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Free Vibration Analysis of Rectangular Plate with Cutouts under Elastic Boundary Conditions in Independent Coordinate Coupling Method

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ABSTRACT

Based on Kirchhoff plate theory and the Rayleigh-Ritz method, the model for free vibration of rectangular plate with rectangular cutouts under arbitrary elastic boundary conditions is established by using the improved Fourier series in combination with the independent coordinate coupling method (ICCM). The effect of the cutout is taken into account by subtracting the energies of the cutouts from the total energies of the whole plate. The vibration displacement function of the hole domain is based on the coordinate system of the hole domain in this method. From the continuity condition of the vibration displacement function at the cutout, the transition matrix between the two coordinate systems is constructed, and the mass and stiffness matrices are completely obtained. As a result, the calculation is simplified and the computational efficiency of the solution is improved. In this paper, numerical examples and modal experiments are presented to validate the effectiveness of the modeling methods, and parameters related to influencing factors of the rectangular plate are analyzed to study the vibration characteristics.

KEYWORDS

Rectangular plate with cutouts; the independent coordinate coupling method; elastic boundary conditions; free vibration analysis

1 Introduction

Rectangular plate structures are widely applied in a variety of engineering fields such as aerospace, marine, and automobile manufacturing. When taking into consideration the necessity of including equipment channels, the reduction of weight, and actual installation, it is often necessary to cut holes on the plate structure. The presence of the holes changes the quality and stiffness of the plate and influences the vibration characteristics and the stability of the plate structure [1]. Generally, these plate structures are subjected to all kinds of complex environmental forces; from the continuous action of various loads inside or outside of the plate to the potential for resonance, environmental influence



will generate noise and could even lead to serious structural damage. Therefore, some researchers have focused on the vibration characteristics of the rectangular plate with holes for anti-noise applications, vibration reduction and the engineering of key structural designs [2]. Various methods were developed and can be organized into two categories: discrete methods and semi-analytical methods.

In the analysis of rectangular plate with cutouts, discrete methods, such as the finite difference technique [3,4], the boundary element method [5,6], the differential quadrature method (DQ) [7], the mesh-free radial point interpolation method [8], the finite element method [9–11] and the discrete singular convolution method (DSC) [12], have commonly been applied. These methods generally scatter the analyzed structure. As the frequency of this analysis increases, refinement of the process is required; the absence of which can lead to a rapid increase in the amount of calculation. In addition, valuable opportunities for understanding the nature of the problem are often lost during the solution process. This type of analysis lacks the flexibility for further research on sensitivity analysis, parameter optimization and active control mechanism of structural vibration.

In contrast with discrete methods, the semi-analytical methods for rectangular plate with cutouts pay attention to the relationship of rectangular plates with cutouts. Currently, research has mainly focused on three aspects: the region segmentation, the equivalent substitution, and the separation of cutouts and plate domains. Then, to examine the vibration characteristics of the rectangular plate with cutouts, semi-analytical methods generally used are the Rayleigh-Ritz methods (RRM) [2,13,14], the multi-term extended Kantorovich method (MEKM) [15], the extension of Hencky bar-net method [16], Chebyshev-Lagrangian method [17], the Green function method [18], the superposition method, the assumed mode method [19,20], the improved Fourier series method [21,22], the Dynamic Stiffness Method (DSM) [23], and the Spectro-Geometric Method (SGM) [24].

In the analysis of plates using semi-analytic methods, the cutouts are realized by proper representation of the plate as composed of several subdomains. Lee and Lim carried out the free vibration frequencies of square plates with square cutouts subjected to in-plane forces by sub-dividing the plate into sub-domains [14]. Liew et al. [25,26] applied this concept to the analysis of a rectangular plate with central cutouts using the domains decomposition method. Shufrin et al. [27] used the multi-term extended Kantorovich method to the in-plane vibrations of rectangular plates with rectangular cutouts by considering several proper sub-domains of plate. Shufrin et al. [15] then applied this method to the free vibration analysis of rectangular plates with rectangular cutouts and variable thickness. Wang et al. [28] analyzed the free vibration characteristics of a rectangular plate with a rectangular opening based on Fourier series method. Yuan et al. [29] applied the modified vibrational method to study the vibration characteristics of structures of plates with a hole and reinforcement plates in ships; the displacement and rotation components of each plate segment are expanded by Chebyshev orthogonal polynomials of the first kind.

On the vibration analysis of rectangular plates with cutouts, some researchers examined the problem from an alternative perspective by using the equivalent substitution method. The rectangular plate with cutouts is considered the equivalent rectangular plate with non-uniform thickness.

Based on this idea, Huang et al. [18] investigated the free vibration of rectangular plates with variously-shaped holes by applying the discrete Green function method. Wang et al. [24] applied the Spectro-Geometric method to study an elastically restrained plate with arbitrary holes. The hole is considered to be a virtual plate in which the mass density and the Young's modulus zero. Chen et al. [17] discussed rectangular plate with cutout under general boundary constraints by the Chebyshev-Lagrangian method. They used a method of setting the structure and material parameters

associated with the cutouts domain to zero. Jafari et al. [30] mapped onto the finite area with a rectangular hole to finite area with unit circle and then calculated the vibration characteristics.

Additional research focused on the separation of cutouts and plate domains by removing the effect of the hole domain from the total energies of the whole plate. Cho et al. [19,20] applied the assumed mode method to analyze vibration characteristics of rectangular plate structures with holes and attachments. In these investigations, holes, plates, stiffeners and structures were considered as independent energy elements upon which the Lagrange's equation and modal superposition method were applied to obtain the vibration response of rectangular plate structures. Huang [31] developed the receptance approach for in-plane vibration of a rectangular plate with a hole. This method considered the hole and plate as sub-structures and performed sub-structural addition and deduction simultaneously. Wagner et al. [32] applied the energy modification method to study the vibration characteristics of rectangular plate with a rectangular or circular hole. They also successfully used this method in the structural optimization of a plate with multiple holes. Ali et al. [33] first proposed the Rayleigh method to analyze the vibration problem of a plate with a hole, and solved for the vibration frequency of the same plate with rectangular holes under simply-supported boundary conditions. Avalos et al. [34–36] used RRM obtained the frequency parameters of the anisotropic plate under free boundary conditions and explore the effect of structural factors, such as aspect ratio, open rate (ratio of aperture to plate length), and hole position, on vibration frequency.

However, in the process of solving the vibration of a rectangular plate with a complex hole shape and a plurality of rectangular holes, complicated numerical calculations are derived when integrating the vibration displacement function of holes domain in the integral operation, thereby greatly reducing the computational efficiency of the solution and the applicable range.

To solve this problem, Kwak et al. [37] proposed an independent coordinate coupling method based on RRM to the relationship holes domain and plate domain. In this method, the vibration displacement function and the energy equation of the plate and the hole are respectively established on the basis of their own independent coordinate systems. The connection between the hole and the plate is established through the coupling relationship of the respective vibration displacement function in the holes domain and the conversion matrix is constructed, thereby seeking the overall quality and stiffness matrix. This method exhibits good convergence while satisfying the exact requirements of the solution, and greatly simplifies the calculation, especially in the vibration solution of plate with multiple holes. This method for computational efficiency has been developed by many researchers. Huang et al. [38] adopted the Rayleigh–Ritz method and the Lagrange's equation to the free vibration of an especially orthotropic laminate with central rectangular cutout. Mochida et al. [23] used the Dynamic Stiffness method and Rayleigh-Ritz method for the theoretical basis for combining positive and negative structures. Merneedi et al. [39] analyzed the free vibration of a rectangular plate with different sizes of multiple circular and rectangular under simply-supported boundary condition. Guo et al. [40] investigated the free vibration of a functionally graded carbon nanotube-reinforced plate with a central hole by the independent coordinates-based Rayleigh–Ritz method.

The influence of various factors on the vibration characteristics of a rectangular plate with cutouts has been under investigation in the literature. Many researchers discussed the position of cutouts [4,15,17,21] as a central hole, corner hole and edge hole, and analyzed the applicability and accuracy of their methods. The opening ratio and number are directly related to the mass and stiffness of plate structure, which in turn naturally affects the vibration characteristics and stability of structure. Therefore, research on analytical methods has been conducted with a particular focus on these factors [26,36,41].

On boundary conditions, early researchers mainly discussed the classical boundary conditions, such as free edges, simply-supported and clamped [42]. Recently, research has focused on extending from the original classical boundary conditions to general boundary conditions. In doing so, the plate mechanics are influenced instead by setting groups of boundary springs and assigning corresponding stiffness constants to springs. Chen et al. [17] handled rectangular plates with inner cutouts or corner cutouts using the Chebyshev–Lagrangian method. Cho et al. [19,20] and Nie et al. [43] analyzed rectangular plates with multiple openings by the assumed mode method. Wang et al. [28], Liu et al. [22] and Shi et al. [21] discussed rectangular plate with inner cutouts or edge cutouts by the improved Fourier series method. Wang et al. [24] adopted the Spector-Geometric method to rectangular plate with triangular and rectangular holes.

From the above literature review on vibration of coupled plates, we can see two important points. Some of the literature only consider the vibration characteristics of rectangular plate with holes under classical boundary conditions. Others consider arbitrary boundary conditions, but they were still based on traditional coordinate system methods when dealing with the relationship between plates and holes. Our research aims to further generalize and improve the analysis of plates with holes.

In this paper, we study the vibrations of rectangular plate with cutouts using classical Kirchhoff plate theory. We develop the governing equations, and apply the Fourier series method and finite element software to solve for the vibration displacements. But due to the nature of the rectangular plate problem, discontinuities can occur when the Fourier series method is applied directly. To resolve this issue, the Fourier series method must be amended to suit this problem by constructing a solution as a linear combination of a standard two-dimensional Fourier cosine series and auxiliary series functions. It has been shown that this solution method works very well for a variety of edge supports. Additionally, for the relationship between plate and aperture, Rayleigh Ritz method and independent coordinate coupling method (ICCM) are used to analyze the vibration of rectangular plates with cutouts under arbitrary boundary conditions. The accuracy and convergence characteristics of this method are demonstrated through numerical examples and experiments. In Section 2, the preliminary background concepts and the analysis of the plate structure using the improved Fourier series method are provided. In Section 3, numerical simulations and results are presented. In Section 4, modal experiments of rectangular plate with cutouts are conducted, and concluding remarks are provided in Section 5.

