# AUTOMATIC REFINEMENT OF FE SHELL MODELS BASED ON A LOCAL ENERGY FUNCTION 

Antonio Carminelli<br>CIRI-MAM, University of Bologna, Viale del Risorgimento 2, 40136 Bologna, Italy phone: +39 051 2093451, fax: +39 0512093446<br>e-mail: antonio.carminell@ unibo.it

Giuseppe Catania<br>DIN, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering,<br>University of Bologna, Viale del Risorgimento 2,<br>40136 Bologna, Italy<br>phone +39 051 2093447, fax +39 0512093446<br>e-mail: giuseppe.catania@unibo.it


#### Abstract

This paper deals with an adaptive refinement technique of a B-spline degenerate shell finite element model, for the free vibration analysis of curved thin and moderately thick-walled structures. The automatic refinement of the solution is based on an error functional related to the density of the total potential energy. The model refinement is generated by locally increasing, in a sub-domain R of a local patch domain, the number of shape functions while maintaining constant the functions polynomial order. The local refinement strategy is described in a companion paper, written by the same authors of this paper and presented in this Conference. A two-step iterative procedure is proposed. In the first step, one or more sub domains to be refined are identified by means of a point-wise error functional based on the system total potential energy local density. In the second step, the number of shape functions to be added is iteratively increased until the difference of the total potential energy, calculated on the sub domain between two iteration, is below a user defined tolerance. A numerical example is presented in order to test the proposed approach. Strengths and limits of the approach are critically discussed.


## INTRODUCTION

Finite Element (FE) techniques are widely used for modeling the vibration behavior of industrial component and structures. Within the FE method, the infinite dimensional solution space is approximated with a finite dimensional one, consequently the obtained solution is usually approximated. In order to reduce the error, the user is usually involved in an iterative,time consuming process, in order to improve the accuracy of FE analysis results and keep low its computational cost. Efficient adaptive procedures can help users improving the accuracy of computed eigensolutions, by means of automatic, optimal, mesh refinement.

Literature on FE adaptive methods is very vast [1-10], demonstrating the interest of the research community on the topic. However, most of it deals with static analysis and less attention has been given to kinetic applications [11,12]. Nevertheless, adaptive methods are only implemented in a few known FE software applications [13-16], such as the ones based on the p-refinement technique [16]. Hughes et al. [17], [18] and the authors of this paper [30] proposed using NURBS functions as the basis for the approximation of a solution field in FE analysis.

An adaptive technique should take into account the following three sub-problems:

- identification of optimal local density error indicator, by identifying the subdomains needing a refinement;
- the definition of a refinement technique. Dofs are added on the subdomains without modifying the geometric shape of the component under study;
- the definition of a global error estimator and of a stopping criterion to determine the level of refinement needed.
The local error indicator value, in standard FE techniques, is usually associated with each element of the FE mesh: if the element error indicator is above a predefined value, then the element will be refined. If macroelements are used, this error indicator is not suitable to provide the needed local error indication. In [19] this local error indicator was associated with a partition of the macroelement, defined by means of the associated knot-vectors. In this paper a point-wise error, based on energy density, is adopted.

In order to make the local refinement of B-spline FE models possible, some limitations inherent in tensorial product B-spline representation must be dealt with. To this purpose, several researchers [19-25] adopt various generalizations of B-spline functions, in which the rectangular form of tensor product B -spline manifolds is not used anymore. T-spline
functions were introduced by Sederberg [26] for geometric modeling applications. In the same paper Sederberg introduced PB-spline functions that are a meshless generalization of both T -spline and B -spline functions. A local refinement method for FE models was proposed by Dorfel et al. [19] and by Bazilevs et.al [21] making use of T-spline functions. However, these refinement methods can insert more control points (CPs) than the user choice, in order to satisfy some constraints resulting from the T -spline knot-insertion algorithm [19]. In [22] the authors proposed an adaptive local refinement technique by means of the hierarchical B-spline approach. This technique being based on functions subdivision, is not capable of refining the solution on a point inside a knot span without the refinement of all the basis functions active on that knot span. More recently the LR spline over Box-partition paradigm was presented [27]. LR-spline are B-spline meshless functions, as PB-spline are, in which each function is augmented with a scaling coefficient. The refinement algorithm is based on a subdivision technique but scaling coefficients values are calculated such that the resulting subdivided functions remain polynomial. This is in contrast with both the T-spline and PB-spline where a rational scaling is used in order to maintain the partition-of-unity property [26]. Since all the proposed techniques are based on a function subdivision approach, the smallest refinable domain is given by the knot span that defines the support of the functions on which the subdivision operation is applied.

