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EFFECTIVE CONSTITUTIVE RELATIONS FOR LARGE REPETITIVE FRAME-LIKE STRUCTURES*

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Effective Constitutive Relations For Large Repetitive Frame-Like Structures

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ABSTRACT

Effective mechanical properties for large repetitive frame-like structures are derived using straightforward combinations of strength of material and orthogonal transformation techniques. Once the actual structure is identified, symmetry considerations are used in order to identify its independent property constants. The actual values of these constants are constructed according to a building block format which is carried out in the three consecutive steps: (a) All basic planar lattices are identified (b) effective continuum properties are derived for each of these planar basic grids using matrix structural analysis methods and (c) orthogonal transformations are finally used to determine the contribution of each basic set to the overall effective continuum properties of the structure.

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I. Introduction

In recent two papers [1,2] we introduced a straightforward construction procedure in order to derive continuum equivalence of discrete pin jointed repetitive structures. Broadly speaking we outlined the method as follows: Once the actual structure was specified symmetry considerations were used in order to identify its independent property constants. The actual values of these constants were constructed in accordance with a building block approach consisting of the following three consecutive steps: (a) all sets of parallel members were identified, (b) unidirectional "effective continuum" properties were derived for each of these sets and (c) orthogonal transformations were finally used to determine the contribution of each set to the overall effective continuum properties of the structure. Here the term properties is general and includes mechanical stiffnesses, thermal (coefficients of thermal expansions) and material densities. The method was then applied to a variety of structures.

In the present paper we extend the analysis of [1,2] in order to derive the effective properties of rigid-jointed (frame-like) repetitive structures. This differs substantially from the truss-like structures in that we here include the influence of inplane bending rigidities to the structure. The construction procedure will differ in that the rod's unidirectional properties will no longer be adequate to derive the overall properties. The fact that the individual rod in a rigid-jointed array can
resist in plane bending dictates that the smallest sub-cell of the structure which will be used for the building block approach will no longer be unidirectional and thus have to be two-dimensional substructures. Here the most identifiable basic two-dimensional frame structures are the (0°, 90°) and (0°, ± 60°) lay ups. Effective properties for the sub-cells will be constructed using the direct analysis method which is also known by the matrix structural analysis method (see, for example [3-5]). This method, which uses simple and straightforward strength of material techniques, constitutes two-dimensional generalization of the one-dimensional area weighted properties approach of [1,2]. The derived effective properties for such substructures will then be used in a building block format in order to derive the effective properties of more complicated two and three dimensional structures. This last step will be done by employing the orthogonal transformation. In summary we thus outline the procedure of constructing effective properties for frame-like repetitive structures as follows. Once the actual structure is identified symmetry considerations are used in order to identify its independent property constants. The actual values of these constants are constructed according to a building block format which is carried out in the three consecutive steps: (a) All basic planar lattices are identified (b) effective continuum properties are derived for each of these planar basic grids. Here a representative repeating cell is isolated and studied.
by the direct method noting that the effect of the joints' rigidity is taken into consideration and (c) orthogonal transformations are finally used to determine the contribution of each basic set to the overall effective continuum properties of the structure.

Since the inclusion of bending rigidities do not influence the thermal expansion of the structure, the thermal expansion properties derived in [1,2] for the truss are identical to those of corresponding frame. Accordingly in what follows we concentrate on deriving the elastic properties of the frame structure.
II. Orthogonal Transformations

As was pointed out earlier the actual values of the total structure's effective continuum properties are determined from the individual contribution of each two-dimensional subset. The individual subsets contribution is obtained by a three-dimensional coordinate transformation. Before we proceed to describe the transformation, however, we shall first state the relevant stress-strain relations of elastic bodies.

The stress-strain relations for a general linear elastic body are written in the compact form

\[ \epsilon_{ij} = C_{ijkl} \sigma_{kl}, \quad i,j,k,l = 1,2,3 \quad (1) \]

where \( \sigma_{ij} \) and \( \epsilon_{kl} \) are the components of the stress and strain tensors, respectively and \( C_{ijkl} \) are the stiffness tensor of the solid.

