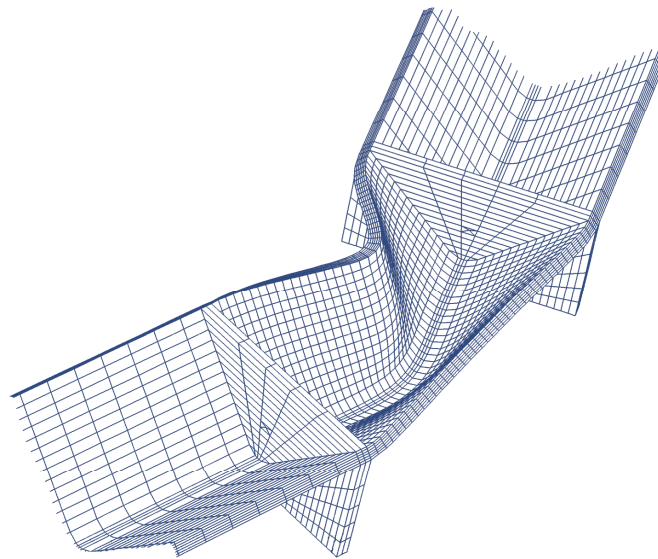
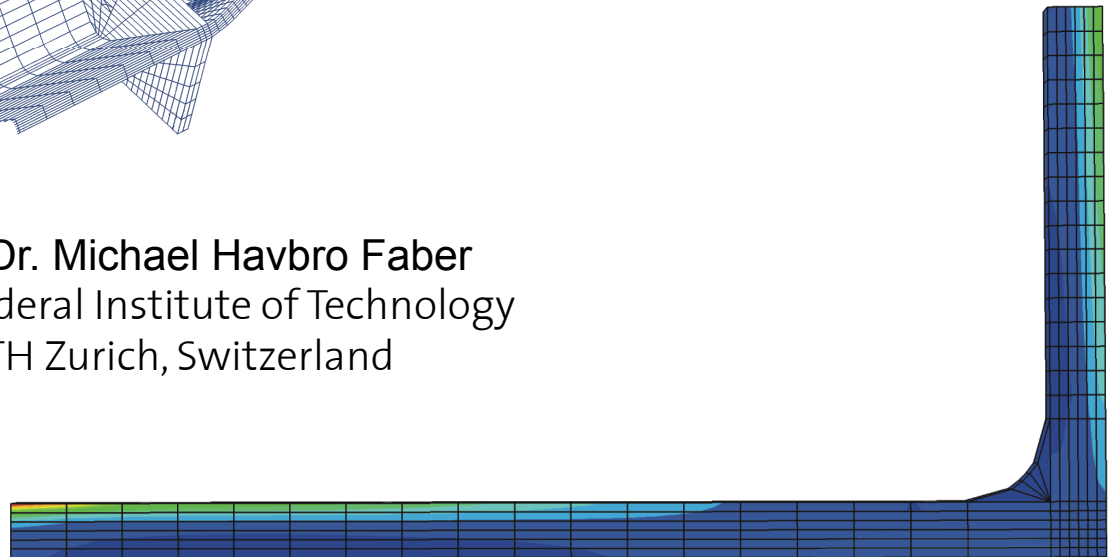


# The Finite Element Method for the Analysis of Linear Systems

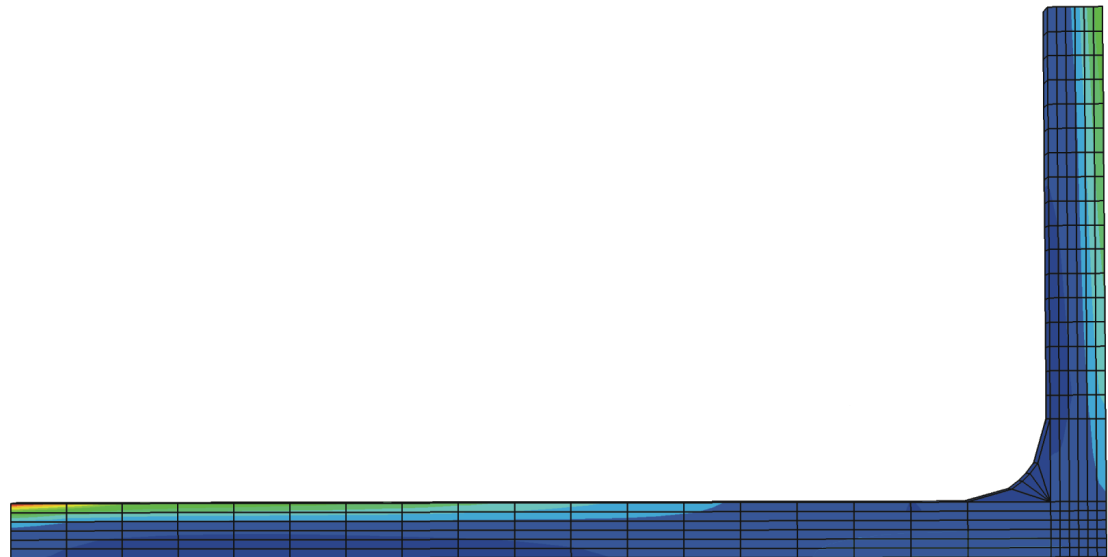


Prof. Dr. Michael Havbro Faber  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology  
ETH Zurich, Switzerland

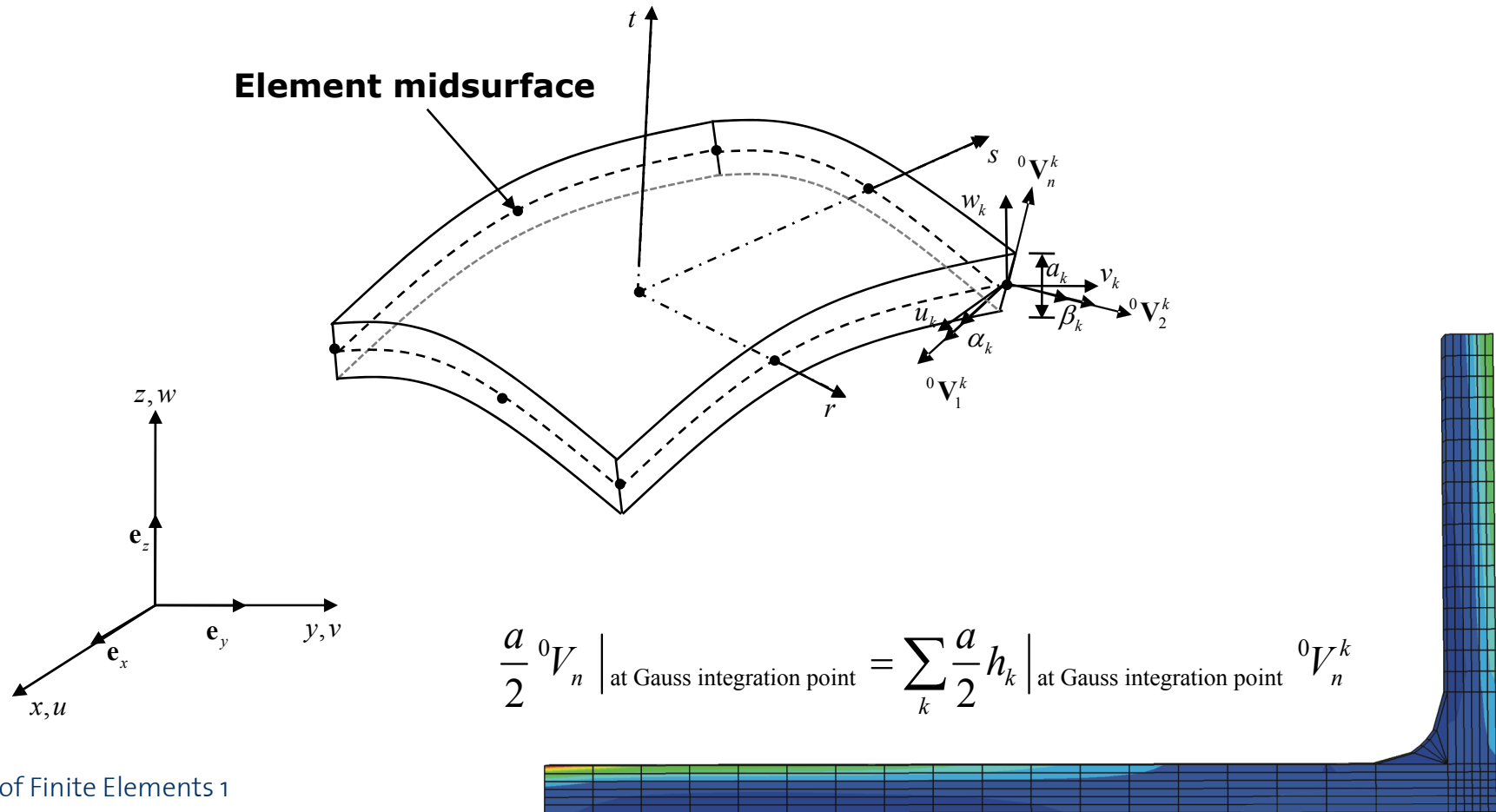


# Contents of Today's Lecture

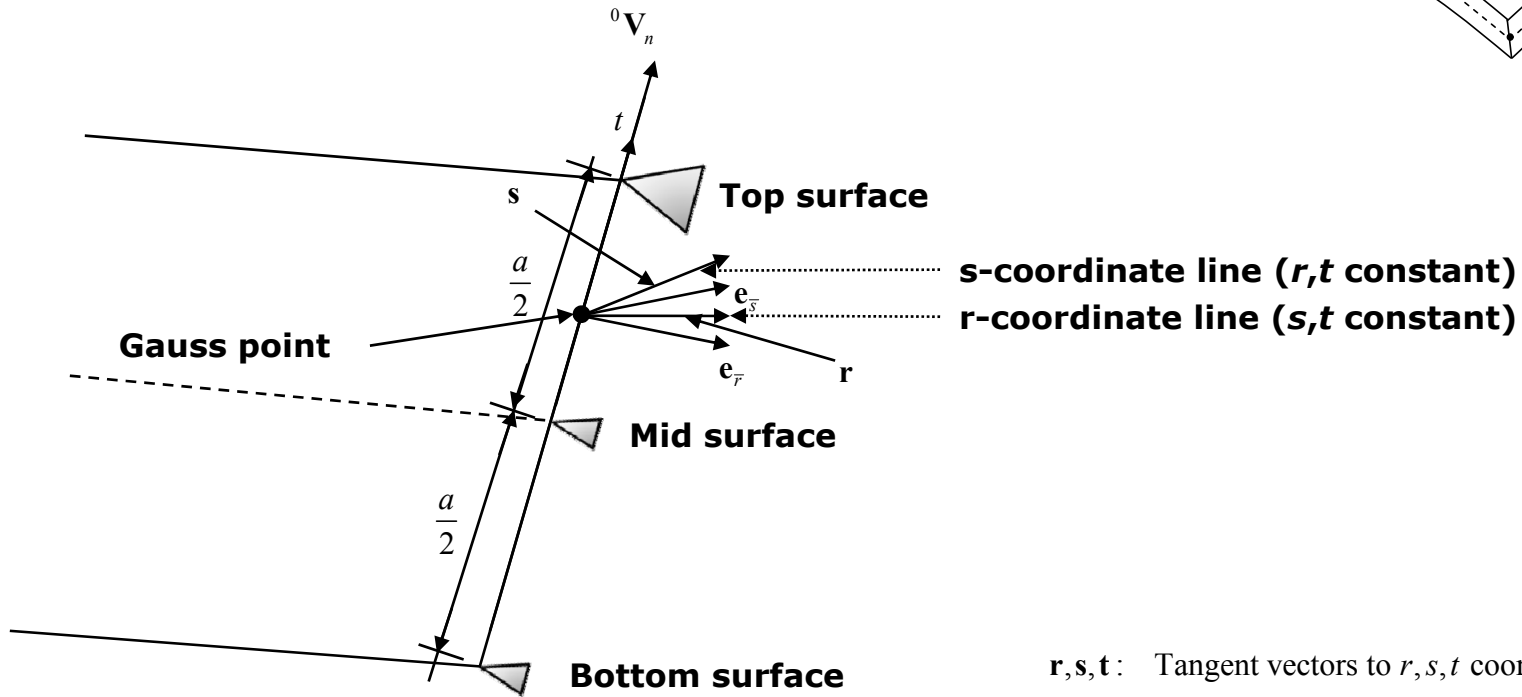
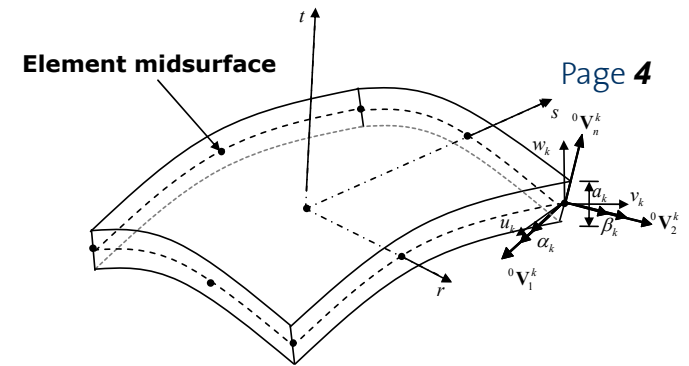
- **General Shell Elements**
  - **Pure displacement based formulation**
  - **Mixed interpolation elements (MITC $n$ )**
- **Boundary conditions**
- **Assignment 5**