2 Modeling of Rectangular Plate with Cutout

In this paper, the free vibration of a rectangular plate with a rectangular cutout under arbitrary elastic boundary conditions is studied. The model of a rectangular plate with a cutout is shown in Fig. 1. Around the outer boundary are a uniformly distributed displacement-constrained spring and the torsion-constrained spring, which simulate any elastic boundary condition by setting an appropriate stiffness value. The rectangular cutout has no spring constraint and is a free boundary condition. Using Lagrange-Kirchhoff theory, the governing equations of the free vibration of the plate is:

$$D\nabla^2\nabla^2w(x, y, t) - \rho h\omega^2w(x, y, t) = 0 \quad (1)$$

where D is the bending stiffness, $D = Eh^3/12(1 - \mu^2)$, ρ is the mass density of the plate, E is Young's modulus, μ is Poisson's ratio, and h is the thickness of plate.

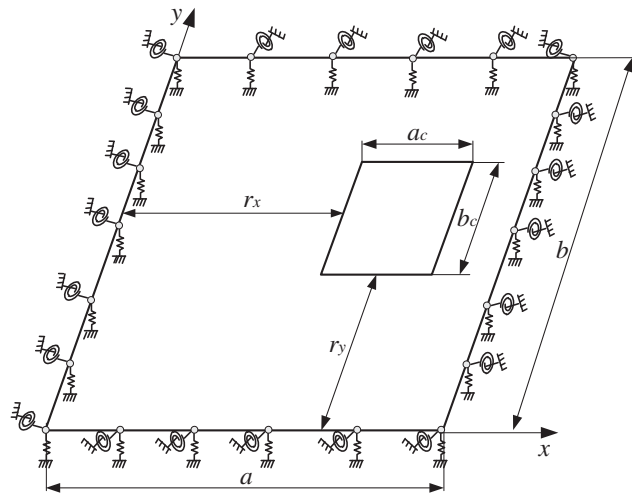


Figure 1: The model of rectangular plate with cutout

The vibration displacement function of a rectangular plate is represented by two variables separated along the x -axis and the y -axis. The plate displacement w is expressed the improved Fourier series as shown:

$$w(\xi, \eta, t) = \sum_{m=-4}^M \sum_{n=-4}^N A_{mn} \Psi_m(\xi) \Phi_n(\eta) q(t) \tag{2}$$

where ξ and η are the non-dimensional variables, $\xi = x/a$, $\eta = y/b$, A_{mn} is the unknown Fourier coefficient of the bending vibration of the plate structure, $\Psi_m(\xi) \Phi_n(\eta)$ is a $1 \times (M + 4)(N + 4)$ matrix composed of vibration displacement functions. The generalized coordinate $q(t)$ is expressed as $[q_{1,1}, q_{1,2}, \dots, q_{m+4,n+4}]^T$, which is a $(M + 4)(N + 4) \times 1$ matrix. The vibration displacement functions of the rectangular plate along the x -axis and y -axis directions are, respectively, expressed as:

$$\Psi_m(\xi) = \begin{cases} \cos \lambda_m \xi & m \geq 0 \\ \sin \lambda_m \xi & m < 0 \end{cases} \tag{3a}$$

$$\Phi_n(\eta) = \begin{cases} \cos \lambda_n \eta & n \geq 0 \\ \sin \lambda_n \eta & n < 0 \end{cases} \tag{3b}$$

where $\lambda_m = |m|\pi/a$, $\lambda_n = |n|\pi/b$. Eqs. (3a) and (3b) give specific expressions of the vibration displacement function. As a result, this shifts the potential discontinuity problem at the boundary of the rectangular plate to the added sine auxiliary term, which meets the requirement of establishing a uniform model of a rectangular plate under arbitrary boundary conditions. In addition to providing a solution to the governing equation, the displacement function also solves the displacement and force boundary conditions by introducing an auxiliary term to the series and improves the convergence of displacement function.

The boundary conditions for the flexible rectangular plate are given in the global coordinate system as follows:

on $x = 0$,

$$k_{x0}(y) w = Q_x = -D \left[\frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x^3} + \frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x \partial y^2} \right] \tag{4a}$$

$$K_{x0}(y) \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} = -M_x = D \left[\frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x^2} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y^2} \right] \quad (4b)$$

on $x = a$,

$$k_{xa}(y) w = -Q_x = -D \left[\frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x^3} + \frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x \partial y^2} \right] \quad (4c)$$

$$K_{x0}(y) \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} = M_x = D \left[\frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x^2} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y^2} \right] \quad (4d)$$

on $y = 0$,

$$k_{y0}(x) w = Q_y = D \left[\frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y^3} + \frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y \partial x^2} \right] \quad (4e)$$

$$K_{y0}(x) \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} = -M_y = -D \left[\frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y^2} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x^2} \right] \quad (4f)$$

on $y = b$,

$$k_{yb}(x) w = -Q_y = D \left[\frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y^3} + \frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y \partial x^2} \right] \quad (4g)$$

$$K_{yb}(x) \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} = M_y = -D \left[\frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y^2} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x^2} \right] \quad (4h)$$

where k_{x0} , k_{xa} , k_{y0} , k_{yb} denote the edge stiffness of translational restraint springs, and K_{x0} , K_{xa} , K_{y0} , K_{yb} denote the edge stiffness of rotational restraint springs.

The boundary conditions for the cutout are given as follows:

on $x = r_x$,

$$k_{rx}(y) w = Q_x = -D \left[\frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x^3} + \frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x \partial y^2} \right] \quad (5a)$$

$$K_{rx}(y) \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} = -M_x = D \left[\frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x^2} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y^2} \right] \quad (5b)$$

on $x = r_x + a_c$,

$$k_{rx+ac}(y) w = -Q_x = -D \left[\frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x^3} + \frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x \partial y^2} \right] \quad (5c)$$

$$K_{rx+ac}(y) \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} = M_x = D \left[\frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x^2} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y^2} \right] \quad (5d)$$

on $y = r_y$,

$$k_{ry}(x) w = Q_y = D \left[\frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y^3} + \frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y \partial x^2} \right] \quad (5e)$$

$$K_{ry}(x) \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} = -M_y = -D \left[\frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y^2} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x^2} \right] \quad (5f)$$

on $y = r_y + b_c$,

$$k_{y_{ry+bc}}(x) w = -Q_y = -D \left[\frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y^3} + \frac{\partial^3 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y \partial x^2} \right] \tag{5g}$$

$$K_{y_{ry+bc}}(x) \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} = M_y = D \left[\frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial y^2} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 w(x, y, t)}{\partial x^2} \right] \tag{5h}$$

where, $k_{x_{rx}}, k_{x_{rx+ac}}, k_{y_{ry}}, k_{y_{ry+bc}}$ denote the edge stiffness of translational restraint spring, and $K_{x_{rx}}, K_{x_{rx+ac}}, K_{y_{ry}}, K_{y_{ry+bc}}$ denote the edge stiffness of rotational restraint spring.

The Rayleigh-Ritz energy method is an overall good and simple solution to the rectangular plate. In this paper, the improved Fourier series method and the Rayleigh-Ritz energy method is combined to determine the free vibration solution of rectangular plate with a cutout. The energy of the rectangular plate with a cutout is equal to the energy of rectangular plate domain minus the energy of the rectangular hole domain. Taking the model shown in Fig. 1 as an example, the Lagrangian function of the rectangular plate with a cutout can be expressed as:

$$\Pi = U_{total} + V_{total} - T_{total} \tag{6}$$

where U_{total} is the bending strain energy, V_{total} is the total potential energy of springs in the four edges, and T_{total} denotes the total kinetic energy.

The strain energy, potential energy and kinetic energy for the plate can be expressed as:

$$U_p = \frac{1}{2} D \int_0^a \int_0^b \left[\left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} \right)^2 + 2\mu \left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} \right) \left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} \right) + 2(1 - \mu) \left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x \partial y} \right)^2 \right] dx dy \tag{7a}$$

$$V_p = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^a \left\{ \left[k_{y0} w^2 + K_{y0} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right]_{y=0} + \left[k_{yb} w^2 + K_{yb} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right]_{y=b} \right\} dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^b \left\{ \left[k_{x0} w^2 + K_{x0} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \right)^2 \right]_{x=0} + \left[k_{xa} w^2 + K_{xa} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \right)^2 \right]_{x=a} \right\} dy \tag{7b}$$

$$T_p = \frac{1}{2} \rho h \int_0^a \int_0^b \omega^2 w^2 dx dy \tag{7c}$$

The strain energy, potential and kinetic energy for the cutout can be expressed as:

$$U_h = \frac{1}{2} D \int_{r_x}^{r_x+ac} \int_{r_y}^{r_y+bc} \left[\left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} \right)^2 + 2\mu \left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} \right) \left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} \right) + 2(1 - \mu) \left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x \partial y} \right)^2 \right] dx dy \tag{8a}$$

$$V_h = \frac{1}{2} \int_{r_x}^{r_x+ac} \left\{ \left[k_{y_{ry}} w^2 + K_{y_{ry}} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right]_{y=r_y} + \left[k_{y_{ry+bc}} w^2 + K_{y_{ry+bc}} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right]_{y=r_y+bc} \right\} dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{r_y}^{r_y+bc} \left\{ \left[k_{x_{rx}} w^2 + K_{x_{rx}} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \right)^2 \right]_{x=r_x} + \left[k_{x_{rx+ac}} w^2 + K_{x_{rx+ac}} \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \right)^2 \right]_{x=r_x+ac} \right\} dy \tag{8b}$$

$$T_h = \frac{1}{2} \rho h \int_{r_x}^{r_x+ac} \int_{r_y}^{r_y+bc} \omega^2 w^2 dx dy \tag{8c}$$

