

# Thin-Walled Structural Members

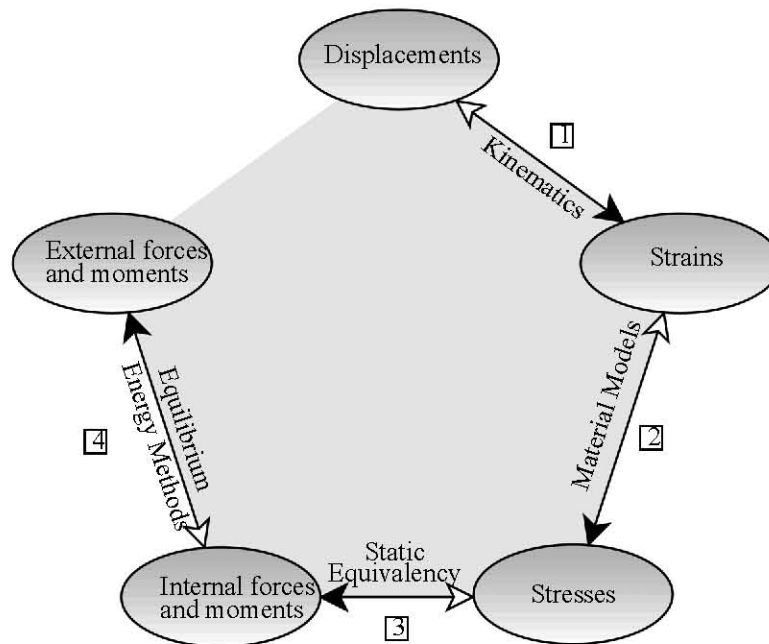


The learning objectives of this chapter are:

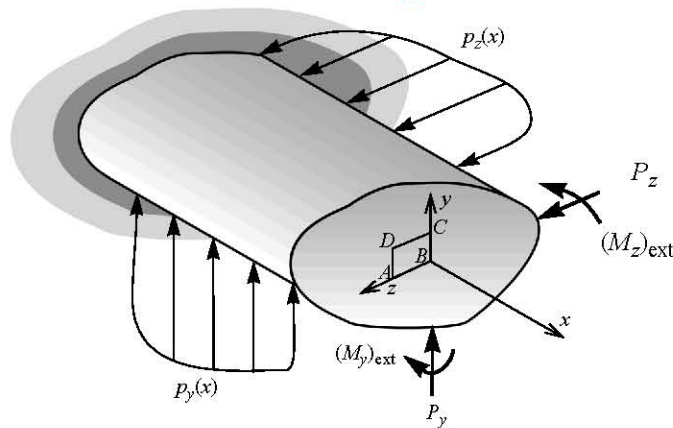
- Understand the theory, its limitations, and its application in design and analysis of unsymmetric bending of beam.
- Understand the concept of shear center and how to determine its location.

## Pick up point in logic for unsymmetric bending.

- Drop the limitation that the beam has a plane of symmetry and the loading is in the plane of symmetry. This changes the kinematic relationship between displacements and strains
- Assume loading is such that there is no twisting of the cross-section.



## Theory



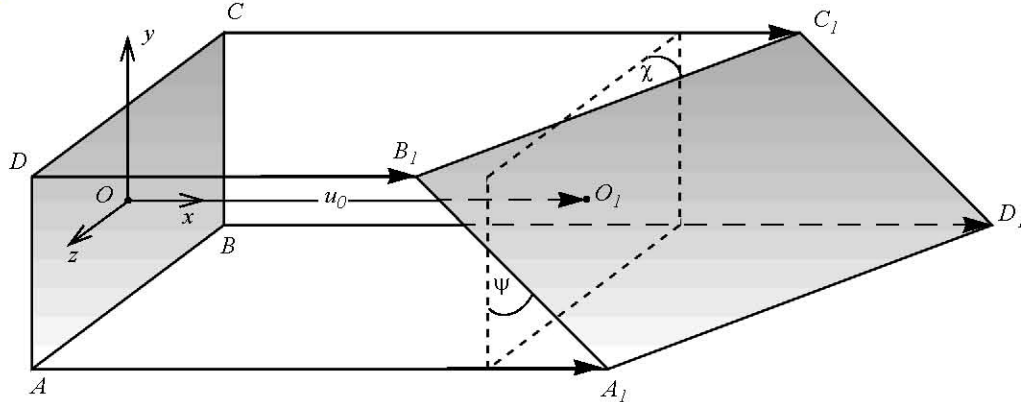
Theory objective is:

- Relate the internal shear forces  $V_y$ ,  $V_z$  and internal moment  $M_y$ ,  $M_z$  to displacements  $v$  and  $w$  and obtain the stresses in unsymmetric bending.

