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## An inverse identification strategy for the mechanical parameters of a phenomenological hysteretic constitutive model

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### ABSTRACT

An inverse strategy is developed for identifying the parameters of the hysteretic phenomenological constitutive model presented in Vaiana et al. (2019) and belonging to a wider class of hysteretic models. The model, differently from the celebrated Bouc-Wen one, permits the definition of either stress-strain or load-displacement relationships by closed-form expressions that do not require any iterative algorithm for the complete characterization of its response. The identification strategy is based on two optimization procedures performed in sequence in which a mean-square residual between a target and a computed response is minimized. The computation of suitable first trials is shown to represent an essential step of the procedure and is performed by taking advantage of the fact that its parameters correspond to physical quantities characterizing the experimental hysteretic loop. The procedure has been tested by identifying the mechanical parameters of two theoretical and four experimental responses for which numerical results prove the robustness and effectiveness of the proposed identification strategy.

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## 1. Introduction

Constitutive models describing hysteretic behaviors play a widespread and significant role in several engineering applications. In general, the response of materials exhibiting hysteresis depends on the past history of the external actions besides their current value while it may be (for *rate-dependent* materials) or may not be (for *rate-independent* materials) influenced by the first time derivative of the action [1].

Applications of hysteretic models concern a large variety of scientific fields, mainly magnetics [2] and mechanics [3]. Within the field of structural engineering, hysteresis is involved in several applications involving ductile [4,5] and fragile materials [6], seismic devices [7–10], dampers [11,12] as well as for simulating the response of complex mechanical systems [13,14].

An important aspect for several applications concerns the convenience of adopting hysteretic models defined by means of a single function (instead of multi-linear ones) characterized by continuity conditions of the response and of its first derivative. This aspect has been highlighted for the case of random vibration applications [15,16] as well as for dynamic identification [17,18] and dynamic analysis of nanocomposites [19].

For this reason, several constitutive models have been proposed over years, the most widespread one being that due to Bouc [20] and later extended by Wen [16,21]. Its popularity depends on its capability of reproducing complex hysteretic

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shaped with a limited number of constitutive parameters. Being ruled by differential equations involving the response and its first- or higher-order time derivative, the Bouc-Wen model belongs to the class of differential constitutive models which also includes further formulations [22,23]. Subsequently, such a model has been extended by several authors in order to account for a variety of phenomena such as asymmetric [24] and degrading [15] hysteresis.

Although the main benefit of these differential formulations consists in their capability of reproducing a vast variety of hysteretic shapes and behaviors, they usually require numerical algorithms to be solved since closed-form solutions are available only for very peculiar cases [25]. Moreover, the presence of one or more differential equations to be solved strongly influences the procedures for determining the value of the constitutive parameters consistent with experimental data [26,27]. As an example, identification strategies of the Bouc-Wen parameters often involve complex procedures based on Bayesian inference [28,29], stochastic algorithms [30–32], polynomial approaches [33,34], genetic strategies [35] and differential evolution [36]. As discussed in [31], the main drawbacks affecting these strategies consist in the fact that most of them require to fix the value of some parameters to alleviate performance problems and, above all, that the pivotal estimation of the first trial parameters, which should be performed accordingly with the physics of the problem, is not straightforward.

Hysteretic models alternative to differential formulations are based on algebraic [37,38] and transcendental equations [39,40] although most of them were developed to describe a specific physical phenomenon so that their generalization, if possible, frequently presents significant limitations.

Within the framework of rate-independent, non-degrading symmetric hysteresis, a new class of uniaxial constitutive models has been recently proposed [41–43]. Such models are capable of modeling a broad variety of hysteretic behaviors by means of smooth curves whose expression is determined analytically.

Compared to the models available in the literature, such a class provides curves quite similar to the Bouc-Wen model, at least in terms of hysteresis shape and of softening-hardening phenomena. Its implementation turns out to be very convenient since it does not require solution of any differential equation; hence, the models [41–43] are generally faster and computationally less demanding than the Bouc-Wen-like models. Moreover, their constitutive parameters represent physical properties that can be directly related to quantities deduced from experimental data.

Despite of the latter aspect, the identification of the constitutive parameters represents a key feature to the diffusion of the class of models [41–43]. In fact, an estimation based only on mechanical considerations or fitting experimental curves, although effective in determining the magnitude of the parameters, lacks a sufficient accuracy and does not provide a measure of the errors.

To overcome such an issue, this research presents a rational and systematic strategy for identifying the constitutive parameters of the hysteretic model [43]. This has been chosen since it is the most advanced and versatile of those belonging to the class proposed in [41].

The proposed strategy consists in two optimization procedures performed in sequence aiming to minimize a least-square residual between the numerical response and an experimental curve. Least-square optimization has been successfully employed in several identification problems with similar features and proved to be a robust easy-to-implement and effective strategy. Nevertheless, since optimization is carried out by means of iterative algorithms, it is essential to determine proper first trials of the identifying parameters in order to ensure convergence to the global minimum [44]. For this reason, the proposed strategy is focused on a phenomenological determination of the first trials which takes advantage of the physical interpretation of the identified constitutive model.

Compared to analogous strategies performed for the parameter identification of differential models, the proposed strategy does not require any limitation of the parameters' values nor assumes any approximation. On the contrary, the proposed strategy proved to be robust and does not require any particular expertise as it will be shown by the numerical applications.

The paper is organized as follows: Section 2 provides a summary of the class of hysteretic models presented in [41] while Section 2.1 summarizes the detailed formulation of the Algebraic Model presented in [42] which is currently the most advanced one of the class and has been implemented in OpenSees, an open source framework oriented for finite element analysis [45].

Such a model has been adopted by the identification procedure hereby proposed and formulated in Section 3 while Section 3.4 introduces some general rules which can be adopted for extending the presented procedure to any model belonging to the class.

Finally, numerical analyses to investigate the robustness of the proposed procedure and to show its effectiveness are reported in Section 4 while conclusions are discussed in Section 5.

## 2. A review of the hysteretic material class

The general formulation of the class of hysteretic materials presented in [41] and extended in [42] establishes a relationship between a generalized force  $f$  and a generalized displacement  $u$ . It consists in a combination of four types of curves, specifically, two (upper and lower) limiting curves, denoted as  $c_u$  and  $c_l$ , and two transition curves,  $c^+$  and  $c^-$  relevant to positive and negative values of the velocity  $\dot{u}$ , respectively, see, e.g., Fig. 1(a).

The limiting curves  $c_u$  and  $c_l$  intercept the vertical axis at  $\pm f$ . The generic transition curve  $c^+$  has a starting point  $[u_i^+, f(u_i^+)]$  on  $c_l$  and asymptotically tends to  $c_u$ ; in particular, the distance between  $c^+$  and  $c_u$  becomes smaller than a fixed tolerance  $\delta$  at the displacement  $u_j^+ = u_i^+ + 2u_0$ . Analogously, the negative transition curve  $c^-$  begins on  $c_u$  and asymptotically tends to  $c_l$ .

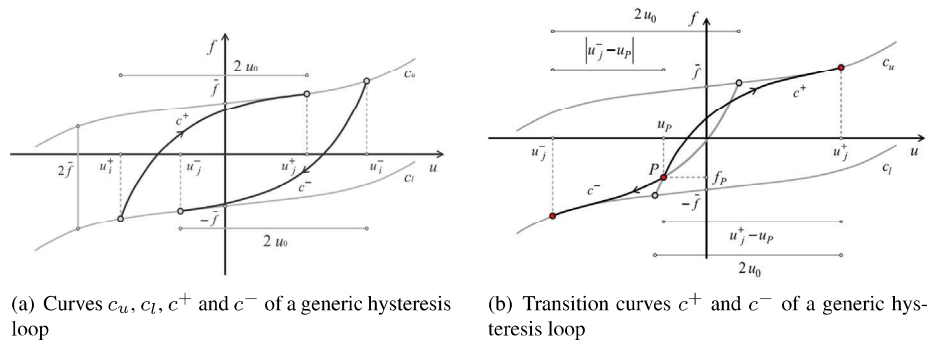


Fig. 1. Geometrical specifications of the hysteretic material class.

