



Modal Testing using the Slinky™ Method

Brian Schwarz, Pat McHargue, Mark Richardson
Vibrant Technology, Inc.
Centennial, Colorado

IMAC XXXVII, Orlando, FL 2019

Topics of this Presentation

- TRN Chain testing *makes ODS & Modal testing easier*
- TRN Chain testing *only requires a pair of response sensors*
- TRN Chain testing *does not require a (long) wire* from one of the sensors to the acquisition system
- A **Slinky™** test *minimizes* the number of *sensor moves*
- A TRN Chain can be *“seeded”* with an *Auto spectrum, Cross spectrum, Fourier spectrum, or FRF* resulting in a *single-reference set* of those measurements
- One *Uni-axial* & one *Tri-axial* accelerometer and a *4-channel* acquisition system will yield *3D ODS's & Mode Shapes*

ODS's & Mode Shapes

from a Set of Single-Reference Measurements

- A **frequency-based ODS** is obtained at **any frequency** in a set of **single-reference ODS FRFs, Cross Spectra, Fourier spectra, or FRFs**
- **Experimental mode shapes** are obtained by **curve fitting** a set of these **single-reference measurements**
- A set of these **single-reference measurements** can be calculated in two ways,
 1. **Roving Force Test**: A **response sensor is fixed** and an **excitation force** is applied at **different DOFs (points & directions)** between data acquisitions
 2. **Roving Response Test**: **The excitation is fixed** and **one or more response sensors** are moved between acquisitions
- A set of **single-reference measurements** requires that **either the response of the excitation sensor remain fixed** during the test
- **Limitation of Single-Reference Testing**: Since one sensor must remain fixed, a **long wire may be required** to connect it to the acquisition system

Difference Between an FRF & a Transmissibility

FRF: The **Fourier spectrum** of a structural response *divided by* the **Fourier spectrum** of the force that caused the response

FRF: The **magnitude** of the response *divided by* the **magnitude** of the force, together with the **phase angle** between the response & force

$$FRF(2:1) = \frac{FFT(2)}{FFT(1)} = \text{Accel} / \text{Force}$$

Transmissibility: The **Fourier spectrum** of a response *divided by* the **Fourier spectrum** of a response at a different DOF (point & direction)

Transmissibility: The **magnitude** of a response *divided by* the **magnitude** of another response, together with the **phase angle** between the two responses

$$TRN(2:1) = \frac{FFT(2)}{FFT(1)} = \text{Accel} / \text{Accel}$$

Difference Between an FRF & a Transmissibility

FRF: Requires *simultaneous acquisition* of **all excitation forces** and a **response** caused by the excitation forces

FRF: Requires a **2-channel acquisition system**

$$FRF(2:1) = \frac{FFT(2)}{FFT(1)} = \text{Accel} / \text{Force}$$

Transmissibility: Requires *simultaneous acquisition* of **two responses**

Transmissibility: Requires a **2-channel acquisition system**

$$TRN(2:1) = \frac{FFT(2)}{FFT(1)} = \text{Accel} / \text{Accel}$$

Unique Transmissibility Properties

The Product of two Transmissibilities is another Transmissibility

$$TRN(3:1) = TRN(3:2) \times TRN(2:1)$$

The Inverse of $TRN(2:1)$ is $TRN(1:2)$

$$TRN(1:2) = \left(\frac{1}{TRN(2:1)} \right)$$

TRN (Transmissibility) Chain

Each Transmissibility must contain *one DOF* that is also contained in another Transmissibility

TRN (2:1)

TRN (3:2)

TRN (4:3)

TRN (5:4)

TRN (6:4)

Single-Reference TRN Chain

A single-reference TRN Chain is created by *recursive multiplication* of Transmissibility's

$$TRN (3:1) = TRN (3:2) \times TRN (2:1)$$

$$TRN (4:1) = TRN (4:3) \times TRN (3:1)$$

$$TRN (5:1) = TRN (5:4) \times TRN (4:1)$$

$$TRN (6:1) = TRN (6:5) \times TRN (5:1)$$

$$TRN (7:1) = TRN (7:2) \times TRN (2:1)$$

Benefits of a TRN Chain

A TRN Chain is measured using *two response sensors* and a *multi-channel acquisition system*

- Two *uni-axial* sensors and a *2-channel* system
- One *uni-axial* and one *tri-axial* sensor and a *4-channel* system
- Two *tri-axial* sensors and a *6-channel* system

TRN (2:1)

TRN (3:2)

TRN (4:3)

TRN (5:4)

TRN (6:4)

Benefits of a TRN Chain

- Excitation Forces are *not acquired*
- Excitation Force levels *can change* between acquisitions
- A TRN chain can be *“seeded”* with an Auto spectrum, Cross spectrum, Fourier spectrum or FRF to yield a set of *single-reference measurements*

TRN (2:1)

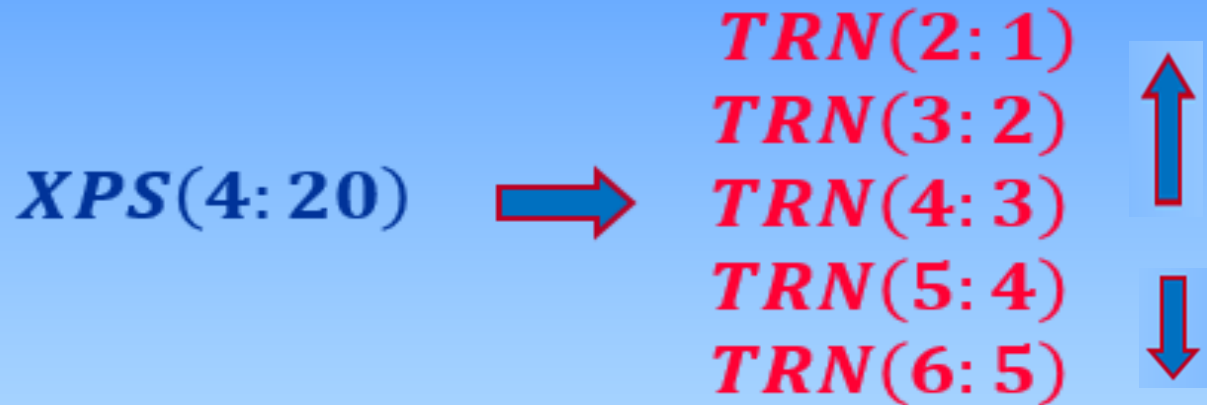
TRN (3:1)

TRN (4:1)

TRN (5:1)

TRN (6:1)

Seeding a TRN Chain with a Cross Spectrum



$$XPS(3:20) = XPS(4:20) \times TRN(3:4)$$

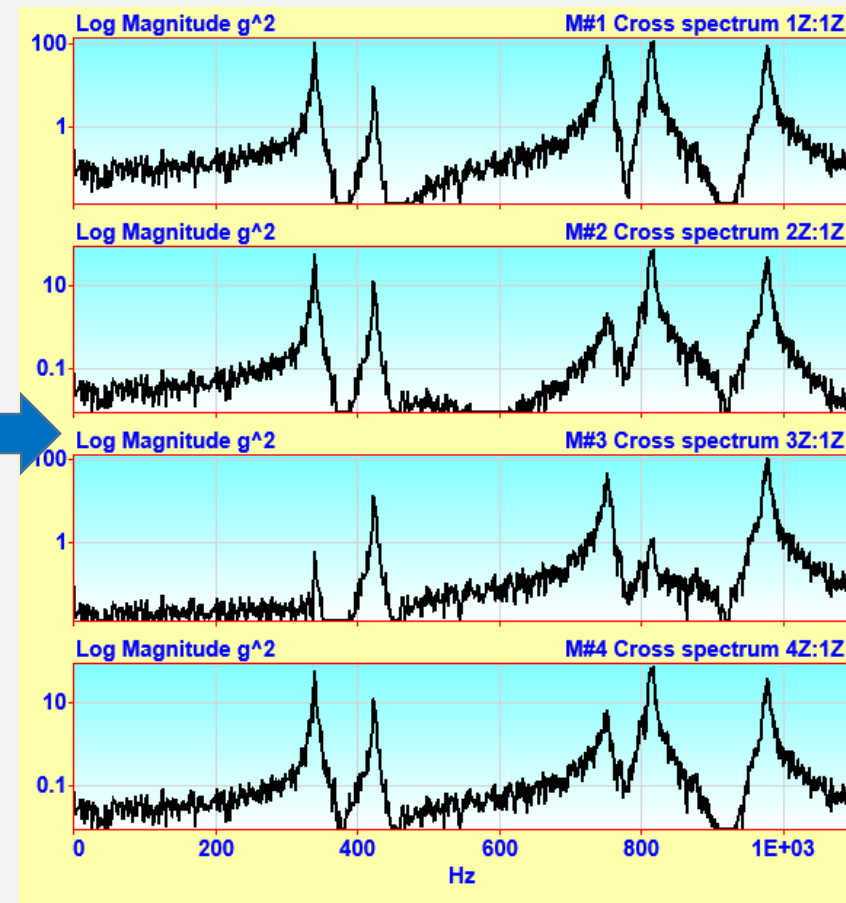
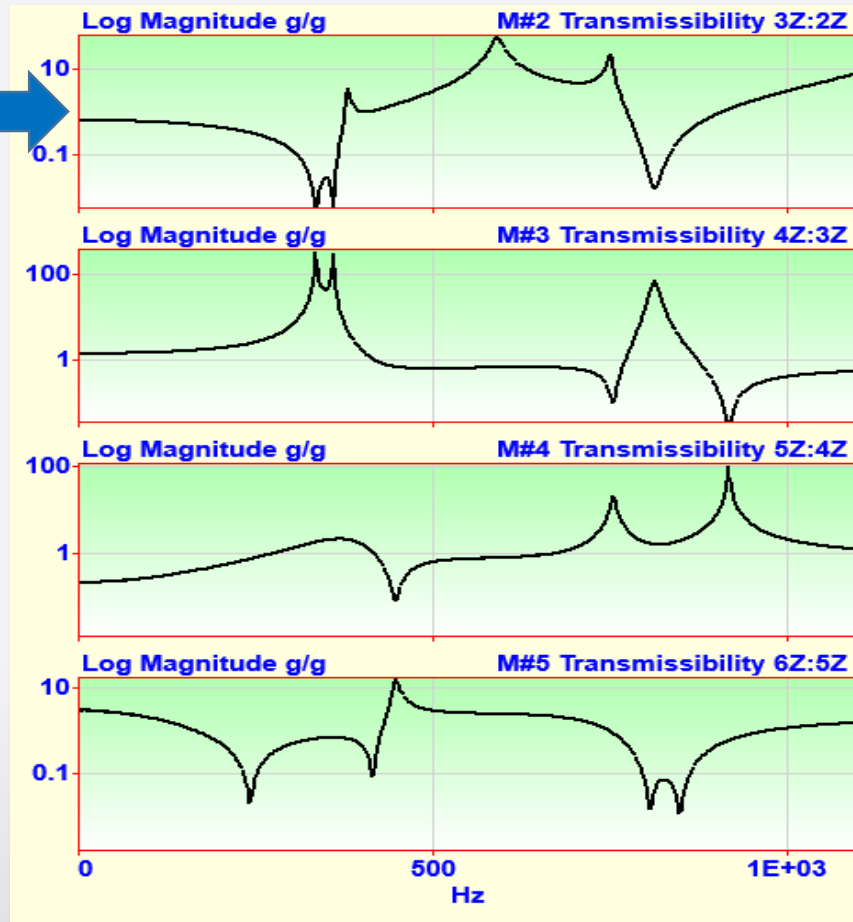
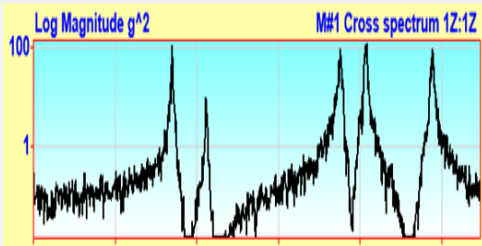
$$XPS(2:20) = XPS(3:20) \times TRN(2:3)$$

