Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm for Calculating Additional Stress in Foundation Soils

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Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm for Calculating Additional Stress in Foundation Soils

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Abstract:

The additional pressure at the bottom of a building’s foundation produces an additional stress in the foundation soils under the building’s foundation. In order to overcome the limitations of traditional elastic theory methods and the finite element method when calculating the additional stress in foundation soils, we use the Gauss-Simpson formula to derive the Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm based on the elasticity theory. The Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm is a method designed to calculate the additional stress in foundation soils under an irregularly shaped foundation and an irregular load distribution. This new method is based on the fact that the Gaussian quadrature formula and the Simpson formula are independent of the specific type of integrand. The finite element method with n interpolation points can only achieve an algebraic accuracy of n. The interpolation points of the Gaussian quadrature formula are n zeros of
orthogonal polynomials, which can achieve an algebraic accuracy of $2n+1$. Moreover, the weights of the nodes in the quadrature formula are all positive, and thus, it has a high numerical stability.

In the proposed method, the Simpson formula is necessary. The Simpson formula is used to transform the implicit additional stress formula with the integral sign into an explicit cumulative integral, which can be considered similar to the rectangular domain case to obtain an explicit analytical algebraic formula for solving the additional stress approximation. In engineering applications, we only need to provide the field engineers with the locations of the interpolation points of the Gauss-Legendre formula, the interpolated weight coefficients, and the specific type of Simpson's formula, and then, the results of the additional stress can be calculated manually, which is nearly impossible using the traditional methods and finite element methods. From the point of view of academic rigor and theoretical completeness, it is possible to use the compound Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm in conjunction with the looping function in computer programs. Under standard conditions, the proposed Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm is in good agreement with the results of the traditional elasticity theory.

**Keywords:**

Additional stress in soils; Additional foundation pressure; Gaussian quadrature formula; Simpson quadrature formula; Elastic theory; Flexible foundation; Numerical integration calculation

**0 Introduction**

Additional stress in foundation soils leads to deformation of the foundation soil and causes building settlement [1–2]. Currently, the calculation of additional stress on a foundation is based on the elastic theory, which assumes that the foundation soil is a homogeneous, continuous,
isotropic, semi-infinite spatial elastomer [3]. According to the Flamant solution and the Boussinesq solution in classical elastic mechanics [3], the additional stress in the foundation soil induced by a concentrated load, a uniform load, a triangular load, and a trapezoidal load can be obtained for strip, rectangular, and circular foundations [4]. Using the vertical stress induction diagram developed by Newmark in 1942 [4], it is possible to calculate the additional stress in an irregularly shaped foundation under a uniformly distributed load [5–6].

In practical engineering, there are numerous cases with irregular load distributions, and the uniform load assumption is a simple and rough averaging method, which is an expedient way to deal with the problem. In traditional methods, the most widely used stress distributions are rectangular and circular, which have difficulty meeting the requirements of modern architecture and artistic aesthetics.

The type and shape of the load distribution are not regular in practical engineering [7–8]. The traditional elastic theory used to calculate the additional stress of the foundation is limited by the integrability of the integrand, and it can only be used to calculate the additional stress on a foundation with a regular shape and a uniformly distributed load. Therefore, it is of major theoretical and engineering significance to develop a method of calculating the additional stress in an irregularly shaped foundation under an irregular load distribution.

From the perspective of the additional pressure at the bottom of the foundation, it is an irregular load distribution, and its distribution shape is irregular [9–12]. Therefore, the application of the traditional calculation method is largely limited. The uniform load assumption in practical engineering is a simple averaging method, and it is a limitation of traditional calculation methods, including the Newmark chart method.

In addition, the most widely used types of stress distribution are rectangular and circular,
which cannot meet the requirements of modern architecture with artistic aesthetics. Currently, the most widely used mainstream method used to solve the problem of an irregular load distribution and an irregular distribution shape is FE simulations. Therefore, the method proposed in this study must have significant advantages over the finite element method in order to have value for practical applications.

