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OPTIMAL DESIGN OF HYDROFOIL AND MARINE PROPELLER USING MICRO-GENETIC ALGORITHM (μ GA)

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Abstract

This paper presents results from the application of the genetic algorithm (GA) technique to the design optimization of hydrofoil and marine propeller incorporating potential based boundary element method (BEM). Although, larger population size as implemented by simple genetic algorithm (SGA) could find the optimal individual after a fewer number of generations than smaller population size, it is penalized by a longer amount of time to evaluate fitness in every generation. An investigation is, therefore, conducted in this research to implement micro genetic algorithm (μ GA) with a very small population, and with simple genetic parameters, in order to achieve faster convergence to better solution from generation to generation. The technique is applied here to optimize hydrofoils of different plan forms, e.g., rectangular, elliptical, trapezoidal etc. Firstly, the hydrofoil design parameters, such as, angle of incidence, maximum thickness and camber ratios, aspect ratio, taper ratio, angle of sweep etc. are initialized randomly and the generated hydrofoil is analyzed by potential based boundary element method. GA then updates the design parameters over generation after generation and finally, finds an improved hydrofoil of maximum lift-drag ratio or maximum drag coefficient satisfying some design constraints. An improved blade or hydrofoil section is also designed by GA satisfying some design constraints. Finally, the technique is applied to the optimum design of marine propeller. In this study, μ GA is found useful and prospective tool for the design optimization of hydrofoil and marine propeller due to its faster convergence.

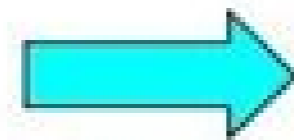
Keywords: Genetic algorithm, boundary element method, hydrofoil, propeller, design optimization

NOMENCLATURE

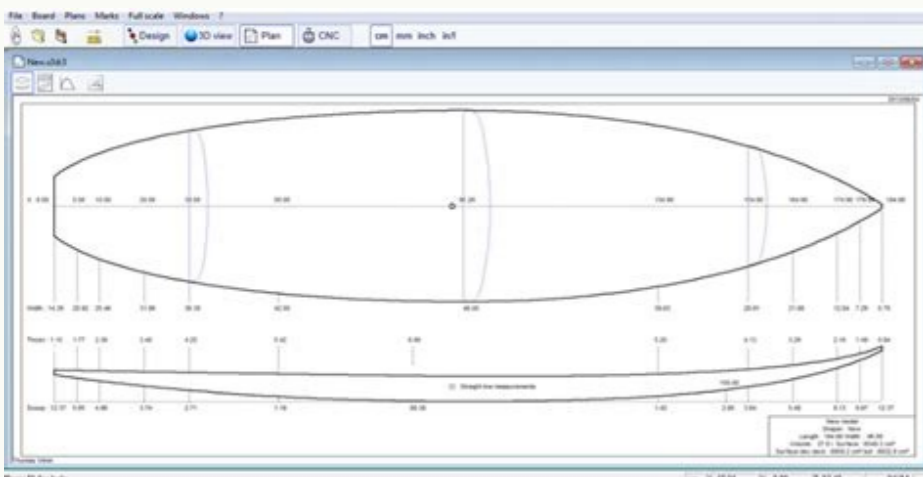
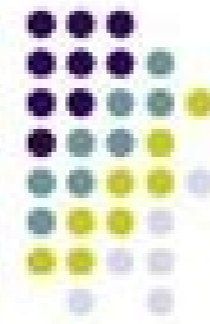
C_D	Drag coefficient	P_C	Probability of crossover
C_L	Lift coefficient	S	Span
C_{pmax}	Minimum pressure coefficient	t_{max}/C	Maximum thickness ratio
C_r, C_t	Root and tip chord respectively	y	Co-ordinate in vertical direction (2-D section), Co-ordinate in spanwise direction (3-D hydrofoil)
$f(x)$	Objective function	α	Angle of incidence
$F(x)$	Constrained objective function	β	Angle of sweep
f_{max}/C	Maximum camber ratio	η_o	Open water efficiency
$I_i(x)$	i -th inequality constraint	ξ	Penalty coefficients
K_T	Thrust coefficient	$\phi(x)$	Penalty term
K_Q	Torque coefficient	λ	Taper ratio
L/D	Lift-drag ratio	Λ	Aspect ratio
N_p	Population size		
N_c	Total number of constraints		

Agitator Selection & Design

- Process
 - Impeller Type
 - Impeller Diameter
 - Impeller Speed
- Mechanical
 - Power
 - Shaft



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