

NASS - Uniaxial Model

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Contents

| | | |
|----------|--|-----------|
| 1 | Micro Station Model | 5 |
| 1.1 | Measured dynamics | 6 |
| 1.2 | Uniaxial Model | 6 |
| 1.3 | Comparison of the model and measurements | 9 |
| 2 | Nano-Hexapod Model | 10 |
| 2.1 | Nano-Hexapod Parameters | 11 |
| 2.2 | Obtained Dynamics | 11 |
| 3 | Disturbance Identification | 13 |
| 3.1 | Ground Motion | 14 |
| 3.2 | Stage Vibration | 15 |
| 4 | Open-Loop Dynamic Noise Budgeting | 17 |
| 4.1 | Sensitivity to disturbances | 17 |
| 4.2 | Open-Loop Dynamic Noise Budgeting | 17 |
| 4.3 | Conclusion | 19 |
| 5 | Active Damping | 20 |
| 5.1 | Active Damping Strategies | 21 |
| 5.2 | Plant Dynamics for Active Damping | 23 |
| 5.3 | Achievable Damping - Root Locus | 23 |
| 5.4 | Change of sensitivity to disturbances | 24 |
| 5.5 | Noise Budgeting after Active Damping | 25 |
| 5.6 | Obtained Damped Plant | 25 |
| 5.7 | Robustness to change of payload's mass | 27 |
| 5.8 | Conclusion | 28 |
| 6 | Position Feedback Controller | 29 |
| 6.1 | Damped Plant Dynamics | 29 |
| 6.2 | Position Feedback Controller | 29 |
| 6.3 | Closed-Loop Noise Budgeting | 34 |
| 7 | Conclusion | 35 |

In this report, a uniaxial model of the Nano Active Stabilization System (NASS) is developed and used to have a first idea of the challenges involved in this complex system. Note that in this document, only the vertical direction is considered (which is the most stiff), but other directions were considered as well and yields similar conclusions. The model is schematically shown in Figure 1 where the colors are representing the studied parts in different sections.

In order to have a relevant model, the micro-station dynamics is first identified and its model is tuned to match the measurements (Section 1). Then, a model of the nano-hexapod is added on top of the micro-station. With added sample and sensors, this gives a uniaxial dynamical model of the NASS that will be used for further analysis (Section 2).

The disturbances affecting the position accuracy are identified experimentally (Section 3) and included in the model for dynamical noise budgeting (Section 4). In all the following analysis, there nano-hexapod stiffnesses are considered to better understand the trade-offs and to find the most adequate stiffness. Three sample masses are also considered to verify the robustness of the applied control strategies to a change of sample.

Three active damping techniques are then applied on the nano-hexapod. This helps to reduce the effect of disturbances as well as render the system easier to control afterwards (Section 5).

Once the system is well damped, a feedback position controller is applied, and the obtained performances are compared (Section 6).

Conclusion remarks are given in Section 7.

Table 1: Report sections and corresponding Matlab files

| Sections | Matlab File |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| Section 1 | uniaxial_1_micro_station_model.m |
| Section 2 | uniaxial_2_nano_hexapod_model.m |
| Section 3 | uniaxial_3_disturbances.m |
| Section 4 | uniaxial_4_dynamic_noise_budget.m |
| Section 5 | uniaxial_5_active_damping.m |
| Section 6 | uniaxial_6_hac_lac.m |

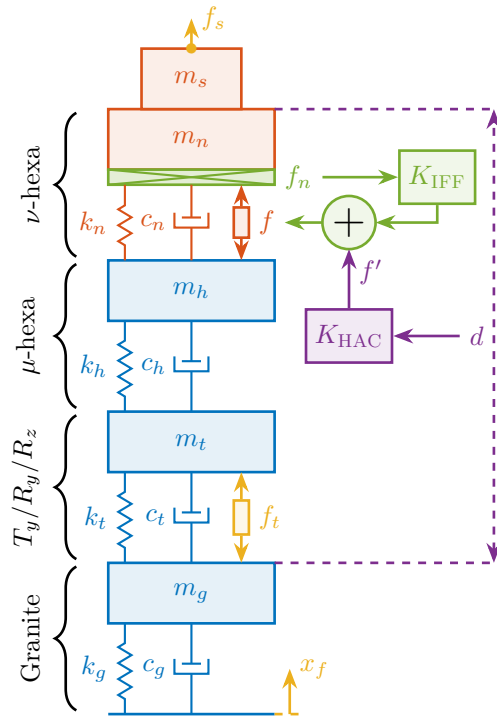


Figure 1: Uniaxial Micro-Station model in blue (Section 1), Nano-Hexapod and sample models in red (Section 2), Disturbances in yellow (Section 3), Active Damping in green (Section 5) and Position control in purple (Section 6)

1 Micro Station Model

In this section, a uni-axial model of the micro-station is tuned in order to match measurements made on the micro-station. The measurement setup is shown in Figure 1.1 where several geophones are fixed to the micro-station and an instrumented hammer is used to inject forces on different stages of the micro-station.

From the measured frequency response functions (FRF), the model can be tuned to approximate the uniaxial dynamics of the micro-station.

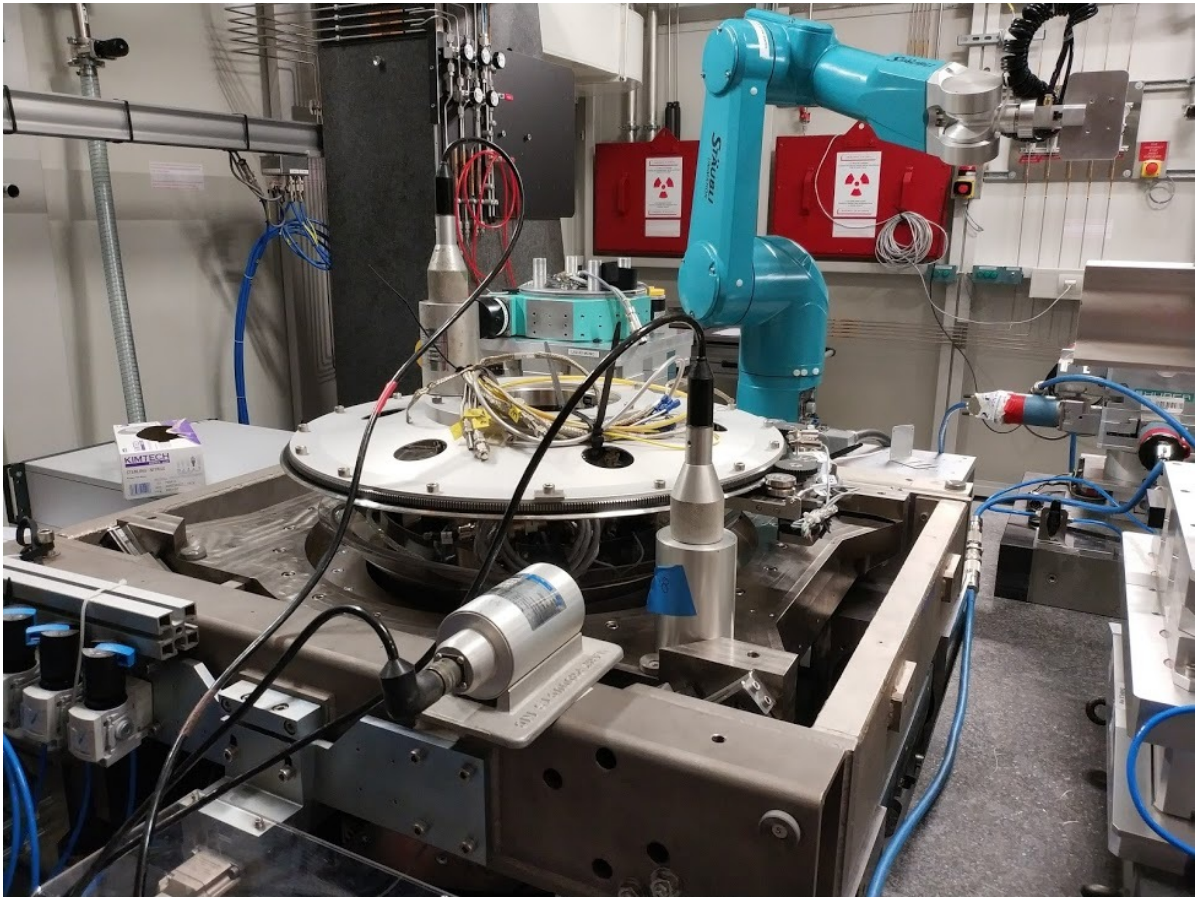


Figure 1.1: Experimental Setup for the first dynamical measurements on the Micro-Station. Geophones are fixed to the micro-station, and the granite as well as the micro-hexapod's top platform are impact with an instrumented hammer

1.1 Measured dynamics

The measurement setup is schematically shown in Figure 1.2 where:

- Two hammer hits are performed, one on the Granite (force F_g), and one on the micro-hexapod's top platform (force F_h)
- The inertial motion of the granite x_g and the micro-hexapod's top platform x_h are measured using geophones.

From the forces applied by the instrumented hammer and the responses of the geophones, the following frequency response functions can be computed:

- from F_h to d_h (i.e. the compliance of the micro-station)
- from F_g to d_h (or from F_h to d_g)
- from F_g to d_g

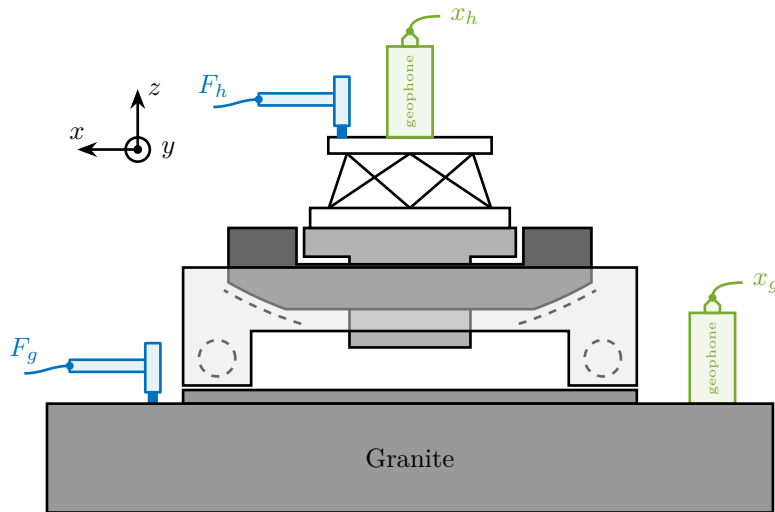


Figure 1.2: Measurement setup - Schematic

Due to the bad coherence at low frequency, the frequency response functions are only shown between 20 and 200Hz (Figure 1.3).

```
Matlab
%% Load measured FRF
load('meas_microstation_frf.mat');
```

1.2 Uniaxial Model

The uni-axial model of the micro-station is shown in Figure 1.5, with:

