Computational Mechanics

Chapter 1 Introduction

(Covers Chapter 1, and Sections 2.1, 2.2, 2.4 and 2.6 of A first course in finite elements)





Introduction to Computational Mechanics

- Computational mechanics is the discipline concerned with the use of computational methods to study phenomena governed by the principles of mechanics¹.
- Computational mechanics is interdisciplinary:
 - Mechanics Objective
 - o Mathematics Method
 - Computational science Tool
- Common computational mechanics method:
 - o Finite different method direct approximation for partial differential equations, cannot handle complex geometry
 - o Finite element method (FEM) wide application areas, great for complicated engineering problems
 - ❖ Lagrangian mesh: deform with body, suitable for solid analysis
 - ❖ Eulerian mesh: fixed mesh, appropriate for fluid/field analysis

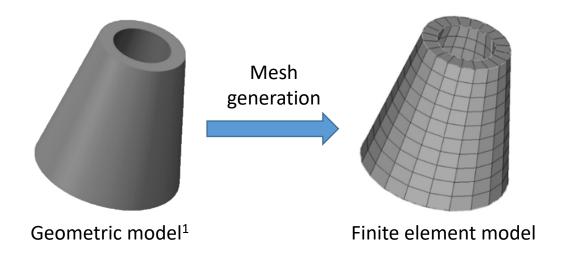
Similar equations for infinitesimal deformation





Introduction to Finite Element Method (FEM)

- The FEM was developed in 1950s in the aerospace industry, from industry to academia
- FEM divides complex objectives/fields into regular finite elements:



- 1. Convert complex domains and boundary conditions into simple and unified ones
- 2. Change one set of mechanics equations to numerous ones applicable to computers

• Commercial FEM software packages: Abaqus, LS-DYNA, NASTRAN, etc.

MATLAB is also a useful tool in development stage





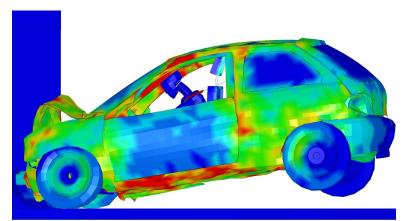
^{1.} Chen W, Zheng X, Liu S. Finite-element-mesh based method for modeling and optimization of lattice structures for additive manufacturing. Materials. 2018 Nov;11(11):2073.

Applications of FEM

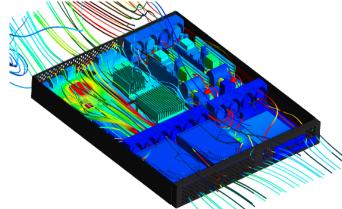
- The range of applications of FEM is very large:
 - Categorized based on field types mechanical, thermal, electromagnetic, etc.
 - Categorized based on industries automotive, consumer electronics, arms, etc.

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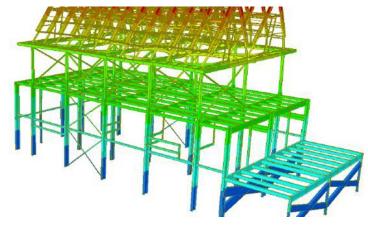
Application examples of FEM include:



Automotive crash analysis¹



Electronic chip performance analysis²



Seismic analysis for architectures³





- 1. https://ctag.com/en/servicios/tecnologia-seguridad-pasiva/simulacion-impacto_crash-simulation/
- https://www.finiteelementanalysis.com.au/featured/dcir-analysis-of-pcb-in-ansys-siwave/
- 3. http://pepconsultingengineers.it/en/fem-analysis-e-seismic-design/

5-Step Analysis in FEM

- Preprocessing: subdividing the target domain into finite elements by automatic mesh generators.
- Element formulation: development of equations for elements.
- Assembly: obtaining equations for the whole system by gathering ones at the element-level.

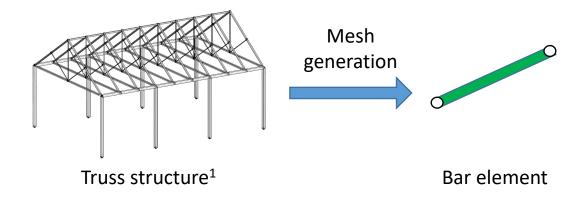
Easiest analysis with 1D bar elements and no partial differential equations

- Solving equations.
- Postprocessing: calculation results visualization and output.



