

Explanation of Shape Function in Finite Element Method



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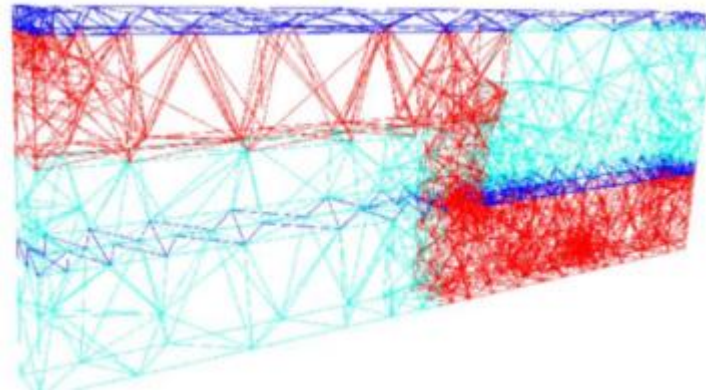
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Abstract

Shape Function:

- ❖ In the finite element method, continuous models are approximated using the information at a finite number of discrete locations. Dividing the structure into discrete elements is called **discretization**.
- ❖ Interpolation within the elements is achieved through **shape functions**,
- ❖ **Basically, the shape function is a function that interpolates the value between discrete mesh nodes.** Lower order polynomials are chosen as shape functions. The shape function is a displacement function as well as an interpolation function.

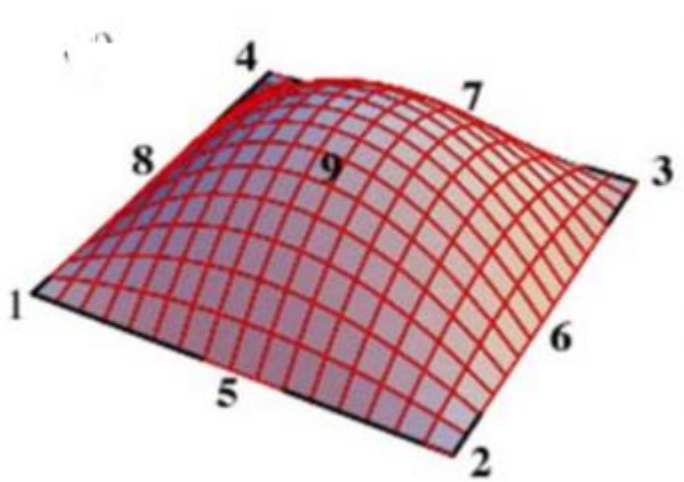


Finite element mesh of a three-dimensional interconnected structure discretized with tetrahedrons

Introduction

Shape Function

- The shape function is the function that interpolates the the solution between the discrete values obtained at the mesh nodes.



Shape Function Plots

Requirements

- Interpolation
- Local Support
- Continuity
- Completeness

Classifications

- Element Form
- Polynomial Degree
- Type of Shape Functions

Properties of Shape Function

- Kronecker delta Property
- Lagrangian Shape Functions
- Serendipity Shape Function

Examples

- 3D

BASIC CONCEPT

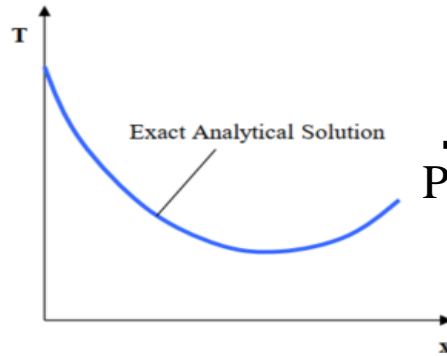
Discretization Concept

Continuous solution field

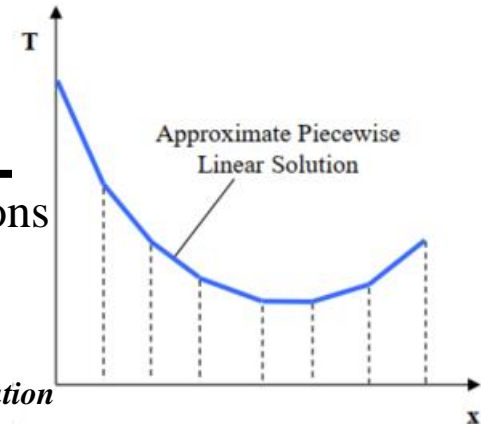
- Stress
- Displacement
- Temperature
- Pressure etc

discrete model
→
Piecewise continuous functions

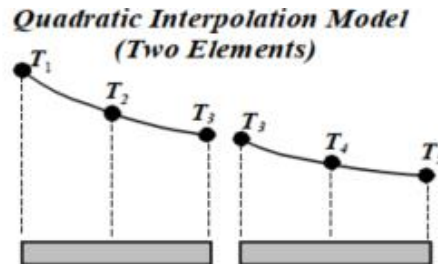
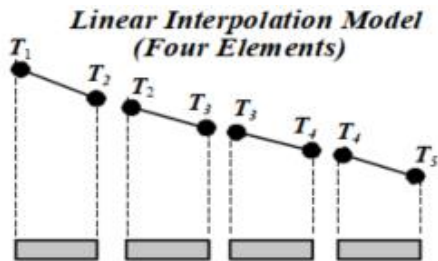
Finite number of Subdomains



discrete model
→
Piecewise continuous functions

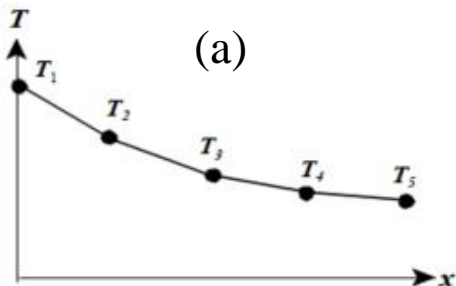


One-Dimensional Temperature Distribution

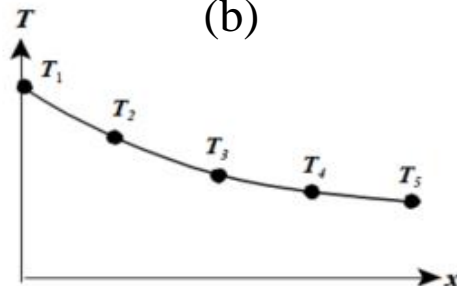


(a) Piecewise Linear Approximation

Temperature Continuous but with
Discontinuous Temperature Gradients



(a)



(b)

(b) Piecewise Quadratic Approximation

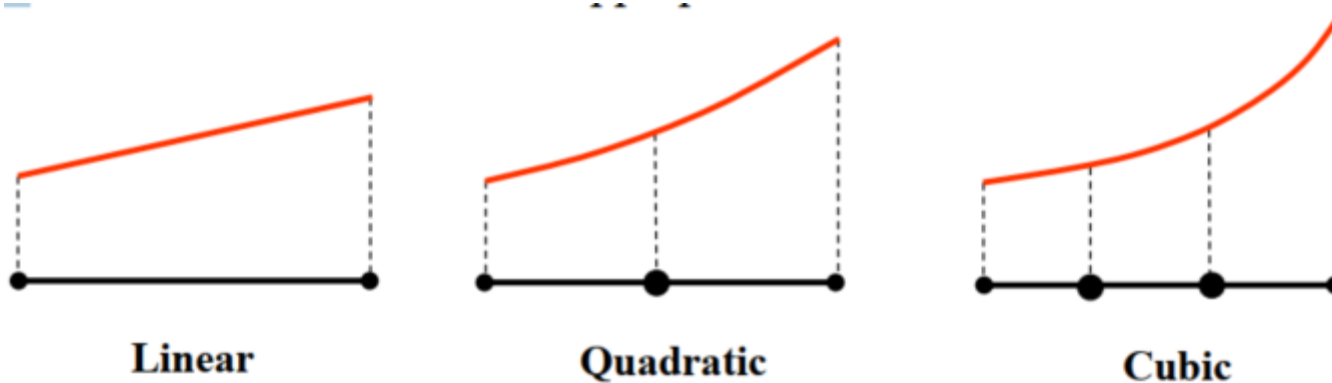
Temperature and Temperature
Gradients Continuous

BASIC CONCEPT

Common Approximation Schemes

Polynomials are used to construct approximation functions for each element.

