

## Global stabilization of three-dimensional flexible marine risers by boundary control

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**Abstract.** A method to design a boundary controller for global stabilization of three-dimensional nonlinear dynamics of flexible marine risers is presented in this paper. Equations of motion of the risers are first developed in a vector form. The boundary controller at the top end of the risers is then designed based on Lyapunov's direct method. Proof of existence and uniqueness of the solutions of the closed loop control system is carried out by using the Galerkin approximation method. It is shown that when there are no environmental disturbances, the proposed boundary controller is able to force the riser to be globally exponentially stable at its equilibrium position. When there are environmental disturbances, the riser is stabilized in the neighborhood of its equilibrium position by the proposed boundary controller.

**Keywords:** marine risers, boundary control, nonlinear dynamics, equations of motion.

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### 1. Introduction

The need for production of oil and/or gas from the sea bed has made control of the dynamics of a marine riser, which is a structure connecting a oil and/or gas oshore platform with a well at the sea bed, a necessity for both ocean and control engineers. A typical configuration of an oshore platform is depicted in Fig. 1. The riser is considered in this paper as a slender thin walled circular beam because of its large length to diameter ratio. In general, the riser is subject to nonlinear deformation dependent hydrodynamic loads induced by waves, ocean currents, tension exerted at the top, distributed/concentrated buoyancy from attached modules, its own weight, inertia forces and distributed/concentrated torsional couples. Before reviewing control techniques for the flexible marine risers, we here mention some early work on static analysis of the risers. In Huang and Chucheepsakul (1985), Bernitsas *et al.* (1985) and Huang and Kang (1991), the static models of both two-and three-dimensional risers are first presented based on the work in Love (1920). Then numerical simulations are carried out to analyze the effect of the system parameters on the riser equilibria. It should be also mentioned the recent work in Ramos and Pesce (2003), where the authors carry out static stability of a riser based on the variational method. Since the riser dynamics is essentially a distributed system and its motion is governed by a set of partial differential equations (PDE) in both time and space variables, modal control and boundary control approaches are often used to control the riser in the literature.

In the modal control approach, see Meirovitch (1997) and Gawronski (1998), distributed systems

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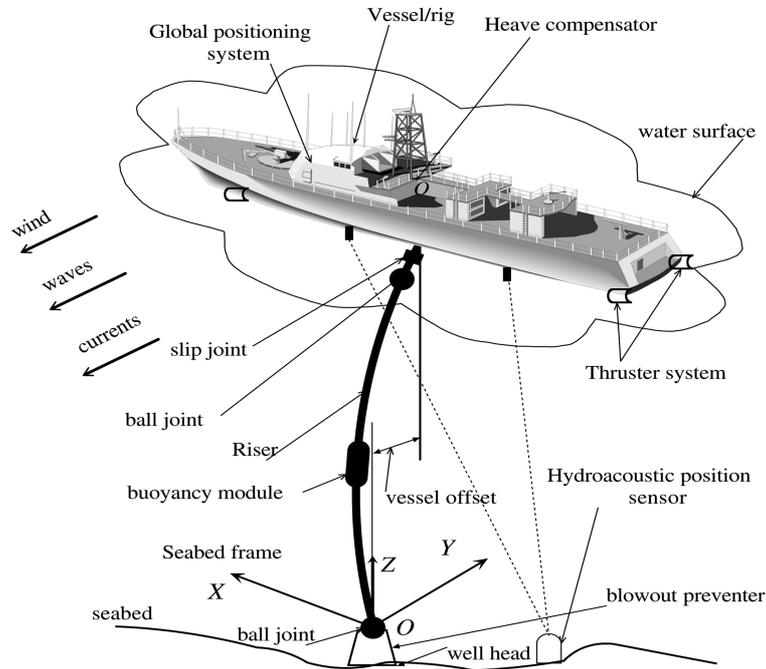


Fig. 1 A typical riser system

are controlled by controlling their modes. As a result, many concepts developed for lumped-parameter systems in Khalil (2002) and Krstic *et al.* (1995) can be used for controlling the distributed ones, since both types can be described in terms of modal coordinates. The main difficulty is computation of infinite dimensional gain matrices. This difficulty can be avoided by using the independent modal-space control method, but this method requires a distributed control force, which can be problematic to implement. One way to overcome this problem is to construct a truncated model consisting of a limited number of modes. In order to describe the behavior of a flexible system in a satisfactory fashion, it is necessary to include a large number of modes into the model. Thus, a characteristic of a truncated model is its large dimension, i.e., it is impractical to control all modes. Therefore the control of such truncated systems are restricted to a few critical modes. This also means that other modes are not controlled, and could be unstable. In fact, truncation of the infinite dimensional model divides the system into three modes: modeled and controlled, modeled and uncontrolled (residual), and un-modeled. Only the modeled modes are considered in the control design. In addition, observers are needed to provide the system output for these modeled modes from the actual distributed system. The use of these observers in combination with truncated models of distributed system leads to a spill-over phenomenon meaning that the control from actuators not only affects the controlled modes but also influences the residual and un-modeled modes, which can be unstable, Balas (1977).

The boundary control approach is more practical and efficient than the modal control approach since it excludes the effect of both observation and control spill-over phenomenon. In the boundary control approach, distributed actuators and sensors are not required. In addition control design based on the original PDE model instead of a truncated model, improves the performance of the control system. In recent years, boundary control has received a lot of attention from the control

community. Design of boundary controllers for distributed systems has been usually based on functional analysis and semi-group theory, see Chen *et al.* (2001) and Curtain and Zwart (1995), and the Lyapunov's direct method, see Queiroz *et al.* (2000) and Junkins and Kim (1993). The Lyapunov's direct method is widely used since the control Lyapunov functions/functionals directly relate to the kinetic and potential energies of the distributed systems. Using the Lyapunov's direct method, various boundary controllers have been proposed for flexible beam-like systems. In Yang *et al.* (2004), a robust and adaptive boundary controller is proposed for reducing transverse vibration of an axially moving string under a varying tension and an unknown boundary disturbance force based on the Lyapunov function, which is the sum of kinetic and potential energies of the string system, plus a coupling term. In Fung *et al.* (1999) and Fung and Tseng (1999), asymptotic and exponential stability of an axially moving string is proven by using a linear and nonlinear state feedback boundary control, respectively. They proved that the mechanical energy of the system decreases exponentially in the nonlinear feedback case. In Fard and Sagatun (2001), the boundary stabilization of a beam in free transverse vibration is considered. The control law is a nonlinear function of the slopes and velocity at the boundary of the beam to provide exponential stabilization a free transversely vibrating beam via boundary control without restoring to truncation of the model. The coupling between longitudinal and transversal displacements is also taken into account. Recently, in Tanaka and Iwamoto (2007) an active boundary control is proposed for an Euler-Bernoulli beam, which enables one to generate a desired boundary condition at designated positions of a target beam based on structure transfer matrix and the optimal control methods. It should be noted that the active boundary control in Tanaka and Iwamoto (2007) is implemented at various locations of the beam. Therefore, this method closely relates to the modal control approach although it is called boundary control. In Do and Pan (2008), Ge *et al.* (2010), How *et al.* (2009), boundary controllers were proposed for controlling vibration of marine risers in two dimensional space based on the Lyapunov direct method. In Nguyen *et al.* (2010), Nguyen *et al.* (2011), different control strategies were proposed to control the angle of the marine risers' top end based on the authors' algorithms for chasing an optimal set-point. In Yang *et al.* (2004), Fung *et al.* (1999), Fung and Tseng (1999), Fard and Sagatun (2001), Tanaka and Iwamoto (2007) and Queiroz *et al.* (2000), two-dimensional strings and beams are considered, and distributed forces including the structures' own weight are ignored. Mathematical work in Tsay and Kingsbury (1998) shows that even slight space curvature introduces significant changes in the beam natural frequencies and especially on mode shapes, i.e., the coupling of the out-of-plane wave types, and extensional and flexural waves exhibits in the flexible beams. The coupling between these wave types due to the curved shape of the riser, boundary constraints and external forces made the energy exchange from one wave type to other possible. Moreover, in Yang *et al.* (2004), Fung *et al.* (1999), Fung and Tseng (1999), Fard and Sagatun (2001), Tanaka and Iwamoto (2007), Queiroz *et al.* (2000), Ge *et al.* (2010), How *et al.* (2009), no proof of existence and uniqueness of the solutions of closed loop systems was given. It is well-known that there are systems governed by initial-boundary PDEs, whose solutions do not exist or are not unique. For any control systems to be useful in practice, existence and uniqueness of the solutions of the closed loop control systems are as vital as stability.

In this paper, we consider a problem of global stabilization of three-dimensional nonlinear flexible marine risers. A set of partial differential equations and boundary conditions describing motion of the risers is presented based on balancing internal and external forces/moments. Using the Lyapunov's direct method, a boundary controller at the top end of the risers is designed. Proof of existence and uniqueness of the solutions of the closed loop system is given. The proposed

controller guarantees that when there are no environmental disturbances, the riser is globally exponentially stabilized at its equilibrium position, and that when there are environmental disturbances, the riser is stabilized in the neighborhood of its equilibrium position.

## 2. Mathematical model and control objectives

### 2.1. Mathematical model

In this section, we develop equations of motion of the riser. These equations will be used for the boundary control design in the next section. In developing the equations of motion of the riser, we make the following assumption:

#### Assumption 2.1.

1. The riser can be modeled as a beam rather than a shell since the diameter-to-length of the riser is small, i.e., we consider the riser as a slender structure.
2. Plane sections remain plane after deformation, i.e., warping is neglected.
3. The riser is locally stiff, i.e., cross sections do not deform and Poisson effect is neglected.
4. The riser material is homogeneous, isotropic and linearly elastic, i.e., it obeys Hooke's law.
5. The riser is initially straight and vertical.
6. Torsional and distributed moments induced by environmental disturbances are neglected.

**Remark 2.1.** Items 1)-4) mean that the riser will be modeled as a Bernoulli-type of beam and not a Timoshenkotype, and that the extension of the riser axis small. Bernoulli-Euler models are satisfactory for modeling low frequency vibrations of beams. Item 5) generally holds in practice, and is made to simplify the development of the mathematical model and boundary controller. This item can be readily removed. Item 6) implies that we consider fluid/gas transportation risers rather than drilling risers, and that moment induced by the asymmetry of the relative flow due to vortex shedding is ignored.