# General Shell Elements

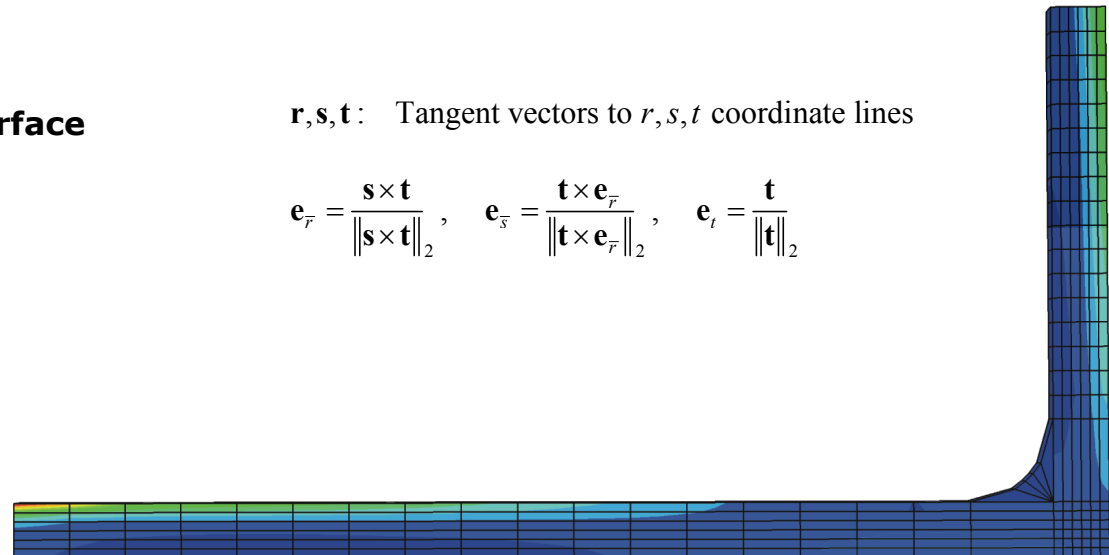


# General Shell Elements

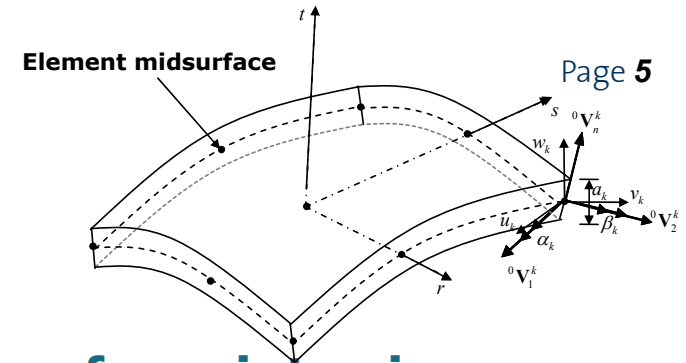


$r, s, t$ : Tangent vectors to  $r, s, t$  coordinate lines

$$e_{\bar{r}} = \frac{\mathbf{s} \times \mathbf{t}}{\|\mathbf{s} \times \mathbf{t}\|_2}, \quad e_{\bar{s}} = \frac{\mathbf{t} \times e_{\bar{r}}}{\|\mathbf{t} \times e_{\bar{r}}\|_2}, \quad e_t = \frac{\mathbf{t}}{\|\mathbf{t}\|_2}$$



# General Shell Elements



- We may write the Cartesian coordinates of a point using natural coordinates before and after deformation as:

$${}^l x(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k {}^l x_k + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k {}^\ell V_{nx}^k$$

$${}^l y(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k {}^l y_k + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k {}^\ell V_{ny}^k$$

$${}^l z(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k {}^l z_k + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k {}^\ell V_{nz}^k$$

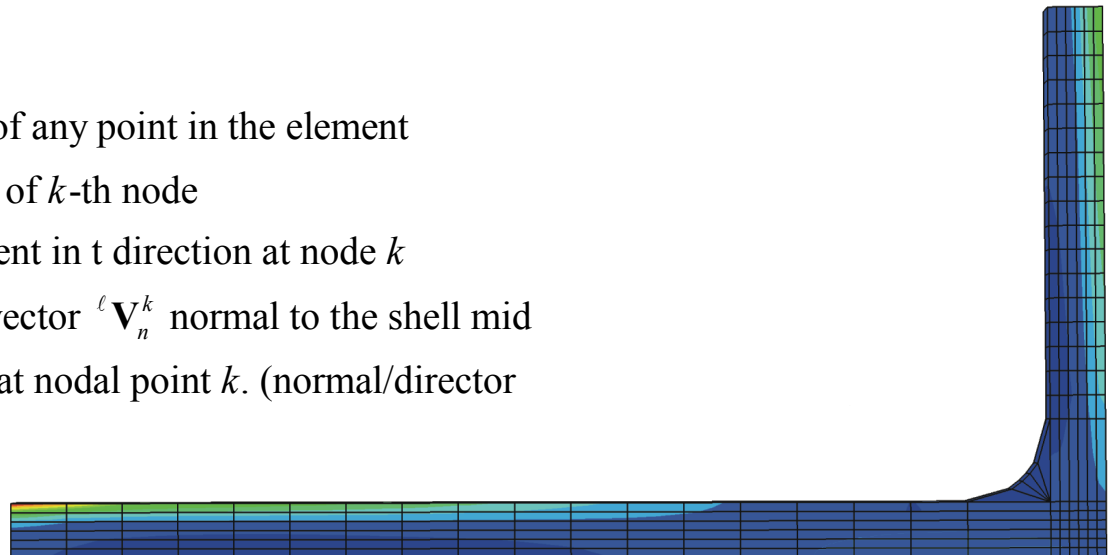
where:

${}^l x, {}^l y, {}^l z$ : Cartesian coordinates of any point in the element

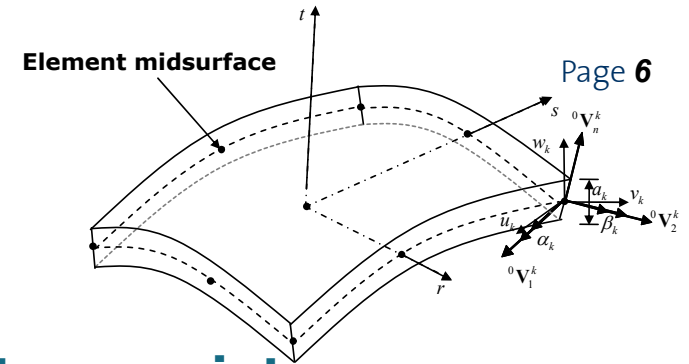
${}^l x_k, {}^l y_k, {}^l z_k$ : Cartesian coordinates of  $k$ -th node

$a_k$ : Thickness of the element in  $t$  direction at node  $k$

${}^\ell V_{nx}^k, {}^\ell V_{ny}^k, {}^\ell V_{nz}^k$ : Components of unit vector  ${}^\ell \mathbf{V}_n^k$  normal to the shell mid surface in direction  $t$  at nodal point  $k$ . (normal/director vector at node  $k$ )



# General Shell Elements



- Now we can write the displacements at any point as:

$$u(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k u_{x_k} + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k V_{nx}^k$$

$$v(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k v_{y_k} + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k V_{ny}^k$$

$$w(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k w_{z_k} + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k V_{nz}^k$$

where

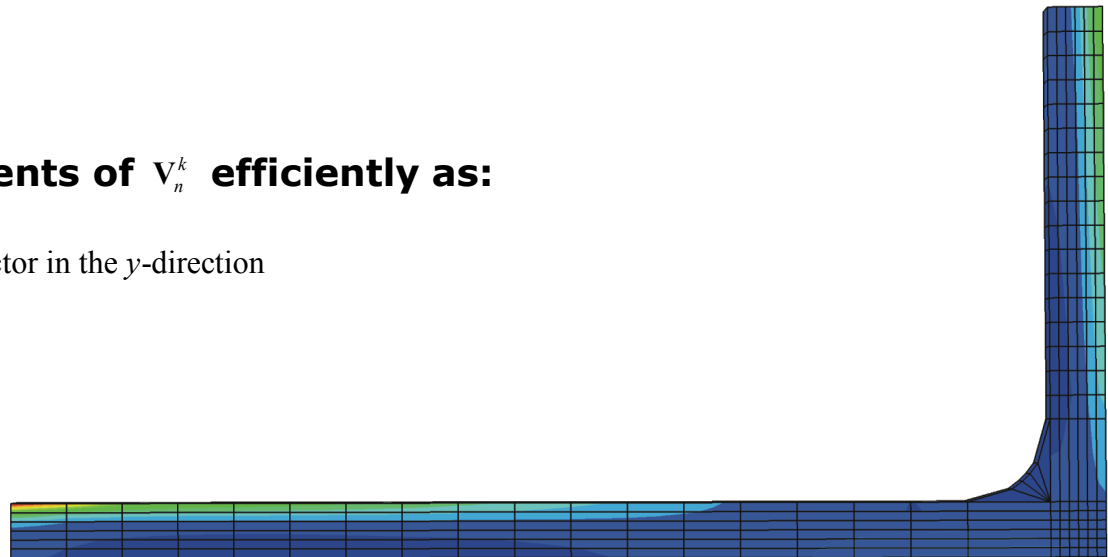
$$\mathbf{V}_n^k = {}^1\mathbf{V}_n^k - {}^0\mathbf{V}_n^k$$

**We can express the components of  $\mathbf{V}_n^k$  efficiently as:**

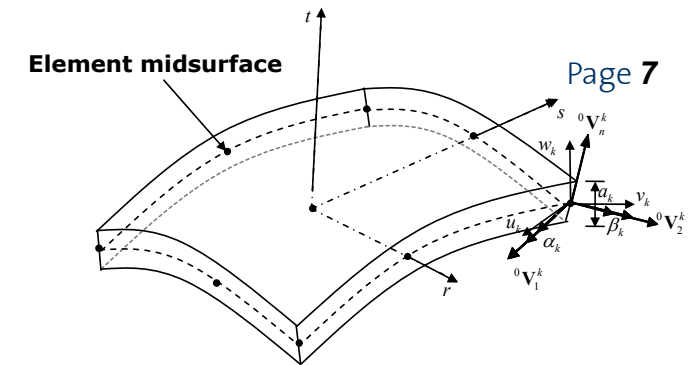
$${}^0\mathbf{V}_1^k = \frac{\mathbf{e}_y \times {}^0\mathbf{V}_n^k}{\|\mathbf{e}_y \times {}^0\mathbf{V}_n^k\|_2}, \text{ with } \mathbf{e}_y \text{ being the unit vector in the } y\text{-direction}$$



$${}^0\mathbf{V}_2^k = {}^0\mathbf{V}_n^k \times {}^0\mathbf{V}_1^k$$



# General Shell Elements



Letting  $\alpha_k$  and  $\beta_k$  be the rotations of the director vector  $\mathbf{V}_n^k$  around  ${}^0\mathbf{V}_1^k$  and  ${}^0\mathbf{V}_2^k$  then we can write (small rotations):

$$\mathbf{V}_n^k = -{}^0\mathbf{V}_2^k \alpha_k + {}^0\mathbf{V}_1^k \beta_k$$

Now we substitute this result into the relations for the displacements and get:

$$u(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k u_{x_k} + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k (-{}^0V_{2x}^k \alpha_k + {}^0V_{1x}^k \beta_k)$$

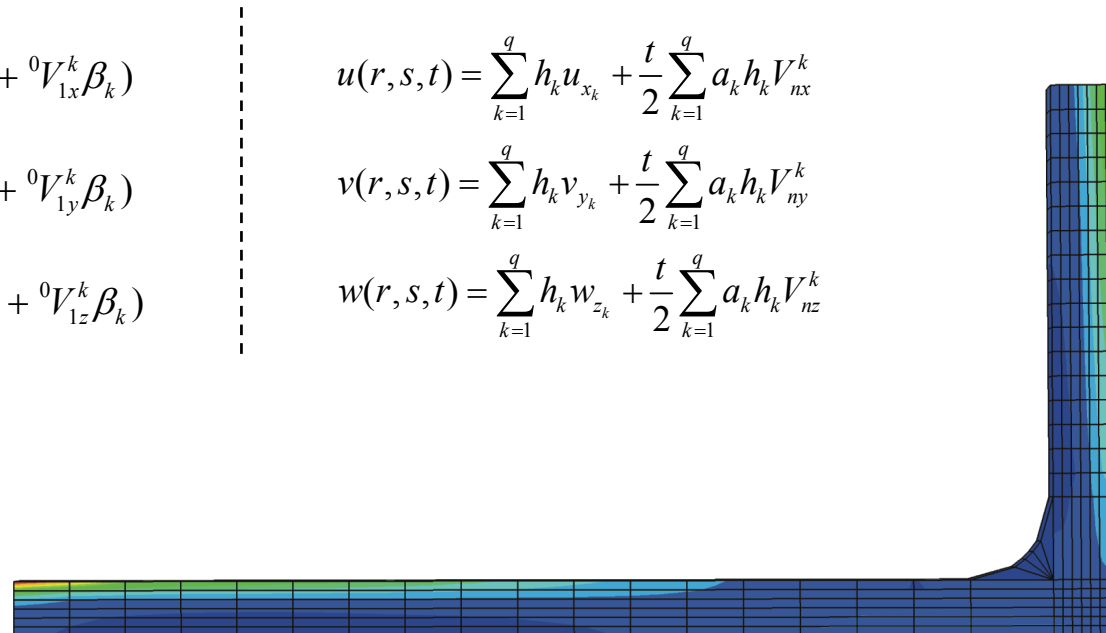
$$v(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k v_{y_k} + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k (-{}^0V_{2y}^k \alpha_k + {}^0V_{1y}^k \beta_k)$$

$$w(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k w_{z_k} + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k (-{}^0V_{2z}^k \alpha_k + {}^0V_{1z}^k \beta_k)$$

