



A fast method for computing arbitrary order Stress-Intensity Factor derivatives of 3D finite element simulations using Hypercomplex Automatic Differentiation



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WCCM 2024/ PANACM 2024
Vancouver, BC, Canada
July 24, 2024



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Analogy with the finite difference method

Finite Difference (FD)

Perturb along the real axis

$$\frac{df}{dx} \approx \frac{f(x + \hat{h}) - f(x)}{\hat{h}}$$

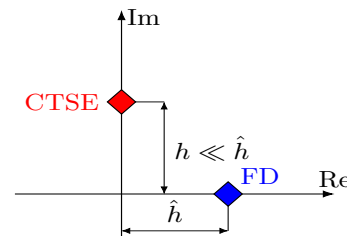
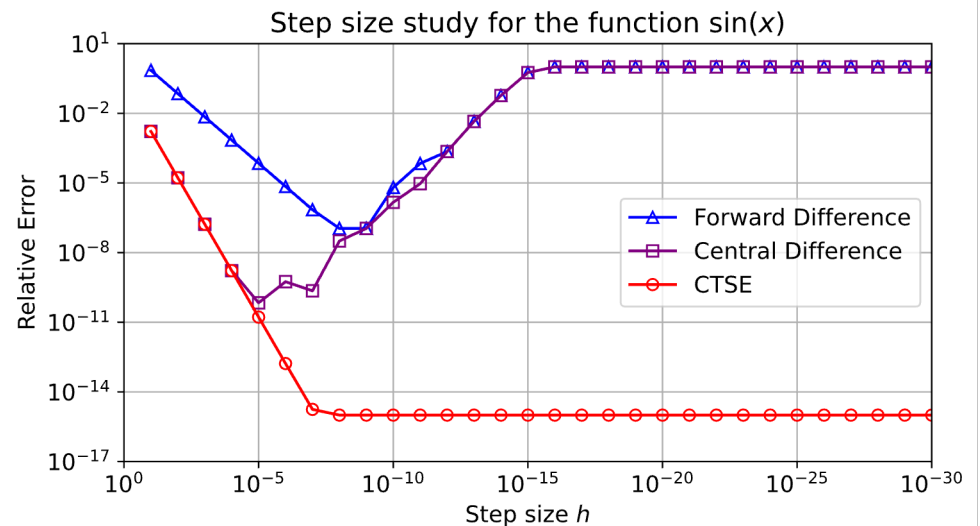
Subtraction errors occur when $h \rightarrow 0$

Complex Taylor Series Expansion (CTSE)

CTSE is performed analogously to FD

Perturb along the imaginary axis

$$\frac{df}{dx} \approx \frac{\text{Im}(f(x + ih))}{h}$$



The step size can be made arbitrarily small with no concern about round-off error – **no subtraction error.**

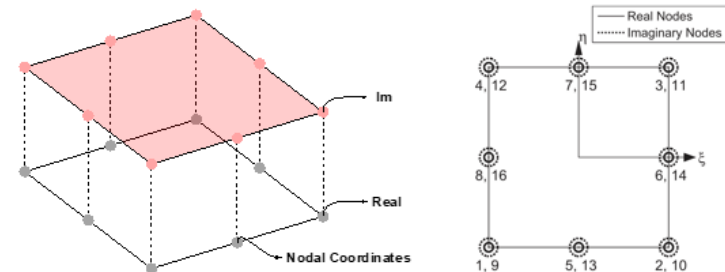


Method – in a nutshell

- Uses hypercomplex algebra combined with traditional finite element methods to compute **arbitrary order high accuracy derivatives**.
 - Step size independent method ensures high accuracy.
 - The traditional real-valued results are still obtained.

- Methodology programmed as a user element (UEL) within **Abaqus**.
 - Intrusive – code has to be reprogrammed for hypercomplex algebra but traditional functions still used, e.g., same shape functions, etc.

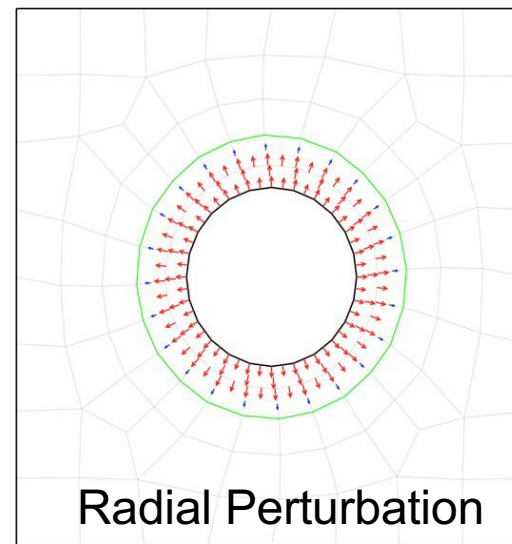
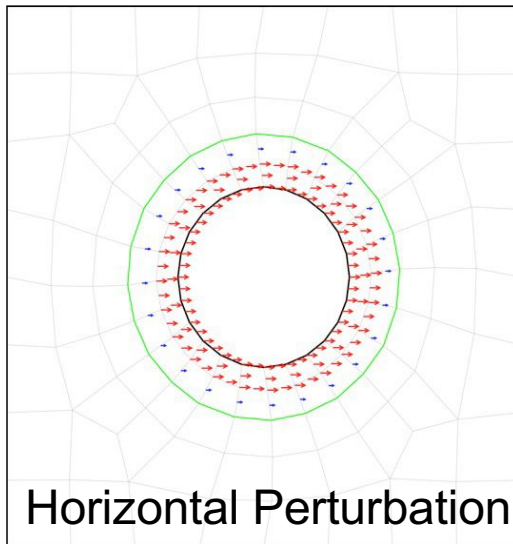
```
COMPLEX(KIND=r8), DIMENSION(MCRD , NNODE/2 ) :: zCOORDS  
COMPLEX(KIND=r8), DIMENSION(NNODE, NNODE) :: zAMATRIX !Complex Stiffness Matrix
```



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Perturbations

- Arbitrary *shape*, *material* and *loading* sensitivities are available.
- Perturb nodal coordinates in imaginary axis only!



Minimal mesh
distortion issues!

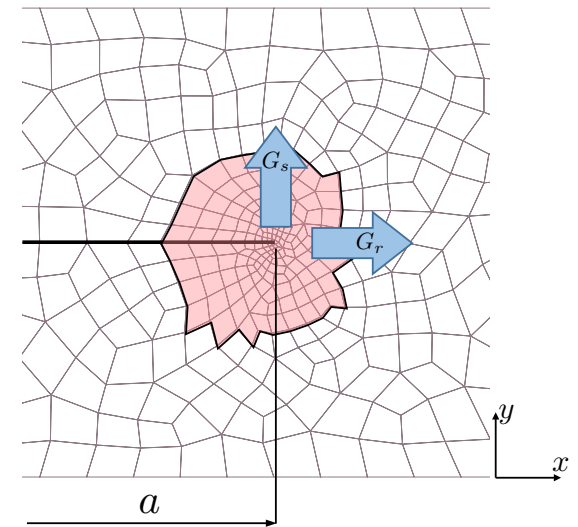
Imaginary nodal coordinates define the ***perturbation*** in the shape.

