

## The Dynamic Comparative Analysis between Two TBM Main System Structures

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### Abstract

*Excessive vibration and vibration damage are serious engineering problems in the TBM boring process. TBM dynamic characteristic analysis is essential to the anti-vibration design of the TBM mainsystem. This paper classifies the TBM that mostly used in the practical engineering into TBM 1 and TBM 2, and comprehensively analyses the difference of cutter layout strategy, pinion layout strategy, shield support structure, etc between TBM 1 and TBM 2. A dynamic comparative analysis of TBM cutterhead was carried out based on a TBM dynamic model. The analysis results show that the cutterhead horizontal vibration of TBM 1 is around 0.3mm while that of TBM 2 is around 1.4mm. The vibration periodicity of TBM 2 significantly reduces. The influence of shield vertical support on the horizontal and vertical vibration of TBM 2 is analyzed. The results show that setting a vertical support at the bottom of the shield reduces the TBM cutterhead vibration by about 12%.*

**Keywords:** *Comparative analysis; Dynamic model; Structure parameters*

### 1. Introduction

In hard rock, the construction process with big torque, thrust and large impact load. The excessive vibration of TBM will cause non-normal damage in critical components and shorten the life of TBM [1-2]. Among the component of TBM, the vibration situation of cutterhead is the most serious [3]. This paper classifies the TBM that mostly used in the practical engineering into TBM 1 and TBM 2. The comparative vibration analysis of TBM 1 and TBM 2 can accurately simulate the vibration of each component. These analysis results determine the reasonable structure and provide a theoretical reference for TBM anti-vibration design.

Some foreign and domestic scholars have analyzed the TBM driving rotary system and TBM cutterhead system from the angle of dynamic vibration [4]-[6]. K.Z.Zhang [7] *et. al.*, established a coupling dynamical model of shield machine considering redundant drive system, hydraulic propulsion system, geological conditions, *etc.*, and the dynamical characteristics of the rotary system was studied based on the dynamical model. J. X. Lin and W. Sun [8] established a nonlinear dynamical model of cutterhead system, and analyzed the dynamical characteristics of cutterhead. The comparative analysis based on the TBM 1 and TBM 2 in engineering is not that deep. By considering the difference of cutter layout strategy, pinion layout strategy, shield support structure, *etc.*, between TBM 1 and TBM 2, this paper determines more reasonable shield support structure, pinion layout strategy, *etc.*

## 2. Comparative Analysis of Parameters

### 2.1 The Dynamic Model of the Two TBM

The dynamic model [9] of TBM is shown in Figure 1.