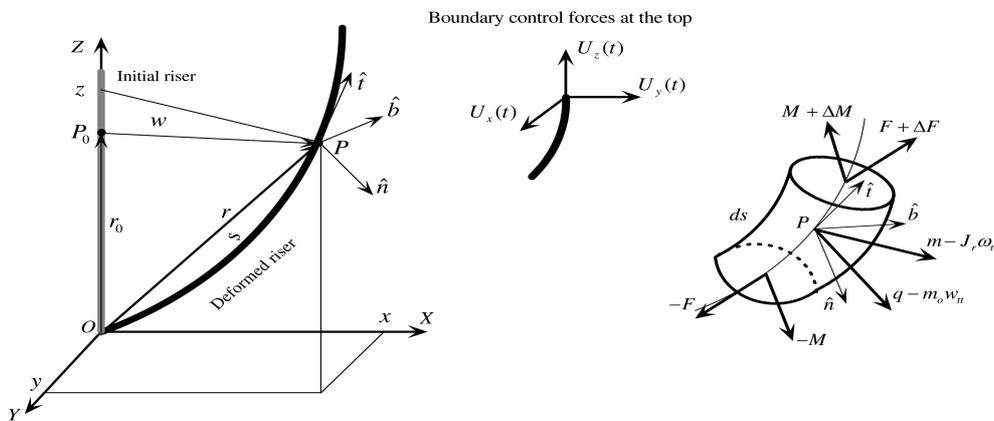


Fig. 2 Riser coordinates

### 2.1.1. Preliminaries

The riser coordinates are presented in Fig. 2. In this figure, we have two coordinate systems. The earth-fixed system is  $(OXYZ)$ , where  $O$  is the bottom ball-joint of the riser, and the  $OZ$  axis is along the initial riser. Let  $r^0(s_0, t_0) = [x_0, y_0, z_0]$  be the position vector of the point  $P_0$  of the initial riser centerline at the time  $t_0$  and the arc length  $s_0$  from the point  $O$ . Hence at the time  $t > t_0$ , the point  $P_0$  moves to the point  $P$  of the deformed riser centerline, whose position is denoted by  $r(s, t) = [x(s, t), y(s, t), z(s, t)]$  at the arc length  $s$  from the point  $O$ . Moreover, let  $w(s, t) = [w_x(s, t), w_y(s, t), w_z(s, t)]^T$  be the vector from the point  $P_0$  to the point  $P$ . Then we have

$$r = r^0 + w \quad (1)$$

where from now onward whenever it is not confusing, we drop the arguments  $(t, s)$  and  $(t_0, s_0)$  of  $r$ ,  $w$  and  $r^0$ , respectively for clarity. The body-fixed system is  $(\hat{t}, \hat{n}, \hat{b})$ , whose axes are the tangent, principal normal and binormal and unit vectors. These vectors can be expressed in terms of the fixed system as

$$\hat{t} = r_s, \quad \hat{n} = \hat{t}_s / \kappa, \quad \hat{b} = \hat{t} \times \hat{n} \quad (2)$$

where the subscript  $s$  denotes the partial derivative with respect to the arc-length  $s$ , and  $\kappa$  is curvature of the riser center line at  $s$  depicting the rate of change of the orientation of the normal plane  $(\hat{n}, \hat{b})$  defined by  $\kappa = \|r_{ss}\|$ . The above definition of the body-fixed coordinate system means that  $(\hat{t}, \hat{n}, \hat{b})$  form a right handed orthonormal triad. The derivatives of the unit body-fixed vectors are given by the well-known Frenet-Serret relations Widder (1989):

$$\hat{n}_s = \tau \hat{b} - \kappa \hat{t}, \quad \hat{b}_s = -\tau \hat{n}, \quad \hat{t}_s = \kappa \hat{n} \quad (3)$$

where  $\tau$  is the geometric torsion of the riser centerline depicting the rate of change of the orientation of the osculating plane  $(\hat{n}, \hat{t})$  defined by  $\tau = r_s \cdot (r_{ss} \times r_{sss}) / \kappa^2$ . Now from the right hand side sub-figure of Fig. 2, balancing the forces and moments on a component  $ds$  of the deformed riser results in

$$\begin{aligned} m_o \omega_{tt} &= F_s + q \\ J \omega_t &= M_s + \hat{t} \times F + m \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where from now onward, we use the subscript  $t$  to denote the partial derivative with respect to the time  $t$ ,  $m_o = \rho A$  is the oscillating mass of the riser per unit length with  $A$  being the riser cross section area, and  $\rho$  being the density of the riser,  $J = \rho I$  with  $I$  being the second moment of the riser cross section area about the  $\hat{b}$  axis,  $F$  and  $M$  are internal force and moment vectors,  $q$  and  $m$  are the external distributed force and moment vectors, and  $\omega_t = \hat{n} \times \hat{n}_{tt} + \hat{b} \times \hat{b}_{tt}$  is the angular acceleration of a point on the centerline. The distributed moment vector  $m$  is induced by the asymmetry of the relative flow due to vortex shedding. Let  $(F_{\hat{t}}, F_{\hat{n}}, F_{\hat{b}})$  and  $(M_{\hat{t}}, M_{\hat{n}}, M_{\hat{b}})$  be the components of  $F$  and  $M$  along the  $\hat{t}, \hat{n}, \hat{b}$  axes of the body-fixed system, respectively. We then can write  $F$  and  $M$  as

$$\begin{aligned} F &= F_{\hat{t}} \hat{t} + F_{\hat{n}} \hat{n} + F_{\hat{b}} \hat{b} \\ M &= M_{\hat{t}} \hat{t} + M_{\hat{n}} \hat{n} + M_{\hat{b}} \hat{b} \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Since the riser is assumed to be straight at the initial time  $t_0$ , we have the following constitutive relations, see Love (1920) and Bernitsas (1982)

$$\begin{aligned}
F_t &= EA_\epsilon + T_0 + \rho_w g \frac{\pi D_o^2}{4} (H_w - z) - \rho_m g \frac{\pi D_i^2}{4} (H_m - z) \\
M_b &= B\kappa, \quad M_n = 0, \quad M_t = G\tau + H
\end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

where  $E$  is Young's modulus,  $T_0$  is the initial tension in the riser;  $H_w$  and  $H_m$  are the vertical coordinates of the free surface of the water and mud, respectively;  $\rho_w$  and  $\rho_m$  are the density of the water and mud, respectively;  $D_o$  and  $D_i$  are the external and internal diameters of the riser;  $z$  is the vertical coordinate of the point  $P$ ;  $B = EI$  is the bending rigidity of the riser;  $H$  is the initial torsional moment around the  $\hat{t}$  axis;  $G = 2\mu I$  is the torsional rigidity of the riser with  $\mu$  being the shear modulus,  $\epsilon$  is the extension of the riser centerline given by Dill (1992)

$$\epsilon = \frac{ds}{ds_0} - 1 = \sqrt{\frac{dr}{ds_0} \cdot \frac{dr}{ds_0}} \tag{7}$$

It is noted that since we assumed that extension of the riser centerline is small and the riser centerline is stretched, hence  $0 \leq \epsilon \leq 1$ . The case where  $\epsilon = 0$  corresponds to an inextensible riser. Moreover,  $F_t$  in (6) is referred to as the effective tension, while the actual tension is  $EA_\epsilon$ .

**Remark 2.2.** In Dill (1992), a local coordinate system  $(a_1, a_2, a_3)$  where  $a_3$  coincides with  $\hat{t}$ , different from the local coordinate  $(\hat{t}, \hat{n}, \hat{b})$  in this paper is used. Using the local coordinate  $(a_1, a_2, a_3)$  results in complexities in calculating the curvatures of the riser in the  $(a_1, a_3)$  and  $(a_2, a_3)$  planes. Indeed, one can rotate the coordinate system  $(a_1, a_2, a_3)$  round the  $\hat{t}$  axis a angle to have the coordinate system  $(\hat{t}, \hat{n}, \hat{b})$ , which has nice properties in (3). In Bernitsas (1982), the constitutive equation for the moment in the normal direction,  $M_n$ , is misgiven, since  $M_n$  is always zero for the riser under consideration.

### 2.1.2. Equations of motion

From (5) and the second equation of (6), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
M_s &= (B\kappa\hat{b})_s + (\overline{H}\hat{t})_s = (B\hat{t} \times \hat{t}_s)_s + (\overline{H}\hat{t})_s = \hat{t} \times (B\hat{t}_s)_s + \overline{H}_s \hat{t} + \overline{H}\hat{t}_s \\
&= \hat{t} \times (B\kappa\hat{n})_s + \overline{H}\kappa\hat{n} + \overline{H}_s \hat{t} = \hat{t} \times (B\kappa\hat{n})_s - \overline{H}\kappa\hat{t} \times \hat{b} + \overline{H}_s \hat{t} \\
&= \hat{t} \times ((B\kappa\hat{n})_s - \overline{H}\kappa\hat{b}) + \overline{H}_s \hat{t}
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

where  $\overline{H} = H + G\tau$  and we have used the vector algebra properties given in (A.1). Now substituting (8) into the second equation of (4) results in

$$J\omega_t = \hat{t} \times ((B\kappa\hat{n})_s - \overline{H}\kappa\hat{b} + F) + \overline{H}_s \hat{t} + m \tag{9}$$

Now producting vector both sides of (9) with  $\hat{t}$  gives

$$\hat{t} \cdot (J\omega_t) = \hat{t} \cdot (\hat{t} \times ((B\kappa\hat{n})_s - \overline{H}\kappa\hat{b} + F)) + \overline{H}_s \hat{t} \cdot \hat{t} + m \cdot \hat{t} \Rightarrow r_s \cdot (J\omega_t) = \overline{H}_s + m \cdot r_s \tag{10}$$

where we have used the vector algebra properties given in (A.1) and the definition of  $\hat{t}$  in (2). On the other hand, vectoring both sides of (9) with  $\hat{t}$  gives

$$\hat{t} \times (J\omega_t) = \hat{t} \times (\hat{t} \times (B\kappa\hat{n})_s) - \hat{t} \times (\hat{t} \times H\kappa\hat{b}) + \hat{t} \times (\hat{t} \times F) + \hat{t} \times (\overline{H}_s \hat{t}) + \hat{t} \times m \tag{11}$$

Let us calculate the first three terms of the right hand side of (11) using the vector algebra

properties given in (A.1) and the definitions of  $\hat{t}$ ,  $\hat{n}$  and  $\hat{b}$  in (2) as follows

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{t} \times (\hat{t} \times (B \kappa \hat{n}))_s &= -\hat{t} \cdot \hat{t} (B \kappa \hat{n})_s + (\hat{t} \cdot (B \kappa \hat{n}))_s \hat{t} = (B \hat{t}_s)_s + (\hat{t} \cdot (B_s \hat{t}_s + B \hat{t}_{ss})) \hat{t} \\ &= -(B \hat{t}_s)_s + (B \hat{t} \cdot \hat{t}_{ss}) \hat{t} = -(B \hat{t}_s)_s + B \hat{t} \cdot (\kappa_s \hat{n} - k^2 \hat{t}) \hat{t} = -(B r_{ss})_s - B \kappa^2 r_s, \\ \hat{t} \times (\hat{t} \times \bar{H} \kappa \hat{b}) &= \bar{H} \kappa (-\hat{t} \cdot \hat{t} \hat{b} + (\hat{t} \cdot \hat{b}) \hat{t}) = -\bar{H} \kappa \hat{b} = -\bar{H} r_s \times r_{ss} \\ \hat{t} \times (\hat{t} \times F) &= -\hat{t} \cdot \hat{t} F + (\hat{t} \cdot F) \hat{t} = -F + (F \cdot r_s) r_s\end{aligned}\quad (12)$$

Substituting (12) into (11) gives

$$r_s \times (J \omega_t) = -(B r_{ss})_s - B \kappa^2 r_s + \bar{H} r_s \times r_{ss} - F + (F \cdot r_s) r_s + r_s \times m \quad (13)$$

Now substituting  $F$  from (13) into the first equation of (6) and combining the second equation of (10) result in the equations of motion of the riser as follows

$$\begin{aligned}m_o w_{tt} &= -(B r_{ss})_{ss} + (F_t - B \kappa^2) r_s + (\bar{H} r_s \times r_{ss})_s + (r_s \times m)_s - (r_s \times (J \omega_t))_s + q \\ r_s \cdot (J \omega_t) &= \bar{H}_s + m \cdot r_s\end{aligned}\quad (14)$$

It is noted that we have assumed the torsional moment  $\bar{H}$  and the distributed moment  $m$  are negligible, and that the riser has a constant cross section. Furthermore, since the riser is initially straight, we have  $r_{ss} = w_{ss}$ ,  $r_{ssss} = w_{ssss}$  and  $w_s = r_s - r_s^0$  where we take  $s \cong s_0$  due to the small extension assumption, see Dill (1992). With these in mind, we now have the equations of motion of the riser from (14) for the boundary control design in the next section

$$\begin{aligned}m_o w_{tt} &= -B w_{ssss} + (F_t - B \kappa^2)_s (w_s + r_s^0) + (F_t - B \kappa^2) w_{ss} + q \\ \kappa &= \|w_{ss}\|\end{aligned}\quad (15)$$

**Remark 3.** The riser dynamics (14) or (15) is one dimensional (with respect to the spatial variable  $s$ ). This means that a point on the riser cross section, other than the point on the centerline, cannot be traced after deformation takes place. In this paper, we consider the deformation of the riser centerline, which is, in general, a three-dimensional space curve.