For future format references we shall rewrite equation (1) in its expanded form

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
\sigma_{11} \\
\sigma_{22} \\
\sigma_{33} \\
\sigma_{23} \\
\sigma_{13} \\
\sigma_{12}
\end{bmatrix} =
\begin{bmatrix}
C_{1111} & C_{1122} & C_{1133} & C_{1123} & C_{1113} & C_{1112} \\
C_{2211} & C_{2222} & C_{2233} & C_{2223} & C_{2213} & C_{2212} \\
C_{3311} & C_{3322} & C_{3333} & C_{3323} & C_{3313} & C_{3312} \\
C_{2311} & C_{2322} & C_{2333} & C_{2323} & C_{2313} & C_{2312} \\
C_{1311} & C_{1322} & C_{1333} & C_{1323} & C_{1313} & C_{1312} \\
C_{1211} & C_{1222} & C_{1233} & C_{1223} & C_{1213} & C_{1212}
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
\epsilon_{11} \\
\epsilon_{22} \\
\epsilon_{33} \\
\epsilon_{23} \\
\epsilon_{13} \\
\epsilon_{12}
\end{bmatrix}
\quad (2)
\]
Since $C_{ijk}$ is a fourth-order tensor it obeys the transformation

$$C_{ijk} = C_{pqrs} \beta_{pi} \beta_{qj} \beta_{rk} \beta_{sl}$$

(3)

where

$$\beta_{ij} = \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial x_j}$$

(4)

are components of the orthogonal transformation tensor which transforms the unprimed to the primed coordinates. Accordingly, $\beta_{ij}$ is the cosine of the angle between the $x_i$ and the $x_j$ axis.

The relation (3) hold equally well for either continuous or discrete structures. The numerical values of the appropriate $C_{ijk}$ entries will depend, however, upon the specific structure under consideration. Since we are interested in analyzing frame-type structures that are constructed from smaller subsets, it is expected that each subset will contribute to its overall properties.

If a structure has $n$ different subsets then equation (3) can be written for each subset $m$, $m = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ as

$$(C_{ijk})_m = (C_{pqrs} \beta_{pi} \beta_{qj} \beta_{rk} \beta_{sl})_m$$

(5)

Once the direction cosines of each subset are identified the sum over all of these subsets yield the final properties

$$C_{ijkl} = \sum_{m=1}^{n} (C_{ijkl})_m$$

(6)
III. Basic Planar Grids

We shall use the "direct method" to find the properties of the equivalent continuum of two basic planar grids. This approach is the reverse of that used by McCormick [8], McHenry, [9] and Hrennikoff [10], who describe a procedure for modeling problems in plane stress analysis with one dimensional elements.

The main idea behind the direct method is to equate the displacements of the nodes of the model to the displacements of the corners of the continuum plate element under the same loading conditions. The sign convention for the displacement and stress resultants used in the present study are shown in sketch 1a,b.

a) ($0^\circ$, $90^\circ$) layup

We consider a plane network which is formed from a large number of orthogonally intersecting beams rigidly jointed at their intersections as shown in figure 1. The beams are assumed to be identical, each having the length L, the cross-sectional area $A$, the Young's modulus $E$ and the moments of inertia $I_y$ and $I_z$ around the Y and Z axis (principal axes), respectively. The deformation of each joint is described by the displacements $u$, $v$ and $w$ in the $X_1$, $X_2$ and $X_3$ directions, respectively and by the rotations $\theta_{x1}$, $\theta_{x2}$ and $\theta_{x3}$ around the axis $X_1$, $X_2$ and $X_3$, respectively. Here the rotations are considered to be positive in the counterclockwise direction.

Using symmetry arguments reveal that this model is orthotropic and that a $90^\circ$ rotation in its plane will not alter its behavior [11]. These conditions reduce its general stress-strain relations (1) to
which has the four independent constants $C_{1111}$, $C_{1122}$, $C_{1313}$ and $C_{1212}$.

