

Midterm 2017

Problems from Midterm 2017

ME 256 at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru

Variational Methods and Structural Optimization

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Outline of the lecture

Three problems and their solutions from the midterm examination of 2017.

What we will learn:

How to apply the concepts and ideas learned so far to solve problems in calculus of variations.

Midterm question paper

Question 1 (7 marks)

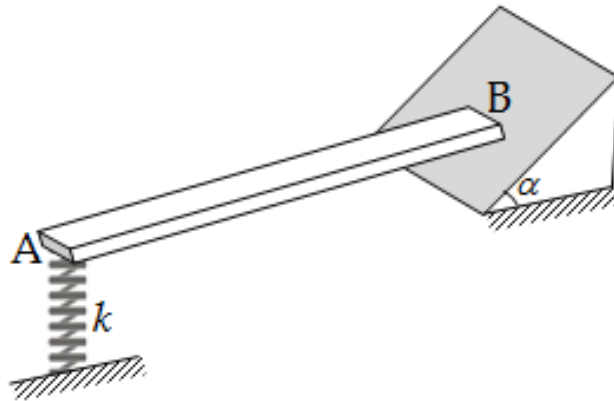
Find the Gâteaux variation of the following functional.

$$J = \left\{ \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \{ f^2(x) \operatorname{inv}(f(x)) \} dx \right\}$$

$$\text{Note: } \{ \operatorname{inv}(f(x)) \}' = \frac{1}{f'(\operatorname{inv}(f(x)))}$$

Question 2 (8 marks)

Write the boundary conditions at A and B for the beam shown in the figure.



Question 3 (10 marks)

Find the functional, which when extremized, would give the differential equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} = c \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t}$$

Question 1 (7 marks)

Find the Gâteaux variation of the following functional.

$$J = \left\{ \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \{ f^2(x) \operatorname{inv}(f(x)) \} dx \right\}$$

Solution to problem 1

Question 1 (7 marks)

Find the Gâteaux variation of the following functional.

$$J = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \{ f(x)^2 \operatorname{inv}(f(x)) \} dx$$

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Begin with the definition of Gateaux variation:

$$\delta_{f(x)} J = \frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} \left(\int_{x_1}^{x_2} \left[\{ f(x) + \varepsilon h(x) \}^2 \operatorname{inv}(f(x) + \varepsilon h(x)) \right] dx \right) \Bigg|_{\varepsilon=0}$$

Interchange the order of differentiation and integration.

$$\delta_{f(x)} J = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} \left[\{ f(x) + \varepsilon h(x) \}^2 \operatorname{inv}(f(x) + \varepsilon h(x)) \right] dx \Bigg|_{\varepsilon=0}$$

Solution to Problem 1 (contd.)

$$\delta_{f(x)} J = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} \left[\{f(x) + \varepsilon h(x)\}^2 \operatorname{inv}(f(x) + \varepsilon h(x)) \right] dx \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} \quad \text{Product rule}$$
$$= \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \left[2\{f + \varepsilon h\} \operatorname{inv}(f + \varepsilon h) h + \{f + \varepsilon h\}^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} \{ \operatorname{inv}(f + \varepsilon h) \} \right] dx \Big|_{\varepsilon=0}$$


$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} \{ \operatorname{inv}(f + \varepsilon h) \} = ? \quad \text{How do we get this?}$$

$$\text{Note that } \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \{ \operatorname{inv}(g(x)) \} = \frac{1}{g'(\operatorname{inv}(g(x)))}$$

Why is this true?

Solution to Problem 1 (contd.)

$$g(\text{inv}(g(x))) = x$$

Definition of the inverse of a function.

Differentiate both sides to get

To be read as g' of $\text{inv}(g(x))$



$$g'(\text{inv}(g(x))) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \{\text{inv}(g(x))\} = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \{\text{inv}(g(x))\} = \frac{1}{g'(\text{inv}(g(x)))}$$

Similarly,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \{\text{inv}(a + g(x))\} = \frac{1}{(a + g(x))' \text{ of } (\text{inv}(a + g(x)))}$$

and

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \{\text{inv}(a + g(x) b)\} = \frac{b}{(a + g(x) b)' \text{ of } (\text{inv}(a + g(x) b))}$$

Solution to Problem 1 (contd.)

