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ON THE SOLUTION OF ONE PROBLEM OF THE PLATE  
WITH RIBS

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In the present paper one problem of the plate with ribs is solved. The technical formulation of the problem and its physical aspects are discussed in detail in [7]. Similar problems were solved in the following papers: In [2], the numerical solution of the plate with one rib which is stiff with respect to the bending is given. The problem is generalized to the case of a finite number of intersecting ribs in the paper [3]. The plate with ribs which are stiff against bending and torsion in the sense of Saint-Venant is solved in [4] and [5]. In the papers mentioned above the finite element technique has been used to solve the problems.

The main goal of this paper is to prove convergence of the finite element approach in the problem of the plate with ribs when the bending and torsion similar to Vlasov's torsion is taken into account. For more details of the physical meaning see [7]. In order to prove the above mentioned convergence we have to prove one density theorem. This theorem implies the convergence of finite element approximations to the solution of this important case of plate with ribs. The rate of convergence cannot be estimated because we know nothing about the a priori regularity of the solution of the problem.

1. FORMULATION

Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded region in  $N$ -dimensional Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}_N$ ,  $\bar{\Omega}$  the closure of this region. We denote by  $D(\Omega)$  the space of infinitely differentiable functions with compact supports in  $\Omega$ .  $H^k(\Omega) = W^{k,2}(\Omega)$ ,  $H_0^k(\Omega) = W_0^{k,2}(\Omega)$  are the usual Sobolev's spaces with the usual algebraic and topological properties (for details see [6]), for instance

$$(1.1) \quad ((u, v))_{k,\Omega} = \sum_{|i| \leq k} \int_{\Omega} D^i u \cdot D^i v \, d\Omega \quad u, v \in H^k(\Omega)$$

$$(1.2) \quad \left( D^i u = \frac{\partial^{|i|} u}{\partial x_1^{i_1} \partial x_2^{i_2} \dots \partial x_N^{i_N}}; \quad |i| = \sum_{j=1}^n t_j \right),$$

$$(u, v)_{k, \Omega} = \sum_{|i|=k} \int_{\Omega} D^i u \cdot D^i v \, d\Omega \quad u, v \in H_0^k(\Omega)$$

are the scalar products on  $H^k(\Omega)$  and  $H_0^k(\Omega)$ , respectively, ( $k$  integer) and

$$(1.3) \quad \|u\|_{k, \Omega} = ((u, u))^{1/2},$$

$$(1.4) \quad |u|_{k, \Omega} = (u, u)^{1/2}$$

are the corresponding norms.

For a sufficiently smooth boundary of  $\Omega$  it can be proved that the functions from  $H_0^k(\Omega)$  are those from  $H^k(\Omega)$ , which satisfy the Dirichlet boundary conditions:

$$u = \partial u / \partial v = \dots = \partial^{k-1} u / \partial v^{k-1} = 0$$

on  $\partial\Omega$  in the sense of traces, where  $v$  denotes the outward normal to the boundary of  $\Omega$  (denoted by  $\partial\Omega$ ). Let

$$G = (-a, a) \times (-b, b) \subset \mathbb{R}_2,$$

$a$  and  $b$  given real numbers, and let  $I = \{I_{ij}\}_{i=1}^n$ ,  $J = \{J_{jj}\}_{j=1}^m$  be two systems of segments in  $G$ :

$$I_i = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_2 \mid x = x_i, y \in (-b, b)\},$$

$$J_j = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_2 \mid y = y_j, x \in (-a, a)\}$$

where  $x_i, y_j$  are given real numbers,  $-a < x_i < x_j < a$ ,  $-b < y_i < y_j < b$  for  $i < j$ . For the same reason as in [2] (see the definition of the trial problem below) we introduce the space

$$(1.5) \quad V(G, n, m) = \{u; u \in H_0^2(G), u|_{I_i} \in H_0^2(I_i), u|_{J_j} \in H_0^2(J_j),$$

$$u_x|_{I_i} \in H_0^2(I_i), u_y|_{J_j} \in H_0^2(J_j) \text{ for } I_i \in I,$$

$$J_j \in J, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad j = 1, \dots, m\}.$$

In the definition (1.5), the symbol  $u|_I$  denotes the restriction of the function  $u : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_1$  to the segment  $I$  and  $u|_I$  denotes the trace of  $u : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_1$  to  $I$ . For the sake of simplicity we omit in the following the specification "restriction" and "trace" as there is no danger of misunderstanding. In the above definition as well as in the following the lower indices of functions will denote partial derivatives.