$$XPS(1:20) = XPS(2:20) \times TRN(1:2)$$

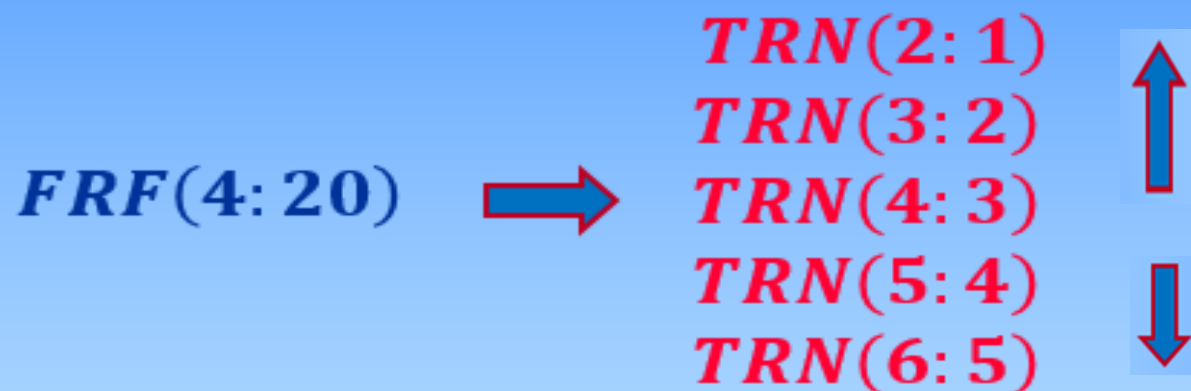
$$XPS(5:20) = XPS(4:20) \times TRN(5:4)$$

$$XPS(6:20) = XPS(5:20) \times TRN(6:5)$$

Seeding a TRN Chain with a Cross Spectrum



Seeding a TRN Chain with an FRF



$$FRF(3: 20) = FRF(4: 20) \times TRN(3: 4)$$

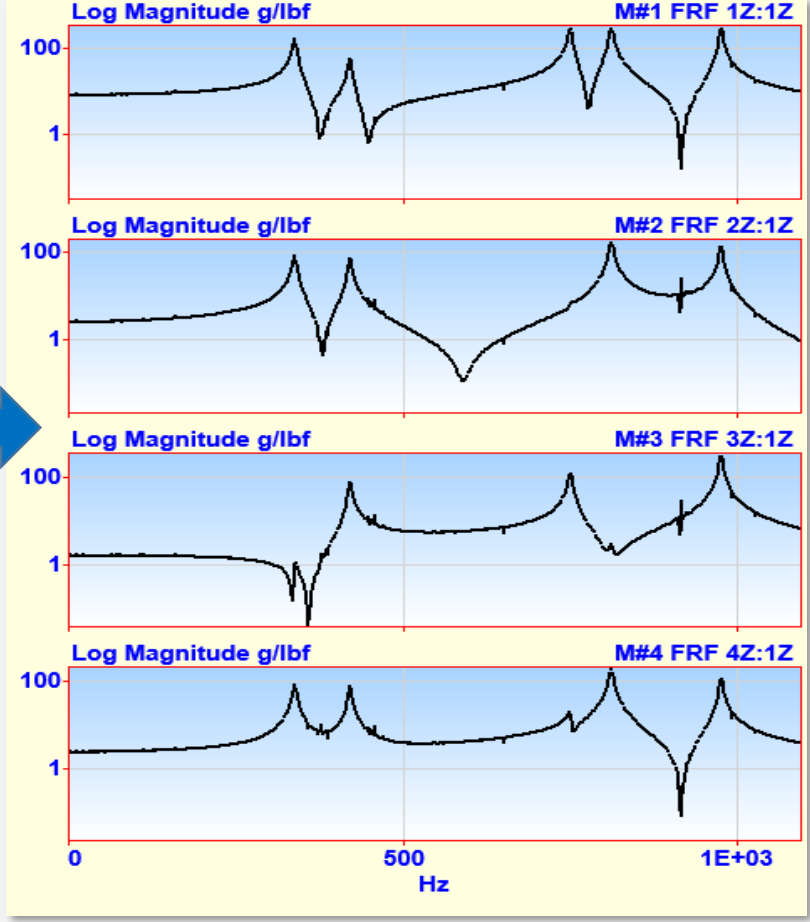
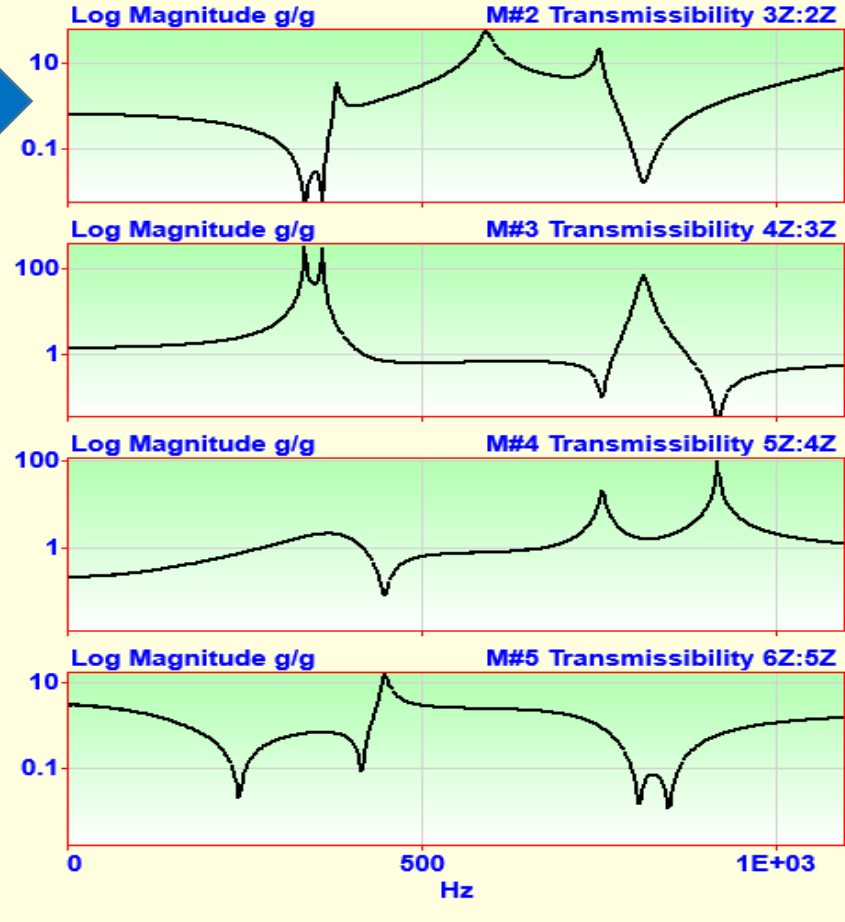
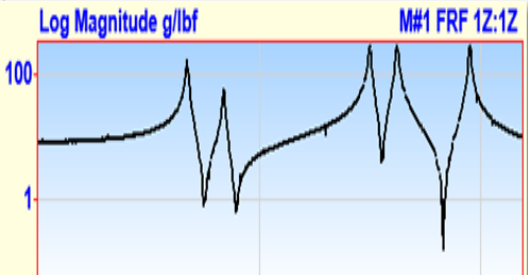
$$FRF(2: 20) = FRF(3: 20) \times TRN(2: 3)$$