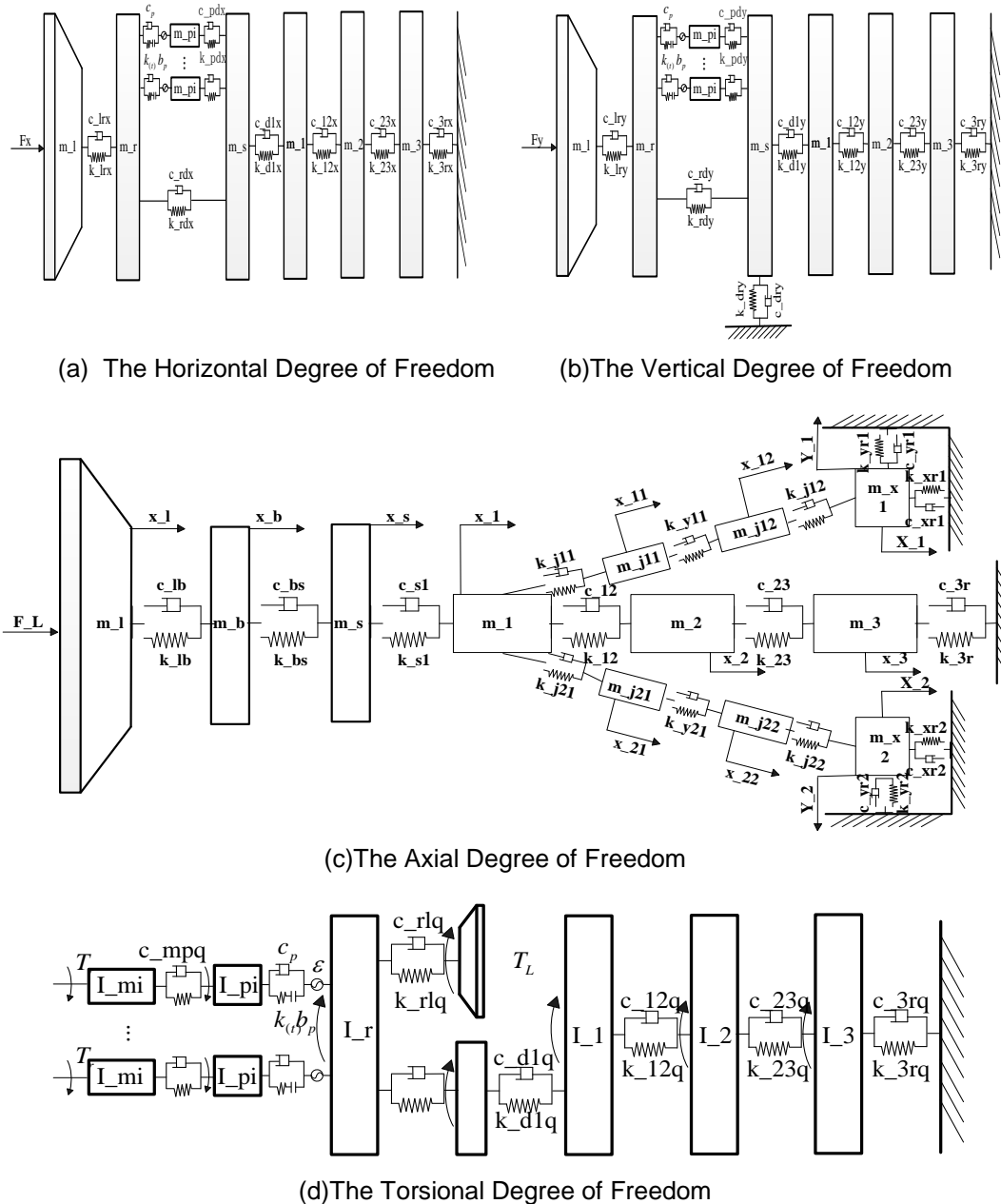


Figure 1. The Dynamic Model of TBM

In dynamic model,  $m_l, m_b, m_s, m_1, m_2, m_3, m_r, m_{pi}$  represent the mass of cutterhead, cutterhead bearing, cutterhead support, front frame, mid frame, end of frame, bull gear and each pinion.  $m_{j11}, m_{j12}, m_{j21}, m_{j22}$  represent the mass of 4 hinges as shown in Figure 3 (c).  $m_{x1}, m_{x2}$  represent the mass of 2 gripper shoes as shown in Figure 3 (c).  $I_{mi}, I_{pi}, I_r, I_l$  represent the rotary inertia of each motor, each pinion, bull gear and

cutterhead.  $k_{j11}$ ,  $k_{j12}$ ,  $k_{j21}$ ,  $k_{j22}$  represent 4 stiffness of the corresponding hinges.  $k_{xr1}$ ,  $k_{yr1}$ ,  $k_{xr2}$ ,  $k_{yr2}$  represent the horizontal and axial support stiffness of the corresponding gripper shoes.  $k_{lb}$ ,  $k_{bs}$ ,  $k_{s1}$ ,  $k_{12}$ ,  $k_{23}$ ,  $k_{3r}$  represent the structural stiffness of cutterhead, cutterhead bearing, cutterhead support, front frame, mid frame, end of frame.  $k_{lrx}$ ,  $k_{rdx}$ ,  $k_{pdx}$ ,  $k_{d1x}$ ,  $k_{12x}$ ,  $k_{23x}$ ,  $k_{3rx}$  represent the horizontal structural stiffness of cutterhead, bull gear, cutterhead support, front frame, mid frame and end of frame.  $k_{lry}$ ,  $k_{rdy}$ ,  $k_{pdy}$ ,  $k_{d1y}$ ,  $k_{12y}$ ,  $k_{23y}$ ,  $k_{3ry}$  represent the vertical structural stiffness of cutterhead, bull gear, cutterhead support, front frame, mid frame and end of frame.  $k_{mpq}$ ,  $k_{rlq}$ ,  $k_{d1q}$ ,  $k_{12q}$ ,  $k_{23q}$ ,  $k_{3rq}$ ,  $k(t)$  represent the torsional stiffness of transmission shaft, cutterhead, front frame, mid frame, end of frame and the time-varying damping stiffness.  $T_L$ ,  $T_{pi}$ ,  $F_x$ ,  $F_y$ ,  $F_L$  represent the load torque on cutterhead, the input torque of motor, the horizontal unbalanced force on cutterhead, the vertical unbalanced force on cutterhead and the axial force on cutterhead.

