

# Component-oriented acausal modeling of the dynamical systems in Python language on the example of the model of the sucker rod string

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As a rule, the limitations of specialized modeling languages for acausal modeling of the complex dynamical systems are: limited applicability, poor interoperability with the third party software packages, the high cost of learning, the complexity of the implementation of hybrid modeling and modeling systems with the variable structure, the complexity of the modifications and improvements. In order to solve these problems, it is proposed to develop the easy-to-understand and to modify component-oriented acausal hybrid modeling system that is based on: (1) the general-purpose programming language Python, (2) the description of components by Python classes, (3) the description of components behavior by difference equations using declarative tools SymPy, (4) the event generation using Python imperative constructs, (5) composing and solving the system of algebraic equations in each discrete time point of the simulation. The classes that allow creating the models in Python without the need to study and apply specialized modeling languages are developed. These classes can also be used to automate the construction of the system of difference equations, describing the behavior of the model in a symbolic form. The basic set of mechanical components is developed — 1D translational components "mass", "spring-damper", "force". Using these components, the models of sucker rods string are developed and simulated. These simulation results are compared with the simulation results in Modelica language. The replacement of differential equations by difference equations allow simplifying the implementation of the hybrid modeling and the requirements for the modules for symbolic mathematics and for solving equations.

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# 2 **Component-oriented acausal modeling of the** 3 **dynamical systems in Python language on the** 4 **example of the model of the sucker rod string**

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16

## 17 **Abstract**

18 As a rule, the limitations of specialized modeling languages for acausal modeling of the complex  
19 dynamical systems are: limited applicability, poor interoperability with the third party software  
20 packages, the high cost of learning, the complexity of the implementation of hybrid modeling  
21 and modeling systems with the variable structure, the complexity of the modifications and  
22 improvements. In order to solve these problems, it is proposed to develop the easy-to-understand  
23 and to modify component-oriented acausal hybrid modeling system that is based on: (1) the  
24 general-purpose programming language Python, (2) the description of components by Python  
25 classes, (3) the description of components behavior by difference equations using declarative  
26 tools SymPy, (4) the event generation using Python imperative constructs, (5) composing and  
27 solving the system of algebraic equations in each discrete time point of the simulation. The  
28 classes that allow creating the models in Python without the need to study and apply specialized  
29 modeling languages are developed. These classes can also be used to automate the construction  
30 of the system of difference equations, describing the behavior of the model in a symbolic form.  
31 The basic set of mechanical components is developed — 1D translational components "mass",  
32 "spring-damper", "force". Using these components, the models of sucker rods string are  
33 developed and simulated. These simulation results are compared with the simulation results in  
34 Modelica language. The replacement of differential equations by difference equations allow  
35 simplifying the implementation of the hybrid modeling and the requirements for the modules for  
36 symbolic mathematics and for solving equations.

37

## 38 **Introduction**

39 As known, component-oriented simulation modeling is based on the separation of a complex  
40 system model into simple components. The component describes the mathematical model of the  
41 corresponding physical object (mass, spring, electrical resistance, hydraulic resistance, hydraulic  
42 motor, etc.), which is formulated as an algebraic, differential or difference equation. Components  
43 are connected with one another through ports (pins, flanges), which define a set of variables for  
44 the interaction between components (Elmqvist, 1978; Fritzson, 2015). Components and ports are  
45 stored in software libraries. Usually, it is possible to develop new components. The multi-domain  
46 modeling allows to use together of components which differ in the physical nature (mechanical,  
47 hydraulic, electric, etc.). The component-oriented modeling can be based on causal modeling or  
48 acausal modeling (Fritzson, 2015). In the first case, the component receives the signal  $x$  at the  
49 input, performs a certain mathematical operation  $f(x)$  on it and returns the result  $y$  to the output.  
50 In this case, the modeling is realized by imperative programming by assigning the value of the  
51 expression  $f(x)$  to the variable  $y$ . In the second case, the signal of the connected components can  
52 be transmitted in two directions. Such modeling is realized by declarative programming by  
53 solving the equation  $y=f(x)$ , where the unknown can be  $x$  or  $y$ . Here, the variables  $x$  and  $y$  are  
54 some physical quantities, and the equation  $y=f(x)$  is the physical law that describes their  
55 relationship. It allows us to simplify the creation of the model, to focus on the physical  
56 formulation of the problem, but not on the algorithm for solving it. It is also possible to avoid  
57 errors that are typical for imperative programming.

58 Most often, the behavior of these models is described by the system of differential equations,  
59 which are solved by the finite difference method — numerical method based on the replacement  
60 of differential operators by difference schemes. As a result, the system of differential equations is  
61 replaced by the system of algebraic equations.

62 The solution of non-stationary problems by the finite difference method is the iterative process  
63 — at each iteration find the solution of the stationary problem for the given time point. Explicit  
64 and implicit difference schemes are used for this purpose. Explicit schemes immediately find  
65 unknown values, using information from previous iterations. Using of the implicit scheme  
66 requires the solution of a difference equation because unknown values can be in the right and left  
67 sides of the equation. The explicit Euler difference scheme is simple to implement, but it often  
68 has numerical instability and low accuracy. To improve accuracy and stability it is desirable to  
69 apply modified Euler methods, such as the Runge-Kutta method (Runge, 1895).

70

## 71 **Statement of the problem**

72 For the simulation of complex dynamic multi-domain systems such specialized modeling  
73 languages are developed: Dymola (Elmqvist, 1978), APMonitor (Hedengren et al., 2014),  
74 ASCEND (Piela, McKelvey & Westerberg, 1993), gPROMS (Barton & Pantelides, 1994),  
75 Modelica (Fritzson & Engelson, 1998), MKL, Modelyze (Broman, 2010). Among them,  
76 Modelica is the most popular free language for component-oriented modeling of such systems.  
77 Its main features: free, object-oriented, declarative, focused on hybrid (continuous and discrete)  
78 component-oriented modeling of complex multi-domain physical systems, it supports the

79 construction of hierarchical models, adapted for visual programming, widely used for research in  
80 various fields (Fritzson, 2015). Free Modelica Standard Library has about 1280 components.  
81 There are free and commercial simulation environments in Modelica language —  
82 OpenModelica, JModelica.org, Wolfram SystemModeler, SimulationX, MapleSim, Dymola,  
83 LMS Imagine.Lab AMESim.

