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**IMPLEMENTATION OF  
METHODS IN  
COMPUTER PROGRAMS;  
EXAMPLES SAP, ADINA**

**LECTURE 5**

**56 MINUTES**

**LECTURE 5 Implementation of the finite element method**

**The computer programs SAP and ADINA**

**Details of allocation of nodal point degrees of freedom, calculation of matrices, the assembly process**

**Example analysis of a cantilever plate**

**Out-of-core solution**

**Effective nodal-point numbering**

**Flow chart of total solution process**

**Introduction to different effective finite elements used in one, two, three-dimensional, beam, plate and shell analyses**

**TEXTBOOK: Appendix A, Sections: 1.3, 8.2.3**

**Examples: A.1, A.2, A.3, A.4, Example Program STAP**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINITE ELEMENT METHOD**

We derived the equilibrium equations

$$\underline{K}\underline{U} = \underline{R} ; \underline{R} = \underline{R}_B + \dots$$

where

$$\underline{K} = \sum_m \underline{K}^{(m)} ; \underline{R}_B = \sum_m \underline{R}_B^{(m)}$$

$$\underline{K}^{(m)} = \int_{V^{(m)}} \underline{B}^{(m)T} \underline{C}^{(m)} \underline{B}^{(m)} dV^{(m)}$$

$$\underline{R}_B^{(m)} = \int_{V^{(m)}} \underline{H}^{(m)T} \underline{f} \underline{B}^{(m)} dV^{(m)}$$

$$\underline{H}^{(m)} \quad \underline{B}^{(m)} \quad N = \text{no. of d.o.f. of total structure}$$

$$k \times N \quad \ell \times N$$

In practice, we calculate compacted element matrices.

$$\underline{K} \quad \underline{R}_B, \dots$$

$$n \times n \quad n \times 1$$

$$n = \text{no. of element d.o.f.}$$

$$\underline{H}$$

$$k \times n$$

$$\underline{B}$$

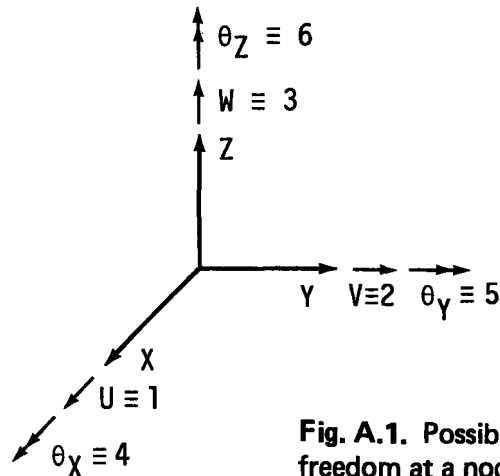
$$\ell \times n$$

The stress analysis process can be understood to consist of essentially three phases:

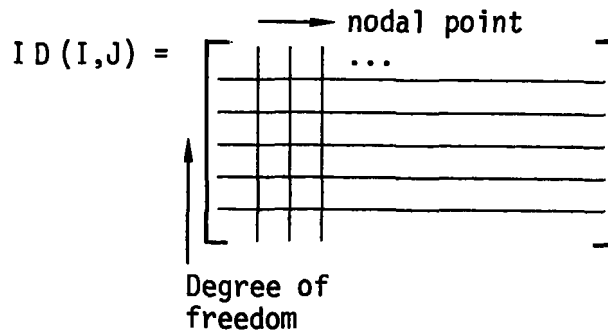
1. Calculation of structure matrices  $K$ ,  $M$ ,  $C$ , and  $R$ , whichever are applicable.
2. Solution of equilibrium equations.
3. Evaluation of element stresses.

The calculation of the structure matrices is performed as follows:

1. The nodal point and element information are read and/or generated.
2. The element stiffness matrices, mass and damping matrices, and equivalent nodal loads are calculated.
3. The structure matrices  $K$ ,  $M$ ,  $C$ , and  $R$ , whichever are applicable, are assembled.