Calculation of the Energy Release Rate

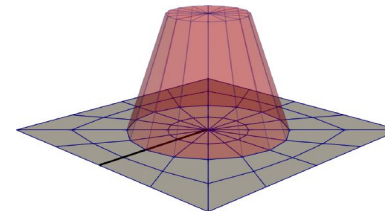
$G = \pm \frac{dU}{dA}$ - special case of shape sensitivity. Perturb the crack area along the imaginary axis and extract the imaginary component of strain energy:

$$G = \pm \frac{dU}{dA} \approx \frac{1}{\Delta A} \sum_{el=1}^{Nel} \text{Im}(U_{el})$$

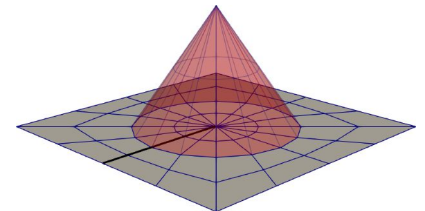
ΔA is related to the step size h – typically 10^{-10} times the smallest element at the crack tip.



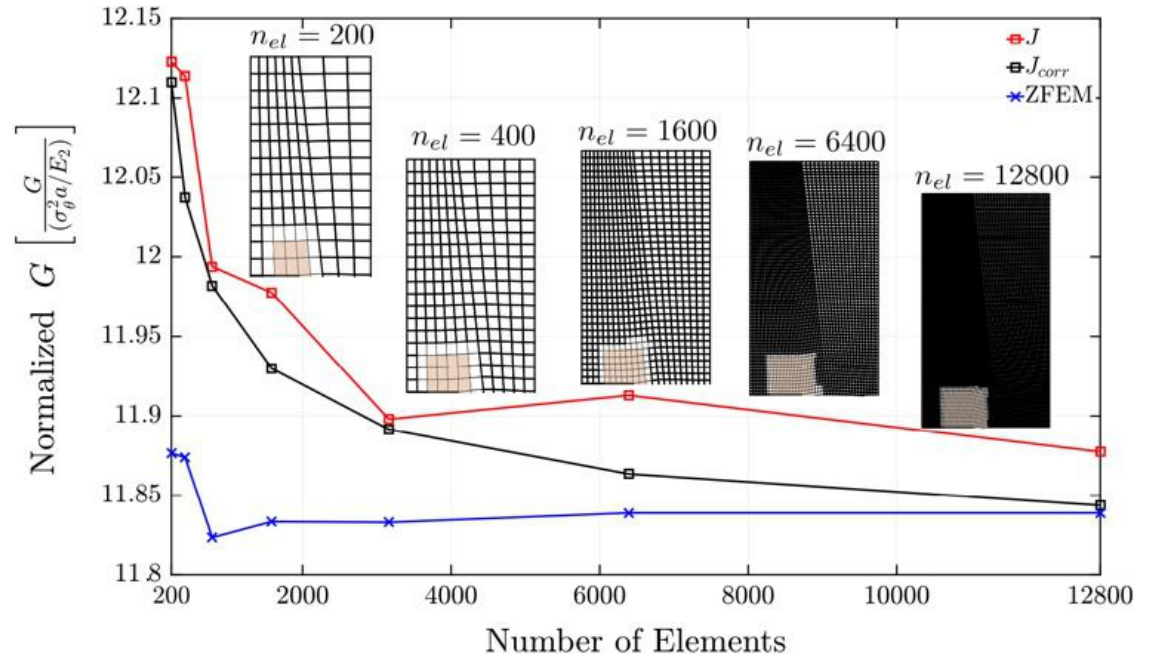
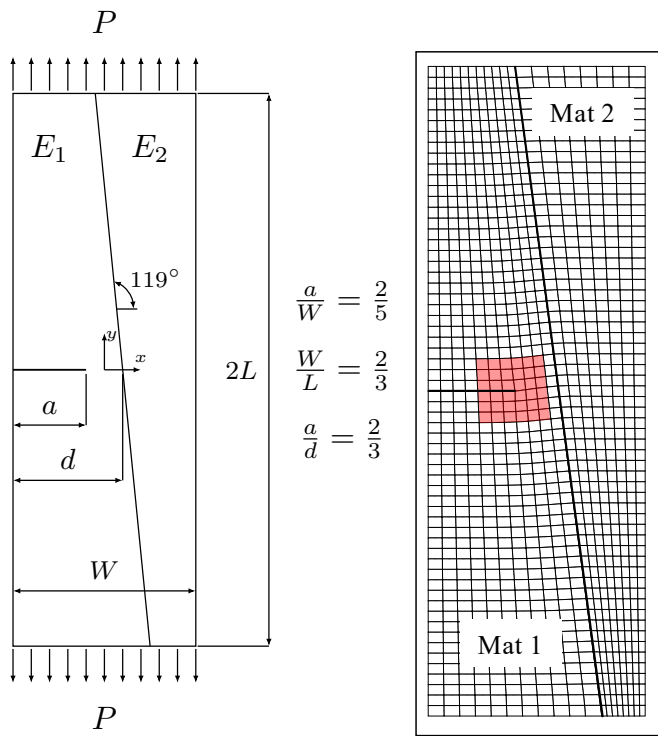
Mesa function



Pyramid function



Bi-Material Fracture

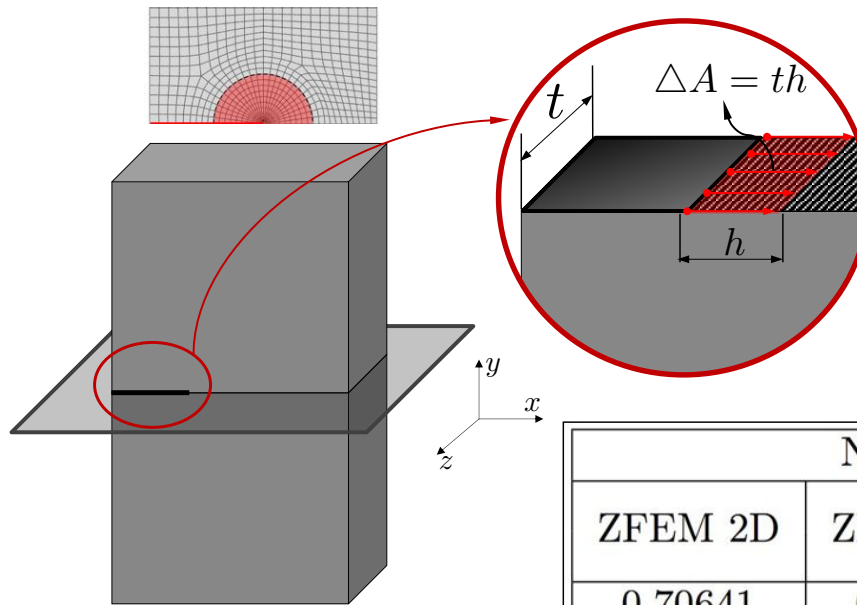


J-integral: $J = -\frac{d\Pi}{da} = \int_{\Gamma_0} \left(W n_1 - T_i \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_1} \right) ds$



