

# Computational Approach to Micromechanical Contacts

## Lecture 4.b

### *Computational Contact Mechanics (BEM)*

Vladislav A. Yastrebov

*MINES ParisTech, PSL Research University, Centre des Matériaux, CNRS UMR 7633, Evry, France*

@ Centre des Matériaux  
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# Main idea

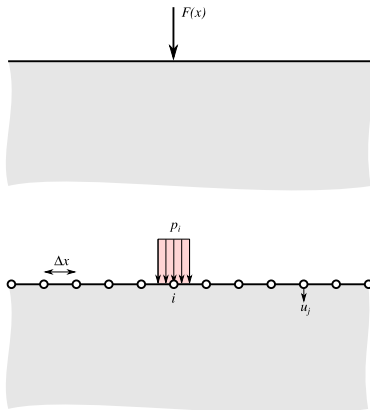
- Recall Flamant's or Boussinesq's solution for a single force acting on a half-space
- Due to pressure  $p$  distributed in  $x \in [a, b]$ , vertical displacement  $u$  on any location  $x$  is given by

$$u(x) = u_0 + \frac{2(1-\nu^2)}{\pi E} \int_a^b p(s) \log|s-x| ds$$

- Discretize the surface traction into piece-wise constant values defined over a regularly spaced grid:  $p_i$  at  $x_i$  with spacind  $\Delta x$
- Then the displacement at location  $x_j$  due to a single pressure element located at  $x_i$  is

$$u_j =$$

$$u_0 + \frac{2(1-\nu^2)}{\pi E} \left( \int_{x_i-\Delta x/2}^{x_i+\Delta x/2} \log|s-x_j| ds \right) p_i$$



Continuous and discretized formulations

# Main idea II

- Or simply

$$u_j = u_0 + S_{ji} p_i$$

$$\text{where } S_{ji} = \frac{2(1-\nu^2)}{\pi E} \int_{x_i - \Delta x/2}^{x_i + \Delta x/2} \log |s - x_j| ds$$

- Define a rough surface  $s_i$ , the gap is given

$$g_i = s_i - u_i$$

- Find  $p_i$  such that

$$\forall x_i : p_i \geq 0, \quad g_i \geq 0, \quad g_i p_i = 0$$

- Mixed BC formulation:**

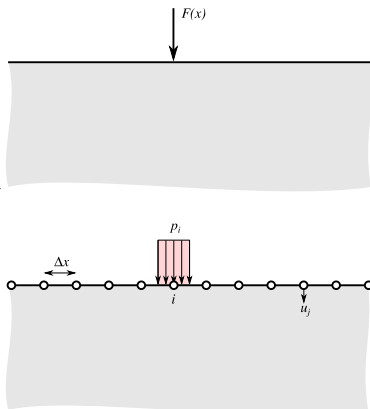
in contact  $i, j \in C$ :

$$\tilde{S}_{ji} \tilde{p}_i = \tilde{s}_j - u_0, \quad p_i \geq 0, \quad \Delta x \sum p_i = F_{tot}$$

where  $\tilde{S}_{ji}$  is a submatrix of  $S_{ji}$

out of contact  $i, j \in NC$ :

$$S_{ji} p_i \leq s_j - u_0, \quad p_i = 0$$



Continuous and discretized formulations

# Computational approach

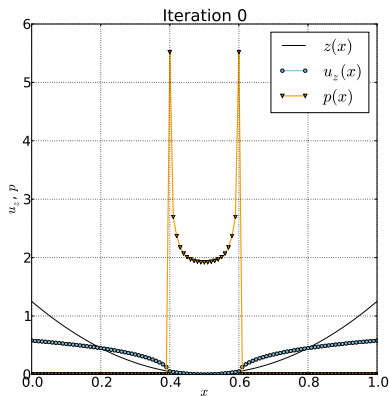
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$$p_i = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \forall i \notin C$$
  - 4 Construct full solution
$$S_{ji}p_i = u_j - u_0$$
  - 5 If  $u_j - u_0 > s_j$  add  $j$  in  $C$
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  - 7 If  $C$  no longer changes, then convergence is reached.

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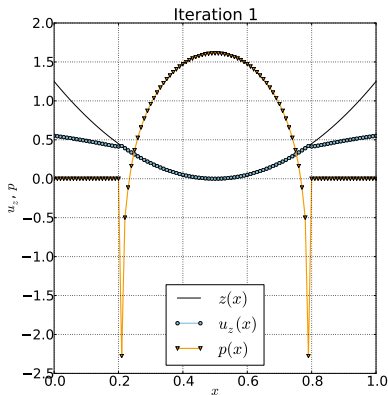
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Example: cylindrical indenter

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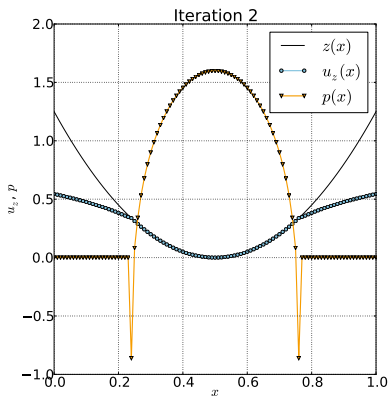
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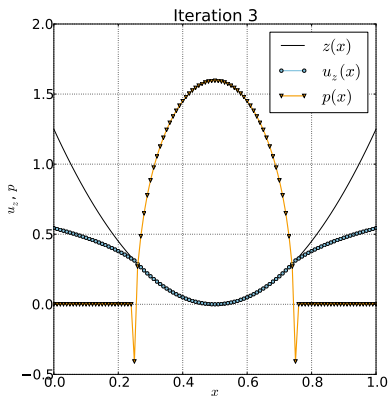