**Fig. A.1.** Possible degrees of freedom at a nodal point.



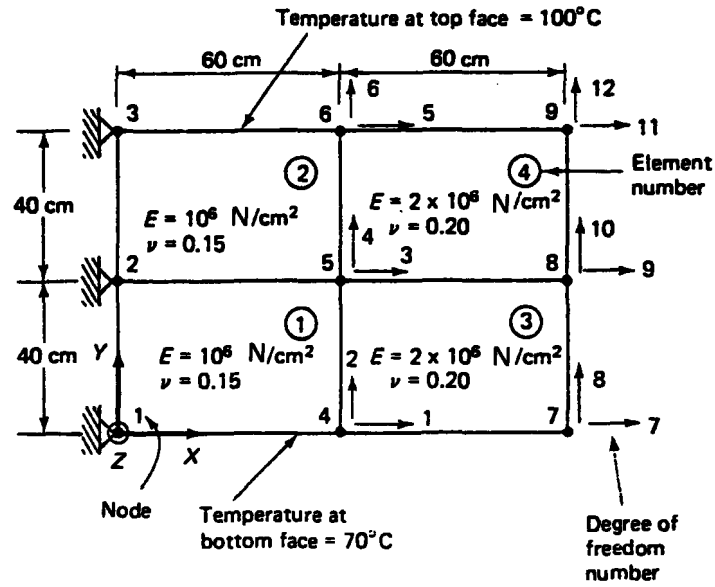


Fig. A.2. Finite element cantilever idealization.

In this case the ID array is given by

$$ID = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and then

$$ID = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 5 & 7 & 9 & 11 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 & 10 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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**Also**

$$X^T = [ 0.0 \quad 0.0 \quad 0.0 \quad 60.0 \quad 60.0 \quad 60.0 \quad 120.0 \quad 120.0 \quad 120.0 ]$$

$$Y^T = [ 0.0 \quad 40.0 \quad 80.0 \quad 0.0 \quad 40.0 \quad 80.0 \quad 0.0 \quad 40.0 \quad 80.0 ]$$

$$Z^T = [ 0.0 \quad 0.0 \quad 0.0 \quad 0.0 \quad 0.0 \quad 0.0 \quad 0.0 \quad 0.0 \quad 0.0 ]$$

$$T^T = [ 70.0 \quad 85.0 \quad 100.0 \quad 70.0 \quad 85.0 \quad 100.0 \quad 70.0 \quad 85.0 \quad 100.0 ]$$

For the elements we have

Element 1: node numbers: 5,2,1,4;  
material property set: 1

Element 2: node numbers: 6,3,2,5;  
material property set: 1

Element 3: node numbers: 8,5,4,7;  
material property set: 2

Element 4: node numbers: 9,6,5,8;  
material property set: 2

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CORRESPONDING COLUMN AND ROW NUMBERS

For compacted matrix	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
For $\underline{K}_1$	3	4	0	0	0	0	1	2

$$LM^T = [3 \ 4 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 2]$$

Similarly, we can obtain the LM arrays that correspond to the elements 2,3, and 4. We have for element 2,

