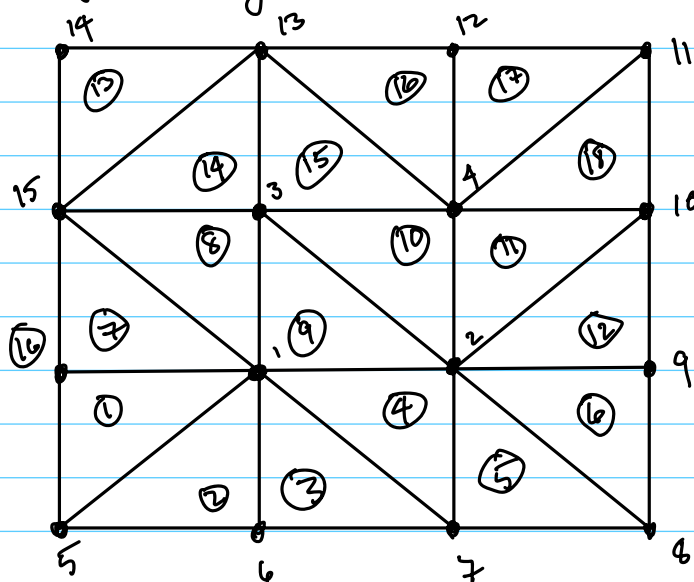


Math 574
class #10
09/18/2025

Representing The Mesh with Arrays



$$\bar{\Omega} = \bigcup_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \bar{K}$$

coordinate array

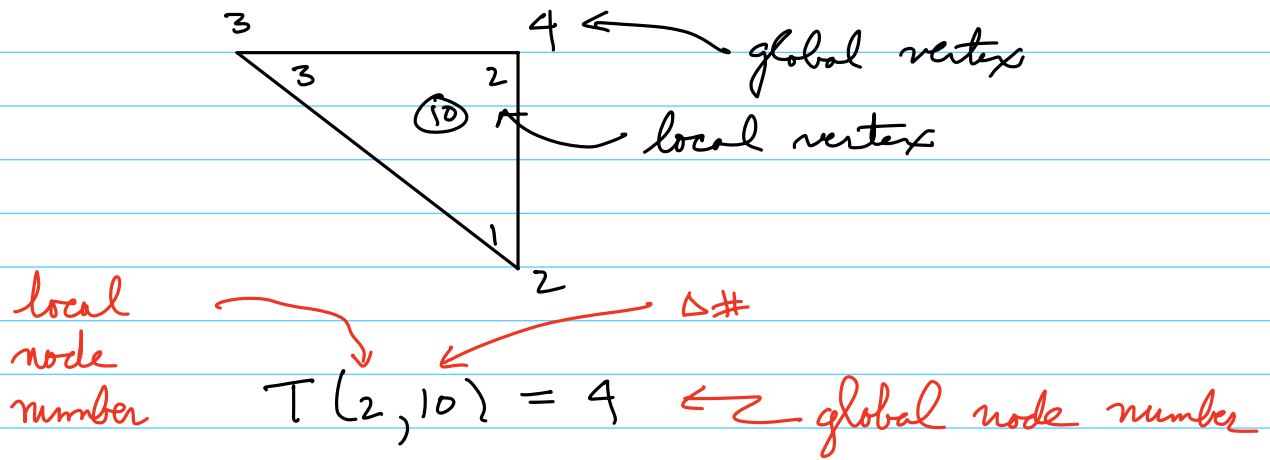
$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} x_{1,1} & x_{2,1} & x_{3,1} & x_{4,1} & x_{5,1} & \dots & x_{16,1} \\ x_{1,2} & x_{2,2} & x_{3,2} & x_{4,2} & x_{5,2} & \dots & x_{16,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

interior vertices boundary vertices
coordinates coordinates

local-to-global
node mapping

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 & 6 & 1 & 7 & 8 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 7 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 15 & 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 16 & 5 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 16 & 15 & 3 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 \\ \hline 2 & 9 & 15 & 15 & 3 & 4 & 4 & 4 & & \\ 10 & 10 & 13 & 3 & 4 & 12 & 11 & 10 & & \\ 4 & 2 & 14 & 13 & 13 & 13 & 12 & 11 & & \\ \hline 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 & 16 & 17 & 18 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

T gives the local to global mapping of vertices.
look at triangle 10, K_{10} :



