



Time Integration in Chrono

Numerical integration of smooth and non-smooth Dynamics



Time Integration in Chrono

- Two classes of time stepping methods in Chrono
 - Time steppers for smooth dynamics
 - Classical multibody dynamics – rigid and flexible connected through joints
 - FEA
 - Fluid solid interaction problems
 - Time steppers for non-smooth dynamics
 - Scenarios w/ friction and contact

Time Integration – Smooth Dynamics

- Smooth dynamics:
 - Equations of Motion: formulated as Differential Algebraic Equations (DAE)
 - Time-stepping methods:
 - HHT
 - Euler implicit
 - Euler semi-implicit linearized
 - Newmark
 - Require solution of a linear system at each time step
 - MINRES
 - MKL
 - MUMPS
 - Discontinuous forces if any, are regularized via penalty
 - Can still have friction and contact, but is “smoothed”

Time Integration – Non-smooth Dynamics

- Non-smooth dynamics:
 - Equations of motion formulated using complementarity conditions
 - Time-stepping method:
 - Half-implicit symplectic Euler
 - Cone Complementarity Problem (CCP) solved at each time step
 - SOR
 - APGD
 - Barzilai-Borwein
 - Discontinuous forces: no need to be “smoothed”
 - No support for FEA yet

Smooth dynamics - DAE

The HHT Time Stepper

Linear Solvers

Differential Problems

- An Ordinary Differential Equation (**ODE**):

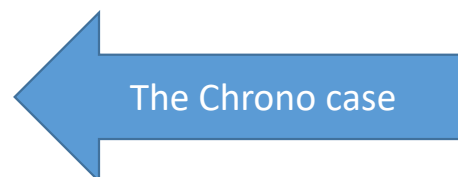
$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, t)$$

- A Differential Algebraic Equation (**DAE**)

- In implicit form:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= f(x, t) \\ g(x, t) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Introduces constraints g



$$\begin{aligned} M \frac{dv}{dt} &= f(q, v, t) + D_B \hat{\gamma}_B(t) \\ C(q, t) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

DAE Explicit Integrators

- **Explicit** integrators:

$$\mathbf{x}(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}(t))$$

- Straightforward to implement - they do not require solving linear systems
- Require very small time steps, due to stability reasons
- The stiffer the problem, the smaller the time step
- Lead to numerical drift when handling DAEs
- Used by traditional DEM granular dynamics simulators

DAE Implicit Integrators

- **Implicit** integrators:

$$\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{x}(t + \Delta t), \mathbf{x}(t)) = \mathbf{0}$$

- Can use large time steps
- More complex: they find $\mathbf{x}(t + \Delta t)$ by solving a nonlinear system $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{0}$ with Newton-Raphson
 - Jacobians matrices of \mathbf{G} are needed (ex. stiffness matrices, etc.)
 - Require solution of one or more linear systems at each time step
- Useful both for ODEs and DAEs – for the latter, they enforce the kinematic constraints well
- Used in FEA problems, handle stiffness well

DAE Implicit Integrators in Chrono

- Classical Euler implicit
 - First order accurate, large numerical damping
- Euler semi-implicit linearized (1 step)
 - First order accurate, large numerical damping
 - Same time-stepping used for DVI non-smooth dynamics, it can use complementarity solvers
- Trapezoidal
 - Second order accurate, no numerical damping
 - Doesn't work well with joints (kinematic constraints)
- Newmark (index 3 DAE)
 - Adjustable numerical damping, first order (except in particular case)
- HHT (index 3 DAE)
 - Second order accurate, adjustable numerical damping
 - Most used integrator for FEA problems in Chrono

Discretization of the Constrained EOM (1/3)