84 As a rule, the limitations of such modeling languages are: limited applicability, poor  
85 interoperability with the third party software packages, the high cost of learning, the complexity  
86 of the modifications and improvements, the complexity of the implementation of hybrid  
87 modeling and modeling variable structure systems where the structure and number of equations  
88 can change at run-time (Fritzson, Broman & Cellier, 2008; Nikolić, 2016). Some problems can  
89 be solved by using interfaces to general-purpose languages (Åkesson et al., 2010; Hedengren et  
90 al., 2014). But it is usually more difficult to learn a new language than to learn a component or  
91 library of a familiar programming language.

92 These problems are less common in modeling systems that are based on general-purpose  
93 programming languages: GEKKO (Beal et al., 2018), Ariadne (Benvenuti et al., 2014), SimuPy  
94 (Margolis, 2017), Sims.jl (Short, 2017), Modia.jl (Elmqvist, Henningsson & Otter, 2016),  
95 PyDSTool (Clewley et al., 2007), DAE Tools (Nikolić, 2016), Assimulo (Andersson, Führer &  
96 Åkesson, 2015). The implementation of such systems can be simplified if the difference  
97 equations are used to describe the model instead of differential equations. Many high-level  
98 general-purpose languages are suitable for implementing component-based modeling because  
99 they have convenient imperative and object-oriented constructions and allow declarative  
100 programming. The advantages of modeling systems based on general-purpose programming  
101 languages are described in detail in paper (Nikolić, 2016). Python language (Van Rossum &  
102 Drake, 1995) is a good choice mainly due to its features: multi-paradigm, object-oriented,  
103 intuitive with code readability and improved programmer's productivity, highly extensible,  
104 portable, open source, large community and extensive libraries as mathematical libraries SymPy  
105 and SciPy. SymPy is a Python library for symbolic mathematics (Meurer et al., 2017). SciPy is a  
106 fundamental library for scientific computing (Jones et al., 2001).

107 The purpose of this work is to develop of the easy-to-understand and to modify component-  
108 oriented acausal hybrid modeling system that is based on: (1) the use of general-purpose  
109 programming language Python, (2) the description of components by Python classes, (3) the  
110 description of components behavior by difference equations using declarative tools SymPy, (4)  
111 the event generation using Python imperative constructs, (5) composing and solving a system of  
112 algebraic equations in each discrete time point of the simulation. The principles of the system are  
113 described using the example of the model of the sucker rod string that is used in the oil industry  
114 to join together the surface and downhole components of a rod pumping system. Let's take a  
115 look the steel rod string, in which the length is 1500 m and sucker rod diameter is 19 mm. This  
116 column will have a mass of 3402 kg, a weight in the liquid of 29204 N, a spring constant of  
117 39694 N/m, a damping constant of 1856 N·s/m. Liquid weight above the pump with a diameter  
118 of 38 mm will be 16688 N.

119

**120 Model in Modelica language**

121 First, we will simulate the free vibrations of the string using the Modelica language. We will  
122 develop the model of the simple mechanical translational oscillator, which consists of such  
123 components as `Mass`, `SpringDamper` and `Fixed` (Fig. 1). Component `SpringDamper` is  
124 designed to simulate the elastic-damper properties of the string. Component `Mass` simulates the  
125 inertial properties of the string. Component `Fixed` simulates the fixed point at the top of the  
126 string. The module code which describes this model is shown below (Listing S1). In order to  
127 simplify the model, these classes differ slightly from the corresponding classes of the standard  
128 Modelica library (Fritzson, 2015).

129

```
130 connector Flange // class-connector
131   Real s; // variable (positions at the flange are equal)
132   flow Real f; // variable (sum of forces at the flange is zero)
133 end Flange;
134
135 model Fixed // class-model
136   parameter Real s0=0; // parameter (constant in time)
137   Flange flange; // object of class Flange
138 equation // model equations
139   flange.s = s0;
140 end Fixed;
141
142 partial model Transl // class-model
143   Flange flange_a; // object of class Flange
144   Flange flange_b; // object of class Flange
145 end Transl;
146
147 model Mass // class-model
148   extends Transl; // inheritance of class Transl
149   parameter Real m(min=0, start=1); // parameter
150   Real s; // variable
151   Real v(start=0); // variable with initial condition
152   Real a(start=0); // variable with initial condition
153 equation // model equations
154   v = der(s);
155   a = der(v);
156   m*a = flange_a.f + flange_b.f;
157   flange_a.s = s;
158   flange_b.s = s;
159 end Mass;
160
161 model SpringDamper // class-model
```

```
162 extends Transl; // inheritance of class Transl
163 parameter Real c(final min=0, start=1); // parameter
164 parameter Real d(final min=0, start=1); // parameter
165 Real s_rel(start=0); // variable
166 Real v_rel(start=0); // variable
167 Real f; // variable
168 equation // model equations
169   f = c*s_rel+d*v_rel;
170   s_rel = flange_b.s - flange_a.s;
171   v_rel = der(s_rel);
172   flange_b.f = f;
173   flange_a.f = -f;
174 end SpringDamper;
175
176 model Oscillator // class-model
177   Mass mass1(s(start=-1), v(start=0), m=3402.0); // object with
178   initial conditions
179   SpringDamper spring1(c=39694.0, d=1856.0); // object
180   Fixed fixed1(s0=0); // object
181 equation // additional equations
182   // creates a system of equations (see Flange class)
183   connect(fixed1.flange, spring1.flange_a);
184   connect(spring1.flange_b, mass1.flange_a);
185 end Oscillator;
```

