

# Structural Health Monitoring System of the Thuan Phuoc Suspension Bridge in Viet Nam

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**Abstract.** In Viet Nam, one of the most important matters about The Large Bridge Construction is longevity during the exploitation phase and structural resistance to wind storms. System of Structural Healthy Monitoring such as solution to the this problem. This article gives information about Structural Health Monitoring (SHM) system on Thuan Phuoc Suspension Bridge in Viet Nam. Some dangerous phenomena occur only under the combination of certain practical conditions such as the vibration of stay cables due to combined wind and rain in storms, earthquakes... Installation system include sensor, controller and software get data about vibration frequency, stress, strain and temperature values in structural components to monitor the behavior of structures during exploitation, analysis and evaluation is important from that. The monitoring system will provide a comprehensive assessment of the state of the structure, as well as possible early detection of abnormalities to take appropriate measures in time, avoiding unfortunate consequences.

**Keywords:** Structural Longevity; Thuan Phuoc Suspension Bridge; Structural Health Monitoring System(SHMS); Sensor; Controller; Website Monitor; Fast Fourier Transform (FFT).

## 1 Introduction

Nowaday, for bridges construction, monitoring with high reliability is extremely important. In addition to the main request of control of the construction process as well as the detection of damages or deterioration in the exploitation process, SHM system also provides quantitative data for evaluation, collected data can be used for research, improvement of construction methods, design work. During the exploitation phase, monitoring data is used to assess the extent of damage, deterioration, structural capacity, incident or abnormal behavior. To build the plans on maintenance and repair, to ensure normal operation and effective exploitation of the works[1].

Currently, monitoring activities for large span bridge have been established in many countries around the world and in the region. In Vietnam, the monitoring system is designed and installed in many large bridges such as Nhat Tan Bridge, Nguyen Van Troi - Tran Thi Ly Bridge, Can Tho Bridge, Cao Lanh Bridge, Nhat Le Bridge, - Cross-

roads of Nga Ba Hue... Several examples related to the recently constructed bridge observation system will be introduced as a basis for comparing and constructing a suitable monitoring system for the Thuan Phuoc suspension bridge[1].

Thuan Phuoc bridge is suspension bridge, it has a large span and a multiple indeterminate structure, large distortion, the width of the bridge is 18 meters with steel girder, bridge tower is 80 meters high from the top of the tower base. Monitoring of vibration frequencies, stresses, deformations, and temperatures in structural components to monitor the behavior of structures during exploitation is very important[1].

Yearly, the assessment of bridge health can be done through periodic assessment. However, this requires the labour mobilization is large, time-consuming and sometimes even demanding stoppages of the means on the bridge to carry out loading and measuring, not to mention the dangerous nature of this work for human participation. In addition, periodic inspections can record transient phenomena at the time of assessment, can not cover the entire operation of the under activities of bridge in various conditions. On the other hand, some dangerous phenomena occur only under certain combinations of practical conditions, such as the vibration of stay cables due to combined wind and rain, which can not be generated by people to serve the test. Therefore, the build of an automatic monitoring system, at the same time monitor many parameters and operate continuously over time can collect the important data. As a result, the monitoring and evaluation of bridge performance as well as can soon notice abnormalities in the structure to take appropriate measures in time, avoiding unfortunate consequences[1].

**Table 1.** Testing result of 2015[1] and results of the design drawings for construction of Thuan Phuoc Bridge [2]

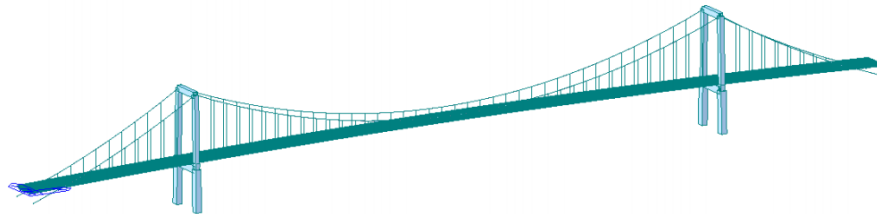
Results	Testing result of 2015	Design drawings for construction	Section
Frequency	0.267 (Hz)	0.258 (Hz)	¼; ½ Main girder
	0.597 (Hz)	0.658 - 0.933 (Hz)	¼; ½ Main cable
Tension of live load	52.513 (tons)	37.05 (tons)	Suspender cable
Deflection of live load	692 (mm)	1500 (mm)	½ Steel girder
Stress of live load	35 (Mpa); -28 (Mpa)	50 (Mpa); -50(Mpa)	½ Steel girder

## 2 Methods of Thuan Phuoc Bridge Structural Health Monitoring System

### 2.1 Calculation Model

Using finite element method (FEM) to model the bridge structure, to compare update analysis with monitoring results to determine the model that is most compatible with the current monitoring results as the basis determines the initial state of the bridge. The analysis of the alarm threshold values of the sensors is also analyzed on this model.

