

# Introduction to Finite Elements in Engineering

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*To our parents*



# Contents

<b>PREFACE</b>	<b>XIII</b>
<b>ABOUT THE AUTHOR</b>	<b>XVI</b>
<b>1 FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Historical Background	1
1.3 Outline of Presentation	2
1.4 Stresses and Equilibrium	2
1.5 Boundary Conditions	4
1.6 Strain–Displacement Relations	5
1.7 Stress–Strain Relations	6
<i>Special Cases, 7</i>	
1.8 Temperature Effects	8
1.9 Potential Energy and Equilibrium: The Rayleigh–Ritz Method	9
<i>Potential Energy <math>\Pi</math>, 9</i>	
<i>Rayleigh–Ritz Method, 12</i>	
1.10 Galerkin’s Method	14
1.11 Saint Venant’s Principle	18
1.12 Von Mises Stress	19
1.13 Principle of Superposition	19
1.14 Computer Programs	20
1.15 Conclusion	20
Historical References	20
Problems	21
<b>2 MATRIX ALGEBRA AND GAUSSIAN ELIMINATION</b>	<b>28</b>
2.1 Matrix Algebra	28
<i>Row and Column Vectors, 29</i>	

- Addition and Subtraction, 29*
- Multiplication by a Scalar, 29*
- Matrix Multiplication, 29*
- Transposition, 30*
- Differentiation and Integration, 30*
- Square Matrix, 31*
- Diagonal Matrix, 31*
- Identity Matrix, 31*
- Symmetric Matrix, 32*
- Upper Triangular Matrix, 32*
- Determinant of a Matrix, 32*
- Matrix Inversion, 32*
- Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors, 33*
- Positive Definite Matrix, 35*
- Cholesky Decomposition, 35*
- 2.2 Gaussian Elimination 35
  - General Algorithm for Gaussian Elimination, 37*
  - Symmetric Matrix, 40*
  - Symmetric Banded Matrices, 40*
  - Solution with Multiple Right Sides, 40*
  - Gaussian Elimination with Column Reduction, 42*
  - Skyline Solution, 44*
  - Frontal Solution, 45*
- 2.3 Conjugate Gradient Method for Equation Solving 45
  - Conjugate Gradient Algorithm, 46*
  - Input Data/Output 46*
- Problems 47
  - Program Listings, 49*

**3 ONE-DIMENSIONAL PROBLEMS**

**51**

- 3.1 Introduction 51
- 3.2 Finite Element Modeling 52
  - Element Division, 52*
  - Numbering Scheme, 53*
- 3.3 Shape Functions and Local Coordinates 55
- 3.4 The Potential-Energy Approach 59
  - Element Stiffness Matrix, 60*
  - Force Terms, 62*
- 3.5 The Galerkin Approach 64
  - Element Stiffness, 64*
  - Force Terms, 65*
- 3.6 Assembly of the Global Stiffness Matrix and Load Vector 66
- 3.7 Properties of  $\mathbf{K}$  69
- 3.8 The Finite Element Equations: Treatment of Boundary Conditions 70

*Types of Boundary Conditions, 70*  
*Elimination Approach, 71*  
*Penalty Approach, 76*  
*Multipoint Constraints, 82*

3.9 Quadratic Shape Functions 85

3.10 Temperature Effects 92

3.11 Problem Modeling and Boundary Conditions 96  
*Problem in Equilibrium, 96*  
*Symmetry, 97*  
*Two Elements with Same End Displacements, 97*  
*Problem with a Closing Gap, 98*  
*Input Data/Output, 98*

Problems 99  
*Program Listing, 111*

**4 TRUSSES**

**117**

4.1 Introduction 117

4.2 Plane Trusses 118  
*Local and Global Coordinate Systems, 118*  
*Formulas for Calculating  $\ell$  and  $m$ , 119*  
*Element Stiffness Matrix, 120*  
*Stress Calculations, 121*  
*Temperature Effects, 126*

4.3 Three-Dimensional Trusses 129

4.4 Assembly of Global Stiffness Matrix for the Banded and Skyline Solutions 131  
*Assembly for Banded Solution, 131*  
*Skyline Assembly, 132*