$$LM^T = [5 \ 6 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 3 \ 4]$$

for element 3,

$$LM^T = [9 \ 10 \ 3 \ 4 \ 1 \ 2 \ 7 \ 8]$$

and for element 4,

$$LM^T = [11 \ 12 \ 5 \ 6 \ 3 \ 4 \ 9 \ 10]$$

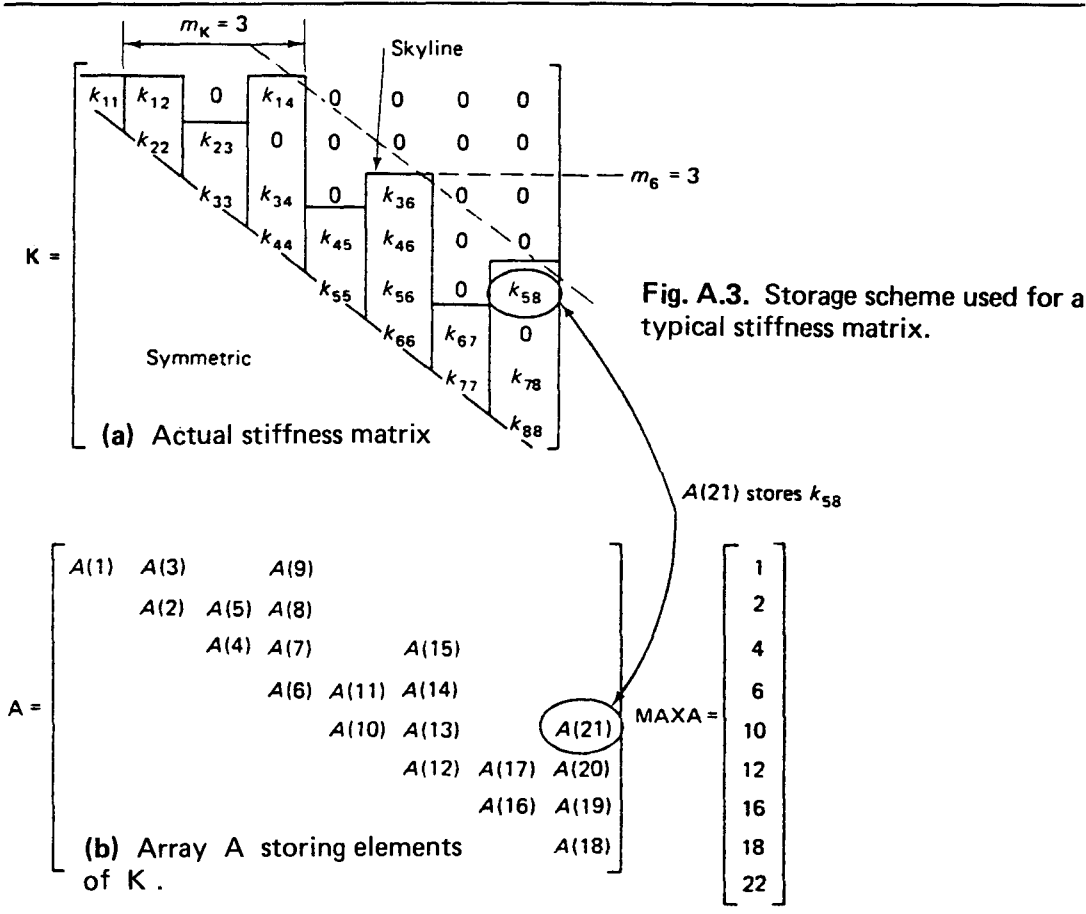


Fig. A.3. Storage scheme used for a typical stiffness matrix.



