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FINITE ELEMENT METHODS FOR LINEAR
COUPLED THERMOELASTICITY

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According to [1], the statical two-dimensional problem of linear coupled thermoelasticity can be formulated in the following way: Let Ω be a bounded domain in the x_1, x_2 -plane with a sufficiently smooth boundary Γ . Find a displacement vector $\underline{u}(x_1, x_2, t)$ and a temperature $T(x_1, x_2, t)$ which satisfy the following equations and boundary and initial conditions:

- (1) $T_{,ii} + Q = c_1 \dot{T} + c_2 T_r \dot{u}_{j,j}$ in $\Omega \times (0, t^*]$
- (2) $\sigma_{ij,j} + X_i = 0$ ($i = 1, 2$) in $\Omega \times (0, t^*]$
- (3) $T(x_1, x_2, t)|_{\Gamma} = \bar{T}(x_1, x_2)$, $t > 0$
- (4) $u_i(x_1, x_2, t)|_{\Gamma_1} = \bar{u}_i(x_1, x_2)$ ($i = 1, 2$), $t > 0$
- (5) $\sigma_{ij} \nu_j |_{\Gamma_2} = p_i(x_1, x_2)$ ($i = 1, 2$), $t > 0$
- (6) $T(x_1, x_2, 0) = T_0(x_1, x_2)$, $(x_1, x_2) \in \Omega$
- (7) $u_i(x_1, x_2, 0) = u_{i0}(x_1, x_2)$ ($i = 1, 2$), $(x_1, x_2) \in \Omega$

where

- (8) $\sigma_{ij} = D_{ijkl} [\epsilon_{kl} - \alpha (T - T_r) \delta_{kl}]$
- (9) $\epsilon_{ij} = (u_{i,j} + u_{j,i})/2$
- (10) $D_{ijkl} \epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{kl} \geq \mu_0 \epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{ij} \quad \forall \epsilon_{ij}, \mu_0 = \text{const} > 0.$

A summation convention over a repeated subscript is adopted. A comma is employed to denote partial differentiation with respect to spatial coordinates and a dot denotes the derivative with respect to time. Thus equation (1) is the coupled heat equation; the symbol Q denotes a prescribed rate of internal heat generation per unit volume, c_1 and c_2 are positive constants depending only on the material of a considered body and T_r is a positive constant which has the meaning of the temperature for which the material is stress-free. Equations (2) are Cauchy's equations of equilibrium, the symbols X_1, X_2 denote prescribed components of body forces per unit volume. The functions on the right-hand sides of relations (3) - (7) are prescribed functions. The symbols Γ_1, Γ_2 denote two disjoint subsets of Γ such that $\text{mes } \Gamma_1 > 0$ and $\Gamma = \Gamma_1 + \Gamma_2$. In equation (5), ν_1 and ν_2 are components of the outward unit normal to Γ . In equation (8), α is the coefficient of linear thermal

expansion, δ_{ij}^1 is the Kronecker delta and D_{ijkl} are material constants. We consider isotropic materials only.

In what follows we shall suppose that the problem (1) - (10) has a solution \underline{u} , T. Then, according to [1, pp. 38 - 40], this solution is unique.

We shall solve the problem (1) - (10) by the finite element method using curved triangular elements and numerical integration. We approximate the domain Ω by a domain Ω_h the boundary Γ_h^1 of which consists of arcs of degree n. These arcs are the curved sides of curved triangles. On the triangulation \mathcal{T}_h of Ω_h we shall construct two finite element spaces: V_h and W_h which are finite dimensional subspaces of $C^0(\Omega_h)$. For a given $t = t_m$ the displacement field \underline{u} will be approximated in the space $V_h \times V_h$ and the temperature field T in the space W_h .

In applications we usually choose $n = 3$. In this case the boundary Γ can be approximated piecewise either by arcs of the Hermite type or by arcs of the Lagrange type. The construction of the corresponding spaces V_h can be found in [2], [4], [5]. The spaces V_h have the following interpolation property: If $f \in H^{n+1}(\Omega_h)$ and $f_I \in V_h$ is the interpolate of f then

$$\|f - f_I\|_{j, \Omega_h} \leq Ch^{n+1-j} \|f\|_{n+1, \Omega_h} \quad (j = 0, 1)$$

where the constant C does not depend on h and f.

