# Characteristics of MFS analysis for finite plate problems with a hole

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## Abstract

By using the method of fundamental solutions (MFS), an accurate stress field can be obtained in infinite problems. One of the authors has been improving the source loads of the MFS program based on the collocation method to be able to calculate the maximum stress of the notch problem correctly. It is found that the improved MFS, which uses the equally dispersed point loads (EDPL), gives the good accuracy for some infinite problems with high stress concentration factor. To confirm the accuracy, the index of the balanced forces was also proposed. Although, in case of the finite plate with a hole, the stability of accuracy mainly depends on the allocation of the collocation points and the source points. Therefore, in this study, we examine and clarify the proper allocation of the source loads in some finite plates including a center hole with internal pressure.

Keywords: method of fundamental solutions, MFS, source load, B.F-error, stress field

## Introduction

It is an important matter for the mechanical engineers to evaluate failure loads of some products including a hole. The linear notch mechanics (LNM) as shown in the work by Nisitani(1995), is a useful method to calculate the failure tensile stress and the LNM needs an accurate stress field. In this paper, the effects of source point dispositions to the accuracy of maximum stress on the finite problems are investigated using the method of fundamental solutions with the equally dispersed point load (EDPL). In this study, we calculate the stress around the hole with internal pressure of the rectangle plate as shown in Figure1. We consider a linear elastic problem, governed by the Navier equation. The fundamental solution for surface tractions on the ficitious boundary is

$$p_{lm}^{j^{*}}(x) = \frac{-1}{4\pi(1-\nu)r^{j}(x)} \left\{ \left[ (1-2\nu)\delta_{lm} + 2r^{j}(x), r^{j}(x), m \right] \frac{\partial r}{\partial n} - (1-2\nu)(r^{j}(x), n_{m}(x) - r^{j}(x), m n_{1}(x)) \right\}$$
(1)

where  $r^{j}(x) = [(x_{1}^{j} - x_{1})^{2} + (x_{2}^{j} - x_{2})^{2}]^{j/2}$ ,  $r_{m}^{j} = \partial r^{j} / \partial x_{m}$ , and  $\delta_{lm}$  is the Kronecker delta. Equations (1) is written for the plane strain problem. In the homogeneous problem, we can obtain the known value of the variable by the sum of a series of fundamental solutions with unknown source loads f(j), j = 1, 2N. For point loads, following equation (2) can be expressed.

$$\sum_{j=1}^{N} \left[ p_{lm}^{j*} (x^{i}) \cdot f(j) + p_{2m}^{j*} (x^{i}) \cdot f(j+N) \right] = \overline{p}_{m}^{i}$$
(2)

where  $p_{1m}^{j^*}$  and  $p_{2m}^{j^*}$  are fundamental solutions for surface tractions. For equally dispersed point loads (EDPL) by the author (Fujisaki 2005), we obtain the following equation (3). Here, *M* is a number of EDPL, and in this study, we put *M*=10

$$\sum_{j=1}^{N} \left[ \sum_{k=1}^{M} p_{1m}^{j*}(x_k^i) \cdot \frac{f(j)}{M} + \sum_{k=1}^{M} p_{2m}^{j*}(x_k^i) \cdot \frac{f(j+N)}{M} \right] = \overline{p}_m^{-i}$$
(3)

### Stress around a circle hole in a finite plate

We have calculated the accurate stress fields in the finite plate problem by varying the two dispositions of source loads, namely, inside the hole or outside the plate end (Fujisaki and Fujisawa 2012). Following two conclusions were obtained. (1) the index on the balanced forces is effective tool to obtain good accuracy. (2) In case of the finite plate problem, we find less good allocations to obtain good accuracy than the infinite plate problem in case of no bias (*bia=1.0*).

The stress concentration mainly occurs in a square area (h < W) including a hole. In this study, in order to increase the height of the plate, we divided the fictitious boundary line into the dense part and the sparse part as shown in Figure 2. Here, *xcs* is the distance between collocation point and source point, and *ycc* is the distance between collocation points. The number of collocation points on the plate end *Ne*=100, and source loads inside hole are located on a fictitious arc of a circle (radius=0.7*a*), the number of collocation points on circle hole *Nc*= 40.



