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# Initial blank design of deep drawn orthotropic materials using inverse finite element method

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### Abstract

In this work, an inverse finite element formulation was modified for considering material anisotropy in obtaining blank shape and forming severity of deep drawn orthotropic parts. In this procedure, geometry of final part and thickness of initial blank sheet were known. After applying ideal forming formulations between material points of initial blank and final shape, an equation system was obtained in terms of unknown initial positions on the blank sheet. Initial positions of material points were obtained by solving this equation system. In this algorithm, the Hill's anisotropic plasticity and associated plastic flow rule were used. Strain distribution on the final part was obtained by comparing the initial blank and final part. The method was applied for the simulation of drawing an orthotropic blank to a rectangular cup. Accuracy of the presented method was evaluated by comparing the results with numerical forward method and experiment results.

### 1. Introduction

Since anisotropic sheet forming process has taken an important role in such industries as automobiles, airplanes and electric appliances, modeling and numerical simulation of anisotropic materials are a great challenge for research and engineering applications.

Anisotropic sheet forming depends on many parameters such as elastic and plastic properties of blank die geometry, sheet thickness, blank shape blank holder force and friction [1,2]. The optimum value for each parameter is determined by experience and trial and error.

One of the important and vital factors in optimization of the anisotropic sheet process is blank shape. There have been several attempts to design optimum blank and strain distribution in a deformed part. In order to reduce the amount of trial and error, a variety of numerical methods such as finite element has been used. The incremental finite element method provides accurate results and can analyze failure, wrinkling and springback; but, this method requires process parameters and results in

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numerical trial and error with enormous time and cost. In recent years, some researchers have used deformation theory of plasticity to determine initial blank and strain distribution on the deformed shape. This method is known as one step finite element or inverse finite element method (IFEM) and is very quick; therefore, it can be applied for blank shape optimization. As a result, less material is consumed, progressive processes on final part as trimming are eliminated and such qualification of the drawn part is improved. There are two main approaches in inverse formulations: linear and nonlinear inverse finite element method.

Different researchers have worked on nonlinear method. Majlessi [3, 4] used the concept of minimizing potential energy to predict the initial blank of square and axisymmetric parts. However, this method cannot be applied without implementation of boundary conditions like friction and blank-holder force. Guo and Batoz [5-8] used principle of virtual work to develop a nonlinear IFEM. This method can be applied without implementation of boundary conditions. However, due to the nonlinearities coming from large deformation and material properties, this method is very sensitive to the initial guess and needs an efficient initial guess. Assempour et al. [9] developed a linear inverse finite element method, known as unfolding technique. Their formulation is based on principle of potential energy minimization and linear strain-displacement relation. Therefore, it ends in a system of linear equations which can be solved very quickly. This method is very efficient in obtaining the initial blank; however, due to the nature of linear formulation, strain values are less accurate than nonlinear formulation. In order to increase accuracy and applicability unfolding technique, of Bostanshirin et al. [10] developed multi-step unfolding method and introduced a new mapping technique for applying the unfolding technique in multi-step inverse FEM. Zamanian et al. [11] presented a developed inverse finite element method to design initial blank of deep drawn metal matrix composites.

Deep drawing of the orthotropic materials is being investigated by some researchers using incremental and experimental approaches [12-18]. But, no inverse finite element method has been developed for design initial blank of orthotropic materials in deep drawing process. In this work, a developed inverse finite element method was presented to obtain strain and stress distribution in final shape and design initial blank of deep drawing process for orthotropic sheets. Accuracy of the present method was evaluated by comparison with the results of ABAQUS, experimental results and numerical methods.

### 2. Kinematics

Geometry of final shape is discretized by linear triangular membrane elements. Then, elements are mapped to the horizontal plane and regarded as an initial guess. As shown in Fig. 1, this method considers the beginning and final shape of deep drawing process.

