Practical Advances in Optimal System Design: What Method Should be Used When?

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Overview

- 1. Overview of single-level methods for decomposition based optimization
- 2. Demonstrate IDF finds optima hidden to traditional methods
- 3. Introduce a thermoelastic design problem
- 4. Investigate the performance of MDF and IDF on problems with varying levels of coupling strength



Decomposition Based Optimization

- Some systems must be approached in a decomposed manner
 - Distributed analysis sometimes required (design groups/analysis tools)
 - Single, complete analysis may be infeasible
 - Interactions between system members must be considered
- System Analysis: seek to find a consistent analysis solution
- System Design: seek to find a feasible and optimal design



Partitioned Analysis





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Partitioned Design: Multidisciplinary Feasible (MDF) Approach

$$\label{eq:subject} \begin{split} \min_{\mathbf{x}} & f(\mathbf{x}) \\ \text{subject to} & \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) = [\mathbf{g}_1, \mathbf{g}_2, \dots, \mathbf{g}_N] \leq \mathbf{0} \\ & \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}) = [\mathbf{h}_1, \mathbf{h}_2, \dots, \mathbf{h}_N] = \mathbf{0} \end{split}$$

- Can find system optimum
- Analysis may converge slowly, or not at all
- Sequential process





Partitioned Design: Individual Disciplinary Feasible (IDF) Approach

System optimizer chooses design variable values x and coupling variable values y, i.e., simultaneous analysis and design (SAND).

- Auxiliary equality constraints enforce system consistency
- Parallel process



IDF Formulation and Architecture





System Analysis: Fixed Point Iteration



(Step 0) choose initial guess y_{12}^0 , set i = 0(Step 1) i = i + 1(Step 2) $y_{21}^i = y_{21}(y_{12}^{i-1})$ (Step 3) $y_{12}^i = y_{12}(y_{21}^i)$ (Step 4) if $||\mathbf{y}^i - \mathbf{y}^{i-1}|| < \varepsilon$ stop, otherwise go to (Step 1)



Fixed Point Iteration Convergence

Developed proof of new convergence condition form





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Fixed Point Iteration Divergence





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Multiple Fixed Points

FPI:





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Hidden Optimum Example





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Solution Results

MDF solution: -0.244



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Solution Results

MDF solution: -0.244IDF solution: -975.7



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New Example Problem—Thermoelastic Turbine Blade Design

Developed in order to aid studies on coupling strength variation





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Thermoelastic Turbine Blade Design





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Coupled Turbine Blade Analysis





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MDF Formulation

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{t}]} \qquad q$$
subject to
$$g_1(\mathbf{x}) = T_{max} - T_{melt} \le 0$$

$$g_2(\mathbf{x}) = \delta_{total} - \delta_{allow} \le 0$$

$$g_3(\mathbf{x}, x) = \sigma_a(x) - \sigma_r(T(x)) \le 0$$

$$g_4(\mathbf{x}, x) = \sigma_b(x) - \sigma_r(T(x)) \le 0$$

$$g_5(\mathbf{x}, x) = m - m_{max} \le 0$$

$$0 \le x \le L_0 + \delta_{total}$$

 $[w_*, t_*] = [0.0131, 0.0075]$



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IDF Formulation

min q $\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{t}], T(x), L$ subject to $g_1(\mathbf{x}) = T_{max} - T_{melt} \le 0$ $q_2(\mathbf{x}) = \delta_{total} - \delta_{allow} \leq 0$ $g_3(\mathbf{x}, x) = \sigma_a(x) - \sigma_r(T(x)) \le 0$ $q_4(\mathbf{x}, x) = \sigma_b(x) - \sigma_r(T(x)) \le 0$ $g_5(\mathbf{x}, x) = m - m_{max} \le 0$ $g_6(\mathbf{x}, x) = T(x) - T(\mathbf{x}, x) = 0$ $g_7(\mathbf{x}, x) = L - L(\mathbf{x}) = 0$ $0 < x < L_0 + \delta_{total}$

 $[w_*, t_*] = [0.0128, 0.0074]$



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MDF and IDF Comparison





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Conclusion

- Prediction of Cramer *et al.* that IDF is more computationally efficient confirmed, in the case of strong coupling
- Dependence of method performance on coupling strength exposed
- Demonstrated that IDF can find optima hidden to MDF

Future Work:

- Investigate thresholds of performance advantages
- Study method behavior on problems with multiple analysis solutions
- Perform these studies on IDF and other methods, including multilevel, that utilize optimization for analysis tasks



Thanks for Your Attention!



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