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# **GENERALIZED COORDINATE FINITE ELEMENT MODELS**

## **LECTURE 4**

**57 MINUTES**

**LECTURE 4** Classification of problems; truss, plane stress, plane strain, axisymmetric, beam, plate and shell conditions; corresponding displacement, strain, and stress variables

Derivation of generalized coordinate models

One-, two-, three- dimensional elements, plate and shell elements

Example analysis of a cantilever plate, detailed derivation of element matrices

Lumped and consistent loading

Example results

Summary of the finite element solution process

Solution errors

Convergence requirements, physical explanations, the patch test

**TEXTBOOK:** Sections: 4.2.3, 4.2.4, 4.2.5, 4.2.6

Examples: 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.11, 4.12, 4.13, 4.14, 4.15, 4.16, 4.17, 4.18

**DERIVATION OF SPECIFIC FINITE ELEMENTS**

- Generalized coordinate finite element models

In essence, we need  $\underline{H}^{(m)}, \underline{B}^{(m)}, \underline{C}^{(m)}$

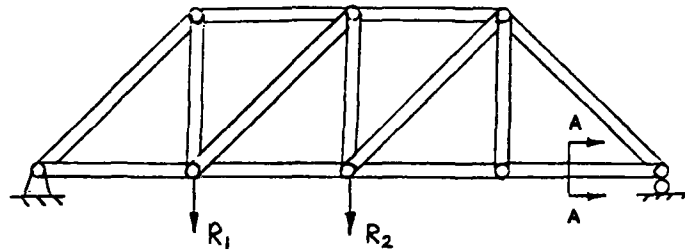
$$\underline{K}^{(m)} = \int_{V^{(m)}} \underline{B}^{(m)T} \underline{C}^{(m)} \underline{B}^{(m)} dV^{(m)}$$

$$\underline{R}_B^{(m)} = \int_{V^{(m)}} \underline{H}^{(m)T} \underline{f}_B^{(m)} dV^{(m)}$$

$$\underline{R}_S^{(m)} = \int_{S^{(m)}} \underline{H}_S^{(m)T} \underline{f}_S^{(m)} dS^{(m)}$$

etc.

- Convergence of analysis results



Across section A-A:

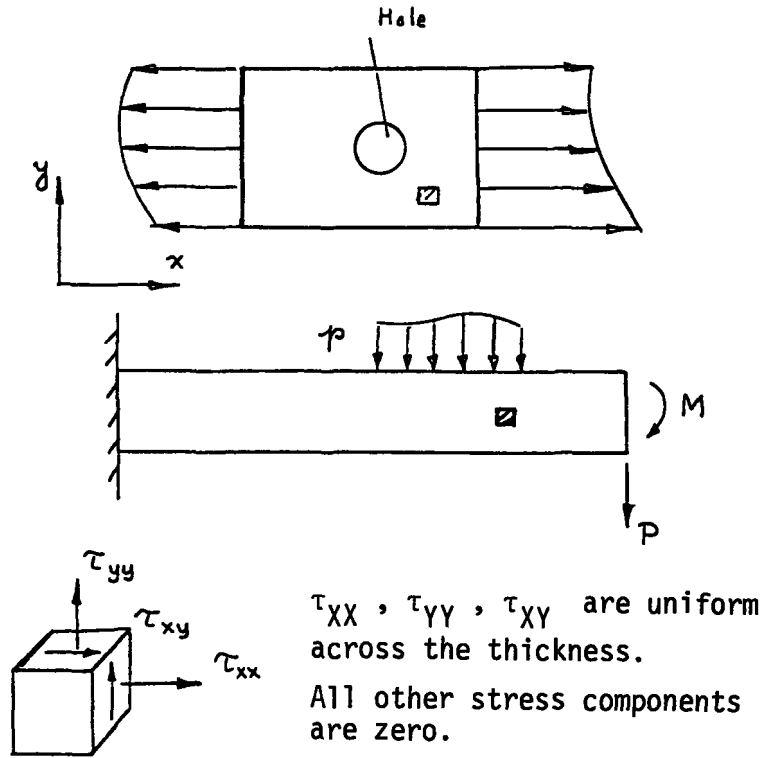
$\tau_{xx}$  is uniform.

All other stress components are zero.

