

Exercise 1

August 13, 2016

1 Assignment

In engineering, the stresses are one of the principal variables which helps to predict the failure of a mechanical component, defined by a specific shape and material, and subjected to specific boundary conditions. The specific points in a given component where stresses “concentrates” and tends to infinity in the continuum, must be avoided. Finite element analysis helps to perform this kind of analysis and helps the engineer during the design process. As the cost of performing a computer simulation of a given problem is low compared with experiments, the engineer has the opportunity to redesign several times a specific component until all usage requirements are fulfilled.

Let's consider an L-shaped beam made of aluminium subjected only to Dirichlet boundary conditions. The geometry, material properties and boundary conditions are given by Fig. 1.

- Run this problem using Ostero and postprocess the results with ParaView.
- Look for the point of maximum σ_{xx} stress.
- Refine the mesh and see how this value (and position) evolves. What's happening?
- Propose a new design to improve this undesired performance.
- Generate the mesh of your proposed design and perform a mesh convergence analysis to check the improvement.

If you get lost, in the RESOLUTION folder you will find several hints that will help you with the fulfilment of this assignment.

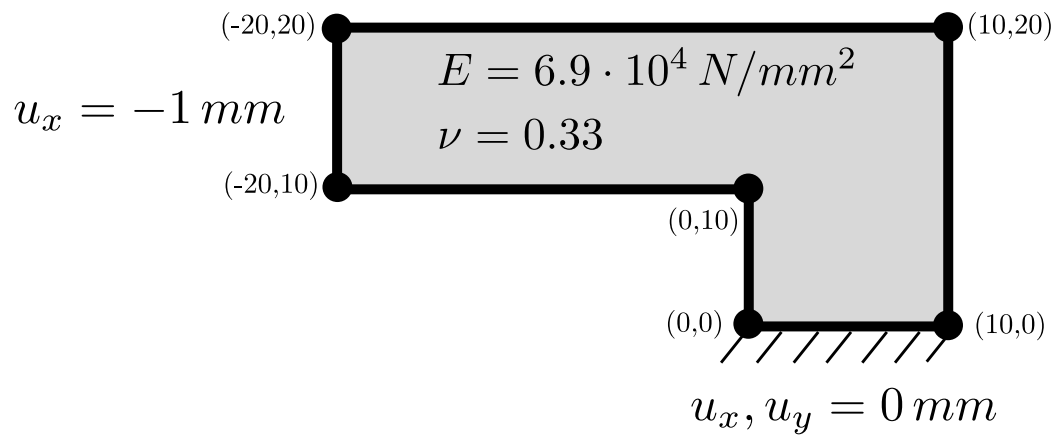


Figure 1: Geometry, properties and boundary conditions.