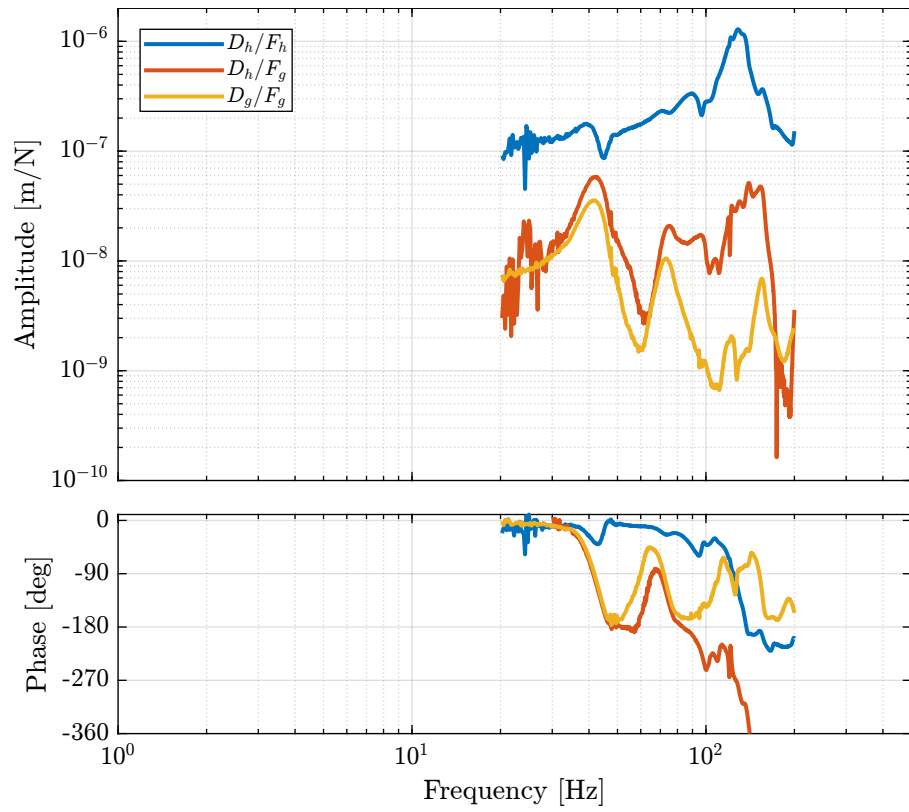


Figure 1.3: Measured Frequency Response Functions in the vertical direction

- Disturbances:
 - x_f : Floor motion
 - f_t : Stage vibrations
- Hammer impacts: F_h and F_g .
- Geophones: x_h and x_g

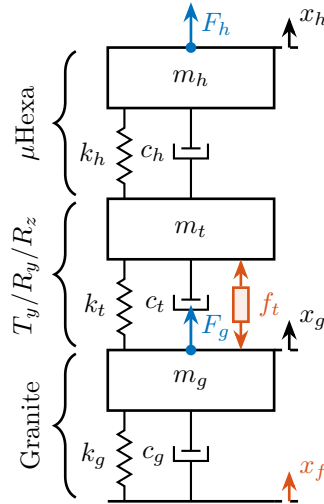


Figure 1.4: Uniaxial model of the micro-station

Masses are estimated from the CAD.

```

Matlab
%% Parameters - Mass
mh = 15; % Micro Hexapod [kg]
mt = 1200; % Ty + Ry + Rz [kg]
mg = 2500; % Granite [kg]

```

And stiffnesses from the data-sheet of stage manufacturers.

```

Matlab
%% Parameters - Stiffnesses
kh = 6.11e+07; % [N/m]
kt = 5.19e+08; % [N/m]
kg = 9.50e+08; % [N/m]

```

The damping coefficients are tuned to match the identified damping from the measurements.

```

Matlab
%% Parameters - damping
ch = 2*0.05*sqrt(kh*mh); % [N/(m/s)]
ct = 2*0.05*sqrt(kt*mt); % [N/(m/s)]
cg = 2*0.08*sqrt(kg*mg); % [N/(m/s)]

```


1.3 Comparison of the model and measurements

The comparison between the measurements and the model is done in Figure 1.5.

As the model is simplistic, the goal is not to match exactly the measurement but to have a first approximation. More accurate models will be used later on.

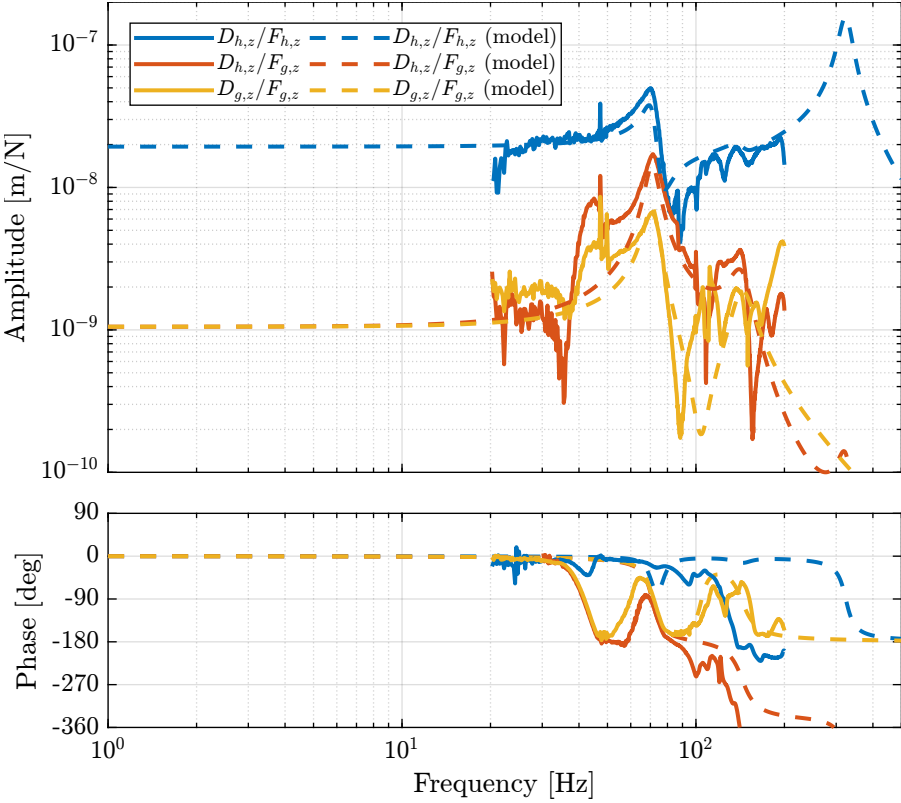


Figure 1.5: Comparison of the measured FRF and identified ones from the uni-axial model

2 Nano-Hexapod Model

A model of the nano-hexapod and sample is now added on top of the uni-axial model of the micro-station (Figure 2.1).

Disturbances (shown in red) are:

- f_s : direct forces applied to the sample (for instance cable forces)
- f_t : disturbances coming from the imperfect stage scanning performances
- x_f : floor motion

The control signal is the force applied by the nano-hexapod f and the measurement is the relative motion between the sample and the granite d .

The sample is here considered as a rigid body and rigidly fixed to the nano-hexapod. The effect of having resonances between the sample's point of interest and the nano-hexapod actuator will be considered in further analysis.

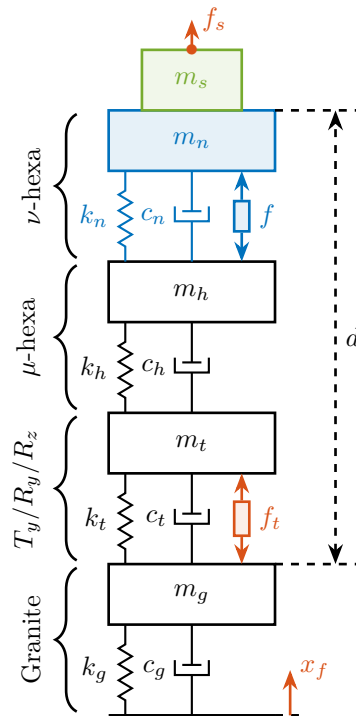


Figure 2.1: Uni-axial model of the micro-station with added nano-hexapod (represented in blue) and sample (represented in green)

2.1 Nano-Hexapod Parameters

The parameters for the nano-hexapod and sample are:

- m_s the sample mass that can vary from 1kg up to 50kg
- m_n the nano-hexapod mass which is set to 15kg
- k_n the nano-hexapod stiffness, which can vary depending on the chosen architecture/technology

As a first example, let's choose a nano-hexapod stiffness of $10\text{ N}/\mu\text{m}$ and a sample mass of 10kg.

```

Matlab
%% Nano-Hexapod Parameters
mn = 15; % [kg]
kn = 1e7; % [N/m]
cn = 2*0.01*sqrt(mn*kn); % [N/(m/s)]

%% Sample Mass
ms = 10; % [kg]

```

2.2 Obtained Dynamics

The sensitivity to disturbances (i.e. x_f , f_t and f_s) are shown in Figure 2.2. The *plant* (i.e. the transfer function from actuator force f to measured displacement d) is shown in Figure 2.3.

For further analysis, 9 configurations are considered: three nano-hexapod stiffnesses ($k_n = 0.01\text{ N}/\mu\text{m}$, $k_n = 1\text{ N}/\mu\text{m}$ and $k_n = 100\text{ N}/\mu\text{m}$) combined with three sample's masses ($m_s = 1\text{ kg}$, $m_s = 25\text{ kg}$ and $m_s = 50\text{ kg}$).

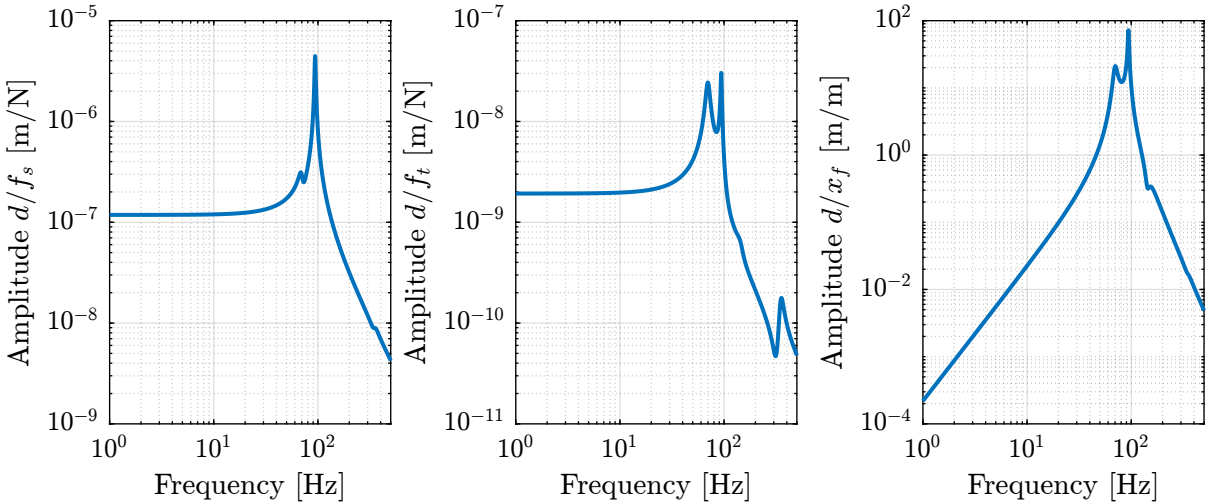


Figure 2.2: Sensitivity to disturbances

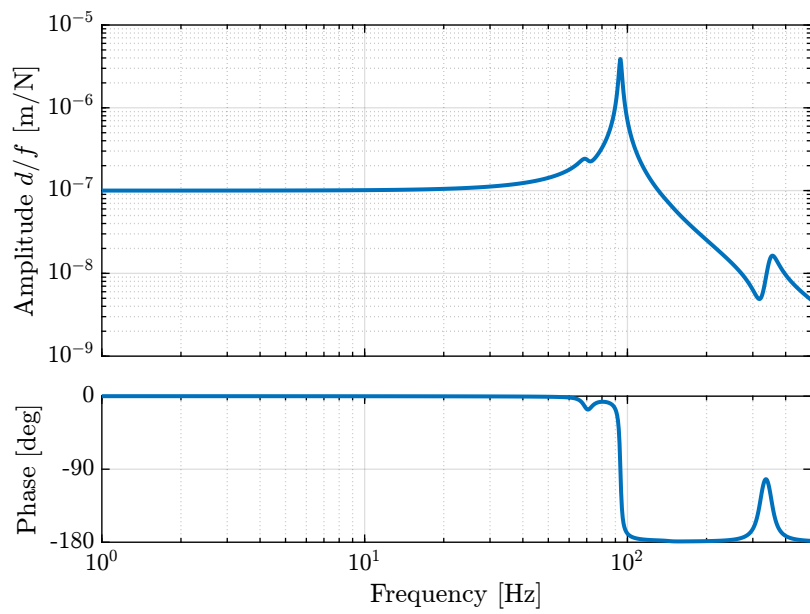


Figure 2.3: Bode Plot of the transfer function from actuator forces to measured displacement by the metrology

3 Disturbance Identification

In order to measure disturbances, two geophones are used, one located on the floor and one on the micro-hexapod's top platform (see Figure 3.1).