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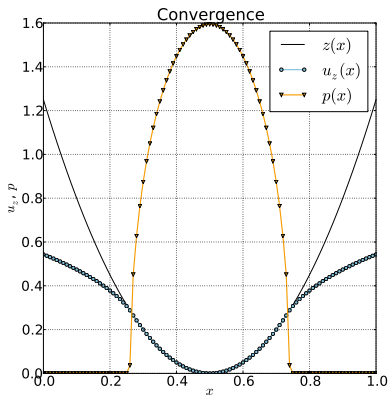
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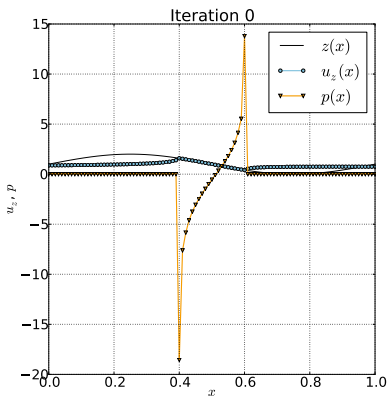
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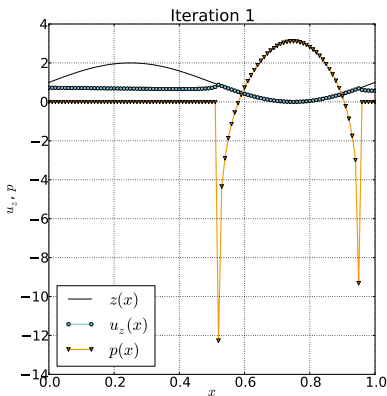
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Example: wavy indenter

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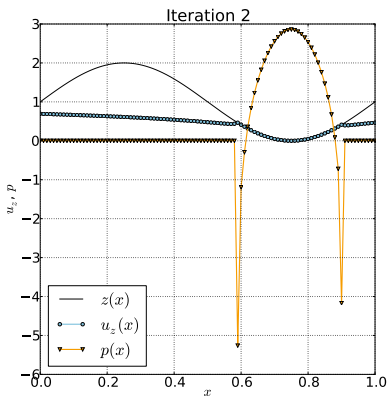
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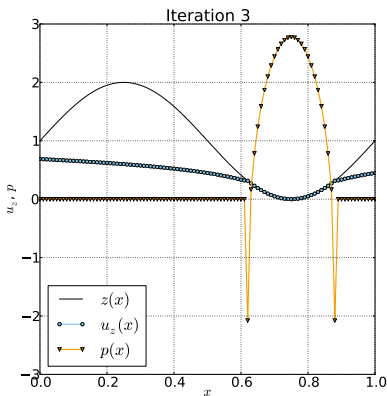
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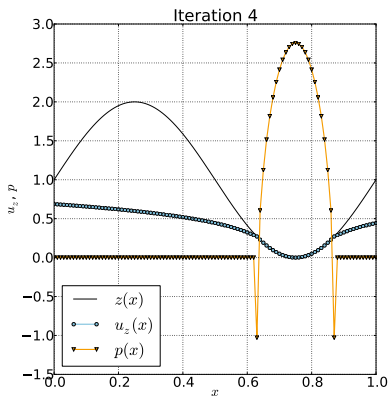
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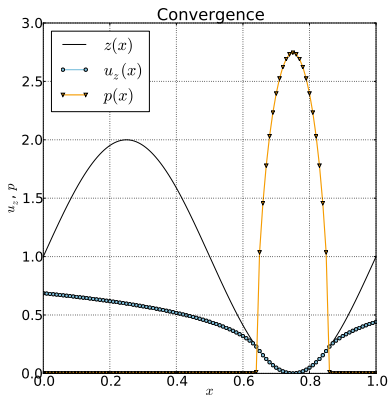
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# Spectral approach

- Relationship between vertical displacement and pressure

$$p(x, y) = p_0 \cos(k_x x) \cos(k_y y)$$

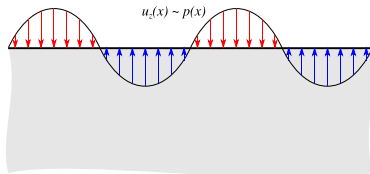
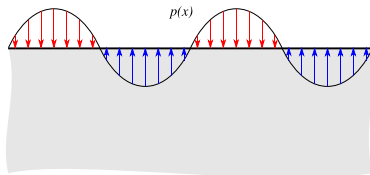
$$u_z(x, y) = \frac{p_0}{E^* \sqrt{k_x^2 + k_y^2}} \cos(k_x x) \cos(k_y y)$$

- Then passing through Fourier space  $\mathcal{F}$ :

$$u_z = \mathcal{F}^{-1} \{w : \mathcal{F}(p)\}$$

- Where

$$w_{kl} = \frac{L}{\pi E^* \sqrt{k^2 + l^2}}$$



Pressure/displacement proportionality