

A Harmonic Balance Approach for Designing Compliant Mechanical Systems with Nonlinear Periodic Motions

Pengbin Tang¹, Jonas Zehnder¹,
Stelian Coros², Bernhard Thomaszewski^{1,2}

Université ¹
de Montréal

²

Oscillations are Everywhere



Oscillations in Engineering



Oscillations in Engineering



Collapse of Tacoma Narrows Bridge (1940)



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tacoma_Narrows_Bridge_\(1940\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tacoma_Narrows_Bridge_(1940))₄

Large-Amplitude Oscillations in the Wild



Large-amplitude Oscillations in the Lab



[FastRunner from ihmc]

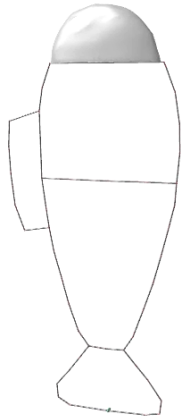


Flappy Hummingbird
[Fei et al. 2019]

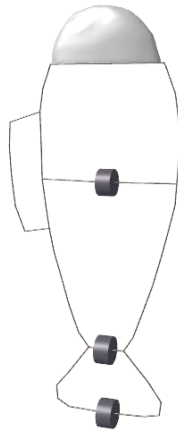


Designing for Large-Amplitude Oscillations

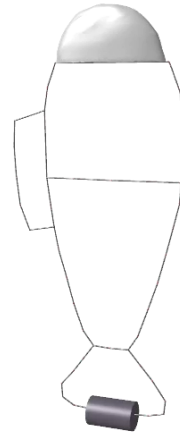
Design 1
(0g, 0g, 0g)



Design 2
(40g, 40g, 40g)

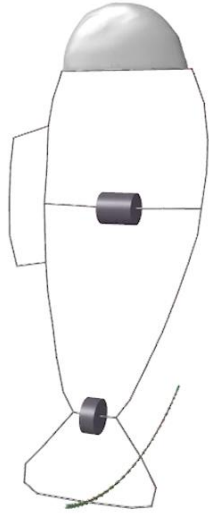


Design 3
(0g, 0g, 120g)

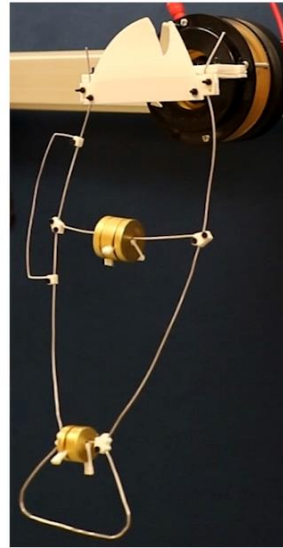


Designing for Large-Amplitude Oscillations

Optimized Design
(80g, 31.4g, 0g)



Physical Prototype



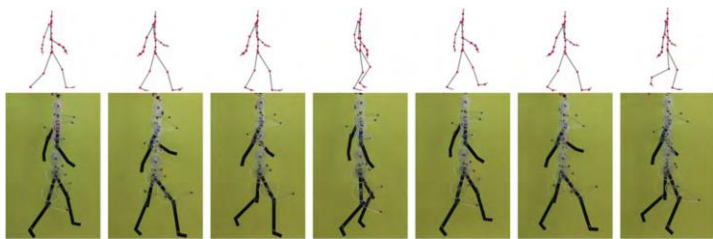
Goal

Develop a computational design tool for nonlinear mechanical systems that exhibit desired large-amplitude oscillations.