Virtual crack extension method for thermoelastic fracture using a complex-variable FEM

Nodal Perturbations along crack face



Energy Release Rate

$$G = -\frac{1}{\Delta A} \text{Im}[U^*]$$

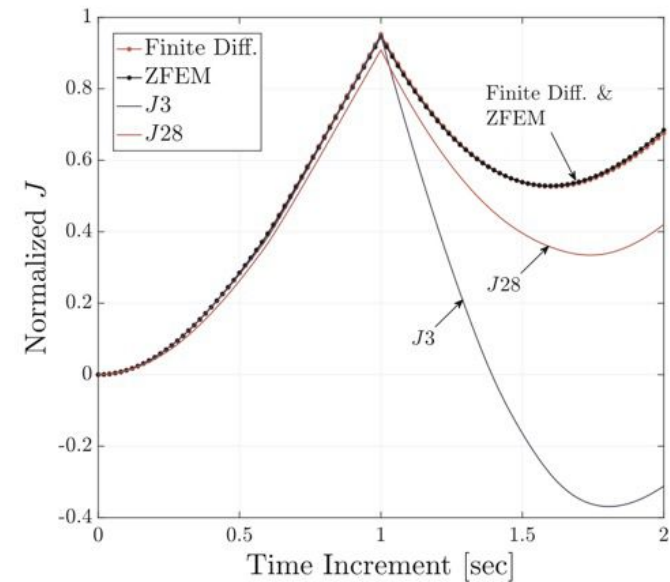
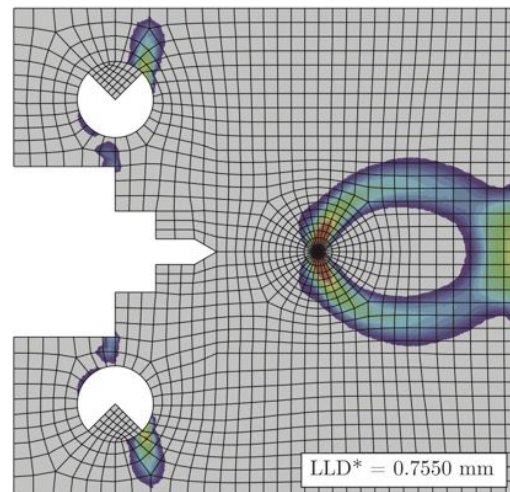
Normalized G [$G/(\sigma_\theta^2 a/E)$]			
ZFEM 2D	ZFEM 3D	2D Abaqus 10 th Contour	3D Abaqus 10 th Contour
0.70641	0.70662	0.70640	0.70662

D. Ramirez Tamayo*, A. Montoya, H.R. Millwater, "A Virtual Crack Extension Method for Thermoelastic Fracture Using a Complex-Variable Finite Element Method", Engineering Fracture Mechanics 192 (2018) 328-342, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.engfracmech.2017.12.013>

A Complex-Variable Virtual Crack Extension FEM for Elastic-Plastic Fracture Mechanics

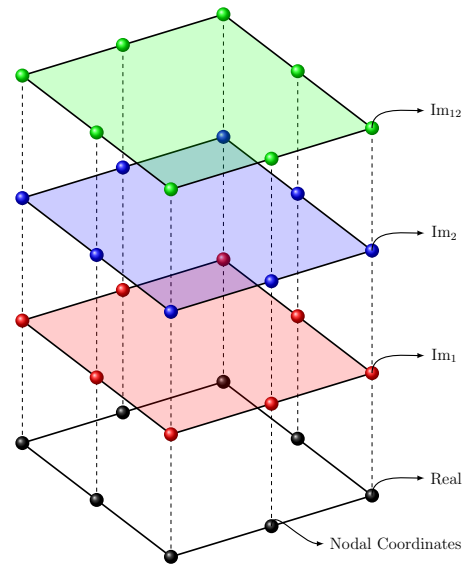
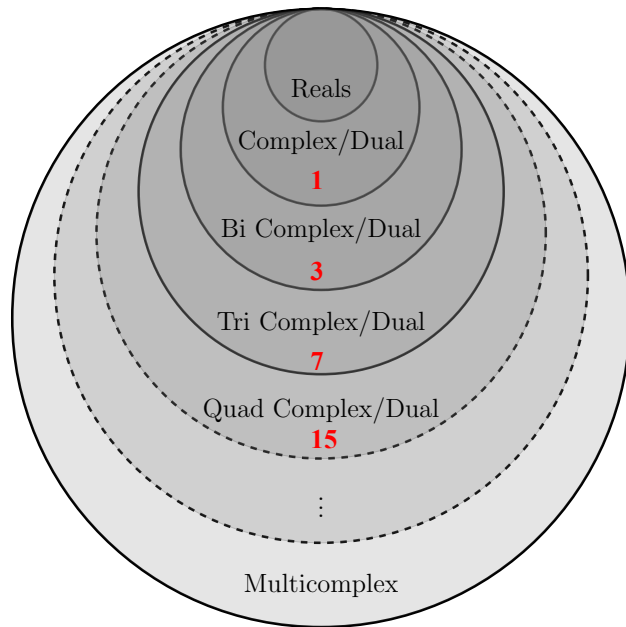
- Extends ZFEM for elastic-plastic materials.
- In contrast to J-integral, ZFEM achieves contour path independence, and **it is not restricted to monotonic loading**.

CT specimen under uncontained yielding conditions. Highlighted plastic regions correspond to line-load displacement of 0.4140 mm.