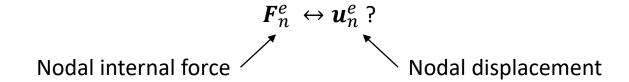


Single Bar Element



Bar elements are assumed to be thin:

- 1. Negligible torsion, bending and shear
- 2. Internal forces only along axes spring



Notation:

- Element number superscript
- Node number subscript

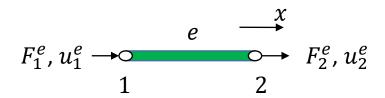




^{1.} https://www.karamba3d.com/tutorials/tutorials_workflow/export-gable-truss-to-revit-with-geometry-gym-rhynamo/

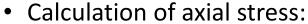
1D Single Bar Element – Stress and Deformation

- For simplification:
 - 1. Straight bar element
 - 2. Material obeying Hooke's Law
 - 3. Only axial loading
 - 4. Static analysis



• Equilibrium of the element (static analysis):

$$F_1^e + F_2^e = 0$$



$$\sigma^e = \frac{p^e}{A^e} = \frac{F_2^e}{A^e} \quad \text{Sign of } p \text{ and } F?$$

Hooke's Law:

$$\sigma^e = E^e \varepsilon^e$$

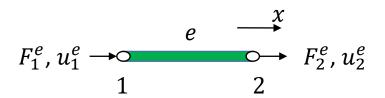
- Compatible deformation no gap or overlap
- Calculation of axial strain:

$$\varepsilon^e = \frac{\delta^e}{l^e} = \frac{l_{new}^e - l^e}{l^e} = \frac{u_2^e - u_1^e}{l^e}$$





1D Single Bar Element – Stiffness Matrix



Definition of stiffness:

$$F_2^e = A^e \sigma^e = A^e E^e \varepsilon^e = \frac{A^e E^e}{l^e} (u_2^e - u_1^e)$$

$$\Rightarrow F_2^e = k^e (u_2^e - u_1^e)$$

• Equilibrium condition:

$$F_1^e = -F_2^e = k^e(u_1^e - u_2^e)$$



$$\frac{\begin{bmatrix} F_1^e \\ F_2^e \end{bmatrix}}{\mathbf{F}^e} = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} k^e & -k^e \\ -k^e & k^e \end{bmatrix}}{\mathbf{K}^e} \frac{\begin{bmatrix} u_1^e \\ u_2^e \end{bmatrix}}{\mathbf{d}^e}$$
$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{F}^e = \mathbf{K}^e \mathbf{d}^e$$

Element stiffness matrix:

$$\mathbf{K}^e = \begin{bmatrix} k^e & -k^e \\ -k^e & k^e \end{bmatrix} = \frac{A^e E^e}{l^e} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

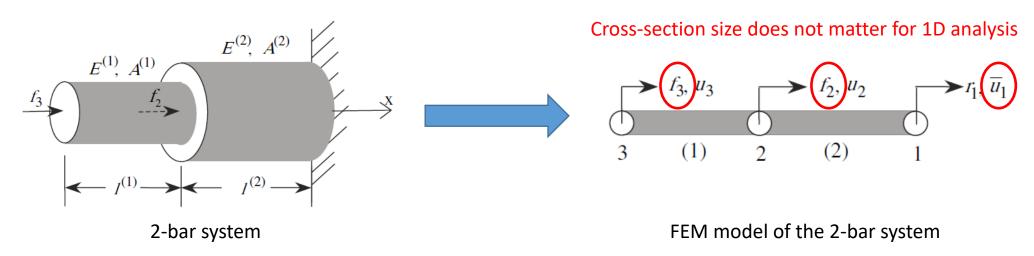
- 1. Symmetric matrix
- 2. 1D element with constant A^e
- 3. Linearity for all ingredients





FEM Model for a 2-Bar System

A system is made by several elements – starting from a 2-bar system:

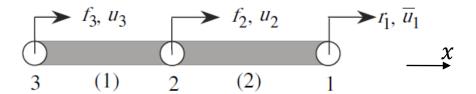


- Global nodes and elements are not numbered in a specific order in FEM
- Constraint of FEM problems:
 - Boundary conditions are intentionally applied on nodes
 - o Boundary conditions are either external forces or displacements, but not both to avoid over-constraint