$$FRF(1: 20) = FRF(2: 20) \times TRN(1: 2)$$

$$FRF(5: 20) = FRF(4: 20) \times TRN(5: 4)$$

$$FRF(6: 20) = FRF(5: 20) \times TRN(6: 5)$$

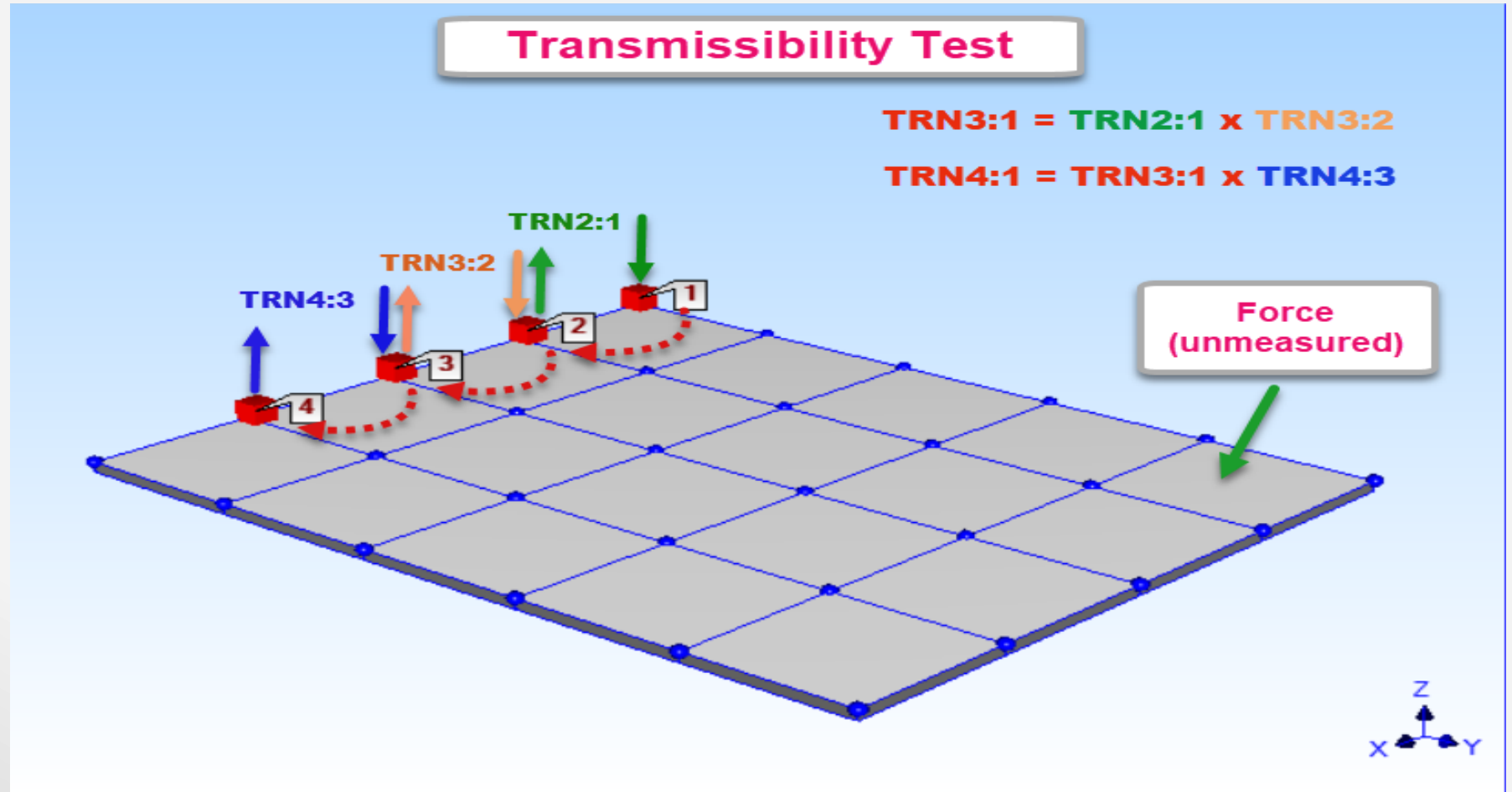
Seeding a TRN Chain with an FRF



TRN Chain Measurement

Does not require acquisition of the excitation forces

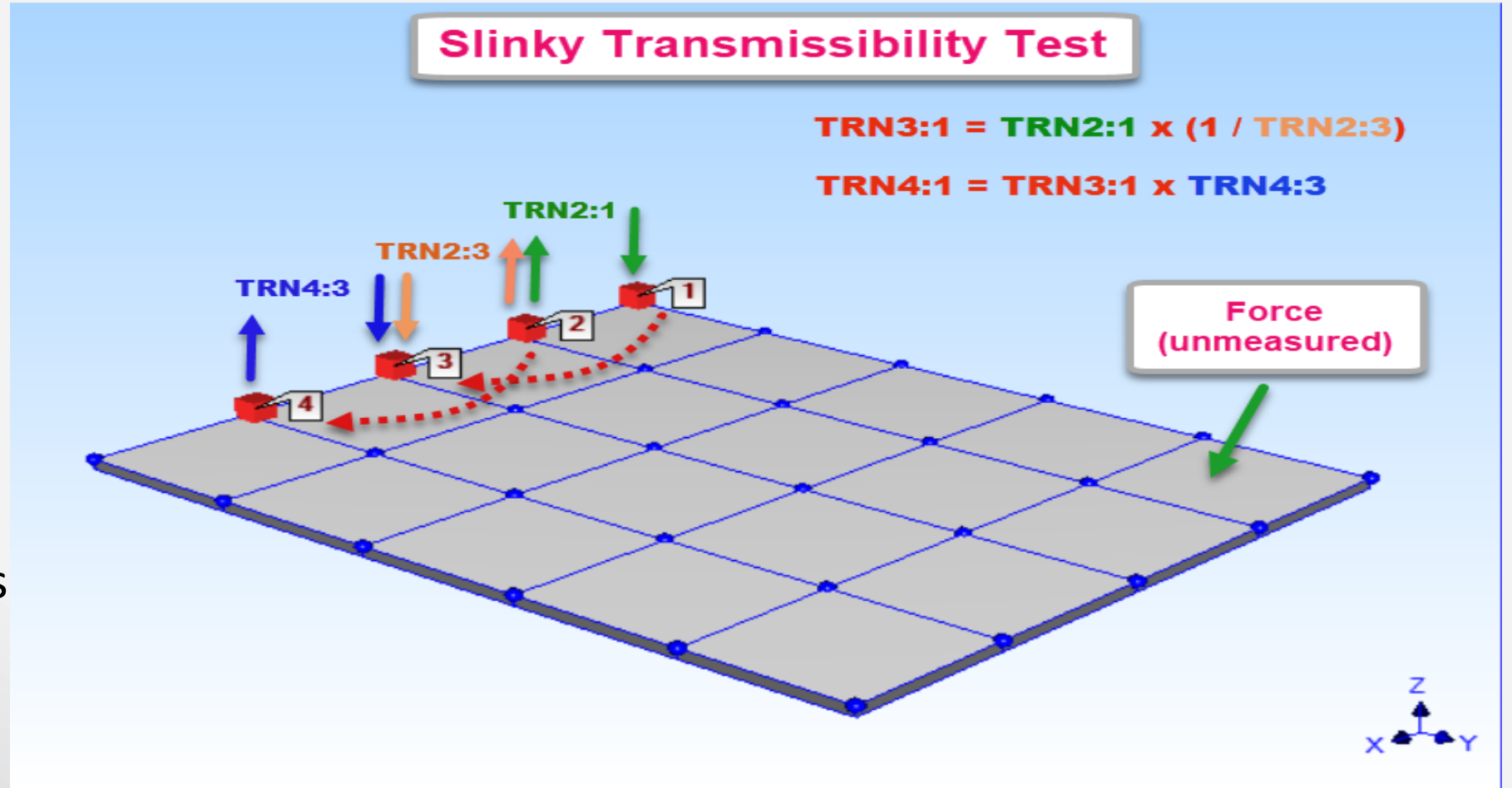
Seeding a TRN Chain gives a set of *single-reference* ODS FRFs, Cross spectra, Fourier spectra, or FRFs



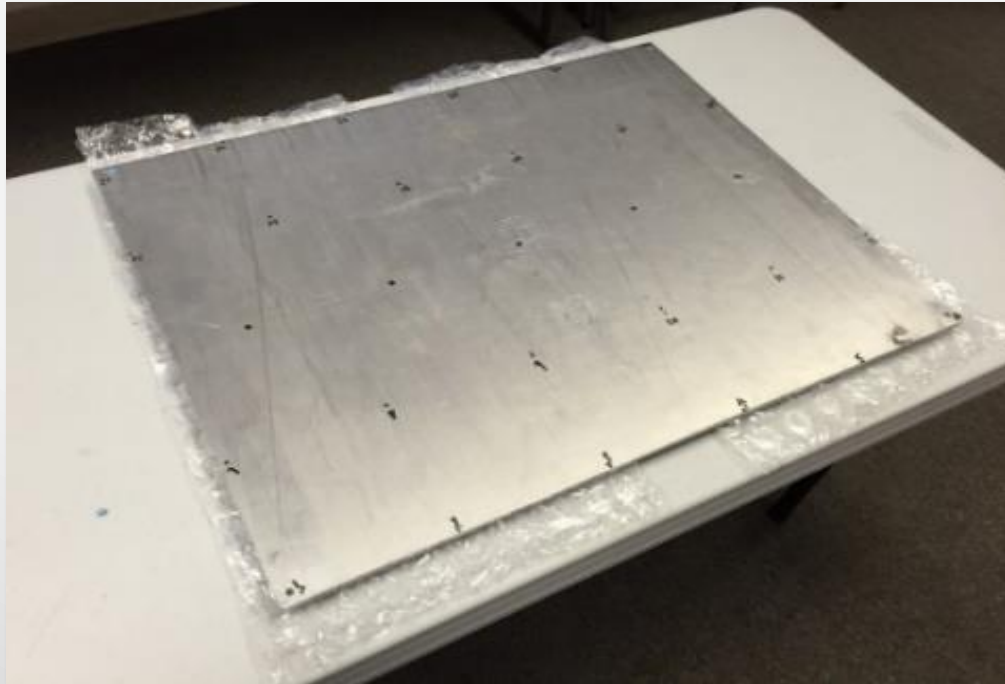
Slinky Test

Only one sensor must move between acquisitions

*Either or both sensors can be moved as long as the **chain of DOFs** is not broken*



