2005 AGU Fall Meeting: Poster #S43A Quasi-statically Self-chosen Faulting Path Modeling in Heterogeneous Medium - FEM-b Approach -

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1. Abstract

We apply *FEM-β*, a newly proposed Finite Element Method (Hori, Oguni and Sakaguchi, JMPS, 2005), to quasi-statically *self-chosen faulting path modeling*.

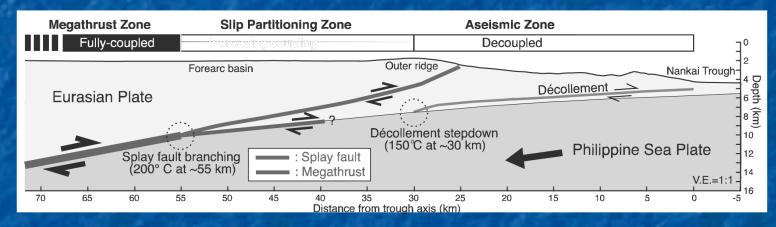
The method, *FEM-β*, is based on *particle discretization* of a displacement field with non-overlapping shape function and it provides an easy way to express *displacement discontinuities between any two adjacent nodes*: this is an advantage of FEM-β for self-chosen failure path modeling.

FEM- β , originally developed for the analysis on tensile failure within a structual material containing local imperfection, is here tested for *earthquake shear faulting in strongly heterogeneous medium* to investigate the effect of elastic heterogeneity in the crust on *the formation of geometrically complex fault traces*.

2. MOTIVATION

Non-planar fault traces in the heterogeneous crustal structure

The effect of *elastic heterogeneity* on *the formation of geometrically complex fault traces* \rightarrow Quantitative approach by *self-chosen failure path modeling*



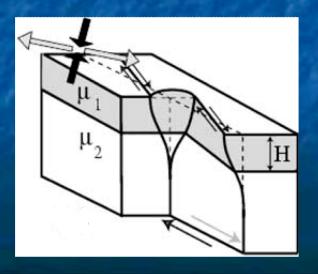


Fig.1: Schematic cross section of the updip portion of the Nankai subduction zone: splay fault branching (Park et al., Science, 2003)

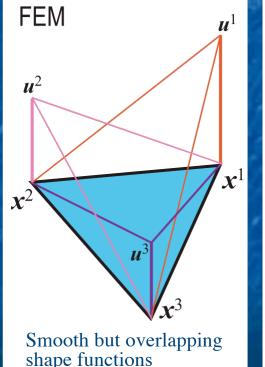
Fig.2: Non-planar fault surfaces and en-echelon surface ruptures in a layered medium (Bonafede et al., GJI, 2002)

3. Self-chosen faulting path modeling in heterogeneous medium

(3A) FEM- β : Finite Elemant Method with particle discritization (Hori et al., 2005)

Ordinary FEM ©different elasticity × discontinuity FEM-β ©different elasticity ©discontinuity Displacement on Volonoi blocks $(\Omega^1, \Omega^2, \Omega^3,...)$ \rightarrow Easy expression of failure as separation of two adjacent Voronoi blocks

 \rightarrow Enabling self-chosen failure path modeling



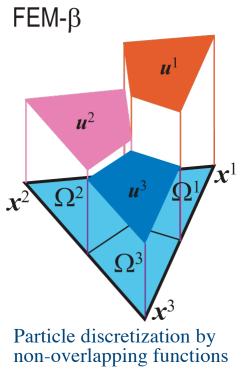


Fig.3. Comparison of discretization for ordinary FEM and FEM- β .

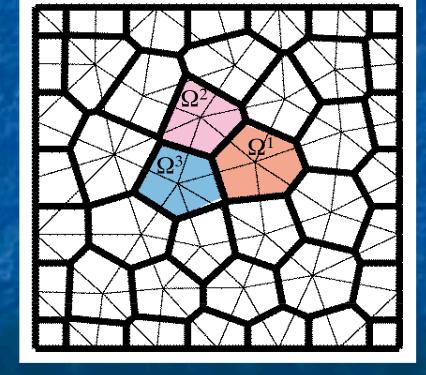
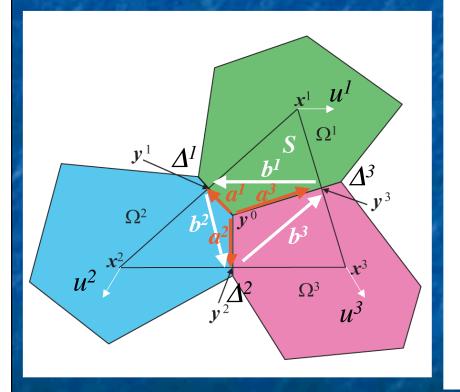


Fig.4. Voronoi (thick lines) and Delaunay (thin) tessellation for 2-D domain in FEM- β .