## 2.2 Different Cutter Layout Strategy

Different cutter layout strategies result in different equivalent force on cutterhead during boring process [10-11]. The load on cutterhead contains axial force  $P_v$ , radial force  $P_r$ , and torque  $T$  as shown in Figure 1. Each of the load is a resultant force which can be calculated according to the layout parameter of each cutter. The relationship between cutter layout position and angle is shown in Figure 2. In the figure,  $l$  represents the distance between each cutter axis and the center of cutterhead,  $\theta$  represents the phase angle of each cutter on the cutterhead,  $\beta$  represents the angle between the vertical force of each cutter and the Y-axis, especially for the inner cutter and center cutter, the value of  $\beta$  is 0.

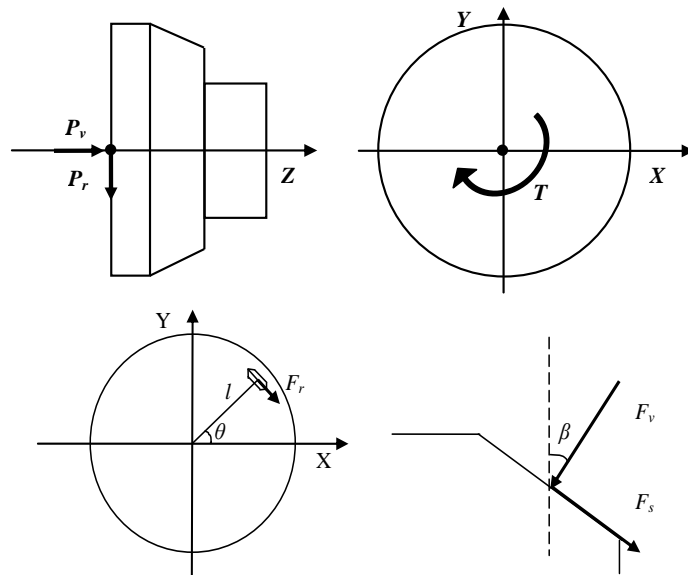


Figure 2. The Cutter Layout Position

### The Axial Force on Cutterhead

The axial force on cutterhead is the sum of the Z component force on each cutter. The calculation formula is  $\bar{P}_v = \sum_{q=1}^t F_{vq} (\cos \beta_q + k_s \sin \beta_q)$ , where  $F_{vq}$  is the vertical force of the cutter numbered  $q$ ,  $t$  is the number of cutter on cutterhead,  $\beta_q$  is the angle between vertical force of the cutter  $q$  and Y-axis.

### The Radial Force on Cutterhead

The radial force on cutterhead is the sum of the X and Y component force on each cutter. The calculation formula is  $P_r = \sqrt{(F_{vx\Sigma} + F_{rx\Sigma} + F_{sx\Sigma})^2 + (F_{vy\Sigma} + F_{ry\Sigma} + F_{sy\Sigma})^2}$ , where  $F_{vx\Sigma}$ ,  $F_{rx\Sigma}$  and  $F_{sx\Sigma}$  are the sum of the X component force of the vertical force, rolling force and side force on each cutter.  $F_{vy\Sigma}$ ,  $F_{ry\Sigma}$  and  $F_{sy\Sigma}$  are the sum of the Y component force of the vertical force, rolling force and side force on each cutter.