The method proposed in this study has something in common with the finite element method. Specifically, both are based on nodal interpolation functions that approximate the stress distribution functions, including the stress magnitude distribution and the shape of the loaded region. The essence of the finite element method is to use the displacement interpolation function to approximate the original function, and it is a commonly used interpolation method. It can usually only achieve algebraic accuracy equal to the number of interpolations. The usual method of improving the calculation accuracy is to increase the number of interpolations, which results in a higher risk of Runge phenomenon and thus an unstable calculation. Therefore, for large-scale finite element simulations, the usual solution is to use as many low order (<4) elements as possible to avoid mesh distortion and numerical instability. This method greatly increases the number of elements and the computational amount, resulting in a high computational cost and low computational efficiency.

In view of the limitations of the traditional elasticity theory method and FE simulation methods, the Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm was applied to calculate the additional stress in the soil under a foundation based on the fact that the Gauss-Simpson formula is independent of the specific type of the integrand. In addition, the equation for calculating the additional stress was derived based on elasticity theory. The finite element method with $n$ interpolation points can only achieve an algebraic accuracy of $n$. The interpolation points of the Gaussian quadrature formula
are the $n$ zeros of the Gauss-Legendre orthogonal polynomials, which can achieve an algebraic accuracy of $2n+1$, and the weights of the nodes in the quadrature formula are all positive. Thus, the method has good numerical stability.

In summary, to overcome the limitations of the traditional methods of calculating the additional stress in foundation soils, the Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm for calculating the additional stress in foundation soils under an irregular load distribution that has an irregular distribution shape is proposed based on the Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm. The proposed method has a wide range of engineering applications. In this paper, we will elaborate upon the details of the Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm and its implementation.

1. Additional Stress in Foundation Soil

In the elastic theory, the additional stress in foundation soil is calculated based on the basic Boussinesq solution in elastic mechanics [3]:

$$\sigma_z = \alpha_q \frac{Q}{z^2},$$

(1)

where $\alpha_q$ is the coefficient of the additional vertical stress under a concentrated load;

$$\alpha_q = \frac{3}{2\pi} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{r}{z} \right)^2 \right]^{-\frac{3}{2}}; \quad Q \text{ is the concentrated vertical force (KN); } z \text{ is the vertical depth from the calculation point to the ground surface (m). In spatial problems, } r \text{ is the horizontal distance from the computing points to the concentrated load point.}

In engineering, there is no concentrated force, and the load is distributed. When the $r$ value of the calculation point is much larger than the boundary of the distributed load, the load can be replaced by a concentrated force in order to calculate the additional vertical stress. When the shape
and size of the distributed load are not negligible, and there is a distributed load $P_0(x, y)$ on foundation A, the additional stress at any point $M(x, y)$ in the foundation can be obtained by integrating over the load distribution area $A$ using Equation (1) [4]:

$$\sigma(x, y) = \iint_A a_q \frac{P_0(x, y)}{z^2} \, dx \, dy. \quad (2)$$

When $P_0(x, y)$ is a uniform load on a rectangular area, the double integral in Equation (2) is integrable, and the settlement at each point can be expressed algebraically. However, when $P_0(x, y)$ is irregular, the double integral in Equation (2) is generally non-integrable, i.e., the foundation settlement under an irregular load distribution cannot be expressed directly in an algebraic form.

2 Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm for Calculating the Additional Stress in Foundation Soils

2.1 Gaussian Quadrature Formula of the Double Integral [13–14]

The double integral $\iint_R p(x, y) \, dx \, dy$ is the volume enclosed by the surface $z = p(x, y)$ and the plane $R$. For a rectangular region $R = \{(x, y) | a \leq x \leq b, c \leq y \leq d\}$, it can be written as a superposition of two single integrals:

$$\iint_R p(x, y) \, dx \, dy = \int_c^d \left( \int_a^b f(x, y) \, dx \right) \, dy. \quad (3)$$

For a single integral in each layer $\int_a^b f(x) \, dx$, the per-type interval transformation is

$$x = \frac{b - a}{2} t + \frac{a + b}{2},$$

such that the integration interval is $(-1,1)$. Then,
\[ \int_a^b f(x)dx = \frac{b-a}{2} \int_{-1}^{1} f\left(\frac{b-a}{2} t + \frac{a+b}{2}\right)dt. \]  

(4)

Generally, for integrals with an interval of \((-1,1)\), the Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula can be used:

\[ \int_{-1}^{1} f(t)dt \approx \sum_{k=0}^{n} A_k f(x_k). \]  

(5)

Here, \( A_k \) is the weight coefficients of the Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula (Table 1); \( x_k \) is the zero point of the orthogonal polynomial-Legendre polynomial, i.e., the Gaussian point in Equation (5) (Table 1).

