

Accepted Manuscript

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He-Qing Mu, Ka-Veng Yuen

PII: S0263-2241(18)30759-0

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.measurement.2018.08.022>

Reference: MEASUR 5801

To appear in: *Measurement*

Received Date: 28 April 2018

Revised Date: 24 July 2018

Accepted Date: 12 August 2018

Please cite this article as: H-Q. Mu, K-V. Yuen, Modal frequency-environmental condition relation development using long-term structural health monitoring measurement: uncertainty quantification, sparse feature selection and multivariate prediction, *Measurement* (2018), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.measurement.2018.08.022>

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Modal frequency-environmental condition relation development using long-term structural health monitoring measurement: uncertainty quantification, sparse feature selection and multivariate prediction

He-Qing Mu^{1,2}, Ka-Veng Yuen³

¹Associate Professor, School of Civil Engineering and Transportation, South China University of Technology, Guangzhou 510640, P.R. China (corresponding author). E-mail: cthqmu@scut.edu.cn

²Associate Professor, State Key Laboratory of Subtropical Building Science, South China University of Technology, Guangzhou 510640, P.R. China.

³Professor, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Macau, Macao, China. Email: kvyuen@umac.mo

Abstract

The goal of structural health monitoring is to infer structural health status using available measurement. It is well accepted that structural modal frequency can be utilized as an indicator revealing health status of a monitored structure, but this indicator exhibits substantial seasonal variation due to changing environmental conditions (such as temperature and humidity). There are three critical issues in modal frequency-environmental condition relation development: 1) a significant level of uncertainty in both structural dynamical responses and environmental factors; 2) huge number of possible components of input features of environmental factors; 3) capability of multivariate prediction on modal frequencies of several modes. This paper develops an updated version of the Sparse Bayesian Learning (SBL), enhancing the efficiency in the hyperparameter optimization process, with capabilities in uncertainty quantification, sparse feature selection and multivariate prediction. The approach is utilized for modal frequency-environmental condition relation development of a reinforced concrete building based on one-year measurement. It turns out that the optimal multivariate sparse model can depict the pattern between the modal frequencies of the first three modes and the environmental conditions with high fitting capacity and low error sensitivity.

Keywords

Bayesian inference, environmental conditions, sparse feature selection, modal analysis, structural health monitoring

1. Introduction

The goal of structural health monitoring (SHM) is to infer structural health status using available measurement [1-7]. The development of SHM relies on the innovation on sensing

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