

# Multidisciplinary System Design Optimization (MSDO)

## Sensitivity Analysis

Lecture 8

1 March 2004

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- Sensitivity Analysis
  - effect of changing design variables
  - effect of changing parameters
  - effect of changing constraints
- Gradient calculation methods
  - Analytical and Symbolic
  - Finite difference
  - Adjoint methods
  - Automatic differentiation

$$\min J(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\text{s.t. } g_j(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0 \quad j = 1, \dots, m_1$$

$$h_k(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \quad k = 1, \dots, m_2$$

$$x_i^l \leq x_i \leq x_i^u \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

For now, we consider a single objective function,  $J(\mathbf{x})$ .

There are  $n$  design variables, and a total of  $m$  constraints ( $m=m_1+m_2$ ).

The bounds are known as **side constraints**.

- Sensitivity analysis is a key capability aside from the optimization algorithms we discussed.
- Sensitivity analysis is key to understanding which design variables, constraints, and parameters are important drivers for the optimum solution  $\mathbf{x}^*$ .
- The process is NOT finished once a solution  $x^*$  has been found. A sensitivity analysis is part of post-processing.
- Sensitivity/Gradient information is also needed by:
  - gradient search algorithms
  - isoperformance/goal programming
  - robust design

- How sensitive is the “optimal” solution  $J^*$  to changes or perturbations of the design variables  $\mathbf{x}^*$ ?
- How sensitive is the “optimal” solution  $\mathbf{x}^*$  to changes in the constraints  $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})$  and fixed parameters  $\mathbf{p}$  ?

Questions for aircraft design:

How does my solution change if I

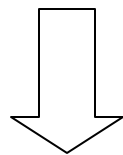
- change the cruise altitude?
- change the cruise speed?
- change the range?
- change material properties?
- relax the constraint on payload?
- ...

Questions for spacecraft design:

How does my solution change if I

- change the orbital altitude?
- change the transmission frequency?
- change the specific impulse of the propellant?
- change launch vehicle?
- Change desired mission lifetime?
- ...

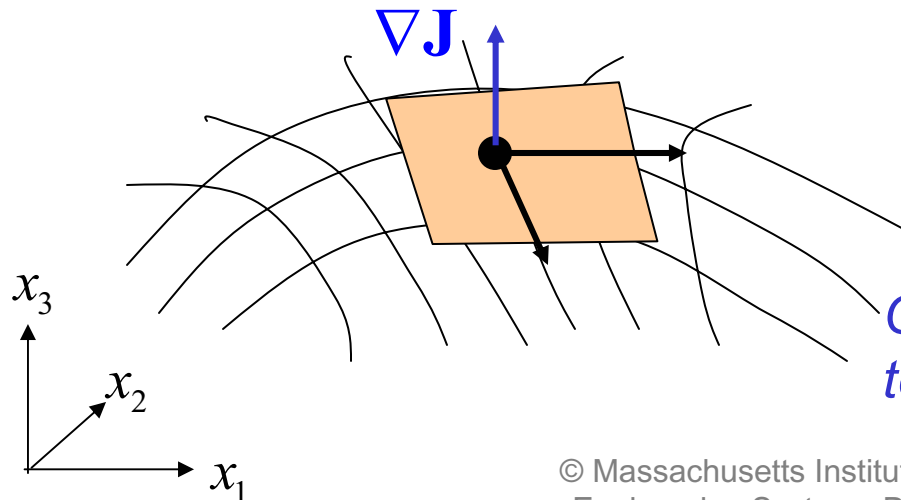
“How does the objective function  $J$  value change as we change elements of the design vector  $\mathbf{x}$ ?”



Compute partial derivatives of  $J$  with respect to  $x_i$

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial x_i}$$

$$\nabla \mathbf{J} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial J}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial J}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial J}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}$$