## Deformation Behavior

**Assumption 1** Deformations are not functions of time.

**Assumption 2a** The loads are such that there is no axial or torsional deformation.



No twist implies:  $\gamma_{yz} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} = 0$

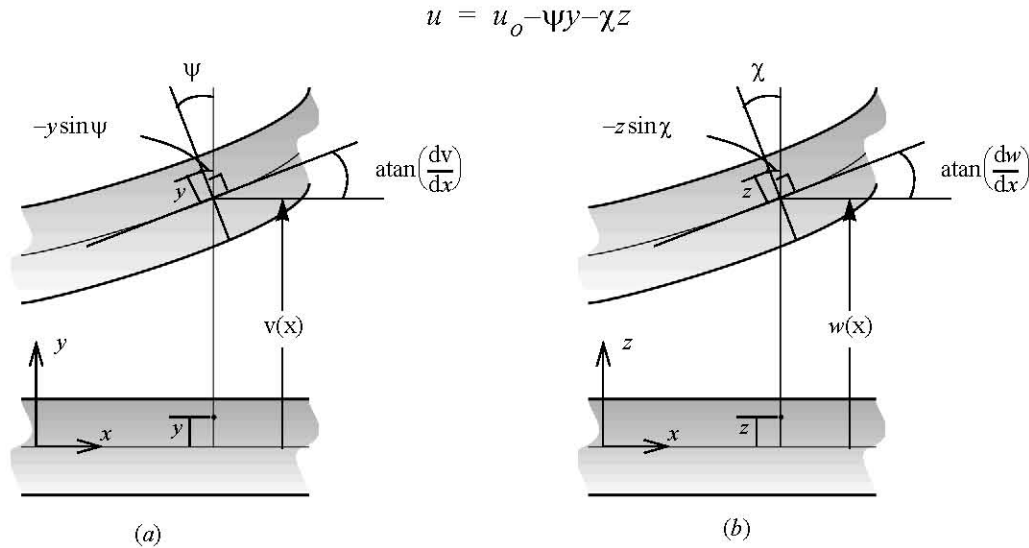
$$v(x, y, z) = v(x, y) \quad w(x, y, z) = w(x, z)$$

**Assumption 2b** Squashing action is significantly smaller than bending action.

$$\epsilon_{yy} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \approx 0 \quad \epsilon_{zz} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \approx 0$$

$$v = v(x) \quad w = w(x)$$

**Assumption 2c** Plane sections before deformation remain plane after deformation.



**Assumption 2d** Plane perpendicular to the axis remain nearly perpendicular after deformation.

$$u = -y \frac{dv}{dx} - z \frac{dw}{dx}$$

## Strain Distribution

**Assumption 3** The strains are small.

$$\epsilon_{xx} = \frac{du}{dx} = -y \frac{d^2 v}{dx^2} - z \frac{d^2 w}{dx^2}$$

## Material Model

**Assumption 4** Material is isotropic.

**Assumption 5** There are no inelastic strain.

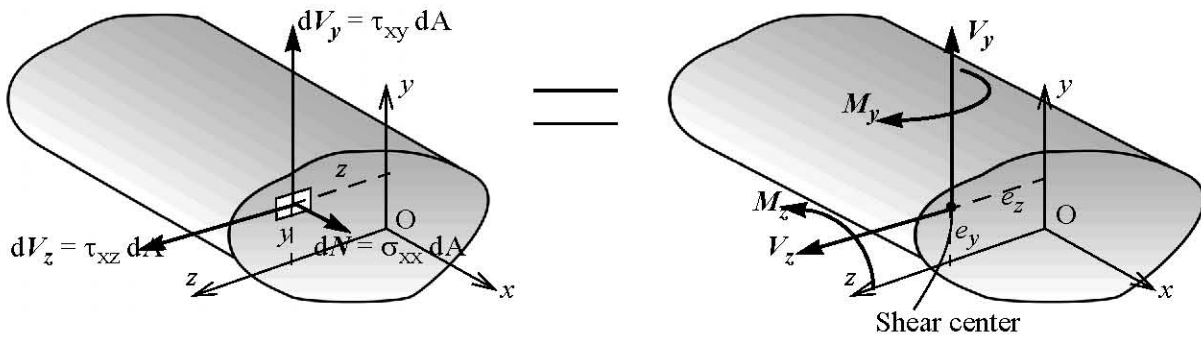
**Assumption 6** Material is elastic.