Each constitutive model belonging to the hysteretic class is defined by means of the generalized tangent stiffness expressed as function of the current displacement  $u$  and the relevant asymptotic displacement  $u_j^+$  or  $u_j^-$ , depending on the algebraic sign of  $\dot{u}$ , as:

$$\begin{aligned} k_t(u, u_j^+) &= k_e(u) + k_h(u, u_j^+) \quad \text{for } \dot{u} > 0 \\ k_t(u, u_j^-) &= k_e(u) + k_h(u, u_j^-) \quad \text{for } \dot{u} < 0 \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

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in which functions  $k_e$  and  $k_h$ , though arbitrary, need to be integrable with respect to  $u$ .

The essential point of the hysteretic class consists in the fact that, given an arbitrary point  $(u_p, f_p)$ , it is possible to univocally identify two transition curves  $c^+$  and  $c^-$  so that they intersect at point  $P$ , as shown in Fig. 1(b). Consequently, the values of  $u_j^+$  and  $u_j^-$  are also known. Thus, provided that  $k_t$  is integrable, the generalized force relevant to a displacement  $u$  turns out to be:

$$\begin{aligned} f(u) &= f_p + \int_{u_p}^u k_e(v) dv + \int_{u_p}^u k_h(v, u_j^+) dv \quad \text{for } \dot{u} > 0 \\ f(u) &= f_p + \int_{u_p}^u k_e(v) dv + \int_{u_p}^u k_h(v, u_j^-) dv \quad \text{for } \dot{u} < 0 \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

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We emphasize that the latter equations have been reported in an alternative form with respect to the original ones presented in [41] since they are more suitable for the description of the identification procedure.

Provided that the integrals of the functions  $k_e$  and  $k_h$  can be evaluated in closed form, the constitutive model can be exhaustively defined by an algebraic function and the generalized force can be computed in closed form avoiding numerical procedures.

Furthermore, to facilitate the implementation of the class of hysteretic models [41] in finite element frameworks, it is useful to introduce a symbolism consistent with the common practice in finite element analysis; thus, we shall denote by  $u_c$  and  $f$ , respectively, the generalized displacement and force at the last converged state, and by  $u_t$  is the trial value of the generalized displacement. Moreover, the algebraic sign of the generalized velocities are defined as:

$$\begin{aligned} s_c &= \text{sign}(\dot{u}_c) \\ s_t &= \text{sign}(\dot{u}_t) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

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Furthermore,  $k_e$  and  $k_h$  depend upon a set of material parameters specific to each instance of the class formulated in [41]. Hence, in order to formulate the identification procedure regardless of the adopted constitutive model, it is useful to group the constitutive parameters into two vectors  $\mathbf{x}_e$  and  $\mathbf{x}_h$ . Therefore, Eqs. (1) and (2) can be expressed as:

$$k_t(u_t, u_c, s_t, \mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h) = k_e(u_t, \mathbf{x}_e) + k_h(u_t, u_c, s_t, \mathbf{x}_h) \quad (4)$$

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$$f(u_t, u_c, s_t, \mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h) = f_c + \int_{u_c}^{u_t} k_e(u, \mathbf{x}_e) du + \int_{u_c}^{u_t} k_h(u, u_c, s_t, \mathbf{x}_h) du \quad (5)$$

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### 2.1. The algebraic hysteretic material

The Algebraic Model presented in [42] is based on a set of five parameters, namely  $\mathbf{x}_h = [k_a, k_b, \alpha]$  defining  $k_h$  and  $\mathbf{x}_e = [\beta_1, \beta_2]$  relevant to  $k_e$ . In particular,  $k_a$  is proportional to the initial stiffness of curves  $c^+$  and  $c^-$ ,  $k_b$  is the tangent stiffness of the limiting curves at  $u = 0$  and  $\alpha$  is a parameter which rules the passage between the transition and the limiting curves. Parameters  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  influence the shape of the limiting curves.

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The model uses two auxiliary parameters defined as:

$$u_0 = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{k_a - k_b}{\delta} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} - 1 \right]; \quad \bar{f} = \frac{k_a - k_b}{2} \left[ \frac{(1 + 2u_0)^{1-\alpha} - 1}{1 - \alpha} \right] \quad (6)$$

where  $\delta$  denotes a geometric tolerance. Specifically, the response is computed by two transition curves  $c^+$  and  $c^-$  which tend asymptotically to the limiting curves  $c_l$  and  $c_u$ . The discontinuity point between each transition curve and the corresponding limiting one corresponds to a gap which is not greater than  $\delta$ .

The current value  $u_j$  of the asymptotic displacement is:

$$u_j = u_c + s_t(1 + 2u_0) - s_t \left( \frac{s_t(1 - \alpha)}{k_a - k_b} f_c - \beta_1 u_c^3 - \beta_2 u_c^5 - k_b u_c - s_t \bar{f} + (k_a - k_b) \frac{(1 + 2u_0)^{1-\alpha}}{s_t(1 - \alpha)} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\alpha}} \quad (7)$$

and the trial force is given by:

$$f(u_t, u_c, s_t, \mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h) = \beta_1 u_t^3 + \beta_2 u_t^5 + k_b u_t + (k_a - k_b) \left( \frac{(1 + s_t u_t - s_t u_j + 2u_0)^{1-\alpha}}{s_t(1 - \alpha)} - \frac{(1 + 2u_0)^{1-\alpha} - 1}{1 - \alpha} \right) + s_t \bar{f} \quad (8)$$

Note that the tangent stiffness turns out to be:

$$k_t(u_t, u_c, s_t, \mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h) = \frac{df}{du_t} = 3\beta_1 u_t^2 + 5\beta_2 u_t^4 + k_b + s_t(k_a - k_b)(1 + s_t u_t - s_t u_j + 2u_0)^{-\alpha} \quad (9)$$

so that, recalling Eq. (4),  $k_e$  and  $k_h$  turn out to be:

$$\begin{aligned} k_e(u_t, \mathbf{x}_e) &= 3\beta_1 u_t^2 + 5\beta_2 u_t^4 \\ k_h(u_t, u_c, s_t, \mathbf{x}_h) &= k_b + s_t(k_a - k_b)(1 + s_t u_t - s_t u_j + 2u_0)^{-\alpha} \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

### 3. Parameter identification procedure

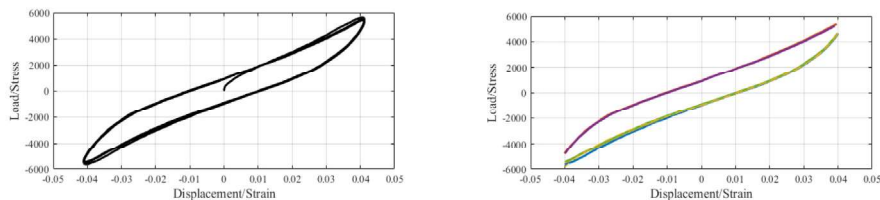
To fix the ideas, let us consider an experimental response expressed by means of a load-displacement or stress-strain curve consisting in one or more hysteretic cycles as the one reported in Fig. 2(a).

Before starting the identification procedure, it is often necessary to delete the tips of the curve corresponding to the local maxima and minima of the displacement. In fact, curves to be identified are often determined by quasi-static experimental tests in which the response is affected by inertial contributions of the testing device. As a result, curves present smooth transitions of the response at those regions, corresponding to the tips of the hysteretic cycles, where the sign of the velocity is inverted.

Moreover, it is convenient to isolate each branch of the hysteretic cycles so that the identification can be performed separately for each one of them. Actually, the identification procedure presented in this section is based on a least-square minimization and is very sensitive to slight differences between the responses of different loops. Hence, even small differences between experimental cycles can affect the value of the identified parameters so that they could be not particularly representative of the physics of the experiment. In fact, the theoretical identified response will be a sort of average between the different cycles. Therefore, a global optimum, although capable of determining a good average of the response, can lack in reproducing appropriate stiffness trends, such as hardening and softening, since response derivatives are not taken into account by the procedure.

Considering that experimental data are usually provided in discrete form at fixed displacements  $u_i$ ,  $i = 1 \dots n$ , where  $n$  is the number of the discretization steps, we collect the experimental values  $f_e(u_i)$  relevant to a single branch of the hysteresis loop within the vector  $\mathbf{f}_e$ .

The identification procedure consists in a least-square optimization in which parameters are identified by minimizing the residual between the experimental response and the computed curve. Although least-squares optimization is not the sole



(a) Load-displacement response (displacements in  $m$ , forces in  $N$ )

(b) Branches of the experimental curve

Fig. 2. Sample of an experimental response relevant to a quasi-static uniaxial test of a wire rope isolator.



strategy useful for the parameter identification, it has been chosen mainly for its robustness in model parameter estimation [46]; moreover, it has been successfully used by the first Author to address even more complex problems [47,48].

