Optimum Design: Numerical Solution Process and Excel Solver

Section 6.5 Excel Solver for Unconstrained Optimization Problems

6.1

Solve the following problem using Excel Solver (choose any reasonable starting point):

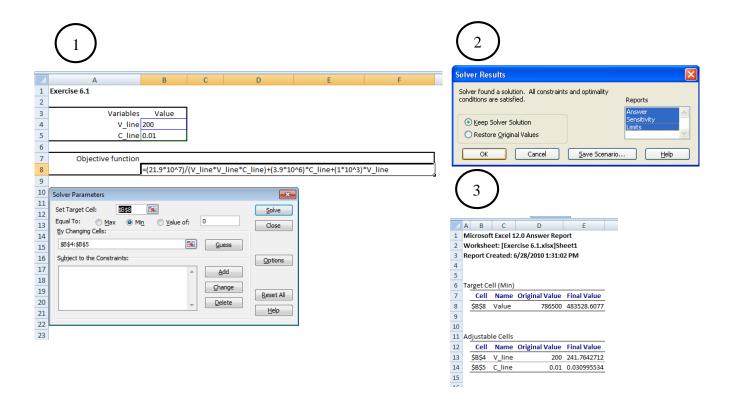
Exercise 4.32

The annual operating cost U for an electrical line system is given by the following expression

$$U = \frac{(21.9E + 07)}{V^2C} + (3.9E + 06)C + (1.0E + 03)V$$

where V=line voltage in kilovolts and C=line conductance in ohms. Find stationary points for the function, and determine V and C to minimize the operating cost.

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. Variables V and C have been renamed V_line and C_line respectively. The objective function and variables are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. In the options dialog box, conjugate gradient method and forward finite difference were selected. However, Newton method and/or central difference could have been selected instead. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of V_line=200 and C_line=0.01, a solution of V_line=241.8 and C_line=0.0310, which gives an objective function value of -483,528.61, is obtained.



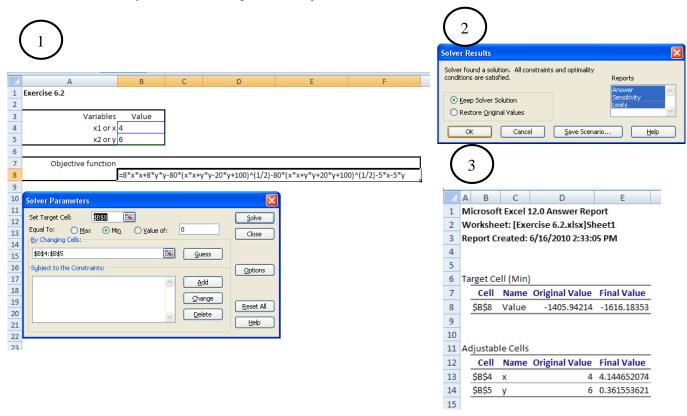
6.2 -

Solve the following problem using Excel Solver (choose any reasonable starting point):

Exercise 4.39

$$f(x_1, x_2) = 8x_1^2 + 8x_2^2 - 80\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 20x_2 + 100} - 80\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + 20x_2 + 100} - 5x_1 - 5x_2$$

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. Variables x1 and x2 have been renamed x and y respectively. The objective function and variables are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. In the options dialog box, conjugate gradient method and forward finite difference were selected. However, Newton method and/or central difference could have been selected instead. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of x=4 and y=6, a solution of x=4.15 and y=0.362, which gives an objective function value of -1616.2, is obtained.

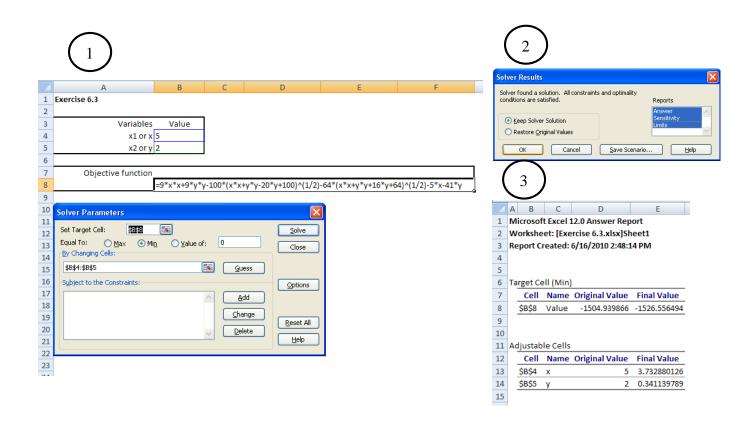


6.3 Solve the following problem using Excel Solver (choose any reasonable starting point):

Exercise 4.40

$$f(x_1, x_2) = 9x_1^2 + 9x_2^2 - 100\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 20x_2 + 100} - 64\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + 16x_2 + 64} - 5x_1 - 41x_2$$

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. Variables x1 and x2 have been renamed x and y respectively. The objective function and variables are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. In the options dialog box, conjugate gradient method and forward finite difference were selected. However, Newton method and/or central difference could have been selected instead. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of x=5 and y=2, a solution of x=3.73 and y=0.341, which gives an objective function value of -1526.6, is obtained.

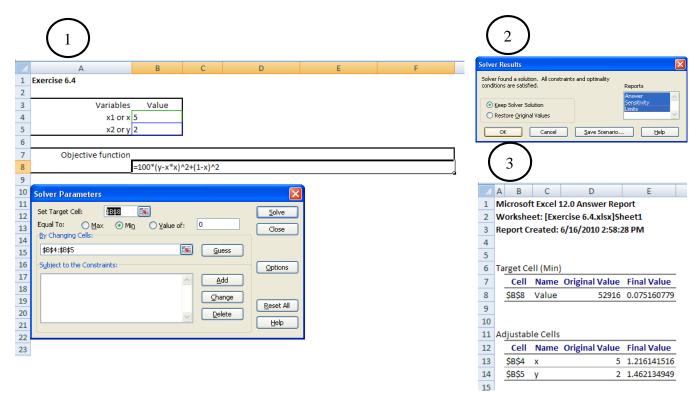


Solve the following problem using Excel Solver (choose any reasonable starting point):

Exercise 4.41

$$f(x_1, x_2) = 100(x_2 - x_1^2)^2 + (1 - x_1)^2$$

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. Variables x1 and x2 have been renamed x and y respectively. The objective function and variables are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. In the options dialog box, conjugate gradient method and forward finite difference were selected. However, Newton method and/or central difference could have been selected instead. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of x=5 and y=2, a solution of x=1.216 and y=1.462, which gives an objective function value of 0.0752, is obtained.



