

Introduction to the Finite Element Method

Lecture 4: **1-D Elements: Beam**

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Outline

- Stiffness Matrix for a Beam Element
- Assembling Stiffness Matrix
- Distributed Loading
- Comparison with exact solution
- Beam element with nodal hinge
- Potential Energy Approach

Beam Element

- A beam is a long, slender structural member generally subjected to transverse loading
- D.O.F. of each node: a transverse displacement and a rotation

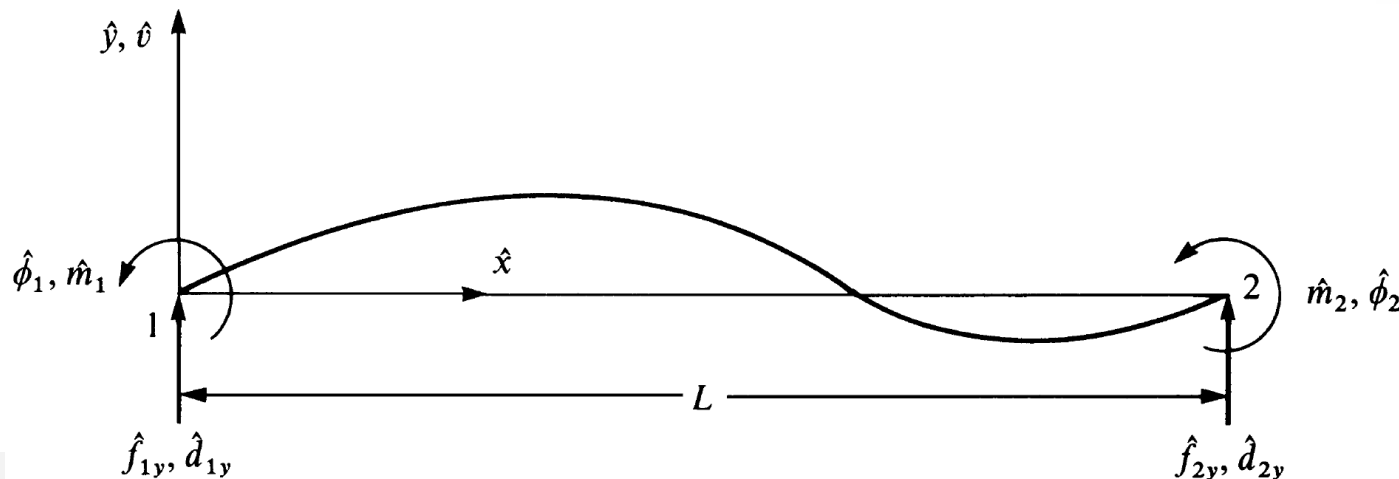


Figure 4–1 Beam element with positive nodal displacements, rotations, forces, and moments

Euler-Bernouli Beam Stiffness

- plane cross sections perpendicular to the neutral axis remaining plane and perpendicular to it after bending.

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{\rho} = \frac{M}{EI}$$

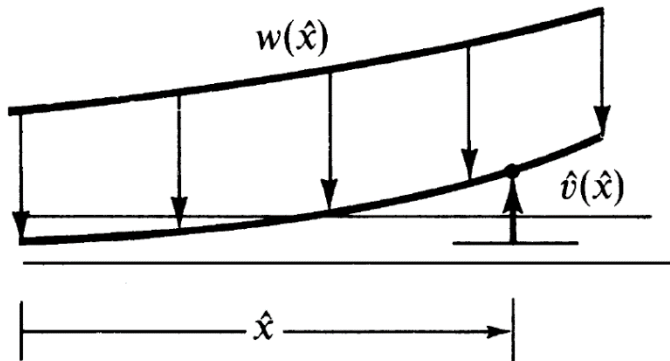
$$\kappa = \frac{d^2 \hat{v}}{d\hat{x}^2}$$

$$\frac{d^2 \hat{v}}{d\hat{x}^2} = \frac{M}{EI}$$

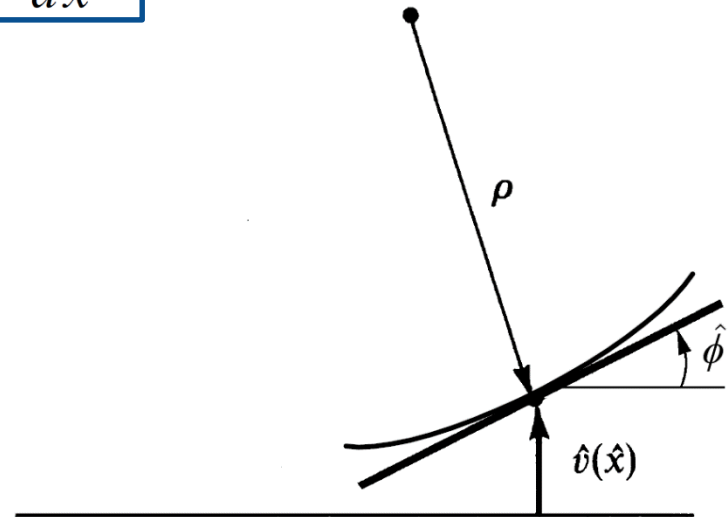
$$w = -\frac{dV}{d\hat{x}}$$

$$V = \frac{dM}{d\hat{x}}$$

$$\frac{d^2}{d\hat{x}^2} \left(EI \frac{d^2 \hat{v}}{d\hat{x}^2} \right) = -w(\hat{x})$$



(a) Portion of deflected curve of beam



(b) Radius of deflected curve at $\hat{v}(\hat{x})$

Displacement Function

- For constant EI and only nodal forces and moments:

$$EI \frac{d^4 \hat{v}}{d\hat{x}^4} = 0$$

- Transverse displacement function (cubic)

$$\hat{v}(\hat{x}) = a_1 \hat{x}^3 + a_2 \hat{x}^2 + a_3 \hat{x} + a_4$$

$$\hat{v}(0) = \hat{d}_{1y} = a_4$$

$$\frac{d\hat{v}(0)}{d\hat{x}} = \hat{\phi}_1 = a_3$$

$$\hat{v}(L) = \hat{d}_{2y} = a_1 L^3 + a_2 L^2 + a_3 L + a_4$$

$$\frac{d\hat{v}(L)}{d\hat{x}} = \hat{\phi}_2 = 3a_1 L^2 + 2a_2 L + a_3$$



$$\hat{v} = \left[\frac{2}{L^3} (\hat{d}_{1y} - \hat{d}_{2y}) + \frac{1}{L^2} (\hat{\phi}_1 + \hat{\phi}_2) \right] \hat{x}^3 + \left[-\frac{3}{L^2} (\hat{d}_{1y} - \hat{d}_{2y}) - \frac{1}{L} (2\hat{\phi}_1 + \hat{\phi}_2) \right] \hat{x}^2 + \hat{\phi}_1 \hat{x} + \hat{d}_{1y}$$