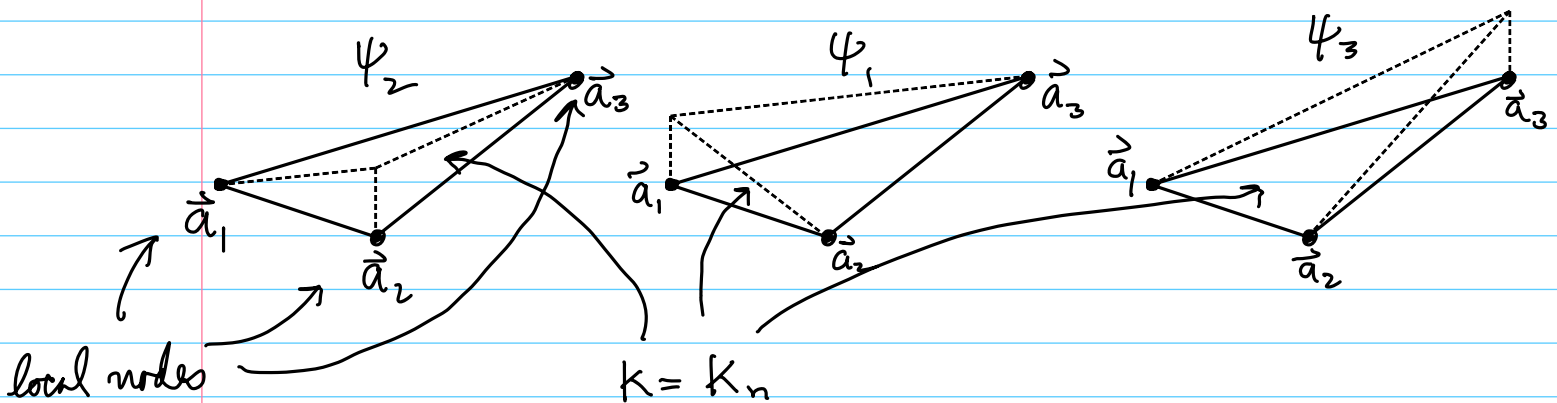
In words, the global node number of local node 2 in triangle 10 is 4.

The Local Stiffness Matrix and Load Vector

Piecewise Linear Case ($r=1$)

let us index the triangles of the triangulation

$$\gamma_h = \{K_i\}_{i=1}^M$$



ψ_1, ψ_2, ψ_3 are called the local Lagrange nodal basis functions. They satisfy

$$\psi_i(\vec{a}_j) = \delta_{ij} \quad i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$$

Define, for $n = 1, \dots, M$ (for each triangle),

$$A^{(n)} := [a_{\alpha, \beta}^{(n)}]_{\alpha, \beta=1}^3 \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{3 \times 3}$$

where

$$a_{\alpha, \beta}^{(n)} = \int_{K_n} \nabla \psi_{\beta} \cdot \nabla \psi_{\alpha} \, d\vec{x}.$$

$A^{(n)}$ is called the local stiffness matrix.

Define, for $n = 1, \dots, M$,

$$\vec{f}^{(n)} = [f_{\alpha}^{(n)}]_{\alpha=1}^3 \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

where

$$f_{\alpha}^{(n)} = \int_{K_n} f \psi_{\alpha} \, d\vec{x}.$$

This is called the local load / force vector.

We will discuss practical ways to compute these later using the reference triangle and affine mappings.

For now, let us assume that $A^{(n)}$ and $\vec{f}^{(n)}$ can be easily obtained.

Assembly of A and \vec{f} ($r=1$)

We assemble A and \vec{f} , the global stiffness matrix and global force vector, resp, by looping over triangles of the mesh, rather than the nodes of the mesh.

Recall that, for the model problem

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta u &= f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u &= 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$A \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{N_1^0 \times N_1^0} \quad \vec{f} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_1^0}$$

Initialize: Set

$$[A]_{28,15} = \int_{S_{28} \cap S_{15}} \nabla \phi_{15} \cdot \nabla \phi_{28} dx$$

example

Matlab-Style
Array Sections

$$\begin{aligned} &\rightarrow A(1:N_1^0, 1:N_1^0) = 0 \\ &\rightarrow f(1:N_1^0) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Triangle loop: do $n = 1:M$

alpha loop: do $\alpha = 1:3$

if $T(\alpha, n) > N_1^0$ index alpha loop

beta loop: do $\beta = 1:3$

if $T(\beta, n) > N_1^0$ index beta loop

$$A(T(\alpha, n), T(\beta, n)) = A(T(\alpha, n), T(\beta, n)) + a_{\alpha\beta}^{(n)}$$

