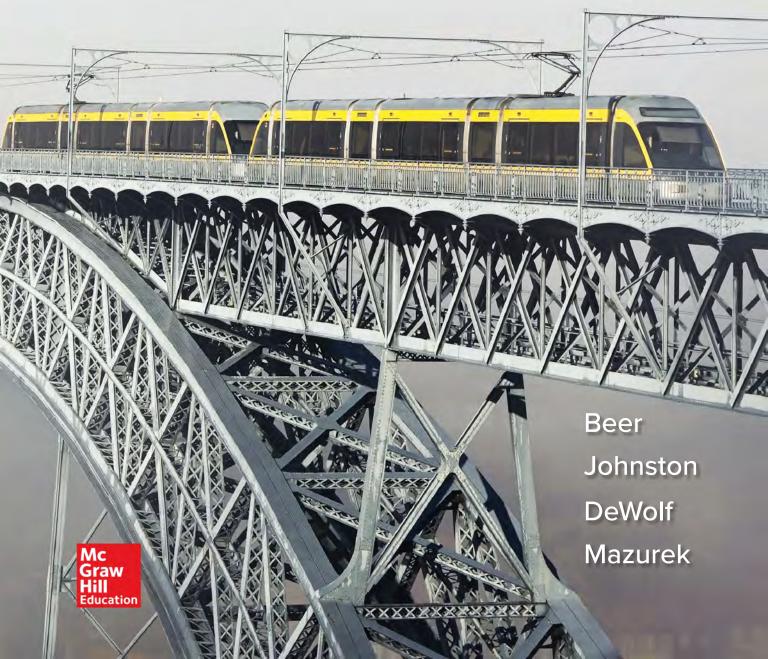
**Eighth Edition** 

# MECHANICS of MATERIALS





**Eighth Edition** 

## Mechanics of Materials

#### Ferdinand P. Beer

Late of Lehigh University

### E. Russell Johnston, Jr.

Late of University of Connecticut

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#### MECHANICS OF MATERIALS, EIGHTH EDITION

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 LWI 21 20 19

ISBN 978-1-260-11327-3 MHID 1-260-11327-2

Senior Portfolio Manager: Thomas Scaife, Ph.D. Product Developer: Heather Ervolino Marketing Manager: Shannon O'Donnell Content Project Managers: Sherry Kane/Rachael Hillebrand Senior Buyer: Laura Fuller Senior Designer: Matt Backhaus Content Licensing Specialist: Shawntel Schmitt Cover Image: Front Cover: @Acnakelsy/iStock/Getty Images Plus; Back Cover: @Mapics/Shutterstock Compositor: Aptara<sup>®</sup>, Inc.

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#### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Beer, Ferdinand P. (Ferdinand Pierre), 1915-2003, author.
Title: Mechanics of materials / Ferdinand P. Beer, Late of Lehigh University, E. Russell Johnston, Jr., Late of University of Connecticut, John T. DeWolf, University of Connecticut, David F. Mazurek, United States Coast Guard Academy.
Description: Eighth edition. | New York, NY : McGraw-Hill Education, 2020. | Includes bibliographical references and index.
Identifiers: LCCN 2018026956| ISBN 9781260113273 (alk. paper) | ISBN 1260113272 (alk. paper)
Subjects: LCSH: Strength of materials—Textbooks.
Classification: LCC TA405 .B39 2020 | DDC 620.1/123—dc23 LC record available

The Internet addresses listed in the text were accurate at the time of publication. The inclusion of a website does not indicate an endorsement by the authors or McGraw-Hill Education, and McGraw-Hill Education does not guarantee the accuracy of the information presented at these sites.

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at https://lccn.loc.gov/2018026956

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## Preface

#### **Objectives**

The main objective of a basic mechanics course should be to develop in the engineering student the ability to analyze a given problem in a simple and logical manner and to apply to its solution a few fundamental and wellunderstood principles. This text is designed for the first course in mechanics of materials—or strength of materials—offered to engineering students in the sophomore or junior year. The authors hope that it will help instructors achieve this goal in that particular course in the same way that their other texts may have helped them in statics and dynamics.

#### **General Approach**

In this text the study of the mechanics of materials is based on the understanding of a few basic concepts and on the use of simplified models. This approach makes it possible to develop all the necessary formulas in a rational and logical manner, and to indicate clearly the conditions under which they can be safely applied to the analysis and design of actual engineering structures and machine components.

This title is supported by SmartBook, a feature of the LearnSmart adaptive learning system that assesses student understanding of course content through a series of adaptive questions. This platform has provided feedback from thousands of students, identifying those specific portions of the text that have resulted in the greatest conceptual difficulty and comprehension among the students. For this new edition, the entire text was reviewed and revised based on this LearnSmart student data.

Additionally, over 25% of the assigned problems from the previous edition have been replaced or revised. Photographic content has also been modified to provide a more suitable conceptual context to the important principles discussed.

