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Finite Elements - Homework 1  
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Given:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x^2} + f(x) = 0$$

- The domain of  $x$  is  $(0,1)$
- Boundary condition are  $u(0) = 0$  and  $u(1) = \alpha$
- The domain consists of  $n$  nodes
- There are  $n-1$  elements (2 noded elements) of equal lengths
- The elements are linear (variation of  $u(x)$  within the element is linear)

Solution:

To obtain the weak form, we define  $w(x)$  such that for any  $w(x)$ , satisfying the following equation is the necessary and sufficient condition to satisfy the given differential equation.

$$\int_l w \frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x^2} dx + \int_l w f(x) dx = 0$$

Integrating by parts for the first term,

$$\left[ w \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right]_{x=0}^{x=1} - \int_l \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \int_l w f dx = 0$$

Multiplying by -1 and shifting sides,

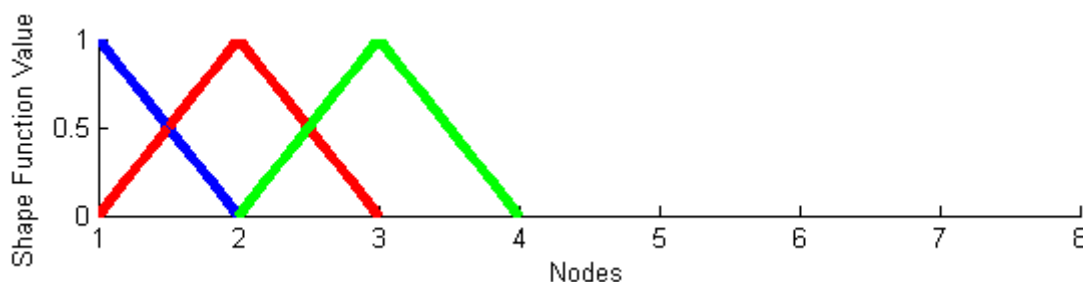
$$\int_l \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx = \int_l w f dx + \left[ w \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right]_{x=0}^{x=1}$$

This represents the weak form of the given differential function.

Now,  $u$  can be approximated by  $u^h$  such that,

$$u^h = N_1(x)u_1 + N_2(x)u_2 + \dots + N_n(x)u_n = \sum_{j=1}^n N_j(x)u_j$$

Where,  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  are the values of  $u(x)$  at nodes  $1, 2, \dots, n$  respectively. On the other hand,  $N_1, N_2, \dots, N_n$  are global shape functions defined as follows,



$N_1(x)$  has value 1 at node 1 and it is 0 at all other nodes (shown in blue color)  
 $N_2(x)$  has value 1 at node 2 and it is 0 at all other nodes (shown in red color)  
 $N_3(x)$  has value 1 at node 3 and it is 0 at all other nodes (shown in green color) and so on...

Substituting  $u^h$  in the weak form,

$$\int_l \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \sum_{j=1}^n N_j(x) u_j}{\partial x} dx = \int_l w f dx + \left[ w \frac{\partial u^h}{\partial x} \right]_{x=0}^{x=1}$$

$$\int_l \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial x} u_j dx = \int_l w f dx + \left[ w \frac{\partial u^h}{\partial x} \right]_{x=0}^{x=1}$$

In our system, we have  $n$  unknowns,  $u$  of  $n-2$  nodes and 2 fluxes at both the ends of the domain. Thus we need  $n$  equations. Based on the above derivation of weak form, this equation is valid for every value of  $w(x)$ . So to obtain  $n$  equations, we take  $n$  functions  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$  all of which should satisfy the above equation. So we get system of equations which can be written in a compact form like this,

$$\int_l \frac{\partial w_i}{\partial x} \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial x} u_j dx = \int_l w_i f dx + \left[ w_i \frac{\partial u^h}{\partial x} \right]_{x=0}^{x=1} \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$$

Choosing Galerkin's Method, we take

$$w_i = N_i$$

Substituting in the equation,

$$\int_l \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial x} \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial x} u_j dx = \int_l N_i f dx + \left[ N_i \frac{\partial u^h}{\partial x} \right]_{x=0}^{x=1} \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$$

The last term in the equation,

$$\left[ N_i \frac{\partial u^h}{\partial x} \right]_{x=0}^{x=1}$$

for  $i = 1$ ,

$$\left[ N_1 \frac{\partial u^h}{\partial x} \right]_{x=0}^{x=1} = - \left[ \frac{\partial u^h}{\partial x} \right]_{x=0} = -Q_1$$

