

Topic 8

The Two-Noded Truss Element— Updated Lagrangian Formulation

Contents:

- Derivation of updated Lagrangian truss element displacement and strain-displacement matrices from continuum mechanics equations
- Assumption of large displacements and rotations but small strains
- Physical explanation of the matrices obtained directly by application of the principle of virtual work
- Effect of geometric (nonlinear strain) stiffness matrix
- Example analysis: Prestressed cable

Textbook:

Section 6.3.1

Examples:

6.15, 6.16

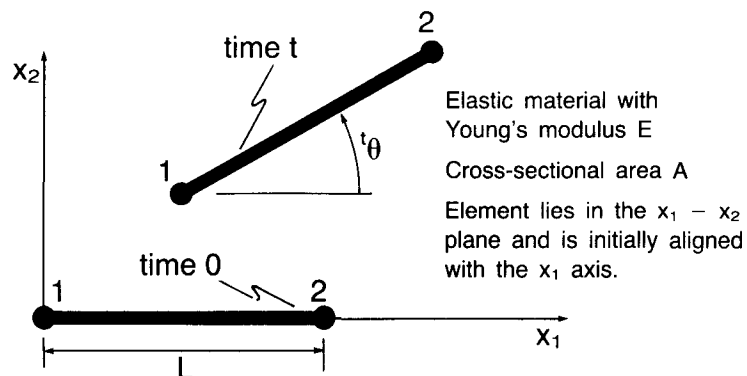
TRUSS ELEMENT DERIVATION

A truss element is a structural member which incorporates the following assumptions:

- Stresses are transmitted only in the direction normal to the cross-section.
- The stress is constant over the cross-section.
- The cross-sectional area remains constant during deformations.

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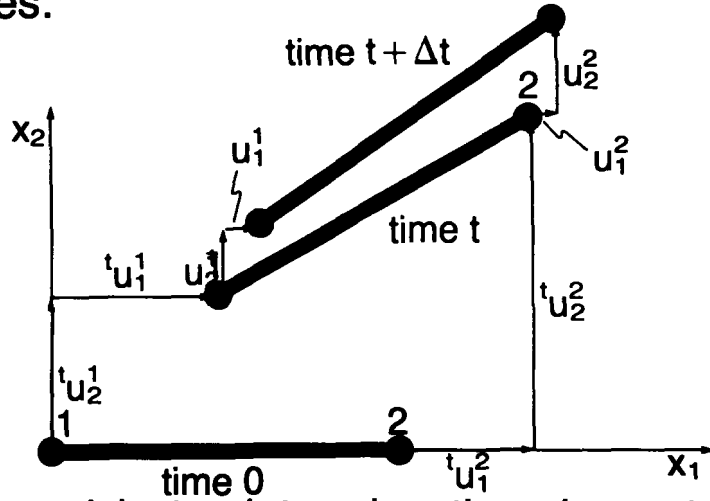
We consider the large rotation–small strain finite element formulation for a straight truss element with constant cross-sectional area.



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The deformations of the element are specified by the displacements of its nodes:

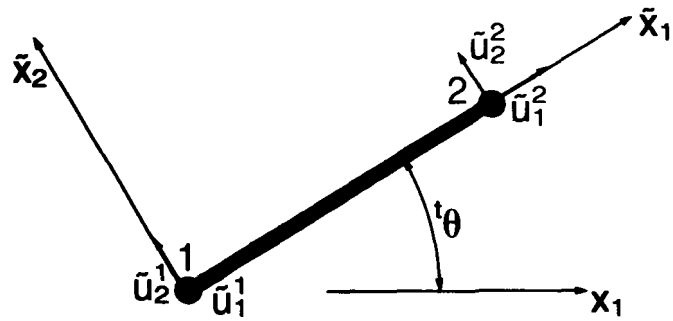


Our goal is to determine the element deformations at time $t + \Delta t$.

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Updated Lagrangian formulation:

The derivation is simplified if we consider a coordinate system aligned with the truss element at time t .