Hypercomplex Algebras



Multiple imaginary axes → multiple arbitrary order derivatives

Lantoine, G.; Russell, RP.; Dargent, T. (2012). Using Multicomplex Variables for Automatic Computation of High-order Derivatives. *ACM Transactions on Mathematical Software*, 38(3), 21.
Fike, J. & Alonso, J. The Development of Hyper-Dual Numbers for Exact Second-Derivative Calculations. in 49th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting including the New Horizons Forum and Aerospace Exposition (AIAA, 2011). doi:10.2514/6.2011-886

Non-intrusive Residual Method

- Residual Concept:

$$\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{u}(a), a) = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\frac{d^n \mathbf{r}}{da^n} = \mathbf{0}$$

- In Linear elasticity, $\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{u}, a) = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{f} = 0$

$$\mathbf{K} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial a} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial a} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial a} - \frac{\partial \mathbf{K}}{\partial a} \mathbf{u} \quad \text{RHS difficult to obtain in closed form}$$

$$\mathbf{K} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{u}}{\partial a^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{r}}{\partial a^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{f}}{\partial a^2} - 2 \frac{\partial \mathbf{K}}{\partial a} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial a} - \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{K}}{\partial a^2} \mathbf{u}$$

- New residual approach:

$$\mathbf{K} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial a} = -\text{Im}_{\epsilon_1} [\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{u}, a + \epsilon_1)]$$

RHS obtained automatically from HYPAD

$$\mathbf{K} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{u}}{\partial a^2} = -\text{Im}_{\epsilon_1^2} \left[\mathbf{r} \left(\mathbf{u} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial a} \epsilon_1, a + \epsilon_1 \right) \right]$$

Advantages

- Non-intrusive postprocessing approach.
- Applicable to transient linear and non-linear problems.
- Parallelizable and memory efficient.
- Does not compute derivatives of tangent-stiffness matrix (which are costly)

Non-intrusive Residual Method

- Generalized form:

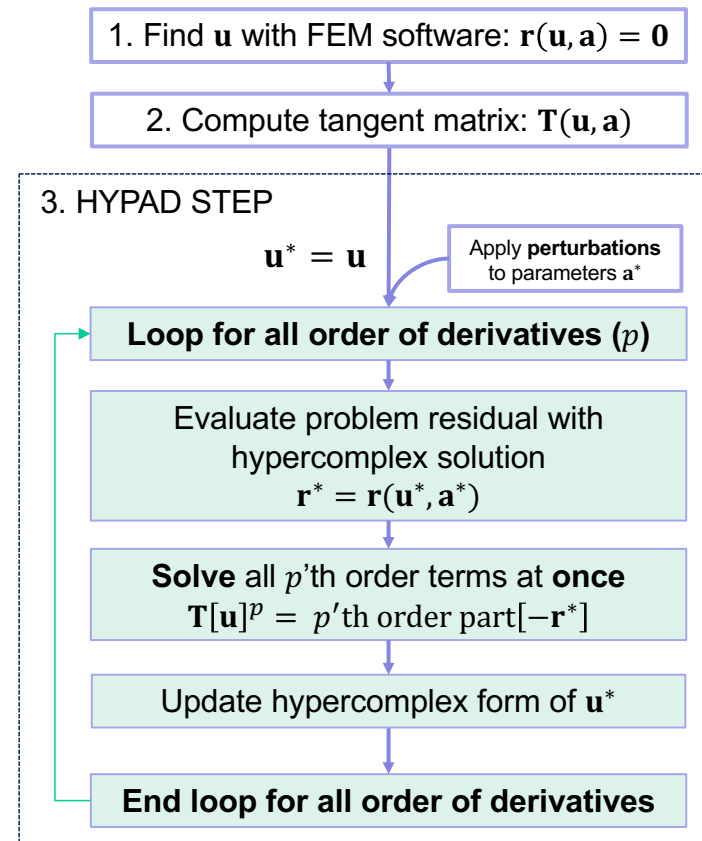
$$\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{u}, a) = \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{u})\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{f}=0$$

- First order derivatives:

$$\mathbf{T} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial a} = -\text{Im}_{\epsilon_1} [\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{u}, a + \epsilon_1)]$$

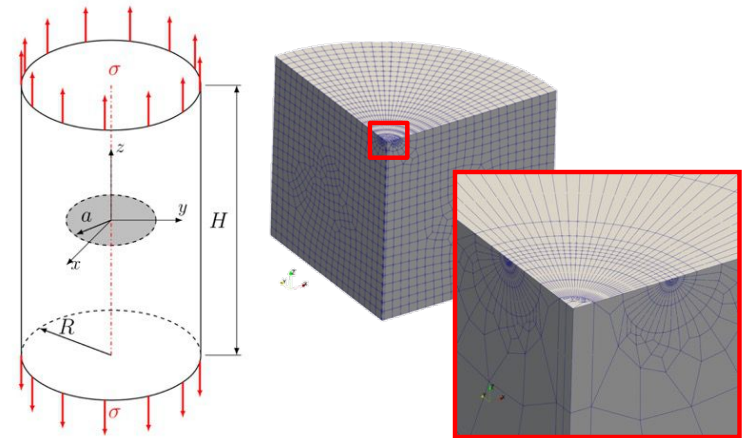
- Second order derivatives:

$$\mathbf{T} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{u}}{\partial a^2} = -\text{Im}_{\epsilon_1^2} \left[\mathbf{r} \left(\mathbf{u} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial a} \epsilon_1, a + \epsilon_1 \right) \right]$$



Efficient 3D ERR and Mode-I SIF sensitivities

- Analyzed a 3D penny-shaped crack problem with FEM (20 node bricks) to compute ERR and SIF.
- Displacements obtained using Abaqus.
- Methods: 1) **HYPAD + VCE** and 2) **HYPAD + J-integral**.
- Computed up to **3rd order** derivatives of ERR and SIF to a , E , ν and σ (**34 derivatives**) with residual method.



Mesh Statistics	Elements	Nodes	Total DOFs
Fine mesh	175 098	718 376	2 155 128

Analytical solution of 3D Penny-shaped crack

- Analytic solution of ERR for Penny-shaped crack.

$$G = \frac{K_I^2}{E} = 4(1 - \nu^2) \frac{\sigma^2 a}{\pi E}$$

- ERR has 27 Non-zero derivatives
- Results **HYPAD + J-Integral**:
 - ZFEM + residual → compute derivatives of u
 - ERR obtained with hypercomplex

Derivative	Relative Error [%]
G	0.016
$\partial G / \partial a$	0.048
$\partial G / \partial E$	0.016
$\partial G / \partial \nu$	0.017
$\partial G / \partial \sigma$	0.016
$\partial^2 G / \partial a^2$	-----
$\partial^2 G / \partial a \partial E$	0.048
$\partial^2 G / \partial E^2$	0.016
$\partial^2 G / \partial a \partial \nu$	0.341
$\partial^2 G / \partial E \partial \nu$	0.017
$\partial^2 G / \partial \nu^2$	0.087
$\partial^2 G / \partial a \partial \sigma$	0.048
$\partial^2 G / \partial E \partial \sigma$	0.016
$\partial^2 G / \partial \nu \partial \sigma$	0.017
$\partial^2 G / \partial \sigma^2$	0.016