Components of left Cauchy-Green deformation  $B^{-1}$  are obtained as Eq. 1; where  $L = ||H_i||^2$ .  $H_i$  and  $h_i$  are components of  $G_i$ ,  $g_i$  in the element local coordinate of finial shape, respectively. By considering only the initial and final states of elements and calculating left Cauchy-Green deformation tensor [B], principal stretches are obtained as Eq. 2 [19]. The  $\{n_i\}$  are eigenvectors of  $B^{-1}$ . Principal stretches are obtained as Eq. 3. Logarithmic strains can be obtained from Eq. 2 as Eq. 4. Here,  $\theta$  is directional of the principal stretch  $\lambda_1$  with x axis of local coordinate.

$$\lambda_i^{-2} = \{n_i\}^T [B]^{-1} \{n_i\} (i = 1, 2)$$
(1)

$$\varepsilon_{x} = \ln \lambda_{1} \cos^{2} \theta + \ln \lambda_{2} \sin^{2} \theta$$
  

$$\varepsilon_{y} = \ln \lambda_{1} \sin^{2} \theta + \ln \lambda_{2} \cos^{2} \theta$$
  

$$\varepsilon_{xy} = (\ln \lambda_{1} - \ln \lambda_{2}) \sin \theta \cos \theta$$
(2)

## 3. Integrated constitute low for anisotropic materials

For the orthotropic materials, Hill's anisotropic yield criterion function results in Eq. 5 where

orthotropic axes are taken as the coordinate axes (x, y, and z) and F, G, H, L, M, N are anisotropic parameters. According to the associated plastic flow rule  $(\varepsilon_{ij} = \lambda \frac{\partial f}{\partial \sigma_{ij}})$ 

and considering proportional deformation, stress distribution for orthotropic materials is derived as Eq. 5.



Fig. 1. Triangular membrane elements of the initial and final shapes.

$$\varepsilon_{ij} = \lambda \frac{\partial f}{\partial \sigma_{ij}} \tag{3}$$

$$2f(\sigma_{ij}) = A + B = 1$$

$$A = F(\sigma_Y - \sigma_Z)^2 + G(\sigma_Z - \sigma_X)^2 + H(\sigma_X - \sigma_Y)^2$$

$$B = 2L\tau_{YZ}^2 + 2M\tau_{ZX}^2 + 2N\tau_{XY}^2$$
(4)

where [D] is:

$$\begin{cases} \sigma_{x} \\ \sigma_{y} \\ \sigma_{xy} \end{cases} = \frac{\sigma_{ef}}{\varepsilon_{ef}} [D] \begin{cases} \varepsilon_{x} \\ \varepsilon_{y} \\ \varepsilon_{xy} \end{cases}$$
(5)

$$\begin{bmatrix} D \end{bmatrix} = \frac{2}{A} \begin{bmatrix} F + H & H & 0 \\ H & G + H & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{A}{2n} \end{bmatrix}$$
(6)  
$$A = FG + GH + HF$$

As shown in Fig. 2, for a tensile specimen cut at an angle  $\theta$  to the x direction r-value can be expressed as Eq.7.

The anisotropy of the materials is represented by the strain ratio known as r-value where r is the Lankford value.

$$r_{\theta} = \frac{H + Qsin\theta^2 cos\theta^2}{Fsin\theta^2 + Gcos\theta^2}$$

$$Q = (2N - F - G - 4H)$$
(7)

Therefore, each r-value can be obtained in terms of Hill's anisotropic parameters as Eq.8.



**Fig. 2.** Tensile specimen cut at an angle  $\theta$  to the x direction.

$$r_{0} = \frac{H}{G}$$

$$r_{90} = \frac{H}{F}$$

$$r_{45} = \frac{2N - F - G}{2(F + G)}$$
(8)

Anisotropic parameters can be drive as Eq.9.

$$F = \frac{r_0}{r_{90}(r_0 + 1)}$$

$$G = \frac{1}{r_0 + 1}$$

$$H = \frac{r_0}{r_0 + 1}$$

$$N = \frac{(r_0 + r_{90})(2r_{45} + 1)}{2r_{90}(r_0 + 1)}$$
(9)

The effective stress calculated from flow stress formulation and the effective strain corresponding to Eq. 4 can be obtained. The effective strain is expressed in Appendix.