Solve the following problem using Excel Solver (choose any reasonable starting point):

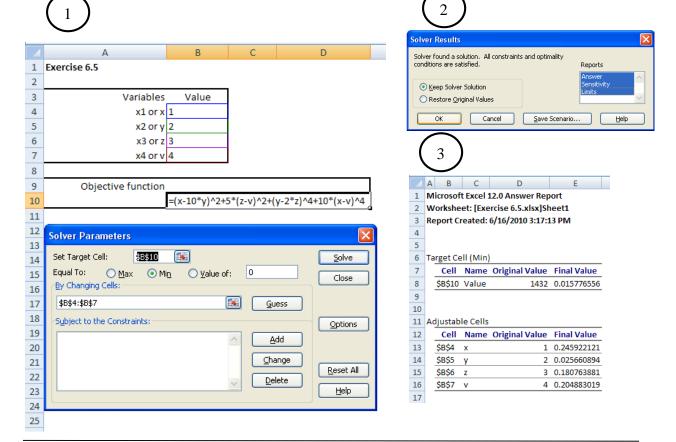
Exercise 4.42

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = (x_1 - 10x_2)^2 + 5(x_3 - x_4)^2 + (x_2 - 2x_3)^4 + 10(x_1 - x_4)^4$$

Solution

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. Variables x1, x2, x3, and x4 have been renamed x, y, z, and v respectively. The objective function and variables are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. In the options dialog box, conjugate gradient method and forward finite difference were selected. However, Newton method and/or central difference could have been selected instead. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.

(3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of x=1, y=2, z=3, and v=4, a solution of x=0.246, y=0.0257, z=0.1808, and v=0.205which gives an objective function value of _0.01578, is obtained.



Section 6.6 Excel Solver for Linear Programming Problems

Solve the following LP problems using Excel Solver:

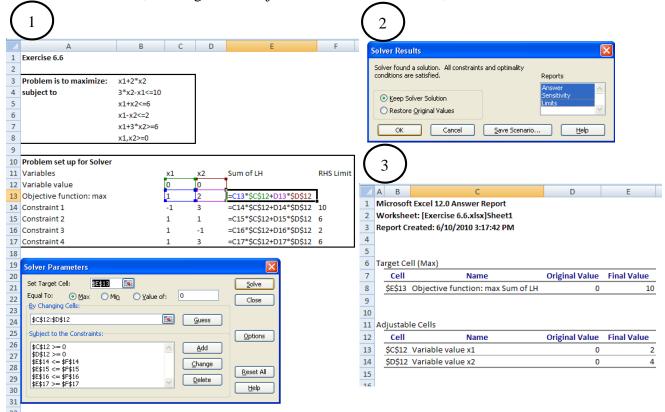
6.6

Solve the following LP problem using the Excel Solver:

Maximize
$$z = x_1 + 2x_2$$

subject to $-x_1 + 3x_2 \le 10$
 $x_1 + x_2 \le 6$
 $x_1 - x_2 \le 2$
 $x_1 + 3x_2 \ge 6$
 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of x1=0 and x2=0, a solution of x1=2 and x2=4, which gives an objective function value of 10, is obtained.

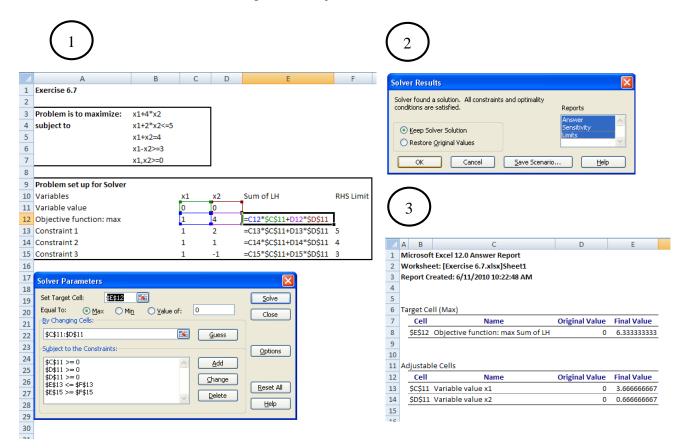


Solve the following LP problem using the Excel Solver:

Maximize
$$z = x_1 + 4x_2$$

subject to $x_1 + 2x_2 \le 5$
 $x_1 + x_2 = 4$
 $x_1 - x_2 \ge 3$
 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of x1=0 and x2=0, a solution of x1=3.67 and x2=0.667, which gives an objective function value of 6.33, is obtained.

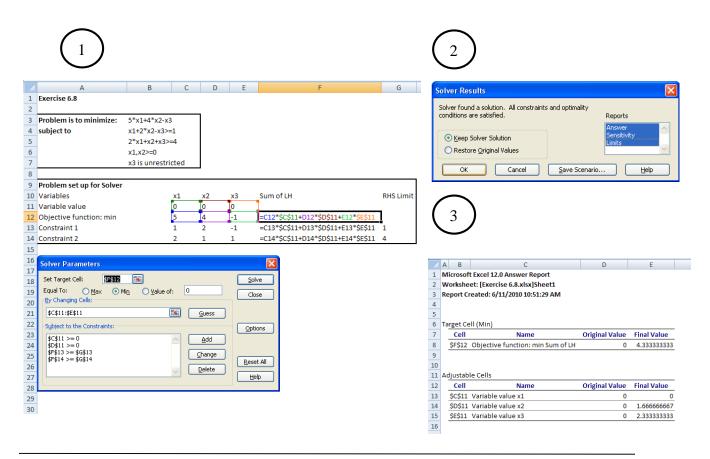


Solve the following LP problem using the Excel Solver:

Minimize
$$f = 5x_1 + 4x_2 - x_3$$

subject to $x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 \ge 1$
 $2x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \ge 4$
 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$; x_3 is unrestricted in sign

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of x1=0, x2=0, and x3=0, a solution of x1=0, x2=1.67, and x3=2.33, which gives an objective function value of 4.33, is obtained.

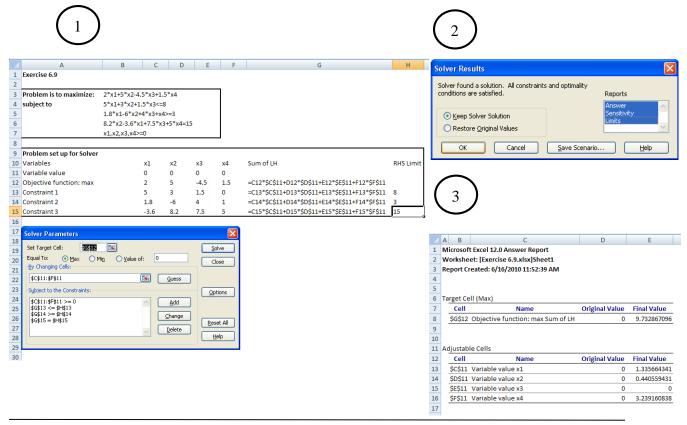


Solve the following LP problem using the Excel Solver:

Maximize
$$z = 2x_1 + 5x_2 - 4.5x_3 + 1.5x_4$$

subject to $5x_1 + 3x_2 + 1.5x_3 \le 8$
 $1.8x_1 - 6x_2 + 4x_3 + x_4 \ge 3$
 $-3.6x_1 + 8.2x_2 + 7.5x_3 + 5x_4 = 15$
 $x_i \ge 0$; $i = 1$ to 4

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of x1=0, x2=0, x3=0, and x4=0, a solution of x1=1.34, x2=0.441, x3=0, and x4=3.24, which gives an objective function value of 9.73, is obtained.



