

Call for Papers

Direct Methods themed issue

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Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers

Engineering and Computational Mechanics

Honorary Editors: Matthew Gilbert & Colin Smith, University of Sheffield, UK

Engineering and Computational Mechanics is planning a themed issue on direct methods.

Engineers are frequently called upon to determine the ultimate strength of a body or structure. Whilst there are many hand calculation techniques for this purpose, most developed in the last century, the range of applicability of such techniques tends to be extremely limited. However, although generally applicable numerical techniques are available, these tend to be complex, and normally involve approaching the collapse state in an incremental rather than direct manner.

The focus of this edition of *Engineering and Computational Mechanics* is on numerical methods which have been designed to avoid the need for an incremental, step-by-step analysis, using what are now commonly referred to as 'direct methods'. Such methods have recently been attracting increasing interest from researchers and practicing engineers, seeking to take advantage of new mathematical formulations and numerical analysis techniques.

We are looking for papers from experts in this field, whether coming from a research or practical background, focussing on topics such as:

- **Development of novel analysis or design techniques incorporating direct methods**
- **Computational limit analysis techniques**
- **Practical civil engineering applications where direct methods have been used**
- **New developments in optimization and mathematical programming algorithms tailored for use with direct methods**
- **Development of novel adaptive solution, discretisation or decomposition techniques**

Relevant topics outside the main themes outlines above will also be considered.

The deadline for abstracts is 5 August 2014. The deadline for submissions is 9 December 2014.

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