ME323: Mechanics of Materials Fall 2023

Problem 9.1 (10 points)

A three-segment rod AD is fixed to walls at A and D. An external load 2P is applied at C and an external load P applied at B. The properties are shown in the figure. Segments 1, 2, and 3 have Young's modulus 4E/3, E/2, and 3E/2, respectively. Segments 1, 2, and 3 have cross-sectional area 3A, 6A, and 2A, respectively.

a) Use three finite elements (one element per segment), write down the stiffness matrix [K] and the forcing vector [F].

b) Enforcing the boundary conditions, write the reduced system of equations and solve for the displacements at B and C.

c) Determine the reactions at A and D.



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Problem 9.2 (10 points)

A rod is made of three segments: BC, CD, and DH. All segments have length L and are made of a material with Young's modulus E. The cross-sectional area of segment BC decreases linearly from 2A at B to A at C. The cross-sectional area of segment C is constant. The cross-sectional area of segment DH increases linearly from A at D to 3A at H. A force P acts to the left at point D.

Use a three-element (four-node) finite element model to do the following:

a) Construct the global stiffness matrix [K] in terms of E, A, and L.

b) Construct the force vector [F] in terms of P.

c) Enforce the displacement boundary conditions.

d) Solve for the nodal displacements in terms of PL/EA.

e) Determine the reactions at walls B and H in terms of P.

f) Compare the results from different numbers of elements (use 5 and 7). Use the code provided in the lecture book or write your own.

Note: Attach your modified code to your submission.



Problem 9.3 (10 points)

A beam ABC of length 2L is loaded with a distributed load over half its length as shown in the figure below. The beam is fixed at A and supported by a roller at C. The beam has a modulus of elasticity E and second area moment of the cross-section I. Determine the following: Give your answers in terms of p_0 , E, I, x, L.

- a) The reaction forces at A, B, and C. (Hint: make use of the principle of superposition to avoid integration).
- b) The bending moment M(x).
- c) The shear force V(x).
- d) Plot both the shear force and bending moment diagrams.



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Problem 9.4 (2.5 + 2.5 points)

1) A shaft has a stiffness matrix
$$[K] = \begin{bmatrix} K1 & -K1 & 0 \\ -K1 & K1 + K2 & -K2 \\ 0 & -K2 & K2 \end{bmatrix}$$
. The right end of the shaft is free. Simplify the matrix.

$$\begin{bmatrix} K1 & -K1 \\ -K1 & K1 + K2 \end{bmatrix}$$

a.
$$\begin{bmatrix} K1 + K2 & -K2 \\ -K2 & K2 \end{bmatrix}$$

b.
$$\begin{bmatrix} K1 & -K1 \\ -K1 & K1 + K2 \\ 0 & -K2 \end{bmatrix}$$

c.

- 2) What is the order of the reduced stiffness matrix for a shaft composed of 4 elements and with both ends fixed.
 - a. 4
 - b. 3
 - c. 5
 - d. 6