4.5 Problem Modeling and Boundary Conditions 134  
*Inclined Support in Two Dimensions, 134*  
*Inclined Support in Three Dimensions—Line Constraint, 134*  
*Inclined Support in Three Dimensions—Plane Constraint, 135*  
*Symmetry and Antisymmetry, 136*  
*Input Data/Output, 138*

Problems 139  
*Program Listing, 147*

**5 BEAMS AND FRAMES**

**150**

5.1 Introduction 150  
*Potential-Energy Approach, 151*  
*Galerkin Approach, 152*

5.2 Finite Element Formulation 153  
*Element Stiffness—Direct Approach, 157*

5.3 Load Vector 158

viii Contents

- 5.4 Boundary Considerations 159
- 5.5 Shear Force and Bending Moment 160
- 5.6 Beams on Elastic Supports 162
- 5.7 Plane Frames 163
- 5.8 Three-Dimensional Frames 169
- 5.9 Problem Modeling and Boundary Conditions 173
- 5.10 Some Comments 174
  - Input Data/Output, 174*
  - Problems 176
    - Program Listings, 183*

**6 TWO-DIMENSIONAL PROBLEMS USING CONSTANT STRAIN TRIANGLES 188**

- 6.1 Introduction 188
- 6.2 Finite Element Modeling 189
- 6.3 Constant Strain Triangle (CST) 191
  - Isoparametric Representation, 192*
  - Potential-Energy Approach, 198*
  - Element Stiffness, 198*
  - Force Terms, 199*
  - Integration Formula on a Triangle, 206*
  - Galerkin Approach, 206*
  - Stress Calculations, 208*
  - Temperature Effects, 210*
- 6.4 Problem Modeling and Boundary Conditions 212
  - Some General Comments on Dividing into Elements, 215*
- 6.5 Patch Test and Convergence 215
  - Patch Test, 215*
- 6.6 Orthotropic Materials 216
  - Temperature Effects, 220*
  - Input Data/Output, 222*
- Problems 225
  - Program Listing, 238*

**7 AXISYMMETRIC SOLIDS SUBJECTED TO AXISYMMETRIC LOADING 242**

- 7.1 Introduction 242
- 7.2 Axisymmetric Formulation 243
- 7.3 Finite Element Modeling: Triangular Element 245
  - Potential-Energy Approach, 248*
  - Body Force Term, 249*
  - Rotating Flywheel, 249*
  - Surface Traction, 250*
  - Galerkin Approach, 252*



	<i>Stress Calculations</i> , 255	
	<i>Temperature Effects</i> , 256	
7.4	Problem Modeling and Boundary Conditions	256
	<i>Cylinder Subjected to Internal Pressure</i> , 256	
	<i>Infinite Cylinder</i> , 257	
	<i>Press Fit on a Rigid Shaft</i> , 257	
	<i>Press Fit on an Elastic Shaft</i> , 258	
	<i>Belleville Spring</i> , 259	
	<i>Thermal Stress Problem</i> , 260	
	<i>Input Data/Output</i> , 262	
	Problems	263
	<i>Program Listing</i> , 271	
<b>8</b>	<b>TWO-DIMENSIONAL ISOPARAMETRIC ELEMENTS AND NUMERICAL INTEGRATION</b>	<b>273</b>
8.1	Introduction	273
8.2	The Four-Node Quadrilateral	273
	<i>Shape Functions</i> , 273	
	<i>Element Stiffness Matrix</i> , 276	
	<i>Element Force Vectors</i> , 279	
8.3	Numerical Integration	279
	<i>Two-Dimensional Integrals</i> , 283	
	<i>Stiffness Integration</i> , 283	
	<i>Stress Calculations</i> , 284	
8.4	Higher Order Elements	286
	<i>Nine-Node Quadrilateral</i> , 287	
	<i>Eight-Node Quadrilateral</i> , 289	
	<i>Six-Node Triangle</i> , 290	
	<i>Integration on a Triangle—Symmetric Points</i> , 291	
	<i>Integration on a Triangle—Degenerate Quadrilateral</i> , 292	
8.5	Four-Node Quadrilateral for Axisymmetric Problems	294
8.6	Conjugate Gradient Implementation of the Quadrilateral Element	295
8.7	Concluding Remarks and Convergence	295
8.8	References for Convergence	297
	<i>Input Data/Output</i> , 298	
	Problems	300
	<i>Program Listings</i> , 308	
<b>9</b>	<b>THREE-DIMENSIONAL PROBLEMS IN STRESS ANALYSIS</b>	<b>312</b>
9.1	Introduction	312
9.2	Finite Element Formulation	313
	<i>Element Stiffness</i> , 316	
	<i>Force Terms</i> , 317	

