

# Sensitivity measures for time-variant reliability analysis

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#### Overview

- Time-invariant reliability analysis
- Global sensitivity analysis for time-invariant problems
- Time-variant reliability analysis
- Global time-variant reliability sensitivity: Demonstration through a time-deteriorating system



### Time-invariant structural reliability problem

Vector of input random variables  $\mathbf{X} = [X_1; X_2; ...; X_d]$  with joint PDF  $f(\mathbf{x})$ 

Limit-state function g(x); Failure event  $F = \{g(X) \le 0\}$ 

Probability of failure:

$$p_F := \mathbb{P}(F) = \int_{g(\mathbf{x}) \le 0} f(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{I}(g(\mathbf{X}) \le 0) \right]$$



# Reliability sensitivity analysis

- Gradient-based sensitivity analysis: How does a change in the (deterministic) input parameters influence  $p_F$ ? [Wu 1994; Jensen et al. 2009; Papaioannou et al. 2013, 2018]
- Variance-based/global sensitivity analysis: How does the variability of the input random variables influence  $p_F$ ? [Li et al. 2012; Wei et al. 2012; Ehre et al. 2020]
- Decision-theoretic sensitivity analysis: How does the reduction of uncertainty of the input random variables influence the optimality of an engineering decision? [Straub et al. 2022]

### Variance-based sensitivity analysis

Consider a *d*-dimensional independent random vector X and a function Q = h(X). ANOVA representation:

$$h(\mathbf{X}) = h_0 + \sum_{i=1}^d h_i(X_i) + \sum_{1 \le i < j \le d} h_{ij}(X_i, X_j) + \dots + h_{1 \dots d}(X_1, \dots, X_d)$$

The ANOVA representation exists and is unique provided that for any subset  $X_v \subseteq X$  and any  $i \in v$ 

$$\mathbb{E}\left[h_{\boldsymbol{\nu}}(\boldsymbol{X}_{\boldsymbol{\nu}})|\boldsymbol{X}_{\boldsymbol{\nu}\setminus i}\right] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h_{\boldsymbol{\nu}}(\boldsymbol{x}_{\boldsymbol{\nu}}) f_{i}(x_{i}) dx_{i} = 0$$

Variance decomposition:

$$\mathbb{V}(Q) = \sum_{i=1}^{d} V_i + \sum_{i < j}^{d} V_{ij} + \dots + V_{1\dots d}$$



#### Variance-based sensitivity indices

First-order (Sobol') indices:

$$S_i = \frac{V_i}{\mathbb{V}(Q)} = \frac{\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{E}[Q|X_i])}{\mathbb{V}(Q)}$$

Total effect indices

$$S_i^T = \frac{V_i + \sum_{j \neq i}^d V_{ij} + \dots + V_{1\dots d}}{\mathbb{V}(Q)} = 1 - \frac{\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{E}[Q|\mathbf{X}_{\sim i}])}{\mathbb{V}(Q)}$$

It holds:  $0 \le S_i \le S_i^T \le 1$ 

Note: The first-order index can be interpreted as decision-oriented sensitivity (expected value of partial perfect information) for a quadratic loss function

### Variance-based reliability sensitivities [Wei et al. 2012]

Failure event  $F = \{g(X) \le 0\}$ Quantity of interest:  $Z = I(g(X) \le 0)$ 

It is  $\mathbb{E}[Z] = p_F, \mathbb{V}[Z] = p_F(1 - p_F)$ 

First-order indices:

$$S_{F,i} = \frac{\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{E}[Z|X_i])}{\mathbb{V}(Z)} = \frac{\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{P}[F|X_i])}{p_F(1-p_F)}$$

Total-effect indices:

$$S_{F,i}^{T} = 1 - \frac{\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{E}[Z|\boldsymbol{X}_{\sim i}])}{\mathbb{V}(Z)} = 1 - \frac{\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{P}[F|\boldsymbol{X}_{\sim i}])}{p_{F}(1 - p_{F})}$$

## Other variance-based reliability sensitivities (I)

Define:  $X_{v} = \{X_{i}, i \in v\}$  with  $v \in \mathcal{P}(\{1, ..., d\})$ 

Closed Sobol' index associated with  $X_{v}$ :

$$S_{F,v} = \frac{\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{P}[F|X_v])}{p_F(1-p_F)}$$

