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# Preface

The book deals with applications of advanced computational-mechanics techniques for structural analysis, strength rehabilitation and aseismic design of monuments, historical buildings and related structures.

The authors have extensive experience working with complicated structural analysis problems in civil and mechanical engineering in Europe and North America. They have been working together for more than ten years on the topic of this book.

During this period they had the opportunity to work together with architects, archaeologists and students of engineering. This text evolves gradually and introduces the material without the burden of deep theoretical details.

The authors believe that this is the most effective didactical way that helps readers to start working on real-life problems as soon as possible, with the use of sophisticated, but user-friendly software.

Practical experience from their teaching and research activity at the Technical University of Crete, Chania, Greece, the University of Ioannina, Greece, The Technical University of Braunschweig, Germany, the University of New York, USA and Princeton University, USA, helped them to develop the approach used in the book.

The authors would like to thank their colleagues in all the above-mentioned Institutes for their help and support that contributed to the preparation of this book.

Financial support from the Regional Office of Crete and the European Union, which helped them work on various aspects of the material presented in the book, is acknowledged.

Last, but not least, we would like to thank Mr. Nikos Afentakis for his help during the production of the cover sheets. The pictures are from old Chania, a place that was both a working field and a relaxation port for the authors during this period.

The authors.

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