In this paper a B2-spline model is adopted. An automatic refinement procedure based on the gradient of the energy density function is proposed, and the solution can be improved by locally refining on a limited sub-domain. The B2-spline model is described in a companion paper written by the same authors. The approach is based on the superposition of another B-spline (refinement) patch on a small portion of the starting (base) patch. This strategy, being not based on function subdivision, allow the refinement subdomain to be as small as needed.

The choice of the criterion used to stop the iterative procedure is also dealt with. An example is presented in order to test the automatic approach. Critical discussion on advantages and drawbacks of the proposed approach then follows.

## B2-SPLINE SHELL MODEL

The B2-spline FE model, adopted for the automatic refinement procedure, is briefly introduced. For further details, [31] can be referred to.

The position vector of the degenerate B 2 -spline solid shell, with respect to a Cartesian fixed, global reference frame $\{x, y, z\}$, can be expressed as the sum of $n p$ standard tensorial product of B -spline functions:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathbf{s}(\xi, \eta, \zeta)=\frac{\sum_{k=0}^{n p} \mathbf{s}_{k}(\xi, \eta, \zeta)}{S} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathbf{s}_{k}(\xi, \eta, \zeta)=\sum_{i=1}^{m_{k}} \sum_{j=1}^{n_{k}} N_{i}^{k}(\xi) N_{j}^{k}(\eta)\left[\mathbf{P}_{\mathrm{ij}}^{k}+t_{i j}^{k}\left(\zeta-\frac{1}{2}\right) \mathbf{v}_{\mathrm{ij}}^{3 k}\right] \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
S=\sum_{k=0}^{n p}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{m_{k}} \sum_{j=1}^{n_{k}} N_{i}^{k}(\xi) N_{j}^{k}(\eta)\right) \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Each $\mathbf{s}_{k}$ is defined on the domain $\Omega^{\mathrm{k}}$ by means of:

- a control net of $m_{k} \times n_{k}$ CPs $\mathbf{P}_{\mathrm{ij}}^{k}$, versors $\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{i j}}^{3 k}$ and thickness coefficients $t_{i j}^{k}$;
- the uni-variate normalized B-spline functions $N_{i}^{k}(\xi)$ of degree $p$, defined with respect to the curvilinear coordinates $\xi$ by means of the knot vector $\mathbf{U}^{k}$;
- the uni-variate normalized B-spline functions $N_{j}^{k}(\eta)$ of degree $q$, defined with respect to the curvilinear coordinates $\eta$ by means of the knot vector $\mathbf{V}^{k}$.

The versors $\mathbf{v}_{\mathrm{ij}}^{3 k}$ and the thickness values $t_{i j}^{k}$ can be calculated from the interpolation algorithm proposed in [30] by the authors.
For $k=0$ the knot-vectors are partition of the parametric interval [ 0,1$]$ as follows:

$$
\mathbf{U}^{0}=\left\{\xi_{1}^{0}, \ldots, \xi_{r}^{0}\right\}=\{\underbrace{0, \ldots, 0}_{p+1}, \xi_{p+1}^{0}, \ldots, \xi_{r-p-1}^{0}, \underbrace{1, \ldots, 1}_{p+1}\}
$$

and

$$
\mathbf{V}^{0}=\left\{\eta_{1}^{0}, \ldots, \eta_{s}^{0}\right\}=\{\underbrace{0, \ldots, 0}_{q+1}, \eta_{q+1}^{0}, \ldots, \eta_{s-q-1}^{0}, \underbrace{1, \ldots, 1}_{q+1}\} .
$$

For $k>0$ the knot-vectors $\mathbf{U}^{\mathrm{k}}$ and $\mathbf{V}^{\mathrm{k}}$ are partition of the knot-span of $\mathbf{U}^{0}$ and $\mathbf{V}^{0}$.