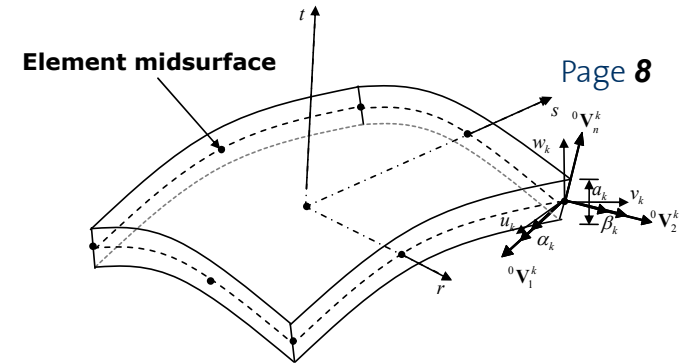
$$u(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k u_{x_k} + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k V_{nx}^k$$

$$v(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k v_{y_k} + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k V_{ny}^k$$

$$w(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k w_{z_k} + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k V_{nz}^k$$



# General Shell Elements



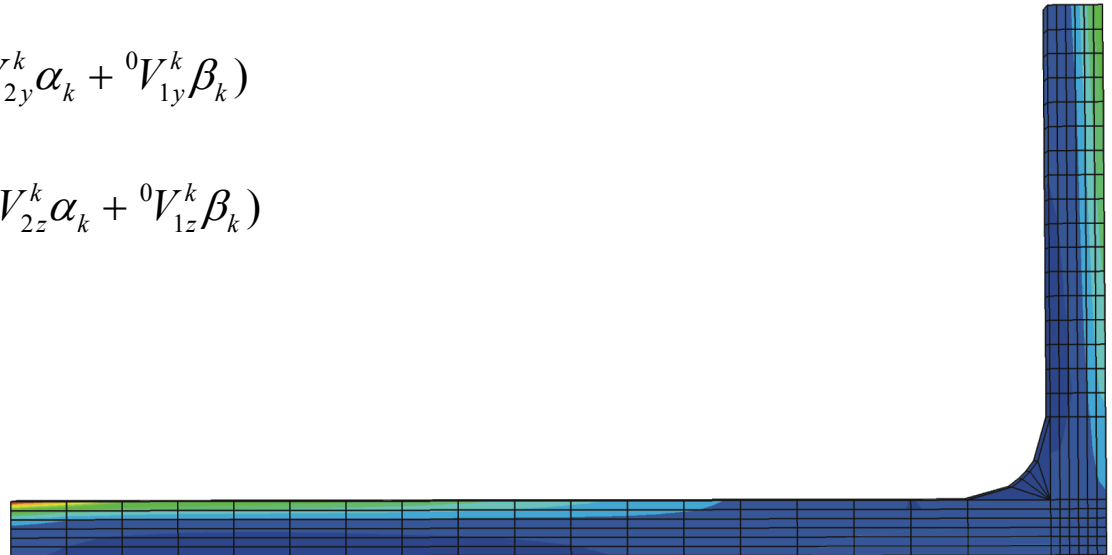
**Now we can follow the same procedure as for the beam element in developing the element matrixes**

**The components of the displacement interpolation matrix  $H$  are given in the relation:**

$$u(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k u_{x_k} + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k (-{}^0V_{2x}^k \alpha_k + {}^0V_{1x}^k \beta_k)$$

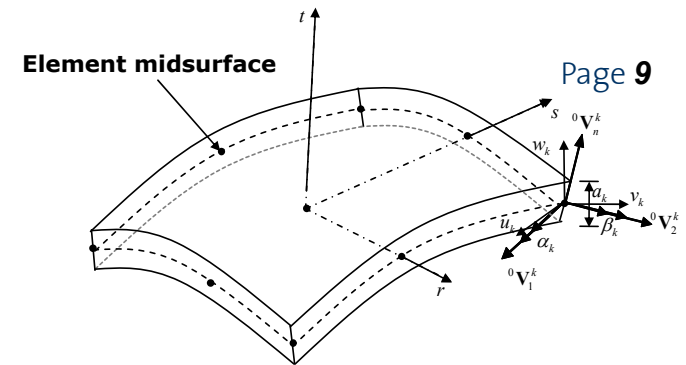
$$v(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k v_{y_k} + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k (-{}^0V_{2y}^k \alpha_k + {}^0V_{1y}^k \beta_k)$$

$$w(r, s, t) = \sum_{k=1}^q h_k w_{z_k} + \frac{t}{2} \sum_{k=1}^q a_k h_k (-{}^0V_{2z}^k \alpha_k + {}^0V_{1z}^k \beta_k)$$





# General Shell Elements

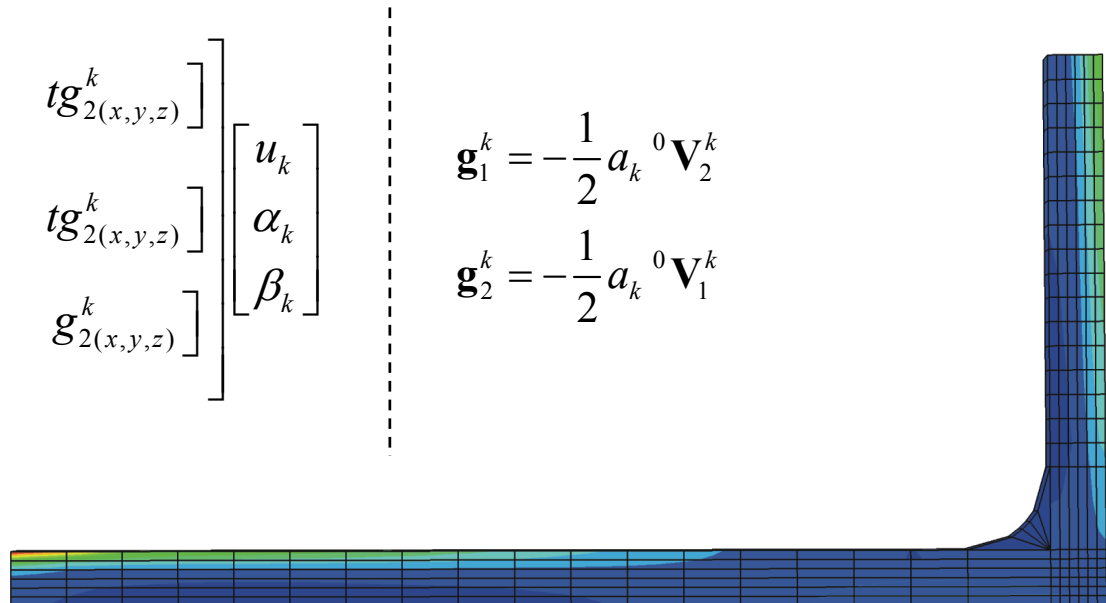


**In evaluating the strain-displacement matrix  $B$  we first need the derivatives of the displacements in regard to the natural coordinates**

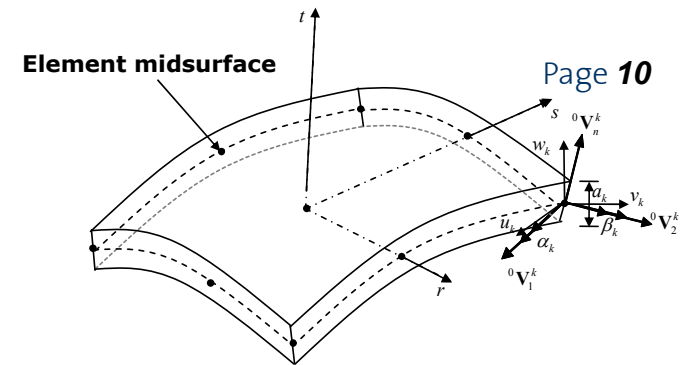
$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial(u, v, w)}{\partial r} \\ \frac{\partial(u, v, w)}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial(u, v, w)}{\partial t} \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{k=1}^q \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial r} [1 & tg_{1(x,y,z)}^k & tg_{2(x,y,z)}^k] \\ \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial s} [1 & tg_{1(x,y,z)}^k & tg_{2(x,y,z)}^k] \\ h_k [0 & tg_{1(x,y,z)}^k & g_{2(x,y,z)}^k] \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_k \\ \alpha_k \\ \beta_k \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{g}_1^k = -\frac{1}{2} a_k {}^0\mathbf{V}_2^k$$

$$\mathbf{g}_2^k = -\frac{1}{2} a_k {}^0\mathbf{V}_1^k$$



# General Shell Elements



As usual we must now transform the derivatives to achieve their Cartesian components (global coordinates):

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{J}^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{r}}$$

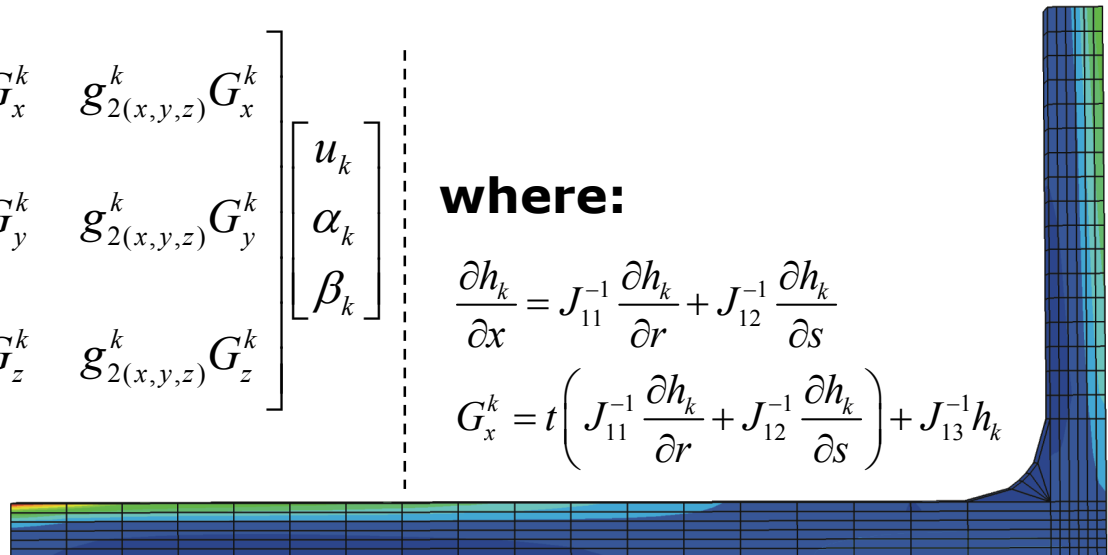
then we may write:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial(u, v, w)}{\partial r} \\ \frac{\partial(u, v, w)}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial(u, v, w)}{\partial t} \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{k=1}^q \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial x} & \mathbf{g}_{1(x,y,z)}^k G_x^k & \mathbf{g}_{2(x,y,z)}^k G_x^k \\ \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial y} & \mathbf{g}_{1(x,y,z)}^k G_y^k & \mathbf{g}_{2(x,y,z)}^k G_y^k \\ \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial z} & \mathbf{g}_{1(x,y,z)}^k G_z^k & \mathbf{g}_{2(x,y,z)}^k G_z^k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_k \\ \alpha_k \\ \beta_k \end{bmatrix}$$

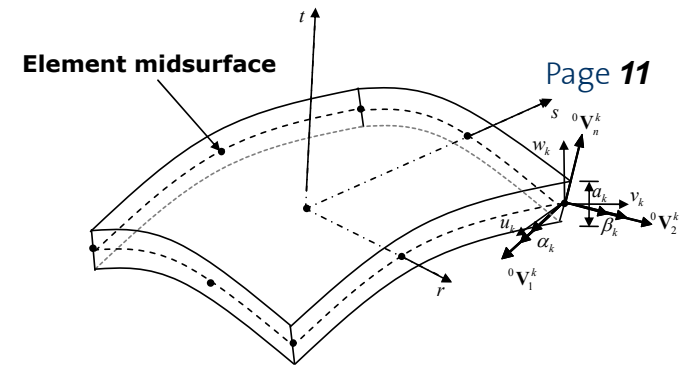
where:

$$\frac{\partial h_k}{\partial x} = J_{11}^{-1} \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial r} + J_{12}^{-1} \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial s}$$

$$G_x^k = t \left( J_{11}^{-1} \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial r} + J_{12}^{-1} \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial s} \right) + J_{13}^{-1} h_k$$