The actual values of these constants are derived using the direct method of analysis. This consists of isolating the representative repeating cell, figure 2a, loading it at its nodes and equating the displacements of these nodes to the displacements of the edges of the equivalent continuum plate under the same loading conditions. The appropriate loading conditions for calculating $C_{1111}$ and $C_{1122}$ are shown in figures 2b and 2c, those pertaining to calculating $C_{1212}$ are shown in figure 2d and 2e and finally those used in calculating $C_{1313}$ are shown in figures 2f, 2g, 2h. In the first and second loading conditions, we are dealing only with the "in-plane" displacements of the lattice; while in the third loading condition we are calculating the "off-plane" displacement.

Since each member is shared by two neighboring cells, its effective cross sectional area and moments of inertia must be half of the corresponding values in the original lattice. Under the present loading conditions, matrix structural methods [3] are utilized to solve for the displacements and rotations of each
individual node. Specifically for figure 2b, we obtain

\[ u_1 = u_2 = u_3 = u_4 = 0 \]  \hspace{1cm} (8.a)

\[ v_1 = v_2 = v_3 = v_4 = -\frac{PL}{2EA} \]  \hspace{1cm} (8.b)

and from figure 2d, we get

\[ u_1 = u_2 = 0 \quad v_1 = v_2 = 0 \quad v_3 = v_4 \]  \hspace{1cm} (9.a)

\[ u_3 = u_4 = \frac{PL^3}{6EI_z} \]  \hspace{1cm} (9.b)

Similarly, the displacement in figure 2h is found to be

\[ w_2 = w_3 = -\frac{PL^3}{3EI_y/2} \]  \hspace{1cm} (10)

Figures 2.c, 2.e and 2.f display the equivalent square continuum element of side length L and thickness h subjected to normal stresses, \( \sigma_2 \), in-plane shearing stresses, \( \tau_{12} \), and off-plane shearing stresses, \( \tau_{13} \), respectively. The displacements of the plate element due to the normal stress \( \sigma_2 \) are

\[ \delta_1 = \frac{\sigma_2 L}{E \epsilon} \quad \delta_2 = \frac{\sigma_2 L \epsilon}{E} \]  \hspace{1cm} (11)

and the one due to the in-plane shearing stress \( \tau_{12} \), is

\[ \delta_3 = \frac{\tau_{12} L}{G_{12}} \]  \hspace{1cm} (12)

while the displacement due the off-plane shearing stress \( \tau_{13} \) is given as

\[ \delta = -\frac{\tau_{13} L}{G_{13}} \]  \hspace{1cm} (13)
where $E_e$ is the effective modulus of elasticity of the equivalent orthotropic continuum in the $X_1$ and the $X_2$ direction, $v_e$ is the effective Poisson's ratio of the continuum between the $X_1$ and $X_2$ direction, $G_{12}$ is the in-plane shear modulus and $G_{13}$ is the off-plane shear modulus. The relations between $C_{ijkl}$ of equation (7) and $E_e$, $v_e$, $G_{12}$ and $G_{13}$ are

$$E_e = C_{1111} (1 - v^2) , \quad v_e = \frac{C_{1122}}{C_{1111}} \quad (14.a)$$

$$G_{12} = C_{1212} , \quad G_{13} = C_{1313} \quad (14.b)$$

By equating the displacements of the plate element with the corresponding displacements of the representative unit cell while insuring that the total force on the unit cell equals the total force on the plate element for each loading condition yields

$$C_{1111} = \frac{AE}{Lh} , \quad C_{1122} = 0 \quad (15.a)$$

$$C_{1212} = \frac{6EIz}{L^3h} \quad (15.b)$$

$$C_{1313} = \frac{3EIy}{Lh} \quad (15.c)$$
For the \((0, \pm 60^\circ)\) layup of figure 3, we shall assume that all members are identical and have the same geometrical and material properties \(L, A, I_x, I_y, I_z\) and \(E\). The isotropic nature of the \((0, \pm 60^\circ)\) configuration (see [2,11]) dictates additional restrictions on the stiffness coefficients of the equivalent continuum. The appropriate property matrix is

