

Exercise 1: Identity between strong form and weak form

In what follows an “informal proof” for the identity of the strong form and the weak form is given.

(W)

$$Elu_{xxxx} = 0, \quad x \in [0,1] \quad (1)$$

$$Elu_{xxx}(0) = Q \quad (2)$$

$$Elu_{xx}(0) = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$u(1) = 0 \quad (4)$$

$$u_x(1) = 0 \quad (5)$$

(S)

$$\int_0^1 w_{xx} Elu_{xx} dx = w(0)Q \quad (6)$$

$$u(1) = 0 \quad (4)$$

$$u_x(1) = 0 \quad (5)$$

(W)  $\rightarrow$  (S)

Let  $w$  be a proper function which satisfies:

$$w(1) = 0 \quad (7)$$

$$w_x(1) = 0 \quad (8)$$

From equation (1) it follows:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \int_0^1 w Elu_{xxxx} dx \\ &= w Elu_{xxx}|_0^1 - \int_0^1 w_x Elu_{xxx} dx \\ &= -w(0)Q - w_x Elu_{xx}|_0^1 + \int_0^1 w_{xx} Elu_{xx} dx \quad (\because (2), (7)) \\ &= -w(0)Q + \int_0^1 w_{xx} Elu_{xx} dx \quad (\because (3), (8)) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, equation (6) follows.

(S)  $\rightarrow$  (W)

From equation (6), it follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 w_{xx} Elu_{xx} dx &= w(0)Q \\ \Rightarrow w_x Elu_{xx}|_0^1 - \int_0^1 w_x Elu_{xxx} dx &= w(0)Q \\ \Rightarrow -w_x(0)Elu_{xx}(0) - w Elu_{xx}|_0^1 + \int_0^1 w Elu_{xxxx} dx &= w(0)Q \quad (\because (8)) \\ \Rightarrow \int_0^1 w Elu_{xxxx} dx + w(0)(Elu_{xx}(0) - Q) - w_x(0)Elu_{xx}(0) &= 0 \quad (\because (7)) \end{aligned}$$

Since  $w$  is an almost arbitrary function, equation (1) to (3) must hold.