USER MANUAL

PLPak Version 1.01

STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS SOFTWARE USING BOUNDARY ELEMENTS METHOD

PLPAK basic tutorials

Tutorial 15 – PLView and PLPost viewing beams

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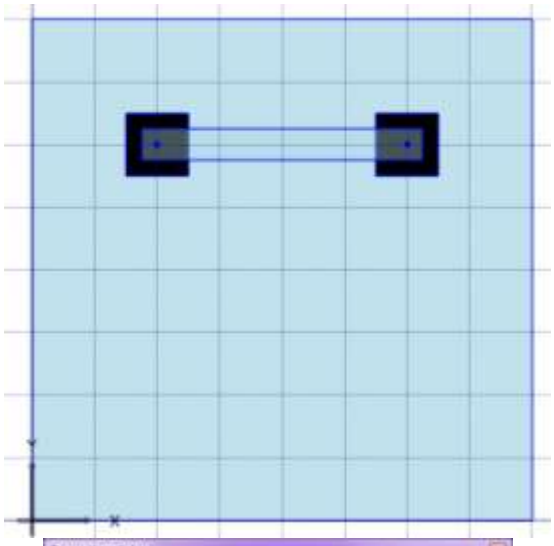
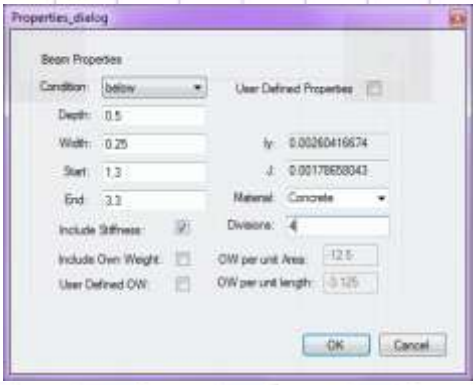
Tutorial 15

The objective of this tutorial is to view beam's data and properties in the PLView and the PLPost.

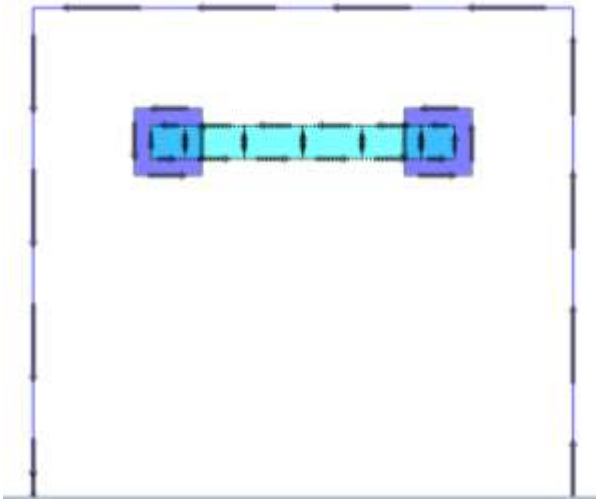
I – In PLGen draw a slab with 2 columns. Under Beams mode and draw a beam passing between the columns.



II – Under Select mode right-click on the beam to open its properties dialogue box. Change the number of divisions to 4.

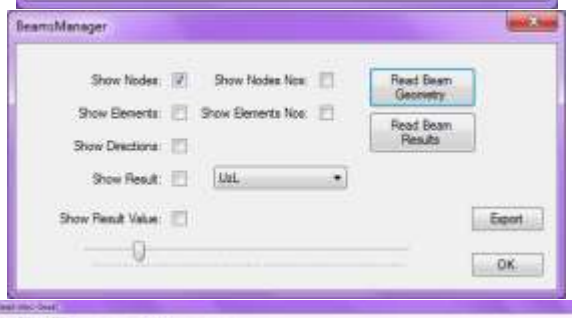


III – Click on BE Model to view the structure in PLView. Notice that the beam is shown as a series of patches divided equally into 4 parts plus one patch on each side. The PLview takes into consideration the geometry of the beam this is evident when clicking on the element direction button.

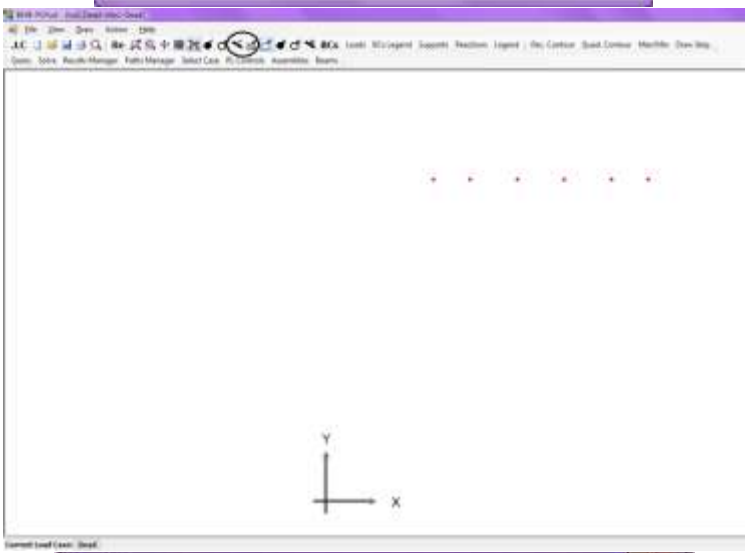


IV – Back in PLGen, run the model.The shown box appears.

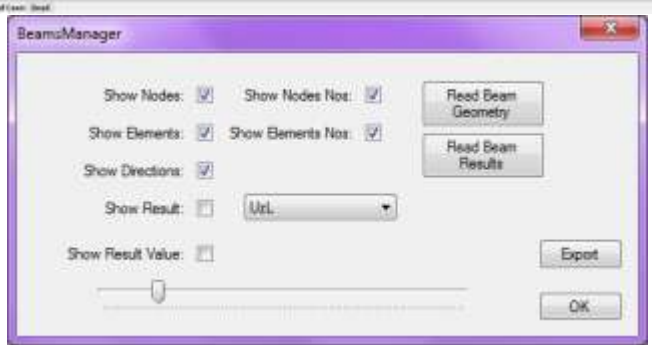
V – Open the file in PLPost. Right-click on the plot and open Beams. The Beam Manager appears. Click on read beam geometry and enable show nodes.



VI – Disable elements and columns and the shown screen appears.



VII – Reopen Beams Manager and click on Show Node no., Show Elements, Show Elements Numbers and Show Directions. Click ok.



VIII – The plot appears as shown. the beam is considered skeletal without regard to its geometry.