- The discretized equations solved at each time t_{n+1} are:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1} + \Phi_{\mathbf{q}}^T(\mathbf{q}_{n+1})\lambda_{n+1} - \mathbf{Q}^A(\dot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}, \mathbf{q}_{n+1}, t_{n+1}) = \mathbf{0} \\ \frac{1}{\beta h^2} \Phi(\mathbf{q}_{n+1}, t_{n+1}) = \mathbf{0} \end{cases}$$

- Generalized positions \mathbf{q}_{n+1} and velocities $\dot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}$ above expressions are **functions of the accelerations $\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}$** :

$$\mathbf{q}_{n+1} = \mathbf{q}_n + h\dot{\mathbf{q}}_n + \frac{h^2}{2} [(1 - 2\beta)\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_n + 2\beta\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}]$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1} = \dot{\mathbf{q}}_n + h[(1 - \gamma)\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_n + \gamma\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}]$$

These are Newmark's formulas that express the generalized positions and velocities as functions of the generalized accelerations

Discretization of the Constrained EOM (2/3)

- The unknowns are the **accelerations** and the **Lagrange multipliers**
 - The number of unknowns is equal to the number of equations
- The equations that must be solved now are algebraic and **nonlinear**
 - Differential problem has been transformed into an algebraic one
 - The new problem: find acceleration and Lagrange multipliers that satisfy

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1} + \Phi_{\mathbf{q}}^T(\mathbf{q}_{n+1})\lambda_{n+1} - \mathbf{Q}^A(\dot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}, \mathbf{q}_{n+1}, t_{n+1}) \\ \frac{1}{\beta h^2} \Phi(\mathbf{q}_{n+1}, t_{n+1}) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

- We have to use **Newton's method**
 - We need the Jacobian of the nonlinear system of equations (chain rule will be used to simplify calculations)
 - This looks exactly like what we had to do when for Kinematics analysis of a mechanism (there we solved $\Phi(\mathbf{q}, t) = 0$ to get the positions \mathbf{q})

Discretization of the Constrained EOM (3/3)

- Define the following two functions:

$$\bar{\Psi}(\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}, \mathbf{q}_{n+1}, \lambda_{n+1}) \triangleq \mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1} + \Phi_{\mathbf{q}}^T(\mathbf{q}_{n+1})\lambda_{n+1} - \mathbf{Q}^A(\dot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}, \mathbf{q}_{n+1}, t_{n+1})$$

$$\bar{\Omega}(\mathbf{q}_{n+1}) \triangleq \frac{1}{\beta h^2} \Phi(\mathbf{q}_{n+1}, t_{n+1})$$

- Once we use the Newmark discretization formulas, these functions depend in fact **only** on the accelerations $\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}$ and Lagrange multipliers λ_{n+1}

- To make this clear, define the new functions:

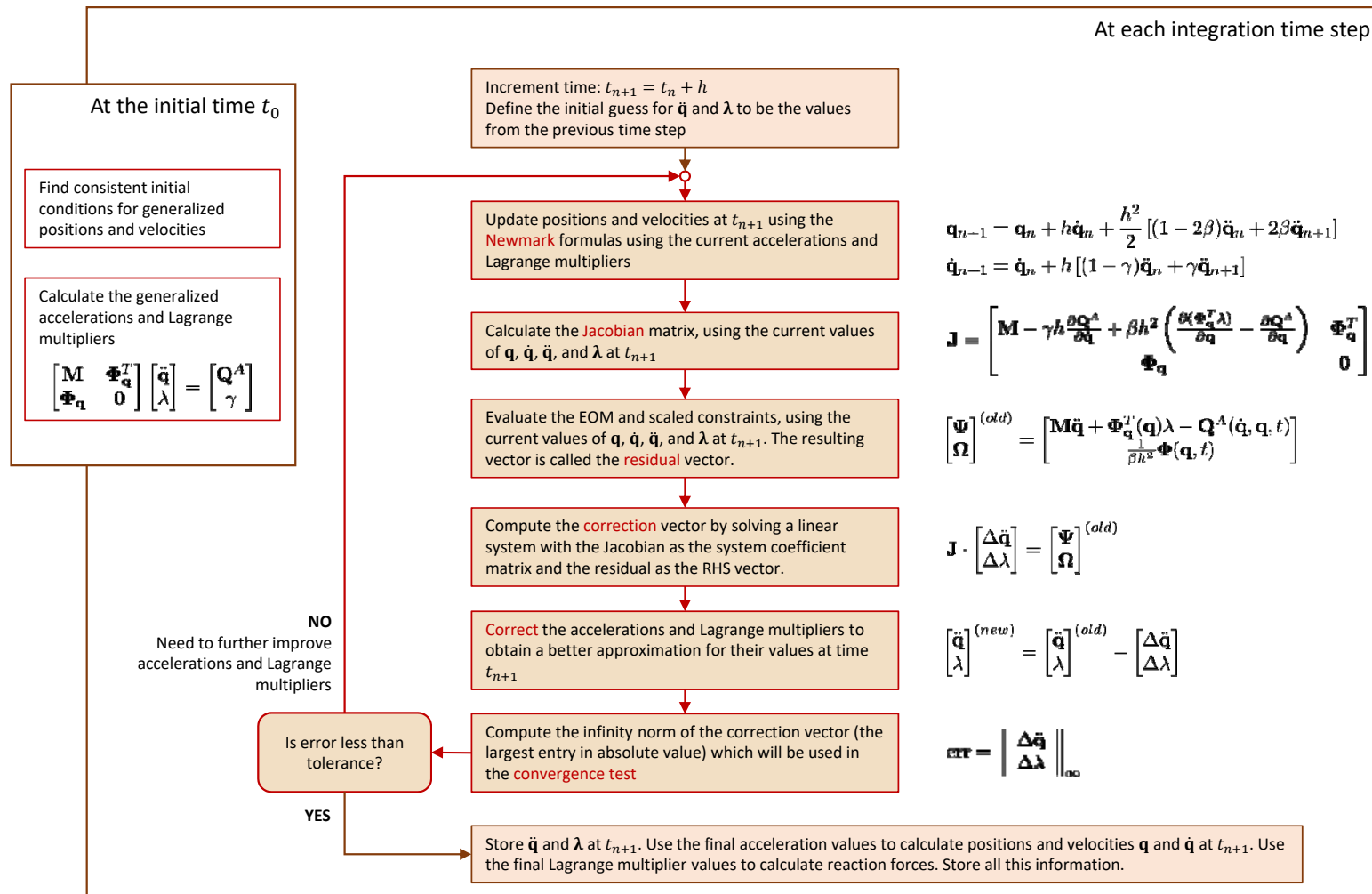
$$\Psi(\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}, \lambda_{n+1}) \equiv \bar{\Psi}(\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}, \dot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}(\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}), \mathbf{q}_{n+1}(\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}), \lambda_{n+1})$$

$$\Omega(\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}) \equiv \bar{\Omega}(\mathbf{q}_{n+1}(\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}))$$

- Therefore, we must solve for $\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}$ and λ_{n+1} the following system

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Psi(\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}, \lambda_{n+1}) \\ \Omega(\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_{n+1}) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

Time Stepping,



Configuring the Integrator in Chrono

- It can be changed with `SetIntegrationType()`
- Additional parameters via `std::static_pointer_cast<...>(my_system.GetTimestepper())`

```
// change the time integration to Euler, for DVI too  
my_system.SetIntegrationType(ChSystem::INT_EULER_IMPLICIT_LINEARIZED);
```

```
// change the time integration to HHT:  
my_system.SetIntegrationType(ChSystem::INT_HHT);  
auto integrator = std::static_pointer_cast<ChTimestepperHHT>(my_system.GetTimestepper());  
integrator->SetAlpha(-0.2);  
integrator->SetMaxiters(8);  
integrator->SetAbsTolerances(5e-05, 1.8e00);  
integrator->SetMode(ChTimestepperHHT::POSITION);  
integrator->SetModifiedNewton(false);  
integrator->SetScaling(true);  
integrator->SetVerbose(true);
```