$$\begin{cases} \bar{F}_{vx\Sigma} = \sum_{q=1}^t F_{vq} \sin \beta_q \cos \theta_q \\ \bar{F}_{rx\Sigma} = k_r \sum_{q=1}^t F_{vq} \sin \theta_q \\ \bar{F}_{sx\Sigma} = k_s \sum_{q=1}^t F_{vq} \cos \beta_q \cos \theta_q \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} \bar{F}_{vy\Sigma} = \sum_{q=1}^t F_{vq} \sin \beta_q \sin \theta_q \\ \bar{F}_{ry\Sigma} = k_r \sum_{q=1}^t F_{vq} \cos \theta_q \\ \bar{F}_{sy\Sigma} = k_s \sum_{q=1}^t F_{vq} \cos \beta_q \sin \theta_q \end{cases}$$

### The Torque on Cutterhead

The torque on cutterhead is the sum of all moments about Z-axis. The calculation formula is  $\bar{T} = k_r \sum_{q=1}^t F_{vq} l_q$ .

According to the layout parameters, the equivalent load on cutterhead of TBM 1 and TBM 2 can be calculated. The calculation results are shown in Table 1.

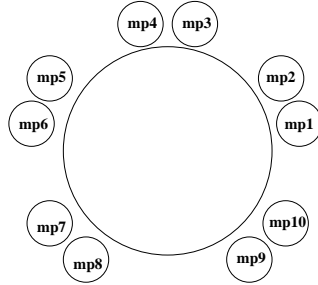
**Table 1. The Equivalent Load on Cutterhead**

|                  | TBM 1        | TBM 2        |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Axial force      | 14728359.28N | 14587213.69N |
| Horizontal force | 16885.80202N | 88658.99331N |
| Vertical force   | 293285.8923N | 44573.92857N |
| Torque           | 5640690N/m   | 5771487.9N/m |

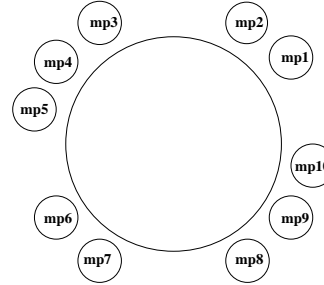
The loads are taken as external input to the dynamic model.

### 2.3. The Pinion Layout Strategy

The TBM 1 and TBM 2 main drive system all contain 10 parallel pinions. The pinion layout strategy of TBM 1 is shown in Figure 3 while that of TBM 2 is shown in Figure 4.



**Figure 3. Pinion Layout Strategy of TBM 1**



**Figure 4. Pinion Layout Strategy of TBM 2**

The phase angle of each pinion is as shown in Table 2.

**Table 2. The Phase Angle of Each Pinion**

| pinion | TBM 1  | TBM 2  |
|--------|--------|--------|
| 1      | 11.25  | 34.67  |
| 2      | 33.75  | 57.35  |
| 3      | 78.75  | 122.34 |
| 4      | 101.25 | 145.51 |
| 5      | 146.25 | 168.24 |
| 6      | 168.75 | 214.74 |
| 7      | 213.75 | 237.32 |
| 8      | 236.25 | 303.02 |
| 9      | 303.75 | 325.08 |
| 10     | 326.25 | 348.24 |

### 2.4. The Mass of the Components

The mass of main components are listed in Table 3.

**Table 3. The Mass of Main Components**

|              | TBM 1   | TBM 2  |
|--------------|---------|--------|
| Cutterhead   | 150t    | 193t   |
| Front frame  | 37.674t | 21.67t |
| Mid frame    | 22.546t | 21.67t |
| End of frame | 18.919t | 21.67t |
| Gripper shoe | 2.058t  | 2.25t  |

**The Horizontal and Vertical Coupling Stiffness of Main Frame**

The different parameters of the flange have great influence on the horizontal and vertical coupling stiffness of main frame. The coupling stiffness is calculated by

following formula [9].  $k = Z \left( \frac{9EI'}{L^3} + \frac{3EA}{L} \right)$   $I' = \frac{hb^3}{12}$   $A = bh$ . In the formula,  $Z$

represents the number of lamination,  $L$  represents the distance between bolt holes and the center of flange,  $b$  represents the minimum width of the lamination,  $h$  represents the thickness of the lamination. The flange parameters of main frame are listed in Table 4.