The geophone on the floor is used to measure the floor motion x_f while the geophone on the micro-hexapod is used to measure vibrations introduced by scanning of the T_y stage and R_z stage.

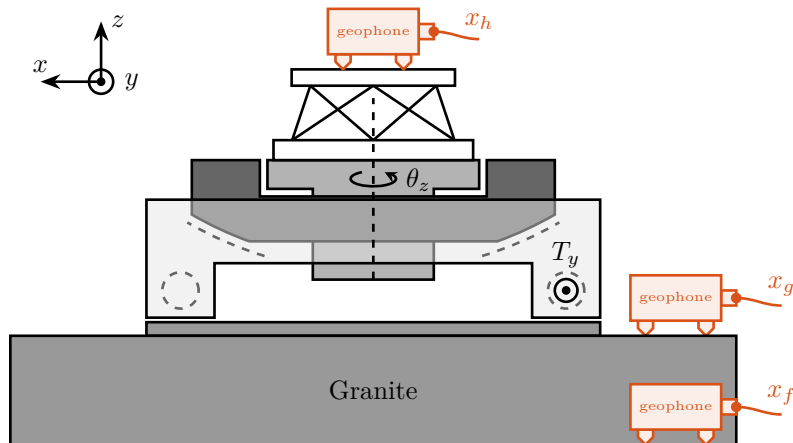


Figure 3.1: Disturbance measurement setup - Schematic

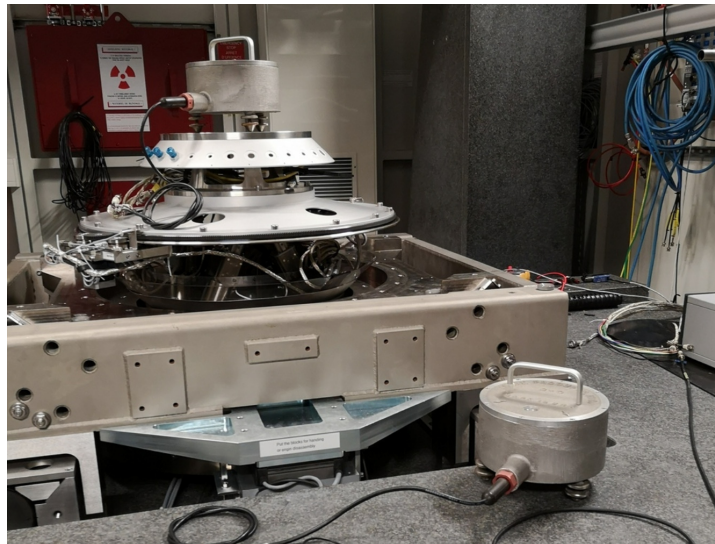


Figure 3.2: Two geophones are used to measure the micro-station vibrations induced by the scanning of the T_y and R_z stages

3.1 Ground Motion

The geophone fixed to the floor to measure the floor motion.

```
Matlab
%% Load floor motion data
% t: time in [s]
% V: measured voltage generated by the geophone and amplified by a 60dB gain voltage amplifier [V]
load('ground_motion_measurement.mat', 't', 'V');
```

The voltage generated by each geophone is amplified using a voltage amplifier (gain of 60dB) before going to the ADC. The sensitivity of the geophone as well as the gain of the voltage amplifier are then taken into account to reconstruct the floor displacement.

```
Matlab
%% Sensitivity of the geophone
S0 = 88; % Sensitivity [V/(m/s)]
f0 = 2; % Cut-off frequency [Hz]

S = S0*(s/2/pi/f0)/(1+s/2/pi/f0); % Geophone's transfer function [V/(m/s)]

%% Gain of the voltage amplifier
G0_db = 60; % [dB]
G0 = 10^(G0_db/20); % [abs]

%% Transfer function from measured voltage to displacement
G_geo = 1/S/G0/s; % [m/V]
```

The PSD S_{V_f} of the measured voltage V_f is computed.

```
Matlab
%% Compute measured voltage PSD
Fs = 1/(t(2)-t(1)); % Sampling Frequency [Hz]
win = hanning(ceil(2*Fs)); % Hanning window

[psd_V, f] = pwelch(V, win, [], [], Fs); % [V^2/Hz]
```

The PSD of the corresponding displacement can be computed as follows:

$$S_{x_f}(\omega) = \frac{S_{V_f}(\omega)}{|S_{\text{geo}}(j\omega)| \cdot G_{\text{amp}} \cdot \omega} \quad (3.1)$$

with:

- S_{geo} the sensitivity of the Geophone in $[Vs/m]$
- G_{amp} the gain of the voltage amplifier
- ω is here to integrate and have the displacement instead of the velocity

```
Matlab
%% Ground Motion ASD
psd_xf = psd_V.*abs(squeeze(freqresp(G_geo, f, 'Hz'))).^2; % [m^2/Hz]
```

The amplitude spectral density Γ_{x_f} of the measured displacement x_f is shown in Figure 3.3.

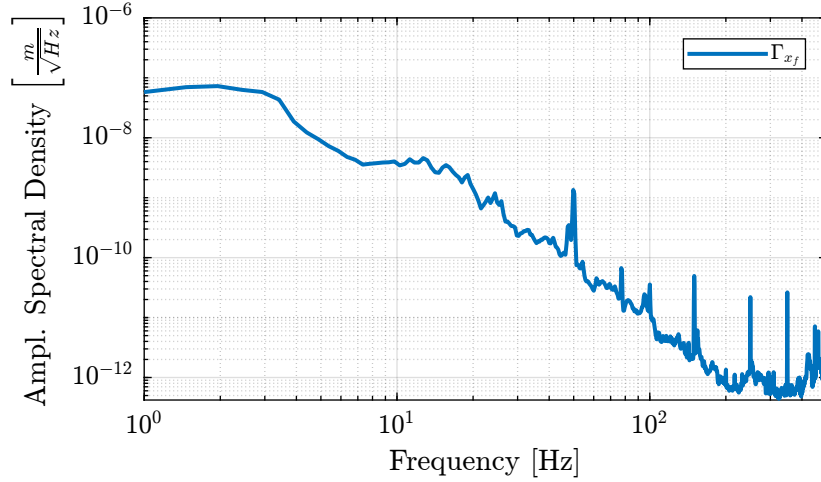


Figure 3.3: Measured Amplitude Spectral Density of the Floor motion on ID31

3.2 Stage Vibration

During Spindle rotation (here at 6rpm), the granite velocity and micro-hexapod's top platform velocity are measured with the geophones.

```

Matlab
%% Measured velocity of granite and hexapod during spindle rotation
% t: time in [s]
% vg: measured granite velocity [m/s]
% vh: measured micro-hexapod's top platform velocity [m/s]
load('meas_spindle_on.mat', 't', 'vg', 'vh');
spindle_off = load('meas_spindle_off.mat', 't', 'vg', 'vh'); % No Rotation

```

The Power Spectral Density of the relative velocity between the hexapod and the granite is computed.

```

Matlab
%% Compute Power Spectral Density of the relative velocity between granite and hexapod during spindle rotation
Fs = 1/(t(2)-t(1)); % Sampling Frequency [Hz]
win = hanning(ceil(2*Fs)); % Hanning window

[psd_vft, f] = pwelch(vh-vg, win, [], [], Fs); % [(m/s)^2/Hz]
[psd_off, ~] = pwelch(spindle_off.vh-spindle_off.vg, win, [], [], Fs); % [(m/s)^2/Hz]

```

It is then integrated to obtain the Amplitude Spectral Density of the relative motion which is compared with a non-rotating case (Figure 3.4). It is shown that the spindle rotation induces vibrations in a wide frequency spectrum.

In order to compute the equivalent disturbance force f_t that induces such motion, the transfer function from f_t to the relative motion of the hexapod's top platform and the granite is extracted from the model. The power spectral density Γ_{f_t} of the disturbance force can be computed as follows:

$$\Gamma_{f_t}(\omega) = \frac{\Gamma_{v_t}(\omega)}{|G_{\text{model}}(j\omega)|^2} \quad (3.2)$$

with:

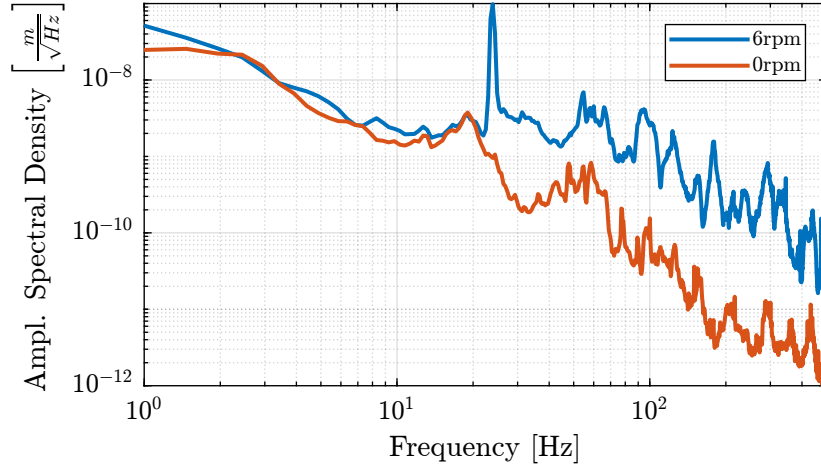


Figure 3.4: Measured Amplitude Spectral Density of the relative motion between the granite and the micro-hexapod's top platform during Spindle rotating

- Γ_{v_t} the measured power spectral density of the relative motion between the micro-hexapod's top platform and the granite during the spindle's rotation
- G_{model} the transfer function (extracted from the uniaxial model) from f_t to the relative motion between the micro-hexapod's top platform and the granite

The obtained amplitude spectral density of the disturbance force f_t is shown in Figure 3.5.

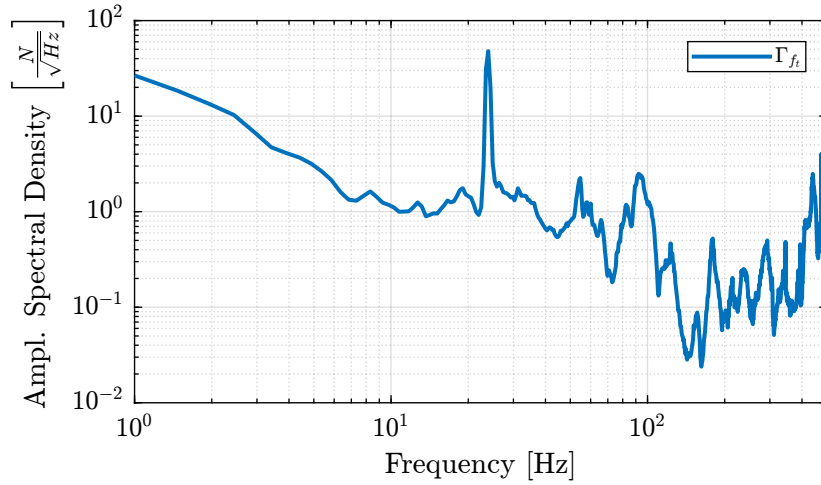


Figure 3.5: Estimated disturbance force f_t from measurement and uniaxial model

The vibrations induced by the T_y stage are not considered here as:

- the induced vibrations have less amplitude than the vibrations induced by the R_z stage
- it can be scanned at lower velocities if the induced vibrations are an issue

4 Open-Loop Dynamic Noise Budgeting

Now that we have a model of the NASS and an estimation of the power spectral density of the disturbances, it is possible to perform an *open-loop dynamic noise budgeting*.