\[
[C_{ijkl}] =
\begin{bmatrix}
C_{1111} & C_{1122} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
C_{1122} & C_{1111} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & C_{1313} & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & C_{1313} \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} (C_{1111} - C_{1122})
\end{bmatrix}
\]  

which has the three independent constants \(C_{1111}, C_{1122}\) and \(C_{1313}\). The actual values of these constants are derived using the same method outlined above.

The appropriate loading conditions for calculating \(C_{1111}\) and \(C_{1122}\) are shown in figures 4a and 4b, and those used in calculating \(C_{1313}\) are shown in figures 4e and 4f. The representative unit cell for this layup is shown figure 4a. Since the diagonal members are shared by two neighboring cells, their effective cross sectional properties are half those of the chord member. With these loading conditions, matrix structural methods are utilized again to solve for the displacements of each individual node. Specifically, from figure 4c we obtain...
\[ u_3 = \frac{PL}{2E} \left( 3A + \frac{12I_2}{L^2} \right) \]  

\[ \frac{v_2}{u_3} = \frac{\sqrt{3}A - \frac{12\sqrt{3}I_2}{L^2}}{3A + \frac{12I_2}{L^2}} \]  

and from figure 4.f we get

\[ w_1 = -\frac{PL^3}{3EI_y} \]  

Figure 4.b and 4.f display the equivalent rectangular continuum element of side dimensions \( L \times L\sqrt{3} \) and thickness \( h \), subjected to normal stresses \( \sigma_1 \), and off-plane shearing stresses, \( \tau_{13} \), respectively.

The displacements of the plate element due to the normal stress \( \sigma_1 \) are given by

\[ \delta_1 = \frac{\sigma_1 L}{E_y} , \quad \delta_2 = -\sqrt{3} \nu_e \delta_1 \]  

and the displacement due to the off-plane shearing stress \( \tau_{13} \) is given as

\[ \delta = -\frac{\tau_{13} L\sqrt{3}}{2G_{13}} \]  

Using the relations between \( C_{ijkl} \) and \( E_y \), \( \nu_e \) and \( G_{13} \) as given in (14) equating the displacements of the plate element with the corresponding displacements of the representative unit cell and insuring that the total force on the unit cell equals the total force on the plate element for each loading condition yields
\[ C_{1111} = \frac{3 \sqrt{3} \ EA}{4 \ Lh} + \frac{3 \sqrt{3} \ EI_z}{L^3 h} \]  
\[ (21.a) \]

\[ C_{1122} = \frac{\sqrt{3} \ EA}{4Lh} - \frac{3 \sqrt{3} \ EI_z}{L^3 h} \]  
\[ (21.b) \]

\[ C_{1313} = \frac{3 \sqrt{3} \ EI_y}{L^3 h} \]  
\[ (21.c) \]
IV. Applications

In this section we present applications to our construction procedure as outlined in Sections II and III. The models which we shall discuss constitute two-dimensional and three dimensional beam-like structures, respectively.

a) Two-Dimensional Structures: The \((0^\circ, 90^\circ, \pm 45^\circ)\) layup

The \((0^\circ, 90^\circ, \pm 45^\circ)\) grid shown in figure 5 is constructed from two basic square grids inclined at an angle of \(45^\circ\) and having the geometrical properties \(L, E, A, I_y, I_z\), and \(L\sqrt{2}, E_d, A_d, I_{yd}, I_{zd}\), respectively.

