



# Numerical Analysis on the Sub-Span Oscillation of Iced Eight-Bundle Conductors During Galloping

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Under the excitement of wind loads, UHV transmission lines are subject to two types of vibration phenomena, namely, sub-span oscillation and galloping. This phenomenon can easily lead to conductor breakage, interphase flashover, fatigue damage to fittings, and even lead to tower collapse and disconnection accidents. The numerical analysis method is used to analyze the sub-span oscillation characteristics of the eight-bundle conductor during galloping. The results of the numerical simulation are compared to explore the influence of wind speed, span length, initial angle of wind attack, and turbulence intensity on the galloping line, looking for movement characteristics between each sub-conductor. The results provide a reference for research on the galloping principle of UHV transmission line and anti-oscillation to further improve the resistance of the power grid against disaster ability.

**Keywords:** galloping characteristic, iced eight-bundle conductors, multi-span transmission line, numerical simulation, sub-span oscillation

## INTRODUCTION

In recent years, there has been the problem of imbalance between power supply and demand (EPRI 2009; Li et al., 2021a; Li et al., 2021b; Li et al., 2022). Therefore, it is necessary to address ultra-long distance and cross-regional energy transmission. Of course, the safe operation of UHV transmission lines will be affected by the working environment. Due to the sudden change and complexity of the external environment, the normal operation of transmission lines faces serious challenges (Jafari et al., 2020). Aerodynamic instability of iced conductors with asymmetric cross-section area would cause iced conductors to gallop. This phenomenon is typical self-excited fluid-solid coupling vibration, which may cause breakage and short-circuit of transmission lines, or even tower toppling (Nigol et al., 1977; Cai et al., 2019a; Cai et al., 2019b). Research on the galloping phenomenon of UHV transmission lines is very limited, which cannot yet meet the actual engineering needs. In recent years, domestic scholars have begun to study the galloping mechanism of UHV transmission lines and its prevention and control technology, but much research work is still in the exploratory stage.

Numerical models for sub-span oscillation analysis of subconductors are usually dependent on quasi-stationary theory (QST). Since it is very difficult to design a corresponding small-scale model of transmission lines in a long-span length wind tunnel, numerical simulation is an effective method for studying wake-induced oscillation phenomena. Most researchers focused

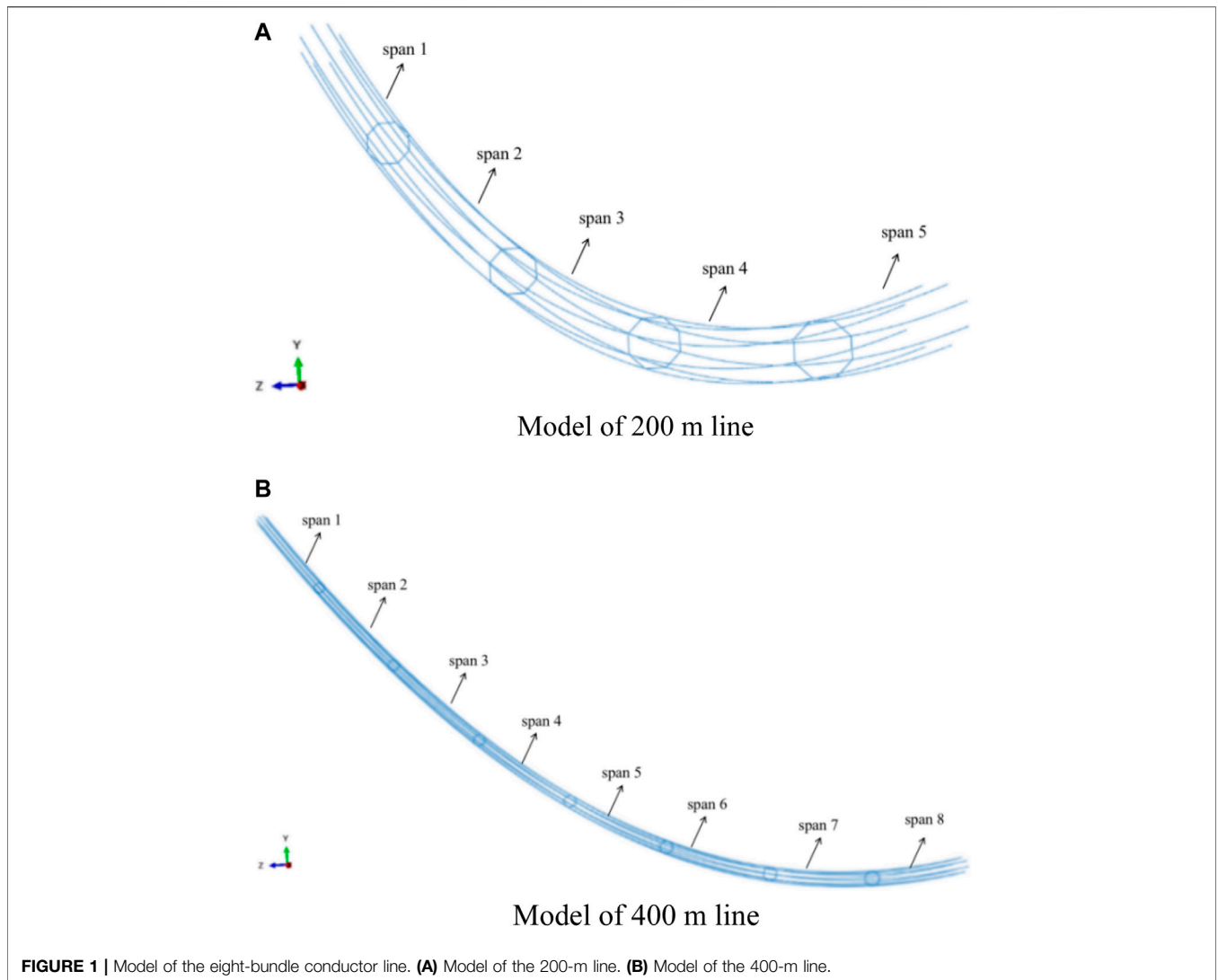
on the wake-induced oscillation responses of twin bundle conductors. Rawlins (1976) and Rawlins (1977) expressed the dynamic properties of twin conductors in the normal propagation mode using the transfer matrix method. Tsui and Tsui (1980) used the 2D and 3D finite element method (FEM) to study sub-span oscillation. Williams and Suaris (2006) presented an interference model to discuss the effects of space on aerodynamic response, and they highlighted that there were three dominant regions: the proximity interference region, induced sub-span oscillation region, and wake interference region. With the wide use of quad-bundle conductors, the sub-span oscillation of quad bundle conductors attracts the interest of researchers. Diana et al. (2014a) and Diana et al. (2014b) proposed a numerical approach to reproduce sub-span oscillation and investigated the quad spacer damper for controlling sub-span oscillations using aerodynamic coefficients obtained in wind tunnel tests. Although there are some studies on the oscillation of bundle conductors, the effects of complicated

