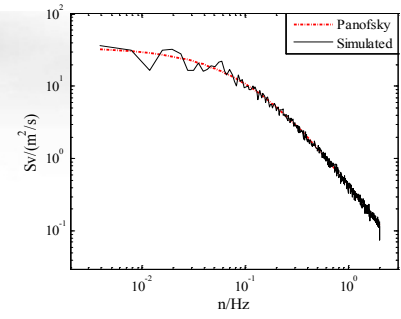
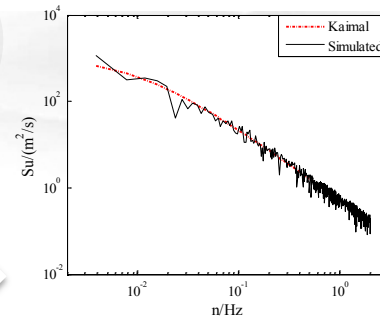


*Distribution of the simulated points for the fluctuating wind of the SCB*

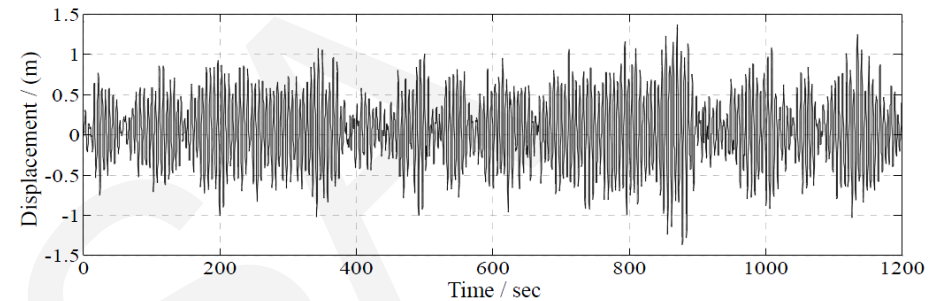
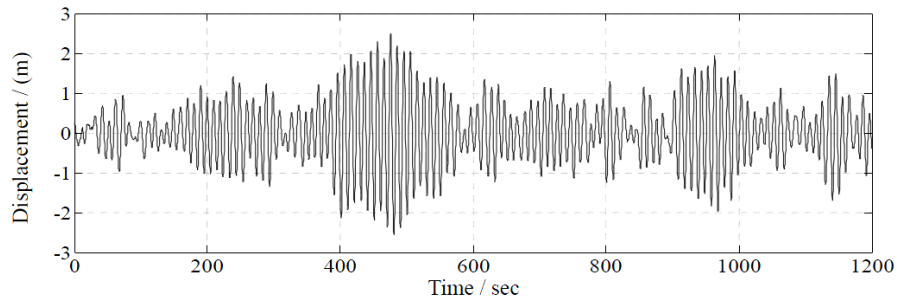


*Simulated samples*

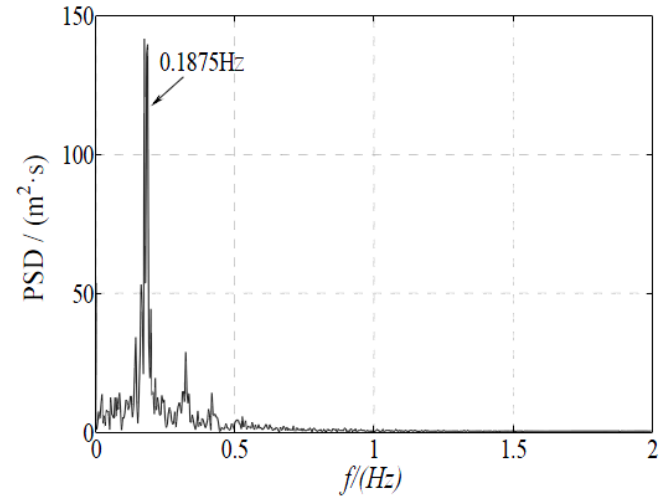
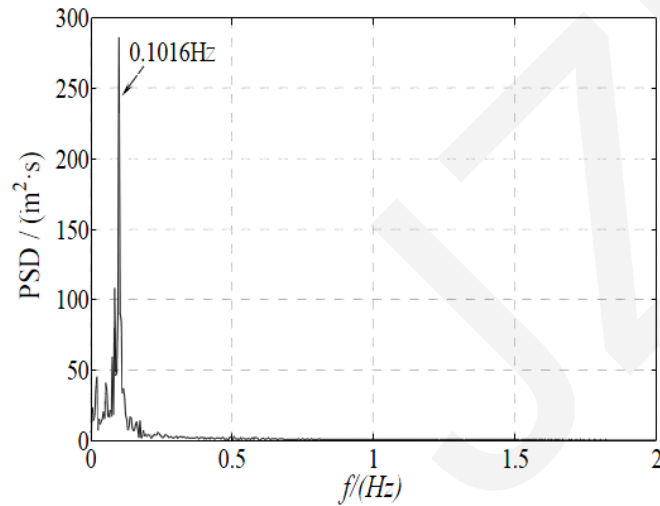
Verification