On  $V(G, n, m)$  the scalar product is defined in the natural way:

$$(1.6) \quad (((u, v))) = (u, v)_{2, G} + (u, v)_I + (u, v)_J,$$

where

$$(u, v)_I = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{I_i} (uv + u_x v_x)_{yy} dy$$

$$u, v \in V(G, n, m)$$

$$(u, v)_J = \sum_{j=1}^m \int_{J_j} (uv + u_y v_y)_{xx} dx .$$

The space  $V(G, n, m)$  equipped with the norm

$$(1.7) \quad |||u||| = (((u, v)))^{1/2}$$

is a Hilbert space (see [7]).

Denote by  $[V(G, n, m)]'$  the dual space to  $V(G, n, m)$  and let  $f \in [V(G, n, m)]'$  be given.

**Problem:** Find  $u \in V(G, n, m)$  such that

$$(1.8) \quad (((u, v))) = (f, v) \text{ for all } v \in V(G, n, m)$$

where  $(\dots)$  is the duality  $V(G, n, m)$  and  $[V(G, n, m)]'$ . There exists a solution of this problem and it is unique (see [7]).

Our problem is the weak formulation of the problem of the clamped plate with ribs which are stiff against bending and torsion similar to Vlasov's torsion of box girders. In (1.8), the type of bilinear form  $(\dots)$  is taken into investigation in order to include more hypotheses of the dimensional reduction of the plate and beams (denoted by segments  $I$  and  $J$ ) and, of course, for the sake of simplicity. This approach is advantageous and has been used also in the papers [2] through [5] and [7].

Now, we shall solve Problem by Ahlin's conforming elements. Our main goal will be to prove convergence of this method to the solution of Problem assuming that it is nothing known about the regularity of the solution of Problem.

We note that in the following discussion the higher order polynomials are included with the only restriction concerning the conformity of elements generated by these polynomials.

To each  $h \in (0, 1)$  there is a division  $G_h = \{G_{ih}\}_{i=1}^{k(h)}$  of the region  $G$  and each element of  $G_h$  is a rectangle.

Let  $R$  be a nondegenerate rectangle and let

$$Ah(R) = \{v; v = \sum_{0 \leq i, j \leq 3} a_{ij} x^i y^j\}$$

be the set of the so called Ahlin's polynomials over  $R$ . The coefficients  $a_{ij}$  are real numbers.

For  $h \in (0, 1)$  fixed we introduce the space  $V_h$  which approximates  $V(G, n, m)$  in the following way:

- (1.9)  $V_h = \{v; v \in Ah(G_{ij}) \text{ on } G_{ij} \text{ for each } i = 1, \dots, k(h)$   
 if  $A$  is a nodal point of the division  $G_h$  then:  
 a)  $v, v_x, v_y, v_{xy}$  are continuous functions at  $A$ ,  
 b)  $v, v_x, v_y, v_{xy}$  are equal to zero at  $A \in \partial G\}$ .

Introducing a relative topology on  $V_h$  it is easy to verify the inclusion  $V_h \subset V(G, n, m)$ ,  $h \in (0, 1)$ . Let us denote by  $u_h$  the solution of

**Approximative Problem:**

(1.10)  $((u_h, v_h)) = (f, v_h) \text{ for each } v_h \in V_h.$

Since there exists a unique solution of Trial Problem, there exists also a unique solution of Approximative Problem (1.10).

Now, we shall be interested in the question of convergence

(1.11)  $|||u_h - u||| \rightarrow 0 \text{ for } h \rightarrow 0$

if we have no information about a priori regularity of  $u$  at our disposal. We only know that  $u \in V(G, n, m)$ . Suppose that the division  $G_h$  is regular (see [3]). Then the following assertion holds:

Let  $S$  be a dense subset in  $V(G, n, m)$  and let  $r_h$  be the mapping from  $S$  to  $V_h$  such that

(1.12)  $|||v - r_h v||| \rightarrow 0, \quad h \rightarrow 0, \quad v \in S.$

Then (1.11) holds (see [1]).

Now, let  $r_h : D(G) \rightarrow V_h$  be such that  $r_h v$  is an Hermite interpolation of  $v \in D(G)$ . The functions from  $D(G)$  belong to the space  $H^4(G)$ . According to [1] we have

$$|||v - r_h v||| \leq Ch^2 \|v\|_{4,G}$$

where  $C$  does not depend on  $h$ . So, if  $S \equiv D(G)$ , then (1.12) holds. This means that when we prove the density of  $D(G)$  in  $V(G, n, m)$  with respect to the norm (1.4) and apply the above assertions we get the convergence needed.

The density of  $D(G)$  in  $V(G, n, m)$  with respect to the norm (1.4) is proved in Theorem 2.1 in the following chapter.

## 2. DENSITY THEOREM

The goal of this chapter is to prove the density of the space  $D(G)$  in  $V(G, n, m)$  with respect to the norm  $||| \cdot |||$  provided both  $n, m$  are finite integers: Without restriction of generality let  $G$  be the square  $(-1, 1) \times (-1, 1) \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ .

First, let

$$I_1 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_2; x = 0, y \in (-1, 1)\} \equiv I, \quad J = \emptyset$$

so that  $V(G, n, m) = V(G, 1, 0)$ .

**Lemma 1.** *The space  $D(G)$  is dense in  $V(G, 1, 0)$  with respect to the norm of  $V(G, 1, 0)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $u \in V(G, 1, 0)$  be an arbitrary function. The existence of functions from  $D(G)$  approximating  $u$  with an arbitrary precision with respect to the norm of  $V(G, 1, 0)$  will be proved by turns.

Because  $u \in H_0^2(I_1)$  there exist functions  $\psi_i \in D(I_1)$ ,  $\psi_i \rightarrow u$  on  $H_0^2(I_1)$  for  $i \rightarrow \infty$ . Define  $\varphi(x) \in D((-1, 1))$  with the following properties:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(x) &= 1 \quad \text{for } x \in \langle -1 + a, 1 - a \rangle, \quad a \in (0, 1), \\ 0 &\leq \varphi(x) \leq 1. \end{aligned}$$

Put  $\Phi(x, y) = \varphi(x)$  for  $(x, y) \in G$ . Furthermore, let

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\Psi}_i(x, y) &= \psi_i(y), \\ \bar{U}(x, y) &= u(0, y), \\ \Psi_i(x, y) &= \bar{\Psi}_i(x, y) \cdot \Phi(x, y), \\ U(x, y) &= \bar{U}(x, y) \cdot \Phi(x, y) \quad i = 1, \dots, \dots \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to verify that the functions  $\Psi_i$  from the above definition belong to  $D(G)$  and  $\Psi_i \rightarrow U$  on  $V(G, 1, 0)$ . Really, in the neighbourhood of the segment  $I_1$  the first derivatives with respect to  $x$  of both  $\bar{U}$  and  $\bar{\Psi}_i$  vanish. Furthermore, it is clear that

$$\bar{U}_{xx} = \bar{U}_{xy} = \bar{\Psi}_{i,xx} = \bar{\Psi}_{i,xy} = 0$$

and according to the definition of  $\bar{U}$  and  $\bar{\Psi}_i$  and Fubini's theorem we obtain

$$\bar{\Psi}_{i,yy} \rightarrow \bar{U}_{yy} \quad \text{for } i \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{on } L_2(G).$$

In virtue of the last two formulas it holds  $\bar{\Psi}_i \rightarrow \bar{U}$  on  $H_0^2(G)$ . This together with Friedrich's inequality (see [6]) yields  $\bar{\Psi}_i \rightarrow U$  on  $H_0^2(G)$ . Moreover,  $\Psi_i = \psi_i$  and  $U = u$  on  $I_1$  so that we get  $\Psi_i \rightarrow U$  on  $V(G, 1, 0)$ .

The trace  $u_x$  on  $I_1$  belongs to  $H_0^2(I_1)$  according to the definition of  $V(G, 1, 0)$ . There exist functions  $\chi_i \in D(I_1)$ ,  $\chi_i \rightarrow u_x$  on  $H_0^2(I)$  Put

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\chi}_i(x, y) &= \chi_i(y) \cdot x, \\ V(x, y) &= u_x(0, y) \cdot x, \\ \chi_i(x, y) &= \bar{\chi}_i(x, y) \cdot \Phi(x, y) \\ V(x, y) &= V(x, y) \cdot \Phi(x, y) \quad i = 1, \dots, \dots \end{aligned}$$

The functions  $\chi_i, V$  satisfy  $\chi_i \in D(G)$  and  $V \in H_0^2(G)$ . Following the definition of the functions  $\bar{V}$  and  $\bar{\chi}_i$  we get

$$\bar{V}_{xx} = \bar{\chi}_{i,xx} = 0.$$

Fubini's theorem and Schwarz's inequality give

$$\bar{\chi}_{i,xy} \rightarrow \bar{V}_{xy},$$

$$\bar{\chi}_{i,yy} \rightarrow \bar{V}_{yy} \quad \text{on } L_2(G), \quad i \rightarrow \infty.$$

The above discussion implies  $\bar{\chi}_i \rightarrow \bar{V}$  on  $H_0^2(G)$ . Hence by virtue of Friedrich's inequality  $\chi_i \rightarrow V$  on  $H_0^2(G)$ . As  $\chi_i = V = 0$  on  $I_1$  and  $\chi_{i,x} = \chi_i$  and  $V_x = u_x$  on  $I_1$  we have also  $\chi_i \rightarrow V$  on  $V(G, 1, 0)$ .

