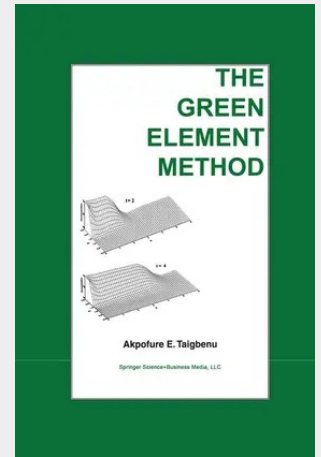


The Green Element Method

Most texts on computational methods are borne out of research activities at postgraduate study programs, and this is no exception. After being introduced to the boundary element method (BEM) (then referred to as the boundary integral equation method (BIEM)) in 1981 by Prof. Jim Liggett of Cornell University, a number of graduate students and myself under his supervision took active interest in the development of the theory and its application to a wide range of engineering problems. We certainly achieved some amount of success. A personal desire to have a deeper understanding and appreciation of computational methods prompted one to take related courses in finite difference method, and to undertake a self-instructed study of variational and finite element methods. These exposures were not only quite instructive but fruitful, and may have provided the motivation for the current research on the Green element method (GEM) - a name coined by Prof. Liggett in 1987 during my visit as Professor to the School of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Cornell University. The main objectives of this text are to serve as an instructional material to senior undergraduate and first year graduate students undertaking a course in computational methods, and as a resource material for research scientists, applied mathematicians, numerical analysts, and engineers who may wish to take these ideas to other frontiers and applications.

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