# General Shell Elements



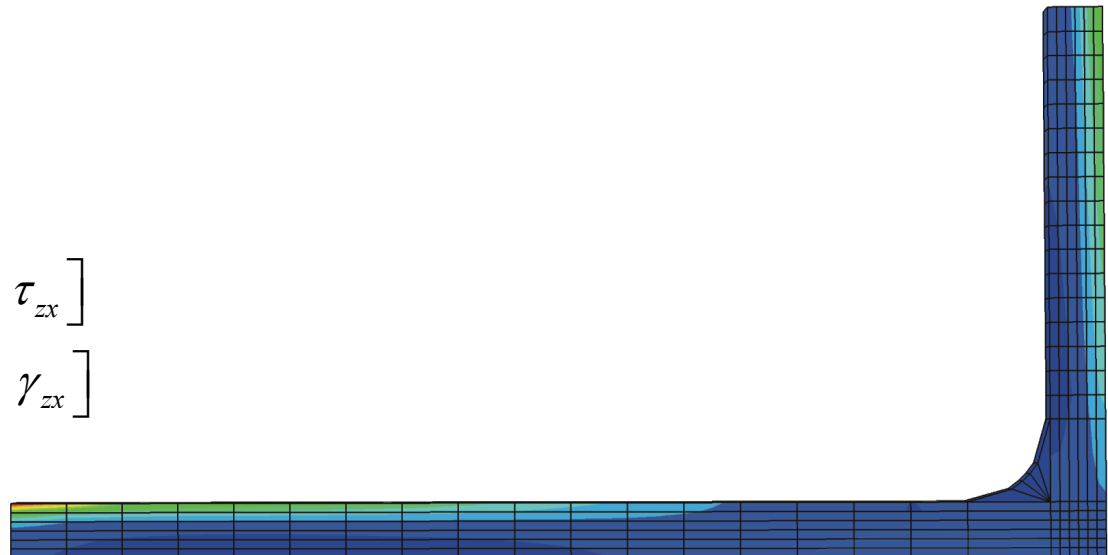
Having established the displacement derivatives we can now assemble the strain-displacement matrix  $\mathbf{B}$  for the shell element.

In order to establish the strain-stress matrix (constitutive law) we must impose the shell assumption that the stress in the direction of the normal to the shell surface is zero

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{C}_{sh} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \quad \text{with:}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}^T = \begin{bmatrix} \tau_{xx} & \tau_{yy} & \tau_{zz} & \tau_{xy} & \tau_{yz} & \tau_{zx} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^T = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{xx} & \varepsilon_{yy} & \varepsilon_{zz} & \gamma_{xy} & \gamma_{yz} & \gamma_{zx} \end{bmatrix}$$

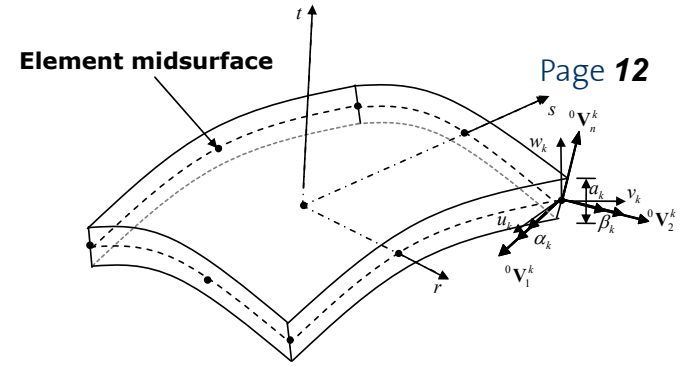


# General Shell Elements

Where

$$\mathbf{C}_{sh} = \mathbf{Q}_{sh}^T \left[ \begin{array}{cccccc} 1 & \nu & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & \frac{(1-\nu)}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ & & & & k \frac{(1-\nu)}{2} & 0 \\ & & & & & k \frac{(1-\nu)}{2} \end{array} \right]$$

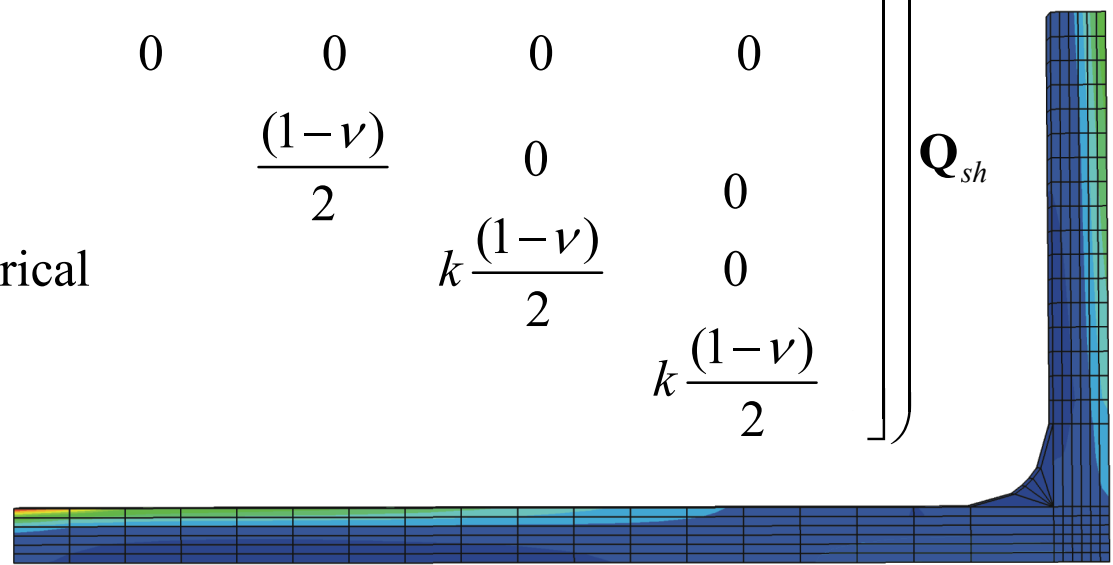
symmetrical



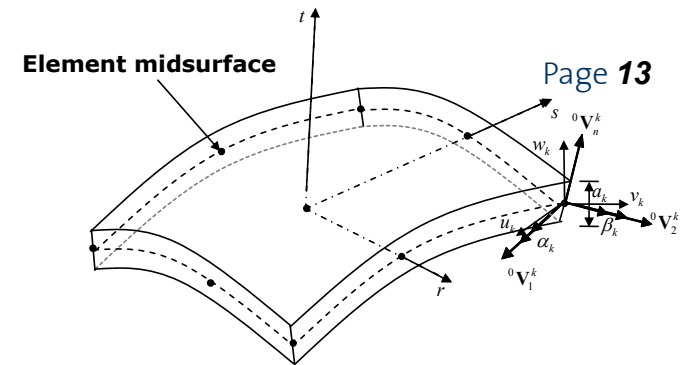
$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \mathbf{C}_{sh} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}^T = \left[ \tau_{xx} \quad \tau_{yy} \quad \tau_{zz} \quad \tau_{xy} \quad \tau_{yz} \quad \tau_{zx} \right]$$

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^T = \left[ \varepsilon_{xx} \quad \varepsilon_{yy} \quad \varepsilon_{zz} \quad \gamma_{xy} \quad \gamma_{yz} \quad \gamma_{zx} \right]$$



# General Shell Elements



The transformation from the  $\bar{r}, \bar{s}, t$  Cartesian shell aligned coordinate system to the global coordinate system is made through the 4th order tensor transformation

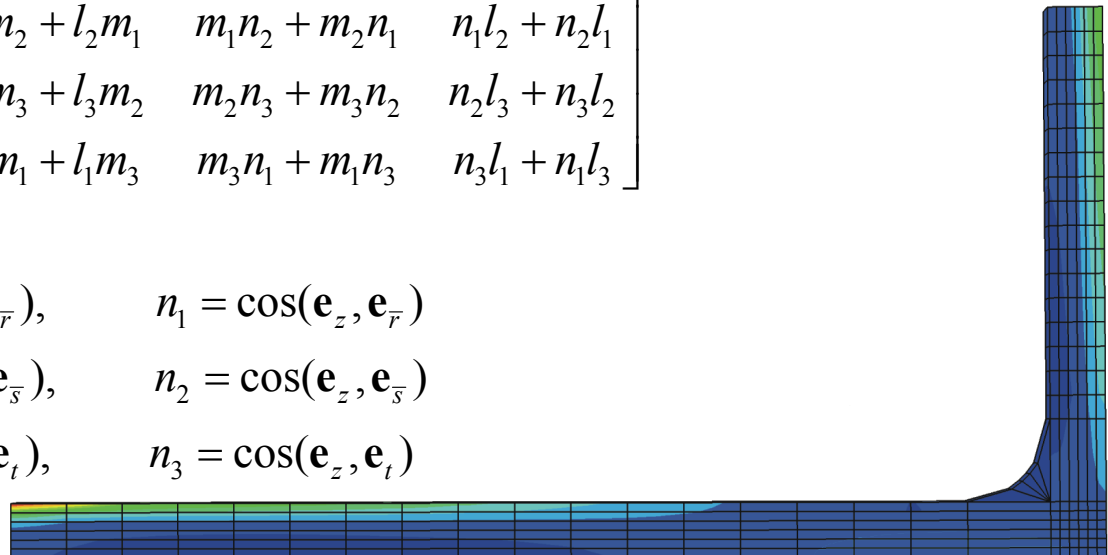
$$Q_{sh} = \begin{bmatrix} l_1^2 & m_1^2 & n_1^2 & l_1 m_1 & m_1 n_1 & n_1 l_1 \\ l_2^2 & m_2^2 & n_2^2 & l_2 m_2 & m_2 n_2 & n_2 l_2 \\ l_3^2 & m_3^2 & n_3^2 & l_3 m_3 & m_3 n_3 & n_3 l_3 \\ 2l_1 l_2 & 2m_1 m_2 & 2n_1 n_2 & l_1 m_2 + l_2 m_1 & m_1 n_2 + m_2 n_1 & n_1 l_2 + n_2 l_1 \\ 2l_2 l_3 & 2m_2 m_3 & 2n_2 n_3 & l_2 m_3 + l_3 m_2 & m_2 n_3 + m_3 n_2 & n_2 l_3 + n_3 l_2 \\ 2l_3 l_1 & 2m_3 m_1 & 2n_3 n_1 & l_3 m_1 + l_1 m_3 & m_3 n_1 + m_1 n_3 & n_3 l_1 + n_1 l_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

where

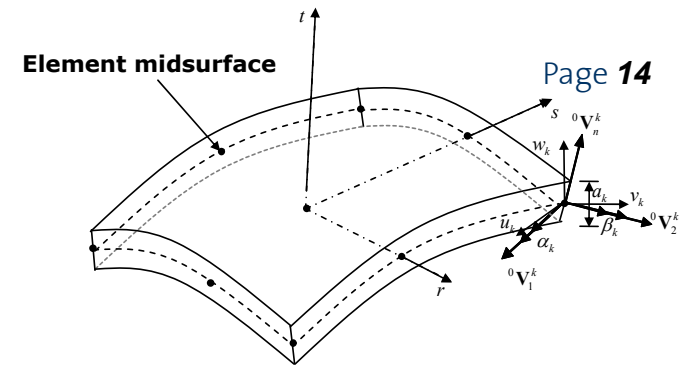
$$l_1 = \cos(\mathbf{e}_x, \mathbf{e}_{\bar{r}}), \quad m_1 = \cos(\mathbf{e}_y, \mathbf{e}_{\bar{r}}), \quad n_1 = \cos(\mathbf{e}_z, \mathbf{e}_{\bar{r}})$$

$$l_2 = \cos(\mathbf{e}_x, \mathbf{e}_{\bar{s}}), \quad m_2 = \cos(\mathbf{e}_y, \mathbf{e}_{\bar{s}}), \quad n_2 = \cos(\mathbf{e}_z, \mathbf{e}_{\bar{s}})$$

$$l_3 = \cos(\mathbf{e}_x, \mathbf{e}_t), \quad m_3 = \cos(\mathbf{e}_y, \mathbf{e}_t), \quad n_3 = \cos(\mathbf{e}_z, \mathbf{e}_t)$$