New Subtopic:

Linear System Solvers



- All DAE solvers require the solution of linear systems
- Linear system solvers are independent from the time integrator
 - One can mix and match
- Available linear system solvers
 - MINRES (iterative solver, free)
 - MKL (direct solver, requires license)
 - MUMPS (direct solver, free)
- Moving forward:
 - MUMPS with OpenBLAS since they are both free and licensed under BSD

Linear System Solvers: MINRES

- Available in the main Chrono unit
- A Krylov-type iterative solver
- Convergence might slow down when large mass or stiffness ratios are used
- Robust in case of redundant constraints
- Warm starting can be used to reuse last solution (faster solution)

```
// Change solver settings
my_system.SetSolverType(ChSystem::SOLVER_MINRES);
my_system.SetSolverWarmStarting(true);
my_system.SetMaxItersSolverSpeed(200); // Max number of iterations for main solver
my_system.SetMaxItersSolverStab(200); // Used only by few time integrators
my_system.SetTolForce(1e-13);
```


Linear System Solvers: MKL

- MKL Intel libraries must be licensed and installed on your system,
- Available in the optional Chrono::MKL unit (enable it in CMake)
- Direct parallel solver: no iterations are needed
- Not robust in case of redundant constraints

```
#include "chrono_mkl/ChSolverMKL.h"
...
// change the solver to MKL:
ChSolverMKL<>* mkl_solver_stab = new ChSolverMKL<>;
ChSolverMKL<>* mkl_solver_speed = new ChSolverMKL<>;
my_system.ChangeSolverSpeed(mkl_solver_speed);
my_system.ChangeSolverStab(mkl_solver_stab); // Used only by few time integrators
mkl_solver_speed->SetSparsityPatternLock(true);
mkl_solver_stab->SetSparsityPatternLock(true); // Used only by few time integrators
```

Linear System Solvers: MUMPS

- Work in progress to be wrapped up by mid January
- Direct parallel solver
- Developed in France/UK, relies on OpenBLAS, which developed in China
- Free solution, source code available for MUMPS & OpenBLAS

```
#include "chrono_mumps/ChSolverMUMPS.h"
...
// change the solver to MUMPS:
ChSolverMUMPS<>* mumps_solver_stab = new ChSolverMUMPS<>;
ChSolverMUMPS<>* mumps_solver_speed = new ChSolverMUMPS<>;
my_system.ChangeSolverSpeed(mumps_solver_speed);
my_system.ChangeSolverStab(mumps_solver_stab); // Used only by few time integrators
mumps_solver_speed->SetSparsityPatternLock(true);
mumps_solver_stab->SetSparsityPatternLock(true); // Used only by few time integrators
```