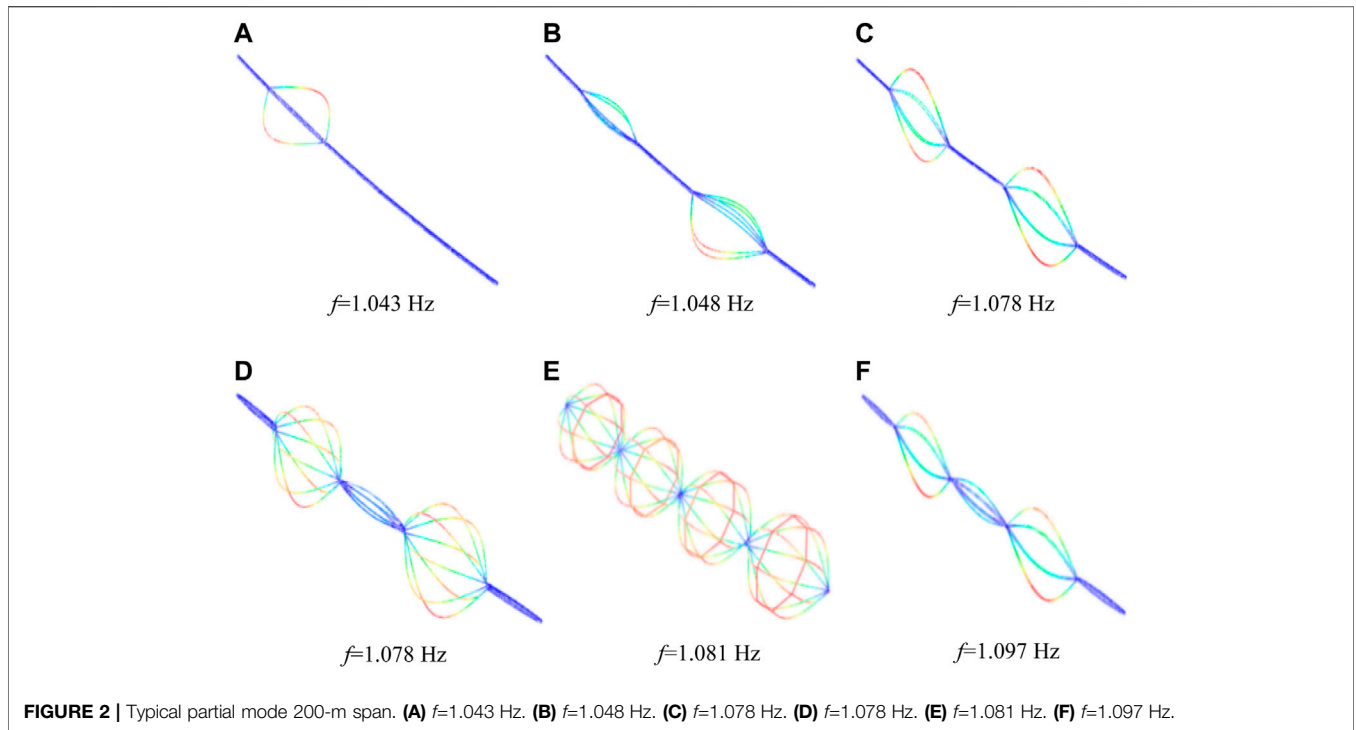
**TABLE 1** | Parameters of the iced eight-bundle conductor.

Section	Size (mm)	$\rho$ (kg/M <sup>3</sup> )	E (MPa)	G (MPa)
Conductor	30	1735.9	63,000	24,230.7
Ice	18	900	0.6	0.6

meteorological conditions of sub-span oscillation behaviors of bundle conductor transmission lines, especially eight-bundle conductors, require further investigation.

