

11. Prismatic Beam Design

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

- Design a beam to resist both bending and shear loads.
- Develop methods used for designing prismatic beams.
- Determine shape of fully stressed beams.
- Design of shafts based on both bending and torsional moments.



11. Prismatic Beam Design

CHAPTER OUTLINE

1. Basis for Beam Design
2. Prismatic Beam Design
3. *Fully Stressed Beams
4. *Shaft Design

11. Prismatic Beam Design

11.1 BASIS FOR BEAM DESIGN

- Beams are structural members designed to support loadings perpendicular to their longitudinal axes.
- Under load, internal shear force and bending moment that vary from pt to pt along axis of beam.
- Axial stress is ignored in design, as it's much smaller than the shear force and bending moment.
- A beam designed to resist shear and bending moment is designed on the basis of strength.
- We use the shear and flexure formulae from chapters 6 and 7 to design a beam, only if the beam is homogeneous and displays linear-elastic behavior.

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- The actual bending and shear stresses must not exceed the allowable values specified in structural and mechanical codes of practice.
- We need to determine the beam's section modulus. Using flexure formula, $\sigma = Mc / I$, we have

$$S_{\text{req'd}} = \frac{M}{\sigma_{\text{allow}}} = I / C \quad (11-1)$$

- M is determined from the beam's moment diagram, and allowable bending stress, σ_{allow} is specified in a design code.

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- Once $S_{\text{req'd}}$ is known, we can determine the dimensions of the cross-section of the beam.
- However, for beams with cross-section consisting of various elements (e.g. wide-flange section), then an infinite no. of web and flange dimensions can be computed that satisfy the value of $S_{\text{req'd}}$.
- In practice, the engineer will choose a commonly-manufactured standard shape from a handbook that satisfies $S > S_{\text{req'd}}$.

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- Use symmetric cross-section if allowable bending stress is the same for tension and compression.
- Otherwise, we use an unsymmetrical cross-section to resist both the largest positive and negative moment in the span.
- Once beam selected, use shear formula
 $\tau_{\text{allow}} = VQ/It$ to check that the allowable shear stress has not been exceeded. Often this requirement will not present a problem. However if the beam is short and support large concentrated loads the shear stress limitation may dictate the size of the beam.
- Exceptional cases are when the material used is wood, because wood tend to split along its grains due to shear.

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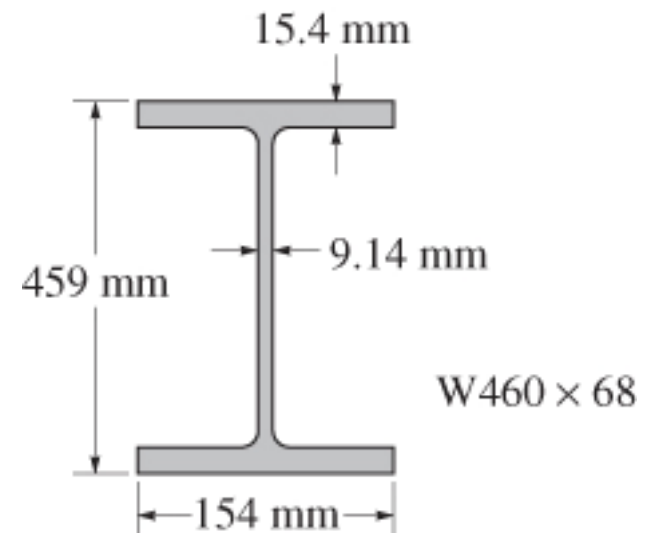
Fabricated Beams

1. Steel sections

- Most manufactured steel beams produced by rolling a hot ingot of steel till the desired shape is produced.
- The rolled shapes have properties that are tabulated in the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) manual. (Appendix B)
- Wide flange shapes defined by their depth and weight per unit length.

Depth=460 mm

Weight=0.68kN/m



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Fabricated Beams

1. *Steel sections*

- Other properties are the dimensions, cross-sectional area, moment of inertia, section modulus, and the radius of gyration r , which is related to the section's buckling strength.
- Other sections include channels and angles.

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Fabricated Beams

2. *Wood sections*

- Most wooden beams are of rectangular cross-section due to ease of manufacture and handling.
- The nominal and actual dimensions are reported in the manuals.
- Nominal dimensions are used to identify the sections while the actual dimensions are smaller due to sawing down the rough surfaces.
- Actual dimensions are to be used when performing stress calculations.

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Fabricated Beams

3. *Built-up Sections*

- A built-up section is constructed from two or more parts joined together to form a single unit.
- Based on Eqn 11-1, the moment-resisting capacity of such a section will be greatest for the greatest moment of inertia.
- Thus, most of the material should be built furthest from the neutral axis.

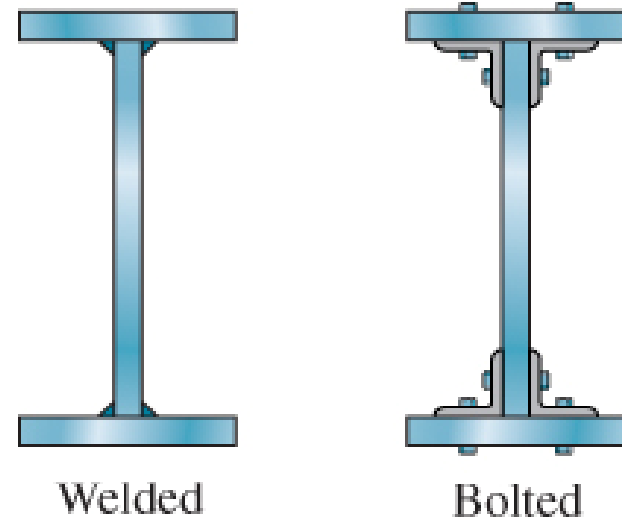
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Fabricated Beams

3. *Built-up Sections*

- For very large loads, we use a deep I-shaped section to resist the moments.
- The sections are usually welded or bolted to form the built-up section.



Steel plate girders

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Fabricated Beams

3. Built-up Sections

- Wooden box beams are made from plywood webs and larger boards for the flanges.
- For very large spans, glulam beams are used. Such members are made from several boards glue-laminated together.



Wooden box beam

(a)



Glulam beam

(b)

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IMPORTANT

- Beams support loadings that are applied perpendicular to their axes.
- If they are designed on the basis of strength, they must resist allowable shear and bending stresses.
- The maximum bending stress in the beam is assumed to be much greater than the localized stresses caused by the application of loadings on the surface of the beam.

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Procedure for analysis

Shear and moment diagrams

- Determine the maximum shear and moment in the beam. This is often done by constructing the beam's shear and moment diagrams.
- For built-up beams, shear and moment diagrams are useful for identifying regions where the shear and moment are excessively large and may require additional structural reinforcement or fasteners.

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Procedure for analysis

Average normal stress

- If beam is relatively long, it is designed by finding its section modulus using the flexure formula,
$$S_{\text{req'd}} = M_{\text{max}} / \sigma_{\text{allow}}$$
- Once $S_{\text{req'd}}$ is determined, the x-sectional dimensions for simple shapes can then be computed, since $S_{\text{req'd}} = I / c$.
- If rolled-steel sections are to be used, several possible values of S may be selected from the tables in Appendix B.

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Procedure for analysis

Average normal stress

- Choose the one with the smallest x-sectional area, since it has the least weight and is therefore the most economical.

Shear stress

- Normally, beams that are short and carry large loads, especially those made of wood, are first designed to resist shear and later checked against the allowable-bending-stress requirements.

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Procedure for analysis

Shear stress

- Use the shear formula to check to see that the allowable shear stress is not exceeded;
 $\tau_{\text{allow}} \geq V_{\text{max}} Q / I t.$
- If the beam has a solid rectangular x-section, the shear formula becomes $\tau_{\text{allow}} \geq 1.5(V_{\text{max}}/A)$, Eqn 7-5, and if the x-section is a wide flange, it is OK to assume that shear stress is constant over the x-sectional area of the beam's web so that $\tau_{\text{allow}} \geq V_{\text{max}}/A_{\text{web}}$, where A_{web} is determined from the product of the beam's depth and the web's thickness.