• Lab Videos. Student understanding of mechanics of materials is greatly enhanced through experimental study that complements the classroom experience. Due to resource and curricular constraints, however, very few engineering programs are able to provide such a laboratory component as part of a mechanics of materials course. To help address this need, this edition includes videos that show key mechanics of materials experiments being conducted. For each experiment, data has been generated so that students can analyze results and write reports. These videos are incorporated into the Connect digital platform.

**Free-body Diagrams Are Used Extensively.** Throughout the text freebody diagrams are used to determine external or internal forces. The use of "picture equations" will also help the students understand the superposition of loadings and the resulting stresses and deformations.

The SMART Problem-Solving Methodology Is Employed. Continuing in this edition, students are presented with the SMART approach for solving engineering problems, whose acronym reflects the solution steps of *S*trategy, NEW!

Modeling, Analysis, and Reflect & Think. This methodology is used in all Sample Problems, and it is intended that students will apply this approach in the solution of all assigned problems.

**Design Concepts Are Discussed Throughout the Text When Appropriate.** A discussion of the application of the factor of safety to design can be found in Chapter 1, where the concepts of both *Allowable Stress Design* and *Load and Resistance Factor Design* are presented.

A Careful Balance Between SI and U.S. Customary Units Is Consistently Maintained. Because it is essential that students be able to handle effectively both SI metric units and U.S. customary units, half the Concept Applications, Sample Problems, and problems to be assigned have been stated in SI units and half in U.S. customary units. Since a large number of problems are available, instructors can assign problems using each system of units in whatever proportion they find desirable for their class.

**Optional Sections Offer Advanced or Specialty Topics.** Topics such as residual stresses, torsion of noncircular and thin-walled members, bending of curved beams, shearing stresses in nonsymmetrical members, and failure criteria have been included in optional sections for use in courses of varying emphases. To preserve the integrity of the subject, these topics are presented in the proper sequence, wherever they logically belong. Thus, even when not covered in the course, these sections are highly visible and can be easily referred to by the students if needed in a later course or in engineering practice. For convenience all optional sections have been indicated by asterisks.

#### **Chapter Organization**

It is expected that students using this text will have completed a course in statics. However, Chapter 1 is designed to provide them with an opportunity to review the concepts learned in that course, while shear and bending-moment diagrams are covered in detail in Sections 5.1 and 5.2. The properties of moments and centroids of areas are described in Appendix B; this material can be used to reinforce the discussion of the determination of normal and shearing stresses in beams (Chapters 4, 5, and 6).

The first four chapters of the text are devoted to the analysis of the stresses and of the corresponding deformations in various structural members, considering successively axial loading, torsion, and pure bending. Each analysis is based on a few basic concepts: namely, the conditions of equilibrium of the forces exerted on the member, the relations existing between stress and strain in the material, and the conditions imposed by the supports and loading of the member. The study of each type of loading is complemented by a large number of Concept Applications, Sample Problems, and problems to be assigned, all designed to strengthen the students' understanding of the subject.

The concept of stress at a point is introduced in Chapter 1, where it is shown that an axial load can produce shearing stresses as well as normal stresses, depending upon the section considered. The fact that stresses depend upon the orientation of the surface on which they are computed is emphasized again in Chapters 3 and 4 in the cases of torsion and pure bending. However, the discussion of computational techniques—such as Mohr's circle—used for the transformation of stress at a point is delayed until Chapter 7, after students have had the opportunity to solve problems involving a combination of the basic loadings and have discovered for themselves the need for such techniques. The discussion in Chapter 2 of the relation between stress and strain in various materials includes fiber-reinforced composite materials. Also, the study of beams under transverse loads is covered in two separate chapters. Chapter 5 is devoted to the determination of the normal stresses in a beam and to the design of beams based on the allowable normal stress in the material used (Section 5.3). The chapter begins with a discussion of the shear and bending-moment diagrams (Sections 5.1 and 5.2) and includes an optional section on the use of singularity functions for the determination of the shear and bending moment in a beam (Section 5.4). The chapter ends with an optional section on nonprismatic beams (Section 5.5).

Chapter 6 is devoted to the determination of shearing stresses in beams and thin-walled members under transverse loadings. The formula for the shear flow, q = VQ/I, is derived in the traditional way. More advanced aspects of the design of beams, such as the determination of the principal stresses at the junction of the flange and web of a W-beam, are considered in Chapter 8, an optional chapter that may be covered after the transformations of stresses have been discussed in Chapter 7. The design of transmission shafts is in that chapter for the same reason, as well as the determination of stresses under combined loadings that can now include the determination of the principal stresses, principal planes, and maximum shearing stress at a given point.

Statically indeterminate problems are first discussed in Chapter 2 and considered throughout the text for the various loading conditions encountered. Thus students are presented at an early stage with a method of solution that combines the analysis of deformations with the conventional analysis of forces used in statics. In this way, they will have become thoroughly familiar with this fundamental method by the end of the course. In addition, this approach helps the students realize that stresses themselves are statically indeterminate and can be computed only by considering the corresponding distribution of strains.

