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### **Title**

Safety Index by First-Order Second-Moment Reliability Method

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SAFETY INDEX BY  
FIRST-ORDER SECOND-MOMENT  
RELIABILITY METHOD

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## 1. Introduction

Any structure must be designed so that it withstands dead loads, live loads and any unusual disturbances, to which it might be subjected during its life time. At the same time, however, a structure design must be done within certain economic and functional constraints. On the face of uncertainties in loads and structural properties, these goals can only be accomplished by establishing a reasonable level of safety for the structure.

Since Freudenthal proposed his classical reliability theory (1), the application of probabilistic concepts in structural design has been a major concern among researchers and engineers. Freudenthal proposed the probability of failure as a safety measure instead of the conventional safety factor.

However, the classical theory of reliability is appropriate only when our information on structural resistances, loads, etc., is complete and accurate mathematical analysis can be performed. In practice, the information required for such analysis may not be completely available. One also has to recognize the existence of uncertainties arising from both inherent randomness and statistical error in actual design applications (2). Furthermore, direct calculation of failure probability requires numerical integration, which is not appropriate in engineering practice and in code-making.

To overcome those shortcomings of the classical theory, the first-order second-moment reliability theory was developed as a practical alternative (3). This theory stands on the basic recognition that the state of incomplete knowledge and information is unavoidable. It is characterized by its way of representing the uncertainty in structural design variables. Namely, only the first and second moments, i.e. means and variances, of design variables are used in analysis.

Furthermore, the performance function of the structure, which describes the criterion for its safety, is linearized through a first-order Taylor expansion. For these reasons, the method has come to be known as the first-order second-moment (FOSM) reliability method.

A useful measure of safety, which may serve as an alternative to the probability of failure, is obtained in this method and is known as the safety index. Using this index, the explicit use of failure probability in design equation is avoided. In the original development of the FOSM method, the performance function was linearized at mean values of design variables. For this reason, this method is known as the mean-value first-order second-moment (MVFOSM) method.

Although the MVFOSM method gives exact solutions when the performance function is linear and the design variables are normal, further study of the method revealed serious problems. Firstly, the information of non-normal variables, even if available, cannot be included in this theory in a logical manner. Secondly, for non-linear performance function, the linear approximation at the mean point results in lack of invariance relative to the safety index. That is to say, the safety index in this method depends on the particular formulation of the performance function, letting the MVFOSM method lack invariance.

It has been shown that the lack of invariance relative to the formulation of the performance function, and the inability to include distribution information can be overcome, while keeping the simple algebra of the first-order second-moment theory, if the linearization is performed at a point on the "failure surface" (4). This method is called herein as the advanced first-order second-moment method (FOSM).

The authors have developed a computer program for evaluating the safety index for an arbitrary performance function by the FOSM method. This development is presented in this report. Using this program, the safety indices based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods were computed and compared for a number of cases of interest. The comparison was done in terms of the non-linearity of the performance function, non-normality of the design variables, and the cross-correlation between design variables. Through these comparisons, the safety index obtained from the MVFOSM method was found to be inappropriate in some cases.

Information obtained through analyses, such as in this report, is useful as a tool in establishing reliability-based design formats in the future.

## 2. The Mean-Value First-Order Second-Moment Method (MVFOSM)

### 2.1 Formulation of the method

Neglecting time effects, the safety criterion of a particular structure can be written in general in terms of a performance function,

$$Z = g(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) \quad (2.1)$$

where  $X_i$ 's represent structural variables which might influence the structural resistances and/or the external load actions. In the second-moment approach, the uncertainty of the variables,  $X_i$ 's, is expressed only through their means (first moment)  $\mu_i$ 's, and their standard deviations  $\sigma_i$ 's (square root of the second central moment).

The performance function is usually formulated such that  $Z > 0$  denotes survival and  $Z \leq 0$  denotes failure of the structure. Then, the failure surface is described in the  $n$ -dimensional space of  $X_i$ 's as

$$g(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0 \quad (2.2)$$

The first two terms of the Taylor expansion of Eq.(2.1) at the point  $\{x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*\}$  yields

$$Z = g(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*) + \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial g}{\partial X_i} \right)_* (x_i - x_i^*) \quad (2.3)$$

Eq.(2.3) is an approximation of Eq.(2.1). If the performance function is linear, Eq.(2.3) is exact. The MVFOSM method selects  $\{x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*\}$  to equal the mean  $\{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n\}$ .

This yields the mean of  $Z$

$$\mu_Z \doteq g(\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n) \quad (2.4)$$

and the standard deviation of  $Z$

$$\sigma_Z \doteq \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial g}{\partial X_i} \right)_*^2 \sigma_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \rho_{ij} \left( \frac{\partial g}{\partial X_i} \right)_* \left( \frac{\partial g}{\partial X_j} \right)_* \sigma_i \sigma_j \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (2.5)$$

in which  $\rho_{ij}$  is the correlation coefficient between  $X_i$  and  $X_j$ , and the derivatives are evaluated at the mean values. In terms of these

quantities, the safety index is defined as

$$\beta = \mu_z / \sigma_z \quad (2.6)$$

Observe that  $\beta$  can be interpreted as the distance from the mean of  $g(\cdot)$  to the origin in terms of the standard deviation of  $g(\cdot)$ , as shown in Fig. 2.1. As the safety index is computed through only the first two moments of the design variables, it is a useful and convenient safety measure from the practical standpoint.

## 2.2 Lack of invariance

Eqs. (2.4) and (2.5) show that the calculated mean and variance of  $Z$  will depend on how the performance function is defined. This means that the calculated safety index is influenced by how the performance function is formulated, although the same failure surface may be involved. That is to say, the safety index based on the MVFOSM method lacks invariance relative to the formulation of the performance function.

To illustrate this lack of invariance, the following example is presented. Assume that only two variables are included :  $R$ , structural resistance, and  $S$ , load effect. The failure event is defined by ( $R \leq S$ ). The following formulations of the performance function are consistent with this failure criterion:

$$Z_1 = R - S \quad (2.7)$$

$$Z_2 = R / S - 1 \quad (2.8)$$

$$Z_3 = \ln R - \ln S \quad (2.9)$$

Define the first two moments of  $R$  and  $S$  by  $(\mu_R, \sigma_R^2)$  and  $(\mu_S, \sigma_S^2)$ , respectively. Assuming no correlation between  $R$  and  $S$ , following the procedure discussed above, one obtains the corresponding safety indices as

$$\beta_1 = \frac{r - 1}{\sqrt{r^2 \delta_R^2 + \delta_S^2}} \quad (2.10)$$

$$\beta_2 = \frac{r - 1}{r} \sqrt{\delta_R^2 + \delta_S^2} \quad (2.11)$$

$$\beta = \frac{\ln r}{\sqrt{\delta_R^2 + \delta_S^2}} \quad (2.12)$$

in which  $r = \mu_R/\mu_S$ ,  $\delta_R = \sigma_R/\mu_R$ ,  $\delta_S = \sigma_S/\mu_S$

Table 2.1 and Figs. 2.2 and 2.3 show results obtained for the safety indices from Eqs.(2.10)–(2.12). Although Eqs.(2.7)–(2.9) constitute the same failure surface, the results show significant discrepancy between the computed safety indices for the three functions. As Eq.(2.7) is a linear expression, the safety index based on this formulation is exact. On the other hand, the discrepancy in results based on Eqs.(2.8) and (2.9) from the result of Eq.(2.7) is caused by the linearization of the respective performance functions. This discrepancy arises because of expansion of  $g(\cdot)$  about the mean values. To overcome this shortcoming of the MVFOSM method, it is necessary to modify the way the performance function is linearized.

### 2.3 Probability information

To relate the safety index to failure probability, information on the probability distribution of  $Z$  is required. However, the distribution of  $Z$  remains unknown, since no distribution assumption was made with regard to  $X_i$ 's.

If the function  $g(\cdot)$  is linear or is well approximated by a linear approximation, the central limit theorem of probability theory suggests that the distribution of  $Z$  may approach the normal distribution for large  $n$ . Following this principle, one may estimate the failure probability as

$$P_f = \Phi(-\beta) \quad (2.13)$$

where  $\Phi$  is the standard normal cumulative distribution. Even when the normal distribution cannot be justified, the above may be regarded as a consistent measure of the failure probability.

Eq.(2.13) gives the correct solution of the failure probability for the case of normal variable and linear performance function. In practice, however, one may know that some variables are non-normally distributed. The MVFOSM is unable to incorporate such information in the analysis in a rational manner.

### 3. The Advanced First-Order Second-Moment Method (FOSM)

#### 3.1 Formulation of the method

The lack of invariance of  $\beta$  to the choice of performance function arises because of linearization of the performance function about the mean point. It has been recognized that the linear expansion of the performance function should take place not about the mean point but about a point on the failure surface ( $g(\cdot)=0$ ). That point lies in the upper tails of load distributions and in the lower tails of resistance distributions. The linearization point on the surface is chosen such that the resulting  $\beta$  is a minimum.

To do so, it is required to determine the precise point  $\{x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*\}$  on the failure surface ( i.e. such that  $g(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*)=0$  ) where the linearization is to be made. Therefore, the safety checking can be considered to be finding the point on the failure surface representing the failure criterion, and measuring the distance from the mean to the linearization point.

The difference of the concept of searching the safety index in the MVFOSM method and FOSM method is schematically shown in Fig.3.1. This figure shows that the tangent plane taken at the mean deviates significantly from that taken at the failure point. As the location of point " A " in Fig.3.1 depends on the formulation of the performance function, the safety index changes with a change in the formulation of this function. In the FOSM method, however, once the failure point " B " is fixed, an invariant tangent plane is obtained, even if different formulations of the performance function are considered.

If the design variables are uncorrelated, using Eqs.(2.3)-(2.5), the mean and variance of Z are

$$\mu_Z = \sum_{i=1}^n (\frac{\partial g}{\partial X_i})_* (\mu_i - x_i^*) \quad (3.1)$$

where  $g(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*) = 0$  is used, and

$$\sigma_Z^2 = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n (\frac{\partial g}{\partial X_i})_*^2 \sigma_i^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i (\frac{\partial g}{\partial X_i})_* \sigma_i \quad (3.2)$$

respectively, in which

$$\alpha_i = (\frac{\partial g}{\partial X_i})_* \sigma_i / \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (\frac{\partial g}{\partial X_i})_*^2 \sigma_i^2} \quad (3.3)$$

All derivatives in the above equations are evaluated at the point  $\{x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*\}$ .

As the safety index  $\beta$  is defined by  $\mu_Z / \sigma_Z$ , using Eqs.(3.1) and (3.2),

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (\frac{\partial g}{\partial X_i})_* (\mu_i - x_i^* - \alpha_i \beta \sigma_i) = 0 \quad (3.4)$$

Thus, the linearization point  $\{x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*\}$  and the safety index  $\beta$  are found by solving the system of equations

$$\begin{cases} x_i^* = \mu_i - \alpha_i \beta \sigma_i & , i=1,2,\dots,n \\ g(x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (3.5)$$

For non-linear performance functions, Eq.(3.5) can only be solved through iteration to obtain the minimum value of  $\beta$ . The iteration procedure is discussed in the next chapter.

### 3.2 Correlated random variables

In the preceding section, the design variables were assumed to be uncorrelated. When these variables are correlated, the problem can be solved by transforming into a set of uncorrelated variables as follows : Let  $\{\mu_X\} = \{\mu\}$  and  $[V_X] = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & \rho_{1j}\sigma_1\sigma_j & \dots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \dots \\ \sigma_n^2 & \rho_{nj}\sigma_n\sigma_j & \dots \end{bmatrix} = E[(\{X\} - \{\mu_X\})(\{X\} - \{\mu_X\})^T]$

denote the mean vector and the covariance matrix of correlated variables,

$X_i$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,n$ ), where  $\rho_{ij}$  = correlation coefficient between  $X_i$  and  $X_j$ . For positive-definite  $[V_X]$ , an orthogonal transformation,  $\{W\} = [Z]^T \{X\}$ , is possible, which transforms  $[V_X]$  into a diagonal matrix of eigenvalues.

$$[V_W] = [Z]^T [V_X] [Z] \quad (3.6)$$

The set of variables  $\{W\}$ , with mean,  $\{\mu_W\} = [Z]^T \{\mu_X\}$ , and diagonal variance matrix,  $[V_W]$ , are uncorrelated. Thus, the method described above can be applied to these variables to compute the safety index as before.

In this case, it is necessary to compute the transformed performance function and its derivatives. Using the inverse transformation,

$$\{X\} = ([Z]^T)^{-1} \{W\} \quad (3.7)$$

the performance function  $g_X(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$  in the  $X$ -space is formulated as  $g_W(W_1, W_2, \dots, W_n)$  in the  $W$ -space. The derivatives of  $g_W(\cdot)$ , i.e.  $\frac{\partial g_W}{\partial W_i}$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,n$ ), are computed as a linear combination of  $\frac{\partial g_X}{\partial X_i}$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,n$ ) as follows:

$$\left( \frac{\partial g_W}{\partial W_j} \right)_* = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial g_X}{\partial X_i} \right)_* \left( \frac{\partial X_i}{\partial W_j} \right) \quad (3.8)$$

where  $\frac{\partial X_i}{\partial W_j}$  = ij component of the matrix  $([Z]^T)^{-1}$ .

It should be noted herein that the eigen matrix  $Z$  satisfies

$$([Z]^T)^{-1} = [Z] \quad (3.9)$$

when the computed eigen vectors are normalized such that each has a unit Euclidean length.

### 3.3 Inclusion of distribution information (5)

In the preceding discussion, nothing was said about the probability information contained in the safety index, or the inclusion of the distribution information into the FOSM method. In some cases, however, the information on the failure probability will be required. Or, in some cases, we may know the type of probability distribution for some variables.

As discussed in 2.3, relating the safety index to the failure probability through Eq.(2.13) is a reasonable idea when the variables are normally distributed or when their distributions are not specified. On the other hand, when some variables are known to be non-normally distributed, it is necessary to obtain " equivalent normal " distributions for the non-normal variables in order to retain the same solution process.

The fitting of normal distributions to non-normal distributions is done at the linearization point,  $X_i = x_i^*$ . When the CDF,  $F_{X_i}(X)$ , and its PDF,  $f_{X_i}(X)$ , of  $X_i$  are known, the fitting into a normal CDF and PDF is done by setting,

$$F_{X_i}(x_i^*) = \phi\left(\frac{x_i^* - \mu_i}{\sigma_i}\right) \quad (3.10)$$

$$f_{X_i}(x_i^*) = \frac{1}{\sigma_i} \varphi\phi^{-1}(F_{X_i}(x_i^*)) \quad (3.11)$$

where  $\mu'_i$  and  $\sigma'_i$  are the equivalent mean and standard deviation, and  $\varphi(\cdot)$  and  $\phi(\cdot)$  are the PDF and CDF of standard normal variable. Solving for  $\mu'_i$  and  $\sigma'_i$ , one obtains :

$$\mu'_i = x_i^* - \frac{\varphi\phi^{-1}(F_{X_i}(x_i^*)) \phi^{-1}(F_{X_i}(x_i^*))}{f_{X_i}(x_i^*)} \quad (3.12)$$

$$\sigma'_i = \frac{\varphi(\phi^{-1}(F_{X_i}(x_i^*)))}{f(x_i^*)} \quad (3.13)$$

In the numerical calculation, this fitting is done for each non-normal variable in each iteration searching for the minimum  $\beta$  and the corresponding failure point  $x_i^*$ . When the variables are correlated, the same procedure can be applied; i.e. Eqs. (3.12) and (3.13) are used in the original space (  $X$ -space ). In this case, the same correlation coefficient  $\rho_{ij}$  is assumed during the iteration, yielding the  $i-j$  component of the covariance matrix  $\rho_{ij} \sigma'_i \sigma'_j$ . Since the covariance matrix changes at each iteration, a new eigen matrix has to be recomputed in each iteration to make an orthogonal transformation.

#### 4. Computer Program

The computer program " FOSM " was developed to compute the safety index according to the advanced FOSM method for any arbitrary performance function. The program uses an iteration method to compute the minimum value of  $\beta$  and the corresponding failure point. The iteration starts by assuming initial values of  $\alpha_i$ 's and  $\beta$ . The initial value of  $\beta$  is computed by the MVFOSM method. And the first values of  $\alpha_i$ 's are computed at the mean point. The flow chart for the algorithm of the program is described below and in Fig.4.1.

(1) The user is required to provide the followings (①)\*:

1) Performance function -----  $Z = g_X(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$

2) Derivative functions -----  $(\partial g_X / \partial X_i) \quad i=1, 2, \dots, n$

3) Mean value -----  $\{\mu_X\} = \{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n\}$

4) Covariance matrix -----  $[V_X] = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & \rho_{12}\sigma_1\sigma_2 \\ \sigma_2^2 & \ddots \\ & \ddots & \sigma_n^2 \end{bmatrix}$

5) Type of distribution for each variable  $X_i$

(2) For correlated variables, orthogonal transformation is performed through the eigen matrix  $[Z]$  (②--③)

1) Find eigen matrix  $[Z]$ , such that  $[V_W] = [Z]^T [V_X] [Z]$  is a diagonal matrix with eigen values.

2) Transform mean  $\{\mu_X\}$  to  $\{\mu_W\}$  :  $\{\mu_W\} = [Z]^T \{\mu_X\}$

(3) Initial value of  $\alpha_i$ 's are computed (④).

$$\alpha_i = \frac{(\varepsilon_W / w_i)^*}{\sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^n (\varepsilon_W / w_j)^* \sigma_{Wj}^2}} \quad (i=1, 2, \dots, n)$$

computed at  $\{w\} = \{\mu_W\}$  ( Eq.(3.8) )

(4) Initial value for  $\beta$  is computed by MVFOSM method (⑤)

Use Eqs. (2.4) -- (2.6).

\* The number in the circle means the block number in Fig.4.1.

- (5) Modify the value of  $\beta$ , such that the point  $\{w^*\} = \{\mu_w\} - \{\alpha_i \beta \sigma_{w_i}\}$  is on the failure surface. This is done by solving

$$g_w(\mu_{w1} - \alpha_1 \beta \sigma_{w1}, \dots, \mu_{wn} - \alpha_n \beta \sigma_{wn}) = 0$$

This equation is solved by Newton's method. Using the computed value of  $\beta$ , the failure point on the surface is computed (⑥--⑧).

- (6) Using the distribution information of each variable, fitting to normal distribution is done (⑨--⑪).
- 1) When the variable has a normal distribution, or when the distribution is not specified, the mean  $\mu_i$  and the standard deviation  $\sigma_i$  remains unchanged.
  - 2) When the variable is non-normally distributed, the mean and standard deviation are modified using Eqs. (3.12) and (3.13).
  - 3) After fitting is completed, new mean vector,  $\{\mu'_X\}$ , and covariance matrix,  $[V'_X]$ , are computed. In constructing  $[V'_X]$ , the correlation coefficients  $\rho_{ij}$  are assumed to be unchanged.
- (7) Transform the mean vector  $\{\mu'_X\}$ , and the covariance matrix,  $[V'_X]$ , into an uncorrelated set of variables through a new eigen matrix  $[Z']$ . The procedure is the same as that in step (2). (⑫)
- (8) New failure point,  $x_i^*$ , and cosine directors,  $\alpha_i$ 's, are computed using the latest means and standard deviations (⑬--⑭).
- (9) As done in step (5), modification of  $\beta$  must be done so that the linearization point is on the failure surface (⑮--⑯).
- (10) The convergence of iteration is checked by comparing the latest  $\beta$  and  $\alpha_i$ 's with those obtained in the preceding step (⑰--⑱).
- (11) If  $\beta$  and/or  $\alpha_i$ 's have not converged, go back to step (6) and repeat calculation. If they are converged, print results (⑲--⑳).

## 5. Comparison between MVFOSM and FOSM Methods

### 5.1 Effect of non-linear performance function

In section 2.2, the "lack of invariance" in the MVFOSM method, which is caused by the non-linearity of the performance function, was discussed. The FOSM method, on the other hand, is invariant relative to the formulation of the performance function. To illustrate this, safety indices for the three formulations of the performance function in Eqs. (2.7)–(2.9) are computed and are shown in Table 5.1 and Figs. 5.1–5.2.

Observe that results for all three formulations are the same, except for small deviation, less than 0.4 %, which are due to the convergence tolerance assumed in the iteration process. Note that formulation 1 (Eq.(2.7)), which is linear, requires no iteration. Therefore, the results corresponding to this formulation are exact.

### 5.2 Effect of non-normal variables

To see the effect of non-normal variables, the safety index was computed for the performance function  $Z = R - S$ , where R and S were assumed to have the following distributions.

Case	R	S	Index
1	Normal	Normal	N/N
2	Log-normal	Log-normal	LN/LN
3	Gamma	Gamma	GAM/GAM
4	Gamma	Normal	GAM/N
5	Extreme-III	Extreme-I	EX3/EX1
6	Extreme-III	Extreme-II	EX3/EX2

Computations were carried out for all the above cases and the mean and coefficient of variation values given in the following table.

