

# Unit 14

## Behavior of General (*including* Unsymmetric Cross-section) Beams

### Readings:

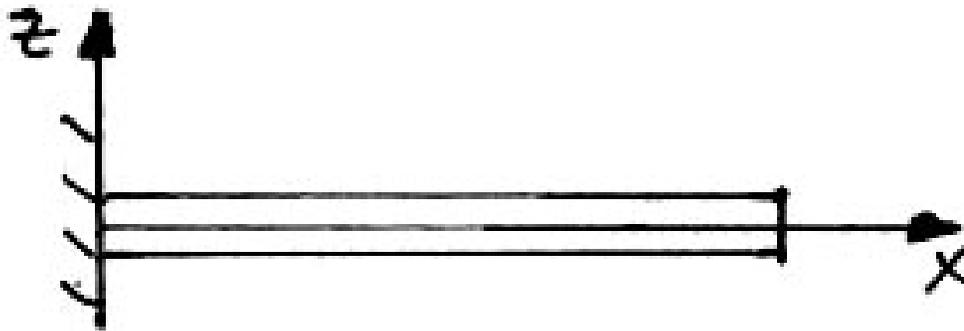
Rivello            7.1 - 7.5, 7.7, 7.8

T & G            126

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Earlier looked at Simple Beam Theory in which one considers a beam in the  $x$ - $z$  plane with the beam along the  $x$ -direction and the load in the  $z$ -direction:

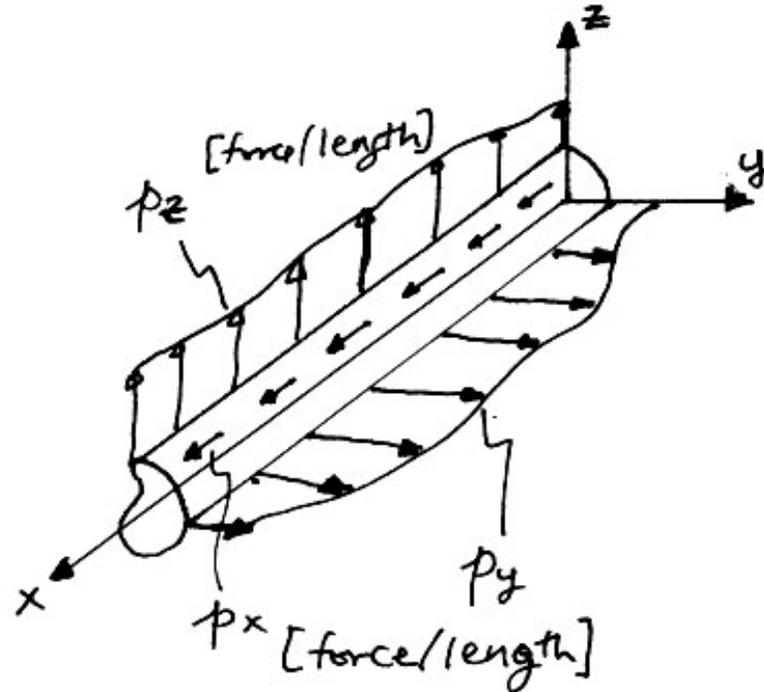
**Figure 14.1 Representation of Simple Beam**



Now look at a more general case:

- Loading can be in any direction
- Can resolve the loading to consider transverse loadings  $p_y(x)$  and  $p_z(x)$ ; and axial loading  $p_x(x)$
- Include a temperature distribution  $T(x, y, z)$

**Figure 14.2 Representation of General Beam**



Maintain several of the same definitions for a beam and basic assumptions.

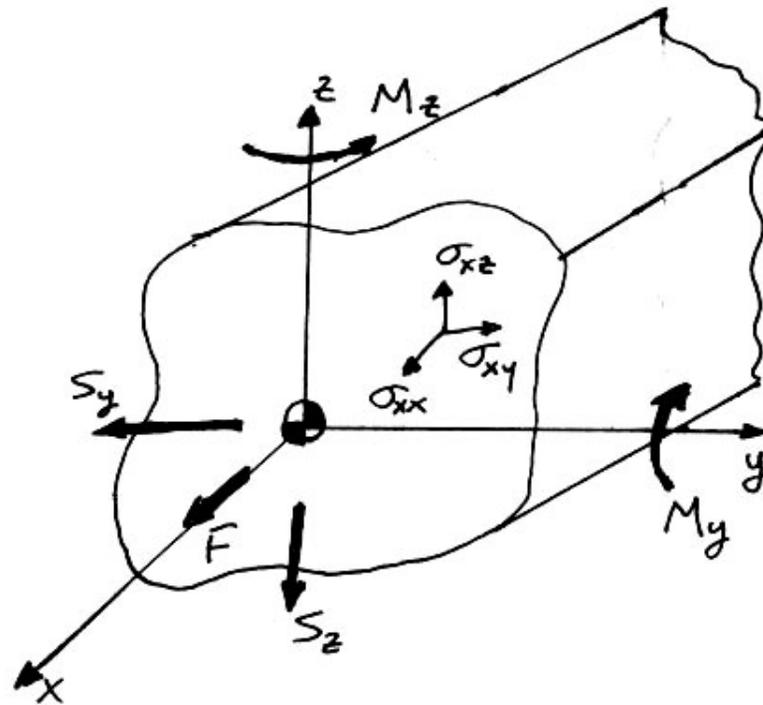
- Geometry: length of beam (x-dimension) greater than y and z dimensions
- Stress State:  $\sigma_{xx}$  is the only “important” stress;  $\sigma_{xy}$  and  $\sigma_{xz}$  found from equilibrium equations, but are secondary in importance
- Deformation: plane sections remain plane and perpendicular to the midplane after deformation (Bernoulli-Euler Hypothesis)

## Definition of stress resultants

Consider a cross-section along x:

**Figure 14.3 Representation of cross-section of general beam**

**Place axis @ center of gravity of section**



where:

$$F = \iint \sigma_{xx} dA$$

$$S_y = - \iint \sigma_{xy} dA$$

$$S_z = - \iint \sigma_{xz} dA$$

$$M_y = - \iint \sigma_{xx} z dA$$

$$M_z = - \iint \sigma_{xx} y dA$$

These are resultants!

