

Linear Elasticity: Voigt Notation

It simplifies our later implementations if we re-write symmetric tensors as vectors, thereby reducing their order. This is often referred to as Voigt notation. For linear elasticity, we write:

$$\underline{\underline{\tilde{\epsilon}}}(\underline{\underline{u}}) := \begin{bmatrix} u_{1,1} \\ u_{2,2} \\ u_{1,2} + u_{2,1} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Strain Vector}$$

$$\underline{\underline{\tilde{\epsilon}}}(\underline{\underline{w}}) := \begin{bmatrix} w_{1,1} \\ w_{2,2} \\ w_{1,2} + w_{2,1} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Virtual Strain Vector}$$

$$\underline{\underline{\tilde{\sigma}}}(\underline{\underline{u}}) := \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} \\ \sigma_{22} \\ \sigma_{12} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Stress Vector}$$

We can also rewrite the fourth rank tensor of elastic coefficients as a matrix:

$$\underline{\underline{\underline{D}}} := \begin{bmatrix} D_{11} & D_{12} & D_{13} \\ & D_{22} & D_{23} \\ \text{symmetric} & & D_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

where:

$$D_{IJ} = C_{ABCD}$$

where the indices are related by the following table:

I/J	A/C	B/D
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	1	2
3	2	1

Then, we see:

$$\underline{\underline{\tilde{\sigma}}}(\underline{\underline{u}}) = \underline{\underline{\underline{D}}} \underline{\underline{\tilde{\epsilon}}}(\underline{\underline{u}}) \quad \text{Matrix - Vector Product}$$

Moreover:

$$w_{(A,B)} C_{ABCD} u_{(C,D)} = (\underline{\underline{\tilde{\epsilon}}}(\underline{\underline{w}}))^T \underline{\underline{\underline{D}}} \underline{\underline{\tilde{\epsilon}}}(\underline{\underline{u}})$$

So we have:

$$a(\underline{\underline{w}}, \underline{\underline{u}}) = \int_{\Omega} (\underline{\underline{\tilde{\epsilon}}}(\underline{\underline{w}}))^T \underline{\underline{\underline{D}}} \underline{\underline{\tilde{\epsilon}}}(\underline{\underline{u}}) d\Omega$$