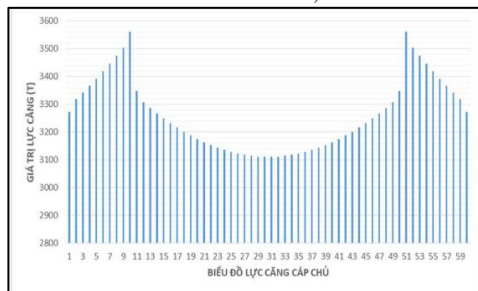
MIDAS-civil and SAP2000 software used to analyze the model. The results of the analysis are compared with the results of the design calculations, the results of the latest load test (2015) and the results of observations at the present time (2018). The results of model analysis and determination of warning threshold values are as follows:



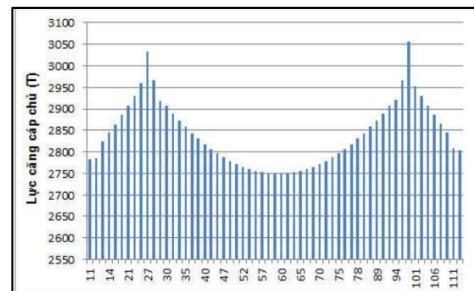
**Fig. 1.** Analysis model on software

The X axis is the bridge axis, the Y axis is the bridge and the Z axis is the vertical axis.

Tension in main cable, initial state as follows:

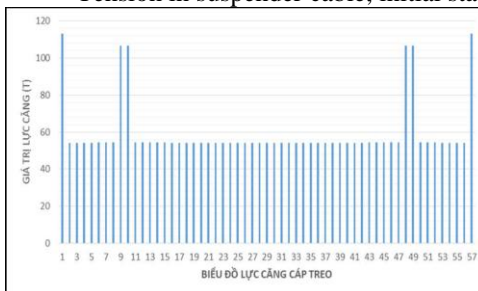


**Fig. 2.** Tension in main cable, initial state  
Midas 2017

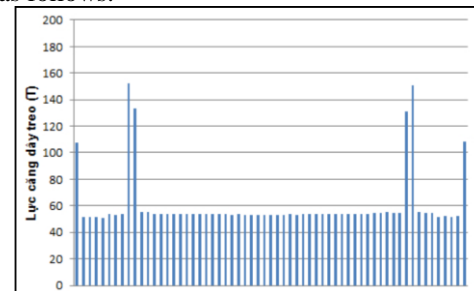


**Fig. 3.** Tension in main cable, initial state  
Sap 2000

Tension in suspender cable, initial state as follows:



**Fig. 4.** Tension in suspender cable, initial state  
Midas 2017



**Fig. 5.** Tension in suspender cable, initial state  
Sap 2000

Moment of live load 0.65HL93 as follows:

