SECOND-ORDER OPTIMIZATION OF FRAMES WITH NONLINEAR BEHAVIOR

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PROBLEM

• Minimize the cost of a portal frame

FRAME BEHAVIOR

- Liner elastic between plastic hinges
- Plastic hinges with limited plastic rotation
- Plastic hinges are automatically located in the most critical positions

OPTIMIZATION APPROACH

- Solve of a nonlinear program
- Second-order approximation
- Integrated formulation
- No sensitivity analysis
- All the problem variables are present in the nonlinear program

OPTIMIZATION SOFTWARE

• NEWTOP

- General purpose code
- Lagrange-Newton method
- Symbolic manipulation of all the functions

NONLINEAR PROGRAMMING



- Variables / functions real and continuous
- All the functions are generalized polynomials, such as:

$$f(x) = 5.9x_1^2x_4^{-3} - 3.1x_2 + 2.7x_1^{-1}x_3x_5^2 - 1.8$$

GENERALIZED POLYNOMIALS

$$f(x) = 5.9x_1^2x_4^{-3} - 3.1x_2 + 2.7x_1^{-1}x_3x_5^2 - 1.8$$

- A symbolic manipulation is performed
- Expression parsing and evaluation is simplified
- Exact first and second derivatives can be easily calculated
- All these operations can be efficiently performed

INPUT FILE

```
### Main title of the nonlinear program
      Symmetric truss with two load cases (kN,cm)
Min.
    +565.685 * t5 ^ 2 + 100 * t8 ^2 ; # truss volume (cm3)
s.t.i.c.
   Min. area 4: -t4 \wedge 2 + 0.15 < 0;
s.t.e.c.
    Equil 16: + 141.421 * t5 ^ 2 * disp16 - 100 = 0;
END OF FILE
```

• All the software is coded in ANSI C

LAGRANGIAN $L\left(\underset{\sim}{X}\right) = f\left(\underset{\sim}{x}\right) + \sum_{k=1}^{m} \lambda_{k}^{g} \left[g_{k}\left(\underset{\sim}{x}\right) + s_{k}^{2}\right] + \sum_{k=1}^{p} \lambda_{k}^{h} h_{k}\left(\underset{\sim}{x}\right)$

VARIABLES

$$X_{\tilde{a}} = \left(\underset{\tilde{a}}{s}, \underset{\tilde{a}}{\lambda^{g}}, \underset{\tilde{a}}{x}, \underset{\tilde{a}}{\lambda^{h}} \right)$$

SOLUTION

• Stationary point of the Lagrangian

SYSTEM OF NONLINEAR EQUATIONS

• The solution of the system is a KKT solution when

$$\lambda_{\tilde{r}}^{g} \geq 0$$

LAGRANGE-NEWTON METHOD

• The system of <u>nonlinear</u> equations

 $\nabla L(X) = 0$

is solved by the Newton method

• In each iteration the following system of <u>linear</u> equations has to be solved

$$H\left(X^{q-1}_{\tilde{a}}\right) \Delta X^{q}_{\tilde{a}} + \nabla L\left(X^{q-1}_{\tilde{a}}\right) = 0$$

HESSIAN MATRIX



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HESSIAN MATRIX SPARSITY PATTERN



SYSTEM OF LINEAR EQUATIONS

- Gaussian elimination
 - adapted to the sparsity pattern of the Hessian matrix
- Conjugate gradients
 - diagonal preconditioning
 - adapted to an indefinite Hessian matrix

LINE SEARCH

$$X^{q} = X^{q-1} + \alpha \Delta X^{q}$$

NEWTOP COMPUTER CODE

- All the variables are scaled
- Constraints are normalized
- Elementary equality constraints are substituted:

$$x_i = c x_j$$
 or $x_i = c$

- The NLP is simplified
- Large scale problems can be solved

PORTAL FRAME

- Cost minimization
- Independent design variables \Rightarrow cross section parameters



NONLINEAR MATERIAL BEHAVIOR

- Linear-perfectly plastic behavior
- Linear-constant moment-curvature diagram



NONLINEAR MATERIAL BEHAVIOR

- Plastic deformations concentrated in plastic hinges
- Plastic hinge rotation may be limited
- Collapse mechanism may not be reached
- Linear behavior between plastic hinges



STRUCTURAL DISCRETIZATION



EQUILIBRIUM EQUATIONS



$$F_{\tilde{a}a}' + \dots + F_{\tilde{b}b}'' + \dots = Q_{\tilde{a}} + R_{\tilde{a}}$$

• Reactions are only present in constrained dof 's

NON LINEAR PROGRAM

- Objective function: cost $\Rightarrow f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{ND} c_i A_i L_i$
- Equality constraints:
 - beam behavior $\implies K_a d_a = F_a + P_a$
 - equilibrium $\Rightarrow F_{\tilde{a}}' + \dots + F_{\tilde{b}}'' + \dots = Q + R_{\tilde{a}}$
 - compatibility $\Rightarrow d_{a1} = D_{N1}$
 - cross section properties $\Rightarrow A, I, M_p = \cdots$
 - beam length \Rightarrow L=a+b

• Equality constraints (cont.):

• plastic hinge rotation $\Rightarrow \theta_A = d_{a3} - D_{N3}$

• elastic-plastic complementary in each plastic hinge:

$$\theta_{A} = 0$$
 or $F_{a3} = M_{p}$ or $F_{a3} = -M_{p} \implies \theta_{A} \left(M_{p}^{2} - F_{a3}^{2} \right) = 0$

• nodal displacement $\Rightarrow D_j = \overline{D}$ (only at prescribed dof 's)

• reaction \implies $R_k = 0$ (only at non prescribed dof 's)

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• null shear force in C \Rightarrow $F_{a5} = 0$ (locates C in the point of max. bending moment)



• Inequality constraints:

• side constraints $\Rightarrow x_{\min} \le x_i \le x_{\max}$

• moments are limited by $\pm M_p \implies -M_p \leq F_{a3} \leq M_p$

• limited plastic hinge rotation $\Rightarrow -\theta_{\min} \le \theta_C \le \theta_{\max}$

- limiting values depend on the type of material and on the shape of the cross section
- crushing, brittle failure and local buckling can thus be avoided

NUMERICAL EXAMPLE



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NUMERICAL RESULTS

• Optimal solution - linear behavior

• Volume = 0.175 m^3

• Horizontal displacement = 2.7 cm

• Optimal solution - nonlinear behavior

• Volume = 0.157 m^3 (10 % smaller)

• Horizontal displacement = 5.8 cm (2 x)

CONCLUSIONS

- More realistic approach of the frame design problem
- Ultimate and serviceability conditions may be considered
- More economical structures can be designed
- Friendly user interface is still required
- Solving the nonlinear program is still a *hard* task