

Structural Response Uncertainty Propagation Using Evidence Theory

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Outline

Motivations & objectives

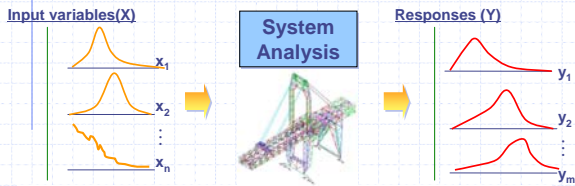
- The benefits of uncertainty quantification analysis
- Multiple types of uncertainty and propagation

Proposed methodology & Numerical example

- Engineering structural problem description in evidence theory
- Improvement of computational performance and accuracy
- Truss structure Example

Summary Remarks

Uncertainty Quantification (UQ) Analysis



Two Basic Assumptions in probabilistic analysis

- The law of large data
- Randomness of uncertain variables

Uncertainty Sources

Challenging problems are ...

Various uncertainty sources

due to the restrictions of budget, resources, knowledge and time



System parameter

- Natural variability (dimensions, modulus, ...)
- Imprecise statistical data from poor observations

Model form

- Faults in a conceptual and mathematical modeling
- Imperfect representation of boundary conditions

Scenario abstraction

- Unrealized & unexpected failure modes
- Undefined system behaviors

Uncertainties in a complex system

Challenging problems are ...



Information

- Incompleteness Insufficiency
- Imprecise
- Inconsistent
- Interval information (w/o PDF)



Basic assumptions

- in Probability Theory
- The law of large data
 - Randomness

➡ No longer valid

UQ Techniques

Parameter Physical system Modeling Scenario abstraction

Material properties Initial conditions Failure modes
Loads Model form

Sufficient data? Yes No

Aleatory Uncertainty

Epistemic Uncertainty

Probabilistic Analysis

- MCS, ISM
- FORM, SORM
- Spectral stochastic FEM

Non-probabilistic Analysis

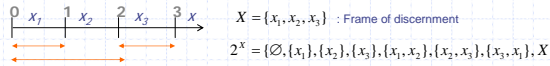
- Interval analysis
- Possibility Theory
- Evidence Theory

Evidence theory

Dempster-Shafer Theory (DST)

Frame of Discernment (X)

The set of mutually exclusive **elementary** propositions from given possible sets



Basic Belief Assignment (BBA)

The portion of total belief that is assigned exactly to a proposition through **basic belief assignment function** - m

$$m: 2^X \rightarrow [0,1] \quad \text{Axioms} \quad \text{I. } m(A) \geq 0 \text{ for any } A \in 2^X$$

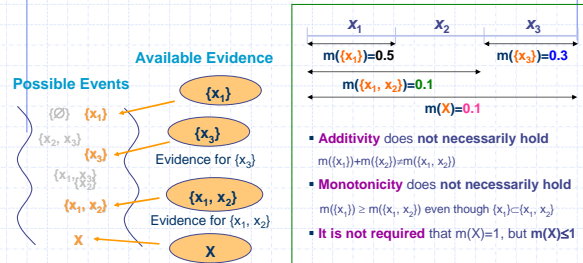
$$\text{II. } m(\emptyset) = 0$$

$$\text{III. } \sum_{A \in 2^X} m(A) = 1$$

Evidence theory

Dempster-Shafer Theory (DST)

BBA structure



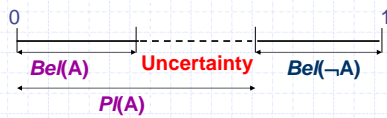
BBA ≠ Probability

Belief & Plausibility Functions

Likelihood for event A lies in the **interval** $[Bel(A), Pl(A)]$

$$Bel(A) = \sum_{C \subseteq A} m(C)$$

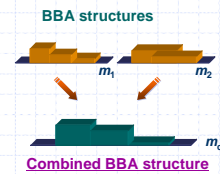
$$Pl(A) = \sum_{C \cap A \neq \emptyset} m(C)$$