Round-Trip Slinky™ Test of an Aluminum Plate



Aluminum Plate Resting on Bubble Wrap

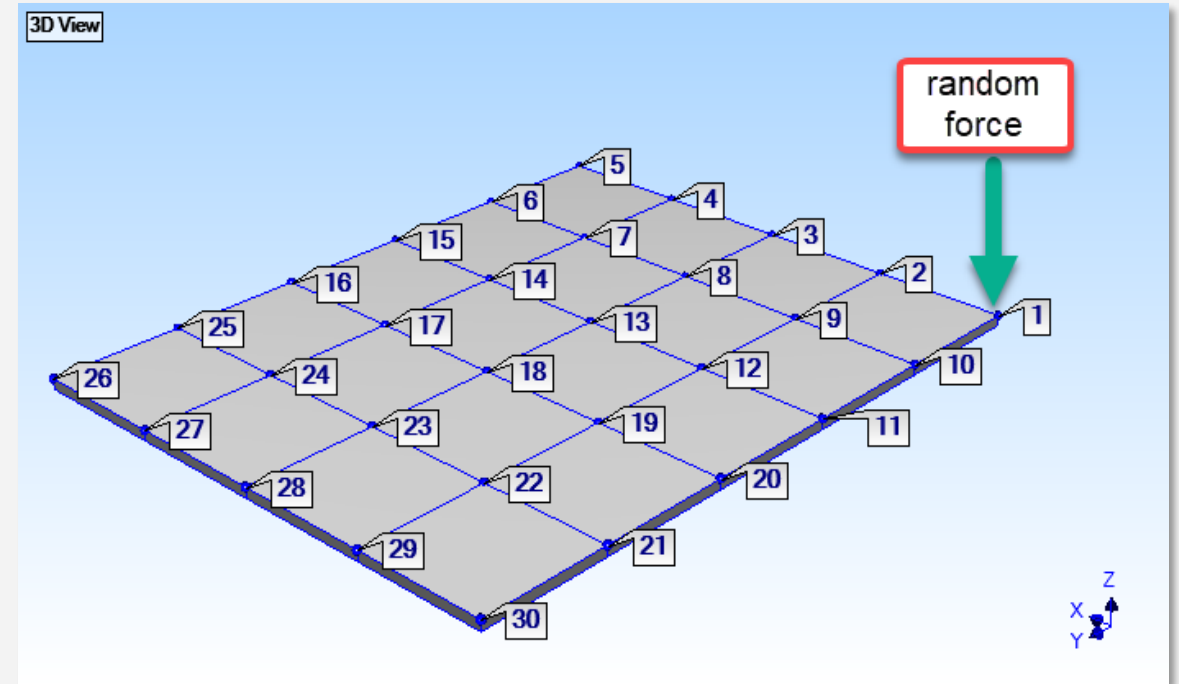
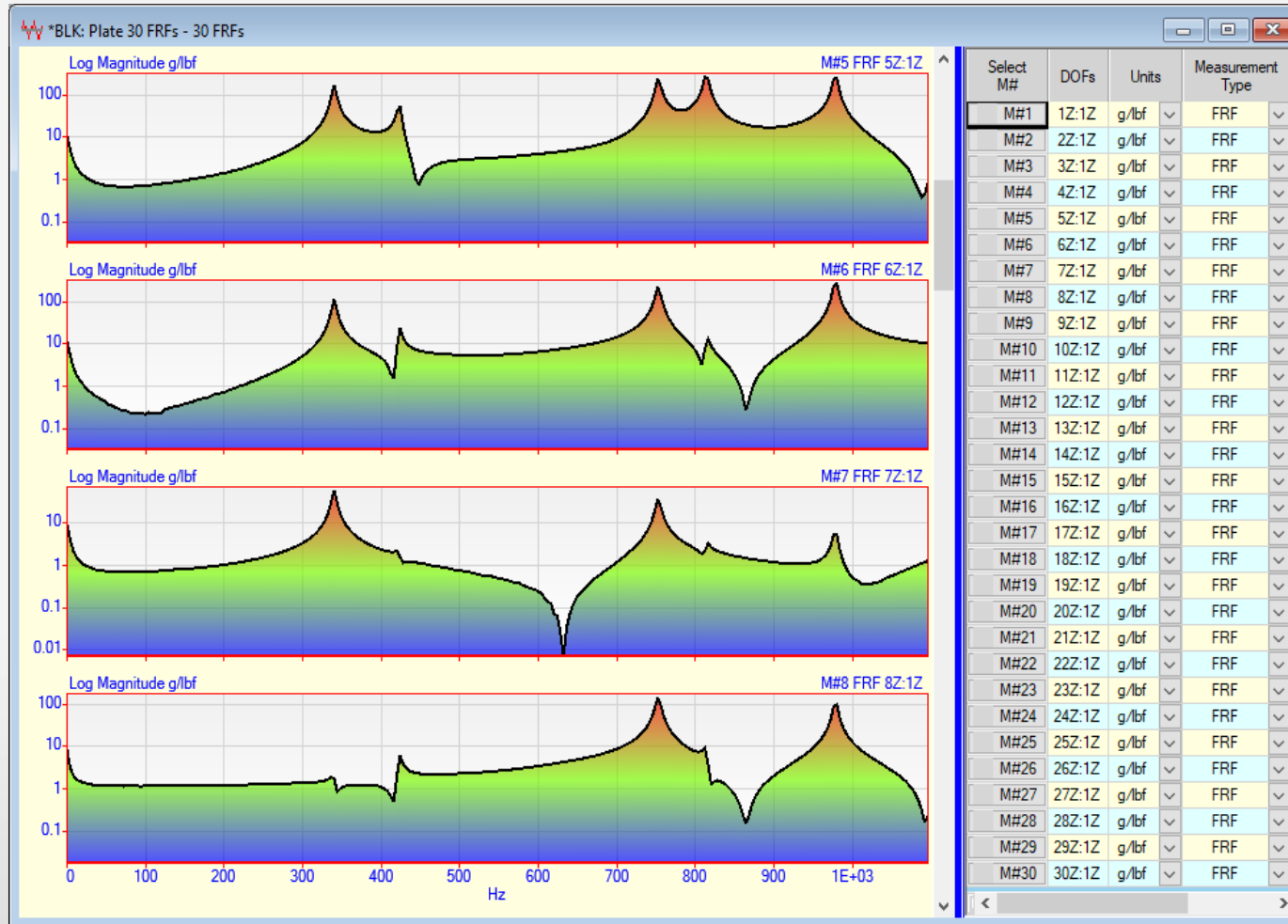
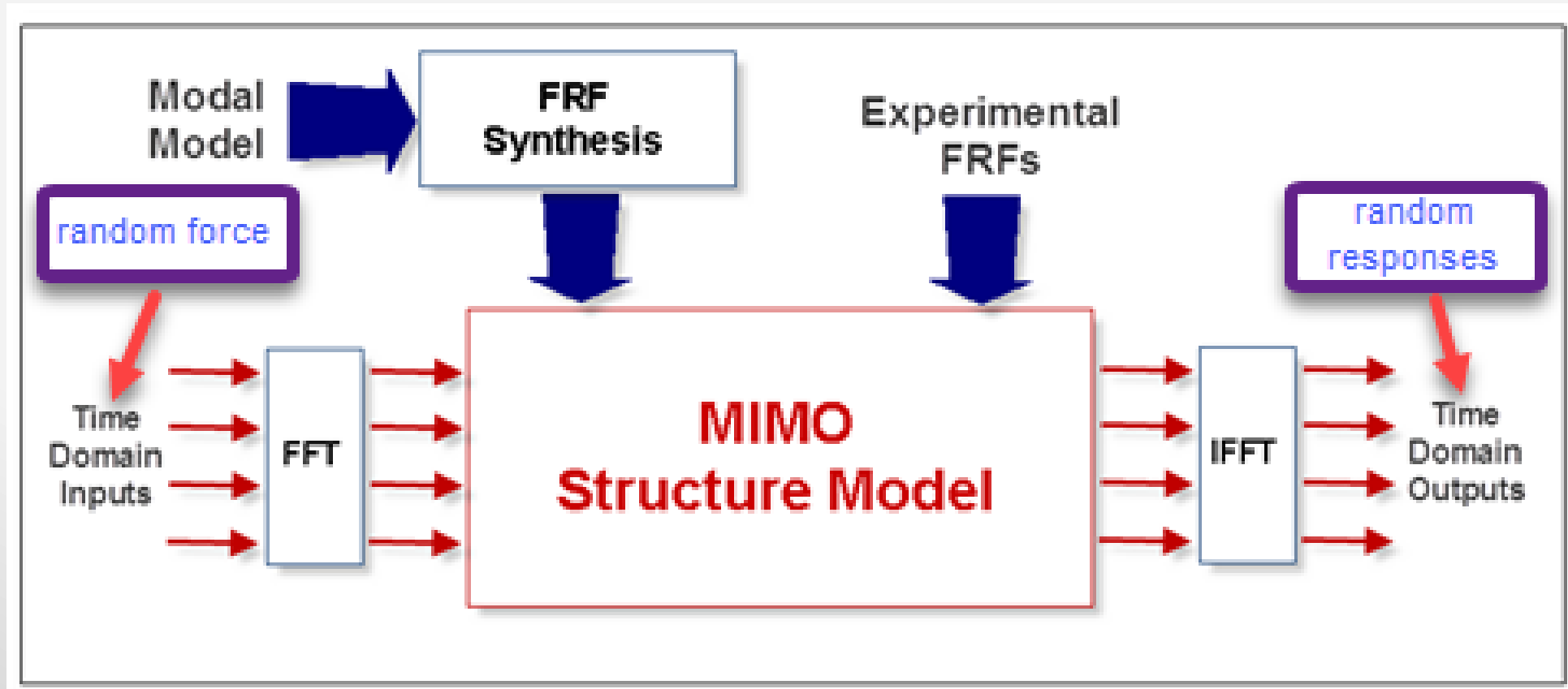


Plate Model Showing Test Points and Excitation Force

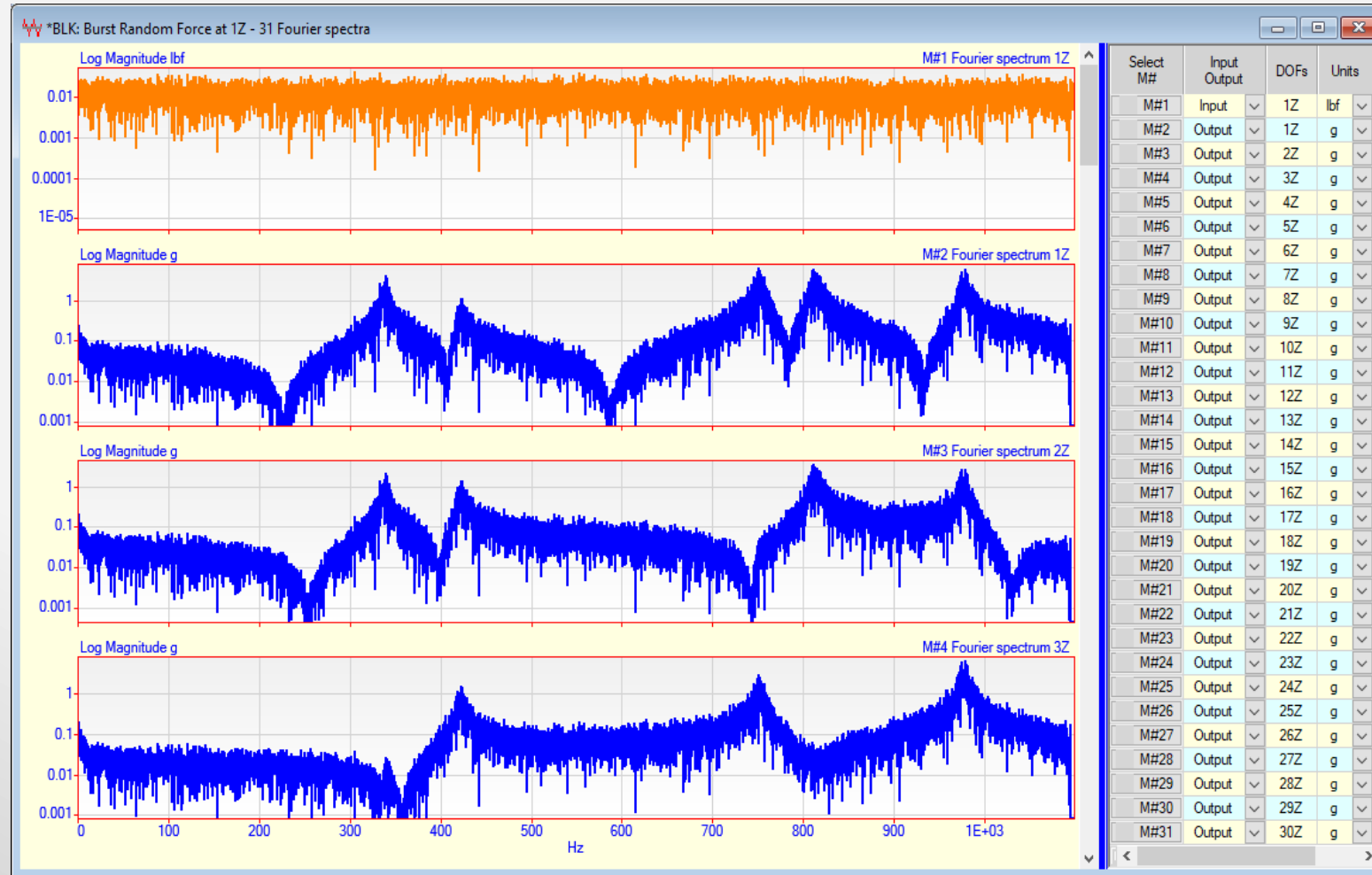
FRFs from a Roving Impact Test of the Aluminum Plate



