

# Automotive Body Structural Elements (1)

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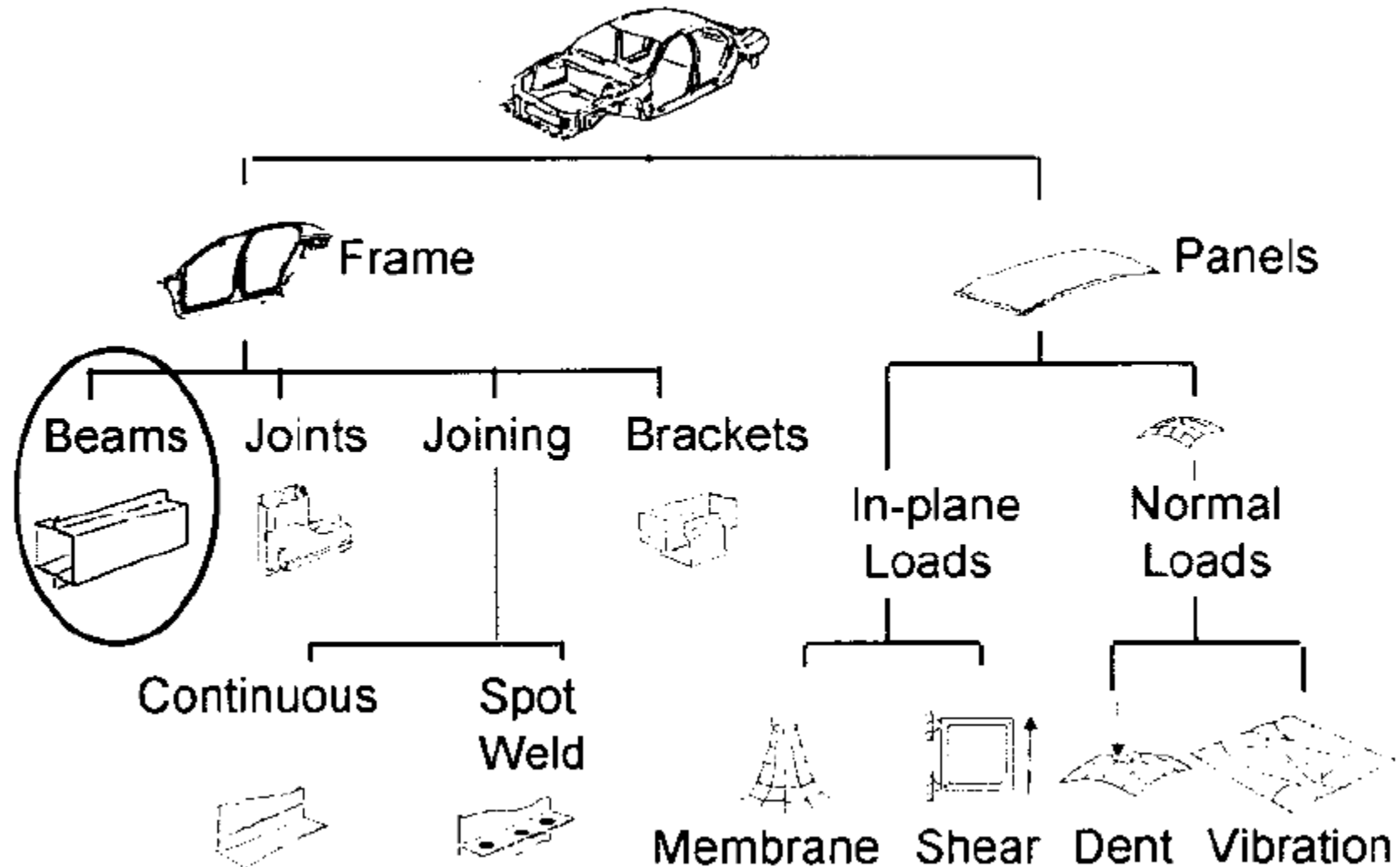
- Section design tools
  - How automotive structural elements respond to loading?
  - How they deflect? How they fail?
  - Predict stiffness and strength given the section geometry, the material and the bending moment, torque or applied force
- Classical beam behavior
- Design of automotive beam sections
  - Bending of non-symmetric beams
  - Point loading of thin walled sections

# Automotive Body Structural Elements (2)

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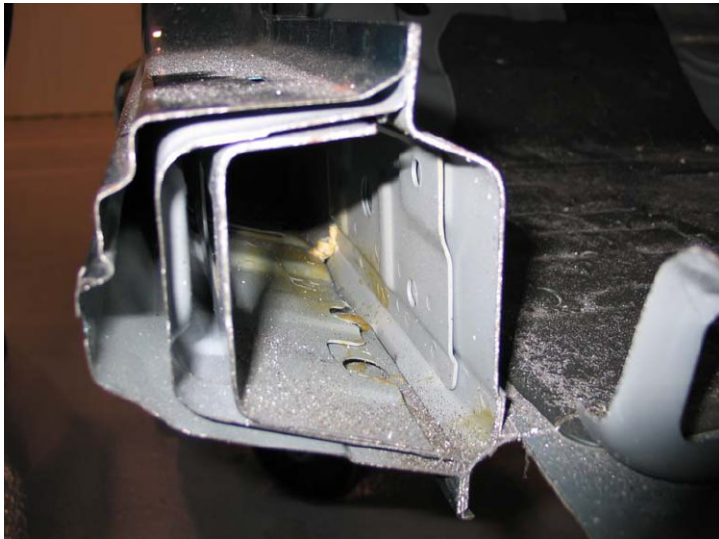
- Torsion of thin wall members
  - Torsion of member with closed/open section
  - Warping of open sections
  - Effect of spot welds on structural performance
  - Longitudinal stiffness of a shear loaded weld flange
- Thin wall beam section design
- Buckling of thin wall members
  - Plate buckling
  - Effective width
  - Techniques to inhibit buckling
- Panels: plates and membranes
  - Curved panel with normal loading
  - In-plane loading of panels
  - Membrane shaped panels

# Structural Elements Classification

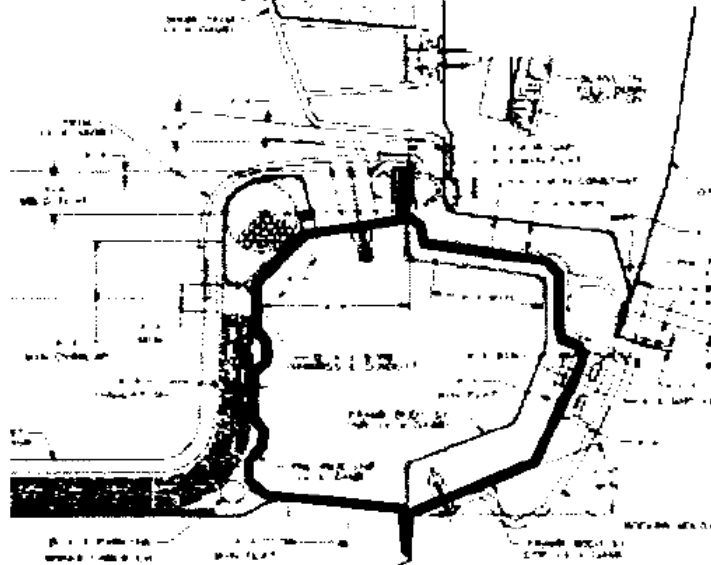


# Beam Sections

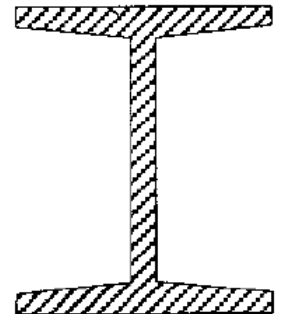
- Thin walled structural elements
  - Relatively large width to thickness ratio
  - Non-symmetrical sections
  - Fabrication of several formed pieces spot welded



**Automotive Rocker  
Typical Section**



**Civil Engineering  
Typical Section**



# 3.1 Classical Beam Behavior

- Long straight beam with an I beam section
- Assumptions
  - Section is symmetric
  - Applied forces are down the axis of symmetry for the section
  - Section will not change shape upon loading
  - Deformation will be in the plane and in the direction of the applied load
  - Internal stresses vary in direct proportion with the strain
  - Failure: yielding of the outmost fiber
- Static equilibrium at a beam section:  $M(x) = \int_0^x V dx$
- Stress over a beam section:  $\sigma = -\frac{Mz}{I}$  where  $I = \int_{\text{section}} z^2 dA$
- Beam deflection:  $y = f(x), y'' = \frac{M(x)}{EI}$

# Moment of Inertia

- Mass moment of inertia (관성모멘트)

$$I = kmr^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i r_i^2 = \int r^2 dm = \iiint_V r^2 \rho(r) dV \rightarrow I = I_{cm} + md^2$$

- Area moment of inertia

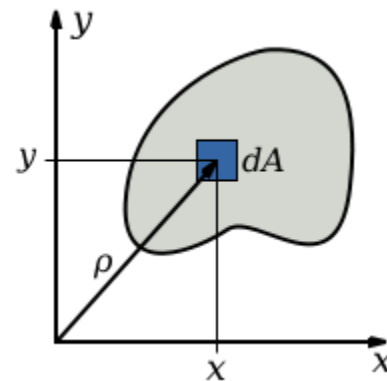
- Second moment of area (단면이차모멘트): bending
- Polar moment of inertia (극관성모멘트): torsion
- Product of inertia: unsymmetric geometry

$$I_{xx} = \int_A y^2 dA \rightarrow I_{xx} = I_{xx\_c} + \bar{x}^2 A \text{ where } \bar{x}A = \int_A x dA$$

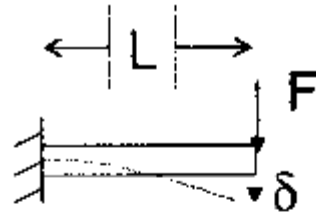
$$I_{yy} = \int_A x^2 dA$$

$$J(=I_z) = \int_A \rho^2 dA = \int_A (x^2 + y^2) dA = \int_A x^2 dA + \int_A y^2 dA = I_{xx} + I_{yy}$$

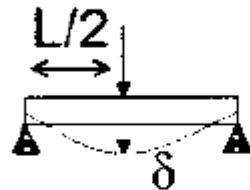
$$I_{xy} = \int_A xy dA$$



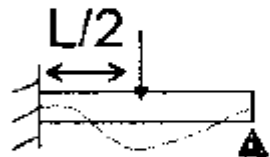
# Beam Stiffness Equations



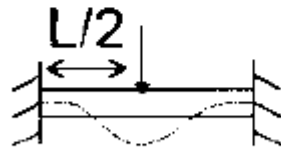
$$K = \frac{F}{\delta} = \frac{3EI}{L^3}$$



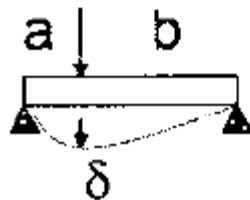
$$K = \frac{48EI}{L^3}$$



$$K = \frac{109.7EI}{L^3}$$



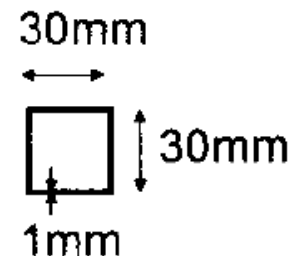
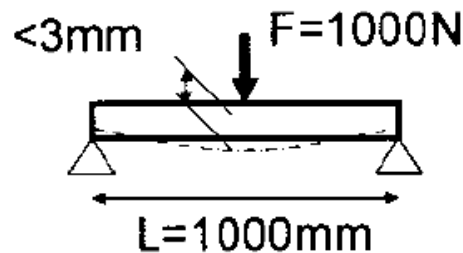
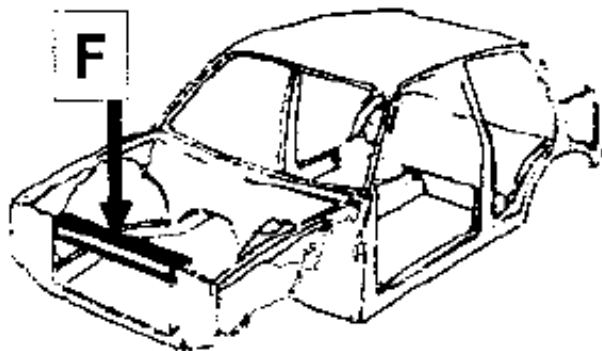
$$K = \frac{192EI}{L^3}$$



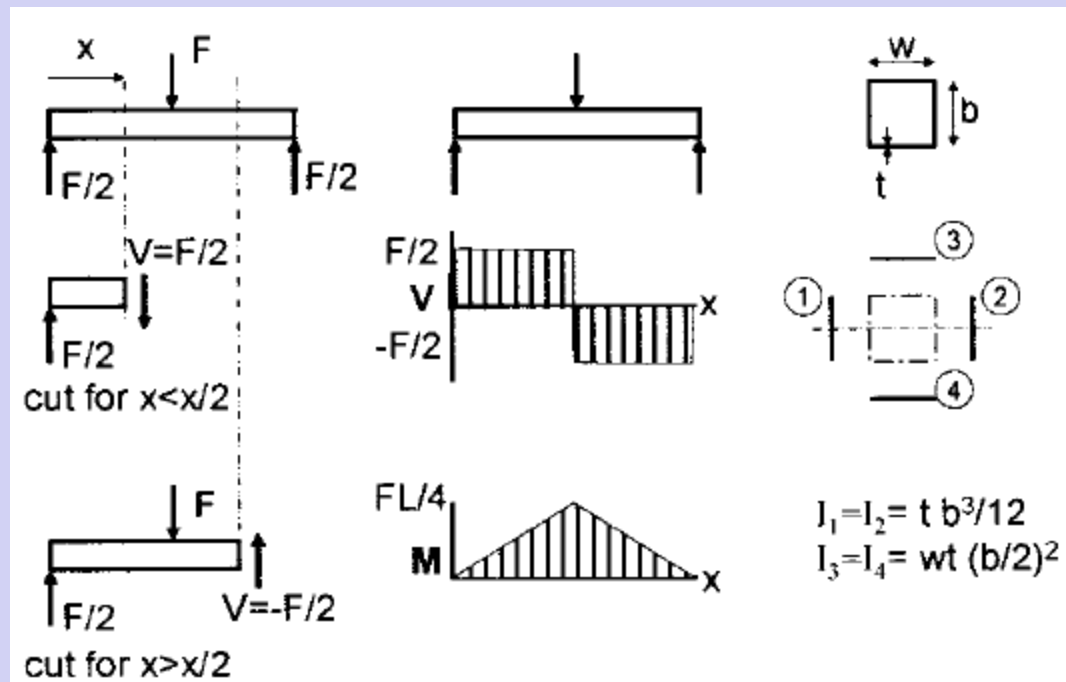
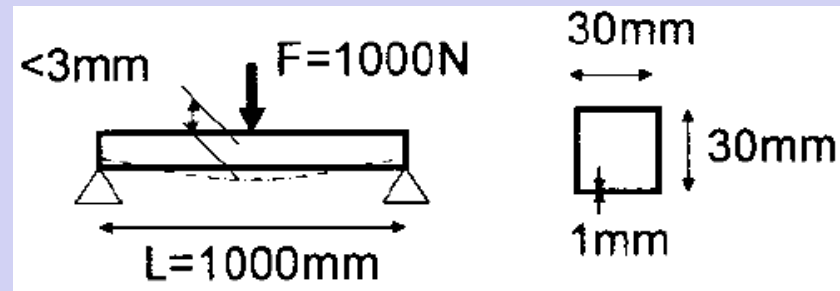
$$K = \frac{3EIL}{a^2b^2}$$

# Example: Cross Member Beam

- Front motor compartment cross member holds the hood latch
- Under use, aerodynamic loading places a vertical load of 1000 N at the center of this beam
- Design requirements: section size ?
  - No yielding ( $\sigma_y = 210 \text{ N/mm}^2$ ) in the cross member
  - Maximum linear deflection at the hood latch of 3 mm







$$I = 2 \left[ \frac{1(30)^3}{12} + \left( \frac{30(1)^3}{12} \right) + 30(1) \left( \frac{30}{2} \right)^2 \right] \approx 18000 \text{ mm}^4$$

$$\sigma = -\frac{M_z}{I_{zz}} = -\frac{(500 \text{ N} \times 500 \text{ mm})(\mp 15 \text{ mm})}{18000 \text{ mm}^4} = \pm 208 \text{ N / mm}^2 < \sigma_Y$$

$$k = \frac{48EI}{L^3} = \frac{F}{\delta} \rightarrow \delta = \frac{(1000 \text{ mm})^3 (1000 \text{ N})}{48(207 \times 10^3 \text{ N / mm}^2)(18000 \text{ mm}^4)} = 5.6 \text{ mm} > 3 \text{ mm}$$

## 3.2 Design of Automotive Beam Sections

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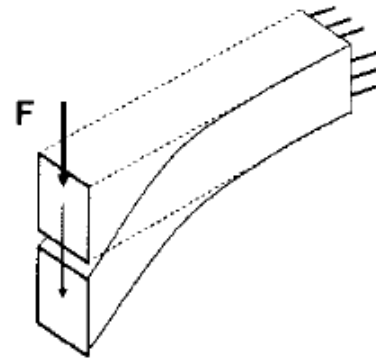
- Characteristics of automotive beams
    - Non-symmetrical nature of automotive beams
    - Local distortion of the section at the point of loading
    - Twisting of thin walled members
    - Effect of spot welds on structural performance
- Stiffness reduction, How to design?

# Bending of Non-Symmetric Beams

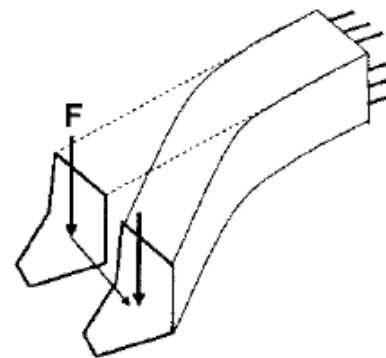
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- Deflection
  - Resolve the load into components along each principle axis
  - Solve for the resulting deflection for each of these components
    - Moment of inertia is taken about the axis perpendicular to the load
    - Each of these deflections will be along the respective principle axis
  - Take the vector sum of the two deflections
- Stress
  - Resolve the moment into components along each principle axis
  - Solve for the resulting stress for each of these components
    - Dimension  $z$  is the distance to the point of interest from the axis which is colinear with the moment vector
  - Take the algebraic sum of two stresses for the resultant stress

# Non-Symmetric Beams

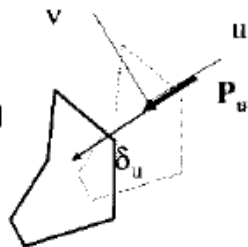


(a)  
Symmetrical Beam

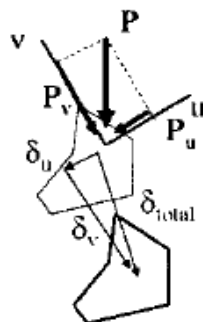


(b)  
Non-Symmetrical Beam

Deflections along  
principle axes

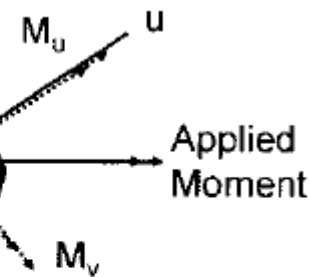


Vector sum of  
deflections along  
principle axes



$$\sigma_{Mv} = -\frac{uM_v}{I_v}, \quad \sigma_{Mu} = -\frac{vM_u}{I_u}$$

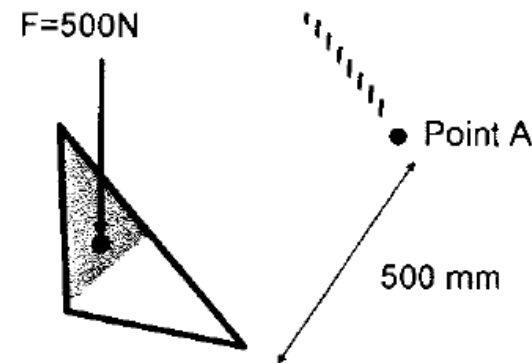
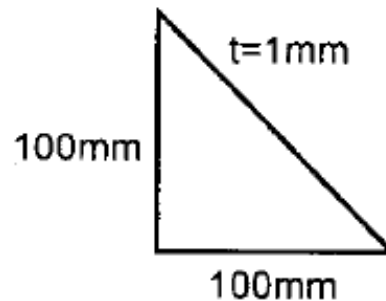
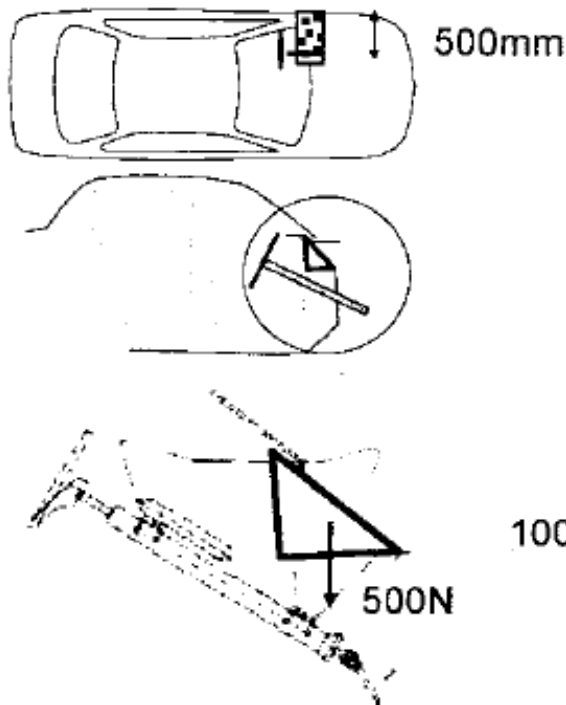
$$\sigma(u, v) = \sigma_{Mv} + \sigma_{Mu}$$



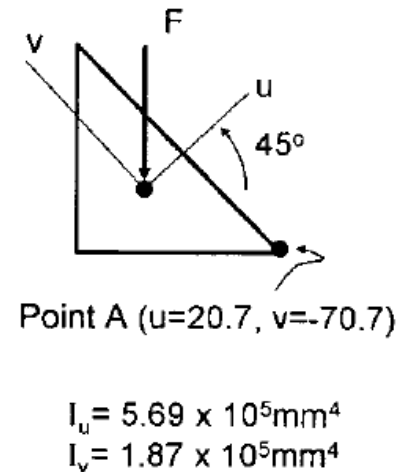
Applied  
Moment

# Example: Steering Column Mounting Beam

- Determine the tip deflection.
- Determine the stress at a specific point A where the beam joins the restraining structure.
- $E = 207 \times 10^3 \text{ N/mm}^2$