The displacement field can be defined by following the isoparametric approach and enforcing the fiber inextensibility in the thickness direction [29]:

$$
\mathbf{d}(\xi, \eta, \zeta)=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
d_{x}  \tag{4}\\
d_{y} \\
d_{z}
\end{array}\right\}=\frac{\sum_{k=0}^{n p} \mathbf{d}^{k}(\xi, \eta, \zeta)}{S}
$$

where:

$$
\begin{align*}
& \mathbf{d}^{k}(\xi, \eta, \zeta)=\mathbf{N}^{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\delta}^{\mathbf{k}}=\mathbf{N}^{\mathbf{k}} \cdot\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\boldsymbol{\delta}_{i}^{\mathbf{k}} \\
\boldsymbol{\delta}_{b}^{k}
\end{array}\right\} \\
& =\sum_{i=1}^{m_{k}} \sum_{j=1}^{n_{k}} N_{i}^{k}(\xi) N_{j}^{k}(\eta)\left(\left\{\begin{array}{l}
u_{i j}^{k} \\
v_{i j}^{k} \\
w_{i j}^{k}
\end{array}\right\}+t_{i j}^{k}\left(\zeta-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left[\begin{array}{ll}
\mathbf{v}_{i j}^{2 k} & \left.\mathbf{v}_{i j}^{1 k}\right]
\end{array}\right]\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\alpha_{i j}^{k} \\
\beta_{i j}^{k}
\end{array}\right\}\right) \tag{5}
\end{align*}
$$

and $\left(\mathbf{v}_{i j}^{1 k}, \mathbf{v}_{i j}^{2 k}, \mathbf{v}_{i j}^{3 k}\right)$ is an orthonormal set defined on the $\mathbf{P}_{i j}^{k}$ CPs starting from the vector $\mathbf{v}_{i j}^{3 k}$ [29], $u_{i j}^{k}, v_{i j}^{k}, w_{i j}^{k}$ are the three translational dofs, $\alpha_{i j}^{k}$ and $\beta_{i j}^{k}$ are two rotational dofs for each CP. $\boldsymbol{\delta}_{b}^{\mathbf{k}}$ are the dofs on the boundary of the domain on which $\mathbf{d}^{k}$ is defined, $\boldsymbol{\delta}_{i}^{\mathbf{k}}$ are the dofs on the interior of the domain.

In order to assure $\mathrm{C}^{0}$ continuity of the displacement field Eq.4, some of the dofs in $\mathbf{d}^{\mathrm{k}}$ (with $k>0$ ) are expressed as linear function of dofs in $\mathbf{d}^{0}$ by means of the transformation explained in [31], so that the displacement field can be expressed in matrix form as:

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
d_{x}  \tag{6}\\
d_{y} \\
d_{z}
\end{array}\right\}=\mathbf{N} \cdot\left\{\begin{array}{c}
\boldsymbol{\delta}^{0} \\
\boldsymbol{\delta}_{\mathbf{i}}^{1} \\
\vdots \\
\boldsymbol{\delta}_{\mathbf{i}}^{K}
\end{array}\right\}=\mathbf{N} \cdot \boldsymbol{\delta}
$$

The equation of motion for harmonic forced vibration analysis can be obtained by means of the principle of minimum total potential energy as shown in [15]:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathbf{M} \cdot \ddot{\boldsymbol{\delta}}+\mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\delta}=\mathbf{F}_{0} e^{j \omega t} \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