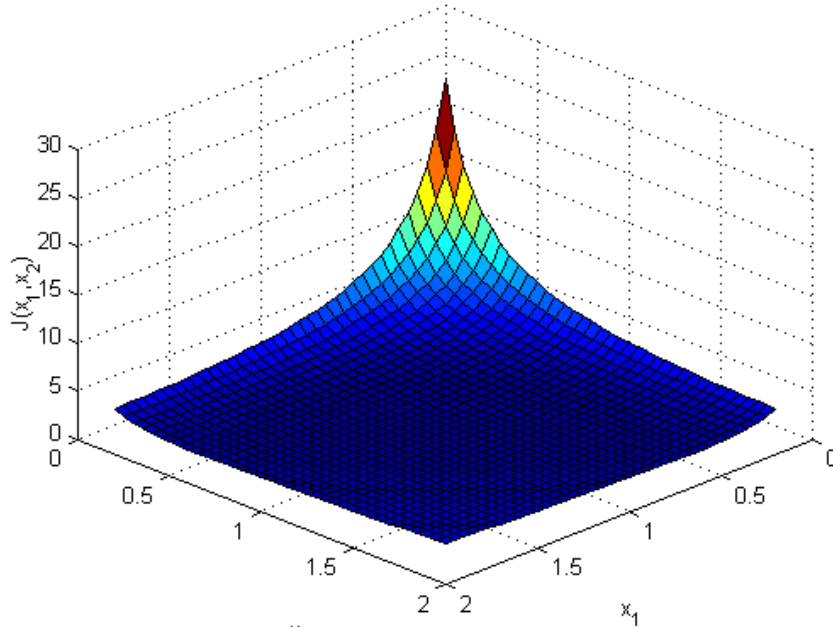


*Gradient vector points normal to the tangent hyperplane of  $J(\mathbf{x})$*

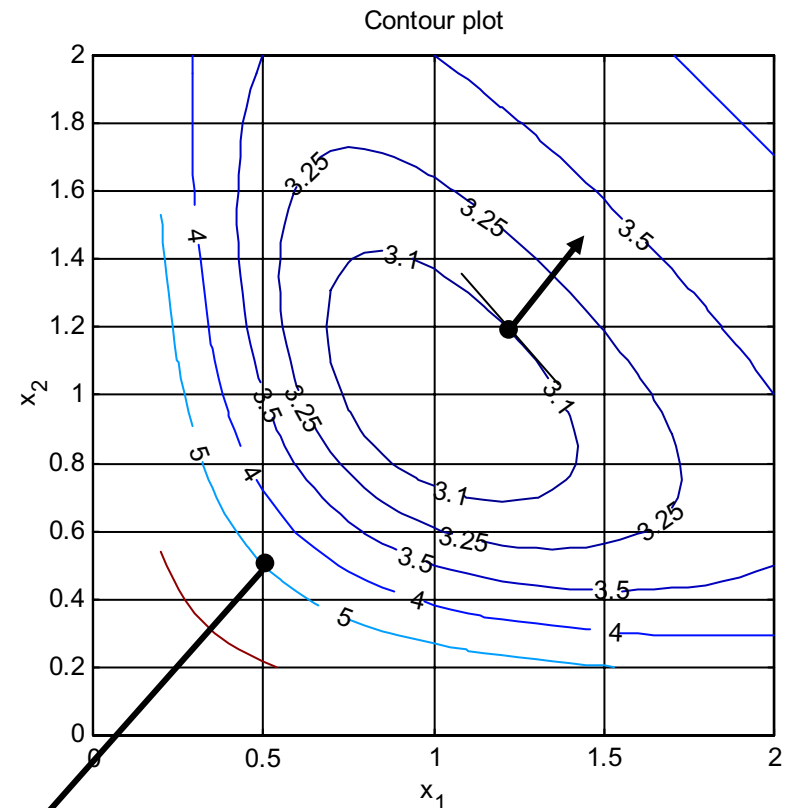


Example function:

$$J(x_1, x_2) = x_1 + x_2 + \frac{1}{x_1 \cdot x_2}$$



$$\nabla J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial J}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial J}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \frac{1}{x_1^2 x_2} \\ 1 - \frac{1}{x_1 x_2^2} \end{bmatrix}$$



Gradient normal to contours

Example  $J = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2$

$$\nabla J = \begin{bmatrix} 2x_1 \\ 2x_2 \\ 2x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$



Gradient vector points to larger values of  $J$

$$\mathbf{x}^k \mapsto J(\mathbf{x}^k), \text{ where } \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbb{R}$$

## Taylor Series Expansion of Objective Function

$$J(\mathbf{x}) = J(\mathbf{x}^0) + \underbrace{\left[ \nabla J(\mathbf{x}^0) \right]^T (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^0)}_{\text{first order term}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^0)^T \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}^0) (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^0)}_{\text{second order term}} + \text{H.O.T.}$$

first order term

second order term

Tangential  
hyperplane  
at  $\mathbf{x}^0$ Effect of curvature  
(2nd derivative)  
at  $\mathbf{x}^0$

If there is more than one objective function, i.e. if we have a gradient vector for each  $J_j$ , arrange them columnwise and get Jacobian matrix:

$$\mathbf{J} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} J_1 \\ J_2 \\ \vdots \\ J_z \end{bmatrix}}_{z \times 1} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \nabla \mathbf{J} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial J_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial J_2}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial J_z}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial J_1}{\partial x_2} & \frac{\partial J_2}{\partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial J_z}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial J_1}{\partial x_n} & \frac{\partial J_2}{\partial x_n} & \dots & \frac{\partial J_z}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}}_{n \times z}$$

In order to compare sensitivities from different design variables in terms of their *relative* sensitivity it is necessary to normalize:

$$\left. \frac{\partial J}{\partial x_i} \right|_{\mathbf{x}^0}$$

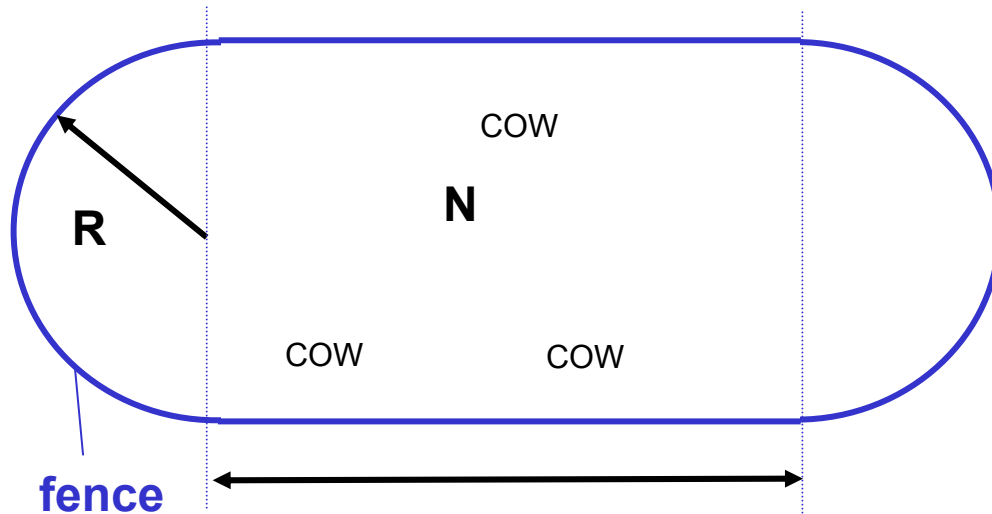
“raw” - unnormalized sensitivity = partial derivative evaluated at point  $x_{i,0}$

$$\frac{\Delta J / J}{\Delta x_i / x_i} \approx \frac{x_{i,0}}{J(\mathbf{x}^0)} \cdot \left. \frac{\partial J}{\partial x_i} \right|_{\mathbf{x}^0}$$

Normalized sensitivity captures relative sensitivity  
~ % change in objective per % change in design variable

➡ Important for comparing effect between design variables

“Dairy Farm” sample problem



$L$  – Length = 100 [m]  
 $N$  – # of cows = 10  
 $R$  – Radius = 50 [m]

}  $\mathbf{x}^0$

With respect to which design variable is the objective most sensitive?

Parameters:

$f=100\$/m$

$n=2000\$/cow$

$m=2\$/liter$

$$A = 2LR + \pi R^2$$

$$F = 2L + 2\pi R$$

$$M = 100 \cdot \sqrt{A/N}$$

$$C = f \cdot F + n \cdot N$$

$$I = N \cdot M \cdot m$$

$$P = I - C$$

Assume that we are not at the optimal point  $\mathbf{x}^*$  !