Depends on the order of approximation, different numbers of element parameters



Special Approximation

Example: Infinite elements, crack or other singular elements

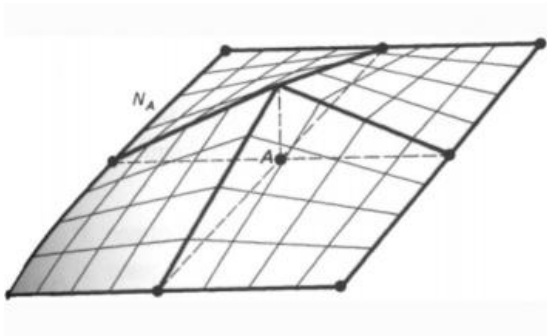
Depends on the special properties, determined from theoretical considerations

Requirements

Aim to Convergence

The mesh is refined the FEM solution should approach the analytical solution of the mathematical model

(A) **Interpolation condition.** Takes a unit value at node i , and is zero at all other nodes.



(E) **The requirement for compatibility:** The interpolation has to be such that field of displacements is :

1. continual and derivable inside the element
2. continual across the element border

Types of Requirements

- **Interpolation**
- **Local Support**
- **Continuity**
- **Completeness**
- **Compatibility**

(B) **Local support condition.** Vanishes over any element boundary (a side in 2D, a face in 3D) that does not include node i .

(C) **Interelement compatibility condition.** Satisfies C^0 continuity between adjacent elements over any element boundary that includes node i

(D) **The requirement for completeness:** The interpolation has to be able to represent:

1. the rigid body displacement
2. constant strain state

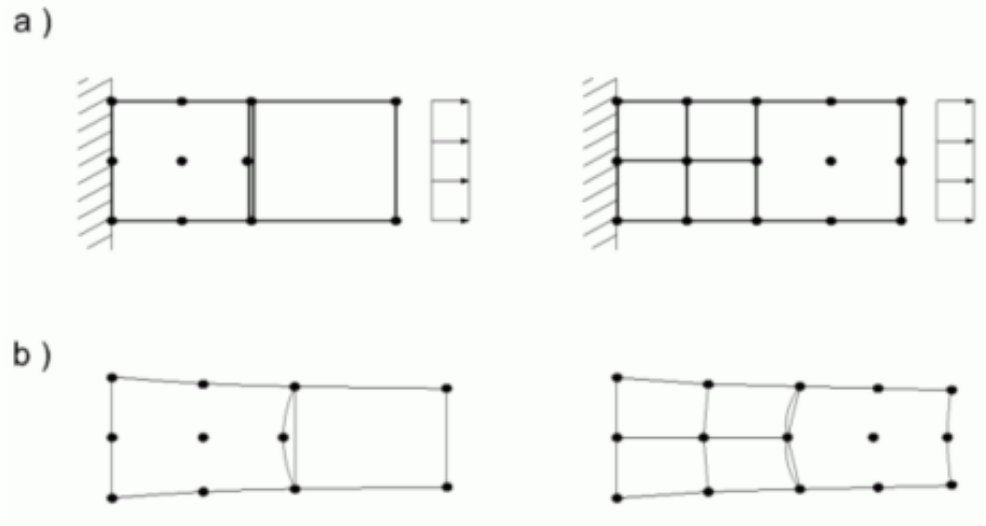
If (C) and (D) are considered together, this case can be called CONSISTENCY

Requirements

Compatibility

- Provides displacement continuity between elements
- Ensures no material gaps appear as the elements deform

The shape functions must be $C^{(m-1)}$ continuous between elements, and C^m piecewise differentiable inside each element.



a) Discretization and load; b) Deformed shape

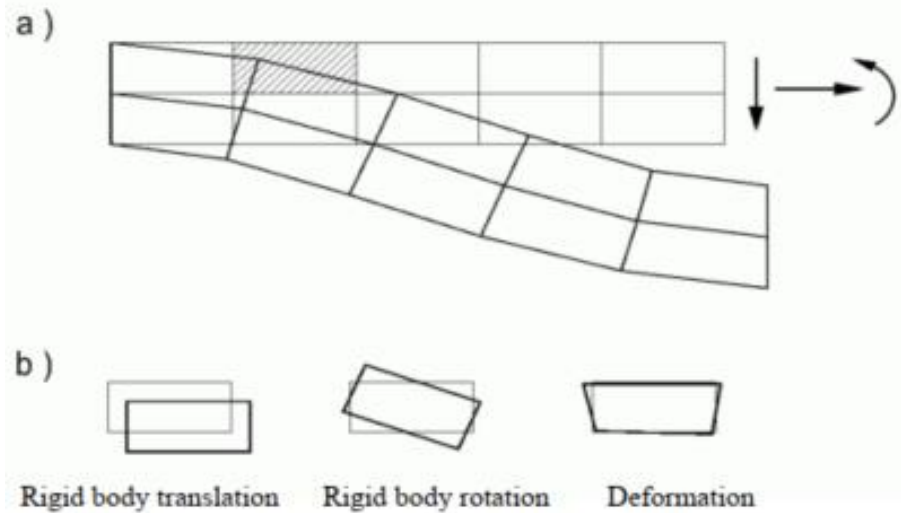
Requirements

Completeness

The interpolation has to be able to represent:

1. The rigid body displacement
2. Constant strain state

The element shape functions must represent exactly all polynomial terms of order $\leq m$ in the Cartesian coordinates. A set of shape functions that satisfies this condition is called m-complete



a) Deformation of the cantilever beam. B) Rigid body displacement and deformation of the hatched element

Classification

The element form:

- triangular elements,
- rectangular elements.

Type of the shape functions

- Lagrange shape functions
- serendipity shape functions
- Triangular Element Functions

Polynomial degree of the shape functions

- linear
- quadratic
- cubic
- ...

Properties

Kronecker delta property

The shape function at any node has a value of 1 at that node and a value of zero at ALL other nodes.

Lagrangian Shape Functions:

Compatibility + Completeness \Rightarrow Convergence

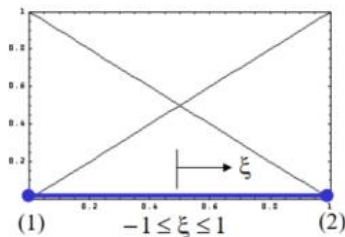
Ensure that the solution gets better as more elements are introduced and, in the limit, approaches the exact answer

$$L_k^{(m)}(\xi) = \frac{(\xi - \xi_0)(\xi - \xi_1) \cdots (\xi - \xi_{k-1})(\xi - \xi_{k+1}) \cdots (\xi - \xi_m)}{(\xi_k - \xi_0)(\xi_k - \xi_1) \cdots (\xi_k - \xi_{k-1})(\xi_k - \xi_{k+1}) \cdots (\xi_k - \xi_m)} = \prod_{\substack{i=0 \\ i \neq k}}^m \frac{(\xi - \xi_i)}{(\xi_k - \xi_i)}$$

No $\xi - \xi_k$ term!