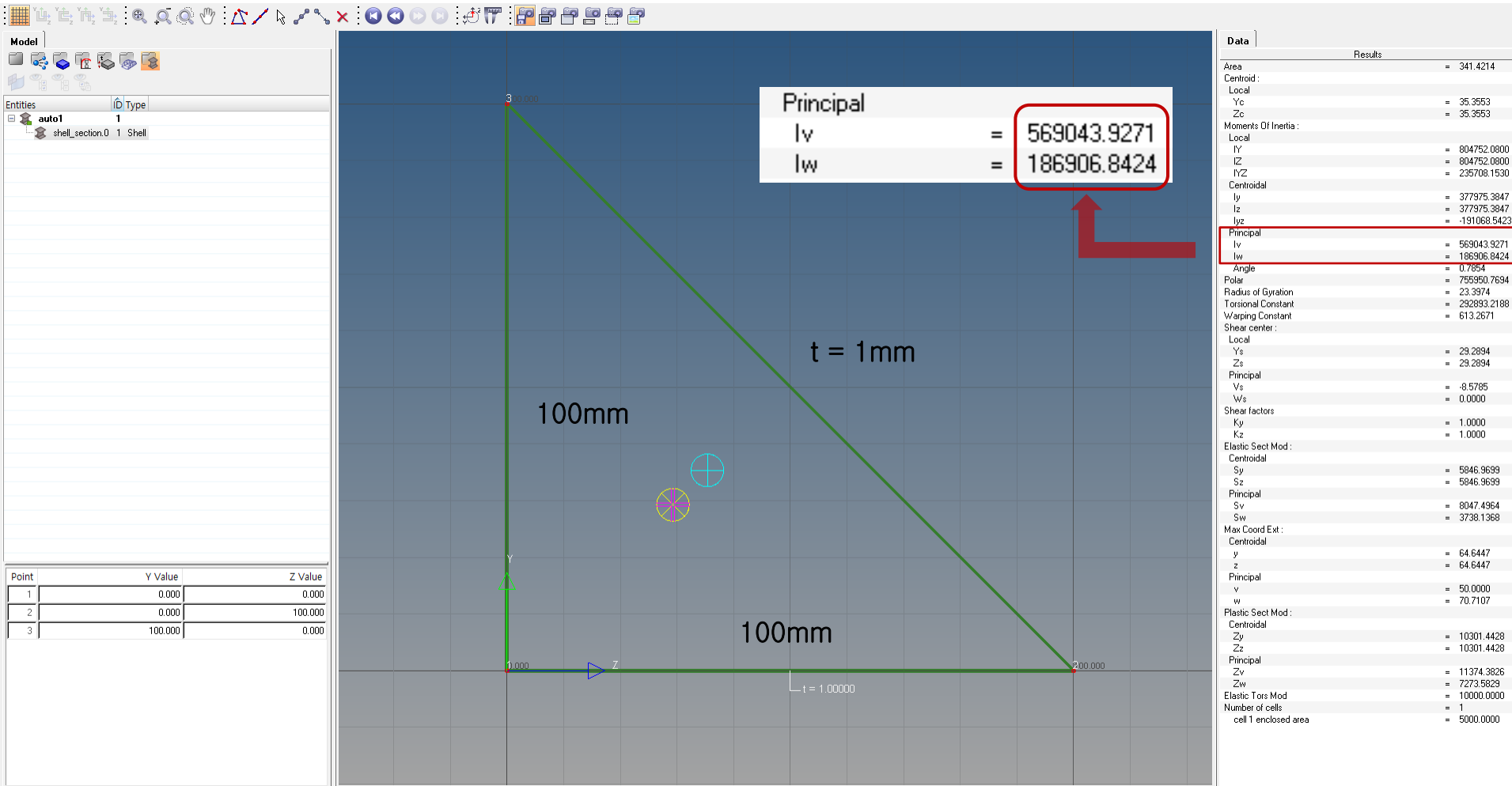


First Order Model

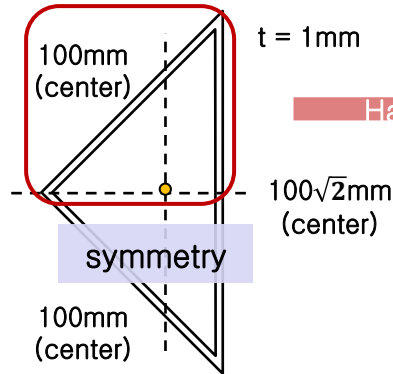
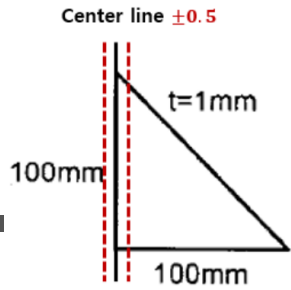


From section analysis

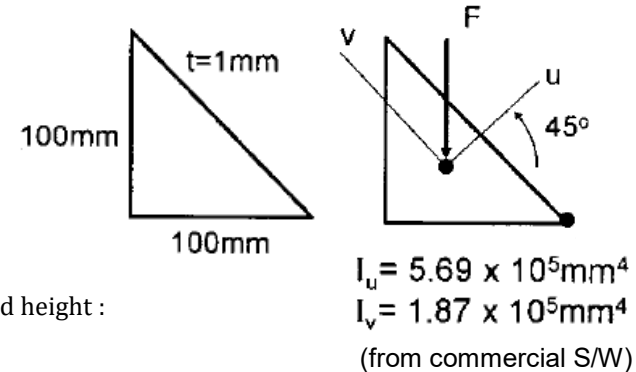
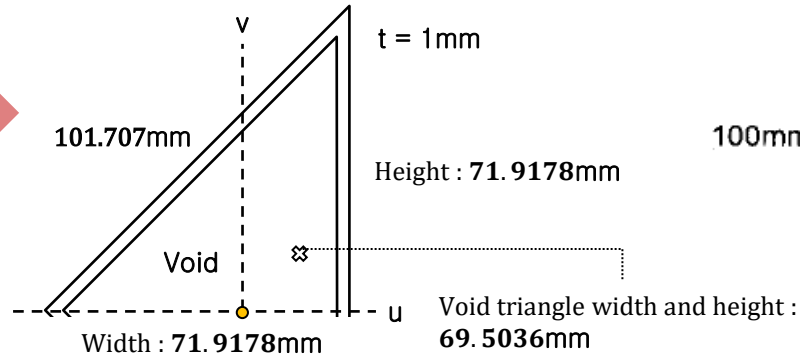
# Area moment of inertia: HyperMesh



# Area moment of inertia: Analysis (1)



Half



$$(1) I_{u,half} = I_{uc,half} + Ad^2 = \frac{(71.91)(71.91)^3}{36} + \left( \frac{(71.91)(71.91)}{2} \right) \left( \frac{71.91}{3} \right)^2 = 2229278 \text{ mm}^4$$

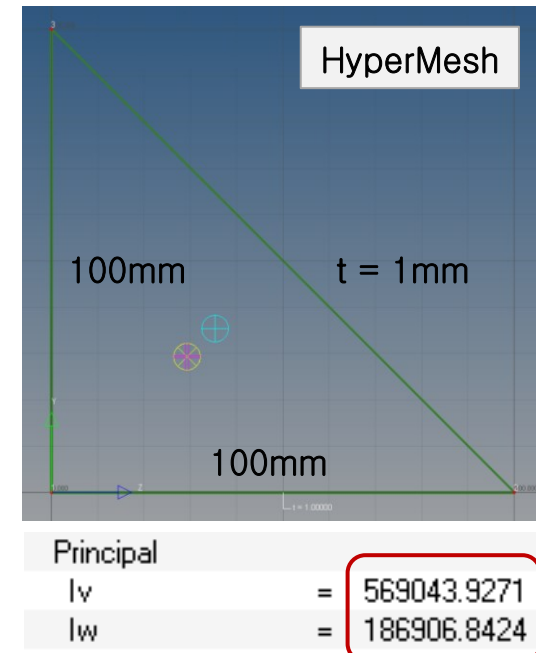
$$I_{u,void} = I_{uc,void} + Ad^2 = \frac{(69.50)(69.50)^3}{36} + \left( \frac{(69.50)(69.50)}{2} \right) \left( \frac{69.50}{3} \right)^2 = 1944679 \text{ mm}^4$$

$$I_u = 2(I_{u,half} - I_{u,void}) = 569198 = 5.69 \times 10^5 \text{ mm}^4 \quad (\text{error rate : 0.02\%})$$

$$(2) I_{v,half} = I_{vc,half} + Ad^2 = \frac{(71.91)^3(71.91)}{36} + \left( \frac{(71.91)(71.91)}{2} \right) (0)^2 = 743092 \text{ mm}^4$$

$$I_{v,void} = I_{vc,void} + Ad^2 = \frac{(69.50)^3(69.50)}{36} + \left( \frac{(69.50)(69.50)}{2} \right) (0.19)^2 = 648318 \text{ mm}^4$$

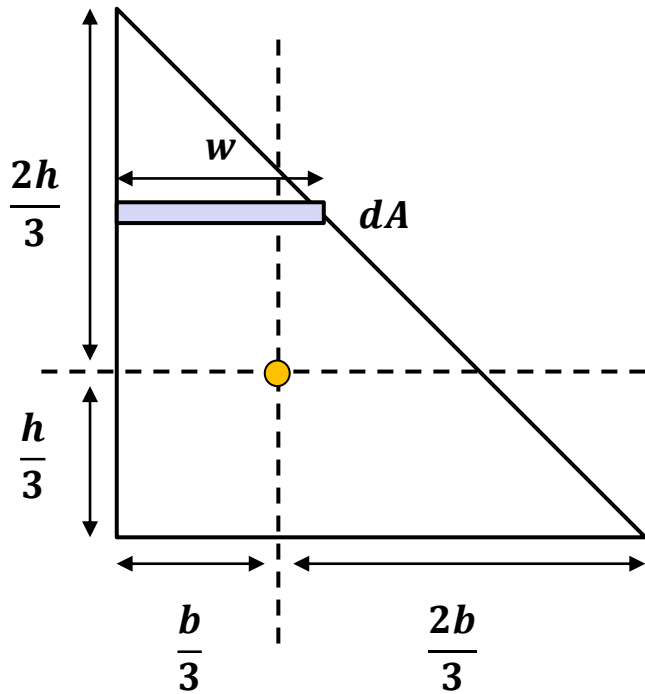
$$I_v = 2(I_{v,half} - I_{v,void}) = 189548 = 1.89 \times 10^5 \text{ mm}^4 \quad (\text{error rate : 1.41\%})$$





# Area moment of inertia: Analysis (2)

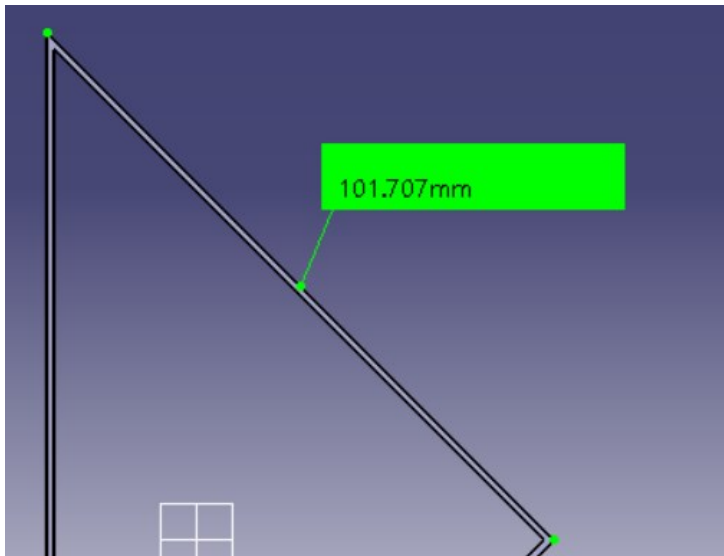
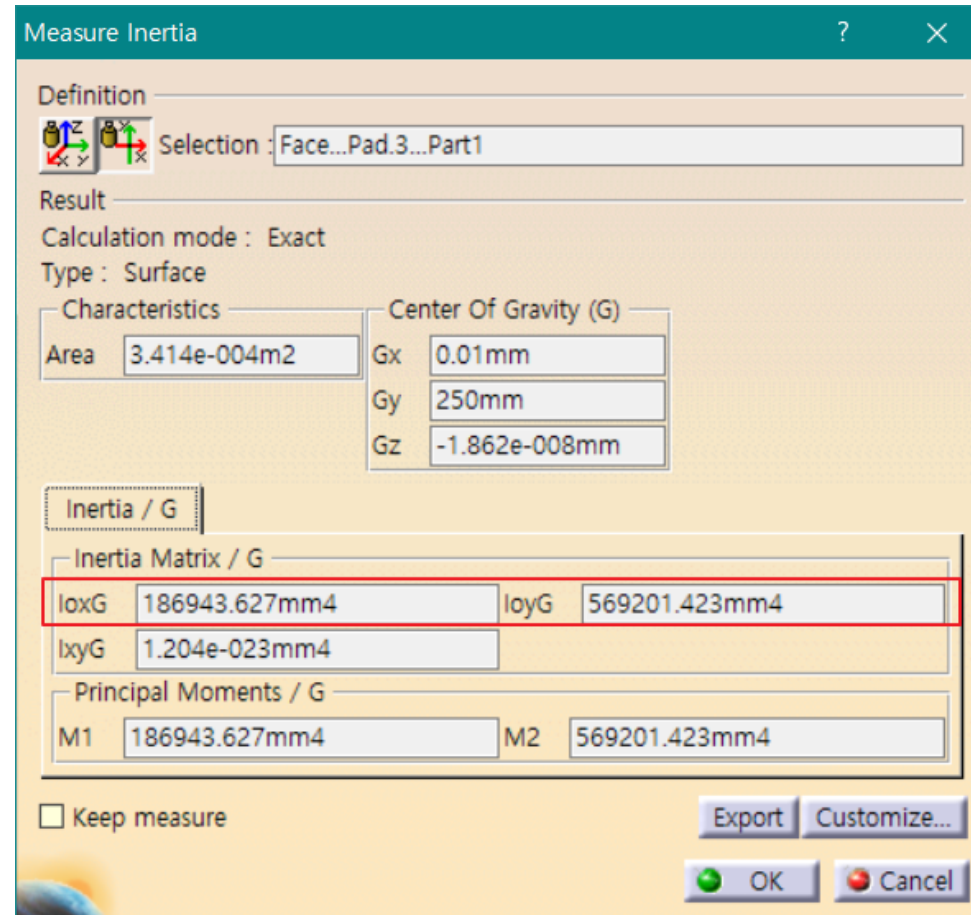
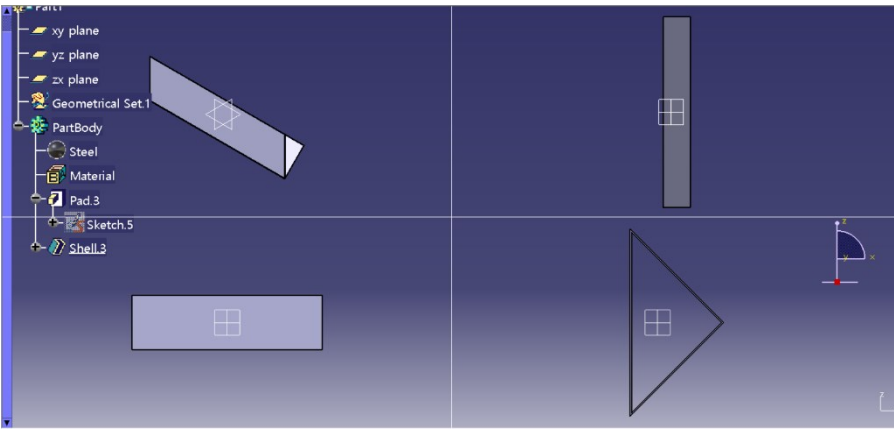
- Moment of inertia of a triangle (centroidal axes)



$$dA = w dy, w = \frac{2b}{3} - \frac{b}{h} y$$

$$\begin{aligned} I_{x'} &= \int y^2 dA \\ &= \int_{-h/3}^{2h/3} y^2 w dy = \int_{-h/3}^{2h/3} y^2 \left( \frac{2b}{3} - \frac{b}{h} y \right) dy \\ &= \int_{-h/3}^{2h/3} \frac{2b}{3} y^2 - \frac{b}{h} y^3 dy = \left[ \frac{2b}{3} \frac{y^3}{3} - \frac{b}{h} \frac{y^4}{4} \right]_{-h/3}^{2h/3} \\ &= \frac{2b}{9} \left( \frac{2h}{3} \right)^3 - \frac{b}{4h} \left( \frac{2h}{3} \right)^4 - \frac{2b}{9} \left( -\frac{h}{3} \right)^3 + \frac{b}{4h} \left( -\frac{h}{3} \right)^4 \\ &= \frac{bh^3}{36} \end{aligned}$$

# Area moment of inertia: CATIA



$$(1) \quad \delta_u = \frac{F_u l^3}{3EI_v} = \frac{(500N \sin 45^\circ)(500mm)^3}{3(207 \times 10^3 N/mm^2)(1.87 \times 10^5 mm^4)} = 0.38mm$$

$$\delta_v = \frac{F_v l^3}{3EI_u} = \frac{(500N \cos 45^\circ)(500mm)^3}{3(207 \times 10^3 N/mm^2)(5.69 \times 10^5 mm^4)} = 0.125mm$$

$$\delta = \sqrt{(\delta_u)^2 + (\delta_v)^2} = 0.4mm$$

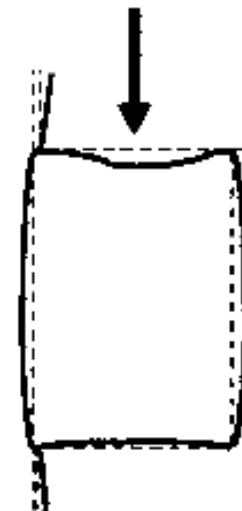
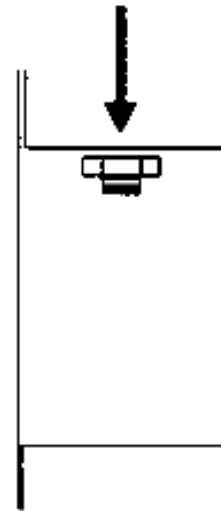
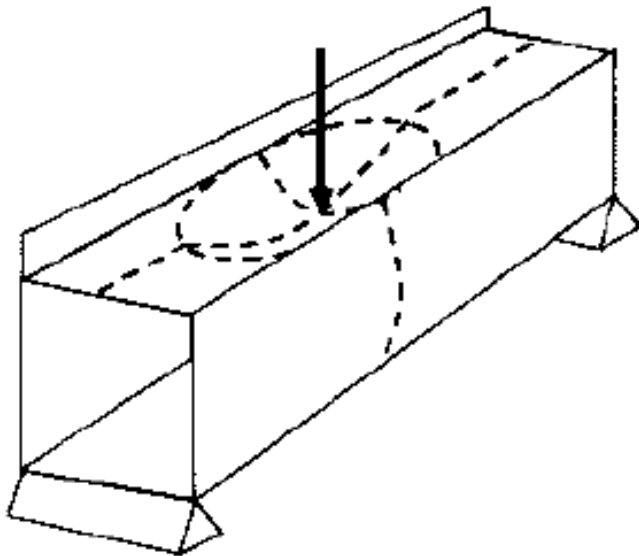
$$(2) \quad \sigma_u = -\frac{M_u v}{I_u} = -\frac{(-500N \cos 45^\circ \times 500mm)(-70.7mm)}{5.69 \times 10^5 mm^4} = -22N/mm^2$$

$$\sigma_v = -\frac{M_v u}{I_v} = -\frac{(-500N \sin 45^\circ \times 500mm)(20.7mm)}{1.87 \times 10^5 mm^4} = +19.57N/mm^2$$

$$\sigma_A = \sigma_u + \sigma_v = -2.43N/mm^2$$

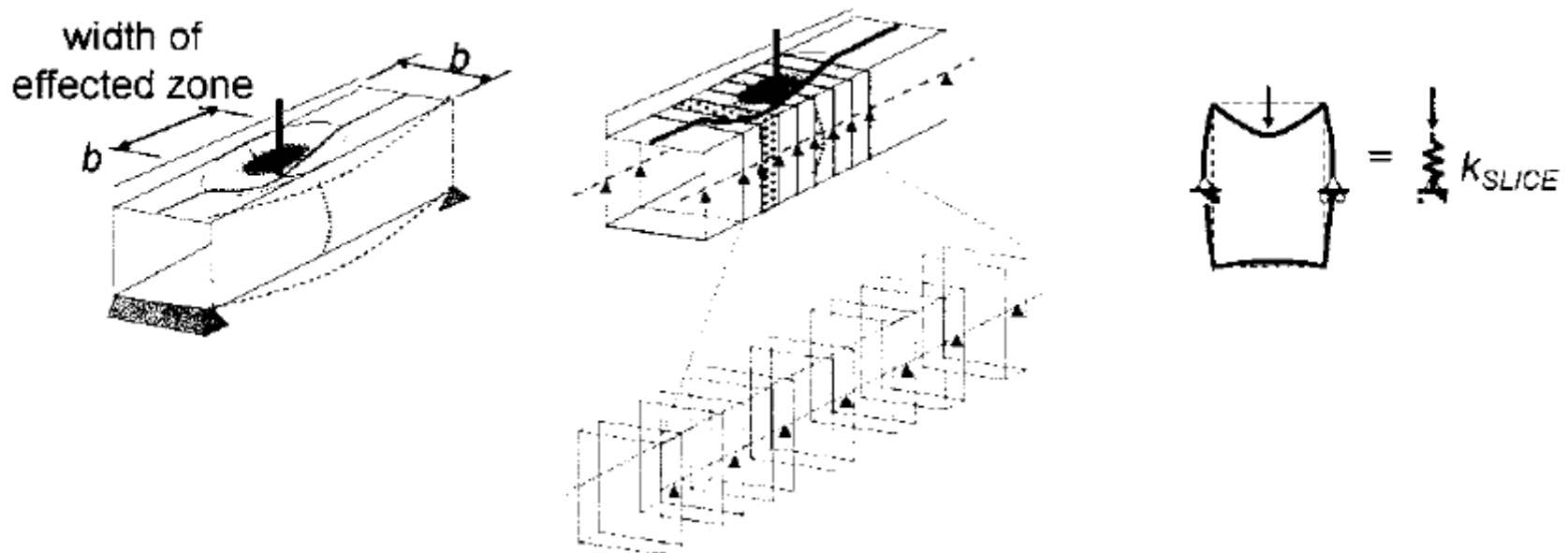
# Point Loading of Thin Walled Sections

- Undesirable distortion in the vicinity of the load
  - Reduce apparent beam stiffness
  - Increase local stress



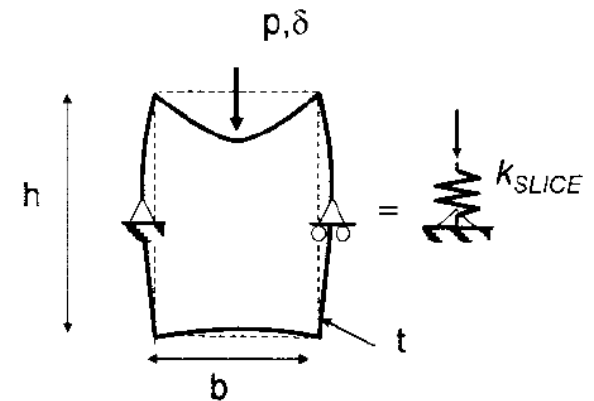
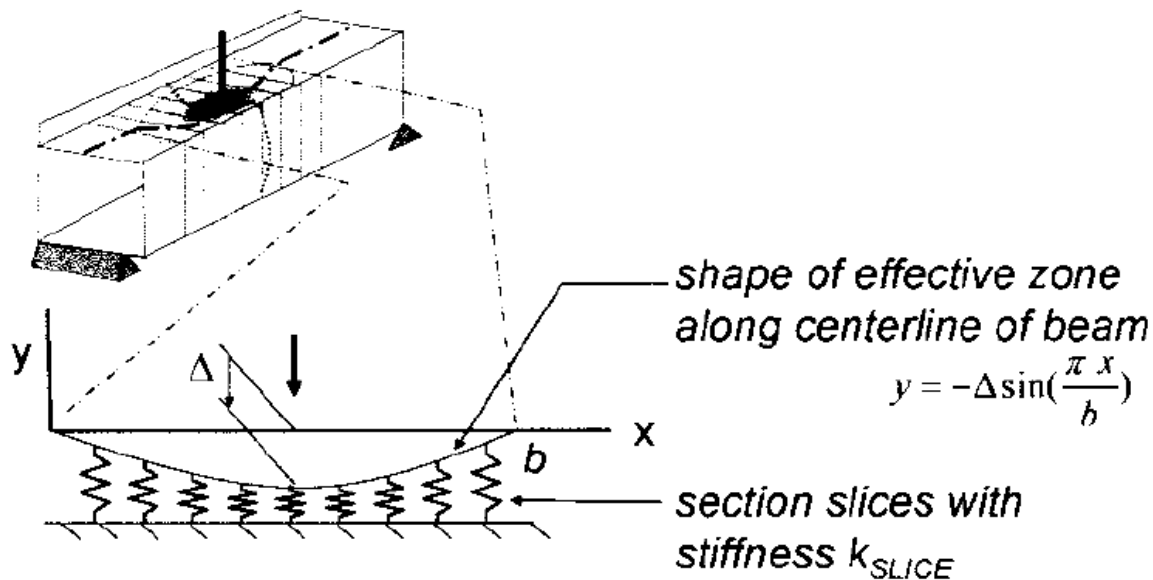
# Prediction of Local Distortion