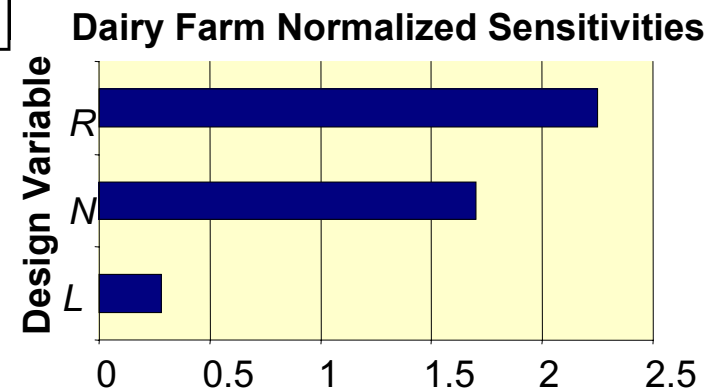
- Compute objective at  $\mathbf{x}^o$   $J(\mathbf{x}^o) = 13092$
- Then compute raw sensitivities

$$\nabla J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial P}{\partial L} \\ \frac{\partial P}{\partial N} \\ \frac{\partial P}{\partial R} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 36.6 \\ 2225.4 \\ 588.4 \end{bmatrix}$$

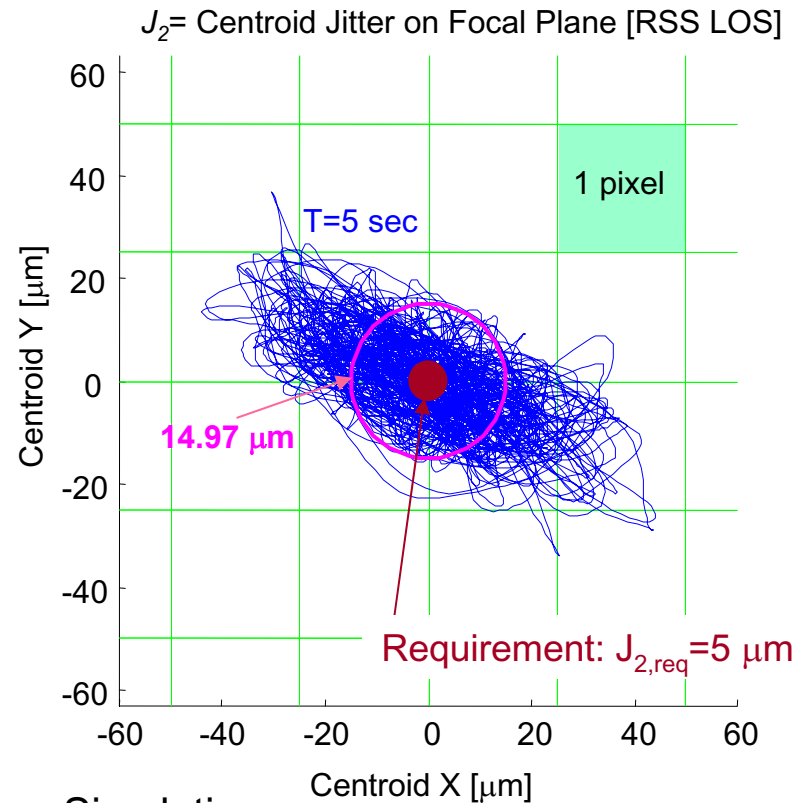
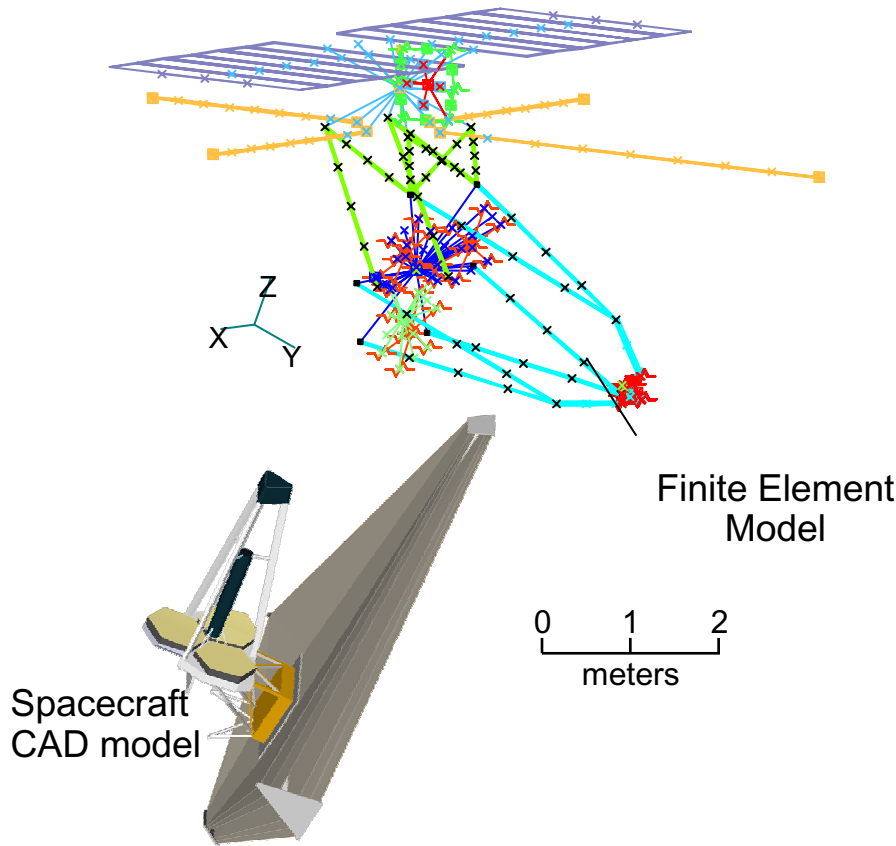
- Normalize

$$\nabla \bar{J} = \frac{\mathbf{x}^o}{J(\mathbf{x}^o)} \nabla J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{100}{13092} \cdot 36.6 \\ \frac{10}{13092} \cdot 2225.4 \\ \frac{50}{13092} \cdot 588.4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.28 \\ 1.7 \\ 2.25 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Show graphically (optional)