The values of these resultants are found from statics in terms of the loading  $p_x$ ,  $p_y$ ,  $p_z$ , and applying the boundary conditions of the problem

## Deformation

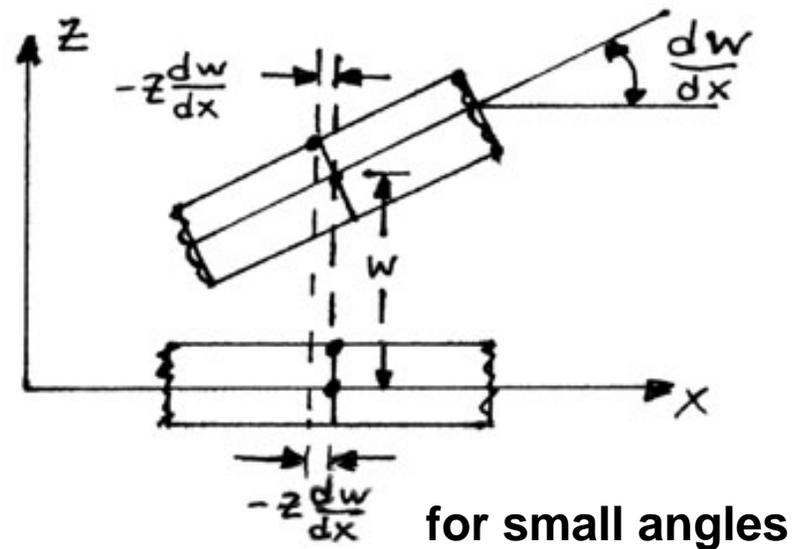
Look at the deformation. In the case of Simple Beam Theory, had:

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

where  $u$  is the displacement along the  $x$ -axis.

This comes from the picture:

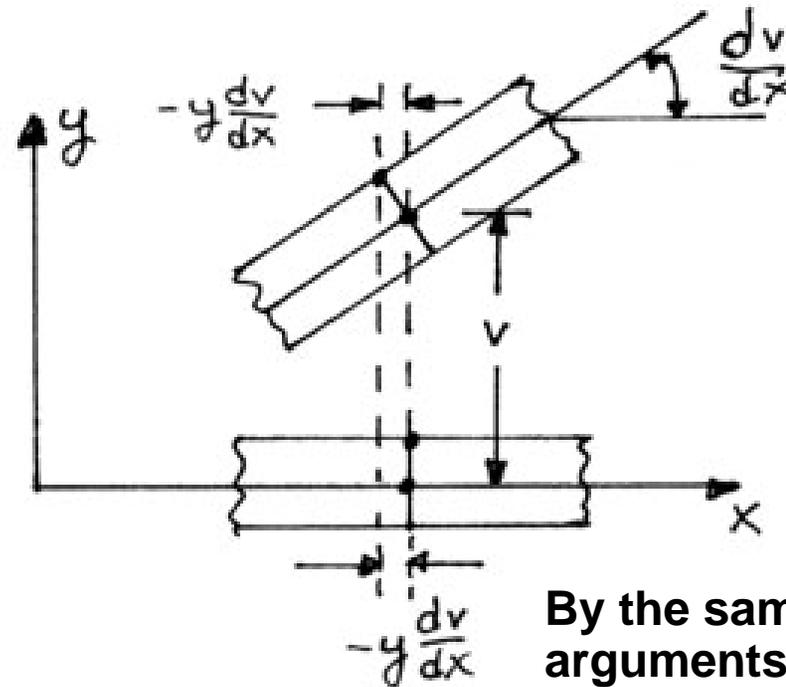
**Figure 14.4 Representation of deformation in Simple Beam Theory**



Now must add two other contributions.....

1. Have the same situation in the x-y plane

**Figure 14.5 Representation of bending displacement in x-y plane**

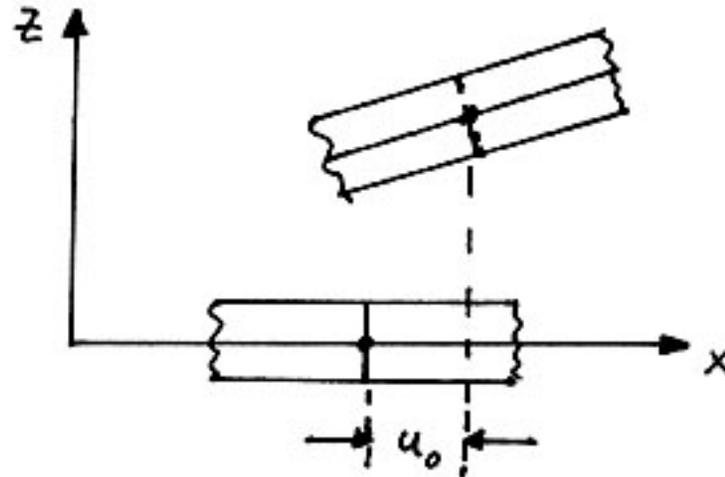


By the same geometrical arguments used previously

where  $v$  is the displacement in the y-direction

2. Allow axial loads, so have an elongation in the x-direction due to this. Call this  $u_0$ :

**Figure 14.6 Representation of axial elongation in x-z plane**



$u_0, v, w$  are the deformations of the midplane

Thus:

$$u(x, y, z) = u_0 - \underbrace{y \frac{dv}{dx}}_{\substack{\text{bending} \\ \text{about} \\ \text{z-axis}}} - \underbrace{z \frac{dw}{dx}}_{\substack{\text{bending} \\ \text{about} \\ \text{y-axis}}}$$

$$v(x, y, z) = v(x)$$

$$w(x, y, z) = w(x)$$

$v$  and  $w$  are constant at any cross-section location,  $x$

## Stress and Strain

From the strain-displacement relation, get:

$$\varepsilon_{xx} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{du_0}{dx} + y \left( -\frac{d^2v}{dx^2} \right) + z \left( -\frac{d^2w}{dx^2} \right)$$

