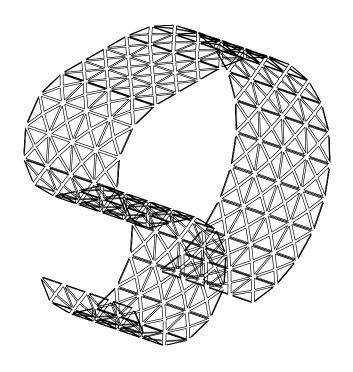
# QED:

Static, Dynamic, Stability and Nonlinear Analysis of Solids and Structures



ikayex Software Tools

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This manual describes:

DiSPtool ver 2.70, GenMesh ver 4.52, NonStaD ver 3.44, PloMeshl ver 4.60, QED ver 3.50, Simplex ver 2.62, StaDyn ver 4.68, released January 2008.

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# Contents

Ta	ble o	f Contents	iv							
1	QED the Computer Laboratory									
	1.1	Overview of QED	1							
2	$\mathbf{Mod}$	el Building with GenMesh	7							
	2.1	Types of Structures Considered	9							
	2.2	Structure Data File	13							
	2.3	Rectangular Mesh	23							
	2.4	Compound Meshes	32							
	2.5	Circular Plate with Pressure	39							
	2.6	Arbitrary Meshes	46							
	2.7	Complex Structure	49							
	2.8	Extruded Meshes	54							
	2.9	Solid Meshes	70							
	2.10	Some Hints	74							
3	Basic StaDyn Tutorials									
	3.1	Static Example	77							
	3.2	Static Analysis of Trusses and Frames	82							
	3.3	Static Analysis of Plates	91							
	3.4	Complex Structure	96							
	3.5	Some Hints	101							
4	Adva	anced StaDyn Analyses	103							
	4.1	Stability Analysis	104							
	4.2	Vibration Analysis	113							
	4.3	Forced Frequency Response	124							
	4.4	Transient Response	128							
5	Nonlinear Analyses with NonStaD and Simplex									
	5.1	Large Deflection Analysis of a Beam	147							
	5.2	Structural Instability	154							

iv	Contents
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	5.3	Elastic-Plastic Behavior using Simplex	162
6	Utili	ties	169
	6.1	PlotMesh	170
	6.2	FormGen	172
	6.3	DiSPtool	173
	6.4	GSview and GhostScript	174
	6.5	Automating Running in Batch Mode	175
${ m Re}$	feren	ces	176
Inc	lex		179

## Chapter 1

## **QED** the Computer Laboratory

The QED program is a Visual Simulation Tool for Analysis. Its intent is to provide an interactive simulation environment for understanding a variety of problems in solid and structural mechanics. This chapter gives an overview of QED, the underlying mechanics and programs, plus some introductory tutorials on static and dynamic stress analysis. The purpose is not to provide a tutorial on running QED — this is provided in the richly documented text Guided Explorations in the Mechanics of Structures [12]; rather, it is a set of tutorials on running the underlying supporting executables associated with the QED package. It is not necessary to understand these programs in order to run QED, however, knowing the material in this manual will enrich the use of QED.

## 1.1 Overview of QED

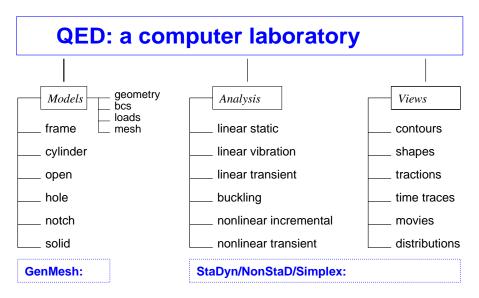
An experiment by its nature is a single realization — a single geometry, material, or load case; multiple test cases and examples are just not economically feasible. But engineers, being introduced to something new, need to see other examples as well as variations on the given examples. For instance, in the stress analysis of a symmetrically notched specimen, some logical questions to ask are:

- What if the notches are bigger or smaller?
- What if there is one instead of two notches?
- What if the notches are closer or further apart?
- What if the material is changed?
- What if instead of a notch there is a hole?
- What if the clamped boundary has some elasticity?

These questions are too cumbersome and expensive to answer experimentally but are very appropriate for a simulation program. Furthermore, a very important role of a test engineer is to be able to distinguish those aspects of an experiment that have

a significant deleterious effect from those that are insignificant. This can come only through experience and here too the program can help to accelerate the process of accumulating experience.

What is missing in the traditional laboratory is the iterative stage in both analysis and testing that all engineers go through — the process of asking the "What-Ifs", doing parameter sensitivity studies, and re-designing the experiment. Having a flexible sophisticated model running simultaneously on the computer to counterpoint the experiment can profoundly affect the engineers' perception of both theory and experiment. The interplay of both establish an interesting and exciting dynamic. As envisioned, the modeling program runs simultaneously with the experiment, and becomes a resource to be interacted with and tested against the experiment.



The figure above shows a schematic of the functional parts of the program. Its design is such that it isolates the user from having to cope with the full-blown flexibility of the underlying enabling programs and presents each problem in terms of a limited (but richly adaptable) number of choices and combinations.

The process of finite element analysis can be broken down into three separate stages. These are presented as independent modules in QED. The pre-processing stage allows the model geometry to be defined, the boundary conditions imposed, the loads applied and the mesh generated. In the second stage, the analytical solution is obtained. Choices as to the type of solution required and the parameters best suited to guide the procedure are made. In the post-processing stage, results are displayed in a variety of ways. Contour plots of nodal results, the deformed shape, free body diagrams and time history traces are available. The following sections provide fuller explanation of these-three analysis steps.

The design philosophy of QED is to make each module very specific but flexible. This is important as it helps to fix focus on the significant aspects of behavior. Each problem has a template of properties, therefore the user need only focus on what they

want to change.

Solution techniques are separated from the model building to emphasize the independent, general nature of the analysis. Whether static or transient, model solutions are sought that do not depend on the type of structure or model geometry considered.

In the post-processing, general tools are provided which demonstrate the behavior of different characteristics. Knowing which is best suited to a particular problem is vital and having all available, but being taught which are most appropriate or effective to communicate the desired information, is very valuable to a deep understanding a problem.

As shown in the following chapters, the underlying programs can be menu driven but their operation under QED is by way of driver or script files. Script files That is, QED creates the script files to execute GenMesh and StaDyn/NonStaD. The name of the script files are:

```
StaDyn/NonStaD/Simplex: instad, inpost, inps
GenMesh: inmesh, inmesh#, insdf
```

In this way, the programs can operate as separate executable programs.

The description of the structure and its material properties is kept in a separate file, referred to as the *Structure DataFile*. This will have the name qed.sdf. Creating this file and inputting it properly is a crucial step in the analysis. As the data file is read in, numerous types of checks are performed on it so as to confirm that it was read properly. It is also echoed back into the file <<StaDyn.LOG>> or <<NonStaD.LOG>> if desired.

#### For Starters

There is no installation procedure, per se, in getting QED up and running — just a matter of copying it from the CD disk onto your hard disk. If you are not familiar with the process do the following.

Open a command prompt window (this is sometimes called an MS-DOS prompt window) off the start/accessories menu or by typing "cmd" in the run window. The properties of the command window can be adjusted by left clicking on the top bar and selecting properties.

Go to the root directory (assuming you are not already there and assuming you are on the C: drive) by

```
C> cd\
```

(Do not type the C>). Make a working directory. Later you can place the programs in your favorite directories but for now type

```
C> mkdir qed
```

C> cd qed

Now place the CD in the CD drive and (assuming it is drive D:) type

```
C> copy d:*.*
```

Typing the dir command gives some of the contents of the disk as

```
STADYN .EXE NONSTAD .EXE QED .EXE GENMESH .EXE STRIP .EXE PLOTMESH .EXE
```

These programs will be explained in due course but to check that all the copying went as it should, type

```
C> stadyn
```

You should get the opening menu. If so, choose

800

Note that within STADYN, all interaction through the keyboard requires a carriage return or ENTER to complete the entry. Having pressed return, exit by typing

0

Now run QED by typing

and the opening graphical screen should appear. If it does not, then press 'q' to quit. Go to 'settings' off the control panel and change the number of colors to 256. This should cure the problem. Note that while most interaction with QED is through the keyboard, a carriage return is not required unless data is being entered.

## Setup and Interaction Keys

QED launches GenMesh, StaDyn/NonStad/Simplex, and so on, as separate executable programs. Therefore, QED needs to know where to find these programs. The default location in is the

```
C:\qed
```

directory but this can be changed through the fifth line of the <<qed.cfg>> file. The full contents of this file are

```
166500
                      :: Max memory
 11100
                      :: Max lines | pts
              10010
                      ::size font
    75
                 100
    50
                  20
                      ::animate pause #
c:\qed
20.000000
                -25.000000
                                0.00000E+00
                                                ::xyz rots
                      1
     1
           1
                            1
                                 1
                                       1
                                            1
                                                  1 ::subs
1
   ::grav
@@ DATE:
           8-11-2007
                            TIME:
end
```

The third line can be used to adjust the size of the QED window and the size of the fonts; both numbers are percentages.

Generally, interaction is through the keyboard. When input in the form of numbers is required, the input is terminated with a carriage return.

Some keys are available at most stages, these are:

h	help reminders
m	mesh display toggle on/off
0	change orientation of axes
q	quit the current operation
S	show/render the current operation
t	tags toggle on/off
W	write a PS file of zoomed image

The help reminders are somewhat context sensitive.

A few pointers on running QED:

- It is strongly recommended that QED be launched from the COMMAND window and not from EXPLORER.
- All interaction with QED is via the highlighted keys or the leftmost symbol (number/letter) on the menus.
- The size of the window and of the fonts are changed by editing the third line in the file <<qed.cfg>>. These numbers are percentages; the first number is the percentage of the full screen occupied by the QED window.
- If the initial screen is black, use settings of the CONTROL PANEL to change the number of colors and/or resolution.
- PS files of contours can be obtained by pressing "w" in the zoom window. Parameters for the PS contours are changed by editing the file <<stadyn.ctr>>. To set up GhostView as the PostScript viewer type SETUP.

- TRACE data files are obtained by zooming on the window; the data is stored in the file <<qed.dyn>>.
- For problems with a large number of elements, it may be necessary to change the dynamically allocated memory sizes in <<stadyn.cfg>>, <<nonstad.cfg>>, and <<genmesh.cfg>>.
- The symptom that a supporting .EXE program did not run is that the window pops up and closes immediately. If this happens, look in the appropriate <<\*.log>> file.

#### Being productive with QED

QED is set up so as to remember the complete state of a procedure whether it is creating a model or doing an analysis. The relevant information is stored in the <<\*\*\*\*.cfg>> files such as <<frame.cfg>>, <<solid.cfg>>, and <<anal.cfg>>.

These get over-written as changes are made, therefore, to archive a particular frame, say, copy <<frame.cfg>> to a new name. When this particular frame is required again, then just copy the file back to <<frame.cfg>>. It is important to note that this must be done while QED is not running.

There are two facilities for recording the graphics results from QED. The simplest is to cut and paste the screen into Paint and then use Paint's capability to manipulate and print the image. Suppose it is desired to print a copy of the contours, then on the QED top bar menu click Edit/Select All then click Edit/Copy. Launch Paint from Start/Accessories and click Edit/Paste. The resulting files can be stored in a variety of bitmap formats including <<\*\*\*.bmp>> and <<\*\*\*.jpg>>.

The support for vector graphics is through PostScript. QED produces strictly ASCII files which are easily edited with any text editor if needed. Grey scale images (such as for photoelastic or Moiré fringe patterns) are included via the image function.

## Chapter 2

## Model Building with GenMesh

When structural problems are large, it is essential to have an automatic scheme for the generation of an input data file; this not only removes the drudgery of making the file, but more importantly it helps ensure its integrity. The purpose of this chapter is to show how the program GenMesh (GENerate a MESH) can be used to create structure datafiles for use by StaDyn/NonStaD/Simplex.

The design of StaDyn/NonStaD is such that a frame and a meshed plate have very much in common — primarily the nodes have exactly the same number of degrees of freedom. Thus, any generic mesh can be easily made to represent either of these two structural types. Indeed, both can be combined to form a complex mesh. The Simplex meshes are quite different since they only have translational degrees of freedom and cannot (at present) be combined with StaDyn/NonStaD meshes.

When manipulating complex (or compound meshes) it is essential to avoid having to deal directly with node numbers or element numbers. GenMesh uses the idea of groups and tags to keep track of special collections of nodes and elements, respectively. These are usually specified at the time of making the component meshes and the complex mesh then inherits them. Operations such as specifying material properties or specifying boundaries for attachment become easier, and most important become independent of the mesh density.

The main capabilities of GenMesh involve generating meshes and performing the following executive functions:

- Create Generic 2-D Shapes
- Create Arbitrary 2-D Meshes
- Create 3-D Structures
- Create 3-D Solids
- Re-Map Mesh
- Re-connect Mesh
- Merge two Meshes
- Make Structure DataFile

Unlike frame elements, plate elements are approximate and therefore many elements are required to accurately model a given region. Some of the generic meshes available are:

2-D Plane shapes

Quadrilateral block Two to One reduction Generic Cut-out

Generic Notch

Arbitrary shape

3-D Structures

Dome w/out stringers General w/out stringers

Space Frame Space Truss

The same mesh can be used for a linear analysis by StaDyn or for a nonlinear analysis by NonStaD. The solid element meshes can be analyzed only by Simplex.

## 2.1 Types of Structures Considered

Structures that can be satisfactorily idealized as a collection line elements are called frame or skeletal structures. Usually their members are assumed to be connected either by frictionless pins or by rigid joints. Structures that can be satisfactorily idealized as a collection of flat platelets are called folded plate or thin-walled structures. These platelets are usually connected by frictionless pins or by rigid joints. StaDyn can analyze these structures separately as well as in combination.

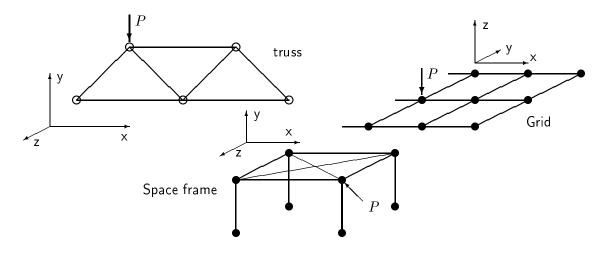


Figure 2.1: Some types of skeletal structures.

A truss consists of a collection of arbitrarily oriented rod members that are interconnected at pinned joints. They are loaded only at their joints and (because the joints cannot transmit bending moment) must be triangulated to avoid collapse. A frame structure, on the other hand, is one that consists of beam members which are connected rigidly or by pins at the joints. The members can support bending (in any direction) as well as axial loads, and at the rigid joints the relative positions of the members remain unchanged after deformation. Rigidly jointed frames are often loaded along their members as well as at their joints. Plane frames, like plane trusses, are loaded only in their own plane. In contrast, grids (or grills) are always loaded normal to the plane of the structure. Space frames can be loaded in any plane. The space frame is the most complicated type of jointed framework — each member can undergo axial deformation, torsional deformation, and flexural deformation (in two planes). Its supports may be fixed, pinned, elastic, or there may be roller supports.

Corresponding to the space frame, there is the folded plate structure. Each platelet undergoes in-plane deformations as well as out-of-plane bending and twisting.

StaDyn/NonStaD is set up to analyze the space frame and folded plate because all other types of jointed structures are special cases that can be obtained by reduction from it.

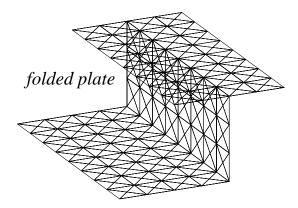


Figure 2.2: A folded plate structure.

The number of possible displacement components at each node is known as the nodal degree of freedom (DoF); the nodal degree of freedom for different structural types is shown in the following table:

Structure	Dimension	u	v	$\overline{w}$	$\phi_x$	$\phi_y$	$\phi_z$	Type #
Rod	1 - D							11
Beam	1 - D	Ť						12
Shaft	1 - D		•				·	13
Truss	2 - D				•			21
Frame/membrane	2 - D	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$					22
Grill/Plate	2 - D	•	•				·	23
Truss	3-D				•	•		31
Frame/FoldedPlate	3-D	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$					32
$\dot{G}eneralStructure$	3-D	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	33
Solid	3 - D	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$		•	•	· •	111

From this table, it is clear how the frame structure and folded plate structure share common types of degrees of freedom. This essentially is what allows them to be combined together to form complex structures.

#### A Note on the Elements Used

Since StaDyn/NonStaD is designed to analyze thin-walled 3-D structures comprising a mixture of frame and plate sub-structures, then it simplifies the implementation when both structural types are modeled in a compatible way. This section briefly describes the elements used — more general treatments of the finite element method

can be found in References [3, 7, 19, 26] and aspects specific to framed structures are developed in References [1, 17, 25], and aspects specific to StaDyn/NonStaD in References [10, 11]. Three-noded triangular elements were chosen primarily because they can be conveniently mapped to form irregular shapes. Furthermore, we consider only thin plate flexural theory (Kirchhoff plates) and the corresponding slender beam theory (Bernoulli-Euler).

A 3-D frame member has six DoF at each node

$$\{u\} = \{u, v, w, \phi_x, \phi_y \phi_z\}$$

In local coordinates, this has three behaviors. There is a rod action with axial displacement and force

$$\{u\} = \{u\}, \qquad F(x) = EA \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$$

There are two beam actions; the bending moment and shear force. The corresponding nodal degrees of freedom are the rotation  $\phi_z(x)$  (or the slope of the deflection curve at the node) and the vertical displacement v(x).

$$\{u\} = \{v, \phi_z\}, \qquad M(x) = EI\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2}, \quad V(x) = -EI\frac{\partial^3 v}{\partial x^3}$$

There is also a bending about the y-axis. Finally, there is a twisting about the axis

$$\{u\} = \{\phi_x\}, \qquad T(x) = GJ \frac{\partial \phi_z}{\partial x}$$

where EA, EI, and GJ are the axial, bending and torsional stiffnesses, respectively; E and G are the Young's and shear modulus, respectively; and A, I and J are the area, moment of inertia, and polar moment of inertia, respectively. Full details on the matrix implementation for frame structures can be found in Reference [10].

A 3-D plate supports both in-plane (membrane) and out-of-plane (flexural) actions. The in-plane behavior of the plate is analogous to that of a plane 2-D frame. Thus at each node we want the DoF to be

$$\{u\} = \{u, v, \phi_z\}$$

The usual constant strain triangle (CST) element has only the two displacements in its formulation. The element implemented in StaDyn is taken from the paper by Bergan and Felippa [6]. This is a nine-noded triangular element which is shown to have superior in-plane performance over the CST. But more importantly from our perspective is that it correctly implements the drilling DoF ( $\phi_z$ ) and therefore makes it suitable for a 3-D incorporation. The 'rotation' implemented is actually that taken from continuum mechanics

$$\phi_z = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right)$$

Coding for the element is given in Reference [6].

The strains are obtained by differentiation of the displacements

$$\epsilon_{xx} = \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial x}, \qquad \epsilon_{yy} = \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial y}, \qquad \gamma_{xy} = \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial x}$$

The material behavior is represented (for the plane stress case) by

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \sigma_{xx} \\ \sigma_{yy} \\ \sigma_{xy} \end{array} \right\} = \frac{E}{1 - \nu^2} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & \nu & 0 \\ \nu & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (1 - \nu)/2 \end{array} \right] \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \epsilon_{xx} \\ \epsilon_{yy} \\ \gamma_{xy} \end{array} \right\}$$

where  $\nu$  is Poison's ratio.

The out-of-plane behavior is analogous to that of a plane 2-D grid. That is, we want an element that has at each node the degrees of freedom

$$\{u\} = \{w, \phi_x, \phi_y\}$$

The rotations are related to the deflection by

$$\phi_x = \frac{\partial w}{\partial y}, \qquad \phi_y = -\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}$$

In local coordinates the three-noded triangle has a total of 9 degrees of freedom. This element, now called the Discrete Kirchhoff Triangular (DKT) element, was first introduced by Stricklin, Haisler, Tisdale, and Gunderson in 1968 [22]. It has been widely researched and documented as being one of the more efficient flexural elements (see Batoz, Bathe, and Ho [4]). Code for the element is given in References [5, 7].

The curvatures are obtained by differentiation of the displacement

$$\kappa_{xx} = \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2}, \qquad \kappa_{yy} = \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2}, \qquad \kappa_{xy} = \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x \partial y}$$

The material behavior is represented (for the plane stress case) by

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} M_{xx} \\ M_{yy} \\ M_{xy} \end{array} \right\} = \frac{Eh^3}{12(1-\nu^2)} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & \nu & 0 \\ \nu & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (1-\nu)/2 \end{array} \right] \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \kappa_{xx} \\ \kappa_{yy} \\ \kappa_{xy} \end{array} \right\}$$

where h is the plate thickness.

In this manner, each node whether it is associated with a frame or a plate element has the requisite six DoF and all resolved components of applied loading will be supported.

The 3-D solids are modelled using Hex20 elements. This has 20 nodes and each node has the DoF

$$\{u\} = \{u, v, w\}^T$$

Formulations for its use are given in a number of texts, two of which are references [2, 8]. This element performs well even when used to construct shells.

### 2.2 Structure Data File

The description of the structure and its material properties is kept in a separate file, referred to as the *Structure DataFile*. Creating this file and inputting it properly is a crucial step in the analysis.

This section describes the fields for the structure datafile.

#### Structure DataFile Format

The input datafile can be in free format with blanks or commas used as separators. Any editor or word processor can be used to make changes to a file, but make sure to store the new file as strict ASCII files without any hidden word-processing symbols.

Note that the data input is arranged in groups, and that each group must have the word END or end as its last line. This acts as an additional data checker.

#### Header Group

```
TITLE
IGLOBAL
IFLAG1 IFLAG2 IFLAG3 IFLAG4
end

TITLE: Short title (up to 40 characters) describing the mesh or problem.

IGLOBal: Global problem reduction.[integer]

1-D: 11=rod, 12=beam, 13=shaft
2-D: 21=truss/cable, 22=frame/membrane, 23=grill/plate
3-D: 31=truss/cable, 32=frame/folded-plate, 33=general
3-D: 110=solid plane strain, 111=solid general

IFLAG: Echo flags for the input. 1=on, 0=off
1=connectivity, 2=material, 3=numbering, 4=loads
```

#### Connectivities Group

The number of lines is equal to NEL. Every element must have an input for it, although they do not have to be input in strict sequential order. However, the nodes for triangular elements must be input counter-clockwise.

```
NEL
ELM TYP NPI NPJ NPK
: : : : : :
end
```

```
NEL: Number of elements

ELM: The unique number assigned to each element.

TYP: The type of element. [integer]

1 = truss, 2 = cable, 3 = frame, 4 = triangle, 21 = solid.

NPI: The number of the #1 node on the element. [integer]

NPJ: The number of the #2 node on the element. [integer]

NPK: The number of the #3 node on the element. [integer]

: For truss or frame members set NPK=NPJ.

: For solids, NP* ranges from 1 to 21.
```

#### Material Tags Group

The number of lines is equal to NMAT. Every element must have a material number or tag; however, it is possible to specify overlaying numbers. For example, to make Element 7 different from Elements 1-6 and 8-10, say, specify 1 - 10 followed by 7 - 7.

```
NMAT
ELM1 ELM2 #

: : : :
end

NMAT : Number of element material lines. [integer]

ELM1 : First element of this material. [integer]

ELM2 : Last element of this material. [integer]

# : Material number, tag number, or sub-structure number. [integer]
```

#### Coordinates Group

The number of lines input must equal NNP. The lines do not have to be input in strict order from 1 to NNP, but every node must be on a separate line.

NNP				
NOD	E X01	RD YOR	D ZOF	RD.
:	:	:	:	
:	:	:	:	
end				
NNP	: Numb	er of nodal	points	
NODE	: The un	nique num	ber assig	gned to each node.
XORD	: x-coor	dinate of t	he node	point.
YORD	: y-coor	dinate of t	he node	point.
ZORD	: z-coor	dinate of t	he node	point.

#### **Boundary Conditions Group**

The number of lines input must equal NBC. Again the numbering need not be strictly sequential. The default value for each degree of freedom is free; that is, the boundary conditions need be imposed only for those nodes that have constrained degrees of freedom.

NBC						
NODE	XDOF	YDOF	ZDOF	XROT	YROT	ZROT
:	:	:	:	:	:	:
:	:	:	:	:	:	:
end						

NBC : The number of nodes which are given explicit

degree of freedom constraint.

NODE: The number of a node at which at least one degree of freedom

is being fixed.

XDOF: Motion in the x-direction. [integer]
YDOF: Motion in the y-direction. [integer]
ZDOF: Motion in the z-direction. [integer]
XROT: Motion about the x-axis. [integer]
YROT: Motion about the y-axis. [integer]
ZROT: Motion about the z-axis. [integer]

In each case: 0=fixed, 1=free.

For solids, specify rotations as 0=inactive.

#### **Nodal Loads Group**

NT 0 4 D

The number of nodes which have applied loads or concentrated masses must equal NLOAD. The specified loaded nodes do not have to be input in strict sequential order. Each node is assumed to have zero applied load and zero concentrated mass unless imposed otherwise. The actual applied load history for dynamic problems is input from a separate file — the values here essentially say where the loads are applied as well as their relative scaling.

NLUAD							
NODE	XLOAD	YLOAD	ZLOAD	MOMX	MOMY	ZMON	TYPE
:	:	:	•	:	:	:	:
:	;	;	•	:	:	:	:
end							

NLOAD: Number of load nodes or mass points. [integer]

NODE: The unique number assigned to each node. [integer] XLOAD: Force applied in the x-direction at the node. [real] YLOAD: Force applied in the y-direction at the node. [real] ZLOAD: Force applied in the z-direction at the node. [real] XMOM: Moment applied about the x-axis at the node. [real] YMOM: Moment applied about the y-axis at the node. [real] ZMOM: Moment applied about the z-axis at the node. [real]

TYPE : Additional load feature. [real]

: TYPE  $\geq 0.0$ : Concentrated mass of value TYPE at the node.

: TYPE = -2: Second force distribution.

: For solids, specify moments as 0.0.

#### **Element Material Properties Group**

The number of lines is equal to MATYPE. There must be a type specified for each material tag. The input format is identical for both the plate and frame elements although a couple of the entries have slightly different interpretations. The frame values are indicated in parenthesis.