The concept of plastic deformation is introduced in Chapter 2, where it is applied to the analysis of members under axial loading. Problems involving the plastic deformation of circular shafts and of prismatic beams are also considered in optional sections of Chapters 3, 4, and 6. While some of this material can be omitted at the choice of the instructor, its inclusion in the body of the text will help students realize the limitations of the assumption of a linear stress-strain relation and serve to caution them against the inappropriate use of the elastic torsion and flexure formulas.

The determination of the deflection of beams is discussed in Chapter 9. The first part of the chapter is devoted to the integration method and to the method of superposition, with an optional section (Section 9.3) based on the use of singularity functions. (This section should be used only if Section 5.4 was covered earlier.) The second part of Chapter 9 is optional. It presents the moment-area method in two lessons.

Chapter 10, which is devoted to columns, contains material on the design of steel, aluminum, and wood columns. Chapter 11 covers energy methods, including Castigliano's theorem.

#### **Supplemental Resources for Instructors**

Included on the website are lecture PowerPoints and an image library. On the site you'll also find the Instructor's Solutions Manual (password-protected and available to instructors only) that accompanies the eighth edition. The manual continues the tradition of exceptional accuracy and normally keeps solutions contained to a single page for easier reference. The manual includes an in-depth review of the material in each chapter and houses tables designed to assist instructors in creating a schedule of assignments for their courses. The various topics covered in the text are listed in Table I, and a suggested number of periods to be spent on each topic is indicated. Table II provides a brief description of all groups of problems and a classification of the problems in each group according to the units used. A Course Organization Guide providing sample assignment schedules is also found on the website.



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#### Acknowledgments

The authors thank the many companies that provided photographs for this edition. Our special thanks go to Amy Mazurek (B.S. degree in civil engineering from the Florida Institute of Technology, and a M.S. degree in civil engineering from the University of Connecticut) for her work in the checking and preparation of the solutions and answers of all the problems in this edition. Additionally, we would like to express our gratitude to Blair McDonald, Western Illinois University, for his extensive work on the development of the videos that accompany this text.

We also gratefully acknowledge the help, comments, and suggestions offered by the many reviewers and users of previous editions of *Mechanics of Materials*.

John T. DeWolf David F. Mazurek

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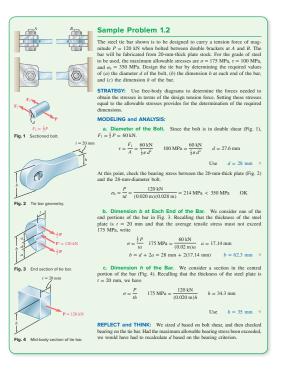
#### **Concept Application 1.1**

Considering the structure of Fig. 1.1, assume that rod BC is made of a steel with a maximum allowable stress  $\sigma_{al} = 165$  MPa. Can rod BC safely support the load to which it will be subjected? The magnitude of the force  $T_{\rm Re}$  in the rod was 50 kN. Recalling that the diameter of the rod is 20 mm, use Eq. (1.5) to determine the stress created in the rod by the given loading.  $P = F_{ac} - \pm 50$  kN =  $\pm 50$  kV  $10^{\circ}$  N

 $A = \pi r^2 = \pi \left(\frac{20 \text{ mm}}{2}\right)^2 = \pi (10 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m})^2 = 314 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2$ 

 $\sigma = \frac{P}{A} = \frac{+50 \times 10^3 \text{ N}}{314 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2} = +159 \times 10^6 \text{ Pa} = +159 \text{ MPa}$ 

Since  $\sigma$  is smaller than  $\sigma_{\rm all}$  of the allowable stress in the steel used, rod BC can safely support the load.



**Chapter Introduction.** Each chapter begins with an introductory section that sets up the purpose and goals of the chapter, describing in simple terms the material that will be covered and its application to the solution of engineering problems. Chapter Objectives provide students with a preview of chapter topics.

**Chapter Lessons.** The body of the text is divided into units, each consisting of one or several theory sections, Concept Applications, one or several Sample Problems, and a large number of homework problems. The Companion Website contains a Course Organization Guide with suggestions on each chapter lesson.

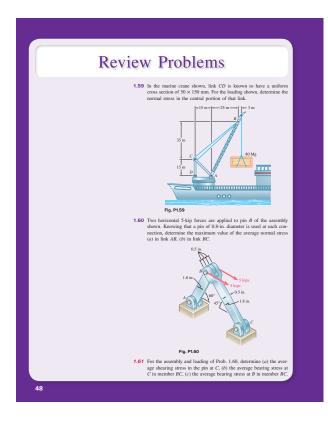
**Concept Applications.** Concept Applications are used extensively within individual theory sections to focus on specific topics, and they are designed to illustrate specific material being presented and facilitate its understanding.

**Sample Problems.** The Sample Problems are intended to show more comprehensive applications of the theory to the solution of engineering problems, and they employ the SMART problem-solving methodology that students are encouraged to use in the solution of their assigned problems. Since the sample problems have been set up in much the same form that students will use in solving the assigned problems, they serve the double purpose of amplifying the text and demonstrating the type of neat and orderly work that students should cultivate in their own solutions. In addition, in-problem references and captions have been added to the sample problem figures for contextual linkage to the step-by-step solution.