186

187 The Modelica language class describes the set of similar objects (components). The Flange  
188 class describes the concept of a mechanical flange. Its real-type variable  $s$  corresponds to the  
189 absolute position of the flange. Its value should be equal to the value of the variables  $s$  of the  
190 other flanges connected to this flange. The real-type variable  $f$  corresponds to the force on the  
191 flange. It is marked by the `flow` keyword, which means that the sum of all forces at the  
192 connection point is equal to zero. The Fixed class describes the concept of a fixed component  
193 with one flange, for example `fixed1` (Fig. 1). It has the real-type variable  $s_0$ , which  
194 corresponds to the absolute position of the flange, and the object `flange` of the Flange class,  
195 designed to connect this component to others. The variable  $s_0$  is marked by the `parameter`  
196 keyword, which means that it can be changed only at the start of the simulation. After the  
197 `equation` keyword, an equation describing the behavior of this component is declared — the  
198 flange object position must be equal to the  $s_0$  value. The Transl class describes an abstract  
199 component that has two flanges — `flange_a` and `flange_b`. It is the base class for  
200 mechanical translational components with two flanges. The Mass class inherits the class  
201 Transl and describes the sliding mass with inertia. The example of such component is `mass1`  
202 (Fig. 1). The command `extends Transl` means inheriting members of the Transl class in  
203 such a way that they become members of the Mass class. That is, the Mass components will

204 also have two flanges `flange_a` and `flange_b`. In addition, this class has the parameter `m`  
205 (mass) and variables `s` (position), `v` (speed), `a` (acceleration). Expression `start=0` is the  
206 default initial condition. After `equation` keyword the system of the differential and algebraic  
207 equations which describes behavior of this component is given. The keyword `der` means the  
208 derivative with respect to time  $t$  ( $v=ds/dt$ ,  $a=dv/dt$ ).

209 The class `SpringDamper` inherits the class `Transl` and describes the linear 1D translational  
210 spring and damper in parallel. The example of such component is `springDamper1` (Fig. 1).  
211 Class has the parameters `c` (spring constant), `d` (damping constant) and the variables `s_rel`  
212 (relative position), `v_rel` (relative speed), `f` (force at `flange_b`). After `equation` keyword  
213 the system of differential-algebraic equations of this component is given.

214 The `Oscillator` class describes spring-mass system (Fig. 1). It contains three components  
215 `mass1`, `spring1`, `fixed1`, which are described by the classes `Mass`, `SpringDamper` and  
216 `Fixed`, respectively. The values of parameters and initial conditions of these components are  
217 shown in round brackets. The additional equations which are obtained from component  
218 connections are given after `equation` keyword. So, for example

219 `connect(fixed1.flange, spring1.flange_a)` command connects the flanges of  
220 the `fixed1` and `spring1` components and creates the additional system of equations:

```
221  
222 fixed1.flange.s = spring1.flange_a.s;  
223 fixed1.flange.f = -spring1.flange_a.f  
224
```

225 The model code can be prepared using any text editor or the Modelica Development Tooling  
226 (MDT) module (Pop et al., 2006) of the Eclipse development environment. Simulation of model  
227 requires the OpenModelica environment (Fritzson et al., 2005). To start calculations enter this in  
228 MDT console:

```
229  
230 simulate(Oscillator, stopTime=10)  
231
```

232 To plot the curve that describes the position of `mass1` component with time enter the following into the  
233 console:

```
234  
235 plot(mass1.s)  
236
```

## 237 Model in Python language

### 238 Description of components by Python-classes

239 Now we will develop the module `pycodyn` with similar components in Python (Listing S2). In  
240 addition, we will develop the `Force` class for simulating the external forces acting on the string.  
241 The behaviour of the components will be described by means of the difference equations. As a  
242 result, the system of components connected by flanges will be described by the system of the  
243 difference equations.

244 First, we'll import the `sympy` module and the standard mathematical module `math`. It is  
245 important to distinguish the functions of these modules.

```
246  
247 from sympy import *  
248 import math
```

249  
250 Create the global variable `dt` (time step).

```
251  
252 dt=0.1
```

253  
254 If you only need to obtain the system of equations in a symbolic form, then this variable must be  
255 an instance of the `Symbol` class of the `sympy` module:

```
256  
257 dt=Symbol('dt')
```

258  
259 `Translational1D` is the basic class of mechanical 1D components that have translational  
260 motion. The constructor function `__init__` is called when an object of this class is created and  
261 has two parameters — name of the component `name` and the dictionary of its attributes `args`.  
262 For component attribute naming, we use the following notation. The symbols `x`, `v`, `a`, `f` at the  
263 beginning of the name mean position, speed, acceleration and force, respectively. The symbol `p`  
264 at the end of the name means the value at time  $t-dt$ . The numerical index at the end  
265 corresponds to the flange number. To distinguish the variables of various components in the  
266 system, each of them begins with the name of the component followed by the symbol `"_"`. For  
267 example, the name `s1_x2p` means the position of the second flange of the component `s1` at  
268 time  $t-dt$ . The constructor for each name-value pair of the dictionary `args` (except `name` and  
269 `self`) creates SymPy variables. The symbolic variable of the `Symbol` class is created if its  
270 value is not known. The numeric variable of the `Number` class is created if its value is known.  
271 The `self.eq`s list contains the component equations, and the `self.pins` list contains the  
272 component flanges. Each equation is created using SymPy class `Eq`. Each flange is described by  
273 a dictionary whose keys are `x`, `xp`, `f`, and the values are the corresponding attributes of the  
274 component (see `Mass`, `SpringDamper`, `Force` classes). The `pinEqs` function returns a list  
275 of equations for the component flange that is connected to the flanges of the other components. It  
276 has the parameter `pindex` — the index of the flange (for example 0), and the parameter `pins`  
277 — the list of flanges of the other components. Always the positions of the mechanical 1D  
278 translational components on the flange are equal, and the sum of the forces on this flange is zero.  
279 For example, if the flange 2 of the component `s1` is connected to the flange 1 of the component  
280 `m1` then `pinEqs` function of the `s1` component returns the list of equations `[s1_x2==m1_x1,`  
281 `s1_x2p==m1_x1p, s1_f2==m1_f1]`.

```
282  
283 class Translational1D(object):
```

```

284     def __init__(self, name, args):
285         self.name=name # component name
286         for k,v in args.iteritems(): # for each key-value pair
287             if k in ['name','self']: continue # except name and self
288             if v==None: # if value is None
289                 # create symbolic variable with name name+'_'+k
290                 self.__dict__[k]=Symbol(name+'_'+k)
291             elif type(v) in [float,Float]: # if value is float
292                 self.__dict__[k]=Number(v) # create constant
293         self.eqns=[] # equations list
294         self.pins=[] # pins list
295
296     def pinEqs(self,pindex,pins):
297         eqs=[] # equation list of the flange
298         f=Number(0) # sum of forces on flanges of other components
299         for pin in pins: # for each flange of the other components
300             # add equations describing the equality on the flange:
301             # positions
302             eqs.append(Eq(self.pins[pindex]['x'], pin['x']))
303             # positions at time t-dt
304             eqs.append(Eq(self.pins[pindex]['xp'], pin['xp']))
305             f+=pin['f'] # add to the sum of forces
306         # equality to zero the sum of forces on the flange
307         eqs.append(Eq(self.pins[pindex]['f'], -f))
308         return eqs
309