Table 1 Nodes and weight coefficients of the Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula\(^{[13–14]}\)

From the Gaussian quadrature formula and Table 1, it can be seen that the quadrature weights and the Gauss node of the Gaussian quadrature formula are independent of the specific function, so they are only related to the function value of the integrand at the Gaussian point, which provides insight into the Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm for calculating the additional stress in soils under a building foundation.

2.2 Calculation of Additional Stress based on Gaussian Quadrature

Because of the generality of the Gaussian quadrature formula, i.e., the independence of the quadrature formula from the specific functional form, the same number of quadrature nodes (\( N \)) and weight coefficients can be used to calculate the double integral value of Eq. (2) for different foundation structures while obtaining an algebraic accuracy of \( 2n+1 \). It is not limited by the type of additional pressure at the bottom of the foundation \( p_0(x, y) \) and the integrability of Equation
(2). As the number of quadrature nodes increases, the additional stress keeps converging to the exact value. Thus, the accuracy can be easily controlled.

The essence of the method is that the value of the additional pressure at the bottom of the foundation at the point of Gaussian integration is interpolated, and then, the additional pressure at the bottom of the foundation distribution curve is represented by the interpolated curve, and the final approximation of the additional stress in a foundation under any additional pressure at the bottom of the foundation is obtained through integration.

3. Calculation of Additional Stress in Three Types of Irregularly Shaped Foundations

3.1 Irregular Load Distribution with a Regular Distribution Shape

Equation (2) is used for calculating the additional stress. Assuming that the length of a rectangular foundation is \( l \) and the width is \( b \), (e.g., as in Fig. 1) then Equation (2) can be written as the superposition of two single integrals [13–14]:

\[
\sigma(x, y) = \iint_A a_0 \frac{p_0(x, y)}{z^2} \, dx \, dy.
\]

\[
\sigma(x, y) = \int_{l/2}^{l/2} \left( \int_{b/2}^{b/2} a_0 \frac{p_0(x, y)}{z^2} \, dx \right) dy.
\]

Assuming \( x = \frac{b}{2} \cdot m \) and \( y = \frac{1}{2} \cdot n \), then Equation (6) can be transformed as follows:

\[
\sigma(x, y) = \frac{bl}{4} \int_{-1}^{1} \left( \int_{-1}^{1} a_0 \frac{p_0(0.5bm, 0.5ln)}{z^2} \, dm \right) dn.
\]
Using the $k$th-order Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula with weight $A_k$ and quadrature nodes $m_i$ and $n_j$, the additional stress is

$$\sigma(x, y) = \frac{bl}{4} \sum_{i=0}^{k} \sum_{j=0}^{k} A_i A_j \left[ \alpha_q \frac{p_0(0.5bm_i, 0.5ln_j)}{z^2} \right].$$

(8)

Where the additional pressure at the bottom of the foundation is

$$p_0(x, y) = p_0(0.5bm_i, 0.5ln_j).$$

(9)

Equation (9) can be chosen in any functional type and substituted into algebraic Equation (8), which does not include the integral sign, and then, it can be solved analytically.

According to the quadrature formulas of different orders, the coordinates and weights of the integration points in each group are determined in the order of low to high accuracy and based on the number of integration points. For each group of integration point coordinates, the additional pressure at the bottom of the foundation at the integration point is obtained. Using the Gaussian quadrature formula, the integral values with different accuracies are derived, i.e., the additional stress values in the foundation with different accuracies. The minimum number of integration points to meet the accuracy requirement is obtained through comparison with the measurement data or the results of the traditional method. In practical engineering, we only need to ensure that the number of integration points is larger than the minimum number to obtain good results. Moreover, the more the integration points, the higher the accuracy.

3.2 Irregular Load Distribution and Load Distribution Shape Characterized by Two Arbitrary Curves within Two Parallel Lines

Fig. 2 The second case: an irregular load distribution and a load distribution shape characterized by two arbitrary curves within two parallel lines

(Multiple perspectives of the art building itself and the foundation shape of the building)
The method in this study is not limited to the calculation of additional stress in a foundation with a uniform load and regular shapes. (e.g., as in Fig. 2) For cases with irregular load distributions and irregular shapes, an explicit algebraic equation for calculating the additional stress is given:

\[ S = \frac{b-a}{6} \left[ f(a) + 4f(c) + f(b) \right]. \]  

(10)

Here, \( c = \frac{a+b}{2} \); \( a \) is the lower limit of integration; \( b \) is the upper limit of integration; and \( s \) is the Simpson integration formula value [13–14].