### 2.1.3. Initial and boundary conditions

The initial conditions of the riser consist of the initial position and velocity functions. They are

$$w(s, t_0) = g_1(s), \quad w_t(s, t_0) = g_2(s), \quad \forall s \in (0, L) \quad (16)$$

where  $g_1(s)$  and  $g_2(s)$  are sufficiently smooth and bounded function vectors of  $s$ , and compatible with the boundary conditions. Next, we will apply Hamilton's principle to derive the boundary conditions for the riser under consideration. We first provide the kinetic and potential energies, then use the first variation of the Lagrangian of the system to derive the boundary conditions. As such, the kinetic energy  $K_E$  and the potential energy  $P_E$  of the riser with a length of  $L$  are

$$\begin{aligned}K_E &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L m_o r_t \cdot r_t ds \\ P_E &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L B r_{ss} \cdot r_{ss} ds - \int_0^L q r ds + F(0) r(0) - F(L) r(L) + M(0) r_s(0) - M(L) r_s(L)\end{aligned}\quad (17)$$

where we have used  $r_t = w_t$  and  $r_{ss} = w_{ss}$ . The Lagrangian  $L_A$  of the riser is

$$L_A = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (K_E - P_E) dt \quad (18)$$

where  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  denote time. Moreover, the riser response must satisfy the kinetic constraint of the unit tangent vector  $\hat{t}$ . In terms of deformation, this constraint is expressed by

$$r_s \cdot r_s = 1 \quad (19)$$

The above constraint is applied along the riser by modifying the Lagrangian of the riser and by embedding a continuous multiplier  $(F_i - B\kappa^2)/2$ . As such, the modified Lagrangian  $L_{MA}$  is

$$L_{MA} = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \left[ K_E - P_E + \frac{(F_i - B\kappa^2)}{2} \int_0^L (r_s \cdot r_s - 1) ds \right] dt \quad (20)$$

It is noted that including the term  $\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \left[ \frac{(F_i - B\kappa^2)}{2} \int_0^L (r_s \cdot r_s - 1) ds \right] dt$  in the modified Lagrangian physically means that the modified Lagrangian takes the contribution of the axial deformation into account in the potential energy. From (20), the first variation of  $L_{MA}$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \delta L_{MA} = & \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \int_0^L [- (Br_{ss})_{ss} + ((F_i - B\kappa^2)r_s)_s + q - m_o r_{it}] \delta r ds dt + \\ & \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (r_s \times M - Br_{ss}) \delta r_s \Big|_0^L dt + \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (- (Br_{ss})_s + (F_i - B\kappa^2)r_s - F) \delta r \Big|_0^L dt \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Since  $\delta r$  is arbitrary over the domain  $0 < s < L$ , letting  $\delta L_{MA} = 0$  results in

$$- (Br_{ss})_{ss} + ((F_i - B\kappa^2)r_s)_s + q - m_o r_{it} = 0, \quad \forall s \in [0, L], t \in \mathbb{R}^+ \quad (22)$$

and

$$r_s \times M - Br_{ss} = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad r_s = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad s = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad s = L \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}^+ \quad (23)$$

and

$$- (Br_{ss})_s + (F_i - B\kappa^2)r_s - F = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad r = 0 \quad \text{at} \quad s = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad s = L \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

The Eq. (22) is exactly the same as (15). The Eqs. (23) and (24) specify the boundary conditions of the riser at top and bottom ends. Choosing proper conditions from (23) and (24) depends on the riser configuration. For the riser considered in this paper, ball joints at both ends imply that the moments acting at both ends are zero, i.e.,  $M(L, t) = M(0, t) = 0$ , and the force vector  $U(t)$  as the boundary control inputs at the top end. With this observation in mind, the boundary conditions (23) and (24) for the riser considered in this paper become

$$\begin{aligned} w_{ss}(0, t) = 0, \quad w_{ss}(L, t) = 0, \quad w(0, t) = 0 \\ -Bw_{sss}(L, t) + F_i(L, t)[w_s(L, t) + r_s^0(L)] = F(L, t) := U(t) \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

where  $F_i(L, t)$  is calculated from (6) as follows

$$F_i(L, t) = EA \epsilon(L, t) + T_0 + \rho_w g \frac{\pi D_o^2}{4} (H_w - z(L, t)) - \rho_m g \frac{\pi D_i^2}{4} (H_m - z(L, t)) \quad (26)$$

#### 2.1.4. Environmental disturbance vector $q$

The external disturbance vector  $q$  per unit length consists of fluid drag force, any concentrated forces exerted on the riser by attached cables and/or buoys modeled by dirac distributions, and

effective riser weight defined as the weight of the riser plus contents in water. It is noted that the effective rather than the actual riser weight is used because the effective tension is used instead of the actual tension. In this paper, we do not consider cables or buoys attached to the riser. The fluid drag force is found by the use of a generalization of Morison's formula to account for cylinders, which are not oriented normal to the relative flow Borgman (1958). Taking the effective riser weight into account, we have

$$q(s, t) = \hat{t} \times (W_{re} \times \hat{t}) + \frac{1}{2} \rho_w C_{LD} D_H V_n + \frac{1}{2} \rho_w C_{ND} D_H \|V_n\| V_n \quad (27)$$

where  $C_{LD}$  and  $C_{ND}$  are the linear and nonlinear drag coefficients, respectively;  $D_H$  is the local riser hydrodynamic diameter;  $W_{re} = -[0 \ 0 \ w_{re}]^T$  with  $w_{re}$  is the effective riser weight per unit length;  $V_n$  is the component of the relative flow velocity normal to the riser centerline. Letting  $V$  be the (bounded) liquid flow velocity due to waves and currents. Then taking the riser motion into account, the relative flow velocity normal to the riser centerline,  $V_n$ , is given by

$$V_n = \hat{t} \times ((V - w_t) \times \hat{t}) = (I_{3 \times 3} - r_s r_s^T)(V - w_t) \quad (28)$$

where  $I_{3 \times 3}$  is the three dimensional identity matrix. Substituting (28) into (27) results in the equation for external disturbance vector  $q$  as follows

$$\begin{aligned} q(s, t) = & (I_{3 \times 3} - r_s r_s^T) W_{re} + \frac{1}{2} \rho_w C_{LD} D_H (I_{3 \times 3} - r_s r_s^T)(V - w_t) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \rho_w C_{ND} D_H \|(I_{3 \times 3} - r_s r_s^T)(V - w_t)\| (I_{3 \times 3} - r_s r_s^T)(V - w_t) \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

## 2.2. Control objectives

Under Assumption 2.1, design the boundary control  $U(t)$  for the riser dynamics given by (15) subject to the boundary conditions given by (25) to globally stabilize the riser at its vertical position, i.e., finding the boundary control  $U(t)$  of the form  $U(t) = \Omega(w_s(L, t), w_t(L, t))$  such that:

1. when the external disturbance vector  $q$  is ignored, all the terms  $\|w(s, t)\|$ ,  $\int_0^L w_s(s, t) \cdot w_s(s, t) ds$ ,  $\int_0^L w_t(s, t) \cdot w_t(s, t) ds$  and  $\int_0^L w_{ss}(s, t) \cdot w_{ss}(s, t) ds$  exponentially converge to zero for all  $s \in [0, L]$  and  $t \geq t_0$ ,

2. when the external disturbance vector  $q$  is present, all the terms  $\|w(s, t)\|$ ,  $\int_0^L w_s(s, t) \cdot w_s(s, t) ds$ ,  $\int_0^L w_t(s, t) \cdot w_t(s, t) ds$  and  $\int_0^L w_{ss}(s, t) ds$  exponentially converge to some small positive constants for all  $s \in [0, L]$  and  $t \geq t_0$

It is seen that the control objective imposes on both the displacement and integration of square of the slop, velocity, and curvature of the riser along the riser length.

## 3. Boundary control design

To design the boundary control  $U(t)$ , we use Lyapunov's direct method. Consider the following Lyapunov function candidate

$$w = \frac{m_o}{2} \int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t ds + \frac{B}{2} \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_{ss} ds + \frac{\lambda}{2} \int_0^L w_s \cdot w_s ds + \alpha \int_0^L s w_t \cdot w_s ds \quad (30)$$

where  $\lambda$  and  $\alpha$  are positive constants to be specified later. In comparison with the conventional Lyapunov, the Lyapunov function candidate (C.7) contains the constant  $\lambda$  and the term  $\alpha \int_0^L s w_t \cdot w_s ds$ , which together with Lemmas B1 and B2 in Section Appendix B play important role in designing boundary controllers later. Since for all  $t \geq t_0$

$$-L\rho_0 \int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t ds - \frac{1}{4\rho_0} \int_0^L w_s \cdot w_s ds \leq \int_0^L s w_t \cdot w_s ds \leq L\rho_0 \int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t ds + \frac{1}{4\rho_0} \int_0^L w_s \cdot w_s ds \quad (31)$$

where  $\rho_0$  is a positive constant, the function  $W$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} W &\geq \left(\frac{m_o}{2} - \alpha L\rho_0\right) \int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t ds + \frac{B}{2} \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_{ss} ds + \left(\frac{\lambda}{2} - \frac{\alpha L}{4\rho_0}\right) \int_0^L w_s \cdot w_s ds \\ W &\leq \left(\frac{m_o}{2} + \alpha L\rho_0\right) \int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t ds + \frac{B}{2} \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_{ss} ds + \left(\frac{\lambda}{2} + \frac{\alpha L}{4\rho_0}\right) \int_0^L w_s \cdot w_s ds \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

Hence if we choose  $\lambda$ ,  $\alpha$  and  $\rho_0$  such that

$$\frac{m_o}{2} - \alpha L\rho_0 = c_1, \quad \frac{\lambda}{2} - \frac{\alpha L}{4\rho_0} = c_2 \quad (33)$$

where  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are strictly positive constants, then the function  $W$  defined in (C.7) is a proper function of  $\int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t ds$ ,  $\int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_{ss} ds$ , and  $\int_0^L w_s \cdot w_s ds$ . We do not detail the conditions (33) at the moment, but deal with them after the boundary control  $U(t)$  is designed since the constants  $\lambda$ ,  $\alpha$  and  $\rho_0$  need to satisfy some more conditions later. It is noted that we do not include the riser displacement  $w$ , like  $\int_0^L w \cdot w ds$ , in the function  $W$  because this term causes difficulties in designing the boundary control  $U(t)$  later. As such, after proof of convergence of  $\int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t ds$ ,  $\int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_{ss} ds$  and  $\int_0^L w_s \cdot w_s ds$ , we will use Lemma B.1 in Appendix B to prove convergence of  $\int_0^L w \cdot w ds$  and the riser displacement  $w$ . Differentiating both sides of (C.7) with respect to the time  $t$ , along the solutions of the riser dynamics (15) results in

$$\dot{W} = \Delta_1 + \Delta_2 \quad (34)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1 &= \int_0^L w_t \cdot (-B w_{ssss} + (F_t - B\kappa^2)_s (w_s + r_s^0) + (F_t - B\kappa^2) w_{ss} + q) ds + \\ &\quad B \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_{sst} ds + \lambda \int_0^L w_s \cdot w_{st} ds + \alpha \int_0^L s w_t \cdot w_{ts} ds, \\ \Delta_2 &= \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L s w_s \cdot (-B w_{ssss} + (F_t - B\kappa^2)_s (w_s + r_s^0) + (F_t - B\kappa^2) w_{ss} + q) ds. \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