To formulate the optimization problem, the residual  $\Theta(\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h)$  is defined as a vector whose  $i$ -th entry is defined by

$$\Theta(u_i, \mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h) = \frac{f(u_i, u_{i-1}, S_t, \mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h) - f_e(u_i)}{nf_e(u_i)} \quad (11)$$

so that the norm of  $\Theta(\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h)$  represents the squared-mean-square of the gap between the experimental data and the computational response associated with parameters  $\mathbf{x}_e$  and  $\mathbf{x}_h$ .

The parameter identification is performed by solving the following optimization problem:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_e \\ \hat{\mathbf{x}}_h \end{bmatrix} = \operatorname{argmin}[\|\Theta(\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h)\|_{\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h}] \quad (12)$$

where  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_e$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_h$  are the identified values of  $\mathbf{x}_e$  and  $\mathbf{x}_h$  and the operator  $\|\cdot\|$  denotes the norm of a vector and  $\operatorname{argmin}[f(\mathbf{x})|\mathbf{x}]$  denotes the argument  $\mathbf{x}$  which minimizes the objective function  $f(\mathbf{x})$ .

In spite of its formal simplicity, the optimization problem of Eq. (12) must be carefully assessed. In fact, it is usually solved by adopting numerical algorithms such as the Interior Point algorithm [49] which has been adopted in this research.

For the case of strongly nonlinear residuals, the accuracy of the identified parameters depends on the starting point which is adopted for the minimization procedure since such algorithms can converge to local minima of the residual norm. For this reason, it is essential to estimate appropriate starting values for  $\mathbf{x}_e$  and  $\mathbf{x}_h$  in order to get confident about the identified parameters.

In general, an appropriate trial of  $\mathbf{x}_h$  is far more easier to be estimated with respect to that of  $\mathbf{x}_e$ , at least for what concerns the order of magnitude. In fact, parameters of  $\mathbf{x}_h$  are strongly related to physical quantities, such as forces and stiffness at given points, directly determined by the hysteretic branches.

### 3.1. Preliminary optimization

If we assume that the first trial of  $\mathbf{x}_e$ , denoted by  $\mathbf{x}_e^0$ , is set equal to zero (i.e.,  $\beta_1 = 0$  and  $\beta_2 = 0$ ), the constitutive model defines an hysteretic branch consisting of straight lines connected by smooth curves, as reported in Fig. 3(a). In such a case, parameter  $k_a$  is the stiffness at the initial point of the loading curve while  $k_b$  is the stiffness of the upper and lower limiting lines. For this reason, it is possible to estimate the first trials  $k_a^0, k_b^0$  and  $\alpha^0$  by conveniently analyzing the target curve.

In particular, the first trial of  $k_a$  can be directly evaluated by numerically computing the derivative of the experimental curve at its beginning point. Concerning  $k_b$ , it is useful to recall from [42] that the role of  $k_e(u_t, \mathbf{x}_e)$  consists in determining deviations of the hysteretic curve from the straight lines determined by  $k_h$ . Moreover, Eq. (10) states that  $k_e(0, \mathbf{x}_e) = 0$ ; thus, a good estimate of  $k_b$  can be computed as the slope of the line tangent to the experimental curve at the origin, as shown in Fig. 3(b).

A first trial  $\alpha^0$  of the parameter  $\alpha$  can be computed, assuming  $u_0$  to be unknown, by inverting Eq. (6). In this respect, we remind that  $u_0$  represents half of the displacement for which the distance between the transition and the limiting curve becomes smaller than the tolerance  $\delta$ , as shown in Fig. 1(a). Hence, a good estimate for  $u_0$  can be obtained by setting  $2u_0 = \Delta$  in which  $\Delta$  is the amplitude of the experimental branch, as shown in Fig. 3(b).

Note that the latter assumption is not necessarily accurate; it is conventional and in general overestimates the real value of  $\alpha$ . Nevertheless, its purpose is simply to estimate the magnitude of such a parameter in order to perform an optimization problem.

Finally, adopting the first trials  $k_a^0$  and  $k_b^0$  as stiffnesses and inverting Eq. 6, the first trial of  $\alpha$  is:

$$\alpha^0 = \frac{\log \left[ \frac{(k_a^0 - k_b^0) / \delta}{\log(1 + \Delta)} \right]}{\log(1 + \Delta)} \quad (13)$$

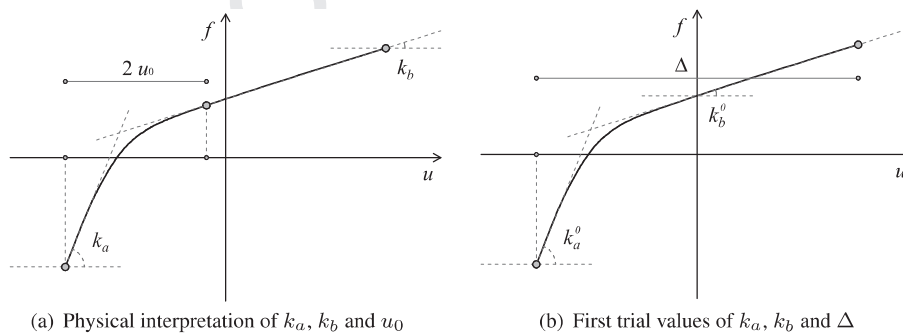


Fig. 3. Estimation of the first trial values of the parameters determining  $k_h(u)$ .

242 The optimization procedure is then performed by an iterative algorithm and provides a first set of estimates  
 243  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_e^1 = (\hat{\beta}_1^1, \hat{\beta}_2^1)$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_h^1 = (\hat{k}_a^1, \hat{k}_b^1, \hat{\alpha}^1)$  of the whole set of parameters:

$$244 \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_e^1 \\ \hat{\mathbf{x}}_h^1 \end{bmatrix} = \operatorname{argmin}[\|\Theta(\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h)\| \|\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h\|] \quad (14)$$

247 **3.2. Refined optimization**

248 In general, the preliminary optimization fails to determine the constitutive parameters with sufficient accuracy. In par-  
 249 ticular, the first trial of the optimization algorithm is esteemed as function of the stiffness at the loop edges and of the loop  
 250 amplitude.

251 Estimation of the first trials of  $k_a, k_b$  and  $\alpha$  performed in SubSection 3.1 is easy and straightforward as long as  $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = 0$ ;  
 252 conversely, evaluating a whole set of first estimates of the parameters is complex and unreliable.

253 The actual values for the parameters  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  can be significantly differ from zero, i.e. the initial trial values assumed for  
 254 them. This can compromise the convergence of the algorithm to the global minimum.

255 For this reason, it is necessary to perform a further optimization after the estimation of more accurate first trials denoted  
 256 as  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_e^0 = (\bar{\beta}_1^0, \bar{\beta}_2^0)$ . In particular, the two scalar parameters  $\bar{\beta}_1^0$  and  $\bar{\beta}_2^0$  can be estimated by solving a system of two scalar equa-  
 257 tions. These can be obtained by imposing that the theoretical stiffness at given points is equal to the experimental stiffness of  
 258 the hysteresis loop. Namely, denoting by  $u_k$  the displacement relevant to an arbitrary point belonging to the hysteresis loop,  
 259 it is possible to determine the experimental value  $k_{exp}(u_k)$  of the stiffness by finite differences. Then, we impose that the the-  
 260 oretical stiffness is equal to the experimental value:

$$261 k_e(u_k, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_e^0) + k_h(u_k, u_c, s_t, \hat{\mathbf{x}}_h^1) = k_{exp}(u_k) \quad (15)$$

262 in which stiffness  $k_h$  is computed by assuming the parameters  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_h^1 = (\hat{k}_a^1, \hat{k}_b^1, \hat{\alpha}^1)$  computed by the preliminary optimization  
 263 and  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_e^0$  is the unknown variable.

264 Since  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_e^0$  has two components, it is necessary to choose two points  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  at which the values  $k_{exp}(u_1)$  and  $k_{exp}(u_2)$  are  
 265 computed. In this respect, it is important that  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  are relevant to points of the hysteresis loop for which the sensitivity  
 266 of  $k_e$  with respect to  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  is significant.