Challenges

- How to model nonlinear periodic motions?
 - Frequency-space approach based on Harmonic Balance Method (HBM)
- How do design parameters affect nonlinear periodic motion?
 - Frequency-space sensitivity analysis
- How to find design parameters that lead to desired motion?
 - Forward exploration & inverse design tools

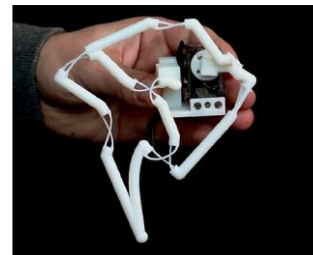
Designing Mechanical Motion



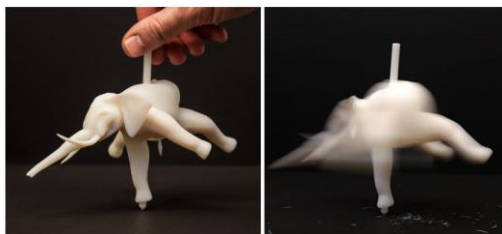
Designing and Fabricating Mechanical Automata from Mocap Sequences
[Ceylan et al. 2013]



Computational Design of Linkage-Based Characters
[Thomaszewski et al. 2014]



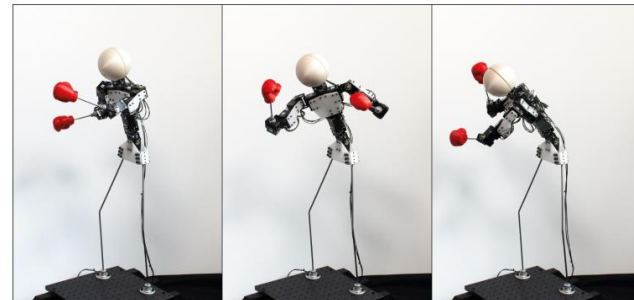
A Computational Design Tool for Compliant Mechanisms
[Megaro et al. 2017]



Spin-It: Optimizing Moment of Inertia for Spinnable Objects
[Bächer et al. 2014]

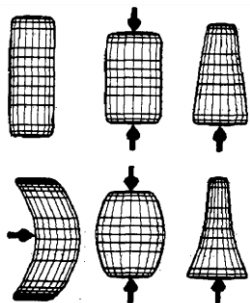


Dynamics-Aware Numerical Coarsening for Fabrication Design
[Chen et al. 2017]



Vibration-Minimizing Motion Retargeting for Robotic Characters
[Hoshyari et al. 2019]

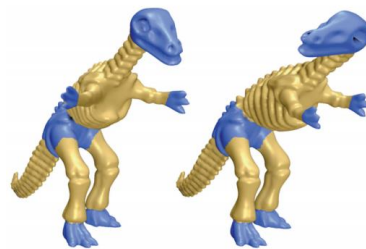
Modal Subspaces for Animation



Good vibrations: Modal dynamics for graphics and animation
[Pentland et al. 1989]



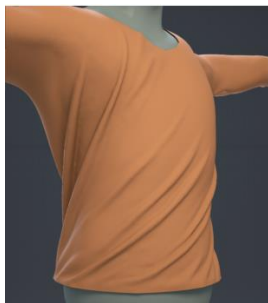
Real-Time Subspace Integration for St.Venant-Kirchhoff Deformable Models
[Barbič et al. 2005]



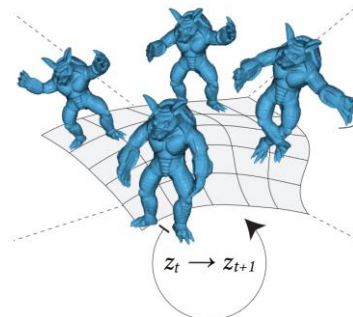
Interactive Surface Modeling Using Modal Analysis
[[Hildebrandt et al. 2011]



Subspace Dynamic Simulation Using Rotation-Strain Coordinates
[Pan et al. 2015]



Subspace Clothing Simulation Using Adaptive Bases
[Hahn et al. 2014]

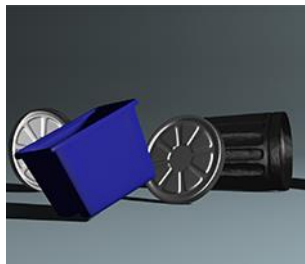


Latent-space Dynamics for Reduced Deformable Simulation
[Fulton et al. 2019]

Audible Vibrations



Toward High-Quality Modal
Contact Sound
[Zheng et al. 2011]