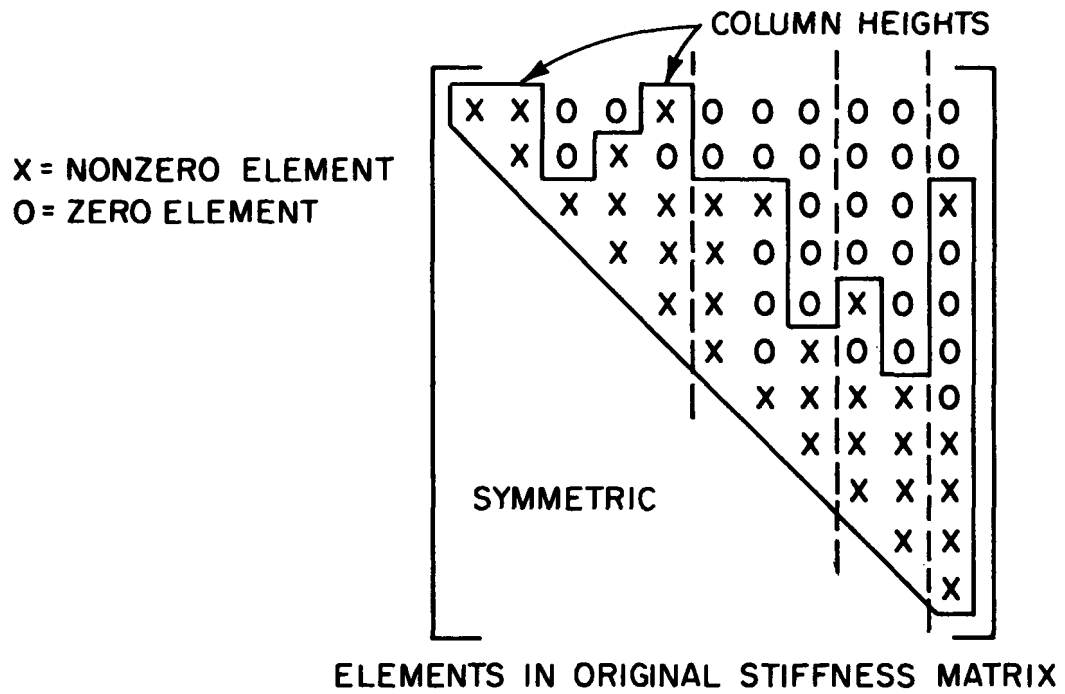


Fig. 10. Typical element pattern in a stiffness matrix using block storage.

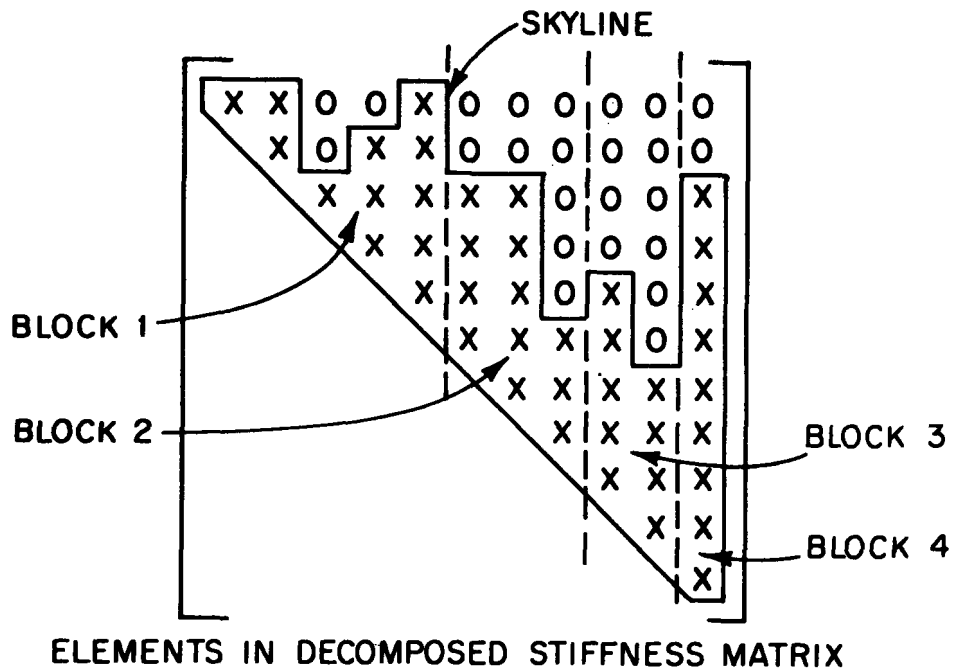
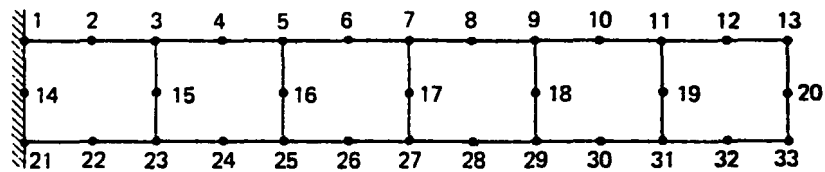
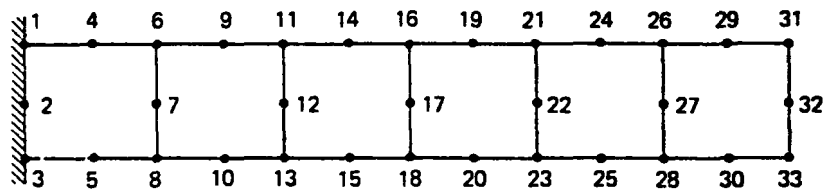


Fig. 10. Typical element pattern in a stiffness matrix using block storage.



(a) Bad nodal point numbering,  
 $m_k + 1 = 46$ .