Non-Smooth dynamics - DVI

The DVI time-stepper

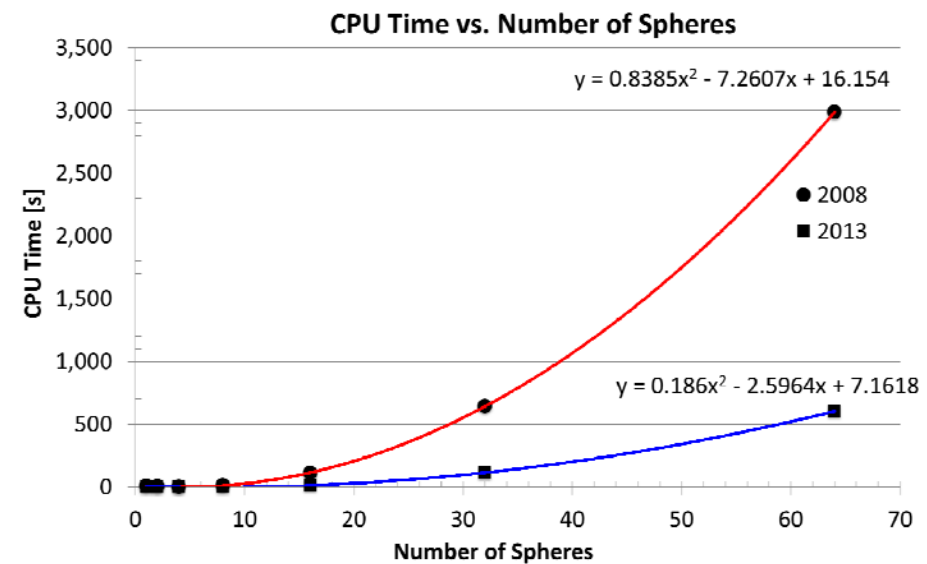
The CCP solvers

The Cornerstone, DVI Method

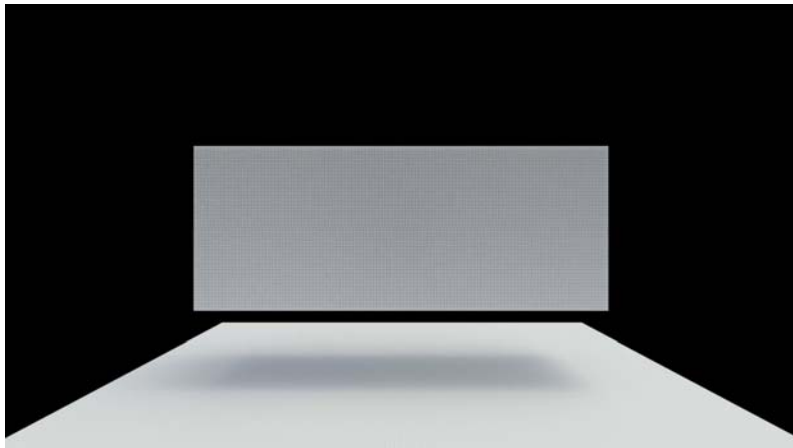
- Need to solve fast quadratic optimization problem with conic constraints

$$\gamma^* = \underset{\substack{\gamma_i \in \Upsilon_i \\ 1 \leq i \leq N_c}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left(\frac{1}{2} \gamma^T \mathbf{N} \gamma + \mathbf{r}^T \gamma \right)$$

3 Second Dynamics – 1 million spheres dropping in a bucket [Commercial Software Simulation]



1 Million Bodies, Parallel Simulation on GPU card



- 20 second long simulation
- Two hours to finish simulation
- GPU Card: GTX680
- Optimization problem for γ
 - Approx. 4 million variables
 - Solved at each time step
 - Problem looks like

$$\gamma^* = \underset{\substack{\gamma_i \in \Upsilon_i \\ 1 \leq i \leq N_c}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left(\frac{1}{2} \gamma^T \mathbf{N} \gamma + \mathbf{r}^T \gamma \right)$$

CCP Solvers in Chrono

- Fixed-point solvers:
 - Projected-SOR (Jacobi) ←
 - Projected-GaussSeidel
 - Projected-Symmetric-SOR
- Krylov spectral methods
 - Barzilai-Borwein
 - Nesterov Accelerated Projected Gradient Descent (APGD)

-



Projected Jacobi (Projected-SOR)

ALGORITHM JACOBI(\mathbf{N} , \mathbf{r} , τ , N_{max} , γ_0)

- (1) **for** $k := 0$ **to** N_{max}
- (2) $\hat{\gamma}_{(k+1)} = \Pi_{\mathcal{K}} (\gamma_{(k)} - \omega \mathbf{B} (\mathbf{N} \gamma_{(k)} + \mathbf{r}))$
- (3) $\gamma_{(k+1)} = \lambda \hat{\gamma}_{(k+1)} + (1 - \lambda) \gamma_{(k)}$
- (4) $r = r(\gamma_{(k+1)})$
- (5) **if** $r < \tau$
- (6) **break**
- (7) **endfor**
- (8) **return** Value at time step $t^{(l+1)}$, $\gamma^{(l+1)} := \gamma_{(k+1)}$.