- Physical behavior: both beam deformation and local deformation
- Beam deformation eliminated by supporting beam along neutral axis leaving only local deformation: Local behavior isolated supporting beam along neutral axis
- Beam divided into slices of unit width over effective zone
- Slice characterized by a framework with stiffness  $k_{\text{slice}}$



# Idealized Beam Analysis

- (Energy stored by local stiffness at point of load application)  
= (Energy stored by distortion of all section slices)
- $K_{\text{local}} = F/\Delta$

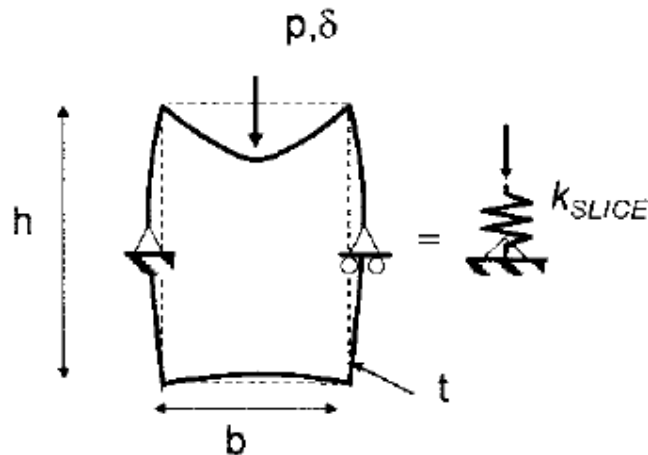


# Rectangular Section Under Point Load

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} work = \frac{1}{2} F \Delta \\ de = \frac{1}{2} (k_{slice} dx) y^2 \rightarrow energy = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^b k_{slice} y^2 dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^b k_{slice} \left( -\Delta \sin \frac{\pi x}{b} \right)^2 dx = \frac{1}{2} k_{slice} \Delta^2 \frac{b}{2} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\frac{1}{2} F \Delta = \frac{1}{2} k_{slice} \Delta^2 \frac{b}{2} \rightarrow \frac{F}{\Delta} = \frac{1}{2} k_{slice} b \rightarrow K_{local} = \frac{1}{2} k_{slice} b$$

$$k_{slice} = \frac{16Et^3 (h+b)}{b^3 (4h+b)} \rightarrow K_{local} = \frac{8Et^3 (h+b)}{b^2 (4h+b)}$$



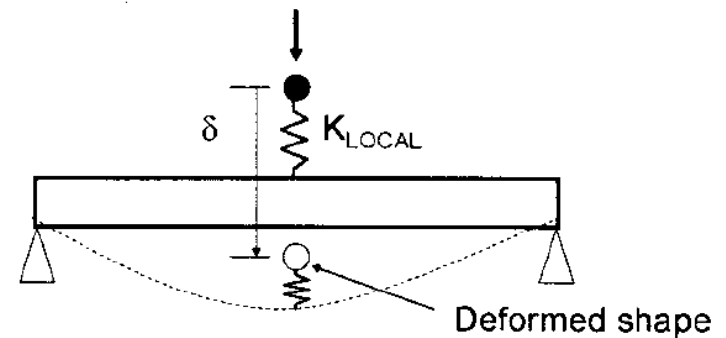
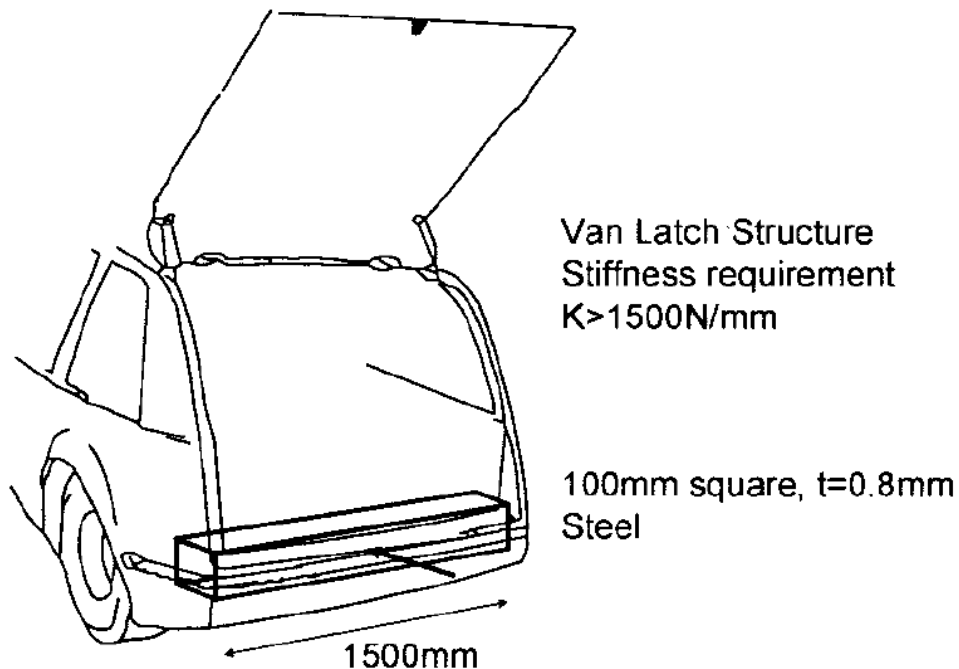
$$k_{SLICE} = 16E \left( \frac{t}{b} \right)^3 \left( \frac{\frac{h}{b} + 1}{4 \frac{h}{b} + 1} \right)$$

Slice of beam of unit length

Stiffness of slice

# Example: Van Cross Member

- Two springs in series
  - Idealized beam stiffness
  - Stiffness of the local distortion of the section



$$K_{\text{system}} = \frac{K_{\text{ideal}} K_{\text{local}}}{K_{\text{ideal}} + K_{\text{local}}}$$



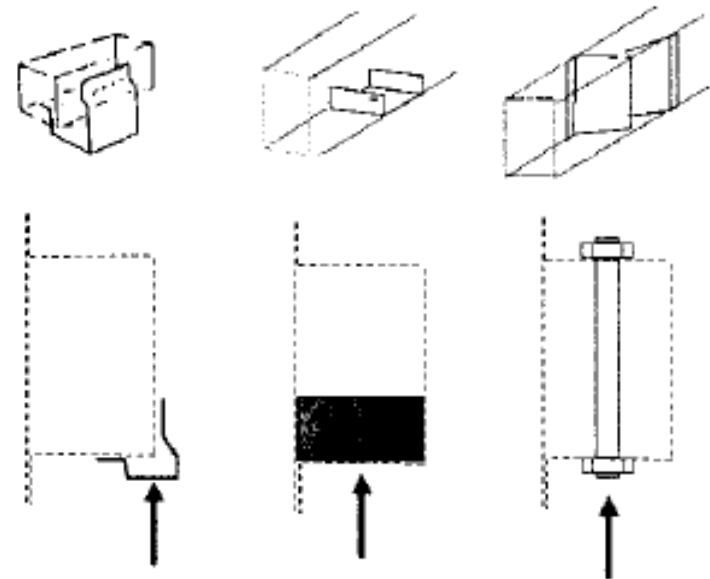
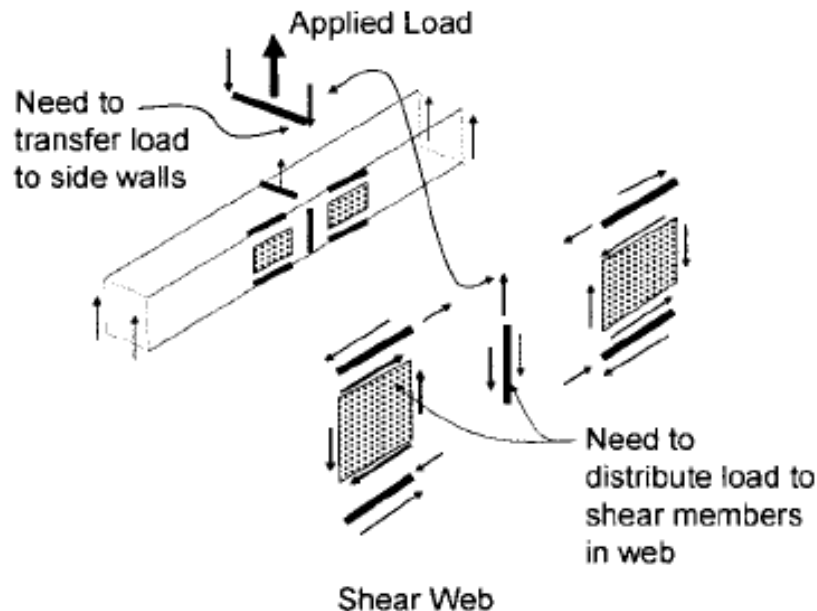
$$K_{ideal} = \frac{48EI}{L^3} = \frac{48(207000)}{1500^3} = 1569 \text{ N/mm}$$

$$K_{local} = \frac{8Et^3(h+b)}{b^2(4h+b)} = \frac{8(207000)(0.8)^3(100+100)}{100^2(4 \times 100 + 100)} = 33.9 \text{ N/mm}$$

$$K_{system} = \frac{K_{ideal}K_{local}}{K_{ideal} + K_{local}} = 33.2 \text{ N/mm} \rightarrow 2\% \text{ of } K_{ideal}$$

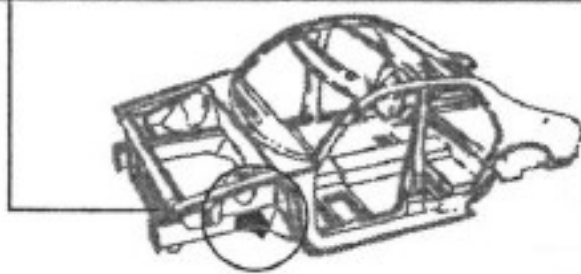
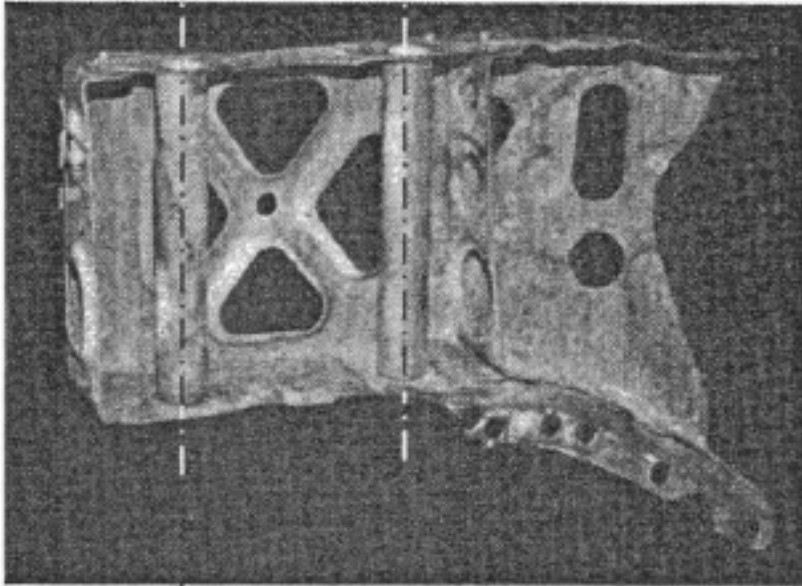
# Strategy to Reduce Local Distortion

- Point load must load the shear web of the section directly
  - Moving the load point to align with the web
  - Adding stiff structural element to the section which reacts the load to the webs (local reinforcement)
  - Using through-section attachment with bulkhead to transfer the load to the web

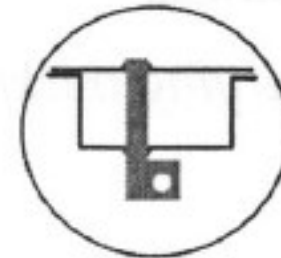
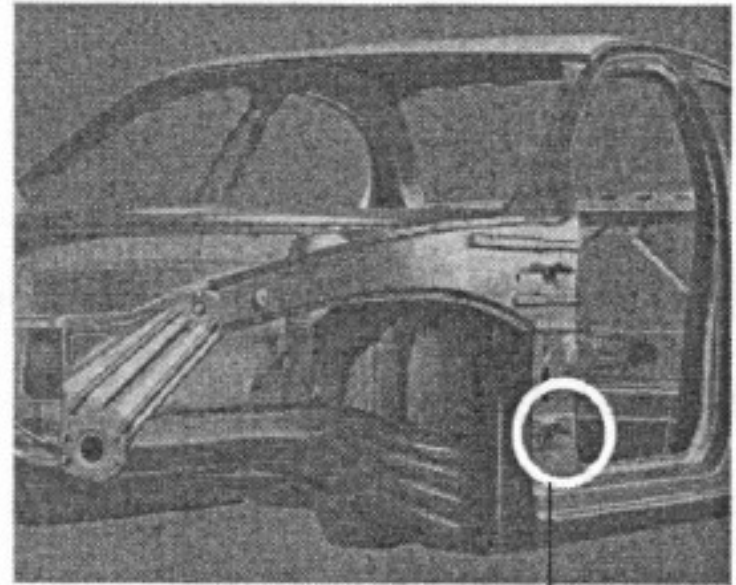


# Example Sections Reacting a Point Load

Through-section engine mount attachment

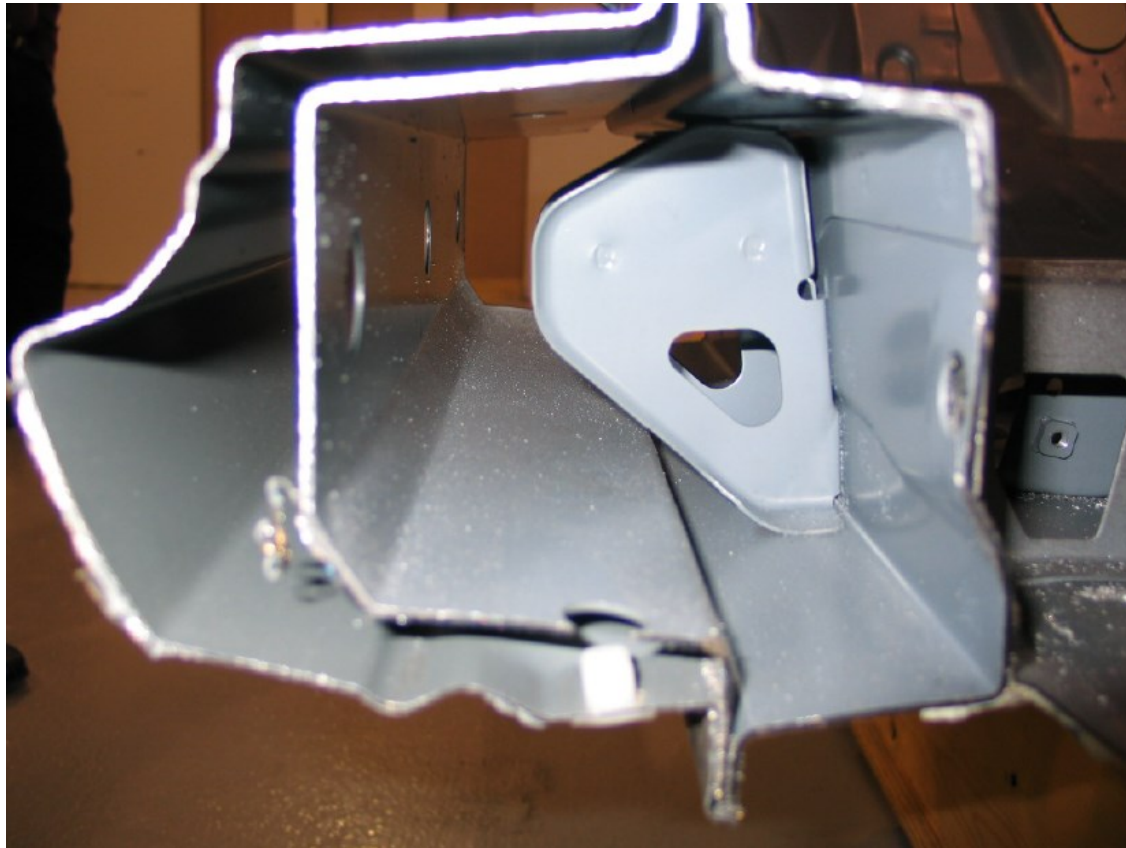


Through-section door hinge attachment



# 2003 Toyota Camry SE

- Local Stiffeners Inside Rocker To B-Pillar Joint
  - Bulkheads are used for local buckling prevention & FMVSS 214 Side Impact



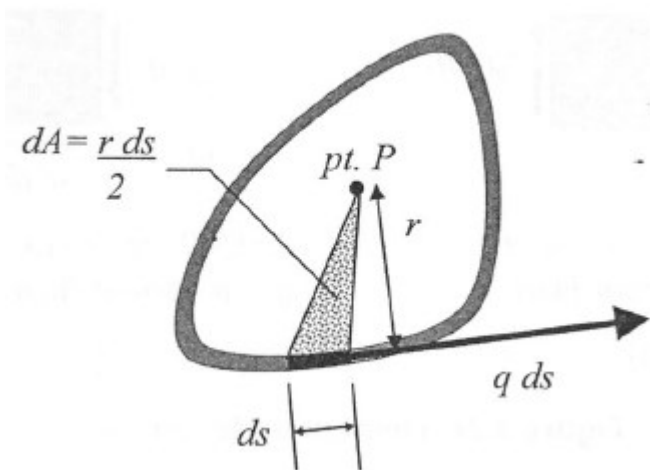
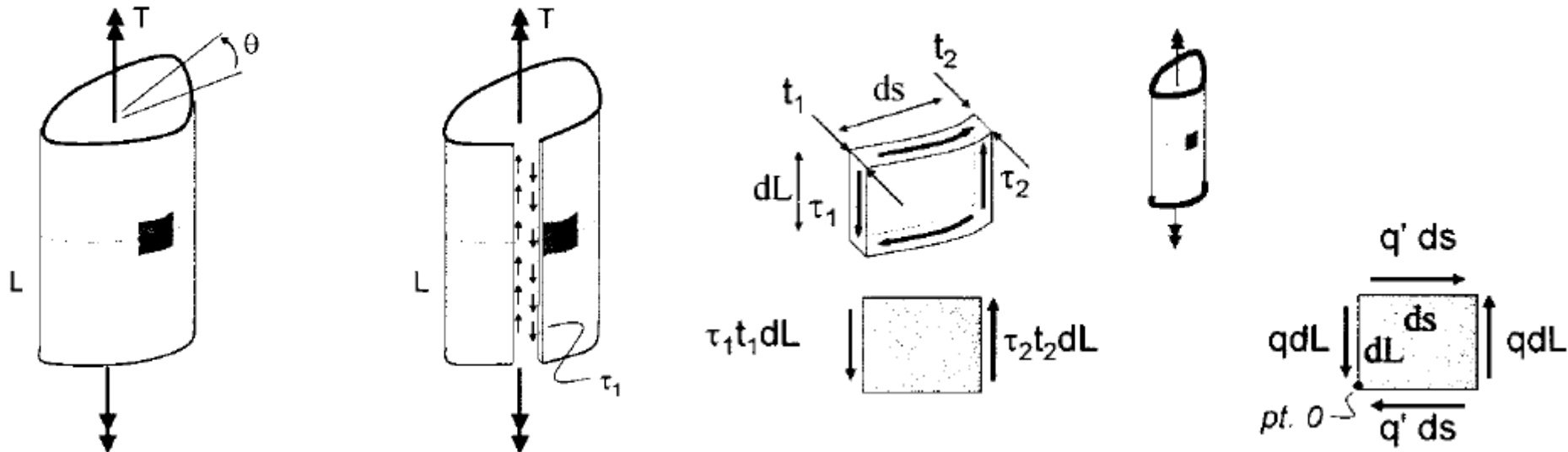
## 3.3 Torsion of Thin Wall Members

- For solid circular bar  $\theta = \frac{TL}{GJ}$ ,  $\tau = \frac{Tr}{J}$
- Torsion of members with closed / open section

	closed section	open section
Angle of rotation	$\theta = \frac{TL}{GJ_{eff}}$	
Shear stress	$\tau = \frac{T}{2At}$	$\tau = \frac{Tt}{J_{eff}}$
Constant thickness	$J_{eff} = \frac{4A^2t}{S}$	$J_{eff} = \frac{1}{3}t^3S$
Non-uniform thickness	$J_{eff} = 4A^2 / \sum_i \frac{S_i}{t_i}$	$J_{eff} = \frac{1}{3} \sum_i t_i^3 S_i$

- Warping of open sections under torsion
  - Warping constant

# Torsion of Members with Closed Section (1)



$\tau_1 t_1 = \tau_2 t_2 \rightarrow q = \tau t$ : shear flow (shearing force per unit length)

$dT = r dF = r q ds$

$\tau?$

$\theta?$

# Torsion of Members with Closed Section (2)

$$T = \oint r q ds = q \oint r ds = q \oint r \frac{2dA}{r} = 2q \oint dA = 2qA \rightarrow q = \frac{T}{2A} = \tau t \rightarrow \tau = \frac{T}{2At}$$

$$\frac{1}{2}T\theta = \int \frac{1}{2}\tau\gamma dV = \int \frac{\tau^2}{2G} dV = \iint \frac{\tau^2}{2G} t ds dL$$

$$= \iint \frac{1}{2G} \left( \frac{T}{2At} \right)^2 t dL ds = \frac{1}{2G} \frac{T^2}{4A^2} \iint \frac{1}{t} dL ds = \frac{1}{2G} \frac{T^2 L}{4A^2} \oint \frac{ds}{t}$$

$$\theta = \frac{TL}{4GA^2} \oint \frac{ds}{t} = \frac{TL}{G \left( \frac{4A^2}{\oint \frac{ds}{t}} \right)} = \frac{TL}{GJ_{eff}}$$