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Procedure for analysis

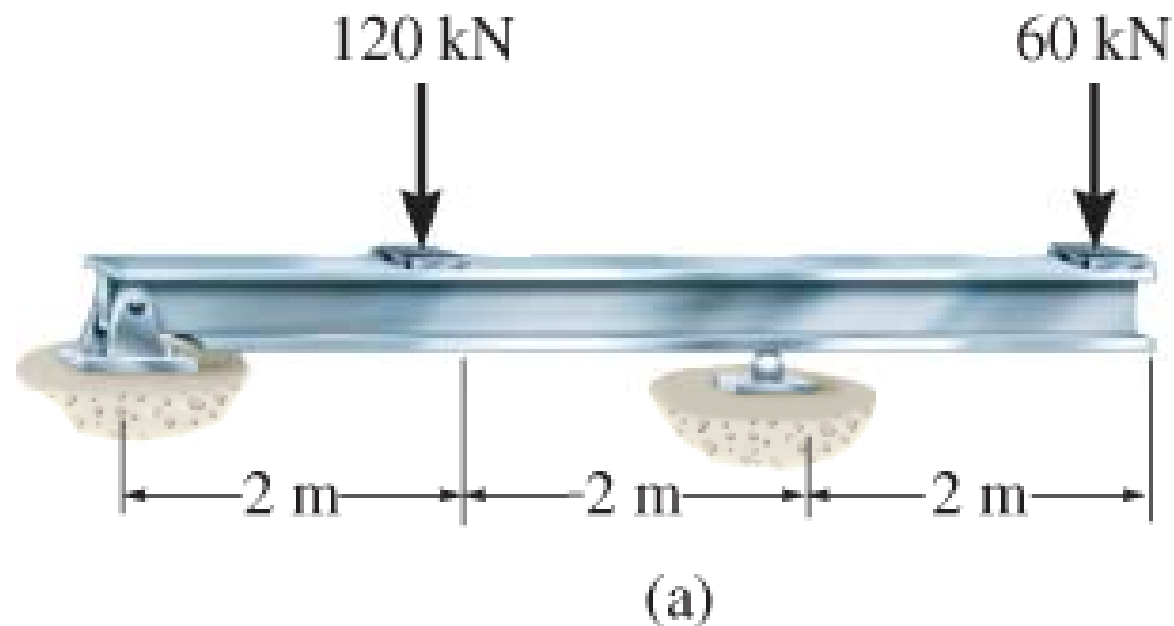
Adequacy of fasteners

- The adequacy of fasteners used on built-up beams depends upon the shear stress the fasteners can resist.
- Specifically, the required spacing of nails or bolts of a particular size is determined from the allowable shear flow, $q_{\text{allow}} = VQ/I$, calculated at pts on the x-section where the fasteners are located.

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EXAMPLE 11.1

A steel beam has an allowable bending stress of $\sigma_{\text{allow}} = 170 \text{ MPa}$ and an allowable shear stress of $\tau_{\text{allow}} = 100 \text{ MPa}$. Select an appropriate W shape that will carry the loading as shown.



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EXAMPLE 11.1 (SOLN)

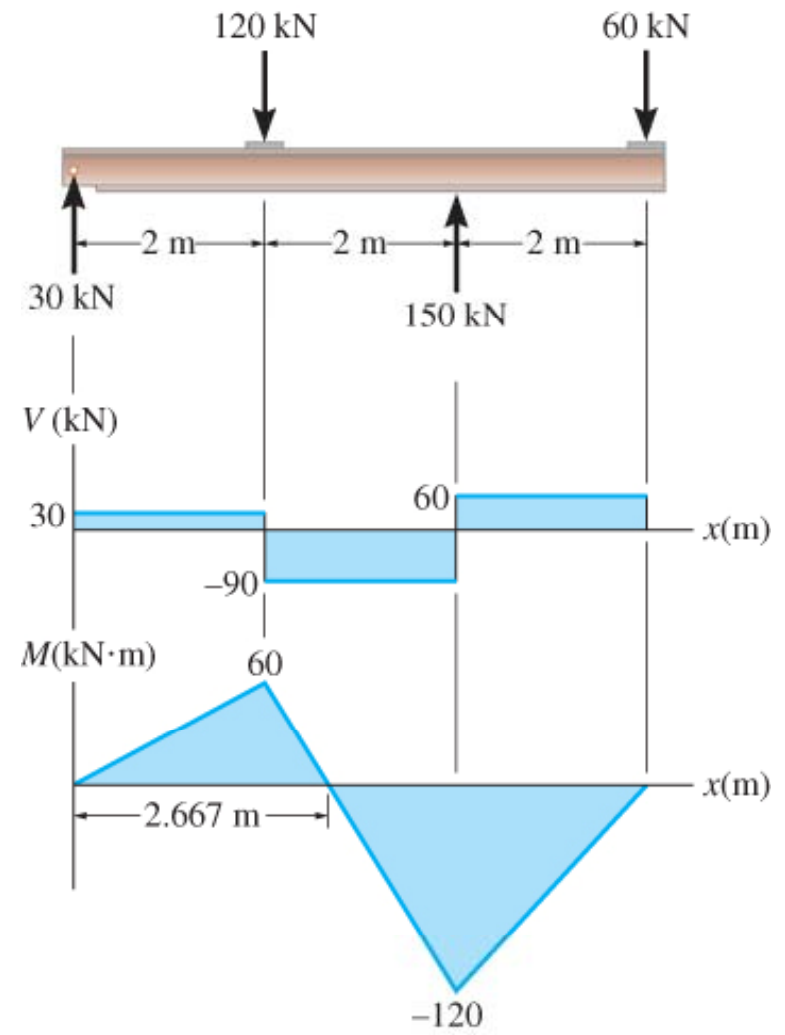
Shear and moment diagrams

Support reactions calculated, and shear and moment diagrams are shown.

From diagrams,

$$V_{\max} = 90 \text{ kN and}$$

$$M_{\max} = 120 \text{ kN}\cdot\text{m}.$$



(b)

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EXAMPLE 11.1 (SOLN)

Bending stress

Required section modulus for the beam:

$$S_{req'd} = \frac{M_{\max}}{\sigma_{\text{allow}}} = \frac{120 \text{ kN} \cdot \text{m} (10^3 \text{ mm/m})^3}{170 (10^3) \text{ kN/m}^2} = 706 \times 10^3 \text{ mm}^3$$

Using table in Appendix B, following beams are OK:

$$W 460 \times 60 \quad S = 1120 \times 10^3 \text{ mm}^3$$

$$W 410 \times 67 \quad S = 1200 \times 10^3 \text{ mm}^3$$

$$W 360 \times 64 \quad S = 1030 \times 10^3 \text{ mm}^3$$

$$W 310 \times 74 \quad S = 1060 \times 10^3 \text{ mm}^3$$

$$W 250 \times 80 \quad S = 984 \times 10^3 \text{ mm}^3$$

$$W 200 \times 100 \quad S = 987 \times 10^3 \text{ mm}^3$$

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EXAMPLE 11.1 (SOLN)

WE choose the beam having the least weight per meter: W460×60.

The actual maximum moment M_{\max} (incl. weight of beam) can be computed and the adequacy of the selected beam can be checked.

Comparing with the applied loads, the beam's weight, $(60.35 \text{ kg/m})(9.81 \text{ N/kg})(6 \text{ m}) = 3552.2 \text{ N} = 3.55 \text{ kN}$, will only slightly increase $S_{\text{req'd}}$. Thus,

$$S_{\text{req'd}} = 706(10)^3 \text{ mm}^3 < 1120(10)^3 \text{ mm}^3$$

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EXAMPLE 11.1 (SOLN)

Shear stress

Since beam is a wide-flange section, the average shear stress within the web will be considered.

Here the web is assumed to extend from the very top to the very bottom of the beam.