Shape Functions

- In matrix form

$$\hat{v} = [N] \{\hat{d}\}$$

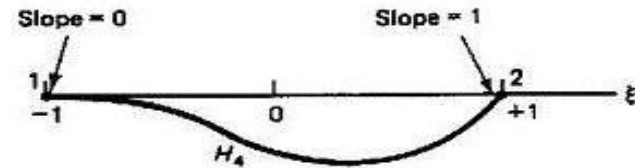
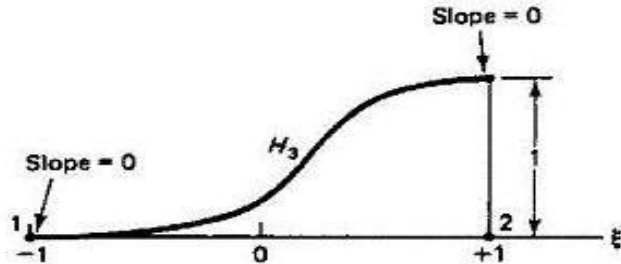
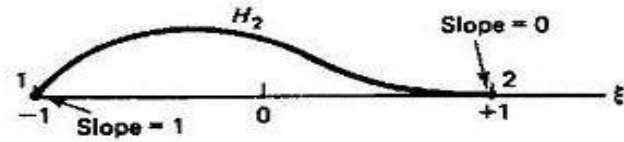
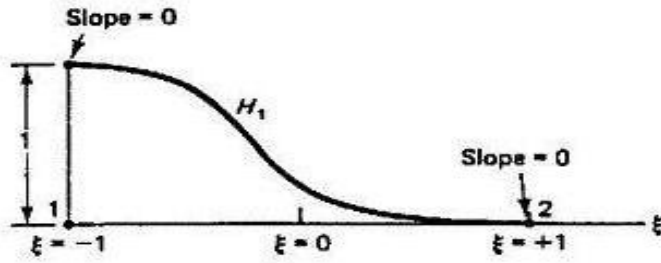
$$\{\hat{d}\} = \begin{Bmatrix} \hat{d}_{1y} \\ \hat{\phi}_1 \\ \hat{d}_{2y} \\ \hat{\phi}_2 \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$[N] = [N_1 \quad N_2 \quad N_3 \quad N_4]$$

$$N_1 = \frac{1}{L^3} (2\hat{x}^3 - 3\hat{x}^2L + L^3) \quad N_2 = \frac{1}{L^3} (\hat{x}^3L - 2\hat{x}^2L^2 + \hat{x}L^3)$$

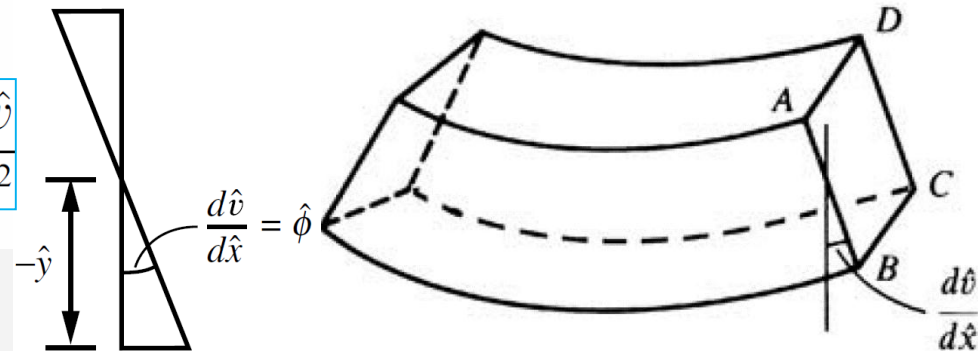
$$N_3 = \frac{1}{L^3} (-2\hat{x}^3 + 3\hat{x}^2L) \quad N_4 = \frac{1}{L^3} (\hat{x}^3L - \hat{x}^2L^2)$$

Shape Functions



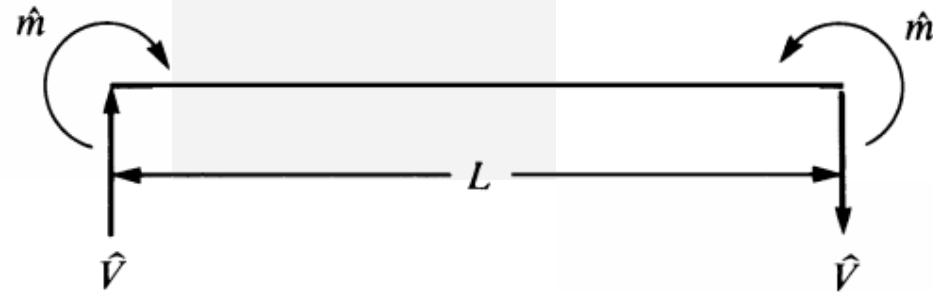
$$\varepsilon_x(\hat{x}, \hat{y}) = \frac{d\hat{u}}{d\hat{x}} \rightarrow \varepsilon_x(\hat{x}, \hat{y}) = -\hat{y} \frac{d^2\hat{v}}{d\hat{x}^2}$$

$$\hat{u} = -\hat{y} \frac{d\hat{v}}{d\hat{x}}$$



Stiffness Matrix

$$\hat{m}(\hat{x}) = EI \frac{d^2 \hat{v}}{d\hat{x}^2} \quad \hat{V} = EI \frac{d^3 \hat{v}}{d\hat{x}^3}$$



$$\hat{f}_{1y} = \hat{V} = EI \frac{d^3 \hat{v}(0)}{d\hat{x}^3} = \frac{EI}{L^3} (12\hat{d}_{1y} + 6L\hat{\phi}_1 - 12\hat{d}_{2y} + 6L\hat{\phi}_2)$$

$$\hat{m}_1 = -\hat{m} = -EI \frac{d^2 \hat{v}(0)}{d\hat{x}^2} = \frac{EI}{L^3} (6L\hat{d}_{1y} + 4L^2\hat{\phi}_1 - 6L\hat{d}_{2y} + 2L^2\hat{\phi}_2)$$

$$\hat{f}_{2y} = -\hat{V} = -EI \frac{d^3 \hat{v}(L)}{d\hat{x}^3} = \frac{EI}{L^3} (-12\hat{d}_{1y} - 6L\hat{\phi}_1 + 12\hat{d}_{2y} - 6L\hat{\phi}_2)$$

$$\hat{m}_2 = \hat{m} = EI \frac{d^2 \hat{v}(L)}{d\hat{x}^2} = \frac{EI}{L^3} (6L\hat{d}_{1y} + 2L^2\hat{\phi}_1 - 6L\hat{d}_{2y} + 4L^2\hat{\phi}_2)$$