267 To this end we remark that the sensitivity of  $k_e$  with respect to the points with zero displacement is negligible, in fact,  
 268 recalling Eq. (10),

$$269 k_e(0, \mathbf{x}_e) = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{x}_e \quad (16)$$

270 Furthermore, as shown in [42], the role of the parameters  $\mathbf{x}_e$  essentially consists in: i) introducing local maxima and ii)  
 271 introducing hardening at the tip of the loop.

272 For this reason, the first significant point, whose displacement is denoted as  $u_1$ , is assumed to be located at the end of the  
 273 loop. Moreover, if the experimental curve presents a local maximum at  $u_2$ , as shown in Fig. 4(a), it is convenient to adopt it as  
 274 the second significant point since it represents a strong physical property of the hysteresis loop that can be conveniently  
 275 used as constraint.

276 Should the curve be monotonic,  $u_2$  can be set as a half of the maximum displacement of the loop, as shown in Fig. 4(b).  
 277 This because it is not close to the origin, so that sensitivity of  $k_e$  should be not negligible, and is far enough from the loop  
 278 edge, so that both significant points do not influence each other.

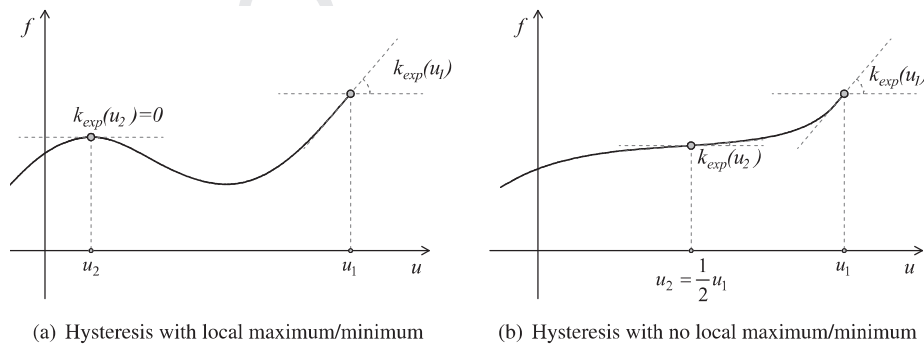


Fig. 4. Significant points adopted for the estimation of the first trials of the parameters  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$ .

Finally, the relevant stiffness values  $k_{exp}(u_1)$  and  $k_{exp}(u_2)$  are determined by applying finite differences to the experimental curve.

It is worth being emphasized that computation of  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_e^0 = (\bar{\beta}_1^0, \bar{\beta}_2^0)$  aims to determine a first trial to be used into an iterative algorithm; thus, it is possible to introduce some approximations while computing  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_e^0$ . In this sense, we can assume that both significant points  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  are located on the limit curve. Therefore, recalling Eq. (9), the stiffness turns out to be:

$$k_t(u_t, u_c, s_t, \mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h) = 3\beta_1 u_t^2 + 5\beta_2 u_t^4 + k_b \quad (17)$$

since:

$$\lim_{u_t \rightarrow \infty} k_b + s_t(k_a - k_b)(1 + s_t u_t - s_t u_j + 2u_0)^{-\alpha} = k_b \quad (18)$$

as shown in [43].

We can also assume that  $k_b = \hat{k}_b^1$ , i.e. the value obtained by the preliminary optimization. Thus, it is possible to determine the first trials of  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  by solving the linear system:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \bar{\beta}_1^0 \\ \bar{\beta}_2^0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3u_1^2 & 5u_1^4 \\ 3u_2^2 & 5u_2^4 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} k_{exp}(u_1) - \hat{k}_b^1 \\ k_{exp}(u_2) - \hat{k}_b^1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (19)$$

and perform a further optimization analysis by an iterative algorithm defined as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_e^* \\ \mathbf{x}_h^* \end{bmatrix} = \operatorname{argmin}[\|\Theta(\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h)\| | \mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h] \quad (20)$$

having  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_h^1 = [\hat{k}_a^1, \hat{k}_b^1, \hat{\alpha}^1]^T$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_e^0 = [\bar{\beta}_1^0, \bar{\beta}_2^0]^T$  as initial values. The identified constitutive parameters are denoted by  $\mathbf{x}_e^*$  and  $\mathbf{x}_h^*$ . For the reader's convenience, a summary of the proposed strategy is reported in the frame below.

### 3.3. Summary of the identification strategy

1. Fix a number of pairs  $u_i, f_e(u_i)$  on the (discretized) experimental response of a single branch of the hysteretic loop; cut the tails if necessary;
2. Compute the first estimate  $\mathbf{x}_h^0$  of parameters  $\mathbf{x}_h$ :
  - $k_a^0$  is the tangent stiffness at the beginning of the experimental branch;
  - $k_b^0$  is the tangent stiffness at the zero-displacement point of the experimental branch;
  - $\alpha^0$  is computed by Eq. (13):

$$\alpha^0 = \frac{\log \left[ \frac{(k_a^0 - k_b^0) / \delta}{\log(1 + \Delta)} \right]}{\log(1 + \Delta)}$$

3. Perform the *Preliminary Optimization* problem of Eq. (14)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_e^1 \\ \hat{\mathbf{x}}_h^1 \end{bmatrix} = \operatorname{argmin}[\|\Theta(\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h)\| | \mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h]$$

in order to get  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_e^1 = (\hat{\beta}_1^1, \hat{\beta}_2^1)$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_h^1 = (\hat{k}_a^1, \hat{k}_b^1, \hat{\alpha}^1)$ ;

4. Determine the two significant points, represented either in Fig. 4(a) or 4(b), depending on the shape of the experimental curve, with displacements  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  and stiffness  $k_{exp}(u_1)$  and  $k_{exp}(u_2)$ ;
5. Solve the linear system of Eqs. (19):

$$\begin{bmatrix} \bar{\beta}_1^0 \\ \bar{\beta}_2^0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3u_1^2 & 5u_1^4 \\ 3u_2^2 & 5u_2^4 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} k_{exp}(u_1) - \hat{k}_b^1 \\ k_{exp}(u_2) - \hat{k}_b^1 \end{bmatrix}$$

in order to get  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_e^0 = (\bar{\beta}_1^0, \bar{\beta}_2^0)$ ;

6. Perform the *Refined Optimization* problem of Eq. (20)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_e^* \\ \mathbf{x}_h^* \end{bmatrix} = \operatorname{argmin}[\|\Theta(\mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h)\| | \mathbf{x}_e, \mathbf{x}_h]$$

starting from the trials  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_h^1 = (\hat{k}_a^1, \hat{k}_b^1, \hat{\alpha}^1)$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_e^0 = (\bar{\beta}_1^0, \bar{\beta}_2^0)$  in order to get the identified parameters  $\mathbf{x}_e^*$  and  $\mathbf{x}_h^*$ ;

344

345 As a final remark, experimental hysteresis loops usually consist of more than a single cycle so that the identification pro-  
 346 cedure identifies the constitutive parameters relevant to each single branch separately. Thus, the average of the values com-  
 347 puted by analyzing each branch is assumed as the comprehensive set of parameters that were looked for.

348 The presented strategy has proved to be stable and capable of addressing experimental loops with different shapes.  
 349 Numerical applications to illustrate its capabilities are reported in Section 4.

350 The identification procedure has been specialized to the Algebraic Model [42] since it represents the most advanced  
 351 model belonging to the phenomenological class [41] but it can be easily generalized, as discussed in the next subsection,  
 352 by defining general rules to define first trials of the two optimization procedures described above.

### 353 3.4. A possible generalization of the identification strategy

354 A common property of the mechanical models belonging to the phenomenological class presented in [41] consists in the  
 355 fact that loops associated with stiffness  $k_h$  present linear behavior for both the limiting curves and the initial part of the tran-  
 356 sition curves. Such models differ by the specific formulation of the function ruling the transition phase between such linear  
 357 parts.

358 For this reason, the identification strategy can still be performed by adopting the stiffness at the initial point of the hys-  
 359 teresis branch and at a suitable point of the limiting curve.

360 Depending on the shape of the experimental loop, these can be computed at specific points or, whenever the experimen-  
 361 tal data are not smooth, by trend lines evaluated over limited intervals.

362 Further parameters influencing the transition phase can be computed by determining the displacement intervals  $\Delta_0$  for  
 363 which the limiting curve is reached, as represented in Fig. 5(a), as well as the force increment  $f_i$  associated with the displace-  
 364 ment  $\Delta_1$  being the overall loop amplitude.