Projected Gauss-Seidel

ALGORITHM GAUSS-SEIDEL(\mathbf{N} , \mathbf{r} , τ , N_{max} , γ_0)

- (1) **for** $k := 0$ **to** N_{max}
- (2) **for** $i = 1$ **to** n_c
- (3) $\hat{\gamma}_{i,(k+1)} = \Pi_{\mathcal{K}} (\gamma_{i,(k)} - \omega \mathbf{B}_i (\mathbf{N} \gamma_k + \mathbf{r})_i)$
- (4) $\gamma_{i,(k+1)} = \lambda \hat{\gamma}_{i,(k+1)} + (1 - \lambda) \gamma_{i,(k)}$
- (5) **endfor**
- (6) $r = r(\gamma_{k+1})$
- (7) **if** $r < \tau$
- (8) **break**
- (9) **endfor**
- (10) **return** Value at time step $t^{(l+1)}$, $\gamma^{(l+1)} := \gamma_{(k+1)}$.

P-SOR solver for CCP

- Use `SetSolverType()` to change the solver:

```
// change the solver to P-SOR:  
my_system.SetSolverType(ChSystem::SOLVER_SOR);  
  
// use high iteration number if contacts interpenetrate:  
my_system.SetMaxItersSolverSpeed(90);
```

Nesterov's Accelerated Projected Gradient Descent

ALGORITHM NAPG($N, r, t \leq \frac{1}{\lambda_{\max}(N)}, \tau, N_{\max}$)

- (1) $\gamma_0 = \mathbf{0}_{n_c}$
- (2) $\hat{\gamma}_0 = \mathbf{1}_{n_c}$
- (3) $\mathbf{y}_0 = \gamma_0$
- (4) $\theta_0 = 1$
- (5) **for** $k := 0$ **to** N_{\max}
- (6) $\mathbf{g} = N\mathbf{y}_k - \mathbf{r}$
- (7) $\gamma_{k+1} = \Pi_{\mathcal{K}}(\mathbf{y}_k - t\mathbf{g})$
- (8) $\theta_{k+1} = \frac{-\theta_k^2 + \theta_k \sqrt{\theta_k^2 + 4}}{2}$
- (9) $\beta_{k+1} = \theta_k \frac{1 - \theta_k}{\theta_k^2 + \theta_{k+1}}$
- (10) $\mathbf{y}_{k+1} = \gamma_{k+1} + \beta_{k+1}(\gamma_{k+1} - \gamma_k)$
- (11) $\epsilon = \epsilon(\gamma_{k+1})$
- (12) **if** $\epsilon < \tau$
- (13) **break**
- (14) **endif**
- (15) **endfor**
- (16) **return** Value at time step t_{l+1} , $\gamma^{l+1} := \hat{\gamma}$.

APGD – Built around Nesterov

- APGD: Accelerated Projected Gradient Descent
 - Idea: instead of descending along the gradient, use a linear combination of previous descent directions
- Proved to be, up to a factor c , the best first order optimization method
 - Converges like $O(1/k^2)$ as opposed to $O(1/k)$
- Projected version implemented owing to presence of conic constraints

APGD solver for CCP

- Use `SetSolverType()` to change the solver:

```
// change the solver to Nesterov' APGD:  
my_system.SetSolverType(ChSystem::SOLVER_APGD);  
  
// will terminate iterations when this tolerance is reached:  
my_system.SetTolForce(1e-7);  
  
// use high iteration number if constraints tend to 'dismount' or contacts interpenetrate:  
my_system.SetMaxItersSolverSpeed(110);
```