Thus, in terms of the plate and cutout energy terms, Eq. (6) can be also expressed as:

$$\Pi = (U_p - U_h) + (V_p - V_h) - (T_p - T_h) \quad (9)$$

In order to satisfy the simplification of the integral orthogonality for the vibration displacement function of the rectangular hole domain under the ICCM, the vibration displacement function of the rectangular hole under the free boundary condition adopts the uniform beam function consistent with [37]. We nondimensionalize the coordinates of the rectangular cutout variables x_h, y_h as $\xi_h = x_h/a_c, \eta_h = y_h/b_c$, and the vibration displacement function of the rectangular cutout can be expressed as:

$$w(\xi_h, \eta_h, t) = \sum_{o=1}^O \sum_{p=1}^P B_{op} \Psi_o(\xi_h) \Phi_p(\eta_h) q(t) \quad (10)$$

where, $\Psi_o(\xi_h) \Phi_p(\eta_h)$ is a $\mathbf{1} \times \mathbf{OP}$ matrix composed of uniform beam functions. $q_h(t)$ is expressed as $[q_{h1,1}, q_{h1,2}, \dots, q_{hO,P}]^T$, which is a $\mathbf{OP} \times \mathbf{1}$ column vector composed of the generalized coordinates of a rectangular cutout. The non-dimensional vibration displacement functions of a rectangular cutout, represented by the x direction as:

$$\Psi_1(\xi_h) = 1 \quad (11a)$$

$$\Psi_2(\xi_h) = \sqrt{12}(\xi_h - 1/2) \quad (11b)$$

$$\Psi_{i+2}(\xi_h) = \cosh(\lambda_i \xi_h) + \cos(\lambda_i \xi_h) - \sigma_i [\sinh(\lambda_i \xi_h) + \sin(\lambda_i \xi_h)] \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n-2 \quad (11c)$$

where the parameters $\lambda_i = 4.370, 7.853, 10.996, 14.137, \dots, \sigma_i$ are obtained from reference [37], and the expression of σ_i is as follows:

$$\sigma_i = (\cosh \lambda_i - \cos \lambda_i) / (\sinh \lambda_i - \sin \lambda_i) \quad (12)$$

The form for $\Phi_n(\eta_h)$ is the same as that of $\Psi_n(\varepsilon_h)$ in Eq. (11), but in terms of η_h instead of ε_h . At the same time, to ensure the continuity of vibration displacement in the entire integration region, the vibration displacement of plate domain and hole domain need to satisfy the following displacement matching conditions:

$$w(x, y, t) = w(x_h, y_h, t) \quad (13)$$

As shown in Fig. 1, dimensionless hole domain coordinate and plate domain coordinate variables satisfy the following relationship:

$$\xi = r_x/a + a_c/a \quad (14a)$$

$$\eta = r_y/b + b_c/b \quad (14b)$$

Substitution of Eqs. (2) and (10) into Eq. (13) produces the following:

$$\sum_{m=-4}^M \sum_{n=-4}^N \Psi_m(\xi) \Phi_n(\eta) q(t) = \sum_{o=1}^O \sum_{p=1}^P \Psi_o(\xi_h) \Phi_p(\eta_h) q_h(t) \quad (15)$$

Multiplying $\Psi_o(\xi_h) \Phi_p(\eta_h)$ by both sides of Eq. (15) and integrating on the domain of the hole produces the following:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{m=-4}^M \sum_{n=-4}^N \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \Psi_m(\xi) \Phi_n(\eta) \Psi_{o'}(\xi_h) \Phi_{p'}(\eta_h) d\xi_h d\eta_h q(t) \\ &= \sum_{o=1}^O \sum_{p=1}^P \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \Psi_o(\xi) \Phi_p(\eta) \Psi_{o'}(\xi_h) \Phi_{p'}(\eta_h) d\xi_h d\eta_h q(t) \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

Due to the integral orthogonality of the vibration displacement function of the rectangular hole, Eq. (16) can be stated as follows:

$$q_{h(r,s)}(t) = \sum_{m=-4}^M \sum_{n=-4}^N \int_0^1 \Psi_m(\xi) \Psi_{r'}(\xi_h) d\xi_h \int_0^1 \Phi_n(\eta) \Phi_{s'}(\eta_h) d\eta_h q(t) = \sum_{m=-4}^M \sum_{n=-4}^N (T_h) q(t) \tag{17}$$

or more simply in matrix form as:

$$\mathbf{q}_h = \mathbf{T}_h \mathbf{q} \tag{18}$$

where, \mathbf{T}_h is a $OP \times (M + 5)(N + 5)$ transition matrix between two independent coordinate systems. Substitution of Eq. (18) into Eq. (9) produces the following:

$$\mathbf{T}_{total} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{M}_p \dot{\mathbf{q}} - \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{T}_h^T \mathbf{M}_h \mathbf{T}_h \dot{\mathbf{q}} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{M}_r \dot{\mathbf{q}} \tag{19a}$$

$$\mathbf{U}_{total} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{K}_p \dot{\mathbf{q}} - \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{T}_h^T \mathbf{K}_h \mathbf{T}_h \dot{\mathbf{q}} \tag{19b}$$

$$\mathbf{V}_{total} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{K}_s \dot{\mathbf{q}} \tag{19c}$$

$$\mathbf{U}_{total} + \mathbf{V}_{total} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{K}_p \dot{\mathbf{q}} + \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{K}_s \dot{\mathbf{q}} - \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{T}_h^T \mathbf{K}_h \mathbf{T}_h \dot{\mathbf{q}} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{K}_r \dot{\mathbf{q}} \tag{19d}$$

where:

$$\mathbf{M}_r = \mathbf{M}_p - \mathbf{T}_h^T \mathbf{M}_h \mathbf{T}_h \tag{20a}$$

$$\mathbf{K}_r = \mathbf{K}_p + \mathbf{K}_s - \mathbf{T}_h^T \mathbf{K}_h \mathbf{T}_h \tag{20b}$$

Eq. (20) can be expressed non-dimensionally as:

$$\mathbf{M}_r = \rho h a b \bar{\mathbf{M}}_p - \rho h a_c b_c \mathbf{T}_h^T \bar{\mathbf{M}}_H \mathbf{T}_h \tag{21a}$$

$$\mathbf{K}_r = \frac{D b}{a^3} \bar{\mathbf{K}}_p + K_s - \frac{D b_c}{a_c^3} \mathbf{T}_h^T \bar{\mathbf{K}}_H \mathbf{T}_h \tag{21b}$$

where

$$\bar{\mathbf{M}}_p = \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \bar{\omega}^T \bar{\omega} d\xi d\eta \tag{22a}$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{K}}_p = \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \left[\frac{\partial^2 w^T}{\partial \xi^2} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial \xi^2} + \alpha^4 \frac{\partial^2 w^T}{\partial \eta^2} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial \eta^2} + \alpha^2 \mu \left(\frac{\partial^2 w^T}{\partial \xi^2} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial \eta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w^T}{\partial \eta^2} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial \xi^2} \right) + 2(1 - \mu) \frac{\partial^2 w^T}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} \right] d\xi d\eta \tag{22b}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
K_s = & a \int_0^1 \left[k_{y0} w^T w + K_{y0} \frac{1}{b_2} \frac{\partial w^T}{\partial \eta} \frac{\partial w}{\partial \eta} \right]_{\eta=0} + \left[k_{yb} w^T w + K_{yb} \frac{1}{b_2} \frac{\partial w^T}{\partial \eta} \frac{\partial w}{\partial \eta} \right]_{\eta=1} d\xi \\
& + b \int_0^1 \left[k_{x0} w^T w + K_{x0} \frac{1}{a_2} \frac{\partial w^T}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial w}{\partial \xi} \right]_{\xi=0} + \left[k_{xa} w^T w + K_{xa} \frac{1}{a_2} \frac{\partial w^T}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial w}{\partial \xi} \right]_{\xi=1} d\eta
\end{aligned} \quad (22c)$$

$$\bar{M}_H = \int_{\bar{r}_x}^{\bar{r}_x + \bar{a}_c} \int_{\bar{r}_y}^{\bar{r}_y + \bar{b}_c} \bar{\omega}^T \bar{\omega} d\xi d\eta \quad (22d)$$

$$\bar{K}_H = \int_{\bar{r}_x}^{\bar{r}_x + \bar{a}_c} \int_{\bar{r}_y}^{\bar{r}_y + \bar{b}_c} \left[\frac{\partial^2 w^T}{\partial \xi^2} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial \xi^2} + \alpha^4 \frac{\partial^2 w^T}{\partial \eta^2} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial \eta^2} + \alpha^2 \mu \left(\frac{\partial^2 w^T}{\partial \xi^2} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial \eta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w^T}{\partial \eta^2} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial \xi^2} \right) + 2(1 - \mu) \frac{\partial^2 w^T}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} \right] d\xi d\eta \quad (22e)$$

where $\bar{\omega} = \omega \sqrt{\rho h a^4 / D}$ is the non-dimensional frequency, w is the vibration displacement functions, $\alpha = a/b$ is the ratio of length and width of rectangular plate, and $\bar{r}_x = r_x/a$, $\bar{r}_y = r_y/b$, $\bar{a}_c = a_c/a$, $\bar{b}_c = b_c/b$, are respectively the non-dimensional parameters of rectangular cutouts, r_x , r_y , a_c , b_c . We then substitute Eq. (19) into the Lagrangian energy function in Eq. (9) and minimize the function Π with respect to the unknown Fourier coefficients of the admissible displacement functions. From this, the solution can be easily obtained by:

$$\frac{\partial \Pi}{\partial \mathbf{A}} = 0 \quad (23)$$

and the expression for a rectangular plate with a hole is as follows:

$$[\mathbf{K}_r - \omega^2 \mathbf{M}_r] \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{0} \quad (24)$$

where \mathbf{A} is the unknown coefficients vector of vibration displacement functions, as follows:

$$\mathbf{A} = \{ \mathbf{A}_{-4,-4}, \mathbf{A}_{-4,-3}, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{m,-4}, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{m,m}, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{M,-4}, \dots, \mathbf{A}_{M,N} \} \quad (25)$$

where M , N is the truncation number of displacement that determines the computational precision of natural frequency.

As Fig. 1 shows a single rectangular hole, the total energy can be computed by subtracting the energy belonging to the hole from the energy of the entire rectangular plate. While it is a more complicated solution process, the improved Fourier series and Rayleigh-Ritz method under the globe coordinate system (IFRM) is more accurate than traditional Rayleigh-Ritz method. However, as for the rectangular plate with multiple holes, the IFRM is not easy due to the complex integral limit, the longer calculating time, and the lower solution efficiency. Thus, the independent coordinate coupling method can be combined with IFRM to solve to the free vibration problem for the rectangular plate with multiple holes, as shown on Fig. 2, where a_{ck} , b_{ck} , represent the size of k-th rectangular hole, and r_{xk} , r_{yk} is the position of the k-th holes. The mass and stiffness matrices of the whole rectangular plate are as follows:

$$\mathbf{M}_{dr} = \rho h a b \bar{\mathbf{M}}_p - \rho h \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ck} b_{ck} \mathbf{T}_{hk}^T \bar{\mathbf{M}}_{hk} \mathbf{T}_{hk} \quad (26a)$$

$$\mathbf{K}_{dr} = \frac{D b}{a^3} \bar{\mathbf{K}}_p + \mathbf{K}_s - D \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{b_{ck}}{a_{ck}^3} \mathbf{T}_{hk}^T \bar{\mathbf{K}}_{hk} \mathbf{T}_{hk} \quad (26b)$$

where, \mathbf{M}_{dr} , \mathbf{K}_{dr} are the mass and stiffness matrix of rectangular plate with two holes, \mathbf{T}_{hk} is the transformation matrix of the k-th hole, expressed as follows:

$$(\mathbf{T}_{hk})_{rs} = \int_0^1 \Psi_m(\xi) \Psi_r(\xi_{hk}) d\xi_{hk} \int_0^1 \Phi_n(\eta) \Phi_s(\eta_{hk}) d\eta_{hk} \quad (27)$$

Here, Eqs. (26a) and (26b) can be substituted into Eq. (24) for the free vibration equation of rectangular plate with multiple cutouts, and then the corresponding free vibration frequency can be obtained.