Stiffness Matrix

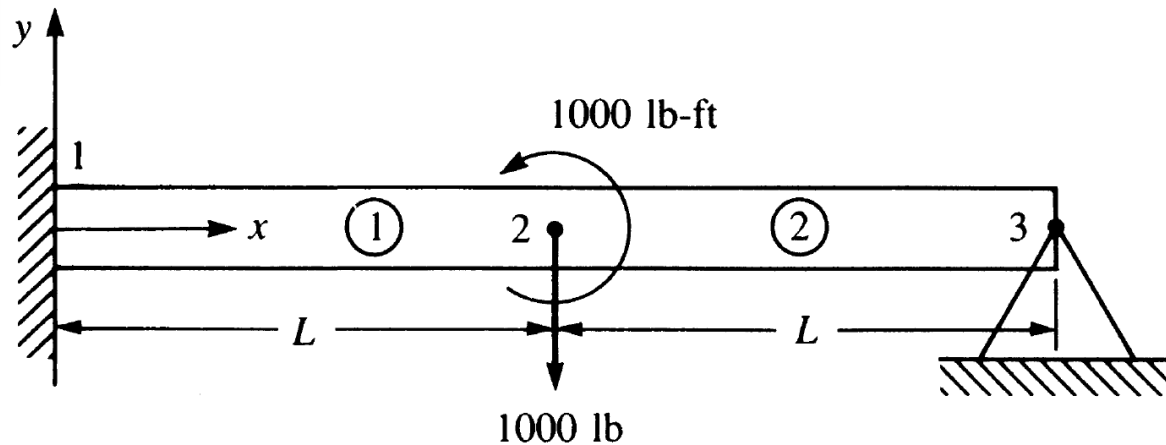
$$\begin{Bmatrix} \hat{f}_{1y} \\ \hat{m}_1 \\ \hat{f}_{2y} \\ \hat{m}_2 \end{Bmatrix} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 6L & -12 & 6L \\ 6L & 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 \\ -12 & -6L & 12 & -6L \\ 6L & 2L^2 & -6L & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \hat{d}_{1y} \\ \hat{\phi}_1 \\ \hat{d}_{2y} \\ \hat{\phi}_2 \end{Bmatrix}$$

- Stiffness matrix:

$$\underline{\hat{k}} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 6L & -12 & 6L \\ 6L & 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 \\ -12 & -6L & 12 & -6L \\ 6L & 2L^2 & -6L & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example 1

- Assemblage of Beam Stiffness Matrices



Example 1

$$\underline{k}^{(1)} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} & d_{1y} & \phi_1 & d_{2y} & \phi_2 \\ 12 & 6L & -12 & 6L \\ 6L & 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 \\ -12 & -6L & 12 & -6L \\ 6L & 2L^2 & -6L & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \underline{k}^{(2)} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} & d_{2y} & \phi_2 & d_{3y} & \phi_3 \\ 12 & 6L & -12 & 6L \\ 6L & 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 \\ -12 & -6L & 12 & -6L \\ 6L & 2L^2 & -6L & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} F_{1y} \\ M_1 \\ F_{2y} \\ M_2 \\ F_{3y} \\ M_3 \end{Bmatrix} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 6L & -12 & 6L & 0 & 0 \\ 6L & 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 & 0 & 0 \\ -12 & -6L & 12 + 12 & -6L + 6L & -12 & 6L \\ 6L & 2L^2 & -6L + 6L & 4L^2 + 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 \\ 0 & 0 & -12 & -6L & 12 & -6L \\ 0 & 0 & 6L & 2L^2 & -6L & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} d_{1y} \\ \phi_1 \\ d_{2y} \\ \phi_2 \\ d_{3y} \\ \phi_3 \end{Bmatrix}$$

Example 1

- B.C.'s:

$$\phi_1 = 0 \quad d_{1y} = 0 \quad d_{3y} = 0$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} -1000 \\ 1000 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 24 & 0 & 6L \\ 0 & 8L^2 & 2L^2 \\ 6L & 2L^2 & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} d_{2y} \\ \phi_2 \\ \phi_3 \end{Bmatrix}$$

Example 2

Using the direct stiffness method, solve the problem of the propped cantilever beam subjected to end load P in Figure 4–8. The beam is assumed to have constant EI and length $2L$. It is supported by a roller at midlength and is built in at the right end.

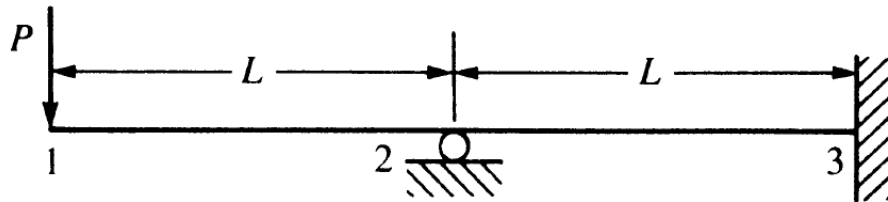


Figure 4–8 Propped cantilever beam

The \underline{K} is

$$\underline{K} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} d_{1y} & \phi_1 & d_{2y} & \phi_2 & d_{3y} & \phi_3 \\ 12 & 6L & -12 & 6L & 0 & 0 \\ & 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 & 0 & 0 \\ & & 12 + 12 & -6L + 6L & -12 & 6L \\ & & & 4L^2 + 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 \\ & & & & 12 & -6L \\ \text{Symmetry} & & & & & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example 2

The governing equations for the beam are then given by

$$\begin{Bmatrix} F_{1y} \\ M_1 \\ F_{2y} \\ M_2 \\ F_{3y} \\ M_3 \end{Bmatrix} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 6L & -12 & 6L & 0 & 0 \\ 6L & 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 & 0 & 0 \\ -12 & -6L & 24 & 0 & -12 & 6L \\ 6L & 2L^2 & 0 & 8L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 \\ 0 & 0 & -12 & -6L & 12 & -6L \\ 0 & 0 & 6L & 2L^2 & -6L & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} d_{1y} \\ \phi_1 \\ d_{2y} \\ \phi_2 \\ d_{3y} \\ \phi_3 \end{Bmatrix}$$