Using integration by part rules, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1 &= -B(w_{ssss} \cdot w_t|_0^L - w_{ss} \cdot w_{st}|_0^L) + (F_t - B\kappa^2)(w_s + r_s^0) \cdot w_t|_0^L - \\ &\quad \int_0^L (F_t - B\kappa^2)(w_{ss} \cdot w_t + (w_s + r_s^0) \cdot w_{st}) + \int_0^L (F_t - B\kappa^2) w_{ss} \cdot w_t ds + \\ &\quad \int_0^L w_t \cdot q ds + \lambda w_s \cdot w_t|_0^L - \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_t ds + \frac{\alpha}{2} s w_t \cdot w_t|_0^L - \frac{\alpha}{2} \int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t ds \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

Since  $r_s \cdot r_s = 1$ , we have  $(w_s + r_s^0) \cdot w_{st} = 0$ , which is substituted into (36) to yield

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_1 = & -B(w_{sss} \cdot w_t|_0^L - w_{ss} \cdot w_{st}|_0^L) + (F_t - B\kappa^2)(w_s + r_s^0) \cdot w_t|_0^L + \lambda w_s \cdot w_t|_0^L + \frac{\alpha}{2} s w_t \cdot w_t|_0^L + \\ & \int_0^L w_t \cdot q \, ds - \lambda \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_t \, ds - \frac{\alpha}{2} \int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t \, ds. \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

We now focus on the term  $\Delta_2$ . Expanding this term gives

$$\Delta_2 = \Delta_{21} + \Delta_{22} + \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L s w_s \cdot q \, ds \quad (38)$$

where

$$\Delta_{21} = -\frac{\alpha B}{m_o} \int_0^L s w_s \cdot w_{sss} \, ds, \quad \Delta_{22} = \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L (F_t - B\kappa^2)_s (w_s + r_s^0) \, ds + \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L (F_t - B\kappa^2) w_{ss} \, ds \quad (39)$$

Using integration by part rules, we can calculate the term  $\Delta_{21}$  as

$$\Delta_{21} = -\frac{\alpha B}{m_o} s w_s \cdot w_{sss}|_0^L + \frac{\alpha B}{2m_o} s w_s \cdot w_{ss}|_0^L + \frac{\alpha B}{m_o} w_s \cdot w_{ss}|_0^L - \frac{3\alpha B}{2m_o} \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_{ss} \, ds. \quad (40)$$

Similarly, the term  $\Delta_{22}$  is calculated as

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{22} = & \frac{\alpha}{m_o} (F_t - B\kappa^2) s w_s \cdot (w_s + r_s^0)|_0^L + \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L (F_t - B\kappa^2) s w_s \cdot w_{ss} \, ds - \\ & \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L (F_t - B\kappa^2) (w_s \cdot (w_s + r_s^0) + s w_{ss} \cdot (w_s + r_s^0) + s w_s \cdot w_{ss}) \, ds \\ = & \frac{\alpha}{m_o} (F_t - B\kappa^2) s w_s \cdot (w_s + r_s^0)|_0^L - \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L (F_t - B\kappa^2) w_s \cdot (w_s + r_s^0) \, ds \\ = & \frac{\alpha}{m_o} (F_t - B\kappa^2) s w_s \cdot (w_s + r_s^0)|_0^L - \frac{\alpha}{2m_o} \int_0^L F_t w_s \cdot w_s \, ds - \\ & \frac{\alpha}{2m_o} \int_0^L F_t (1 - r_s^0 \cdot r_s^0) \, ds + \frac{\alpha B}{m_o} \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_{ss} \cdot w_s \cdot (w_s + r_s^0) \, ds \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

where we have used  $(w_s + r_s^0) \cdot w_{ss} = 0$  and  $w_s \cdot w_s + 2r_s^0 \cdot w_s + r_s^0 \cdot r_s^0 = 1$  since  $r_s \cdot r_s = 1$  and  $r_{ss}^0 = 0$  due to the riser is initially straight. Now substituting (41) and (40) into (38), then substituting (38) and (37) into (34) results in

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{W} = & -B(w_{sss} \cdot w_t|_0^L - w_{ss} \cdot w_{st}|_0^L) + (F_t - B\kappa^2)(w_s + r_s^0) \cdot w_t|_0^L + \frac{\alpha}{2} s w_t \cdot w_t|_0^L \\ & -\frac{\alpha B}{m_o} s w_s \cdot w_{sss}|_0^L + \frac{\alpha B}{2m_o} s w_s \cdot w_{ss}|_0^L + \frac{\alpha B}{m_o} w_s \cdot w_{ss}|_0^L + \frac{\alpha}{m_o} (F_t - B\kappa^2) s w_s \cdot (w_s + r_s^0)|_0^L \\ & -\lambda \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_t \, ds - \frac{\alpha}{2} \int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t \, ds - \frac{3\alpha B}{2m_o} \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_{ss} \, ds - \frac{\alpha}{2m_o} \int_0^L F_t w_s \cdot w_s \, ds \\ & -\frac{\alpha}{2m_o} \int_0^L F_t (1 - r_s^0 \cdot r_s^0) \, ds + \frac{\alpha B}{m_o} \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_{ss} \cdot w_s \cdot (w_s + r_s^0) \, ds + \int_0^L w_t \cdot q \, ds + \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L s w_s \cdot q \, ds \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

Before going further, we find maximum and minimum values of  $F_t$ , and maximum value of

$w_s \cdot (w_s + r_s^0)$  and  $r_s^0 \cdot r_s^0$ . From (6), we have

$$\begin{aligned} F_i &\leq EA + T_0 + \rho_w g \frac{\pi D_o^2}{4} H_w - \rho_m g \frac{\pi D_i^2}{4} (H_m - L) := F_i^{max} \\ F_i &\geq T_0 + \rho_w g \frac{\pi D_o^2}{4} (H_w - L) - \rho_m g \frac{\pi D_i^2}{4} H_m := F_i^{min} \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

where we have used  $0 \leq \epsilon(s, t) \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq z(s, t) \leq L$  for all  $s \in [0, L]$  and  $t \geq t_0 \geq 0$ . On the other hand, from (7) we have

$$\begin{aligned} w_s \cdot (r_s^0 + w_s) &= r_s \cdot r_s - r_s \cdot r_s^0 = 1 - \frac{\cos(\theta) \|dr\| \|dr^0\|}{(ds)^2} \leq 1 \\ r_s^0 \cdot r_s^0 &= r_{s_0}^0 \cdot r_{s_0}^0 \left( \frac{ds_0}{ds} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{ds_0}{ds} \right)^2 \leq 1 \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

where we have used the fact that the angle  $\theta$  between the vectors  $r$  and  $r^0$  is in the range  $[-\pi/2, +\pi/2]$  due to the initial straight and vertical position of the riser. Using (43) and (44), and  $F_i^{min} > 0$ , which holds when  $T_0$  is sufficiently large, i.e.,

$$T_0 \geq -\rho_w g \frac{\pi D_o^2}{4} (H_w - L) + \rho_m g \frac{\pi D_i^2}{4} H_m + \bar{T}_0 \quad (45)$$

where  $\bar{T}_0$  is a strictly positive constant, we can write (42) as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{W} &\leq -B(w_{sss} \cdot w_t|_0^L - w_{ss} \cdot w_{st}|_0^L) + (F_i - B \kappa^2)(w_w + r_s) \cdot w_t|_0^L + \lambda w_s \cdot w_t|_0^L + \frac{\alpha}{2} s w_t \cdot w_t|_0^L \\ &\quad - \frac{\alpha B}{m_o} s w_s \cdot w_{ss}|_0^L + \frac{\alpha B}{2m_o} s w_{ss} \cdot w_{ss}|_0^L + \frac{\alpha B}{m_o} w_s \cdot w_{ss}|_0^L + \frac{\alpha}{m_o} (F_i - B \kappa^2) s w_s \cdot (w_s + r_s^0)|_0^L \\ &\quad - \left( \frac{\alpha}{2} - \lambda \rho_1 \right) \int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t ds - \left( \frac{\alpha B}{2m_o} - \frac{\lambda}{4\rho_1} \right) \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_{ss} ds - \frac{\alpha F_i^{min}}{2m_o} \int_0^L w_s \cdot w_s ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^L w_t \cdot q ds + \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L s w_s \cdot q ds \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

where  $\rho_1$  is a positive constant to be specify later. Now substituting the boundary conditions (25) into (42) results in

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{W} &\leq U(t) \cdot w_t(L, t) + \lambda w_s(L, t) \cdot w_t(L, t) + \frac{\alpha L}{2} w_t(L, t) \cdot w_t(L, t) - \frac{\alpha L B}{m_o} w_s(L, t) \cdot w_{sss}(L, t) \\ &\quad + \frac{\alpha L}{m_o} F_i(L, t) w_s(L, t) \cdot [w_s(L, t) + r_s^0(L)] + \int_0^L w_t \cdot q ds + \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L s w_s \cdot q ds \\ &\quad - \left( \frac{\alpha}{2} - \lambda \rho_1 \right) \int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t ds - \left( \frac{\alpha B}{2m_o} - \frac{\lambda}{4\rho_1} \right) \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_{ss} ds - \frac{\alpha F_i^{min}}{2m_o} \int_0^L w_s \cdot w_s ds \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

From (47), we choose the boundary control  $U(t)$  as follows

$$U(t) = -k_1 w_t(L, t) - k_2 w_s(L, t) \quad (48)$$

where  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are positive constants to be specified later. It is recalled from (25) that  $U(t) = -Bw_{sss}(L, t) + F_t^i(L, t)[w_s(L, t) + r_s^0(L)]$ . Hence from (48), we have

$$-Bw_{sss}(L, t) = -k_1w_t(L, t) - k_2w_s(L, t) - F_t^i(L, t)[w_s(L, t) + r_s^0(L)] \quad (49)$$

Now substituting (48) and (49) into (47) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{W} \leq & -\left(k_1 - \frac{\alpha L}{2}\right)w_t(L, t) \cdot w_t(L, t) - \frac{\alpha L k_2}{m_o}w_s(L, t) \cdot w_s(L, t) + \left(\lambda - k_2 - \frac{\alpha L k_1}{m_o}\right)w_s(L, t) \cdot w_t(L, t) \\ & - \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} - \lambda \rho_1\right) \int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t ds - \left(\frac{\alpha B}{2m_o} - \frac{\lambda}{4\rho_1}\right) \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot w_{ss} ds - \frac{\alpha F_t^{i \min}}{2m_o} \int_0^L w_s \cdot w_s ds \\ & + \int_0^L w_t \cdot q ds + \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L s w_s \cdot q ds \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