MATYPE									
Mat#	E	G	Α	Rho	${\tt Gama}$	Ix	Iy	Iz	::truss
Mat#	E	G	Α	Rho	${\tt Gama}$	Ix	Iy	Iz	::cable
Mat#	E	G	Α	Rho	${\tt Gama}$	Ix	Iy	Iz	::frame
Mat#	E	G	h	Rho	${\tt Gama}$	Ip	Ia	Ib	::plate
Mat#	E	G	0	Rho	0	0	0	0	::solid
Mat#	C00	Alf	0	Rho	0	0	0	0	::rubber
:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
end									

MATYPE: Number of element materials. [integer]

Mat# : Material number. [integer]

E : Young's modulus of the material. [real]
G : Shear modulus of the material. [real]

A : Cross-sectional area of the frame elements. [real

h : Thickness of the plate element. [real]

Rho : The density of the element (input as W/g). [real]

Gama : Stiffness modifier. [real]

cable:  $\bar{F}_o = \gamma E A$ 

frame: orientation of principal axes

plate:  $\gamma > 0$  = plane stress plate:  $\gamma < 0$  = plane strain

Ix : Frame polar moment of area about x-axis. [real]

Iy : Frame second moment of area about y-axis. [real] Iz : Frame second moment of area about z-axis. [real] Ip : Bending second moment of area for plate. [real]  $I_p = h^3/12 : \text{uniform plate}$  Ia : In-plane drilling parameter,  $(\alpha = 1.5)$ . [real] Ib : In-plane drilling parameter,  $(\beta = 0.5)$ . [real] C00,Alf : Mooney-Rivlin,  $(C_{10} = (1 - \alpha)C_{00}, C_{01} = \alpha C_{00})$ . [real]

#### Specials Group

This group is a mechanism to allow the input of special global properties. In the present formulation, damping is applied to all members equally, and is made proportional to their mass and/or stiffness matrices.

The number of lines input must equal NSP.

```
NSP
  CODE
               C1
                          C2
                                     C3
    :
   end
NSP
          : Number of lines
CODE
         : Unique code number for each special attribute. [integer]
            2110=damping: [C] = (c_1/\rho)[M] + (c_2/\rho)[K]
            2120=gravity: \hat{g} = c_1 \hat{e}_x + c_2 \hat{e}_y + c_3 \hat{e}_z
            2210=shear effect: rod, c_1 \nu \sqrt{GI_x/EAL^2}; beam, c_2 12EI_z/GAL^2
            2341=plasticity: \sigma_Y = c_1, E_T = c_2.
            2410=reduced integration: c_1 = 1; c_2 = 2; c_3 = 1, 2, 3 (Hex20, 3=full).
C1
          : First constant [real]
C2
          : Second constant [real]
C3
          : Third constant [real]
```

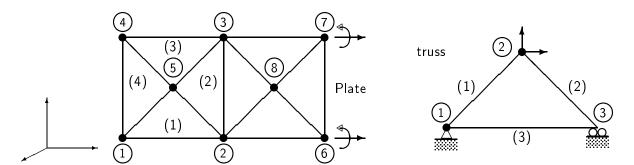
## **Examples of Structure DataFiles**

The following example is for a simple in-plane plate structure as shown in Figure 2.3(a).

```
2
      4
            2
                  3
                        5
3
      4
            3
                  4
                        5
4
            4
      4
                  1
                        5
            2
5
      4
                  6
                        8
                  7
6
      4
            6
                        8
7
      4
            7
                  3
                        8
      4
            3
                  2
8
                        8
end
1
                                                     ::material #s
   8
1
      1
end
8
                                                     ::node
1
       0.00
                   0.0
                           0.0
2
       2.00
                   0.0
                           0.0
3
       2.00
                   2.0
                           0.0
4
       0.00
                   2.0
                           0.0
5
       1.00
                   1.0
                           0.0
6
       4.00
                   0.0
                           0.0
7
       4.00
                           0.0
                   2.0
8
       3.00
                   1.0
                           0.0
end
4
                                                     ::boundary condns
1
      0
            0
                0
                     0
                         0
                            0
2
      1
            0
                0
                     0
                         0
                            0
6
      1
            0
                0
                     0
                         0
                            0
      0
                0
                     0
                         0
4
                            0
end
2
                                                     ::applied loads
6
      1000.0
                  0.0
                          0.0 0.0 0.0 -500.0
                                                      0.0
7
      1000.0
                  0.0
                          0.0 0.0 0.0 500.0
                                                      0.0
end
1
                                                     ::# of materials
1
      10.0e6 4.0e6 1.00
                               2.50e-4 1
                                                1 1.5 0.5
end
0
                                                     ::specials
end
```

This is the input file for a simple plate problem and a copy of it is on the disk as <<ex\_ps.1>>. Note that this data is inputted in free format with blank spaces used only as separators. In general, the file can be documented by adding comments on the remainder of a line — a convention followed in all the examples is that comments are separated from the required numbers by double colons, but otherwise there is nothing special about the double colons. For this particular example, the customary

units are used — StaDyn/NonStaD, however, will handle any set of units as long as they are consistent. This mesh corresponds to one quarter of a plate with a uniform stress of 1000 psi applied at both ends.



**Figure 2.3**: Some simple structures. (a) EX\_PS.1, an eight element plate. (b) EX\_FS.1, a three element truss.

Notice how the boundary conditions are imposed: Node 1 is fixed in all directions, but Node 2 and Node 3 are free to move in the x-direction and not in any of the other directions. That is, they are on horizontal rollers. Likewise, Node 4 is on vertical rollers. The imposition of a stress corresponds to a distributed applied loading; this element has an edge shape function similar to that of a beam hence the consistent load moments are

$$P_1 = \frac{1}{2}\sigma_o tL = +\frac{1}{2} \times 1000 \times 1 \times 2 = 1000 = P_2$$

$$T_1 = +\frac{\alpha}{12}\sigma tL^2 = +\frac{1.5}{12} \times 1000 \times 1 \times 2 \times 2 = 500 = -T_2$$

where  $\alpha$  is the drilling parameter as appears in the material line. Imposing these moments is only necessary when the mesh is relatively coarse; generally speaking, the lumped approximation will be adequate.

Note that there must be entries in each group. Thus even if there are no loads, say, there must be at least one line indicating so. This is illustrated in the lines for the Specials Group. While seemingly unnecessary, this helps the input checker to be more accurate and therefore useful.

The following example is for a simple 2-D truss structure as shown in Figure 2.3(b) and a copy of it is on the disk as <<ex\_fs.1>>.

```
2 1 2 3 3
3 1 1 3 3
end
1
                                           ::material #
1 3
     1
end
                                           ::node
1
   0.0 0.0 0.0
  3.0 3.0 0.0
   6.0 0.0 0.0
end
2
                                           ::boundary conditions
1
   0
                         0
       0
            0
                0
                    0
   1
                0
                    0
                         0
end
1
                                           ::applied loads + mass
          200e3 0.0
                         0.0 0.0 0.0
                                        0.0
  100e3
end
1
                                           ::material props
                                        1.0 1.0 1.0
1
  200e9
           70e9
                   3000e-6 0.0 0.0
end
                                           ::specials
end
```

For this particular example, the units are in metric — StaDyn/NonStaD/Simplex will handle any set of units as long as they are consistent. Notice how the boundary conditions are imposed: Node 1 is fixed in all directions, but Node 3 is free to move in the x-direction and not in any of the others. That is, Node 3 is on rollers.

The structure datafiles for both the plate and truss are almost identical — the only differences are in the element number, the specifics of the material properties, and the repeated third connectivity. Consequently, it is very easy to construct a structure that contains both types of elements.

## Checking the Input

This tutorial shows how to use some of the built-in diagnostics of StaDyn/NonStaD to help ensure that the structure datafile is correct.

To run the program simply type

```
C> stadyn
```

Note that stadyn is the name of the executable version. The menu will appear and you then just respond to the questions. Since you want to input the structure datafile, choose

2

and you are asked for the data filename. Type

```
ex_ps.1
```

If StaDyn has read the data correctly, it will acknowledge so and then present the main menu again. To quit, choose

0

In the working directory there is a newly created file called <<stadyn.log>>. It is an ASCII file so peruse it by typing

```
C> type StaDyn.log
```

It is a long file so it may be preferable to pipe to MORE. There appears to be a big jumble of numbers and symbols such as

```
@@ StaDyn version 4.40, June 2002
@@ DATE:
          6-19-2002
                          TIME: 19:38
@@ MAXimum storage
                            2000000
@@ MAXimum elements
                               5000
@@ MAXimum nodes
                               5000
@@ MAXimum force incs:
                               1000
                                       500
@@ ITERmax
                                 16
@@ rtol
                           1.00000E-10
   ALLOCATION succeeded
@@
                2
                     ::MAIN
ex_ps.1
@@ HEADER GROUP
00 Title
                = ex_ps.1 8-element plate
@@ Problem type = 22
```

This file is actually a record, or log, of the session just completed. There are two types of lines in this file. The lines that have double colons (::) are generally the inputs given to StaDyn. What follows the colons are brief descriptions of what was typed or where it was typed. The other lines that begin with double ats (@@) are StaDyn's information or answers as responses. It gives extra insight into its workings that can be very useful when trying to backtrack to nail a problem. In this particular case it can be used to judge if all the structural data was read as intended. If StaDyn detects inconsistencies in the input data, it will flag them and by looking through this log file it is possible to determine approximately where the inconsistency occurred.

Look further through the file and see the manner in which the structural data is echoed. The single most common source of errors for a finite element analysis is in the data input. You should attempt to become familiar with this file because it can be an immensely useful tool for checking the integrity of the data input.

The datafile can also be visually checked by running it through the plotting utility PlotMesh by simply typing

#### C> plotmesh

By pressing the active keys various forms of the datafile will be presented.

## 2.3 Rectangular Mesh

Unlike frame elements, plate elements are approximate and therefore very many elements are usually required to accurately model a given region. The purpose of this introductory tutorial is to mesh a rectangular region.

### Getting Started

GenMesh is designed to run as a console (or command window) program under the various flavors of MS Windows. Note that all instructions are case insensitive; we will vary the case only to help make the instructions clearer.

To run the program, type (at the 'C prompt')

```
C> genmesh
```

(note the name of the executable.) You are given the opening menu

```
MAIN menu:
           0: Quit
                                                <create>
           2: Create Generic 2-D Shapes
              23: Create Generic 3-D Solid Shapes
           3: Create Arbitrary 2-D Mesh
              30: Create Arbitrary 2-D Shapes
           4: Create 3-D Structures
                                            <manipulate>
           5: Re-Map
           6: Re-Mesh
           7: Merge two Meshes
                                               <realize>
           8: Make Structure DataFile
           9:
                                               <services>
         700: Write PostScript Plot File
         911: Ikayex help
  SELECT -->
Quit by typing
       0
```

There are two files worth looking at. The first is the log file <<genmesh.log>>:

```
@@ GenMesh version 4.10, April 2002
@@ DATE: 6-11-2002    TIME: 11:11
```

The second is <<genmesh.cfg>>. This is the configuration file and has in it

```
5000
                                 ::MaxElem
       2.00000
                 2.00000
                                  ::pos X Y
       20.0000
                                  ::pen_thick
                          1.000 ::rotX Y Z shrink
       .000
              .000
                     .000
      1.000 7.000
                    1.000
                                  ::cap X Y size
      1
                                  ::mesh type
@@ DATE: 6-11-2002
                          TIME: 11:22
end
```

This allows the run time setting of the dimensions of the arrays. The other settings are the parameters for making a PostScript drawing of the mesh. If a memory allocation failure occurs, this is the place to make the adjustments.

## Making the Mesh

We will now run GenMesh to generate a file containing the same information as in the file <<ex\_ps.1>>. Type

```
C> genmesh
```

to get the opening menu. We wish to mesh a simple plate, so choose

2

and you are asked to give the mesh file a new name or keep the default one

```
SAVE new mesh as:
0=return 1=GMesh.MSH 2=New Name
```

Choose a new name

2 m1

and the program responds with the choice of generic shapes

```
MESH types:

0: Return

1:

2-D Plane shapes

2: Quadrilateral block

22: Diagonal block

3: Two to One reduction

4:

5: Generic Cut-out

52: Diagonal Cut-out

54: Diagonal rect Cut-out

6: Generic Notch

62: Diagonal Notch

SELECT -->
```

Choose quadrilaterals

2

We must now tell the program how many elements we want, their orientation, and so on. GenMesh instructs

```
TYPE: # of modules X-dir | Y-dir | elem type | tag #
```

Four numbers are being asked for here and the above are reminders of the options. A convention followed throughout StaDyn/NonStaD and GenMesh is that the vertical bar | separates the entries in the prompts, and spaces or commas separate the choices. A module is a rectangle divided into four triangles (elements) by its diagonals. The triangles share a common node at the intersection of the diagonals with the other nodes at the corners of the rectangle, as shown in Figure 2.4 for a  $[2 \times 2]$  set of modules. By choosing different numbers of modules in the vertical and horizontal directions, we can vary the aspect ratio of the module. (Keep in mind that scaling the mesh is a different operation than choosing the number of modules.) The elem type is 3 for a frame and 4 for a plate element. The tag # can be used to keep track of the sub-structures used in forming a complicated structure, it is also used to associate different material properties with different groups of elements.

For dynamic problems, we need a great number of elements to effectively distribute the mass, but for this tutorial type

```
2 2 4 1
```

This gives  $2 \times 2 \times 4 = 16$  plate elements.

The physical size of the mesh is now specified when GenMesh begins asking for

```
SCALE mesh: 0=as_is 1=scale
```

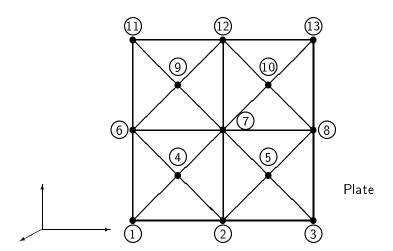


Figure 2.4: A  $[2 \times 2]$  set of modules.

We will scale it now, so type

1

which leads to

These correspond to the coordinates of four corners —  $(x_1, y_1)$  is the coordinate of the northeast corner,  $(x_2, y_2)$  the northwest corner, and so on around in an anti-clockwise fashion. Note that it is at this point that the mesh may be configured to any four sided shape; it may be stretched out, squashed, or sheared. For our case, type

```
10.0 10.0 0.0 10.0 0.0 0.0 10.0 0.0
```

This makes it a square plate with 10 units on the side. GenMesh responds with information that NEW mesh in: m1. Back at the main menu quit by typing

O

Look through the mesh file and you will see

```
Quads
22
0 0 0 0
end
16 ::ELEMENT GROUP
1 4 1 2 4
2 4 2 7 4
:
```

The structure of the file is there plus the connectivities and coordinates. At this stage, this is a generic mesh meaning that it could be used for in-plane loading, bending or 3-D folded plates. Or it could be used to attach to another generic shape to make a more complex mesh involving plates and frames.

#### **Adding Properties**

To make the generic mesh into a structure datafile, we need to add properties. In particular, we need to state the type of material, the boundary conditions, and the loads. The generic meshes have a default state inferred from the construction process. This section allows changes to be made to this state.

Initiate GenMesh

```
C> genmesh
```

and from the main menu select

8

to add properties. We are going to read in our generic mesh, add properties to it, and store it under a new name. First you are asked to give the mesh file a new name or keep the default one

```
SAVE new mesh as:
0=return 1=GMesh.MSH 2=New Name
```

Choose to change the name

2

You are asked for the new name

```
TYPE: NEW filename -->
```

respond

```
rect.sdf
```

Next you are asked for the input filename

```
TYPE: IN_filename -->
```

Respond

m1

You are now given a summary of the mesh as

```
1 Matls
```

- 13 Nodes
- 0 BCs
- 0 Forces
- 0 materials
- 0 SPcls
- 4 boundary groups

and the change properties menu.

```
0: return
```

- 1: Header group
- 2: Matl tag group
- 3: BCs group
- 41: Loads group <new>
- 42: Loads group <overlap>
- 5: Material group
- 6: Specials group

At this stage pick those properties to be changed or to be specified. Start with the title

1

and you are asked

```
TYPE: Title -->
```

In response type

```
rect.sdf: square plate
```

This is the title of the problem, not the filename. The program then asks for the problem type

#### GLOBAL types:

```
1-D: 11=rod 12=beam 13=shaft
```

2-D: 21=truss/cable 22=frame/in-plane 23=grill/plate

3-D: 31=truss/membrane 32=frame/folded plate

TYPE: Global type -->

Since we are interested in 2-D in-plane behavior choose

22

The four echo flags are asked for next

```
TYPE: 4 flags
```

We will eventually have a large number of elements for the dynamic problem, so we don't want to fill our disk with all this information. But first time through with a new mesh it is a good idea to echo all the information, so type

```
1 1 1 1
```

Next select information about the substructure tags

2

and you are given

```
CHOOSE material types:

0=return

1=re-tag by groups

2=create single tagged group

3=re-tag by element
```

The first of these (that is, making no change) will simply associate the material numbers with the tag number, thus all elements tagged 3, say, will have material properties #3. The other three options allow the re-tagging of the elements. For simplicity, choose default material numbers

0

Specify the boundary conditions.

3

The program gives the options

```
BOUNDARY condns:
```

```
CHOOSE:

0=continue

1=node range (sequential)

2=node range (bc info)

3=node group (bc info)

4=cylinder (volume)

5=nearest (single)

9=interrogate (bc info)
```

The interrogate option is for reminders of the boundary information (although having PlotMesh running simultaneously is a better option). Options 2 and 3 take their information from the boundary nodal information automatically stored at the bottom of each generated mesh file. Since we only have a couple of boundary conditions, input by the boundary information range sequence, hence type

2

The node and boundary condition are specified in response to

```
TYPE: <0-fixed, 1-free>
Node1 | Node2 | xdof | ydof | zdof | Xrot | Yrot | Zrot

Type

11 1 0 0 0 0 0 0
```

corresponding to the fixed boundary condition at the left side. When specifying the boundary conditions, it is possible to specify a range of nodes; the sequence in the range is obtained from the bottom of the mesh file. For plane meshes, the nodes go in a counter clockwise fashion. The boundary condition menu is recurring, so that many boundary conditions may be input. Note that ranges can overlap. Move on by typing

0

The applied force data is specified next in response to

41

The other load option would be used to add some new loads to an existing load system.

```
APPLIED LOADS:
CHOOSE:
           0=return
           1=nodal
                      load (sequence)
           2=nodal
                      load (bc info )
           3=nodal
                      load (bc group info )
           4=nodal
                      load (nearest xyz
           6=cylinder load (volume)
          11=equal force
                                to tagged surface
          12=uniform pressure to tagged surface
          15=traction distribution
          16=traction distribution
                                      from file
           9=interrogate
```

There is a single applied force so type

1

Give its location in response to

TYPE:

 ${\tt Node1 \mid Node2 \mid Px \mid Py \mid Pz \mid Tx \mid Ty \mid Tz \mid cmass}$ 

and put it at Node 8

8 8 1.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0

Just as for the boundary condition input, this would be a recurring request if there are more than one applied force. Note that while the force history will be specified elsewhere this file must say where it is applied. Thus the entry 1.0 above could be used as a scaling factor. Indeed, multiple force sources could be inputted but they will all act as scalings on the applied load history. In this way, distributed and vector loads can be applied. Note also that this is the place where concentrated masses (separate from the distributed mass of the elements) are input.

Next, input the material information.

5

and receive the request

INPUT: # of different Materials

There is only one material

1

You are given a reminder of the appropriate format for the material data

INPUT:

In response, let the material be nominally aluminum under plane stress conditions

The last two numbers are associated with the in-plane behavior of the plate element — generally they should always be specified as above. This would be a recurring sequence if there is more than one material.

We do not want to specify any special material properties so quit

0

After this you are now put back at the main menu. To exit GenMesh, type

0

It would be a good idea at this stage to check the structure datafile by running it through StaDyn.

## 2.4 Compound Meshes

The purpose of this tutorial is to show how GenMesh can be used to create a mesh composed of a number of generic shape meshes. The particular mesh is shown in Figure 2.5, and is comprised of three different meshes: a  $[2 \times 4]$  quadrilateral, a 4 module two-to-one transition, and a block with a circular hole.

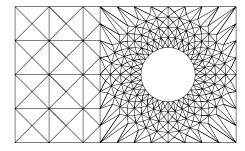


Figure 2.5: Compound mesh comprising three different mesh types.

There are two reasons why a compound mesh might be formed. The first is that the object is composed of two different generic shapes, for example, rectangle and circular; each of these are best meshed in their natural coordinates. The other is that different portions of the structure are composed of different element types. In connecting different meshes together, some transition elements are sometimes required; we will demonstrate the use of these.

## Making the Generic Meshes

The script file for the quadrilateral is

```
C> genmesh
    2 ::MAIN
    2
    m1
    2 ::MESH
    2 4 4 1 ::nxmod,nymod,el,tag
    1 ::1=scale
    1 2 0 2 0 0 1 0
    0 ::MAIN
```

Scaling is done so this is of size  $1 \times 2$ . The script file for the transition mesh is

```
C> genmesh
    2 ::MAIN
    2
    m2
```

```
3 ::MESH

4 4 2 ::nxmod,el,tag

1 ::1=scale

2 .25 0 .25 0 0 2 0

0 ::MAIN
```

This is scaled to size  $2 \times 0.25$ . Use PlotMesh to view this mesh; it is the same as in the center section of Figure 2.5 but is horizontal.

We will go through the mesh with a hole a little more in detail. Initiate the program as usual and select the circular hole option

We must now declare how many modules comprising the mesh

```
INPUT: # of modules Hoop | Radial | elem | tag #
```

Many of the generic meshes are basically the same, the differences lie in their boundaries.

In specifying the modules, we do not consider either the boundary modules or the center fans since these require special fix-ups for the different cases. Because the hole is inherently symmetrical, choose a number of hoop modules that is divisible by 8.

Respond

```
32 4 4 3
```

You are now asked

```
INPUT: Rmin | exponent | 0=hollow 1=full
```

The first is the inside radius while the second allows variation of the spacing of the modules in the radial direction. For example, it might be good to put a higher concentration of modules near the inside edge of the hole; this would be achieved by specifying the exponent less than unity. For now, choose

```
0.4 1 0
```

This gives equi-spaced modules between 0.4 and 1.0. The outer boundary is currently circular but we can map it to a straight side.

```
MAP straight boundary: 0=as_is 1=map
```

Choose to map

1

and you are asked for

We just want a square outer boundary, so type

Meshes that are mapped may have elements with poor aspect ratio; it is good practice in those situations to smooth or balance the element shapes. In response to

because, for the moment, we want to see what an unsmoothed mesh looks like. We also do not want to scale the mesh, so respond

0

reply

As each of these generic meshes are being made, it is advisable to use the utility PlotMesh to survey the results. In particular, you need to note the boundary node numbers.

## Aligning Meshes

There are a variety of ways that generic meshes can be combined; some of the schemes are based on the information about their boundary nodes. (This information is stored at the end of each mesh file.) Thus the process could be made highly automated for some problems. StaDyn/NonStaD and GenMesh are designed for analyzing general three-dimensional structures and therefore the schemes implemented for merging meshes must also work in those general cases. The basic idea is to first align the substructures as if they are to be physically welded and then attach the nearest nodes.

We will use M1 as the reference mesh, place M2 rotated next to it, and finally align M3. The two driver files are

```
m2
2
0 0 90
1.25 0 0
0
```

Sometimes a little iteration is needed in order to fully predict (in the 3-D cases) where the rotations and translations will leave the new mesh. Again, this is a case were the use of a script file can help considerably.

The mesh with the hole need only be translated

```
C> genmesh
5
2
m3b
m3
2
0 0 0 0
2.25 1.0 0
0
```

# Merging Meshes

We will first combine M1 and M2b. Initiate GenMesh and choose the merge option

```
C> genmesh 7 2 m12
```

You are now asked to

```
TYPE: infileNAME_1 -->
```

It makes a difference which mesh is given first because that is the one to which the second is subservient. Respond

m1

Similarly for the second filename

```
TYPE: infileNAME_2 -->
```

Respond

m2b

A brief summary of the two meshes is displayed. Now you are asked about how the two meshes are to be attached

CONNECTion modes: MODEL\_1 <-- MODEL\_2

0=continue 1=node to node 2=group to surface

3=intersecting surfaces

INPUT: mode

Note that Model 2 is attached to Model 1. The most basic form of attachment is #1 where, essentially, the two plates are stitch together node by node. The simplest is #3 where any close nodes are automatically connected. We will use the second mode for illustrative purposes.

2

and you are asked about the attachment nodes

The group referred to is the group of boundary nodes at the bottom of the mesh file. When two meshes are joined what were formerly boundaries now could become interior regions. We therefore may wish to release them and not consider them as boundaries (or special collections of nodes) anymore. Since boundary nodal groups usually overlay at a common node Options 1 and 2 allow distinguishing between the two situations. The sequence of attaching is counter-clockwise for the first mesh, and clockwise for the second. Before getting to this stage, it is good practice to use PlotMesh to explore the generic meshes. In particular, that program can determine the boundary nodes.

The appropriate information is

2 5 2

The attaching is a recurring menu. Since we do not want to attach any more segments, then to quit type

0

0

Use PlotMesh to look at this mesh and note the boundary nodes.

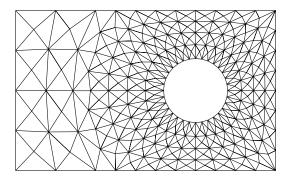
We now wish to merge this new mesh with M3b. The procedure is the same as what was just done. To be different, we will show the use of the third mode of attachment.

```
C> genmesh
7 ::MAIN
2
m123
m12
m3b
3
0.01 2
0
0 ::MAIN
```

The only item of interest here is the 'proximity' number; this can be made large or small depending on the density (or coarseness) of the nodal points. The resulting mesh is shown in Figure 2.5. An important point to note about the mesh file is how, the through the use of the tags, the identity of the individual sub-structure meshes is retained. This is reflected in the different colors used in PlotMesh.

### Mesh Smoothing

An obvious feature of Figure 2.5 is that the elements are not in a smooth proportion. This is noticeable in the transition from the coarse rectangular mesh, as well as in the transition of the radial mesh to the rectangular outer boundary. This is a common occurrence in mesh generation, however, some of the obvious irregularities can (and should) be removed and GenMesh has a menu option that does that. Note, however, that this will work only for 2-D plane meshes, in other words, this would be useful before assemblage to the 3-D structure.



**Figure 2.6**: Compound mesh with smoothing.

Initiate GenMesh and choose the Re-Map option

C> genmesh

```
5 ::MAIN
2
m123b
m123
```

The following small menu of the various re-mappings is presented:

```
CHOOSE mapping:

0=move on

1=scale

2=position (rot & trans)

3=move single nodes

5=change boundary groups

6=smooth

62=extra smooth

11=wrap around shape
```

This allows various ways to map or distort a global mesh. We just want to smooth so choose

6

You are asked about smoothing

```
INPUT: # of smooth cycles | type (1=area, 2=coord)
```

Choose

11 1

What smoothing does is replace the position of every node with the average position (with a weighting based on area or coordinate) of all the nodes of its immediate neighbors. All the nodes belonging to the boundary nodal groups are unaffected thus leaving the outer shape of the mesh intact. (Note that if a frame mesh is to be smoothed then the type based on coordinates should be used.) The number chosen is the number of passes taken — between 5 and 11 passes is usually adequate but check in the LOG file to see how rapidly the norm is converging. Quit by typing

0

The mesh now looks like Figure 2.6. There is some improvement but obviously the bad effects of incompatible meshes cannot be entirely eliminated. When smoothing a mesh, additional biasing can be obtained by moving individual nodes to a desired location and then specifying it as a boundary node. In this way, the surrounding nodes will adjust appropriately. A much better mesh is obtained by making the uniform section 8 modules deep.