(3B) Interpretation of FEM- β as block-spring model

- **B**-matrix of FEM- β is equivalent to the ordinary FEM B-matrix.
- Particle discretization enables us to interpret FEM as Spring-Block System: Strain is represented by the displacement gap $\Delta^1 = u^1 \cdot u^2$, Δ^2 and Δ^3 .
- For a gap $\Delta^1 = u^1 u^2$, three springs are responsible for the strain energy.



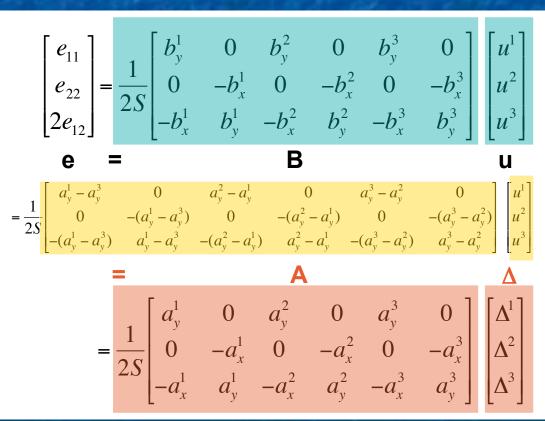


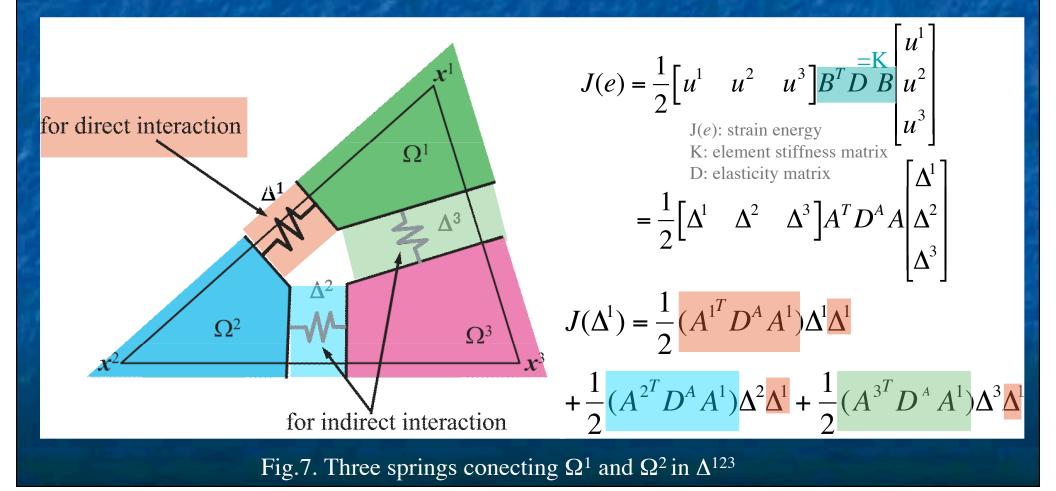
Fig.5. Strain average domain S in FEM- β

Fig.6. Strain e in terms of u with **B**-matrix and in terms of Δ with **A**-matrix in FEM- β .

(3C) Expressing Shear failure in FEM-b

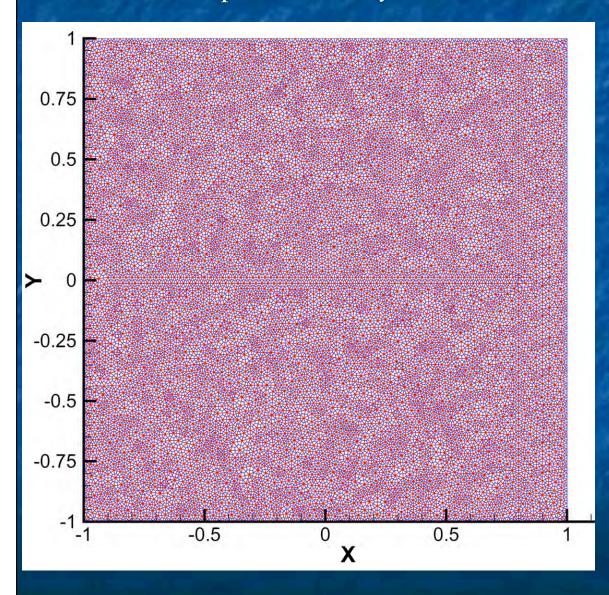
FEM- β , originally developed for tensile failure, is here tested for shear faulting.

