

Numerical Algorithms for Optimization and Control of PDE's Systems

Application to Fluid Dynamics

R. Duvigneau

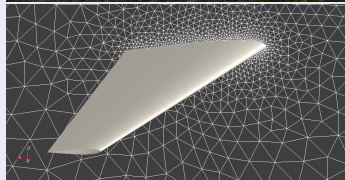
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Some examples and illustrations ...

- Global optimization of the wing shape of a business aircraft
- Local optimization of the shape of an airfoil
- Identification of optimal parameters for flow control

Problem description (Piaggio-Aero P180)

- Drag minimization
- Lift constraint
- **Global variables** : span, root/tip chord ratio, sweep, twist and incidence angles
- **Local variables** : airfoil section (10 variables)
- Cruise regime $M_\infty = 0.83$
- Euler solver (Finite-Volume)
- Mesh 56,512 nodes 311,820 cells



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Optimization
algorithms

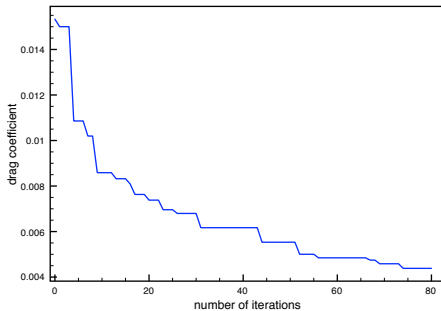
Parameterization

Automated grid
generation

Gradient evaluation

Surrogate models

Conclusion



→ Convergence in about 80 iterations ~ 960 simulations

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Optimization
algorithms

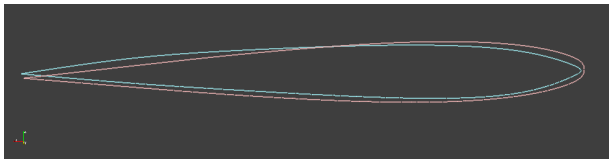
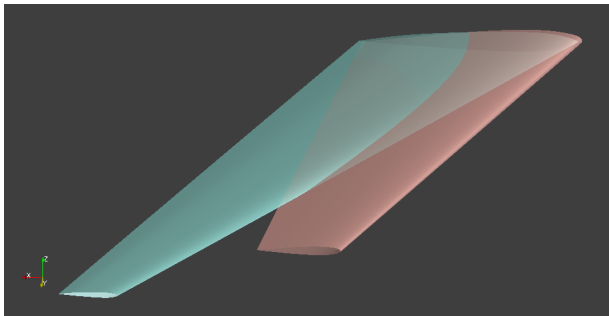
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Comparison of initial (red) and final (blue) wing shapes

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Optimization
algorithms

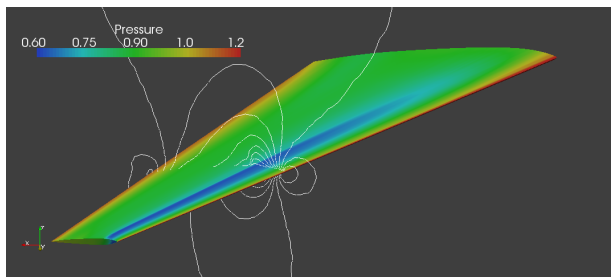
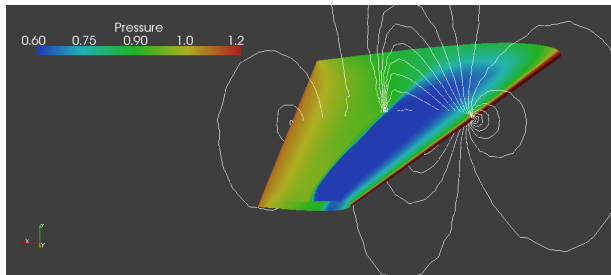
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Comparison of initial (top) and final (bottom) pressure fields

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Optimization
algorithms

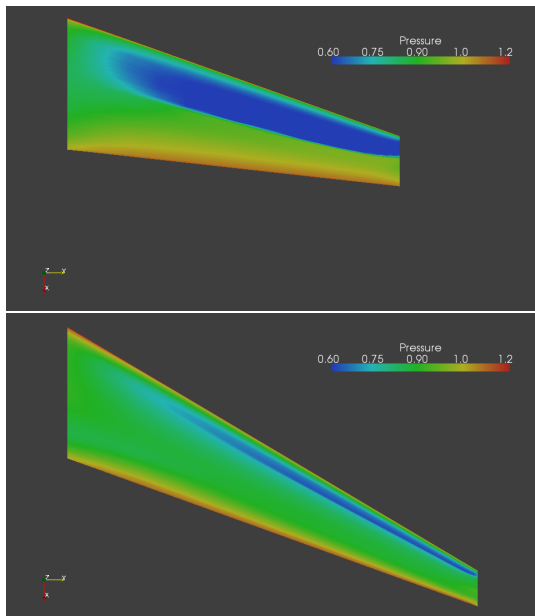
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Comparison of initial (top) and final (bottom) planforms

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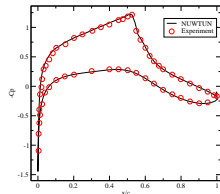
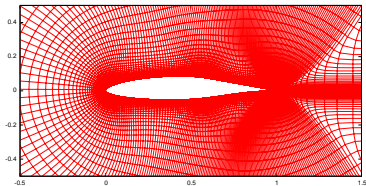
Gradient evaluation

Surrogate models

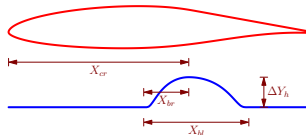
Conclusion

Problem description

- Navier-Stokes, $k - \omega$ turbulence modeling
- Reynolds number $Re = 19 \cdot 10^6$, Mach number 0.68
- Drag reduction

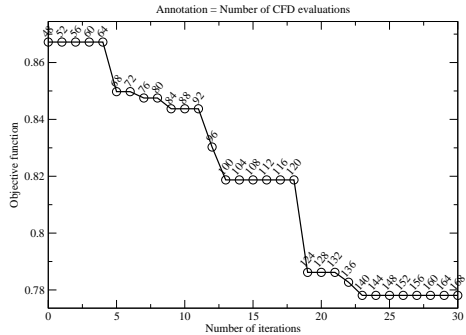
Computational mesh: 353×97 nodes

Comparison with experiments



Definition of shape modification: four parameters

- Optimization algorithms
- Parameterization
- Automated grid generation
- Gradient evaluation
- Surrogate models
- Conclusion