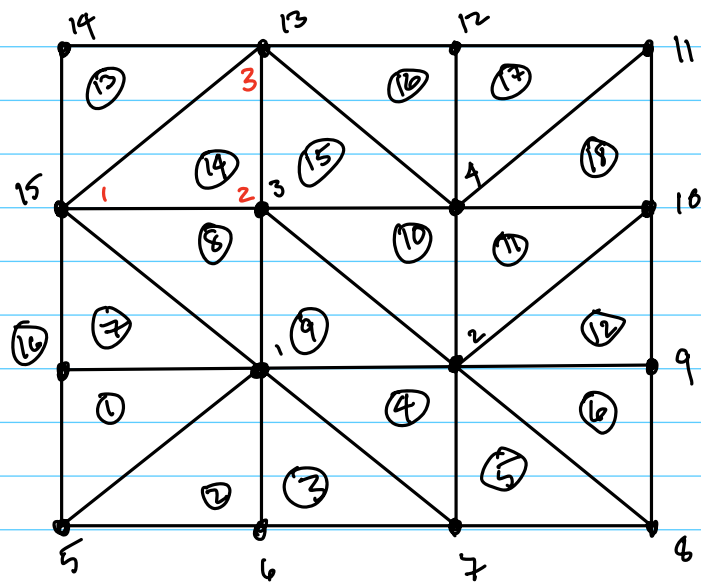
end do beta loop

$$f(T(\alpha, n)) = f(T(\alpha, n)) + f_{\alpha}^{(n)}$$

end do alpha loop

end do triangle loop

Example :



$$M = 18$$

$$N_1^0 = 4$$

$$N_1 = 16$$

Boundary nodes
are indexed
after interior
nodes!

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 & 6 & 1 & 7 & 8 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 7 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 15 & 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 16 & 5 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 16 & 15 & 3 & 3 \\ \hline 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

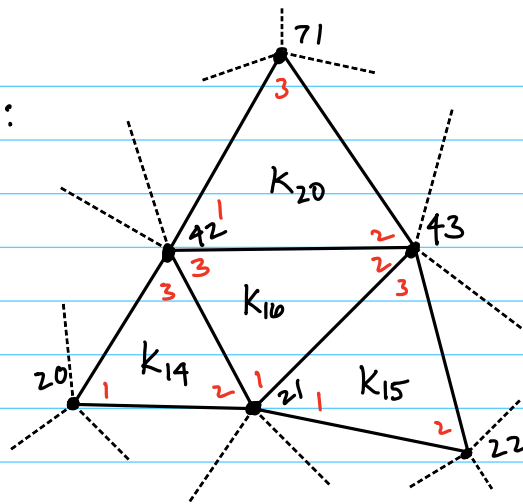
$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 9 & 15 & 15 & 3 & 4 & 4 & 4 \\ 10 & 10 & 13 & 3 & 9 & 12 & 11 & 10 \\ 4 & 2 & 14 & 13 & 13 & 13 & 12 & 11 \\ \hline 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 & 15 & 16 & 17 & 18 \end{bmatrix}$$

What is the meaning of $T(2, 14)$?

11
M

Example :

($r=1$)



The red numbers are the local node numbers.

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} & 20 & 21 & 21 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 21 & 22 & 43 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ & 42 & 43 & 42 \\ \hline & 14 & 15 & 16 \end{bmatrix}$$

let's look at the assembly of A .

$$n = 16 \quad \alpha = 1 \quad \beta = 1$$

$$T(\alpha, n) = 21 \quad T(\beta, n) = 21$$

$$A(21, 21) = A(21, 21) + a_{1,1}^{(16)}$$

$$n = 16 \quad \alpha = 1 \quad \beta = 2$$

$$T(\alpha, n) = 21 \quad T(\beta, n) = 43$$

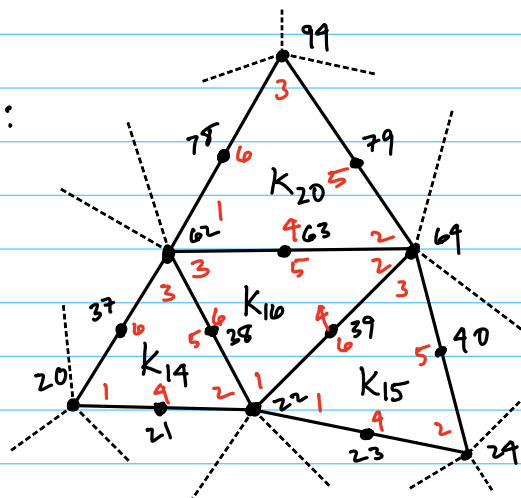
$$A(21, 43) = A(21, 43) + a_{1,2}^{(16)}$$

$$n = 16 \quad \alpha = 1 \quad \beta = 3$$

$$T(\alpha, n) = 21 \quad T(\beta, n) = 42$$

$$A(21, 42) = A(21, 42) + a_{1,3}^{(16)}$$

Example :