Equation (10) is the famous Simpson (Simpson) formula. A valuable feature of this equation is that it introduces the relaxation factor \( \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{3} \), which allows Simpson's formula to achieve a higher algebraic accuracy than the trapezoidal formula with the same two integration points \( a \) and \( b \) [13–14]. In Simpson integration calculations, the relaxation technique is referred to as the relaxation method, and it is a common method used in the modern analysis technique [13–14]. Equation (10) appeared in the collection of papers that Simpson published in 1743, when the relaxation technique was not yet systematically established and applied [13–14].

In multiple numerical integrations, the double integral over a non-rectangular region can be approximated as rectangular regions by simply reducing it to a cumulative integral [13–14]:

\[ I = \int_a^b \int_{c(x)}^{d(x)} f(x, y)dydx. \]  

(11)

Specifically, the explicit Simpson formula was used to transform the upper and lower limits of the inner curve of the double integral into an explicit functional expression for the integral limit of the curve, thus transforming the implicit double integral in the formula for calculating the
additional stress in a non-rectangular domain into an explicit cumulative integral by explicitly
removing the integral number, which is similar to the rectangular domain case used to obtain the
solution. The explicit analytical algebraic formula for the approximation of additional stress is
obtained in a manner similar to the rectangular domain case.

\[
I \approx \int_{a}^{b} k(x) \left[ f(x, c(x)) + \frac{4f(x, c(x) + k(x)) + f(x, d(x))}{3} \right] dx
\]

(12)

Here, \( k(x) = \frac{d(x) - c(x)}{2} \). Then, the Gaussian quadrature formula is used for each integral, and
the approximation of the integral \( I \) is obtained.

3.3 Irregular Load Distribution and Irregular Distribution Shape

Fig. 3 The third case: an irregular load distribution and an irregular distribution shape that
satisfies certain conditions

In the case shown in Fig. 3, the loads are irregularly distributed, but they can be expressed
analytically, and the load is distributed in an irregular shape that satisfies certain conditions.

\[
I = \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(x)}^{d(x)} f(x, y) \cdot dy dx
\]

(13)

For Equation (13), where both the inner and outer layers are double integrals of the upper and
lower limits of the curve and the additional pressure at the bottom of the foundation is an irregular
load distribution, the problem is transformed into calculating the volume of a three-dimensional
flat-bottomed surface enclosed by a curved integral domain \( \left\{ a(x) - b(x), c(x) - d(x) \right\} \) with a height of
\[ z = f(x, y) \]. Using Simpson's formula and Gaussian quadrature, the double integral of an irregularly loaded, irregularly shaped region is transformed into an explicit algebraic expression.

Assuming that the boundary of the curved integral domain \( \begin{cases} a(x) - b(x) \\ c(x) - d(x) \end{cases} \) in the y-direction is \([c_{\text{min}}, d_{\max}]\), where \( c_{\text{min}} \) and \( d_{\max} \) are constants, nodes c and d exist in the y-direction of the integral domain, between \([c, d]\) and \([c_{\text{min}}, c]\), \([d, d_{\max}]\). The integral limits \( a(x) - b(x) \) in the x direction in Equation (13) can be represented analytically by the same function. Such integral domains are common in the widely adopted in circular and square art architectures. Under this premise, Equation (13) can be converted to

\[
I = \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(x)}^{d(x)} f(x, y) \cdot dx \cdot dy
\]

\[
= \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(x)}^{d(x)} f_{1-2}(x, y) \cdot dx \cdot dy + \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(x)}^{d(x)} f_{2-3}(x, y) \cdot dx \cdot dy + \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} \int_{d(x)}^{d_{\max}} f_{3-4}(x, y) \cdot dx \cdot dy
\]

\[
= \int_{c_{\text{min}}}^{d_{\max}} \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} f_{1}(x, y) \cdot dx \cdot dy + \int_{c_{\text{min}}}^{d_{\max}} \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} f_{2}(x, y) \cdot dx \cdot dy + \int_{d_{\max}}^{d_{\max}} \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} f_{3}(x, y) \cdot dx \cdot dy
\]

\[
= I_1 + I_2 + I_3
\]