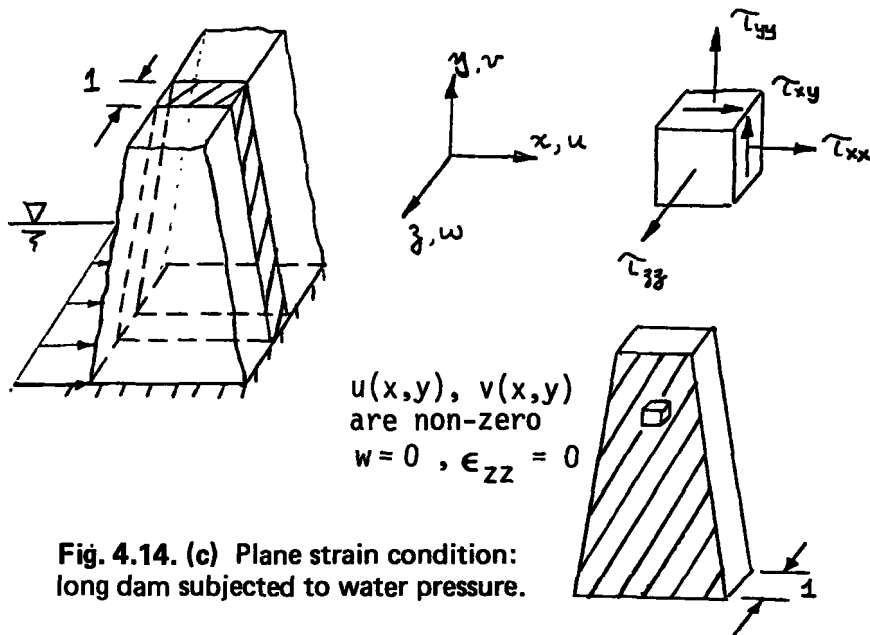
Fig. 4.14. Various stress and strain conditions with illustrative examples.

(a) Uniaxial stress condition: frame under concentrated loads.

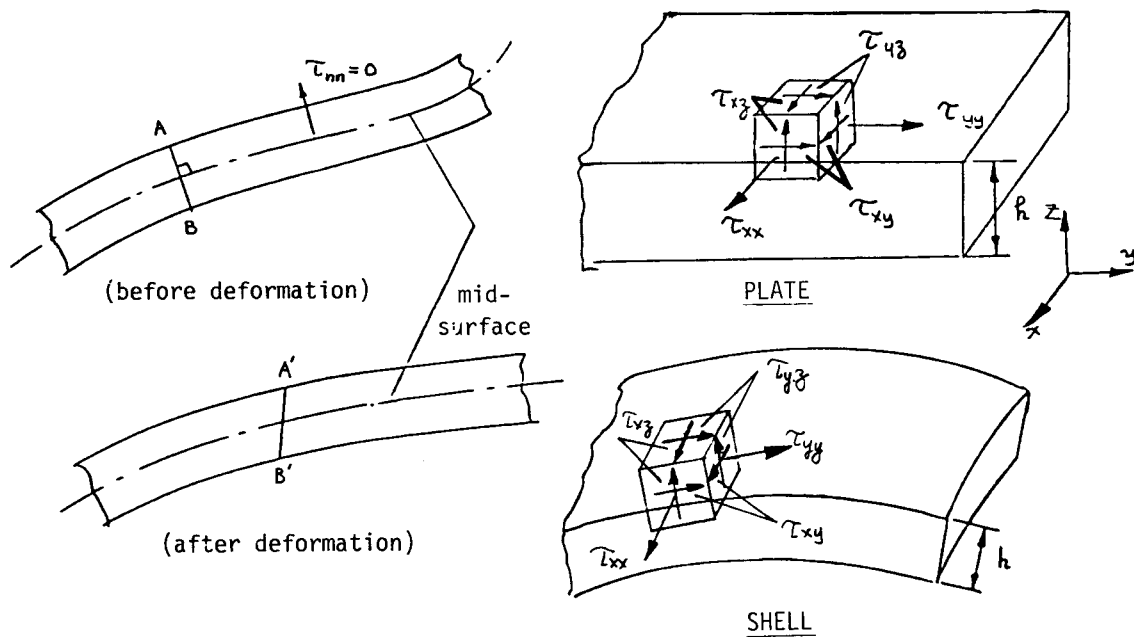
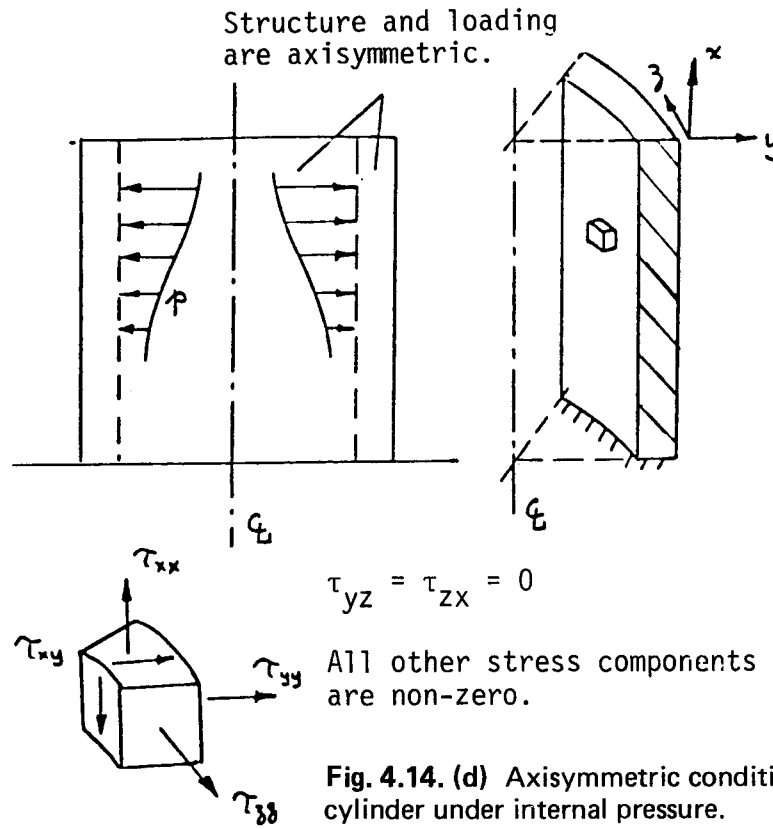
**Generalized coordinate finite element models**