In recent years, lots of experts have studied the problem of galloping of transmission lines by numerical methods. Cai et al. (2015) studied the variation of the aerodynamic coefficient varying with the angle of wind attack by using the finite element method (FEM). Zhou et al. (2018) carried out a wind tunnel simulation to simulate the galloping of iced eight-bundle conductors and investigated different galloping behaviors of the parameters. Cai et al. (2019b) used the nonlinear FEM to analyze the galloping morphology of a





**TABLE 2 |** Physical and mechanical parameters of the iced conductor.

$EA$ ( $\times 10^6$ N)	$GI$ ( $N\ m^2/rad$ )	$\mu$ (kg/M)	$J$ ( $\times 10^{-4}$ kg m)
31.7	1,057	1.733	2.69

sector-shaped eight-bundle conductor with different wind speeds, span lengths, and initial angle of wind attack. Talib et al. (2019) proposed a new dynamic model for the simulation of transmission line galloping. Liu et al. (2019), Liu et al. (2020a), Liu et al. (2020b), Liu et al. (2020c), Liu et al. (2021a), Liu et al. (2021b), Liu et al. (2021c), Liu et al. (2021d) and Liu et al. (2021e) and Min et al. (2021) obtained the aerodynamic coefficients of the conductor by applying the wind tunnel test and examined the stability and galloping characteristics of the iced conductor. The galloping behaviors of D-shape six bundles in the random wind test line are numerically simulated. Due to the continued existence of the galloping phenomenon and great harm, Oh and Sohn (2020) analyzed conductor galloping through the study of transmission line stability. Cai et al. (2020a) analyzed sector-shape eight-bundle conductor galloping through the FEM; furthermore, Cai et al. (2020b) analyzed galloping behaviors results of the test transmission tower-line.

Recently, there is still a lack of the influence of sub-span oscillation of iced eight-bundle conductors during galloping, especially the parameter analysis of UHV transmission lines under different turbulence intensity. In this article, the conductor galloping process of iced eight-bundle conductors is simulated by the numerical simulation method, the influence of wind speed and span length on sub-span oscillation during the

conductor galloping process is analyzed, and the effects of wind speed, the angle of wind attack and the wind turbulence intensity are studied. Therefore, the follow-up research on galloping and anti-galloping characteristics of the frozen eight-bundle conductor has significant reference meaning.

## NUMERICAL METHODS FOR TYPICAL EIGHT-BUNDLE LINES

Wind-driven wet snow may pack onto the windward sides of conductors, forming a hard, tenacious deposit with a sharp leading edge. The resulting ice shape may permit galloping. Combined with actual observation, the crescent shape can be generalized with respect to the great variety of natural heavy ice shapes (Hu et al., 2012; Yan et al., 2016). The aerodynamic forces of bundle conductors are the foundations of the analysis of the galloping of transmission lines (Liu et al., 2019). Here, the aerodynamic coefficients of crescent-shaped iced eight-bundle conductors are experimentally measured by wind tunnel tests.

Eight-bundle iced transmission lines are major research objects. The sub-spans of each span are the same. The conductor model is 8×LGJ-400/50, and the diameter of the sub-conductor is 30 mm. The model of the sub-spacer is FJZ-400, each with a mass of 17.5 kg. Its parameters are given in Table 1, and the model diagrams of 200- and 400-m lines are shown in Figures 1, 2.

The physical parameters of conductors and ice are listed in Table 2. The cross section of the iced conductor is simplified as a circular section when the galloping of the iced conductor is simulated by ABAQUS software. It is noted that the axial

**TABLE 3** | Spacer arrangement.

Span (m)	Spacer number (N)	Sub-span length (m)
200	4	31 m–50 m – 47 m–46 m – 26 m
400	7	40 m–50 m – 55 m–55 m – 55 m–55 m – 50 m–40 m

**TABLE 4** | Modes and natural frequencies of the iced eight-bundle conductor.

Direction	Modal shape	Natural frequency (Hz)	
		200 m	400 m
In-plane	One loop	0.26	0.14
	Two loops	0.52	0.29
	Three loops	0.77	0.37
Out-of-plane	Two loops	0.52	0.29
	Three loops	0.80	0.43
	Four loops	1.02	0.57
Torsion	One loop	0.43	0.31
	Two loops	0.60	0.36
	Three loops	0.83	0.48

rigidity, torsional rigidity, mass per unit length, and moment of inertia of the equivalent cable and those of the original cable should be equal, which can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned}
 E' \pi d'^2 / 4 = EA; \quad G' \pi d'^2 / 32 = GI \\
 \rho' \pi d'^2 / 4 = \mu; \quad \rho' \pi d'^4 / 32 = J \quad , \quad (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $E'$ ,  $G'$ ,  $\rho'$ , and  $d'$  are, respectively, the elastic modulus, shear modulus, density, and diameter of the equivalent cable, which can be obtained by solving (1) whose right hand sides are the corresponding quantities of the original iced conductor. The physical parameters of the conductors and ice are listed in **Table 2**.

The influence of the initial axial tension in the main cable and side cable on the element stiffness matrix cannot be ignored. In addition, the cable sags due to its own weight, resulting in a certain decrease or loss of its elastic modulus. In order to consider the influence of cable sag, the concept of equivalent elastic modulus is used to modify the elastic modulus of the cable. The equivalent modulus of elasticity generally adopts the  $E_{Ernst}$  formula:

$$E_{Ernst} = \frac{E}{1 + \frac{(ql)^2}{12T^3} AE} \quad (2)$$

where  $E_{Ernst}$  is the equivalent elastic modulus of the material;  $E$  is the elastic modulus of the material;  $q$  is the weight of the unit length of the cable;  $l$  is the projection length of the cable element in the horizontal direction;  $A$  is the cross-sectional area of the cable; and  $T$  is cable tension.

The numerical simulations were carried out on a personal computer Dell Studio Desktop D540, and each process to arrive at a steady result took about 5 h. To speed up the efficiency, several simulations were submitted at the same time. The dynamic implicit analysis is used in the numerical method. The dynamic responses of the transmission line with different damping ratios in different directions are analyzed by ABAQUS with the user-defined cable element. The damping

ratios  $\xi_{z1}$ ,  $\xi_{y1}$ , and  $\xi_{\theta1}$ , in the horizontal, vertical, and torsional directions are set to be 0, 0.5, and 2%, respectively, determined and verified by the reference (Zhou et al., 2016). The time step is set to be 0.01; we have already calculated that the step is set to be 0.005, and the error of the vertical amplitude is 2.74%. Considering the efficiency of the numerical simulation, the time step is set to be 0.01.