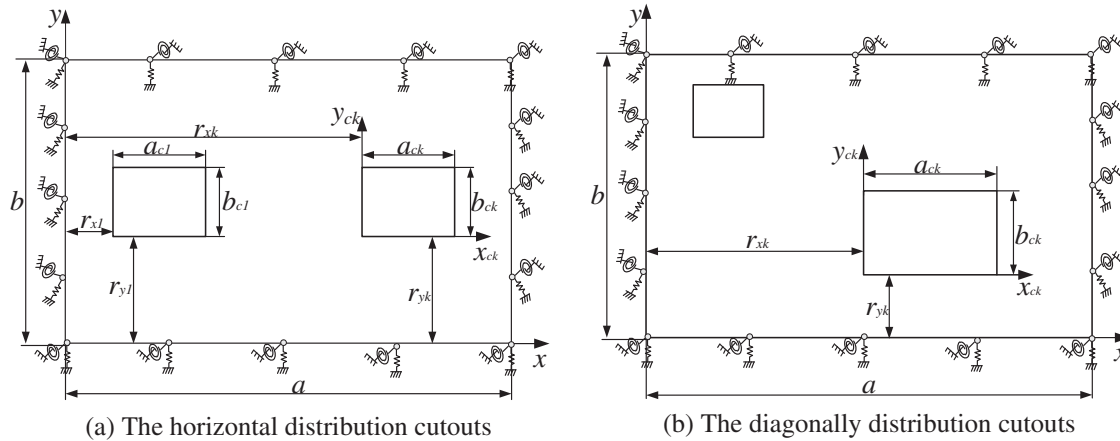


Figure 2: The model of rectangular plate with multiple cutouts

3 Computational Analysis

To verify the applicability and accuracy of the models developed in Section 2, several examples involving various boundary conditions were discussed for solving the free vibration of the rectangular plate with cutouts. In the following numerical analysis, the structural and material parameters of the rectangular plate with cutouts are: the thickness of plate $h = 0.005$ m, mass density $\rho = 7800$ kg/m³, Young's modulus $E = 210$ GPa, and Poisson's ratio $\mu = 0.3$. In this section, results are produced using both the improved Fourier series method and Rayleigh-Ritz method based in the independent coordinate coupling system and the finite element method using Ansys Workbench 16.0. First, we perform a convergence analysis of the present method to determine the convergence behavior of the method applied to this model. Then, we examine the vibration characteristics of rectangular plate with cutout under variety of boundary conditions. The letters F, S and C have been used indicate the free, simply-supported and clamped boundary conditions along an edge, respectively, which will be obtained by setting different spring stiffness. Additionally, we use the letter E to denote instances where the spring stiffness is not assumed to be zero or infinite. The stiffness values of the springs are given out as Table 1. After the convergence analysis, we discuss the influence factors for vibration characteristics of rectangular plate, such as opening ratio, position and number. Additionally, we compare the calculation of RRM in the global coordinate system and ICCM in the independent coordinate coupling system.

Table 1: The stiffness values of the springs taken by different boundary conditions

Boundary condition	Values of spring stiffness	
	k	K
F	0	0
S	5×10^9	0
C	5×10^9	5×10^9
E	Arbitrary	Arbitrary

3.1 The Convergence for Verification of the Model

In the present theoretical model, the vibration displacement function is expressed as an improved Fourier series expansion, which is a key factor of the solution precision. In theory, the accuracy of solution increases with the increase of truncated number M , N and converges to the exact solution. However, considering the limited capacity, numerical accuracy and speed of computers, the series expansion must be truncated to M and N to obtain the results [34] with acceptable accuracy. Therefore, we need to examine the convergence and accuracy of the proposed method to establish the number of series expansion terms needed to obtain accurate results.

Table 2 shows the non-dimensional frequencies $\Omega^2 = \rho h \omega^2 a^4 / D$ of square plate with central square cutout with simply-supported (S) boundaries. The simply-supported boundary condition is simulated by setting the displacement spring stiffness of each edge to be 5×10^9 and the rotation constraint spring stiffness to 0. The setting of the spring stiffness is determined by the convergence analysis of the stiffness values in Table 3, which is to be discussed in more detail in the following section. From the data presented in Table 2, under varying aperture ratios a_c/a , we can see that the first-order dimensionless frequency tends to converge as the truncation number increases. Also, we can determine from the data that accurate results can be obtained even when the truncation number is small. When the truncation number is 8, compared with [34] and the finite element method, the maximum error does not exceed 4%.

Table 2: The non-dimensional frequencies of SSSS square plate with central square cutout

a_c/a	Truncated number ($M = N = O = P$)					FEM		Reference [34]	
	4	5	6	7	8	Ω_1	Error (%)	Ω_1	Error (%)
0	19.737	19.737	19.737	19.736	19.739	19.739	0	–	–
0.1	19.927	19.906	19.894	19.862	19.844	19.463	1.96	19.517	1.68
0.2	20.292	20.027	19.926	19.653	19.904	19.147	3.95	19.205	3.64
0.3	20.667	20.034	19.964	19.710	20.096	19.722	1.90	19.512	2.99
0.4	21.535	20.985	20.863	20.788	21.279	20.733	2.63	20.815	2.58

Table 3: The frequencies of rectangular plates with eccentric cutout under different boundary conditions

Boundary conditions	Method	Modes (Hz)					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
FFFF	Present	13.879	18.271	27.887	34.013	38.838	53.669
	FEM	13.863	18.270	27.091	33.880	38.608	53.436
	Error (%)	0.115	0.005	2.938	0.393	0.596	0.436
SSSS	Present	21.145	47.082	57.902	83.326	89.855	119.890
	FEM	20.707	46.557	58.378	84.047	91.251	123.360
	Error (%)	2.115	1.128	0.815	0.858	1.530	2.813
CFCF	Present	27.930	31.577	46.756	76.474	77.187	81.187
	FEM	27.599	31.481	46.025	75.733	75.806	81.123
	Error (%)	1.199	0.305	1.588	0.978	1.822	0.079
CCCS	Present	36.281	61.877	85.012	107.643	109.122	151.867
	FEM	35.149	60.854	83.662	105.560	107.74	150.380
	Error (%)	3.221	1.681	1.614	1.973	1.283	0.989
CCCC	Present	39.294	70.852	86.590	114.943	120.085	160.417
	FEM	38.484	69.704	85.522	113.270	120.100	157.950
	Error (%)	2.105	1.647	1.249	1.477	0.012	1.562

To further verify the effectiveness of the method, the natural frequencies and mode shapes of a rectangular plate with a general eccentric cutout under CCCC boundary condition are calculated; the results are shown in Table 4. The size and position parameters of the rectangular plate with cutout are: $a = 1.2$ m, $b = 1$ m, $a_c = 0.2$ m, $b_c = 0.1$ m, $r_x = 0.8$ m, and $r_y = 0.5$ m.

Table 4: The natural frequencies of CCCC rectangular plate with eccentric hole

Truncated number ($M = N = O = P$)	Modes (Hz)					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
4	39.494	71.218	86.946	115.673	120.214	161.191
5	39.405	70.957	86.672	115.062	120.202	160.840
6	39.386	70.941	86.642	115.039	120.132	160.723
7	39.311	70.874	86.606	114.961	120.125	160.464
8	39.294	70.854	85.590	114.945	120.088	160.417
FEM	38.483	69.705	85.520	113.273	120.118	157.950
Error (%)	2.107	1.648	0.080	1.476	0.025	1.562

The resulting natural frequencies calculated by this present method and the finite element method are shown in Table 4, Figs. 3 and 4, from which can be seen that the maximum error of natural frequencies does not exceed 2.107% by the two methods. As Figs. 3 and 4 show, when we compare the

mode shapes computed by each method, the distribution patterns of the mode shapes and pitch circles of the rectangular plate with eccentric cutout obtained by the two methods are consistent. Overall, the data shows that the present method is more accurate for rectangular plates with an eccentric cutout.

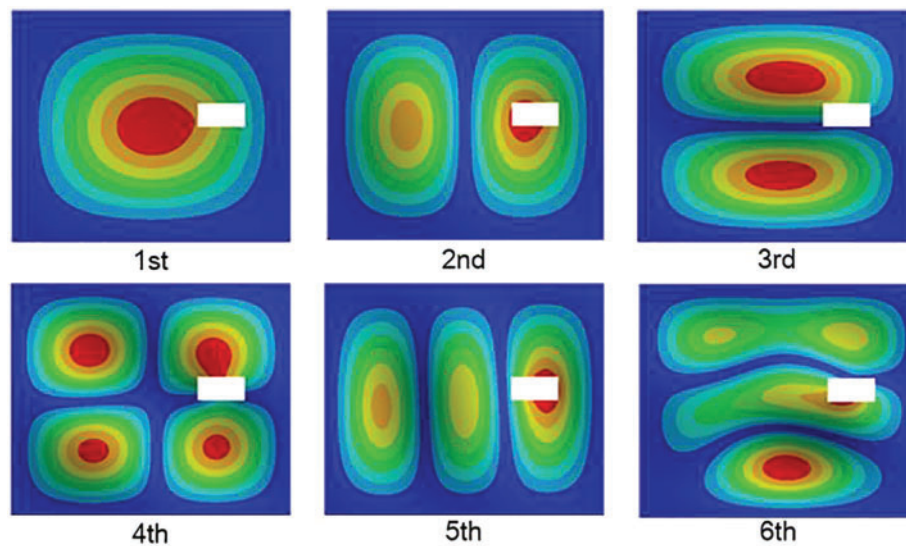


Figure 3: The mode shapes of rectangular plate with eccentric cutouts under CCCC boundary condition by FEM