**Fig. 4.14. (b) Plane stress conditions: membrane and beam under in-plane actions.**



**Fig. 4.14. (c) Plane strain condition: long dam subjected to water pressure.**



**Fig. 4.14. (e)** Plate and shell structures.

Problem	Displacement Components
Bar	$u$
Beam	$w$
Plane stress	$u, v$
Plane strain	$u, v$
Axisymmetric	$u, v$
Three-dimensional	$u, v, w$
Plate Bending	$w$

**Table 4.2 (a)** Corresponding Kinematic and Static Variables in Various Problems.

Problem	Strain Vector $\underline{\epsilon}^T$
Bar	$[\epsilon_{xx}]$
Beam	$[\kappa_{xx}]$
Plane stress	$[\epsilon_{xx} \quad \epsilon_{yy} \quad \gamma_{xy}]$
Plane strain	$[\epsilon_{xx} \quad \epsilon_{yy} \quad \gamma_{xy}]$
Axisymmetric	$[\epsilon_{xx} \quad \epsilon_{yy} \quad \gamma_{xy} \quad \epsilon_{zz}]$
Three-dimensional	$[\epsilon_{xx} \quad \epsilon_{yy} \quad \epsilon_{zz} \quad \gamma_{xy} \quad \gamma_{yz} \quad \gamma_{zx}]$
Plate Bending	$[\kappa_{xx} \quad \kappa_{yy} \quad \kappa_{xy}]$

Notation:  $\epsilon_x = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \epsilon_y = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}, \gamma_{xy} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$   
 $\dots, \kappa_{xx} = -\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2}, \kappa_{yy} = -\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2}, \kappa_{xy} = 2 \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x \partial y}$

**Table 4.2 (b)** Corresponding Kinematic and Static Variables in Various Problems.

Problem	Stress Vector $\underline{\tau}^T$
Bar	$[\tau_{xx}]$
Beam	$[M_{xx}]$
Plane stress	$[\tau_{xx} \ \tau_{yy} \ \tau_{xy}]$
Plane strain	$[\tau_{xx} \ \tau_{yy} \ \tau_{xy}]$
Axisymmetric	$[\tau_{xx} \ \tau_{yy} \ \tau_{xy} \ \tau_{zz}]$
Three-dimensional	$[\tau_{xx} \ \tau_{yy} \ \tau_{zz} \ \tau_{xy} \ \tau_{yz} \ \tau_{zx}]$
Plate Bending	$[M_{xx} \ M_{yy} \ M_{xy}]$

Table 4.2 (c) Corresponding Kinematic and Static Variables in Various Problems.

Problem	Material Matrix $\underline{C}$
Bar	$E$
Beam	$EI$
Plane Stress	$\frac{E}{1-\nu^2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \nu & 0 \\ \nu & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1-\nu}{2} \end{bmatrix}$

Table 4.3 Generalized Stress-Strain Matrices for Isotropic Materials and the Problems in Table 4.2.