## 2.5 Circular Plate with Pressure

The purpose of this tutorial is to show how GenMesh can be used to mesh circular regions. In particular, we will run it to generate a file containing the same information as in the file <<ex\_ps.2>> that will be used for the circular plate for flexural tutorials.

## Making the Mesh

Run the program and select the Generic Shapes

C> genmesh
2
2
m1

The program responds with the choice of generic shapes, choose the 'generic cut-out' option

5

We must now input how many modules comprising the mesh

TYPE: # of modules Hoop | radial | elem | tag #

Many of the generic meshes are basically the same, the differences lie in their boundaries.

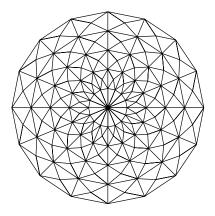


Figure 2.7: Solid circular hole representing a circular plate.

In specifying the modules we do not consider the center fan since this requires special fix-ups. Respond

16 4 4 1

You are now asked

```
INPUT: Rmin | exponent | 0=hollow 1=full
```

The first is the inside radius even though it is a solid plate. The radius referred to here is that of the solid fan at the center; it is not possible to carry the module idea down to a point. The second input allows variation of the spacing of the modules. For example, it might be good to put a higher concentration of modules near the inside edge of the hole; this would be achieved by specifying the exponent less than unity. Respond

This will give equi-spaced modules between 0.2 and 1.0. We do not want to map the outer boundary of the mesh to a rectangle or smooth the interior node distribution, therefore type

0 0

Only the generic dimensions of the total mesh has been specified but it is possible at this stage to change it in response to

We will scale it such that it is 10 in radius.

1

which leads to

These correspond to the coordinates of four corners —  $(x_1, y_1)$  is the coordinate of the northeast corner,  $(x_2, y_2)$  the northwest corner, and so on around in an anti-clockwise fashion. Note that it is at this point that the mesh may be configured to any four sided shape. It may be stretched out, squashed, or sheared; in fact the circle could be transformed into an ellipse. For our case, type

and quit

0

You are now informed that the mesh is in P1. Display it with PlotMesh, it should look like Figure 2.7.

## **Adding Properties**

To make the generic mesh into a structure datafile, we need to add properties. That is, we need to state the type of material, the boundary conditions, and the loads. We have already done this in a previous tutorial, hence the following will dwell only on the significantly different parts.

Initiate GenMesh and from the main menu select the Make Structure DataFile option.

```
C> genmesh
8
2
m2
m1
```

You are now given a summary of the mesh as

```
1 Matls
145 Nodes
0 BCs
0 Forces
0 materials
0 SPcls
2 boundary groups
```

The series of questions to be answered are the same as the earlier tutorial, so we will just give the responses.

```
1 circ.msh: circular plate uniform pressure 23 0 0 0 0
```

We will specify the boundary conditions next.

```
3
2 0 0 0 0 0 0
0
```

corresponding to the fixed boundary condition all around the outside. This was made convenient by realizing that the outer boundary nodes are in group 2 — note that this is a consequence of having used the generic mesh generator to produce the mesh in the first instance. The boundary condition menu is recurring, so that many boundary conditions may be input. Note, also, that ranges can overlap.

The applied force data is to be specified next

41

and we are given the options

```
APPLIED LOADS:
CHOOSE:
           0=return
                         (sequence)
           1=nodal load
           2=nodal load
                         (bc info )
           3=nodal load (bc group info )
             32=nodal load (bc group info ) (1/2 ends)
             34=node traction (bc group) (1/2 ends)
           4=nodal load
                         (nearest xyz)
           6=cylinder
                         (volume)
             6=cylinder resultant (volume)
          11=equal force
                               to tagged surface
          12=uniform pressure to tagged surface
             122=uniform load to tagged frame
             124=uniform pressure to Hex20 surface
          15=traction distribution
             152=traction distn (coords in file)
          16=traction distribution
                                      from file
           9=interrogate
```

We will use the idea of the tagged element to distribute the pressure over the elements.

12

and you are asked for

```
TYPE: tag # | pressure
```

Although there is only one element tag in this model, it can be imagined that this tag idea is a way of isolating particular sub-structures for application of the pressure. For example, this can be used to isolate the outer skin of an aircraft wing. Respond

```
1 1.0
```

Note that an applied pressure is treated differently than applied point forces — a pressure acting on a surface produces tractions normal to the surface. The components of the forces are computed automatically and will then be distributed among the nodes of the each element. This is a lumped formulation, the slightly more accurate (for coarse meshes, anyway) consistent method is not as clean to implement here since it requires knowledge of the plate bending shape functions.

The applied loads menu is a recurring one that allows multiple loads to be added, but we will quit here

0

The material properties are specified by

```
5
1
1 10.0e6 4.0e6 0.1 2.50e-4 1 0.0833e-3 1.5 0.5
```

The third last number computes the plate moment of inertia for a uniform plate as

$$I_p = \frac{h^3}{12} = \frac{0.1}{12} = 0.08333 \times 10^{-3}$$

Note, however, that for arbitrary complex plates (with interior reinforcement, for example) an effective  $I_p$  can be used that is not related to the thickness as above.

We have all our properties specified, so quit

0

Survey <<m2>> and make sure the properties have been installed as expected.

### Minimizing the Bandwidth

When forming the mesh, no consideration is given to reducing the bandwidth. The reason for this is that in all likelihood the mesh will be combined with another and consequently its bandedness properties would be destroyed. The final step in the mesh creation is the reduction of the bandwidth.

Before we reduce the bandwidth, it is instructive to first send the file through StaDyn. Initiate it, read in the mesh <<m2>>, and quit.

```
C> stadyn
2
m2
```

This does two things: first it checks that the mesh is readable by StaDyn, the second thing it does is compute the bandwidth. This is displayed as [387 × 387] in the stadyn.log file. The computational cost for analysis with this mesh would be very large. Also given is the profile storage value; this says that the actual storage requirements is currently 25767 or 17% of the bandwidth storage. It is this number that we should concentrate on reducing. Keep in mind however, that in doing its reduction GenMesh does not take the degrees of freedom into account and thus the specific numbers will differ between GenMesh and StaDyn.

To reduce the bandwidth, run GenMesh and select the Re-mesh option

```
C> genmesh
6
2
m3
```

You are now given the re-meshing menu

```
CHOOSE: 0=return

1=
2=remesh plate
3=remesh frame
4=add frame member
5=
6=reduce bandwidth
11=mesh of only boundary elements
21=separate elements
23=form cohesive surface
31=remove snags
:
```

Choose

6

and you are asked

```
CHOOSE: 0=return 1=reduce 2=update
```

Choose reduce

1

and you are informed that

```
INITIAL band = 145
STORAGE 3450 21025 16% of NB
INPUT: wavefront center x0 | y0 | z0
```

The initial band is different from that reported by StaDyn because the present program does not take the number of degrees of freedom per node into account; the consequences of this are negligible. Nor does it take the boundary conditions into account. The simple scheme for bandwidth reduction is that of the *wavefront*, that is, the nodes are numbered based on their relative distance from some point (the wavefront center). Try

```
0 0 0
```

and you are told that

```
INITIAL BAND = 145

FINAL BAND = 47

INITL STORAGE 3450 21025 16% of NB

FINAL STORAGE 3542 6815 51% of NB

CHOOSE: 0=return 1=reduce 2=update
```

Note that while the bandwidth was reduced, the profile storage was increased. Try

```
1
0 -1000 (
```

and you get an even smaller bandwidth

```
INITIAL BAND =
                    145
FINAL
        BAND =
                     46
INITL STORAGE
                  3450
                                      16% of NB
                           21025
FINAL STORAGE
                   2279
                            6670
                                      34% of NB
CHOOSE:
         0=return
                  1=reduce 2=update
```

This is a case where, relative to the original, we have reduction in both bandwidth and profile storage. You could experiment more but we will save it and quit.

2 0 0

If you now run <<m3>> through StaDyn you will see that the storage requirements are displayed as  $[387 \times 120]$  and a profile storage value that is currently 15823 or 34% of the bandwidth storage.

All the original node numbers have been changed, so you should use PlotMesh to familiarize yourself with the new numbers.

# 2.6 Arbitrary Meshes

The purpose of this tutorial is to show how the GenMesh program can be used to mesh regions where the boundaries are specified in an arbitrary fashion. In particular, we will redo the earlier problem of the circular hole in the rectangular block.

### **Boundary Information**

We will need to input data that describes the boundary control points. These are then connected to form segments. the numbering sequence is such that the area to be meshed is on the left hand side. This takes the form

The connection type specifies the geometric shape of the segment. The current implemented forms are

```
straight line : 1
inside semi-circle : 2
outside semi-circle : -2
bezier curve : 3
circular arc : 4
```

#### Mesh Generation

Run the program

```
C> genmesh
3
2
a1
```

and in response to

```
TYPE: # of control points 6
```

We now input the location of these points

```
INPUT: point # | x1 | y1
```

This will cycle through the six points.

```
1 0 0
2 3.25 0
3 3.25 2
4 0 2
5 1.85 1
6 2.65 1
```

We now input the segment connections and the style of their connection. There are six segments

```
TYPE: # of segments
6

TYPE: seg# | point_1 | point_2 | style
```

This will cycle through the six points.

```
1
   1 2
            1
   2 3
2
            1
3
   3 4
            1
4
   4 1
            1
   5 6
            2
   6 5
6
            2
end
```

Each segment or overlapping segments can be divided and these will form the boundary edges of the elements.

```
INPUT: 1st seg | 2nd seg | # of divsns <0 0 0 to end>
```

This is a recurring menu, type

```
1 3 15
2 2 8
4 4 4
5 6 16
0 0 0
```

This will give the same number of modules around the hole and at the left and right ends as in our earlier tutorial. A final piece of information is asked for

```
INPUT: maxelements attempted < 3000
```

This subroutine is a situation were we do not know the final number of elements in advance. This input allows you to set an upper limit on the number of elements formed. Actually, if the program is having difficulty forming a mesh it is a good idea to set this number very and view the partial mesh formed; this will give you an idea of what is being attempted and how you might adjust the input file to correct for it. Choose

1000

The program proceeds, periodically echoing its attempts at connecting nodes. The first mesh created is rather crude, the better mesh is obtained by performing a smoothing operation.

```
INPUT: # of smooth cycles | type (1=area 2=coord)
```

Typically five to twelve smoothing cycles are adequate. Type

11 1

Finally we need to tag the mesh

Give the information and quit.

Now survey the mesh A1 using the utility PlotMesh. The smoothed mesh should look like Figure 2.8. A judicious use of boundary divisions segments can significantly improve the smoothness of the mesh.

Note that it is essential that these arbitrary meshes be sent through the bandwidth reduction option.

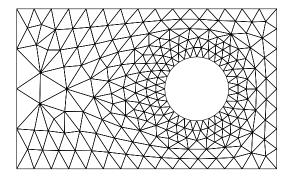


Figure 2.8: Arbitrary mesh.

# 2.7 Complex Structure

Thin-walled structures are usually reinforced by the addition of stringers; these long slender members are added to give additional bending resistance. The thin-wall is modeled using plate elements and the stringers are modeled using frame elements. Thus we have a structure composed of both types of elements.

The purpose of this tutorial is to show how GenMesh can be used to create such a mesh; in fact, it is the file <<ex\_cs.1>> to be used in a later tutorial.

# Making the Generic Meshes

We want to make two generic meshes: a  $[4 \times 4]$  quadrilateral, and a frame mesh that will surround it. The script file for the quadrilateral is

```
C> genmesh
    2 ::MAIN
    2
    m1
    2 ::MESH
    4 4 4 1 ::nxmod,nymod,el,tag
    1 ::1=scale
    4 4 0 4 0 0 4 0
    0 ::MAIN
```

Scaling is done so this is of size  $[4 \times 4]$ .

The simplest way to make the frame is to first create a three element mesh such as the following:

```
frame
```

```
0 0 0 0
end
3
                                          :: ELEMENT GROUP
1 3 1 2 2
2 3 2 3 3
3 3 3 4 4
end
1
                                          ::material #s
1 3
     2
end
                                          :: NODE GROUP
4
1
    0.0 0.0 0.0
2
    4.0 0.0 0.0
    4.0 4.0 0.0
4
    0.0 4.0 0.0
end
0
end
0
end
0
end
0
end
```

Call the mesh <<m2>>. Alternatively, a one module frame can be created and the extraneous lines removed. We will convert the frame into twelve elements using the Re-Mesh capability of GenMesh. The responses are

```
C>
    genmesh
        6
           ::MAIN
        2
        mЗ
        m2
        3
        1
               3
                       4
                              ::nel1 nel2 mul
        0
               0
                       0
        O :: MAIN
```

As each of these generic meshes are being made, it is advisable to use the utility PlotMesh to survey the results. In particular, you need to note the boundary node groups of mesh <<m1>>.

### Merging Meshes

Generic meshes can be combined based on the information about their boundary nodes or can be combined based on a node by node basis. We will use the former approach.

Initiate GenMesh and choose the merge option

```
C> genmesh
7
2
m4
m1
m3
```

A brief summary of the two meshes is displayed. Now you are asked about how the two meshes are to be attached

```
CONNECTed modes: MODEL_1 <-- MODEL_2
0=continue
1=node to node
2=group to surface
3=intersecting surfaces
INPUT: mode
```

The most basic form of attachment is #1 where, essentially, the two structures are stitched together node by node. This is generally a tedious menu option to respond to but is the preferred scheme when the response file itself is generated automatically. The simplest is the third one and we will use this form of attachment since the two meshes are already aligned,

3

We will not release any boundary nodes (that is, they will remain as boundaries which may prove useful for applying loads, say) Respond

```
0.01 0 and quit
0
0
```

The new mesh is in m4, use PlotMesh to look at it and note the boundary nodes. In particular, note the different color around the boundary. A more dramatic confirmation can be obtained by changing 7:mesh\_%=75.

In this manner any number of stringers can be attached to the plate. In deed, if each is given a separate segment number then each can also be given separate properties.

### **Adding Properties**

To make the generic structure into a structure datafile, we need to add properties. That is, we need to state the type of material, the boundary conditions, and the loads.

Initiate GenMesh and from the main menu select the Make Structure DataFile option.

```
C> genmesh
8
2
m5
m4
```

You are now given a summary of the mesh as

```
2 Matls
41 Nodes
0 BCs
0 Forces
0 materials
0 SPcls
4 boundary groups
```

The series of questions to be answered are the same as an earlier tutorial, so we will just give the responses.

```
1
ex_cs.1: thin-walled shear beam
22
1  1  1  1
```

Boundary conditions are specified next.

```
3
3
3 0 0 0 0 0 0
0
```

corresponding to a fixed boundary condition at the left side. The boundary condition menu is recurring, so that many boundary conditions may be input. Note that ranges can overlap.

There is a vertical point force to be applied at Node 5, so type

```
41
1
5 5 0 1000 0 0 0 0
0
```

Finally, input the material properties.

```
5
2
1 10.0e6 4.0e6 0.1 2.50e-4 1 0.0833e-3 1.5 0.5
2 10.0e6 4.0e6 1.0 2.50e-4 0.0 0.1666 0.0833 0.0833
```

There are no special properties, so finish by typing:

0

Survey  $<<ex_cs.1>>$  and compare with <<m5>>> to make sure the properties have been installed as expected.

### 2.8 Extruded Meshes

There is a class of 3-D meshes that can be viewed as a particular cross-section in the x-y plane that is extruded in the z-direction. A circular cylinder is a simple example: the cross-section shape is a circle and the cylinder is formed by moving this (as a generating surface) along the z-axis. By adding a mapping function, the variety of shapes can be increased substantially. **GenMesh** has two such generic meshes, one which can be considered as a generalized cylinder and the other as a generalized dome; the essential difference between the two is that the latter is closed at one end.

These 3-D structures are usually thin-walled with stringers or stiffeners added for extra support. These are rather complex modules with a significant amount of data input; our first tutorials therefore will concentrate on the meaning of the input terms by creating a triangular box beam with a half-cylinder attached. The last tutorial considers creating a thin-walled structure that resembles a multi-sparred wing.

#### Thin-walled Reinforced Structure

This structure will be constructed in three stages. First will be the folded plate structure comprising the shell, followed by a frame structure of similar proportions. The final stage will consist of merging the two structures. Unlike the generic meshes of the previous sections, the meshes created here are physical from the beginning.

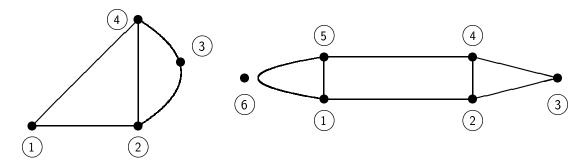


Figure 2.9: Cross-section of extruded structures.

#### I: Folded Plate Structure

The structure will look like that of Figure 2.9. It will have four control points: three to define the triangle, and a fourth to define the curved surface.

Run the program and choose the name for the mesh as <<m1>>

C> genmesh
4
2
m1

and you are given the mesh types

```
MESH types:
         0: return
         << 3-D Extruded shapes >>
         2: Dome
                       (closed ended)
            22:
            24: diag
                      (closed ended) no stringer
         3:
         4: General
                       (open
                               ended) two_planes
            42:
                       (open
                               ended) no stringer
            44: diag
                       (open
                               ended) no stringer
         << 3-D Frame shapes >>
         5: General Rect (open ended) two_planes
         6: 3-D Arbitrary
```

We will look at the diagonal open-ended shape without stringers

44

The first series of information is to allow characterization of the cross-section in the x-y plane. We are asked for the number of control points and their coordinates

```
TYPE: # of control points
```

Input four control points

4

Now input the coordinates of each point

This gives information about two planes (front and back) and the extrusion will be done between the two. Note that the two planes need not be parallel. For now, make the control points in both planes the same

```
0.0
     0.0
          0.0
                0.0
                     0.0
                          8.0
10.0
     0.0
          0.0
               10.0
                     0.0
                          8.0
14.0 6.0
          0.0
               14.0
                     6.0 8.0
10.0 10.0 0.0
               10.0 10.0 8.0
```

This sets the length of the extrusion as 8.0. Thus, unlike the generic meshes, these meshes are physical from the beginning; in fact, the control points can be used to locate the sub-structure for attachment to other sub-structures.

Next is information about the shape of the structure.

```
SEGment styles: 1=line 2= 3=bezier 4=arc TYPE: # of connected segments
```

In a complex structure with many control points, there are a variety of ways that the points can be attached to each other. Each connection forms a segment and each segment can be of a different style. The style of connection specifies the geometric shape of the segment. The current implemented forms are

straight line : 1
bezier curve : 3
circular arc : 4

Both the *Bezier* and *arc* actually require three control points to form it, We will connect Points 2, 3, and 4 with an arc, Points 1&2, Points 2&4, and Points 4&1 with straight lines for a total of five segments. Thus respond

5

Now input which control points are connected and some of the attributes

```
TYPE: point_1 | point_2 | # divs | style | plate tag
```

A segment is not necessarily a single plate element and the # divs allows specification of the number of modules connecting the two control points. Note that multiple connections can be made to the control points. Respond

1	2	8	1	1
2	3	10	4	2
3	4	10	4	3
2	4	8	1	4
4	1	8	1	5

This gives the flat faces 8 modules across and the curved surfaces 10 each. Each plated segment will have a different tag for easy identification.

The final piece of information to be specified deals with how the cross-section is extruded in the z-direction

```
Z_EXTRUSION
```

```
TYPE: # z modules
```

This is the number of modules in the extruded direction. Put 10 modules in the z-direction

10

Exit the program by typing

0

Now survey the mesh m1 using the utility PlotMesh; change the orientation by pressing u/U and v/V. The mesh should look like Figure 2.10(a).

GenMesh has the ability to produce the PostScript file necessary to make hard copy version of the mesh files in this form; a later tutorial shows how it is done.

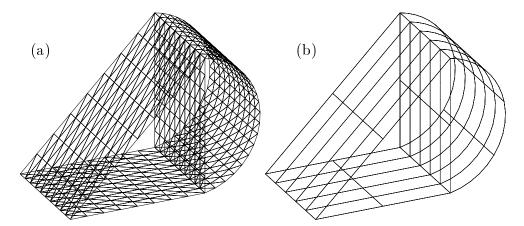


Figure 2.10: Extruded structures. (a) Folded plate. (b) Frame.

#### II: Extruded Frame Structure

We will make a frame structure of similar shape to the folded plate structure just constructed. A merging of the two structures will then produce a reinforced thinwalled structure.

Run the program and choose the name for the mesh as <<m2>>

```
C> genmesh
4
2
m2
```

and from the menu of mesh types

```
MESH types:
         0: return
         << 3-D Extruded shapes >>
         2: Dome
                       (closed ended)
            22:
            24: diag (closed ended) no stringer
         3:
         4: General
                       (open
                               ended) two_planes
                       (open
            42:
                               ended) no stringer
                       (open
            44: diag
                               ended) no stringer
         << 3-D Frame shapes >>
         5: General Rect (open ended) two_planes
         6: 3-D Arbitrary
```

choose the general rectangle with two planes;

5

The first series of information is to allow characterization of the cross-section in the x-y plane. First is the number of control points

```
TYPE: # of control points
4
```

Then the coordinates and the joint tag

```
front back

Type: point # | x1|y1|z1 | x2|y2|z2 | joint tag
```

This gives information in two planes (front and back) and the extrusion will be done between the two. Note that the two planes need not be parallel. Control points act as joints and therefore it is useful to be able to associate a lengthwise (in the z-direction) property with them that is different from other members. For now make both cross-sections the same and give each joint a different property.

```
0.0
        0.0
             0.0
                    0.0
                         0.0 8.0
1
                                    11
2
  10.0
        0.0
              0.0
                   10.0
                         0.0
                              8.0
                                    12
3 14.0 6.0
                   14.0
              0.0
                         6.0
                              8.0
                                    13
4 10.0 10.0 0.0
                   10.0 10.0
                              8.0
                                    14
```

This sets the length of the frame structure as 8.0. The tags are set different from the plated structure in anticipation of merging the two meshes. Again, unlike the generic meshes, these meshes are physical from the beginning; in fact, the control points can be used to locate the sub-structure for attachment to other sub-structures.

In a complex structure with many control points, there are a variety of points that can be attached to each other. Each connection forms a segment; the choice of connections are:

```
SEGment styles: 1=line 2= 3=bezier 4=arc

TYPE: # of connected segments | # z_divs | z_rate
```

Both the Bezier and arc actually require three control points, we will connect Points 2, 3, and 4 with an arc. The remaining two numbers gives the number of elements in the z direction and the rate at which transverse members are added, respectively. Thus respond

```
5 10 2
```

Now input which control points are connected and some of the attributes

```
TYPE: point_1 | point_2 | # divs | style | t_tag | l_tag | rate
```

A segment is not necessarily a single element and the # divs allows specification of the number of elements connecting the two control points. The style of connection specifies the geometric shape of the segment. The current implemented forms are

straight line : 1
bezier curve : 3
circular arc : 4

The tags are for the transverse and lengthwise members, the rate is the rate at which lengthwise members are added along the segment. As a result, there will be lengthwise members associated with the joints, and also a set of intermediate lengthwise members. Note that multiple connections can be made to the control points. Make the discretization similar the folded plate, hence respond

1	2	8	1	15	16	4
2	3	10	4	15	16	5
3	4	10	4	15	16	5
2	4	8	1	15	16	4
4	1	8	1	15	16	4

This gives the straight segments 8 elements across and the curved segments 10 each. The flat and curved faces of the frame structure will have an intermediate lengthwise member. Note that if GenMesh has difficulty placing the intermediate members, then it will not place any for that segment.

Exit the program by typing

0

and survey the mesh <<m2>> using the utility PlotMesh; the mesh should look like Figure 2.10(b).

#### III: Merging the Meshes

We will combine <<m1>> with <<m2>> to produce a thin-walled structure reinforced by frame members.

Initiate GenMesh and choose the merge option

```
C> genmesh
7
2
m12
```

You are now asked to

```
TYPE: infileNAME_1 -->
```

It makes a difference (for some of the merge options) which mesh is given first because that is the one to which the second is subservient. Respond

m1

Similarly for the second filename

TYPE: infileNAME\_2 -->

Respond

m2

A brief summary of the two meshes is displayed. The mode of how the two meshes are to be attached must be decided

CONNECTion modes: MODEL\_1 <-- MODEL\_2

O=continue 1=node to node 2=group to surface

3=intersecting surfaces

INPUT: mode

Note that Model 2 is attached to Model 1. The most basic form of attachment is #1 where, essentially, the two structure are stitched together node by node. The simplest is #3 where any close nodes are automatically connected. We will use the third mode

3

and you are asked about the attachment nodes

Intersecting Sections:

```
INPUT: proximity | release as BC 0=none 1=all 2=interior
```

The 'proximity' number is the radius of a sphere and all nodes found inside this sphere are collapsed into a single node. It can be specified large or small depending on the density (or coarseness) of the nodal points; generally it is specified at about 1/100 of the smallest element size. In the present case, care was taken to ensure that many of the nodes coordinates of the frame coincided with those of the folded plate, and hence a very small proximity can be used. When two meshes are joined, what were formerly boundaries now could become interior regions. We therefore may wish to release them and not consider them as boundaries (or special collections of nodes) anymore. In the present case we will keep all former boundaries. Choose

.001 0

Quit by typing

0

0

An important point to note about the mesh file is how, through the use of the tags, the identity of the individual sub-structure meshes is retained. This is reflected in the different colors used in PlotMesh.

#### Reinforced Structures

GenMeshhas the option to create reinforced structures directly. The inputs to these are more involved than in the foregoing, so generally, the approached of creating reinforced structures by merging separately created folded-plate and frame structures is preferable.

Two examples are illustrated, a flat plate and a two-sparred wing.

#### I: Reinforced Plate

Run the program and name the mesh as m1

```
C> genmesh
4
2
m1
```

From the menu of mesh types

```
MESH types:
         0: return
          : 3-D Extruded shapes
         2: Dome
                       (closed ended)
        22
        24: diag
                       (closed ended) no stringer
         3:
         4: General
                       (open
                               ended) two_planes
        42:
                       (open
                               ended) no stringer
                               ended) no stringer
        44: diag
                       (open
          : 3-D Frame shapes
         5: General Rect (open ended) two_planes
         6: 3-D Arbitrary
        10:
```

choose the general open-ended shape

4

The first series of information is to allow characterization of the cross-section in the x-y plane in terms of the control points and their coordinates.

```
TYPE: # of control points
```

There are only two control points

2

Now input the coordinates and the tag

```
(front) (back)
Type: point # | x1|y1|z1 | x2|y2|z2 | joint tag
```

This gives information about two planes (front and back) and the extrusion will be done between the two. Note that the two planes need not be parallel. Most control points act as joints and therefore it is useful to be able to associate a lengthwise (in the z-direction) stiffener with them. For now we will make both stiffeners the same

```
1 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 18.0 11
2 10.0 0.0 0.0 10.0 0.0 18.0 11
```

This sets the width of the plate as 10.0 and its length as 18.0. Thus, unlike the generic meshes, these meshes are physical from the beginning; in fact, the control points can be used to locate the sub-structure for attachment to other sub-structures.