365 In general, it is necessary to adopt a number of experimental data equal to the number of required parameters. It is also  
 366 important that, depending on the mathematical formulation of the constitutive model, these data are linearly independent.

367 Concerning the determination of the first trials to be adopted for the second optimization procedure, see, e.g., Steps 4 and  
 368 5 of the algorithm, it is possible to choose a set of significant points on the experimental hysteresis. Convenient points are  
 369 represented by the extremal tip of the curve and points in which the curve presents local maxima and/or minima.

370 Fig. 5(b) shows a generic hysteretic branch in which some of the point of interest and their stiffnesses have been  
 371 highlighted.

372 Each point represents an algebraic condition expressed by:

$$373 k_e(u_i, \mathbf{x}_e) + k_h(u_i, u_c, s_t, \hat{\mathbf{x}}_h^1) - k_{exp}(u_i) = 0 \quad (21)$$

376 and representing the  $i$ -th equation of a system in the unknown vector  $\mathbf{x}_e$  whose solution yields the trial estimate  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_e^0$ . It is  
 377 worth being emphasized that, if the specific constitutive model is conveniently formulated, the system of Eqs. (21) can be  
 378 solved in closed form.

## 379 4. Numerical applications

380 In order to test the identification procedure proposed in Section 3 in conjunction with the Algebraic Model described in  
 381 Section 2.1, a set of theoretical and experimental responses has been used as target of the identification algorithm.

382 The first four identifications have been carried out on the theoretical responses provided by the Algebraic Model associ-  
 383 ated with the sets of parameters reported in Table 1. Such procedures aim to investigate the consistency of the proposed

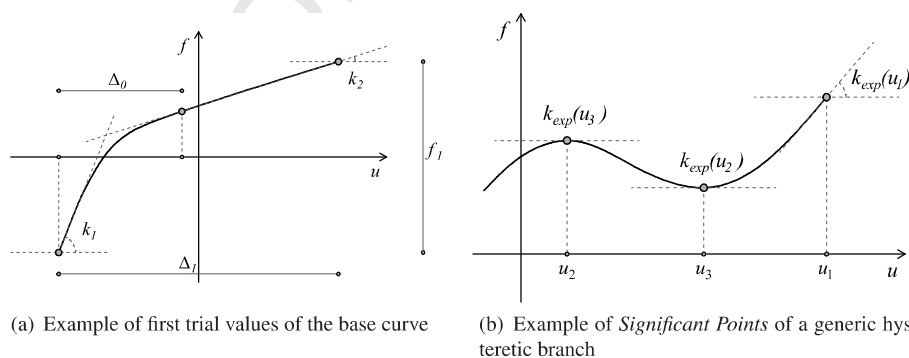


Fig. 5. Estimation of the first trial values of the parameters determining  $k_h(u)$ .



**Table 1**  
Constitutive parameters of the Algebraic Model adopted for the identification of the theoretical response.

Test	$k_a$	$k_b$	$\alpha$	$\beta_1$	$\beta_2$
AM1	100	10	20	-4	-1.5
AM2	120	5	30	-15	15
AM3	100	10	20	0	0
AM4	120	5	30	2	2

384 algorithm with the mechanical formulation of the constitutive model. In particular, the algorithm is expected to provide  
385 exactly the initial parameters adopted for the generation of the theoretical responses as well as null residuals.

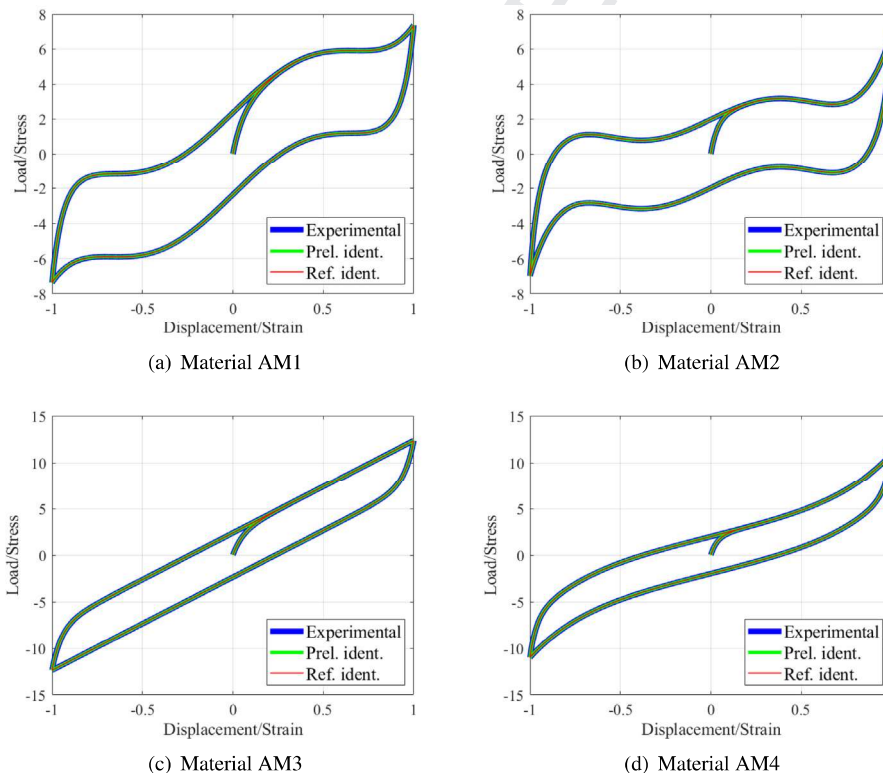
386 Figs. 6(d) show the theoretical hysteresis loops of the Algebraic Model computed by assuming the values of Table 1. The  
387 reported curves represent the load-displacement target curve (represented in blue), the responses corresponding to the  
388 identified parameters, respectively, by the first and the second optimization procedure relevant to Steps 3 (green curve)  
389 and 6 (red curve) of the strategy summarized in Section 3.

390 As a matter of fact, the procedure exactly identifies the values of the assumed parameters and the residual turns out to be  
391 zero for both models.

392 In particular, the preliminary optimization procedure, representing Step 3 of the algorithm in Section 3.3, is sufficiently  
393 accurate to determine the parameters with no approximations. However, this phenomenon, which is not common in pres-  
394 ence of experimental data, is due to the fact that the target curve is an artificial response computed by the very same con-  
395 stitutive model adopted for the identification procedure.

396 To investigate the capabilities of the proposed strategy in case of real applications, four experimental hysteresis loops  
397 have been adopted as target responses. The first one, shown in Fig. 8(a), is the mechanical response of a bolted Steel Rein-  
398 forced Elastomeric Bearing (SREB) subject to dynamic actions tested by Tsai et al. [50]. It is a high-displacements rubber  
399 bearing having square cross section with dimensions  $106 \times 106$  mm, 65 mm height and with thickness of the rubber layers  
400 of 41 mm.

401 A further experimental loop, shown in Fig. 8(b), is relevant to a Fiber Reinforced Rubber Bearer (FREB) tested by Kelly and  
402 Takhirov [51]; the bearer has circular cross section with diameter of 305 mm, height of 140 mm and thickness of rubber lay-  
403 ers of 102 mm.



**Fig. 6.** Theoretical responses of the Algebraic Models with parameters of Table 1 and identified curves.

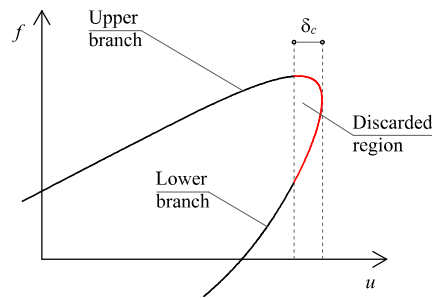


Fig. 7. Sample of a typical splitting of two consecutive branches of an hysteretic loop with deletion of the final tip region:  $\delta_c$  depends on the particular hysteresis loop and ranges between  $10^{-3}$  and  $2 \cdot 10^{-4}$  in the assumed experiments.