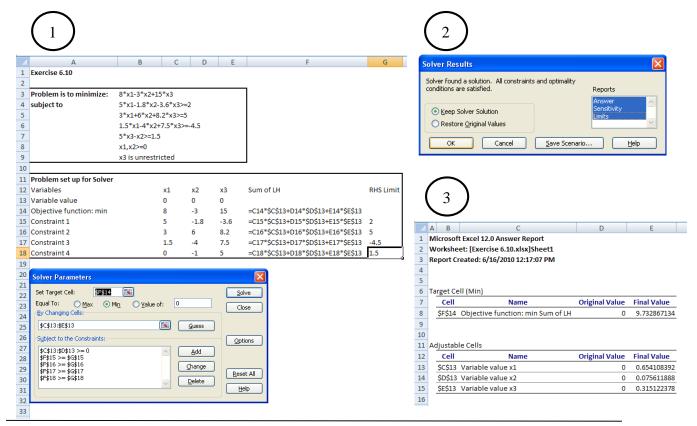
6.10 -

Solve the following LP problem using the Excel Solver:

Minimize
$$f = 8x - 3x_2 + 15x_3$$

subject to $5x_1 - 1.8x_2 - 3.6x_3 \ge 2$
 $3x_1 + 6x_2 + 8.2x_3 \ge 5$
 $1.5x_1 - 4x_2 + 7.5x_3 \ge -4.5$
 $-x_2 + 5x_3 \ge 1.5$
 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$; x_3 is unrestricted in sign

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of x1=0, x2=0, and x3=0, a solution of x1=0.654, x2=0.0756, and x3=0.315, which gives an objective function value of 9.73, is obtained.



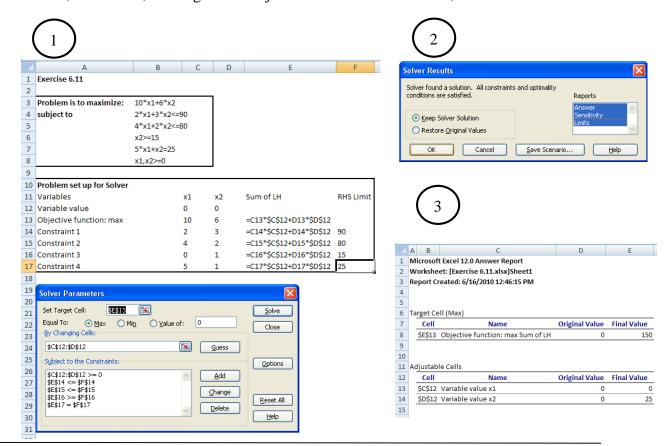
6.11 -

Solve the following LP problem using the Excel Solver:

Maximize
$$z = 10x_1 + 6x_2$$

subject to $2x_1 + 3x_2 \le 90$
 $4x_1 + 2x_2 \le 80$
 $x_2 \ge 15$
 $5x_1 + x_2 = 25$
 $x_1, x_2 \ge 0$

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of x1=0, and x2=0, a solution of x1=0, and x2=25, which gives an objective function value of 150, is obtained.



Section 6.7 Excel Solver for Nonlinear Programming

Solve the following problems using Excel Solver:

6.12 -

Solve the following NLP problem using the Excel Solver:

Exercise 3.35 (Exercise 3.34 using inner and outer diameter as design variables) Design a hollow torsion rod shown in Fig.E3.34 to satisfy the following requirements (created by J.M. Trummel):

- 1. The calculated shear stress, au , shall not exceed the allowable shear stress au_a under the normal operation torque T_o (N·m).
- 2. The calculated angle of twist, θ , shall not exceed the allowable twist, θ_a (radians).
- 3. The member shall not buckle under a short duration torque of T_{max} (N·m).

Requirements for the rod and material properties are given in Table E3.34(A) and E3.34(B) (select a material for one rod). Use the following design variables:

 x_1 = outside diameter of the shaft; x_2 = ratio of inside/outside diameter, d_i/d_o .

Using graphical optimization, determine the inside and outside diameters for a minimum mass rod to meet the above design requirements. Compare the hollow rod with an equivalent solid rod $(d_i/d_0 = 0)$. Use consistent set of units (e.g. Newtons and millimeters) and let the minimum and maximum values for design variables be given as

$$0.02 \le d_o \le 0.5 \,\mathrm{m}, \ 0.60 \le \frac{d_i}{d_o} \le 0.999$$

Useful expressions for the rod are:

Mass of rod:

Calculated shear stress:

Calculated angle of twist:

Critical buckling torque:

$$M = \frac{\pi}{4} \rho l(d_o^2 - d_i^2), kg$$

$$\tau = \frac{c}{J} T_o, Pa$$

 $\theta = \frac{l}{GI}T_o, radians$

$$T_{cr} = \frac{\pi d_o^3 E}{12\sqrt{2}(1-\nu^2)^{0.75}} (1 - \frac{d_i}{d_o})^{2.5}$$
, N. m

Notation

M = mass of the rod (kg),

 d_o = outside diameter of the rod (m),

 d_i = inside diameter of the rod (m),

 $\rho = \text{mass density of material (kg/m}^3),$

l = length of the rod (m),

 T_0 = Normal operation torque (N · m),

c = Distance from rod axis to extreme fiber (m),

J = Polar moment of inertia (m⁴),

 θ = Angle of twist (radians),

G = Modulus of rigidity (Pa),

 T_{cr} = Critical buckling torque (N · m),

E = Modulus of elasticity (Pa), and

 ν = Poisson's ratio.

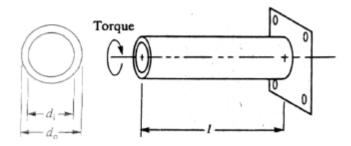


FIGURE E3-34 Hollow torsion rod.