In a complex structure with many control points, there are a variety of points that can be attached to each other. Each connection forms a segment; for our plate there is only one segment hence in response to

```
SEGment styles: 1=line 2= 3=bezier 4=arc TYPE: # of connected segments
```

respond

1

Now input which control points are connected and some of the attributes

```
TYPE: point_1 | point_2 | # divs | style | plate tag
```

A segment is not necessarily a single plate element and the # divs allows specification of the number of modules connecting the two control points. The style of connection specifies the geometric shape of the segment. The current implemented forms are

```
straight line : 1
bezier curve : 3
circular arc : 4
```

Note that the last two of these actually require three control points; this will be demonstrated in the next tutorial. We are interested in a flat plate so respond

```
1 2 8 1 1
```

This gives the plate 8 modules across and all plate elements will be tagged as 1

Between the control points, there may be additional stiffening elements coinciding with the boundaries of the element modules. The reinforcers can be transverse and lengthwise. The attributes of these are being asked for in

```
INPUT: trans tag | length tag | length divs rate
```

The lengthwise reinforcers must coincide with module boundaries hence the last item just specifies how often they are realized. We will make both stiffeners look different and put the lengthwise ones at every second module

```
12 13 2
```

If there were multiple segments, then both sets of input would be input for each segment, allowing each segment to be different.

The final piece of information to be specified deals with how the cross-section is extruded in the z-direction

```
Z_EXTRUSION
TYPE: # z modules | trans rate
```

The first is the number of modules in that direction, and the second is the rate at which the transverse stiffeners are placed. Again the maximum rate is to place them at every module, that is, a rate of 1. We will put 12 modules in the z-direction and place the stiffeners at every third module

```
12 3
```

Exit the program by typing

0

Survey the mesh <<m1>> using the utility PlotMesh, change the orientation by pressing u/U and v/V. The exploded version of the mesh should look like Figure 2.11.

GenMesh has the ability to produce the PostScript file necessary to make hard copy version of the mesh files is this form; the next small tutorial shows how it is done.

Run the program and choose the Write PostScript option

```
C> genmesh 700
```

A PostScript file will be generated and we have the choice as to how to store it

```
SAVE new file as:
0=return 1=GMesh.PS 2=NEW name
```

## General 3-D Structure

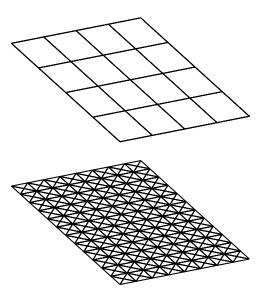


Figure 2.11: Exploded view of a reinforced flat plate.

Specify the new name as m1.ps

2 m1.ps

For the input filename give

m1

We are given a choice as to the output format

```
OUTPUT format:

0=return

2=Shrunk mesh coordinates

4=PS plot file (B/W)

5=PS plot file (color)

6=PS plot solid (color)

7=PS plot solid (grey )
```

Option 2 does not produce any PostScript output, it just contains the tagged coordinates of the line segments forming each element. This would be useful if some other rendering scheme was used. Color PostScript will appear as grayscale on a black and white output device hence sometimes it may be preferable to specify the black and white option.

65

We can manipulate the image through the following menu:

#### CHANGE default:

0=Write PS file 1=Position mesh 2=Change orientation 3=Move tagged surfaces 4=Position or change title 5=Change pen

For 3-D meshes, it is usually necessary to arrange the perspective so as to get a good view. We will tilt the plate about the x and y axes

The last item, the shrinkage, shrinks each element about its centroid; this is a way of ensuring that there are no missing elements. An alternative way of viewing a composite mesh is to move the tagged surfaces apart. This is very useful especially for thinned-walled reinforced structures.

3

We will separate the plate elements (tagged 1) from the remaining frame elements

INPUT:	tag#	Xmove	Ymove	<0 0 0 ends>
	1	0.0	-10.	
	0	0	0	

Notice in this case we are dealing with page coordinates. This is a recurring menu so many of the surfaces can be moved. Finally, the title (as read from the mesh header group) can be changed and repositioned.

The PostScript file can now be written and we can exit the program

0

The PostScript file is named <<m1.ps>> and this can be sent to a PostScript printer or displayed on a screen by use of an interpreter such as Ghostscript.

In order to render the figure, it is necessary to also specify other information such as the pen thickness. This information is kept in the <<genmesh.cfg>> file. Its format is

```
elem: max #
posn: X Y
pens: thickness
Rotn: X Y Z shrink
caps: X Y size
type: mesh type
```

Generally, once these are set it should not be necessary to adjust them again.

#### II: Two Spar Wing

The second example is of a multi-spar wing. The cross-section control points are shown in Figure 2.9(b).

Run the program and choose the open-ended z-extrusion option.

```
C> genmesh
4
2
m1
4
```

The first series of information is to allow characterization of the cross-section in the x-y planes. There are six control points, the input information is

```
6
1
      0.0
               0.0
                     0.0
                             0.0
                                    0.0
                                          500.0
                                                   11
2
    140.0
                                   10.0
              10.0
                     0.0
                           140.0
                                          500.0
                                                   12
3
    200.0
              20.0
                    0.0
                           200.0
                                   20.0
                                          500.0
                                                   12
4
    140.0
              30.0
                     0.0
                           140.0
                                   30.0
                                          500.0
                                                   13
              40.0
5
      0.0
                     0.0
                             0.0
                                   40.0
                                          500.0
                                                   12
   -100.0
              20.0
                     0.0 - 100.0
                                   20.0
                                          500.0
                                                   12
```

We could have used the second group of coordinates to give the wing a taper; however this will be left to a separate tutorial that demonstrates how 3-D meshes can be remapped. Typing lots of numbers like this can be very tedious and prone to error, it is understood that all these numbers would be typed initially in a driver (response) file and GenMesh actually run in batch mode.

In a complex structure with many control points, there are a variety of points that can be attached to each other. Each connection forms a segment; we now connect these control points to form our wing cross-section.

```
SEGment styles: 1=line 2= 3=bezier 4=arc TYPE: # of connected segments
```

We will make 8 segments. The information to be typed is

```
point_1 | point_2 | # divs | style | t_tag | l_tag | rate
TYPE:
       trans tag | length tag | length divs rate
   8
   1
       2
            6
                1
                     1
  15
      16
            2
   2
       3
            3
                1
                     1
            3
  17
      18
   3
       4
            3
                     2
                1
  17
      18
            3
   4
       5
            6
                1
                     2
  12
      13
            2
                3
   5
       6
            4
                     2
  17
      18
            2
   6
       1
            4
                3
                     1
  12
      13
            2
   1
       5
            4
                1
                     3
  12
      13
            4
   2
       4
            4
                1
                     3
  12
      13
            4
```

Note that the segments connecting points 5-6-1 form a Bezier curve.

The final piece of information to be specified deals with how the cross-section is extruded in the z-direction

```
Z_EXTRUSION
TYPE: # z_modules | trans rate
```

We will make the mesh 12 modules long and place the transverse stiffeners (ribs) at every second module

12 2

Note that the rate number should divide evenly into the total number of modules. Quit the program

We will now show how a 3-D mesh such as the wing can be further modified by scaling. The physical dimensions have already been set, where this option is useful is in tapering the extrusion.

```
C> genmesh 5 2
```

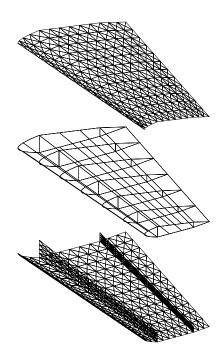


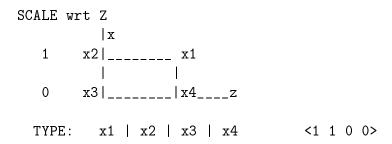
Figure 2.12: Two-spar wing.

m2 m1 1

We will taper the wing in the x-z planform and the y-z depth.

1

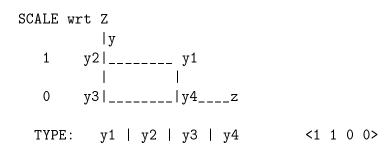
A reminder of the format is given



The hint numbers will leave the mesh unchanged. We will give a slight taper as

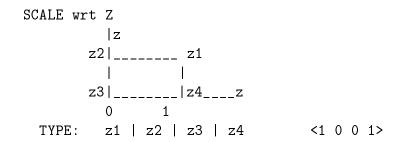
0.8 1.0 0.0 0.2

For the y-z plane we get



Again, we will give a slight taper

Finally for the z-z plane



Note the hint values in this case, these are the ones we will use

It is worth experimenting with these to see the various ways the extrusion can be manipulated. For example, by making the first line 1.2 1.0 0.0 0.4 a swept-back wing can be generated. Quit the program

0

Now survey the mesh <<m2>> using the utility PlotMesh. The exploded version of the mesh should look like Figure 2.12.

## 2.9 Solid Meshes

The purpose of this tutorial is to show how GenMesh can be used to mesh solid regions. In particular, we will run it to generate a file containing the same information as in the file <<ex\_ep.1>> that will be used for the elastic-plastic tutorial.

#### Making the Mesh

Run the program and select the Solid Shapes

```
C> genmesh
23
2
m1
```

The program responds with the choice of shapes

```
MESH types:
          0: Return
           : 3-D Block shapes
         22: Tet
                       6 elem block
         24: Hex 8
                       1 elem block
         26: Hex_20
                       1 elem block
         52: Tet
                       6 elem Cut-out
         54: Hex_8
                         cylinder
         56: Hex_20
                         cylinder
         58: Hex_20
                         cyl in rect
         66: Hex_20
                         notch
SELECT -->
```

Choose the Hex\_20 element block

26

We must now tell the program how many elements we want

```
TYPE: # of modules X-dir | Y-dir | Z-dir | tag #
```

Keep in mind that scaling the mesh is a different operation than choosing the number of modules. The tag # can be used to keep track of the sub-structures used in forming a compound mesh, it is also used to associate different material properties with different groups of elements. Respond

```
10 1 1 1
```

2.9. Solid Meshes 71

You are now asked

```
TYPE: X-dim | Y-dim | Z-dim
```

This is the scaling on the mesh. Respond

Back at the main menu choose to Quit with

0

Use PlotMesh to view the mesh.

## **Adding Properties**

To make the generic mesh into a structure datafile, we need to add properties. That is, we need to state the type of material, the boundary conditions, and the loads. We have already done this in a previous tutorial, hence the following will dwell only on the significantly different parts.

Initiate GenMesh and from the main menu select the Make Structure DataFile option.

```
C> genmesh
8
2
m2
m1
```

You are now given a summary of the mesh as

```
1 Matls
128 Nodes
0 BCs
0 Loads
0 matls
0 spcls
0 boundary groups
```

The series of questions to be answered are the same as the earlier tutorials, so we will just give the responses. We will specify the boundary conditions as fixed on one end by isolating a thin disk of volume

```
3
4
0 0 0 0 0 0 0
-0.01 0 0 0.01 0 0
20
0
```

The boundary condition menu is recurring, so that many boundary conditions may be input.

The applied load data is to be specified next

41

and we are given the options

```
APPLIED LOADS:
CHOOSE:
           0=return
           1=nodal load
                         (sequence)
           2=nodal load
                         (bc info )
           3=nodal load
                         (bc group info )
             32=nodal load (bc group info ) (1/2 ends)
             34=node traction (bc group) (1/2 ends)
           4=nodal load
                         (nearest xyz)
           6=cylinder
                         (volume)
             6=cylinder resultant (volume)
          11=equal force
                               to tagged surface
                               to tagged surface
          12=uniform pressure
             122=uniform load to tagged frame
             124=uniform pressure to Hex20 surface
          15=traction distribution
             152=traction distn (coords in file)
          16=traction distribution
                                      from file
           9=interrogate
```

We will again isolate a thin disk of volume to distribute a uniform pressure over the right end.

```
124
-9.99 0 0 10.01 0 0
20 1.0
0
```

Note that an applied pressure is treated differently for the Hex20 element than for the other elements — the consistent load formulation is used — consequently both positive and negative nodal load values will appear in the structure datafile. The applied loads menu is a recurring one that allows multiple loads to be added.

The material properties are specified by

```
5
1
1 10.0e6 4.0e6 1.0 2.50e-4 1 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0
```

2.9. Solid Meshes 73

The elastic-plastic material properties are specified as part of the Specials group. Choose

6

to be given the recurring input

```
TYPE: Code | c1 | c2 | c3 <0 0 0 0 to end>
```

We will also specify full integration on the element matrices. Thus respond

Exit the properties section with

0

Back at the main menu, we will choose to reduce the bandwidth with

```
6
2
m3
m2
6
1
-100 0 0
2
0
0
```

Survey <<m3>> and make sure the properties have been installed as expected. This should be identical to the file  $<<ex\_ep.1>>$  on the disk. Also, use PlotMesh to view the mesh.

## 2.10 Some Hints

The following are some hints that may prove useful:

- Once the procedures for the problem have been established, convert them into a driver (script) file and use the program in batch mode.
- Whenever possible, use the boundary nodal groups and element tags to realize the structure datafile. This will make the driver files independent of the mesh density and therefore more versatile.
- When smoothing a mesh, additional biasing can be achieved by moving individual nodes to a desired location and then specifying it as a boundary node. In this way, the surrounding nodes will adjust appropriately.
- When making a compound mesh, it is best to leave the property specification until the second to last operation, and the node re-numbering until the very last operation.
- For very large and complex meshes, make each sub-structure complete and self-contained including its absolute positioning. In this way, the assembling is done as the final stage.

# Chapter 3

# Basic StaDyn Tutorials

This chapter is a collection of short tutorials for running StaDyn. It is advisable the first time through, that all the tutorials be completed and that all the instructions be followed strictly. This is because some of the later tutorials make reference back to the earlier ones.

The program StaDyn (STAtic and DYNamic analysis) is capable of doing the static and dynamic analysis of 3-D structures formed from a combination of frame members and folded plates. Its main capabilities involve determining the member displacements and loads, and structural reactions for:

- Static loading
- Stability analysis
- Vibration analysis
- Forced frequency loading
- Applied transient load history

The tutorials in this and the next chapter cover examples from each of these. The program is menu driven in such a way that its functioning is apparent. This facilitates early understanding of it, but can be somewhat intrusive after familiarity has been developed. It will be shown, however, that it is possible to execute the program without these menus and thus speed all operations.

As StaDyn proceeds, it creates a number of files among which are:

```
stadyn.cfg stadyn.stf stadyn.dis
stadyn.log stadyn.mas stadyn.snp
stadyn.out stadyn.cms
stadyn.dyn stadyn.geo
stadyn.lod
```

The LOG file echoes all the input responses as well as having some extra information that might prove useful during post analysis of the results. The OUT file is the usual

location for StaDyn output. The second column of files are associated with various system matrices such as the stiffness matrix and the mass matrix — these are left on disk in case they may be of value for some other purpose. They are in binary form. The last column of files are output files. They too are in binary form for compactness but can be read for further post-processing.

Regularly have a look in the StaDyn.LOG because there is much information to be found there. Although this information is probably of no direct interest now, it is good planning to get used to interpreting this file in anticipation of more complicated problems.

# 3.1 Static Example

StaDyn is designed to run as a console (or command window) program under the various flavors of MS Windows. Note that all instructions are case insensitive; we will vary the case only to help make the instructions clearer. The class of static problems solved by StaDyn is

$$[[K_E] + \chi[K_G]] \{u\} = \chi_1\{P\} + \chi_2\{G\}$$

where  $\chi_i$  are various scale factors and  $\{G\}$  is the gravity load vector.

#### Getting Started

To run the program, type (at the 'C prompt')

C> stadyn

(note the name of the executable). The opening menu is

MAIN menu:

0: Quit

2: Read in structure DataFile

30: Form system matrices

60: Static loading

70: Forced frequency loading

80: Transient loading

90: Eigen Analysis

700: PostScript plot files

800: System services

911: Ikayex information

SELECT-->

Quit by typing

0

There are two files worth looking at. The first is the log file StaDyn.LOG; use the list utility to peruse it. It contains

```
@@ StaDyn version 4.40, June 2002
```

@@ DATE: 8-13-2002 TIME: 11:11

```
@@ MAXimum storage
                            2000000
@@ MAXimum elements
                               5000
@@ MAXimum nodes
                               5000
@@ MAXimum force incs:
                                       200
                               5000
@@ ITERmax
                                 16
@@ rtol
                           1.00000E-10
@@ ALLOCATION succeeded
          O :: MAIN
@@ StaDyn OK, ended from MAIN
```

The second is StaDyn.CFG. This is the configuration file and has in it

```
2000000
                 :: MaxStorage
       5000
                 ::MaxNode
       5000
                 ::MaxElem
                     ::MaxForce
       5000
              200
           2
                  ::ilump
         16
                  ::itermax
         1.000000E-010
                               ::rtol
@@ DATE:
          8-13-2002
                           TIME: 11:11
```

This file allows changing the run time settings of the dimensions of the arrays. If you get a memory allocation failure, this is the place to make the adjustments.

## A Static Analysis

Since we know the data in the file EX\_PS.1 to be correct, we will use it to do a simple static analysis. Run StaDyn and read the structure DataFile

```
C> stadyn
2
  ex_ps.1
```

Before we can obtain the static solution, we must first form the system matrices. Select

30

and you are given the choices

```
35: [M]
36: [K_E],[M] <dynamic>
37: [K_E],[K_G],[M] <all>
```

Select

31

and make the choice

```
CHOOSE STIFFness storage:
         0=DEFault
                                   >>MEMory only>>
                                   >>StaDyn.STF >>
         1=BINary
                    [prof]
         2=ASCii
                    [prof]
                                   >>StaDyn.OUT >>
         3=ASCii
                    [NxB]
                                  >>StaDyn.OUT >>
         4=BINary
                    [NxB]
                                   >>named
                                                >>
                                  >>StaDyn.OUT >>
         5=DEFault + load
        11=BINary [prof+locn]
                                  >>named
```

Since this is the first example, echo the stiffness matrix to StaDyn.OUT just to see what it looks like.

3

Since the loads were already read from EX\_PS.1 we can now obtain a static solution by typing

60

and there are two problem types

```
STATIC Problems: sub-menu
61: Distributed loadings
62: Pre-stress dP
63: Pre-stress P
66: All-node loadings
```

In the first, the loads specified in the structure datafile are the applied loads, while in the second those loads are interpreted as pre-loading on the structure. Choose

61

Each major capability of StaDyn is divided into two parts: the analysis and the post-processing. The first determines the nodal degrees of freedom in the global coordinates, while the second allows post-processing of them to give strains or contours and so on — basically member or local level information. Thus, in response to

CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post\_analysis

choose

1

since this is the first time through. Sometimes it is convenient to have unit loads in the structure datafile and to use the analysis stage to scale the loads. In response to

INPUT scales: load | gravity

type

1.0 0.0

After echoing some information on the screen, you are back to

CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post\_analysis

Quit and get out of StaDyn by typing

0

0

That is all there is to it!

The output can now be surveyed by viewing the ASCII file StaDyn.OUT. This file is fairly well documented so there is little difficulty in interpreting it. The maximum displacement occurs at Node 6 with

Note that some of the nodes can have a rotation; this is a consequence of the type of in-plane element implemented — it has three degrees of freedom at each node, two displacements and one rotation. In the present case, the rotations are zero indicating that the element arrangement satisfies the patch test.

Also have a look in the StaDyn.LOG file to see the type of information it contains.

# Using Script Files

Actually, the main reason for doing this simple example is to introduce a feature of StaDyn that underlies its design philosophy. One of the advantages of echoing information to the LOG file is that it allows the creation of a driver or script file. If you are not familiar with this idea then perform the following little tutorial. Make a copy of the log file by

```
C> copy stadyn.log instatic
```

Now use an editor to edit instatic. The only editing you need do is remove blank lines and lines beginning with **@@**. What is left is the same collection of responses as on the previous page but now it is documented. After you exit your editor all you need do to run the example of this section is

#### C> stadyn < instatic

Go ahead, do it. The screen will scroll and everything is done automatically for you. After a while you will find yourself doing the same operations repeatedly. Then you can make script files for each of them. More important, the script file is a record of how you processed the data. In a week, a month or 6 months if you need to reconstruct what you did, it is all there. The idea is that the script file approach allows the user a greater variety of inputs and gives greater control of the program; quite complicated sequences of instructions can be pieced together to give very fine control over your data manipulations. It also allows the program to be used in batch mode and thereby blend in with your other programs more productively. This is the communication method used by QED.

To further encourage use of script files, a small utility is provided on the disk for stripping away the extra lines from the LOG file. To run it simply type

C> strip < stadyn.log > instatic

# 3.2 Static Analysis of Trusses and Frames

The following are a collection of tutorials for static analysis. In each case, the information we seek can be obtained without substantial post-processing; we leave those tutorials until Chapter 3. The cases can also be thought of as validation tests for the program, which is why the results are compared to those in a reference.

#### Truss

We will use the structure datafile EX\_FS.1 to do a static analysis of a simple truss. Run the program and read the structure DataFile as done before

```
C> stadyn
2
  ex_fs.1
```

Before we can obtain the static solution we must first form the stiffness matrix

30 31 0

Since the loads were already read from EX\_FS.1 we can now obtain the static solution by typing

60 61 1 1.0 0.0

We also want to look at the nodal forces, so choose the post-analysis

2

and you are given the selection

```
POST menu:
```

```
O=return
LOCAL (member coords)
2=nodal strain [ue]
3=nodal stress
4=nodal force
5=element stress
6=element (average) stress
7=force sum
8=specials
```

```
GLOBAL
```

11=Global displacement
12=Global loads
14=Global assembled DoF loads

15=Global assembled nodal loads CONTOURs

31=store displacement data

32=store strain data

33=store stress data

frames

34=store displacement data 35=store strain data 36=store stress data

100= << select FRAMEs only >>

200= << select PLATEs only >>

Select the Global loads and quit StaDyn by typing

12

0

0

0

The output can now be surveyed by viewing the ASCII file StaDyn.OUT. This file is fairly well documented so there is little difficulty in interpreting it. Reference [1] gives for the displacement of Node 2

```
Node 2: u: 0.457mm v: 1.664mm w: 0.0mm
```

whereas the program gives

```
2 .457107E-03 .166421E-02 .000000 ......
```

These two sets agree. It is also worth noting that the nodal forces for Node 2 exactly add up to the applied forces

1	2	150000.	150000.	.000000	
2	2	-50000.	50000.	.000000	
sum	ı	100000.	200000.	.000000	

Also have a look in the StaDyn.LOG to see the information it contains. It is good planning to get used to interpreting this file in anticipation of more complicated problems.

#### Frame analysis

The following example is for a simple plane frame structure. It is specified as plane by setting IGLOBAL=22 and made of frame elements by letting TYPE=3.

```
ex_fs.2:
          Balfour pp224.
                                                :: HEADER GROUP
22
1 1 1 1
end
                                                :: ELEMENT GROUP
2
1 3 1 2 2
2 3 2 3 3
end
                                                ::material #s
1
1 2
    1
end
3
                                                :: NODE GROUP
  0.0 0.0 0.0
1
  0.0 3.0 0.0
  7.0 4.0 0.0
end
                                                ::boundary condns
2
1
   0
       0
           0
                0
                    0
                        1
3
  0
       0
           0
                0
                    0
                        1
end
                                                ::applied loads
     0.0
                0.0
                       0.0 0.0 0.0 -100.0e3 0.0
1
   150.0e3 -150.0e3 0.0 0.0 0.0
                                       0.0e3 0.0
end
1
                                                ::material props
1
    200e9 70e9
                  9000e-6 0.0 0.0
                                       1.0 1.0 0.25e-3
end
0
                                                ::SPECIALs GROUP
end
```

A copy of this is on the disk as EX\_FS.2.

Run the program and read the structure datafile as before

```
C> stadyn
2
  ex_fs.2
```

Before we can obtain the static solution we must first form the system matrices

30 31 0

Since the loads were already read from EX\_FS.2 we can now obtain the static solution by typing

60 61 1 1.0 0.0

We also want to look at the nodal forces, so choose the post-analysis and quit

The displacements and rotation at Node 2 as given by Reference [1] are

```
u: 0.792mm v: -0.297mm zrot: 0.532e-3 rad
```

while those from the program are

```
2 .791626E-03 -.296860E-03 ..... .533942E-03
```

Both sets of numbers agree quite well. Here, it is worth noting that the internal nodal moments cancel to give a resultant of zero at Node 2.

Make a script file for this problem by typing

```
C> strip < stadyn.log > instatic
```

We will use this for the following tutorials.

# Grillage Analysis

The following example is for a simple grill structure and a copy of it is on the disk as EX\_FS.3.

```
ex_fs.3: Balfour pp311. ::HEADER GROUP
23
1 1 1 1
end
3 ::ELEMENT GROUP
1 3 1 2 2
```

```
2 3 2 3 3
3 3 2 4 4
end
                                              ::material #s
1 3 1
end
                                              :: NODE GROUP
   9.0 -10.0
                0.0
   9.0
         0.0
                0.0
   0.0
         0.0
                0.0
   9.0
        12.0
                0.0
end
                                              ::boundary condns
3
   0
                         0
1
       0
            0
                0
                    0
   0
            0
       0
                0
                    0
                         0
4
   0
                0
                    0
                         0
end
1
                                              ::applied loads
                            0.0 -540.0e3 0.0
2
     0.0 0.0 -360.0e3
                                                0.0
end
1
                                              ::material props
1
     15e9
           6e9 9000e-6 0.0 0.0 40e-3 80e-3 80e-3
end
0
                                              ::SPECIALs GROUP
end
```

Since this is a grill problem then IGLOBAL=23. The other point of interest is that the load is distributed and this is converted into effective concentrated loads by

$$P_2 = P_3 = \frac{1}{2}q_oL$$
,  $T_2 = -T_3 = -\frac{1}{12}q_oL^2$ 

where  $q_o$  is the uniformly distributed load on Member 2. Note that since Node 3 is fixed there are no applied loads there.

Once INSTATIC has been changed to reflect the new input filename, the problem can now be run simply by typing

#### C> stadyn < instatic

The displacement and rotations at Node 2 as given by Reference [1] are

z: -9.791mm xrot: -2.376e-4 rad yrot: 5.724e-4 rad and those of the program

```
2 .000000 .000000 -.979448E-02 -.237660E-03 .572668E-03 ...
```

Note that internal nodal forces in the z-direction are generated.