**Homework Problem Sets.** Over 25% of the nearly 1500 homework problems are new or updated. Most of the problems are of a practical nature and should appeal to engineering students. They are primarily designed, however, to illustrate the material presented in the text and to help students understand the principles used in mechanics of materials. The problems are grouped according to the portions of material they illustrate and are arranged in order of increasing difficulty. Answers to a majority of the problems are given at the end of the book. Problems for which the answers are given are set in blue type in the text, while problems for which no answer is given are set in red italics.

Chapter Review and Summary. Each chapter ends with a review and summary of the material covered in that chapter. Subtitles are used to help students organize their review work, and cross-references have been included to help them find the portions of material requiring their special attention.

**Review Problems.** A set of review problems is included at the end of each chapter. These problems provide students further opportunity to apply the most important concepts introduced in the chapter.



**Computer Problems.** Computers make it possible for engineering students to solve a great number of challenging problems. A group of six or more problems designed to be solved with a computer can be found at the end of each chapter. These problems can be solved using any computer language that provides a basis for analytical calculations. Developing the algorithm required to solve a given problem will benefit the students in two different ways: (1) it will help them gain a better understanding of the mechanics principles involved; (2) it will provide them with an opportunity to apply the skills acquired in their computer programming course to the solution of a meaningful engineering problem.

#### **Review and Summary**

This chapter was devoted to the concept of stress and to an introduction to the methods used for the analysis and design of machines and load-bearing structures. Emphasis was placed on the use of *stree-holy diagram* to obtain equilibrium equations that were solved for unknown excitons. Fres-holy diagrams were also used to find the internal forces in the various members of a structure.

Axial Loading: Normal Stress The concept of stress was first introduced by considering a two-force member under an axial loading. The normal stress in that member (Fig. 1.41) was obtained by

> $\sigma = \frac{P}{A}$ (1.5)

> > (1.6)

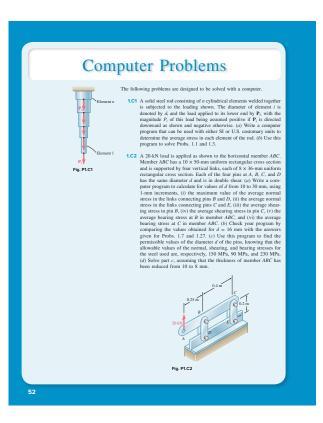
The value of  $\sigma$  obtained from Eq. (1.5) represents the average stress over the section rather than the stress at a specific point Q of the section. Considering a small area  $\Delta A$  surrounding Q and the magnitude  $\Delta F$  of the force exerted on  $\Delta A$ , the stress at point Q is

$$\sigma = \lim_{\Delta A \to 0} \frac{\Delta F}{\Delta A}$$

In general, the stress of a point Q in Eq. (1.6) is different from the value of the average stress given by Eq. (1.5) and is found to vary across the section. However, this variation is small in any section away from the points of appli-cation of the loads. Therefore, the distribution of the normal stresses in an axially loaded member is assumed to be uniform, accessing the thermal vicinity of the points of application of the loads. For the distribution of stresses to be uniform in a given section, the line of action of the loads **P** and **P** must pass through the centroid **C**. Such a loading is called *a centric* axial loading. In the case of an *eccentric* axial loading, the distribution of stresses is *not* uniform.

Transverse Forces and Shearing Stress When equal and opposite transverse forces P and P' of magnitude P are applied to a member AB (Fig. 1-42), therating stresses t are created over any section located between the points of application of the two forces. These

Fig. 1.42 Model of transverse resultant forces on either side of C resulting in shearing stress at section C



## List of Symbols

а	Constant; distance
A, B, C,	Forces; reactions
$A, B, C, \ldots$	Points
А, а	Area
b	Distance; width
С	Constant; distance; radius
С	Centroid
$C_1, C_2, \ldots$	Constants of integration
$C_P$	Column stability factor
d	Distance; diameter; depth
D	Diameter
е	Distance; eccentricity; dilatation
E	Modulus of elasticity
f	Frequency; function
F	Force
<i>F.S.</i>	Factor of safety
G	Modulus of rigidity; shear modulus
h	Distance; height
Н	Force
H, J, K	Points
$I, I_x, \ldots$	Moment of inertia
$I_{xy},\ldots$	Product of inertia
J	Polar moment of inertia
k	Spring constant; shape factor; bulk
	modulus; constant
K	Stress concentration factor; torsional
	spring constant
l	Length; span
L	Length; span
$L_e$	Effective length
m	Mass
Μ	Couple
$M, M_x, \ldots$	Bending moment
$M_D$	Bending moment, dead load (LRFD)
$M_L$	Bending moment, live load (LRFD)
$M_U$	Bending moment, ultimate load (LRFD)
п	Number; ratio of moduli of elasticity;
	normal direction
р	Pressure
Р	Force; concentrated load
$P_D$	Dead load (LRFD)
$P_L$	Live load (LRFD)