Now, we put

$$u = U + V + Z$$

so that  $Z$  is a function from  $H_0^2(G)$  satisfying the identity

$$Z = Z_x = 0 \quad \text{on } I_1,$$

which implies  $Z \in H_0^2(G_1) \cap H_0^2(G_2)$  where  $G_1 = (-1, 0) \times (-1, 1)$  and  $G_2 = (0, 1) \times (-1, 1)$ . According to the definition of spaces  $H_0^2(G_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  there exist functions  $\xi_i$  such that  $\xi_i$  restricted to  $G_1$  belong to  $D(G_1)$  and  $\xi_i$  restricted to  $G_2$  belong to  $D(G_2)$ ,  $\xi_i \rightarrow Z$  on  $H_0^2(G)$  and so also on  $V(G, 1, 0)$ .

Setting

$$\zeta_i = \xi_i + \chi_i + \Psi_i \quad (\zeta_i \in D(G))$$

one obtains

$$\| \|u - \zeta_i\| \| \leq \| \|U - \Psi_i\| \| + \| \|V - \chi_i\| \| + \| \|Z - \xi_i\| \|$$

according to the triangle inequality. The right hand side of the last inequality converges to zero for  $i \rightarrow \infty$ .

Now, we prove a similar theorem for the case  $J = J_1, I = I_1, G = (-1, 1) \times (-1, 1), I_1 = \{(x, y); x = 0, y \in (-1, 1)\}, J_1 = \{(x, y); x \in (-1, 1), y = 0\}$ . It is necessary to point out the symmetry of the segments  $I_1$  and  $J_1$ , which will be very important in the following. Trial Problem will be solved on  $V(G, 1, 1)$ . If  $S$  is a subset of  $V(G, 1, 1)$  than  $\bar{S}$  denotes the closure of  $S$  on  $V(G, 1, 1)$ .

**Lemma 2.** *The space  $D(G)$  is dense in  $V(G, 1, 1)$  with respect to the norm of  $V(G, 1, 1)$ .*

**Proof.** In order to continue systematically we take into account the following circumstance: Each function from  $V(G, 1, 1)$  may be divided into four functions

$$w = w^s + w^x + w^y + w^a \quad w \in V(G, 1, 1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 w^s(x, y) &= \frac{1}{4}(w(x, y) + w(x, -y) + w(-x, y) + w(-x, -y)), \\
 w^x(x, y) &= \frac{1}{4}(w(x, y) - w(x, -y) + w(-x, y) - w(-x, -y)), \\
 w^y(x, y) &= \frac{1}{4}(w(x, y) + w(x, -y) - w(-x, y) - w(-x, -y)), \\
 w^a(x, y) &= \frac{1}{4}(w(x, y) - w(x, -y) - w(-x, y) + w(-x, -y)), \\
 (x, y) &\in G.
 \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that the following conditions are satisfied:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.1) \quad w^s(-x, y) &= w^s(x, y), \quad w^s(x, -y) = w^s(x, y), \\
 (2.2) \quad w^x(-x, y) &= w^x(x, y), \quad w^x(x, -y) = -w^x(x, y), \\
 (2.3) \quad w^y(-x, y) &= -w^y(x, y), \quad w^y(x, -y) = w^y(x, y), \\
 (2.4) \quad w^a(-x, y) &= -w^a(x, y), \quad w^a(x, -y) = -w^a(x, y). \quad (x, y) \in G.
 \end{aligned}$$

We introduce auxiliary spaces:

$$\begin{aligned}
 V^s &= \{u \in V(G, 1, 1) \mid u \text{ fulfils (2.1)}\}, \\
 D^s &= \{v \in D(G); v \text{ fulfils (2.1)}\}, \\
 V^x &= \{u \in V(G, 1, 1); u \text{ fulfils (2.2)}\}, \\
 D^x &= \{v \in D(G); v \text{ fulfils (2.2)}\}, \\
 V^y &= \{u \in V(G, 1, 1); u \text{ fulfils (2.3)}\}, \\
 D^y &= \{v \in D(G); v \text{ fulfils (2.3)}\}, \\
 V^a &= \{u \in V(G, 1, 1); u \text{ fulfils (2.4)}\}, \\
 D^a &= \{v \in D(G); v \text{ fulfils (2.4)}\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, we have to prove

$$(2.5) \quad \bar{D}^s = V^s,$$

$$(2.6) \quad \bar{D}^x = V^x,$$

$$(2.7) \quad \bar{D}^y = V^y,$$

$$(2.8) \quad \bar{D}^a = V^a.$$

Suppose that (2.5) through (2.8) hold. Then for each  $w \in V(G, 1, 1)$  the above division exists. According to (2.5) through (2.8) there exist functions  $\xi_i^s, \xi_i^x, \xi_i^y, \xi_i^a$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \xi_i^s &\rightarrow w^s, \quad \xi_i^x \rightarrow w^x, \quad \xi_i^y \rightarrow w^y, \quad \xi_i^a \rightarrow w^a, \\
 i &\rightarrow \infty \quad \text{on } V(G, 1, 1).
 \end{aligned}$$