In the research, the aerodynamic parameters of the iced UHV transmission line are analyzed using the results of wind tunnel experiments (Yan et al., 2016). The aerodynamic forces are applied to the conductor to numerically simulate the galloping of the conductor. In the stiffness and massless user-defined element, the torsion angle, velocity, and displacement under the condition of applying aerodynamic force could help obtain the node of the cable element used in ABAQUS software (Zhou et al., 2016). The arrangement of the spacers is shown in **Table 3**.

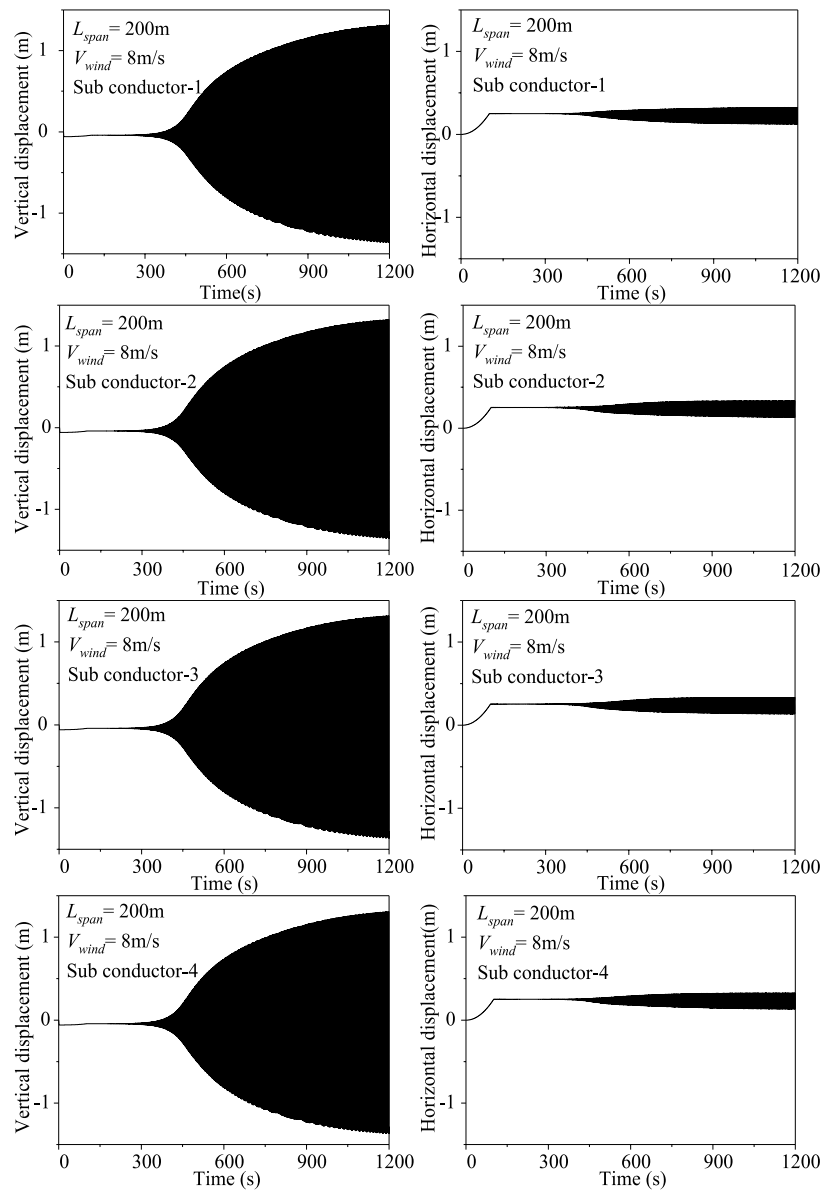
The Rayleigh attenuation model is general for cable attenuation, shown in **Eq. 3**:

$$C = \alpha G + \beta K \quad (3)$$

$C$ ,  $M$ , and  $K$  are damping matrices, quality matrices, and stiffness matrices, respectively.  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  is the Rayleigh damping coefficient, which are determined by the natural frequency and damping ratio. In order to improve the accuracy of the galloping characteristics, according to the previous literature (Hu et al., 2012, Cai et al., 2015) the calculation repetition time step is set to 0.01.

## WHOLE-SPAN AND SUB-SPAN MODELS

When the transmission conductor galloping occurs, the line is often accompanied by the vibration between the sub-spans in addition to the whole-span galloping. The natural frequency and mode affect the characteristics of conductor galloping (Zhang et al., 2000; Liu et al., 2021e). The natural frequency and whole-span mode are obtained, shown in **Table 4**. In the case of a transmission line with a distance of 200 m, the natural frequency of the in-plane single and half-wave 0.26 Hz is less than the natural frequency of the in-plane double half-wave 0.52 Hz, and the frequency of the in-plane single-half-wave is almost the natural frequency of the double half-wave; the natural frequency of the out-of-plane double-half-wave 0.52 Hz is less than the natural frequency of the out-of-plane four-half wave, and the natural frequency of the out-of-plane double half-wave is almost half of the natural frequency of the out-of-plane four-half wave; the natural frequency of the twist three-half wave is 0.83 Hz. It is nearly equal to the natural frequency of 0.80 Hz for the out-of-plane three-half-wave; for a line with a span of



**FIGURE 3 |** Time history of midpoint displacement of the iced eight-bundle conductor under a wind velocity of 8 m/s (200 m span).