From Appendix B, for a W460×60, $d = 455$ mm, $t_w = 8$ mm, thus

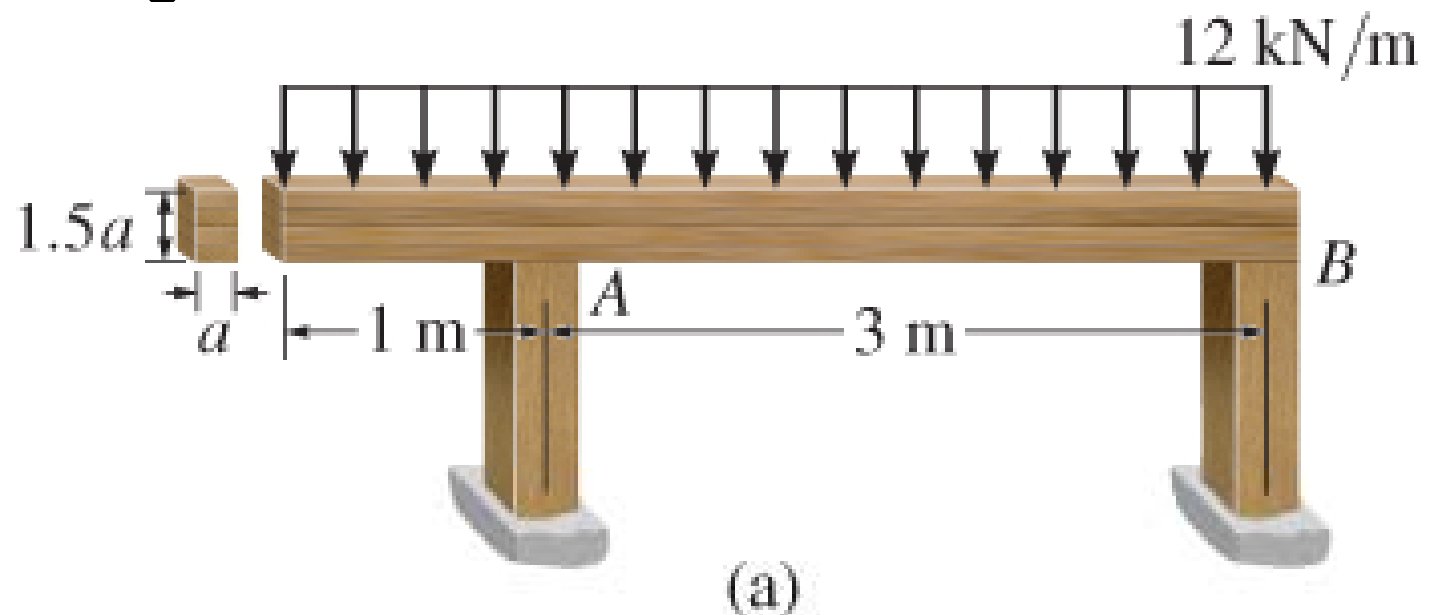
$$\tau_{\text{avg}} = \frac{V_{\text{max}}}{A_w} = \frac{90(10^3) \text{ N}}{(455 \text{ mm})(8 \text{ mm})} = 24.7 \text{ MPa} < 100 \text{ MPa}$$

Use a W460×60.

11. Prismatic Beam Design

EXAMPLE 11.3

Laminated wooden beam supports a uniform distributed loading of 12 kN/m. If the beam is to have a height-to-width ratio of 1.5, determine its smallest width. The allowable bending stress is $\sigma_{\text{allow}} = 9 \text{ MPa}$ and the allowable shear stress is $\tau_{\text{allow}} = 0.6 \text{ MPa}$. Neglect the weight of the beam.



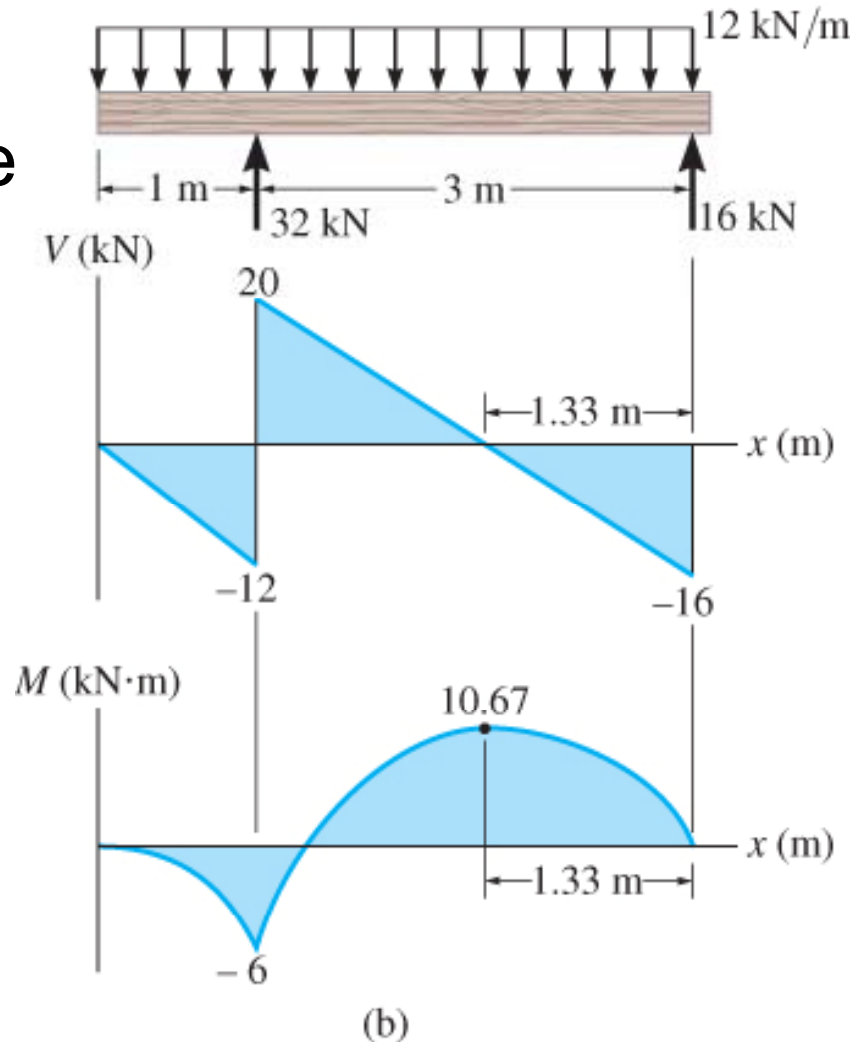
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EXAMPLE 11.3 (SOLN)

Shear and moment diagrams

Support reactions at A and B have been calculated and the shear and moment diagrams are shown.

Here, $V_{\max} = 20 \text{ kN}$,
 $M_{\max} = 10.67 \text{ kNm}$.



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EXAMPLE 11.3 (SOLN)

Bending stress

Applying the flexure formula yields,

$$S_{\text{req'd}} = \frac{M_{\text{max}}}{\sigma_{\text{allow}}} = \frac{10.67 \text{ kN} \cdot \text{m}}{9(10^3) \text{ kN/m}^2} = 0.00119 \text{ m}^3$$

Assume that width is a , then height is $h = 1.5a$. Thus,

$$S_{\text{req'd}} = \frac{I}{c} = \frac{\frac{1}{12}(a)(1.5a)^3}{(0.75a)} = 0.00119 \text{ m}^3$$

$$a^3 = 0.003160 \text{ m}^3$$

$$a = 0.147 \text{ m}$$

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EXAMPLE 11.3 (SOLN)

Shear stress

Applying shear formula for rectangular sections (special case of $\tau_{\max} = VQ/It$), we have

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_{\max} &= 1.5 \frac{V_{\max}}{A} = (1.5) \frac{20 \text{ kN}}{(0.147 \text{ m})(1.5)(0.147 \text{ m})} \\ &= 0.929 \text{ MPa} > 0.6 \text{ MPa}\end{aligned}$$

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EXAMPLE 11.3 (SOLN)

Equation

Since shear criterion fails, beam must be redesigned on the basis of shear.

$$\tau_{\text{allow}} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{V_{\text{max}}}{A}$$

$$600 \text{ kN/m}^2 = \frac{3}{2} \frac{20 \text{ kN}}{(a)(1.5a)}$$

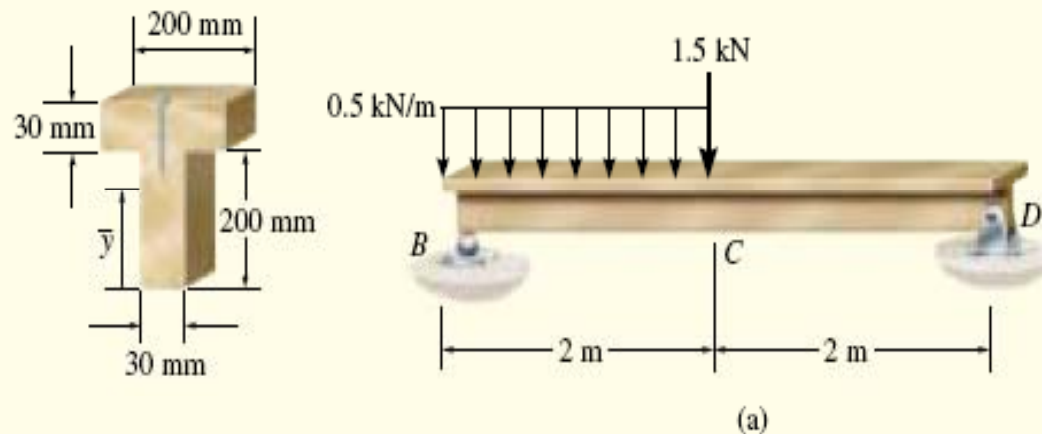
$$a = 0.183 \text{ m} = 183 \text{ mm}$$

This larger section will also adequately resist the normal stress.