4.1 Sensitivity to disturbances

From the Uni-axial model, the transfer function from the disturbances (f_s , x_f and f_t) to the displacement d are computed.

This is done for **two extreme sample masses** $m_s = 1$ kg and $m_s = 50$ kg and **three nano-hexapod stiffnesses**:

- $k_n = 0.01$ N/ μ m that could represent a voice coil actuator with soft flexible guiding
- $k_n = 1$ N/ μ m that could represent a voice coil actuator with a stiff flexible guiding or a mechanically amplified piezoelectric actuator
- $k_n = 100$ N/ μ m that could represent a stiff piezoelectric stack actuator

The obtained sensitivity to disturbances for the three nano-hexapod stiffnesses are shown in Figure 4.1 for the light sample (same conclusions can be drawn with the heavy one).

Important

From Figure 4.1, following can be concluded for the **soft nano-hexapod**:

- It is more sensitive to forces applied on the sample (cable forces for instance), which is expected due to the lower stiffness
- Between the suspension mode of the nano-hexapod (here at 5Hz) and the first mode of the micro-station (here at 70Hz), the disturbances induced by the stage vibrations are filtered out.
- Above the suspension mode of the nano-hexapod, the sample's motion is unaffected by the floor motion, and therefore the sensitivity to floor motion is almost 1.

4.2 Open-Loop Dynamic Noise Budgeting

Now, the power spectral density of the disturbances is taken into account to estimate the residual motion d in each case.

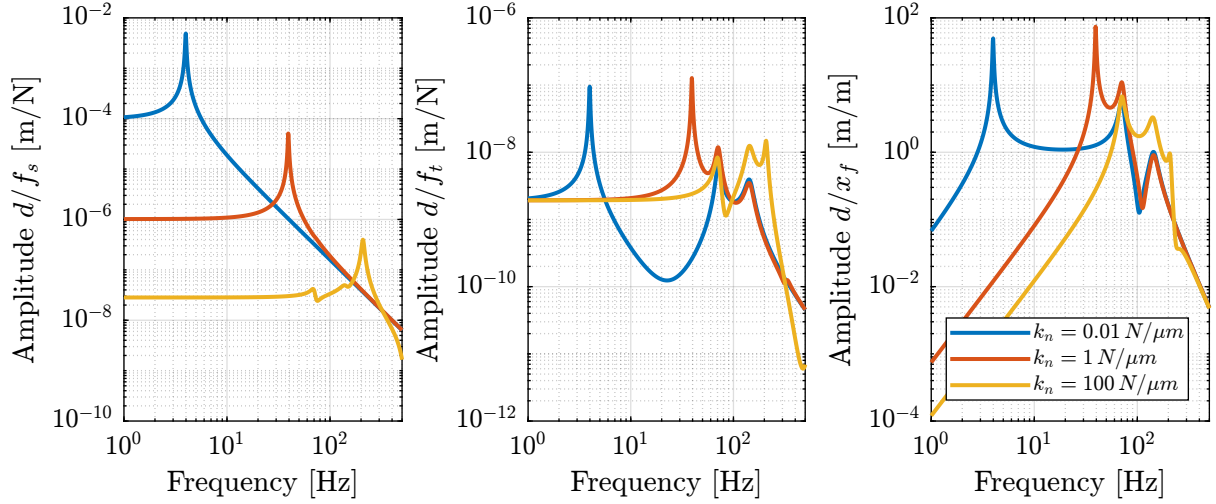


Figure 4.1: Sensitivity to disturbances for three different nano-hexapod stiffnesses

The Cumulative Amplitude Spectrum of the relative motion d due to both the floor motion x_f and the stage vibrations f_t are shown in Figure 4.2 for the three nano-hexapod stiffnesses.

It is shown that the effect of the floor motion is much less than the stage vibrations, except for the soft nano-hexapod below 5Hz.

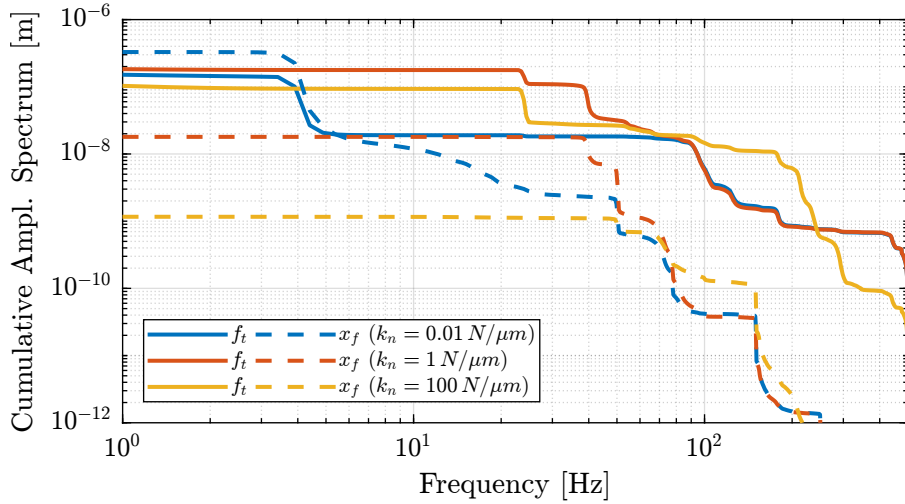


Figure 4.2: Cumulative Amplitude Spectrum of the relative motion d , due to both the floor motion and the stage vibrations (light sample)

The total cumulative amplitude spectrum for the three nano-hexapod stiffnesses and for the two sample's masses are shown in Figure 4.3. The conclusion is that the sample's mass has little effect on the cumulative amplitude spectrum of the relative motion d .

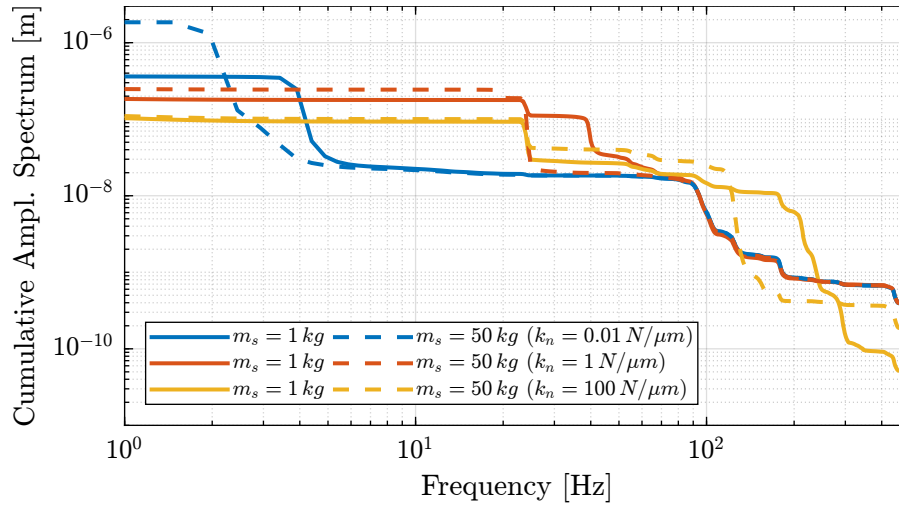


Figure 4.3: Cumulative Amplitude Spectrum of the relative motion d due to all disturbances, for two sample masses

4.3 Conclusion

Important

The conclusion is that in order to have a closed-loop residual vibration $d \approx 20 \text{ nm rms}$, if a simple feedback controller is used, the required closed-loop bandwidth would be:

- $\approx 10 \text{ Hz}$ for the soft nano-hexapod ($k_n = 0.01 \text{ N}/\mu\text{m}$)
- $\approx 50 \text{ Hz}$ for the relatively stiff nano-hexapod ($k_n = 1 \text{ N}/\mu\text{m}$)
- $\approx 100 \text{ Hz}$ for the stiff nano-hexapod ($k_n = 100 \text{ N}/\mu\text{m}$)

This can be explain by the fact that above the suspension mode of the nano-hexapod, the stage vibrations are filtered out (see Figure 4.1).

This gives a first advantage to having a soft nano-hexapod.

5 Active Damping

In this section, three active damping are applied on the nano-hexapod (see Figure 5.1): Integral Force Feedback (IFF), Relative Damping Control (RDC) and Direct Velocity Feedback (DVF).

These active damping techniques are compared in terms of:

- Reduction of the effect of disturbances (i.e. x_f , f_t and f_s) on the displacement d
- Achievable damping
- Robustness to a change of sample's mass

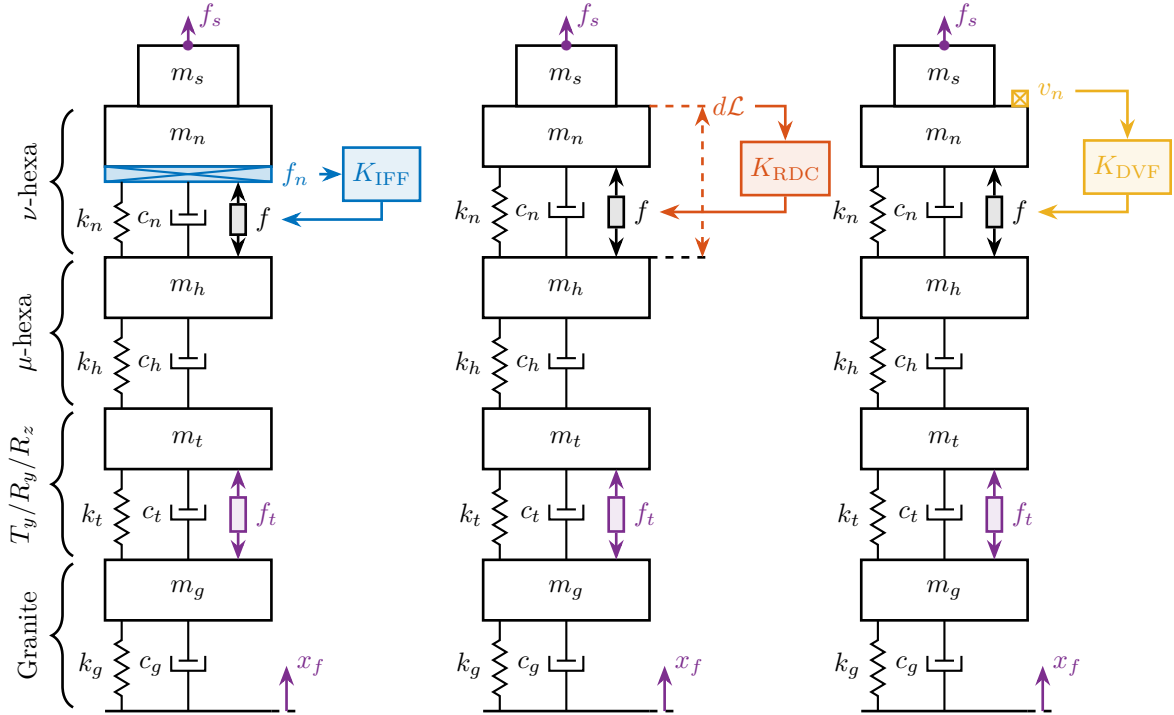


Figure 5.1: Three active damping strategies: Integral Force Feedback (IFF) using a force sensor, Relative Damping Control (RDC) using a relative displacement sensor, and Direct Velocity Feedback (DVF) using a geophone

5.1 Active Damping Strategies

The Integral Force Feedback strategy consists of using a force sensor in series with the actuator (see Figure 5.2, left).