The expressions of the elasticity, inertia matrices and surface tractions are:

$$
\begin{align*}
\mathbf{K} & =\int_{\Omega^{\mathrm{P}}} \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{E} \mathbf{B} d \Omega  \tag{8}\\
\mathbf{M} & =\int_{\Omega^{\mathrm{P}}} \rho \mathbf{N}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{N} d \Omega  \tag{9}\\
\mathbf{F} & =\int_{\Sigma^{\mathrm{P}}} \mathbf{N}^{\mathrm{T}} \boldsymbol{\Phi} d \Sigma \tag{10}
\end{align*}
$$

where $\mathbf{B}$ is the strain-displacement matrix, $\mathbf{E}$ is the plane stress constitutive matrix obtained according to the Mindlin theory [29], $\rho$ is the mass density, $\mathbf{N}$ is the matrix of basis functions, $\boldsymbol{\Phi}$ the surface tractions, $\Omega^{P}$ being the solid geometry structure under analysis and $\Sigma^{P}$ the surface where loads are prescribed.

As already reported on the companion paper [31], the numerical integration of vector and matrices in Eq. 7 is a major problem when dealing with the B 2 -spline shell model. Therefore the correct evaluation of the matrices (Eq.8,9) are
needed at each iteration step. In this example, all the integrals on $\Omega^{0}$ are numerically evaluated by means of $(p+1) x(q+1)$ Gauss rule in $(\xi, \eta)$ for each knot-span given by the knot-vectors $\mathbf{U}$ and $\mathbf{V}$. Lower order Gauss rules were adopted in evaluating the integrals on $\Omega^{k}$ (with $k>1$ ) on subdomains defined partitioning the knot span in $\mathbf{U}^{\mathrm{k}}$ and $\mathbf{V}^{\mathrm{k}}$. Two-points Gauss rule is adopted along the thickness coordinate $\zeta$.

## ADAPTIVE REFINEMENT STRATEGY

The automatic refinement strategy is based on the gradient of the density of total potential energy. The potential energy, of internal and inertia forces, of a system modeled by means of the FE method is:

$$
\begin{align*}
\Pi & =\boldsymbol{\delta}^{T} \cdot \mathbf{M} \cdot \ddot{\boldsymbol{\delta}}+\frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\delta}^{T} \cdot \mathbf{K} \cdot \boldsymbol{\delta} \\
& =\boldsymbol{\delta}^{T} \cdot \int_{\Omega^{\mathrm{P}}} \rho \mathbf{N}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{N} d \boldsymbol{\Omega} \cdot \ddot{\boldsymbol{\delta}}+\frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\delta}^{T} \cdot \int_{\Omega^{\mathrm{P}}} \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{E} \mathbf{B} d \boldsymbol{\Omega} \cdot \boldsymbol{\delta} \tag{11}
\end{align*}
$$

By integrating only along the thickness, by adopting a Gauss rule with two points:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Pi=\boldsymbol{\delta}^{T} \cdot \int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{1}\left(\tilde{\mathbf{m}}(\xi, \eta) \cdot \ddot{\boldsymbol{\delta}}+\frac{1}{2} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{k}}(\xi, \eta) \cdot \boldsymbol{\delta}\right) \cdot d \xi \cdot d \eta \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
\tilde{\mathbf{k}}(\xi, \eta)=\sum_{i=1}^{2} w_{i} \mathbf{B}^{\mathrm{T}}\left(\xi, \eta, \zeta_{i}\right) \mathbf{E} \mathbf{B}\left(\xi, \eta, \zeta_{i}\right) \operatorname{det} J\left(\xi, \eta, \zeta_{i}\right) \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\tilde{\mathbf{m}}(\xi, \eta)=\sum_{i=1}^{2} w_{i} \rho \mathbf{N}\left(\xi, \eta, \zeta_{i}\right)^{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{N}\left(\xi, \eta, \zeta_{i}\right) \operatorname{det} J\left(\xi, \eta, \zeta_{i}\right) \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