On applying the boundary conditions

$$d_{2y} = 0 \quad d_{3y} = 0 \quad \phi_3 = 0$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} -P \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 6L & 6L \\ 6L & 4L^2 & 2L^2 \\ 6L & 2L^2 & 8L^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} d_{1y} \\ \phi_1 \\ \phi_2 \end{Bmatrix}$$

where $F_{1y} = P$, $M_1 = 0$, and $M_2 = 0$ have been used

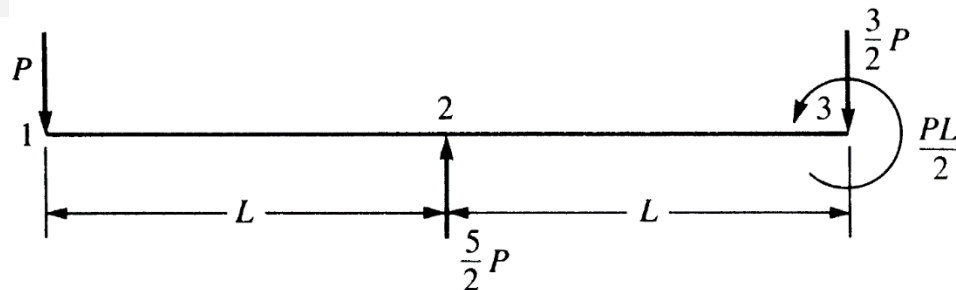
Example 2

$$d_{1y} = -\frac{7PL^3}{12EI} \quad \phi_1 = \frac{3PL^2}{4EI} \quad \phi_2 = \frac{PL^2}{4EI}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} F_{1y} \\ M_1 \\ F_{2y} \\ M_2 \\ F_{3y} \\ M_3 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 6L & -12 & 6L & 0 & 0 \\ 6L & 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 & 0 & 0 \\ -12 & -6L & 24 & 0 & -12 & 6L \\ 6L & 2L^2 & 0 & 8L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 \\ 0 & 0 & -12 & -6L & 12 & -6L \\ 0 & 0 & 6L & 2L^2 & -6L & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{7PL^3}{12EI} \\ \frac{3PL^2}{4EI} \\ 0 \\ \frac{PL^2}{4EI} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$F_{1y} = -P \quad M_1 = 0 \quad F_{2y} = \frac{5}{2}P$$

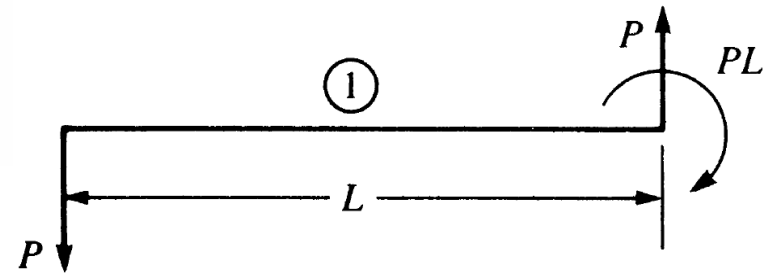
$$M_2 = 0 \quad F_{3y} = -\frac{3}{2}P \quad M_3 = \frac{1}{2}PL$$



Example 2

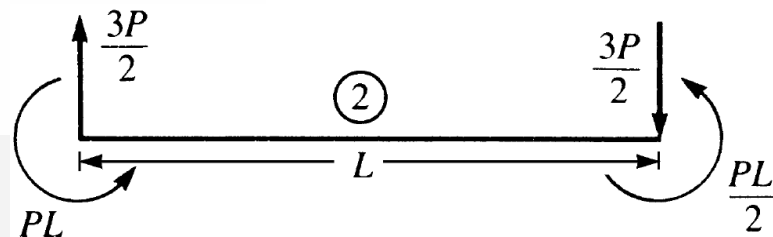
For element 1

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \hat{f}_{1y} \\ \hat{m}_1 \\ \hat{f}_{2y} \\ \hat{m}_2 \end{Bmatrix} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 6L & -12 & 6L \\ 6L & 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 \\ -12 & -6L & 12 & -6L \\ 6L & 2L^2 & -6L & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} -\frac{7PL^3}{12EI} \\ \frac{3PL^2}{4EI} \\ 0 \\ \frac{PL^2}{4EI} \end{Bmatrix}$$



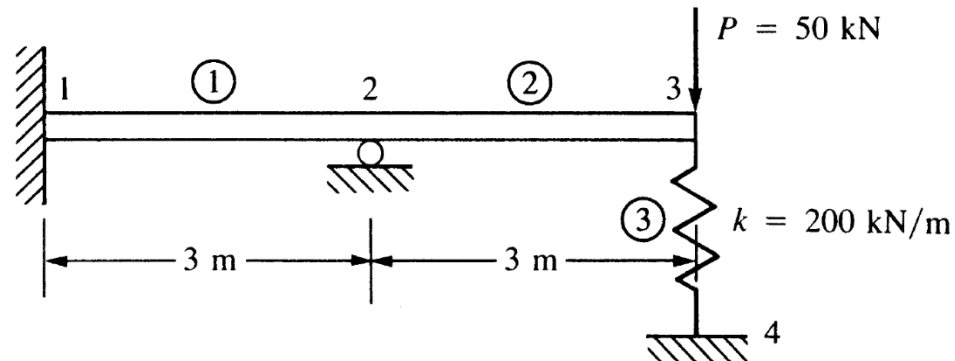
$$\hat{f}_{1y} = -P \quad \hat{m}_1 = 0 \quad \hat{f}_{2y} = P \quad \hat{m}_2 = -PL$$

For element 2



Example 3

Determine the nodal displacements and rotations and the global and element forces. Let $E = 210 \text{ GPa}$ and $I = 2 \times 10^4 \text{ m}^4$ throughout the beam, and let $k = 200 \text{ kN/m}$.



We obtain the structure stiffness matrix as

$$\underline{K} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 6L & -12 & 6L & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & 24 & 0 & -12 & 6L & 0 & 0 \\ & & 8L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & 12 + \frac{kL^3}{EI} & -6L & -\frac{kL^3}{EI} & 0 \\ & & & & 4L^2 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & & & \frac{kL^3}{EI} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Symmetry

Example 3

where the spring stiffness matrix k_s given below

$$\underline{k}_s = \begin{bmatrix} & d_{3y} & d_{4y} \\ k & -k \\ -k & k \end{bmatrix}$$

The governing equations for the beam are then given by

$$\begin{Bmatrix} F_{1y} \\ M_1 \\ F_{2y} \\ M_2 \\ F_{3y} \\ M_3 \\ F_{4y} \end{Bmatrix} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 6L & -12 & 6L & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & & 24 & 0 & -12 & 6L & 0 \\ & & & 8L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 & 0 \\ & & & & 12 + k' & -6L & -k' \\ & & & & & 4L^2 & 0 \\ & & & & & & k' \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} d_{1y} \\ \phi_1 \\ d_{2y} \\ \phi_2 \\ d_{3y} \\ \phi_3 \\ d_{4y} \end{Bmatrix}$$