Total-effect index associated with  $X_{v}$ :

$$S_{F,\boldsymbol{\nu}}^{T} = 1 - \frac{\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{P}[F|\boldsymbol{X}_{\sim \boldsymbol{\nu}}])}{p_{F}(1-p_{F})}$$

Closed Sobol' indices are particularly relevant if  $X_v$  represents the effect of a single physical quantity

## Other variance-based reliability sensitivities (II)

Uncertainty separation:  $X = [X_A; X_B]$ 

Failure probability conditional on  $X_B$ :  $P_F(x_B)$ :=  $\mathbb{P}(F|X_B = x_B) = \mathbb{E}[I(g(X) \le 0)|X_B = x_B]$ 

Sobol' indices of  $P_F$  [Morio 2011; Wang et al. 2013]:

$$S_{P_F,i} = \frac{\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{E}[P_F|X_i])}{\mathbb{V}(P_F)}$$

Sobol' indices of  $\log P_F$  [Ehre et al. 2020]:

$$S_{\log P_F, i} = \frac{\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{E}[\log P_F | X_i])}{\mathbb{V}(\log P_F)}$$



## Interpretation of reliability sensitivities

- First-order indices can be used for factor prioritization, to determine which random variable if learned will have the largest impact on the value of  $p_F$
- Total-effect indices can be used for factor fixing, to determine the random variables with  $S_{F,i}^T \approx 0$ , which if fixed will not impact the prediction of  $p_F$



## Estimation of reliability sensitivities

- Peek-freeze estimators combined with importance sampling [Wei et al. 2012]
- Estimation with failure samples [Perrin & Defaux 2019; Li, Papaioannou & Straub 2019]
- Estimation with FORM [Papaioannnou & Straub 2021; 2024]
- Surrogate modeling-based estimation [Wang et al. 2013; Ehre et al. 2020]

#### FORM alpha-factors

Directional cosines of the most likely failure point  $u^*$  in an equivalent standard normal space  $U \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$ :

$$\alpha = \frac{u^*}{\beta}$$

The squared factors  $\alpha_i^2$  are the Sobol' indices of the linearized LSF  $G_1(U)$  at the design point:

$$S_{G_1,i} = \frac{\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{E}[G_1|U_i])}{\mathbb{V}(G_1)} = \alpha_i^2$$



## Variance-based sensitivities with FORM [Papaioannou & Straub 2021]

First-order index:

$$S_{F,i} \approx \frac{1}{p_{F_1}(1-p_{F_1})} \int_0^{\alpha_i^2} \varphi_2(-\beta, -\beta, r) dr$$

Total effect index:

with

$$S_{F,i}^{T} \approx \frac{1}{p_{F_{1}}(1-p_{F_{1}})} \int_{1-\alpha_{i}^{2}}^{1} \varphi_{2}(-\beta,-\beta,r) dr$$

$$\varphi_2(-\beta,-\beta,r) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{1-r^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{\beta^2}{1+r}\right)$$

FORM approximation of sensitivities for system reliability problems are given in [Papaioannou & Straub 2024]

## Time-variant reliability analysis

Vector of input random variables  $\mathbf{X} = [X_1; ...; X_d]$  and random processes  $\mathbf{Y}(t) = [Y_1(t); ...; Y_k(t)]$ 

Limit-state function  $g(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}(t))$ ; Instantaneous failure event  $F_t = \{g(t, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}(t)) \le 0\}$ 

Instantaneous probability of failure:

$$p_{F,i}(t) := \mathbb{P}(F_t) = \mathbb{E}\left[I\left(g\left(t, \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{Y}(t)\right) \leq 0\right)\right]$$

Cumulative probability of failure in the interval [0, T]:

$$p_{F,c}(0,T) := \mathbb{P}\left(\exists t \in [0,T] : g(t, X, Y(t)) \le 0\right) = \mathbb{E}\left[I\left(\min_{0 \le t \le T} g(t, X, Y(t)) \le 0\right)\right]$$

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## Corroded beam under random loading [Andrieu-Renaud et al. 2004]

Limit state function:

$$g(t, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}(t)) = M_u(t) - M(t) = \frac{(b_0 - 2\kappa t)(h_0 - 2\kappa t)^2}{4} f_y - \left(\frac{F(t)L}{4} + \frac{\rho_{st}b_0h_0L^2}{8}\right)$$