11. Prismatic Beam Design

EXAMPLE 11.2

The wooden T-beam shown in Fig. 11-6a is made from two $200 \text{ mm} \times 30 \text{ mm}$ boards. If the allowable bending stress is $\sigma_{\text{allow}} = 12 \text{ MPa}$ and the allowable shear stress is $\tau_{\text{allow}} = 0.8 \text{ MPa}$, determine if the beam can safely support the loading shown. Also, specify the maximum spacing of nails needed to hold the two boards together if each nail can safely resist 1.50 kN in shear.



11. Prismatic Beam Design

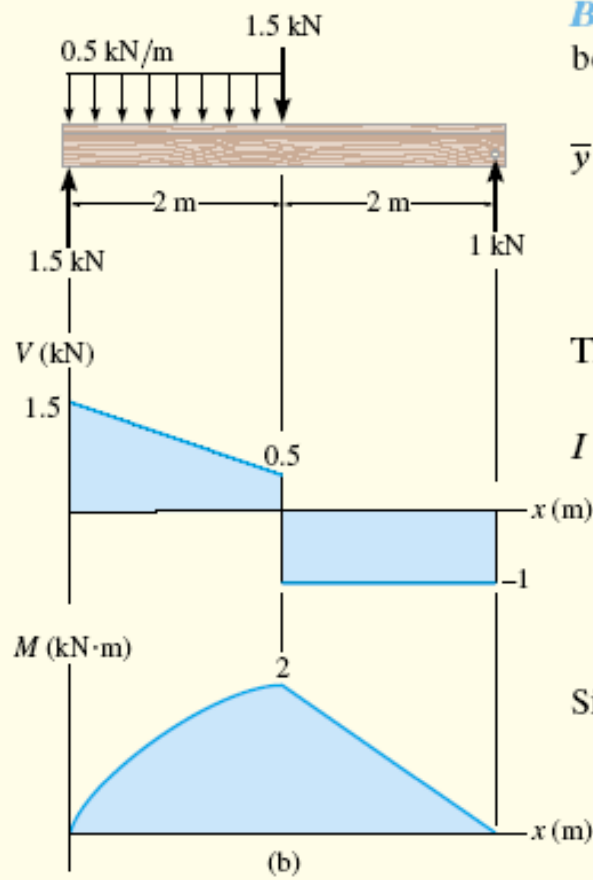


Fig. 11-6

Solution

Shear and Moment Diagrams. The reactions on the beam are shown, and the shear and moment diagrams are drawn in Fig. 11-6b. Here $V_{\max} = 1.5 \text{ kN}$, $M_{\max} = 2 \text{ kN} \cdot \text{m}$.

Bending Stress. The neutral axis (centroid) will be located from the bottom of the beam. Working in units of meters, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{y} &= \frac{\sum \bar{y}A}{\sum A} \\ &= \frac{(0.1 \text{ m})(0.03 \text{ m})(0.2 \text{ m}) + 0.215 \text{ m}(0.03 \text{ m})(0.2 \text{ m})}{0.03 \text{ m}(0.2 \text{ m}) + 0.03 \text{ m}(0.2 \text{ m})} = 0.1575 \text{ m}\end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}I &= \left[\frac{1}{12}(0.03 \text{ m})(0.2 \text{ m})^3 + (0.03 \text{ m})(0.2 \text{ m})(0.1575 \text{ m} - 0.1 \text{ m})^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\frac{1}{12}(0.2 \text{ m})(0.03 \text{ m})^3 + (0.03 \text{ m})(0.2 \text{ m})(0.215 \text{ m} - 0.1575 \text{ m})^2 \right] \\ &= 60.125(10^{-6}) \text{ m}^4\end{aligned}$$

Since $c = 0.1575 \text{ m}$ (not $0.230 \text{ m} - 0.1575 \text{ m} = 0.0725 \text{ m}$), we require

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{\text{allow}} &\geq \frac{M_{\max}c}{I} \\ 12(10^3) \text{ kPa} &\geq \frac{2 \text{ kN} \cdot \text{m} (0.1575 \text{ m})}{60.125(10^{-6}) \text{ m}^4} = 5.24(10^3) \text{ kPa} \quad \text{OK}\end{aligned}$$

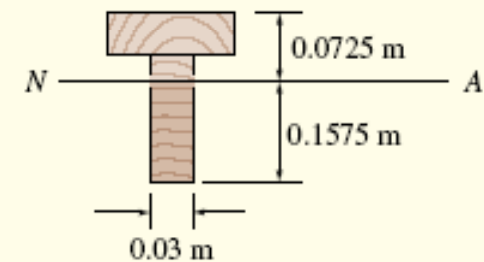
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Shear Stress. Maximum shear stress in the beam depends upon the magnitude of Q and t . It occurs at the neutral axis, since Q is a maximum there and the neutral axis is in the web, where the thickness $t = 0.03$ m is smallest for the cross section. For simplicity, we will use the rectangular area below the neutral axis to calculate Q , rather than a two-part composite area above this axis, Fig. 11–6c. We have

$$Q = \bar{y}' A' = \left(\frac{0.1575 \text{ m}}{2} \right) [(0.1575 \text{ m})(0.03 \text{ m})] = 0.372(10^{-3}) \text{ m}^3$$

So that

$$\tau_{\text{allow}} \geq \frac{V_{\text{max}} Q}{It}$$
$$800 \text{ kPa} \geq \frac{1.5 \text{ kN}[0.372(10^{-3})] \text{ m}^3}{60.125(10^{-6}) \text{ m}^4(0.03 \text{ m})} = 309 \text{ kPa} \quad \text{OK}$$



11. Prismatic Beam Design

Nail Spacing. From the shear diagram, it is seen that the shear varies over the entire span. Since the nail spacing depends on the magnitude of shear in the beam, for simplicity (and to be conservative), we will design the spacing on the basis of $V = 1.5$ kN for region BC and $V = 1$ kN for region CD . Since the nails join the flange to the web, Fig. 11-6d, we have

$$Q = \bar{y}' A' = (0.0725 \text{ m} - 0.015 \text{ m})[(0.2 \text{ m})(0.03 \text{ m})] = 0.345(10^{-3}) \text{ m}^3$$

The shear flow for each region is therefore

$$q_{BC} = \frac{V_{BC} Q}{I} = \frac{1.5 \text{ kN}[0.345(10^{-3})] \text{ m}^3}{60.125(10^{-6}) \text{ m}^4} = 8.61 \text{ kN/m}$$

$$q_{CD} = \frac{V_{CD} Q}{I} = \frac{1 \text{ kN}[0.345(10^{-3})] \text{ m}^3}{60.125(10^{-6}) \text{ m}^4} = 5.74 \text{ kN/m}$$

One nail can resist 1.50 kN in shear, so the spacing becomes

$$s_{BC} = \frac{1.50 \text{ kN}}{8.61 \text{ kN/m}} = 0.174 \text{ m}$$

$$s_{CD} = \frac{1.50 \text{ kN}}{5.74 \text{ kN/m}} = 0.261 \text{ m}$$

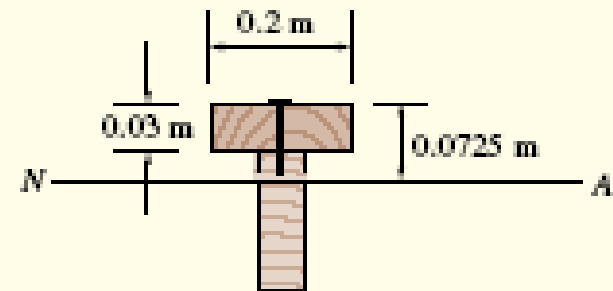
For ease of measuring, use

$$s_{BC} = 150 \text{ mm}$$

Ans.

$$s_{CD} = 250 \text{ mm}$$

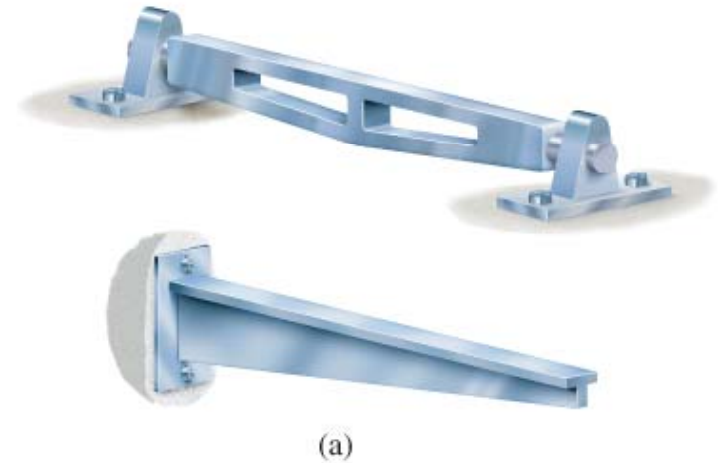
Ans.