- 9.3 Stress Calculations 317
- 9.4 Mesh Preparation 318
- 9.5 Hexahedral Elements and Higher Order Elements 322
- 9.6 Problem Modeling 324
- 9.7 Frontal Method for Finite Element Matrices 326
  - Connectivity and Prefront Routine, 327*
  - Element Assembly and Consideration of Specified dof, 328*
  - Elimination of Completed dof, 328*
  - Backsubstitution, 329*
  - Consideration of Multipoint Constraints, 329*
  - Input Data/Output, 330*
- Problems 332
  - Program Listings, 336*

**10 SCALAR FIELD PROBLEMS**

**345**

- 10.1 Introduction 345
- 10.2 Steady State Heat Transfer 346
  - One-Dimensional Heat Conduction, 347*
  - One-Dimensional Heat Transfer in Thin Fins, 355*
  - Two-Dimensional Steady-State Heat Conduction, 359*
  - Two-Dimensional Fins, 369*
  - Preprocessing for Program Heat2D, 370*
- 10.3 Torsion 370
  - Triangular Element, 372*
  - Galerkin Approach, 373*
- 10.4 Potential Flow, Seepage, Electric and Magnetic Fields,  
and Fluid Flow in Ducts 376
  - Potential Flow, 376*
  - Seepage, 378*
  - Electrical and Magnetic Field Problems, 379*
  - Fluid Flow in Ducts, 381*
  - Acoustics, 383*
  - Boundary Conditions, 384*
  - One-Dimensional Acoustics, 384*
  - One-Dimensional Axial Vibrations, 386*
  - Two-Dimensional Acoustics, 388*
- 10.5 Conclusion 389
  - Input Data/Output, 389*
- Problems 391
  - Program Listings, 402*

**11 DYNAMIC CONSIDERATIONS**

**408**

- 11.1 Introduction 408
- 11.2 Formulation 408
  - Solid Body with Distributed Mass, 409*

11.3	Element Mass Matrices	411	
11.4	Evaluation of Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors	416	
	<i>Properties of Eigenvectors</i>	417	
	<i>Eigenvalue–Eigenvector Evaluation</i>	417	
	<i>Inverse Iteration Method</i>	420	
	<i>Generalized Jacobi Method</i>	423	
	<i>Tridiagonalization and Implicit Shift Approach</i>	427	
	<i>Bringing Generalized Problem to Standard Form</i>	427	
	<i>Tridiagonalization</i>	428	
	<i>Implicit Symmetric QR Step with Wilkinson Shift for Diagonalization</i>	431	
11.5	Interfacing with Previous Finite Element Programs and a Program for Determining Critical Speeds of Shafts	432	
11.6	Guyan Reduction	433	
11.7	Rigid Body Modes	436	
11.8	Conclusion	438	
	<i>Input Data/Output</i>	438	
	Problems	440	
	<i>Program Listings</i>	446	
<b>12</b>	<b>PREPROCESSING AND POSTPROCESSING</b>		<b>453</b>
12.1	Introduction	453	
12.2	Mesh Generation	453	
	<i>Region and Block Representation</i>	453	
	<i>Block Corner Nodes, Sides, and Subdivisions</i>	454	
12.3	Postprocessing	461	
	<i>Deformed Configuration and Mode Shape</i>	461	
	<i>Contour Plotting</i>	462	
	<i>Nodal Values from Known Constant Element Values for a Triangle</i>	463	
	<i>Least-Squares Fit for a Four-Noded Quadrilateral</i>	465	
12.4	Conclusion	466	
	<i>Input Data/Output</i>	467	
	Problems	468	
	<i>Program Listings</i>	470	
	<b>APPENDIX Proof of <math>dA = \det \mathbf{J} d\xi d\eta</math></b>		<b>483</b>
	<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		<b>486</b>
	<b>ANSWERS TO SELECTED PROBLEMS</b>		<b>490</b>
	<b>INDEX</b>		<b>492</b>