Random Response Calculation using Experimental FRFs

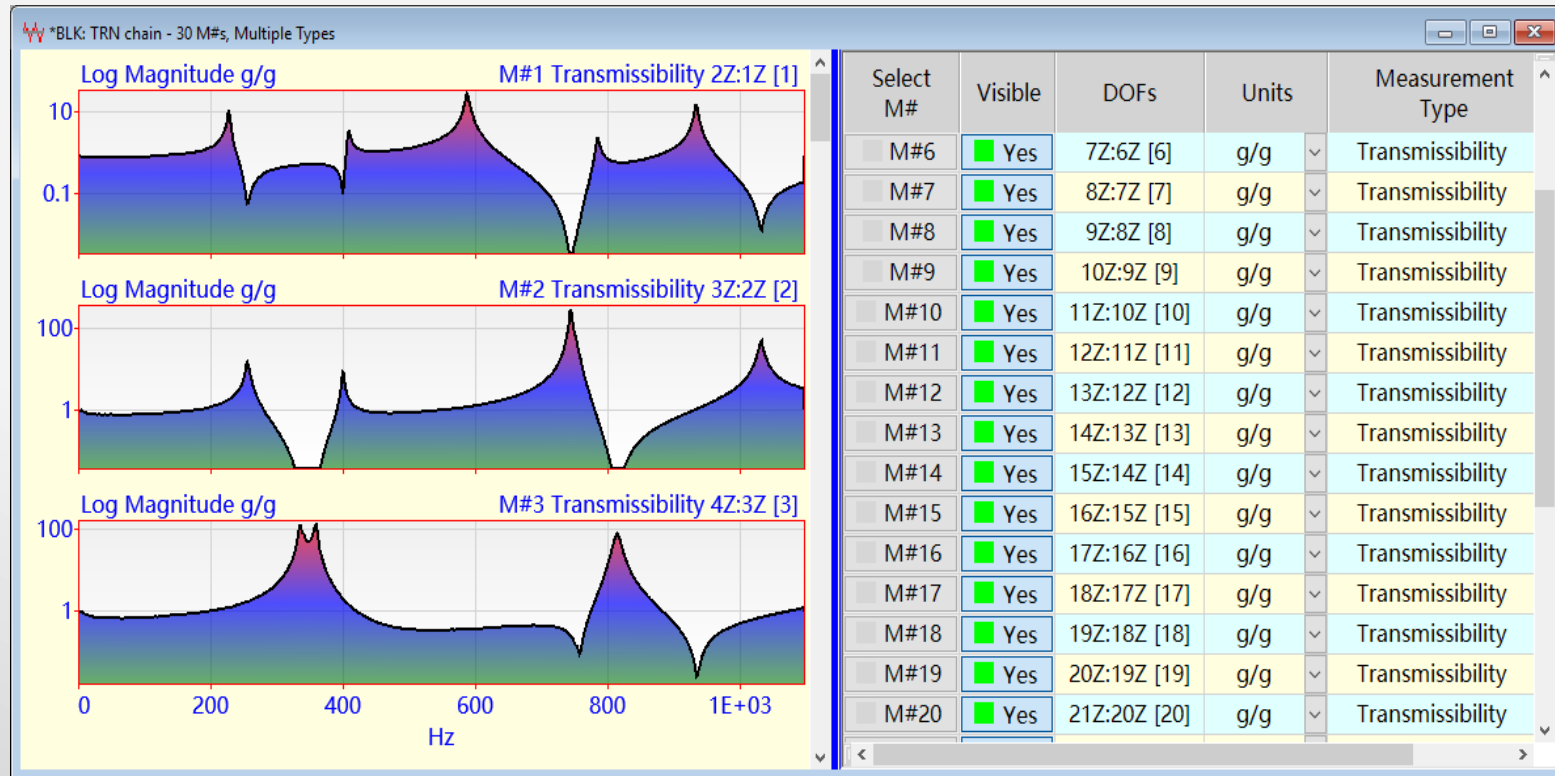


Random Force & Response Spectra of the Aluminum Plate



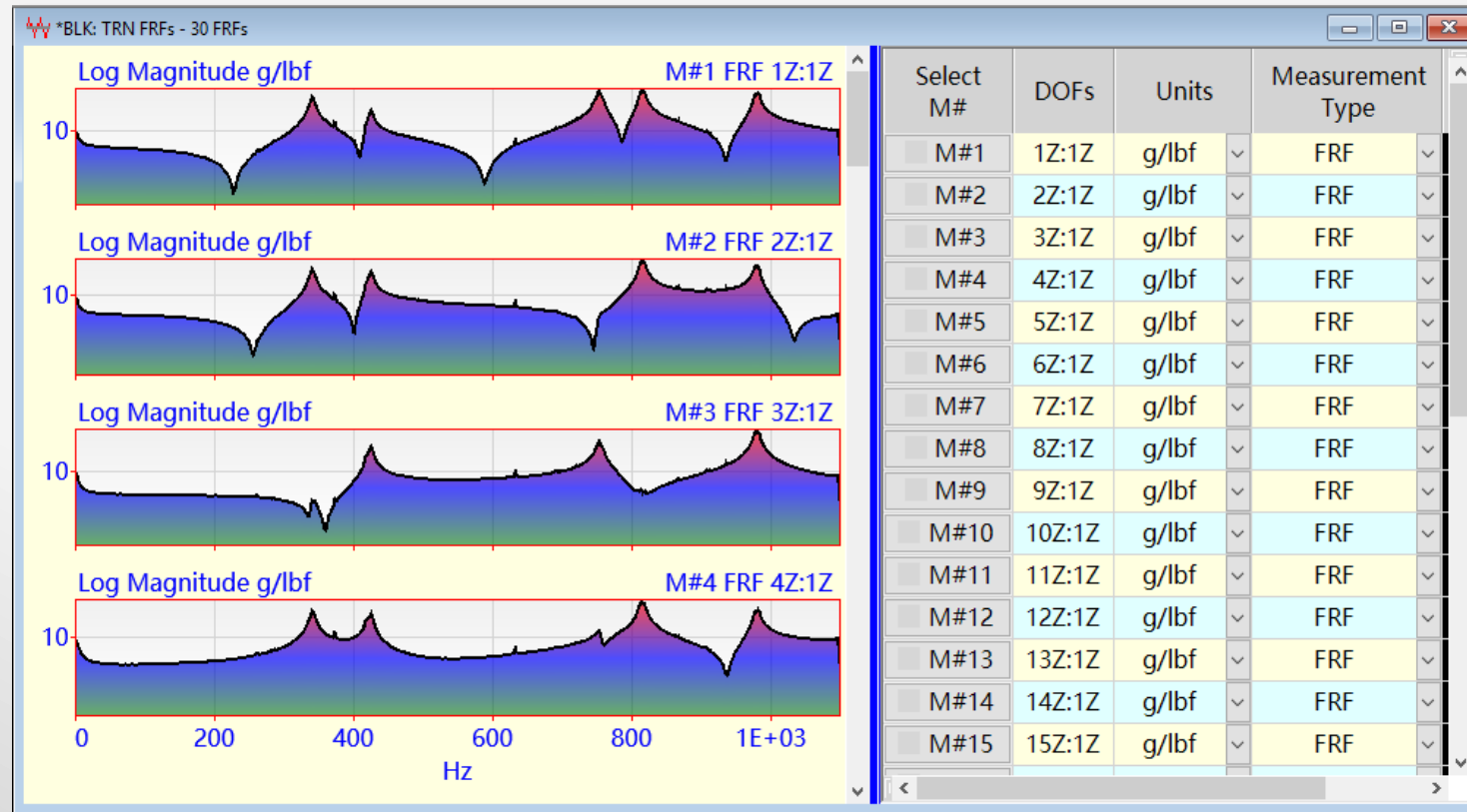
TRN Chain from Random Response Pairs

- A Transmissibility is a *different complex waveform* than an FRF
- *Peaks* in a Transmissibility are *not resonance peaks*
- Transmissibility's *cannot be curve fit* using FRF-based curve fitting



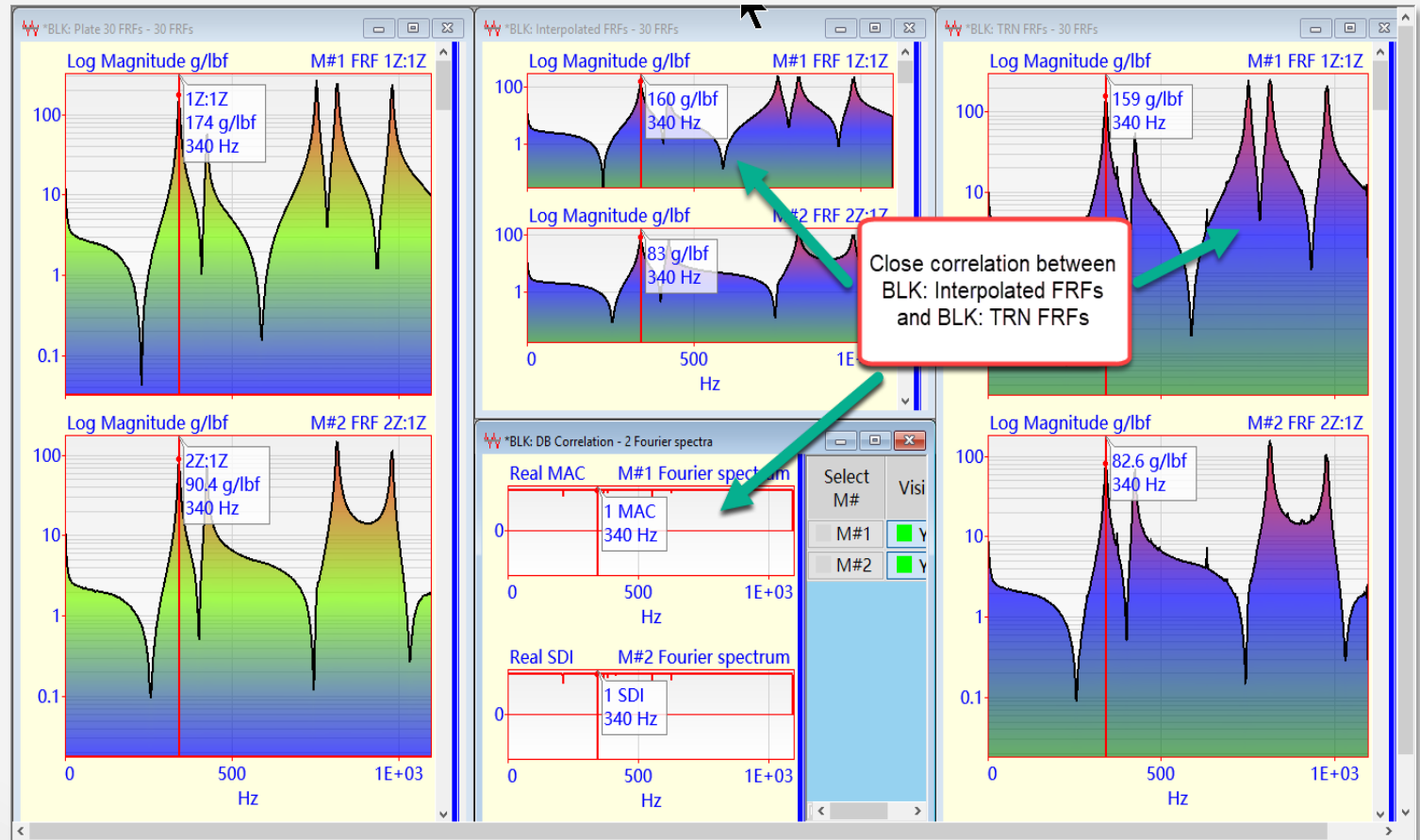
Single-Reference FRFs from “Seeding” the TRN Chain