The control strategy consists of integrating the measured force and feeding it back to the actuator:

$$K_{\text{IFF}}(s) = \frac{g}{s} \quad (5.1)$$

The mechanical equivalent of this strategy is to add a dashpot in series with the actuator stiffness with a damping coefficient equal to the stiffness of the actuator divided by the controller gain k/g (see Figure 5.2, right).

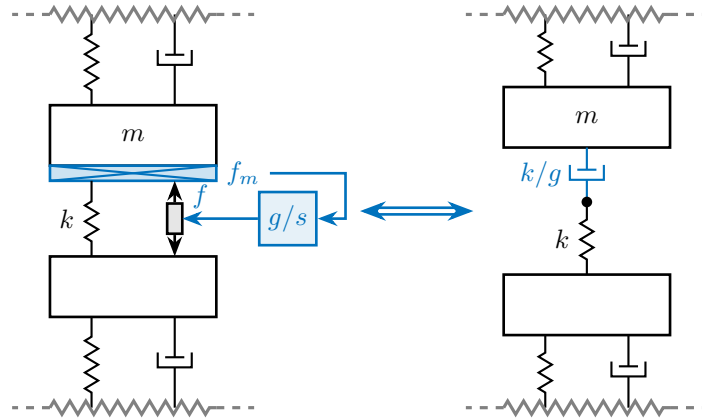


Figure 5.2: Integral Force Feedback is equivalent as to add a damper in series with the stiffness (the initial damping is here neglected for simplicity)

For the Relative Damping Control strategy, a relative motion sensor that measures the motion of the actuator is used (see Figure 5.3, left).

The derivative of this relative motion is used for the feedback signal:

$$K_{\text{RDC}}(s) = -g \cdot s \quad (5.2)$$

The mechanical equivalent is to add a dashpot in parallel with the actuator with a damping coefficient equal to the controller gain g (see Figure 5.3, right).

Finally, the Direct Velocity Feedback strategy consists of using an inertial sensor (usually a geophone), that measured the “absolute” velocity of the body fixed on top of the actuator (see Figure 5.4, left).

The measured velocity is then fed back to the actuator:

$$K_{\text{DVF}}(s) = -g \quad (5.3)$$

This is equivalent as to fix a dashpot (with a damping coefficient equal to the controller gain g) between the body (one which the inertial sensor is fixed) and an inertial reference frame (see Figure 5.4, right). This is usually refers to as “*sky hook damper*”.

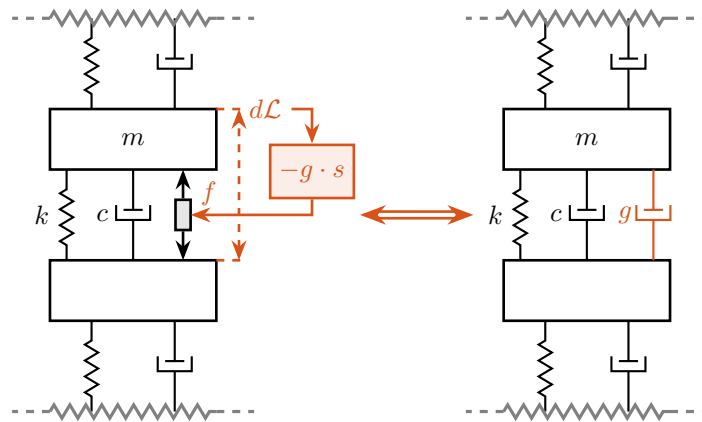


Figure 5.3: Relative Damping Control is equivalent as adding a damper in parallel with the actuator/relative motion sensor

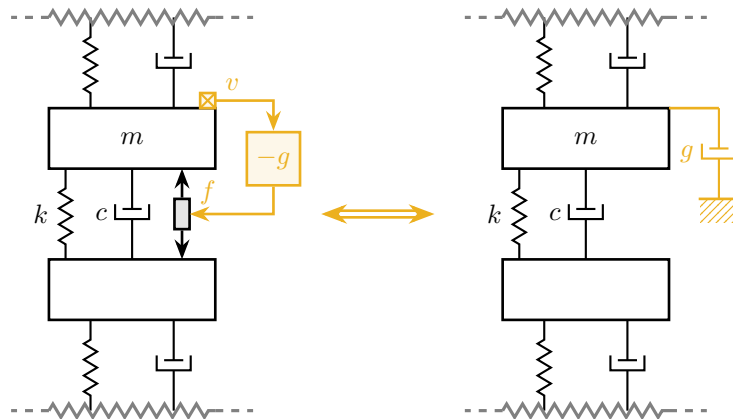


Figure 5.4: Direct velocity Feedback using an inertial sensor is equivalent to a “sky hook damper”

5.2 Plant Dynamics for Active Damping

The plant dynamics for all three active damping techniques are shown in Figure 5.5. All have **alternating poles and zeros** meaning that the phase is bounded to ± 90 deg which makes the controller very robust.

When the nano-hexapod's suspension modes are at lower frequencies than the resonances of the micro-station (blue and red curves in Figure 5.5), the resonances of the micro-stations have little impact on the transfer functions from IFF and DVF.

For the stiff nano-hexapod, the micro-station dynamics can be seen on the transfer functions in Figure 5.5. Therefore, it is expected that the micro-station dynamics might impact the achievable damping if a stiff nano-hexapod is used.

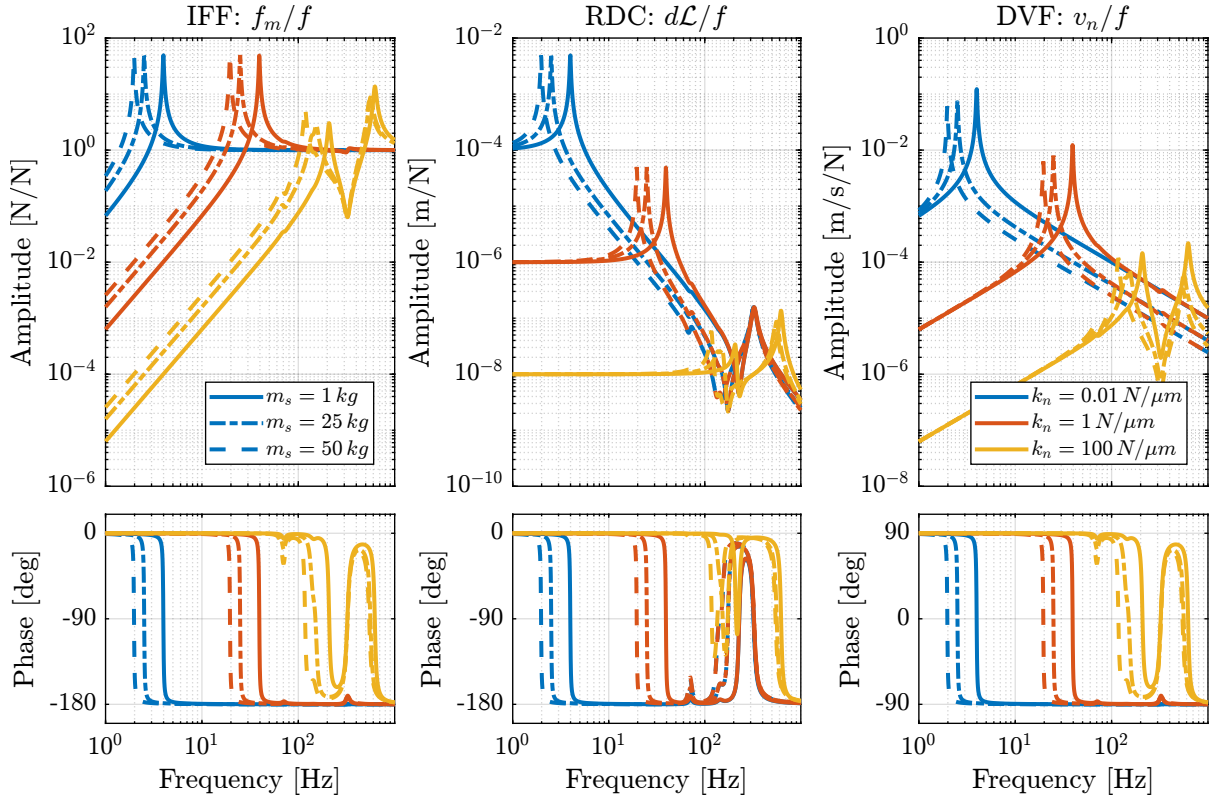


Figure 5.5: Plant dynamics for the three active damping techniques (IFF: right, RDC: middle, DVF: left), for three nano-hexapod stiffnesses ($k_n = 0.01 N/\mu m$ in blue, $k_n = 1 N/\mu m$ in red and $k_n = 100 N/\mu m$ in yellow) and three sample's masses ($m_s = 1 kg$: solid curves, $m_s = 25 kg$: dot-dashed curves, and $m_s = 50 kg$: dashed curves).

5.3 Achievable Damping - Root Locus

The Root Locus are computed for the three nano-hexapod stiffnesses and for the three active damping techniques. They are shown in Figure 5.6.

All three active damping approach can lead to **critical damping** of the nano-hexapod suspension mode.

There is even a little bit of authority on micro-station modes with IFF and DVF applied on the stiff nano-hexapod (Figure 5.6, right) and with RDC for a soft nano-hexapod (Figure 5.7). This can be explained by the fact that above the suspension mode of the soft nano-hexapod, the relative motion sensor acts as an inertial sensor for the micro-station top platform. Therefore, it is like DVF was applied (the nano-hexapod acts as a geophone!).

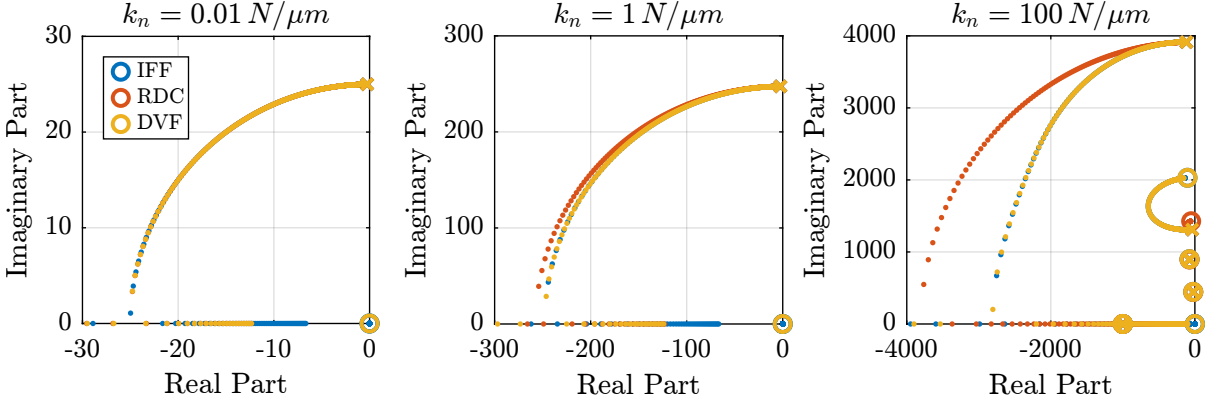


Figure 5.6: Root Loci for the three active damping techniques (IFF in blue, RDC in red and DVF in yellow). This is shown for three nano-hexapod stiffnesses.