P-SPG-FB



ALGORITHM P-SPG-FB(\mathbf{N} , \mathbf{r} , \mathbf{x}_0 , \mathcal{K} , $\mathbf{P} \mapsto \mathbf{x}$)

```

(1)  $\mathbf{x}_0 := \Pi_{\mathcal{K}}(\mathbf{x}_0)$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_{FB} = \mathbf{x}_0$ ,  $\hat{\alpha}_0 \in [\alpha_{min}, \alpha_{max}]$ 
(2)  $\mathbf{g}_0 := \mathbf{N}\mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{r}$ ,  $f(\mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{N}\mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{r}$ ,  $w_0 = 10^{29}$ 
(3) for  $j := 0$  to  $N_{max}$ 
(4)    $\mathbf{p}_j = \mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{g}_j$ 
(5)    $\mathbf{d}_j = \Pi_{\mathcal{K}}(\mathbf{x}_j - \hat{\alpha}_j \mathbf{p}_j) - \mathbf{x}_j$ 
(6)   if  $\langle \mathbf{d}_j, \mathbf{g}_j \rangle \geq 0$ 
(7)      $\mathbf{d}_j = \Pi_{\mathcal{K}}(\mathbf{x}_j - \hat{\alpha}_j \mathbf{g}_j) - \mathbf{x}_j$ 
(8)    $\lambda := 1$ 
(9)   while line search
(10)     $\mathbf{x}_{j+1} := \mathbf{x}_j + \lambda \mathbf{d}_j$ 
(11)     $\mathbf{g}_{j+1} := \mathbf{N}\mathbf{x}_{j+1} + \mathbf{r}$ 
(12)     $f(\mathbf{x}_{j+1}) = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}_{j+1}^T \mathbf{N}\mathbf{x}_{j+1} + \mathbf{x}_{j+1}^T \mathbf{r}$ 
(13)    if  $f(\mathbf{x}_{j+1}) > \max_{i=0, \dots, \min(j, N_{GILL})} f(\mathbf{x}_{j-i}) + \gamma \lambda \langle \mathbf{d}_j, \mathbf{g}_j \rangle$ 
(14)      define  $\lambda_{new} \in [\sigma_{min} \lambda, \sigma_{max} \lambda]$  and repeat line search
(15)    else
(16)      terminate line search
(17)     $\mathbf{s}_j = \mathbf{x}_{j+1} - \mathbf{x}_j$ 
(18)     $\mathbf{y}_j = \mathbf{g}_{j+1} - \mathbf{g}_j$ 
(19)    if  $j$  is odd
(20)       $\hat{\alpha}_{j+1} = \frac{\langle \mathbf{s}_j, \mathbf{P}\mathbf{s}_j \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{s}_j, \mathbf{y}_j \rangle}$ 
(21)    else
(22)       $\hat{\alpha}_{j+1} = \frac{\langle \mathbf{s}_j, \mathbf{y}_j \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{y}_j \rangle}$ 
(23)       $\hat{\alpha}_{j+1} = \min(\alpha_{max}, \max(\alpha_{min}, \hat{\alpha}_{j+1}))$ 
(24)       $w_{j+1} = \|\mathbf{x}_{j+1} - \Pi_{\mathcal{K}}(\mathbf{x}_{j+1} - \tau_g \mathbf{g}_{j+1})\| / \tau_g \|_2 = \|\epsilon\|_2$ 
(25)      if  $w_{j+1} \leq \min_{k=0, \dots, j} w_k$ 
(26)         $\mathbf{x}_{FB} = \mathbf{x}_{j+1}$ 
(27) return  $\mathbf{x}_{FB}$ 

```

P-SPG-FB solver for CCP

- Use `SetSolverType()` to change the solver:

