**Table of contents**

**Acknowledgements** i

**Abstract** iii

**Resumo** v

**Table of Contents** vii

**List of Figures** xi

**Table list** xiii

**1. INTRODUCTION** 1

**1.1. Overview** 1

**1.2. Objectives** 1

**1.3. Electricity Pylons** 2

**1.4. Optimization Algorithms** 3

**1.5. Structure** 4

**2. DESIGN OF LATTICE TOWERS** 5

**2.1. Introduction** 5

**2.2. General Principles** 5

**2.3. Design Loads** 6

**2.4. Resistance Verification** 7

2.4.1. Implementation Notes 7

**2.5. Stability Verification** 7

2.5.1. Effective Slenderness Factor - K 7

2.5.1.1. Implementation notes – Leg members 8

2.5.1.2. Implementation notes – Diagonal bracing members 9

2.5.1.3. Implementation notes – Horizontal bracing members 11

2.5.2. Buckling Length 11

**2.6. Connection Design** 15

**3. GENETIC ALGORITHM** 17

**3.1. Overview** 17

**3.2. Fundamental Elements of a Genetic Algorithm** 18

3.2.1. Individual 18

3.2.2. Initial Population 19

3.2.3. Fitness Function 20

3.2.4. Selection Function 21

3.2.4.1. Roulette wheel 21

3.2.4.2. Tournament selection 22

3.2.5. Genetic Operators 22

3.2.5.1. Crossover 22

3.2.5.2. Mutation 23

3.2.6. Termination Criteria 23

**4. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION** 25

**4.1. Summary** 25

**4.2. Program Flow** 25

**4.3. Base Genetic Code** 27

**4.4. Initial Population** 31

**4.5. Evaluate Function** 32

**4.6. Repair Function** 35

**4.7. Selection Function** 37

**4.8. Genetic Operators** 37

4.8.1. Crossover 37

4.8.2. Gaussian Mutation 38

**5. CASE STUDY** 41

**5.1. Summary** 41

**5.2. Base Model** 41

**5.3. Program Setup** 43

5.3.1. Test Runs and Calibration 44

**5.4. Results** 46

5.4.1. Postprocessing 46

5.4.2. Analysis 48

**5.5. Concluding Remarks** 49

5.5.1. Future Work 49

**REFERENCES** 51

**List of figures**

Fig.1.1 – Power lines designed to withstand snow, Iceland 2

Fig.1.2 – Test bench – India 3

Fig.2.1 – Steel poles 6

Fig.2.2 – Lattice tower 6

Fig.2.3 – EC3-3-1 table G.1 from annex G 9

Fig.2.4 – EC3-3-1 table G.2 from annex G 10

Fig.2.5 – EC3-3-1 table G.3 from annex G 11

Fig.2.6 – EC3-3-1 Figure H.1 from annex H 12

Fig.2.7 – Increased number of horizontal divisions 12

Fig.2.8 – EC3-3-1 Figure H.3 from annex H 13

Fig.2.9 – EC3-3-1 Figure H.4 from annex H 14

Fig.3.1 – Flow of standard GA 17

Fig.3.2 – Chromosome structure and values 18

Fig.3.3 – Basic bit string chromosome 19

Fig.3.4 – More complex chromosome datatype 19

Fig.3.5 – Random vs Seeded population 19

Fig.3.6 – Roulette wheel: A is better than G, therefore selected more often 21

Fig.3.7 – Tournament selection 22

Fig.3.8 – Double and single point crossover 23

Fig.4.1 – User interface 26

Fig.4.2 – Interaction between key modules 27

Fig.4.3 – Parametric definition of the tower in Grasshopper 28

Fig.4.4 – Grasshopper and rhino model 29

Fig.4.5 – IAM: Different bracing conditions 33

Fig.4.6 – Tapered normal distribution 38

Fig.5.1 – Base model 41

Fig.5.2 – Arm nodes 42

Fig.5.3 – Mutation adjustment trial 45

Fig.5.4 – Ideal mutation probability reached 45

Fig.5.5 – Final search 46

Fig.5.6 – Plan view of the tower 47

Fig.5.7 – Critical quadrant, front and side planes 47

Fig.5.8 – Legs with secondary bracing added 48

**Table list**

Table 4.1 – DNA definition 30

Table 4.2 – Initial mutation implementation 31

Table 4.3 – Evaluate function call 32

Table 4.4 – IAM scan (leg scan excerpt) 32

Table 4.5 – EC3 verification for leg members 34

Table 4.6 –Repair function excerpt 36

Table 4.7 – Tournament selection 37

Table 4.8 – Crossover function applied to the bar array 37

Table 4.9 – Gaussian mutation algorithm 39

Table 4.10 – Clamp function 39

Table 4.11 – Mutation function 39

Table 5.1 – Base model weight distribution 42

Table 5.2 – Load cases 43

Table 5.3 – Final structure weight distribution 48