→ Convergence in about 30 iterations ~ 150 simulations

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Optimization
algorithms

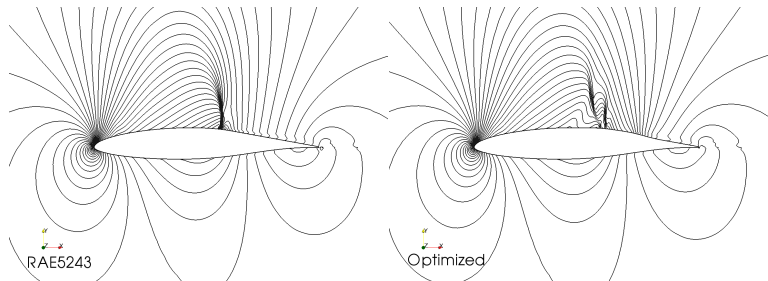
Parameterization

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generation

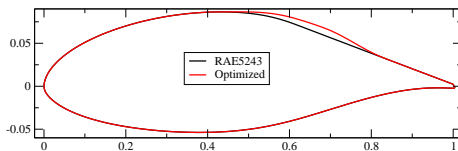
Gradient evaluation

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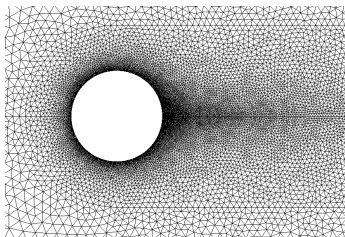
Comparison of initial (left) and final (right) pressure fields



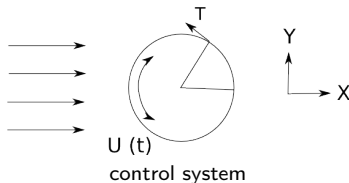
Comparison of initial (black) and final (red) airfoil shapes

Problem description

- Navier-Stokes modeling (laminar flow)
- Reynolds number $Re = 200$
- Oscillatory rotating cylinder
- Objective : reduce the time-averaged drag
- Two control parameters : amplitude and frequency



Mesh: 70,000 nodes 330,000 cell



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Optimization
algorithms

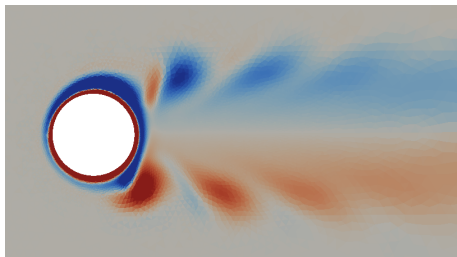
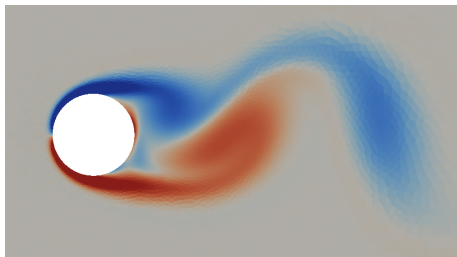
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Comparison of vorticity fields without (top) and with control (bottom)

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Optimization
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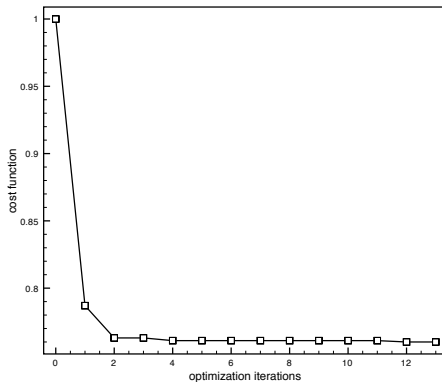
Parameterization

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→ Convergence in about 5 iterations ~ 35 simulations

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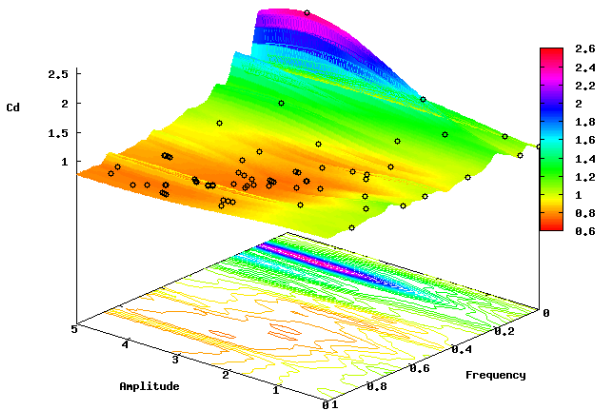
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Surrogate model of drag coefficient

How to carry out such an optimization process ?

- What are the tools involved ?
- How are they organized ?

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Optimization
algorithms

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Automated grid
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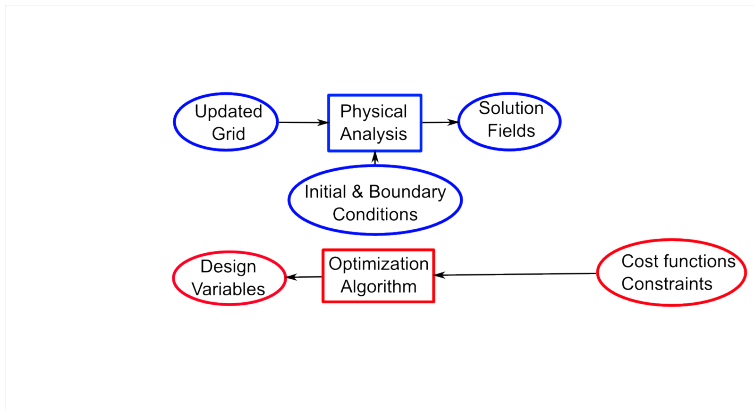
Gradient evaluation

