

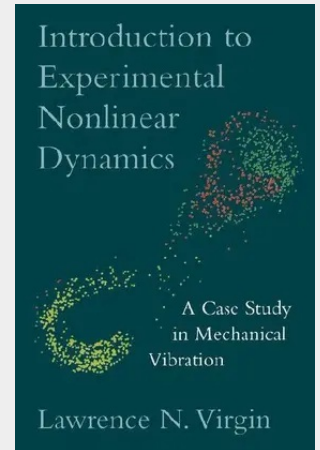
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## Introduction to Experimental Nonlinear Dynamics

A Case Study in Mechanical Vibration

Nonlinear behavior can be found in such highly disparate areas as population biology and aircraft wing flutter. Largely because of this extensive reach, nonlinear dynamics and chaos have become very active fields of study and research. This book uses an extended case study - an experiment in mechanical vibration - to introduce and explore the subject of nonlinear behavior and chaos. Beginning with a review of basic principles, the text then describes a cart-on-a-track oscillator and shows what happens when it is gradually subjected to greater excitation, thereby encountering the full spectrum of nonlinear behavior, from simple free decay to chaos. Experimental mechanical vibration is the unifying theme as the narrative evolves from a local, linear, largely analytical foundation toward the rich and often unpredictable world of nonlinearity. Advanced undergraduate and graduate students, as well as practising engineers, will find this book a lively, accessible introduction to the complex world of nonlinear dynamics.

A case study in mechanical vibration introduces the subject of nonlinear dynamics and chaos.



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