**Table 4. The Flange Parameters of Main Frame**

|                                  | TBM 1                | TBM 2       |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| The type and number of link bolt | M36 48               | M42 66      |
| The section parameters of flange | 1191x1319, 1722x2150 | 3100x3245mm |
| The thickness of flange          | 100mm                | 100mm       |

The main frame section of TBM 1 is a square while that of TBM 2 is a circle. The intermediate parameters for calculating the stiffness are listed below.

**Table 5. The Intermediate Parameters and the Coupling Stiffness**

|                        | TBM 1                | TBM 2                 |
|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| $L$                    | 133mm                | 150mm                 |
| $b$                    | 265.5mm              | 72.5mm                |
| $h$                    | 100mm                | 100mm                 |
| $I'$                   | $1.56 \times e^{-4}$ | $3.18 \times e^{-6}$  |
| $A$                    | 0.02655              | 0.00725               |
| The coupling stiffness | $3.2 \times e^{11}$  | $6.446 \times e^{10}$ |

According to the calculation results, the horizontal and vertical coupling stiffness of TBM 1 main frame are  $3.2 \times e^{11}$ , the horizontal and vertical coupling stiffness of TBM 2 main frame are  $6.446 \times e^{10}$ . These values of coupling stiffness are taken as dynamic parameters in the model.

### 2.5. The Cutterhead Flange Radius

Cutterhead flange radius greatly affects the connection strength between cutterhead and the bull gear. The horizontal and vertical coupling stiffness are mainly determined by the cutterhead flange radius. The stiffness is calculated by the formula described in 2.6. The flange parameters are listed in Table 6.

**Table 6. The Cutterhead Flange Parameters**

|                          | TBM 1             | TBM 2             |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cutterhead flange radius | IØ4166mm/OØ4900mm | IØ3537mm/OØ4320mm |
| Cutterhead flange mass   | 4113kg            | 3803kg            |
| The number of bolt       | 72                | 76                |

The intermediate parameters for calculating the stiffness are listed below.

**Table 7. The Intermediate Parameters and the Coupling Stiffness**

|                               | TBM 1                | TBM 2                |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| $L$                           | 197.8mm              | 162.4mm              |
| $b$                           | 367mm                | 391.5mm              |
| $h$                           | 100mm                | 100mm                |
| $I'$                          | $4.12 \times e^{-4}$ | $5.00 \times e^{-6}$ |
| $A$                           | 0.0367               | 0.03915              |
| The radial coupling stiffness | $4.35 \times e^{11}$ | $3.08 \times e^{11}$ |

According to the calculation results, the horizontal and vertical coupling stiffness of TBM 1 cutterhead are  $4.35 \times e^{11}$ , the horizontal and vertical coupling stiffness of TBM 2 main frame are  $3.08 \times e^{11}$ . These values of coupling stiffness are taken as dynamic parameters in the model.

### 2.6 The Shield Support Type

There are 3 supports at the shield of TBM 1 while there is one vertical support at the shield of TBM 2. This paper assumes that the pressure of the gripper shoe is directly proportional to the support stiffness. In dynamic calculation, the pressure of the gripper

shoe at main frame is 2.95MPa, and the support stiffness is  $1 \times e^{11}$  N/m. The pressure of the gripper shoe at shield is 1.2Mpa, therefore, the corresponding support stiffness is  $4.06 \times e^{10}$  N/m according to the proportional relation. The horizontal and vertical stiffness of shield is defined by the sum of structural stiffness and support stiffness:

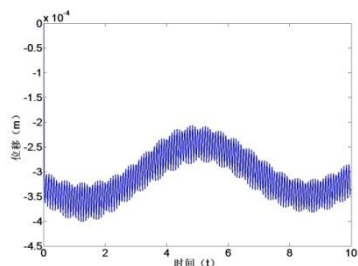
$K = K_{sup port} + K_{structure}$ . The structural stiffness of shield  $5 \times e^{10}$  N/m. The horizontal and vertical stiffness of shield is listed in Table 8.