Put

$$\xi^i = \xi_i^s + \xi_i^x + \xi_i^y + \xi_i^a \quad (\xi^i \in D(\bar{G})).$$

The triangle inequality gives

$$\begin{aligned} \|\|w - \xi^i\|\| &\leq \|\|w^s - \xi_i^s\|\| + \|\|w^x - \xi_i^x\|\| + \|\|w^y - \xi_i^y\|\| + \\ &+ \|\|w^a - \xi_i^a\|\| \rightarrow 0, \quad i \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

The last formula proves the lemma.

It remains to prove the density assertions (2.5) through (2.8).

**Proof of assertion (2.5):** Let  $u^s \in V^s$  be arbitrary. According to the definition this function is even with respect to both of coordinates (see (2.1)). Let us define some auxiliary functions:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi \in D^s : 0 \leq \varphi(x, y) \leq 1, \quad \varphi(x, y) = 1 \quad \text{for } x^2 + y^2 \leq \frac{1}{4}, \\ \varphi^x(x) = 1, \quad x \in \langle -1 + a, 1 - a \rangle, \\ a \in (0, 1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\varphi^y(y) = 1, \quad y \in \langle -1 + a, 1 - a \rangle,$$

$0 \leq \varphi^x(x), \varphi^y(y) \leq 1, \varphi^x, \varphi^y \in D((-1, 1))$  are even functions with respect to their arguments.

In virtue of the embedding theorem ( $u^s \in C(\bar{G})$ ) we can introduce on  $I_1$ ,

$$u_I(y) = u^s(0, y) - u^s(0, 0) \cdot \varphi(0, y)$$

and on  $J_1$ ,

$$u_J(x) = u^s(x, 0) - u^s(0, 0) \cdot \varphi(x, 0).$$

It is easy to see that  $u_I \in H_0^2(I_1)$  and  $u_J \in H_0^2(J_1)$  and, moreover,  $u_I(0) = u_J(0) = 0$ . As  $u_I$  and  $u_J$  are even functions and their first derivatives are continuous on  $I$  and  $J$ , respectively (for embedding theorems see [4]),  $u_{I,y} = u_{J,x} = 0$  holds at the point  $(0, 0)$ , so that  $u_I \in H_0^2(I_{11}) \cap H_0^2(I_{12})$ ,  $u_J \in H_0^2(J_{11}) \cap H_0^2(J_{12})$ , where  $I_{11} = \{(x, y); x = 0, y \in (0, 1)\}$ ,  $I_{12} = \{(x, y); x = 0, y \in (-1, 0)\}$ ,  $J_{11} = \{(x, y); x \in (-1, 0), y = 0\}$ ,  $J_{12} = \{(x, y); x \in (0, 1), y = 0\}$ . By the definition of spaces  $H_0^2$  there exist functions  $\chi_I^i$  and  $\chi_J^i$  belonging to  $D(I_1), D(J_1)$ , respectively, possessing the property  $\chi_I^i(0) = \chi_J^i(0) = 0, \chi_I^i \rightarrow u_I, \chi_J^i \rightarrow u_J$  for  $i \rightarrow \infty$  on  $H_0^2(I_1)$  and  $H_0^2(J_1)$ , respectively. Moreover,  $X_I^i$  and  $X_J^i$  are symmetric functions of their arguments.

We set

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi^x(x, y) &= \varphi^x(x), \\ \Phi^y(x, y) &= \varphi^y(y), \\ \bar{X}_I^i(x, y) &= \chi_I^i(y), \\ X_I^i(x, y) &= \bar{X}_I^i(x, y) \cdot \Phi^x(x, y), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\bar{X}_J^i(x, y) &= \chi_J^i(x), \\
\bar{U}_I(x, y) &= u_I(y), \\
\bar{U}_J(x, y) &= u_J(x), \\
X_J^i(x, y) &= \bar{X}_I^i(x, y) \cdot \Phi^y(x, y), \\
U_I(x, y) &= \bar{U}_I(x, y) \cdot \Phi^x(x, y), \\
U_J(x, y) &= \bar{U}_J(x, y) \cdot \Phi^y(x, y)
\end{aligned}$$

and  $X_I^i, X_J^i \in D^s$ . We show that  $X_I^i \rightarrow U_I, X_J^i \rightarrow U_J$  on  $V(G, 1, 1)$ . The following identities hold:

$$\begin{aligned}
\bar{U}_{I,xx} = \bar{U}_{I,xy} = \bar{X}_{I,xx}^i = \bar{X}_{I,xy}^i &= 0 \\
&\text{on } G. \\
\bar{U}_{J,yy} = \bar{U}_{J,xy} = \bar{X}_{J,yy}^i = \bar{X}_{J,xy}^i &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