Mean Value	$\bar{R}$	40, 60
	$\bar{S}$	20
Coefficient of Variation	$\delta_R = \frac{\sigma_R}{\mu_R}$	0.1, 0.15, 0.2, 0.25, 0.3
	$\delta_S = \frac{\sigma_S}{\mu_S}$	0.1, 0.3

To obtain the accuracies of the MVFOSM and FOSM methods, the exact failure probability for each case was also computed using

$$P_f = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F_R(s) f_S(s) ds \quad (5.1)$$

where  $F_R(\cdot)$  = CDF of variable R, and  $f_S(\cdot)$  = PDF of variable S. The numerical integration required in Eq.(5.1) was carried out using the IMSL routine called " DCADRE ". Then, the safety index,  $\beta$ , was computed from

$$\beta = \phi^{-1}(1 - P_f) \quad (5.2)$$

Results for the above computations are shown in Tables 5.2 and 5.3 for  $\beta$  and Tables 5.4 and 5.5 for  $P_f$ . These results are also shown plotted in Figs. 5.3--5.12 for  $\beta$  and Figs. 5.13--5.22 for  $P_f$ . From these results, one may make the following remarks :

- (1) The effect of non-normal distribution is significant when  $r = \mu_R/\sigma_S$  is large or when  $\sigma_R$  and  $\sigma_S$  are small. This is because the probability of failure in such cases becomes more sensitive to the tails of the distributions of R and S. On the other hand, this effect becomes comparatively small for small r or large  $\sigma_R$  and  $\sigma_S$ .
- (2) Results based on the FOSM method closely agrees with those obtained by numerical integration of the exact expression. Thus, by transformation into equivalent normal distribution through Eqs. (3.12)--(3.13), accurate results can be obtained.
- (3) When variables have extreme-value distributions, e.g. cases EX3/EX1 or EX3/EX2, the safety index seems to be smaller than that which is based on normal distributions. Thus, the assumption of normal distribution gives unconservative results.
- (4) The negligence of distribution information may result in significant misjudgement, when a high safety index is required. Therefore, the inclusion of such information, when available, is essential in safety analysis.

### 5.3 Effect of variable correlation

To examine the effect of correlation between design variables, the safety index for the performance function  $Z = R - S$  was computed assuming  $\mu_R = 40$ ,  $\mu_S = 20$ ,  $\sigma_R = 4$ ,  $\sigma_S = 2$  and correlation coefficient  $\rho_{RS} = -0.5, -0.4, -0.3, -0.2, -0.1, 0.0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5$ . No non-normal distributions were assumed for R and S. The results of the computation are shown in Table 5.6.

Observe that the safety index varies significantly with the correlation coefficient. Thus, inclusion of information on correlation between variables is also essential in structural safety analysis.

### 6. Summary and Conclusion

This study can be summarized and concluded as follows:

- (1) The MVFOSM method gives the correct solution of the safety index and the failure probability in the case of linear performance function with normal variables. But, this method has the following shortcomings.
  - 1) Significant error is introduced by linearization of the non-linear performance function about the mean point. This results in lack of invariance of the computed safety index relative to the formulation of the performance function.
  - 2) Even if information on non-normal distribution of some variables is available, such information cannot be rationally included in the analysis.
- (2) These shortcomings are overcome by the FOSM method, while keeping the simple algebra of the second-moment approach.
  - 1) The lack of invariance in the MVFOSM method can be overcome by doing the linear expansion of the performance function about a point located on the failure surface instead of about the mean point
  - 2) The information on non-normal variables can be included in the analysis, by fitting the non-normal distribution to normal distribution at the failure point.

- (3) When the variables are correlated, the safety index can be computed by transforming the correlated variables into a set of uncorrelated variables. This calculation is possible for a performance function with non-normal variables, if correlation coefficients are assumed to be unchanged.
- (4) The effect of the non-linearity of the performance function cannot be neglected in the MVFOSM approach. FOSM method is essential for a non-linear performance function.
- (5) The inclusion of the information on non-normal variables, when available, is essential for accurate safety evaluation, especially when  $P_f$  is small or when  $\beta$  is large.
- (6) The effect of correlation between design variables cannot be neglected.
- (7) The basic idea of the computer program "FOSM" is to assume initial values of  $\beta$  and  $\alpha_i$ 's and to carry out iteration until these values are converged. The initial value of  $\beta$  is computed by the MVFOSM method, and the first values of  $\alpha_i$ 's are computed at the mean point. These initial assumptions seem to be fine to obtain the correct solution when the failure surface is smooth. In practice, most structural problems have smooth failure surfaces. Therefore, this program should be useful for most structural reliability problems.

#### 7. Acknowledgement

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TAB. 2.1 LACK OF INVARIANCE (MVFOSM METHOD)

$\gamma = \mu^*/\sigma$		2						3						
		0.1			0.3			0.1			0.3			
Performance Function	$\delta_{k_0} - \delta_k^*/\sigma$	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	
		Z=R-S	4.472	2.425	1.644	2.774	2.000	1.491	6.325	3.288	2.209	4.714	2.981	2.108
Z=R/S-1		3.536	2.236	1.581	1.582	1.387	1.179	4.714	2.981	2.108	2.108	1.849	1.571	
Z=lnR/S		4.901	3.100	2.192	2.192	1.631	1.7768	4.913	3.474	3.474	3.474	3.047	2.589	

TAB.5.1 EFFECT OF NONLINEARITY OF PERFORMANCE FUNCTION

$\gamma = \mu_s/\mu_c$		$(\mu_s = 40, \mu_c = 20)$						$(\mu_s = 60, \mu_c = 20)$					
		0.1			0.3			0.1			0.3		
Performance Function	$\delta_R = \delta_S = \mu_s/\mu_c$	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3
		4.472	2.425	1.644	2.774	2.000	1.491	6.325	3.288	2.209	4.714	2.981	2.108
Z=R-S		4.487	2.433	1.649	2.786	2.007	1.496	6.347	3.297	2.215	4.730	2.994	2.116
Z=R/S-1		4.472	2.425	1.644	2.786	2.000	1.491	6.325	3.288	2.209	4.714	2.981	2.108
Z=R/S		4.472	2.425	1.644	2.786	2.000	1.491	6.325	3.288	2.209	4.714	2.981	2.108

TAB. 5.2 EFFECT OF NON-NORMAL VARIABLES ( $\beta$  for  $\gamma=2$ )

Mean	Value	Standard Deviation	$\sigma_0$	MVFOSM				Advanced FOSM method			
				N/N	LN/LN	GAM/GAM	GAM/N	EX3/EX1	EX3/EX2		
MR	4	4	4	4.472 (4.472)	4.914 (4.914)	4.847 (4.848)	4.981 (4.929)	3.487 (3.405)	3.486 (3.326)		
				3.162 (3.162)	3.828 (3.828)	3.624 (3.624)	3.647 (3.657)	2.748 (2.693)	2.764 (2.680)		
				2.425 (2.425)	3.060 (3.060)	2.832 (2.832)	2.832 (2.841)	2.260 (2.219)	2.273 (2.215)		
	6	6	6	1.961 (1.961)	2.514 (2.514)	2.294 (2.294)	2.288 (2.297)	1.912 (1.878)	1.923 (1.877)		
				1.644 (1.644)	2.113 (2.113)	1.908 (1.908)	1.902 (1.909)	1.646 (1.617)	1.655 (1.617)		
				2.774 (2.774)	2.359 (2.359)	2.478 (2.479)	2.798 (2.811)	2.325 (2.254)	2.208 (2.148)		
	10	10	10	2.357 (2.357)	2.202 (2.202)	2.257 (2.259)	2.419 (2.459)	2.152 (2.059)	2.135 (2.019)		
				2.000 (2.000)	2.024 (2.024)	2.023 (2.025)	2.089 (2.114)	1.927 (1.844)	1.998 (1.843)		
				1.715 (1.715)	1.842 (1.842)	1.800 (1.802)	1.813 (1.842)	1.714 (1.643)	1.807 (1.657)		
12	12	12	12	1.491 (1.491)	1.670 (1.670)	1.598 (1.600)	1.583 (1.614)	1.524 (1.463)	1.611 (1.481)		

Note: Exact values obtained through numerical integration of Eq. (5.1) are shown in parenthesis.

TAB 5.3 EFFECT OF NON-NORMAL VARIABLES ( $\beta$  for  $r=3$ )

Mean Value	$\mu_R$	$\mu_S$	Standard Deviation	$\sigma_R$	$\sigma_S$	MVFSM		Advanced FOSM		method	
						N/N	LN/LN	GAM/GAM	GAM/N	EX3/EX1	EX3/EX2
2	6		6	6.325 (6.325)		6.325 (7.788)	7.788 (7.583)	7.734 (7.694)	7.732 (4.572)	4.629 (4.472)	4.621 (4.472)
						4.339 (4.339)	6.088 (6.088)	5.564 (5.411)	5.615 (5.450)	3.676 (3.626)	3.683 (3.619)
	9		9	3.288 (3.288)		3.288 (4.888)	4.888 (4.888)	4.321 (4.321)	4.330 (4.338)	3.063 (3.017)	3.059 (3.014)
						2.643 (2.643)	4.040 (4.040)	3.498 (3.498)	3.496 (3.504)	2.620 (2.586)	2.621 (2.585)
	12		12	2.209 (2.209)		2.209 (3.420)	3.420 (2.917)	2.917 (2.917)	2.913 (2.919)	2.279 (2.257)	2.287 (2.257)
						4.714 (4.714)	3.666 (3.666)	4.080 (4.081)	4.944 (5.021)	3.467 (3.390)	2.937 (2.834)
	15		15	3.698 (3.698)		3.698 (3.433)	3.433 (3.433)	3.647 (3.649)	4.076 (4.093)	3.105 (3.029)	2.865 (2.783)
						2.981 (2.981)	3.169 (3.169)	3.217 (3.220)	3.420 (3.443)	2.737 (2.673)	2.725 (2.563)
20	6		6	2.476 (2.476)		2.476 (2.901)	2.901 (2.834)	2.831 (2.944)	2.919 (2.968)	2.422 (2.368)	2.486 (2.329)
						2.108 (2.108)	2.108 (2.646)	2.496 (2.501)	2.527 (2.554)	2.156 (2.110)	2.227 (2.000)
	9		9								

Note: Exact values obtained through numerical integration of Eq.(5.1) are shown in parenthesis.

TAB.5.4 EFFECT OF NON-NORMAL VARIABLES ( $P_f$  for  $r=2$ )

$\mu_s$	Value	Standard Deviation	MVFSM method	Advanced FOSM method			
				LN/LN	CAM/ $\sqrt{AM}$	CAM/ $\sqrt{A_1}$	EX3/EX1
4	$4.59 \times 10^6$ ( $4.59 \times 10^6$ )	$4.59 \times 10^7$ ( $4.59 \times 10^7$ )	$6.27 \times 10^7$ ( $6.25 \times 10^7$ )	$3.16 \times 10^7$ ( $4.13 \times 10^7$ )	$2.44 \times 10^4$ ( $3.31 \times 10^4$ )	$2.45 \times 10^4$ ( $4.41 \times 10^4$ )	$2.45 \times 10^4$ ( $4.41 \times 10^4$ )
	$6.45 \times 10^6$ ( $7.83 \times 10^6$ )	$6.45 \times 10^7$ ( $7.83 \times 10^7$ )	$1.45 \times 10^4$ ( $1.45 \times 10^4$ )	$1.3 \times 10^4$ ( $1.27 \times 10^4$ )	$3.00 \times 10^3$ ( $3.54 \times 10^3$ )	$2.86 \times 10^3$ ( $3.68 \times 10^3$ )	
	$7.65 \times 10^6$ ( $7.65 \times 10^6$ )	$7.65 \times 10^7$ ( $7.65 \times 10^7$ )	$1.11 \times 10^3$ ( $1.11 \times 10^3$ )	$2.32 \times 10^3$ ( $2.31 \times 10^3$ )	$1.19 \times 10^2$ ( $1.33 \times 10^2$ )	$1.15 \times 10^2$ ( $1.34 \times 10^2$ )	
6	$5.97 \times 10^6$ ( $5.97 \times 10^6$ )	$5.97 \times 10^7$ ( $5.97 \times 10^7$ )	$1.09 \times 10^3$ ( $1.07 \times 10^3$ )	$1.11 \times 10^2$ ( $1.08 \times 10^2$ )	$2.79 \times 10^2$ ( $3.02 \times 10^2$ )	$2.72 \times 10^2$ ( $3.02 \times 10^2$ )	$2.72 \times 10^2$ ( $3.02 \times 10^2$ )
	$2.49 \times 10^6$ ( $2.49 \times 10^6$ )	$2.49 \times 10^7$ ( $2.49 \times 10^7$ )	$1.73 \times 10^3$ ( $1.73 \times 10^3$ )	$2.82 \times 10^2$ ( $2.81 \times 10^2$ )	$2.86 \times 10^2$ ( $2.81 \times 10^2$ )	$2.98 \times 10^2$ ( $2.97 \times 10^2$ )	
	$5.01 \times 10^6$ ( $5.01 \times 10^6$ )	$5.01 \times 10^7$ ( $5.01 \times 10^7$ )	$1.73 \times 10^3$ ( $1.73 \times 10^3$ )	$2.57 \times 10^3$ ( $2.47 \times 10^3$ )	$1.00 \times 10^2$ ( $1.21 \times 10^2$ )	$4.90 \times 10^2$ ( $5.29 \times 10^2$ )	
8	$9.17 \times 10^6$ ( $9.17 \times 10^6$ )	$9.17 \times 10^7$ ( $9.17 \times 10^7$ )	$6.61 \times 10^3$ ( $6.57 \times 10^3$ )	$2.57 \times 10^3$ ( $2.47 \times 10^3$ )	$1.00 \times 10^2$ ( $1.21 \times 10^2$ )	$4.90 \times 10^2$ ( $5.29 \times 10^2$ )	$4.90 \times 10^2$ ( $5.29 \times 10^2$ )
	$9.21 \times 10^6$ ( $9.21 \times 10^6$ )	$9.21 \times 10^7$ ( $9.21 \times 10^7$ )	$1.38 \times 10^2$ ( $1.38 \times 10^2$ )	$1.20 \times 10^2$ ( $1.20 \times 10^2$ )	$7.77 \times 10^2$ ( $7.36 \times 10^2$ )	$1.57 \times 10^2$ ( $1.98 \times 10^2$ )	
	$2.28 \times 10^6$ ( $2.28 \times 10^6$ )	$2.28 \times 10^7$ ( $2.28 \times 10^7$ )	$2.15 \times 10^2$ ( $2.14 \times 10^2$ )	$2.15 \times 10^2$ ( $2.14 \times 10^2$ )	$1.83 \times 10^2$ ( $1.73 \times 10^2$ )	$2.10 \times 10^2$ ( $3.26 \times 10^2$ )	
10	$3.27 \times 10^6$ ( $3.27 \times 10^6$ )	$3.27 \times 10^7$ ( $3.27 \times 10^7$ )	$3.27 \times 10^2$ ( $3.28 \times 10^2$ )	$3.60 \times 10^2$ ( $3.58 \times 10^2$ )	$3.49 \times 10^2$ ( $3.28 \times 10^2$ )	$3.54 \times 10^2$ ( $5.02 \times 10^2$ )	$3.54 \times 10^2$ ( $5.02 \times 10^2$ )
	$6.80 \times 10^6$ ( $6.80 \times 10^6$ )	$6.80 \times 10^7$ ( $6.80 \times 10^7$ )	$4.75 \times 10^2$ ( $5.48 \times 10^2$ )	$5.50 \times 10^2$ ( $5.33 \times 10^2$ )	$5.67 \times 10^2$ ( $5.33 \times 10^2$ )	$6.38 \times 10^2$ ( $7.17 \times 10^2$ )	
	$12$						

Note: Exact values obtained through numerical integration of Eq.(5.1) are shown in parenthesis.

TAB.5.5 EFFECT OF NON-NORMAL VARIABLES ( $P_f$  for  $\gamma=3$ )

Mean Value	$\mu_N$	$\sigma_S$	Standard Deviation			Advanced FOSM method		
			MVTOSM method	N/N	L/N	GAM/AM	GAM/K	EX3/EX2
6	$1.27 \times 10^0$ ( $1.27 \times 10^0$ )	$1.27 \times 10^0$ ( $1.27 \times 10^0$ )	$1.27 \times 10^0$ ( $1.07 \times 10^0$ )	$4.07 \times 10^{-9}$ ( $4.07 \times 10^{-9}$ )	$7.11 \times 10^{-5}$ ( $1.88 \times 10^{-5}$ )	$7.11 \times 10^{-5}$ ( $1.84 \times 10^{-5}$ )	$1.84 \times 10^{-6}$ ( $6.41 \times 10^{-6}$ )	$1.91 \times 10^{-6}$ ( $3.87 \times 10^{-6}$ )
			$7.17 \times 10^{-6}$ ( $7.17 \times 10^{-6}$ )	$7.17 \times 10^{-6}$ ( $5.71 \times 10^{-6}$ )	$5.71 \times 10^{-10}$ ( $3.13 \times 10^{-9}$ )	$9.32 \times 10^{-8}$ ( $2.52 \times 10^{-8}$ )	$9.35 \times 10^{-9}$ ( $1.17 \times 10^{-9}$ )	$1.15 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $1.44 \times 10^{-4}$ )
9	$5.05 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $5.05 \times 10^{-4}$ )	$5.05 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $5.05 \times 10^{-4}$ )	$5.08 \times 10^{-7}$ ( $5.08 \times 10^{-7}$ )	$7.75 \times 10^{-7}$ ( $7.75 \times 10^{-7}$ )	$7.75 \times 10^{-6}$ ( $7.18 \times 10^{-6}$ )	$7.46 \times 10^{-6}$ ( $1.28 \times 10^{-6}$ )	$1.09 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $1.29 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$1.11 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $1.20 \times 10^{-3}$ )
			$4.11 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $4.11 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$4.11 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $2.67 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$2.67 \times 10^{-5}$ ( $2.34 \times 10^{-5}$ )	$2.34 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $2.29 \times 10^{-4}$ )	$4.40 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $4.85 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$4.38 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $4.86 \times 10^{-3}$ )
12	$1.36 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $1.36 \times 10^{-2}$ )	$1.36 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $1.36 \times 10^{-2}$ )	$3.13 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $1.97 \times 10^{-4}$ )	$1.77 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $1.75 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$1.77 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $1.75 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$1.79 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $1.75 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$1.13 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $1.20 \times 10^{-2}$ )	$1.11 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $1.20 \times 10^{-2}$ )
			$6.0$	$4.07 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $1.86 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$6.27 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $2.30 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$6.27 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $1.62 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$8.94 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $8.94 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$9.93 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $1.74 \times 10^{-2}$ )
15	$1.75 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $1.75 \times 10^{-2}$ )	$1.75 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $1.75 \times 10^{-2}$ )	$4.07 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $4.07 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$6.27 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $6.20 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$5.75 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $5.32 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$5.75 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $5.32 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$1.55 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $1.79 \times 10^{-2}$ )	$1.30 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $1.79 \times 10^{-2}$ )
			$18$					
6	$1.21 \times 10^{-6}$ ( $1.21 \times 10^{-6}$ )	$1.21 \times 10^{-6}$ ( $1.21 \times 10^{-6}$ )	$1.23 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $1.23 \times 10^{-4}$ )	$2.25 \times 10^{-5}$ ( $2.57 \times 10^{-5}$ )	$3.83 \times 10^{-7}$ ( $3.50 \times 10^{-7}$ )	$2.63 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $1.96 \times 10^{-4}$ )	$1.66 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $1.96 \times 10^{-3}$ )	
			$9$	$1.09 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $1.09 \times 10^{-4}$ )	$2.98 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $2.98 \times 10^{-4}$ )	$1.33 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $1.32 \times 10^{-4}$ )	$2.29 \times 10^{-5}$ ( $2.18 \times 10^{-5}$ )	$9.52 \times 10^{-6}$ ( $1.23 \times 10^{-6}$ )
12	$1.43 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $1.43 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$1.43 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $1.43 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$7.66 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $6.41 \times 10^{-4}$ )	$6.49 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $5.98 \times 10^{-4}$ )	$3.13 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $2.88 \times 10^{-4}$ )	$3.10 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $3.76 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$3.21 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $5.18 \times 10^{-3}$ )	
			$15$	$6.64 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $6.64 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$1.86 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $1.86 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$2.32 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $1.62 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$7.73 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $8.94 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$6.46 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $9.93 \times 10^{-3}$ )
18	$1.75 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $1.75 \times 10^{-2}$ )	$1.75 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $1.75 \times 10^{-2}$ )	$4.07 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $4.07 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$6.27 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $6.20 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$5.75 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $5.32 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$5.75 \times 10^{-3}$ ( $5.32 \times 10^{-3}$ )	$1.55 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $1.79 \times 10^{-2}$ )	

Note: Exact values obtained through numerical integration of Eq. (5.1) are shown in parenthesis.