$P_U$	Ultimate load (LRFD)
q	Shearing force per unit length; shear
	flow
Q	Force
Q	First moment of area
r	Radius; radius of gyration
R	Force; reaction
R	Radius; modulus of rupture
S	Length
S	Elastic section modulus
t	Thickness; distance; tangential
	deviation
Т	Torque
Т	Temperature
$u, \nu$	Rectangular coordinates
и	Strain-energy density
U	Strain energy; work
V	Velocity
V	Shearing force
V	Volume; shear
W	Width; distance; load per unit length
$\mathbf{W}, W$	Weight, load
<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>	Rectangular coordinates; distance;
	displacements; deflections
$\overline{x}, \overline{y}, \overline{z}$	Coordinates of centroid
Z	Plastic section modulus
α, β, γ	Angles
α	Coefficient of thermal expansion;
	influence coefficient
γ	Shearing strain; specific weight
$\gamma_D$	Load factor, dead load (LRFD)
$\gamma_L$	Load factor, live load (LRFD)
$\delta$	Deformation; displacement
ε	Normal strain
$\theta$	Angle; slope
λ	Direction cosine
ν	Poisson's ratio
ρ	Radius of curvature; distance; density
$\sigma$	Normal stress
au	Shearing stress

- Angle; angle of twist; resistance factor  $\phi$
- Angular velocity ω

**Eighth Edition** 

## Mechanics of Materials



## Introduction— Concept of Stress

Stresses occur in all structures subject to loads. This chapter will examine simple states of stress in elements, such as in the two-force members, bolts, and pins used in the structure shown.

### **Objectives**

In this chapter, we will:

- Review statics needed to determine forces in members of simple structures.
- Introduce the concept of stress.
- **Define** different stress types: axial normal stress, shearing stress, and bearing stress.
- **Discuss** an engineer's two principal tasks: the analysis and design of structures and machines.
- **Develop** a problem-solving approach.
- **Discuss** the components of stress on different planes and under different loading conditions.
- **Discuss** the many design considerations that an engineer should review before preparing a design.

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#### Introduction

#### 1.1 REVIEW OF THE METHODS OF STATICS

#### 1.2 STRESSES IN THE MEMBERS OF A STRUCTURE

- 1.2A Axial Stress
- 1.2B Shearing Stress
- 1.2C Bearing Stress in Connections
- 1.2D Application to the Analysis and Design of Simple Structures
- **1.2E** Method of Problem Solution

#### 1.3 STRESS ON AN OBLIQUE PLANE UNDER AXIAL LOADING

#### 1.4 STRESS UNDER GENERAL LOADING CONDITIONS; COMPONENTS OF STRESS

#### 1.5 DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- 1.5A Determination of the Ultimate Strength of a Material
- 1.5B Allowable Load and Allowable Stress: Factor of Safety
- 1.5C Factor of Safety Selection
- 1.5D Load and Resistance Factor Design



**Photo 1.1** Crane booms used to load and unload ships. ©David R. Frazier/Science Source

#### Introduction

The study of mechanics of materials provides future engineers with the means of analyzing and designing various machines and load-bearing structures involving the determination of *stresses* and *deformations*. This first chapter is devoted to the concept of *stress*.

Section 1.1 is a short review of the basic methods of statics and their application to determine the forces in the members of a simple structure consisting of pin-connected members. The concept of *stress* in a member of a structure and how that stress can be determined from the *force* in the member will be discussed in Sec. 1.2. You will consider the *normal stresses* in a member under axial loading, the *shearing stresses* caused by the application of equal and opposite transverse forces, and the *bearing stresses* created by bolts and pins in the members they connect.

Section 1.2 ends with a description of the method you should use in the solution of an assigned problem and a discussion of the numerical accuracy. These concepts will be applied in the analysis of the members of the simple structure considered earlier.

Again, a two-force member under axial loading is observed in Sec. 1.3 where the stresses on an *oblique* plane include both *normal* and *shearing* stresses, while Sec. 1.4 discusses that *six components* are required to describe the state of stress at a point in a body under the most general loading conditions.

Section 1.5 is devoted to the determination of the *ultimate strength* from test specimens and the use of a *factor of safety* to compute the *allowable load* for a structural component made of that material.

#### 1.1 REVIEW OF THE METHODS OF STATICS

Consider the structure shown in Fig. 1.1, which was designed to support a 30-kN load. It consists of a boom *AB* with a 30 × 50-mm rectangular cross section and a rod *BC* with a 20-mm-diameter circular cross section. These are connected by a pin at *B* and are supported by pins and brackets at *A* and *C*, respectively. First draw a *free-body diagram* of the structure. This is done by detaching the structure from its supports at *A* and *C*, and then showing the reactions that these supports exert on the structure (Fig. 1.2). Note that the sketch of the structure has been simplified by omitting all unnecessary details. Many of you may have recognized at this point that *AB* and *BC* are *two-force members*. For those of you who have not, we will pursue our analysis, ignoring that fact and assuming that the directions of the reactions at *A* and *C* are unknown. Each of these reactions are represented by two components:  $A_x$  and  $A_y$  at *A*, and  $C_x$  and  $C_y$  at *C*. The three equilibrium equations are.