#### 3-D Analysis

As another static example, StaDyn is demonstrated on a three-dimensional problem specified by taking IGLOBAL=32. All members are made of the same stock. A copy of it is on the disk as EX\_FS.4.

```
ex_fs.4: Balfour pp360.
                                         :: HEADER GROUP
32
1 1 1 1
end
3
                                         :: ELEMENT GROUP
1 3 1 2 2
2 3 2 3 3
3 3 3 4 3
end
2
                                         ::material #s
1 2 1
3 3 2
end
                                         :: NODE GROUP
4
1
   0.0 0.0 0.0
2
  1.0 0.0 0.0
  1.0 -1.0 0.0
  1.0 -1.0 -1.0
end
1
                                         ::boundary conditions
1
   0
       0
           0
               0
end
1
                                         ::applied loads
4
    10.0e3
              0.0
                     0.0
                           0.0
                                  0.0
                                         0.0 0.0
end
2
                                         ::material props
1
                  200e-6 0.0 0.0 6.67e-9
                                              1.67e-9 6.67e-9
     209e9
            80e9
                  200e-6 0.0 90.0 6.67e-9
2
     209e9
            80e9
                                              1.67e-9 6.67e-9
end
 0
                                         ::SPECIALs GROUP
end
```

Another point of interest is that the orientation of the last member is rotated  $90^{\circ}$ .

Run the program as before, preferably using the script file. The displacements and rotations at Node 4 as given by Reference [1] are

```
u: 59.4 v: 3.64 w: 14.3 Rx: 0.454e-4 Ry: -0.0510 Rz: 0.0108 The values from the program are
```

```
4 59.3474 3.58672 14.3254 .469410E-06 -50.9782 10.7602
```

The digits are in close agreement, but the orders of magnitude are off for the rotations. This is due to the fact that the reference uses a combination of kN and mm for its dimensions.

### **Gravity Loading**

As a final static example, StaDyn's ability to compute gravity loading will be demonstrated. To make it more interesting, we will seek to find the total mass of the structure plus the location of the center of mass. For simplicity, all members are made of the same stock, nominally of aluminum. A copy of the structure datafile is on the disk as EX\_FS.5.

```
ex_fs.5 gravity
                                           :: HEADER GROUP
32
1 1 1 1
end
                                           :: ELEMENT GROUP
1 3 1 2 2
2 3 2 3 3
3 3 3 4 4
4 3 5 1 1
end
2
                                           ::material props
1 3 1
4 4 2
end
5
                                           :: NODE GROUP
1
    0.0
          0.0
               0.0
2
    0.0
         10.0
               0.0
3
  10.0
         10.0 0.0
   10.0
         10.0 10.0
5
    0.0
         -1.0 0.0
end
1
                                           ::boundary conditions
5
  0
           0
       0
                0
                    0
                         0
end
1
                                           ::applied loads
    0.0
4
           0.0
                  0.0
                         0.0
                                0.0
                                       0.0 0.0
end
2
                                           ::material props
1
    10e6
                 1.0 2.5e-4 0.0
                                       . 1
                                           . 1
                                               . 1
          4e6
```

```
2 10e6 4e6 1.0 0.0e-4 0.0 .1 .1 .1 end
1 ::SPECIALS GROUP
2120 0.0 -1.0 0.0
```

The structure itself is comprised of members 1 to 3, Member 4 is a massless rigid support that will act effectively as the weigh scale. Three components of gravity may be specified, right now it is assumed to be acting in the vertical (y) direction; this information is specified in the SPECIALS category with a CODE=2120. Normally, a value such as 386in/s² would be specified when interested in weight loading, but now we want the mass so unity is used. Also, note that there are no applied loads (other than gravity).

Run the program and form the stiffness matrix as usual,

```
C> stadyn
   2
   ex_fs.5
   30
   31
   0
```

Gravity acts on the mass and forms a load vector with components at every translation degree of freedom. That is, it appears as a load vector similar to  $\{P\}$ . Now we are in a position to solve the static problem.

```
60
61
1
0.0 1.0
2
12
```

All the information we require can the obtained from the global information for the connection between Member 5 and the structure at Node 1. Hence quit by typing

```
0
0
0
```

For verification purposes, the displacements and rotations at Node 1 are given as

```
1 .18750E-07 -.75000E-09 .62500E-08 .12500E-07 .0000 -.37500E-07
```

The information we seek is given in the GLOBAL nodal forces row for Element 4 at Node 5. The force and moments at this point are

$$Fy = .750000E-02$$
  $Mx = -.125000E-01$   $Mz = .375000E-01$ 

The mass is given as

$$M = W/g = F_y/g = .0075/1.0 = .0075$$

The  $x_c$  and  $z_c$  centroids can be calculated as

$$x_c = \frac{M_z}{F_y} = \frac{.0375}{.0075} = 5.0, \qquad z_c = \frac{-M_x}{F_y} = \frac{.0125}{.0075} = 1.67$$

Repeating the process, but this time with the gravity vector in the x direction, say, will allow the other coordinate of the centroid to be determined.

This completes the static introduction. These examples were devised mainly to give a simple means of accessing the way StaDyn does things. All the examples are such that you can verify them by hand or go to the source of the reference to get more details. Redo these examples and try some of the other features not explicitly mentioned.

# 3.3 Static Analysis of Plates

We will do two examples for the analysis of plates. The first is a static analysis where we look at the deflections and moments in a plate in flexure. The second is an example of a stress concentration in a bar with a hole.

#### Plate in Flexure

The file EX\_PS.2 describes a flat circular plate. The loading corresponds to a uniform pressure as computed in GenMesh. Thus the distributed load is implemented in its lumped form. Run StaDyn and read the data as before

```
C> stadyn
2
  ex_ps.2
```

You are informed that the size is  $[387 \times 120]$ ; this is fairly large, so we will do the minimum of echoing. Before we can obtain the static solution, we must first form the stiffness matrix. Select

30

31

0

The assembly stage for flexural and in-plane elements is significantly more time consuming than for the frame elements, so ellipses are shown in order to give an idea of how much time it will take. Since the loads were already read from EX\_PS.2, we can now obtain a solution by typing

60

61

Each major capability is divided into two parts: the analysis and the post-processing. The first determines the nodal degrees of freedom while the second allows post-processing of them to give strains or contours and so on. Thus, in response to

```
CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post_analysis
```

choose

1

since this is the first time through. Although EX\_PS.2 contains the loads, sometimes it may be convenient to scale them; this is done next

```
INPUT scales: load | gravity
```

Input

```
1.0 0.0
```

and after echoing some information on the screen, you are back to

CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post\_analysis

Choose the post analysis

2

You are now asked to choose the form of nodal output

```
CHOOSE output:
POST menu:
         0=return
              LOCAL (member coords)
         2=nodal strain [ue]
         3=nodal stress
         4=nodal force
         5=element stress
         6=element (average) stress
         7=force sum
         8=specials
              GLOBAL
        11=Global displacement
        12=Global loads
        15=Global assembled DoF loads
        16=Global assembled nodal loads
              CONTOURs
        31=store displacement data
        32=store strain
                               data
        33=store stress
                               data
                      frames
        34=store displacement data
        35=store strain
                               data
        36=store stress
                               data
       100=
               << select FRAMEs only >>
```

By default, the displacements are stored as part of the analysis, for the post analysis we want the moments (or bending stress), so choose

<< select PLATEs only >>

200=

To quit type

0

0

The output can now be surveyed by viewing the ASCII file StaDyn.OUT. This file is fairly well documented so there is little difficulty in interpreting it. The maximum displacement occurs at Node 68 and is

Theory [11, 24] gives that the maximum displacement at the center is

$$w(r) = \frac{pa^4}{64D} [1 - (\frac{r}{a})^2]^2, \qquad D \equiv \frac{Eh^3}{12(1-\nu^2)}$$

For our parameters with  $\nu = 0.25$  and D = 888.9, this becomes

$$w(r) = 0.1758 \left[1 - \left(\frac{r}{a}\right)^2\right]^2$$

This gives a nice comparison, a difference of little more than 1%.

The computed (stress) moments at the center (Node 68) and at the edge (Node 78) are given in the file captioned as

#### NODAL STRESS averages:

Node:	Sxx	Ѕуу	Sxy	Mxx	Муу	Mxy
68	.000	.000	. 000	7.9064	7.9064	. 41452E-06
78	.000	.000	. 000	-14.238	-4.3198	.71264E-06

The theoretical values [24, 11] for the moments are

$$M_r(r) = \frac{pa^2}{16}[(1+\nu) - (\frac{r}{a})^2(3+\nu)], \qquad M_t(r) = \frac{pa^2}{16}[(1+\nu) - (\frac{r}{a})^2(1+3\nu)]$$

This gives at the center and at the boundary, respectively,

$$M_r = M_t = 7.8125$$
;  $M_r = -12.5$ ,  $M_t = -3.125$ 

Again, we get a nice comparison, especially at the center. We expect the values at the boundary to be off because we are replacing a circular boundary with a polygon. Improved results can be obtained by making a finer mesh [11].

## **In-Plane Loading**

The file EX\_PS.3 describes a bar with a hole in it. The full bar is modeled, although because of symmetry it would be feasible to model only one-quarter of it. In this tutorial we will look at the effects of stress concentrations.

Run StaDyn and read the data as before

```
C> stadyn
2
  ex_ps.3
```

You are informed that the size is  $[1511 \times 102]$ ; this is fairly large which is typical of problems involving stress concentrations. Form the stiffness matrix and do the static analysis

After echoing some information on the screen, you are back to

```
CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post_analysis
```

Now choose the post analysis

2

You are now asked to choose the form of nodal output

```
POST menu:
```

```
0=return
      LOCAL (member coords)
 2=nodal strain [ue]
 3=nodal stress
 4=nodal force
 6=element stress
 7=force sum
      GLOBAL
11=Global displacement
12=Global loads
      CONTOURs
31=store displacement data
32=store strain
                      data
33=store stress
                      data
```

We want the stresses, so choose

3

To quit type

0

0

0

The output can now be surveyed by viewing the ASCII file StaDyn.OUT. This file is fairly well documented so there is little difficulty in interpreting it. The maximum stress occurs at Node 259 and the corresponding line is

#### NODAL STRESS averages:

Node:	Sxx	Ѕуу	Sxy	Mxx	Муу	Mxy
259	10052.	1729.1	-50.43	.00000	.00000	.00000

From a handbook on stress concentration factors [24] we get that the SCF should be

$$SCF = 3.8$$

This compares with the above value of

$$SCF = \frac{10052.}{1000/0.4} = 4.02$$

This type of difference is typical.

# 3.4 Complex Structure

We end these introductory tutorials with an example of a complex structure; that is, a structure which contains both frame and plate elements. The structure itself is simple being just a cantilevered shear beam lying in the x-y plane with a single vertical applied load.

The mesh is given in EX\_CS.1 and was created as one of the tutorials in the previous chapter. Notice that we specify the global type as being IGLOBAL=22, that is, the shear beam will behave essentially as a plane frame. Remember, however, that if in doubt about the global type then just specify it as its most general form, that is, as IGLOBAL=32.

#### Analysis

Run StaDyn, read the structure datafile, form the stiffness matrix, and do the analysis

```
C> stadyn
2
    ex_cs.1
30
31
0
60
61
1
1.0 0.0
```

After echoing some information on the screen, you are back to

```
CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post_analysis
```

Quit the program

0

The output can now be surveyed by viewing the ASCII file StaDyn.OUT. This file is fairly well documented so there is little difficulty in interpreting it. The maximum displacement occurs at Node 5 and is

```
5 .185939E-03 .176154E-02 0.000 0.000 0.000 .332471E-03
```

An energy approach to this problem where the center panel is treated as having a constant shear flow [26] gives the maximum displacement at the load point as

$$v = \frac{Pc}{3EA} + \frac{PL^3}{3EAc^2} + \frac{PL}{Gtc} = (1.33 + 1.33 + 26.0) \times 10^{-4} = 0.0029$$

97

There is a difference, indicating that the actual structure is stiffer than that assumed in the simple theory. If, on the other hand, we instead treat the structure as a beam in bending, then the tip deflection is given by

$$v = \frac{PL^3}{3EI} = \frac{1000 \times 4^3}{3 \times 10^7 \times 8.5} = 0.00025 = 2.5 \times 10^{-4}$$

This relatively small value indicates that the shear deformation is a significant portion of the total deformation.

We will look at the stresses to see if that clarifies the assumptions. Run StaDyn and read the data as before

Choose the post analysis and look at the element stresses,

To quit type

0 0

Look at the output in StaDyn.OUT, it is clear that the shear stress is the dominant stress giving, for example, in Element 27

The shear stress in the elementary theory is given as

$$\tau = \frac{P}{ct} = \frac{1000}{4 \times 0.1} = 2500$$

From this it is clear that the stringers are supporting a significant part of the load.

## PostScript Contours

Sometimes the full behavior of a structure is not apparent by looking at individual numbers at individual nodes. Plotting the data as a contour plot can often help and this tutorial shows the type of support given by StaDyn for accomplishing this.

We will assume that this is the first time through the analysis; run StaDyn, read the structure datafile, form the stiffness matrix, and do the analysis.

```
C> stadyn
2
   ex_cs.1
30
31
0
60
61
1
1.0 0.0
```

After echoing some information on the screen, you are back to

```
CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post_analysis
```

Choose the post analysis

2

You are now asked to choose the form of nodal output, we want to look at the contours of displacement, so choose

31

This stores the response data in the file StaDyn.OUT; however, it is the contour module that will now post-process it. We get to that menu off the main menu by

```
0
700
2
p1.ps
```

where we elected to name the file. The contour menu is

#### CONTOURs:

```
0: Quit
<<RENDER PS file>>
4: Deformed shape
```

14: Add caption15: Toggle tags16: Change pens

At the moment we will insure that the orientation is correct but otherwise accept the default values. (Note that the default values are stored in the file StaDyn.CTR; this is an ASCII file that is easily edited.)

12 0 0 0

Choose to draw the contours.

5

The choice of outputs are:

```
DoF: 1=u 2=v 3=w 4=Rx 5=Ry 6=Rz
or 1=Exx 2=Eyy 3=Exy 4=Kxx 5=Kyy 6=Kxy
or 1=Sxx 2=Syy 3=Sxy 4=Mxx 5=Myy 6=Mxy
Mesh: 1=Yes 0=No -1=Black
Legend: 1=Yes 0=No -1=Black
INPUT: DoF | scale | mesh ? | legend ?
```

Remember we have already stored the displacements, hence it is the first line that applies. Contour the vertical displacements, display it superposed on the mesh, and show the legend all without exaggerated scale

```
2 1.0 1 1
```

Quit the program

0

To obtain the other displacement contours, we need only re-enter the PostScript subroutine off the main menu. To get stress contours, however, we would first need to post-process the displacement data off the analysis menu.

Look at the output in p1.ps, this is the PostScript file of the contours. This can be sent directly to a PostScript printer, or can be viewed using the GhostScript

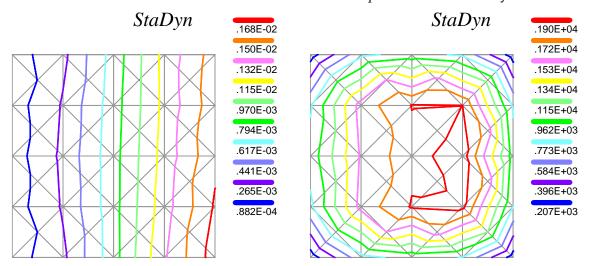


Figure 3.1: Contours of vertical deflection and shear stress.

program. The file will produce color contours as shown in Figure 3.1. It is clear that slightly more deformation occurs at the lower right edge where the load is applied.

Make a script file for the postprocessing and look at the stresses. As shown in Figure 3.1(b) the shear stress distribution is highly non-uniform. Also look at the bending stress  $\sigma_{xx}$ .

The configuration for the contour plots is stored in the file StaDyn.CTR. This has the organization

::geometry

::position X Y

::pen thickness mesh, contour

::rotations X Y Z

::caption positions X Y and size

::modes mass

::sub-structure flags

Sometimes, it may be more convenient to make the adjustment through this file rather than through the program.

3.5. Some Hints

### 3.5 Some Hints

StaDyn is a complex program, so it is difficult to give tutorials that cover all of its features. Additional advanced tutorials are given in the next chapter, but the best approach to using it usefully, is to start with the examples given, modify them (slightly at first) until you are studying the problems of interest to you. Experiment!

The following are some hints that may prove useful:

- Once the procedures for the problem have been established, convert them into a script files and use it in batch mode.
- Whenever possible, use the boundary condition lines and the global-type variable to remove unnecessary degrees of freedom. This will reduce the size of the system of equations to be solved and improve performance.
- The input structure file is the source of all that StaDyn can do, so generally, it is required that this file be read in before any of the processing functions can be used.

One feature of StaDyn of note, is that it is fairly open, meaning that you can access many of the system matrices. When there is a problem, you may consider looking at the system matrices directly.

# Chapter 4

# Advanced StaDyn Analyses

In addition to static analyses, StaDyn is designed to perform dynamic (transient, vibration, forced frequency) and stability (buckling) analyses. This chapter presents a few tutorials that cover the basics of these analyses.

Obtaining the buckling loads and buckled mode shapes for a 3-D structure is an eigenvalue problem similar to finding the vibration natural frequencies and mode shapes. In fact, once the appropriate matrices are established,  $\mathsf{StaDyn}$  treats the two problems almost identically. The number of modes possible is equal to the number of free degrees of freedom in the system. But, usually, it is the lower loads and frequencies of most interest, therefore, it is prudent to keep the system size small. However, to get accurate lower loads (or frequencies) it is necessary to introduce more degrees of freedom (and thus be required to evaluate the higher loads also.) As an approximate rule of thumb, a system size N gives about N/2 good values of buckling load. This must be treated with caution since it depends on the location of the nodes, and also if the mode shapes themselves are of interest.  $\mathsf{StaDyn}$  gives a choice of using the Jacob rotations or the sub-space iteration schemes to solve the eigenvalue problem; the latter is the appropriate one for large systems.

A different set of issues arise when the applied loading is transient; here the equations of motion must be integrated step by step. StaDyn uses the implicit Newmark integration scheme for this because it is an unconditionally stable algorithm.

# 4.1 Stability Analysis

All stability analyses occurs in two stages, the pre-buckle analysis and the buckling analysis. The onset of buckling depends on the presence of the in-plane stresses which we usually do not know in advance, so an important part of determining the geometric stiffness matrix is in determining these in-plane stresses. Hence it is important to allow the degrees of freedom be such that this can occur.

The eigenvalue problem to be solved is

$$\left[ [K_E] - \lambda [K_G] \right] \{ \phi \} = 0$$

Both the elastic stiffness and geometric stiffness must be assembled before the stability analysis itself can be performed.

#### Truss Buckling

On the disk is a structure datafile called <<ex\_fb.1>> for a simple two member truss structure.

```
ex_fb.1 Przemieniecki pp397
                                             :: HEADER GROUP
21
1 1 1 1
end
2
                                             :: ELEMENT GROUP
1 1 1 2 2
2 1 1 3 3
end
1
                                             ::material #s
1 2 1
end
3
                                             :: NODE GROUP
1
  10.0
          10.0
                  0.0
3
    0.0
           0.0
                  0.0
2
   10.0
           0.0
                  0.0
end
2
                                             ::boundary conditions
2
   0
       0
            0
                 0
                     0
                          0
3
   0
            0
                     0
end
                                             ::applied loads
                 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
1
   0.0 -1.0
end
1
                                             ::material props
```

```
1 10e6 4e6 1.0 0.0e-4 0.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 end ::SPECIALS GROUP end
```

The material is nominally aluminum and its properties are given in customary units. Both the stiffness and geometric matrices must be assembled before the stability analysis itself can be performed. Do this by typing:

```
C> stadyn
2
  ex_fb.1
30
```

to be presented with the system matrices choices

Choose

34

In response to the storage options

```
CHOOSE storage:
        0=DEFault BINary [prof]
                                        >>StaDyn.GEO>>
                           [prof]
                                         >>StaDyn.OUT>>
        2=ASCii
        3=ASCii
                           [NxB]
                                        >>StaDyn.OUT>>
        4=BINary
                           [NxB]
                                        >>named
                                                     >>
        5=DEFault + load
                                         >>StaDyn.OUT>>
       11=BINary
                           [prof+locn]
                                        >>named
```

choose

0

Note that in order to establish the geometric matrix, it is first necessary for  $\mathsf{StaDyn}$  to solve the corresponding static problem for the press loads. There are two main sources of pre-stress: that from  $\{P\}$  specified in the SDF, and that from gravity. Both of these can be scaled separately, thus the required input

```
00 [K_G] = s_1 [K_G(P)] + s_2 [K_G(G)]'
INPUT scales: load | gravity '
```

Choose

1.0 0.0

Solving the statics problems is accomplished automatically and the material that is echoed to the screen is consistent with this. The required information for determining the stresses for use in the stability analysis is stored in the file <<stadyn.dis>>.

Back at the main menu, select the eigenanalysis

90

StaDyn does two types of eigenvalue problems; vibration and stability, and has implemented two eigensolvers; Jacobi rotations and Sub-space iterations. The sub-menu choices are

EIGENvalue Problems: sub-menu 92: Vibration w/ Jacobi 93: Vibration w/ Sub-space 96: Buckling w/ Jacobi 97: Buckling w/ Sub-space

Jacobi rotations are very robust and give all the eigenvalues. Unfortunately, it is also computationally very expensive and generally should not be used for systems larger than 100. Sub-space iteration is appropriate for large problems but has difficulties with very small problems. The present problem is only of size  $[2 \times 2]$  so Jacobi rotations is a good choice. Choose

96

Each major capability of StaDyn is divided into two parts: the analysis and the post-processing. The first determines the nodal degrees of freedom while the second allows post-processing of them to give strains or contours and so on. Thus, in response to

CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post\_analysis

choose

1

since this is the first time through. For large problems, a good deal of information would now be echoed to the screen; lines to watch are

```
D_NORM: # Rotns = #
# of sweeps =
```

Finding eigenvalues is an iterative process and these can be used to monitor the rate of convergence. Note that StaDyn will automatically quit after 15 sweeps. For this problem we get normal convergence after only 1 sweep; about 7 sweeps is typical for larger problems. It should be realized that even if convergence has not occurred, the eigenvalues and eigenvectors may be of acceptable quality.

Finally, we are asked again

```
CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post_analysis
```

For this exercise, we are only interested in the first two buckling loads and this information is automatically stored in <<stadyn.out>> as part of the analysis, so we could opt to quit the program now. However, we will proceed to obtain the eigenvectors also. Choose

2

This can also be re-entered starting from the beginning as long as the file <<stadyn.snp>> has not been altered. This would be used if the various mode shapes, for example, are to be accessed. The post-processing menu is

The difference between mode shape and modal vector is that the former already has the boundary conditions factored in. This is a recurring prompt so, if desired, all the information can be stored. The last option would be used if the results are to be piped into a modal analysis post-processor. This option also wants the number of modes to be reported. It can be from one to the system size. If a number outside this range is given, then the program takes the appropriate allowable limit. For this exercise, we are only interested in the first two buckling loads, so select the first two modal values

2 2

and we are again given the output menu. Choose

0 0

and to quit the program, type

0

The output can now be surveyed by viewing the ASCII text file <<stadyn.out>>. The modal results are formatted similarly to a static analysis. Reference [19] shows that the first buckling load should be

$$P_{crit} = \frac{2\sqrt{2} - 1}{7}EA = 0.2612EA$$

The output from StaDyn gives the critical loads as

0.261204E+07 -.676777E+18

which is very close to the theory. The very high second value indicates that there is no second buckling mode. It must be realized that this truss buckling is not the same as would occur if a frame member has pinned joints; this latter occurrence requires a bending action. It can be said, however, that for a given geometry the column or frame buckling is more likely to occur first.

### Frame Buckling

As a second example, consider the simple frame described in the structure file <<ex\_fb.2>>; this corresponds to an inverted L-frame fixed at its two ends.

```
:: HEADER GROUP
ex_fb.2 Eisley pp273
22
1 1 1 1
end
                                           :: ELEMENT GROUP
1 3 1 2 2
2 3 2 3 3
3 3 3 4 4
4 3 4 5 5
5 3 5 6 6
6 3 6 7 7
end
                                           ::material #s
1 6 1
end
                                           :: NODE GROUP
   0.0
        0.00
              0.0
   0.0
        0.50
              0.0
```

```
3
   0.0
        1.00 0.0
4
   0.0
       1.50 0.0
5
       2.00 0.0
   0.0
6
  0.5
       2.00 0.0
7
   1.0 2.00 0.0
end
2
                                         ::boundary condns
1
   0
       0
           0
               0
                   0
                       0
7
   0
       0
           0
               0
                       0
end
2
                                         ::applied loads
3
  1.00
          0.0
                 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
5
                0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
   0.0 - 1.00
end
1
                                         ::material props
    68.95e9 26.52e9 576e-6 1e-4 1.0 50e-9 27.648e-9 27.648e-9
1
end
0
                                         ::SPECIALs GROUP
end
```

This problem is stated in metric [SI] units with the material being aluminum. This is used as an example problem in Reference [13] but beware that the material was inadvertently stated as being steel.

Run the program as before with no echoing

```
C> stadyn
2
  ex_fb.2
30
34
0
1 0
0
90
96
1
```

Since the system size is larger (15) than the last example, more Jacobi iterations are required. Store only the first three mode shapes

2 3 2

Now exit the program by typing

Scan through the output file <<stadyn.out>> to see the results. Reference [13] shows that the first eigenvalue and corresponding x displacements are:

 $\begin{array}{rcl} P_{crit} & = & 12078 \\ 1 : & 0.0 \\ 2 : & 0.4406 \\ 3 : & 1.0 \\ 4 : & 0.70235 \\ 5 : & -0.00002 \\ 6 : & -0.00001 \\ 7 : & 0.0 \end{array}$ 

The buckling loads (eigenvalues) from the program are

12075.0 26152.2 50872.0

Again the complete physical interpretation of the modal vectors is given in a format identical to that of the static output. Picking off the values corresponding to the above gives

node	u	v	rotz
1:	. 000	.000	.000
2:	. 249	-2.05E-4	815
3:	. 565	-4.17E-4	223
4:	. 397	-7.13E-4	.790
5:	-1.124E-5	-7.85E-4	. 536
6:	-5.622E-6	7.07E-2	138
7:	. 000	.000	.000

If these values are normalized with respect to the displacement at Node 3 then it is seen that they correspond with the above.

Experiment with reversing the sign of the loads and note that StaDyn still obtains the correct buckling load. This is important in complex structures where it is not obvious (from a cursory glance) which members are in compression.

## Stability of Plates

We will finish the stability tutorials with an example of determining the stability of plates. The file <<ex\_pb.8x4>> models a rectangular plate (aspect ratio 2:1) with clamped edges but free to expand laterally.