TAB. 5.6 EFFECT OF VARIABLE CORRELATION

$\rho_{RS}$	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
$\beta$	3.780	3.892	4.016	4.152	4.324	4.472	4.663	4.880	5.130	5.423	5.774
P	$7.85 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.96 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.96 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.65 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.66 \times 10^{-6}$	$3.87 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.56 \times 10^{-6}$	$5.12 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.45 \times 10^{-7}$	$2.93 \times 10^{-8}$	$3.38 \times 10^{-9}$

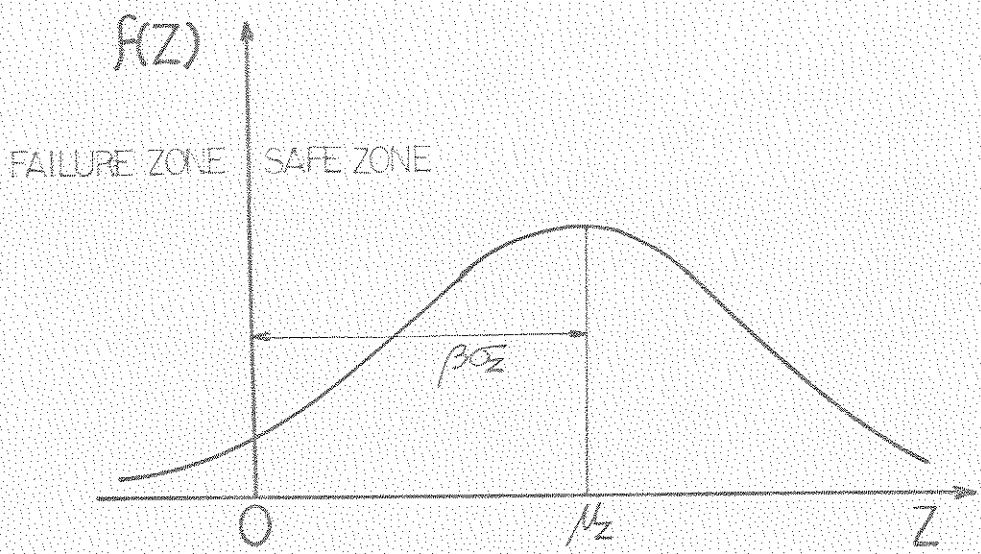


FIG.2.1 DEFINITION OF SAFETY INDEX

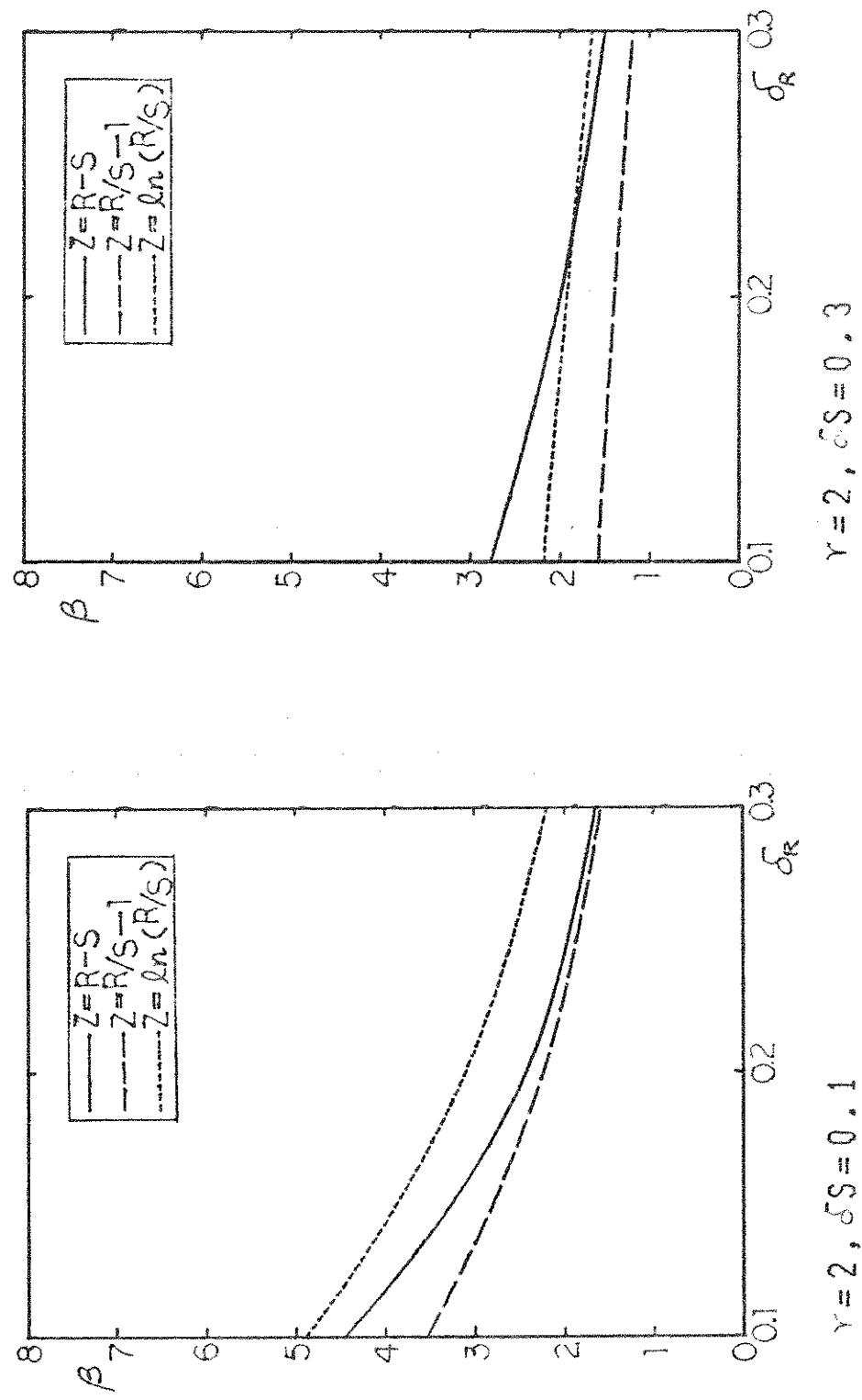


FIG.2.2 LACK OF INVARIANCE ( $\gamma = 2$ )  
(MVFOSM METHOD)

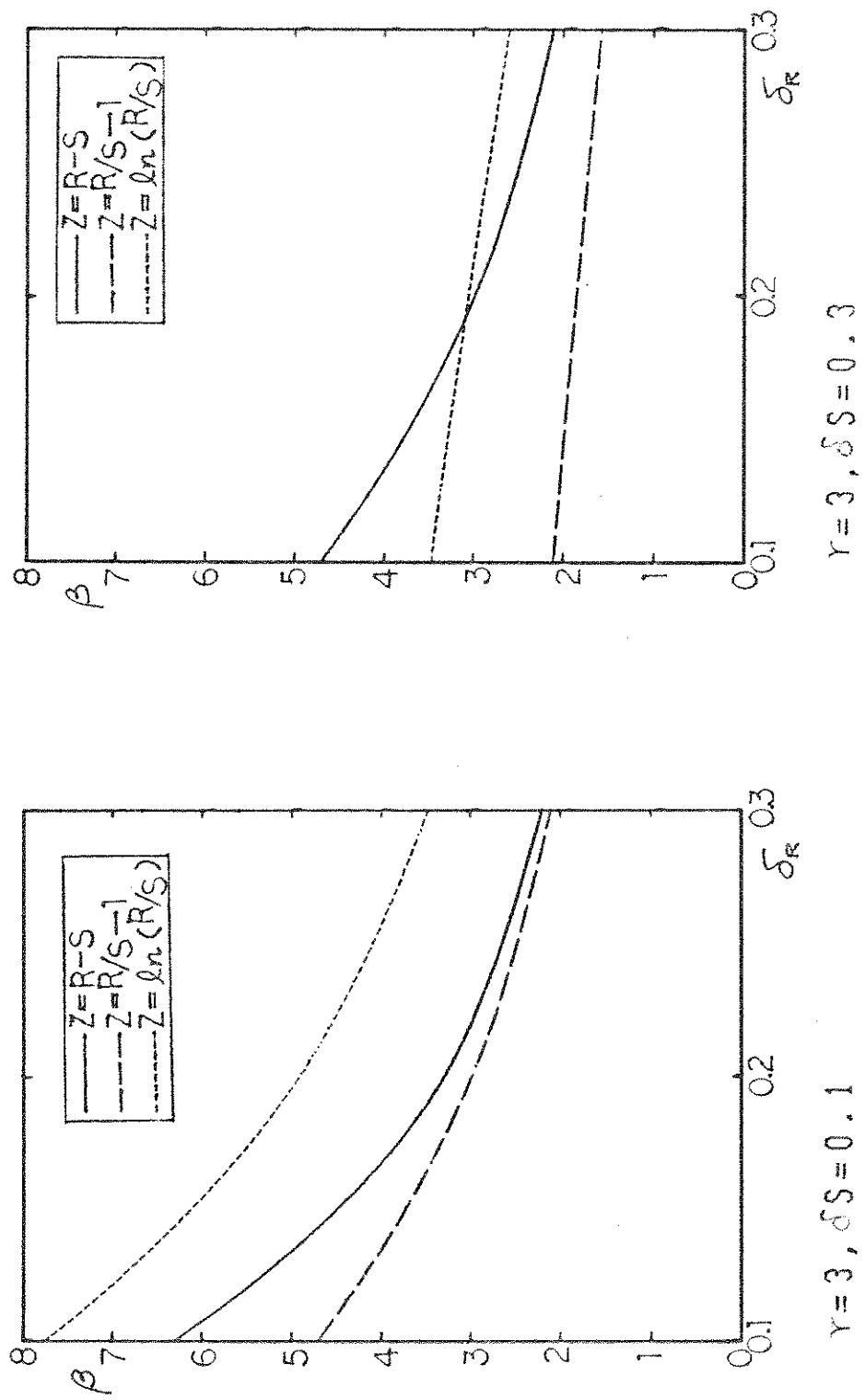


FIG. 2.3 LACK OF INVARIANCE ( $Y = 3$ )  
(MVFOSM METHOD)

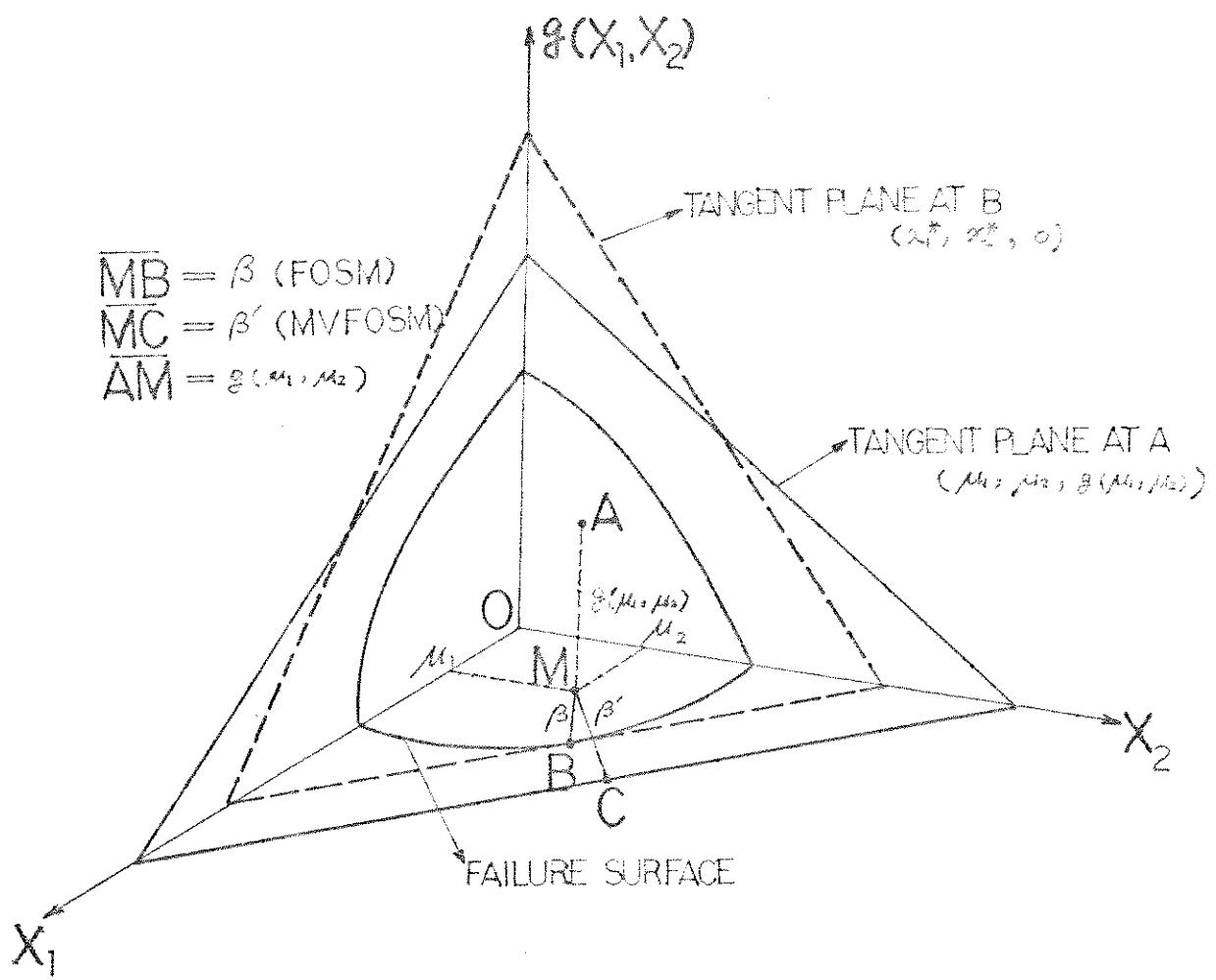


FIG. 3.1 CONCEPTUAL COMPARISON OF  
MVFOSM AND FOSM METHODS

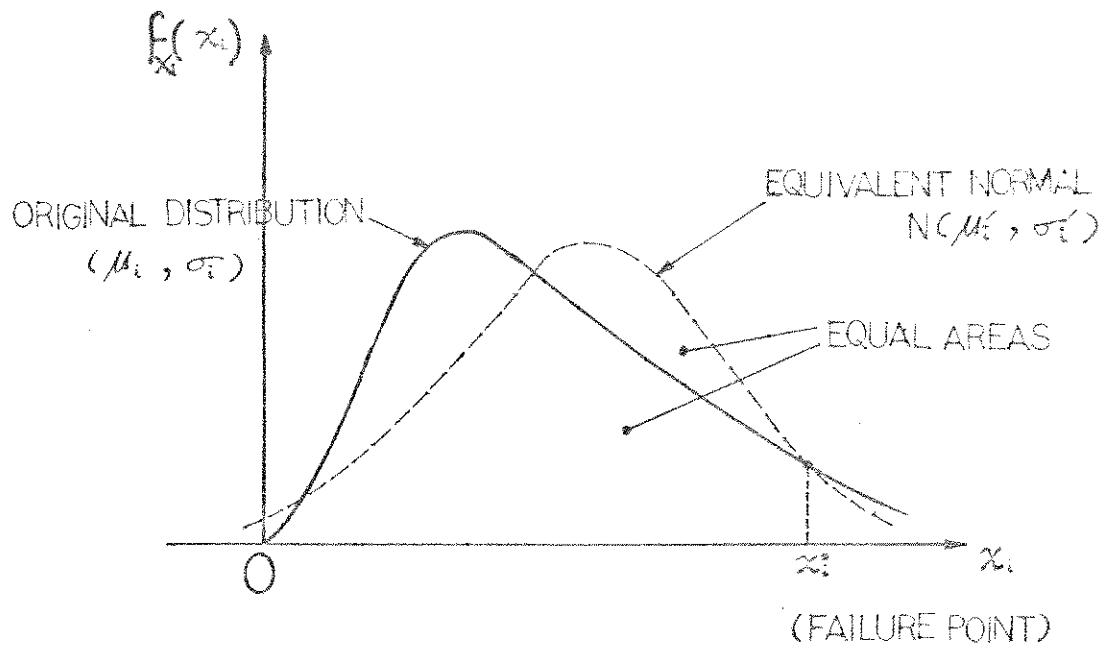
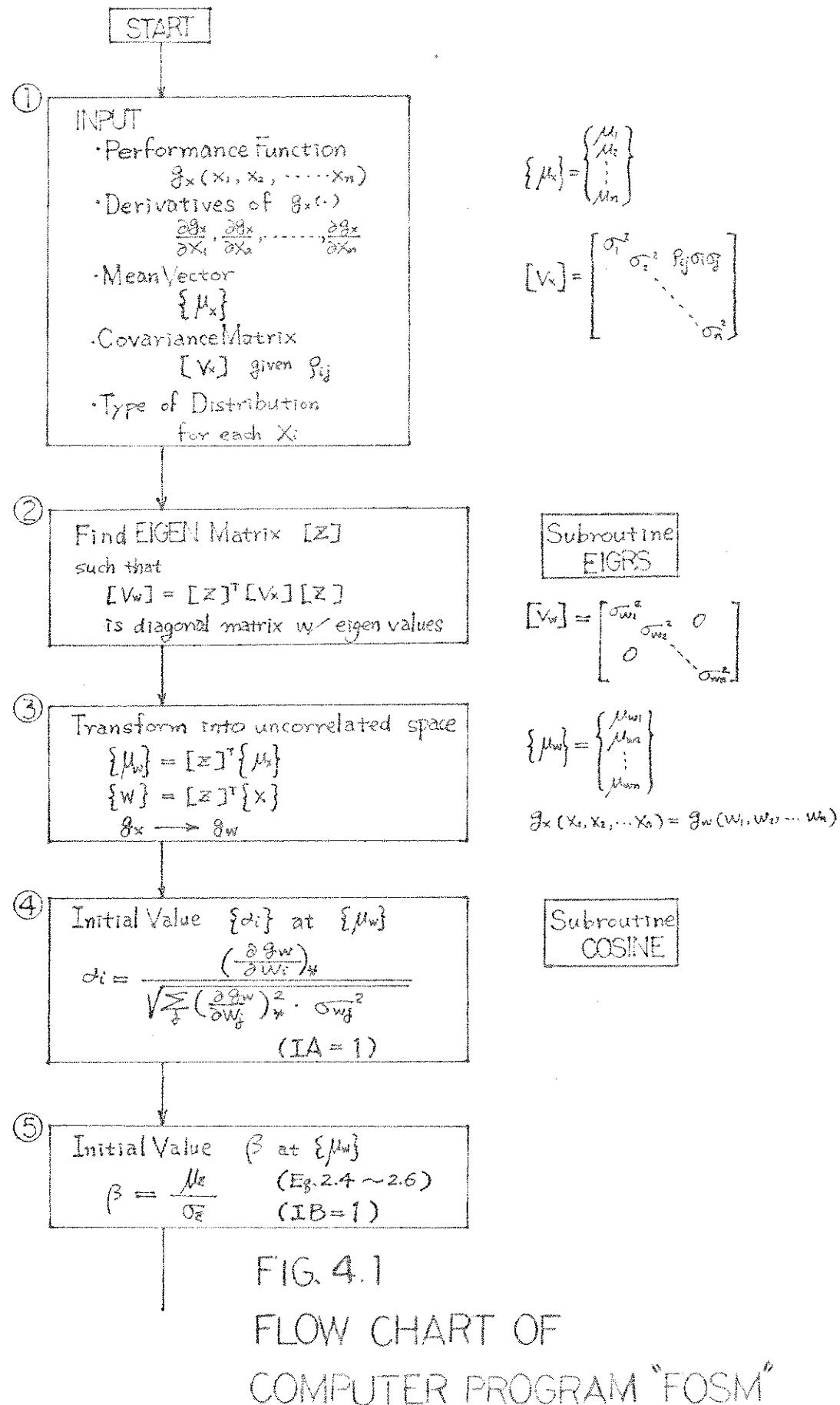


FIG.3.2 FITTING TO NORMAL DISTRIBUTION



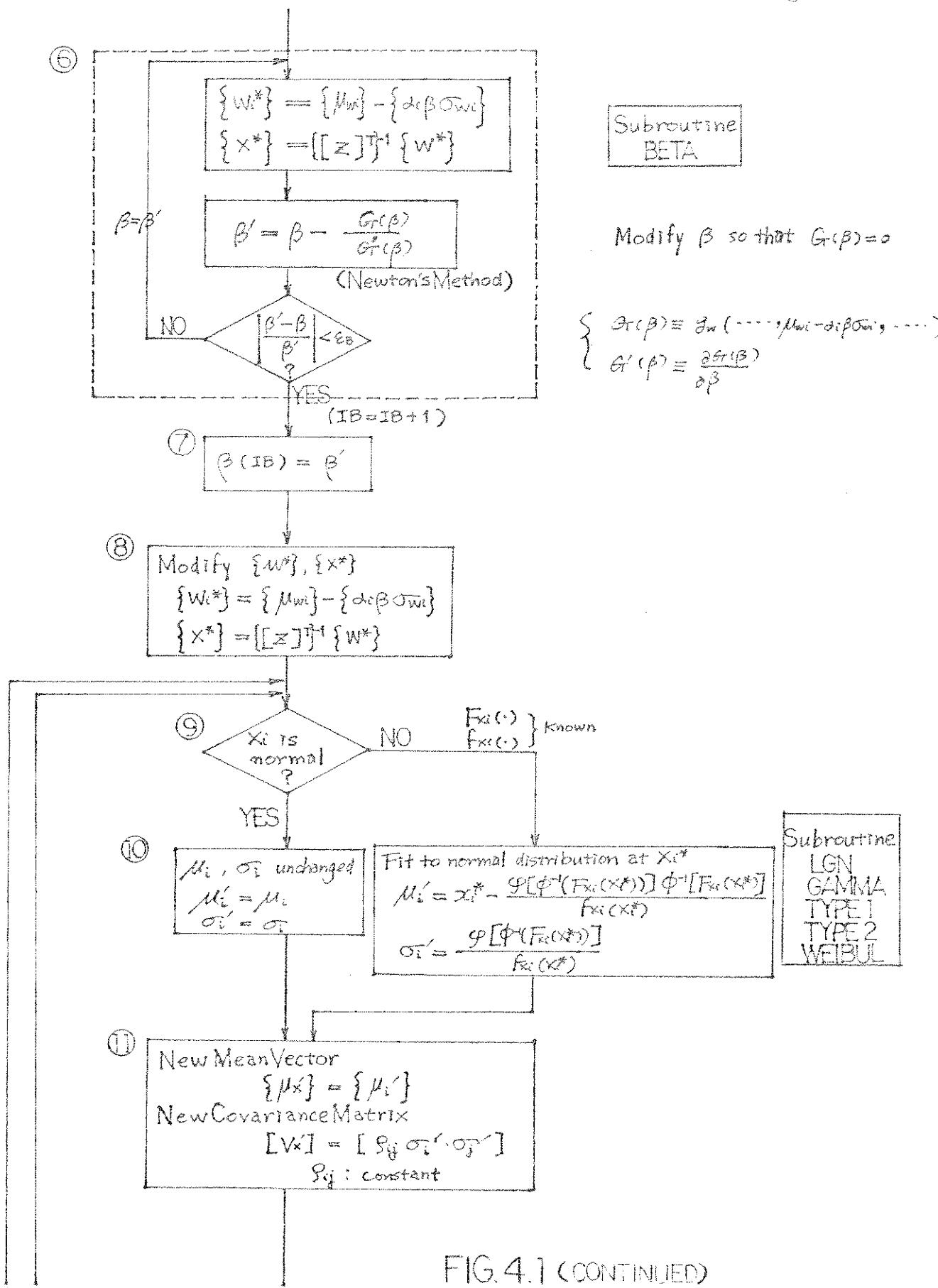


FIG. 4.1 (CONTINUED)