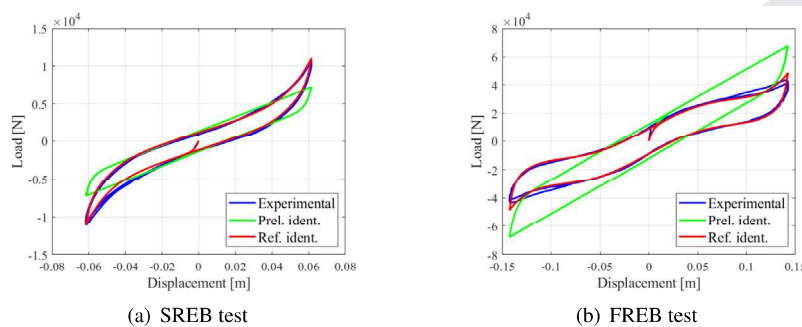


Fig. 8. Target responses of the SREB and FREB experimental tests (blue curves) and identified curves with parameters of Tables 2 and 3.

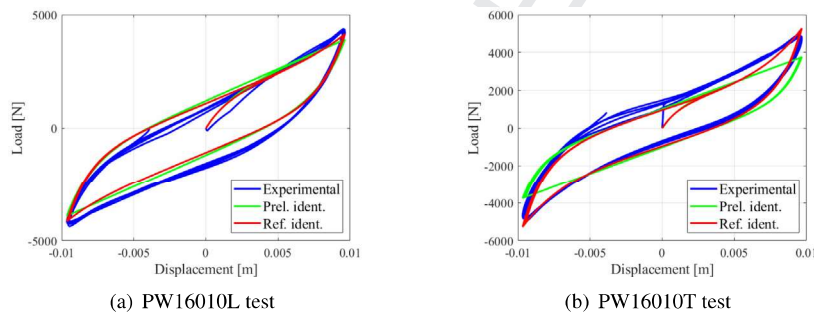


Fig. 9. Target responses of the experimental tests (blue curves) and identified curves with parameters of Tables 2 and 3.

404 Two further loops, included in Fig. 9, correspond to the longitudinal and transverse experimental response of a wire-rope  
 405 isolator type PWHS 16010 tested by Vaiana et al. [52]. The device has 267 mm length, 100 mm height, 110 mm width and 16  
 406 mm rope diameter. The device has been tested by applying loads along its longitudinal direction (test PW16010L) and along  
 407 its transverse direction (test PW16010T).

408 The previous experimental responses have been selected to provide a comprehensive set of curves exhibiting different  
 409 features that make more significant the numerical testing of the proposed procedure.

410 All experimental tests consisted in imposing a sinusoidal displacement, with specific amplitude and frequency, under the  
 411 effect of an axial load; the recorded response is the horizontal reaction component along the displacement direction. We  
 412 refer to the original papers for further details about the experimental protocols, which are omitted for brevity, since their  
 413 load-displacement response is sufficient to perform the parameter identification. Tables reporting the values of the load-  
 414 displacement response of such experimental tests can be downloaded at [53].

415 Each experimental response has been adopted as the target of the proposed identification strategy. In particular, hystere-  
 416 sis loops have been split into monotonic branches whose initial and final tips have been discarded in order to avoid inertial

417 effects of the testing machines. Fig. 7 reports a detail of a typical hysteresis loop in which the region affected by inertial phe-  
418 nomena is shown in red. The upper and lower branches are split and analyzed separately while the red region is deleted. The  
419 amplitude of the tip cuts, depending on each specific response, have been set equal to 0.0001 m for the SREB test, 0.001 m for  
420 the FREB test and 0.0002 for the PW16010L and PW16010T tests.

421 First trials of the preliminary optimization have been computed according to Step 2 of the strategy summarized in Sec-  
422 tion 3.1. For the reader's convenience, such values have been reported in columns 2–4 of Tables B.4–B.7 of Appendix B.

423 The residual has been defined according to Eq. (11) and the preliminary optimization of Step 3 of the algorithm has been  
424 performed by the Interior-Point algorithm [49,54,55], implemented in Matlab v. R2019a, with tolerance  $10^{-8}$  and adopting  
425 the following bounds for the constitutive parameters within the optimization algorithm:  $k_a > 0, k_b \leq k_a, \alpha \neq 1$ .

426 The results of such first optimization are reported in Tables B.8–B.11 of Appendix B.

427 Such identified values have been used to determine the first trials of the refined optimization according to Steps 4 and 5 of  
428 the algorithm summarized in Section 3.3. The computed values are reported in columns 5–9 of Tables B.4–B.7 of Appendix B.

429 The refined optimization (Step 6) has been performed by adopting the residual of Eq. (11) and by using a Interior Point  
430 algorithm [49] implemented in Matlab with tolerance  $10^{-12}$ . Bounds analogous to the ones adopted by the preliminary opti-  
431 mization were enforced by nonlinear transformations of the parameters.

432 Results of the refined optimization are reported in Tables B.12–B.15 of Appendix B.

433 Such a procedure has been repeated for each branch of the considered hysteresis loops. Obviously, for each one of them, a  
434 peculiar set of parameters has been identified. Thus, the identified values of the constitutive parameters relevant to each  
435 experimental test have been computed as averages of the values corresponding to each hysteresis branch.

436 The values of the constitutive parameters identified by the preliminary optimization of Step 3 of the algorithm are  
437 reported in Table 2 while Table 3 reports the parameters identified by the refined optimization corresponding to Step 6.

438 Figs. 8 and 9 report the load–displacement curves relevant to each identified test. In particular, the blue curves correspond  
439 to the experimental response; the green ones correspond to the response of the Algebraic Model defined by the parameters  
440 identified by the preliminary optimization (Table 2) while the red curves represent the response of the Algebraic Model com-  
441 puted by adopting the parameters identified by the refined optimization (Table 3).

442 The responses relevant to the parameters identified by the refined optimization show a very good matching with respect  
443 to the experimental ones, as confirmed by the values of the residuals at convergence, reported in the last column of Table 3. It  
444 is worth being emphasized that, although the identified curves tend to follow the experimental response, they catch signif-  
445 icant features of the target loops such as hardening at the branch edges, stiffness trend and inflection points.

446 On the contrary, curves corresponding to the parameters identified by the preliminary optimization present very signif-  
447 icant discrepancies with respect to the experimental ones, as confirmed by the values of the residual at convergence reported  
448 in the last column of Table 2. As a matter of fact, the values of  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  identified by the preliminary identification (Table 2)  
449 present a magnitude which is significantly smaller than the one of the corresponding values identified by the refined opti-  
450 mization (Table 3). This difference is due to the fact that the preliminary identification assumes zero initial trials for  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$   
451 and such value is significantly far from the solution. For this reason, the sensitivity of the residual with respect to such  
452 parameters is negligible and the optimization converges to a local minimum.

453 This aspect confirms the needing to perform two separate optimization procedures (i.e., Steps 3 and 6) in order to cor-  
454 rectly identify the constitutive parameters.

455 It is worth being emphasized that, for specific values of the parameter  $\alpha$ , Eq. (6) provides complex values for  $u_0$  and  $\bar{f}$  as  
456 well as for the material response. Nevertheless, such an issue is generally avoided by the optimization procedure since a non-

**Table 2**

Averages of the identified constitutive parameters relevant to the experimental hysteresis loops. Preliminary optimization.

Test	$k_a$ [N/m]	$k_b$ [N/m]	$\alpha$	$\beta_1$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\beta_2$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]	Residual norm
SREB	$1.1 \cdot 10^6$	$9.5 \cdot 10^4$	371.59	29.88	$0.075 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$2.2 \cdot 10^{-2}$
FREB	$4.6 \cdot 10^6$	$3.9 \cdot 10^5$	174.60	−506.64	1.48	$6.8 \cdot 10^{-2}$
PW16010L	$1.7 \cdot 10^6$	$2.7 \cdot 10^5$	593.0	0.076	$4.8 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$2.3 \cdot 10^{-3}$
PW16010T	$1.97 \cdot 10^6$	$2.8 \cdot 10^5$	832.9	0.81	0.001	$6.7 \cdot 10^{-3}$

**Table 3**

Averages of the identified constitutive parameters relevant to the experimental hysteresis loops. Refined optimization.

Test	$k_a$ [N/m]	$k_b$ [N/m]	$\alpha$	$\beta_1$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\beta_2$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]	Residual norm
SREB	$1.2 \cdot 10^6$	$8.0 \cdot 10^4$	504.44	$8.5 \cdot 10^5$	$5.4 \cdot 10^8$	$4.6 \cdot 10^{-3}$
FREB	$5.3 \cdot 10^6$	$3.7 \cdot 10^5$	280.43	$-2.4 \cdot 10^7$	$9.8 \cdot 10^8$	$7.6 \cdot 10^{-3}$
PW16010L	$1.8 \cdot 10^6$	$2.6 \cdot 10^5$	704.96	$1.0 \cdot 10^8$	$5.0 \cdot 10^{11}$	$8.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$
PW16010T	$2.1 \cdot 10^6$	$2.5 \cdot 10^5$	981.3	$1.04 \cdot 10^9$	$1.07 \cdot 10^{13}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^{-3}$

negligible imaginary part of the residual increases the value of the objective function. For this reason, it is convenient to perform a numerical check after the optimization procedure in order to avoid such a drawback.