- A TRN Chain can be *seeded* with *any FRF*, provided that the **Roving DOF** of the seed matches **one of the DOFs** in the TRN Chain



Comparing Experimental & Slinky™ FRFs of the Aluminum Plate

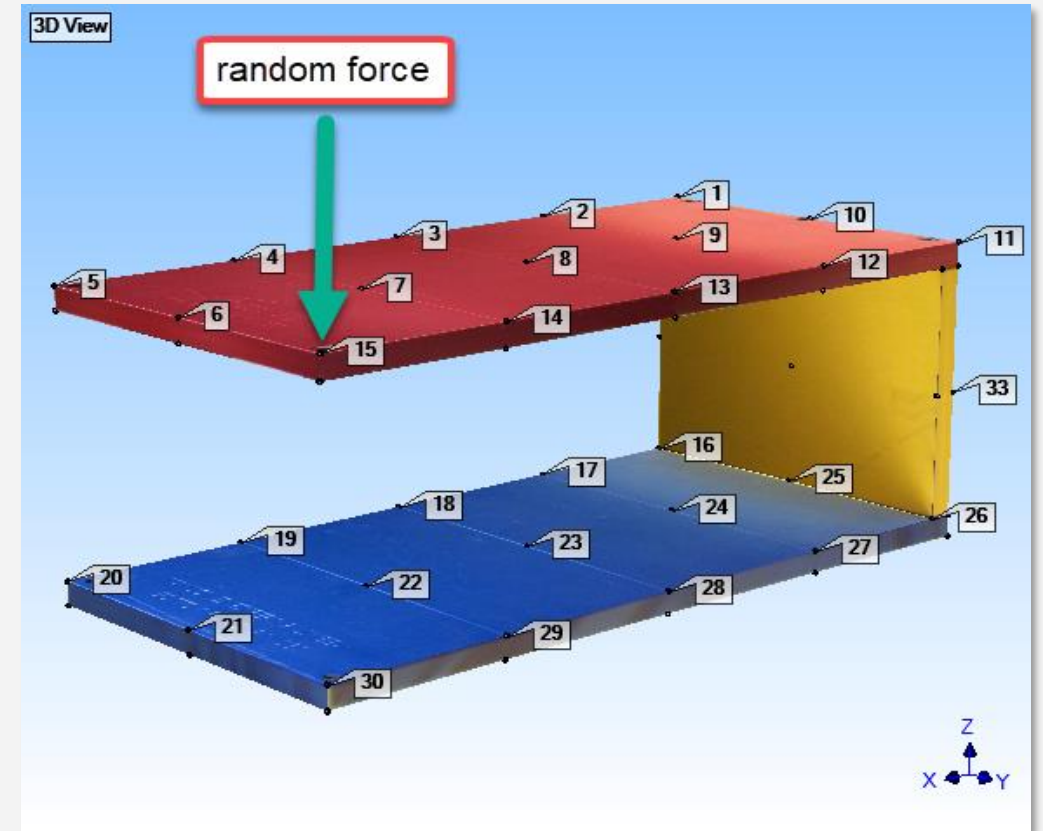
- Experimental FRFs have **275 samples**. Slinky (TRN FRFs) have **1000 samples**
- MAC measures the **co-linearity** of two shapes
- SDI measures the **difference** between two shapes



