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Mechanical Behavior of Arteries, Constitutive Modeling, and Parameter Estimation

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Contents

- Mechanical behavior of arteries
 - Histology
 - Experimental method
 - Constitutive modeling
- Parameter estimation and sensitivity coefficients
- Using residuals to improve parameter estimation
 - Weighted nonlinear least squares method
 - Choice of optimal number of parameters

The arterial wall



Typical Experimental Set up for Artery Biaxial Test



(Saravanan et al. 2006)

Experimental Data for Mouse Carotid Artery



Constitutive modeling: Multi-fiber family model



(Wicker et al., 2009)

Constitutive modeling: Multi-fiber family model



Constitutive modeling

1. Force balance equation for a thin cylindrical vessel

$$P_{i} = \frac{h\left(\hat{T}_{\theta\theta} - \hat{T}_{rr}\right)}{r_{m}}$$
$$F_{z} = 2\pi r_{m}h\left(\hat{T}_{zz} - \hat{T}_{rr}\right) - \pi\left(r_{m}^{2} - r_{c}^{2}\right)P_{i}$$

2. Stress for an incompressible hyperelastic material

$$\mathbf{T} = -p\mathbf{I} + \frac{2}{J}\mathbf{F}\frac{\partial \hat{W}}{\partial \mathbf{C}}\mathbf{F}^{\mathrm{T}}$$

3. Strain energy function for arteries (Holzapfel et al., 2000; Baek et al., 2006)

$$\hat{W} = \frac{c}{2}(I_1 - 3) + \sum_k \frac{c_1^{(k)}}{4c_2^{(k)}} \left\{ \exp\left(c_2^{(k)}(\lambda^{(k)^2} - 1)^2\right) - 1 \right\},\$$

where

$$\lambda^{(k)} = \sqrt{\left(\lambda_z \sin \alpha^{(k)}\right)^2 + \left(\lambda_\theta \cos \alpha^{(k)}\right)^2}$$
 and $\lambda_\theta = r / R$

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Measurements

$$P_i, F_z, r, \lambda_z$$

Final constitutive equations

$$P_{i} = \hat{P}_{i}(r, \lambda_{z})$$
$$F_{z} = \hat{F}_{z}(r, \lambda_{z})$$

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Parameter Estimation

Parameter Estimation for Mouse Carotid Artery

2

Nonlinear least squares method (NLSM) with 8 parameters

$$S = \sum_{j} \left(\frac{P_{j}^{data} - P_{j}^{calc}}{P_{invivo}} \right)^{2} + \left(\frac{F_{j}^{data} - F_{j}^{calc}}{F_{invivo}} \right)^{2}$$



Sensitivity Coefficients for *Pressure*



Sensitivity Coefficients for *Pressure*



Sensitivity Coefficients for Force



Sensitivity Coefficients for Force



- Using residuals to improve parameter estimation
 - Noise model for weighted nonlinear least square method
 - Optimal number of parameters

Residuals: Pressure & Force Using NLS



Residuals: Pressure & Force Using NLS



Measurement error in independent variables and noise propagation

1. Measurement error in variables

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_n = \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n + \mathbf{\varepsilon}_n,$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}}_n = \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_n + \mathbf{e}_n$$
,

2. Noise model \mathbf{v}_n for $\hat{\mathbf{y}}_n - \mathbf{f}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}_n, \Theta)$

$$\mathbf{v}_n = -\frac{d\mathbf{f}}{d\mathbf{x}}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n, \Theta)\mathbf{\varepsilon}_n + \mathbf{e}_n$$

3. Weighted nonlinear least squares method

$$S = \sum_{n=1}^{m} (\hat{\mathbf{y}}_n - \mathbf{f}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}_n, \boldsymbol{\Theta}))^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\nu_n}^{-1} (\hat{\mathbf{y}}_n - \mathbf{f}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}_n, \boldsymbol{\Theta}))$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\boldsymbol{\nu}_n} = \mathbb{E}(\mathbf{v}_n \mathbf{v}_n^{\mathrm{T}}) = \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}\right) \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}} \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}\right)^{\mathrm{T}} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{e}}$$

Parameter Estimation: Validation: Synthesized Data

• Synthesized Noisy Data Generated Using White Gaussian Noise



Parameter Estimation: Validation: Synthesized Data

• Fitting results for pressure-radius



Determining Optimal Number of Parameters in the Model

Parameter Estimation: Optimal Number of Parameters/Fiber Families

• Going back to Strain Energy Function:

$$\hat{W} = \frac{c}{2}(I_1 - 3) + \sum_k \frac{c_1^{(k)}}{4c_2^{(k)}} \left\{ \exp\left(c_2^{(k)}(\lambda^{(k)^2} - 1)^2\right) - 1 \right\}$$
How many fiber families would be optimal?

- Increasing parameters decreases the fitting residual.
- But, it also increase the complexity of model; We may have non-unique answers
- There is a **tradeoff** between *accuracy* and *complexity*

Parameter Estimation: Optimal Number of Fiber Families

- Model-selection criteria was tested
 - 1. Akaike Information Criterion (AIC)



2. A modified AIC

AICc = AIC +
$$\frac{2(N+1)(N+2)}{m-N-2}$$

Parameter Estimation: Optimal Number of Fiber Families



Summary

- 1. This tutorial demonstrated how the sensitivity coefficients and residuals can be used to improve parameter estimation and in selection of number of parameter
- 2. Future work: developing new models and using information from residuals for model selection