**Table 8. The Horizontal and Vertical Stiffness of Shield**

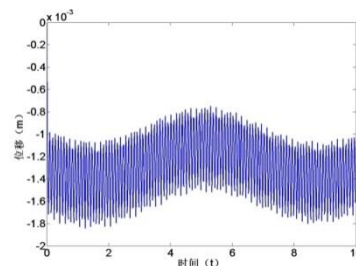
|   | TBM 1                | TBM 2                |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| Equivalent horizontal support stiffness   | $7.03 \times e^{10}$ | 0                    |
| Equivalent vertical support stiffness     | $8.12 \times e^{10}$ | $4.06 \times e^{10}$ |
| Equivalent horizontal stiffness of shield | $1.2 \times e^{11}$  | $5 \times e^{10}$    |
| Equivalent vertical stiffness of shield   | $1.3 \times e^{11}$  | $9 \times e^{10}$    |

### 3. The Analysis Results

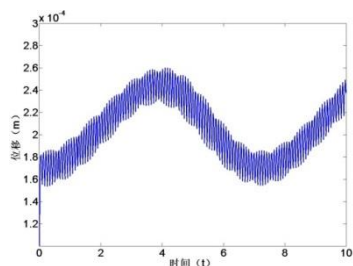
The above parameters are taken as dynamic parameters, and the vibration responses are obtained. Take the vibration responses of cutterhead inaxial, horizontal, vertical and torsional DOF as example. The analysis results are shown in Figure 5.



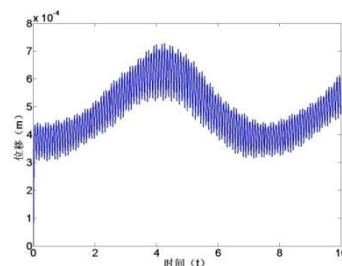
The Horizontal Cutterhead Vibration of TBM 1



The Horizontal Cutterhead Vibration of TBM 2

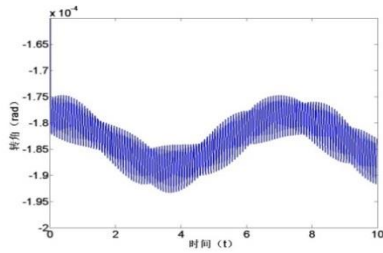


The Vertical Cutterhead Vibration of TBM 1

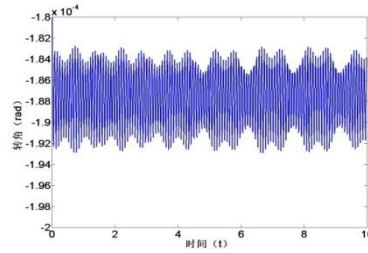


The Vertical Cutterhead Vibration of TBM 2

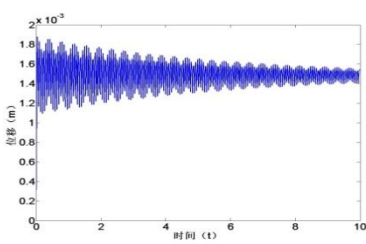




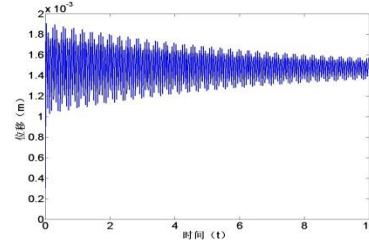
The Torsional Cutterhead Vibration of TBM 1