From (50), we specify the positive constants  $\rho_1$ ,  $\lambda$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  such that

$$k_1 - \frac{\alpha L}{2} = c_3, \lambda - k_2 - \frac{\alpha L k_1}{m_o} = 0, \frac{\alpha}{2} - \lambda \rho_1 = c_4, \frac{\alpha B}{2m_o} - \frac{\lambda}{4\rho_1} = c_5 \quad (51)$$

where  $c_3$ ,  $c_4$  and  $c_5$  are strictly positive constants. Using the conditions given in (51) and the upper bound of  $W$  given in (32), we can write (50) as follows

$$\dot{W} \leq -c_3 w_t(L, t) \cdot w_t(L, t) - \frac{\alpha L k_2}{m_o} w_s(L, t) \cdot w_s(L, t) - cW + \int_0^L w_t \cdot q ds + \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L s w_s \cdot q ds \quad (52)$$

where

$$c = \frac{\min\left(c_4, c_5, \frac{\alpha \bar{T}_0}{2m_o}\right)}{\max\left(\left(\frac{m_o}{2} + \alpha L \rho_0\right), \frac{B}{2}, \left(\frac{\lambda}{2} + \frac{\alpha L}{4\rho_0}\right)\right)} \quad (53)$$

where  $\bar{T}_0$  is the strictly positive constant in (45). Before going further, we show that there always exist constants  $\rho_0$ ,  $\rho_1$ ,  $\lambda$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  such that the conditions specified in (33) and (51) hold with  $c_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 5$  strictly positive constants. For simplicity, we choose  $\rho_0 = L\sqrt{m_o}/B$  and  $\rho_1 = \sqrt{m_o}/4B$ . A calculation shows that as long as the positive constants  $\lambda$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are chosen such that the following inequalities strictly hold

$$\alpha < \frac{1}{2L^2} \sqrt{\frac{B}{m_o}}, \frac{\alpha}{2} \sqrt{\frac{B}{m_o}} < \frac{\alpha L k_1}{m_o} + k_2 < \alpha \sqrt{\frac{B}{m_o}}, k_1 > \frac{\alpha L}{2}, \lambda = \frac{\alpha L k_1}{m_o} + k_2 \quad (54)$$

then there exist strictly positive constants  $c_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 5$  satisfying the conditions specified in (33) and (51). For given practical values of  $B$ ,  $L$  and  $m_o$ , it is not hard to find the constants  $\lambda$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  such that all equalities in (54) strictly hold. For example, we can take

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 &= \frac{1}{3L} \sqrt{Bm_o}, k_2 = \frac{\alpha}{3} \sqrt{\frac{B}{m_o}}, \alpha = \frac{1}{2} \min\left(\frac{1}{2L^2} \sqrt{\frac{B}{m_o}}, \frac{2}{3L^2} \sqrt{Bm_o}\right), \lambda = \frac{2\alpha}{3} \sqrt{\frac{B}{m_o}} \\ \Rightarrow c_1 &= \frac{m_o}{2} - \min\left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{m_o}{3}\right), c_2 = \frac{\alpha}{12} \sqrt{\frac{B}{m_o}}, c_3 = \frac{\sqrt{Bm_o}}{L} \left(\frac{1}{3} - \min\left(\frac{1}{8m_o}, \frac{1}{6}\right)\right), c_4 = \frac{\alpha}{6}, c_5 = \frac{B\alpha}{6m_o} \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

We are ready to state the main result of our paper in the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.1.** Under Assumption 1, the boundary control  $U(t)$  given in (48) solves the control objective provided that the initial tension  $T_0$  is sufficiently large, i.e., the condition (45) holds, and the design constants  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are chosen such that the conditions given in (54) hold. In particular, the solutions of the closed loop system consisting of (15), (25) and (48) exist and are unique. Moreover, when the external disturbance vector  $q$  is zero, all the terms  $\|w(s, t)\|$ ,  $\int_0^L w_s(s, t) \cdot w_s(s, t) ds$ ,  $\int_0^L w_t(s, t) \cdot w_t(s, t) ds$  and  $\int_0^L w_{ss}(s, t) \cdot w_{ss}(s, t) ds$  exponentially converge to zero for all  $s \in [0, L]$  and  $t \geq t_0$ , and when the external disturbance vector  $q$  is different from zero but bounded, all the terms  $\|w(s, t)\|$ ,  $\int_0^L w_s(s, t) \cdot w_s(s, t) ds$ ,  $\int_0^L w_t(s, t) \cdot w_t(s, t) ds$  and  $\int_0^L w_{ss}(s, t) \cdot w_{ss}(s, t) ds$  exponentially converge to some small positive constants for all  $s \in [0, L]$  and  $t \geq t_0$ . In addition, the boundary control  $U(t)$  is bounded.

**Proof.** See Appendix C.

#### 4. Simulations

In this section, we carry out some numerical simulations to illustrate the effectiveness of the proposed boundary controller. The riser parameters are taken from Bernitsas *et al.* (1985) as follows:  $L = 2000$  m,  $D_o = 0.61$  m,  $D_i = 0.575$  m,  $D_H = 0.87$  m,  $w_e = 1.132$  KN/m,  $\rho_w = 1025$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>,  $\rho_m = 1250$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>,  $C_D = 0.7$ ,  $\rho = 8200$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>,  $E = 2 \times 10^{10}$  kg/m,  $H_w = L$ ,  $H_m = L/3$ . The initial conditions are taken as  $w(s, t_0) = [0, 0, 0]^T$ ,  $w_t(s, t_0) = [0, 0, 0]^T$ . The design constants  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are taken according to (55), i.e.,  $k_1 = 17.37$  and  $k_2 = 0.0032$ . The ocean current velocity vector is assumed to

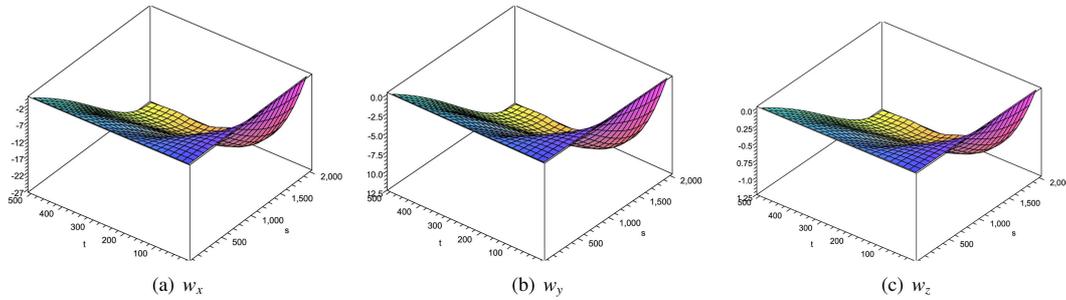


Fig. 3 Simulation results without control: Displacements  $w_x$ ,  $w_y$ ,  $w_z$

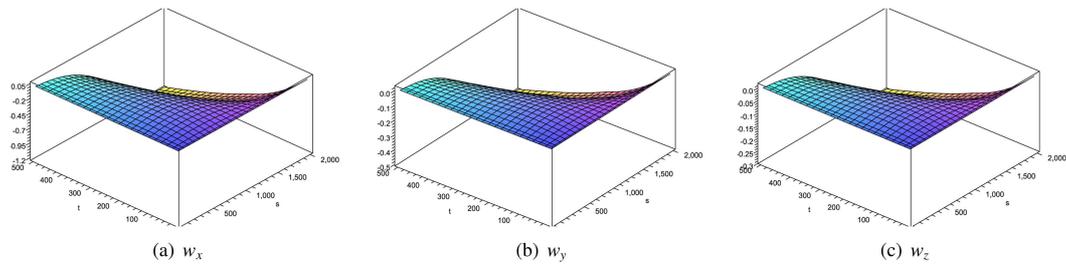
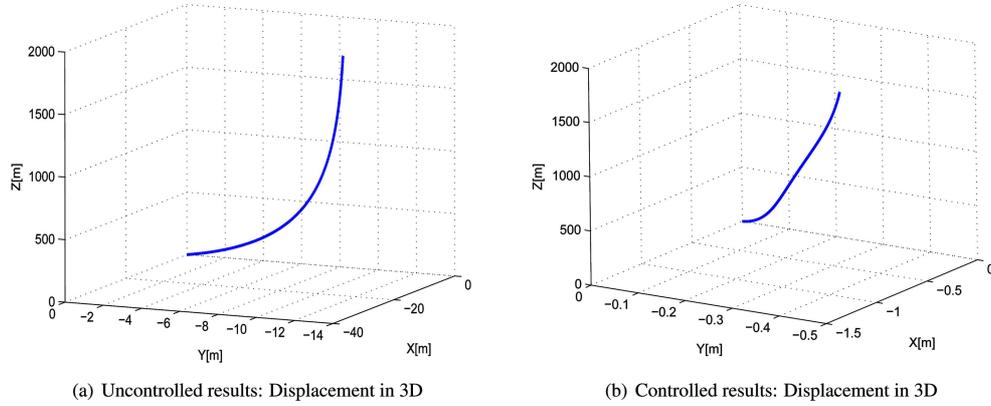
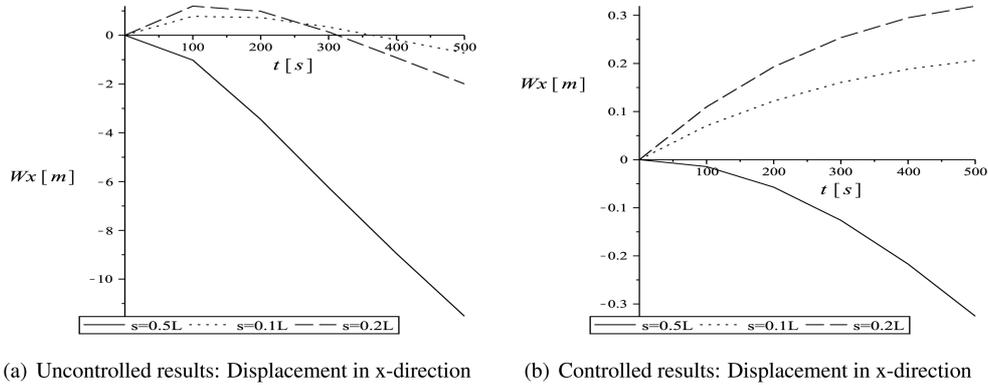


Fig. 4 Simulation results with control: Displacements  $w_x$ ,  $w_y$ ,  $w_z$

Fig. 5 Simulation results without and with control: Displacements in 3D at  $t = 500$  secondFig. 6 Simulation results without and with control: Displacements in x-direction at  $s = 0.1L$ ,  $s = 0.2L$  and  $s = 0.5L$ 

be generated from wind at the ocean surface and dropped to zero at the sea bed Gaythwaite (1981):  $V = [(1/L)s, (0.5/L)s, 0]^T$ . The initial tension is assumed to be  $\bar{T}_0 = 2.15 \times 10^6 N$ . Hence from (45), we have  $\bar{T}_0 = 29 \times 10^3 N$ . We run simulations without the proposed boundary controller, i.e.,  $k_1 = 0$  and  $k_2 = 0$ , and with the proposed boundary controller, i.e.,  $k_1 = 17.37$  and  $k_2 = 0.0032$ . The length of simulation time for both cases is 500 seconds. Displacements  $w = [w_x, w_y, w_z]^T$  for the uncontrolled and controlled cases are displayed in Figs 3 and 4, respectively. The displacements  $r = [x, y, z]^T$  for the uncontrolled and controlled cases are plotted in the left and right of Fig. 5, respectively. Moreover, the displacements  $w_x$  for the uncontrolled and controlled cases are plotted in the left and right of Fig. 6, respectively. It is seen from these figures that the proposed boundary controller can reduce deflections of the riser in all directions ( $x, y, z$ ) significantly, i.e., the displacement magnitudes are significantly reduced. For example, in the  $x$  direction, the displacement magnitude reduces from 27 m to 1.2 m at the top end of the riser. This illustrates the effectiveness of the proposed boundary controller in the sense that it is able to drive the riser to the small neighborhood of its equilibrium position.