Harmonic shells: a practical nonlinear
sound model for near-rigid thin shell
[Chadwick et al. 2009]



Multi-scale simulation of nonlinear
thin-shell sound with wave turbulence
[Cirio et al. 2018]



Computational Design of
Metallophone Contact Sounds
[Bharaj et al. 2015]

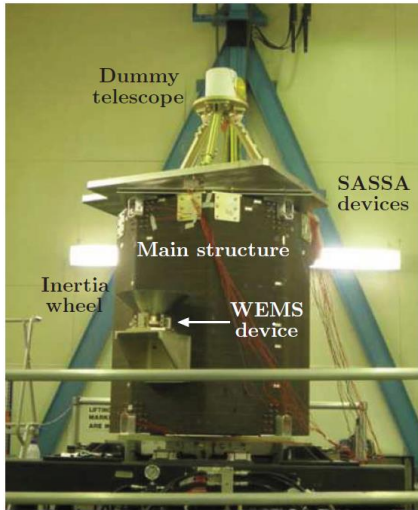


Printone: Interactive Resonance
Simulation for Free-Form Print-Wind
Instrument Design
[Umetani et al.]

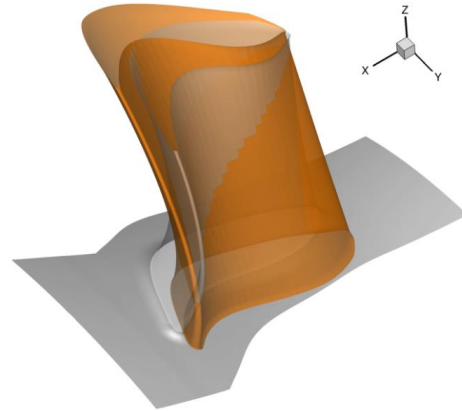


Acoustic Voxels: Computational
Optimization of Modular Acoustic Filters
[Li et al. 2016]

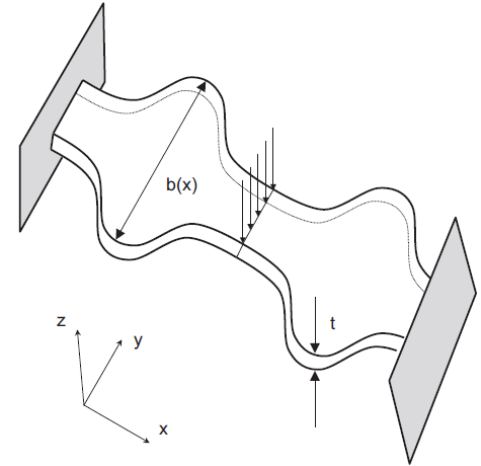
Nonlinear Vibrations in Engineering



The Harmonic Balance Method for
Advanced Analysis and Design of
Nonlinear Mechanical Systems
[Detroux et al. 2014]



Forced Response Sensitivity
Analysis Using an Adjoint
Harmonic Balance Solver
[Engels-Putzka et al. 2019]



Optimization of nonlinear structural
resonance using the incremental harmonic
balance method
[Dou and Jensen 2015]

Overview

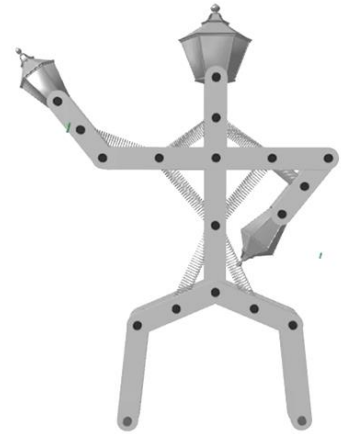
Harmonic Balance
Method (HBM)

$$\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{a}$$
$$\rightarrow$$
$$\mathbf{A}(\omega)\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{z}, \omega) = 0$$

Computational
Design

$$\frac{df}{d\mathbf{p}} = \frac{d\mathbf{z}^T}{d\mathbf{p}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{z}} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{p}}$$

Examples



Harmonic Balance Method

Equations of Motion in Time Domain

- Dynamic equilibrium equations in the time domain

$$\mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{D}\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{f}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{f}_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{x}, \omega, t) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \omega, t)$$

