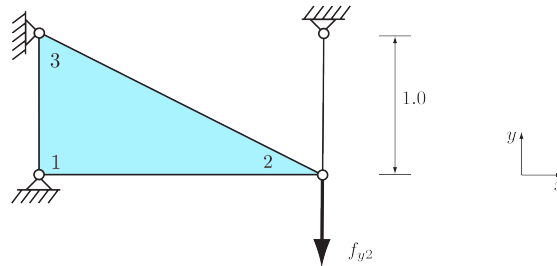


Assignment 3: FEM Structural analysis
Assigned: 14th February 2019
Due: 1st March 2019

1. Consider the following structural system consisting of a three-noded triangle and a cable element (i.e. two-noded one-dimensional element). The triangle element is fixed at the (local) nodes 1 and 3 and its stiffness matrix for the unconstrained degrees of freedom at node 2 is

$$\mathbf{K} = 10^9 \begin{bmatrix} 1.97 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.66 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{x2}^e \\ u_{y2}^e \end{bmatrix}$$

For the cable, the product of the Young's modulus and cross-sectional area is $EA = 1.0 \cdot 10^9$. Further, the system is loaded with a nodal force of $f_{y2} = -10000$.



- Determine the displacements u_{x2} and u_{y2} of node 2.
 - Determine the force in the cable.
2. Using the Jupyter notebook for elastic-bar-linear.ipynb (available on Canvas) compute and plot the displacement profiles for the following loading conditions. Discretize the cantilever beam using linear elements.
 - A uniformly distributed load of 1.
 - A uniformly varying load with 1 at the fixed end, and 0 at the free end.
 - A sinusoidal load described as $f(x) = \sin(x^2)$
 - (a) Calculate the error in the displacement, using the FE solution with 100 elements as the reference solution.
 - (b) Use at least 5 different discretizations and plot how the error changes with the number of elements.
 - (c) Based on the errors computed above, determine the number of linear elements required to perform a FE analysis for each of the three loading conditions shown above.