NASA Nexus Spacecraft Concept

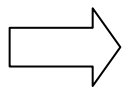


Simulation

“x”-domain

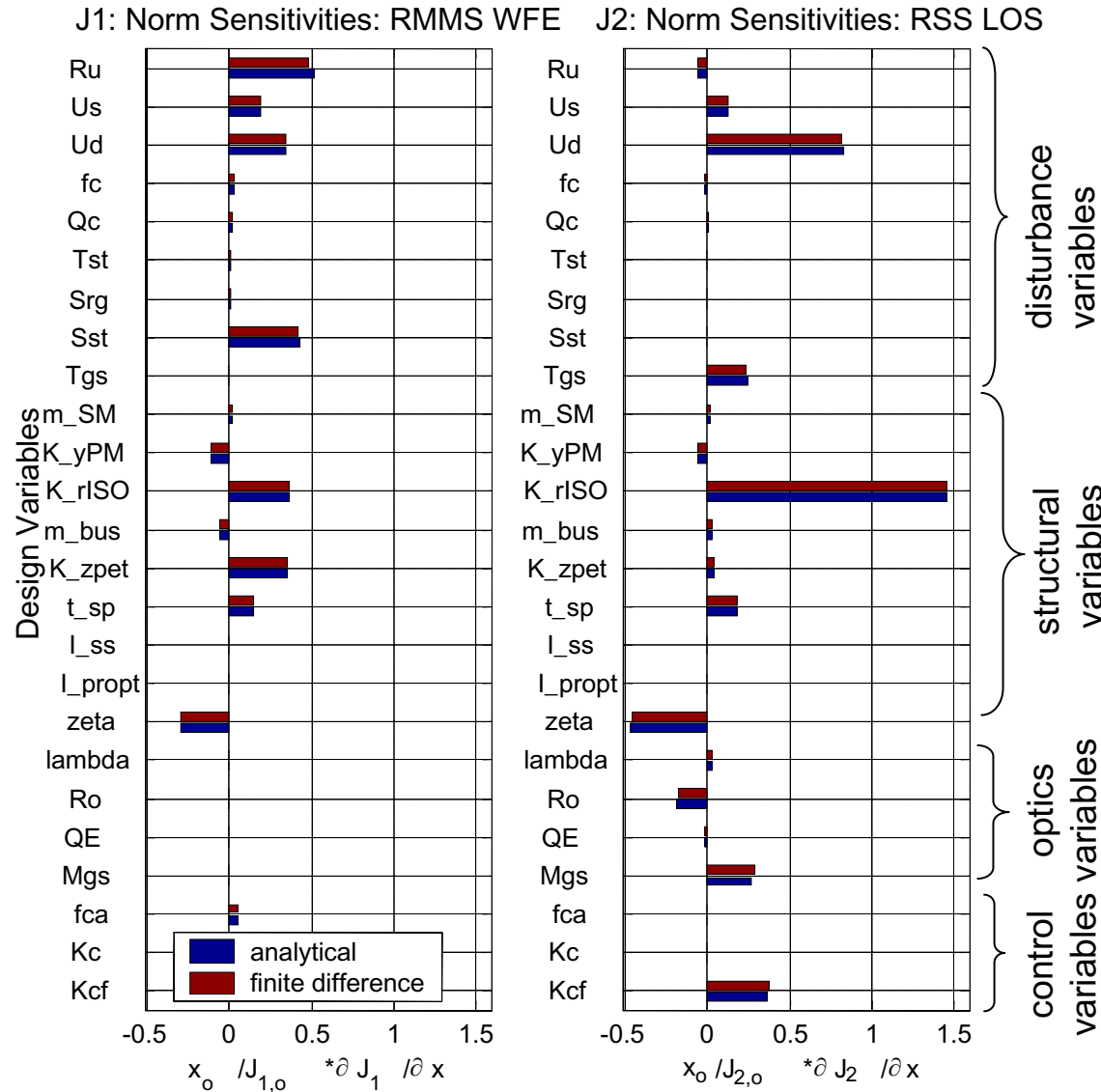


“J”-domain



What are the design variables that are “drivers” of system performance ?





Graphical Representation of Jacobian evaluated at design  $x^0$ , normalized for comparison.

$$\bar{\nabla} J = \frac{\mathbf{x}^0}{J_o} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial J_1}{\partial R_u} & \frac{\partial J_2}{\partial R_u} \\ \dots & \dots \\ \frac{\partial J_1}{\partial K_{cf}} & \frac{\partial J_2}{\partial K_{cf}} \end{bmatrix}$$

**J1: RMMS WFE most sensitive to:**  
 Ru - upper wheel speed limit [RPM]  
 Sst - star tracker noise  $1\sigma$  [asec]  
 K\_rISO - isolator joint stiffness [Nm/rad]  
 K\_zpet - deploy petal stiffness [N/m]

**J2: RSS LOS most sensitive to:**  
 Ud - dynamic wheel imbalance [gcm<sup>2</sup>]  
 K\_rISO - isolator joint stiffness [Nm/rad]  
 zeta - proportional damping ratio [-]  
 Mgs - guide star magnitude [mag]  
 Kcf - FSM controller gain [-]

If the objective function is known in closed form, we can often compute the gradient vector(s) in closed form (analytically, symbolically):

Example:  $J(x_1, x_2) = x_1 + x_2 + \frac{1}{x_1 \cdot x_2}$

Analytical Gradient:  $\nabla J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial J}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial J}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \frac{1}{x_1^2 x_2} \\ 1 - \frac{1}{x_1 x_2^2} \end{bmatrix}$