TABLE E3-34(A) Rod Requirements

	() 1			
Torsion rod number	Length, l (m)	Normal torque, T_0 (kN·m)	Max. torque, T_{max} (kN · m)	Allowable twist, θ_a (degrees)
1	0.50	10.0	20.0	2
2	0.75	15.0	25.0	2
3	1.00	20.0	30.0	2

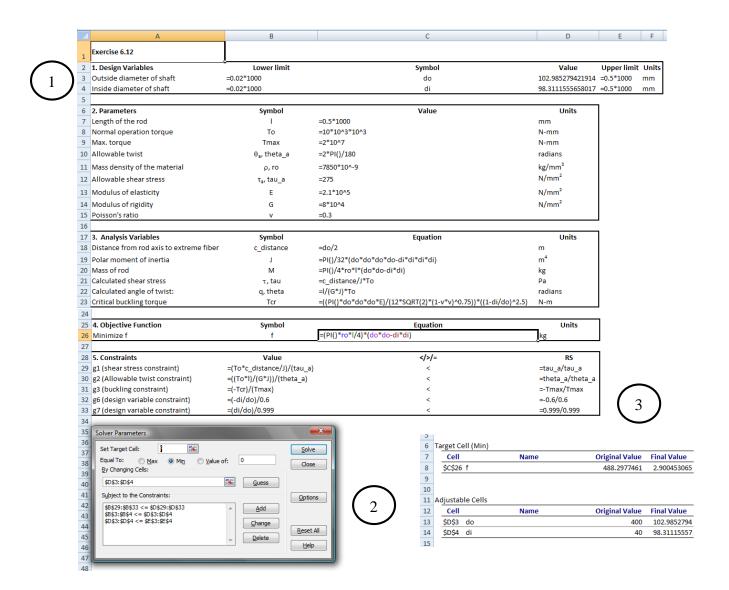
TABLE E3-34(B) Materials and Properties for the Torsion Rod

Material	Density, ρ (kg/m ³),	Allowable Shear stress, τ_a (MPa)	Elastic modulus, E (GPa)	Shear modulus, G (GPa)	Poisson's ratio (v)
1. 4140 alloy steel	7850	275	210	80	0.30
2. Aluminum alloy 24 ST4	2750	165	75	28	0.32
3. Magnesium alloy A261	1800	90	45	16	0.35
4. Berylium	1850	110	300	147	0.02
5. Titanium	4500	165	110	42	0.30

Solution

(1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.

- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of do=400 and di=40 a solution of do=103.0 and di=98.3 which gives an objective function value of 2.90, is obtained.



6.13 -

Solve the following NLP problem using the Excel Solver:

Exercise 3.50

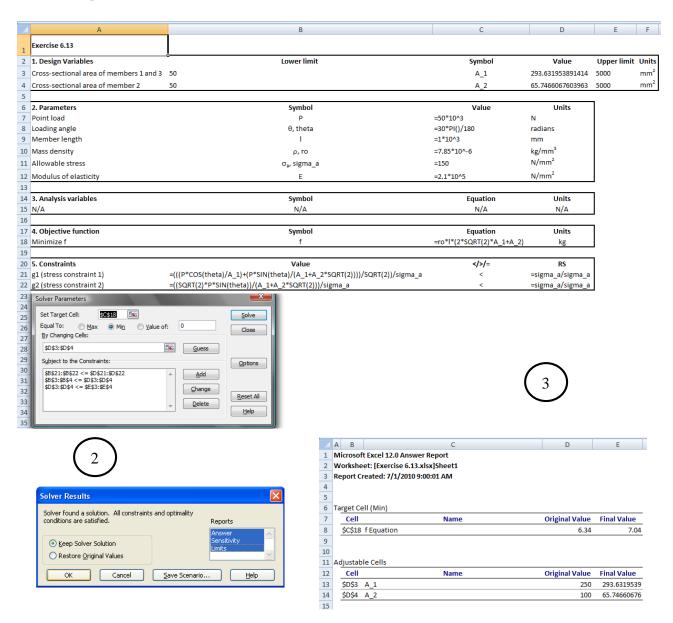
A minimum mass structure (area of member 1 is the same as member 3) three-bar truss is to be designed to support a load P as shown in Fig. 2.9. The following notation may be used: $P_u = P \cos\theta$, $P_v = P \sin\theta$, $A_I = \cos$ s-sectional area of members 1 and 3, $A_2 = \cos$ s-sectional area of member 2.

The members must not fail under the stress, and deflection at node 4 must not exceed 2cm in either direction. Use Newtons and millimeters as units. The data is given as P = 50 kN; $\theta = 30^{\circ}$; mass density, $\rho = 7850$ kg/m³; modulus of elasticity, E = 210 GPa; allowable stress, $\sigma_a = 150$ MPa. The design variables must also satisfy the constraints $50 \le A_i \le 5000$ mm².

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of A_1=250 and A_2=100 a solution of A_1=294 and A_2=65.8 which gives an objective function value of 7.04, is obtained.

Continued.





6.14 -

Solve the following NLP problem using the Excel Solver:

Exercise 3.51

Design of a water tower support column. As a member of the ABC consulting Engineers you have been asked to design a cantilever cylindrical support column of minimum mass for a new water tank. The tank itself has already been designed in the tear-drop shape shown in Fig. E3.51. The height of the base of the tank (H), the diameter of the tank (D), and wind pressure on the tank (W) are given as H = 30 m, D = 10 m, and W = 700 N/m². Formulate the design optimization problem and solve it graphically. (created by G.Baenziger).

In addition to designing for combined axial and bending stresses and buckling, several limitations have been placed on the design. The support column must have an inside diameter of at least $0.70 \, \text{m}$ (d_i) to allow for piping and ladder access to the interior of the tank. To prevent local buckling of the column walls the diameter/thickness ratio (d₀/t) shall not be greater than 92. The large mass of water and steel makes deflections critical as they add to the bending moment. The deflection effects as well as an assumed construction eccentricity (e) of 10 cm must be accounted for in the design process. Deflection at C.G. of the tank should not be greater than Δ .

Limits on the inner radius and wall thickness are $0.35 \le R \le 2.0$ m and $1.0 \le t \le 20$ cm.

Pertinent constraints and formulas

Height of water tank,
Allowable deflection,
Unit weight of water,
Unit weight of steel,
Modulus of elasticity,
Moment of inertia of the column,

$$\Delta = 20 \text{ cm}$$

$$\gamma_w = 10 \text{ kN/m}^3$$

$$\gamma_s = 80 \text{ kN/m}^3$$

$$E = 210 \text{ GPa}$$

h = 10 m

$$I = \frac{\pi}{64} [d_o^4 - (d_o - 2t)^4]$$

$$A = \pi t (d_o - t)$$

$$\sigma_b = 165 \text{ MPa}$$

$$\sigma_a = \frac{12\pi^2 E}{92(H/r)^2} \text{ (calculated using the critical)}$$

buckling load with factor of safety of $\frac{12}{12}$

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{I}{A}}$$
$$t_t = 1.5 \text{ cm}$$