+ 
$$\mathcal{F} \Sigma M_C = 0$$
:  $A_x(0.6 \text{ m}) - (30 \text{ kN})(0.8 \text{ m}) = 0$   
 $A_x = +40 \text{ kN}$  (1.1)

 $A_v + C_v - 30 \text{ kN} = 0$ 

$$A_x + C_x = 0$$

$$C_x = -A_x \qquad C_x = -40 \text{ kN}$$
(1.2)

$$+\uparrow \Sigma F_y = 0$$

 $\stackrel{+}{\rightharpoonup} \Sigma F_x = 0$ :

$$A_{y} + C_{y} = +30 \text{ kN}$$
 (1.3)

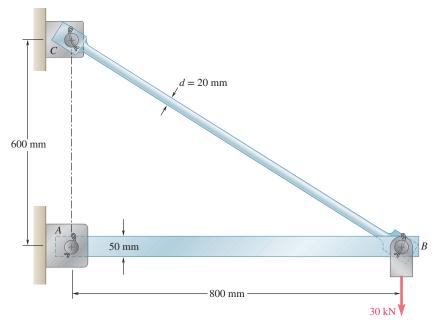


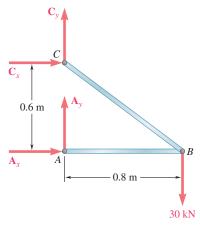
Fig. 1.1 Boom used to support a 30-kN load.

We have found two of the four unknowns, but cannot determine the other two from these equations, and no additional independent equation can be obtained from the free-body diagram of the structure. We must now dismember the structure. Considering the free-body diagram of the boom AB (Fig. 1.3), we write the following equilibrium equation:

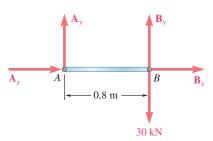
$$+ \mathcal{F} \Sigma M_B = 0$$
:  $-A_y(0.8 \text{ m}) = 0$   $A_y = 0$  (1.4)

Substituting for  $A_y$  from Eq. (1.4) into Eq. (1.3), we obtain  $C_y = +30$  kN. Expressing the results obtained for the reactions at A and C in vector form, we have

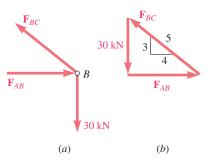
$$\mathbf{A} = 40 \text{ kN} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}_x = 40 \text{ kN} \leftarrow \mathbf{C}_y = 30 \text{ kN} \uparrow$$



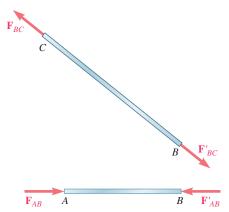
**Fig. 1.2** Free-body diagram of boom showing applied load and reaction forces.



**Fig. 1.3** Free-body diagram of member *AB* freed from structure.



**Fig. 1.4** Free-body diagram of boom's joint *B* and associated force triangle.



**Fig. 1.5** Free-body diagrams of two-force members *AB* and *BC*.

Note that the reaction at *A* is directed along the axis of the boom *AB* and causes compression in that member. Observe that the components  $C_x$  and  $C_y$  of the reaction at *C* are, respectively, proportional to the horizontal and vertical components of the distance from *B* to *C* and that the reaction at *C* is equal to 50 kN, is directed along the axis of the rod *BC*, and causes tension in that member.

These results could have been anticipated by recognizing that *AB* and *BC* are two-force members, i.e., members that are subjected to forces at only two points, these points being *A* and *B* for member *AB*, and *B* and *C* for member *BC*. Indeed, for a two-force member the lines of action of the resultants of the forces acting at each of the two points are equal and opposite and pass through both points. Using this property, we could have obtained a simpler solution by considering the free-body diagram of pin *B*. The forces on pin *B*,  $\mathbf{F}_{AB}$  and  $\mathbf{F}_{BC}$ , are exerted, respectively, by members *AB* and *BC* and the 30-kN load (Fig. 1.4*a*). Pin *B* is shown to be in equilibrium by drawing the corresponding force triangle (Fig. 1.4*b*).

Since force  $\mathbf{F}_{BC}$  is directed along member *BC*, its slope is the same as that of *BC*, namely, 3/4. We can, therefore, write the proportion

$$\frac{F_{AB}}{4} = \frac{F_{BC}}{5} = \frac{30 \text{ kN}}{3}$$

from which

$$F_{AB} = 40 \text{ kN}$$
  $F_{BC} = 50 \text{ kN}$ 

Forces  $\mathbf{F}'_{AB}$  and  $\mathbf{F}'_{BC}$  exerted by pin *B* on boom *AB* and rod *BC* are equal and opposite to  $\mathbf{F}_{AB}$  and  $\mathbf{F}_{BC}$  (Fig. 1.5).

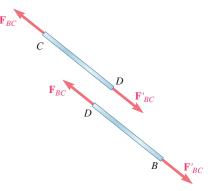


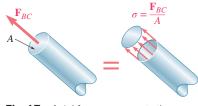
Fig. 1.6 Free-body diagrams of sections of rod BC.