### Example

$$x_1 = x_2 = 1$$

$$J(1, 1) = 3$$

$$\nabla J(1, 1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Minimum



For complex systems analytical gradients are rarely available

- Use symbolic mathematics programs
- E.g. Matlab, Maple, Mathematica

construct a symbolic object

EDU» `syms x1 x2`

EDU» `J=x1+x2+1/(x1*x2);`

EDU» `dJdx1=diff(J,x1)`

`dJdx1 = 1-1/x1^2/x2`

EDU» `dJdx2=diff(J,x2)`

`dJdx2 = 1-1/x1/x2^2`

difference operator

Function of a single variable  $f(x)$

Taylor Series expansion

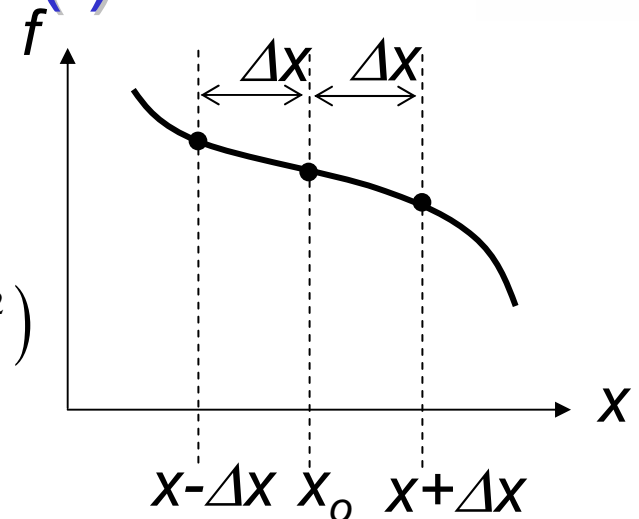
$$f(x_o + \Delta x) = f(x_o) + \Delta x f'(x_o) + \frac{\Delta x^2}{2} f''(x_o) + O(\Delta x^2)$$

Neglect second order and H.O.T.

Solve for gradient vector

$$f'(x_o) = \underbrace{\frac{f(x_o + \Delta x) - f(x_o)}{\Delta x}}_{\text{Forward Difference}} + \underbrace{O(\Delta x)}_{\text{Truncation Error}}$$

**Forward Difference**  
Approximation to the  
derivative



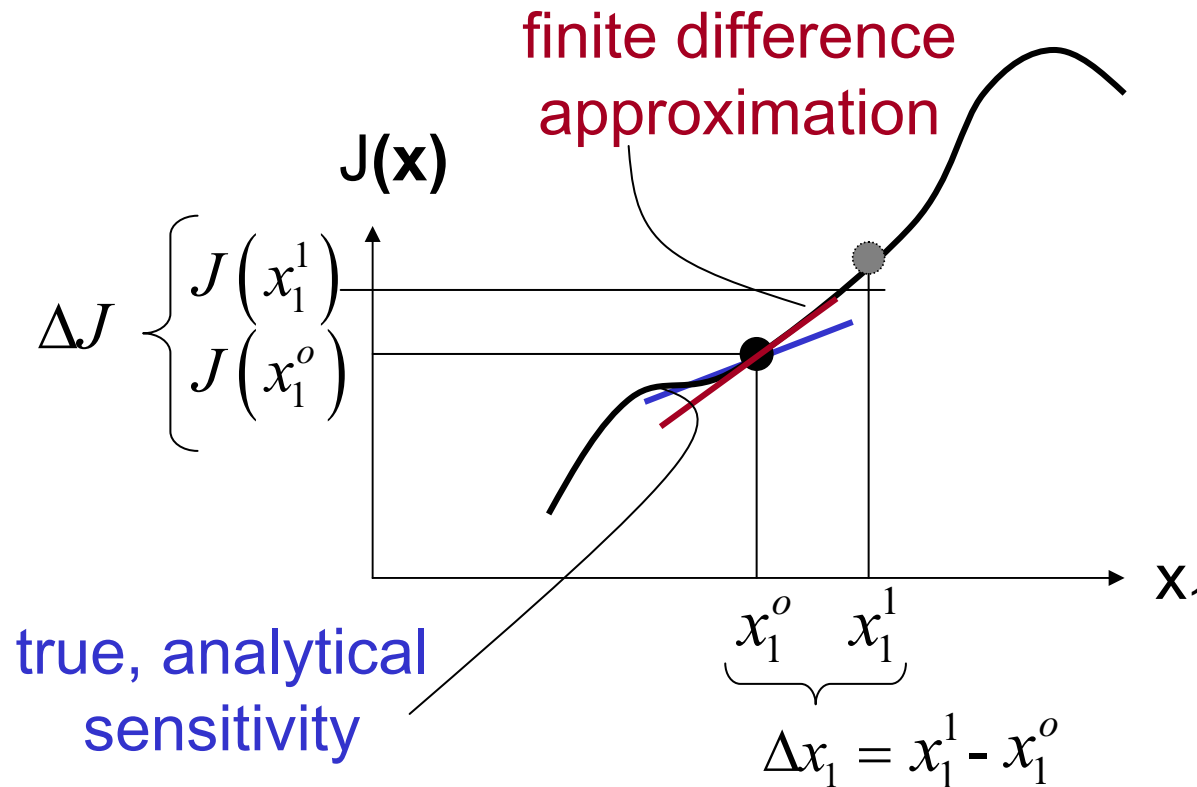
$$\Delta x > 0, \Delta x \in \mathbb{R}$$

**Truncation Error**

$$O(\Delta x) = \frac{\Delta x}{2} f''(\zeta)$$

$$x_o \leq \zeta \leq x_o + \Delta x$$

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial x_1} \approx \frac{J(x_1^1) - J(x_1^o)}{x_1^1 - x_1^o} = \frac{J(x_1^o + \Delta x_1) - J(x_1^o)}{\Delta x_1} = \frac{\Delta J}{\Delta x_1}$$



Take Taylor expansion backwards at  $x_o - \Delta x$

$$f(x_o + \Delta x) = f(x_o) + \Delta x f'(x_o) + \frac{\Delta x^2}{2} f''(x_o) + O(\Delta x^2) \quad (1)$$

$$f(x_o - \Delta x) = f(x_o) - \Delta x f'(x_o) + \frac{\Delta x^2}{2} f''(x_o) + O(\Delta x^2) \quad (2)$$

(1)-(2) and solve again for derivative

$$f'(x_o) = \underbrace{\frac{f(x_o + \Delta x) - f(x_o - \Delta x)}{2\Delta x}}_{\text{Central Difference}} + \underbrace{O(\Delta x^2)}_{\text{Truncation Error}}$$