400 m, the natural frequency of the in-plane single half-wave of 0.14 Hz is less than the natural frequency of the in-plane double half-wave 0.29 Hz, and the frequency of the in-plane single half-wave is nearly half of the natural frequency of the double half-wave. The natural frequency of the out-of-plane three-half-wave 0.43 is almost equal to the natural frequency of the torsional three-half-wave 0.48 Hz. The natural frequency of the in-plane double half-wave 0.52 Hz is the same as the natural frequency of the out-of-plane double half-wave 0.52 Hz. It is not difficult to find that in this case, there are 1:2 and 1:1 internal resonance

conditions by analyzing the modal and natural frequencies of the 200- and 400-m spans.

It can be observed from the figure that a relatively dense natural frequency is concentrated in the frequency range of 1.043–1.138 Hz, with three directions of in-plane, out-of-plane and torsion, single half-wave, double half-wave, three-half-wave, four-half-wave wave, and several other modes [67]. For example:  $f = 1.043$  Hz and  $f = 1.045$  Hz are single half-waves,  $f = 1.048$  Hz,  $f = 1.052$  Hz,  $f = 1.138$  Hz are double half-waves,  $f = 1.058$  Hz and  $f = 1.097$  Hz are three half-waves, and  $f = 1.081$  Hz is four half-waves.

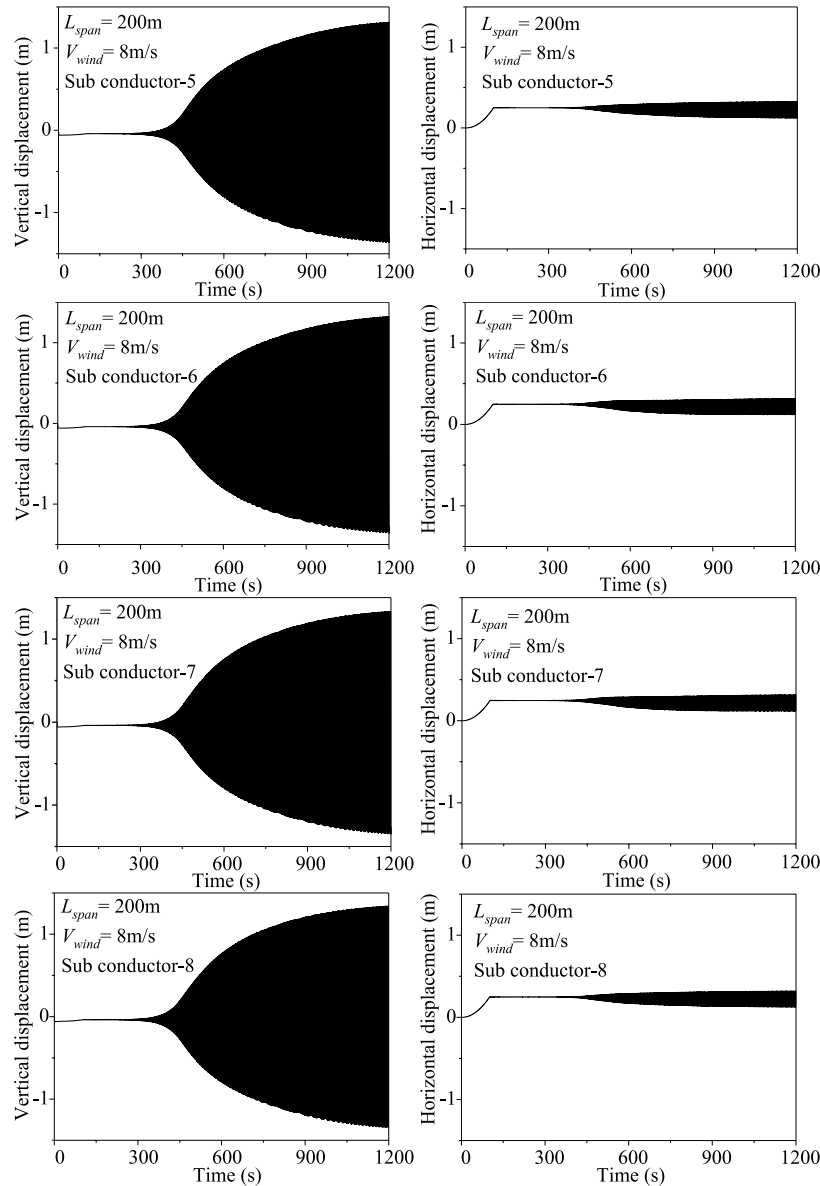


FIGURE 3 | Continued.

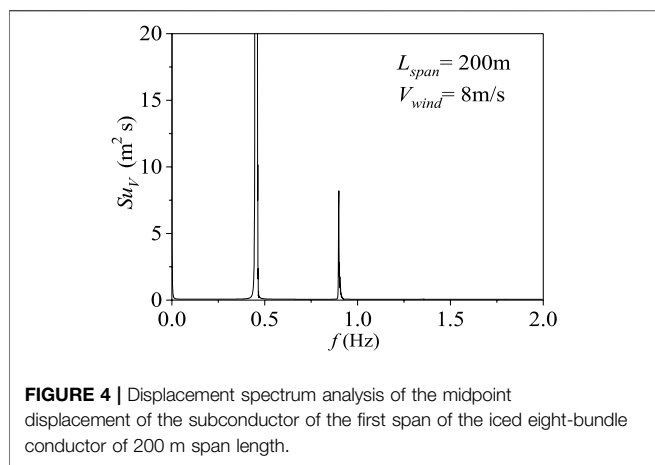
## THE SUB-SPAN OSCILLATION OF ICED EIGHT-BUNDLE CONDUCTORS DURING GALLOPING

### The Sub-Span Oscillation of the Characteristic of Each SubConductor

The galloping process of iced UHV transmission lines under a given wind velocity is analyzed by numerical simulation. The time history of the average displacement of the sub-conductor to iced eight conductors under the wind speed of 8 m/s with a span length of 200 m has been shown in Figure 3. At a wind

speed of 8 m/s, because of the different aerodynamic forces between the conductors, the amplitude of the vibration in the vertical direction is more evident than the amplitude of the vibration in the horizontal direction. Among them, at a period of time after the beginning of the galloping, the galloping of the conductor tends to be stable, and the efficiency at which the horizontal galloping tends to stabilize is faster than the efficiency at which the vertical galloping tends to stabilize.