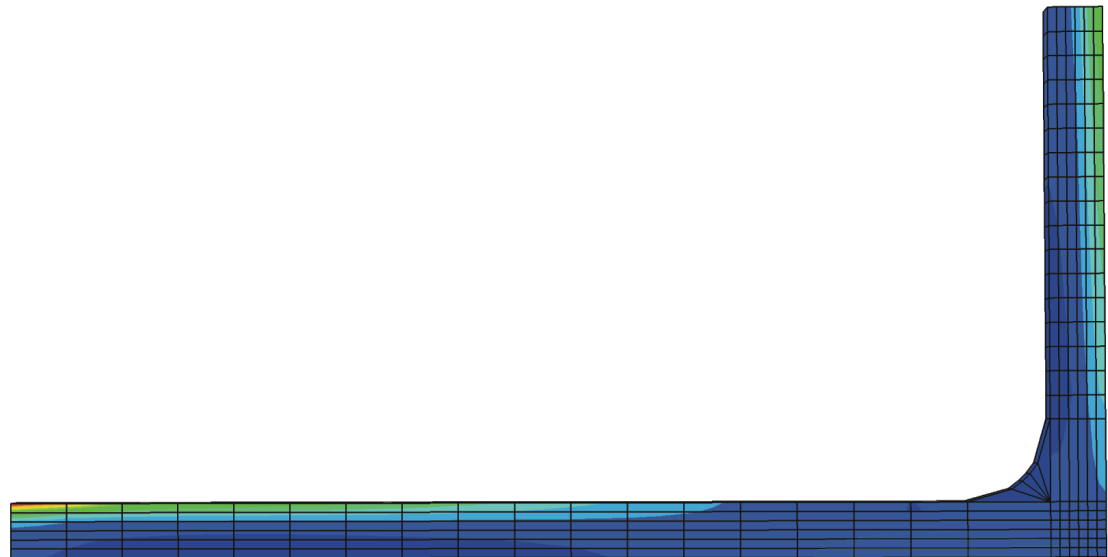


# General Shell Elements

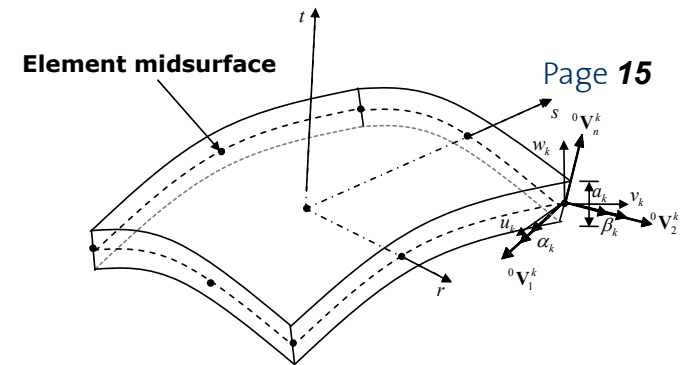


**In general this transformation has to be evaluated at each integration point during the integration of the stiffness matrix**

**– there are exceptions for e.g. flat plates**



# General Shell Elements

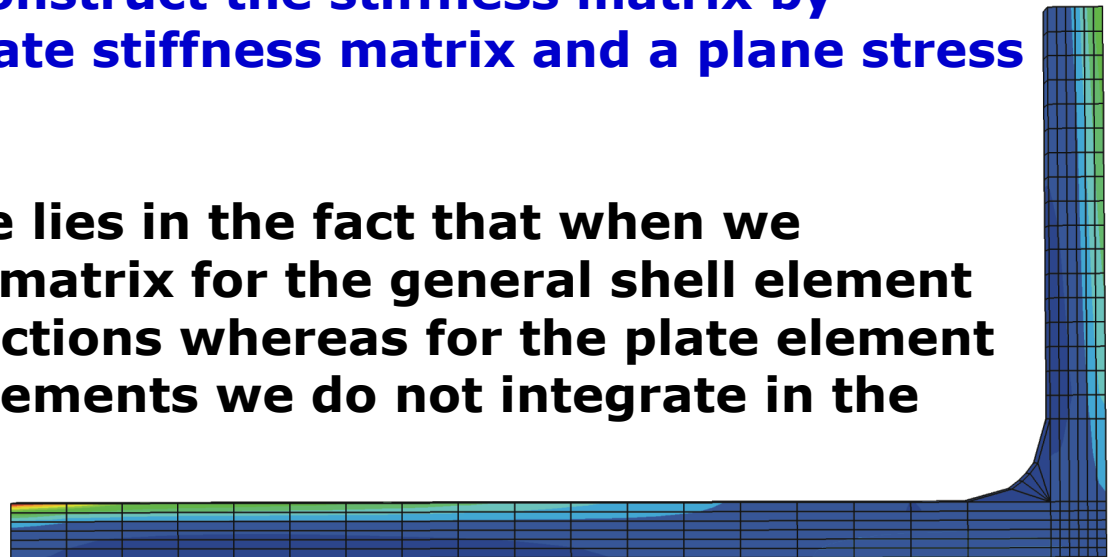


**We can compare the present formulation with a shell element constructed through superposition of a plate bending and a membrane stress behavior**

**Let us assume that we apply the general shell element as a flat element in the modeling of a shell**

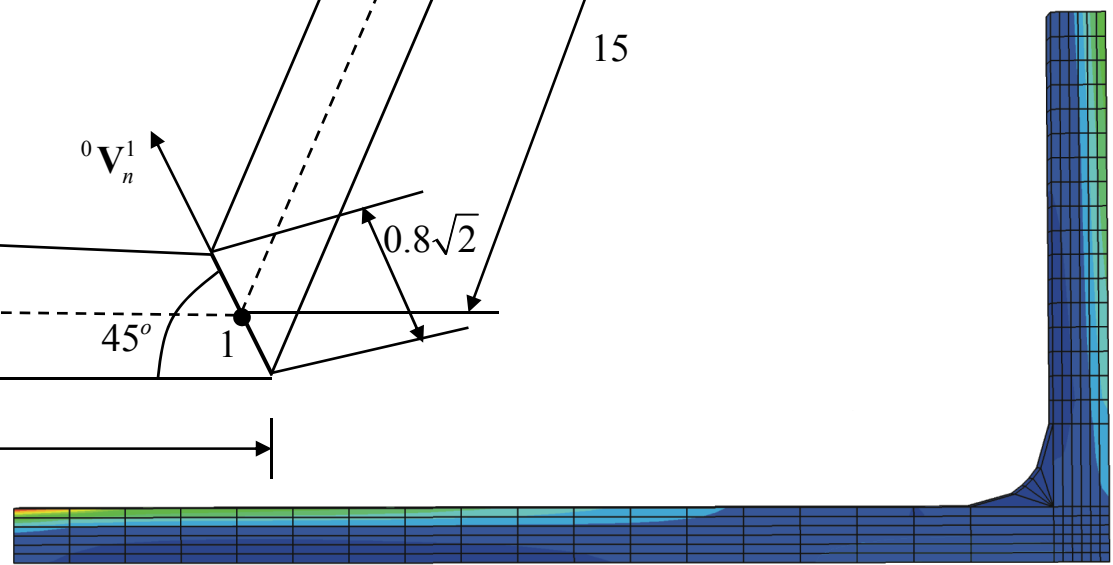
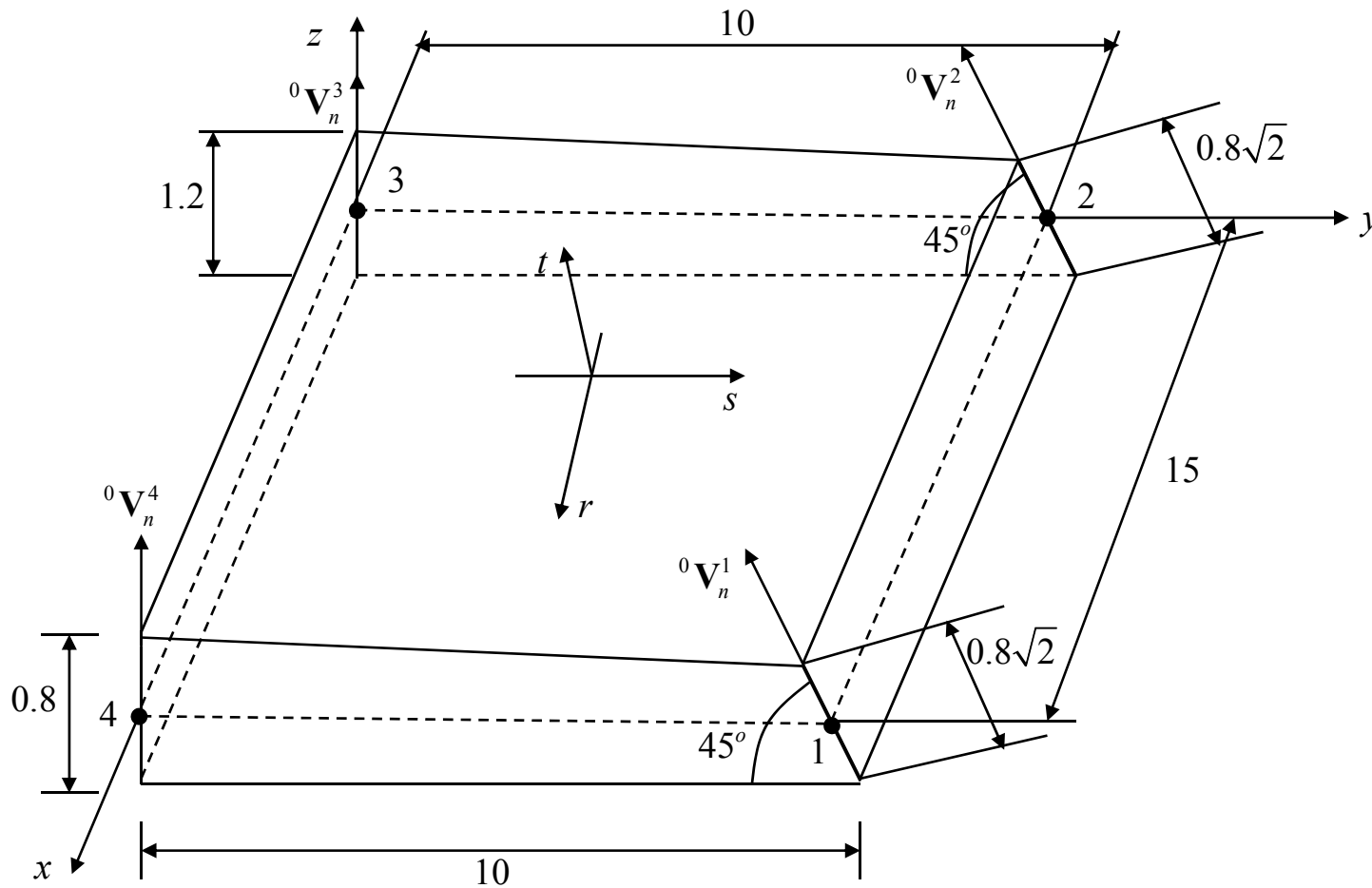
**- in this case we can construct the stiffness matrix by superposition of a plate stiffness matrix and a plane stress stiffness matrix**

**the effective difference lies in the fact that when we establish the stiffness matrix for the general shell element we integrate in all directions whereas for the plate element and the plane stress elements we do not integrate in the  $t$ -direction.**



# General Shell Elements

Let us consider an example





# General Shell Elements

Let us consider an example

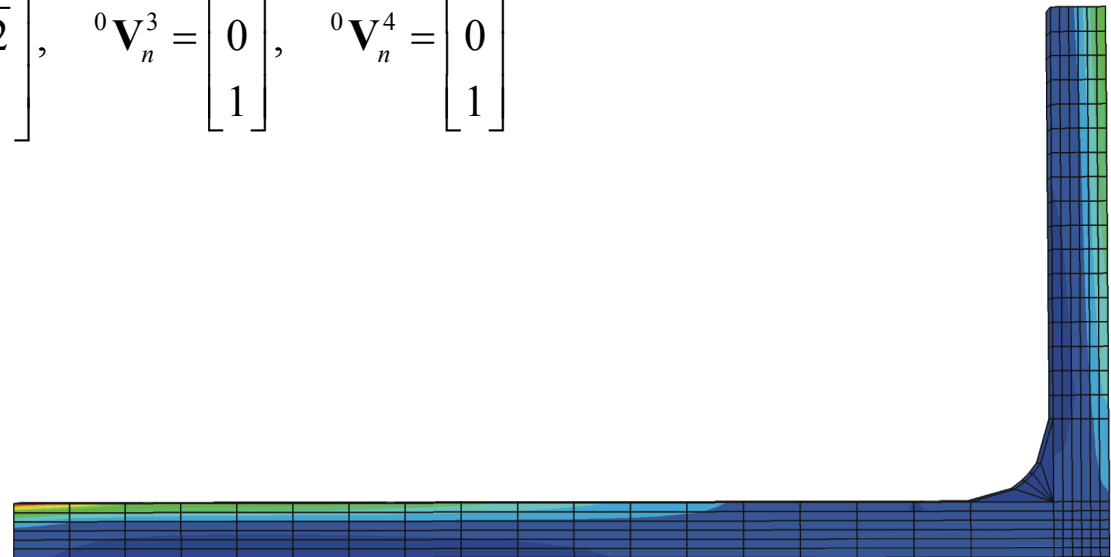
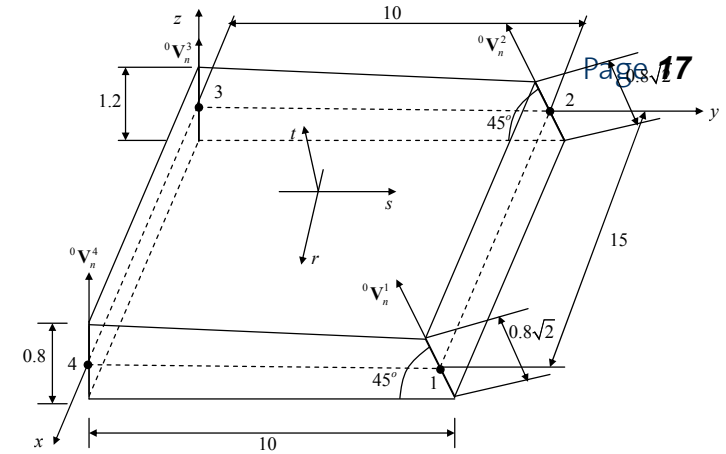
For this element the interpolation functions are those of the 4-node two dimensional element (solid element)