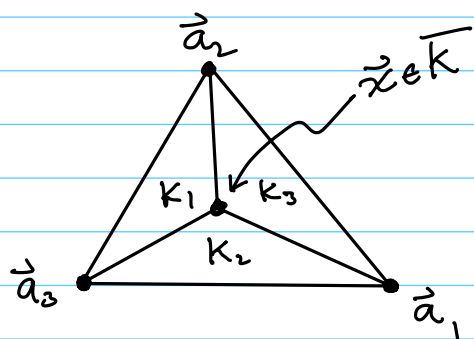


For piecewise quadratic FEM. We need to add edge midpoint nodes to the list.

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} & & & 22 & 22 & & \\ & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & & & \\ & & & 24 & 64 & & \dots \\ & & & 64 & 62 & & \\ & & & 23 & 39 & & \\ & & & 40 & 63 & & \\ & & & 39 & 38 & & \\ & & & \hline & & & 15 & 16 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

Barycentric Coordinates

Suppose that $K \in \mathcal{T}_n$ is arbitrary.



$$\lambda_i(\vec{x}) := \frac{|K_i|}{|K|} \quad i=1,2,3$$

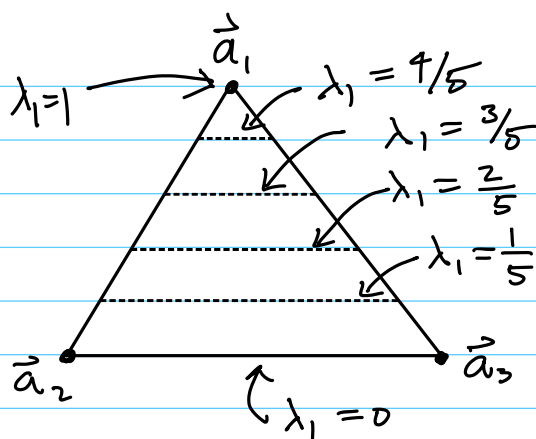
\vec{a}_i are the vertices.

Clearly

$$\lambda_1(\vec{a}_1) = 1 \quad \lambda_1(\vec{a}_2) = 0 \quad \lambda_1(\vec{a}_3) = 0$$

In general

$$\lambda_i(\vec{a}_j) = \delta_{ij} \quad i,j=1,2,3.$$



$$\lambda_i \in P_i(K)$$

Note that $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ are not independent:

$$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 = 1 = \frac{|k_1| + |k_2| + |k_3|}{|K|}$$