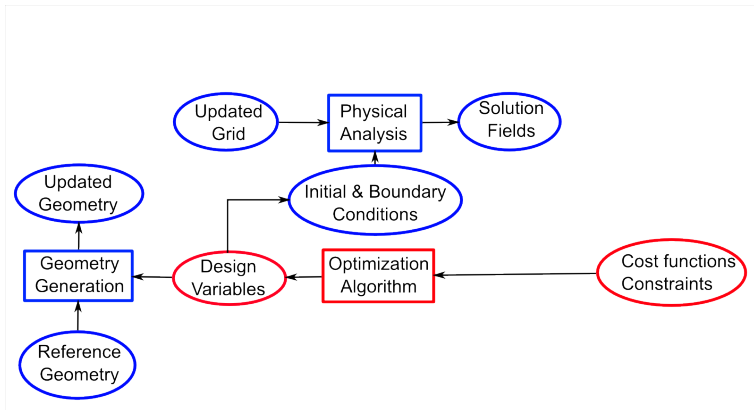
Surrogate models

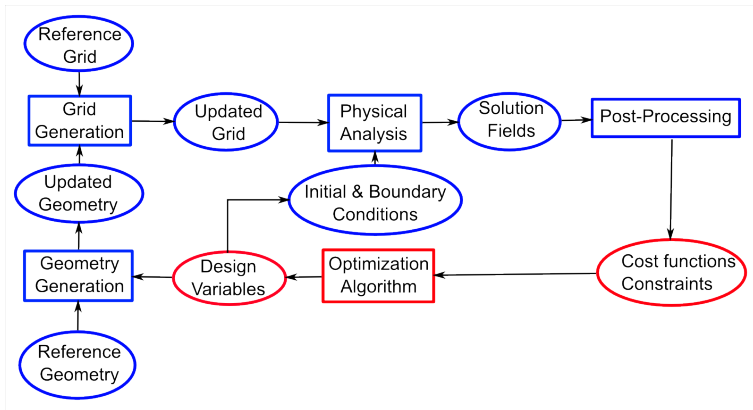
Conclusion

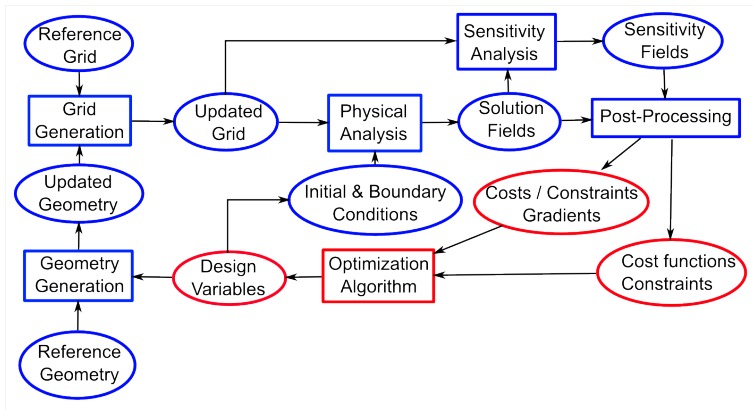
Physical
Analysis

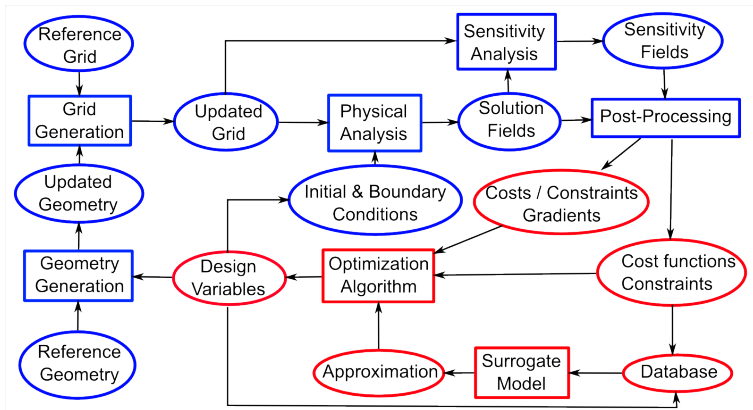
Optimization
Algorithm











1 Optimization algorithms

2 Parameterization

3 Automated grid generation

4 Gradient evaluation

5 Surrogate models

6 Conclusion

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Definition of an optimization problem

Minimize	$f(x)$	$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$	<i>cost function</i>
Subject to	$g_i(x) = 0$	$i = 1, \dots, l$	<i>equality constraints</i>
	$h_j(x) \geq 0$	$j = 1, \dots, m$	<i>inequality constraints</i>

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Role of the optimizer

Provide a candidate design vector $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

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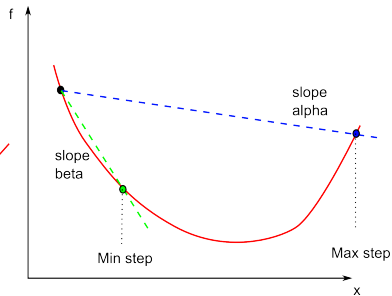
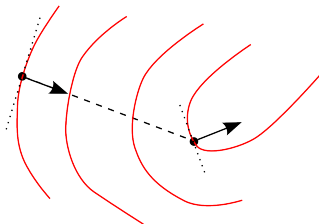
Some approaches

- **Descent methods** : suitable for **smooth convex** functions
steepest descent, conjugate gradient, quasi-Newton, Newton methods
- **Pattern search methods** : suitable for **noisy convex** functions
Nelder-Mead simplex, Torczon's multidirectional search algorithms
- **Evolutionary methods** : suitable for **multimodal** functions
genetic algorithms, evolution strategies, particle swarm optimization, ant colony methods, simulated annealing

Algorithm

For each iteration k :

- Estimation of gradient $\nabla f(x_k)$
- Define search direction $d_k = -\nabla f(x_k)$
- Line search : find the step length ρ such as :
 - $f(x_k + \rho d_k) < f(x_k) + \alpha \nabla f(x_k) \cdot \rho d_k$ (Armijo rule)
 - $f(x_k + \rho d_k) > f(x_k) + \beta \nabla f(x_k) \cdot \rho d_k$ (Goldstein rule)



Summary

Properties of steepest descent method:

- Proof of convergence to a **local** optimum
- **Linear** convergence rate :

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|x_{k+1} - x^*\|}{\|x_k - x^*\|} = a > 0$$

In practice:

- Unable to take into account function curvature
- Oscillatory optimization path

Algorithm

Improvement of the search direction:

- Definition according to the function **curvature**:

$$\tilde{H}_k d_k = -\nabla f(x_k),$$

with \tilde{H} approximation of the Hessian matrix (second-order derivative)