## 5. Conclusions

Based on the Kirchho's rod theory, the equations of motion of a flexible marine riser were presented. The equations of motion were then used for the design of the boundary controller at the top end of the riser based on Lyapunov's direct method. The proposed boundary controller guaranteed that when there are no environmental disturbances, the riser is globally exponentially stable at its equilibrium position, and that environmental disturbances are present, the riser is stabilized in the neighborhood of its equilibrium position. Proof of existence and uniqueness of the solutions of the closed loop system was given. Future work focuses on relaxing items made in Assumption 1, and carrying out experiments to test the effectiveness of the proposed boundary controller. Particularly, an immediate task is to consider an arbitrarily initial position of the riser and to take the effect of the torsional moments into account in the boundary control design.

## Appendix A. Vector algebra

For convenience of the reader, we here present some basic vector algebra, which will be used in the development of the equations of motion of the risers. Let  $r, s, t, u$  be three dimensional vectors, i.e.,  $r = [r_1 \ r_2 \ r_3]^T$ ,  $s = [s_1 \ s_2 \ s_3]^T$ ,  $t = [t_1 \ t_2 \ t_3]^T$  and  $u = [u_1 \ u_2 \ u_3]^T$  with  $(\bullet)^T$  being the transpose of  $(\bullet)$ . We will use  $r \cdot s$  and  $r \times s$  to denote the inner (or dot) and vector (or cross) products, respectively, of vectors  $r$  and  $s$ . We have the following properties of vector inner and cross products

$$\begin{aligned}
 1) \ r \cdot (s \times t) &= s \cdot (t \times r) = t \cdot (r \times s) & 2) \ r \times s &= -s \times r \\
 3) \ r \times (s \times t) &= -(s \cdot r)t + (t \cdot r)s & 4) \ (r \times s) \times t &= (r \cdot t)s - (s \cdot t)r \\
 5) \ (r \times s) \cdot (t \times u) &= (r \cdot t)(s \cdot u) - (r \cdot u)(s \cdot t) & &
 \end{aligned} \tag{A.1}$$

## Appendix B. Useful lemmas

**Lemma B.1** For any  $y = [y_1, \dots, y_i, \dots, y_n]^T$  with  $y_i \in C^1[0, L]$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , the following inequalities hold

$$\int_0^L y(s) \cdot y(s) ds \leq 2Ly(0) \cdot y(0) + 4L^2 \int_0^L y_s(s) \cdot y_s(s) ds \tag{B.1}$$

$$\int_0^L y(s) \cdot y(s) ds \leq 2Ly(L) \cdot y(L) + 4L^2 \int_0^L y_s(s) \cdot y_s(s) ds \tag{B.2}$$

**Proof.** We prove (B.2). The proof of (B.1) is similar by using a change of coordinate  $\xi = L - s$ . Using integration by parts, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^L y(s) \cdot y(s) ds &= y(s) \cdot y(s) s \Big|_0^L - 2 \int_0^L s y(s) \cdot y_s(s) ds \\
 &\leq Ly(L) \cdot y(L) + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L y(s) \cdot y(s) ds + 2 \int_0^L s^2 y_s(s) \cdot y_s(s) ds \\
 &\leq Ly(L) \cdot y(L) + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L y(s) \cdot y(s) ds + 2L^2 \int_0^L y_s(s) \cdot y_s(s) ds
 \end{aligned} \tag{B.3}$$

which gives (B.2).  $\square$

**Lemma B.2** For any  $y = [y_1, \dots, y_i, \dots, y_n]^T$  with  $y_i \in C^1[0, L]$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , the following inequalities hold

$$\max_{s \in [0, L]} (y(s) \cdot y(s)) \leq y(0) \cdot y(0) + 2 \sqrt{\int_0^L y(s) \cdot y(s) ds} \sqrt{\int_0^L y_s(s) \cdot y_s(s) ds} \quad (\text{B.4})$$

$$\max_{s \in [0, L]} (y(s) \cdot y(s)) \leq y(L) \cdot y(L) + 2 \sqrt{\int_0^L y(s) \cdot y(s) ds} \sqrt{\int_0^L y_s(s) \cdot y_s(s) ds} \quad (\text{B.5})$$

**Proof.** We prove (B.4). The proof of (B.5) is similar by using a change of coordinate  $\xi = L - s$ . From fundamental of calculus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} y(s) \cdot y(s) &= y(0) \cdot y(0) + 2 \int_0^s y(\zeta) \cdot y_\zeta(\zeta) d\zeta \\ &\leq y(0) \cdot y(0) + 2 \sqrt{\int_0^s y(\zeta) \cdot y(\zeta) d\zeta} \sqrt{\int_0^s y_\zeta(\zeta) \cdot y_\zeta(\zeta) d\zeta} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.6})$$

where we have used the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality.

## Appendix C. Proof of Theorem 3.1

**C.1 Existence and uniqueness** Let  $H^2(0, L)$  be the usual Hilbert space Adams and Fournie. Our analysis is based on the Sobolev spaces

$$V_S = \{w \in H^2(0, L) \mid w(0, t) = 0\} \quad (\text{C.1})$$

equipped with the norm  $\|u\|_{V_S} = \|u_{ss}\|_2$ , and

$$W_S = \{w \in V_S \cap H^4(0, L) \mid w_{ss}(0, t) = 0, w_{ss}(L, t) = 0\} \quad (\text{C.2})$$

equipped with the norm  $\|u\|_{W_S} = \|w_{ss}\|_2 + \|w_{ssss}\|_2$  where  $\|\cdot\|_p$  denotes the  $L^p$  norms. From the Poincaré inequality, it follows that  $\|\cdot\|_{V_S}$  and  $\|\cdot\|_{W_S}$  are equivalent to the standard norms of  $H^2(0, L)$  and  $H^4(0, L)$ , respectively. Next, we consider  $\phi \in V_S$ . Now inner producting both sides of the first equation of (15) by  $\phi$  then integrating from 0 to  $L$  by parts result in

$$\begin{aligned} m_o \int_0^L w_{tt} \cdot \phi ds + B \int_0^L w_{ss} \cdot \phi_{ss} ds + \int_0^L (F_i - B \kappa^2)(w_s + r_s^0) \cdot \phi_s ds - \int_0^L q \cdot \phi ds \\ + (k_1 w_t(L, t) + k_2 w_s(L, t)) \cdot \phi(L, t) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.3})$$

where we have used (48). We will use the Galerkin approximation to show that for all  $\phi \in V_S$  there exists  $w \in W_S$  such that (C.3) holds. Let  $\phi^j$  be a vector whose each component is a complete orthogonal system of  $W_S$  for which  $\{w(s, t_0), w_t(s, t_0)\} \cdot \text{Span}\{\phi^1, \phi^2\}$ . For each  $n \in N$ , let  $W_{S_n} = \text{Span}\{\phi^1, \phi^2, \dots, \phi^n\}$ . We search for a function  $w^n(s, t) = \sum_{j=1}^n k^j(t) \phi^j$  such that for any  $\phi \in W_{S_n}$ , it satisfies the approximate equation

$$\begin{aligned} m_o \int_0^L w_{tt}^n \cdot \phi ds + B \int_0^L w_{ss}^n \cdot \phi_{ss} ds + \int_0^L (F_i^n - B \kappa^{n2})(w_s^n + r_s^{n0}) \cdot \phi_s ds - \int_0^L q \cdot \phi ds \\ + (k_1 w_t^n(L, t) + k_2 w_s^n(L, t)) \cdot \phi(L, t) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.4})$$

where  $F_i^n$  and  $\kappa^{n2}$  denote  $F_i$  and  $\kappa$  with  $w$  and  $w_{ss}$  replaced by  $w^n$  and  $w_{ss}^n$ , respectively, and with the initial conditions

$$w^n(s, t_0) = w(s, t_0), \quad w_t^n(s, t_0) = w_t(s, t_0) \quad (C.5)$$

which are possible since each element of  $(w(s, t_0), w_t(s, t_0))$  belongs to  $W_{Sn}$  for  $n \geq 2$ . Noticing that (C.4) and (C.5) are in fact a  $3n \times 3n$  system of ordinary differential equations in the variable  $t$ , which has a local solution in  $[0, t_n)$ . After the estimates below, the approximate solution will be extended to the interval  $[0, T]$  for any given  $T > 0$ .

*Estimate I: Upper bound of  $\int_0^L w_t^n \cdot w_t^n ds + \int_0^L w_{ss}^n \cdot w_{ss}^n ds$ .* In (C.4), taking  $\phi = w_t^n$  results in

$$\begin{aligned} m_o \int_0^L w_t^n \cdot w_t^n ds + B \int_0^L w_{ss}^n \cdot w_{ss}^n ds + \int_0^L (F_i^n - B \kappa^{n2})(w_s^n + r_s^{n0}) \cdot w_{st}^n ds - \int_0^L q \cdot w_t^n ds \\ + (k_1 w_t^n(L, t) + k_2 w_s^n(L, t)) \cdot w_t(L, t) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (C.6)$$

We consider the following Lyapunov function candidate

$$W_n = \frac{m_o}{2} \int_0^L w_t^n \cdot w_t^n ds + \frac{B}{2} \int_0^L w_{ss}^n \cdot w_{ss}^n ds + \frac{\lambda}{2} \int_0^L w_s^n \cdot w_s^n ds + \alpha \int_0^L s w_t^n \cdot w_s^n ds \quad (C.7)$$

where  $\lambda$  and  $\alpha$  are positive constants specified as in Section 3. Indeed, as in Section 3, the function  $W_n$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} W_n &\geq c_1 \int_0^L w_t^n \cdot w_t^n ds + \frac{B}{2} \int_0^L w_{ss}^n \cdot w_{ss}^n ds + c_2 \int_0^L w_s^n \cdot w_s^n ds \\ W_n &\leq (c_1 + 2\alpha L \rho_0) \int_0^L w_t^n \cdot w_t^n ds + \frac{B}{2} \int_0^L w_{ss}^n \cdot w_{ss}^n ds + \left(c_2 + \frac{\alpha L}{2\rho_0}\right) \int_0^L w_s^n \cdot w_s^n ds \end{aligned} \quad (C.8)$$

where the positive constants  $\rho_0$ ,  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are specified in Section 3. We use the same technique in Section 3 to calculate the time derivative of the function  $W_n$  along the solutions of (C.6) as follows

$$\dot{W}_n \leq -c_3 w_t^n(L, t) \cdot w_t^n(L, t) - \frac{\alpha L k_2}{m_o} w_s^n(L, t) \cdot w_s^n(L, t) - c W_n + \Delta_n \quad (C.9)$$

where the positive constants  $c$  and  $c_3$  are specified in Section 3, see (51), (53) and (54), and

$$\Delta_n = \int_0^L w_t^n \cdot q ds + \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L s w_s^n \cdot q ds \quad (C.10)$$

