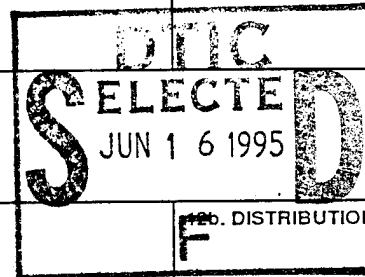


REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

Form Approved
OMB No. 0704-0188

Public reporting burden for the collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1284, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503

1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave blank)		2. REPORT DATE 4/28/95	3. REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED Final - 3/1/93 - 2/28/95
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Non-Smooth Optimization Algorithms and Software Tools			5. FUNDING NUMBERS F49620-93-1-0165 2304/CS 61102F
6. AUTHOR(S) Elijah Polak Professor and Principal Investigator			
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) University of California, Berkeley Electronics Research Laboratory 263 Cory Hall Berkeley, CA 94720			8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER 442427-22525 AFOSR-TR-95-0384
9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) AFOSR/NM 110 Duncan Avenue, Suite B115 Bolling AFB DC 20332-001			10. SPONSORING /MONITORING AGENCY
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES N/A			
12a. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for Public Release Distribution Unlimited			12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE F



13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)

The broad research objective of this project was the development of optimization algorithms and related system-theoretic aspects for the integrated design of flexible structures and their control systems, and shape design.

19950614 065

DTIC QUALITY INSPECTED 3

14. SUBJECT TERMS optimization, optimal shape design algorithms			15. NUMBER OF PAGES 3
			16. PRICE CODE
17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT unclassified	18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE unclassified	19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT unclassified	20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT SAR

F49620-93-1-0165

***NONSMOOTH OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHMS,
SYSTEM THEORY, AND SOFTWARE TOOLS***

***FOR OPTIMAL CONTROL OF FLEXIBLE STRUCTURES,
INTEGRATED DESIGN OF FLEXIBLE STRUCTURES AND THEIR CONTROL SYSTEMS,
AND SHAPE OPTIMIZATION***

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510-642-2644

April 25, 1995

Final Report for the Period 3/1/93 - 2/28/95

Accession For	
NTIS CRA&I	☒
DTIC TAB	☐
Unannounced	☐
Justification	
By	
Distribution /	
Availability Codes	
Dist	Avail and/or Special
A-1	

Prepared for

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
Air Force Office of Scientific Research
Bolling Air Force Base, DC 20332-6448

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The broad research objective of this project was the development of optimization algorithms and related system-theoretic aspects for the integrated design of flexible structures and their control systems, and shape design. The specific aspects under consideration are (i) efficient, consistent discretization techniques for use in semi-infinite optimization, optimal control, and optimal shape design algorithms that solve problems with dynamics governed by partial differential equations, (ii) global techniques for finding design parameters satisfying specifications, (iii) optimal control algorithms for discrete and distributed systems with control, state and shape constraints.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

With AFOSR support, T. Baker, J. Higgins, Y-P Harn, J. Wiest, and C. Kirjner-Neto have carried out research under my supervision that has resulted in the award of PhD degrees. C. Kirjner Neto has been awarded the Departmental David Sakrison prize for best PhD dissertation of the year. A 600+ page, book [26] has been completed, containing many original results in semi-infinite programming and optimal control. In particular, the book will be unique in the literature dealing not only with nonlinear programming algorithms, but also with implementable versions of semi-infinite optimization and optimal control algorithms with control and state space constraints. An important highlight of our research is a theory of consistent approximations for use in the solution of semi-infinite optimization, optimal control algorithms, and shape optimization problems which makes it possible to construct algorithms for the solution of these problems using nonlinear programming libraries as subroutines.

Over the years, our research has dealt with (i) efficient, consistent discretization techniques for use in semi-infinite optimization, optimal control and shape optimization, (ii) discretization techniques with guaranteed minimum rate of convergence properties, (ii) optimal control algorithms that solve problems with dynamics governed by partial differential equations, (iii) various techniques for finding design parameters satisfying specifications, (iv) algorithms for moving horizon control of dynamical systems, and (v) algorithms for structural optimization and control. The results of this research were presented in the papers listed below.

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