- **Iterative** construction of the Hessian matrix (BFGS formula) :

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{H}_0 &= Id \\ \tilde{H}_{k+1} &= \tilde{H}_k - \frac{1}{s_k^T \tilde{H}_k s_k} \tilde{H}_k s_k s_k^T \tilde{H}_k^T + \frac{1}{y_k^T s_k} y_k y_k^T, \end{aligned}$$

with $s_k = x_{k+1} - x_k$ and $y_k = \nabla f(x_{k+1}) - \nabla f(x_k)$

Summary

Properties of quasi-Newton methods:

- Take into account the curvature of the past iteration:

$$\tilde{H}_{k+1}(x_{k+1} - x_k) = \nabla f(x_{k+1}) - \nabla f(x_k)$$

- \tilde{H}_k positive definite (if line search efficient enough)
- Proof of convergence to **local** optimum
- Super-linear** convergence rate :

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|x_{k+1} - x^*\|}{\|x_k - x^*\|} = 0$$

In practice:

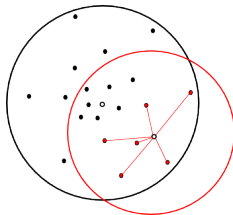
- Very efficient algorithm for convex problems (close to Newton method)
- Gradient should be available

Algorithm

For each iteration k , according to \bar{x}_k and $\bar{\sigma}_k$:

- Generate a set of λ perturbation lengths $\sigma_i = \bar{\sigma}_k e^{\tau N(0,1)}$
- Generate a sample of λ individuals $x_i = \bar{x}_k + \sigma_i N(0, Id)$ (**mutation**) where $N(0, Id)$ multivariate normal distribution with 0 mean and Id covariance matrix
- Evaluate the performance of λ individuals
- Choose the best μ parents among λ individuals (**selection**)
- Update distribution properties (**crossover** and **self-adaption**) :

$$\bar{x}_{k+1} = \frac{1}{\mu} \sum_{i=1}^{\mu} x^i \quad \bar{\sigma}_{k+1} = \frac{1}{\mu} \sum_{i=1}^{\mu} \sigma^i$$



Summary

Properties of evolution strategies:

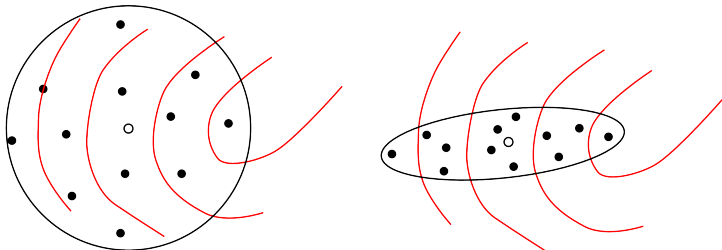
- Proof of convergence to the **global** optimum in a statistical sense

$$\text{e.g. } \forall \epsilon > 0 \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} P(|f(x_k) - f(x^*)| \leq \epsilon) = 1$$

- linear convergence rate

In practice:

- Able to avoid local optima
- **Curse of dimensionality**
- **Low local** convergence rate due to **isotropic** search



Algorithm

Improvement by using an **anisotropic distribution**:

- Use of a covariance matrix C_k to generate the population:

$$\begin{aligned}x_i &= \bar{x}_k + \bar{\sigma}_k N(0, C_k) \\ &= \bar{x}_k + \bar{\sigma}_k B_k D_k N(0, Id)\end{aligned}$$

with B_k matrix of eigenvectors of $C_k^{1/2}$
and D_k diagonal matrix of eigenvalues

- Iterative** construction of the covariance matrix :

$$C_0 = Id$$

$$C_{k+1} = \underbrace{(1-c)C_k}_{\text{previous estimate}} + \underbrace{\frac{c}{m} p_k p_k^T}_{\text{1D update}} + \underbrace{c(1 - \frac{1}{m}) \sum_{i=1}^{\mu} \omega^i (y^i)(y^i)^T}_{\text{covariance of parents}}$$

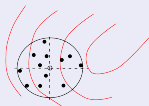
with :

- p_k evolution path (moves performed during last iterations)
- $y^i = (x^i - \bar{x}_k)/\sigma_k$

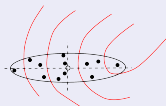
Summary

Properties:

- C_k is an approximation of the **inverse of the Hessian matrix**



$$\bar{x}_k + \bar{\sigma}_k N(0, Id)$$



$$\bar{x}_k + \bar{\sigma}_k N(0, D^2)$$



$$\bar{x}_k + \bar{\sigma}_k N(0, BD^2B^T)$$

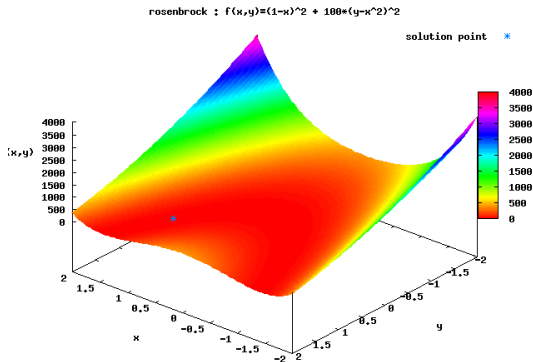
- Several invariance properties:
 - Invariance under order-preserving transformations of the function
 - Invariance under scaling of the search space
 - Invariance under rotation of the search space

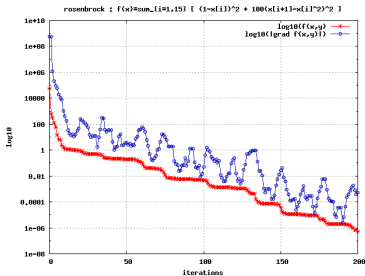
In practice:

- Outperforms most evolutionary methods
- Only a few parameters defined by the user