(these become total derivatives as there is no variation of the displacement in y and z)

for functional ease, write:

$$f_1 = \frac{du_0}{dx}$$

$$f_2 = -\frac{d^2v}{dx^2}$$

$$f_3 = -\frac{d^2w}{dx^2}$$

Caution: Rivello uses  $C_1, C_2, C_3$ . These are not constants, so use  $f_i \Rightarrow f_i(x)$  (functions of x)

Thus:

$$\varepsilon_{xx} = f_1 + f_2 y + f_3 z$$

Then use this in the stress-strain equation (orthotropic or “lower”):

$$\varepsilon_{xx} = \frac{\sigma_{xx}}{E} + \alpha \Delta T \quad \swarrow \text{(include temperature effects)}$$

Note: “ignore” thermal strains in y and z. These are of “secondary” importance.

Thus:

$$\sigma_{xx} = E \varepsilon_{xx} - E \alpha \Delta T$$

and using the expression for  $\varepsilon_x$ :

$$\sigma_{xx} = E(f_1 + f_2 y + f_3 z) - E \alpha \Delta T$$

Can place this expression into the expression for the resultants (force and moment) to get:

$$F = \iint \sigma_{xx} dA = f_1 \iint E dA + f_2 \iint E y dA \\ + f_3 \iint E z dA - \iint E \alpha \Delta T dA$$

$$-M_z = \iint \sigma_{xx} y dA = f_1 \iint E y dA + f_2 \iint E y^2 dA \\ + f_3 \iint E y z dA - \iint E \alpha \Delta T y dA$$

$$-M_y = \iint \sigma_{xx} z dA = f_1 \iint E z dA + f_2 \iint E y z dA \\ + f_3 \iint E z^2 dA - \iint E \alpha \Delta T z dA$$

(Note:  $f_1, f_2, f_3$  are functions of  $x$  and integrals are in  $dy$  and  $dz$ , so these come outside the integral sign).

Solve these equations to determine  $f_1(x), f_2(x), f_3(x)$ :

Note: Have kept the modulus,  $E$ , within the integral since will allow it to vary across the cross-section

Orthotropic Beams: Same comments as applied to Simple Beam Theory. The main consideration is the longitudinal modulus, so these equations can be applied.

## Modulus-Weighted Section Properties/Areas

Introduce “modulus weighted area”:

$$dA^* = \frac{E}{E_1} dA \quad (\text{vary in } y \text{ and } z)$$

where:

$A^*$  = modulus weighted area

$E$  = modulus of that area

$E_1$  = some reference value of modulus

Using this in the equations for the resultants, we get:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F + \iint E \alpha \Delta T dA &= E_1 \left\{ f_1 \iint dA^* + f_2 \iint y dA^* + f_3 \iint z dA^* \right\} \\
 -M_z + \iint E \alpha \Delta T y dA &= E_1 \left\{ f_1 \iint y dA^* + f_2 \iint y^2 dA^* + f_3 \iint yz dA^* \right\} \\
 -M_y + \iint E \alpha \Delta T z dA &= E_1 \left\{ f_1 \iint z dA^* + f_2 \iint yz dA^* + f_3 \iint z^2 dA^* \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now define these “modulus-weighted” section properties:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \iint dA^* &= A^* && \text{modulus-weighted area} \\
 \iint y dA^* &= \bar{y}^* A^* \\
 \iint z dA^* &= \bar{z}^* A^* \\
 \iint y^2 dA^* &= I_z^* && \text{modulus-weighted moment of inertia about z-axis} \\
 \iint z^2 dA^* &= I_y^* && \text{modulus-weighted moment of inertia about y-axis} \\
 \iint yz dA^* &= I_{yz}^* && \text{modulus-weighted } \underline{\text{product of inertia}} \\
 &&& \text{ (“cross” moment of inertia)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Also have “Thermal Forces” and “Thermal Moments”. These have the same “units” as forces and moments but are due to thermal effects and can then be treated *analytically* as forces and moments:

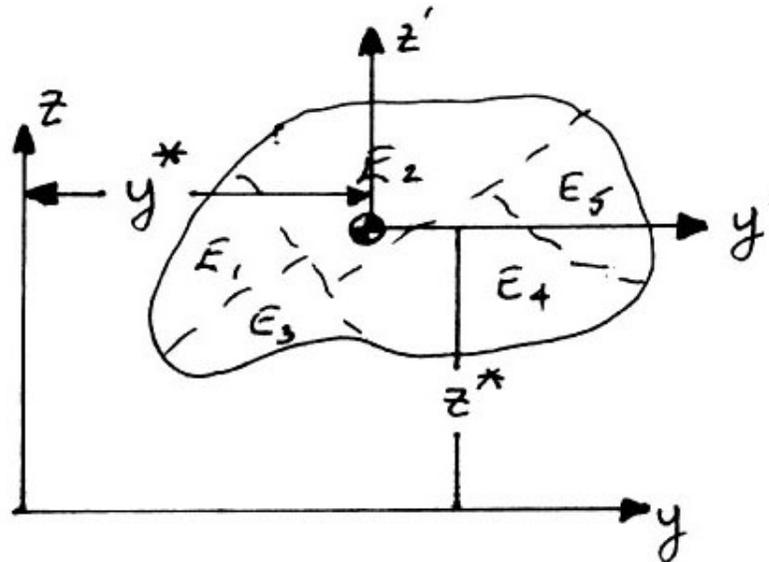
$$F^T = \iint E \alpha \Delta T dA$$

$$M_y^T = - \iint E \alpha \Delta T z dA \quad M_z^T = - \iint E \alpha \Delta T y dA$$

Note: Cannot use the modulus-weighted section properties since  $\alpha$  may also vary in  $y$  and  $z$  along with  $E$ .