In the case of curved elements the construction of the space W_h depends on the choice of the space V_h . We choose $p < n$ (usually $p = n - 1$) and construct the space W_h in such a way (details are described in [8]) that it has the following interpolation property: If $f \in H^{p+1}(\Omega_h)$ and $f_I \in W_h$ is the interpolate of f then

$$\|f - f_I\|_{j, \Omega_h} \leq Ch^{p+1-j} \|f\|_{p+1, \Omega_h} \quad (j = 0, 1).$$

It should be noted that in the case of polygonal boundary Γ the spaces V_h and W_h can be constructed quite independently.

It is well-known that all numerical computations in the case of both curved and classical triangles are carried out on the unit triangle K_0 which lies in the ξ_1, ξ_2 -plane and has the vertices (0, 0), (1, 0), (0, 1) (see, e.g., [2], [5], [6]). Let us choose on K_0 and on the segment [0, 1] certain quadrature formulas (see Theorem 1) and using them let us compute approximately the integrals

$$\tilde{D}_h(\underline{v}, \underline{w}) = \int_{\Omega_h} v_{,i} w_{,i} dx, \quad (\underline{v}, \underline{w})_{0, \Omega_h} = \int_{\Omega_h} v w dx,$$

$$\tilde{a}_h(\underline{v}, \underline{w}) = \int_{\Omega_h} D_{ijkl} \varepsilon_{ij}(\underline{v}) \varepsilon_{kl}(\underline{w}) dx,$$

$$(\underline{v}, \underline{w})_{0, \Omega_h} = \int_{\Omega_h} v_1 w_1 dx, \quad \langle \underline{p}_h, \underline{v} \rangle_{\Gamma_{h2}} = \int_{\Gamma_{h2}} p_{h1} v_1 ds$$

where p_{h1} denotes the function which we obtain by "transferring" the function p_1 from the curve Γ_2 onto the curve Γ_{h2} (details are in [6]), Γ_{h2} being the approximation of Γ_2 . Then we obtain the forms $D_h(v, w)$, $(v, w)_h$, $a_h(\underline{v}, \underline{w})$, $(\underline{v}, \underline{w})_h$, $\langle \underline{p}_h, \underline{v} \rangle_h$.

Further, let us define the sets

$$V_{h0} = \{v \in V_h: v = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_{h1}\}, \quad v_{hu}^1 = \{v \in V_h: v = \bar{u}_1^{\text{apr}} \text{ on } \Gamma_{h1}\}, \\ W_{h0} = \{w \in W_h: w = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_h\}, \quad w_{hT} = \{w \in W_h: w = \bar{T}^{\text{apr}} \text{ on } \Gamma_h\}$$

where Γ_{h1} is the approximation of Γ_1 and $\bar{u}_1^{\text{apr}} \in V_h$ and $\bar{T}^{\text{apr}} \in W_h$ are the interpolates of the functions \bar{u}_1 and \bar{T} , respectively.

Let us choose an integer M , set $\Delta t = t^*/M$ and define $t_m = m \Delta t$ ($m = 0, 1, \dots, M$). Let us use the notation $f^m \equiv f^m(x_1, x_2) = f(x_1, x_2, m \Delta t)$. If we use one-step A-stable methods for the time discretization then we can define the discrete problem for approximate solving the variational problem which corresponds to the problem (1) - (10) in the following way:

For each $m = 0, 1, \dots, M-1$ find a vector $\underline{u}_h^{m+1} \in V_{hu}^1 \times V_{hu}^2$ and a function $T_h^{m+1} \in W_{hT}$ such that

$$(11) \quad \Delta t D_h \left(\sum_{j=0}^4 \beta_j T_h^{m+j}, w \right) + c_1 \left(\sum_{j=0}^4 \alpha_j T_h^{m+j}, w \right)_h + \\ + c_2 T_r \left(\sum_{j=0}^4 \alpha_j u_{h1}^{m+j}, w \right)_h = \Delta t \left(\sum_{j=0}^4 \beta_j Q^{m+j}, w \right)_h \quad \forall w \in W_{h0}$$

$$(12) \quad a_h \left(\sum_{j=0}^4 \beta_j \underline{u}_h^{m+j}, \underline{v} \right) - c_3 \left(\sum_{j=0}^4 \beta_j T_h^{m+j} - T_r, v_1, i \right)_h = \\ = \left(\sum_{j=0}^4 \beta_j X^{m+j}, \underline{v} \right)_h + \langle \underline{p}_h, \underline{v} \rangle_h \quad \forall \underline{v} \in V_{h0} \times V_{h0}$$

$$(13) \quad \underline{u}_h^0 = \underline{u}_0^{\text{apr}}(x_1, x_2), \quad T_h^0 = T_0^{\text{apr}}(x_1, x_2)$$

where c_3 is a constant depending only on D_{ijkl} and α , $T_0^{\text{apr}} \in W_h$ is an approximation of the function T_0 , $\underline{u}_0^{\text{apr}} \in V_h \times V_h$ is an approximation of the vector \underline{u}_0 and

$$(14) \quad \alpha_0 = -1, \quad \alpha_1 = 1, \quad \beta_0 = \theta, \quad \beta_1 = 1 - \theta$$

where $\theta \leq 1/2$ is any real number.

Theorem 1. Let the boundary Γ be of class C^{n+1} . Let every triangulation \mathcal{T}_h satisfy the condition $\bar{h}/h \geq c_0$, where $c_0 = \text{const} > 0$, $\bar{h} = \min_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} h_K$ and $h = \max_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} h_K$. Let a quadrature formula on the unit

triangle K_0 for calculation of the form $D_h(v, w)$ be of degree of precision $2p - 1$. Let quadrature formulas on K_0 for calculation of the forms $(v, w)_h$, $(\underline{v}, \underline{w})_h$ and $a_h(\underline{v}, \underline{w})$ be of degree of precision $2n - 2$. Let a quadrature formula on the unit segment $[0, 1]$ for calculation of the form $\langle \underline{p}_h, \underline{v} \rangle_h$ be of degree of precision $2n - 1$. Let the exact solution \underline{T} , \underline{u} of the problem (1) - (10) satisfy $\partial^{k_T} \underline{T} / \partial t^k \in L^\infty(\mathbb{H}^{p+3}(\Omega))$, $\partial^{k_{u_1}} \underline{u}_1 / \partial t^k \in L^\infty(\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(\Omega))$ ($k = 0, \dots, q+1$, $i = 1, 2$) where q is the order of the Θ -method ($q = 1$ for $\Theta < 1/2$, $q = 2$ for $\Theta = 1/2$). Let $q \in L^\infty(\mathbb{H}^{p+1}(\Omega))$, $x_1 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{H}^n(\Omega))$. Then for sufficiently small h there exists one and only one solution \underline{T}_h^m , \underline{u}_h^m ($m = 1, \dots, M$) of the problem (11) - (14) and it holds

$$\|\underline{\tilde{u}}^m - \underline{u}_h^m\|_{1, \Omega_h} + \|\underline{\tilde{T}}^m - \underline{T}_h^m\|_{0, \Omega_h} \leq C(\Delta t^q + h^{p+1} + h^n + S_0)$$

where C is a constant independent on h and Δt , $\underline{\tilde{u}}$ and $\underline{\tilde{T}}$ are the Calderon extensions of \underline{u} and \underline{T} , respectively, and

$$S_0 = \|\underline{u}_h^0 - \underline{x}^0\|_{1, \Omega_h} + \|\underline{T}_h^0 - \underline{\eta}^0\|_{0, \Omega_h}$$

\underline{x} and $\underline{\eta}$ being the Ritz approximations of $\underline{\tilde{u}}$ and $\underline{\tilde{T}}$, respectively.

Theorem 1 is proved in [8]. The proof is a generalization of devices used in [3], [6] and [7]. The obtained result can be extended to the case of two-step A-stable methods.

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