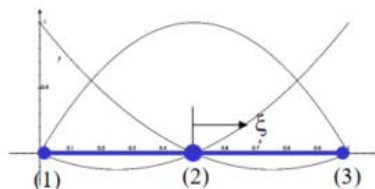
Lagrange polynomial of order m at node k

$$N_i(\xi_j) = \begin{cases} 1, & i = j \\ 0, & i \neq j \end{cases}$$



$$N_1 = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \xi)$$

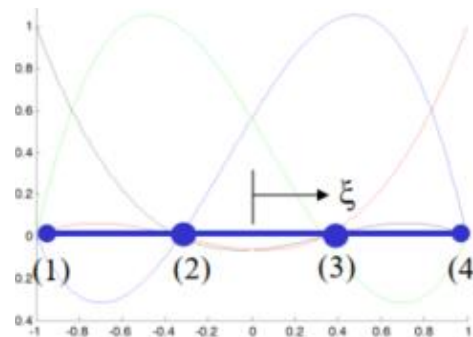
$$N_2 = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \xi)$$



$$N_1 = -\frac{1}{2}\xi(1 - \xi)$$

$$N_2 = (1 - \xi)(1 + \xi)$$

$$N_3 = \frac{1}{2}\xi(1 + \xi)$$



$$N_1 = -\frac{9}{16}(1 - \xi)\left(\frac{1}{3} + \xi\right)\left(\frac{1}{3} - \xi\right)$$

$$N_2 = \frac{27}{16}(1 - \xi)(1 + \xi)\left(\frac{1}{3} - \xi\right)$$

$$N_3 = \frac{27}{16}(1 - \xi)(1 + \xi)\left(\frac{1}{3} + \xi\right)$$

$$N_4 = -\frac{9}{16}\left(\frac{1}{3} + \xi\right)\left(\frac{1}{3} - \xi\right)(1 + \xi)$$

Properties

Lagrangian Shape Functions:

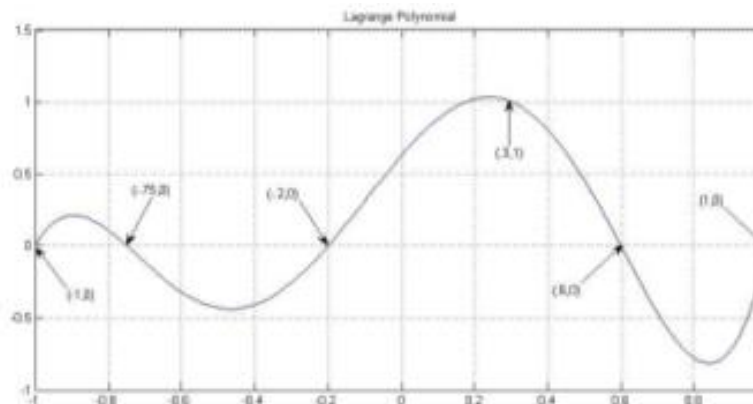
$$L_k^{(m)}(\xi) = \frac{(\xi - \xi_0)(\xi - \xi_1) \cdots (\xi - \xi_{k-1})(\xi - \xi_{k+1}) \cdots (\xi - \xi_m)}{(\xi_k - \xi_0)(\xi_k - \xi_1) \cdots (\xi_k - \xi_{k-1})(\xi_k - \xi_{k+1}) \cdots (\xi_k - \xi_m)} = \prod_{\substack{i=0 \\ i \neq k}}^m \frac{(\xi - \xi_i)}{(\xi_k - \xi_i)}$$

No $\xi - \xi_k$ term!

Lagrange
polynomial
of order m
at node k

Automatically satisfies the Kronecker delta property for shape functions

Example of 6 points; want function = 1 at and function = 0 at other designated points:

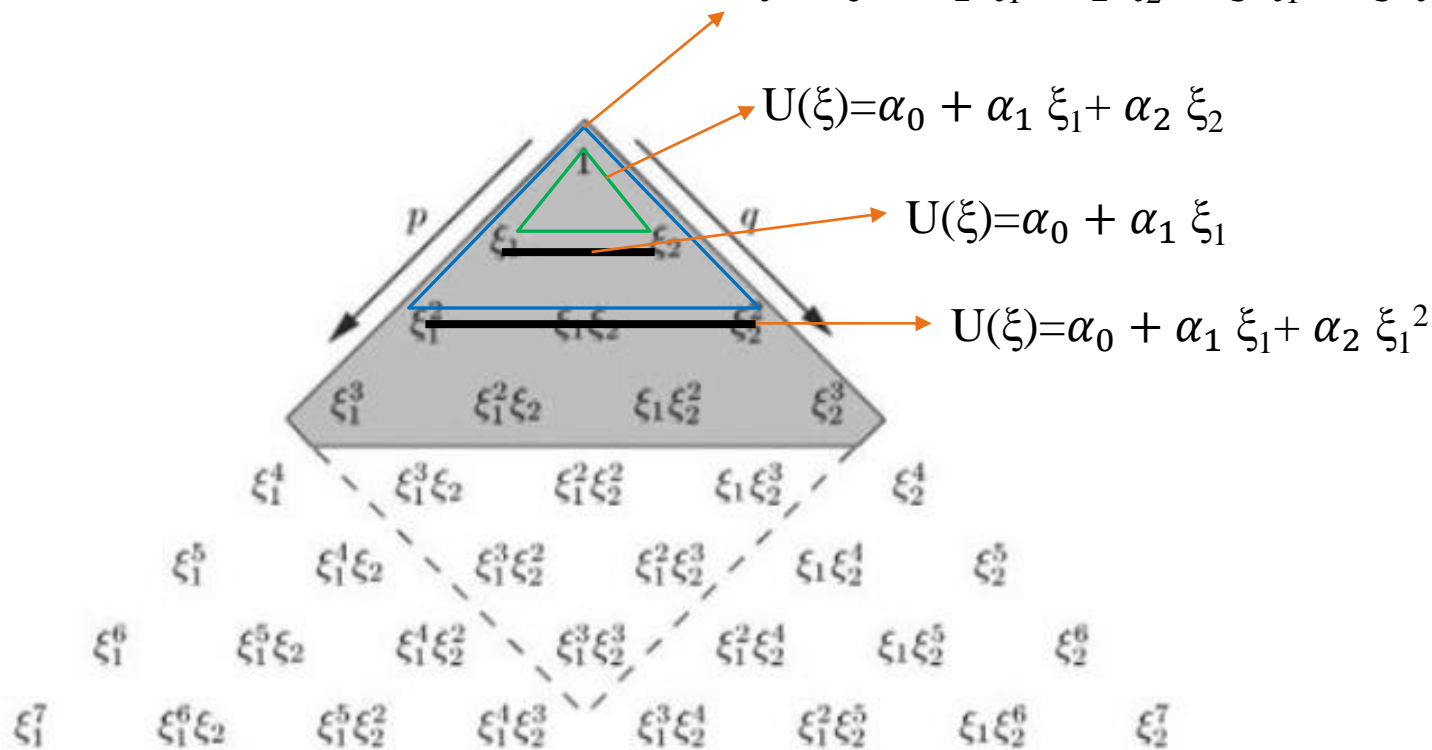


$$L_3^{(5)}(\xi) = \frac{(\xi - \xi_0)(\xi - \xi_1)(\xi - \xi_2)(\xi - \xi_4)(\xi - \xi_5)}{(\xi_3 - \xi_0)(\xi_3 - \xi_1)(\xi_3 - \xi_2)(\xi_3 - \xi_4)(\xi_3 - \xi_5)}$$