In the definition of the section properties, have used a  $\bar{y}^*$  and  $\bar{z}^*$ . These are the location of the “modulus-weighted centroid” referred to some coordinate system

**Figure 14.7 Representation of general beam cross-section with pieces with different values of modulus**



The modulus-weighted centroid is defined by:

$$\frac{1}{A^*} \iint y \, dA^* = \bar{y}^*$$

$$\frac{1}{A^*} \iint z \, dA^* = \bar{z}^*$$

These become 0 if one uses the modulus-weighted centroid as the origin

(Note: like finding center of gravity but use  $E$  rather than  $\rho$ )

If one uses the modulus-weighted centroid as the origin, the equations reduce to:

$$(F + F^T) = F^{TOT} = E_1 f_1 A^*$$

$$-(M_z + M_z^T) = -M_z^{TOT} = E_1 (f_2 I_z^* + f_3 I_{yz}^*)$$

$$-(M_y + M_y^T) = -M_y^{TOT} = E_1 (f_2 I_{yz}^* + f_3 I_y^*)$$

(Note: Rivello uses  $F^*$ ,  $M_y^*$ ,  $M_z^*$  for  $F^{TOT}$ ,  $M_y^{TOT}$ ,  $M_z^{TOT}$ )

Recall that:

$$f_1 = \frac{du_0}{dx}$$

$$f_2 = -\frac{d^2v}{dx^2}$$

$$f_3 = -\frac{d^2w}{dx^2}$$

### Motivation for “modulus-weighted” section properties

A beam may not have constant material properties through the section. Two possible ways to vary:

#### 1. Continuous variation

The modulus may be a continuous function of  $y$  and  $z$ :

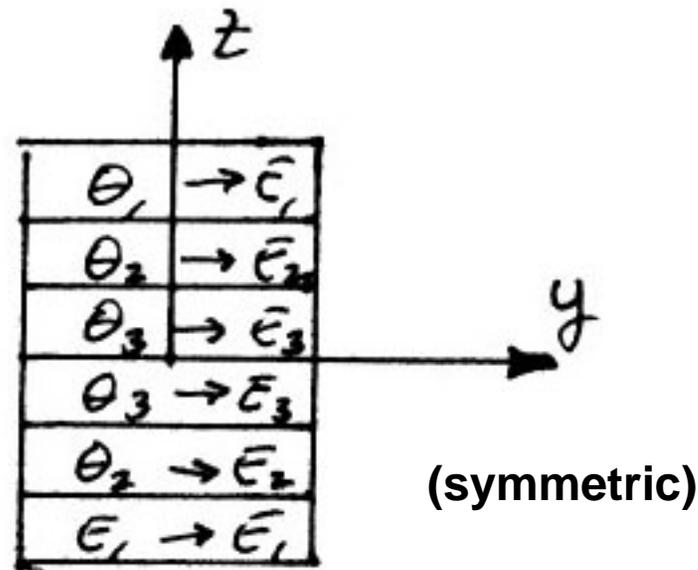
$$E = E(y, z)$$

Example: Beam with a large thermal gradient and four different properties through the cross-section

## 2. Stepwise variation

A composite beam which, although it's made of the same material, has different modulus,  $E_x$ , through-the-thickness as the fiber orientation varies from ply to ply.

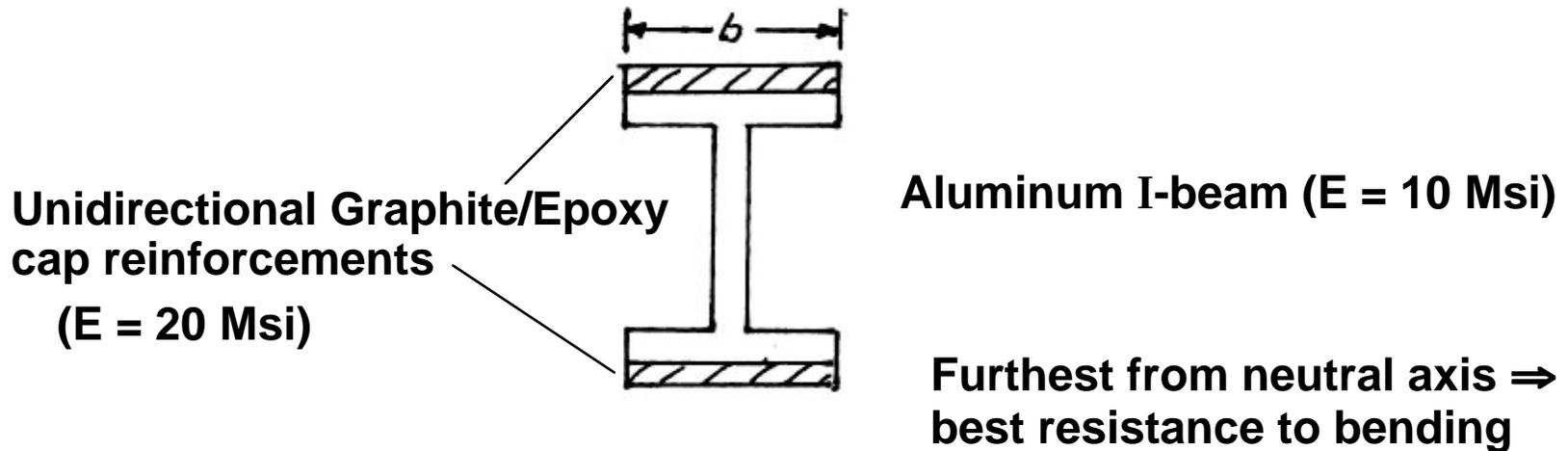
**Figure 14.8 Representation of cross-section of laminated beam with different modulus values through the thickness**