Knowing the forces at the ends of each member, we can now determine the internal forces in these members. Passing a section at some arbitrary point *D* of rod *BC*, we obtain two portions *BD* and *CD* (Fig. 1.6). Since 50-kN forces must be applied at *D* to both portions of the rod to keep them in equilibrium, an internal force of 50 kN is produced in rod *BC* when a 30-kN load is applied at *B*. From the directions of the forces  $\mathbf{F}_{BC}$  and  $\mathbf{F}'_{BC}$  in Fig. 1.6 we see that the rod is in tension. A similar procedure enables us to determine that the internal force in boom *AB* is 40 kN and is in compression.

### 1.2 STRESSES IN THE MEMBERS OF A STRUCTURE

#### **1.2A** Axial Stress

In the preceding section, we found forces in individual members. This is the first and necessary step in the analysis of a structure. However it does not tell us whether the given load can be safely supported. It is necessary to look at each individual member separately to determine if the structure is safe. Rod *BC* of the example considered in the preceding section is a two-force member and, therefore, the forces  $\mathbf{F}_{BC}$  and  $\mathbf{F}'_{BC}$  acting on its ends *B* and *C* (Fig. 1.5) are directed along the axis of the rod. Whether rod *BC* will break or not under this loading depends upon the value found for the internal force  $F_{BC}$ , the cross-sectional area of the rod, and the material of which the rod is made. Actually, the internal force  $F_{BC}$  represents the resultant of elementary forces distributed over the entire area *A* of the cross section (Fig. 1.7). The average intensity of these distributed forces is equal to the force per unit area,  $F_{BC}/A$ , on the section. Whether or not the rod will break under the given loading depends upon the value to withstand the corresponding value  $F_{BC}/A$  of the intensity of the distributed internal forces.



**Fig. 1.7** Axial force represents the resultant of distributed elementary forces.

Using Fig. 1.8, the force per unit area is called the *stress* and is denoted by the Greek letter  $\sigma$  (sigma). The stress in a member of cross-sectional area A subjected to an axial load **P** is obtained by dividing the magnitude P of the load by the area A:

$$\sigma = \frac{P}{A} \tag{1.5}$$

A positive sign indicates a tensile stress (member in tension), and a negative sign indicates a compressive stress (member in compression).

As shown in Fig. 1.8, the section through the rod to determine the internal force in the rod and the corresponding stress is perpendicular to the axis of the rod. The corresponding stress is described as a *normal stress*. Thus, Eq. (1.5) gives the *normal stress in a member under axial loading*.

Note that in Eq. (1.5),  $\sigma$  represents the *average value* of the stress over the cross section, rather than the stress at a specific point of the cross section. To define the stress at a given point Q of the cross section, consider a small area  $\Delta A$  (Fig. 1.9). Dividing the magnitude of  $\Delta F$  by  $\Delta A$ , you obtain the average value of the stress over  $\Delta A$ . Letting  $\Delta A$  approach zero, the stress at point Q is

$$\sigma = \lim_{\Delta A \to 0} \frac{\Delta F}{\Delta A}$$
(1.6)



**Photo 1.2** This bridge truss consists of two-force members that may be in tension or in compression. ©Natalia Bratslavsky/Shutterstock

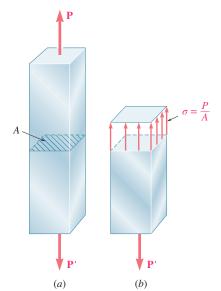
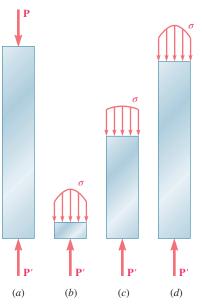


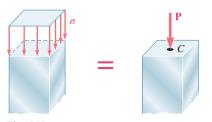
Fig. 1.8 (a) Member with an axial load. (b) Idealized uniform stress distribution at an arbitrary section.



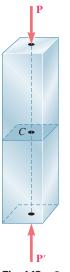
**Fig. 1.9** Small area  $\Delta A$ , at an arbitrary point in the cross section, carries  $\Delta F$  in this axial member.



**Fig. 1.10** Stress distributions at different sections along axially loaded member.



**Fig. 1.11** Idealized uniform stress distribution implies the resultant force passes through the cross section's center.



**Fig. 1.12** Centric loading having resultant forces passing through the centroid of the section.

In general, the value for the stress  $\sigma$  at a given point Q of the section is different from that for the average stress given by Eq. (1.5), and  $\sigma$  is found to vary across the section. In a slender rod subjected to equal and opposite concentrated loads **P** and **P'** (Fig. 1.10*a*), this variation is small in a section away from the points of application of the concentrated loads (Fig. 1.10*c*), but it is quite noticeable in the neighborhood of these points (Fig. 1.10*b* and *d*).