(b) Good nodal point numbering,  
 $m_k + 1 = 16$ .

Fig. A.4. Bad and good nodal point numbering for finite element assemblage.

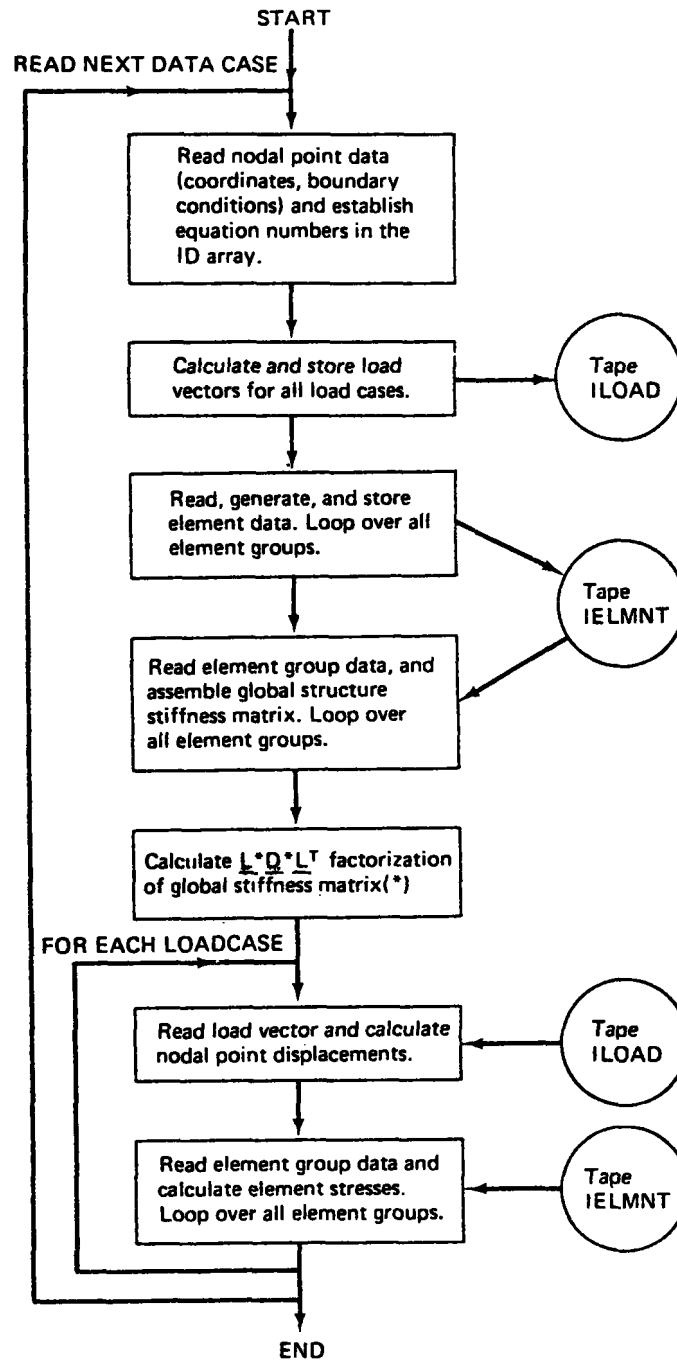


Fig. A.5. Flow chart of program STAP. \*See Section 8.2.2.

