

2D Four-Node Isoparametric Element for Plane Stress Problems

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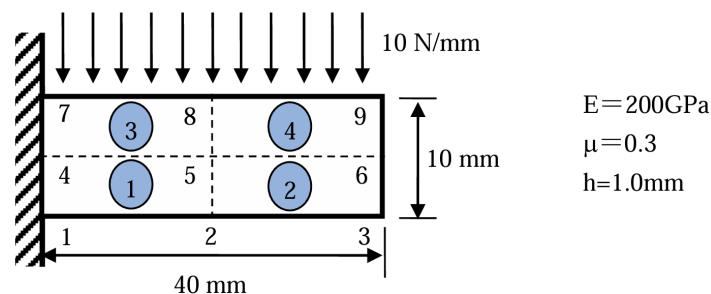
2025 年 6 月 29 日

Finite Element Method Project No.2

Question

Using what we have learned about the 2D 4-node element isoparametric formulation to derive the FEM equilibrium equation to solve the plane stress problem shown below. You need to do the following:

- (1) use a program that you are comfortable with (matlab, mathematica, fortran or C) to assemble the 4 element stiffness matrices into global matrix, establish the external force array corresponding to the global matrix, apply displacement constraints to node 1,4,7, then solve the displacements for other nodes.
- (2) after you solve the displacements, calculate and report the stresses in element 3 at the four Gaussian integration points.
- (3) Use abaqus to create the same model and solve it, compare the displacement of your solution to abaqus solution for nodal displacements at node 6.
- (4) Use abaqus to solve the problem with refined meshes and report the convergence study.



Answer

1 Purpose and Scope

In this project, we delve into the analysis of the plane stress problem in thin plates. Our approach involves employing the two-dimensional four-node element isoparametric formulation. This method, coupled with the Gaussian integral technique, allows us to derive the stiffness matrix for each unit. After establishing the boundary conditions and applying loads, we utilize Matlab to compute the displacement at each node.

Furthermore, we conduct simulations using Abaqus, a robust finite element analysis software. The outcomes from these simulations align with those obtained from Matlab, thereby validating the accuracy of employing the isoparametric formulation to address the problem at hand. Also, we employ Abaqus to refine the model mesh, aiming to ascertain the convergence of displacement values. This step is crucial for ensuring the reliability and precision of our results.

2 Results and Discussion

2.1 Displacements of nodes calculated by both Matlab and Abaqus

The Displacements calculation results of Matlab & Abaqus are shown in Table 1, which is exactly the same.

Table 1: Displacements calculation results

point	horizontal (mm)		vertical (mm)	
	Matlab	Abaqus	Matlab	Abaqus
2	-1.15×10^{-2}	-1.15×10^{-2}	-3.10×10^{-2}	-3.10×10^{-2}
3	-1.38×10^{-2}	-1.38×10^{-2}	-8.45×10^{-2}	-8.45×10^{-2}
5	8.66×10^{-5}	8.66×10^{-5}	-3.07×10^{-2}	-3.07×10^{-2}
6	2.60×10^{-4}	2.60×10^{-4}	-8.46×10^{-2}	-8.46×10^{-2}
8	1.17×10^{-2}	1.17×10^{-2}	-3.13×10^{-2}	-3.13×10^{-2}
9	1.43×10^{-2}	1.43×10^{-2}	-8.47×10^{-2}	-8.47×10^{-2}