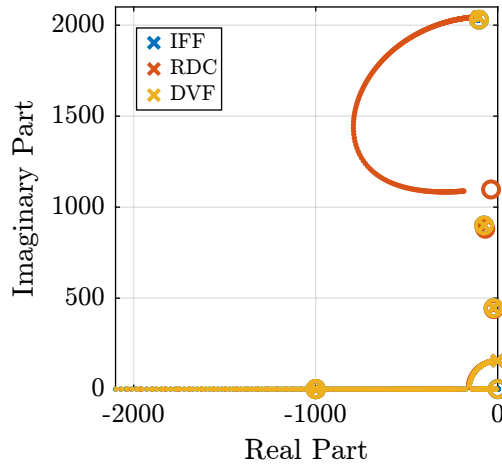


Figure 5.7: Root Locus for the three damping techniques. It is shown that the RDC active damping technique has some authority on one mode of the micro-station. This mode corresponds to the suspension mode of the micro-hexapod.

5.4 Change of sensitivity to disturbances

The sensitivity to disturbances (direct forces f_s , stage vibrations f_t and floor motion x_f) for all three active damping techniques are compared in Figure 5.8. The comparison is done with the nano-hexapod having a stiffness $k_n = 1 N/\mu m$.

Important

Conclusions from Figure 5.8 are:

- IFF degrades the sensitivity to direct forces on the sample (i.e. the compliance) below the resonance of the nano-hexapod
- RDC degrades the sensitivity to stage vibrations around the nano-hexapod's resonance as compared to the other two methods
- both IFF and DVF degrades the sensitivity to floor motion below the resonance of the nano-hexapod

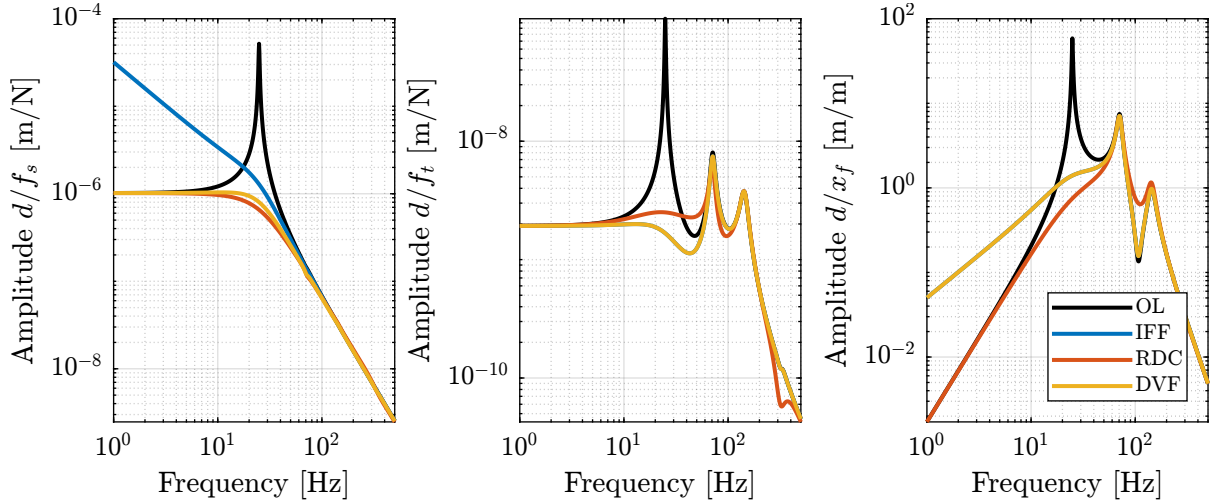


Figure 5.8: Change of sensitivity to disturbance with all three active damping strategies

5.5 Noise Budgeting after Active Damping

Cumulative Amplitude Spectrum of the distance d with all three active damping techniques are compared in Figure 5.9. All three active damping methods are giving similar results (except the RDC which is a little bit worse for the stiff nano-hexapod).

Compare to the open-loop case, the active damping helps to lower the vibrations induced by the nano-hexapod resonance.

5.6 Obtained Damped Plant

The transfer functions from the plant input f to the relative displacement d while the active damping is implemented are shown in Figure 5.10. All three active damping techniques yield similar damped plants.

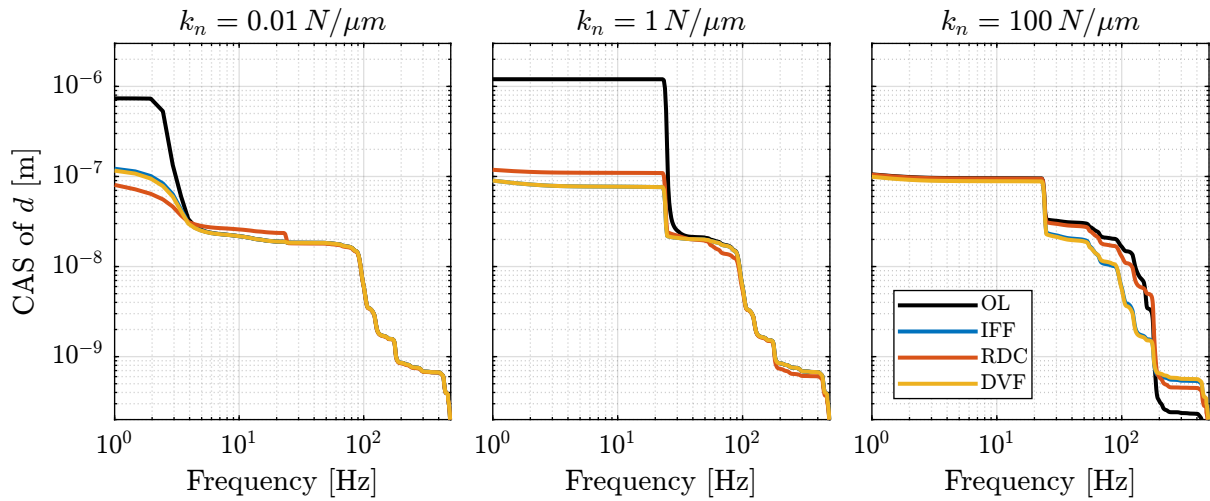


Figure 5.9: Comparison of the cumulative amplitude spectrum (CAS) of the distance d for all three active damping techniques (OL in black, IFF in blue, RDC in red and DVF in yellow).

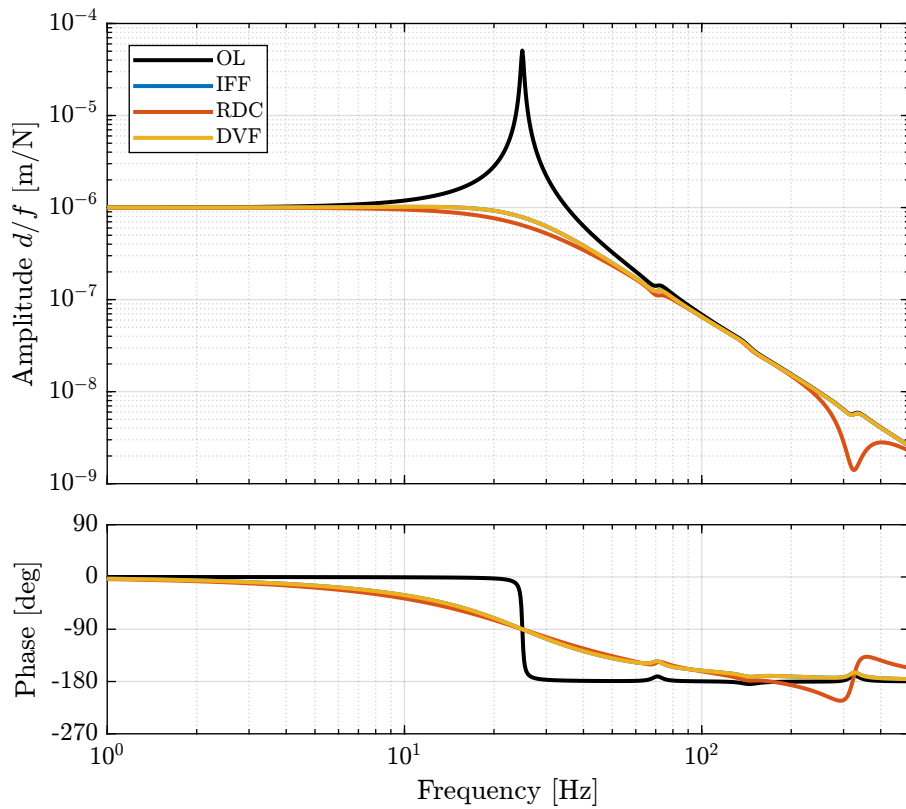


Figure 5.10: Obtained damped transfer function from f to d for the three damping techniques

The damped plants are shown in Figure 5.11 for all three techniques, with the three considered nanohexapod stiffnesses and sample's masses.

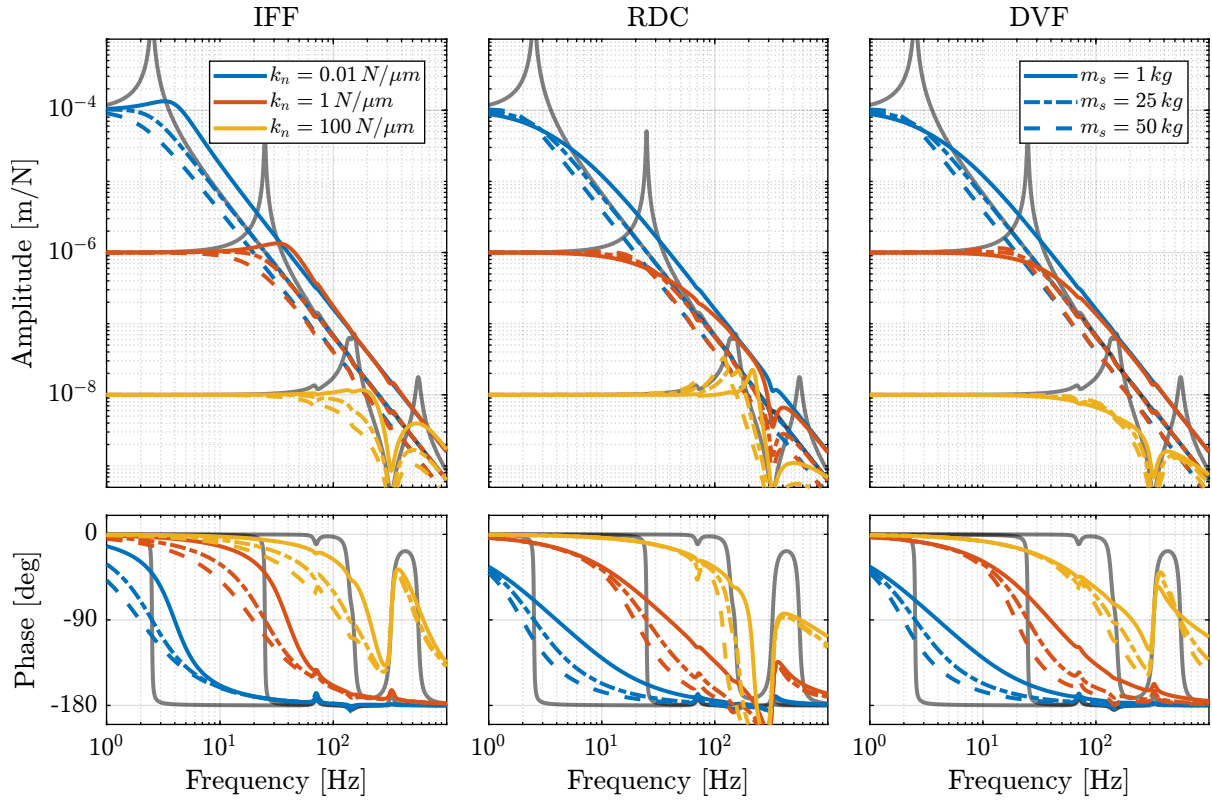


Figure 5.11: Damped plant d/f - Robustness to change of sample's mass for all three active damping techniques. Grey curves are the open-loop (i.e. undamped) plants.