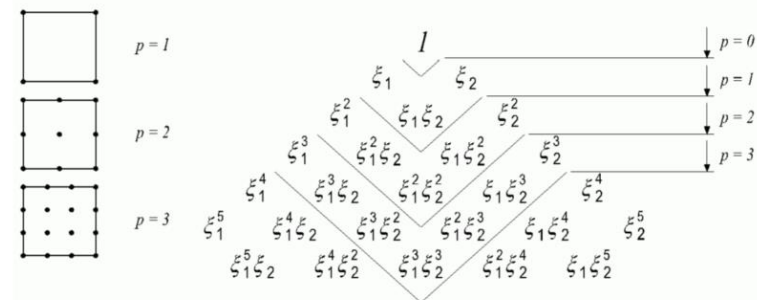
$$\begin{aligned}\xi_0 &= -1; \\ \xi_1 &= -.75; \\ \xi_2 &= -.2; \\ \xi_3 &= .3; \\ \xi_4 &= .6; \\ \xi_5 &= 1.\end{aligned}$$

Lagrangian Family

$$U(\xi) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 \xi_1 + \alpha_2 \xi_2 + \alpha_3 \xi_1^2 + \alpha_4 \xi_1 \xi_2 + \alpha_5 \xi_2^2$$

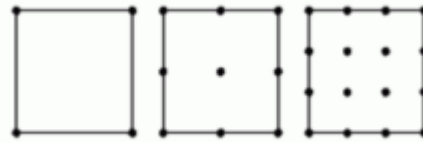


Complete two-dimensional Lagrange polynomials in the Pascal triangle



Rectangular Elements

Order n element has $(n+1)^2$ nodes arranged in square symmetric pattern – requires internal nodes



Lagrange interpolation polynomial in one direction :

$$l_k^n(\xi_1) = \prod_{\substack{i=0 \\ i \neq k}}^n \frac{\xi_1 - \xi_1^i}{\xi_1^k - \xi_1^i}$$

An easy and systematic method of generating shape functions of any order now can be achieved by simple products of Lagrange polynomials in the two coordinates :

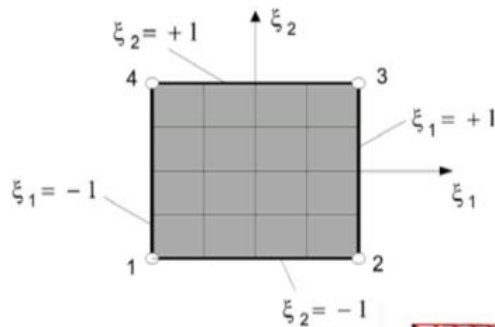
$$N_a = N_{IJ} = l_I^n(\xi_1) l_J^m(\xi_2)$$

where :

$$\xi_1 = \frac{2(x - x_e)}{a_e} \quad \xi_2 = \frac{2(y - y_e)}{b_e}$$

x_e, y_e are coordinates of the center of the element
 a_e, b_e are dimensions of the element

The Four-Node Bilinear Quadrilateral

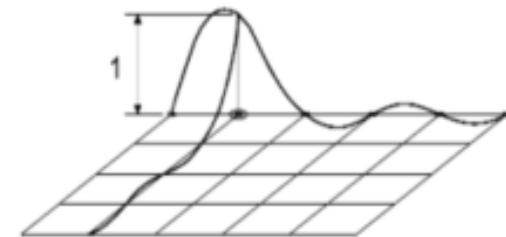
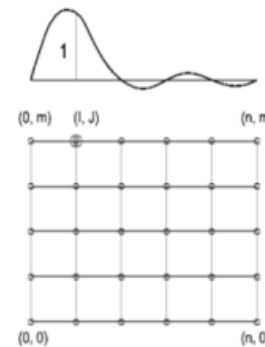
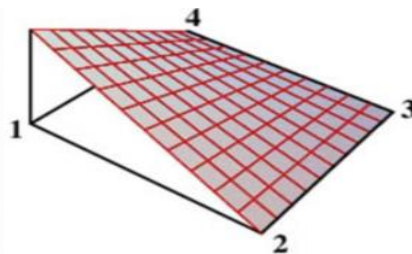


$$N^1(\xi) = \frac{1}{4}(1 - \xi_1)(1 - \xi_2)$$

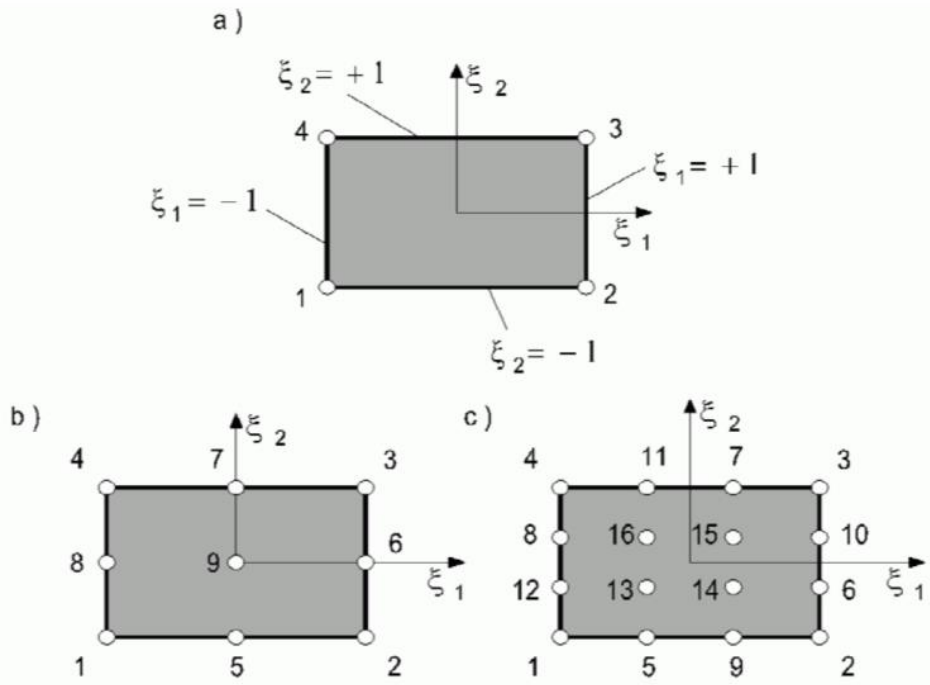
$$N^2(\xi) = \frac{1}{4}(1 + \xi_1)(1 - \xi_2)$$

$$N^3(\xi) = \frac{1}{4}(1 + \xi_1)(1 + \xi_2)$$

$$N^4(\xi) = \frac{1}{4}(1 - \xi_1)(1 + \xi_2)$$

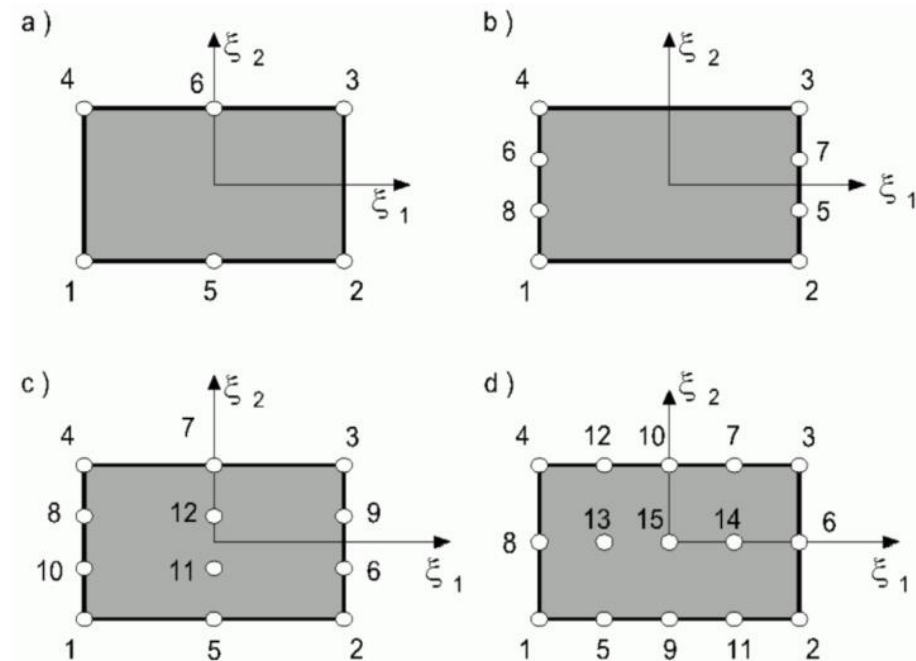


Rectangular Elements



The Quadrilateral Lagrangian elements:

a) bilinear, b) biquadratic c) bicubic

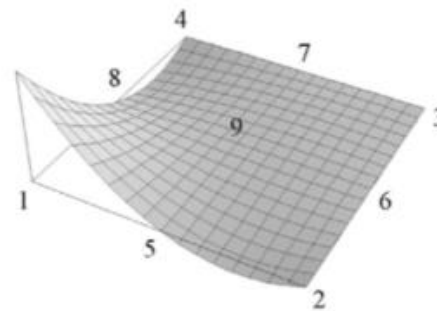
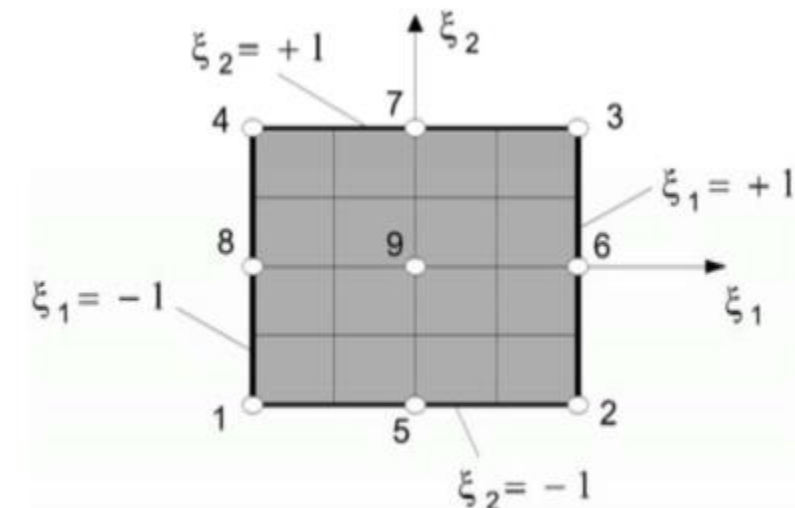


The Quadrilateral Lagrangian elements:

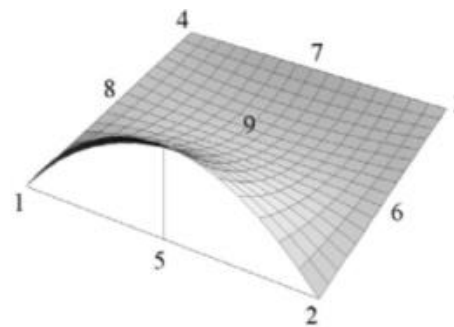
a) quadratic-linear, b) linear-cubic
c) quadratic-cubic, d) quartic-quadratic

Rectangular Elements

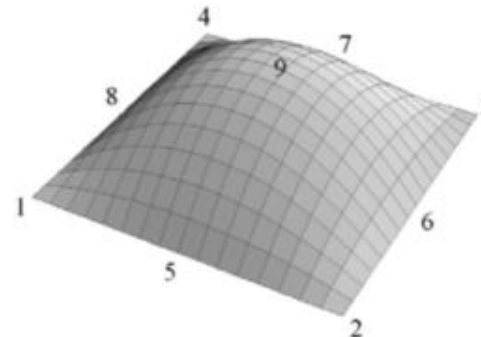
The Nine-Node Biquadratic Quadrilateral



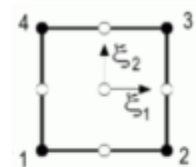
$$N^1(\xi) = \frac{1}{4}(1 - \xi_1)(1 - \xi_2)\xi_1\xi_2$$



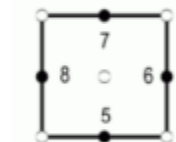
$$N^5(\xi) = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \xi_1^2)(\xi_2 - 1)\xi_2$$



$$N^9(\xi) = (1 - \xi_1^2)(1 - \xi_2^2)$$

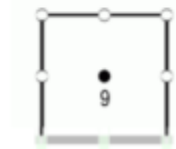


$$N^i = \frac{1}{4}(1 + \xi_1^i\xi_1)\xi_1^i\xi_1(1 + \xi_2^i\xi_2)\xi_2^i\xi_2$$



$$N^i = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \xi_2^2)(1 + \xi_1^i\xi_1)\xi_1^i\xi_1, \xi_2^i = 0$$

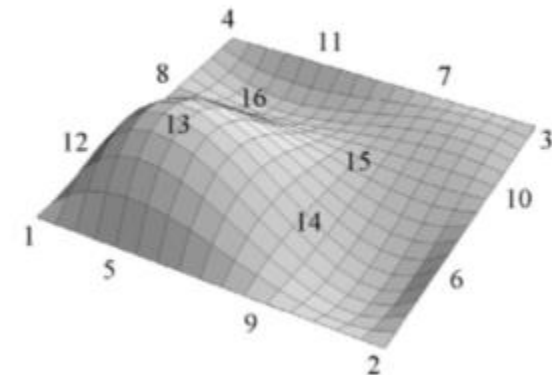
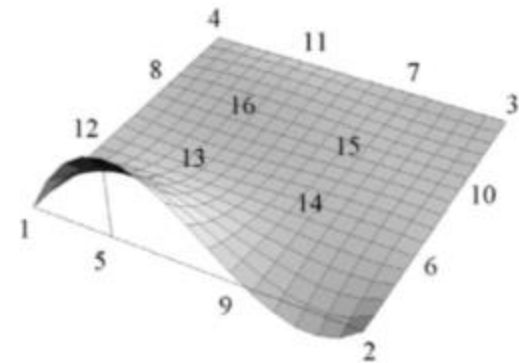
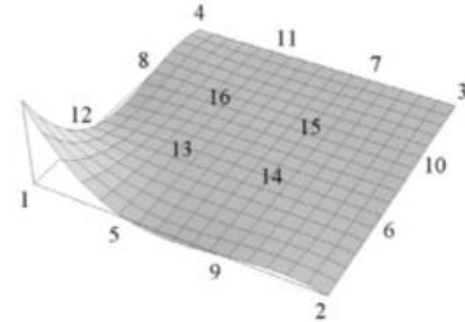
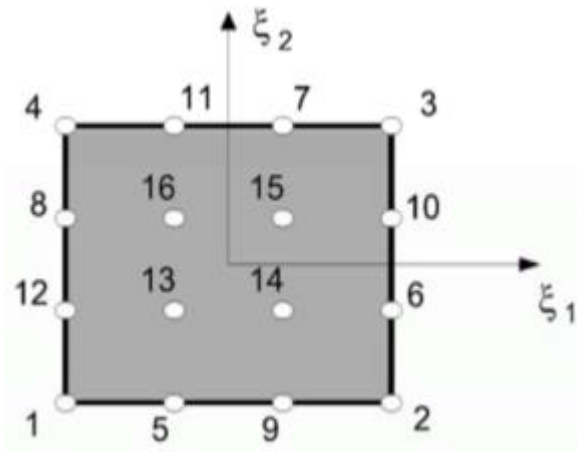
$$N^i = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \xi_1^2)(1 + \xi_2^i\xi_2)\xi_2^i\xi_2, \xi_1^i = 0$$



$$N^9 = (1 - \xi_1^2)(1 - \xi_2^2)$$

Rectangular Elements

The 16-Node Biquadratic Quadrilateral



$$N^i = \frac{81}{256} (1 + \xi_1^i \xi_1) (1 + \xi_2^i \xi_2) \left(\frac{1}{9} - \xi_1^2\right) \left(\frac{1}{9} - \xi_2^2\right)$$