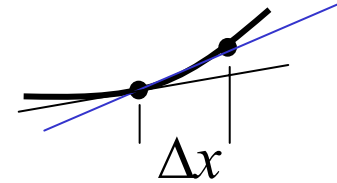
**Central Difference**  
Approximation to the  
derivative

Truncation Error

$$O(\Delta x^2) = \frac{\Delta x^2}{6} f'''(\zeta)$$

$$x_o \leq \zeta \leq x_o + \Delta x$$

## Forward Difference



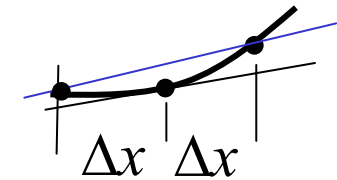
1<sup>st</sup> derivative

$$f'(x_0) \approx \frac{f(x_0 + \Delta x) - f(x_0)}{\Delta x}$$

2<sup>nd</sup> derivative

$$f''(x_0) \approx \frac{f(x_0 + 2\Delta x) - 2f(x_0 + \Delta x) + f(x_0)}{\Delta x^2}$$

## Central Difference



1<sup>st</sup> derivative

$$f'(x_0) \approx \frac{f(x_0 + \Delta x) - f(x_0 - \Delta x)}{2\Delta x}$$

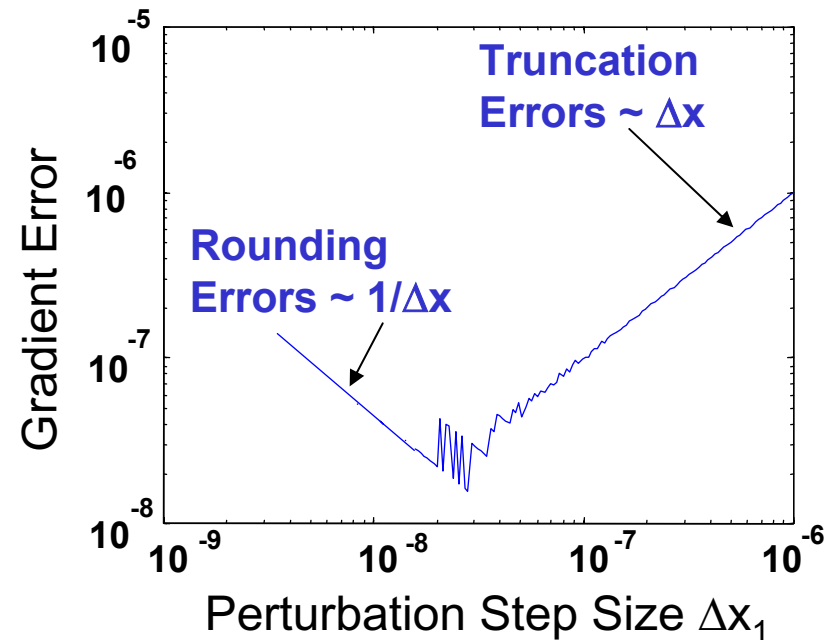
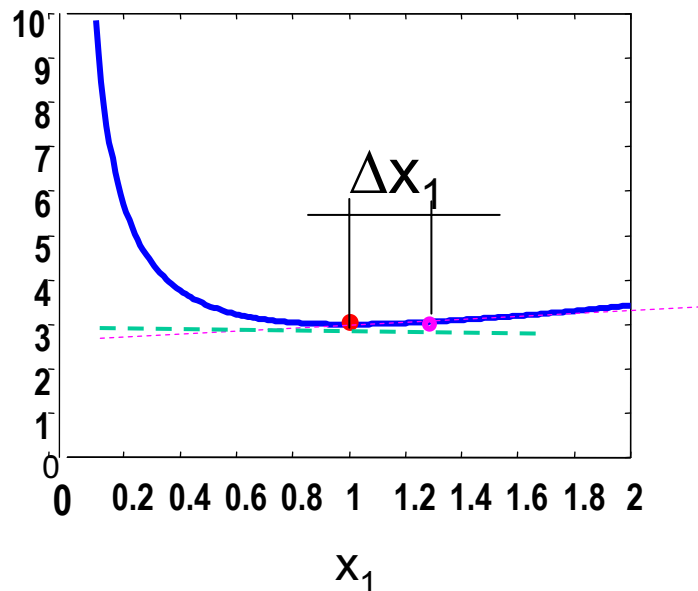
2<sup>nd</sup> derivative

$$f''(x_0) \approx \frac{f(x_0 + \Delta x) - 2f(x_0) + f(x_0 - \Delta x)}{\Delta x^2}$$

**Caution:** - Finite Differencing always has errors  
- very dependent on perturbation size

$$J(x_1, x_2) = x_1 + x_2 + \frac{1}{x_1 \cdot x_2}$$

$$x_1 = x_2 = 1 \quad J(1,1) = 3 \quad \nabla J(1,1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



➔ Choice of  $\Delta x$  is critical



- Error Analysis (Gill et al. 1981)

$$\Delta x \cong (\varepsilon_A / |f|)^{1/2} \quad \text{- Forward difference}$$

$$\Delta x \cong (\varepsilon_A / |f|)^{1/3} \quad \text{- Central difference}$$

- Significant digits (Barton 1992)

- Machine Precision

Step size

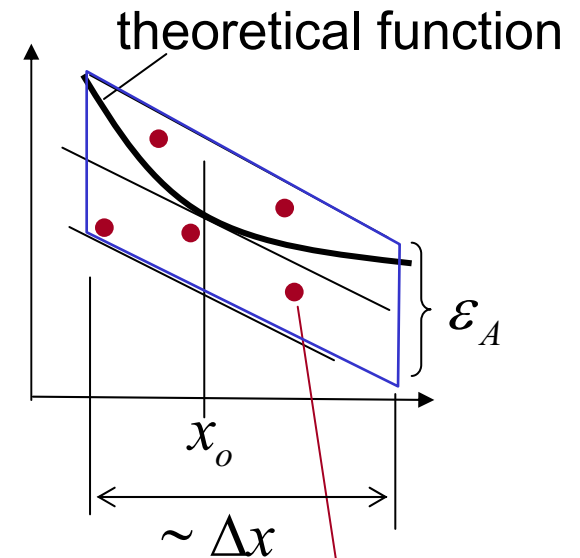
at k-th iteration

$$\Delta x_k \cong x_k \cdot 10^{-q}$$

$q$ -# of digits of machine

Precision for real numbers

- Trial and Error – typical value  $\sim 0.1\text{-}1\%$



computed  
values

$$F(J_i)$$

Cost of a single objective function evaluation of  $J_i$

$$n \cdot F(J_i)$$

Cost of gradient vector finite difference approximation for  $J_i$  for a design vector of length  $n$

$$z \cdot n \cdot F(J_i)$$

Cost of Jacobian finite difference approximation with  $z$  objective functions

**Example:** 6 objectives

30 design variables

1 sec per simcode evaluation

3 min of CPU time  
for a single Jacobian  
estimate - expensive !