11. Prismatic Beam Design

*11.3 FULLY STRESSED BEAMS

- To reduce a beam's weight, engineers sometimes choose a beam having variable x-sectional area, such that at each x-section, bending stress reaches its maximum allowable value.
- Such beams are called nonprismatic beams. Examples shown here.



Steel plate girder with cover plates

(c)



Haunched concrete beam

(b)

11. Prismatic Beam Design

*11.3 FULLY STRESSED BEAMS

- In general, the size of the x-section of a nonprismatic beam that supports a given loading can be determined using the flexure formula as

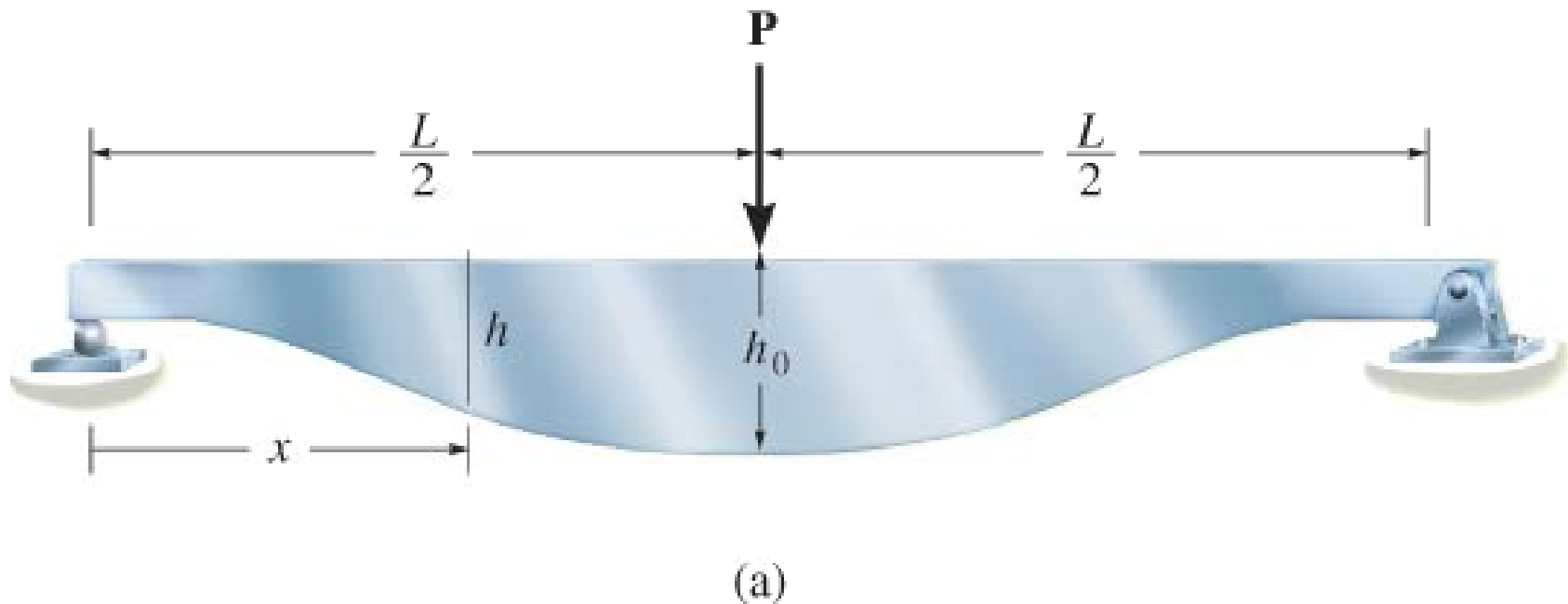
$$S = \frac{M}{\sigma_{allow}}$$

- A beam designed in this manner is called a fully stressed beam.

11. Prismatic Beam Design

EXAMPLE 11.4

Determine the shape of a fully stressed, simply supported beam that supports a concentrated force at its center. The beam has a rectangular x-section of constant width b , and allowable stress is σ_{allow} .



11. Prismatic Beam Design

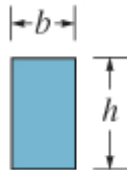
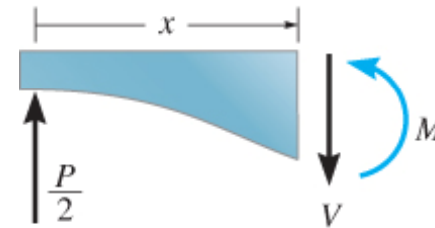
EXAMPLE 11.4 (SOLN)

The internal moment in the beam, expressed as a function of position, $0 \leq x < L/2$,

$$M = \frac{P}{2}x$$

Hence, required section modulus is

$$S = \frac{M}{\sigma_{\text{allow}}} = \frac{P}{2\sigma_{\text{allow}}}x$$



(b)

Since $S = I/c$, then for a x-sectional area h by b , we have

$$\frac{I}{c} = \frac{\frac{1}{12}bh^3}{h/2} = \frac{P}{2\sigma_{\text{allow}}}x$$

$$h^2 = \frac{3P}{\sigma_{\text{allow}}b}x$$

11. Prismatic Beam Design

EXAMPLE 11.4 (SOLN)

If $h = h_0$ at $x = L/2$, then
$$h_0^2 = \frac{3PL}{2\sigma_{\text{allow}}b}$$

So that

$$h^2 = \left(\frac{2h_0^2}{L} \right) x$$

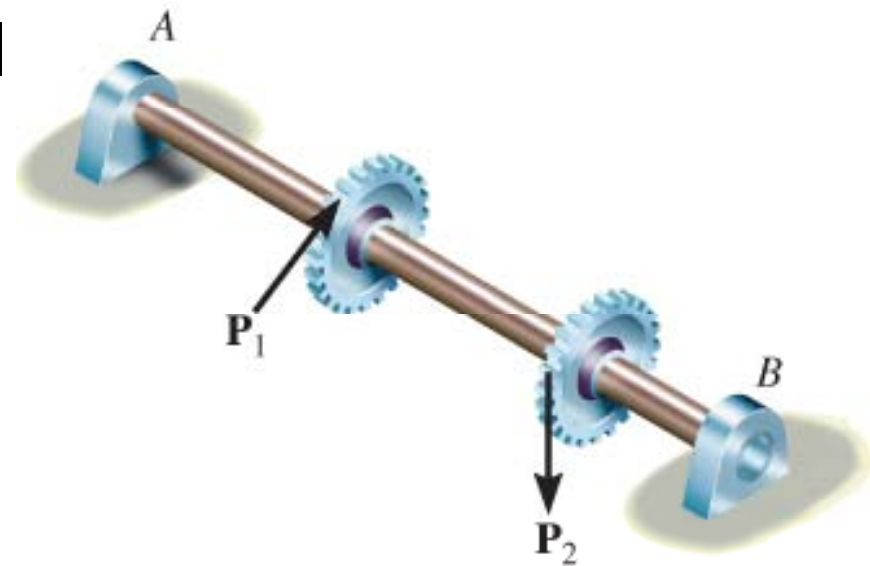
By inspection, depth h must vary in a parabolic manner with distance x . In practice, this shape is the basis for design of leaf springs used to support the rear-end axles of most heavy trucks.

Note that although this result indicates that $h = 0$ at $x = 0$, it's necessary that beam resist shear stress at the supports, that is, $h > 0$ at the supports.

11. Prismatic Beam Design

*11.4 SHAFT DESIGN

- Shafts with circular x-section are used in many types of mechanical equipment and machinery.
- Thus, they are subjected to cyclic or fatigue stress, caused by the combined bending and torsional loads they must transmit.
- Stress concentrations will also occur due to keys, couplings, and sudden transitions in its x-sectional area.