It follows from Eq. (1.6) that the magnitude of the resultant of the distributed internal forces is

$$\int dF = \int_A \sigma \, dA$$

But the conditions of equilibrium of each of the portions of rod shown in Fig. 1.10 require that this magnitude be equal to the magnitude P of the concentrated loads. Therefore,

$$P = \int dF = \int_{A} \sigma \, dA \tag{1.7}$$

which means that the volume under each of the stress surfaces in Fig. 1.10 must be equal to the magnitude P of the loads. However, this is the only information derived from statics regarding the distribution of normal stresses in the various sections of the rod. The actual distribution of stresses in any given section is *statically indeterminate*. To learn more about this distribution, it is necessary to consider the deformations resulting from the particular mode of application of the loads at the ends of the rod. This will be discussed further in Chap. 2.

In practice, it is assumed that the distribution of normal stresses in an axially loaded member is uniform, except in the immediate vicinity of the points of application of the loads. The value  $\sigma$  of the stress is then equal to  $\sigma_{ave}$  and can be obtained from Eq. (1.5). However, realize that when we assume a uniform distribution of stresses in the section, it follows from elementary statics<sup> $\dagger$ </sup> that the resultant **P** of the internal forces must be applied at the centroid C of the section (Fig. 1.11). This means that a uniform distribution of stress is possible only if the line of action of the concentrated loads  $\mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{P}'$  passes through the centroid of the section considered (Fig. 1.12). This type of loading is called *centric* loading and will take place in all straight two-force members found in trusses and pin-connected structures, such as the one considered in Fig. 1.1. However, if a two-force member is loaded axially, but eccentrically, as shown in Fig. 1.13a, the conditions of equilibrium of the portion of member in Fig. 1.13b show that the internal forces in a given section must be equivalent to a force P applied at the centroid of the section and a couple **M** of moment M = Pd. This distribution of forces—the corresponding distribution of stresses-cannot be uniform. Nor can the distribution of stresses be symmetric. This point will be discussed in detail in Chap. 4.

<sup>†</sup>See Ferdinand P. Beer and E. Russell Johnston, Jr., *Mechanics for Engineers*, 5th ed., McGraw-Hill, New York, 2008, or *Vector Mechanics for Engineers*, 12th ed., McGraw-Hill, New York, 2019, Sec. 5.1.

The units associated with stresses are as follows: When SI metric units are used, *P* is expressed in newtons (N) and *A* in square meters (m<sup>2</sup>), so the stress  $\sigma$  will be expressed in N/m<sup>2</sup>. This unit is called a *pascal* (Pa). However, the pascal is an exceedingly small quantity and often multiples of this unit must be used: the kilopascal (kPa), the megapascal (MPa), and the gigapascal (GPa):

1 kPa = 
$$10^{3}$$
 Pa =  $10^{3}$  N/m<sup>2</sup>  
1 MPa =  $10^{6}$  Pa =  $10^{6}$  N/m<sup>2</sup>  
1 GPa =  $10^{9}$  Pa =  $10^{9}$  N/m<sup>2</sup>

When U.S. customary units are used, force *P* is usually expressed in pounds (lb) or kilopounds (kip), and the cross-sectional area *A* is given in square inches (in<sup>2</sup>). The stress  $\sigma$  then is expressed in pounds per square inch (psi) or kilopounds per square inch (ksi).<sup>†</sup>

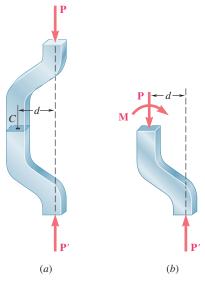


Fig. 1.13 An example of eccentric loading.

#### **Concept Application 1.1**

Considering the structure of Fig. 1.1, assume that rod *BC* is made of a steel with a maximum allowable stress  $\sigma_{all} = 165$  MPa. Can rod *BC* safely support the load to which it will be subjected? The magnitude of the force  $F_{BC}$  in the rod was 50 kN. Recalling that the diameter of the rod is 20 mm, use Eq. (1.5) to determine the stress created in the rod by the given loading.

$$P = F_{BC} = +50 \text{ kN} = +50 \times 10^3 \text{ N}$$

$$A = \pi r^2 = \pi \left(\frac{20 \text{ mm}}{2}\right)^2 = \pi (10 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m})^2 = 314 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2$$

$$\sigma = \frac{P}{A} = \frac{+50 \times 10^3 \text{ N}}{314 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2} = +159 \times 10^6 \text{ Pa} = +159 \text{ MPa}$$

Since  $\sigma$  is smaller than  $\sigma_{all}$  of the allowable stress in the steel used, rod *BC* can safely support the load.

To be complete, our analysis of the given structure should also include the compressive stress in boom *AB*, as well as the stresses produced in the pins and their bearings. This will be discussed later in this chapter. You should also determine whether the deformations produced by the given loading are acceptable. The study of deformations under axial loads will be the subject of Chap. 2. For members in compression, the *stability* of the member (i.e., its ability to support a given load without experiencing a sudden change in configuration) will be discussed in Chap. 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>The principal SI and U.S. customary units used in mechanics are listed in Appendix A. Using the third table, 1 psi is approximately equal to 7 kPa, and 1 ksi is approximately equal to 7 MPa.