An example to understand.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \{ \text{inv}(a + \sin(x) b) \} = \frac{b}{\cos \{ \text{inv}(a + \sin(x) b) \}} = \frac{b}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{x - a}{b} \right)^2}}$$

Note that $\text{inv} \{ a + \sin(x) b \} = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{x - a}{b} \right)$ and verify the above calculation.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \{ \text{inv}(a + g(x) b) \} = \frac{b}{(a + g(x) b)' \text{ of } (\text{inv}(a + g(x) b))}$$

By following the preceding equation, we can write:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} \{ \text{inv}(f + \varepsilon h) \} = \frac{h}{(f + \varepsilon h)' \text{ of } \text{inv}(f + \varepsilon h)}$$

Solution to Problem 1

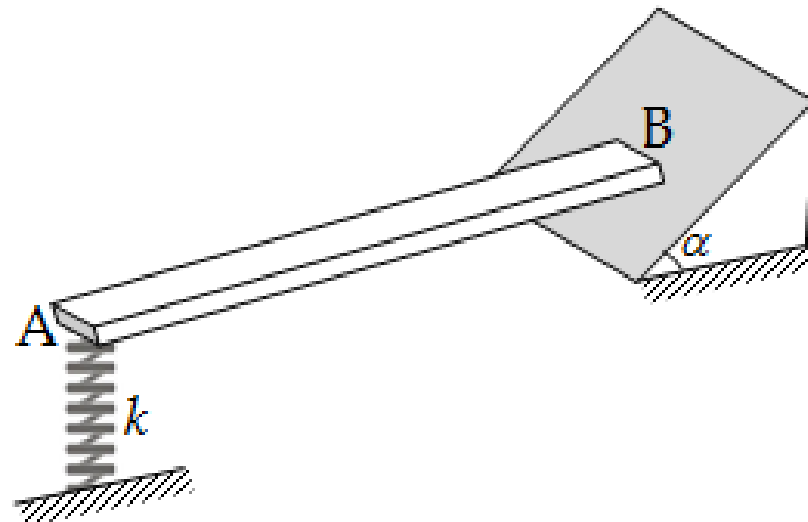
Substitute $\frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} \{inv(f + \varepsilon h)\} = \frac{h}{(f + \varepsilon h)' \text{ of } inv(f + \varepsilon h)}$

in $\delta_{f(x)} J = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \left[2\{f + \varepsilon h\} inv(f + \varepsilon h) h + \{f + \varepsilon h\}^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} \{inv(f + \varepsilon h)\} \right] dx \Big|_{\varepsilon=0}$

$$\delta_{f(x)} J = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \left[2\{f + \varepsilon h\} inv(f + \varepsilon h) h + \{f + \varepsilon h\}^2 \frac{h}{(f + \varepsilon h)' \text{ of } inv(f + \varepsilon h)} \right] dx \Big|_{\varepsilon=0}$$
$$= \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \left[2f inv(f) + \frac{f^2}{f' \text{ of } inv(f)} \right] h dx$$

Question 2 (8 marks)

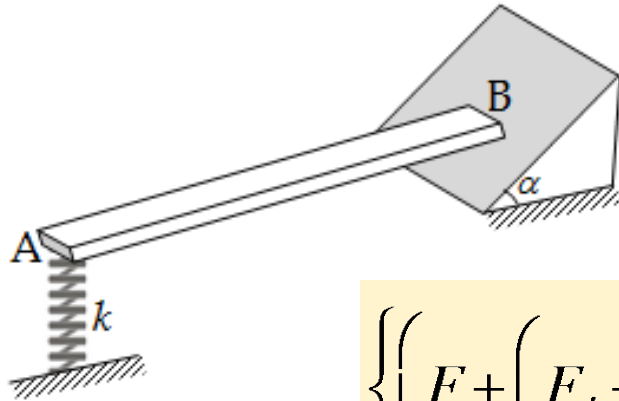
Write the boundary conditions at A and B for the beam shown in the figure.