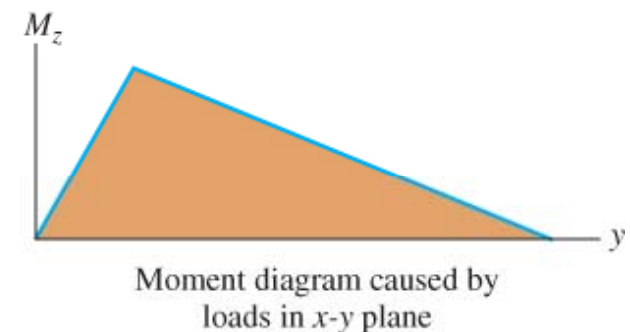
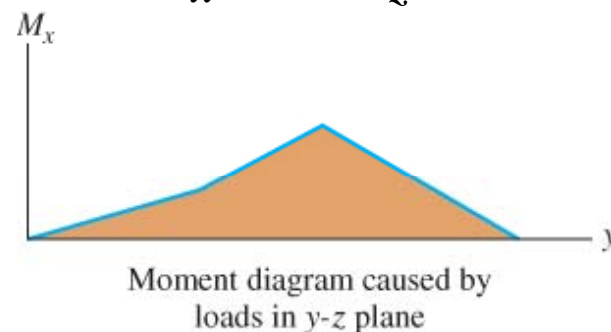
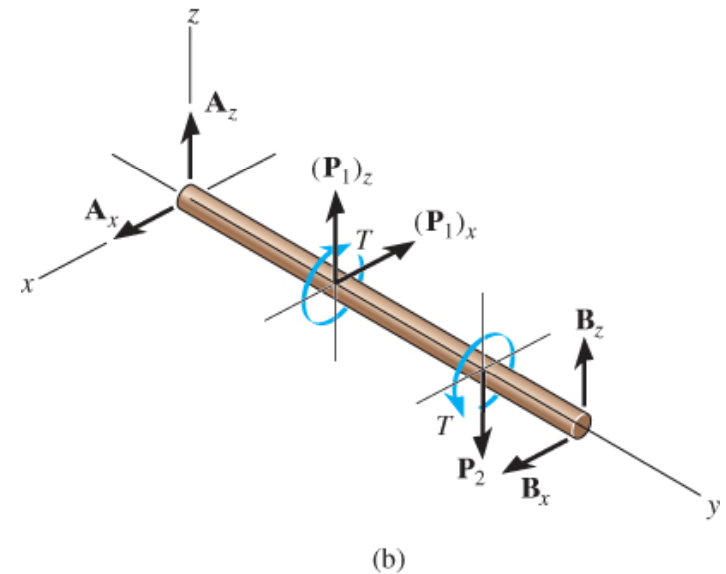


(a)

11. Prismatic Beam Design

*11.4 SHAFT DESIGN

- For example, we can resolve and replace the loads with their equivalent components.
- Bending-moment diagrams for the loads in each plane can be drawn and resultant internal moment at any section along shaft is determined by vector addition, $M = \sqrt{M_x^2 + M_z^2}$.

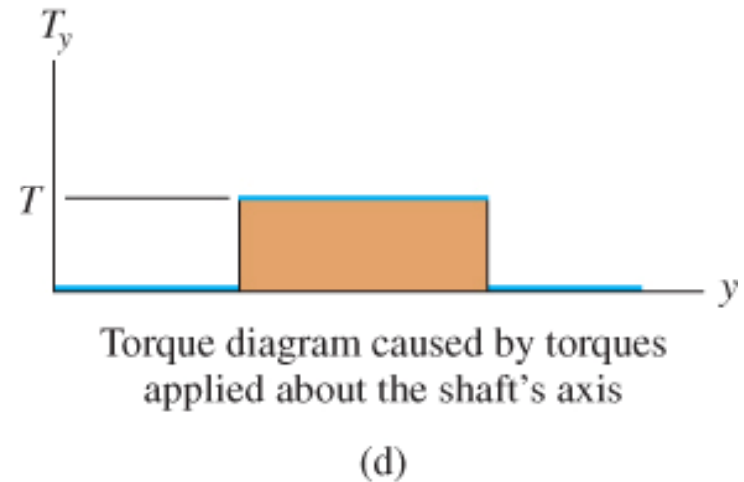


(c)

11. Prismatic Beam Design

*11.4 SHAFT DESIGN

- In addition, the torque diagram can also be drawn.
- Based on the diagrams, we investigate certain critical sections where the combination of resultant moment **M** and torque **T** creates the worst stress situation.
- Then ,we apply flexure formula using the resultant moment on the principal axis of inertia.

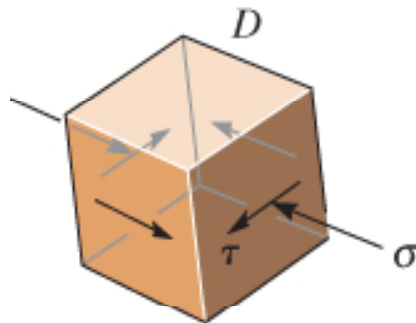


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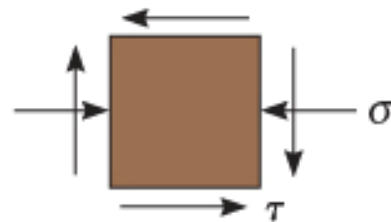
*11.4 SHAFT DESIGN

- In general, critical element D (or C) on the shaft is subjected to plane stress as shown, where

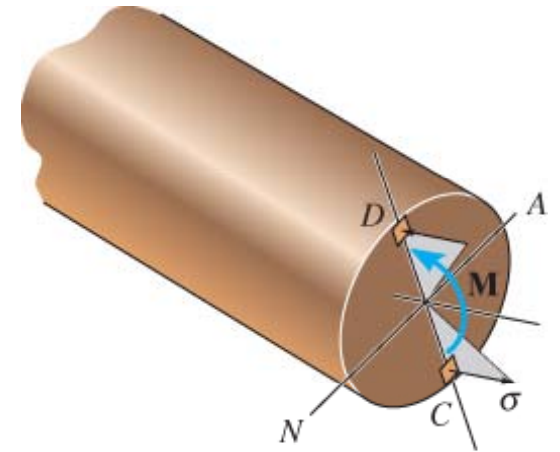
$$\sigma = \frac{Mc}{I} \quad \text{and} \quad \tau = \frac{Tc}{J}$$



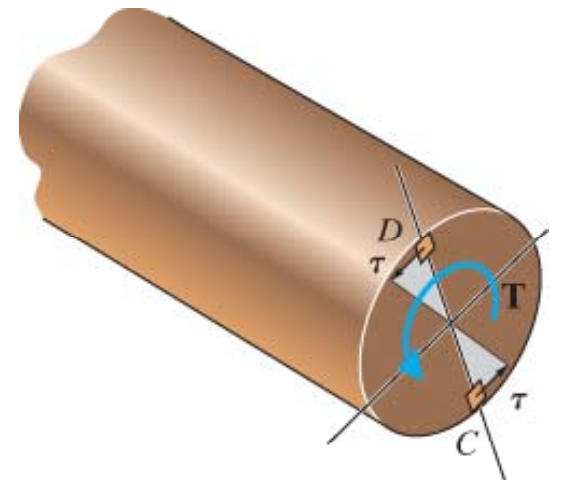
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(g)



(e)



(f)

11. Prismatic Beam Design

*11.4 SHAFT DESIGN

- Using the stress-transformation Eqn. 9-7, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_{\text{allow}} &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sigma}{2}\right)^2 + \tau^2} \\ &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{Mc}{2I}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{Tc}{J}\right)^2}\end{aligned}$$