# Time-domain Buffeting Analysis of the SCB



*Buffeting displacement in the middle of the main span*



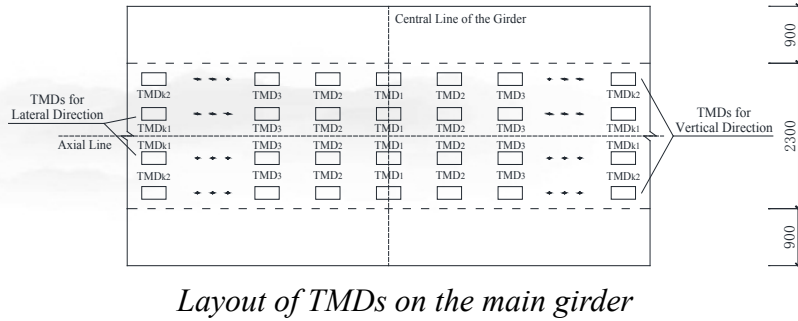
FFT

(a) lateral

(b) vertical

*PSDs of buffeting displacements in the middle of the bridge deck*

# Application of MTMD in Buffeting Control of the SCB



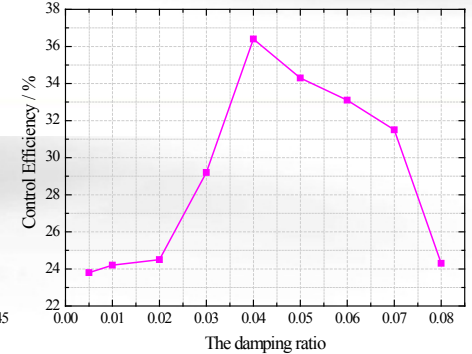
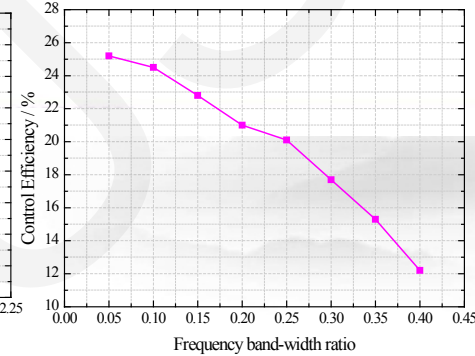
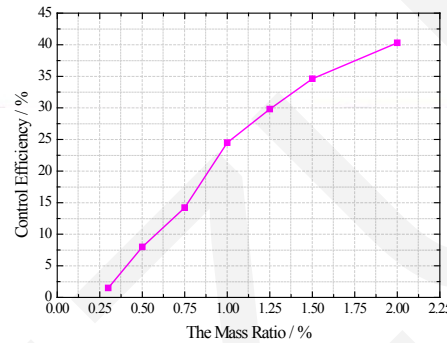
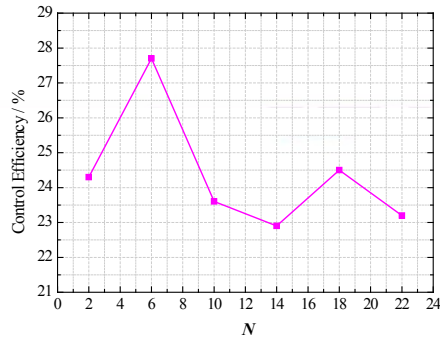
## Design parameters for MTMD

The mass ratio  $\mu = \sum_{i=1}^N m_i / M$       The central frequency  $f_0 = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k f_i$