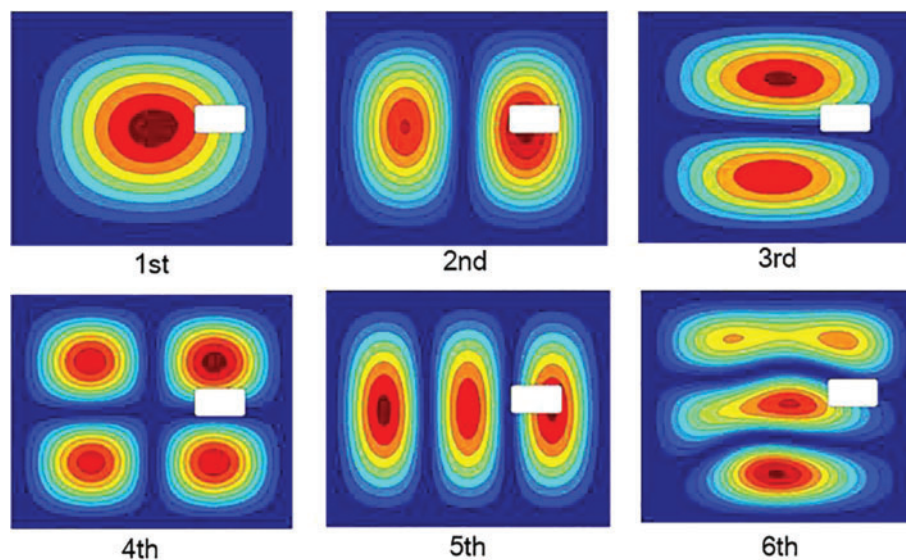


Figure 4: The mode shapes of rectangular plate with eccentric cutouts under CCCC boundary condition by the present method

3.2 Analysis under Variable Boundary Conditions

In order to verify the accuracy of the present method under classical boundary conditions, [Table 3](#) provides the results of rectangular plate with an eccentric cutout. Different boundary conditions can be obtained directly by changing the stiffness magnitudes of the springs, and all classical homogeneous

boundary conditions—clamped and free boundaries—can be easily derived by setting each of spring constants to be infinite or zero, respectively. The simply-supported boundary can be obtained by setting the displacement spring stiffness of each edge to be 5×10^9 and the rotation constraint spring stiffness to 0. The truncated number is $M = N = O = P = 8$. The comparison of the first six natural frequencies with the finite element method shows that the maximum deviation is 3.221%. It shows that the present method exhibits a high degree of precision when dealing with the vibration of rectangular plate with cutout under any classical boundary.

In addition to the solution of the vibration problem under classical boundary conditions, this method can also solve the vibration problem of the rectangular plate with cutout under arbitrary elastic boundary conditions, which can be achieved by changing the spring stiffness at the boundary conditions. Table 5 gives an example of calculating the natural frequency of CCCE rectangular plate with cutout at different spring stiffness values. The geometric parameters of the rectangular plate with eccentric cutout are the same as above and the boundary conditions are CCCE. Along the edge $x = a$, the rotation spring stiffness is set to elastic boundary condition, the rotation spring stiffness is $K = K \times D$. From the data in Table 5, with the rotation spring stiffness increasing, the natural frequency is increasing. When the rotation spring stiffness increases to 10^7 , the natural frequencies tend to stable. As the rotation spring stiffness is increased from 10^7 to 10^9 , the frequencies effectively remain constant, and these results are equal to those of a plate under CCCC boundary conditions. Compared with Table 3, it can be seen that the rotational spring stiffness in the $x = a$ direction gradually increases from 0 to 10^9 , which corresponds to a change from the C-C-C-S boundary condition to the CCCC boundary condition. The displacement spring stiffness is determined in the same way. It is reasonable to assume that the infinite spring stiffness in this paper is approximated as 5×10^9 .

Table 5: The natural frequencies of CCCE rectangular plate with eccentric hole with torsional restraints

K	Modes (Hz)					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
0	36.281	61.877	85.012	107.643	109.122	151.867
10	36.283	61.880	85.013	107.973	109.124	151.889
10^3	36.431	62.197	85.066	107.973	109.293	152.120
10^5	38.822	69.041	86.245	113.501	116.979	158.885
10^7	39.288	70.832	86.590	114.943	120.085	160.417
10^8	39.293	70.852	86.590	114.943	120.085	160.417
10^9	39.294	70.854	86.590	114.945	120.088	160.417

3.3 Rectangular Plate with Two Cutouts

So far, we have conducted numerical simulations for a plate with one cutout, but the present method has certain advantages in solving rectangular plates with multiple cutouts. In this section, we compute the natural frequency and mode shapes for a rectangular plate with two cutouts under different boundaries, and compare these results with those from the literature and finite element simulations. The geometric model of rectangular plates with two cutouts is shown in Fig. 2, one plate has two cutouts horizontally symmetrically distributed, and one plate has two cutouts distributed diagonally, respectively. Tables 6 and 7 show the dimensionless frequencies for the two distributions under four simply-supported boundaries, where the data marked with * comes from [35]. The structure

size of rectangular plate with two cutouts is $a/b = 3/2, h/b = 0.01$, and the dimensionless frequency is $\Omega^2 = \rho h \omega^2 a^4 / D$. Tables 8 and 9 show the dimensionless frequencies for the two distributions under four edges clamped supported conditions, where the data marked with * comes from the finite element results. Figs. 4 and 5 are the mode shapes of rectangular plate with two cutouts. The structure size in Fig. 4 is cutout ratio $a_{c1}/a = b_{c1}/b = 0.2, a_{c2}/a = b_{c2}/b = 0.2$, and cutout position $r_{x1}/a = 0.25, r_{y1}/b = 0.4, r_{x2}/a = 0.55, r_{y2}/b = 0.4$. The structure size in the Fig. 5 is cutout ratio $a_{c1}/a = b_{c1}/b = 0.1, a_{c2}/a = b_{c2}/b = 0.1$, and cutout position $r_{x1}/a = 0.15, r_{y1}/b = 0.15, r_{x2}/a = 0.75, r_{y2}/b = 0.75$. From Table 6 through Table 9, we can see that the present method exhibits a high degree of agreement with the results from finite element simulations under SSSS and CCCC boundary conditions, while the deviation result is slightly larger compared with [35], this is mainly because the displacement functions in [35] is sine function and the auxiliary term function is not considered.

Table 6: The dimensionless frequencies of SSSS rectangular plates with two horizontal cutouts

$a_{c1}/a = b_{c1}/b$ $a_{c2}/a = b_{c2}/b$	Cutout position	Ω					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
0.1	$r_{x1}/a = 0.35, r_{y1}/b = 0.45$	31.10*	61.17*	98.08*	110.33*	–	–
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.55, r_{y2}/b = 0.45$	32.23	62.54	99.48	112.77	132.23	179.43
	Error (%)	3.63	2.24	1.43	2.21	–	–
	$r_{x1}/a = 0.15, r_{y1}/b = 0.45$	31.69*	60.60*	98.10*	109.62*	–	–
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.75, r_{y2}/b = 0.45$	32.25	62.37	99.74	111.74	131.51	179.80
	Error (%)	1.77	2.92	1.67	1.93	–	–
0.2	$r_{x1}/a = 0.25, r_{y1}/b = 0.4$	29.94*	60.22*	89.18*	105.83*	–	–
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.55, r_{y2}/b = 0.4$	30.68	62.69	93.92	112.14	132.89	180.36
	Error (%)	2.47	4.10	5.32	5.96	–	–
	$r_{x1}/a = 0.1, r_{y1}/b = 0.4$	30.96*	60.55*	93.12*	111.59*	–	–
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.7, r_{y2}/b = 0.4$	31.26	61.37	96.74	111.76	131.50	179.79
	Error (%)	0.97	1.35	3.89	0.15	–	–

Table 7: The dimensionless frequencies of SSSS rectangular plates with two diagonal cutouts

$a_{c1}/a = b_{c1}/b$ $a_{c2}/a = b_{c2}/b$	Cutout position	Ω					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
0.1	$r_{x1}/a = 0.35, r_{y1}/b = 0.35$	31.21*	61.15*	97.20*	110.24*	–	–
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.55, r_{y2}/b = 0.55$	32.31	62.94	99.67	113.28	133.51	179.48
	Error (%)	3.52	2.93	2.54	2.76	–	–
	$r_{x1}/a = 0.15, r_{y1}/b = 0.15$	31.73*	61.17*	97.50*	110.31*	–	–
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.75, r_{y2}/b = 0.75$	32.50	62.18	99.23	111.98	129.85	178.81
	Error (%)	2.43	1.65	1.77	1.51	–	–
	$r_{x1}/a = 0.25, r_{y1}/b = 0.25$	30.11*	60.04*	92.86*	105.49*	–	–
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.55, r_{y2}/b = 0.55$	31.73	61.08	96.92	110.86	142.76	179.93

(Continued)

Table 7 (continued)

$a_{c1}/a = b_{c1}/b$	Cutout position	Ω					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
0.2	Error (%)	5.38	1.73	4.37	5.09		
	$r_{x1}/a = 0.1, r_{y1}/b = 0.1$	30.61*	59.85*	96.21*	108.87*	–	–
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.7, r_{y2}/b = 0.7$	33.29	63.52	100.20	114.43	134.60	181.50
	Error (%)	8.76	6.13	4.15	5.11		

Table 8: The dimensionless frequencies of CCCC rectangular plates with two horizontal cutouts

$a_{c1}/a = b_{c1}/b$	Cutout position	Ω					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
0.1	$r_{x1}/a = 0.35, r_{y1}/b = 0.45$	33.19*	51.45*	81.29*	81.21*	98.01*	124.69*
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.55, r_{y2}/b = 0.45$	33.93	51.04	80.37	81.41	97.04	123.24
	Error (%)	2.23	0.80	1.13	0.25	0.99	1.16
	$r_{x1}/a = 0.15, r_{y1}/b = 0.45$	33.66*	51.93*	81.90*	82.84*	98.17*	125.70*
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.75, r_{y2}/b = 0.45$	33.42	51.52	81.07	82.07	97.18	124.23
	Error (%)	0.72	0.78	1.02	0.92	1.01	1.17
0.2	$r_{x1}/a = 0.25, r_{y1}/b = 0.4$	34.77*	53.31*	71.66*	77.83*	87.63*	119.37*
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.55, r_{y2}/b = 0.4$	34.52	52.91	70.66	76.97	86.52	118.12
	Error (%)	0.71	0.75	1.39	1.11	1.27	1.05
	$r_{x1}/a = 0.1, r_{y1}/b = 0.4$	33.64*	53.20*	77.53*	88.83*	88.97*	116.50*
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.7, r_{y2}/b = 0.4$	33.38	52.74	76.65	87.76	88.15	115.14
	Error (%)	0.79	0.87	1.14	1.20	0.93	1.17