Compared with the galloping dynamic response analysis (Table 3), the first prominent peak frequency in the secondary range is 0.45 Hz, which is close to the 0.52 Hz natural frequency of



the in-plane double half-waves (Figure 4). The second apparent peak frequency is 0.82 Hz, which is close to the natural frequency of 0.80 Hz of the third out-of-plane half-waves (Table 2).

### Research on Sub-Span Vibration of the Conductor During Galloping Under Different Wind Velocities

Under different wind velocities the vertical and horizontal amplitude of each subconductor during the line galloping process increased, and the amplitude of vertical vibration increases significantly, reaching 11 m. When the wind speed is 8 m/s, the vertical and horizontal displacement between the subconductors is approximately the same. When the typical wind speed is 12 m/s, the aerodynamic load of each iced subconductor is significantly different due to the interference of the wake. The amplitude of the vibration of each subconductor in the bundle is obviously different. As shown in Table 5, as the wind speeds increase, the horizontal vibration amplitude of the subconductors also increases correspondingly, but the increase rate is relatively slow compared to the vertical vibration amplitude.

### Research on the Sub-Span Oscillation Conductor During Galloping Under Different Subconductors

Figure 5 shows the change in the galloping distance of the subconductor at the intermediate point of the sub-span 3. The

vertical vibration amplitude of the subconductor 5, subconductor 6, conductor 7, and subconductor 8 on the leeward side is greater than the vertical vibration amplitude of the subconductor 1, subconductor 2, conductor 3, and subconductor 4 at the leeward side. In the case of the wind speed of 12 m/s, the change of the galloping distance between the subconductors in the middle point of the sub-span 3 is shown in Figure 5. From the table, it can be found that at 400 s, the interval between the subconductors reaches the maximum, and then with the passage of time, the distance between the subconductors fluctuates closer; among them, conductor 1 and 2, conductor 5 and 6 is relatively long, and the distance between conductors 6 and 7 is relatively close.

## GALLOPING BEHAVIORS UNDER DIFFERENT TURBULENT FLOW

In the wind tunnel experiment, it can be found that different turbulence intensities will lead to different aerodynamic coefficients of UHV transmission lines, and the Den Hartog and Nigol coefficients determined by the aerodynamic coefficients are also different (Den Hartog 1932; Nigol et al., 1977). The effect of different parameters on the galloping of UHV transmission lines is discussed, and the law of influence of wind speed, angle of wind attack, and span length on conductor galloping under the action of the turbulent wind is obtained.

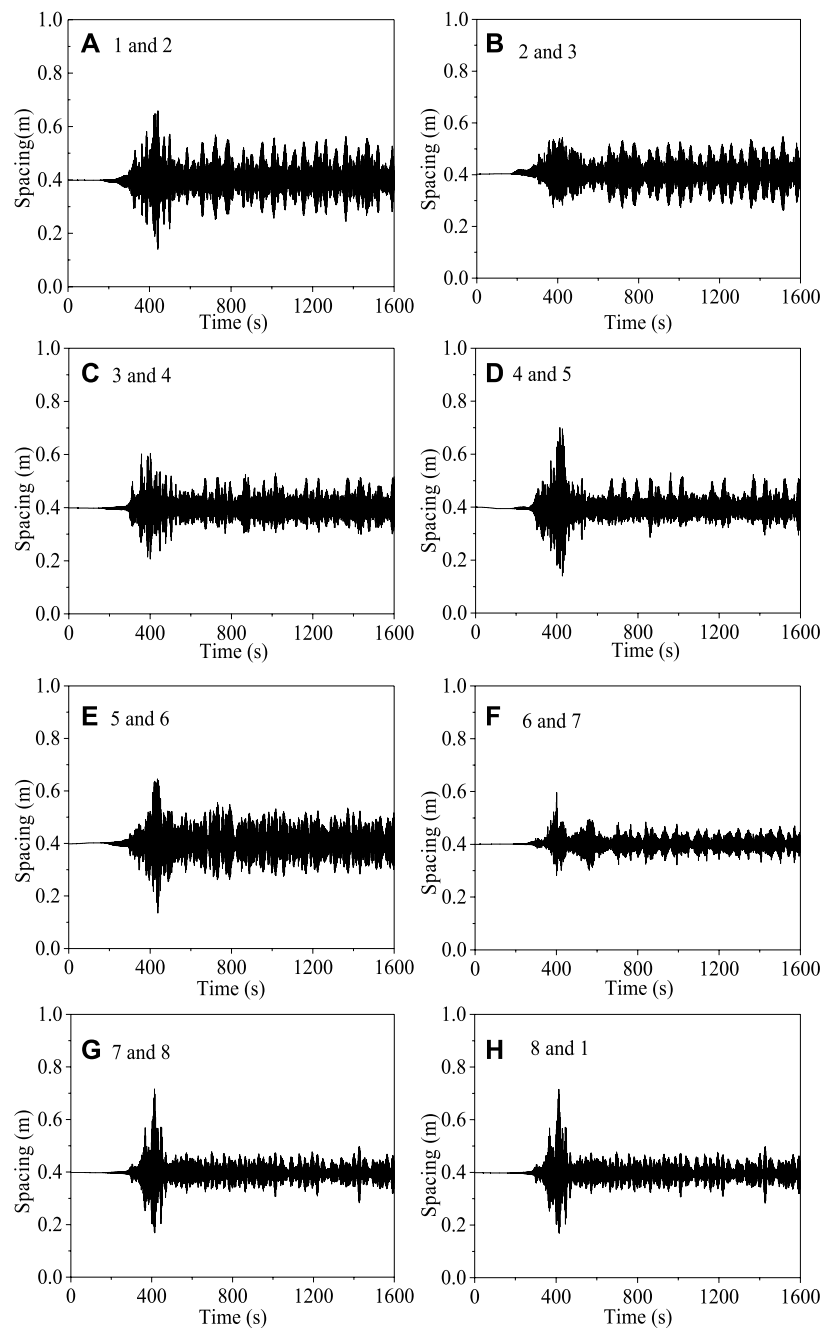
### Effects of Wind Velocity on Galloping Behaviors Under Turbulent Flow