**Assumption 7** Stress and strains are linearly related

Hooke's Law:  $\sigma_{xx} = E \epsilon_{xx}$

$$\sigma_{xx} = -E y \frac{d^2 v}{dx^2} - E z \frac{d^2 w}{dx^2}$$

## Internal forces and moments



$$N = \int_A \sigma_{xx} dA = 0$$

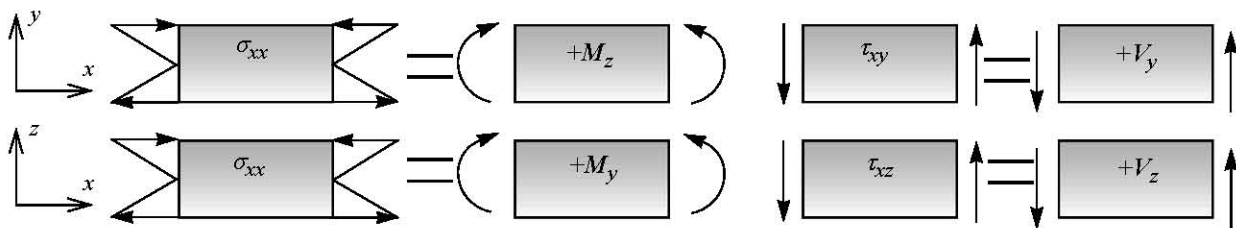
$$M_z = -\int_A y \sigma_{xx} dA \quad M_y = -\int_A z \sigma_{xx} dA$$

$$V_y = \int_A \tau_{xy} dA \quad V_z = \int_A \tau_{xz} dA$$

$$T = \int_A [(y - e_y) \tau_{xz} - (z - e_z) \tau_{xy}] dA = 0$$

- The maximum normal stress  $\sigma_{xx}$  in the beam should be nearly an order of magnitude (factor of 10) greater than the maximum shear stress  $\tau_{xy}$  and  $\tau_{xz}$ .

Sign Convention



## Bending Formulas

Substituting  $\sigma_{xx} = -Ey \frac{d^2 v}{dx^2} - Ez \frac{d^2 w}{dx^2}$  into internal moment expression.

$$M_z = \frac{d}{dx} \frac{v}{2} \int_A E y^2 dA + \frac{d}{dx} \frac{w}{2} \int_A E y z dA \quad M_y = \frac{d}{dx} \frac{v}{2} \int_A E y z dA + \frac{d}{dx} \frac{w}{2} \int_A E z^2 dA$$

**Assumption 8** Material is homogenous across the cross-section.

$$M_z = EI_{zz} \frac{d}{dx} \frac{v}{2} + EI_{yz} \frac{d}{dx} \frac{w}{2} \quad M_y = EI_{yz} \frac{d}{dx} \frac{v}{2} + EI_{yy} \frac{d}{dx} \frac{w}{2}$$

Area moment of inertia

$$I_{zz} = \int_A y^2 dA \quad I_{yy} = \int_A z^2 dA \quad I_{yz} = \int_A y z dA$$

Moment Curvature Relationship

$$\frac{d}{dx} \frac{v}{2} = \frac{1}{E} \left( \frac{I_{yy} M_z - I_{yz} M_y}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right) \quad \frac{d}{dx} \frac{w}{2} = \frac{1}{E} \left( \frac{I_{zz} M_y - I_{yz} M_z}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right)$$

Stress Formula

$$\sigma_{xx} = - \left( \frac{I_{yy} M_z - I_{yz} M_y}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right) y - \left( \frac{I_{zz} M_y - I_{yz} M_z}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right) z$$

## Location of origin

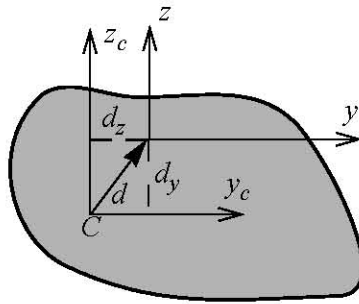
Centroid:  $\int_A y dA = 0 \quad \int_A z dA = 0$

- For a linear-elastic-homogeneous material cross section in unsymmetric bending the origin is at the centroid of the cross section.
- Normal stress  $\sigma_{xx}$  in bending varies linearly with y and z on a homogenous cross-section.



# Second Area Moment of Inertias

## Parallel axis theorem



$$I_{yy} = I_{y_c y_c} + A d_z^2$$

$$I_{zz} = I_{z_c z_c} + A d_y^2$$

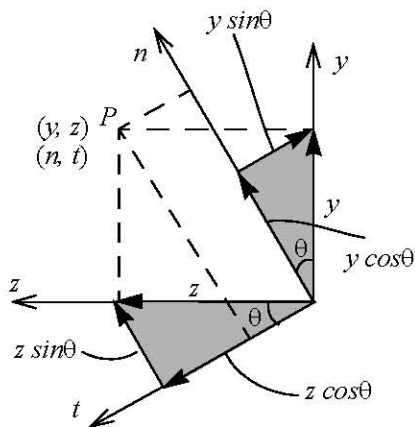
$$I_{yz} = I_{y_c z_c} + A d_y d_z$$

- $I_{yy}$  and  $I_{zz}$  are always positive and minimum about the axis passing through the centroid of the body.
- $I_{yz}$  can be positive or negative.
- If either y or z axis is an axis of symmetry then  $I_{yz}$  will be zero.

## Coordinate Transformation

**Definition 1** The coordinate system in which the cross moment of inertia is zero is called the principal coordinate system.