- Tensile failure as a displacement gap Δ^{1} : subtract B-matrix components corresponding to cutting of the three springs.
- Shear failure: subtract B-matrix components responsible only for the shear strain along a failure plane (no change in the normal strain).



4. Results for Mode II crack

Deformation: 2-D plane strain. Simple shear loading up to ε₁₂=0.05.
 B.C. fixed displacement on y=1,-1, free surface on x=1, -1.



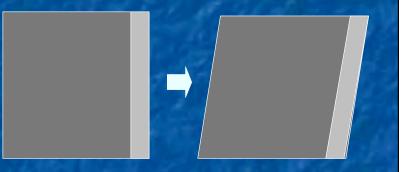


Fig.8. FEM- β mesh used in the analyses. 12918 elements & 6620 blocks.

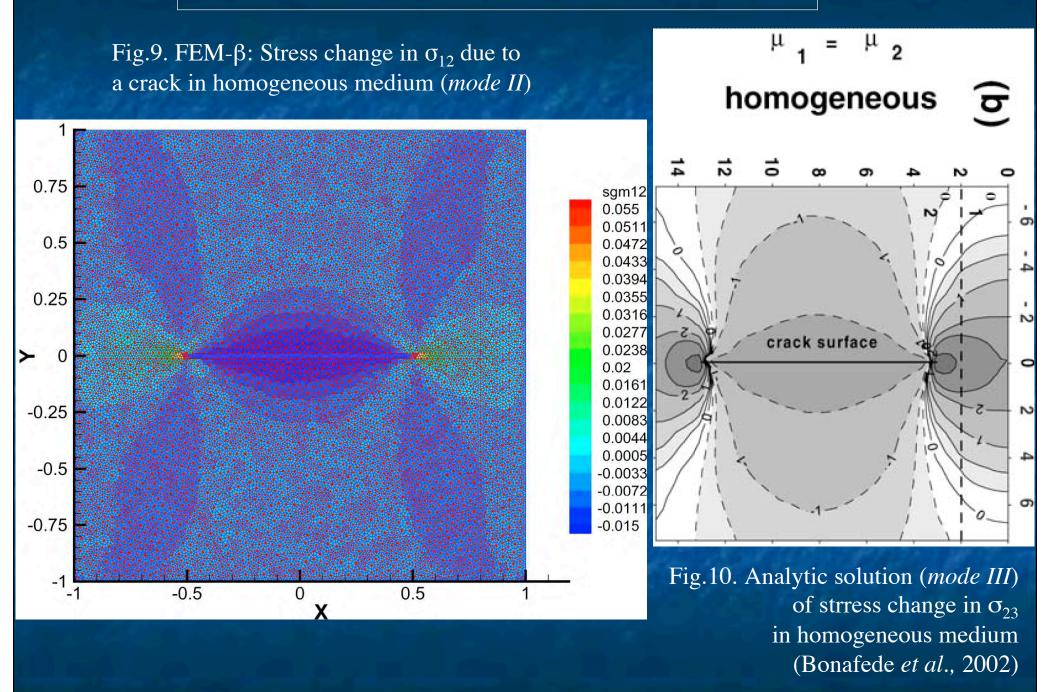
Red lines:

Delaunay triangulation of the domain for the stress and strain.