For

\[
I_1 = \int_{c_{\text{min}}}^{c} \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} f_{1}(x, y) \cdot dx \cdot dy
\]

\[
I_2 = \int_{c}^{d_{\max}} \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} f_{2}(x, y) \cdot dx \cdot dy
\]

\[
I_3 = \int_{d}^{d_{\max}} \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} f_{3}(x, y) \cdot dx \cdot dy
\]

Simpson’s formula is used to achieve explicitation of the inner integral variable limit integrals, and then the Gauss-Legendre formula is used to deal with each integral’s constant limit integral.

3.4 Summary

Based on the above analysis, the method proposed in this study is not limited to the calculation of the additional stress in a rectangular flexible foundation. For a non-rectangular domain basis, as
long as the corresponding double integral in the equation is converted into a cumulative integral
following the above method, the explicit expression for the additional stress can be obtained in a
manner similar to that for the rectangular domain case.

In engineering applications, only the location of the interpolation points of the Gauss-
Legendre formula, the interpolated weight coefficients, and the specific type of Simpson's formula
are needed for the field engineers to obtain the additional stress manually, without complex
integration and interpolation. This is nearly impossible for traditional methods and finite element
methods. Therefore, the proposed method has excellent potential for broad application.

4. Validation of Traditional Elasticity Theory-Based Methods

The additional stress at the corner points of a rectangular foundation under a uniform load

\[ p_0 \] has an analytical solution in traditional elastic theory [4]:

\[
\sigma_z = \frac{3p_0}{2\pi} \int_0^l \int_0^b \frac{z^3}{\left(x^2 + y^2 + z^2\right)^{\frac{5}{2}}} \, dx \, dy
\]

\[ = \frac{p_0}{2\pi} \left[ \arctan \left( \frac{n'}{m\sqrt{1 + m^2 + n'^2}} \right) + \frac{mn'}{\sqrt{1 + m^2 + n'^2}} \left( \frac{1}{m^2 + n'^2} + \frac{1}{1 + m^2} \right) \right] \]

Here, \( m \) is the ratio of the depth of the calculated point \( z \) to the width of the load \( b \); \( n' = l/b \);

\( n' \) is the ratio of the length of the rectangular foundation \( l \) to the width \( b \); and \( \alpha_c \) is the

coefficient of the additional vertical stress at the corner points of the uniformly distributed

rectangular load, which can be looked up in the table based on \( l/b \) and \( z/b \).

In Equation (16), the numerical expression for the coefficient of the additional stress is
The nodes and coefficients of the Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula when \( n = 2, 3, 4, \) and 5 are used to form Equation (16). The values of the corner point influence coefficients are calculated when \( l/b \) takes various values. Then, the result is compared with the analytical solution to verify the validity of the Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm and to determine the minimum number of nodes.

Figure 4 shows the comparison between the Gaussian quadrature formulas of different orders and the traditional elastic theory method in terms of the coefficient of the additional stress at the corner points of a rectangular foundation. It can be seen that as the number of quadrature nodes increases, the accuracy of the Gaussian quadrature formula increases accordingly and approaches the analytical solution for the elastic theory. As can be seen from Figure 4, the approximation value calculated using Gaussian quadrature is smaller than the analytical solution of the elasticity theory, which converges continuously from the lower limit of the analytical solution. Therefore, using Gaussian quadrature to calculate the additional stress is similar to using the elastic theory method. This is related to the concavity of the integrand in Equation (2) and the interpolation characteristics at the integration points.

**Fig. 4 Comparison of the additional stress calculated using the Gaussian quadrature method and influence coefficients of the additional stress of different orders**

It should be noted that the Gaussian quadrature formula has a high algebraic accuracy of \( 2n+1 \) for the same number of quadrature nodes, and the quadrature nodes are 0 points of orthogonal polynomials. The node weights in the quadrature formula are all positive and have a high degree of numerical stability. When the order of the quadrature formula exceeds five, it is not economical.
to improve the computational accuracy simply by increasing the number of quadrature nodes. The advantage of Equation (8) in calculating the additional stress is that the calculation formula can be expressed analytically and the calculation process can be solved algebraically, generally by hand. One disadvantage of the method is that the accuracy of the calculation can only be as good as the 5th order Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula. To further improve the calculation accuracy of Equation (2), the complex quadrature formula can be used. That is, the interval can be divided into several equal parts, and each part can be solved separately using the Gaussian quadrature formula, which effectively improves the calculation accuracy.

