GE05

Geotechnical Software

FEM - elements, materials

Tomáš Janda

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Outline

- Finite elements
- Structural elements
- Contacts
- Constitutive models (materials)
 - Elastic model, Modified elastic
 - Mohr-Coulomb, Drucker-Prager
 - Advanced models
- Driven tunnels
- Solution strategies, solver parameters

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Finite elements



Rod elements – anchor, geo-reinforcement or prop

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- Beams in 2D = Walls in 3D
- Bending and normal stiffness per running meter
- Predefined types of cross section and materials
- Output: bending moment, normal and shear force, deflection



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| - Cross-section and material | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--------------|------|-------------------------------|
| Cross-section type : | | Material type | e : concrete | - | |
| | rectangular wall pile curtain sheet pile steel cross-section numerical input | Name : | C 25/30 | User | |
| | | 02.0 733.5 | | | |
| | | -153.0 | 218.5 | | |
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- Beams in 2D = Walls in 3D
- Bending and normal stiffness per running meter
- Predefined types of cross section and materials



Structural elements – anchors

- Pre-stressed rod elements
- Free elements, not connected to FE mesh,
 - independent on topology, add at any stage
- Defined by
 - Pre-stress force, tensile strength, tensile stiffness





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Structural elements – anchors



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Structural elements - reinforcements

• Geotexiles, geogrids





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Contacts



Constitutive models

• Define stress-strain relationship



• Elastic models

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- Elasto-plastic models of Mohr-Coulomb family
- Models of critical state

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Elastic model

- Elastic model Hooke's law Constant stiffness, *E*, *v* Infinite strength Numerically stable
- Modified elastic model
 Initial loading modulus E
 Unloading/reloading modulus E_{ur}
 Rule of thumb:

$$E_{ur} = 3E$$



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Mohr-Coulomb family of models

- Elasto-plastic models
- Elastic region given by yield surface in stress space
- Constant stiffness in elastic region
- Limit deviatoric stress J increases with compressive mean stress $-\sigma_m$



Angle of dilatancy

- Controls the volumetric plastic strain
- Dense soil tend to dilate
- Default value $\psi = 0^{\circ}$

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• Typical range $\psi = \langle 0^{\circ}, 5^{\circ} \rangle$



M-C hardening/softening

- Advanced material model feature
- Strength parameters depend on plastic strain
- $\varphi = \varphi(E_{d,pl}), c = c(E_{d,pl})$
- Defined as piecewise linear function



Tension cutoff

Limits the tensile stress that is allowed due to cohesion





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Critical state model

- They define "state" of the soil
 - Degree of "compactness"

– Void ratio
$$e = \frac{V_p}{V_s}$$

- Shearing of dense sand \rightarrow dilatation
- Shearing of loose sand \rightarrow compaction
- Stiffness depends on

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- Void ratio
- Stress
- Non-standard material parameters, lab. tests



Critical state models



Critical state models



Constitutive models - application

Elastic model

Linear stress/strain relation, infinite strength

Modified elastic model

- Unloading/reloading modulus, infinite strength

Mohr-Coulomb

- Shear failure, most standard model

• Modified M-C, Drucker-Prager

- Smooth yield surface \rightarrow better numerical stability

- Critical state models
 - Very loose/dense soil, significant volumetric strain

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Effect of mode size

Simple elastic analysis of a shallow excavation

Plot of horizontal displacements

Elastic analysis of tunnel excavation

Plot of vertical displacements



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Slope stability analysis

Plot of an equivalent plastic strain



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Driven tunnels

- How to model clearly 3D structure in 2D?
- Two limit states in 2D

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Driven tunnels

- Convergence confinement method (λ -method)
- This function is called "Excavations" in Geo5 FEM

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Driven tunnels

• Sequential application of "excavation forces"

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Nonlinear solver

Newton-Raphson iteration scheme

- Most often used
- May fail when close to the limit load
- May fail when the load increment is too large

Arc-length method

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- Useful when searching for the maximum or limit load
- In general more time consuming
- May fail when the load increment is too large

Both methods can be combined with the Line search method to stabilize the iteration process

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EISEKO COMPUTERS S.R.L.

Viale del Lavoro, 17 37036 S. Martino B.A. (VR) tel. + 39 045 8031894 <u>www.eiseko.it</u>

Tel. 045 8031894

support@eiseko.com

Assistenza Remota

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