### ELEMENT DISPLACEMENT EXPANSIONS :

#### For one-dimensional bar elements

$$u(x) = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 x + \alpha_3 x^2 + \dots \quad (4.46)$$

#### For two-dimensional elements

$$u(x, y) = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 x + \alpha_3 y + \alpha_4 xy + \alpha_5 x^2 + \dots$$

$$v(x, y) = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x + \beta_3 y + \beta_4 xy + \beta_5 x^2 + \dots$$

(4.47)

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#### For plate bending elements

$$w(x, y) = \gamma_1 + \gamma_2 x + \gamma_3 y + \gamma_4 xy + \gamma_5 x^2 + \dots \quad (4.48)$$

#### For three-dimensional solid elements

$$u(x, y, z) = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 x + \alpha_3 y + \alpha_4 z + \alpha_5 xy + \dots$$

$$v(x, y, z) = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x + \beta_3 y + \beta_4 z + \beta_5 xy + \dots$$

$$w(x, y, z) = \gamma_1 + \gamma_2 x + \gamma_3 y + \gamma_4 z + \gamma_5 xy + \dots \quad (4.49)$$



Hence, in general

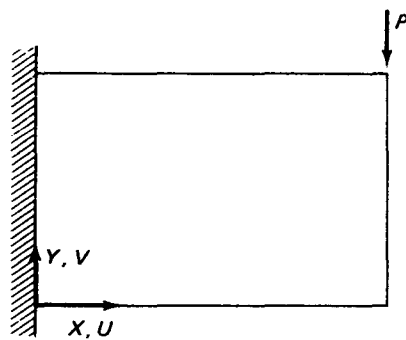
$$\underline{u} = \underline{\Phi} \underline{\alpha} \quad (4.50)$$

$$\underline{\hat{u}} = \underline{A} \underline{\alpha}; \quad \underline{\alpha} = \underline{A}^{-1} \underline{\hat{u}} \quad (4.51/52)$$

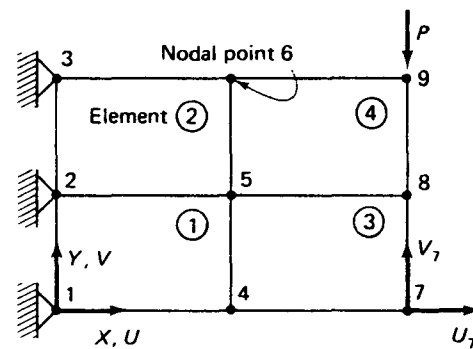
$$\underline{\epsilon} = \underline{E} \underline{\alpha}; \quad \underline{\tau} = \underline{C} \underline{\epsilon} \quad (4.53/54)$$

$$\underline{H} = \underline{\Phi} \underline{A}^{-1}; \quad \underline{B} = \underline{E} \underline{A}^{-1} \quad (4.55)$$

Example



(a) Cantilever plate



(b) Finite element idealization

Fig. 4.5. Finite element plane stress analysis; i.e.  $\tau_{ZZ} = \tau_{ZY} = \tau_{ZX} = 0$

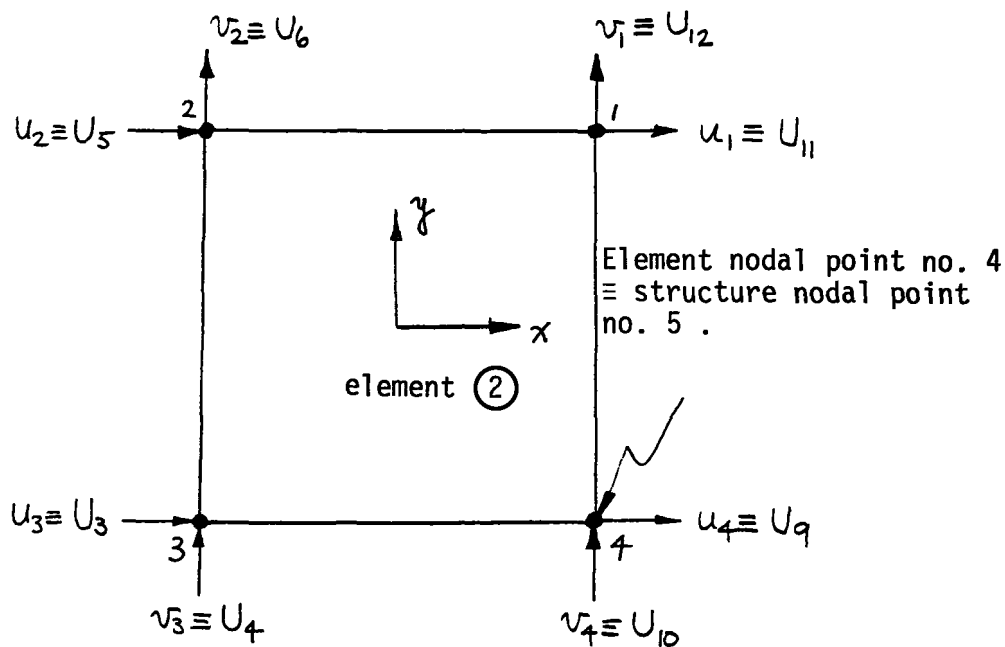


Fig. 4.6. Typical two-dimensional four-node element defined in local coordinate system.

