

Boundary Elements

XXV

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International Series on Advances in Boundary Elements
Volume 18

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Published by

WIT Press

Ashurst Lodge, Ashurst, Southampton, SO40 7AA, UK

Tel: 44 (0) 238 029 3223; Fax: 44 (0) 238 029 2853

E-Mail: witpress@witpress.com

<http://www.witpress.com>

For USA, Canada and Mexico

Computational Mechanics Inc

25 Bridge Street, Billerica, MA 01821, USA

Tel: 978 667 5841; Fax: 978 667 7582

E-Mail: infousa@witpress.com

US site: <http://www.witpress.com>

British Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

A Catalogue record for this book is available
from the British Library

ISBN: 1-85312-980-1

ISSN: 1460-1419

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Printed in Great Britain by Bookcraft Ltd., Bath.

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Preface

This book contains most of the papers presented at the 25th International Conference on Boundary Element Methods held at the University of Split in Croatia. It also marks the 25th anniversary since the first meeting was organised at Southampton University in 1978.

The last quarter of a century has resulted in an impressive amount of original work being generated at these meetings. It can be estimated that there have been around 2,000 papers published in book form since the meetings started, the conference providing the first platform for the publication of most of the original work in the Method. In terms of quality, the achievements of this series of meetings have been outstanding.

This 25th Conference volume continues with the tradition established in 1978 and contains a series of excellent papers in a variety of fields, ie:

- Advanced formulation
- Fluid mechanics
- Electrostatics and electromagnetics
- Stress analysis
- Damage mechanics
- Wave propagation problems
- Acoustics
- Mesh reduction methods

Of particular significance are the papers on Mesh Reduction Methods, a name suggested by the first editor of this volume, to encompass the diversity of techniques which have recently been developed to eliminate or greatly simplify the meshes required for analysis. It is most appropriate that papers dealing with novel developments of such methods appear in this book as it was the motivation to simplify meshes that spawned the idea of launching the Boundary Element Method. Mesh Reduction Techniques will eventually produce results of practical importance and the Conference would like to be closely associated with these efforts.

The Editors are grateful to the members of the International Advisory Board who helped to review the papers, thus ensuring the quality of the Proceedings. Special thanks are also due to all authors and participants as well as to the University of Split for their support of the Meeting.

C.A. Brebbia

D. Poljak

V. Roje

Split, 2003

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