# Preface

The first edition of this book appeared over 20 years ago and the second and third editions followed subsequently. Translations of the book appeared in Spanish, Korean, Greek, and Chinese languages. We received positive feedback from professors who taught from the book and from students and practicing engineers who used the book. We also benefited from the feedback received from the students in our courses for the past 30 years. We have incorporated several suggestions in this edition. The underlying philosophy of the book is to provide a clear presentation of theory, aspects of problem modeling and implementation into computer programs. The pedagogy of earlier editions has been retained and enhanced in this edition.

## **WHAT'S NEW IN THIS EDITION**

- Introduction of the superposition principle.
- Treatment of symmetry and antisymmetry.
- Additional examples and exercise problems.
- The patch test.
- Beams and Frames chapter moved to follow the Truss chapter.
- Revised Excel VB programs.
- Programs in JAVASCRIPT to run on web browsers such as IE, Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari.
- Executable *graphics* programs together with the source codes.
- Additional examples and exercise problems.

New material has been introduced in several chapters. Worked examples and exercise problems have been added to supplement the learning process. Exercise problems stress both fundamental understanding and practical considerations. Problem modeling aspects have been added from early chapters. Principle of superposition is introduced in Chapter 1. Symmetry and antisymmetry considerations in two-dimensional problems are clearly presented. There are additional examples and exercise problems. The patch test is discussed and related problems have been added. The included

programs have a common structure, which should enable the users to follow the development easily. Programs in JAVASCRIPT have been added. This will enable the users to solve finite element analysis problems using web browsers such as IE, Firefox, Safari, or Google Chrome. Excel VB programs have been revised. All programs have been thoroughly checked. The downloadable program set includes executable versions for programs involving graphics. The programs have been provided in Visual Basic, Microsoft Excel/Visual Basic, MATLAB, and JAVASCRIPT, together with those provided earlier in QBASIC, FORTRAN, and C. The Solutions Manual has been updated.

Chapter 1 gives a brief historical background and develops the fundamental concepts. Equations of equilibrium, stress–strain relations, strain–displacement relations, and the principles of potential energy are reviewed. The concept of Galerkin’s method is introduced.

Properties of matrices and determinants are reviewed in Chapter 2. The Gaussian elimination method is presented, and its relationship to the solution of symmetric banded matrix equations and the skyline solution is discussed. Cholesky decomposition and conjugate gradient method are discussed.

Chapter 3 develops the key concepts of finite element formulation by considering one-dimensional problems. The steps include development of shape functions, derivation of element stiffness, formation of global stiffness, treatment of boundary conditions, solution of equations, and stress calculations. Both the potential energy approach and Galerkin’s formulations are presented. Consideration of temperature effects is included.

Finite element formulation for plane and three-dimensional trusses is developed in Chapter 4. The assembly of global stiffness in banded and skyline forms is explained. Computer programs for both banded and skyline solutions are given.

Beams and application of Hermite shape functions are presented in Chapter 5. The chapter covers two-dimensional and three-dimensional frames.

Chapter 6 introduces the finite element formulation for two-dimensional plane stress and plane strain problems using constant strain triangle (CST) elements. Problem modeling and treatment of boundary conditions are presented in detail. Formulation for orthotropic materials is provided.

Chapter 7 treats the modeling aspects of axisymmetric solids subjected to axisymmetric loading. Formulation using triangular elements is presented. Several real-world problems are included in this chapter.