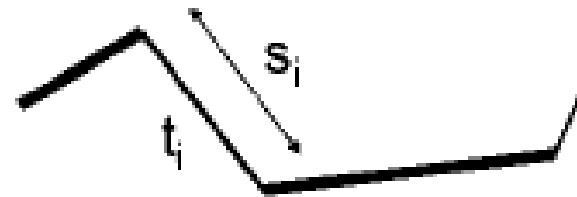
# Torsion of Members with Open Section

Uniform Thickness



$$J_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{3} s t^3$$

Variable Thickness

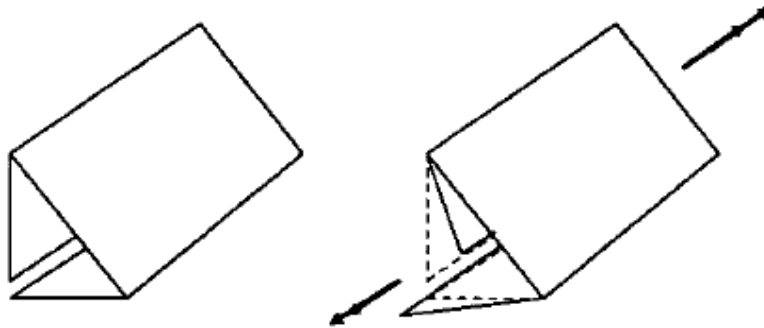


$$J_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{3} \sum_i s_i t_i^3$$

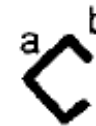


# Warping of Open Sections under Torsion

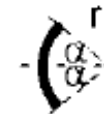
- Warping in the longitudinal direction
  - Rigidly hold an end of an open tube and prevent warping, stiffness of the tube  $\uparrow$



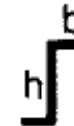
- Warping constant  $C_w$ 
  - Depends on the geometry of the section
  - $C_w = 0$ : section remains planar
  - Large  $C_w$  : greater out of plane deformation



$$C_w = \frac{ta^3b^3}{6} \left( \frac{4a+3b}{2a^3-(a-b)^3} \right)$$



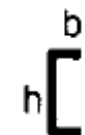
$$C_w = \frac{2tr^5}{3} \left( \alpha^3 - 6 \frac{(\sin \alpha - \alpha \cos \alpha)^2}{\alpha - \sin \alpha \cos \alpha} \right)$$



$$C_w = \frac{th^2b^3}{12} \left( \frac{2h+b}{h+2b} \right)$$

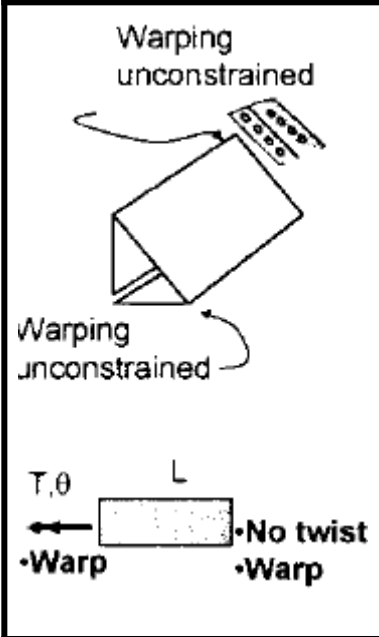
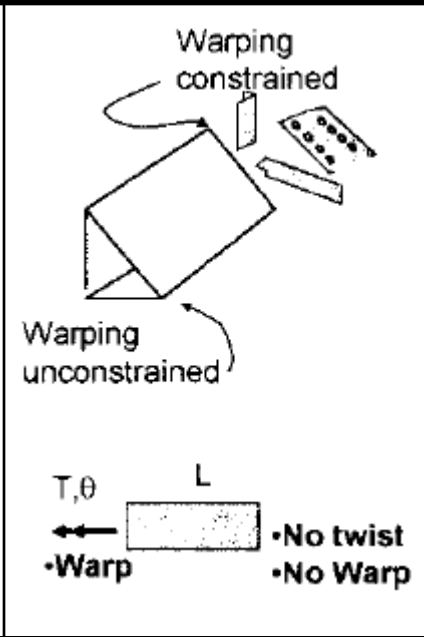
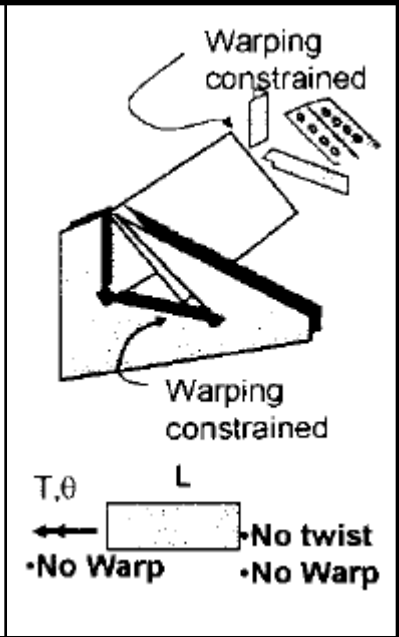


$$C_w = 0$$



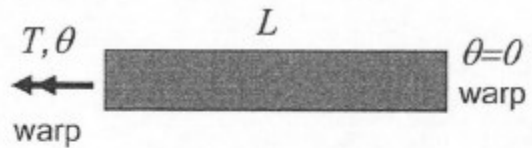
$$C_w = \frac{th^2b^3}{12} \left( \frac{2h+3b}{h+6b} \right)$$


# Constrained Warping

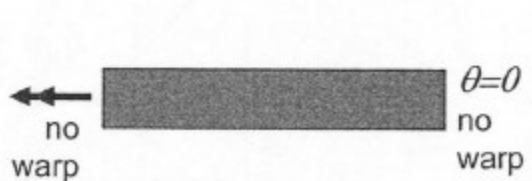
 <p>Warping unconstrained</p> <p>Warping unconstrained</p> <p><math>T, \theta</math> <math>L</math></p> <p>•No twist •Warp</p>	 <p>Warping constrained</p> <p>Warping unconstrained</p> <p><math>T, \theta</math> <math>L</math></p> <p>•No twist •No Warp</p>	 <p>Warping constrained</p> <p>Warping constrained</p> <p><math>T, \theta</math> <math>L</math></p> <p>•No twist •No Warp</p>
$\theta = \frac{TL}{GJ}$	$\theta = \frac{TL}{GJ} \left( 1 - \frac{\tanh kL}{kL} \right)$	$\theta = \frac{TL}{GJ} \left( 1 - \frac{\tanh kL/2}{kL/2} \right)$

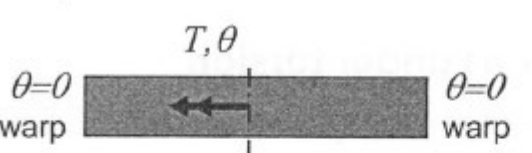
$$k = \sqrt{\frac{JG}{C_w E}}$$


# Formulae for Twist of Warping Tubes

(a)   $\theta = \frac{TL}{JG}$

(b)   $\theta = \frac{TL}{GJ} \left( 1 - \frac{\tanh kL}{kL} \right)$

(c)   $\theta = \frac{TL}{GJ} \left( 1 - \frac{\tanh \frac{kL}{2}}{\frac{kL}{2}} \right)$

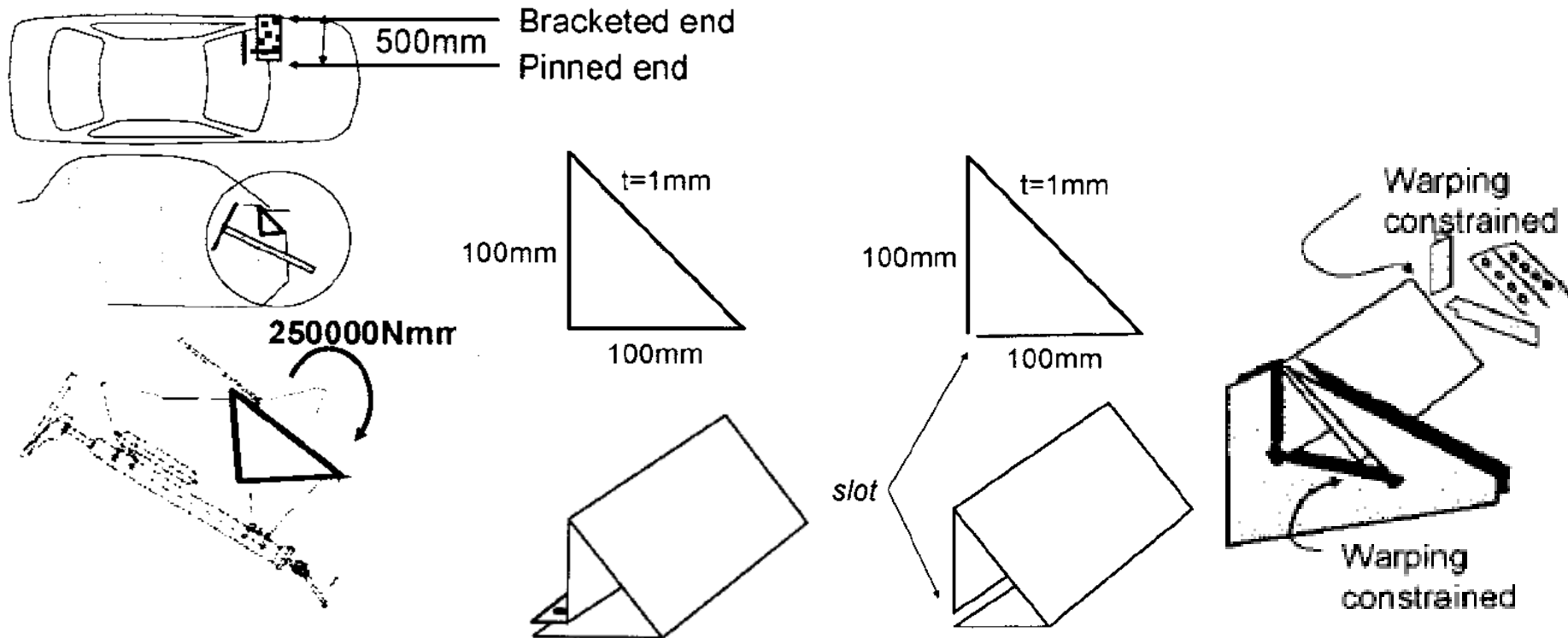
(d)   $\theta = \frac{TL}{4GJ} \left( 1 - \frac{\tanh \frac{kL}{2}}{\frac{kL}{2}} \right)$

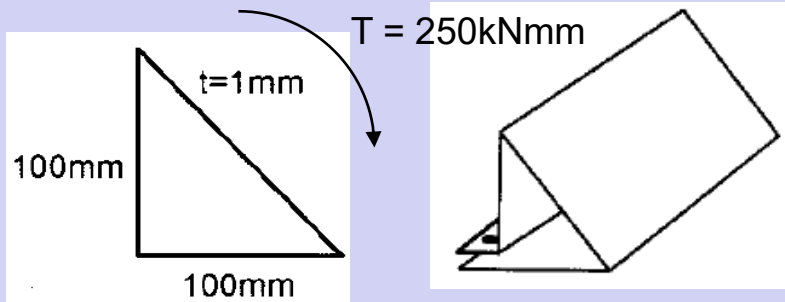
(e)   $\theta = \frac{TL}{4GJ} \left( 1 - \frac{\tanh \frac{kL}{4}}{\frac{kL}{4}} \right)$

$$k = \sqrt{\frac{JG}{C_w E}}$$

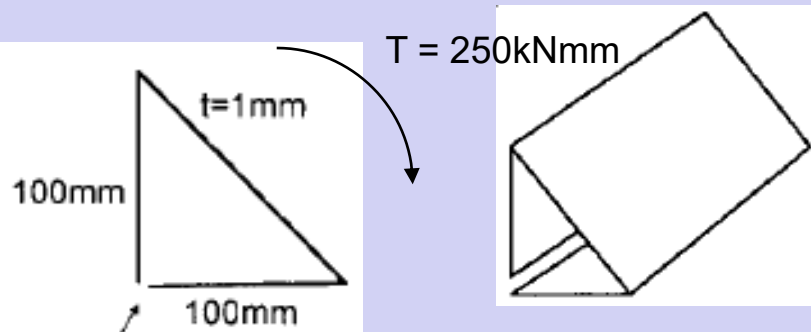
# Example: Steering Column Mounting Beam

section	closed	open	No warping
Thin-wall torsion constant ( $\text{mm}^4$ )			
Angle of rotation (rad/degree)			
Shear stress ( $\text{N/mm}^2$ )			

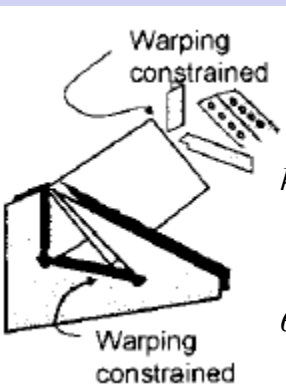




$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} J_{eff} &= \frac{4A^2}{\oint \frac{dS}{t}} = \frac{4A^2 t}{S} = \frac{4\left(\frac{1}{2}100^2 \text{ mm}^2\right)^2}{(100+100+100\sqrt{2})} = 2.93 \times 10^5 \text{ mm}^4 \\ \theta &= \frac{Tl}{GJ_{eff}} = \frac{(25 \times 10^4 \text{ Nmm})(500 \text{ mm})}{(78 \times 10^3 \text{ N/mm}^2)(2.93 \times 10^5 \text{ mm}^4)} = 5.47 \times 10^{-3} \text{ rad} (0.312^\circ) \\ \tau &= \frac{T}{2At} = \frac{25 \times 10^4 \text{ Nmm}}{2\left(\frac{1}{2}100^2 \text{ mm}^2\right)(1 \text{ mm})} = 25 \text{ N/mm}^2 \end{aligned} \right.$$



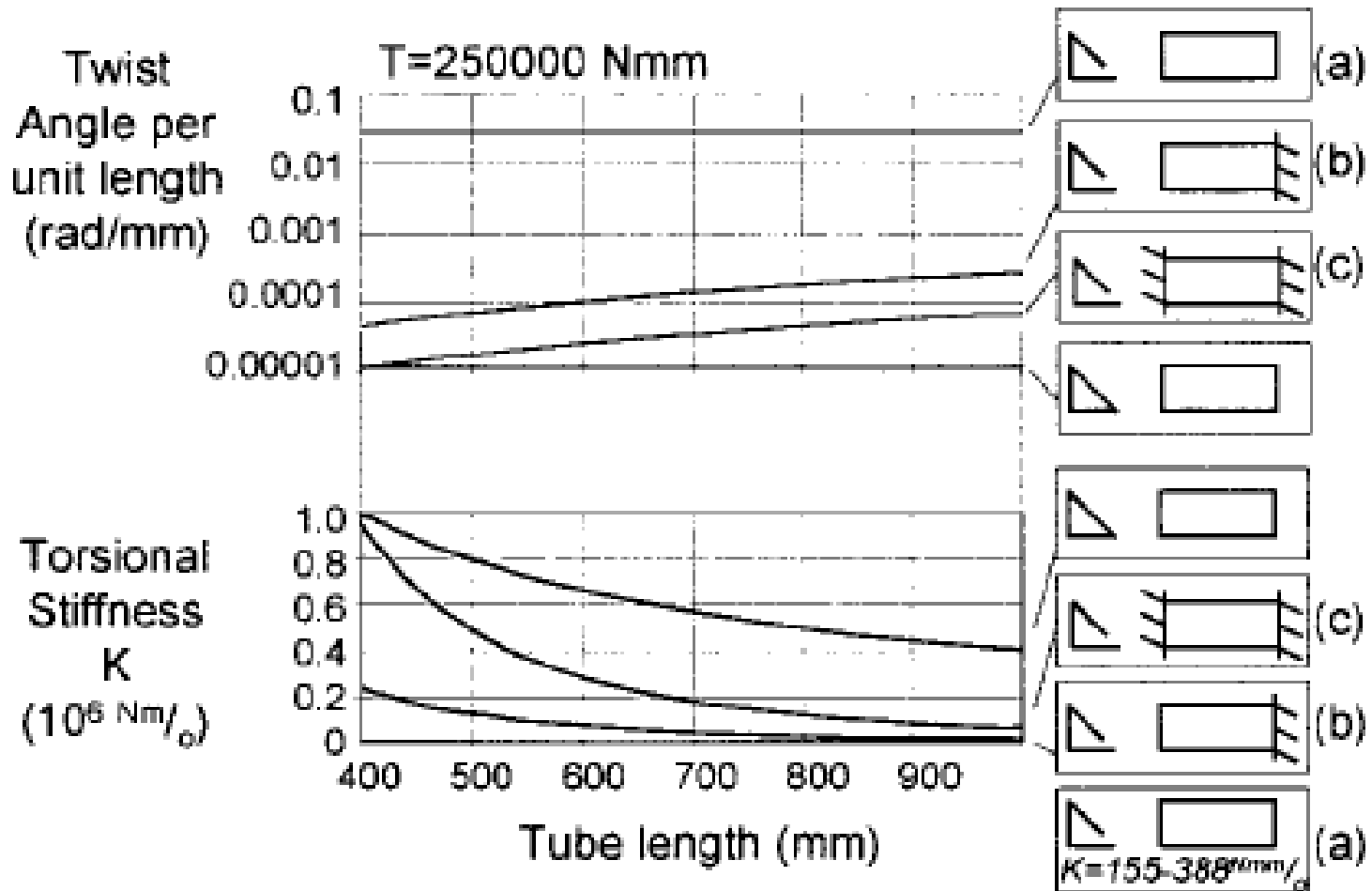
$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} J_{eff} &= \frac{1}{3} t^3 S = \frac{1}{3} (1 \text{ mm})^3 (100 + 100 + 100\sqrt{2}) \text{ mm} = 113.8 \text{ mm}^4 \\ \theta &= \frac{Tl}{GJ_{eff}} = \frac{(25 \times 10^4 \text{ Nmm})(500 \text{ mm})}{(78 \times 10^3 \text{ N/mm}^2)(113.8 \text{ mm}^4)} = 14.1 \text{ rad} (803^\circ?) \\ \tau &= \frac{Tt}{J_{eff}} = \frac{25 \times 10^4 \text{ Nmm}(1 \text{ mm})}{113.8 \text{ mm}^4} = 2197 \text{ N/mm}^2 \end{aligned} \right.$$



$$k = \sqrt{\frac{JG}{C_w E}} = \sqrt{\frac{(113.8 \text{ mm}^4)(78 \times 10^3 \text{ N/mm}^2)}{(1.4 \times 10^9 \text{ mm}^6)(207 \times 10^3 \text{ N/mm}^2)}} = 1.75 \times 10^{-4} / \text{mm}$$

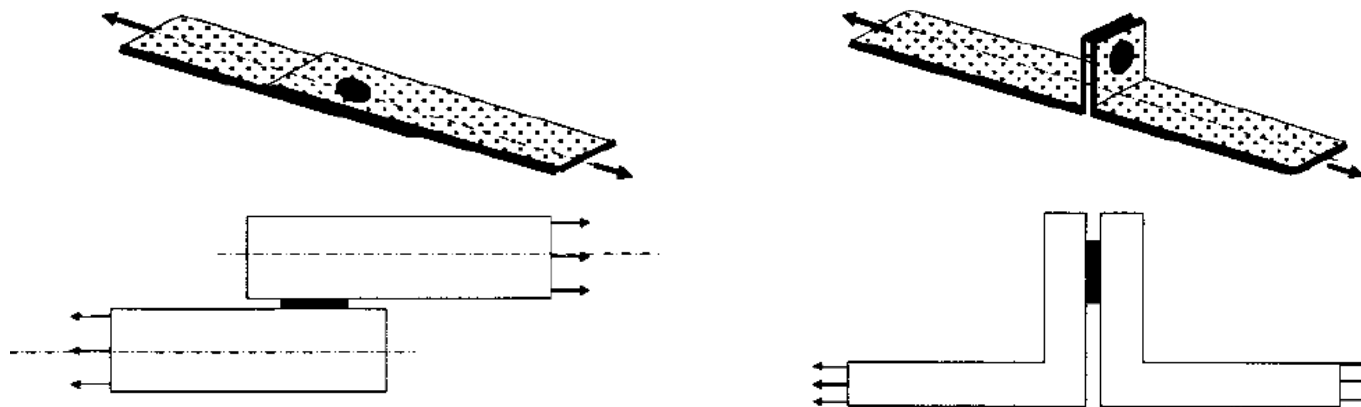
$$\theta = \frac{TL}{GJ} \left( 1 - \frac{\tanh kL/2}{kL/2} \right) = \frac{(25 \times 10^4 \text{ Nmm})(500 \text{ mm})}{(78 \times 10^3 \text{ N/mm}^2)(113.8 \text{ mm}^4)} \left[ 1 - \frac{\tanh \left\{ (1.75 \times 10^{-4} / \text{mm})(500 \text{ mm})/2 \right\}}{(1.75 \times 10^{-4} / \text{mm})(500 \text{ mm})/2} \right] = 8.98 \times 10^{-3} \text{ rad} (0.515^\circ)$$

# Effect of Beam Length on Angle of Rotation



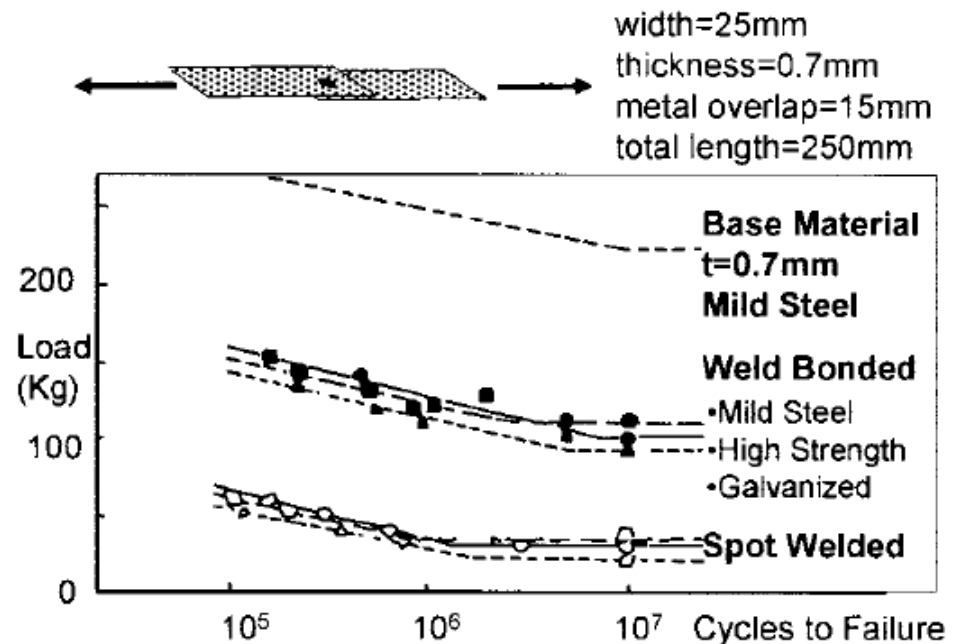
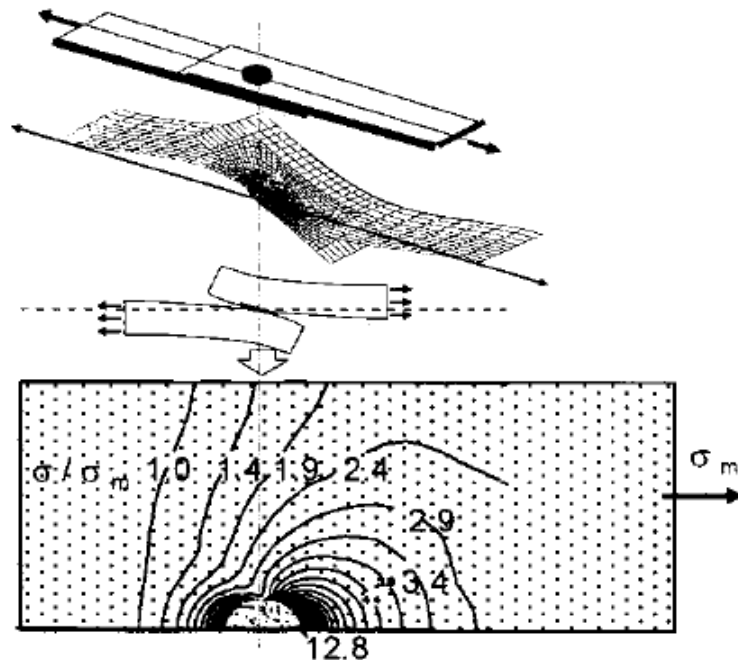
# Effect of Spot Welds on Structural Performance