Based on the aerodynamic coefficients obtained from the wind tunnel test (Cai et al., 2019b), the finite element method was used to study the effect of wind speed on the galloping of UHV transmission lines. Figure 6 compares the movement traces of each subconductor at the midpoint of the line span under the action of different wind speeds under the turbulence degree of 8.41% of the 300-m span and angle of wind attack of 20°.

Under higher wind velocity, a shorter time will be needed to reach the wake-induced oscillation state. It also increases the amplitude of vertical displacement, indicating that galloping can occur at high wind speeds (Figure 6). As the wind speed increases, the amplitude of the galloping vertical amplitude of the subconductor decreases, but the amplitude of the horizontal vibration gradually increases.

TABLE 5 | Vibration amplitude of each subconductor during line galloping under different wind velocities.

Wind Velocity	Direction	Subconductor number							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8 m/s	Vertical	2.741	2.741	2.733	2.728	2.730	2.731	2.734	2.734
	Horizontal	0.330	0.336	0.333	0.328	0.327	0.319	0.318	0.322
12 m/s	Vertical	9.355	9.360	9.390	9.454	9.489	9.461	9.401	9.367
	Horizontal	1.631	1.798	1.787	1.718	1.875	1.894	1.868	1.729
16 m/s	Vertical	11.267	11.041	11.129	11.469	11.695	11.270	11.126	11.318
	Horizontal	4.562	4.486	4.470	4.604	4.881	4.762	4.836	4.876



**FIGURE 5 |** Variation of the galloping distance of the respective conductors at the midpoint varying with time when the wind velocity is 12 m/s.

**Figure 7** is the spectrum analysis diagram of the midpoint of the subconductor of the UHV transmission line under different wind speeds. Compared with the vertical displacement response spectrum analysis part, when the wind speed is 6 m/s, the first prominent peak frequency is 0.38 Hz, which is close to the natural frequency of 0.39 Hz of the in-plane single half-wave. The second prominent peak frequency appears (0.67 Hz), which is close to the

natural frequencies of the in-plane and out-of-plane half-waves. In this case, the UHV transmission line has in-gear oscillation during the galloping process. On the other hand, when the wind speed is 12 m/s, the vertical displacement response spectrum has a special peak frequency of 0.41 Hz. It can be found that when the wind speed is high, the high-order vibration modes of the line vibration will be excited.



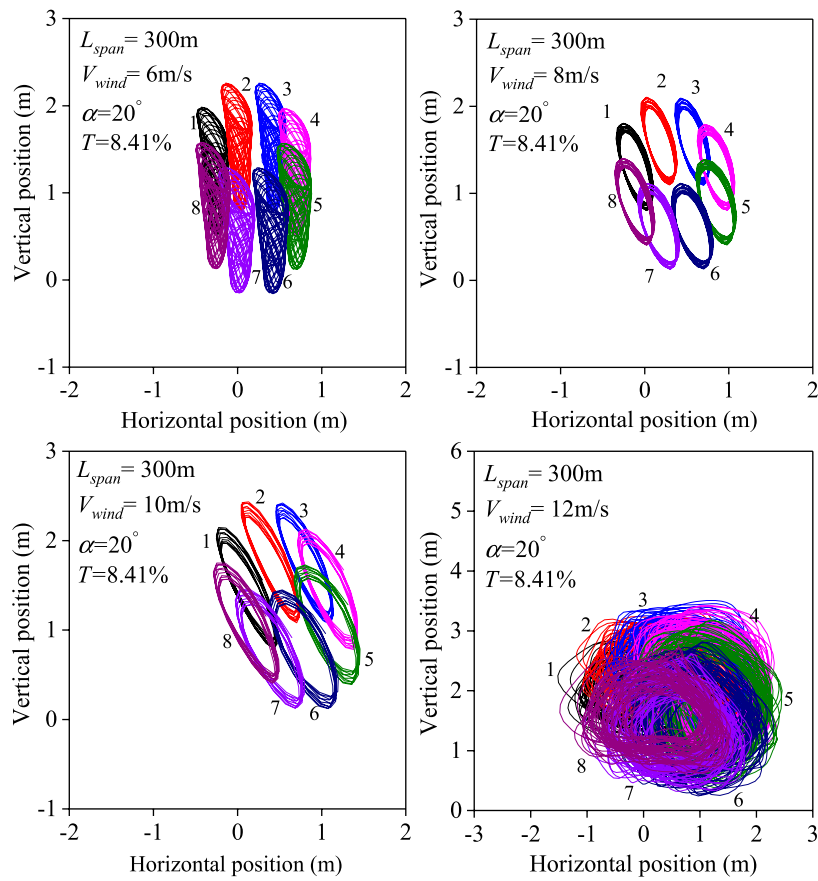


FIGURE 6 | Galloping traces of the midpoint of eight-bundle conductors under different wind velocities.

