Deep generative modeling for mechanistic-based learning and design of metamaterial systems

Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering (2020), 372, 113377

Liwei Wang^{1,2}, Yu-Chin Chan, Faez Ahmed², Zhao Liu³, Ping Zhu¹, Wei Chen^{2,*}

¹ School of Mechanical Engineering , Shanghai Jiao Tong University
² Department of Mechanical Engineering , Northwestern University
³ School of Design, Shanghai Jiao Tong University
* weichen@northwestern.edu

TOP Webinar

Jan. 26th, 2021

Northwestern | ENGINEERING Mechanical Engineering



Metamaterial and Multiscale Metamaterial System Design

- Metamaterial: Derive properties from the microstructures rather than the constituents
- Achieve heterogeneous property distribution by assembling different microstructures



Wang, L. et al., 2020. *J. Mech. Design, 143.*Different Microstructures and Their Elasticity Surfaces



Research Questions and Proposed Data-Driven Design Framework



Database Construction

• How to construct a large database with diverse shapes and properties?

Mechanistic-based Learning

• What mechanics knowledge can be extracted from the database?

Data-driven Metamaterial Design

 How to do scalable multiscale design with well-connected unit cells?

Sequential Generation of Metamaterial Database

- Perform SIMP for uniformly sampled stiffness targets to generate initial database
- Populate the database by sequentially select and perturbate critical structures



Wang, L. et al., 2020. Struct. Multidisc. O.

Chan, Y.C. et al., 2020. J. Mech. Design, 143.

Large and Diverse Metamaterial Database

- Orthotropic microstructures with four independent entries of stiffness matrix
- A diverse metamaterial database with ~250,000 precomputed microstructures



Data available at : https://ideal.mech.northwestern.edu/research/software/

Variational Autoencoder (VAE) for Mechanistic Learning

- A two-way mapping between microstructures and low-dimensional latent vectors
- Unravel the interplay between property and shape spaces



Mechanistic-based Learning in Latent Space

- Meaningful mathematical structure and rich physical information in the latent space
- Latent space as a "control panel" for metamaterial



VAE-assisted Inverse Design

- Easy tuning of properties and geometries by simple vector arithmetic in latent space
- Diverse candidate set selection & generation for target properties
- Efficient generation of metamaterial families with target gradations of properties



VAE-assisted Multiscale Metamaterial Systems Design

 A two-stage framework for multiscale system design to achieve the prescribed distortion, ensuring the compatibility between adjacent unit cells



Design Framework



Problem Setting Property Constraint

Optimized Spatially-varying Property Distribution

Full Structure Assembling

- Change the full structure assembling into a graph energy minimization problem
- Efficiently solved by dual-decomposition method



Full Structure Assembling

- Change the full structure assembling into a graph energy minimization problem
- Efficiently solved by dual-decomposition method



Aperiodic Design with Prescribed Distortion

• Spatially-varying property distribution to achieve prescribed distortion behavior



Summary of Contributions

Efficient construction of a large database with diverse microstructures and properties

Insights on the mathematical structure and mechanistic information of latent space

Easy tuning of properties and geometries by simple vector arithmetic in latent space

Multiscale design with heterogeneous properties and well-connected aperiodic microstructures

Challenges and Future Opportunities of DATO

Design with complicated mechanism or material law

- Pattern-switching design, acoustic/ phononic/ photonic design, induced buckling...
- Structure with manufacturing-induced heterogeneity, e.g. AM

Design with multiple scales/components

- Nonlinearity, aperiodicity, interaction between components

Physics-guided/ "white-box" machine learning method

- Bring physics into ML
- Better generalizability, reduce data requirement, higher interpretability

Standard dataset & benchmark problem

Related papers

[1] **Wang, L.**, Chan, Y.C., Ahmed, F., Liu, Z., Zhu, P. and Chen, W.*, 2020. Deep generative modeling for mechanistic-based learning and design of metamaterial systems. Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering, 372, p.113377.

[2] **Wang, L.,** Chan, Y.C., Liu, Z., Zhu, P.* and Chen, W.*, 2020. Data-driven metamaterial design with Laplace-Beltrami spectrum as "shape-DNA". Structural and Multidisciplinary Optimization, pp.1-16.

[3] **Chan, Y.,** Ahmed, F., Wang, L., and Chen, W.* 2020. METASET: Exploring Shape and Property Spaces for Data-Driven Metamaterials Design. Journal of Mechanical Design, 143(3).

[4] **Wang, L.**, Tao, S., Zhu, P. and Chen, W*., 2021. Data-Driven Topology Optimization With Multiclass Microstructures Using Latent Variable Gaussian Process. Journal of Mechanical Design, 143(3).

[5] **Bostanabad, R.,** Chan, Y.C., Wang, L., Zhu, P. and Chen, W.*, 2019. Globally Approximate Gaussian Processes for Big Data With Application to Data-Driven Metamaterials Design. Journal of Mechanical Design, 141(11).

Thanks!