Symmetry

where $k' = kL^3/(EI)$

Example 3

We now apply the B.C.'s:

$$d_{1y} = 0 \quad \phi_1 = 0 \quad d_{2y} = 0 \quad d_{4y} = 0$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ -P \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 8L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 \\ -6L & 12 + k' & -6L \\ 2L^2 & -6L & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \phi_2 \\ d_{3y} \\ \phi_3 \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$d_{3y} = -\frac{7PL^3}{EI} \left(\frac{1}{12 + 7k'} \right) = \frac{-7(50 \text{ kN})(3 \text{ m})^3}{(210 \times 10^6 \text{ kN/m}^2)(2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^4)} \left(\frac{1}{12 + 7(0.129)} \right) = -0.0174 \text{ m}$$

$$\phi_2 = -\frac{3PL^2}{EI} \left(\frac{1}{12 + 7k'} \right) = -0.00249 \text{ rad}$$

$$\phi_3 = -\frac{9PL^2}{EI} \left(\frac{1}{12 + 7k'} \right) = -0.00747 \text{ rad}$$

$$F_{1y} = -69.9 \text{ kN} \quad M_1 = -69.7 \text{ kN} \cdot \text{m}$$

$$F_{2y} = 116.4 \text{ kN} \quad M_2 = 0.0 \text{ kN} \cdot \text{m}$$

$$F_{3y} = -50.0 \text{ kN} \quad M_3 = 0.0 \text{ kN} \cdot \text{m}$$

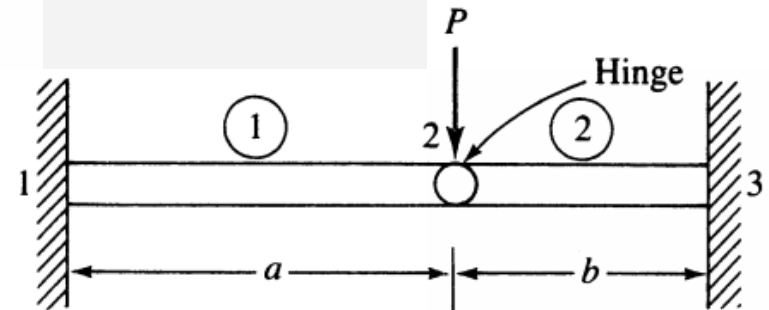
$$F_{4y} = -d_{3y}k = (0.0174)200 = 3.5 \text{ kN}$$

Example 4: Nodal Hinge

Determine the displacement and rotation at node 2 and the element forces for the uniform beam with an internal hinge at node 2 shown in Figure 4–34. Let EI be a constant.

$$k^{(1)} = \frac{EI}{a^3} \begin{bmatrix} d_{1y} & \phi_1 & d_{2y} & \phi_2 \\ 12 & 6a & -12 & 6a \\ 6a & 4a^2 & -6a & 2a^2 \\ -12 & -6a & 12 & -6a \\ 6a & 2a^2 & -6a & 4a^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$k^{(2)} = \frac{EI}{b^3} \begin{bmatrix} d_{2y} & \phi'_2 & d_{3y} & \phi_3 \\ 12 & 6b & -12 & 6b \\ 6b & 4b^2 & -6b & 2b^2 \\ -12 & -6b & 12 & -6b \\ 6b & 2b^2 & -6b & 4b^2 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$k = EI \begin{bmatrix} d_{2y} & \phi_2 & \phi'_2 \\ \frac{12}{a^3} + \frac{12}{b^3} & \frac{-6}{a^2} & \frac{6}{b^2} \\ \frac{-6}{a^2} & \frac{4}{a} & 0 \\ \frac{6}{b^2} & 0 & \frac{4}{b} \end{bmatrix}$$

Example 4: Nodal Hinge

$$EI \begin{bmatrix} \frac{12}{a^3} + \frac{12}{b^3} & \frac{-6}{a^2} & \frac{6}{b^2} \\ \frac{-6}{a^2} & \frac{4}{a} & 0 \\ \frac{6}{b^2} & 0 & \frac{4}{b} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{Bmatrix} d_{2y} \\ \phi_2 \\ \phi_2' \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} -P \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} d_{2y} &= \frac{-a^3 b^3 P}{3(b^3 + a^3)EI} \\ \phi_2 &= \frac{-a^2 b^3 P}{2(b^3 + a^3)EI} \\ \phi_2' &= \frac{a^3 b^2 P}{2(b^3 + a^3)EI} \end{aligned}$$

- For Element 2:

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \hat{f}_{2y} \\ \hat{m}_2 \\ \hat{f}_{3y} \\ \hat{m}_3 \end{Bmatrix} = \frac{EI}{b^3} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 6b & -12 & 6b \\ 6b & 4b^2 & -6b & 2b^2 \\ -12 & -6b & 12 & -6b \\ 6b & 2b^2 & -6b & 4b^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} -\frac{a^3 b^3 P}{3(b^3 + a^3)EI} \\ \frac{a^3 b^2 P}{2(b^3 + a^3)EI} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} \hat{f}_{2y} &= -\frac{a^3 P}{b^3 + a^3} \\ \hat{m}_2 &= 0 \\ \hat{f}_{3y} &= \frac{a^3 P}{b^3 + a^3} \\ \hat{m}_3 &= -\frac{ba^3 P}{b^3 + a^3} \end{aligned}$$

Potential Energy Approach

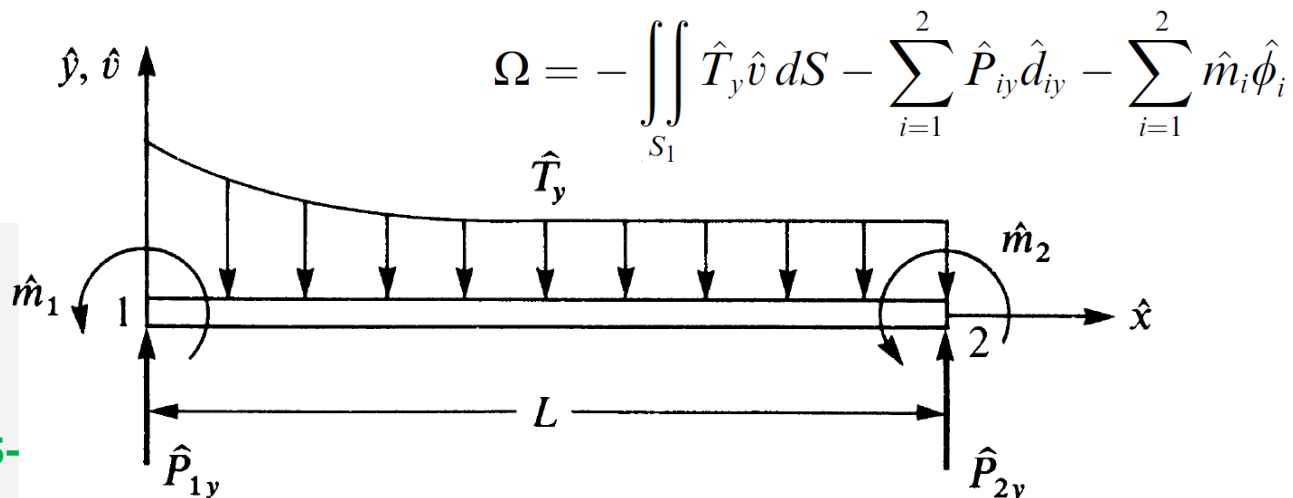
The total potential energy for a beam is

$$\pi_p = U + \Omega$$

where the general one-dimensional expression for the strain energy U for a beam is

$$U = \iiint_V \frac{1}{2} \sigma_x \varepsilon_x dV$$

and for a single beam element subjected to both distributed and concentrated nodal loads, the potential energy of forces is given by

$$\Omega = - \iint_{S_1} \hat{T}_y \hat{v} dS - \sum_{i=1}^2 \hat{P}_{iy} \hat{d}_{iy} - \sum_{i=1}^2 \hat{m}_i \hat{\phi}_i$$


