

Multiscale Quasicontinuum Approaches for Planar Beam Lattices

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The quasicontinuum (QC) method was originally developed to reduce the computational efforts of large-scale atomistic (conservative) lattice computations [1]. QC approaches have an intrinsically multiscale character, as they combine fully resolved regions in which discrete lattice events can occur, with coarse-grained regions in which the lattice model is interpolated and integrated (summed in QC terminology). In previous works [2,3], virtual-power-based QC approaches were developed for dissipative (i.e. non-conservative) lattice computations which can for instance be used for fibrous materials. The virtual-power-based QC approaches have focused on dissipative spring/truss networks, but numerous fibrous materials can more accurately be described by (planar) beam networks. In this presentation, different QC approaches for planar beam lattices are introduced [4]. In contrast to spring/truss lattices, beam networks include not only displacements but also rotations which need to be incorporated in the QC method, resulting in a mixed formulation. Furthermore, the presentation will show that QC approaches for planar beam lattices require higher-order interpolations to obtain accurate results, which also influences the numerical integration (summation in QC terminology). Results using different interpolations and types of integration will be shown for a multiscale example.

Keywords: multiscale, quasicontinuum method, beam lattice, beam network, integration, summation

References

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