5.7 Robustness to change of payload's mass

The Root Locus for the three damping techniques are shown in Figure 5.12 for three sample's mass (1kg, 25kg and 50kg). The closed-loop poles are shown by the squares for a specific gain.

We can see that having heavier samples yields larger damping for IFF and smaller damping for RDC and DVF.

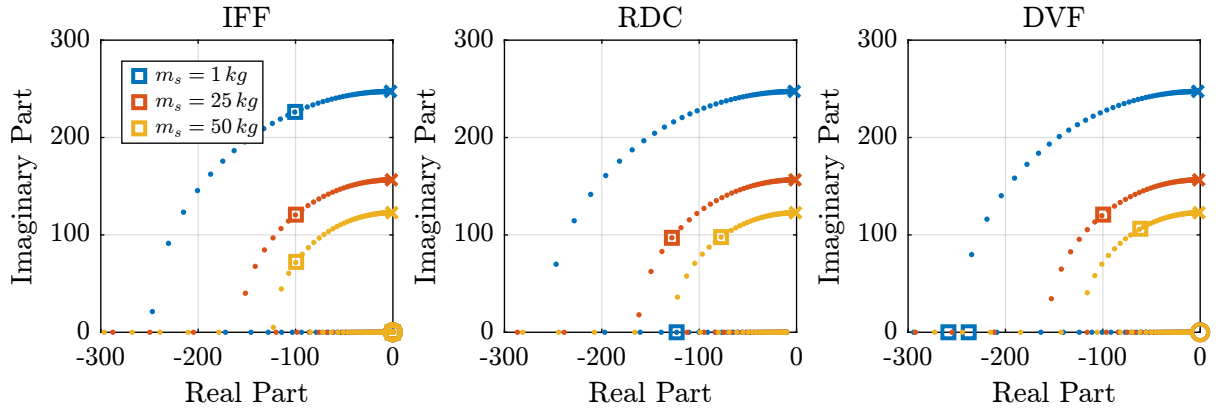


Figure 5.12: Active Damping Robustness to change of sample's mass - Root Locus for all three damping techniques with 3 different sample's masses

5.8 Conclusion

Important

Conclusions for Active Damping:

- All three active damping techniques yields good damping (Figure 5.6) and similar remaining vibrations (Figure 5.9)
- The obtained damped plants (Figure 5.11) are equivalent for the three active damping techniques
- Which one to be used will be determined with the use of more accurate models and will depend on which is the easiest to implement in practice

Table 5.1: Comparison of active damping strategies

| | IFF | RDC | DVF |
|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sensor | Force sensor | Relative motion sensor | Inertial sensor |
| Damping | Up to critical | Up to critical | Up to Critical |
| Robustness | Requires collocation | Requires collocation | Impacted by geophone resonances |
| f_s Disturbance | ↗ at low frequency | ↘ near resonance | ↘ near resonance |
| f_t Disturbance | ↘ near resonance | ↗ near resonance | ↘ near resonance |
| x_f Disturbance | ↗ at low frequency | ↘ near resonance | ↗ at low frequency |

6 Position Feedback Controller

The High Authority Control - Low Authority Control (HAC-LAC) architecture is shown in Figure 6.1a. It corresponds to a *two step* control strategy:

- First, an active damping controller \mathbf{K}_{LAC} is implemented (see Section 5). It allows to reduce the vibration level, and it also makes the damped plant (transfer function from u' to y) easier to control than the undamped plant (transfer function from u to y).
- Then, a position controller \mathbf{K}_{HAC} is implemented.

Combined with the uniaxial model, it is shown in Figure 6.1b.

6.1 Damped Plant Dynamics

As was shown in Section 5, all three proposed active damping techniques yield similar damping plants. Therefore, *Integral Force Feedback* will be used in this section to study the HAC-LAC performances.

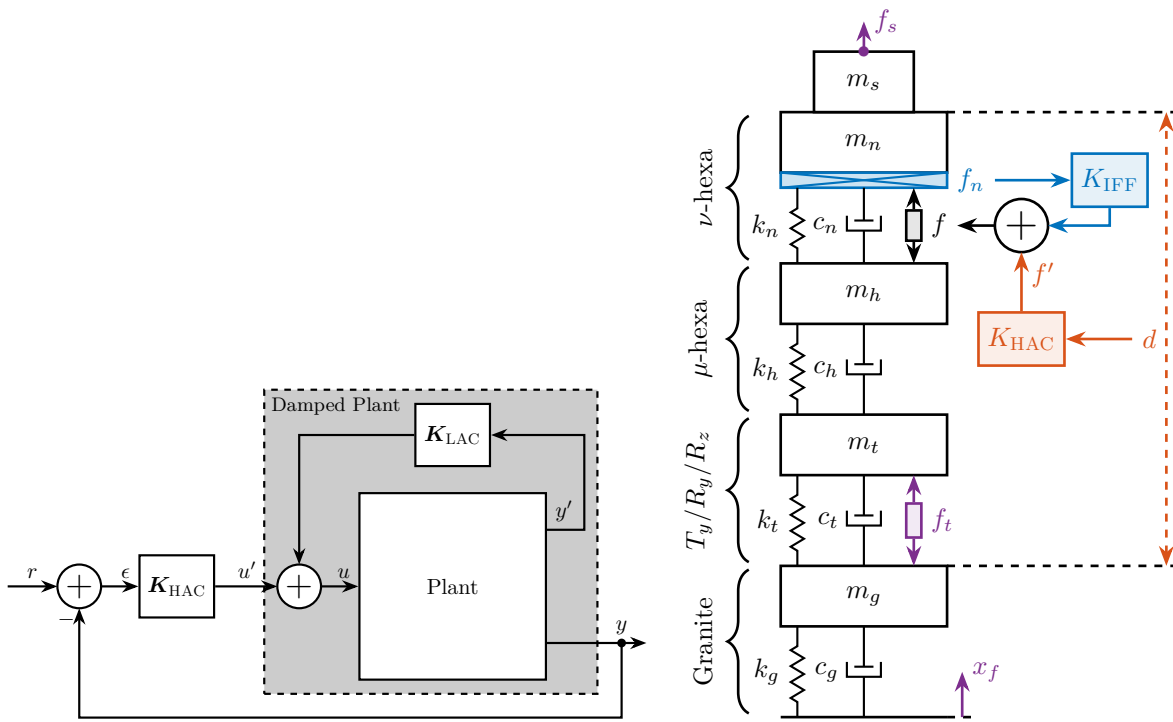
The obtained damped plants for the three nano-hexapod stiffnesses are shown in Figure 6.2.

6.2 Position Feedback Controller

The objective now is to design a position feedback controller for each of the three nano-hexapods that are robust to the change of sample's mass.

The required feedback bandwidth was approximately determined un Section 4:

- ≈ 10 Hz for the soft nano-hexapod ($k_n = 0.01 N/\mu m$). Near this frequency, the plants are equivalent to a mass line. The gain of the mass line can vary up to a fact ≈ 5 (suspended mass from $16 kg$ up to $65 kg$). This mean that the designed controller will need to have large gain margins to be robust to the change of sample's mass.
- ≈ 50 Hz for the relatively stiff nano-hexapod ($k_n = 1 N/\mu m$). Similarly to the soft nano-hexapod, the plants near the crossover frequency are equivalent to a mass line. It will be probably easier to have a little bit more bandwidth in this configuration to be further away from the nano-hexapod suspension mode.
- ≈ 100 Hz for the stiff nano-hexapod ($k_n = 100 N/\mu m$). Contrary to the two first nano-hexapod stiffnesses, here the plants have more complex dynamics near the wanted crossover frequency. The micro-station is not stiff enough to have a clear stiffness line at this frequency. Therefore, there



(a) Typical HAC-LAC Architecture

(b) Uniaxial model with HAC-LAC strategy

Figure 6.1: High Authority Control - Low Authority Control (HAC-LAC)

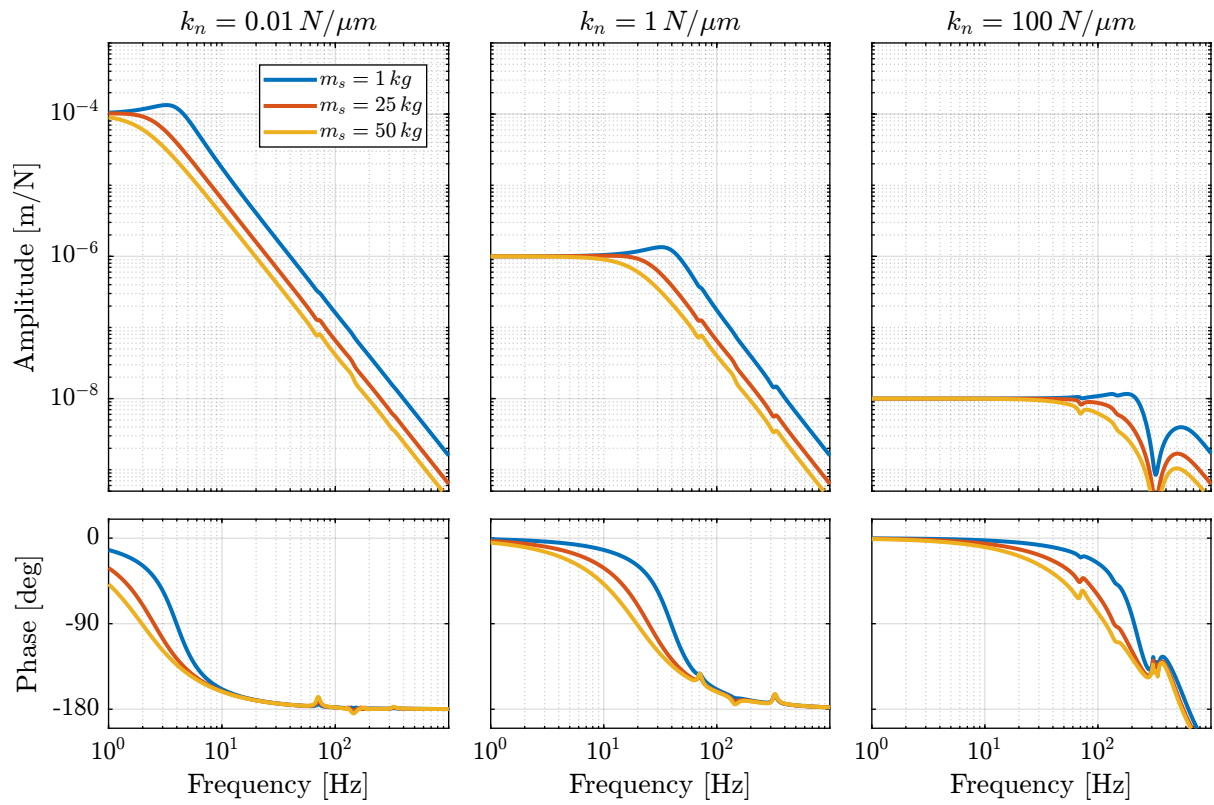


Figure 6.2: Obtained damped plant using Integral Force Feedback for three sample's masses

are both a change of phase and gain depending on the sample's mass. This makes the robust design of the controller a little bit more complicated.

