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On the use of second order information for the numerical solution of PDE-constrained optimization problems with sparsity *

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Abstract

We present a family of algorithms for the numerical solution of PDE-constrained optimization problems, which involves an L^1 -term in the objective functional. It is well known that this non-differentiable term leads to a sparse structure of the optimal control, which acts on “small” regions on the domain. In order to cope with the non-differentiability, we consider a Huber regularization of the L^1 -term, which approximates the original problem by a family of parameterized differentiable problems. The general scheme of our algorithms is based on the BFGS algorithm to approximate the regular part of the cost functional. The main idea of our method is to compute descent directions by incorporating second order information. Subsequently, an orthantwise-direction strategy is used in the spirit of OW-algorithms in order to obtain a fast identification of the active sets. We present several experiments to illustrate the efficiency of our numerical algorithm.

Key words: PDE-constrained optimization, Sparsity, Second order methods.

Mathematics subject classifications (1991): 65N30, 65N12, 65N15, 74F10, 74B05, 35J05

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