All stability analysis occurs in two stages, the pre-buckle analysis and the buckling analysis. The onset of buckling depends on the presence of the in-plane (membrane) stresses which we usually do not know in advance, so an important part of determining the geometric stiffness matrix is in determining these in-plane stresses. Hence it is important to allow the degrees of freedom be such that this can occur. Consequently, although the boundary conditions are referred to as being 'clamped', note that in fact they are allowed to move in the in-plane direction in such a way that only a  $\sigma_{xx}$  stress is generated. Note also that we set IGLOBAL=32.

Run StaDyn, read in the structure datafile and form the stiffness matrices

```
C> stadyn
    2
    ex_pb.8x4
    30
    34
    0
    1    0
    0
```

Back at the main menu, select the eigenanalysis

90

StaDyn does two types of eigenvalue problems; vibration and stability, and has implemented two eigensolvers; Jacobi rotations and Sub-space iterations. The sub-menu choices are

```
EIGENvalue Problems: sub-menu
92: Vibration w/ Jacobi
93: Vibration w/ Sub-space
96: Buckling w/ Jacobi
97: Buckling w/ Sub-space
```

Jacobi rotations are very robust, and give all the eigenvalues. Unfortunately, it is also computationally very expensive and generally should not be used for systems larger than 100. Sub-space iteration is appropriate for large problems but has difficulties with very small problems. Plate problems are large (especially when a convergence study must be done) so sub-space iterations is the appropriate choice. Choose

97

Each major capability is divided into two parts: the analysis and the post-processing. The first determines the nodal degrees of freedom while the second allows post-processing of them to give strains or contours and so on. Thus, in response to

```
CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post_analysis
```

choose

1

since this is the first time through. Unlike the Jacobi rotation solver, subspace iteration scheme need not solve for all the eigenvalues. Thus in response to

```
INPUT: # of modes of interest
-->
```

choose

10

This will compute the first (lowest) ten eigenvalues. Note that internally, StaDyn actually solves for about twice that number so as to ensure that the vector space is appropriately covered.

A good deal of information is now echoed to the screen, some of which may be recognized as coming from the Jacobi rotations. Note that StaDyn will automatically quit after 16 iterations (a number that can be changed in the StaDyn.CFG file). It should be realized that even if full convergence has not occurred, the eigenvalues and eigenvectors may be of acceptable quality, this can be judged by looking at the quality number.

Quit the program by typing

0

The buckling loads are stored in StaDyn. OUT as part of the analysis.

The output can now be surveyed by viewing the ASCII file <<stadyn.out>>. It contains

#### EIGENvalues:

N	lambda [load]
1	28.4584
2	28.5276
3	40.3622
:	:

Theory [23] gives the lowest buckling load for a rectangular plate with aspect ratio a/b=2 as

$$\sigma_{cr}h = 7.88 \frac{\pi^2 D4}{a^2} = 28465.$$

The difference in the factor of 1000 is due to the fact that 1000 psi was the applied in-plane load. The comparison is reasonable considering the number of elements used.

# 4.2 Vibration Analysis

The vibration eigenvalue problem and the stability eigenvalue problem are very similar, although it can generally be said that convergence occurs sooner for the former than for the latter.

The eigenvalue problem to be solved is

$$\left[ [K_E] + \chi [K_G] - \lambda \lceil M \rfloor \right] \{ \phi \} = 0 , \qquad \lambda \equiv \omega^2$$

Both the elastic stiffness and mass matrix must be assembled before the vibration analysis can be performed. The effects of pre-stress can be included by adding the geometric stiffness  $[K_G]$ .

### Vibrating Beam

On the disk is a structure datafile called <<ex\_fv.1>> for a three element cantilever beam:

```
ex_fv.1 Lalanne pp164.
                                         :: HEADER GROUP
12
1 1 1 1
end
3
                                         :: ELEMENT GROUP
1 3 1 2 2
2 3 2 3 3
3 3 3 4 4
end
1
                                         ::material #s
1 3
     1
end
                                         :: NODE GROUP
  0.0 0.0
            0.0
2 10.0 0.0
3 20.0 0.0
            0.0
4 30.0 0.0
            0.0
end
1
                                         ::boundary condns
1
   0
end
1
                                         ::applied loads
    0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
2
end
1
                                         ::material props
```

```
1 10.0e6 4.0e6 1.68 2.5e-4 0.0 0.0 0.0 1.0 end ::SPECIALS GROUP end
```

There is nothing special to note about this file except, perhaps, that while it is not necessary to have any applied loads in vibration analyses, it is nonetheless necessary to have some corresponding entries in the input data file. The material is nominally aluminum and its properties are given in customary units. The units for the density are

$$\rho = 0.25 \times 10^{-3}$$
 lb·s/in<sup>4</sup>

This is different from the weight per unit volume by the gravitational constant. That is,  $\rho = W^*/g$  where  $W^*$  is the weight per unit volume.

Both the stiffness and mass matrices must be assembled before the analysis itself can be performed. Do this by typing

```
C> stadyn
2
  ex_fv.1
30
```

to be presented with the system matrices choices

To do a dynamic analysis, we also need the mass matrix. Choose

36 3 3

This will echo the stiffness and mass matrices into the <<stadyn.out>> file.

Vibration problems are eigenvalue problems, so choose

90

StaDyn does two types of eigenvalue problems; vibration and stability, and has implemented two eigensolvers; Jacobi rotations and Sub-space iterations. The sub-menu choices are

EIGENvalue Problems: sub-menu

92: Vibration w/ Jacobi

93: Vibration w/ Sub-space

96: Buckling w/ Jacobi

97: Buckling w/ Sub-space

Jacobi rotations are very robust, and give all the eigenvalues. Unfortunately, it is also computationally very expensive and generally should not be used for systems larger than 100. Sub-space iterations, on the other hand, can solve the partial eigenvalue problem; that is, it can solve for the lowest m eigenvalues where  $m \ll N$ . Since these are the ones of most interest in structural analysis, it makes sub-space very attractive. It is the one that we will choose later for the plate problems, for now choose

92

Again, each major capability is divided into two parts: the analysis and the post-processing. The first determines the eigenvalues and nodal degrees of freedom while the second allows post-processing of them to give contours and so on. Thus, in response to

CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post\_analysis

choose

1

since this is the first time through. All vibration analyses can include the effects of pre-stress as a scaling on the geometric stiffness matrix. We will ignore these, hence in response to

INPUT pre-stress scale: scale X [K\_G}

type

0.0

The program now performs the complete analysis. A good deal of information is now echoed to the screen; an interesting quantity to keep your eye on is the DIFF NORM, finding eigenvalues is an iterative process and this quantity conveys an idea of the rate of convergence. It should be realized that even if convergence has not occurred, the eigenvalues and eigenvectors may be of acceptable quality. Thus the final echoing of information is an assessment of the quality of the eigenvectors.

Finally, we are asked

CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post\_analysis

To access the eigenvector results, we must post process the binary files. Choose

2

and you are given the storage menu

The difference between the mode shapes and the modal vectors is that the former has the boundary conditions already factored in. This is a recurring prompt so, if desired, all the information can be stored. The last option would be used if the results are to be piped into a plotting analysis post-processor. This option also wants the mode number to be reported. It can be from one to the system size. For this exercise, we are interested in all the eigenvalues and eigenvectors, so choose

The information is now stored in <<stadyn.out>> and we are given again the output menu. We could re-enter the post analysis either now (or re-enter later) because the complete information is also stored in binary form in the file <<stadyn.snp>>. This would be used if the various mode shapes, for example, are to be accessed. We will just quit

0 0 0

Scan through the file <<stadyn.out>> to see the results. The first portion of it contains the stiffness matrix written in band storage form and the mass matrix written in diagonal (lumped) form. The resonant frequencies according to Reference [15] are

$$\omega_1 = \frac{3.516}{L^2} \sqrt{\frac{EI}{\rho A}} = 602.8 \,\mathrm{r/s} \,, \qquad \omega_2 = \frac{22.11}{L^2} \sqrt{\frac{EI}{\rho A}} = 3790.7 \,\mathrm{r/s}$$

and these compare to the program values of

#### EIGENvalues:

N	omega [r/s]	freq [Hz]	
1	570.785	90.8432	real
2	3159.01	502.772	real
3	7882.65	1254.56	real
4	23081.9	3673.60	real
5	30933.7	4923.24	real
6	36772.0	5852.44	real

Clearly, the results are not fully converged. The complete physical interpretation of the modal vectors is given in the file in a format identical to that of the static output.

The reference also gives the modal vectors (in the format  $\{v, \phi, \ldots\}$ ) as

```
\phi_1 = \{1, 0.18210, 3.3040, 0.2636, 6.041, 0.2772\}
\phi_2 = \{1, 0.09966, 0.7179, -0.1672, -1.695, -0.2704\}
```

On the face of it, these do not compare with the results from StaDyn. However, if these results are normalized with respect to the first entry, then both sets agree remarkably well. The difference lies in how the results are normalized, the one chosen in the program is based on the mass matrix.

A point worth mentioning in regards to dynamic problems is that after a structure input datafile has been created, it can be cumbersome to modify it to increase the number of elements (this would be required in order to improve the quality of the results). This is such a recurring need that the program GenMesh has a remeshing feature built in. The tutorial on transient responses demonstrates how this is used.

#### Frame Vibration

As a second example, consider the simple frame described in the structure file <<ex\_fv.2>>

```
:: HEADER GROUP
ex_fv.2 Lalanne pp172.
22
1 1 1 1
end
2
                                          :: ELEMENT GROUP
1 3 1 2 2
2 3 2 3 3
end
2
                                          ::material #s
1 1 1
2 2 2
end
                                          :: NODE GROUP
3
1
   0.0
           0.0
                  0.0
2
   1.0
           0.0
                  0.0
3
   1.707 -0.707 0.0
end
2
                                          ::boundary conditions
        0
                          0
            0
                 0
                     0
3
        0
            0
                 0
   0
                     0
                          0
end
                                          ::applied loads
1
```

```
10.0 0.0 0.0
                    0.0 0.0 0.0
                                   0.0
end
2
                                       ::material props
1
     200.0e9 80e9
                    1.0e-2
                            7800
                                  0.0
                                       1.0 1.0 1.0e-6
2
      70.0e9 25e9
                    1.0e-2
                            2700
                                  0.0
                                        1.0 1.0 1.0e-6
end
 0
                                       ::SPECIALs GROUP
end
```

This problem is stated in metric [MKS] units and corresponds to an aluminum beam connected to a steel beam at a 45° angle.

Make a driver (script) file using the STRIP utility on the LOG file of the previous tutorial and call it <<invibn>> say. Now change the name of the input file to <<ex\_fv.2>> and run the problem as

```
C> stadyn < invibn
```

Scan through the output file <<stadyn.out>> to see the results. The stiffness matrix written in band storage form is the same as given in Reference [15], but the mass matrix written is different; the reason is that the reference uses the consistent mass matrix.

The reference also shows that the three eigenvalues and eigenvectors are

```
\omega_1 = 1030 \phi_1 = \{-0.0010, -0.0087, 1\}

\omega_2 = 3131 \phi_2 = \{0.0609, 0.3170, 1\}

\omega_3 = 8619 \phi_2 = \{-0.4794, 0.1653, 1\}
```

The eigenvalues from the program are

1: 992.39 2: 2364.8 3: 6775.3

Again the complete physical interpretation of the modal vectors is given further on in the file in a format identical to that of the static output.

## Spring Mass System

As a final example, we depart a little from the continuous systems considered above and look at a discrete spring-mass system. This is only to demonstrate that StaDyn can handle concentrated inertias. The structure data file is <<ex\_fv.3>> and consists of three masses and three springs in a collinear arrangement.

```
ex_fv.3 Meirovitz pp175.
                                          :: HEADER GROUP
11
1 1 1 1
end
3
                                          :: ELEMENT GROUP
1 1 1 2 2
2 1 2 3 3
3 1 3 4 4
end
2
                                          ::material #s
1 2 1
3 3 2
end
4
                                          :: NODE GROUP
1 0.0 0.0 0.0
2 10.0 0.0 0.0
3 20.0 0.0 0.0
4 30.0 0.0 0.0
end
1
                                          ::boundary conds
1
  0
           0
               0
                        0
       0
                    0
end
3
                                          ::applied loads
2
    0.0 0.0 0.0
                    0.0 0.0 0.0
                                    1.0
3
    0.0 0.0 0.0
                    0.0 0.0 0.0
                                    1.0
    0.0 0.0 0.0
                    0.0 0.0 0.0
                                    2.0
end
2
                                          ::material props
1
     10.0e6 4e6 1.0 0.0 0.0
                                   0.0 0.0 0.0
2
     20.0e6 4e6 1.0 0.0 0.0
                                   0.0 0.0 0.0
end
 0
                                          ::SPECIALs GROUP
end
```

Note that the density is given as zero but concentrated masses are stated as the last entries on the applied loads line. The units are mass units, that is, weight/gravity. Further, since there are only axial degrees of freedom then IGLOBAL=11.

Run this as above using the script file and compare the results as given in Reference [18]

```
\omega_1 = 373, \phi_1 = \{1.0000, 1.8608, 2.1617\}

\omega_2 = 1321, \phi_2 = \{1.0000, 0.2542, -0.3407\}

\omega_3 = 2029, \phi_2 = \{1.0000, -2.1152, 0.679\}
```

The eigenvalues from the program are

1: 373.09 2: 1321.3 3: 2028.5

This reference further shows that the eigenvectors when normalized according to the scheme of StaDyn are

```
\begin{aligned} \phi_1 &= \{0.2691\,,\,0.5008\,,\,0.5817\} \\ \phi_2 &= \{0.8781\,,\,0.2232\,,\,-0.2992\} \\ \phi_2 &= \{0.3954\,,\,-0.8363\,,\,0.2685\} \end{aligned}
```

These are the same as reported by StaDyn.

### Flexural Vibrations of Plates

In this tutorial we show the use of sub-space iteration as the means for solving the eigenvalue problem. This is the generally preferred scheme for large problems.

We will look at the vibrations of a circular plate as described in the datafile <<ex\_ps.2>>. Run StaDyn, read the structure datafile and form the stiffness and mass matrices as before

```
C> stadyn
    2
    ex_ps.2
    30
    36
    0
    0
```

Vibration problems are eigenvalue problems, so choose

90

and off the sub-menu choices

```
EIGENvalue Problems: sub-menu
92: Vibration w/ Jacobi
93: Vibration w/ Sub-space
96: Buckling w/ Jacobi
97: Buckling w/ Sub-space
```

choose

Jacobi rotations are very robust, and give all the eigenvalues. Unfortunately, it is also computationally very expensive and generally should not be used for systems larger than 100. Sub-space iterations on the other hand can solve the partial eigenvalue problem; that is, it can solve for the lowest M eigenvalues where  $M \ll N$ . Since these are the ones of most interest in structural analysis, it makes sub-space very attractive.

Each major analysis capability is divided into two parts: the analysis and the post-processing. The first determines the nodal degrees of freedom while the second allows post-processing of them to give strains or contours and so on. Thus, in response to

CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post\_analysis

choose

1

since this is the first time through. All vibration analyses can include the effects of pre-stress as a scaling on the geometric stiffness matrix. We will ignore these, hence in response to

INPUT pre-stress scale: scale X [K\_G}

type

0.0

When using sub-space iterations, it is necessary to choose the number of modes of interest;

INPUT: # of modes of interest

Internally, StaDyn will automatically increase the number by about ten to ensure that the vector subspace is adequately spanned. Choose

10

A good deal of information is now echoed to the screen; part of the reason for this is that Jacobi rotations are also performed as part of the sub-space iteration scheme. A number to keep your eye on is

TRIGGER rtolv: #

This says which eigenvalue failed the convergence test. Generally, convergence occurs from the lowest upward, and this can be used to monitor the rate of convergence. When this number passes our selected number of modes, the iteration quits. If this does not happen, then StaDyn will automatically quit after 15 iterations (this number

can be changed in the ¡¡stadyn.cfg¿¿ file). For this problem, we get normal convergence after about 12 iterations; this is typical. It should be realized that even if convergence has not occurred, the eigenvalues and eigenvectors may be of acceptable quality. Thus the final echoing of information is an assessment of the quality of the eigenvectors.

Finally, we are asked

```
CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post_analysis
```

The eigenvalues are automatically stored as part of the analysis, but to access the eigenvectors we must post-process the binary files. Choose

2

and you are given the storage menu

For this exercise, we are only interested in the eigenvalues, but choose the mode shapes anyway

The information is now stored in <<stadyn.out>> and we are given the storage menu again. We could ask for more data to be stored but for now we will just quit

The output can now be surveyed by viewing the ASCII file <<stadyn.out>>. It contains

#### EIGENvalues:

	freq [Hz]	omega [r/s]	N
real	97.4665	612.400	1
real	200.773	1261.50	2
real	200.773	1261.50	3
real	324.229	2037.19	4
real	324.229	2037.19	5
real	369.665	2322.68	6

real	467.081	2934.76	7
real	467.081	2934.76	8
real	554.178	3482.00	9
real	554.178	3482.00	10

Also have a look in <<stadyn.log>>, you will find much information about the eigensolver performance.

Theory [11, 16, 21] gives that the resonant frequencies for a clamped circular plate are

$$\omega = \frac{\lambda_{rs}^2}{a^2} \sqrt{\frac{D}{\rho h}} = \lambda_{rs}^2 59.63$$

Some values for  $\lambda_{rs}^2$  are

$$\lambda_{00}^2 = 10.216$$
  $\lambda_{01}^2 = 21.26$   $\lambda_{02}^2 = 34.88$   $\lambda_{10}^2 = 39.77$   $\lambda_{03}^2 = 51.04$   $\lambda_{11}^2 = 60.82$ 

This gives frequencies of

- 1 609.2
- 2 1268.
- 3 1268.
- 4 2080. 5
- 2080.
- 6 2371.
- 7 3043.
- 8 3043. 9 3627.
- 10 3627.

Again, we get a nice comparison. Except for the fundamental frequency, all the computed frequencies are lower than the corresponding theoretical values.

Note also that the algorithm had little difficulty in coping with the repeated roots. In fact, a look at the output file will show that the corresponding eigenvectors are different.

# 4.3 Forced Frequency Response

Allied to the idea of vibration is the concept of forced frequency response. Here the structure is excited at a frequency that is not necessarily the resonant frequency.

In comparison to a modal or vibration analysis, the significant difference here is that a force must be applied. Generally, this is known in the form of a spectrum (different amplitudes at different frequencies) but for now it is taken as uniform. The response obtained is referred to as the *impulse response*.

The problem to be solved is

$$\left[ [K_E] + \chi [K_G] + i\omega [C] - \omega^2 [M] \right] \{ \hat{u} \} = \chi_1 \{ \hat{P} \}$$

Both the elastic stiffness and mass matrix must be assembled before the analysis can be performed. The effects of pre-stress can be included by adding the geometric stiffness  $[K_G]$ .

### Vibrating Rod

To demonstrate the concepts of forced frequency analysis, we will consider the forced vibration of a fixed-fixed rod. The data file is called <<ex\_ff.1>>:

```
ex_ff.1 fixed-fixed rod
                                      :: HEADER GROUP
11
1 1 1 1
end
                                      :: ELEMENT GROUP
1 1 1 2 2
2 1 2 3 3
3 1 3 4 4
4 1 4 5 5
5 1 5 6 6
6 1 6 7 7
7 1 7 8 8
8 1 8 9 9
end
1
                                      ::material #s
1 8
     1
end
9
                                      :: NODE GROUP
1
    0.0 0.0
              0.0
   12.5 0.0
              0.0
   25.0 0.0
              0.0
   37.5 0.0
              0.0
```

```
50.0 0.0
             0.0
6
   62.5 0.0
             0.0
  75.0 0.0
7
             0.0
 87.5 0.0
             0.0
9 100.0 0.0
             0.0
end
2
                                     ::boundary condns
1
   0
       0
           0
               0
                    0
                        0
9
   0
       0
           0
               0
                        0
end
1
                                     ::applied loads
    1.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
5
end
1
                                     ::material props
1
     10.0e6 4.0e6 1.0 2.5e-4 0.0
                                        0.0 0.0 0.0
end
 1
                                     ::SPECIALs GROUP
2110
       1.0e-2
                 0
                    0
end
```

Note that the rod has a small amount of mass proportional damping as specified through the specials code [2110]. Also note that the load is applied at the center of the rod.

Run the program, read in the structural datafile, and form the stiffness and mass matrices, by typing

```
C> stadyn
2
    ex_ff.1
    30
    36
    0
    0
```

Choose the forced frequency analysis

70

which leads to the menu choices

```
FORCED Frequency Problems: sub-menu
71: Distributed loadings {P}
72: Pre-stress {dP}
```

In the first of these the loads specified in the input file are made oscillatory, whereas in the second they form the pre-stress and the oscillatory load is a point load separately specified. We will choose the distributed loading analysis

71 1

Although the loads are specified in the structure datafile, sometimes it is useful to be able to specify a scale on the distribution; in response to

```
INPUT load scale: scale X {P}
```

type

1.0

Now input the frequency range information

```
INPUT: freq_0 (Hz) | d_freq (Hz) | # of incs
```

It is a practice of StaDyn that a vertical bar | separates multiple fields that must be entered. So this wants three numbers: the first being the beginning of the frequency range, then the spacing of the frequencies, and ending with the total number of frequencies to be tested. Note that these frequencies are to be given in Hz. For now choose

```
0.0 10.0 601
```

This gives 601 samples over a frequency range of 6000 Hz. Be careful when looking at freely supported structures, that the initial frequency is not specified as identically zero, since then the system is singular. The next information required is the form of the output. The choices are

```
CHOOSE output:
```

```
0=return
1=Re-Im nodal displacements
2=Mag nodal displacements
3=norm of all displacement
```

An interesting thing about the normalized displacements is that in the vicinity of a resonance they approach the eigenvectors. For now choose

3

since the norm gives a global picture of the dynamic behavior. Exit the program by typing

0

0

Look through the file <<stadyn.dyn>> (not <<stadyn.out>>) and see three unlabeled columns in the form

Notice where the maxima occur — this is in the vicinity of a resonance. A more precise value can be determined by re-running the example but having narrowed the frequency down to the band of interest. There is no header in the file because it is intended to be displayed by a program such as DiSPtool.

For the above parameters, the resonances are expected at [10]

$$f = \frac{\pi N}{L} \sqrt{\frac{EA}{\rho A}} = 2\pi N \text{ k-rad/s} = N \text{ kHz}$$

where N is the resonance number. Thus, counting and identifying the resonances for this problem will be easy.

Now scan <<stadyn.dyn>> and see that the peaks appear close to

1000 3000 4000 5000

It is obviously missing some resonances. In fact, it is picking up every other one. Now change the location of the force to Node 3 and re-run the program. (This is where using the script file can save a lot of time.) When this is done it will be seen that the peaks occur at

1000 2000 3000 5000 6000 7000

Again, it is missing some peaks. Experiment with other locations. What this is showing is that where the force is applied will determine what modes play a role in the response. That is, not all modes may be significant for a given type of loading. Try putting a force at every node; contrary to expectation not all modes are excited! Now try alternating the directions of the forces.

## 4.4 Transient Response

These tutorials show how StaDyn can be used to compute the forced transient response of a structure. The problem to be solved is

$$[K_E] + \chi[K_G] \{u\} + [C] \{\dot{u}\} + [M] \{\ddot{u}\} = \chi_1 \{P(t)\} + \chi_2 \{G(t)\}$$

Both the elastic stiffness and mass matrix must be assembled before the analysis can be performed. The effects of pre-stress can be included by adding the geometric stiffness  $[K_G]$ . Note that gravity can be applied with a specified history.

Two sets of files need to be ready. The first is of the structure itself and the other is of the input force and gravity histories. On the disk is a file <<force.t1>> which is a five point representation of a triangular pulse and we will use this as the forcing history. A separate file could be used for the gravity history, but we will use an additional column is the force file. Before we proceed, however, have a look at the <<force.t1>> file — it should have the following data

The first column is time in seconds, while the second column is load. The third column is the gravity history although it will not be used in this example. Note that there are only five data points, thus depending on the incremental rate chosen, this file will be interpolated as needed. This makes it convenient for inputting a variety of force histories — they can even be experimentally measured, for example, with many points.

The second file <<ex\_ft.1>> is the structure datafile. A transient loading problem usually requires significantly more elements for analysis than the corresponding static or vibration problem. Consequently, a need often arises where, for a given structure, the density of elements needs to be increased. We first demonstrate this with a rod.

## Remeshing a Frame

On the disk is a structure file called <<ex\_ft.1>> for a two noded free-free rod.

```
ex_ft.1 free-free rod ::HEADER GROUP

11
0 0 0 0 0
end
1 ::ELEMENT GROUP
1 1 1 2 2
```

```
end
1
                                         ::material #s
1 1
     1
end
2
                                         :: NODE GROUP
1
    0.0 0.0 0.0
   50.0 0.0 0.0
end
0
                                         ::boundary conditions
end
1
                                         ::applied loads
         0.0
                  0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
1
  1.0
end
1
                                         ::material props
  10.0e6 4.0e6 1.0
                                      1.0 1.0 1.0
                        2.5e-4 0.0
end
1
                                         ::SPECIALs GROUP
     0.0 0.0 0.0
2110
end
```

There are no boundary conditions for this problem but we must still include the section that specifies boundaries; hence the null group for the boundary conditions. Note that while the force history itself will be specified elsewhere, this file must say where it is applied. Thus, the entry 1.0 above could be used as a scaling factor. Indeed, multiple forces could be inputted and they will all act as scalings on the applied load history. In this way, distributed and vector loads can be applied. Keep in mind, however, that each of these forces will have the same time history. Note that the rod has no damping but a small amount of mass and/or stiffness proportional damping could be specified through the specials code [2110].

It is obvious that it is not possible to perform wave propagation studies with only a single element. Hence the purpose of this tutorial is to show how the program GenMesh can be used to remesh a structure to the required number of elements.

The interface of GenMesh is very similar to that of StaDyn, so run it as

#### C> genmesh

We wish to remesh the inputted structure, so choose

6

and you are asked for the new name and old name, respond

```
2 ex_ft.2 ex_ft.1
```

which leads to the re-mesh menu:

```
CHOOSE: 0=return
1=
2=remesh plate
3=remesh frame
4=add frame member
5=
6=reduce bandwidth
:
```

Choose to remesh a frame

3

The program wants to know how the structure is to be remeshed.

```
MULT factors:
INPUT: elm1 | elm2 | mult factor <0 0 0 to end>
```

It is looking for a range of elements and their corresponding multiplication factor. It is possible to overlap these ranges and thus save some typing. We have only one element so type

```
1 1 100
0 0 0
```

This has divided the original element into 100. Exit the program by typing

0

Look through the file <<ex\_ft.2>>. It is seen that indeed it has made 100 elements; however, notice that the last element has connectivity

```
100 1 101 2 2
```

While the program has remeshed the structure, it has not numbered the nodes in any optimum fashion — the original numbering is left intact. This can be useful sometimes, but generally, it means that the bandwidth has become unacceptably large and the nodes must be renumbered.

