

**NUMERICAL METHODS**  
**ECSE 543 - ASSIGNMENT 2**

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QUESTION 1

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The goal is to find the disjoint local  $\mathbf{S}$ -matrix for each finite element triangle, and subsequently find the global conjoint  $\mathbf{S}$ -matrix for the finite difference mesh composed of the triangular finite elements.

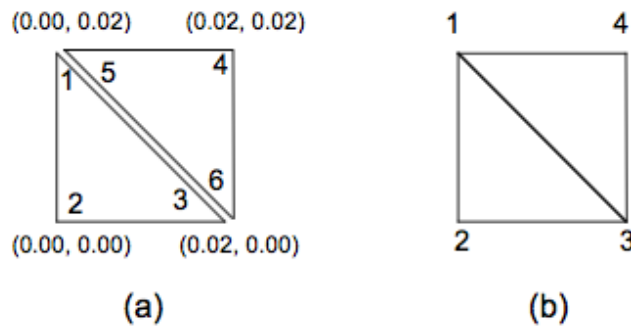


FIGURE 1. a) Disjoint finite elements with local numbering and vertex coordinates  $(x, y)$  in meters b) Conjoint finite element mesh with global numbering

The first step to finding the disjoint local  $\mathbf{S}$ -matrix of each finite element triangle is to find the potentials in the elements. We take the potential,  $U$ , to vary linearly over the  $(x, y)$  plane - note that the assumption of a linearly varying potential within the triangular element is equivalent to assuming that the electric field is uniform within the element (this is a good assumption in parallel-plate conductor type settings). Equation (1) shows the general linear relationship for the potential - constants  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are to be determined.

$$(1) \quad U = a + bx + cy$$

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Denoting the potentials at the vertices by  $U_v$ , where  $v$  is the vertex number set by the local ordering, we can solve the linear system of equations shown in equation (2) for the constants  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  where the potential at local vertex  $v$  has coordinates given by  $(x_v, y_v)$ .

$$(2) \quad \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \\ U_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & y_1 \\ 1 & x_2 & y_2 \\ 1 & x_3 & y_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$

To solve for the constants we have the closed form relationship shown in equation (3), where  $adj$  is used to denote the adjugate of the matrix (found by taking the transpose of its cofactor matrix), and  $det$  its determinant.

$$(3) \quad \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \frac{adj \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & y_1 \\ 1 & x_2 & y_2 \\ 1 & x_3 & y_3 \end{bmatrix}}{det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & y_1 \\ 1 & x_2 & y_2 \\ 1 & x_3 & y_3 \end{bmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \\ U_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

The result of equation (3) gives us the constants in terms of the vertex potentials as shown in equation (4), where  $A_e$  is used to denote the area of the triangular finite element  $e$ .

$$(4) \quad \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} (x_2y_3 - x_3y_2) & (x_3y_1 - x_1y_3) & (x_1y_2 - x_2y_1) \\ (y_2 - y_3) & (y_3 - y_1) & (y_1 - y_2) \\ (x_3 - x_2) & (x_1 - x_3) & (x_2 - x_1) \end{bmatrix}}{2A_e} \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \\ U_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since the potential in equation (1) can be written as

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x & y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$

then we can directly substitute equation (4) into the above representation and rewrite the potential as:

$$U = \sum_{i=1}^3 \alpha_i(x, y) U_i$$

where the  $\alpha_i(x, y)$  (also known as the linear interpolation functions) are given by equations (5), (6), and (7),

$$(5) \quad \alpha_1 = \frac{1}{2A_e} [(x_2y_3 - x_3y_2) + (y_2 - y_3)x + (x_3 - x_2)y]$$

$$(6) \quad \alpha_1 = \frac{1}{2A_e} [(x_3y_1 - x_1y_3) + (y_3 - y_1)x + (x_1 - x_3)y]$$

$$(7) \quad \alpha_1 = \frac{1}{2A_e} [(x_1y_2 - x_2y_1) + (y_1 - y_2)x + (x_2 - x_1)y]$$

and  $A_e$  is given by equation (8).