- Body sections
  - Fabrication of several formed element using spot welds
- Addition of shear flexibility in the section during torsion of fabricated sections
  - Tools to predict the degree of shear flexibility
  - Strategies to minimize the flexibility
- Shear vs. Peel loading



# Shear Loading

- Create a moment at the weld
- Reduce fatigue limit by a factor of seven
  - Adhesive: more evenly distributed stress → fatigue performance





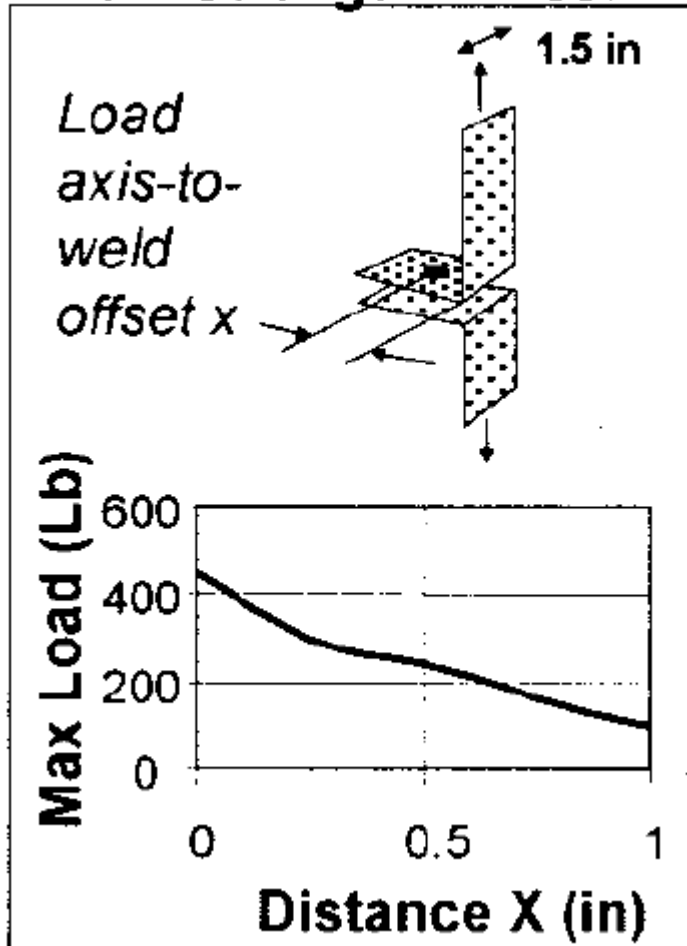
# Peel Loading

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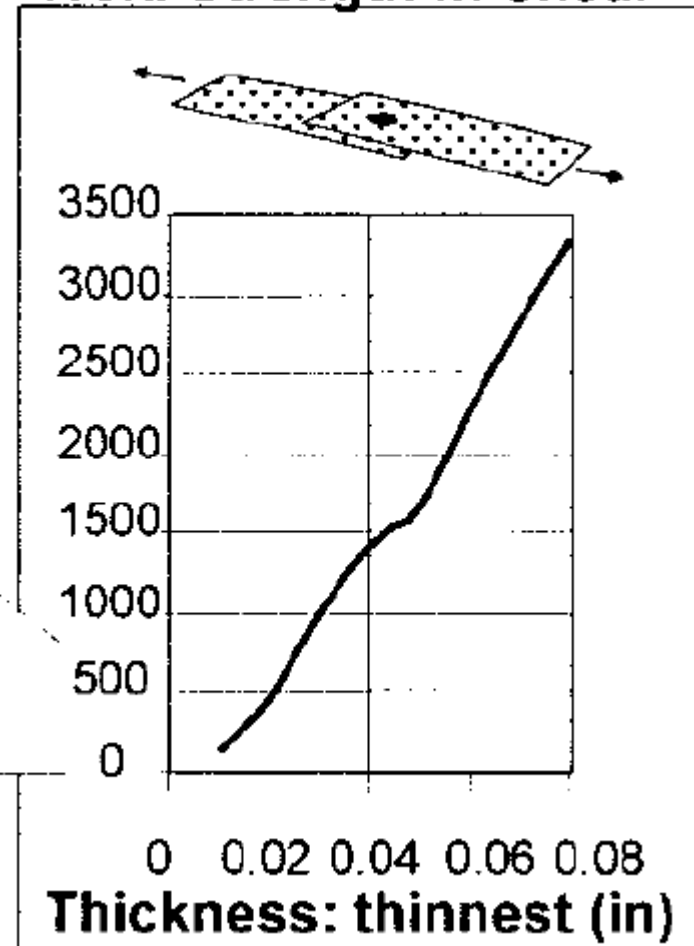
- Increase the detrimental offset
- Effect of increasing the loading offset beyond the sheet thickness
- Design practice
  - Assumption: tensile load within the plane of the thin wall material
  - Minimize the offset of this tensile load from the weld
  - Use part geometry to put welds into shear loading rather than peel loading

# Offset Effect on Spot Welded Joint Strength

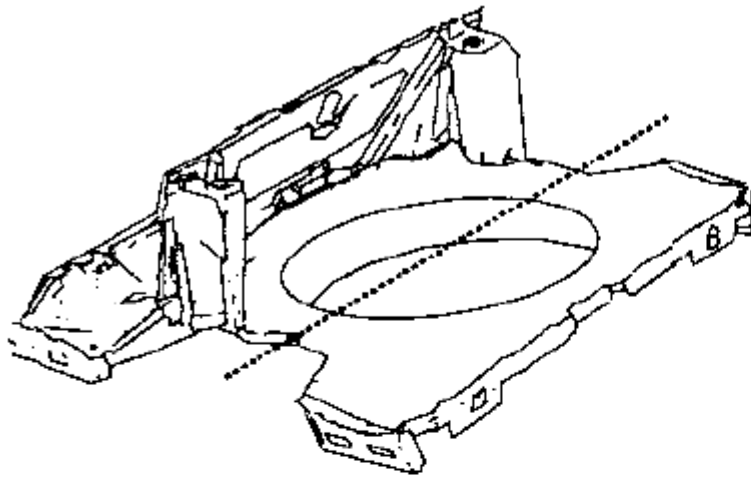
## Weld Strength in Peel



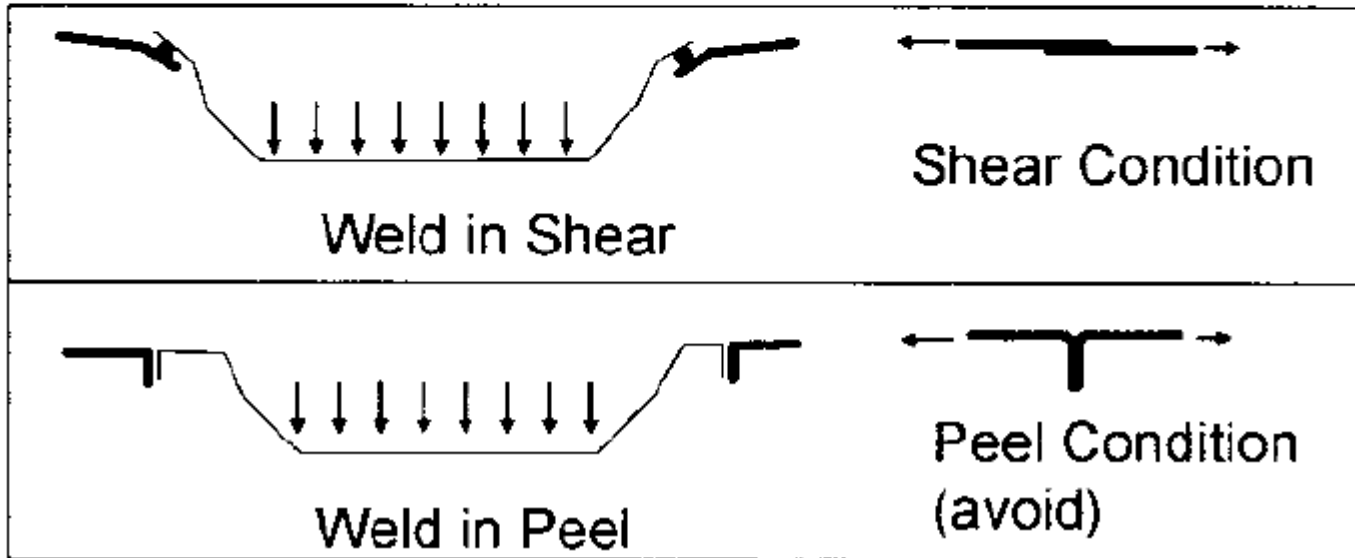
## Weld Strength in Shear



# Examples of Joints in Shear (1)

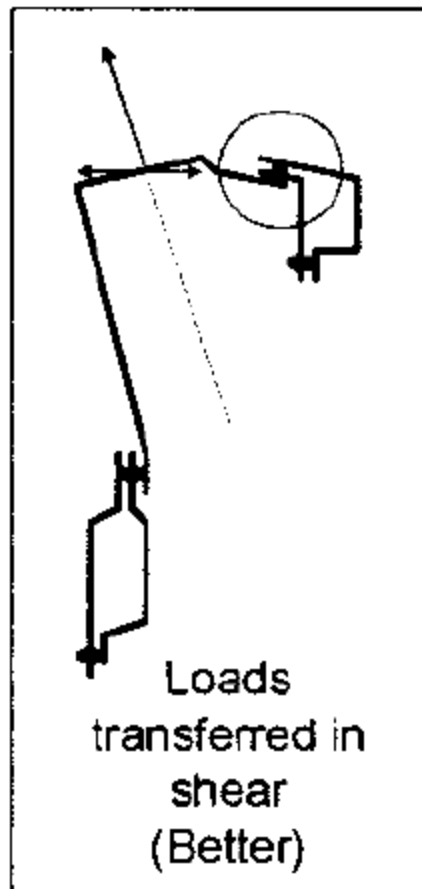
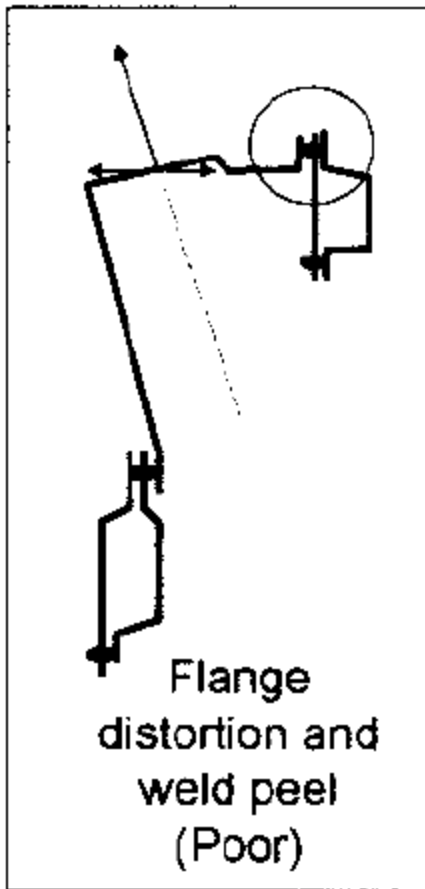


**Rear Compartment Pan**

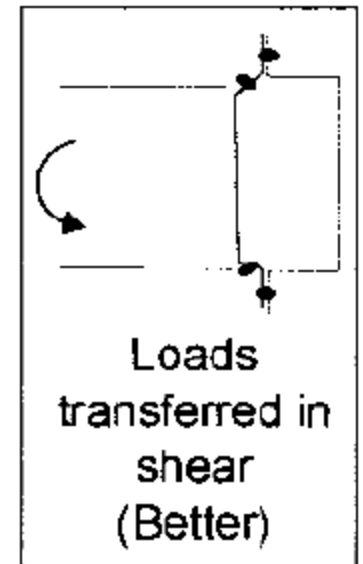
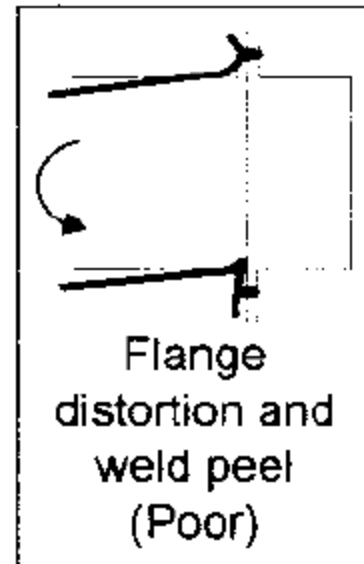
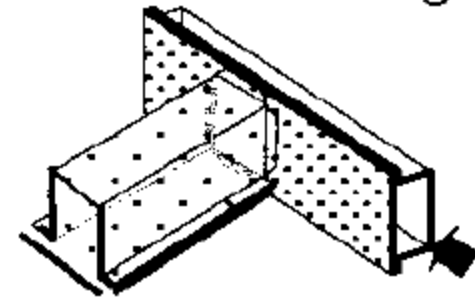


# Examples of Joints in Shear (2)

## Front Shock Tower Attachment

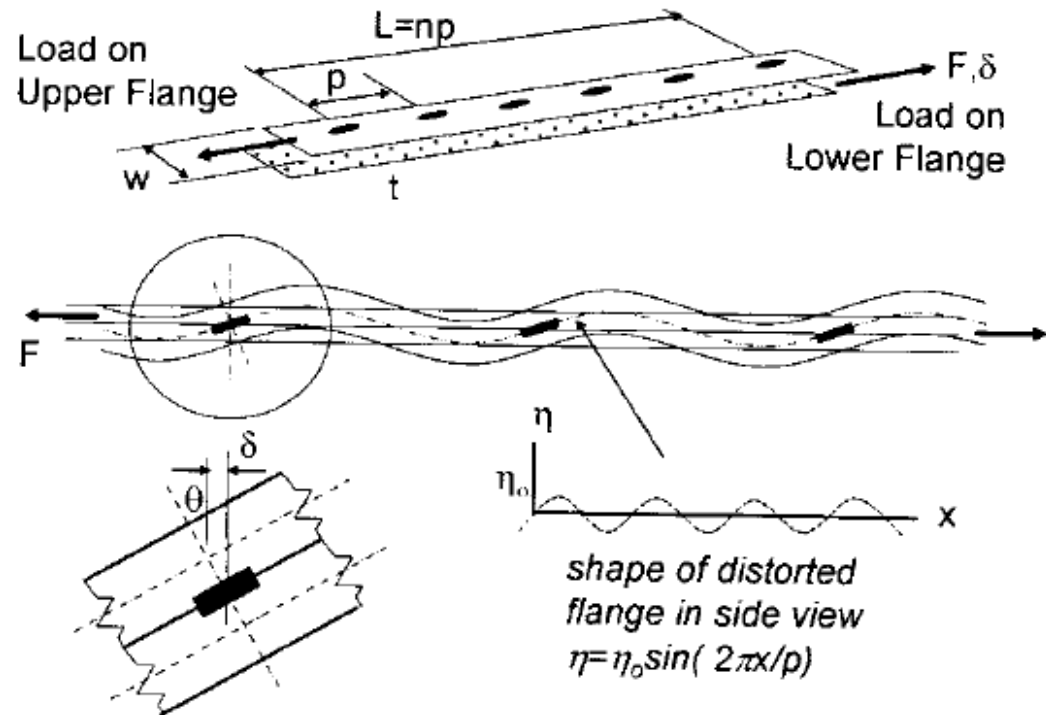
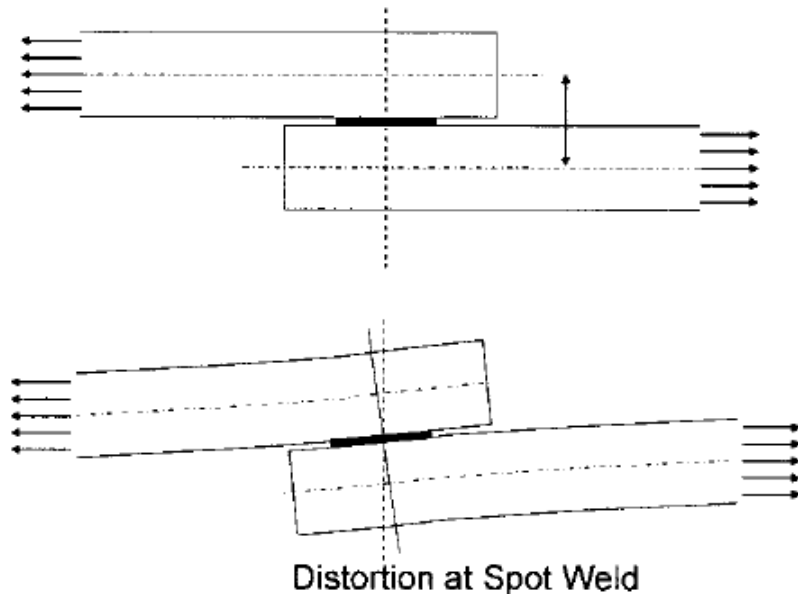


## Seat Cross Member to Rocker Joint construction Out-of-Plane Bending



# Longitudinal Stiffness of a Shear Loaded Weld Flange

- Local deformation → reduce the apparent stiffness of a section
- Distortion under a shear load: rotation with the center at the interface of the weld



# Longitudinal Deflection

- Deflected shape of the flange  $\eta$  at each weld
- (work done by an external elastic shearing force through distance  $\delta$ ) = (bending strain energy in the distorted flange)
  - Deflection  $\propto$  square of the weld pitch

$$\left. \begin{aligned} work &= \frac{1}{2} F \delta \\ energy &= \frac{1}{2} \int_V \sigma \varepsilon dV = \frac{1}{2} \int_V \frac{\sigma^2}{E} dV \\ \frac{\sigma = \frac{My}{I}}{M = EIy''} &\rightarrow \int_0^L \frac{1}{2} EI (\eta'')^2 dx \end{aligned} \right\} \rightarrow \delta = \frac{3p^2}{2E\pi^2 wt} q$$

# Longitudinal Deflection

$$\eta = \eta_0 \sin \frac{2\pi x}{p} \rightarrow \frac{d\eta}{dx} = \eta_0 \frac{2\pi}{p} \cos \frac{2\pi x}{p}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{d\eta}{dx} \Big|_{x=0,p,2p} &= \eta_0 \frac{2\pi}{p} = \theta \\ \delta &= \frac{t}{2} \theta \rightarrow \theta = \frac{2\delta}{t} \end{aligned} \right\} \rightarrow \eta_0 = \frac{p\delta}{\pi t}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} F \delta &= \frac{1}{2} (qL) \delta = \frac{1}{2} (qnp) \delta \\ \int_0^L \frac{1}{2} EI (\eta'')^2 dx &= \frac{1}{2} EI \int_0^{np} \left[ -\eta_0 \left( \frac{2\pi}{p} \right)^2 \sin \frac{2\pi x}{p} \right]^2 dx = \frac{1}{2} EI \eta_0^2 \left( \frac{2\pi}{p} \right)^4 \int_0^L \sin^2 \frac{2\pi x}{p} dx \\ \frac{\sin^2 \theta = \frac{1 - \cos 2\theta}{2}}{\rightarrow} &\rightarrow \frac{1}{2} EI \eta_0^2 \left( \frac{2\pi}{p} \right)^4 \frac{np}{2} \end{aligned} \right.$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{2} (qnp) \delta = \frac{4EI\pi^2}{t^2} \frac{n\delta^2}{p} \rightarrow q = \frac{8EI\pi^2}{(pt)^2} \delta \xrightarrow{I = \frac{wt^3}{12}} q = \frac{2E\pi^2 wt}{3p^2} \delta \rightarrow \delta = \frac{3p^2}{2E\pi^2 wt} q$$

# Tube Closed by a Single Spot Weld Flange

- Reduced stiffness in a twisted section by torque T
- (external energy) = (shear strain energy in tube wall) + (strain energy in distorted flange)
  - Estimate of the reduced stiffness in a twisted section when a single spot welded flange is present

$$(\text{stiffness of closed tube w/o weld flange}) = \frac{GJ}{L} = \frac{G \left( \frac{4A^2 t}{S} \right)}{L} = \frac{4GA^2 t}{LS}$$

Ideal  
closed tube



$$\begin{cases} \text{work} = \frac{1}{2} T \theta \\ \text{energy} = \frac{SL}{2Gt} q^2 + \frac{1}{2} F \delta \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{T}{\theta} = \frac{(\text{stiffness of closed tube w/o weld flange})}{\left[ 1 + \frac{3}{4\pi^2 (1+\nu)} \frac{p^2}{wS} \right]}$$

closed tube fabricated  
with a single weld  
flange



*S: Perimeter without  
flange considered*



$$(\text{stiffness of closed tube w/o weld flange}) = \frac{GJ}{L} = \frac{G \left( \frac{4A^2 t}{S} \right)}{L} = \frac{4GA^2 t}{LS}$$