2.2 Stress of the four Gaussian integration points of unit 3

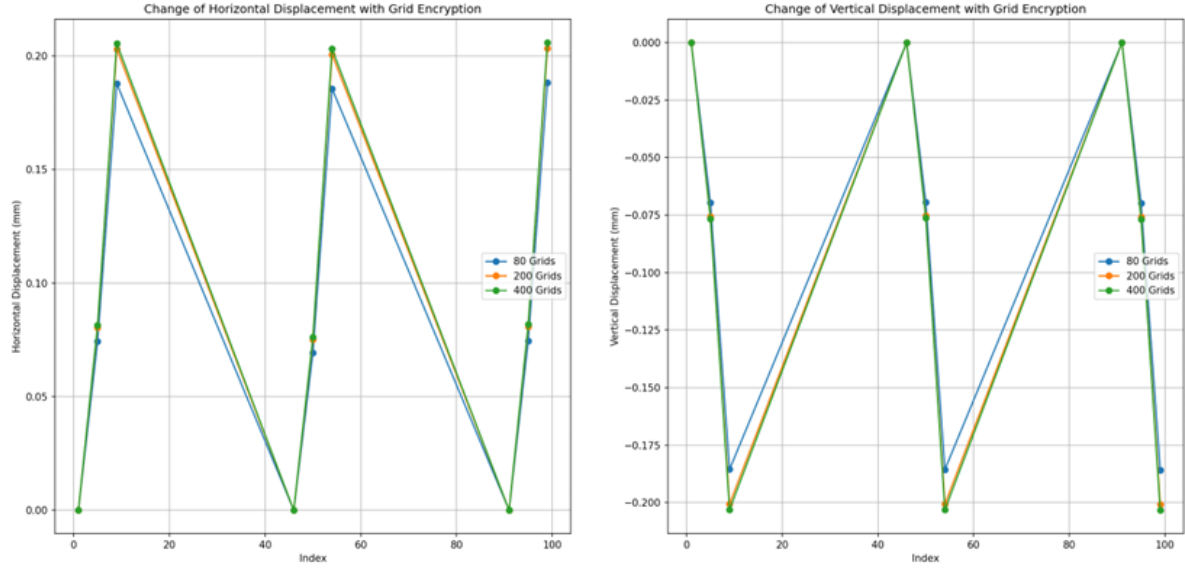
Stress of the four Gaussian integration points of unit 3 is shown in the Table 2 below.

Table 2: Stress of the Gaussian points

Gaussian Points	$\sigma_{11}(N/mm^2)$	$\sigma_{22}(N/mm^2)$	$\sigma_{12}(N/mm^2)$
1	0.6549	-20.6698	-21.2794
2	16.0297	-16.0574	-20.0859
3	4.7469	-7.0298	0.2453
4	20.1217	-2.4174	1.4388

2.3 Refining meshes and the convergence study

The simulation results of displacement converge with the gradual encryption of the grid, especially when the number of grids is greater than 200, as is shown in Figure downward.



Displacements' comparison of different grids

3 Conclusions and Recommendations

In this study, we have employed Matlab computations in conjunction with Abaqus simulations to ascertain the precision of the two-dimensional four-node isoparametric formulation and the Gaussian integration method for calculating displacements. Furthermore, we have examined the trend that indicates the gradual convergence of nodal displacement values as the grid count increases.

Due to constraints in time and other factors, we have not endeavored to utilize formulas of higher precision for simulation calculations. Utilizing the two-dimensional four-node isoparametric formulation, we can conduct a preliminary analysis of certain finite element problems. In practical applications, enhancing computational accuracy can be achieved through the method of grid refinement, thereby making significant contributions to engineering practice.

4 Appendices

4.1 Formula derivation

For 4 node isoparametric 2D elements, the isoparametric formula is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} N_1 &= \frac{1}{4}(1-s)(1-t) \\ N_2 &= \frac{1}{4}(1+s)(1-t) \\ N_3 &= \frac{1}{4}(1+s)(1+t) \\ N_4 &= \frac{1}{4}(1-s)(1+t) \end{aligned}$$

The Jacobian matrix is defined as:

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} &= \sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial s} x_i \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} &= \sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial s} y_i \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} &= \sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial t} x_i \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} &= \sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial t} y_i \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix} = J^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial t} \end{bmatrix}$$

The horizontal and vertical displacements are:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \sum_{i=1}^4 N_i(s, t) u_i \\ v &= \sum_{i=1}^4 N_i(s, t) v_i \end{aligned}$$

The strain matrix ε is:

$$\varepsilon = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} & 0 & \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} & 0 & \frac{\partial N_3}{\partial x} & 0 & \frac{\partial N_4}{\partial x} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial y} & 0 & \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial y} & 0 & \frac{\partial N_3}{\partial y} & 0 & \frac{\partial N_4}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial N_3}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial N_3}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial N_4}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial N_4}{\partial x} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ v_1 \\ u_2 \\ v_2 \\ u_3 \\ v_3 \\ u_4 \\ v_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus, $\varepsilon = Bd$, where B is the strain-displacement matrix.

The material stiffness matrix D is:

$$D = \frac{E}{1 - \mu^2} \times \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \mu & 0 \\ \mu & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1-\mu}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

where E is Young's modulus and μ is Poisson's ratio.