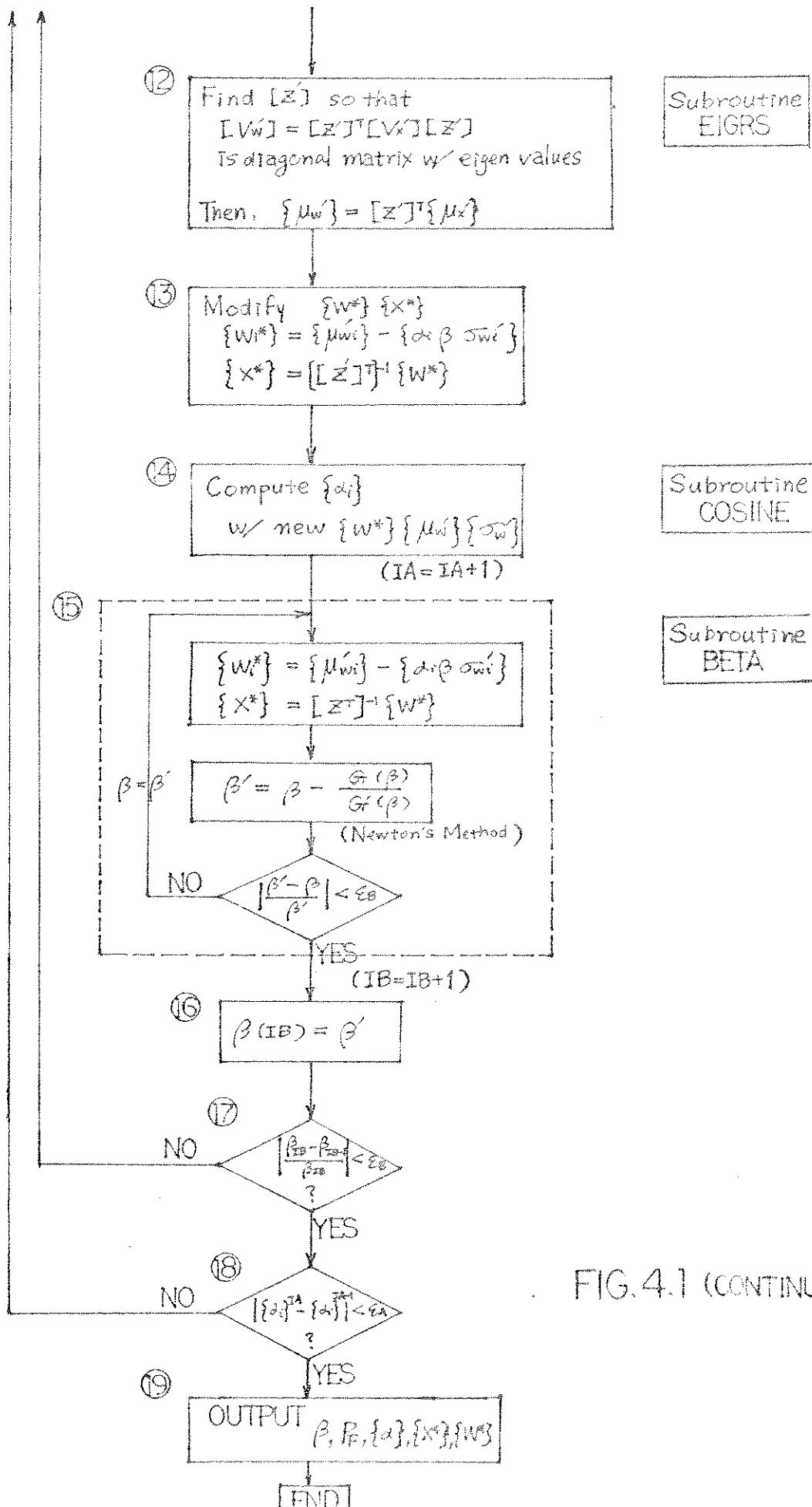
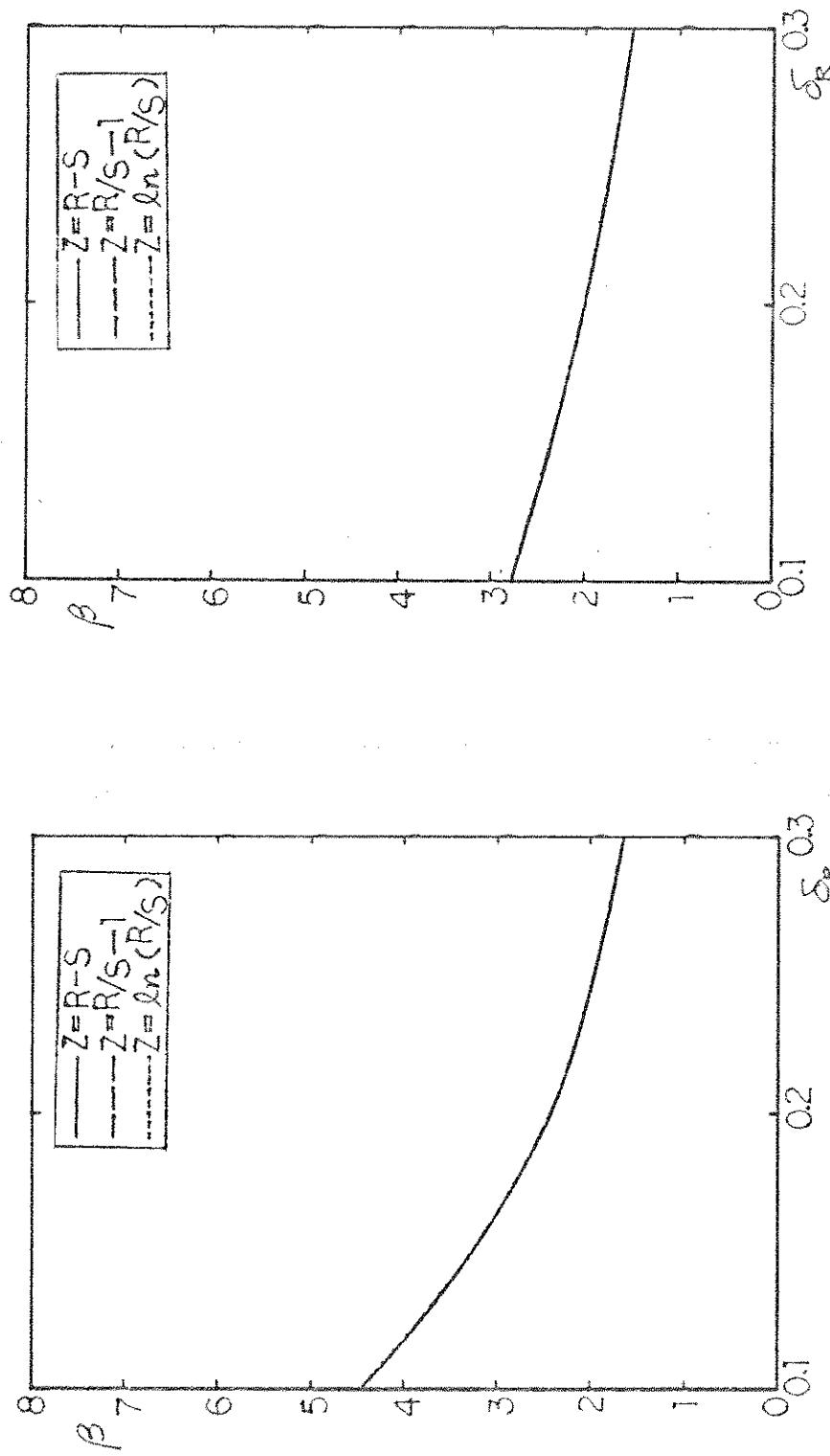
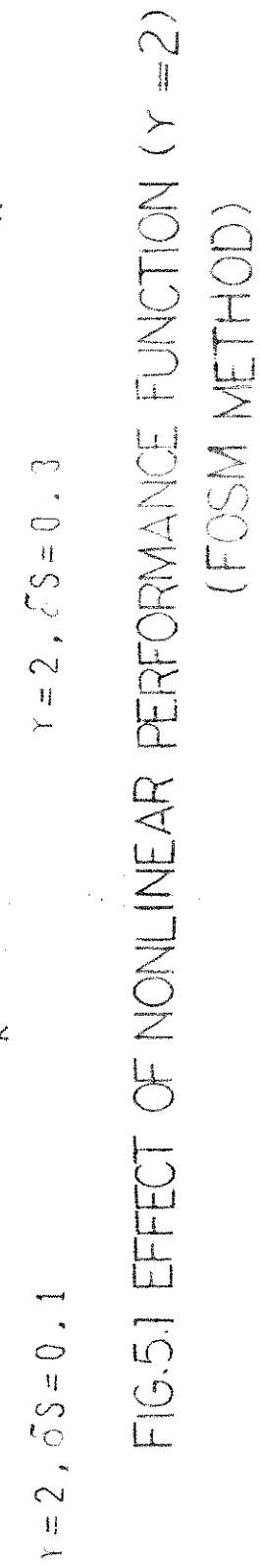
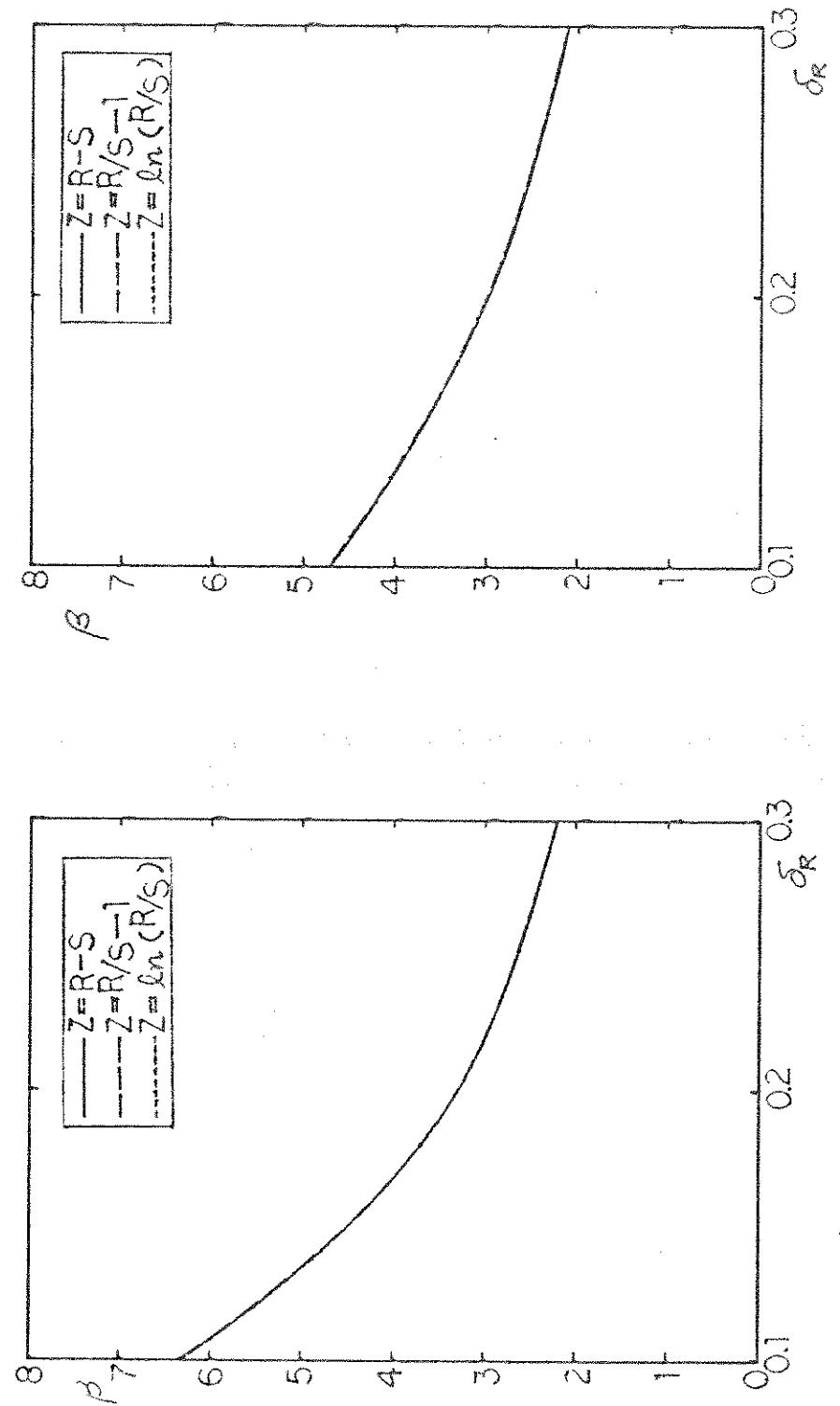


FIG. 4.1 (CONTINUED)





$\gamma = 3, \delta_S = 0, 1$   
 $\gamma = 3, \delta_S = 0, 3$

FIG. 5.2 EFFECT OF NONLINEAR PERFORMANCE FUNCTION ( $\gamma = 3$ )  
 (FOSM METHOD)

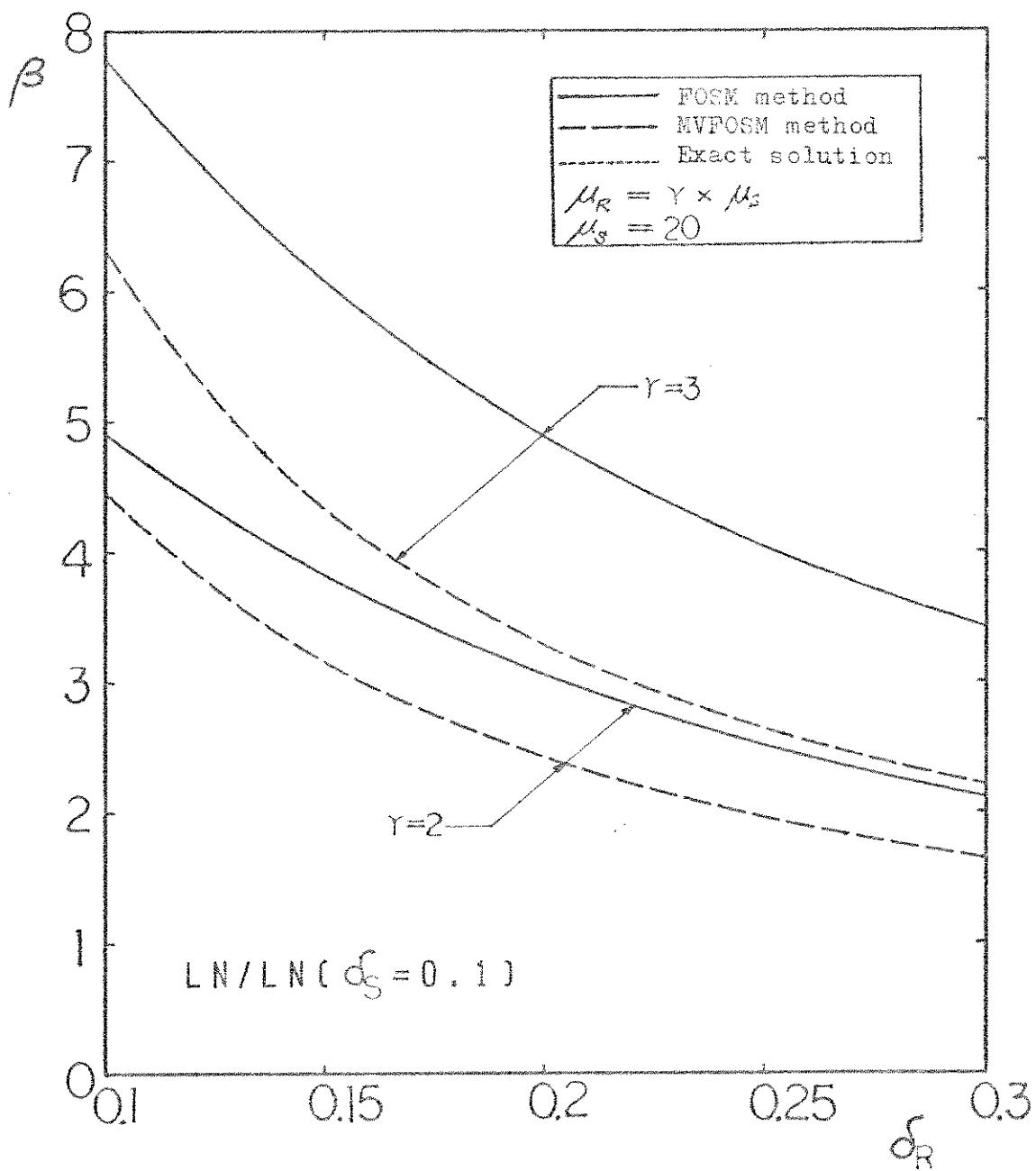


Fig. 5.3 Comparisons of safety indices,  $\beta$ , based on  
MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

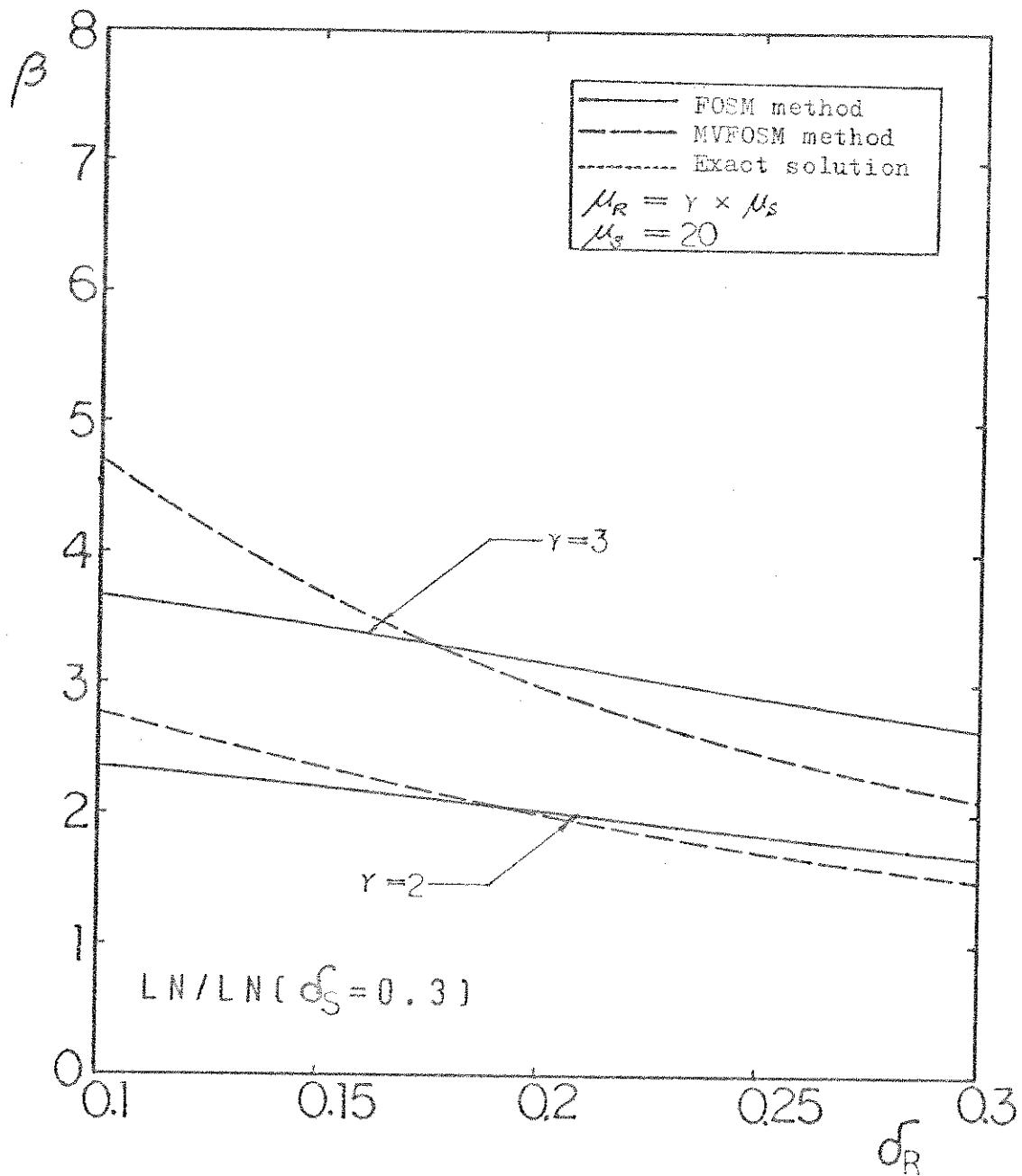


Fig. 5.4 Comparisons of safety indices,  $\beta$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