Position feedback controllers are designed for each nano-hexapod such that it is stable for all considered sample masses with similar stability margins (see Nyquist plots in Figure 6.3). These high authority controllers are generally composed of a two integrators at low frequency for disturbance rejection, a lead to increase the phase margin near the crossover frequency and a low pass filter to increase the robustness to high frequency dynamics. The loop gains for the three nano-hexapod are shown in Figure 6.4. We can see that:

- for the soft and moderately stiff nano-hexapod, the crossover frequency varies a lot with the sample mass. This is due to the fact that the crossover frequency corresponds to the mass line of the plant.
- for the stiff nano-hexapod, the obtained crossover frequency is not at high as what was estimated necessary. The crossover frequency in that case is close to the stiffness line of the plant, which makes the robust design of the controller easier.

Note that these controller were quickly tuned by hand and not designed using any optimization methods. The goal is just to have a first estimation of the attainable performances.

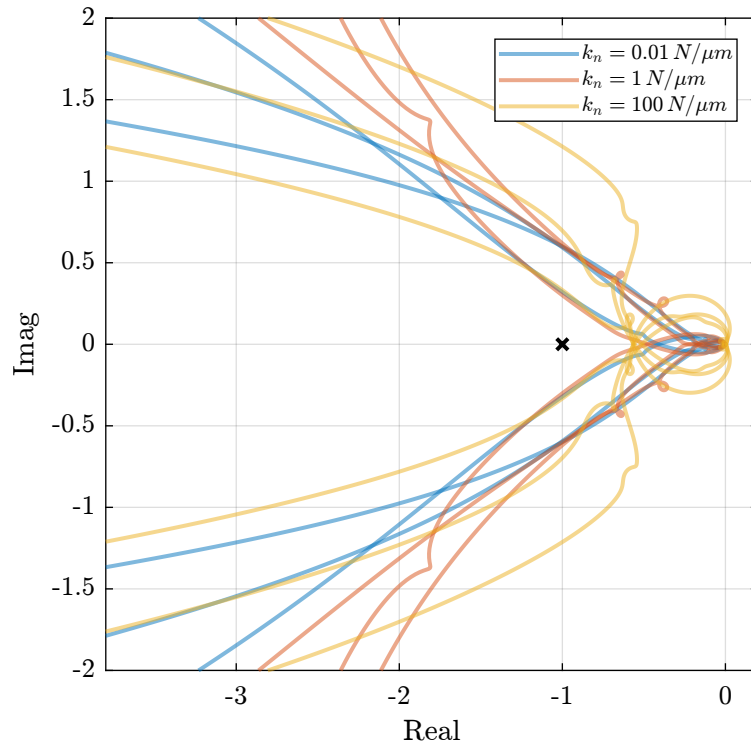


Figure 6.3: Nyquist Plot - Hight Authority Controller for all three nano-hexapod stiffnesses (soft one in blue, moderately stiff in red and very stiff in yellow) and all sample masses (corresponding to the three curves of each color)

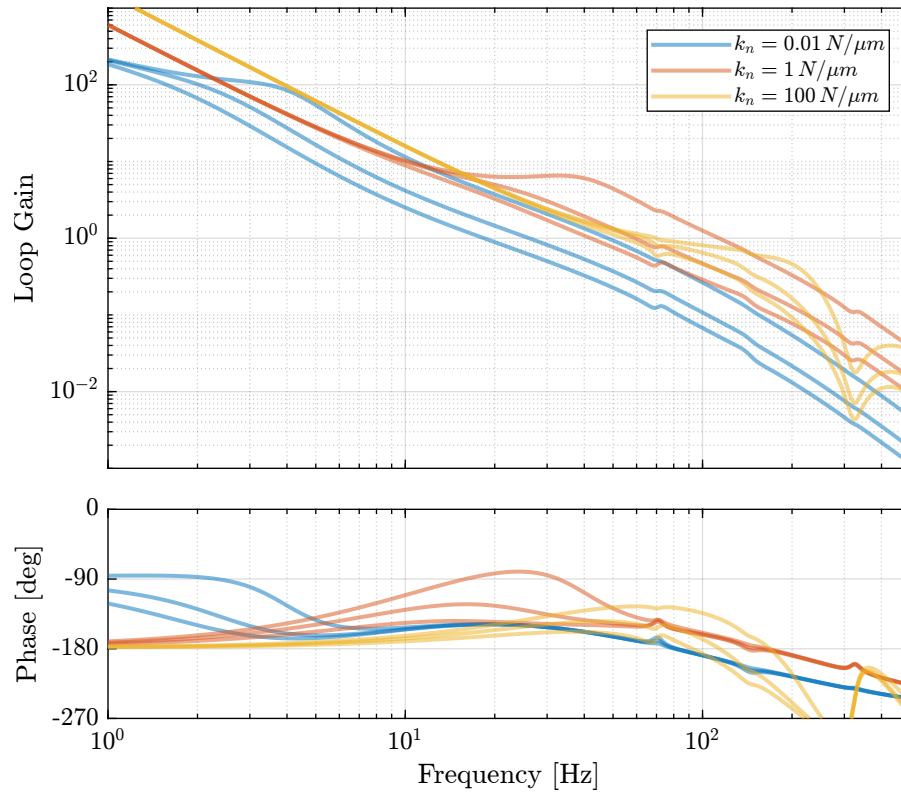


Figure 6.4: Loop Gain - High Authority Controller for all three nano-hexapod stiffnesses (soft one in blue, moderately stiff in red and very stiff in yellow) and all sample masses (corresponding to the three curves of each color)

6.3 Closed-Loop Noise Budgeting

The high authority position feedback controllers are then implemented and the closed-loop sensitivity to disturbances are computed. These are compared with the open-loop and damped plants cases in Figure 6.5 for just one configuration (moderately stiff nano-hexapod with 25kg sample's mass). As expected, the sensitivity to disturbances is decreased in the controller bandwidth and slightly increase outside this bandwidth.

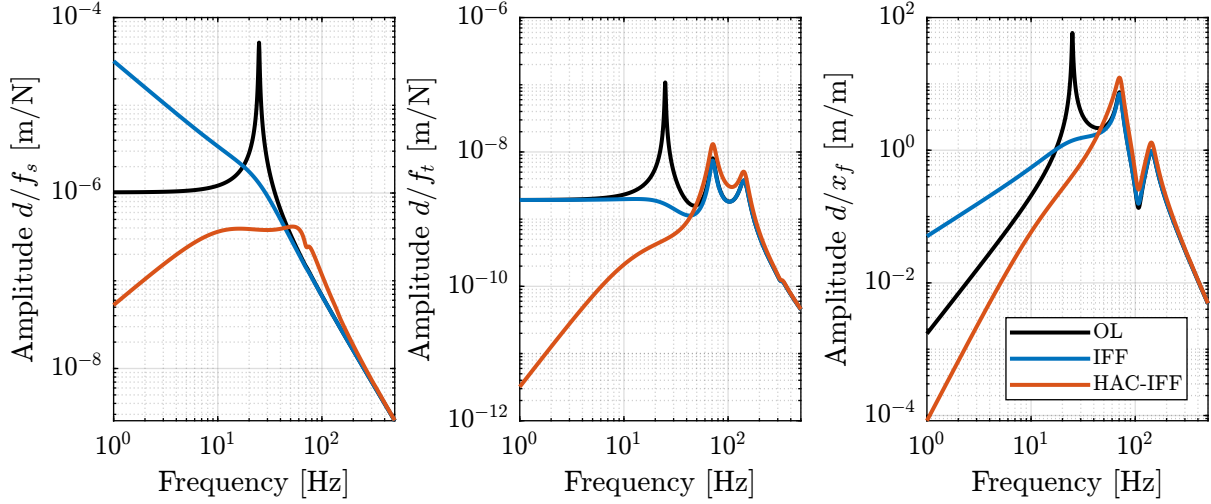


Figure 6.5: Change of sensitivity to disturbances with LAC and with HAC-LAC

The cumulative amplitude spectrum of the motion d is computed for all nano-hexapod configurations, all sample masses and in the open-loop (OL), damped (IFF) and position controlled (HAC-IFF) cases. The results are shown in Figure 6.6. Obtained root mean square values of the distance d are better for the soft nano-hexapod ($\approx 25 \text{ nm}$ to $\approx 35 \text{ nm}$ depending on the sample's mass) than for the stiffer nano-hexapod (from $\approx 30 \text{ nm}$ to $\approx 70 \text{ nm}$).

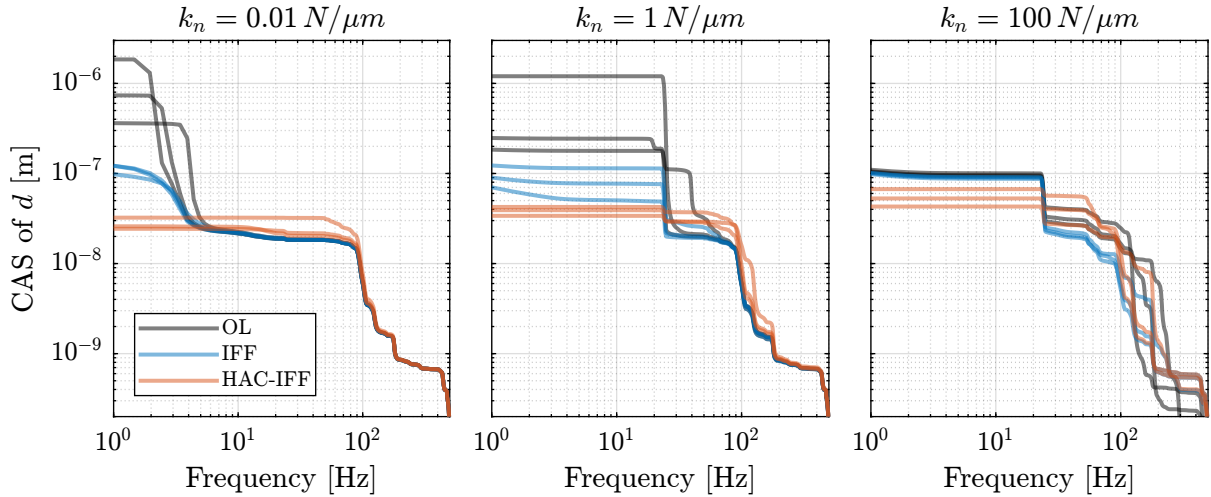


Figure 6.6: Cumulative Amplitude Spectrum for all three nano-hexapod stiffnesses - Comparison of OL, IFF and HAC-LAC cases

7 Conclusion

In this study, a uniaxial model of the nano-active-stabilization-system has been tuned both from dynamical measurements (Section 1) and from disturbances measurements (Section 3).

It has been shown that three active damping techniques can be used to critically damp the nano-hexapod resonances (Section 5). However, this model does not allow to determine which one is most suited to this application.

Finally, position feedback controllers have been developed for three considered nano-hexapod stiffnesses. These controllers were shown to be robust to the change of sample's masses, and to provide good rejection of disturbances. It has been found that having a soft nano-hexapod makes the plant dynamics easier to control (because decoupled from the micro-station dynamics) and requires less position feedback bandwidth to fulfill the requirements. The moderately stiff nano-hexapod ($k_n = 1 \text{ N}/\mu\text{m}$) is requiring a bit more position feedback bandwidth, but it still seems to give acceptable results. However, the stiff nano-hexapod is the most complex to control and gives the worst positioning performances.