Parameter	Distribution	Mean	CoV	Auto-correlation
$f_y$	Lognormal	240 Mpa	10 %	NA
$b_0$	Lognormal	0.2 m	5 %	NA
$h_0$	Lognormal	0.04 m	10 %	NA
F	Gaussian	3500 N	20 %	$\exp\left(-\left(\frac{t_2-t_1}{\lambda}\right)^2\right); \lambda = 1$ mth



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 $b_0$ 

 $h_0$ 



#### Instantaneous probability of failure

FORM estimates of  $p_{F,i}(t) = \mathbb{E}\left[I\left(g\left(t, f_y, b_0, h_0, F(t)\right) \le 0\right)\right]$  and alpha-factors





## Instantaneous probability of failure (II)

FORM estimates of Sobol' indices of  $Z(t) = I\left(g\left(t, f_y, b_0, h_0, F(t)\right) \le 0\right)$ 





### Interval probability of failure

Define interval failure events:

$$F_j^* = \left\{\min_{\tau \in (t_{j-1}, t_j]} g(\tau, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}(\tau)) \le 0\right\}, j = 1, \dots, m \text{ with } t_j = j\Delta t$$

Interval failure probability:  $p_{F,j}^* = \mathbb{P}(F_j^*)$ 

#### Corroded beam example:

Interval failure probability:

$$p_{F,j}^* \approx \mathbb{P}(g(t_j, f_y, b_0, h_0, F_{\max,j}) \leq 0)$$

with  $F_{\max,j} = \max_{\tau \in (t_{j-1}, t_j]} F(\tau)$ 

 $F_{\rm max}$  can be approximated by a Gumbel random variable



## Interval probability of failure (II)

FORM estimates of Sobol' indices of  $Z_j^* = I(g(t_j, f_y, b_0, h_0, F_{\max, j}) \le 0)$ 



# Cumulative probability of failure: Interval approach

Cumulative probability of failure in the interval  $[0, t_i]$ :

 $p_{F,c}(0,t_i) = \mathbb{P}(F_1^* \cup F_2^* \cup \cdots \cup F_i^*)$ 

#### Corroded beam example:

Assume that the maximum loads over intervals  $\Delta t = 2yrs$  are statistically independent

The cumulative probability of failure can be approximated with FORM for system problems [Hohenbichler & Rackwitz 1982]



# Cumulative probability of failure: Interval approach (II)

FORM estimates of Sobol' indices of  $Z_{ser} = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^{m} (1 - Z_{j}^{*})$  for the full time period [0,20 yrs]



Note: The closed Sobol' index of the combined effect of all (independent) load variables  $F_{\max,i}$  is shown

# Cumulative probability of failure: Outcrossing approach

Conditional cumulative probability of failure given system parameters  $X_R$ :

$$P_{F,[0,T]}(\boldsymbol{x}_R) := \mathbb{P}\big(\exists t \in [0,T] : g\big(t, \boldsymbol{X}_R, \boldsymbol{Y}_S(t)\big) \le 0 | \boldsymbol{X}_R = \boldsymbol{x}_R\big)$$

**Corroded beam example:**  $P_{F,[0,T]}(x_R)$ , with  $X_R = [f_y, b_0, h_0]$  can be estimated efficiently based on outcrossing theory

Cumulative probability of failure:  $p_{F,c}(0,T) = \mathbb{E}[P_{F,[0,T]}(X_R)]$ 

Auxiliary limit-state function [Wen & Chen 1987]:

$$g(\boldsymbol{x}_R, z) = z - P_{F,[0,T]}(\boldsymbol{x}_R)$$

where z is the outcome of a standard uniform random variable



# Cumulative probability of failure: Outcrossing approach (II)

FORM estimates of Sobol' indices of  $P_{F,[0,T]}(f_y, b_0, h_0)$  for the full time period [0,20 yrs]





## Summary

- Sensitivity measures for time-variant reliability analysis
- Application of Sobol' sensitivities to different time-variant reliability scenarios
- Estimation of time-variant reliability sensitivities with FORM
- Demonstrated the behavior of the sensitivities with the reliability of a deteriorating structure

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