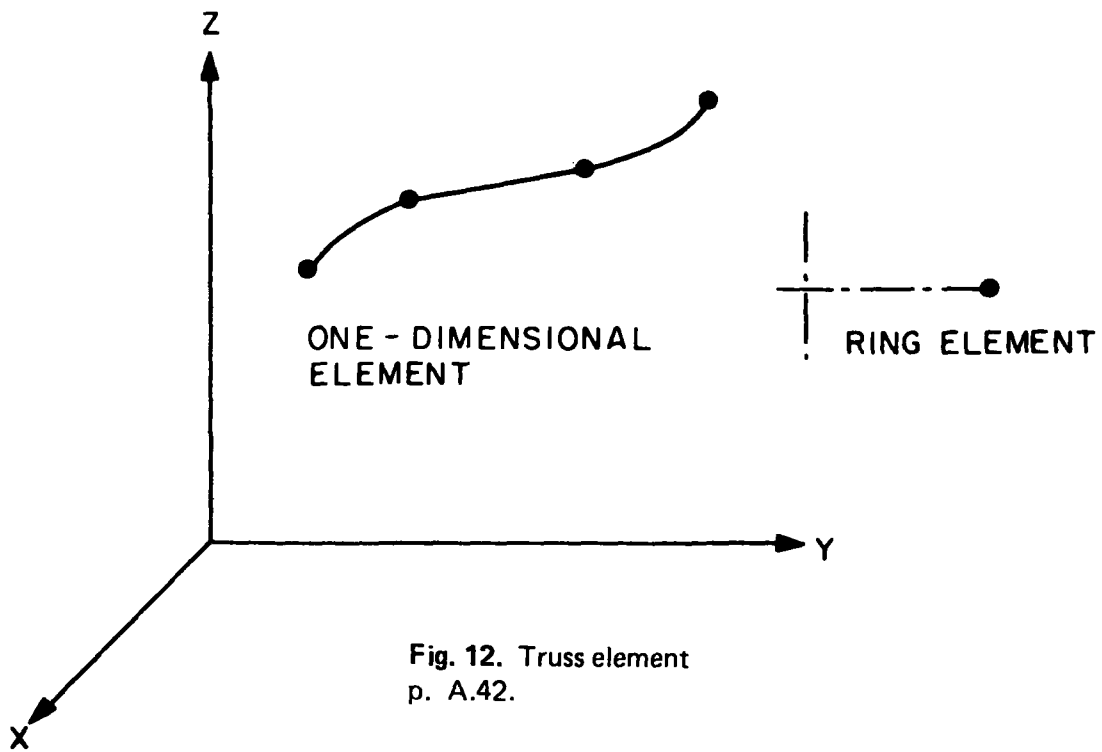


Fig. 12. Truss element  
p. A.42.