```

310 The class `Mass` describes the mass concentrated at a point, which has translational motion. It inherits `Translational1D` class. The constructor `__init__` calls the constructor of the base class `Translational1D` and send to it the parameters `name` and `locals()`. The latter is a dictionary of local variables `self, name, m, x, xp, v, vp, a, f1, f2`. The behavior of this component is described by a system of equations `self.eqns`. For example, for the component `m1`:

```

315 m1:
316 [m1_m*m1_a == m1_f1+m1_f2, m1_a == (m1_v- m1_vp)/dt,
317 m1_v == (m1_x-m1_xp)/dt]

```

319 A list of additional equations can be generated for each component flange using the function `pinEqs` described above. The first element of the `self.pins` list is the dictionary `dict(x=self.x, xp=self.xp, f=self.f1)` which means that the positions `x, xp` on the flange will be equal to the `self.x, self.xp` attributes of this component respectively, and the force `f` on the flange will be equal to the `self.f1` attribute. The same applies to the second element of the list.

326

```

327 class Mass(Translational1D):
328     def __init__(self, name, m=1.0, x=None, xp=None, v=None, vp=None,
329 a=None, f1=None, f2=None):
330         # base class constructor call
331         Translational1D.__init__(self, name, locals())
332         # system of equations
333         self eqs=[Eq(self.m*self.a, self.f1+self.f2),
334                 Eq(self.a, (self.v-self.vp)/dt),
335                 Eq(self.v, (self.x-self.xp)/dt)]
336         # two flanges
337         self.pins=[dict(x=self.x, xp=self.xp, f=self.f1),
338 dict(x=self.x, xp=self.xp, f=self.f2)]

```

340 The SpringDamper class describes the translational 1D spring and damper, which are  
341 connected in parallel. It inherits Translational1D class. In addition to the attributes  
342 described above, it has the following attributes: spring constant  $c$ , damping constant  $d$ , relative  
343 velocity between flanges  $v_{rel}$ . The behavior of this component is described by a system of  
344 equations  $self.eqs$ . For example, for the component  $s1$ :

```

345 [s1_c*( s1_x2-s1_x1)+ s1_d*s1_vrel == s1_f2, -s1_f2 == s1_f1,
346 s1_vrel == (s1_x2-s1_x2p)/dt-(s1_x1-s1_x1p)/dt]

```

349 This component also has two flanges and it is possible to generate a list of additional equations  
350 using the `pinEqs` function.

```

351
352 class SpringDamper(Translational1D):
353     def __init__(self, name, c=1.0, d=0.1, x1=None, x2=None, x1p=None,
354 x2p=None, vrel=None, f1=None, f2=None):
355         Translational1D.__init__(self, name, locals())
356         # system of equations
357         self eqs=[Eq(self.c*(self.x2-self.x1)+self.d*self.vrel,
358 self.f2), Eq(-self.f2, self.f1), Eq(self.vrel, (self.x2-self.x2p)/dt-
359 (self.x1-self.x1p)/dt)]
360         # two flanges
361         self.pins=[dict(x=self.x1, xp=self.x1p, f=self.f1),
362 dict(x=self.x2, xp=self.x2p, f=self.f2)]

```

364 The Force class describes a 1D force whose application point has translational motion. The  
365 value of the force  $f$  can be constant or variable. It inherits Translational1D class and has  
366 one flange.

```

367
368 class Force(Translational1D):
369     def __init__(self, name, f=None, x=None, xp=None):

```

```
370         Translational1D.__init__(self, name, locals())
371         self.pins=[dict(x=self.x, xp=self.xp, f=-self.f)] # one flange
372
```

373 The class `System` describes the system of components connected by flanges. The constructor  
374 `__init__` gets two parameters — the list of components `els` and the list of additional  
375 equations `eqs`, which usually are created using `pinEqs` functions. The system components are  
376 stored in the `self.els` list and the `self.elsd` dictionary. The list `self.eqs` contains all  
377 system equations and is created by joining the equations of all components with additional  
378 equations `eqs`.

379 The function of this class `solve` solves a stationary problem. It returns the solution of a system  
380 of equations with conditions `ics` — a dictionary with known values of variables. To solve a  
381 system of equations, it can use the SymPy `solve` function, but its algorithm is very slow. It is  
382 possible to use fast algorithms for solving equations, for example, the function  
383 `scipy.optimize.root` from the SciPy library, which supports many effective methods for  
384 solving systems of equations. In this case, the call of the SymPy function `solve(eqs)` must be  
385 replaced with the call of the function `self.solveN(eqs)`, which adapts the system of  
386 equations for SciPy and solves it using `scipy.optimize.root`.