**Definition 2** The moment of inertias in the principal coordinate system are called principal moment of inertias.



$$n = y \cos \theta + z \sin \theta$$

$$t = -y \sin \theta + z \cos \theta$$

$$I_{nn} = \int_A t^2 dA = I_{yy} \cos^2 \theta + I_{zz} \sin^2 \theta - 2I_{yz} \cos \theta \sin \theta$$

$$I_{tt} = \int_A n^2 dA = I_{yy} \sin^2 \theta + I_{zz} \cos^2 \theta + 2I_{yz} \cos \theta \sin \theta$$

$$I_{nt} = \int_A n t dA = (I_{yy} - I_{zz}) \cos \theta \sin \theta + I_{yz} (\cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta)$$

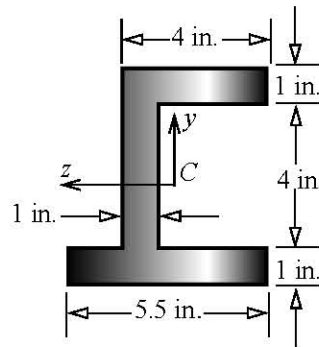
$$\tan 2\theta_p = \frac{-2I_{yz}}{(I_{yy} - I_{zz})} \quad I_{1,2} = \frac{(I_{yy} + I_{zz})}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{I_{yy} - I_{zz}}{2}\right)^2 + I_{yz}^2}$$

- Area moment of inertias are second order tensors.

$$[I] = \begin{bmatrix} I_{yy} & -I_{yz} \\ -I_{zy} & I_{zz} \end{bmatrix} \quad I_{nn} = \{n\}^T [I] \{n\} \quad I_{tt} = \{t\}^T [I] \{t\} \quad -I_{nt} = \{n\}^T [I] \{t\}$$

- Principal area moment of inertias are the eigenvalues of the  $[I]$  matrix.
- Buckling occurs about the axis of minimum area moment of inertias.

**C6.1** (a) Calculate the principal area moment of inertias for the cross section shown. (b) Determine the axis direction about which buckling would occur.



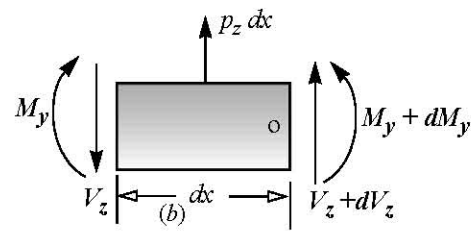
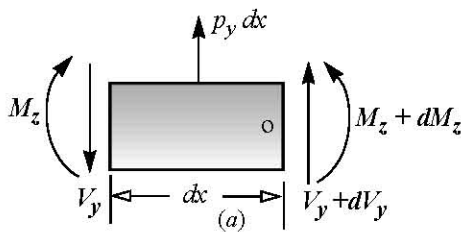


## Neutral Axis ( $\sigma_{xx} = 0$ )

N.A. equation:  $y = (\tan\beta)z$        $\tan\beta = \frac{I_{zz} - I_{yz}(M_z/M_y)}{I_{yz} - I_{yy}(M_z/M_y)}$

- The orientation of the neutral axis depends upon the shape of cross-section as well as the external loading.
- Bending normal stress  $\sigma_{xx}$  is maximum at the point which is the farthest from the neutral axis.
- The displacement of the beam is always perpendicular to the neutral axis.

## Equilibrium equations.



$$\frac{dV_y}{dx} = -p_y$$

$$\frac{dM_z}{dx} = -V_y$$

$$\frac{dV_z}{dx} = -p_z$$

$$\frac{dM_y}{dx} = -V_z$$

## Boundary Value Problem

$$\begin{aligned} V_y &= -\frac{d}{dx} \left[ EI_{zz} \frac{d^2 v}{dx^2} + EI_{yz} \frac{d^2 w}{dx^2} \right] & V_z &= -\frac{d}{dx} \left[ EI_{yz} \frac{d^2 v}{dx^2} + EI_{yy} \frac{d^2 w}{dx^2} \right] \\ \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \left[ EI_{zz} \frac{d^2 v}{dx^2} + EI_{yz} \frac{d^2 w}{dx^2} \right] &= p_y & \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \left[ EI_{yz} \frac{d^2 v}{dx^2} + EI_{yy} \frac{d^2 w}{dx^2} \right] &= p_z \end{aligned}$$

**Assumption 9** The beam is not tapered.

$$EI_{zz} \frac{d^3 v}{dx^3} + EI_{yz} \frac{d^3 w}{dx^3} = -V_y \quad EI_{yz} \frac{d^3 v}{dx^3} + EI_{yy} \frac{d^3 w}{dx^3} = -V_z \quad (6.1a)$$

$$EI_{zz} \frac{d^4 v}{dx^4} + EI_{yz} \frac{d^4 w}{dx^4} = p_y \quad EI_{yz} \frac{d^4 v}{dx^4} + EI_{yy} \frac{d^4 w}{dx^4} = p_z \quad (6.1b)$$