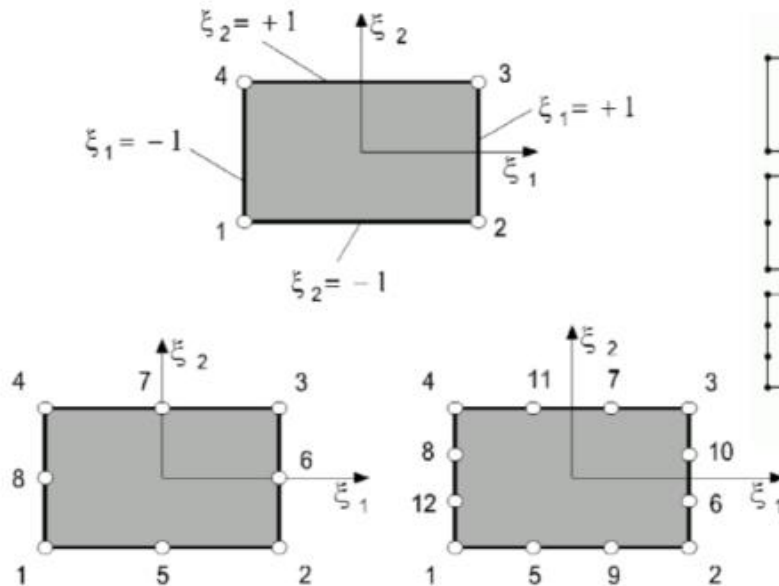
$$N^i = \frac{243}{256} (1 - \xi_1^2) \left(\xi_2^2 - \frac{1}{9}\right) \left(\frac{1}{3} + 3\xi_1^i \xi_1\right) (1 + \xi_2^i \xi_2)$$

$$N^i = \frac{243}{256} (1 - \xi_2^2) \left(\xi_1^2 - \frac{1}{9}\right) \left(\frac{1}{3} + 3\xi_2^i \xi_2\right) (1 + \xi_1^i \xi_1)$$

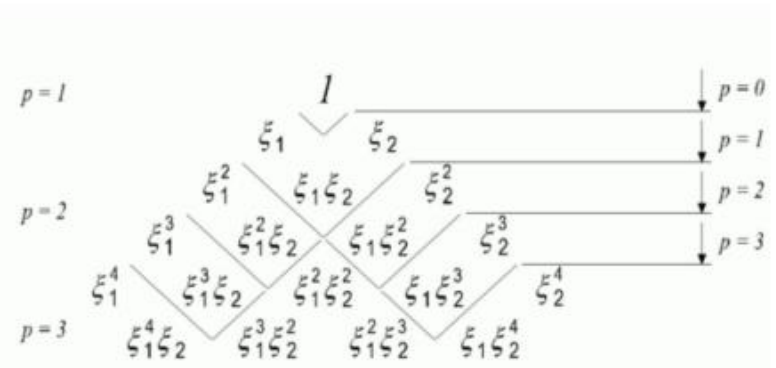
$$N^i = \frac{729}{256} (1 - \xi_1^2) (1 - \xi_2^2) \left(\frac{1}{3} + 3\xi_1^i \xi_1\right) \left(\frac{1}{3} + 3\xi_2^i \xi_2\right)$$

Serendipity Elements

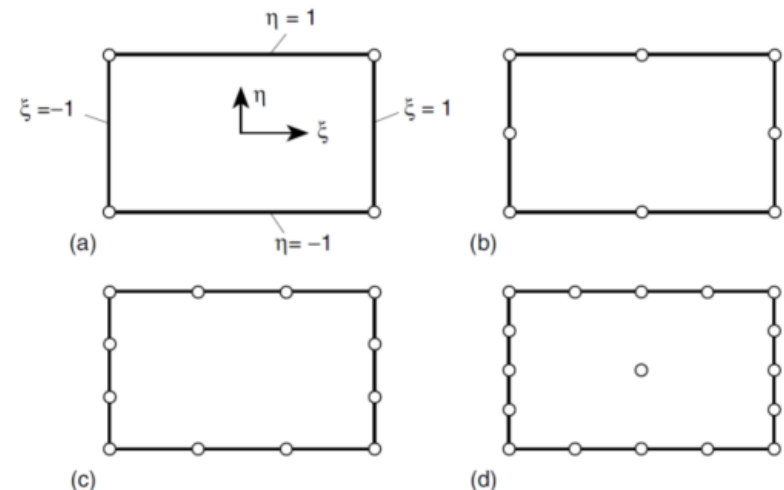
Serendipity elements are constructed with nodes only on the element boundary



Serendipity quadrilateral elements:
a) bilinear , b) biquadratic, c) bicubic



Two dimensional serendipity polynomials
of quadrilateral elements in Pascal triangle



Rectangles of boundary node (serendipity) family:
(a) linear, (b) quadratic, (c) cubic, (d) quartic

Serendipity Elements

In general serendipity shape functions can be obtained with the following expression

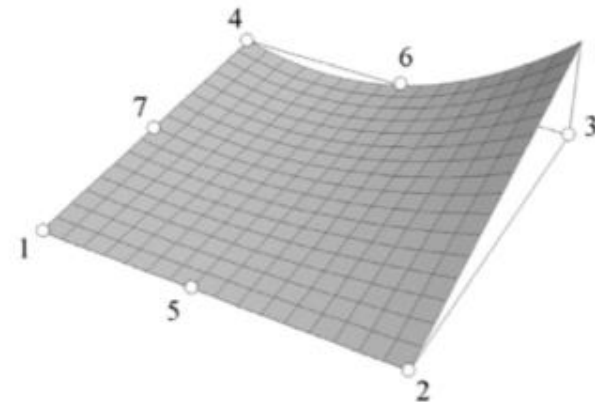
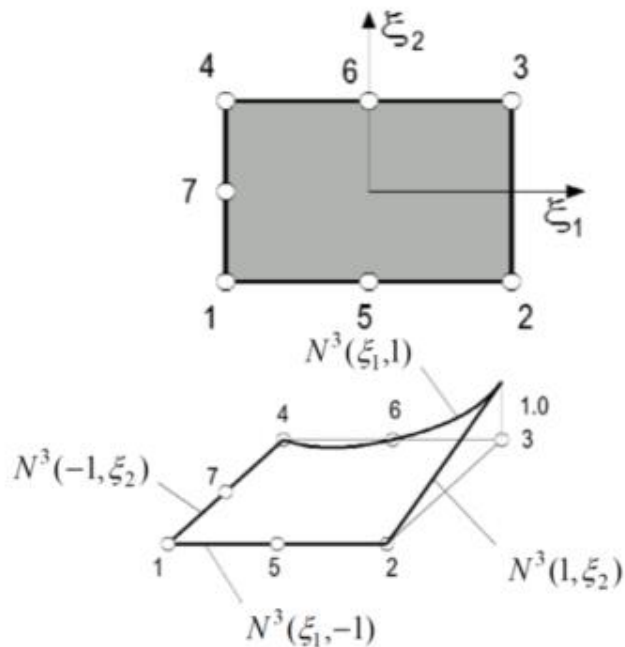
$$\begin{aligned} N^i(\xi_1, \xi_2) = & \frac{1}{2}(1 - \xi_2)N^i(\xi_1, -1) + \frac{1}{2}(1 + \xi_1)N^i(1, \xi_2) \\ & + \frac{1}{2}(1 + \xi_2)N^i(\xi_1, 1) + \frac{1}{2}(1 - \xi_1)N^i(-1, \xi_2) \\ & - \frac{1}{4}(1 - \xi_1)(1 - \xi_2)N^i(-1, -1) - \frac{1}{4}(1 + \xi_1)(1 - \xi_2)N^i(1, -1) \\ & - \frac{1}{4}(1 + \xi_1)(1 + \xi_2)N^i(1, 1) - \frac{1}{4}(1 - \xi_1)(1 + \xi_2)N^i(-1, 1) \end{aligned}$$