- Periodic solution can be expressed as Fourier series

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{c}_0^x + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\mathbf{s}_k^x \sin(k\omega t) + \mathbf{c}_k^x \cos(k\omega t))$$

- Truncation gives

$$\mathbf{x}(t) \approx \mathbf{c}_0^x + \sum_{k=1}^{N_H} (\mathbf{s}_k^x \sin(k\omega t) + \mathbf{c}_k^x \cos(k\omega t))$$

Equations of Motion in Frequency Space

- Rewrite as

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = (\mathbf{Q}(t) \otimes \mathbf{I}_n) \mathbf{z} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{f}(t) = (\mathbf{Q}(t) \otimes \mathbf{I}_n) \mathbf{b}$$

- Orthogonal trigonometric basis

$$\mathbf{Q}(t) = [1 \quad \sin(\omega t) \quad \cos(\omega t) \cdots \sin(N_H \omega t) \quad \cos(N_H \omega t)]$$

- Fourier coefficients

$$\mathbf{z} = [(\mathbf{c}_0^x)^T \quad (\mathbf{s}_1^x)^T \quad (\mathbf{s}_1^x)^T \cdots (\mathbf{s}_{N_H}^x)^T \quad (\mathbf{c}_{N_H}^x)^T] \quad \mathbf{c}_i^x, \mathbf{s}_i^x \in \mathbf{R}^{3n}$$


$$\mathbf{b} = [(\mathbf{c}_0^f)^T \quad (\mathbf{s}_1^f)^T \quad (\mathbf{s}_1^f)^T \cdots (\mathbf{s}_{N_H}^f)^T \quad (\mathbf{c}_{N_H}^f)^T] \quad \mathbf{c}_i^f, \mathbf{s}_i^f \in \mathbf{R}^{3n}$$

Equations of Motion in Frequency Space

Galerkin projection

- Insert truncated series into time-domain equations of motion
- Integrate over period
- Project onto $\mathbf{Q}(t)$ → time-dependence disappears

Equations of motion in frequency space:


$$\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{z}, \omega) \equiv \mathbf{A}(\omega)\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{z}, \omega) = 0$$