The four independent constants for the first (i.e., \(0^\circ, 90^\circ\)) basic square grid with respect to its local system of axis are given in (15); while those corresponding to the \(\pm 45^\circ\) square grid with respect to its own local system of axis are

\[
(C_{1111})_2 = \frac{E_d A_d}{L \sqrt{2} h}, \quad (C_{1122})_2 = 0 \quad (22.a)
\]

\[
(C_{1212})_2 = \frac{3 E_d I_{zd}}{L^3 h} \quad (22.b)
\]

\[
(C_{1313})_2 = \frac{3 E_d I_{yd}}{2 \sqrt{2} L^3 h} \quad (22.c)
\]

The direction cosines of the local system of axis of the \(\pm 45^\circ\) grid with respect to the fixed coordinate system of axis \((X_1, X_2, X_3)\) are defined according to (4) as
Substituting from (15), (22), and (23) into (5) and summing the results yield the final properties of the $0^\circ$, $90^\circ$, $\pm 45^\circ$ layup as

\[
\begin{align*}
C_{1111} &= \frac{EA}{Lh} + \frac{E_d A_d}{2\sqrt{2} Lh} + \frac{3E_d I_{zd}}{\sqrt{2} L^3 h} \\
C_{1122} &= \frac{E_d A_d}{2\sqrt{2} Lh} - \frac{3E_d I_{zd}}{\sqrt{2} L^3 h} \\
C_{1212} &= \frac{E_d A_d}{2\sqrt{2} Lh} + \frac{6EI_z}{L^3 h} \\
C_{1313} &= \frac{3EI_y}{L^3 h} + \frac{3E_d I_{yd}}{2\sqrt{2} L^3 h}
\end{align*}
\]
b) Three-Dimensional Structures: (Octettruss Structures)

The smallest generating (repeating) unit cell of the octettruss structure is shown in figure 6. It is a diamond-like element with each of its sides having the length L and being shared by two neighboring cells. The octettruss structure is shown in figure 7 with respect to the coordinate system arrangement shown in figure 8. For further details of the geometric characteristics of this kind of structure the reader is referred to [1,2]. In the present analysis, the octettruss structure is considered to be composed of "beam elements." Examination of this structure reveals that it can be constructed from the superposition of different planes. Specifically, it can be constructed from the three repeating sets of $(0^\circ, 90^\circ)$ basic planar grids having different orientation in space, as shown in figure 9. The stiffness coefficients for each of the $(0^\circ, 90^\circ)$ basic grid with respect to its local system of axis are given in (15) where h now stands for the distance between the parallel $(0^\circ, 90^\circ)$ layers; its value is thus given by

\[ h = \frac{L}{\sqrt{2}} \] (25)

The direction cosines of the local system of axis of the three basic $(0^\circ, 90^\circ)$ planes with respect to the global system of the axis of figure 8 are defined according to equation 4 as $(\beta_{ijm})$, $m = 1, 2, 3$ by

\[
(\beta_{ij})_1 = \begin{bmatrix}
  1/2 & 1/2 \sqrt{3} & 1/2 \sqrt{3} \\
 -1/2 & \sqrt{3}/2 & 0 \\
 -1/2 \sqrt{3} & -1/2 \sqrt{3} & 1/2 \sqrt{3}
\end{bmatrix} \tag{26a}
\]
\[
(\beta_{ij})_2 = \begin{bmatrix}
1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} & -\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \\
0 & \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} & \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} \\
\end{bmatrix}
\] (26b)

\[
(\beta_{ij})_3 = \begin{bmatrix}
1/2 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \\
1/2 & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & 0 \\
\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} & -\sqrt{\frac{1}{6}} & \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} \\
\end{bmatrix}
\] (26c)