where functions $N^i(\xi_1, -1)$, $N^i(1, \xi_2)$, $N^i(\xi_1, 1)$, $N^i(-1, \xi_2)$ are lagrangian interpolations along the corresponding boundary and values $N^i(-1, -1)$, $N^i(1, -1)$, $N^i(1, 1)$, $N^i(-1, 1)$ have values 0 or 1 and represent values of interpolation on corners

Serendipity Elements

Example: Find shape function of the node N^3

$$\begin{aligned} N^i(\xi_1, \xi_2) &= \frac{1}{2}(1 - \xi_2)N^i(\xi_1, -1) + \frac{1}{2}(1 + \xi_1)N^i(1, \xi_2) \\ &+ \frac{1}{2}(1 + \xi_2)N^i(\xi_1, 1) + \frac{1}{2}(1 - \xi_1)N^i(-1, \xi_2) \\ &- \frac{1}{4}(1 - \xi_1)(1 - \xi_2)N^i(-1, -1) - \frac{1}{4}(1 + \xi_1)(1 - \xi_2)N^i(1, -1) \\ &- \frac{1}{4}(1 + \xi_1)(1 + \xi_2)N^i(1, 1) - \frac{1}{4}(1 - \xi_1)(1 + \xi_2)N^i(-1, 1) \end{aligned}$$

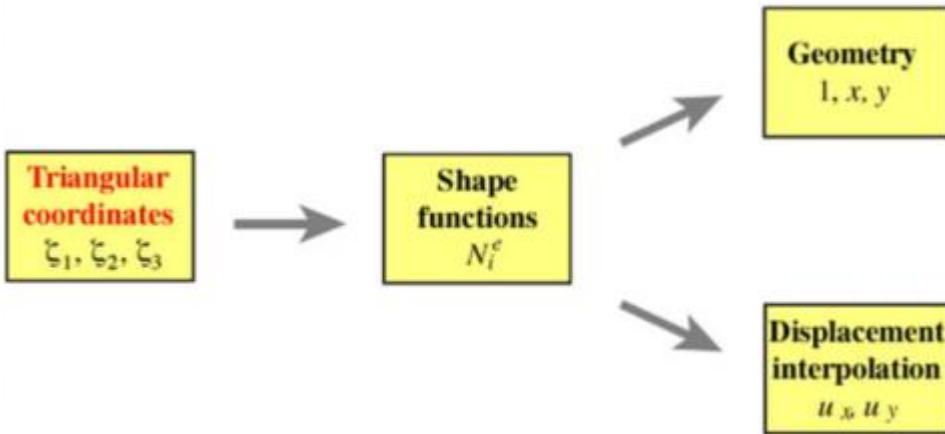


$$N^3(\xi_1, \xi_2) = \frac{1}{4}\xi_1(1 + \xi_1)(1 + \xi_2)$$

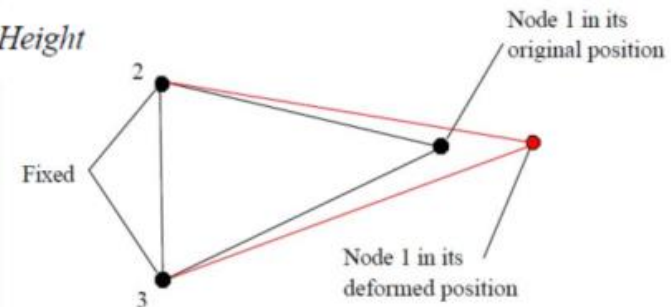
$$\begin{aligned} N^3(\xi_1, \xi_2) &= \frac{1}{2}(1 + \xi_1)N^3(1, \xi_2) + \frac{1}{2}(1 + \xi_2)N^3(\xi_1, 1) - \frac{1}{4}(1 + \xi_1)(1 + \xi_2)N^3(1, 1) = \\ &\frac{1}{2}(1 + \xi_1) \cdot \frac{1}{2}(1 + \xi_2) + \frac{1}{2}(1 + \xi_2) \cdot \frac{1}{2}\xi_1(1 + \xi_1) - \frac{1}{4}(1 + \xi_1)(1 + \xi_2) \cdot 1 = \\ &\frac{1}{4}\xi_1(1 + \xi_1)(1 + \xi_2) \end{aligned}$$

Triangular Elements

Isoparametric Representation for Triangular



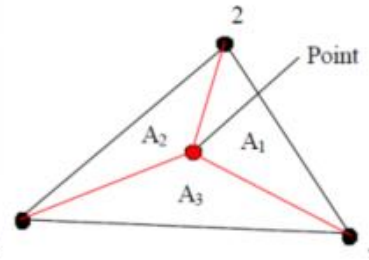
$$Area = \frac{1}{2} Base \times Height$$



$$A = A_1 + A_2 + A_3$$

We can derive shape functions:

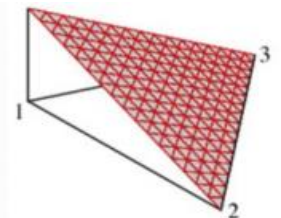
$$N_1 = \frac{A_1}{A}, N_2 = \frac{A_2}{A}, \text{ and } N_3 = \frac{A_3}{A}$$



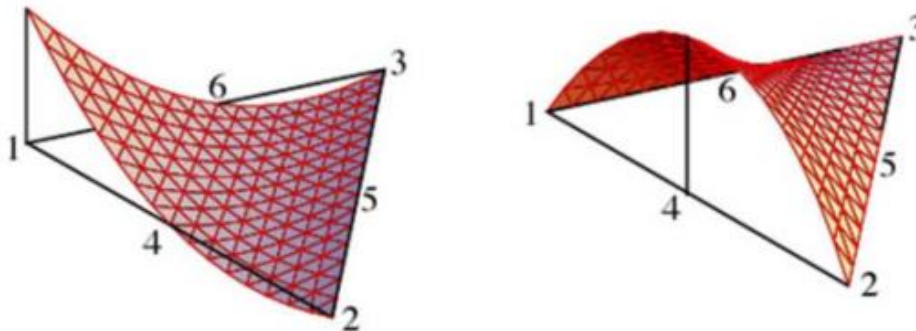
A_1 , A_2 , and A_3 be the areas of each of triangular regions and A the total area of the element; According to shape function-