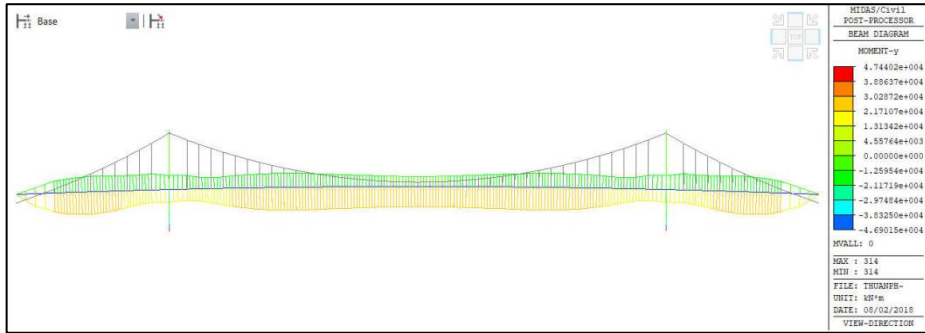


Fig. 6. Moment of live load 0.65HL93 on Midas 2017

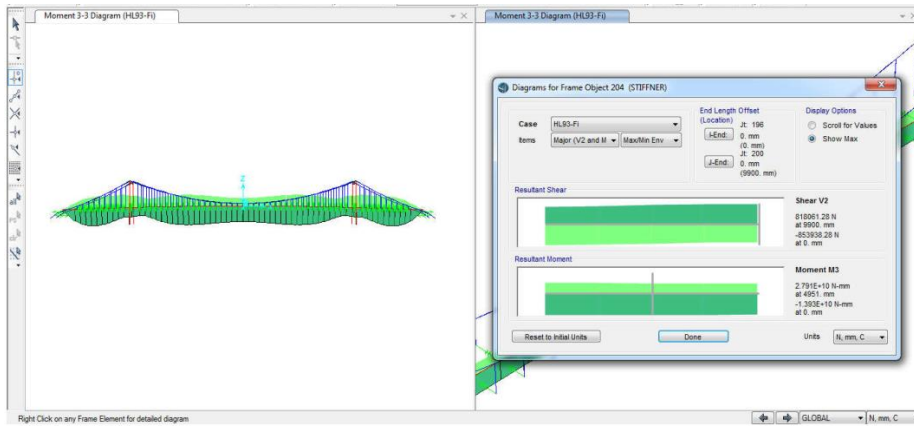


Fig. 7. Moment of live load 0.65HL93 on Sap 2000

Displacement of live load 0.65HL93 as follows:

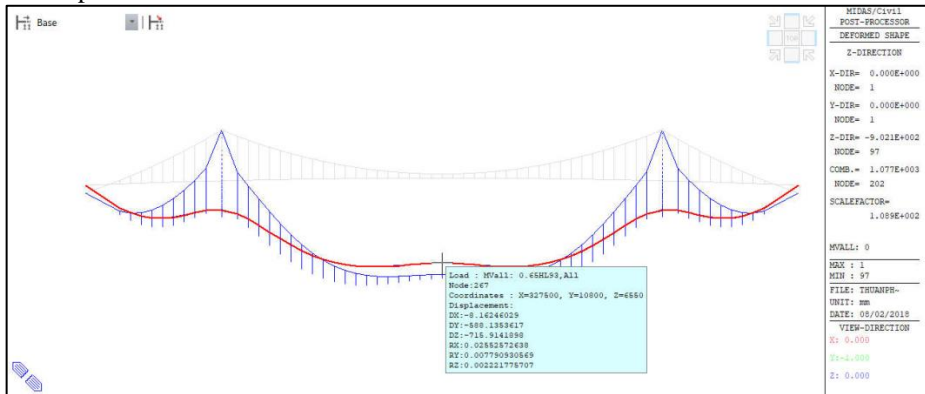
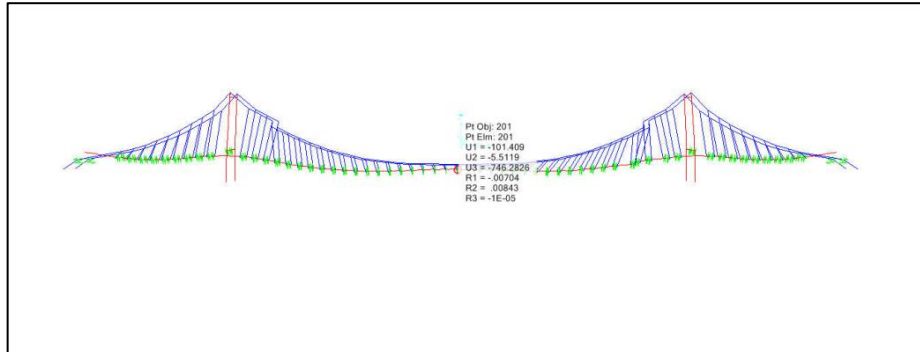
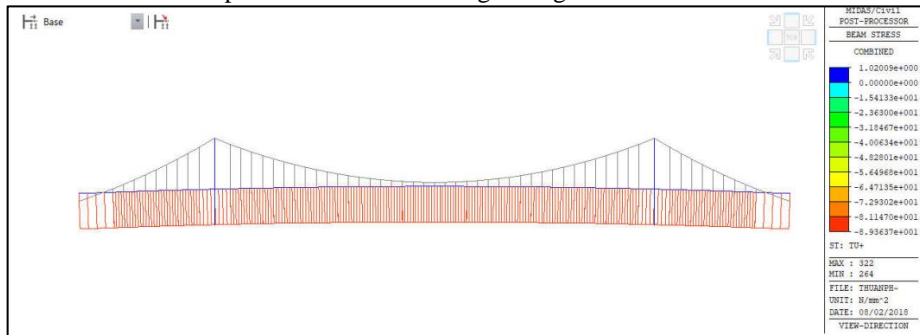


