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Progress towards robust divertor and exhaust scenario optimization with SOLPS-ITER

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This work has been carried out within the framework of the EUROfusion Consortium, funded by the European Union via the Euratom Research and Training Programme (Grant Agreement No 101052200 — EUROfusion). Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Commission. Neither the European Union nor the European Commission can be held responsible for them.



Role of edge codes in divertor design challenge

Large number of design variables (divertor shape, coil currents,...)

Complex, timeconsuming models; uncertain parameters

Physics, material, and engineering constraints

How can we most efficiently exploit the knowledge in the edge codes, and find the 'best', 'robust' designs?

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Plasma edge codes as optimization tools



• **Objective functional** to be minimized:

$$J(\phi, \mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbf{t}} \left(\mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{o}} - \mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{d}} \right)^2 d\sigma$$

- ϕ : control variable (shape, coil currents,...)
- q : 'state' variables (density, temperature,...)
- + constraint: model eqs. must be satisfied+ possibly additional constraints
- Solve with gradient-based approach
 - Adjoint sensitivities: cost independent of number of design variables
 - One-shot optimization: solve design problem during convergence of the state problem

Divertor shape optimization for downsized ITER

[W. Dekeyser et al., Nucl. Fusion **54** (2014) 073022.]



- Downsized ITER F57 (40%)
- $n_c = 3.10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$
- Q = 3 MW
- Pumping speed 130 m³ s⁻¹



Magnetic field optimization for WEST

[M. Blommaert et al., J. Nucl. Mater. 463 (2015) 1220.]



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6

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Efficient gradient calculation

- Finite differences (FD):
 - cost proportional to number of inputs
 - truncation error; step size?
- Adjoint equations:
 - cost independent of number of inputs
 - o implementation in continuously developing code?

\rightarrow Algorithmic (a.k.a. Automatic) Differentiation (AD)

- Exact to floating point
- Cost independent of number of inputs

18/11/2021

AD workflow and advantages

[S. Carli, EUROfusion ERG & FWO - Flanders.]

SOLPS-ITER = a code to evaluate J = y(x), *m* outputs, *n* inputs

AD tool (TAPENADE – INRIA) will

- 1. Analyze code
- 2. Identify elementary operations
- 3. Writes new code with derivative of elementary operations (chain rule)

Two AD modes:

Tangent AD

- Repeat for each input
- Verified in SOLPS-ITER [Carli *et al* 2019 *NME* 18]



Adjoint AD

- Independent of input dimension
- Recompute vs store issue
- Verified in SOLPS-ITER

Parameter estimation through optimization with SOLPS-ITER

- Control variables: unknown/uncertain input parameters
 - E.g. anomalous transport coefficients or RANS model parameters
- Introduce cost function as indicator of goodness-of-fit
 - Nonlinear regression [Coster et al. CTPP 40 (2000)]

 $J(\phi, q) = \frac{1}{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \omega_q \left(\frac{1}{\overline{D}^2} (\boldsymbol{q} - D)^2 \right) d\Omega$

• Robust Bayesian MAP estimation

$$\min_{\phi} -\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{D}|\phi)\pi(\phi)$$



$$(\mathcal{D}|\phi) = \prod_{i=1}^{N_{\mathcal{D}}} \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\frac{\epsilon_i^2}{\sigma^2}\right)$$

- Consistent integration of data from various diagnostics!
- Minimize cost function with gradient-based optimization
 - Coupling to external optimization libraries (PETSC/TAO, IPOPT)

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Bayesian MAP verification

[S. Carli et al., CPP 62 (2021) e202100184.]

- Fictitious experimental data from known SOLPS solution
- Can we reproduce density profile and estimate uncertainty?



Application to real TCV case

- Advanced fluid neutrals, pure D
- Optimized constant anomalous transport and core density BC



Towards optimal divertor design with SOLPS-ITER





- **Optimize the vertex coordinates** (*x*, *y*) by solving an optimization problem
- Cost function based on the desired grid metrics: no manual tuning required!
- Good for simulation: better grid → more accurate results & faster convergence
- Needed for optimization: automated, robust, and fast adaptation of the grids to the changing design!



Preliminary results – ADC SX



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Derivates in presence of statistical noise?

- Finite difference sensitivities
 - **Cost** scales with number of design variables
 - Correlated random numbers to reduce variance

 $Var(X_1 - X_2) = Var(X_1) + Var(X_2) - 2Cov(X_1, X_2)$

- Some decorrelation hard/impossible to avoid in practice
- Discontinuous adjoint ≈ backwards Algorithmic Differentiation -
 - Cost independent of number of design variables
 - Exact correlation with forward simulation
 - Full forward neutral distribution not needed



Optimization in presence of statistical noise

[Dekeyser et al., Contrib. Plasma Phys. 58 (2018) 643-651.]



Summary and challenges

- Optimization-based design has the potential to find the 'best' solutions in complex applications
 - 'Best' as defined by a metric, i.e. the cost function
 - Exceeding what can be achieved through 'engineering best practice'?
- Algorithmic Differentiation provides an answer to sensitivity computation in large edge codes, and is robust w.r.t. statistical noise
- Strategies to integrate this optimization into complex workflows exist, but remain to be fully developed for the divertor design case
- Towards robust design: robust cost functional formulations to include parametric uncertainty directly in the design stage

Questions towards DEMO

- What are the most critical design criteria (i.e. *cost functionals*)?
 - Power?
 - Steady state or transient?
 - Operational scenario?
- What are the dominant constraints?
- Can we quantify the model uncertainty? Robust design?

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Thank you! Questions?



Plasma edge codes as analysis tools



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solid lines: total load, conv. + cond. + surf. recomb. dashed lines: conv. + cond.

Optimization in presence of statistical noise







"Optimization of divertor fluxes" in 1D:

$$\min_{L_{\theta},\mathbf{q}} \quad J(L_{\theta},\mathbf{q}) = \frac{\lambda}{2} (\Gamma - \Gamma_{\mathrm{d}})^{2}|_{\mathrm{t}} + \frac{\lambda_{0}}{2} (L_{\theta} - L_{0})^{2}$$

s.t. $A(L_{\theta},\mathbf{q}) = S$

Grid deformation

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