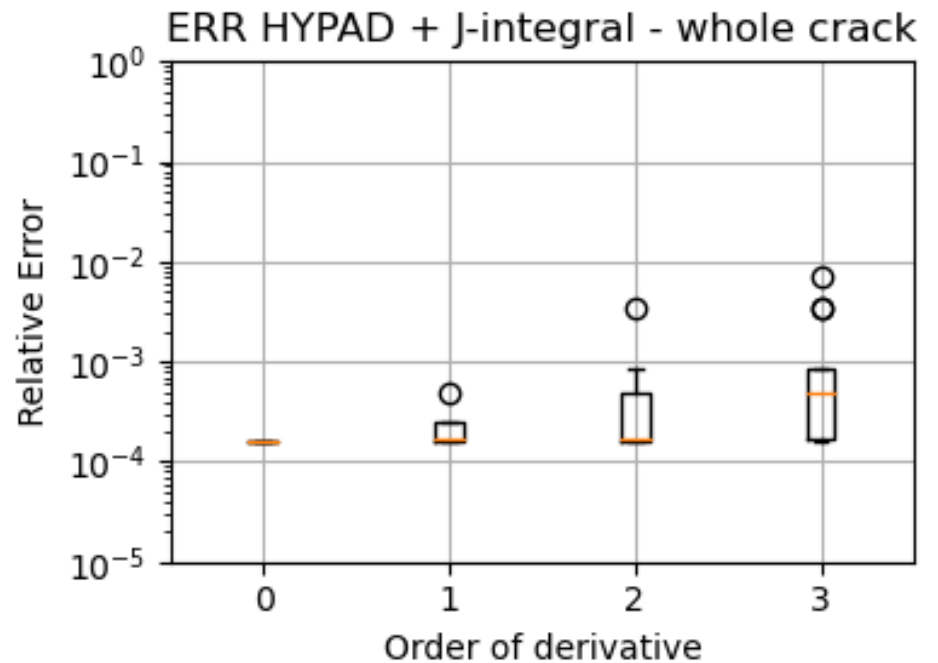
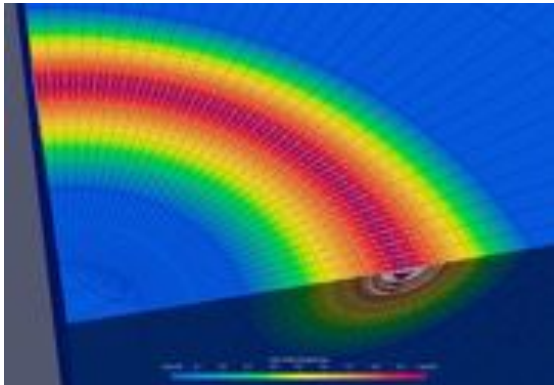
Derivative	Relative Error [%]
$\partial^3 G / \partial a^3$	-----
$\partial^3 G / \partial a^2 \partial E$	-----
$\partial^3 G / \partial a \partial E^2$	0.048
$\partial^3 G / \partial E^3$	0.016
$\partial^3 G / \partial a^2 \partial \nu$	-----
$\partial^3 G / \partial a \partial E \partial \nu$	0.341
$\partial^3 G / \partial E^2 \partial \nu$	0.017
$\partial^3 G / \partial a \partial \nu^2$	0.728
$\partial^3 G / \partial E \partial \nu^2$	0.087
$\partial^3 G / \partial \nu^3$	-----
$\partial^3 G / \partial a^2 \partial \sigma$	-----
$\partial^3 G / \partial a \partial E \partial \sigma$	0.048
$\partial^3 G / \partial E^2 \partial \sigma$	0.016
$\partial^3 G / \partial a \partial \nu \partial \sigma$	0.341
$\partial^3 G / \partial E \partial \nu \partial \sigma$	0.017
$\partial^3 G / \partial \nu^2 \partial \sigma$	0.087
$\partial^3 G / \partial a \partial \sigma^2$	0.048
$\partial^3 G / \partial E \partial \sigma^2$	0.016
$\partial^3 G / \partial \nu \partial \sigma^2$	0.017
$\partial^3 G / \partial \sigma^3$	-----

3D Penny-shaped crack – ERR Sensitivities

- **ERR** analytic solution for Penny-shaped crack.

$$G = 4(1 - \nu^2) \frac{\sigma^2 a}{\pi E}$$

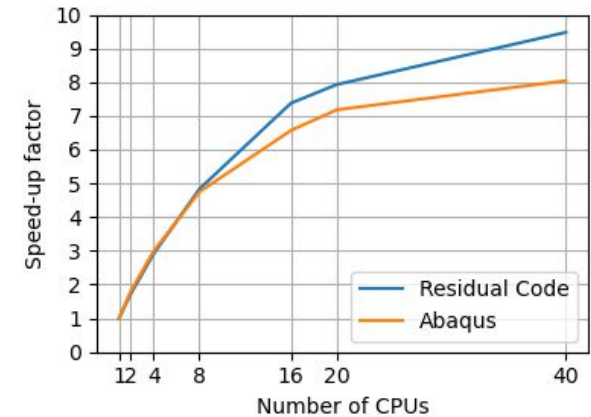
- All derivatives below **1%** relative error



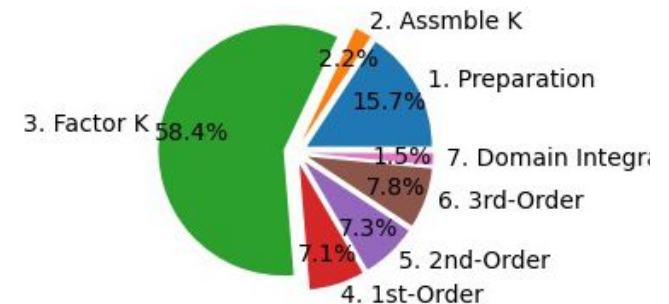
34 derivs (4 first, 10 second and 20 third)

3D Penny Shaped crack – Performance results

- Implementation: Fortran + Python code run in a node with
 - 2x Intel(R) Xeon(R) Gold 6248 CPU (up to 40 cores)
 - 376 GB RAM
- Residual method approximately **~2X** Abaqus real run
- Residual method scales well with parallelization.
- Each order of derivative adds around 7% CPU time.