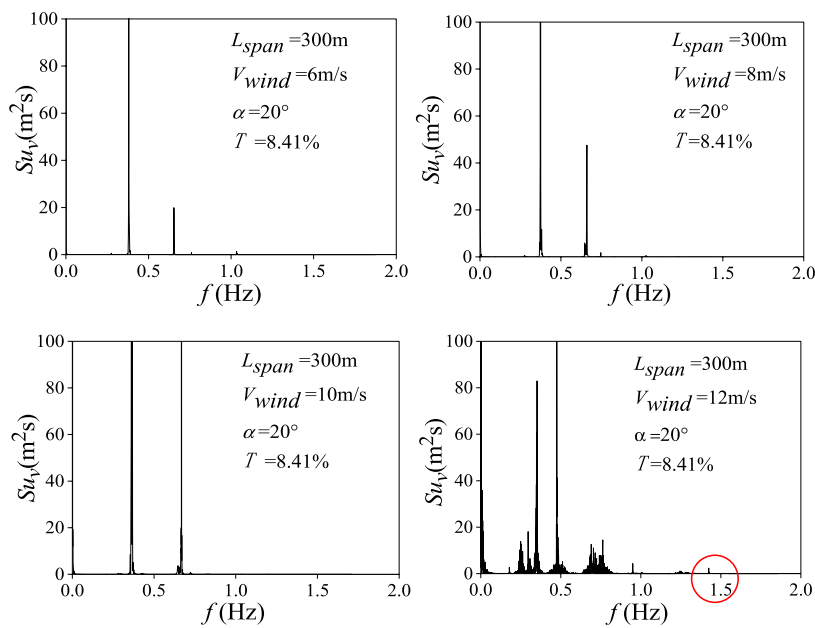


FIGURE 7 | Displacement spectrum under different wind velocities.

**TABLE 6** | RMS amplitude of galloping behaviors under different span lengths.

Span length (m)	Turbulence Intensity (%)	$V_{amp}$ (m)	$H_{amp}$ (m)
300	0	0.31	0.18
	8.41	3.55	2.27
400	0	1.01	0.75
	8.41	4.66	5.39

## Effects of Span Length on Galloping Behaviors Under Turbulent Flow

According to the relevant research on the influence of span length on the UHV transmission line, it can be known that the difference in span length can lead to the change of the galloping amplitude of the UHV transmission line. **Table 6** shows the maximum galloping amplitudes of UHV transmission lines with 300- and 400-m span length when the wind speed is 12 m/s; the initial wind angle of attack is selected to be 20°, and the turbulence intensities are 0 and 8.41%. It can be seen that the galloping amplitude in the vertical and horizontal directions increases correspondingly with increase of span length.

## Effects of Initial Angle of Wind Attack on Galloping Behaviors Under Turbulent Flow

According to the existing research on the conductor galloping phenomenon, it can be known that the difference of the initial attack of the wind angle will lead to the difference of the aerodynamic coefficients (Cai et al., 2019b). When the ice of the UHV transmission line is crescent-shaped, when the initial angle of wind attack is 15°–60° and 120°–180°, it presents an unstable state, and in actual conditions, the initial angle of wind attack being greater than 90° is rare. **Table 7** shows the maximum galloping amplitude of the line when the wind speed is 12 m/s, and the initial angle of wind attack is 20° and 60°. The comparison shows that the vertical and horizontal amplitude of the UHV transmission line when the initial angle of wind attack is 60° is much larger than the vertical and horizontal amplitude when the initial angle of wind attack is 20°. Meanwhile, it can also be found that when other parameters are constant, the greater the turbulence intensity, the greater its horizontal and vertical amplitude.

## CONCLUSION

The sub-span oscillation of iced eight-bundle conductors during galloping under different wind velocities, span length, initial angle of wind attack, and turbulence intensity is simulated and analyzed by using the FEM. The following conclusions can be obtained as follows:

- 1) The subconductors of the iced eight-bundle transmission line gallop in the same direction under different wind velocities, and the main oscillation direction is the vertical direction. Meanwhile, there is an oscillation in the sub-span during the

**TABLE 7** | RMS amplitude of galloping behaviors under different turbulence intensity.

$V_{wind}$ (m/s)	Turbulence intensity (%)	$\alpha$ (°)	$V_{amp}$ (m)	$H_{amp}$ (m)
12	0	20	4.38	4.46
		60	17.35	6.80
	8.41	20	4.58	3.29
		60	16.76	6.21

galloping of the iced eight-bundle conductor, which may cause the subconductor to vibrate.

- 2) Due to the influence of wake disturbance and aerodynamic load, the amplitude of the oscillation of each subconductor is different. Under the same wind velocity, the vertical oscillation amplitude of the subconductor on the leeward side is greater than that on the upwind side.
- 3) The vertical and horizontal amplitudes of line galloping increase obviously with the increasing of wind velocity and span length; there are obvious differences in the galloping amplitude of the conductors, and the difference of the initial angle of wind attack will lead to a significant difference.
- 4) Under the influence of turbulence intensity, the line is more likely to gallop, the galloping trace of the conductor is elliptical, and the vibration amplitude of each subconductor has a difference under higher turbulence intensity. The amplitude of galloping increases significantly with the increase of wind velocity, and high wind velocity will excite higher-order vibration modes of line vibration under higher turbulence intensity.

## DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

The original contributions presented in the study are included in the article/Supplementary Material; further inquiries can be directed to the corresponding authors.

## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors listed have made a substantial, direct, and intellectual contribution to the work and approved it for publication.

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**Conflict of Interest:** Author ZL is employed by State Grid Sichuan Integrated Energy Service Co. Ltd.

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