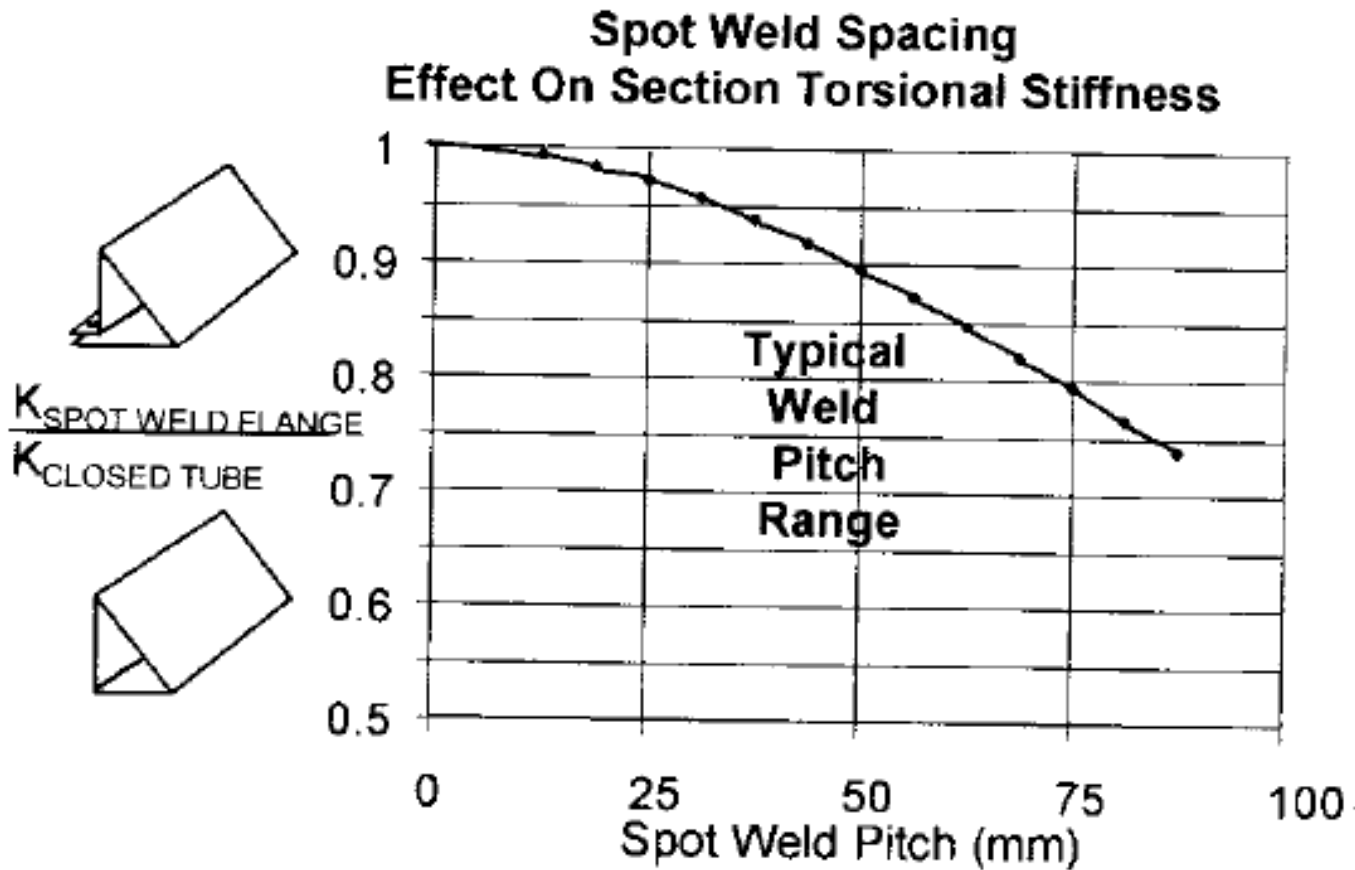
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{work} = \frac{1}{2} T \theta \\ \text{energy} = \int \frac{\tau^2}{2G} dV + \frac{1}{2} F \delta = \frac{(q/t)^2}{2G} tSL + \frac{1}{2} (qL) \delta = \frac{SL}{2Gt} q^2 + \frac{1}{2} (qL) \frac{3p^2}{2E\pi^2 wt} q \\ = \frac{SL}{\frac{E}{1+\nu} t} q^2 + \frac{3p^2 q^2 L}{4E\pi^2 wt} = \frac{(1+\nu)SLq^2}{Et} \left[ 1 + \frac{3p^2}{4E\pi^2 (1+\nu) wS} \right] \end{array} \right.$$

$$\frac{1}{2} T \theta = \frac{(1+\nu)SLq^2}{Et} \left[ 1 + \frac{3p^2}{4E\pi^2 (1+\nu) wS} \right] \rightarrow \theta = \frac{1}{T} \frac{SLq^2}{\frac{E}{2(1+\nu)} t} \left[ 1 + \frac{3p^2}{4E\pi^2 (1+\nu) wS} \right]$$

$$\frac{T}{\theta} = T^2 \frac{Gt}{SLq^2} \frac{1}{\left[ 1 + \frac{3p^2}{4E\pi^2 (1+\nu) wS} \right]} \xrightarrow{T=2qA} \frac{T}{\theta} = \underbrace{\frac{4GA^2 t}{SL}}_{\text{stiffness of closed tube w/o weld flange}} \frac{1}{\left[ 1 + \frac{3p^2}{4E\pi^2 (1+\nu) wS} \right]}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{T}{\theta} = \frac{(\text{stiffness of closed tube w/o weld flange})}{\left[ 1 + \frac{3}{4\pi^2 (1+\nu)} \frac{p^2}{wS} \right]}$$

# Spot Weld Spacing Effect

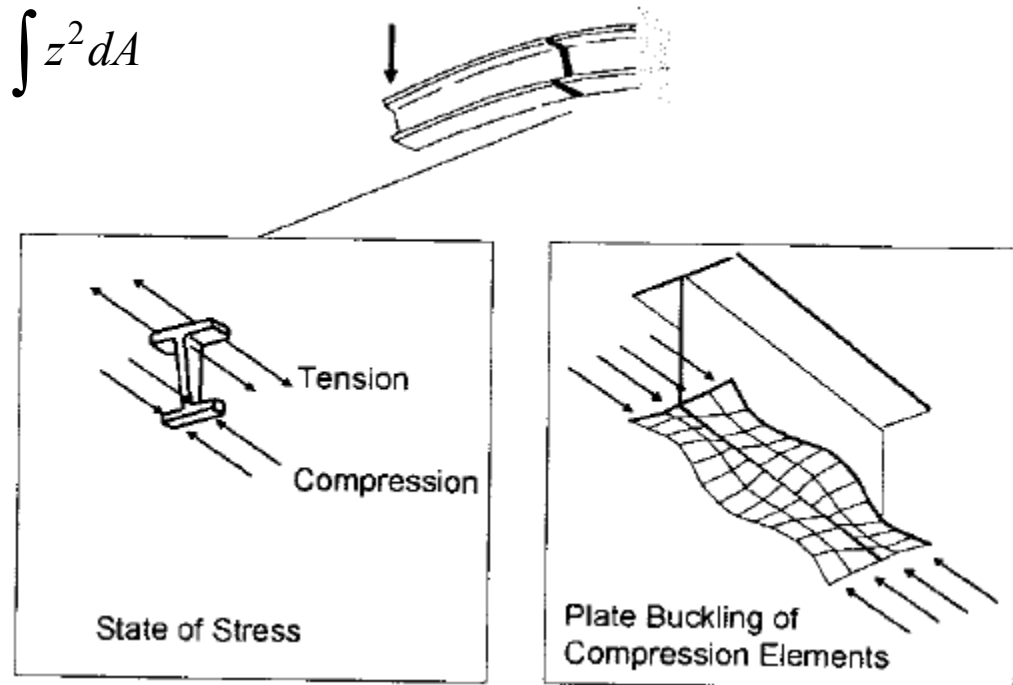
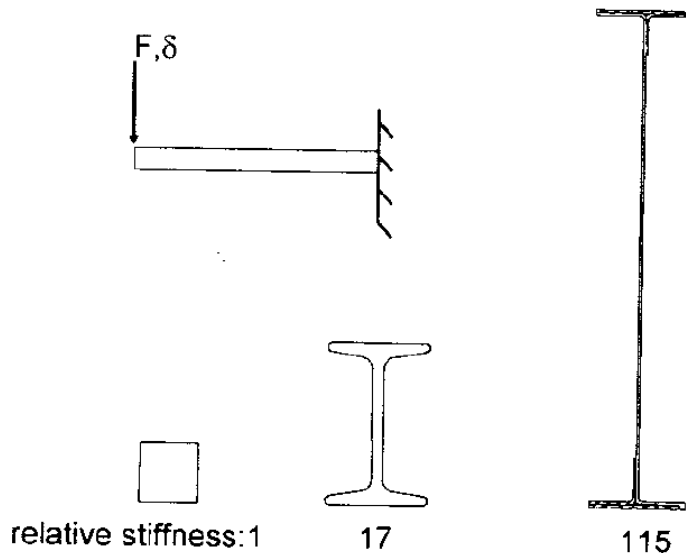


$w$  (weld flange) = 8 mm,  $t$  = 1 mm  
 $\rightarrow 40 \text{ mm} < p < 60 \text{ mm}$

## 3.4 Thin Wall Beam Section Design

- Why are automotive sections so often thin walled?
  - Steel cantilever beam with a tip load
  - Cross section area is fixed: maximize strength and stiffness
  - Existence of new failure mode

$$k = \frac{3EI}{L^3} \text{ and } F_{\max} = \frac{I\sigma_{\text{design}}}{Lc} \text{ where } I = \int z^2 dA$$

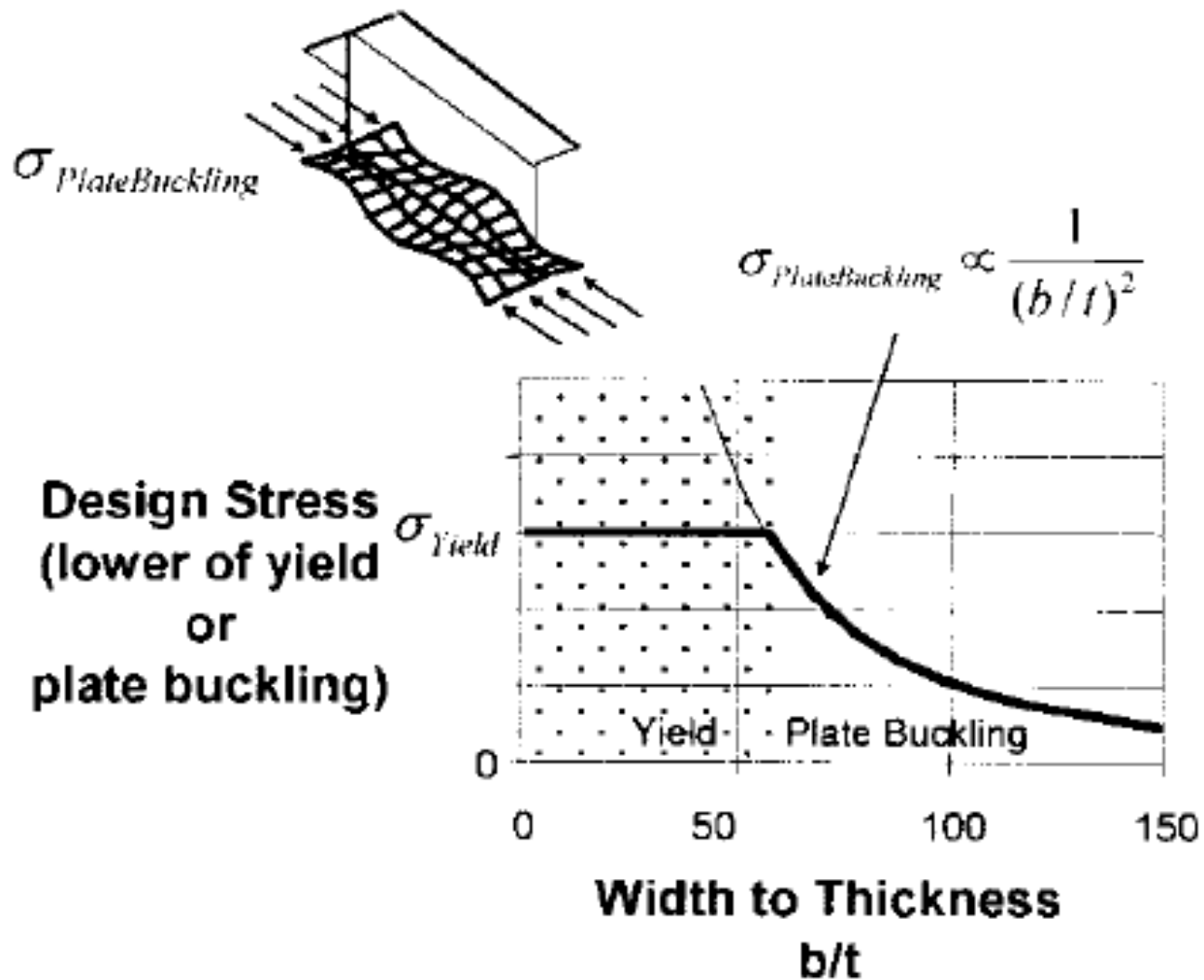


# Elastic Plate Buckling

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- General behavior of a compressively loaded plate
  - Bifurcate into the buckled shape if the plate is sufficiently thin
  - Compressive stress: plate width to thickness ratio
- Section design: trade-off
  - Thick walled section: higher strength but lower stiffness performance
  - Thin walled section: higher stiffness but lower strength performance due to plate buckling
  - Selection of the best section proportion: relationship of strength requirement to stiffness requirement

# Plate Buckling Stress



# Example: Rocker Sizing in Convertible

- Determine  $b/t$  to minimize rocker mass while meeting requirements

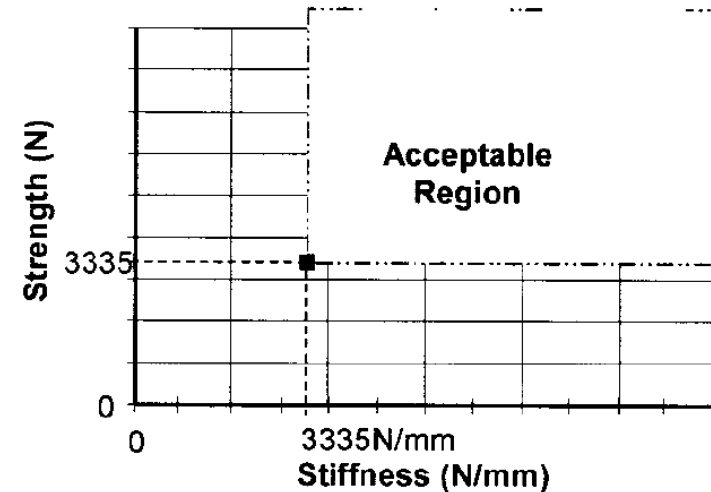
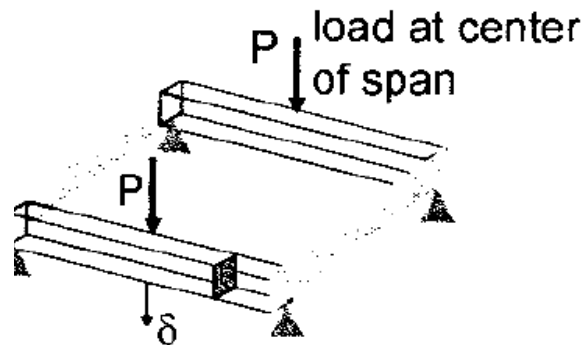
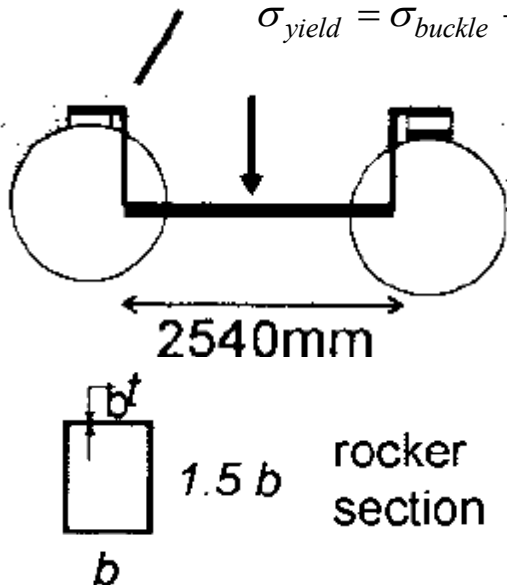
$$k = \frac{48EI}{L^3} \quad \text{and} \quad F_{\max} = \frac{4I\sigma_{\text{design}}}{Lc}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{design}} = \begin{cases} \sigma_{\text{yield}} = 207 \text{ N/mm} \\ \sigma_{\text{buckle}} = \frac{748355}{(b/t)^2} \text{ N/mm} \end{cases}$$

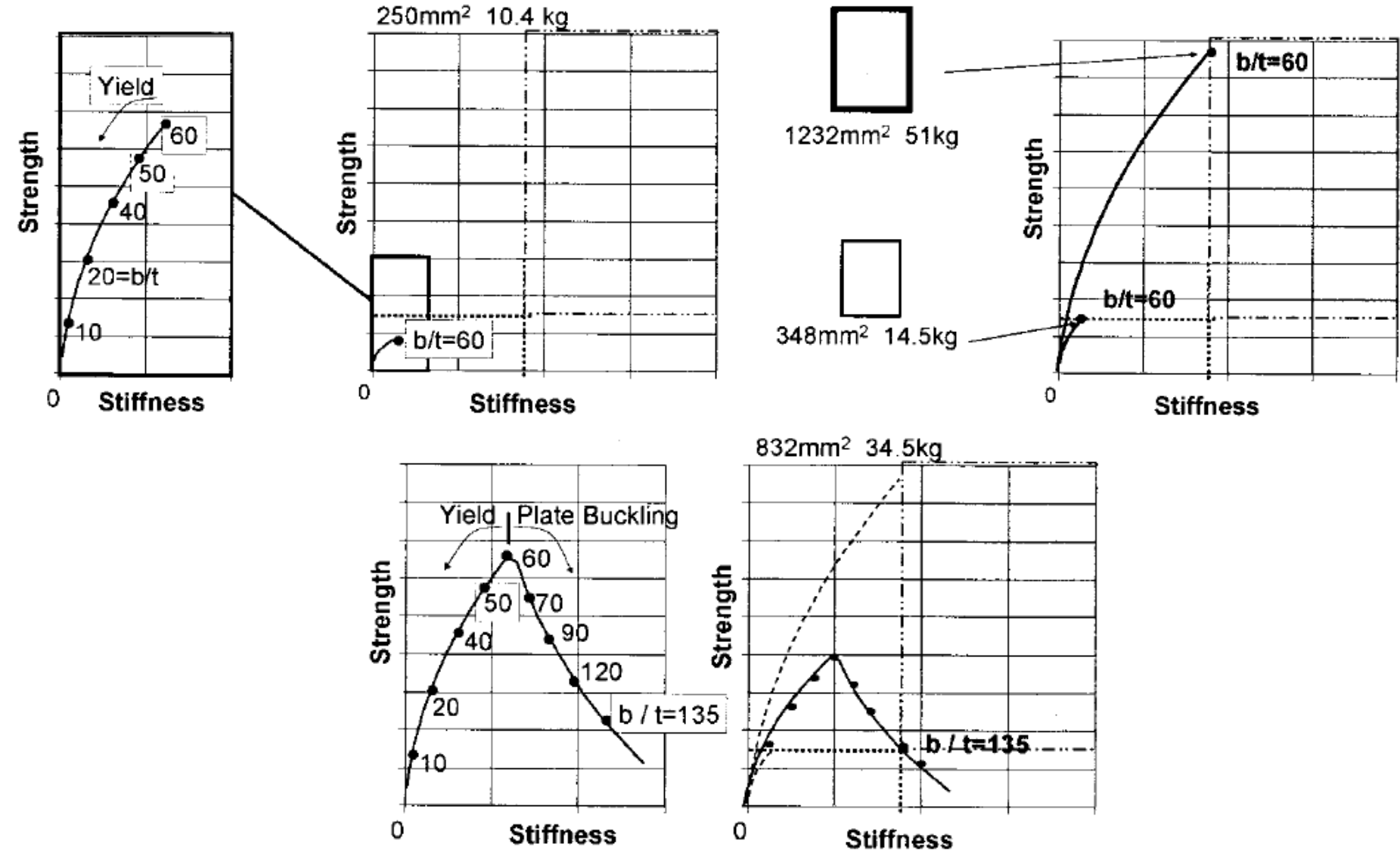
$$\left. \begin{aligned} t &= \frac{b}{(b/t)} \\ A &= 2(bt + 1.5bt) = 5bt \end{aligned} \right\} \rightarrow \begin{cases} t = \sqrt{\frac{A}{5(b/t)}} \\ b = \sqrt{\frac{A}{5} \left( \frac{b}{t} \right)} \end{cases}$$

fix  $A \rightarrow$  change  $(b/t) \rightarrow (b, t) \rightarrow I \rightarrow k, F_{\max}$

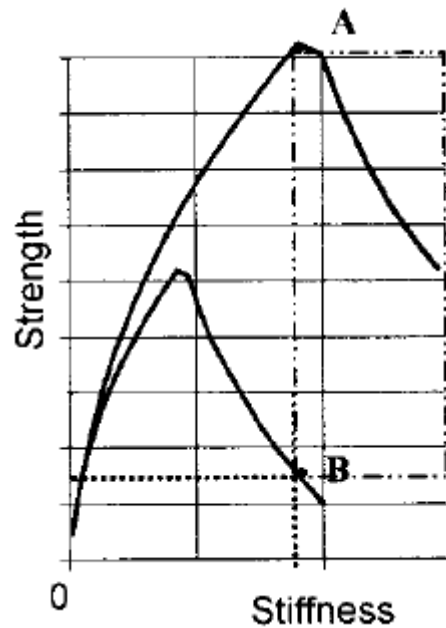
$$\sigma_{\text{yield}} = \sigma_{\text{buckle}} \rightarrow (b/t) \approx 60$$



# Thin Walled Section Performance



# Mass Savings of Thin Walled Section



	b/t	failure mode	mass
A	60	yield	51.0kg
B	35	plate buckling	34.5kg



Section A

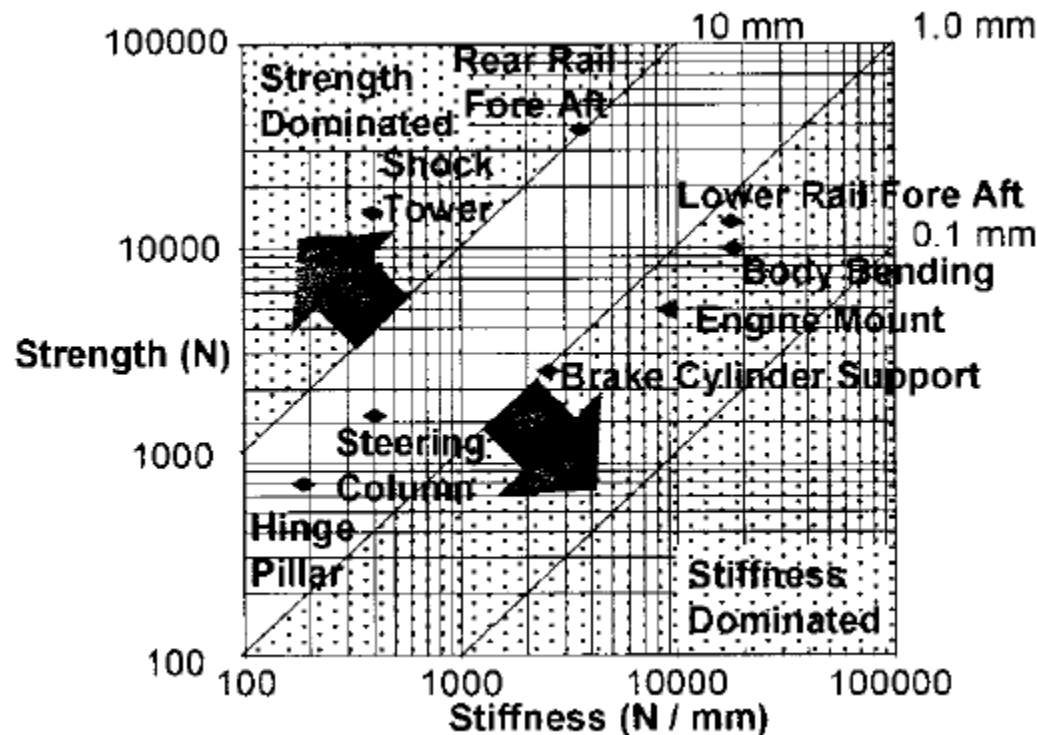


Section B



# Dominant Structural Requirement

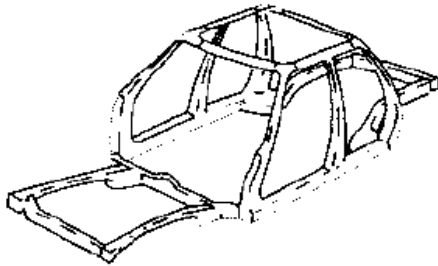
- Many structural elements in automobile body design are dominated by stiffness requirements
  - Thin wall sections: mass effective
  - Failure mode of buckling




# Section Proportion

- Mass effective means to design for stiffness performance
  - Thin wall sections

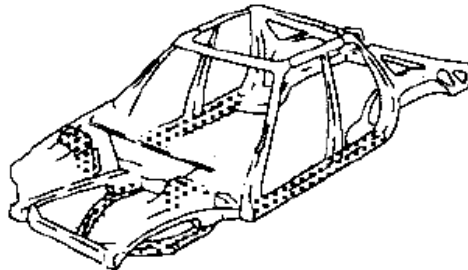
Strength  
Elements





$$b / t = 33 \text{ to } 50$$

Reacting loads in a crash:  
roof crush, side impact,  
maintaining cabin integrity