### 4. Contact and friction modeling

The principle of virtual work is applied to the final work piece as Eq.10.  $W_{int}^{e}$  and  $W_{ext}^{e}$  are element internal and external works respectively. Element internal work  $W_{int}^{e}$  can be written as Eq.11.

$$\sum_{e} W_{int}^{e} - \sum_{e} W_{ext}^{e} = 0 \qquad (10)$$

$$W_{\text{int}}^{e} = \left\langle U_{n}^{*} \right\rangle \left\{ F_{\text{int}}^{e} \right\}$$
(11)

With  $\langle U_n^* \rangle = \langle U_j^* \quad V_j^* \quad W_j^* \quad j = 1,2,3 \rangle$  which are virtual displacements and are given by [8] as Eq.12.

$$\left\{F_{\text{int}}^{e}\right\}^{i} = \left[T\right]^{T} \left[B\right]^{T} \left\{\sigma\right\}^{i} A h^{i} \qquad (12)$$

 $\{\sigma\}$  are the Cauchy stresses and [B] is the strain operator in the local coordinate system of each element. [T] is transformation matrix between global and local coordinate systems.  $\{F_{int}^e\}$  is the element internal force vector, A is the element area and h is thickness of the element. External work  $W_{ext}^e$  can be written as Eq.13.  $\{F_{ext}^e\}$  is the element external force vector due to the friction and tool actions.

$$W_{ext}^{e} = \left\langle U_{n}^{*} \right\rangle \left\{ F_{ext} \right\}$$
<sup>(13)</sup>

For more details refer to Ref [9]. Substituting Eq. 11 and 13 in Eq.10, Eq. 14 is derived and the Newton-Raphson method has been implemented for solving the set of nonlinear EQ. 14.

$$F_{\text{int}} - F_{ext} = 0 \tag{14}$$

### 5. Results and discussion

In order to compare the results of present method with the experimental one and numerical forward method, the tool geometry and material properties of a rectangular cup drawing benchmark mentioned by Choi [18] is adopted for the analysis. The simulation procedure is conducted as follows: Firstly, ABAQUS explicit has been used to form an orthotropic sheet with given dimensions to the rectangular cup. Secondly, the final shape of the workpiece obtained with ABAQUS has been used as the analysis object in the present inverse approach.

The material properties of the blank are given in table 1. The die geometry, friction coefficient and blank holder force are given in table 2.

The schematic view of deep drawing process of a rectangular cup is shown in Fig. 3. The rectangular cup is drawn to the depth of 30mm from a rectangular blank. The blank size is  $130mm \times 170mm$  with the thickness of 0.69mm. The forward method has been simulated by ABAQUS explicit. In order to reduce the computation cost, just a quarter of the rectangular cup has been modeled. All parts except the sheet have been considered analytical rigid bodies. The sheet is considered deformable and meshed bye membrane elements. The ABAQUS model and mesh system have been shown in Fig. 4.

The calculation completes the simulation at the stroke of 30mm and the final shape is shown in Fig. 5. The obtained shape is used as the input part for the proposed inverse method. Figure 6 illustrates the mesh of final shape with the flange profile for the rectangular cup example used in inverse finite element method.

After inverse analysis of the part, the blank shape and strain distribution in the part are calculated. The initial blank obtained from developed inverse finite element method is shown in Fig. 8 and compared with the blank dimensions used in experiment and ABAQUS. As shown in Fig. 7, the initial blank obtained from developed inverse finite element method is nearly the Choi's initial blank [18]. The maximum error is about 3.5% of real blank.

Figure 8 compares the thickness strain distribution along the longer side of the rectangular cup, predicted by the inverse finite element method (IFEM) with the ABAQUS and experimental results. As shown in Fig. 8, results of the presented inverse finite element method are near the ABAQUS results except in wall region of the cup. The main sources of the errors are neglecting bending effects and using deformation theory of plasticity. However, errors between inverse and ABAQUS results with the experiment are a little high but the trend of them is in good agreement.

Figure 8 compares the thickness strain distribution along the longer side of the rectangular cup, predicted by the inverse finite element method (IFEM) with the ABAQUS and experimental results. As shown in Fig. 8, results of the presented inverse finite element method are near the ABAQUS results except in wall region of the cup. The main sources of the errors are neglecting bending effects and using deformation theory of plasticity. However, errors between inverse and ABAQUS results with the experiment are a little high but the trend of them is in good agreement.