387 The function `solveDyn` solves a non-stationary problem. It receives three parameters — the  
388 dictionary with initial conditions `d`, the final time value `timeEnd` and the function `fnBC` that  
389 returns the dictionary to update the boundary conditions. First, the time variable `t` is assigned an  
390 initial value. In the `while` loop with the condition `t<timeEnd`, the following instructions are  
391 executed: the positions and velocities of the components in the previous steps `xp`, `x1p`, `x2p`, `vp`  
392 are assigned the values of the initial conditions `d`, the values of the boundary conditions are  
393 updated, the system of equations is solved by calling the `solve` function, solutions are assigned  
394 to the dictionary `d`, the results are saved, the time value increases by `dt`. After the loop is  
395 completed, the function returns the results as `T` and `Res` lists. These results can be represented in  
396 the form of plots using the `matplotlib` library.

```
397
398 class System(object):
399     def __init__(self, els, eqs):
400         self.els=els # components list
401         self.elsd=dict([(e.name,e) for e in els]) # same, but dict.
402         self.eqs=[] # list of system equations
403         for e in self.els: # for each component
404             self.eqs+=e.eqs # join with component equations
405         self.eqs=self.eqs+eqs # join with additional equations
406
407     def solveN(self, eqs): # solves the static problem
408         # code is not shown here
409
410     def solve(self, ics): # solves the dynamic problem
```

```
411     eqs=[e.subs(ics) for e in self.eqs] # substitution of ics
412     # discard all degenerate equations
413     eqs=[e for e in eqs if e not in (True,False)]
414     # solve the system of equations by:
415     #sol=solve(eqs) # SymPy (slow)
416     sol=self.solveN(eqs) # SciPy (faster)
417     sol.update(ics) # update dictionary by dictionary ics
418     return sol
419
420 def solveDyn(self, d, timeEnd, fnBC):
421     t=0.0 # time variable
422     T=[] # list of time values
423     Res=[] # list of results
424     ics={} # dictionary with values of variables
425     while t<timeEnd: # while t < final time value
426         for e in self.els: # for each component
427             # save positions and velocities
428             if 'x' in e.__dict__:
429                 ics.update({e.xp:d[e.x]})
430             if 'x1' in e.__dict__:
431                 ics.update({e.x1p:d[e.x1]})
432             if 'x2' in e.__dict__:
433                 ics.update({e.x2p:d[e.x2]})
434             if 'v' in e.__dict__:
435                 ics.update({e.vp:d[e.v]})
436             ics.update(fnBC(self.elsd, d, t)) # update BC
437             d=self.solve(ics) # solve the problem
438             print t
439             T.append(t)
440             Res.append(d) # save results
441             t+=dt # increase time value
442             #if some_condition: # changing the system structure
443                 # self.__init__(new_els, new_eqs)
444     return T,Res
445
```

446 You can easily implement modeling of variable structure systems by overriding the `solveDyn`  
447 method and calling in it the constructor of the `System` class with new values of arguments `els`,  
448 `eqs`. Usually this call should occur after a certain condition.

449

### 450 **Simulation of free vibrations of the sucker rod string**

451 Let's perform the simulation of free vibrations of the sucker rod string (Fig. 1). In the separate  
452 module (Listing S3) we will create the components: spring-damper `s1` and mass `m1`. In round  
453 brackets there are the values of the attributes — the name and the known parameters values.

454

```
455 from pycodyn import *
456 s1=SpringDamper(name='s1', c=39694.0, d=1856.0)
457 m1=Mass(name='m1',m=3402.0)
458
459 Create the list of additional equations, formed by connecting the flanges of the components.
460 Then create the object of the component system.
461
462 peqs=s1.pinEqs(1,[m1.pins[0]])
463 s=System(els=[s1,m1], eqs=peqs)
464
465 A list of the model equations can be printed using the command print s.eqs. To obtain
466 equations only in the symbolic form, the numerical values of the constructors parameters c, d, m
467 should be replaced by None:
468
469 [s1_c*(-s1_x1 + s1_x2) + s1_d*s1_vrel == s1_f2,
470 -s1_f2 == s1_f1,
471 s1_vrel == -(s1_x1 - s1_x1p)/dt + (s1_x2 - s1_x2p)/dt,
472 m1_a*m1_m == m1_f1 + m1_f2,
473 m1_a == (m1_v - m1_vp)/dt,
474 m1_v == (m1_x - m1_xp)/dt,
475 s1_x2 == m1_x, s1_x2p == m1_xp, s1_f2 == -m1_f1]
476
477 Let's solve the static problem — the column is stretched by 1 m.
478
479 ics={m1.x:-1.0,m1.v:0.0,m1.a:0.0,s1.x1:0.0,s1.x1p:0.0,m1.vp:0.0}
480 d=s.solve(ics)
481
482 The boundary conditions depend on the type of the problem. If this is the problem of free
483 oscillations, then the position of the string top point elsd['s1'].x1 and the force on the
484 plunger elsd['m1'].f2 are zero. Create the function to update the boundary conditions at
485 time t for the elsd components. Then solve the dynamic problem — free vibrations of the
486 string.
487
488 def fnBC(elsd, d, t):
489     return {elsd['s1'].x1:0.0, elsd['s1'].x1p:0.0, elsd['m1'].f2:0.0}
490 T,R=s.solveDyn(d, timeEnd=10, fnBC=fnBC)
491
492 The comparison of oscillator simulation results for Python and Modelica is shown in Fig. 2. The
493 differences are explained by the use of unequal difference schemes in the Python model and the
494 Modelica solver. It is possible to improve the results in the Python model by using the more
495 accurate but more complex difference schemes. For example, if the trapezoidal rule is used
```

496 (Listing S4, Listing S5), the second equation for the `Mass` should be

```
497 Eq((self.a+self.ap)/2, (self.v-self.vp)/dt).
```

498

### 499 **Simulation of the pumping process by the two-section string**

500 Now in the new module (Listing S6) we will create the model of the sucker rod string, which  
501 contains two sections. The model of each section consists of three 1D mechanical translational  
502 components: `SpringDamper`, `Mass` and `Force` (Fig. 3). The `SpringDamper` component is  
503 designed to simulate the elastic-damper properties of the string section, the `Mass` component  
504 simulates the inertial properties of the section, and the `Force` component simulates the section  
505 weight in the fluid and other external forces acting on the section.

506 Assign values to the variable of sections weights `fs` and the variable of liquid weight above the  
507 plunger `fr`.

508

```
509 from pycodyn import *
510 fs=(-14602.0, -14602.0)
511 fr=-16688.0
```

512

513 Let's create the components: the spring-damper of the first section `s1`, the mass of the first  
514 section `m1`, the weight of the first section `f1`, the spring-damper of the second section `s2`, the  
515 mass of the second section `m2`, the weight of the second section with the weight of the liquid `f2`.