A method of putting material to its best use is called:

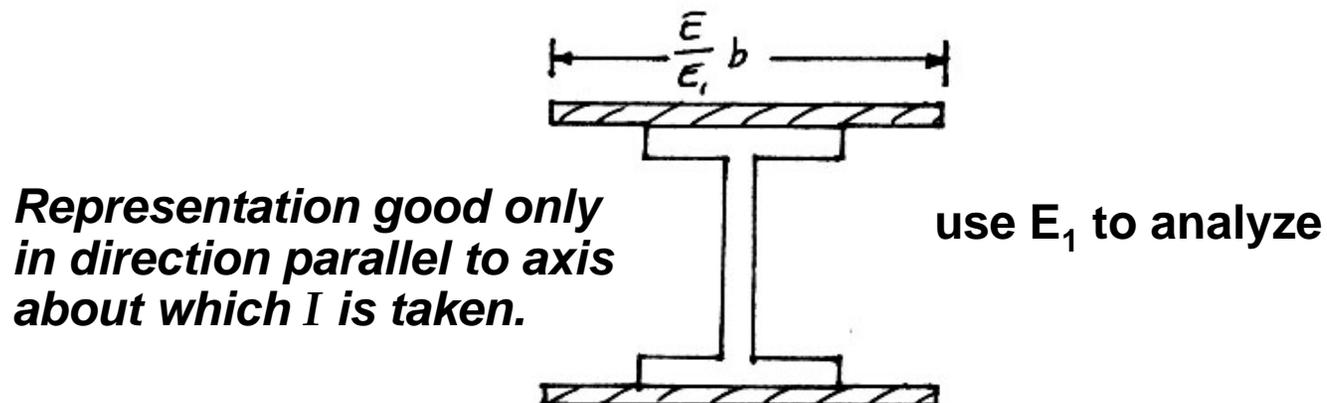
# “Selective Reinforcement”

**Figure 14.9 Representation of selective reinforcement of an I-beam**



Using aluminum as the reference, analyze as follows

**Figure 14.10 Representative cross-section with aluminum as base**

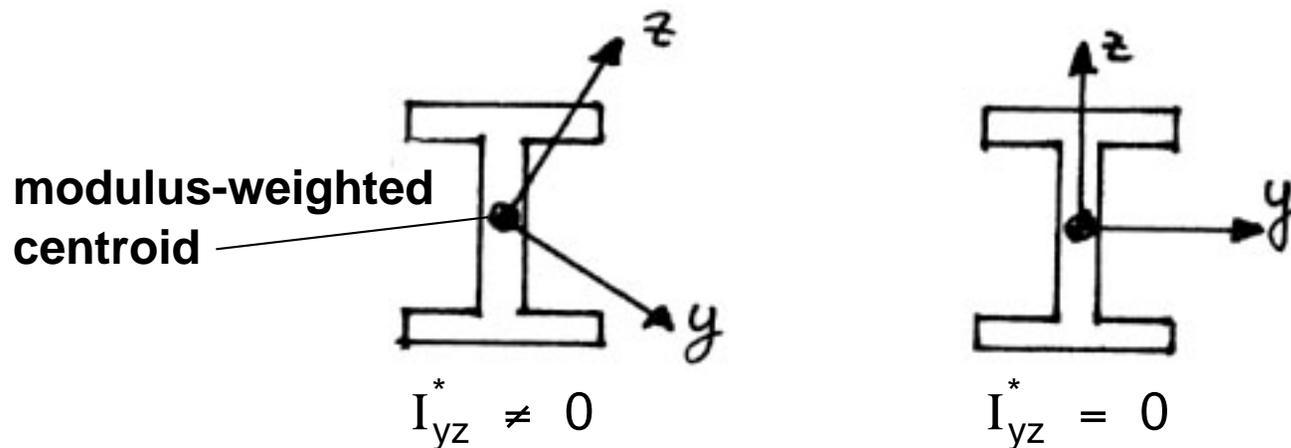


$$\frac{E}{E_1} b = \frac{20 \text{ msi}}{10 \text{ msi}} b = 2b$$

### Principal Axes of structural cross-section:

There is a set of  $y, z$  axes such that the product of inertia ( $I_{yz}^*$ ) is zero. These are the principal axes (section has axes of symmetry)

**Figure 14.11 Representation of principal axes of structural cross-section**



(use Mohr's circle transformation)

If analysis is conducted in the principal axes, the equations reduce to:

$$f_1 = \frac{F^{TOT}}{E_1 A^*} = \frac{du_0}{dx}$$

$$f_2 = -\frac{M_z^{TOT}}{E_1 I_z^*} = -\frac{d^2v}{dx^2}$$

$$f_3 = -\frac{M_y^{TOT}}{E_1 I_y^*} = -\frac{d^2w}{dx^2}$$

These equations can be integrated to find the deflections  $u_0$ ,  $v$  and  $w$