Introducing the solution:

$$
\begin{align*}
& \boldsymbol{\delta}=\boldsymbol{\Phi} \cdot \mathbf{q}(t)=\sum_{r=1}^{n} \boldsymbol{\varphi}_{r} \cdot Q_{r} e^{j \omega t}=\sum_{r=1}^{n} \boldsymbol{\varphi}_{r} \cdot q_{r}  \tag{15}\\
& \ddot{\boldsymbol{\delta}}=-\omega^{2} \cdot \boldsymbol{\delta}
\end{align*}
$$

in Eq.(12), the following equation holds:

$$
\begin{align*}
& \Pi=\int_{\Omega} d \Pi=\int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{1} g(\xi, \eta) d \xi d \eta=  \tag{16}\\
& =\int_{0}^{1} \int_{0}^{1}\left[\sum_{r=1}^{n} q_{r}^{2} \boldsymbol{\varphi}_{r}^{T}\left(\frac{1}{2} \tilde{\mathbf{k}}(\xi, \eta)-\omega^{2} \tilde{\mathbf{m}}(\xi, \eta)\right) \boldsymbol{\varphi}_{r}\right] d \xi d \eta
\end{align*}
$$

As a consequence, the surface density of the total potential energy is:

$$
\begin{equation*}
g(\xi, \eta)=\sum_{r=1}^{n} \gamma_{r} \cdot \psi_{r}(\xi, \eta) \tag{17a}
\end{equation*}
$$

with $\gamma_{r}=q_{r}^{2}$ and:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\psi_{r}(\xi, \eta)=\boldsymbol{\varphi}_{r}^{T}\left(\frac{1}{2} \tilde{\mathbf{k}}(\xi, \eta)-\omega^{2} \tilde{\mathbf{m}}(\xi, \eta)\right) \boldsymbol{\varphi}_{r} \tag{17b}
\end{equation*}
$$

The local indicator $L I(\xi, \eta)$ is defined:

$$
\begin{align*}
& L I(\xi, \eta)=\left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial \xi}\right)^{2}+\left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial \eta}\right)^{2}=  \tag{18}\\
& =\left(\sum_{r} \gamma_{r} \frac{\partial \psi_{r}}{\partial \xi}\right)^{2}+\left(\sum_{r} \gamma_{r} \frac{\partial \psi_{r}}{\partial \eta}\right)^{2}
\end{align*}
$$

where only a few modes, $r \in\left[r_{\text {min }}, r_{\text {max }}\right]$, are generally taken into account.

A grid of $L I$ values can be evaluated with a predefined uniform resolution on the patch to be refined: $n^{\xi} \cdot n^{\eta}$ evaluation points on the $(\xi, \eta)$ parametric space result. Each calculated $L I$ value is compared with the following value:

$$
\begin{equation*}
G I=\frac{\alpha}{n^{\xi} n^{\eta}} \sum_{i=1}^{n^{\xi}} \sum_{j=1}^{n^{\eta}} L I\left(\xi_{i}, \eta_{j}\right) \tag{19}
\end{equation*}
$$

Each value $L I>G I$ identifies a point where a refinement could be needed. Contiguous values are grouped so that they identifies a subdomain where the refinement procedure will be applied. If a point is marked as to be refined, while the contiguous points $L I$ value are below the $G I$ value, it is disregarded. This allow geometric singularity to be dealt with; as a matter of fact, in presence of a geometric singularity, while refining the model, the energy usually grows only on the singularity point.

The refinement algorithm proposed in [31] is then applied on the identified subdomains. The number of added dofs are iteratively increased until, for more than one point, on the refining subdomain at the $k$-th step, the following condition holds:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\left|G I^{k-1}-G I^{k}\right|}{G I^{k-1}}<\beta \tag{20}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $G I^{k}$ is the $G I$ value calculated at the $k$-th step of the iterative procedure, and $\beta$ is a user defined value used to stop the iteration if the percent change of the GI indicator, between two successive steps, is below the $\beta$ value.