516

```
517 s1=SpringDamper(name='s1', c=79388.0, d=3712.0)
518 m1=Mass(name='m1', m=1701.0)
519 f1=Force(name='f1', f=fs[0])
520 s2=SpringDamper(name='s2', c=79388.0, d=3712.0)
521 m2=Mass(name='m2', m=1701.0)
522 f2=Force(name='f2', f=fs[1]+fr)
```

523

524 Form the list of the additional equations of the string model, formed by connecting of the  
525 components flanges. And create the object of the component system (string model).

526

```
527 peqs=s1.pinEqs(1, [m1.pins[0]])
528 peqs+=m1.pinEqs(1, [s2.pins[0], f1.pins[0]])
529 peqs+=s2.pinEqs(1, [m2.pins[0]])
530 peqs+=m2.pinEqs(1, [f2.pins[0]])
531 s=System(els=[s1, m1, s2, m2, f1, f2], eqs=peqs)
```

532

533 The complete list of equations for this system `s.eqs` in the SymPy format:

534

```
535 [s1_c*(-s1_x1 + s1_x2) + s1_d*s1_vrel == s1_f2,
536 -s1_f2 == s1_f1,
537 s1_vrel == -(s1_x1 - s1_x1p)/dt + (s1_x2 - s1_x2p)/dt,
```

```

538 m1_a*m1_m == m1_f1 + m1_f2,
539 m1_a == (m1_v - m1_vp)/dt,
540 m1_v == (m1_x - m1_xp)/dt,
541 s2_c*(-s2_x1 + s2_x2) + s2_d*s2_vrel == s2_f2,
542 -s2_f2 == s2_f1,
543 s2_vrel == -(s2_x1 - s2_x1p)/dt + (s2_x2 - s2_x2p)/dt,
544 m2_a*m2_m == m2_f1 + m2_f2,
545 m2_a == (m2_v - m2_vp)/dt,
546 m2_v == (m2_x - m2_xp)/dt,
547 s1_x2 == m1_x, s1_x2p == m1_xp,
548 s1_f2 == -m1_f1, m1_x == s2_x1,
549 m1_xp == s2_x1p, m1_x == f1_x,
550 m1_xp == f1_xp, m1_f2 == f1_f - s2_f1,
551 s2_x2 == m2_x, s2_x2p == m2_xp,
552 s2_f2 == -m2_f1, m2_x == f2_x,
553 m2_xp == f2_xp, m2_f2 == f2_f]

```

554

555 Let's solve the static problem — the string under the maximum static loads.

556

```
557 ics={m1.v:0.0, m1.a:0.0, m2.v:0.0, m2.a:0.0}
```

```
558 ics.update({s1.x1:0.0, s1.x1p:0.0})
```

```
559 d=s.solve(ics)
```

560

561 Dictionary `d` contains the results. To display the position value for the bottom point of the  
562 second section, enter the command `print d[m2.x]`. We get the result `-0.972`. This is the  
563 elongation value of the string under maximum load. Let's solve the dynamic problem — the  
564 upper point has a harmonic motion. The stroke length of the upper point is 3 m, the number of  
565 double strokes per minute is 6.5. The `motion` function describes the harmonic motion of the  
566 upper point and returns its position at time `t`.

567

```
568 def motion(t):
```

```
569     A=3.0/2 # amplitude
```

```
570     n=6.5/60 # frequency
```

```
571     return A*math.sin(2*math.pi*n*t) # position
```

572

573 The `force` function returns the value of the force on the pump plunger `F`, depending on the  
574 value of its speed `v`. If the speed is less than zero (downstroke of the string), the function returns  
575 the weight value of the second section. Otherwise, the function returns the sum of the second  
576 section weight and the liquid weight above the plunger. This function should be smoothed when  
577 the sign of the velocity changes, for example, using the hyperbolic tangent function

```
578 math.tanh.
```

579

```
580 def force(v):
581     F=fs[1] # weight of the second section
582     if v>0: # if upperstroke
583         F+=fr # increase the force by value of the fluid weight
584     return F*math.tanh(abs(v)/0.01) # smoothing near the point v=0
585
```

586 Create the function to update the boundary conditions at time  $t$  for `elsd` components. Here `d` is  
587 the dictionary of the results calculated in the previous step. Then solve the problem.

```
588
589 def fnBC(elsd, d, t):
590     return {elsd['s1'].x1:motion(t), elsd['f2'].f:force(d[m2.v])}
591 T,R=s.solveDyn(d, timeEnd=2*60/6.5, fnBC=fnBC)
592
```

593 The results (Fig. 4) correspond to practical dynamometer cards obtained on real wells. The  
594 simulation of the variable structure system (the breakage of the sucker rod string) is implemented  
595 in Listing S7. This is done by overriding the `solveDyn` method. The simulation results are  
596 shown in Fig. 5.

597

## 598 Conclusions

599 The Python-classes that allow creating the models in Python without the need to study and apply  
600 specialized modeling languages are developed. These classes can also be used to automate the  
601 construction of the system of difference equations, describing the behavior of the model, in a  
602 symbolic form. To fully describe the behavior of the model, these equations must be  
603 supplemented with initial and boundary conditions, which are described by certain functions  
604 (`motion`, `force`, `fnBC`). These functions may contain any imperative code and it simplifies  
605 integration with the third party software packages. Composing and solving the system of  
606 algebraic equations at each discrete time point of the simulation using SymPy and SciPy is quite  
607 slow, but it makes easier to implement variable structure systems modeling. For example, by  
608 changing the values of system attributes in the `solveDyn` function. The replacement of  
609 differential equations by difference equations allows simplifying the implementation of the  
610 hybrid modeling and the requirements for the modules for symbolic mathematics and for solving  
611 equations. However, the problem in the form of difference equations is usually more difficult to  
612 formulate. In the future it is planned to extend the set of the components, optimize the algorithm  
613 for solving equations and develop support for hierarchical models and the tools for building  
614 models using block diagrams. The source code is available on the GitHub  
615 (<https://github.com/vkopey/pycodyn>).