Written in the rotated coordinate system, the equation of the principle of virtual work is

$$\int_{tV} {}^{t+\Delta t}\tilde{S}_{ij} \delta {}^{t+\Delta t}\tilde{\epsilon}_{ij} {}^t dV = {}^{t+\Delta t}\tilde{\mathcal{R}}$$

As we recall, this may be linearized to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{tV} {}^t\tilde{C}_{ijrs} {}^t\tilde{\epsilon}_{rs} \delta {}^t\tilde{\epsilon}_{ij} {}^t dV + \int_{tV} {}^t\tilde{T}_{ij} \delta {}^t\tilde{\eta}_{ij} {}^t dV \\ = {}^{t+\Delta t}\tilde{\mathcal{R}} - \int_{tV} {}^t\tilde{T}_{ij} \delta {}^t\tilde{\epsilon}_{ij} {}^t dV \end{aligned}$$

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8-5

Because the only non-zero stress component is ${}^t\tilde{T}_{11}$, the linearized equation of motion simplifies to

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{tV} {}^t\tilde{C}_{1111} {}^t\tilde{\epsilon}_{11} \delta {}^t\tilde{\epsilon}_{11} {}^t dV + \int_{tV} {}^t\tilde{T}_{11} \delta {}^t\tilde{\eta}_{11} {}^t dV \\ = {}^{t+\Delta t}\tilde{\mathcal{R}} - \int_{tV} {}^t\tilde{T}_{11} \delta {}^t\tilde{\epsilon}_{11} {}^t dV \end{aligned}$$

Notice that we need only consider one component of the strain tensor.

Transparency
8-6

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8-7

We also notice that:

$${}^t\tilde{C}_{1111} = E$$

$${}^t\tilde{T}_{11} = \frac{{}^tP}{A}$$

$${}^tV = AL$$

The stress and strain states are constant along the truss.

Hence the equation of motion becomes

$$\begin{aligned} (EA) {}^t\tilde{e}_{11} \delta {}^t\tilde{e}_{11} L + {}^tP \delta {}^t\tilde{\eta}_{11} L \\ = {}^{t+\Delta t}\tilde{r} - {}^tP \delta {}^t\tilde{e}_{11} L \end{aligned}$$

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8-8

To proceed, we must express the strain increments in terms of the (rotated) displacement increments:

$$\begin{aligned} {}^t\tilde{e}_{11} &= {}^t\tilde{B}_L \hat{u}, \\ \delta {}^t\tilde{\eta}_{11} &= (\delta \hat{u}^T \underbrace{{}^t\tilde{B}_{NL}^T} ({}^t\tilde{B}_{NL} \hat{u})) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\hat{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{u}_1^1 \\ \hat{u}_2^1 \\ \hat{u}_1^2 \\ \hat{u}_2^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

This form is analogous to the form used in the two-dimensional element formulation.

Since ${}^t\tilde{\epsilon}_{11} = {}^t\tilde{u}_{1,1} + \frac{1}{2} (({}^t\tilde{u}_{1,1})^2 + ({}^t\tilde{u}_{2,1})^2)$,
we recognize

$${}^t\tilde{\epsilon}_{11} = {}^t\tilde{u}_{1,1}$$

$${}^t\tilde{\eta}_{11} = \frac{1}{2} (({}^t\tilde{u}_{1,1})^2 + ({}^t\tilde{u}_{2,1})^2)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_t \tilde{\eta}_{11} &= \delta_t \tilde{u}_{1,1} {}^t\tilde{u}_{1,1} + \delta_t \tilde{u}_{2,1} {}^t\tilde{u}_{2,1} \\ &= \underbrace{[\delta_t \tilde{u}_{1,1} \quad \delta_t \tilde{u}_{2,1}]}_{\text{matrix form}} \begin{bmatrix} {}^t\tilde{u}_{1,1} \\ {}^t\tilde{u}_{2,1} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

matrix form

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8-9

We can now write the displacement derivatives in terms of the displacements (this is simple because all quantities are constant along the truss). For example,

$${}^t\tilde{u}_{1,1} = \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_1}{\partial {}^t\tilde{x}_1} = \frac{\Delta \tilde{u}_1}{\Delta {}^t\tilde{x}_1} = \frac{\tilde{u}_1^2 - \tilde{u}_1^1}{L}$$

Hence we obtain

$$\begin{bmatrix} {}^t\tilde{u}_{1,1} \\ {}^t\tilde{u}_{2,1} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{L} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{u}_1^1 \\ \tilde{u}_2^1 \\ \tilde{u}_1^2 \\ \tilde{u}_2^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \leftarrow \hat{\underline{u}}$$

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8-10

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8-11

and

$${}^t\tilde{e}_{11} = \left(\frac{1}{L} [-1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0] \right) \hat{u}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{{}^t\tilde{B}_L}$

$$\delta {}^t\tilde{\eta}_{11} = \underbrace{\delta \hat{u}^T}_{[\delta {}^t\tilde{u}_{1,1} \ \delta {}^t\tilde{u}_{2,1}]} \left(\frac{1}{L} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{L} [-1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0] \right)}_{{}^t\tilde{B}_{NL}} \hat{u}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\begin{bmatrix} {}^t\tilde{u}_{1,1} \\ {}^t\tilde{u}_{2,1} \end{bmatrix}}$