CPU time distribution 40 CPUs



Interaction integral (Overview)

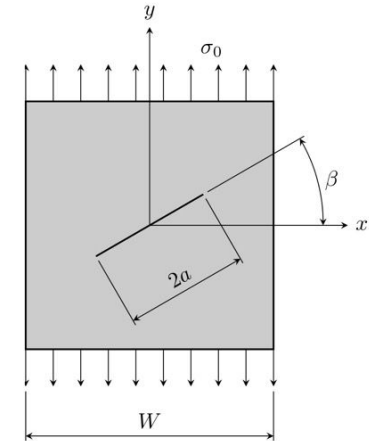
- Also known as **M-integral**- calculates the mutual energy release rate

$$M = \int_A \left(\sigma_{ij}^{\text{aux}} u_{j,1} q_{,i} + \sigma_{ij} u_{j,1}^{\text{aux}} - \sigma_{jk}^{\text{aux}} \varepsilon_{jk} q_{,1} \right) dA,$$

- Used in the calculation of **mixed-mode stress intensity factors**.

$$M(u_{j,1}, u_{j,1}^{\text{aux}}, \sigma_{ij}^{\text{aux}}) = \begin{cases} M_I & \text{if } K_I^{\text{aux}} = 1 \text{ and } K_{II}^{\text{aux}} = 0, \\ M_{II} & \text{if } K_I^{\text{aux}} = 0 \text{ and } K_{II}^{\text{aux}} = 1. \end{cases}$$

$$K_I = \frac{E'}{2} M_I, \quad K_{II} = \frac{E'}{2} M_{II}, \quad \text{where } E' = \begin{cases} E & \text{for plane stress,} \\ E/(1 - \nu^2) & \text{for plane strain.} \end{cases}$$



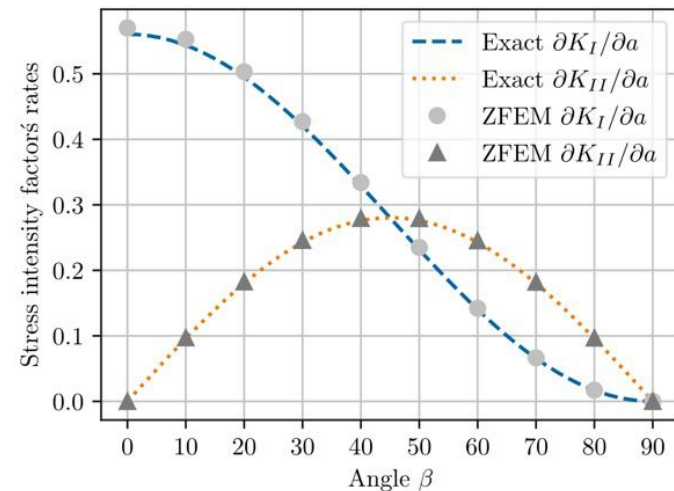
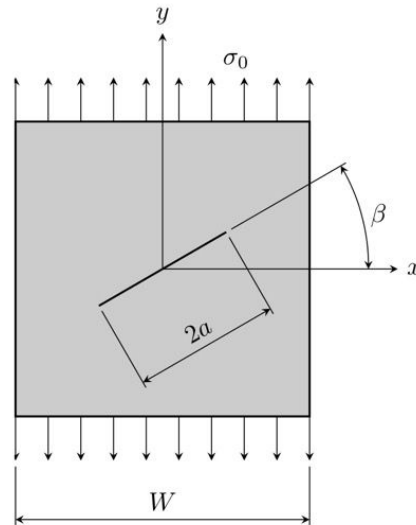
2D mixed-mode stress intensity factor rates using a complex-variable interaction integral - dK/da

- Applies ZFEM to the interaction integral.

$$M_e^* = \int \left[\underbrace{\sigma_{ij}^{*aux}}_{CTSE} \underbrace{u_{j,1}^*}_{ZFEM} \underbrace{q_{,i}^*}_{CTSE} + \underbrace{\sigma_{ij}^*}_{ZFEM} \underbrace{u_{j,1}^{*aux}}_{CTSE} \underbrace{q_{,i}^*}_{CTSE} - \underbrace{\sigma_{jk}^{*aux}}_{CTSE} \underbrace{\varepsilon_{jk}^*}_{ZFEM} \underbrace{q_{,1}^*}_{CTSE} \right] \underbrace{|J^*|}_{CTSE} d\xi d\eta, \quad M^* = \sum_{\Omega_e \subset \Omega_M} M_e^*$$

$$\frac{\partial K_I}{\partial a} = \frac{E'}{2} \frac{\text{Im}(M_I^*)}{h}$$

$$\frac{\partial K_{II}}{\partial a} = \frac{E'}{2} \frac{\text{Im}(M_{II}^*)}{h}$$



Inclined Penny-Shaped Crack problem

- Parameters for the analysis were as follows*:

Parameter	Value	Parameter	Value
Crack Inclination	γ 45°	Young modulus	E 10 000
Crack length	r 0.125	Poisson's ratio	ν 0.0
Dimension	l_x, l_z 5.0	Far-field stress	σ 1.0
	l_y 10.0		

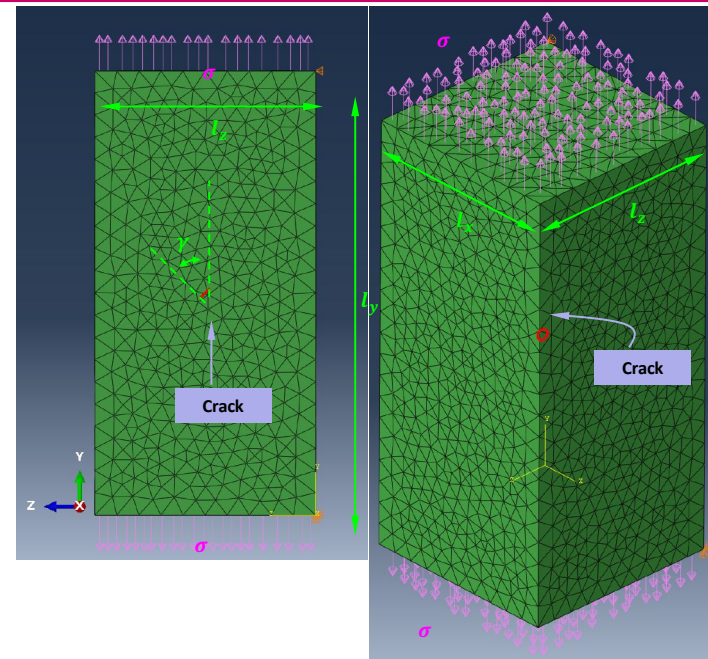
*Corresponds to benchmark problem 3 in Franc3D website.