The directional vectors are:

$${}^0\mathbf{V}_n^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}, \quad {}^0\mathbf{V}_n^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}, \quad {}^0\mathbf{V}_n^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad {}^0\mathbf{V}_n^4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

hence

$${}^0\mathbf{V}_1^1 = {}^0\mathbf{V}_1^2 = {}^0\mathbf{V}_1^3 = {}^0\mathbf{V}_1^4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



# General Shell Elements

Further we have

$${}^0\mathbf{V}_2^1 = {}^0\mathbf{V}_2^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}; \quad {}^0\mathbf{V}_2^3 = {}^0\mathbf{V}_2^4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

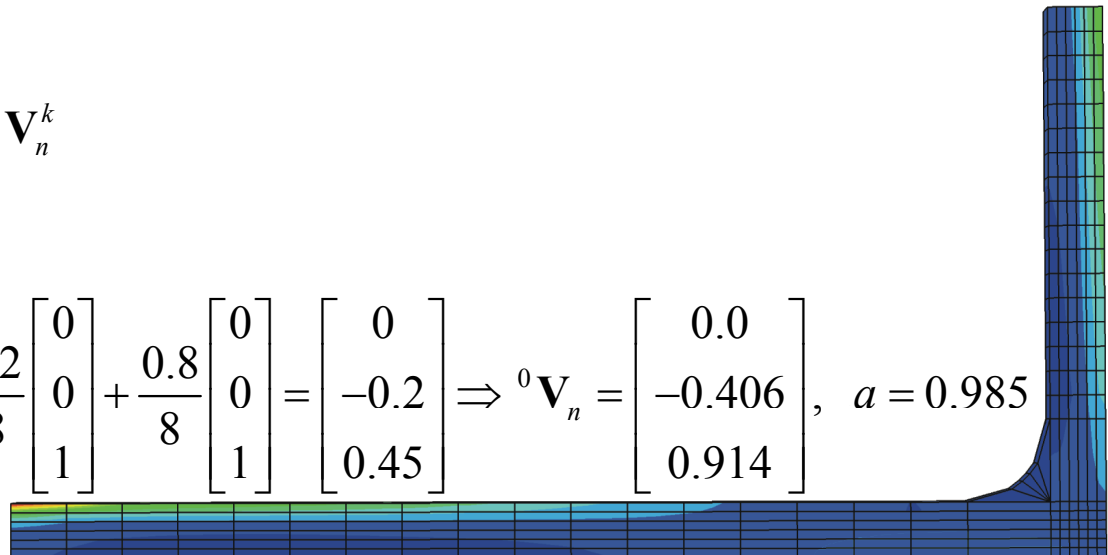
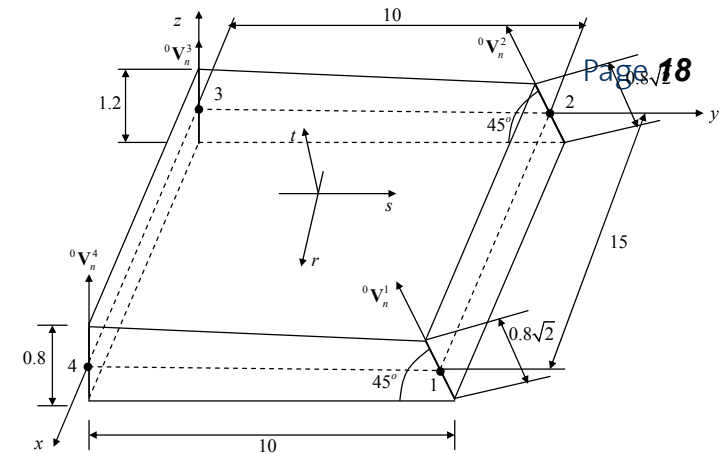
$$a_1 = a_2 = 0.8\sqrt{2}, \quad a_3 = 1.2, \quad a_4 = 0.8$$

**The thickness and the director vector are determined as:**

$$\left(\frac{a}{2}\right) {}^0\mathbf{V}_n \Big|_{\text{midpoint}} = \sum_{k=1}^4 \frac{a_k}{2} h_k \Big|_{r,s=0} {}^0\mathbf{V}_n^k$$

⇓

$$\left(\frac{a}{2}\right) {}^0\mathbf{V}_n = \frac{0.8\sqrt{2}}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1.2}{8} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{0.8}{8} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -0.2 \\ 0.45 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow {}^0\mathbf{V}_n = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0 \\ -0.406 \\ 0.914 \end{bmatrix}, \quad a = 0.985$$



## General Shell Elements

**So far we have considered a pure displacement based element – however, as for the beam and the plate element shear locking (and membrane locking) is a problem (at least cubic displacement interpolation functions are required)**

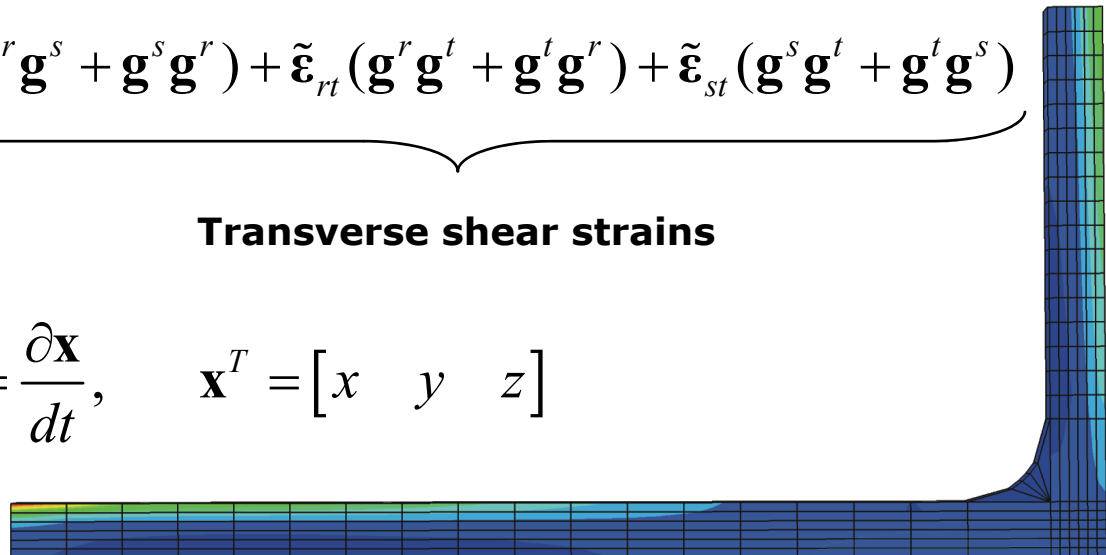
**In order to solve this problem we use again mixed interpolation functions (Dvorkin & Bathe)**

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \underbrace{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_{rr} \mathbf{g}^r \mathbf{g}^r + \tilde{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_{ss} \mathbf{g}^s \mathbf{g}^s}_{\text{In-layer strains}} + \underbrace{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_{rs} (\mathbf{g}^r \mathbf{g}^s + \mathbf{g}^s \mathbf{g}^r) + \tilde{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_{rt} (\mathbf{g}^r \mathbf{g}^t + \mathbf{g}^t \mathbf{g}^r) + \tilde{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_{st} (\mathbf{g}^s \mathbf{g}^t + \mathbf{g}^t \mathbf{g}^s)}_{\text{Transverse shear strains}}$$

**In-layer strains**

**Transverse shear strains**

$$\mathbf{g}_r = \frac{\partial \mathbf{X}}{\partial r}; \quad \mathbf{g}_s = \frac{\partial \mathbf{X}}{\partial s}; \quad \mathbf{g}_t = \frac{\partial \mathbf{X}}{\partial t}, \quad \mathbf{x}^T = [x \quad y \quad z]$$



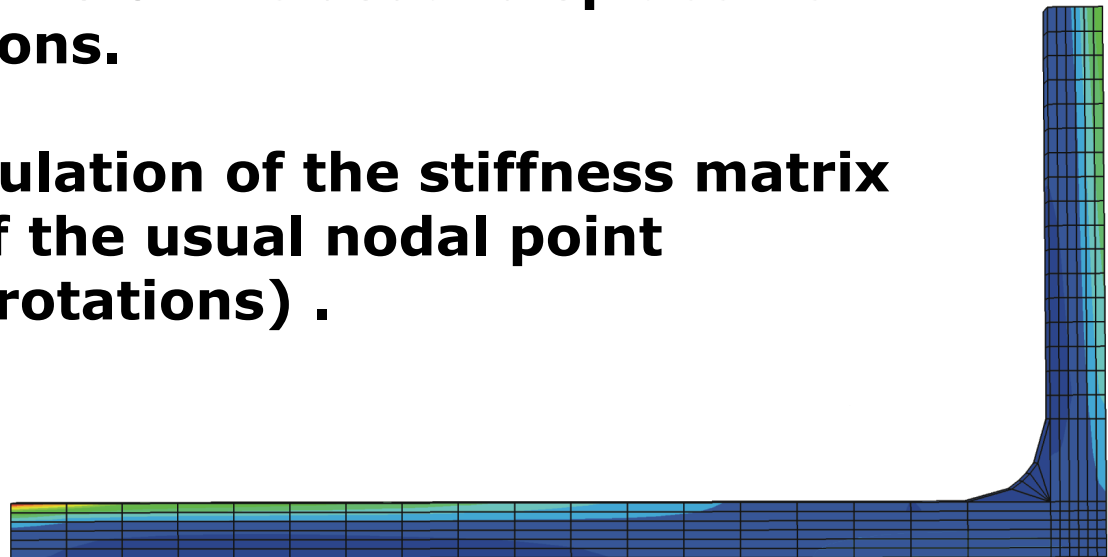
## General Shell Elements

**The Green-Lagrange covariant strain tensor components are determined from :**

$${}^1_0\tilde{\varepsilon}_{ij} = \frac{1}{2}({}^1\mathbf{g}_i \cdot {}^1\mathbf{g}_j - {}^0\mathbf{g}_i \cdot {}^0\mathbf{g}_j), \quad {}^0\mathbf{g}_i = \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial r_i}, \quad {}^1\mathbf{g}_i = \frac{\partial(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u})}{\partial r_i}$$

**The objective is to interpolate the in-layer and transverse shear strains independently and then to express these in terms of the usual displacement interpolation functions.**

**We then get a formulation of the stiffness matrix as usual in terms of the usual nodal point displacement (and rotations) .**



## General Shell Elements

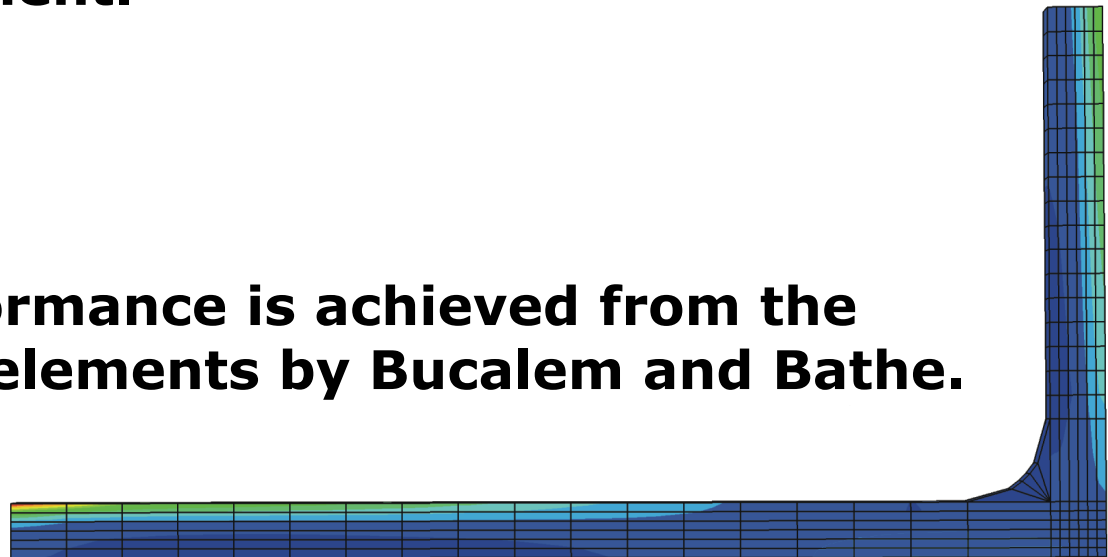
**The four-node shell element (MITC4) proposed by Dvorkin and Bathe is attractive –**

**The in-layer strains are computed from the displacement interpolations**

**The covariant shear strains are computed from the displacement interpolation functions at discrete locations as for the plate element.**