Force Equations for a 2-Bar System



Internal forces and displacements for elements:

Local node numbering are unified to increase along x direction

$$F_1^{(2)}, u_1^{(2)} \xrightarrow{} 0 \qquad (2)$$
 $F_2^{(2)}, u_2^{(2)}$

• Free-body diagrams of nodes:

$$F_1^{(1)} \longleftrightarrow f_3$$

$$F_2^{(1)} \longleftarrow F_1^{(2)}$$

$$F_2^{(2)} \longleftrightarrow r_1$$

Internal forces change directions because of Newton's 3rd law.

$$F_1^{(1)} \longleftrightarrow F_2$$

$$F_2^{(1)} \longleftrightarrow F_2^{(2)} \longleftrightarrow F_1^{(2)}$$

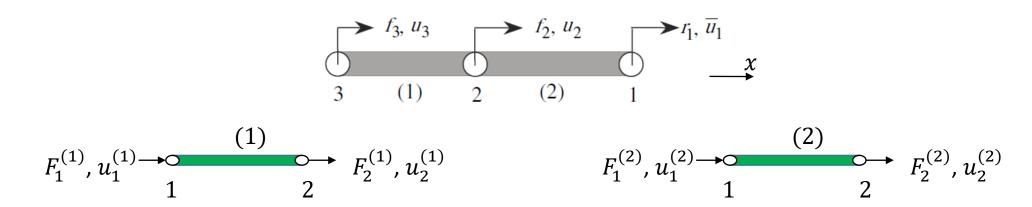
$$F_2^{(1)} \longleftrightarrow F_2^{(2)} \longleftrightarrow F_1$$

$$f_1 \longleftrightarrow F_2^{(1)} \longleftrightarrow F_2^{(2)} \longleftrightarrow F_2^{(2)}$$





Stiffness Equations for a 2-Bar System (1/2)



Utilize the 1D single bar stiffness equation:

Element (1):

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_1^{(1)} \\ F_2^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} k^{(1)} & -k^{(1)} \\ -k^{(1)} & k^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_3 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Element (2):

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_1^{(2)} \\ F_2^{(2)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} k^{(2)} & -k^{(2)} \\ -k^{(2)} & k^{(2)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_2 \\ u_1 \end{bmatrix}$$



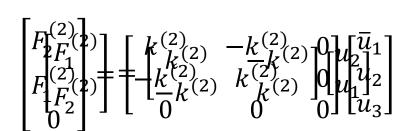


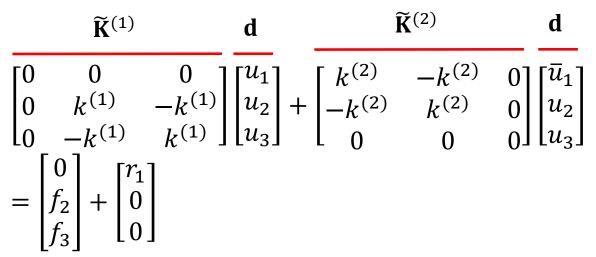
Stiffness Equations for a 2-Bar System (2/2)

$$\begin{bmatrix}
0 \\
F_2^{(1)} \\
F_1^{(1)}
\end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix}
F_2^{(2)} \\
F_1^{(2)} \\
0
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
r_1 \\
f_2 \\
f_3
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
0 \\
f_2 \\
f_3
\end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix}
r_1 \\
0 \\
0
\end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{\tilde{F}}^{(1)} \qquad \mathbf{\tilde{F}}^{(2)} \qquad \mathbf{f} \qquad \mathbf{r}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ F_{2}^{(E_{1}^{(1)})} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & k_{k}^{(1)}(1) & -\underline{k}_{k}^{(1)}(1) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \overline{u}_{1} \\ k_{1}^{(1)} & k_{k}^{(1)}(1) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \overline{u}_{1} \\ u_{2}^{(1)} \\ u_{3}^{(1)} \end{bmatrix}$$