616

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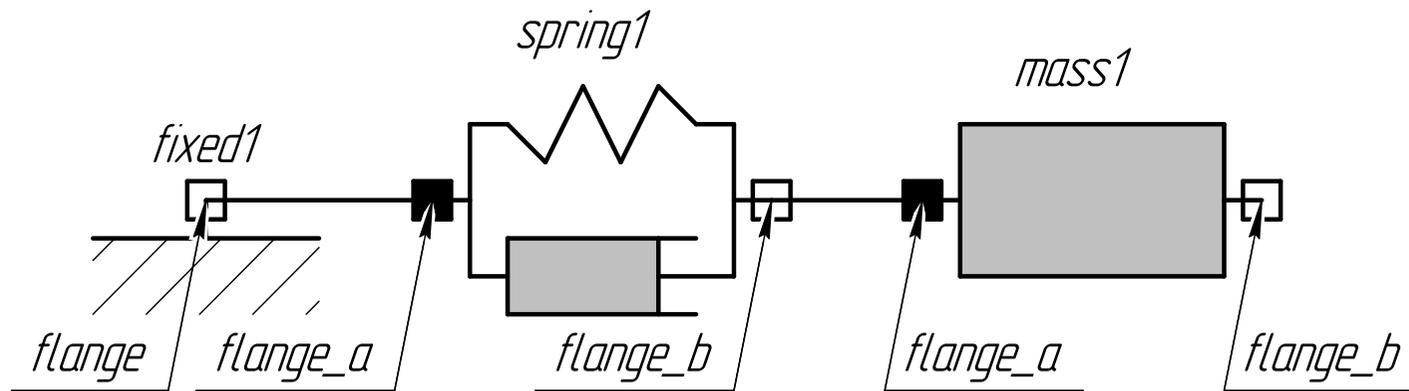
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**Figure 1**(on next page)

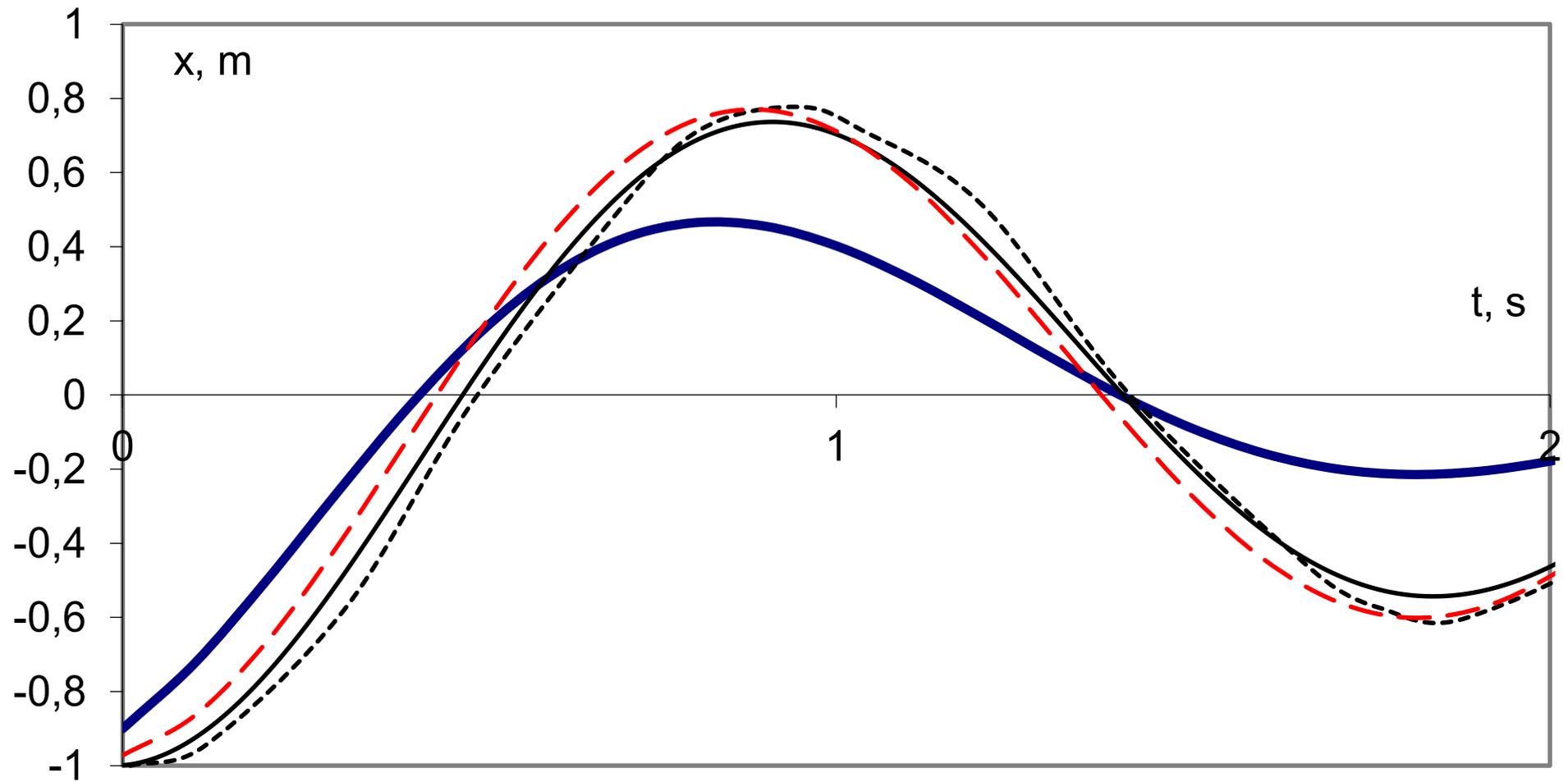
Block diagram of the oscillator model.



