

**Master on Numerical  
Methods in Engineering**

Computational Structural Mechanics and  
Dynamics

# Assignment 3

Plane stress problem  
and linear triangle

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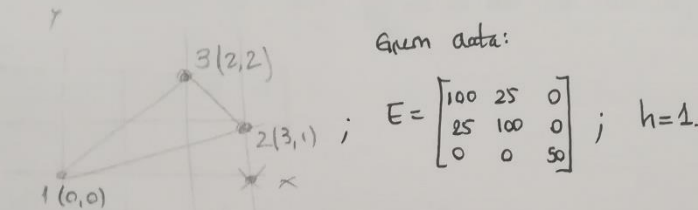
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ASSIGNMENT 3) Plane stress problem and linear Triangle

MÓNICA  
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MOC

Assignment 3.1

1) Compute the entries of  $K_e$  for the following plane stress triangle



The element stiffness matrix is, in general, given by  $K^e = \int_{\Omega^e} h \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{E} \mathbf{B} d\Omega$  where  $\Omega^e$  is the triangle domain and  $h$  is the plate thickness.

Considering that for this exercise  $h$  is uniform and  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{E}$  are constant,  $K_e$  will be defined by:

$$K_e = A h \cdot \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{E} \mathbf{B} \quad \text{given data}$$

In order to define  $K_e$ ,  $\mathbf{B}$  (strain-displacement matrix) must be computed firstly.

$$\mathbf{B} = \frac{1}{2A} \begin{bmatrix} y_{23} & 0 & y_{31} & 0 & y_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & x_{32} & 0 & x_{13} & 0 & x_{21} \\ x_{32} & y_{23} & x_{13} & y_{31} & x_{21} & y_{12} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2A} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 3 \\ -1 & -1 & -2 & 2 & 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\begin{cases} x_{jk} = x_j - x_k \\ y_{jk} = y_j - y_k \end{cases}$

and  $2A = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ y_1 & y_2 & y_3 \end{bmatrix} = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = 4$ ;  $A=2$

Resulting stiffness matrix for the element is:

$$K_e = \frac{1}{8} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & -2 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 100 & 25 & 0 \\ 25 & 100 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 50 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 3 \\ -1 & -1 & -2 & 2 & 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{8} \begin{bmatrix} 150 & 75 & -100 & -50 & -50 & -25 \\ 75 & 150 & 50 & 300 & -125 & -250 \\ -100 & 50 & 600 & -300 & -500 & 250 \\ -50 & 100 & -300 & 600 & 350 & -700 \\ -50 & -125 & -500 & 350 & 550 & -225 \\ -25 & -250 & 250 & 700 & -225 & 950 \end{bmatrix}$$

(MOC)

2) Show that the sum of rows (and columns) 1, 3, and 5 of  $K^e$  as well as the sum of row (and column) 2, 4 and 6 must vanish. Explain why.

→ Sum of 1, 3, 5 rows (and columns) of  $K^e$ :

$$\frac{1}{8} \begin{bmatrix} 150 & 75 & -100 & -50 & -50 & -25 \\ -100 & 50 & 600 & -300 & -500 & 250 \\ -50 & -125 & -500 & 350 & 750 & -225 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

→ Sum of 2, 4, 6 rows (and columns) of  $K^e$ :

$$\frac{1}{8} \begin{bmatrix} 75 & 150 & 50 & 100 & -175 & -250 \\ -50 & 100 & -300 & 600 & 350 & -700 \\ -25 & -250 & 250 & 700 & -225 & 950 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Sum equals zero guarantees equilibrium between internal and external forces.

(MOC)

Assignment 3.2

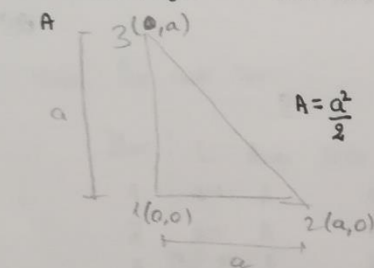
Plane triangular domain of thickness  $h$ . Horizontal & vertical edges have length  $a$ .

For simplicity  $a=h=1$ .

Material parameters  $E$  and  $\nu$ ; initially  $u$  is set to zero. ( $u=0$ )

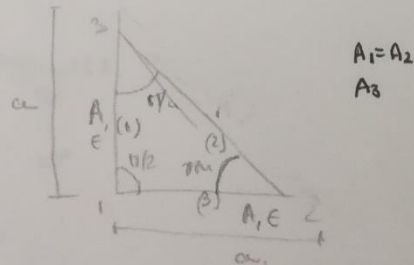
Two structural models are considered for this problem:

- Plane linear triangle with same dimensions.



- Set of three bar elements placed over the edges of triangular domain.

Cross sections:  $A_1=A_2$  and  $A_3$ . [MODEL B]



a) Calculate the stiffness matrix  $K^e$  for both models.

MODEL A / PLANE LINEAR TRIANGLE (TURNER)

Repeating same procedure as in Assignment 3.1; replacing  $u$  and  $v$  and considering that  $B$  and  $E$  are constant; these matrices have to be computed:

Strain-displacement matrix

$$B = \frac{1}{2A} \begin{bmatrix} y_{23} & 0 & y_{31} & 0 & y_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & x_{23} & 0 & x_{31} & 0 & x_{12} \\ x_{23} & y_{23} & x_{31} & y_{31} & x_{12} & y_{12} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot \frac{a^2}{2}} \begin{bmatrix} -a & 0 & a & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -a & 0 & 0 & 0 & a \\ -a & -a & 0 & a & a & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{a^2} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Elastic constitutive matrix

$$E = \frac{E}{1-\nu^2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \nu & 0 \\ \nu & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1-\nu}{2} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{u=0} E \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Element stiffness matrix for a Turner triangle:  $K^e = \frac{h}{4A} B^T \cdot E \cdot B = \frac{B^T \cdot E \cdot B}{2}$

$$K^e = \frac{E}{2} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} =$$

(3)

MODEL B | BAR ELEMENT - TRIANGULAR DOMAIN (3 bar elements)

(MOC)

Element stiffness matrix for this case is:

$$K^e = \frac{EAe}{L} \begin{bmatrix} c^2 & sc & -c^2 & -cs \\ sc & s^2 & -sc & -s^2 \\ -c^2 & -sc & c^2 & cs \\ -sc & -s^2 & sc & s^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\begin{cases} c \equiv \cos \alpha \\ s \equiv \sin \alpha \end{cases}$

Given data for each bar:

Bar	L	Area	Elastic modulus	Angle w.r.t x
1	a=1	A	E	90°
2	a=1	A	E	α
3	√2a=2	A	E	45°

Computation of the  $K^e$  for each bar element:

• Element (1):  $K^{(1)} = EA \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

• Element (2):  $K^{(2)} = EA \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

• Element (3):  $K^{(3)} = \frac{EA}{2\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

The global stiffness matrix is assembled as follows:

$$K = E \begin{bmatrix} A & 0 & -A & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -A & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -A & 0 & A + \sqrt{2}A/4 & -\sqrt{2}A/4 & -\sqrt{2}A/4 & \sqrt{2}A/4 \\ 0 & 0 & -\sqrt{2}A/4 & \sqrt{2}A/4 & \sqrt{2}A/4 & -\sqrt{2}A/4 \\ 0 & 0 & -\sqrt{2}A/4 & \sqrt{2}A/4 & \sqrt{2}A/4 & -\sqrt{2}A/4 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{2}A/4 & -\sqrt{2}A/4 & -\sqrt{2}A/4 & A + \sqrt{2}A/4 \end{bmatrix}$$

(4)