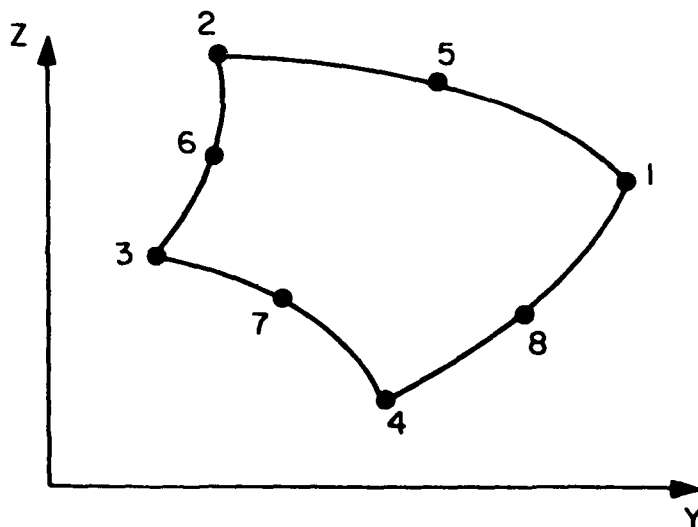
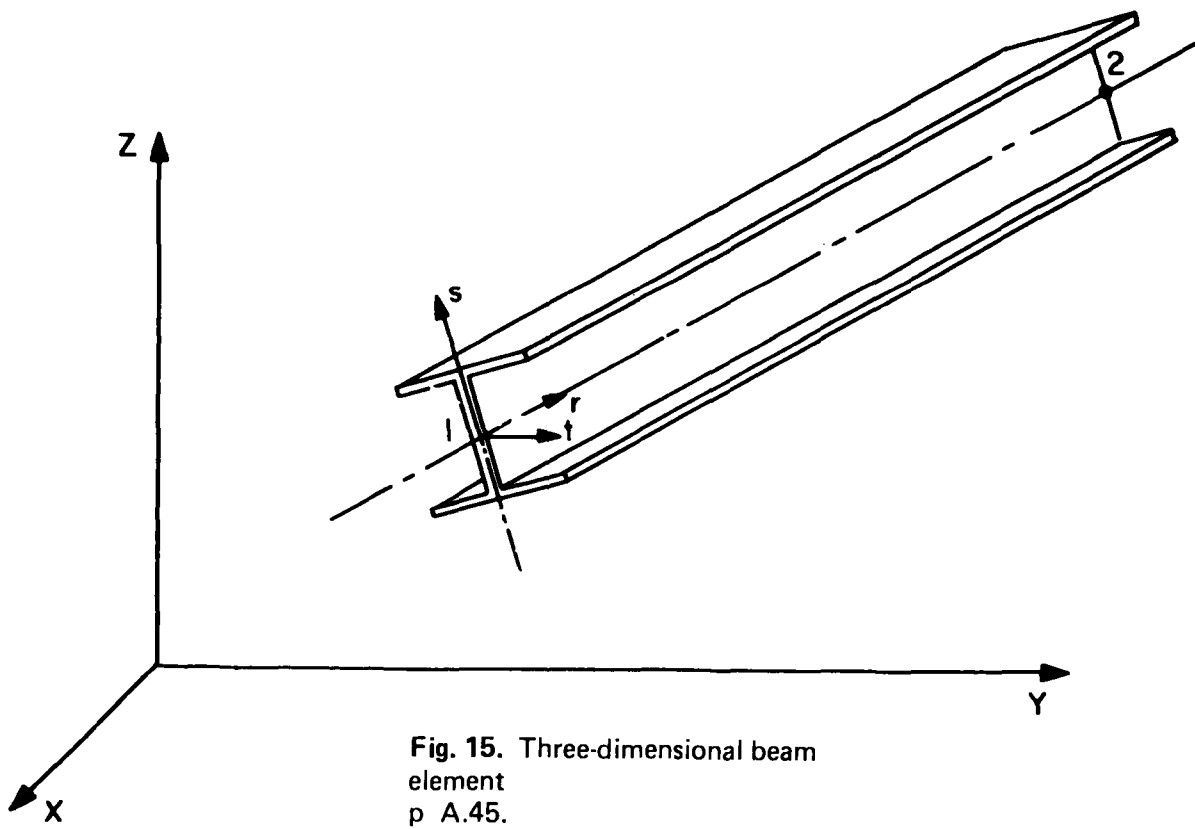
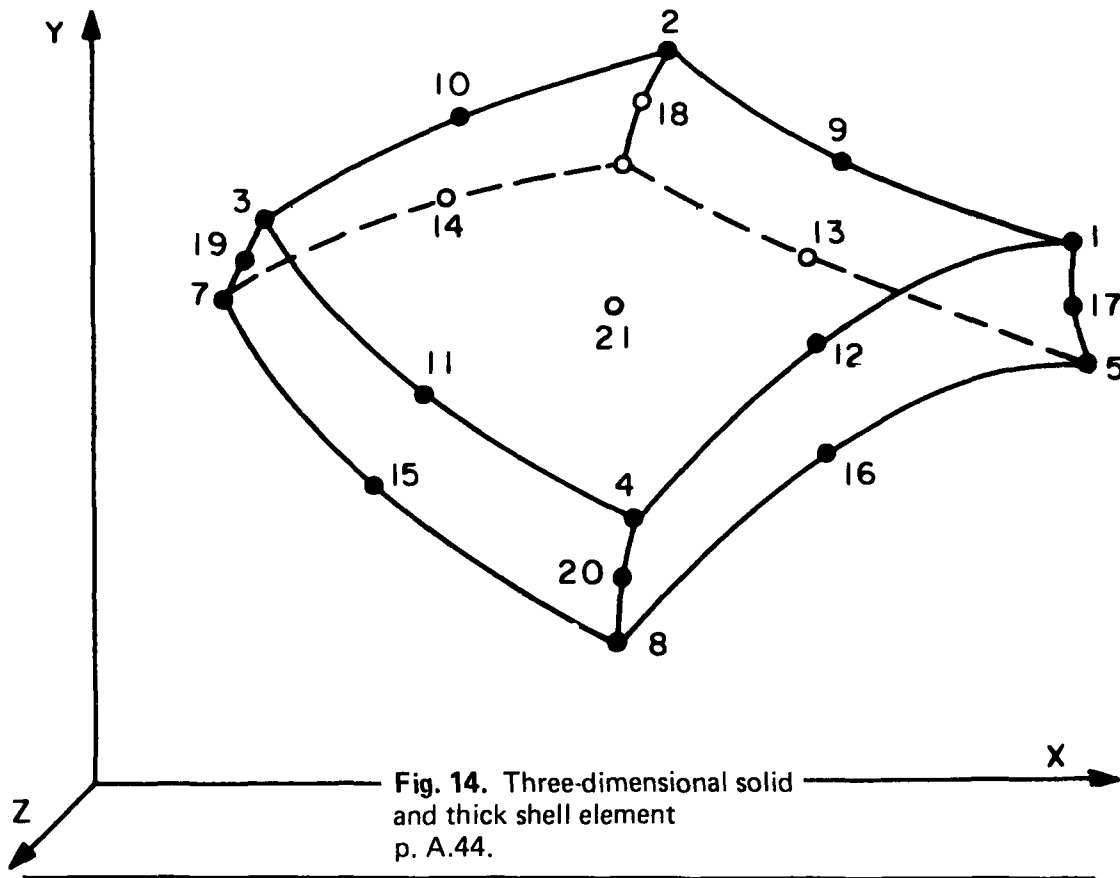