Chapter 8 introduces the concepts of isoparametric quadrilateral and higher-order elements and numerical integration using Gaussian quadrature. Formulation for axisymmetric quadrilateral element and implementation of conjugate gradient method for quadrilateral element are given.

Chapter 9 presents three-dimensional stress analysis. Tetrahedral and hexahedral elements are presented. The frontal method and its implementation aspects are discussed.

Scalar field problems are treated in detail in Chapter 10. While Galerkin as well as energy approaches have been used in every chapter with equal importance, only Galerkin’s approach is used in this chapter. This approach directly applies to the given differential equation without the need of identifying an equivalent functional to

minimize. Galerkin's formulation for steady-state heat transfer, torsion, potential flow, seepage flow, electric and magnetic fields, fluid flow in ducts, and acoustics are presented.

Chapter 11 introduces dynamic considerations. Element mass matrices are given. Techniques for evaluation of eigenvalues (natural frequencies) and eigenvectors (mode shapes) of the generalized eigenvalue problem are discussed. Methods of inverse iteration, Jacobi, tridiagonalization, and implicit shift approaches are presented.

Preprocessing and postprocessing concepts are developed in Chapter 12. Theory and implementation aspects of two-dimensional mesh generation, least-squares approach to obtain nodal stresses from element values for triangles and quadrilaterals, and contour plotting are presented.

At the undergraduate level some topics may be dropped or delivered in a different order without breaking the continuity of presentation. We encourage the introduction of the Chapter 12 programs at the end of Chapter 6. This helps the students to prepare the data in an efficient manner.

We thank Professor Hongbing Fang, Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Science, UNC Charlotte; Professor Kishore Pochiraju, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, New Jersey; Professor Subramaniam Rajan, Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering, Arizona State University; Professor Chris H. Reidel, A. Leon Linton Department of Mechanical Engineering, Lawrence Technological University, Michigan; and Professor Nicholas J. Zabaraz, Sibley School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Cornell University, who reviewed our third edition and gave many constructive suggestions that helped us improve the book.

Complete self-contained computer programs with source codes in Visual Basic, Excel-based Visual Basic, MATLAB, FORTRAN, JAVASCRIPT and C to accompany the text are available at [www.pearsonhighered.com/chandrupatla](http://www.pearsonhighered.com/chandrupatla).

Tirupathi Chandrupatla expresses his gratitude to J. Tinsley Oden, whose teaching and encouragement have been a source of inspiration to him throughout his career. He expresses his thanks to many students at Rowan University and Kettering University who took his courses. He expresses his thanks to his colleague Paris von Lockette who gave valuable feedback after teaching the course using the second and third editions.

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Introduction to Finite Engineering is ideal for senior undergraduate and first-year graduate students and also as a learning resource to practicing engineers. This book provides an integrated approach to finite element methodologies. The development of finite element theory is combined with examples and exercises involving engineering applications. The steps used in the development of the theory are implemented in complete, self-contained computer programs. While the strategy and philosophy of the development of the theory are discussed, the implementation of the theory is presented in detail. The book is divided into two parts. Part I covers the basic concepts of finite element analysis, including the derivation of the element stiffness matrices and the assembly of the global stiffness matrix. Part II covers the application of finite element analysis to various engineering problems, including stress analysis, heat conduction, and fluid flow. The book is written in a clear and concise style, making it accessible to both students and practicing engineers. The book is a valuable resource for anyone interested in finite element analysis.

Introduction. Axisymmetric Formulation. Finite Element Modeling: Triangular Element. Problem Modeling and Boundary Conditions. 7. Two-Dimensional Isoparametric Elements and Numerical Integration.

Prior to joining Rowan, he was a Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Manufacturing Systems Engineering at GMI Engineering & Management Institute (formerly General Motors Institute), where he taught for 16 years. Dr. Chandrupatla has broad research interests, which include finite element analysis, design, optimization, and manufacturing engineering. He has published widely in these areas and serves as a consultant to industry. Dr. Chandrupatla is a registered Professional Engineer and also a Certified Manufacturing Engineer.