# **Solving Nonlinear Problems with Abaqus**

Solving Nonlinear Problems with Abaqus is an extensive course which provides practical information to perform nonlinear FEA analysis in Abaqus. This course takes step-by-step approach and presents from introductory to advanced technique in a gradual way. In a real life problem, there are many nonlinearities present in a system. Solving such problems is a really challenging task. This course begins with simple problems having a single non-linearity and presents the appropriate techniques to solve it. Later in the course more complex problems are presented. The course is divided in the following eight sections:

- 1. Basics of Nonlinear Analysis
- 2. Geometric nonlinearity
- 3. Force nonlinearity
- 4. Material nonlinearity
- 5. Boundary nonlinearity (Contact Problems)
- 6. Finite element discretization
- 7. Miscellaneous (Multiple nonlinearities)
- 8. User exercises

## **Section 1: Basics of Nonlinear Analysis**

In this section, an overview of sources of nonlinearities in structures is given. Furthermore solution algorithms for nonlinear problems are described in detail. The objective of this section is to give an overview of the physics involved in nonlinear problems and how to choose the best solution strategy. Topics covered are as follow:

- Linear vs Nonlinear response
- Sources of nonlinearities
  - 1. Geometric nonlinearity
    - a) Large strain
    - b) Small strains but large displacements and/or rotations
    - c) Stress stiffening
    - d) Snap-Through
    - e) Buckling
  - 2. Material nonlinearity
    - a) Plasticity
    - b) Nonlinear elasticity
    - c) Viscoelasticity
  - 3. Force nonlinearity
- 4. Boundary nonlinearity
- Solution algorithms
  - 1. Newton's method
  - 2. Arc-Length method
- Solving contact problems
  - 1. Contact property model
    - a) Hard Contact
    - b) Soft Contact
    - c) Friction models
    - 2. Contact constraint enforcement methods
      - a) The direct method
      - b) The penalty method

- c) The augmented Lagrange method
- 3. Relative sliding of surfaces
- 4. Slave and master surfaces
- 5. Discretization of contact pair surfaces
- 6. General contact and Contact pairs
- 7. Solution Algorithm for contact problems
- Finite Element Discretization
  - 1. Lagrangian mesh
  - 2. Eulerian mesh
  - 3. Mesh Convergence
    - a) Mesh refinement metrics
    - b) Mesh refinement techniques
  - 4. Adaptivity techniques
    - a) ALE Adaptive meshing
    - b) Adaptive remeshing
    - c) Mesh-to-mesh solution mapping

## **Section 2: Geometric nonlinearity**

In this section, a large number of exercises are presented providing intensive instructions to perform analysis of geometric nonlinear problems. Details of topics covered in exercises are given below.

## Exercise 1

• Analyzing a fixed beam

U, Magnitude

- How to determine if nonlinear analysis is required
- Turning on the NLgeom option
- Understanding Job monitor for a nonlinear analysis











- Analyzing a two bar truss •
- Simulating snap through using General static analysis •
- Solving small strain, large rotation problem •
- Obtaining solution using displacement control •





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## **Section 3: Force nonlinearity**

In this section exercises are presented providing instructions to solve problems involving force nonlinearity. Details of topics covered in exercises are given below.



## **Section 4: Material nonlinearity**

In this section exercises are presented providing instructions to solve problems involving material nonlinearity. Details of topics covered in exercises are given below.



- Analyzing a test rod subjected to cyclic loading
- Applying a cyclic load
- Performing analysis assuming kinematic hardening
- Performing analysis assuming isotropic hardening
- Accumulated strain measures: PEEQ vs PEMAG





- Analyzing a brake disc subjected to cyclic temperature load
- Performing sequential stress analysis
- Cyclic loading due to repeated braking
- Importing temperature history
- Temperature dependent kinematic hardening model
- Investigating the residual stresses
- Temperature dependent material model







- Analyze a viscoelastic sheet subjected to constant pressure load
- Defining a linear viscoelastic model for a linear elastic material.
- Defining visco procedure to simulate time-dependent behavior
- Plotting the creep strain.







- Investigating stress relaxation in a viscoelastic bushing subjected to constant strain.
- Defining a nonlinear viscoelastic model for a hyperelastic material.
- Plotting the stress relaxation.





## **Section 5: Contact Problems**

Contact problems are considered to be highly nonlinear and are one of the most difficult ones to solve. This section aims to provide practical information to perform contact analysis in Abaqus. A large number of exercises are presented providing intensive instructions to perform analysis of contact problems. Details of topics covered in exercises are given below. During such analysis it is very common to face convergence difficulties. Quite a few tutorials are devoted to diagnose such difficulties and take the corrective action.





- Simulation of a fuse placement into its holder using interference resolution technique
- Resolving interference to establish contact











- Performing the stress analysis of a piston ring fitted inside a rigid housing.
- Using interference resolution capability to resolve initial overclosure
- Comparing the results obtained with small sliding vs. finite sliding
- Introducing the contact stabilization to alleviate the convergence difficulties
- Improving refinement level of displayed results
- CSTATUS output variable

















- Defining contact between the surfaces of solid and • shell parts
- Accounting for shell thickness •
- Using unsymmetric solver for better convergence •
- Plotting surface normal to determine SPOS/SNEG • faces of shell
- Choosing a master surface among two deformable • surfaces.







before applying fluid pressure

after applying fluid pressure





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Pin1

- Thermo-mechanical simulation of a disc brake system • Pin2 Defining temperature dependent coefficient of friction • Defining thermal contact conductance is a function of • Back Plate gap clearance Defining an interaction to model heat transfer due to • convection Disc Specifying heat generation and its distribution • Modifying solution controls to reduce computational • cost **Friction Material** Thermal Conductance Definition: Tabular Use only clearance-dependency data O Use only pressure-dependency data O Use both clearance- and pressure-dependency data NT11 Clearance Dependency Pressure Dependency Use temperature-dependent data Use mass flow rate-dependent data (Standard only) Number of field variables: 0 Conductance Clearance 1000000 0 500000 1E-006 0 1E-005 ODB: Downhill.odb **Exercise 21**
- Defining contact interaction for a punch-blank-die assembly
- Using general contact approach to define interactionComparing contact pressure plots for general contact
- and contact pairs approach





Comparison of contact pressure distribution for general contact and contact pairs approach











- Bending of an extrusion under quasi-static loading conditions
- Handling of T-intersections in shells in contact pair interactions
- Penalty vs Kinematic contact enforcement method









## **Section 6: Finite Element Discretization**

In this section exercises related to the topic of finite element meshing e.g. accuracy of predictions made by a finite element analysis, adaptive remeshing and ALE adaptive meshing are presented. Details of topics covered in exercises are given below.



- Evaluating accuracy of predictions made by a finite element analysis
- Computing normalized error indicator
- Refining mesh to reduce normalized error indicator























## **Section 7: Miscellaneous**

In the previous sections, problems involving mostly single nonlinearities were presented. In engineering practice multiple nonlinearities are common. In this section problems involving multiple nonlinearities will be presented. Furthermore advanced techniques e.g. mesh adaptivity will also be discussed. Details of topics covered in exercises are given below.





- Simulation of a flange joint for polyethylene pipes.
- Modeling time-dependent behaviors of pipe and gasket materials.
- Investigating the tightness of the flange joint over 100 years by taking into account the creep of pipe and gasket.
- Understanding "Unconnected regions in the model" warning message







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## **Section 8: User Exercises**

This section contains models for the user practice. You can contact the instructor in case any help is required to solve these problems.