Equation for unknowns

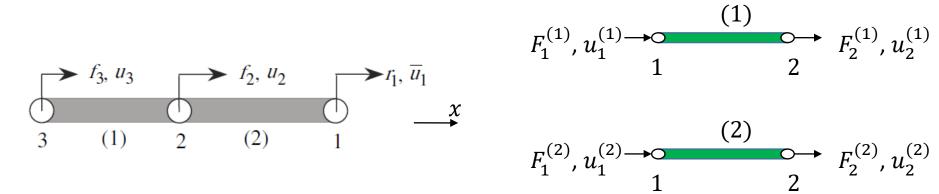
$$(\widetilde{\mathbf{K}}^{(1)} + \widetilde{\mathbf{K}}^{(2)})\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{r}$$

$$\mathbf{K} = \sum \widetilde{\mathbf{K}}^{(i)} = \begin{bmatrix} k^{(2)} & -k^{(2)} & 0\\ -k^{(2)} & k^{(1)} + k^{(2)} & -k^{(1)} \\ 0 & -k^{(1)} & k^{(1)} \end{bmatrix}$$





Direct Assembly of Global Stiffness Matrix





$$F_1^{(2)}, u_1^{(2)} \xrightarrow{\qquad \qquad } F_2^{(2)}, u_2^{(2)}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} k^{(1)} & -k^{(1)} \\ -k^{(1)} & k^{(1)} \end{bmatrix}_{2}^{3}$$

Element (2):

$$\begin{bmatrix} k^{(1)} & -k^{(1)} \\ -k^{(1)} & k^{(1)} \end{bmatrix}_{2}^{3} \qquad \begin{bmatrix} k^{(2)} & -k^{(2)} \\ -k^{(2)} & k^{(2)} \end{bmatrix}_{1}^{2}$$

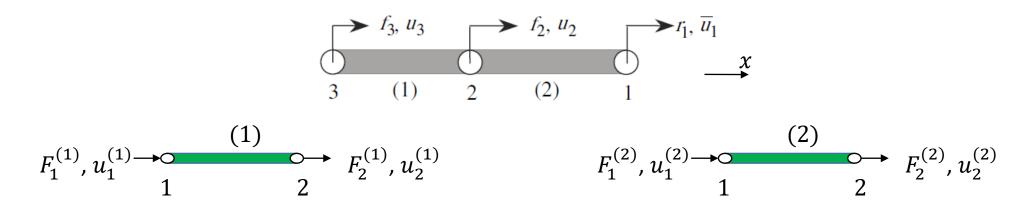
Direct assembly – computer implementation:

outer implementation:
$$\mathbf{K} = K_{mn} = \sum \widetilde{K}_{mn}^{(i)} = \begin{bmatrix} k^{(2)} & -k^{(2)} & 0\\ -k^{(2)} & k^{(1)} + k^{(2)} & -k^{(1)}\\ 0 & -k^{(1)} & k^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\ 2\\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$





Introduction of Gather Matrices



Gather matrices are introduced to enforce compatibility among elements:

$$\mathbf{d}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1^{(1)} \\ u_2^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u_3 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \overline{u}_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{d}^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1^{(2)} \\ u_2^{(2)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u_2 \\ u_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \overline{u}_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{d}^{e} = \mathbf{L}^{e}\mathbf{d}$$
$$\mathbf{F}^{e} = \mathbf{K}^{e}\mathbf{d}^{e} \Rightarrow \mathbf{F}^{e} = \mathbf{K}^{e}\mathbf{L}^{e}\mathbf{d}$$



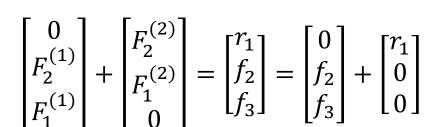


Application of Gather Matrices for Stiffness

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ F_2^{(1)} \\ F_1^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} F_1^{(1)} \\ F_2^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{L}^{(1)\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{F}^{(1)}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_2^{(2)} \\ F_1^{(2)} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} F_1^{(2)} \\ F_2^{(2)} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{L}^{(2)T} \mathbf{F}^{(2)}$$

$$\sum \mathbf{L}^{(i)T} \mathbf{F}^{(i)} = \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{r}$$





$$\sum \mathbf{L}^{(i)\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{F}^{(i)} = \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{r}$$
$$\mathbf{F}^{e} = \mathbf{K}^{e} \mathbf{L}^{e} \mathbf{d}$$

global stiffness matrix.