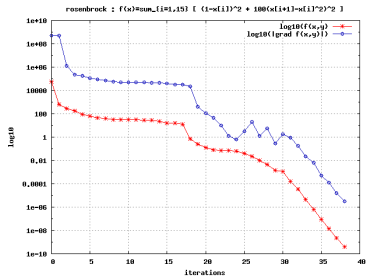
Rosenbrock function

- Non-convex function "Banana valley"
- Dimension $n = 16$

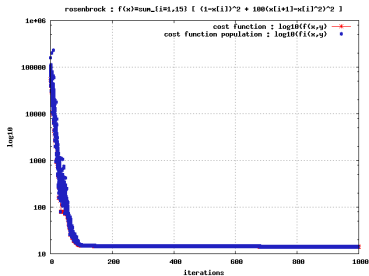




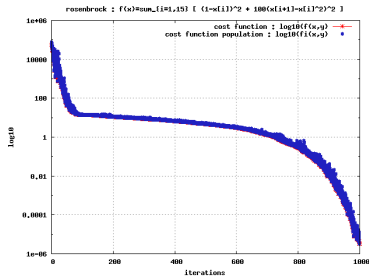
steepest-descent



quasi-Newton



ES



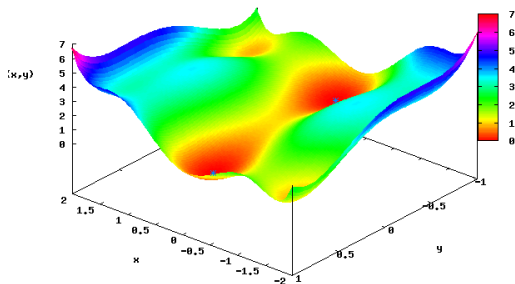
CMA-ES

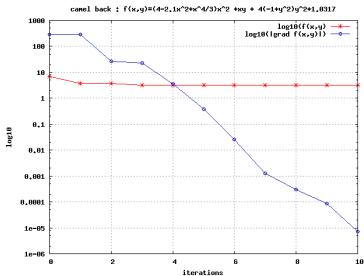
Camel back function

- Dimension $n = 2$
- Six local optima
- Two global optima

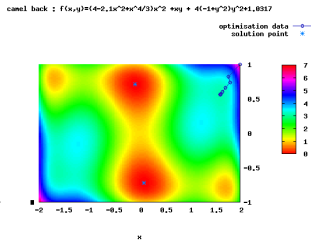
camel back : $f(x,y)=(4-2,1x^2+\kappa^4/3)x^2 + \kappa y + 4(-1+y^2)y^2+1.0317$

solution point *

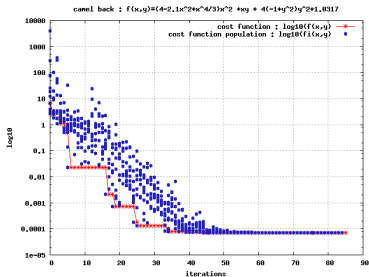




Quasi-Newton

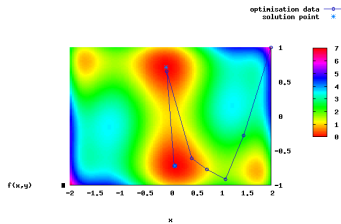


Optimization path

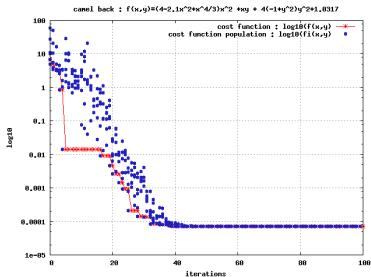


ES

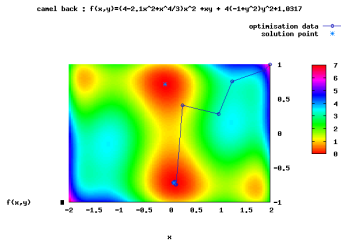
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Optimization path



CMA-ES



Optimization path

1 Optimization algorithms

2 **Parameterization**

3 Automated grid generation

4 Gradient evaluation

5 Surrogate models

6 Conclusion

Role of the parameterization tool

- Describe the system with **a few variables**
- Transform a given design vector to a new engineering system

Role of the parameterization tool

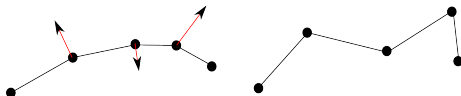
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A particular case: shape parameterization

- Discrete shape : *set of moving nodes*
- Parametric surface : *Bézier, B-Splines, NURBS with control points*
- Composite approach : *set of baseline components with parameters*
- Free-form deformation : *deform a lattice that embeds the system*

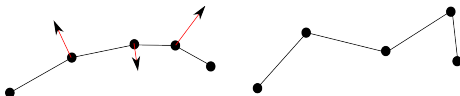
Principle

- Shape described by a surface grid
- Each node can be moved independently



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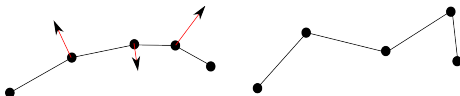


Advantages

- No strong assumption concerning the search space
- No need for CAD software (*CAD-free*)

Principle

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Advantages

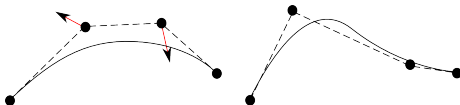
- No strong assumption concerning the search space
- No need for CAD software (*CAD-free*)

Drawbacks

- Smoothing required at each optimization step
- Very large number of design variables ($\sim 10,000$)
- Optimized shape = surface grid

Principle

- Shape described by a parametric surface: $x(\xi) = \sum_{i=0}^n N_i(\xi)X_i$
- Choice of basis functions N_j :
 - Bézier : global influence, C^∞
 - B-Spline : compact support, C^{k-2} (k order)
 - NURBS : conic surfaces possible



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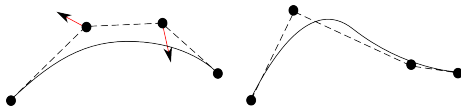


Advantages

- Low number of design variables (~ 10)
- Optimal shape is parametric and smooth
- Hierarchical representation

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Advantages

- Low number of design variables (~ 10)
- Optimal shape is parametric and smooth
- Hierarchical representation

Drawbacks

- Mild assumption concerning the design space

Principle

- Use a set of baseline components (edges, circles, etc) with parameters (lengths, angles, positions)

Principle

- Use a set of baseline components (edges, circles, etc) with parameters (lengths, angles, positions)

Advantages

- Optimal shape obtained from baseline components (manufacturing constraint)
- Low number of design variables
- Variables chosen according to engineering experience