These expressions for the  $f_i$  can be placed into the equation for  $\sigma_{xx}$  to obtain:

$$\sigma_{xx} = \frac{E}{E_1} \left\{ \frac{F^{TOT}}{A^*} - \frac{M_z^{TOT}}{I_z^*} y - \frac{M_y^{TOT}}{I_y^*} z - E_1 \alpha \Delta T \right\}$$

where  $y, z$  are principal axes for the section

If the axes are not principal axes ( $I_{yz}^* \neq 0$ ), have:

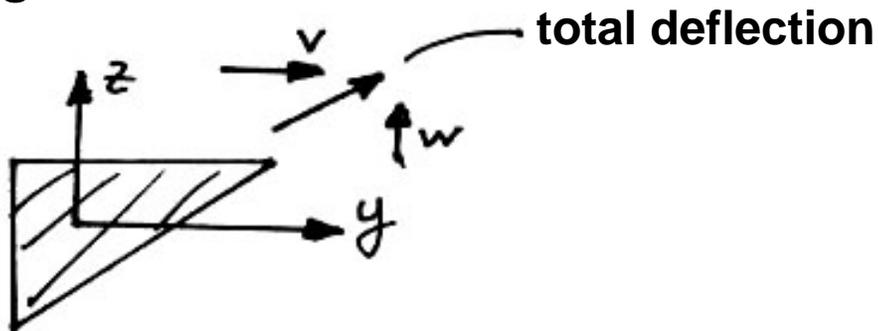
$$f_1 = \frac{F^{TOT}}{E_1 A^*} = \frac{du_0}{dx} \quad (\text{no change})$$

$$f_2 = \frac{-I_y^* M_z^{TOT} + I_{yz}^* M_y^{TOT}}{E_1 (I_y^* I_z^* - I_{yz}^{*2})} = -\frac{d^2 v}{dx^2}$$

$$f_3 = \frac{-I_z^* M_y^{TOT} + I_{yz}^* M_z^{TOT}}{E_1 (I_y^* I_z^* - I_{yz}^{*2})} = -\frac{d^2 w}{dx^2}$$

Note: If  $I_{yz}^* \neq 0$  then both  $w$  and  $v$  are present for  $M_y$  or  $M_z$  only

**Figure 14.12** Representation of deflection of cross-section not in principal axes



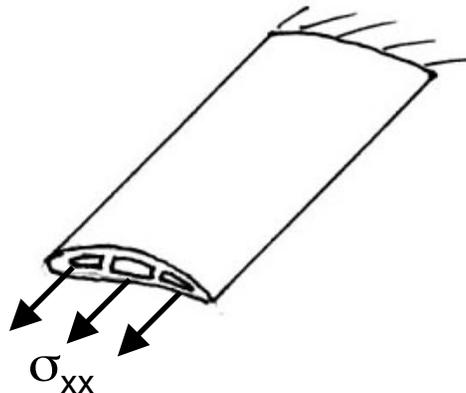
In this case, the expression for the stress is rather long:

$$\sigma_{xx} = \frac{E}{E_1} \left\{ \frac{F^{TOT}}{A^*} - \frac{\left[ I_y^* M_z^{TOT} - I_{yz}^* M_y^{TOT} \right] y}{I_y^* I_z^* - I_{yz}^{*2}} - \frac{\left[ I_z^* M_y^{TOT} - I_{yz}^* M_z^{TOT} \right] z}{I_y^* I_z^* - I_{yz}^{*2}} - E_1 \alpha \Delta T \right\}$$

“Engineering Beam Theory”  
(Non-Principal Axes)

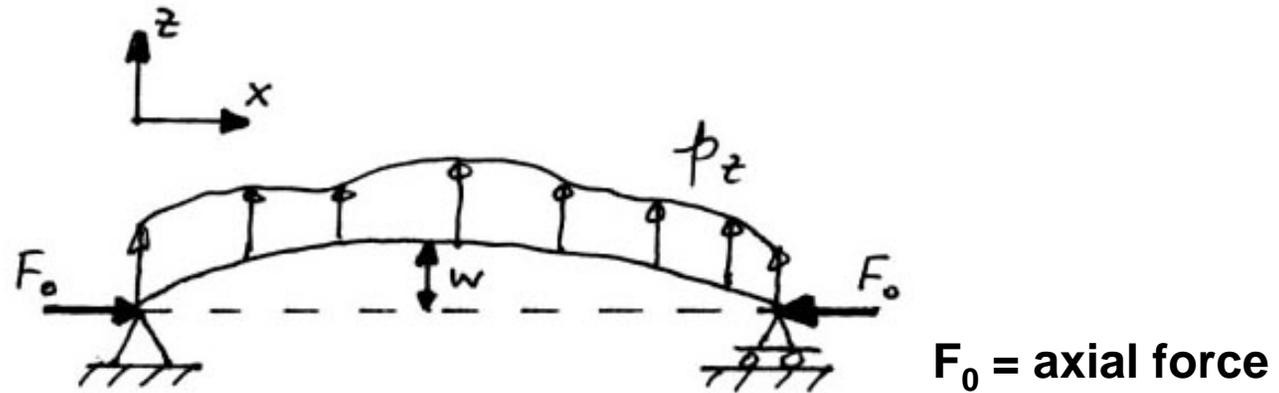
Analysis is good for high aspect ratio structure (e.g. a wing)

**Figure 14.13 Representation of wing as beam**



Note: this analysis neglects the effect of the axial Force  $F$  on the Bending Moment. This became important as the deflection  $w$  (or  $v$ ) becomes large:

**Figure 14.14 Representation of large deflection when axial force and bending deflection couple**



$$M = \underbrace{M_{\text{due to } p_z}}_{\text{Primary Bending Moment}} - \underbrace{w F_0}_{\text{Secondary Moment}}$$