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{n_{ij}} h_k^{ij} \mathbf{B}_{ij}^{DI} \Big|_k \hat{\mathbf{u}}$$

**Better general performance is achieved from the MITC9 and MITC16 elements by Bucelem and Bathe.**



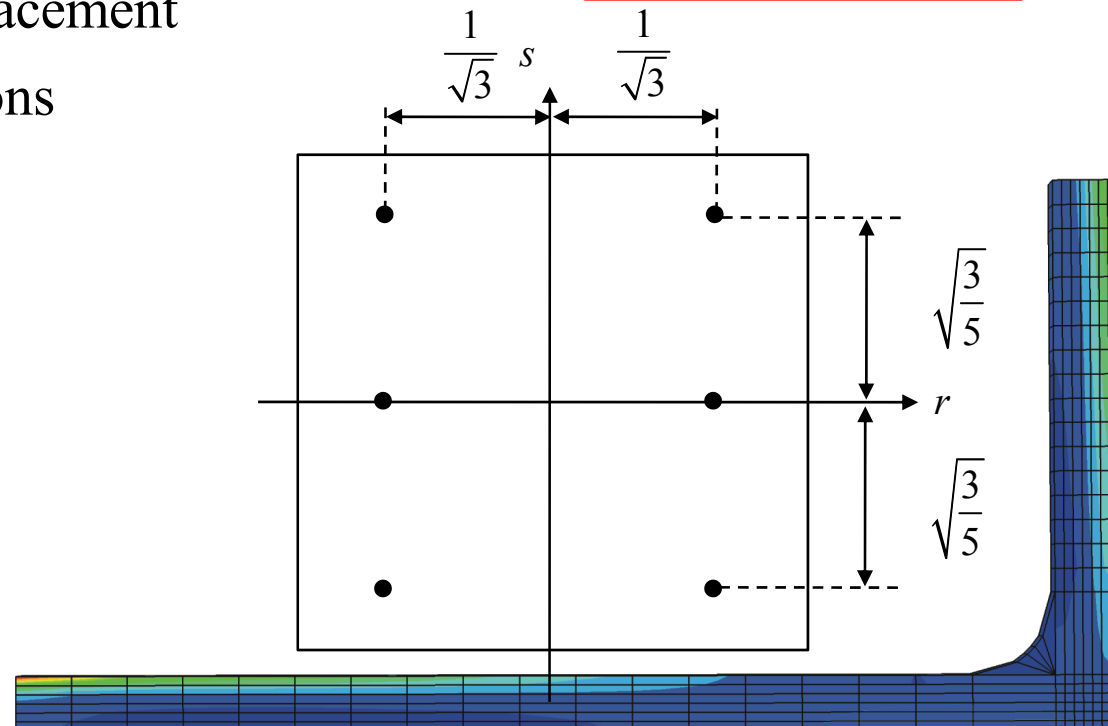
## General Shell Elements

In the MITC9 element the discrete locations in which the mixed interpolations are fixed with the displacement interpolation functions are:

For the  $\tilde{\varepsilon}_{rr}, \tilde{\varepsilon}_{rt}$  strain components

$h_k^{ij}$  : are the 6-node displacement interpolation functions

$$\tilde{\varepsilon}_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{n_{ij}} h_k^{ij} \mathbf{B}_{ij}^{DI} \Big|_k \hat{\mathbf{u}}$$



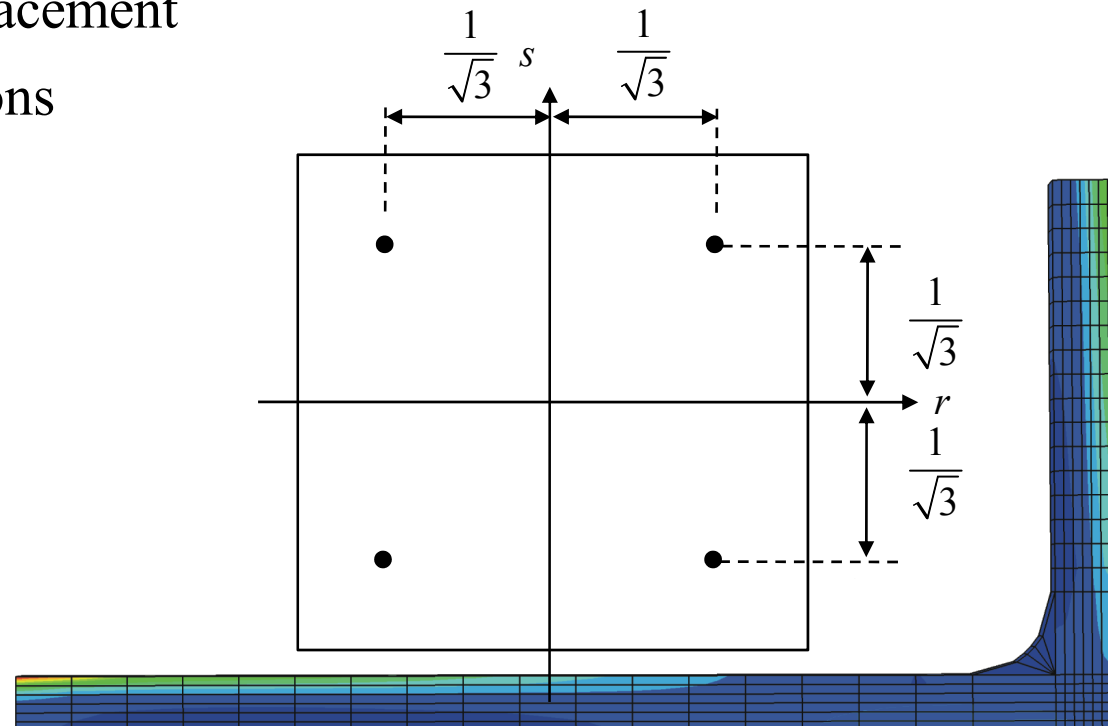
## General Shell Elements

In the MITC9 element the discrete locations in which the mixed interpolations are fixed with the displacement interpolation functions are:

For the  $\tilde{\varepsilon}_{rs}$  strain component

$$\tilde{\varepsilon}_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{n_{ij}} h_k^{ij} \mathbf{B}_{ij}^{DI} \Big|_k \hat{\mathbf{u}}$$

$h_k^{ij}$  : are the 4-node displacement interpolation functions



## Boundary Conditions

The plate elements we considered in the previous lecture were based on the **Reissner-Midlin** plate theory

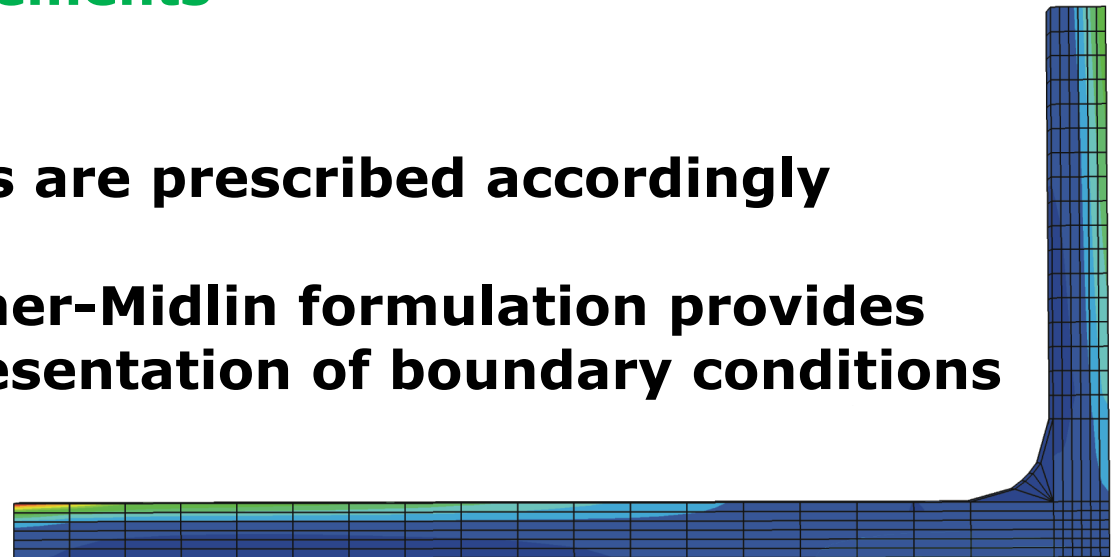
- transverse displacements and section rotations

The **Kirchhoff** plate theory

- transverse displacements

Boundary conditions are prescribed accordingly

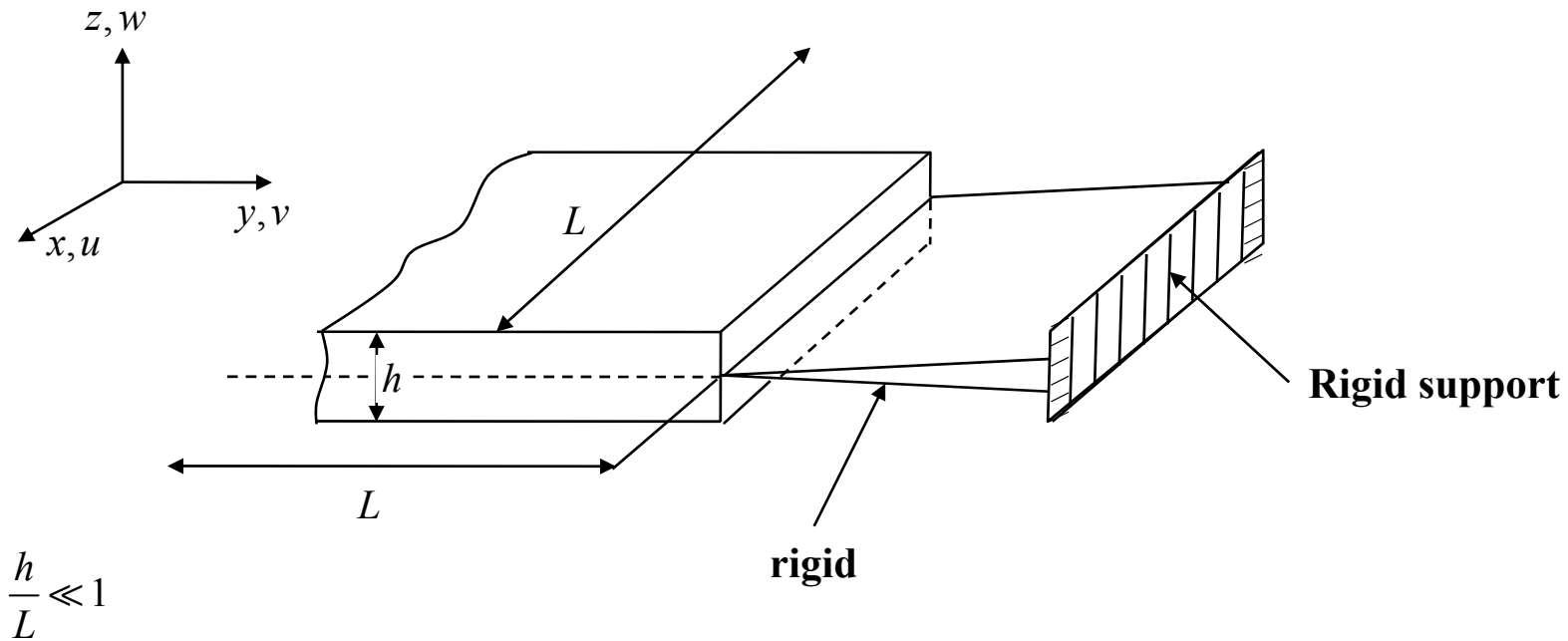
therefore the Reissner-Midlin formulation provides more accurate representation of boundary conditions





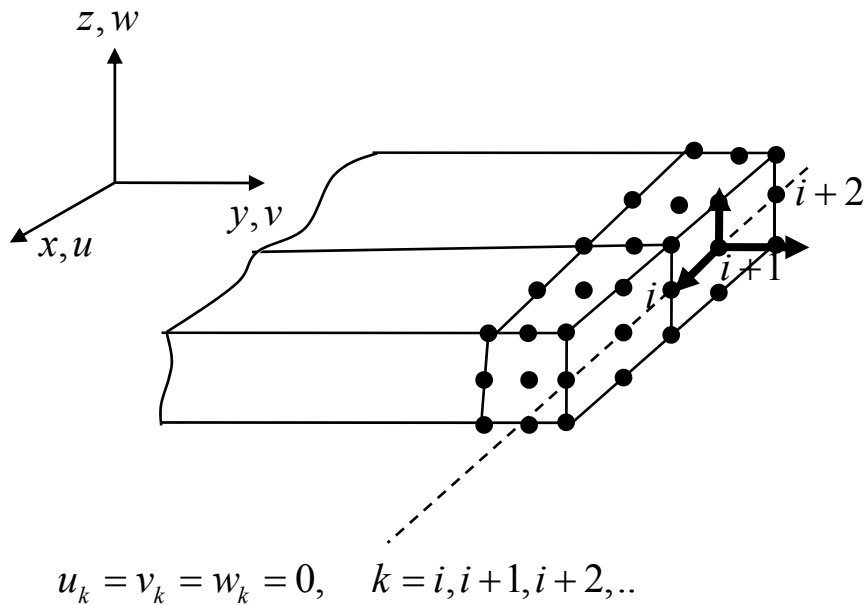
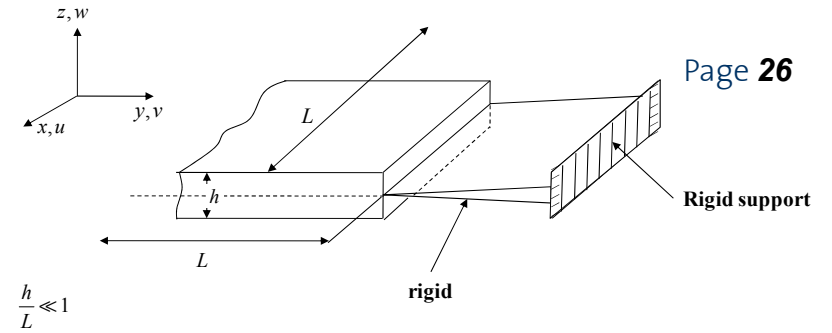
# Boundary Conditions