Principle

- Use a set of baseline components (edges, circles, etc) with parameters (lengths, angles, positions)

Advantages

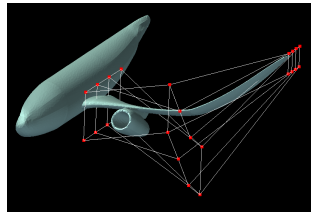
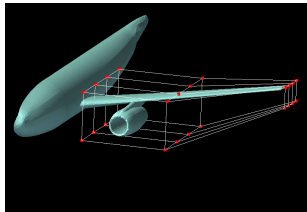
- Optimal shape obtained from baseline components (manufacturing constraint)
- Low number of design variables
- Variables chosen according to engineering experience

Drawbacks

- Strong assumption concerning the design space

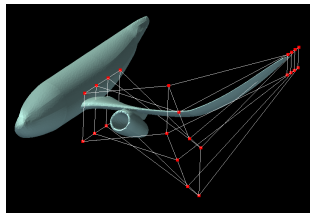
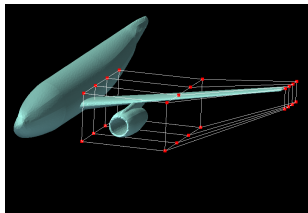
Principle

- Represent deformation instead of the shape
- Embed the the system in a lattice, described as parametric volume



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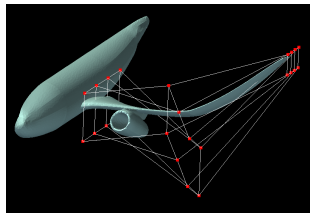
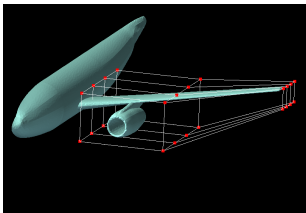


Advantages

- Low number of design variables, whatever the system complexity

Principle

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- Embed the the system in a lattice, described as parametric volume



Advantages

- Low number of design variables, whatever the system complexity

Drawbacks

- Not easy to handle
- No representation of the optimal shape

1 Optimization algorithms

2 Parameterization

3 Automated grid generation

4 Gradient evaluation

5 Surrogate models

6 Conclusion

Role of the grid generation tool

- Generate a grid in accordance with the parameterized geometry
- Requirement: suitable for computations

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Drawbacks

- Regularity of the mesh w.r.t. geometry change ?
- treatment of boundary layers tedious

R. Duvigneau

Optimization
algorithms

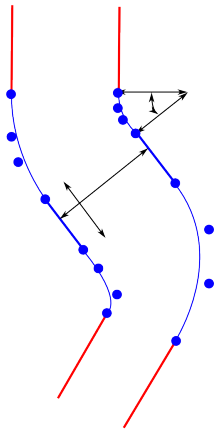
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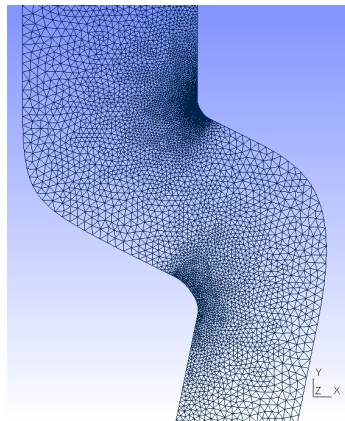
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parameterization



initial mesh

R. Duvigneau

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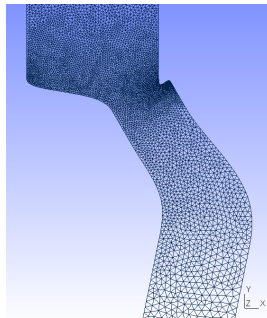
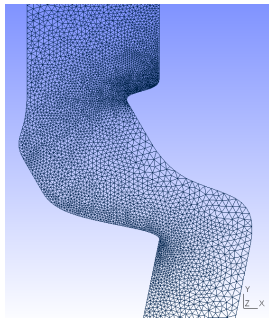
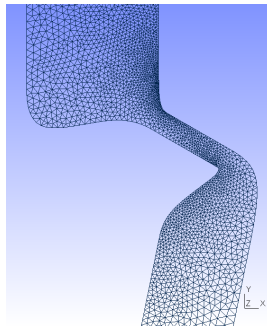
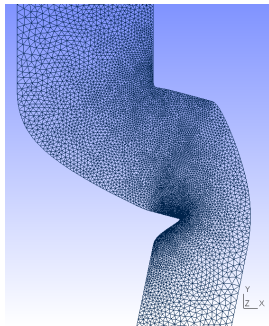
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- Move the nodes according to geometry change (same topology)
- Need to solve an extra problem for the displacement field (e.g. structural analogy)

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Drawbacks

- Moderate geometry change

Method

- Consider all **edges as linear springs** and all **angles as torsional springs**
- Solve a linear system representing the **mechanical equilibrium**:

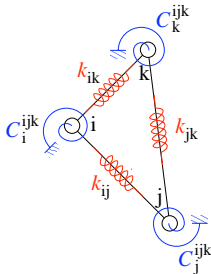
$$(K_{lin} + K_{tors}|Id) q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \bar{q} \end{pmatrix}$$

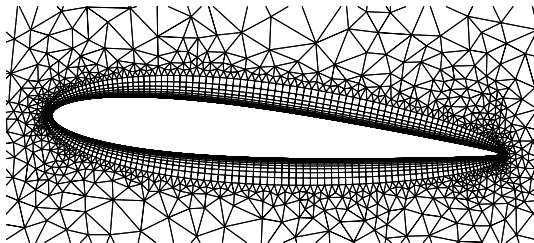
with:

K stiffness matrices

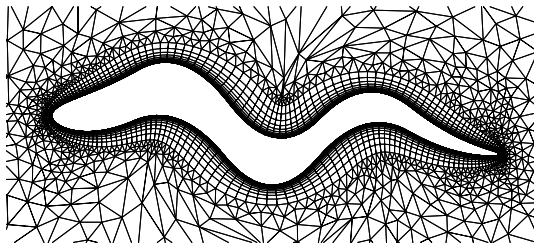
q displacement

\bar{q} imposed boundary displacement

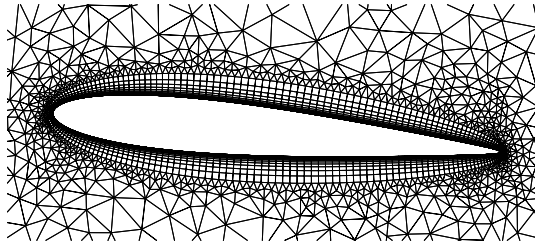




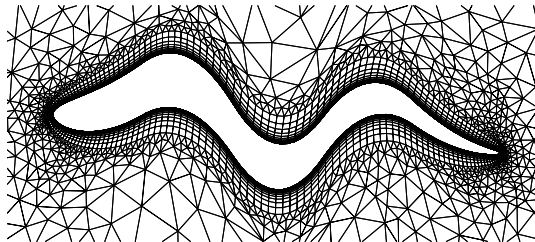
Initial grid



Deformed grid



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Deformed grid

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Role of sensitivity analysis

- Compute the gradient of the cost function (e.g. drag) with respect to design variables

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Possible Approaches

- Finite-difference approximation
- Complex estimation
- Adjoint approach

Method

- Perform $n + 1$ or $2n$ simulations for perturbed design variable values $x \pm \epsilon e_i$
- Compute approximated gradient:

$$\nabla f(x)|_i \simeq \frac{f(x + \epsilon e_i) - f(x)}{\epsilon} \quad \nabla f(x)|_i \simeq \frac{f(x + \epsilon e_i) - f(x - \epsilon e_i)}{2\epsilon}$$

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- Choice of perturbation coefficient ϵ
- Low accuracy \rightarrow noisy cost function
- Very expensive for large n

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Advantages

- Non-intrusive approach

Method

- Move all real variables x of the code to complex variables: $z = x + iy$
- The cost function (output) is also complex: $f = u + iv$
- The Cauchy-Riemann condition : $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \simeq \frac{v(x+i(y+h)) - v(x+iy)}{h}$
- But values are real : $y = 0$ $v(x) = 0$ and $u = f$
- Then, the following approximation can be used:

$$\nabla f(x) \simeq \frac{\text{Im}[f(x + ih)]}{h}$$

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Drawbacks

- Move CFD code to complex !
- n simulations required

Method

- Let consider the cost function as a constrained functional:

$$f: x \mapsto f(x) = F(x, W) \in \mathbb{R}$$

with $W = W(x) \in \mathbb{R}^N$ is the solution of the state equation:

$$\Psi(x, W) = 0$$

- Apply chain rule:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{df}{dx_i} &= \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial W} \frac{dW}{dx_i} \\ \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial W} \frac{dW}{dx_i} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

- by combining equations:

$$\frac{df}{dx_i} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial F}{\partial W} \left(\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial W} \right)^{-1} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_i}$$

Method

- Finally, gradient can be computed by solving the (linear) system first:

$$\left(\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial W}\right)^T \Pi = \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial W}\right)^T$$

where Π are the adjoint variables, and then by computing:

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- Cost rather independent from the size of x

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Advantages

- Adjoint system **do not depend on x**
- Cost rather independent from the size of x

Drawbacks

- The adjoint system has to be constructed (intrusive approach)
- Inversion of adjoint system difficult (badly conditioned)

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Some reasons to use surrogate models

- Cost function evaluations are **very expensive**
- Some results are just discarded (in particular with ES)
- Weak use of past results (iterative process without history)

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Some possible surrogate models

- Radial basis functions (RBFs)
- Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)
- Gaussian processes (kriging)

Evaluation

Approximation of the function $\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{x})$, $\mathbf{x} \in \mathfrak{R}^n$ of the form:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^{N_c} \omega_j \phi_j(\mathbf{x}) \quad (1)$$

where ϕ_j are radial functions:

$$\phi_j(\mathbf{x}) = \Phi(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_j\|) \quad \Phi(r) = e^{-\frac{r^2}{s^2}} \quad (2)$$

$(\mathbf{x}_j)_{j=1, \dots, N_c}$ points stored in the database
 s attenuation factor
 $(\omega_j)_{j=1, \dots, N_c}$ weights adjusted to fit the data

Training

$(\omega_j)_{j=1,\dots,N_c}$ are determined from interpolation conditions:

$$f(\mathbf{x}_i) = \sum_{j=1}^{N_c} \omega_j \phi_j(\mathbf{x}_i) \quad i = 1, \dots, N_c \quad (3)$$

$(\omega_j)_{j=1,\dots,N_c}$ is the solution of the linear system:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_1) & \dots & \phi_{N_c}(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_2) & \dots & \phi_{N_c}(\mathbf{x}_2) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_{N_c}) & \dots & \phi_{N_c}(\mathbf{x}_{N_c}) \end{pmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \omega_1 \\ \omega_2 \\ \dots \\ \omega_{N_c} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{x}_2) \\ \dots \\ \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{x}_{N_c}) \end{Bmatrix} \quad (4)$$

s set by the user or optimized by internal algorithm

Principle

- The vector of known function values F_N is assumed to be one realization of a Gaussian process:

$$p(F_N) = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}F_N^\top C_N^{-1}F_N\right)}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^N \det(C_N)}}$$

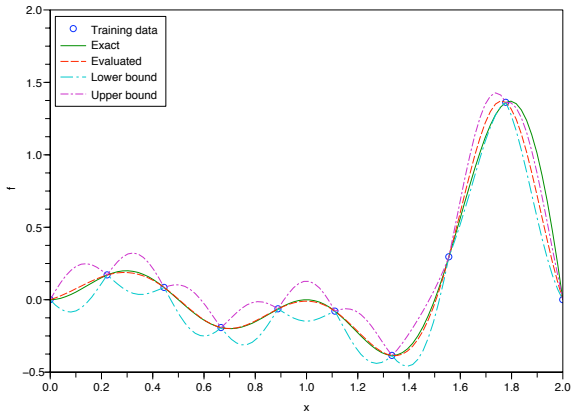
with a given covariance matrix $C_{mn} = c(x_m, x_n)$.