Round Trip Slinky™ Test of the Jim Beam

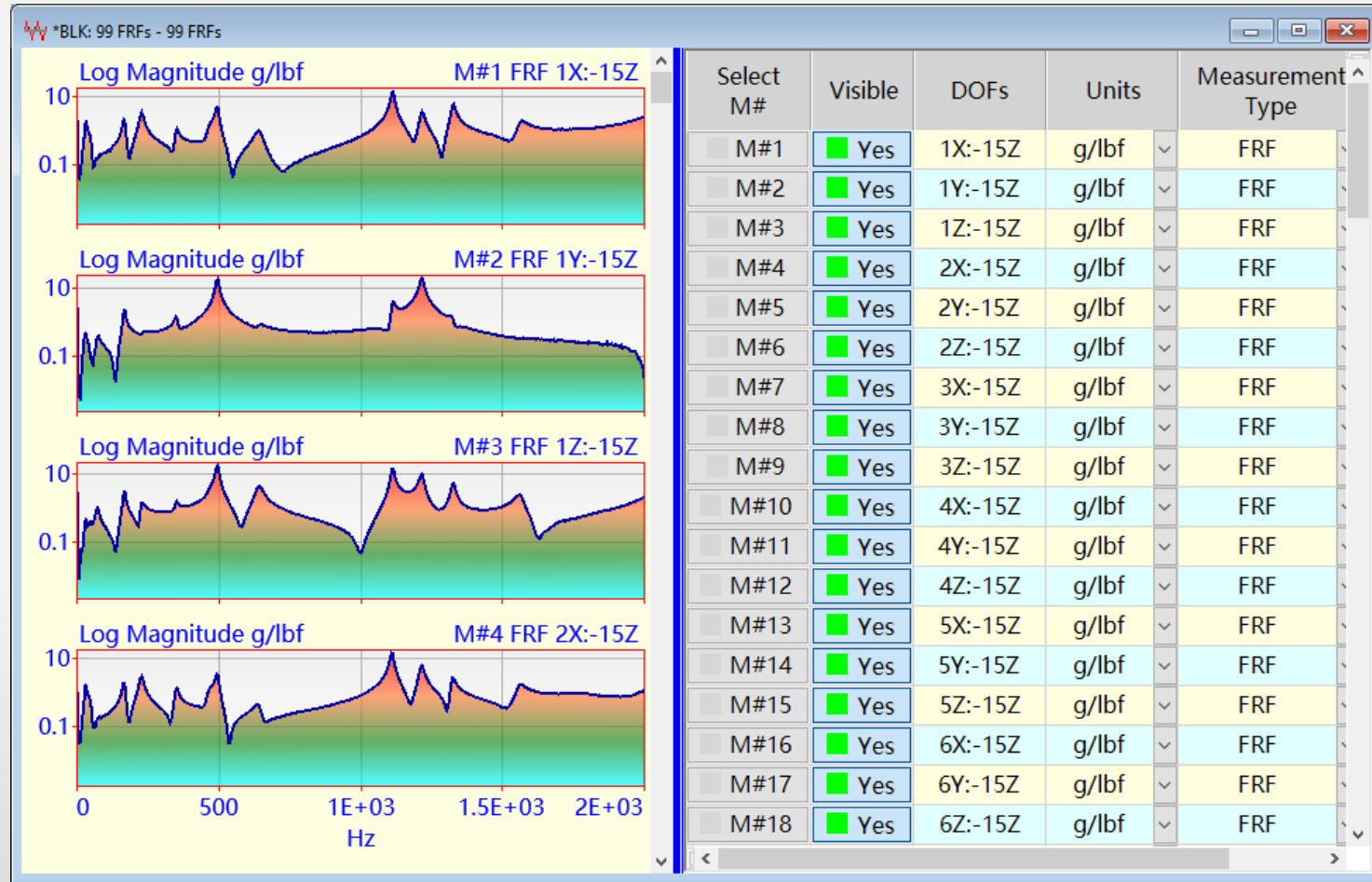


Impact Test with Roving Tri-Axial Accel

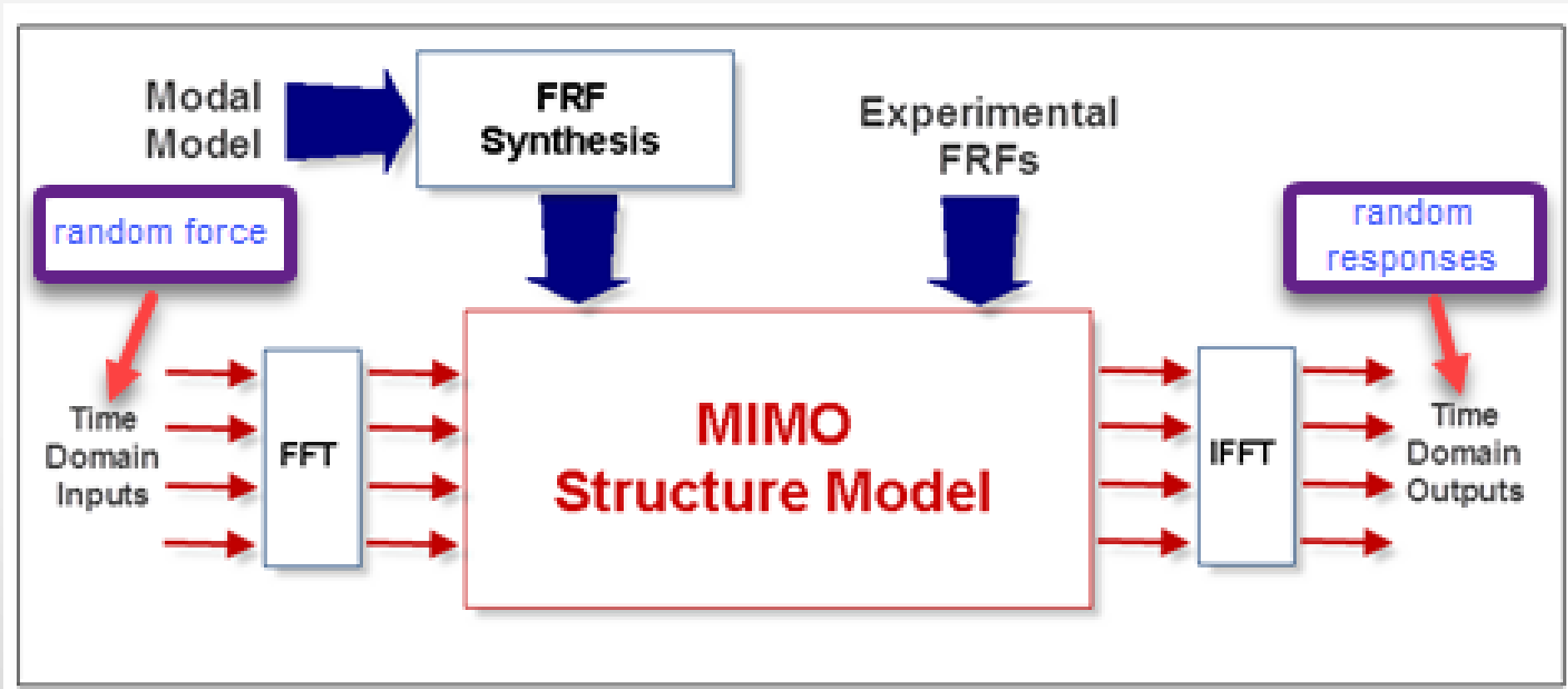


Jim Beam Model Showing Test Points and Excitation Force

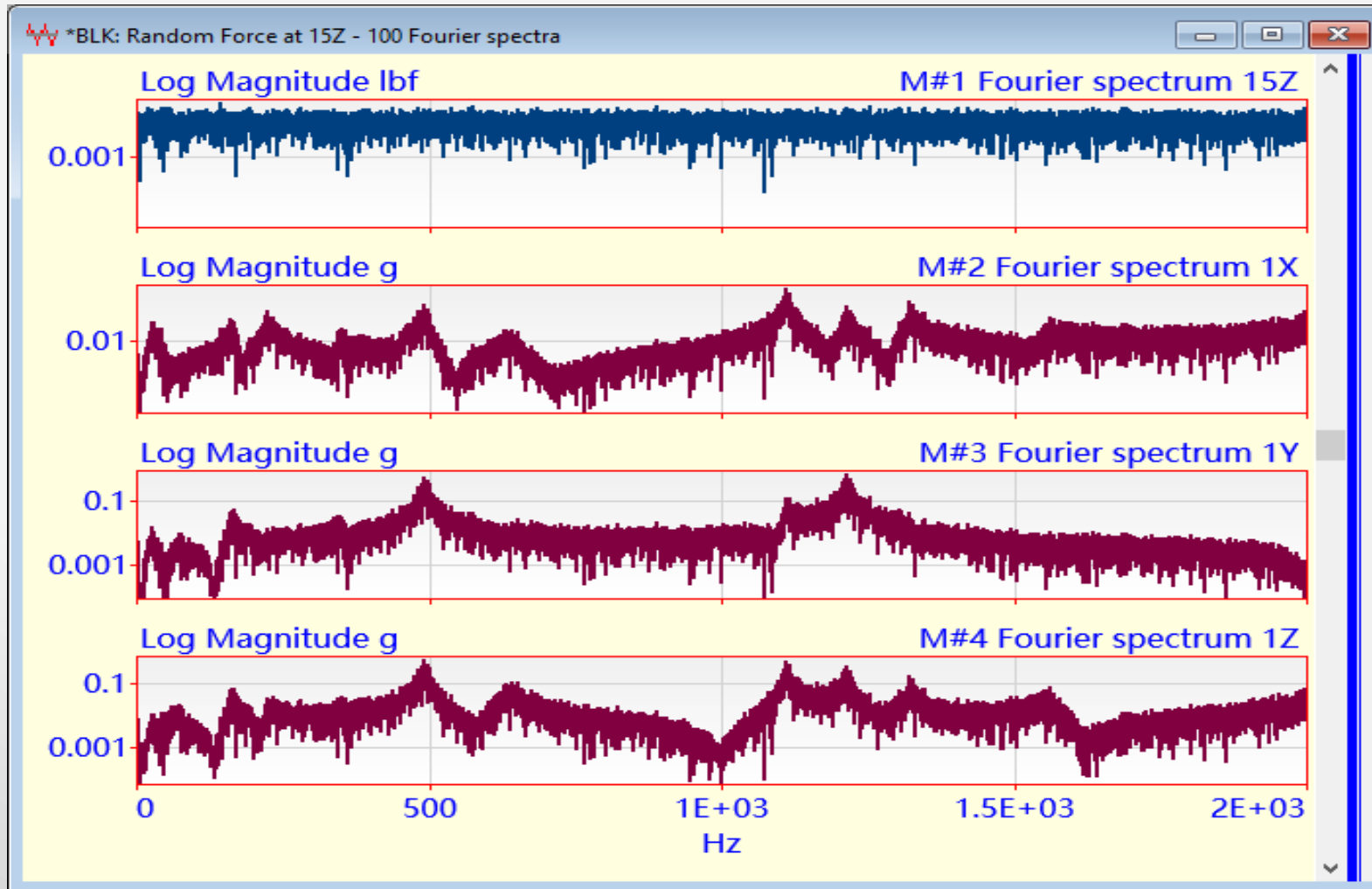
FRFs from the Impact Test of the Jim Beam