Secondary moment known as “membrane effect”. Can particularly become important if  $F_0$  is near buckling load (will talk about when talk about beam-column)

## Shear Stresses

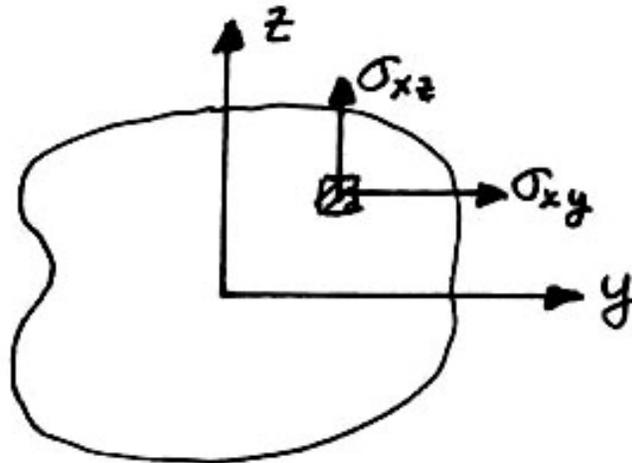
The shear stresses ( $\sigma_{xy}$  and  $\sigma_{xz}$ ) can be obtained from the equilibrium equations:

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{xy}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{xz}}{\partial z} = -\frac{\partial \sigma_{xx}}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{xy}}{\partial x} = 0$$

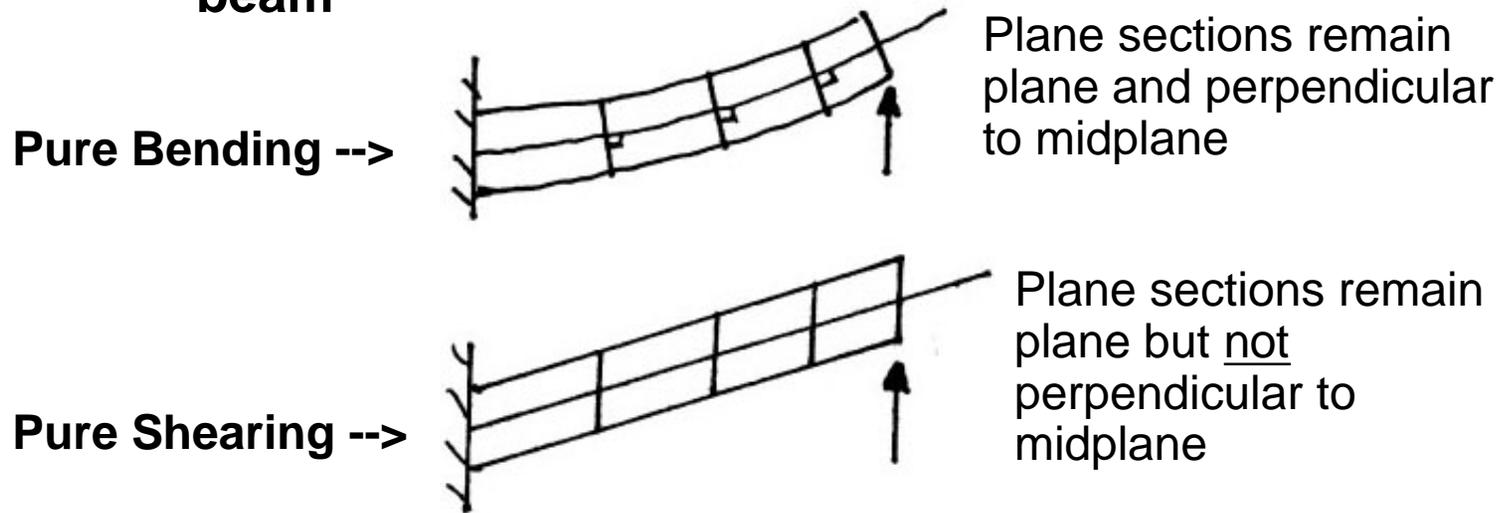
$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{xz}}{\partial x} = 0$$

**Figure 14.15** Representation of cross-section of general beam



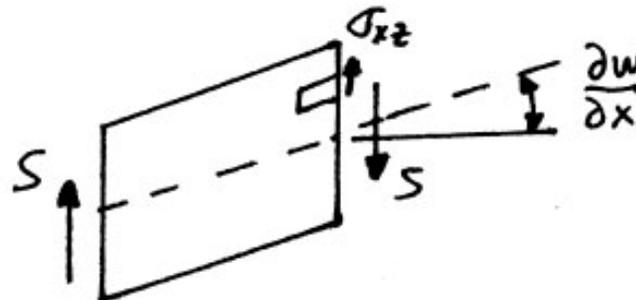
These shear stresses (called “transverse” shear stresses) cause “small” additional shearing contributions to deflections

**Figure 14.16 Representation of pure bending and pure shearing of a beam**



Consider a beam section under “pure shearing”...