From Fubini's theorem one obtains:

$$\bar{X}_{I,yy}^i \rightarrow \bar{U}_{I,yy}, \quad \bar{X}_{J,xx}^i \rightarrow \bar{U}_{J,xx}, \quad i \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{on } L_2(G),$$

which yields together

$$\bar{X}_I^i \rightarrow \bar{U}_I, \quad \bar{X}_J^i \rightarrow \bar{U}_J \quad \text{on } H_0^2(G).$$

That and Friedrich's inequality imply

$$X_I^i \rightarrow U_I, \quad X_J^i \rightarrow U_J \quad \text{on } H_0^2(G).$$

On  $I_1$  the following relations hold:  $X_I^i = \chi_I^i$  and  $U_I = u_I$ . Moreover, the first derivatives with respect to  $x$  of  $X_I^i$  and  $U_I$  vanish all over  $I_1$ . Similarly on  $J_1$ :  $X_J^i = \chi_J^i$ ,  $U_J = u_J$ . The first derivatives with respect to  $y$  of  $X_J^i$  and  $U_J$  vanish over  $J_1$ . So we have also

$$X_I^i \rightarrow U_I \text{ on } H_0^2(I_1) \text{ and } X_J^i \rightarrow U_J \text{ on } H_0^2(J_1) \text{ for } i \rightarrow \infty,$$

and together

$$X_I^i \rightarrow U_I \text{ and } X_J^i \rightarrow U_J \text{ on } V(G, 1, 1) \text{ for } i \rightarrow \infty.$$

$$U(x, y) = u^s(0, 0) \cdot \varphi(x, y) + U_I(x, y) + U_J(x, y),$$

$$X_i(x, y) = u^s(0, 0) \cdot \varphi(x, y) + X_I^i(x, y) + X_J^i(x, y),$$

one gets  $X_i \in D^s$  and  $U \in V^s$ . From Schwarz's inequality we conclude

$$(2.9) \quad X_i \rightarrow U \quad \text{on } V(G, 1, 1).$$

Moreover, the function  $U(x, y)$  is defined in such manner that  $U = u^s$  along  $I_1$ . Actually, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
U(0, y) &= u^s(0, 0) \cdot \varphi(0, y) + U_I(0, y) + U_J(0, y) = \\
&= u^s(0, 0) \cdot \varphi(0, y) + u_I(y) = u^s(0, y)
\end{aligned}$$

because  $\varphi(0, 0) = 1$ ,  $u_j(0) = 0$  which gives  $U_j(0, y) = 0$ .

Similarly,  $U(x, 0) = u^s(x, 0)$  so that  $U = u^s$  along  $J_1$ .

From the symmetry of the functions defined above we can easily deduce that the first derivative with respect to  $x$  is equal to zero along  $I_1$  and the first derivative with respect to  $y$  is equal to zero along  $J_1$ , in both cases almost everywhere.

Now, divide  $u^s$  in the following manner

$$u^s = U + Z$$

where  $Z$  is a function belonging to  $V^s$  which has the restrictions on  $I_1$  and  $J_1$  as well as the traces of its first derivative with respect to  $x$  on  $I_1$  and its first derivative with respect to  $y$  on  $J_1$  equal to zero. We can, then, deduce, that  $Z \in H_0^2(G_{11}) \cap H_0^2(G_{12}) \cap H_0^2(G_{21}) \cap H_0^2(G_{22})$ , where  $G_{11} = (-1, 0) \times (0, 1)$ ,  $G_{12} = (0, 1) \times (0, 1)$ ,  $G_{21} = (-1, 0) \times (-1, 0)$  and  $G_{22} = (0, 1) \times (-1, 0)$ . From the symmetry of the function  $Z$  and from the definition of spaces  $H_0^2$  we obtain existence of functions from  $D^s$ , say  $\varepsilon_i$ , such that

$$(2.10) \quad \varepsilon_i \rightarrow Z \quad \text{on} \quad V(G, 1, 1).$$

The above decomposition of  $u^s$ , relations (2.9) and (2.10) together with the triangle inequality complete the proof of (2.5).