Potential Energy Approach

$$\hat{v} = [N]\{\hat{d}\}$$

$$\varepsilon_x = -\hat{y} \frac{d^2 \hat{v}}{d\hat{x}^2}$$

$$[N] = [N_1 \quad N_2 \quad N_3 \quad N_4]$$

$$N_1 = \frac{1}{L^3} (2\hat{x}^3 - 3\hat{x}^2 L + L^3) \quad N_2 = \frac{1}{L^3} (\hat{x}^3 L - 2\hat{x}^2 L^2 + \hat{x} L^3)$$

$$N_3 = \frac{1}{L^3} (-2\hat{x}^3 + 3\hat{x}^2 L) \quad N_4 = \frac{1}{L^3} (\hat{x}^3 L - \hat{x}^2 L^2)$$

$$\{\varepsilon_x\} = -\hat{y} \left[\frac{12\hat{x} - 6L}{L^3} \quad \frac{6\hat{x}L - 4L^2}{L^3} \quad \frac{-12\hat{x} + 6L}{L^3} \quad \frac{6\hat{x}L - 2L^2}{L^3} \right] \{\hat{d}\}$$

or

$$\{\varepsilon_x\} = -\hat{y}[B]\{\hat{d}\}$$

where we define

$$[B] = \left[\frac{12\hat{x} - 6L}{L^3} \quad \frac{6\hat{x}L - 4L^2}{L^3} \quad \frac{-12\hat{x} + 6L}{L^3} \quad \frac{6\hat{x}L - 2L^2}{L^3} \right]$$

Potential Energy Approach

$$\{\sigma_x\} = [D]\{\varepsilon_x\} = -\hat{y}[D][B]\{\hat{d}\}$$

$$[D] = [E]$$

The total potential energy is expressed in matrix notation as

$$\pi_p = \iiint_{\hat{x} A} \frac{1}{2} \{\sigma_x\}^T \{\varepsilon_x\} dA d\hat{x} - \int_0^L b\hat{T}_y[\hat{v}]^T d\hat{x} - \{\hat{d}\}^T \{\hat{P}\}$$

- Load per unit length $w = b\hat{T}_y$, and moment of inertia $I = \iint_A y^2 dA$

$$\pi_p = \int_0^L \frac{EI}{2} \{\hat{d}\}^T [B]^T [B] \{\hat{d}\} d\hat{x} - \int_0^L w \{\hat{d}\}^T [N]^T d\hat{x} - \{\hat{d}\}^T \{\hat{P}\}$$

Potential Energy Approach

Differentiating π_p with respect to \hat{d}_{1y} , $\hat{\phi}_1$, \hat{d}_{2y} and $\hat{\phi}_2$ and equating each term to zero to minimize π_p , we obtain four element equations, which are written in matrix form as

$$EI \int_0^L [B]^T [B] d\hat{x} \{\hat{d}\} - \int_0^L [N]^T w d\hat{x} - \{\hat{P}\} = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \{\hat{f}\} &= \int_0^L [N]^T w d\hat{x} + \{\hat{P}\} \\ [\hat{k}] &= EI \int_0^L [B]^T [B] d\hat{x} \end{aligned} \quad \rightarrow \quad \{\hat{f}\} = [\hat{k}]\{\hat{d}\}$$

$$[\hat{k}] = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 6L & -12 & 6L \\ & 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 \\ & & 12 & -6L \\ \text{Symmetry} & & & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Distributed Load

- Equivalent nodal forces:

$$f_0 = \int_0^L N^T w d\hat{x} = \frac{1}{L^3} \int_0^L \begin{bmatrix} 2\hat{x}^3 - 3\hat{x}^2L + L^3 \\ \hat{x}^3L - 2\hat{x}^2L^2 + \hat{x}L^3 \\ -2\hat{x}^3 + 3\hat{x}^2L \\ \hat{x}^3L - \hat{x}^2L^2 \end{bmatrix} w d\hat{x}$$

- If w is constant

$$f_0 = \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{-wL}{2} \\ \frac{-wL^2}{12} \\ \frac{-wL}{2} \\ \frac{wL^2}{12} \end{Bmatrix}$$

Distributed Load

In general, we can account for distributed loads or concentrated loads acting on beam elements by starting with the following formulation application for a general structure:

$$\underline{F} = \underline{Kd} - \underline{F}_o \quad (4.4.8)$$

where \underline{F} are the concentrated nodal forces and \underline{F}_o are called the *equivalent nodal forces*, now expressed in terms of global-coordinate components, which are of such magnitude that they yield the same displacements at the nodes as would the distributed load. Using the table in Appendix D of equivalent nodal forces \underline{f}_o expressed in terms of local-coordinate components, we can express \underline{F}_o in terms of global-coordinate components.

This concept can be applied on a local basis to obtain the local nodal forces $\underline{\hat{f}}$ in individual elements of structures by applying Eq. (4.4.8) locally as

$$\underline{\hat{f}} = \underline{\hat{k}\hat{d}} - \underline{\hat{f}}_o \quad (4.4.11)$$

where $\underline{\hat{f}}_o$ are the equivalent local nodal forces.

Distributed Load

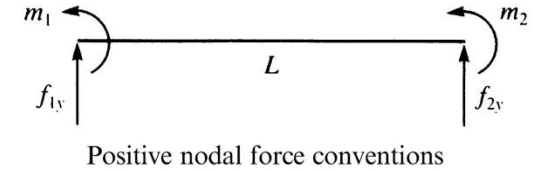


Table D-1 Single element equivalent joint forces f_0 for different types of loads

	f_{1y}	m_1	Loading case	f_{2y}	m_2
1.	$\frac{-P}{2}$	$\frac{-PL}{8}$		$\frac{-P}{2}$	$\frac{PL}{8}$
2.	$\frac{-Pb^2(L+2a)}{L^3}$	$\frac{-Pab^2}{L^2}$		$\frac{-Pa^2(L+2b)}{L^3}$	$\frac{Pa^2b}{L^2}$
3.	$-P$	$-\alpha(1-\alpha)PL$		$-P$	$\alpha(1-\alpha)PL$
4.	$\frac{-wL}{2}$	$\frac{-wL^2}{12}$		$\frac{-wL}{2}$	$\frac{wL^2}{12}$
5.	$\frac{-7wL}{20}$	$\frac{-wL^2}{20}$		$\frac{-3wL}{20}$	$\frac{wL^2}{30}$
6.	$\frac{-wL}{4}$	$\frac{-5wL^2}{96}$		$\frac{-wL}{4}$	$\frac{5wL^2}{96}$

Example 1

For the cantilever beam subjected to the concentrated free-end load P and the uniformly distributed load w acting over the whole beam as shown in Figure 4–28, determine the free-end displacements and the nodal forces.