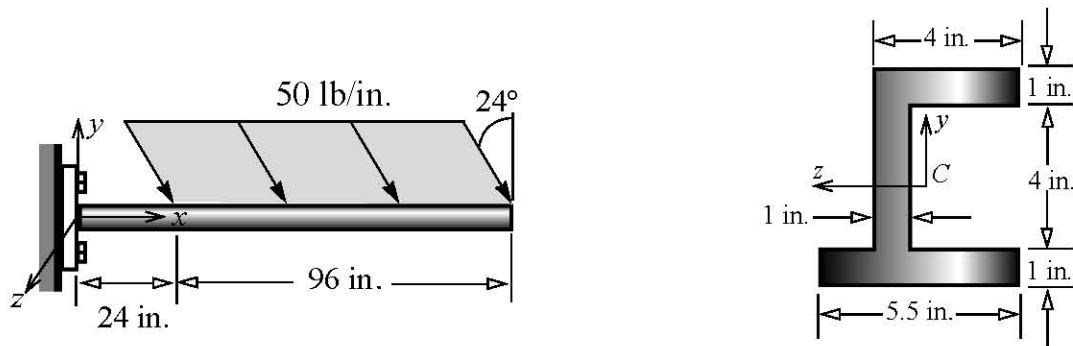
$$\frac{d^3 v}{dx^3} = - \left[ \frac{1}{E} \left( \frac{I_{yy} V_y - I_{yz} V_z}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right) \right] \quad \frac{d^3 w}{dx^3} = - \left[ \frac{1}{E} \left( \frac{I_{zz} V_z - I_{yz} V_y}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right) \right] \quad (6.2)$$

$$\frac{d^4 v}{dx^4} = \frac{1}{E} \left( \frac{I_{yy} p_y - I_{yz} p_z}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right) \quad \frac{d^4 w}{dx^4} = \frac{1}{E} \left( \frac{I_{zz} p_z - I_{yz} p_y}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right) \quad (6.3)$$

**Boundary conditions: at each end specify**

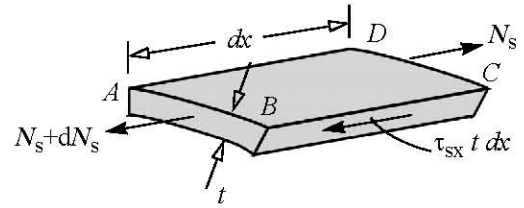
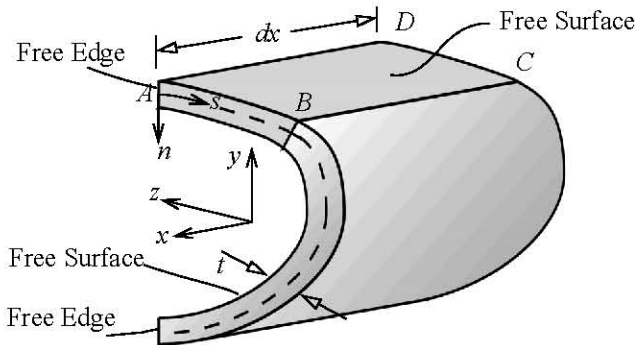
$$\begin{array}{ccc} v & \text{or} & V_y \\ & \text{and} & \\ \frac{dv}{dx} & \text{or} & M_z \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} w & \text{or} & V_z \\ & \text{and} & \\ \frac{dw}{dx} & \text{or} & M_y \end{array}$$

**C6.2** A cantilever beam is loaded such that there is no twist. The distributed load acts in the  $y$ - $z$  plane at an angle of  $24^\circ$  from the  $x$ - $y$  plane as shown below. On a section at  $x = 60$  in, determine: (a) the orientation of the neutral axis. (b) the maximum bending normal stress in the section.



**C6.3** The modulus of elasticity for the beam in problem C6.2 is  $E = 30,000 \text{ ksi}$ . Determine the deflection of the beam at  $x = 60$  inch and show that it is perpendicular to the neutral axis.

# Shear stress in thin open sections



Equilibrium Equations:  $(N_s + dN_s) - N_s + \tau_{sx} t dx = 0 \quad \tau_{sx} t = - \frac{dN_s}{dx}$

Axial Force:  $N_s = \int_{A_s} \sigma_{xx} dA \quad \tau_{sx} t = - \frac{d}{dx} \int_{A_s} \sigma_{xx} dA$

**Definition 3** The direction of the s-coordinate is from the free surface towards the point where shear stress is being calculated.