For element 2 we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} u(x,y) \\ v(x,y) \end{bmatrix}^{(2)} = \underline{H}^{(2)} \underline{U}$$

where

$$\underline{U}^T = [U_1 \quad U_2 \quad U_3 \quad U_4 \quad \dots \quad U_{17} \quad U_{18}]$$

To establish  $\underline{H}$  (2) we use:

$$u(x,y) = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 x + \alpha_3 y + \alpha_4 xy$$

$$v(x,y) = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x + \beta_3 y + \beta_4 xy$$

or

$$\begin{bmatrix} u(x,y) \\ v(x,y) \end{bmatrix} = \underline{\phi} \underline{\alpha}$$

where

$$\underline{\phi} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{\phi} & \underline{0} \\ \underline{0} & \underline{\phi} \end{bmatrix}; \underline{\phi} = [1 \ x \ y \ xy]$$

and

$$\underline{\alpha}^T = [\alpha_1 \ \alpha_2 \ \alpha_3 \ \alpha_4 \ \beta_1 \ \beta_2 \ \beta_3 \ \beta_4]$$

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**Defining**

$$\hat{\underline{u}}^T = [u_1 \ u_2 \ u_3 \ u_4 \ v_1 \ v_2 \ v_3 \ v_4]$$

**we have**

$$\hat{\underline{u}} = \underline{A} \underline{\alpha}$$

**Hence**

$$\underline{H} = \underline{\phi} \underline{A}^{-1}$$

Hence

$$\underline{H} = \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc|cc|cc} (1+x)(1+y) & & & & & & & 0 \\ & 0 & & \dots & & & & \\ \dots & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & (1+x)(1+y) \end{array} \right]_{2 \times 8}$$

and

$$\underline{H}^{(2)} = \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc|cc|cc|cc} & & u_3 & v_3 & u_2 & v_2 & & & u_4 & v_4 \\ U_1 & U_2 & U_3 & U_4 & U_5 & U_6 & U_7 & U_8 & U_9 & U_{10} \\ \hline 0 & 0 & H_{13} & H_{17} & H_{12} & H_{16} & 0 & 0 & H_{14} & H_{18} \\ 0 & 0 & H_{23} & H_{27} & H_{22} & H_{26} & 0 & 0 & H_{24} & H_{28} \\ \hline u_1 & v_1 & \leftarrow \text{element degrees of freedom} \\ U_{11} & U_{12} & U_{13} & U_{14} & & & & & U_{18} & \leftarrow \text{assemblage degrees} \\ \hline H_{11} & H_{15} & 0 & 0 & \dots \text{zeros} \dots & 0 & & & & \\ H_{21} & H_{25} & 0 & 0 & \dots \text{zeros} \dots & 0 & & & & \end{array} \right]_{2 \times 18} \text{ of freedom}$$

