Home assignment 3

A thin triangular slab is loaded by a point force at node 3. Nodes 1 and 2 are fixed. Derive the equilibrium equations of the structure according to the large displacement theory in terms of the dimensionless displacement components $a_1 = u_{X3}/L$ and $a_2 = u_{Y3}/L$. Approximation is linear and material parameters *C* and *v* are constants. Assume plane-stress conditions. When F = 0, side length and thickness of the slab are *L* and *t*, respectively. Find also the solution to a small displacement problem by simplifying the equilibrium equations with the assumptions $|a_1| \ll 1$ and $|a_2| \ll 1$.



Solution

Virtual work density of internal forces, when modified for large displacement analysis with the same constitutive equation as in the linear case of plane stress, is given by

$$\delta w_{\Omega^{\circ}}^{\text{int}} = - \begin{cases} \delta E_{xx} \\ \delta E_{yy} \\ 2\delta E_{xy} \end{cases}^{\text{T}} \frac{tC}{1 - v^{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & v & 0 \\ v & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (1 - v)/2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} E_{xx} \\ E_{yy} \\ 2E_{xy} \end{cases}, \begin{cases} E_{xx} \\ E_{yy} \\ 2E_{xy} \end{cases} = \begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{2} (\frac{\partial u}{\partial x})^{2} + \frac{1}{2} (\frac{\partial v}{\partial x})^{2} \\ \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{1}{2} (\frac{\partial u}{\partial y})^{2} + \frac{1}{2} (\frac{\partial v}{\partial y})^{2} \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \end{cases}$$

Let us start with the approximations and the corresponding components of the Green-Lagrange strain. Linear shape functions can be deduced from the figure. Only the shape function $N_3 = x/L$ of node 3 is needed. Displacement components and their non-zero derivatives are

$$u = \frac{x}{L}u_{X3}$$
 and $v = \frac{x}{L}u_{Y3} \implies \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{u_{X3}}{L} = a_1$ and $\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = \frac{u_{Y3}}{L} = a_2$

Green-Lagrange strain measures and their variations

$$\begin{cases} E_{xx} \\ E_{yy} \\ 2E_{xy} \end{cases} = \begin{cases} a_1 + a_1^2 / 2 + a_2^2 / 2 \\ 0 \\ a_2 \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} \delta E_{xx} \\ \delta E_{yy} \\ 2\delta E_{xy} \end{cases} = \begin{cases} \delta a_1 + a_1 \delta a_1 + a_2 \delta a_2 \\ 0 \\ \delta a_2 \end{cases}$$

When the strain component expressions are substituted there, virtual work density simplifies to

$$\delta w_{\Omega^{\circ}}^{\text{int}} = -\frac{tC}{1-v^2} \begin{cases} \delta a_1 + a_1 \delta a_1 + a_2 \delta a_2 \\ 0 \\ \delta a_2 \end{cases}^{\mathsf{T}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & v & 0 \\ v & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (1-v)/2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} a_1 + a_1^2/2 + a_2^2/2 \\ 0 \\ a_2 \end{cases} \implies \delta w_{\Omega^{\circ}}^{\text{int}} = -\frac{tC}{1-v^2} [(\delta a_1 + a_1 \delta a_1 + a_2 \delta a_2)(a_1 + a_1^2/2 + a_2^2/2) + \frac{1-v}{2} a_2 \delta a_2]$$

Integration over the (initial) domain gives the virtual work expression. As the integrand is constant

$$\delta W^{1} = \frac{L^{2}}{2} \delta w_{\Omega^{\circ}}^{\text{int}} = -\frac{L^{2}}{2} \frac{tC}{1-v^{2}} [(\delta a_{1} + a_{1}\delta a_{1} + a_{2}\delta a_{2})(a_{1} + a_{1}^{2}/2 + a_{2}^{2}/2) + \frac{1-v}{2}a_{2}\delta a_{2}].$$

Virtual work expression of the external point force components

$$\delta W^2 = -F \delta u_{Y3} = -F L \delta a_2.$$

Virtual work expression of the structure is obtained as sum over the element contributions. In terms of the dimensionless displacement

$$\delta W = -\frac{L^2}{2} \frac{tC}{1-v^2} [(\delta a_1 + a_1 \delta a_1 + a_2 \delta a_2)(a_1 + a_1^2 / 2 + a_2^2 / 2) + \frac{1-v}{2} a_2 \delta a_2] - FL\delta a_2$$

or, when written in the standard form,

$$\delta W = -\begin{cases} \delta a_1 \\ \delta a_2 \end{cases}^T \frac{L^2}{2} \frac{tC}{1 - v^2} \begin{cases} (1 + a_1)(a_1 + \frac{1}{2}a_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}a_2^2) \\ a_2(a_1 + a_1^2/2 + a_2^2/2) + \frac{1 - v}{2}a_2 + 2\frac{F}{tCL}(1 - v^2) \end{cases}$$

Principle of virtual work and the basic lemma of variation calculus imply the equilibrium equations

$$(1+a_1)(a_1 + \frac{1}{2}a_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}a_2^2) = 0, \quad \bigstar$$
$$a_2(a_1 + a_1^2/2 + a_2^2/2) + \frac{1-\nu}{2}a_2 + 2\frac{F}{tCL}(1-\nu^2) = 0. \quad \bigstar$$

Assuming that $|a_1| \ll 1$ and $|a_2| \ll 1$ the equilibrium equations simplify to

$$a_1 = 0$$
 and $\frac{1-v}{2}a_2 + 2\frac{F}{tCL}(1-v^2) = 0 \implies a_1 = 0$ and $a_2 = -4\frac{F}{tCL}(1+v)$.