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8-12

Using these expressions,

$$(EA) {}^t\tilde{e}_{11} \delta {}^t\tilde{e}_{11} L$$

$$\delta \hat{u}^T \left(\frac{EA}{L} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) \hat{u}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{{}^t\tilde{K}_L}$

(setting successively each virtual nodal point displacement equal to unity)

${}^t\mathbf{P} \delta_t \tilde{\eta}_{11} L$

$$\delta \hat{\underline{u}}^T \left(\overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}^{} \right) \hat{\underline{u}}$$

${}^t\mathbf{K}_{NL}$

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8-13

and

${}^t\mathbf{P} \delta_t \tilde{\epsilon}_{11} L$

$$\delta \hat{\underline{u}}^T \left(\overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}^{} \right)$$

${}^t\mathbf{F}$

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8-15

We have now obtained the required element matrices, expressed in the coordinate system aligned with the truss at time t .

To determine the element matrices in the stationary global coordinate system, we must express the rotated displacement increments $\hat{\underline{u}}$ in terms of the unrotated displacement increments $\underline{\hat{u}}$.

We can show that

$$\begin{bmatrix} \bar{u}_1 \\ \bar{u}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos^t\theta & \sin^t\theta \\ -\sin^t\theta & \cos^t\theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Hence

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \bar{u}_1^1 \\ \bar{u}_2^1 \\ \bar{u}_1^2 \\ \bar{u}_2^2 \end{bmatrix}}_{\hat{\underline{u}}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \cos^t\theta & \sin^t\theta & 0 & 0 \\ -\sin^t\theta & \cos^t\theta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos^t\theta & \sin^t\theta \\ 0 & 0 & -\sin^t\theta & \cos^t\theta \end{bmatrix}}_{\underline{T}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} u_1^1 \\ u_2^1 \\ u_1^2 \\ u_2^2 \end{bmatrix}}_{\underline{\hat{u}}}$$

Using this transformation in the equation of motion gives

$$\delta \hat{\underline{u}}^T \underline{\tilde{K}}_L \hat{\underline{u}} \rightarrow \delta \hat{\underline{u}}^T \underbrace{T^T \underline{\tilde{K}}_L T}_{\underline{\tilde{K}}_L} \hat{\underline{u}}$$

$$\delta \hat{\underline{u}}^T \underline{\tilde{K}}_{NL} \hat{\underline{u}} \rightarrow \delta \hat{\underline{u}}^T \underbrace{T^T \underline{\tilde{K}}_{NL} T}_{\underline{\tilde{K}}_{NL}} \hat{\underline{u}}$$

$$\delta \hat{\underline{u}}^T \underline{\tilde{F}} \rightarrow \delta \hat{\underline{u}}^T \underbrace{T^T \underline{\tilde{F}}}_{\underline{\tilde{F}}}$$

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8-17

Performing the indicated matrix multiplications gives

$$\underline{\tilde{K}}_L = \frac{EA}{L} \begin{bmatrix} (\cos^4\theta) & (\cos^3\theta)(\sin\theta) & -(\cos^4\theta) & -(\cos^3\theta)(\sin\theta) \\ & (\sin^4\theta) & -(\cos^3\theta)(\sin\theta) & -(\sin^4\theta) \\ \text{symmetric} & & (\cos^4\theta) & (\cos^3\theta)(\sin\theta) \\ & & & (\sin^4\theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

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8-19

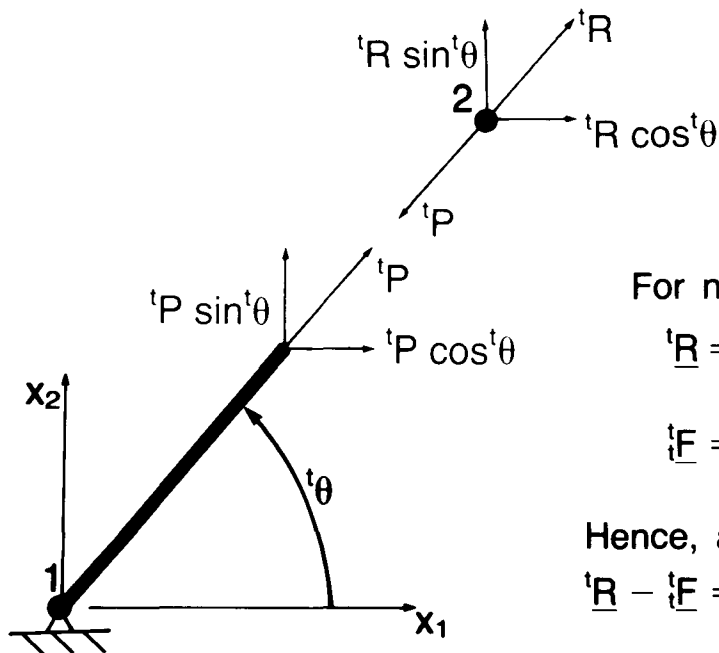
$$\underline{{}^t\mathbf{K}}_{NL} = \frac{{}^t\mathbf{P}}{L} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ & & 1 & 0 \\ \text{symmetric} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\underline{{}^t\mathbf{F}} = {}^t\mathbf{P} \begin{bmatrix} -\cos^t\theta \\ -\sin^t\theta \\ \cos^t\theta \\ \sin^t\theta \end{bmatrix}$$