Since  $N_1$  at  $x = 1$  is 0 and  $N_1$  at  $x = 0$  is 1

for  $i = 2$ ,

$$\left[ N_2 \frac{\partial u^h}{\partial x} \right]_{x=0}^{x=1} = 0$$

Since  $N_2$  at  $x = 1$  is 0 and  $N_2$  at  $x = 0$  is 0

Similarly, all the  $N_i$   $i \neq 1$  and  $i \neq n$ , the above term will be zero.

for  $i = n$ ,

$$\left[ N_n \frac{\partial u^h}{\partial x} \right]_{x=0}^{x=1} = \left[ \frac{\partial u^h}{\partial x} \right]_{x=1} = Q_n$$

Since  $N_n$  at  $x = 1$  is 1 and  $N_n$  at  $x = 0$  is 0

Therefore, the above equation can be written in matrix formulation.

$$\begin{bmatrix} K_{11} & K_{12} & \dots & K_{1n} \\ K_{21} & K_{22} & \dots & K_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ K_{n1} & K_{n2} & \dots & K_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ \dots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F_1 - Q_1 \\ F_2 \\ \dots \\ F_n + Q_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Where,

$$K_{ij} = \int_l \frac{\partial N_i}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_j}{\partial x} dx \quad F_i = \int_l N_i f dx$$

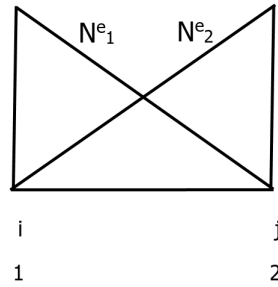
Now, we can convert the Global Shape Functions to Local Shape Functions. For any general element in domain, 1 and 2 are the local nodes.

$N_1^e$  and  $N_2^e$  are the local shape functions defined as,

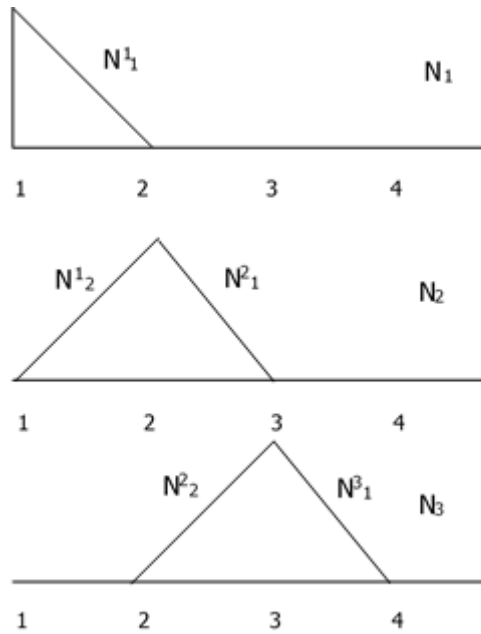
$$N_1^e = \frac{x_2^e - x}{l^e}$$

$$N_2^e = \frac{x - x_1^e}{l^e}$$

$n$  = number of nodes,  $l^e$  = the length of the element



Comparing the shapes of global and local shape functions, we get (Note:  $h = 1/n$ )



Global Functions	$0 \leq x \leq h$	$h \leq x \leq 2h$	$2h \leq x \leq 3h$	...	$1 - h \leq x \leq 1$
$N_1$	$N_1^1$	0	0	...	0
$N_2$	$N_2^1$	$N_1^2$	0	...	0
$N_3$	0	$N_2^2$	$N_1^3$	...	0
...	...	...	...	...	...
$N_n$	0	0	0	...	$N_2^{n-1}$

Let's calculate different  $K_{ij}$

$$K_{11} = \int_l \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} dx = \int_0^h \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} dx + \int_h^{2h} \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} dx + \dots + \int_{1-h}^1 \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} dx$$

$$K_{11} = \int_0^h \frac{\partial N_1^1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1^1}{\partial x} dx + 0 + \dots + 0 = K_{11}^1$$

$$K_{12} = \int_l \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} dx = \int_0^h \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} dx + \int_h^{2h} \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} dx + \dots + \int_{1-h}^1 \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} dx$$

$$K_{12} = \int_0^h \frac{\partial N_1^1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2^1}{\partial x} dx + 0 + \dots + 0 = K_{12}^1$$

$$K_{13} = \int_l \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_3}{\partial x} dx = \int_0^h \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_3}{\partial x} dx + \int_h^{2h} \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_3}{\partial x} dx + \dots + \int_{1-h}^1 \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_3}{\partial x} dx = 0$$