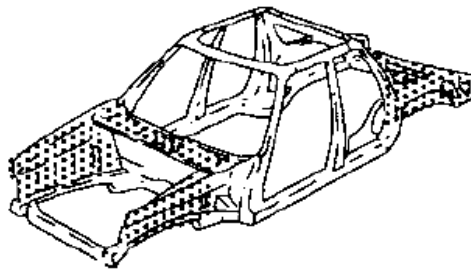
Combined  
Stiffness and  
Strength  
Elements





$$b / t = 70 \text{ to } 100$$

Major subsystem attachment:  
suspension, powertrain

Stiffness  
Elements  
including all  
panels




$$b / t = 100 \text{ to } 250$$

Overall stiffness of the body

## 3.5 Buckling of Thin Walled Members

---

- Significant difference between automotive sections and others: failure mode by plate buckling
  - Plate buckling stress in section elements
  - Strength of a buckled section
- Plate buckling
- Identifying plate boundary conditions in practice
- Post buckling behavior of plates
- Effective width
- Thin walled section failure criteria
- Techniques to inhibit buckling

# Plate Buckling (1)

- Static equilibrium of the element under loads
- Compatibility of deformations within the plate
- Material stress-strain relationship

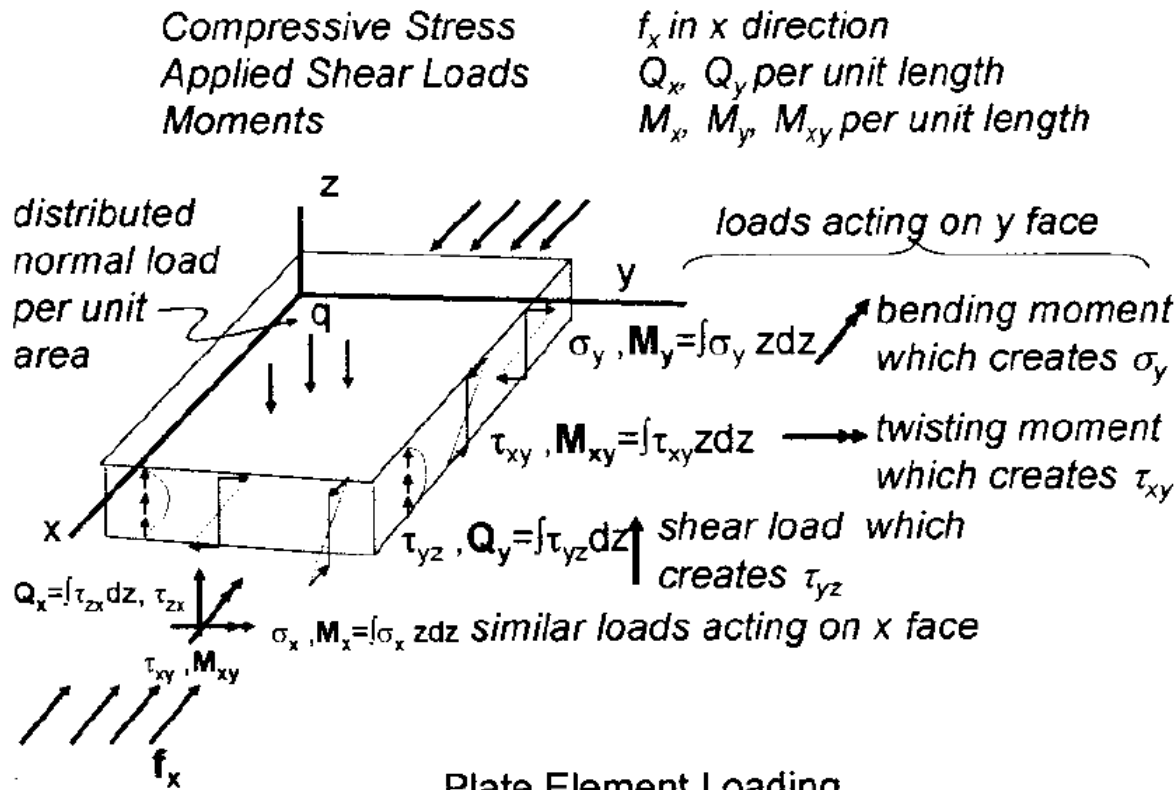


Plate Element Loading

bending moments

$$M_x, M_y \rightarrow \sigma_x, \sigma_y$$

twisting moment

$$M_{xy} \rightarrow \tau_{xy}$$

shear loads

$$Q_x, Q_y \rightarrow \tau_{zx}, \tau_{yz}$$

normal load, compressive stress

$$q, f_x$$

plate bending stiffness

$$D = \frac{Et^3}{12(1-\nu^2)}$$

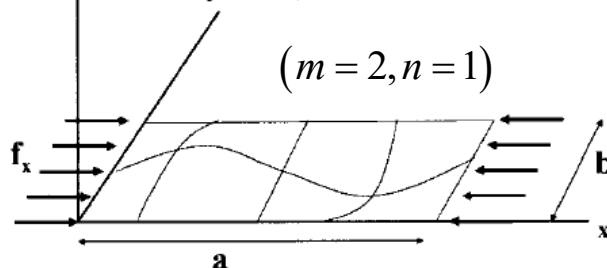
# Plate Buckling (2)

$$\frac{\partial^4 w}{\partial x^4} + 2 \frac{\partial^4 w}{\partial x^2 \partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^4 w}{\partial y^4} + \frac{f_x t}{D} \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{q}{D} = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} M_x = -D \left( \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \nu \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} \right) \\ M_y = -D \left( \nu \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} \right) \\ M_{xy} = -D(1-\nu) \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x \partial y} \end{cases}$$

simply supported plate

$$\begin{cases} M_x(x=0, y) = 0 \text{ and } M_x(x=a, y) = 0 \\ M_y(x, y=0) = 0 \text{ and } M_y(x, y=b) = 0 \\ M_{xy}(x=0, y) = 0 \text{ and } M_{xy}(x=a, y) = 0 \\ M_{xy}(x, y=0) = 0 \text{ and } M_{xy}(x, y=b) = 0 \end{cases}$$



reasonable guess at the deflected shape

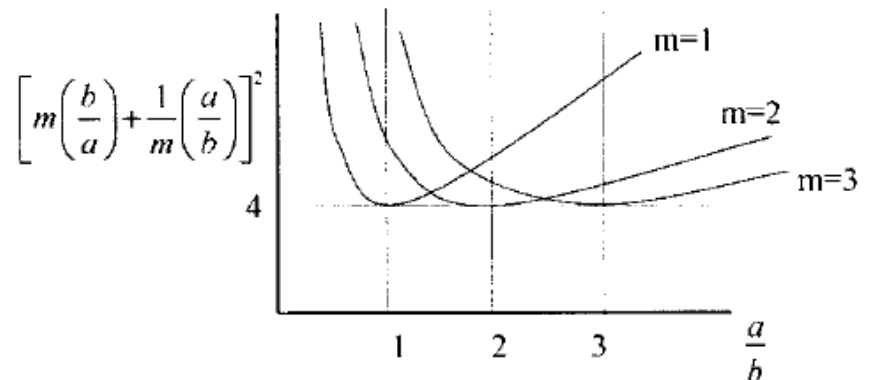
$$w(x, y) = A_{mn} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi y}{b}\right) \text{ where } m, n = 1, 2, \dots$$

$$\left[ \pi^4 \left( \frac{m^2}{a^2} + \frac{n^2}{b^2} \right)^2 - \frac{f_x t}{D} \frac{m^2 \pi^2}{a^2} \right] A_{mn} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi y}{b}\right) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow f_x = \frac{D\pi^2}{tb^2} \left[ m \left( \frac{b}{a} \right) + \frac{n^2}{m} \left( \frac{a}{b} \right) \right]^2$$

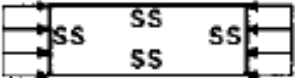

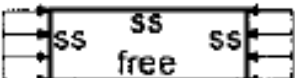
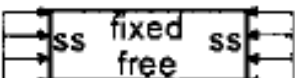
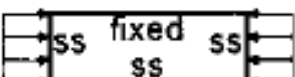
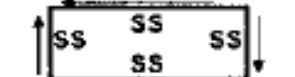

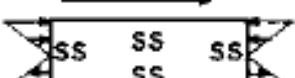

Note that lowest Buckling load occurs when n=1 or:

$$\sigma_{cr} = \frac{D\pi^2}{tb^2} \left[ m \left( \frac{b}{a} \right) + \frac{1}{m} \left( \frac{a}{b} \right) \right]^2$$

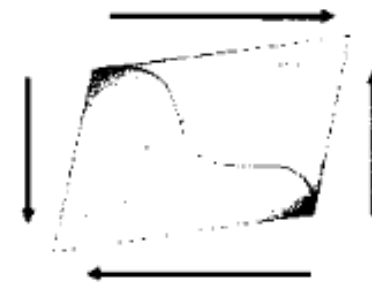
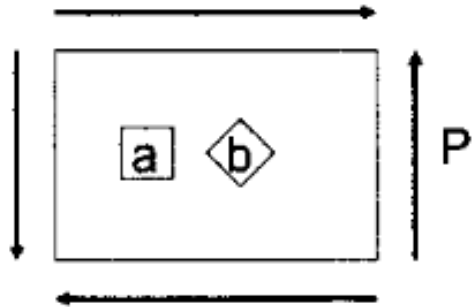


# Buckling Constant for Various B.C.

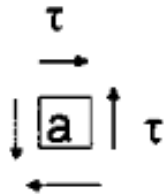
$$\sigma_{cr} = \frac{D\pi^2}{tb^2} k = \frac{E\pi^2}{12(1-\nu^2)(b/t)^2} k$$

Case	Boundary Condition	Loading	k
(a)		Compression	4.0
(b)		Compression	6.97
(c)		Compression	0.425
(d)		Compression	1.277
(e)		Compression	5.42
(f)		Shear	5.34
(g)		Shear	8.98
(h)		Bending	23.9
(i)		Bending	41.8

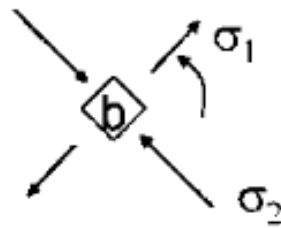
# Compressive Stress in a Shear Panel



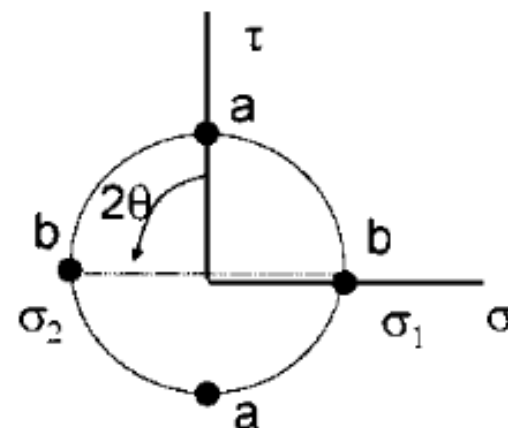
buckled shape



stress for  
element at  $0^\circ$   
rotation

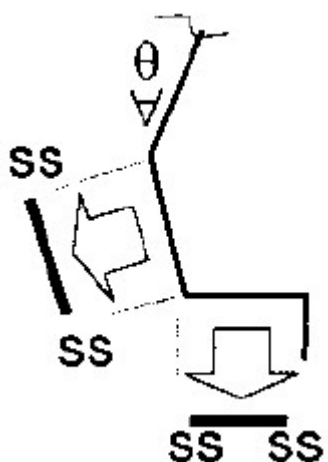
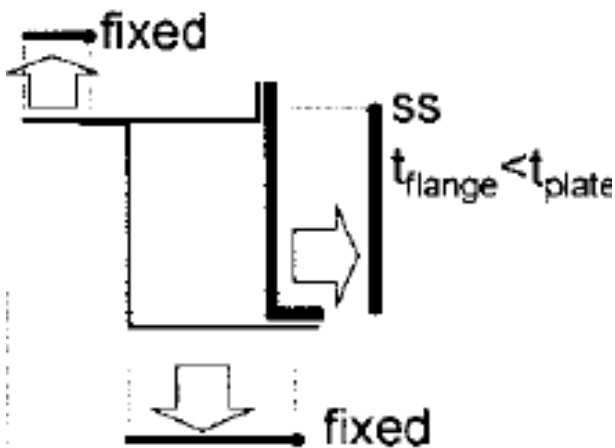
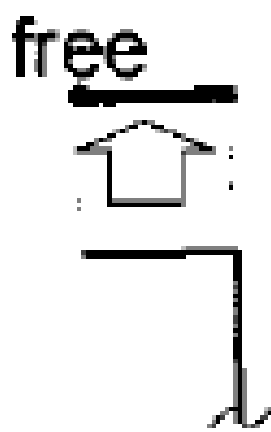


stress for  
element at  $45^\circ$   
rotation



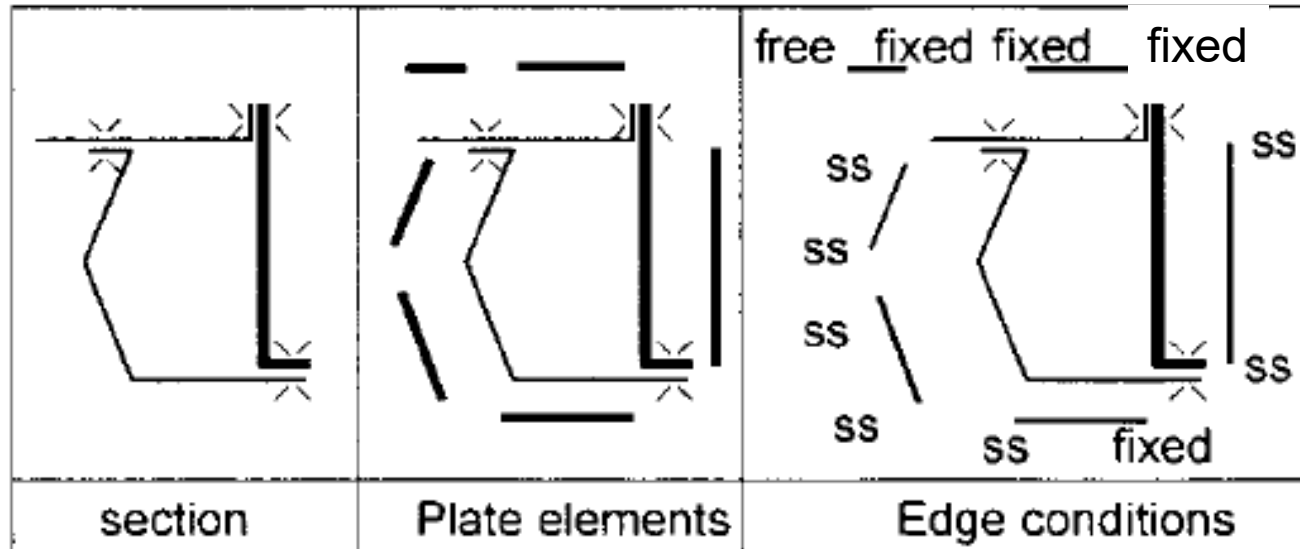
mohr's circle

# Identifying Plate Boundary Conditions

	Simply Supported	Fixed	Free
Deflection	N	N	Y
Rotation	Y	N	Y
			
	Each bent corner with angle $> 40^\circ$	Support by a flat flange where $t_{\text{flange}} \geq t_{\text{plate}}$	Unconnected edge
Plate size	Corner to corner	From center line of weld	From edge



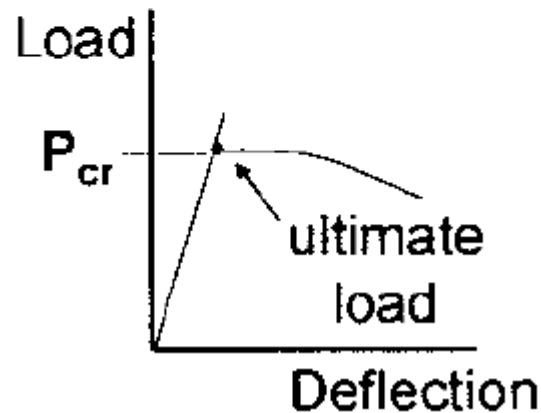
# Example of Plate Edge Conditions



# Post Buckling Behavior

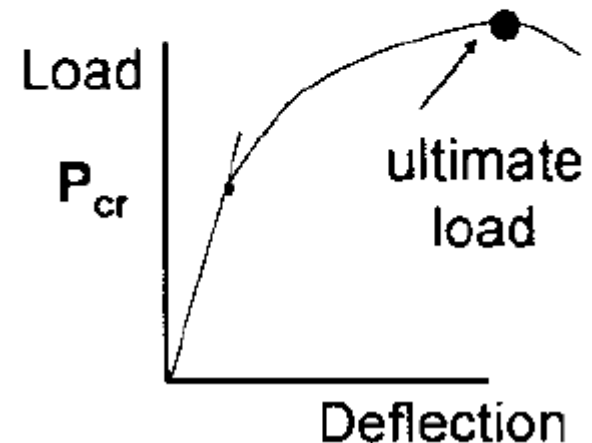
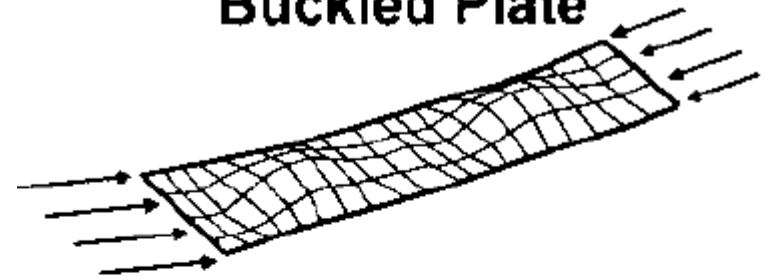
- Beam
  - Once buckled, a beam loses the ability to carry increased load

**Buckled Beam**

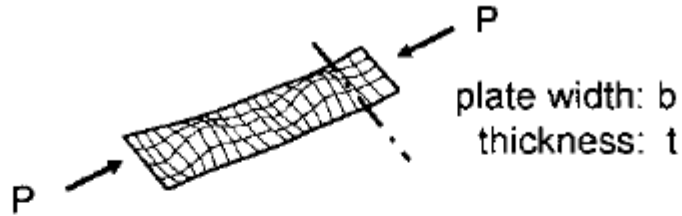


- Plate
  - Even after buckling, a plate can carry increased load

**Buckled Plate**



# Effective Width (1)

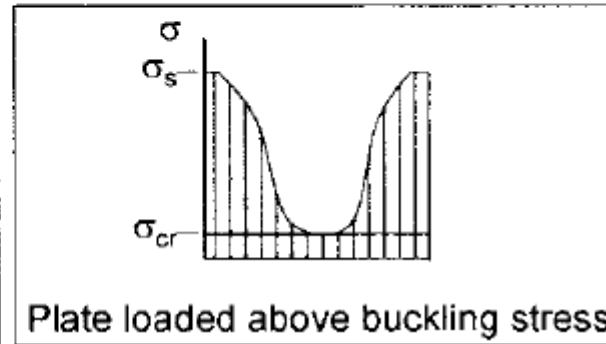
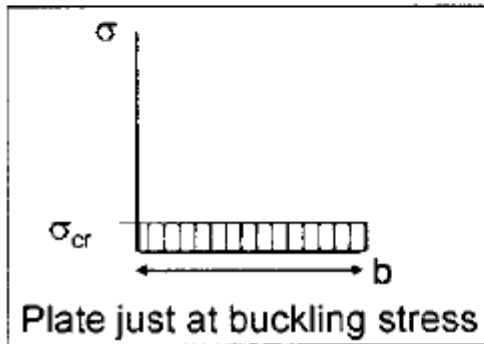


$\sigma_{cr}$  : critical plate buckling stress

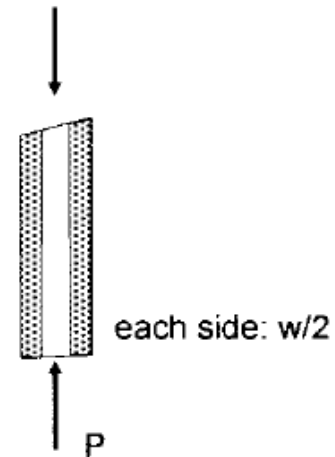
$\sigma_s$  : maximum stress in the plate

$$(b, \sigma) \leftrightarrow (w, \sigma_s)$$

Stress distribution across plate width



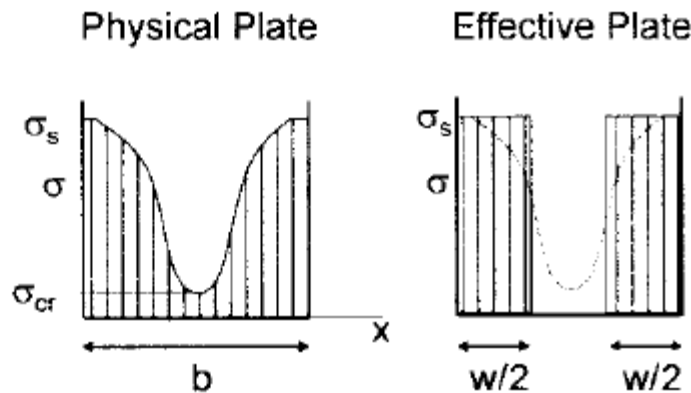
Physical Buckled plate with  
maximum stress  $\sigma_s$   
thickness  $t$   
and width  $b$



Effective Unbuckled plate with  
uniform stress:  $\sigma_s$   
thickness  $t$   
and width  $w$

# Effective Width (2)

- Width of an imaginary effective plate which has a uniform stress of  $\sigma_s$  across it



$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} P_{effective} &= \sigma_s (wt) \\ P_{real} &= \int_0^b \sigma (t dx) \\ &= \int_0^b \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma_s + \sigma_{cr}}{2} \right) + \left( \frac{\sigma_s - \sigma_{cr}}{2} \right) \cos \frac{2\pi x}{b} \right] (t dx) \\ &= t b \left( \frac{\sigma_s + \sigma_{cr}}{2} \right) \end{aligned} \right.$$

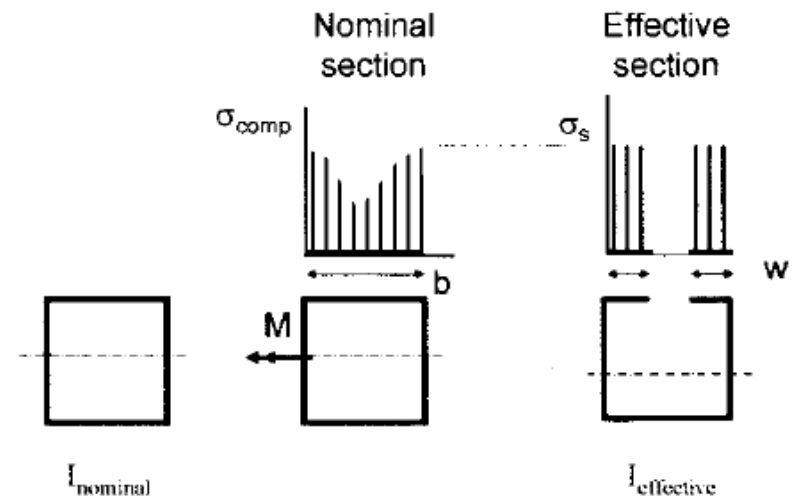
$$\rightarrow P_{effective} = P_{real} \rightarrow w = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{\sigma_{cr}}{\sigma_s} \right) b$$

alternative empirical relationships for effective width

$$w = \begin{cases} 0.894b \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_{cr}}{\sigma_s}} \\ b \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_{cr}}{\sigma_s}} \left( 1 - 0.22 \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_{cr}}{\sigma_s}} \right) \end{cases}$$

# Example

- Consider the 100 mm square thin wall steel beam of thickness 0.86 mm is loaded in compression. We determined the critical buckling stress for each side plate to be 55.35 N/mm<sup>2</sup> and the resulting compressive load to cause plate buckling to be 19040 N. What load will cause a maximum stress of 111 N/mm<sup>2</sup> in each plate?
- A 100 mm square thin walled steel beam of thickness 0.86 mm is loaded by a bending moment in the +x direction using the right hand rule. Under this moment, the maximum compressive stress in the top plate is 111 N/mm<sup>2</sup>. What is the effective moment of inertia for the section under this moment loading?



