

Structural Analysis

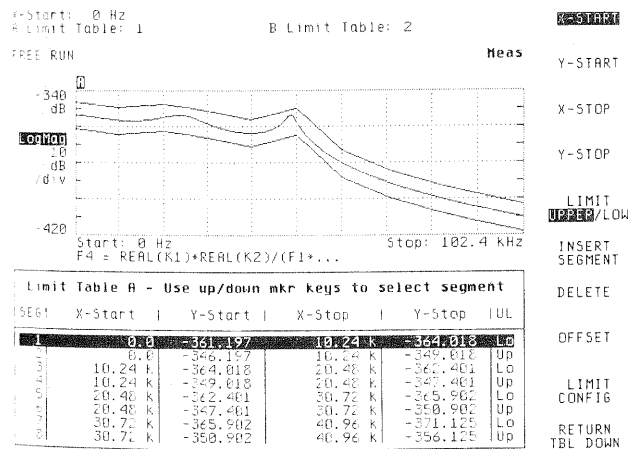
The HP 35660A uses force and exponential windows to perform frequency response testing of mechanical devices and structures. Using HP Instrument BASIC, the analyzer can simplify data collection for your modal surveys. For complete modal analysis, you can choose from several third party modal packages.

Acoustics

Another major application area for the HP 35660A is acoustics and noise measurements. This includes testing for room and device responses, noise identification and level, and underwater acoustic tests such as sono-buoy and sonar transducer testing. Acoustic intensity measurements are available with third party software.

Limit and Data tables for fast, consistent results

Spectrum and network analyzers are frequently used to test signals and device response against certain specifications. The HP 35660A improves this process by providing built-in limit testing. A limit line defines acceptable minimum and maximum values at specific X-axis points (in both time and frequency domains). Users can specify an upper and lower limit for every point in the trace, as well as specifying acceptable bands and slopes. During a test, the HP 35660A checks the trace level against the limit lines, then displays PASS or FAIL on the screen. Limit testing is especially powerful when used with HP Instrument BASIC. For example, a program can quickly pull limit lines off disc and use them as a reference against a series of traces.



Data tables are another key feature of the HP 35660A. A data table eliminates the need to move markers along a trace to read multiple values. This is particularly useful for such applications as noise level monitoring at multiple frequencies. Enter up to 400 X-axis locations in a data table, and the HP 35660A fills in the table with a Y-axis value for each X entry. You can display, print, or store a completed table. For repeated measurements, you can create a unique table for each test and quickly recall each table from disc.

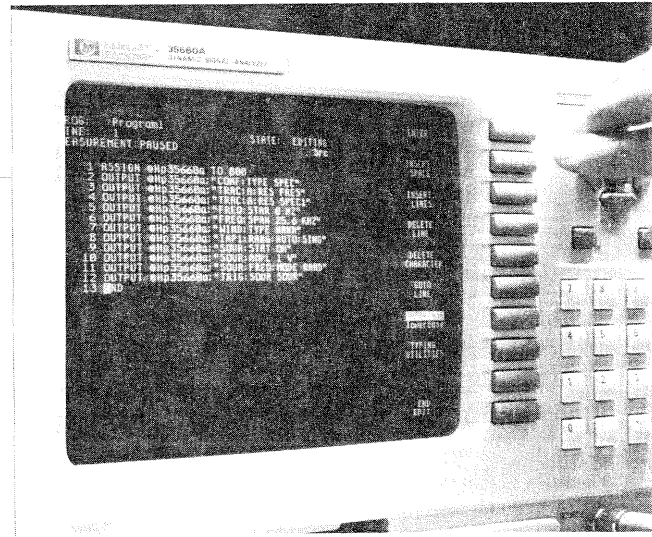
In addition to data tables and limit testing, the analyzer includes extensive markers to highlight harmonics and sidebands and to search for minimum, maximum, and target values.

HP-IB System Control

When used with HP Instrument BASIC, the HP 35660A can serve as a test system controller. A system might include peripherals such as hard discs, printers and plotters, as well as other instruments such as switch matrices, voltmeters and signal generators. You can automate smaller systems without the cost of an external computer, while conserving rack or bench space.

HP 35660A Instrument BASIC

To simplify automation and test analysis, the HP 35660A includes a powerful new feature: a subset of HP Series 200/300 BASIC running inside the analyzer. HP 35680A Instrument BASIC adds decision-making, branching, I/O including control of other instruments, and custom user interfaces. HP Instrument BASIC is fully syntax-compatible with HP BASIC, so current HP workstation owners can easily merge the HP 35660A and HP Instrument BASIC into their test systems.



A Language for Programmers and Non-Programmers

With over 150 BASIC commands, HP Instrument BASIC is a powerful tool for programmers. But it also includes a feature that makes it easy for non-programmers to automate analyzer functions. Keystroke recording automatically creates a program as the user makes measurements from the front panel. An entire test sequence can be recorded and saved with no programming required.

HP Instrument BASIC programs can be developed on an HP 9000 Series 200/300 BASIC workstation and then transferred to the analyzer via a 3.5 inch floppy disc (files must be saved in LIF format). Programs developed on the HP 35660A will also run on a workstation. If desired, the analyzer portion of a computer-aided test (CAT) can be created with keystroke recording, then merged with the main program written on an external computer. The HP 35660A is also fully HP-IB programmable from an external computer, using any language you choose.

Custom solutions with the HP 35660A

Applications that involve long and repetitive testing can benefit significantly from custom solutions available with the HP 35660A. For example, in a production environment, HP Instrument BASIC programs can automatically recall test setups and prompt a technician for date, time, and other important information. Limit testing can quickly indicate the presence of spurs or undesired harmonics. Operator interaction is further reduced with routines that automatically catalog results to a printer/plotter or to disc.

The HP 35681A Analysis Pack provides examples of how to customize the HP 35660A for specific applications. The Analysis Pack is a set of network and spectrum application programs that enhance the power of the HP 35660A analyzer.

Written in HP Instrument BASIC, the Analysis Pack provides several ready-to-use application tests, including distortion testing, filter parameter testing, and modulation and peak analysis. The Analysis Pack shows how easy it is to customize tests and provides a set of tested, documented routines you can re-use in your own custom applications.