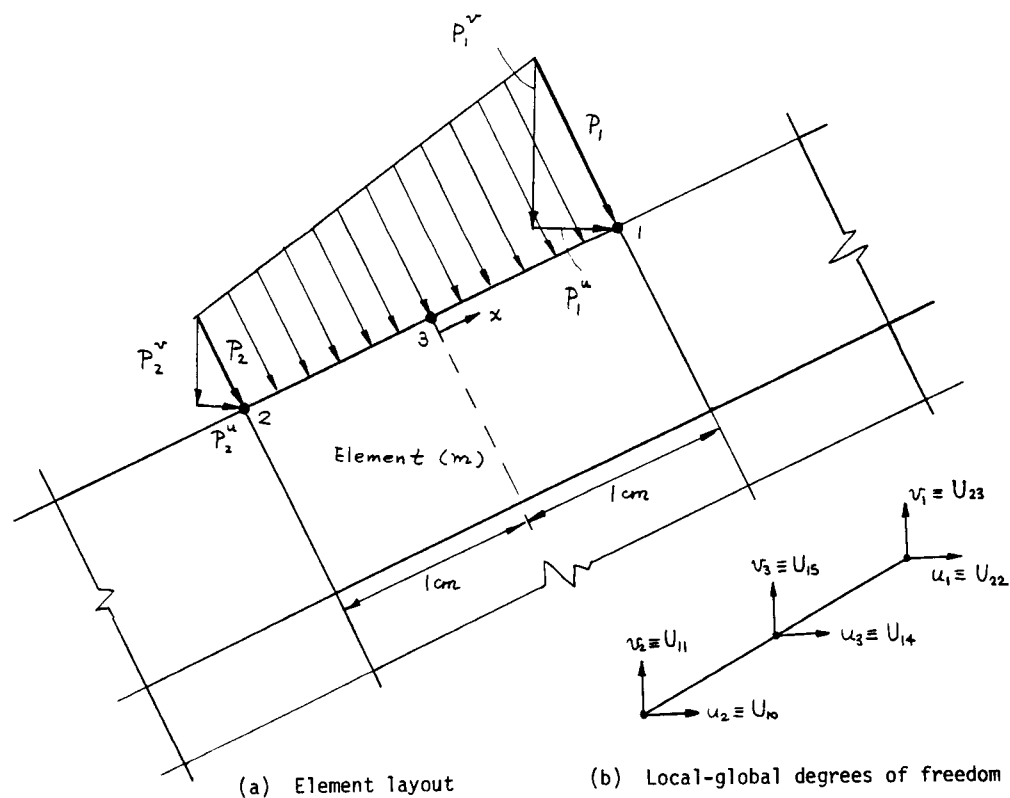


Fig. 4.7. Pressure loading on element (m)

In plane-stress conditions the element strains are

$$\underline{\epsilon}^T = [\epsilon_{xx} \quad \epsilon_{yy} \quad \gamma_{xy}]$$

where

$$\epsilon_{xx} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} ; \epsilon_{yy} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} ; \gamma_{xy} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$$

Hence

$$\underline{B} = \underline{E} \underline{A}^{-1}$$

where

$$\underline{E} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & y & | & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 & 0 & 1 & x \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & x & | & 0 & 1 & 0 & y \end{bmatrix}$$

ACTUAL PHYSICAL PROBLEM

GEOMETRIC DOMAIN  
 MATERIAL  
 LOADING  
 BOUNDARY CONDITIONS



MECHANICAL IDEALIZATION

KINEMATICS, e.g. truss  
 plane stress  
 three-dimensional  
 Kirchhoff plate  
 etc.

MATERIAL, e.g. isotropic linear  
 elastic  
 Mooney-Rivlin rubber  
 etc.

LOADING, e.g. concentrated  
 centrifugal  
 etc.

BOUNDARY CONDITIONS, e.g. prescribed  
 displacements  
 etc.



YIELDS:  
 GOVERNING DIFFERENTIAL  
 EQUATIONS OF MOTION  
 e.g.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( EA \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right) = -p(x)$$



FINITE ELEMENT SOLUTION

CHOICE OF ELEMENTS AND  
 SOLUTION PROCEDURES



YIELDS:  
 APPROXIMATE RESPONSE  
 SOLUTION OF MECHANICAL  
 IDEALIZATION

**Fig. 4.23.** Finite Element Solution Process

ERROR	ERROR OCCURRENCE IN	SECTION discussing error
DISCRETIZATION	use of finite element interpolations	4.2.5
NUMERICAL INTEGRATION IN SPACE	evaluation of finite element matrices using numerical integration	5.8.1 6.5.3
EVALUATION OF CONSTITUTIVE RELATIONS	use of nonlinear material models	6.4.2
SOLUTION OF DYNAMIC EQUILIBRIUM EQUATIONS	direct time integration, mode superposition	9.2 9.4
SOLUTION OF FINITE ELEMENT EQUATIONS BY ITERATION	Gauss-Seidel, Newton-Raphson, Quasi-Newton methods, eigensolutions	8.4 8.6 9.5 10.4
ROUND-OFF	setting-up equations and their solution	8.5

Table 4.4 Finite Element Solution Errors

## CONVERGENCE

Assume a compatible element layout is used, then we have monotonic convergence to the solution of the problem-governing differential equation, provided the elements contain:

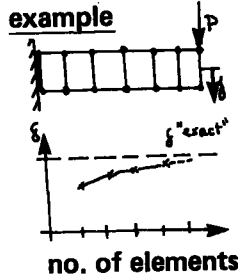
- 1) all required rigid body modes
- 2) all required constant strain states



compatible layout

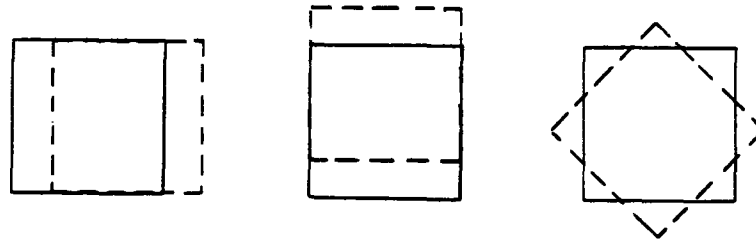


incompatible layout

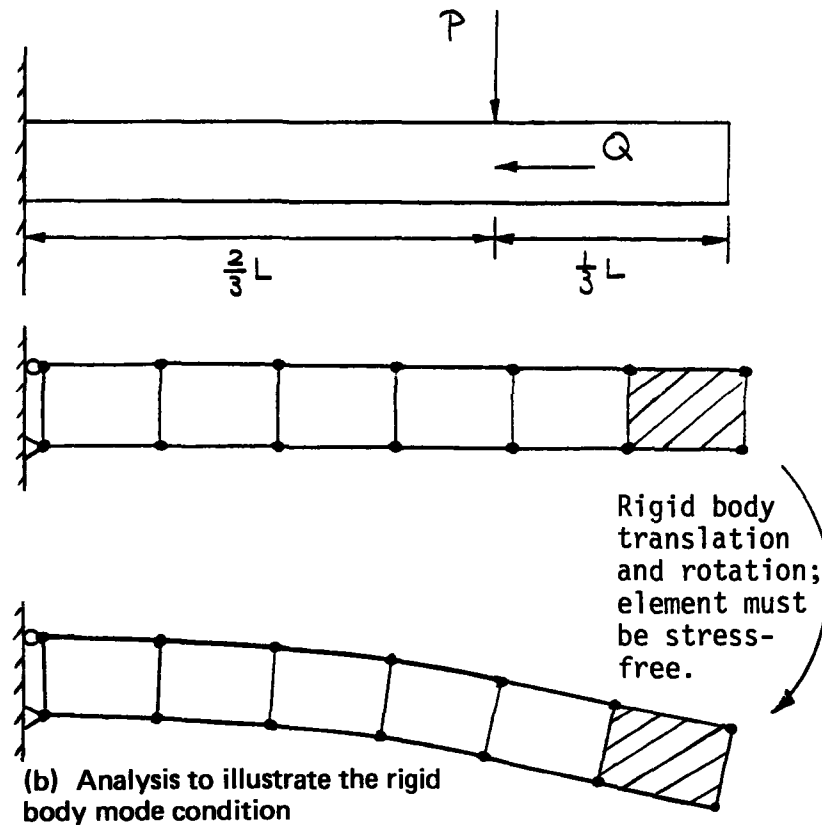


If an incompatible element layout is used, then in addition every patch of elements must be able to represent the constant strain states. Then we have convergence but non-monotonic convergence.