- SIFs analytical solution (Murakami, 1987)

$$K_I = \frac{2\sigma}{\pi} \sqrt{\pi r} \sin^2(\gamma)$$

$$K_{II} = \frac{2\sigma}{\pi} \sqrt{\pi r} \sin(\gamma) \cos(\gamma) \sin(\theta) \frac{2}{2-\nu}$$

$$K_{III} = \frac{2\sigma}{\pi} \sqrt{\pi r} \sin(\gamma) \cos(\gamma) \cos(\theta) \frac{2(1-\nu)}{2-\nu}$$

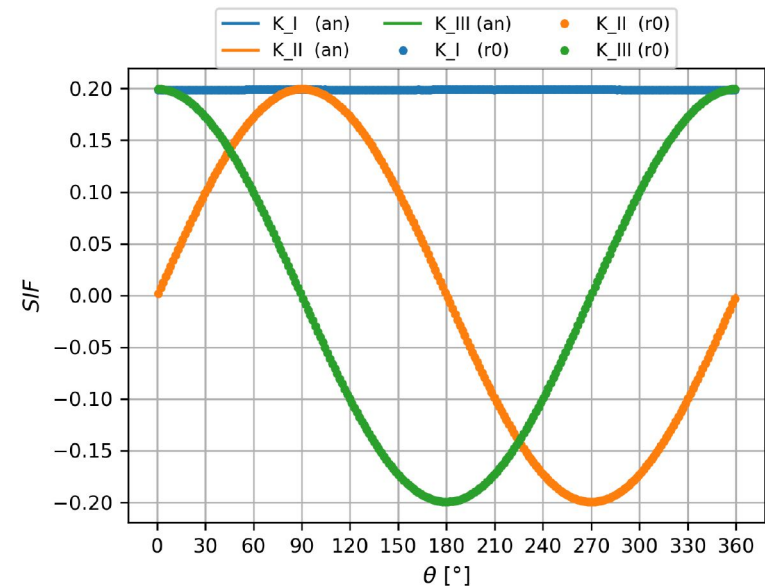
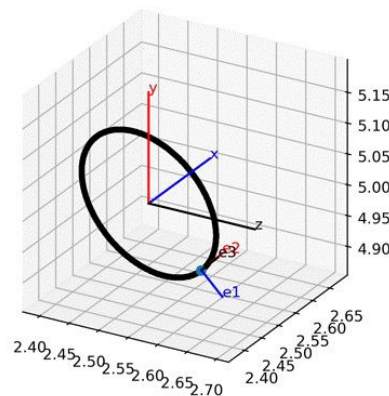
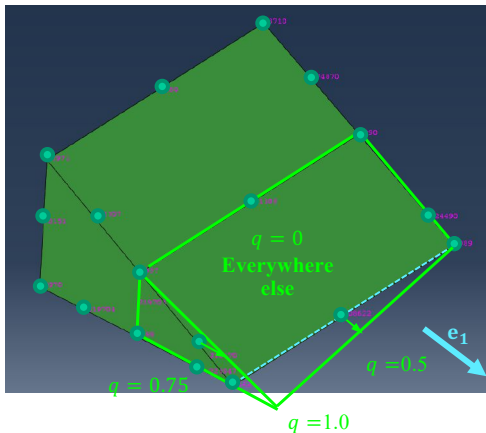
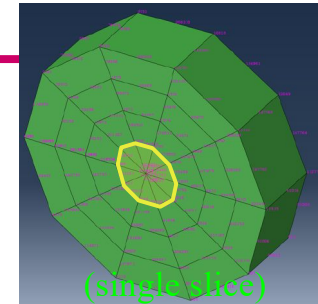


Mesh Statistics	Wedge 15	Brick 20	Tetra 10	Total Elements	Nodes	Total DOFs
Value	2 360	14 160	111 374	127 894	228 814	646 442

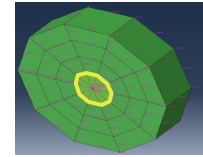
Inclined Penny-Shaped Crack problem – Results

Results for **ring 0** of elements – vertex perturbation (two slices).

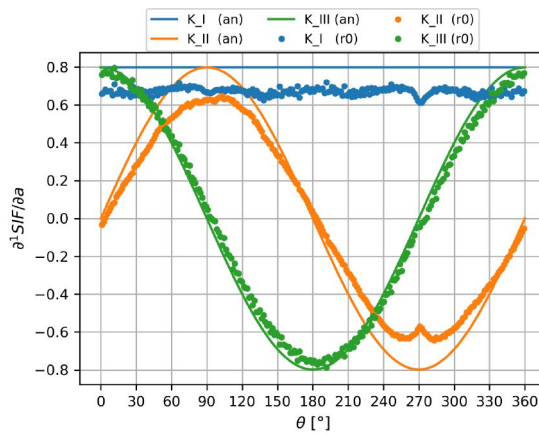
- This ring contains only wedge15, two element slices.
- Computed using q-function for wedge vertex nodes.
 - Q-function linear in element, two slice span.
- Results show error of **0.284%** to analytical solution.



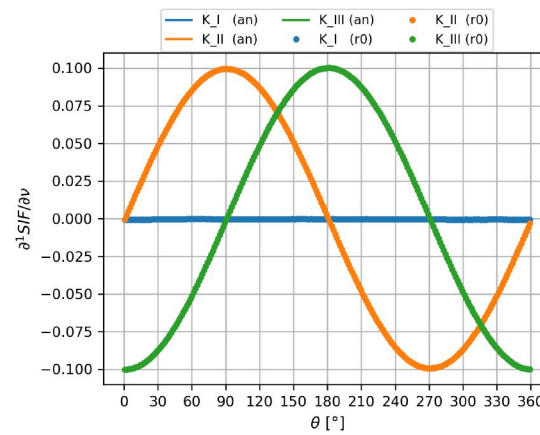
Inclined Penny-Shaped Crack problem – Results