Solution to Problem 2

Question 2 (8 marks)

Write the boundary conditions at A and B for the beam shown in the figure.



$$\left(F_{y'} - (F_{y''})' \right) \delta y \Big|_{x_1}^{x_2} = 0$$

and

$$F_{y''} \delta y' \Big|_{x_1}^{x_2} = 0$$

$$(F_{y''} \delta y') \Big|_{x_1}^{x_2} = 0$$

$$\left\{ \left(F_{y'} - (F_{y''})' \right) \delta y \right\} \Big|_{x_1}^{x_2} = 0 \text{ and}$$

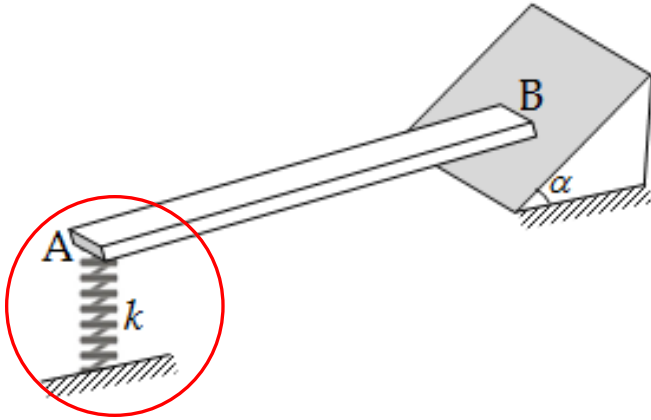
$$\left\{ \left(F - F_{y'} y' + (F_{y''})' y' - F_{y''} y'' \right) \delta x \right\} \Big|_{x_1}^{x_2} = 0$$

$$\left\{ \left(F + \left(F_{y'} - (F_{y''})' \right) (\phi' - y') + F_{y''} (\phi'' - y'') \right) \delta x \right\} \Big|_{x_1}^{x_2} = 0$$

In this problem, we minimize: (load is not considered)

$$\text{Min}_{w(x)} J = \int_0^L \left\{ \frac{1}{2} EI (w'')^2 \right\} dx + \frac{1}{2} k w_{x=0}^2$$

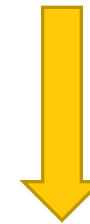
Solution to Problem 2



$$F = \frac{1}{2} EI (w'')^2$$

$$\frac{1}{2} kw_{x=0}^2$$

This term in J leads to



At A...

$$\textcircled{1} \quad -EIw'''_{x=0} + kw_{x=0} = 0 \quad \text{Shear force is equal to the spring force.}$$

and

$$\textcircled{2} \quad EIw'' \delta w' \Big|_{x=0} = 0 \Rightarrow EIw'' \Big|_{x=0} = 0$$

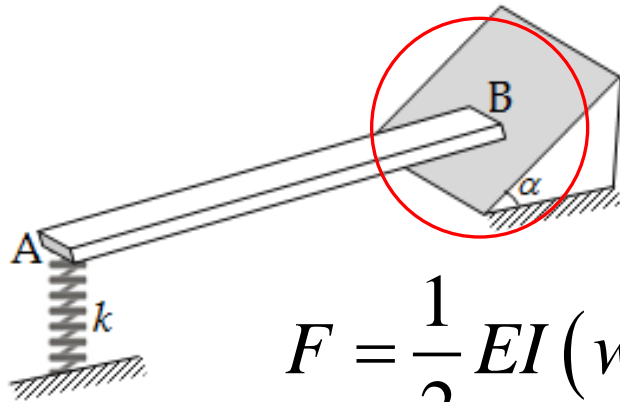
Since the slope is not specified.

$$\left(F_{y'} - (F_{y''})' \right) \delta y \Big|_{x_1}^{x_2} = 0$$

and

$$F_{y''} \delta y' \Big|_{x_1}^{x_2} = 0$$

Solution to Problem 2



$$F = \frac{1}{2} EI (w'')^2 + \frac{1}{2} k w_{x=0}^2$$

$$\left\{ \left(F + \left(F_{y'} - (F_{y''})' \right) (\phi' - y') + F_{y''} (\phi'' - y'') \right) \delta x \right\}_{x_1}^{x_2} = 0$$

At B...

$$\left\{ \left(\frac{1}{2} EI (w'')^2 - (EIw'')' (\tan \alpha - w') + EIw'' (0 - w''') \right) \right\}_L = 0 \quad 3$$

This assumes that the slope at B is not permitted to change.