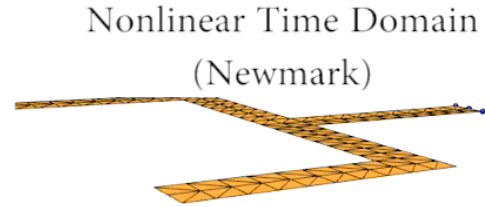
Inertia and damping
forces



Nonlinear forces



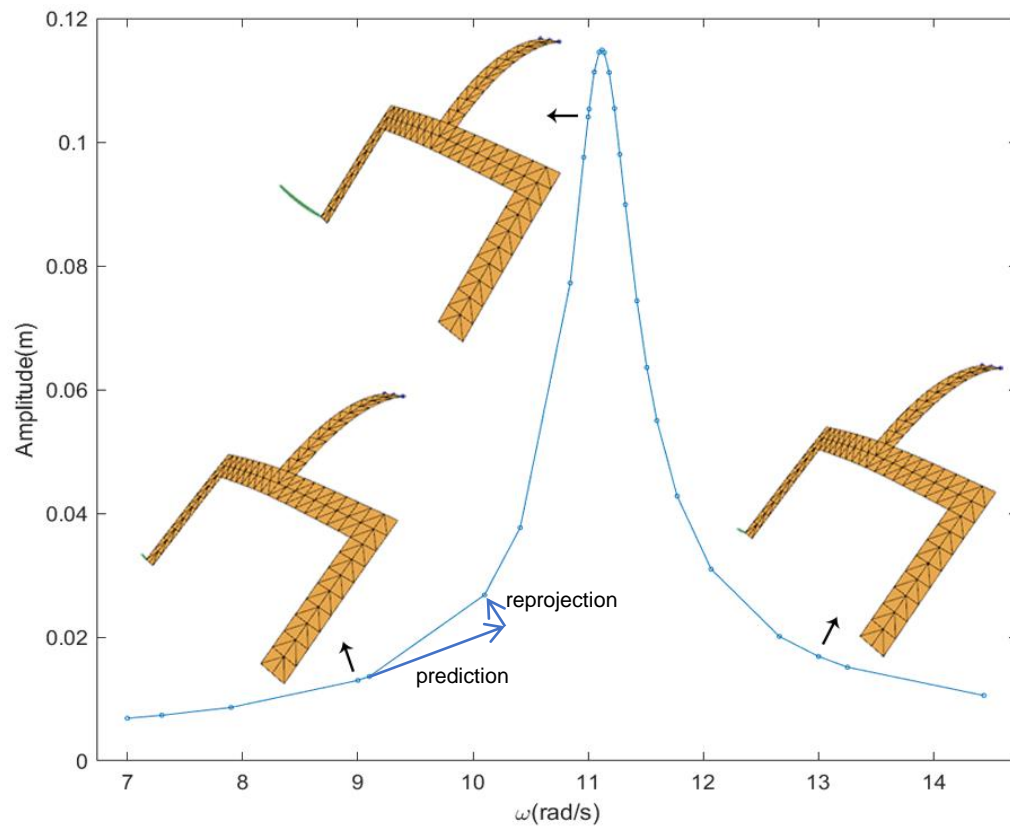
Time-Domain vs. Frequency-Domain Simulation



00:00:00:01

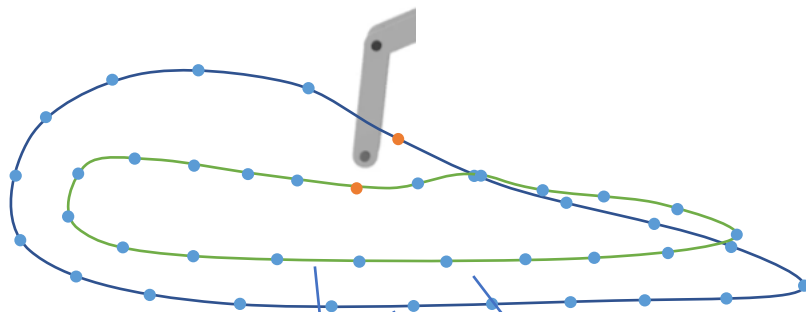
Wall-clock simulation time

Frequency Response Curves



Computational Design

Design Objectives – Trajectory



Distance between Fourier coefficients

$$f_{Dist}(\mathbf{z}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_H} \sum_{j=1}^3 ((\mathbf{s}_i^{3k+j} - \hat{\mathbf{s}}_i^j)^2 + (\mathbf{c}_i^{3k+j} - \hat{\mathbf{c}}_i^j)^2)$$

Design Objectives – Amplitude

- How do we quantify motion magnitude?

$$A_i(\mathbf{z}) = \int_0^T \|\mathbf{v}_i(t)\| dt$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \Gamma_x \mathbf{z} \quad \rightarrow \quad A_i(\mathbf{z}) = \sum_j |\mathbf{x}_i^{j+1} - \mathbf{x}_i^j|$$

- Amplitude objective

$$f_{Ampl}(\mathbf{z}) = (A_i(\mathbf{z}) - \bar{A}_i)^2$$

Design Sensitivity

- Optimal design: minimize objective function $f(\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{p}), \mathbf{p})$ wrt. \mathbf{p}
- Requires gradient

$$\frac{df}{d\mathbf{p}} = \frac{d\mathbf{z}^T}{d\mathbf{p}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{z}} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{p}}$$

- Dynamic Equilibrium

$$\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{p}, \omega) = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{p}, \omega)\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{z}, \omega) = 0$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{h}}{d\mathbf{p}} = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial \mathbf{h}}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \frac{d\mathbf{z}}{d\mathbf{p}} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{h}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} = \mathbf{0}$$