The element stiffness matrix is:

$$k_e = \int B^T D B dV$$

The stress in each unit is:

$$\sigma = DBu$$

4.2 Matlab program and the result

```

1 clear; clc;
2 format short;
3
4 % Material Properties
5 E = 200e3; % Young's Modulus (N/mm^2)
6 nu = 0.3; % Poisson's Ratio
7 h = 1; % Thickness (mm)
8
9 % Elasticity Matrix D
10 D = E/(1-nu^2) * [1, nu, 0;
11                  nu, 1, 0;
12                  0, 0, (1-nu)/2];
13
14 % Node Coordinates
15 x = [0, 20, 40, 0, 20, 40, 0, 20, 40];
16 y = [0, 0, 0, 5, 5, 5, 10, 10, 10];
17 nodes = {[1, 2, 5, 4],[2, 3, 6, 5],[5, 6, 9, 8],[4, 5, 8, 7]};
18
19 % Gaussian Integration Parameters
20 gauss_points = [-1/sqrt(3), 1/sqrt(3)];
21 weights = [1, 1];
22
23 % Initialize Element Stiffness Matrices
24 Ke1 = zeros(8, 8);
25 Ke2 = zeros(8, 8);
26 Ke3 = zeros(8, 8);
27 Ke4 = zeros(8, 8);
28
29 % Compute Stiffness Matrices

```

```

30 for m = 1:4
31     % Gaussian Quadrature
32     for i = 1:length(gauss_points)
33         s = gauss_points(i);
34         for j = 1:length(gauss_points)
35             t = gauss_points(j);
36             % Current Weight
37             w = weights(i) * weights(j);
38
39             % Derivatives of Shape Functions with respect to s, t
40             dN_ds = 0.25 * [-(1 - t), (1 - t), (1 + t), -(1 + t)];
41             dN_dt = 0.25 * [-(1 - s), -(1 + s), (1 + s), (1 - s)];
42
43             % Compute Jacobian Matrix
44             dx_ds = dN_ds * x(nodes{m})';
45             dy_ds = dN_ds * y(nodes{m})';
46             dx_dt = dN_dt * x(nodes{m})';
47             dy_dt = dN_dt * y(nodes{m})';
48             J = [dx_ds, dy_ds;
49                 dx_dt, dy_dt];
50             detJ = det(J);
51             invJ = inv(J);
52
53             % Derivatives of Shape Functions with respect to x, y
54             dN_dx = dN_ds * invJ(1,1) + dN_dt * invJ(2,1);
55             dN_dy = dN_ds * invJ(1,2) + dN_dt * invJ(2,2);
56
57             % Assemble Strain-Displacement Matrix B
58             B = zeros(3, 8);
59             for k = 1:4
60                 B(1, 2*k-1) = dN_dx(k);
61                 B(2, 2*k) = dN_dy(k);
62                 B(3, 2*k-1) = dN_dy(k);
63                 B(3, 2*k) = dN_dx(k);
64             end
65
66             % Stiffness Matrix Integration
67             switch m
68                 case 1
69                 Ke1 = Ke1 + (B' * D * B) * h * abs(detJ) * w;
70                 case 2
71                 Ke2 = Ke2 + (B' * D * B) * h * abs(detJ) * w;

```

```

72         case 3
73             Ke3 = Ke3 + (B' * D * B) * h * abs(detJ) * w;
74         case 4
75             Ke4 = Ke4 + (B' * D * B) * h * abs(detJ) * w;
76         end
77     end
78 end
79 end
80
81 % Assemble Stiffness Matrix
82 % Initialize Stiffness Matrix
83 Ke = zeros(18);
84
85 for i = 1:4
86     points = [];
87
88     for node = nodes{i}
89         points = [points, (node-1)*2 + 1, (node-1)*2 + 2];
90     end
91
92     switch i
93         case 1
94             K_element = Ke1;
95         case 2
96             K_element = Ke2;
97         case 3
98             K_element = Ke3;
99         case 4
100             K_element = Ke4;
101     end
102
103     Ke(points, points) = Ke(points, points) + K_element;
104 end
105
106 % Solve
107 % Displacement Matrix
108 u = zeros(18,1);
109
110 % Force Matrix
111 f = zeros(18,1);
112 f(14) = -100;
113 f(16) = -200;