$$f + r = \sum_{i=1}^{n} L^{(i)T} F^{(i)}$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} L^{(i)T} K^{(i)} L^{(i)} d$$
$$= Kd$$

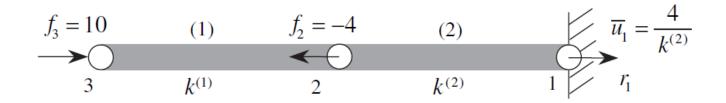
This is another approach to calculate the

Cumbersome but the symbolic expression is suitable for theoretical analysis





Solution Method – System Partition





$$F_1^{(2)}, u_1^{(2)} \xrightarrow{1} \qquad \qquad F_2^{(2)}, u_2^{(2)}$$

• System equation:

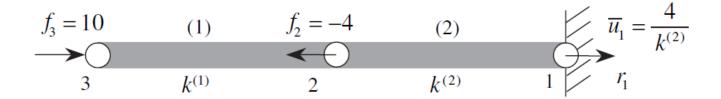
$$\mathbf{K} \cdot \mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} k^{(2)} & -k^{(2)} & 0 \\ -k^{(2)} & k^{(1)} + k^{(2)} & -k^{(1)} \\ 0 & -k^{(1)} & k^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \overline{u}_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{r} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ f_2 \\ f_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} r_1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} k^{(2)} & -k^{(2)} & 0 \\ -k^{(2)} & k^{(1)} + k^{(2)} & -k^{(1)} \\ 0 & -k^{(1)} & k^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4/k^{(2)} \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r_1 \\ -4 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$$





E-Nodes and F-Nodes



• 3 unknowns – 3 equations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} k^{(2)} & -k^{(2)} & 0 \\ -k^{(2)} & k^{(1)} + k^{(2)} & -k^{(1)} \\ 0 & -k^{(1)} & k^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4/k^{(2)} \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} r_1 \\ -4 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

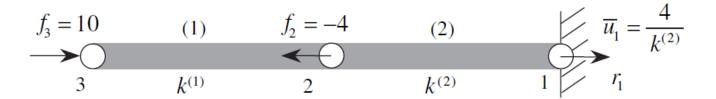
- E-nodes essential boundary conditions with known displacements and unknown external forces.
- F-nodes free boundary conditions with unknown displacements and known external forces.

Nodes with no boundary conditions applied is F-nodes (0 external forces).





Matrix Partition



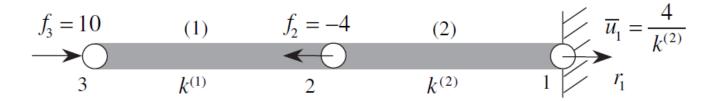
3 unknowns – 3 equations:

• E-nodes can be numbered first for partition convenience.





Solution to F-Nodes



Solve F-nodes part first:

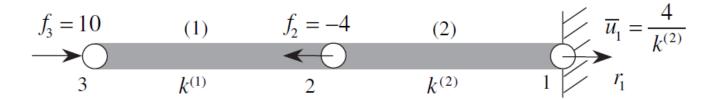
$$\mathbf{K}_{EF}^T \cdot \bar{\mathbf{d}}_E + \mathbf{K}_F \cdot \mathbf{d}_F = \mathbf{f}_F$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{d}_{F} = \begin{bmatrix} u_{2} \\ u_{3} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{K}_{F}^{-1} \cdot \left(\mathbf{f}_{F} - \mathbf{K}_{EF}^{T} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{d}}_{E} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{10}{k^{(2)}} \\ \frac{10}{k^{(1)}} + \frac{10}{k^{(2)}} \end{bmatrix}$$





Solution to E-Nodes



• 3 unknowns – 3 equations:

• Solve E-nodes part:

$$\mathbf{K}_{\mathrm{E}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{d}}_{\mathrm{E}} + \mathbf{K}_{\mathrm{EF}} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{\mathrm{F}} = \mathbf{r}_{\mathrm{E}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{r}_{E} = [r_{1}] = [k^{(2)}][4/k^{(2)}] + [-k^{(2)} \quad 0] \begin{bmatrix} \frac{10}{k^{(2)}} \\ \frac{10}{k^{(1)}} + \frac{10}{k^{(2)}} \end{bmatrix} = -6$$





5-Step Analysis in FEM

- Preprocessing: subdividing the target domain into finite elements by automatic mesh generators.
- Element formulation: development of equations for elements.
- Assembly: obtaining equations for the whole system by gathering ones at the element-level.
- Solving equations.