**Definition 4** The area  $A_s$  is the area between free edge and the point at which the shear stress is being evaluated.

$$\tau_{sx} t = - \frac{d}{dx} \int_{A_s} \left[ - \left( \frac{I_{yy} M_z - I_{yz} M_y}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right) y - \left( \frac{I_{zz} M_y - I_{yz} M_z}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right) z \right] dA$$

$$\tau_{sx} t = \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \left( \frac{I_{yy} M_z - I_{yz} M_y}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right) \int_{A_s} y dA + \left( \frac{I_{zz} M_y - I_{yz} M_z}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right) \int_{A_s} z dA \right]$$

We define the first moment of the area  $A_s$  as:

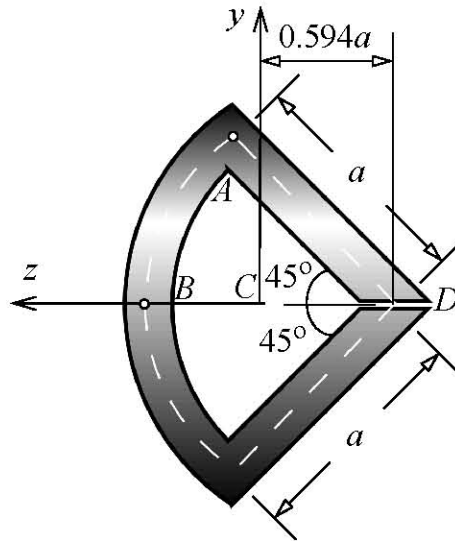
$$Q_z = \int_{A_s} y dA \quad Q_y = \int_{A_s} z dA$$

**Assumption 10** The beam is not tapered. \*

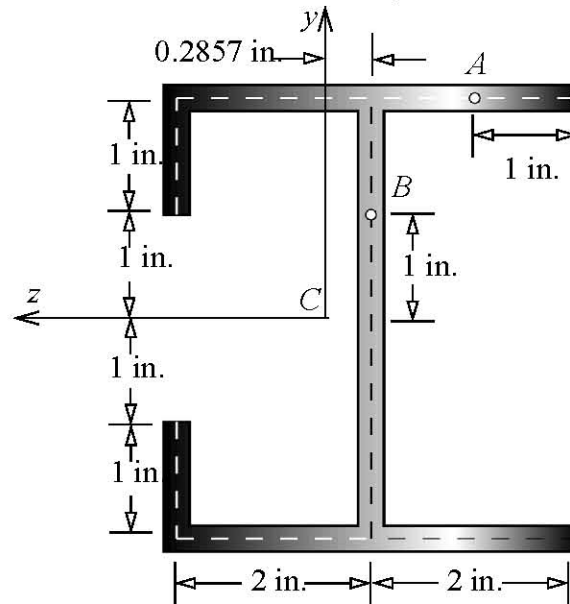
$$\tau_{sx} t = \left[ \frac{I_{yy} (dM_z/dx) - I_{yz} (dM_y/dx)}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right] Q_z + \left[ \frac{I_{zz} (dM_y/dx) - I_{yz} (dM_z/dx)}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right] Q_y$$

$$q = \tau_{sx} t = - \left[ \frac{I_{yy} Q_z - I_{yz} Q_y}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right] V_y - \left[ \frac{I_{zz} Q_y - I_{yz} Q_z}{I_{yy} I_{zz} - I_{yz}^2} \right] V_z$$

**C6.4** A thin cross-section of uniform thickness  $t$  is shown below. If shear stresses were to be found at points  $A$  and  $B$  what values of  $Q_y$  and  $Q_z$  are needed for the calculation. Assume  $t \ll a$  and gap at  $D$  is of negligible thickness. Report the values of  $Q_y$  and  $Q_z$  in terms of  $t$  and  $a$ .



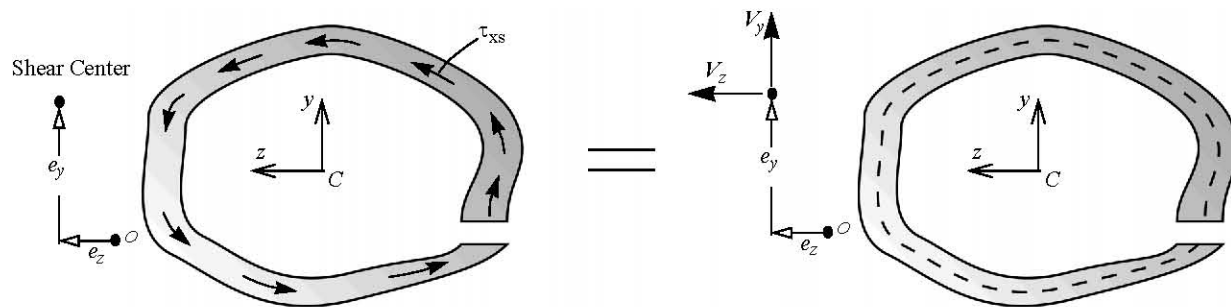
**C6.5** Shear forces on the cross-section shown in C6.5 were calculated as  $V_y = 10 \text{ kips}$  and  $V_z = -5 \text{ kips}$ . The cross section has a uniform thickness of  $1/8 \text{ in.}$  Determine the bending shear stresses at points  $A$  and  $B$  and report your answers as  $\tau_{xy}$  and  $\tau_{xz}$ .