## NUMERICAL TEST

An example case is considered for testing the approach. The example concerns a curved roof with a circular section and a small cutout (Fig.1). The roof is fully constrained on one edge $(y=1)$ and loaded with a constant pressure on a subdomain delimited by the red lines in Fig.1. A stress singularity is expected near the corner C (green circle in Fig.2).

The B-spline shell model is made by means of four B-spline patches, connected as shown in Fig.2. Each patch is defined by means of $7 \times 7$ CPs and sixth degree B-spline functions defined on the knot-vectors

$$
\mathbf{U}=\mathbf{V}=\{\underbrace{0, \ldots, 0}_{7}, \underbrace{1, \ldots, 1}_{7}\} .
$$

The CPs (black dot in Figs.1-2) defining the shell position vector are included in the appendix. The geometry position vector and the displacement field are $C^{0}$ on the boundary connecting the patches. Moreover, the following parameters are used:

Young's modulus $E=2.3 \cdot 10^{9} \mathrm{~N} / \mathrm{m}^{2}$;
Poisson's ratio $v=0.35$;
Density $\rho=1000 \mathrm{Kg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$;
Thickness $t=0.005 \mathrm{~m}$.

The automatic refinement strategy is adopted in a forced vibration problem. A uniform pressure $p=1000 \mathrm{~N} / \mathrm{m}^{2}$, directed along the negative $z$ axis, is applied inside the domain $\boldsymbol{\Omega}^{\mathbf{F}}$ delimited by the red lines (Fig.2), corresponding to half the domain of the upper-left patch. The forcing function $\boldsymbol{\Phi}$ is:

$$
\boldsymbol{\Phi}=\left\{\begin{array}{c}
0 \\
0 \\
-p
\end{array}\right\} e^{j \omega t}
$$

with $\omega=16 \mathrm{~Hz}$. With this forcing frequency, given the starting eigensolutions in Tab.1, an approximated solution can be obtained by considering only the fourth mode in Eqs.18-20, so that $\gamma_{4}=6.8121 \mathrm{e}-4$ results. The plot of the fourth mode shape is


Figure 1. Cantilevered shell roof with a distributed pressure.


Figure 2. Top view of the shell roof: the forcing pressure is applied on $\Omega^{\mathrm{F}}$ (bounded by red lines) and a singularity is expected near the point C (green circle).
reported in Fig.3. Figure 4 shows the energy density of the 4th mode shape and its gradient is reported in Fig.5. The model damping is not considered in the example. Real modal damping can be easily included.

The adaptive refinement procedure is started using $\alpha=20$, $n^{\xi}=n^{\eta}=40$ and $\beta=0.05$ (Eqs.19-20). With these values the subdomains to be refined near the point $C$ are identified (Fig.6) so that the iterative part of the procedure, in which the dofs are added at each step, can be started.
The procedure added the dofs on four subdomains (Fig.7) near the point C whose parametric coordinates are:

- Patch $1[0.8,1] \mathrm{x}[0.8,1]$
- Patch $2[0,0.3] x[0.575,1]$
- Patch $3[0.8,1] \mathrm{x}[0,0.2]$
- Patch 4 [0,0.3]x[0,0.425]

The eigensolutions after the refinement are reported in Tab.2: the fourth mode shows a good improvement.

| Mode index | B-spline <br> unrefined <br> $(875$ dofs $)$ | B2-spline <br> refined (3315 <br> dofs $)$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| 1 | 6.7310 | 6.4986 |
| 2 | 6.7581 | 6.7339 |
| 3 | 9.8154 | 9.8531 |
| 4 | 15.603 | 14.451 |
| 5 | 20.140 | 19.691 |
| 6 | 20.193 | 20.130 |
| 7 | 33.487 | 30.418 |
| 8 | 35.185 | 32.593 |
| 9 | 35.777 | 35.603 |
| 10 | 39.979 | 39.904 |

Tab2. Numerical frequencies results (Hz) for the shell roof model.


Figure 3. shell roof: fourth modeshape. In green the undeformed model.


Figure 4. Plot of the energy density: a peak is shown near the point C.


Figure 5. Plot of the local indicator $L I$.