- Since $I = \pi c^4/2$ and $J = \pi c^4/2$,

$$\tau_{\text{allow}} = \frac{2}{\pi c^3} \sqrt{M^2 + T^2}$$

11. Prismatic Beam Design

*11.4 SHAFT DESIGN

- Solving for radius of the shaft, we get

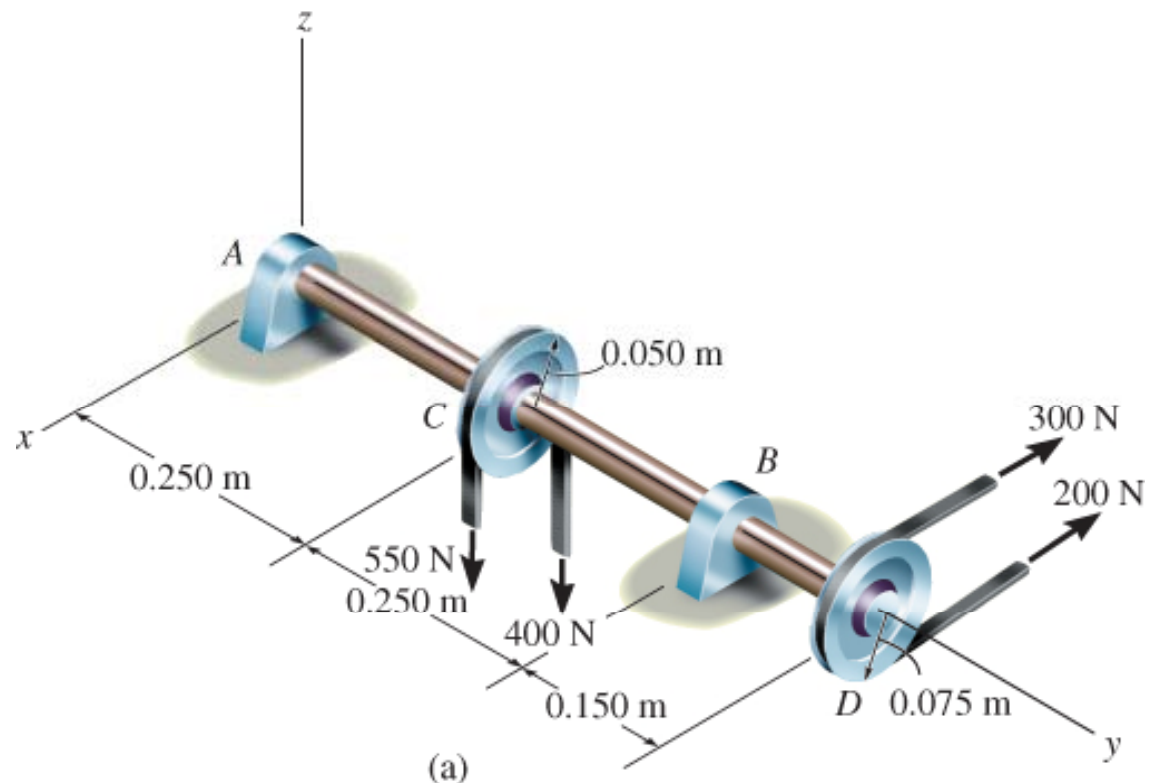
$$c = \left(\frac{2}{\pi \tau_{allow}} \sqrt{M^2 + T^2} \right)^{1/3} \quad (11-2)$$

11. Prismatic Beam Design

*EXAMPLE 11.6

Shaft is supported by smooth journal bearings at A and B. Due to transmission of power to and from the shaft, the belts on the pulleys are subjected to the tensions shown. Determine the smallest diameter of the shaft using the maximum-shear-stress theory, with

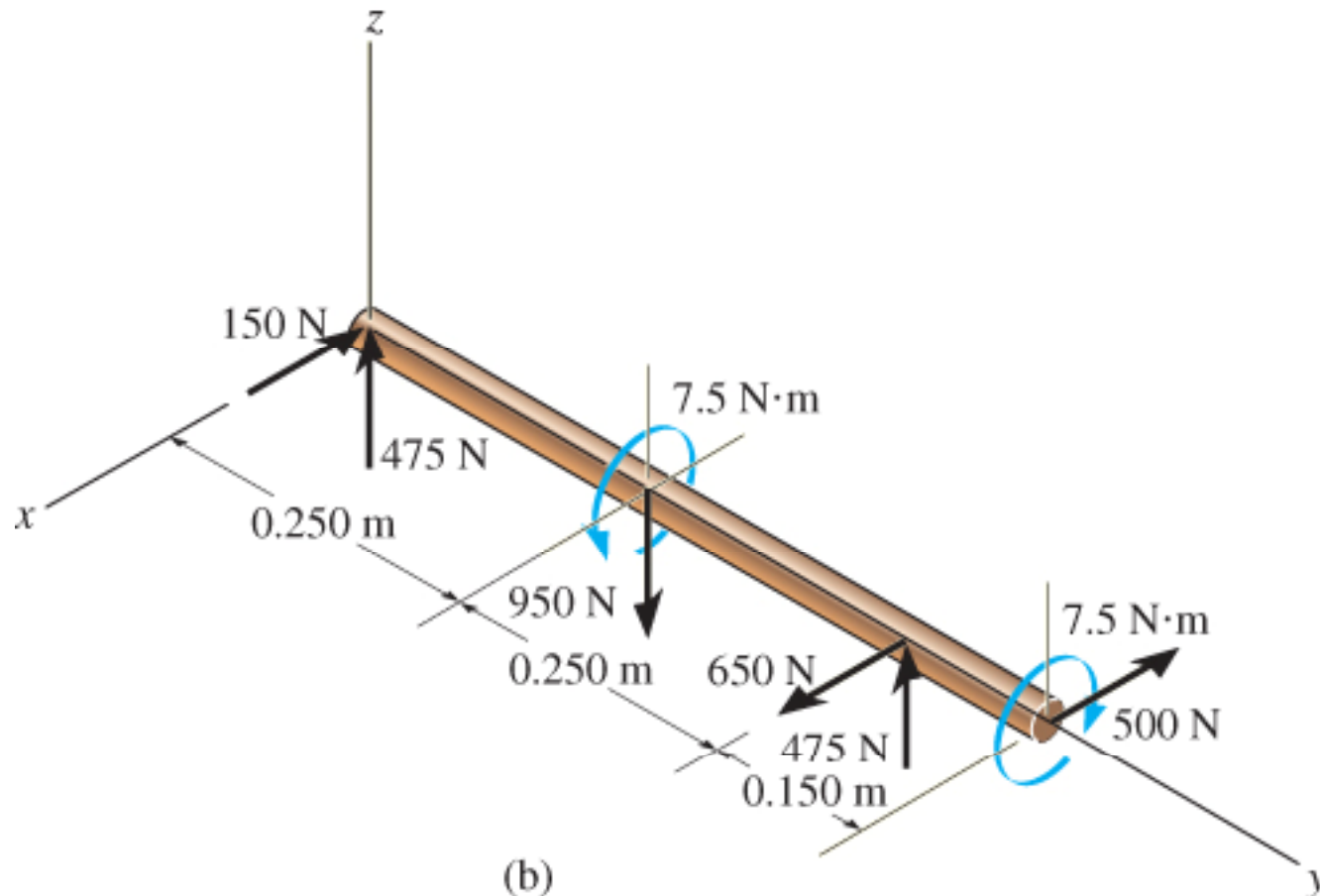
$$\tau_{\text{allow}} = 50 \text{ MPa.}$$



11. Prismatic Beam Design

EXAMPLE 11.6 (SOLN)