Because,  $N_3$  in domain  $(0,h)$  is 0 and  $N_1$  in domain  $(h,1)$  is 0. Similarly,  $K_{14}, K_{15}, \dots, K_{1n}$  are all zero.

$$K_{21} = \int_l \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} dx = \int_0^h \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} dx + \int_h^{2h} \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} dx + \dots + \int_{1-h}^1 \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1}{\partial x} dx$$

$$K_{21} = \int_0^h \frac{\partial N_2^1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1^1}{\partial x} dx + 0 + \dots + 0 = K_{21}^1$$

$$K_{22} = \int_l \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} dx = \int_0^h \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} dx + \int_h^{2h} \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} dx + \dots + \int_{1-h}^1 \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} dx$$

$$K_{22} = \int_0^h \frac{\partial N_2^1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2^1}{\partial x} dx + \int_h^{2h} \frac{\partial N_1^2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1^2}{\partial x} dx = K_{22}^1 + K_{11}^2$$

Because  $N_2 = 0$  in domain  $(2h,1)$

$$K_{23} = \int_l \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_3}{\partial x} dx = \int_0^h \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_3}{\partial x} dx + \int_h^{2h} \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_3}{\partial x} dx + \dots + \int_{1-h}^1 \frac{\partial N_2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_3}{\partial x} dx = \int_h^{2h} \frac{\partial N_1^2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2^2}{\partial x} dx = K_{12}^2$$

Because,  $N_3$  in domain  $(0,h)$  is 0 and  $N_2$  in domain  $(2h,1)$  is 0. Similarly,  $K_{24}, K_{25}, \dots, K_{2n}$  are all zero. This is the beauty of the shape functions, the integration over the whole range comes down to the range where both the shape functions are non-zero. Using similar procedure other  $K_{ij}$  can be found.

Let's calculate different  $F_i$

Again, due to shape functions property, we don't have to integrate over the whole range, just do it on the range where the shape function is non-zero.

$$F_1 = \int_0^1 N_1 f dx = \int_0^h N_1^1 f dx = F_1^1$$

$$F_2 = \int_0^1 N_2 f dx = \int_0^h N_2^1 f dx + \int_h^{2h} N_1^2 f dx = F_2^1 + F_1^2$$

$$F_3 = \int_0^1 N_3 f dx = \int_h^{2h} N_2^2 f dx + \int_{2h}^{3h} N_1^3 f dx = F_2^2 + F_3^1$$

and so on. Thus the global system of equations now can be written in the local form.

$$\begin{bmatrix} K_{11}^1 & K_{12}^1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ K_{21}^1 & K_{22}^1 + K_{11}^2 & K_{12}^2 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & K_{21}^2 & K_{22}^2 + K_{11}^3 & K_{12}^3 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & K_{22}^{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \\ \dots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F_1^1 - Q_1 \\ F_2^1 + F_1^2 \\ F_2^2 + F_1^3 \\ \dots \\ F_2^{n-1} + Q_n \end{bmatrix}$$

In the given problem, nodes = 4 (3 elements). So the above matrix can be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} K_{11}^1 & K_{12}^1 & 0 & 0 \\ K_{21}^1 & K_{22}^1 + K_{11}^2 & K_{12}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & K_{21}^2 & K_{22}^2 + K_{11}^3 & K_{12}^3 \\ 0 & 0 & K_{21}^3 & K_{22}^3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \\ u_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F_1^1 - Q_1 \\ F_2^1 + F_1^2 \\ F_2^2 + F_1^3 \\ F_2^3 + Q_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Comment: In the above equation, the only unknowns are  $u_2$ ,  $u_3$ ,  $Q_1$  and  $Q_4$ . Thus, the total unknowns are 4 and we have 4 equations. Let's calculate all the known terms in the matrix.

$$\frac{\partial N_1^e}{\partial x} = -\frac{1}{l^e} = -3$$

$$\frac{\partial N_2^e}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{l^e} = 3$$

Calculating different  $K_{ij}^e$

Element 1

$$K_{11}^1 = \int_0^{1/3} \frac{\partial N_1^1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1^1}{\partial x} dx = 3 \qquad K_{12}^1 = \int_0^{1/3} \frac{\partial N_1^1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2^1}{\partial x} dx = -3$$

$$K_{21}^1 = \int_0^{1/3} \frac{\partial N_2^1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1^1}{\partial x} dx = -3 \qquad K_{22}^1 = \int_0^{1/3} \frac{\partial N_2^1}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2^1}{\partial x} dx = 3$$