- Mathematical formulas are built from a finite set of basic functions, e.g.  $\sin x$ ,  $\cos x$ ,  $\exp x$
- Take analysis code in C or Fortran
- Using chain rule, add statements that generate derivatives of the basic functions
- Tracks numerical values of derivatives, does not track symbolically as discussed before
- Outputs modified program = original + derivative capability

quantity of interest  $\rightarrow$   $u = q(s)$   
 $s = p(t)$

First compute

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} p(t)$$

Want to take derivatives w.r.t "t"

Store this value numerically

substitute

Then apply chain rule

desired sensitivity  $\leftarrow$   $\frac{du}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} q(s(t)) = \frac{d}{ds} q(s) \cdot \frac{ds}{dt}$

```
hr      = gm*eps/rho-0.5*g1*(ux*ux + vy*vy);
```

```
h_u[0] = -gm*eps/(rho*rho); ←
```

```
h_u[1] = -g1*ux; ←
```

```
h_u[2] = -g1*vy; ←
```

```
h_u[3] = gm/rho; ←
```

```
hi      = (di*hr+hl)*d1;
```

```
hi_u[0] = (di*hr+hl)*d1_u[0]
```

```
        + d1*(di_u[0]*hr+di*h_u[0]);
```

• *compute hr*  
*differentiate:*

• *wrt rho*

• *wrt ux*

• *wrt vy*

• *wrt eps*

- A way to get gradient information in a computationally efficient way
- Based on theory from controls
- Applied extensively in aerodynamic design and optimization
- For example, in aerodynamic shape design, need objective gradient with respect to shape parameters **and** with respect to flow parameters
  - Would be expensive if finite differences are used!
- Adjoint methods have allowed optimization to be used for complicated, high-fidelity fluids problems.

Consider

$$J = J(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{F})$$

where  $J$  is the cost function,  $\mathbf{w}$  contains the  $N$  flow variables, and  $\mathbf{F}$  contains the  $n$  shape design variables.

At an optimum, the variation of the cost function is zero:

$$\delta J = \left[ \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \right]^T \delta \mathbf{w} + \left[ \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \right]^T \delta \mathbf{F} = 0$$

$\begin{matrix} \nearrow \\ N \times 1 \end{matrix}$                        $\begin{matrix} \nearrow \\ n \times 1 \end{matrix}$

$$N \gg n$$

Fluid governing equations:  $R(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{F}) = 0$

$$\delta R = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \end{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{w} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \end{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{F} = 0$$

We can append these constraints to the cost function using a Lagrange multiplier approach:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta J &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \end{bmatrix}^T \delta \mathbf{w} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \end{bmatrix}^T \delta \mathbf{F} - \varphi^T \left( \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \end{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{w} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \end{bmatrix} \delta \mathbf{F} \right) \\ &= \left( \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \end{bmatrix}^T - \varphi^T \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \end{bmatrix} \right) \delta \mathbf{w} + \left( \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \end{bmatrix}^T - \varphi^T \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \end{bmatrix} \right) \delta \mathbf{F} \end{aligned}$$



$$\delta J = \left( \left[ \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \right]^T - \varphi^T \left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \right] \right) \delta \mathbf{w} + \left( \left[ \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \right]^T - \varphi^T \left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \right] \right) \delta \mathbf{F}$$

Choose  $\varphi$  to satisfy the adjoint equation:

$$\left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \right]^T \varphi = \left[ \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \right]^T$$

*equivalent to one flow solve*

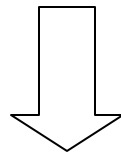
Then

$$\delta J = \underbrace{\left( \left[ \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \right]^T - \varphi^T \left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \right] \right)}_{\text{total gradient of } J} \delta \mathbf{F}$$

*does not depend on the number of flow variables*

total gradient of  $J$

“How does the optimal solution change as we change the problem parameters?”



*effect on design variables*  
*effect on objective function*  
*effect on constraints*

Want to answer this question without having to solve the optimization problem again.

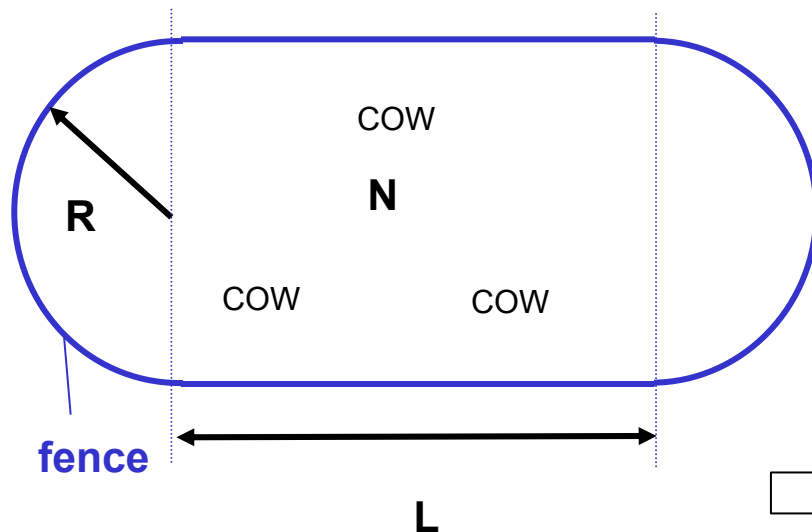
Two approaches:

- use Kuhn-Tucker conditions
- use feasible directions

Parameters  $\mathbf{p}$  are the fixed assumptions.  
How sensitive is the optimal solution  $\mathbf{x}^*$  with respect to fixed parameters ?

