

ENGINEERING TRIPOS

PART IIB

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Friday 27 April 2012

2.30 to 4.00

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Module 4C9

CONTINUUM MECHANICS

*Answer not more than two questions.*

*All questions carry the same number of marks.*

*The **approximate** percentage of marks allocated to each part of a question is indicated in the right margin.*

*Attachment:*

*4C9 datasheet (6 pages).*

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

Single-sided script paper

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Engineering Data Book

CUED approved calculator allowed

**You may not start to read the questions  
printed on the subsequent pages of this  
question paper until instructed that you may  
do so by the Invigilator**

1 The Kronecker delta and the permutation tensor are denoted by the symbols  $\delta_{ij}$  and  $e_{ijk}$ , respectively.

(a) By direct expansion or otherwise calculate the values of the following:

(i)  $e_{ijk}e_{kij}$ ; [10%]

(ii)  $e_{ijk}a_ja_k$ , where  $a_i$  is an arbitrary vector. [10%]

(b) Show that  $B_{ij} = e_{ijk}a_k$ , where  $a_i$  is an arbitrary vector that is skew-symmetric (i.e.  $B_{ij} = -B_{ji}$ ). [20%]

(c) Consider the symmetric stress tensor  $\sigma_{ij}$ . The principal directions  $n_i$  and the principal values  $\lambda$  are defined via the relation  $\sigma_{ij}n_j = \lambda n_i$ . Using this definition show that:

(i) the principal values  $\lambda$  of  $\sigma_{ij}$  are given by the relation  $\det(\sigma_{ij} - \lambda\delta_{ij}) = 0$ ; [20%]

(ii) if the principal values of  $\sigma_{ij}$  are distinct, then the principal directions are mutually orthogonal. [40%]

2 (a) Show that the symmetric stress tensor  $\sigma_{ij}$  may be decomposed into a hydrostatic and deviatoric part in only *one* way. [30%]

(b) Figure 1 shows an elastic cantilever OAB in the form of a triangular plate of uniform rectangular cross-section. The thickness  $t$  of the plate may be assumed to be much smaller than any other dimension. Side OA is horizontal, side AB is built into a rigid support and the angle  $\text{AOB} = \alpha$ . Side OA carried a uniformly distributed pressure of magnitude  $p$ . Employ polar coordinates with the origin at O and the angle  $\theta$  measured downwards from OA. A suitable Airy stress function for this problem is

$$\phi = \frac{Cr^2}{\tan\alpha - \alpha} \left[ \alpha - \theta + \frac{\sin 2\theta}{2} - \tan\alpha \cos^2\alpha \right]$$

where  $C$  is a constant.

(i) Determine the stresses  $\sigma_{rr}$ ,  $\sigma_{\theta\theta}$ ,  $\sigma_{r\theta}$  at any point in the cantilever. [20%]

(ii) State the boundary conditions along OA and OB and show that these boundary conditions are satisfied. Hence determine the value of  $C$  in terms of the applied pressure  $p$ . [20%]

(iii) If the angle  $\alpha$  is small, show using simple beam theory, that at point A at the root of the cantilever, the stress  $\sigma_{rr} = 3p/\alpha^2$ . Does the value of  $\sigma_{rr}$  derived from the above Airy stress function agree with the simple beam theory prediction? [30%]

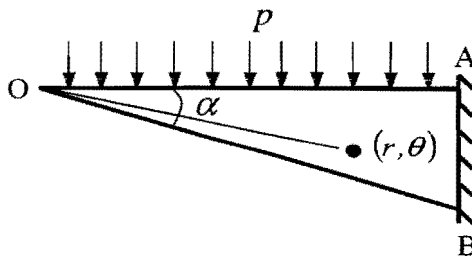


Fig. 1

3 A rigid, ideally-plastic solid with tensile yield strength  $\sigma_Y$  yields in accordance with the von Mises criterion. This solid is manufactured into a long hollow cylinder of inner radius  $a$  and outer radius  $b$ . The cylinder is constrained against axial lengthening and is subjected to an increasing internal pressure until it attains a collapse pressure  $p$ .

(a) At plastic collapse, a trial velocity field is proposed in terms of a cylindrical, polar co-ordinate system  $(r, \theta, z)$ , such that  $z$  is along the axis of the cylinder,  $r$  is the radial distance from this axis and the angle  $\theta$  is in the hoop direction. This velocity field is given by  $u_r = A/r$ ,  $u_\theta = u_z = 0$  where  $A$  is a constant of proportionality. Derive expressions for the strain rate components in terms of  $(A, r)$ , and show that incompressibility is satisfied. [35%]

(b) Obtain an expression for the plastic work rate per unit volume  $\dot{W}$  in terms of  $(A, r)$  and determine the upper bound collapse pressure  $p$ . [30%]

(c) Determine the hydrostatic stress field throughout the cylinder, and comment upon whether the above trial solution is exact. [35%]

**END OF PAPER**

## Numerical answers

1. (a) (i) 6  
(ii) 0