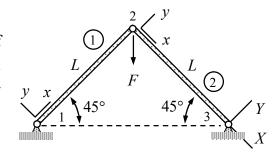
Home assignment 1

Determine the displacement components u_{X2} and u_{Y2} of the bar structure of the figure. Use the principle of virtual work and the virtual work expressions for the linear bar element. Young's modulus of the material E and the cross-sectional area of the bars A are constants.



Solution template

Virtual work expression for the displacement analysis consists of parts coming from internal and external forces $\delta W^{\rm int}$ and $\delta W^{\rm ext}$. For a bar and linear interpolation of the nodal values, the element contributions are

$$\delta W^{\text{int}} = - \begin{cases} \delta u_{x1} \\ \delta u_{x2} \end{cases}^{\text{T}} \frac{EA}{h} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} u_{x1} \\ u_{x2} \end{cases}, \quad \delta W^{\text{ext}} = \begin{cases} \delta u_{x1} \\ \delta u_{x2} \end{cases}^{\text{T}} \frac{f_x h}{2} \begin{cases} 1 \\ 1 \end{cases}.$$

The element contribution of the point force follows from the definition or work and is given by

$$\delta W^{\text{ext}} = \delta u_{X1} F_X + \delta u_{Y1} F_Y + \delta u_{Z1} F_Z.$$

According to the figure, the axial displacements of the nodes of bar 1 are given by $u_{x1} = 0$ and $u_{x2} = u_{y2}$

$$\delta W^1 = - \begin{cases} 0 \\ \delta u_{Y2} \end{cases}^{\mathrm{T}} \frac{EA}{L} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} 0 \\ u_{Y2} \end{cases} = -\delta u_{Y2} \frac{EA}{L} u_{Y2}.$$

The axial displacements of the nodes of bar 2 are given by $u_{x2} = u_{X2}$ and $u_{x3} = 0$

$$\delta W^2 = - \begin{cases} \delta u_{X2} \\ 0 \end{cases}^{\mathrm{T}} \underbrace{EA}_{L} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} u_{X2} \\ 0 \end{cases} = - \delta u_{X2} \underbrace{EA}_{L} u_{X2} \,.$$

The point force is considered as element 3. By dividing the force into component in X- and Y-directions

$$\delta W^3 = \delta u_{X2} \left(\frac{F}{\sqrt{2}}\right) + \delta u_{Y2} \left(-\frac{F}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = \begin{cases} \delta u_{X2} \\ \delta u_{Y2} \end{cases}^{\mathsf{T}} \begin{cases} F/\sqrt{2} \\ -F/\sqrt{2} \end{cases}.$$

Virtual work expression of the structure is the sum of element contributions. When written in the standard form

$$\delta W^1 + \delta W^2 + \delta W^3 = - \begin{cases} \delta u_{X2} \\ \delta u_{Y2} \end{cases}^{\mathrm{T}} \begin{pmatrix} EA/L & 0 \\ 0 & EA/L \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_{X2} \\ u_{Y2} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} F/\sqrt{2} \\ -F/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Principle of virtual work and fundamental lemma of variation calculus imply the system of equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} EA/L & 0 \\ 0 & EA/L \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} u_{X2} \\ u_{Y2} \end{Bmatrix} - \begin{Bmatrix} F/\sqrt{2} \\ -F/\sqrt{2} \end{Bmatrix} = 0.$$

Solution to the displacement components

$$u_{X2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{FL}{EA}$$
 and $u_{Y2} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{FL}{EA}$.