Table 9: The dimensionless frequencies of CCCC rectangular plates with two diagonal cutouts

$a_{c1}/a = b_{c1}/b$	Cutout position	Ω					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
0.1	$r_{x1}/a = 0.35, r_{y1}/b = 0.35$	33.40*	51.48*	80.93*	82.13*	98.37*	124.90*
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.55, r_{y2}/b = 0.55$	33.14	51.07	80.07	81.33	97.43	123.45
	Error (%)	0.78	0.80	1.06	0.98	0.96	1.16
	$r_{x1}/a = 0.15, r_{y1}/b = 0.15$	33.46*	51.83*	82.41*	82.87*	99.35*	125.56*
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.75, r_{y2}/b = 0.75$	33.22	51.43	81.58	82.11	98.39	124.09
	Error (%)	0.72	0.78	1.01	0.91	0.96	1.17
0.2	$r_{x1}/a = 0.25, r_{y1}/b = 0.25$	33.72*	51.76*	77.94*	82.99*	100.90*	122.35*
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.55, r_{y2}/b = 0.55$	33.43	51.32	77.09	82.19	99.96	120.89
	Error (%)	0.86	0.84	1.09	0.96	0.93	1.20
	$r_{x1}/a = 0.1, r_{y1}/b = 0.1$	32.53*	50.06*	80.99*	81.28*	97.56*	123.53*
	$r_{x2}/a = 0.7, r_{y2}/b = 0.7$	32.27	49.62	80.14	80.44	96.55	121.97
	Error (%)	0.79	0.88	1.05	1.03	1.04	1.26

From Figs. 5–8, we can see that the shape of the vibration mode is consistent between the two methods; this further verifies the agreement between two methods. The accuracy of the results for a two-cutout rectangular plate with various cutout ratios under the SSSS and CCCC boundary conditions is apparent from the data. It can be shown that the calculation error increases as the cutout ratio increases. The present method adapts to solve the natural frequency of rectangular plate with two cutouts.

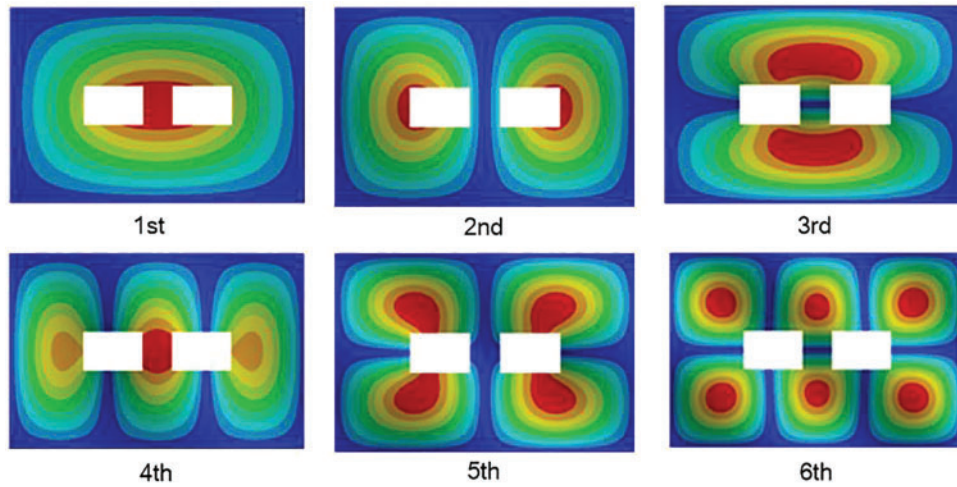


Figure 5: The mode shapes of rectangular plate with two horizontal cutouts under SSSS boundary condition by FEM

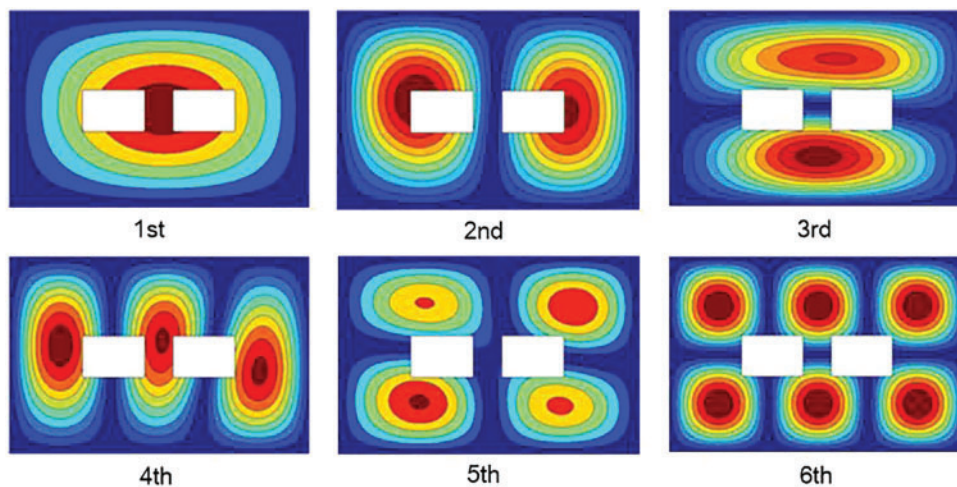


Figure 6: The mode shapes of rectangular plate with two horizontal cutouts under SSSS boundary condition by the present method

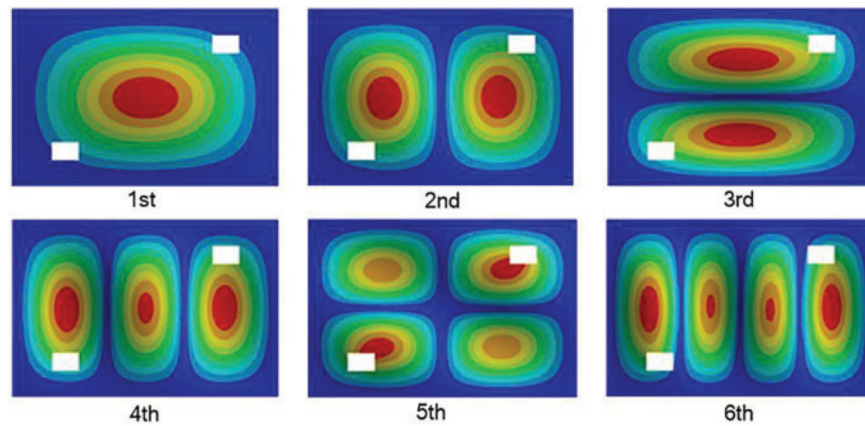


Figure 7: The mode shapes of rectangular plate with two diagonal cutouts under CCCC boundary condition by FEM

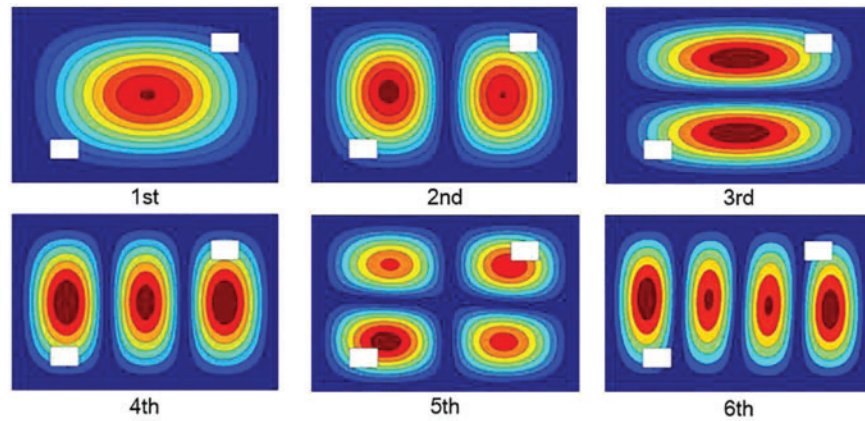


Figure 8: The mode shapes of rectangular plate with two diagonal cutouts under CCCC boundary condition by the present method

3.4 Calculation Efficiency Comparison in Different Coordinate System

In this section, we compare the solutions of rectangular plate with a cutout in the global coordinate system (RRM) and the independent coupling coordinate system (ICCM). For the case of a square plate with square cutout and SSSS boundary conditions, Figs. 9 and 10 provide the computational time trend by the two methods using Matlab for following cases: increasing truncated number, and increasing cutout ratio. In these simulations, the structure size is $a = b = 1$ m, $a_c = b_c = 0.2$ m. From Fig. 9, we can see that the solution time increases as the truncated number increases by RRM method and ICCM method. This is because when the truncated number increases, the number of terms of the vibration displacement function is increasing, and the time naturally increases as a result. But when we compare the two, it can be seen that computation time of the ICCM method increases at a rate much lower than that of the RRM method for the same truncated number, and thus, we can conclude that the ICCM method is more computationally efficient than the RRM method, especially for larger truncated numbers. This is because ICCM method is more efficient than RRM at solving each vibration displacement function, and then the difference is more apparent for larger truncated numbers.