Example:

“Dairy Farm” sample problem



Maximize Profit

Optimal solution:

$$\mathbf{x}^* = [ R=106.1\text{m}, L=0\text{m}, N=17 \text{ cows}]^T$$

**Fixed parameters:**

Parameters:

$f=100\$/\text{m}$  - Cost of fence

$n=2000\$/\text{cow}$  - Cost of a single cow

$m=2\$/\text{liter}$  - Market price of milk

How does  $\mathbf{x}^*$  change as parameters change?

Recall the Kuhn-Tucker conditions. Let us assume that we have  $M$  active constraints, which are contained in the vector  $\hat{\mathbf{g}}(\mathbf{x})$

$$\nabla J(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{j \in M} \lambda_j \nabla \hat{g}_j(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$$

$$\hat{g}_j(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0, \quad j \in M$$

$$\lambda_j > 0, \quad j \in M$$

For a small change in a parameter,  $p$ , we require that the Kuhn-Tucker conditions remain valid:

$$\frac{d(\text{KT conditions})}{dp} = 0$$

First, let us write out the components of the first equation:

$$\nabla J(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{j \in M} \lambda_j \nabla \hat{g}_j(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{j \in M} \lambda_j \frac{\partial \hat{g}_j}{\partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

Now differentiate with respect to the parameter  $p$  using the chain rule:

$$\frac{dY}{dp} = \frac{\partial Y}{\partial p} + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\partial Y}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial x_k}{\partial p}$$

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}^*) + \sum_{j \in M} \lambda_j \frac{\partial \hat{g}_j}{\partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$$

$$\hat{g}_j(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$$

differentiate wrt  $p$ :

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \left[ \frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial x_i \partial x_k} + \sum_{j \in M} \lambda_j \frac{\partial^2 \hat{g}_j}{\partial x_i \partial x_k} \right] \frac{\partial x_k}{\partial p} + \frac{\partial \hat{g}_j}{\partial p} + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\partial \hat{g}_j}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial x_k}{\partial p} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial x_i \partial p} + \sum_{j \in M} \frac{\partial^2 \hat{g}_j}{\partial x_i \partial p} + \sum_{j \in M} \frac{\partial \hat{g}_j}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial \lambda_j}{\partial p} = 0$$

unknowns are  $\frac{\partial x_i}{\partial p}$  and  $\frac{\partial \lambda_j}{\partial p}$

In matrix form we can write:

$$\begin{array}{c} n \\ \updownarrow \\ M \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{n} \quad \xleftarrow{M} \\ \left[ \begin{array}{cc} A & B \\ B^T & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \left\{ \delta \mathbf{x} \right\} \\ \left\{ \delta \boldsymbol{\lambda} \right\} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \left\{ \mathbf{c} \right\} \\ \left\{ \mathbf{d} \right\} \end{array} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$A_{ik} = \frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial x_i \partial x_k} + \sum_{j \in M} \lambda_j \frac{\partial^2 \hat{g}_j}{\partial x_i \partial x_k}$$

$$B_{ij} = \frac{\partial \hat{g}_j}{\partial x_i}$$

$$c_i = \frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial x_i \partial p} + \sum_{j \in M} \frac{\partial^2 \hat{g}_j}{\partial x_i \partial p}$$

$$d_j = \frac{\partial \hat{g}_j}{\partial p}$$

$$\delta \mathbf{x} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial p} \\ \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial p} \\ \frac{\partial p}{\partial p} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial x_n}{\partial p} \\ \frac{\partial p}{\partial p} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\delta \boldsymbol{\lambda} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \frac{\partial \lambda_1}{\partial p} \\ \frac{\partial \lambda_2}{\partial p} \\ \frac{\partial p}{\partial p} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \lambda_M}{\partial p} \\ \frac{\partial p}{\partial p} \end{array} \right\}$$

We solve the system to find  $\delta \mathbf{x}$  and  $\delta \lambda$ , then the sensitivity of the objective function with respect to  $p$  can be found:

$$\frac{dJ}{dp} = \frac{\partial J}{\partial p} + \nabla J^T \delta \mathbf{x}$$

$$\Delta J \approx \frac{dJ}{dp} \Delta p$$

(first-order approximation)

$$\Delta \mathbf{x} \approx \delta \mathbf{x} \Delta p$$

To assess the effect of changing a different parameter, we only need to calculate a new RHS in the matrix system.



- We also need to assess when an active constraint will become inactive and vice versa
- An active constraint will become inactive when its Lagrange multiplier goes to zero:

$$\Delta\lambda_j = \frac{\partial\lambda_j}{\partial p} \Delta p = \delta\lambda_j \Delta p$$

Find the  $\Delta p$  that makes  $\lambda_j$  zero:

$$\lambda_j + \delta\lambda_j \Delta p = 0$$

$$\Delta p = \frac{-\lambda_j}{\delta\lambda_j} \quad j \in M$$

This is the amount by which we can change  $p$  before the  $j^{\text{th}}$  constraint becomes inactive (to a first order approximation)

An inactive constraint will become active when  $g_j(\mathbf{x})$  goes to zero:

$$g_j(\mathbf{x}) = g_j(\mathbf{x}^*) + \Delta p \left[ \nabla g_j(\mathbf{x}^*)^T \delta \mathbf{x} \right] = 0$$

Find the  $\Delta p$  that makes  $g_j$  zero:

$$\Delta p = \frac{-g_j(\mathbf{x}^*)}{\nabla g_j(\mathbf{x}^*)^T \delta \mathbf{x}}$$

for all  $j$  not  
active at  $\mathbf{x}^*$

- This is the amount by which we can change  $p$  before the  $j^{\text{th}}$  constraint becomes active (to a first order approximation)
- If we want to change  $p$  by a larger amount, then the problem must be solved again including the new constraint
- Only valid close to the optimum

- Sensitivity analysis
  - Yields important information about the design space, both as the optimization is proceeding and once the “optimal” solution has been reached.
- Gradient calculation approaches
  - Analytical and Symbolic
  - Finite difference
  - Automatic Differentiation
  - Adjoint methods

## Reading

Papalambros – Section 8.2 Computing Derivatives