Fig. 13. Two-dimensional plane  
stress, plane strain and axisymmetric  
elements.  
p..A.43.



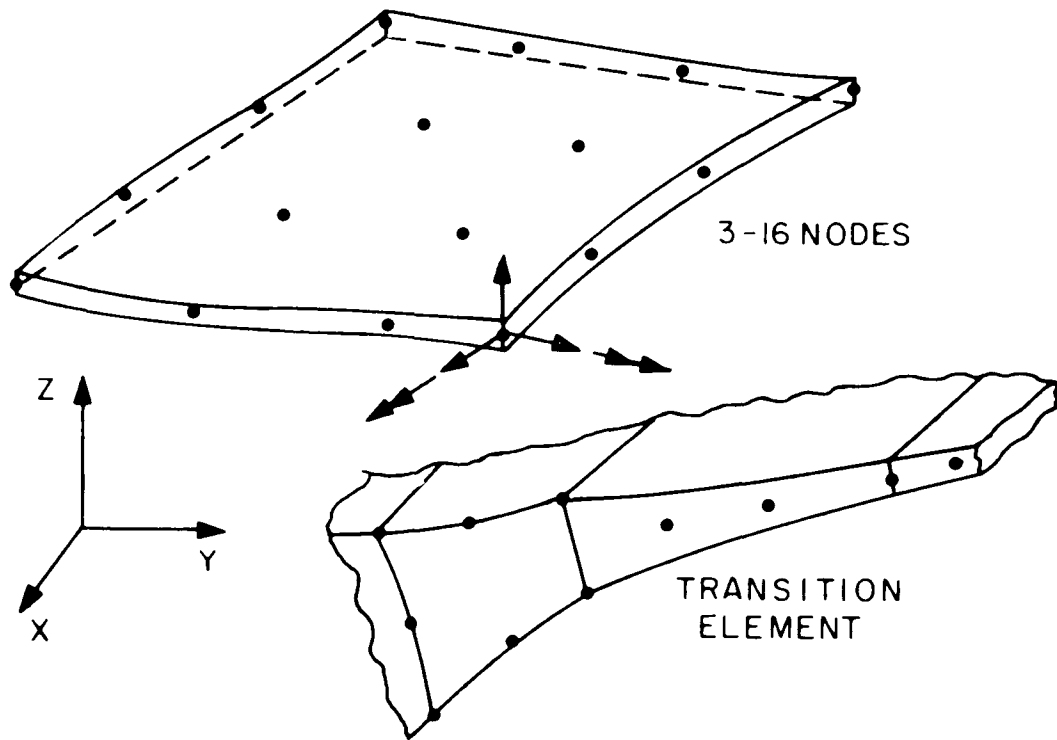


Fig. 16. Thin shell element  
(variable-number-nodes)  
p. A.46.

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**Resource: Finite Element Procedures for Solids and Structures**  
Klaus-Jürgen Bathe

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