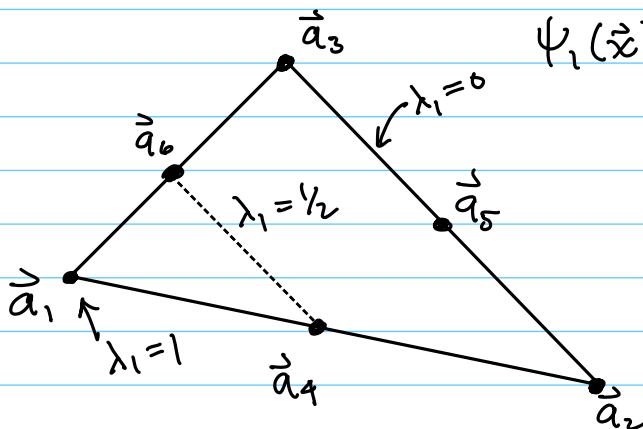
Observe that

$$0 \leq \lambda_i(\vec{x}) \leq 1, \quad \vec{x} \in \bar{K}, \quad i=1,2,3,$$

Finally, observe that

$$\psi_i(\vec{x}) = \lambda_i(\vec{x}), \quad i=1,2,3$$

Quadratic Case



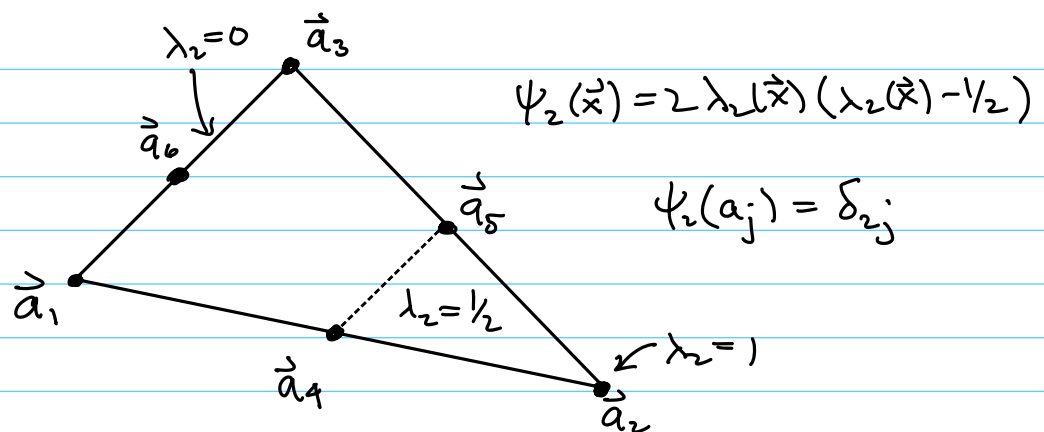
$$\psi_1(\vec{x}) = 2\lambda_1(\vec{x})(\lambda_1(\vec{x}) - 1/2)$$

$$\psi_1(\vec{a}_1) = 1$$

$$\psi_1(\vec{a}_6) = 0$$

$$\psi_1(\vec{a}_4) = 0$$

$$\psi_1(\vec{a}_2) = \psi_1(\vec{a}_5) = \psi_1(\vec{a}_3) = 0$$



otherwise

$$\psi_3(\vec{x}) = 2\lambda_3(\vec{x})(\lambda_3(\vec{x}) - 1/2)$$

For the bubble functions

$$\psi_4(\vec{x}) = 4\lambda_1(\vec{x})\lambda_2(\vec{x}),$$

$$\psi_5(\vec{x}) = 4\lambda_2(\vec{x})\lambda_3(\vec{x}),$$

$$\psi_6(\vec{x}) = 4\lambda_1(\vec{x})\lambda_3(\vec{x}).$$

The reader can confirm that

$$\psi_i(\vec{a}_j) = \delta_{ij}, \quad i, j = 1, 2, \dots, 6$$

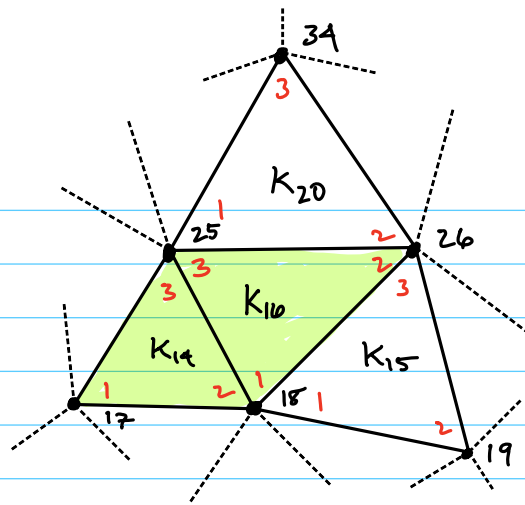
This is a local basis: For any $v \in P_2(K)$, $\exists!$ c_1, \dots, c_6 such that

$$\vec{v}(\vec{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^6 c_j \psi_j(\vec{x}).$$

Clearly

$$c_j = v(\vec{a}_j), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, 6.$$

Example : ($r=1$)



global stiffness
matrix
↓

$$a_{25,18} = \int_{\Omega} \nabla \phi_{18} \cdot \nabla \phi_{25} d\vec{x}$$

$$= \int_{S_{18} \cap S_{25}} \nabla \phi_{18} \cdot \nabla \phi_{25} d\vec{x}$$

$$= \int_{K_{14}} \nabla \phi_{18} \cdot \nabla \phi_{25} d\vec{x} + \int_{K_{16}} \nabla \phi_{18} \cdot \nabla \phi_{25} d\vec{x}$$

$$= \int_{K_{14}} \nabla \psi_2 \cdot \nabla \psi_3 d\vec{x} + \int_{K_{16}} \nabla \psi_1 \cdot \nabla \psi_3 d\vec{x}$$

$$= a_{3,2}^{(14)} + a_{3,1}^{(16)}$$

↑ ↑
local stiffness matrices for
triangles 14 and 16.