$$t_t = 1.5 \text{ cm}$$
$$V = 1.2\pi D^2 h$$

$$A_s = 1.25\pi D^2$$

$$A_p = \frac{2Dh}{3}$$

$$P = V\gamma_w + A_s t_t \gamma_s$$

Lateral load at the tank C.G due to wind pressure,

Deflection at C.G. of tank,

$$\delta = \delta_1 + \delta_2, \text{where}$$

$$\delta_1 = \frac{WH^2}{12EI}(4H + 3h)$$

$$\delta_2 = \frac{H}{2EI}(0.5Wh + Pe)(H + h)$$

 $W = wA_n$

Moment at base, Bending stress,

Axial stress,

Combined stress constraint,

Gravitational acceleration,

$$M = W(H + 0.5h) + (\delta + e)P$$

$$f_b = \frac{M}{2I}d_o$$

$$f_a = (P/A) = \frac{V\gamma_w + A_s t_t \gamma_s}{\pi t(d_o - t)}$$

$$\frac{f_a}{\sigma_a} + \frac{f_b}{\sigma_b} \le 1$$

$$g = 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2$$

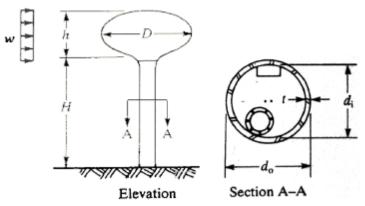
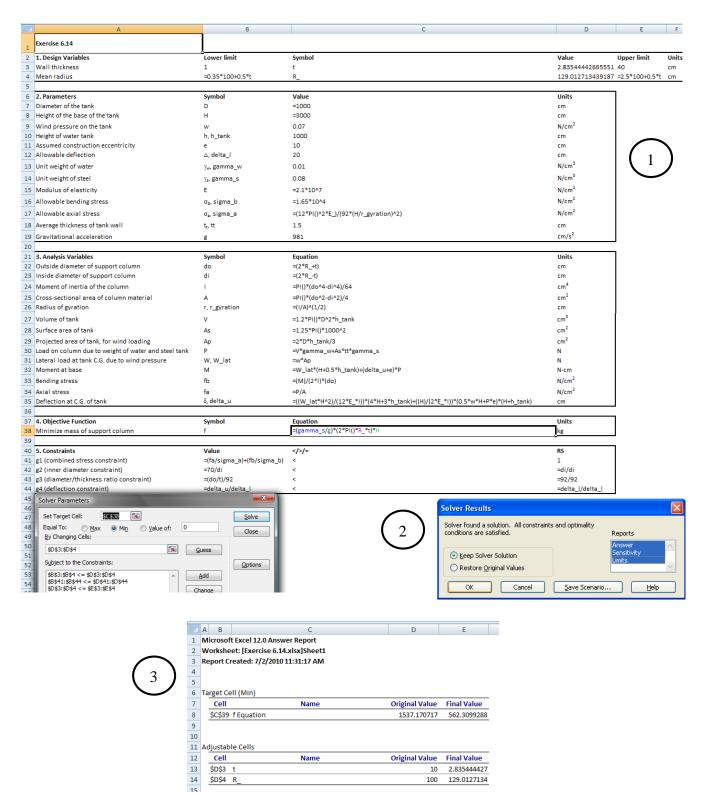


FIGURE E3.51 Water Tower support column.

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of t=10 and R_=100 a solution of t=2.84 and R_=129.0 which gives an objective function value of 562, is obtained.

6.14 -

Continued.



6.15 -

Solve the following NLP problem using the Excel Solver:

Exercise 3.54

Design of a tripod. Design a minimum mass tripod of height H to support a vertical load W = 60 kN. The tripod bas is an equilateral triangle with sides B = 1200 mm. The struts have a solid circular cross section of diameter D (Fig. E3.54).

The axial stress in the struts must not exceed the allowable stress in compression, and axial load in the strut P must not exceed the critical buckling load P_{cr} divided by a safety factor FS = 2. Use consistent units of Newtons and centimeters. The minimum and maximum values for design variables are $0.5 \le H \le 5m$ and $0.5 \le D \le 50$ cm. Material properties and other relationship are given below:

Material: aluminum alloy 2014-T6

Allowable compressive stress,

Young's modulus,

Mass density,

Strut length,

Critical buckling load,

Moment of inertia,

Strut load,

FIGURE E3.54 A tripod.

$$\sigma_a = 150 \text{MPa}$$

$$E = 75 \text{ GPa}$$

$$\rho = 2800 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

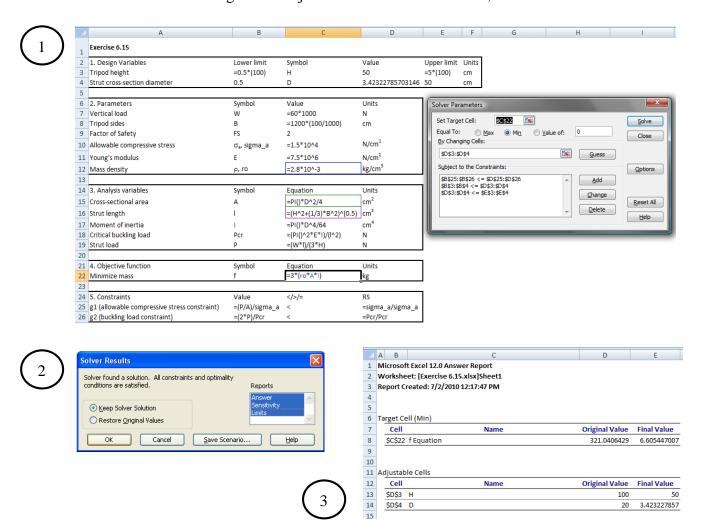
$$l = (H^2 + \frac{1}{3}B^2)^{0.5}$$

$$P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{l^2}$$

$$I = \frac{\pi}{64}D^4$$

$$P = \frac{Wl}{3H}$$

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of H=100 and D=20 a solution of H=50 and D=3.42 which gives an objective function value of 6.61, is obtained.



6.16 -

Solve the following NLP problem using the Excel Solver:

Solve the spring design problem for the following data: Applied load (P) = 20 lb.

TABLE 2.2 Information to design a coil spring

Data
δ, in
D, in
d, in
N
$g = 386 \text{ in/s}^2$
ω, Hz
$\gamma = 0.285 \text{ lb/in}^3$
$G = (1.15*10^7) \text{ lb/in}^2$
$\rho = (7.38342*10^{-4}) \text{ lb-s}^2/\text{in}^4$
$\tau_a = 80,000 \text{ lb/in}^2$
Q = 2
P = 20 lb
$\Delta = 0.5 \text{ in}$
$\omega_o = 100 \text{ Hz}$
$D_o = 1.5 \text{ in}$