# Shear center

From statics we know that any distributed force can be replaced by a force and a moment at any point, or, by a *single force (and no moment) at a specific point*. The specific point at which the shear stress (shear flow) can be represented by just shear forces  $V_y$  and  $V_z$  (components of a single force) and no internal torque is called the shear center.



**Definition 5** Shear center is a point in space at which the shear stress due to bending can be replaced by statically equivalent internal shear forces and no internal torque.

or

**Definition 6** Shear center is a point in space such that if the line of action of external forces pass through the point then the cross-section will not twist.

- Each cross-section has a unique shear center associated with it.
- Shear center depends only on the geometry and is independent of the loading.
- Shear center lies on the axis around which the shear stress distribution is symmetric.
- Shear center de-couples the shear stresses due to bending from the shear stresses due to torsion.
- If bending forces are not to produce any axial or torsional deformation then the external forces must be along the line joining the centroid and the shear center of the cross-section.

**C6.6** The cross-section shown has a uniform thickness  $t$ . Assuming  $t \ll a$  the shear stresses in the cross section were found and are as given. (a) Replace the shear stresses by equivalent shear forces and torque acting at the centroid  $C$ . (b) Determine the location of the point where the shear stresses can be replaced by just shear forces and no torque, i.e., determine the shear center.

$$\tau_{xy} = 0$$

$$\tau_{xz} = Ks/t$$

$$0 \leq s < 2a$$

$$\tau_{xy} = -K(-4a^2 + 6as - s^2)/(2at)$$

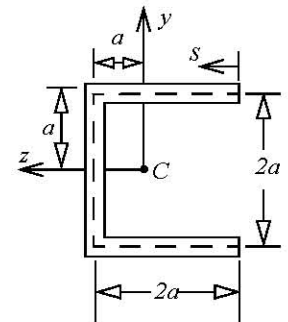
$$\tau_{xz} = 0$$

$$2a < s < 4a$$

$$\tau_{xy} = 0$$

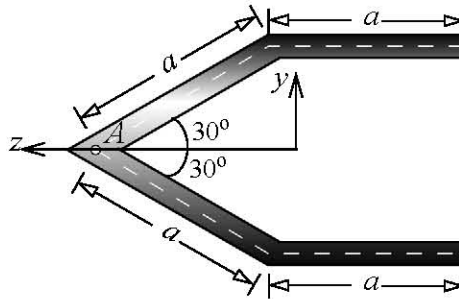
$$\tau_{xz} = K(s - 6a)/t$$

$$4a < s \leq 6a$$

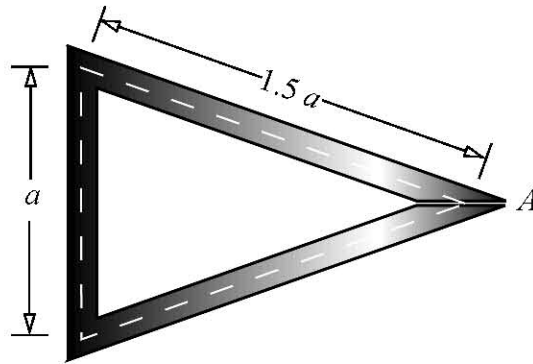


**C6.7** The cross-sections shown below has a uniform thickness  $t$ . Assume  $t \ll a$ . Assume a shear force  $V_y = V$  acts on the cross section.

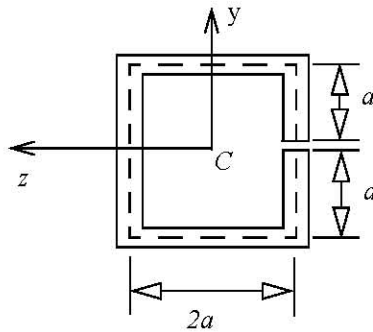
- Determine the shear flow on the entire cross section.
- Replace the shear flow by equivalent force and moment at point  $A$ .
- Determine the location of the point where the shear flow can be replaced by just the shear flow with no moment.



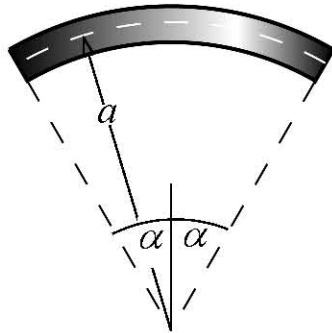
**C6.8** The cross-section shown below has a uniform thickness  $t$ . Assuming  $t \ll a$  determine the location of shear centers with respect to point  $A$ .



**C6.9** A thin walled open cross-section with a uniform thickness ' $t$ ' is shown. Assume  $t \ll a$  and the gap is of negligible thickness. Determine the coordinates of the shear center  $e_y$  and  $e_z$  with respect to the centroid at  $C$ .