Concerning the analyzed cases, all the identified parameters provide non-complex values of the response.

## 5. Conclusions

An inverse strategy for the identification of constitutive parameters characterizing materials modeled by the phenomenological model [42] has been developed. It is based on two optimization algorithms performed in sequence aiming to minimize a residual defined as the normalized mean-square error between a target experimental load-displacement curve and the response of the theoretical model proposed in [42].

To ensure robustness of the minimization procedures, a strategy for determining suitable first trials has been introduced in the algorithm. Specifically, trial parameters are computed by closed-form relationships analyzing physical properties of the experimental data, such as stiffness in peculiar regions of the experimental loops.

The procedure has been developed for the Algebraic Model presented in [42], currently the most versatile and comprehensive material developed within the phenomenological class [41]; however, it can be easily extended to other constitutive models belonging to the same family as detailed in the paper.

Effectiveness and efficiency of the proposed algorithm have been proved by a set of numerical applications. Specifically, the strategy has been applied to two artificial responses proving its theoretical soundness. Moreover, four experimental responses have been identified in order to investigate the performances of the proposed strategy for real case identifications.

The numerical results have proved the accuracy of the algorithm in determining constitutive parameters of the Algebraic Model since the load-displacement curves computed by the identified parameters correspond to very small residual norms and catch the main features, such as hardening at the loop edges, stiffness trend and inflection points, of all experimental tests.

The algebraic material developed in [42] has been also implemented in OpenSees [45], an open-source framework for finite-element analysis, in order to ensure replicability of the results and foster the dissemination of such a phenomenological model.

## Uncited references

[8–10].

## CRediT authorship contribution statement

**Salvatore Sessa:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Software, Writing - review & editing. **Nicoló Vaiana:** Validation, Data curation, Resources. **Massimo Paradiso:** Validation. **Luciano Rosati:** Supervision, Writing - review & editing, Funding acquisition.

## Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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## Appendix A. OpenSees implementation of the Exponential and Algebraic Hysteretic Models

The Algebraic Material presented in [42] and described in Section 2.1 has been implemented in OpenSees v. 3.0, an open source, object-oriented framework for finite element analysis [45].

A beta version of such framework with the implemented material can be freely downloaded at the link [56] in which some sample application files are also provided.

The model belongs to the subclass *uniaxialMaterial* and its command line is:

```
uniaxialMaterial HystereticPoly $matTag $ka $kb $a $b1 $b2 $tol
```

in which  $\$matTag$  is the progressive tag of the uniaxial material object,  $\$ka$ – $\$beta2$  are the values of parameters  $k_a$ ,  $k_b$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  and  $\$tol$  is the value of the tolerance  $\delta$ .

The implemented object contains methods implemented to address sensitivity analysis and supports the standard recorders to print strain, stress and stiffness (namely, *strain*, *stress*, *stressStrain* and *tangent*).

504 **Appendix B. Report of the numerical applications**

505 The present appendix reports in detail the numerical parameters and the outcomes of the identification procedures pre-  
506 sented in Section 4. In particular, Tables B.4–B.7 report the initial trials and the outcomes of the preliminary optimization of  
507 the four considered experimental materials while Tables B.8–B.15 summarize the initial trials and the outcomes of the  
508 refined optimizations. Each one of these tables refers to a single branch of the considered hysteresis loops.

**Table B.4**  
First trial values of the preliminary and refined optimizations. Test SREB. Tip cut  $\delta_c = 10^{-4}$  m.

Branch	$k_a^0$ [N/m]	$k_b^0$ [N/m]	$\alpha^0$	$\bar{k}_a^0$ [N/m]	$\bar{k}_b^0$ [N/m]	$\bar{\alpha}^0$	$\bar{\beta}_1^0$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\bar{\beta}_2^0$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]
1	1.1e+06	8.0e+04	2.781e+02	1.1e+06	9.9e+04	3.864e+02	-3.51e+06	4.61e+09
2	9.7e+05	8.6e+04	2.776e+02	9.7e+05	9.8e+04	2.641e+02	-4.35e+06	5.08e+09
3	1.3e+06	8.7e+04	2.804e+02	1.3e+06	1.0e+05	4.859e+02	-1.78e+06	4.52e+09
4	1.1e+06	8.4e+04	2.781e+02	1.1e+06	8.4e+04	3.499e+02	2.39e+06	3.61e+09

**Table B.5**  
First trial values of the preliminary and refined optimizations. Test FREB. Tip cut  $\delta_c = 10^{-3}$  m.

Branch	$k_a^0$ [N/m]	$k_b^0$ [N/m]	$\alpha^0$	$\bar{k}_a^0$ [N/m]	$\bar{k}_b^0$ [N/m]	$\bar{\alpha}^0$	$\bar{\beta}_1^0$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\bar{\beta}_2^0$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]
1	1.4e+06	3.9e+05	1.315e+02	1.4e+06	3.9e+05	5.685e+01	-1.34e+07	3.75e+08
2	1.1e+07	5.3e+05	1.394e+02	1.1e+07	5.3e+05	3.772e+02	-2.61e+07	6.98e+08
3	1.4e+06	4.2e+05	1.297e+02	1.4e+06	2.5e+05	8.977e+01	-1.11e+07	3.48e+08

**Table B.6**  
First trial values of the preliminary and refined optimizations. Test PW16010L. Tip cut  $\delta_c = 2 \cdot 10^{-4}$  m.

Branch	$k_a^0$ [N/m]	$k_b^0$ [N/m]	$\alpha^0$	$\bar{k}_a^0$ [N/m]	$\bar{k}_b^0$ [N/m]	$\bar{\alpha}^0$	$\bar{\beta}_1^0$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\bar{\beta}_2^0$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]
1	1.8e+06	2.7e+05	1.750e+03	1.8e+06	2.6e+05	4.691e+02	4.22e+08	-3.54e+12
2	1.5e+06	3.1e+05	1.738e+03	1.5e+06	3.1e+05	7.068e+02	1.52e+08	4.28e+12
3	1.8e+06	2.2e+05	1.758e+03	1.8e+06	2.4e+05	4.222e+02	9.12e+07	3.11e+12
4	1.6e+06	3.3e+05	1.753e+03	1.6e+06	3.3e+05	7.195e+02	-8.55e+08	1.16e+13
5	1.8e+06	2.5e+05	1.759e+03	1.8e+06	2.4e+05	4.303e+02	2.46e+08	1.49e+12
6	1.6e+06	3.5e+05	1.743e+03	1.6e+06	3.5e+05	8.992e+02	2.44e+08	2.19e+12
7	1.8e+06	2.4e+05	1.750e+03	1.8e+06	2.4e+05	4.749e+02	3.10e+08	4.69e+11
8	1.6e+06	3.0e+05	1.745e+03	1.6e+06	3.1e+05	6.843e+02	-4.63e+08	1.02e+13
9	1.9e+06	2.3e+05	1.769e+03	1.9e+06	2.3e+05	5.306e+02	5.13e+08	1.19e+12

**Table B.7**  
First trial values of the preliminary and refined optimizations. Test PW16010T. Tip cut  $\delta_c = 2 \cdot 10^{-4}$  m.

