

Kobe members:

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DICEA DIPARTIMENTO DI INGEGNERIA CIVILE E AMBIENTALE

Kobe general philosophy/mission:

- Numerical approach towards engineering problems;
- Developing and validating methodology in mechanical, dynamic and thermal structural linear and non-linear analyses;
- Developing self-made and directly controlled instruments for the solution of structural problems;
- Employment of open source instruments (code_aster, salomemeca, etc.);
- Interested in developing a wide-spread Italy based network for the usage of code_aster and knowledge exchange.

Research project under development: RiSET project (2016-) (Coordinator: Prof. Eng. Luca Facchini)

Research project in cooperation with the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (DICEA), University of Florence aimed at:

- Employment of existing constitutive laws to reproduce ancient masonry nonlinear behavior;
- Analysis of tower-type masonry structures under seismic loading.





David Von Mises stresses (gravity loads)

Case study [1602_02], diagonal test on masonry wallettes, and [1602_03], Michelangelo's David:

- Highly detailed mesh (big amount of elements);
- Highly non-linear materials properties (fragile masonry and/or marble);
- Necessity to find a fast way in solving the FE model.

MPI approach (parallel computing):

- Time saving process;
- Opportunity in managing detailed models.

Examples:

David time history dynamic analysis each step: 2,790 s (1 CPU) 1,740 (2x4 CPUs).

Diagonal test static analysis each step: 4.320 s (1 CPU) 3,170 s (2x4 CPUs) 2,450 s (1x8 CPUs)





Case study [1602_05], Salvucci Tower in San Gimignano (Tuscany, Italy):

- Highly non-linear properties of materials (fragile masonry with damaging behaviour modelled through the Mazars constitutive law);
- Mesh dependant propagation of damage.

Mesh refinement for each calculation step triggered by the amount of damage level (both in compression and tension).

[Special thanks to Gerald Nicolas of EDF, who helped us in developing the comm file].





Further development:

- Exploitation of existing constitutive laws in masonry behaviour modelling;
- Interest in developing a suitable constitutive law for masonry material;
- Development of solid and confident pushover (static non-linear) analyses for masonry structures;
- Non-linear time history analyses for masonry structures.





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Publications (Code_Aster related):

- Bartoli G., Betti M., Vignoli A. (2016). A numerical study on seismic risk assessment of historic masonry towers. Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering. doi: 10.1007/s10518-016-9892-9.
- Betti M., Bartoli G., Corazzi R., Kovačević V. (2015). Engineer Education and Research With Code Aster. Proceedings of WEEF (World Engineering Education Forum. Engineering Education for a Resilient Society), Firenze, Italy, 20-24 September 2015. Special Session: «OPENSOURCE AS A VECTOR FOR ENGINEERING EDUCATION» (Session Chairs: Jean-Raymond Levesque, Code_Aster ProNet, France and Michele Betti, University of Florence, Italy).
- Betti M., Bartoli G., Corazzi R., Kovačević V. (2012). Strumenti Open Source per l'ingegneria strutturale. Modellazione meccanica non lineare di edifici in muratura. Bollettino degli Ingegneri, Collegio Ingegneri della Toscana, LX (12), pp. 3-15.