(a) Rigid body modes of a plane stress element



(b) Analysis to illustrate the rigid body mode condition

Fig. 4.24. Use of plane stress element in analysis of cantilever

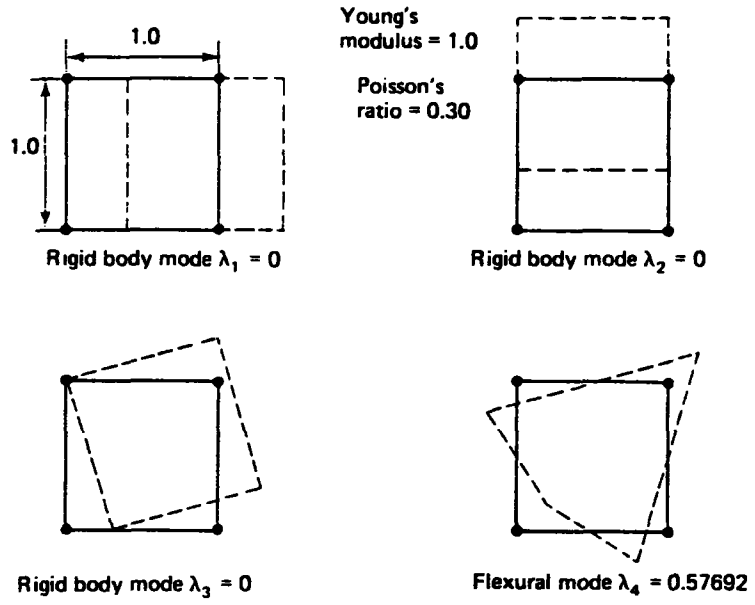


Fig. 4.25 (a) Eigenvectors and eigenvalues of four-node plane stress element

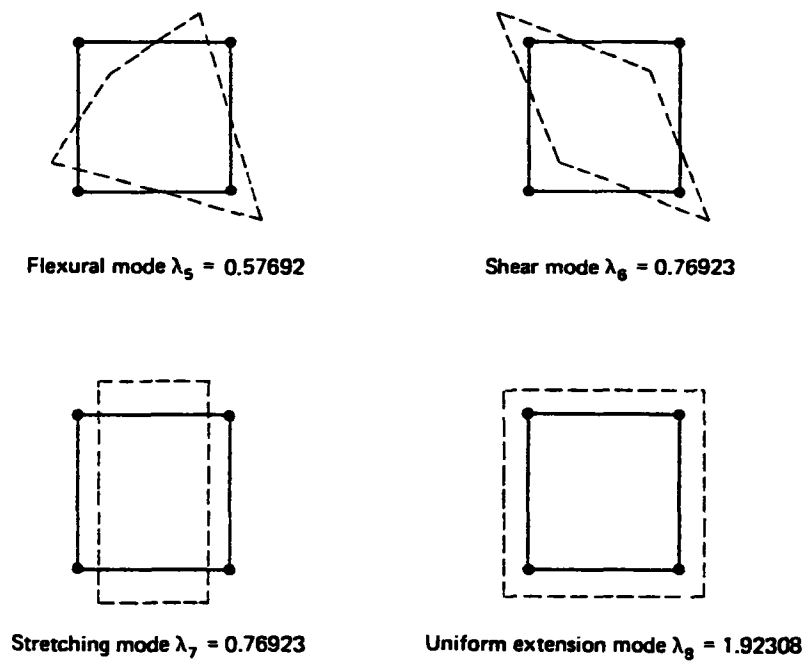


Fig. 4.25 (b) Eigenvectors and eigenvalues of four-node plane stress element

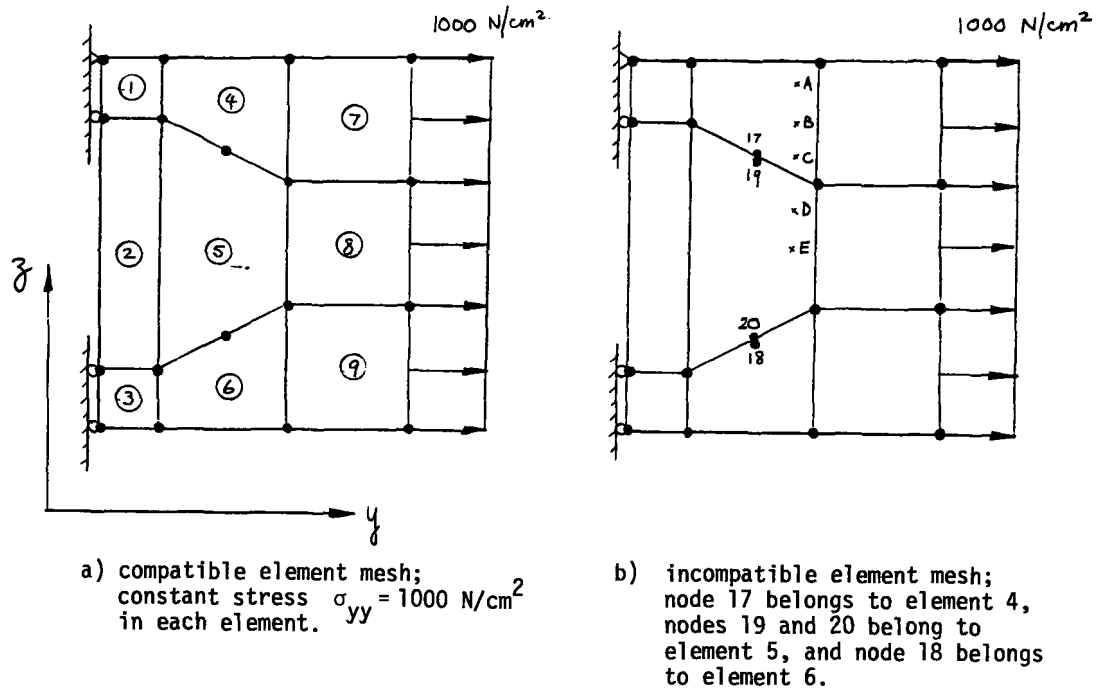


Fig. 4.30 (a) Effect of displacement incompatibility in stress prediction

$\sigma_{yy}$  stress predicted by the incompatible element mesh:

Point	$\sigma_{yy} \text{ (N/m}^2\text{)}$
A	1066
B	716
C	359
D	1303
E	1303

Fig. 4.30 (b) Effect of displacement incompatibility in stress prediction

MIT OpenCourseWare  
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Resource: Finite Element Procedures for Solids and Structures  
Klaus-Jürgen Bathe

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