

Fall 2021 | MECH 6318  
Engineering Optimization  
**Final Exam**  
**12:00 pm-6:00pm Tuesday, December 07, 2021**  
**(100 points)**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ NetID: \_\_\_\_\_

**Any (i) communication of any kind with classmate, or (ii) plagiarization shall result in failing of the course!**

**-5 to 0 points reserved for Neatness and Professional Presentation. Show your work in detail and clearly.**

**Scan your answers and save it as a *PDF*.**

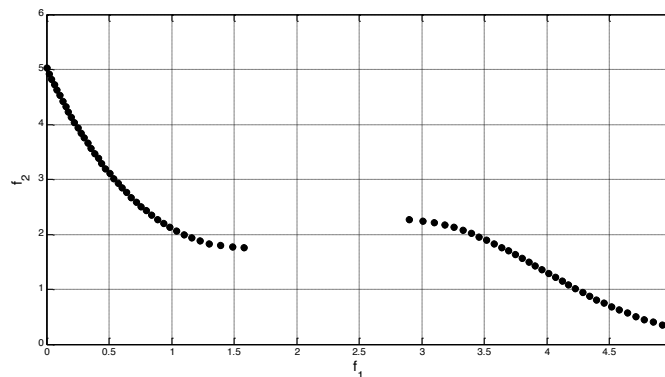
**Matlab can be used for verification. Using matlab without showing the processes gets no points. (Only presenting the final results or outputs also gets no points. )**

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**Problem 1: True or False (20 pts x 1 = 20 pts)** (-1.5 points for choosing a wrong statement or missing a correct statement)

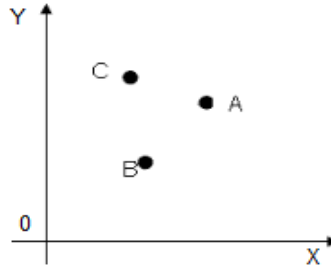
**Please choose all the correct statement(s) from the following:**

- (A) Simplex search method is a first order method.
- (B) When a linear programming problem has more than one optimal solution, then it will always have infinitely many optimal solutions.
- (C) The sequential quadratic programming method linearizes both the objective function and constraints of an optimization problem.
- (D) All the points on the curve in the following figure are Pareto solutions to a bi-objective minimization problem in  $f_1$ - $f_2$  space.



- (E) For a triple-objective optimization problem, the Pareto frontier is a surface, if there exists.
- (F) For pure integer programming problems, some design variables are allowed to assume only integer values, while others are allowed to assume continuous values.
- (G) For  $f(x)$ , suppose that  $\nabla^2 f(x)$  is continuous in an open neighborhood of  $x^*$ , and that  $\nabla f(x^*) = 0$ . If  $\nabla^2 f(x^*)$  is positive definite,  $x^*$  is a strict local minimum of  $f(x)$ .

**For subproblem: H & J** X and Y are the two objectives of a bi-objective **maximization** problem as shown in the figure below. A, B and C are three points in the X-Y design objective space. Based on their positions, we can find:



- (H) Solution-A dominates solution-B but not solution-C.
- (I) Solution-C dominates both solution-A and solution-B.
- (J) For design of experiments, the full factorial design method and Latin Hypercube method have the same accuracy in establishing a surrogate model.
- (K) A solution  $x_0$  is a global optimal solution of problem P, if  $x_0$  is feasible and  $f(x_0) \leq f(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ .
- (L) We can obtain a unique deterministic optimal solution using genetic algorithm.
- (M) For the encoding of genetic algorithm, we know the range and the tolerance for the optimization variable are  $[0, 5]$  and  $0.1$ , respectively. A “chromosome” with a length of 5 is enough for the given problem.
- (N) The weighted sum method works for all types of multi-objective optimization.
- (O) The KKT method works for both linear and nonlinear optimization.
- (P) Tom is asked to calculate the mean absolute error of a radial basis function (RBF) surrogate model. The student first built up a model using a dataset  $[X_{org}, Y_{org}]$ , and the surrogate model is expressed as  $\hat{Y}=f(x)$ . The student then obtained the estimated set via  $\hat{Y}_{est}=f(X_{org})$ . Finally, the MAE error is calculated by

$$MAE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{abs}(\hat{Y}_{est_i} - Y_{org_i})$$