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8-20

The vector $\underline{{}^t\mathbf{F}}$ makes physical sense:



For node 2,

$$\underline{{}^t\mathbf{R}} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^t\mathbf{R} \cos^t\theta \\ {}^t\mathbf{R} \sin^t\theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underline{{}^t\mathbf{F}} = \begin{bmatrix} {}^t\mathbf{P} \cos^t\theta \\ {}^t\mathbf{P} \sin^t\theta \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence, at equilibrium,

$$\underline{{}^t\mathbf{R}} - \underline{{}^t\mathbf{F}} = \underline{\mathbf{0}}$$

We note that the ${}^i\mathbf{K}_{NL}$ matrix is unchanged by the coordinate transformation.

- The nonlinear strain increment is related only to the vector magnitude of the displacement increment.

$$\sqrt{(\tilde{u}_1^2)^2 + (\tilde{u}_2^2)^2} = \left(\sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial \tilde{u}_1}{\partial \tilde{x}_1}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial \tilde{u}_2}{\partial \tilde{x}_1}\right)^2} \right) L$$

$$= \sqrt{2 \eta_{11}} L$$

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Physically, ${}^i\mathbf{K}_{NL}$ gives the required change in the externally applied nodal point forces when the truss is rotated.

Consider only \tilde{u}_2^2 nonzero.

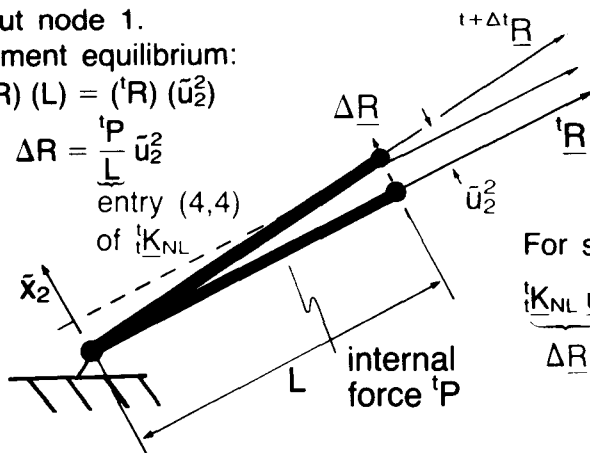
For small \tilde{u}_2^2 , this gives a rotation about node 1.

Moment equilibrium:

$$(\Delta \mathbf{R})(L) = ({}^i\mathbf{R})(\tilde{u}_2^2)$$

$$\text{or } \Delta \mathbf{R} = \frac{{}^i\mathbf{P}}{L} \tilde{u}_2^2$$

entry (4,4)
of ${}^i\mathbf{K}_{NL}$



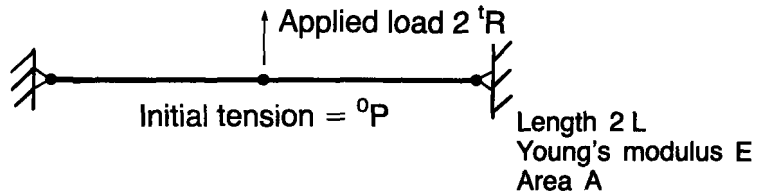
For small \hat{u} ,

$$\frac{{}^i\mathbf{K}_{NL} \hat{u}}{\Delta \mathbf{R}} = {}^{t+\Delta t}\mathbf{R} - {}^t\mathbf{R}$$

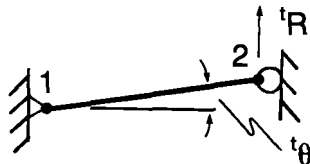
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Example: Prestressed cable



Finite element model (using symmetry):



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Using the U.L. formulation, we obtain

$$\underbrace{\left(\frac{EA}{L} (\sin^t\theta)^2\right)}_{\ ^iK_L} + \underbrace{\frac{^tP}{L}}_{\ ^iK_{NL}} u_2^2 = \ ^{t+\Delta t}R - \underbrace{^tP \sin^t\theta}_{\ ^iF}$$

Of particular interest is the configuration at time 0, when $^t\theta = 0$:

$$\left(\frac{^0P}{L}\right) u_2^2 = \ ^{\Delta t}R$$

The undeformed cable stiffness is given solely by $\ ^iK_{NL}$.

