

Course Unit	Computational Mechanics		Field of study	Solid Mechanics and Structures	
Master in	Construction Engineering		School	School of Technology and Management	
Academic Year	2023/2024	Year of study	1	Level	2-1
Type	Semestral	Semester	2	ECTS credits	6.0
Workload (hours)		162	Contact hours	T 30 TP - PL 30 TC - S - E - OT - O -	
Code 5024-419-1204-00-23					

T - Lectures; TP - Lectures and problem-solving; PL - Problem-solving, project or laboratory; TC - Fieldwork; S - Seminar; E - Placement; OT - Tutorial; O - Other

Name(s) of lecturer(s) Paulo Alexandre Gonçalves Piloto

Learning outcomes and competences

At the end of the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:

1. Understand and apply finite element formulations.
2. Formulate bar, beam, two-dimensional and three-dimensional finite elements.
3. Understand and apply plate and shell finite element formulations.
4. Understand the finite element method and interpret the obtained solutions.
5. Understand the basic steps of a finite element code organization in a simple program.
6. Use commercial finite element software for engineering applications.

Prerequisites

Before the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:

1. Differential and integral calculus, numerical meth. , programming, mech. of materials, solid mech.
2. Understand oral and written english.

Course contents

Basic concepts of matrix analysis of structures. Variational principles. Formulation of bar, beam, two and three dimensional elasticity, plate and shell elements. Element assembly. Matrix and isoparametric formulations. Numerical integration. Interpolation of displacements, geometry and strains. Basic structure of a finite element code. Convergence of the solution and error estimation. Computational applications to structural, thermal and fluid flow problems.

Course contents (extended version)

1. Chapter 1 - Stages of the FEM. Bar element.
 - Introduction, advantages and applications of the finite element method (FEM).
 - Basic concepts in matrix analysis of structures. Types of analysis.
 - Fundamental steps in the FEM. Phases of the method.
 - Mathematical model formulation.
 - Discrete mathematical models. Static and dynamic formulations.
 - Stiffness matrix and element assembly.
 - Continuous mathematical models. Variational formulation.
 - Bar element formulation.
 - Matrix formulation of the element equations.
 - Isoparametric formulation and numerical integration.
2. Chapter 2 - Finite element codes
 - Basic organization of a finite element code.
 - FEM general methodology.
 - Shape functions. Interpolation of displacements.
 - Displacement and strain fields.
 - Stress field. Constitutive models.
 - Solution of the FEM equations.
 - FEM convergence requirements and error types.
 - Optimal points for stress calculations.
3. Chapter 3 - Beam elements
 - Euler-Bernoulli beam elements.
 - Formulation of Timoshenko beam elements.
 - Reduced integration and alternative solutions for the shear locking problem.
4. Chapter 4 - 2D and 3D formulations
 - Two and three dimensional finite elements in elasticity.
 - Finite elements formulation. Lagrangian and Serendipity elements.
 - Numerical integration.
 - Application of plate and shell finite elements: Kirchhoff and Reissner-Mindlin theories.
5. Chapter 5 - Computer Applications in Engineering
 - Structural engineering problems, thermal and fluid flow (ANSYS)

Recommended reading

1. Onate E. , Cálculo de estruturas por el Método de Elementos Finitos, Centro Internacional de Métodos Numéricos en Ingeniería, Barcelona, 1995.
2. Moaveni, S. , Finite Element Analysis, Theory and Application with Ansys, 2nd Edition, Prentice Hall, 2003.
3. Zienkiewicz OC, Taylor RL. , The finite element method. Vols. 1, 2. Oxford: Butterworth, 2000.
4. Krishnamoorthy CS. , Finite Element Analysis—Theory and Programming, Tata McGraw-Hill, New Delhi, 1997.
5. Bathe KJ. , Finite Element Procedures. New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 1996.

Teaching and learning methods

Lessons on theoretical aspects (30 hours) with presentation of solution methodologies for typical problems. Problem solving practice and laboratory classes (30 hours) with presentation of typical applications. Exercises and problems beyond the classes (99. 5 hours). Computer applications.

Assessment methods

1. FINAL season: Distributed assessment. - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final, Supplementary)
 - Practical Work - 80% (3 working projects with oral presentation. Each with 26. 6(6)% weight for final mark.)
 - Final Written Exam - 20%

Assessment methods

2. SPECIAL season - (Regular, Student Worker) (Special)
- Final Written Exam - 100% (Final examination with 2, 0 hours maximum duration, with100% weight for final mark.)
3. FINAL: Exam for Labor students - (Student Worker) (Final)
- Final Written Exam - 100% (Labour students may choose final exam. , with 2, 0 hours maximum duration, with100% for final mark.)

Language of instruction

English

Electronic validation			
Paulo Alexandre Gonçalves Piloto	Debora Rodrigues de Sousa Macanjo Ferreira	Manuel Teixeira Brás César	José Carlos Rufino Amaro
27-02-2024	27-02-2024	08-03-2024	09-03-2024

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