Substituting the expression of  $q$  given in (29) into (C.10) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_n &= \int_0^L w_t^n \cdot ((I_{3 \times 3} - r_s^n r_s^{nT}) W_{re} + \frac{1}{2} \rho_w C_{LD} D_H (I_{3 \times 3} - r_s^n r_s^{nT})(V - w_t^n)) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \rho_w C_{ND} D_H \|(I_{3 \times 3} - r_s^n r_s^{nT})(V - w_t^n)\| (I_{3 \times 3} - r_s^n r_s^{nT})(V - w_t^n) ds \\ &\quad + \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L s w_s^n \cdot \left( (I_{3 \times 3} - r_s^n r_s^{nT}) W_{re} + \frac{1}{2} \rho_w C_{LD} D_H (I_{3 \times 3} - r_s^n r_s^{nT})(V - w_t^n) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \rho_w C_{ND} D_H \|(I_{3 \times 3} - r_s^n r_s^{nT})(V - w_t^n)\| (I_{3 \times 3} - r_s^n r_s^{nT})(V - w_t^n) ds \end{aligned} \quad (C.11)$$

Since  $r_s^n \cdot r_s^n = 1$ , i.e.,  $\|r_s^n\|$  is bounded by 1, there exists an arbitrarily positive constant  $\varrho$  such that

$$\Delta_n \leq \varrho \left( \int_0^L w_t^n \cdot w_t^n ds + \int_0^L w_s^n \cdot w_s^n ds \right) + \frac{1}{4\varrho} Q \quad (\text{C.12})$$

where the nonnegative constant  $Q$  depends on the maximum value of  $\|V\|$ . Substituting (C.12) into (C.9) results in

$$\dot{W}_n \leq -c_3 w_t^n(L, t) \cdot w_t^n(L, t) - \frac{\alpha L k_2}{m_o} w_s^n(L, t) \cdot w_s^n(L, t) - \left( c - \frac{\varrho}{\min(c_1, 0.5B, c_2)} \right) W_n + \frac{1}{4\varrho} Q \quad (\text{C.13})$$

Now picking  $\varrho$  such that  $\bar{c} = c - \frac{\varrho}{\min(c_1, 0.5B, c_2)}$  is strictly positive, we can write (C.13) as

$$\dot{W}_n \leq -\bar{c} W_n + \frac{1}{4\varrho} Q \Rightarrow W_n(t) \leq \left( W_n(t_0) + \frac{Q}{4\varrho \bar{c}} \right) e^{-\bar{c}(t-t_0)} + \frac{1}{4\varrho \bar{c}} Q, \quad \forall t \geq t_0 \geq 0 \quad (\text{C.14})$$

Hence from (C.8) and (C.14), we deduce that there exists a nonnegative constant  $M_1$  such that

$$\int_0^L w_t^n \cdot w_t^n ds + \int_0^L w_s^n \cdot w_s^n ds + \int_0^L w_{ss}^n \cdot w_{ss}^n ds \leq M_1 \quad \forall t \in [0, T], n \in N \quad (\text{C.15})$$

*Estimate II: Upper bound of  $w_{it}(s, t_0)$  in  $L^2$ -norm.* In (C.4), taking  $\phi = w_{it}^n(s, t_0)$  and  $t = t_0$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} & m_o \int_0^L w_{it}^n(s, t_0) \cdot w_{it}^n(s, t_0) ds + B \int_0^L w_{sss}^n(s, t_0) \cdot w_{ssit}^n(s, t_0) ds - \int_0^L q \cdot w_{it}^n(s, t_0) ds + \\ & \int_0^L (F_t^n(s, t_0) - B \kappa^{n2}(s, t_0)) (w_s^n(s, t_0) + r_s^{n0}) \cdot w_{sit}^n(s, t_0) ds + (k_1 w_t^n(L, t_0) + k_2 w_s^n(L, t_0)) \cdot w_{it}^n(L, t_0) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.16})$$

By integrating (C.16) by parts and by the compatibility condition  $B w_{sss}^n = (L, t_0) - F_t^n(L, t_0) r_s(L, t_0) = k_1 w_t^n(L, t_0) + k_2 w_s(L, t_0)$ , and the boundary conditions  $w_{ss}^n(0, t_0) = 0$ ,  $w_{ss}^n(L, t_0) = 0$  and  $w_{sss}^n(0, t_0) = 0$  since  $r_s^n \cdot r_s^n = 1$  and  $r_{ss}^{n0} = 0$  (due to the straight initial position of the riser), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & m_o \int_0^L w_{it}^n(s, t_0) \cdot w_{it}^n(s, t_0) ds + B \int_0^L w_{sss}^n(s, t_0) \cdot w_{ssit}^n(s, t_0) ds - \int_0^L q \cdot w_{it}^n(s, t_0) ds + \\ & -F_t^n(0, t_0) r_s^n(0, t_0) \cdot w_{it}(0, t_0) - \int_0^L [(F_t^n(s, t_0) - B \kappa^{n2}(s, t_0)) r_s^n(s, t_0)]_s w_{it}^n(s, t_0) ds = 0 \\ & \Rightarrow \frac{m_o}{4} \int_0^L w_{it}^n(s, t_0) \cdot w_{it}^n(s, t_0) ds \leq \frac{B^2}{m_o} \int_0^L w_{sss}^n(s, t_0) \cdot w_{ssss}^n(s, t_0) ds \\ & + \frac{1}{m_o} \int_0^L q \cdot q ds + F_t^n(0, t_0) r_s^n(0, t_0) \cdot w_{it}(0, t_0) \\ & + \frac{1}{m_o} \int_0^L [(F_t^n(s, t_0) - B \kappa^{n2}(s, t_0)) r_s^n(s, t_0)]_s \cdot [(F_t^n(s, t_0) - B \kappa^{n2}(s, t_0)) r_s^n(s, t_0)]_s ds \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.17})$$

Since the initial values  $w(s, t_0)$  and  $w_t(s, t_0)$  are sufficiently smooth, and we have already proved that  $\int_0^L w_t^n(s, t) \cdot w_t^n(s, t) ds$ ,  $\int_0^L w_s^n(s, t) \cdot w_s^n(s, t) ds$ ,  $\int_0^L w_{ss}^n(s, t) ds$  are bounded, see Estimate I section, from (C.18) there exists a non-negative constant  $M_2$  such that

$$\int_0^L w_{it}^n(s, t_0) \cdot w_{it}^n(s, t_0) ds \leq M_2, \quad \forall t \in [0, T], n \in N \quad (\text{C.18})$$

*Estimate III: Upper bound of  $w_{it}(s, t)$  and  $w_{ssi}(s, t)$  in  $L^2$ -norm.* To estimate the upper bound of these terms, we use difference approach. Let us fix  $t$  and  $\xi$  such that  $\xi < T - t$ . Now taking the difference of (C.4) with  $t = t + \xi$  and  $t = t$ , and then letting  $\phi = w_i^n(t + \xi) - w_i^n(t)$  result in

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{m_o}{2} \int_0^L \frac{d}{dt} [(w_i^n(s, t + \xi) - w_i^n(s, t)) \cdot (w_i^n(s, t + \xi) - w_i^n(s, t))] ds \\ & + \frac{B}{2} \int_0^L \frac{d}{dt} [(w_{ss}^n(s, t + \xi) - w_{ss}^n(s, t)) \cdot (w_{ss}^n(s, t + \xi) - w_{ss}^n(s, t))] ds + \Omega = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (C.19)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega &= - \int_0^L (q(s, t + \xi) - q(s, t)) \cdot (w_s^n(s, t + \xi) - w_s^n(s, t)) ds \\ & + \Delta^F \cdot (w_i^n(s, t + \xi) - w_i^n(s, t)) \Big|_0^L - \int_0^L \Delta_s^F \cdot (w_i^n(s, t + \xi) - w_i^n(s, t)) ds \\ & + (k_1 (w_i^n(L, t + \xi) - w_i^n(L, t)) + k_2 (w_s^n(L, t + \xi) - w_s^n(L, t))) \cdot (w_i^n(L, t + \xi) - w_i^n(L, t)) \\ \Delta^F &= (F_i^n(s, t + \xi) - B \kappa^{n2}(t + \xi)) (w_s^n(s, t + \xi) + r_s^{n0}) - (F_i^n(s, t) - B \kappa^{n2}(t)) (w_s^n(s, t) + r_s^{n0}) \end{aligned} \quad (C.20)$$

Since the initial values  $w(s, t_0)$  and  $w_i(s, t_0)$  are sufficiently smooth,  $w(0, t) + r^0 = 0$ ,  $w_{ss}(0, t) = 0$ ,  $w_{ss}(L, t) = 0$  for  $w \in W_S$  and all the terms  $\int_0^L w_i^n(s, t) \cdot w_i^n(s, t) ds$ ,  $\int_0^L w_s^n(s, t) \cdot w_s^n(s, t) ds$ ,  $\int_0^L w_{ss}^n(s, t) \cdot w_{ss}^n(s, t) ds$  are bounded, see Estimate I section, using the Mean Value Theorem and Lemmas B.1 and B.2 shows that there exist nonnegative constants  $M_{31}$  and  $M_{32}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} |\Omega| &\leq M_{31} \int_0^L (w_i^n(s, t + \xi) - w_i^n(s, t)) \cdot (w_i^n(s, t + \xi) - w_i^n(s, t)) ds \\ & + M_{32} \int_0^L (w_{ss}^n(s, t + \xi) - w_{ss}^n(s, t)) \cdot (w_{ss}^n(s, t + \xi) - w_{ss}^n(s, t)) ds \end{aligned} \quad (C.21)$$

Using (C.21), we can write (C.19) as

$$\frac{d\Phi^n}{dt}(t, \xi) \leq M_{33} \Phi^n(t, \xi) \Rightarrow \Phi(t, \xi) \leq \Phi(t_0, \xi) e^{M_{33}(t-t_0)} \quad (C.22)$$

where  $M_{33}$  is a nonnegative constant, and

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi^n(t, \xi) &= \frac{m_o}{2} \int_0^L (w_i^n(s, t + \xi) - w_i^n(s, t)) \cdot (w_i^n(s, t + \xi) - w_i^n(s, t)) ds \\ & + \frac{B}{2} \int_0^L (w_{ss}^n(s, t + \xi) - w_{ss}^n(s, t)) \cdot (w_{ss}^n(s, t + \xi) - w_{ss}^n(s, t)) ds \end{aligned} \quad (C.23)$$

Dividing both sides of the last inequality in (C.22) by  $\xi^2$  then taking the limit  $\xi \rightarrow 0$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} m_o \int_0^L w_{it}^n(s, t) \cdot w_{it}^n(s, t) ds + B \int_0^L w_{ss}^n(s, t) \cdot w_{ss}^n(s, t) ds &\leq \\ \left[ m_o \int_0^L w_{it}^n(s, t_0) \cdot w_{it}^n(s, t_0) ds + B \int_0^L w_{ss}^n(s, t_0) \cdot w_{ss}^n(s, t_0) ds \right] e^{M_{33}(t-t_0)} \end{aligned} \quad (C.24)$$

for all  $t_0 \leq t \leq T$ . Now from the estimates given in (C.15) and (C.18), we can deduce from (C.24) that there exists  $M_3 > 0$  depending on  $T$  such that

$$m_o \int_0^L w_{it}^n(s, t) \cdot w_{it}^n(s, t) ds + B \int_0^L w_{ssi}^n(s, t) \cdot w_{ssi}^n(s, t) ds \leq M_3 \quad (\text{C.25})$$

From the estimates given in (C.15), (C.18) and (C.25), we can use the Lions-Aubin theorem to get the necessary compactness to pass the nonlinear system (C.4) to the limit. Then it is a matter of routine to conclude the existence of global solutions in  $[0, T]$ .