Proof of assertion (2.6): Each function from  $V^s$  has vanishing restriction on  $J_1$ . Moreover, the trace of the first derivative with respect to  $x$  of this function on  $I_1$  is equal to zero a. e. The trace of the first derivative with respect to  $y$  is continuous with respect to  $I_1 \cap J_1$  (for the proof of this assertion see [3]). Let  $u^s \in V^s$  be arbitrary. The above discussion makes the following construction possible: Following the definition, the trace of  $u_y^s$  on  $J_1$  belongs to  $H_0^2(J_1)$  and moreover, it is symmetric (even) with respect to the  $x$ -coordinate, the function

$$u_j(x) = u_y^s(x) - u_y^s(0, 0) \cdot \varphi^s(x)$$

also belongs to  $H_0^2(J_1)$ ,  $u_j(0) = u_{j,x}(0) = 0$ . Then there exist functions  $\omega^i \in D(J_1)$ ,  $\omega^i(0) = \omega_x^i(0) = 0$  and the functions may be chosen in such a way that  $\omega^i$  are symmetric for all  $i$  and  $\omega^i \rightarrow u_j$  on  $H_0^2(J_1)$  for  $i \rightarrow \infty$  (see [5]). Now, put

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\Omega}^i(x, y) &= \omega^i(x) \cdot y, \\ \bar{V}(x, y) &= u_j(x) \cdot y, \\ \Omega^i(x, y) &= \bar{\Omega}^i(x, y) \cdot \varphi^s(y), \\ V(x, y) &= \bar{V}(x, y) \cdot \varphi^s(y), \\ (x, y) &\in G. \end{aligned}$$

The functions  $\Omega^i$  and  $V$  satisfy  $\Omega^i \in D^s$  and  $V \in V^s$ . According to the definition of the functions  $V$  and  $\Omega^i$  we have

$$\bar{V}_{yy} = \bar{\Omega}_{yy}^i = 0$$

and from Fubini's theorem we conclude

$$\bar{\Omega}_{xy}^i \rightarrow \bar{V}_{xy}, \quad \bar{\Omega}_{xx}^i \rightarrow \bar{V}_{xx} \quad \text{on } L_2(G), \quad i \rightarrow \infty$$

and so  $\bar{\Omega}^i \rightarrow \bar{V}$  in the norm (1.4). From Friedrich's inequality we have also  $\Omega^i \rightarrow V$  on  $H_0^2(G)$ . Further,  $V(0, y) = \Omega^i(0, y) = V(x, 0) = \Omega^i(x, 0) = 0$ ,  $V^x(0, y) = \Omega_x^i(0, y) = 0$ ,  $V_y(x, 0) = u_f(x)$ ,  $\Omega_y^i(x, 0) = \omega^i(x)$ . The convergence is guaranteed also in  $V(G, 1, 1)$ .

Put

$$U(x, y) = V(x, y) + u_y^x(0, 0) \cdot \varphi^x(x) \cdot \varphi^y(y) \cdot y,$$

$$\tau^i(x, y) = \Omega^i(x, y) + u_y^x(0, 0) \cdot \varphi^x(x) \cdot \varphi^y(y) \cdot y$$

and we have  $U \in V^x$ ,  $\tau^i \in D^x$ ,  $U_y(x, 0) = u_y^x(x)$  and  $U(x, 0) = 0$  and

$$(2.11) \quad \tau^i \rightarrow U \quad \text{on } V(G, 1, 1).$$

Define the function  $Z$  in the following way:

$$u^x = U + Z$$

so that  $Z \in V^x \cap V(G_1, 1, 0) \cap V(G_2, 1, 0)$ , where  $G_1 = (-1, 1) \times (0, 1)$  and  $G_2 = (-1, 1) \times (-1, 0)$ . We may use Lemma 1 for the subregion  $G_1$  and then for  $G_2$  and because of the symmetry of the problem we have the existence of functions  $\sigma^i \in D^x$ ,

$$(2.12) \quad \sigma^i \rightarrow Z \quad \text{on } V(G, 1, 1), \quad i \rightarrow \infty.$$

The decomposition of  $u^x$ , approximative relations (2.11) and (2.12) and the triangle inequality prove the assertion (2.6).

Proof of assertion (2.7) can be carried out in a similar manner as the proof of (2.6).

Proof of assertion (2.8): Let  $u^a$  be an arbitrary function from  $V^a$ . According to the definition this function is odd with respect to both coordinates. The restrictions of  $u^a$  to  $I_1$  and  $J_1$  are equal to zero. The continuity of  $u_x^a$  and  $u_y^a$  with respect to  $I_1 \cup J_1$  (see [5]) implies  $u_x^a(0, 0) = u_y^a(0, 0) = 0$ . Moreover,  $u_x^a \in H_0^2(I_1)$  is an even function on  $I_1$  and so  $u_{xy}^a$  is odd. From the embedding theorem  $u_{xy}^a(0) = 0$  on  $I_1$ , so that  $u_x^a \in H_0^2(I_{11}) \cap H_0^2(I_{12})$ , where  $I_{11} = \{(x, y); x = 0, y \in (0, 1)\}$ ,  $I_{12} = \{(x, y); x = 0, y \in (-1, 0)\}$  there exist functions  $\alpha^i \in D(I_1)$ ,  $\alpha^i$  are even on  $I_1$ ,  $\alpha^i(0) = \alpha_x^i(0) = 0$  and  $\alpha^i \rightarrow u_x^a$  on  $H_0^2(I_1)$  for  $i \rightarrow \infty$ . In a similar way we obtain a sequence of functions  $\beta^i \in D(J_1)$ ,  $\beta^i$  are even on  $J_1$ ,  $\beta^i(0) = \beta_x^i(0) = 0$  and  $\beta^i \rightarrow u_y^a$  on  $H_0^2(J_1)$ . We introduce auxiliary functions

