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# An inverse model and mathematical solution for inferring viscoelastic properties and dynamic deformations of heterogeneous structures

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## ABSTRACT

We proposed an adjoint-based inverse method and mathematical solutions using Lagrange multiplier theorem for inferring dynamic viscoelastic properties of heterogeneous structures to improve computation reliability and efficiency. Existing methods such as the one using finite-difference approximated gradient may not be efficient and accurate enough for considering complex situations of the coupled effects of dynamic loading, material deformation memory, and structural heterogeneity. The proposed method derives both gradient and Hessian mathematically to satisfy the first-order necessary and second-order sufficient optimal conditions, which has great advantages compared to other approaches. We also proposed robust numerical algorithms for accurate and fast computations, including a regularization to control reasonable parameter ranges, a Newton's method with Hessian function to determine search direction for fast convenience, and a modified Armijo rule to find a stable step length. We developed a Galerkin time-domain finite-element method for numerical solutions of resulting partial differential equations, and validated the model for a layered structure. Results indicate that the proposed method has greatly improved computation accuracy and speed as compared to existing approaches. It may be applied to a broad range of heterogeneous materials and structures at different length and time scales.

**Key words:** Viscoelastic material, optimization, finite elements, dynamics, structures

### Nomenclature

$\mathbf{u}$ : displacement

$u$ : displacement discretized at nodes

$\hat{\mathbf{u}}$ : variation of  $\mathbf{u}$

$\tilde{\mathbf{u}}$ : incremental variation of  $\mathbf{u}$

$\mathbf{p}$ : test function or Lagrangian multiplier

$p$ : joint discretized at nodes

$\hat{\mathbf{p}}$ : differential of  $\mathbf{p}$

$\tilde{\mathbf{p}}$ : Incremental variation of  $\mathbf{p}$

$\mathbf{m}$ : material model parameter

$m$ : material parameter vector discretized at nodes

$\mathbf{m}^*$ : pre-defined material model parameter

$\hat{\mathbf{m}}$ : variation of  $\mathbf{m}$

$\tilde{\mathbf{m}}$ : incremental variation of  $\mathbf{m}$

$E(t)$ : relaxation modulus

$E^*(f)$ : dynamic modulus

$E_i$ : elastic modulus of springs of Maxwell model

$\eta_i$ : viscosity of dashpots of Maxwell model

$E$ : Young's modulus

$\mathbf{R}$ : relaxation modulus matrix

$\mathcal{L}$ : lagrangian

$\mathbf{g}$ : gradient,  $\mathbf{g} = \partial \mathcal{L} / \partial \mathbf{m}$

$\mathbf{H}$ : hessian,  $\mathbf{H} = \partial^2 \mathcal{L} / \partial \mathbf{m}^2$

$H$ : hessian discretized at nodes

$f$ : loading

$b$ : body force

$\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ : stress tensor

$\mathbf{M}$ : mass matrix;

$\mathbf{C}$ : damping matrix

$\boldsymbol{\Phi}$ : shape function matrix

$\mathbf{B}$ : strain-displacement matrix,  $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \boldsymbol{\Phi}$

$\nabla$ : gradient,  $\nabla = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} i + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} j + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} k$

$\nabla \cdot$ : divergence,  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{f} = \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_2} + \frac{\partial f_3}{\partial x_3}$

$\forall$ : for all

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