Fig. 8. Displacement of live load 0.65HL93 on Midas 2017

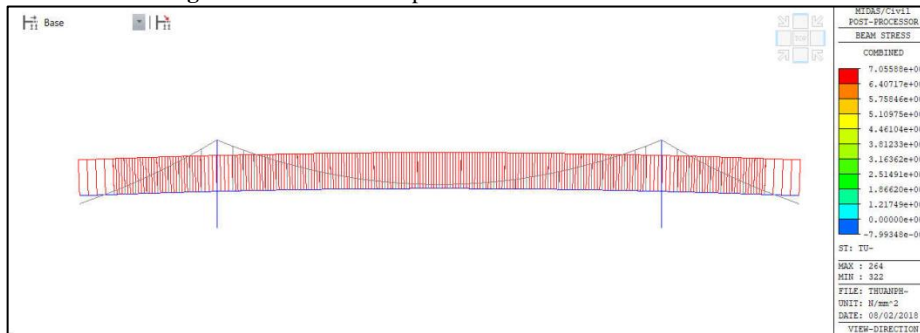


**Fig. 9.** Displacement of live load 0.65HL93 on Sap 2000

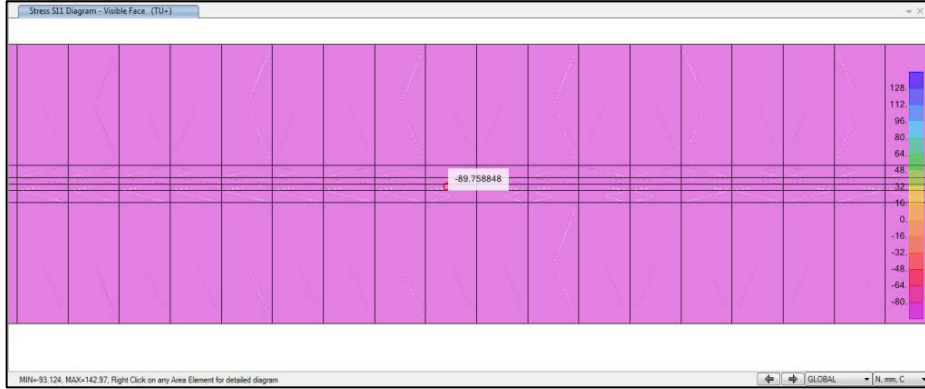
Stress due to temperature TU in stiffening steel girder:



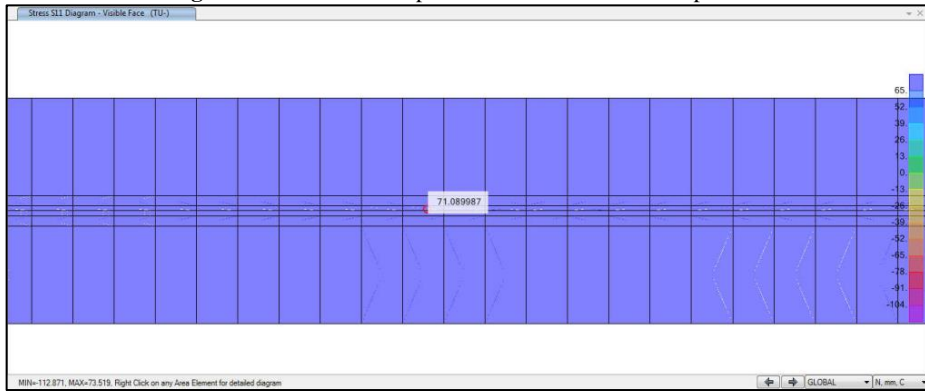
**Fig. 10.** Stress due to temperature TU+ = 38°C on Midas 2017