- It can be shown that (conditional probabilities):

$$p(f_{N+1}|F_N) \propto \exp\left[-\frac{(f_{N+1} - \hat{f}_{N+1})^2}{2\sigma_{f_{N+1}}^2}\right]$$

where:

$$\hat{f}_{N+1} = k^\top C_N^{-1}F_N, \quad \sigma_{f_{N+1}}^2 = \kappa - k^\top C_N^{-1}k$$



Choice of the covariance function

- Distance dependent correlation, scaling, offset

$$c(x, y) = \theta_1 \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{(x_i - y_i)^2}{r_i^2} \right] + \theta_2,$$

- Parameters to be optimized $\Theta = (\theta_1, \theta_2, r_1, r_2, \dots, r_d)$

Choice of the parameters (training phase)

- Choose Θ to maximize the likelihood of the known function values
- Internal optimization

Principle

- For evolutionary optimizers several evaluations are just not used
- Use surrogate models as pre-screening criterion for CFD evaluation

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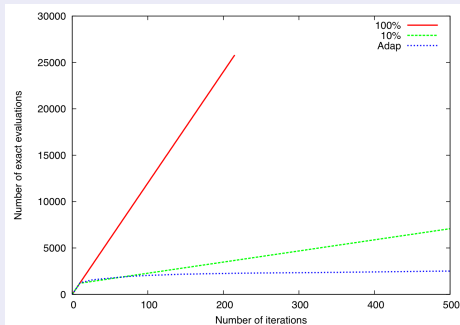
Expected benefits

- **Avoid useless evaluations** for evolutionary optimizers
- **Reduce drastically the cost** of evolutionary optimizers
- **Low coupling** between optimizer and metamodel

- 1 Set $n = 0$
- 2 If $n \leq N_e$ compute cost function $f(x_k^n)$, $k = 1, \dots, K$ using the exact model, else using metamodel $\tilde{f}(x_k^n)$, $k = 1, \dots, K$.
- 3 If $n > N_e$, then select a subset of points S^n for exact evaluation.
- 4 Update the optimizer parameters (mean, standard deviation) *using only the exactly evaluated cost functions*
- 5 Store exactly evaluated function values into a database
- 6 If $n < N_{\max}$, then $n = n + 1$ and go to step (iii), else STOP.

- CFD evaluations for the **10% best points** or **points with predicted improvement**
- 500 iterations
- RBF model with local database (40 pts)

Number of exact evaluations



R. Duvigneau

Optimization algorithms

Parameterization

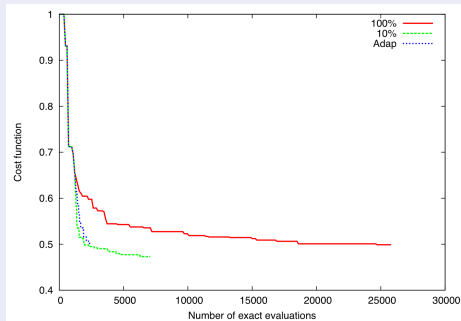
Automated grid generation

Gradient evaluation

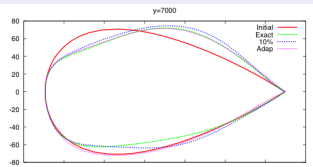
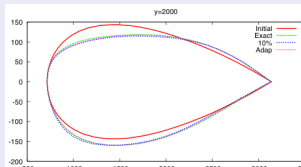
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Final shapes



Main ideas

- Use a metamodel to drive the search
- Use a Gaussian Process model to take into account the probability of obtaining a better design

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Expected benefits

- Global optimization (proof of convergence)
- Deterministic approach
- Measure of the probability of improvement

Basics

- Build iteratively a database and corresponding Gaussian process
- Enrichment chosen in order to:
 - Minimize the current Gaussian process model
 - Explore where the probability of improvement is high

Basics

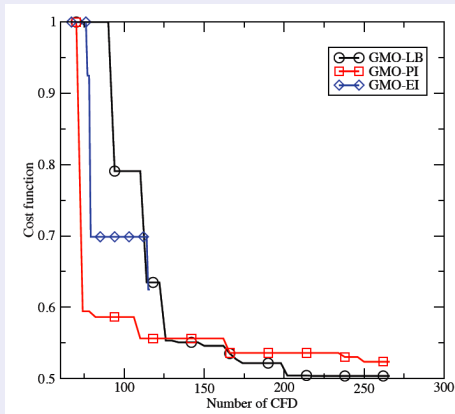
- Build iteratively a database and corresponding Gaussian process
- Enrichment chosen in order to:
 - Minimize the current Gaussian process model
 - Explore where the probability of improvement is high

Algorithm

- 1 Build an *a priori* database (Latin Hypercube Sampling)
- 2 Construct a global Gaussian process
- 3 Find the points x_i^* that minimize / maximize a merit function :
 - Statistical lower bound
 - Probability of improvement
 - Expected improvement
- 4 Evaluate the p points $(x_i^*)_{i=1,\dots,p}$ and add them in the database
- 5 Return to step 2 until convergence

- EGO algorithm with three merit functions
- 150 iterations
- Initial database size : 60 points

Cost function



R. Duvigneau

Optimization
algorithms

Parameterization

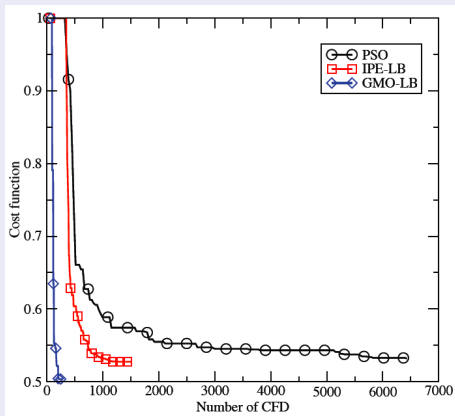
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Drawbacks

- More sophisticated approach
- Restricted to problems of low dimension

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Optimization and control in CFD:

- A multi-disciplinary field:
 - Applied mathematics
 - Numerical methods
 - Physical phenomena
 - Geometry
 - Computer sciences
- Efficiency of methods are strongly **problem dependent**
- Efficiency depends strongly of the **global coherency** of the loop

Several topics have not been discussed:

- Multi-objective optimization: *How to minimise several criteria ?*
- Multi-disciplinary optimization: *How to couple several disciplines ?*
- Constrained optimization: *How to take into account constraints ?*
- Robust optimization: *How to take into account uncertainties ?*
- Hierarchical optimization: *How to develop multi-level strategies ?*
- Distributed optimization: *How to use parallel computing ?*
- Automatic differentiation: *How to use AD softwares ?*
- ...