The Torsional Cutterhead Vibration of TBM 2



The Axial Cutterhead Vibration of TBM 1

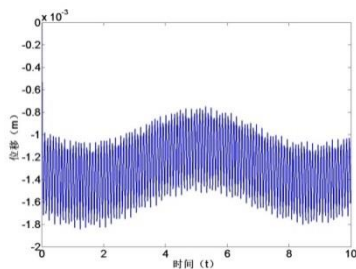


The Axial Cutterhead Vibration of TBM 2

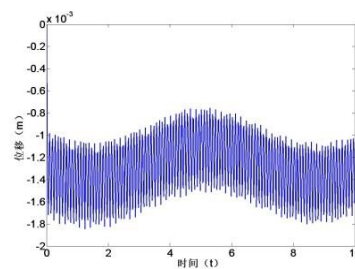
### Figure 5. The Analysis Results

It can be seen that:(1)the cutterhead vibration of TBM 1 is significantly smaller than the TBM 2 in horizontal and vertical DOF. The mean of the horizontal cutterhead vibration of TBM 1 is around 0.3mm while that of the TBM 2 is 1.4mm which is 4 times of the former one. The mean of the vertical cutterhead vibration of TBM 1 is around 0.2mm, and that of the TBM 2 is 0.5mm. (2) The horizontal vibration situation of TBM 1 is similar to the vertical one. The horizontal vibration situation of TBM 2 is obviously more serious than the vertical one. (3) The torsional cutterhead vibration of TBM 1 is similar to the TBM 2. The maximum vibration amplitude reaches  $1.8 \times 10^{-4} \text{ rad}$ . The vibration periodicity of TBM 2 significantly reduces. (4) The axial cutterhead vibration of TBM 1 is similar to the TBM 2, and the maximum vibration reaches around 1.6mm.

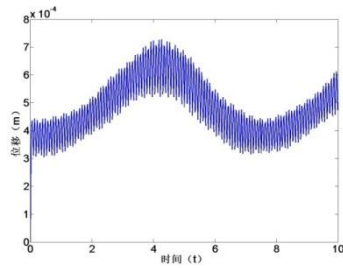
In order to further analyze the influence of shield vertical support on the horizontal and vertical vibration of TBM 2, this paper calculates a dynamic model with unbraced structure. The analysis results are shown in Figure 6.



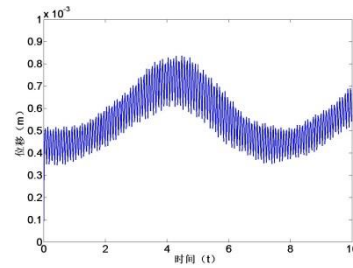
Horizontal Vibration of TBM 2 with Braced Structure



Horizontal Vibration of TBM 2 with Unbraced Structure



The Vertical Vibration of TBM 2  
with Braced Structure



The Vertical Vibration of TBM 2  
with Unbraced Structure

**Figure 6. The Vibration Situation of TBM with Braced and Unbraced Structure**

The statistical parameters of the cutterhead vibration is listed in Table 9.

**Table 9. The Statistical Parameters of the Cutterhead Vibration**

|                                       | TBM 2 with braced structure | TBM 2 with unbraced structure |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| The mean of horizontal vibration      | -0.0013                     | -0.0013                       |
| The amplitude of horizontal vibration | 0.0018                      | 0.0018                        |
| The mean of vertical vibration        | $4.7398 \times 10^{-4}$     | $5.4215 \times 10^{-4}$       |
| The amplitude of vertical vibration   | $7.2861 \times 10^{-4}$     | $8.3630 \times 10^{-4}$       |

It can be seen that: (1) The vertical support has no obvious influence on the horizontal vibration of cutterhead. (2) The vertical support affects the vertical vibration of cutterhead to some extent. The mean of vertical vibration reduces by 12.57%, and the amplitude of vertical vibration reduces by 12.88%.

#### 4. Conclusion

The cutterhead dynamic responses of TBM 1 and TBM 2 are obtained by considering the parameters and structure of these two TBM. The results show that the mean of the horizontal cutterhead vibration of TBM 1 is around 0.3mm while that of the TBM 2 is 1.4mm which is 4 times of the former one. The mean of the vertical cutterhead vibration of TBM 1 is around 0.2mm, and that of the TBM 2 is 0.5mm. It indicates that the shield support structure of TBM 1 is more reasonable than TBM 2. A dynamic model with unbraced structure is analyzed and the results show that a vertical shield support can reduce the cutterhead vertical vibration by about 12%.

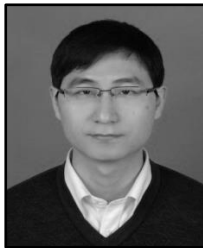
#### Acknowledgment

This project is supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant No. 51375001, 51309045).

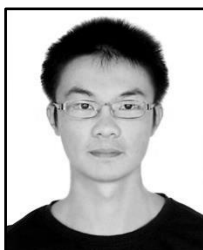
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