**Fig. 11.** Stress due to temperature TU+ = -30°C on Midas 2017

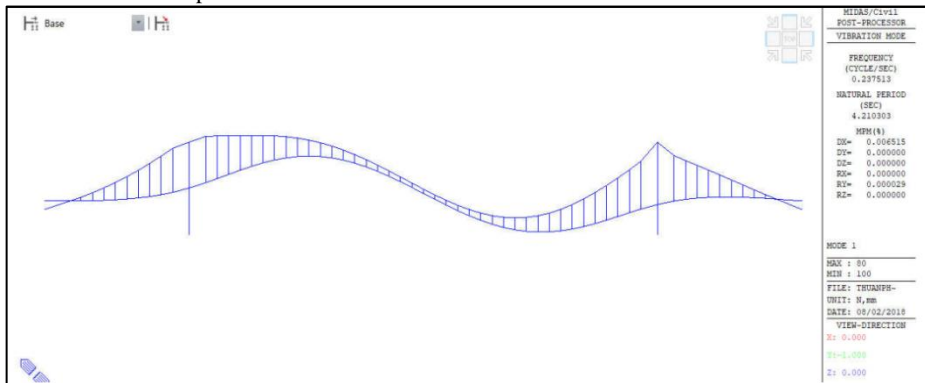


**Fig. 12.** Stress due to temperature TU+ = +38°C on Sap 2000

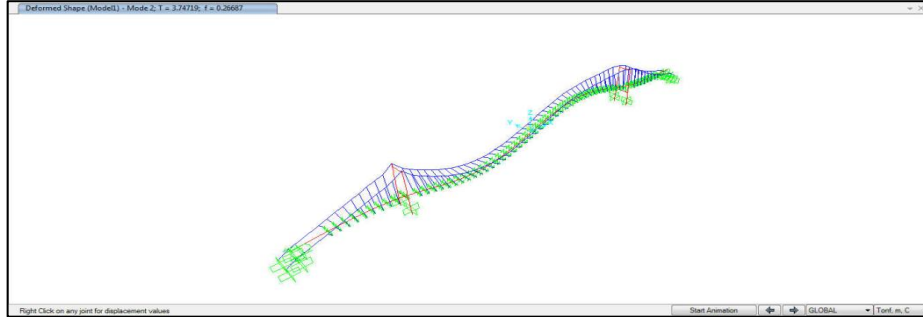


**Fig. 13.** Stress due to temperature TU+ = -30°C on Sap 2000

Vibration of suspension



**Fig. 14.** Vibration on Model 1 f=0.238Hz – Midas 2017



**Fig. 15.** Vibration on Model 2  $f=0.267\text{Hz}$  – Sap 2000

**Table 2.** General results from the calculation model

Location	Model	Analysis model CsiBridgeV20 (Sap2000V14)		Analysis model Midas2017	
		Max	Min	Max	Min
Stress on top fibers above of L/2 due to live load + temperature (Mpa)		46.65	-138.56	48.40	-123.00
Stress on bottom fibers below of L/2 due to live load + temperature (Mpa)		131.95	-48.55	120.20	-46.90
Stress on top fibers above of L/4 due to live load + temperature (Mpa)		39.80	-144.70	43.90	-127.20
Stress on bottom fibers below of L/4 due to live load + temperature (Mpa)		140.17	-39.73	128.00	-41.40
Vibration Frequency (Hz)		0.2668		0.2375	
Tilts L/2 horizontal axis (degree)		0.928	-0.928	1.463	-1.463
Tilts L/2 longitudinal axis (degree)		-	-	0.446	-0.446

**Table 3.** Comparison of calculation results and accreditation results for 2015[1][2]

Location	Model	Analysis model CsiBridge V20 (Sap2000 V14)	Analysis model Midas2017	Analysis model RM (Accredita- tion 2015)	Design data (China)
Moment of L/2 due to live load 0.65HL93 (kN.m)		27910	24238	21000	-
Moment of L/4 due to live load 0.65HL93 (kN.m)		32710	27335	25918	-
Displacement of L/2 due to live load 0.65HL93 (mm)		746.3	715.9	630.0	-
Displacement of L/2 due to live load 0.65HL93 (mm)		761.9	743.3	704.9	-
Tension of main cable Maximum (T)		3050.0	3492.0	3537.6	-
Tension of suspender cable Maximum (T)		150.0	113.05	113.51	-
Vibration Frequency (Hz)		0.2668	0.2375	0.2591	0.2456

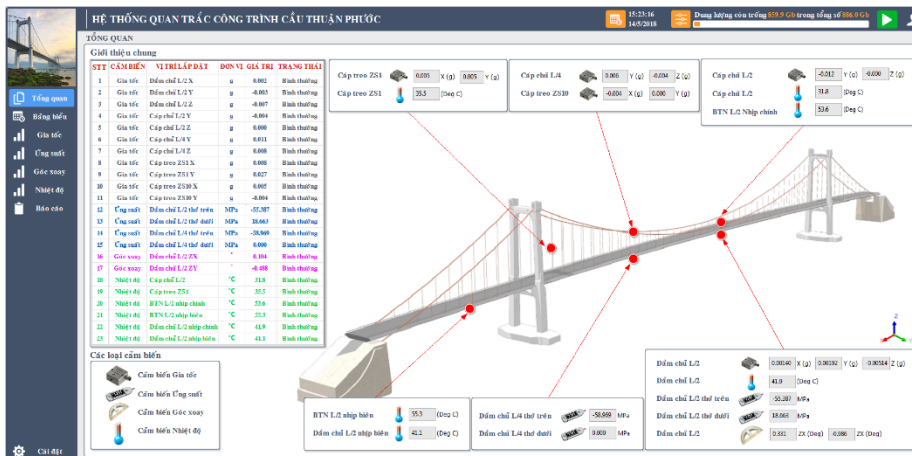
After comparing the results from the computational model, the consultant chooses the model with Midas Civil to calculate the warning threshold. In addition, due to the calculation model, factors such as structural changes during the construction process are not taken into account; the reduction of the material intensity after 10 years of use, so the consultant recommends the warning value included in the software by 75% of the value indicated in the table above, specifically:

**Table 4.** Warning threshold results

Location	Model	
	Max	Min
Stress on top fibers above of L/2 due to live load + temperature (Mpa)	36.30	-92.25
Stress on bottom fibers below of L/2 due to live load + temperature (Mpa)	90.15	-35.18
Stress on top fibers above of L/4 due to live load + temperature (Mpa)	32.93	-95.40
Stress on bottom fibers below of L/4 due to live load + temperature (Mpa)	96.00	-31.05
Tilts L/2 horizontal axis (degree)	1.10	
Tilts L/2 longitudinal axis (degree)	0.335	

**2.2 Method of arrangement of monitoring system**

The monitoring system is arranged in a clustered model, each cluster has a datalogger that connects to the surrounding sensors. The nodes are connected together by a network cable or fiber optic cable. The last node connected to the server is located one kilometer away from the optical node. Interface monitoring program is designed on the programming language of labview as shown below.



**Fig. 16.** General Installation location of the sensor

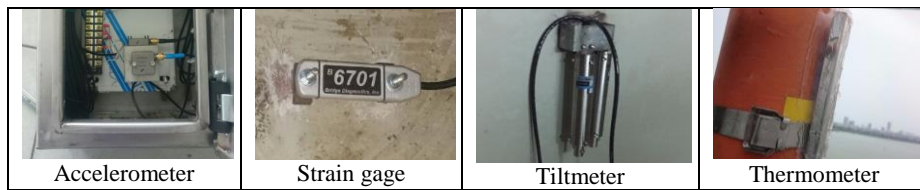


### 2.3 Data Acquisition Components

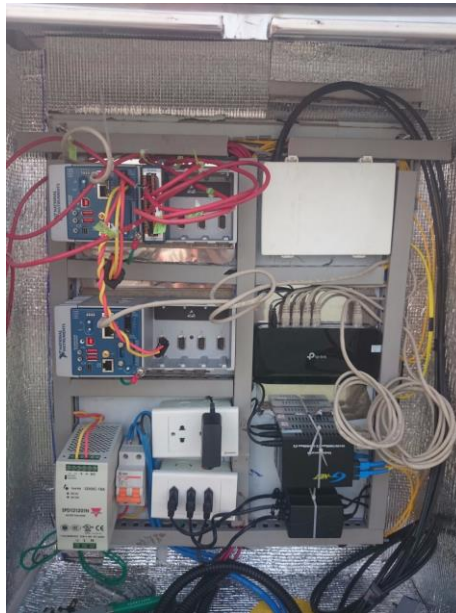
The system include three controller get data from sensor, sent to host computer at control room. In there, the collection and analysis software will display operation of sensor and calculated important value so that expert could real-time evaluate any time of the day.

**Table 5.** The number of sensor installed on the Thuan Phuoc SHM system (stage 1)

No.	Sensor type	Quantity
1	Accelerometer	11
2	Strain gage	4
3	Tiltmeter	2
4	Thermometer	6



**Fig. 17.** Sensors installed in the SHM system at the Thuan Phuoc Suspension Bridge



**Fig. 18.** The nodes of controllers are connected together by a network cable or fiber optic cable

### 4. Some results of initial monitoring

Data from thermometer, strain gauge, tiltmeters, and acceleration sensors are displayed on the monitoring interface and stored in disk in real time. A program designed specifically for data analysis and preparation of monitoring reports by week, month as follows:



Fig. 19. Panel of accelerometers sensor system

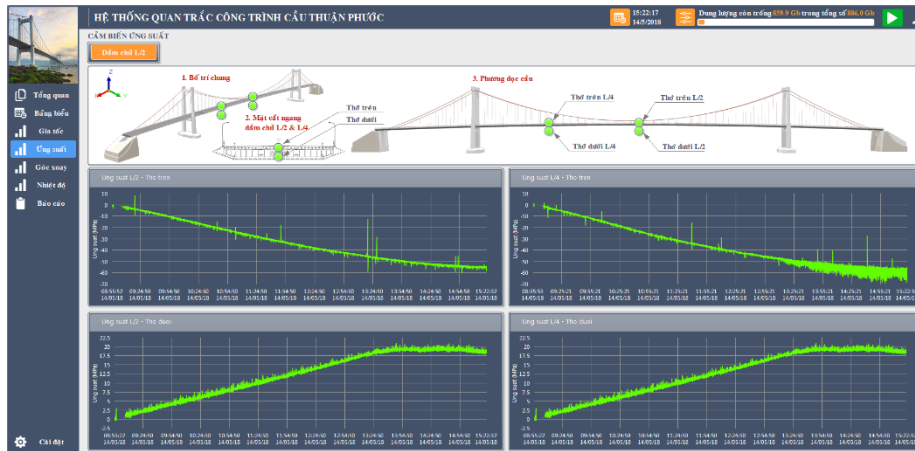


Fig. 20. Panel of strain gauges sensor system

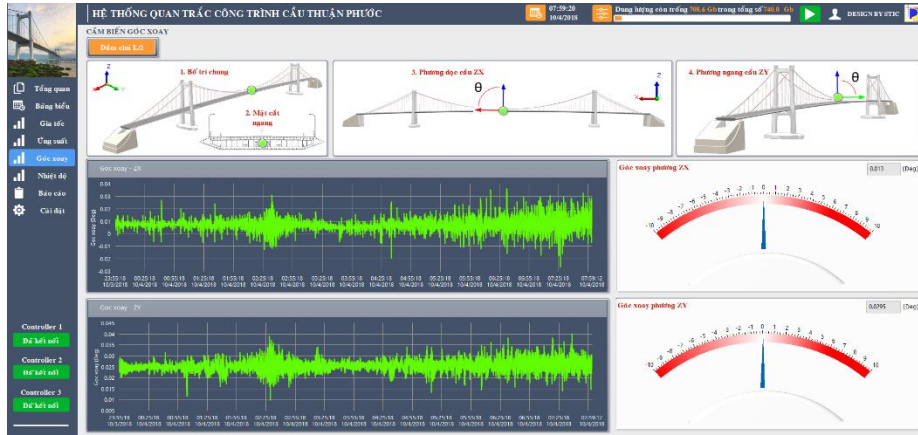


Fig. 21. Panel of tiltmeters sensor system

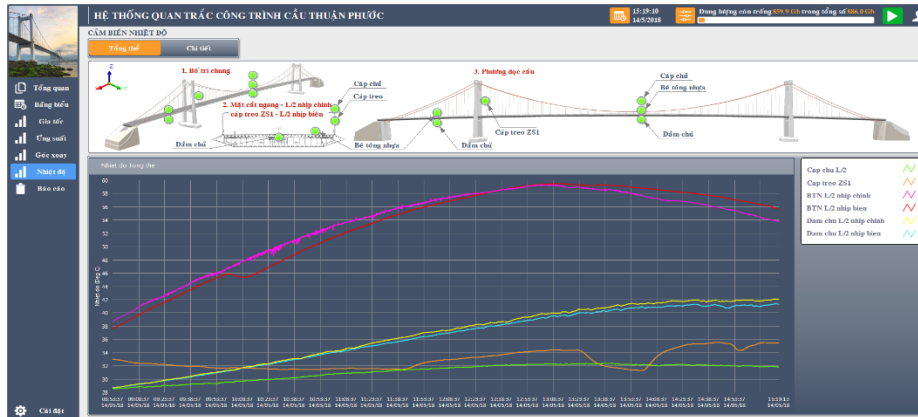


Fig. 22. Panel of thermometer sensor system

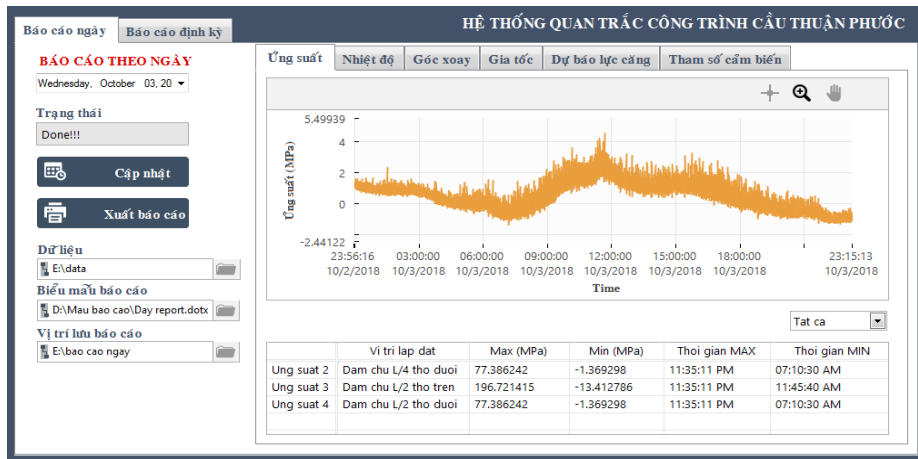


Fig. 23. The Program for data analysis and preparation of monitoring day reports

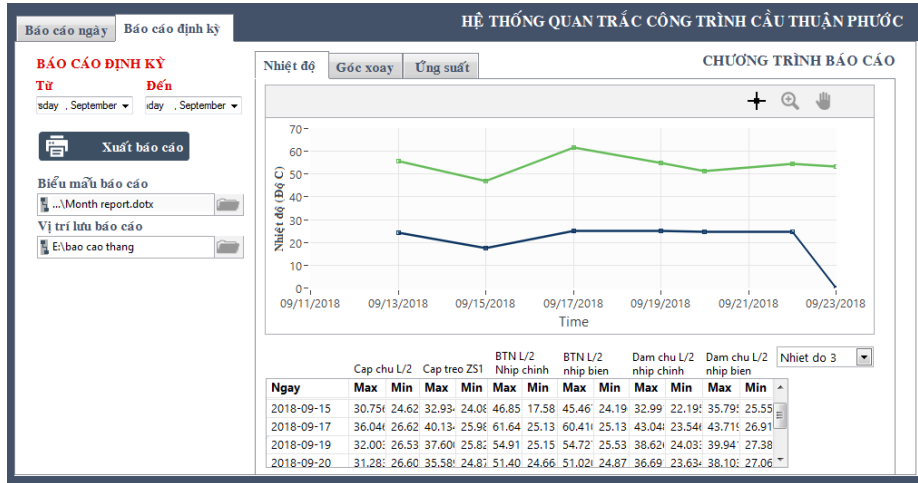


Fig. 24. The Program for data analysis and preparation of monitoring month reports

For vibration frequency, data from accelerometer calculated through FFT calculation program, it is determined frequency peak and frequency value corresponding.

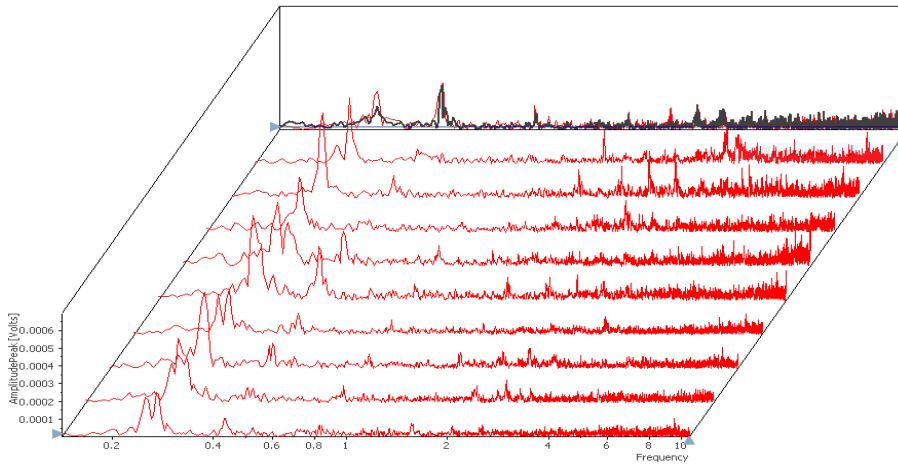


Fig. 25. Result of FFT  $f=0.241$ (Hz) analyzed of accelerometer on  $\frac{1}{2}$  span main girder

The results obtained from the monitoring system are similar to the results obtained on the finite element model, the present value of the sensors in the safety value domain is calculated according to the data design.

### 3 Conclusions

The Thuan Phuoc Monitoring System provided by the group of authors has been designed and installed with relatively low cost compared to similar systems supplied by foreign companies. Graphical interface design in Labview environment allows for monitoring data in real time is quite convenient. The results of the analysis of the initial observation data show that the dynamic range of motion is relatively smaller than the change in stress spectrum which shown table above.

The results of individual vibration frequency analyzes from vibration acceleration sensors show that the specific vibration frequency of the real model is not much different from the FEM model used in the design to be exploited safely. However, it is necessary to consider additional environmental load factors such as wind, structural corrosion to assess the health of the bridge in the coming time is necessary.

With the system of monitoring, analysis and warning, Thuan Phuoc SHM system is considered as a step forward in monitoring technology in Vietnam with flexible operation and cost savings. Considered as modern and promising in the future.

### References

1. Testing result report Thuan Phuoc Suspension Bridge, Department of construction of Da Nang City, 2015.
2. Design drawings for construction of Thuan Phuoc Suspension Bridge, Department of construction of Da Nang City, 2003.