Sensitivity matrix

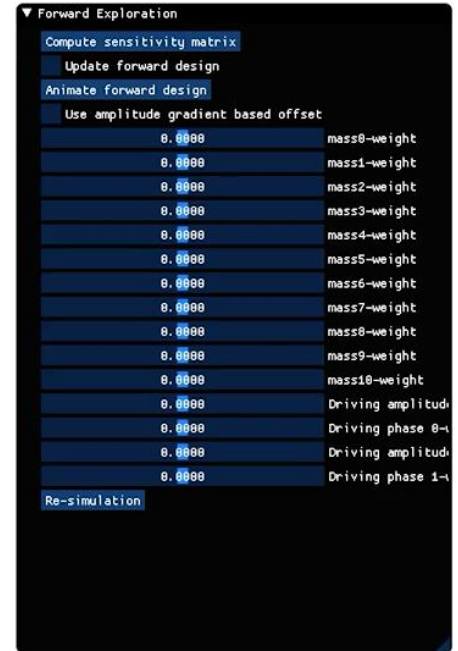
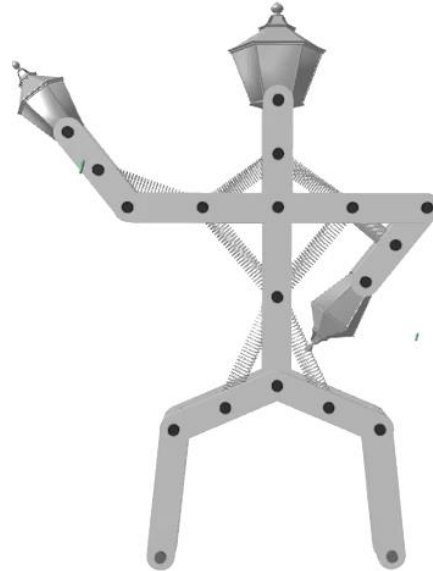
$$\mathbf{S} = \frac{d\mathbf{z}}{d\mathbf{p}} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{h}^{-1}}{\partial \mathbf{z}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{h}}{\partial \mathbf{p}}$$

Examples

Forward Sensitivity Exploration

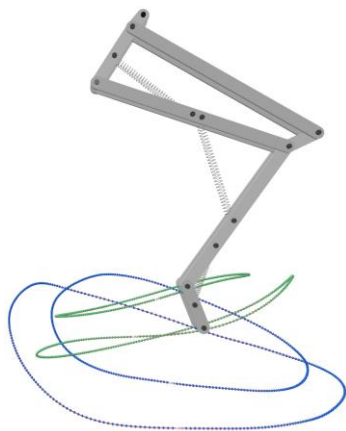
- First-order prediction for new equilibrium state