Do you agree with Tom? (True for yes, False for no)

**Problem 2:** Formulate and solve the following problem.

It is required to minimize the objective,  $f(x_1, x_2)$ , which represents the sum of the two design variables,  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , but with consideration that two constraints,  $g_1(x_1, x_2)$  and  $g_2(x_1, x_2)$ , should be satisfied. The first constraint,  $g_1(x_1, x_2)$ , ensures that the two design variables are within, or on the boundary, of a circle, where the radius of the circle is 2 m. The second constraint ensures that the first design variable,  $x_1$ , is greater than or equal to  $-1$ .

- a) Formulate the optimization problem mathematically. The mathematical problem statement must include objective function, design variable(s), and constraint function(s) in the standard form of an optimization problem. **(4 points)**
- b) Solve the optimization problem using Karush-Kuhn Tucker conditions. **(8 points)**
- c) Now solve this problem graphically. **(6 points)**

**Problem 3:** The figure below shows two bodies, A and B, connected by four linear springs. The springs are at their natural positions when there is no force applied to the bodies. The displacements  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  of the bodies under any applied force can be found by minimizing the potential energy of the system. Find the displacements of the bodies when forces of  $F_1=2000$  lb and  $F_2=3000$  lb are applied to bodies A and B, respectively.

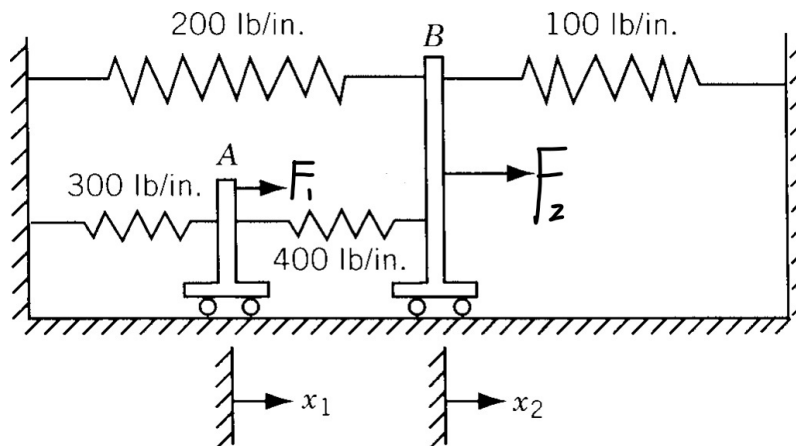
- a) Formulate / explain (but do not solve) the optimization problem. The problem must include objective function, design variable(s), and constraint function(s) (if any) in the standard form of an optimization problem. **(8 points)**

**Hint:** Potential energy of the system = strain energy of springs – potential of applied loads

where the strain energy of a spring of stiffness  $k$  and end displacements  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  is given by

$\frac{1}{2}k(x_2 - x_1)^2$  and the potential of the applied force,  $F_i$ , is given by  $x_i F_i$ .

- b) Solve the problem using Newton's method. Use  $\varepsilon = 0.6$  for checking the convergence,  $|\nabla f(x_k)| < \varepsilon$ . Use the starting vector,  $X_1 = \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix}$ . **(10 points)**



**Problem 4:** Solve the following integer problem.

$$\max_x 7x_1 + 9x_2$$

*subject to*

$$-2x_1 + 6x_2 \leq 12$$

$$7x_1 + x_2 \leq 35$$

$$x_1^2 \leq 40$$

$$x_2 \leq 5$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0$$

$$x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$$

- (1) True or False: 1. This problem can be solved using simplex method. 2. This problem can be solved using graphic method. **(3 points)**
- (2) Formulate a relaxed continuous linear programming problem and solve it using Karush-Kuhn-Tucker method. **(8 points)**
- (3) Use branch and bound method to solve the integer optimization problem. **(6 points)**