So, $w'_{x=L} = 0$ (This must be specified.) 4a

If slope at B is permitted to change...

$$\delta y' = \delta w' = \phi'' \delta x$$

But here, $\phi''_{x=L} = 0$

So, we should consider:

$$\left(F_{y''} \delta y' \right)_{x_1}^{x_2} = 0$$

At B...

$$\left(EIw'' \delta w' \right)_{x=L} = 0$$

If we assume that the slope at B is allowed to change,

$$\left(EIw'' \right)_{x=L} = 0 \quad 4b$$

i.e., moment is zero.

Question 3 (10 marks)

Find the functional, which when extremized, would give the differential equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} = c \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t}.$$

Solution to Problem 3

Question 3 (10 marks)

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$$\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} = c \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} \quad \text{Given differential equation.}$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} - c \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} \right) \psi d\Omega = 0 \quad \text{Multiply by a trial function and integrate.}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \psi \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \psi \right) - \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} - c \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} \psi \right) d\Omega = 0 \quad \text{Combine and split.}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} + c \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} \psi \right) d\Omega - \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \psi \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \psi \right) \right) d\Omega = 0 \quad \text{Separate the terms.}$$

Solution to Problem 3

$$\int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} + c \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} \psi \right) d\Omega - \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \psi \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \psi \right) \right) d\Omega = 0$$

Using Divergence theorem on the second term, and equating the domain and boundary terms to zero.

$$\Rightarrow \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} + c \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} \psi \right) d\Omega = 0 \text{ and } \int_{\partial\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \psi \hat{i} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \psi \hat{j} \right) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} \, d\partial\Omega = 0$$

The term in red is asymmetric, making this differential operator non-self-adjoint.

The asymmetric term is a dissipative term. So, let us add a generative term.

$$\int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} + c \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} \psi - c \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} \phi \right) d\Omega = 0$$

Solution to Problem 3

Consider this problem (written on the basis of the last equation in the preceding slide.

$$\text{Min}_{\phi(x,y,t), \psi(x,y,t)} J = \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} + \frac{c}{2} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} \psi - \frac{c}{2} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} \phi \right) d\Omega$$

Data : c

Noting that

$$F = \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} + \frac{c}{2} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} \psi - \frac{c}{2} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} \phi \right)$$

we write two Euler-Lagrange equations.

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \phi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial \phi_x} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial \phi_y} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial \phi_t} \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \psi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial \psi_x} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial \psi_y} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial \psi_t} \right) = 0$$

Solution to Problem 3 (contd.)

$$F = \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} + \frac{c}{2} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} \psi - \frac{c}{2} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} \phi \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \phi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial \phi_x} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial \phi_y} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial \phi_t} \right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{c}{2} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{c}{2} \psi \right) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} = -c \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \psi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial \psi_x} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial \psi_y} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial \psi_t} \right) = 0$$

This is what we need:

$$\Rightarrow \frac{c}{2} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(-\frac{c}{2} \phi \right) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} = c \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t}$$

The end note

Practice problems in calculus of variations

For Gateaux variation, simply apply the operationally useful definition and follow the rules of differentiation. There is absolutely no trick involved.

For beams, we should write all four boundary conditions as you we still have a fourth-degree differential equation.

For “inverse E-L problem”, first check if the differential operator is self-adjoint (i.e., there are no asymmetric terms).

If the differential operator is not self-adjoint, it then means that there is “dissipation” in the systems. Then, try to use either an integrating factor (there is guesswork here) or a parallel generative system.

Calculus of variations is straightforward to use if you are clear about all concepts. No other tricks are needed.

Thanks