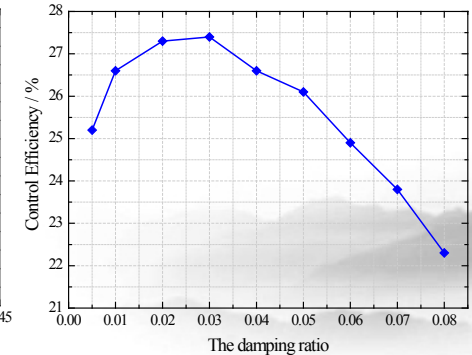
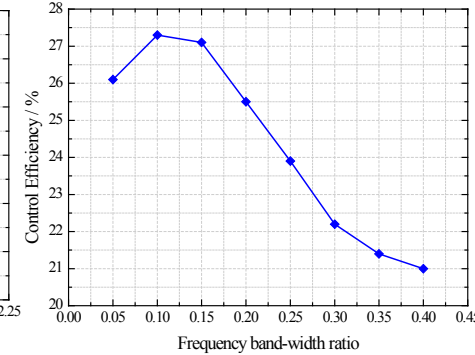
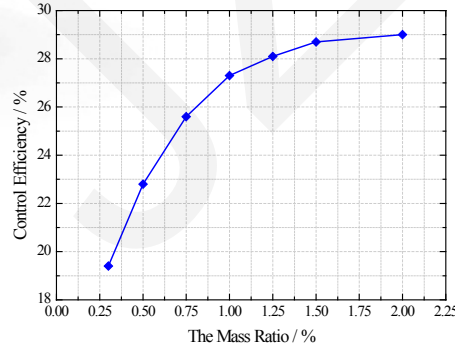
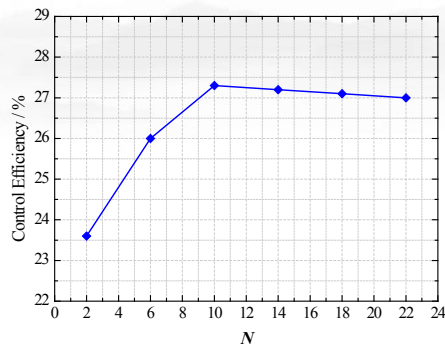
Frequency band-width ratio  $\gamma = \frac{|f_k - f_1|}{f_s}$

The control efficiency  $\delta = \frac{\alpha - \beta}{\beta} \times 100\%$

### Lateral direction



### Vertical direction



**Influence of design parameters on the control efficiency of MTMD**

# Application of MTMD in Buffeting Control of the SCB

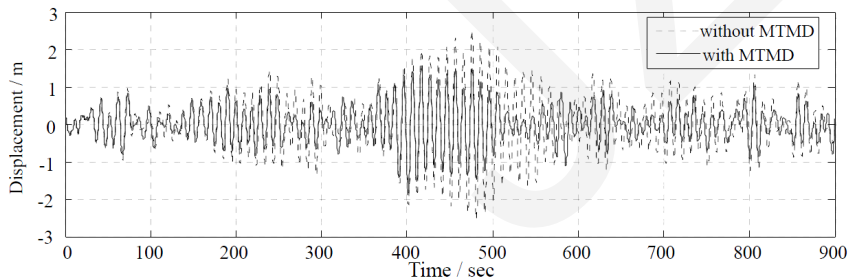
## Objective function

Minimize 
$$J = \frac{E(\mu, \zeta)C(N)}{F(\delta)R(N, \eta)}$$

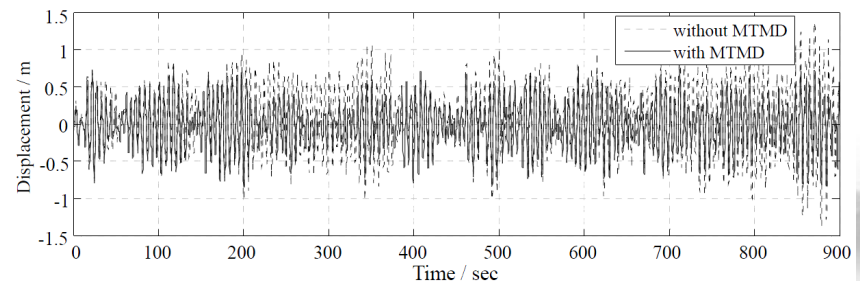


General optimal parameters for the MTMD system on the SCB

Direction	Number of TMDs	Mass ratio	Damping ratio	Frequency band-width ratio
Lateral	18	1%	0.04	0.10
Vertical	10	1%	0.03	0.10



Lateral



Vertical

*Buffeting displacements of the SCB with and without MTMD*

# Conclusions

- ◆ The PSDs of the buffeting displacements show that the first-order lateral bending mode dominates the lateral wind-induced buffeting responses of the SCB, and the first-order vertical bending mode dominates the vertical wind-induced buffeting responses.
- ◆ The control efficiency is sensitive to the parameters of MTMD including the number of TMD, mass ratio, frequency band-width ratio and damping ratio. The mass ratio and frequency band-width ratio are relatively sensitive among these influence parameters.
- ◆ By using the optimization module in ANSYS, the optimal parameters of the MTMD system on the SCB can be conveniently obtained based on the first-order optimization method. And the optimal results can then be verified by the zero-order optimization method.
- ◆ Both the vertical and the lateral vibrations can be effectively controlled when the optimal design parameters of MTMD system are used. And the lateral MTMD system performs a better control effect than the vertical MTMD system, which has been proved in both time-domain and frequency-domain. Therefore, MTMD systems with optimal mechanical parameters are thought to be an efficient method to suppress buffeting responses of the SCB.