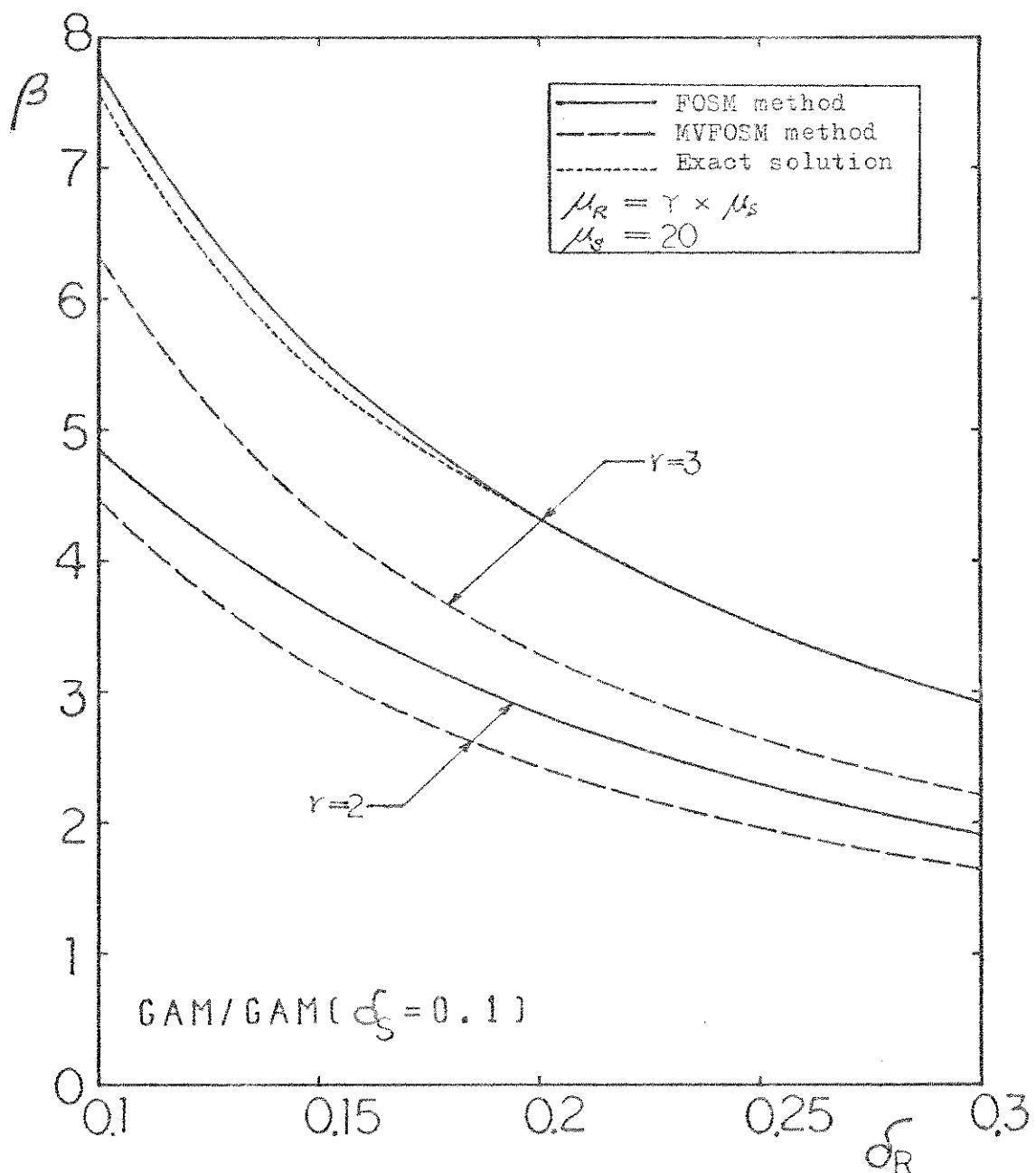


Fig. 5.5 Comparisons of safety indices,  $\beta$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

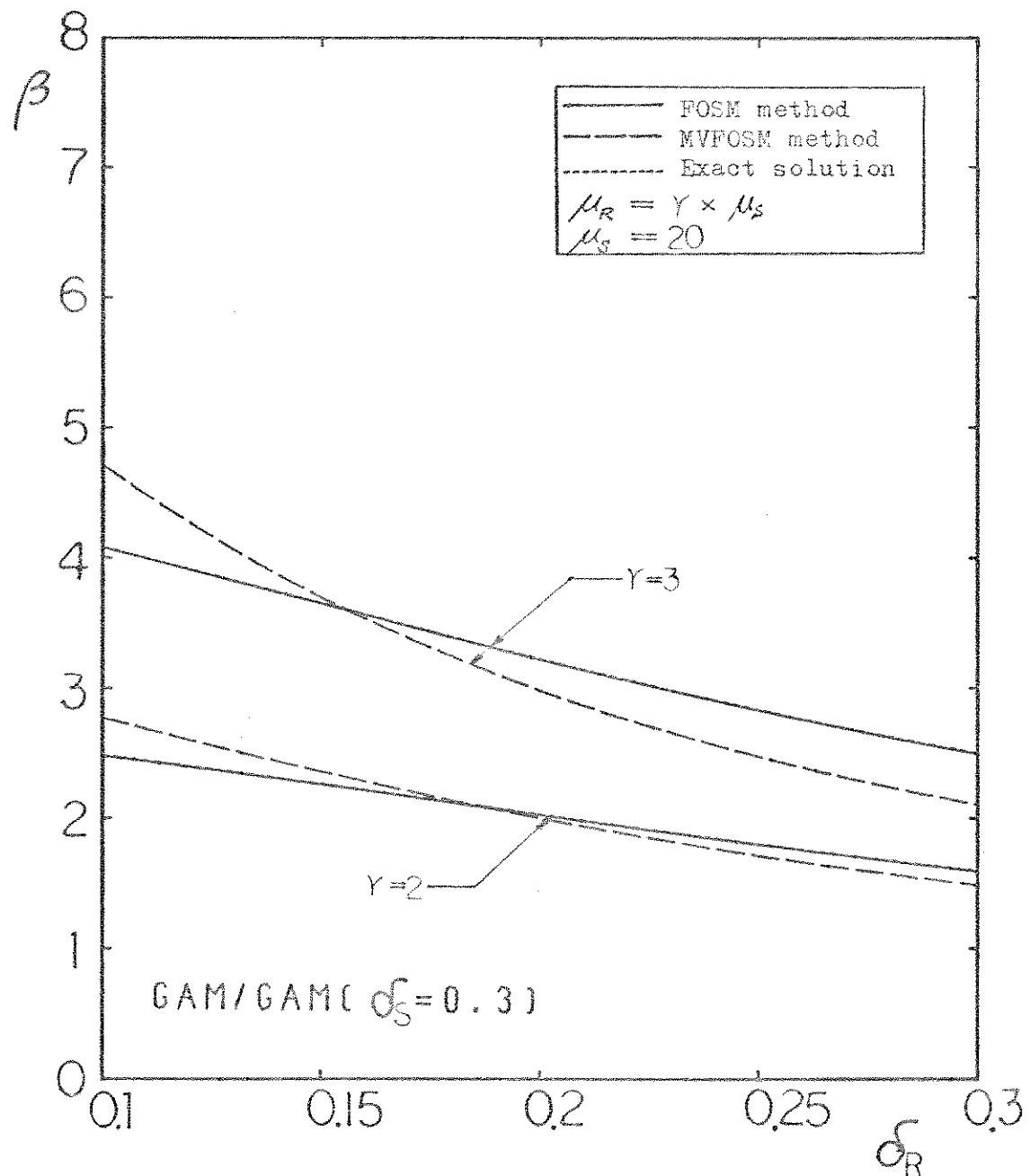


Fig 5.6 Comparisons of safety indices,  $\beta$ , based on  
MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

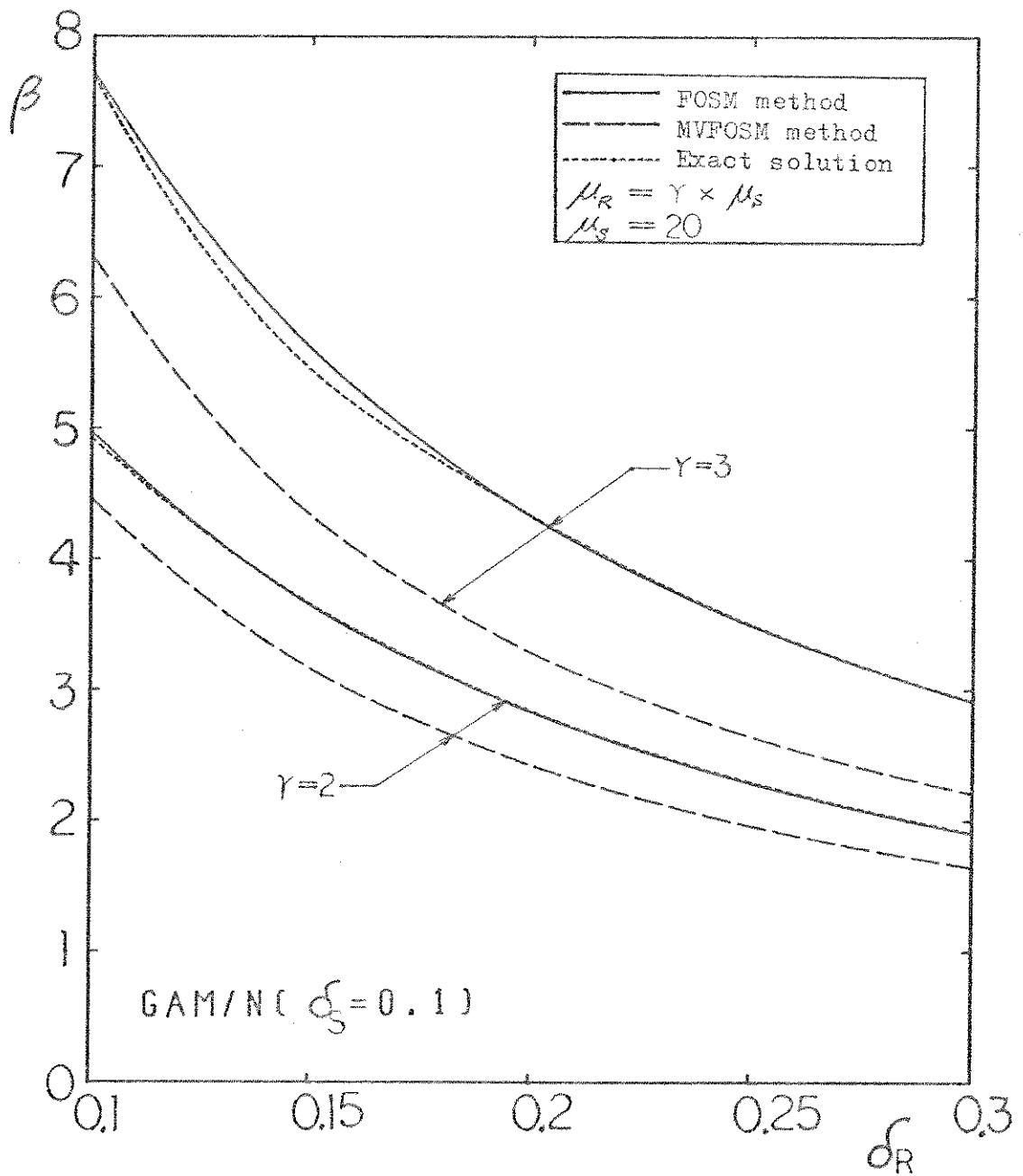


Fig. 5.7 Comparisons of safety indices,  $\beta$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

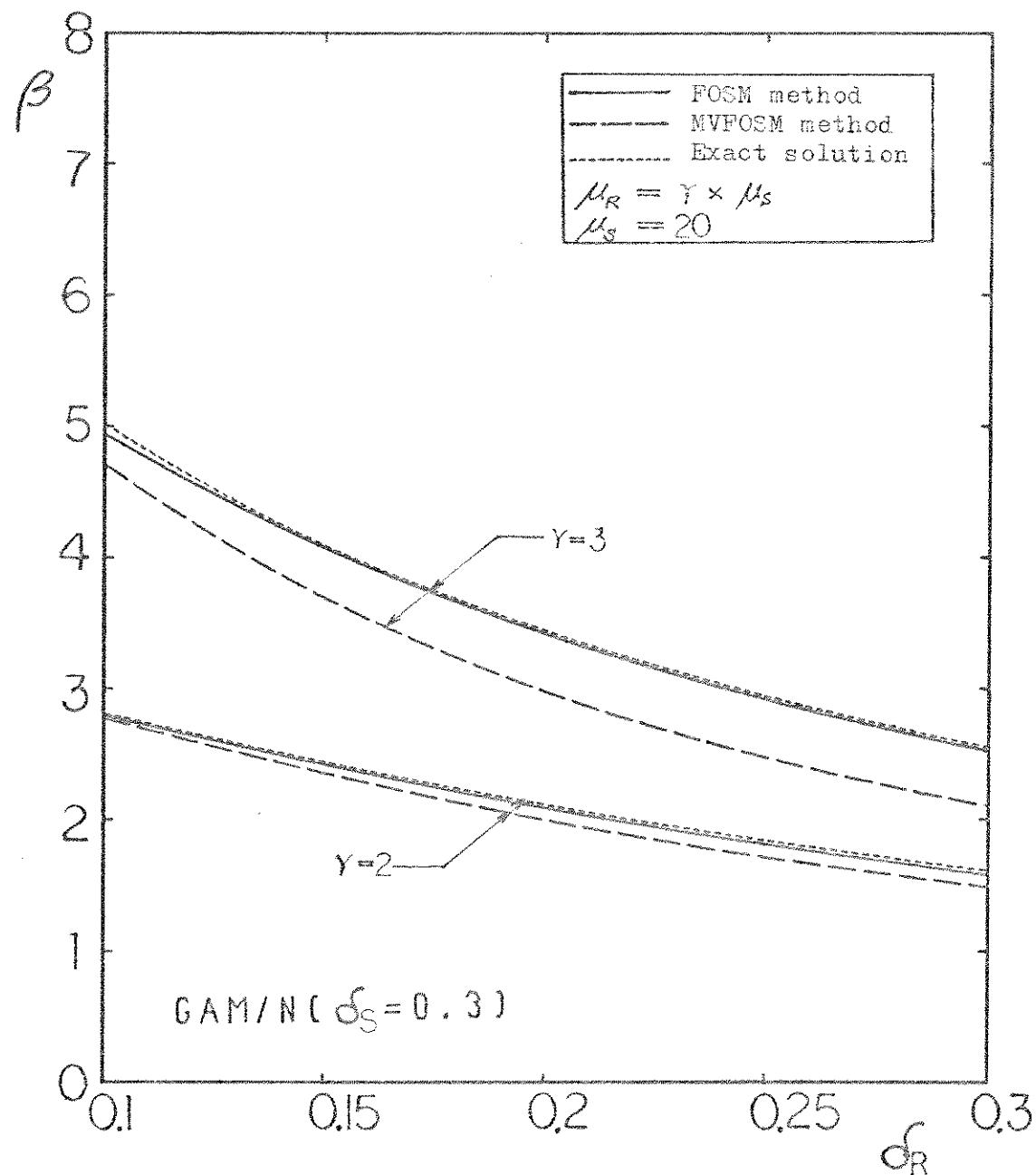


Fig. 5.8 Comparisons of safety indices,  $\beta$ , based on  
MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

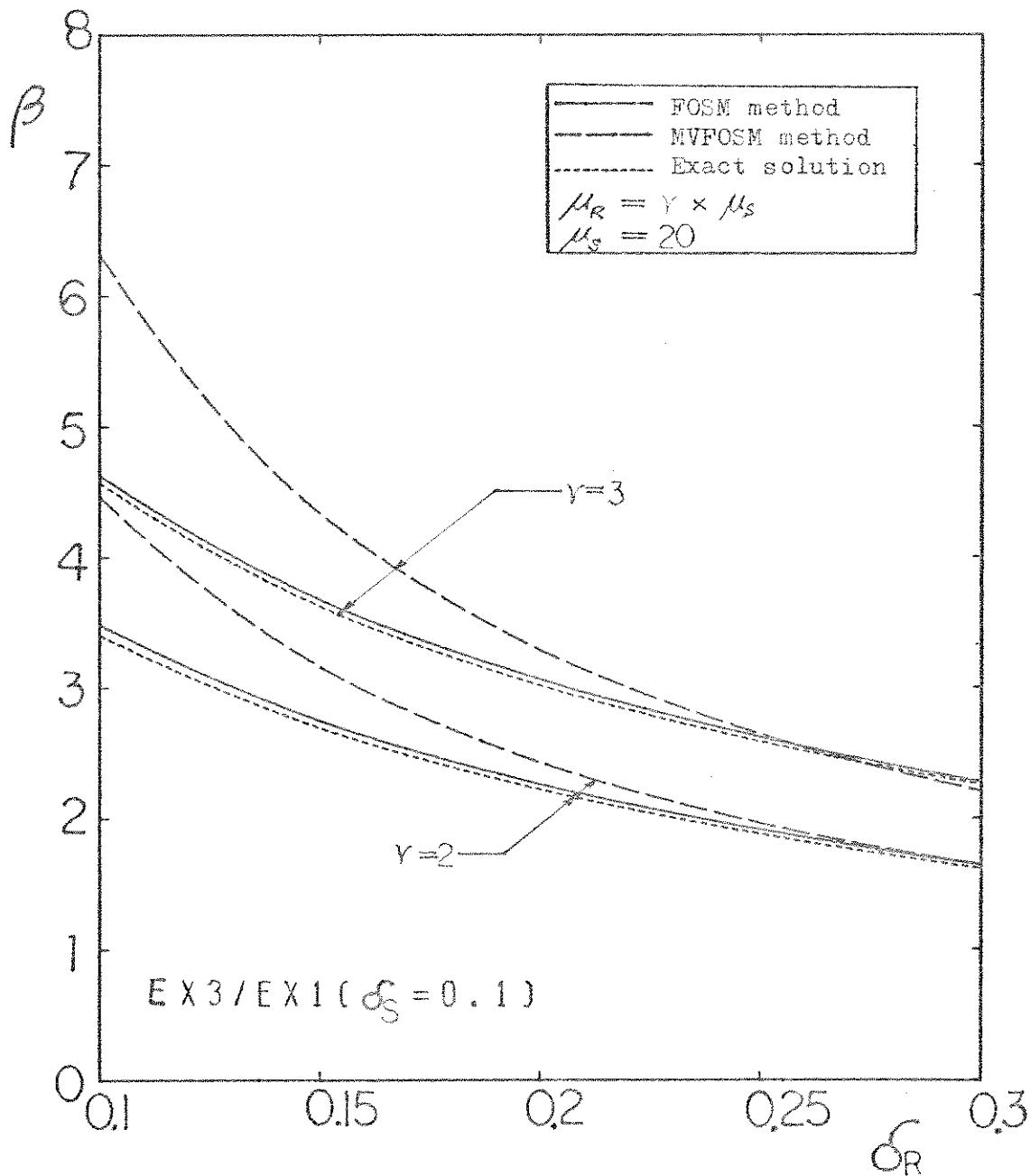


Fig. 5.9 Comparisons of safety indices,  $\beta$ , based on  
MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

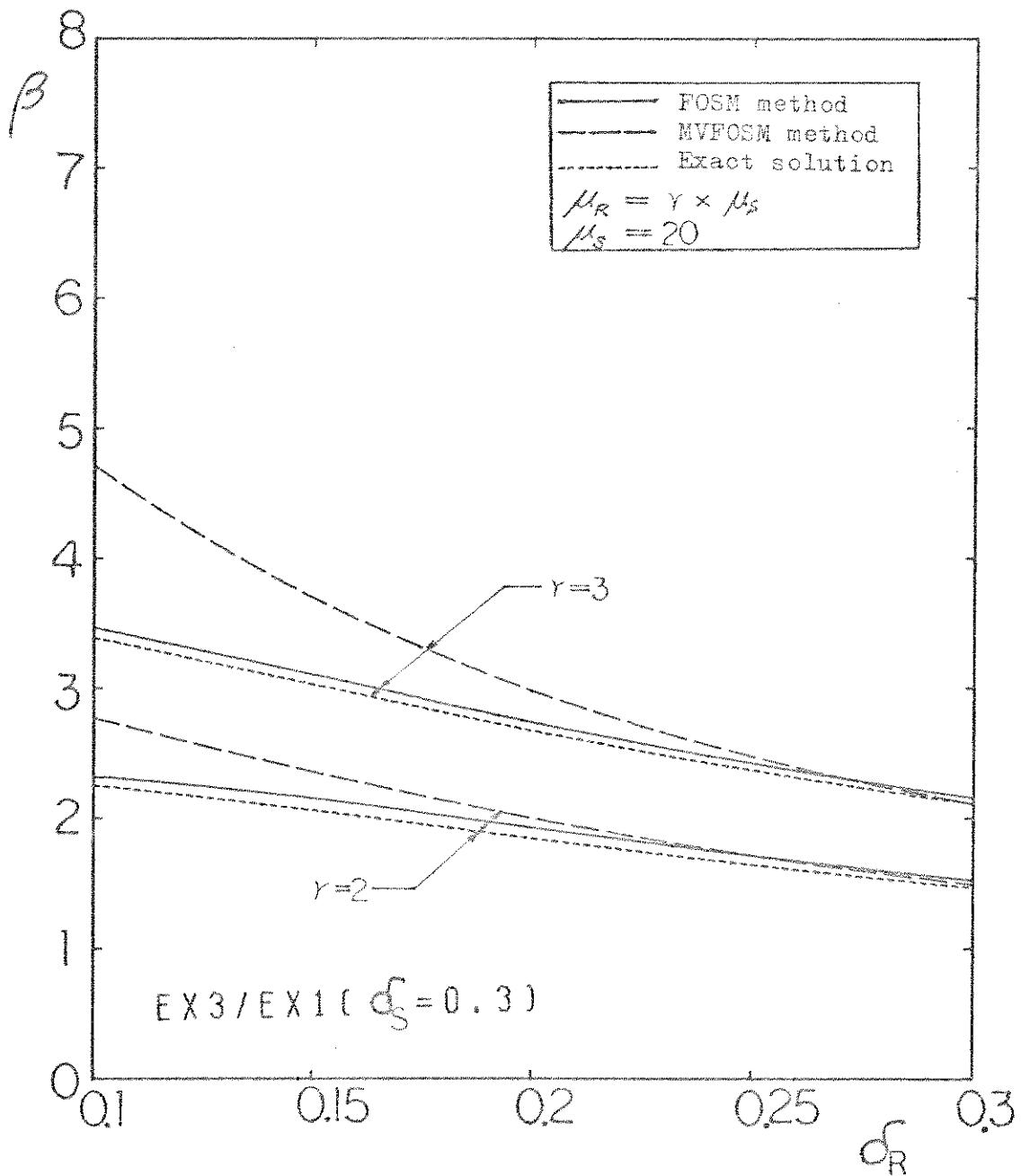


Fig. 5.10 Comparisons of safety indices,  $\beta$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