Load deflection equation:

$$P = K\delta$$

$$K = \frac{d^4G}{8D^3N}$$

$$\tau = \frac{8kPD}{\pi d^3}$$

$$k = \frac{(4D-d)}{4(D-d)} + \frac{0.615d}{D}$$

$$\varpi = \frac{d}{2\pi N D^2} \sqrt{\frac{G}{2\rho}}$$

Design variables for the problem are defined as below:

d = wire diameter, in

D = mean coil diameter, in

N = number of active coils, integer

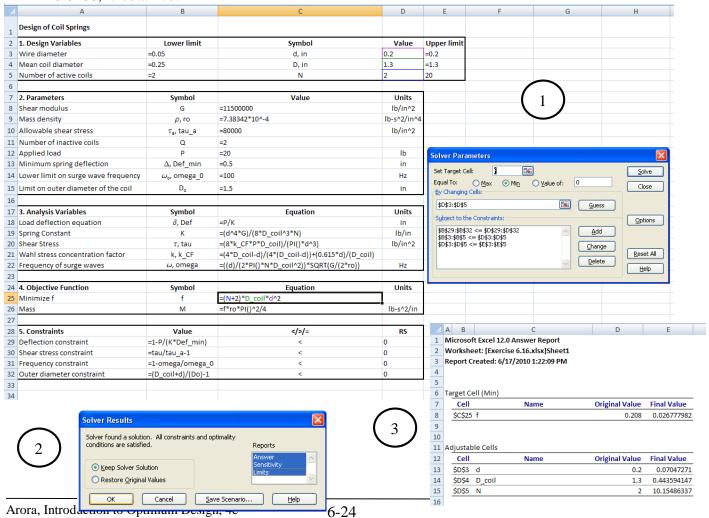
The problem to minimize the mass of the spring, given as volume*mass density is:

Mass =
$$(\frac{\pi d^2}{4})[(N+Q)\pi D]\rho = \frac{\pi d^2(N+Q)\pi D\rho}{4}$$

The constraints for the spring design problem are formulated as

$$\frac{P}{K} \ge \Delta , \ \tau \le \tau_a \ , \ \omega \ge \omega_0 \ , \ D+d \le D_0 \ , \ d_{\min} \le d \le d_{\max} \ , \ D_{\min} \le D \le D_{\max} \ , \ N_{\min} \le N \le N_{\max}$$

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of d=0.2, D_coil=1.3, and N=2 a solution of d=0.0705, D_coil=0.444, and N=10.16 which gives an objective function value of 0.0268, is obtained.



6.17 -

Solve the following NLP problem using the Excel Solver:

Solve the spring design problem for the following data: Number of active coils (N) = 20, limit on outer diameter of the coil $(D_0) = 1$ in, number of inactive coils (Q) = 4.

TABLE 2.2 Information to design a coil spring

Notation	Data T G
Deflection along spring axis	δ, in
Mean Coil Diameter	D, in
Wire Diameter	d, in
Number of active coils	N
Gravitational constant	$g = 386 \text{ in/s}^2$
Frequency of surge waves	ω, Hz
Weight Density of spring material	$\gamma = 0.285 \text{ lb/in}^3$
Shear Modulus	$G = (1.15*10^7) \text{ lb/in}^2$
Mass density of material ($\rho = \gamma/g$)	$\rho = (7.38342*10^{-4}) \text{ lb-s}^2/\text{in}^4$
Allowable shear stress	$\tau_{\rm a} = 80,000 \; {\rm lb/in^2}$
Number of inactive coils	Q = 4
Applied load	P = 20 lb
Minimum spring deflection	$\Delta = 0.5$ in
Lower limit on surge wave frequency	$\omega_o = 100 \text{ Hz}$
Limit on outer diameter of coil	$D_o = 1$ in

Load deflection equation:

$$P = K\delta$$

Spring Constant:

$$K = \frac{d^4G}{8D^3N}$$

Shear Stress:

$$\tau = \frac{8kPD}{\pi d^3}$$

Wahl stress concentration factor:

$$k = \frac{(4D - d)}{4(D - d)} + \frac{0.615d}{D}$$

Frequency of surge waves:

$$\varpi = \frac{d}{2\pi ND^2} \sqrt{\frac{G}{2\rho}}$$

Design variables for the problem are defined as below:

d = wire diameter, in

D = mean coil diameter, in

N = number of active coils, integer

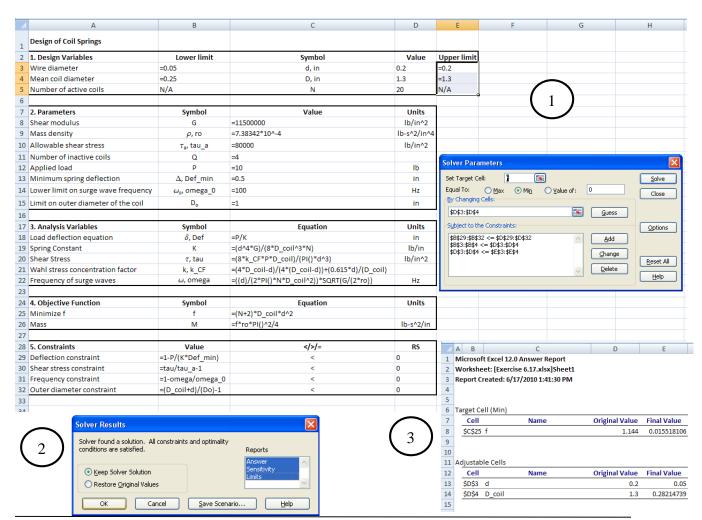
The problem to minimize the mass of the spring, given as volume*mass density is:

Mass =
$$(\frac{\pi d^2}{4})[(N+Q)\pi D]\rho = \frac{\pi d^2(N+Q)\pi D\rho}{4}$$

The constraints for the spring design problem are formulated as

$$\frac{P}{K} \ge \Delta , \ \tau \le \tau_a \ , \ \omega \ge \omega_0 \ , \ D+d \le D_0 \ , \ d_{\min} \le d \le d_{\max} \ , \ D_{\min} \le D \le D_{\max} \ , \ N_{\min} \le N \le N_{\max}$$

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of d=0.2 and D_coil=1.3 a solution of d=0.05 and D_coil=0.282 which gives an objective function value of 0.0155, is obtained.



6.18 -

Solve the following NLP problem using the Excel Solver:

Solve the spring design problem for the following data: Aluminum coil with shear modulus (G) = 4,000,000 psi, mass density (ρ) = 2.58920×10^{-4} lb-s²/in⁴, and allowable shear stress (τ_a) = 50,000 lb/in².