```

```

114 f(18) = -100;
115
116 % Fixed Degrees of Freedom
117 fixed_points = [1, 2, 7, 8, 13, 14];
118 free_points = setdiff(1:18, fixed_points);
119
120 % Row and Column Reduction Method to Solve
121 Ke_new = Ke(free_points, free_points);
122 f_new = f(free_points);
123
124 u_new = Ke_new \ f_new;
125
126 % Displacement Results
127 u(free_points) = u_new;
128
129 % Display Results
130 disp("Displacement Matrix u=");
131 disp(u);
132
133 % Stress at Gaussian Points of Element 3
134 % Extract Displacement Vector for Element 3
135 u3 = [];
136 for node = nodes{3}
137     u3 = [u3; u(2*node-1); u(2*node)];
138 end
139
140 % Initialize Stress Matrix
141 stress = zeros(3, 4);
142
143 % Compute Stress at Each Gaussian Point
144 m = 1;
145 for i = 1:2
146     s = gauss_points(i);
147     for j = 1:2
148         t = gauss_points(j);
149
150         % Derivatives of Shape Functions with respect to s, t
151         dN_ds = 0.25 * [-(1 - t), (1 - t), (1 + t), -(1 + t)];
152         dN_dt = 0.25 * [-(1 - s), -(1 + s), (1 + s), (1 - s)];
153
154         % Jacobian Matrix
155         dx_ds = dN_ds * x(nodes{3})';

```



```

156     dy_ds = dN_ds * y(nodes{3})';
157     dx_dt = dN_dt * x(nodes{3})';
158     dy_dt = dN_dt * y(nodes{3})';
159     J = [dx_ds, dy_ds; dx_dt, dy_dt];
160     invJ = inv(J);
161
162     % Derivatives of Shape Functions with respect to x, y
163     dN_dx = dN_ds * invJ(1,1) + dN_dt * invJ(2,1);
164     dN_dy = dN_ds * invJ(1,2) + dN_dt * invJ(2,2);
165
166     % Assemble B Matrix
167     B = zeros(3, 8);
168     for k = 1:4
169         B(1, 2*k-1) = dN_dx(k);
170         B(2, 2*k)    = dN_dy(k);
171         B(3, 2*k-1) = dN_dy(k);
172         B(3, 2*k)    = dN_dx(k);
173     end
174
175     % Compute Stress
176     stress(:, m) = D * B * u3;
177     m = m + 1;
178 end
179 end
180
181 % Output Results
182 disp('Stress at four Gaussian integration points of Element 3  $\sigma_{11}$ ,
183      $\sigma_{22}$ ,  $\sigma_{12}$ , N/mm2):');
184 for i = 1:4
185     fprintf('Integration Point %d: [%.4f, %.4f, %.4f]\n', i, stress
186         (1, i), stress(2, i), stress(3, i));
187 end

```

Matlab code

命令行窗口

Displacement Matrix u=

```

0
0
-0.0115
-0.0310
-0.0138
-0.0845
0
0
0.0001
-0.0307
0.0003
-0.0846
0
0
0.0117
-0.0313
0.0143
-0.0847

```

Stress at four Gaussian integration points of Element 3 (σ_{11} , σ_{22} , σ_{12} , N/mm²):