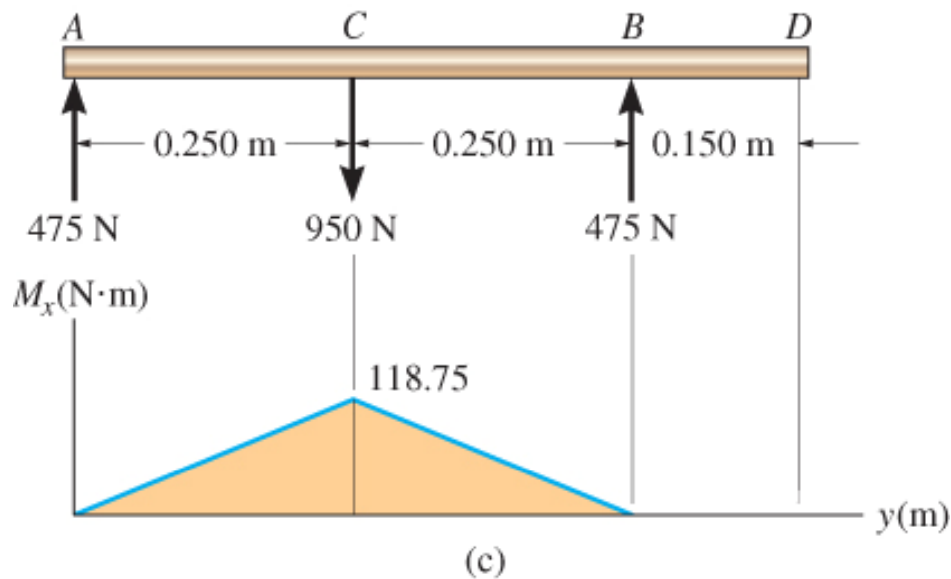
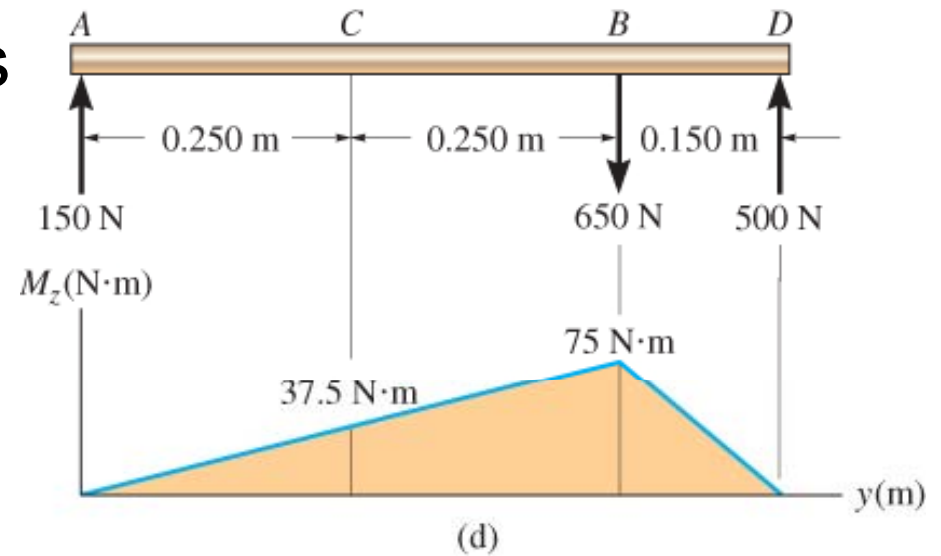
Support reactions are calculated and shown on the free-body diagram of the shaft.



11. Prismatic Beam Design

EXAMPLE 11.6 (SOLN)

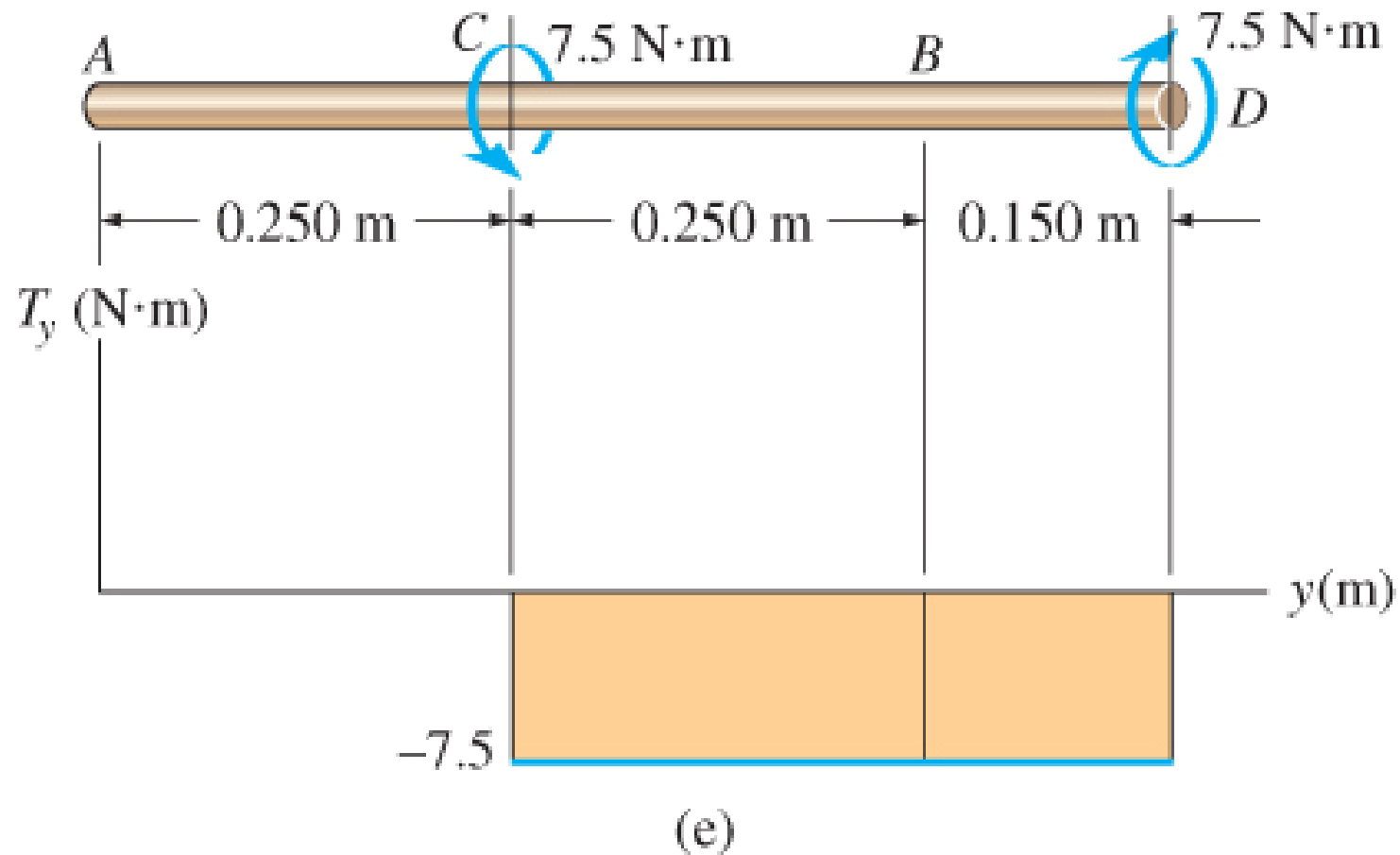
Bending-moment diagrams for M_x and M_z are also shown here.



11. Prismatic Beam Design

EXAMPLE 11.6 (SOLN)

Torque diagram is also shown.



11. Prismatic Beam Design

EXAMPLE 11.6 (SOLN)

By inspection, critical pts for bending moment occur either at C or B . Also, just to the right of C and at B the torsional moment is $7.5 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}$.

At C , resultant moment is

$$M_C = \sqrt{(118.75 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m})^2 + (37.5 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m})^2} = 124.5 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}$$

Whereas at B it is smaller,

$$M_B = 75 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}$$

11. Prismatic Beam Design

EXAMPLE 11.6 (SOLN)

Since the design is based on the maximum-shear-stress theory, Eqn 11-2 applies.

The radical $\sqrt{M^2 + T^2}$ will be the largest at section just to the right of C . We have

$$\begin{aligned} c &= \left(\frac{2}{\pi \tau_{\text{allow}}} \sqrt{M^2 + T^2} \right)^{1/3} \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{\pi (50)(10)^6 \text{ N/m}^2} \sqrt{(124.5 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m})^2 + (7.5 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m})^2} \right)^{1/3} \\ c &= 0.0117 \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

11. Prismatic Beam Design

EXAMPLE 11.6 (SOLN)

Thus the smallest allowable diameter is

$$d = 2(0.0117 \text{ m}) = 23.3 \text{ m}$$

11. Prismatic Beam Design

CHAPTER REVIEW

- Failure of a beam occurs when the internal shear or moment in the beam is a maximum.
- To resist these loadings, it is important that the associated maximum shear and bending stress not exceed allowable values as stated in codes.
- Normally, the x-section of a beam is first designed to resist the allowable bending stress, then the allowable shear stress is checked.
- For rectangular sections, $\tau_{\text{allow}} \geq 1.5 (V_{\text{max}}/A)$.
- For wide-flange sections, we use $\tau_{\text{allow}} \geq V_{\text{max}}/A_{\text{web}}$.

11. Prismatic Beam Design

CHAPTER REVIEW

- For built-up beams, the spacing of fasteners or the strength of glue or weld is determined using an allowable shear flow, $q_{\text{flow}} = VQ/I$.
- Fully stressed beams are nonprismatic and designed such that each x-section along the beam will resist the allowable bending stress. This will define the shape of the beam.
- A mechanical shaft generally is designed to resist both torsion and bending stresses.

11. Prismatic Beam Design

CHAPTER REVIEW

- Normally, bending can be resolved into two planes, and so it is necessary to draw the moment diagrams for each bending moment component and then select the maximum moment based on vector addition.
- Once the maximum bending and shear stresses are determined, then depending upon the type of material, an appropriate theory of failure is used to compare the allowable stress to what is required.