TABLE 2.2 Information to design a coil spring

TABLE 2.2 Information (o design a con spring
Notation	Data
Deflection along spring axis	δ, in
Mean Coil Diameter	D, in
Wire Diameter	d, in
Number of active coils	N
Gravitational constant	$g = 386 \text{ in/s}^2$
Frequency of surge waves	ω, Hz
Weight Density of spring material	$\gamma = 0.285 \text{ lb/in}^3$
Shear Modulus	$G = (4*10^6) \text{ lb/in}^2$
Mass density of material $(\rho = \gamma/g)$	$\rho = 2.58920 \times 10^{-4} lb - s^2 / in^4$
Allowable shear stress	$\tau_a = 50,000 \text{ lb/in}^2$
Number of inactive coils	Q=2
Applied load	P = 20 lb
Minimum spring deflection	$\Delta = 0.5$ in
Lower limit on surge wave frequency	$\omega_{\rm o} = 100 \; {\rm Hz}$
Limit on outer diameter of coil	$D_o = 1.5 \text{ in}$

Load deflection equation:

$$P = K\delta$$

Spring Constant:

$$K = \frac{d^4G}{8D^3N}$$

Shear Stress:

$$\tau = \frac{8kPD}{\pi d^3}$$

Wahl stress concentration factor:

$$k = \frac{(4D-d)}{4(D-d)} + \frac{0.615d}{D}$$

Frequency of surge waves:

$$\varpi = \frac{d}{2\pi N D^2} \sqrt{\frac{G}{2\rho}}$$

Design variables for the problem are defined as below:

d = wire diameter, in

D = mean coil diameter, in

N = number of active coils, integer

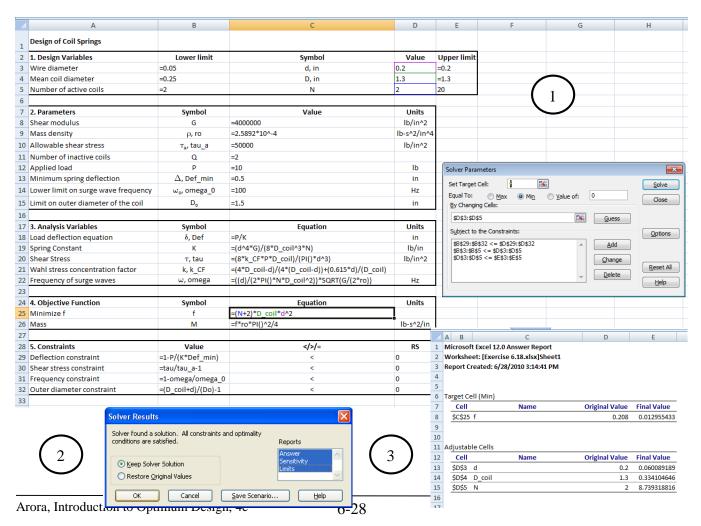
The problem function to minimize the mass of the spring, given as volume*mass density is:

Mass =
$$(\frac{\pi d^2}{4})[(N+Q)\pi D]\rho = \frac{\pi d^2(N+Q)\pi D\rho}{4}$$

The constraints for the spring design problem are formulated as

$$\frac{P}{K} \ge \Delta , \ \tau \le \tau_a \ , \ \omega \ge \omega_0 \ , \ D+d \le D_0 \ , \ d_{\min} \le d \le d_{\max} \ , \ D_{\min} \le D \le D_{\max} \ , \ N_{\min} \le N \le N_{\max}$$

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of d=0.2, D_coil=1.3, and N=2 a solution of d=0.0601, D_coil=0.334, and N=8.74 which gives an objective function value of 0.0130, is obtained.



Section 6.8 Optimum Design of Plate Girders Using Excel Solver

Solve the following problems using Excel Solver:

6.19 —

Solve the following problem using the Excel Solver:

Solve the plate girder design problem for the following data: Span length (L) = 35 ft.

TABLE E6-19

TABLE EU 17		
Notation	Data	
L	span, 25 m	
E	modulus of elasticity, 210 GPa	
σ_{y}	yield stress, 262 MPa	
σ_a	allowable bending stress, $0.55 \sigma_y = 144.1 \text{ MPa}$	
τ_a	allowable shear stress, $0.33 \sigma_y = 86.46 \text{ MPa}$	
σ_{t}	allowable fatigue stress 255 MPa	
Da	allowable deflection, L/800, m	
$P_{\rm m}$	concentrated load for moment, 104 kN	
P_s	concentrated load for shear, 155 kN	
LLIF	live load impact factor, 1+50/(L+125)	

Cross-sectional area:

$$A = (ht_w + 2bt_f)$$

Moment of inertia: $I = \frac{t_w h^3}{12} + \frac{2bt_f^3}{3} + \frac{bt_f h(h+2t_f)}{2}$

Uniform load for the girder: w = (19 + 77A)

Bending moment: $M = \frac{L(2P_m + wL)}{8}$

Bending Stress: $\sigma = \frac{M(0.5h + t_f)}{1000I}$

Flange buckling stress limit: $\sigma_f = 72,845 \left[\frac{t_w}{b}\right]^2$

Web crippling stress limit: $\sigma_w = 3,648,276 \left[\frac{t_w}{h}\right]^2$

Shear force: $S = 0.5(P_s + wL)$

Deflection: $D = \frac{L^3 (8P_m + 5wL)}{384 * 10^6 (EI)}$

Average shear stress: $\tau = \frac{S}{1000ht_w}$

Objective function to minimize the material volume of the girder is defined as:

$$Vol = AL = (ht_w + 2bt_f)L$$

Design variables for the plate girder optimization problem are defined as:

h = web height, m

b = flange weight, m

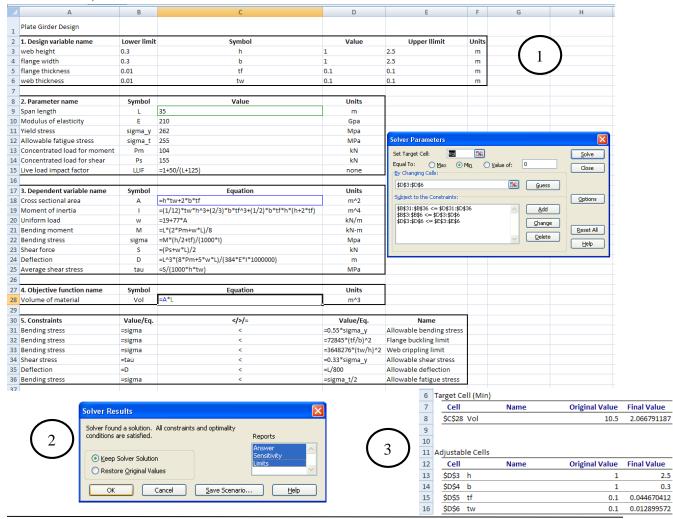
 t_f = flange thickness, m t_w = web thickness, m

The constraints for the spring design problem are formulated as

$$\sigma \leq \sigma_a, \sigma \leq \sigma_f, \sigma \leq \sigma_w, \tau \leq \tau_a, D \leq D_a, \sigma \leq \frac{\sigma_t}{2},$$

$$0.3 \leq h \leq 2.5, 0.3 \leq b \leq 2.5, 0.01 \leq t_f \leq 0.1, 0.01 \leq t_w \leq 0.1$$

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of h=1, b=1, tf=0.1, and tw=0.1 a solution of h=2.5, b=0.3, tf=0.045, and tw=0.013, which gives an objective function value of 2.067, is obtained.



6.20 -

Solve the following problem using the Excel Solver:

Solve the plate girder design problem for the following data: A36 steel with modulus of elasticity (E) = 200 GPa, yield stress (sigma_y) = 250 MPa, allowable fatigue stress (sigma_t) = 243 Mpa.