Dempster's Rule of Combining

$$m_c(A_i) = \frac{\sum_{B_j \cap C_k = A_i} m_1(B_j) m_2(C_k)}{1 - K}$$

$$K = \sum_{B_j \cap C_k = \emptyset} m_1(B_j) m_2(C_k)$$



Dempster's rule disregards every contradiction

Algebraic properties : commutative and associative

Structural Problem Description in Evidence Theory

Epistemic parameter uncertainty

Physical system :



Responses : $Y = [y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n]$

Input data : $X = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$

Structural Problem Description in Evidence Theory

Epistemic parameter uncertainty with interval information

Defining a **system failure set** with limit state value, Y_{fail}

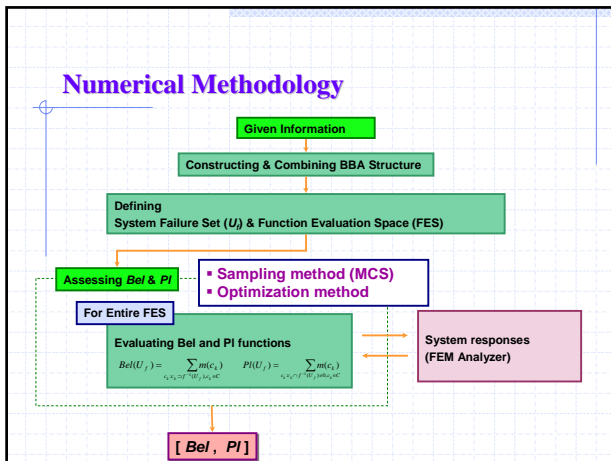
$$U_f = \{Y : Y_{fail} - Y < 0, Y = f(c_k) \text{ and } c_k = [x_1, x_2, x_2, \dots, x_n] \subseteq C\}$$

where, x is an uncertain parameter vector

Resulting measurements, **Belief & Plausibility functions**

Bounds $[Bel, Pl]$

$$Bel(U_f) = \sum_{c_k: c_k \in f^{-1}(U_f)} m(c_k) \quad Pl(U_f) = \sum_{c_k: c_k \cap f^{-1}(U_f) \neq \emptyset} m(c_k)$$

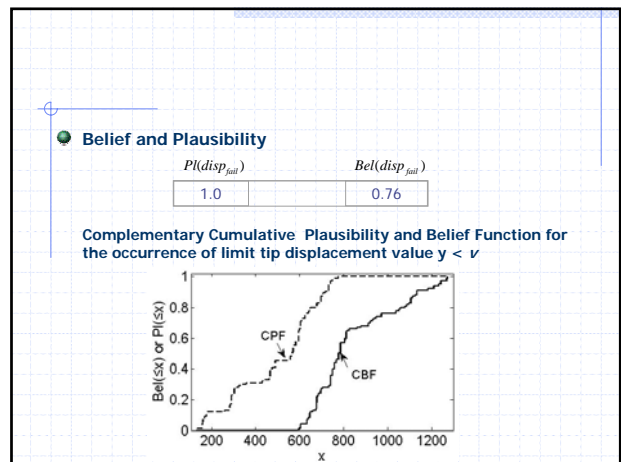


Numerical Example

- **Epistemic parameter uncertainty**
 - Elastic modulus
 - Static load
- **Epistemic information Sources**
 - One expert
 - Interval information
- **Limit State**
 $disp_{fail} = \{ disp_{tip} : | disp_{tip} | < 1m \}$

Expert 1

	Elastic modulus factor	Static load factor	PID	BBA	
E	[2.0, 2.05]	[2.05, 2.15]	[2.15, 2.2]	$\times 10^5 \text{MPa}$	0.25, 0.5, 0.25
F ₁	[65, 95]	[95, 105]	[105, 135]	KN	0.25, 0.5, 0.25
F ₂	[65, 95]	[95, 105]	[105, 135]	KN	0.25, 0.5, 0.25
F ₃	[-135, -105]	[-105, -95]	[-95, -65]	KN	0.25, 0.5, 0.25



- ### Summary
- Evidence theory provides useful tool for partial and incomplete information situation.
 - Evidence theory provides a Bound [Bel, Pl] for an uncertainty quantification problem, which has consistency with given incomplete information.

Thank you!