$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \sigma_s = 111 \text{ N/mm}^2 \\ \sigma_{cr} = 55.35 \text{ N/mm}^2 \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow w = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{\sigma_{cr}}{\sigma_s} \right) b = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{55.35}{111} \right) 100 = 75 \text{ mm}$$

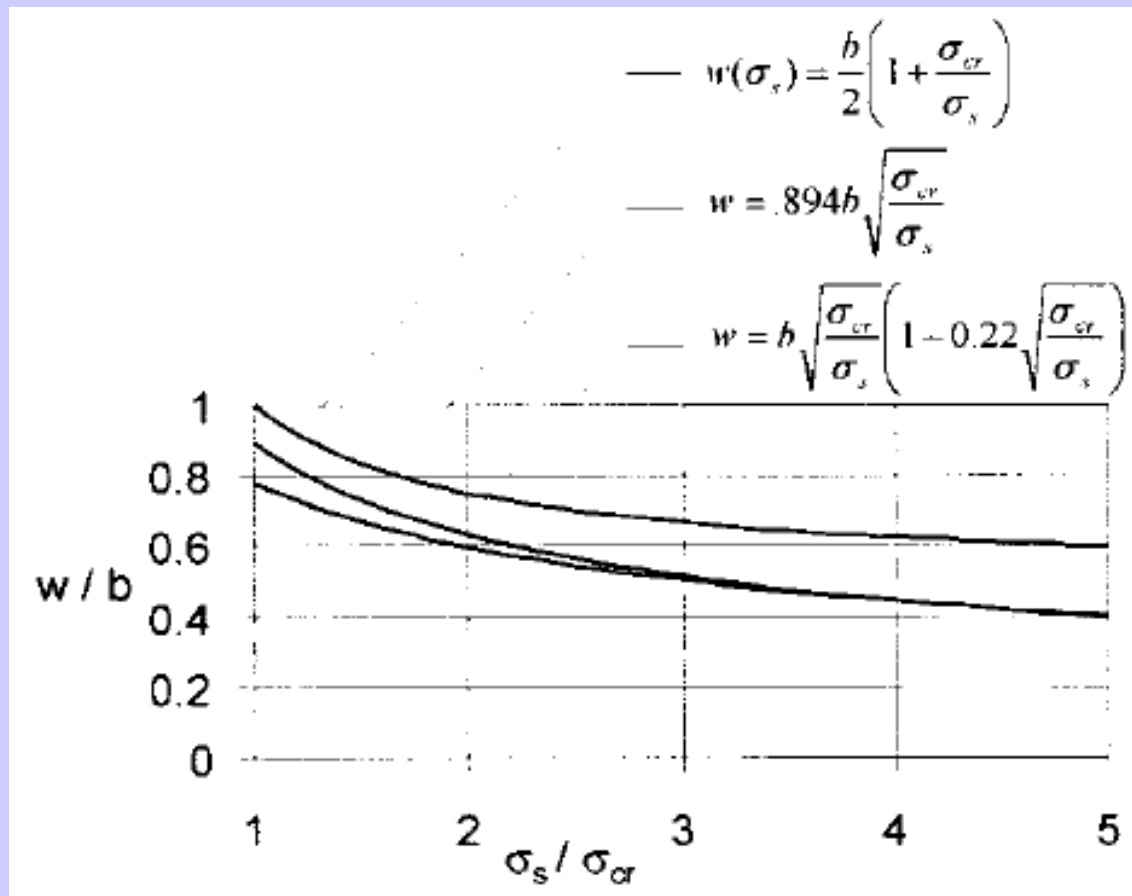
$$P_{effective} = \sigma_s (wt) = 111 (75 \times 0.86) = 7160 \text{ N/side}$$

$$I_{nominal} = 5.73 \times 10^5 \text{ mm}^4 \rightarrow I_{effective} = 5.16 \times 10^5 \text{ (10\% } \downarrow \text{)}$$

check the side walls:  $k = 23.9$

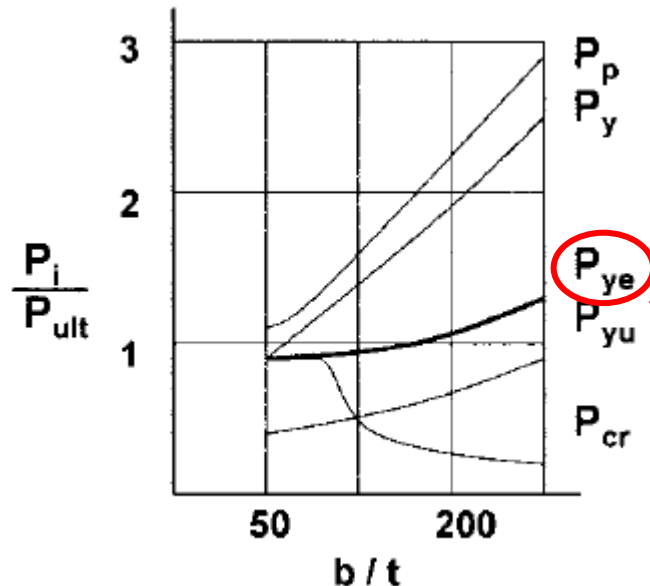
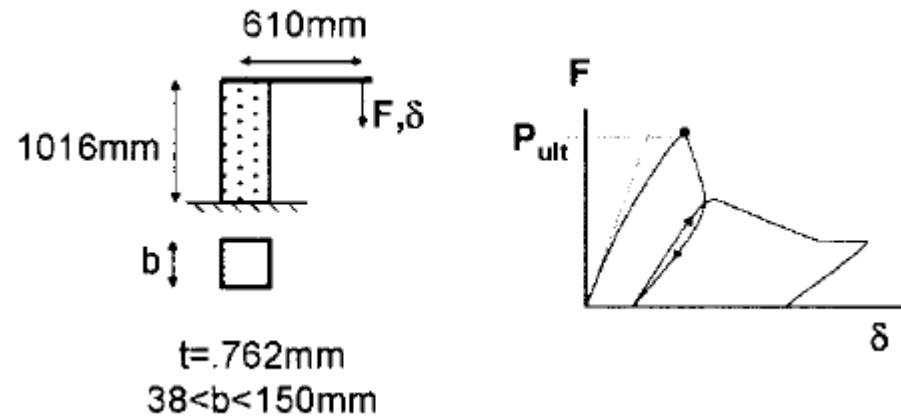
$$\rightarrow \sigma_{cr} = \frac{E\pi^2}{12(1-\nu^2)(b/t)^2} k = 331 \text{ N/mm}^2 \text{ (OK!)}$$

# Comparison of Effective Width



# Thin Walled Section Failure Criteria

- Ultimate failure load for the thin walled plate ( $P_{ult}$ )



Bending strength- Initial yield			$P_y$
Fully Plastic State			$P_p$
Onset of Plate Buckling of Compressive Element			$P_{cr}$
Yield of Effective Section			$P_{ye}$
U Section Yield			$P_{yu}$

Best predictor of ultimate load



# Techniques to Inhibit Buckling (1)

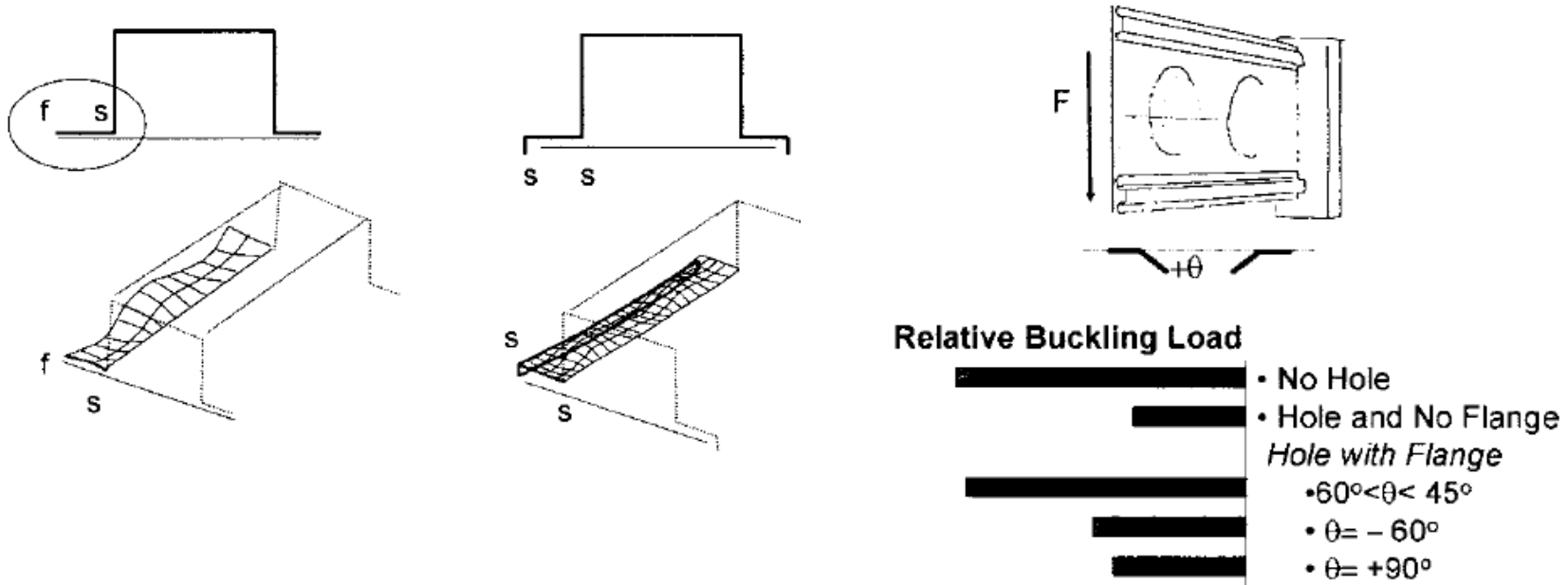
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$$\sigma_{cr} = k \underbrace{\frac{E\pi^2}{12(1-\nu^2)}} \underbrace{\frac{1}{(b/t)^2}}$$

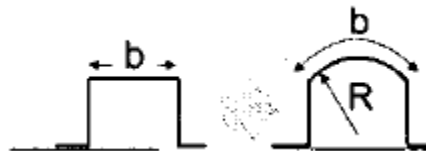
- Increase the critical plate buckling stress
  - Boundary conditions: flange curls, flanged holes
  - Normal stiffness of the plate: material, curved elements, foam filling
  - Width-to-thickness ratio: reducing width with beads and added edges (while maintaining moment of inertia)

# Techniques to Inhibit Buckling (2)

- Boundary conditions: flange curls, flanged holes

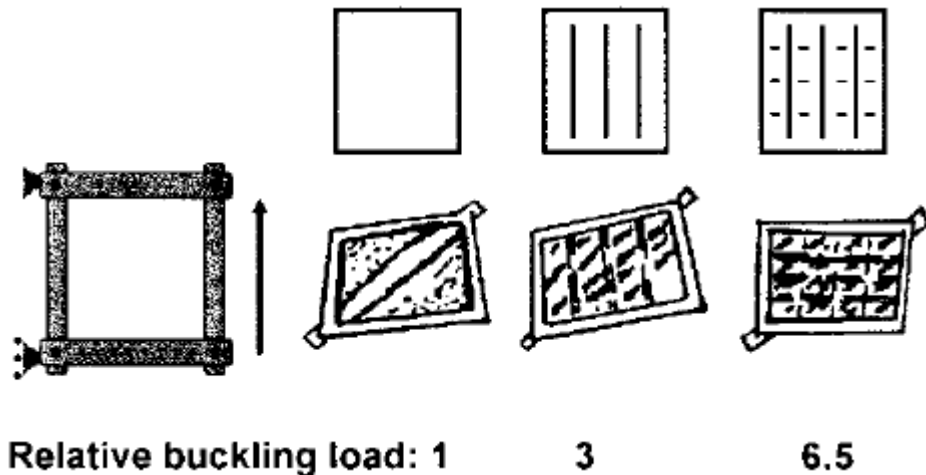
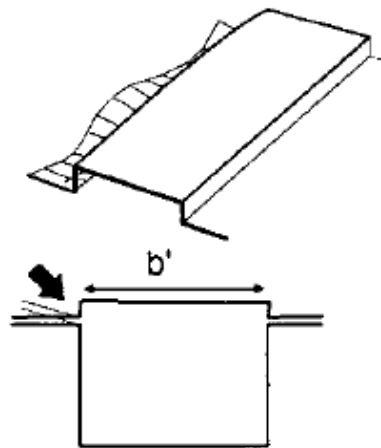
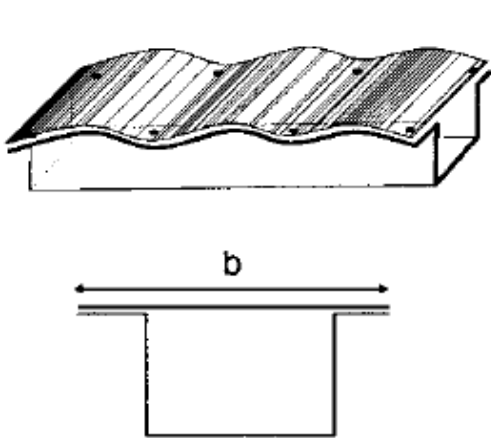
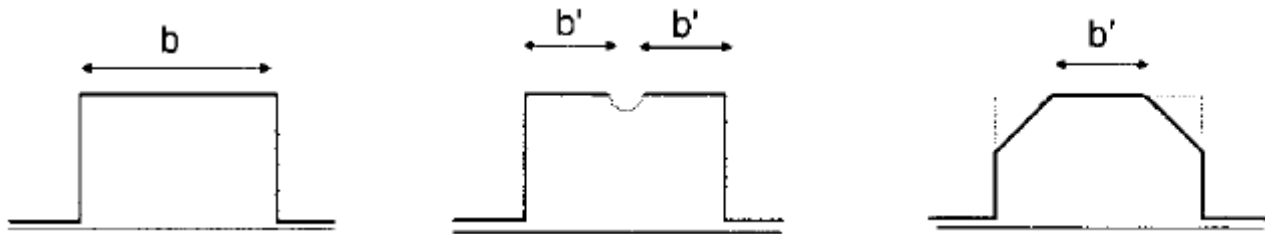


- Normal stiffness of the plate: material, curved elements, foam filling



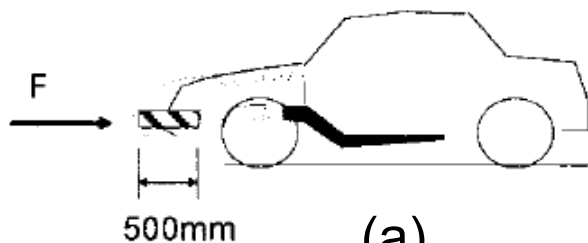
# Techniques to Inhibit Buckling (3)

- Width-to-thickness ratio: reducing width with beads and added edges (while maintaining moment of inertia)

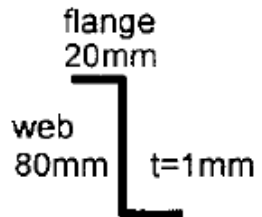


# Example: Z section

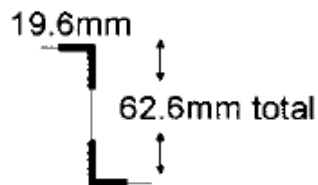
- Part of a bumper reaction structure
- Calculate the ultimate compressive load
  - For the section (a)
  - For the section (b) with two buckling inhibiting techniques: a flange curl and a central bead on the web
  - What if high strength steel ( $\sigma_Y = 650 \text{ N/mm}^2$ ) is replaced?



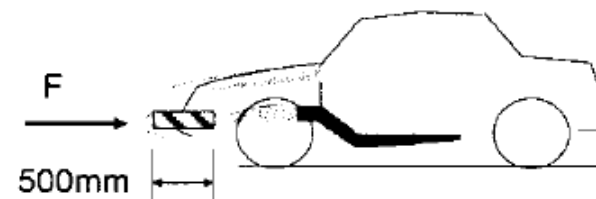
(a)



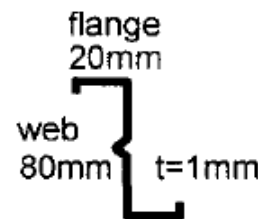
Physical Section



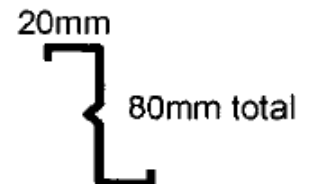
Effective Section



(b)



Flange curl and Bead on Web  
Physical Section



Section is fully effective  
Effective Section

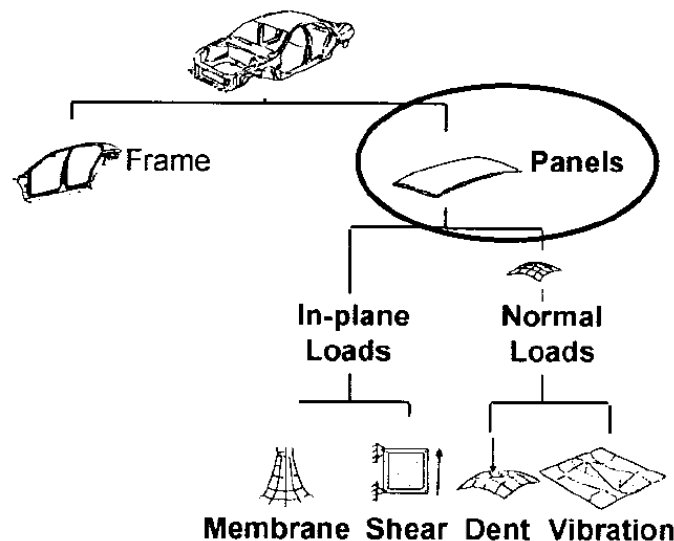
E	207000	N/mm2			
v	0.3				
t	1	mm			
sigma_Y	207	N/mm2	--> HHS	650 ?	
	(a) buckling		(b) no buckling		
	flange	web	flange	web	
k	0.425	4	4	4	
b	20	80	20	40	mm
sigma_CR	199	117	1871	468	N/mm2
w	19.6	62.6			mm
P <sub>ye</sub>	21073		24840		N

$$\sigma_Y = 270 \rightarrow 650 \text{ N/mm}^2 > \sigma_{cr} = 468 \text{ N/mm}^2$$

→ effective width (not fully effective)/add buckling inhibitors

## 3.6 Automotive Body Panel: Plate/Membrane

- Flat or curved surface with thin thickness
  - Bending stiffness: quite low
  - In-plane stiffness: quite high
  - Highly curved panel: stiffness to out-of-plane loads
- Type of load acting on
  - Normal loading of curved panels
  - In-plane loading of flat or curved panels

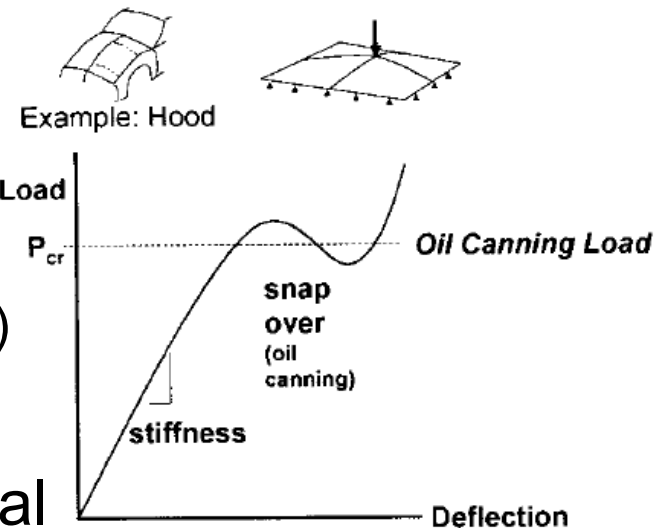


# Curved Panel with Normal Loading

- Exterior panels
  - Influenced by overall styling
  - Structural performance is not the shape defining function
  - Reaction to normal point loading

- Stiffness
- Critical oil-canning load
- Dent resistance

- Solidness: pushing with a thumb ( $K$ ,  $P_{cr}$ )



- AISI Automotive Steel Design Manual
  - Simply supported boundary conditions
  - Combination of analytical and empirical considerations

# Normal Stiffness of Panels

- Theoretical stiffness of a spherical shape under a concentrated load

$$K = \frac{CEt^2}{R\sqrt{1-\nu^2}} \quad \text{where curvature } \frac{1}{R} = \frac{\left(\frac{L_1^2}{R_1}\right) + \left(\frac{L_2^2}{R_2}\right)}{2L_1L_2}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} C : \text{constant} \\ t : \text{panel thickness} \\ R : \text{spherical radius} \\ L_1, L_2 : \text{rectangular panel dimensions} \\ R_1, R_2 : \text{panel radii of curvature in orthogonal directions} \end{array} \right.$$

- Theoretical shell stiffness

$$K = 1.466 \frac{\pi^2 Et^2}{\sqrt{1-\nu^2}} \frac{H_c}{L_1L_2} \quad \text{for } 20 \leq \frac{H_c}{t} \leq 60 \quad \text{where crown height } H_c = \left(\frac{L_1^2}{8R_1}\right) + \left(\frac{L_2^2}{8R_2}\right)$$

$$\text{valid over the range } \frac{R_1}{L_1} \text{ and } \frac{R_2}{L_2} > 2, \quad \frac{1}{3} < \frac{L_2}{L_1} < 3, \quad L_1L_2 < 0.774m^2$$



# Oil-can Load

- Load where a hard snap over occurs
- Curvature inversion
  - Soft: surface stays in contact with the load applicator
  - Hard: surface snaps over and loses contact with the load applicator

$$P_{cr} = \frac{CR_{cr}\pi^2 Et^4}{L_1 L_2 (1-\nu^2)} \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{cases} R_{cr} = 45.929 - 34.183\lambda + 6.397\lambda^2 \\ \lambda = 0.5 \sqrt{\frac{L_1 L_2}{t}} \sqrt{\frac{12(1-\nu^2)}{R_1 R_2}} \\ C = 0.645 - 7.75 \times 10^{-7} L_1 L_2 \end{cases}$$

valid over the range  $\frac{R_1}{L_1}$  and  $\frac{R_2}{L_2} > 2$ ,  $\frac{1}{3} < \frac{L_2}{L_1} < 3$ ,  $L_1 L_2 < 0.774 m^2$

# Dent Resistance

- Kinetic energy of a dart, directed normal to a surface which leaves a permanent dent in the panel
  - W: minimum energy to dent the surface (0.025 mm permanent deformation in the panel)
  - Yield at a dynamic strain rate (10~100/sec)
    - Static tensile test strain rate (0.001/sec)

$$W = 56.8 \frac{(\sigma_{yd} t^2)^2}{K}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} K : \text{panel normal stiffness (theoretical shell stiffness)} \\ \sigma_{yd} : \text{yield strength at a dynamic strain rate (298 N/mm}^2\text{)} \end{array} \right.$$

# Example: Automobile Hood Outer Panel

- Simply supported boundary conditions
- Dynamic yield stress:  $\sigma_{yd} = 298 \text{ N/mm}^2$
- Panel stiffness
- Oil-can load
- Denting energy