Element 2

$$K_{11}^2 = \int_{1/3}^{2/3} \frac{\partial N_1^2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1^2}{\partial x} dx = 3 \qquad K_{12}^2 = \int_{1/3}^{2/3} \frac{\partial N_1^2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2^2}{\partial x} dx = -3$$

$$K_{21}^2 = \int_{1/3}^{2/3} \frac{\partial N_2^2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1^2}{\partial x} dx = -3$$

$$K_{22}^2 = \int_{1/3}^{2/3} \frac{\partial N_2^2}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2^2}{\partial x} dx = 3$$

Element 3

$$K_{11}^3 = \int_{2/3}^1 \frac{\partial N_1^3}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1^3}{\partial x} dx = 3$$

$$K_{12}^3 = \int_{2/3}^1 \frac{\partial N_1^3}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2^3}{\partial x} dx = -3$$

$$K_{21}^3 = \int_{2/3}^1 \frac{\partial N_2^3}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_1^3}{\partial x} dx = -3$$

$$K_{22}^3 = \int_{2/3}^1 \frac{\partial N_2^3}{\partial x} \frac{\partial N_2^3}{\partial x} dx = 3$$

Calculating different  $F_i^e$

$$F_1^1 = \int_0^{1/3} N_1^1 f dx = \int_0^{1/3} \frac{1/3 - x}{1/3} \sin(x) dx = 1 - 3\sin(1/3) = 1.841590961e - 002$$

$$F_2^1 = \int_0^{1/3} N_2^1 f dx = \int_0^{1/3} \frac{x - 0}{1/3} \sin(x) dx = 3\sin(1/3) - \cos(1/3) = 3.662714407e - 002$$

$$F_1^2 = \int_{1/3}^{2/3} N_1^2 f dx = \int_{1/3}^{2/3} \frac{2/3 - x}{1/3} \sin(x) dx = \cos(1/3) - 3\sin(2/3) + 3\sin(1/3) = 7.143162749e - 002$$

$$F_2^2 = \int_{1/3}^{2/3} N_2^2 f dx = \int_{1/3}^{2/3} \frac{x - 1/3}{1/3} \sin(x) dx = 3\sin(2/3) - \cos(2/3) - 3\sin(1/3) = 8.763805804e - 002$$

$$F_1^3 = \int_{2/3}^1 N_1^3 f dx = \int_{2/3}^1 \frac{2/3 - x}{1/3} \sin(x) dx = \cos(2/3) - 3\sin(1) + 3\sin(2/3) = 1.165837156e - 001$$

$$F_2^3 = \int_{2/3}^1 N_2^3 f dx = \int_{2/3}^1 \frac{x - 2/3}{1/3} \sin(x) dx = 3\sin(1) - \cos(1) - 3\sin(2/3) = 1.290012393e - 001$$

The matrix becomes,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -3 & 0 & 0 \\ -3 & 3+3 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 3+3 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.841590961e - 002 - Q_1 \\ 3.662714407e - 002 + 7.143162749e - 002 \\ 8.763805804e - 002 + 1.165837156e - 001 \\ 1.290012393e - 001 + Q_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -3 & 0 & 0 \\ -3 & 6 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 6 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.841590961e - 002 - Q_1 \\ 1.080587716e - 001 \\ 2.042217736e - 001 \\ 1.290012393e - 001 + Q_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-3u_2 = 1.841590961e - 002 - Q_1 \quad (1)$$

$$6u_2 - 3u_3 = 1.080587716e - 001 \quad (2)$$

$$-3u_2 + 6u_3 - 9 = 2.042217736e - 001 \quad (3)$$

$$-3u_3 + 9 = 1.290012393e - 001 + Q_4 \quad (4)$$

Solving, equation (2) and (3), we get

$$u_3 = 2.045382616$$

$$u_2 = 1.040701103$$

$$Q_1 = 3.158529015$$

$$Q_4 = 2.734850913$$

Actual Solutions from analytic equation,

$$u_3 = 2.057389147$$

$$u_2 = 1.046704369$$

$$Q_1 = 3.158529015$$

$$Q_4 = 2.698831321$$

Absolute Percentage Error in values,

$$Error(u_3) : 0.58\%$$

$$Error(u_2) : 0.57\%$$

$$Error(Q_1) : 0\%$$

$$Error(Q_4) : 1.32\%$$