*Uniqueness.* Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two solutions of the closed loop system consisting of (15), (25) and (48). Letting  $z = u - v$ , we have  $z(s, t_0) = 0$  and  $z_t(s, t_0) = 0$  and from (C.3) we have

$$\begin{aligned} m_o \int_0^L z_{it} \cdot \phi ds + B \int_0^L z_{ss} \cdot \phi_{ss} ds + \int_0^L ((F_t^u - B \kappa^{u^2})(u_s + r_s^0) - (F_t^v - B \kappa^{v^2})(v_s + r_s^0)) \cdot \phi_s ds \\ - \int_0^L (q^u - q^v) \cdot \phi ds + (k_1 z_t(L, t) + k_2 z_s(L, t)) \cdot \phi(L, t) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.26})$$

By taking  $\phi = z(s, t)$  in (C.26) and using the Mean Value Theorem and passing of the limit of all the estimates given in (C.15), (C.18) and (C.25) previously, we readily have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \int_0^L z_t \cdot z_t ds + \int_0^L z_{ss} \cdot z_{ss} ds \right) \leq M_4 \left( \int_0^L z_t \cdot z_t ds + \int_0^L z_{ss} \cdot z_{ss} ds \right) \quad (\text{C.27})$$

where  $M_4$  is a positive constant. Since  $z(s, t_0) = 0$  and  $z_t(s, t_0) = 0$ , using Gronwall's Lemma shows that  $z = 0$ , i.e.  $u = v$  for all  $t \geq t_0 \geq 0$  and  $s \in [0, L]$ .  $\square$

**C.2 Proof of convergence.** First, we consider the case  $q = 0$  then move to the case  $q \neq 0$ .

**C.2.1 Case  $q = 0$ .** With  $q = 0$ , (52) becomes

$$\dot{W} \leq -c_3 w_t(L, t) \cdot w_t(L, t) - \frac{\alpha L k_2}{m_o} w_s(L, t) \cdot w_s(L, t) - cW \leq -cW \quad (\text{C.28})$$

Therefore

$$W(t) \leq W(t_0) e^{(-c(t-t_0))}, \forall t \geq t_0 \geq 0 \quad (\text{C.29})$$

which combines with the low and upper bounds of  $W(t)$  given in (32), we have

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 \int_0^L w_t(s, t) \cdot w_t(s, t) ds + \frac{B}{2} \int_0^L w_{ss}(s, t) \cdot w_{ss}(s, t) ds + c_2 \int_0^L w_s(s, t) \cdot w_s(s, t) ds \\ \leq \left[ \left( \frac{m_o}{2} + \alpha L \rho_0 \right) \int_0^L w_t(s, t_0) \cdot w_t(s, t_0) ds + \frac{B}{2} \int_0^L w_{ss}(s, t_0) \cdot w_{ss}(s, t_0) ds \right. \\ \left. + \left( \frac{\lambda}{2} + \frac{\alpha L}{4 \rho_0} \right) \int_0^L w_s(s, t_0) \cdot w_s(s, t_0) ds \right] e^{(-c(t-t_0))}, \forall t \geq t_0 \geq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.30})$$

Since the initial values of  $w_t(s, t_0)$ ,  $w_s(s, t_0)$ ,  $w_{ss}(s, t_0)$  for all  $s \in [0, L]$  are bounded and sufficiently smooth, all the integral terms in side the square bracket in the right hand side of (C.30) are bounded. Hence, the right hand side of (C.30) is bounded and exponentially converge to zero. Boundedness and exponential convergence of the right hand side of (C.30) to zero imply that the left hand side of (C.30) must be bounded and exponentially converge to zero. This in turn implies that all the terms  $\int_0^L w_t(s, t) \cdot w_t(s, t) ds$ ,  $\int_0^L w_{ss}(s, t) \cdot w_{ss}(s, t) ds$ , and  $\int_0^L w_s(s, t) \cdot w_s(s, t) ds$  are bounded and

exponentially converge to zero. Next, we use Lemmas B.1 and B.2 to show that  $\int_0^L w(s, t).w(s, t)ds$  and  $\|w(s, t)\|$  are bounded and exponentially converge to zero. An application of Lemma B.1 gives

$$\int_0^L w(s, t).w(s, t)ds \leq 2w(0, t).w(0, t) + 4L^2 \int_0^L w_s(s, t).w_s(s, t)ds \quad (C.31)$$

Since  $w(0, t) = 0$  and we have already proved that  $\int_0^L w(s, t).w_s(s, t)ds$  is bounded and exponentially converges to zero, (C.31) implies that  $\int_0^L w(s, t).w_s(s, t)ds$  must be bounded and exponentially converges to zero. On the other hand, an application of Lemma B.2 shows that

$$\max_{s \in [0, L]} (w(s, t).w(s, t)) \leq w(0, t).w(0, t) + 2 \sqrt{\int_0^L w(s, t).w(s, t)ds} \sqrt{\int_0^L w_s(s, t).w_s(s, t)ds} \quad (C.32)$$

Since  $w(0, t) = 0$  and we have already proved that  $\int_0^L w_s(s, t).w_s(s, t)ds$  and  $\int_0^L w(s, t).w(s, t)ds$  are bounded and exponentially converge to zero, (C.32) implies that  $\|w(s, t)\|$  must be bounded and exponentially converges to zero. Next, to prove boundedness of the boundary control  $U(t)$ , we need to show that  $w_s(L, t)$  and  $w_t(L, t)$  must be bounded. To prove boundedness of  $w_s(L, t)$ , we use the constraint  $r_s(s, t).r_s(s, t) = 1$  for all  $s \in [0, L]$  and  $t \geq t_0 \geq 0$ . This constraint implies that

$$\begin{aligned} (w_s(s, t) + r_s^0(s)).(w_s(s, t) + r_s^0(s)) &= 1 \Rightarrow w_s(s, t).w_s(s, t) + 2r_s^0(s).w_s(s, t) + r_s^0(s).r_s^0(s) = 1 \\ &\Rightarrow w_s(s, t).w_s(s, t) \leq 1 + \frac{1}{2}w_s(s, t).w_s(s, t) + r_s^0(s).r_s^0(s) \Rightarrow w_s(s, t).w_s(s, t) \leq 4 \end{aligned} \quad (C.33)$$

for all  $s \in [0, L]$  and  $t \geq t_0 \geq 0$ . Hence  $\|w_s(s, t)\|$  is bounded for all  $s \in [0, L]$  and  $t \geq t_0 \geq 0$ . To show that  $w_t(L, t)$  is bounded, we consider the following Lyapunov function candidate

$$W_{w_t} = \frac{1}{2m_o} w_t(L, t).w_t(L, t) \quad (C.34)$$

whose time derivative along the solutions of (15) with  $s = L$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{W}_{w_t} &= -k_1 w_t(L, t).w_t(L, t) - k_2 w_t(L, t).w_s(L, t) \\ &\leq -\frac{k_1}{2} w_t(L, t).w_t(L, t) + \frac{k_2^2}{2k_1} w_s(L, t).w_s(L, t) \leq -m_o k_1 W_{w_t} + \frac{2k_2^2}{k_1} \\ &\Rightarrow W_{w_t}(t) \leq \left( W_{w_t}(t_0) + \frac{2k_2^2}{m_o k_1^2} \right) e^{-2m_o k_1 (t-t_0)} + \frac{2k_2^2}{m_o k_1^2} \\ &\Rightarrow \|w_t(L, t)\| \leq \sqrt{\left( \|w_t(L, t_0)\|^2 + \frac{4k_2^2}{k_1^2} \right) e^{-2m_o k_1 (t-t_0)} + \frac{4k_2^2}{k_1^2}}, \quad \forall t \geq t_0 \geq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (C.35)$$

where we have used (48), (25), (C.33), and (C.34). Since the initial value  $w_t(s, t_0)$  is bounded for all  $s \in [0, L]$ , we have from (C.35) that  $\|w_t(L, t)\|$  is bounded for all  $t \geq t_0 \geq 0$ .  $\square$

**C.2.2 Case  $q \neq 0$ .** Substituting (29) into (52) gives

$$\dot{W} \leq -c_3 w_t(L, t).w_t(L, t) - \frac{\alpha L k_2}{m_o} w_s(L, t).w_s(L, t) - cW + \Delta_c \quad (C.36)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_c = & \int_0^L w_t \cdot ((I_{3 \times 3} - r_s r_s^T) W_{re} + \frac{1}{2} \rho_w C_{LD} D_H (I_{3 \times 3} - r_s r_s^T) (V - w_t)) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \rho_w C_{ND} D_H \|I_{3 \times 3} - r_s r_s^T (V - w_t)\| (I_{3 \times 3} - r_s r_s^T) (V - w_t) ds \\ & + \frac{\alpha}{m_o} \int_0^L s w_s \cdot ((I_{3 \times 3} - r_s r_s^T) W_{re} + \frac{1}{2} \rho_w C_{LD} D_H (I_{3 \times 3} - r_s r_s^T) (V - w_t)) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \rho_w C_{ND} D_H \|I_{3 \times 3} - r_s r_s^T (V - w_t)\| (I_{3 \times 3} - r_s r_s^T) (V - w_t) ds\end{aligned}\quad (C.37)$$

Since  $r_s \cdot r_s = 1$ , i.e.,  $\|r_s\|$  is bounded by 1, there exists an arbitrarily positive constant  $\varrho$  such that

$$\Delta_c \leq \varrho \left( \int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t ds + \int_0^L w_s \cdot w_s ds \right) + \frac{1}{4\varrho} Q \quad (C.38)$$

where the nonnegative constant  $Q$  depends on the maximum value of  $\|V\|$ . Hence, substituting (C.38) into (C.36) results in

$$\dot{W} \leq -c_3 w_t(L, t) \cdot w_t(L, t) - \frac{\alpha L k_2}{m_o} w_s(L, t) \cdot w_s(L, t) - \left( c - \frac{\varrho}{\min(c_1, 0.5B, c_2)} \right) W + \frac{1}{4\varrho} Q \quad (C.39)$$

where we have used (32) and (33) to yield  $\varrho \left( \int_0^L w_t \cdot w_t ds + \int_0^L w_s \cdot w_s ds \right) \leq \min(c_1, 0.5B, c_2) W$ . Now picking  $\varrho$  such that  $\bar{c} = c - \frac{\varrho}{\min(c_1, 0.5B, c_2)}$  is strictly positive, we can write (C.40) as

$$\dot{W} \leq -\bar{c} W + \frac{1}{4\varrho} Q \Rightarrow W(t) \leq \left( W(t_0) + \frac{Q}{4\varrho\bar{c}} \right) e^{-\bar{c}(t-t_0)} + \frac{1}{4\varrho\bar{c}} Q, \quad \forall t \geq t_0 \geq 0 \quad (C.40)$$

Hence  $W(t)$  exponentially converges to the nonnegative constant  $\frac{1}{4\varrho\bar{c}} Q$ . This in turn implies that all the terms  $\int_0^L w_t(s, t) \cdot w_t(s, t) ds$ ,  $\int_0^L w_s(s, t) \cdot w_s(s, t) ds$  and  $\int_0^L w_{ss}(s, t) \cdot w_{ss}(s, t) ds$  exponentially converge to some nonnegative constant less than  $\frac{1}{4\varrho\bar{c}\min(c_1, 0.5B, c_2)} Q$  due to (32) and (33). Proof of boundedness (not exponential convergence to zero of)  $\|w(s, t)\|$ ,  $\int_0^L w(s, t) \cdot w(s, t) ds$ ,  $\|w_s(s, t)\|$ ,  $\|w_t(L, t)\|$ , and the boundary control  $U(t)$  can be carried out in the same lines as in the case where  $q=0$ .  $\square$

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