Figure 9 compares the thickness strain distribution along the shorter side of the

rectangular cup, predicted by the inverse finite element method (IFEM) with the ABAQUS and experimental results. Again, results of the presented inverse finite element method are near the ABAQUS results. Although the trend of the results of all approaches are in good agreement, but there is a little difference between experiment and them.

**Table 1.** The material properties of the blank.

$r_0$	<i>r</i> <sub>45</sub>	<i>r</i> <sub>90</sub>	K (kgf/mm <sup>2</sup> )	п	$\mathcal{E}_0$
1.833	1.434	2.016	58.78	0.274	0.0009

**Table 2.** Die geometry, friction coefficient andBHF.

friction coefficient	0.11	
blank holder force	1600 kgf	
punch radius	11mm	
die radius	6mm	



**Fig. 3.** Schematic view of the deep drawing process of a rectangular cup [18].



Fig. 4. ABAQUS model and mesh system for a quarter of rectangular cup.



Fig. 5. Final shape of deep drawn orthotropic sheet.



Fig. 6. Mesh system of the final shape with the flange profile.



Fig. 7. Quarter of initial blank shape obtained from IFEM method compared with ABAQUS and experiment.



Fig. 8. Comparison of thickness strain distribution along the longer side.



Fig. 9. Comparison of thickness strain distribution along the shorter side.

### 6. Conclusion

Inverse finite element formulation has been modified for consideration of material anisotropy in obtaining the blank shape and forming severity of the deep drawn orthotropic parts. In this procedure, the geometry of final part and thickness of initial blank sheet are known. After applying ideal forming formulations between material points of initial blank and final shape, an equation system is obtained in term of unknown initial positions on the blank sheet. The initial positions of material points are obtained by solving this equation system. In this algorithm the Hill's anisotropic plasticity and associated plastic flow rule have been used. The strain distribution on final part is obtained by comparing the initial blank and final part. The method has been applied for simulation of drawing an orthotropic blank to a rectangular cup. The accuracy of the presented method has been evaluated by numerical forward method (ABAQUS) and experiment results. The obtained blank dimensions and strain distribution are in good agreement with ABAQUS and experiment results. The existing errors can be reduced by considering bending effects in the formulations and more accurate material behavior model. However the proposed method can be used as a fast tool, to predict the shape and strain distribution blank in preliminary design stage. Since the blank shape helps for optimization of deep drawing process, so initial blank designing is the best advantage of inverse method. Better convergence and lower computation time are other advantages of inverse finite element method. This work shows that, classic inverse finite element method can be developed for design and optimization of deep drawing process of anisotropic materials by using efficient yield function.

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### Appendix

1- Cauchy-Green deformation tensor [B]:

$$\begin{cases}
B_{11} \\
B_{22} \\
B_{12}
\end{cases} = \frac{1}{(h_{2y} h_{3x} - h_{2x} h_{3y})^2} \times \begin{cases}
h_{3y}^2 L_2 - h_{2y}^2 L_3 - (L_2 + L_3 - L_1) h_{2y} h_{3y} \\
h_{3x}^2 L_2 - h_{2x}^2 L_3 - (L_2 + L_3 - L_1) h_{2x} h_{3x} \\
-h_{3x} h_{3y} L_2 - h_{2x} h_{2y} L_3 + \frac{1}{2} (L_2 + L_3 - L_1) (h_{2y} h_{3x} - h_{2x} h_{3y})
\end{cases}$$

2- Principal stretches:

$$\lambda_{1} = \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(B_{11} + B_{22}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \left(\left(B_{11} - B_{22}\right)^{2} + 4B_{12}^{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$
$$\lambda_{2} = \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(B_{11} + B_{22}\right) - \frac{1}{2} \left(\left(B_{11} - B_{22}\right)^{2} + 4B_{12}^{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$
$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\lambda_{1}^{-2} - B_{11}}{B_{12}}\right) = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{B_{12}}{\lambda_{1}^{-2} - B_{22}}\right)$$

3- Effective strain:

$$\varepsilon_{ef} = \sqrt{2\left[\frac{(F+H)\varepsilon_X^2 + (H+G)\varepsilon_Y^2 + 2H\varepsilon_X\varepsilon_Y}{FG + GH + HF} + \frac{2\varepsilon_{XY}^2}{N}\right]}$$