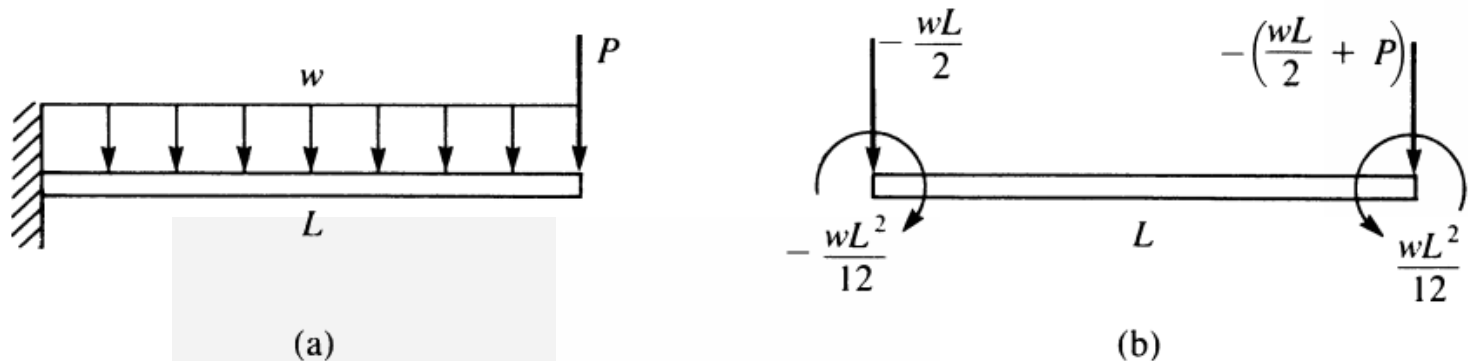


Figure 4–28 (a) Cantilever beam subjected to a concentrated load and a distributed load and (b) the equivalent nodal force replacement system

Example 1

Once again, the beam is modeled using one element with nodes 1 and 2, and the distributed load is replaced as shown in Figure 4–28(b) using appropriate loading case 4 in Appendix D. Using the beam element stiffness Eq. (4.1.14), we obtain

$$\frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & -6L \\ -6L & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} d_{2y} \\ \phi_2 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{-wL}{2} - P \\ \frac{wL^2}{12} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (4.4.24)$$

where we have applied the nodal forces from Figure 4–28(b) and the boundary conditions $d_{1y} = 0$ and $\phi_1 = 0$ to reduce the number of matrix equations for the usual long-hand solution. Solving Eq. (4.4.24) for the displacements, we obtain

$$\begin{Bmatrix} d_{2y} \\ \phi_2 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{-wL^4}{8EI} - \frac{PL^3}{3EI} \\ \frac{-wL^3}{6EI} - \frac{PL^2}{2EI} \end{Bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \downarrow \\ \curvearrowright \end{matrix} \quad (4.4.25)$$

Example 1

Next, we obtain the effective nodal forces using $\underline{F}^{(e)} = \underline{Kd}$ as

$$\begin{Bmatrix} F_{1y}^{(e)} \\ M_1^{(e)} \\ F_{2y}^{(e)} \\ M_2^{(e)} \end{Bmatrix} = \frac{EI}{L^3} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 6L & -12 & 6L \\ 6L & 4L^2 & -6L & 2L^2 \\ -12 & -6L & 12 & -6L \\ 6L & 2L^2 & -6L & 4L^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \frac{-wL^4}{8EI} - \frac{PL^3}{3EI} \\ \frac{-wL^3}{6EI} - \frac{PL^2}{2EI} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (4.4.26)$$

Simplifying Eq. (4.4.26), we obtain

$$\begin{Bmatrix} F_{1y}^{(e)} \\ M_1^{(e)} \\ F_{2y}^{(e)} \\ M_2^{(e)} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} P + \frac{wL}{2} \\ PL + \frac{5wL^2}{12} \\ -P - \frac{wL}{2} \\ \frac{wL^2}{12} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (4.4.27)$$

Example 1

Finally, subtracting the equivalent nodal force matrix [see Figure 4–27(b)] from the effective force matrix of Eq. (4.4.27), we obtain the correct nodal forces as

$$\begin{Bmatrix} F_{1y} \\ M_1 \\ F_{2y} \\ M_2 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} P + \frac{wL}{2} \\ PL + \frac{5wL^2}{12} \\ -P - \frac{wL}{2} \\ \frac{wL^2}{12} \end{Bmatrix} - \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{-wL}{2} \\ \frac{-wL^2}{12} \\ \frac{-wL}{2} \\ \frac{wL^2}{12} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} P + wL \\ PL + \frac{wL^2}{2} \\ -P \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \quad (4.4.28)$$

From Eq. (4.4.28), we see that F_{1y} is equivalent to the vertical reaction force, M_1 is the reaction moment at node 1, and F_{2y} is equal to the applied downward force P at node 2. [Remember that only the equivalent nodal force matrix is subtracted, not the original concentrated load matrix. This is based on the general formulation, Eq. (4.4.8).] ■

Example 2: Exact Solution

We will now compare the finite element solution to the exact classical beam theory solution for the cantilever beam shown in Figure 4–30 subjected to a uniformly distributed load. Both one- and two-element finite element solutions will be presented and compared to the exact solution obtained by the direct double-integration method. Let $E = 30 \times 10^6$ psi, $I = 100$ in⁴, $L = 100$ in., and uniform load $w = 20$ lb/in.