The cable stiffens as load is applied:

$${}^tK = \underbrace{\frac{EA}{L} (\sin^t\theta)^2}_{{}^tK_L} + \underbrace{\frac{{}^tP}{L}}_{{}^tK_{NL}}$$

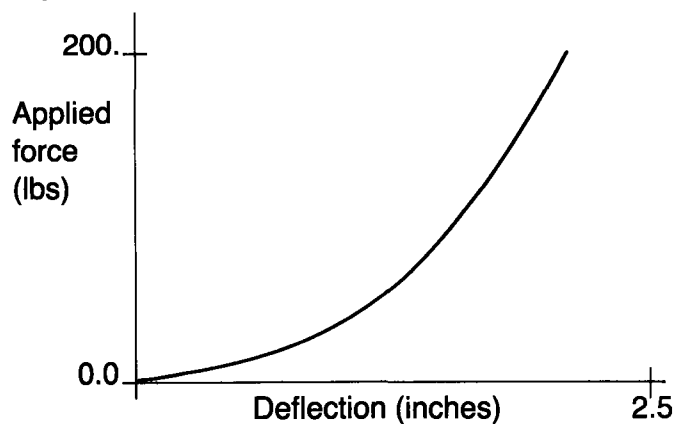
tK_L increases as ${}^t\theta$ increases (the truss provides axial stiffness as ${}^t\theta$ increases).

As ${}^t\theta \rightarrow 90^\circ$, the stiffness approaches $\frac{EA}{L}$,

but constant L and A means here that only small values of ${}^t\theta$ are permissible.

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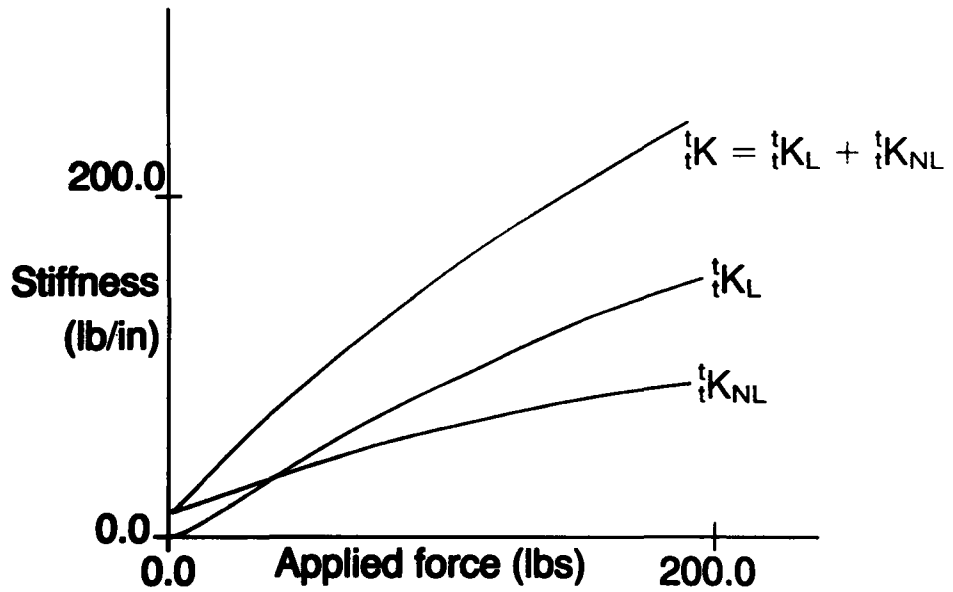
Using: $L = 120 \text{ in}$, $A = 1 \text{ in}^2$,
 $E = 30 \times 10^6 \text{ psi}$, ${}^0P = 1000 \text{ lbs}$
 we obtain



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8-26

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8-27

We also show the stiffness matrix components as functions of the applied load:



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Resource: Finite Element Procedures for Solids and Structures
Klaus-Jürgen Bathe

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