Let us consider an example:



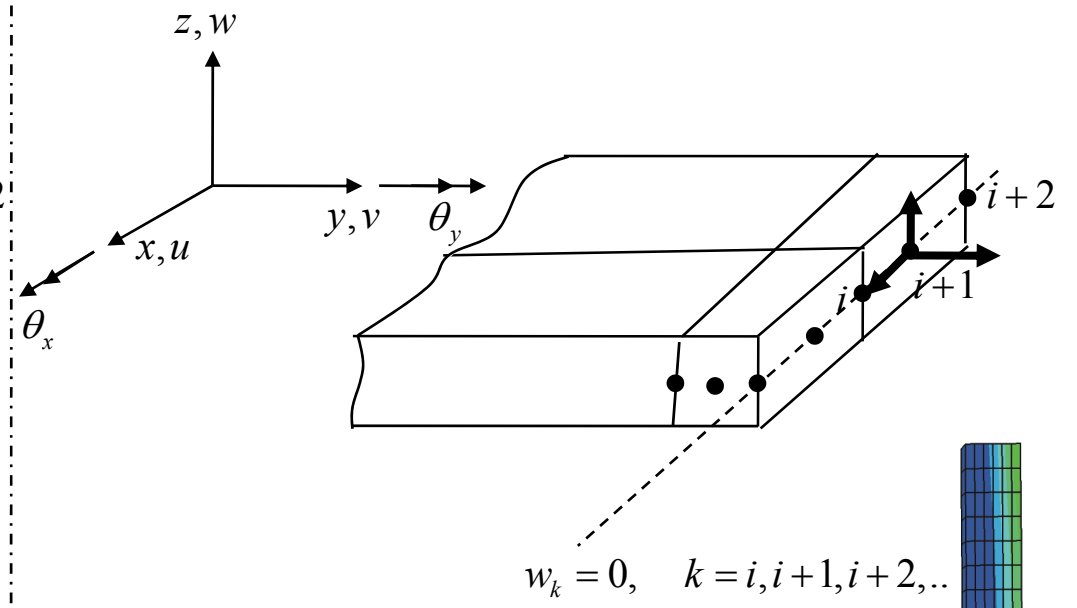
# Boundary Conditions

Let us consider an example:

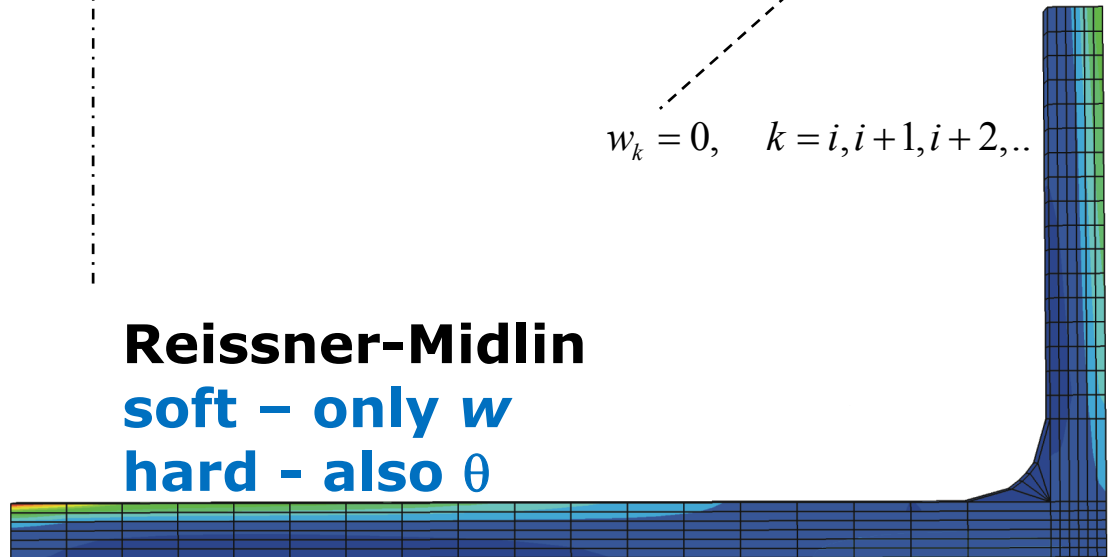


**3-D solid**  
**Displacement in all directions**

Method of Finite Elements 1

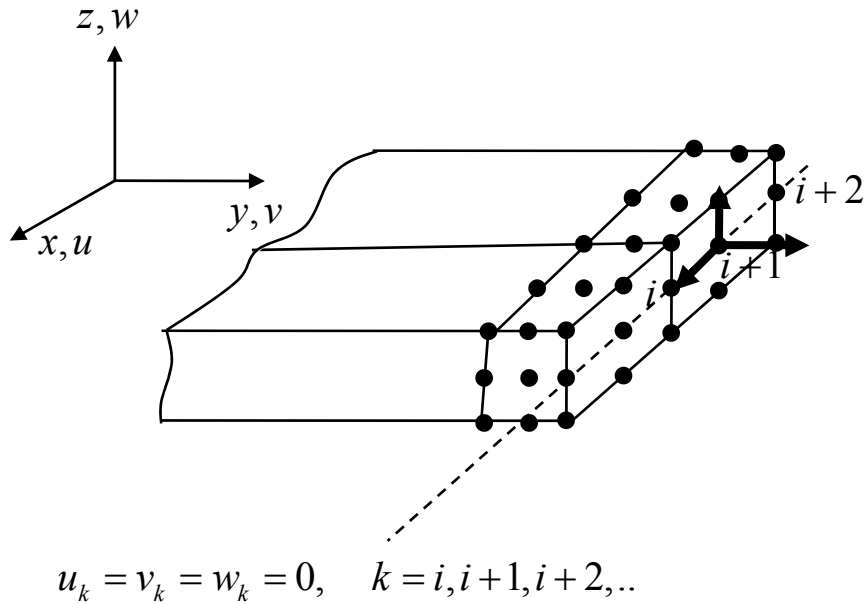
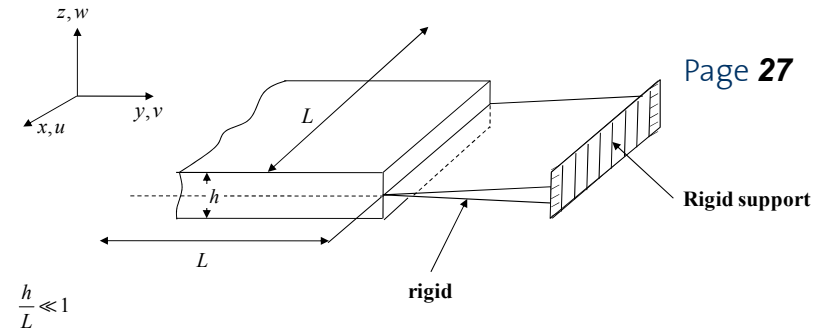


**Reissner-Midlin**  
**soft – only w**  
**hard - also  $\theta$**



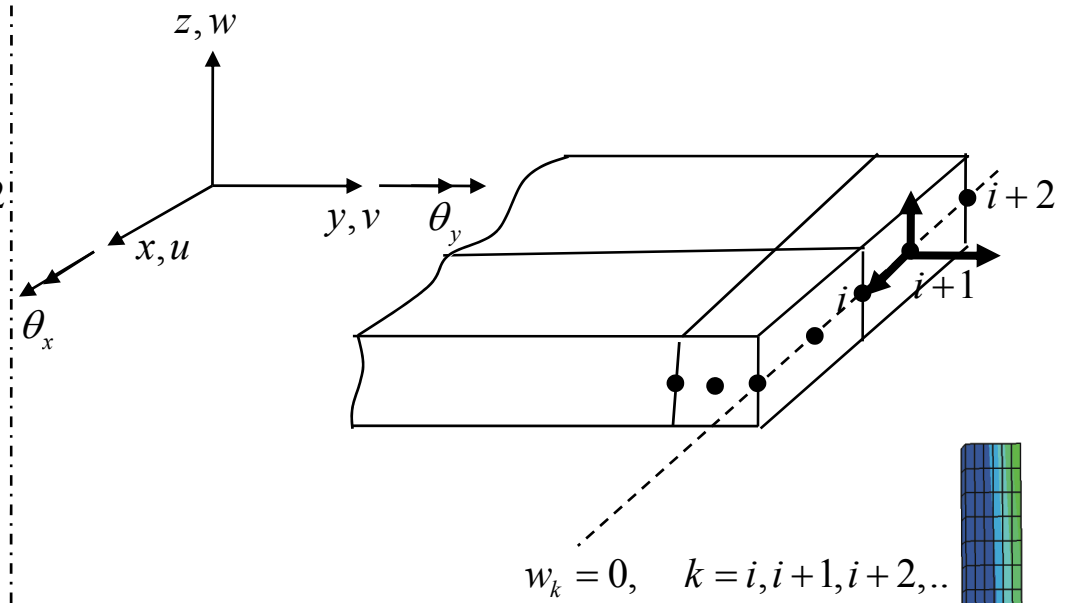
# Boundary Conditions

Let us consider an example:



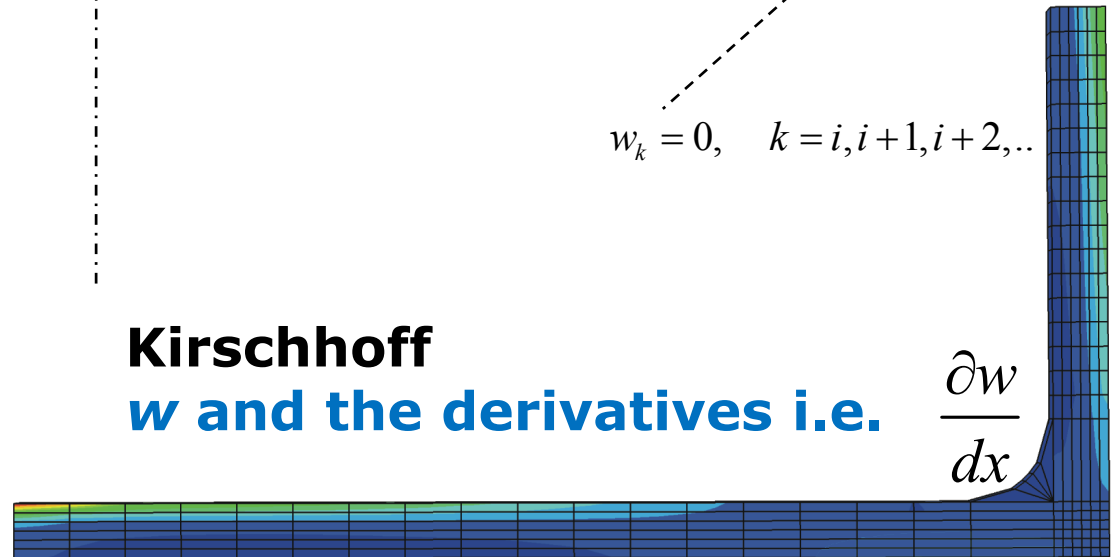
**3-D solid**  
**Displacement in all directions**

Method of Finite Elements 1

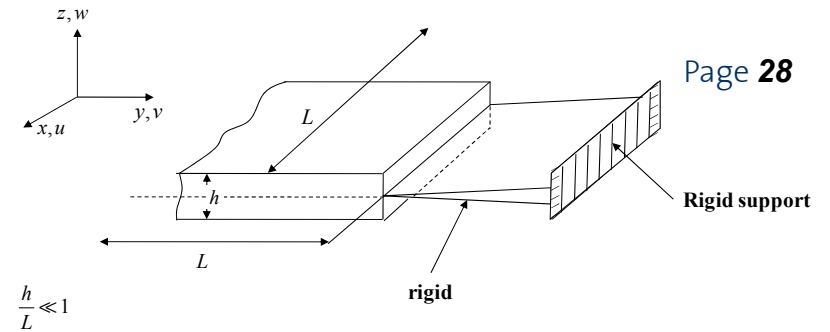


**Kirschhoff**  
 **$w$  and the derivatives i.e.**

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}$$



# Boundary Conditions



**The main message here is that we have to specify boundary conditions in accordance with the characteristics of elements we are using !**