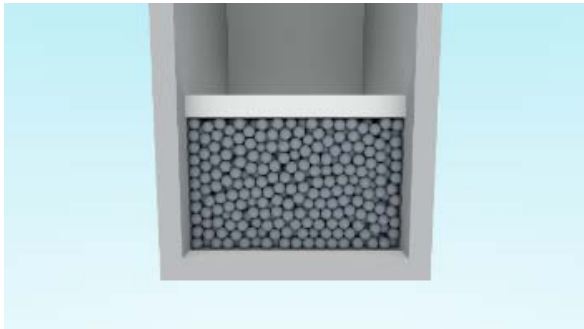
```
// change the solver to Barzilai-Borwein P-SPG-FB:  
my_system.SetSolverType(ChSystem::SOLVER_BARZILAIBORWEIN);  
  
// will terminate iterations when this tolerance is reached:  
my_system.SetTolForce(1e-7);  
  
// use high iteration number if constraints tend to 'dismount' or contacts interpenetrate:  
my_system.SetMaxItersSolverSpeed(110);
```


New Subtopic:

Performance Comparison: Jacobi vs. GS vs. APGD



- Benchmark Problem: 4000 rigid spheres
- Heavy block/slab rests on packed spheres



- Results obtained at one step
- Mass of block varied
 - 10^3 kg to 10^6 kg
- The three-way race: how far can you get in 1000 iterations when solving the QP?

$$\gamma^* = \underset{\substack{\gamma \in \mathcal{T}_i \\ 1 \leq i \leq N_e}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left(\frac{1}{2} \gamma^T \mathbf{N} \gamma + \mathbf{r}^T \gamma \right)$$

Performance Comparison: Jacobi vs. GS vs. APGD

$$\gamma^* = \underset{\substack{\gamma_i \in \Upsilon_i \\ 1 \leq i \leq N_c}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left(\frac{1}{2} \gamma^T \mathbf{N} \gamma + \mathbf{r}^T \gamma \right)$$

<i>Objective Function $f(\gamma)$</i>			
Mass [kg]	Jacobi	Gauss Seidel	APGD
1×10^3	−28.29	−117.70	−220.14
1×10^4	−35.63	−162.99	−883.54
1×10^5	−37.02	−176.94	−3199.27
1×10^6	−37.15	−210.23	−4696.48

Performance Comparison: Jacobi vs. GS vs. APGD

- Mass of block is 1000 kg
- The three-way race:
 - How much effort does it take to converge the solution within a 7×10^{-6} tolerance

$$\gamma^* = \underset{\substack{\gamma \in \Upsilon_i \\ 1 \leq i \leq N_e}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left(\frac{1}{2} \gamma^T \mathbf{N} \gamma + \mathbf{r}^T \gamma \right)$$

Solver	Residual	Iterations	Time[s]
Jacobi	7.54×10^{-6} (UtC)	500 000	24 300
Gauss Seidel	6.99×10^{-6}	11 485	494.8
APGD	6.97×10^{-6}	202	10.6

Time Integration & Solvers Cheat Sheet



	LINEAR SYSTEM	FEA* (DAE)	CCP (DVI)	FEA*	Iterative	Redundant constraints	Optional Chrono module	Large system	Time integrator compatibility	
									INT_HHT	INT_EULER_IMPLICIT_LINEARIZED
SOR		*	••	*		••		•••	2	••• DAE, DVI
BARZILAIBORWEIN		*	•••	*		••		•••	• DAE	••• DAE, DVI
APGD		*	•••	*		••		•••	• DAE	••• DAE, DVI
MINRES		• ¹		*		•••		•••	•• DAE	• DAE
MKL		•••		*				••	••• DAE	• DAE
MUMPS		•••		*		•		••	••• DAE	• DAE

* For FEA, the solver must support stiffness and damping matrices. Note that FEA in DVI is not yet possible at the moment.

1 The MINRES solver might converge too slow when using finite elements with ill-conditioned stiffness

2 The SOR solver is not precise enough for good HHT convergence, except for simple systems