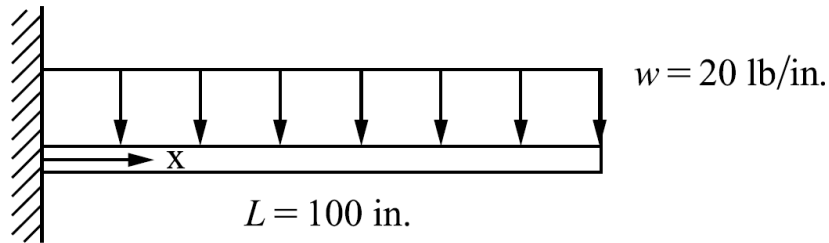
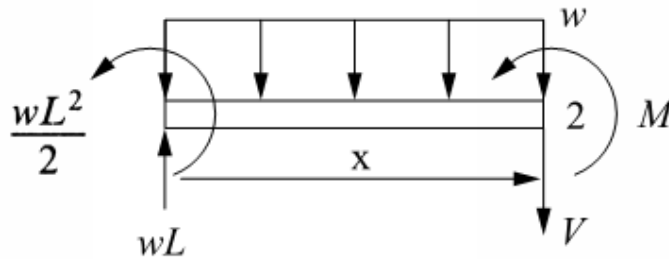


Figure 4–30 Cantilever beam subjected to uniformly distributed load

To obtain the solution from classical beam theory, we use the double-integration method [1]. Therefore, we begin with the moment-curvature equation

$$y'' = \frac{M(x)}{EI} \quad (4.5.1)$$

Example 2: Exact Solution



$$M(x) = \frac{-wL^2}{2} + wLx - (wx) \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)$$

$$y'' = \frac{1}{EI} \left(\frac{-wL^2}{2} + wLx - \frac{wx^2}{2} \right)$$

- Integrating and applying B.C.'s:

$$y = \frac{1}{EI} \left(\frac{-wx^4}{24} + \frac{wLx^3}{6} - \frac{wL^2x^2}{4} \right)$$

Example 2: FE Solution

- $P=0$ in the previous example

$$\hat{\phi}_2 = \frac{-wL^3}{6EI} = \frac{-(20 \text{ lb/in.})(100 \text{ in.})^3}{6(30 \times 10^6 \text{ psi})(100 \text{ in.})^4} = -0.00111 \text{ rad}$$

$$\hat{d}_{2y} = \frac{-wL^4}{8EI} = \frac{-(20 \text{ lb/in.})(100 \text{ in.})^4}{8(30 \times 10^6 \text{ psi})(100 \text{ in.})^4} = -0.0833 \text{ in.}$$

$$\hat{v}(x) = \frac{1}{L^3}(-2x^3 + 3x^2L)\hat{d}_{2y} + \frac{1}{L^3}(x^3L - x^2L^2)\hat{\phi}_2$$

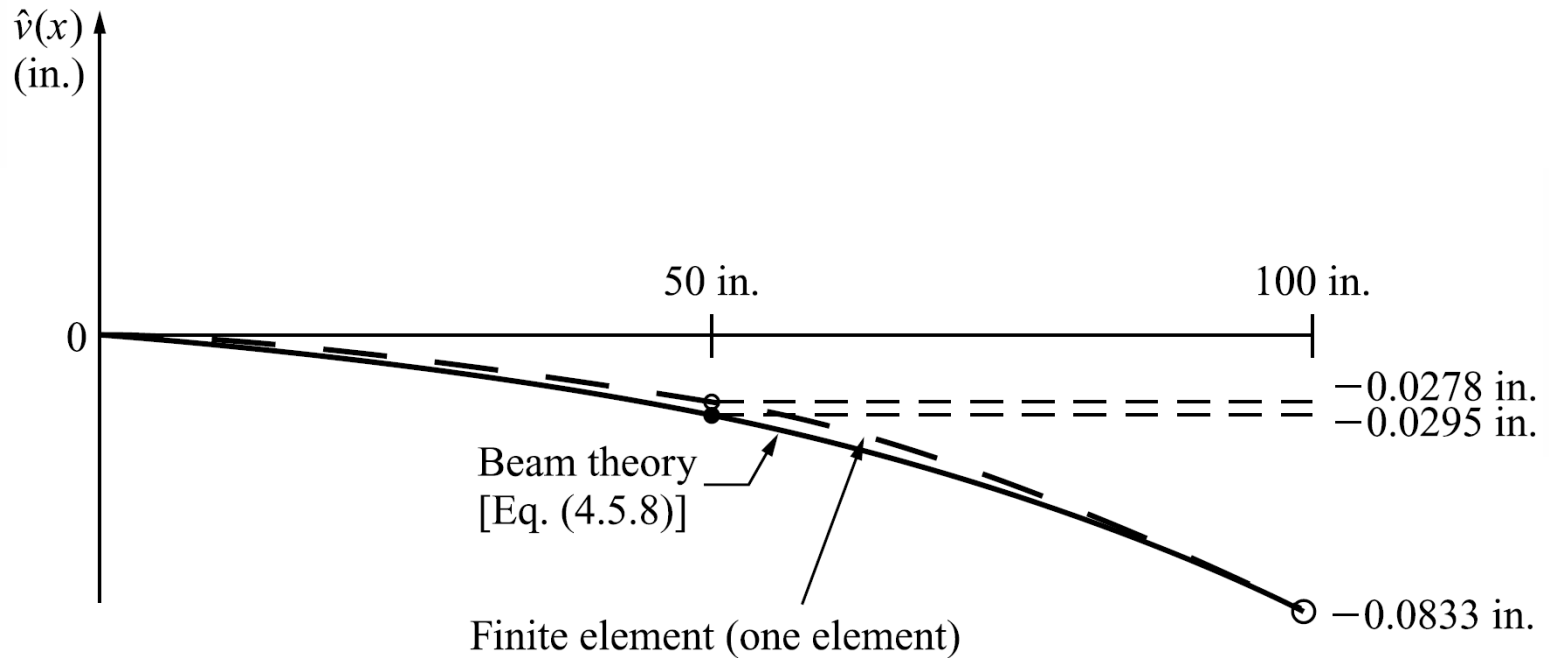
$$\begin{aligned}\hat{v}(x = 50 \text{ in.}) &= \frac{1}{(100 \text{ in.})^3}[-2(50 \text{ in.})^3 + 3(50 \text{ in.})^2(100 \text{ in.})](-0.0833 \text{ in.}) \\ &+ \frac{1}{(100 \text{ in.})^3}[(50 \text{ in.})^3(100 \text{ in.}) - (50 \text{ in.})^2(100 \text{ in.})^2] \times (-0.00111 \text{ rad}) = -0.0278 \text{ in.}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}y(x = 50 \text{ in.}) &= \frac{20 \text{ lb/in.}}{30 \times 10^6 \text{ psi}(100 \text{ in.})^4} \\ &\times \left[\frac{-(50 \text{ in.})^4}{24} + \frac{(100 \text{ in.})(50 \text{ in.})^3}{6} - \frac{(100 \text{ in.})^2(50 \text{ in.})^2}{4} \right] = -0.0295 \text{ in.}\end{aligned}$$

Example 2: FE Solution

- Bending moment is derived by taking **two** derivatives on the displacement function.
- The shear force is derived by taking **three** derivatives on the displacement function.
- For uniform distributed load:
 - Bending moment: linear
 - Shear force: constant
- It then takes more elements to model Bending moment and shear force than displacement.

Example 2: Comparison



Example 2: Comparison