TABLE E6-20

1110000 20		
Notation	Data	
L	span, 25 m	
Е	modulus of elasticity, 200 GPa	
σ_{y}	yield stress, 250 MPa	
σ_a	allowable bending stress, $0.55 \sigma_y = 144.1 \text{ MPa}$	
τ_a	allowable shear stress, $0.33 \sigma_y = 86.46 \text{ MPa}$	
σ_{t}	allowable fatigue stress 243 MPa	
D_a	allowable deflection, L/800, m	
P_{m}	concentrated load for moment, 104 kN	
P_s	concentrated load for shear, 155 kN	
LLIF	live load impact factor, 1+50/(L+125)	

Cross-sectional area:

$$A = (ht_w + 2bt_f)$$

Moment of inertia:
$$I = \frac{t_w h^3}{12} + \frac{2bt_f^3}{3} + \frac{bt_f h(h+2t_f)}{2}$$

Uniform load for the girder: w = (19 + 77A)

Bending moment:
$$M = \frac{L(2P_m + wL)}{8}$$

Bending Stress:
$$\sigma = \frac{M(0.5h + t_f)}{1000I}$$

Flange buckling stress limit:
$$\sigma_f = 72,845 \left[\frac{t_w}{b}\right]^2$$

Web crippling stress limit:
$$\sigma_w = 3,648,276 \left[\frac{t_w}{h}\right]^2$$

Shear force:
$$S = 0.5(P_s + wL)$$

Deflection:
$$D = \frac{L^3 (8P_m + 5wL)}{384 * 10^6 (EI)}$$

Average shear stress:
$$\tau = \frac{S}{1000ht_{\text{m}}}$$

Objective function to minimize the material volume of the girder is defined as:

$$Vol = AL = (ht_w + 2bt_f)L$$

Design variables for the plate girder optimization problem are defined as:

h = web height, m

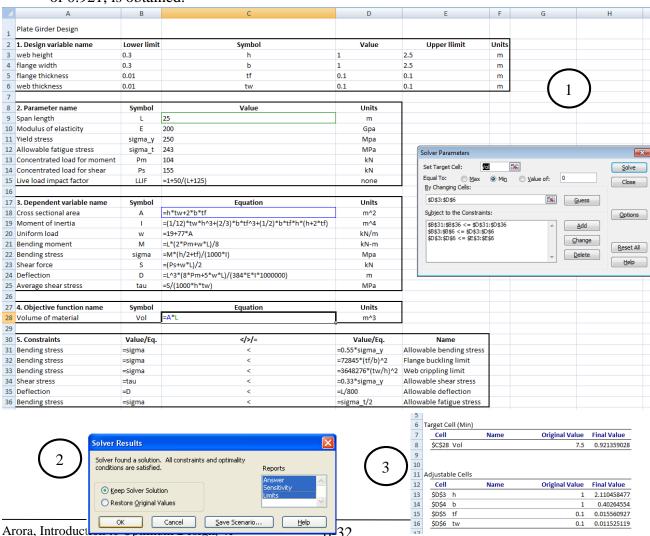
b = flange weight, m

 t_f = flange thickness, m t_w = web thickness, m

The constraints for the spring design problem are formulated as

$$\sigma \le \sigma_a$$
, $\sigma \le \sigma_f$, $\sigma \le \sigma_w$, $\tau \le \tau_a$, $D \le D_a$, $\sigma \le \frac{\sigma_t}{2}$, $0.3 \le h \le 2.5$, $0.3 \le b \le 2.5$, $0.01 \le t_f \le 0.1$, $0.01 \le t_w \le 0.1$

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of h=1, b=1, tf=0.1, and tw=0.1 a solution of h=2.11, b=0.403, tf=0.0156, and tw=0.0115, which gives an objective function value of 0.921, is obtained.



6.21 -

Solve the following problem using the Excel Solver:

Solve the plate girder design problem for the following data: Web height (h) = 1.5 m, flange thickness (tf) = 0.015 m.

TABLE E6-21

Notation	Data
L	span, 25 m
E	modulus of elasticity, 200 GPa
σ_{y}	yield stress, 250 MPa
σ_a	allowable bending stress, 0.55 $\sigma_y = 144.1 \text{ MPa}$
$ au_{ m a}$	allowable shear stress, $0.33 \sigma_y = 86.46 \text{ MPa}$
σ_{t}	allowable fatigue stress 243 MPa
D_a	allowable deflection, L/800, m
P_{m}	concentrated load for momemt, 104 kN
P_s	concentrated load for shear, 155 kN
LLIF	live load impact factor, 1+50/(L+125)

Cross-sectional area:

$$A = (ht_w + 2bt_f)$$

Moment of inertia: $I = \frac{t_w h^3}{12} + \frac{2bt_f^3}{3} + \frac{bt_f h(h+2t_f)}{2}$

Uniform load for the girder: w = (19 + 77A)

Bending moment: $M = \frac{L(2P_m + wL)}{8}$

Bending Stress: $\sigma = \frac{M(0.5h + t_f)}{1000I}$

Flange buckling stress limit: $\sigma_f = 72,845 \left[\frac{t_w}{b}\right]^2$

Web crippling stress limit: $\sigma_w = 3,648,276 \left[\frac{t_w}{h}\right]^2$

Shear force: $S = 0.5(P_c + wL)$

Deflection: $D = \frac{L^{3} (8P_{m} + 5wL)}{384 * 10^{6} (EI)}$

Average shear stress: $\tau = \frac{S}{1000ht_{w}}$

Objective function to minimize the material volume of the girder is defined as:

$$Vol = AL = (ht_w + 2bt_f)L$$

Design variables for the plate girder optimization problem are defined as:

h = web height, m

b = flange weight, m

 t_f = flange thickness, m

 t_w = web thickness, m

The constraints for the spring design problem are formulated as

$$\begin{split} \sigma &\leq \sigma_a \text{ , } \sigma \leq \sigma_f \text{ , } \sigma \leq \sigma_w \text{ , } \tau \leq \tau_a \text{ , } D \leq D_a \text{ , } \sigma \leq \frac{\sigma_t}{2} \text{ ,} \\ 0.3 &\leq h \leq 2.5 \text{ , } 0.3 \leq b \leq 2.5 \text{ , } 0.01 \leq t_f \leq 0.1 \text{ , } 0.01 \leq t_w \leq 0.1 \end{split}$$

- (1) One possible format for setting up the Excel worksheet for this problem is shown below. The objective function, variables, and constraints are input into the Solver Parameters dialog box as shown. Once the problem is defined, click "Solve" to solve the problem and to bring up the Solver Results dialog box.
- (2) Choose "Keep Solver Solution" in the Solver Results dialog box, highlight "Answers, Sensitivity, and Limits" under Reports, and click "OK" to obtain the solution.
- (3) The answer report shows that for initial design variable values of b=1 and tw=0.1 a solution of b=0.4503 and tw=0.0675, which gives an objective function value of 2.87, is obtained.