Figure 5 illustrates the calculation of the coefficient of the additional stress using the complex Gaussian quadrature formula with n=5 and 20 intervals. Compared with the regular Gaussian quadrature formula and the traditional elastic theory method, the complex quadrature formula does improve the calculation accuracy. The curve basically overlaps with that of the traditional elastic theory method. The complex Gaussian quadrature formula is computationally intensive and can be implemented using computer programming. In this study, Matlab was used to program the solving process for the dual complex Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula [13].

**Fig. 5 Comparison of the additional stress calculated using the complex Gaussian quadrature method and 5 orders of the Gaussian quadrature method**

### 5. Comparison with the FE simulation Results

Taking the first case in Section 3 as an example, the simulation results of the proposed method and the finite element simulation are compared. The short side $b$ is the $x$ axis, and the long side $l$ is the $y$ axis. The uniform load is a three-dimensional surface $z = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{400} x\right)$ on the base $(b \times l)$, and $(-200 \leq x \leq 200, \ -l \leq y \leq l)$. For $b = 400$, the maximum value of the load
\[
    z = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{400} \cdot 0\right) = 1 \text{MPa occurs at } x = 0. \text{ The Poisson's ratio of the soil beneath the foundation is } \nu = 0.25, \text{ and } E_0 = 5 \text{ MPa}. \text{ When } \frac{l}{b} \text{ has different values, a finite element model is established to investigate the difference between the simulation results of the additional stress and the results of the method proposed in this study.}
\]

The Adina software was used for the finite element simulation. Three dimensional solid elements were used for the model, and the bottom surface of the model was fixed. The load was applied using the spatial function, which defined a point array of two-dimensional spatial distribution surfaces and was used to define the load used to generate the cosine surface load with a rectangular base that is parallel to the \( y \) axis. Figure 6 shows the finite element model and the load function.

**Fig. 6 The finite element method model**

As can be seen from Figure 7, the FE method results are generally consistent with those of the Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm in terms of the magnitude, but there are localized differences in the curve patterns. The curve direction and the shape of the Gaussian quadrature formula method are very similar to the curve for a uniform load. The FE simulation curve is initially smaller than or similar to that of the Gaussian quadrature, and then it becomes larger than the Gaussian quadrature. This is due to the boundary conditions of the FE method model. During the simulation, the boundary conditions were applied on the bottom surface of the 3D model, and no constraints were applied on the sides. Therefore, when the long side \( l \) is small, the loading element is at the center of the top surface of the 3D model, which is constrained by the surrounding
elements, i.e., the completely confined condition. Therefore, the FE method results are similar to or smaller than the results of the Gaussian quadrature. When the long side $l$ is large, the model size and the number of elements are limited by the computer’s memory, the rectangular base corner points are closer to the model boundary, and since there are no constraints on the sides of the 3D model, i.e., the unconfined condition, the additional stress becomes very large.

This comparison shows that the Gaussian quadrature formula is more concise and practical, its results are more reasonable, and the calculation is more controllable. In contrast, the FE simulation is computationally intensive, complex to implement and operate; the calculation results are limited by the model, load, and boundary conditions; and it is hard to control the reasonableness of the calculation results.

6. Additional Stress Calculation for A Tower Foundation in the Dongrong Mining Area

The Dongrong mine is located in the northern succession area of the Shuangyashan Mining Bureau, Heilongjiang Province, China, and has an overall design capacity of 5.1 million t/a. It is situated on the first-grade terrace of the Songhua River and belongs to the river floodplain phase. The soil is composed of a clay layer (0.5–16 m thick) and a sand layer (about 40 m) composed of Holocene (Q4) alluvium, which is a typical binary structure. The groundwater is phreatic water, and the water in the lower sand layer is pressurized water and is abundant. The upper phreatic water is just 0.5–1 m below the surface, and the water is not harmful to any kind of concrete. The standard freezing depth is 2.20 m. The Quaternary and Tertiary strata directly overlie the coal strata,
so a special freezing method has to be used in the new mine to construct and drill the shaft. The first completed mine in the Dongrong mining area, Dongrong mine No.2, has a design capacity of 1.5 million t/a. The main shaft tower of the mine was built on special artificial freeze-thaw soil (general soil and sandy soil from the quaternary alluvium) in the frozen shaft.

