134 3 Development of Truss Equations



Figure P3-9



Figure P3-10



Figure P3-11

3.12 Solve for the axial displacement and stress in the tapered bar shown in Figure P3-12 using one and then two constant-area elements. Evaluate the area at the center of each element length. Use that area for each element. Let $A_0 = 2$ in², L = 20 in., $E = 10 \times 10^6$ psi, and P = 1000 lb. Compare your finite element solutions with the exact solution.



Figure P3-12

Determine the stiffness matrix for the bar element with end nodes and midlength node 3.13 shown in Figure P3–13. Let axial displacement $u = a_1 + a_2x + a_3x^2$. (This is a higherorder element in that strain now varies linearly through the element.)

