

An example will help here – see Figure 2. A pipe runs from node 10 to node 20 and then another from node 20 to node 30. This piping runs in the X direction. Let's put a Victaulic coupling at node 20. Simply change the FROM node on the second pipe to 21 and define a set of six rigid restraints (X, Y, Z, RX, RY & RZ) at NODE 20 with a CNODE 21. As it stands now, this definition works just like the 10-20 and 20-30 model. What makes it a Victaulic Coupling is the additional GAP definition for the X restraint to model the axial play in the joint. (A GAP on the RY and RZ restraints would model the angulation instead.)

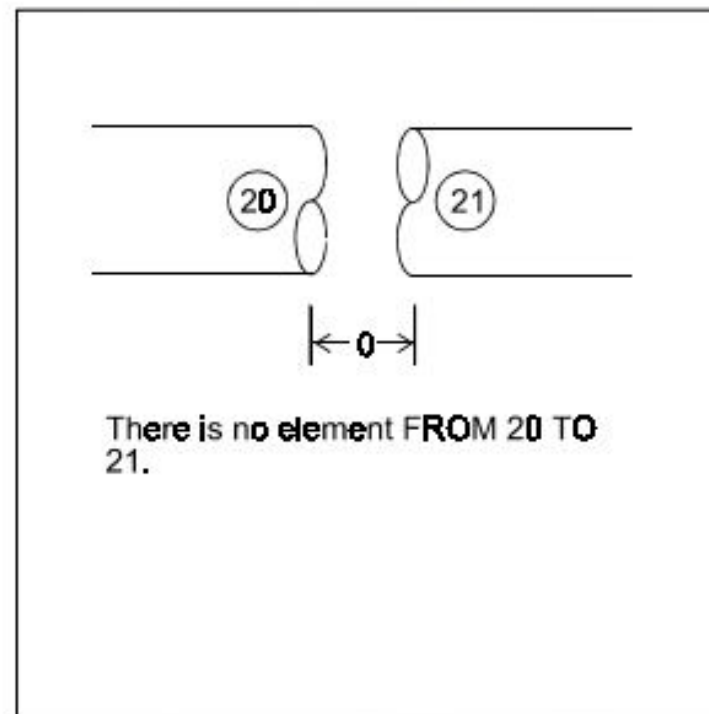


Figure 2