We will now repeat the procedure from the beginning and this time also renumber all the nodes.

```
C> genmesh
   6
   2
   ex_ft.2
   ex_ft.1
   3
   1  1  100
   0  0
```

We now want to renumber the nodes.

6 1

Notice that the initial bandwidth is 100. We are using the wavefront method which basically renumbers based on the proximity of nodes to each other. This is determined relative to the focus point, so in response to

```
INPUT wavefront center: x0 | y0 | z0
```

respond

```
-100 0 0
```

Note that the bandwidth is reduced to 2. Also, keep in mind that the renumbering is based on nodal number (not on the number of degrees of freedom of the reduced system) and so the bandwidth numbers may appear different from that obtained when using StaDyn.

Since the file is acceptable to us, update it and exit

2 0 0

Now look at <<ex\_ft.2>> to see that the connectivity of the last element is

```
100 1 100 101 101
```

This is what we wanted.

## Impact of a Rod

Run StaDyn, read in the structure datafile, and form the stiffness and mass matrices

```
C> stadyn
    2
    ex_ft.2
    30
    36
    0
    0
```

With both the stiffness and mass matrices formed, the transient analysis can be chosen

80

This leads to the sub-menu

```
TRANSient Problems: submenu
81: Distributed loadings {P}+{G}
82: Multiple ...
82: Pre-stress ... {dP}
84: Moving ...
86: All-node ...
```

We wish to use the loads specified in the structure datafile as the distribution of transient applied loads, hence choose

81

There are two stages to the transient analysis: a first time analysis when all the basic data is generated, and a post-processing stage when the snapshots are analyzed. (Snapshots are complete records of the nodal displacements at a particular instant, they are needed to obtain the member loads and element stresses.) Right now we just want to solve the problem, so in response to

```
CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post_analysis
```

choose

1

Sometimes it is convenient to have unit loads in the structure datafile or a load history that is normalized somehow and to use the analysis stage to scale the loads. In response to

```
INPUT scales: load | gravity
```

type

1000 0.0

At this stage we must input information about the time integration parameters

TYPE: time inc | # of incs | print count | snap count

The equations of motion are integrated incrementally in time. The program wants to know the time increment and how many of them. There is no hard and fast rule for this especially since the algorithm implemented is unconditionally stable; it is best to experiment. Since the time step may be finer than what is necessary for display of the results, the print count allows the output rate to be varied. Snapshots are necessary for the post-processing of the results to obtain stresses and strains; this is stored in binary form. For now we will not bother with snapshots so choose

1e-6 501 2 2

For dynamic problems, it is not feasible to output the results for every node because there is just too many of them and 99.9% of the information would probably not be used. So StaDyn allows selection of a limited number of nodes as output

CHOOSE nodal output:

TYPE: node # | DoF | rate (2=accn) < 0 0 0 to end>

Since each node can have up to six degrees of freedom (3 displacements and 3 rotations) and up to 3 rates (displacement, velocity, and acceleration), it is easy to see how the amount of information can mushroom. For now just select the velocity of Nodes 1, 51 and 101 as output. Velocities are usually good quantities to choose because they are related more directly to the loads.

1 1 1 51 1 1 101 1 1 0 0 0

This is a recurring menu allowing the nodes to be chosen randomly. Now the snapshot information

CHOOSE snapshot output: 0=none
1=partial disp
2=full disp
4=Full disp, vel, acc

For now choose

0

The final piece of information required is about the force history

@0 get {P} load history
@0 TYPE: Load\_Filename -->

Respond

force.t1

The file is then parsed for the appropriate columns

@@ INPUT: Time col | load col | # cols

Respond

1 2 3

Similar input is required for gravity

@@ get {Grav} load history
@@ TYPE: Load\_Filename -->

Give the responses

force.t1 1 3 3

The program now proceeds on its way, periodically echoing some information to the screen. Finally, back at the menu, exit by typing

0

The results are located in the file <<stadyn.dyn>> and are stored as

time P\_load G\_load resp 1 resp 2 ....

and in the present case it will have five columns. Note that the force is the linearly interpolated force. The times traces of these responses are shown in Figure 4.1. These numbers are best viewed using the utility program DiSPtool.

From the theory for the impact of rods [9], it can be established that the relationship between force and velocity is

$$\dot{u} = -\frac{Pc_o}{EA} = 0.02P$$

where  $c_o = \sqrt{EA/\rho A} = 200000$  in/s is the wave speed. For the current maximum load this gives a maximum velocity of 20 in/s. This is close to that given by the program as 19.939 which occurs at  $60 \mu s$ .

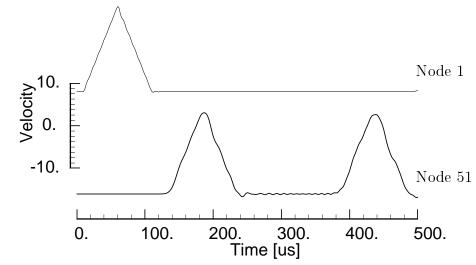


Figure 4.1: Time traces for impacted rod.

Now look at the behavior of the fourth column which corresponds to Node 51 that is half way along the rod at a distance of 20 in. Notice that the maximum value has decreased to 19.039 in/s and its time of occurrence is at 186  $\mu$ s. The further the wave propagates the more filtering the elements do but the propagation speed of 1 in in 5  $\mu$ s is hardly affected. Looking at the reflection at time = 438  $\mu$ s, the peak has further decreased to 18.629.

To understand what is happening, it is necessary to realize that the input force history with its sharp edges is rich in high frequencies. These high frequencies are filtered because the mesh density (element size) is not fully converged. To improve the results it is necessary to either use smaller elements (so that they pass a greater range of frequencies) or smooth the edges on the input force so that it is within the frequency range of the given element size.

As a good exercise, repeat all the above starting with <<ex\_ft.1>> but convert it into 200 elements. This will give a feel for the proper element size and the sort of performance to be expected from StaDyn.

## Post-Processing the Snapshots

Keep in mind that the basic set of unknowns in StaDyn are the nodal degrees of freedom and their time derivatives. Thus, during the dynamic event these are the easiest to record and store. Member information such as stresses and strains must be obtained as a post-processing operation on the displacements. Consequently, if at all possible, it is advisable to keep them out of the transient loop. This is why the concept of the snapshot is introduced.

Run StaDyn as above until the information about the snapshot is required.

C> stadyn

```
2
  ex_ft.2
  30
  36
  0
  0
  80
  81
  1
  1000
            0.0
                     2
                          2
           501
  1e-6
  1
        1
                1
        1
 51
                1
101
        1
                1
  0
        0
                0
```

CHOOSE snapshot: O=none 1=partial 2=full

Now select a partial snapshot

Since it is only a partial snapshot, the program wants to know what nodes are involved

```
TYPE: node # < 0 to end>
```

This is a recurring prompt, therefore many unconnected nodes can be chosen. Keep in mind, however, that determining member values requires knowledge of all nodes associated with an element; StaDyn insures that the appropriate nodes are included for the element of interest. In the present case we will only look at one node near the center of the rod, so choose

The rest of the responses are the same as before

```
force.t1
1 2 3
force.t1
1 3 3
0
```

The output for the partial snapshot is in <<stadyn.out>>. It is in ASCII text form, so look at it. The data is stored as node number followed by the three displacements and three rotations. The beginning of each snapshot contains the time and the number of elements stored. Note that there is duplication of the nodes; this occurs because the information stored is based on the triangular elements. Thus each group of three lines represent the element completely. Parenthetically, the record for the full snapshot would be stored in <<stadyn.snp>>; it is in BINARY form, so you cannot look at it without re-running StaDyn.

This snapshot information can now be converted to member loads and so on by re-running StaDyn in post-analysis mode. That is,

```
C> stadyn
   2
   ex_ft.2
   80
   81
```

Now choose the post-analysis for partial snap shots

2

We have a choice of the type of output

#### OUTPUT:

```
0=return
1=displacement
2=nodal strain [ue]
3=nodal stress
4=crack
5=element stress
7=force sum
<<plate>>
21=displacement
22=nodal strain [ue]
23=nodal stress
<<frame>>
25=displacement
26=nodal strain [ue]
27=nodal stress [F/A M/I]
```

Choose the nodal stresses

The final piece of information we give is the particular node of interest

```
INPUT: node #
```

The program will search through the snapshots to locate the nodal data, it will then check to insure that they belong to the same member. Exit the program by typing

0

The member stresses are stored in the file <<stadyn.dyn>> in the form of seven columns

```
time F_x/A F_y/A F_z/A M_x/I_x M_y/I_y M_z/I_z
```

The first is time, the next three are stresses, and the last three are bending like stresses (the actual stress is obtained by multiplying by the appropriate distance from the neutral axis). The maximum stress is -950.20 and it occurs at 186  $\mu$ s. The complete history is best viewed using the utility program DiSPtool.

Wave propagation is a complicated subject and it puts great demand on the program and the user. The above tutorial was to show the basic functioning of StaDyn and does not indicate its full potential. It is recommended to consult References [9, 14, 20] for more examples that can be tested against StaDyn.

## In-Plane Impact of a Long Plate

In this tutorial, we look at wave propagation in a 2-D in-plane plate. The plate resembles, somewhat, a beam but because it is modeled two-dimensionally it will exhibit the evolution of waveguide types of behaviors. Only one half of the plate is modeled since there is a line of symmetry at the left face.

Run StaDyn, read in the structure datafile, form the stiffness and mass matrices.

```
C> stadyn
2
    ex_pt.1
30
36
0
0
```

With both the stiffness and mass matrices formed, the transient analysis option can be chosen from the main menu.

80 81 1 1000 0.0

Now input the parameters for the time integration and the nodal outputs

1e-6		401	1	10
1	2	1		
73	2	1		
197	2	1		
0	0	0		

This will store the velocities at every  $1 \mu s$  and the snapshots at every  $10 \mu s$ . We will demonstrate the use of snapshots for obtaining contour plots of the stresses. So in response to

CHOOSE snapshot output: 0=none 1=partial 2=full

choose full snapshots

2

The last set of information required concerns the force and gravity histories

The program figures out how much data is in the force file and interpolates as needed based on the time increment.

The nodal velocity results are located in the file <<stadyn.dyn>> and are stored as

Time P\_load G\_load resp1 resp2 resp3 ....

By scanning this file, some of the maximum velocities occur at

60.00e-06 1000 304.26 245.68 229,13 260.00E-06 366.25 352.27 336.19 0 0 400.00E-06 0 0 -154.91-160.42-156.36

It is interesting how, over time, all monitored nodes tend to the same behavior.

As a good exercise, repeat the above but use more modules in the modeling, and try different step sizes. This will give a feel for the proper element size and the sort of performance to be expected from StaDyn.

We will now demonstrate how the snapshots can be post-processed to obtain contours of stress. Recall that we already have stored the full snapshots; to access this information type

```
c> stadyn
2
    ex_pt.1
80
81
2
```

until the information about the snapshot is required

```
CHOOSE snapshot: 0=none
1=partial disp
2=full disp
4=full disp, vel, acc
```

We stored the full snapshots, hence

2

Now we will retrieve a particular snapshot

```
CHOOSE snapshot:

0=return

#=which snap

-1=all snaps at one node

-2=all snaps at all nodes

-#=rate at #
```

The -1 option allows a single node to be monitored across all snapshots, this is used for generating time traces. Here we will look at a single snapshot. Choose the eleventh snapshot (i.e., time at  $100 \,\mu s$ )

11

and after you see the counter you are launched into the Post menu

```
POST menu:
0=return
LOCAL (member coords)
```

```
2=nodal strain [ue]
  3=nodal stress
  4=nodal force
  6=element stress
  7=force sum
 8=specials
       GLOBAL
 11=Global displacement
 12=Global loads
 14=Global assembled DoF loads
 15=Global assembled nodal loads
       CONTOURs
31=store displacement data
32=store strain
                        data
 33=store stress
                       data
              frames
34=store displacement data
35=store strain
                        data
36=store stress
                        data
100=
          << select FRAMEs
                               only
                                      >>
200=
          << select F_PLATEs
                               only
                                      >>
```

This is almost identical to the Post menu for static problems. We want to see the stresses, so select

33

Quit this menu and go to the PostScript output off the main menu.

At this sage we are given the contours menu

#### CONTOURs:

13: Move tagged surfaces

14: Add caption15: Toggle tags16: Change pens

The menu is divided into two parts: the top renders the PS file, while the bottom allows changing the defaults for the drawing parameters. We will change the pen thicknesses

16

and the choices are

```
INPUT pens: mesh | contour
current: 40.00 80.00
-->
```

Make the mesh lines thinner

15 80

Now choose to render the contours

5

to be given the DoF menu

```
DoF:
             1=u
                   2=v
                         3=w
                               4=Rx 5=Ry 6=Rz
             1=Exx 2=Eyy 3=Exy 4=Kxx 5=Kyy 6=Kxy
             1=Sxx 2=Syy 3=Sxy 4=Mxx 5=Myy 6=Mxy
             1=Yes 0=No -1=Black
Mesh:
Legend:
             1=Yes 0=No -1=Black
INPUT:
       DoF
             scale
                      mesh ? | legend ?
```

Of interest now are the x-direction stresses since they relate to the bending stresses in beams. Choose this component and quit

```
1 1.0 1 1
0
0
```

Before we look at the contours, it is worth pointing out that to access the other components of stress for this snapshot it is only necessary to enter the PostScript files menu option. If, however, a different snapshot is desired then all of the above procedure needs to be redone.

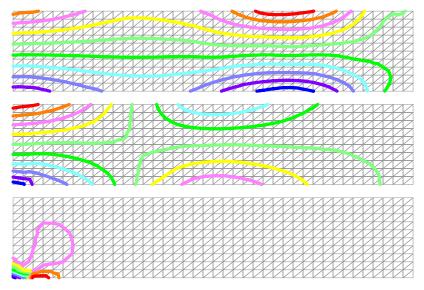


Figure 4.2: Contours of bending stress  $\sigma_{xx}$  at three different times.

Look at the output in <<p1.ps>>, this is the PostScript file of the contours. This can be sent directly to a PostScript printer, or can be viewed using the GhostScript program. The file will produce color contours as is shown in Figure 4.2. These contours clearly show the alternating stress sign that is typical in flexural wave propagation.

Make a script file for the postprocessing and look at the stresses. As shown in Figure 4.2 the stress distribution is highly non-uniform; hence also look at the shear stress  $\sigma_{xy}$  and note that its peaks correspond to zeros in the bending action.

The configuration for the contour plots is stored in the file S<<stadyn.ctr>>. This has the organization

```
geometry::
X Y position
mesh, contour pen thickness
rotations X Y Z
label positions X Y and size
modes::
sub-structure flags
```

Sometimes it may be more convenient to make the adjustment through this file rather than through the program.

## Chapter 5

# **Nonlinear Analyses with** NonStaD **and** Simplex

NonStaD (NONlinear STAtic and Dynamic analysis) is designed to perform nonlinear static and dynamic analyses of thin-walled structures whereas Simplex does the same for 3-D solids. This chapter presents a few tutorials that cover the basics of these nonlinear analyses. Note that both the computational cost and computer resources increases substantially for these types of problems.

The main nonlinear capabilities of NonStaD/Simplex involve determining the member displacements and loads, and structural reactions for:

- Static incremental analysis
- Dynamic implicit incremental analysis
- Dynamic explicit incremental analysis

Simplex has the additional capability of nonlinear constitutive relations in the form of plasticity and rubber elasticity. The programs are menu driven in much the same way as for StaDyn; indeed as they proceed, they create a number of files which share the same names (and internal format) as for StaDyn. The primary files are:

```
nonstad.cfg stadyn.stf stadyn.dis
nonstad.log stadyn.mas stadyn.snp
stadyn.out stadyn.mat
stadyn.dyn stadyn.geo
stadyn.mon stadyn.lod
```

The .LOG file echoes all the input responses as well as having some extra information that might prove useful during post analysis of the results. The .DYN and .OUT files are the usual locations for NonStaD/Simplex output; there is the additional output file <<stadyn.mon> that contains monitored information (such as vibration eigenvalues) that are very useful in nonlinear analyses. The second column of files are associated

with various system matrices such as the stiffness matrix and the mass matrix — these are left on disk in case they may be of value for some other purpose. They are in binary form. The last column of files are output files. They too are in binary form for compactness but can be read for further post-processing.

Regularly have a look in the <<stadyn.log>> because it contains lots of additional information about the functioning of NonStaD and Simplex.

## 5.1 Large Deflection Analysis of a Beam

This tutorial considers the large deflection of a cantilevered beam subjected to a transverse load. Elementary linear beam theory would indicate only a transverse deflection but such a situation would generate enormous axial forces in the beam. The nonlinear analysis accounts for these axial loads correctly in an incremental/iterative manner.

#### Getting Started with NonStaD

NonStaD is designed to run as a console program under MS Windows. Note that all instructions are case insensitive; we will vary the case only to help make the instructions clearer.

To run the program, type (at the 'C prompt')

```
C> nonstad
```

(note the name of the executable.) to be given the opening menu

```
MAIN menu:
        0: Quit
        2: Read in structure DataFile
           <<Elastic>>
                                             (full NR)
       13: Static Incremental Analysis
       14: Incremental Time Analysis
                                             (imp, NR)
      142:
                                             (imp, NR)
                             Analysis
       18: Incremental CoRot Wave Analysis (exp)
      182:
                              Wave Analysis (exp)
            << Cohesive >>
       26: Incremental CoRot cohesive
                                         (exp)
       27: Incremental CoRot cohesive
                                         (exp, init)
           <<Elastic/Plastic>>
      342: Incremental Time Mult_loads
                                             (imp, NR)
       38: Incremental CoRot Wave Analysis (exp)
      382:
                              Mult_loads
                                             (exp)
            << Extras >>
      700: PostScript plot files
      800: System services
      911: Ikayex information
```

The biggest difference in comparison to the linear analyses of StaDyn is the absence of the option to form the system matrices; in nonlinear analyses, the system matrices change during the analyses and are therefore part of the particular analyses. Quit by typing

0

There are two files worth looking at. The first is the log file <<nonstad.log>>; use the list utility to peruse it. It contains

```
@@ NonStaD version 3.10, August 2001
                          TIME: 11:11
@@ DATE: 8- 1-2001
                             500000
@@ MAXimum storage
@@ MAXimum elements
                               3000
@@ MAXimum nodes
                               3000
@@ MAXimum force incs:
                               3000
@@ ITERmax
                                 16
@@ rtol
                           1.00000E-10
@@ ALLOCATION succeeded
          O::MAIN
@@ NonStaD OK, ended from MAIN
```

The second is <<nonstad.cfg>>. This is the configuration file and has in it

```
500000
                 :: MaxStorage
       3000
                 :: MaxNode
       3000
                 ::MaxElem
      10000
                 ::MaxForce
           1
                  ::ilump
          16
                  ::itermax
          1.000000E-010
                               ::rtol
@@ DATE: 8- 1-2001
                           TIME: 11:11
```

This allows the run time setting of the dimensions of the arrays. If a memory allocation failure occurs, this is the place to make the adjustments.

## Incremental/Iterative Solution

The element formulation for the linear static analysis of a beam is exact irrespective of the element size. This is not true for a nonlinear analysis. The one element structure datafile for our beam is in the file <<ex\_fn.1>> and contains

```
ex_fn.1: doyle pp219
                                        :: HEADER GROUP
22
1
    1
         1
             1
end
1
                                        :: ELEMENT GROUP
      3
                  2
                       2
1
             1
end
```

```
1
                                     ::matl distn
1
     1
          1
end
2
                                     :: NODE GROUP
                   0.000000
                                  .0000000
1
    .0000000
2 10.0000000
                  0.000000
                                  .0000000
end
1
                                     ::boundary condns
1
     0
        0 0
                    0
end
1
                                     ::applied loads
2
        1.0 0.0
                     0.0 0.0 0.0
                                      0.0
end
1
                                     ::matl props
1
                     2.5e-4 0
                                            16.66e-5 8.33e-5
    10e6
          4e6 0.1
                                  16.66e-5
end
0
                                     ::SPECIALs GROUP
end
```

It is cantilevered at one end and has a transverse load at the other. The Remesh capability of GenMesh was used to convert this into a model with ten elements which is called <<ex\_fn.2>>.

NonStaD's nonlinear solvers use a combination of multiple load increments plus Newton-Raphson equilibrium iterations at each increment. This tutorial shows a simple example.

Run NonStad and read the structure datafile

```
C> nonstad
2
  ex_fn.2
```

The choices for implicit nonlinear analyses are

```
13: Static Incremental Analysis (full NR)
14: Incremental Time Analysis (imp,NR)
142: .. Mult_loads (imp,NR)
```

The second of these uses a pseudo-time for static problems. We will choose the first option to do an analysis

```
13
1
```

The information required is the load level plus the number of increments.

```
TYPE: force max | # of incs | max # inc | follower (0=N,1=Y)
```

We will load to 100 using five increments. If NonStaD has difficulty converging it will divide the load increment; the maximum number of increments is set to prevent an infinite loop. Finally, unlike a linear analysis, the load in a large deflection problem can either keep its original direction or follow the deforming shape of the structure. We will keep the load pointing in the same direction.

```
100
               20
        10
                     0
```

The algorithm has a number of parameters to control the radius of convergence; two of the parameters are

00 
$$u = u + beta*du K = K_E + gamma*K_G$$
INPUT: beta | gamma '

Input

The Newton-Raphson iterations use a tolerance criterion for convergence, however to prevent locking it is good to set a reasonable upper limit on the maximum number of iterations. In response to

```
INPUT:
             iter max | tolerance (<1.0e-5)
input
       50
```

Finally, we need to choose the nodal outputs.

```
CHOOSE nodal output:
TYPE: node # | DoF
                                   <0 0 to end>
```

We will monitor the end (load) point

1e-6

Quit the program

0 0

The results are in the file <<stadyn.dyn>>. The final line gives

```
100.000
        -5.92907
                    8.29978
                               1.46854
                                          5.00000
```

This is a large deflection. The last column in the output is the number of iterations at that load step. In general, as the increment is increased so too do the number of iterations. It is difficult to know in advance the right balance between load increments versus number of iterations.

#### Pseudo-Time Incremental Analysis

Because nonlinear static problems require a series of load steps, then we can think of these increments as occurring over time. We will repeat the previous problem by applying a load history from the force file <<force.14>> with the following data

0 0 10 100 20 100

The first column is time in seconds, while the second column is load. The time scale is so slow that inertia effects are negligible. Note that there are only three data points, thus depending on the incremental rate chosen, this file will be interpolated as needed. This makes it convenient for inputting a variety of forces — they can even be experimentally measured, for example, with many points.

Run NonStaD as before

```
C> nonstad
2
  ex_fn.2
```

The transient implicit option is chosen

14

There are two stages to the transient analysis: a first time analysis when all the basic data is generated, and a post-processing stage when the snapshots are analyzed. (Snapshots are complete records of the nodal displacements at a particular instant, they are needed to obtain the member loads.) Right now we just want to solve the problem, so in response to

```
CHOOSE: 0=return 1=analysis 2=post-analysis
```

1

choose

You are now asked for

```
TYPE: time inc | # of incs | print count | snap count
```

The equations of motion are integrated incrementally in time. The program wants to know the time increment and how many of them. There is no hard and fast rule for this especially since the algorithm implemented is unconditionally stable; it is best to experiment. Since the time step may be finer than what is necessary for display of the results, the print count allows the output rate to be varied. Snapshots are necessary for the post-processing of the results to obtain moments and forces. This can be stored in binary form and used later to obtain the forces and moments. For now we will not bother with snapshots so choose

For the parameters

00 
$$u = u + beta*du K = K_E + gamma*K_G$$
INPUT: beta | gamma | ramp '

input

The ramp modifies beta so that the full increment of displacement is not applied until the ramp integer number; this is particularly useful for problems (such as beams) where the initial linear deflections are large. The Newton-Raphson iterations use a tolerance criterion for convergence, however to prevent locking it is good to set a reasonable upper limit on the maximum number of iterations. In response to

```
@@ algor 1=full N-R 2=mod N-R INPUT: algor | iter max | tolerance (<1.0e-5)
```

input

For dynamic problems, it is not feasible to output the results for every node because there is just too many of them and 99.9% of the information would probably not be used. So StaDyn allows you to select a limited number of nodes as output

```
CHOOSE nodal output:

TYPE: node # | DoF | rate (2=accn) < 0 0 0 to end>
```

Since each node can have up to six degrees of freedom (3 displacements and 3 rotations) and up to 3 rates (displacement, velocity, and acceleration) it is easy see how the amount of information can mushroom. We will monitor the displacements of the end (load) point

```
11 1 0
11 2 0
11 6 0
0 0 0
```

This is a recurring menu where the nodes (and DoF) can be chosen in any preferred sequence. The next information required is

```
@@ Eigen type: 0=none 1=? 2=subspace
INPUT Eigen: type | rate | # vectors | scale 1 | 2
```

A characteristic of nonlinear problems is that the stiffness can change with load. Indeed, the stiffness can go to zero resulting in a structurally unstable condition. A unique feature of NonStaD is that it can monitor the changing stiffness by reporting the vibration eigenvalues. This will be explored in the next tutorial, for now input

```
0 100 1 0 0
```

The final piece of information required is the force history

```
TYPE: Force_Filename -->
```

To which respond

The file is then parsed for the appropriate columns

```
@@ INPUT: Time col | Force col | # cols
```

Respond

1 2 2

The force histories can be scaled by

```
@@ {P} | {Grav} | 3rd |
TYPE force scales: P1 | P2 | P3 | P4
```

We will simply choose

```
1.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
```

The program now proceeds on its way, periodically echoing some numbers to the screen. Finally you are given the menu again, so exit by typing

0

0

The results are located in the file <<stadyn.dyn>> and is stored as

```
time load_1 ... resp_1 resp_2 .... iter hist_1 ....
```

and in the present case it will have nine columns. Note that the force is the linearly interpolated force.

```
11.00 100.0 -5.92874 8.29962 1.46851 6.0 .000 .000
```

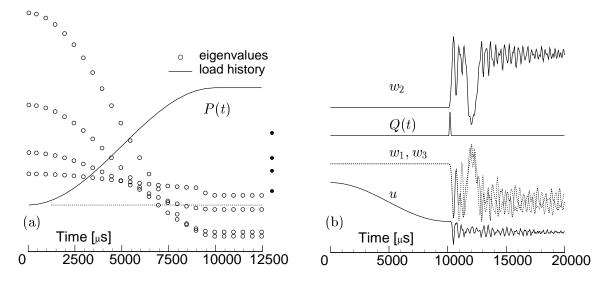
These are almost identical to the results for the previous tutorial.

## 5.2 Structural Instability

It is a characteristic of nonlinear systems that the structural stiffness can change under load. This is investigated here.

We consider a plate of dimensions  $[6 \times 2 \times 0.1 \,\mathrm{in^3}]$  made of aluminum and loaded uniformly along the east edge. Such a load causes only an inplane uniform  $\sigma_{xx}$  stress. We will apply the load smoothly to a level above the first buckling load to see what happens. More details on the problem can be found in Reference [11].