**Figure 2**(on next page)

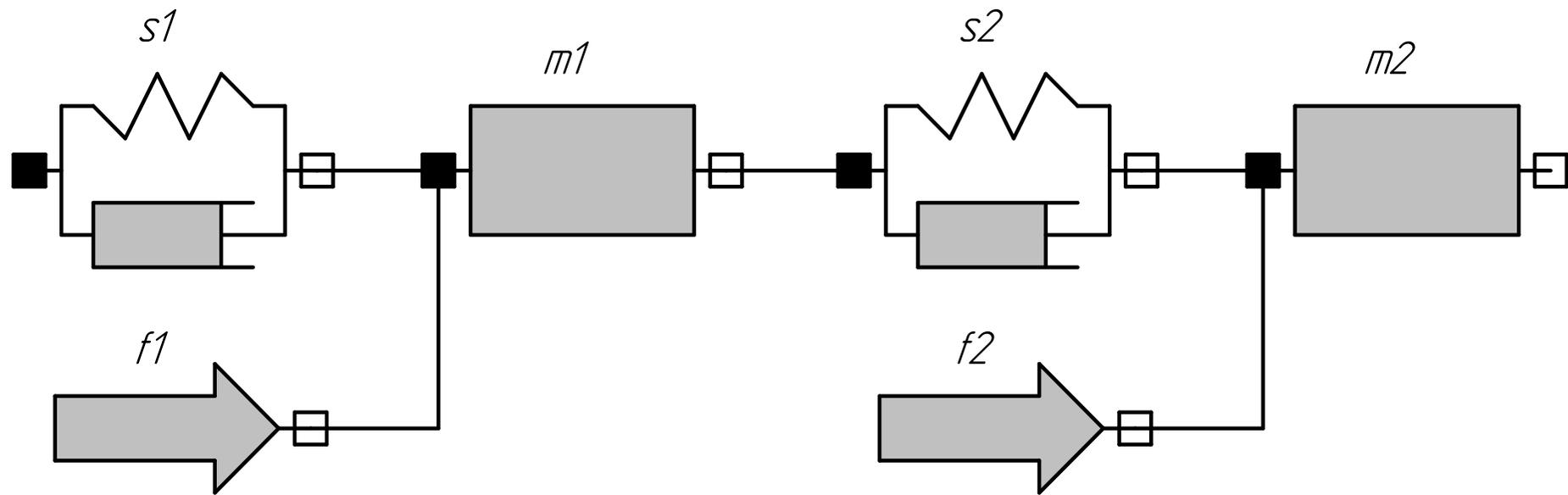
Plunger position ( $x$ ) during free oscillation of the string.

(■) Euler method with time step  $dt=0.1$  s; (—) Euler method with time step  $dt=0.01$  s; (---) Trapezoidal rule with time step  $dt=0.1$  s; (....) Runge-Kutta method, order 4 (Modelica-model).



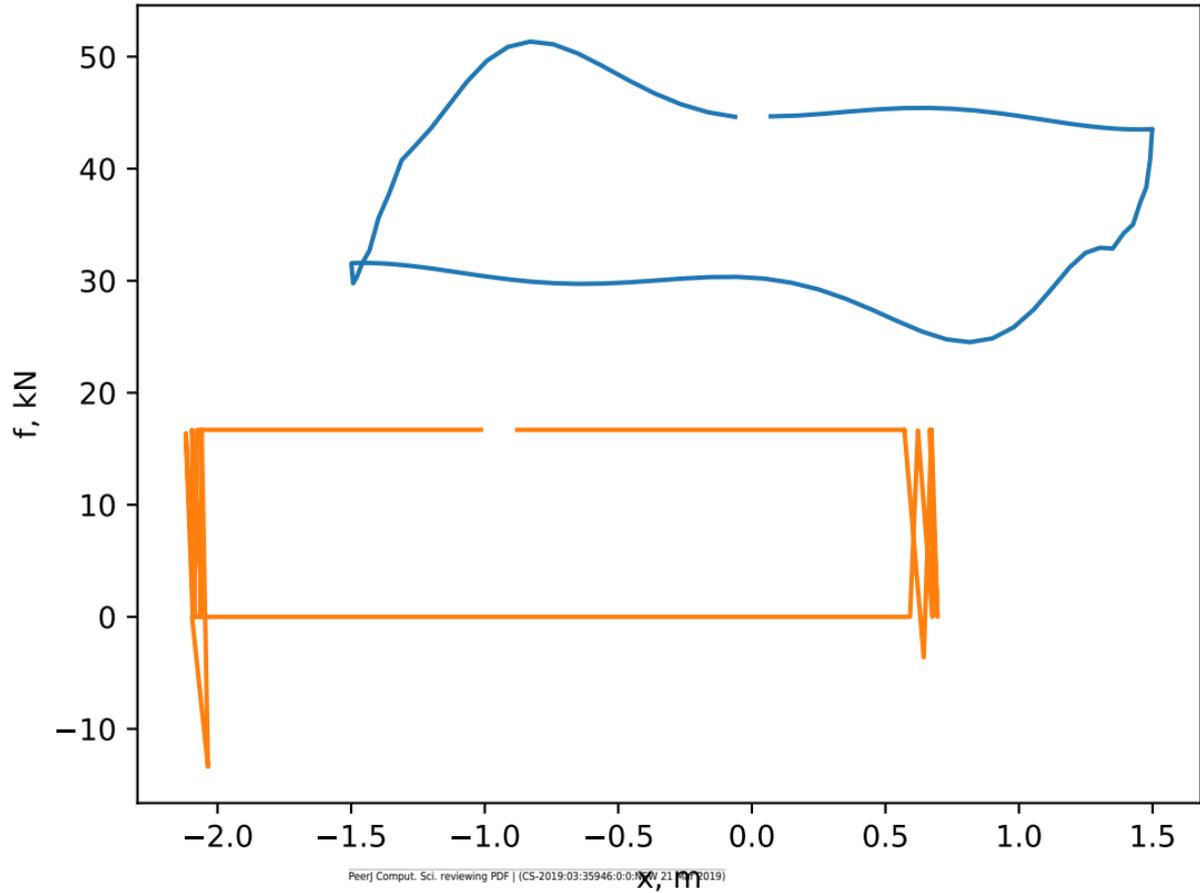
**Figure 3**(on next page)

Block diagram of the model with two sections.



**Figure 4**(on next page)

Simulation results - the wellhead (at the top) and plunger (at the bottom) dynamometer cards.



**Figure 5** (on next page)

The simulation of the breakage of the sucker rod string (wellhead dynamometer card).