The proposed method was used to calculate the additional stress in the foundation of the main shaft tower of Dongrong mine No.2. The tower’s foundation is rectangular, with a length of $l = 4$ m and a width of $b = 3.2$ m. The foundation is buried 1 m deep, and the designed bottom is 0.6 m from the natural bottom. The modulus of the deformation of the foundation soil is $E_0 = 5.6$ MPa, the Poisson's ratio is $\nu = 0.4$, and the unit weight is $\gamma = 19.8$ kN/m$^3$. The load is equivalent to

$$z = 0.09375 \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3.2} x\right) (\text{MPa}) (-1.6 \leq x \leq 1.6, -2 \leq y \leq 2).$$

The following is the code for the dual complex Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula. Here, $n = 2$ (i.e., 3 nodes) and there are 10 intervals [13].

The M file is as follows, in which the lines starting with '%' are descriptive text only, and do not participate in the program’s operation.

- $f$ is the pre-defined integrand; and $a_1$ and $a_2$ are the upper and lower integration limits of the outer layer of the double integral.

- $b_1$ and $b_2$ are the upper and lower integration limits of the inner layer of the double integral; and $m$ is the order of integration.

- $n_1$ is the number of inner complex intervals of the double integral; and $n_2$ is the number of outer complex intervals of the double integral.

- $r$ is the aspect ratio of the rectangular foundation; $h_1$ is the length of the inner complex
interval; and \( h_2 \) is the length of the outer complex interval.

% \( t \) is the Gauss-Legendre integration points; and \( A \) is the Gauss-Legendre integration weight.

The following is the specific function field:
% Function start

function

s = ch2_Gauss_Legendre(f, a1, b1, a2, b2, m, n1, n2, r)

h1 = (b1 - a1) / n1;

h2 = (b2 - a2) / n2;

s = 0;

t = [sqrt(3/5), 0, sqrt(3/5)];

A = [5 8 5; 9 9 9];

% Layer 1-1 cycle starts

for l = 1:n2
    % Layer 1-2 cycle starts
    for l = 1:n1
        % Layer 2 cycle starts
        x = h1 * t + a1 + (k - 1/2) * h1;
        y = h2 * t + a2 + (l - 1/2) * h2;
        % Layer 3-1 cycle starts
        i = 1:m+1
        % Layer 3-2 cycle starts
        j = 1:m+1
        F = feval(f, x(i), y(j), r);
        s = s + A(i) * A(j) * F;
        % End of layer 3-2 loop
    end
    % End of layer 3-1 loop
end
% End of layer 2 loop
end
% End of layer 1-2 loop
end

s = s * h1 * h2 / 4;
% End of layer 1-1 loop
end
% End of function
The solution command is:

\[
\text{quad} = \text{ch}_2 \cdot \text{Gauss} \cdot \text{Legendre}_2 \quad (f, a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2, m, n_1, n_2, r); \\
\text{quad} = \text{vpa(quad,10)}
\]

The result is 0.01626499813 (MPa), which is smaller than the value we measured at the construction site.

7. Conclusions

In order to improve the calculation method for the additional stress in an irregularly shaped foundation under an irregular load distribution, a calculation method, i.e., the Gauss-Simpson Quadrature Algorithm, which is based on elasticity theory, the Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula, and the Simpson quadrature formula, was proposed. The results were compared with that of the traditional elastic theory and an FE simulation, as well as with the field measurement data for the foundation of a shaft tower in Dongrong mine No.2.

The conclusions are as follows.

(1) For the same integration points \((n)\), the finite element method can only reach an algebraic accuracy of \(n\), whereas the Gauss-Legendre quadrature uses the zeros of Legendre's orthogonal polynomials as interpolation points and can reach an algebraic accuracy of \(2n+1\). This is of great
importance for decreasing the computational cost, improving the computational efficiency, and increasing the computational accuracy.