Substituting from (26) into (5), using (15) and summing according to (6) yields the final properties of the octetruss structure with respect to coordinates of figure 8 as

\[
[C_{ijkl}] = \begin{bmatrix}
C_{1111} & C_{1122} & C_{1133} & C_{1123} & 0 & 0 \\
C_{1122} & C_{1111} & C_{1133} & -C_{1123} & 0 & 0 \\
C_{1133} & C_{1133} & C_{3333} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
C_{1123} & -C_{1123} & 0 & C_{2323} & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & C_{2323} & C_{1123} \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & C_{1123} & C_{1212} \\
\end{bmatrix}
\] (27)

where:

\[
C_{1111} = \frac{5\sqrt{3}}{4} \frac{EA}{L^2} + 6\sqrt{2} \frac{EI_Y}{L^4} + 3\sqrt{2} \frac{EI_Z}{L^4}
\] (28a)

\[
C_{1122} = \frac{5\sqrt{3}}{12} \frac{EA}{L^2} - \frac{2\sqrt{2} EI_Y}{L^4} - 3\sqrt{2} \frac{EI_Z}{L^4}
\] (28b)

\[
C_{1133} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} \frac{EA}{L^2} - 4\sqrt{2} \frac{EI_Y}{L^4}
\] (28c)

\[
C_{1123} = \frac{1}{6} \frac{EA}{L^2} + 4 \frac{EI_Y}{L^4} - 6 \frac{EI_Z}{L^4}
\] (28d)

\[
C_{3333} = \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{3} \frac{EA}{L^2} + \frac{8\sqrt{2} EI_Y}{L^4} - \frac{8}{12} \frac{EI_Z}{L^4}
\] (28e)
Notice that (27) constitutes a modification of our previously reported result in [1] which are reflected in the appearance of the bending rigidities of the members. Notice also that there is no change in the number of the independent constants which can also be deduced from symmetry [1, 2]. Examination of the results (28) indicates that \( C_{1212} = \frac{(C_{1111} - C_{1122})}{2} \) and hence the octettruss is transversely isotropic, as is expected.

**Remark**

By reexamining figure 7 we can see that the same structure can also be constructed from four different repeating sets of \((0^\circ, \pm 60^\circ)\) basic planar grids. In this case of construction, each member will be shared by two different basic grids. Since \( I_y \) and \( I_z \) are the moments of inertia of the cross section of the beam around two principal axes and since each beam is shared by two different basic grids, we must have two sets of principal axis for each cross section; this can only sense for circular cross-sections. Thus, constructing the properties of the octettruss from those pertaining to four \((0^\circ, \pm 60^\circ)\) layup is restrictive in that only beams with circular cross-section can be treated. This was actually done and its results were found identical to (27) and (28) when the later are also specialized to \( I_y = I_z \).
Acknowledgement

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References


a - The Beam Element in the Single-Layer Grids.

b - Equivalent Plate Sign Convention.

Sketch 1. Sign Convention for the Displacements in the Equivalent Continuum Plate Model.
Figure 1. The \((0^\circ,90^\circ)\) Lattice
Figure 2. The Loading Conditions of the Representative Repeating Cell for the ($0^\circ, 90^\circ$) Layup used to determine the Stiffnesses Coefficients of the Equivalent Continuum.
Figure 2 (cont.) The Loading Conditions of the Representative Repeating Cell for the (0°, 90°) Layup used to determine the Stiffnesses Coefficients of the Equivalent Continuum.
Figure 3. \((0^\circ, \pm 60^\circ)\) Layup.
Figure 4. The Loading Conditions of the Representative Repeating Cell for the $(0^\circ, \pm 60^\circ)$ Layup used to determine the Stiffnesses Coefficients of the Equivalent Continuum.
Figure 4 (cont.) The Loading Conditions of the Representative Repeating Cell for the \( (0^\circ, \pm 60^\circ) \) Layup used to determine the Stiffnesses Coefficients of the Equivalent Continuum.
Figure 5. The \((0^\circ, 45^\circ, \pm 90^\circ)\) Lattice.
Figure 6. Smallest Repeating Element of the Octettruss Structure.
Figure 7. Three-Dimensional Octettruss Structure viewed with respect to the Coordinate System of Figure 8.
Figure 8. Direction Cosines of the Octettruss.
Figure 9. The Octettruss Structure constructed from Three Basic Planar (0°, 90°) Grids viewed in the Coordinate System of Figure 8.