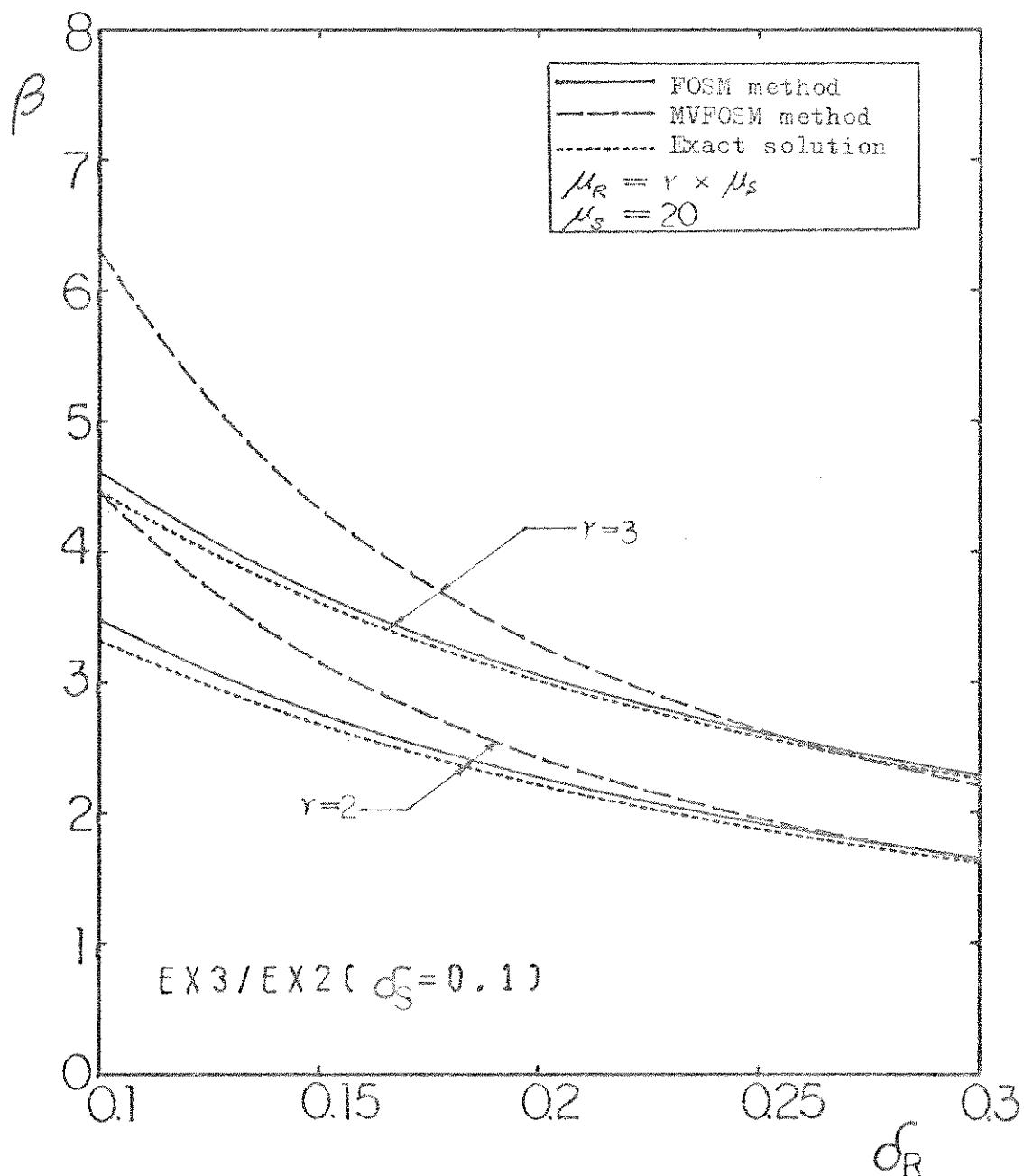


Fig. 5.11 Comparisons of safety indices,  $\beta$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM mehtods with exact solutions

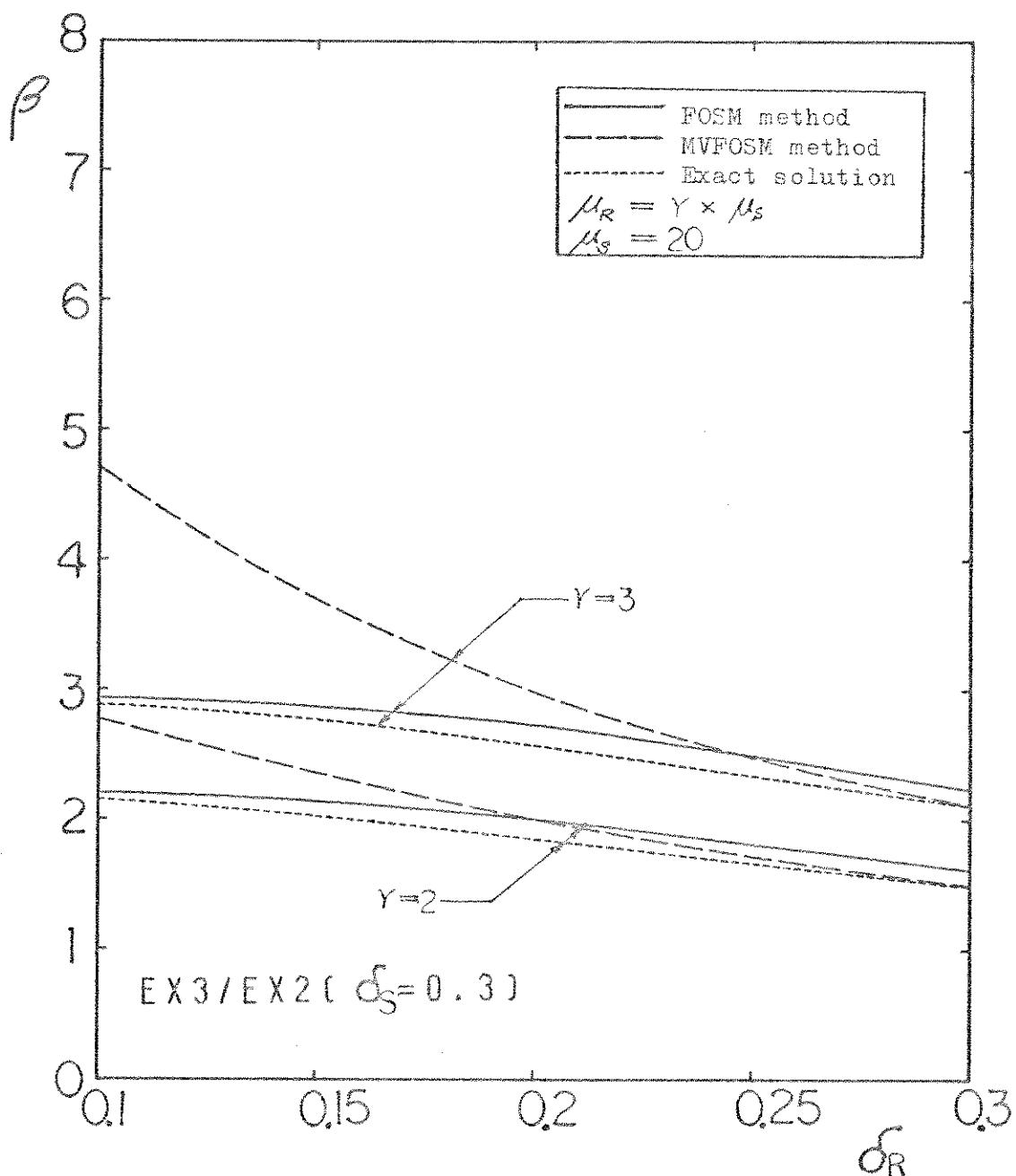


Fig. 5.12 Comparisons of safety indices,  $\beta$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

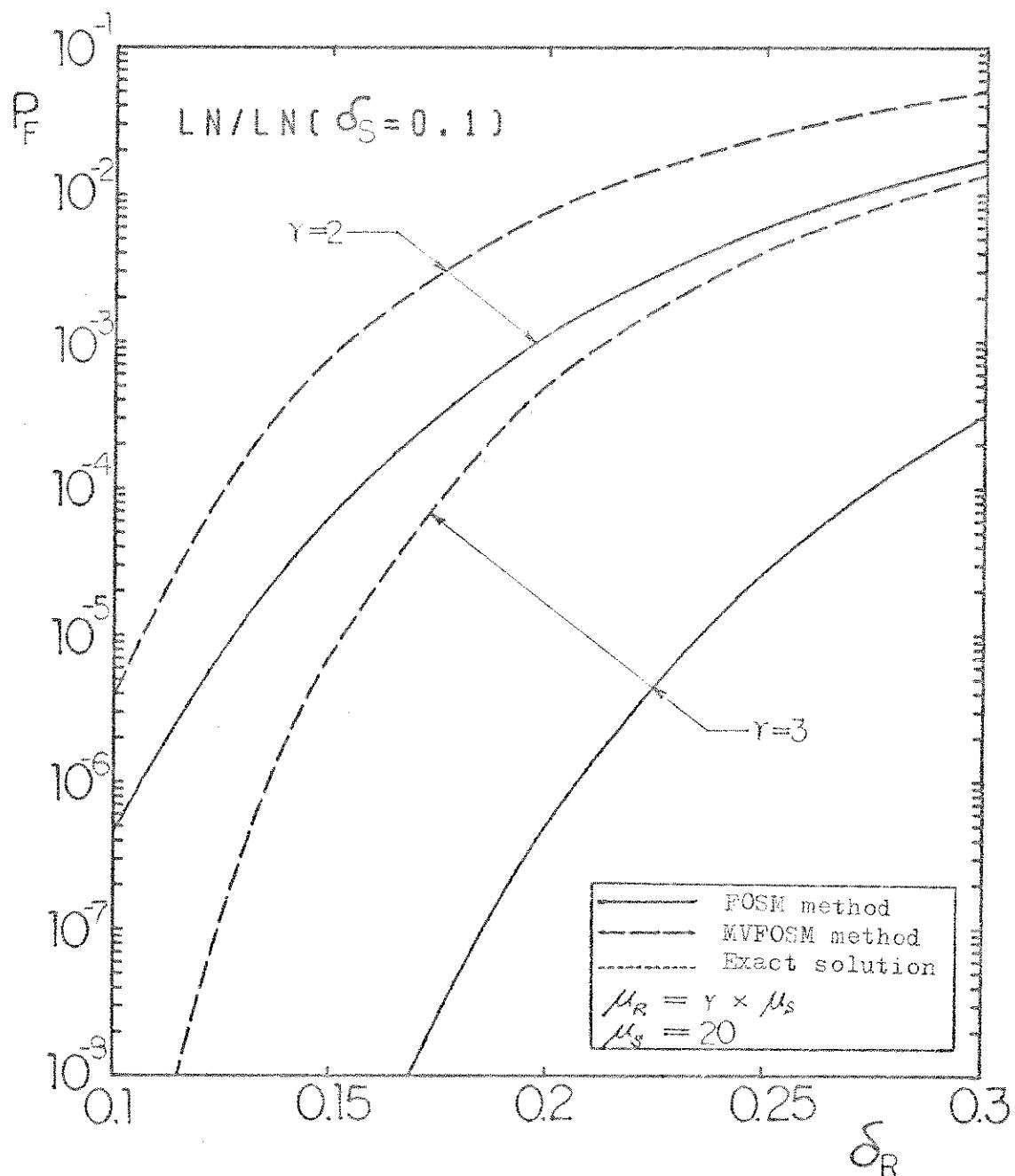


Fig. 5.13 Comparisons of probability of failure,  $P_f$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

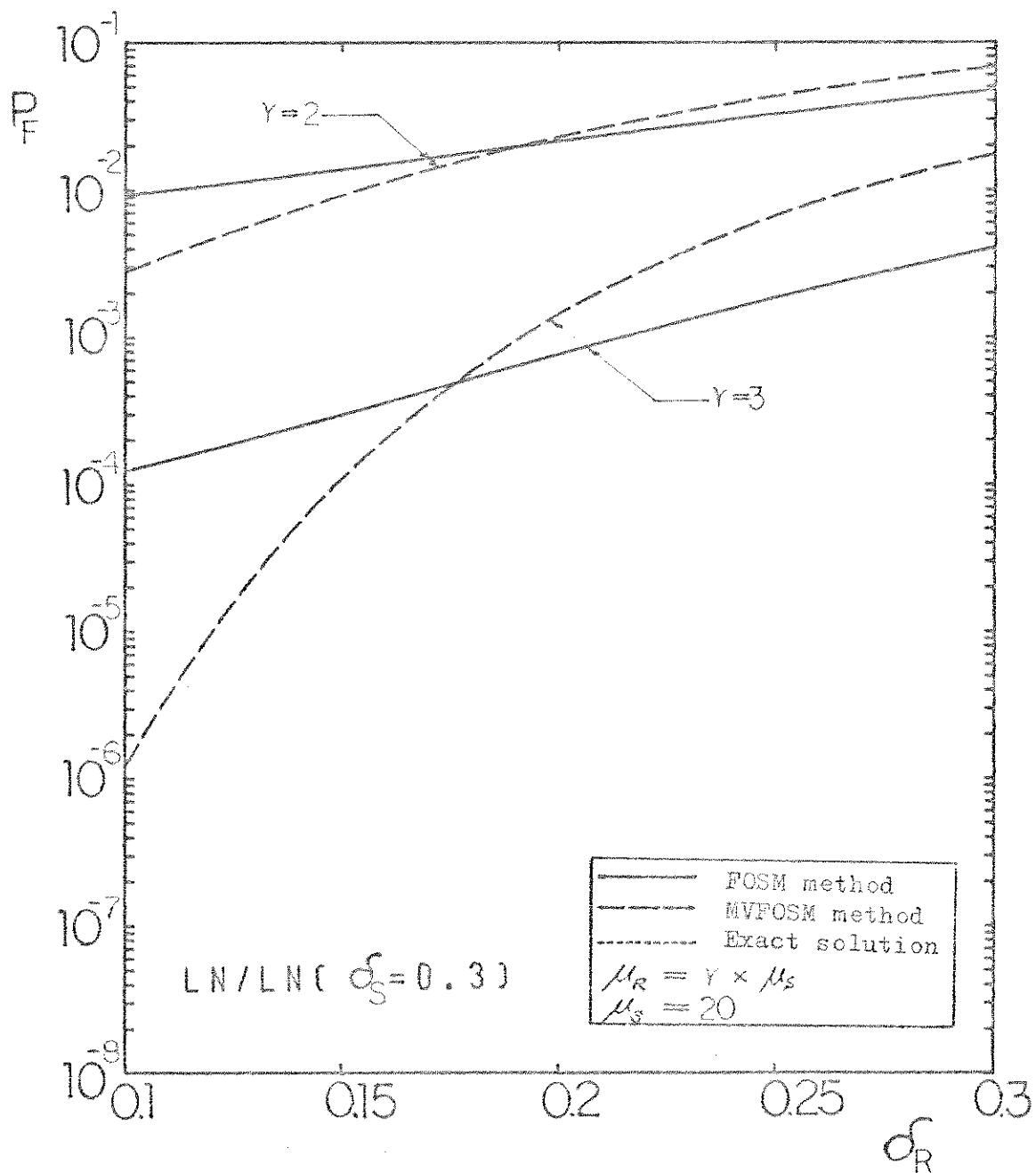


Fig. 5.14 Comparisons of probability of failure,  $P_f$ , based on MVPOSM and POSM methods with exact solutions

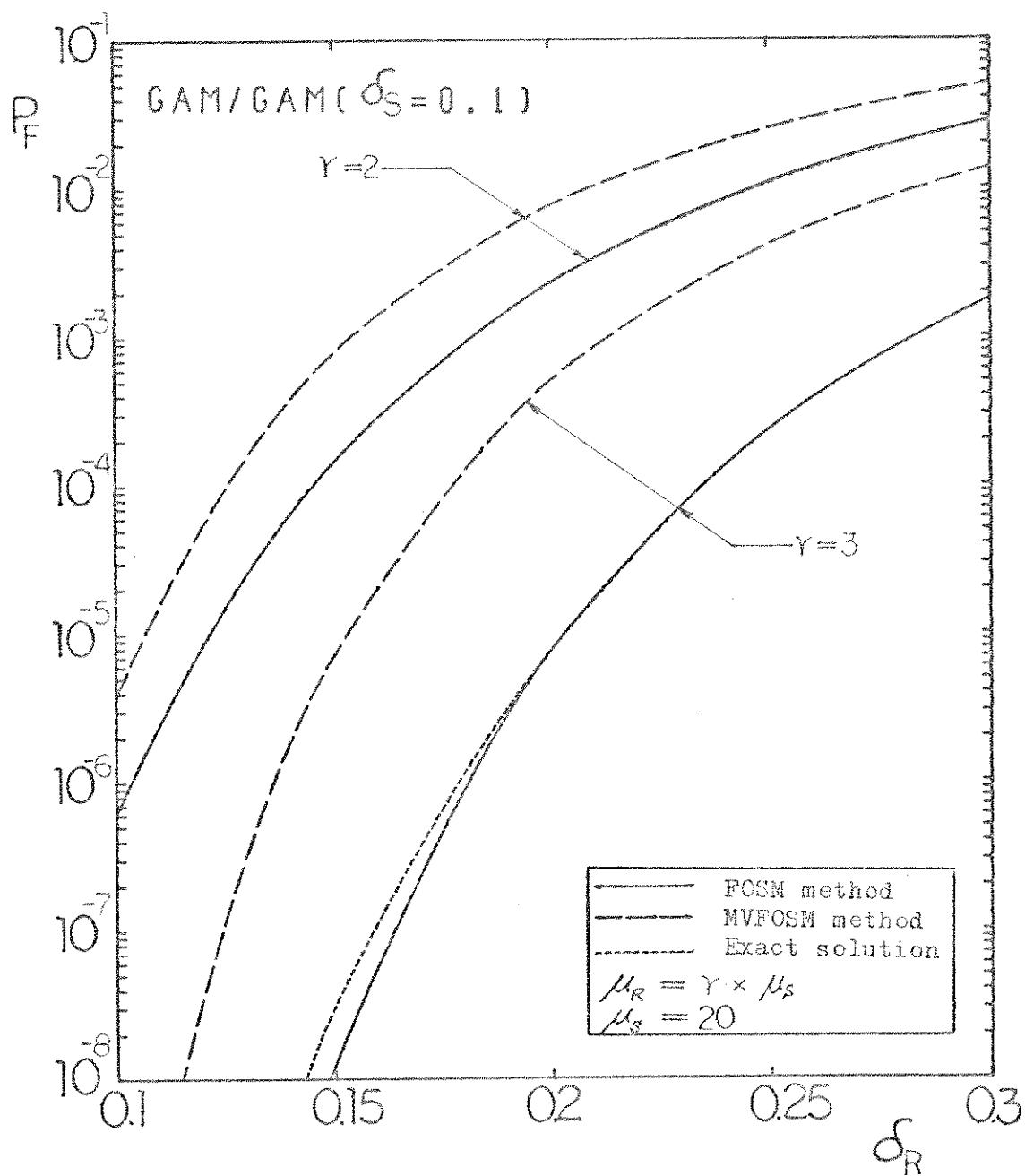


Fig. 5.15 Comparisons of probability of failure,  $P_f$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

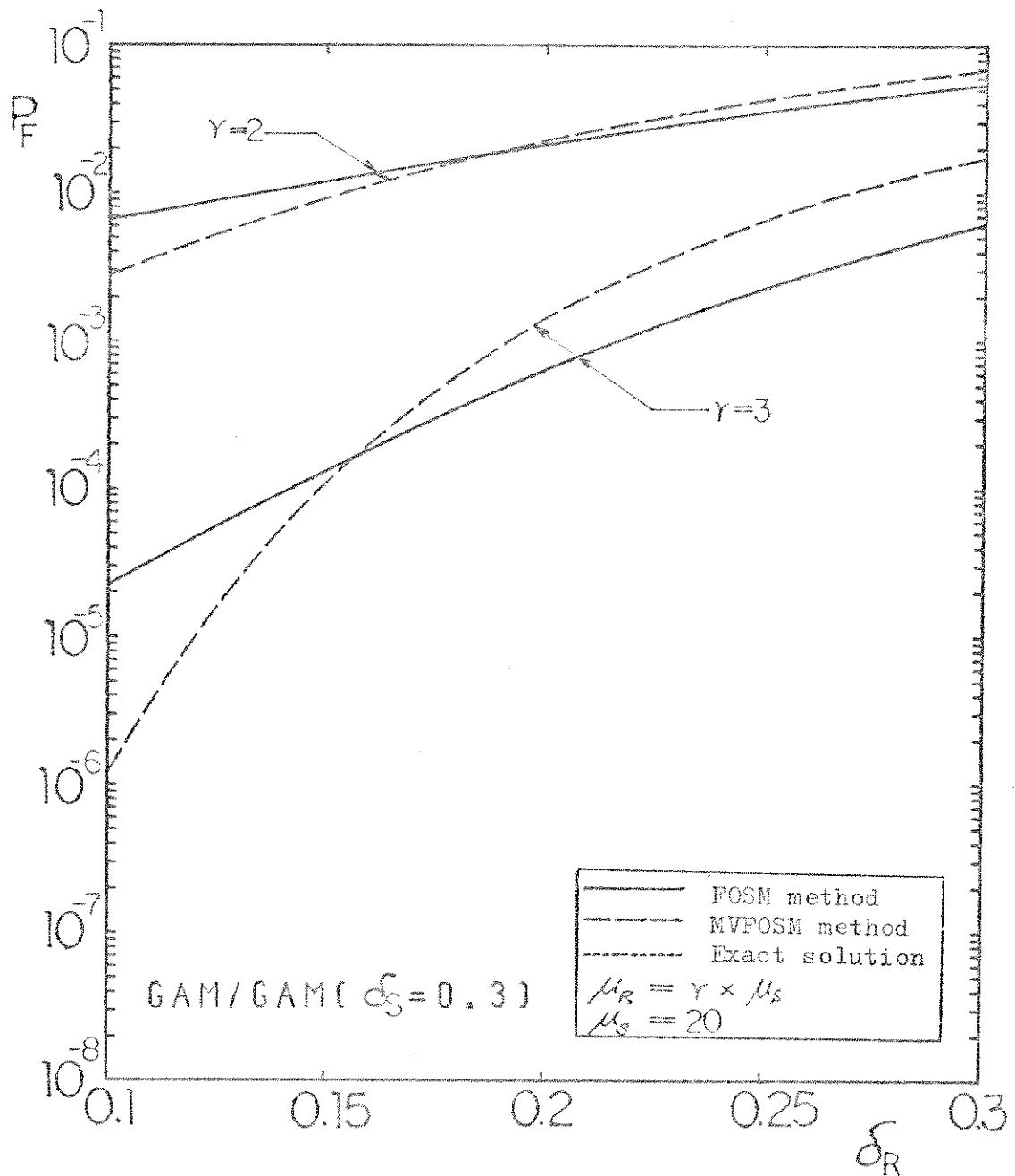


Fig. 5.16 Comparisons of probability of failure,  $P_f$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