(2) For irregular load distributions, the number of interpolations in the finite element method cannot be too high, and the element order cannot be too high due to the Runge phenomenon, which can lead to mesh distortion and numerical instability. Using a large number of low-order elements can greatly increase computational time. The Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula has positive integration weights and high numerical stability, which is one of its advantages over the finite element method.

(3) The biggest advantage of the Gaussian quadrature is that the explicit analytical algebraic equation for the additional stress in an irregularly shaped foundation under any irregular load distribution can be obtained, while avoiding numerical operations such as interpolation, integration, and solving large-scale linear systems of equations. The FE method usually require a general-purpose calculation software for execution, which is expensive and difficult to develop. Therefore, it is not suitable for application in practical engineering.

(4) For an irregular load distribution in a rectangular domain, the additional stress can be directly obtained using Table 1, that is, the explicit analytical algebraic expression of the integral value. The higher the order, the more terms in the algebraic equation. In general, a satisfactory accuracy can be achieved when $n<5$. Moreover, the nodal positions and weight coefficients in Table 1 are independent of the type of integrand, i.e., irregular load distributions.

(5) Simpson's formula is required when solving non-rectangular domains with irregularly shaped distributions and irregular load distributions. Simpson's quadrature formula utilizes the same number of quadrature nodes as the trapezoidal formula, but it yields higher algebraic accuracy than the trapezoidal formula. Simpson’s formula is used to transform the upper and lower
integrals of the inner curve of the double integral into a 1st order explicit expression for the integral limit of the curve. Then, Simpson’s formula is applied once again to the outer integral, thus transforming both the inner and outer integrals of the integral limit of the curve into the sum of singular integrals with several constant integral limits. Thereafter, the Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula is applied to obtain the explicit analytical algebraic formula of the additional stress in an irregularly shaped foundation under any irregular load distribution.

(6) The calculation of the additional stress under three conditions was discussed. The first is an irregular load distribution and a regular distribution shape (e.g., rectangular or circular). The second is an irregular load distribution and a load distribution shape characterized by two arbitrary curves within two parallel lines. The third is an irregular load distribution and an irregular distribution shape. Basically, these three conditions cover almost all possible engineering applications.

(7) Although the approximate integral value of the additional stress obtained using the above method can meet the requirements in most cases, for the sake of theoretical perfection and rigor, we studied the calculation accuracy of the Gaussian quadrature formula beyond the 5th order. Since the improvement of the calculation accuracy was not obvious in this case, we introduced the complex quadrature formula. A simple computer program was written to implement this method, which may not be suitable for direct field applications.

**Data Availability Statements**

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.
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### Table 1 Nodes and weight coefficients of the Gauss-Legendre quadrature formula\textsuperscript{[13–14]}

| $n$ | $x_k$      | $A_k$      |
|-----|------------|------------|
| 0   | 0.0000000  | 2.0000000  |
| 1   | $\pm 0.5773503$ | 1.0000000  |
| 2   | $\pm 0.7745967$ | 0.5555556  |
|     | 0.0000000  | 0.8888889  |
| 3   | $\pm 0.8611363$ | 0.3478548  |
|     | $\pm 0.3399810$ | 0.6521452  |
|     | $\pm 0.9061798$ | 0.2369269  |
| 4   | $\pm 0.5384693$ | 0.4786287  |
|     | 0.0000000  | 0.5688889  |
|     | $\pm 0.9324695$ | 0.1713245  |
| 5   | $\pm 0.6612094$ | 0.3607616  |
|     | $\pm 0.2386192$ | 0.4679139  |
Fig. 1 The first case: an irregular load distribution with a regular distribution shape

\[ z = \sin(x) + \cos(y); \text{ mesh} \]
Fig. 2 The second case: an irregular load distribution and a load distribution shape characterized by two arbitrary curves within two parallel lines

(Multiple perspectives of the art building itself and the foundation shape of the building)
Fig. 3 The third case: an irregular load distribution and an irregular distribution shape that satisfies certain conditions.
Fig. 4 Comparison of the additional stress calculated using the Gaussian quadrature method and the influence coefficients of the additional stresses of different orders
Fig. 5 Comparison of the additional stress calculated using the complex Gaussian quadrature method and 5 orders of the Gaussian quadrature method
Fig. 6 The finite element model
Fig. 7 Comparison of the additional stress calculated using the Gaussian quadrature method and the FE simulation method under an irregular cosine load.