$$\gamma^i(x, y) = \alpha^i(y) \cdot \varphi^x(x) \cdot x + \beta^i(x) \cdot \varphi^y(y) \cdot y,$$

$$U(x, y) = u_x^a(0, y) \cdot \varphi^x(x) \cdot x + u_y^a(x, 0) \cdot \varphi^y(y) \cdot y$$

and, with respect to the definition,  $U \in V^a$  and  $\gamma^i \in D^a$ . Now, we set

$$\begin{aligned} A^i(x, y) &= \alpha^i(y) \cdot \varphi^x(x) \cdot x, \\ B^i(x, y) &= \beta^i(x) \cdot \varphi^y(y) \cdot y, \\ U^{ax}(x, y) &= u_x^a(0, y) \cdot \varphi^x(x) \cdot x, \\ U^{ay}(x, y) &= u_y^a(x, 0) \cdot \varphi^y(y) \cdot y. \end{aligned}$$

According to Fubini's theorem and Schwarz's inequality we obtain  $A^i \rightarrow U^{ax}$  and  $B^i \rightarrow U^{ay}$  in  $H_0^2(G)$  for  $i \rightarrow \infty$ . The triangle inequality then gives  $\gamma^i \rightarrow U$  in  $H_0^2(G)$ . Moreover,  $U_x = u_x^a$  and  $\gamma_x^i = \alpha^i$  on  $I_1$ ,  $U_y = u_y^a$  and  $\gamma_y^i = \beta^i$  on  $J_1$  and both the functions  $U$  and  $\gamma^i$  for arbitrary  $i$  have restrictions on  $I_1$  and  $J_1$  equal to zero so that

$$(2.13) \quad \gamma^i \rightarrow U \quad \text{on} \quad V(G, 1, 1)$$

and the function  $Z$  from the decomposition

$$(2.14) \quad u^a = U + Z$$

belongs to  $V^a \cap H_0^2(G_{11}) \cap H_0^2(G_{12}) \cap H_0^2(G_{21}) \cap H_0^2(G_{22})$ , where the sets  $G_{ij}$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2$  are defined in the proof of (2.5), and so from the definition of the spaces  $H_0^2$  and from the symmetry of the problem we have the existence of functions  $\delta^i \in D_b$  which approximate  $Z$  with an arbitrary accuracy. From that and from (2.13), (2.14) and the triangle inequality we obtain the result desired. The proof of Lemma 2 is complete.

Using the partition of unity, Lemma 1 and Lemma 2, we can easily prove the following.

**Theorem 2.1.**  *$D(C)$  is dense in  $V(G, n, m)$  with respect to the  $V(G, n, m)$ -norm.*

### 3. CONCLUSION

This paper deals with a problem of one type for the plate with ribs and may be considered a continuation of [2] and [3] where a certain simpler model of the plate with ribs was studied. For numerical solution, the finite element method has been proposed. With respect to [2] and [3], it suffices to prove one density theorem (here Theorem 2.1) for the proof of convergence of the finite element approximations to the solution of Trial Problem. Since it is nothing known about apriori regularity of the solution of Trial Problem we cannot say anything about the rate of convergence mentioned.

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## Souhrn

### O ŘEŠENÍ JEDNOHO PROBLÉMU DESKY SE ŽEBRY

PETR PROCHÁZKA

V předloženém článku je studována konvergence aproximací ve smyslu metody konečných prvků k řešení problému desky se žebry, která jsou tuhá vzhledem k ohybu i v kroucení. Tento případ tuhosti v kroucení odpovídá Vlasovovu kroucení uzavřených profilů. Vzhledem k rozboru, provedenému např. v práci [3] stačí dokázat jednu větu o hustotě (zde Věta 2.1). Jelikož nevíme nic o apriorní regularitě řešení výchozího problému, nepodařilo se dokázat rychlost konvergence, ale pouze skutečnost, že aproximativní řešení konverguje k přesnému řešení úlohy v normě prostoru těchto přesných řešení.

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