Branch	$k_a^0$ [N/m]	$k_b^0$ [N/m]	$\alpha^0$	$\bar{k}_a^0$ [N/m]	$\bar{k}_b^0$ [N/m]	$\bar{\alpha}^0$	$\bar{\beta}_1^0$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\bar{\beta}_2^0$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]
1	1.8e+06	2.5e+05	1.752e+03	1.8e+06	3.0e+05	8.065e+02	2.63e+09	-1.24e+13
2	2.0e+06	2.1e+05	1.769e+03	2.0e+06	2.7e+05	5.192e+02	9.09e+08	1.27e+12
3	1.9e+06	2.9e+05	1.765e+03	1.9e+06	2.9e+05	1.093e+03	1.85e+09	-3.30e+12
4	2.2e+06	2.4e+05	1.767e+03	2.2e+06	2.6e+05	5.964e+02	1.77e+09	-7.27e+12
5	1.8e+06	2.8e+05	1.739e+03	1.8e+06	2.8e+05	1.078e+03	3.40e+09	-1.74e+13
6	2.1e+06	3.3e+05	1.753e+03	2.1e+06	3.3e+05	6.673e+02	6.25e+08	9.01e+11
7	1.9e+06	2.6e+05	1.768e+03	1.9e+06	2.6e+05	9.791e+02	2.26e+09	-2.12e+12
8	2.2e+06	2.6e+05	1.781e+03	2.2e+06	2.9e+05	6.714e+02	9.99e+08	-2.24e+11
9	1.9e+06	2.7e+05	1.760e+03	1.9e+06	2.7e+05	1.085e+03	2.95e+09	-1.20e+13

**Table B.8**  
Identified constitutive parameters relevant to test SREB. Preliminary optimization.

Branch	$k_a$ [N/m]	$k_b$ [N/m]	$\alpha$	$\beta_1$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\beta_2$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]	Residual norm
1	1.1e+06	9.9e+04	3.864e+02	4.69e+01	1.39e-01	2.2e-02
2	9.7e+05	9.8e+04	2.641e+02	3.19e+01	1.02e-01	1.8e-02
3	1.3e+06	1.0e+05	4.859e+02	4.06e+01	5.84e-02	2.2e-02
4	1.1e+06	8.4e+04	3.499e+02	5.20e-05	7.10e-08	2.4e-02

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**Table B.9**

Identified constitutive parameters relevant to test FREB. Preliminary optimization.

Branch	$k_a$ [N/m]	$k_b$ [N/m]	$\alpha$	$\beta_1$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\beta_2$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]	Residual norm
1	1.4e+06	3.9e+05	5.685e+01	-5.33e-05	-2.67e-07	6.0e-02
2	1.1e+07	5.3e+05	3.772e+02	1.59e-05	2.96e-09	1.2e-01
3	1.4e+06	2.5e+05	8.977e+01	-1.52e+03	4.45e+00	2.6e-02

**Table B.10**

Identified constitutive parameters relevant to test PW16010L. Preliminary optimization.

Branch	$k_a$ [N/m]	$k_b$ [N/m]	$\alpha$	$\beta_1$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\beta_2$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]	Residual norm
1	1.8e+06	2.6e+05	4.691e+02	-2.64e-01	-8.42e-12	5.5e-04
2	1.5e+06	3.1e+05	7.068e+02	-7.83e-05	0.00e+00	2.7e-03
3	1.8e+06	2.4e+05	4.222e+02	7.68e-01	4.59e-04	1.7e-03
4	1.6e+06	3.3e+05	7.195e+02	-2.95e-05	0.00e+00	1.3e-03
5	1.8e+06	2.4e+05	4.303e+02	-3.77e-01	-2.84e-05	1.2e-03
6	1.6e+06	3.5e+05	8.992e+02	-6.61e-05	6.86e-14	4.2e-03
7	1.8e+06	2.4e+05	4.749e+02	-7.54e-04	0.00e+00	1.6e-03
8	1.6e+06	3.1e+05	6.843e+02	5.56e-01	7.29e-06	2.7e-03
9	1.9e+06	2.3e+05	5.306e+02	-7.54e-04	0.00e+00	4.3e-03

**Table B.11**

Identified constitutive parameters relevant to test PW16010T. Preliminary optimization.

Branch	$k_a$ [N/m]	$k_b$ [N/m]	$\alpha$	$\beta_1$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\beta_2$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]	Residual norm
1	1.8e+06	3.0e+05	8.065e+02	2.05e+00	1.81e-04	6.4e-03
2	2.0e+06	2.7e+05	5.192e+02	2.53e+00	1.17e-02	4.0e-03
3	1.9e+06	2.9e+05	1.093e+03	-4.72e-05	0.00e+00	7.6e-03
4	2.2e+06	2.6e+05	5.964e+02	1.22e+00	0.00e+00	5.0e-03
5	1.8e+06	2.8e+05	1.078e+03	-1.66e-05	0.00e+00	8.0e-03
6	2.1e+06	3.3e+05	6.673e+02	-4.04e-04	0.00e+00	7.9e-03
7	1.9e+06	2.6e+05	9.791e+02	-1.27e-04	0.00e+00	8.7e-03
8	2.2e+06	2.9e+05	6.714e+02	1.46e+00	3.35e-14	3.9e-03
9	1.9e+06	2.7e+05	1.085e+03	-2.36e-05	1.43e-13	9.2e-03

**Table B.12**

Identified constitutive parameters relevant to test SREB. Refined optimization.

Branch	$k_a$ [N/m]	$k_b$ [N/m]	$\alpha$	$\beta_1$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\beta_2$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]	Residual norm
1	1.5e+06	7.9e+04	6.907e+02	2.60e+06	5.28e+09	4.8e-03
2	1.4e+06	8.3e+04	4.883e+02	-2.94e+06	6.28e+09	5.2e-03
3	1.0e+06	7.8e+04	4.896e+02	4.73e+06	4.50e+09	3.7e-03
4	1.0e+06	8.2e+04	3.492e+02	-9.72e+05	5.57e+09	4.8e-03

**Table B.13**

Identified constitutive parameters relevant to test FREB. Refined optimization.

Branch	$k_a$ [N/m]	$k_b$ [N/m]	$\alpha$	$\beta_1$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\beta_2$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]	Residual norm
1	8.4e+06	3.7e+05	4.693e+02	-2.70e+07	1.15e+09	9.1e-03
2	6.0e+06	3.8e+05	3.004e+02	-2.32e+07	9.02e+08	7.1e-03
3	1.6e+06	3.6e+05	7.160e+01	-2.31e+07	8.90e+08	6.5e-03

**Table B.14**

Identified constitutive parameters relevant to test PW16010L. Refined optimization.

Branch	$k_a$ [N/m]	$k_b$ [N/m]	$\alpha$	$\beta_1$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\beta_2$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]	Residual norm
1	1.9e+06	2.6e+05	4.989e+02	2.90e+08	-2.60e+12	4.4e-04
2	1.8e+06	3.1e+05	8.733e+02	-2.28e+08	1.08e+13	1.0e-03
3	1.4e+06	1.9e+05	3.186e+02	1.53e+08	5.39e+12	7.5e-04
4	1.5e+06	3.3e+05	6.517e+02	-8.16e+08	1.19e+13	4.2e-04
5	1.5e+06	2.1e+05	3.561e+02	-1.51e+08	8.36e+12	3.2e-04
6	2.8e+06	3.4e+05	1.871e+03	-3.17e+08	8.58e+12	2.5e-03
7	1.8e+06	2.2e+05	4.789e+02	9.17e+08	-3.34e+12	3.6e-04
8	1.8e+06	3.0e+05	8.537e+02	2.75e+08	6.15e+12	1.2e-03
9	1.7e+06	2.2e+05	4.429e+02	8.00e+08	-4.34e+11	2.8e-04

**Table B.15**  
Identified constitutive parameters relevant to test PW16010T. Refined optimization.

Branch	$k_a$ [N/m]	$k_b$ [N/m]	$\alpha$	$\beta_1$ [N/m <sup>3</sup> ]	$\beta_2$ [N/m <sup>5</sup> ]	Residual norm
1	2.0e+06	2.5e+05	1.062e+03	1.55e+09	8.74e+12	1.9e-03
2	2.1e+06	2.0e+05	6.178e+02	3.18e+09	-1.81e+13	4.9e-04
3	1.8e+06	2.8e+05	1.075e+03	5.24e+08	1.81e+13	2.2e-03
4	2.2e+06	2.1e+05	6.949e+02	1.80e+09	1.32e+12	1.9e-03
5	2.6e+06	2.8e+05	1.639e+03	1.54e+08	2.36e+13	2.5e-03
6	2.3e+06	3.1e+05	8.810e+02	-1.31e+09	3.23e+13	3.0e-03
7	1.8e+06	2.6e+05	9.314e+02	8.24e+08	1.81e+13	1.4e-03
8	2.2e+06	2.5e+05	7.445e+02	1.58e+09	-3.89e+10	1.0e-03
9	2.1e+06	2.7e+05	1.186e+03	1.06e+09	1.19e+13	1.3e-03

509 **Appendix C. Supplementary data**

510 Supplementary data associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at [https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ymsp.](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ymsp.2020.106622)  
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