The mesh file is called <<ex\_pn.1>> and the load is in file <<force.14p>>. The shape of the history is shown in Figure 5.1(a) as P(t).



**Figure 5.1**: Axially loaded plate. (a) Eigenvalue behavior against load. (b) Displacements after critical load and transverse ping applied.

### Changing Eigenvalues

Run NonStaD as for the pseudo-time problem

When asked for

```
TYPE: time inc | # of incs | print count | snap count respond
```

```
50e-6 251 1 10
```

We will do this problem on a time scale where inertia effects are significant. Set the algorithm parameters as

```
1 1 5
1 50 1e-6
```

We wish to monitor both the in-plane and out-of-plane behavior, so in response to

```
CHOOSE nodal output:
      TYPE:
                 node # |
                             DoF | rate (2=accn)
                                                       < 0 0 0 to end>
select
      125
           1
               0
      107
           3
               0
      113
           3
               0
      119
           3
               0
        0
               0
```

This monitors the displacement at the loaded edge, and the out-of-plane behavior at the three quarter points along the centerline. The next monitoring information required is

```
@@ Eigen type: 0=none 1=? 2=subspace
INPUT Eigen: type | rate | # vectors | scale 1 | 2
```

A unique feature of NonStaD is that it can monitor the changing stiffness by reporting the vibration eigenvalues. This is the main point to be explored in the this tutorial. The TYPE=1 option chooses vector iteration which reports only the lowest eigenvalue while the TYPE=2 option chooses subspace iteration which reports the ten lowest eigenvalues. In both cases the eigenvalues are stored in the file <<stadyn.mon>>. The remaining option refer to the number of vectors (mode shapes) to be recorded. These are relevant here, so choose

```
2 10 5 1.0 1.0
```

The final piece of information required is the force history

```
@0 get {P} history:
TYPE: Force_Filename -->
```

Respond with the name and relevant column information

```
force.14p
1 2 2
```

The force histories must now be scaled

For dynamic problems, there are three contributions to the total magnitude of an applied load. First, there is the scale set in the structure datafile, second there is the scale set in the history file, and third, is the scale that can be set here. The history file has a maximum magnitude of 1000, and a linear buckling analysis gave a lowest eigenvalue of 86,000, hence to load the plate beyond its first buckling load, input

```
-110 0.0 0.0 0.0
```

The negative sign makes the load compressive. The scales on  $P_2$  and  $P_3$  refer to additional loads — we consider this in the next example.

The program now proceeds on its way, periodically echoing numbers to the screen; some of these numbers may be recognized as those from a vibration eigenanalysis as discussed in Chapter 4. Finally, exit the program by typing

0

The response results are located in the file <<stadyn.dyn>> and are stored as

```
time load_1 load_2 .... resp_1 resp_2 .... iter hist_1 ...
```

and in the present case it will have 12 columns. The final line is

```
.1250E-01 -11000.0 .... -.660E-01 .0 .0 .0 ...
```

Note that the only displacement is the in-plane displacement of the loaded edge. The interesting results are in the <<stadyn.mon>> file which gives the vibration eigenvalues. These are shown plotted in Figure5.1(a). The results indicate three points of interest. First, as the load changes so do the vibrational characteristics. Since the mass is not changing then we conclude the stiffness is changing. Second, the mode interchanges. Third, it is possible for the eigenvalue to become negative. This means that the frequency  $\omega = \sqrt{\lambda}$  becomes complex which in turn says that the system is unstable. However, the displacements do not indicate the large displacements usually associated with an instability. This point is taken up in the next example.

## Initiating the Instability

Because a structure becomes unstable does not mean that it will actually exhibit the instability in terms of a large displacement or a bifurcation — an agent is necessary. In this tutorial, we will make the structure unstable just as in the previous tutorial, then we will apply a short duration (ping) transverse loading to initiate the bifurcation behavior.

We need to change <<ex\_pn.1>> in two ways. First, append to the load lines

```
113 0 0 1 0 0 0 -3
```

and change the total number of loads to 10 ::boundary loads. This indicates that a transverse point load is applied at the center of the plate; the history will be read in as the third force history (the second is gravity, if present). The second change is that damping must be added so as to settle the vibrations in a reasonable time.

```
1 ::SPECIALs GROUP
2110 8e-2 0.0 0.0
end
```

The resulting file is labelled <<ex\_pn.1b>> on the disk. The ping history is given in the file <<ping.14p>> and is shown in Figure 5.1(b) as Q(t).

Run NonStaD similarly to the previous tutorial

```
C> nonstad
    2
    ex_pn.1b
    14
    1
    50e-6
                   2
            401
    1.0
             1.0
                    5
    1
             50
                    1e-6
   125
              0
         1
   107
         3
              0
   113
         3
              0
   119
         3
              0
    0
         0
              0
       10
              5
                 1.0 1.0
    2
    force.14p
    1 2 2
```

The only difference is that another force filename must be inputted and the response is monitored over a longer period of time.

```
@@ get {P_3} history:
TYPE: Force_Filename -->
```

Input

```
ping.14p
1 2 2
```

The third force can have a spatial distribution specified within the structure file or as a combination of the vibration eigenvectors. A nonzero scale on  $P_4$  in

would construct a third force whose spatial distribution is a combination of the first two vibration mode shapes when  $\lambda < 0$ . We will simply choose

```
-110.0 0.0 1.0e-1 0.0
```

A nonzero scale on  $P_3$  would construct a second force whose spatial distribution is a combination of the first two current vibration mode shapes.

The program now proceeds on its way, periodically echoing numbers to the screen. Finally, exit the program by typing

0

The response results are located in the file <<stadyn.dyn>> and the final line is

Use the utility DiSPtool to view these results. Note that there are displacements at all the nodes. The complete histories are shown in Figure 5.1(b); note that the transverse displacements begin only after the application of the ping. Furthermore, although the transverse load is symmetric (point load at the center) and the geometry is symmetric, the motion of the plate is nonsymmetric as witnessed by the  $w_1$  and  $w_3$  displacement histories being slightly different. It is also interesting to note the final eigenvalues given in the file <<stadyn.mon>>, (these are shown plotted in Figure 5.1(b) as the full circles); they are all positive showing that the plate has found a new equilibrium position. The final deflected shape is a [31] mode as expected from buckling theory.

#### Dynamic Instability: follower loads

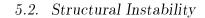
This tutorial solves a nonlinear dynamic problem using the explicit integration scheme. The particular problem considered is the type of instability occurring under follower loads. More details of the problem can be found in Reference [11].

We will use a beam similar to that of <<ex\_fn.2>> but modified for damping. That is, the specials section becomes

```
1 ::SPECIALs GROUP
2110 8e-2 0.0 0.0
2310 1.0 0.0 0.0
end
```

The [2310] code indicates that all loads are follower loads. The resulting file is labelled  $<<ex_fn.5>>$  on the disk.

Run NonStaD as before but choose the explicit time integration option



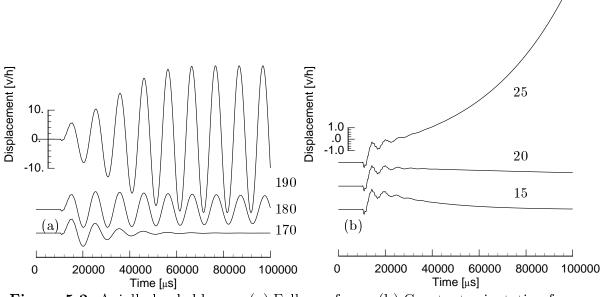


Figure 5.2: Axially loaded beam. (a) Follower force. (b) Constant orientation force.

When asked for

Typically, explicit integration requires a very small time step, hence the print count is used to thin the stored data.

We wish to monitor the tip behavior of the beam, so in response to

```
CHOOSE nodal output:
      TYPE:
                   node #
                                        rate (2=accn)
                                                            < 0 0 0 to end>
                               DoF
select
                 0
        11
            1
            2
                 0
        11
            1
                 1
        11
            2
                 1
        11
         0
            0
                 0
```

159

The type and rate of storing the snapshots is selectable

```
@@ SNAPshot type: 0=none 1=partial 2=full
@@ CHOOSE : type | count
```

Choose

2 200

The final piece of information required are the force histories: primary, gravity, and additional. Respond

The ping load is placed at the beam center

The force histories can be scaled

Input

```
-0.170 0.0 1.0 0.0
```

The negative sign makes the primary load compressive and the file <<force.14p>> already is scaled to 1000.

The program now proceeds on its way, periodically echoing some numbers to the screen. Finally you are given the menu again so exit by typing

0

The results are located in the file StaDyn.DYN and is stored as

```
time load_1 load_2 load_3 resp_1 resp_2 .... hist_1 ...
```

and in the present case it will have 10 columns. Use the utility DiSPtool to view these results and they should look like those in Figure 5.2(a). For reference, the final line is

which indicates a relatively small displacement.

Now repeat the run but having changed the load scales to

```
TYPE force scales: P1 | P2 | P3 | P4 -.190 0.0 1.0 0.0
```

The final line is

```
.10000 -190.0 .000 .000 -.776172E-01 -1.12609 -234.720 ... 1000.00 1000.00 .000
```

indicating a much larger displacement as shown in Figure 5.2(a).

By way of contrast, repeat the run having set the follower load off.

```
1 ::SPECIALs GROUP
2110 8e-2 0.0 0.0
2310 0.0 0.0 0.0
end
```

The results are shown in Figure 5.2(b). First note that the load to cause the instability is considerably lower than the case of the follower load. Second, the characteristic of the instability is different in that for this latter case the displacement increases monotonically, whereas for the follower load case it does so while oscillating. This is the difference between a static instability and a dynamic instability.

## 5.3 Elastic-Plastic Behavior using Simplex

Simplex is designed to run as a console program under MS Windows. Note that all instructions are case insensitive; we will vary the case only to help make the instructions clearer. This tutorial will demonstrate it ability to model elastic-plastic behavior.

#### Getting Started

To run the program, type (at the 'C prompt')

```
C> simplex
```

(note the name of the executable.) to be given the opening menu

```
MAIN menu:
```

```
0: Quit
```

2: Read in structure DataFile

<<li>analyses>>

30: Form system matrices

60: Static loading

80: Transient loading

90: Eigenalysis

<<imposed large deformation>>

200: Incremental 3-D

<<nonlinear elastic, elastic-plastic>>

400: Incremental 3-D

<<heat conduction>>

500: Quasi static

:

700: PostScript plot files

911: Ikayex information

One difference in comparison to NonStaD is that Simplex has a full implementation of the linear analyses including the option to form the system matrices. Quit by typing

0

There are two files worth looking at. The first is the log file <<simplex.log>>; use the list utility to peruse it. It contains

The second is <<simplex.cfg>>. This is the configuration file and has in it

```
5000000
                 :: MaxStorage
                 ::MaxNode
       3000
                 ::MaxElem
       3000
                       ::MaxForce
       3000
              200
          1
                  ::ilump
         16
                  ::itermax
         1.000000E-010
                               ::rtol
@@ DATE:
         8-10-2007
                           TIME: 15:54
```

This allows the run time setting of the dimensions of the arrays. If a memory allocation failure occurs, this is the place to make the adjustments.

#### Uniaxial Loading-Unloading Behavior

We consider a bar of dimensions  $[10 \times 1.0 \times 0.5 \,\mathrm{in^3}]$  made of aluminum and loaded uniformly at one end. Such a load generates essentially a uniaxial state of stress  $\sigma_{xx}$ . We will apply the load history smoothly to a level above yield, then unload and reload to above yield again.

The mesh file is called <<ex\_ep.1>> and is the same as generated in Section 2.9; the load history is specified in file <<force.53p>> and contains

```
0
    0
2
    0.6
          0
    1.0
10
          0
12
    1.1
          0
14
    0.0
          0
    0.0
          0
15
    0.0
14
          0
19
    1.6
          0
    1.6
20
```

This will be interpolated as needed.

Run Simplex as for the pseudo-time problem using NonStaD

```
C> simplex
```

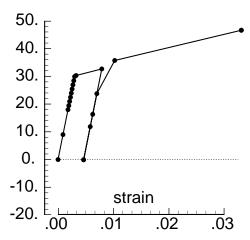


Figure 5.3: Stress-strain behavior of axially loaded bar.

```
2
ex_ep.1
400
```

This accesses the nonlinear analyses menu

```
410: Incremental Static E 3-D TL
420: Incremental dynamic E 3-D TL
424: ... E 3-D TL mult
440: Incremental dynamic E 3-D EXP
442: ... gen 3-D EXP
450: Incremental Static Rubber 3-D TL
460: Incremental Static E/P 3-D TL
```

The designations TL refer to the implicit Total Lagrangian and explicit Central Difference schemes, respectively. Choose the elastic/plastic analysis

```
460
1
```

When asked for

```
INPUT: time inc | # of incs | print count | snap count respond > 1.0 21 1 1
```

For the parameters

input

```
1.0 1.0 5
```

The ramp modifies beta so that the full increment of displacement is not applied until the ramp integer number; this is particularly useful for problems (such as beams) where the initial linear deflections are large. The Newton-Raphson iterations use a tolerance criterion for convergence, however to prevent locking it is good to set a reasonable upper limit on the maximum number of iterations. In response to

Most of the information we require will come from the post-processing, but this time through the analysis we will monitor some node behaviors to confirm the correct solution of the problem. In response to

This monitors the displacements midway along the bar. The next monitoring information required is

```
@@ Eigen types: 0=none 1=? 2=subspace
INPUT Eigen: type | rate | # vectors | scale 1 | 2
```

A unique feature of NonStaD and Simplex is that they can monitor the changing stiffness by reporting the vibration eigenvalues. This will not be explored in the this tutorial, so type

```
0 10 5
```

During the formation of the mass matrix, the option is given to store it, we will choose not to store it with

0

The final information required are the load histories.

```
@@ get {P} history:
TYPE: Load_Filename -->
```

Respond with the name and relevant column information

```
force.53p
1 2 3
```

Then the gravity history

```
@0 get {Grav} history:
TYPE: Load Filename -->
```

Respond with

The load histories must now be scaled

For dynamic problems, there are three contributions to the total magnitude of an applied load. First, there is the scale set in the structure datafile, second there is the scale set in the history file, and third, is the scale that can be set here. The history file has a nominal value of order 1.0 and yielding is expected at  $\sigma_{xx} = \sigma_Y = 30000$  psi. Since 1 psi was applied at then end, then we will scale the loads as

```
30000 0.0 0.0 0.0
```

The negative sign makes the load compressive.

The program now proceeds on its way, periodically echoing numbers to the screen. Finally, exit the program by typing

0

The response results are located in the file <<stadyn.dyn>> and are stored as

```
time load_1 load_2 load_3 resp_1 resp_2 .... iter hist_1 ...
```

and in the present case it will have 15 columns. The final line is

```
20.00 48000.0 0.0 0.0 .153508 .773796E-02 .386638E-02 ....
```

Note that the axial displacement corresponds to an axial strain of about  $\epsilon_{xx} \approx .153508/5 = .0307$ in/in  $\approx 3.1\%$  and is therefore well into the yield region of  $\epsilon_Y = \sigma_Y/E = 30000/10e6 = 0.3\%$ .

#### Post-processing the Results

All the displacement data is stored in the snapshot file <<stadyn.snp>>, quantities such as stress, plastic strain, and so on must be obtained by post-processing these snapshots.

Run Simplex to get to the elastic-plastic post-processing menu

```
C> simplex
   2
   ex_ep.1
   400
   460
   2
```

The snapshots can be interrogated individually or a sequence

```
CHOOSE snapshot:
0=return
#=which snap
-#=all snaps
```

We will look at traces so choose

-1

and get the menu

```
CHOOSE output:
       0=return
         <movie>
      111=node displacement
      141=store displacement data
        <<Hex20>>
  41x=displacement history
      411=displacement
  42x=Lagrange strain history
      421=element strain IP
      422=element strain N
      424=nodal strain average
      427=element strain special
      428=nodal
                strain special
  43x=Kirchhoff stress history
      431=element stress IP
      432=element stress N
      434=nodal
                  stress average
```

```
437=element stress special
    438=nodal
               stress special
44x=Cauchy stress history
    441=element stress IP
    442=element stress N
    444=nodal
               stress average
    447=element stress special
    448=nodal
               stress special
450=force history
46x=Plastic strain history
    461=element all IP
    462=element strain N
    464=nodal strain average
    468=nodal
               strain special
    469=nodal
               all average
```

Choose to store all the stress and strains at the particular Node 61 and quit

469

61

0

The results are in the file <<stadyn.dyn>> in the format

```
time Exx Eyy .... SKxx SKyy .... SCxx SCyy .... EPxx EPyy .... where SK are the Kirchhoff stresses and SC the Cauchy stresses. The last line contains 20.00 .330446E-01 ... 46623.7 ... 49664.6 ... .283885E-01 ...
```

The complete stress-strain response is shown in Figure 5.3.

## Chapter 6

# **Utilities**

Since it is cumbersome for a single program such as QED to do all that is required (analysis, postprocessing, model generation, plotting, editing, documentation of results, and so on), the design decision was taken to shift some of these functions onto external programs. An obvious example of this is the fact that GenMesh and StaDyn are executable programs separate from QED itself. Thus the user, potentially, has the option of substituting their own favorite programs for the ones provided.

This chapter reviews some of the additional utilities provided as part of the QED package.

#### 6.1 PlotMesh

There is a need for visual verification of the input data and this is what PlotMesh provides. It is not a graphics environment for data input but a simple means of visually verifying and interrogating the structure input datafile. It works on the same files that is used as input to StaDyn/NonStaD/Simplex as well as the intermediate meshes generated by GenMesh.

To run this utility, simply type

#### C> plotmesh

The input file must adhere to the conventions of StaDyn/NonStaD/Simplex — after all it is its input file that is being checked. Interaction is through the keyboard, generally by pressing the highlighted key. When input in the form of numbers is required, the input is terminated with a carriage return. To read in a file, press

0

and type the filename

#### filename

Once the structure is displayed, then various keys can be used to enhance the information. The help key

h

displays the various active keys. This is a *toggle* switch which means it is turned off by pressing it a second time.

After PlotMesh reads in the structure datafile, it makes a best guess as to how to display the mesh on the screen. If it is too large or too small use the magnification to size appropriately. If white bands appear across the screen then this is an indication that the scales are too large. The structural information is displayed through the use of the three cursor switches

$$a/A$$
  $b/B$   $c/C$ 

These check the numbering of the nodes (triangle Apexes), Boundaries, and the element Centroids, respectively. The nearest node to any point can be found by [pressing nx] and inputting the coordinates.

There are the refresh and home keys

r/R

Refresh means the screen is redrawn as is, and R means the initial settings are reestablished (except for any scalings). All of the keys can be used in combination if so desired. The program is exited by pressing the 6.1. PlotMesh 171

q

key.

Meshes can also be viewed three-dimensionally by pressing

d

for a 3-D animated rotation. The keys

$$x/X$$
  $y/Y$   $z/Z$ 

animate the rotation about these three axes. Incremental rotation of the structure is obtained by pressing the keys

Finally, the **%size** allows the display to show the difference between plate and frame elements.

The size of the PlotMesh window can be changed by editing the second line of the configuration file <<plotmesh.cfg>> (while Plotmesh is not running).

#### 6.2 FormGen

There is not a general graphical user interface for running GenMesh. Further, the standard models produced by QED (while varied and flexible) are only a subset of those produced by GenMesh. The program FormGen (FORM GENerator) was written to be the interface for GenMesh. This program is now part of the QED program itself and is accessed off the [Create Models] menu as the [:General] option.

The interface motif for FormGen is that of forms: the information required by GenMesh for its model building is laid out as fields to be entered in a form. There are six forms:

Plane 2-D models
Arbitrary 2-D Models
Thin-wall 3-D Structures
Frame 3-D Structures
Merge Models
Render Structure DataFile

The information for each form is stored in the file <<fgen.cfg>> so that each working form is easily recreated.

When the form is completed, it is converted into script files (either <<inmesh>> or <<insdf>>) and the model rendered by running GenMesh in batch mode in the background. The produced model can then be viewed using PlotMesh. If the final name of the model is given as <<qed.sdf>>, then it can be used directly for analysis by QED.

All interaction is via the keyboard, generally by pressing the first uppercase letter key or the number/letter before the colon. When input in the form of numbers is required, the input is terminated with a carriage return.

If a particular form is not general enough for the model at hand; for example, the 3-D frame has more than 15 control points, a simple way to overcome the limitation is to edit and amplify the generated script file. That is, use the forms to produce a (complete) reduced model, then directly modify the produced script file(s) to include the additional aspects. The model is then rendered by typing

genmesh < inmesh

6.3. DiSPtool 173

#### 6.3 DiSPtool

Many of the results produced by StaDyn/NonStaD are in the form of columns of numbers against time. There is a need for visual interpretation of these numbers as well as for further manipulation. This is what DiSPtool (DIgital Signal Processing TOOL) provides.

Interaction is through the keyboard, generally by pressing the highlighted key. When input in the form of numbers is required, the input is terminated with a carriage return.

To run this program, type

```
C> disptool
```

to be given the opening menu

```
Quit
Time Domain Input:
One_Channel
Two_Channel
Freq Domain Input:
One_Channel
Two_Channel
View Multiple Columns
```

Time Domain Input takes one or two channels of time dependent data and does various transforms on them including smoothing, windowing, and Fourier transforms. It can also generate particular histories that can be used. for example, as input force histories. A reminder of the available keys is given at the bottom of the screen.

Freq Domain Input takes one or two channels of frequency dependent data and does various transforms on them including windowing, and Inverse Fourier transforms. A reminder of the available keys is given at the bottom of the screen.

View Multiple Columns reads a file with up to 99 columns of data, determines automatically how many columns, and displays the columns in various ways. A reminder of the available keys is given at the bottom of the screen.

In each case, a window can be zoomed by pressing the window number (1,2,3, or 4) and a second file can be superposed by [pressing i]. Also, selected columns can be stored by [pressing s].

Re-reading of a file (and re-doing the various manipulations) can be forced by [pressing R]. This is useful if the file was updated.

The program is exited by pressing the

q

key.

## 6.4 GSview and GhostScript

Both StaDyn/NonStaD and GenMesh provide some support for producing figure and plots in PostScript. GSview is the utility through which these can be viewed on the screen or rendered as hard copy by a printer.

GSview is a graphical interface for Ghostscript under MS-Windows. Ghostscript is an interpreter for the PostScript page description language used by laser printers. For documents following the Adobe PostScript Document Structuring Conventions, GSview allows selected pages to be viewed or printed. It supports an impressive list of printers. Some of its features include:

- view pages in arbitrary order (Next, Previous, Goto)
- selectable display resolution, depth, alpha
- single button zoom
- print selected pages using Ghostscript, page offset can be applied
- extract selected pages to another file
- copy display bitmap to clipboard
- graphically select and show bounding box for EPS file
- display PDF files.

The complete GhostView package is included on the disk as a possible way to support graphical visualization of the meshes and the contours. It is also used to view the manual. The package contains

setup.exe	MS-Windows installation program
gsview.zip	
wizunz32.dll	MS-Windows Info-ZIP unzip utility
gs403ini.zip	
gs403w32.zip	MS-Windows Win32 Aladdin Ghostscript
gs403fn1.zip	Aladdin Ghostscript fonts.

Installing the package is simple, it just requires typing SETUP and a wizard controls the rest. Configuration of GSview will occur the first time it is run.

The latest version of GSview should be available from

ftp://ftp.cs.wisc.edu/ghost/rjl/gsview\*.zip

A World Wide Web home page for Ghostscript, Ghostview and GSview is at http://www.cs.wisc.edu/ghost/

GSview uses Ghostscript to display the contents of the PostScript files. Ghostscript is written and owned by Aladdin Enterprises. Aladdin Ghostscript comes with a licence that is more restrictive than the GNU Licence; in particular, it restricts the distribution of Aladdin Ghostscript in commercial contexts. Please see the file PUBLIC that accompanies Aladdin Ghostscript for more details.

## 6.5 Automating Running in Batch Mode

The stand-alone executables in the QED package can be run in batch mode. Indeed, this is how QED itself interacts with them. When tasks have to be repeated with only slight changes in parameters, then it can be very beneficial to automate the process. This esction describes how this might be done.

Assume an executive program (written in Fortran or MatLab) can produce the changed scripts then the following is some code that can automatically run the executables.

```
subroutine do_batch(ibat)
         character*80 commnd,exe_locn
         exe_locn='c:\qed'
         ilent=lentrim(exe_locn)
         if (ibat .eq. 11) then
              commnd=exe_locn(1:ilent)//'\genmesh < inmesh</pre>
         elseif (ibat .eq. 12) then
              commnd=exe_locn(1:ilent)//'\genmesh < insdf</pre>
         elseif (ibat .eq. 21) then
              commnd=exe_locn(1:ilent)//'\stadyn
                                                    < instad
         elseif (ibat .eq. 22) then
              commnd=exe_locn(1:ilent)//'\stadyn < inpost</pre>
         endif
         call syscom(commnd)
      return
      end
С
      subroutine syscom(commnd)
         different OS's will have slightly different
С
         system command syntex
С
         use msflib
         character*(*) commnd
         logical*4
                        success
         success=systemqq(commnd)
         call system(commnd)
С
      return
      end
С
С
```

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178 References

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## Index

**A**dding properties 27, 41, 52, 71 Applied loads 15 Arbitrary mesh 46 Arbitrary meshes 46

Bandwidth reduction 43, 130 Batch mode 172 Boundary conditions 15 Buckling 104

Circular plate 39 Compound mesh 32, 49, 96 Concentrated mass 16 Configuration file 172 Connection types 46 Contours 98, 141

Damping 157, 158 Degree of Freedom 10 Distributed loads 79

Eigenanalysis 106 Elements 10 Extruded sections 54

Filtering 173
Finite element method 2
Folded-plates 54
Forced frequency 124
Frame 9
Frames 11, 84, 108, 117

Gravity 88 Grid 9 Grills 85

 $\mathbf{H}$ oles 94

Impact 131

 $\mathbf{L}_{\mathrm{og}}$  file 75

Lumped loads 91

Material properties 16 Merging meshes 34, 59 Model building 7 Model making 172

Ping load 156, 160 Plates 11, 39, 91, 110 Plotting columns 173 Post-processing 82, 135 PostScript 5, 63, 98, 174

Reinforced structures 61 Remeshing 50, 128, 129

Scaling 67
Script files 80
Second load 156
Signal generation 173
Smoothing meshes 37
Snapshot 132, 151
Snapshots 107, 137
Solids 70
Specials properties 17, 89
Stability 104
Statics 78
Structure datafile 13
Structure DataFile 3
Sub-space iterations 115
System matrices 78, 105, 114

Transforms 173 Transient problems 128 Truss 9, 82, 104 Types of structures 9

 ${f V}$ ibrations 113 Viewing meshes 170

 $\mathbf{W}$  aveguides 138