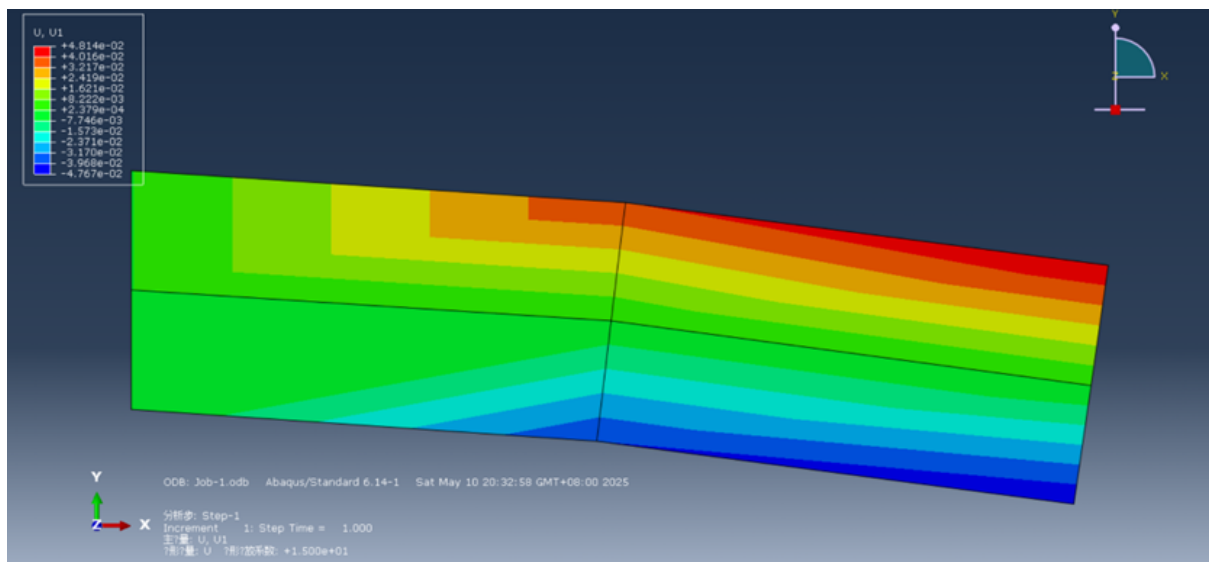
```

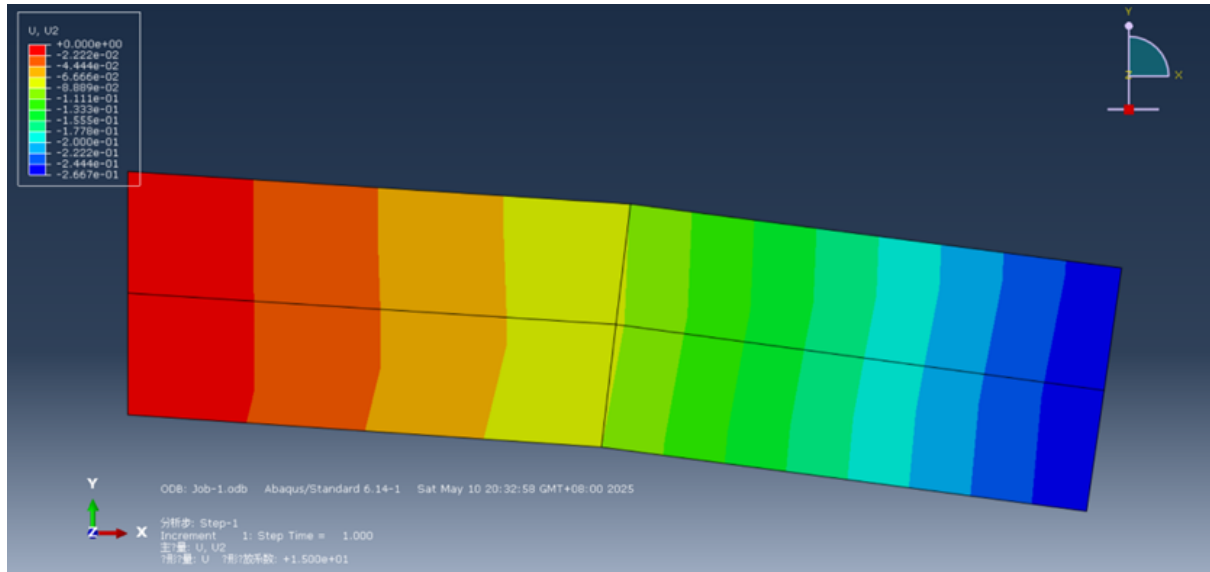
Integration Point 1: [0.6549, -20.6698, -21.2794]
Integration Point 2: [16.0297, -16.0574, -20.0859]
Integration Point 3: [4.7469, -7.0298, 0.2453]
Integration Point 4: [20.1217, -2.4174, 1.4388]

```

Result from Matlab

4.3 Visualization of Abaqus model





4.4 Displacements of nodes calculated by Abaqus

Point2↵

基本坐标: 2.00000e+01, 0.00000e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 缩放: 4.72063e+01, 4.72063e+01, 4.72063e+01, -
 变形后的坐标 (未缩放): 1.99885e+01, -3.09950e-02, 0.00000e+00, -
 变形后的坐标 (已缩放): 1.94592e+01, -1.46316e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 位移 (未缩放): -1.14555e-02, -3.09950e-02, 0.00000e+00, 3.30441e-02 ↵

Point3↵

基本坐标: 4.00000e+01, 0.00000e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 缩放: 4.72063e+01, 4.72063e+01, 4.72063e+01, -
 变形后的坐标 (未缩放): 3.99862e+01, -8.45105e-02, 0.00000e+00, -
 变形后的坐标 (已缩放): 3.93505e+01, -3.98943e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 位移 (未缩放): -1.37581e-02, -8.45105e-02, 0.00000e+00, 8.56230e-02 ↵

Point5↵

基本坐标: 2.00000e+01, 5.00000e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 缩放: 4.72063e+01, 4.72063e+01, 4.72063e+01, -
 变形后的坐标 (未缩放): 2.00001e+01, 4.96933e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 变形后的坐标 (已缩放): 2.00041e+01, 3.55218e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 位移 (未缩放): 8.66034e-05, -3.06700e-02, 0.00000e+00, 3.06701e-02 .