$$N_1 + N_2 + N_3 = 1$$

$$N_1 = \xi, N_2 = \eta, \text{ and } N_3 = 1 - \xi - \eta$$

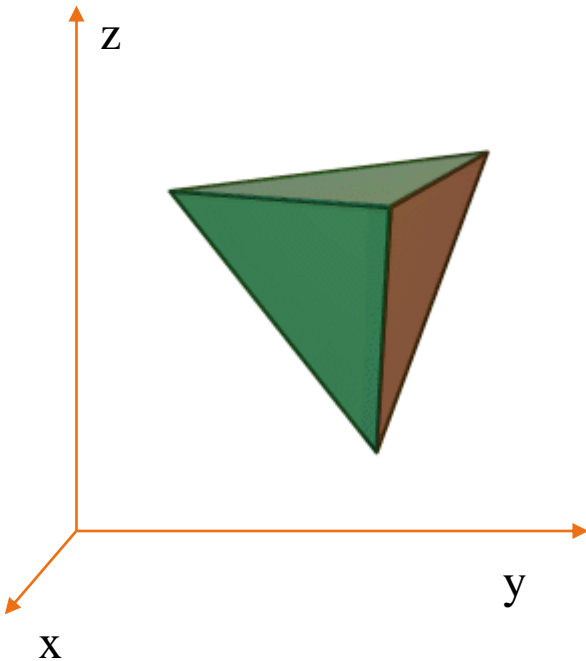


6 Node Triangle: Shape Function Plots



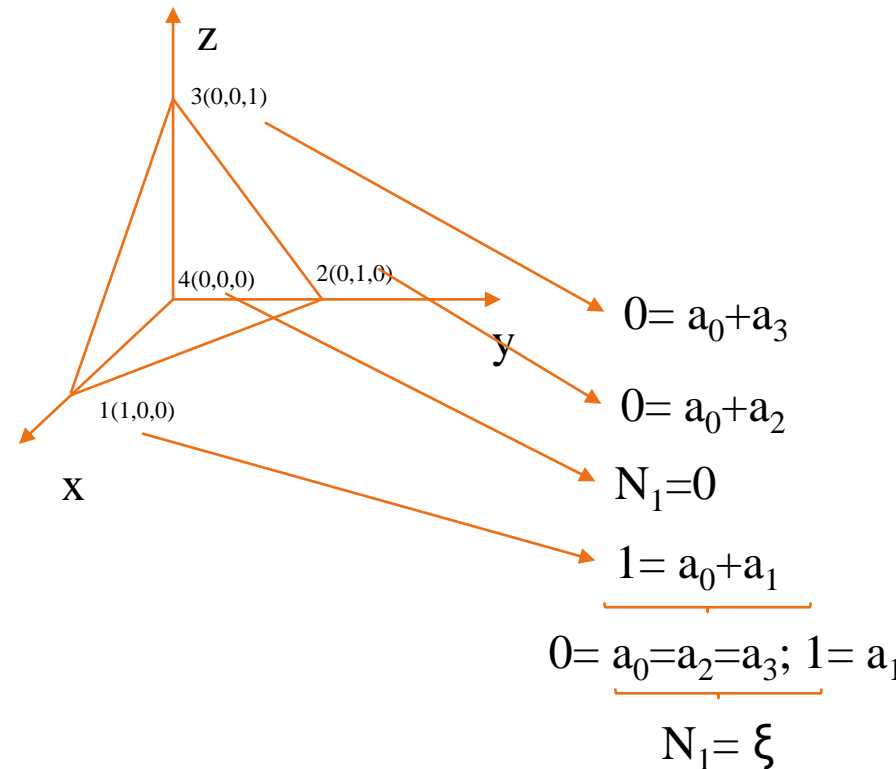
Example:

3D- Linear Tetrahedron element



- Global Coordinates
- Simplex 3D element having four triangular faces
- 4 nodes, 3 DOF

Local Coordinates; ξ -Xee; η -eta; ζ -Zeta; (ξ, η, ζ)



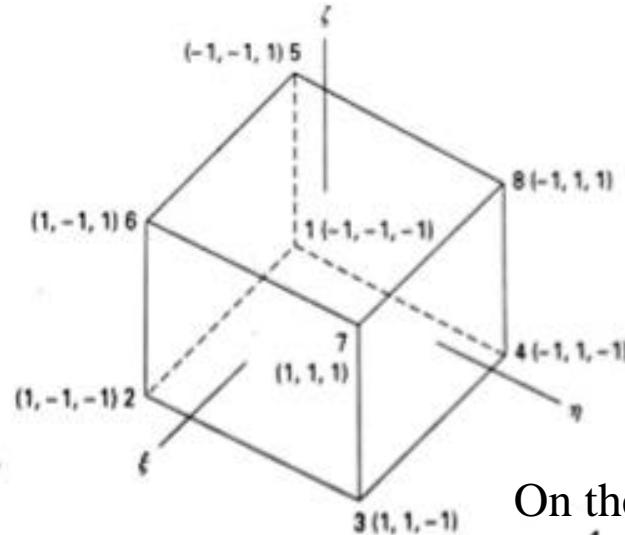
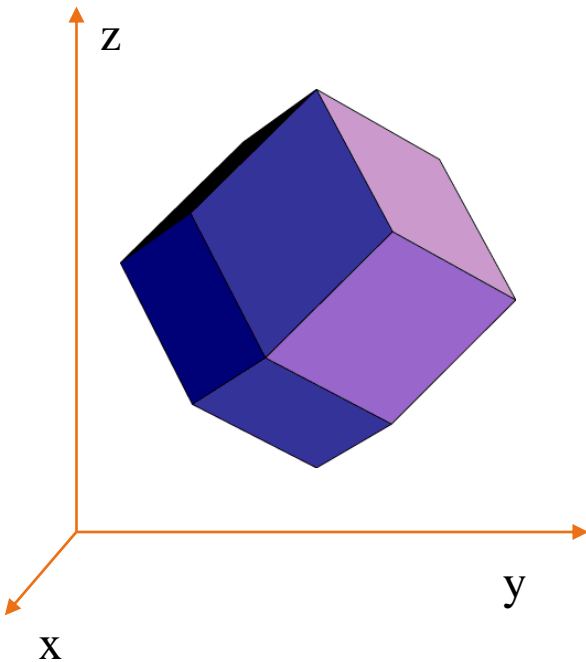
For Shape Function, $N_1 = a_0 + a_1 \xi + a_2 \eta + a_3 \zeta$

$N_1 = \xi$ Similarly, $N_2 = \eta$ $N_3 = \zeta$

Shape Func Law, $N_4 = 1 - \xi - \eta - \zeta$

Example:

3D- Linear Hexahedral element



On the master cube-Lagrange Func.

$$N_i = \frac{1}{8}(1 + \xi \xi_i)(1 + \eta \eta_i)(1 + \zeta \zeta_i) \quad i = 1 \text{ to } 8$$

Shape Function(Plugging the coordinates)-

$$N_1 = \frac{1}{8}(1 - \xi)(1 - \eta)(1 - \zeta)$$

$$N_2 = \frac{1}{8}(1 + \xi)(1 - \eta)(1 - \zeta)$$

$$N_3 = \frac{1}{8}(1 + \xi)(1 + \eta)(1 - \zeta)$$

$$N_4 = \frac{1}{8}(1 - \xi)(1 + \eta)(1 - \zeta)$$

$$N_5 = \frac{1}{8}(1 - \xi)(1 - \eta)(1 + \zeta)$$

$$N_6 = \frac{1}{8}(1 + \xi)(1 - \eta)(1 + \zeta)$$

$$N_7 = \frac{1}{8}(1 + \xi)(1 + \eta)(1 + \zeta)$$

$$N_8 = \frac{1}{8}(1 - \xi)(1 + \eta)(1 + \zeta)$$

Conclusions

- ❑ Shape Function properties.
- ❑ Example.
- ❑ Application.

References

1. <https://mecheng.iisc.ac.in>
2. www.sanfoundry.com
3. Zienkiewicz O.C. , Taylor R.L. , Zhu J.Z. : The Finite Element Method: Its Basis and Fundamentals, 6. Edition, Elsevier Butterworth-Heinemann, 2005.

Thank You