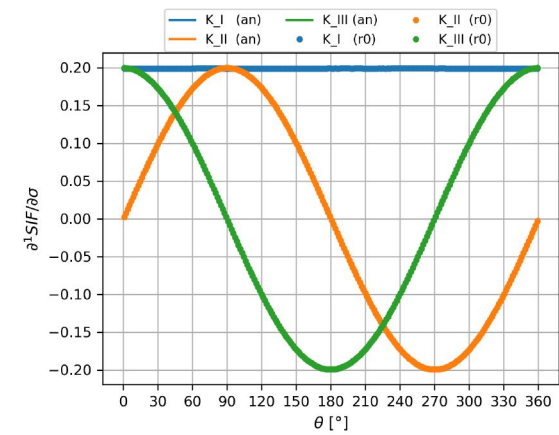
First order derivatives



a

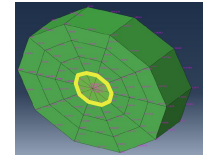


v



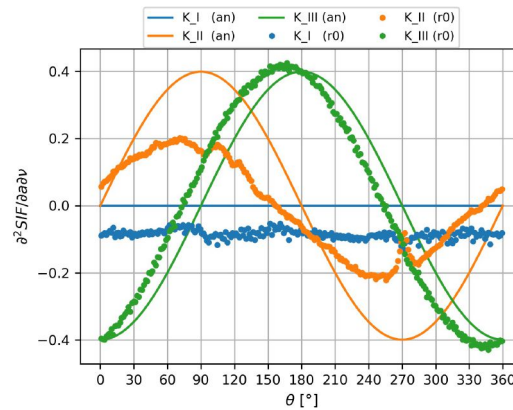
σ

Inclined Penny-Shaped Crack problem – Results

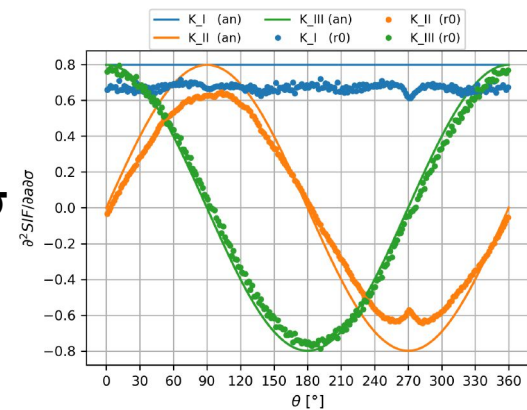


Second order derivatives

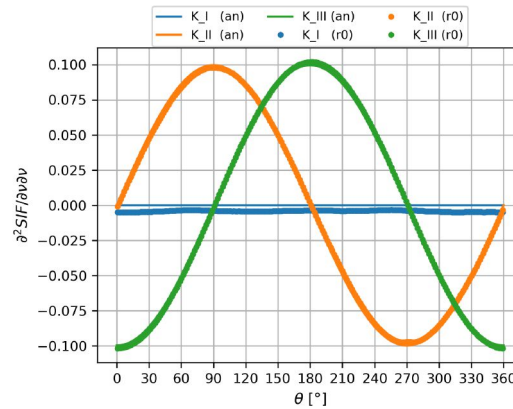
a,v



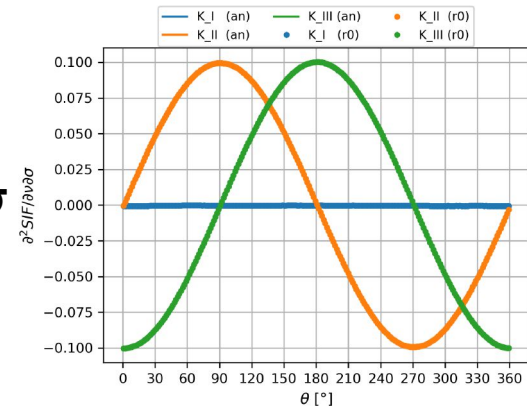
a,σ



v

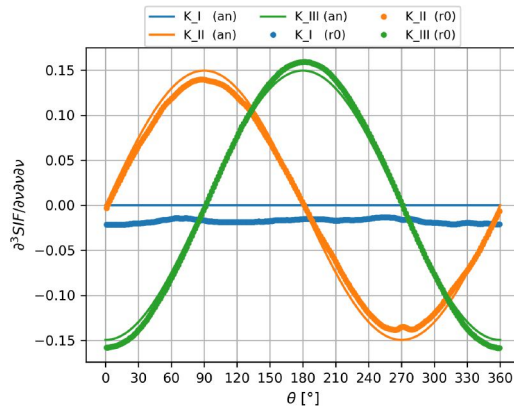


v,σ

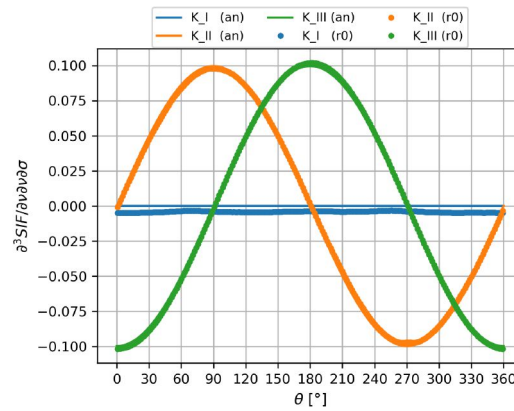


Inclined Penny-Shaped Crack problem – Results

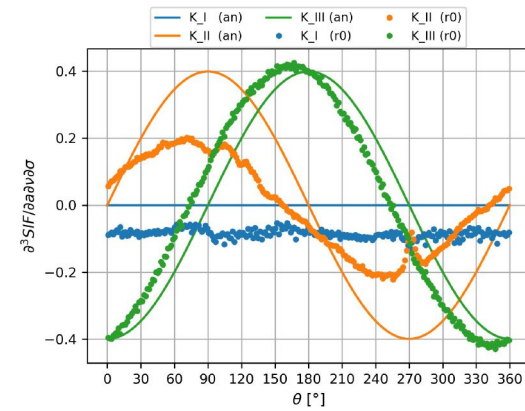
Third order derivatives



v



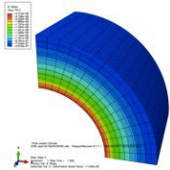
v, σ



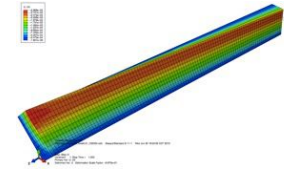
a, v, σ



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Summary



- Elegant, straightforward method to compute G, K, and its derivatives with respect to crack size and any other parameter.
 - Promote variables to complex/hypercomplex.
 - Largely use the same/existing solution methods.

- Higher order derivatives are available.
 - Applicable to linear and nonlinear problems.

- ***Non-intrusive residual method very effective for 3D fracture.***
 - Residual method approximately **~2X** Abaqus real run

Acknowledgements

- Efficient Sensitivity Methods for Probabilistic Lining and Engine Prognostics, Pat Golden, AFRL/RXLMN, Aug. 2007-Sep. 2010
- Efficient Finite Element-based 3D Fracture Mechanics Crack Growth Analysis using Complex Variable Sensitivity Methods, DoD PETTT, Sep. 2010 - Aug. 2011
- Implementation of Complex Variable Finite Element Methods in Abaqus, DOD PETTT, Sep. 2011- Aug. 2012
- Enhanced Fracture Mechanics Crack Growth Analysis using Complex Variable Sensitivity Methods, AFOSR (David Stargel), May 2011-2014
- Probabilistic Residual Stress Modeling, AFRL through Clarkson Aerospace, Sept. 2012 – Dec. 2018
- A New Progressive Curvilinear Strain Energy-based Crack Growth Modeling Algorithm using Multicomplex Variable Finite Elements, Bill Nickerson, ONR, Sept. 2013-Sept. 2016
- Three Dimensional Fracture Mechanics Capability for Structures operating in High Temperature Thermal Environments, DoD, Aug. 2015-Aug. 2018.
- A Fast and Effective Sensitivity and Uncertainty Quantification Method for Additively Manufactured Metals, Aug. 2020 – July 2024, Michael Bakas, Army Research Office (ARO) grant W911NF2010315
- 3D Fracture Simulations using the Hypercomplex Finite Element Software, July 2020 – Feb. 2024, Metis Design Corporation – Alan Timmons, NavAir SBIR Program (SBIR Phase II.5 N12-T007), Contract No. N68335-20-C-0858



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