Point6↵

基本坐标: 4.00000e+01, 5.00000e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 缩放: 4.72063e+01, 4.72063e+01, 4.72063e+01, -
 变形后的坐标 (未缩放): 4.00003e+01, 4.91536e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 变形后的坐标 (已缩放): 4.00123e+01, 1.00462e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 位移 (未缩放): 2.60077e-04, -8.46367e-02, 0.00000e+00, 8.46371e-02 .

Point8↵

基本坐标: 2.00000e+01, 1.00000e+01, 0.00000e+00, -
 缩放: 4.72063e+01, 4.72063e+01, 4.72063e+01, -
 变形后的坐标 (未缩放): 2.00117e+01, 9.96869e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 变形后的坐标 (已缩放): 2.05502e+01, 8.52219e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 位移 (未缩放): 1.16546e-02, -3.13053e-02, 0.00000e+00, 3.34043e-02 . ↵

Point9↵

基本坐标: 4.00000e+01, 1.00000e+01, 0.00000e+00, -
 缩放: 4.72063e+01, 4.72063e+01, 4.72063e+01, -
 变形后的坐标 (未缩放): 4.00143e+01, 9.91527e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 变形后的坐标 (已缩放): 4.06728e+01, 6.00000e+00, 0.00000e+00, -
 位移 (未缩放): 1.42514e-02, -8.47345e-02, 0.00000e+00, 8.59246e-02 ↵

4.5 Displacements of Refined meshes

Calculated Results by 80 Grids

Index	$\sigma_{11}(N/mm^2)$	$\sigma_{22}(N/mm^2)$	$\sigma_{12}(N/mm^2)$
1	0	-341.954×10^{-36}	-191.952×10^{-36}
5	74.2143×10^{-3}	-25.5194×10^{-3}	-69.6887×10^{-3}
9	187.829×10^{-3}	-29.1347×10^{-3}	-185.555×10^{-3}
46	0	-1.11183×10^{-36}	-2.82606×10^{-36}
50	69.3207×10^{-3}	134.031×10^{-6}	-69.3205×10^{-3}
54	185.592×10^{-3}	283.921×10^{-6}	-185.592×10^{-3}
91	0	349.553×10^{-36}	-184.615×10^{-36}
95	74.5410×10^{-3}	25.7872×10^{-3}	-69.9334×10^{-3}
99	188.165×10^{-3}	29.7026×10^{-3}	-185.805×10^{-3}

Calculated Results by 200 Grids

Index	$\sigma_{11}(N/mm^2)$	$\sigma_{22}(N/mm^2)$	$\sigma_{12}(N/mm^2)$
1	0	-290.477×10^{-36}	-110.540×10^{-36}
11	80.4790×10^{-3}	-27.5926×10^{-3}	-75.6011×10^{-3}
21	203.018×10^{-3}	-31.3795×10^{-3}	-200.578×10^{-3}
106	0	-1.11875×10^{-36}	-12.4718×10^{-36}
116	75.2035×10^{-3}	138.144×10^{-6}	-75.2034×10^{-3}
126	200.612×10^{-3}	288.122×10^{-6}	-200.612×10^{-3}
211	0	297.191×10^{-36}	-110.212×10^{-36}
221	80.8087×10^{-3}	27.8688×10^{-3}	-75.8510×10^{-3}
231	203.355×10^{-3}	31.9557×10^{-3}	-200.828×10^{-3}

Calculated Results by 400 Grids

Index	$\sigma_{11}(N/mm^2)$	$\sigma_{22}(N/mm^2)$	$\sigma_{12}(N/mm^2)$
1	0	-280.703×10^{-36}	-82.5862×10^{-36}
21	81.5330×10^{-3}	-27.9334×10^{-3}	-76.5987×10^{-3}
41	205.535×10^{-3}	-31.7473×10^{-3}	-203.068×10^{-3}
206	0	-1.11209×10^{-36}	-14.1039×10^{-36}
226	76.1965×10^{-3}	139.023×10^{-6}	-76.1964×10^{-3}
246	203.100×10^{-3}	289.007×10^{-6}	-203.100×10^{-3}
411	0	287.080×10^{-36}	-84.9477×10^{-36}
431	81.8633×10^{-3}	28.2114×10^{-3}	-76.8487×10^{-3}
451	205.872×10^{-3}	32.3254×10^{-3}	-203.318×10^{-3}