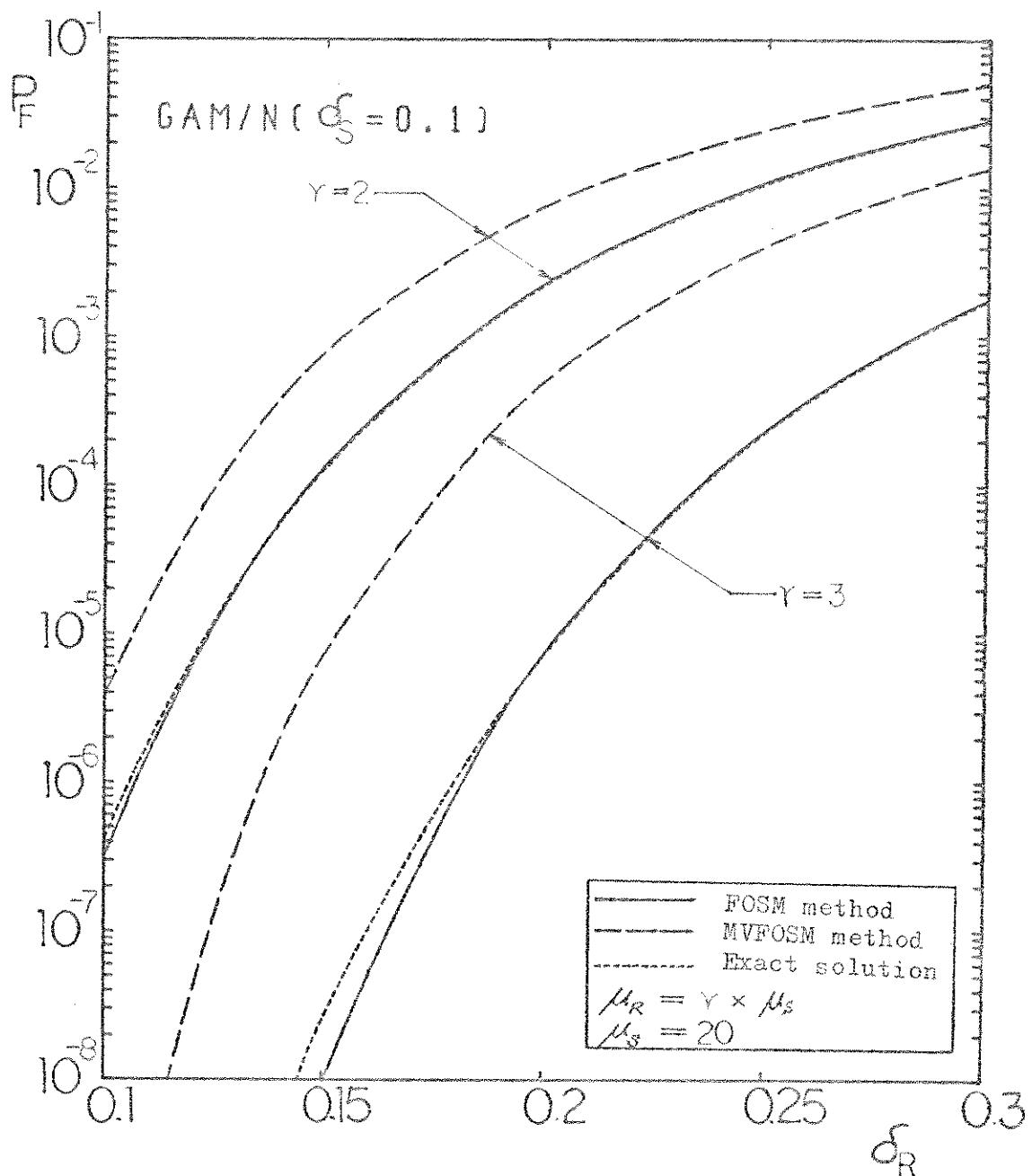


Fig. 5.17 Comparisons of probability of failure,  $P_f$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

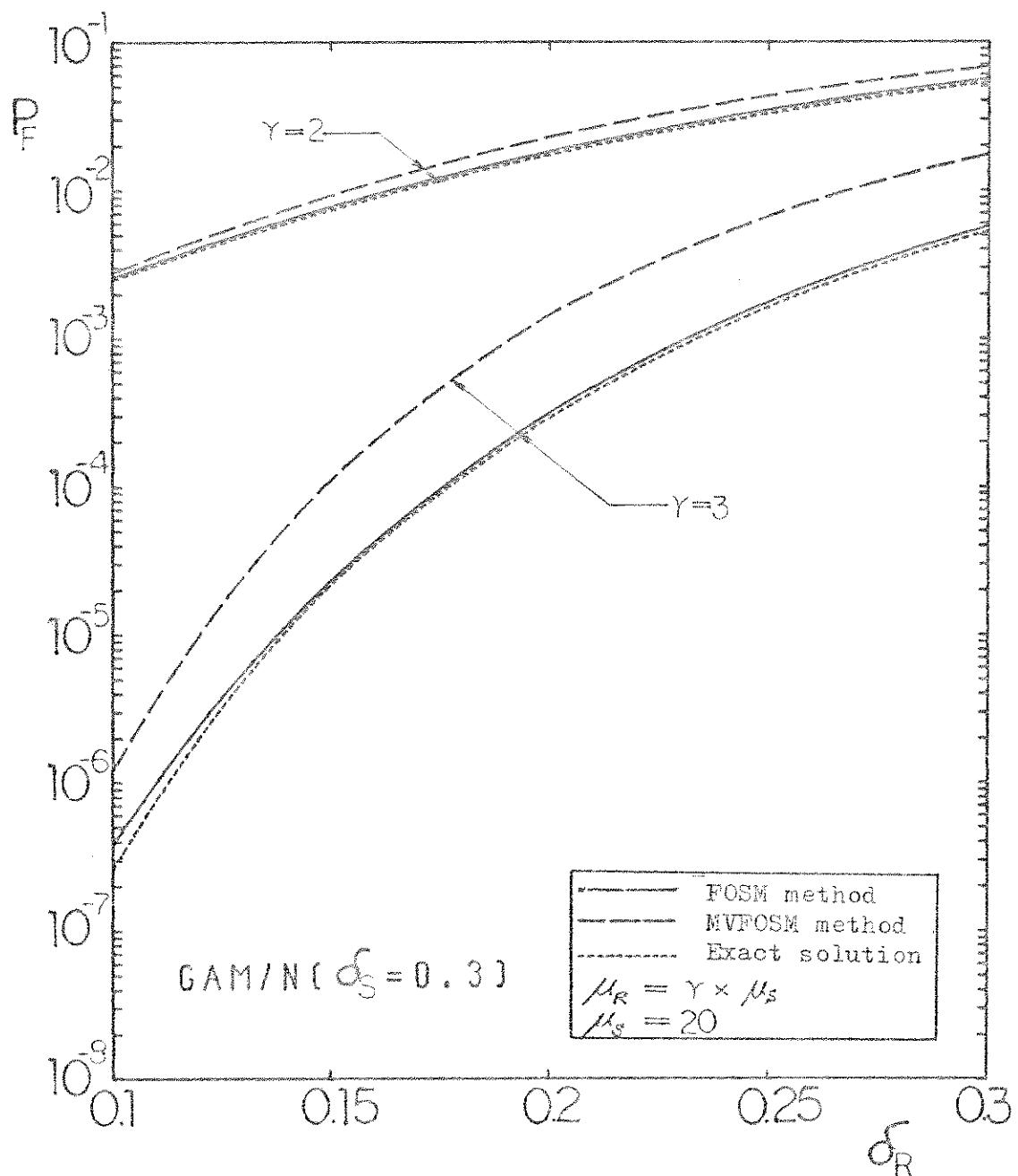


Fig. 5.18 Comparisons of probability of failure,  $P_f$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

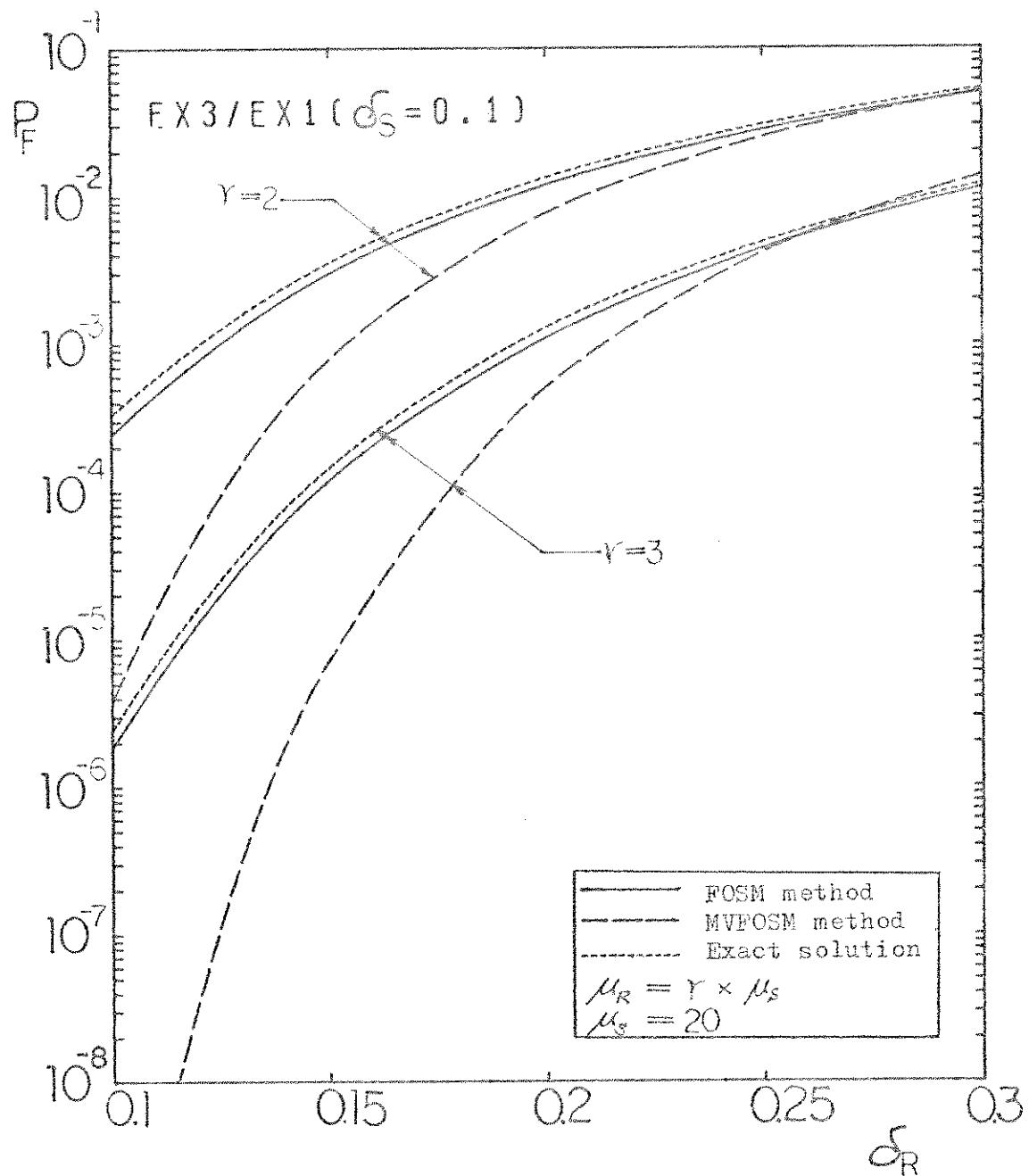


Fig. 5.19 Comparisons of probability of failure,  $P_f$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

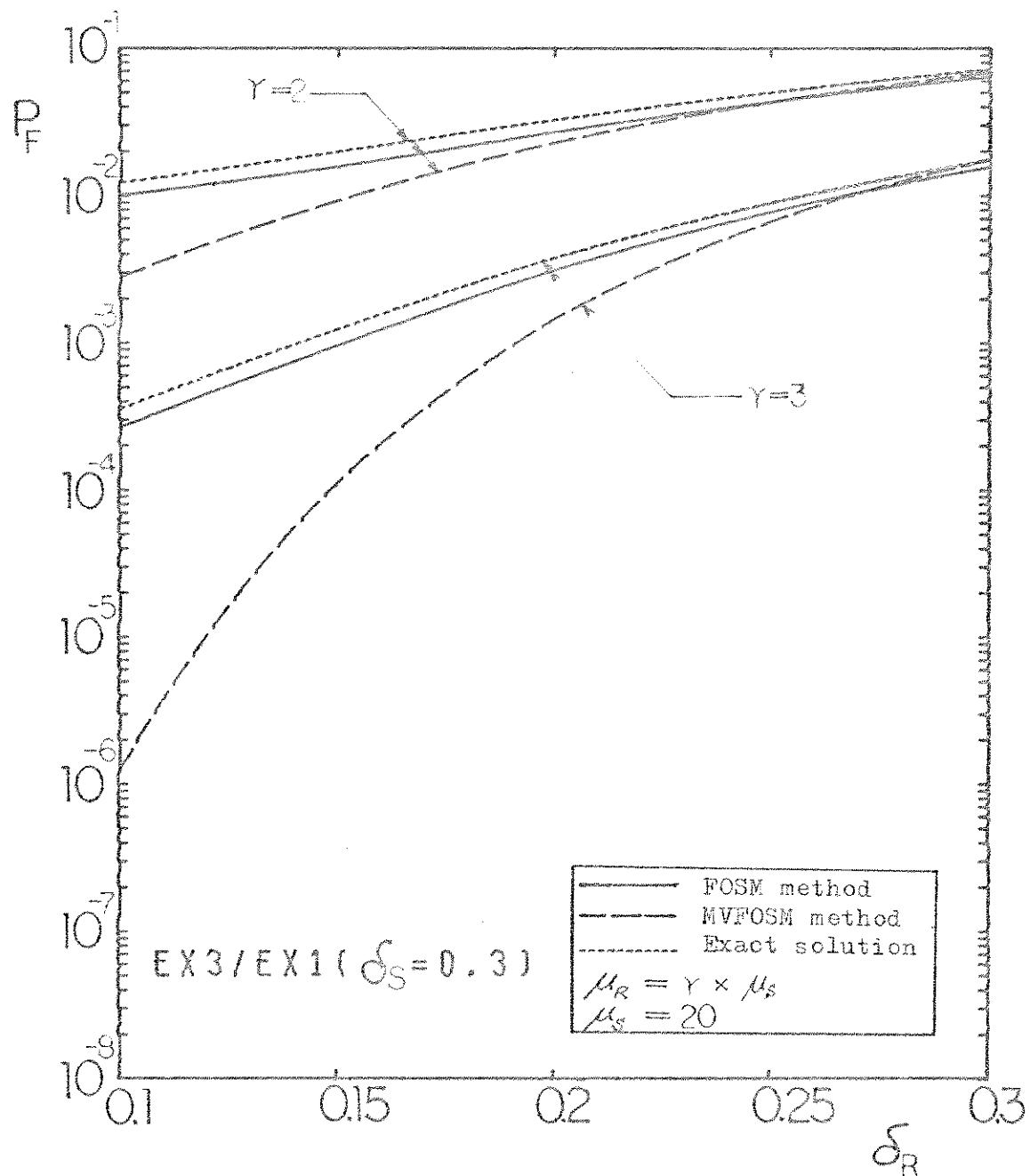


Fig. 5.20 Comparisons of probability of failure,  $P_f$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

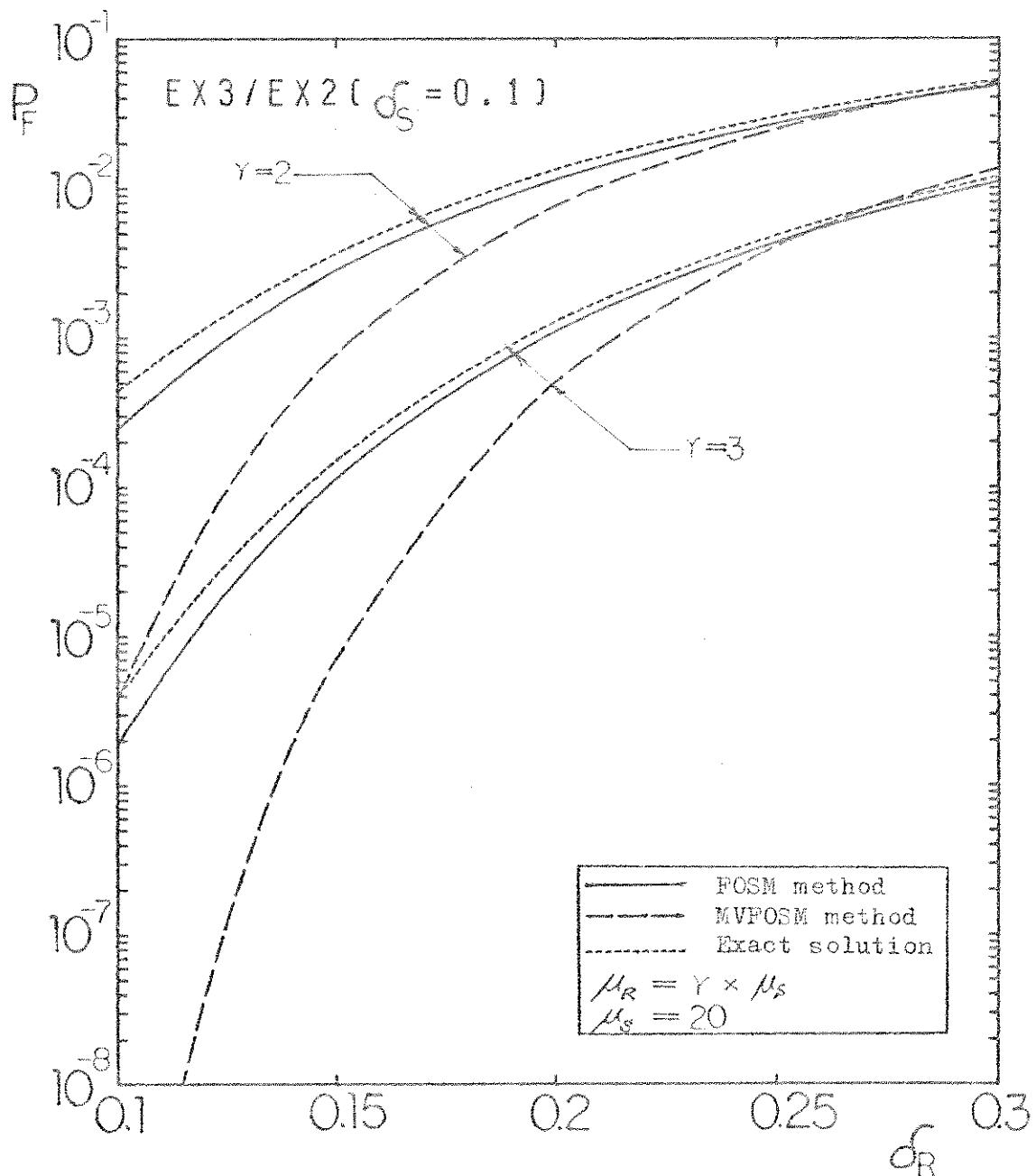


Fig. 5.21 Comparisons of probability of failure,  $P_f$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

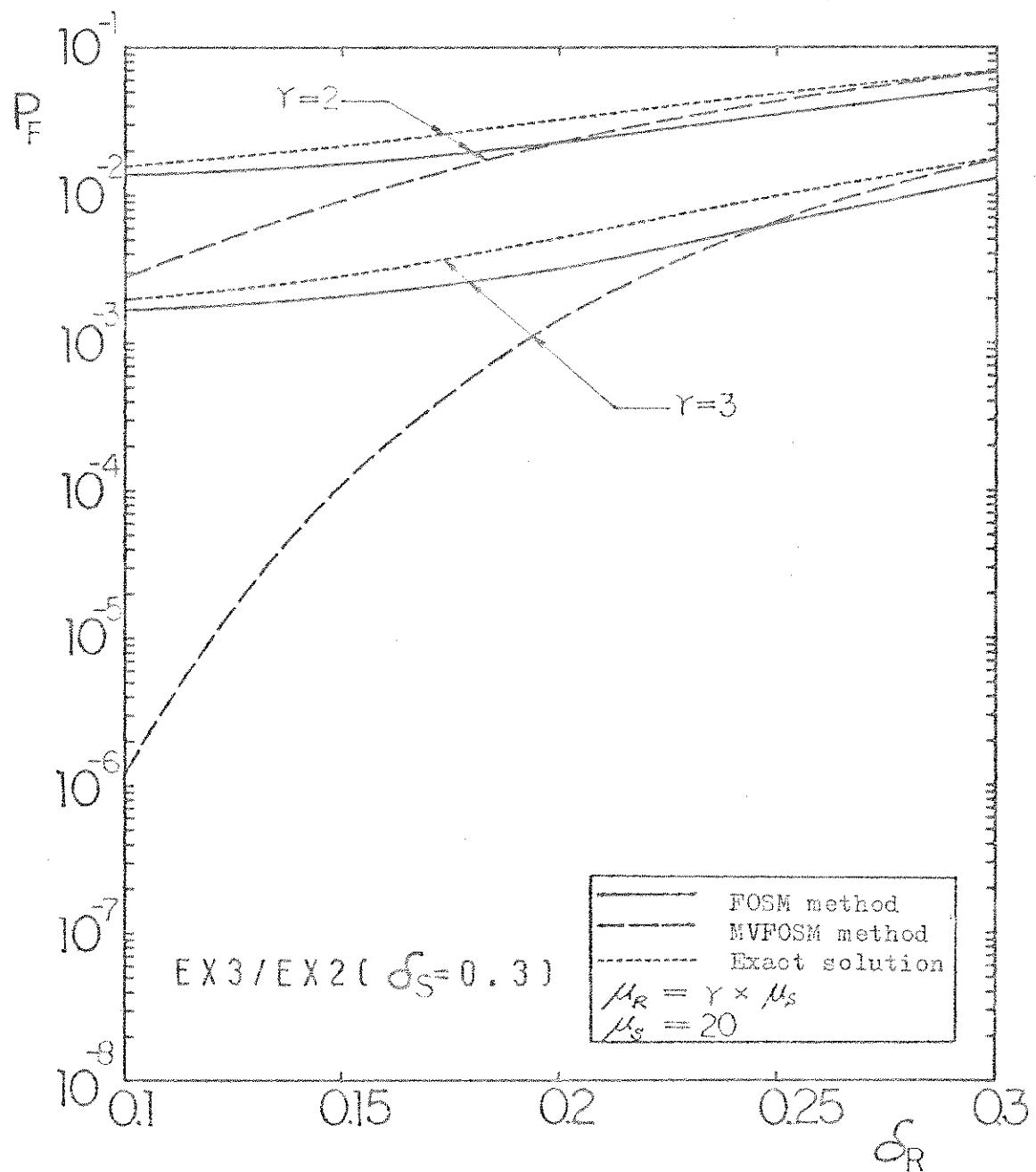


Fig. 5.22 Comparisons of probability of failure,  $P_f$ , based on MVFOSM and FOSM methods with exact solutions

## Appendix I User's Guide for Program "FOSM"

### 1. Program organization

Program "FOSM" consists of a main program and the following subprograms. The flow chart of the program is shown in Fig. 4.1.