$$\mathbf{z}_p = \mathbf{z} + \frac{d\mathbf{z}}{d\mathbf{p}} \Delta\mathbf{p}$$



Inverse Design - Trajectory

Target



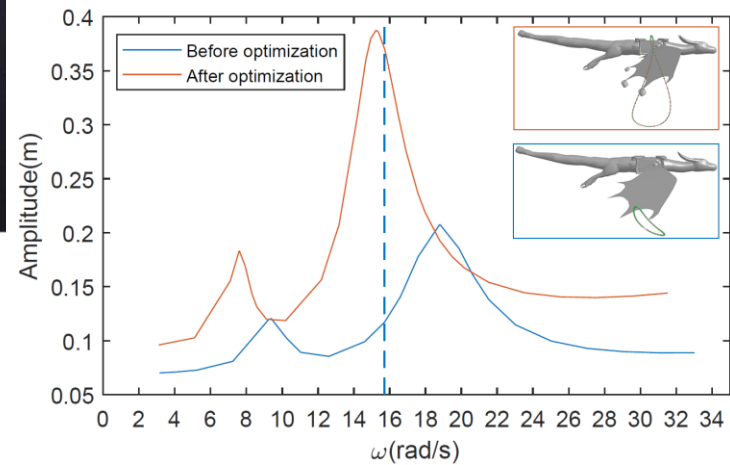
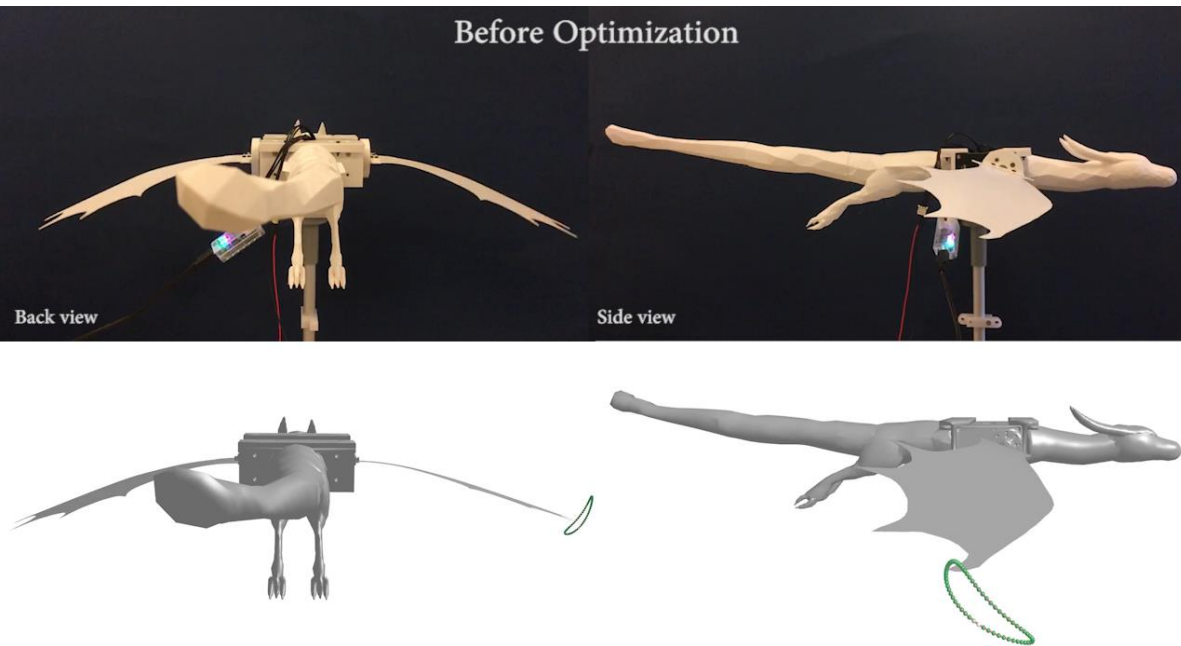
Before Optimization



After Optimization

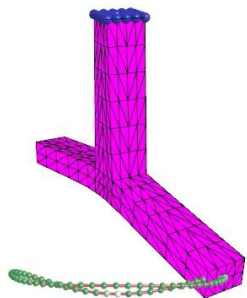


Inverse Design – Amplitude

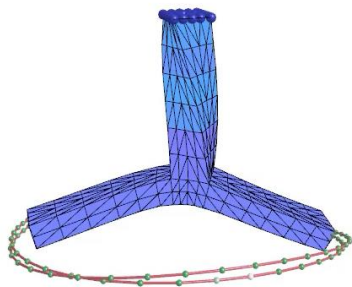


Inverse Design – Amplitude

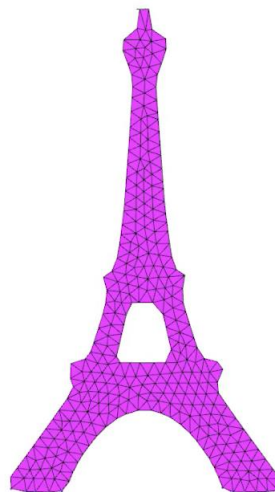
Before optimization



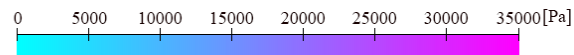
After optimization



Before optimization



After optimization



Conclusions

HBM + Sensitivity Analysis = Efficient and powerful approach for designing nonlinear mechanical systems with large-amplitude motion

Limitations & Future Work

- More accurate damping
- Contact and friction
- Subspace HBM

Thank you!