Figure 6. In red the subdomain to be refined.


Figure 7. Black dots represents the CPs: the dofs added on the subdomains are clearly visible.

## CONCLUSION

In the present study an automatic procedure for refining the eigensolution obtained by means of B -spline shell FE is proposed. The refinement algorithm adopted is shown in a companion paper written by the same authors. The indicator used for locating the subdomains to be refined is based on the gradient of the total energy density function. With respect to other known techniques, an advantage of the present approach is the ability to refine a very small zone, within a knot-span, with a minimum number of added dofs. The refinement approach does not need that dofs are inserted outside the subdomain to be refined. The automatc choice of the starting solution accuracy was not taken into account in this paper. If a
small number of dofs are used in the unrefined model, high gradients can not be modeled with sufficient accuracy and the LI functional is not expected to perform correctly. Optimal numerical integration of model parameters is critical with B2 FE modeling, and requires further study. In this paper low order Gauss rules were adopted. The correct choice of the optimal integration order in the reported example was obtained by a trial and error iterative procedure.

A proposed numerical example showed the validity of the approach for the selected tested model, but more case studies are needed in order to test the approach. Future studies will address towards investigating the outlined drawbacks and towards the optimal choice of the $\alpha$ and $\beta$ values.

## APPENDIX

The CPs coordinates of the shell roof used in the numerical example are:

| $\mathbf{C P}$ | $\mathbf{x}$ | $\mathbf{y}$ | $\mathbf{Z}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | -0.347296355300000 | 1 | 1.96961550600000 |
| 2 | -0.232714925000000 | 1 | 1.98986257560000 |
| 3 | -0.116697472200000 | 1 | 2.00196063190000 |
| 4 | $-1.564540000000 \mathrm{e}-05$ | 1 | 2.00608974120000 |
| 5 | 0.116724799200000 | 1 | 2.00211999290000 |
| 6 | 0.232701595500000 | 1 | 1.98976406760000 |
| 7 | 0.34729635530000 | 1 | 1.96961550600000 |
| 8 | -0.347296355300000 | 0.866089372400000 | 1.96961550600000 |
| 9 | -0.232714925000000 | 0.866089370600000 | 1.98986257560000 |
| 10 | -0.116697472200000 | 0.866089368700000 | 2.00196063190000 |
| 11 | $-1.564540000000 \mathrm{e}-05$ | 0.866089366800000 | 2.00608974120000 |
| 12 | 0.116724799200000 | 0.866089365000000 | 2.00211999290000 |
| 13 | 0.232701595500000 | 0.866089363100000 | 1.98976406760000 |
| 14 | 0.347296355300000 | 0.866089361300000 | 1.96961550600000 |
| 15 | -0.347296355300000 | 0.73217852860000 | 1.96961550600000 |
| 16 | -0.232714925000000 | 0.732178527000000 | 1.98986257560000 |
| 17 | -0.116697472200000 | 0.732178525200000 | 2.00196063190000 |
| 18 | $-1.564540000000 \mathrm{e}-05$ | 0.732178523500000 | 2.00608974120000 |
| 19 | 0.116724799200000 | 0.732178521800000 | 2.00211999290000 |
| 20 | 0.232701595500000 | 0.732178520100000 | 1.98976406760000 |
| 21 | 0.347296355300000 | 0.732178518400000 | 1.96961550600000 |
| 22 | -0.347296355300000 | 0.598268103200000 | 1.96961550600000 |
| 23 | -0.232714925000000 | 0.598268102700000 | 1.98986257560000 |
| 24 | -0.116697472200000 | 0.598268102200000 | 2.00196063190000 |
| 25 | $-1.564540000000 \mathrm{e}-05$ | 0.598268101700000 | 2.00608974120000 |
| 26 | 0.116724799200000 | 0.598268101200000 | 2.00211999290000 |
| 27 | 0.232701595500000 | 0.598268100700000 | 1.98976406760000 |
| 28 | 0.347296355300000 | 0.598268100200000 | 1.96961550600000 |
| 29 | -0.347296355300000 | 0.464357165500000 | 1.96961550600000 |
| 30 | -0.232714925000000 | 0.464357166300000 | 1.98986257560000 |
| 31 | -0.116697472200000 | 0.464357167100000 | 2.00196063190000 |
| 32 | $-1.564540000000 \mathrm{e}-05$ | 0.464357167900000 | 2.00608974120000 |
| 33 | 0.116724799200000 | 0.464357168800000 | 2.00211999290000 |
| 34 | 0.232701595500000 | 0.46435716960000 | 1.98976406760000 |
| 35 | 0.347296355300000 | 0.464357170400000 | 1.96961550600000 |
| 36 | -0.347296355300000 | 0.330446630900000 | 1.96961550600000 |
| 37 | -0.232714925000000 | 0.330446632200000 | 1.98986257560000 |
| 38 | -0.116697472200000 | 0.330446633500000 | 2.00196063190000 |
| 39 | $-1.564540000000 \mathrm{e}-05$ | 0.330446634800000 | 2.00608974120000 |
| 40 | 0.116724799200000 | 0.330446636200000 | 2.00211999290000 |
| 41 | 0.232701595500000 | 0.330446637500000 | 1.98976406760000 |
| 42 | 0.347296355300000 | 0.330446638800000 | 1.96961550600000 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |


| 43 | -0.347296355300000 | 0.196535904600000 | 1.96961550600000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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| 52 | -0.110753142500000 | 0.158854561900000 | 2.00184394340000 |
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| 55 | 0.246534014500000 | 0.135641893400000 | 1.98754547170000 |
| 56 | 0.327729621700000 | 0.142258308300000 | 1.96625336500000 |
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| 60 | -0.0307934504000000 | 0.158955132600000 | 2.00764646280000 |
| 61 | 0.0764338766000000 | 0.171377061000000 | 2.00650056260000 |
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| 64 | -0.347296355300000 | 0.116703429500000 | 1.96961550600000 |
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| 70 | 0.188323931100000 | 0.0940463557000000 | 1.99022092800000 |
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| 91 | 0.257307164300000 | 0 | 1.9803581661000 |
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| 94 | 0.694608356000000 | 1 | 2.0060897412000 |
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\section*{| 175 | 1.04188906600000 | 0 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |}

1.96961550600000

The CPs number of each patch are:
Patch1:

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 |
| 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 | 41 | 42 |
| 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 | 49 |

Patch2:

| 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 | 49 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 50 | 51 | 52 | 53 | 54 | 55 | 56 |
| 57 | 58 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 62 | 63 |
| 64 | 65 | 66 | 67 | 68 | 69 | 70 |
| 71 | 72 | 73 | 74 | 75 | 76 | 77 |
| 78 | 79 | 80 | 81 | 82 | 83 | 84 |
| 85 | 86 | 87 | 88 | 89 | 90 | 91 |

Patch3:

| 7 | 92 | 93 | 94 | 95 | 96 | 97 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 14 | 98 | 99 | 100 | 101 | 102 | 103 |
| 21 | 104 | 105 | 106 | 107 | 108 | 109 |
| 28 | 110 | 111 | 112 | 113 | 114 | 115 |
| 35 | 116 | 117 | 118 | 119 | 120 | 121 |
| 42 | 122 | 123 | 124 | 125 | 126 | 127 |
| 49 | 128 | 129 | 130 | 131 | 132 | 133 |

Patch4:

| 49 | 128 | 129 | 130 | 131 | 132 | 133 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 134 | 135 | 136 | 137 | 138 | 139 | 140 |
| 141 | 142 | 143 | 144 | 145 | 146 | 147 |
| 148 | 149 | 150 | 151 | 152 | 153 | 154 |
| 155 | 156 | 157 | 158 | 159 | 160 | 161 |
| 162 | 163 | 164 | 165 | 166 | 167 | 168 |
| 169 | 170 | 171 | 172 | 173 | 174 | 175 |

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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