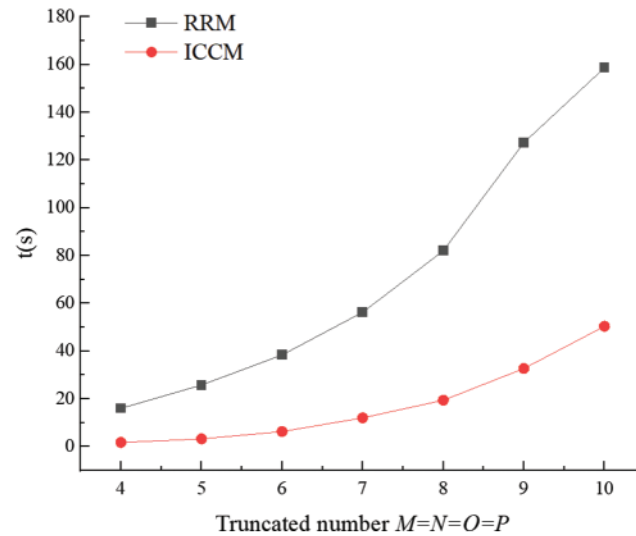


Figure 9: Computational time vs. truncated number by two methods for square plate with one cutout

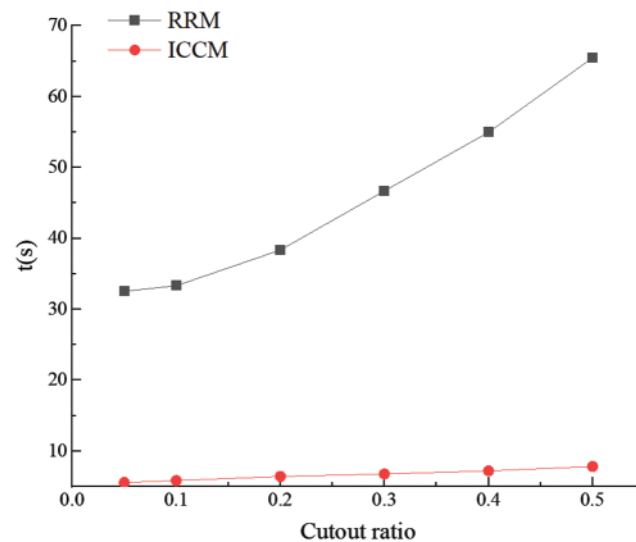


Figure 10: Computational time vs. cutout ratio by two methods for square plate with one cutout

As can be seen from [Fig. 10](#), the calculation time of RRM method increases significantly as the cutout ratio increases, while the ICCM method remains fairly constant. This is due to that the integral limit of the RRM is increasing when integrating for the rectangular cutout, while the integral limit of the dimensionless ICCM for solving the rectangular cutout is constant. The solution speed does not change substantially as the size of the rectangular cutout varies.

For solving the rectangular plate with two cutouts, the computation time curve for truncated number for both methods is shown in Fig. 11. The structural parameters are: $a = b = 1$ m, $r_{x1} = r_{y1} = 0.3$ m, $r_{x2} = r_{y2} = 0.5$ m, $a_{c1} = b_{c1} = a_{c2} = b_{c2} = 0.2$ m. When the truncated number is increasing, the curvature of the curve changes more rapidly by the RRM method while the curve increases at a lower rate by the ICCM method.

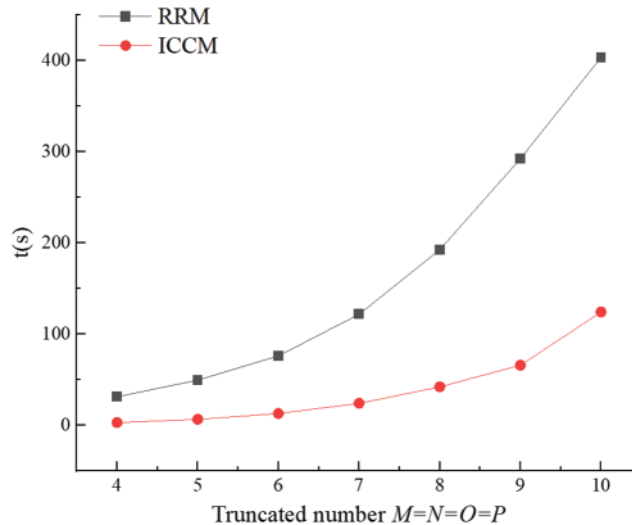


Figure 11: Computational time vs. truncated number by two methods for square plate with two diagonal cutouts under CCCC boundary conditions

Comparing Figs. 9 and 11, the calculation time increases as the number of cutout increases, with the number of cutouts more greatly affecting the RRM method. By comparing the natural frequencies of the rectangular plates with cutouts under different truncated number, different cutout ratios and different cutout numbers, it can be concluded that the ICCM method has obvious computational advantages over the RRM method.

3.5 Calculation Accuracy Comparison in Different Coordinate System

In this section, the calculation accuracy results of different methods are given out. The comparison diagram of the first 50 natural frequencies of the square plate with center cutout under FFFF, SSSS and CCCC boundary conditions are demonstrate in Figs. 12–14. Three types of methods, FEM, ICCM and RRM are used to calculate the results. The structural parameters are: $a = b = 1$ m, $a_c = b_c = 0.2$ m. It can be observed that there is a good fit degree between the calculation results of the ICCM and RRM and small deviation. Comparing to the FEM results, the calculation results of the two methods used in this paper are completely coincident with the results of FEM results for the low-order frequencies, while they are higher than the FEM results at the higher order frequencies, the curve of the RRM is closer than the ICCM to the FEM results. This is mainly because of the displacement functions are different at the cutout domain. It can be seen from the figures that the method proposed in this paper can effectively solve the vibration characteristics of the rectangular plate with cutouts.

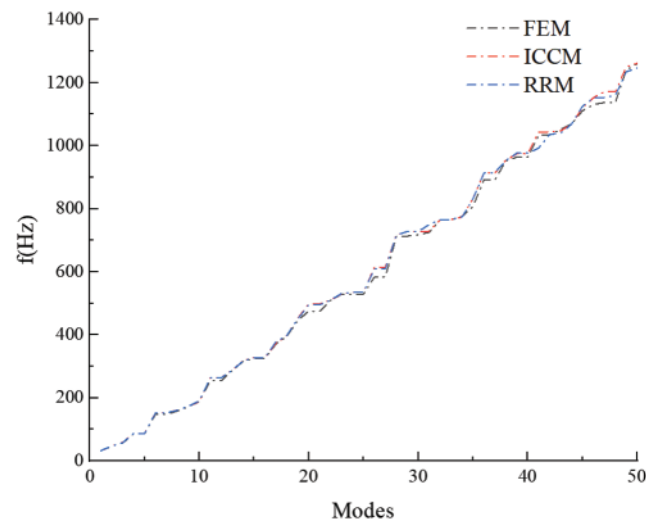


Figure 12: Computational accuracy comparison of square plate with center cutout under FFFF boundary conditions

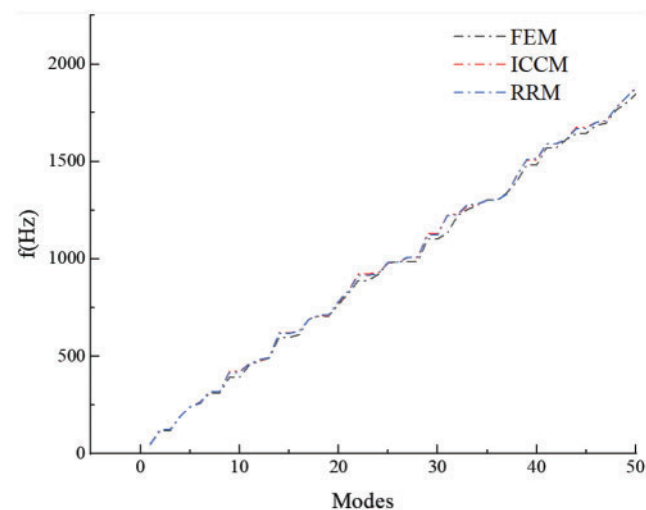


Figure 13: Computational accuracy comparison of square plate with center cutout under SSSS boundary conditions

4 Modal Experiments

The modal experiment analysis of the free vibration of a rectangular plate with a cutout under free boundary conditions and clamped boundary conditions was conducted, and the single-point vibration measurement method was selected. The experiment considers some influencing vibration characteristics key factors of the rectangular plate with cutout, such as the cutout ratio and the plate thickness. It further serves to validate the accuracy of the present method with experimental results.

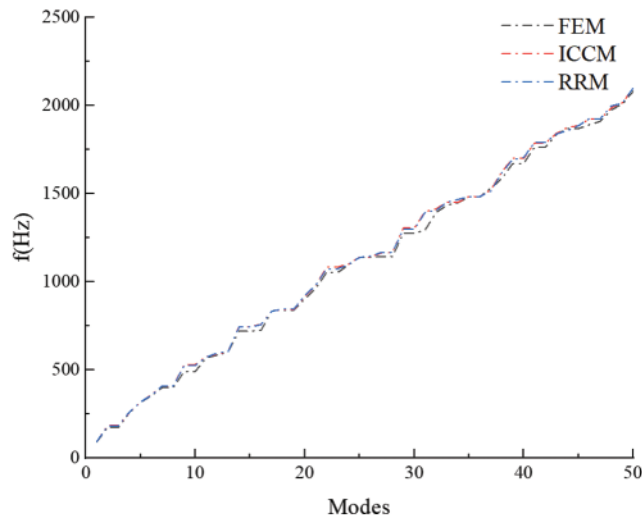
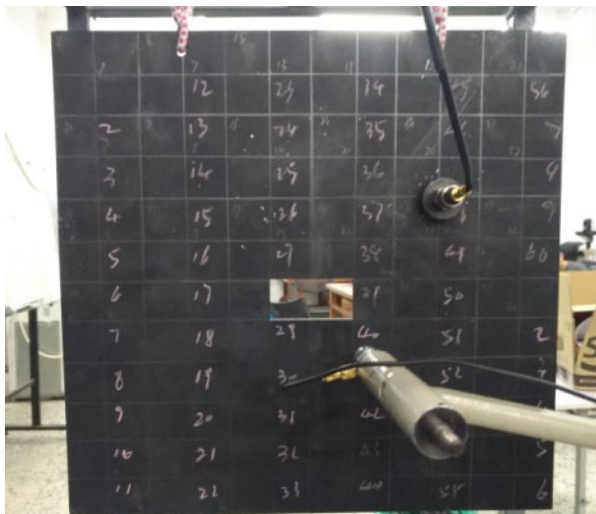


Figure 14: Computational accuracy comparison of square plate with center cutout under CCCC boundary conditions

4.1 The Mode Experimental of Rectangular Plate with Eccentric Cutouts

In this section, the experimental model is shown in Fig. 15. The four-edge free and clamped supported boundary conditions are considered. The free boundary conditions are simulated using a soft-rope suspension method, and the clamped supported boundary condition is simulated by uniformly fastening bolts along the four edges. The modal experimental system is shown in Fig. 16, and the structural and material parameters of the experimental apparatus are listed in Table 10. The first 6 natural frequencies are obtained by the single-point vibration pick-point under two types of boundary conditions; the results are presented in Table 11.