**Figure 14.17 Representation of deformation of beam cross-section under pure shearing**



$$\gamma_{xz} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = \frac{\sigma_{xz}}{G}$$

↑  
engineering shear strain

Average  $\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}$  over cross-section:

$$\left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}\right)_{ave} = \frac{\iint \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}\right) dA}{\iint dA} = \frac{1}{G} \frac{\overbrace{\iint \sigma_{xz} dA}^{S_z}}{A} = -\frac{S_z}{GA}$$

Actually, from energy considerations, one should average:

$$\left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}\right)_{ave} = \frac{\iint \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x}\right)^2 dA}{\iint \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} dA} \approx -\frac{S_z}{GA_e}$$

↑  
“effective area”

For a Rectangular Cross-Section:  $A_e \approx 0.83 A$

Then, “pure shearing” deflections,  $w_s$ , governed by:

$$\frac{dw_s}{dx} = -\frac{S}{GA_e}$$

$$w_s = -\int_0^x \frac{S}{GA_e} + C_1$$

↑  
evaluated from boundary conditions

The total beam deflection is the sum of the two contributions:

$$W_T = W_B + W_S$$

$$W_T = W_B + W_S$$

total

bending deflection

from  $EI \frac{d^2 w_B}{dx^2} = M$

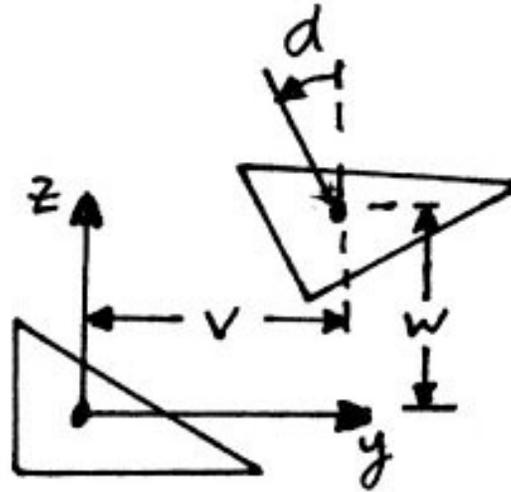
shearing deflection  
from  $GA_e \frac{dw_s}{dx} = -S$

Ordinarily,  $w_s$  is small for ordinary rectangular beams (and can be ignored). But, for thin-walled sections,  $w_s$  can become important

(worse for composites since  $G_{xz} \ll E_x$ )

In addition to “bending” and “shearing”, the section may also twist through an angle  $\alpha$

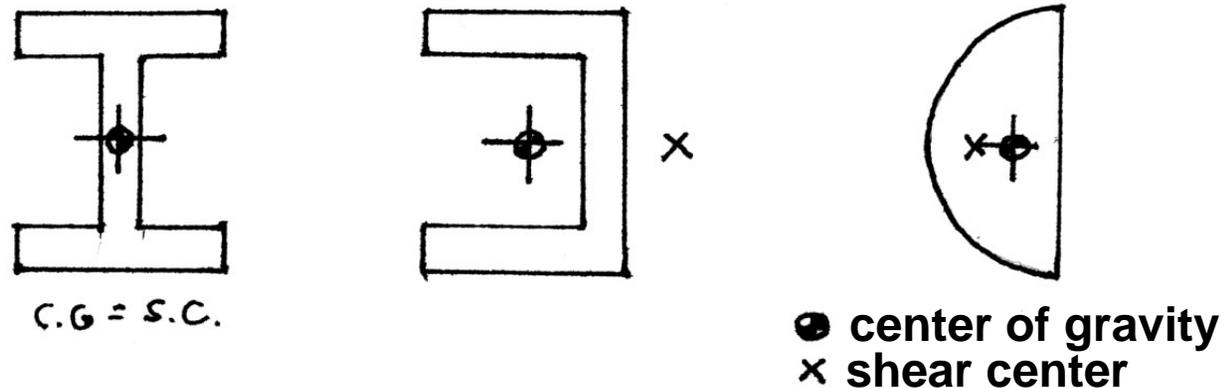
**Figure 14.18** Representation of twisting of beam cross-section



However, there exists a **Shear Center** for every section. If the load is applied at the shear center, the section translates but does not twist.

(Note: shear center not necessarily center of gravity or centroid)

**Figure 14.19** Representation of some beam cross-sections with various locations of center of gravity and shear center



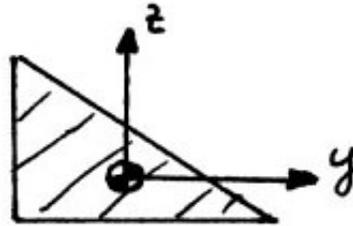
If this condition is not met, then generally bending and twisting will couple. But there is a class of cross-sections (thin-walled) where bending and shearing/torsion can be decoupled. Will pursue this next.

Wrap-up discussion by considering examples of common cross-sections with principal axes aligned such that  $I_{yz} = 0$  (see *Handout #4a*)

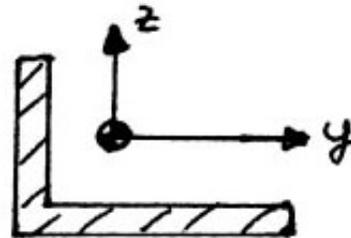
These are in contrast to common cross-sections not principal axes ( $I_{yz} \neq 0$ )

**Figure 14.19** Some cross-sections generally not in principal axes

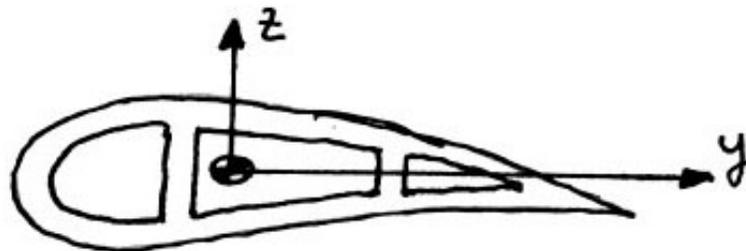
Triangle



Angle



Wing  
Section



## --> Finally

What are the limitations to the Engineering Beam Theory as developed?

- Shear deflections small (can get first order cut at this)
- No twisting (load along shear center) -- otherwise torsion and bending couple
- Deflections small
  - – No moment due to axial load ( $P_w$ )
  - – Angles small such that  $\sin\phi \approx \phi$ 
    - --> will consider next order effect when discuss buckling and postbuckling
    - --> consideration will stiffen (membrane effect) structure
- Did not consider  $\varepsilon_{zz}$  (Poisson's effect)