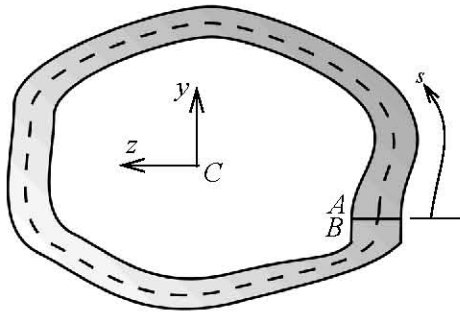
**C6.10** The cross-section shown below has a uniform thickness  $t$  and boundaries made from circular arcs. Assuming  $t \ll a$  determine the location of shear centers with respect to point A in terms of radius  $a$  and angle  $\alpha$ .



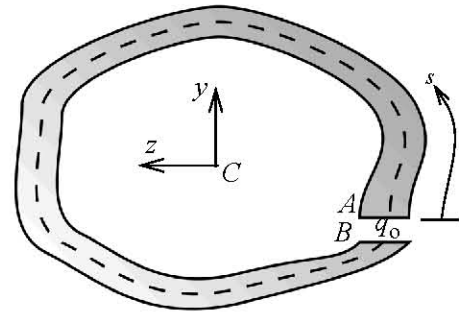


## Shear stresses in thin closed sections

**Thin closed section.**



**An imaginary cut in closed section.**



$$q_c = q_o + q$$

$q_c$  is the shear flow in the closed section at any point,

$q$  is the shear flow of the open section, and

$q_o$  is the unknown shear flow at the starting point that has to be determined.

Shear strain can be written as:

$$\gamma_{xs} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial v_s}{\partial x} = \frac{\tau_{xs}}{G}$$

$u$  and  $v_s$  are displacement in the  $x$  and  $s$  direction, respectively, and

$G$  is the shear modulus of elasticity.

$$\int_{s_A}^{s_B} \frac{\partial u}{\partial s} ds = \oint \left[ \frac{\tau_{xs}}{G} - \frac{\partial v_s}{\partial x} \right] ds \quad \text{or} \quad u(s_B) - u(s_A) = \oint \left[ \frac{\tau_{xs}}{G} - \frac{\partial v_s}{\partial x} \right] ds$$

Assumption 2a through Assumption 2c implies: Cross-section shape and dimension undergoes negligible change. This implies that no point on the cross-section moves relative to the other in the  $s$ -direction i.e.,  $v_s = 0$  in pure bending.

Noting that  $u(s_B) = u(s_A)$  we obtain:

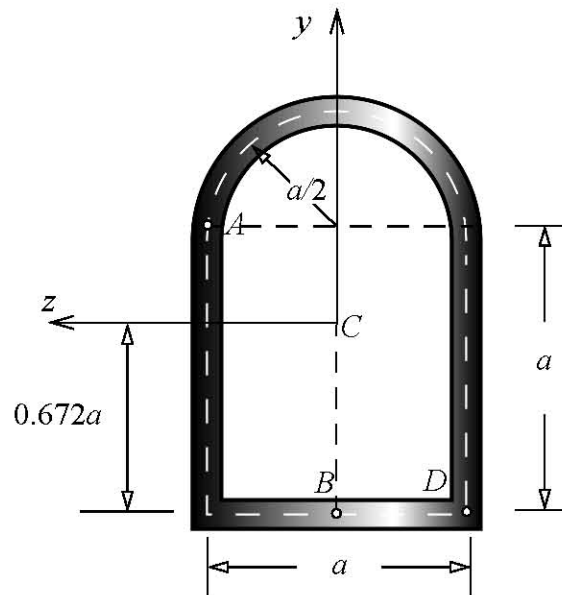
$$\oint \left( \frac{q_c}{t} \right) ds = \oint \left( \frac{q_o + q}{t} \right) ds = 0$$

If the thickness is uniform across the cross-section.

$$q_o = -\frac{1}{S} \oint q ds$$

where,  $S$  is the total path length of the perimeter of the cross-section.

**C6.11** The thin cross section shown below has a uniform thickness  $t$  and is subjected to a shear force  $V_y = V$  acting through the shear center. Determine the shear stress at points  $A$  and  $B$  in terms of  $V$ ,  $a$ , and  $t$ .



**C6.12** The thin cross section shown above has a uniform thickness  $t$  and is subjected to a shear force  $V_z = V$  acting through the shear center. Starting with point  $D$ , determine the shear stress at points  $A$  and  $B$  in terms of  $V$ ,  $a$ , and  $t$ .

**C6.13** Determine the shear center of the cross-section shown above relative to centroid  $C$ .

**C6.14** A cantilever beam is loaded as shown below. The cross-section has a uniform thickness of  $t = 1/4$  in. Determine the normal and shear stress at points  $A$  and  $B$  in cartesian coordinates on a section next to the wall.