#### (1) EIGRS

The function of "EIGRS" is to find an eigen matrix [Z], which transforms the covariance matrix  $\{V_X\}$  into the diagonal matrix of eigen values  $\{V_W\}$  through Eq.(3.6). To use this program, the covariance matrix  $\{V_X\}$ , which is real and symmetric, is transformed into a vector  $\{V_{XA}\}$  by a subprogram VCVTFS. Both programs belong to IMSL routines.

#### (2) DG

The subprogram "DG" computes the numerical value of  $\frac{\partial \varepsilon_X}{\partial X_i}$  ( $i=1, \dots, n$ ) for a certain value of  $\{X\} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ . This subprogram is provided by the user.

#### (3) DIGW

The subprogram "DIGW" computes the numerical value of  $\frac{\partial \varepsilon_W}{\partial W_j}$  ( $j=1, \dots, n$ ) as a linear combination of  $\frac{\partial \varepsilon_X}{\partial X_i}$  ( $i=1, \dots, n$ ) through Eq.(3.8).

#### (4) COSINE

The function of "COSINE" is to compute  $\{\alpha_i\}$  defined by Eq.(3.3).  $\{\alpha_i\}$  in the reduced space (W-space), which is defined by the following equation, is computed by using "COSINE" with "DG" and "DIGW".

$$\alpha_i = (\frac{\partial \varepsilon_W}{\partial W_i}) * \tilde{\sigma}_{Wi} / \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^n (\frac{\partial \varepsilon_W}{\partial W_j})^2 \tilde{\sigma}_{Wj}^2}$$

#### (5) BETA

The function of "BETA" is to solve the following equation in terms of

$$G(\beta) = \varepsilon_W (\mu_{W1} - \alpha_1 \beta \tilde{\sigma}_{W1}, \dots, \mu_{Wn} - \alpha_n \beta \tilde{\sigma}_{Wn}) = 0$$

so that the linearization point is on the failure surface. The equation is solved using Newton's method

$$\beta_{i+1} = \beta_i - G(\beta_i) / G'(\beta_i)$$

#### (6) LGN, GAM, TYPE1, TYPE2, WEIBL, EXPO

These subprograms aim to fit the non-normal distributions to "equivalent normal distributions" through Eqs.(3.12) and (3.13). The subprograms correspond to the following distributions.

LGN ----- Log normal dis.

GAM ----- Gamma dis.  
 TYPE1 ----- Type I Extreme dis.  
 TYPE2 ----- Type II Extreme dis.  
 WEIBL ----- Weibull dis. (Type III Extreme dis.)  
 EXPO ----- Exponential dis.

(7) WTOX

The function of "WTOX" is to transform variable  $\{W\}$  into the original space(  $X$ -space ) by multiplying the eigen matrix [Z].

(8) GX(X)

This is a function declaration of the performance function  $g_X(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ . This program must be provided by the user.

(9) MDNOR

The function of "MDNOR" is to compute the failure probability from the safety index through Eq.(2.13).It belongs to IMSL routines.

2. Definition of parameters

NX : Number of variables ( $n \leq 10$ )  
 GX(X) : Performance function  $g_X(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$   
 X(10) : Variables of performance funtion  $\{X\} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$   
 W(10) : Variables transformed into uncorrelated space  
 $\{W\} = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n)$   
 NDIS(10) : Type of distribution for each variable  $x_i$   
           1=Normal / Unspecified, 2=Log-Normal, 3=Gamma  
           4=Type-1, 5=Type-2, 6=Exponential, 7=Weibull  
 Z(10,10) : Eigen matrix to transform variables from correlated space  
           ( $X$ -space) to uncorrelated space ( $W$ -space).  
 DGX(10) : Partial derivatives of  $g_X(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$   
 $(\partial g_X / \partial x_1, \partial g_X / \partial x_2, \dots, \partial g_X / \partial x_n)$   
 DGW(10) : Partial derivatives of  $g_W(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n)$   
 $(\partial g_W / \partial w_1, \partial g_W / \partial w_2, \dots, \partial g_W / \partial w_n)$   
 EX(10) : Mean vector of  $\{X\}$   $\{\mu_X\} = (\mu_{X_1}, \mu_{X_2}, \dots, \mu_{X_n})$   
 EW(10) : Mean vector of  $\{W\}$   $\{\mu_W\} = (\mu_{W_1}, \mu_{W_2}, \dots, \mu_{W_n})$   
 VX(10,10) : Covariance matrix of  $\{X\}$   $[V_X] = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_n^2 \end{bmatrix}$

RO(10,10)	: Correlation coefficients matrix $[S] = \begin{bmatrix} \rho_{11} & \rho_{12} & \dots & \rho_{1n} \\ \rho_{21} & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \rho_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$
VW(10,10)	: Transformed variance matrix $[V_W] = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_w^2 & & & \\ & 0 & & \\ & & 0 & \\ & & & \sigma_{wn}^2 \end{bmatrix}$
SGW(10)	: Standard deviation vector of $\{w\}$ $\{\sigma_w\} = (\sigma_{w1}, \sigma_{w2}, \dots, \sigma_{wn})$
AEX(10)	: Modified mean vector after fitting to normal distributions $\{\mu'_X\} = (\mu'_1, \mu'_2, \dots, \mu'_n)$
ASGX(10)	: Modified standard deviation vector after fitting to normal distributions $\{\sigma'_X\} = (\sigma'_1, \sigma'_2, \dots, \sigma'_n)$
AVX(10,10)	: Modified covariance matrix after fitting to normal distributions $[V_X^*] = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & & & \\ & \ddots & \rho_{ij}\sigma'_i\sigma'_j & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \sigma_n^2 \end{bmatrix}$
AEW(10)	: Mean vector $\{\mu'_w\}$ , obtained by transformation of $\{\mu'_X\}$
ASGW(10)	: Variance matrix $[V_w^*]$ , obtained by transformation of $[V_X^*]$
IA	: Index showing iteration number of calculation of $\{\mu'_X\}$
IB	: Index showing iteration number of calculation of $\beta$
NIA	: Allowable max. number of IA ( NIA $\leq 30$ )
NIB	: Allowable max. number of IB ( NIB $\leq 30$ )
A(10,30)	: A(i,IA) means $\alpha_i$ at the iteration stage of IA
B(30)	: B(IB) means $\beta$ at the iteration stage of IB
EPA	: Convergence tolerance for $\alpha_i$ . Check is done by $ A(i,IA) - A(i,IA-1)  < EPA \quad (i=1, \dots, n)$
EPB	: Convergence tolerance for $\beta$ . Check is done by $  (B(IB) - B(IB-1)) / B(IB)   < EPB$
PF	: Probability of failure
NCASE	: Total number of cases of analysis

3. Programs provided by a user

As described in 1. a user of this program is required to provide two subprograms as follows.

- (1) The performance function is defined through a FUNCTION STATEMENT.

The user is required to program the followings.

```
FUNCTION GX(X)
DIMENSION X(1)
GX = -----
RETURN
END
```

Example: For the performance function,  $g_X(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1^2 - x_2 x_3$  ,  
the program includes the following:

```
GX = X(1)*X(1) - X(2)*X(3)
```

- (2) Derivatives of the performance function are defined in the subroutine DG as follows:

```
SUBROUTINE DG(X,DGX)
DIMENSION X(1),DGX(1)
DGX(1) = -----
DGX(2) = -----
|
DGX( *) = -----
RETURN
END
```

The user is required to program the parts indicated by "-----".

Example: For the performance function described above, it is programmed as follows :

```
DGX(1) = 2.0*X(1)
DGX(2) = -X(3)
DGX(3) = -X(2)
```

4. Data input to POSM

## (1) Master control card ( 2I5 )

Columns	Variable	Entry
1---5	NX	Total number of variables ( $NX \leq 10$ )
6---10	NCASE	Number of cases of analysis

## (2) Convergence control card ( 2F10.5 , 2I5 )

Columns	Variable	Entry
1---10	EPA	Convergence tolerance for the computation of $\{\alpha_i\}$
11---20	EPB	Convergence tolerance for the computation of $\beta$
21---25	NIA	Maximum number of iteration for the computation of $\{\alpha_i\}$ ( $NIA \leq 30$ )
26---30	NIB	Maximum number of iteration for the computation of $\beta$ ( $NIB \leq 30$ )

## (3) Variable data card

Card 1 Heading ( 7A10 )

Columns	Variable	Entry
1---70	TIT1--TIT7	Enter the heading information for use in labeling the output for each case

(Note) Begin each new set of data with a new heading card.

Card 2 Distributions and mean values ( I5, F10.3 )

Columns	Variable	Entry
1---5	NDIS(10)	Type of distribution of each variable
6---15	EX(10)	Mean value of each variable

(Note 1) This card is prepared for each variable, and put in order following the sequence of variables. Therefore, total number of card 2 is NX.

- (Note 2) NDIS :    1---Normal/Unspecified  
                   2---Lognormal  
                   3---Gamma  
                   4---Extreme ( Type I )  
                   5---Extreme ( Type II )  
                   6---Exponential  
                   7---Weibull ( Extreme Type III )

Card 3 Covariances ( 7F10.3 )

Columns	Variable	Entry
1---10	VX(1,1)	Enter the first row of the covariance matrix
11---20	VX(1,2)	at first, then move to the second row, and
21---30	VX(1,3)	etc. When the first card is full, continue
etc.		to the second card, and etc.

(Note) When the input for card 3 is over, a user can go to the next case. Input another set of variable data from card 1.

4. Output of FOSM

Example of the output is shown in Appendix III.

## Appendix II Computer Program "FOSM"





```

001020      CALL DGOM,LOGN
001025      CALL DGMN,LOGN,DGMLZ
001030      CALL COSINE(IV,IA,IPW,ASGW,AD)
001034      RTO=BTB0
001036      CALL BETAB0,IATB0,STB0,IV,ASGW,ACW,Z,PI,
001038      IB=ITB-1
001039      BTB0=BTB
001040      LD 36 ITB,IV
001041      06 MUL AEWL,IATB,IAWZ,10248000D
001042      CALL MULAWL,S,0,0,0
F0SM      COMPUTATIONAL SUPPORT SYSTEM ALGORITHM FOR THE DETERMINATION OF CONVERGENCE TEST
F0SM      FORTRAN COMPILEMENT          RUN 2,300-75274      63 DEC 80 10:57:20 PAGE NO. 1
001043      IB1=TB-1
001044      BX=B1,B1
001100      15 TABS(18-80)XBT0,GR,EPBT GO TO 30
001104      BTB1=TB-1
001105      00 02 TB1,18
001110      02 1F REG-A1,L18,I1,I18,I1,I1,PI GO TO 30
001111      COMPUTATIONAL SUPPORT SYSTEM ALGORITHM FOR THE DETERMINATION OF CONVERGENCE TEST
001112      WRITE(6,100)
001123      300 FORMAT(1H0,CHGTRUTING,S,5HOOED(BATC AND COINE DIRECTION),H0,
001124      18HVP(BT0,5,4BT0,114,4BT0,114,4BT0,10))
001126      PD 70 I=1,10
001130      70 6/11E18,302+1,XC10,W1D,1A/I,10
001150      302 FORMAT(1H0,15.5X,F18.3,5X,F18.3)
001150      CALL HONRBT,PD
001152      PE=1,0-P
001154      WRITE(6,301) RT,PE
001164      301 FORMAT(1H0,17HSAFETY INDEX(BT)=,F18.3/1H0,
001165      122HPDABILITY OF FAILURE(FF)=,E18.3)
001166      00 TO 90
001167      90 WRITE(6,107)
001171      107 FORMAT(1H0,34MPATED TO CONVERGE IN THIS PROGRAM)
001171      GO TO 90
001172      91 WRITE(6,108)
001176      106 FORMAT(1H0,1ENS TOP CALCULATION(NESTABLE STRUCTURE))
001176      96 TCBSE=TCBSE+1
001200      IF(TCBSE.LE.NCBSE) GO TO 110
001202      STOP
001204      END

```

```

SUBROUTINE DGU(IA,IAA)
DIMENSION DGU(1),DGU1(1),DGU2(1)
DO 10 I=1,IAA
  DGU(I)=0.0
  DO 10 J=1,IA
    DGU(J)=0.0
10  RETURN
END

```

```

SUBROUTINE DIGU(NX,IGY,DGU)
DIMENSION DGU(1),DGU1(1),DGU2(1),DGU3(1)
DO 10 J=1,IGY
  DGU(J)=0.0
  DO 10 I=1,NX
    DGU(I)=DGU1(I)+DGU2(I)+DGU3(I)
10  RETURN
END

```

```

SUBROUTINE COSINE(NX,IA,DCUCO,SG)
DIMENSION DCU(1),SCU(1),AC(1),B(1),DCUCO(1)
SG=0.0
DO 10 I=1,NX
  SG=SG+DCU(I)*DCU(I)+SCU(I)*SCU(I)
10 SCU(I)=SG*ET(SG)
  DO 20 I=1,NX
    AC(I)=DCU(I)+SCU(I)/SG
20  B(I)=AC(I)-DCU(I)*SCU(I)/SG
  RETURN
END

```

```

SUBROUTINE UTOK(NX,Z,U,X)
DIMENSION U(1),X(1),Z(1)
DO 10 I=1,NX
  X(I)=0.0
  DO 10 J=1,NX
    Z(I)=X(I)+Z(I,J)*U(J)
10  RETURN
END

```

```

0000010      SUBROUTINE GAM(E1,6IC,NCUEE,SGM)
0000011      DT=EX/2.1E9*NSIG*16*16
0000012      MK1=DT-1.0
0000013      NLAT1=NLAT0
0000014      G1=GAM(NLAT0)
0000015      NLAT1=NLAT1+1
0000016
0000017
0000018      CALL FDG11(X,ZR,FP06,1EP0)
0000019      CALL FDG15(PHUB0,Y,1ER)
0000020      FA1=FC0
0000021      PD=NCLP(FCK1)*EXP(-ZD/2.0)
0000022      SGM=FA1*PD
0000023      ER=ZR-FB14*Y*PD
0000024      RETURN
0000025      END

```

```

SUBROUTINE EXPONEM(Y, SIGMAX, BE, SGN1)
YLH=1.0-EXP(-Y)
P=1.0-EXP(-Y*YLH)
CALL MNF1S(P,Y,IEP)
FAI=F(Y)
PD=YLH*P*(1.0-YLH)*P
SGN1=FAI*PD
EE=YLH-FAI*PD
RETURN
END

```

```

SUBROUTINE EXPONEM(Y, SIGMAX, BE, SGN1)
YLH=1.0-EXP(-Y)
P=1.0-EXP(-Y*YLH)
CALL MNF1S(P,Y,IEP)
FAI=F(Y)
PD=(YLH*P*(1.0-YLH)*P)
SGN1=FAI*PD
EE=YLH-FAI*PD
RETURN
END

```

10 X1=1.0-1.0/2
 X2=1.0-1.0/2
 GM1=GAMMA(X1)
 GM2=GAMMA(X2)
 VY=SORT(GM2/GM1\*GM1-1.0)
 IF(COV-VY) 20,56,30
20 XK=XK+1.0
 GO TO 10
30 XK=XK-0.1
 X1=1.0-1.0/2
 X2=1.0-2.0/2
 GM1=GAMMA(X1)
 GM2=GAMMA(X2)
 VY=SORT(GM2/GM1\*GM1-1.0)
 IF(COV-VY) 40,56,30
40 XK=XK+0.01
 X1=1.0-1.0/2
 X2=1.0-2.0/2
 GM1=GAMMA(X1)
 GM2=GAMMA(X2)
 VY=SORT(GM2/GM1\*GM1-1.0)
 IF(COV-VY) 40,56,30
50 U=EXP(XCM1)
 XK1=XK+1.0
 P=EXP(-(U-1.0)\*4000)
 CALL MNF1S(P,Y,IEP)
 FAI=F(Y)
 PD=(YLH\*P\*(1.0-YLH)\*P)
 SGN1=FAI\*PD
 EE=YLH-FAI\*PD
 RETURN
END

```

SUBROUTINE EXPONEM(Y, SIGMAX, BE, SGN1)
YLH=1.0-EXP(-Y)
P=1.0-EXP(-Y*YLH)
CALL MNF1S(P,Y,IEP)
FAI=F(Y)
PD=YLH*P*(1.0-YLH)*P
SGN1=FAI*PD
EE=YLH-FAI*PD
RETURN
END

```

```
FUNCTION F60  
    CALL F50  
    RETURN  
END
```

```

FUNCTION GMAX
DIMENSION X(10)
GMAX(X)=X(1)
RETURN
END

```

Appendix III Example Run of Computer Program FOSM

As an example, the calculation of the safety index for the following cases was carried out.

(1) Performance function  $\epsilon_X(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1 \cdot x_2 - x_3$

(2) Computation

1) Case-1 :

$$\{\mu_X\} = (40, 50, 1000)$$

$$[v_X] = \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 10 & 0 \\ 10 & 25 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 40000 \end{bmatrix}$$

Distributions of variables are not specified.

2) Case-2 :

$$\{\mu_X\} = (40, 50, 1000)$$

$$[v_X] = \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 25 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 40000 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1$  ----- Log-Normal

$x_2$  ----- Normal

$x_3$  ----- Type I

3) Case-3 :

$$\{\mu_X\} = (40, 50, 1000)$$

$$[v_X] = \begin{bmatrix} 25 & 10 & 0 \\ 10 & 25 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 40000 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1$  ----- Log-Normal

$x_2$  ----- Normal

$x_3$  ----- Type I

The results of this computation are as follows:

Subprograms provided by a user

- (1) FUNCTION GX(X)
- (2) SUBROUTINE(X,DGX)

Input Format

- (3) Master Control Card
- (4) Convergence Control Card

Output Format

# "FOSM" Input Format (1)

# FORTRAN CODING FORM

Program  
coded By \_\_\_\_\_

checked By \_\_\_\_\_

C FOR COMMENT  
Identification  
73      80

Date 1/1/80  
Page 1 of 2

STATEMENT NUMBER	FORTRAN STATEMENT									
	5	6	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45
FUNCTION $G(X)$										
DIMENSION X(1),										
$X = X(1) * X(2) - X(3)$										
END										
SUBROUTINE DG(X,DGX)										
DIMENSION X(1),DGX(1)										
$DGX(1) = X(2)$										
$DGX(2) = X(1)$										
$DGX(3) = -1.0$										
RETURN										
END										
3	3									
0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
③ Master Control Card (MX, NCAZE)										
③ Convergence Control Card (EPA, EPB, NIA, NIB)										

① Performance Function  
② Derivatives of performance function  
③ Master Control Card (MX, NCAZE)  
④ Convergence Control Card (EPA, EPB, NIA, NIB)

"FOSM" Input Format (2)

FORTRAN CODING FORM

Program  
coded By \_\_\_\_\_  
checked By \_\_\_\_\_

③ Variable data cards

Identification  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date 2  
Page 2 of 2

STATEMENT NUMBER	FORTRAN STATEMENT									
	5	6	7	10	13	20	25	30	35	40
1 CASE 1 (CORRELATED VARIABLES/DISTRIBUTIONS ARE NOT SPECIFIED)										
1	40.0									
1	50.0									
1	1000.0									
25.0	10.0	0.0								
0.0	40000.0									
1 CASE 2 (INCORRELATED VARIABLES/DISTRIBUTIONS ARE SPECIFIED)										
1	40.0									
1	50.0									
1	1000.0									
25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0							
0.0	40000.0									
1 CASE 3 (CORRELATED VARIABLES/DISTRIBUTIONS ARE SPECIFIED)										
1	40.0									
1	50.0									
1	1000.0									
25.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
0.0	40000.0									

" FOSM " Output Format

DATA INPUT

MX(NUMBER OF MF TABLES) = 3

MCASE(MINIMUM CASES) = 3

CONVERGENCE CONDITION

EPS = AUTOM 60% 0.01668

NITER = 30 NITER = 10