Figure 1. Calculation model

Figure 2. Discretization of plate end

We illustrate the free body diagram of a plate with a hole problem in Figure3. Here, the total external force (*pa*) is the summation of longitudinal force by the pressure of a quarter hole. On the other hand, the total internal force is obtained by the integral of  $\sigma(x)$  dx at the ligament(unit thickness). Here if we define the index of B.F (balanced forces) as the ratio of the integral force and the external force, we can calculate the index of B.F. correctly by using some integral formula. Therefore if the index of B.F. is 1, then we can assure that the correct stress distribution is obtained. In the MFS, each point source load essentially yields a smooth curve of  $\sigma_{22}$ . Therefore the total superimposed curve of  $\sigma_{22}$  also becomes a smooth curve. If we obtain B.F-error(%) >0.0, then the calculated distribution curve exceeds the correct curve. If we obtain B.F-error(%) <0.0, the calculated curve is lower than the correct curve. This is an advantage of the MFS, and by using B.F-error(%), we can ensure the accuracy of maximum stress as shown in the work by the author (Fujisaki 2010).

In Figure4, we show the proper combinations of  $x_{cs}$  and  $y_{cc}$  to obtain B.F-error(%) <1.0 with a/w=0.6. In case of equal division (bia=1.0), the number  $N_{pc}$  of proper combinations is 30, but when we apply bia=2.0, we obtain  $N_{pc}$  =69. When we put bia=3.0, we can obtain  $N_{pc}=92$ , therefore bia=3.0 is recommended to use. In Figure5, we summarize the results of proper combinations to obtain B.F-error(%)<0.1. In case of bia=1.0,  $N_{pc}$  is only 1, but when bia=2.0 or

3.0, we obtain Npc = 9. In Figure 6, we show the circumferential stress around the hole by the two conditions (A) (B) in Figure 5, namely (A) xcs=3.5, ycc=5.2, and (B) xcs=14.0, ycc=2.2. We compare



B.F-error(%)= (Index of B.F-1)  $\times$  100

Figure 3. Comparison of circumferential stress



Figure 4. Proper combinations- 1



Figure 5. Proper combinations- 2



Figure 6. Comparison of circumferential stress



Figure 7. Comparison of MFS/FEM

those two cases with FEM (MS-Marc,8-nodes element, 2190 elements) ,and it is found that the case (B) is very consistent with FEM as shown in Figure7.

## **Characteristics of source loads**

In Figure8, we compare the shape of source loads inside the hole in case of small width (*a/w*=0.6) with the three combinations ((A); *xcs* =3.5, *ycc*=5.2, B.F-error(%)=0.046, (B); *xcs*=14.0, *ycc*=2.2, B.F-error(%)=-0.077, (C); *xcs*=8.8, *ycc*=7.4, B.F-error(%)=20.1). In cases of (A),(B),we obtain good B.F-errors and the shapes of the source loads are similar. High source loads appear from  $\Theta$ =0.1  $\pi$  to 0.25  $\pi$ . In case of (C), we obtain a bad B.F-error and the shape of the source loads is not so similar. High source loads appear from  $\Theta$ =0.2 $\pi$  to 0.35 $\pi$ .

We show the three shapes of source loads outside the plate end (a/w=0.6) in Figure 9. In case of (A), because of low *xcs*, the maximum source load is small and appears near the ligament (h < w).



Figure 8. Comparison of source load shape inside hole



Figure 9. Comparison of source load shape outside plate end

In case of (B), because of large *xcs*, the maximum source load is high and appears near the ligament (h < w) to satisfy the boundary conditions. And also because of small *ycc*, we can see that monotonous pattern occurs in h > w. These source loads create the accurate stress field in the square area (h < w) and the remote area (h > w). In case of (C), B.F-error is very high, the directions of source load are horizontal or vertical and the large source loads appear everywhere not only near the ligament.

## Conclusions

In order to obtain an accurate stress field of notched plate problem by the MFS, we applied the B.F-error and the sparse/dense allocation area to the plate end. Finally, the following results are mainly obtained.

- (1) An accurate stress field can be obtained by minimizing B.F-error based on balanced forces.
- (2) Combination of  $x_{cs}$  and  $y_{cc}$  is important to make an accurate stress field near and far the ligament. The most proper  $x_{cs}$  is nearly 0.8*w*, and  $y_{cc}$  is around 0.2*w* in case of a/w=0.6.
- (3) We can allocate the collocation points and the source points sufficiently in longitudinal direction by using the sparse /dense allocation technique.

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