$$(8) \quad A_e = \frac{1}{2} [(x_2y_3 - x_3y_2) + (x_3y_1 - x_1y_3) + (x_1y_2 - x_2y_1)]$$

The energy in each finite element is given by equation (9), where  $W^{(e)}$  is the energy per unit length associated with finite element  $e$ ,  $U$  is the potential - which in general will vary with coordinates  $(x, y)$  as was already established, and the integral is swept over  $A_e$ , which is the area occupied by element  $e$ . \*Note that there the permittivity of the medium is neglected in the equation.

$$(9) \quad W^{(e)} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{A_e} |\nabla U|^2 dS$$

Equations (10), and (11) are derived by just making a simple substitution for  $U$  in equation (9) using the derived series representation in terms of the interpolation functions and vertex potentials.

$$(10) \quad W^{(e)} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 U_i \left[ \int_{A_e} \nabla \alpha_i \bullet \nabla \alpha_j dS \right] U_j$$

$$(11) \quad W^{(e)} = \frac{1}{2} U^T S^{(e)} U$$

Finally we are able to determine the local  $S^{(e)}$  depicted in equation (11), whose entries are given by equation (12).

$$(12) \quad S_{(i,j)}^{(e)} = \int_{A_e} \nabla \alpha_i \bullet \nabla \alpha_j dS$$

Therefore we have:

$$(13) \quad S_{(1,1)}^{(e)} = \frac{1}{4A} [(y_2 - y_3)^2 + (x_3 - x_2)^2]$$

$$(14) \quad S_{(1,2)}^{(e)} = \frac{1}{4A} [(y_2 - y_3)(y_3 - y_1) + (x_3 - x_2)(x_1 - x_3)]$$

$$(15) \quad S_{(1,3)}^{(e)} = \frac{1}{4A} [(y_2 - y_3)(y_1 - y_2) + (x_3 - x_2)(x_2 - x_1)]$$

$$(16) \quad S_{(2,2)}^{(e)} = \frac{1}{4A} [(y_3 - y_1)^2 + (x_1 - x_3)^2]$$

$$(17) \quad S_{(2,3)}^{(e)} = \frac{1}{4A} [(y_3 - y_1)(y_1 - y_2) + (x_1 - x_3)(x_2 - x_1)]$$

$$(18) \quad S_{(3,3)}^{(e)} = \frac{1}{4A} [(y_1 - y_2)^2 + (x_2 - x_1)^2]$$

$$(19) \quad S_{(1,2)}^{(e)} = S_{(2,1)}^{(e)}, \quad S_{(3,1)}^{(e)} = S_{(1,3)}^{(e)}, \quad S_{(3,2)}^{(e)} = S_{(2,3)}^{(e)}$$

Letting  $S^{(L)}$  represent the disjoint matrix for the lower triangular element in Figure 1.a, and  $S^{(U)}$  represent the disjoint matrix for the upper triangular element in Figure 1.b, we can apply some *plug-and-chug* to solve for the matrix entries where the local numberings relative to the derived equations are created in a counterclockwise fashion. The coordinates for the vertices in each element are:

$$\begin{array}{c} S^{(L)} \\ \hline (x1, y1) : (0, 00, 0.02) \\ (x2, y2) : (0.00, 0.00) \\ (x3, y3) : (0.02, 0.00) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} S^{(U)} \\ \hline (x1, y1) : (0.02, 0.02) \\ (x2, y2) : (0.00, 0.02) \\ (x3, y3) : (0.02, 0.00) \end{array}$$

We have  $A_e = \frac{1}{2}[(0.02 \cdot 0.02)] = 0.0002$ , which is identical for  $e = L$  and  $e = U$ .