(a) The free boundary condition



(b) The clamped supported

Figure 15: The experimental model of rectangular plate with cutout

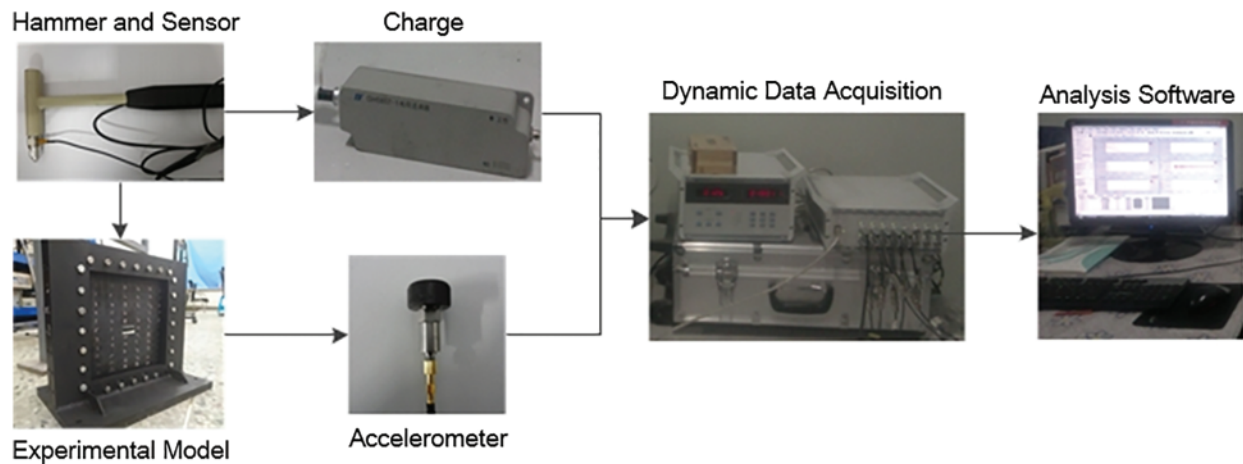


Figure 16: The model experimental system

Table 10: The parameters of rectangular plate with cutout

Parameters	Symbol	FFFF	CCCC	Unit
Plate material	Q235	–	–	–
Plate length	a	239.5	240.5	mm
Plate width	b	239.2	240.0	mm
Cutout length	a_c	40.5	40.3	mm
Cutout width	b_c	20.5	40.3	mm
Cutout's x position	x_c	99.6	100.5	mm
Cutout y position	y_c	99.6	100.3	mm
Plate thickness	h	2	2	mm
Young's modulus	E	2.06×10^{11}	2.06×10^{11}	N/m ²
Poisson's ratio	μ	0.3	0.3	–

Table 11: The comparison of natural frequencies of rectangular plate with cutout

Boundary condition	Modes	Test (Hz)	Present (Hz)	FEM (Hz)	Error Test (%)	Error present (%)
FFFF	1	113.01	118.10	115.02	1.74	2.68
	2	173.36	170.33	165.89	4.50	2.68
	3	193.61	205.66	203.64	4.92	1.00
	4	288.54	309.49	301.14	4.18	2.77
	5	290.64	310.10	301.26	3.52	2.93
	6	545.61	538.91	529.23	3.09	1.83
	1	298.45	314.22	308.47	3.24	1.86
	2	612.21	625.72	625.5	2.12	0.04

(Continued)

Table 11 (continued)

Boundary condition	Modes	Test (Hz)	Present (Hz)	FEM (Hz)	Error Test (%)	Error present (%)
CCCC	3	653.58	640.55	631.2	3.55	1.48
	4	967.12	927.91	924.04	4.66	0.42
	5	1034.87	1128.67	1112.9	7.01	1.42
	6	1066.47	1146.62	1138.8	6.35	0.69

The % errors in [Table 11](#) represent the relative deviation of the test results from the theoretical results. The data in Column 6 represents the error of the experimental results from the results generated from the finite element simulations while the results in column 7 represent the error of the results computed by the methods proposed in this paper (the truncated number is $M = N = 8$) with those generated by the finite element simulations. As we can see from the results in [Table 11](#), the experimental results and the present method both agree very well with the finite element simulations, but it should be noted that the results from the present methods are express a higher level of agreement with the FEM simulations than the experimental results do. There are two aspects for the deviation. First, the boundary constraint difference between experimental simulation and theoretical calculation will cause a certain error. Second, when striking with a hammer, it is required that the striking direction is completely perpendicular to the panel surface, the striking force should be constant, and the hammer should be withdrawn quickly after the striking is finished to avoid secondary striking. Due to the agreement of the results in [Table 11](#), we can conclude that the proposed solution method under free and clamped boundary conditions is validated by the experimental results.

4.2 Parameterized Analysis of Rectangular Plate with Cutouts

In this experiment, we conduct a parameterized analysis on a rectangular plate with a cutout under free boundary conditions; in this analysis, we take into consideration the hole ratio and plate thickness. The structural parameters of the rectangular plate with a cutout are: $a = b = 240$ mm, $a_c/a = 0.1, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5$ and $h = 4.5$ mm, and the results for the first and second natural frequencies as the cutout ratio increases are presented in [Fig. 17](#). In the plate thickness parameterization analysis, $a = b = 240$ mm, $a_c/a = 0.3$, and $h = 1.9$ mm, 4.7 mm, 7.5 mm. The experimental and theoretical value curves of the rectangular plate with cutout are shown in [Figure](#).

From [Figs. 17](#) and [18](#), we can see that the data curve of present method is in excellent agreement with the experimental results; this provides further evidence in support of the accuracy of the present method. Their trend very closely approximates the gradual decrease in frequency as cutout ratio increases. This is due to the fact that the main factor affecting the fundamental frequency of the plate with a cutout under free boundary conditions is its mass. As the cutout ratio increases, the whole mass matrix decreases, and then the frequency increases. Additionally, the natural frequency of the rectangular plate with cutout also increases with the increase of the plate thickness when the cutout ratio remains constant. Therefore, in the analysis of the model parameters of the rectangular plate with cutout, the size of cutout and the thickness of plate are important factors affecting the frequency of the rectangular plate with cutout.

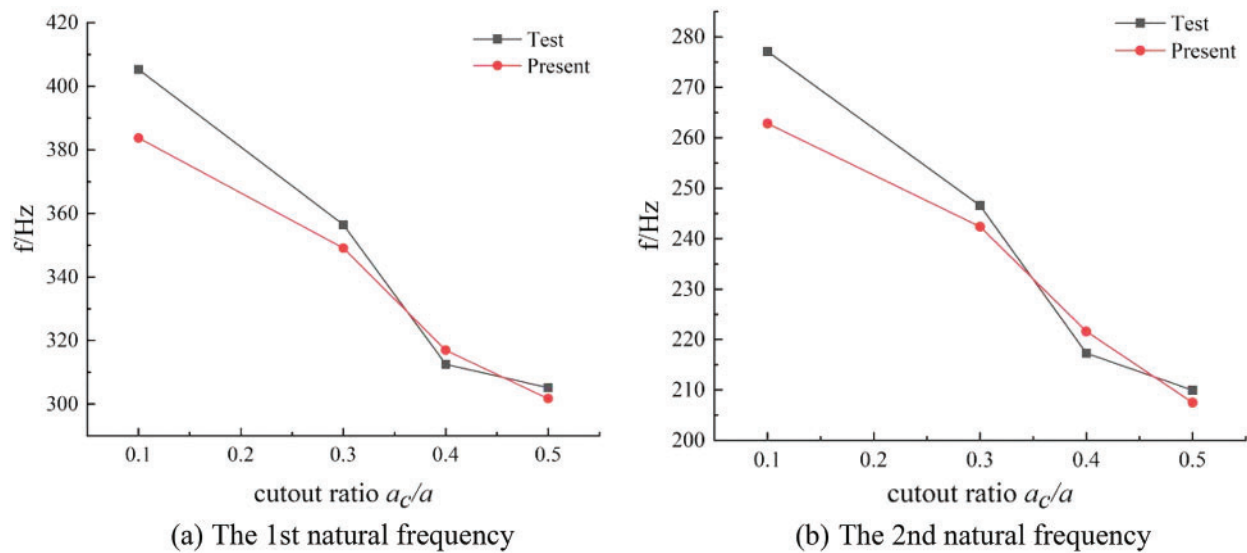


Figure 17: The natural frequency of rectangular plate with different cutout ratios, $h = 4.5$ mm, FFFF

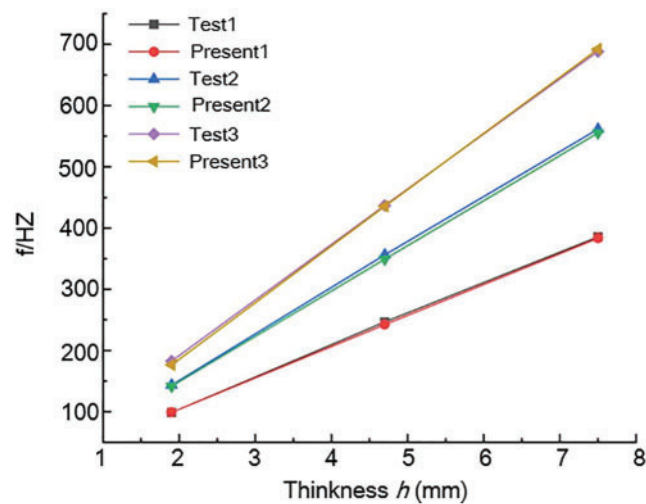


Figure 18: The natural frequency of rectangular plate with one cutout with different thickness, $a_c/a = 0.3$, FFFF

5 Conclusion

Based on the independent coordinate coupling system, this paper establishes the models of a rectangular plate with cutouts under elastic boundary conditions. The model of rectangular plate with cutouts is adapted to plates subjected to arbitrary elastic boundary conditions by the improved Fourier series, and the Rayleigh-Ritz energy method is used to deal with the relationship between the plate and the hole by means of energy subtraction. The frequency parameters are obtained by solving the matrix of the plate with cutouts by the Lagrangian equation. This method can satisfy the vibration solution of rectangular plate with holes under arbitrary elastic boundary conditions and produce highly accurate solutions. ICCM improves the computational efficiency by optimizing

the integration domain of rectangular cutouts, shortens the time required for computation, and has obvious advantages when the cutout ratio increases or the number of holes increases.

The modal experiments of rectangular plate with a hole under free boundary conditions and clamped supported boundary conditions were conducted and, when compared with the theoretical results from the proposed method, provided evidence as to the accuracy of the method presented herein. In addition to the validation of the accuracy, the influence of the cutout size and thickness of rectangular plate under free boundary conditions was also examined. We observed that the natural frequencies of rectangular plate with holes decrease with the increase in cutout ratio, and that the frequencies also increase as thickness of the plate increases. The result of this work is beneficial to the engineering community as it provides us with an understanding of the vibration characteristics of rectangular plates with cutouts.

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