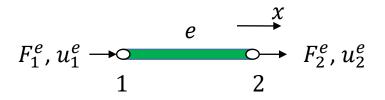
- Only determined by element and node numbers
- Applicable to other problems with different elements
- Postprocessing: calculation results visualization and output.





2D Truss System

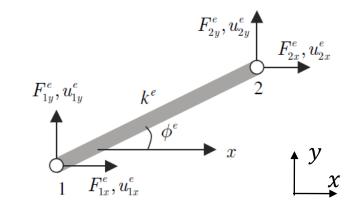
• Expand the single bar element from 1D space to 2D space:



$$\mathbf{F}^e = \begin{bmatrix} F_1^e \\ F_2^e \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F_1^e & F_2^e \end{bmatrix}^{\mathrm{T}}$$



$$\mathbf{d}^e = \begin{bmatrix} u_1^e \\ u_2^e \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1^e & u_2^e \end{bmatrix}^{\mathrm{T}}$$



$$\mathbf{F}^e = [F_{1x}^e \quad F_{1y}^e \quad F_{2x}^e \quad F_{2y}^e]^{\mathrm{T}}$$

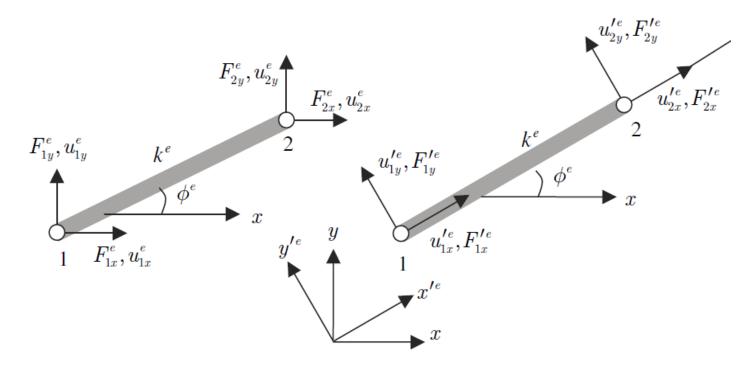
$$\mathbf{d}^e = [u_{1x}^e \quad u_{1y}^e \quad u_{2x}^e \quad u_{2y}^e]^{\mathrm{T}}$$





Local Coordinate for 2D Single Bar Elements

Local coordinate facilitates force-displacement analysis:



Along bar direction, similar to the 1D element:

Transverse displacement has negligible effect

$$\begin{bmatrix} F'^e_{1x} \\ F'^e_{2x} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} k^e & -k^e \\ -k^e & k^e \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u'^e_{1x} \\ u'^e_{2x} \end{bmatrix}$$

• In transverse direction, bar elements are assumed to have 0 shear stiffness:

$$F'^{e}_{1y} = F'^{e}_{2y} = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} F'^{e}_{1x} \\ F'^{e}_{1y} \\ F'^{e}_{2x} \\ F'^{e}_{2y} \end{bmatrix} = k^{e} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u'^{e}_{1x} \\ u'^{e}_{1y} \\ u'^{e}_{2x} \\ u'^{e}_{2y} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{F}'^{e}$$

$$\mathbf{K}'^{e}$$

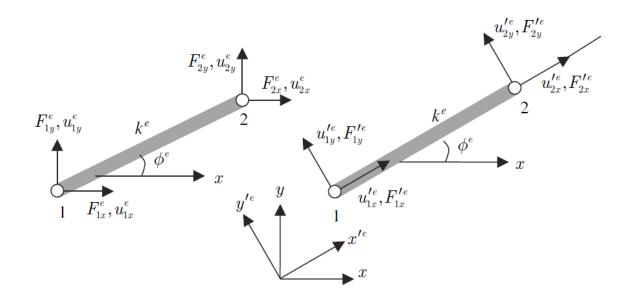
$$\mathbf{G}'^{e}$$





Transformation Law

• Local equations should be transformed to the global coordinate for system-level analysis:



• Displacement vector coordinate transformation:

$$\begin{bmatrix}
u_{1x}'^{e} \\ u_{1y}'^{e} \\ u_{2x}'^{e} \\ u_{2y}'^{e} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
\cos \Phi^{e} & \sin \Phi^{e} & 0 & 0 \\
-\sin \Phi^{e} & \cos \Phi^{e} & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & \cos \Phi^{e} & \sin \Phi^{e} \\
0 & 0 & -\sin \Phi^{e} & \cos \Phi^{e} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix}
u_{1x}^{e} \\ u_{1y}^{e} \\ u_{2x}^{e} \\ u_{2y}^{e} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{d}^{\prime e} \qquad \mathbf{R}^{e} \qquad \mathbf{d}^{e}$$

$$(\mathbf{R}^{e})^{-1} = \mathbf{R}^{e\mathbf{T}} \Rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{e\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{d}^{\prime e} = \mathbf{R}^{e\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{R}^{e} \mathbf{d}^{\prime e} = \mathbf{d}^{e}$$

• Similarly for force vectors:

$$\mathbf{R}^{e}\mathbf{F}^{e} = \mathbf{F}'^{e}, \qquad \mathbf{R}^{eT}\mathbf{F}'^{e} = \mathbf{F}^{e}$$

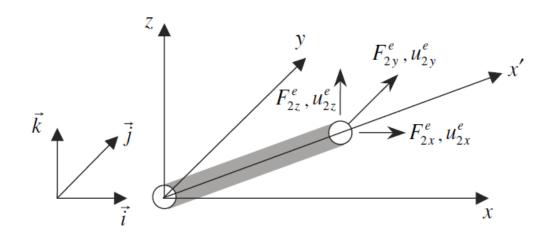
$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{F}^{e} = \mathbf{R}^{eT}\mathbf{F}'^{e} = \mathbf{R}^{eT}\mathbf{K}'^{e}\mathbf{d}'^{e} = \underline{\mathbf{R}^{eT}\mathbf{K}'^{e}\mathbf{R}^{e}\mathbf{d}^{e}}$$
 \mathbf{K}^{e}





3D Truss System

Further expand the single bar element from 1D space to 3D space:



$$\mathbf{F}^{e} = \begin{bmatrix} F_{1x}^{e} & F_{1y}^{e} & F_{1z}^{e} & F_{2x}^{e} & F_{2y}^{e} & F_{2z}^{e} \end{bmatrix}^{\mathrm{T}}$$

$$\mathbf{d}^{e} = \begin{bmatrix} u_{1x}^{e} & u_{1y}^{e} & u_{1z}^{e} & u_{2x}^{e} & u_{2y}^{e} & u_{2z}^{e} \end{bmatrix}^{\mathrm{T}}$$

Transformation from local to global coordinates:

$$\vec{l}' = \frac{1}{l^e} \left(x_{21}^e \vec{l} + y_{21}^e \vec{j} + z_{21}^e \vec{k} \right)$$

$$(x_{21}^e = x_2^e - x_1^e, \text{ etc.})$$

$$\vec{u_l}^e = u'_{lx}^e \vec{l}' + u'_{ly}^e \vec{j}' + u'_{lz}^e \vec{k}' = u_{lx}^e \vec{l} + u_{ly}^e \vec{j} + u_{lz}^e \vec{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow u'_{lx}^e = u_{lx}^e \vec{l} \cdot \vec{l}' + u_{ly}^e \vec{j} \cdot \vec{l} + u_{lz}^e \vec{k} \cdot \vec{l}$$

$$\Rightarrow u'_{lx}^e = \frac{1}{l^e} \left(x_{21}^e u_{lx}^e + y_{21}^e u_{ly}^e + z_{21}^e u_{lz}^e \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} u'_{1x}^e \\ u'_{2x}^e \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{l^e} \begin{bmatrix} x_{21}^e & y_{21}^e & z_{21}^e & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & x_{21}^e & y_{21}^e & z_{21}^e \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{d}^e$$

$$\mathbf{R}^e$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{K}_{6\times6}^e = \mathbf{R}_{6\times2}^{e\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{K}_{2\times2}^{\prime e} \mathbf{R}_{2\times6}^e$$





The End