Random Response Calculation using Experimental FRFs

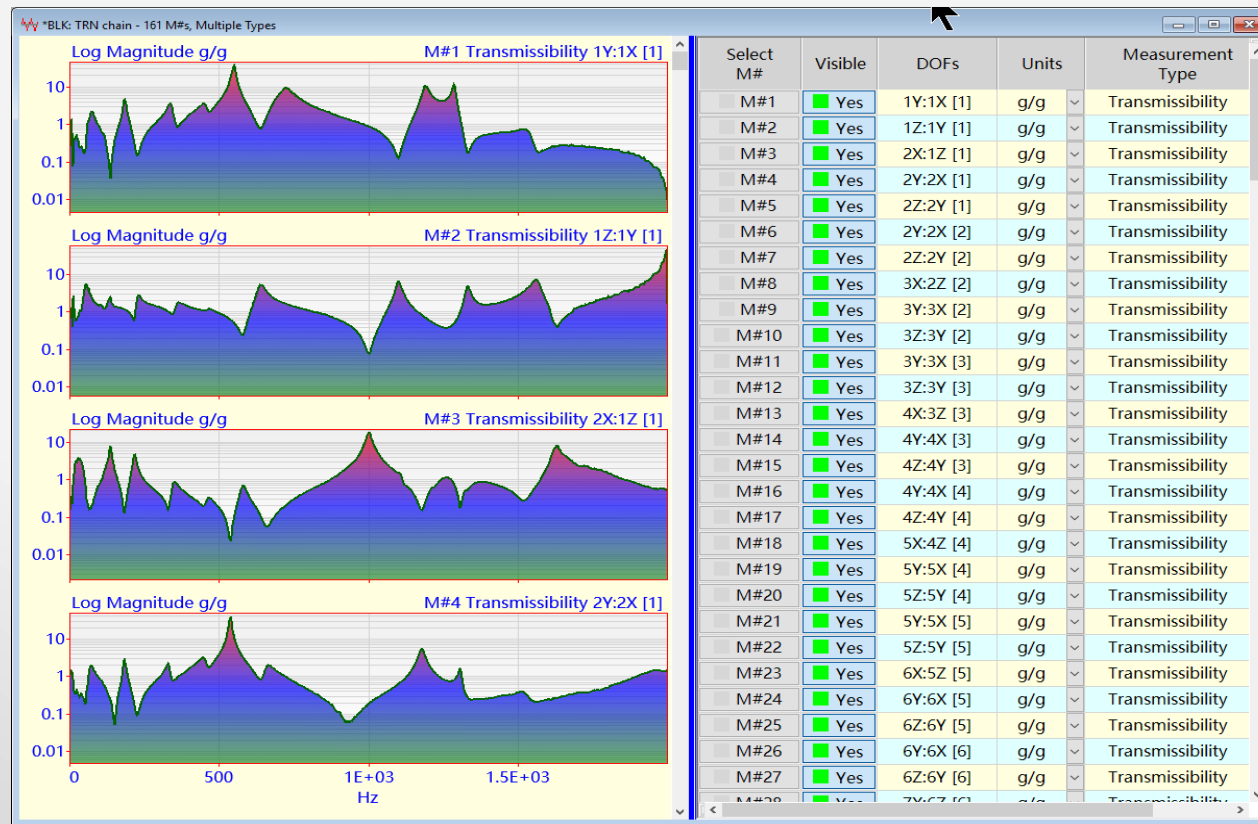


Random Force & Response Spectra of the Jim Beam



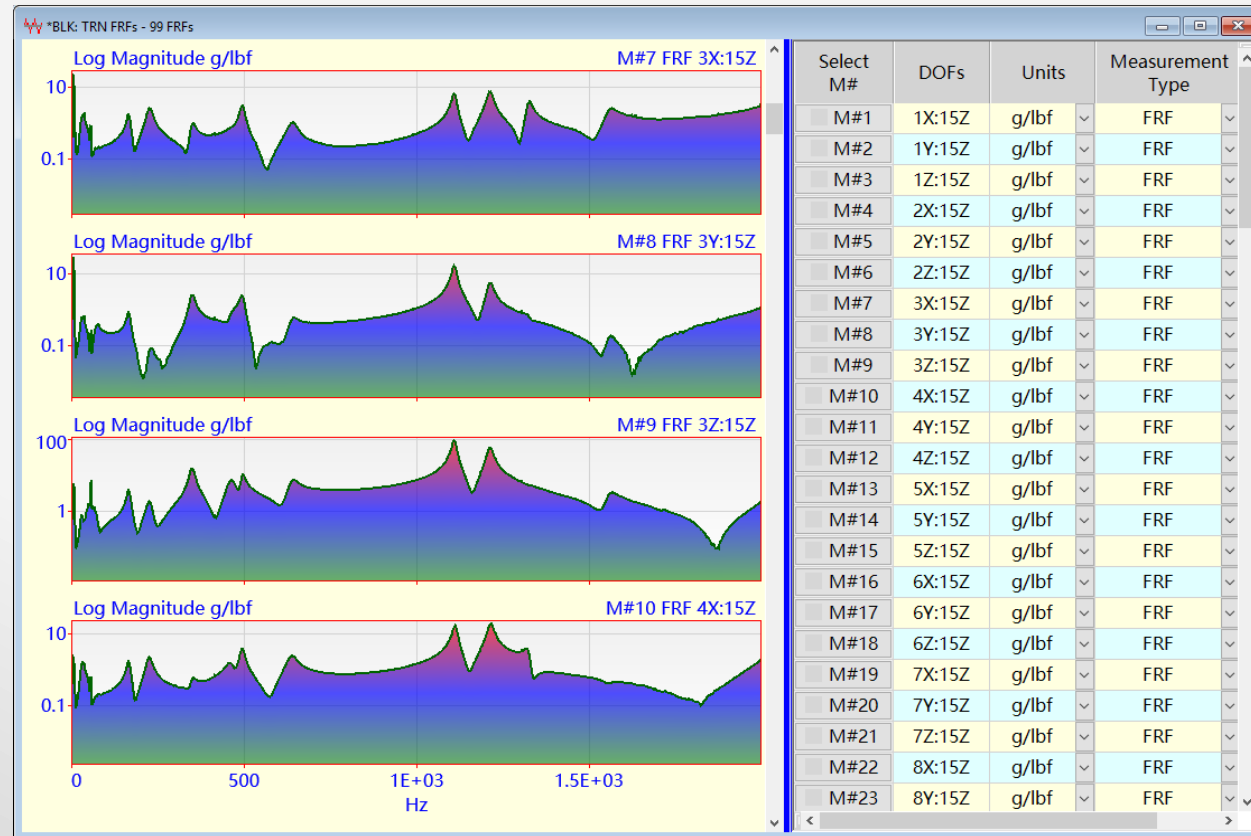
TRN Chain from Random Response Pairs

- A Transmissibility is a *different complex waveform* than an FRF
- *Peaks* in a Transmissibility are *not resonance peaks*
- Transmissibility's *cannot be curve fit* using an FRF-based curve fitting



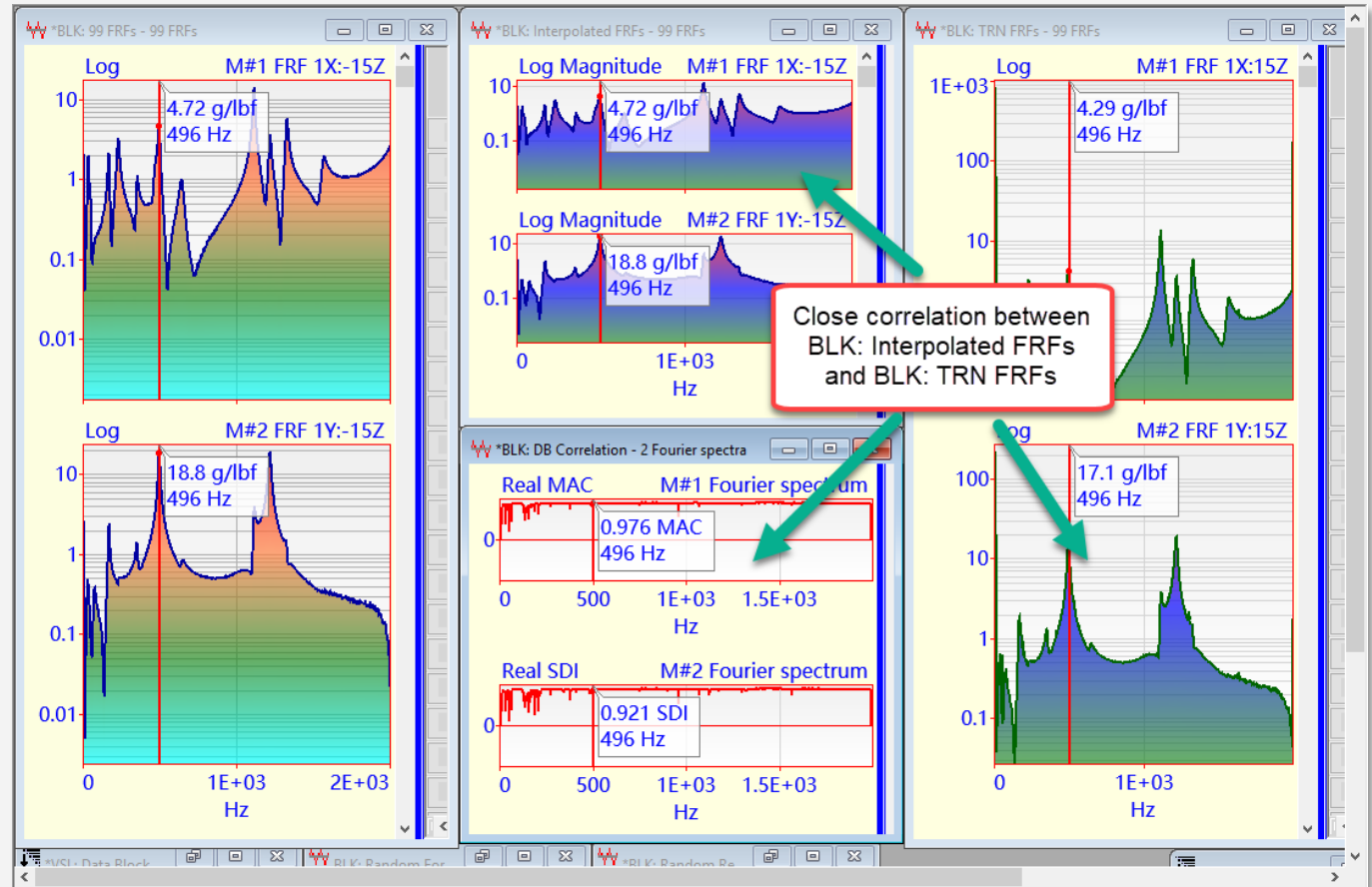
Single-Reference FRFs of Jim Beam from “Seeding” the TRN Chain

- A TRN Chain can be *seeded* with *any FRF*, provided that the **Roving DOF** of the seed matches **one of the DOFs** in the TRN Chain

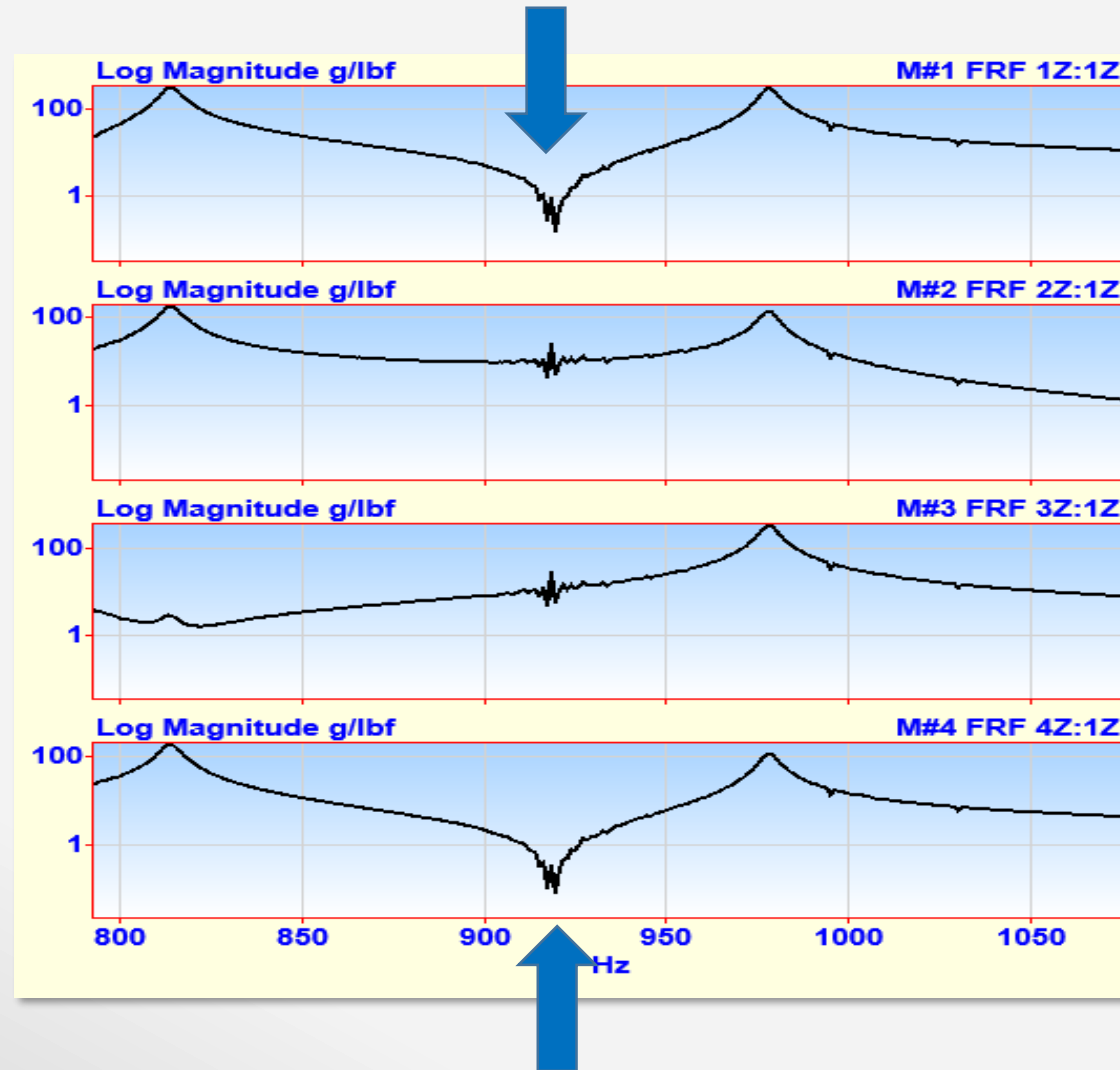


Comparing Experimental & Slinky™ FRFs of the Jim Beam

- Experimental FRFs have **275 samples**. Slinky (TRN FRFs) have **1000 samples**
- MAC measures the **co-linearity** of two shapes
- SDI measures the **difference** between two shapes



Noise Propagation from the FRF Seed



Summary

- TRN Chain testing *makes ODS & Modal testing easier*
- TRN Chain testing *only requires a pair of response sensors*
- TRN Chain testing *does not require a (long) wire* from one of the sensors to the acquisition system
- A **Slinky™** test *minimizes* the number of *sensor moves*
- A TRN Chain can be “seeded” with an *Auto spectrum, Cross spectrum, Fourier spectrum, or FRF* resulting in a *single-reference set* of those measurements
- One *Uni-axial* & one *Tri-axial* accelerometer and a *4-channel* acquisition system will yield *3D ODS's & Mode Shapes*