$$\begin{aligned} S_{(1,1)}^{(L)} &= \frac{1}{4(0.0002)} [(0.02)^2] \\ S_{(1,2)}^{(L)} &= \frac{1}{4(0.0002)} [(0.02)(-0.02)] \\ S_{(1,3)}^{(L)} &= \frac{1}{4(0.0002)} [0] \\ S_{(2,2)}^{(L)} &= \frac{1}{4(0.0002)} [(-0.02)^2 + (-0.02)^2] \\ S_{(2,3)}^{(L)} &= \frac{1}{4(0.0002)} [(-0.02)(0.02)] \\ S_{(3,3)}^{(L)} &= \frac{1}{4(0.0002)} [(0.02)^2] \\ S_{(1,2)}^{(L)} &= S_{(2,1)}^{(L)}, \quad S_{(3,1)}^{(L)} = S_{(1,3)}^{(L)}, \quad S_{(3,2)}^{(L)} = S_{(2,3)}^{(L)} \end{aligned}$$

$$S^{(L)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & -0.5 & 0 \\ -0.5 & 1 & -0.5 \\ 0 & -0.5 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
S_{(1,1)}^{(U)} &= \frac{1}{4(0.0002)}[(0.02)^2 + (0.02)^2] \\
S_{(1,2)}^{(U)} &= \frac{1}{4(0.0002)}[(0.02)(-0.02)] \\
S_{(1,3)}^{(U)} &= \frac{1}{4(0.0002)}[(0.02)(-0.02)] \\
S_{(2,2)}^{(U)} &= \frac{1}{4(0.0002)}[(-0.02)^2] \\
S_{(2,3)}^{(U)} &= \frac{1}{4(0.0002)}[0] \\
S_{(3,3)}^{(U)} &= \frac{1}{4(0.0002)}[(-0.02)^2] \\
S_{(1,2)}^{(U)} &= S_{(2,1)}^{(U)}, \quad S_{(3,1)}^{(U)} = S_{(1,3)}^{(U)}, \quad S_{(3,2)}^{(U)} = S_{(2,3)}^{(U)} \\
S^{(U)} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -0.5 & -0.5 \\ -0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ -0.5 & 0 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

The global conjoint  $\mathbf{S}$ -matrix can be found using the disjoint finite element  $S^{(e)}$  matrices. The energy of the entire finite element mesh is found by summing the energies of each individual element as is shown in equation (20).

$$(20) \quad W = \sum_{L,U} W^{(e)} = \frac{1}{2} U_{dis}^T S_{dis} U_{dis}$$

where

$$S_{dis} = \begin{bmatrix} S^{(L)} & S^{(U)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & -0.5 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -0.5 & 1 & -0.5 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.5 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -0.5 & -0.5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -0.5 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -0.5 & 0 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Substituting  $U_{dis} = CU_{con}$  (whose relationship is shown in equation (21)) into equation (20), gives

$$W = \frac{1}{2} U_{con}^T C^T S_{dis} C U_{con}$$

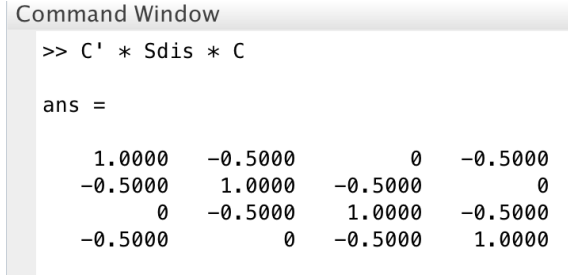
where  $S = C^T S_{dis} C$

$$(21) \quad \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \\ U_3 \\ U_4 \\ U_5 \\ U_6 \end{bmatrix}_{dis} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \\ U_3 \\ U_4 \end{bmatrix}_{conj}$$

therefore

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Carrying out the matrix multiplication we have the following for the global **S**-matrix (which was computed using MATLAB).



```

Command Window
>> C' * Sdis * C

ans =

    1.0000    -0.5000         0    -0.5000
   -0.5000     1.0000   -0.5000         0
         0    -0.5000     1.0000   -0.5000
   -0.5000         0    -0.5000     1.0000
  
```

FIGURE 2. MATLAB computation of the global **S**-matrix

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -0.5 & 0 & -0.5 \\ -0.5 & 1 & -0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.5 & 1 & -0.5 \\ -0.5 & 0 & -0.5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$