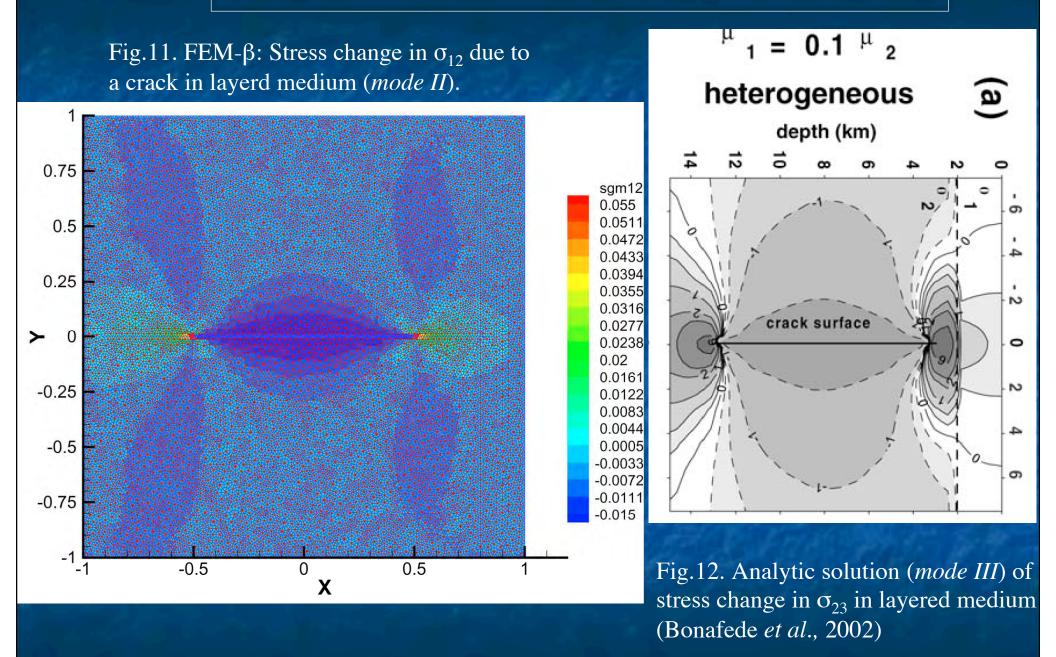
Blue lines:

Voronoi block boundaries on which displacement gap (=failure) is allowed.

(4a) Homogeneous medium



(4b) Hoterogeneous (Layered) medium: $\mu_1 = 0.1 \mu_2$



(4c) Strains and stresses for different crack positions against the soft layer

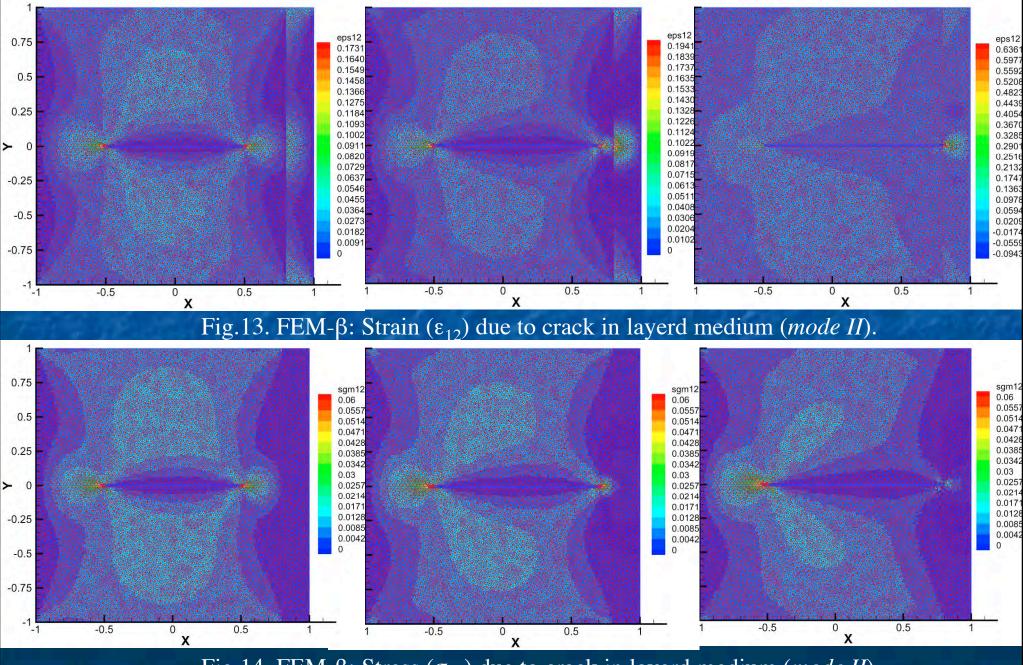


Fig.14. FEM- β : Stress (σ_{12}) due to crack in layerd medium (*mode II*).

5. Summary

- Self-chosen faulting path modeling in heterogeneous medium is considered.
- FEM-β, developed for tensile failure, is here tested for shear crack growth.
- The stress field in layered medium containing a crack is analyzed.

Further studies:

- Analysis of quasi-static crack growth toward stress concentration direction
- Criteria for rupture growth in heterogeneous medium.
 Extension of FEM-β to dynamic analysis