**Problem 5:** You have installed a wind turbine at the University of Texas at Dallas. In the next 36 hours, it can be operated for only 4 hours 30 minutes (4.5 hours). The turbine can be switched on and off twice over the concerned 36 hours (i.e., it can be operated only twice). It cannot be operated when *the chance of precipitation* ( $C$ ) is 50% or more. The power generated ( $P$ ) by the turbine in watts depends on the wind speed ( $U$ ), as given by

$$P = 3.0 \times U^3$$

The energy generated ( $E$ ) over a period of  $T$  minutes can be estimated as:

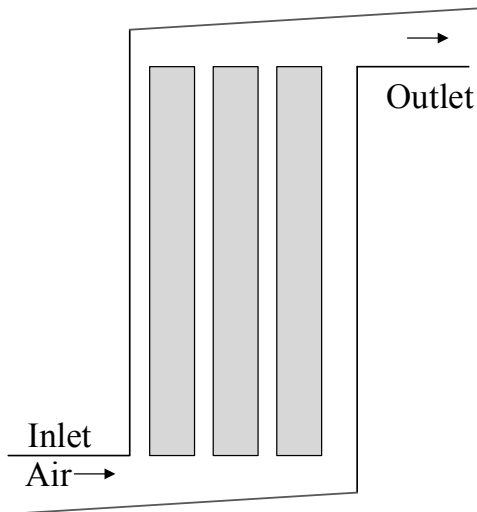
$$E = \sum_{i=1}^T P_i \times 60$$

where  $P_i$  is the power generated by the turbine in the  $i^{th}$  minute.

- (1) Model the variations of wind speed ( $U$ ) and chance of precipitation ( $C$ ) with time ( $T$ ) over the concerned 36 hours, using a surrogate model or response surface. You may use a quadratic or cubic polynomial function for this purpose. Please only write the formulation (**don't solve**). (4 points)
- (2) Formulate and model (don't solve) an optimization problem to maximize the total energy produced ( $E_T$ ) by the turbine over the next 36 hours, starting from a point of data recording. The design variables are the two starting times,  $T_{T1}$  and  $T_{T2}$ , and the two stopping times,  $T_{P1}$  and  $T_{P2}$ . All four design variables are to be expressed in minutes. (4 points)
- (3) What is the type of the optimization problem in Part (2), i.e., linear programming, non-linear programming, mix-integer programming, etc.? List **2 optimization algorithms** (Hint: not Matlab solvers) that can solve this type of optimization problem and explain the efficiency and advantages/disadvantages of each algorithm. (6 points)

**Problem 6:** you are assigned with a task to optimize a 2D cooling flow field, as shown in the below figure. The colored components can be regarded as isotropic homogeneity solid material with a uniform heat generation rate (Hint: the colored component is a heat source and the component itself has a same temperature). Your task is to minimize **the temperature differences** among the three components. Based on your understanding of this course, please provide your solutions for this task.

- What are the parameters you think that could be considered for optimization? You can rename the parameters and label them on the figure. **(5 points)**
- Please formulate the objective function (you can label or rename the temperature or other physical parameters if necessary). To establish the objective function, what approaches do you think are suitable for this problem? (Hint: how to form the mathematical objective function (analytically or numerically)? You only need to list one of them. If you need to use data-oriented method, for data collections, you can consider performing physical experiment or simulations.) **(4 points)**
- Based on the idea you proposed in part (b), please briefly discuss the major steps you would like to perform for this structural optimization. (Hint: this is an open question, try to recall how you did for your course project. Please only list the major steps). **(4 points)**



The cooling air flow rate, the sizes of the colored components, and the component heat generation rate are fixed.